

**PSI** Center for Neutron and Muon Sciences

**GDD**

Gas Detectors Development Group



# The UltraLow Material Budget GEM based TPC used for Tracking

**Francisco García**  
Helsinki Institute of Physics

# Outline

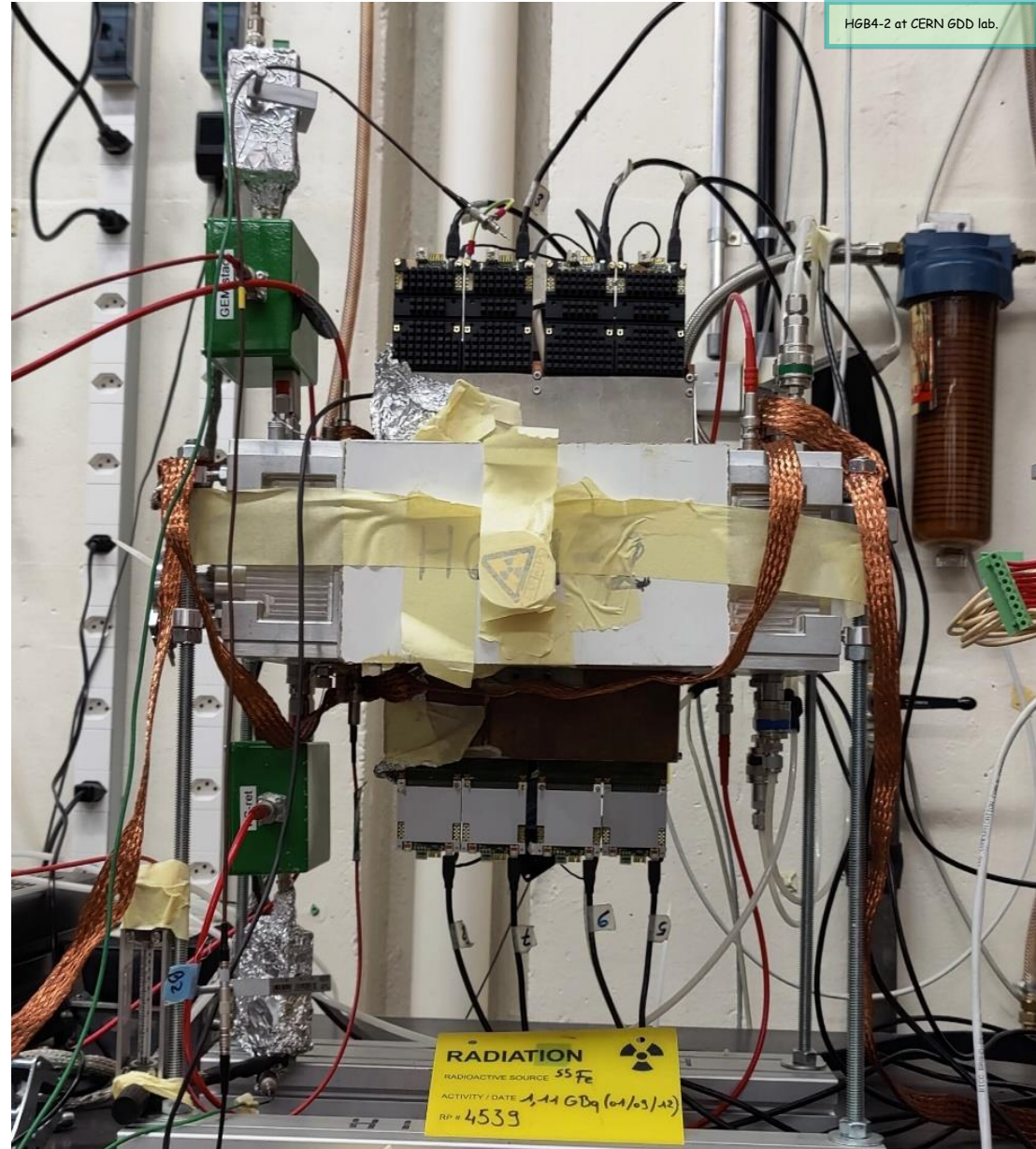
1. Introduction & Motivation
2. Tracking at different facilities
3. Test beam at the SPS - H4 beamline
4. Summary

# INTRODUCTION

HGB4-2 at CERN GDD lab.

The GEM-TPC in twin configuration consists of two GEM-TPCs inside a single vessel. One of them is rotated 180° on the middle of the horizontal plane w.r.t. the other.

The **TWIN concept** was introduced in collaboration between the Helsinki and Bratislava group sometime ago to cope with tracking at high rate. By constraining the time of the signals on both GEM-TPCs the ambiguity of association of hits to single track is drastically reduced.



# MOTIVATION

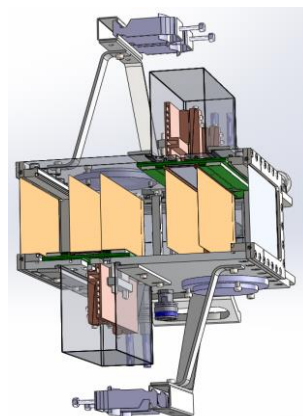
To perform tracking of particles with minimal distortions to its trajectory in high rate conditions.

Low material budget

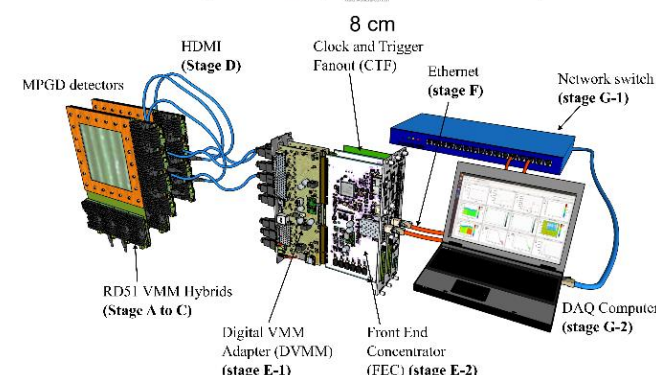
Tracking Reconstruction

The VMM3a-SRS readout

$$2.81e-3 X/X_0$$



The sum of drift time of both field cages represent the total drift, which is called the Control Sum



- Fast readout electronics with  $\sim 4$  MHz per VMM3a.
- Time resolution  $O(2ns)$
- Large Dynamic range

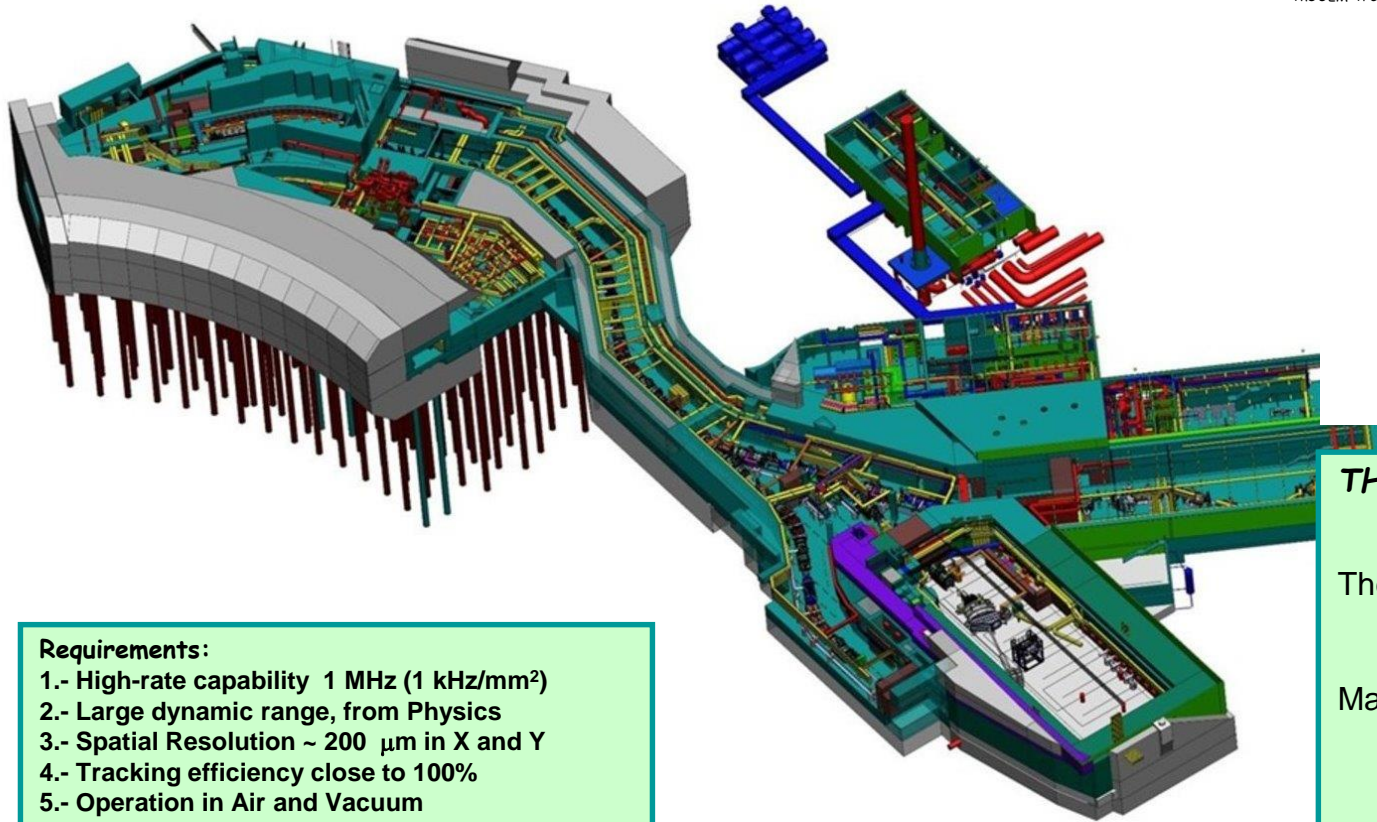
- Main contribution from gas volume
- In contrast one triple GEM detector à la TOTEM will have  $7.30e-3 x/x_0$



# TRACKING at DIFFERENT FACILITIES

## At the FRS - GSI

Projectile:  
Elements p - U  
Energy up to 1.5 GeV/u  
Intensity up to 10<sup>12</sup> /spill



### Requirements:

- 1.- High-rate capability 1 MHz (1 kHz/mm<sup>2</sup>)
- 2.- Large dynamic range, from Physics
- 3.- Spatial Resolution ~ 200 μm in X and Y
- 4.- Tracking efficiency close to 100%
- 5.- Operation in Air and Vacuum



## GEM-TPC PROTOTYPE for BEAM DIAGNOSTICS of Super-FRS in NUSTAR EXPERIMENT - FAIR FACILITY



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R. Rudolf Janik<sup>2</sup>, M. Pikna<sup>2</sup>, B. Sitar<sup>2</sup>, P. Strmen<sup>2</sup>, I. Szarka<sup>2</sup>

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One major part of the FAIR facility will be the Super-FRS separator. The NUSTAR experiments will benefit from this separator, which will deliver an unprecedented range of radioactive ion beams (RIB). Helsinki Institute of Physics and Comenius University are in a joint R&D of GEM-TPC for the Super-FRS diagnostic chambers. The current status of the first prototype will be shown.

The GEM-TPC concept was introduced Presented in the NSS conference 2009 Orlando USA

### The Super-FRS GEM-TPC prototype development TECHNICAL REPORT

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June 1, 2015

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1 FAIR Super-FRS tracking detector concept	5
1.1 Super-FRS	5
1.2 Tracking system Overview	6
1.3 Parameter requirements	7
1.4 The GEM-TPC detector	12

## THE TIMELINE OF THIS PROJECT

The R&D and Design can be finalized by:

**Q4/2024**

Mass production:

**Q1/2025 – Q1/2026**

Part of the Finnish Contribution will be in Diagnostic systems, which is a work package dedicated to provide 14 GEM-TPC detectors.

# Most Relevant Results at GSI

Test beam with  $^{64}\text{Ni}$  ions: Spatial resolution 125  $\mu\text{m}$  in X, 150  $\mu\text{m}$  in Y  $\rightarrow$  FRS S4 (2010)

Test beam with  $^{197}\text{Au}$  ions: Spatial resolution 300  $\mu\text{m}$  in X  $\rightarrow$  FRS S4 (2012)

Test beam with Xe and C ions: Spatial resolution 188  $\mu\text{m}$  in X, 147  $\mu\text{m}$  in Y  $\rightarrow$  FRS S4 (2016)

Test beam with U ions: Spatial resolution 740  $\mu\text{m}$  in X  $\rightarrow$  FRS S4 (2019)

For P10 ( $\text{ArCH}_4$  90/10) the tracking efficiency  $>95\%$

Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](https://www.sciencedirect.com)

## Nuclear Inst. and Methods in Physics Research, A

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/nima](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/nima)

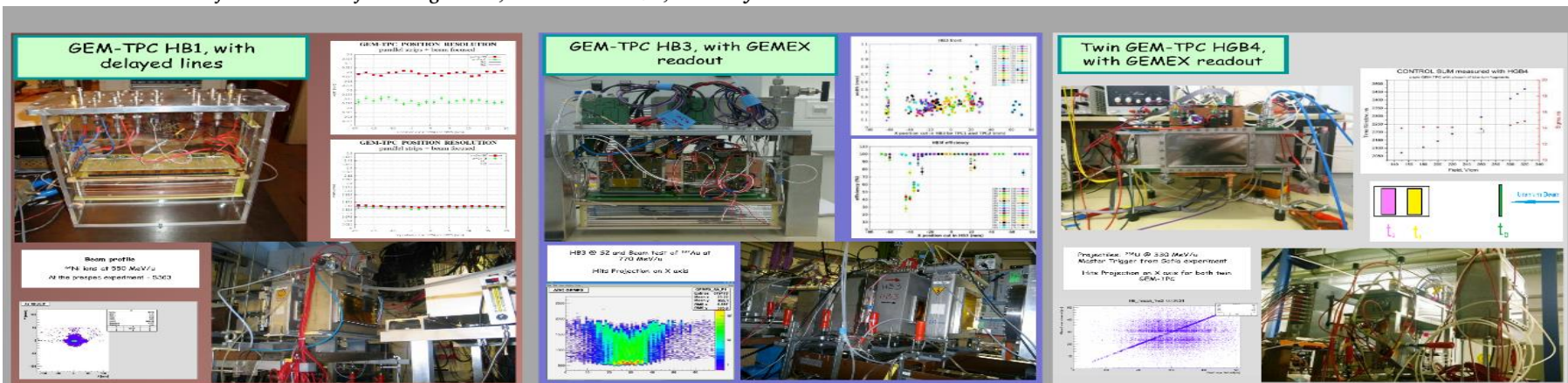
## A GEM-TPC in twin configuration for the Super-FRS tracking of heavy ions at FAIR

F. García <sup>a,\*</sup>, T. Grahn <sup>a,b</sup>, J. Hoffmann <sup>c</sup>, A. Jokinen <sup>a,b</sup>, C. Kaya <sup>c</sup>, J. Kunkel <sup>c</sup>, S. Rinta-Antila <sup>a,b</sup>, H. Risch <sup>c</sup>, I. Rusanov <sup>c</sup>, C.J. Schmidt <sup>c</sup>, H. Simon <sup>c</sup>, C. Simons <sup>c</sup>, R. Turpeinen <sup>a</sup>, B. Voss <sup>c</sup>, J. Äystö <sup>a,b</sup>, M. Winkler <sup>c</sup>

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<sup>b</sup> Department of Physics, University of Jyväskylä, 40014 University of Jyväskylä, Finland

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M. Luoma, F. Garcia et al., In-beam test results of the Super-FRS GEM-TPC detector prototype with relativistic uranium ion beam. NIMA, 1052 (2023) 168262.

