



UNIVERSITÀ
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RPC 2022

Characterisation of a innovative RPC prototype with 1mm of gas gap thickness

**XVI Workshop on Resistive Plate Chambers and Related
Detectors**

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September 26-30 @CERN

Outline

Why 1mm gap thickness design?

Detector prototype layout and experimental setup description

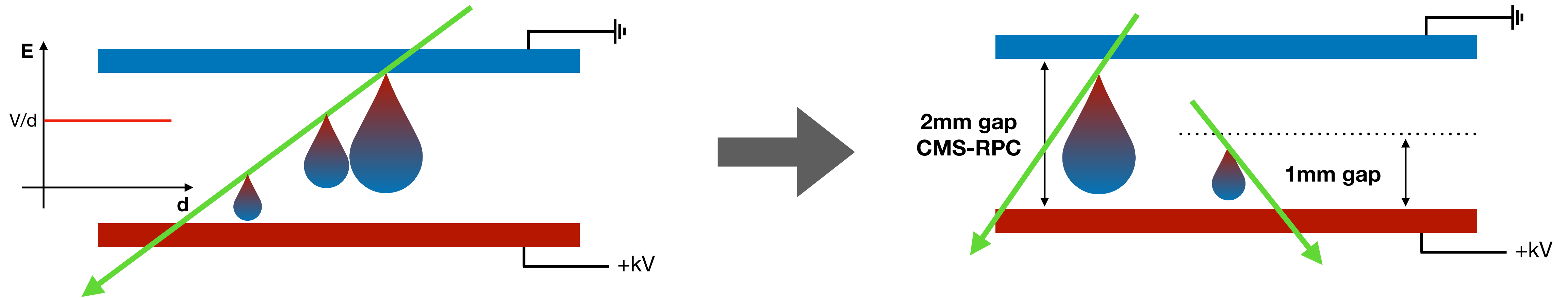
Efficiency and muon cluster results

Time resolution measurement

Study with eco-friendly gas mixtures

Why 1mm gas gap thickness?

Avalanche charge ↔ Gas gap thickness



Reducing gap thickness

Smaller avalanche cloud

Lower WP

Smaller CLS ➤ better space resolution

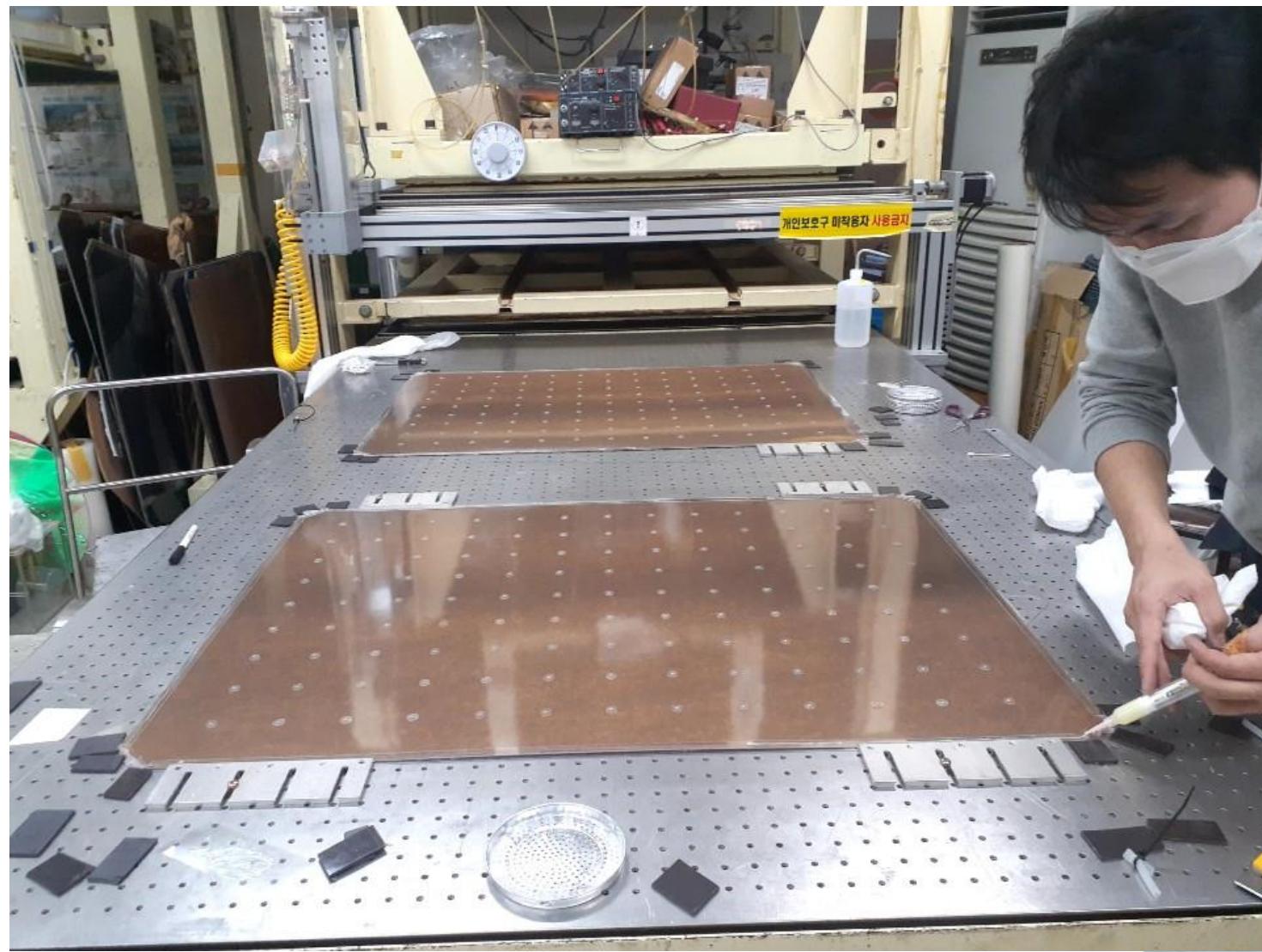
Fast signal ➤ better time resolution
and rate capability

FEB capable to operate at
lower THR (≈ 50 fC)
Low noise operational
conditions



Detector prototype

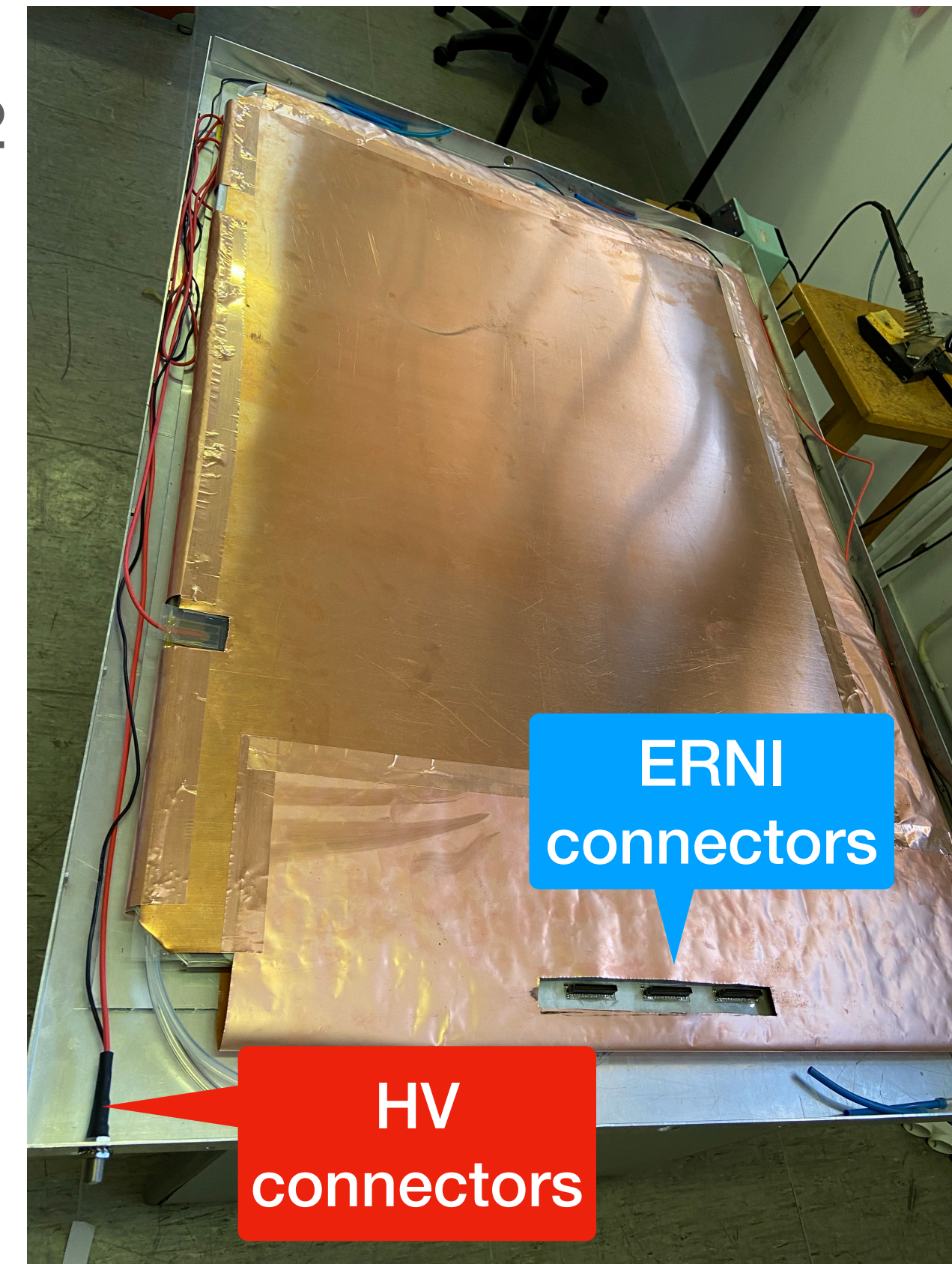
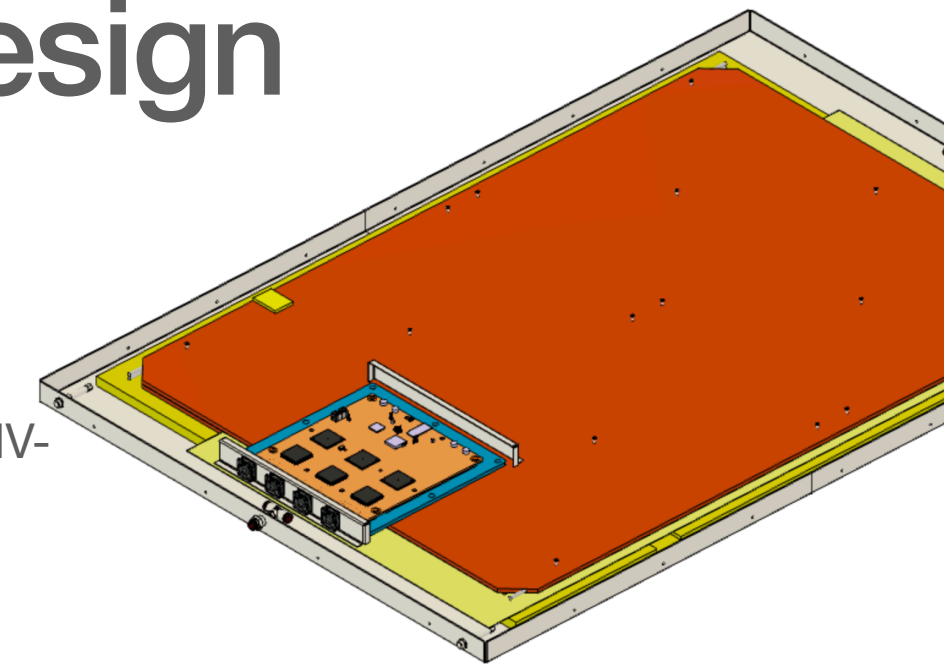
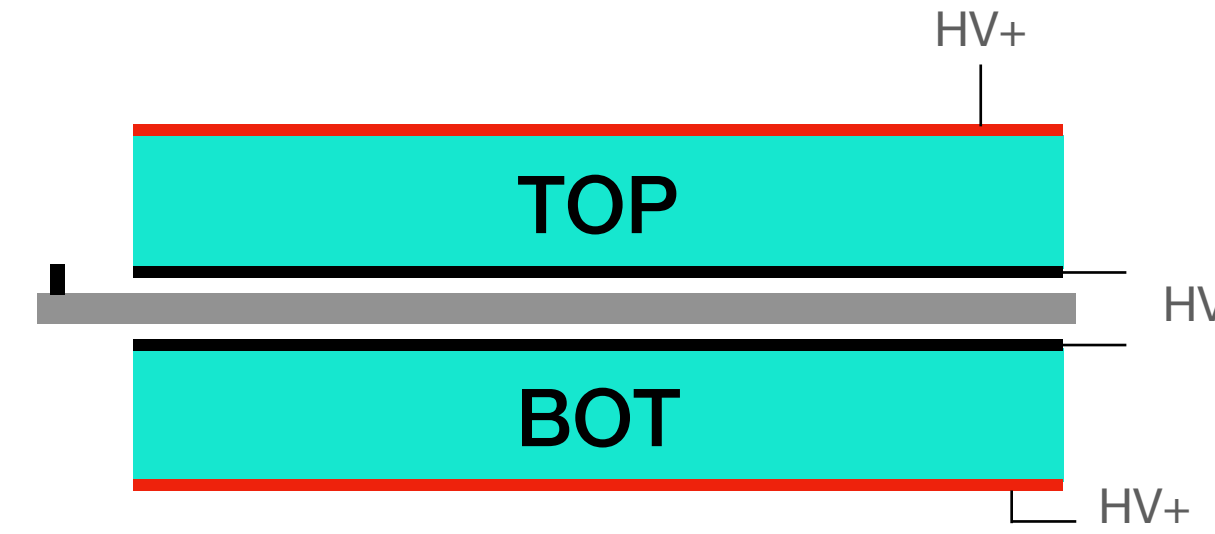
Gaps manufactured at KODEL



