

Il nuovo tracciatore MICROME GAS di

PADME

IFAE 2026 – Bologna

William Natale

Università Tor Vergata,

INFN – Laboratori Nazionali di Frascati

Positron Annihilation to Dark Matter Experiment

PADME

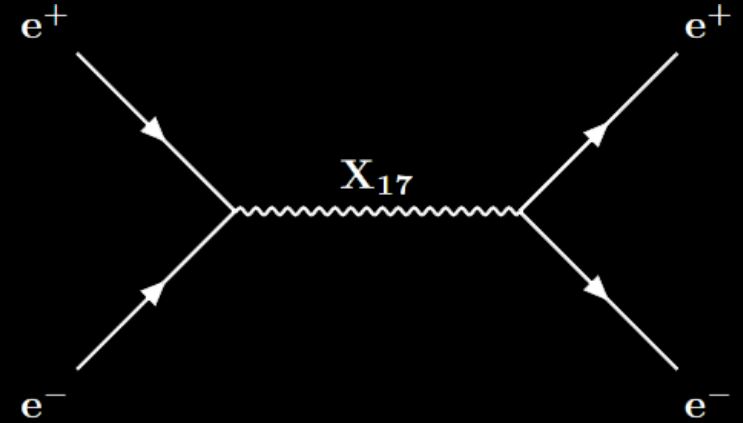
TOR VERGATA
UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI

INFN
LNF

The Positron Annihilation to Dark Matter Experiment (**PADME**) is in the Beam Test Facility (**BTF**) at the Laboratori Nazionali di Frascati (**LNF**).

Born as a **missing mass experiment** searching for the Dark Photon A' , using a e^+ beam ($E < 550$ MeV) on a diamond active target.

Since 2022, PADME is devoted to **the search for X17 boson** through resonant production (first physics run called Run III).



PADME setup

PADME X17 search: Run III result

Run III features:

- ❖ Expected width much smaller than centre of mass energy spread ~ 100 keV ($1\% \sqrt{s}$ spread)
 - \sqrt{s} scan in steps of 30 keV , between [16.4 MeV – 17.4 MeV] \leftrightarrow [262 MeV – 296 MeV] beam energy
- ❖ Comparison of signal hypothesis vs SM background:

$$N_{2cl}(\sqrt{s}) = [B(\sqrt{s}) + S(\sqrt{s})]$$

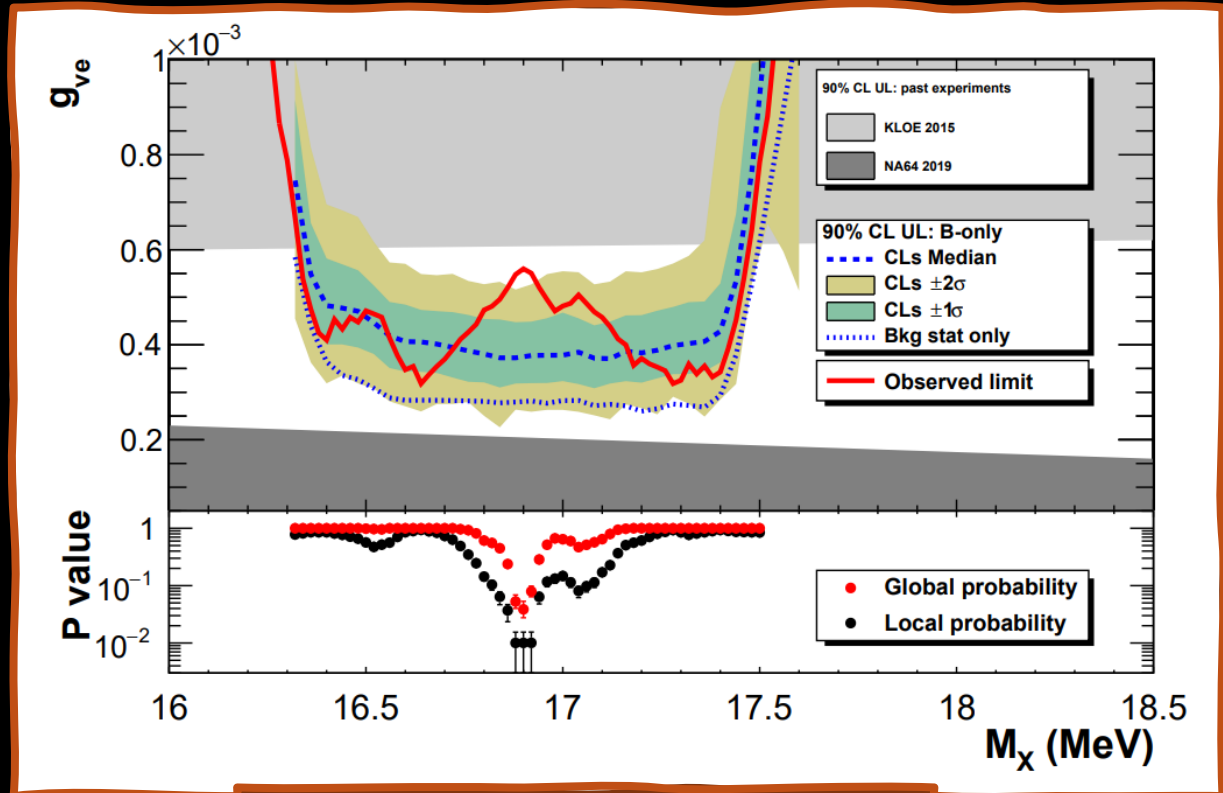
VS

$$N_{2cl}(\sqrt{s}) = B(\sqrt{s})$$

→ Found excess around $17 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ corresponding to local 2.5σ (global 1.8σ one-sided)

- ❖ $1\% \sqrt{s}$ spread = $0.3\% \oplus 0.9\%$ Beam energy spread + electron motion

- ❖ Vector boson hypothesis for the test hypothesis plot



DOI: [10.1007/JHEP11\(2025\)007](https://doi.org/10.1007/JHEP11(2025)007)

Upgrade with MICROME GAS detectors

Run III:

- ❖ Flux measurement & Beam related uncertainties
- ❖ Insufficient discrimination between charged/neutral particles from ETag
- ❖ Passive material of TimePix

Run IV upgrades:

- ❖ Gaseous tracking detectors (padMMe and TMM)
 - Discrimination of photons/charged particles
 - Beam monitor capabilities
- ❖ Improved spatial and angular resolution
- ❖ N_{ee} normalization to another physical process, like $N_{\gamma\gamma}$
- ❖ Reduced passive material along the beamline

Run IV: started June and ended in November

PADME

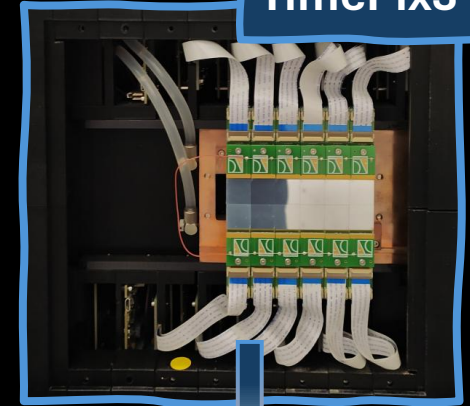
TOR VERGATA
UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI TORINO

INFN
UNIVERSITÀ NAZIONALE DEL COMPLESSO

ETag



TimePix3



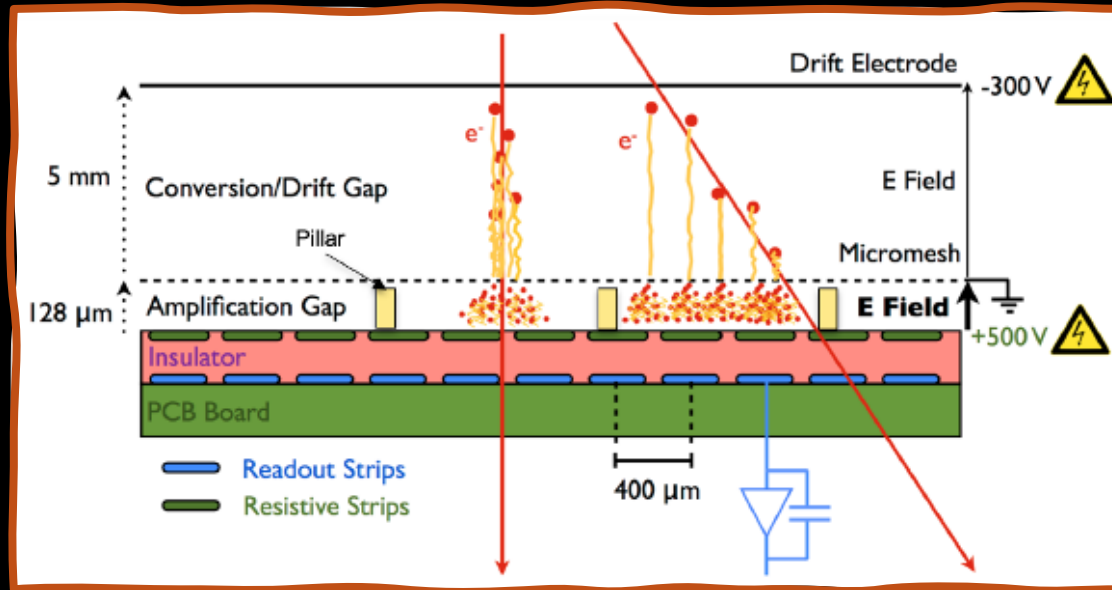
padMMe



TMM



Gas detectors: MICROMEAS



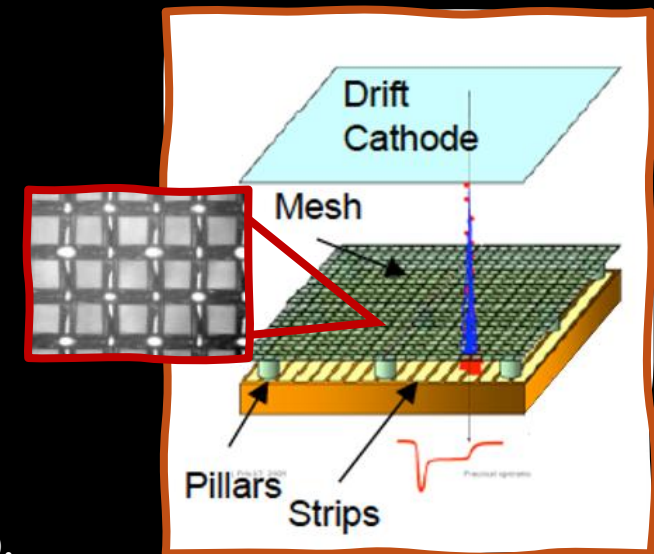
The Micro-mesh-gas detectors are a kind of micro-pattern gas detector:

- ❖ Drift gap (~mm/cm)
- ❖ Stainless steel mesh
- ❖ Amplification gap (~100 μm)

- ❖ High amplification ($\sim 10^4$) is achieved operating close to spark limit (Paschen)
 - particular care of geometric tolerances
 - quenching by resistive layer + proper gas mixture
- ❖ Readout by strips or pads
 - signal by capacitive coupling with resistive layer.

The mesh could be bulk (fixed to readout PCB) or floating (fixed on a removable frame).

The usual ratio between the two electric fields is ~ 100 to make the mesh transparent to the electron entering the amplification gap.

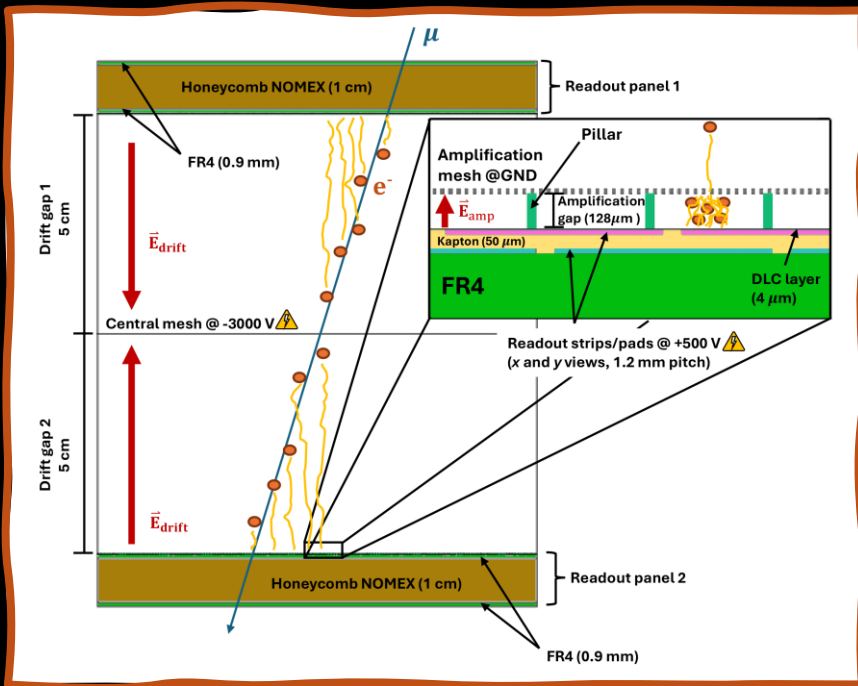


PADME MICROME GAS detector: padMMe

The padMMe detector is a **floating mesh resistive anode Micromegas detector**, placed in front of ECAL.

The active area is $65 \times 65 \text{ cm}^2$, with two drift gaps of 5 cm and two amplification gaps of $128 \mu\text{m}$, each with a dedicated readout plane with strips on both coordinates.

The readout panel is made of FR4 - Honeycomb Nomex - FR4 sandwich glued to the PCBs.



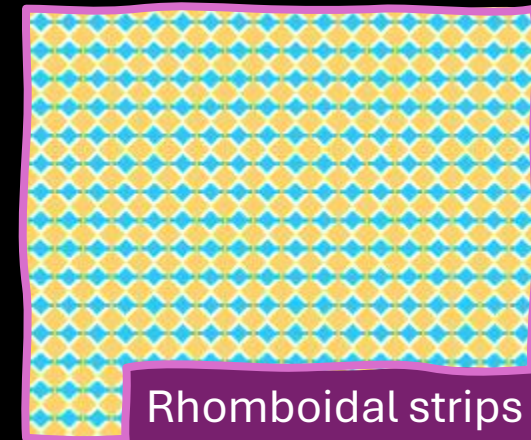
The mesh has stainless steel wires ($18 \mu\text{m}$ of diameter, grid pitch of $45 \mu\text{m}$)

The gas mixture is $\text{Ar} : \text{CF}_4 : i\text{C}_4\text{H}_{10} = 88 : 10 : 2$
 \rightarrow drift velocity = $10.5 \text{ cm}/\mu\text{s}$
 \rightarrow ~ 100 total ionizations/cm

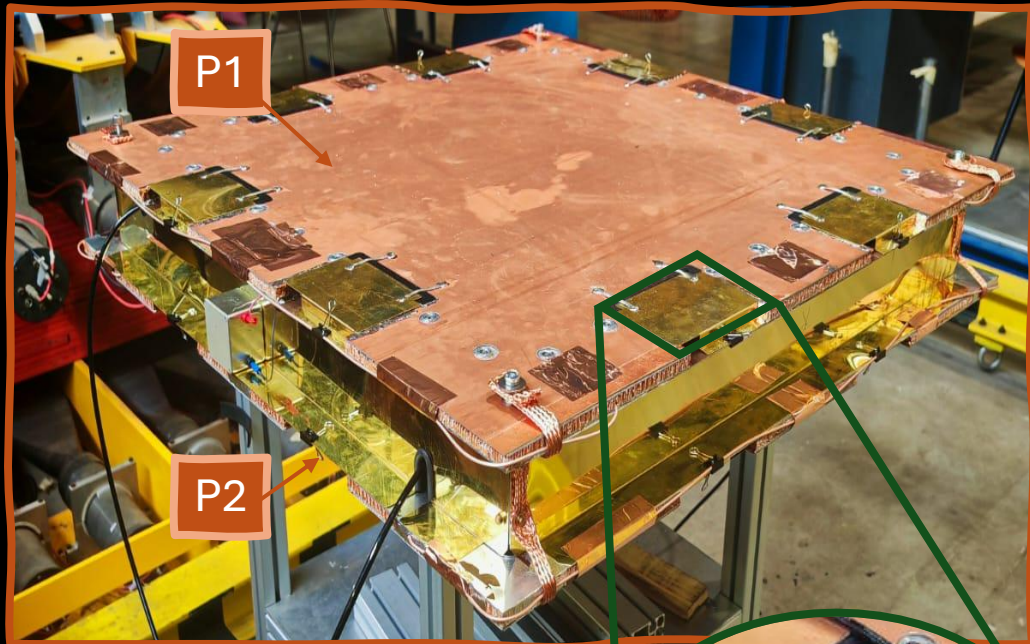


padMMe: readout features

PADME



Rhomboidal strips



Two different segmentation layout tested:

- ❖ straight strips
- ❖ rhomboidal strips

→ Same pitch of 1.2 mm (X, Y readout) → $\sigma_{X,Y} \sim 300 \mu m$
 → Expected Z-resolution $\sim 1-2 \text{ mm}$.

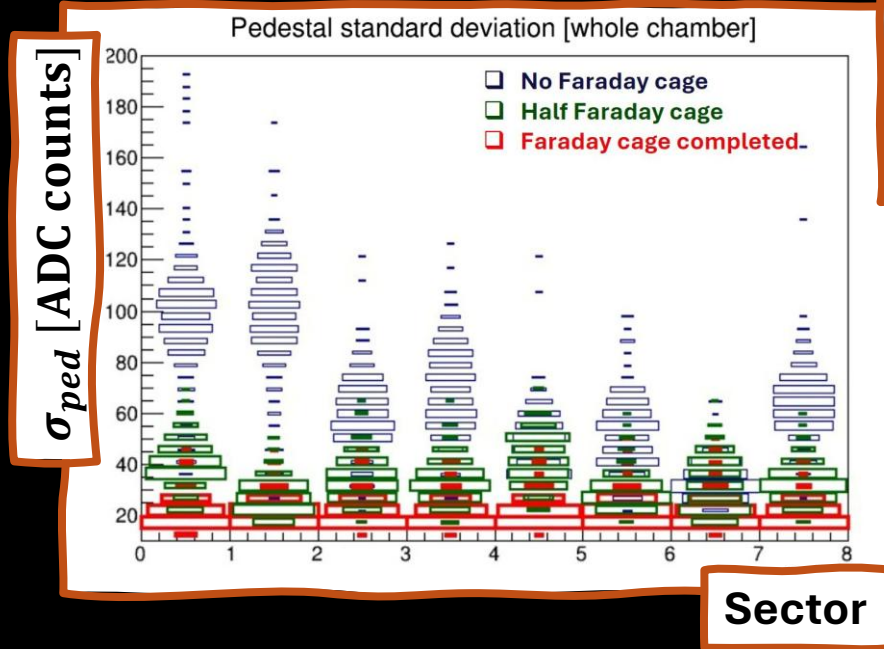
Rhomboidal strips now in PADME



- ❖ 512 channels for each side
 → 2048 channels for readout plane.
- ❖ Every 128 channels read out by one APV25 chip
- ❖ Each APV25 is connected to the Front-End Card for event building.



APV25



Sector

We improved the grounding and shielding of the chamber building a Faraday cage
 → Electronic noise largely suppressed

padMMe: HV features

The readout panel is made of two separate PCB glued together (producing a hole 7.2 mm). Moreover, the strip segmentation is adapted to have 4 quadrants for the whole panel.

The PCBs have **separate HV regions**, to enable operation in the beam region:

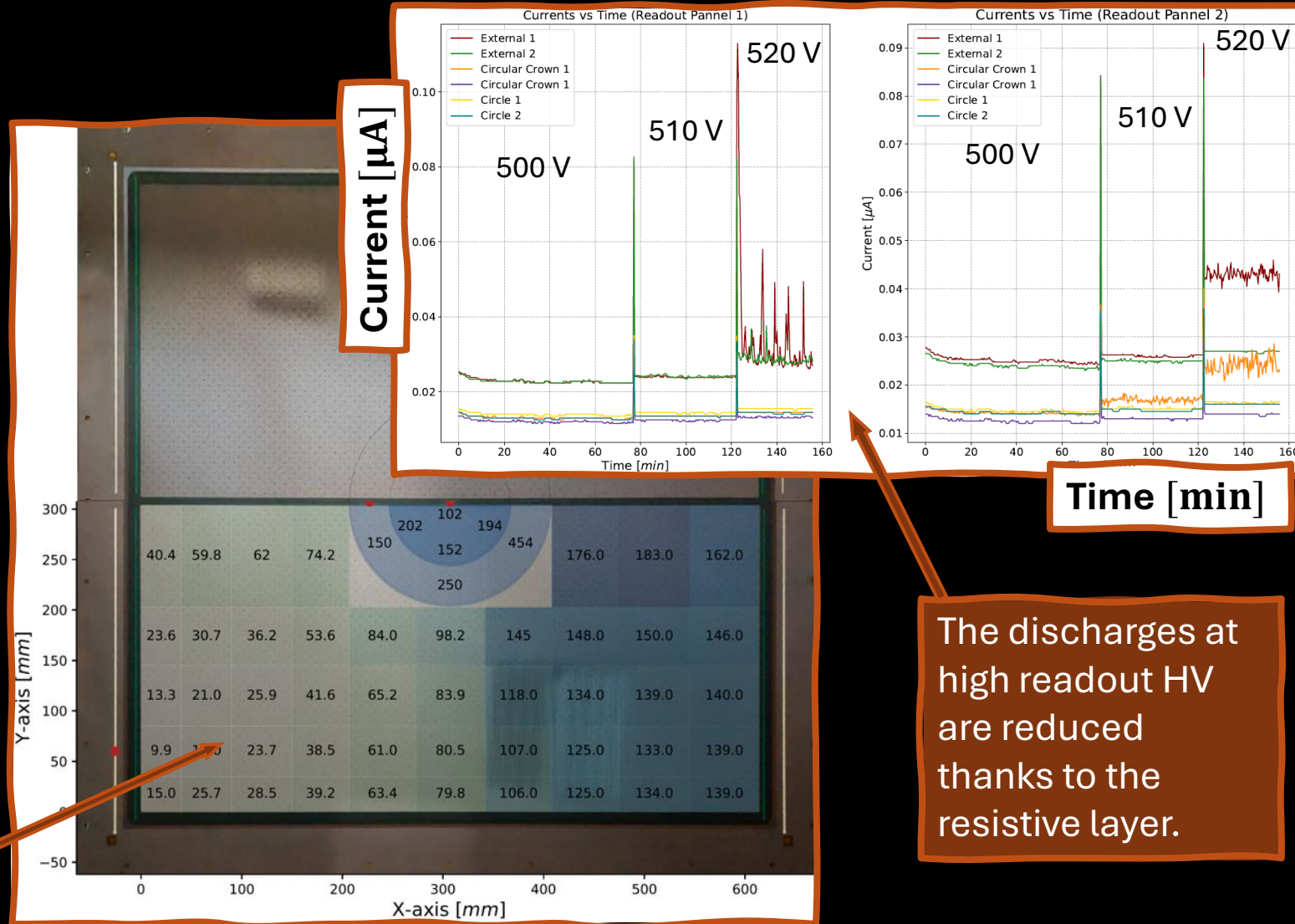
- ❖ An inner circle ($R \sim 6$ cm) \rightarrow low gain
- ❖ A middle ring ($\Delta R \sim 4$ cm) \rightarrow low gain
- ❖ An external zone \rightarrow gain $\sim 10^4$

The drift voltage is -3000 V

The nominal readout voltage:

- ❖ Inner circle \rightarrow 350 V
- ❖ Middle ring \rightarrow 350 V
- ❖ External zone \rightarrow 490 V