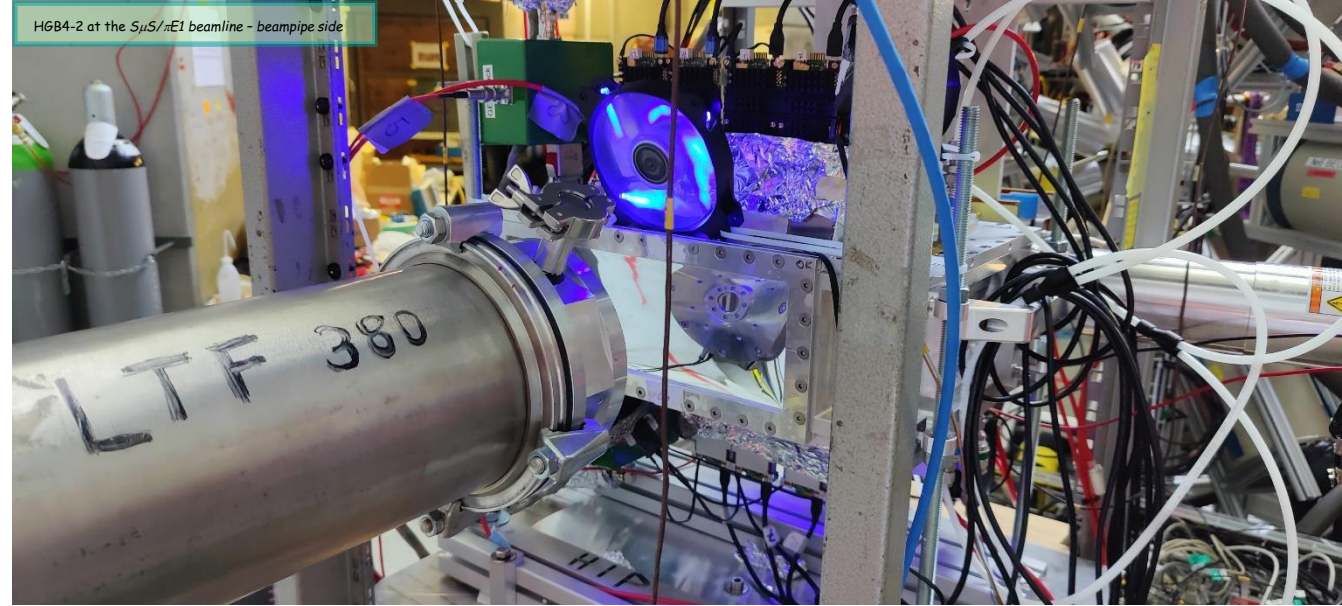


# TRACKING at DIFFERENT FACILITIES

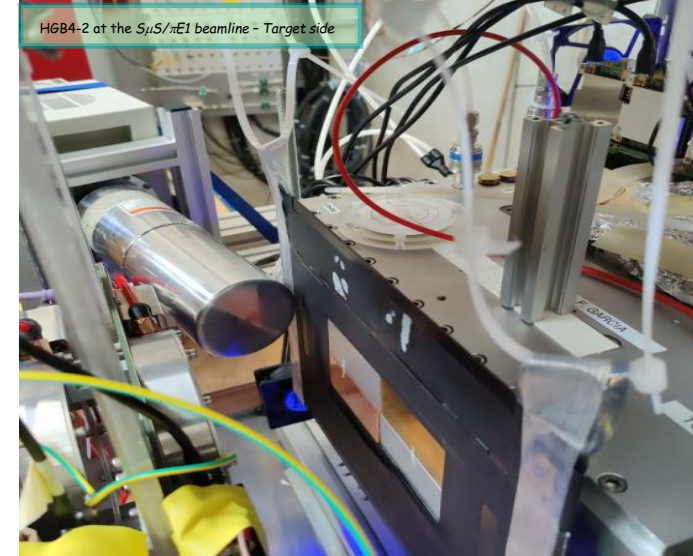
Projectile:  $\mu$   
Momenta up to 60 MeV/c  
Intensity up to  $10^6 \mu$ /sec

First campaign at the  $S_{\mu S}/\pi E1$  - PSI

HGB4-2 at the  $S_{\mu S}/\pi E1$  beamline - beampipe side



HGB4-2 at the  $S_{\mu S}/\pi E1$  beamline - Target side



## Successful Operation in:

In the first campaign in ArCO<sub>2</sub> (75/25)

In second campaign in HeCO<sub>2</sub> (90/10)

## Combined Spatial Resolution:

For ArCO<sub>2</sub> (75/25) @ 40 MeV/c:

- $X \rightarrow 1.083 \pm 0.113$  mm
- $Y \rightarrow 1.357 \pm 0.172$  mm

For HeCO<sub>2</sub> (90/10): Analysis ongoing

## The Plans are:

1. Test the GEM-TPC with pixel readout.
2. Single GEM-TPC configuration.
3. Design a new miniaturized GEM-TPC for MIXE.

Target with different materials



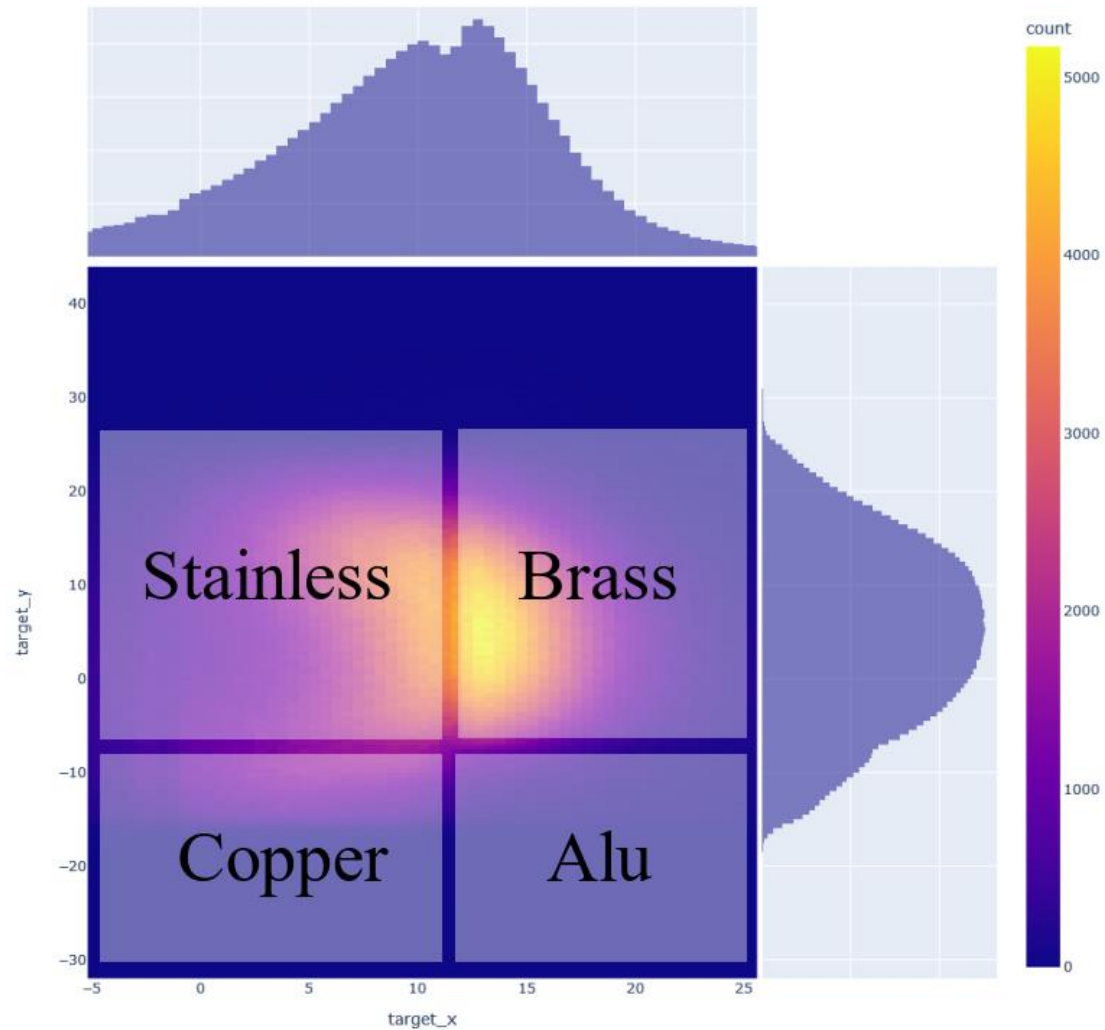
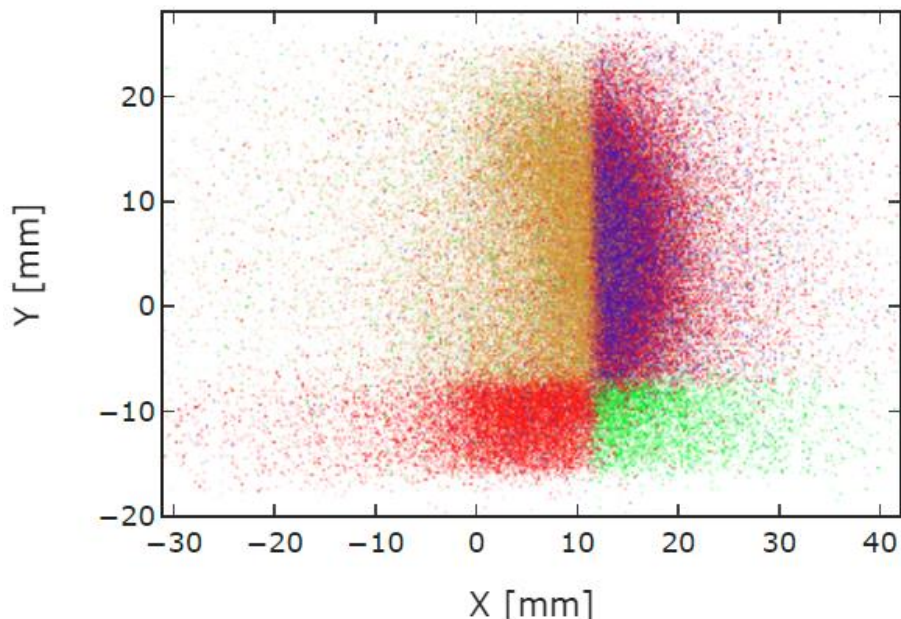
Talk by: Xiao Zhao, A novel technology for element-sensitive 3D tomography



## First campaign target Configuration:

- Stainless: Fe (66%), Cr (18%), Ni (12%)
- Brass: Cu (63%), Zn (37%)
- Copper (ETP): Cu (100%)
- Anticorodal: Al (97%)

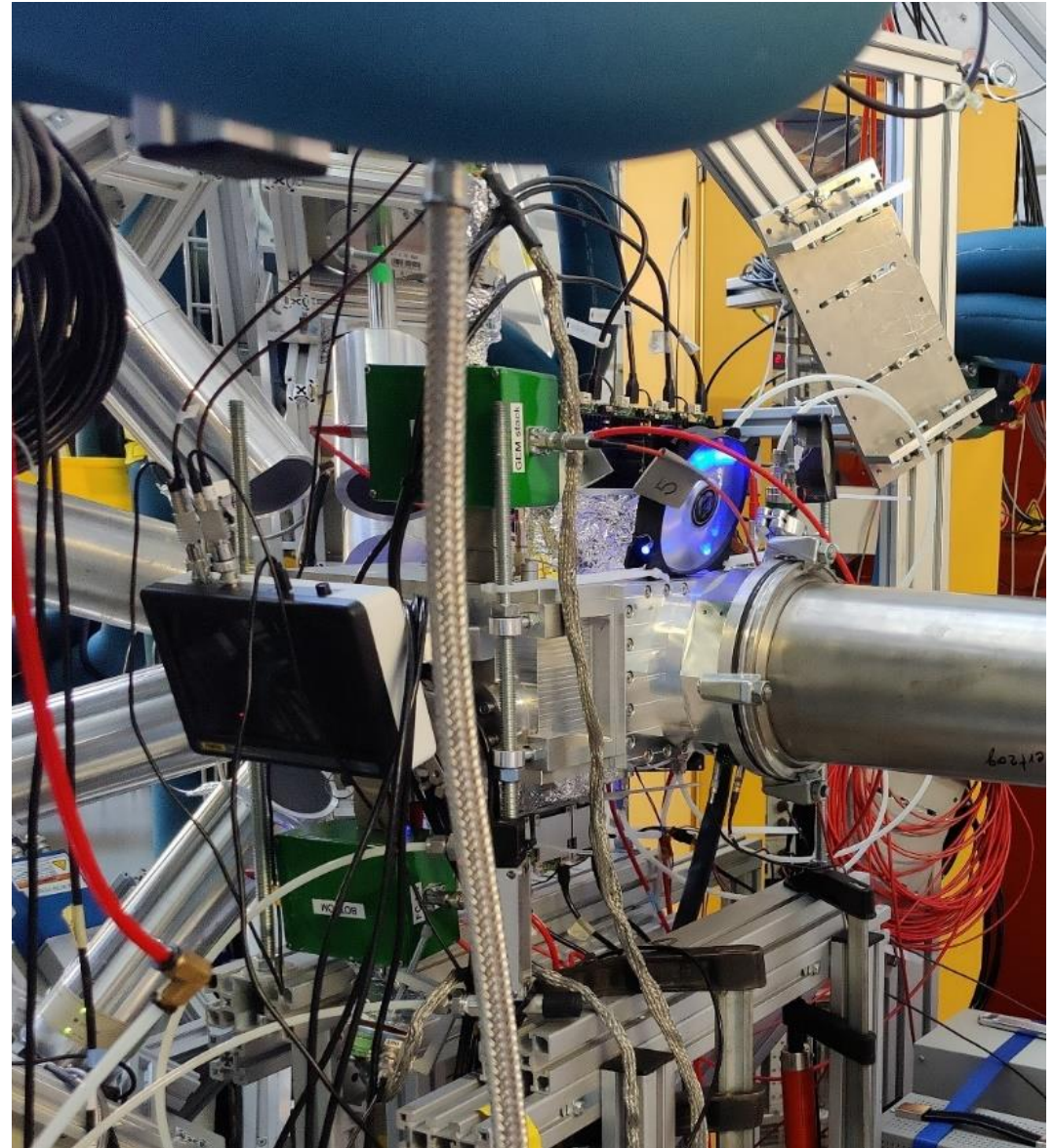
● Al ● Cu ● Zn ● Fe



Talk by: Xiao Zhao, A novel technology for element-sensitive 3D tomography

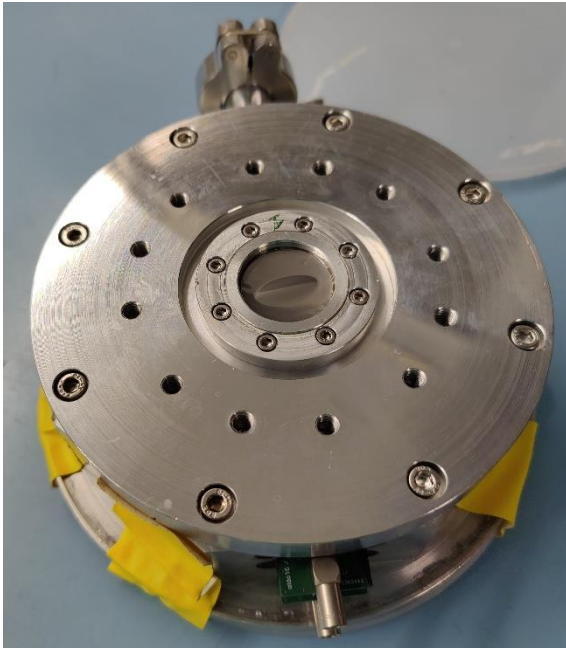
## The second campaign for GEM-TPC - HGB4 at $S_{\mu}S/\pi E1$ - PSI

- The gas was changed by HeCO<sub>2</sub> (90/10).
- The GEM-TPC in twin configuration (HGB4-2) was flagged to the beam pipe.
- The target was refurbished.
- Ten (10) high purity Germanium detectors were added to the setup.

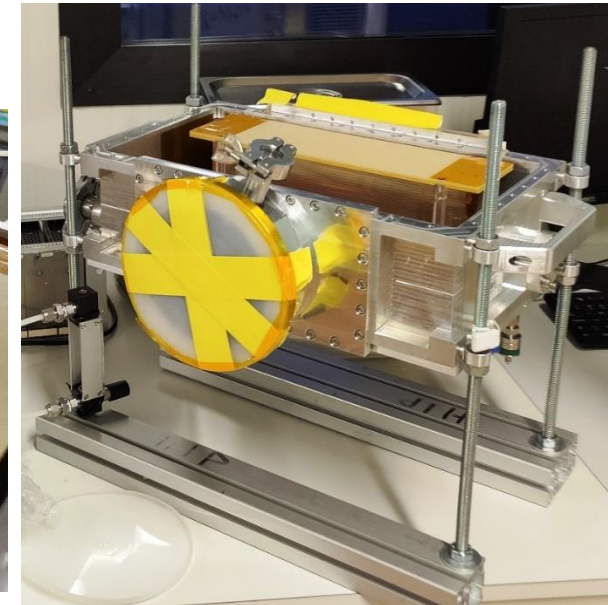
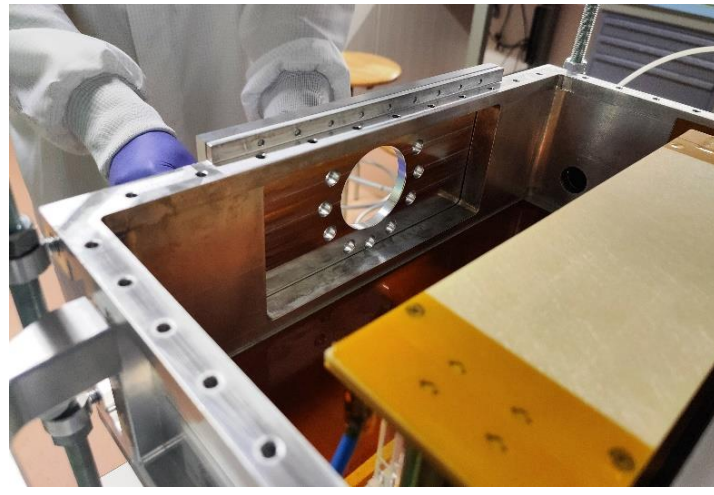
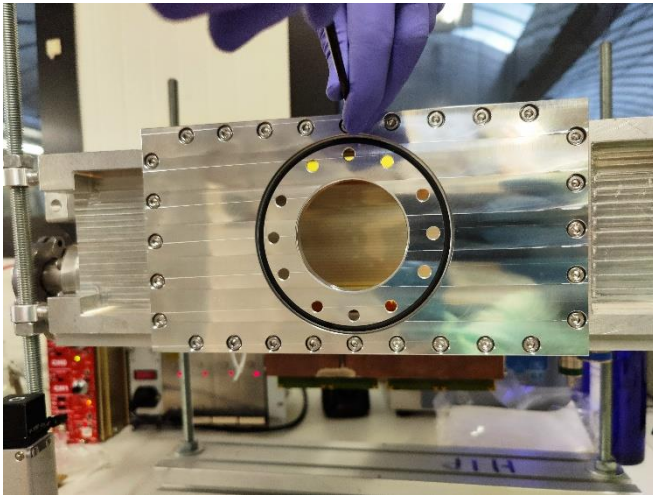
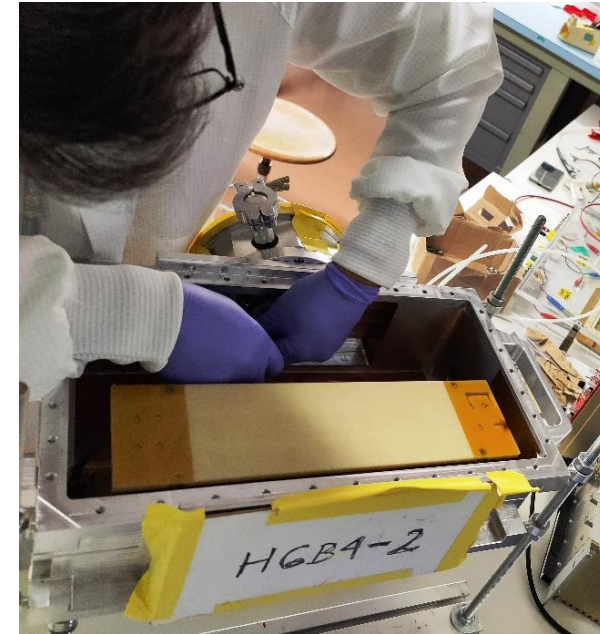




# The second campaign for GEM-TPC - HGB4 at $S_{\mu}S/\pi E1$ - PSI



Procedure to flange the GEM-TPC in twin configuration (HGB4-2) to the beam pipe at  $S_{\mu}S/\pi E1$  - PSI .





