

# A new large-area Micromegas detector and its readout electronics for AMBER experiment at CERN

Amoroso A. on behalf of MM design team

## Outline

### AMBER experiment at CERN

- Present status and upgrade

### New tracking detector development – Large Micromegas

- LMM design
- Prototype production
- Test beam results

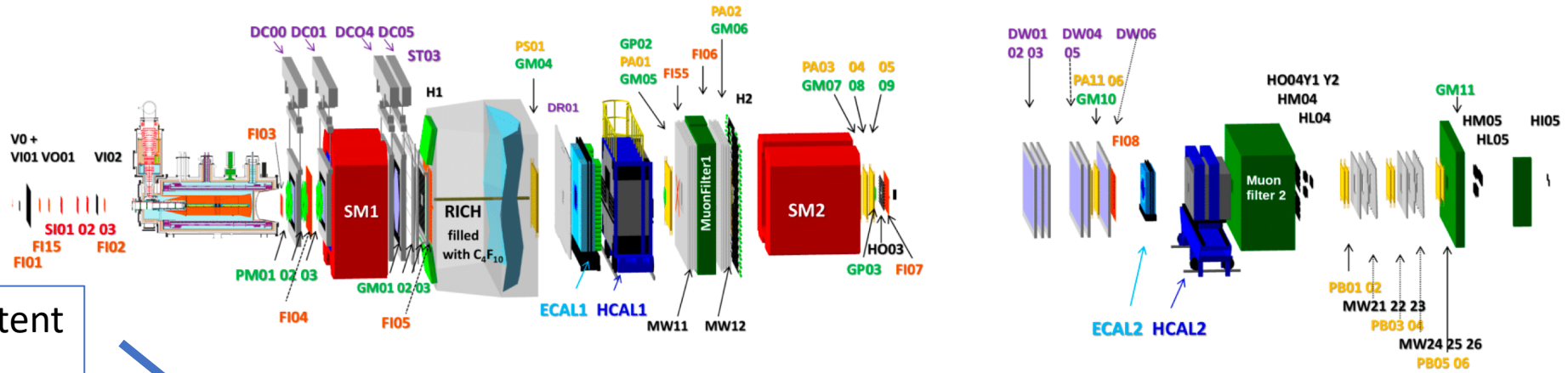
### Front-end electronics

- Development of ToRA-based fee

### Conclusions



# Apparatus for *Meson and Baryon Experimental Research* (AMBER, NA66)



2018: Letter of intent  
arXiv:1808.00848

2019: AMBER Phase1 Proposal  
CERN-SPSC-2019-02

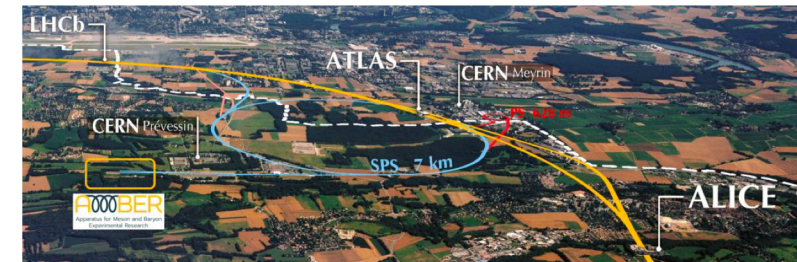
2020: SPSC Recommendation  
and Research Board approval

2021-2022: Amber Pilot run

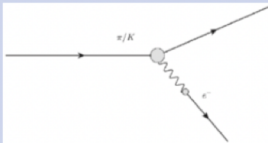
*Phase-2 proposal in preparation  
Post LS4*

2023: Start of AMBER data taking

32 institutes from 14  
countries, but there is no  
Upper limit on the values



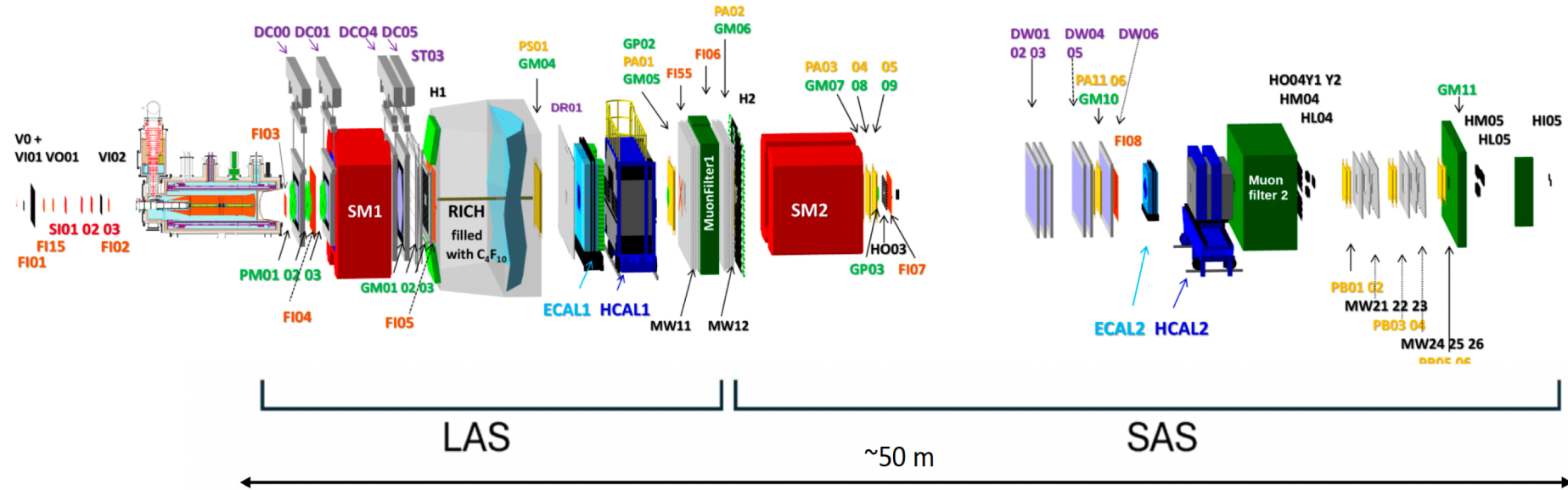
# Apparatus for *Meson* and *Baryon* Experimental *Research* (AMBER, NA66)

	Beam	Target	Additional hardware
Antiproton production cross section	50 GeV – 280 GeV protons	LH <sub>2</sub> , LHe Done (2023 – 2024)	Liquid He target
Proton radius measurement	100 GeV muons 2025 – 2026	High pressure Hydrogen	Active target TPC, tracking stations (SciFi, Silicon)
Drell-Yan measurement with pions	190 GeV charged pions	Carbon, Tungsten	Vertex detector
Drell-Yan measurement with Kaons	~100 GeV charged Kaons	Carbon, Tungsten Post LS3	Vertex detectors, “active absorber”
Prompt photon measurement	> 100 GeV charged Kaon/pion beams	LH <sub>2</sub> , Nickel	hodoscopes
K-induced spectroscopy	50 GeV – 100 GeV charged Kaons	LH <sub>2</sub>	Recoil ToF forward PID
Meson radii	50 GeV to 280 GeV charged pions and Kaons		

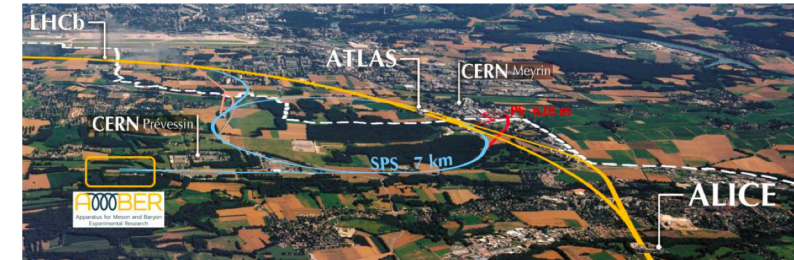
Phase 1  
(approved)  
2023 -> 2032

Phase 2  
(in preparation)  
Beyond LS4

# Apparatus for *Meson* and *Baryon* Experimental *Research* (AMBER, NA66)

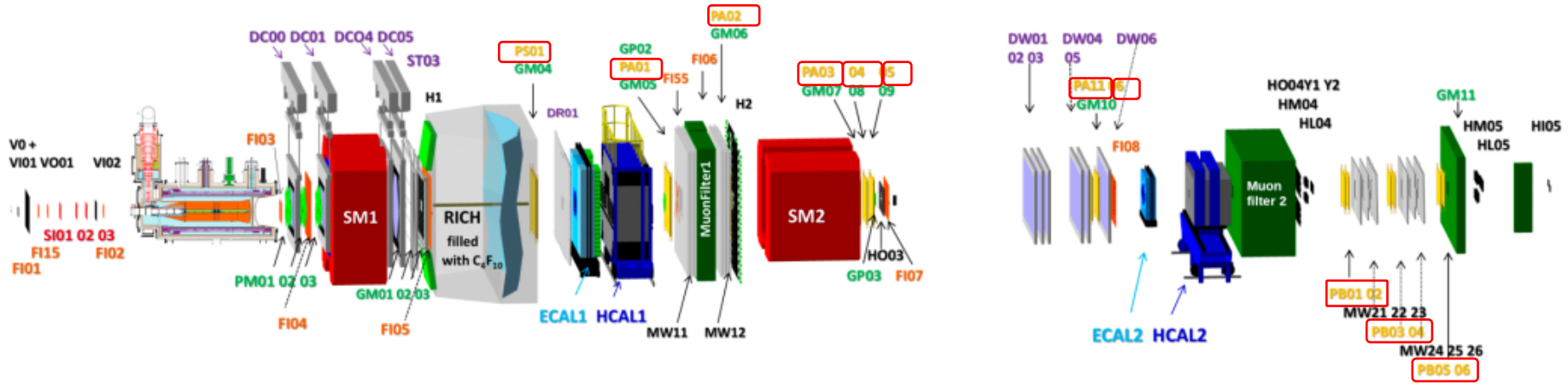


Torino group is responsible for the Multi-Wire Proportional Chamber (**MWPC**) tracking stations and the **Rich Wall** Mini-Drift Tubes (MDTs) detector. Part of the MWPCs will be substituted by Micro-Pattern Gaseous Detectors (**MPGD**) to face their structural aging.





# AMBER Spectrometer upgrade – Tracker detectors



❖ In the present AMBER setup one of the main tracker are the MWPC stations

Past situation (23-24)

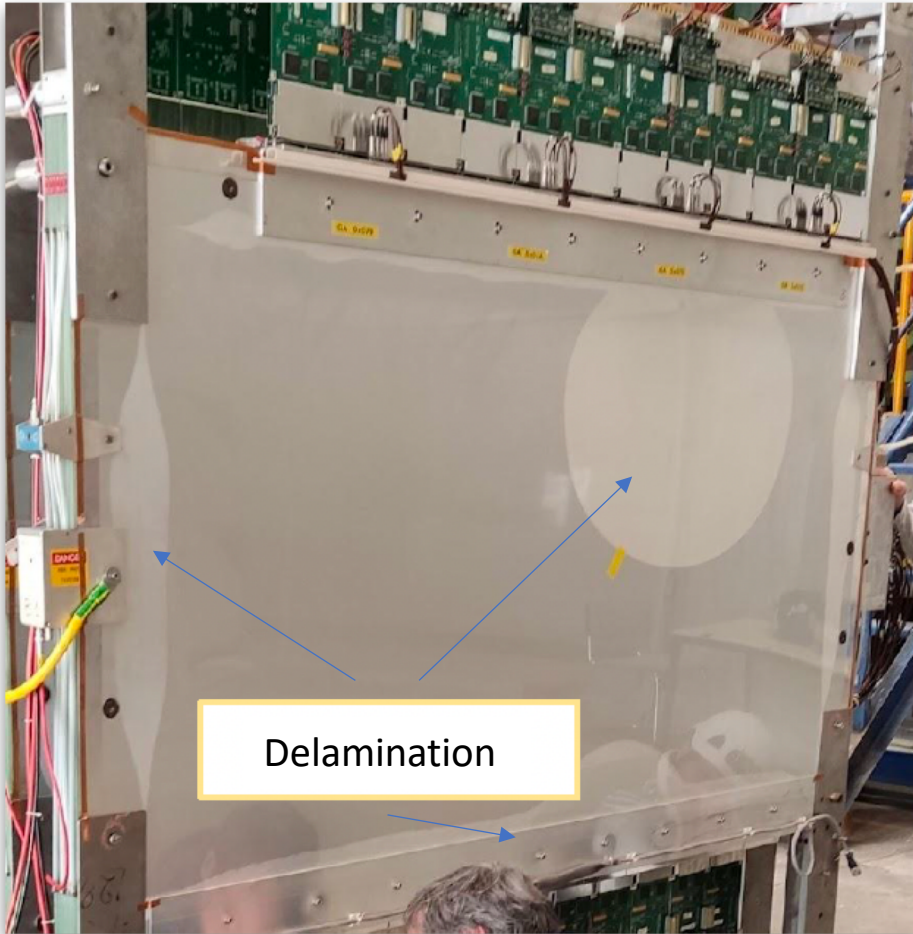
- ✓ Triggered DAQ
- ✓ Degraded detectors



Present - Future situation (25-....)

