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On behalf of the ATLAS Collaboration



Development of large size Micromegas  
detectors for the upgrade  
of the ATLAS experiment

# Outline

- ATLAS upgrade for the s-LHC
- MicroMegs (MM )Technology for the ATLAS New Small Whell (NSW) Upgrade
- The large MM chamber (1x2.4 m<sup>2</sup>) construction
- First large chamber characterization
- Conclusions

# ATLAS upgrade for the s-LHC

LHC upgrade to happen in three phases:

$$L_{\text{phase } 0} \sim 1 \times 10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} (\sim 2015)$$

$$L_{\text{phase } 1} \sim 2-3 \times 10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} (\sim 2018)$$

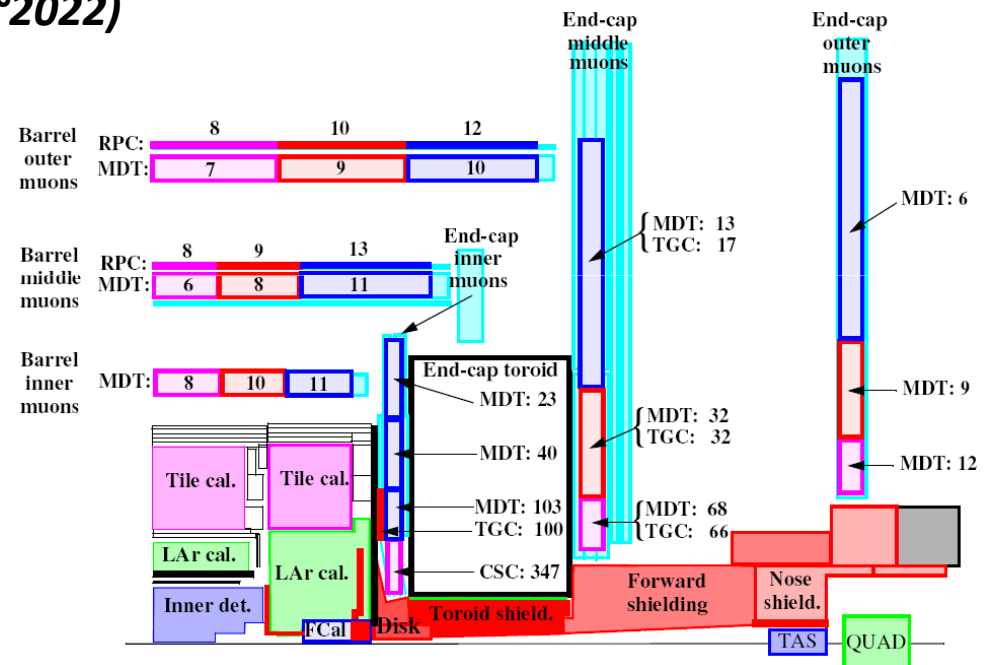
$$L_{\text{phase } 2} \sim 5 \times 10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} (\text{with luminosity leveling} \sim 2022)$$

Muon Spectrometer affected regions :

- End-Cap Inner (CSC,MDT,TGC)

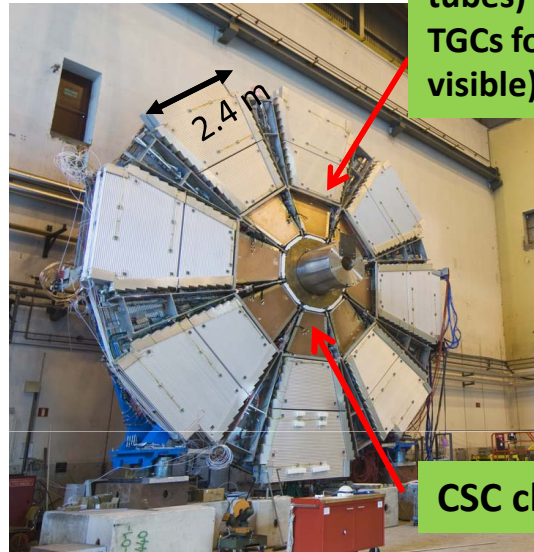
Total area  $\sim 150 \text{ m}^2$

Micromegas have been chosen as precision measurement detectors (but also trigger) of the New Small Wheel of ATLAS