# TEST BEAM at the SPS - H4 Beamline

**Particles:**  $\mu$  and  $\pi$  at 180 GeV/c

**Beam spot:** for  $\mu$  10cm in X and Y  
for  $\pi$  6 mm in X and Y

**Intensity:** for  $\mu \rightarrow 80k/\text{spill}$   
for  $\pi \rightarrow 80k - 10M/\text{spill}$

**Working gas:**

ArCO<sub>2</sub> (70/30)

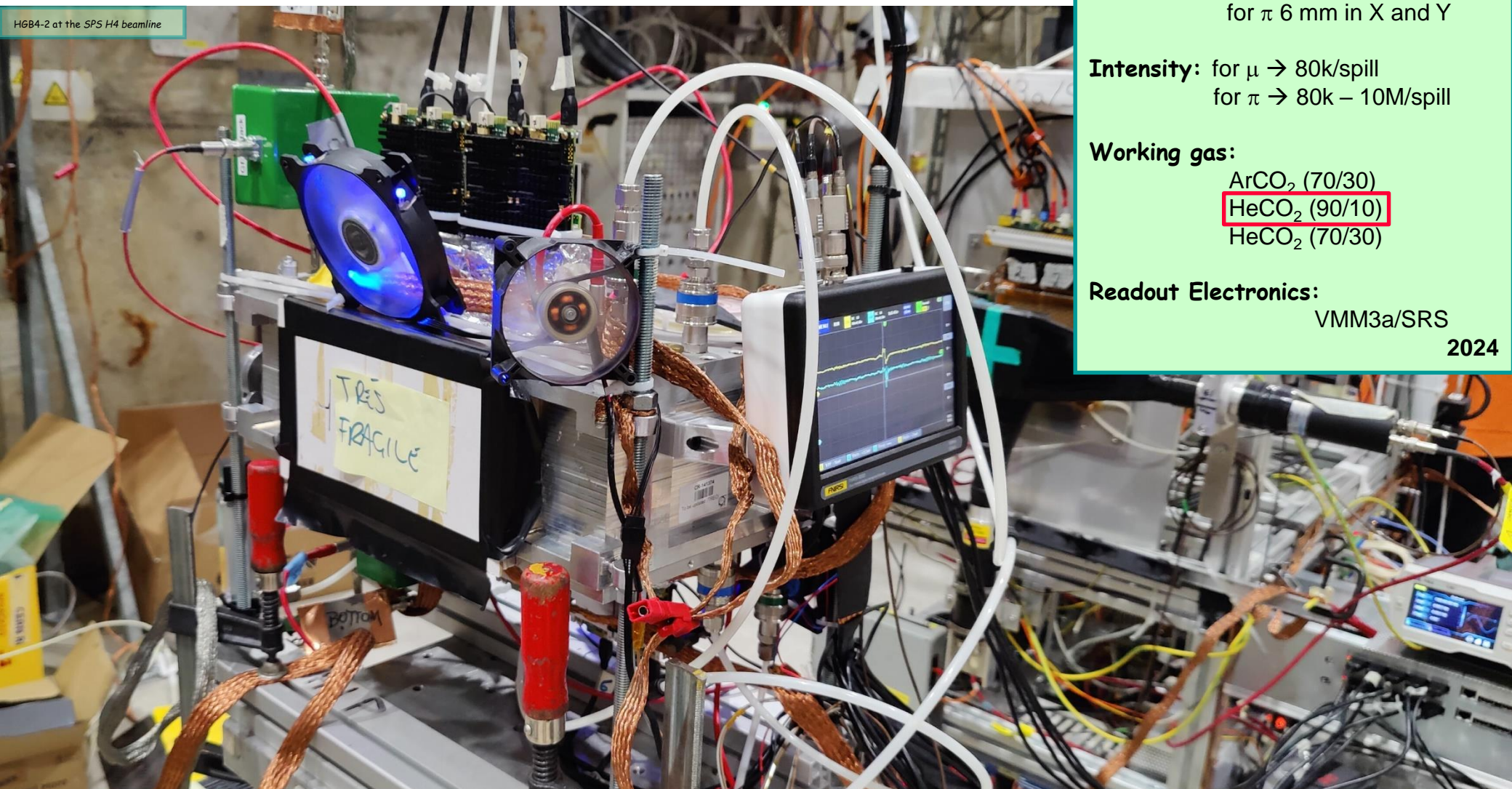
HeCO<sub>2</sub> (90/10)

HeCO<sub>2</sub> (70/30)

**Readout Electronics:**

VMM3a/SRS

2024



HGB4-2 at the SPS H4 beamline

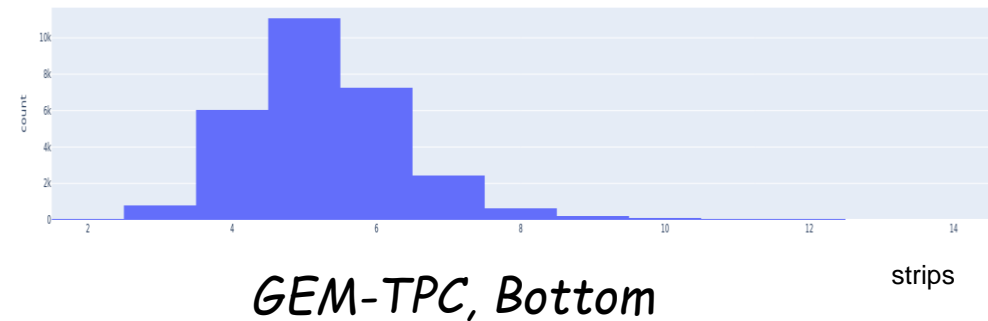
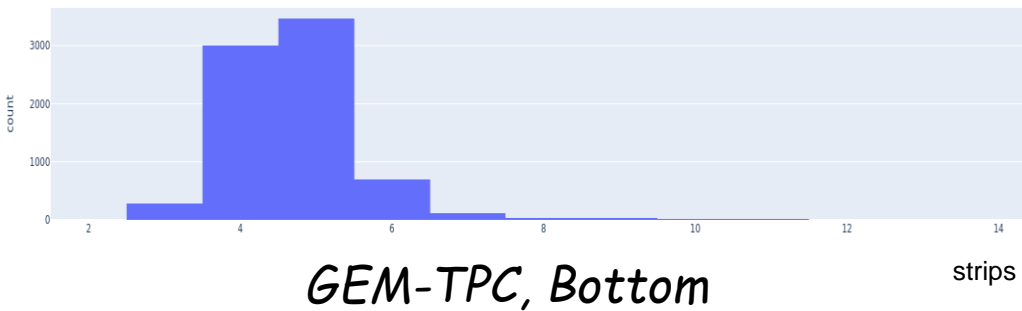
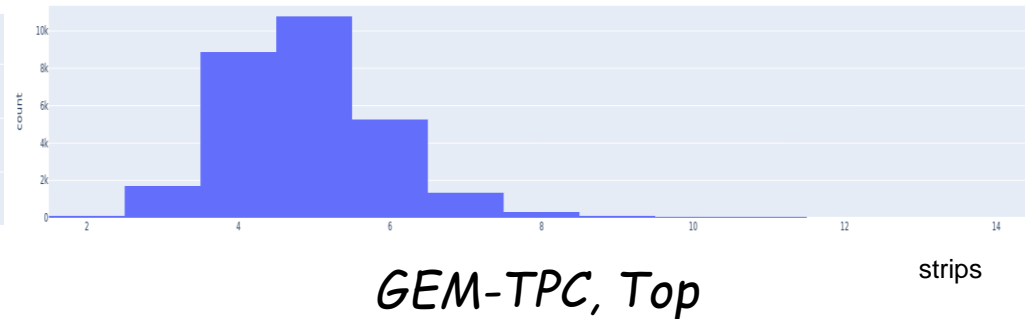
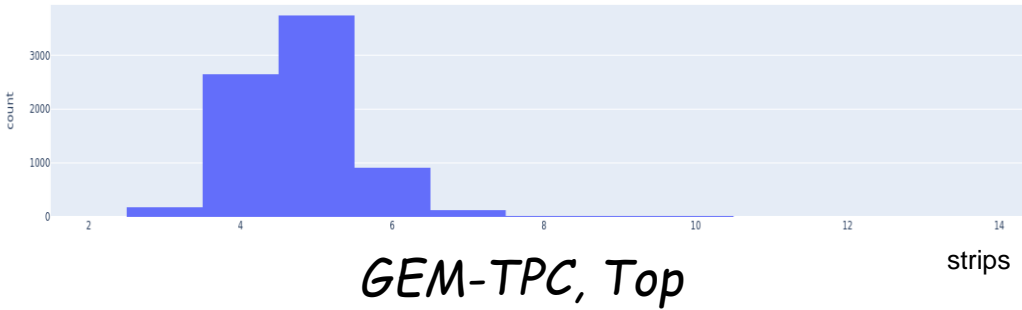
# TEST BEAM at the SPS - H4 Beamline

Cluster Strip multiplicity on ArCO<sub>2</sub> (70/30)

Cluster Strip multiplicity on HeCO<sub>2</sub> (90/10)

For Muons

For Muons



**Cluster strip multiplicity** is the quantity of strips fired in one reconstructed cluster

**GEM-TPC Top:**  
Voltage at the Cathode: 6780 V  
Voltage at the GEM Stack: 3200 V  
Field in the Field Cage: 358 V/cm

**GEM-TPC Bottom:**  
Voltage at the Cathode: 6680 V  
Voltage at the GEM Stack: 3100 V  
Field in the Field Cage: 358 V/cm

**GEM-TPC Top:**  
Voltage at the Cathode: 5550 V  
Voltage at the GEM Stack: 2150 V  
Field in the Field Cage: 340 V/cm

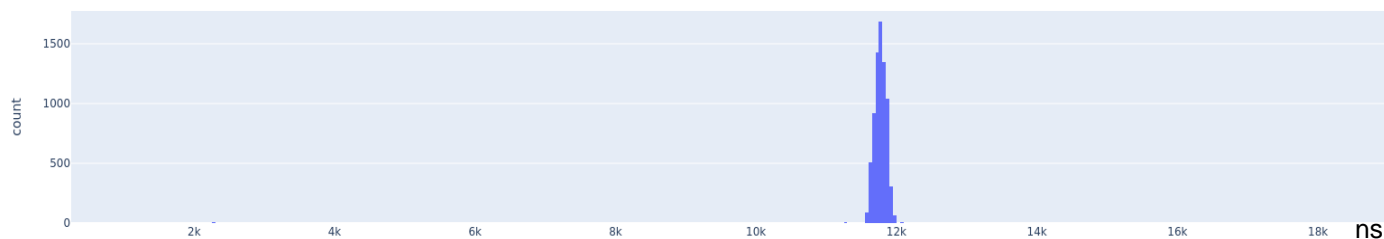
**GEM-TPC Bottom:**  
Voltage at the Cathode: 5560 V  
Voltage at the GEM Stack: 2160 V  
Field in the Field Cage: 340 V/cm

# TEST BEAM at the SPS - H4 Beamline

## Cluster multiplicity

The cluster Multiplicity is the quantity of cluster within a full drift time

Total Drift Time – Control Sum



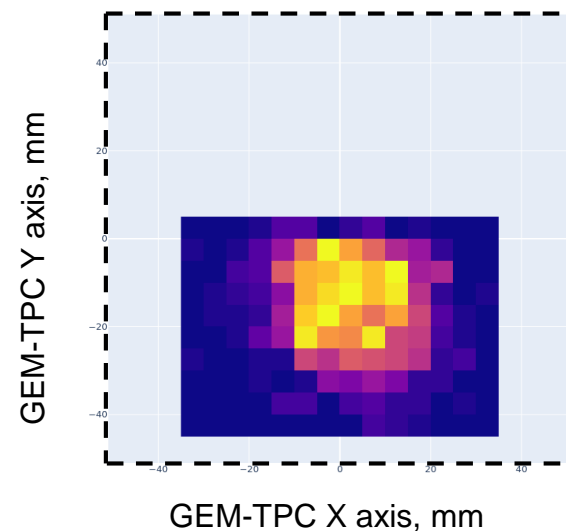
*GEM-TPC, Top*

Multiplicity	Amount
0	0.345
1	0.407
2	0.157
3	0.045
4	0.018
5	0.029

*GEM-TPC, Bottom*

Multiplicity	Amount
0	0.351
1	0.406
2	0.153
3	0.043
4	0.016
5	0.031

Beam Track Map



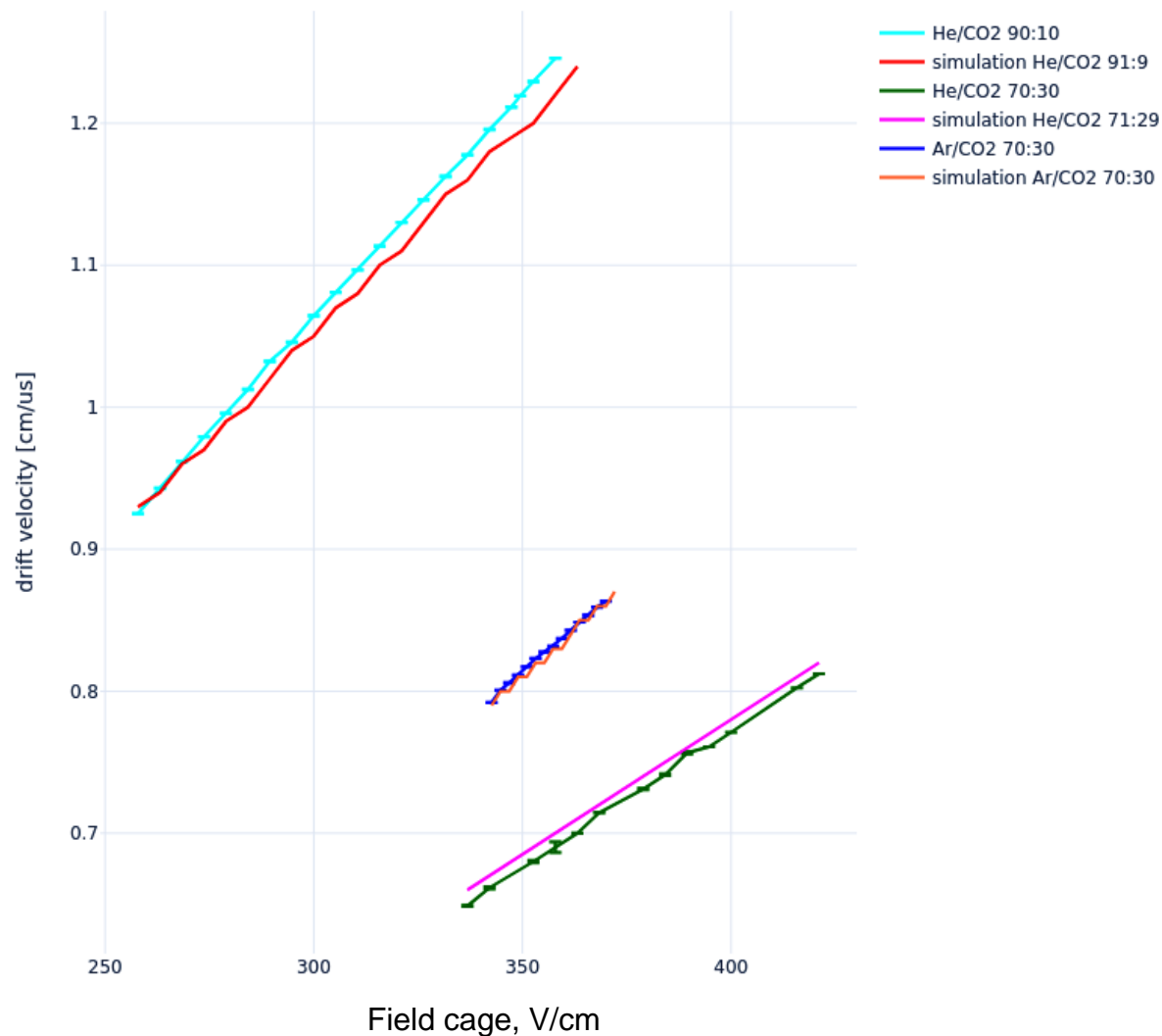


# TEST BEAM at the SPS - H4 Beamline

## Drift Velocity Calibration

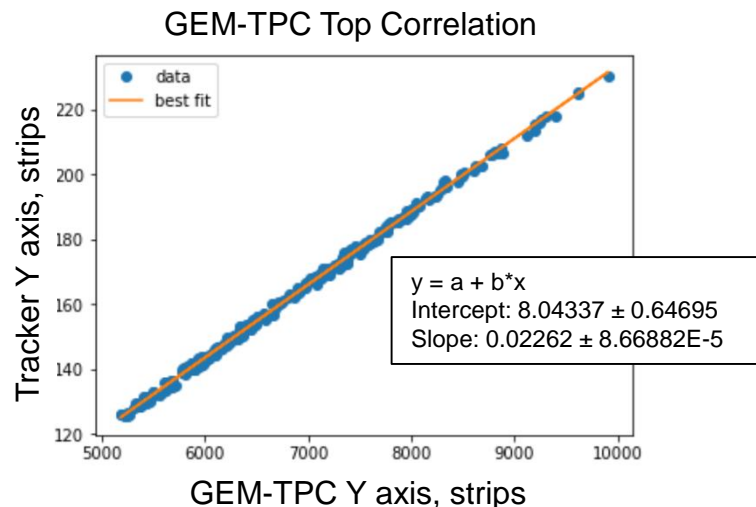
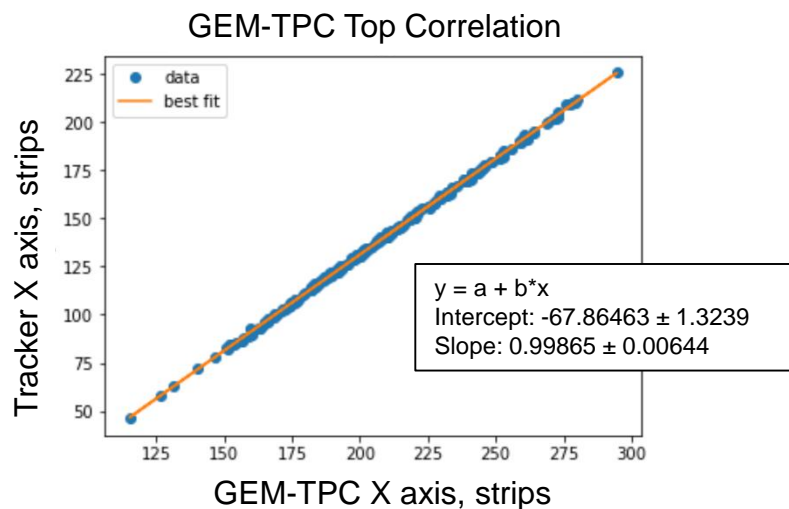
- By the use of scintillation grid detector:
- By the correlation of the hits from the tracker:
  - Prealignment.
  - Selection straight tracks (small  $\chi^2$ ).
  - Fine alignment.
  - Correlation of the GEM-TPC clusters to the first reference tracker plane in X and Y.

