

The MUonE detector at CERN

Aldo Arena

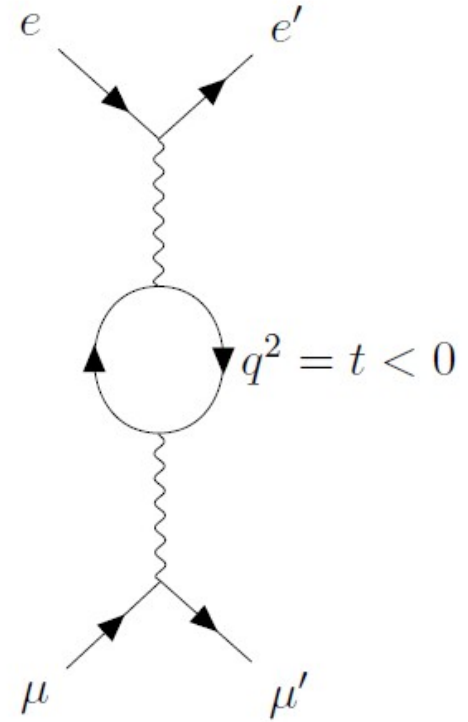
On behalf of the MUonE Collaboration

EPS-HEP 2025, Marseille, France



MUonE

- Experiment proposed at CERN
- Phase I ongoing on M2 beamline, 2025 run
- Direct independent determination of the hadronic contribution to the $g-2$ anomaly
- Measure of the angular distribution from μ - e scattering
- Aims to a precision of $\sim 0.5\%$
 - ~ 3 years of data taking (integrated luminosity $\sim 1.5 \times 10^4 \text{ pb}^{-1}$)

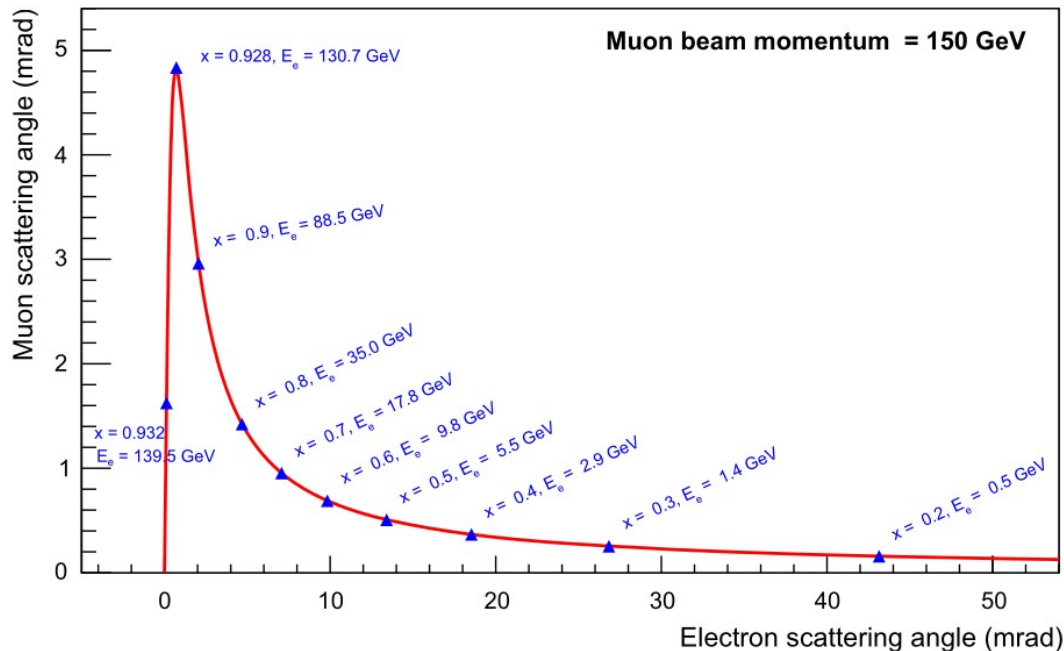


MUonE experiment

- Elastic curve (leading order)
- Scattering angles of the leptons:

