

IBF in aligned, misaligned and FLOWER THGEMs

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The IBF problem

Standard THGEM configuration

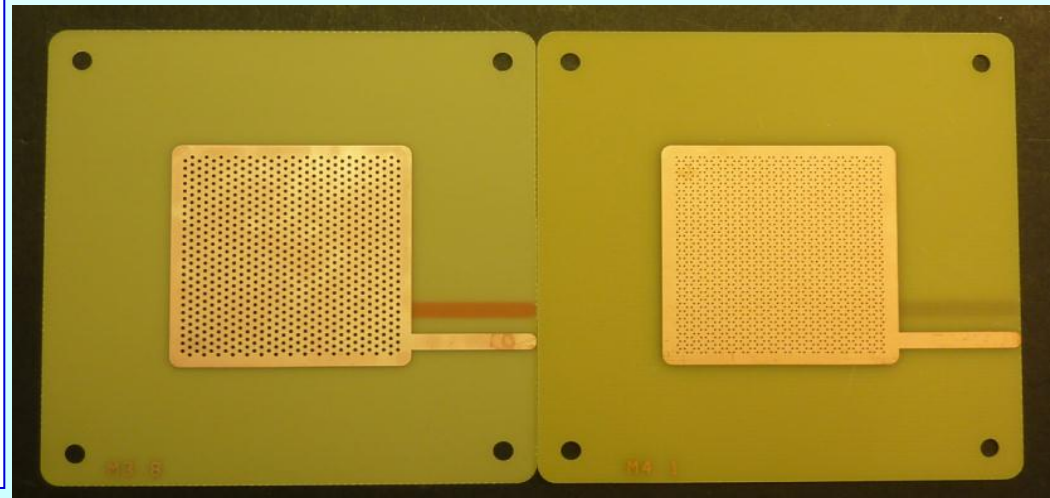
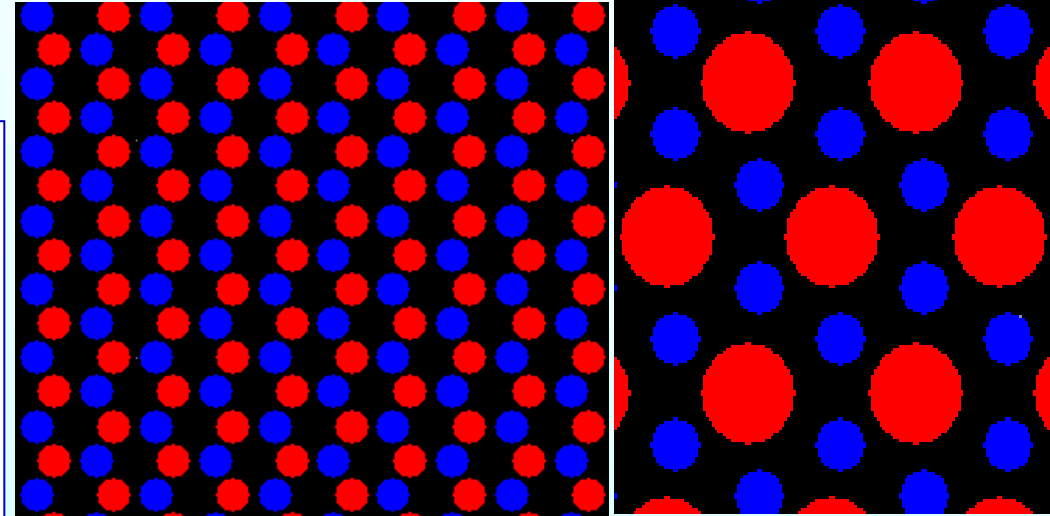
COBRA and extra electrode

Misaligned holes

FLOWER THGEM solution

THGEM + Micromega

Conclusions

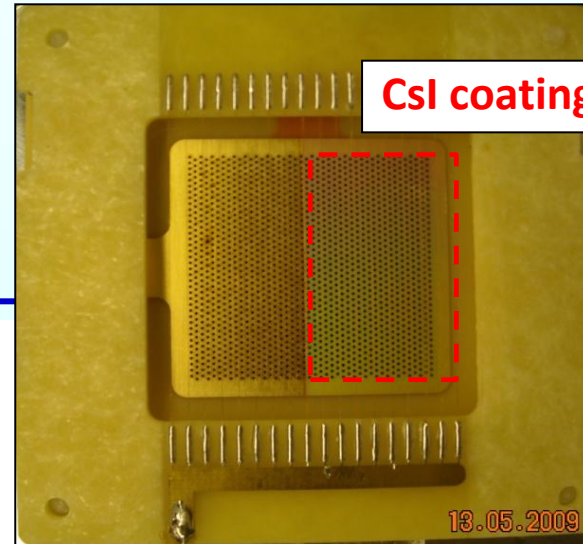
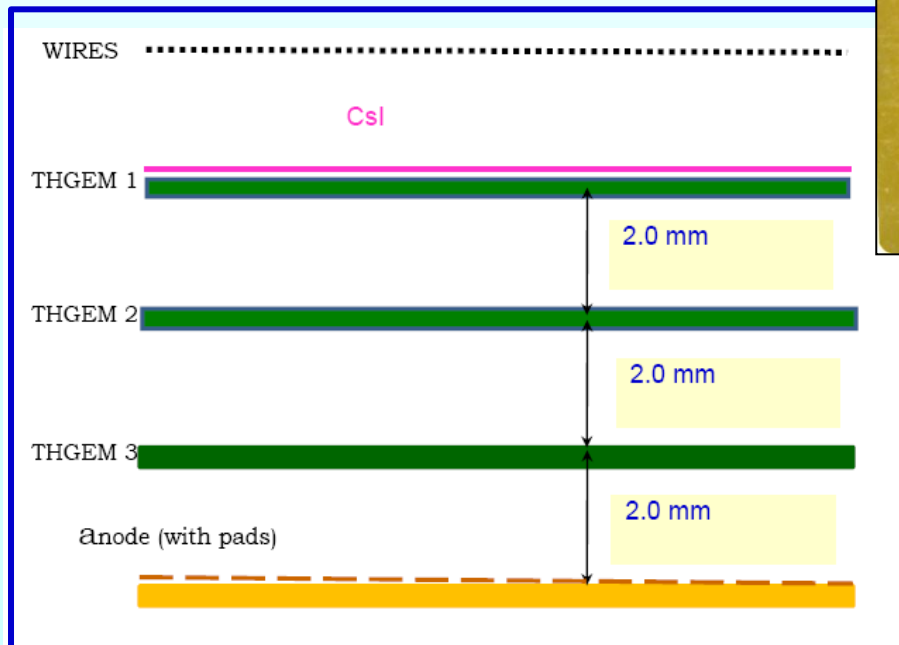


OUR FIRST THGEM-BASED PDs

Triple THGEM (CsI) Ar/CH₄

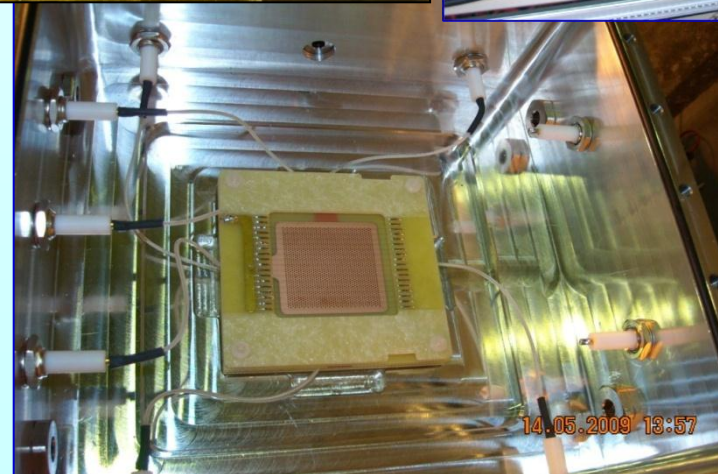
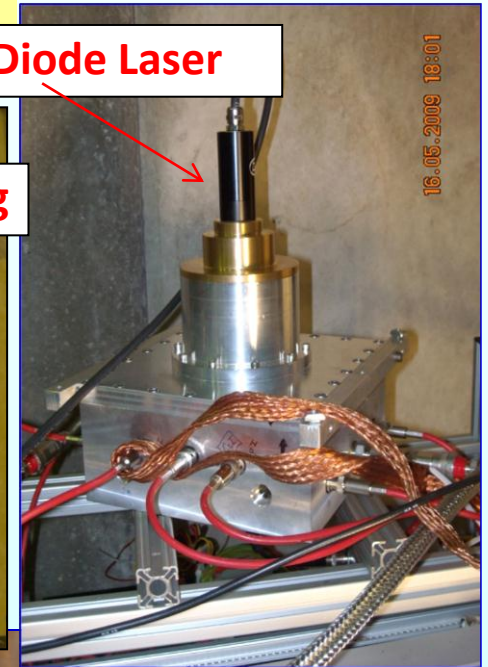
Active area = 30 mm x 30 mm

Diam=0.4 mm, pitch =0.8,
Thick=0.4, rim ≤10 μm

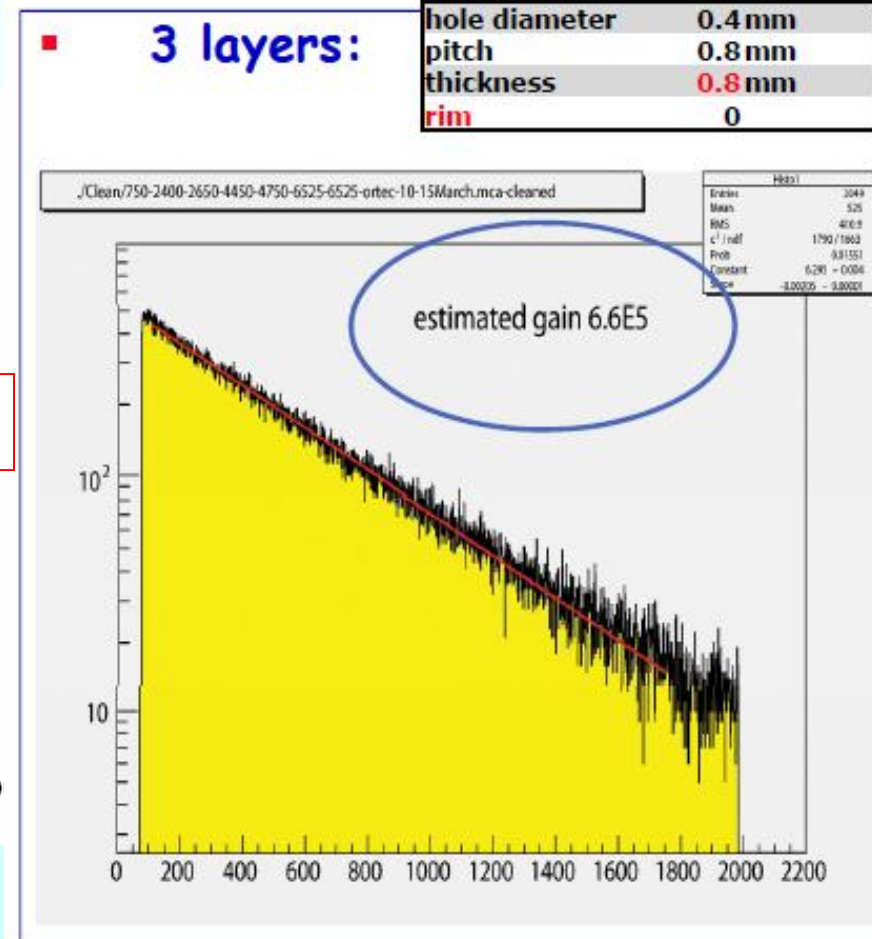
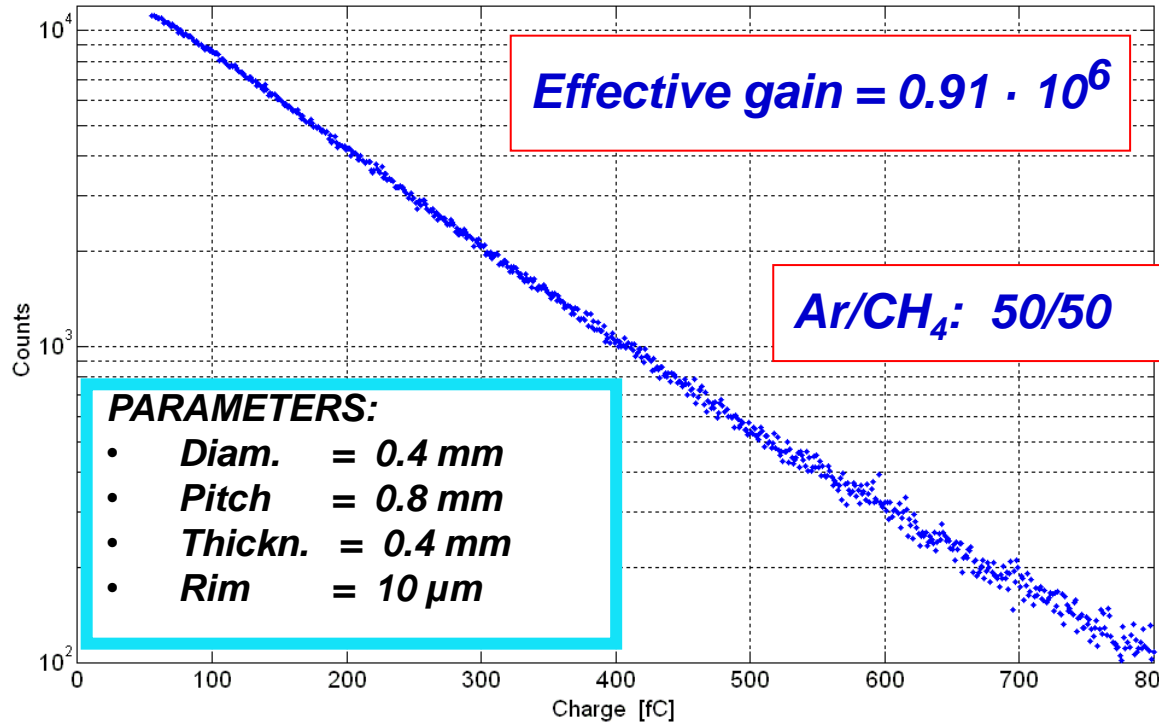


