

Development of Au-coated THGEM for Single Photon, Charged Particle, and Neutron Detection

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Introduction

The THGEM has been studied and promoted continually since it was reported for the first time[1]. The study of THGEMs in China has been active in recent years[2,3]. We report the development of Au-coated THGEMs produced totally from homemade industrial PCB technology in China. This development aims at producing THGEMs with high performance for a wide range of structure parameters, and feasibility of mass production with a high rate of finished products. More than 100 THGEM samples have been produced and tested. The test results using X-rays, VUV&UV lights, cosmic ray muons, and alpha particles are presented and verify that these kinds of THGEM can be used for single photon, charged particle and neutron detection.

THGEM Production [4]

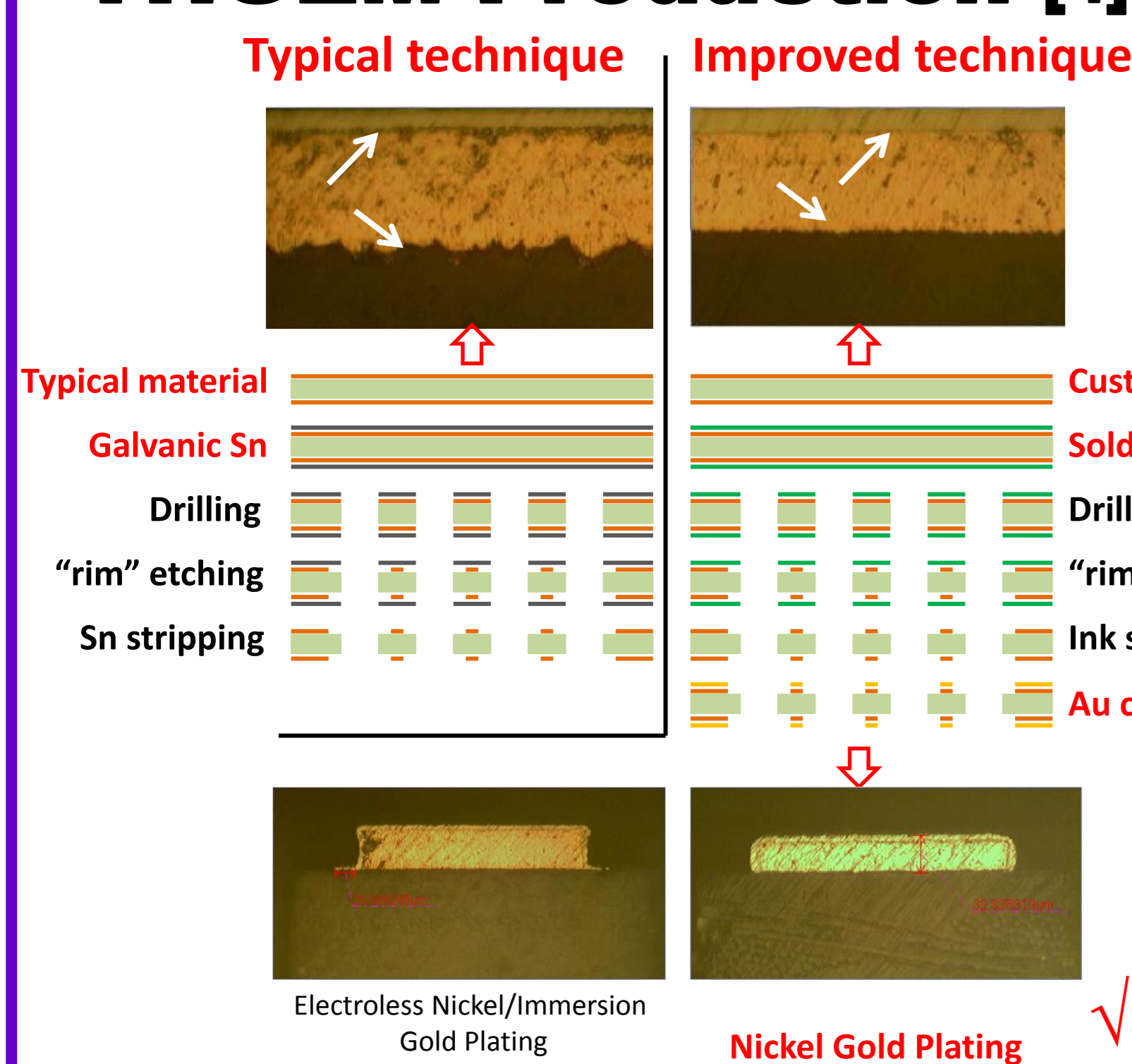


Fig. 1 THGEM production procedures.

Characteristics

- Totally based on homemade industrial PCB technology in China, all in factory.
- Sensitive area: $\leq 500 \times 1000 \text{ mm}^2$
- Minimum total thickness: $150 \mu\text{m}$
- Minimum hole diameter: $200 \mu\text{m}$
- Rim size: $20 - 120 \mu\text{m}$
- Substrates: FR-4, Ceramic, PTFE, Kapton
- Cost: $\leq 40\%$ of that by CERN
- Feasibility of mass production
- High rate of finished products: $>70\%$

