

High-performance gamma-ray astronomy and polarimetry with low-density homogeneous active targets: gas detectors

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eXtreme19, 22-25 January 2019, Padova (Italy) ,

links



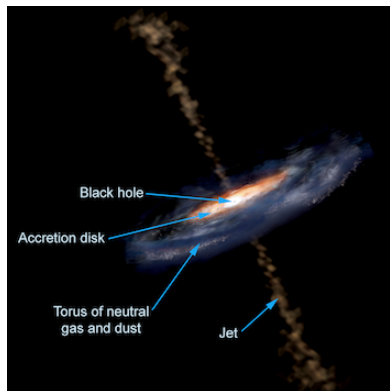
Talk Lay-out

- Micro introduction: science case: (linear) γ -ray polarimetry
- Linear polarimetry with $\gamma \rightarrow e^+e^-$
- The CNRS-CEA-NewSUBARU-SPring8 “HARPO” (Hermetic ARgon POLarimeter) instrument project

Deciphering emission mechanism in Blazars with γ -ray polarimetry

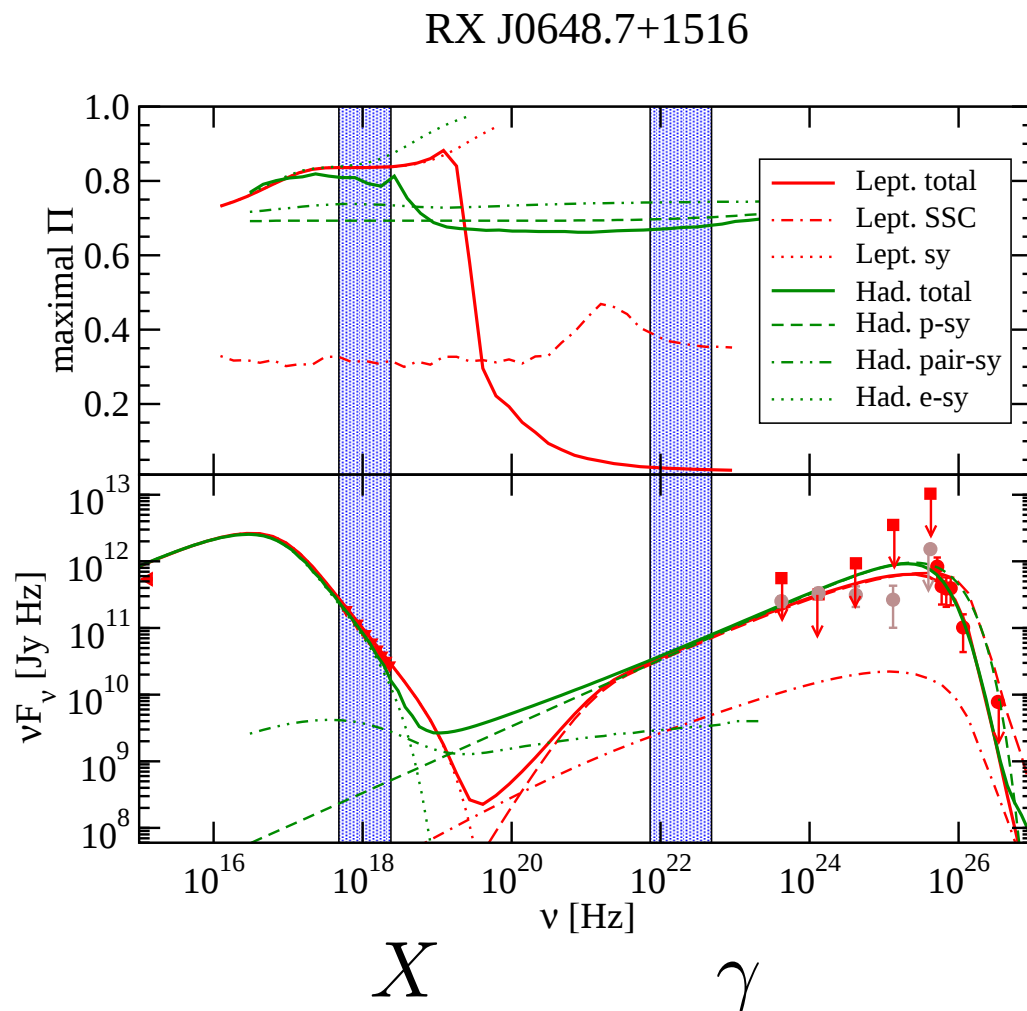
- Blazars: active galactic nuclei (AGN) with one jet pointing (almost) to us

leptonic synchrotron self-Compton (SSC) or **hadronic** (proton-synchrotron) ?



- high-frequency-peaked BL Lac
- X band: 2 -10 keV
- γ band: 30 - 200 MeV
- SED's indistinguishable, but
 - X-ray: $P_{\text{lept}} \approx P_{\text{hadr}}$
 - γ -ray: $P_{\text{lept}} \ll P_{\text{hadr}}$

H. Zhang and M. Böttcher,
A.P. J. 774, 18 (2013)

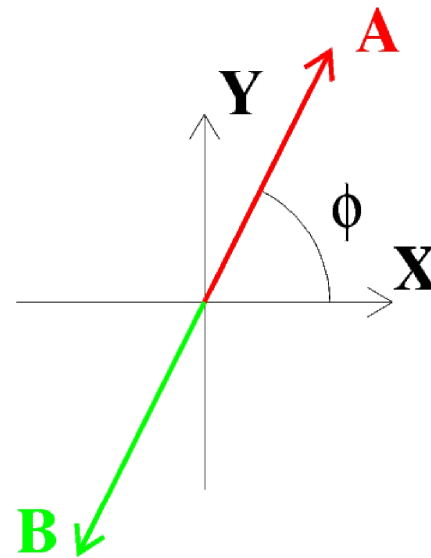
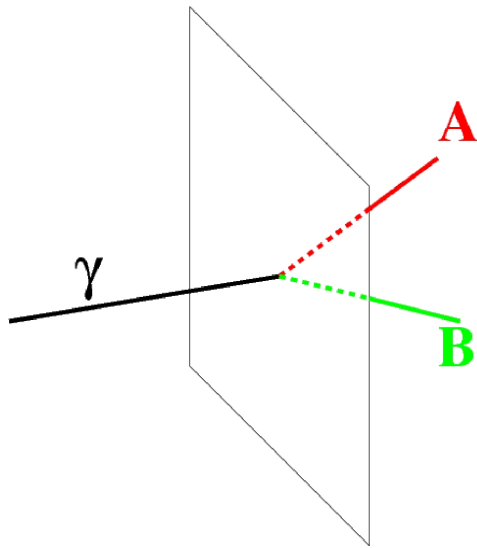


Polarimetry

- Modulation of azimuthal angle distribution

$$\frac{d\Gamma}{d\phi} \propto (1 + \mathcal{A}P \cos [2(\phi - \phi_0)]),$$

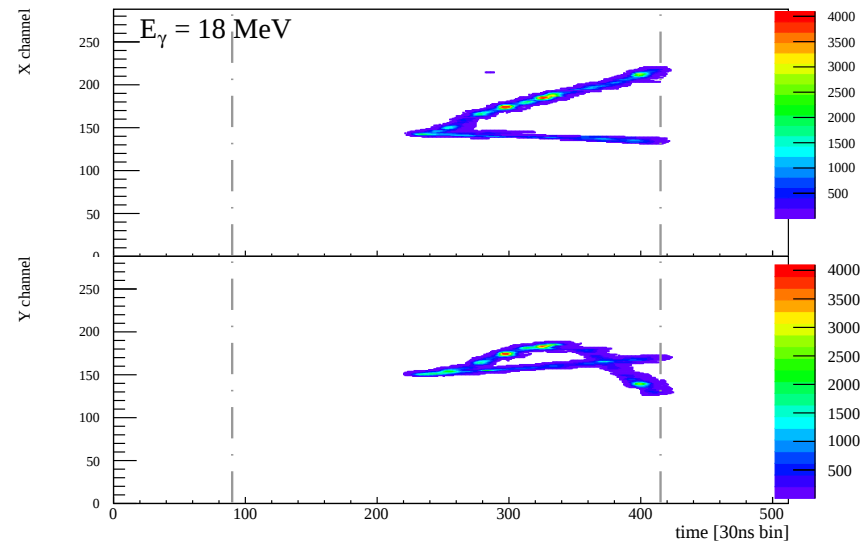
$$\sigma_P \approx \frac{1}{\mathcal{A}} \sqrt{\frac{2}{N}},$$



- P source linear polarisation fraction
- $\mathcal{A}$ γ -ray conversion polarization asymmetry
- ϕ event azimuthal angle
- ϕ_0 source polarization angle.

The enemy: multiple scattering

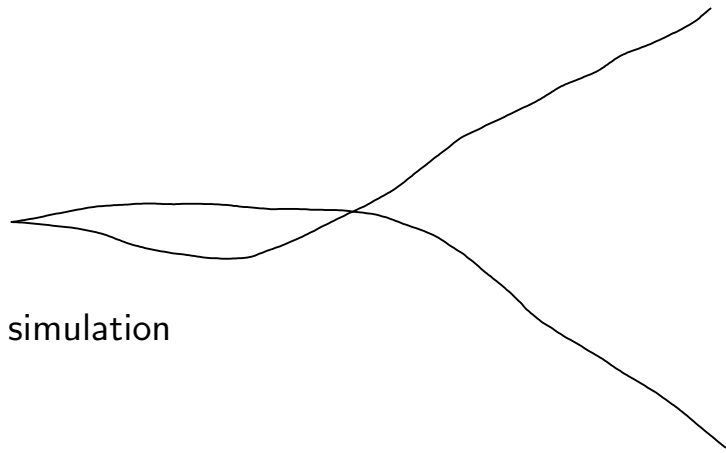
- Data



(x, t) and (y, t) views of a 18 MeV γ -ray from the BL01 beam line at NewSUBARU (LASTI, Hyôgo U., Japan) converting to e^+e^- in the 2.1 bar Ar:Isobutane 95:5 gas of the HARPO TPC prototype

- MC simulation

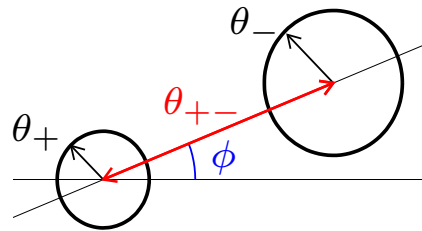
γ -ray conversion in argon, EGS5 simulation



Conversion in a Slab and Multiple Scattering: Dilution of the Polarisation Asymmetry

- $(1 + \mathcal{A}P \cos [2(\phi)]) \otimes e^{-\phi^2/2\sigma_\phi^2} = (1 + \mathcal{A} e^{-2\sigma_\phi^2} P \cos [2(\phi)])$

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{A}_{\text{eff}} = \mathcal{A} e^{-2\sigma_\phi^2}, \quad D = \mathcal{A}_{\text{eff}}/\mathcal{A} = e^{-2\sigma_\phi^2}$$



- azimuthal angle RMS $\sigma_\phi = \frac{\theta_{0,e+} \oplus \theta_{0,e-}}{\hat{\theta}_{+-}}$,

- $\theta_0 \approx \frac{13.6 \text{ MeV}/c}{\beta p} \sqrt{\frac{x}{X_0}}$,

- most probable opening angle $\hat{\theta}_{+-} = 1.6 \text{ MeV}/E$

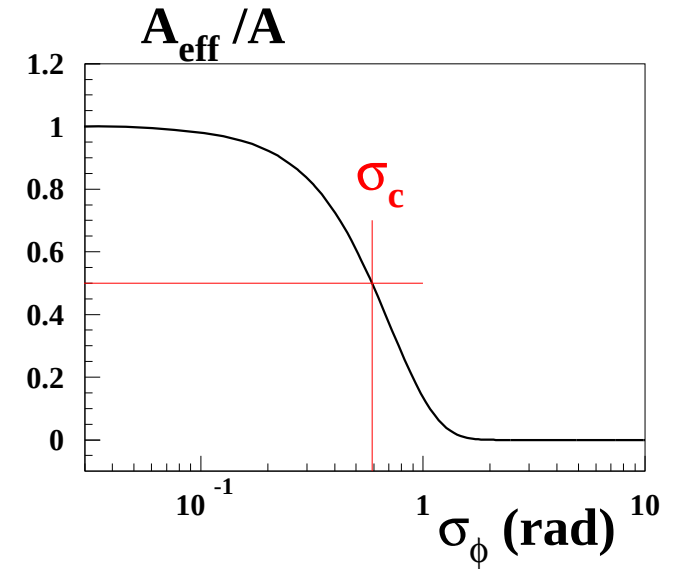
$$\Rightarrow \sigma_\phi \approx 24 \text{ rad} \sqrt{x/X_0},$$

$$\mathcal{A}_{\text{eff}}/\mathcal{A} = 1/2 \text{ for } x \approx 10^{-3} X_0$$

(100 μm of Si, 4 μm of W)

- This dilution is energy-independent.

Conventional wisdom: γ polarimetry impossible with nuclear conversions $\gamma Z \rightarrow e^+ e^-$



Olsen, PR. 131, 406 (1963).

Yu. D. Kotov, Space Science Reviews 49 (1988) 185,

Mattox J. R. Astrophys. J. 363 (1990) 270

γ Polarimetry with a Homogeneous Detector and Optimal Fits

- $\sigma_\phi = \frac{\sigma_{\theta,e^+} \oplus \sigma_{\theta,e^-}}{\hat{\theta}_{+-}},$ azimuthal angle resolution

- $\sigma_{\theta,\text{track}} = (\textcolor{red}{p}/p_1)^{-3/4},$ angular resolution due to multiple scattering

- $p_1 = 13.6 \text{ MeV}/c \left(\frac{4\sigma^2 l}{X_0^3} \right)^{1/6},$ Argon ($\sigma = l = 1\text{mm}$): $p_1 = 50 \text{ keV}/c$ (1 bar),

$p_1 = 1.45 \text{ MeV}/c$ (liquid).

- $\hat{\theta}_{+-} = 1.6 \text{ MeV}/\textcolor{red}{E}$ most probable opening angle

- $\sigma_\phi = \left[x_+^{-\frac{3}{4}} \oplus (1 - x_+)^{-\frac{3}{4}} \right] \frac{(p_1)^{\frac{3}{4}} \textcolor{red}{E}^{\frac{1}{4}}}{1.6 \text{ MeV}}.$ azimuthal angle resolution

- x_+ fraction of the energy carried away by the positron,

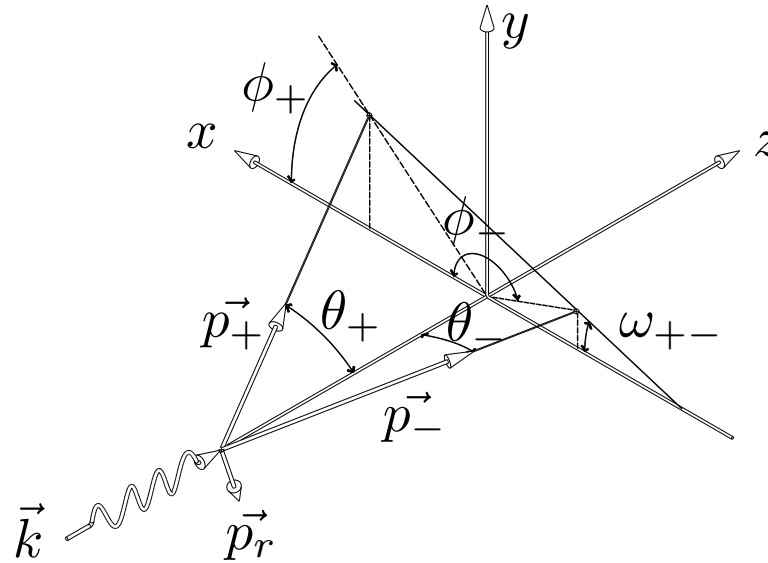
There is hope .. at low p_1 (gas) .. at low energy.