Gap area 70x100 cm²
Gap thickness 1 mm
HPL 1.43 mm thick



Double gap design



1x0.5 m²
strip PCB
48 strips
1. cm pitch
4752 cm²
active area
XY read-out

Detector prototype

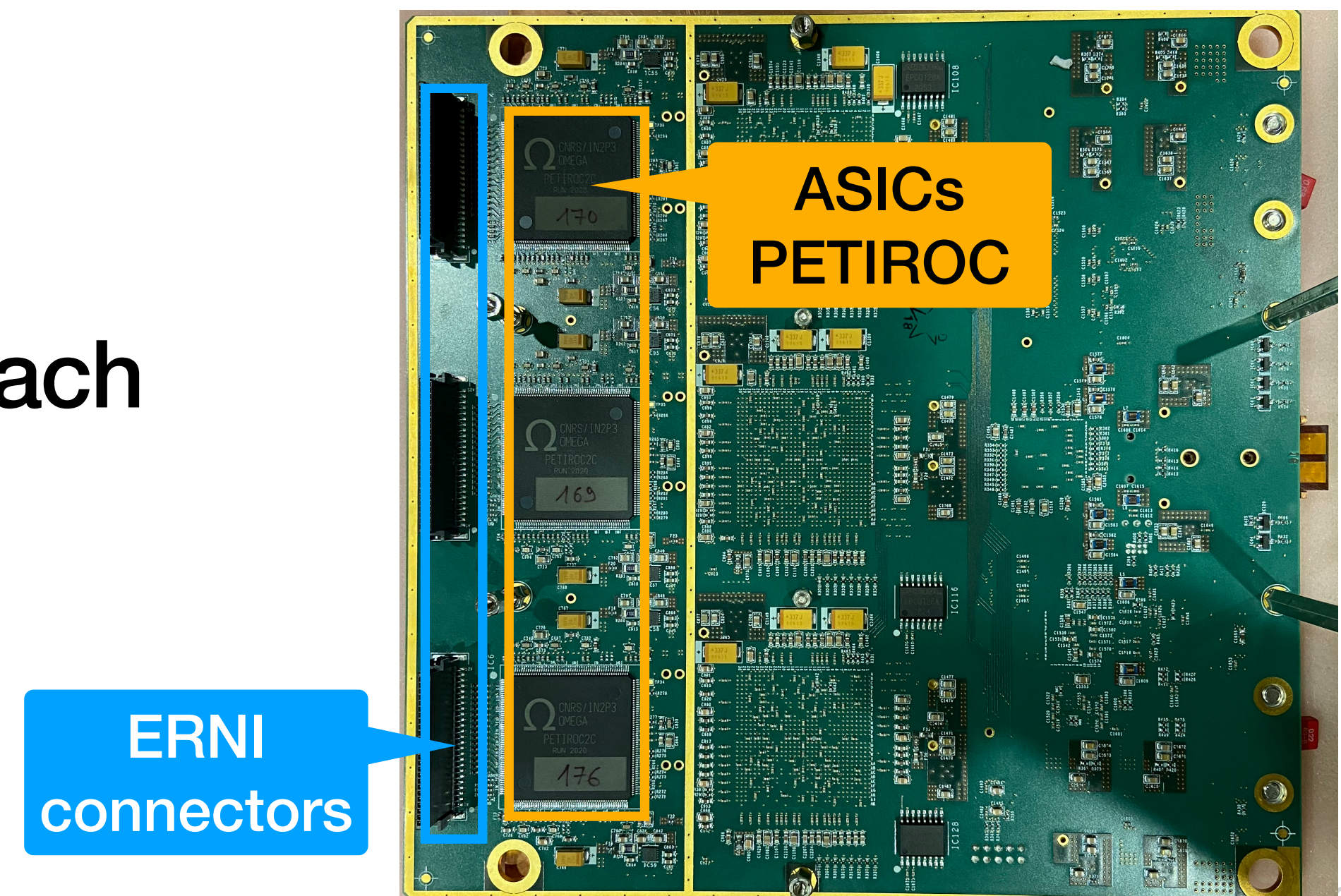
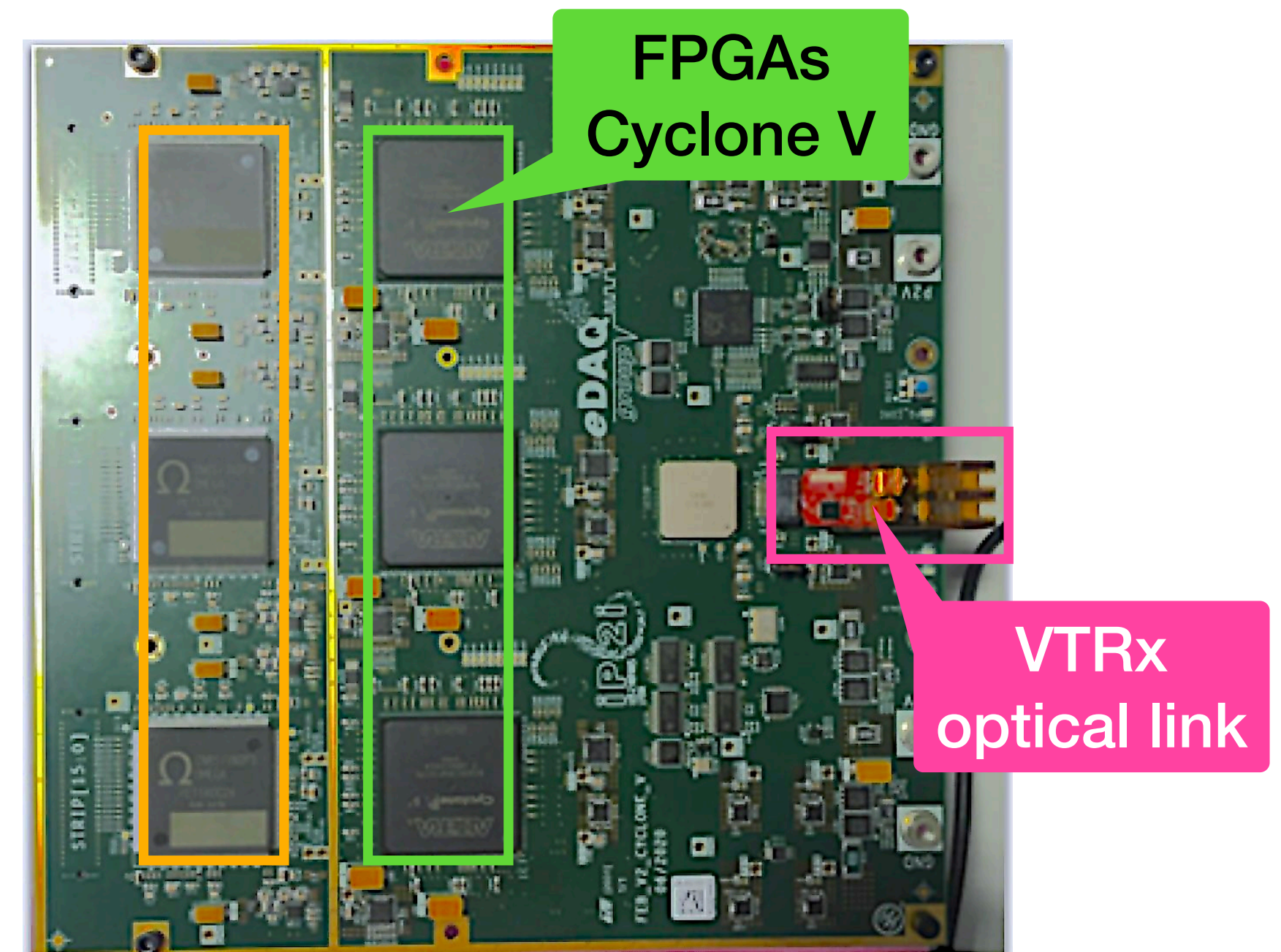
Front-end Electronics LYON v2.2

lower charge signal at the same time to keep efficiency high, the new front-end electronics are designed for the new iRPC

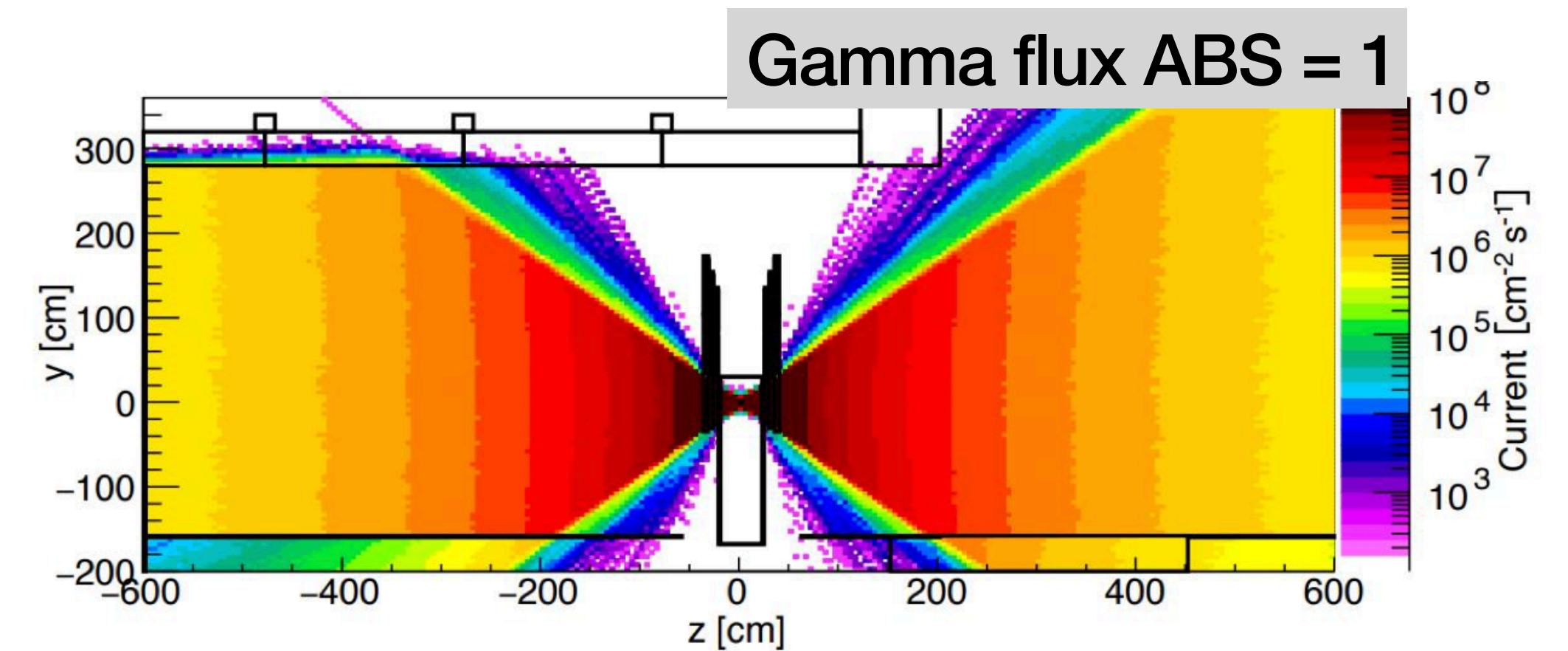
FEB is sensitive, has low-noise and high time resolution

The FEB composed of:

- 3 ERNI connectors with 32 channels each
- 6 ASICs PETIROC 2C (top & bottom)
- 3 FPGAs Cyclone V (non rad-hard)
- GBTx/GBT-SCA/VTRx.

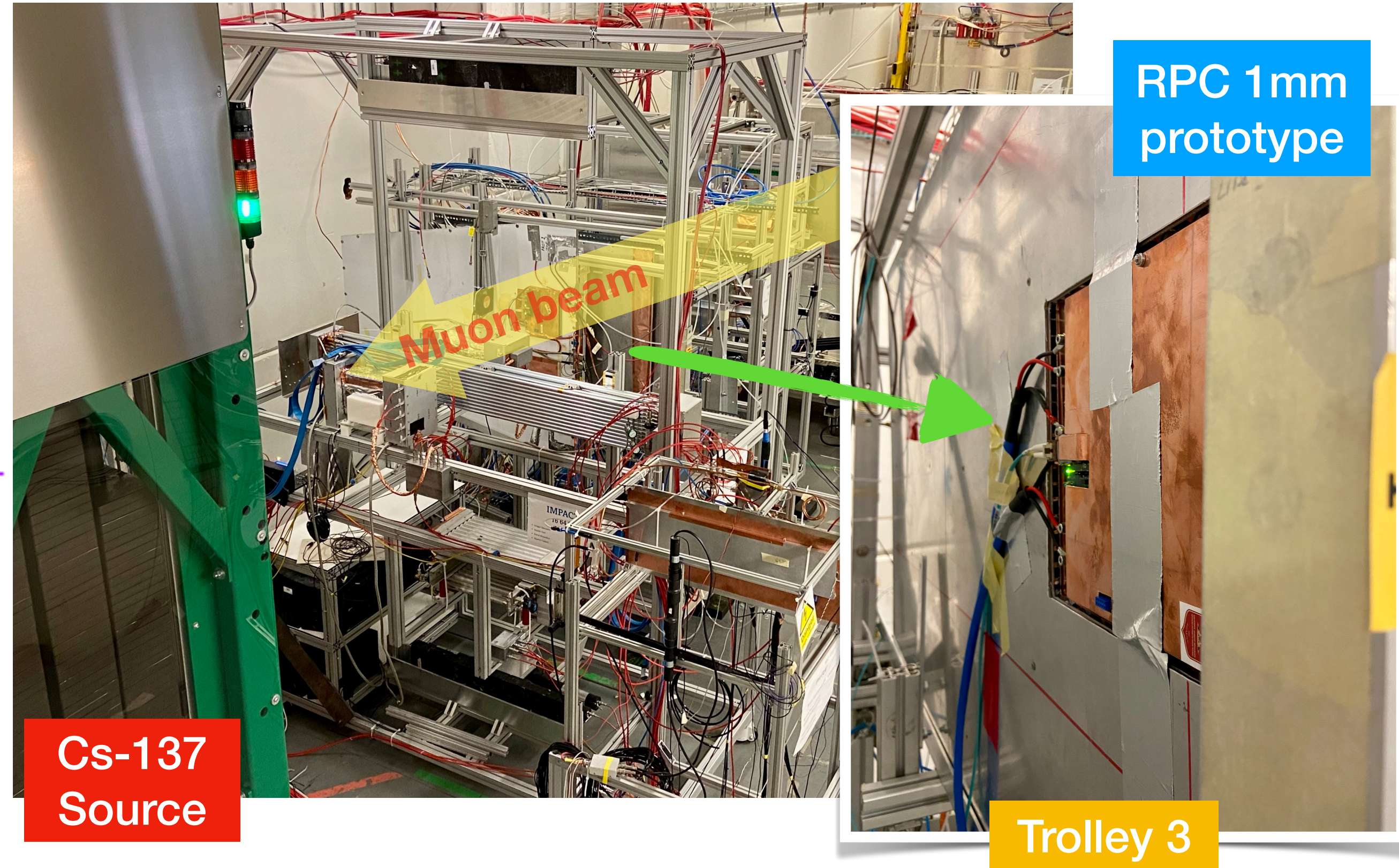
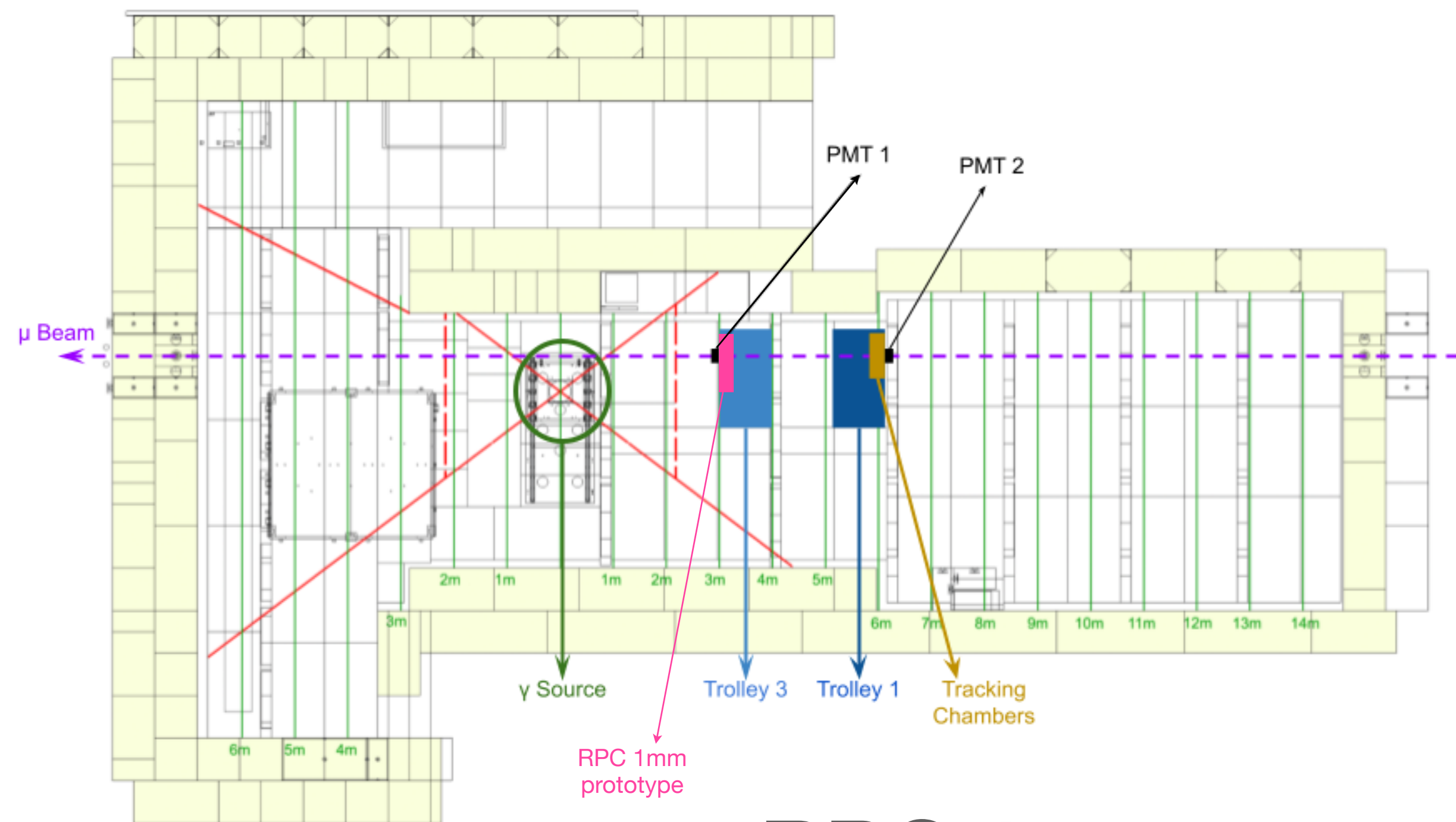


Gamma Irradiation Facility (GIF++)



Located at the H4 beam line in EHN1,
 Preveessin North Area
 High gamma radiation Cs-137 source up
 to 12 TBq
 Muon beam 10-450 GeV/c
 Gamma flux modulated independently
 using a system of six attenuation filters