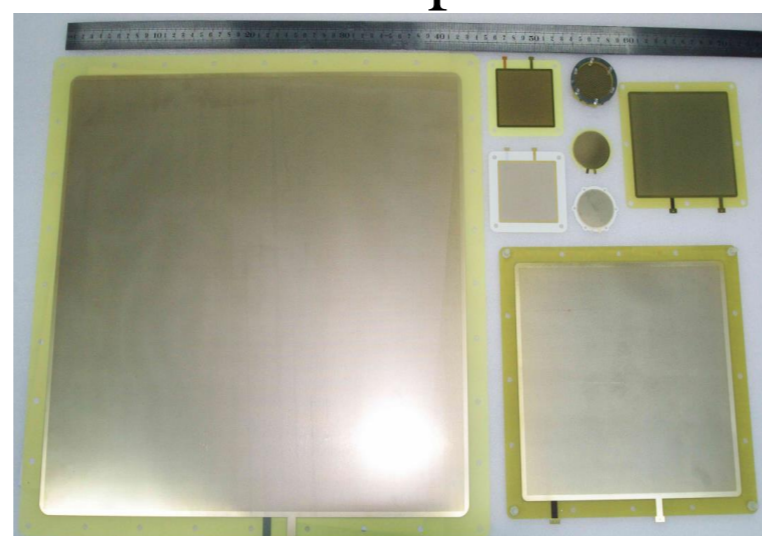
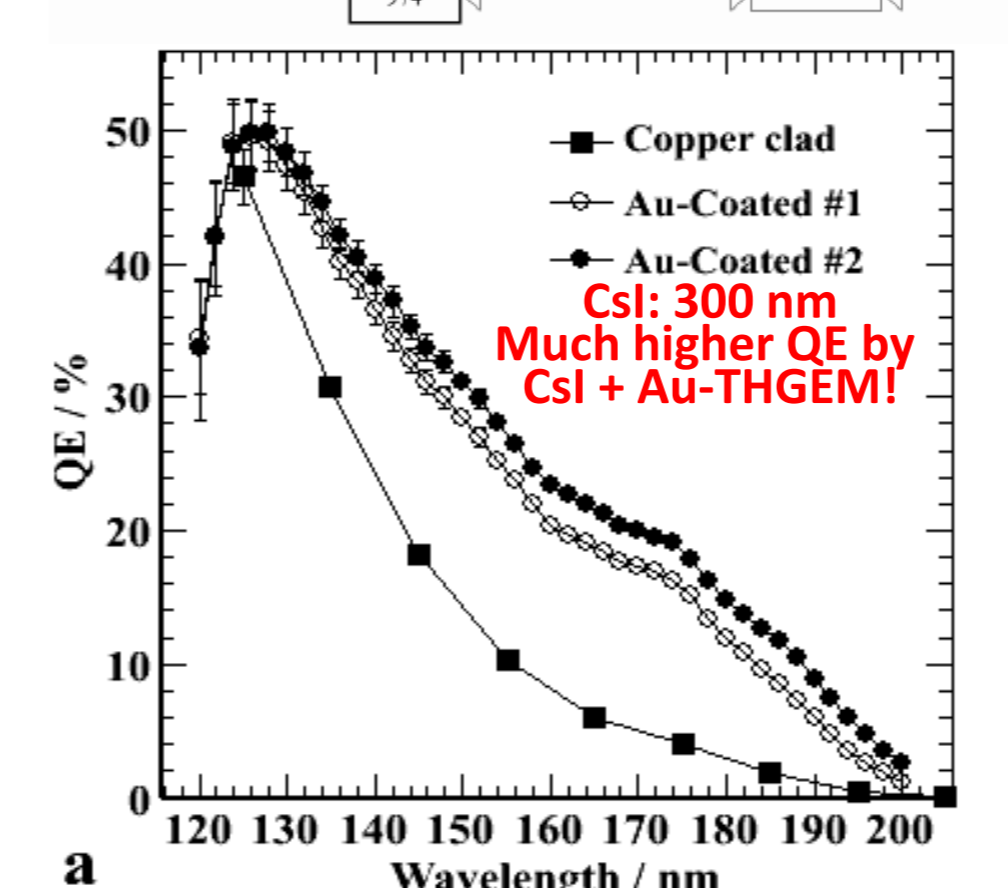
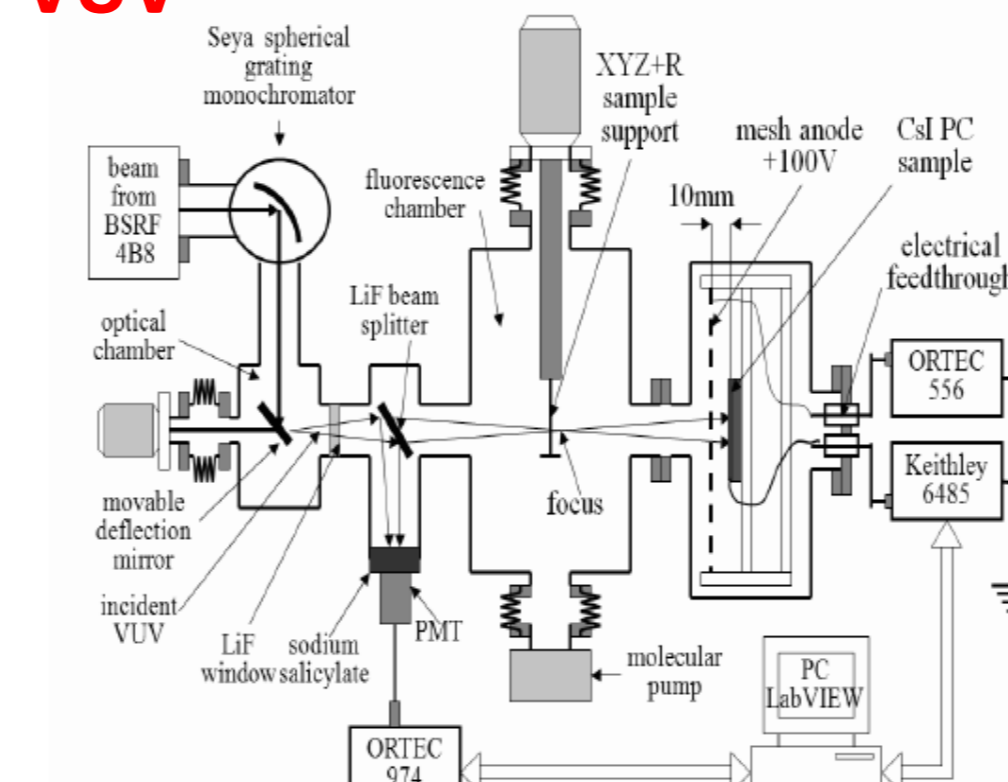


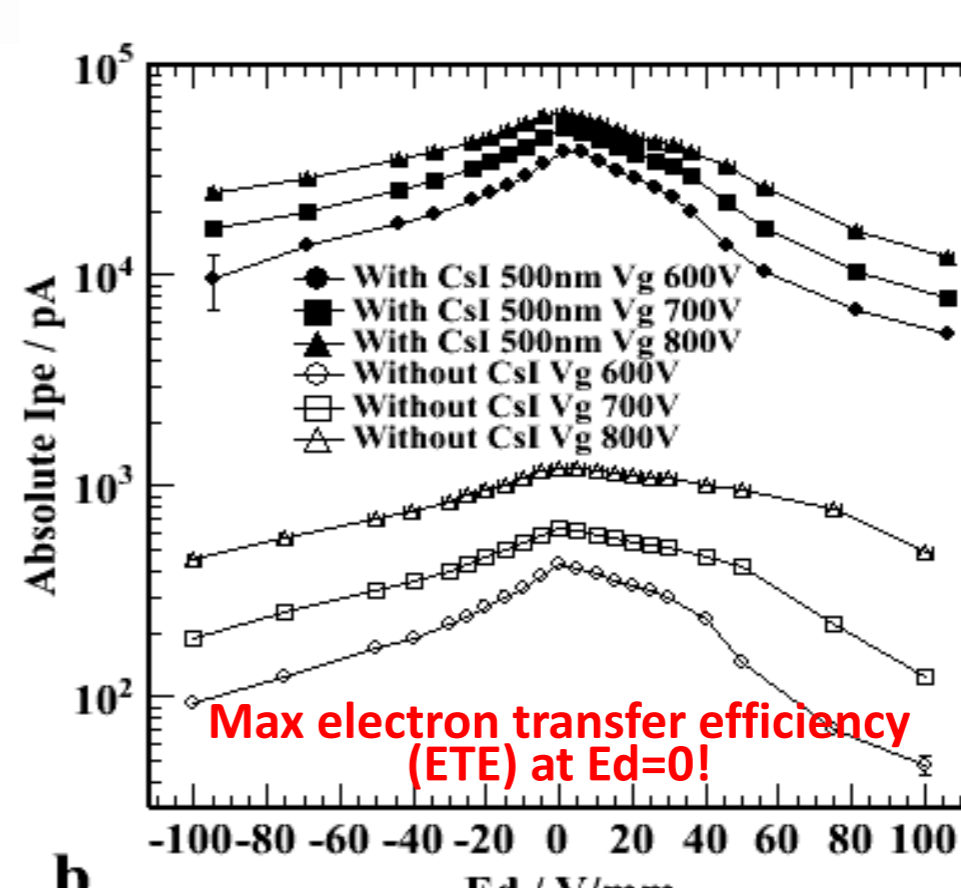
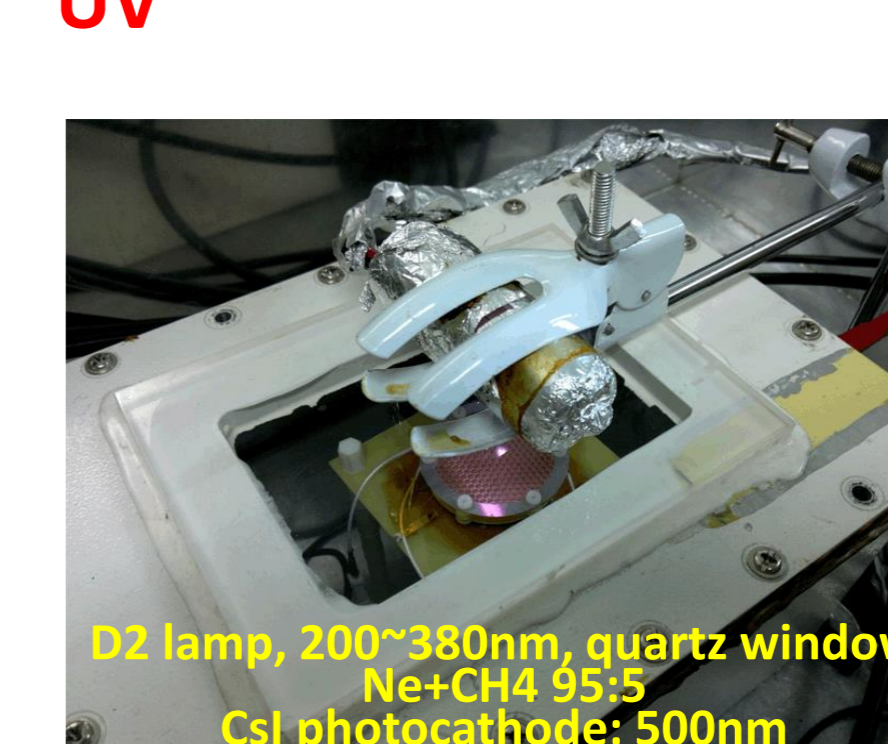
Fig. 2 THGEM samples made and tested.