Pulsed Diode Laser

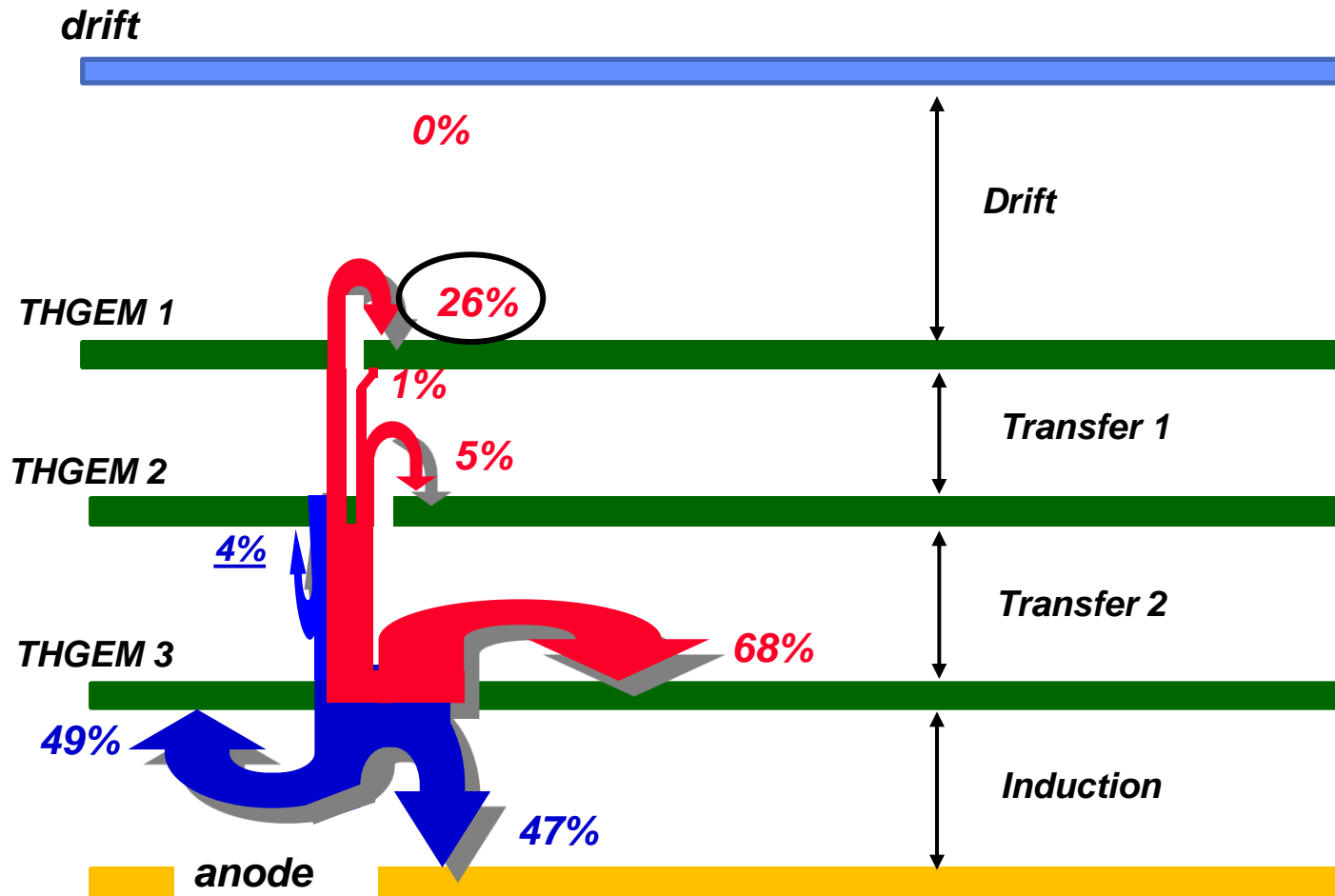
CsI coating



Triple THGEM



typical charge sharing, no optimization



field values optimization could reduce IBF by a factor 2 at most

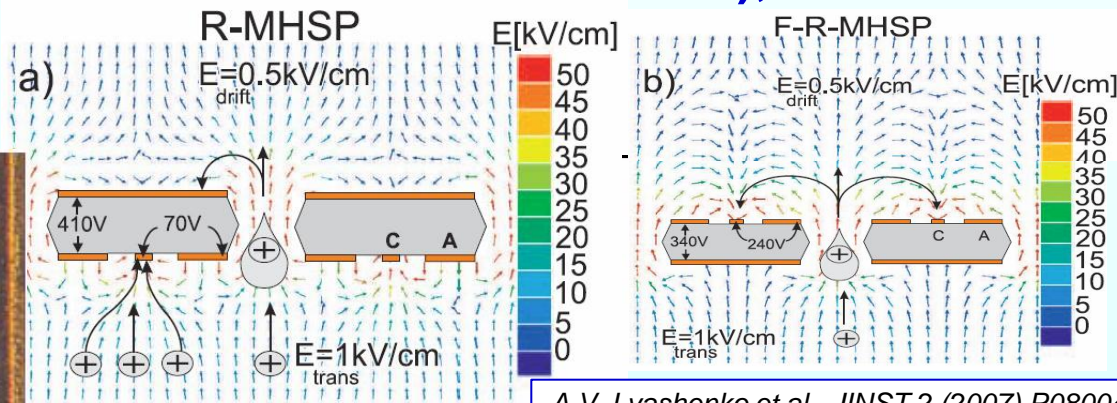
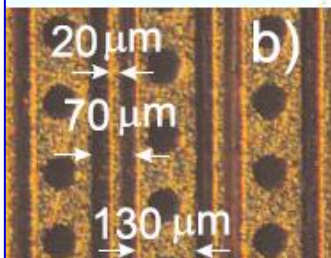
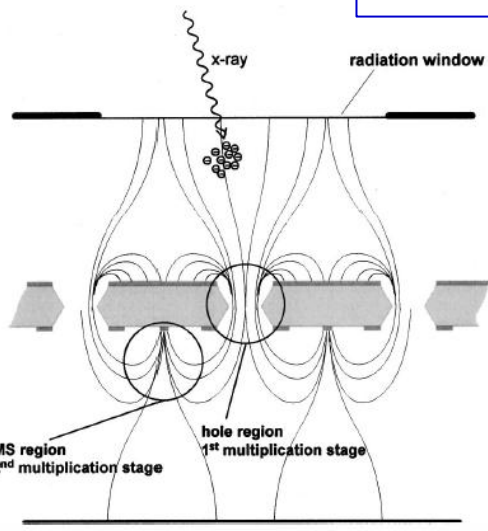
Reducing the ion backflow is possible

with more complex geometries: Micro-Hole & Strip Plate (MHSP), COBRA

MHSP

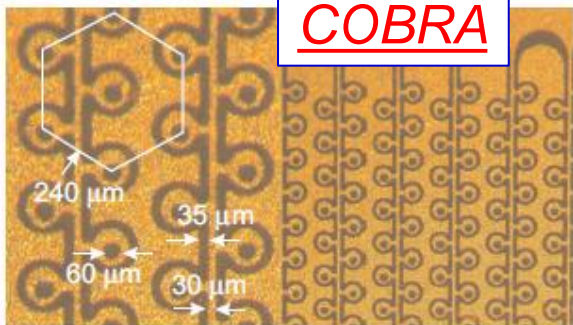
X-Ray detector

*J.F.C.A. Veloso et al.,
Rev.Sc. Instr. 71 (2000) 2371*

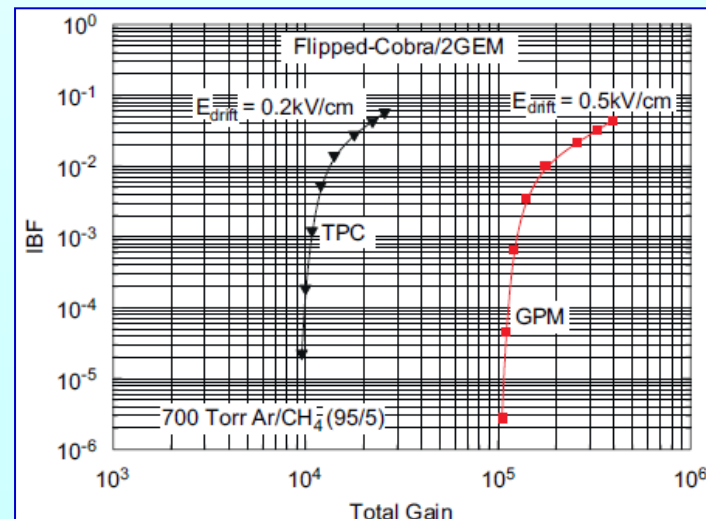
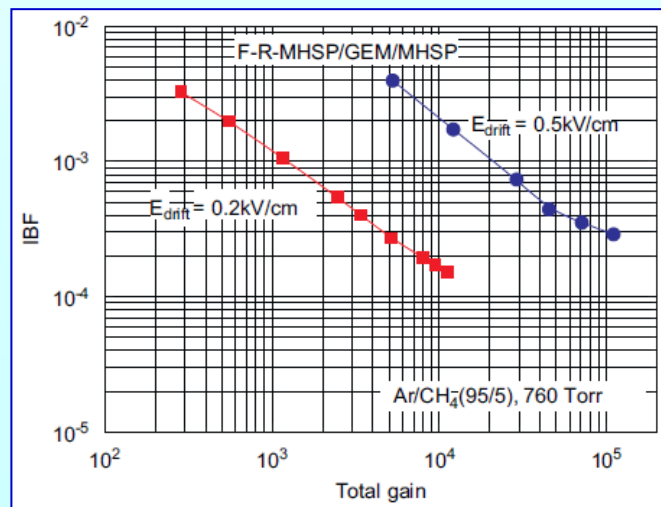


A.V. Lyashenko et al., JINST 2 (2007) P08004

COBRA

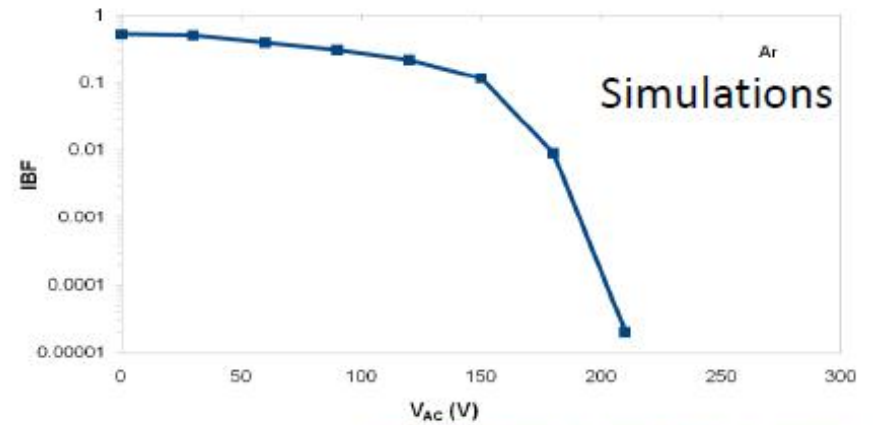
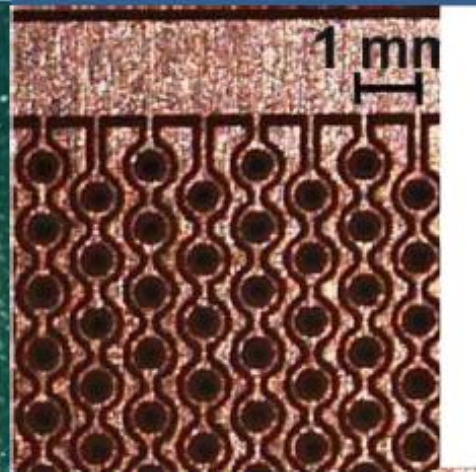
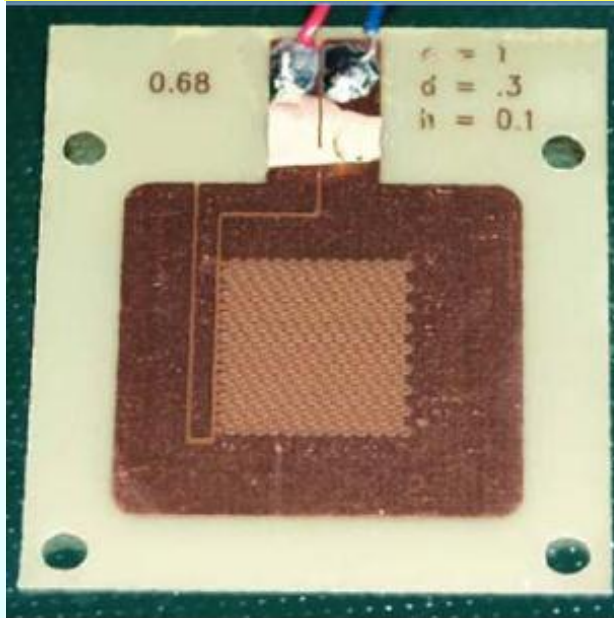


