



R&D of RPC Signal Transmission

Zirui Liu; Xiangyu Xie; Pingxin Zhang; Yongjie Sun

University of Science and Technology of China

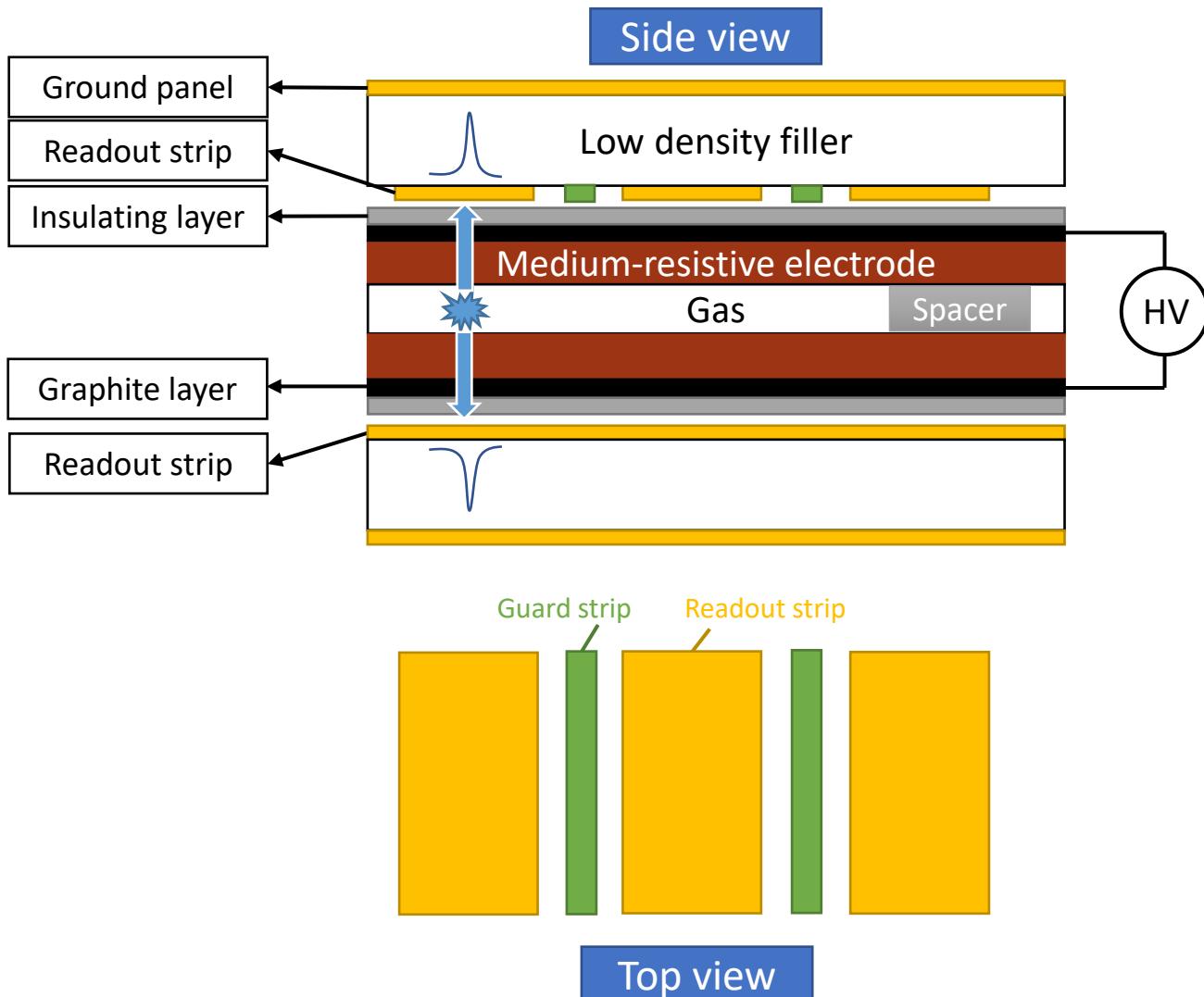
Outline

- Introduction
- Transmission simulation
- Measurements & Validation
- Discussions

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RPC prototype in use



- **Basic information**
 - LHC-ATLAS muon-spectrometer component detector
 - To be installed at next upgrade
- **Thin-gap RPC**
 - 1 mm gas gap
- **Panel layout**
 - 25 mm strip width + 2 mm spacing
 - 0.8 mm guard strip

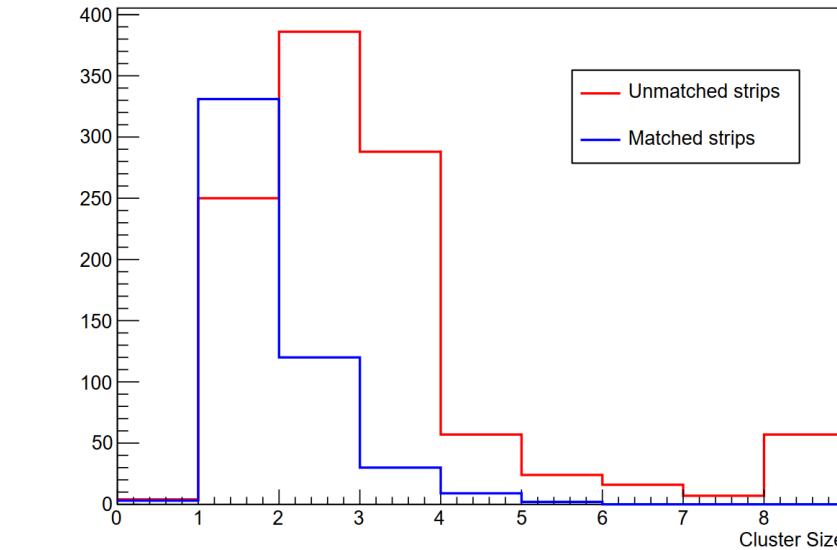
Multiplicity in RPC readout

- Current configuration to limit multiplicity:

- ✓ Higher graphite layer resistivity
- ✓ Guard strip
- ✓ Optimized termination

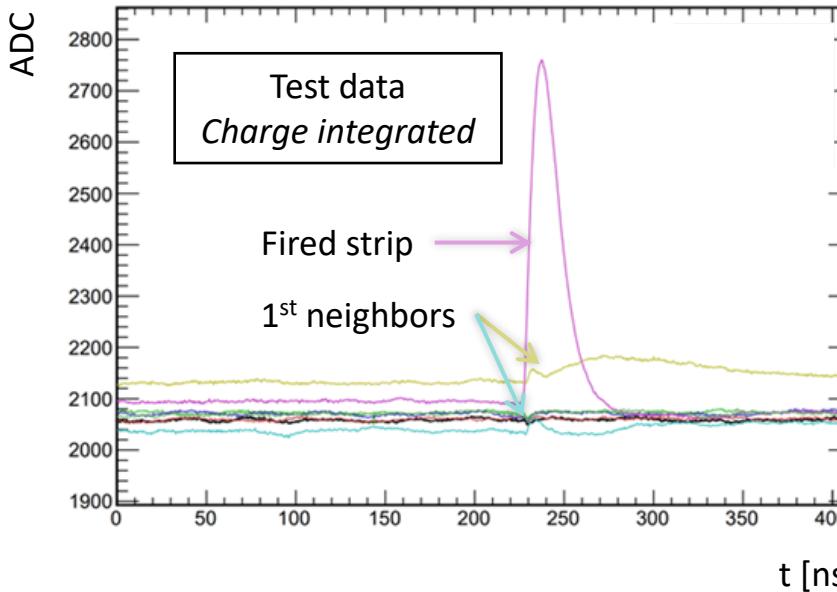
- Potential improvements:

- More delicate impedance matching
- Crosstalk mitigation
- Transmission simulation provides guidance



Termination optimization

From ATLAS MS Phase-II Upgrade TDR



Crosstalk signal observed on neighboring strips

X.Y. Xie, et.al, [A new approach in simulating RPC and searching for the causes of large cluster size of RPC, 2019](#)
JINST 14 C09012

Lossless Multi-conductor transmission line (MTL) for RPC

- Transmission model

- Induced charge treated as a point-like current source I_0 on the fired strip:

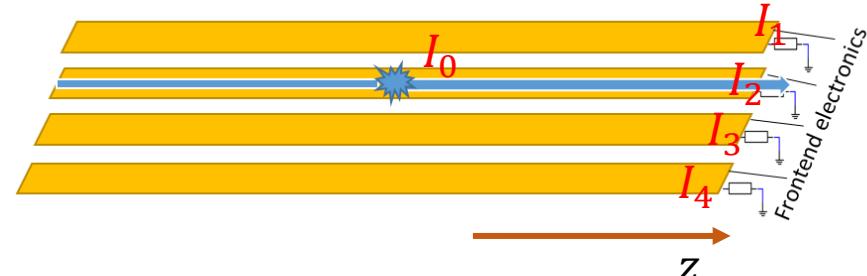
$$\vec{I}(t, z_0) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ I_0(t) \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

- Collected signal at frontend **distorted**:

$$\vec{I}(t, L) = \begin{pmatrix} I_1(t) \\ I_2(t) \\ I_3(t) \\ I_4(t) \end{pmatrix}$$

- Issues of interest

- Calculate signal distortions using PRC modelling
 - Reflection and crosstalk
 - Find distortion mitigation methods



Signal transmission

Theory assumptions:

- ✓ 'Transparent' graphite layer
- ✓ Resistance of copper ignored

MTL simulation tools

- Fundamental formulae:

$$\frac{d^2}{dz^2} \vec{V}(z, t) = \hat{L} \hat{C} \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \vec{V}(z, t)$$

$$\frac{d^2}{dz^2} \vec{I}(z, t) = \hat{C} \hat{L} \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \vec{I}(z, t)$$

- \hat{C}, \hat{L} : capacitance and inductance matrices of parallel readout strips

- $\hat{C} = \begin{pmatrix} C_{gnd} & -C_m \\ -C_m & C_{gnd} \end{pmatrix}; \hat{L} = \begin{pmatrix} L_{gnd} & L_m \\ L_m & L_{gnd} \end{pmatrix}$