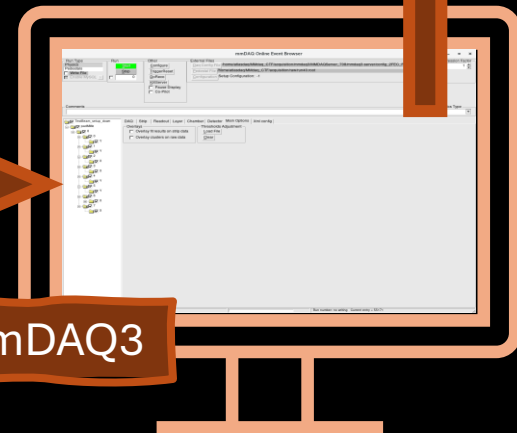
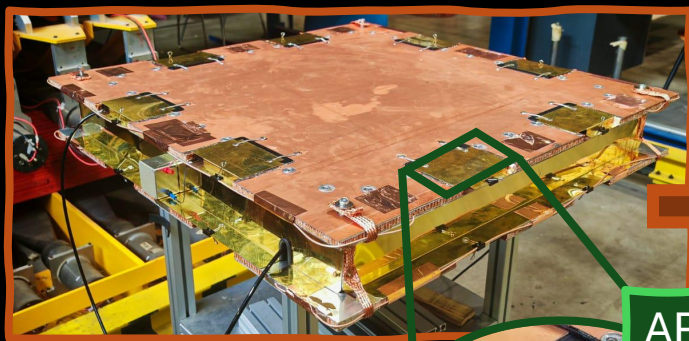
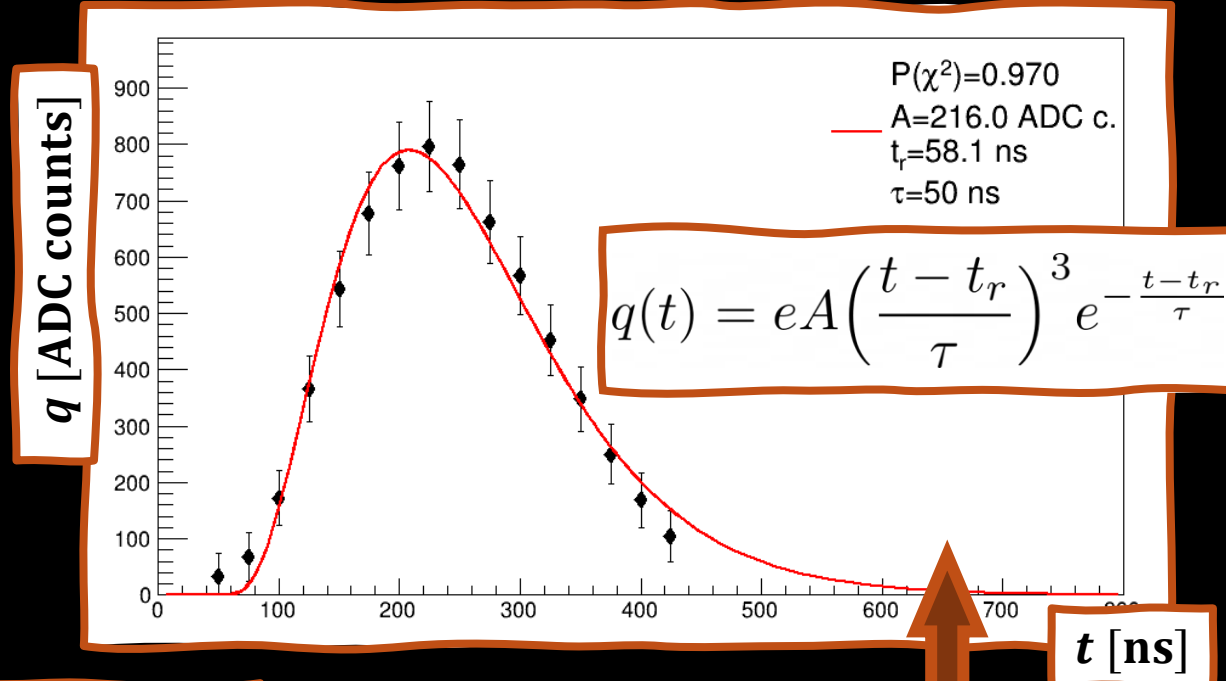
Resistance map [M Ω]



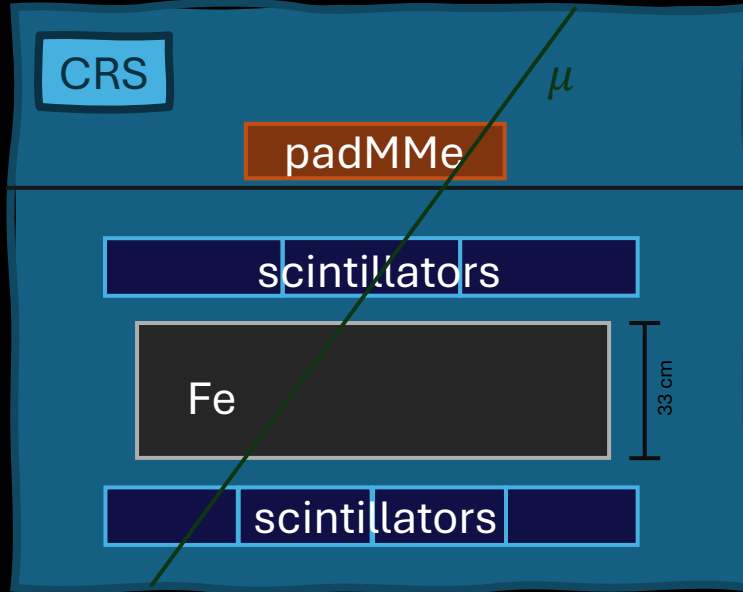
The discharges at high readout HV are reduced thanks to the resistive layer.

padMMe: Front End & DAQ

- ❖ APV25s are integrated in the Scalable Readout System which includes Front-End Cards.
- ❖ APV25 has a 200 ns charge integrator and 50 ns CR-RC shaper. Analog signal sampled at 40 MHz (25 ns).
- ❖ The padMMe DAQ window is 675 ns.
- ❖ The DAQ software is mmDAQ3
→ includes online monitor feature

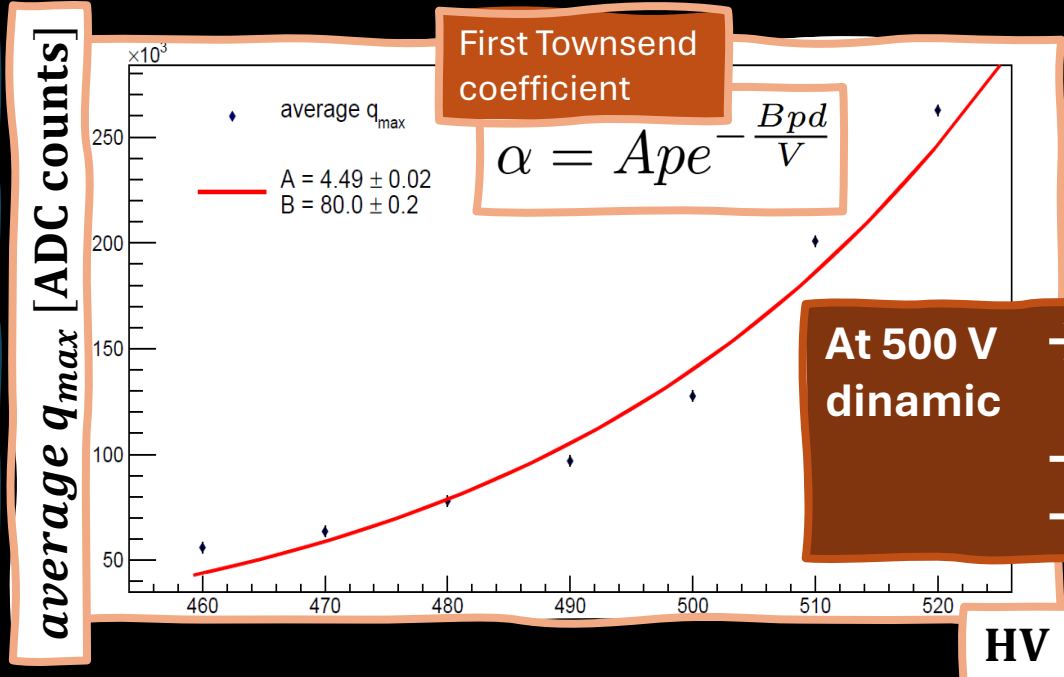
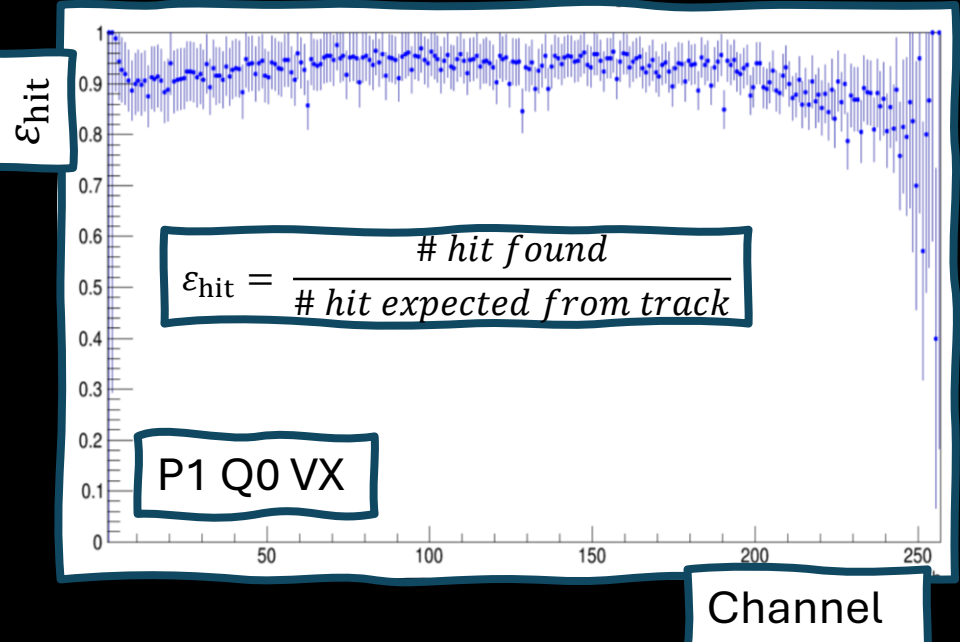
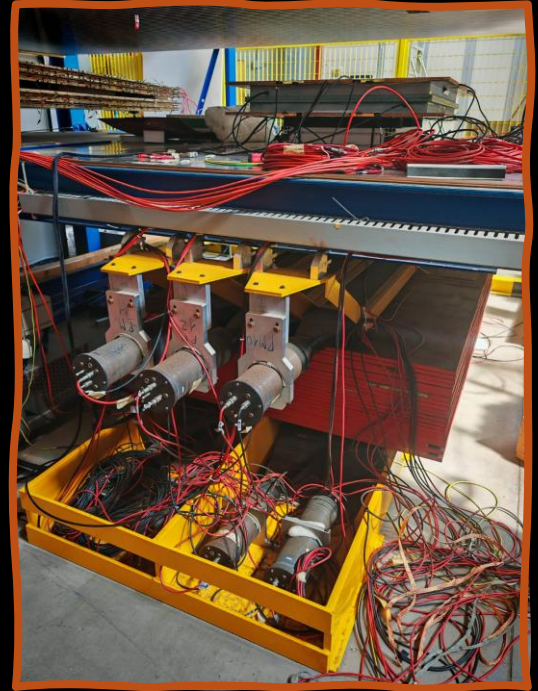


padMMe @ Cosmic Rays Stand



The padMMe was first tested and validated at the **Cosmic Rays Stand at LNF**, using cosmic rays, triggering with two sets of scintillators.

- ❖ Study padMMe response vs readout HV, to determine the HV work point:
 - measure of the **first Townsend coefficient** α
 - determination of **gain**
 - **hit efficiencies, ϵ_{hit}**



Pressure:
 $p \sim 1 \text{ bar} \sim 750 \text{ mmHg}$
 Amplification gap:
 $d = 128 \mu\text{m}$
 Applied voltage: V

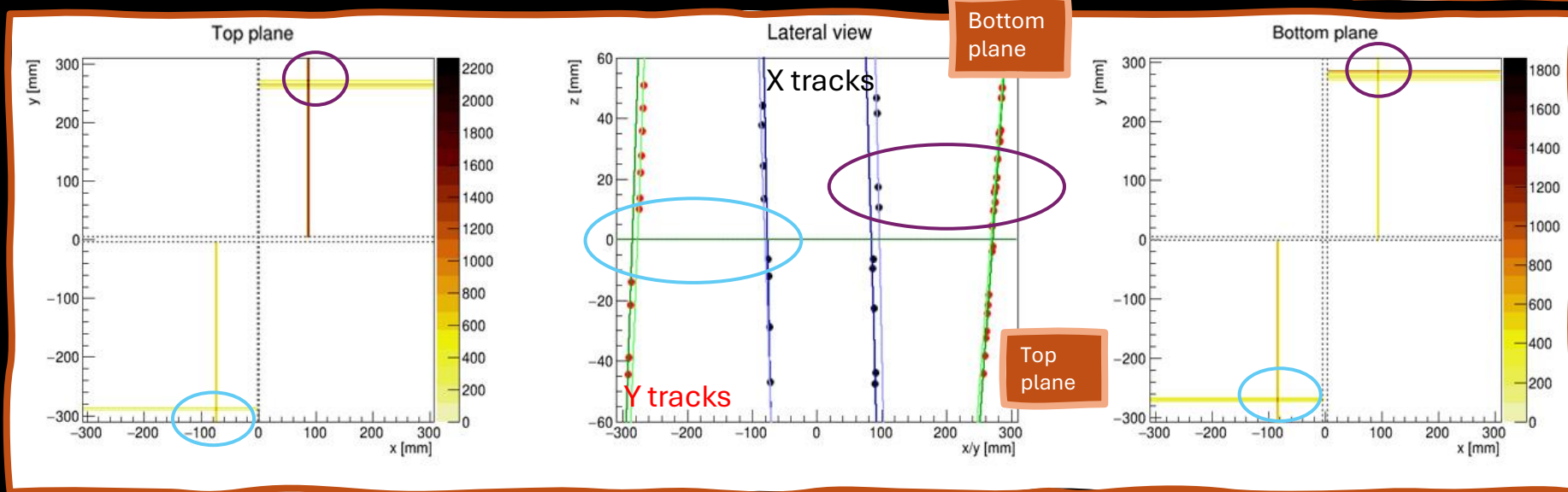
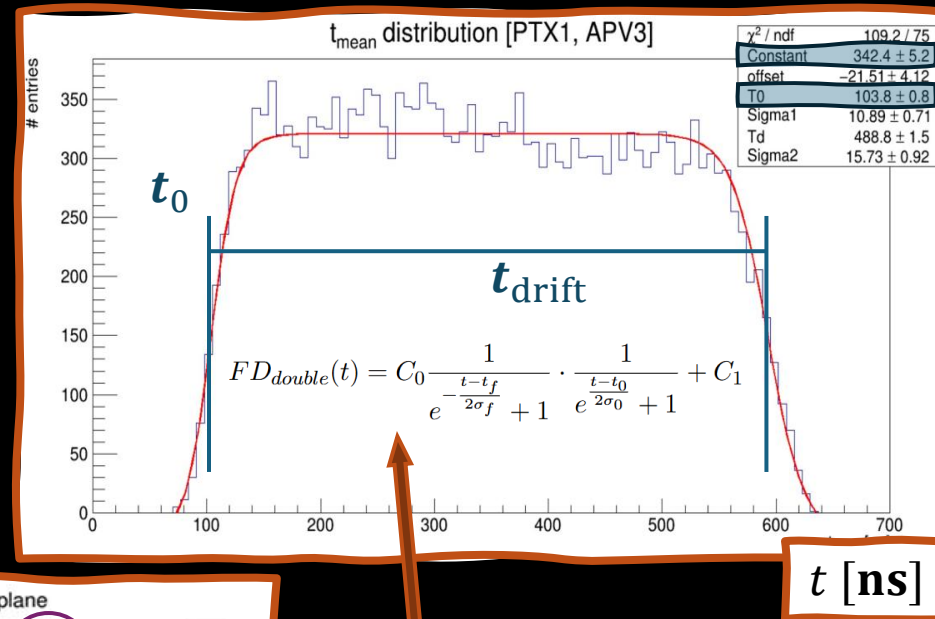
At 500 V → within ADC range
 dynamic → Gain = $e^{ad} \sim 10^4$
 → $\epsilon_{hit} \sim 90\%$

HV [V] * 4 mbar overpressure

padMe @ CRS: reconstruction

We developed a reconstruction algorithm:

1. Find the coordinates of the hits \rightarrow X and Y from strip position
 Z from drift time: $Z = v_{\text{drift}}(t - t_0)$
2. Clustering the hits in track candidates (in average 1-2 candidates with 5-6 hits, per view)
3. Fitting each candidate to find the track parameters $\rightarrow X = mZ + c$
4. Matching top and bottom planes and x-y views



From the hit time distribution, we measured the drift velocity:

$$v_{\text{drift}} = d/t_{\text{drift}}$$

$$v_{\text{drift}} = 10.02 \pm 0.02 \text{ cm}/\mu\text{s}$$

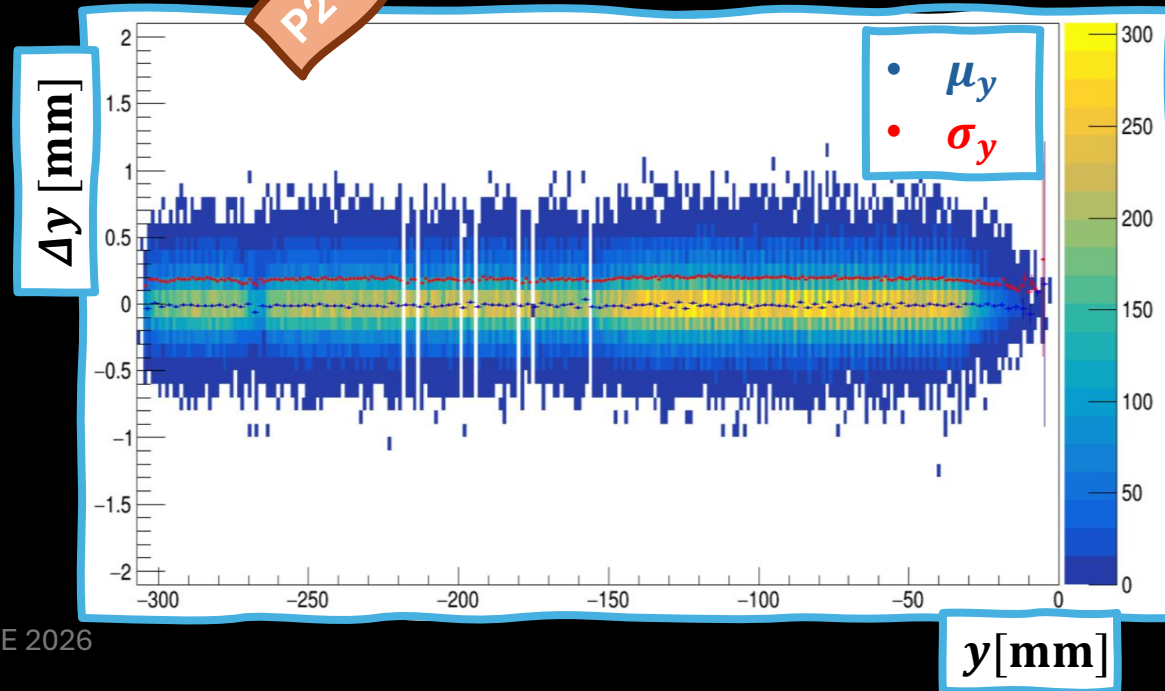
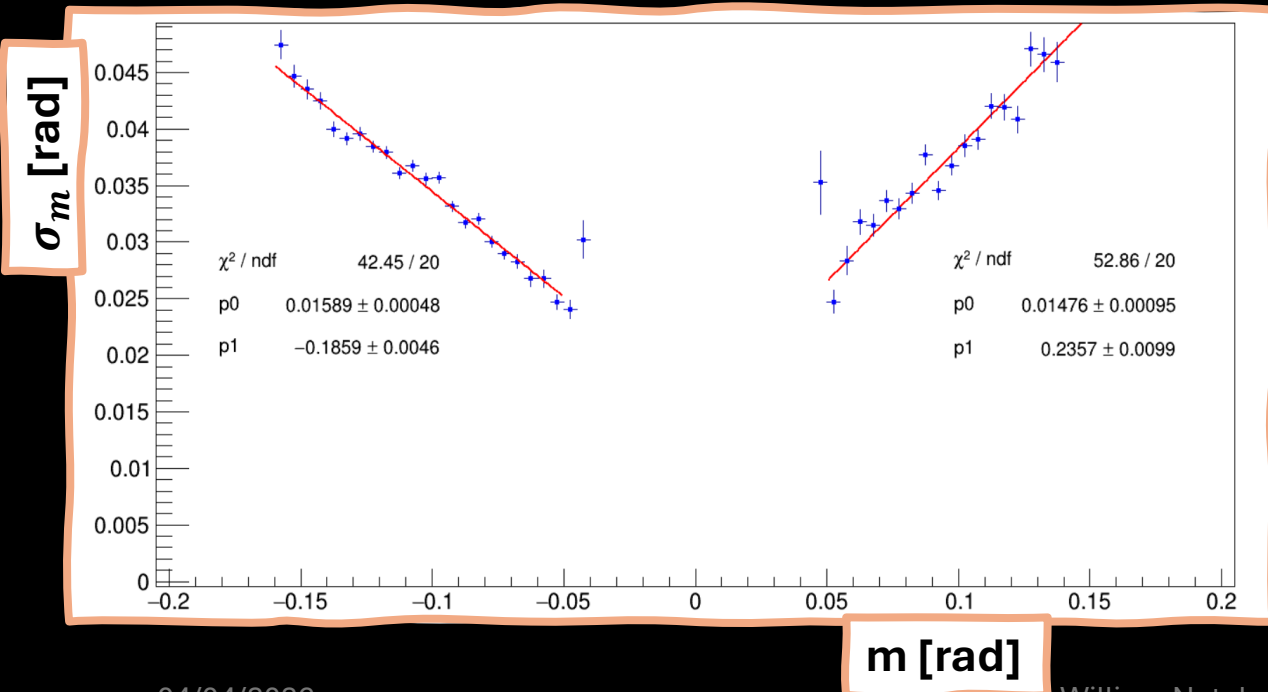
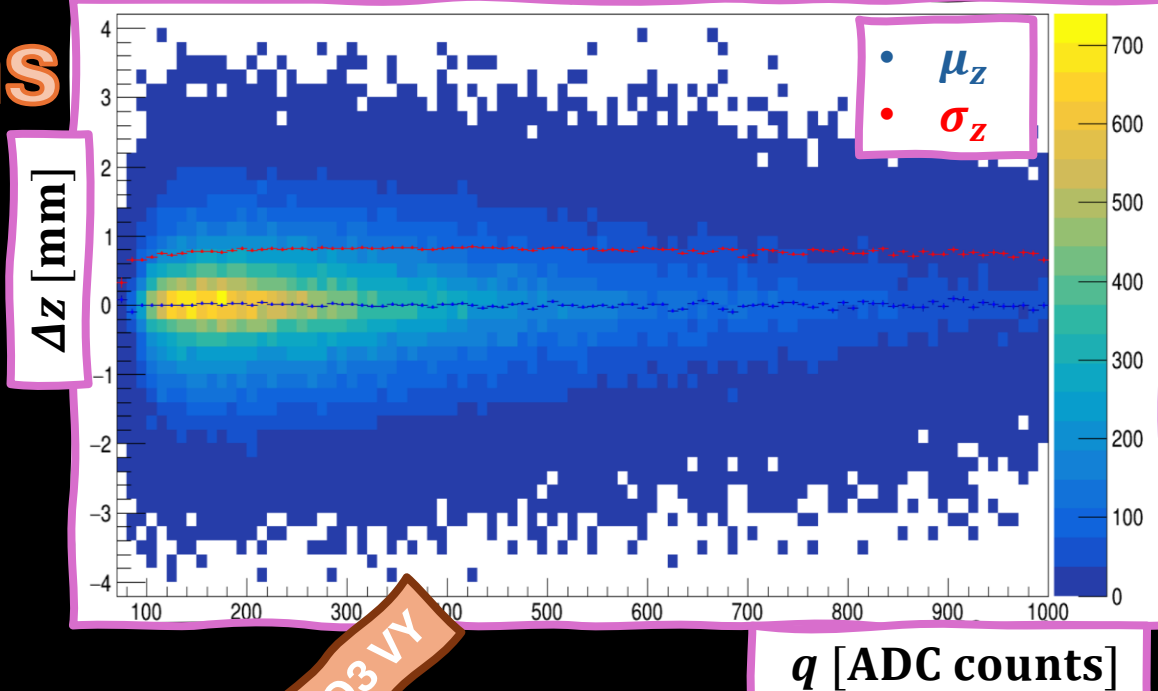
padMe @ CRS: resolutions

From the residues of the track reconstruction we were able to estimate the resolutions:

→ $\sigma_{x/y} \simeq 100 \mu\text{m}$

→ $\sigma_z \simeq 700 \text{ mm}$ (and constant with charge!)

→ $\sigma_\theta \simeq 15 \text{ mrad} + 0.2 |\theta|$

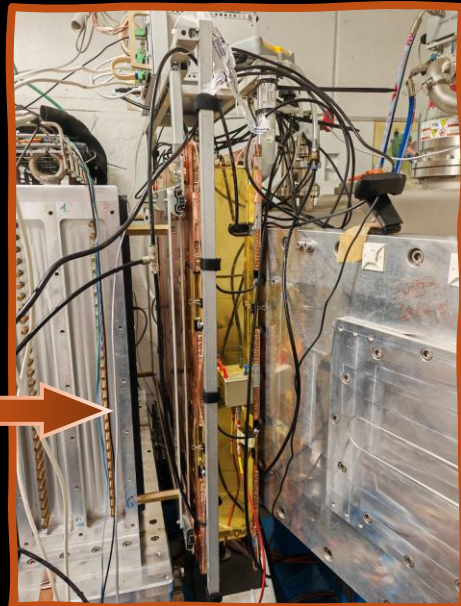
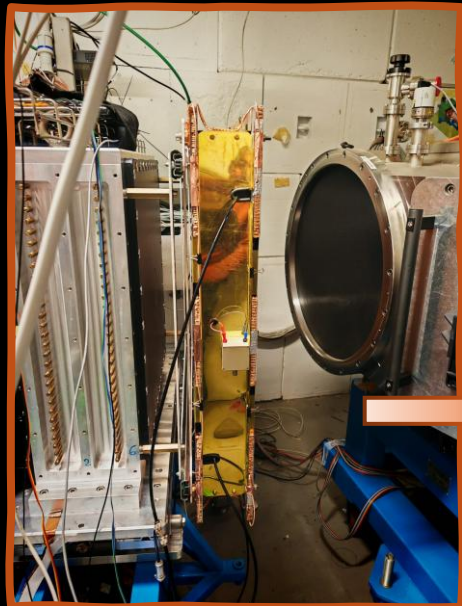


padMMe @ BTF: alignment

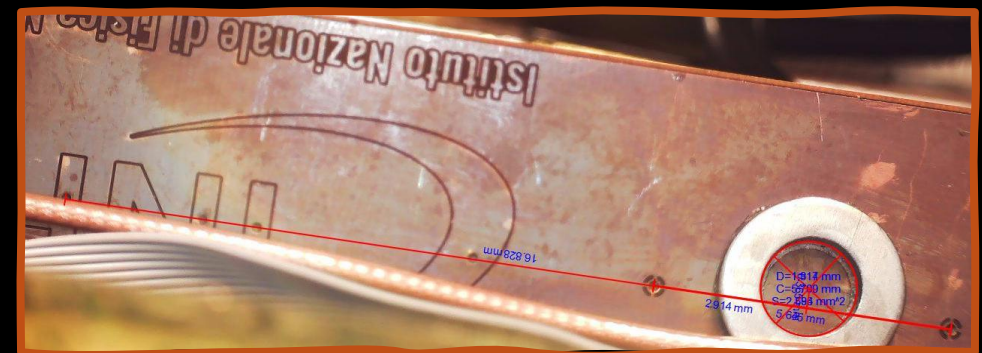
padMMe is jointly liable with ECAL, with a movable arm on the X axis.