A.V. Lyashenko et al., NIMA 598 (2009) 116

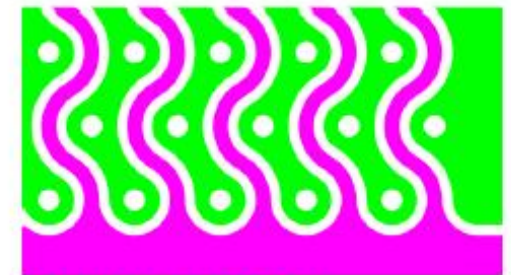


A.V. Lyashenko et al., NIMA 598 (2009) 116

The COBRA way



New Thick Hole-Structures for Gaseous Detectors, João Veloso RD51



Single photon detection efficiency strongly affected by

Active area (electrode) / Dead area (holes) → limits on the geometry of 1th THGEM
 E field on the surface → geometrical parameters of the 1th THGEM

$$\left. \begin{aligned} E_z &\sim \exp(\text{diam.}) \\ E_z &\sim 1/(\text{pitch})^4 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

Impose constrains on the maximum space between electrodes for THCOBRA → pitch and hole size

| Hole | Ering | Clearance | Cobra Electrode | Pitch |
|------|-------|-----------|-----------------|-------|
| 400 | 2X80 | 2X80 | 80 | 800 |

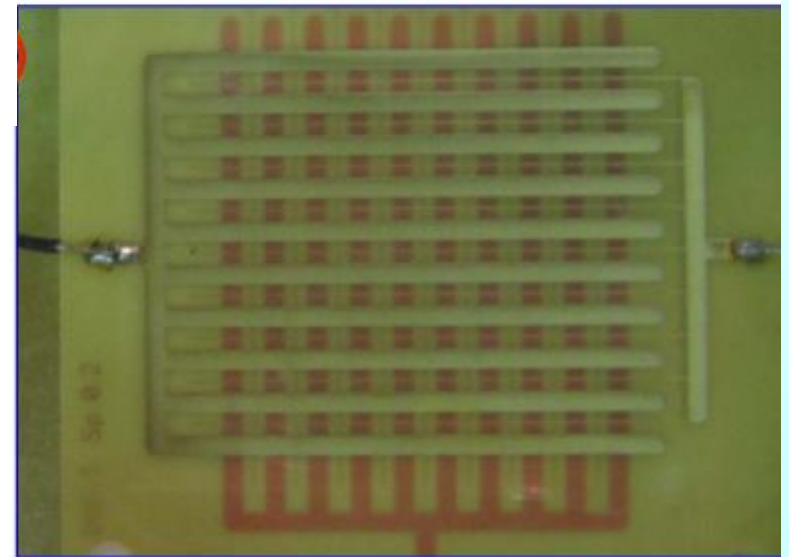
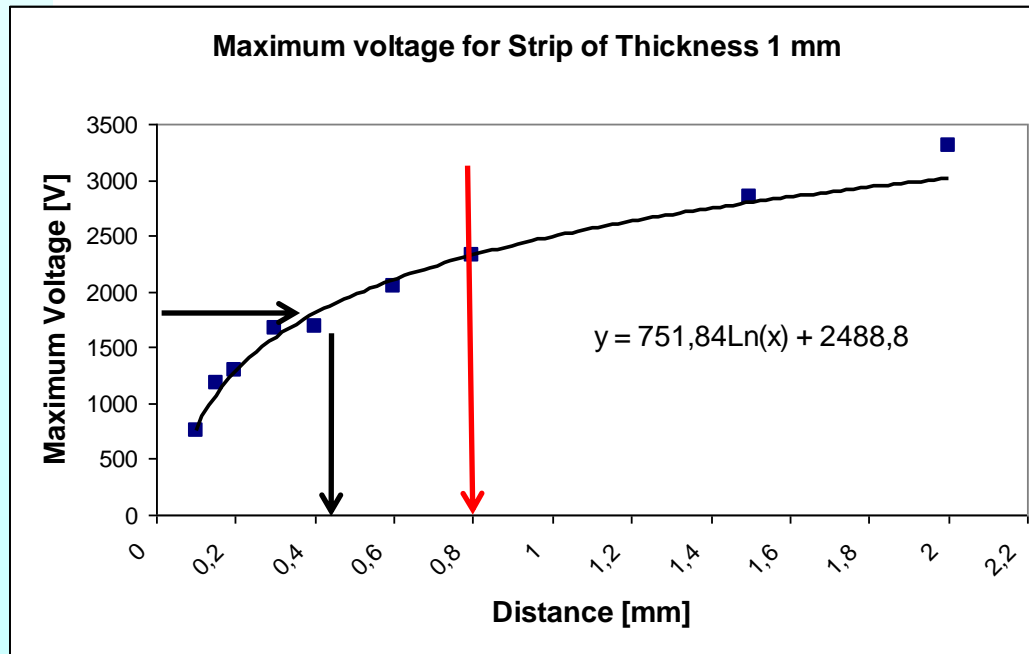
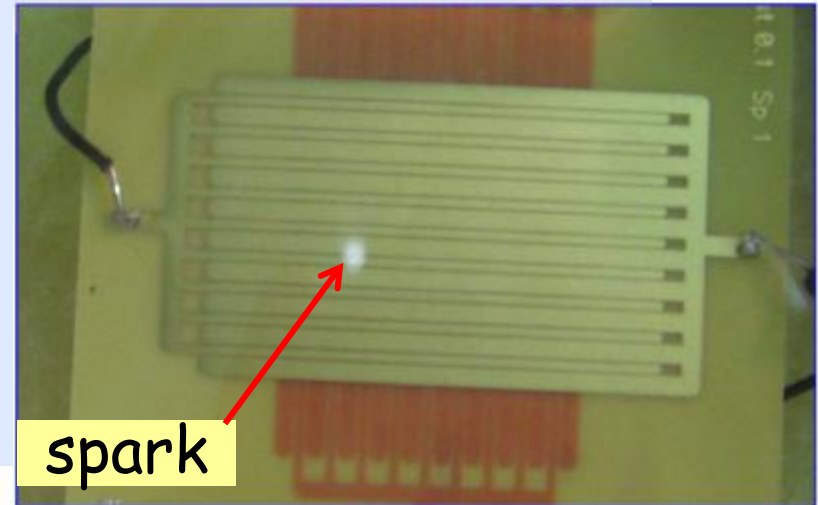
Loosing robustness and constraining too much the geometry

Sparks may damage tiny pist

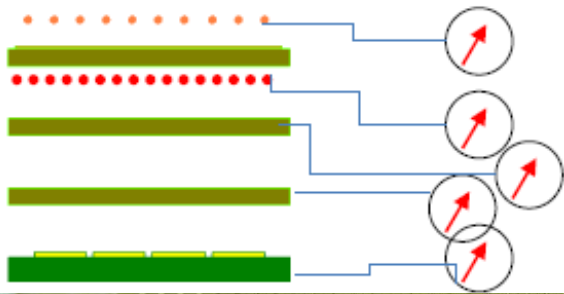
Samples of 20 different types

Determine the breakdown voltage

Use this information to properly design
the THGEM segmentation



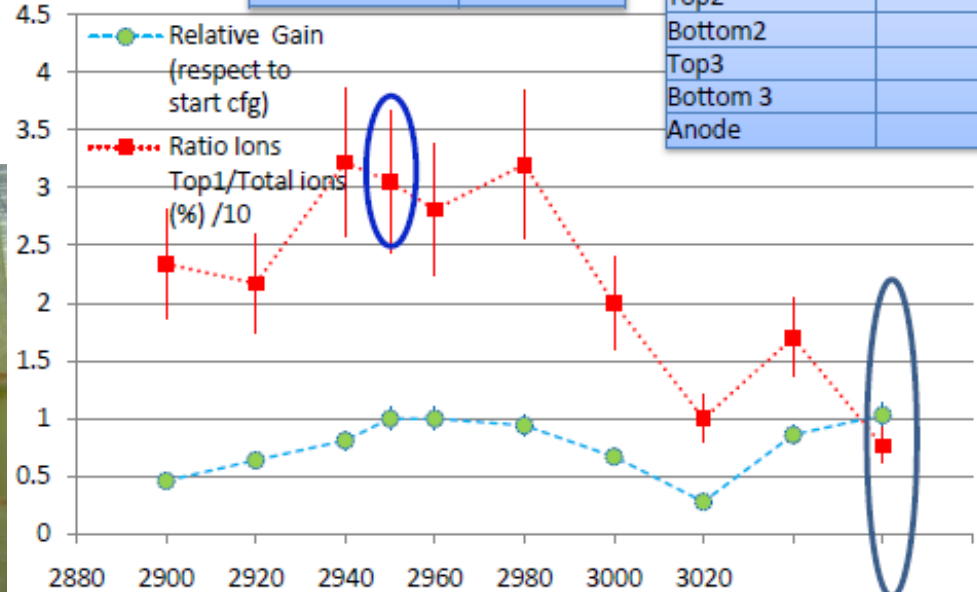
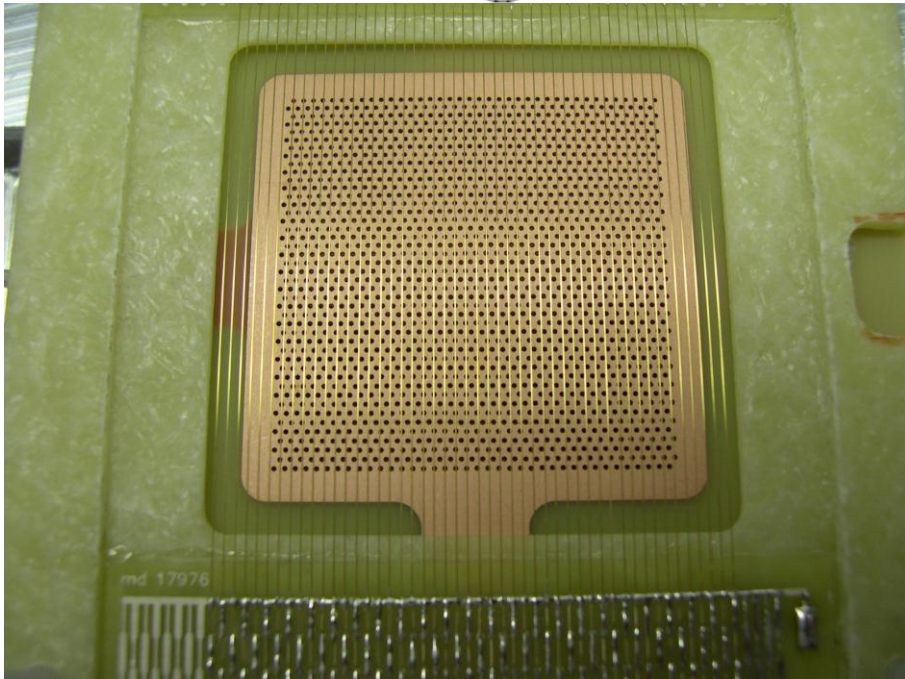
Inserting a dedicated electrode



1 pA for each layer,
2mm spacing

| HV | Volt |
|-------------|------|
| Drift | 4100 |
| Top1 | 4100 |
| Bottom 1 | 2956 |
| Cobra wires | 3020 |
| Top2 | 2807 |
| Bottom2 | 1650 |
| Top3 | 1510 |
| Bottom 3 | 490 |

| | |
|-------------|------|
| Anode | 0 |
| Drift | 4100 |
| Top1 | 4110 |
| Bottom 1 | 3150 |
| Cobra wires | 3220 |
| Top2 | 3000 |
| Bottom2 | 1650 |
| Top3 | 1510 |
| Bottom 3 | 500 |
| Anode | 0 |