- ☐ Trigger less DAQ
- ☐ Maintenance available for a long period of time

# Sprectrometer upgrade - Why MM detector



AMBER MWPC stations are **structurally aged**. During last years we carried out a refurbishment campaign for MWPC-PB type.

	A-type	A*-type	B-type
# of chambers	7	1	6
Active area (cm <sup>2</sup> )	178 × 120	178 × 120	178 × 90
# of layers/chamber	3	4	2
Planes	X, U, V	X, U, V, Y	X, U/V
Dead zone ∅ (c m)	16–20	16	22
Wire pitch (mm)	2	2	2
Anode/cathode gap (mm)	8	8	8
# of wires/plane	752	752 (X, U, V), 512 (Y)	752

For AMBER mid and long-term program we decide to substitute a part of the MWPCs (PA-type) with a **micromegas** detector (1,5x1m).

# Sprectrometer upgrade - Why MM detector

Till 2024



Good

Existing MWPCs  
from COMPASS

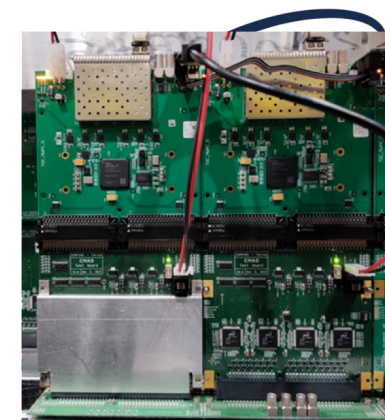


After 2024



Trigger less  
DAQ (2025)

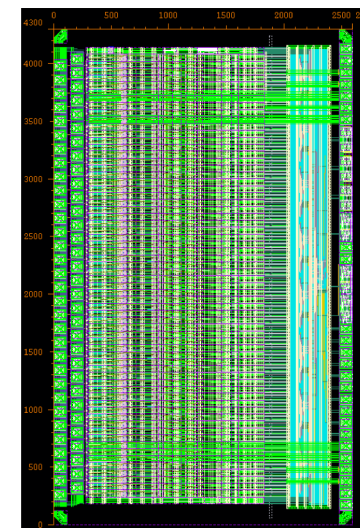
New FE  
needed



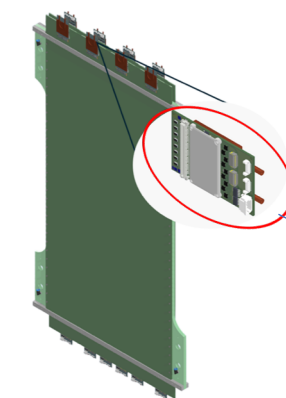
FPGA based

The 2 developments  
could go together

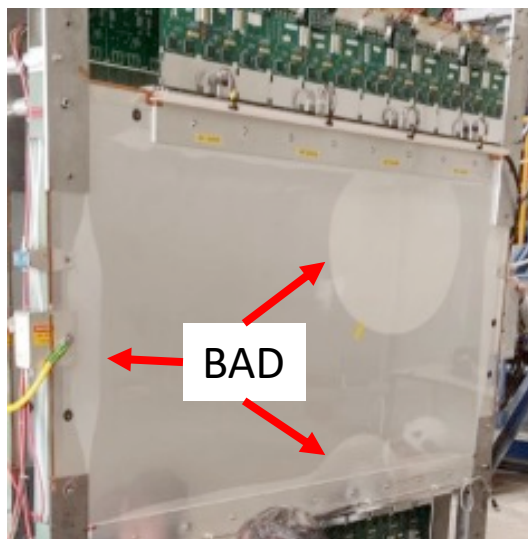
New ASIC - ToRA



New FE  
needed



New detectors



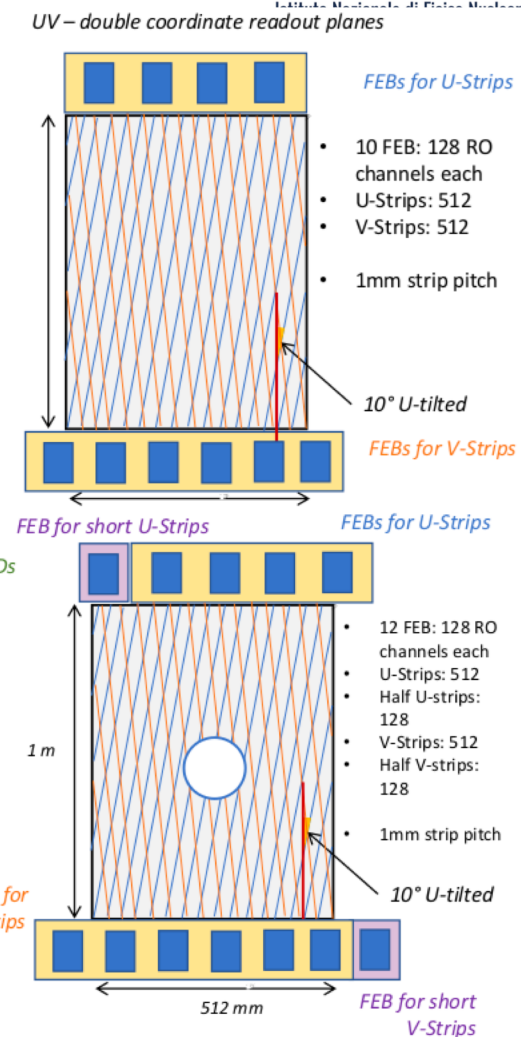
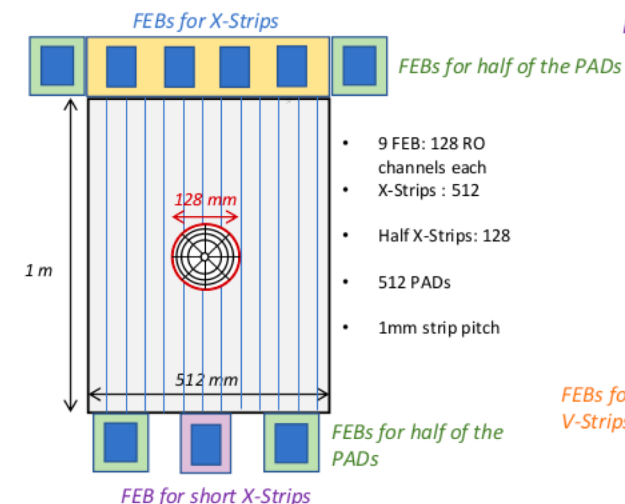
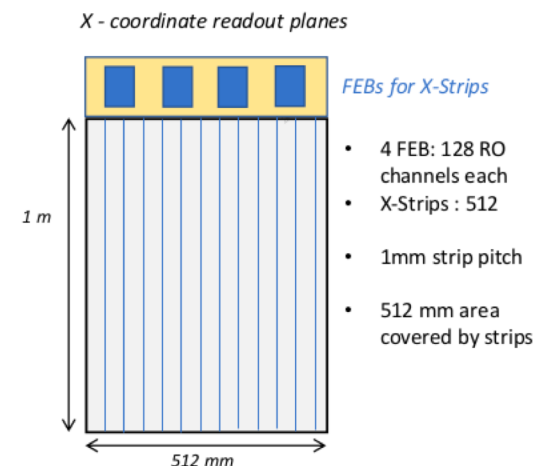
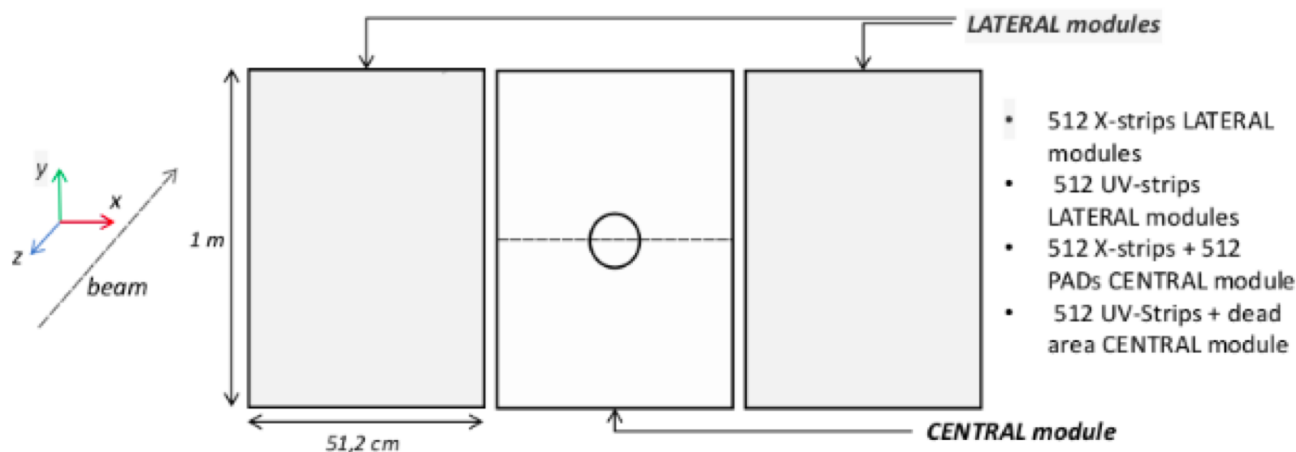
BAD





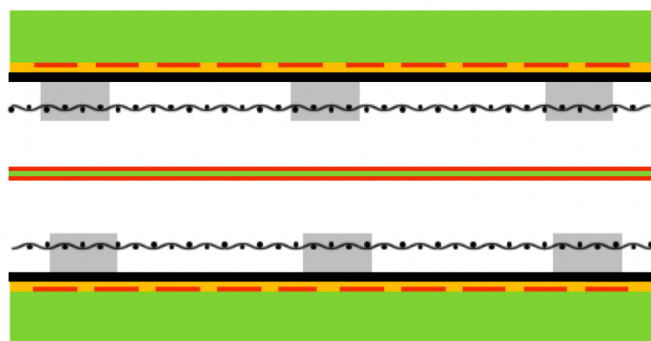
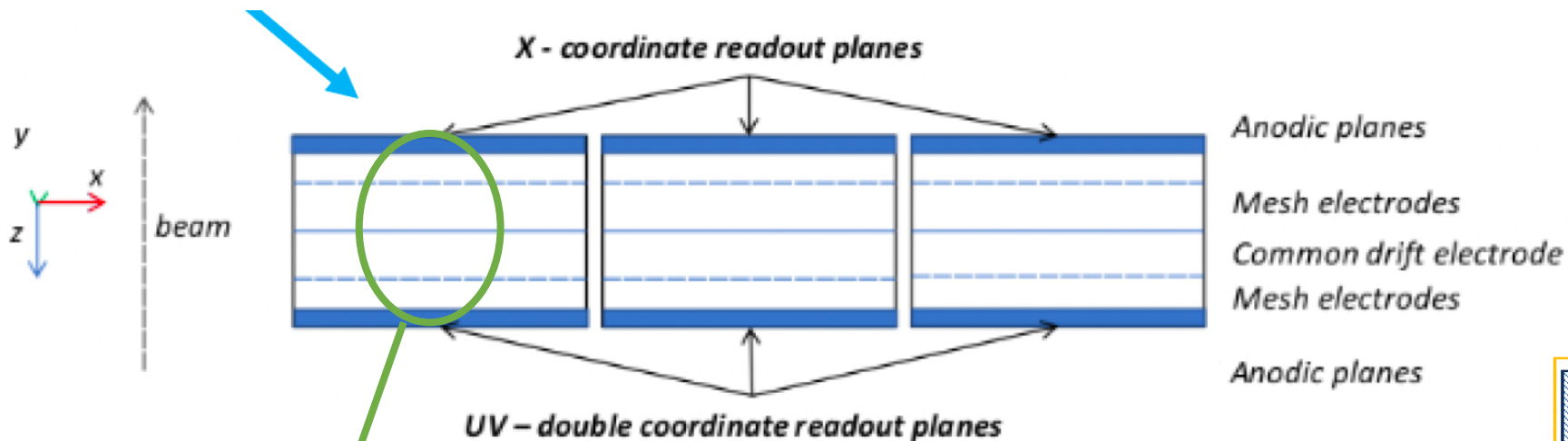
# Concept Design - 1

The **large-area MM detector (LMM)** for AMBER will be composed of three different modules covering a total active area of **1.5 m x 1 m**. Each independent module will be a **bulk resistive micromegas** in a «**face-to-face**» configuration.