We aligned padMMe with the PADME global reference system using 6 different aims glued on the two panels measured with a laser tracker.

On CAD drawing side we referred the positions of the aims to the strips position using a microscope.



**CAD crosschecked with redundant measurements
→ agreement within 300 μm**



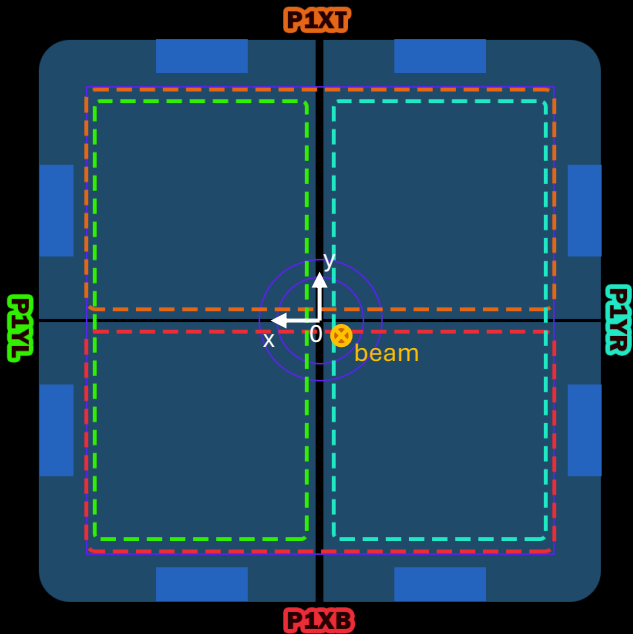
padMMe @ BTF: beam monitoring

Dedicated test runs to check beam monitoring:

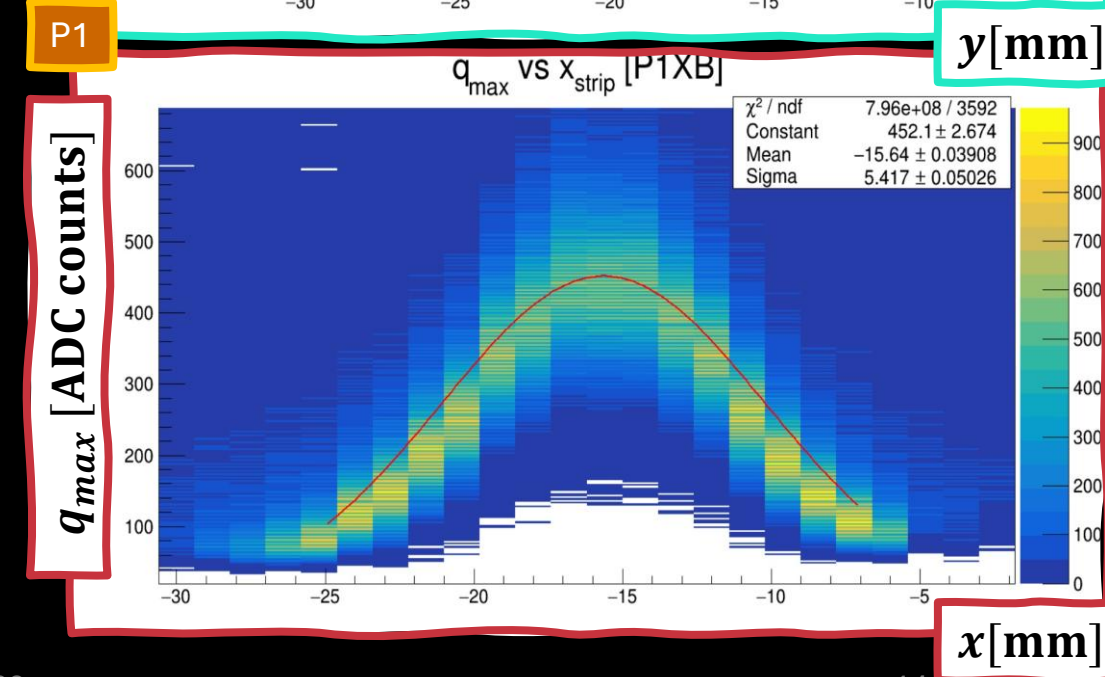
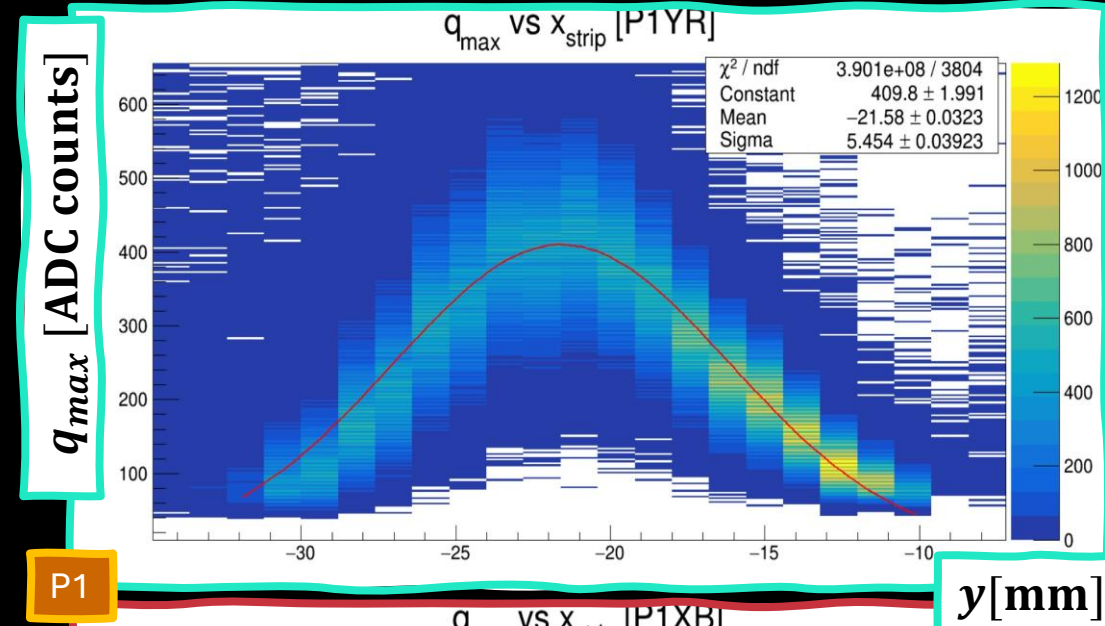
- ❖ Inner circle → ionization chamber regime
- ❖ Middle ring → ionization chamber regime

padMMe slightly off-centred to avoid the dead area of the PCB junction.

Measured beam spread: $\sim 5.4 \times 5.4 \text{ mm}^2$



It's possible to evaluate beam position and spread with high precision using padMMe



padMMe @ BTF: commissioning measurements

Having the beam spread measurement at target and at padMMe we were able to compute:

Target Multiple Coulomb Scattering

@ padMMe

$$\theta_{MCS}^{exp} = \frac{\sqrt{\sigma_{target-in}^2 - \sigma_{target-out}^2}}{d_{target-padMMe}}$$

$$\theta_{MCS}^{exp} = 0.88 \pm 0.01 \text{ mrad}$$

Beam divergence θ_{div} and normalized emittance ε

$$\theta_{div} = \frac{\sqrt{(\sigma_x^{padMMe})^2 - (\sigma_x^{target})^2}}{d_{target-padMMe}}$$

$$\theta_{div} = 1.08 \pm 0.07 \text{ mrad}$$

$$\varepsilon_{RMS} = \theta_{div} \cdot \sigma_x^{target}$$

$$\varepsilon = \beta\gamma\varepsilon_{RMS}$$

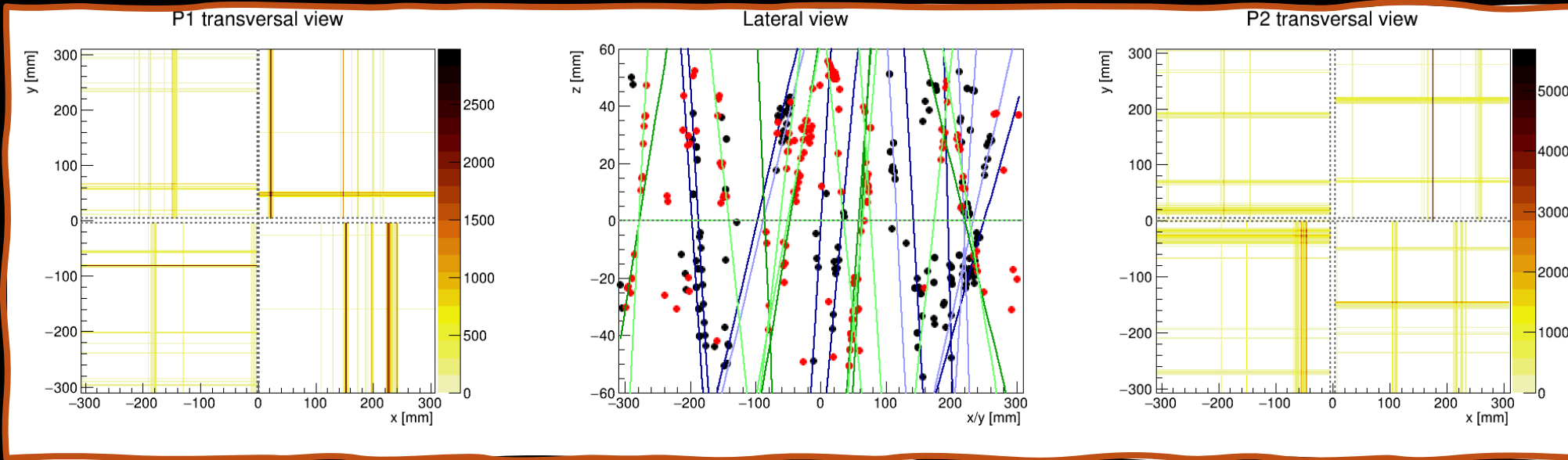
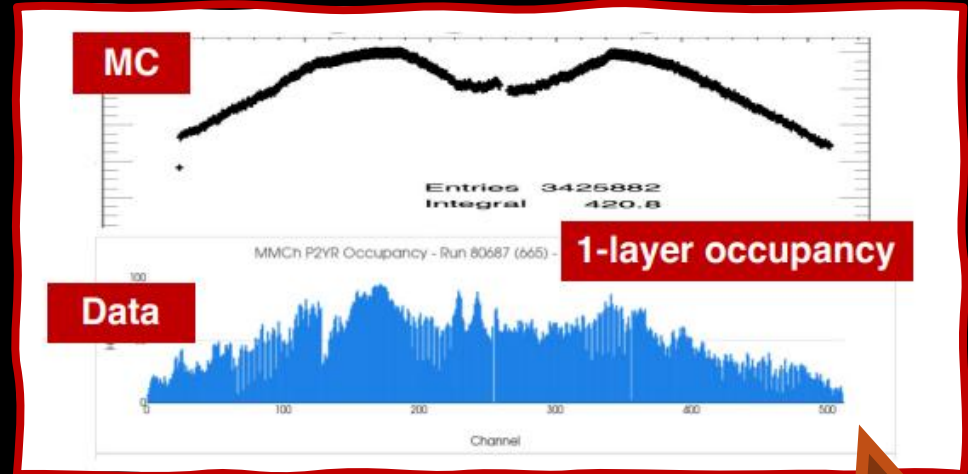
$$\varepsilon = 0.8 \pm 0.2 \text{ mm mrad}$$

Target out!

padMMe @ BTF: reconstruction

Huge combinatory in pattern recognition

- ❖ $\sim 3500/4096$ fired strips $\rightarrow \sim 85\%$ occupancy
- ❖ ~ 200 track candidates found w/o Interaction Point (IP) constraint
 \rightarrow IP oriented pattern recognition algorithm

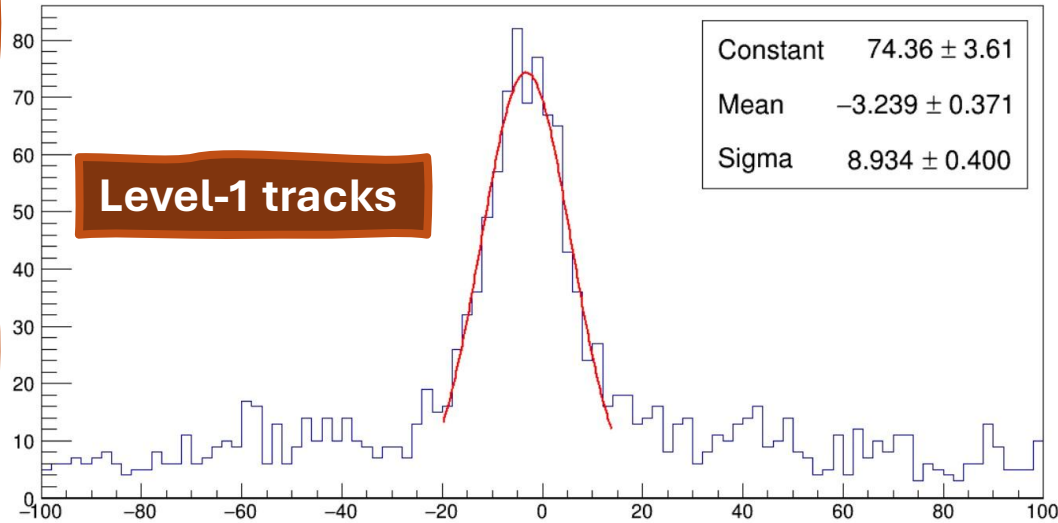


Data and MC
simulation agree

padMMe @ BTF: reconstruction

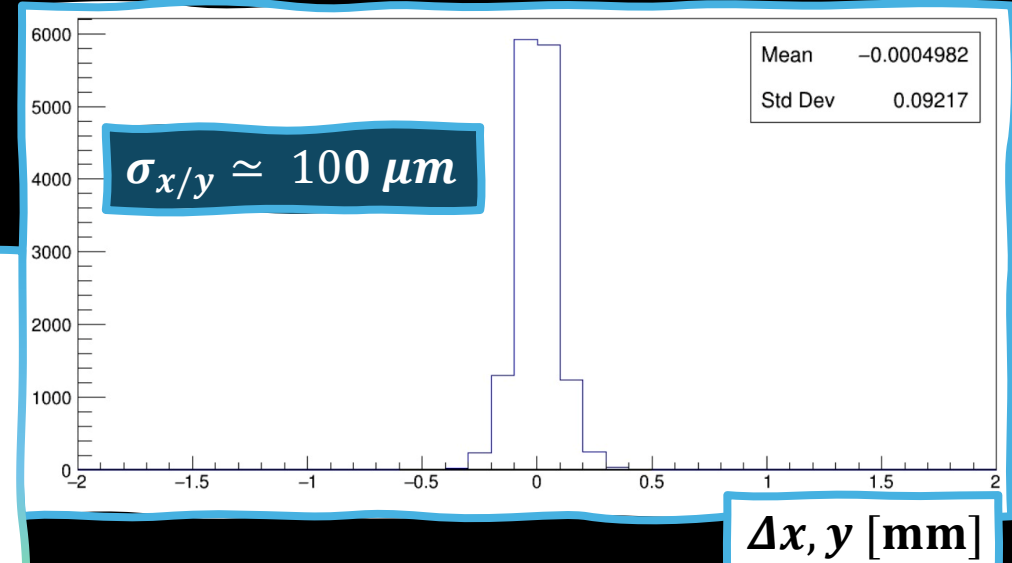
- For each charged particle we expect 4 tracks (2D) → **Level-0 tracks**
 - High efficiency but a Level-0 track requirement has high bkg component (combinatorial)
 - **need at least 2/3 out of 4 coincidences** two-planes coincidence → **Level-1 track** to be matched with Ecal clusters

Track-to-Ecal-Cluster association

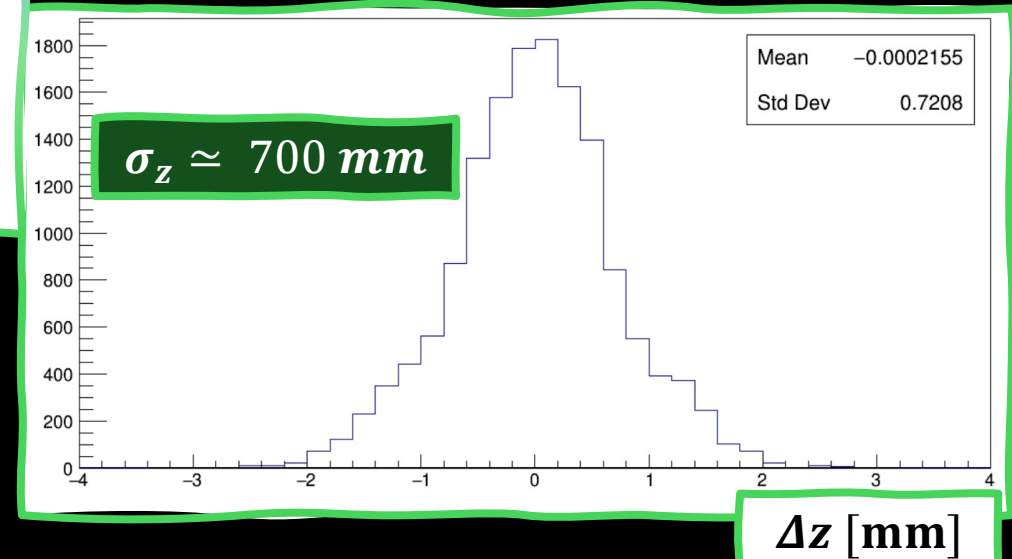


$\Delta x, y$ [mm]

Track direction residuals



$\Delta x, y$ [mm]

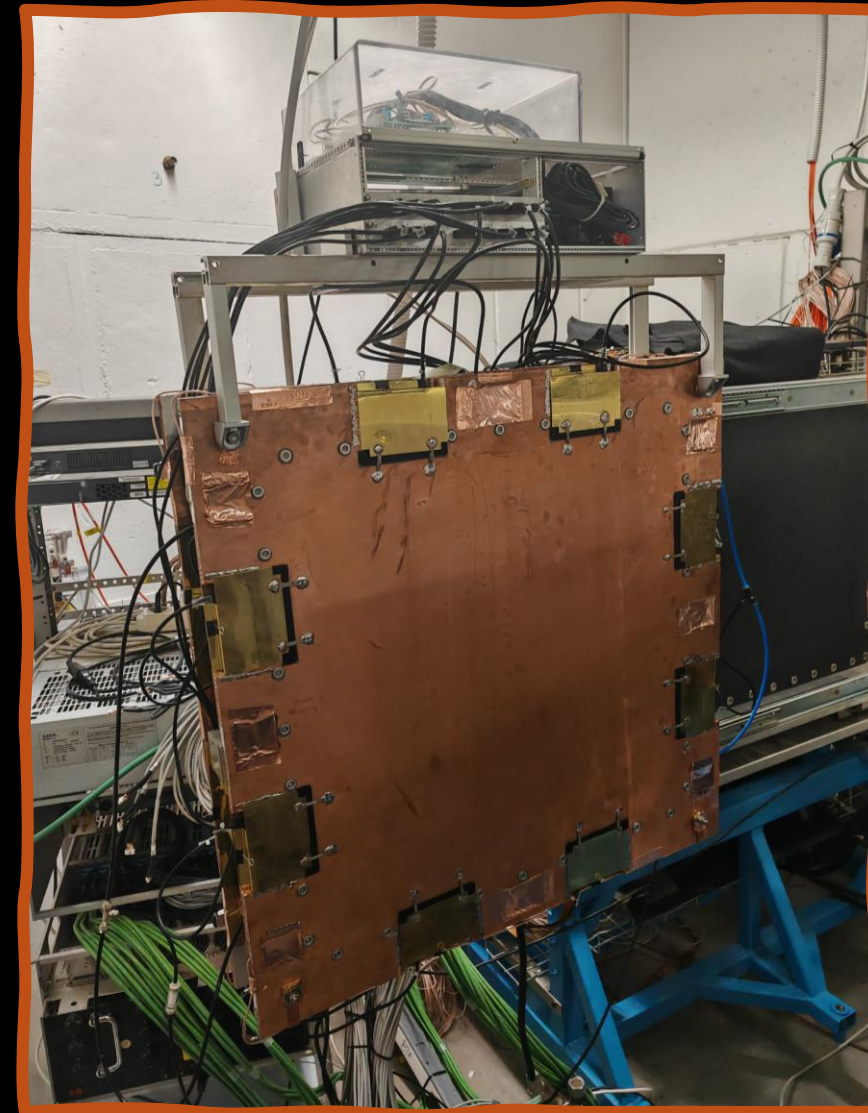


Δz [mm]

Summary and conclusions

PADME Run IV upgrade:

- ❖ **Building of a new Micromegas tracking detector** for the identification and reconstruction of charged particles:
 - **Double floating mesh resistive anode panel with 2x5 cm drift gaps**
 - **Double X and Y readout (4096 strips tot)**
 - **Noise study and Faraday cage construction**
 - **Quality tests:** deformation of the panels, gas tightness, HV study, dimensional measurements (pillars height, mesh tension)
- ❖ **Analysis of cosmic ray data:**
 - **Gain Characterization** → @ 500V: 90% hit efficiency + 10^4 gain
 - **Tracks reconstruction and performances**
 - **found resolutions** (same for Run IV data) → $\sigma_{x/y} \approx 100 \mu\text{m}$
 $\sigma_z \approx 700 \text{mm}$
 $\sigma_\theta \approx 16 \text{mrad}$
- ❖ **After installation in the experimental apparatus and Alignment:**
 - **Commissioning and beam parameters measurements** (position, spread, divergence, emittance and target MCS)
- ❖ **Official PADME data taking:** currently reconstructing data



Thanks for your attentions :)



Backup slides



The X17 anomaly

Excesses in angular distribution of e^+e^- pair in nuclear transitions of ${}^8\text{Be}$, ${}^4\text{He}$ e ${}^{12}\text{C}$ observed by the ATOMKI collaboration.

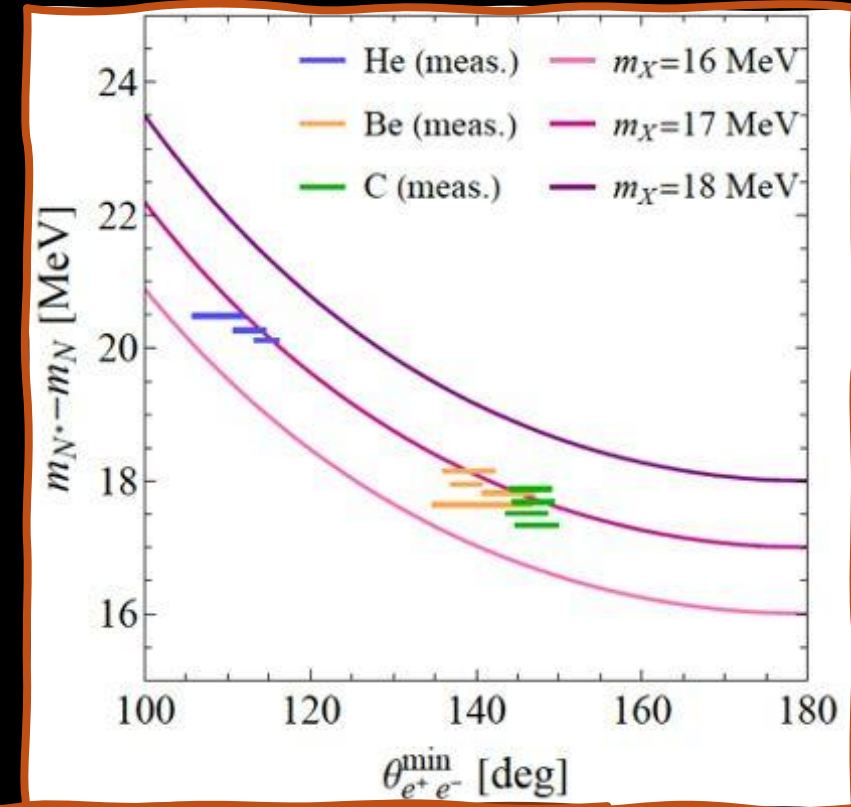
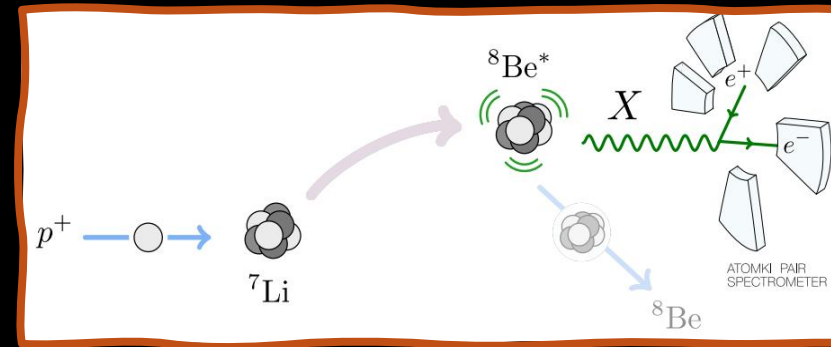
This anomaly happens at different angles for different energy transition.