$$0 < \theta_{\mu} < 5 \text{ mrad}$$

$$0 < \theta_e \lesssim 32 \text{ mrad}$$

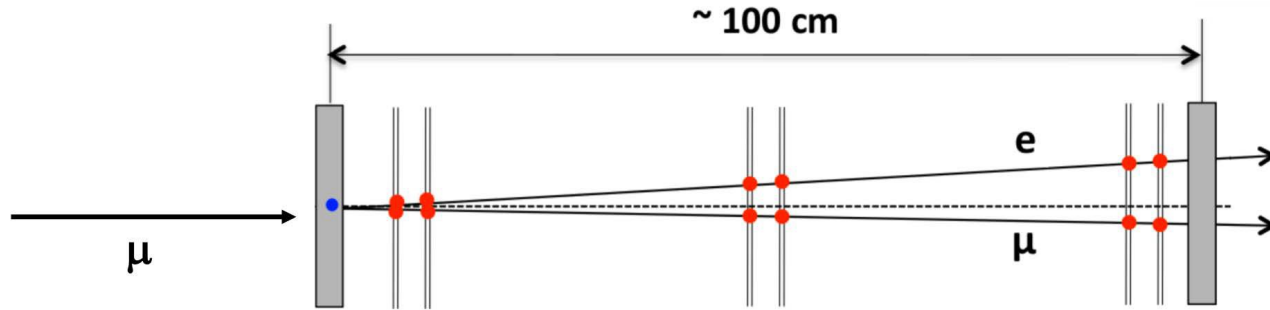


Abbiendi et al, Eur. Phys. J. C 77.3 (2017), 139

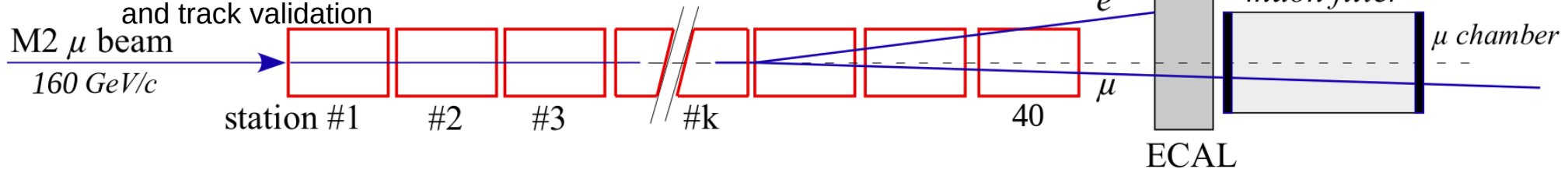
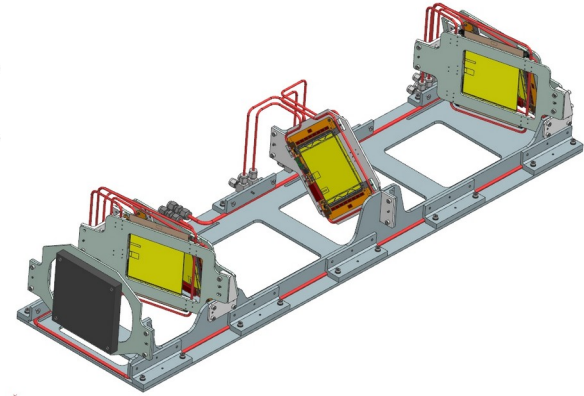
Considerations and requirements

- In order to control the systematic errors:
 - Extreme precision in the alignment and detector stability
 - Uniform efficiency in the all the range of angles
 - Background discrimination, e.g. pair production events, by direct measure and simulations
 - Precise measure of the beam energy (few MeV)
 - Angular resolution
 - Study of the Multiple Scattering effects

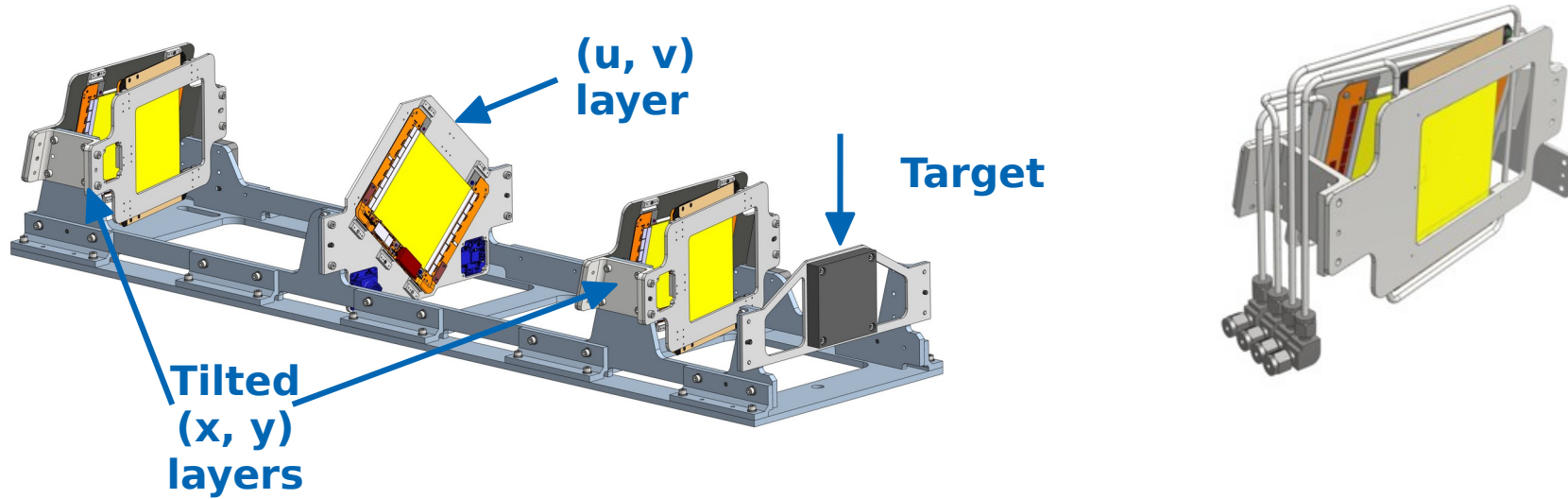
MUonE: Setup



- Tracking station made by 6 planes of **silicon microstrip sensors (CMS 2S Modules)**
- **Modules arranged in perpedicularly oriented pairs (X and Y coordinates)**
- Middle pair rotated by 45° to resolve ambiguity (**U and V**)
- **Be or C** 1.5-2 cm target
- Final version: **40 tracking stations**
- **EM calorimeter** and **muon filter** to solve particle identification and track validation



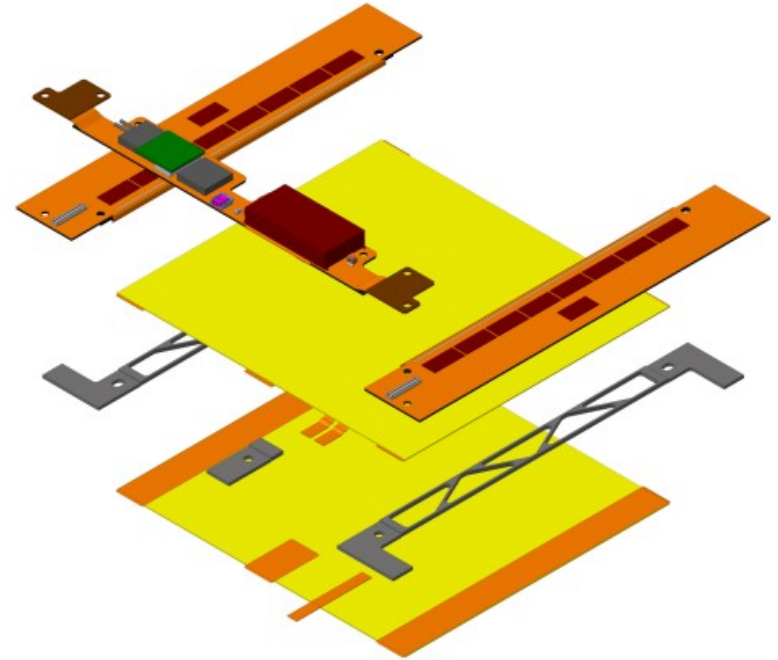
Tracking Station



- (x, y) layers tilted by 233 mrad: improved hit resolution
- Modular layout: each station is an independent detector