Need study beyond the most probable opening angle $\theta_{+-} = \hat{\theta}_{+-}$ approximation

Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A 729 (2013) 765

Developed, Validated, Event Generator

- Development of a full (5D) polarized evt generator
- First order of Born development “Bethe-Heitler”: linear polarization.
- Variables: azimuthal (ϕ_+ , ϕ_-) and polar (θ_+ , θ_-) angles of e^+ and e^- , and $x_+ \equiv E_+/E$

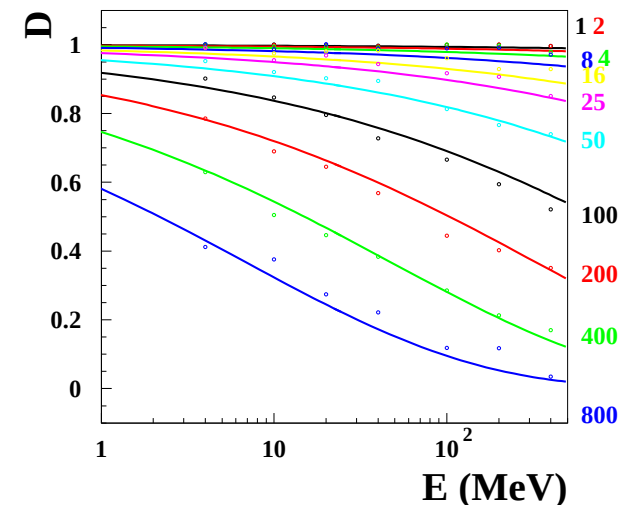


- Verification against published 1D distributions (nuclear and triplet conversions)
[Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A 729 \(2013\) 765](#)
[Astroparticle Physics 88 \(2017\) 60](#)
- Geant4 version, G4BetheHeitler5DModel physics model, 10.5 release
[doi: 10.1016/j.nima.2018.09.154](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nima.2018.09.154) and [Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A 899 \(2018\) 85](#)

Dilution of Polarization Asymmetry due to Multiple Scattering: Optimal Fits and Full MC

- Remember: track angular resolution $(p/p_1)^{-3/4}$,
- $D \equiv \frac{\mathcal{A}_{\text{eff}}(p_1)}{\mathcal{A}(p_1 = 0)}$

$$p_1 = 13.6 \text{ MeV}/c \left(\frac{4\sigma^2 l}{X_0^3} \right)^{1/6}$$



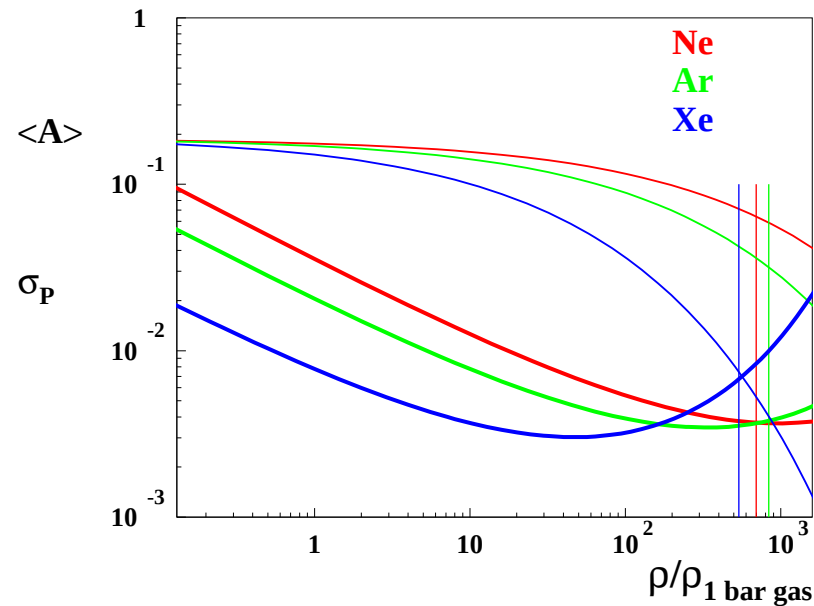
Energy variation of D for various values of p_1 (keV/c)

- Curves are $D(E, p_1) = \exp[-2(a p_1^b E^c)^2]$ parametrizations, a, b, c constants
- Liquid: nope** (Ar, $p_1 = 1.45 \text{ MeV}/c$); **gas: Possible !** (1 bar, $p_1 = 50 \text{ keV}/c$)

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Polarimetry Performance (no Experimental Cuts)

- Crab-like source, $T = 1$ year, $V = 1 \text{ m}^3$, $\sigma = l = 0.1 \text{ cm}$, $\eta = \epsilon = 1$).
- $\mathcal{A}_{\text{eff}}$ (thin line), σ_P (thick line);



- Argon, 5 bar, $\mathcal{A}_{\text{eff}} \approx 15\%$, $\sigma_P \approx 1.0\%$
- Caveat: other limitations (eg.: $1/\rho$ scaling of detector element sizing), other effects (electrons slowing down and stopping in active target, important at large ρ , diffusion during drift in TPC) not considered here

Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A 729 (2013) 765

The HARPO (Hermetic ARgon POLarimeter) instrument project

- France: the detector

Denis Bernard, Philippe Bruel, Mickael Froton, Yannick Geerebaert, Berrie Giebels, Philippe Gros, Deirdre Horan, Marc Louzir, Frédéric Magniette, Patrick Poilleux, Igor Semenouk, Shaobo Wang ^a

^aLLR, Ecole Polytechnique and CNRS/IN2P3, France

David Attié, Pascal Baron, David Baudin, Denis Calvet, Paul Colas, Alain Delbart, Ryo Yonamine ^b

^bIRFU, CEA Saclay, France

Diego Götz ^{b,c}

^cAIM, CEA/DSM-CNRS-Université Paris Diderot, IRFU/SAP, CEA Saclay, France

- Japan: the beam.

S. Amano, T. Kotaka, S. Hashimoto, Y. Minamiyama, A. Takemoto, M. Yamaguchi,
S. Miyamoto^e

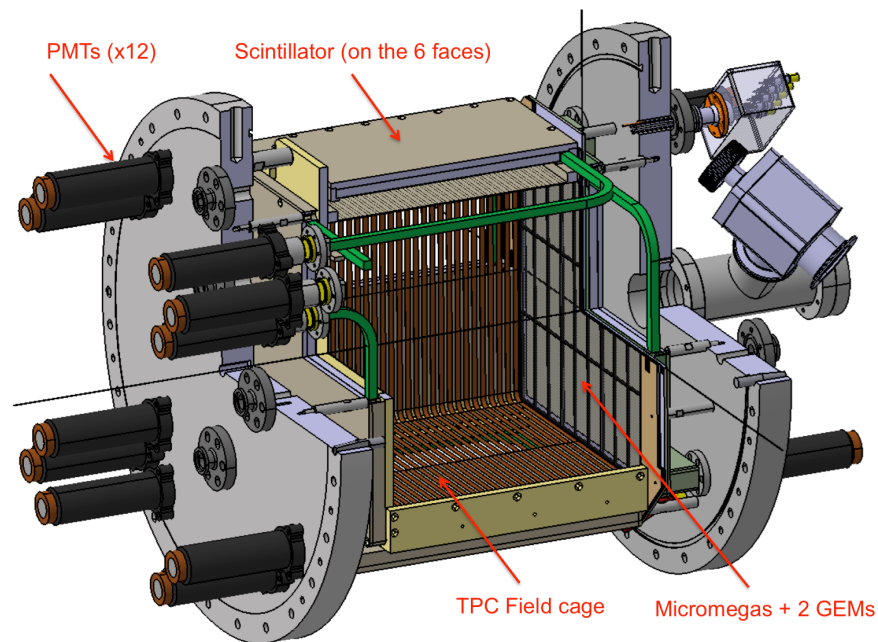
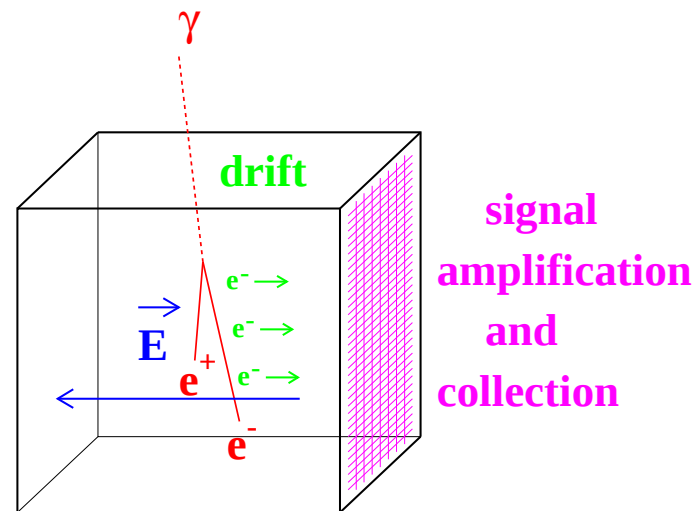
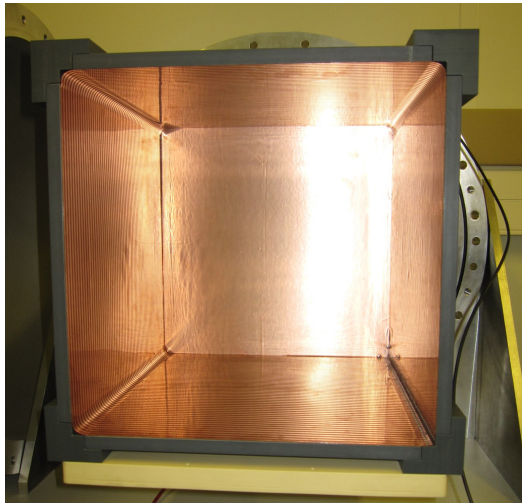
^e LASTI, University of Hyôgo, Japan

S. Daté, H. Ohkuma^f

^f JASRI/SPring8, Japan

HARPO: the Demonstrator

- Time Projection Chamber (TPC)
- $(30\text{cm})^3$ cubic TPC
- Up to 5 bar.
- Micromegas + GEM gas amplification
- Collection on x, y strips, pitch 1 mm.
- AFTER chip readout, up to 100 MHz.
- Scintillator / WLS / PMT based trigger

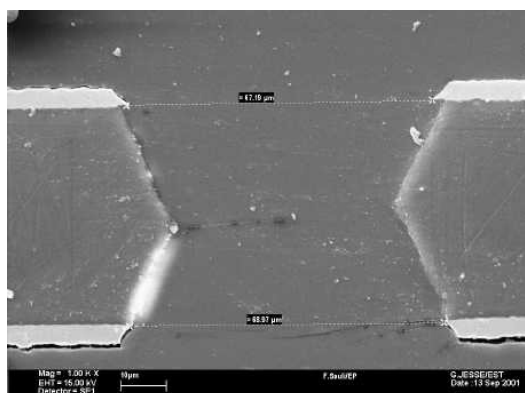
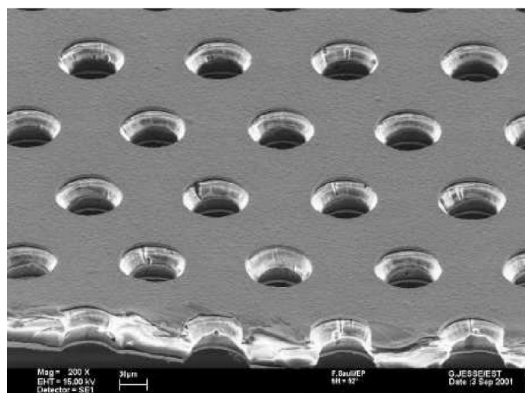


Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A 695 (2012) 71,

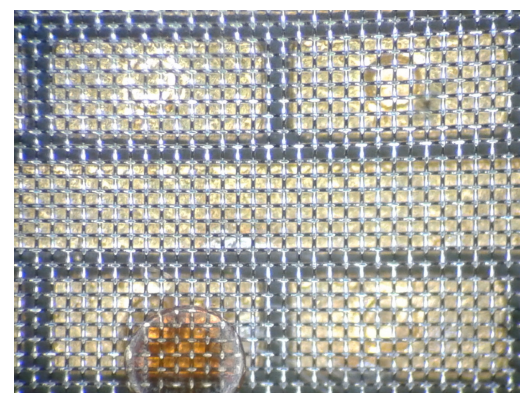
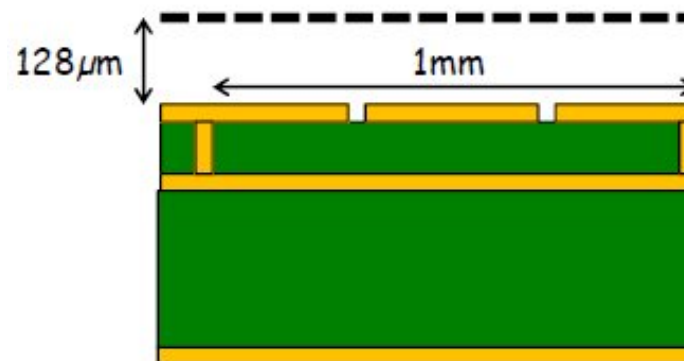
Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A 718 (2013) 395

Gas amplification: micromegas + 2 GEM

Gas Electron Multiplier
50 μm Kapton, copper clad,
pitch 140 μm , $\Phi 70 \mu\text{m}$



“bulk” micromegas
gap 128 μm

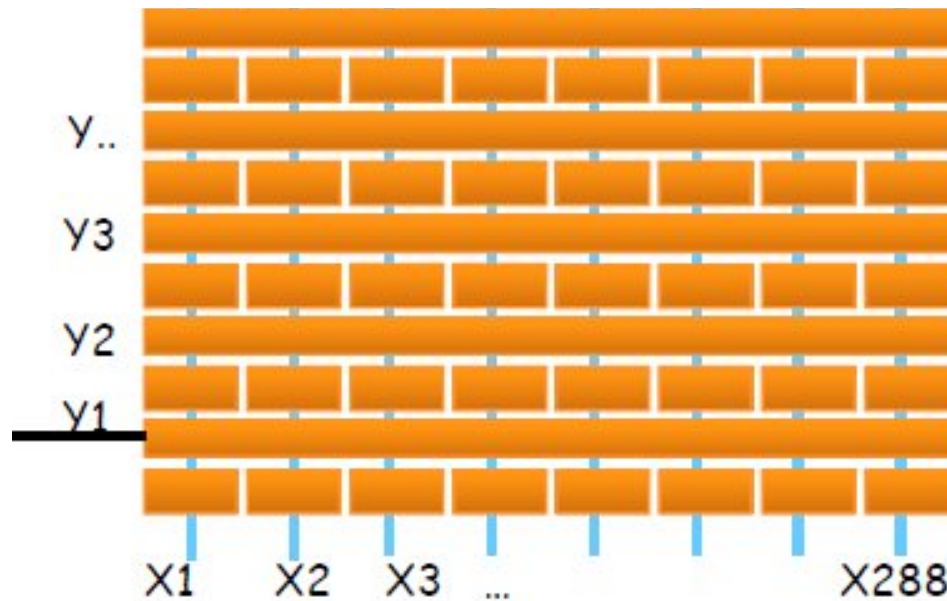


F. Sauli, Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A 386, 531 (1997)

I. Giomataris et al., Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A 560, 405 (2006)

Anode segmentation

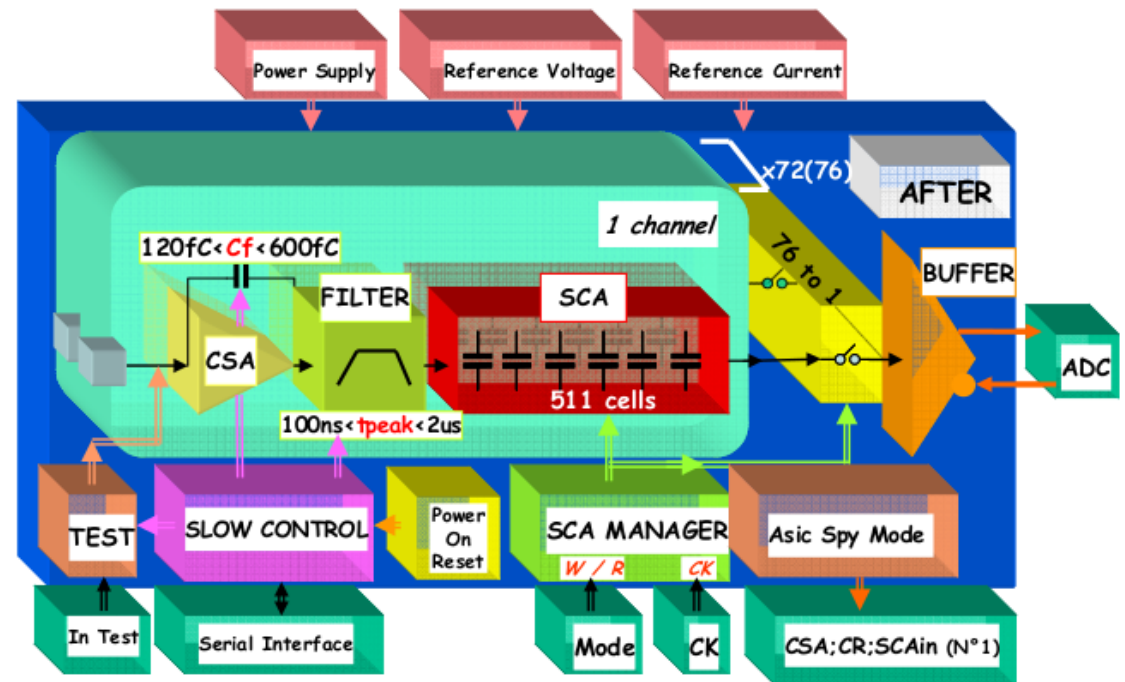
- Avalanche electrons collected on a segmented anode.