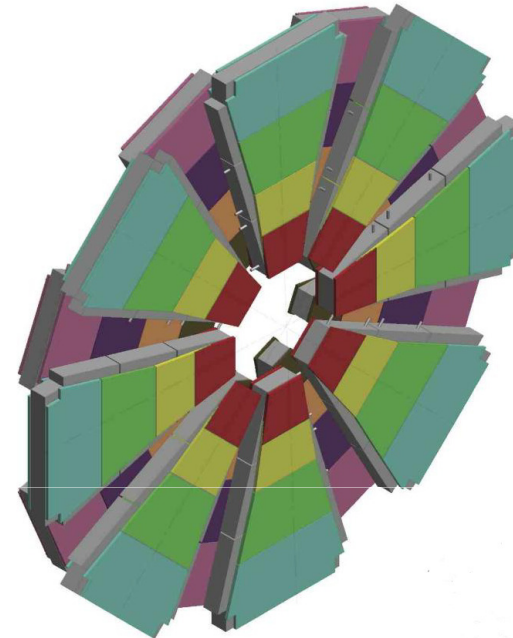
Average single plane counting rate (Hz/cm<sup>2</sup>) at the 10<sup>34</sup> nominal LHC luminosity (CERN-ATL-GEN-2005-001)

# ATLAS Small Wheel upgrade project



Today: MDT chambers (drift tubes) + TGCs for 2<sup>nd</sup> coordinate (not visible)

CSC chambers



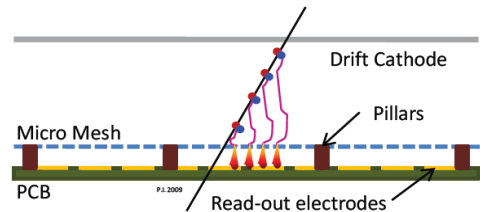
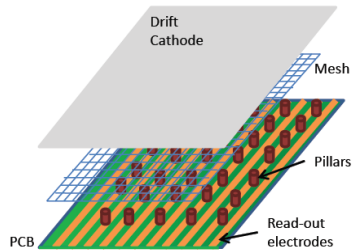
New Small Wheel Layout

Equip the New Small Wheels with sTGC and MicroMegas (MM) detectors

MM parameters:

- ✓ Detector dimensions: 1.5–2.5 m<sup>2</sup> per detector.
- ✓ Combine precision and 2<sup>nd</sup> coord. measurement as well as trigger functionality in a single device
- ✓ Each detector technology comprises eight active layers, arranged in two multilayers
- ✓ MM 2<sup>nd</sup> coord will be achieved by using  $\pm 1.5^\circ$  stereo strips in half of the planes.
  - 2M readout channels
  - A total of about 1200 m<sup>2</sup> of detection layers