2S modules

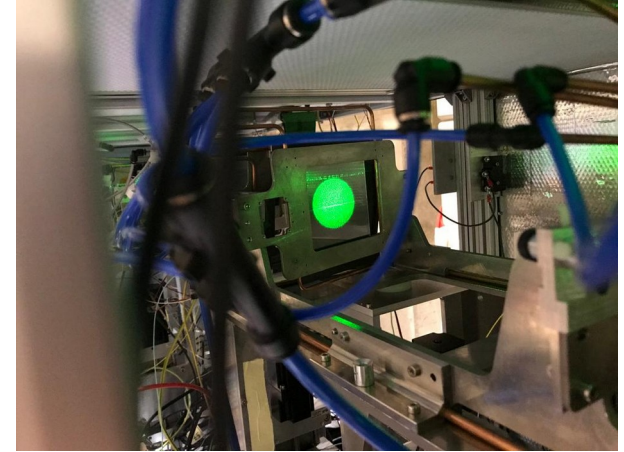
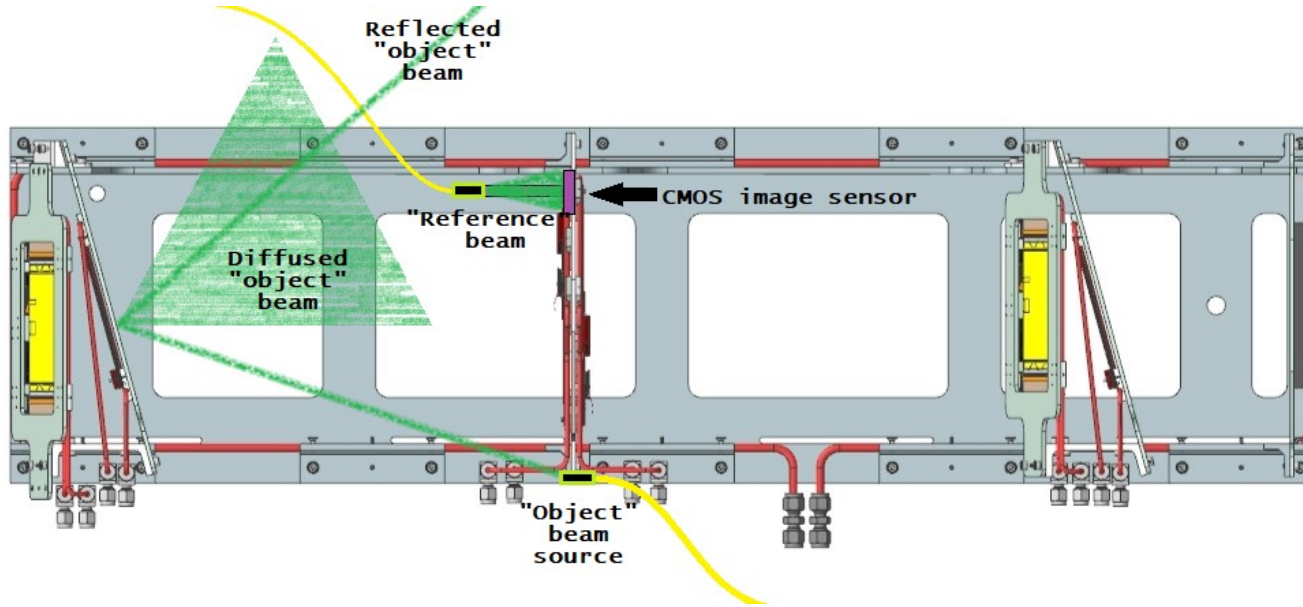
- Silicon strip sensors developed for the CMS-Phase2 upgrade.
- Two close-by strip sensors reading the same coordinate and read-out by the same electronics.
- 40 MHz readout rate
- Active area $\sim 90 \times 90 \text{ mm}^2$
- Digital readout, $90 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$
 - Resolution $\sim 26 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$



<https://cds.cern.ch/record/2272264/files/CMS-TDR-014.pdf>

Holographic Alignment Monitor

- Monitoring system of the relative displacement between tracking planes
- Relative position of the sensors within a station must be stable $< 10 \mu\text{m}$
- Developed using custom digital holographic interferometric methods
- Sensibility $\sim 0.25 \mu\text{m}$ (half wavelength) – 532 nm fiber-coupled laser

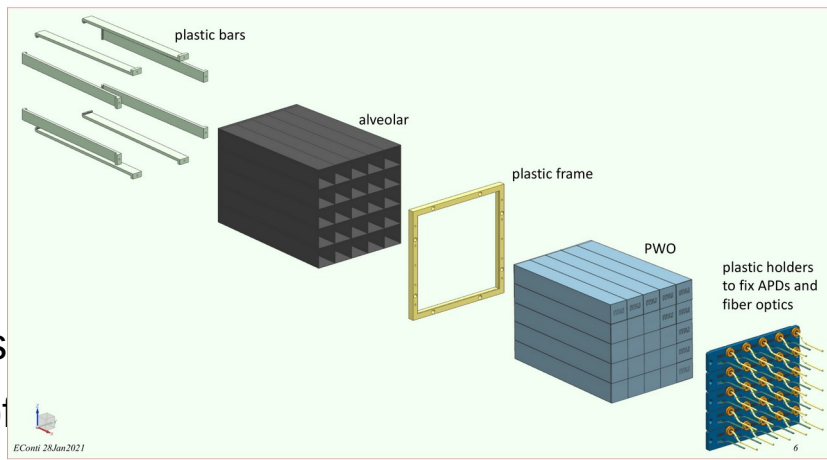


Holographic Alignment Monitor

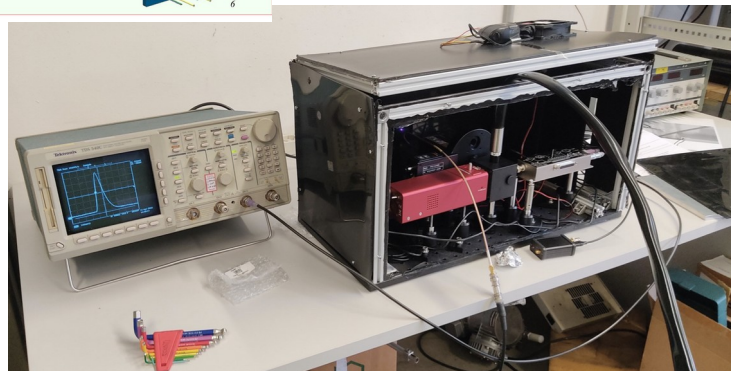
- Current setup limitation:
 - It is not possible to constantly take data since the 2S modules are sensitive to visible light
- Use of IR laser ($\sim > 1500$ nm) where the silicon sensors are not sensitive
- An IR laser setup would make possible to monitor the stability more precisely without gaps