- Cu-clad PCB, strip pitch 1 mm, strip width $\approx 400 \mu\text{m}$

Read-Out: AFTER chips

- 2 directions x, y , 288 strips (channels) / direction
- 72 channels / chip
- 4 chips / direction
- 511 time bins, “circular” SCA (Switched Capacitor Array)
- Input: 120 fC to 600 fC
- Up to 100 MHz sampling
- Shaping time 100 ns to 2 μ s
- 12 bit ADC.



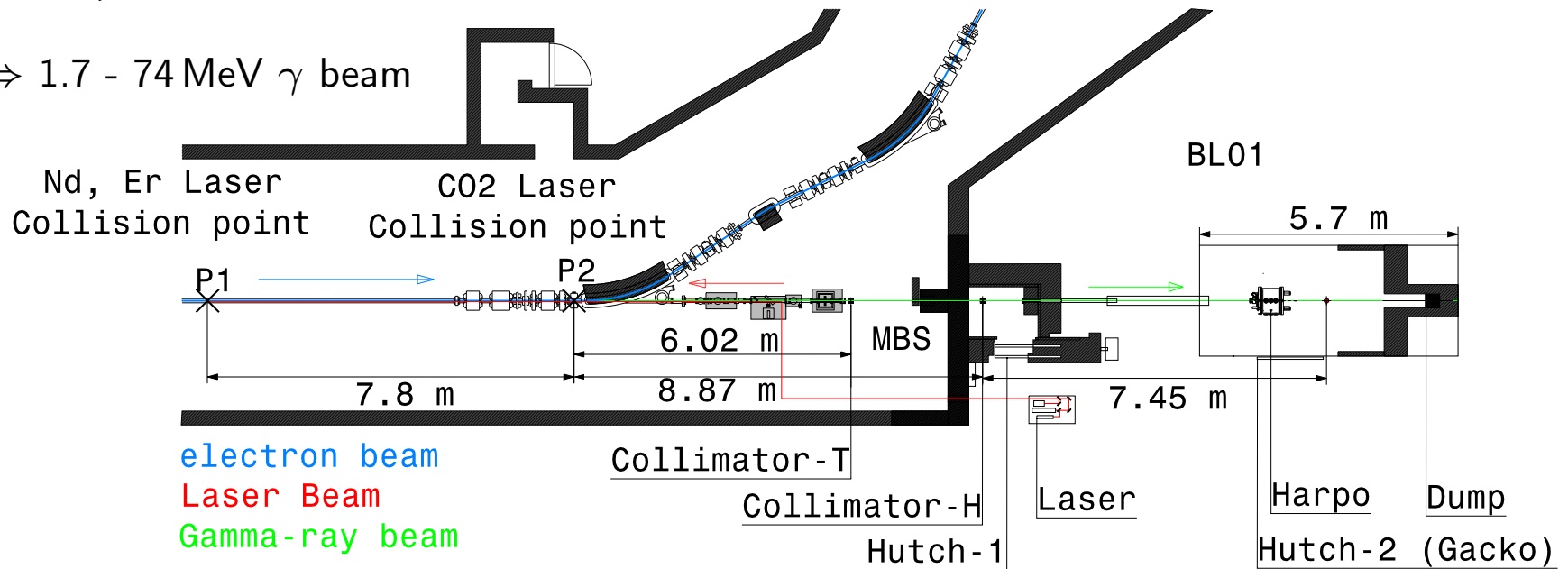
Out set-up: 30 ns sampling, $v_{\text{drift}} = 3.3 \text{ cm/s}$, $\Rightarrow$ 1 mm longitudinal sampling

100 ns shaping time, digitization 1.67 ms.

P. Baron et al., IEEE Trans. Nucl. Sci. 55, 1744 (2008).

Data Taking Nov. 2014 NewSUBARU, LASTI, Japan

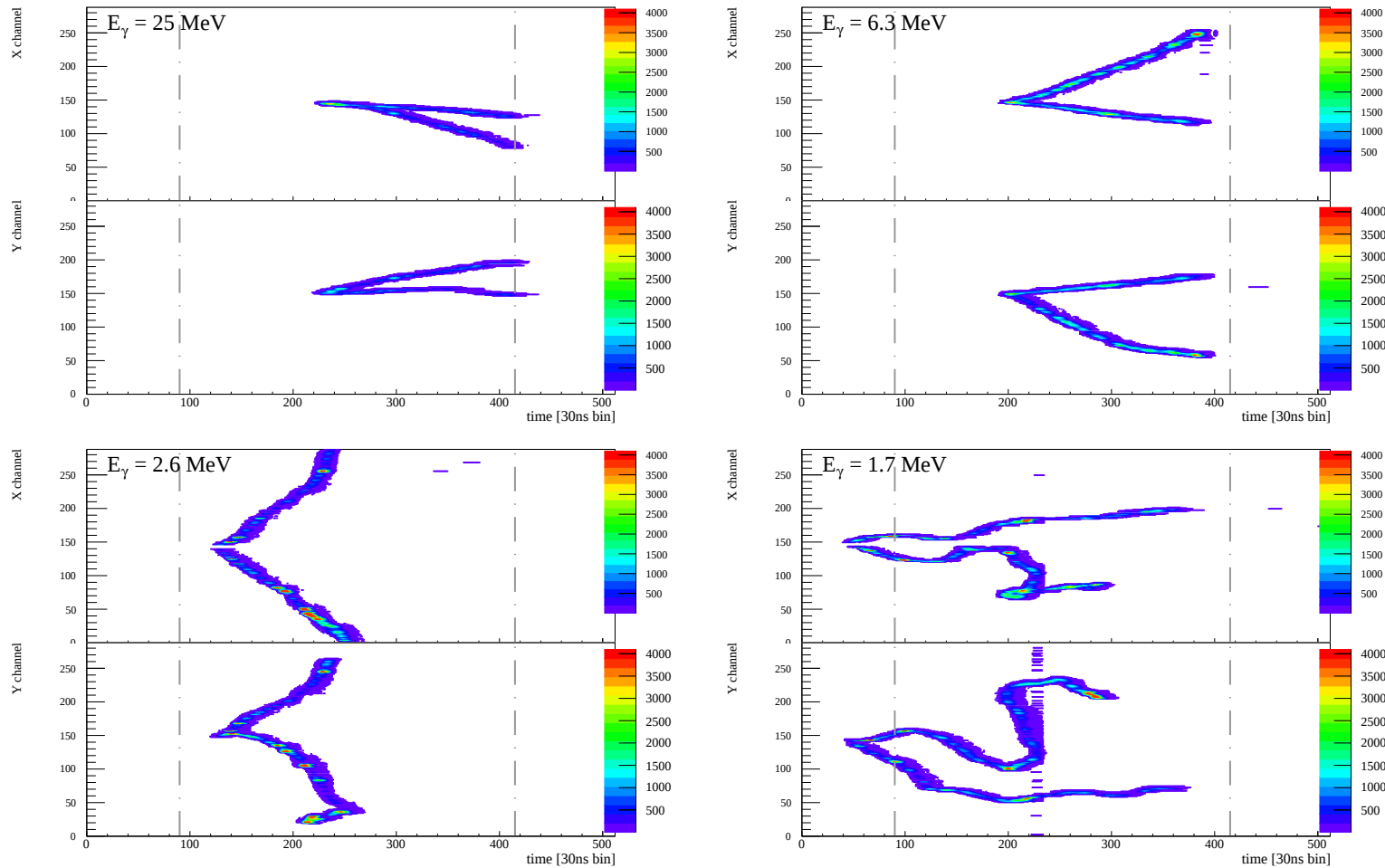
- Linearly polarized γ beam from Laser inverse Compton scattering, e^- beam 0.6 – 1.5 GeV.
- 0.532 μm and 1.064 μm 20 kHz pulsed Nd:YVO₄ (2ω and 1ω),
1.540 μm 200 kHz pulsed Er (fibre) and
10.55 μm CW CO₂ lasers
- $\Rightarrow$ 1.7 - 74 MeV γ beam



- Monochromaticity by collimation on axis
- Fully polarized or random polarization beams ($P = 0$, $P = 1$)
- 2.1 bar Ar:isoC₄H₁₀ 95:5 (+ a 1-4 bar scan).

A. Delbart et al., ICRC2015, PoS(ICRC2015)1016

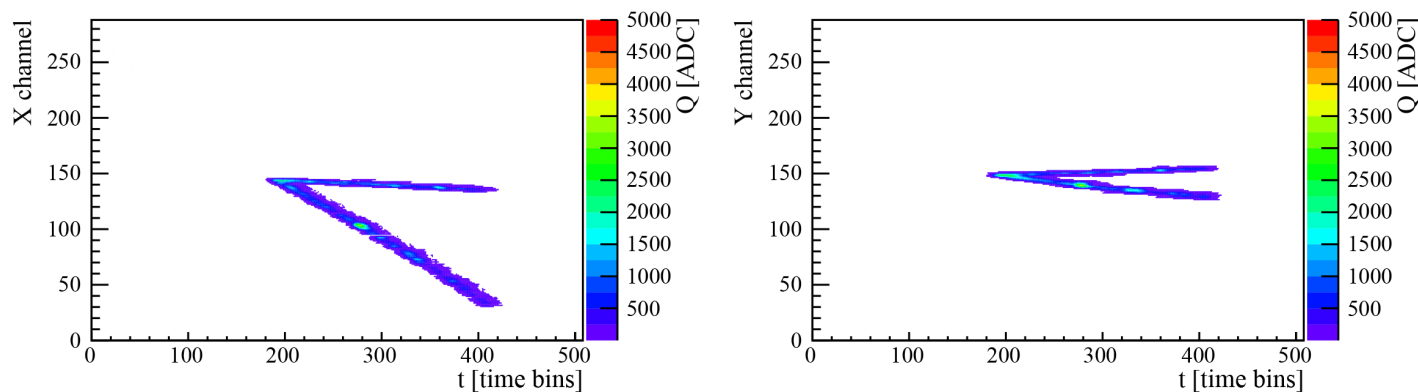
4 events



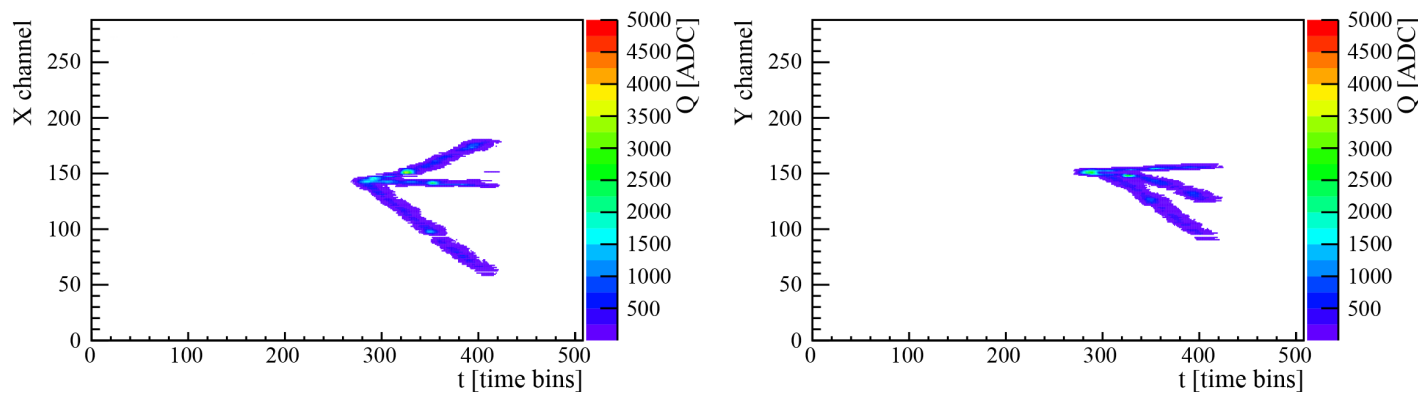
- Sample of γ -rays from the BL01 beam line at NewSUBARU (LASTI, Hyôgo U., Japan) converting to e^+e^- in the 2.1 bar Ar:Isobutane 95:5 gas of the HARPO TPC
- Ability to image low energy (MeV) γ -ray conversion to pairs.