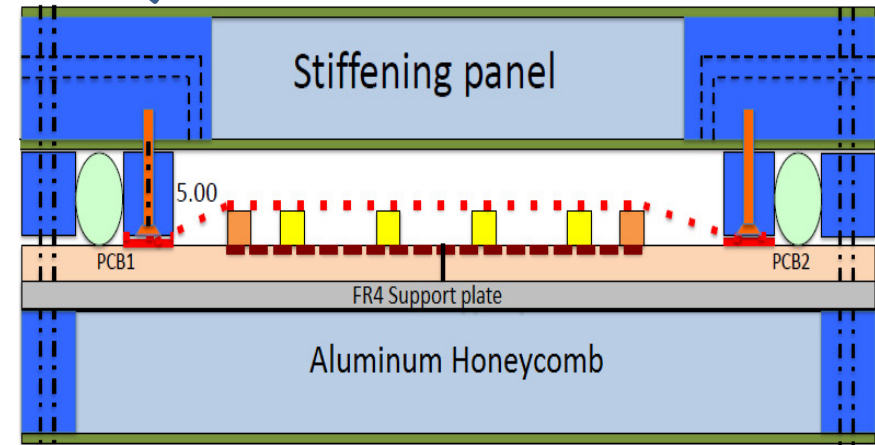
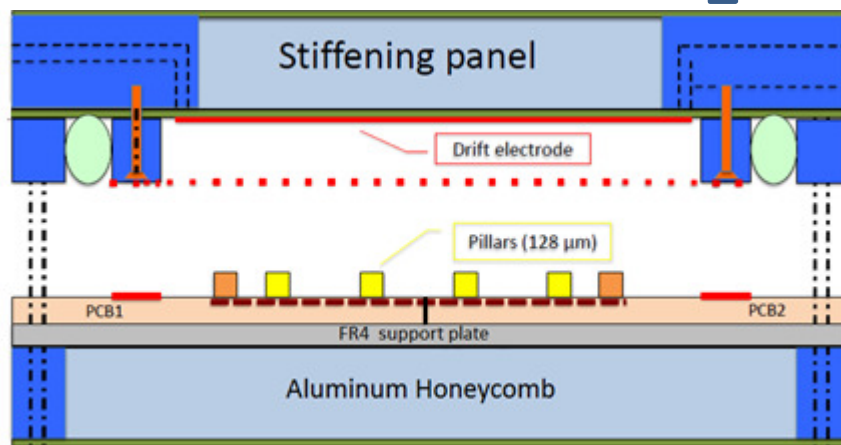
# MicroMegas Technology for the ATLAS NSW Upgrade



- **Micromegas** (I. Giomataris et al., NIM A 376 (1996) 29)

are parallel-plate chambers where the amplification takes place in a thin gap, separated from the conversion region by a fine metallic mesh.

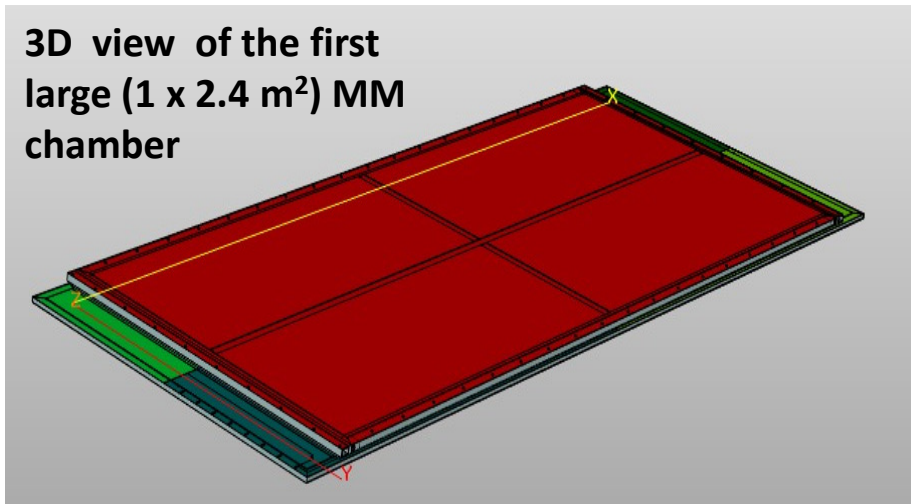
We opted for a non-bulk technique (**floating mesh**) that uses also pillars to keep the mesh at a defined distance from the board, the mesh is integrated with the drift-electrode panel and placed on the pillars when the chamber is closed. This allows us to build very large chambers using standard printed circuit boards (PCB).