VUV&UV, Cosmic ray muon and α test

VUV



UV



Gain for single photon

- Ed contributes to gain;
- Max ETE required $E_d = 0$;
- High gain is necessary for single photon detection (such as gaseous photonmultiplier (GPM));
- It is shown that both high ETE and high gain ($>1 \times 10^5$) can be obtained when $E_d = 0 \text{ kV/cm}$.

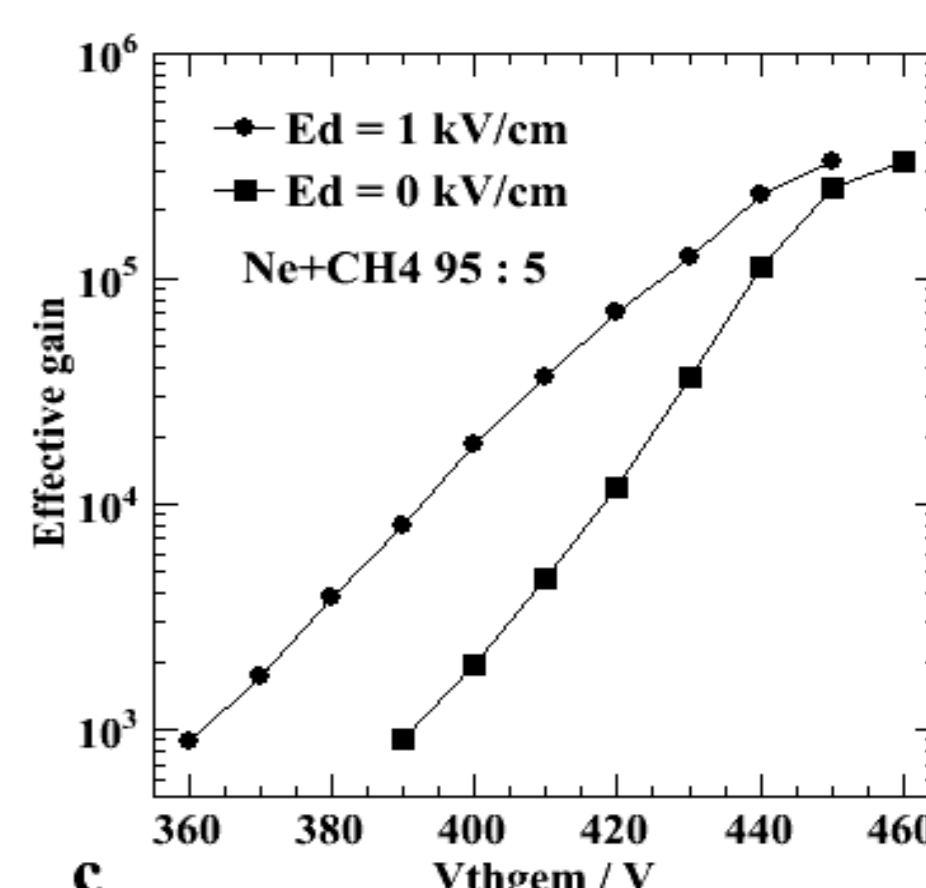


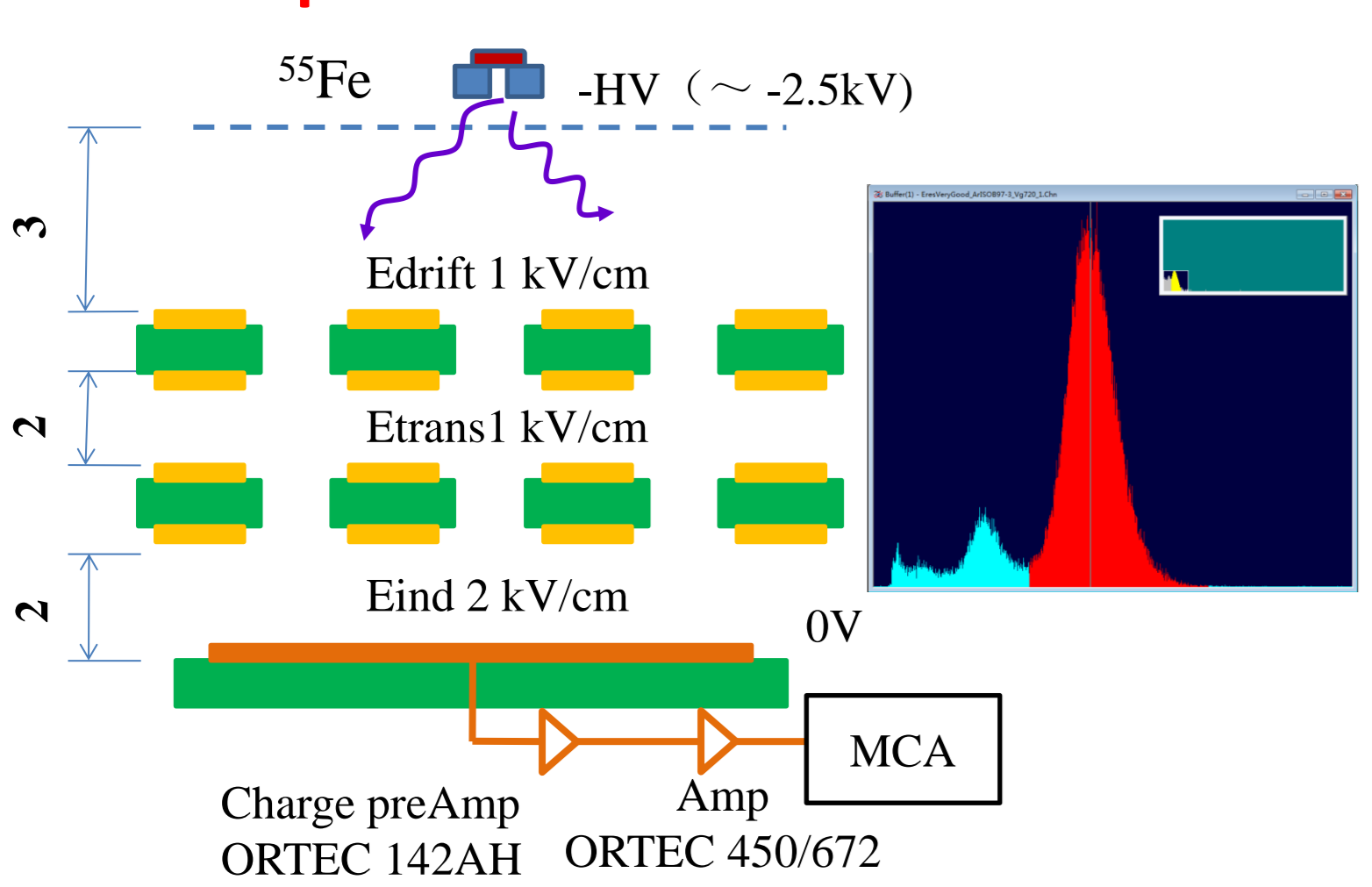
Fig. 3 VUV test and results (at BSRF).