GEM-TPC Drift Velocities

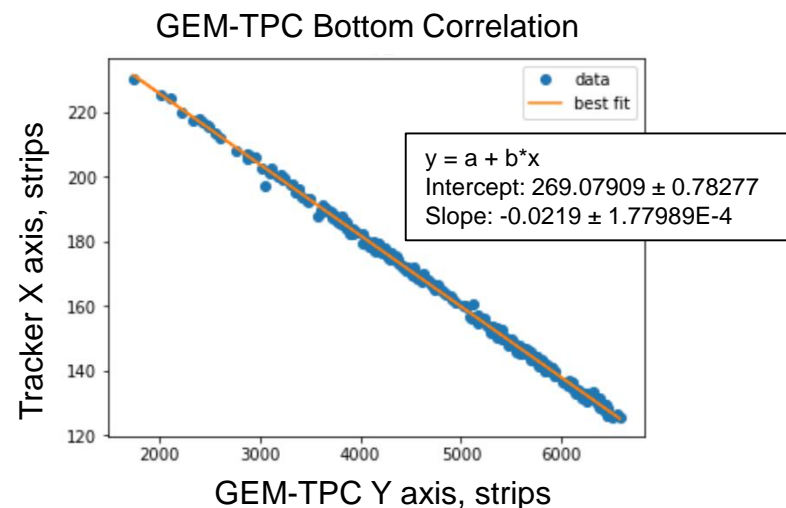
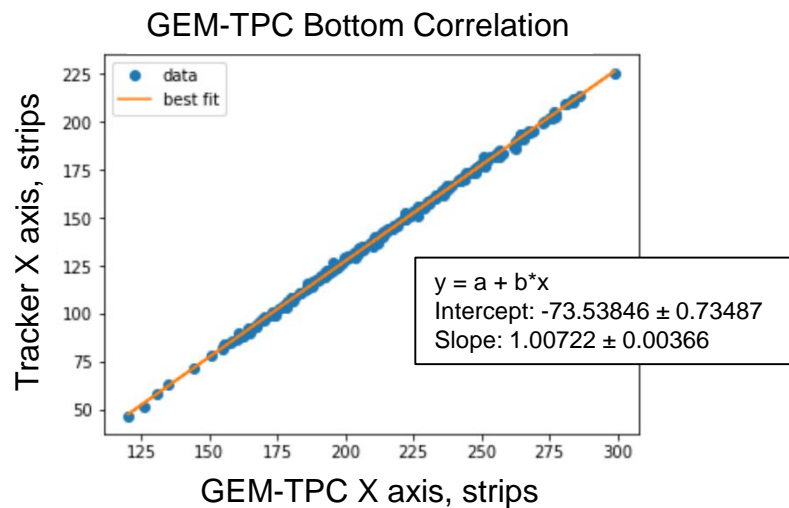


# TEST BEAM at the SPS - H4 Beamline

Correlation plot of the GEM-TPC Top vs Tracker:

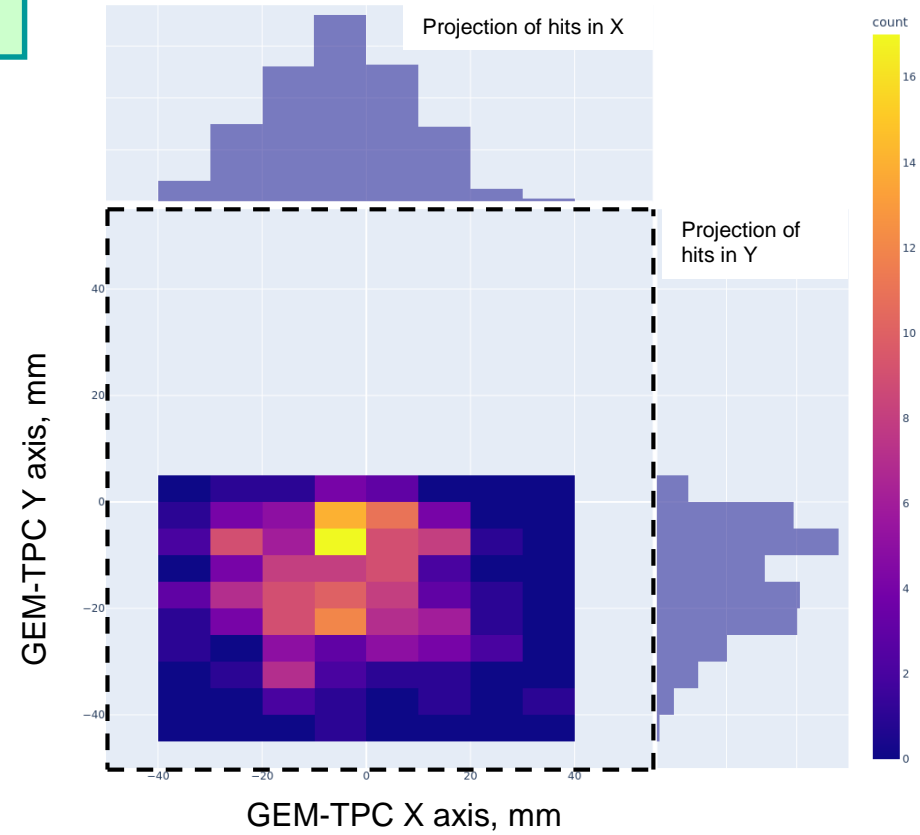
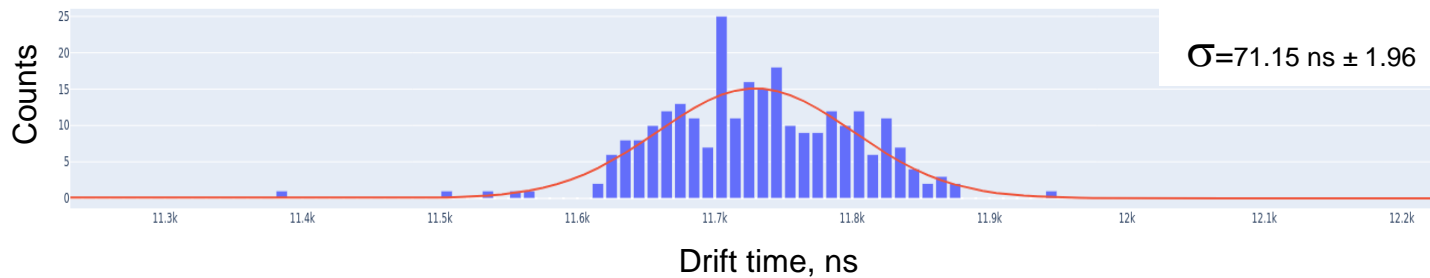
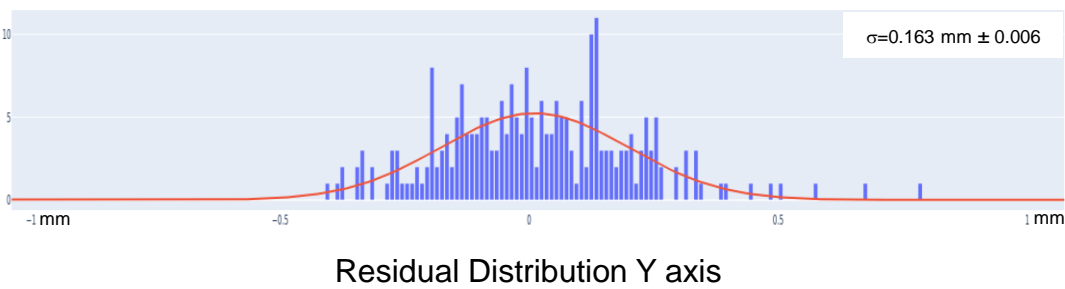
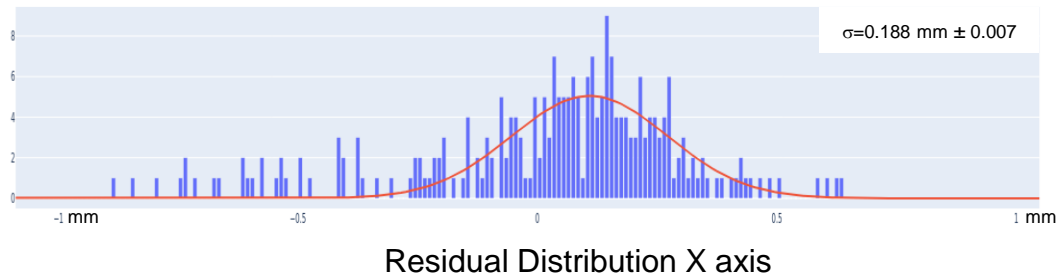


Correlation plot of the GEM-TPC Bottom vs Tracker:



# TEST BEAM at the SPS - H4 Beamline

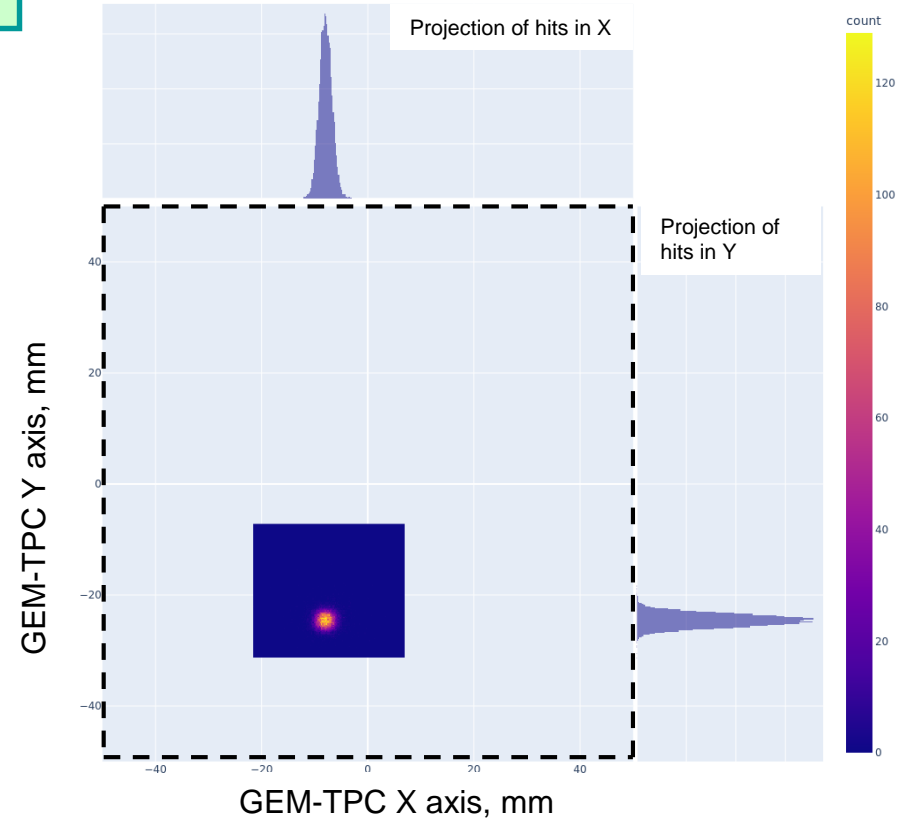
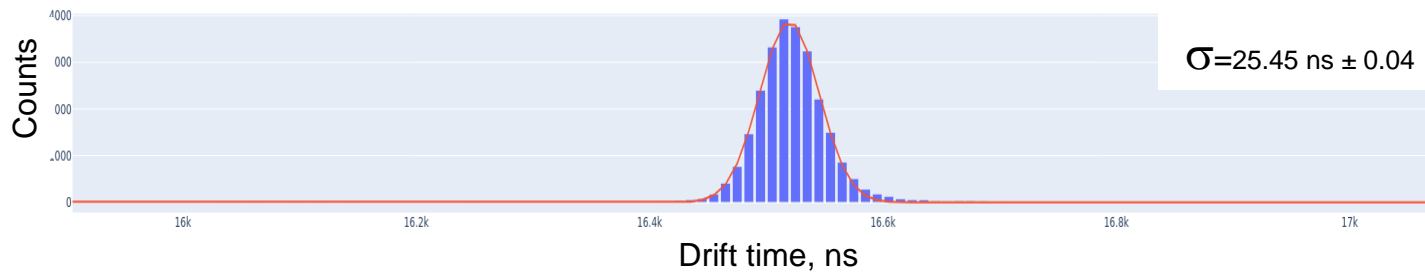
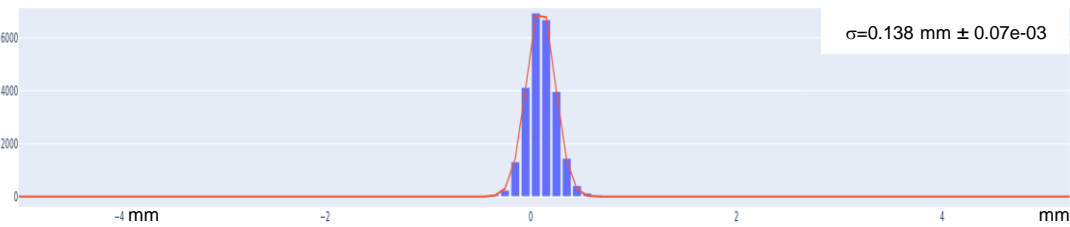
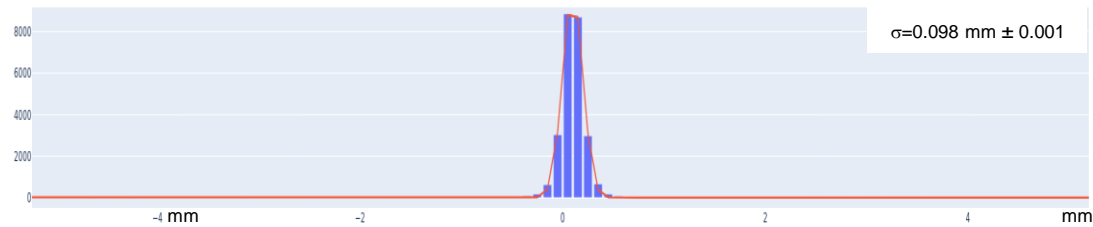
The hit map, residuals and the Control Sum for muons.





# TEST BEAM at the SPS - H4 Beamline

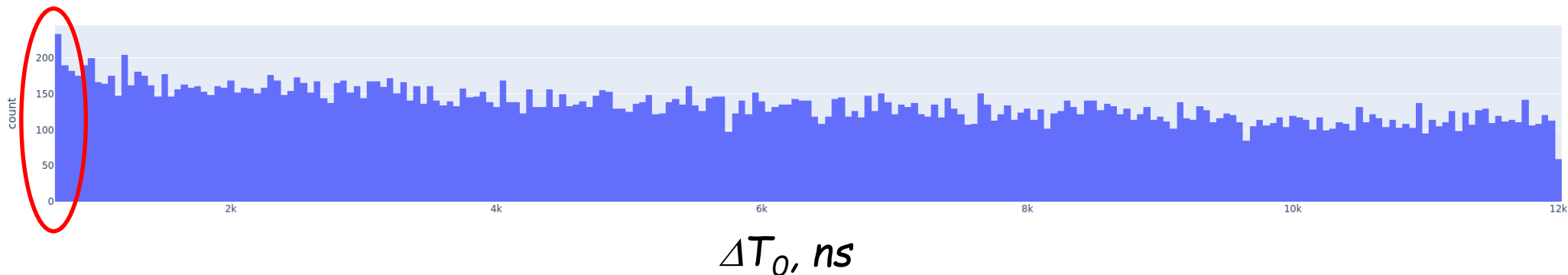
The hit map, residuals and the control sum for pions .