All of them are compatible with the hypothesis of the production and subsequent decay of a new particle with mass ~ 17 MeV.

MEG-II searched for this anomaly in the ${}^8\text{Be}$ transitions with a dedicated data taking, setting upper limits 90% C.L. on the branching fractions:

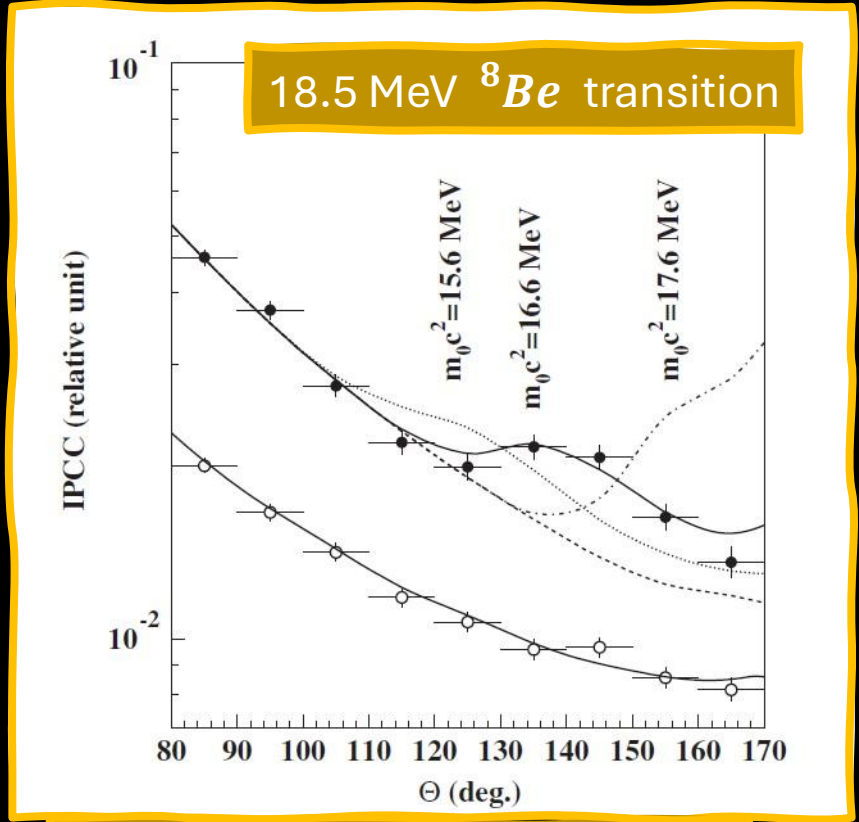
$$R_{17.6} < 1.8 \times 10^{-6} \quad , \quad R_{18.5} < 1.2 \times 10^{-5}$$

Don't exclude completely the region suggested by ATOMKI results.



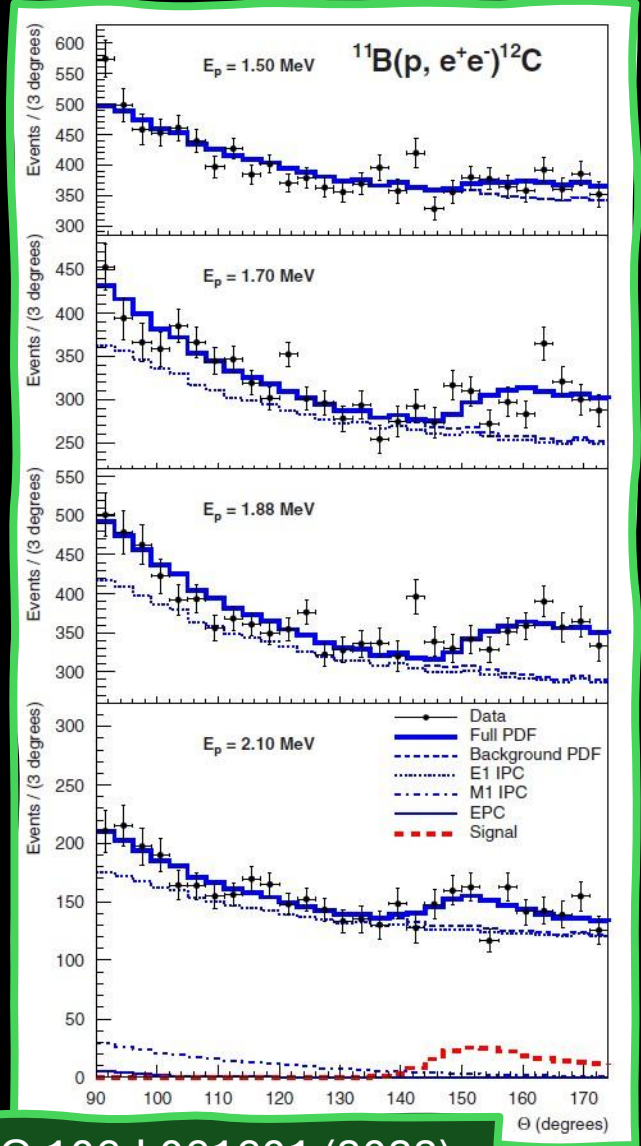
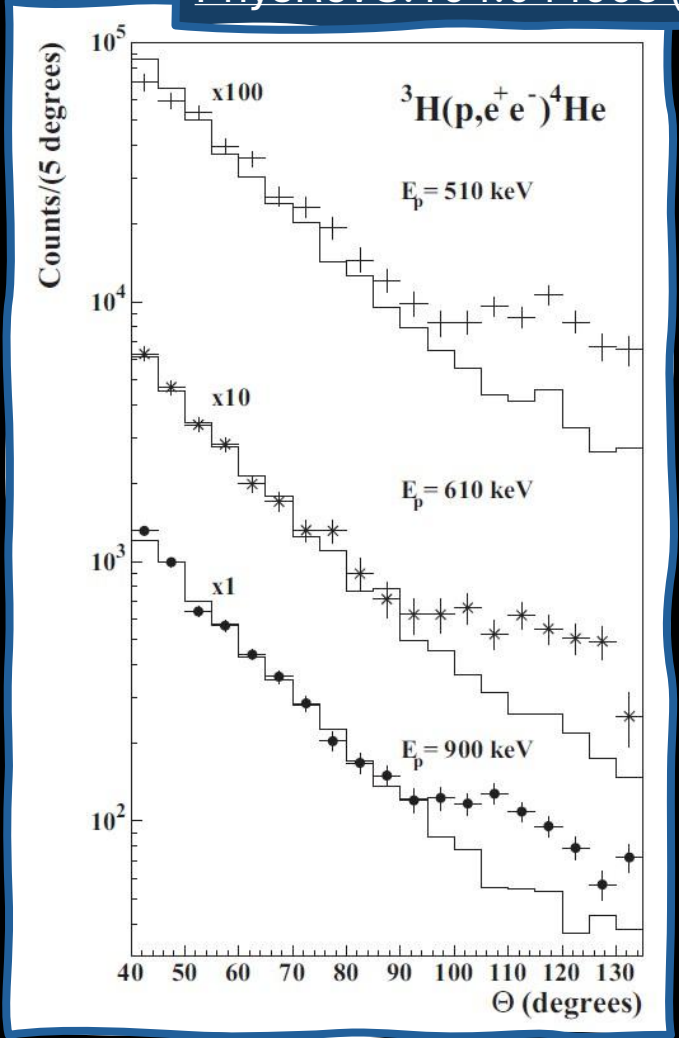
PHYS.REV. D 108, 015009 (2023)

X17 anomaly @ ATOMKI



PhysRevLett.116.042501 (2016)

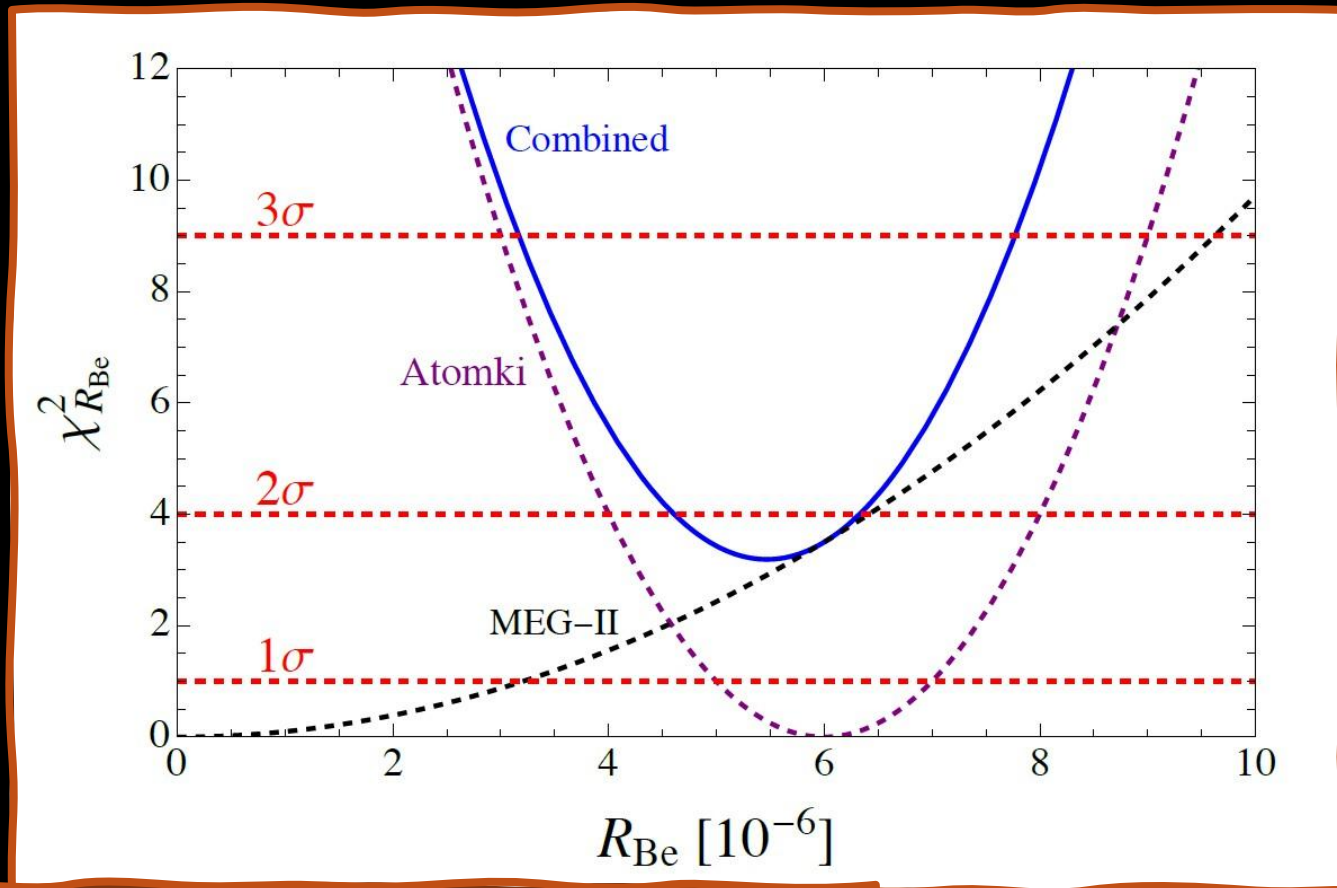
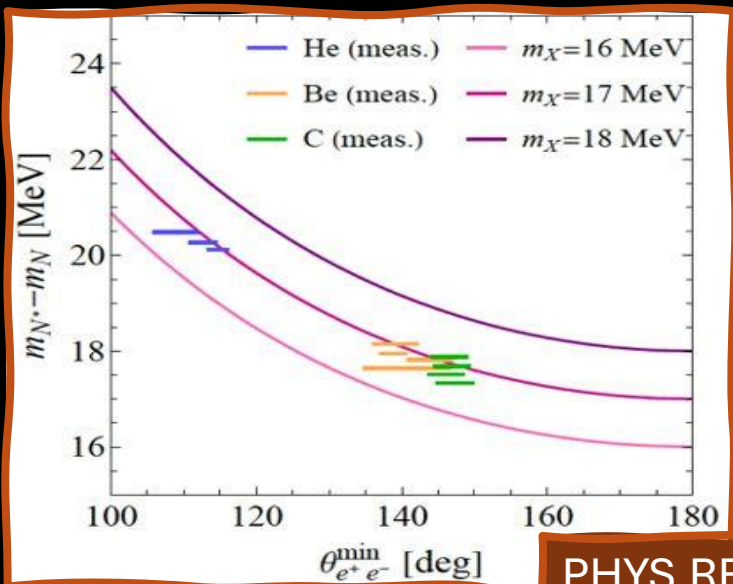
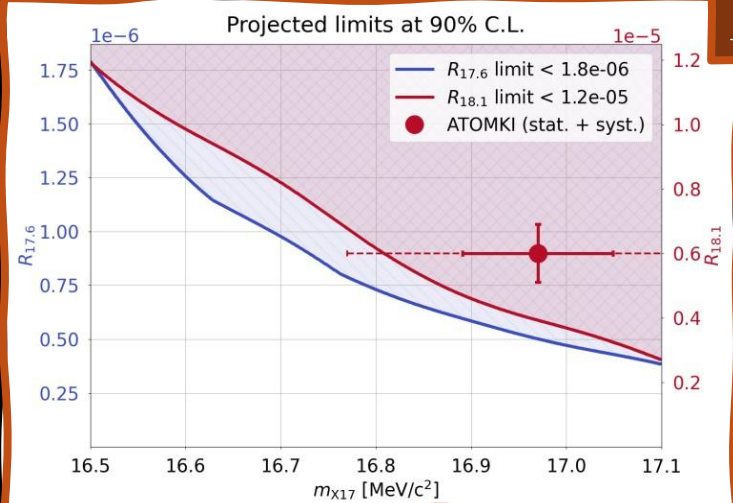
PhysRevC.104.044003 (2021)



PhysRevC.106.L061601 (2022)

MEG-II VS ATOMKI

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2411.07994>



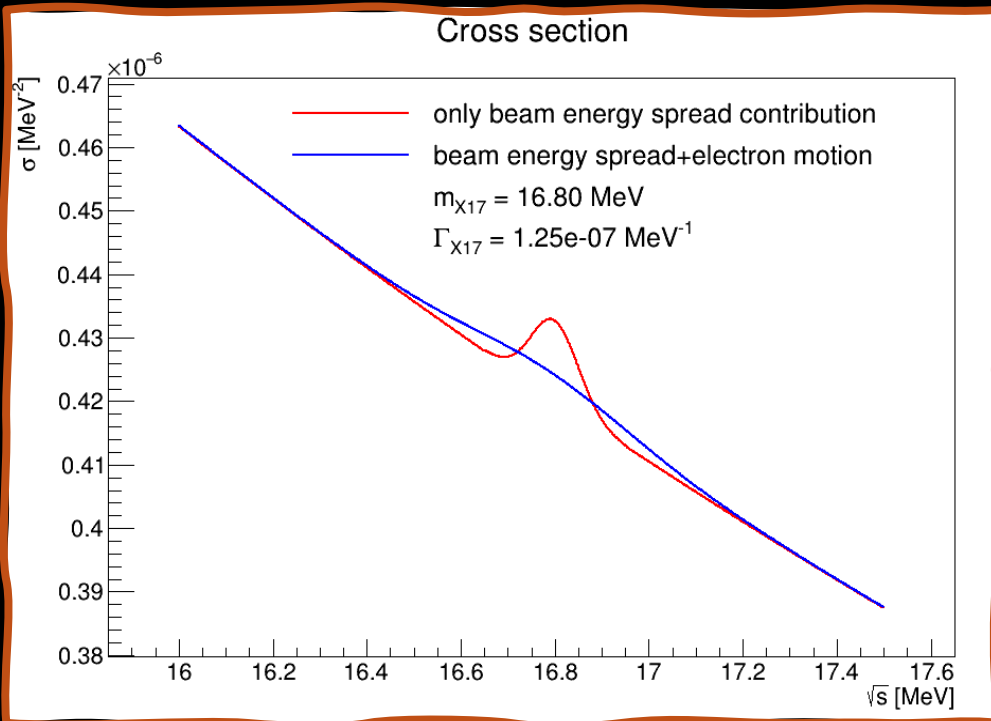
[http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/JHEP04\(2025\)035](http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/JHEP04(2025)035)

PHYS.REV. D 108,
015009 (2023)

X17 boson nature

| N^* | $J_{*}^{P_{*}}$ | J^P (f.s.) | scalar X | pseudoscalar X | vector X | axial-vector X |
|--|-----------------|--------------|------------|------------------|------------|------------------|
| ${}^8\text{Be}$ (18.15) | 1^+ | 0^+ | ... | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| ${}^4\text{He}$ (21.01) | 0^- | 0^+ | ... | ✓ | ... | ✓ |
| ${}^4\text{He}$ (20.21) | 0^+ | 0^+ | ✓ | ... | ✓ | ... |
| ${}^{12}\text{C}$ (17.23) | 1^- | 0^+ | ✓ | ... | ✓ | ✓ |
| ${}^8\text{Be}$ (GDR \rightarrow <i>g.s.</i>) | 1^- | 0^+ | ✓ | ... | ✓ | ✓ |
| ${}^8\text{Be}$ (GDR \rightarrow 2_1^+) | 1^- | 2^+ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

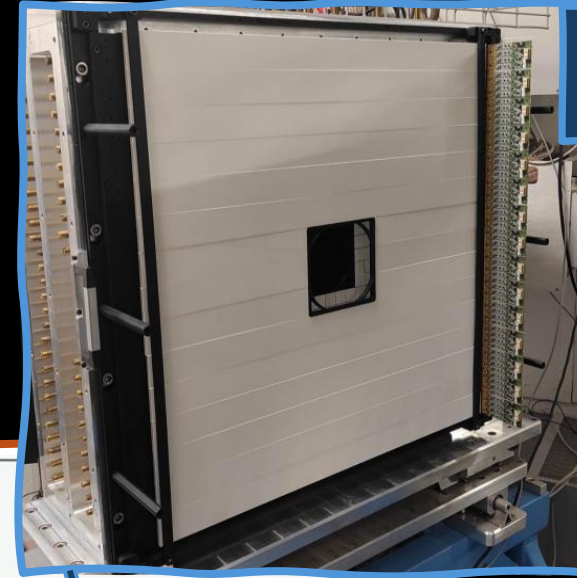
X17 as a Vector boson



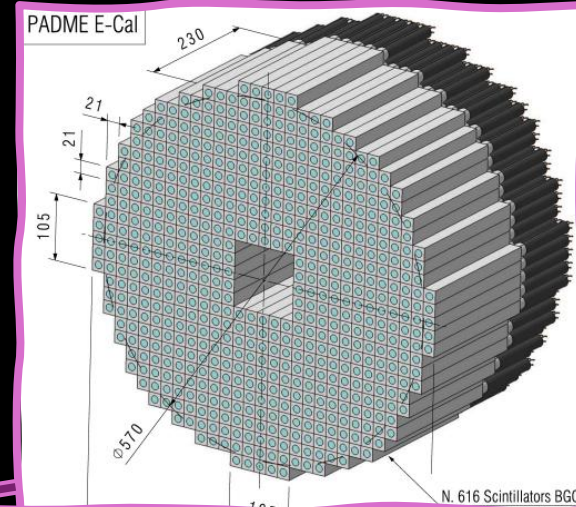
$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\cos\theta} = \underbrace{\frac{\alpha(s)^2 (3 + \cos^2\theta)^2}{4s (1 - \cos\theta)^2}}_{\text{T-channel}} + \underbrace{\frac{9s\Gamma_{X17}(s)^2}{4m^2} \frac{(1 + \cos^2\theta)}{(s - m_{X17}^2)^2 + s\Gamma_{X17}(s)^2}}_{\text{S-channel}} + \underbrace{\left[(1 + \cos^2\theta) - \frac{(1 + \cos\theta)^2}{1 - \cos\theta} \right] \frac{3\alpha(s)\Gamma_{X17}(s)}{2m} \frac{(s - m_{X17}^2)}{(s - m_{X17}^2)^2 + s\Gamma_{X17}(s)^2}}_{\text{Interference term}}$$

Run III: experimental setup

PADME



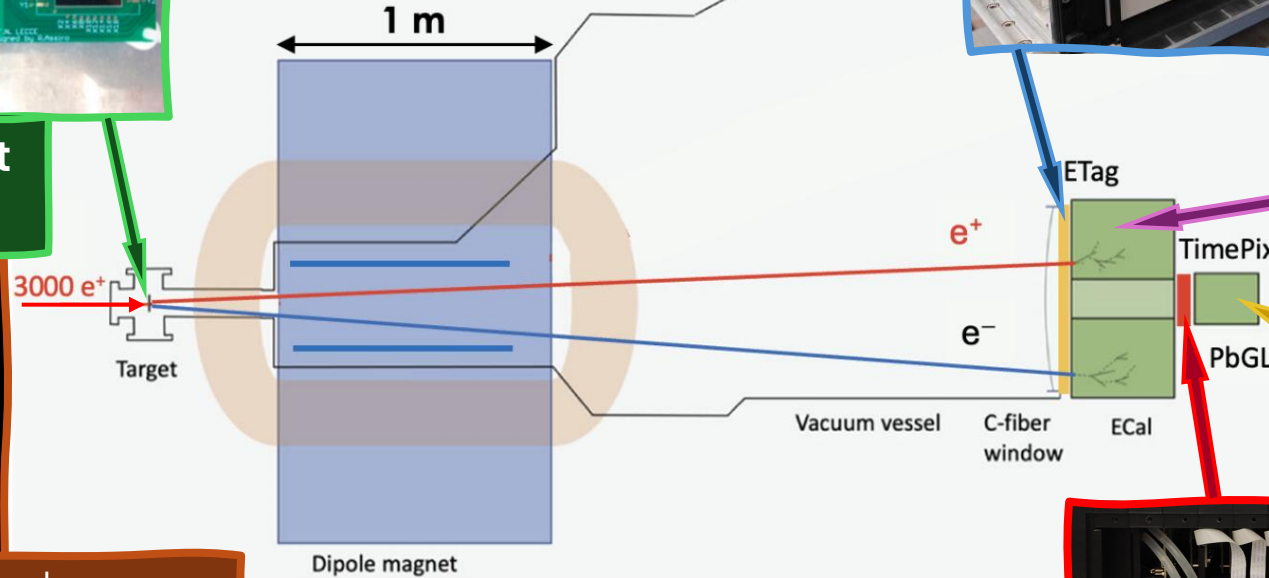
ETag (18 plastic scintillators $4 \times 60 \times 0.5 \text{ cm}^3$)



ECAL (616 BGO crystals $21 \times 21 \times 230 \text{ mm}^3$)

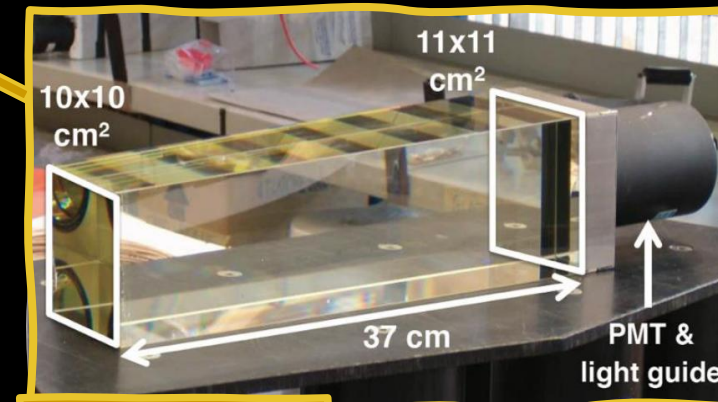


Active Target
(diamond)



Beam: $3000 e^+$ /bunch
[262 MeV – 296 MeV]
Bunch length $\sim 200 \text{ ns}$

TimePix3



LeadGlass

Run III: analysis & results

Run III features:

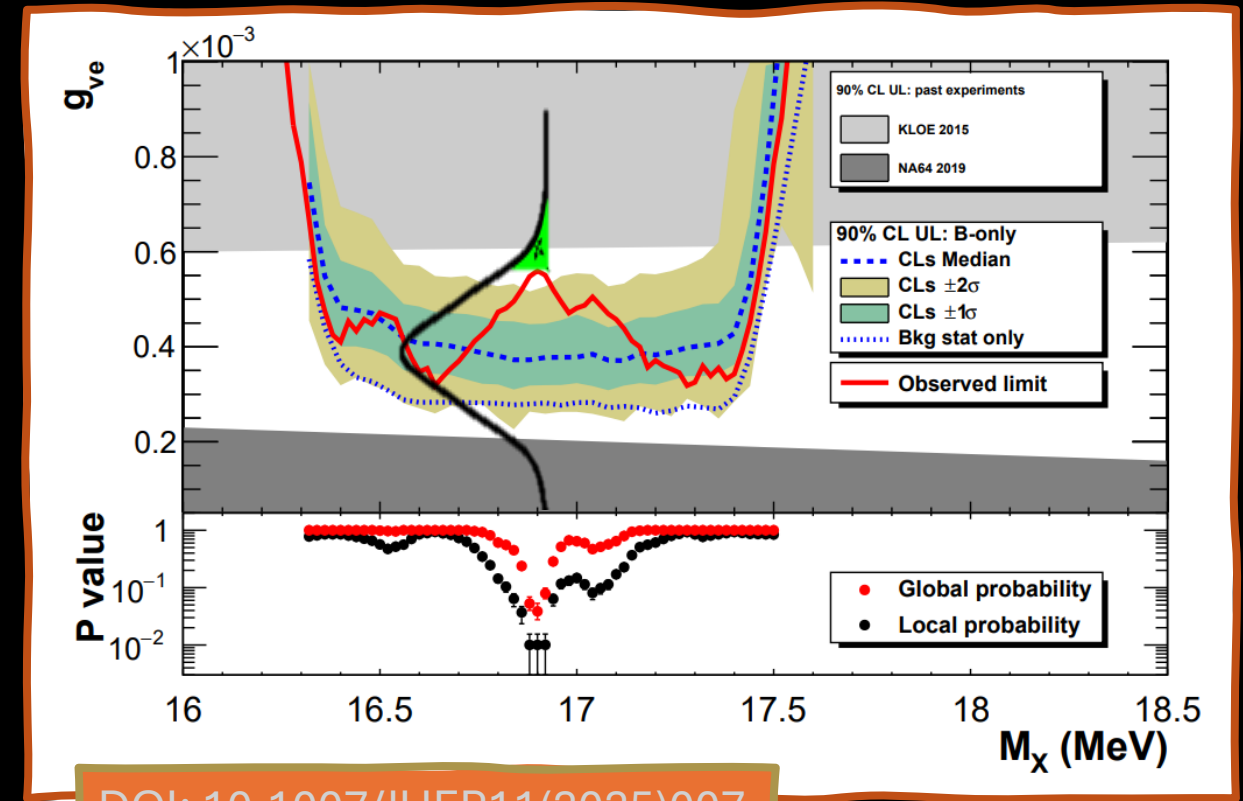
- ❖ Intrinsic width \sim eV or smaller (from ATOMKI) while experimental width \sim 100 keV (\sqrt{s} spread)
 $\rightarrow \sqrt{s}$ scan in steps of 30 keV, between [16.4 MeV – 17.4 MeV] $\leftarrow \rightarrow$ [262 MeV – 296 MeV] beam energy
- ❖ Vector boson hypothesis \rightarrow coupled to EM current
- ❖ Comparison of signal hypothesis vs SM background:

$$N_{2cl}(s) = N_{POT}(s) \times [B(s) + S(s; M_x, g) e_s(s)]$$

VS

$$N_{2cl}(s) = N_{POT}(s) \times B(s)$$

\rightarrow Found excess at $m_x c^2 = (16.90 \pm 0.02) \text{ MeV}$
 $g_{ve} = 5.6 \times 10^{-4}$, $\Gamma_{exp} \sim 100 \text{ keV}$
 corresponding to local 2.5σ
 global $(1.77 \pm 0.15) \sigma$ one-sided



DOI: 10.1007/JHEP11(2025)007

Run III: analysis & uncertainties

Recently PADME collaboration published the results of the Run III analysis.