RPC set-up at GIF++

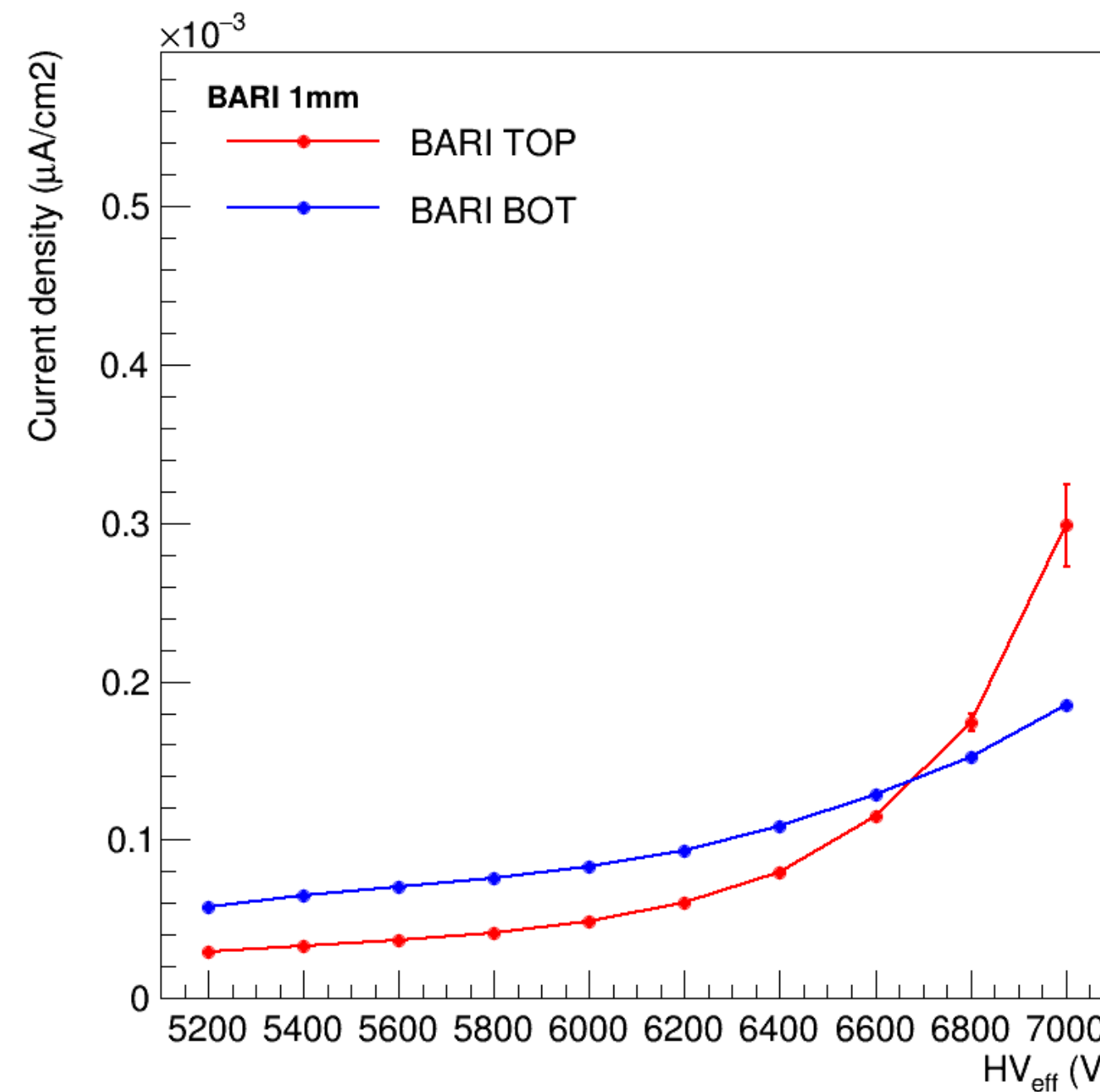
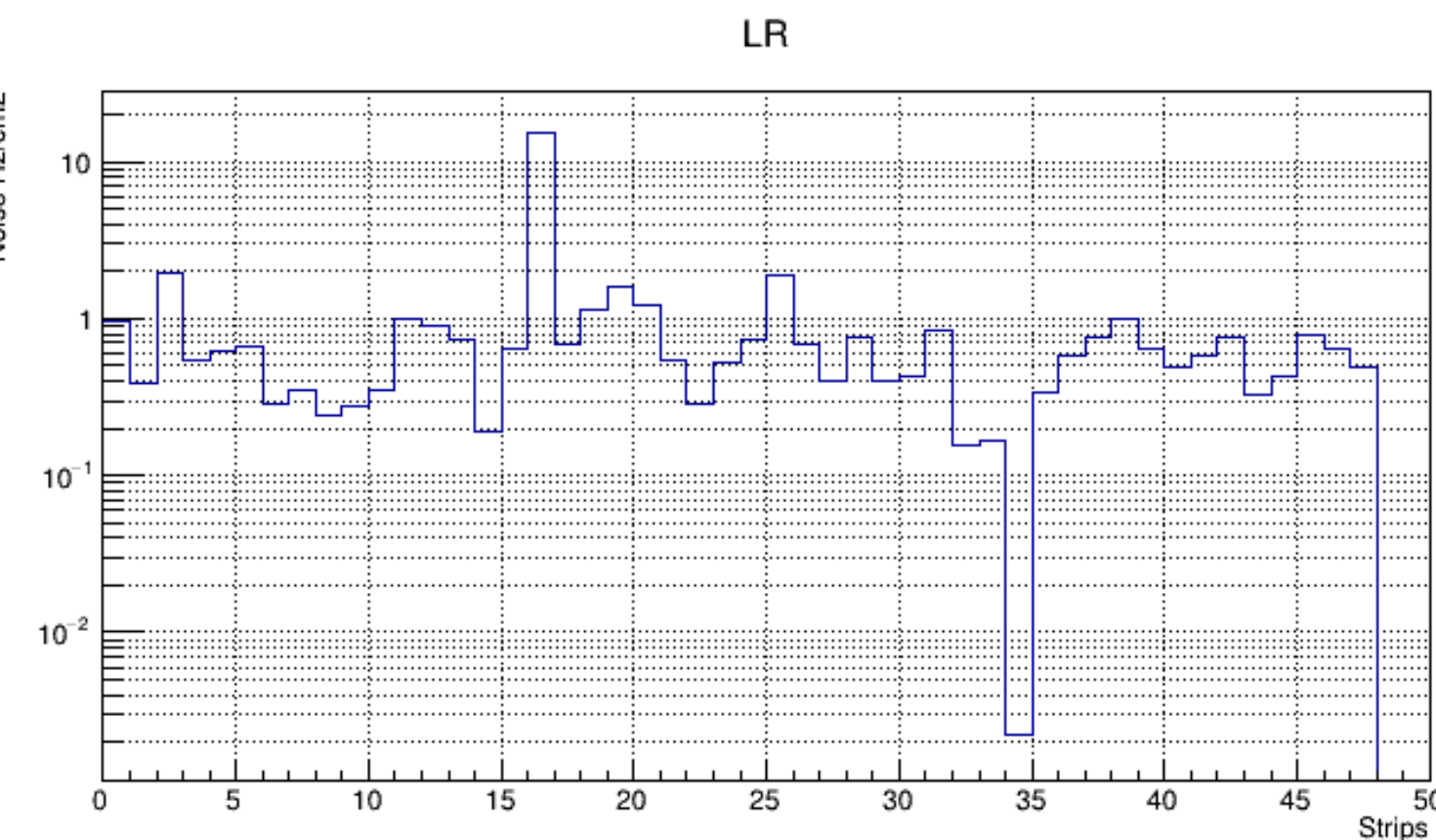
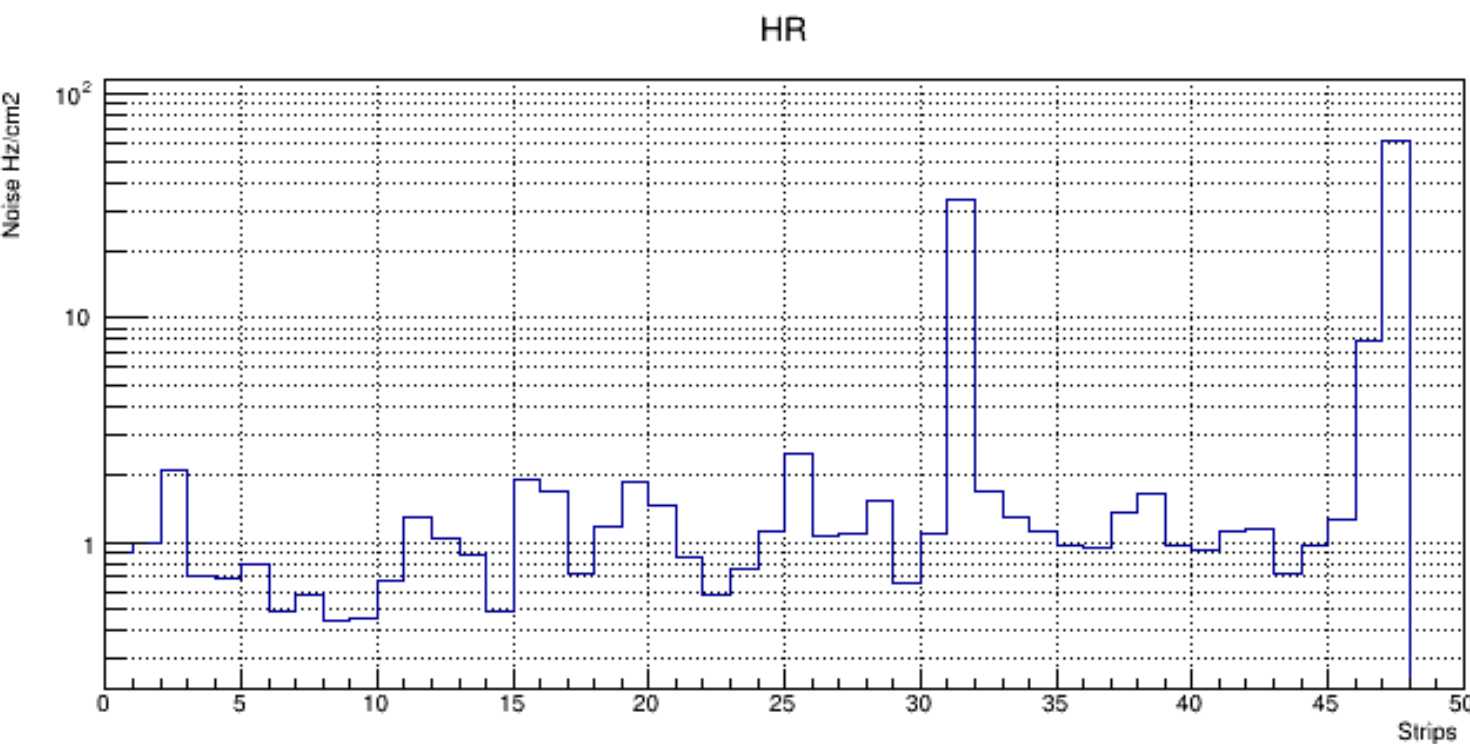


RPC 1mm prototype at 3. m from the source in Trolley 3
2 PMTs as muon trigger

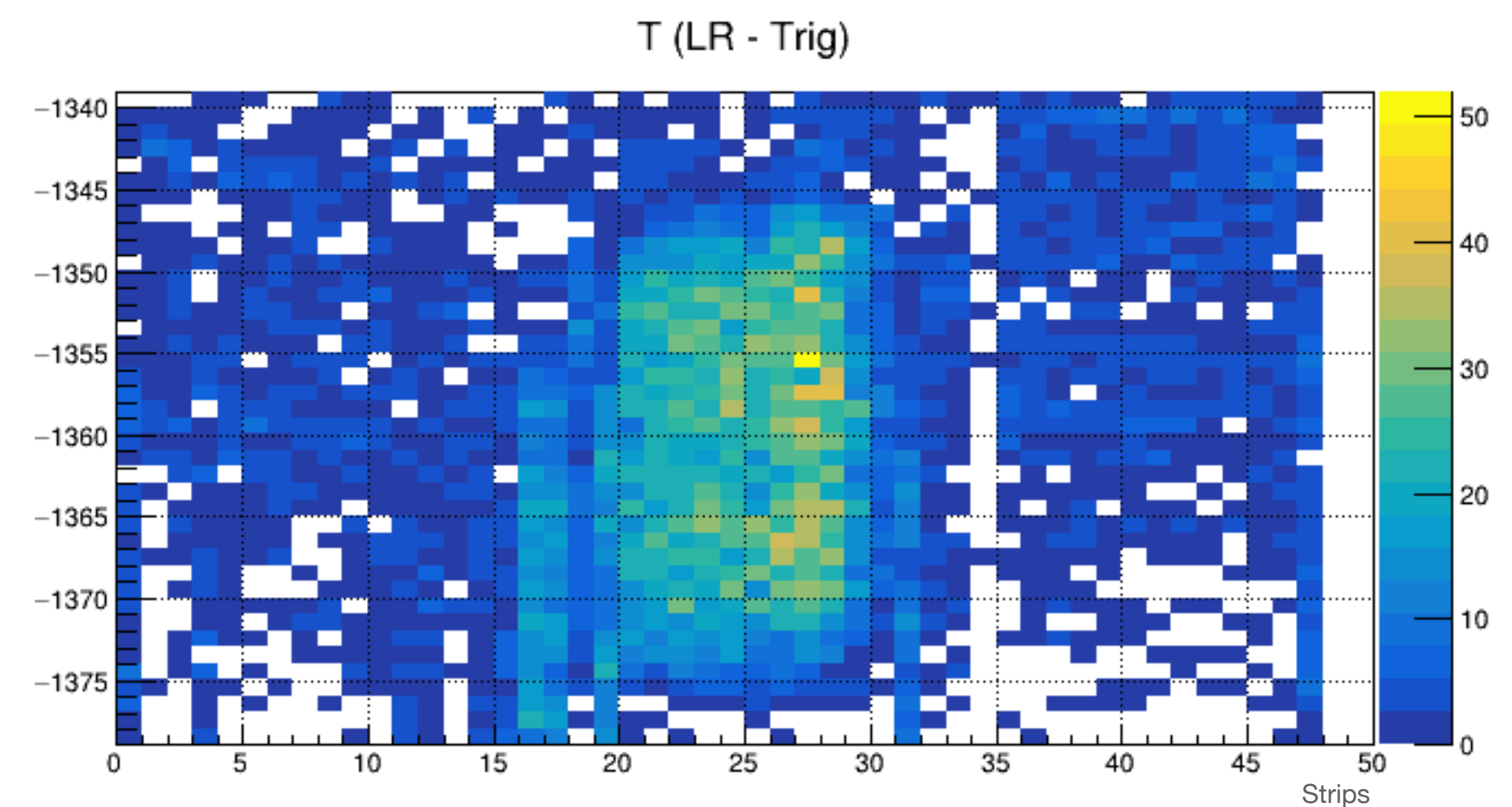
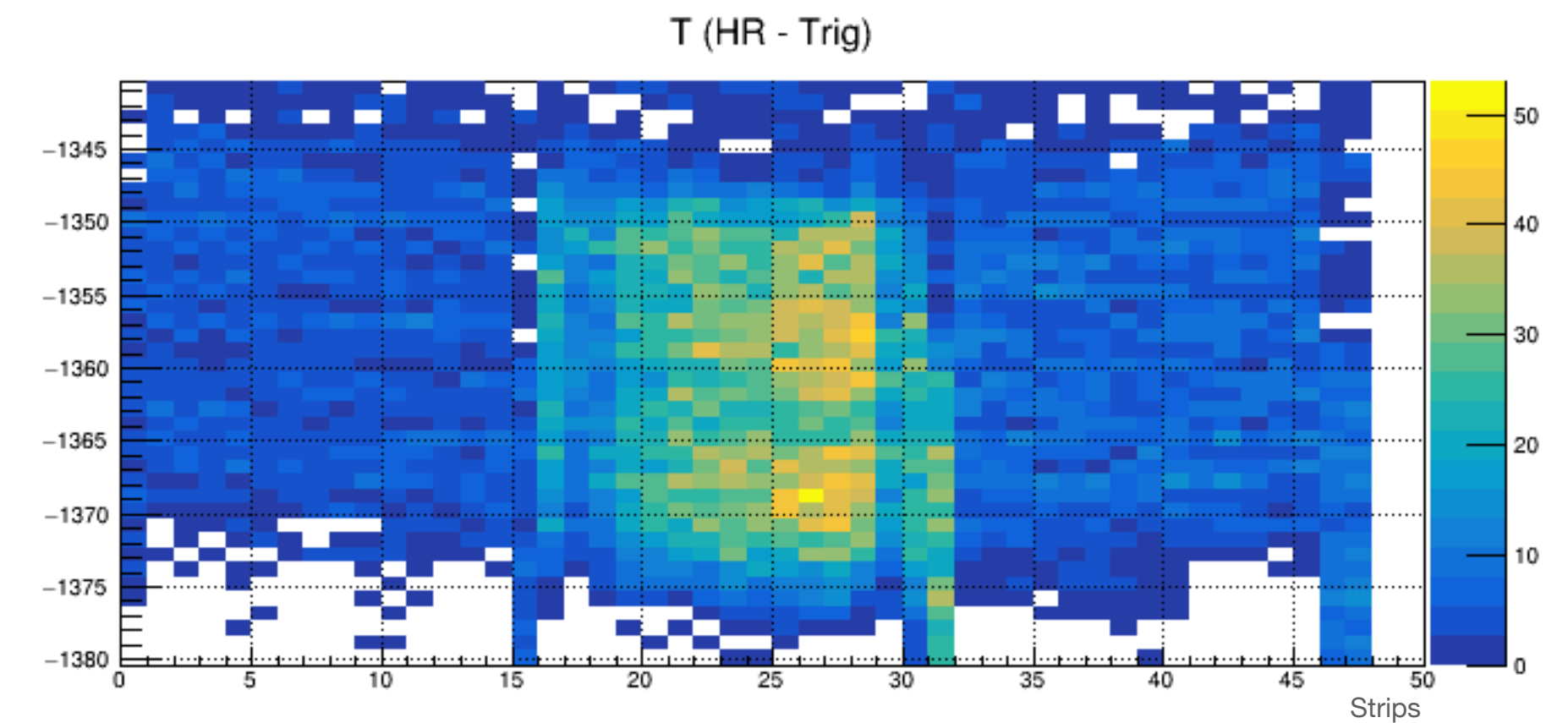
Detector commissioning

Current and noise scan

Source and beam OFF
Current density below $3e-04 \mu\text{A}/\text{cm}^2$
Mean noise $\approx 1 \text{ Hz}/\text{cm}^2$