“Nuclear” and “triplet” conversions

$$\gamma Z \rightarrow e^+ e^- Z$$

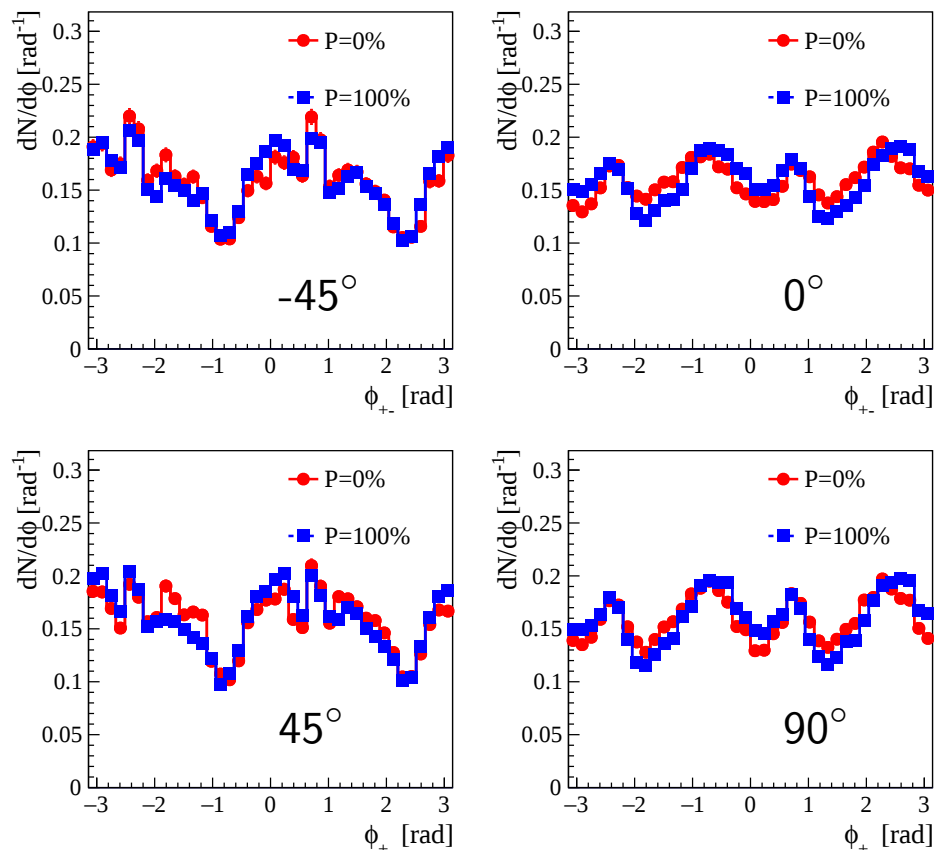


$$\gamma e^- \rightarrow e^+ e^- e^-$$



74 MeV γ -rays from the BL01 NewSUBARU γ -ray beam line, converting in the 2.1 bar Ar:Isobutane 95:5 mixture of the HARPO TPC prototype

Polarimetry: azimuthal angles for 4 detector orientations

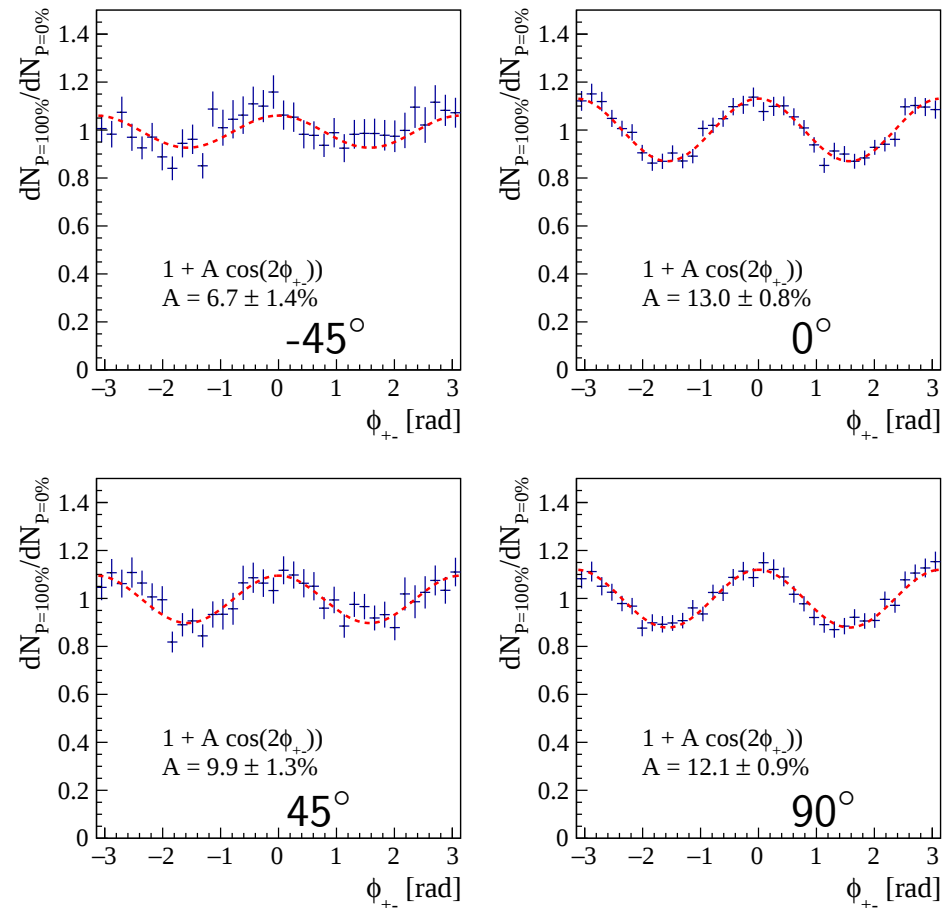


ϕ distributions for four detector orientations (11.8 MeV γ rays in 2.1 bar argon)

- Strong biases due to (x, y) detector structure lead to non-cosine shape.
- Some difference between $(P = 0)$ and $(P = 1)$ distributions though

P. Gros et al. *Astroparticle Physics* 97 (2018) 10

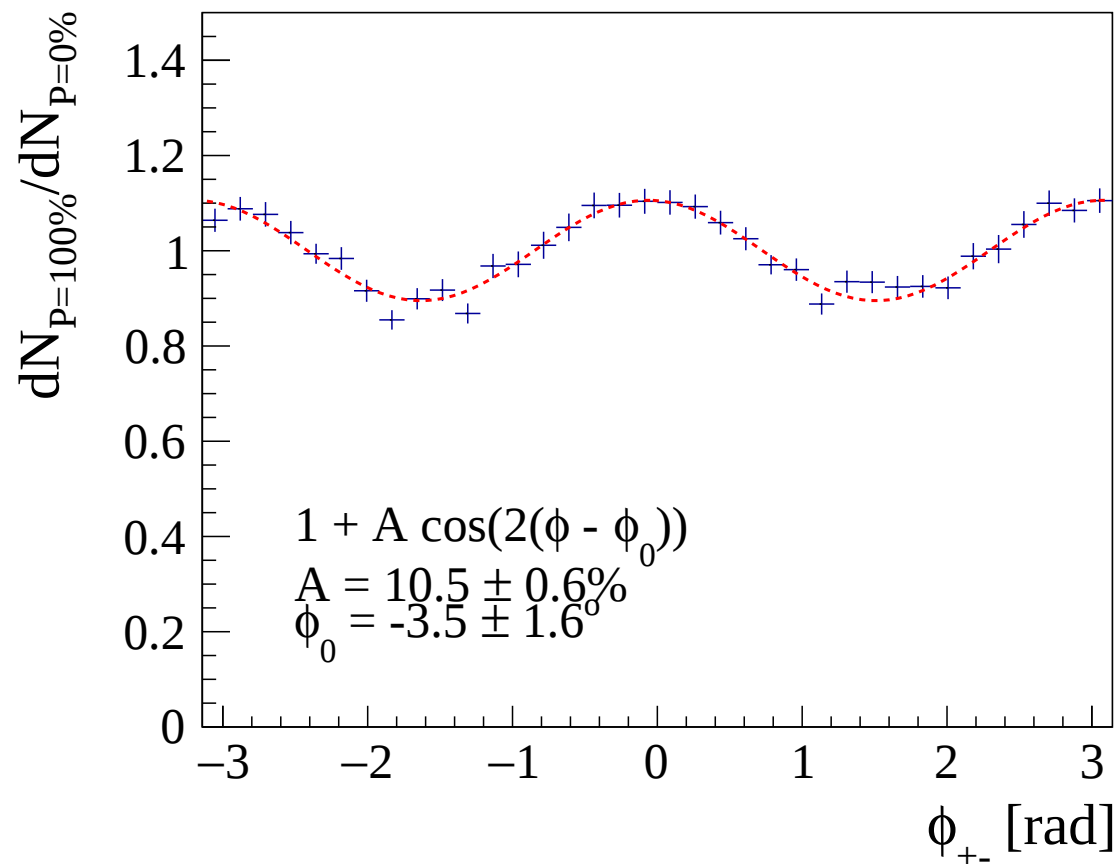
Polarimetry: $(P = 1)/(P = 0)$ ratios



Ratios of ϕ distributions for four detector orientations
(11.8 MeV γ rays in 2.1 bar Ar)

P. Gros et al. *Astroparticle Physics* 97 (2018) 10

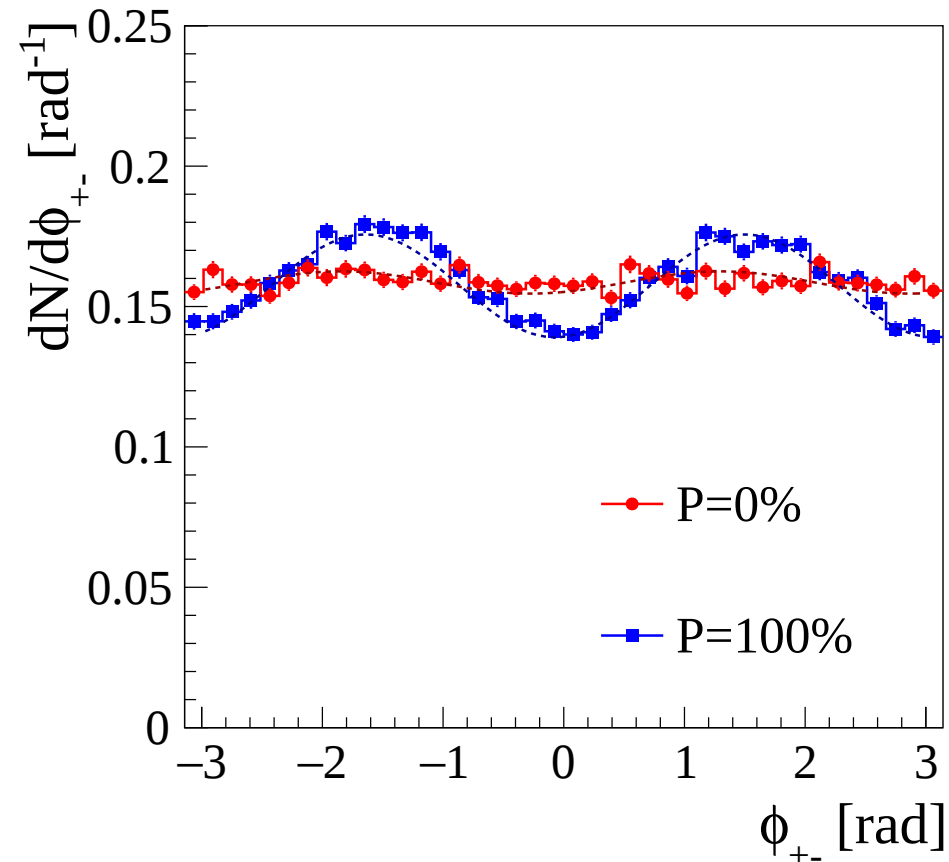
*Polarimetry: $(P = 1)/(P = 0)$ ratios,
orientation averaged*



Whole sample, Ratios of ϕ distributions (11.8 MeV γ rays in 2.1 bar argon)

P. Gros et al. *Astroparticle Physics* 97 (2018) 10

Absence of polarization bias for time-averaged data taking in orbit



- Simulated distribution of ϕ_{+-} for 11.8 MeV photons, for isotropically incoming photons.
- The interaction points are uniformly distributed in the detector.

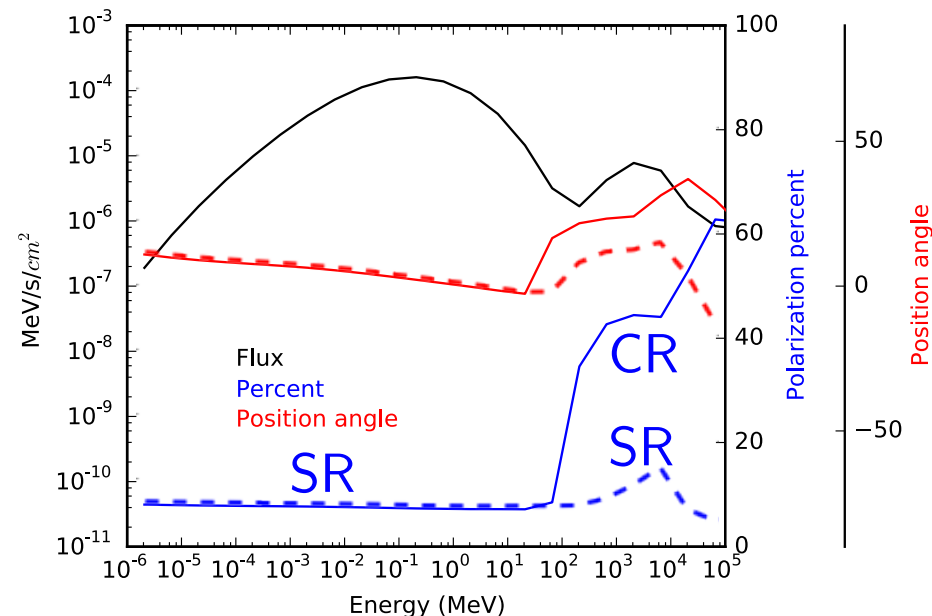
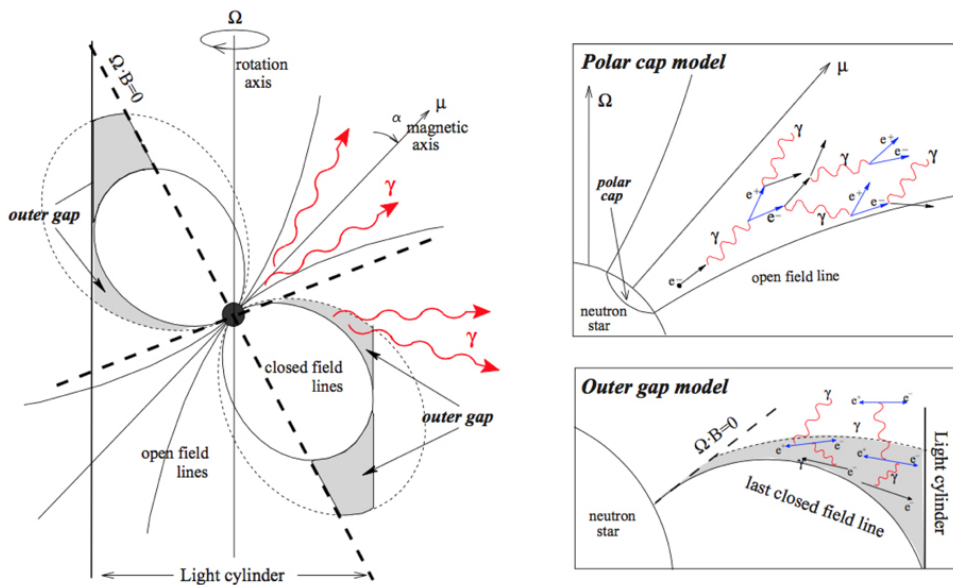
P. Gros et al. Astroparticle Physics 97 (2018) 10

Conclusion

- Gas TPC THE choice detector for $\gamma \rightarrow e^+e^-$ astronomy and polarimetry
- Use of a “Fast” gas ($v_{\text{drift}} \gg 1 \text{ cm}/\mu\text{s}$) mitigates background pile-up
- 4π acceptance, $\approx$ isotropic performances (x, y, z), $< 30 \text{ ns}$ event time resolution
- Low number of electronics modules by use of projections – strips.
 - induced track matching issue easily solved.
- Ability to cope with intense GRB – dedicated buffer needed
- Polarimetry demonstrated with excellent dilution factor.
- A number of spin-offs
 - 5D, polarized, γ conversion evt generator in Geant4 NIM A 899 (2018) 85
 - Determined exact expression of final state azimuthal angle Astropart. Phys. 88 (2017) 30
 - Obtained the optimal method of charged-track-momentum in a non-magnetic active target by a Bayesian analysis of the filtering innovations (Molière + Kalman) Nucl. Instrum. Meth., A 867 (2017) 182

Back-up Slides

Tagging the (curvature radiation CR – synchrotron radiation SR) transition in pulsars



Polar-cap model of Crab-like pulsar

- MeV component is SR from pairs
GeV component is either CR (solid line) or SR (dashed line)
- “Polarization of MeV and GeV emission is a powerful, independent diagnostic, capable of constraining both the location and mechanism of the radiation”.

Search for Axions

- Scalar field associated with $U(1)$ symmetry devised to solve the strong CP problem.
- Couples to 2 γ through triangle anomaly.
- γ propagation through $B \Rightarrow$ Dichroism $\Rightarrow$ E dependant rotation of linear polarization $\Rightarrow$ linear polarization dilution.