# The 1 x 2.4 m<sup>2</sup> chamber

- **Parameters:**
  - Chamber dimensions: 1 x 2.4 m<sup>2</sup>
  - 2 x 2048 strips separated in the middle
  - Four PCBs (0.5 x 1.2 m<sup>2</sup>, thickness 0.5 mm) glued to a 10 mm thick stiffening panel
  - Floating mesh, integrated into drift-electrode panel (15 mm thick)
  - PCBs made at CERN, resistive strips have been printed in industry using screen printing technique

**3D view of the first large (1 x 2.4 m<sup>2</sup>) MM chamber**



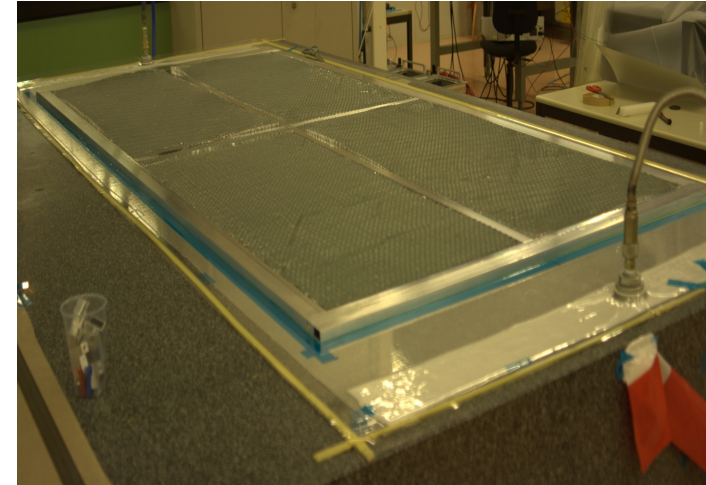


# Construction procedure

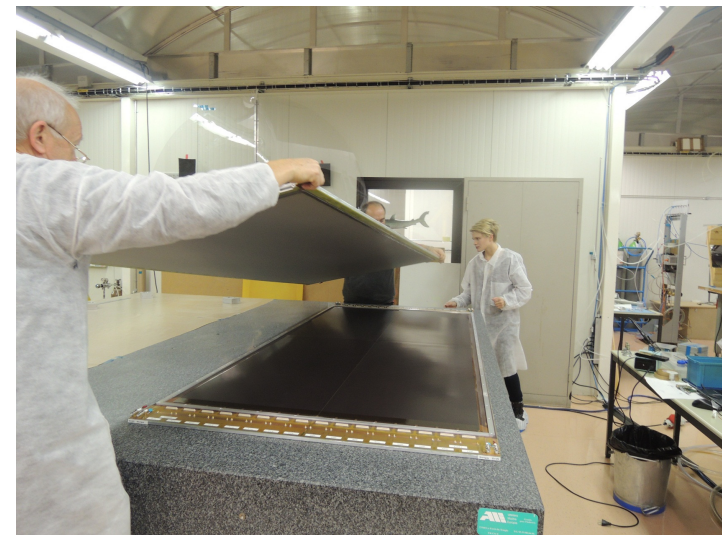
- On the granite table a vacuum sucking system was installed using a thin plastic mesh covered by a thin perforated plastic foil
- The FR4 sheets and the MM PCBs were then placed on the table, aligned, and sucked to the table to create a flat surface.



1) Honeycomb and aluminium frame gluing on the FR4 sheets, on the second face the PCB (drift or r/o) will be glued