Detector-beam alignment



Dayron.Ramos.Lopez@cern.ch

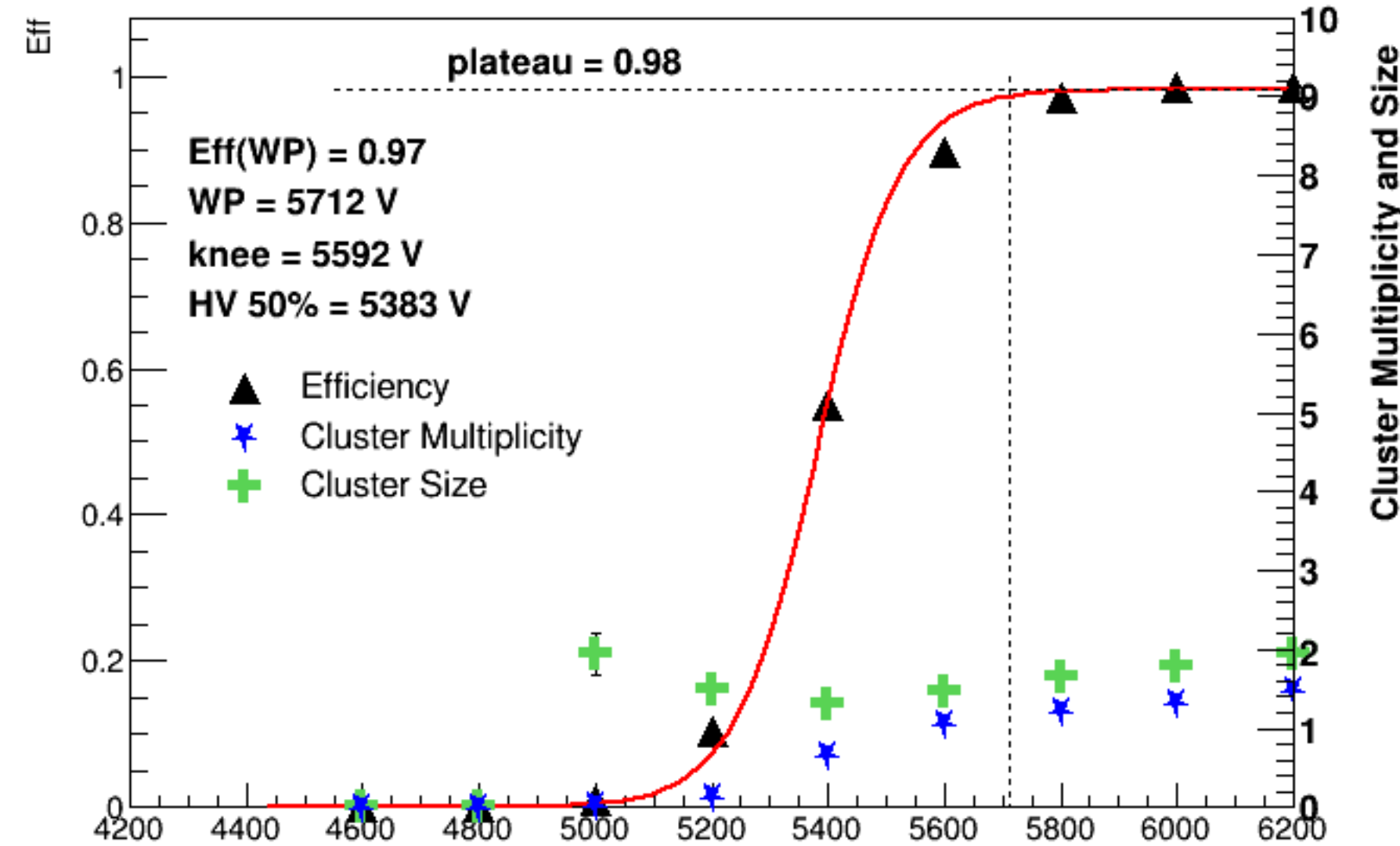
Results double gap mode

Muon efficiency, muon clus. size and clus. multiplicity measurements

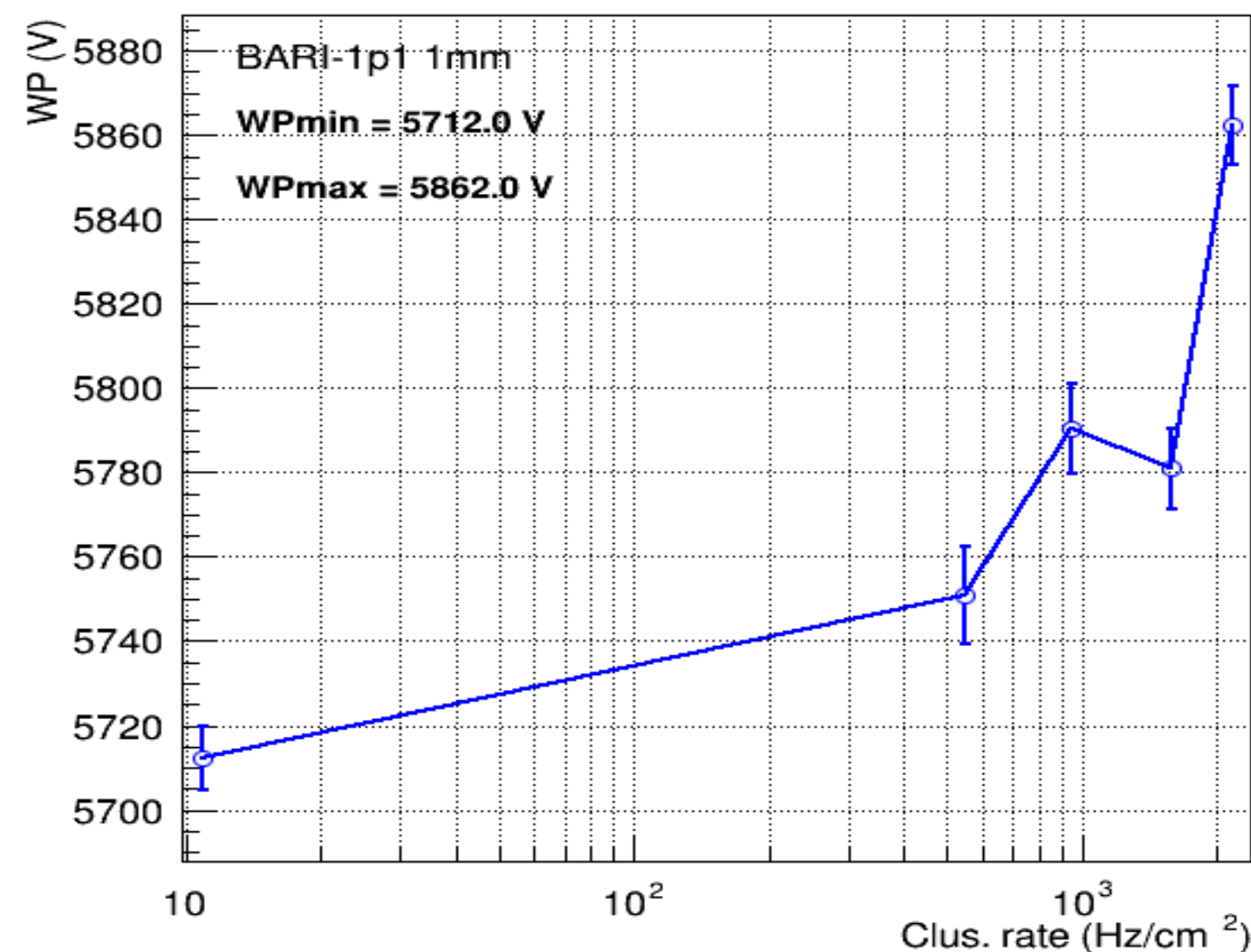
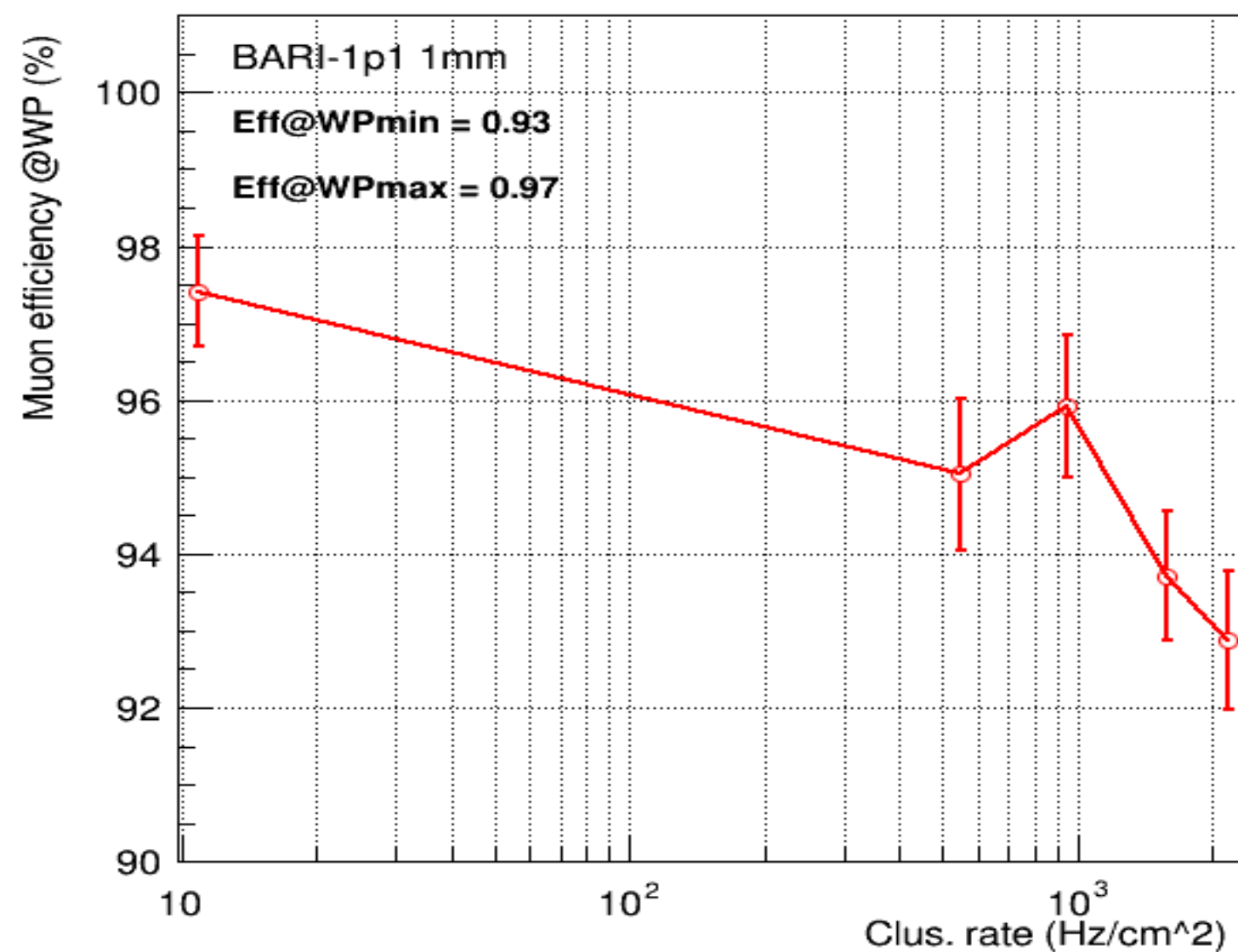
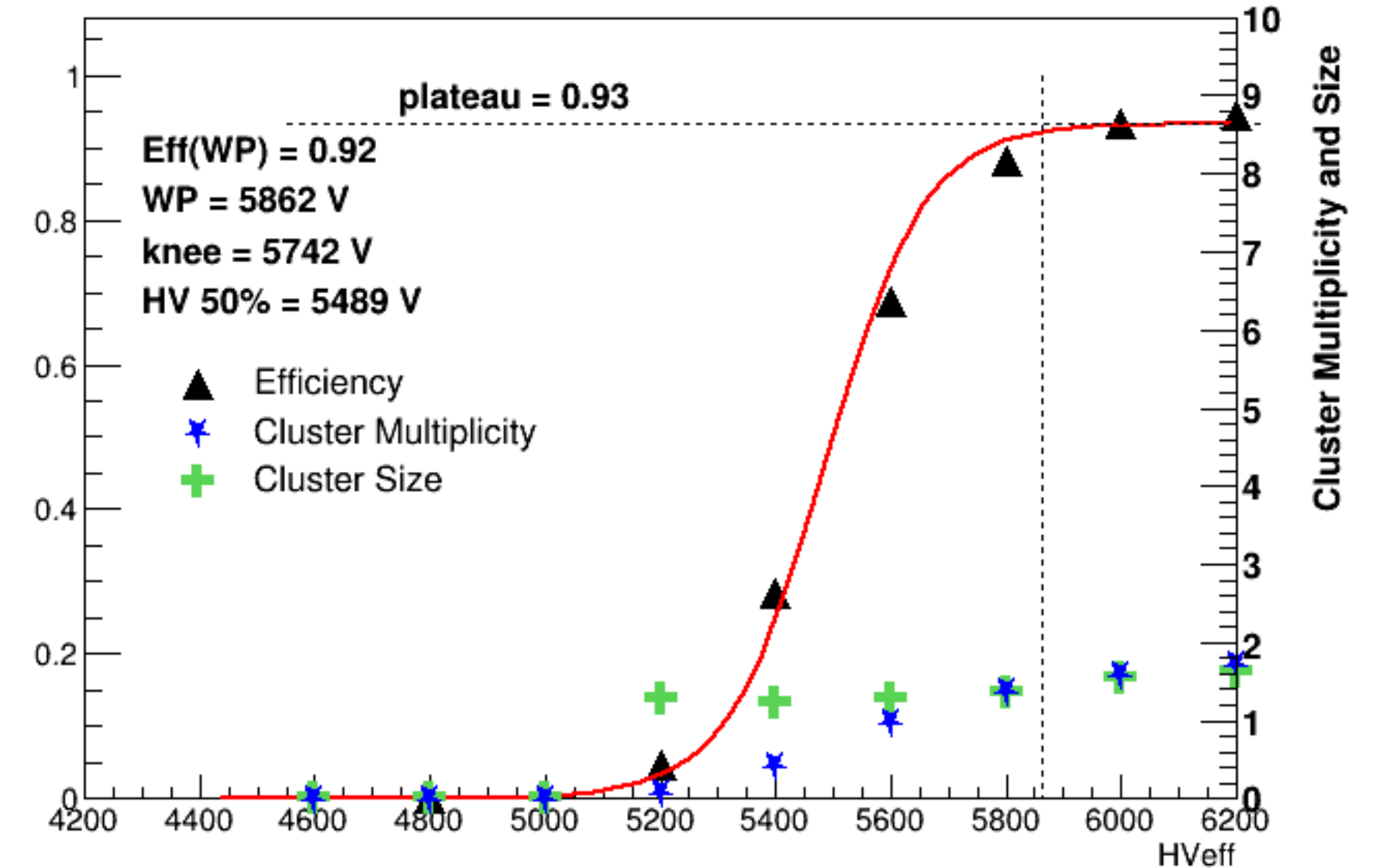
$$E = \frac{E_{max}}{1 + e^{-\lambda*(HV_{eff}-HV50)}}$$