Increasing Second THGEM ΔV (200V)

Reduces by a factor 4 the ion feed-back without gain losses

Hole alignment

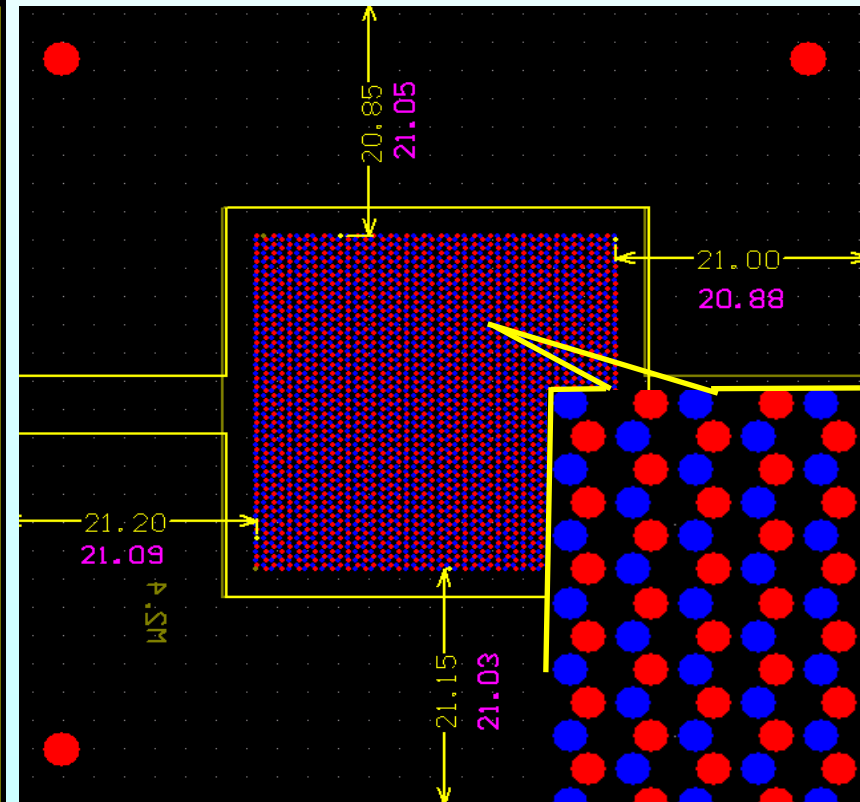
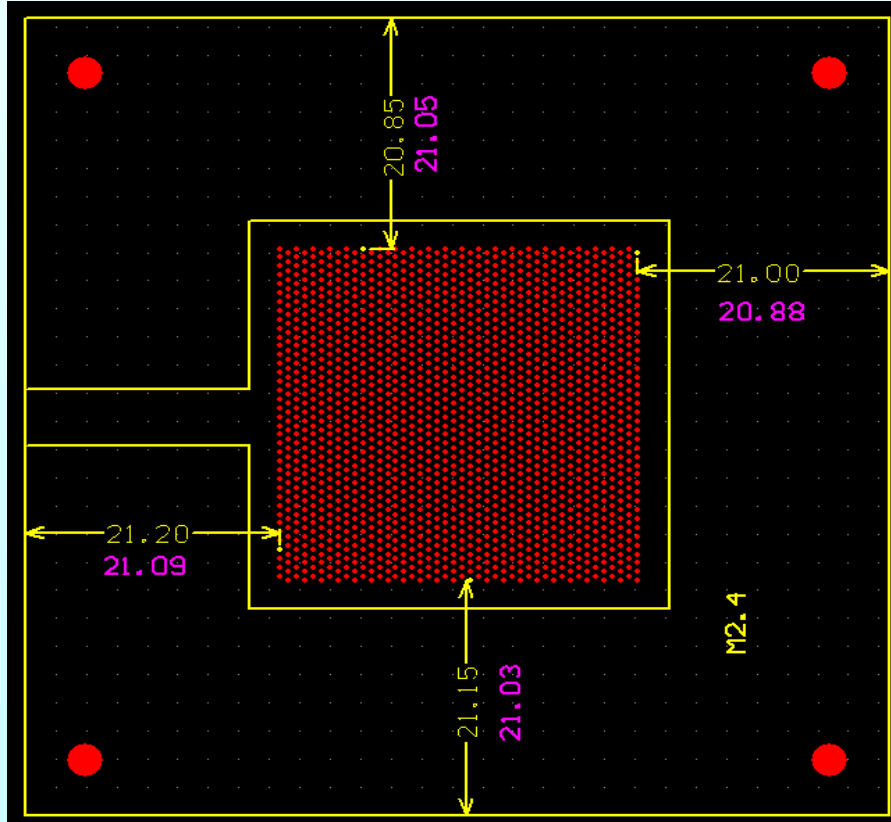
Inspired by the study of F. Sauli, L. Ropelewski, P. Everaerts on GEM IBF:

NIM A 260 (2006) 269, we decided to study the effect of THGEM hole alignment on IBF.

we produced (ELTOS) THGEMs with a special symmetry:

the holes of the flipped THGEM are displaced by $p \cdot \sqrt{3}/3$

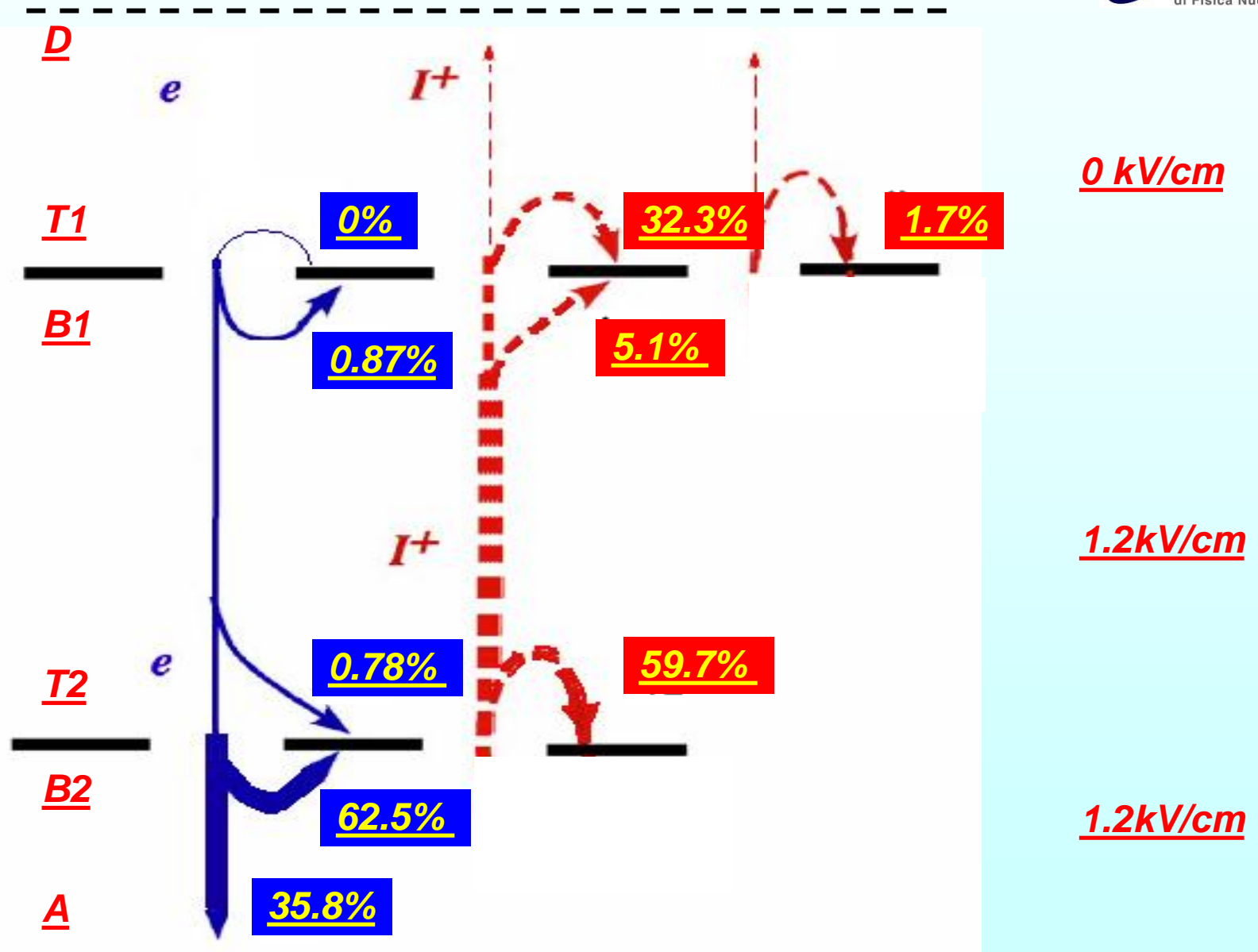
with respect to the holes before flipping