Dead area covered with GEM

## Concept Design - 2



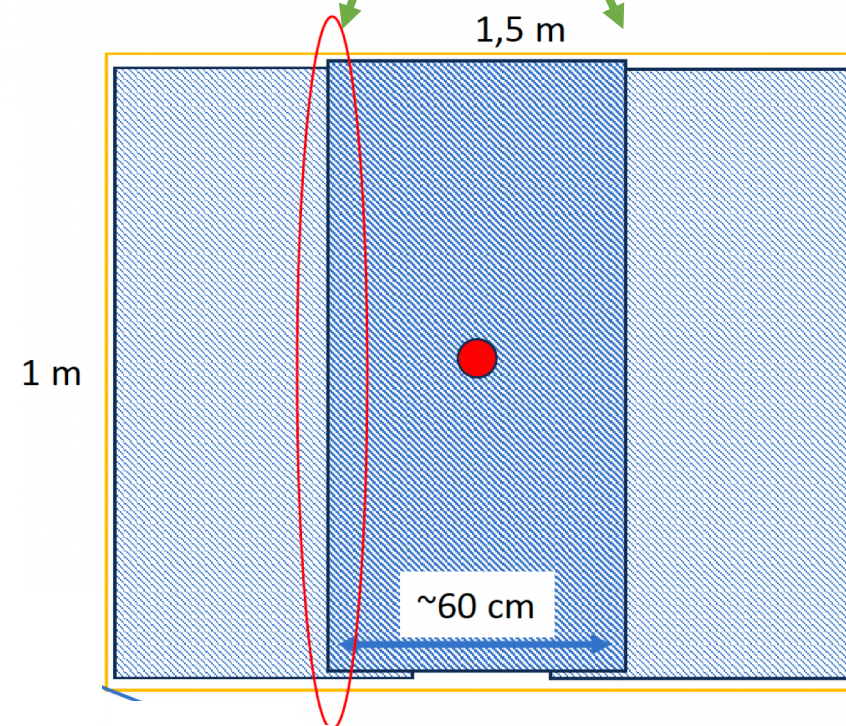
Not to scale

Common cathode configuration  
to reduce material budget

Face-to-face  
configuration

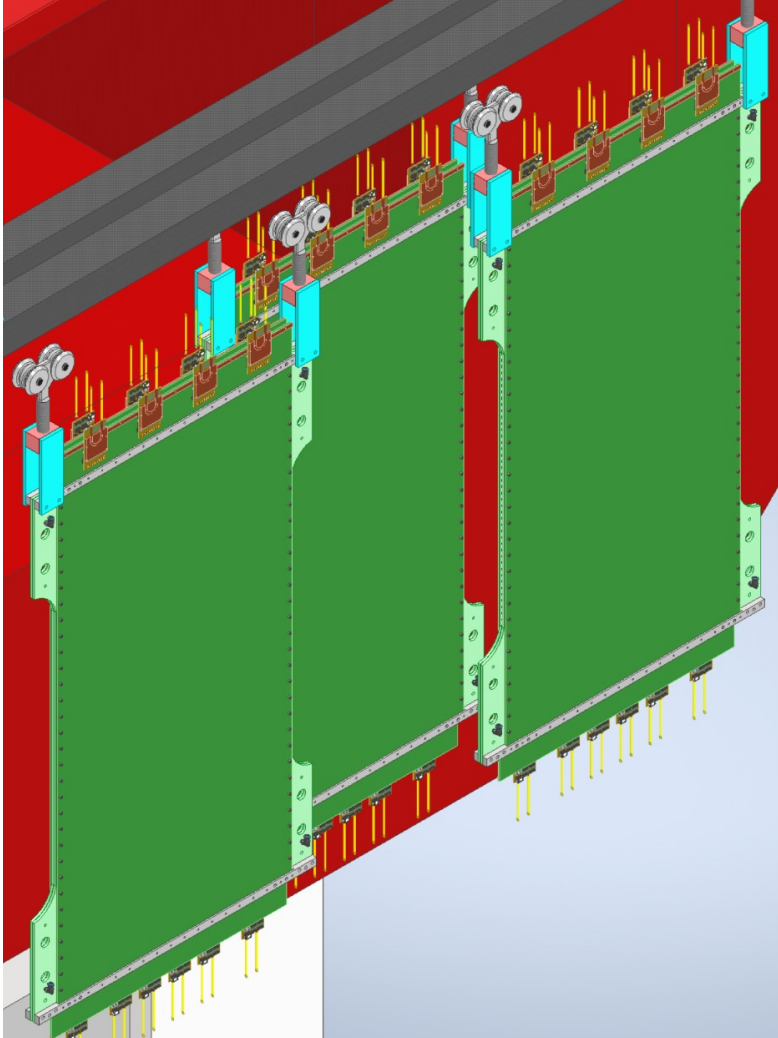
No thick frame allowed  
in the acceptance

Technology limitation  
Staggered detector configuration



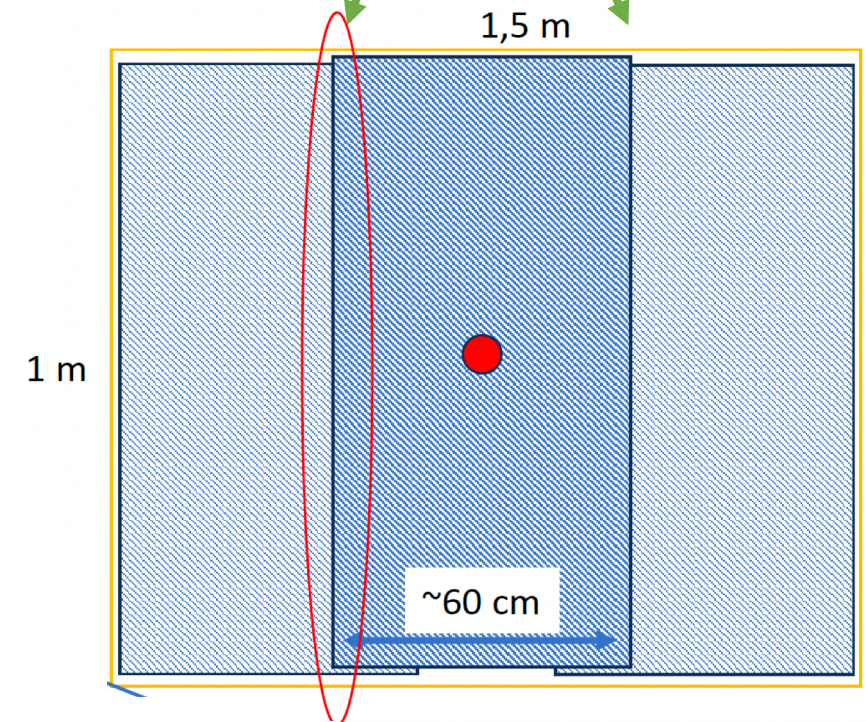


## Concept Design - 3



*No thick frame allowed  
in the acceptance*

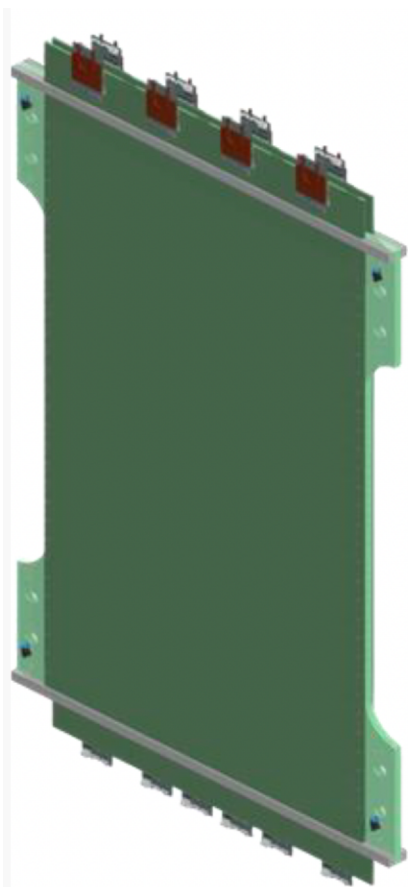
*Technology limitation  
Staggered detector configuration*





## Lateral module prototype production

Layout and production – CERN MPT Workshop



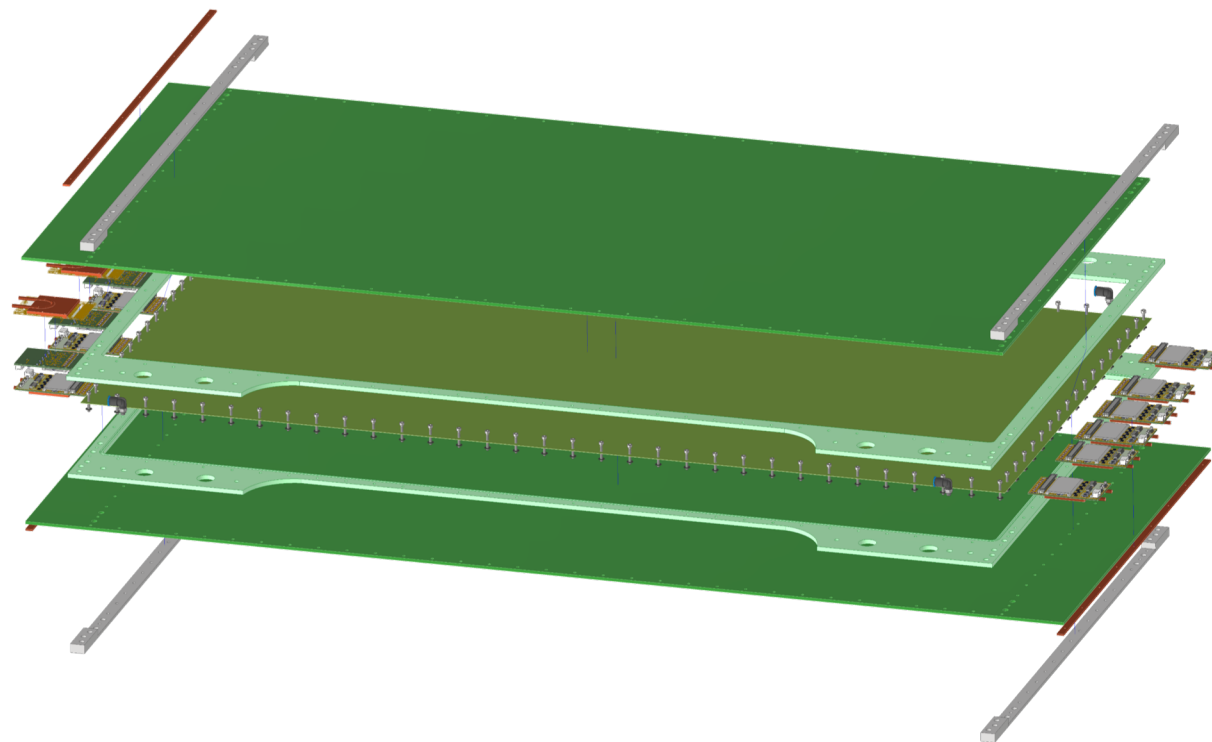
***X-coordinate R/O plane***

*FR<sub>4</sub> gas vessel frame*

***Cathode PCB - drift electrode***

*FR<sub>4</sub> gas vessel frame*

***UV-coordinates R/O plane***

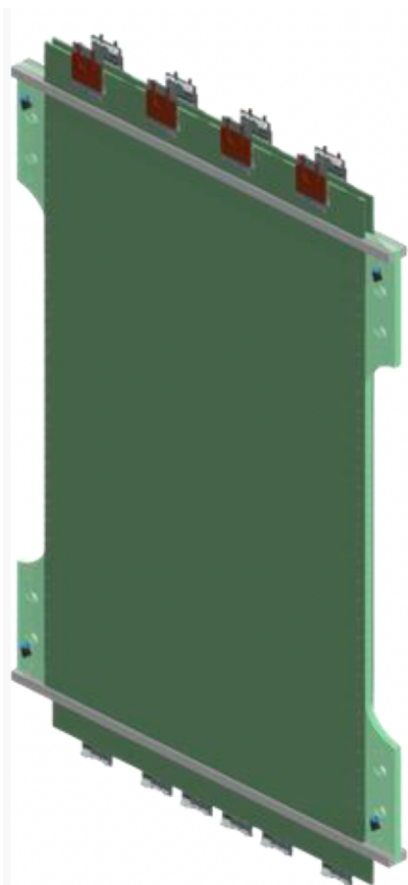






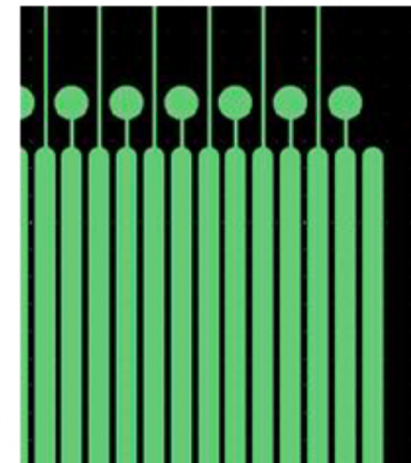
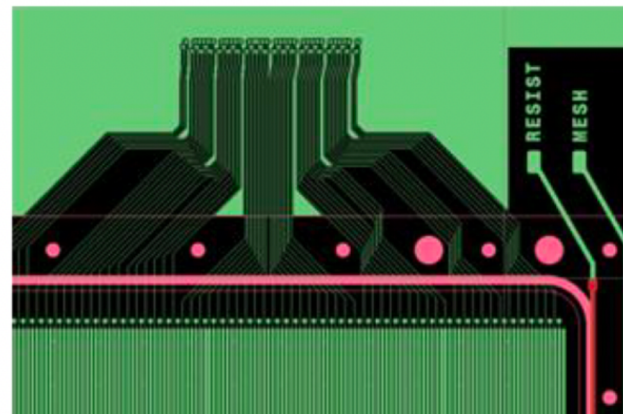
# Lateral module prototype production