$$WP = -\frac{\log(1/(0.95 - 1))}{\lambda} + HV50 + 120$$

Source OFF



Clus. rate 2.194 kHz/cm2

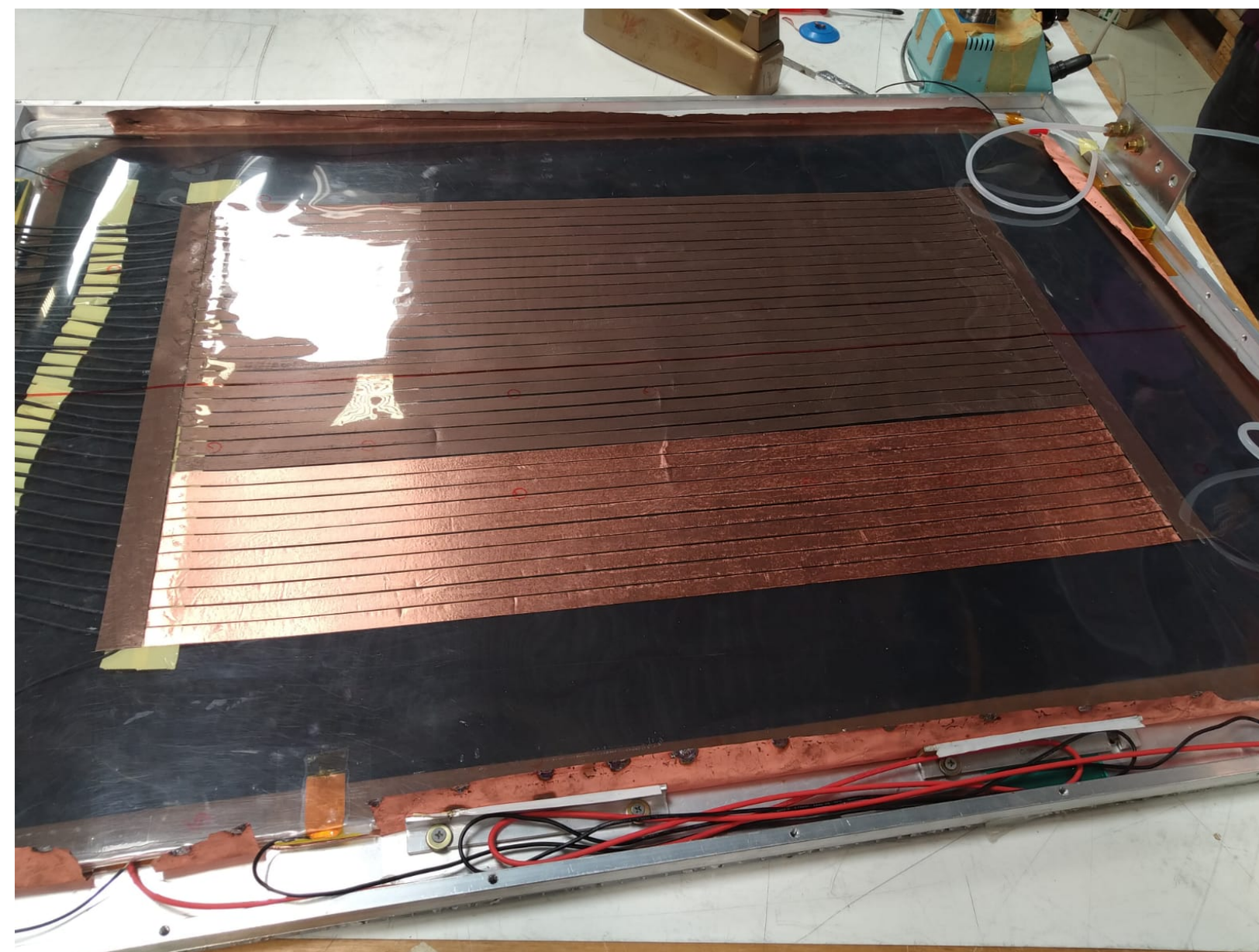
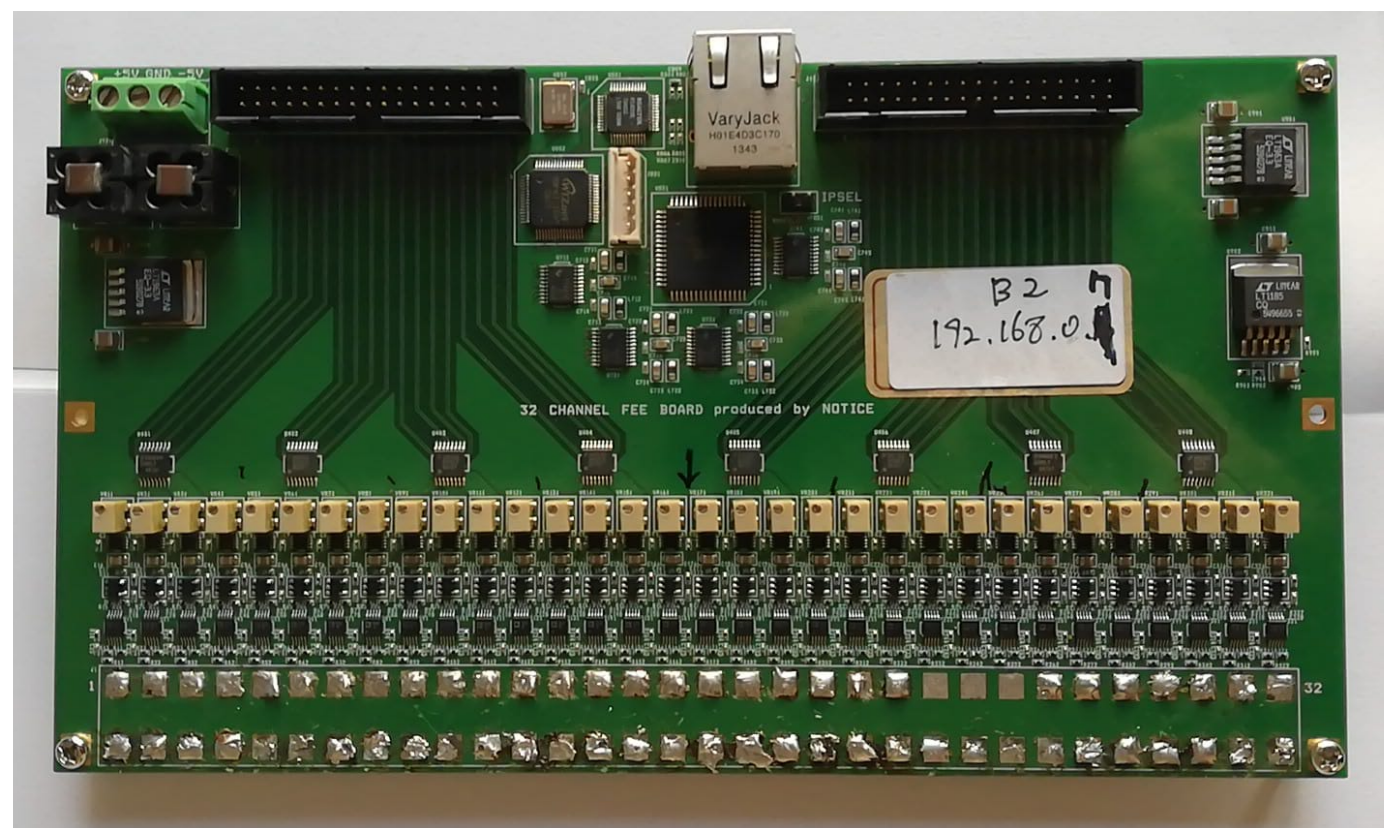
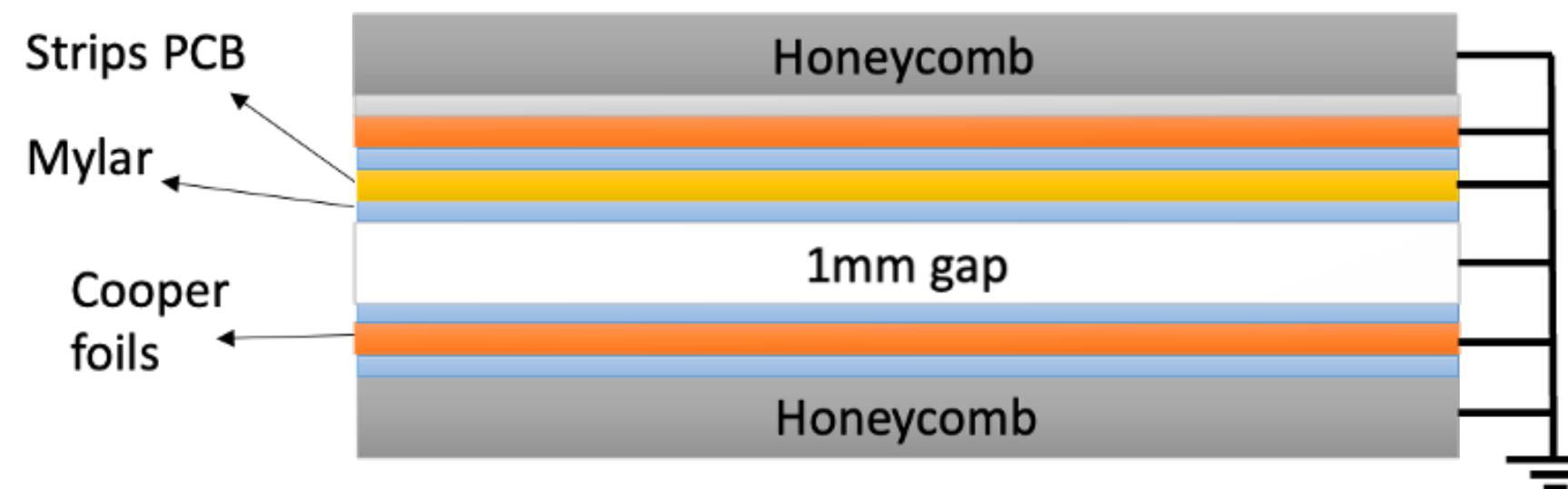


THR 7DAC (≈ 35 fC)
CLS ≈ 1.5
WP shift 150 V up to 2 kHz/cm²
gamma clus. rate

Time resolution measurements

Single gap prototype

Gas gap 1mm thickness
Gap area 70x100 cm²
32 strips, 1 Kodel FEB
THR: 750 μ V (~90 fC)
Strip pitch: 1.27 cm

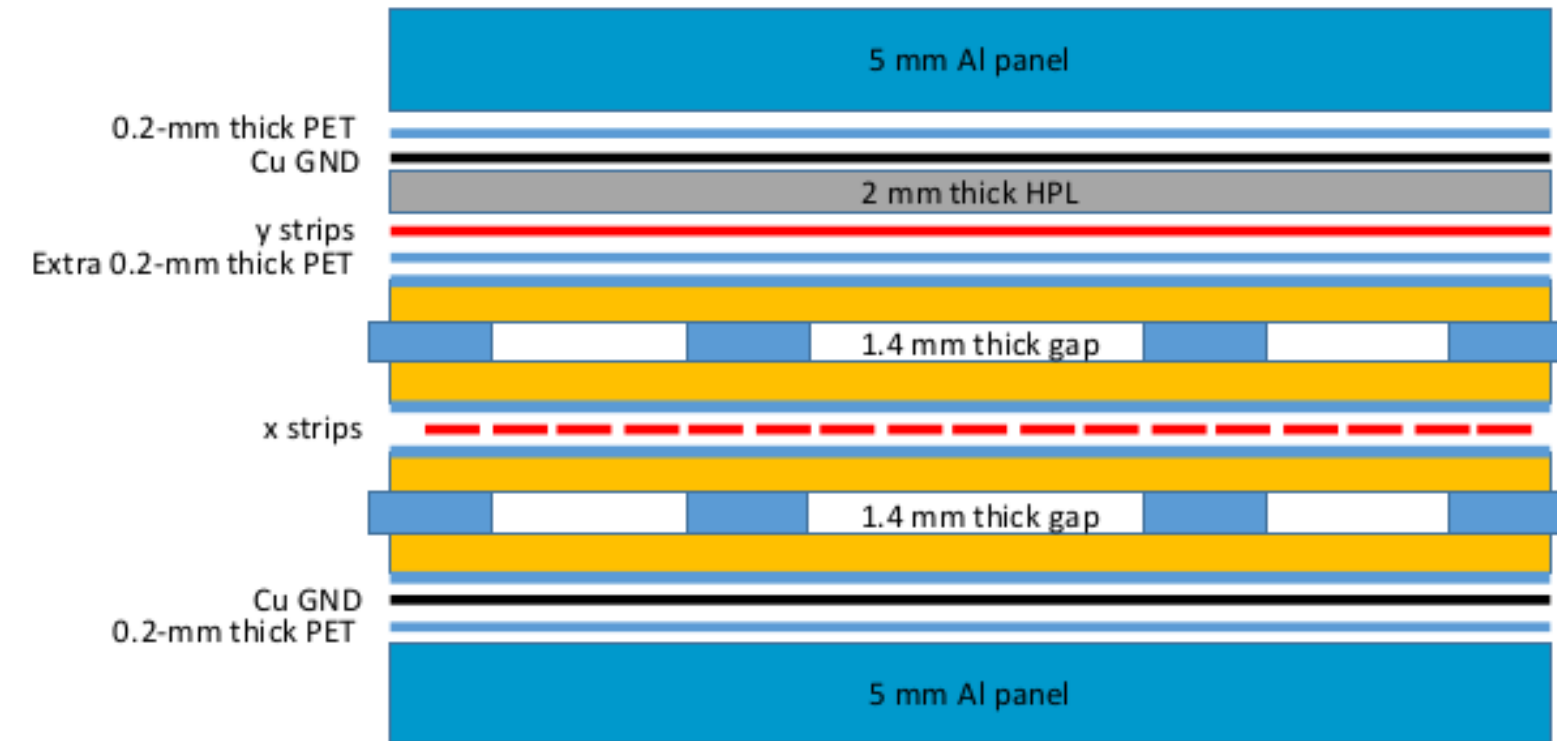


Time resolution measurements

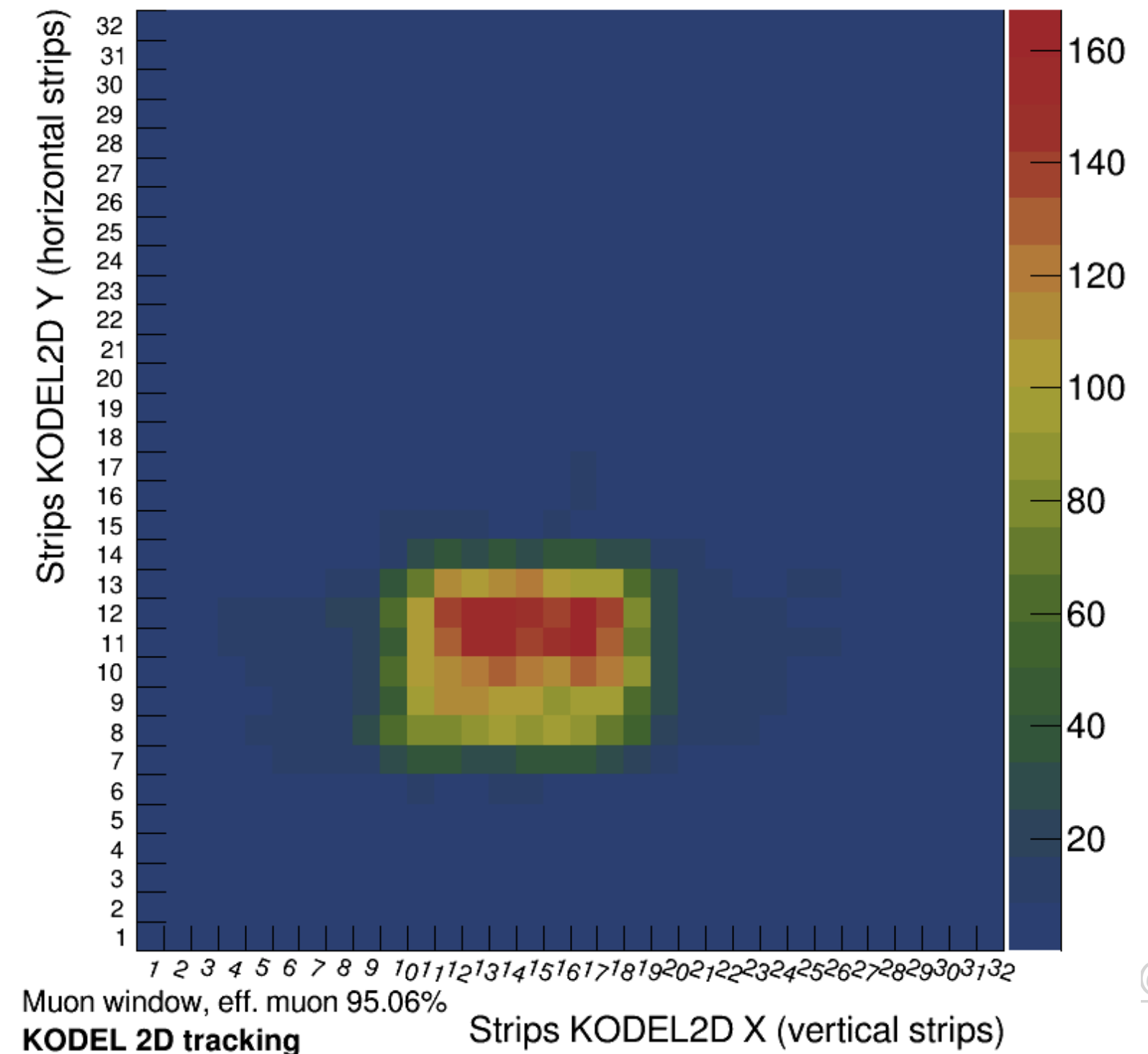
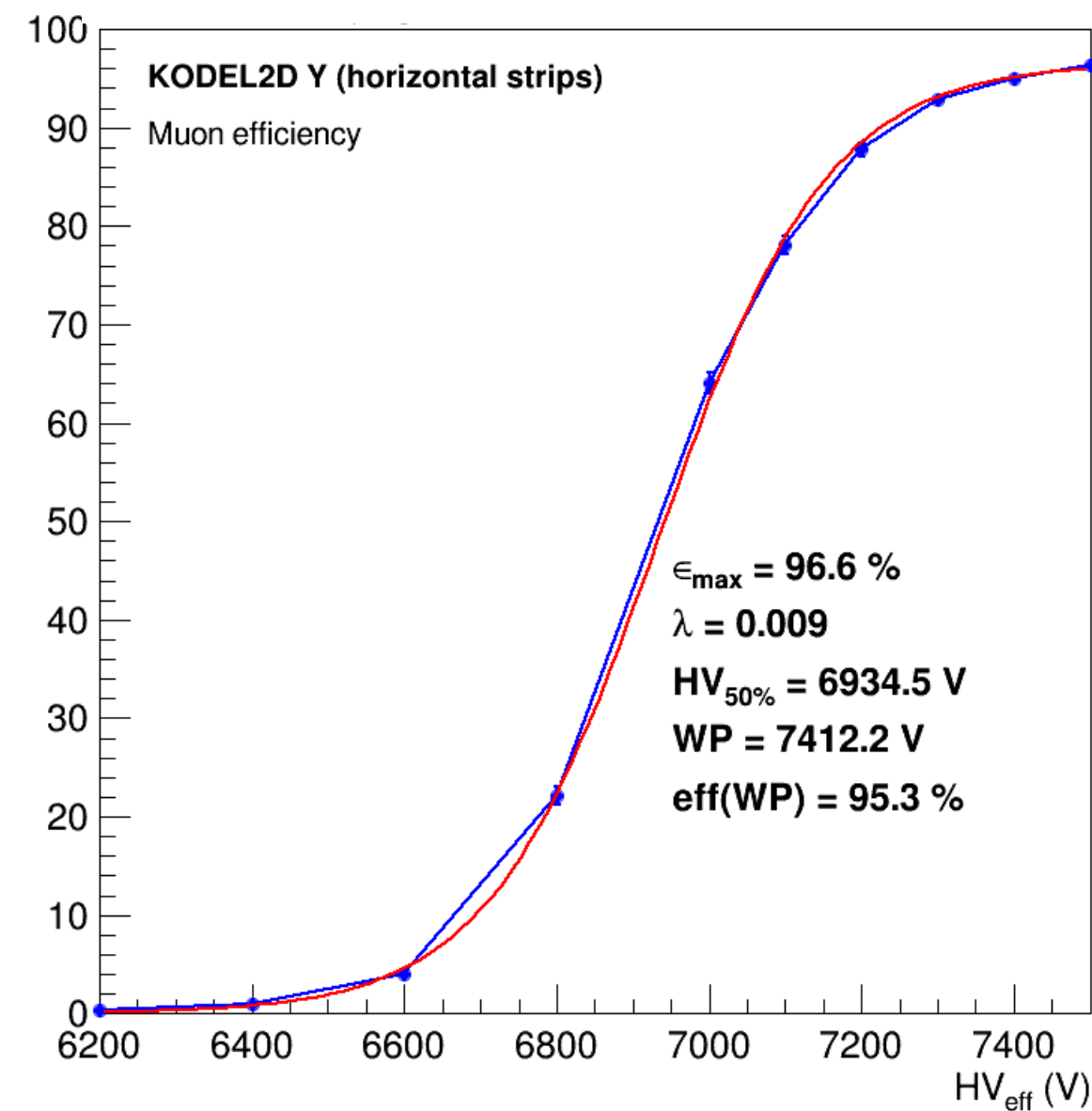
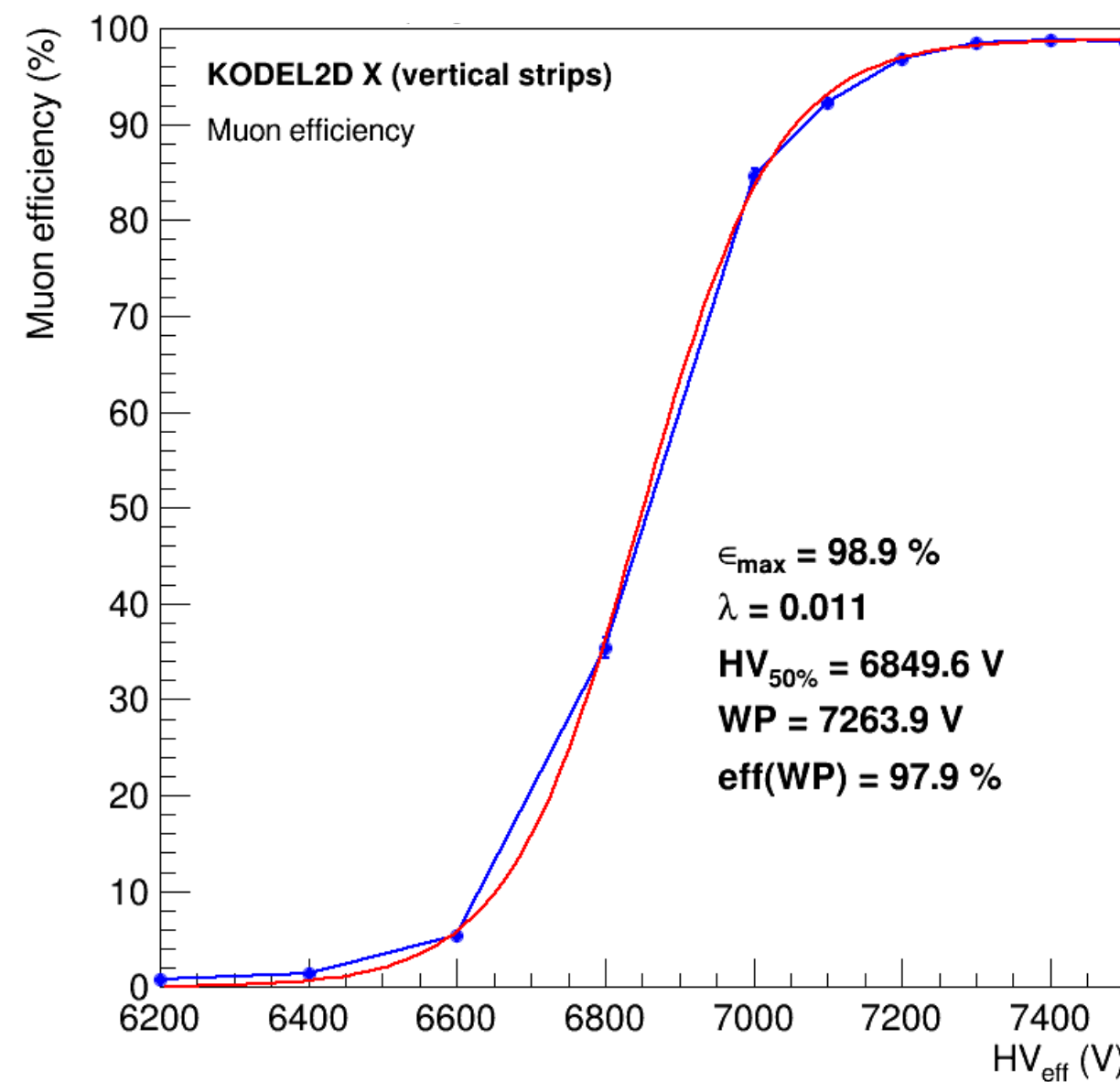
Tracking system