2) Read out panel completed



3) Chamber assembly



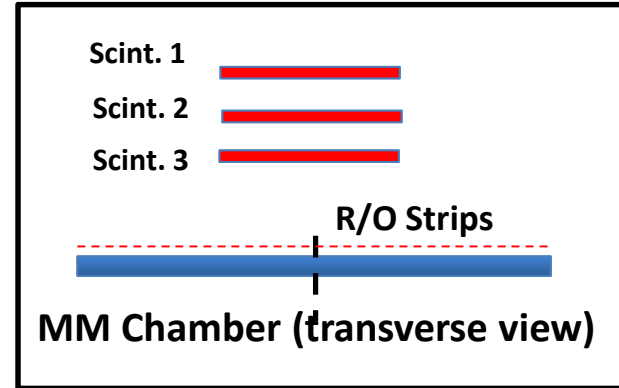
# Large chamber, first results

## Chamber parameters:

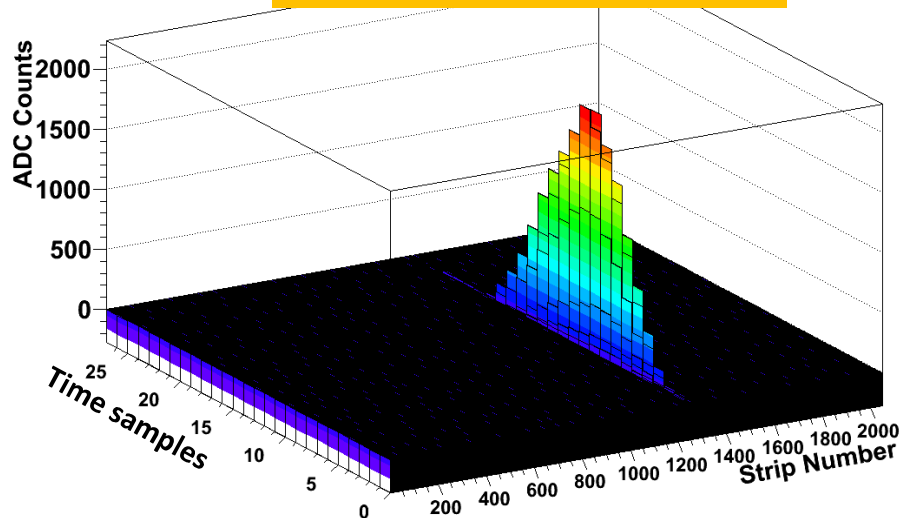
- 4096 r/o channels, 0.45 mm strip pitch
- 0.92 x 2.12 m<sup>2</sup> active area
- 5 mm drift space
- 128  $\mu$ m amplification gap
- Gas mixture Ar:CO<sub>2</sub> 93:7

## Operating parameters:

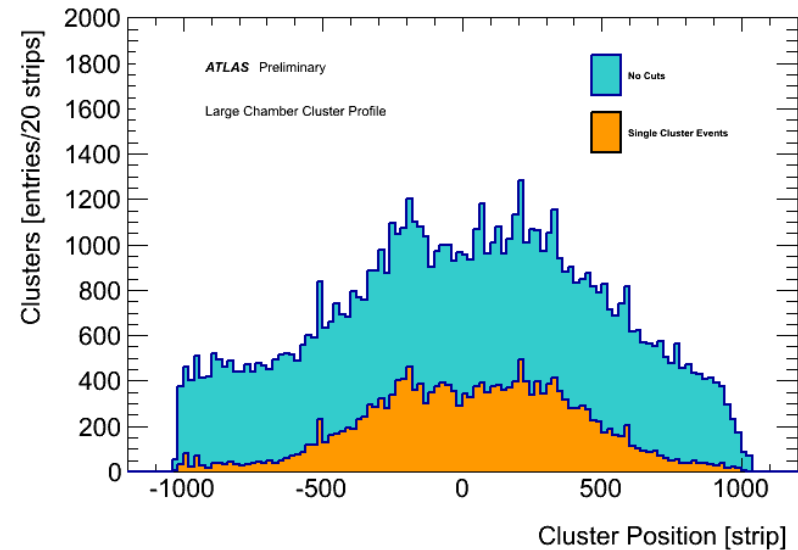
- HV Drift: 300 V
- HV Resistive Strips : 540-580 V



Signal from cosmic event in the Large MM chamber

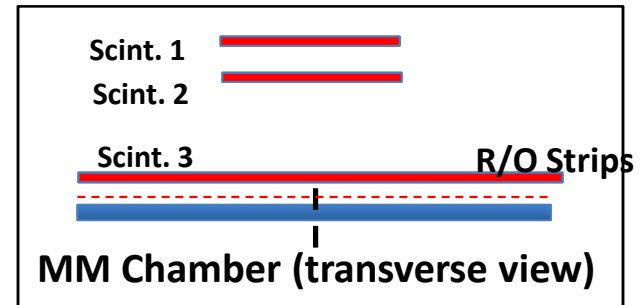
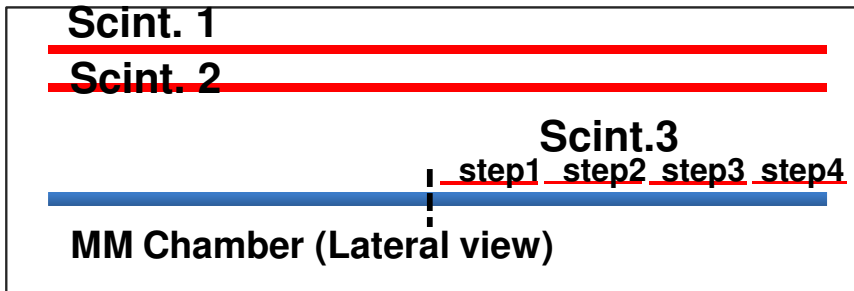