IBF of Aligned DoubleTHGEM

a case study:
low gain on
the first
THGEM,
high gain on
the second
THGEM

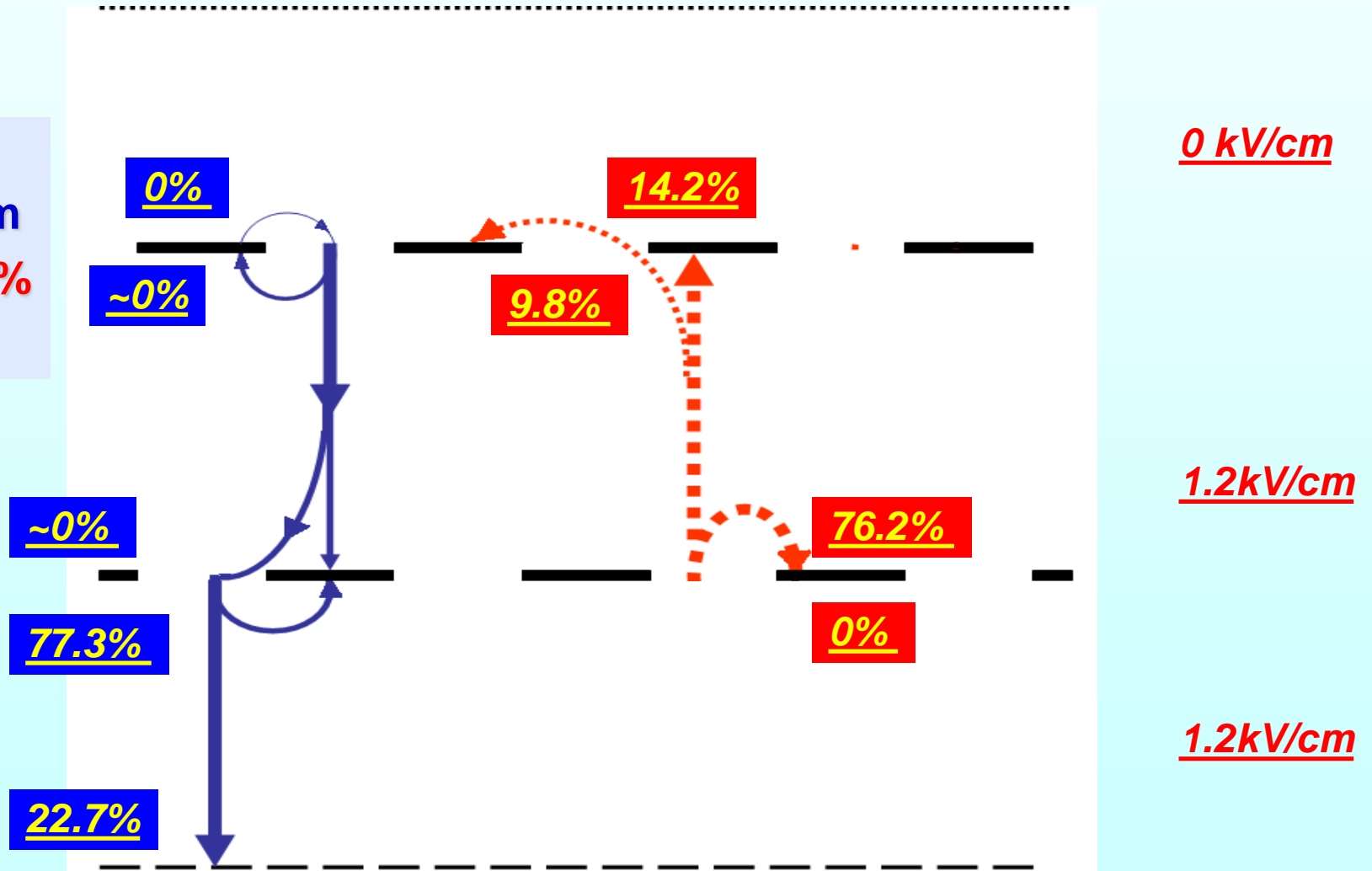
T1 IBF = 32 %



IBF of Misaligned DTHGEM

Staggered holes provide lower IBF

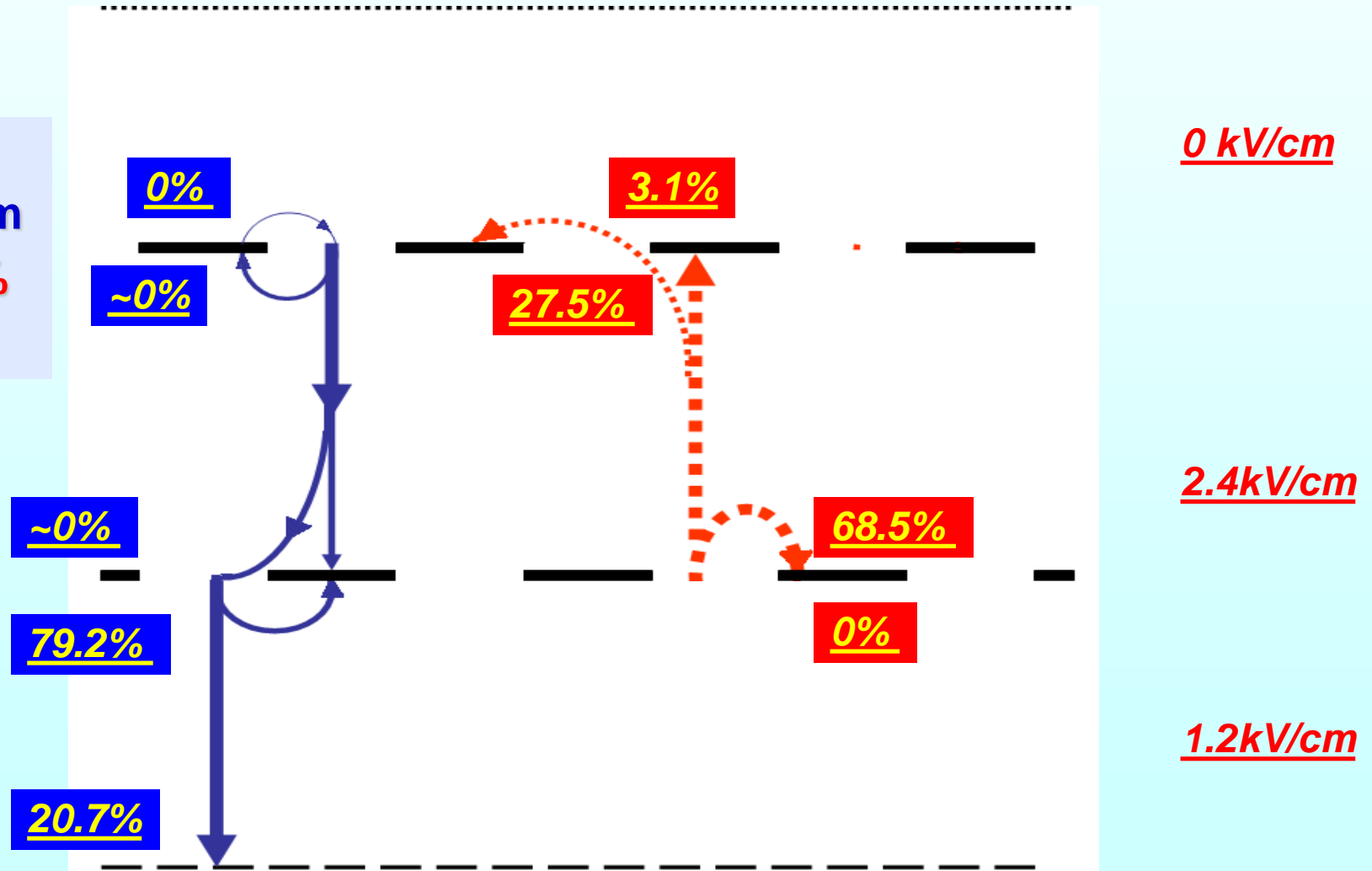
for 1.2 kV/cm
T1 IBF = 14 %



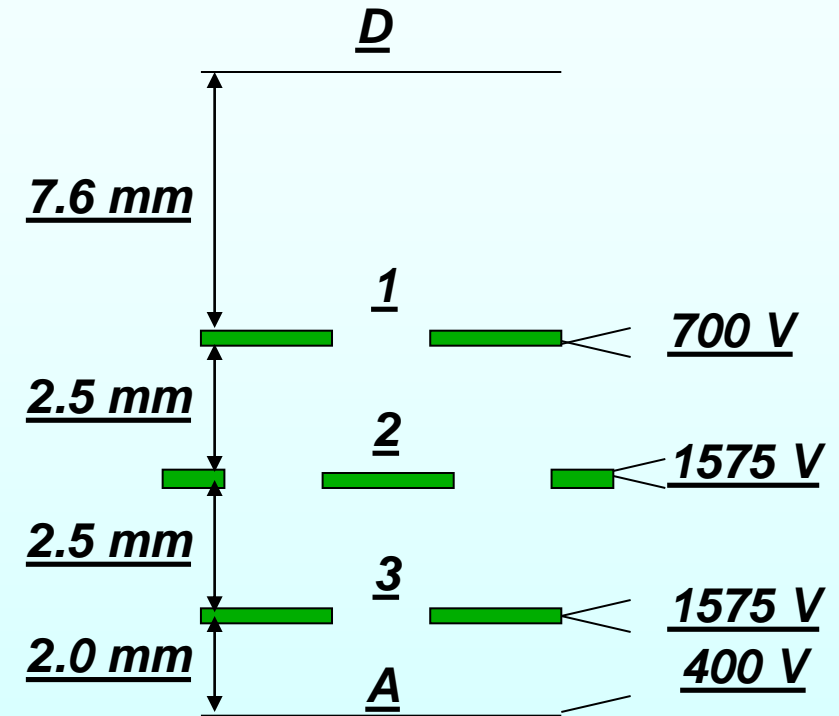
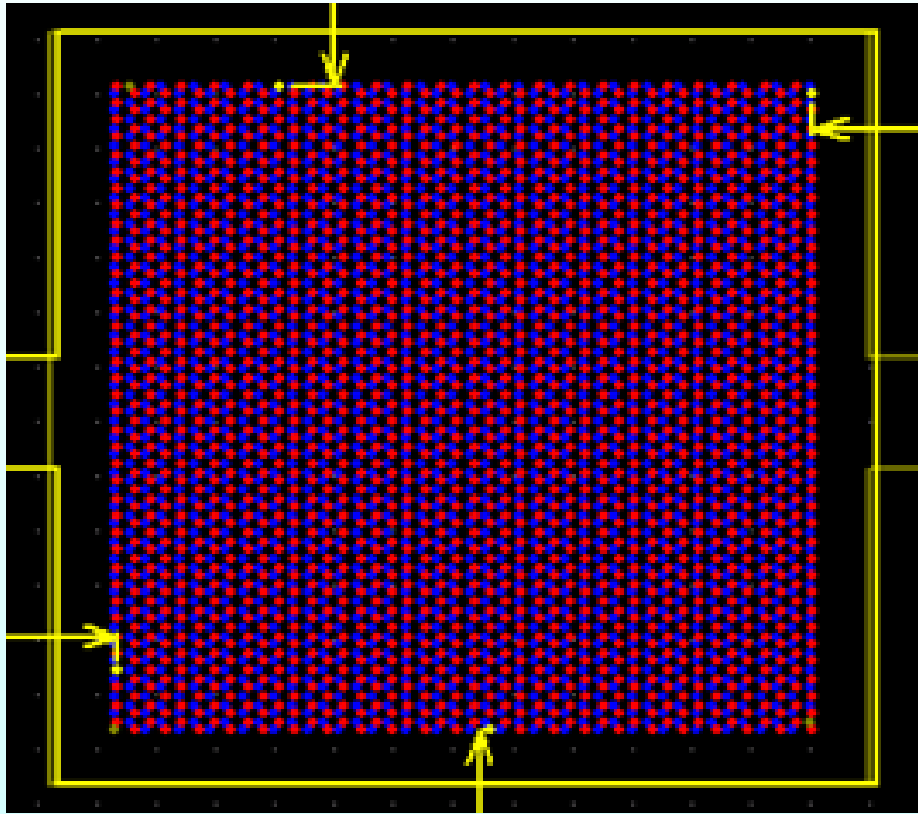
IBF of Misaligned DTHGEM study

Doubling the transfer field, the ions will hit B1 instead of drifting to T1.

for 2.4 kV/cm
T1 IBF = 3 %



Triple THGEM configuration



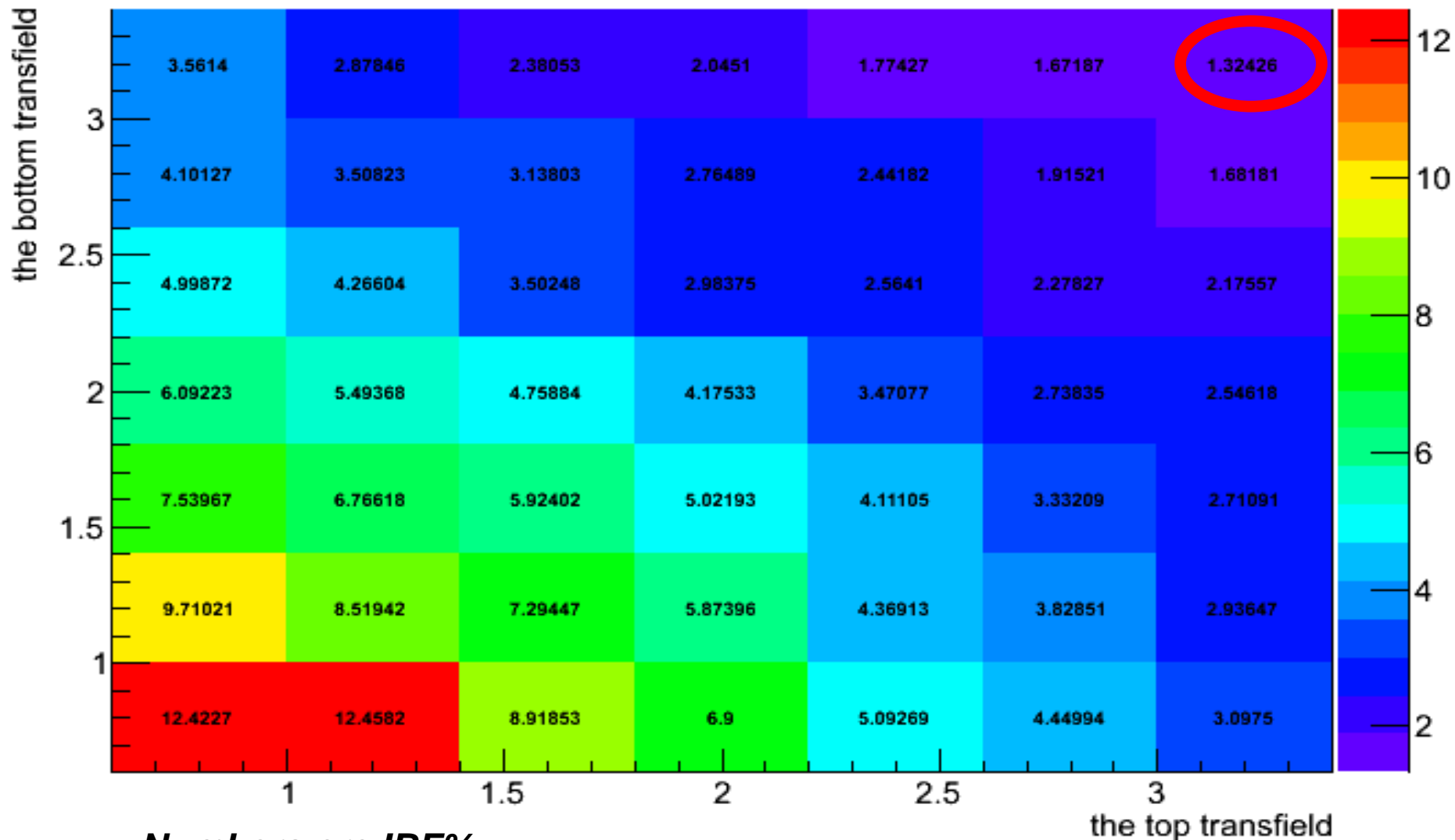
Flipping the central M2.4 provides the maximally misaligned configuration