Fig. 4 UV test and results (DC mode).

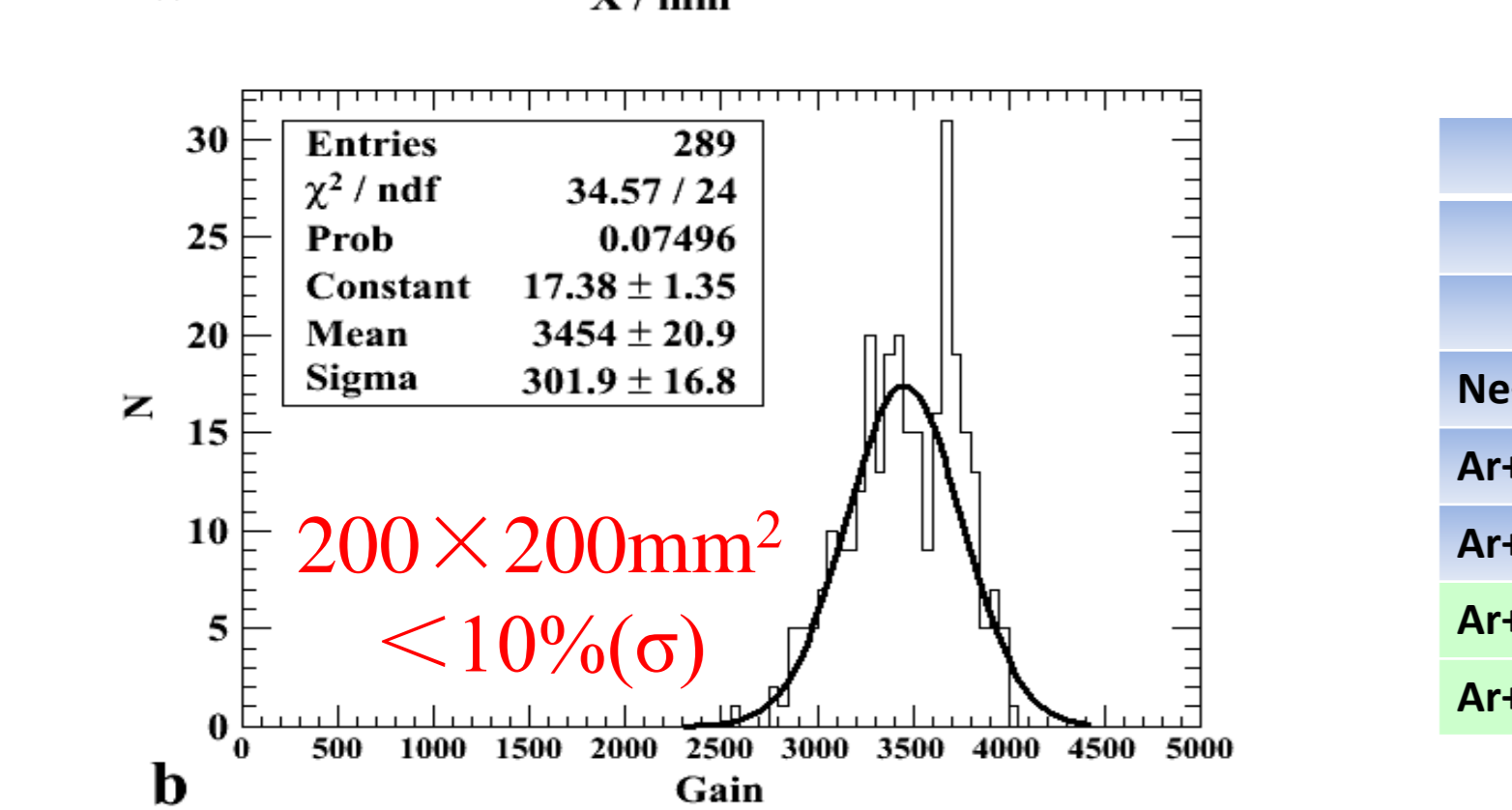
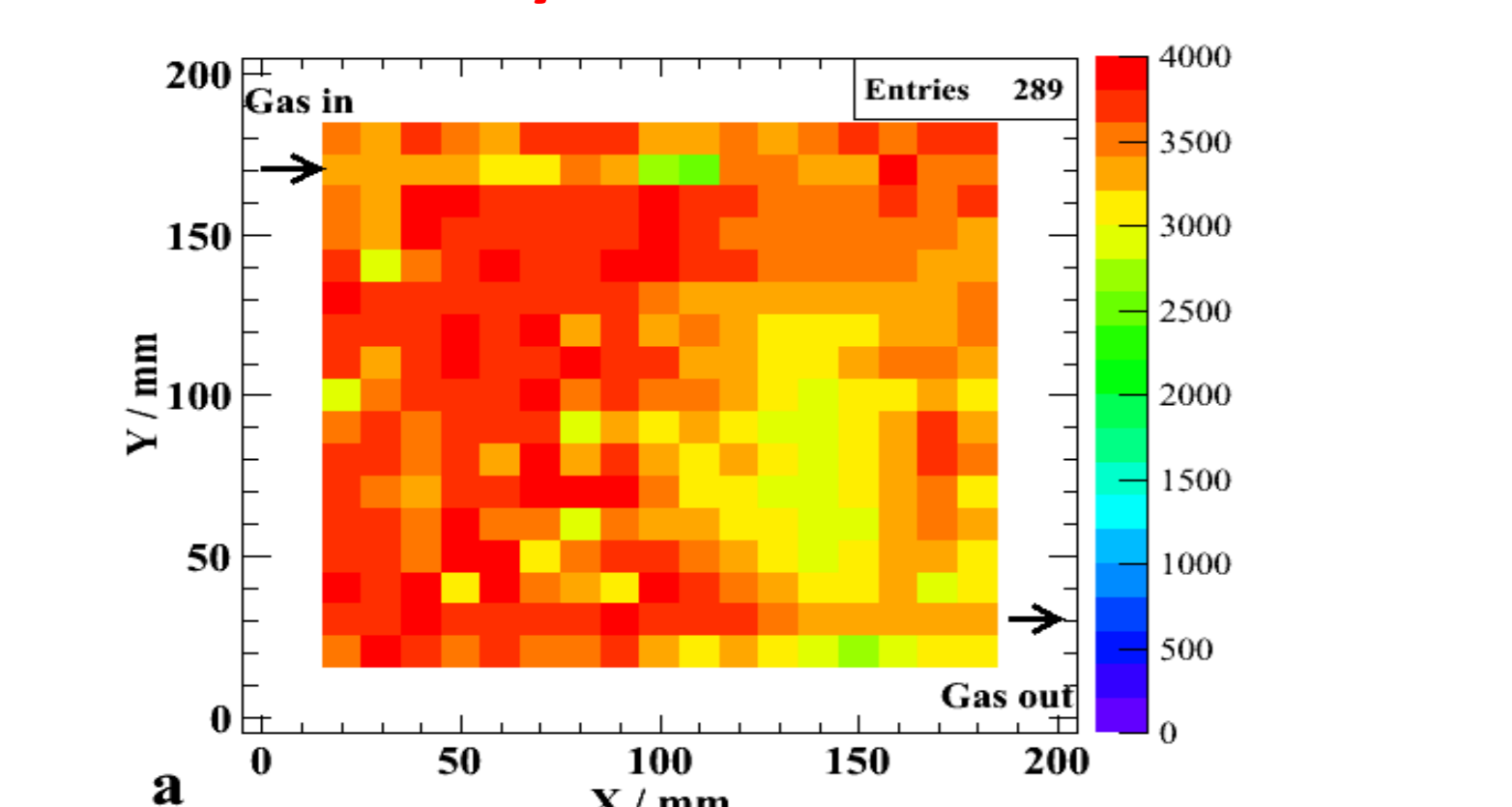
Fig. 5 Gain for single photon detection (triple THGEM).