Evaluating:

$$g_R(s) = \frac{N_2(s)}{N_{bkg}(s)} = \frac{N_2(s)}{N_{POT}(s)B(s)}$$

Number of e^+e^- candidates

Number of Positrons On Target

Number of Background

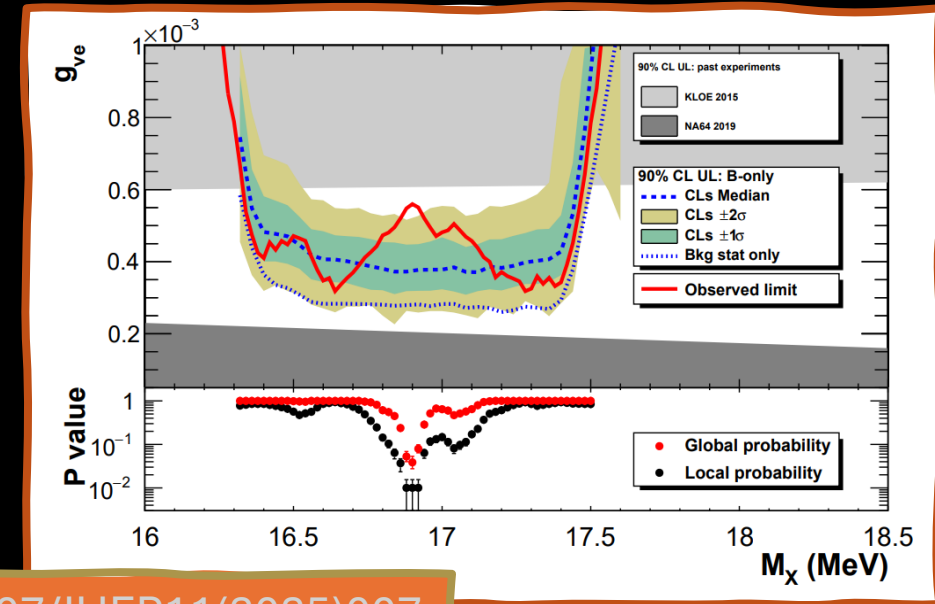
| Source | Error [%] |
|----------------|-----------|
| N_2 | 0.6 |
| N_{POT} | 0.35 |
| B | 0.55 |
| Total on g_R | 0.89 |

DOI: [10.1007/JHEP11\(2025\)007](https://doi.org/10.1007/JHEP11(2025)007)

Background subtraction (bremsstrahlung) + statistics

Beam spread + radiation induced loss

MC statistics + cluster reconstruction efficiency



Upgrade with MICROMEAS detectors

Run III:

- ❖ $N_{\text{PoT}} \sim 7 \times 10^{11}$
- ❖ Acceptance ($\sim 10\%$)
- ❖ Flux measurement & Beam related uncertainties
- ❖ Insufficient discrimination between charged/neutral particles from ETag
- ❖ Passive material of TimePix

Run IV upgrades:

- ❖ Increase the statistics (goal: $\sim 2x N_{\text{PoT}}$)
- ❖ New target position (closer to ECAL) $\rightarrow 2x$ acceptance
- ❖ Gaseous tracking detectors (padMMe and TMM)
 - \rightarrow Discrimination of photons/charged particles
 - \rightarrow Beam monitor capabilities
- ❖ Improved spatial and angular resolution
- ❖ N_{ee} normalization to another physical process, like $N_{\gamma\gamma}$
- ❖ Reduced passive material along the beamline

Run IV started in June and ended in November

PADME



ETag



TimePix3



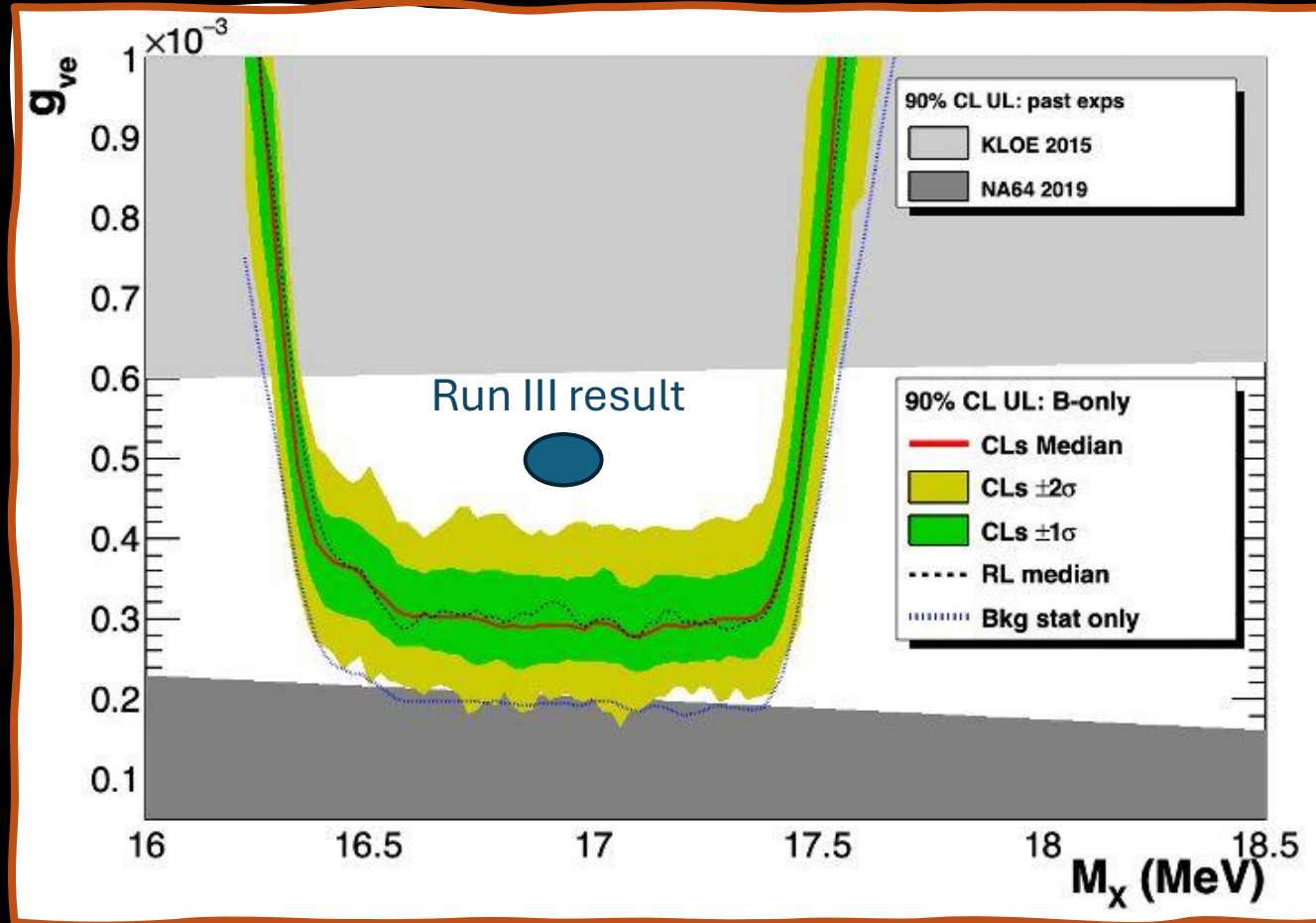
padMMe



TMM



Run IV: prospects



this plot is obtained considering the run3 dataset but with systematic decreased. Namely the full systematic uncertainty is lowered to 0.5%

Gas detectors

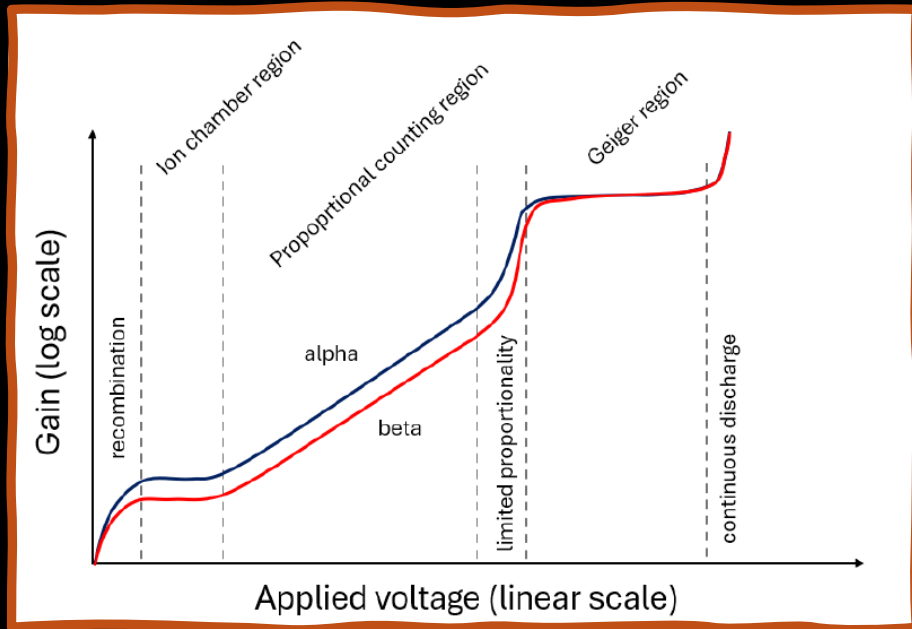
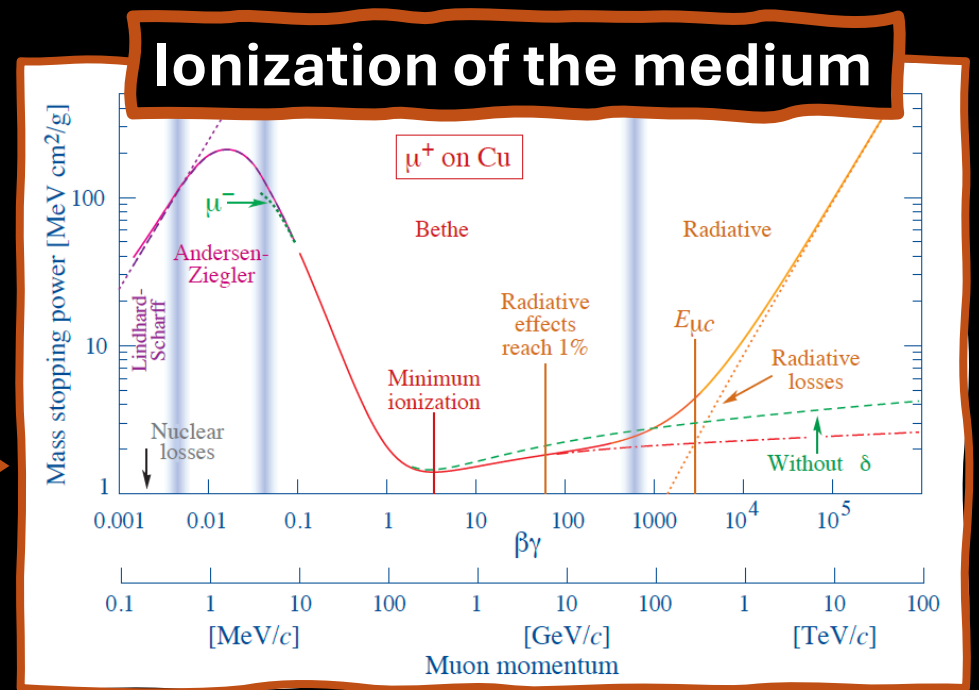


All gaseous detector are based on one principle: when a charged particle passes through a gas it produce couples of ions and electrons.

The charge is collected using an electric field on electrodes.

→ Anode for electrons

→ Cathode for ions



$$\left\langle -\frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle = K z^2 \frac{Z}{A} \frac{1}{\beta^2} \left[\frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{2m_e c^2 \beta^2 \gamma^2 W_{\max}}{I^2} - \beta^2 - \frac{\delta(\beta\gamma)}{2} \right]$$

The charge is too small in gas (not in liquid) to be measured
→ Need built in amplification process

Higher is the electric field higher is the energy gained by electrons in the subsequent multiplication process but too high field would make you loose the proportionality regime.

Gas detectors

With respect to the applied voltage on the cathode, one can have different regimes for a gaseous detector:

❖ Recombination:

the ionized electrons recombines with atoms
can't see any tracks

❖ Ionization chamber region:

the charge is not multiplied ,the signal is the ionized charge

❖ Proportional counting region:

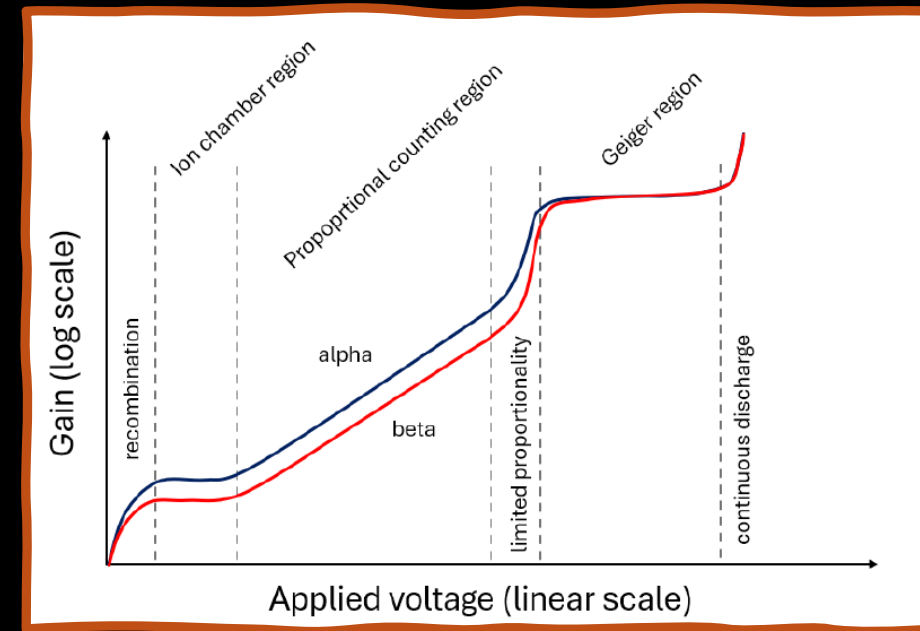
the charge is multiplied linearly through secondary ionizations

❖ Geiger region:

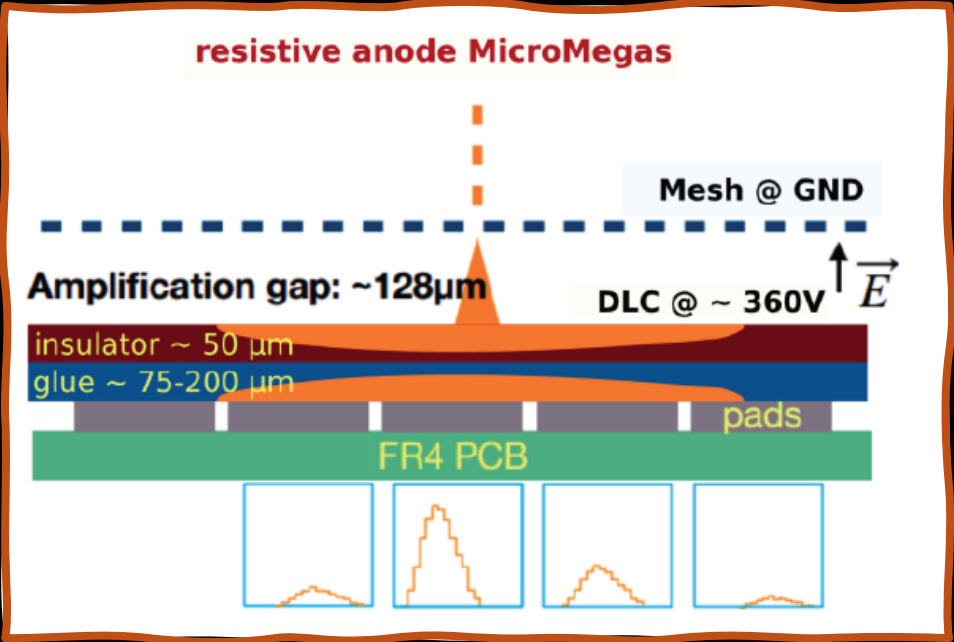
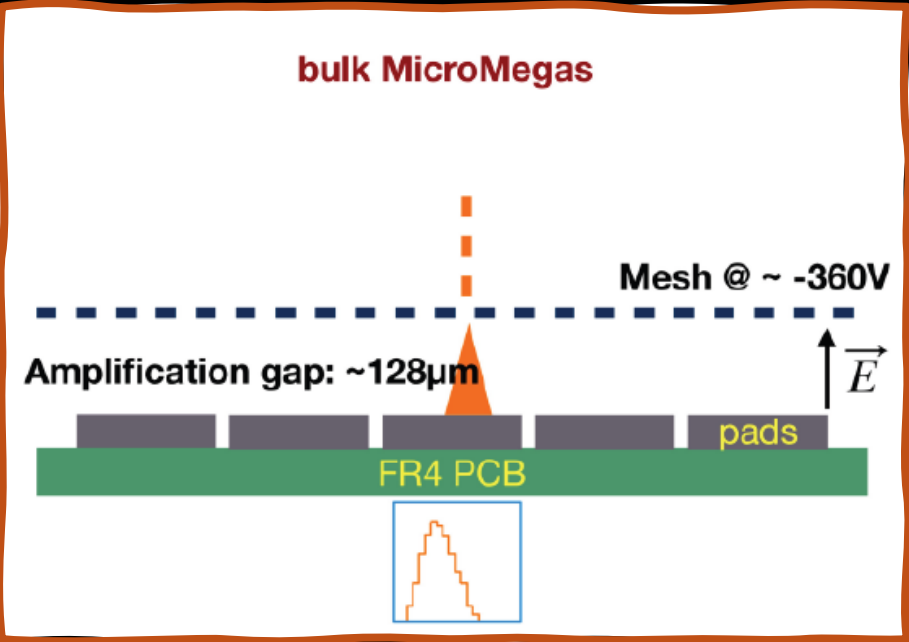
the high voltage makes the amplification very high, cannot track but can be used to count

❖ Continuous discharge:

the electric field is too high that creates continuous discharges



MICROMEAS: bulk or floating mesh?



padMMe: gas mixture

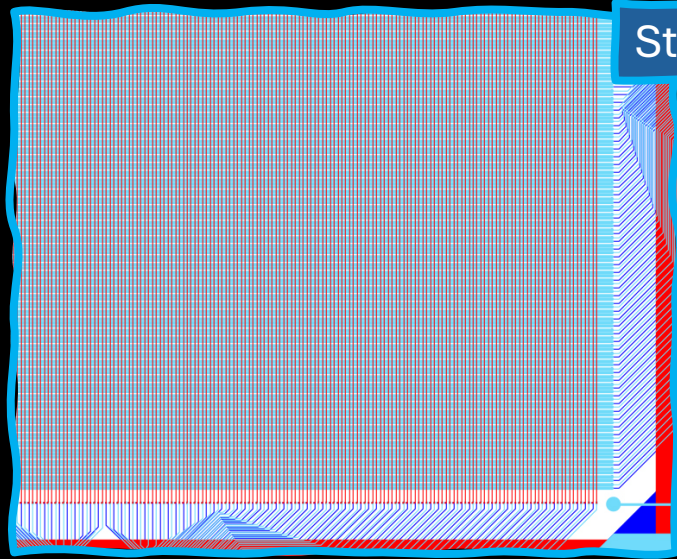
| Gas | Z | A | ρ (g/cm ³) | E_{ex} (eV) | E_{ion} (eV) | I (eV) | w_i (eV) | $\frac{dE}{dx}$ (MeV cm ² /g) | $\rho \frac{dE}{dx}$ (keV/cm) | n_p (cm ⁻¹) | n_{tot} (cm ⁻¹) | X_0 (m) |
|---------------------------------------|-------|-------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|---------------|---|----------------------------------|------------------------------|---|--------------|
| H ₂ | 2 | 2 | $8.38 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | 10.8 | 15.4 | 19.2 | 37 | 4.03 | 0.34 | 5.2 | 9.2 | 7522 |
| He | 2 | 4 | $1.66 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 19.8 | 24.5 | 41.8 | 41 | 1.94 | 0.32 | 5.9 | 7.8 | 5682 |
| N ₂ | 7 | 28 | $1.17 \cdot 10^{-3}$ | 8.1 | 15.6 | 82 | 35 | 1.68 | 1.96 | (10) | 56 | 325 |
| O ₂ | 8 | 32 | $1.33 \cdot 10^{-3}$ | 7.9 | 12.1 | 95 | 31 | 1.69 | 2.26 | 22 | 73 | 257 |
| Ne | 10 | 20.2 | $8.38 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 16.6 | 21.6 | 137 | 36 | 1.68 | 1.40 | 12 | 39 | 345 |
| Ar | 18 | 39.9 | $1.66 \cdot 10^{-3}$ | 11.5 | 15.8 | 188 | 26 | 1.47 | 2.44 | 29.4 | 94 | 118 |
| Kr | 36 | 83.8 | $3.49 \cdot 10^{-3}$ | 10.0 | 14.0 | 352 | 22 | 1.33 | 4.64 | 31.6 | 192 | 33 |
| Xe | 54 | 131.3 | $5.49 \cdot 10^{-3}$ | 8.4 | 12.1 | 482 | 22 | 1.23 | 6.76 | 44 | 335 | 15 |
| CO ₂ | 6,8 | 44 | $1.86 \cdot 10^{-3}$ | 5.2 | 13.8 | 85 | 35 | 1.62 | 3.01 | 35.5 | 91 | 183 |
| CH ₄ | 6,1 | 16 | $7.1 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 9.8 | 15.2 | 41.7 | 28 | 2.21 | 1.48 | 25 | 53 | 640 |
| C ₂ H ₆ | 6,1 | 30 | $1.34 \cdot 10^{-3}$ | 8.7 | 11.7 | 45.4 | 27 | 2.30 | 3.08 | 41 | 111 | 340 |
| i-C ₄ H ₁₀ | 6,1 | 58 | $2.59 \cdot 10^{-3}$ | 6.5 | 10.8 | 48.3 | 34 | 2.86 | 7.39 | 84 | 195 | 169 |
| CF ₄ | 6,9 | 88 | $3.78 \cdot 10^{-3}$ | 12.5 | 15.9 | 115 | 34.3 | 1.69 | 6.37 | 51 | 108 | 92 |
| C ₂ H ₆ O (DME) | 6,1,8 | 46 | $2.2 \cdot 10^{-3}$ | 6.4 | 10.0 | 60 | 23.9 | 1.77 | 3.9 | 55 | 160 | 222 |