# TEST BEAM at the SPS - H4 Beamline

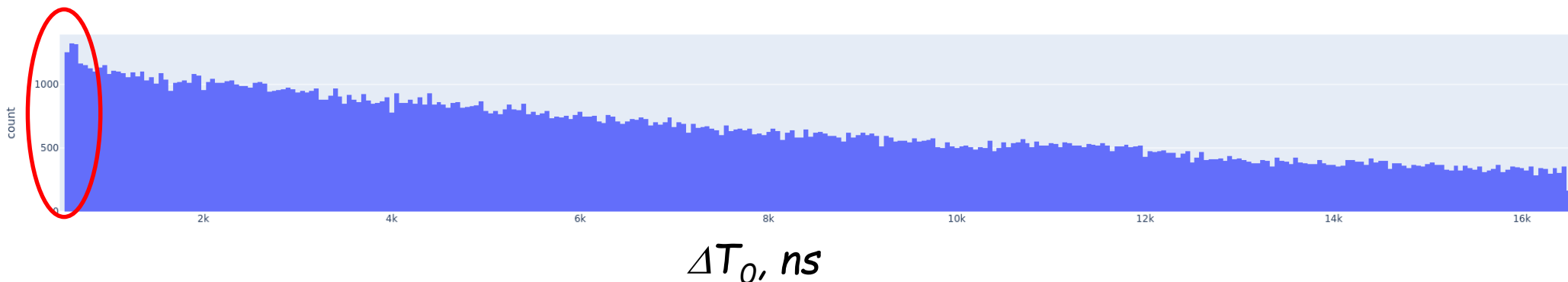
Indications of rate capability by looking at the instantaneous peak rate on ArCO<sub>2</sub> (70/30)

At ~ 677.66 ns → 1.48 MHz, O(10%) of the tracks



Indications of rate capability by looking at the instantaneous peak rate on HeCO<sub>2</sub> (70/30)

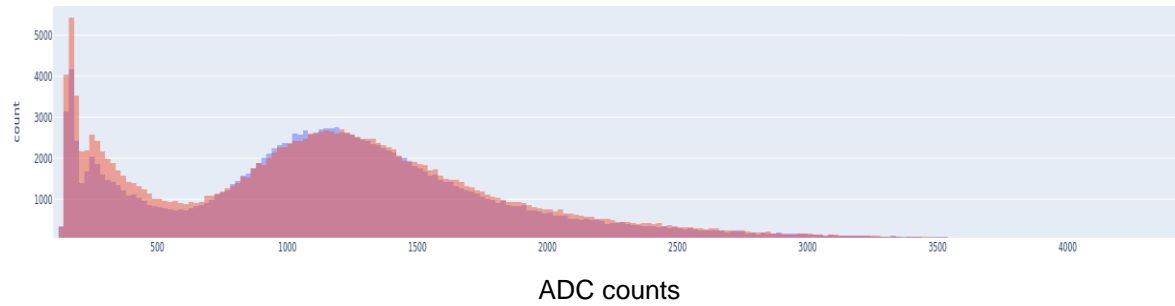
At ~ 524.44 ns → 1.91 MHz, O(10%) of the tracks



## Cluster Charge Distribution

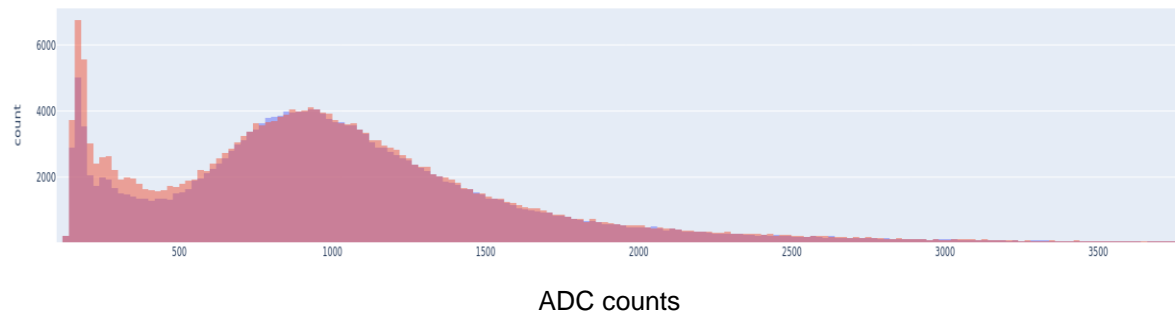
### GEM-TPC, Muons

ArCO<sub>2</sub> (70/30)



### GEM-TPC, Muons

HeCO<sub>2</sub> (90/10)





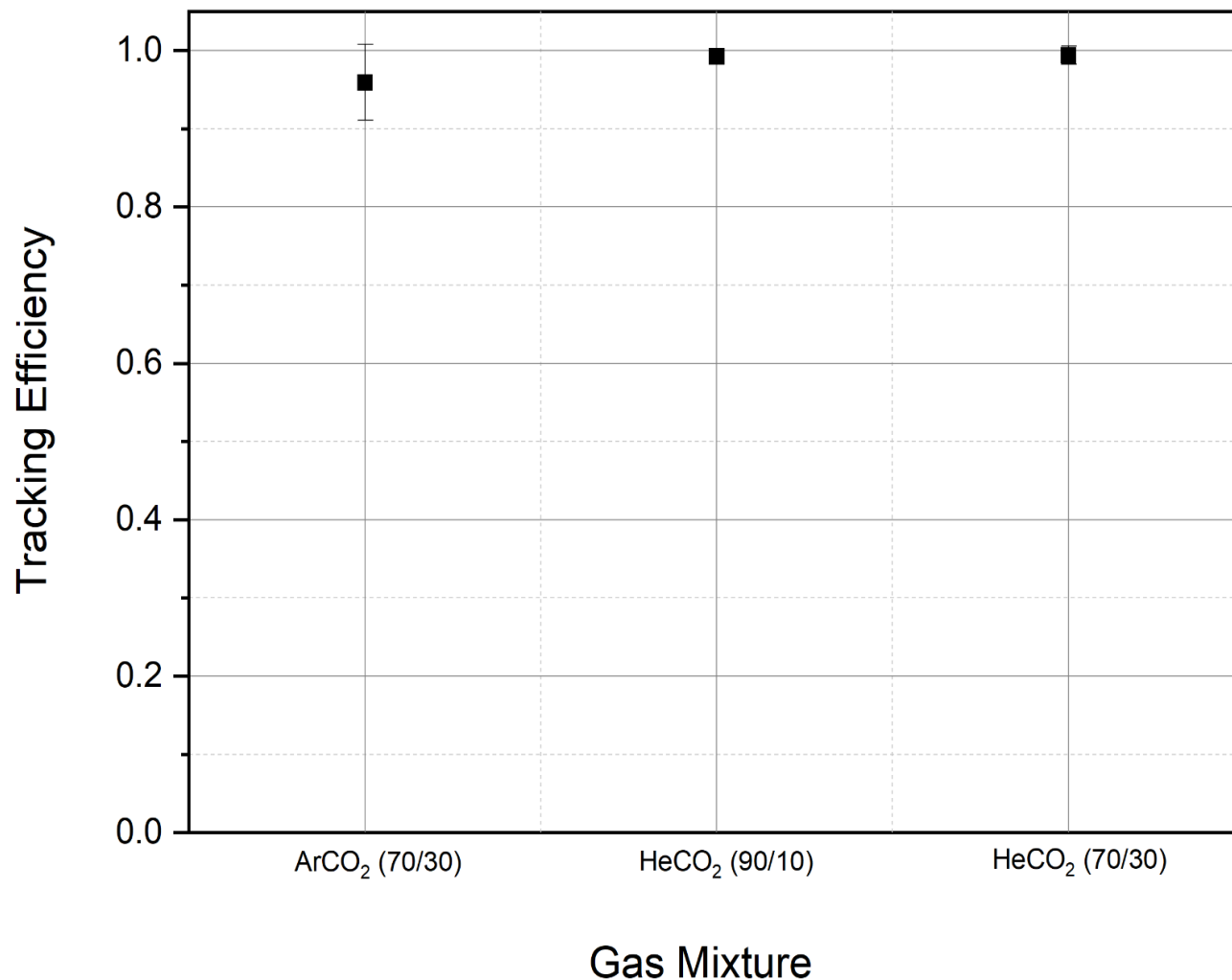
# TEST BEAM at the SPS - H4 Beamline

Efficiency with fiducialization:

$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{HGB4-2}} = \frac{\# \text{ Tracks reco GEM-TPC}}{\# \text{ Tracks reco Tracker}}$$

- small  $\chi^2$  cut
- Fine alignment.
- Fiducialization:  
2 cm in X  
1 cm in Y

Tracking Efficiency for muons

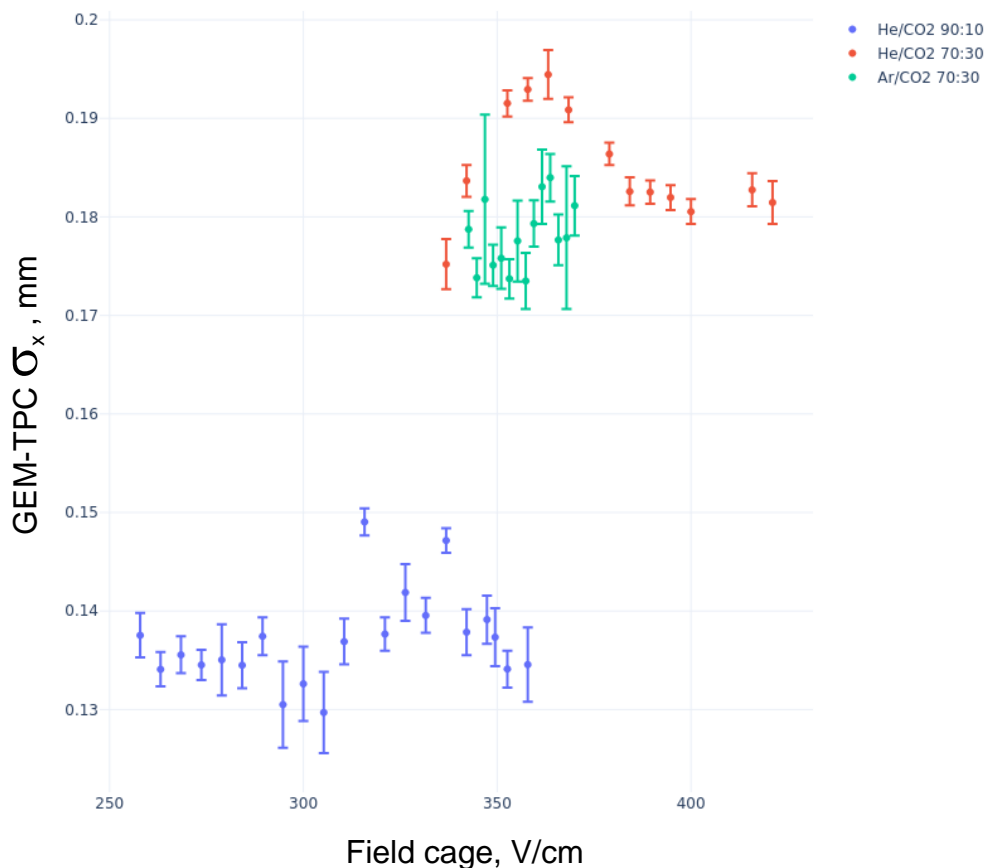


# TEST BEAM at the SPS - H4 Beamline

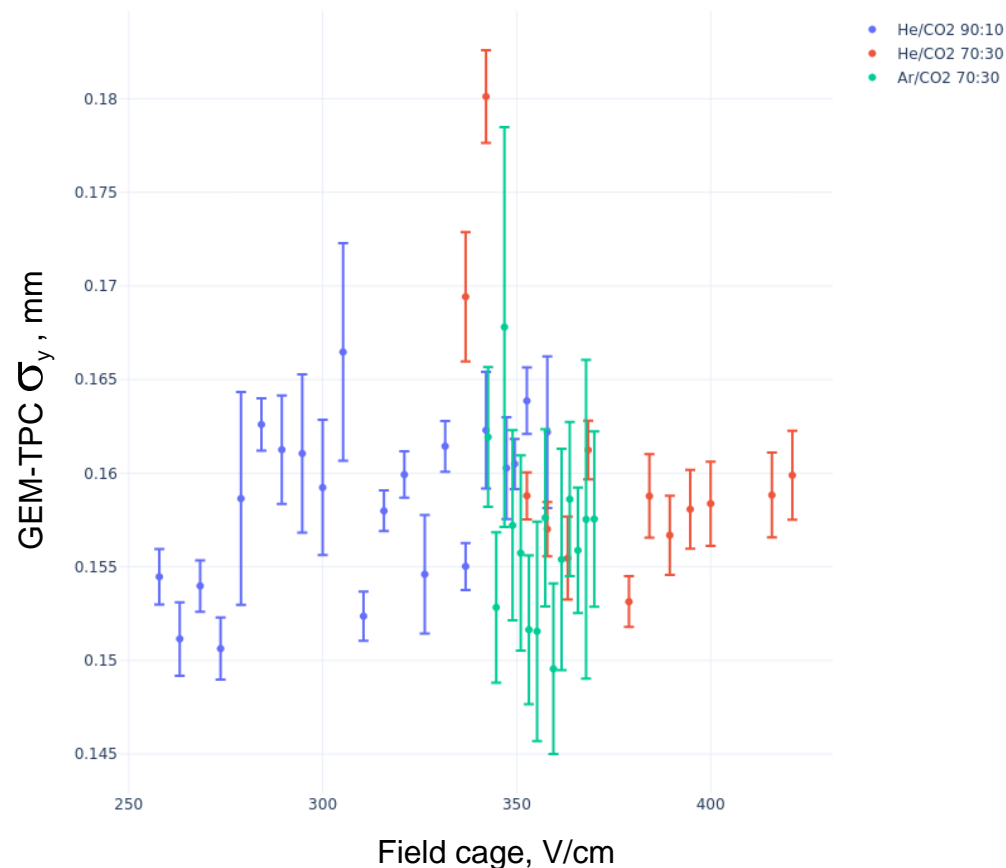
Spatial resolution in X:

Spatial resolution in Y:

Residual Distribution for different gas mixtures



Residual Distribution for different gas mixtures



# TEST BEAM at the SPS - H4 Beamline

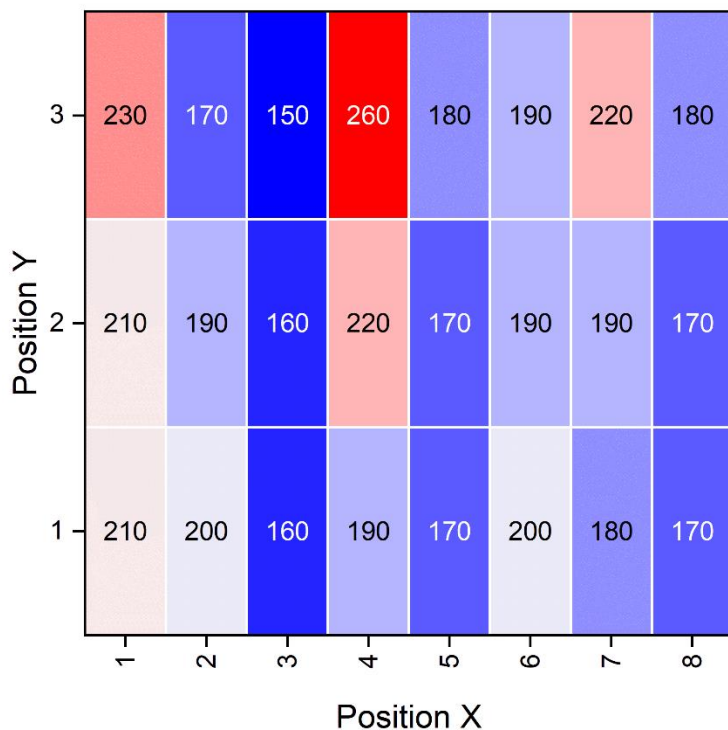
Pions position scan for ArCO<sub>2</sub> (70/30) gas mixture

$$\sigma_{\text{HGB4-2}} = \sqrt{\sigma_{\text{GEM-TPC}}^2 - \sigma_{\text{Tracker}}^2}$$

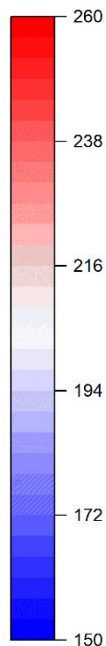
Because of small  $\chi^2$  cut the  $\sigma_{\text{Tracker}}^2 \cong 50 \mu\text{m}$

HGB4-2 Spatial Resolution in X

Pions Run 1 - ArCO<sub>2</sub> (70/30)

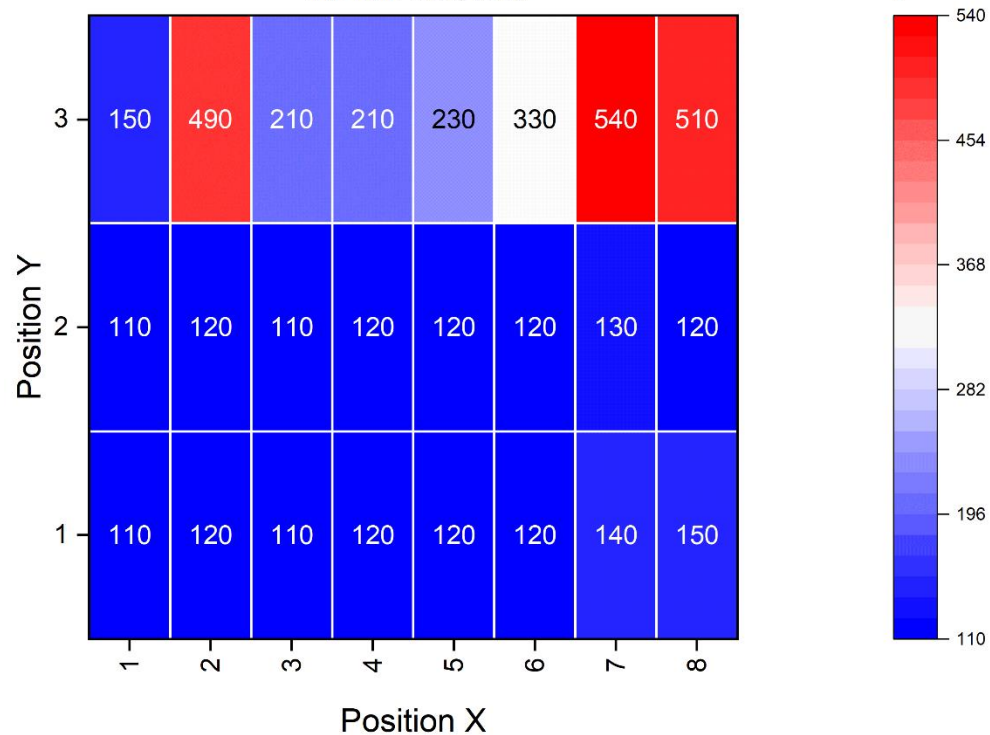


$\sigma_x, \mu\text{m}$

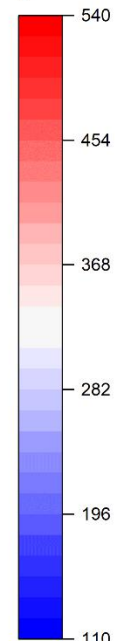


HGB4-2 Spatial Resolution in Y

Pions Run 1 - ArCO<sub>2</sub> (70/30)