tests performed in aligned and misaligned configuration

all parameters have been varied, all currents + signal amplitudes measured

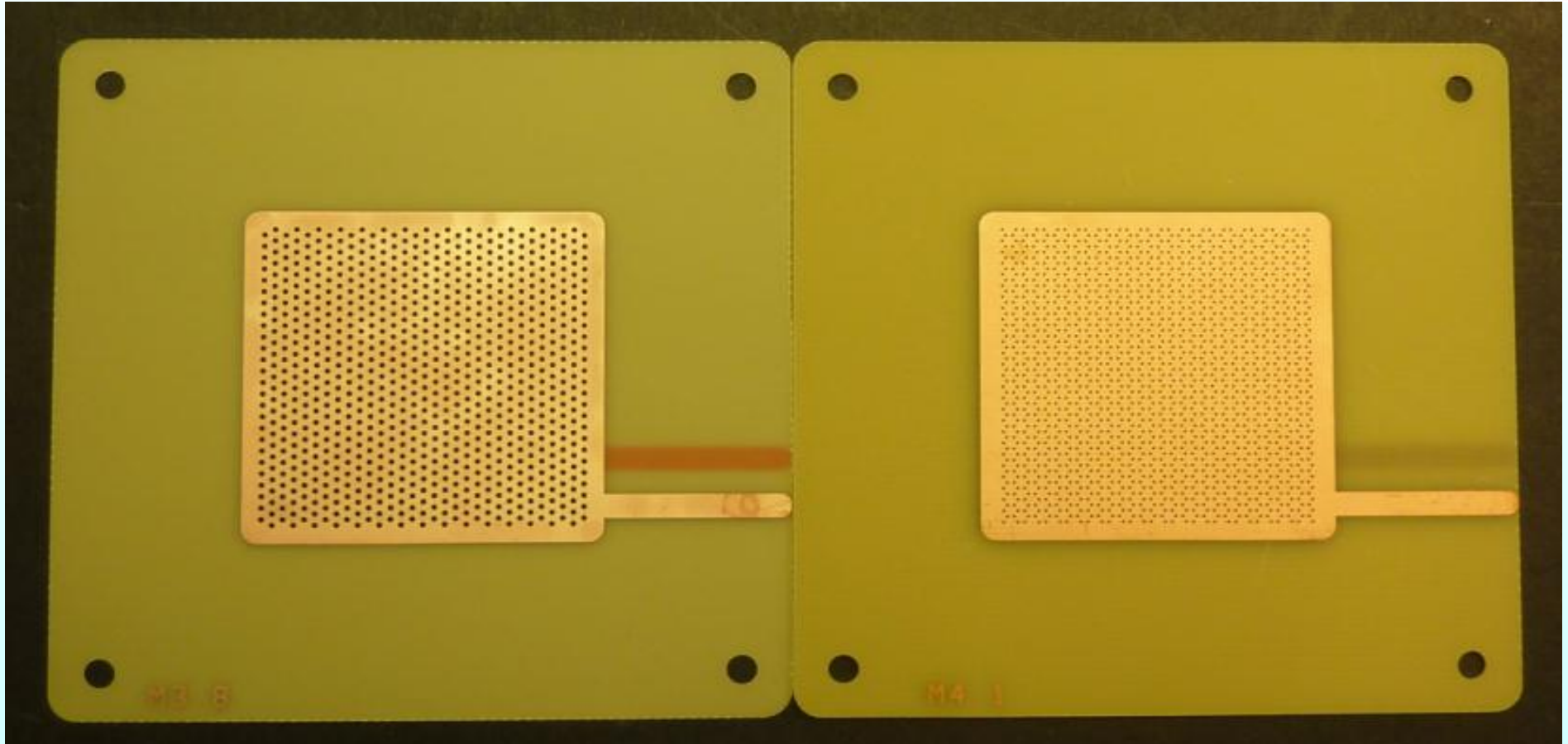
IBF for misaligned THGEMs

IBF 2D map for transfer field scan for not-aligned TTHGEM with 6.5V LED



Numbers are IBF%

“FLOWER” THGEM

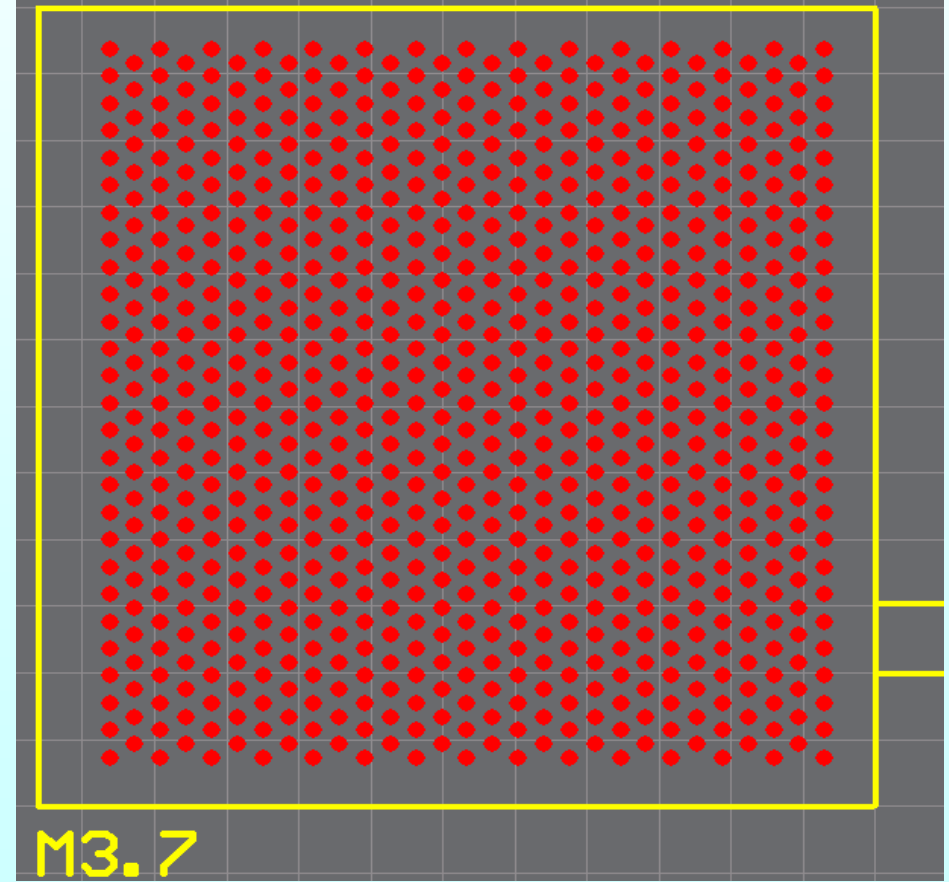
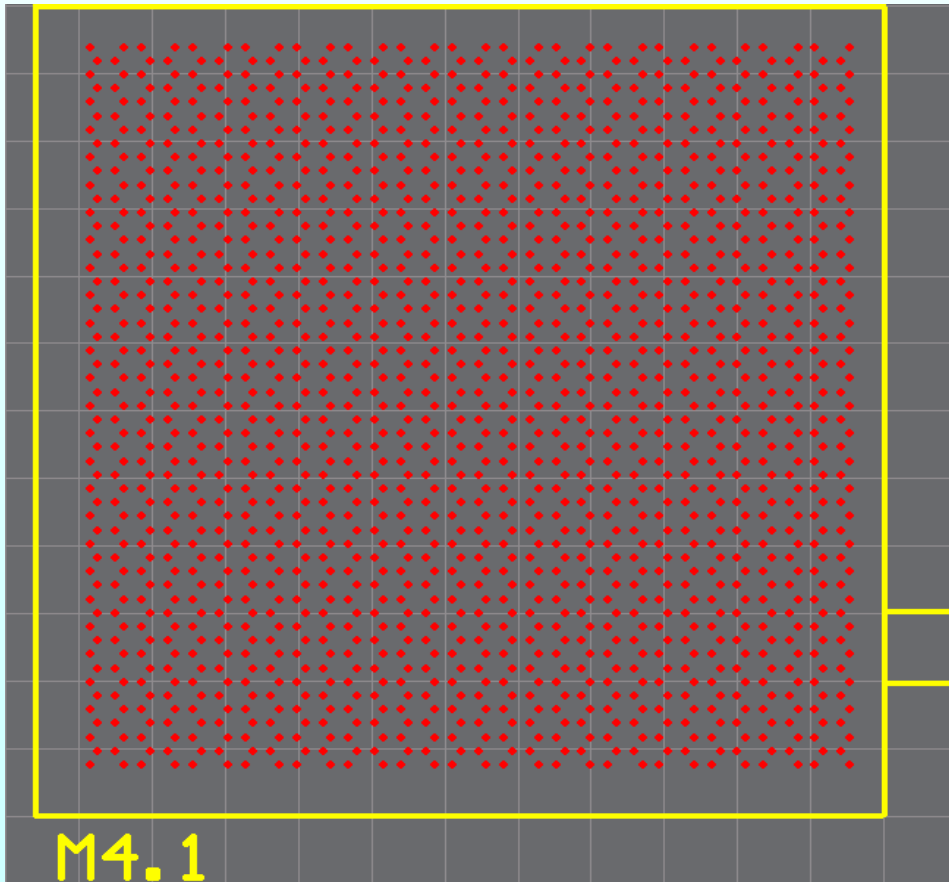


M3.9: $T=0.4\text{mm}, R=0.6\text{mm}, P=1.2\text{mm}$

M4.1: $T=0.8\text{mm}, R=0.3\text{mm}, P=0.6\text{mm}$

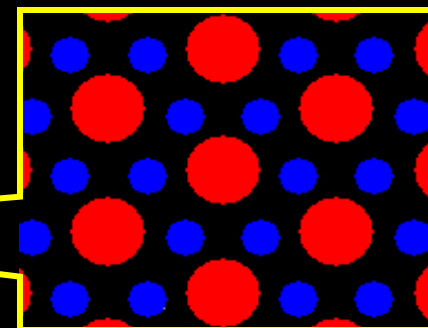
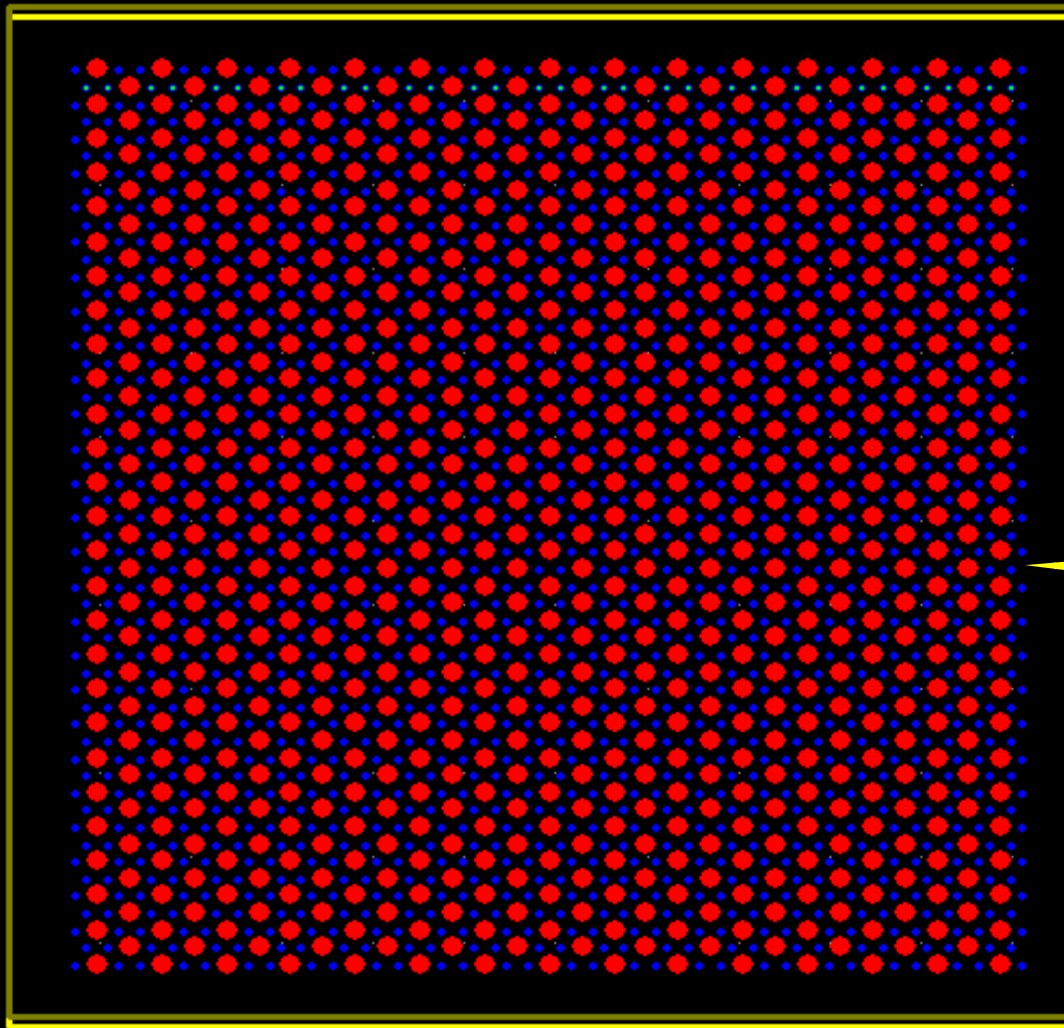
Drift dis. 10.6mm
Transfer dis. 2.5mm
Induction dis. 2.5mm