88%

2%

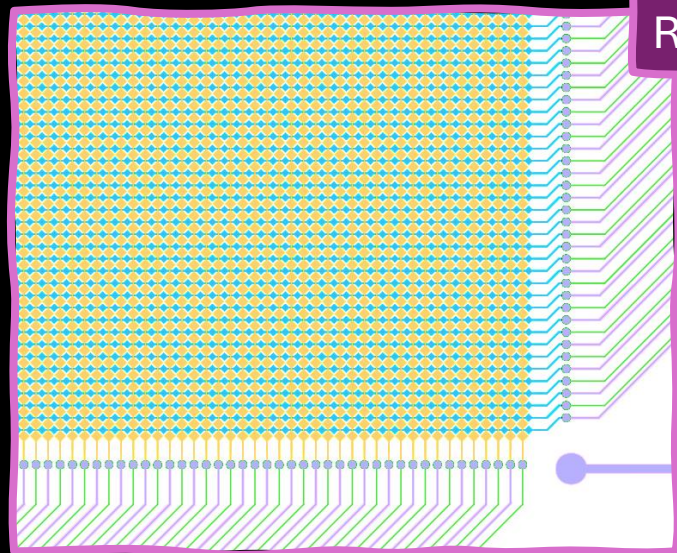
10%

padMMe: segmentation designs



Straight strips

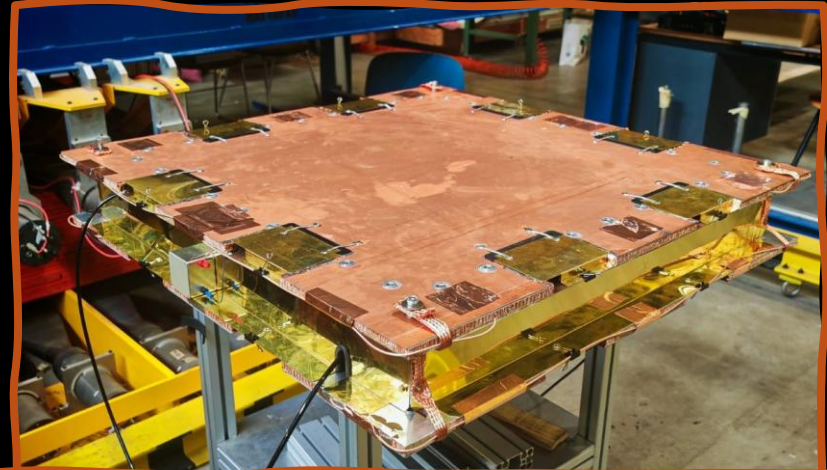
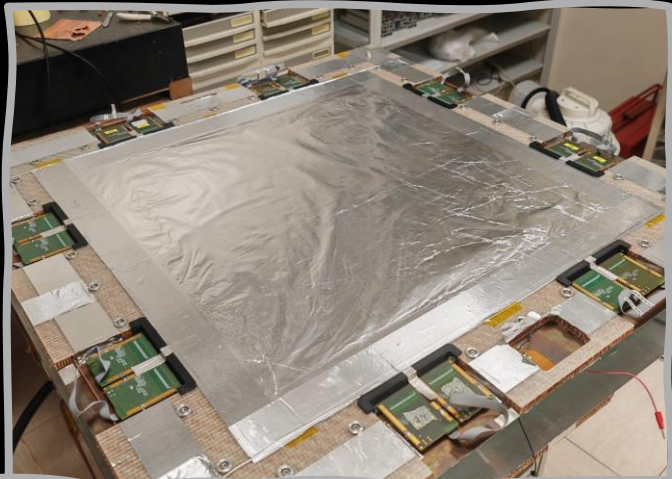
The x and y coordinates each are read by parallel Copper strips, separated by 1.2 mm pitch, which guarantee a spatial resolution of $\sim 300\mu\text{m}$ on the layer facing the amplification gap. On the other layer, that gives the second coordinate, the resolution worsen to $\sim 1\text{ mm}$, due to the induced charge from the upper layer strips (capacitive coupling).



Rhomboidal strips

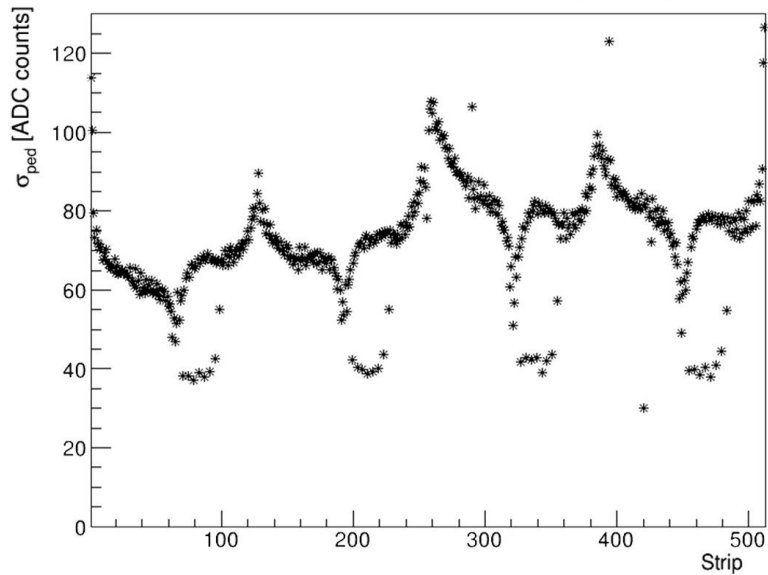
The reading layers are composed of rhomboidal shaped strips, always with a pitch of 1.2 mm. The two layers are shifted one to the other in such a way as not to overlap the x and y readout pads. This technology minimizes the capacitive coupling between the two layers, keeping the resolution on each coordinate of $\sim 300\mu\text{m}$. The pads have different areas, 0.49 mm^2 for the upper layer and 0.25 mm^2 for the down layer, making the capacitive coupling to the resistive layer the same for both the readout layers. Anyway, such difference in surfaces of the pads causes a difference of $\sim 20\%$ for the collected charge of the two layers.

padMMe: noise and Faraday cage

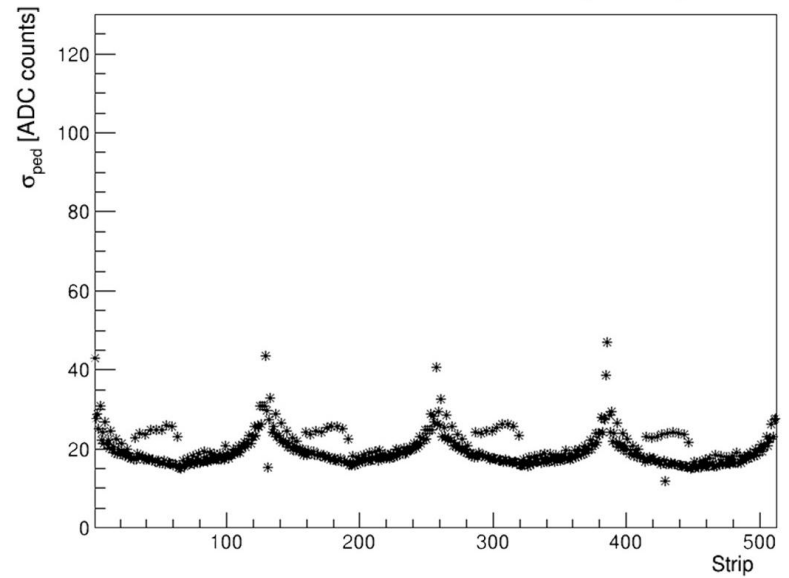


VS

Pedestal standard deviation [PTY2]

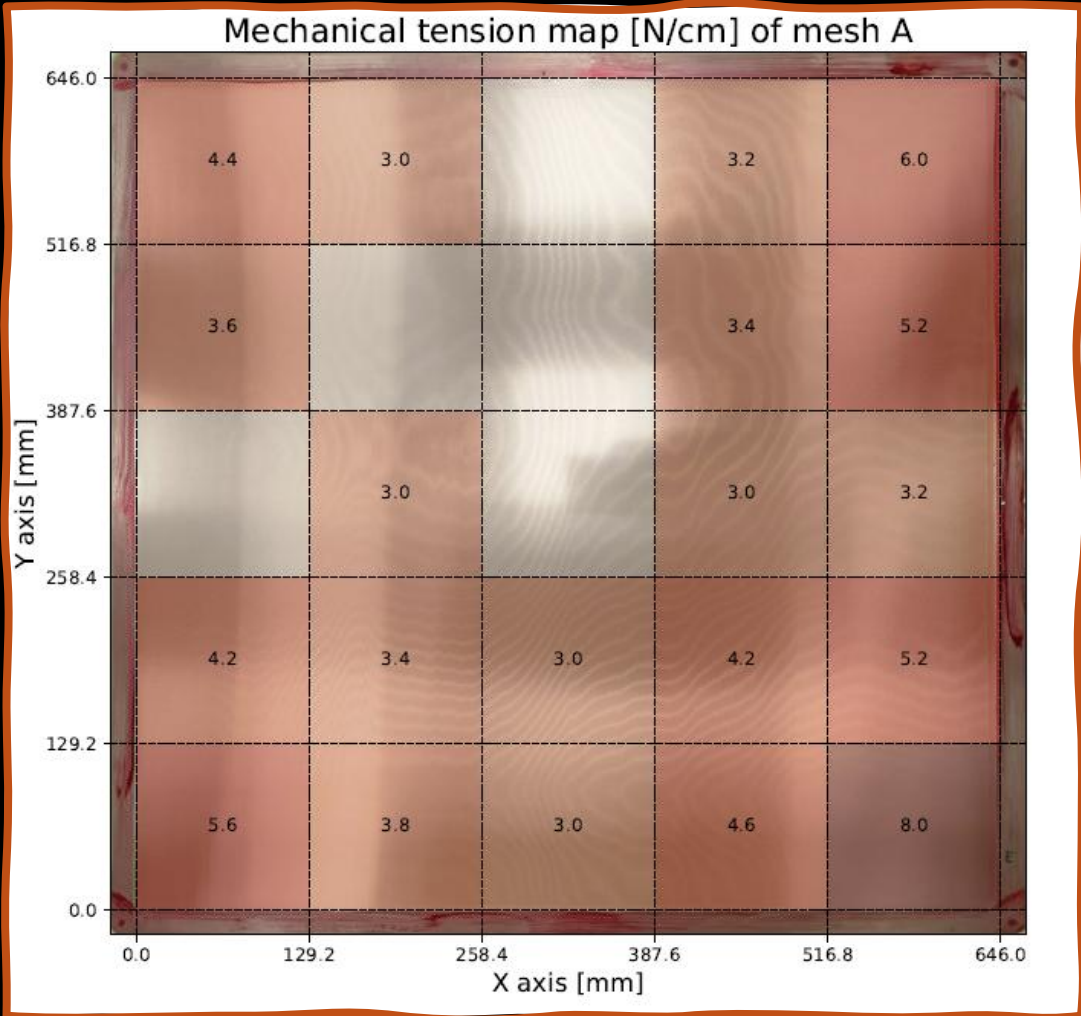


Pedestal standard deviation [PTY2]

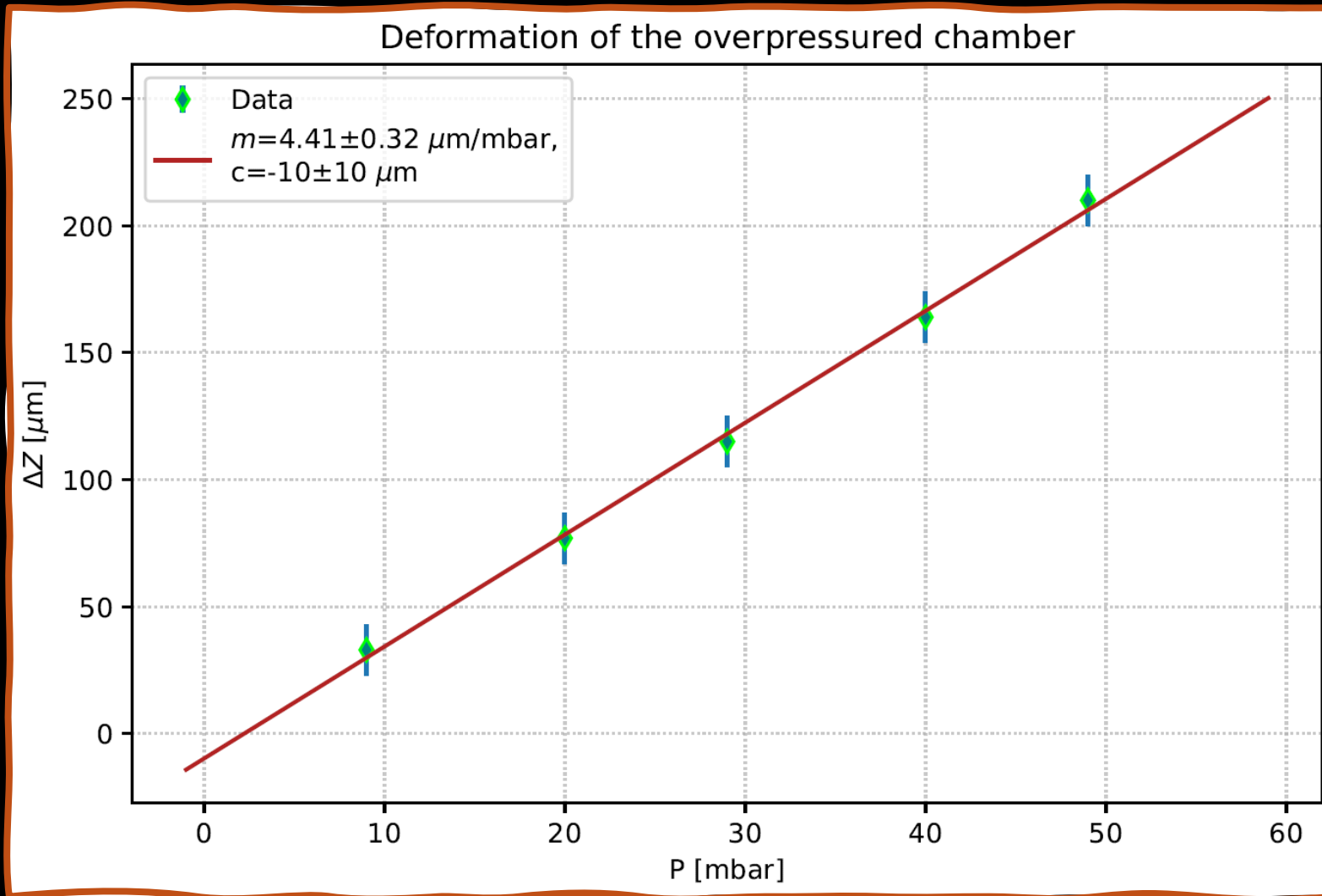


padMMe: dimensional measurements

Pillar height

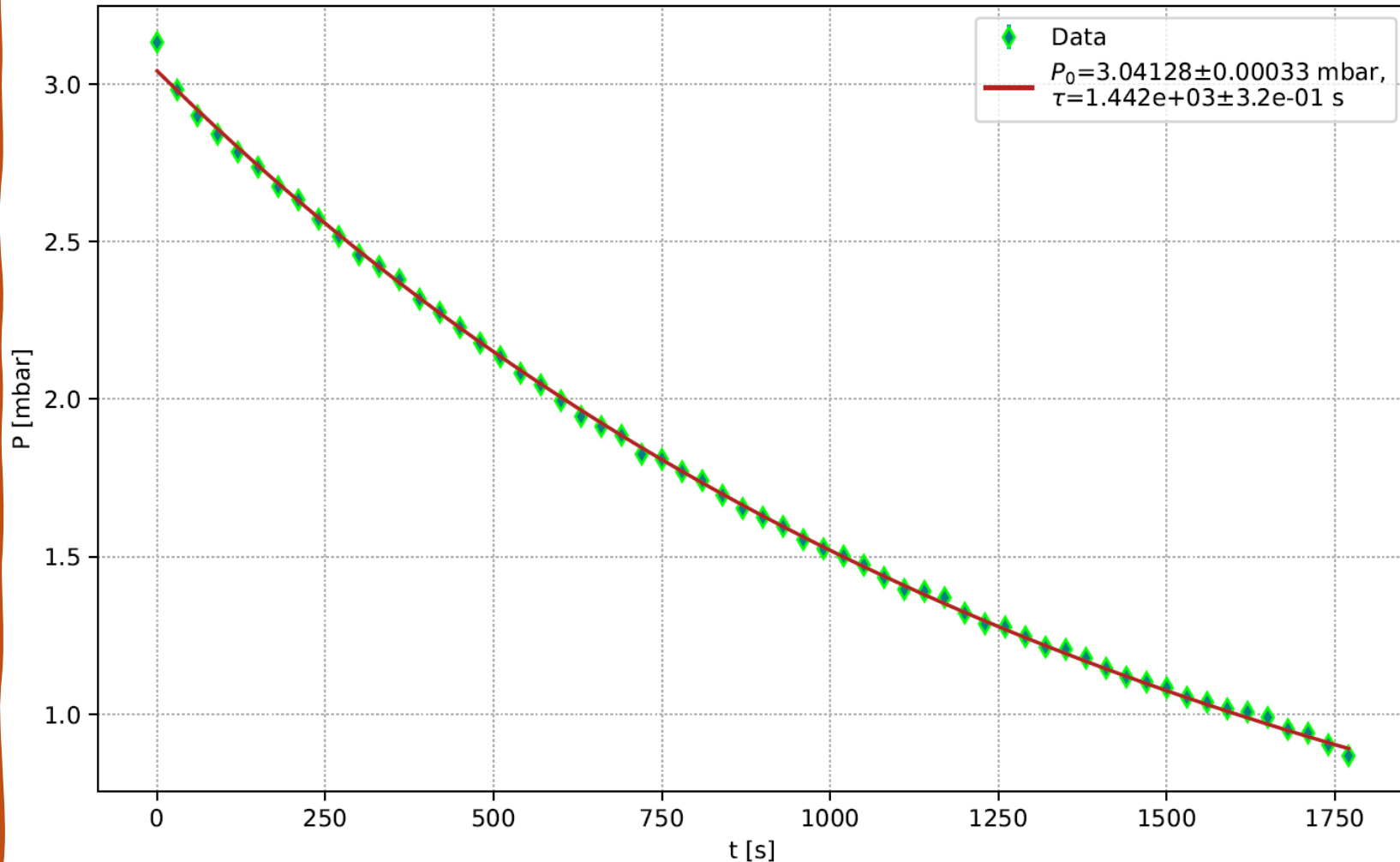


padMMe: deformation of readout panel



padMMe: gas tightness

Pressure vs Time with Exponential Fit



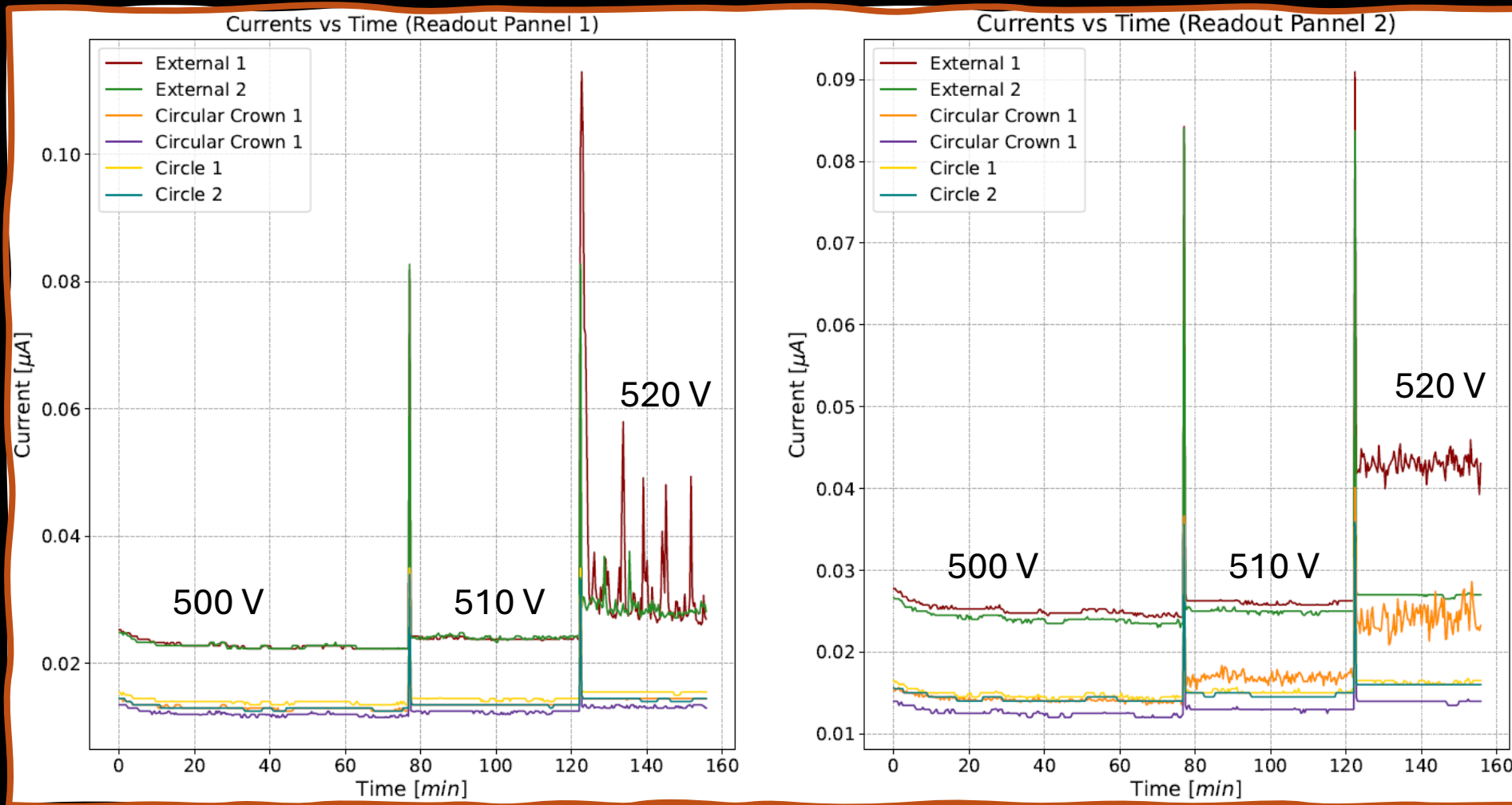
Time of tightness:

$$\tau = (1442.00 \pm 0.32) \text{ s} \simeq 24 \text{ min.}$$

Volume leakage:

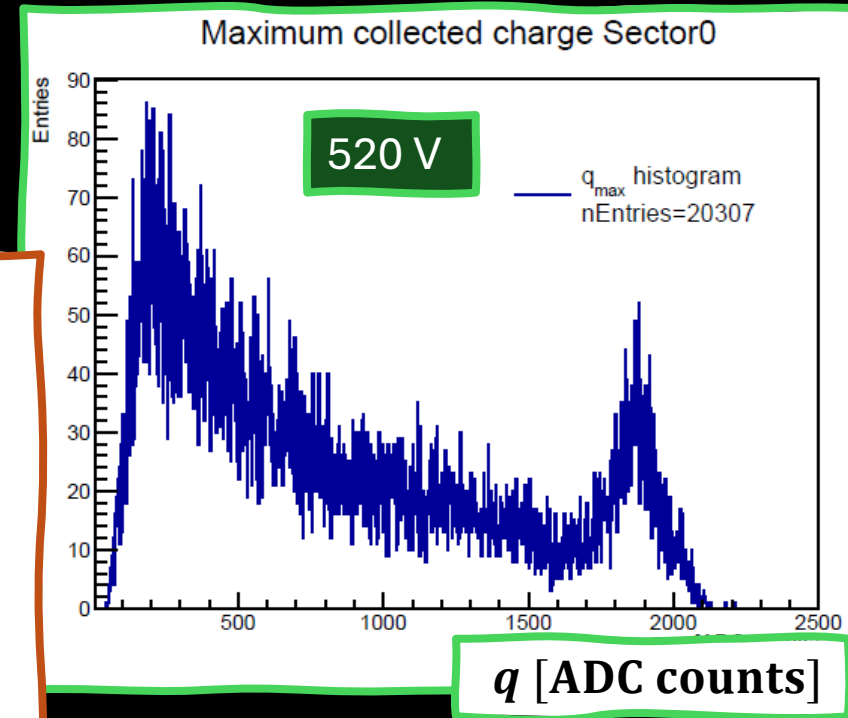
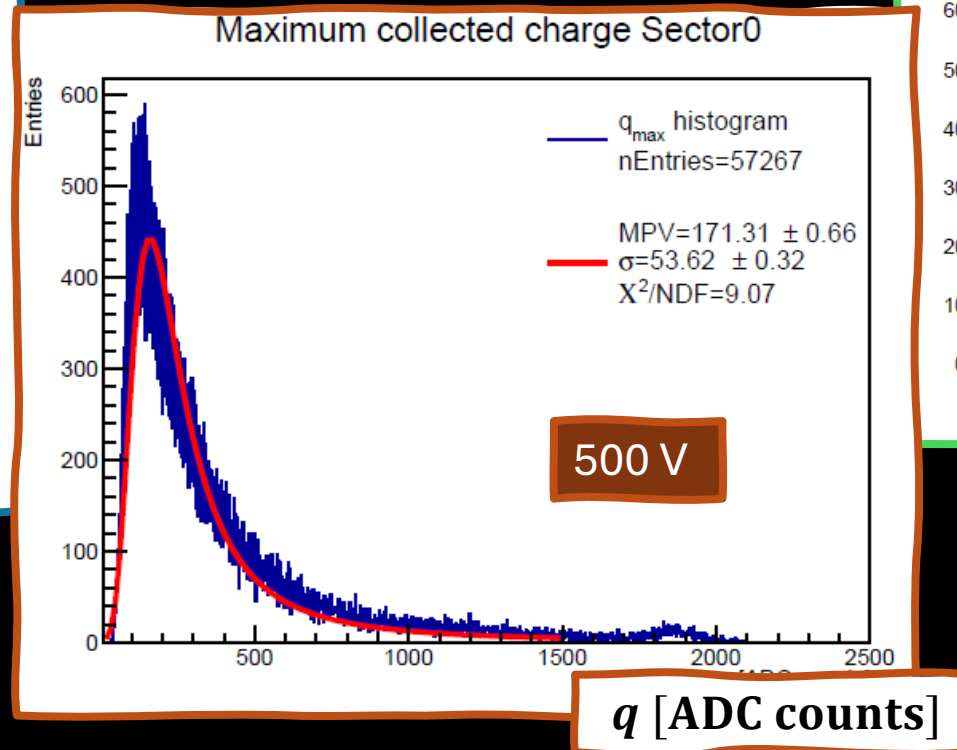
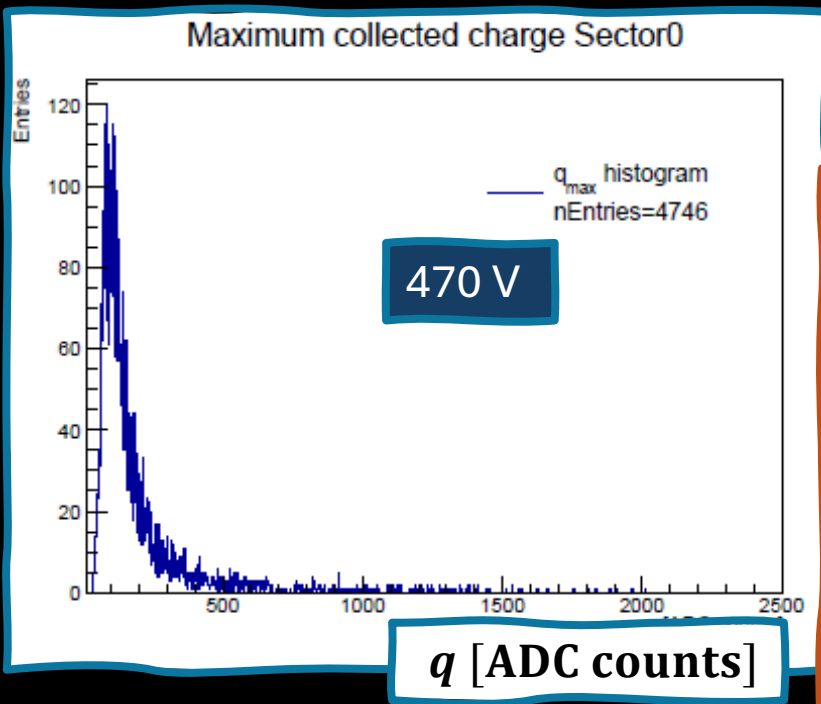
$$\frac{V}{\tau} = (0.8989 \pm 0.0020) \text{ L/h}$$

padMMe: HV study stability



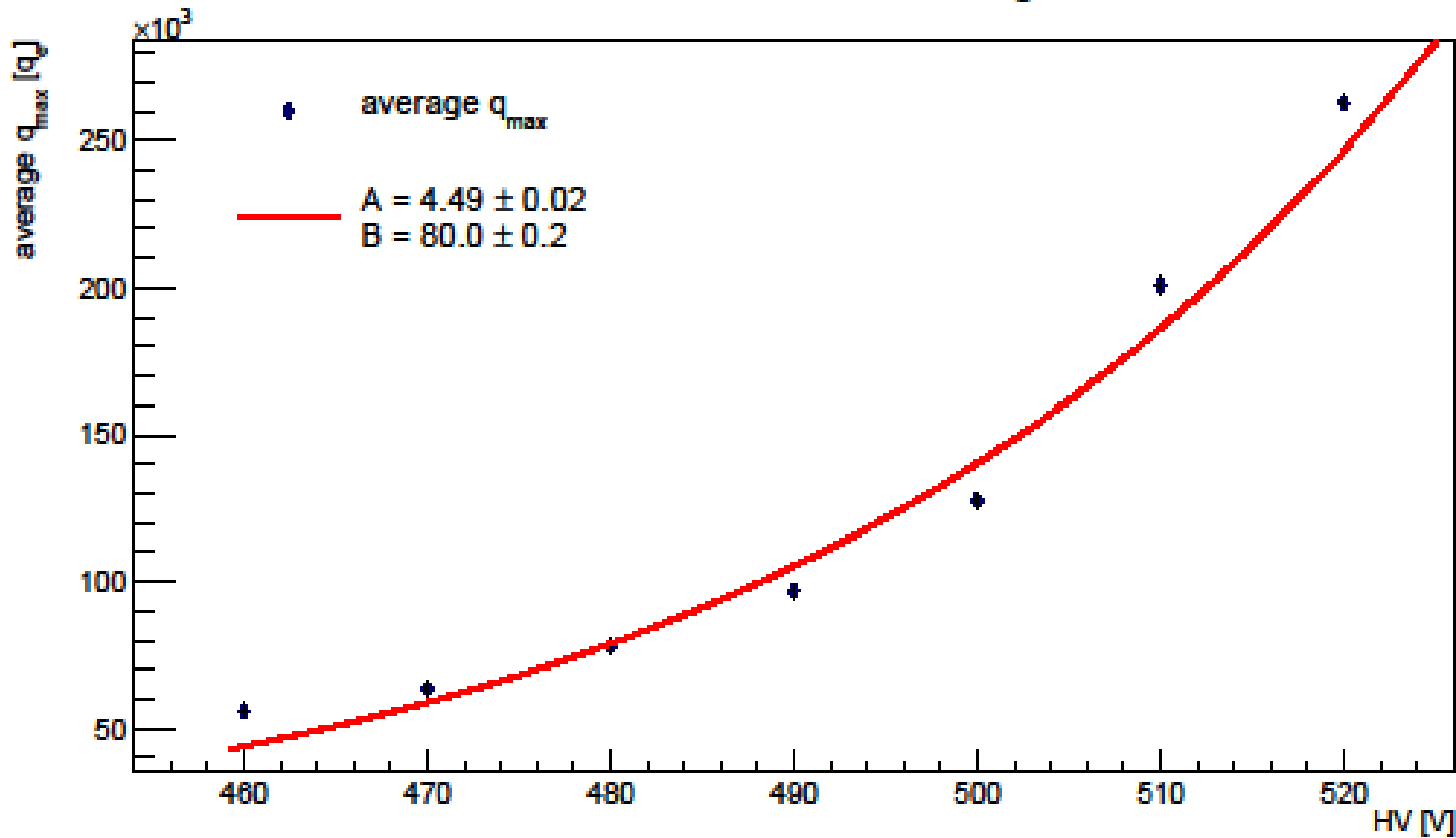
Operating in
PADME @490V

padMMe: collected charge spectrum



padMMe: gain curve

HV scan for collected charge



First Townsend coefficient

$$\alpha = Ape^{-\frac{Bpd}{V}}$$

Pressure: $p \sim 1 \text{ bar} \sim 750 \text{ mmHg}$

Amplification gap: $d = 128 \mu\text{m}$

Applied voltage: V

At $V = 500 \text{ V}$ we found:

$$\text{Gain} = e^{\alpha d} \sim 10^4$$

padMMe @ CRS: reconstruction



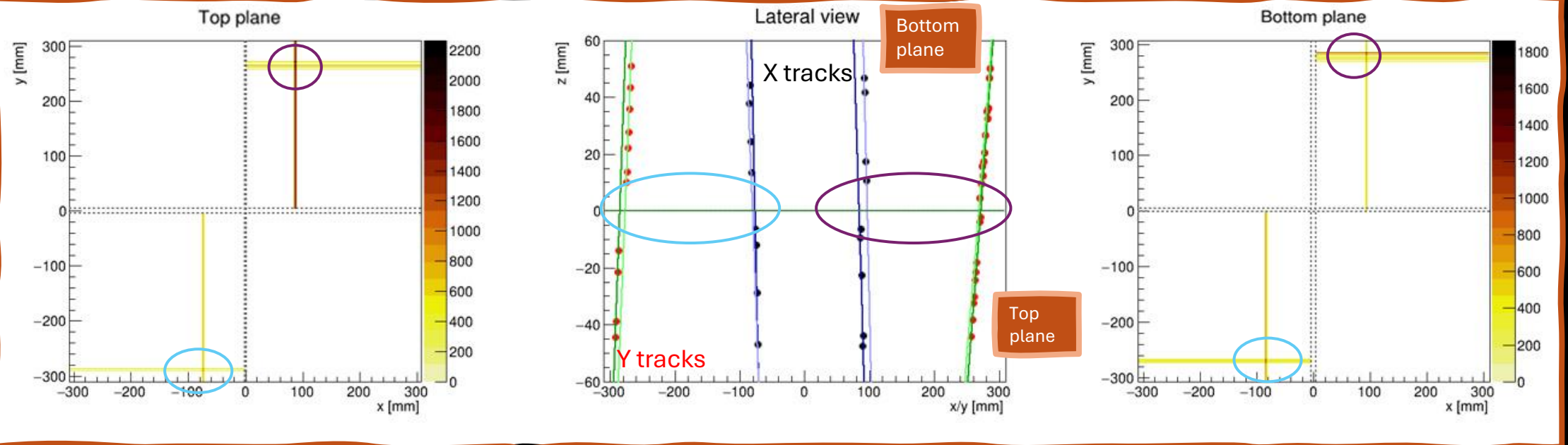
$$X \text{ or } Y = \#ch * p + \Delta_{sectors}$$

TOP panel: $Z = d - Z_{corr} - t_{drift} \cdot v_{drift}$
BOTTOM panel: $Z = -d + t_{drift} \cdot v_{drift} + Z_{corr}$

$$t_{drift} = t_{mean} - t_0$$

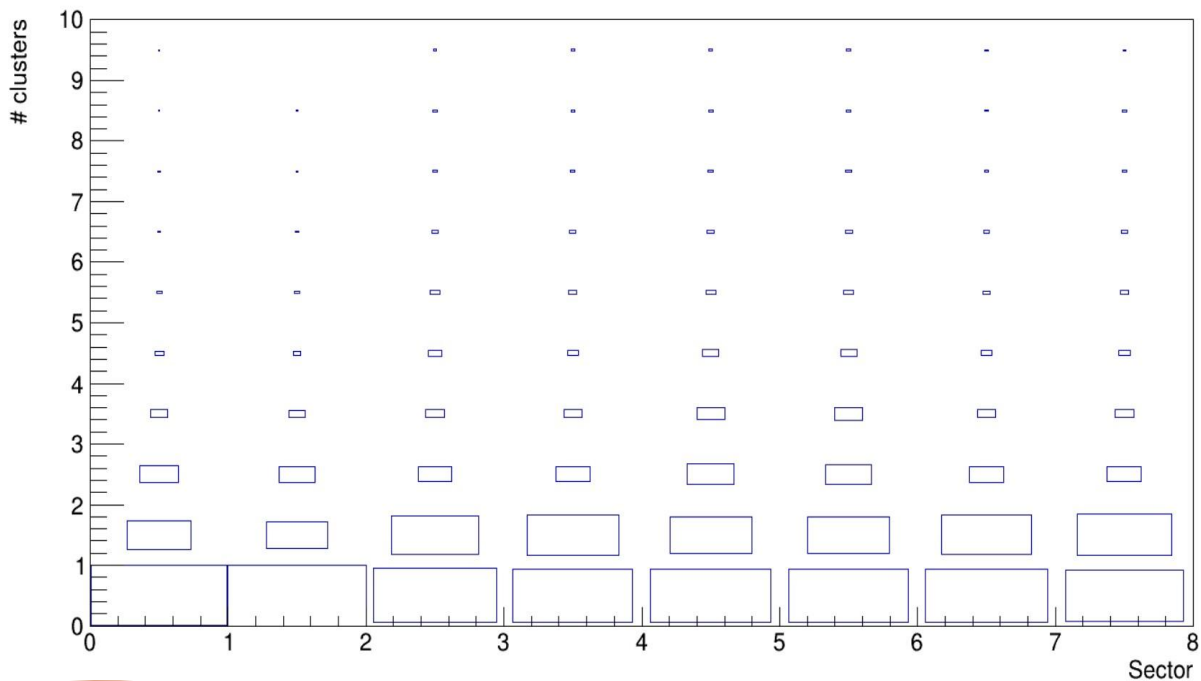
Mean time of the signal
(charge-weighted average)

From time
calibration

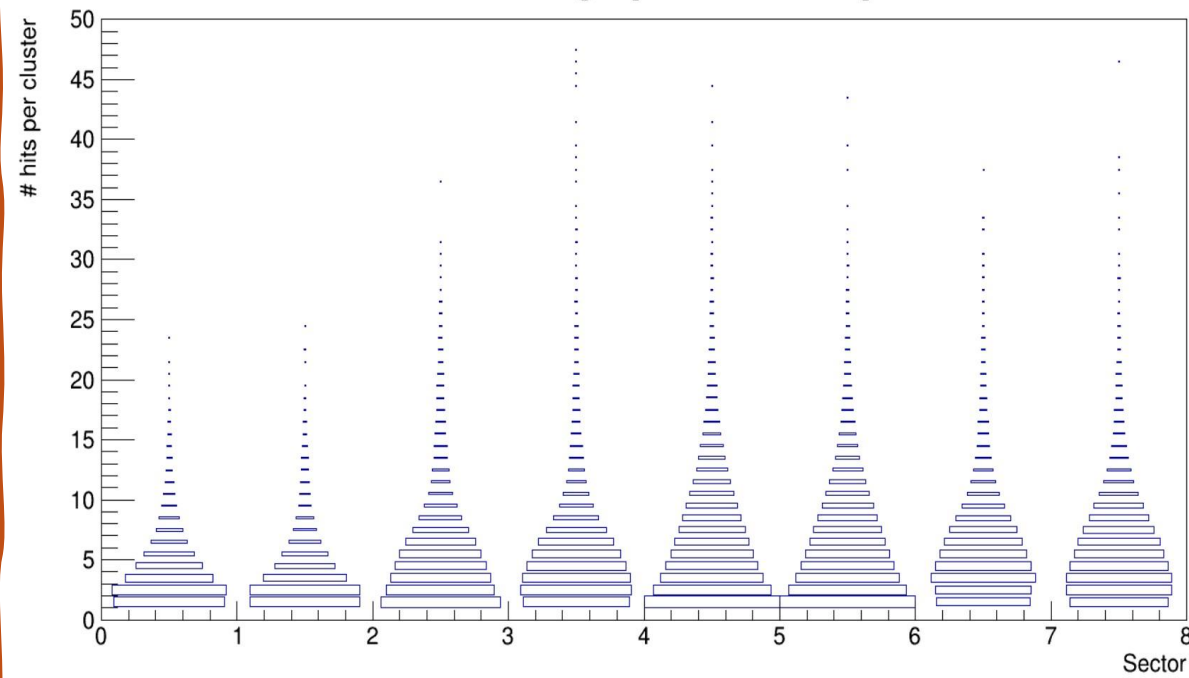


padMMe @ CRS: reconstruction

Number of found clusters [whole chamber]



Cluster length [whole chamber]



padMMe @ CRS: reconstruction

For angled tracks:

$$x = m \cdot z + c,$$

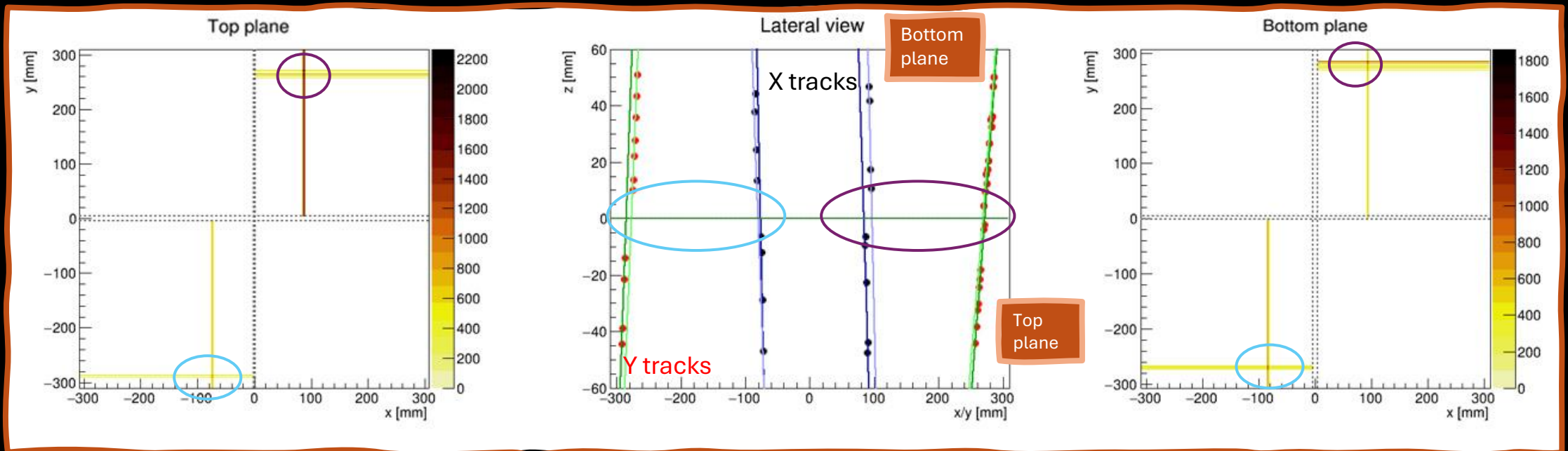
Plane matching condition:

$$|m_1 - m_2| < 0.5 \text{ rad},$$
$$|c_1 - c_2| < 2 \text{ mm}.$$

For vertical tracks:
(centroid)

$$m = 0$$

$$c = \sum_i \frac{x_i \cdot q_i}{q_{tot}}$$



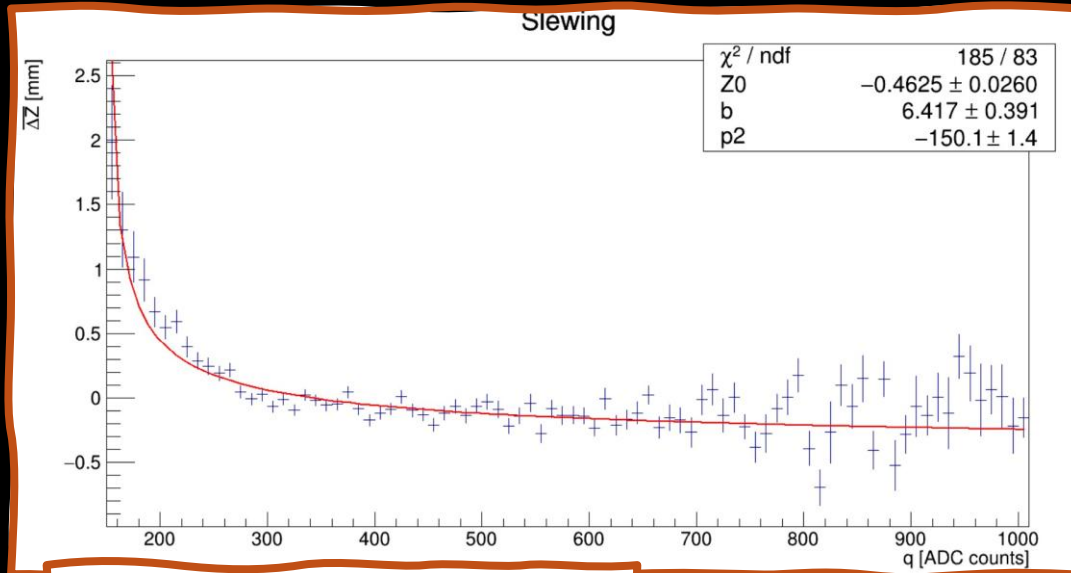
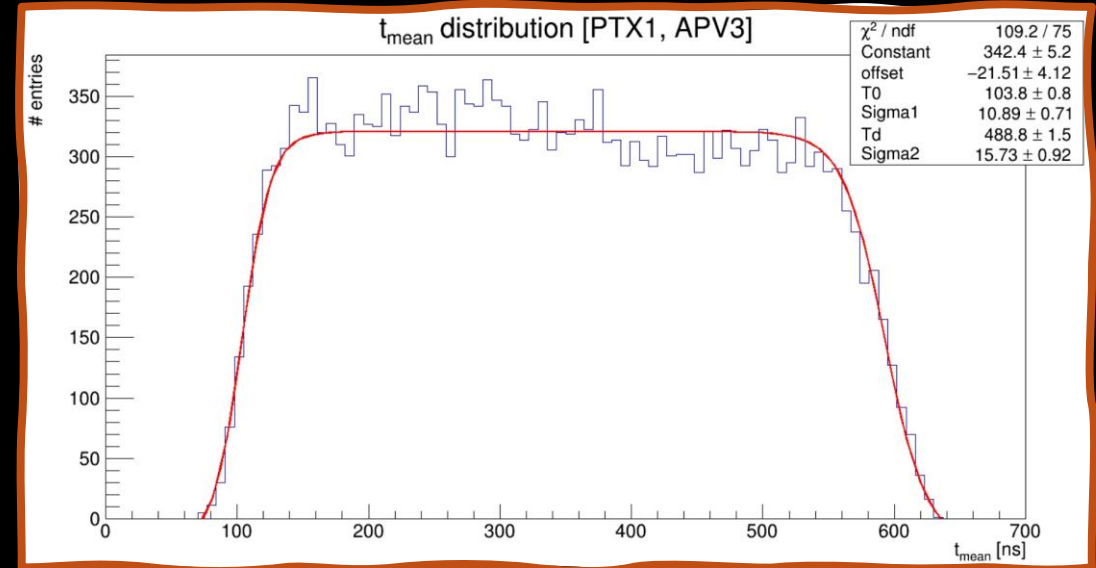
padMMe @ CRS: reconstruction



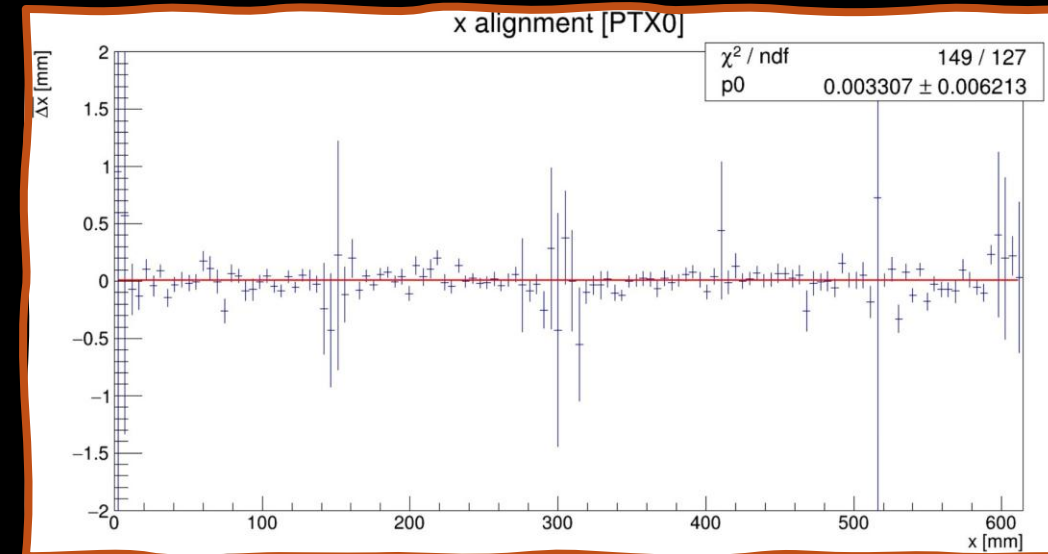
We calibrate the time, finding the t_0 for each APV chip.

We checked that the readout strips were aligned (no offset between them)

We observed a slewing (time walk) effect.