Layout and production – CERN MPT Workshop

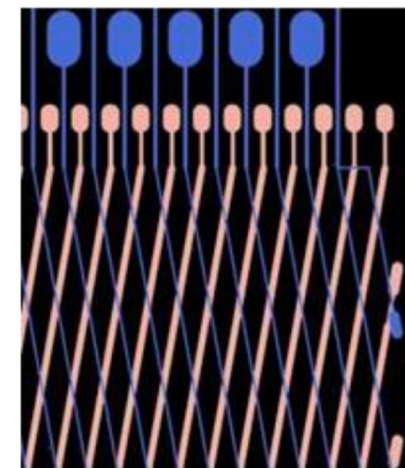
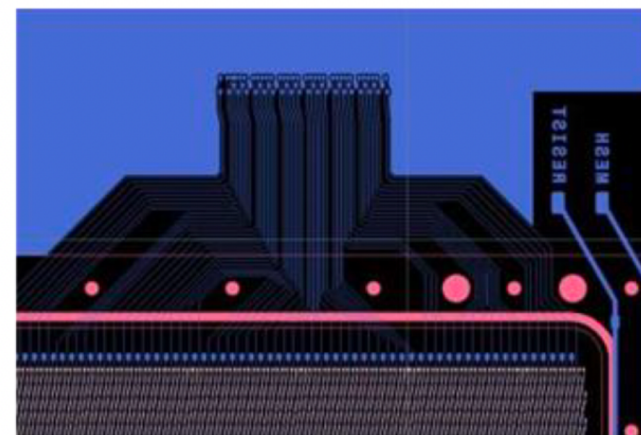


- 512 strips
- 1mm pitch
- 750  $\mu\text{m}$  width
- 4 FEBs: 512 fe channels

*X-coordinate R/O plane*



*UV-coordinate R/O plane*

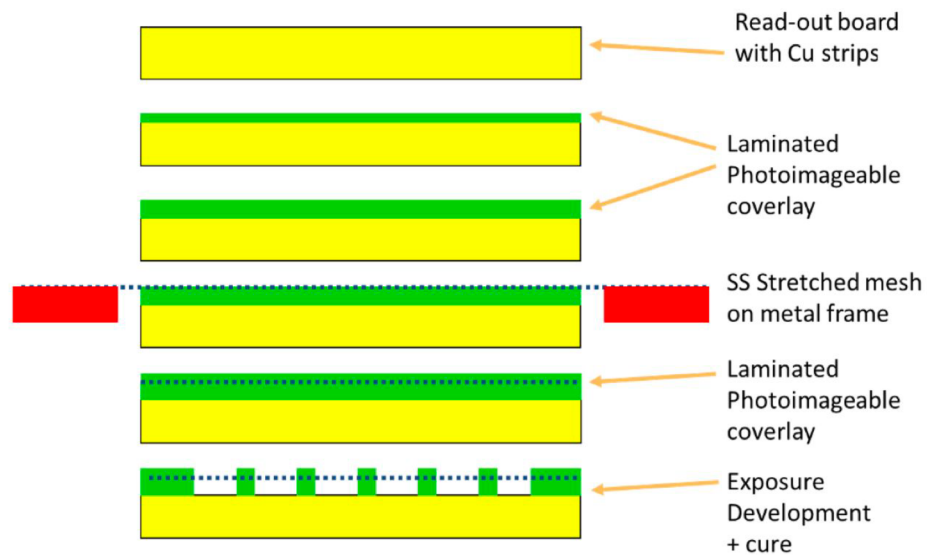


- 1280 strips
- 1mm pitch
- 250  $\mu\text{m}$  U strips width
- 150  $\mu\text{m}$  V strips width
- 10 FEBs: 1280 fe channels

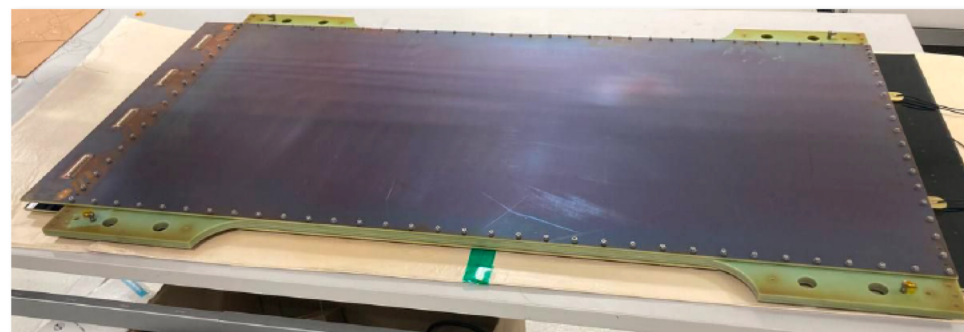


# Lateral module prototype production

Layout and production – CERN MPT Workshop



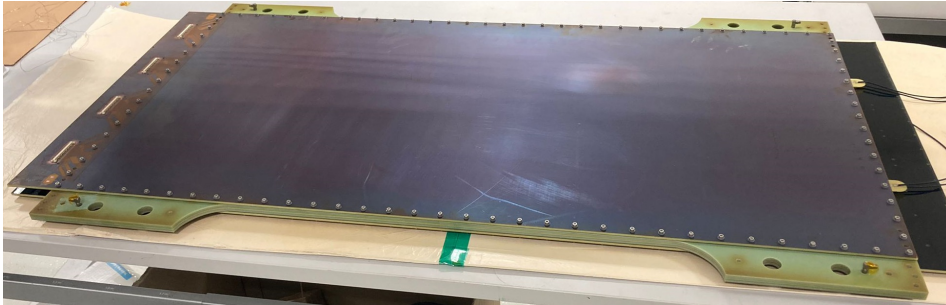
Manufacturing techniques – RD51 school lecture by Rui De Oliveira



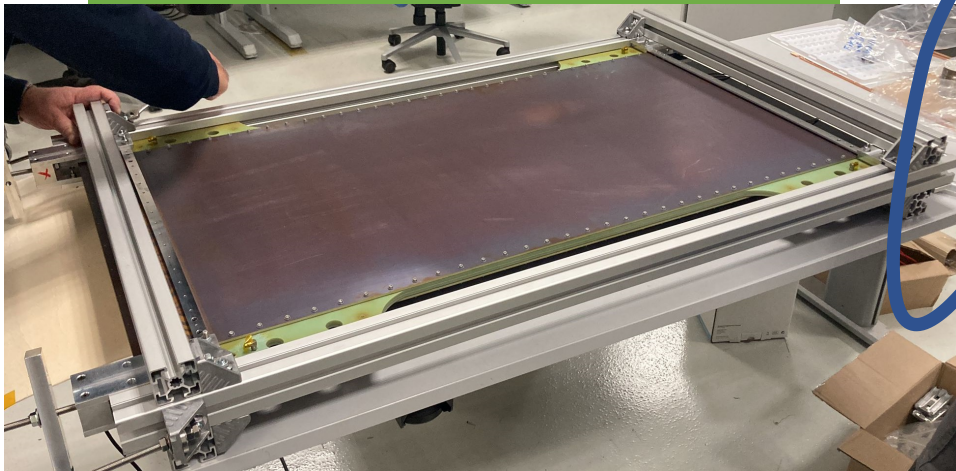


# Lateral module prototype testing

Delivered on 11.10.24



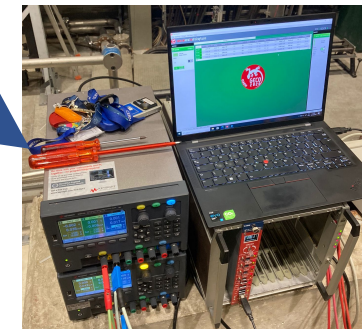
Mechanics for transport and suspension on 11.10.24



Prototype installation 12.10.24



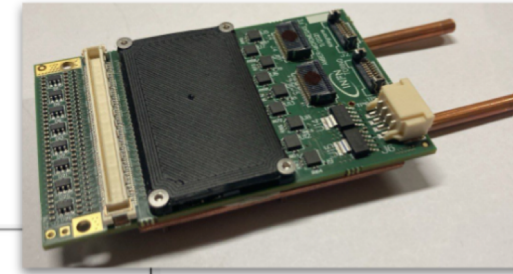
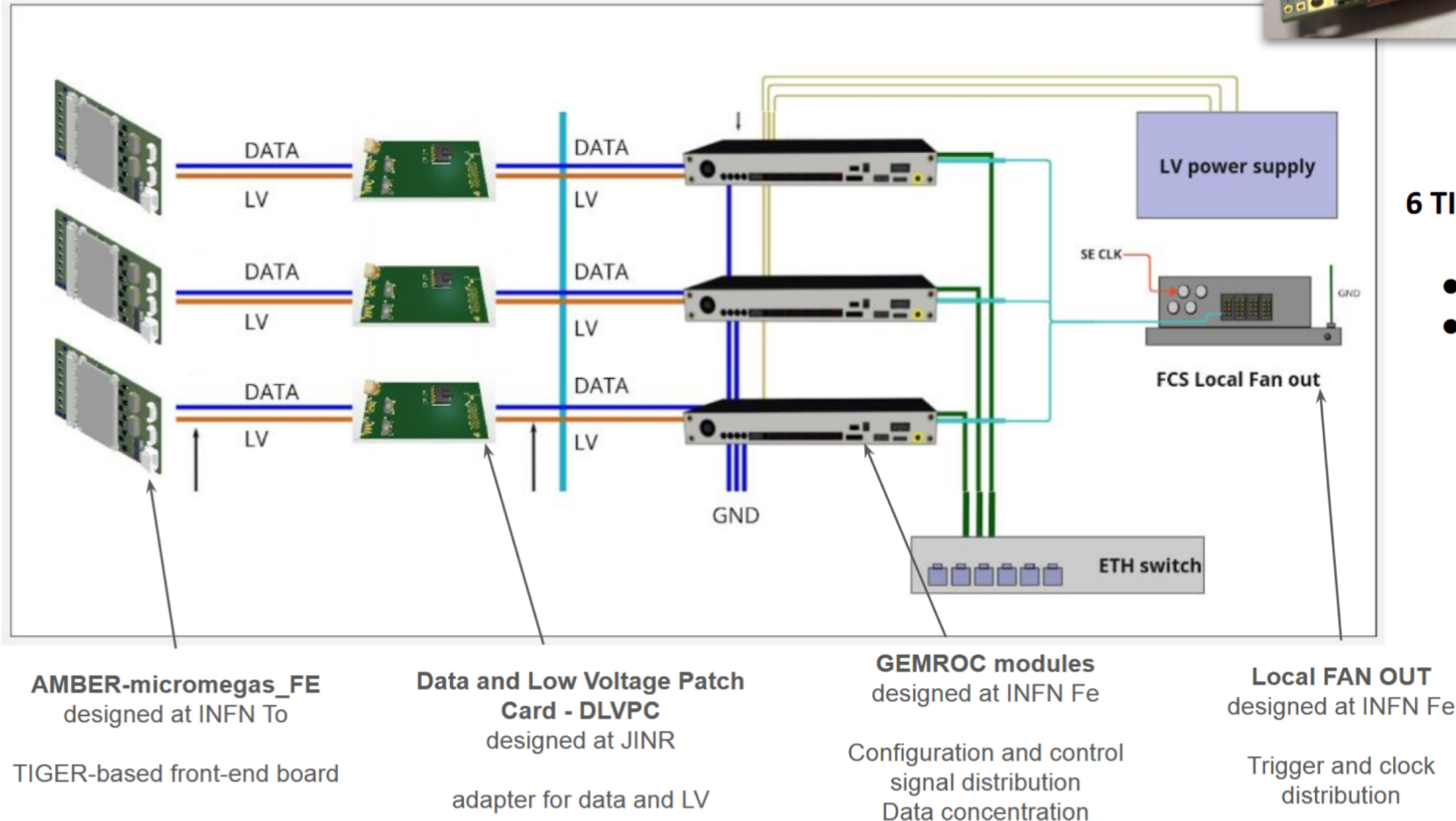
HV stability verified by MPT workshop experts 17.10.24