4. Check the IBF effect using M4.1 / M3.7 configuration.



“FLOWER” THGEM

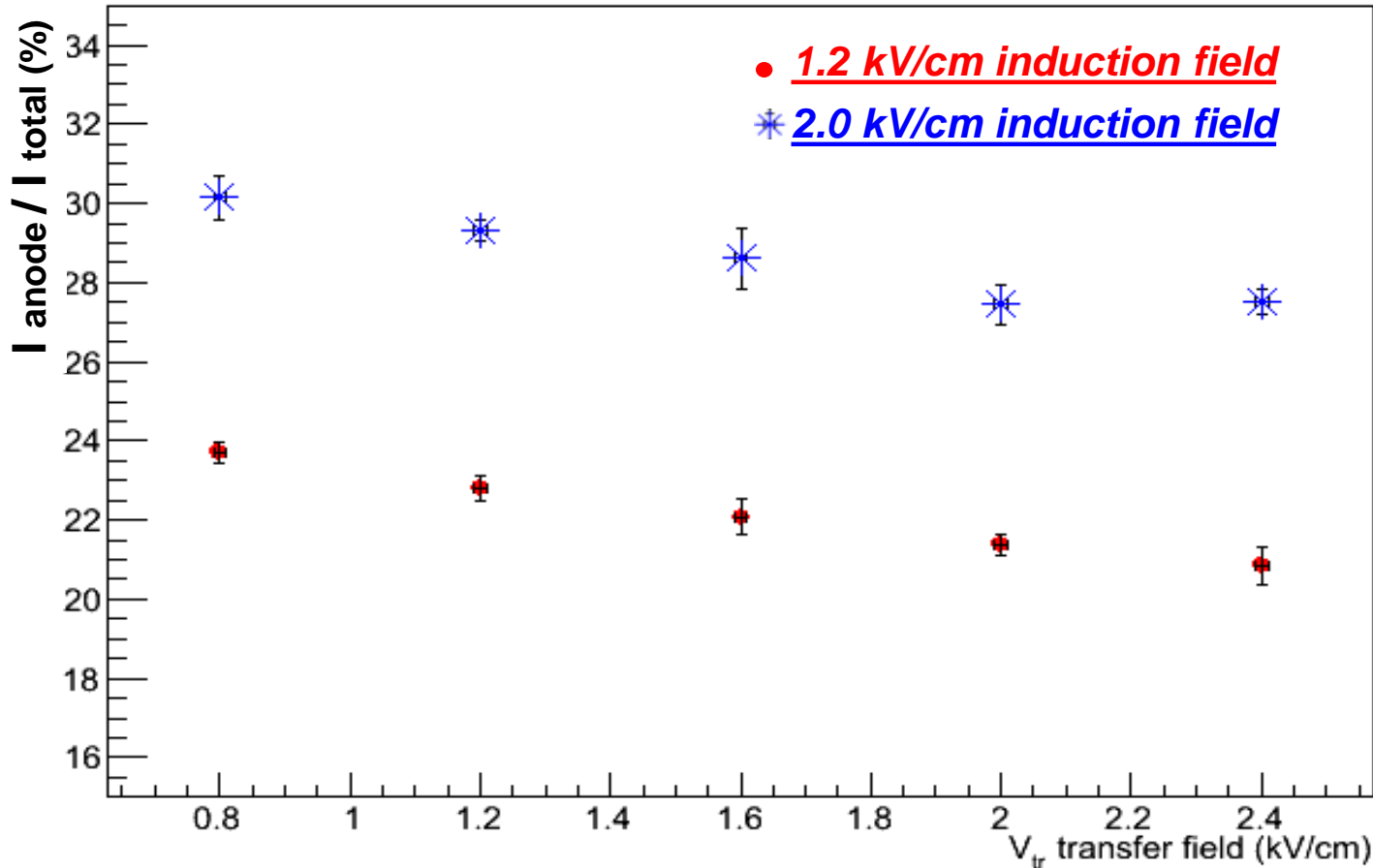
M4.7



M3.7

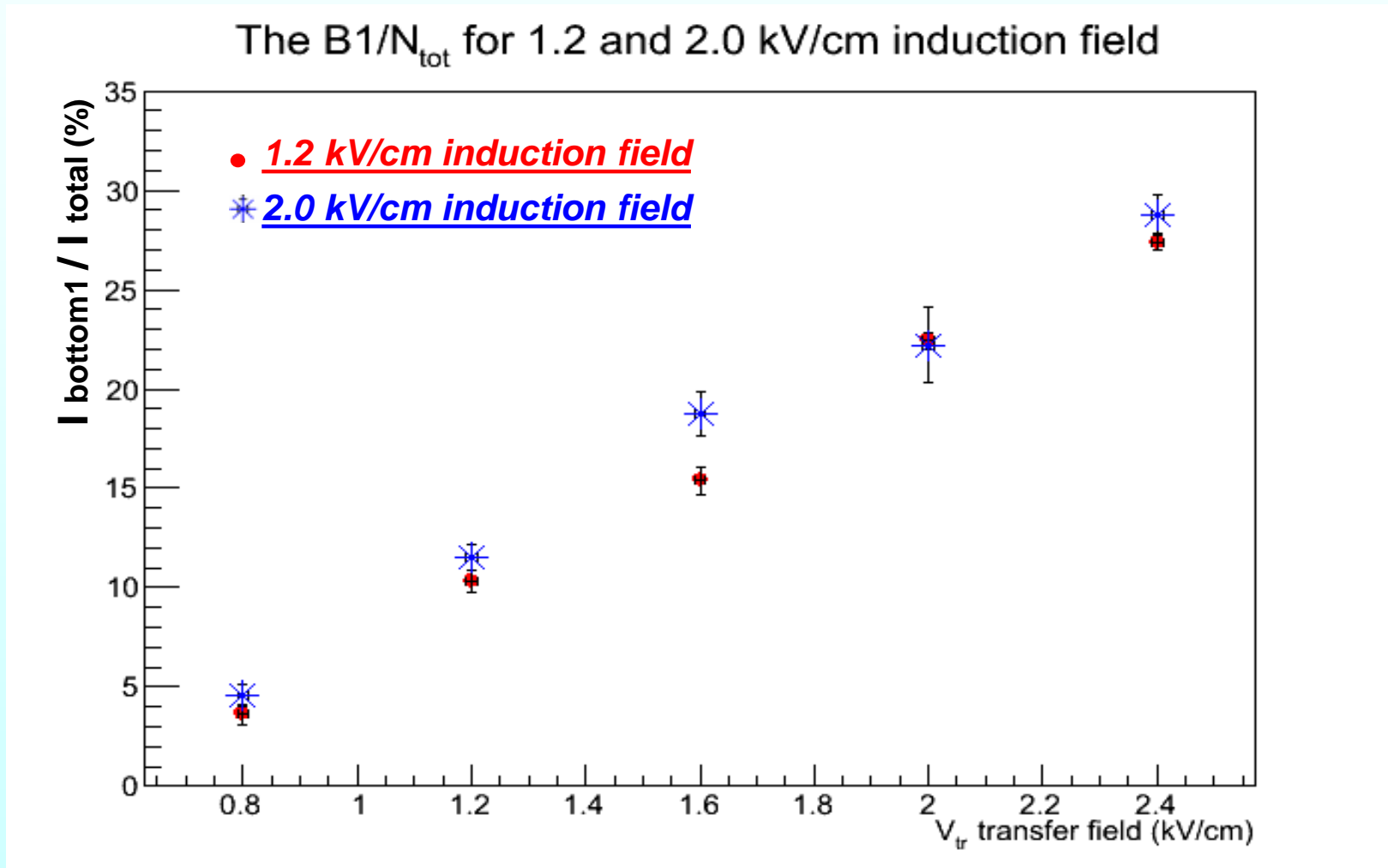
Anodic current (A/Tot)

The Anode collection efficiency for 1.2 and 2.0 kV/cm induction field



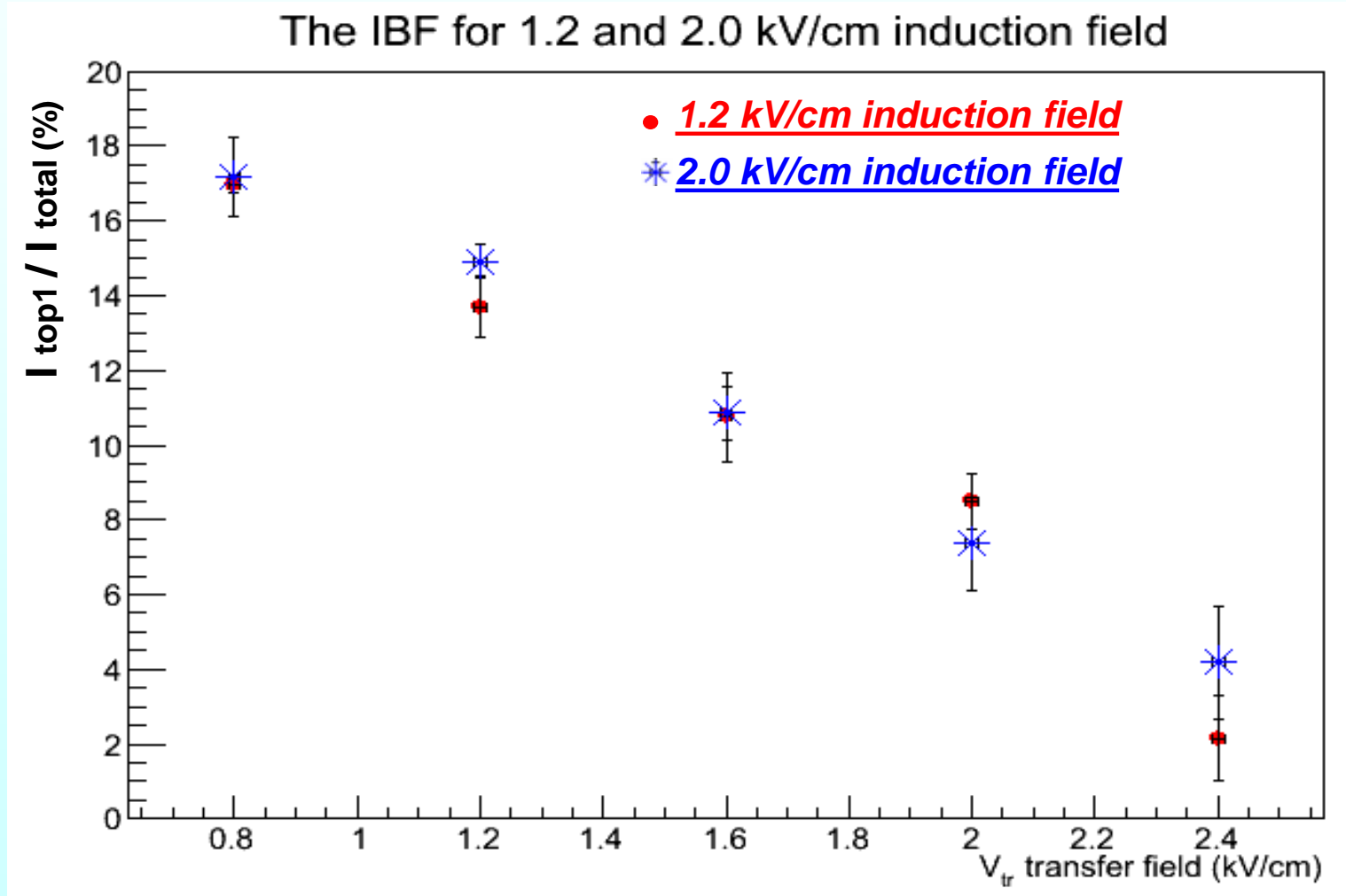
Anode current is almost not affected by the transfer field value

The ions collected at B1 ($B1/N_{tot}$)