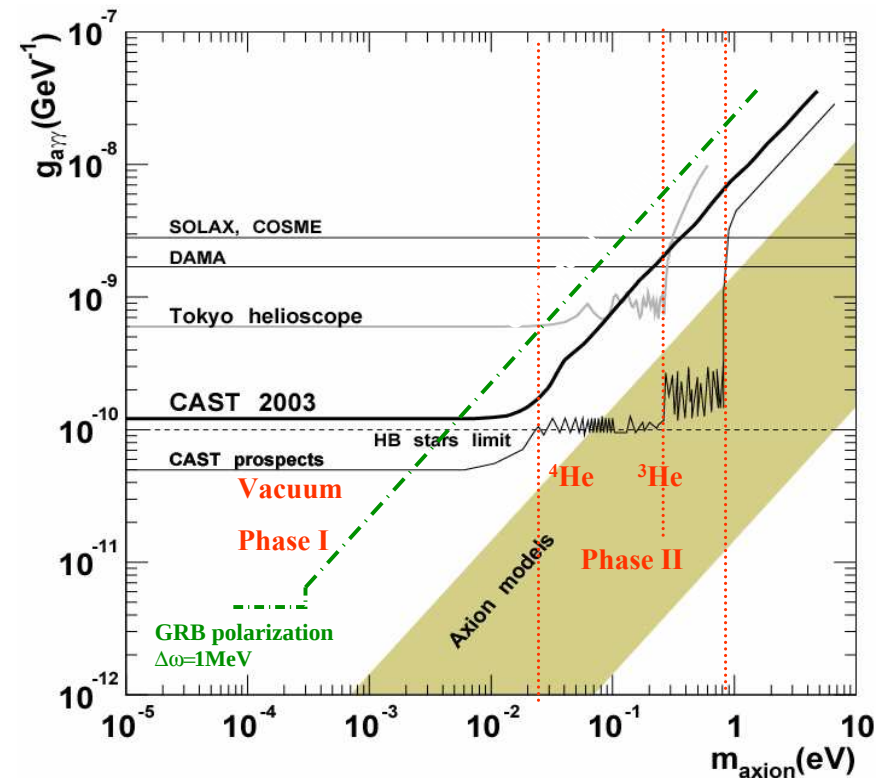
$$g_{a\gamma\gamma} \leq \pi \frac{m_a}{B \sqrt{\Delta\omega} L_{GRB}}$$

- Saturation over $L = 2\pi\omega/m_a^2 > L_{GRB}$ for

$$m_a \leq \sqrt{\frac{2\pi\omega}{L_{GRB}}}$$

and the limit $g_{a\gamma\gamma}$ reaches a ω -independent constant.

A. Rubbia and A. S. Sakharov, *Astropart. Phys.* 29, 20 (2008)



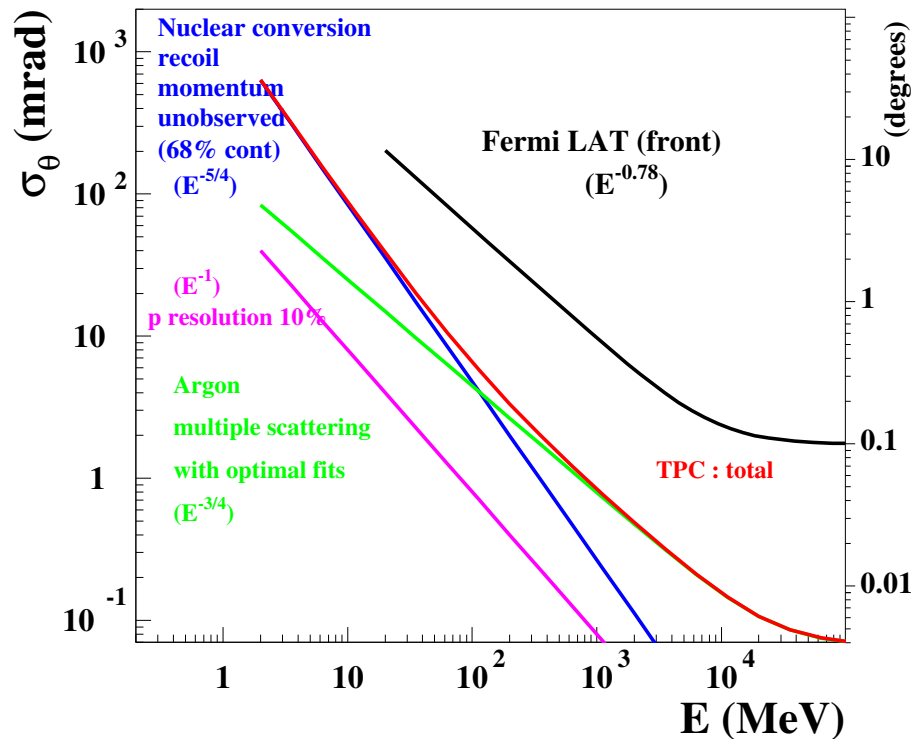
LIV: Search for Lorentz Invariance Violation

- Particle (photon) dispersion relations modified in LIV effective field theories (EFT)
- Additional term to the QED Lagrangian parametrized by ξ/M , M Planck mass.
- ξ bounds:
 - time of flight from the Crab: $\Delta t = \xi(k_2 - k_1)D/M$, $\xi \leq \mathcal{O}(100)$.
 - birefringence $\Delta\theta = \xi(k_2^2 - k_1^2)D/2M$
LIV induced birefringence would blurr the linear polarization of GRB emission.
 $\xi \leq 3.4 \times 10^{-16}$ with IBIS on Integral (250 – 800 keV)
D. Götz, *et al.*, MNRAS 431 (2013) 3550
- Bound $\propto 1/k^2$!

Performances with Low-Density Homogeneous Detectors and Optimal Fits

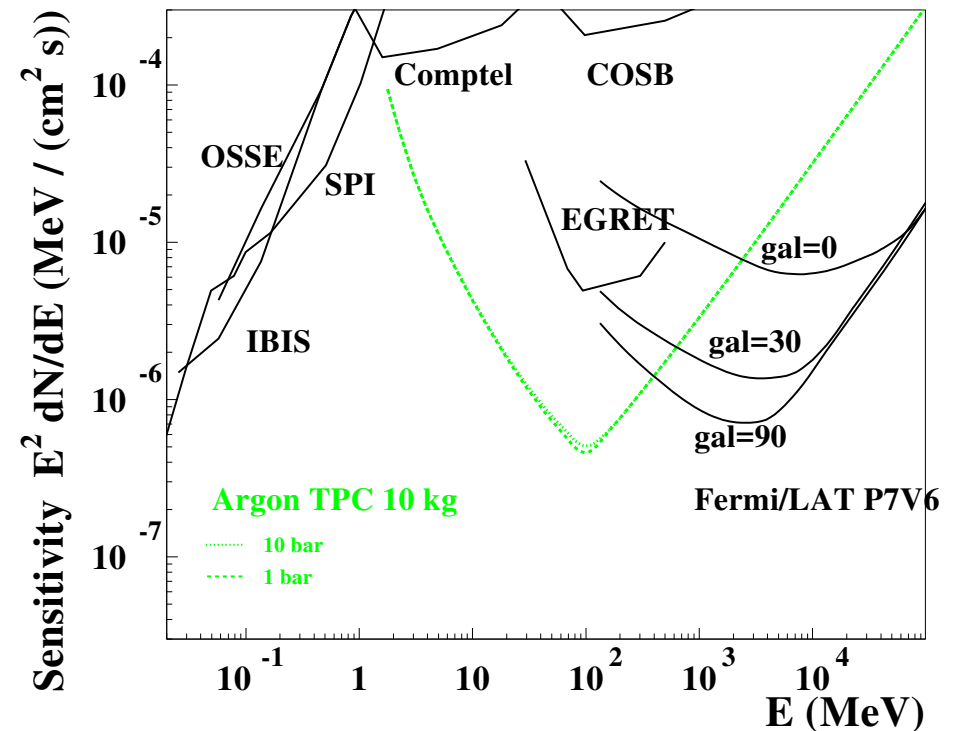
Angular resolution

- nucleus recoil $\propto E^{-5/4}$
- multiple scattering (optimal fits) $\propto E^{-3/4}$



point-source differential sensitivity

limit detectable $E^2 dN/dE$, à la Fermi: 4 bins/decade, 5σ detection, $T = 3$ years, $\eta = 0.17$ exposure fraction, $\geq 10\gamma$. “against” extragalactic background

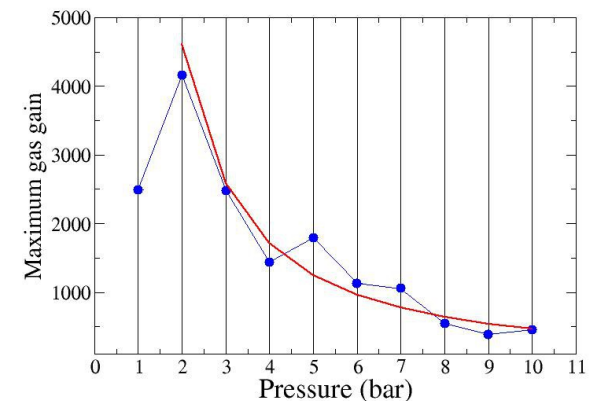
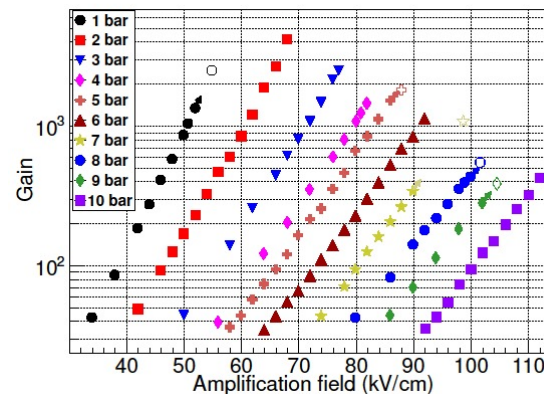
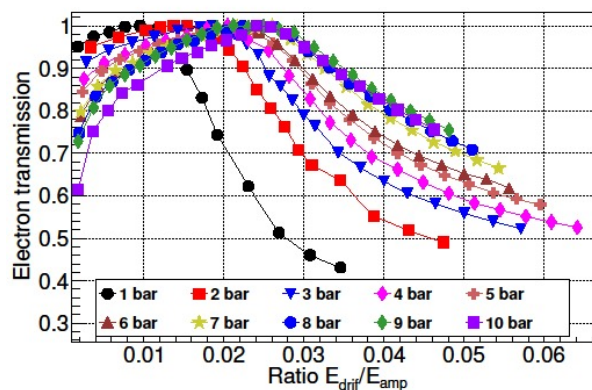


“thin” detector: effective area $A_{\text{eff}} \propto \text{mass}$, not to geometrical surface

Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A 701 (2013) 225

Which Pressure ?

- **Science.** Rising the pressure:
 - **degrades** the angular resolution and (mildly) point like source sensitivity
 - **Increases** the effective area **improves** the precision on the polarization
- Maximum **micropattern gas amplification gain** (micromegas, GEM) known to **decrease** with pressure .. but dE/dx **increases** ..



D. C. Herrera, *et al.*, "Micromegas-TPC operation at high pressure in Xenon-trimethylamine mixtures," J. Phys. Conf. Ser. 460, 012012 (2013).

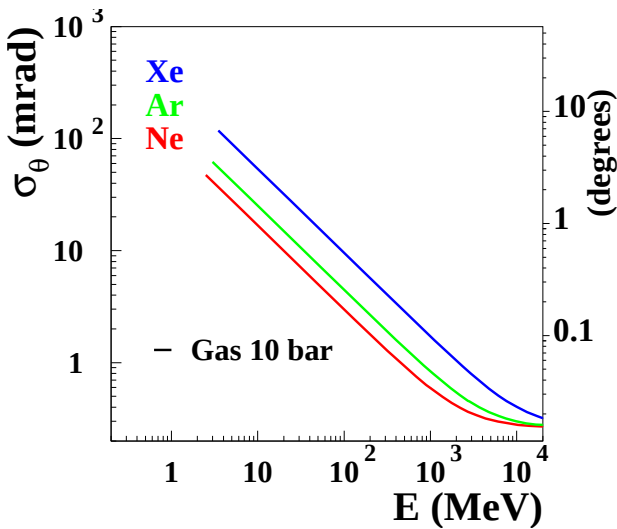
micropattern gas amplification above 10 bar a concern, unless very small gap devices can be produced.

- **Vessel Mass** $\propto$ gas mass to 1st order.
 - For a given mission: which limit will we touch first (volume, mass) ?

In this talks, examples given at 1, 5, 10 bar. Data taken mostly at 2.1 bar, + a 1-4 bar scan.

Gas composition: light / heavy Z ? Gas pressure ?

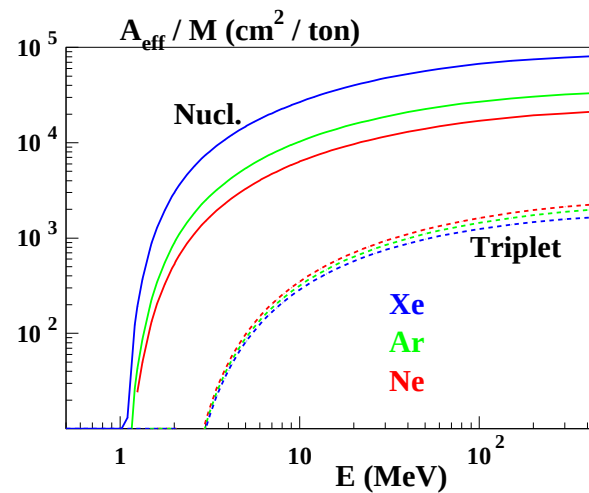
- $\rho \times X_0 = \frac{A}{Z^2} b, \quad \rho = aAP, \quad M = V\rho = VaAP, \quad X_0 = \frac{b}{aZ^2P} \quad a, b \text{ constants.}$



angular resolution degrades with Z

$$\sigma_\theta \propto X_0^{-3/8} \propto Z^{3/4} P^{3/8}$$

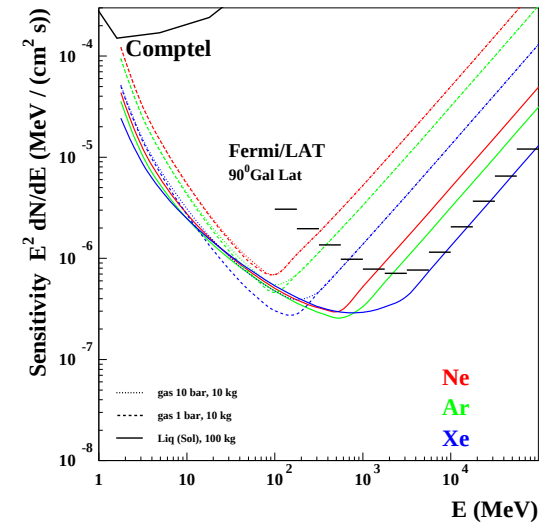
(multiple scattering)



effective area improves with Z

$$A_{\text{eff}} \propto \frac{V}{X_0} \propto VPZ^2$$

(asymptotically)



sensitivity mildly affected

$$s \propto \frac{\sigma_\theta}{\sqrt{A_{\text{eff}}}} \propto \frac{X_0^{1/8}}{\sqrt{V}} \propto \frac{1}{V^{1/2} Z^{1/4} P^{1/8}}$$