- Given by **Maxwell**

- $\vec{V}(z, t), \vec{I}(z, t)$: vectors of signal

- $\vec{V} = \hat{Z} \vec{I}$, \hat{Z} impedance matrix

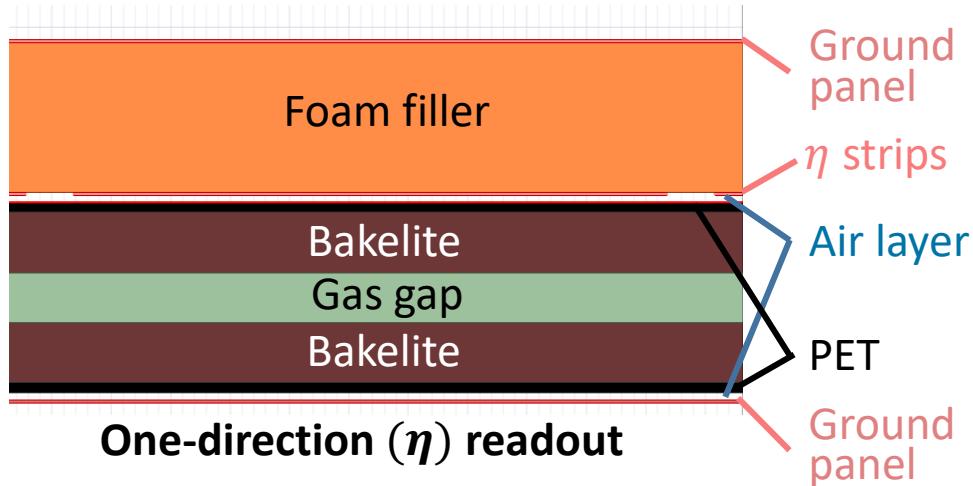
- Solved using **Mathematica**



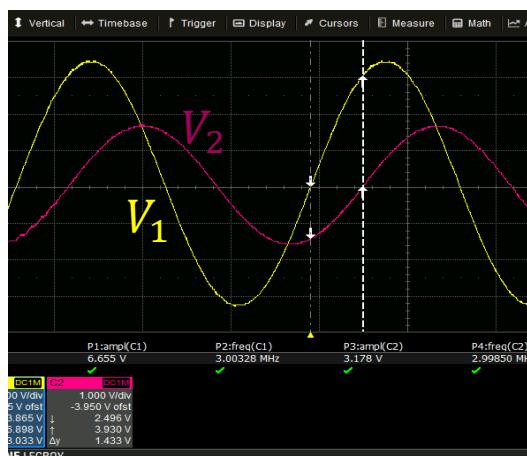
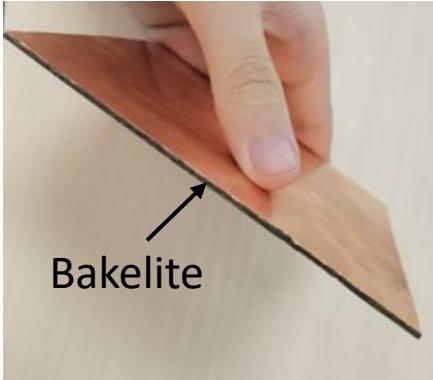
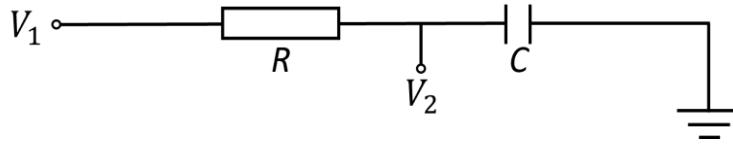
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Maxwell-2D setup



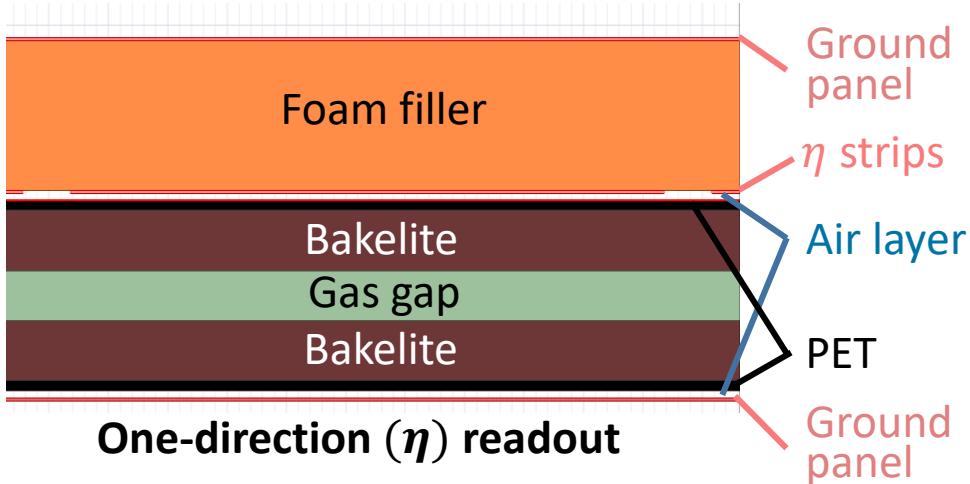
	Layer	Material	Thickness [mm]	Relative permittivity
Gas chamber	Gas gap	Gas mixture	1.0	1
	Electrode	Bakelite	1.2	5.2
	Insulator	PET	0.2	3.7
	Extra air layer	Air	0.15	1
Readout panel	Filler	Foam	3.1	1
	Ground panel/Strips	Copper	0.05	N/A



Transmission simulation

- **Permittivity measurement**
 - Conductor with bakelite medium
 - V_1, V_2 connected to oscilloscope
 - $\Rightarrow \epsilon_r(\text{bakelite}) = 5.2$

Maxwell-2D setup



	Layer	Material	Thickness [mm]	Relative permittivity
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	Filler	Foam	3.1	1
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- **Spacer indicator**
 - Thickness: 0.15 mm
 - Air layer between readout strips and gas chamber

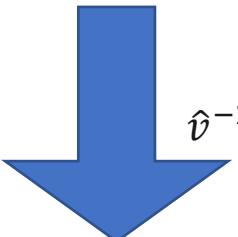
Maxwell results: \hat{C} ; \hat{L} ; \hat{Z} matrices

- Simplest case: One-direction (η) parallel readout

- $\circ \quad \hat{C} = \begin{pmatrix} 229.5 & -12.4 & 0 \\ -12.4 & 229.5 & -12.4 \\ 0 & -12.4 & 229.5 \end{pmatrix} [\text{pF/m}]$

- $\circ \quad \hat{L} = \begin{pmatrix} 153.9 & 5.4 & 0 \\ 5.4 & 153.9 & 5.4 \\ 0 & 5.4 & 153.9 \end{pmatrix} [\text{nH/m}]$

- Note: $C_{13}, C_{31}, L_{13}, L_{31}$ negligible



$$\hat{v}^{-2} = \hat{M}^{-1} \hat{C} \hat{L} \hat{M}; \hat{Z} = \hat{L} \hat{M} \hat{v} \hat{M}^{-1}$$

- $\circ \quad \hat{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 237 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 240 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 243 \end{pmatrix} [\text{mm/ns}]$

- $\bar{v} = 240 \text{ mm/ns}; \Delta v = 3 \text{ mm/ns}$

- $\circ \quad \hat{Z} = \begin{pmatrix} 18.3 & 0.8 & 0.04 \\ 0.8 & 18.3 & 0.8 \\ 0.04 & 0.8 & 18.3 \end{pmatrix} [\Omega]$

Counterparts in experiment

- Leading order elements:

- $\circ \quad C_{11}; L_{11} \Rightarrow Z_{11}$, impedance

- Impedance decides matching resistors

- $\bullet \quad \hat{Y} = \hat{Z}^{-1}, \hat{R} = \begin{pmatrix} (\sum_i Y_{1i})^{-1} & \dots & -(Y_{1N})^{-1} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ -(Y_{N1})^{-1} & \dots & (\sum_i Y_{Ni})^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$