THGEM Performance

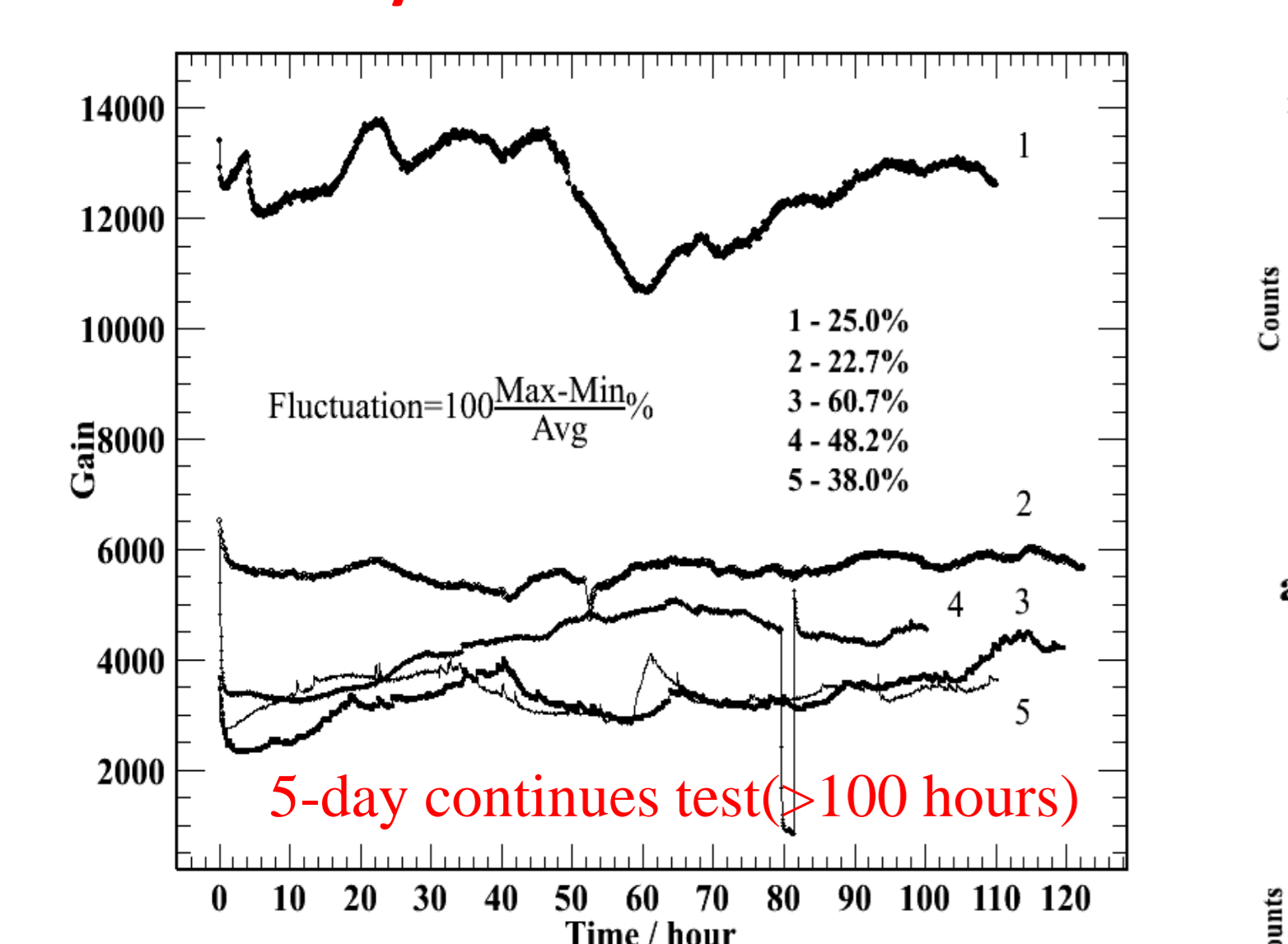
Test setup



Gain uniformity

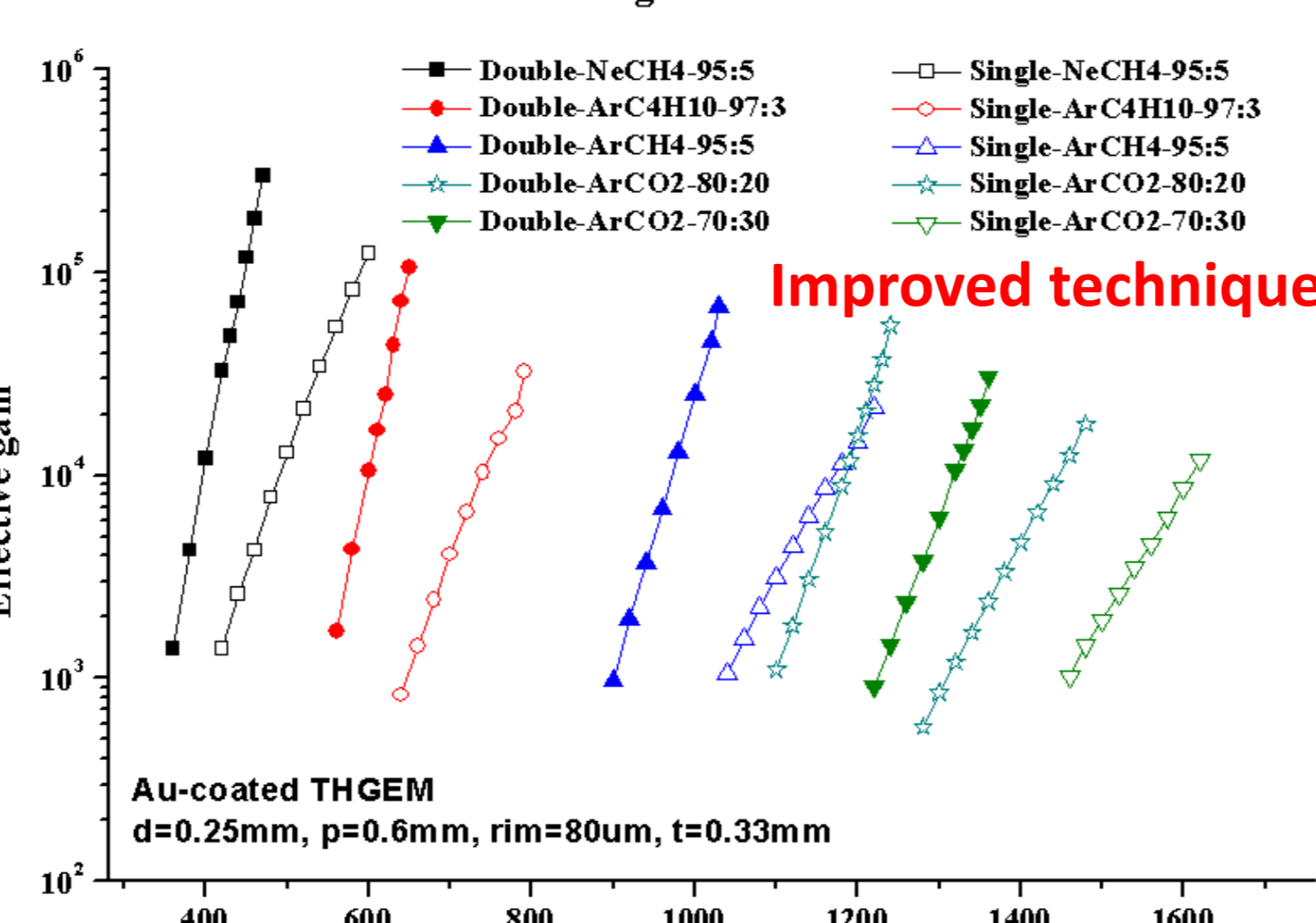
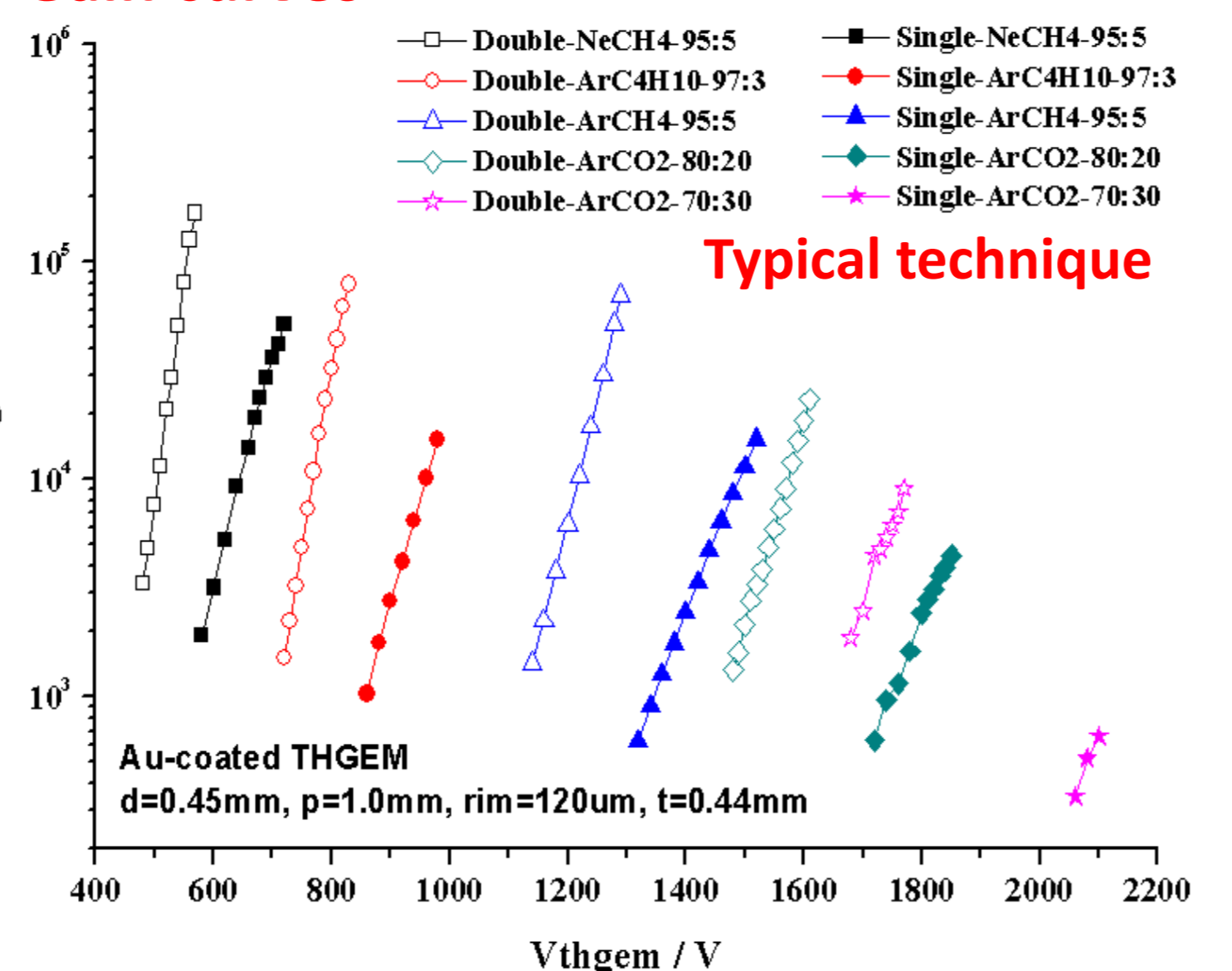


Gain stability



- 1) $\phi 38 \text{ mm}$, double layer, Ne+CH4 = 95:5 @ 1.25×10^4 .
- 2) $50 \times 50 \text{ mm}^2$, single layer, Ar+CH4 = 95:5 @ 5.66×10^3 .
- 3) $50 \times 50 \text{ mm}^2$, single layer, Ar+CO2 = 70:30 @ 3.34×10^3 .
- 4) $100 \times 100 \text{ mm}^2$, double layer, Ar+IsoB = 97:3 @ 4.2×10^3 .
- 5) $200 \times 200 \text{ mm}^2$, single layer, Ar+ISO = 97:3 @ 3.39×10^3 .