Electromagnetic Calorimeter

- 25 lead tungstate crystals, PbWO_4 used in the CMS ECAL:
 - Area: $2.85 \times 2.85 \text{ cm}^2$
 - Length: 23 cm ($\sim 25 X_0$)
- APDs coupled to the crystals
- Measure electron energies of 1-150 GeV
- Useful also for an independent direct measure of the hadronic running $\Delta\alpha_{\text{had}}$.



Fiber-coupled
laser calibration
system →

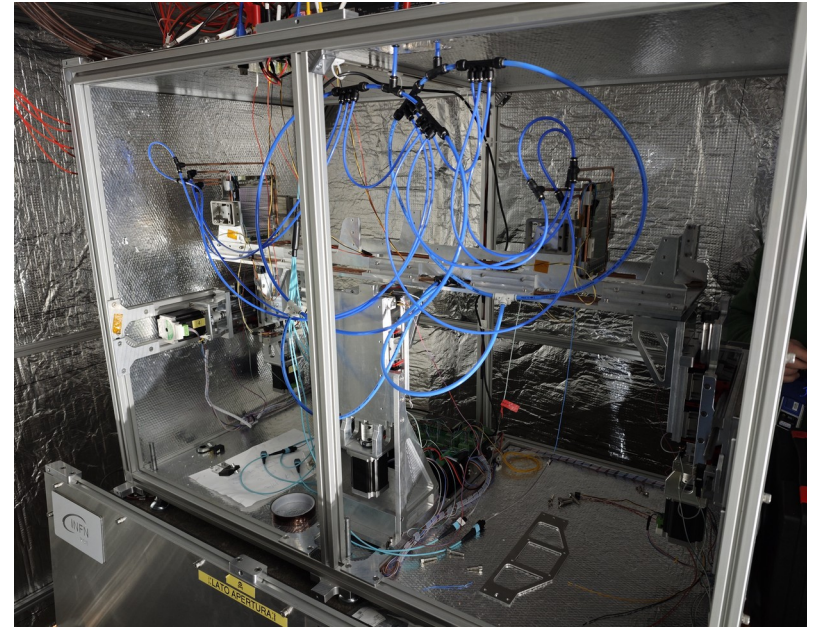
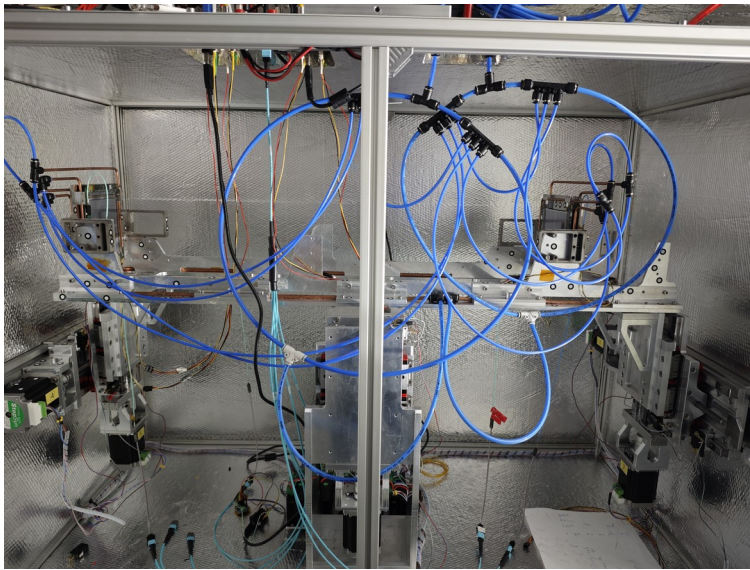


Muon Filter

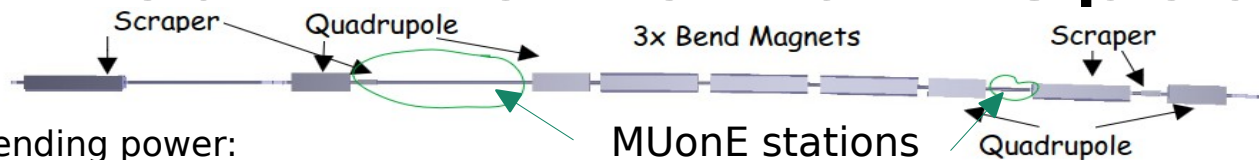
- General idea:
 - track muons after the ECAL, where electrons have been absorbed
 - improve PID by connecting with tracks before the ECAL
- Requires the coverage of the beam cross-sectional area after the ECAL
- Precise study of the Multiple Scattering effects
- Four 2S modules (2 pairs of X-Y) in the current version of the 2025 detector
- 2S Modules or Scintillating Fibers (R&D) for the final detector