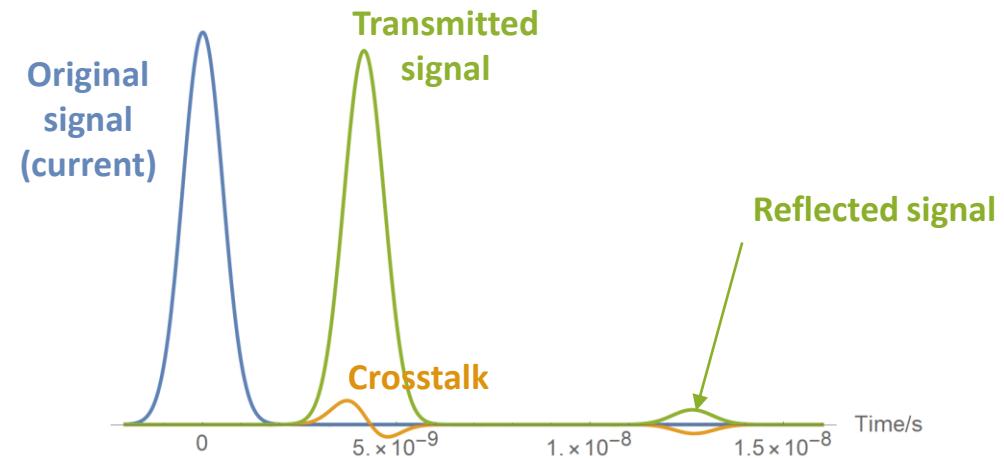
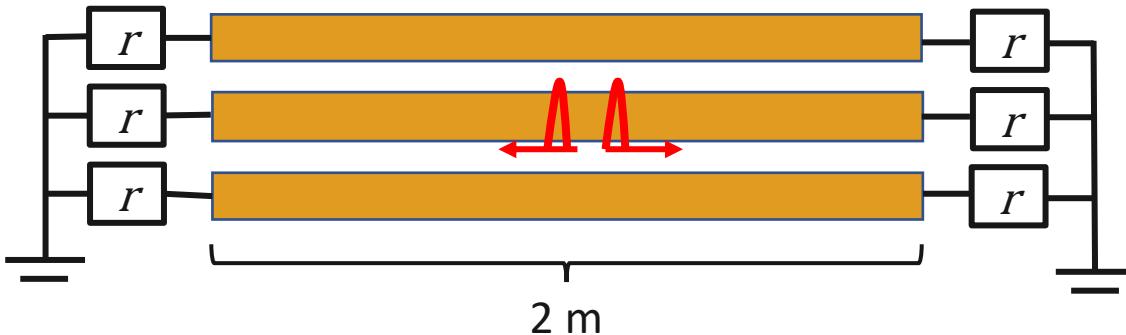
- $\bullet \quad \hat{R} = \begin{pmatrix} 20 & 400 & 400,000 \\ 400 & 20 & 400 \\ 400,000 & 400 & 20 \end{pmatrix} [\Omega]$

- Sub-leading order elements:

- $\circ \quad C_{12}; L_{12} \Rightarrow \Delta v$, dispersion

- Dispersion decides the level of crosstalk

Mathematica results in time-domain



- Example setup:
 - 3 strips, middle strip fired
 - Input 1.22 ns FWHM gaussian pulse
 - Matching resistor $r = 20 \Omega$ on both ends
 - No guard strips equipped

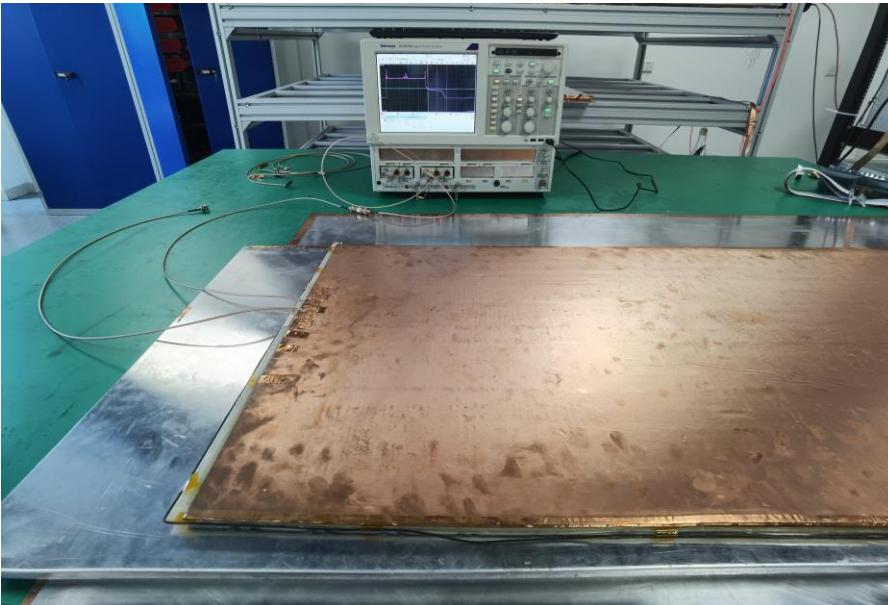
	Normalized Charge	Normalized Amplitude
Original	1	1
Transmitted	95.6%	95.3%
Crosstalk	0	6.0%
Reflected	4.4%	3.9%

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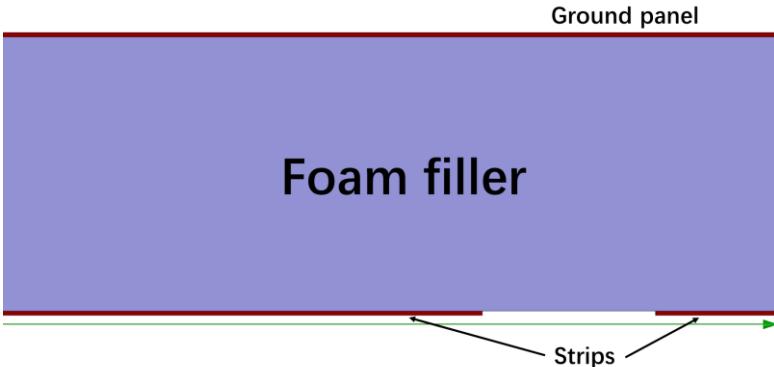
Leading order: impedance measurement

- Device: Tektronix DSA8300
 - As TDR (Time Domain Reflectometry)
- Experiment setup:
 - Thin-gap RPC size: $1\text{ m} \times 0.5\text{ m}$
 - Far-end grounded



Leading order validation results

- Case 1: bare strip



Impedance [Ω]	Bare strip	Assembled
Measurement	32.20	18.51
Simulation	32.3	18.3

- Case 2: assembled RPC

- Only η panel
- 110 kg/m^2 pressure



✓ Good agreement between simulation & measurement

Sub-leading order: crosstalk & S-parameter

- Crosstalk sensitive to off-diagonal elements

$$\hat{C} = \begin{pmatrix} C_{11} & -C_{12} \\ -C_{21} & C_{22} \end{pmatrix}; \hat{L} = \begin{pmatrix} L_{11} & L_{12} \\ L_{21} & L_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