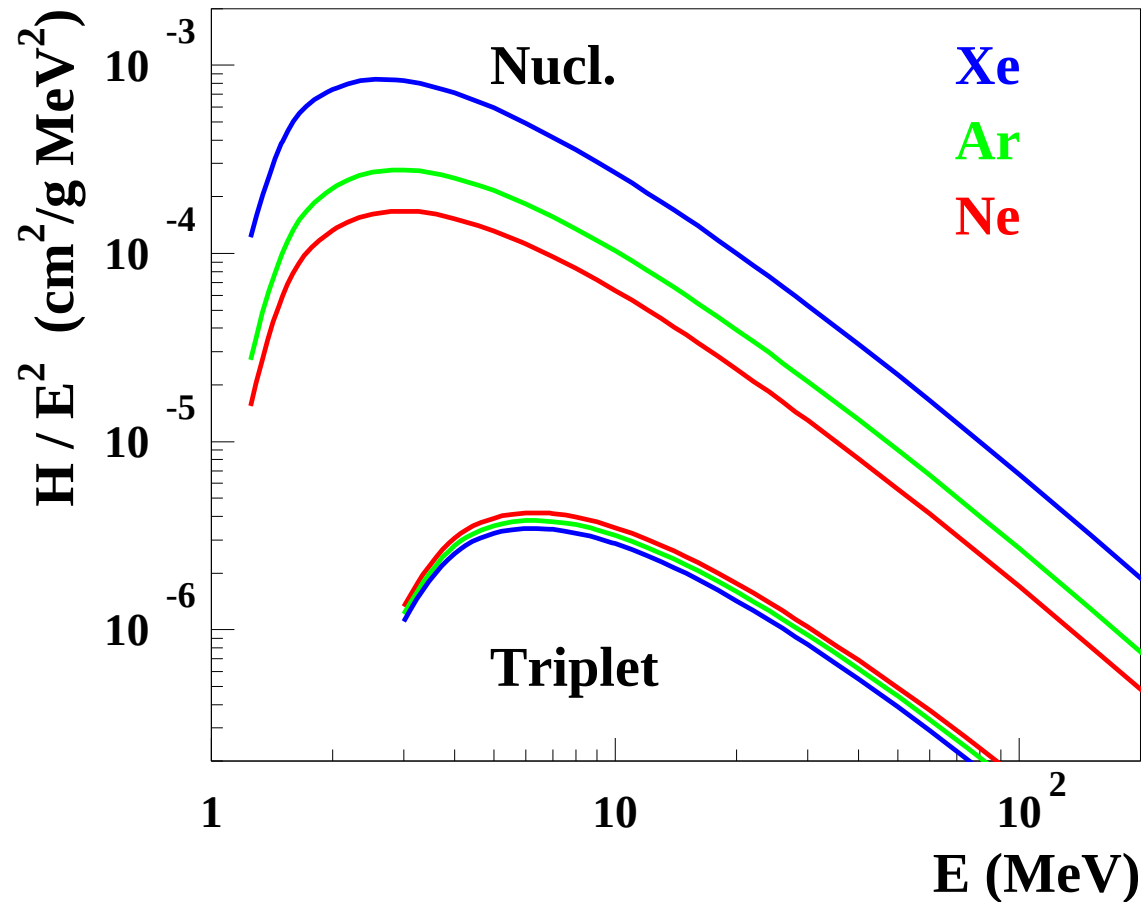
(assuming gaussian stats.)

- Note that $M_{\text{vessel}} \propto P$ and $M_{\text{gas}} \propto P$ so $M_{\text{vessel}} \propto M_{\text{gas}}$

$$M_{\text{vessel}} / M_{\text{gas}} \approx 0.36 \text{ for Ti alloy sphere at elastic limit / Argon.}$$

Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A 701 (2013) 225

Polarimetry Demanding for Huge Statistics: Ability to take data at low energy critical



- Photon attenuation length (NIST) $\times$ a typical cosmic-source spectrum $1/E^2$

How many events ?

Back-of-the-metro-ticket calculation : $N = \eta\epsilon T M F \int \frac{H(E)}{E^2} dE$

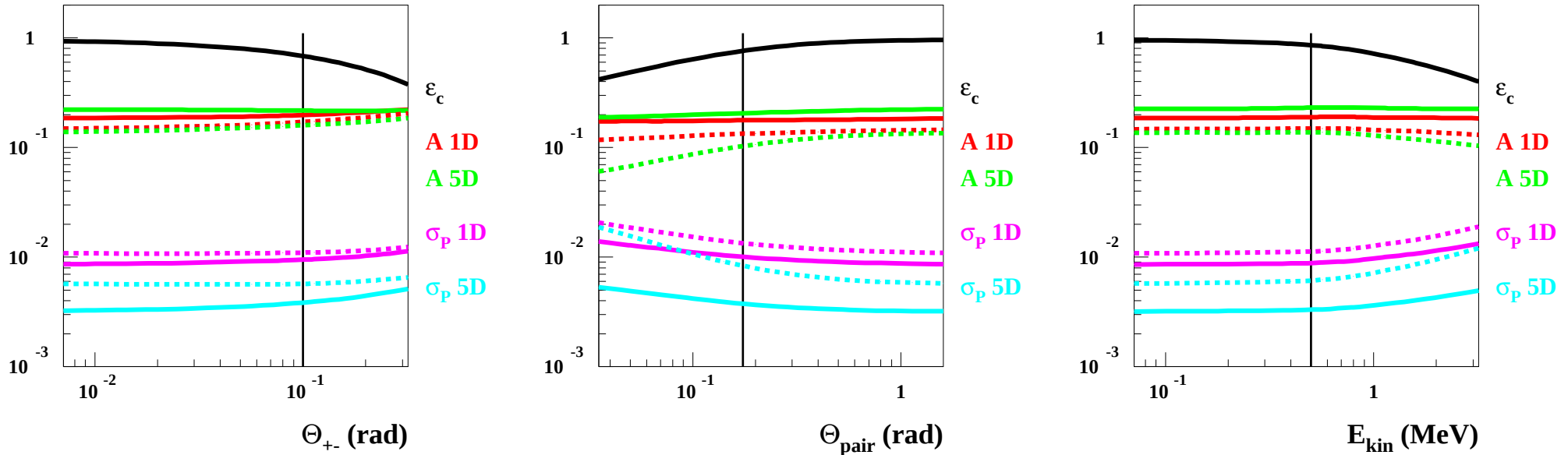
	neon	silicium	argon	germanium	xenon		
Z	10	14	18	32	54		atomic number
A	20.2	28.1	40.0	72.6	131.3		mass number
$X_0\rho$	28.93	21.82	19.55	12.25	8.48	g/cm^2	specific radiation length
ρ/P	0.839		1.662		5.483	$10^{-3}\text{g}/(\text{cm}^3\text{bar})$	specific density
ρ		2.329		5.323		g/cm^3	density
X_0P	34481		11763		1547	cm bar	1 bar radiation length.
X_0		9.37		2.30		cm	radiation length
$\int \frac{H(E)}{E^2} dE$	0.00190	0.00267	0.00317	0.00532	0.00828	$\text{cm}^2/(\text{g MeV})$	integral

V	10^6	cm^3	volume, 1 m^3
P	5	bar	pression
ρ	8.31×10^{-3}	g/cm^3	density
M	8.31×10^3	g	sensitive mass
T	31.536×10^6	s	mission duration, 1 year
$\int \frac{H(E)}{E^2} dE$	0.00317	$\text{cm}^2/(\text{g MeV})$	argon
$\eta\epsilon$	1		exposure factor
F	10^{-3}	$\text{MeV}/(\text{cm}^2\text{s})$	Crab-like

N	830 743	
A	≈ 0.2	
σ_P	0.0078	voilà

Polarimetry: Effects of Experimental Cuts

- opening angle, $\theta_{+-} > 0.1$ rad (easy pattern recognition)
- source selection $\theta_{pair} < 10^\circ$
- kinetic leptons energy $E_{kin} > 0.5$ MeV, (path length in 5 bar argon ≈ 30 cm)



- All cuts: $\epsilon = 45\%$, (1D) $\mathcal{A}_{eff} \approx 16.6\%$ $\sigma_P \approx 1.4\%$,

Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A 729 (2013) 765

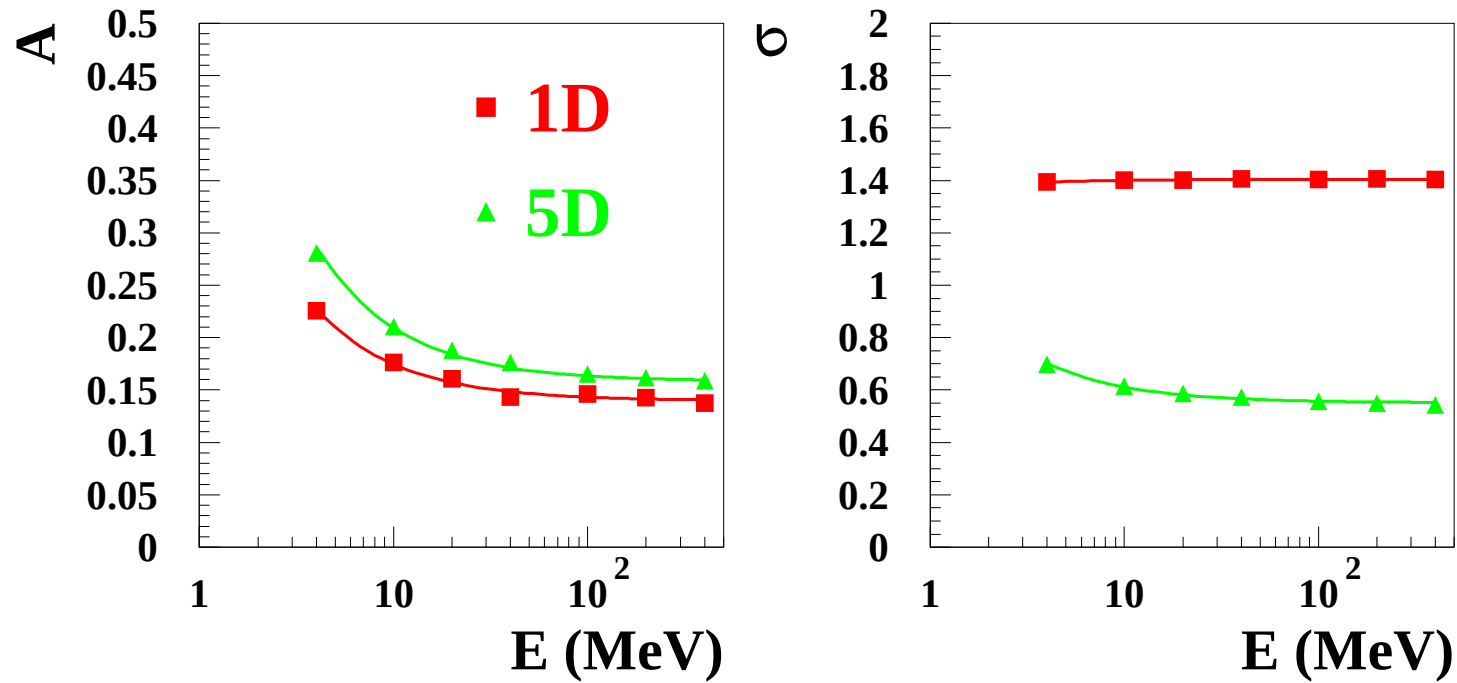
Polarimetry: Optimal Measurement

- Remember, fit of $\frac{d\Gamma}{d\phi} \propto (1 + \mathcal{A}P \cos [2(\phi)])$ yields $\sigma_P \approx \frac{1}{\mathcal{A}} \sqrt{\frac{2}{N}}$,
- Optimal measurement; Ω
 - let's define $p(\Omega)$ the pdf of set of (here 5) variables Ω
 - search for weight $w(\Omega)$, $E(w)$ function of P , and variance σ_P^2 minimal;
 - a solution is $w_{\text{opt}} = \frac{\partial \ln p(\Omega)}{\partial P}$ e.g.: F. V. Tkachov, Part. Nucl. Lett. 111, 28 (2002)
 - polarimetry: $p(\Omega) \equiv f(\Omega) + P \times g(\Omega)$, $w_{\text{opt}} = \frac{g(\Omega)}{f(\Omega) + P \times g(\Omega)}$.
 - If $\mathcal{A} \ll 1$, $w_0 \equiv \frac{g(\Omega)}{f(\Omega)}$, and
 - for the 1D “projection” $p(\Omega) = (1 + \mathcal{A}P \cos [2(\phi)])$:

$$w_1 = 2 \cos 2\phi, \quad E(w_1) = \mathcal{A}P, \quad \sigma_P = \frac{1}{\mathcal{A}\sqrt{N}} \sqrt{2 - (\mathcal{A}P)^2},$$

Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A 729 (2013) 765

Polarization asymmetry and measurement uncertainty



Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A 729 (2013) 765

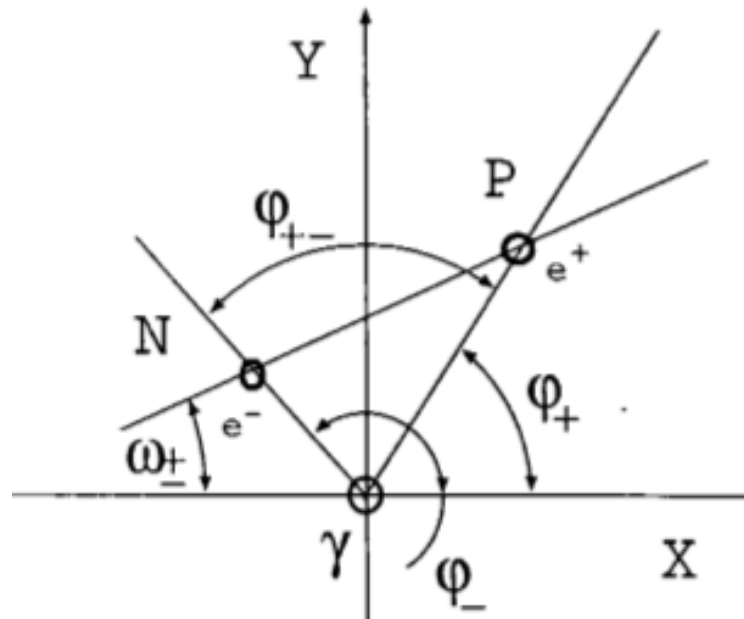
- Asymptotically $\mathcal{A} \approx 1/7 \approx 14\%$.

Boldyshev & Peresunko, Yad. Fiz. 14, 1027 (1971).

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\phi} \propto \alpha r_0^2 \left(\left[\frac{28}{9} \ln 2(E/m) - \frac{218}{27} \right] - P \cos [2(\phi - \phi_0)] \left[\frac{4}{9} \ln (2E/m) - \frac{20}{27} \right] \right)$$

Polarimetry: Defining the Azimuthal Angle ?