Muon Filter 2025

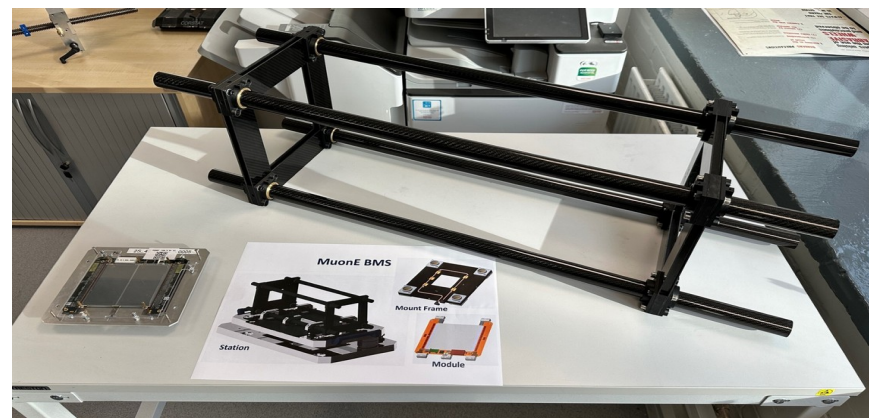
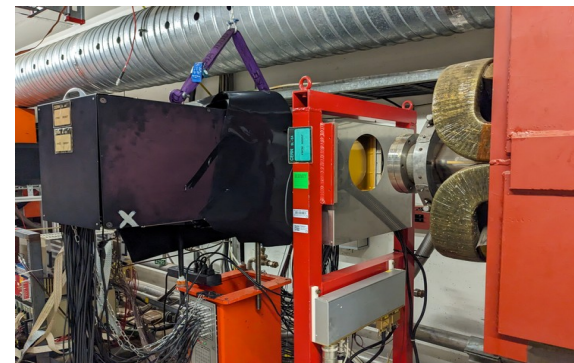
- Use of the CMS 2S modules
- 2 X-Y non-tilted planes



Beam Momentum Spectrometer



- Bending power:
 $16 \text{ T}\cdot\text{m}$ (30 mrad @ 160 GeV).
- Determine the muon momentum event by event.
- Goal: $< 0.5\%$ momentum resolution.
- In 2025, limited by the precise knowledge of the magnetic field.



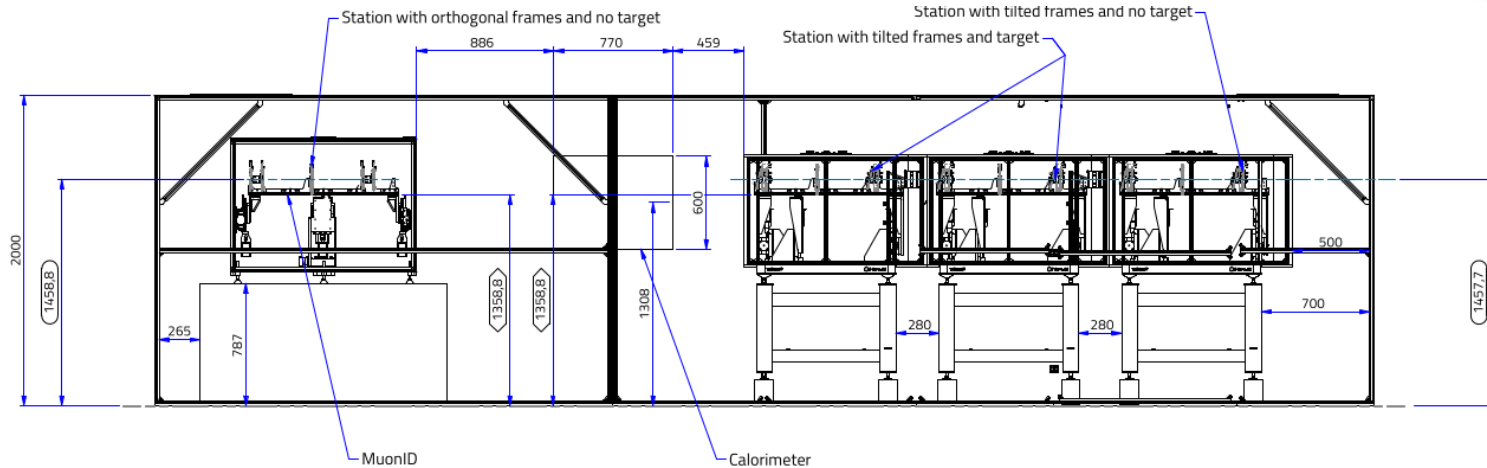
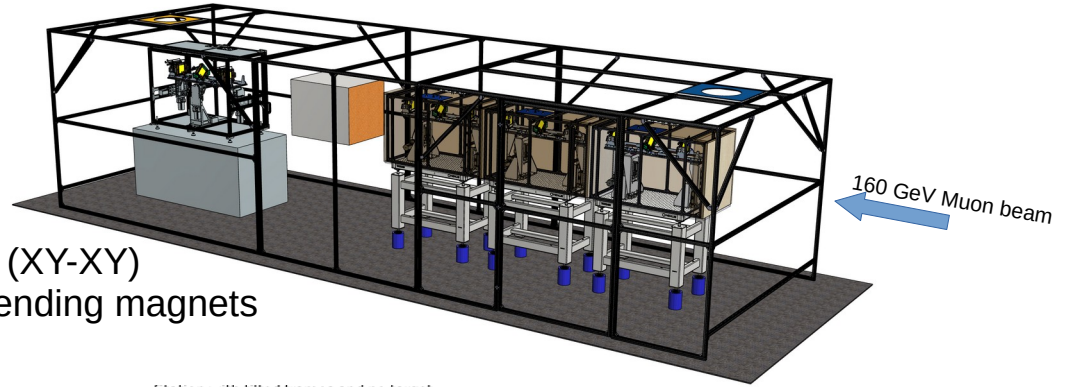
MUonE DAQ

- FPGA-based readout, triggerless architecture at 40 MHz clock cycles
 - MUonE DAQ uses the Serenity processing card for CMS Phase-II upgrade
- DAQ firmware split over 2 FPGAs:
 - Stage 1: manages interface with on detector electronics, event selection using tracker information
 - Event selection using tracker module occupancy used and demonstrated to be effective
 - Stage 2: event building, ethernet interface
 - General-purpose AXI-stream event builder collates fragments from each sub detector into a coherent packet
- Online decoding provides analysis-ready NTuples in real time, highly scalable. Built upon kubernetes to provide fault tolerance