2D readout detector

Each dimension has 32 strips, pitch x 1.0 and y 2.0 cm, double gap 1.4 mm thickness
 Fixed at WP 7.4 kV with muon eff. of 98 and 95 % (Source OFF)

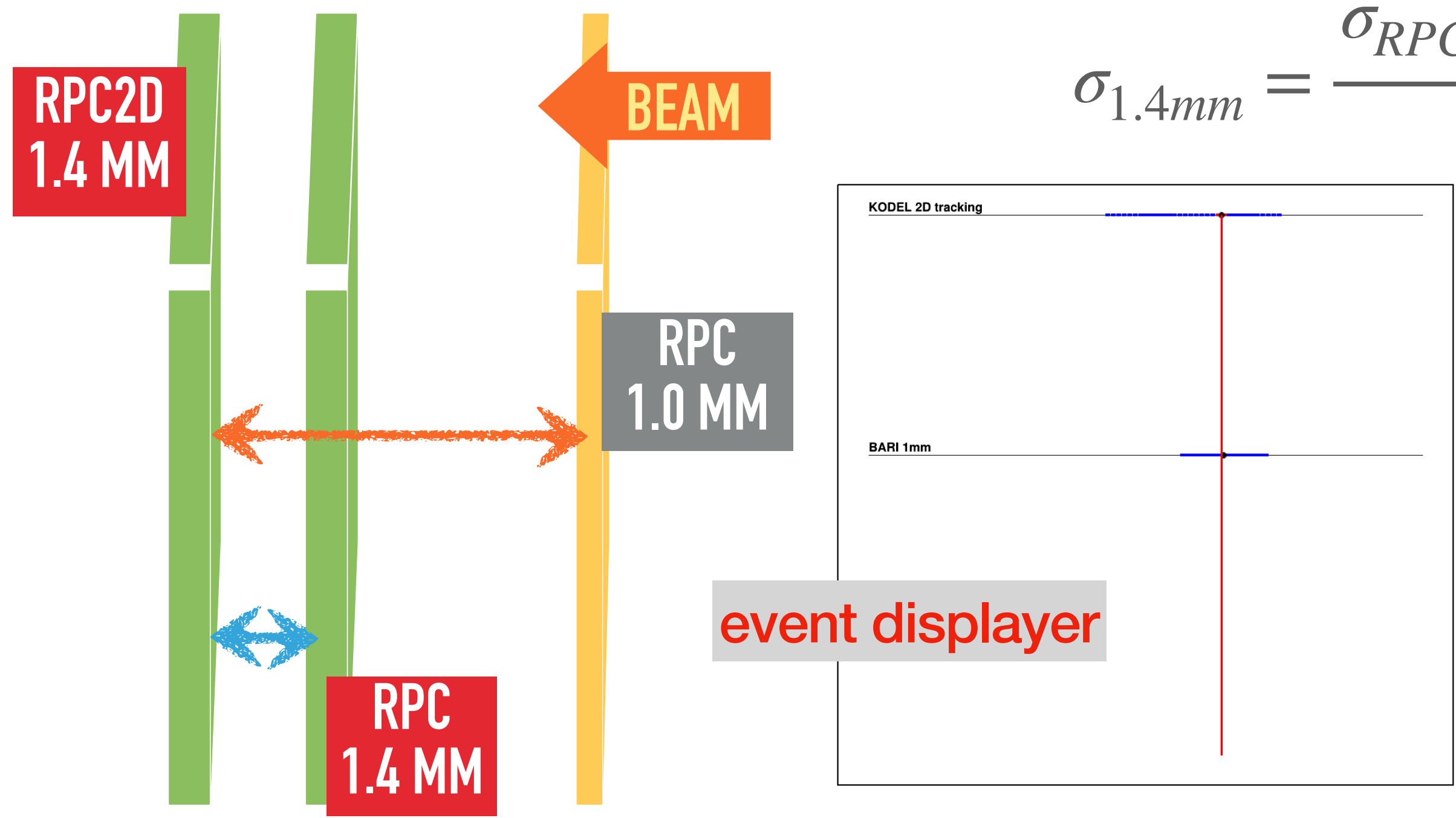


Tracking chamber
Reference scans

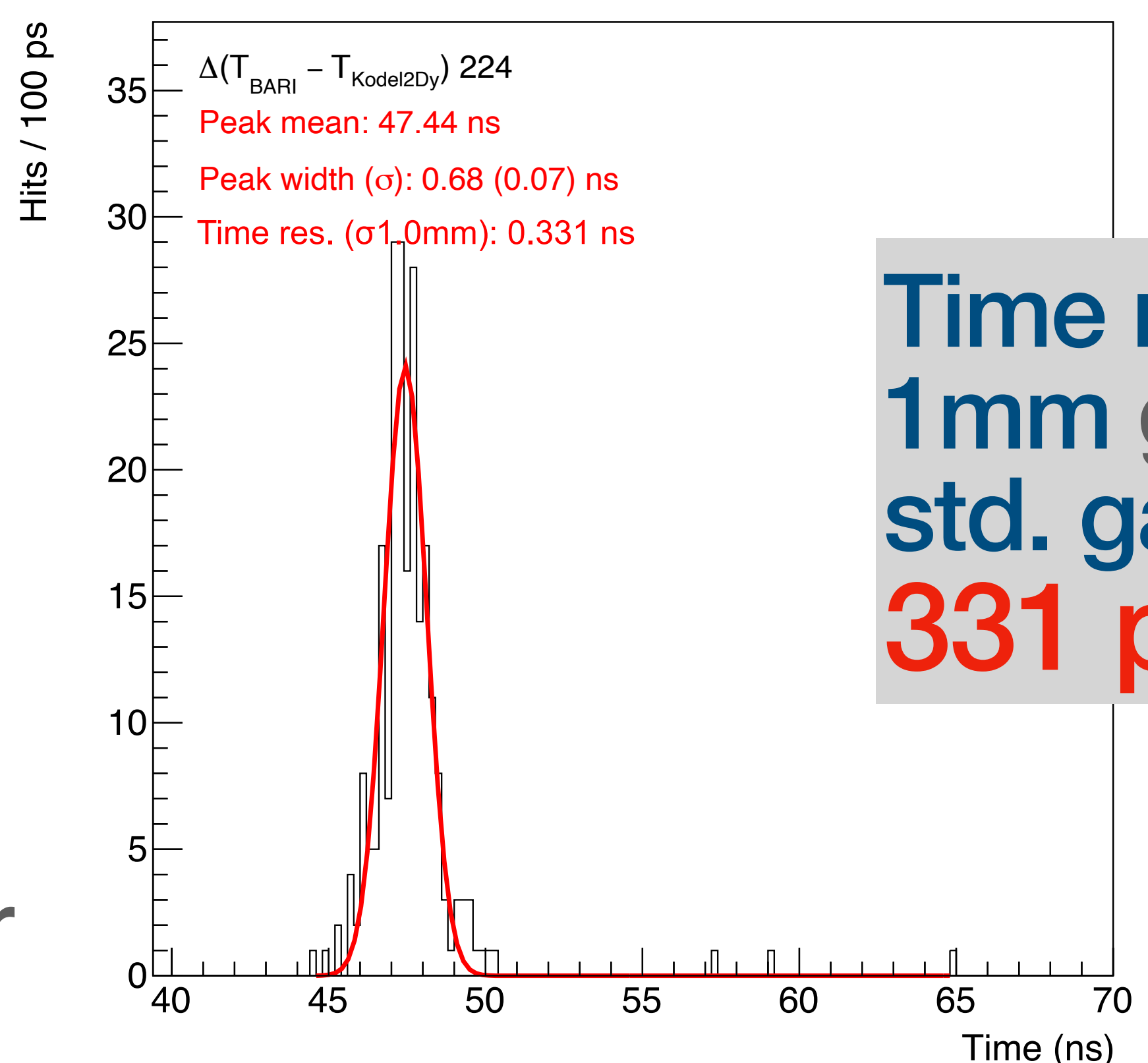


Time resolution measurements

Experimental schema and results



$$\sigma_{1.4mm} = \frac{\sigma_{RPC2D_{1.4}-RPC_{1.4}}}{\sqrt{2}} \longrightarrow \sigma_{1.0mm} = \sqrt{\sigma_{RPC2D_{1.4}-RPC_{1.0}}^2 - \sigma_{1.4mm}^2}$$



**Time resolution
1mm gap and
std. gas mixture
331 ps**

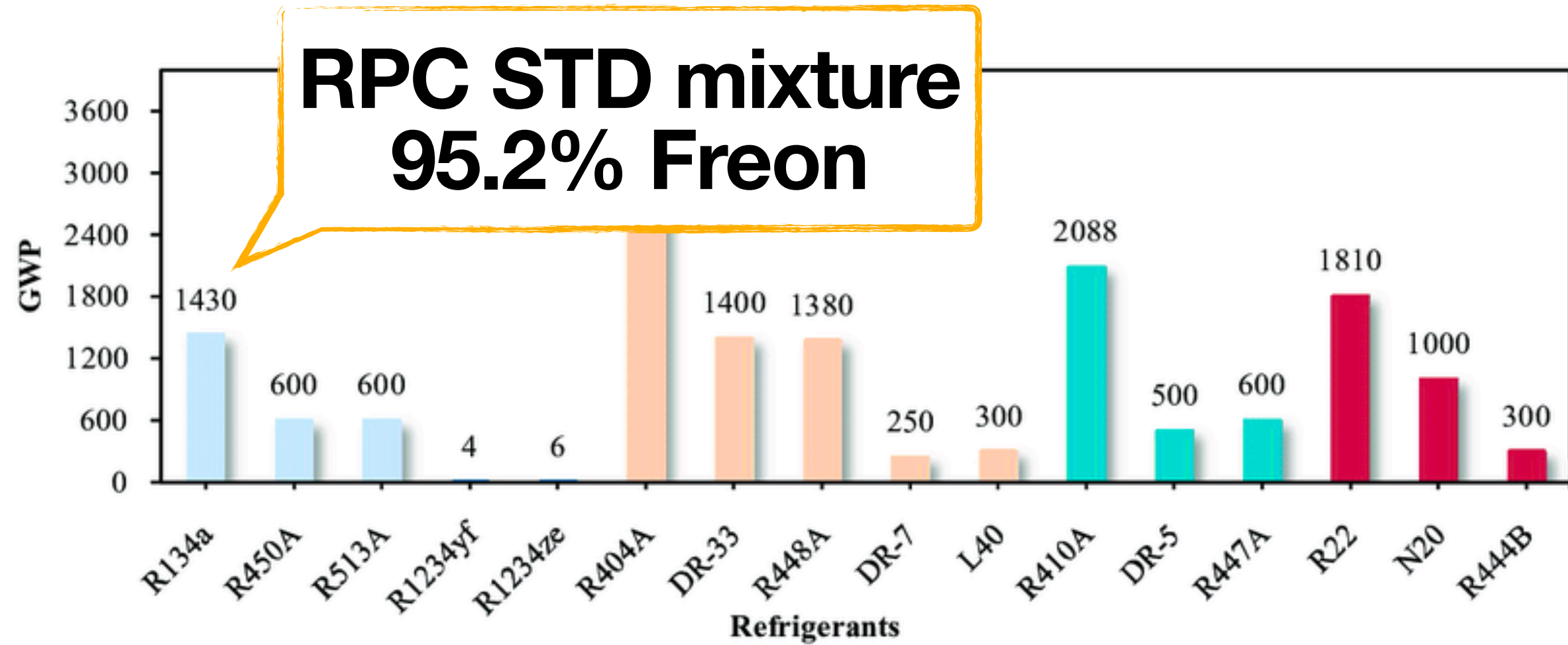
Same FEB for all chamber

Analysis cuts

1D tracking using RPC2D chamber

Single strip triggering

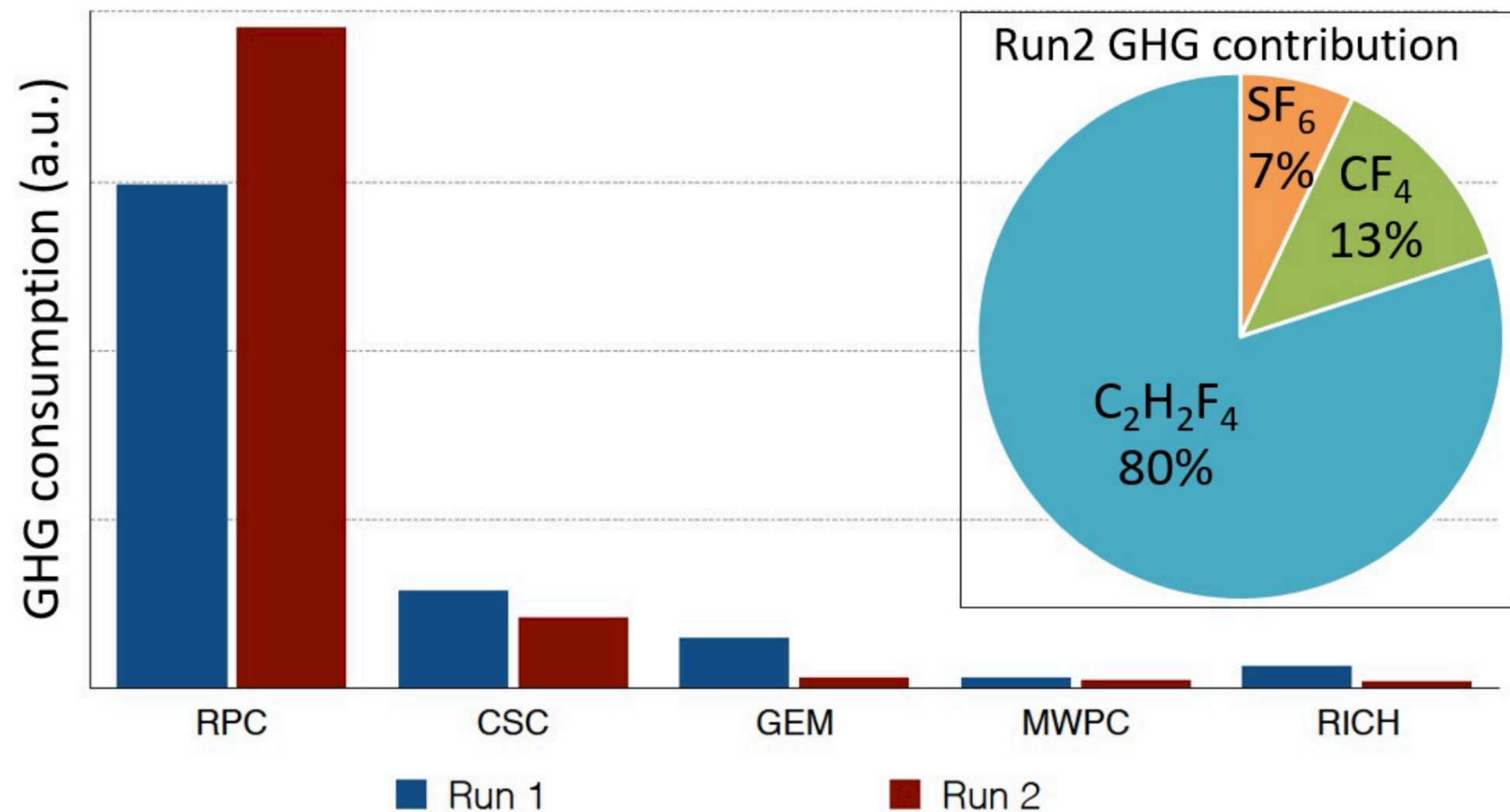
Eco-friendly gas mixture study



Fluorinated greenhouse gases (GHGs) with high Global Warming Potential (GWP) have been limited in EU [EU regulation 517/2014]