$\sigma_y, \mu\text{m}$



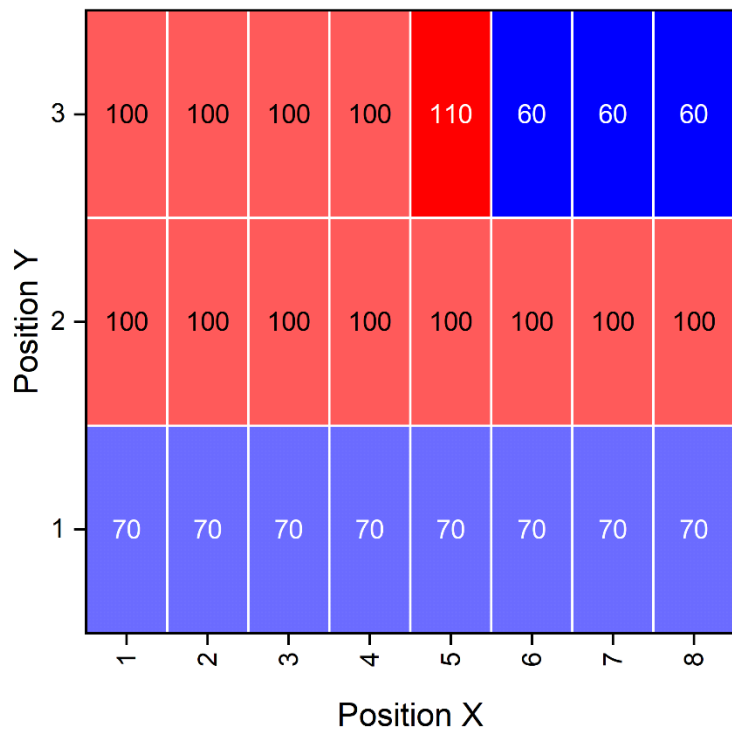


# TEST BEAM at the SPS - H4 Beamline

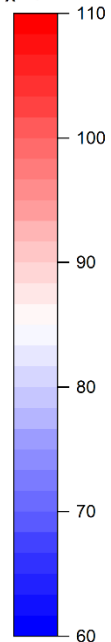
Pions position scan for HeCO<sub>2</sub> (90/10) gas mixture

### HGB4-2 Spatial Resolution in X

Pions Run 2 - HeCO<sub>2</sub> (90/10)

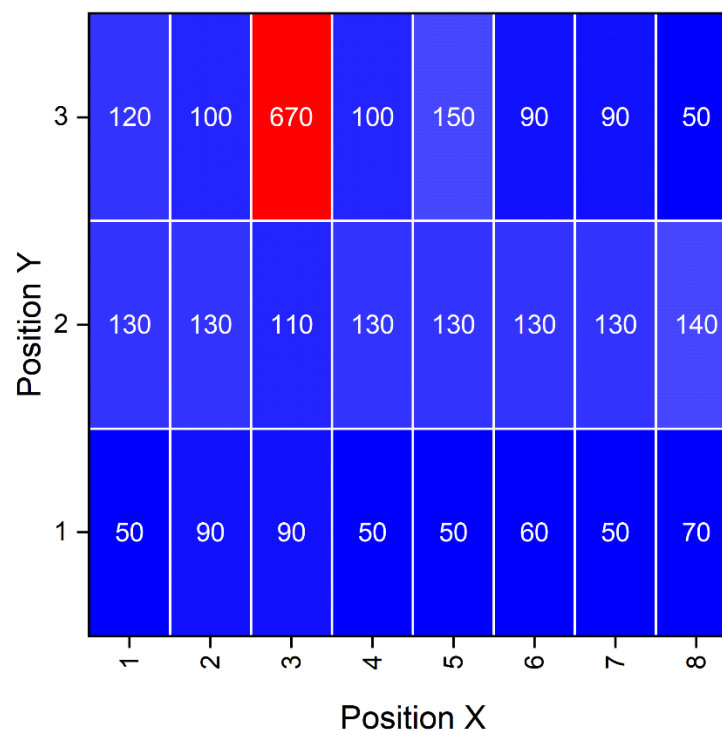


σ<sub>x</sub>, μm

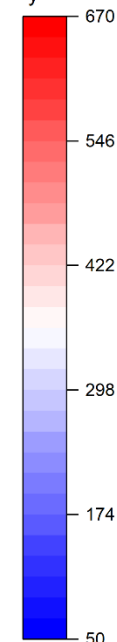


### HGB4-2 Spatial Resolution in Y

Pions Run 2 - HeCO<sub>2</sub> (90/10)



σ<sub>y</sub>, μm

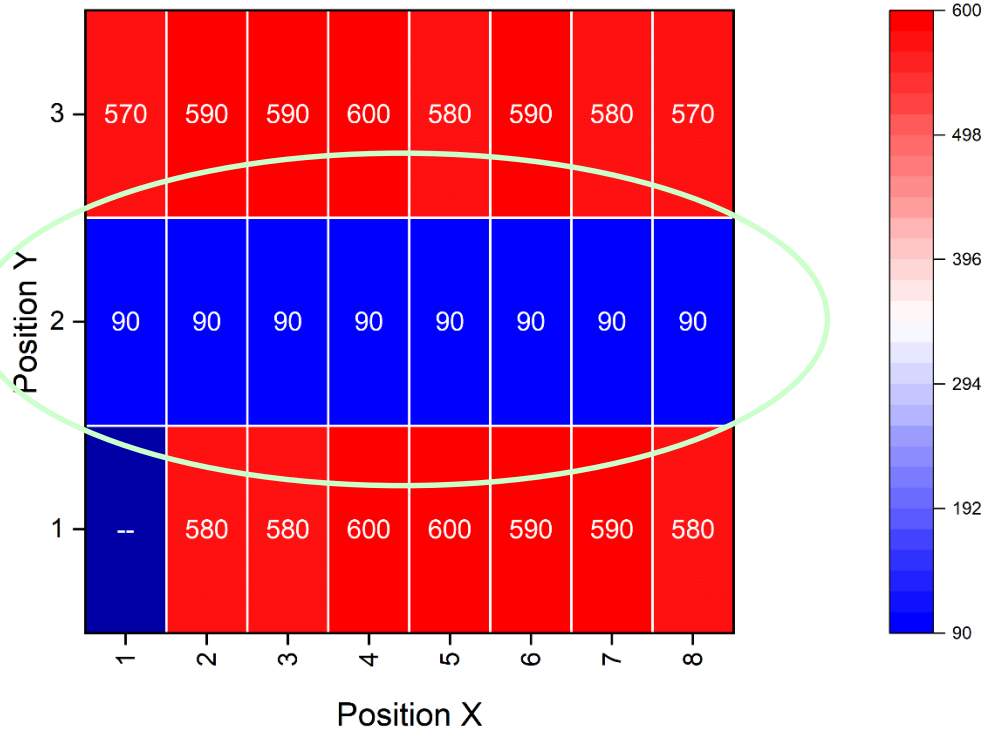


# TEST BEAM at the SPS - H4 Beamline

Pions position scan for HeCO<sub>2</sub> (70/30) gas mixture

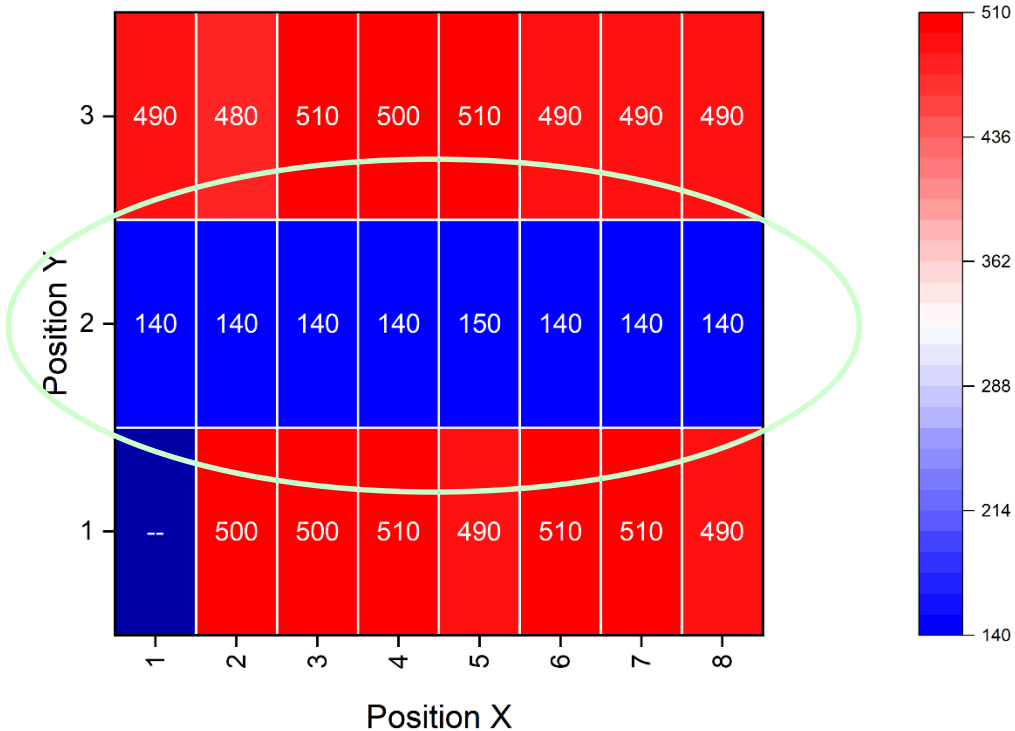
### HGB4-2 Spatial Resolution in X

Pions Run 3 - HeCO<sub>2</sub> (70/30)



### HGB4-2 Spatial Resolution in Y

Pions Run 3 - HeCO<sub>2</sub> (70/30)



# SUMMARY

- The synchronization of DAQs is very crucial and a painful task, therefore work on a TLU-like unit for DRD1 is of utmost importance.
- The work of the GEM-TPC (HGB4-2) with HeCO<sub>2</sub> (90/10) show good stability and high spatial resolution. This changing of the gas was proposed to improve the spatial resolution for MIXE experiment.
- The use of Jupyter Notebooks provides a good platform for students to make important contributions to the analysis.
- The support given by the GDD lab during the integration of the VMM3a/SRS DAQ and the commission was indispensable for the success on these measurements.
- The RD51/DRD1 reference tracker has good operation stability and reliability, which was shown throughout the whole campaign.

# Collaborators

Acknowledgements to all the collaborators in the GDD lab and RD51 test beam coordination especially to: **Eraldo, Max, Lucian, Dorothea, Hans, Yorgos, Alex, Benjamin and Miranda.**

To Collaborators at the Micro Pattern Technology Workshop: **Rui, Alexandra, Bertrand, Alexis, Antonio and Benilde.**

To collaborators at the Detector Laboratory at GSI: **Christian, Bernd, Holger, Jochen, Chan, Andrei, Christoph, Hennings, Jan and Nik.**

To collaborators at HIP: **Raimo, Jouni and Minna.**



**Francisco, Bernhard, Xiao, Michael and Karl** (left to right)





## The 8<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Micro-Pattern Gaseous Detectors

Oct. 14<sup>th</sup> - Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> 2024 USTC·Hefei, China



# Thank you for your Attention

# BACKUP SLIDES





# Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research Section A: Accelerators, Spectrometers, Detectors and Associated Equipment

Volume 1052, July 2023, 168262



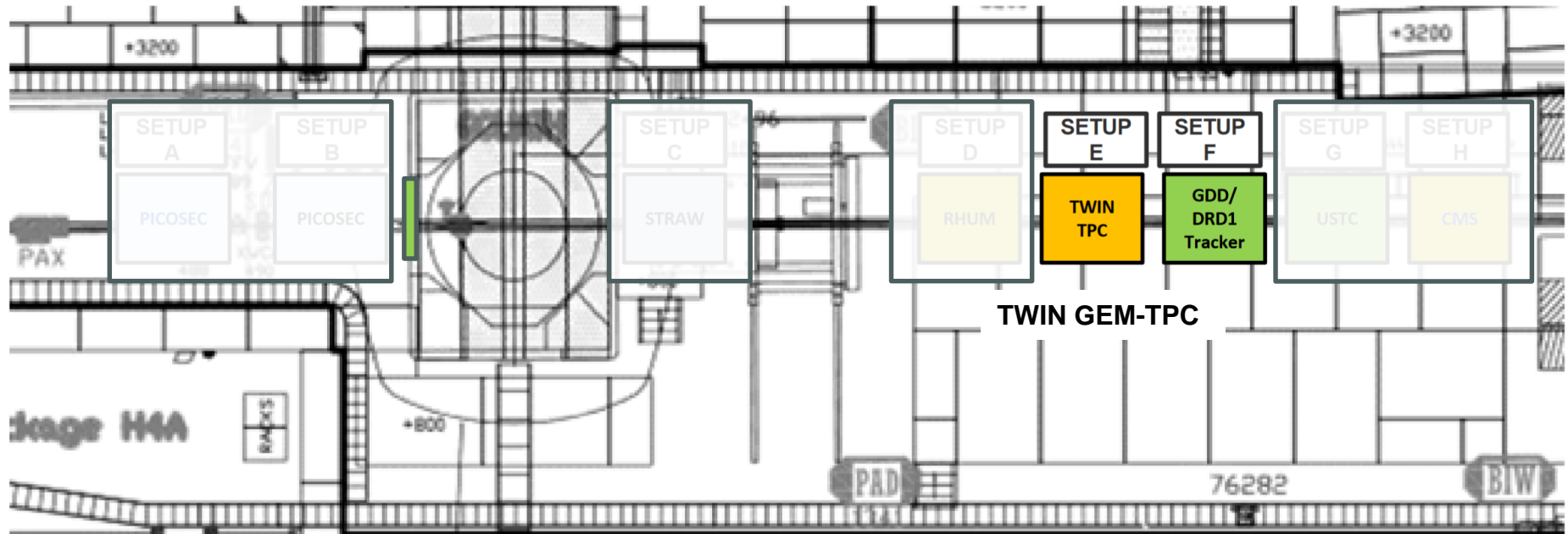
Full Length Article

## In-beam test results of the Super-FRS GEM-TPC detector prototype with relativistic uranium ion beam

M. Luoma<sup>a b</sup>  , F. García<sup>a</sup>, J. Äystö<sup>a b</sup>, T. Blatz<sup>c</sup>, D. Chokheli<sup>d</sup>, H. Flemming<sup>c</sup>, K. Götzen<sup>c</sup>, T. Grahn<sup>a b</sup>,  
A. Jokinen<sup>a b</sup>, C. Karagiannis<sup>c</sup>, N. Kurz<sup>c</sup>, S. Löchner<sup>c</sup>, C. Nociforo<sup>c</sup>, S. Rinta-Antila<sup>a b</sup>, C.J. Schmidt<sup>c</sup>, H. Simon<sup>c</sup>,  
R. Turpeinen<sup>a</sup>, B. Voss<sup>c</sup>, P. Wiczorek<sup>c</sup>, M. Winkler<sup>c</sup>

## TEST BEAM LAYOUT:

# BEAM H4, PPE134 – INSTALLATION (DRD1, 10 April – 24 April)



SETUP A, B: PICOSEC (F. Brunbauer, M. Lisowska)  
SETUP C: STRAW (T. Enik, K. Kuznetsova)  
SETUP D: RHUM (M. Iodice, G. Sekhniaidze)

- SETUP E: TWIN TPC (F. Garcia Fuentes)
  - SETUP F: GDD/DRD1 Tracker (K. Floethner)
- TWIN GEM-TPC**