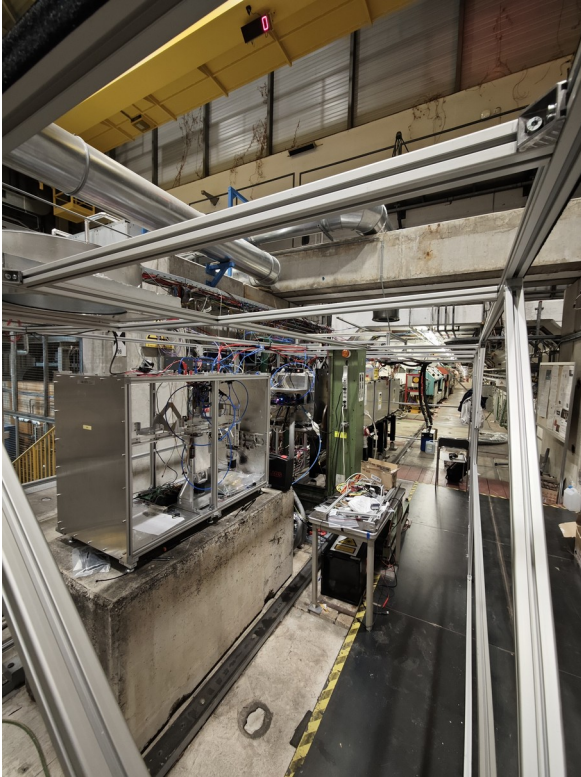


MUonE Phase I Apparatus 2025

- Mini MUonE experimental setup:
 - 1st station without target
 - 2nd and 3rd stations with 2 cm C target
 - ECAL
 - MuonID station with 4 tracking planes (XY-XY)
 - Upstream: 2 BMS stations between bending magnets



MUonE Phase I Apparatus 2025

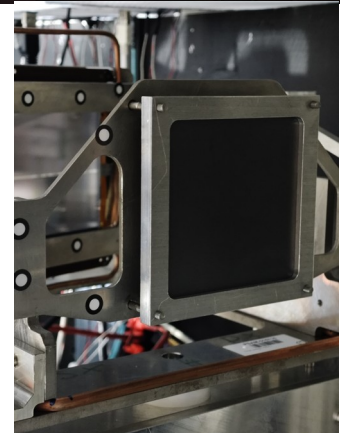


07/07/25



MUonE detectors during
installation and after (inside
the tent)

MUonE detector at CERN, EPS-HEP 2025



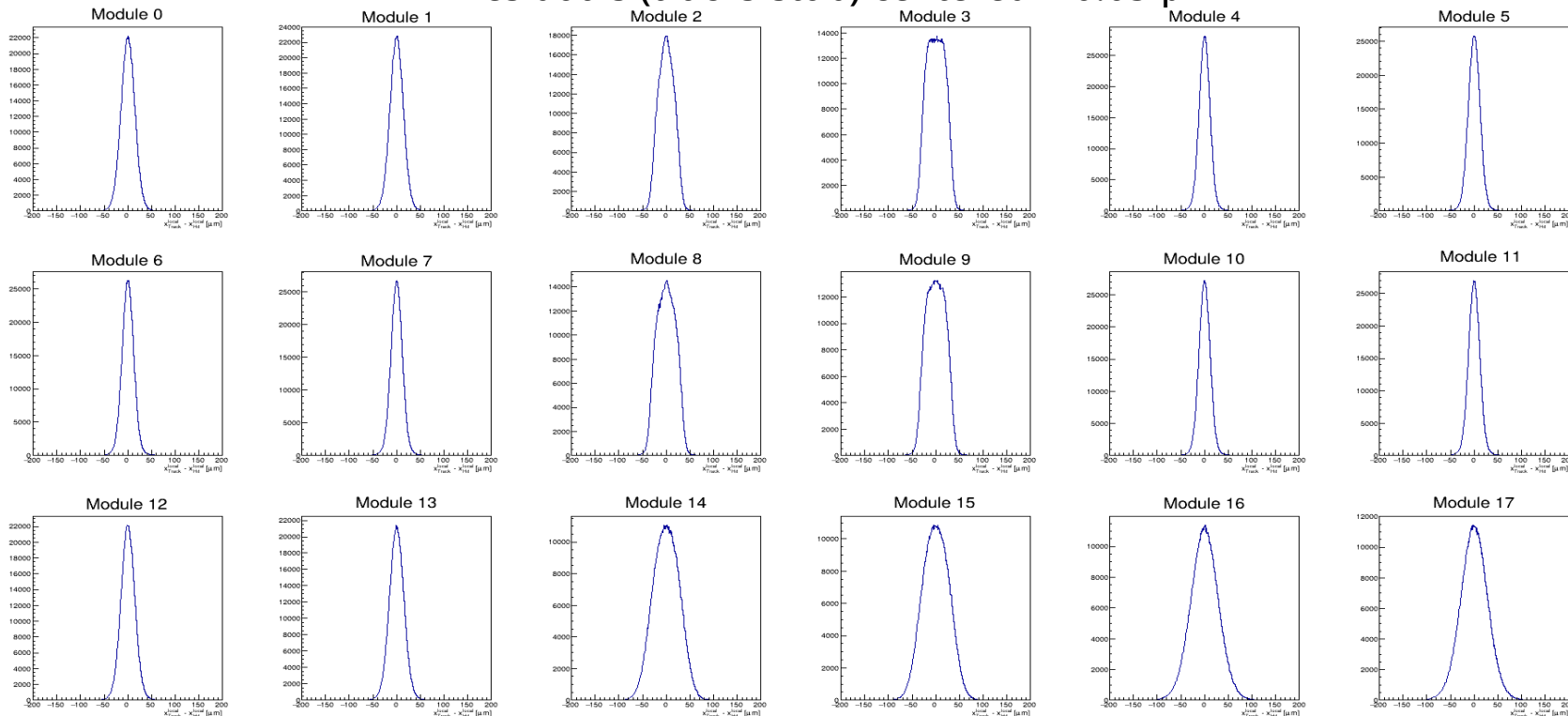
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Tracker Alignment

- Hardware, using stepper motors:
 - 1) Center each 2S module to the beam $< 500 \mu\text{m}$
 - 2) Align the longitudinal axis of each station to the beam axis $< 0.5 \text{ mrad}$
 - 3) Align the 3 stations one relative to the other $< 200 \mu\text{m}$
- Software: local χ^2 minimization on a sample of clean single passing muon events (1 stub/module = 18 stub/event).
- 3D scanning + laser survey to determine the position + orientation of each module with $\sim 100 \mu\text{m}$ precision. Result of these surveys will be used as starting point of the software alignment.