- 450V resistive layers
- 325V cathodes planes
- resistive UV  $\sim 5\text{nA}$
- resistive X  $\sim 7\text{nA}$
- drift UV  $\sim 1,5\text{nA}$
- drift X  $\sim 3\text{nA}$

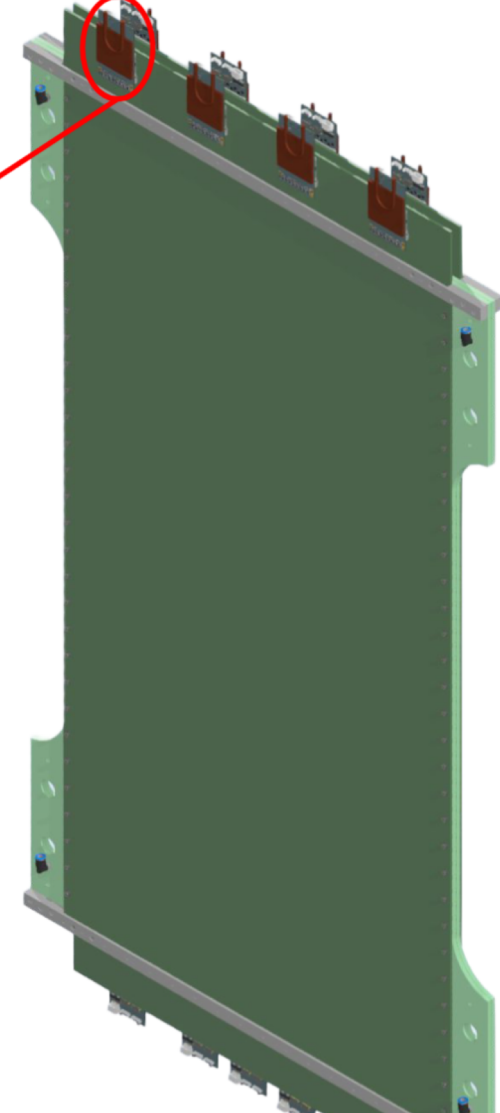
***Thanks to MPT and GDD labs colleagues***

# MM prototype 2024 test beam FEE



## 6 TIGER-febs available:

- 768/1280 UV
- 512/512 X+  
256/1280 UV  
connected (from  
shorter strips)

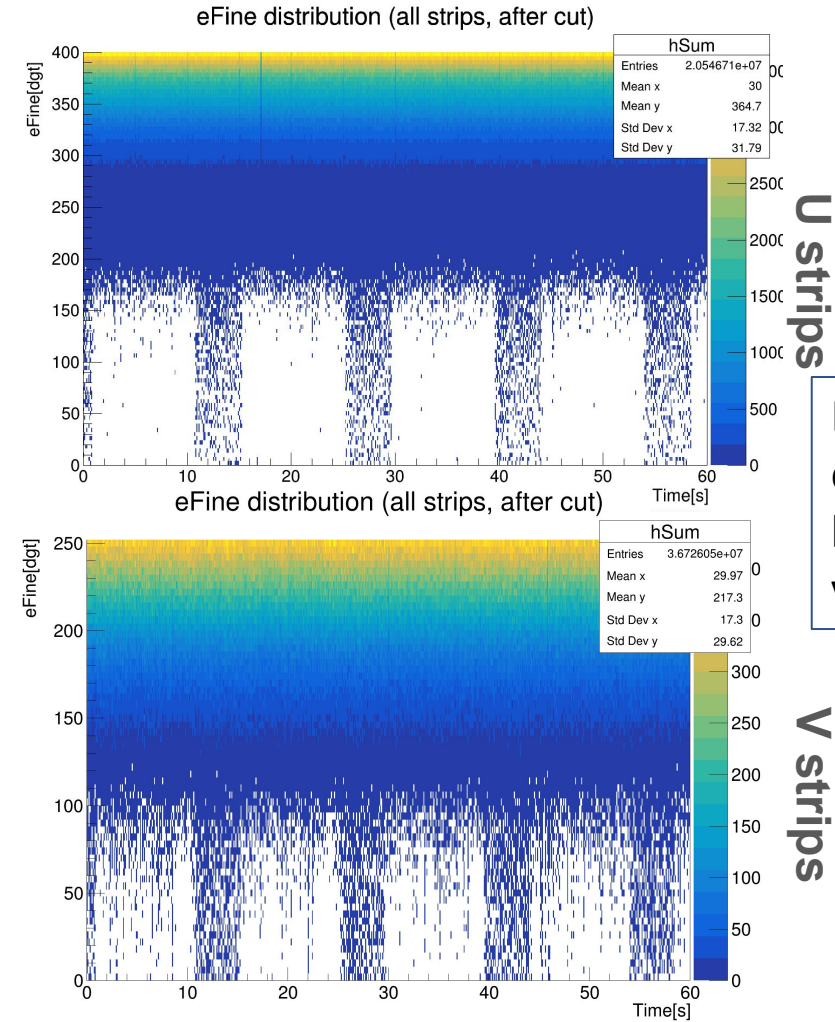
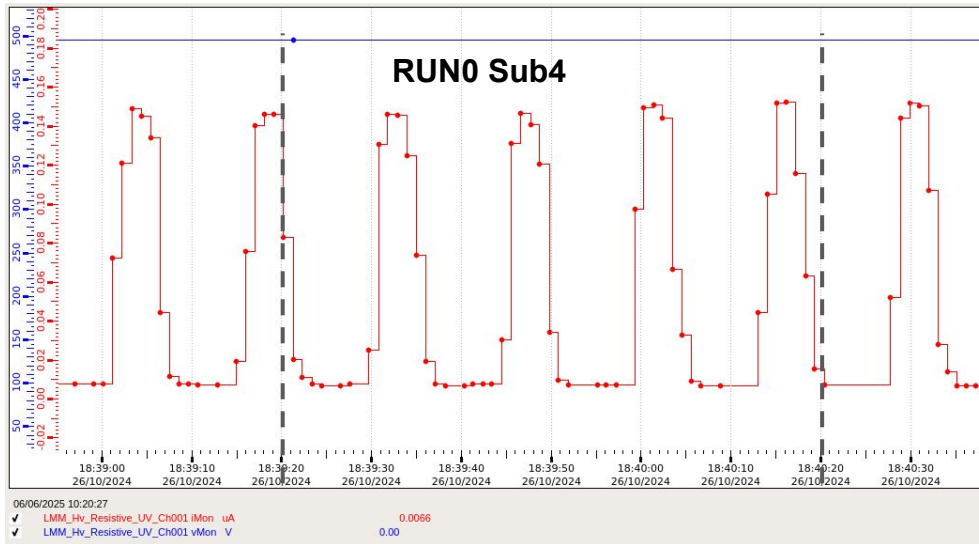




# Analysis tools: charge distribution

Cumulative distribution of eFine values registered on UV strips during the data acquisition time.

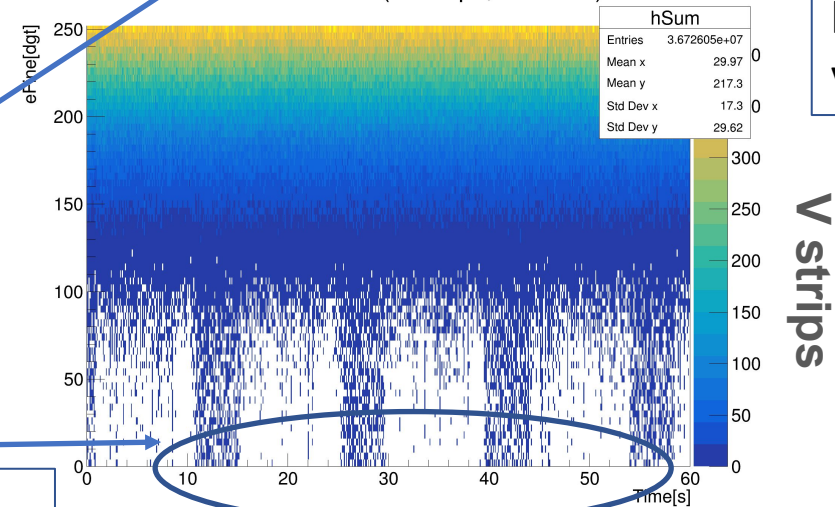
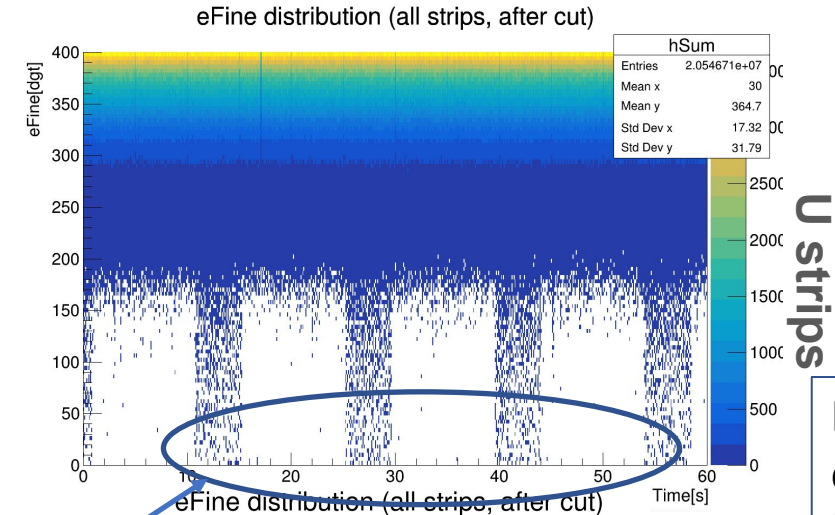
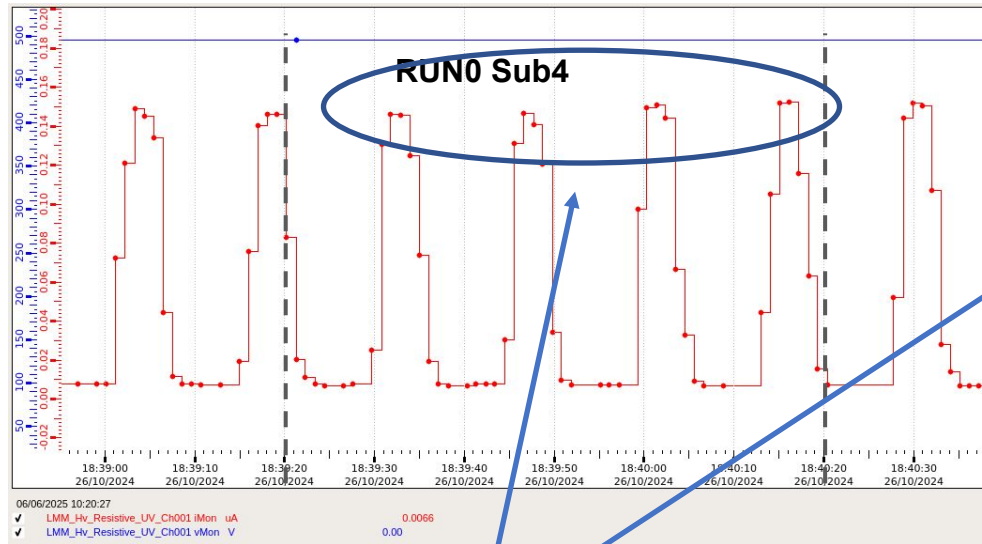
	HV set	450V	475V	480V	490V	493V	495V
GAS mixture	Ar-CO2 93/7	RUN0 Sub0	RUN 0 Sub1	RUN0 Sub2	RUN0 Sub3	RUN1 Sub0	<b>RUN0 Sub4</b>
	Ar-CO2-iC 4H10 93/5/2		RUN4 Sub0	RUN5 Sub0	RUN2 Sub0	RUN3 Sub0	



Higher charge correspond to lower eFine values.

# Analysis tools: charge distribution

	HV set	450V	475V	480V	490V	493V	495V
GAS mixture	Ar-CO2 93/7	RUN0 Sub0	RUN 0 Sub1	RUN0 Sub2	RUN0 Sub3	RUN1 Sub0	<b>RUN0 Sub4</b>
	Ar-CO2-iC 4H10 93/5/2		RUN4 Sub0	RUN5 Sub0	RUN2 Sub0	RUN3 Sub0	



Higher charge correspond to lower eFine values.