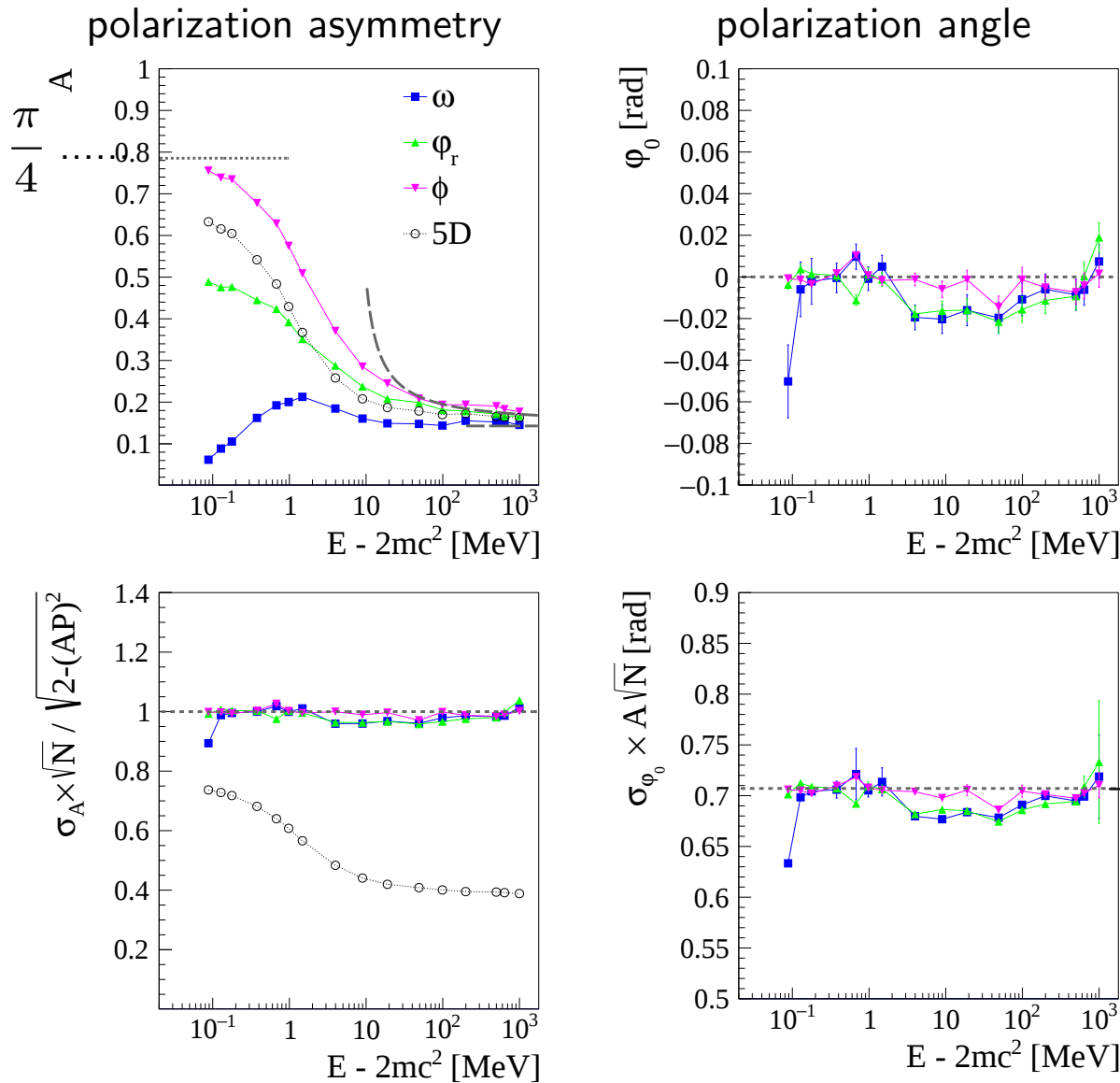
- ω , most often used in publications since 2000's



“polarized beams and polarimeters”, B. Wojtsekhowski (2000)

- φ_r recoil angle, $\varphi_r = \varphi_{\text{pair}} \pm \pi$
- $\phi = (\varphi_+ + \varphi_-)/2$, bisector of e^+ and e^- direction

Polarimetry: Defining the Azimuthal Angle ? Bisector Optimal !



- ω
- φ_r recoil angle, $\varphi_r = \varphi_{\text{pair}} \pm \pi$
- $\phi = (\varphi_+ + \varphi_-)/2$, bisector of e^+ and e^- direction

loss factor wrt ϕ		
E (MeV)	ω	φ_r or φ_{pair}
10	0.56	0.67
100	0.74	0.94

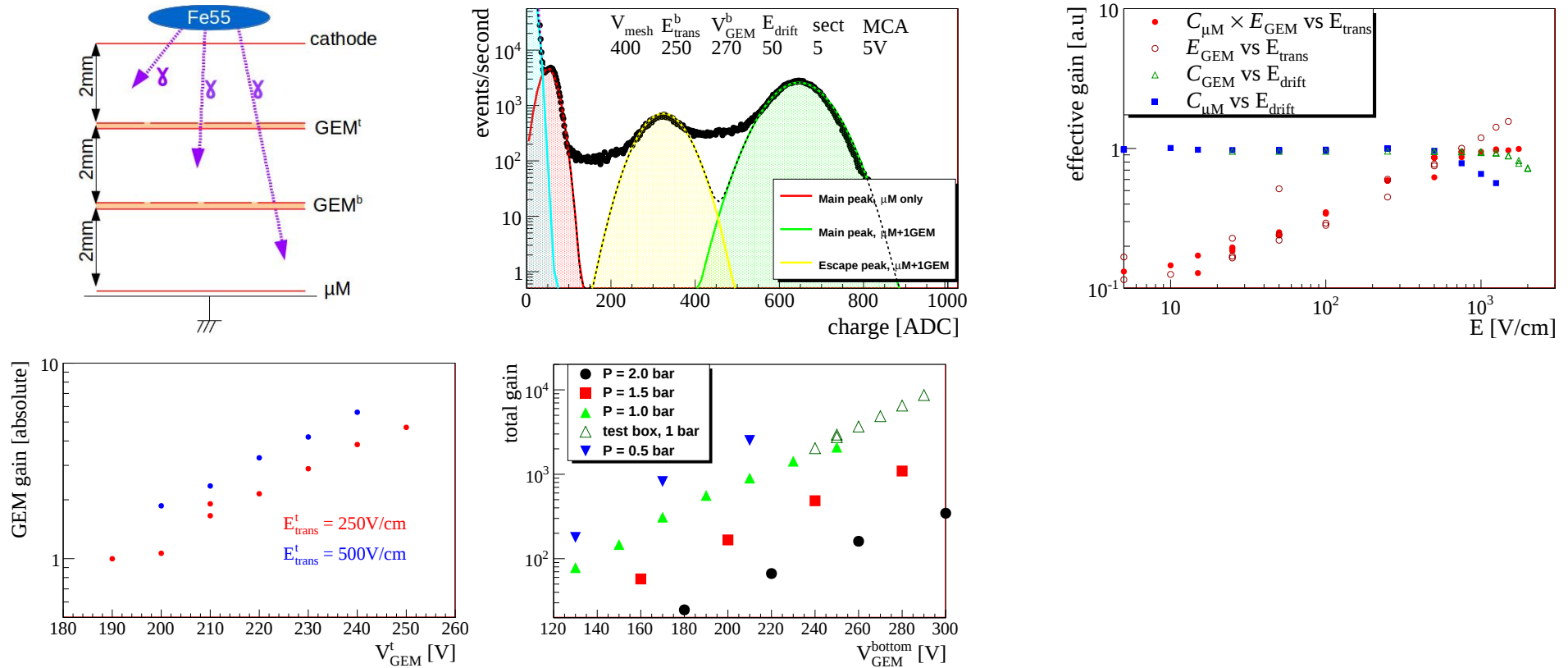
$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

Ph. Gros & D. Bernard,
Astropart. Phys. 88 (2017) 30

We checked that on a $P = 0$ MC sample, the measured value is found to be $\mathcal{A} \times P \approx 0$
 We checked that form factors do not affect the polarization asymmetry

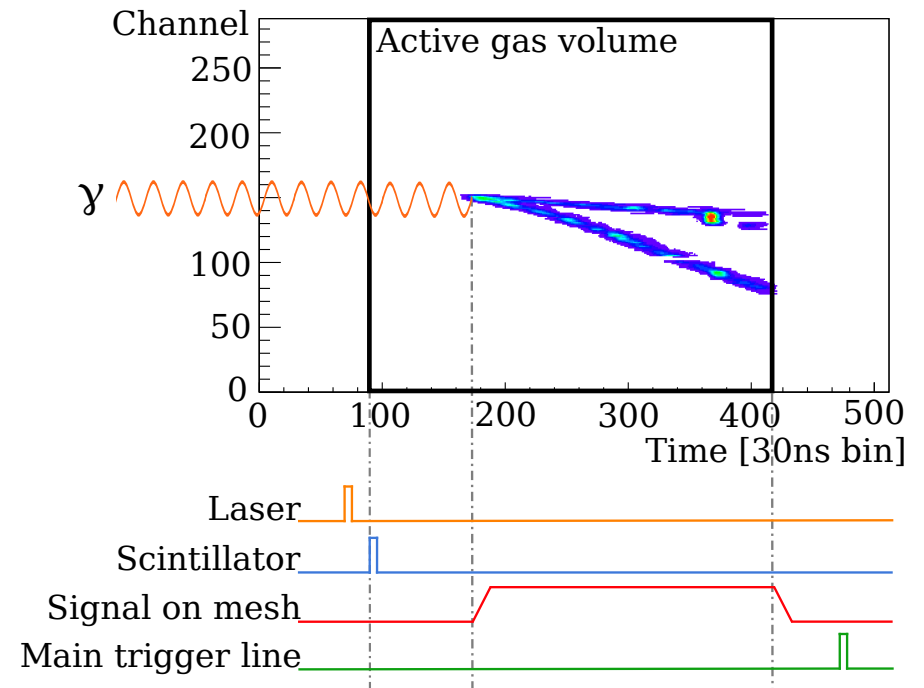
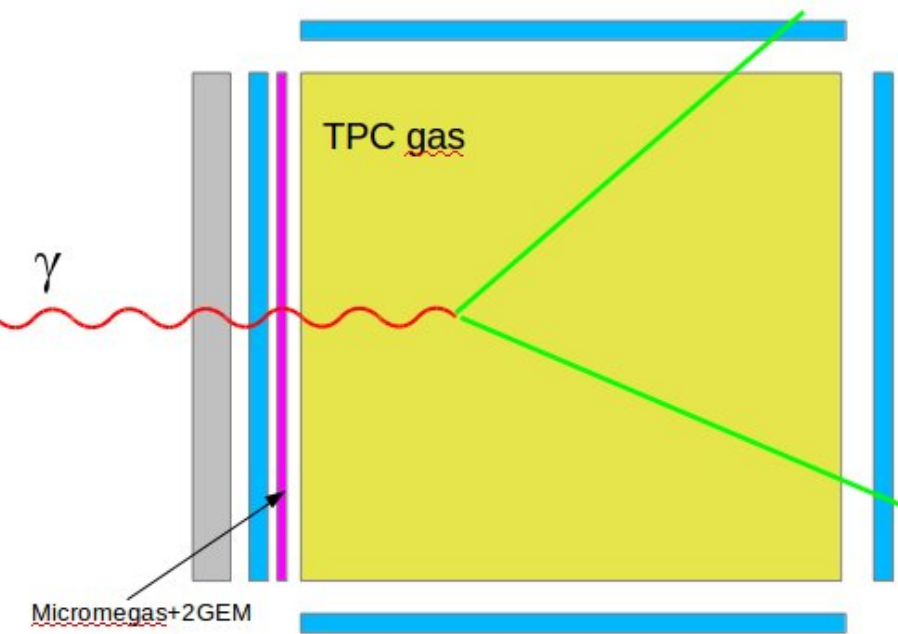
Micromegas + 2 GEM assemblies: characterization

^{55}Fe (dedicated test bench) and cosmic-rays (in TPC)



Ph. Gros et al., TIPP2014, PoS(TIPP2014)133

“Beam” trigger system



- S_{up} upstream scintillator
- O one of the 5 other scintillators
- M_{slow} : a delayed ($> 1\mu s$) signal on the micromegas mesh
- L laser trigger pulse

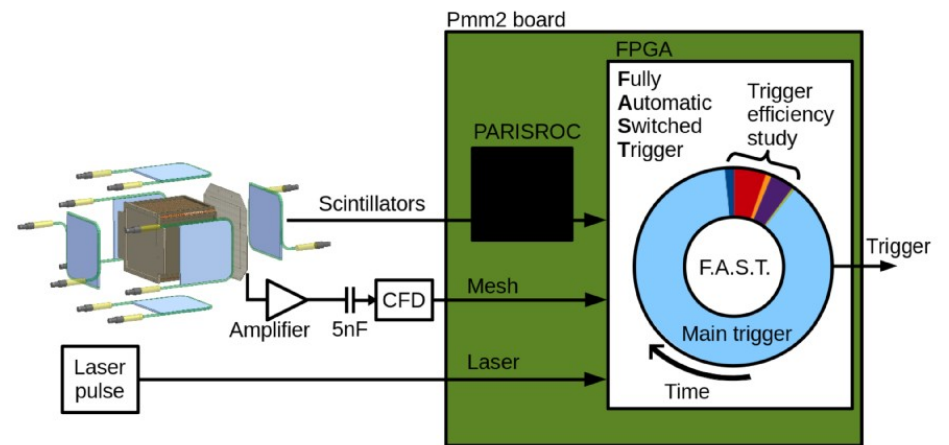
“Main line”: $T_{\gamma, laser} = \overline{S}_{up} \cap O \cap M_{slow} \cap L$

Wang et al., J. Phys. Conf. Ser. 650 (2015) 012016

“Beam” trigger system: additional lines

- Additional trigger lines:

7	$T_{\gamma, laser}$	$\overline{S}_{up} \cap O \cap M_{slow} \cap L$
8	$T_{noMesh, laser}$	$\overline{S}_{up} \cap O \cap L$
9	$T_{invMesh, laser}$	$\overline{S}_{up} \cap O \cap M_{quick} \cap L$
10	$T_{noUp, laser}$	$O \cap M_{slow} \cap L$
11	$T_{noPM, laser}$	$\overline{S}_{up} \cap M_{slow} \cap L$
12	$T_{noLaser}$	$\overline{S}_{up} \cap O \cap M_{slow} \cap \overline{L}$

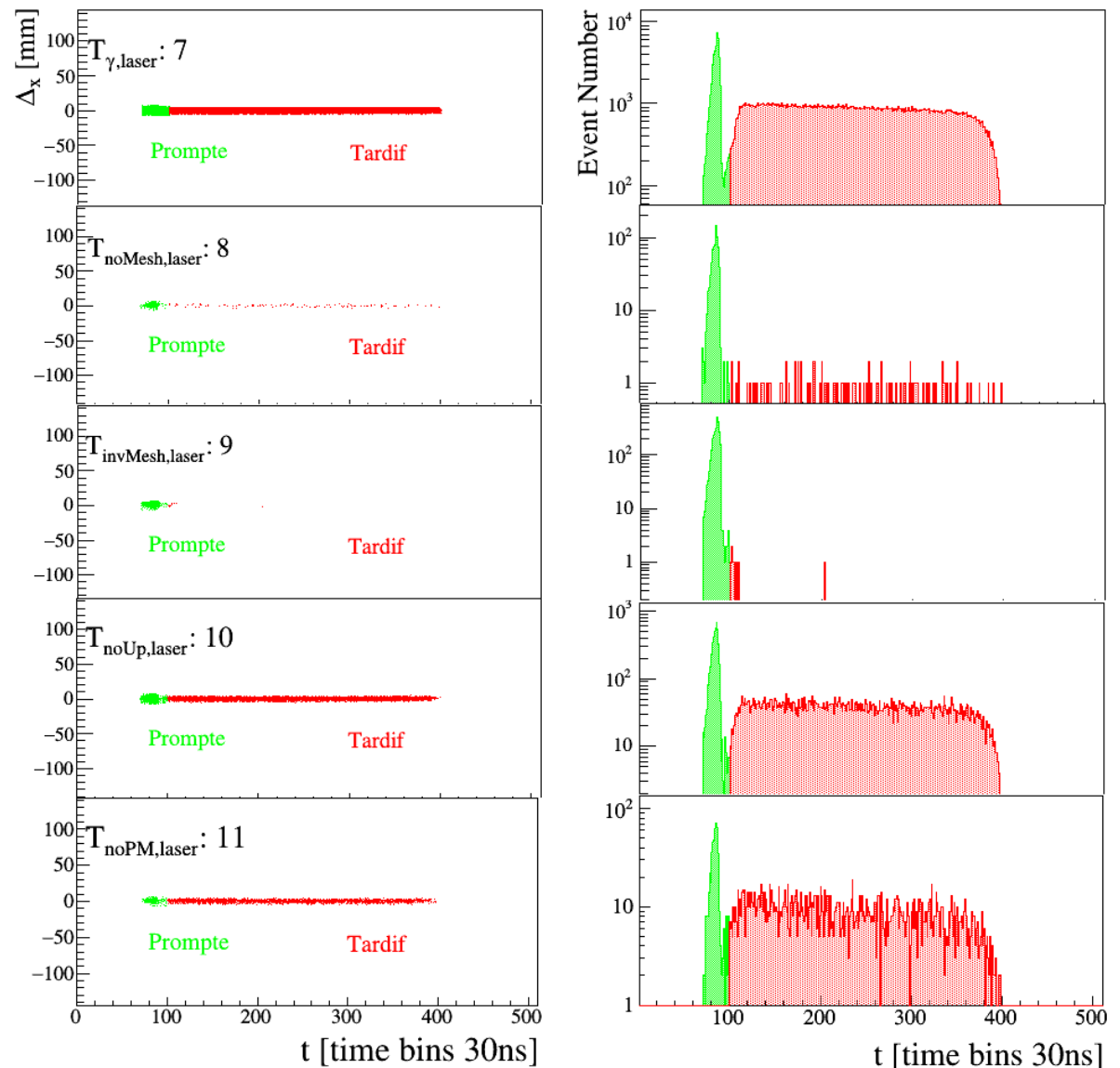


Designed to characterize the performance (signal efficiency, background rejection) of each component of main trigger line