CERN is committed to reducing its direct greenhouse gas emissions

Extensive RPC applications (CMS, ATLAS) ➤ higher contribution to GHG consumption

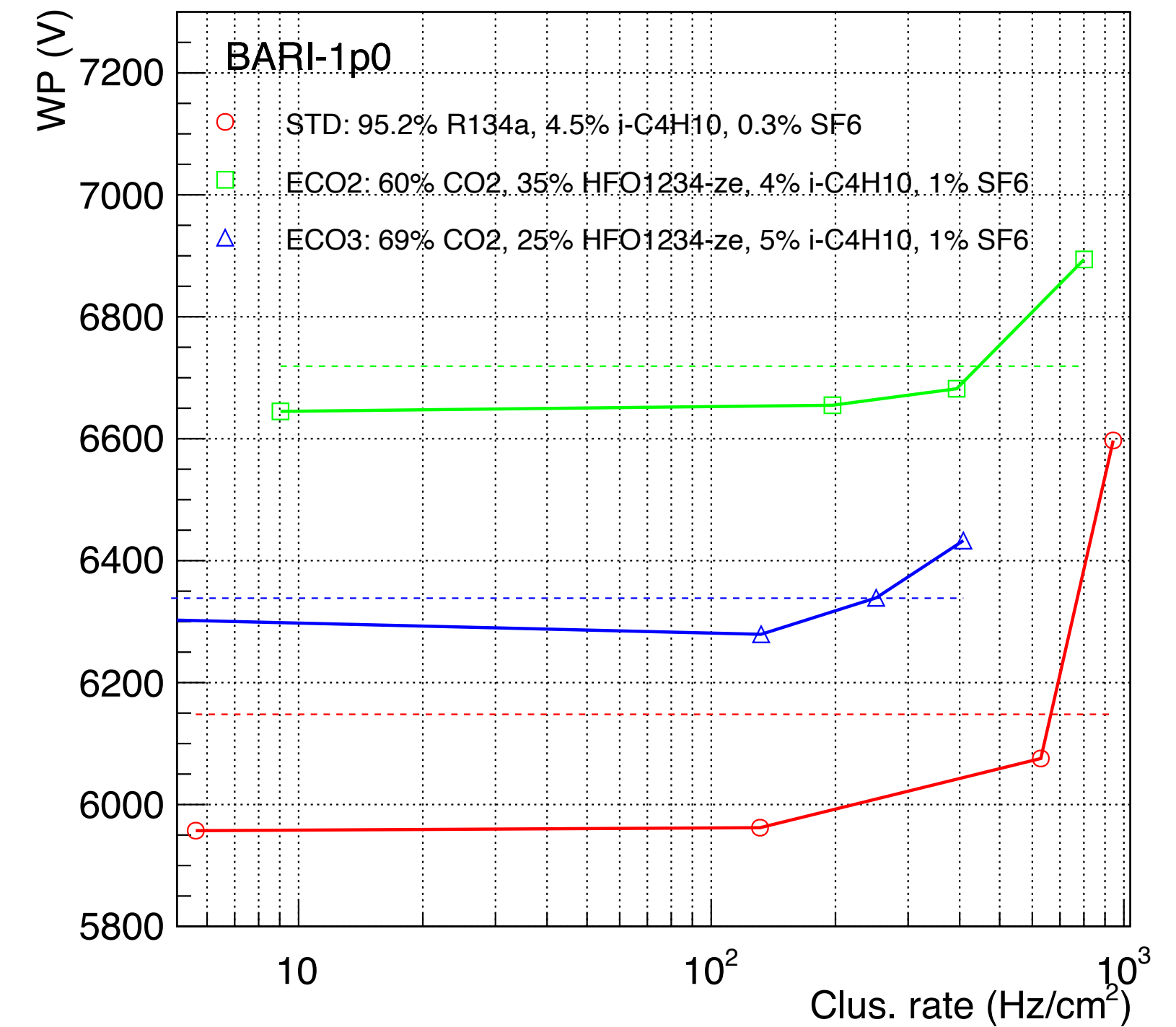
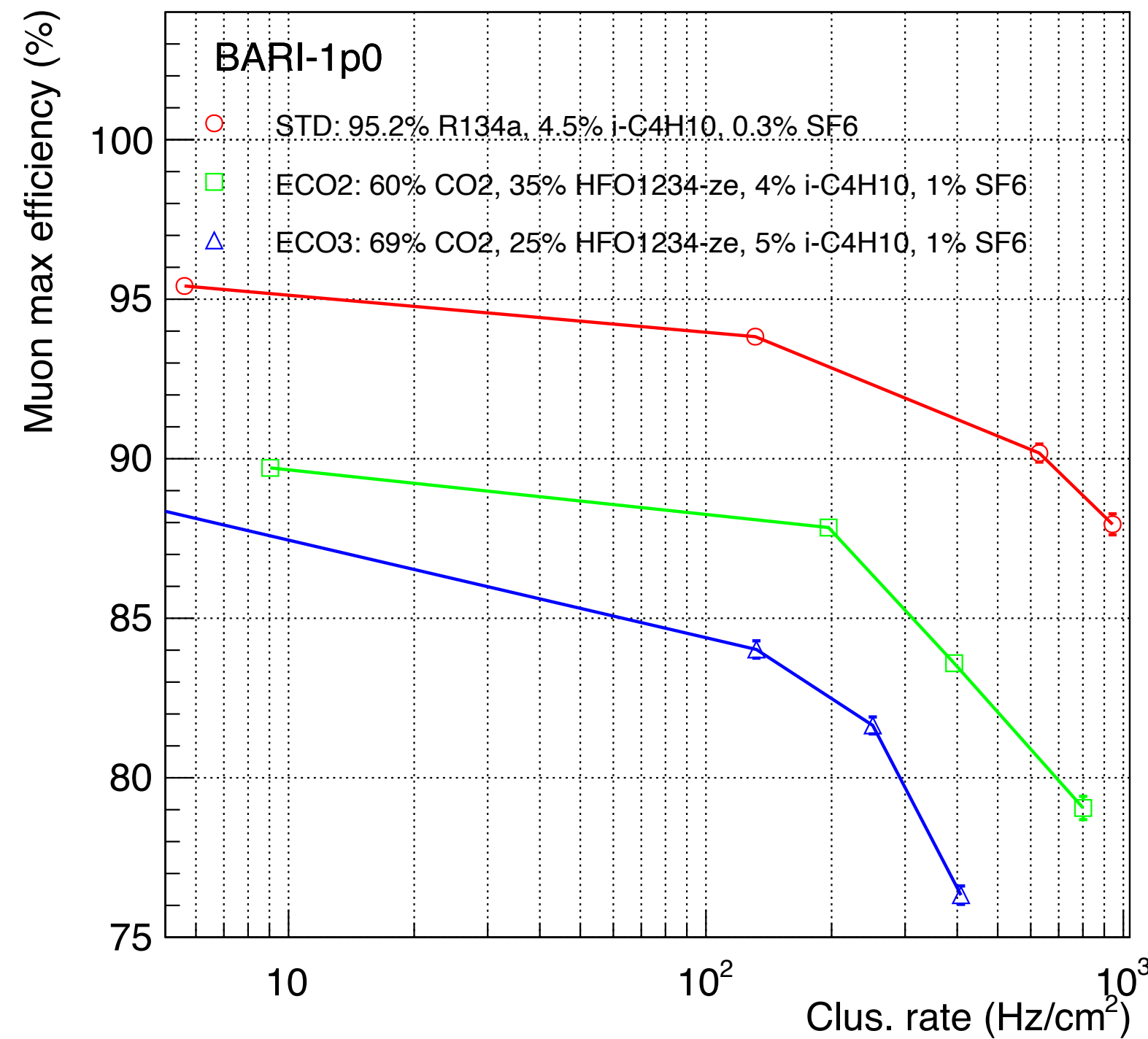
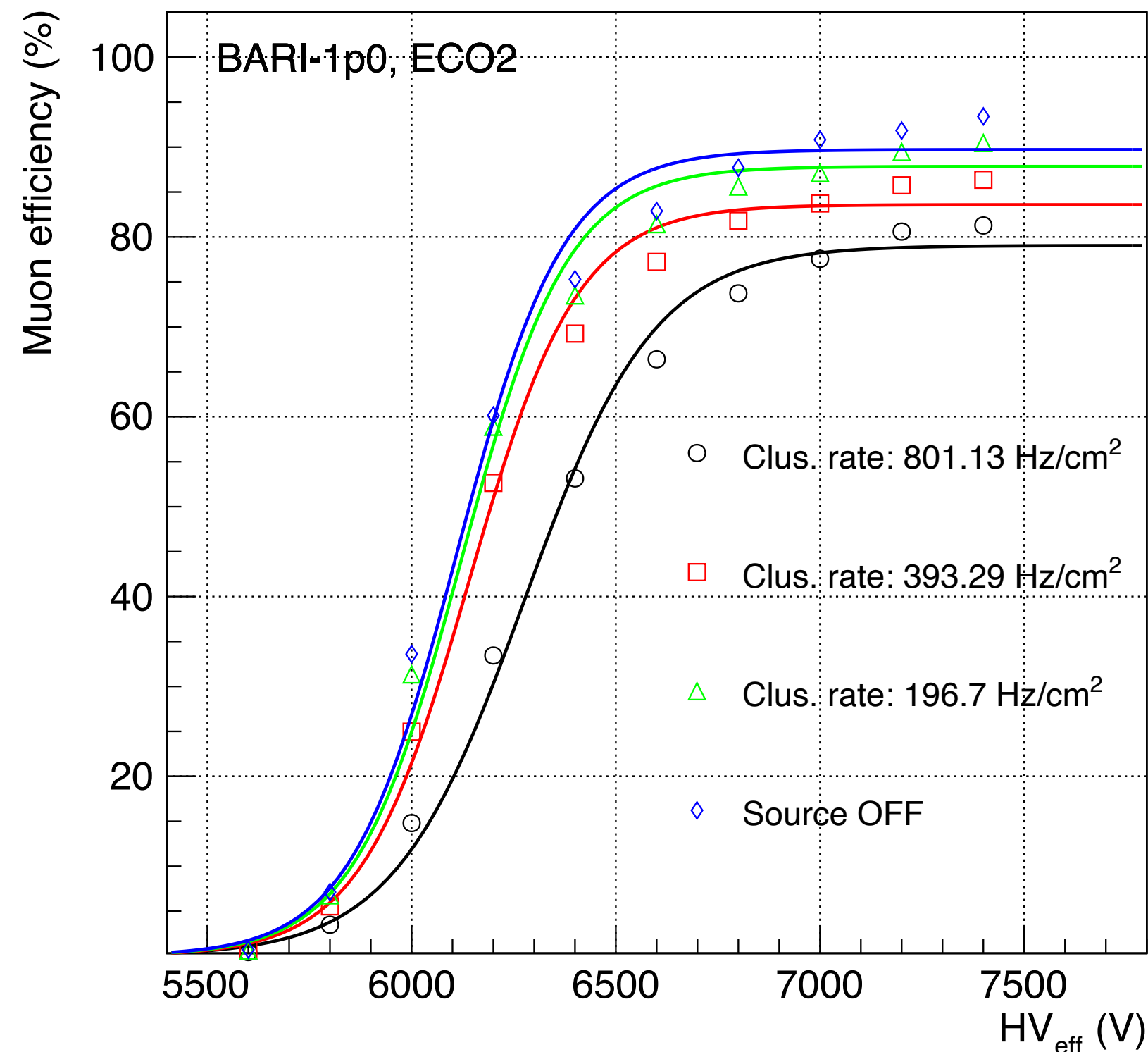


eco-friendly mixtures

	R134a	i-C6H10	SF6	HFO	CO2
STD	95.2	4.5	0.3	-	-
ECO3	-	5	1	25	69
ECO2	-	4	1	35	60

Eco-friendly gas mixture study

Results single gap

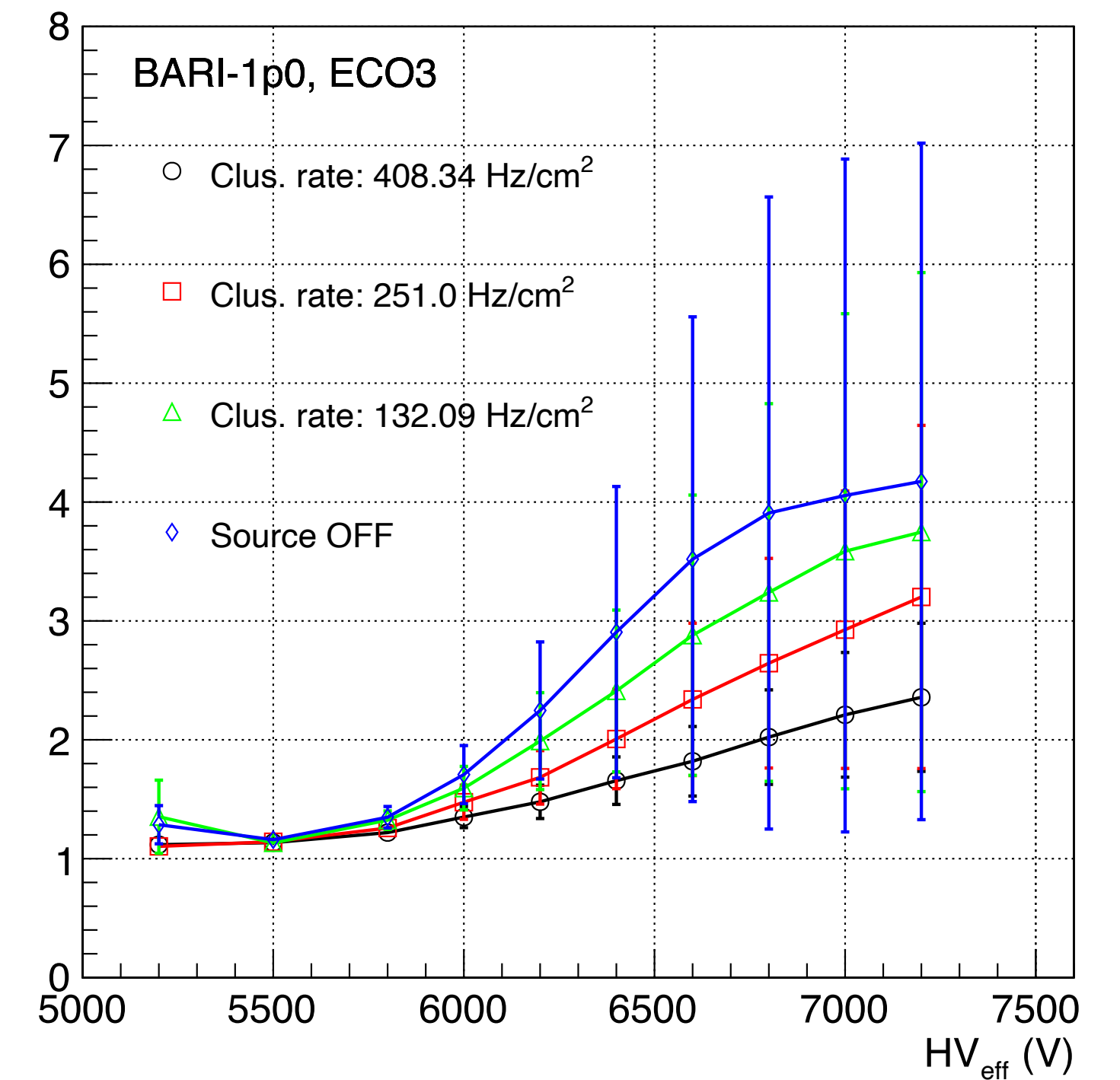
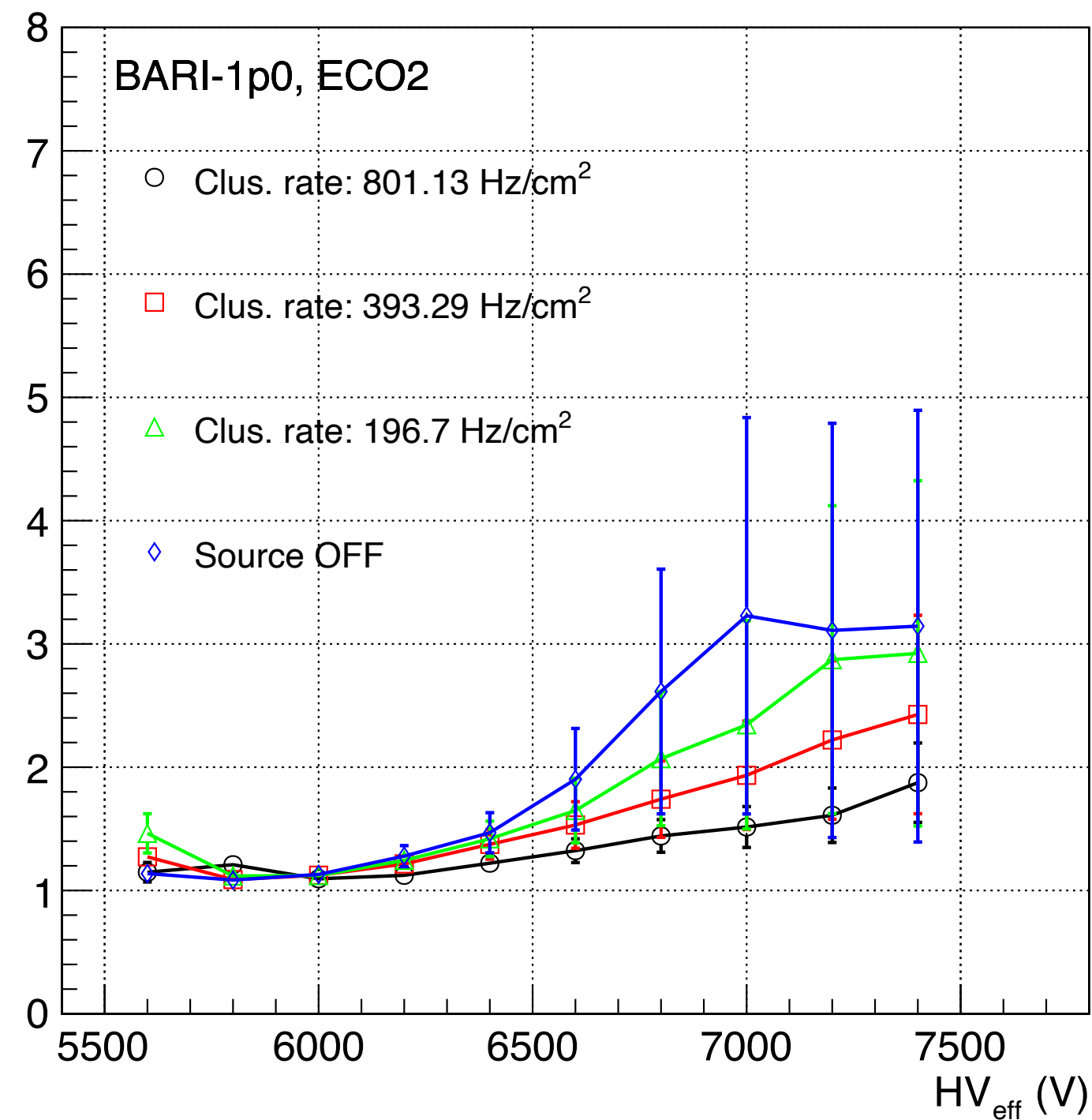
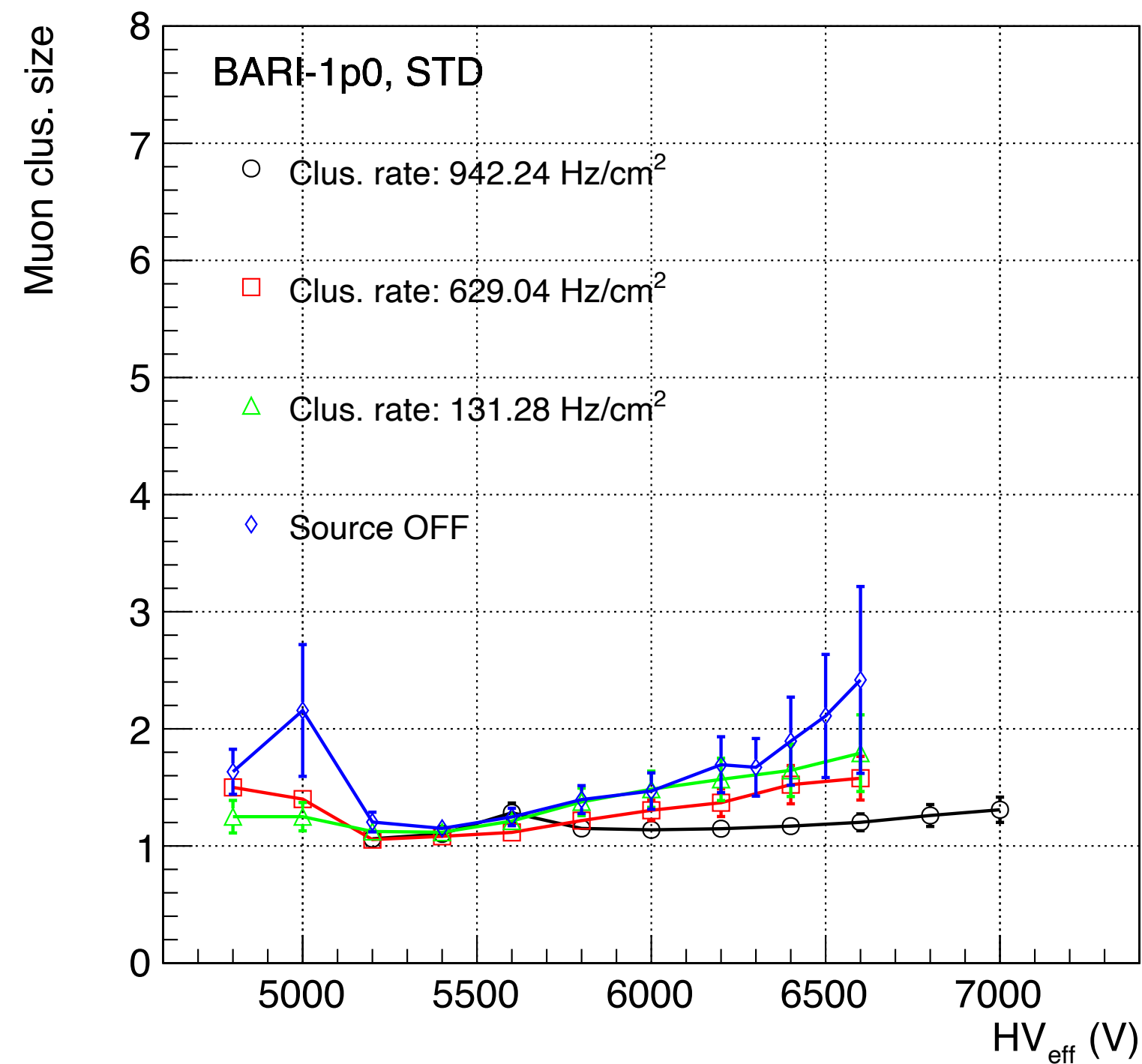