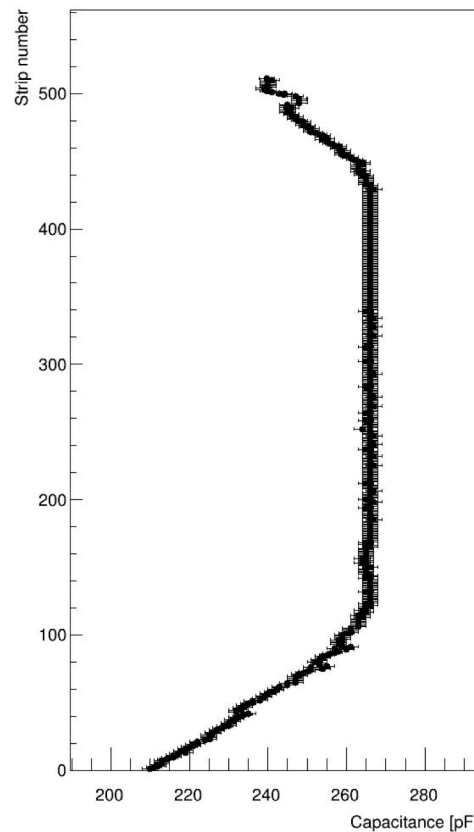
The spill structure is visible in both planes at the same time in which is visible in the current drawn by the resistive electrodes



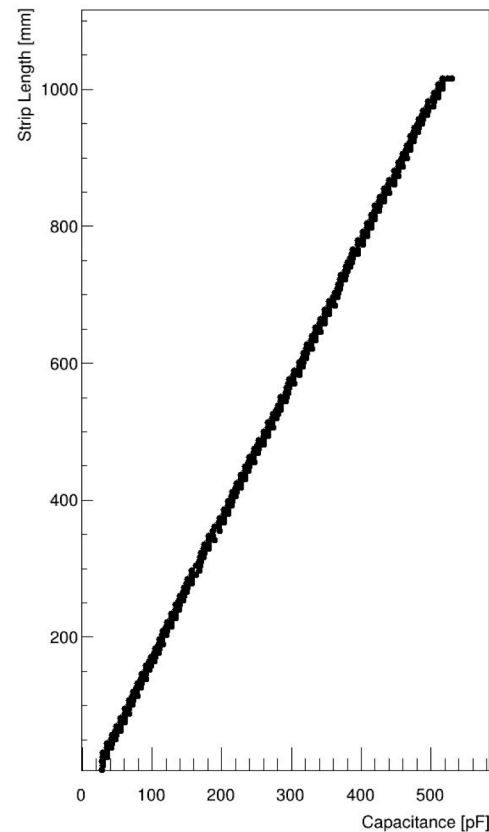
# Strips capacitance measured in Torino

- ❖ X strip range: 210-250 pF
- ❖ U strip range: 30-530 pF
- ❖ V strip range: 28-450 pF

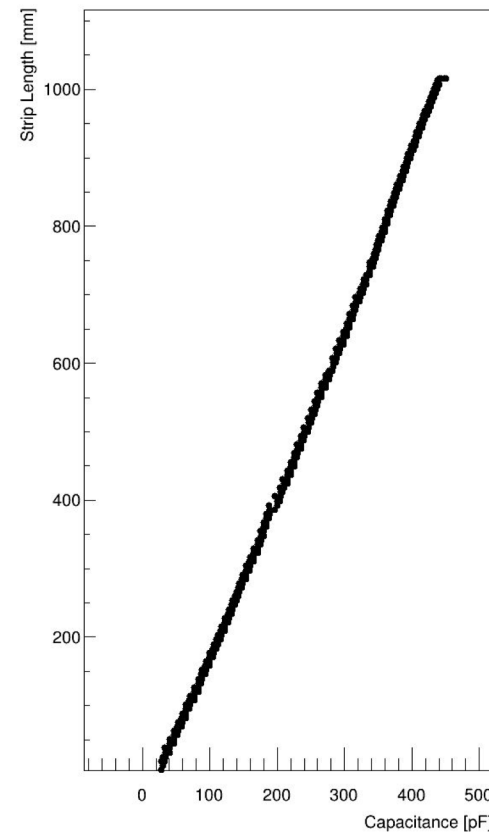
Capacitance vs position: X plane



Capacitance vs Length: U plane

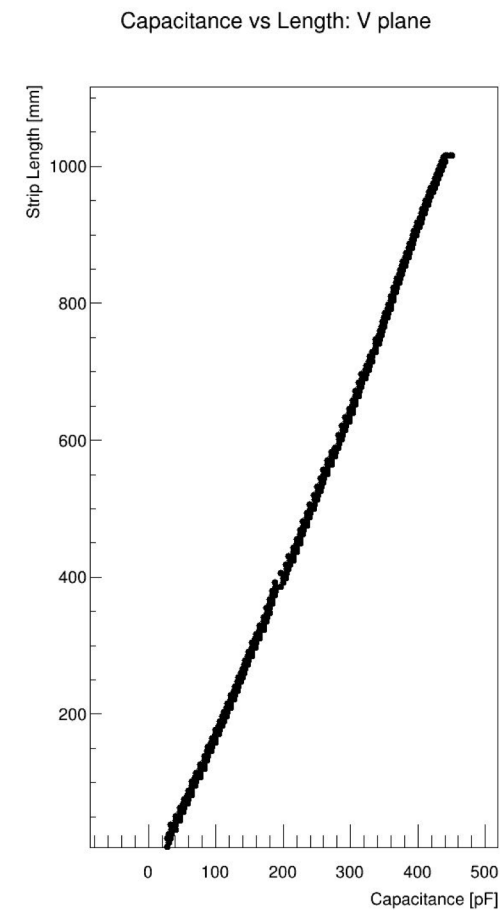
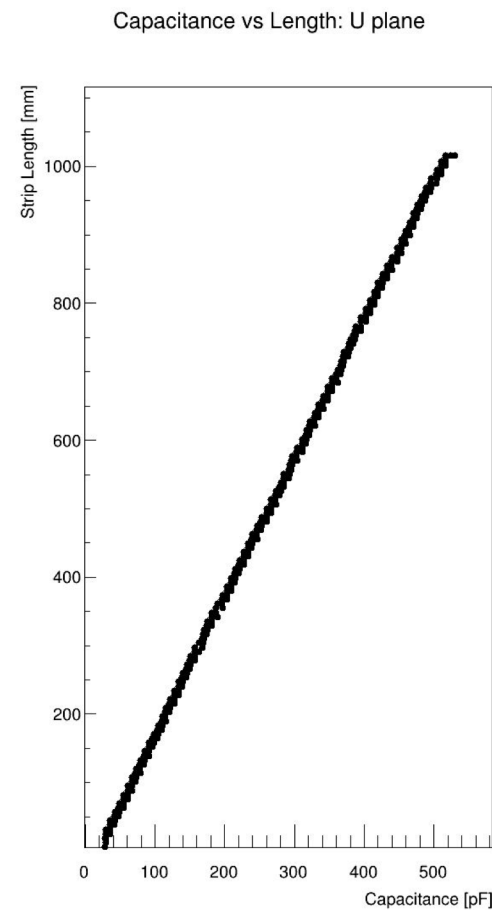
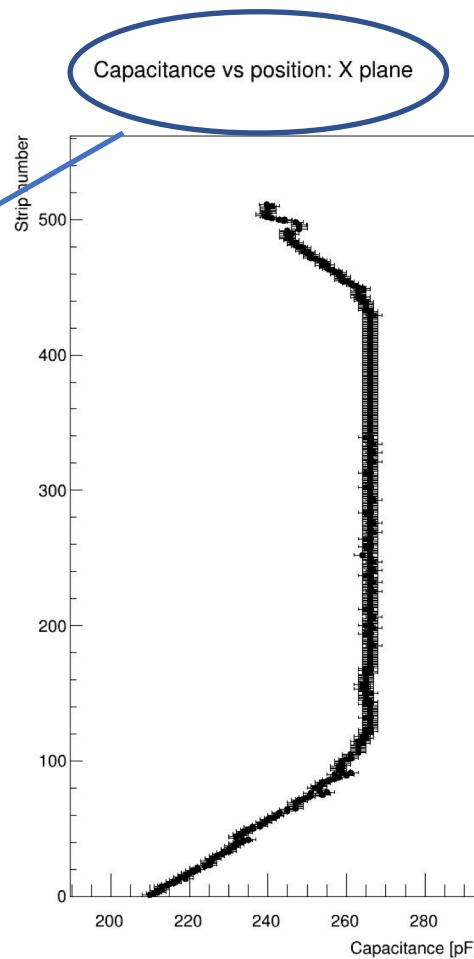


Capacitance vs Length: V plane



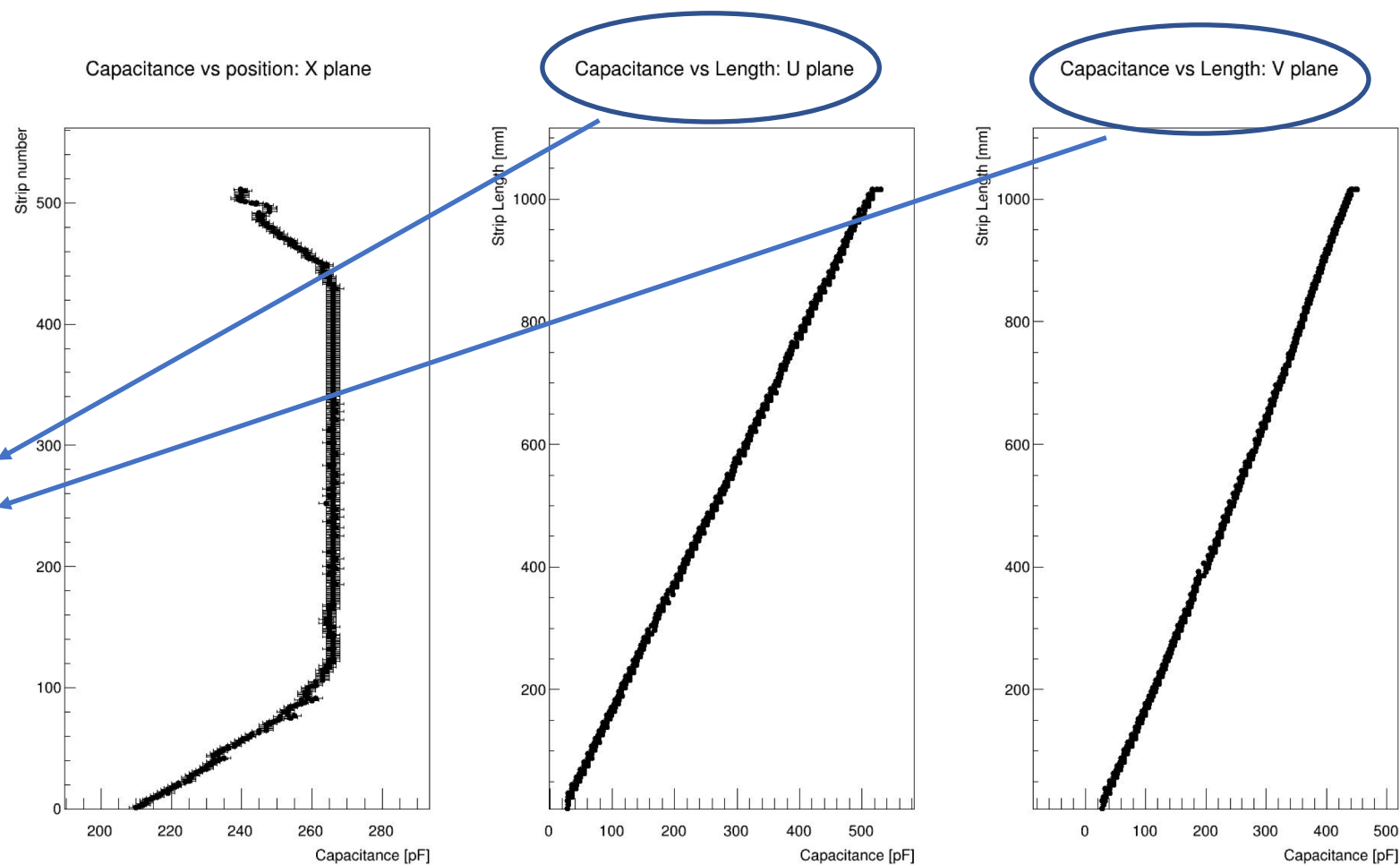
# Strips capacitance measured in Torino

- ❖ X strip range: 210-250 pF
- ❖ U strip range: 30-530 pF
- ❖ V strip range: 28-450 pF