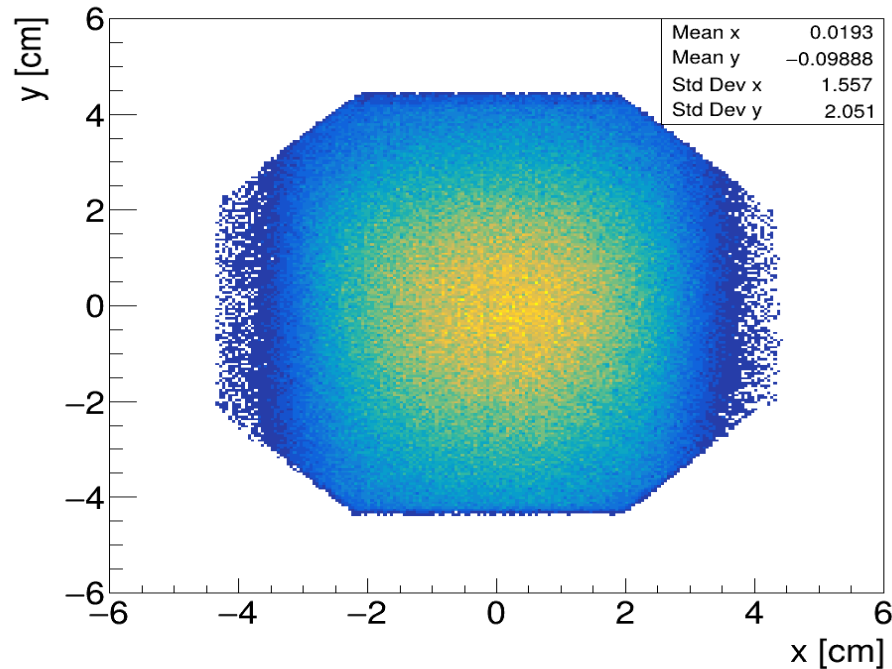
Tracker Software Alignment

Residuals (tracks-stub) centered $< 0.05 \mu\text{m}$

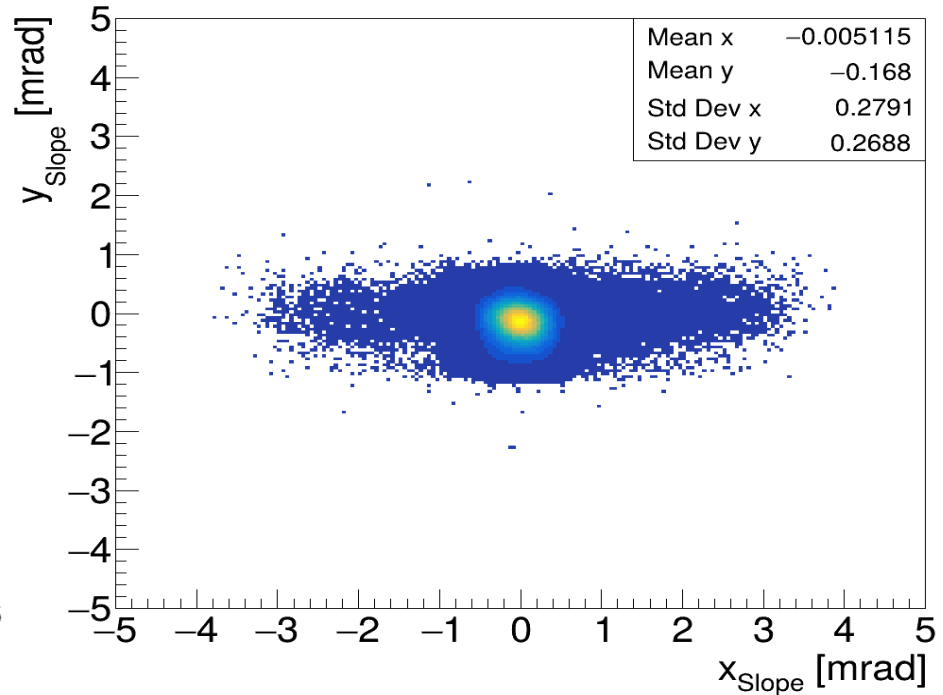


Beam Characteristics

Beam spot @ 1st target



Beam direction



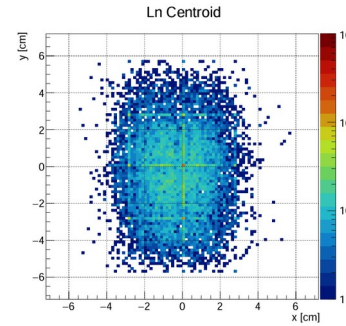
Sync test between ECAL and Tracker with High Intensity beam

Electrons scattered off a target using the **trackers** and the **ECAL**

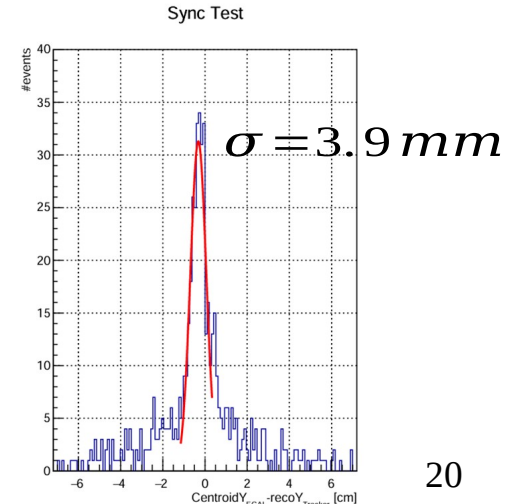
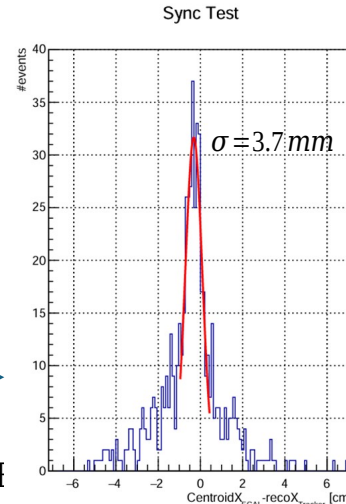
- **Precise timing and alignment** between these systems is essential for reconstructing particle events correctly — especially under challenging high-rate (pile-up) conditions.
- Event selection criteria for the test:
 - Events with energy > 20 GeV
 - High-quality tracking information
- **Excellent agreement** between the position measured by the ECAL and the one predicted by the tracker.
- **Beam profile** extracted directly from calorimeter data, confirming the expected beam shape during the high-intensity muon run.