## Number of clusters vs strip position

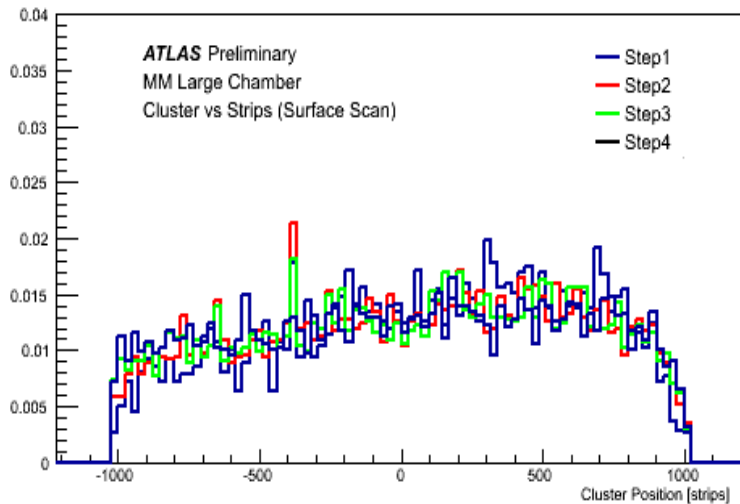




# Large chamber, first results

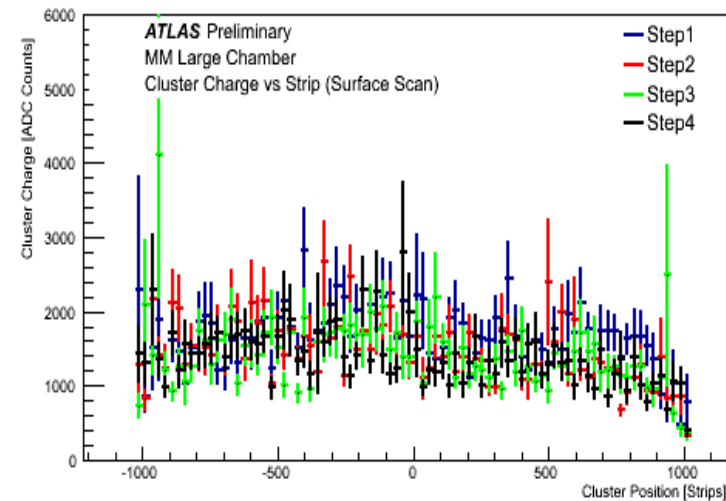


Number of clusters vs strip position as a function of distance from front-end



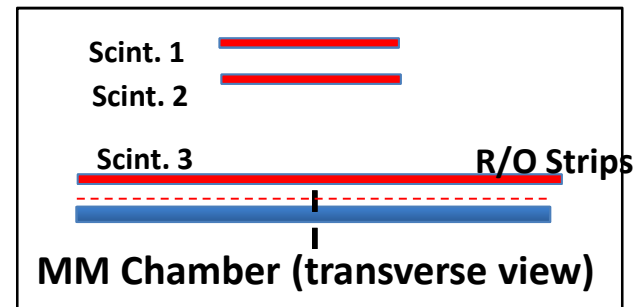
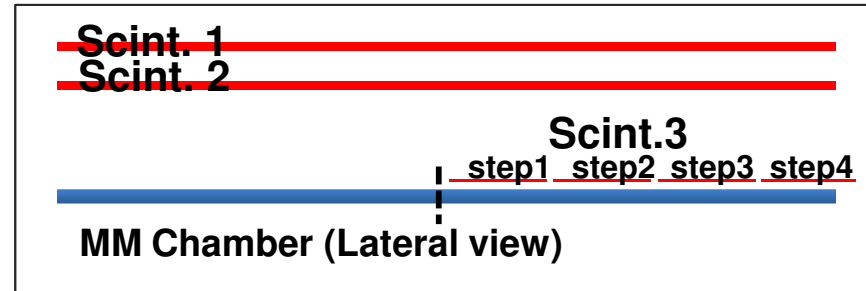
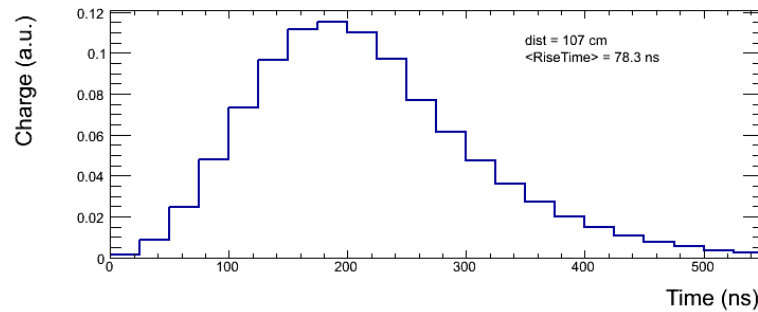
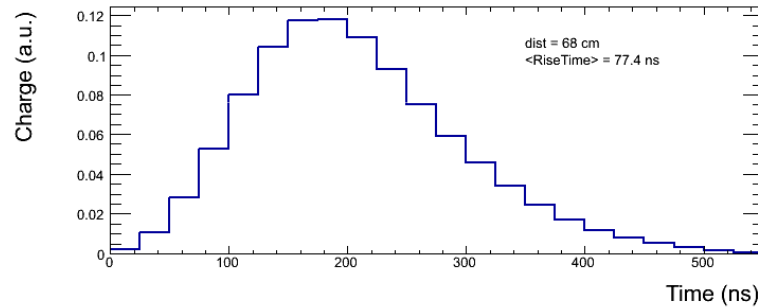
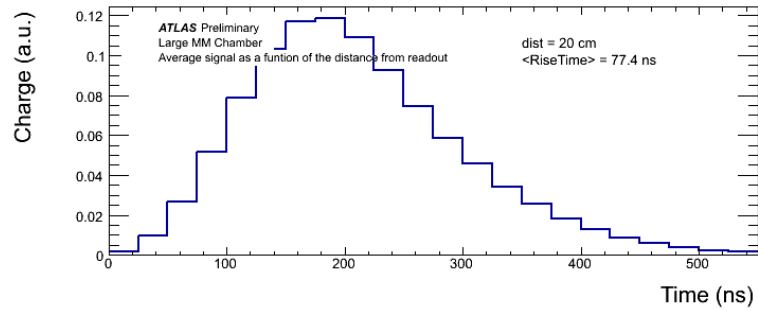
Transverse view

Cluster charge response uniformity across the chamber



Transverse view

# Large chamber, first results



The signal shape and the rise time are uniform and constant along the full strip length.

# Summary

- We have constructed a 1 x 2.4 m<sup>2</sup> Micromegas chamber with 0.45 mm strip pitch and 4096 r/o channels, the worldwide largest MM so far.
- It is made from four PCBs glued to a stiffener without dead space and a separate single mesh covering the full area.
- The chamber is working smoothly and shows a reasonably uniform response over the full detector area.
- No signal reduction over the 1m strip length has been observed.
- A second 1 x 2.4 m<sup>2</sup> MM has been constructed (where a few of the shortcomings of the first one have been fixed); it is working smoothly as well and is now under study.
- The technology here presented is fully suitable for the upgrade of the ATLAS NSW.

**Thanks for your attention**