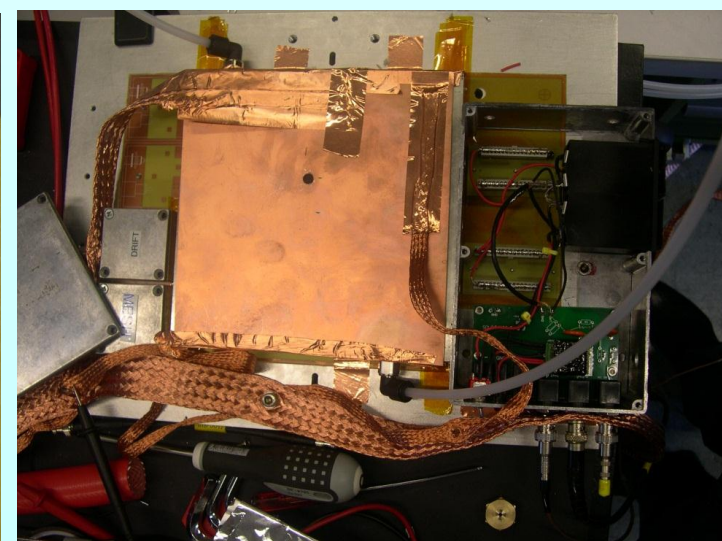
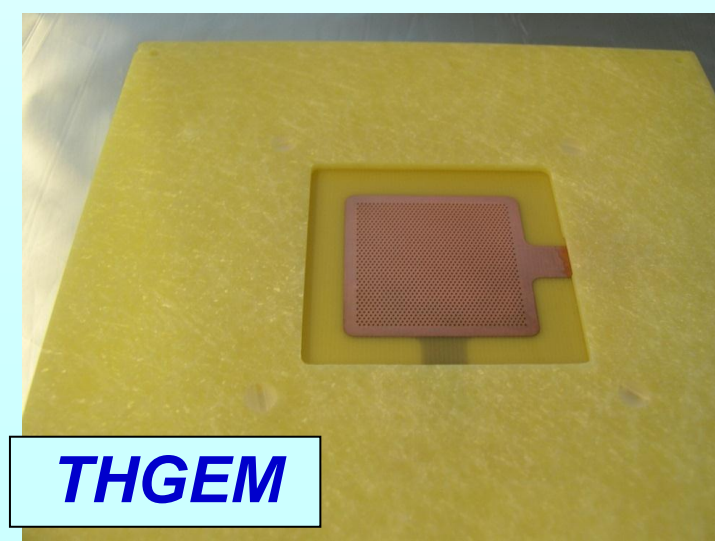
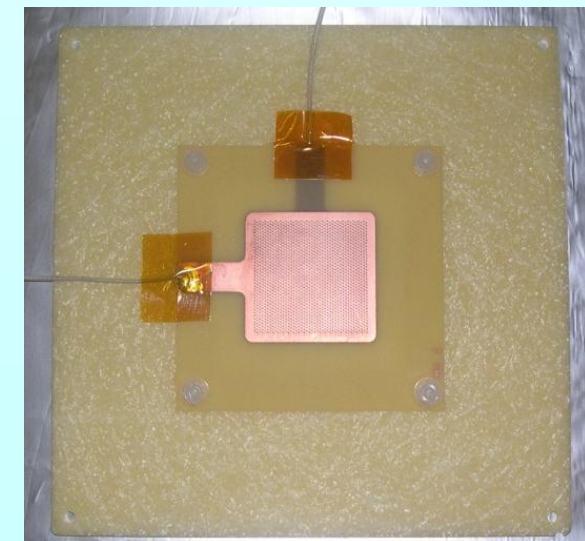
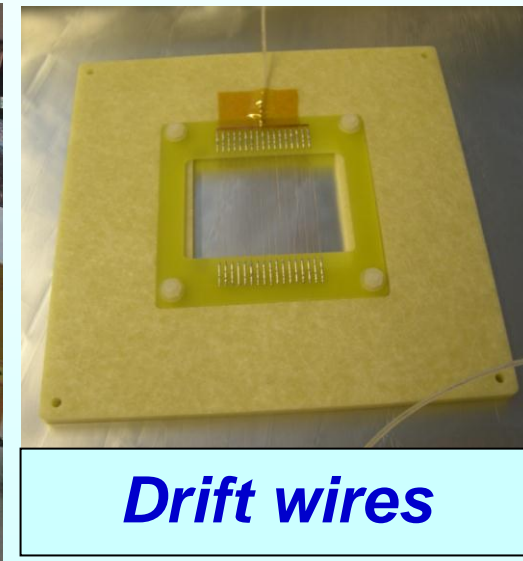
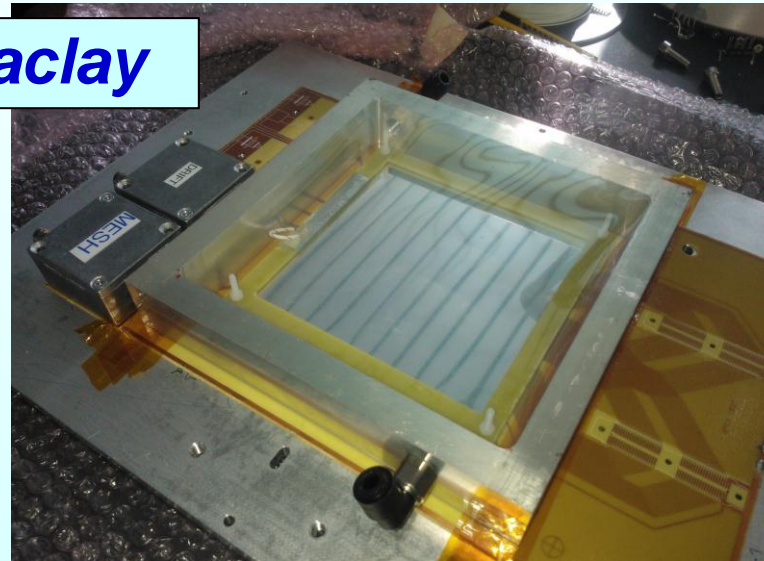
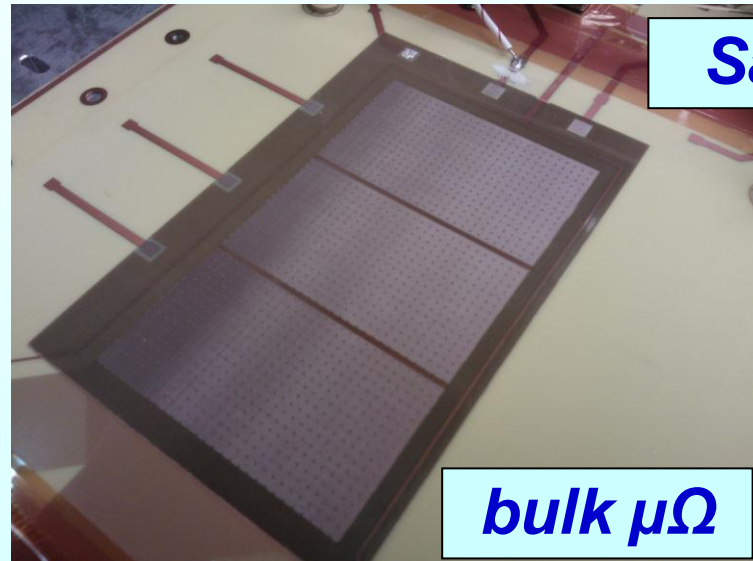
More ions are collected at B1 when transfer field increases

IBF measurement ($T1/T_{\text{Tot}}$)

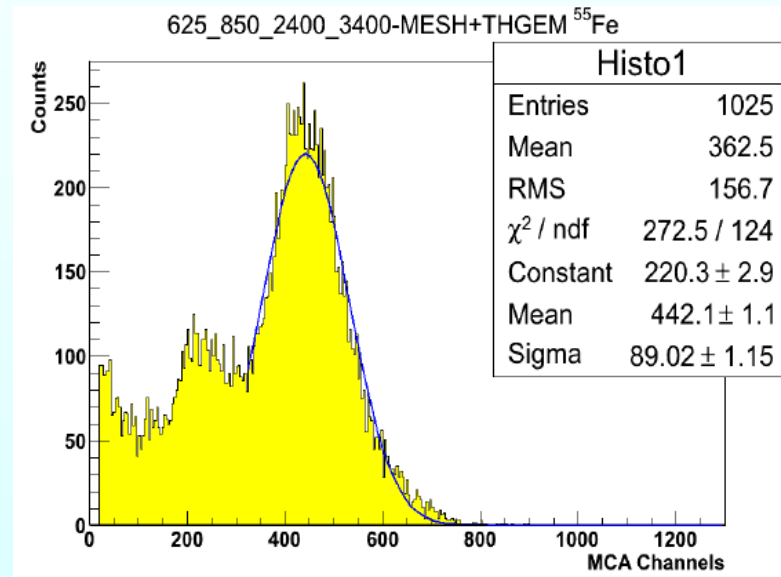
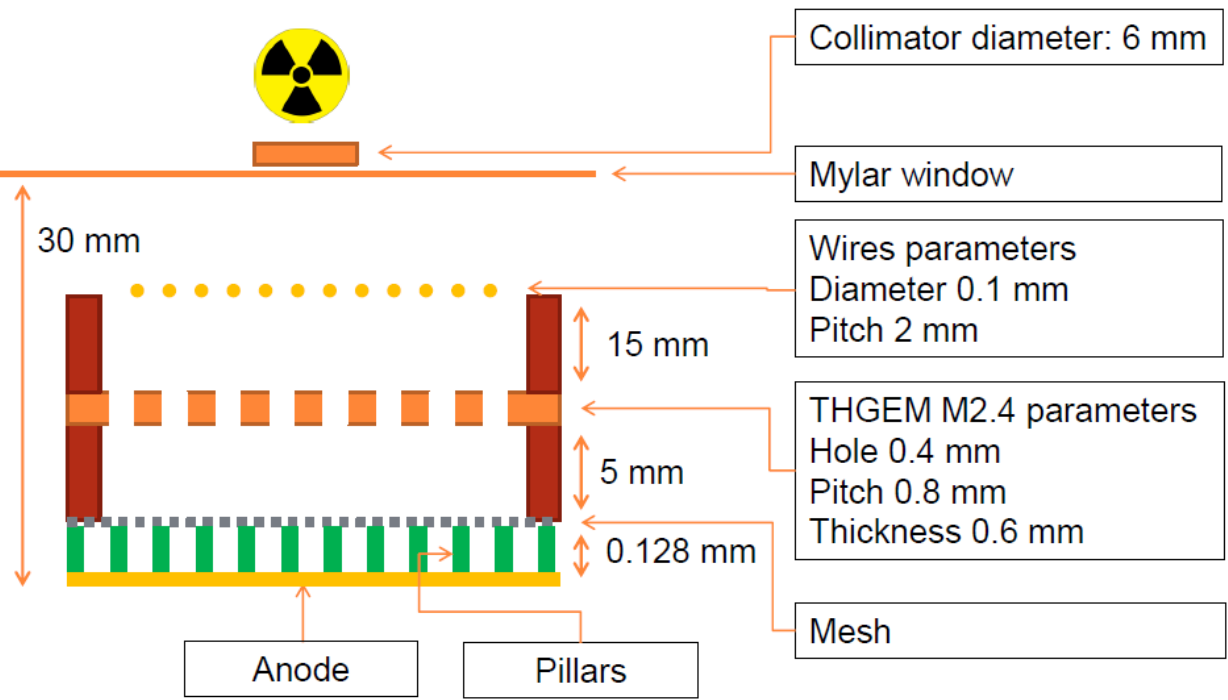


The IBF decreases dramatically when the transfer field increases.

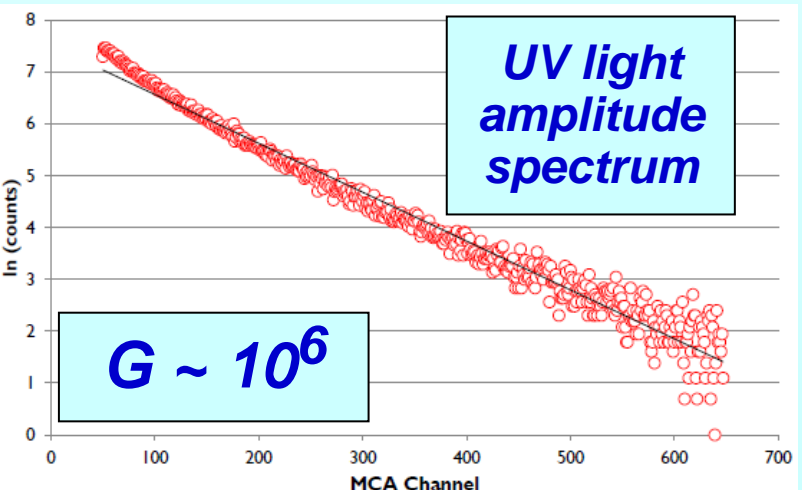
**Courtesy of COMPASS CEA-Saclay colleagues:
(many thanks to Damien Neyret)
we could mount one THGEM on top of their Micromega**



IBF: Very promising preliminary results from hybrid detector: THGEM + Micromega



⁵⁵Fe source, G ~ 250000



**gas: Ar/CO₂ 70/30, source: ⁵⁵Fe or UV LED (245 nm)
r/o Cremat CR100 + spark protection
Signal amplified (ORTEC) and read by MCA**

| Electrode: | drift | THGEM top | THGEM bottom | mesh | anode |
|------------|-------|------------|--------------|------|-------|
| charge: | 0 % | 4 % | 0% | 96% | -100% |

SUMMARY OF THGEM IBF STUDY

- **IBF reduction is of utmost importance for large gain, large rate THGEM – based PDs operation**
- **Field optimization in standard geometry allows to go from 30% to 15%**
- **Complex geometries (“COBRA” like) are very effective but compromise the basic simplicity, robustness, low cost characteristics**
- **Adding a dedicated electrode for ion intercept provides IBF ~ 7% but adds engineering complications**
- **Misaligned holes configurations (staggered holes or “FLOWER”) may reduce IBF by one order of magnitude**
- **Very promising results from THGEM + Micromega structure : IBF ~ 4%**