Spatial Agreement between Tracker and ECAL:

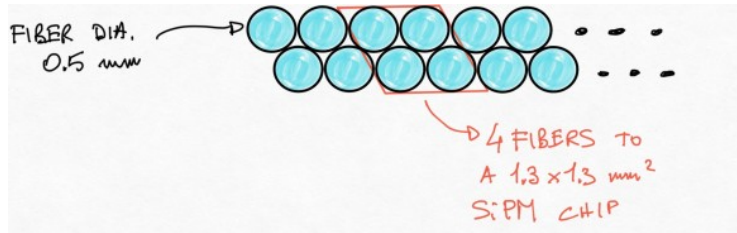
The difference in reconstructed particle position is within ~4 mm in both X and Y directions



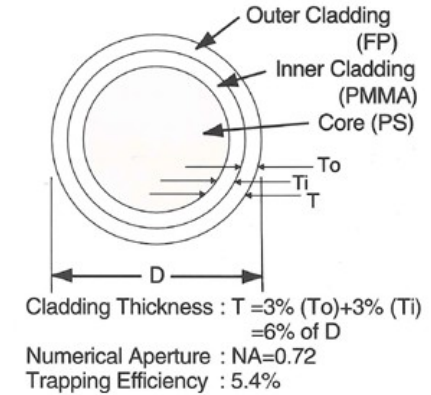
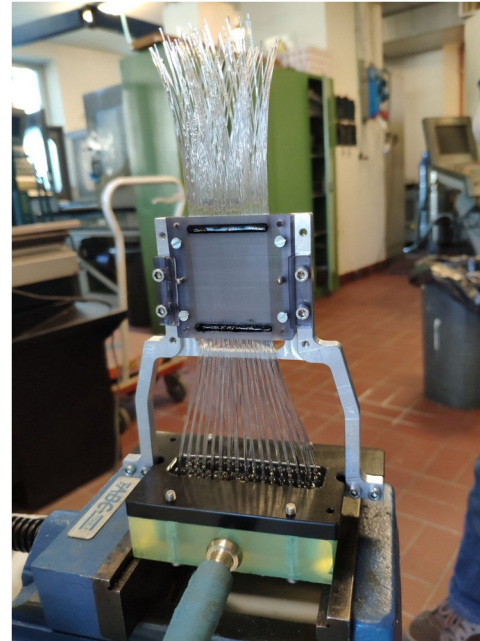
Beam Profile (from ECAL): Reconstructed using energy clusters from scattered electrons



SciFi Muon Filter

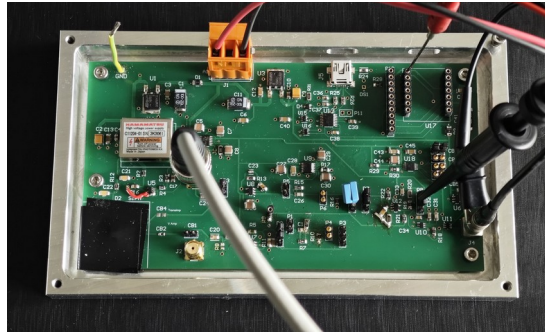
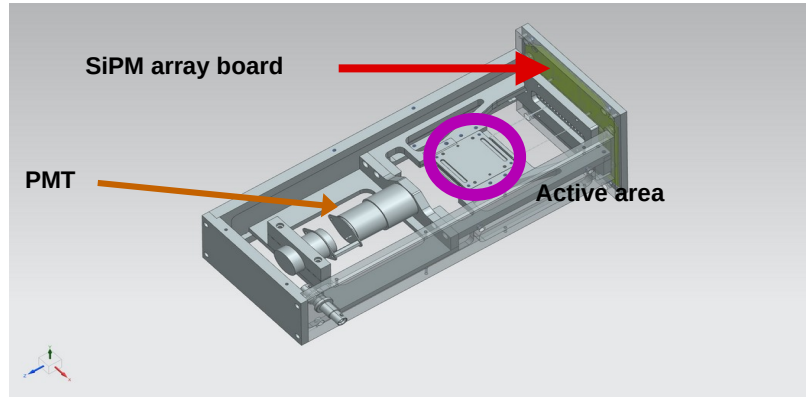


- Polystyrene (PS) round fibers, multi cladding (6% of the thickness)
- 88% of mechanical efficiency for single layer SciFi array
- Used double and shifted layers array – 4 fibers coupled to 1 SiPM
- Pitch 1.25 mm – resolution $\sim 360 \mu\text{m}$



SciFi Muon Filter Prototype

- 0.5mm dia. plastic scintillating fibers (Kuraray SCSF-78)
- SiPMs 1.3x1.3 mm² (Hamamatsu S13360-1350)
- PMT (Hamamatsu R1924A)
- Easy to cover large beam cross sections – easily scalable
- “Simple” mechanics
- Custom Front-End electronics in development



Conclusions

- The MUonE Phase I is ongoing with reduced setup – MiniMUonE
- 3 more weeks of data taking as main users of the M2 beamline
- Next step:
 - Analysis of the data taken during 2025
 - R&D activities to improve the experimental apparatus
 - e.g. SciFi Muon Filter, IR HAM, mechanics of the tracking stations..
- Full Setup ready after the Long Shutdown 3 (~2029)
- More info about the MUonE experiment with some preliminary results will be given in Eugenia Spedicato's talk "*Tackling the muon $g-2$ anomaly with the MUonE experiment at CERN*"