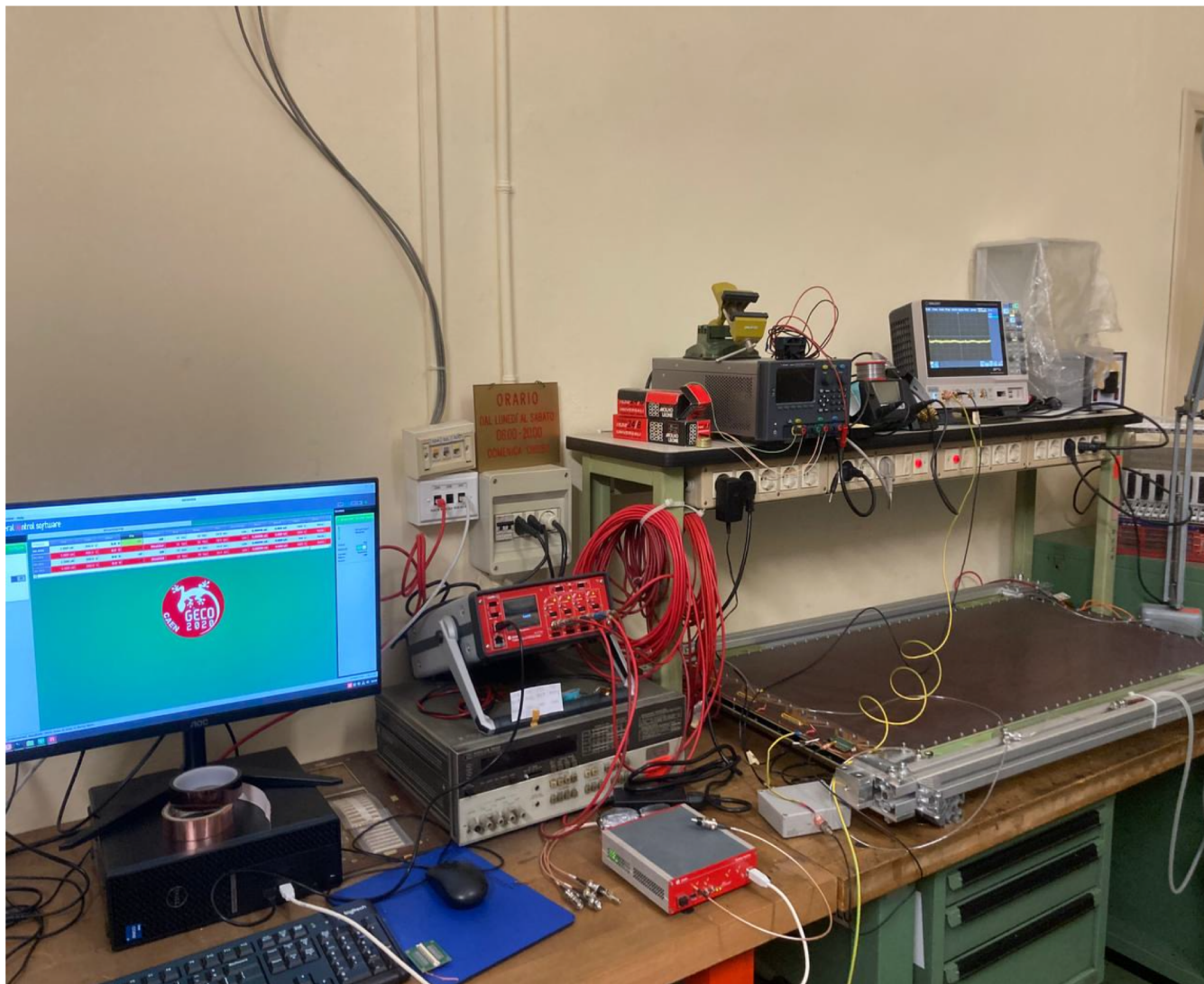


# Strips capacitance measured in Torino

- ❖ X strip range: 210-250 pF
- ❖ U strip range: 30-530 pF
- ❖ V strip range: 28-450 pF



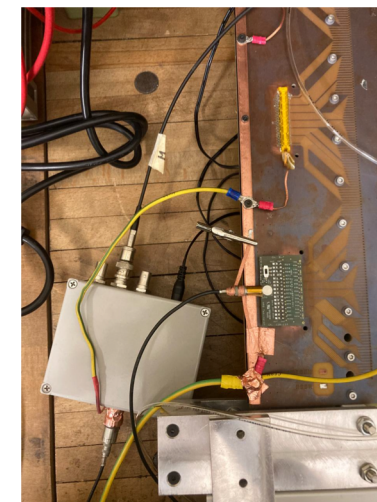
## Test setup



HV PS: CAEN DT1471HET

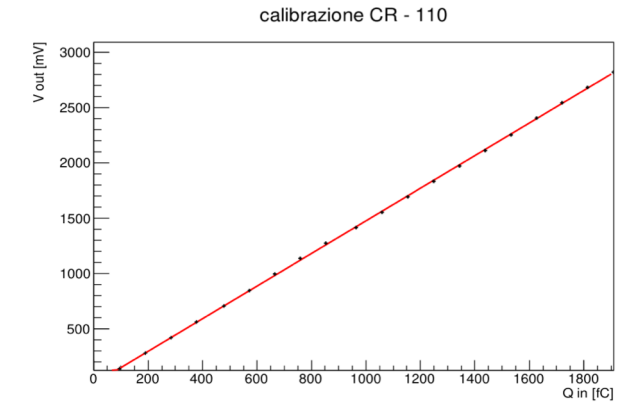
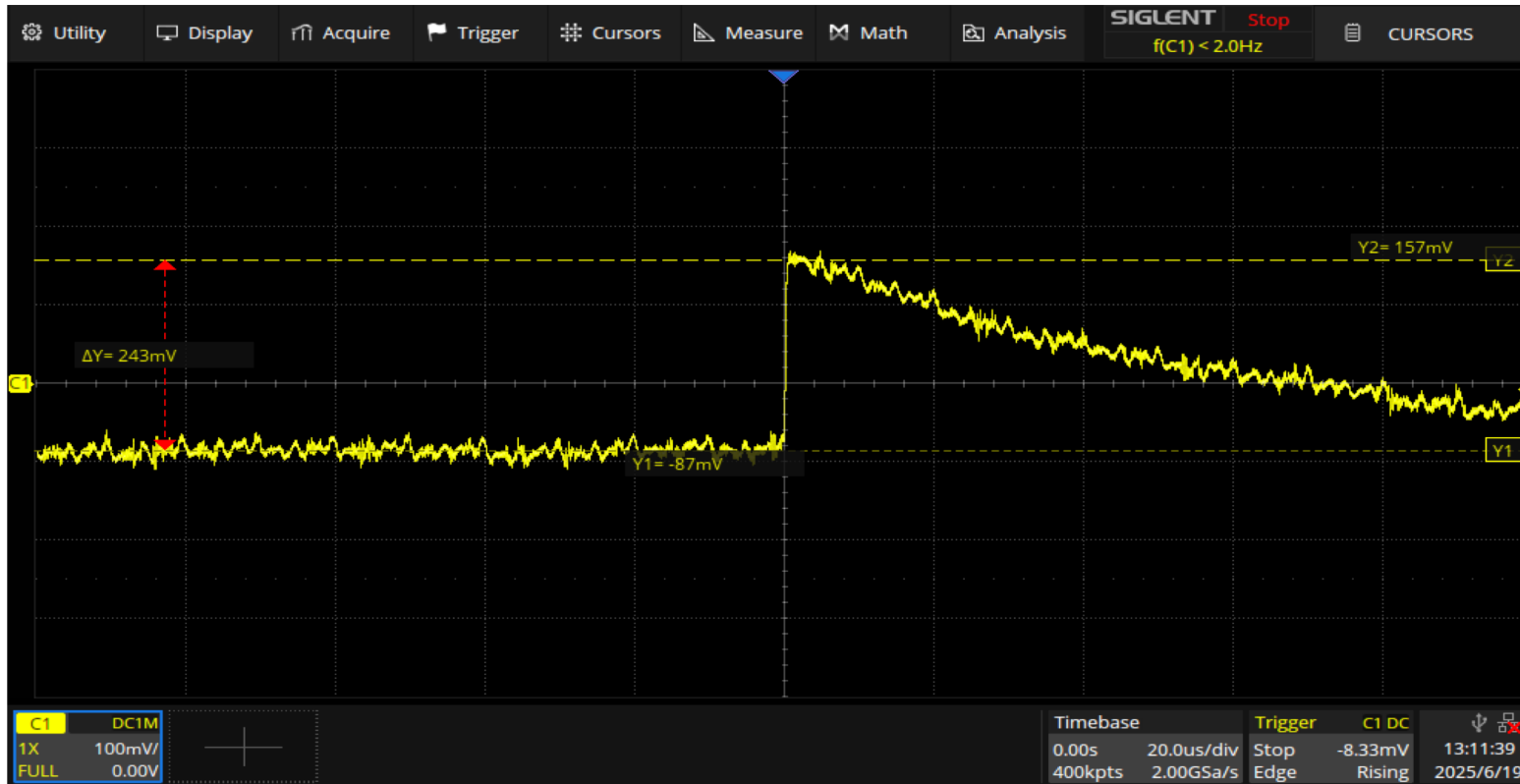
Amplifier: Cremat CR-110

Scope: Siglent



# Test with cosmic

## First cosmic signals with CREMAT CSA:



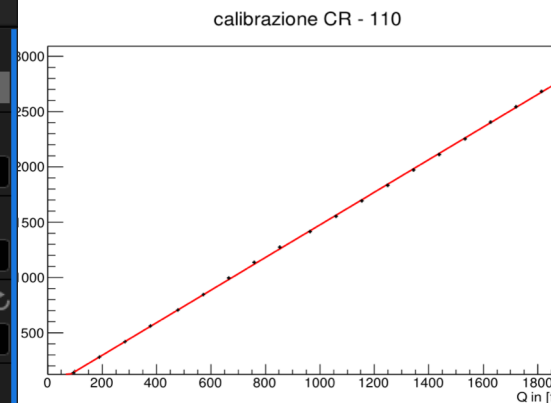
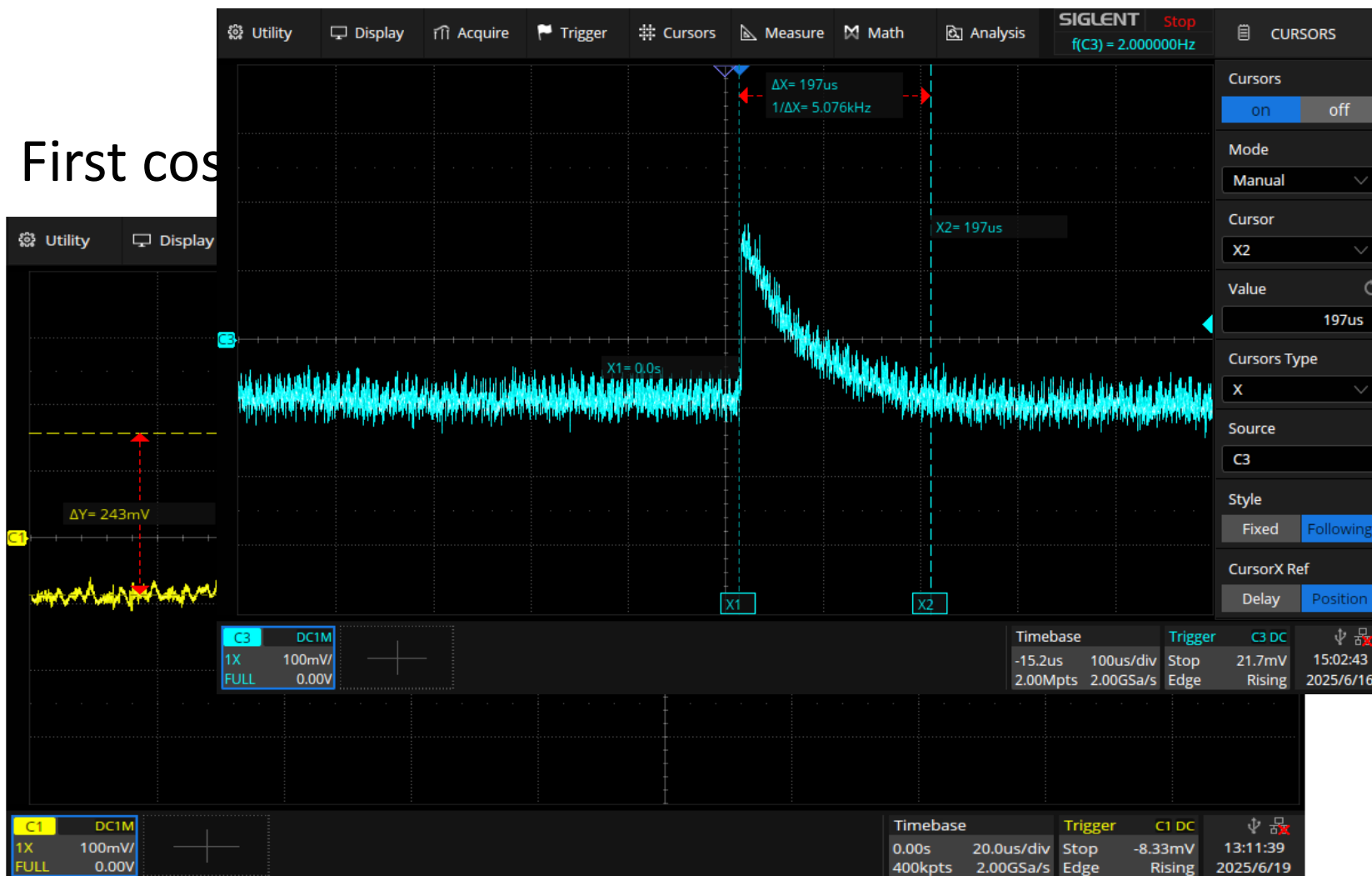
CSA gain is  $(1.4743 \pm 0.0009) \text{ mV/fC}$