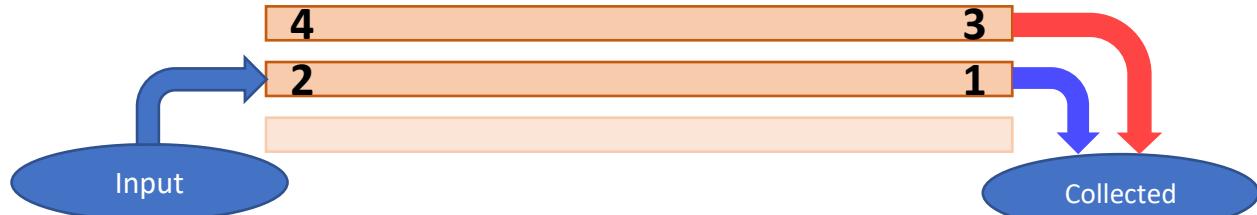
$$C_{12} \ll C_{11}; L_{12} \ll L_{11} \Rightarrow Z \approx \sqrt{L_{11}/C_{11}}$$

- S-parameter definition:

$$S_{13}(f) = \frac{Amp_3(f)}{Amp_1(f)}$$

- Amp_3 → neighbouring strip collected signal
- Amp_1 → fired strip collected signal
- Note: phase information ignored

- $S_{13}(f)$ represents crosstalk level



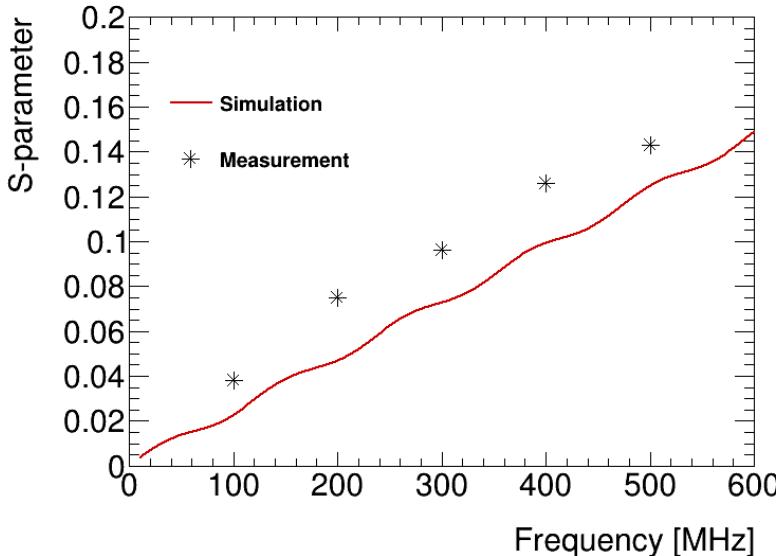
- S-parameter property
 - Equals 0 when $f \ll$ the characteristic frequency f_c of the system
 - Not dependent on signal shape or amplitude
 - Reflection on the fired strip also included in calculation

Sub-leading order validation results

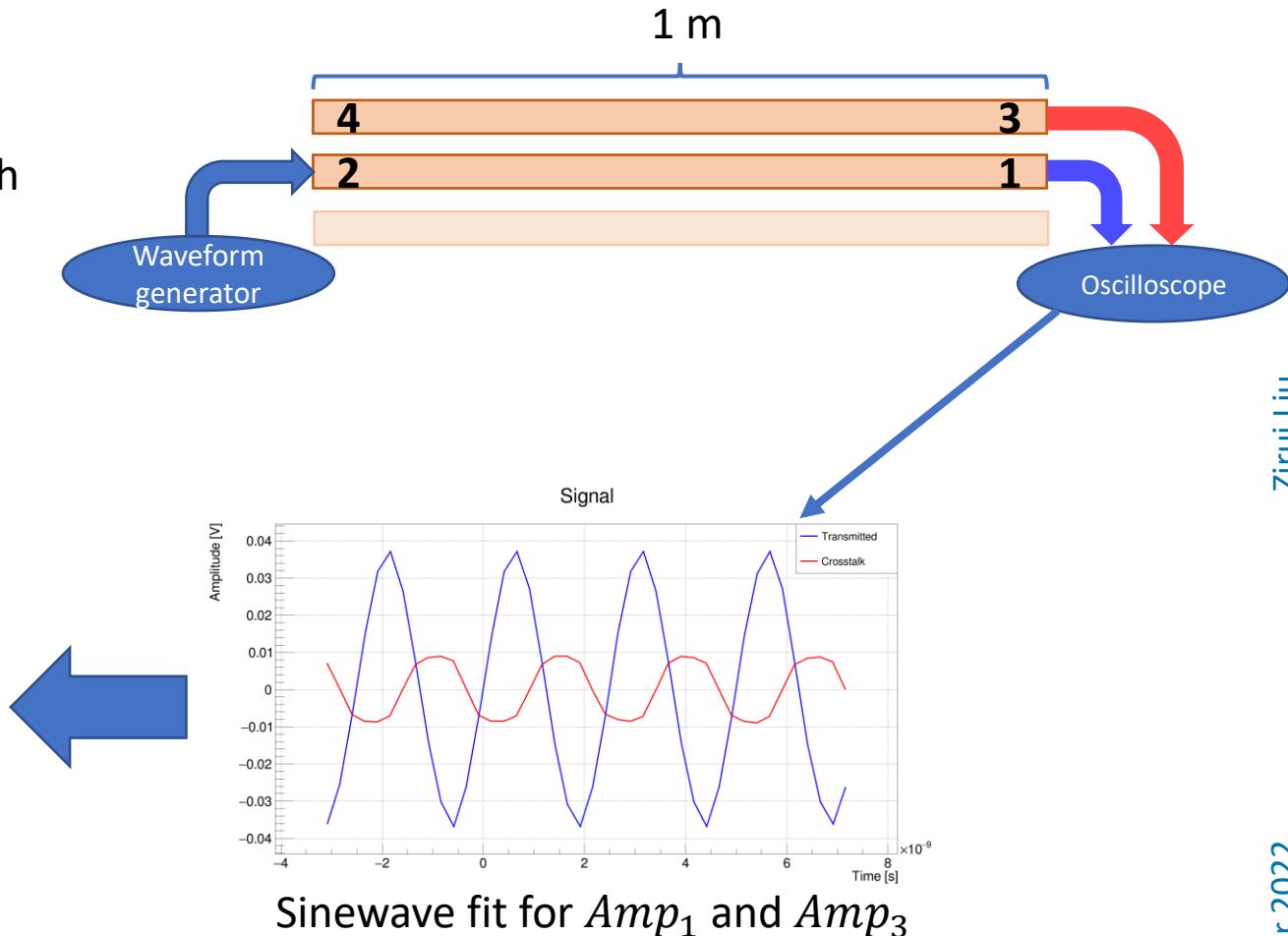
- Experiment setup

- Device:
 - Waveform generator: Tabor WX2182C
 - Oscilloscope: Lecroy 3104z, 1 GHz bandwidth
- RPC:
 - $1 \text{ m} \times 0.5 \text{ m}$ size, only η panel
 - 20Ω matching resistor
 - 110 kg/m^2 pressure