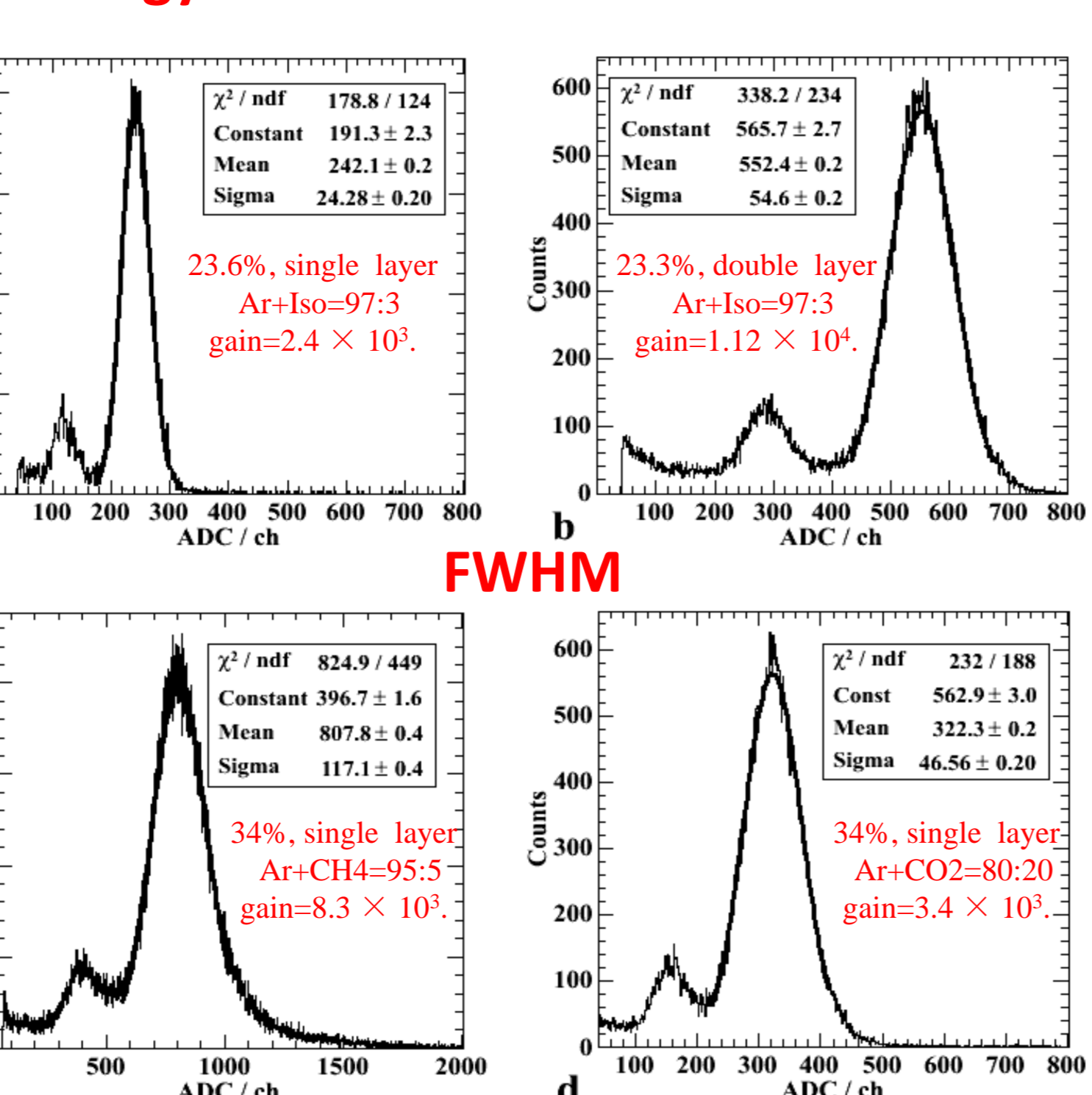
Gain curves



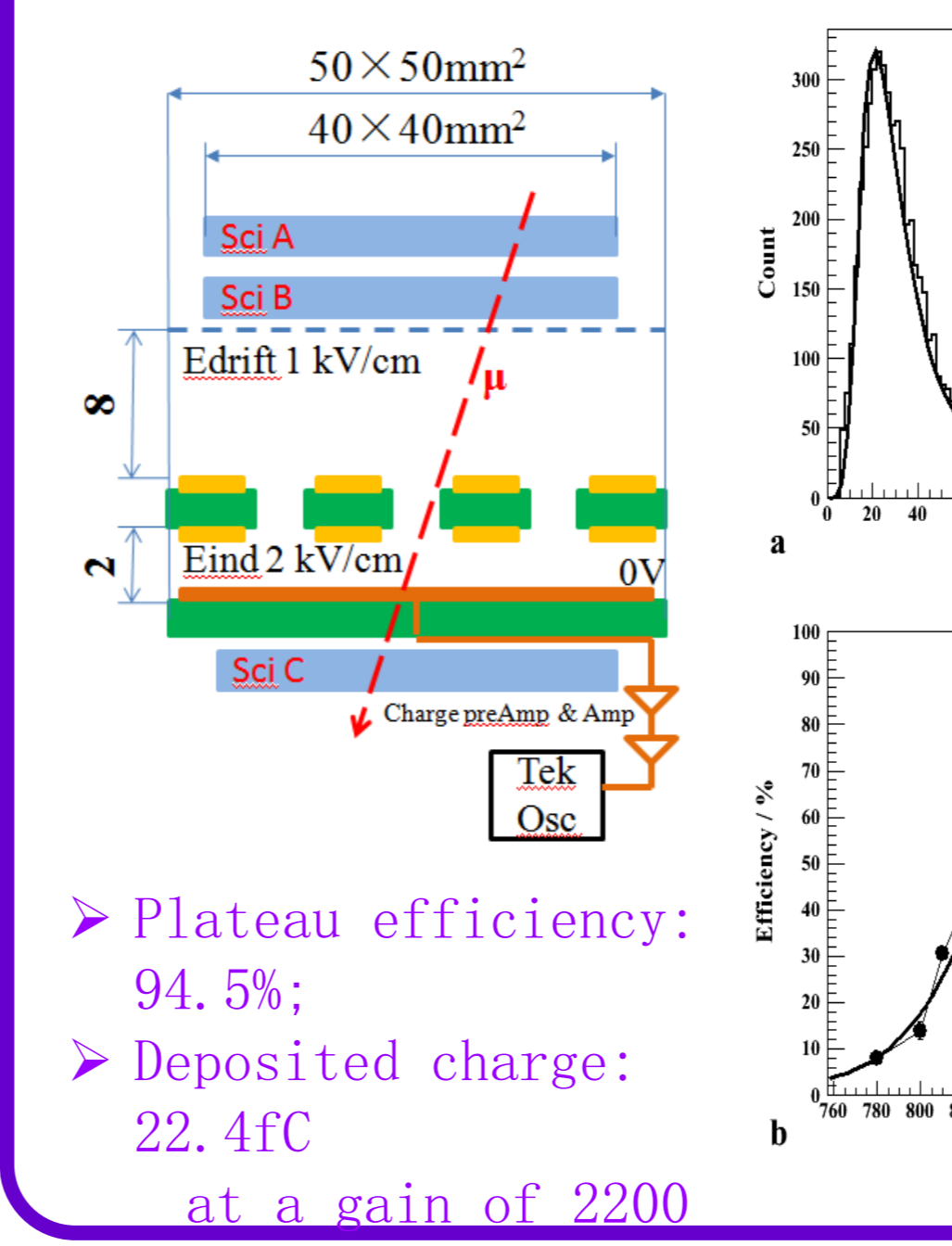
Gas	Vthgem range / V		Maximum gain			
	Single layer	Double layer	Single layer	Double layer	Single layer	Double layer
Ne+CH4=95:5	~100	>150	5×10^4	1×10^5	2×10^5	3×10^5
Ar+ISO=97:3	~100	>150	2×10^4	3×10^4	7×10^4	1×10^5
Ar+CH4=95:5	~150	>200	2×10^4	5×10^4	8×10^4	8×10^4
Ar+CO2=80:20	~120	~200	5×10^3	2×10^4	2×10^4	5×10^4
Ar+CO2=70:30	~60	~200	1×10^3	1×10^4	1×10^4	3×10^4