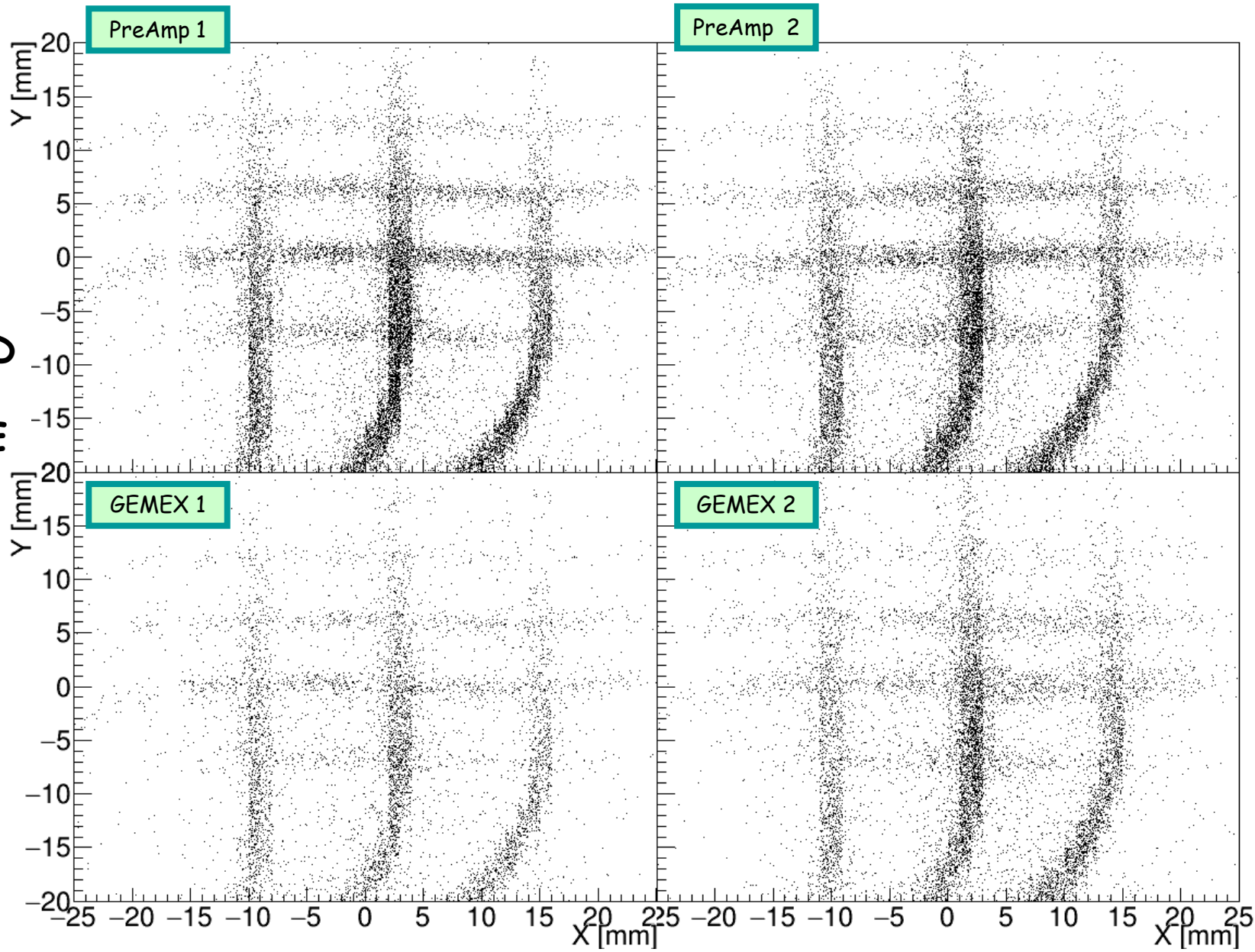
SETUP G: USTC (Y. Zhou)  
SETUP H: CMS ME0 (A. Pellecchia, P. Everaerts)



Reconstruction  
of the  
scintillation grid  
by the GEM-TPC

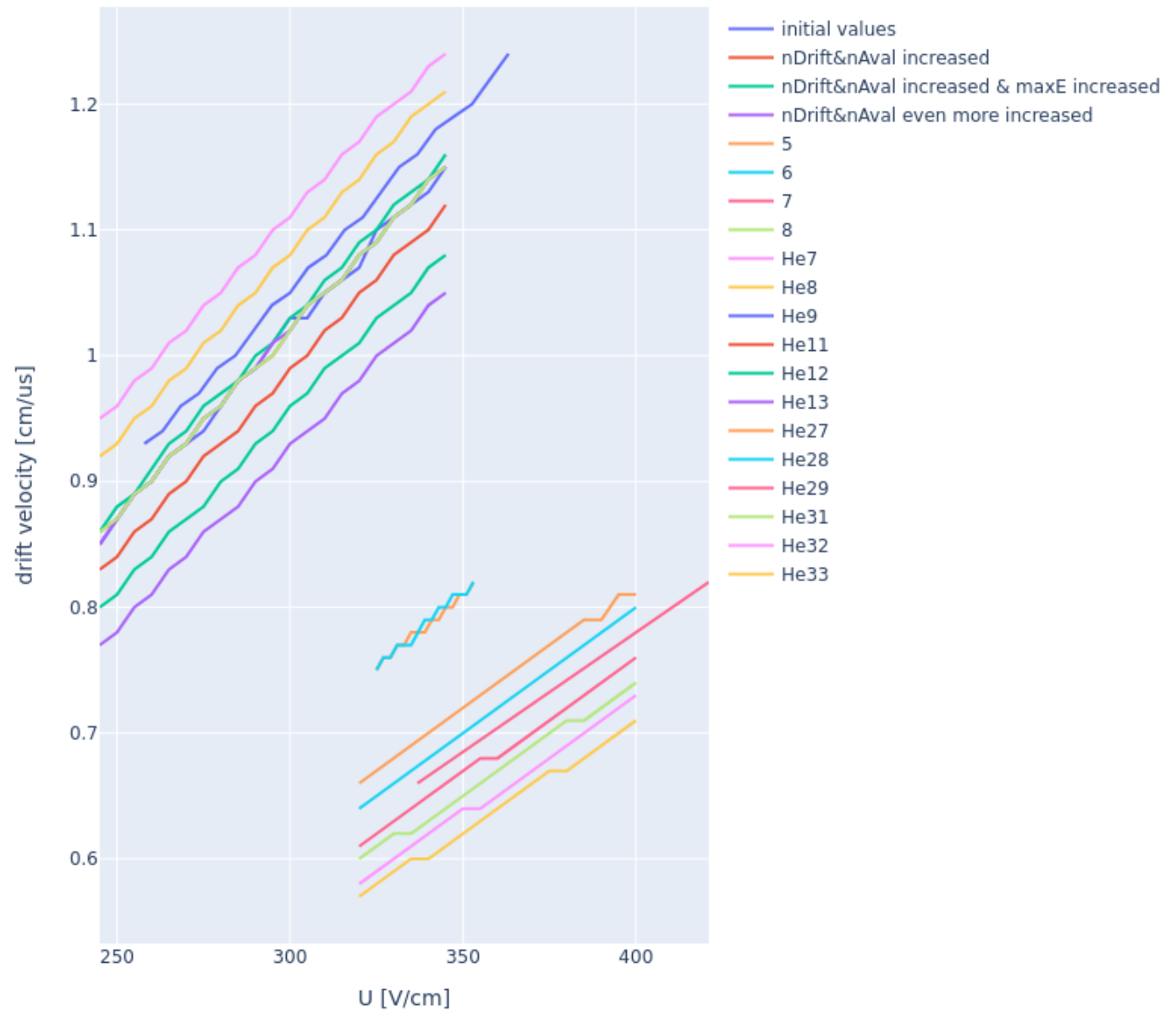
THE GRID IS  
RECONSTRUCTED  
AS IN THE  
REFERENCE ONE

NOTE:  
One of GEM-TPC  
grid has been  
rotated 180°



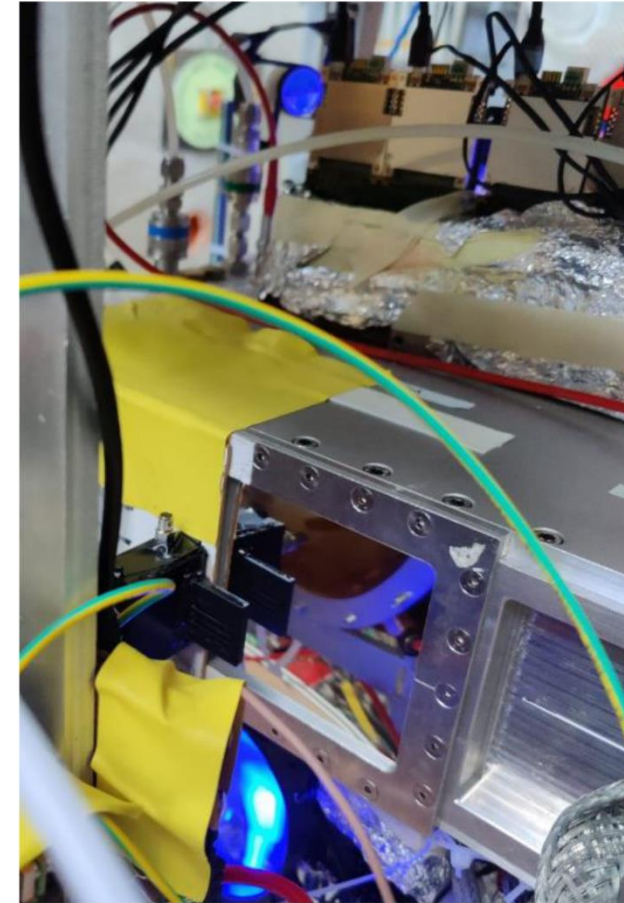
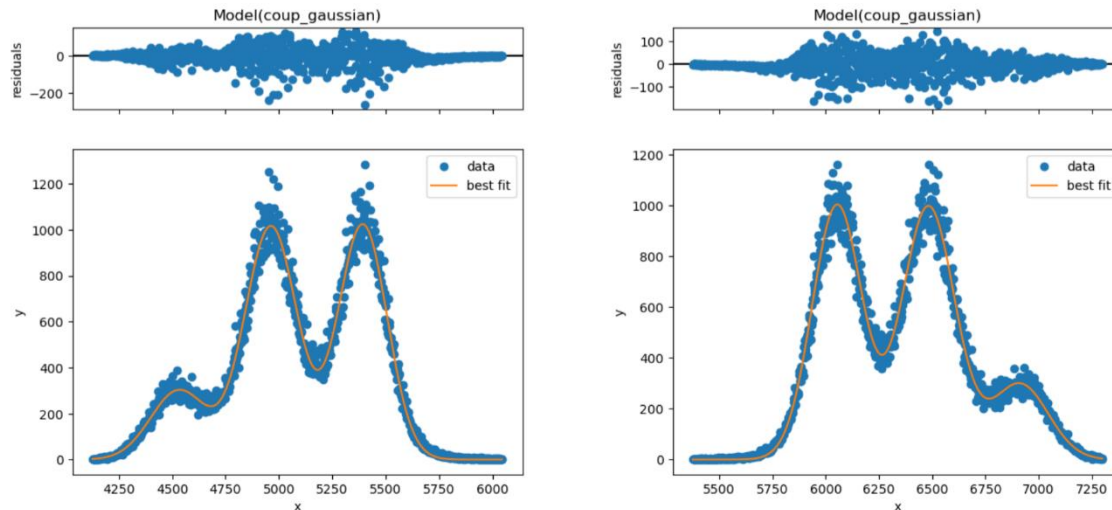
## Drift Velocity Simulations:

- $ArCO_2$  (70/30)
- $HeCO_2$  (70/30)
- $HeCO_2$  (90/10)



# Drift time calibration – Fiber Detector

- Assembled, tested and mounted new detector
  - precision 3D printed (35um) mounting structure
  - 3 scintillating fibers in exactly 4mm distance
  - high speed SiPM premounted on readout board
- *Drift time calibration successful!*
  - cut on parallel tracks (constant sum of drift time)
  - drift velocity:  $(9.30 \pm 0.03)$  mm/us





# TEST BEAM at the SPS - H4 Beamline

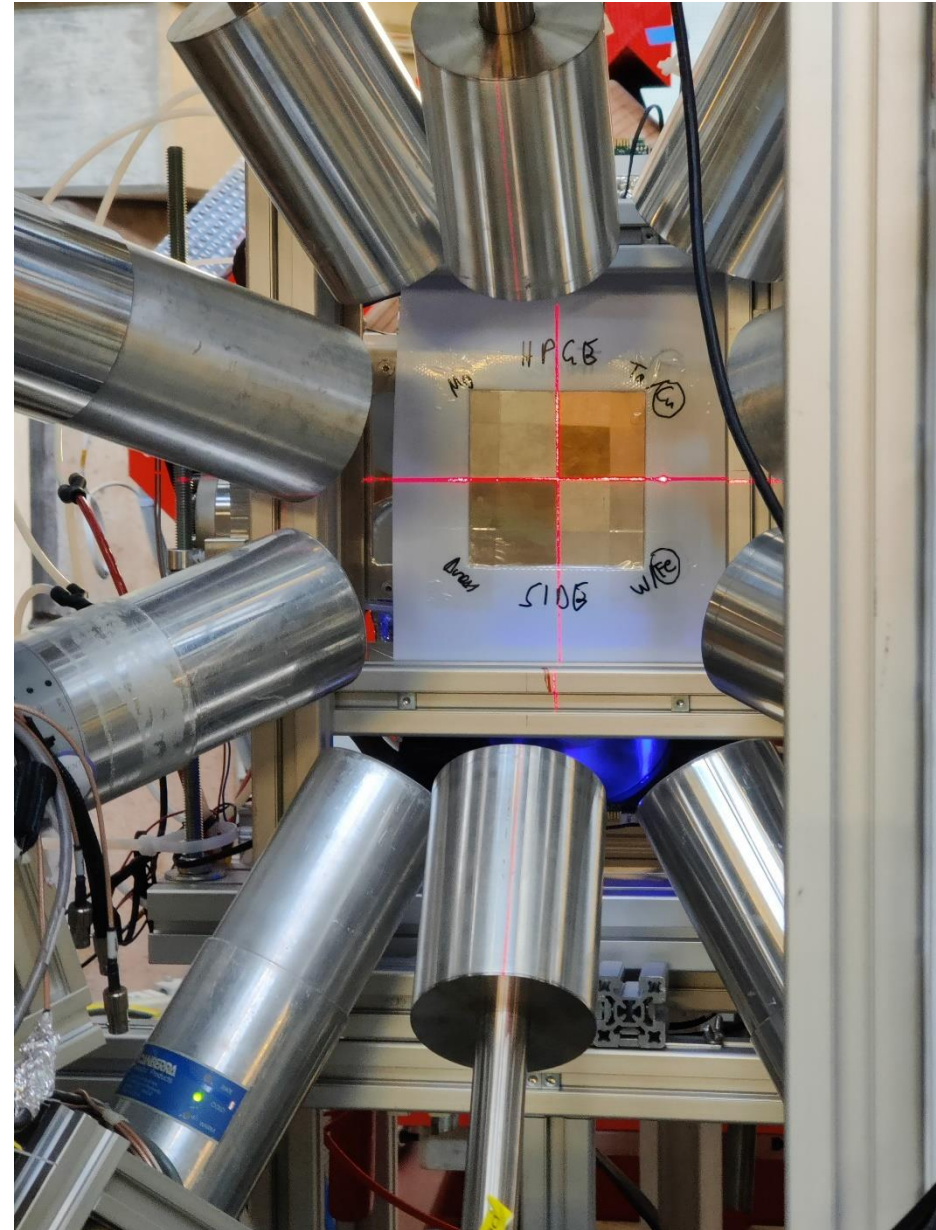
The second campaign for GEM-TPC - HGB4 at  $S_{\mu S}/\pi E1$  - PSI





## Target Configuration:

- Molybdenum
- Tantalum and Copper
- Tungsten and Iron
- Brass: Cu (63%), Zn (37%)

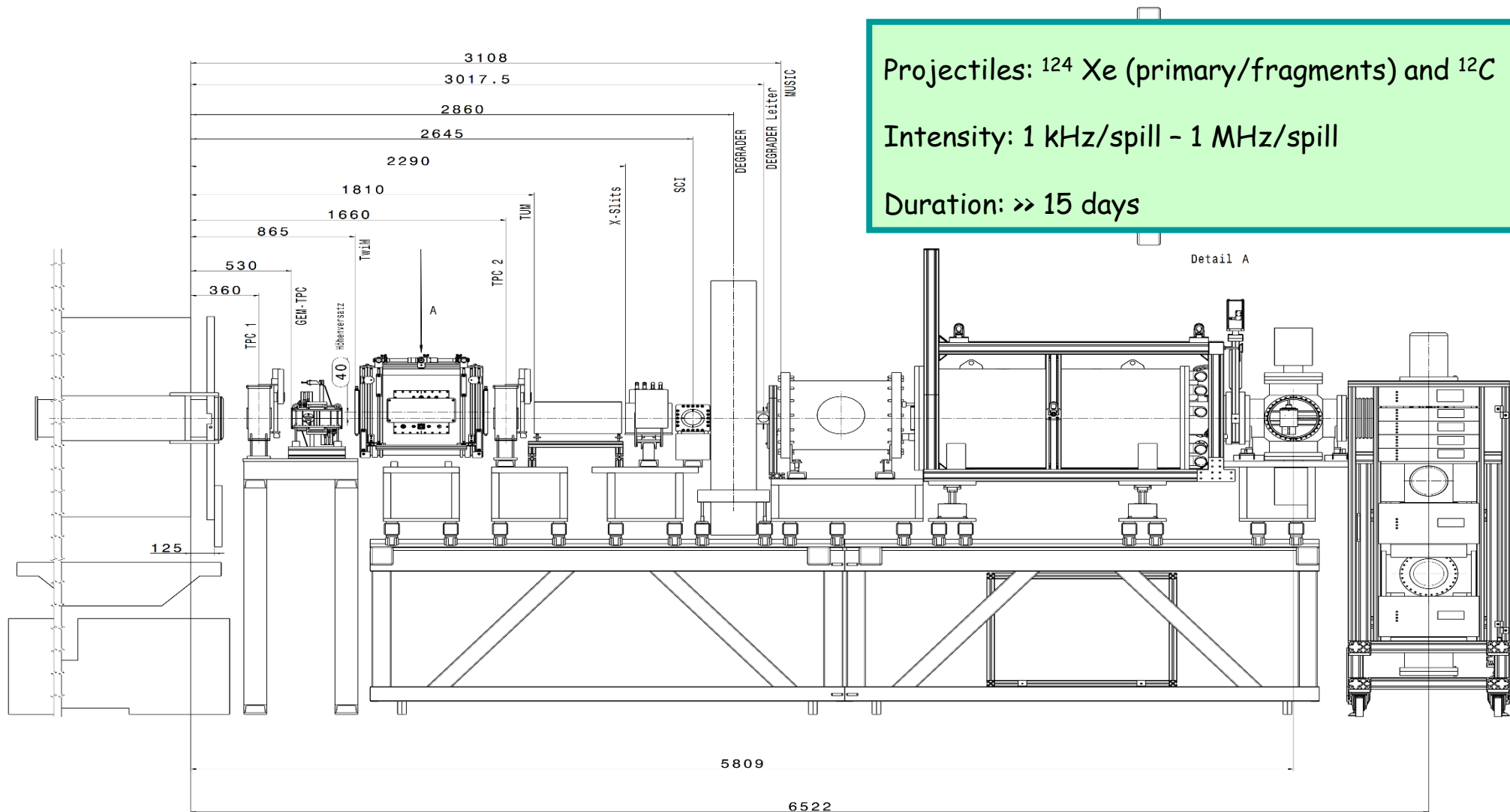


# Is the P10 GAS MIXTURE a SOLUTION for the SUPER-FRS?

- ❑ Until now the gas mixture used has been P10 - ArCH<sub>4</sub> (90/10%) → Which has a severe aging problems at high rate
- ❑ Next gas mixture will be: ArCO<sub>2</sub> 70/30% → for Testing whole system and Characterization
- ❑ Possible choice can be: ArCO<sub>2</sub>CF<sub>4</sub> (45/15/40%)