- Results



Measurement and simulation roughly consistent



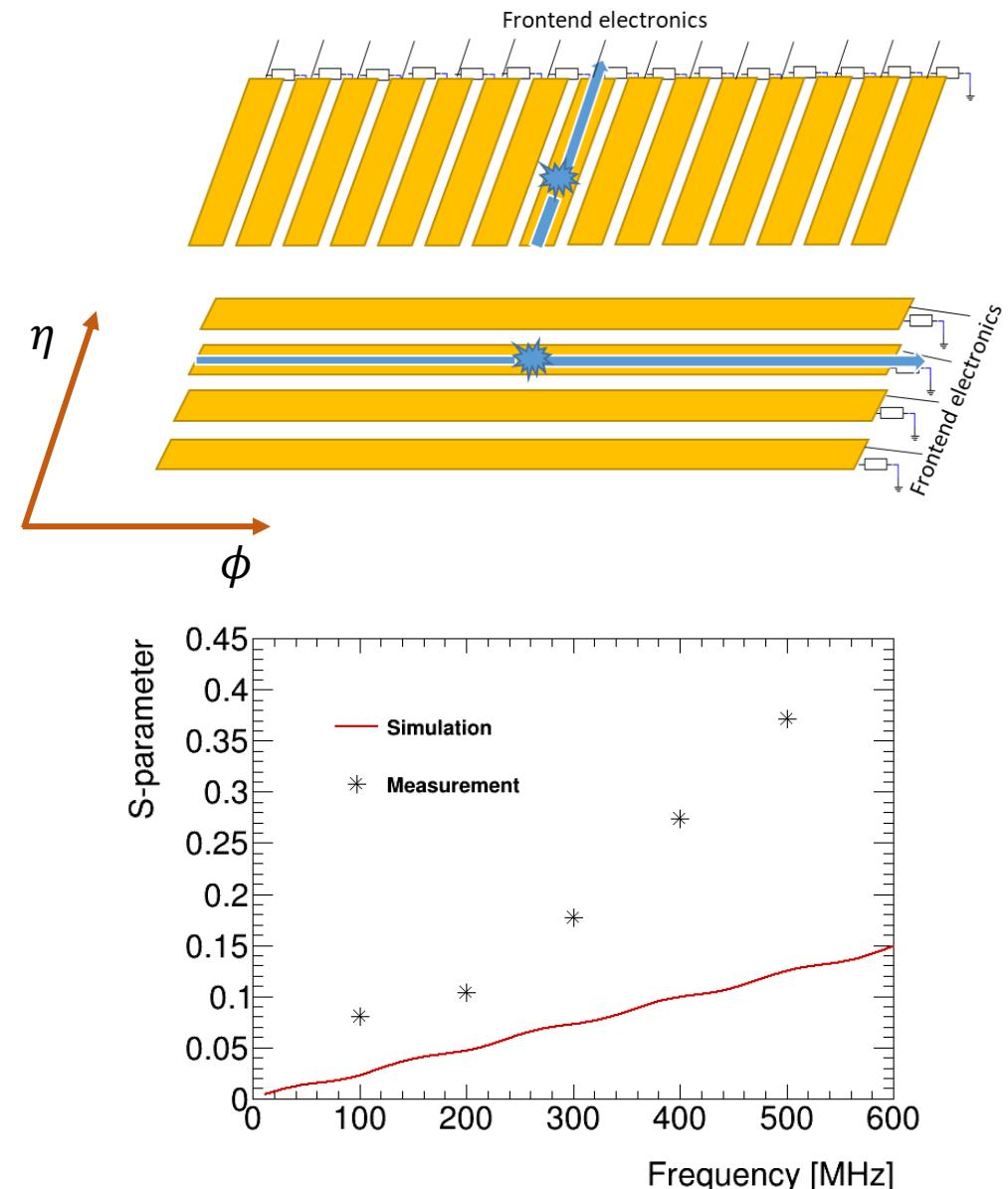
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Discussion: different readout schemes

$\eta - \phi$ readout

- Impedance
 - No significant difference from single η
- $\eta - \phi$ readout S-parameter deviate from the single η readout
 - Measured value larger than single η , especially for high frequency
- To-do: implement 3-D simulation



Discussion: different readout schemes

$\eta - \eta$ readout

- Potential readout for ATLAS Phase II upgrade
- From time difference to position

- Capacitance matrix:

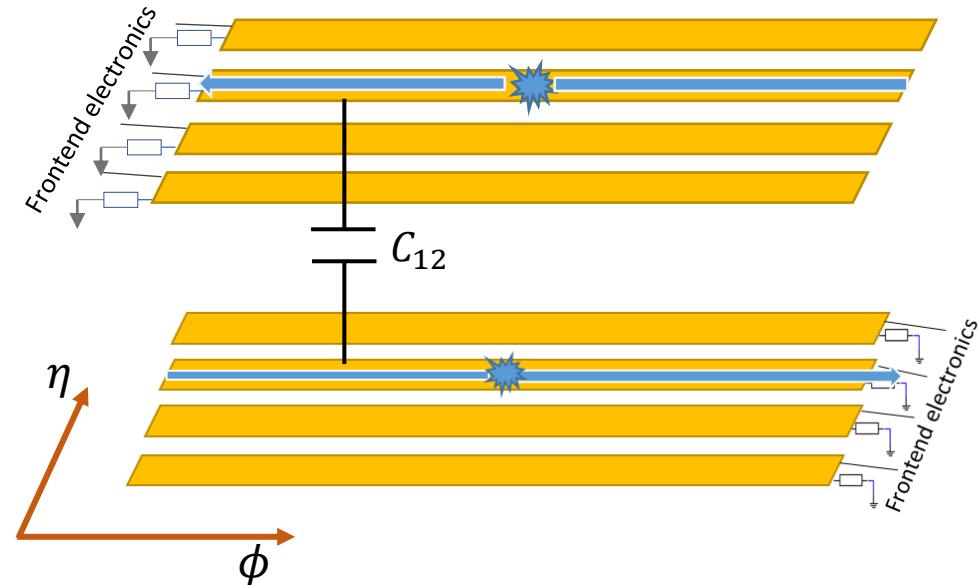
$$\hat{C}_{\eta-\eta} = \begin{pmatrix} 228.9 & -115.1 \\ -115.1 & 228.9 \end{pmatrix}$$