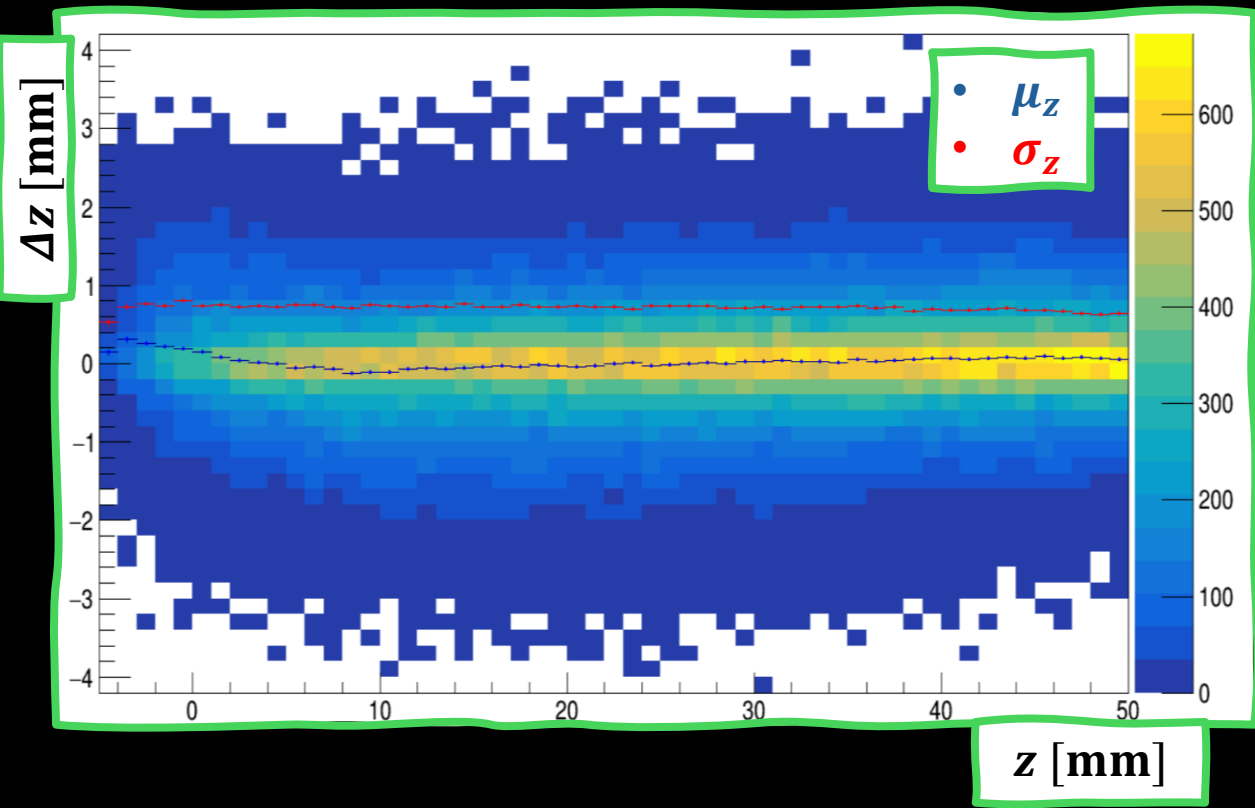
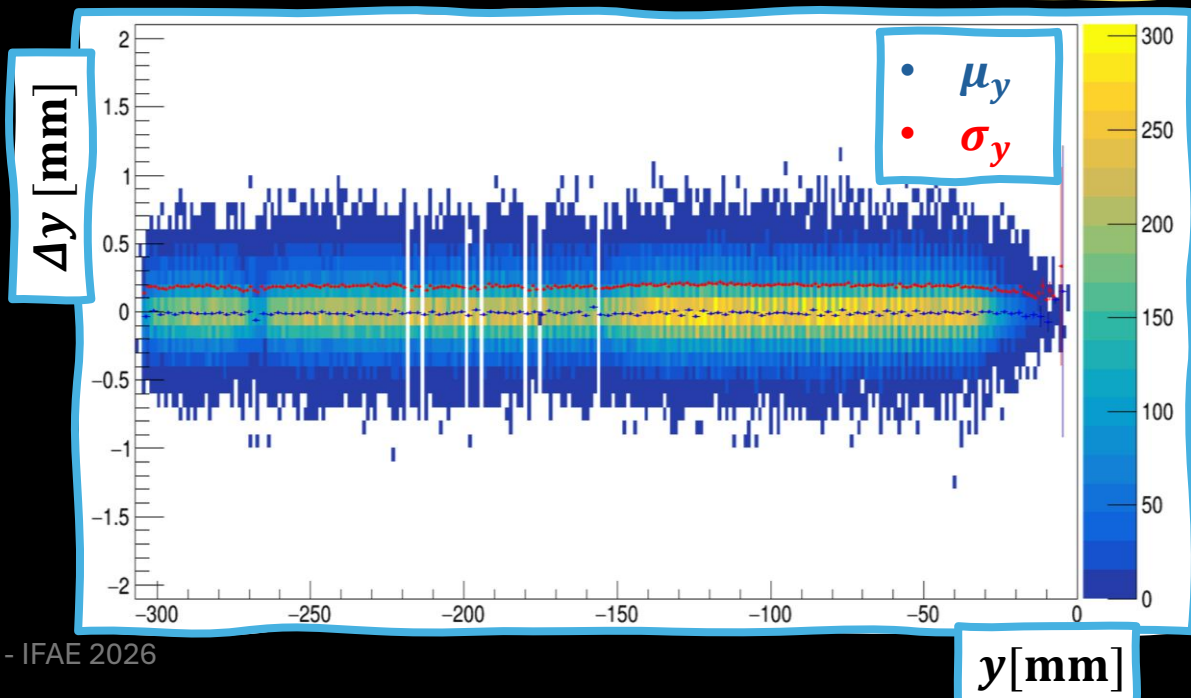
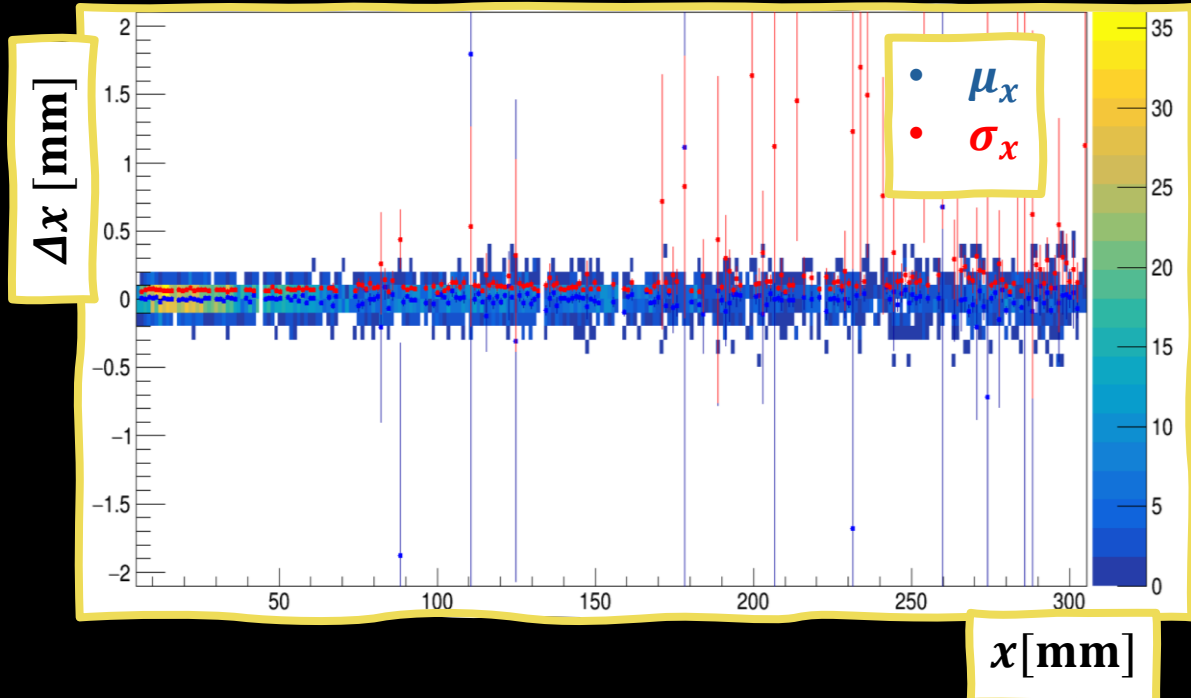


$$\overline{\Delta Z}(q) = Z_0 + \frac{a}{\sqrt{q + b}}$$



padMMe @ CRS: resolutions

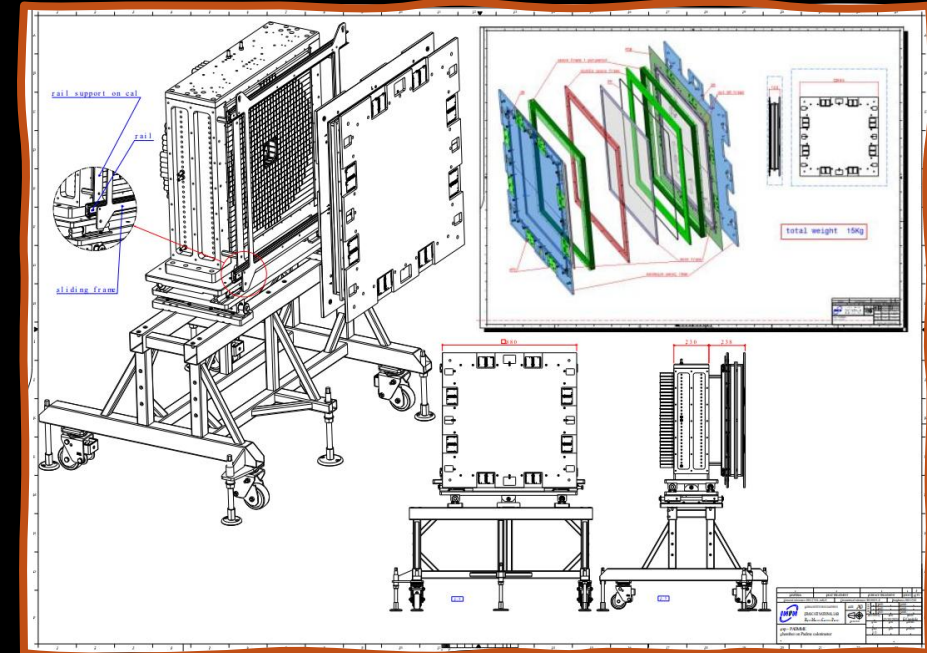
IPADME



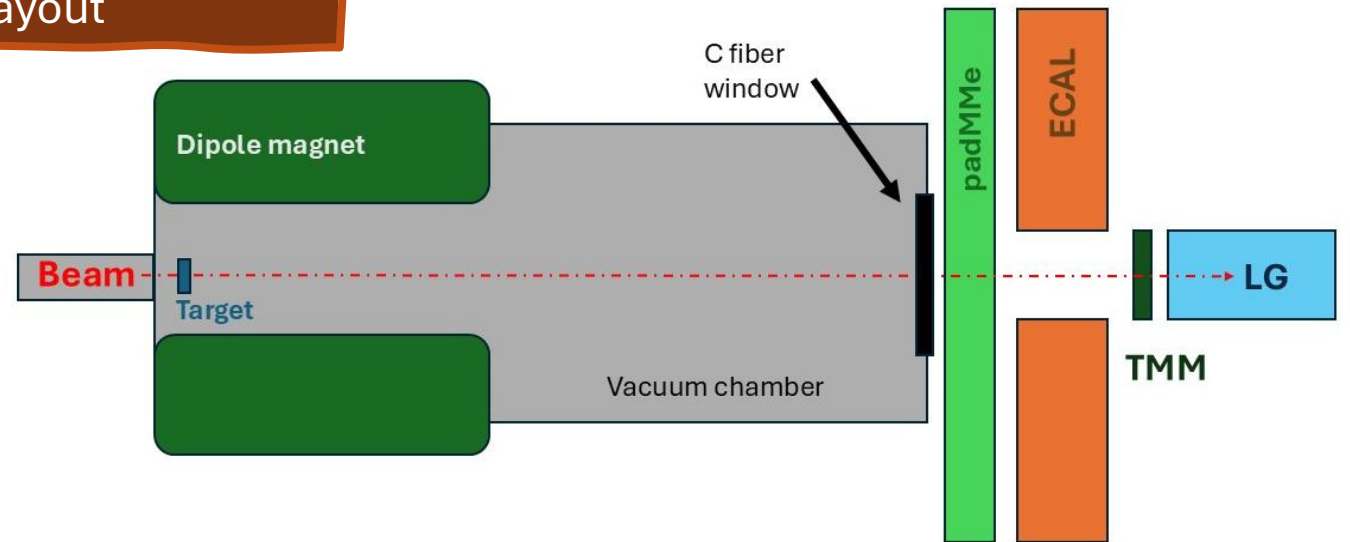
padMMe @ BTF: installation



PADME

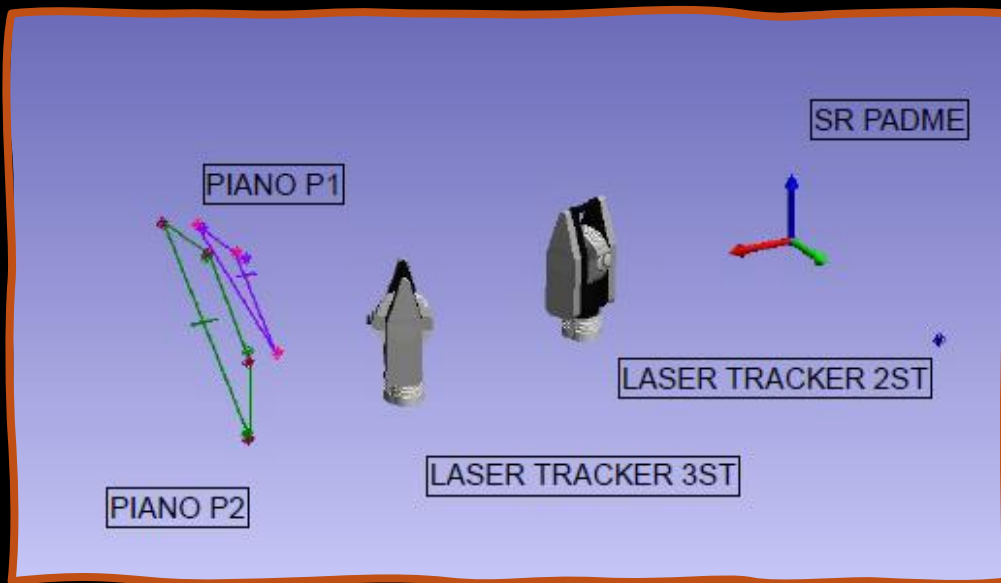


PADME Run IV layout



padMMe @ BTF: alignment with Strumento

Made by LNF
metrology team



Mire P1

| Point Group C::P1 | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| Point Name | X (mm) | Y (mm) | Z (mm) | Ux (mm) | Uy (mm) | Uz (mm) | Mag (mm) |
| P1XT0 | 2348.17 | -102.12 | 450.33 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.02 |
| P1XT1 | 2350.70 | 210.35 | 445.23 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.02 |

| Plane Relationship C::Piano P1 | |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| Criteria | Measured |
| Flatness | 0.00 |
| Centroid X | 2357.32 |
| Centroid Y | 151.74 |
| Centroid Z | 355.83 |
| RMS | 0.00 |
| Measurements | 3 |

Piano P1

| Point Group C::Piano P1 | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| Point Name | X (mm) | Y (mm) | Z (mm) | Ux (mm) | Uy (mm) | Uz (mm) | Mag (mm) |
| 1 | 2348.23 | -138.25 | 453.27 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.02 |
| 2 | 2350.76 | 145.65 | 443.27 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.02 |
| 3 | 2353.94 | 447.97 | 170.91 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.02 |

Mire P2

| Point Group B::P2 | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| Point Name | X (mm) | Y (mm) | Z (mm) | Ux (mm) | Uy (mm) | Uz (mm) | Mag (mm) |
| P2S0 | 2467.89 | 434.66 | -115.94 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.02 |
| P2S1 | 2467.21 | 436.00 | 191.56 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.02 |
| P2XT1 | 2463.81 | 127.42 | 441.83 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.02 |

| Plane Relationship C::Piano P2 | |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| Criteria | Measured |
| Flatness | 0.39 |
| Centroid X | 2458.22 |
| Centroid Y | 204.15 |
| Centroid Z | 233.21 |
| RMS | 0.16 |
| Measurements | 4 |

Piano P2

| Point Group B::Piano P2 | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| Point Name | X (mm) | Y (mm) | Z (mm) | Ux (mm) | Uy (mm) | Uz (mm) | Mag (mm) |
| 1 | 2460.91 | -196.56 | 457.79 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.02 |
| 2 | 2463.36 | 132.07 | 455.15 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.02 |
| 3 | 2466.86 | 437.55 | 154.66 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.02 |
| 4 | 2467.15 | 443.34 | -134.70 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.02 |



TMM @ BTF: beam monitoring

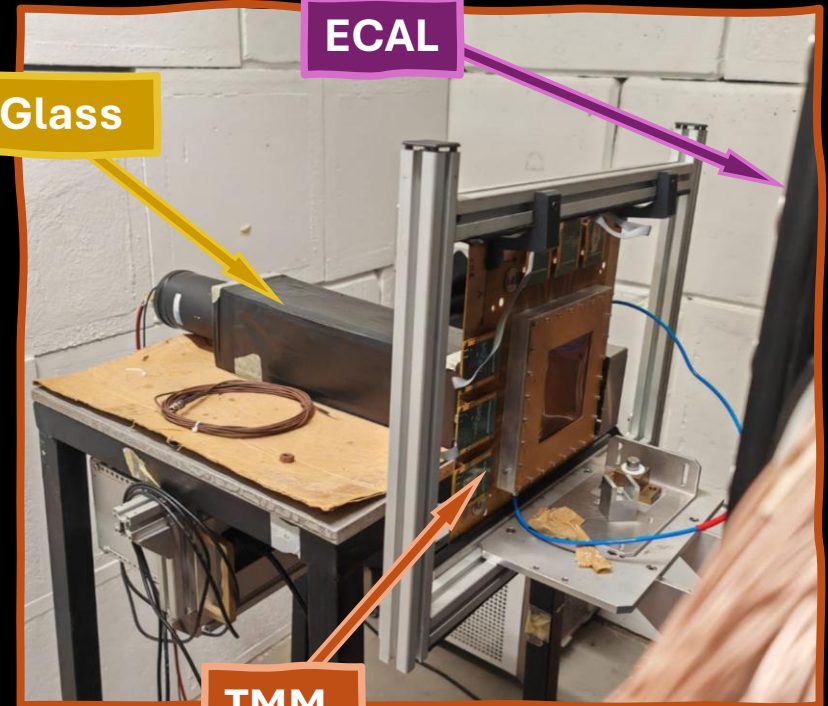
A smaller Micromegas chamber (TMM) replaced the TimePix for beam monitoring before the LeadGlass in Run IV.

The TMM is a bulk Micromegas, with an active area of $10 \times 10 \text{ cm}^2$, with a drift gap of 5 mm and an amplification gap of $128 \mu\text{m}$. The strips are orthogonal, for X and Y readout and the pitch is $250 \mu\text{m}$.

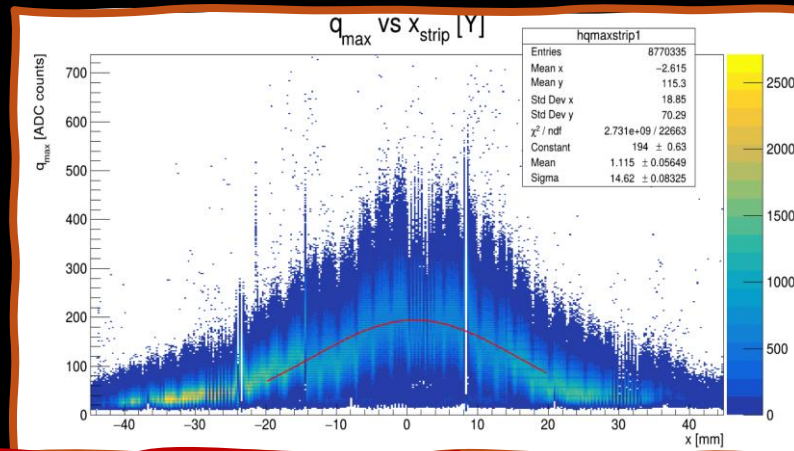
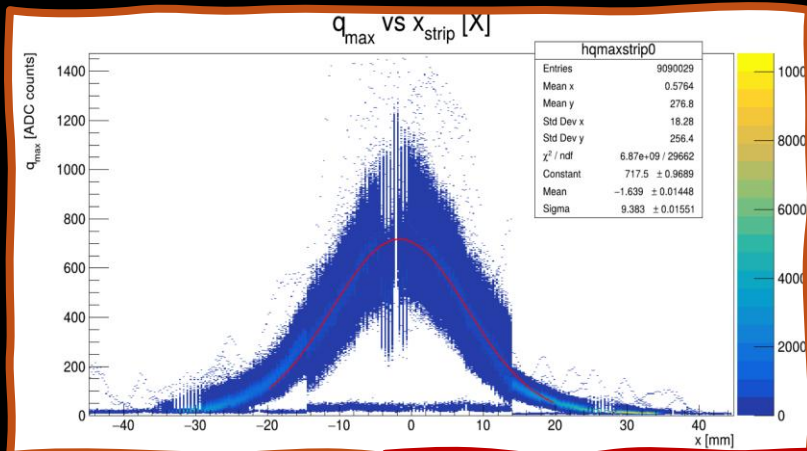
The TMM is kept in the ionization chamber regime (readout 300V, drift -300V)

LeadGlass

ECAL



TMM



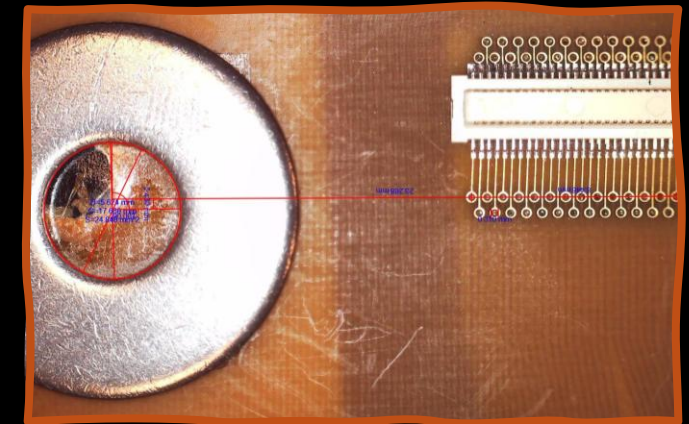
Measured beam spread: $\sim 9 \times 14 \text{ mm}^2$

We can measure the beam in three points: target, padMMe and TMM.
We can determine well beam properties, such as direction and spread.

TMM @ BTF: alignment

For the TMM the positioning and alignment is done in the same way of padMMe, using two aims → one for the position, the other for alignment

The real position of the aims was measured using the laser tracker, with respect to the PADME reference system

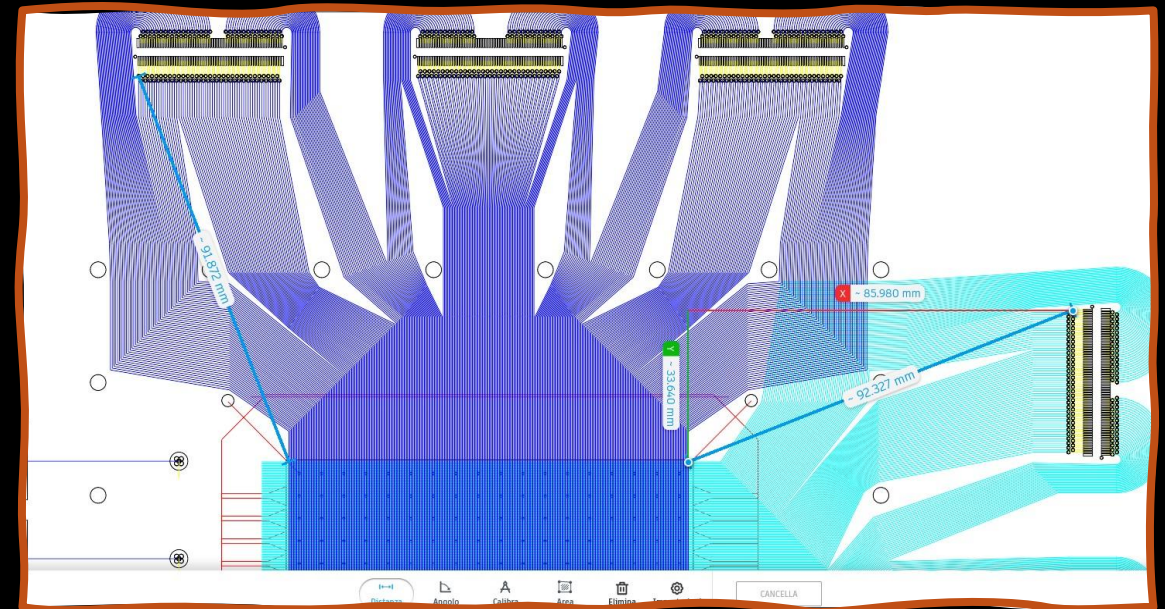


PIANO TMM sfera 1.5

| Point Group A::Piano TMM 1.5 | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| Point Name | X (mm) | Y (mm) | Z (mm) | Ux (mm) | Uy (mm) | Uz (mm) | Mag (mm) |
| 1 | 3384.59 | -129.95 | 129.45 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.02 |
| 2 | 3384.53 | -128.15 | 84.84 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.02 |
| 3 | 3381.00 | 123.04 | -63.21 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.02 |

TMM sfera 1.5

| Point Group A::TMM 1.5 | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| Point Name | X (mm) | Y (mm) | Z (mm) | Ux (mm) | Uy (mm) | Uz (mm) | Mag (mm) |
| 1 | 3380.68 | 101.69 | 130.26 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.02 |
| 2 | 3378.80 | 131.48 | -97.78 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.02 |



Beam Monitor