Gas mixture	Drift Field, V/cm	Drift Velocity, cm/μs	D <sub>L</sub> , μm/√D(cm)	D <sub>T</sub> , μm/√D(cm)	Drift Time, μs
P10	320	4.2	257.2	603.8	2
ArCO <sub>2</sub> (70/30)	600	1.5	150.1	134.0	6.6
ArCO <sub>2</sub> CF <sub>4</sub> (45/15/40)	600	2.5	117.3	118.9	4

# Most Relevant Results at GSI



Projectiles:  $^{124}\text{Xe}$  (primary/fragments) and  $^{12}\text{C}$

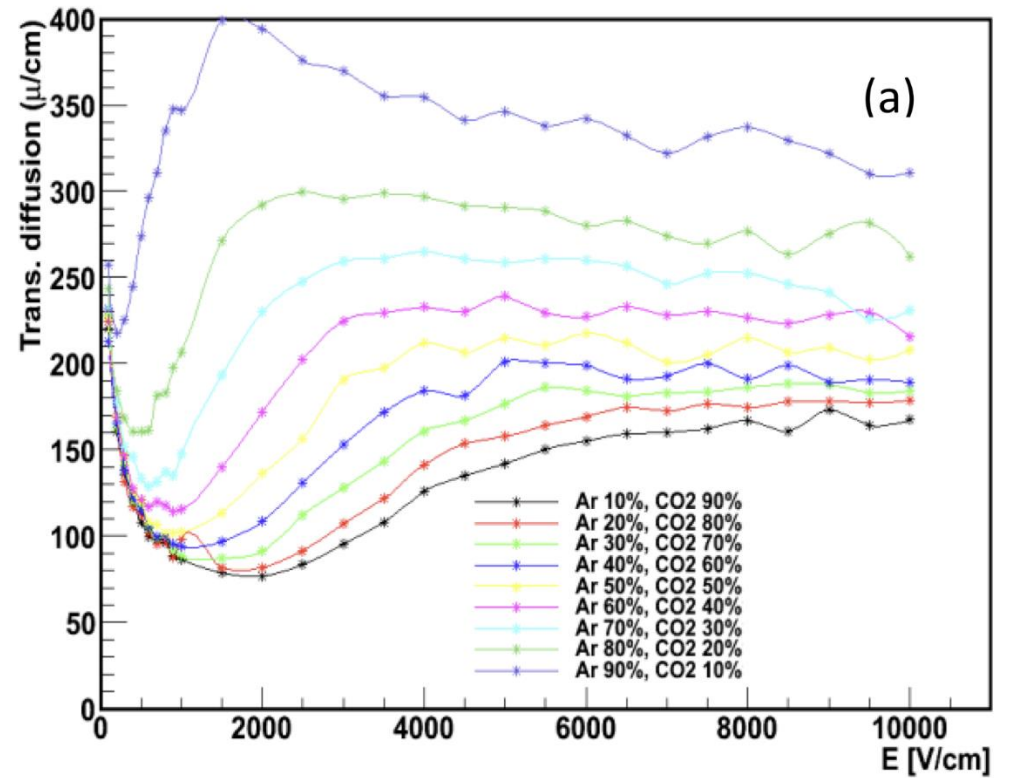
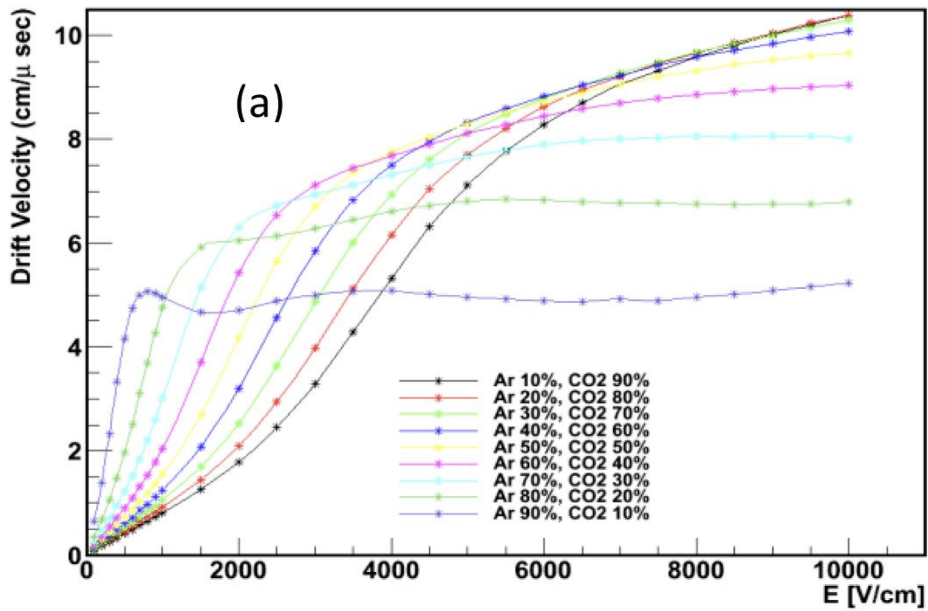
Intensity: 1 kHz/spill - 1 MHz/spill

Duration:  $\gg 15$  days

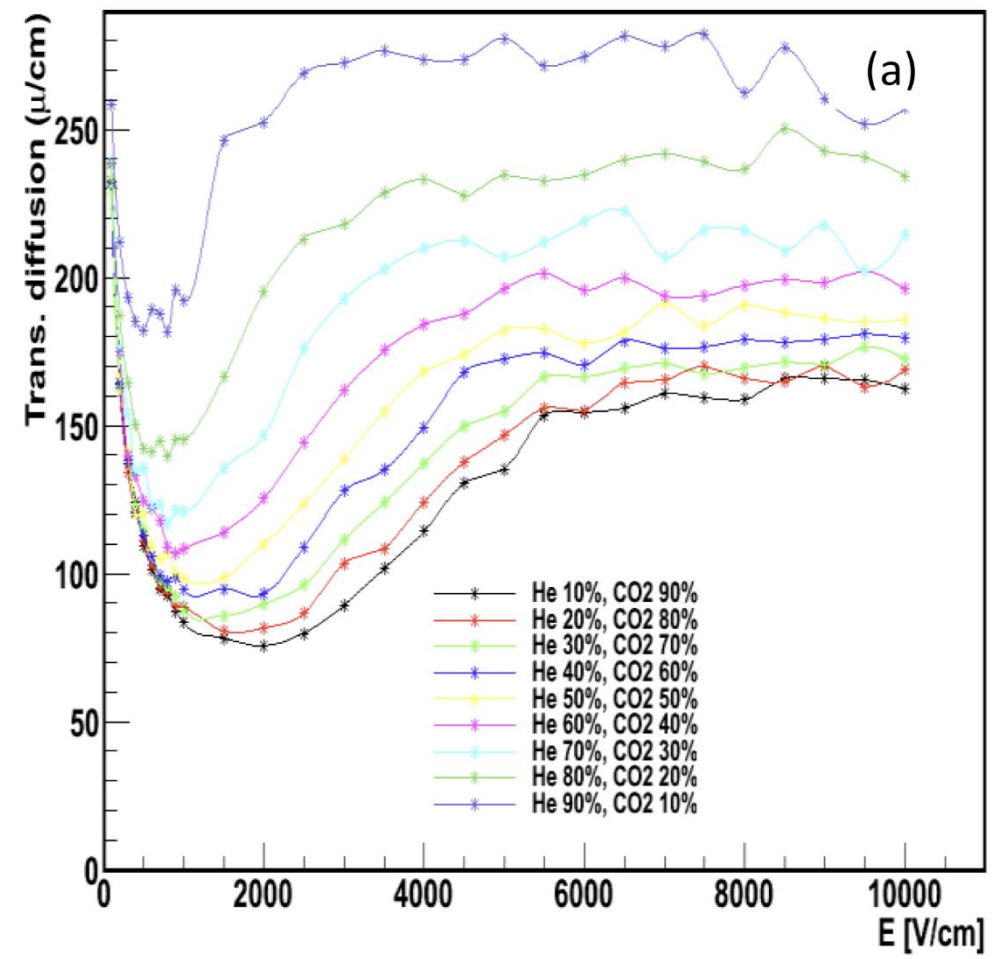
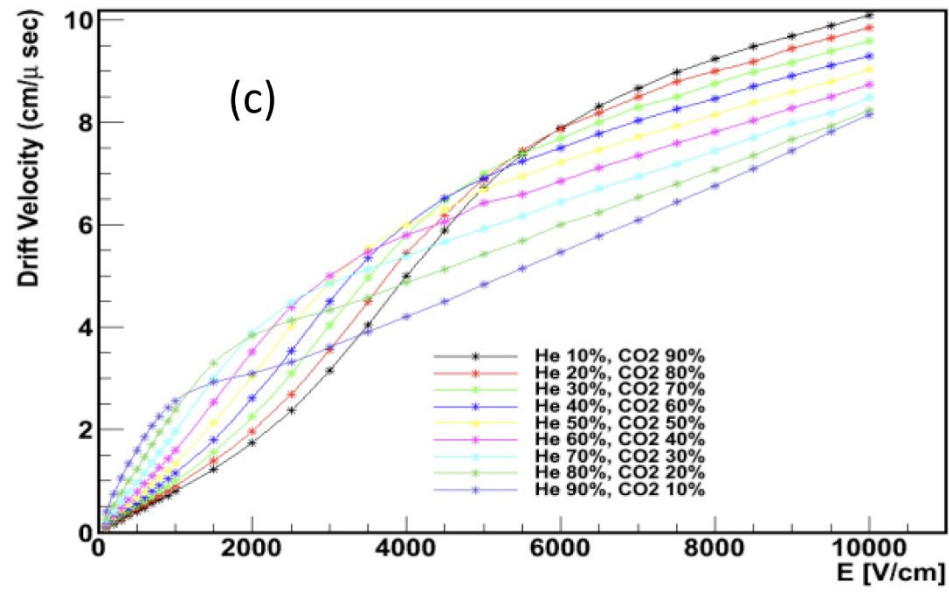




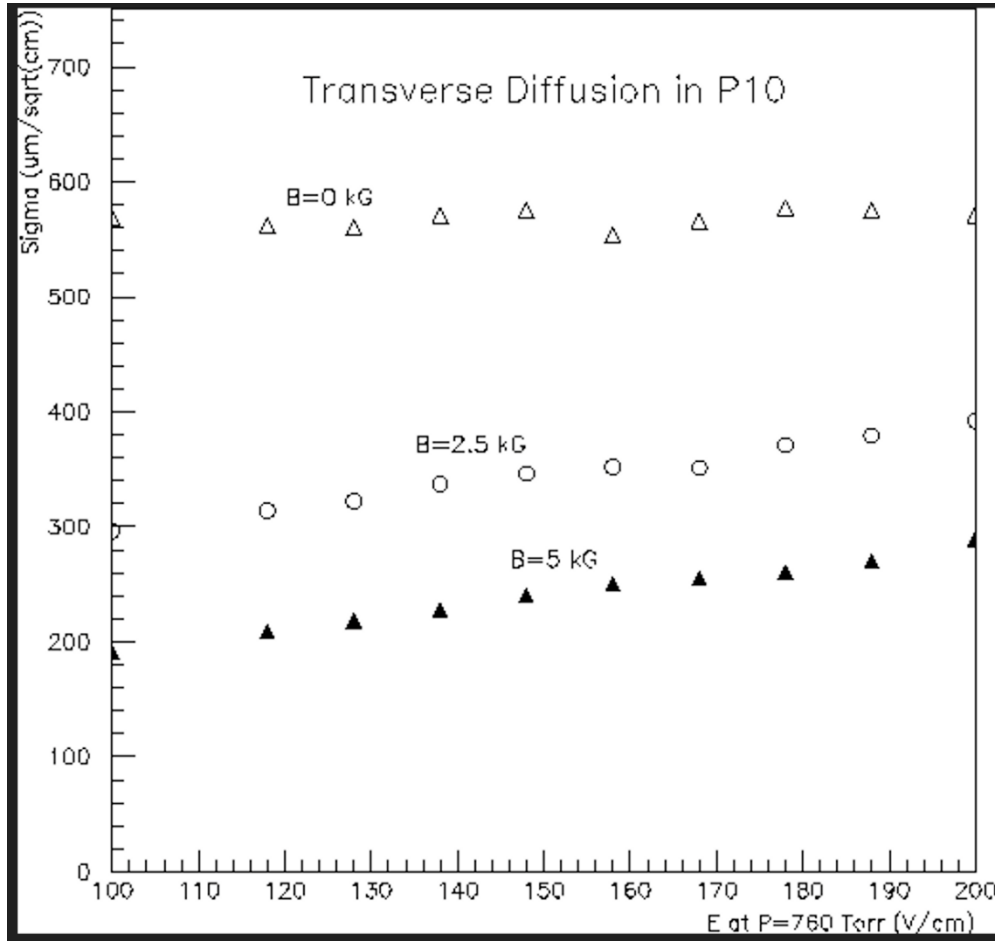
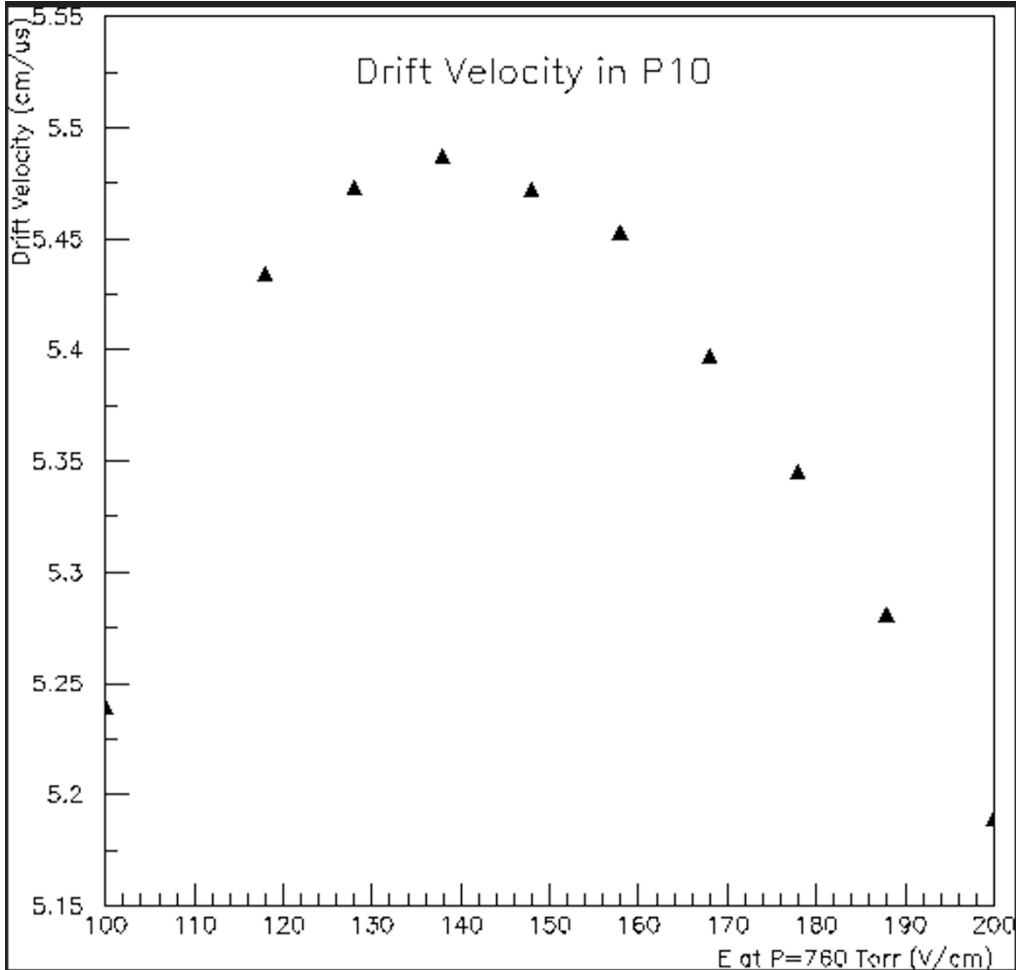
# ArCO<sub>2</sub>

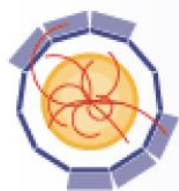


# HeCO<sub>2</sub>

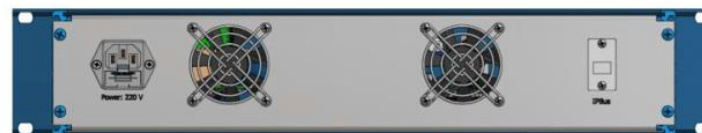


# ArCH<sub>4</sub>





- Current production version
- 6 trigger inputs
- 4 DUT connections
  - LVDS on HDMI
    - But direction of each line can be swapped in hardware to allow different firmware mapping
- Low jitter clock
- Hardware permits optical distribution of clock/trigger
- In small desktop case or rack-mount case



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