- C_{12}, C_{21} : face-to-face capacitance

- Impedance:

	$\eta - \phi$	$\eta - \eta$
Geometry	Adjacent	Face-to-face
Impedance	$\hat{Z} = \begin{pmatrix} 18.3 & 0.8 \\ 0.8 & 18.3 \end{pmatrix}$	$\hat{Z} = \begin{pmatrix} 22 & 10 \\ 10 & 22 \end{pmatrix}$
Termination network	$\hat{R} = \begin{pmatrix} 20 & 400 \\ 400 & 20 \end{pmatrix}$	$\hat{R} = \begin{pmatrix} 32 & 42 \\ 42 & 32 \end{pmatrix}$

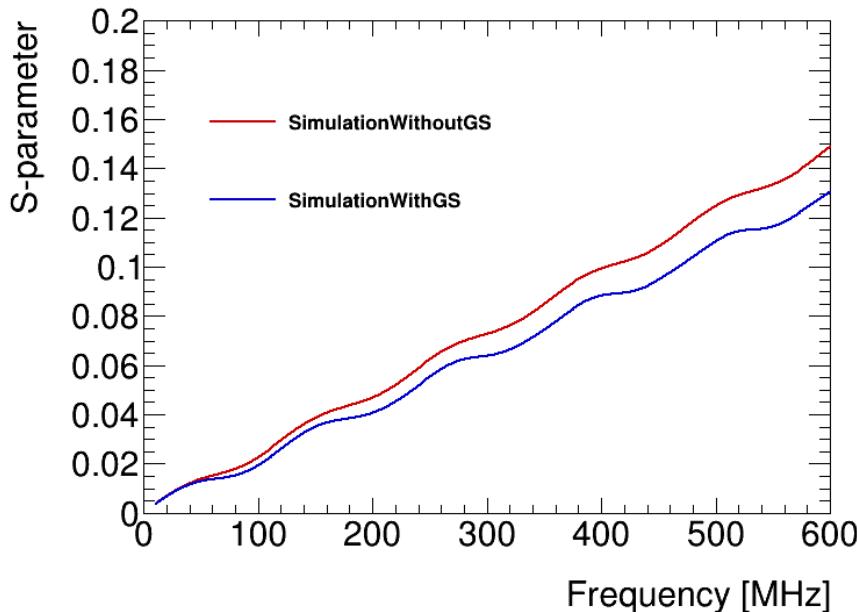
- First order termination **would be insufficient**



Discussion: different geometry designs

- Guard strip

- Strip impedance 18.3Ω , guard strip impedance 100Ω
- Crosstalk amplitude drops from $6\% \rightarrow 5.1\%$
 - 1.22 ns FWHM gaussian pulse
 - 1 m transmission distance



✓ Guard strip slightly reduces crosstalk

- Pitches and electrode thickness

- Different pitch (2 mm spacing kept)

Width [mm]	Crosstalk amplitude (no guard strip)	Impedance [Ω]
27	6.0%	18.3
25	6.3%	19.6
23	6.8%	21.2
21	7.3%	23.0

- Bakelite thickness

Thickness [mm]	Crosstalk amplitude (no guard strip)	Impedance [Ω]
1.2	6.0%	18.3
1.4	6.8%	18.7

Summary and outlook

- MTL simulation method and its validation is presented
 - Leading order: simulated impedance agrees with measurement
 - Sub-leading order: S-parameter simulation roughly agrees with measurement
- Suitable for matching resistors selection
- Different readout schemes could be investigated via this method

Backup

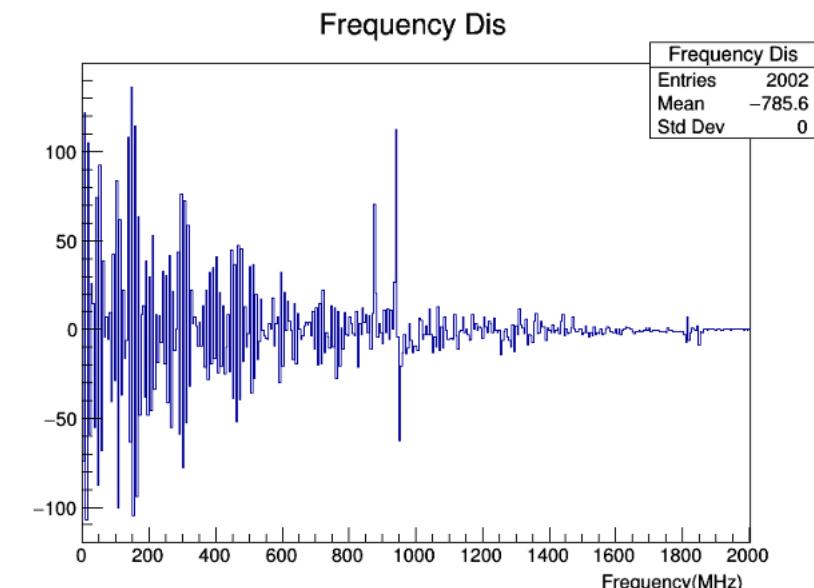
$$\vec{V}_T(t) = \frac{1+\hat{\Gamma}_0}{2} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} (\hat{\Gamma}_D \hat{\Gamma}_0)^j \left\{ \hat{Z}_c \hat{M} \begin{pmatrix} \hat{M}_{1n}^{-1} I\left(t - \frac{y_0 + 2jD}{v_1}\right) \\ \vdots \\ \hat{M}_{Nn}^{-1} I\left(t - \frac{y_0 + 2jD}{v_N}\right) \end{pmatrix} \right. \\ \left. + \hat{\Gamma}_D \hat{Z}_c \hat{M} \begin{pmatrix} \hat{M}_{1n}^{-1} I\left(t - \frac{2(j+1)D - y_0}{v_1}\right) \\ \vdots \\ \hat{M}_{Nn}^{-1} I\left(t - \frac{2(j+1)D - y_0}{v_N}\right) \end{pmatrix} \right\} \quad (10)$$

Credit: [Signal coupling and signal integrity in multi-strip resistive plate chambers used for timing applications](#)

Diego Gonzalez-Diaz et al.