Asymmetric sigmoidal ➤
no charge saturation with
HFO-based mixtures

Max eff. ≈95% with STD
ECO2 mix more promising with eff
90-79% till 800 Hz/cm²
WP shift 6.65-6.9 kV for ECO2 and
6.3-6.45 kV for ECO3

Eco-friendly gas mixture study

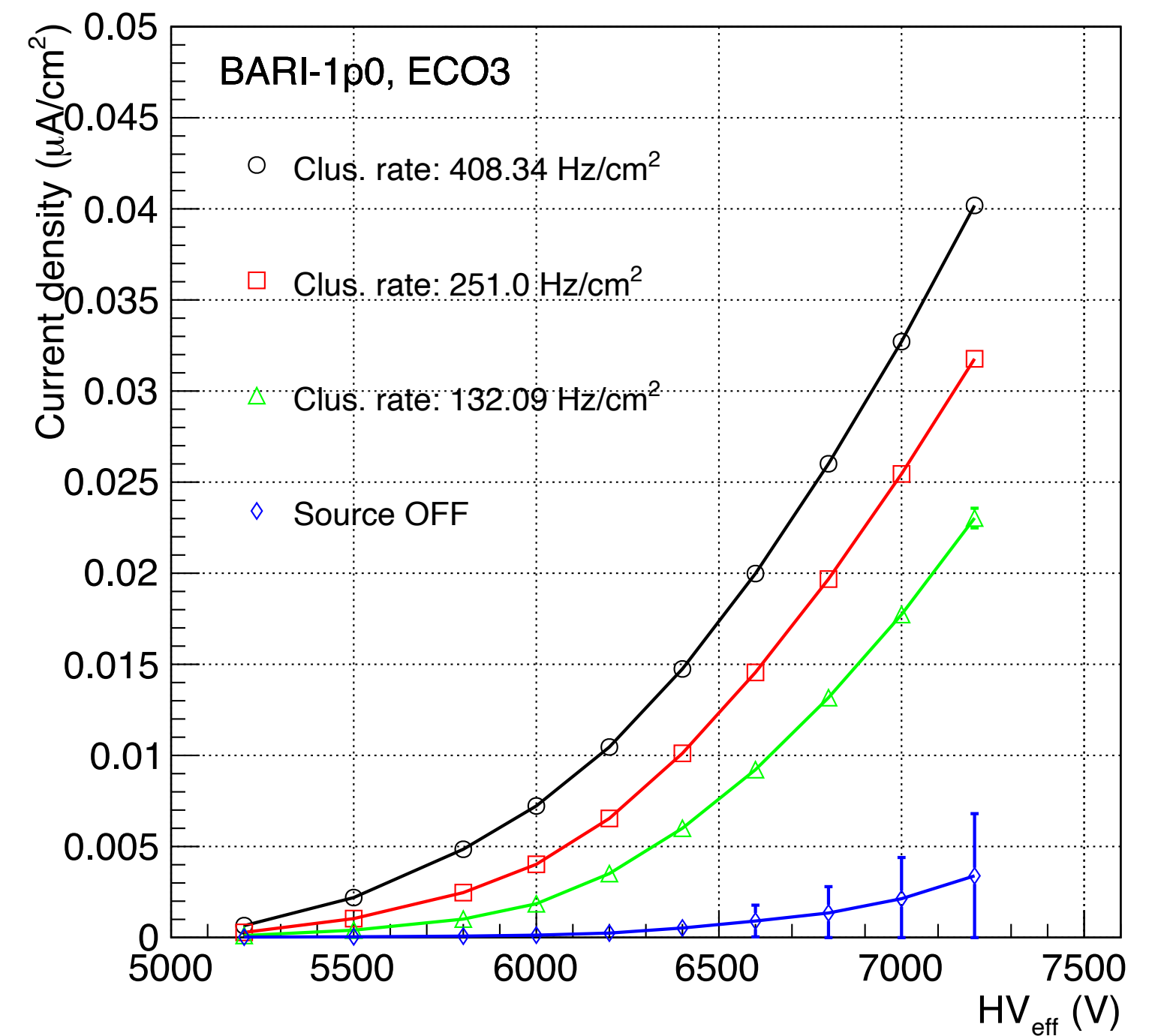
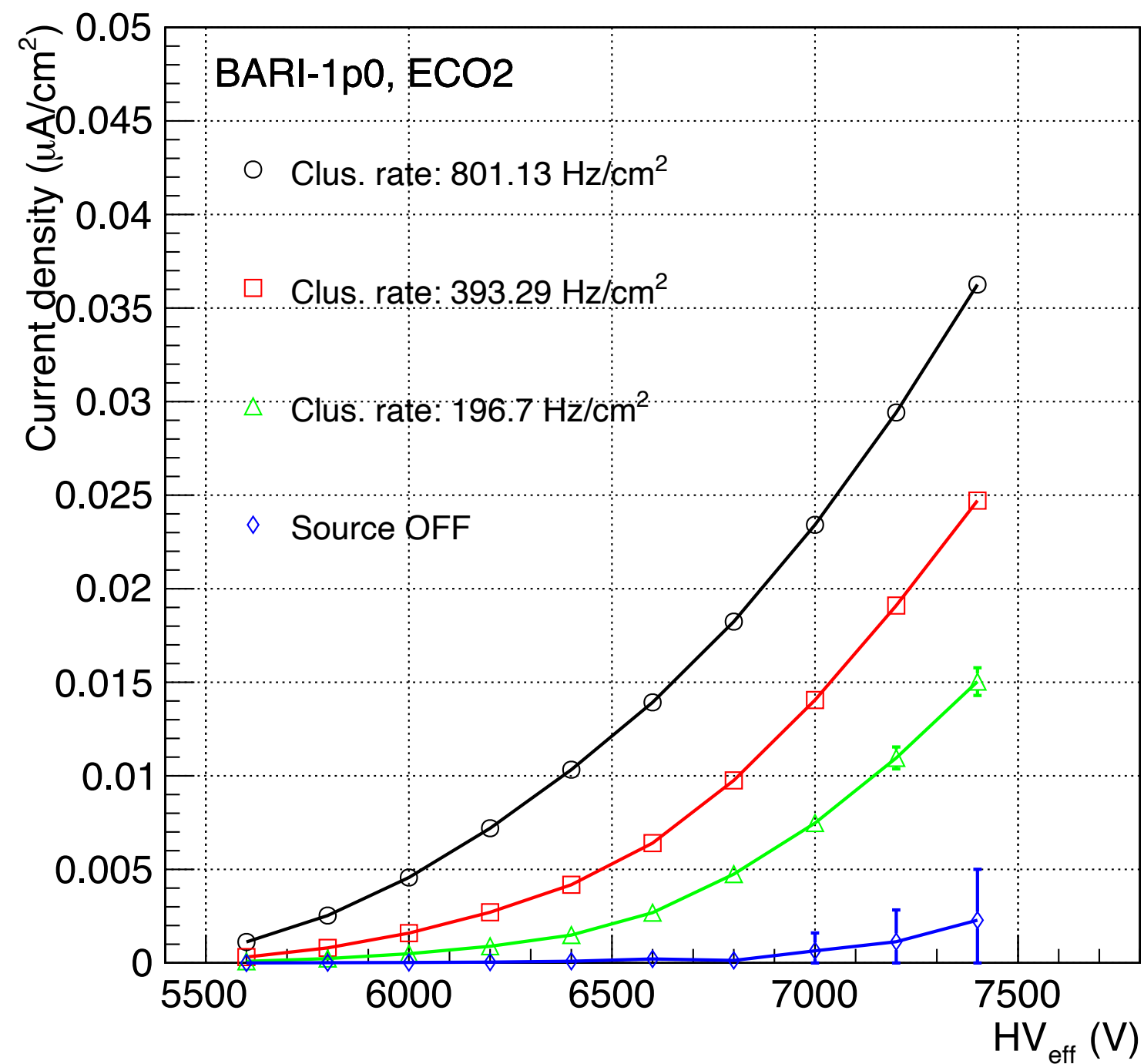
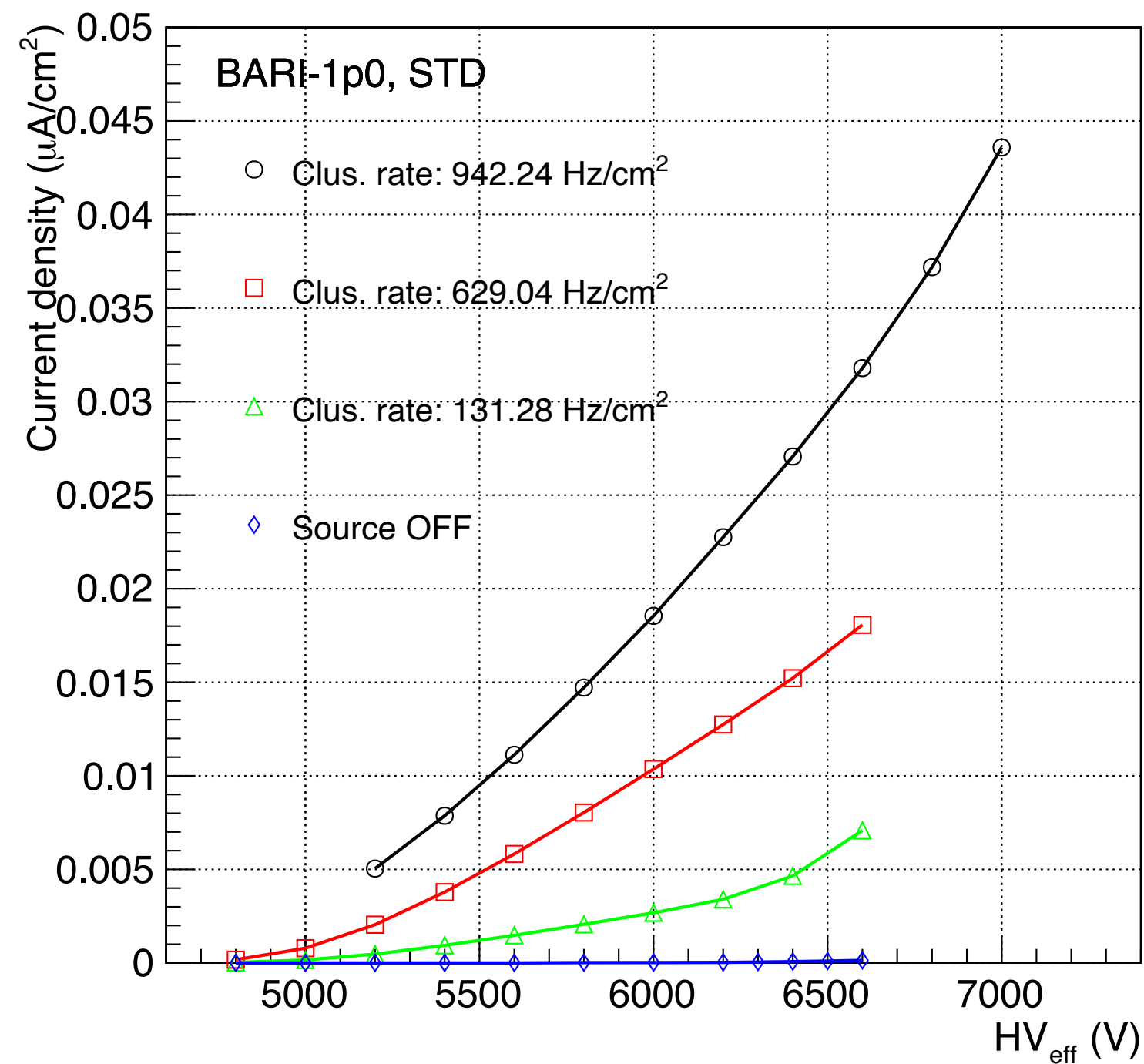
Results single gap muon clus. size analysis



smaller CLS with ECO2 mix ($CLS_{ECO3}/CLS_{ECO2} \approx 1.3$)
 ➤ better space resolution

Eco-friendly gas mixture study

Results single gap current plots



Similar currents with STD and ECO2
ECO2 and ECO3 at equivalent rate $I_{ECO3}/I_{ECO2} \approx 1.6$

Conclusions and next steps

- Fully performant RPC using 1 mm gas gap
- Muon efficiency of 92% at WP with high background radiation on 2.2 kHz/cm² (ex: required for HL phase of CMS)
- Fast conventional RPC with a time resolution of 331 ps
- ECO2 mixture more suitable but still with low efficiency

Next:

- **Aging irradiation campaign and new performance analysis**
- **Space resolution measurements**
- **New eco-mixture tests**

Thanks!

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Acknowledgments

KODEL colleagues
CMS iRPC group
RPC ECOGAS@GIF++ Collaboration