Peak height depends on the detector volume crossed



# Test with cosmic

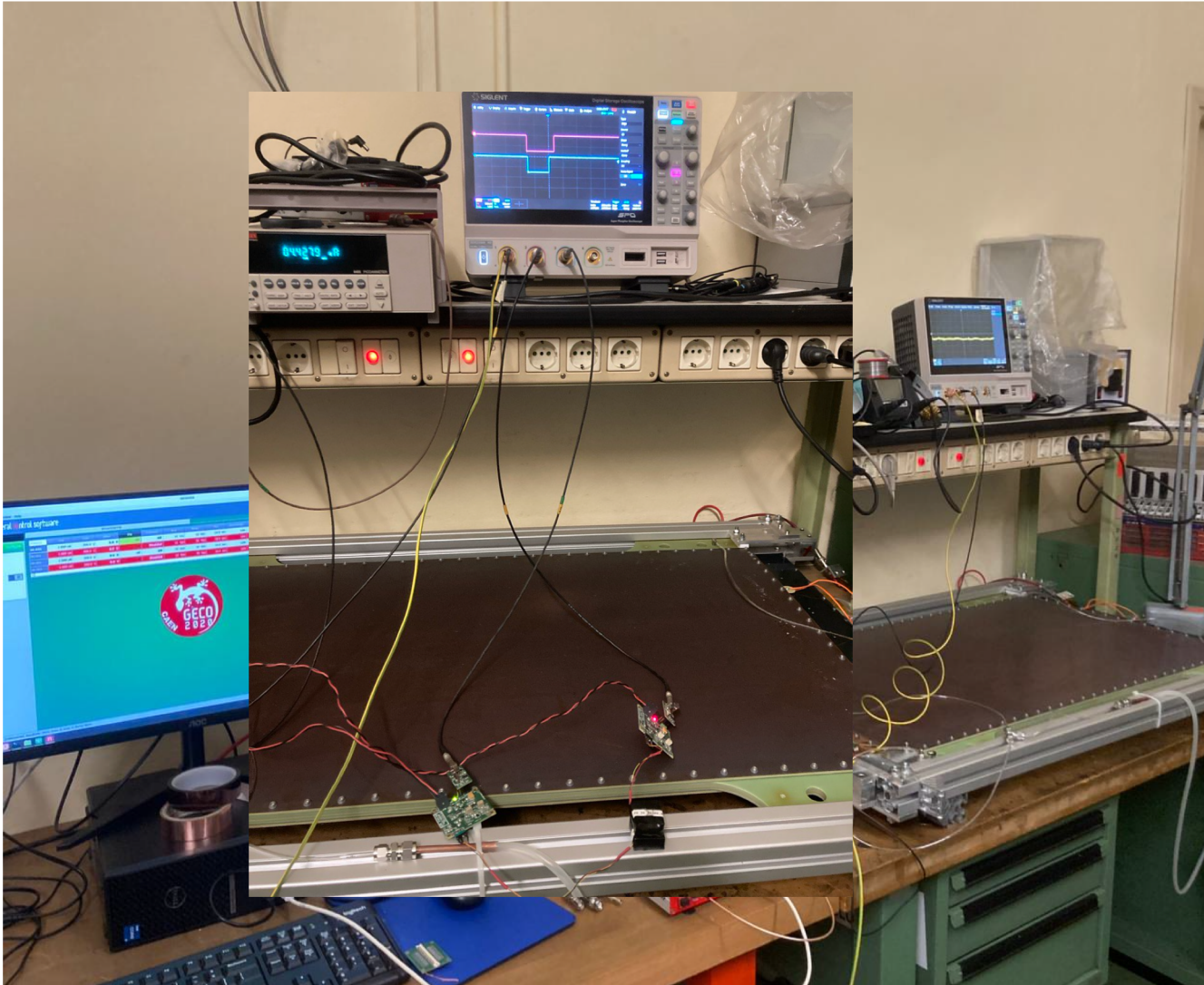
First cos



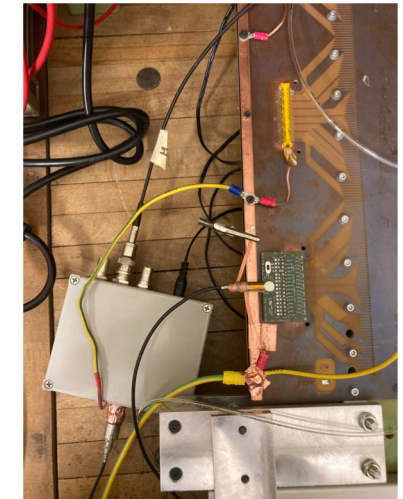
CSA gain is  $(1.4743 \pm 0.0009)$  mV/fC

Peak height depends on the detector volume crossed

# Test setup – next step – efficiency study



Cosmics rate  
measurement with  
scintillators  $3 \times 3 \text{ cm}^2$



Gain measurements with:

✓ Am241 → main peak at 60keV

✓ cs137 → second peak at 600keV



## 2 step design plans

### v1(2025-2026)

- Base version aimed at MM (GEM) & STRAW/MWPCs
- Would be sufficient for the AMBER environment
- 4 Gains
- 4 shaping times
- Trigger less
- 1 or 2 revisions depending on performance & testing

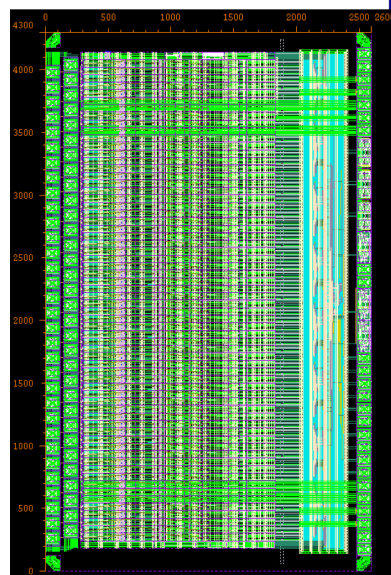
Submitted 05.25

### v2 (2026-2028)

- Actions on the inter-channel analog architecture
- Minor tuning of the channels & Backend

We have a pipeline for 2 submissions... depending on the v1\_a performance

- MPGD and Wire detectors compatible
- Target specific application
- Limited complexity
- Reuse existing solutions (ToASt)
- 65nm
- Two step features design v1, v2
- Final 4300x2600  $\mu\text{m}$



Detector	MM	Straw	
Channels/ASIC	64	64	
Power/channel	$\leq 25$	$\leq 10$	mW
Input capacitance	$\leq 550$	20-100	pF
Input charge	1-100	1-1000	fC
Input impedance	$\leq 50 \Omega$	<i>tbd</i>	$\Omega$
Max rate	$\leq 0.5$	$\leq 0.18$	MHz
Peaking time	<b>150-500</b>	<b>25-150</b>	ns
Time resolution	1-2	$\leq 1$	ns
Charge resolution	8	10	bits
Gain	<b>10-20</b>	2	mV/fC
Clock frequency	200	200	MHz

# Lateral module prototype testing

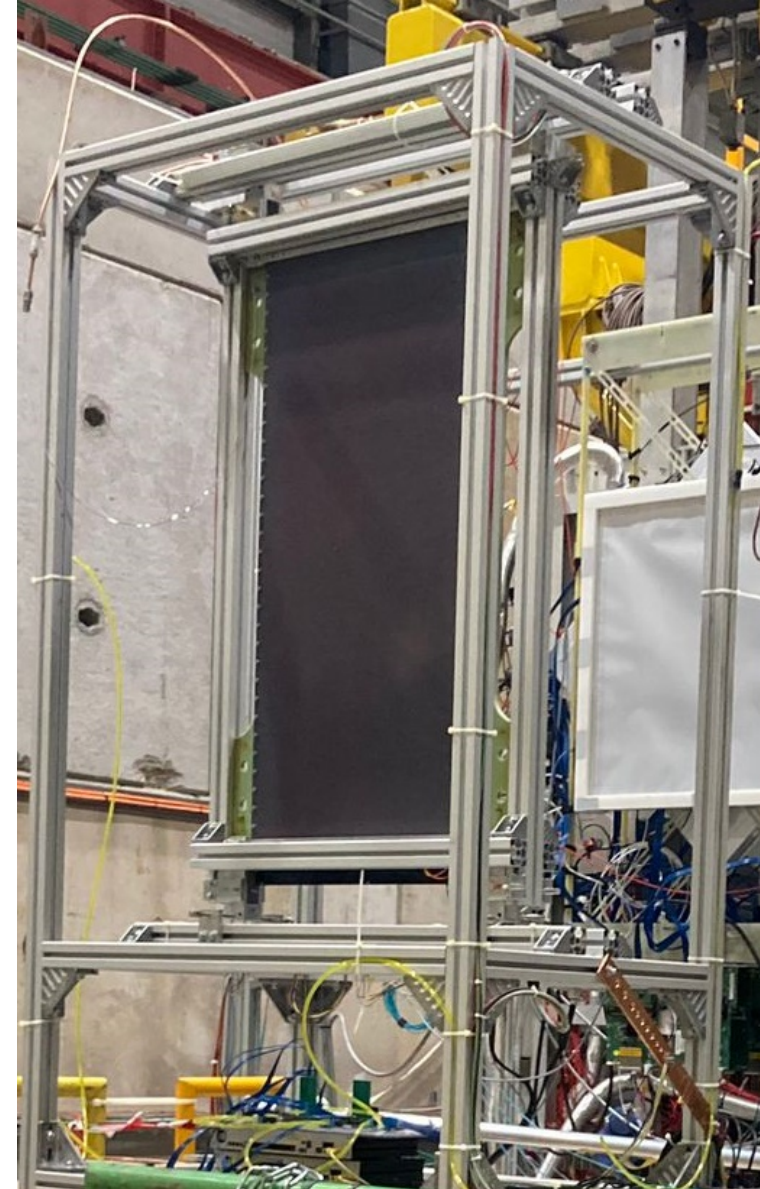
## Past and Future operations

### 2024

- High Voltage stability
- Noise performance & shielding optimisation
- First data (beam)
- Compare ArCO<sub>2</sub> (93/7) and ArCO<sub>2</sub>Iso(93/5/2)

### 2025

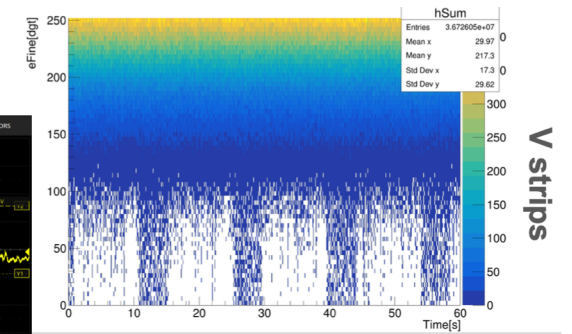
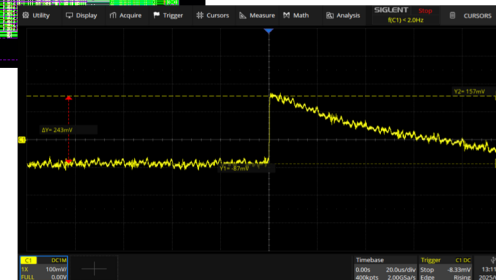
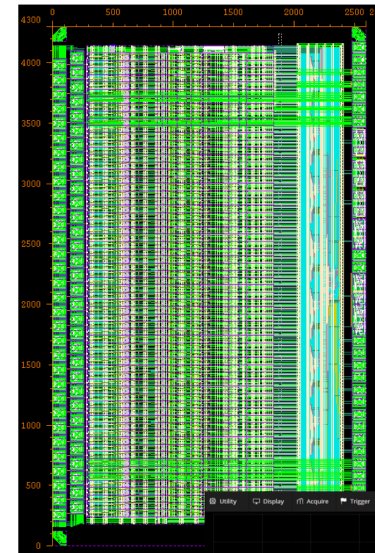
- Test with sources
- We will have our parasitic setup in the AMBER spectrometer for the whole beam period (Sept-Nov)
- We need to achieve a stable operation/understand the problems before starting the layout of the Central module
- First test with the ToRA ASIC





## Conclusions

- First successful powering achieved
- Detector prototype is under test
- ToRA v1 ASIC design is optimised on the base of first detector tests and submitted
- Signal propagation studies to optimize detector and frontend design is ongoing



# Conclusions

- First successful powering achieved
- Detector protot
- ToRA v1 ASIC c on the base of and submitted
- Signal propaga optimize detect design is ongoing

Thank you

Merci