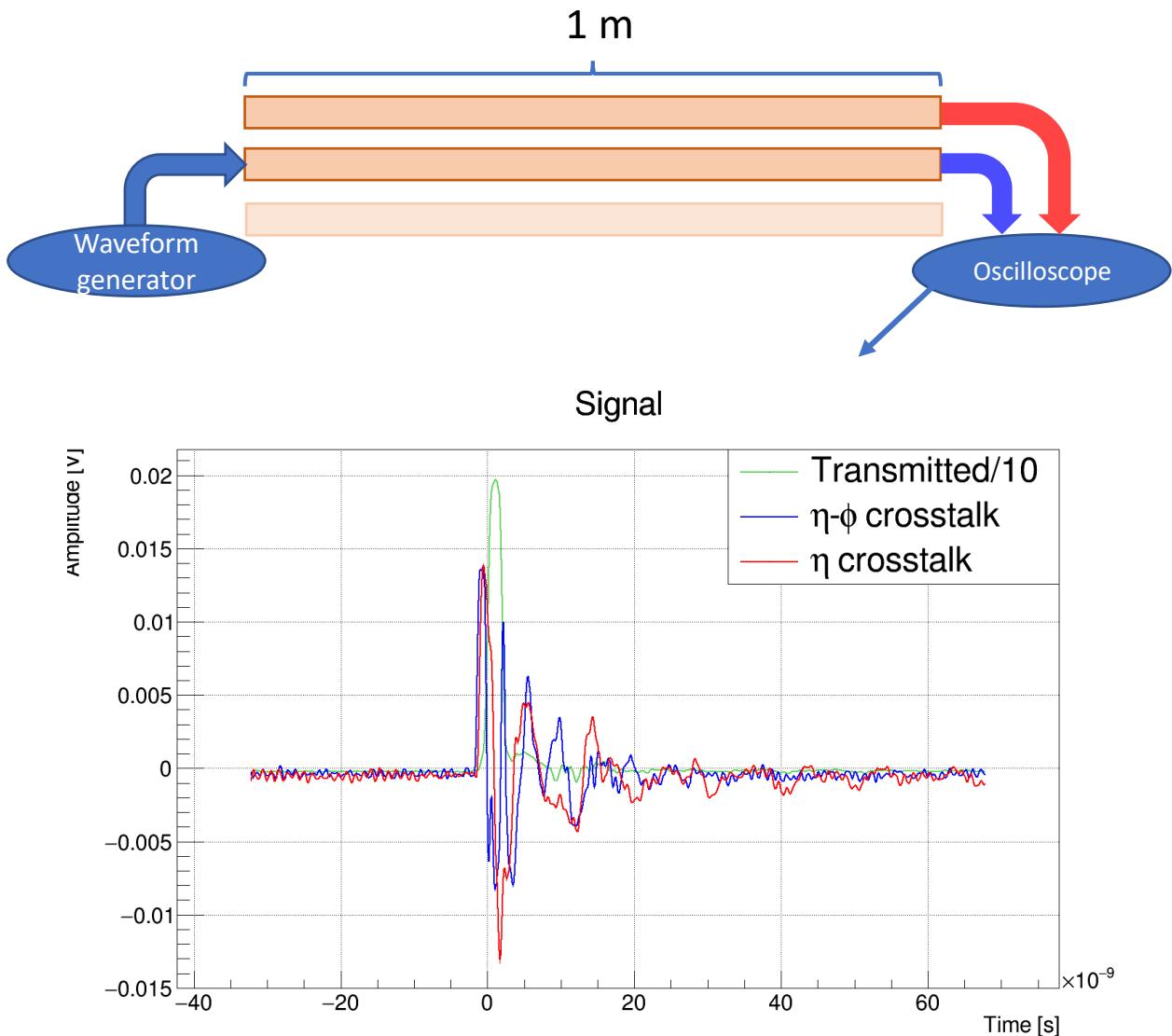
where $\vec{V}_T(t)$ is the N -dimensional array of voltages measured by a readout system placed at $y=0$ when the N -strip structure is excited along line n by a current $I(t)$ originated at position $y=y_0$. The sum extends over all j reflections. The reflection matrices at the near-end ($y=0$) and at the far-end ($y=D$) are defined as

$$\Gamma_0 = \frac{\hat{Z}_0 - \hat{Z}_c}{\hat{Z}_0 + \hat{Z}_c}, \quad \Gamma_D = \frac{\hat{Z}_D - \hat{Z}_c}{\hat{Z}_D + \hat{Z}_c}. \quad (11)$$

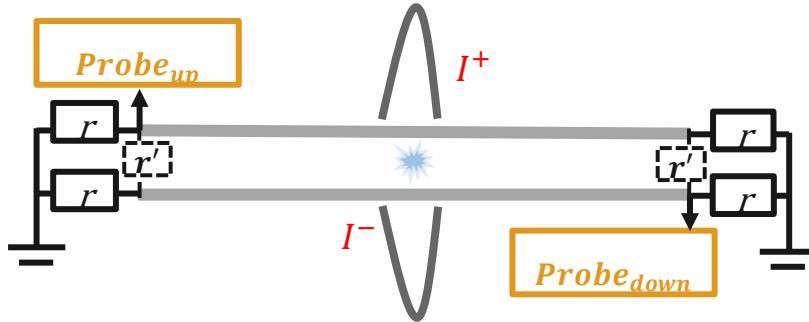


$\eta - \phi$ readout

- Pulse signal test
 - 2 ns width pulse from waveform generator
 - 1 m transmission distance
- Results
 - Crosstalk amplitude is about 6.6%
 - $\eta - \phi$ readout crosstalk amplitude is not significantly higher than single η readout
 - Note: the lower limit of the pulse width of this waveform generator is 2 ns
 - $\eta - \phi$ scheme introduces a more complex shape in crosstalk



$\eta - \eta$ readout



- S-parameter
 - Characteristic frequency $f_c \approx 100$ MHz
 - Crosstalk is comparable with main signal
 - Ill matching at only leading-order termination
- Countermeasure
 - Include next-to-leading-order termination
 - Connect face-to-face strips with r'
 $r = 32 \Omega ; r' = 42 \Omega$
 - Consider the minus current source on the other strip
 - I^+ and I^- together contribute to the total collected current