↑50~100V ↑2~10 times

Energy resolution



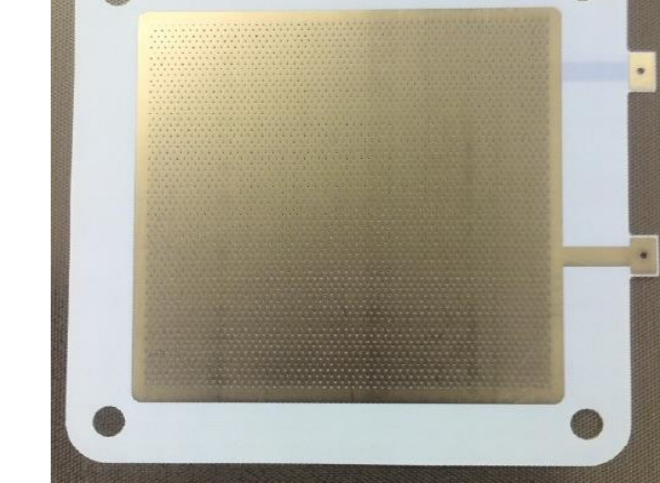
Cosmic ray muon



➢ Plateau efficiency: 94.5%;
➢ Deposited charge: 22.4 fC at a gain of 2200

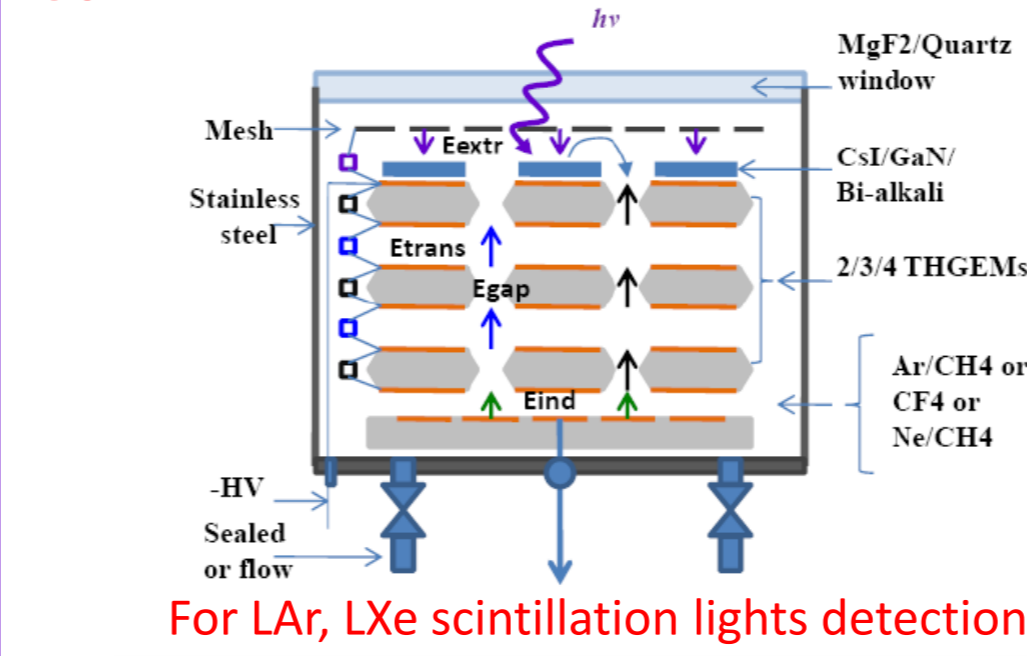
α

- For neutron detection
Substrate: ceramic
➢ Total thickness: $150 \mu\text{m}$
➢ Rim: $60 \sim 100 \mu\text{m}$
➢ d: 0.2 mm , pitch: 1.0 mm
➢ Vthgem: $800 \sim 1000 \text{ V}$ (Ar+CO2=70:30)
➢ High n/γ separation



Works ongoing

CsI-THGEM-based GPM



For LAr, LXe scintillation lights detection

B10-THGEM-based n beam monitoring

(Ref: Oral report by Jianrong Zhou, et al., CSNS)

THGEM-based digital hadron calorimeter (DHCAL)

(Preliminary study: A.-W. Zhang et al., NIM A 722 (2013) 43–48)

THGEM for e beam monitoring

1. Detection object
2. Electron: $0.1 \sim 50 \text{ MeV}$, energy dispersion: $<1\%$
3. Work modes (Quasi-particle)
4. Beam size

- 1) Small: 0.5 mm
- 2) Big: $100 \times 100 \text{ mm}^2$

1. High detection efficiency + online trigger
2. $100 \times 100 \text{ mm}^2$ sensitive area
3. High E, $\sigma_{\text{e}} < 0.2 \text{ mm}$, Low E, $\sigma_{\text{e}} < 0.75 \text{ mm}$
4. Online single/double particles separation

- 1) space $< 0.5 \text{ mm}$
- 2) time $< 1 \text{ ps}$
4. Counting rate $> 10^4$, offline $> 10^6$.

1. Pressure: $10^{-3} \sim 10^{-5} \text{ Pa}$ (vacuum)
2. Temperature: $-20 \pm 15^\circ \text{C}$

High energy range Online tracking THGEM-TPC

Low energy range Offline positioning THGEM+ICCD

Conclusion and outlook

Au-coated THGEMs with good performances were successfully developed by an improved industrial PCB technology in China. THGEMs with a wide range of structure parameters and large sensitive areas can be produced.

- ✓ Effective gain: 1.0×10^5 (single) and 3.0×10^5 (double) in Ne+CH₄/95:5.
- 1.0×10^4 (single) and 4.0×10^4 (double) in Ar-based gas mixtures.

- ✓ Good gain stability (no continuous degradation) and uniformity.
- ✓ Moderate energy resolution.
- ✓ Application potentials: photon, charged particle and neutron detection.
- ✓ New THGEMs of different substrates and new high efficiency production technology are also under development.

We are now pushing the development of CsI-THGEM-based GPM, Boron10-THGEM-based neutron beam monitor system, THGEM-based DHCAL and TPC-THGEM-based electron beam tracking detector.

Reference

- [1] R. Chechik et al., NIM A 535 (2004) 303
- [2] ZHANG Ai-Wu et al., CPC(HEP & NP), 2012, 36(2)
- [3] H.B. Liu et al., NIM A 659(2011) 237
- [4] Elena Rocco, Development of a gaseous photon detector for Cherenkov imaging applications, Ph.D. Thesis, CERN-THESIS-2010-053, Feb. 16, 2010