Y. Geerebaert et al., Real Time Conference (RT), 2016 IEEE-NPSS

“Beam” trigger system: conversion point distributions

- signal efficiency 51 %
- background rejection 99.3 %
- incident rate 2 kHz
- signal on disk 50 Hz

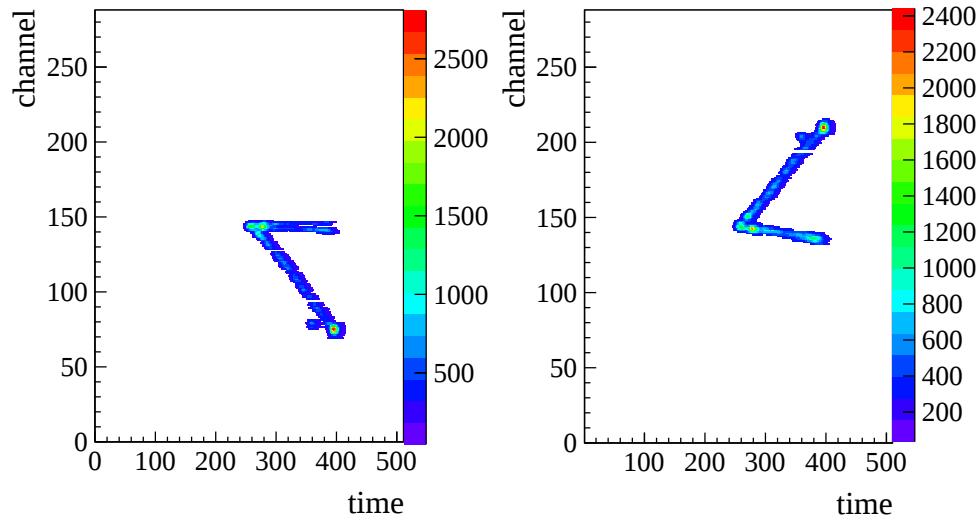


S. Wang, Ph D Thesis, Ecole Polytechnique, 24 septembre 2015, in French

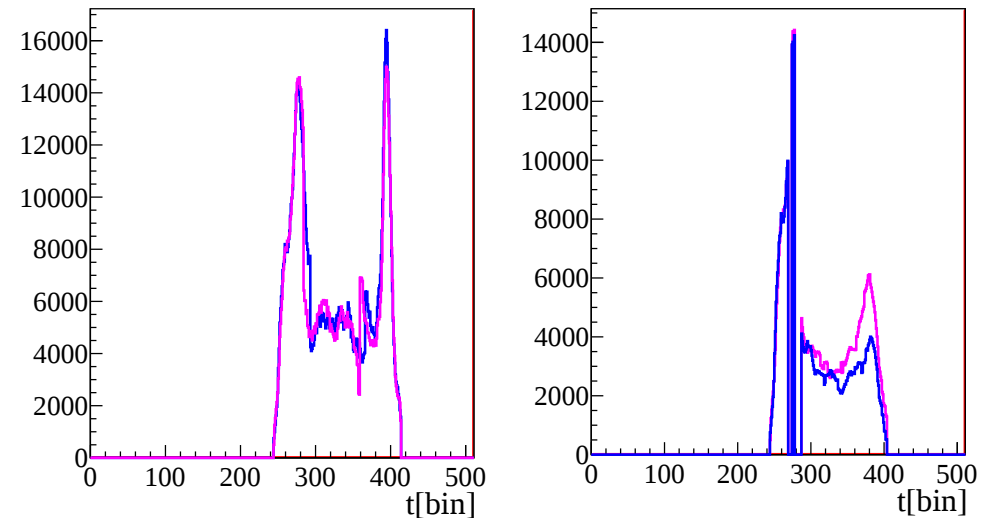
Track matching

A 16.7 MeV γ -ray converting to e^+e^- in 2.1 bar Ar:Isobutane 95:5

raw “maps”



track time spectra

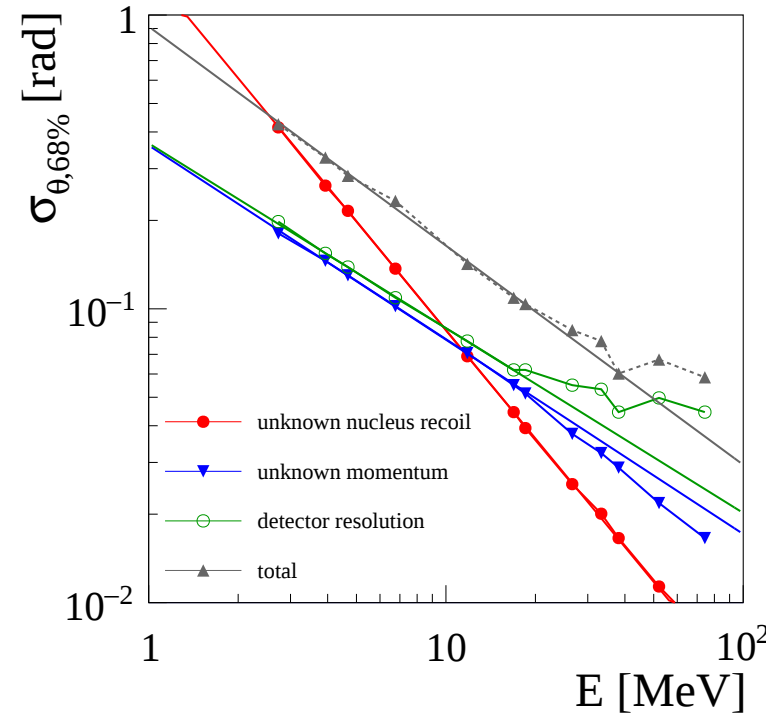
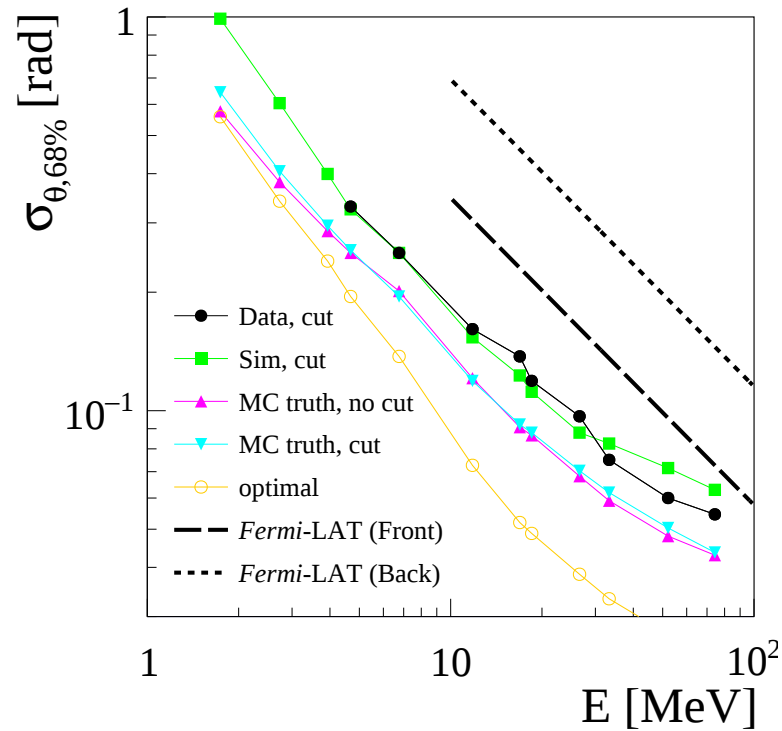


- x, y two-track ambiguity solved by track time spectra matching
- 1 channel = 1 mm.
- 1 time bin = 30 ns, $v_{\text{drift}} \approx 3.3 \text{ cm}/\mu\text{s} \Rightarrow 1 \text{ time bin} \propto 1 \text{ mm}$

Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A 718 (2013) 395

Angular resolution

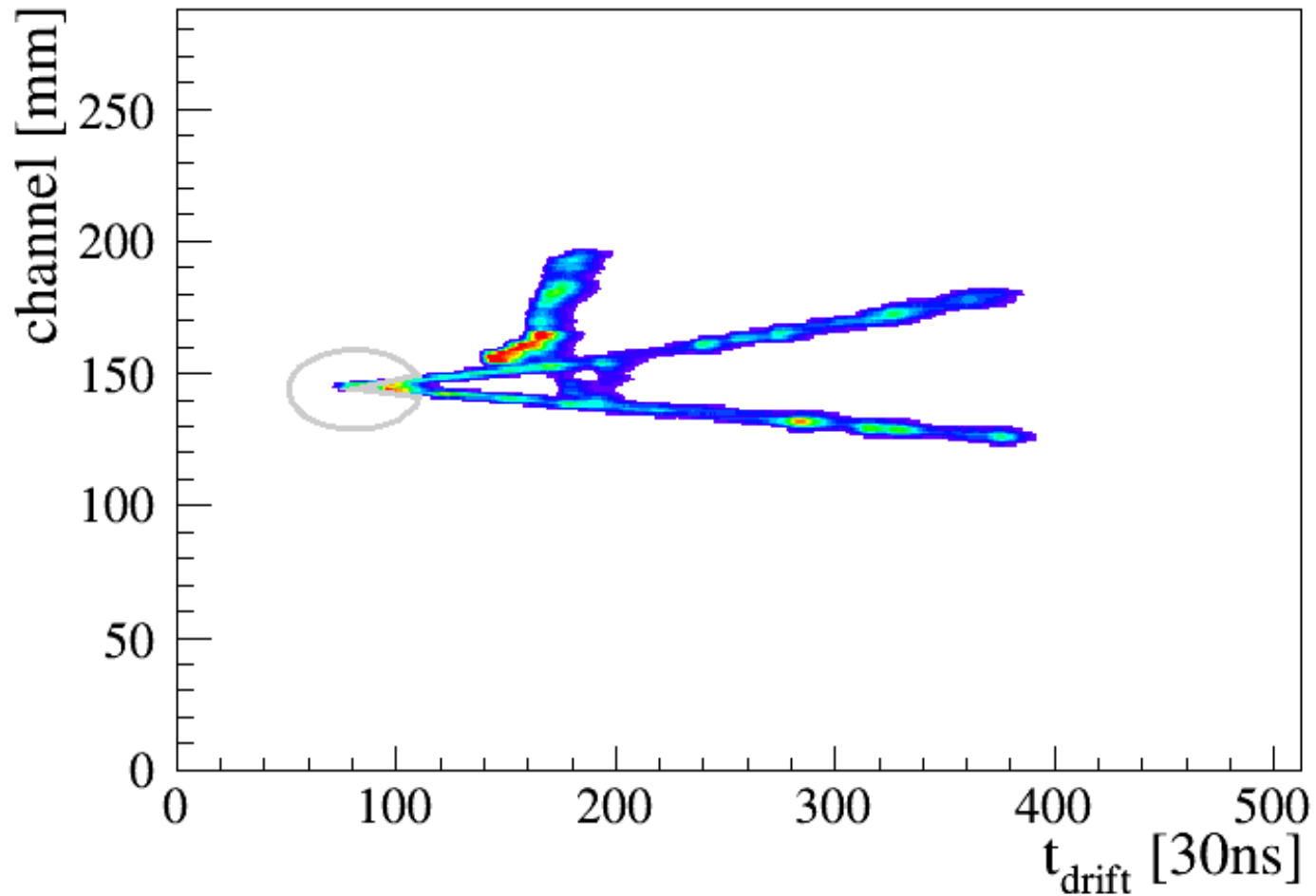
Pseudo-tracking: vertex analysis



Optimal: QED. (nucleus recoil)

P. Gros et al. *Astroparticle Physics* 97 (2018) 10

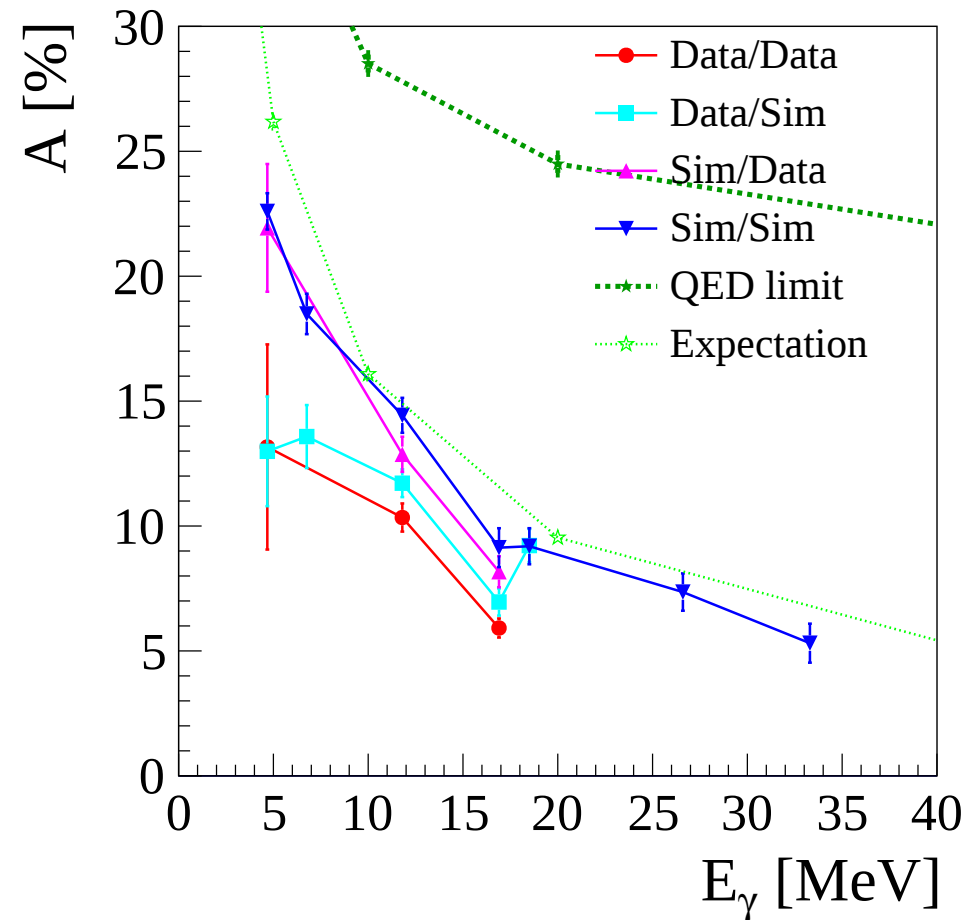
Event reconstruction



- Pseudo-tracking: vertex analysis

P. Gros, J.Phys.Conf.Ser. 1029 (2018) 012003

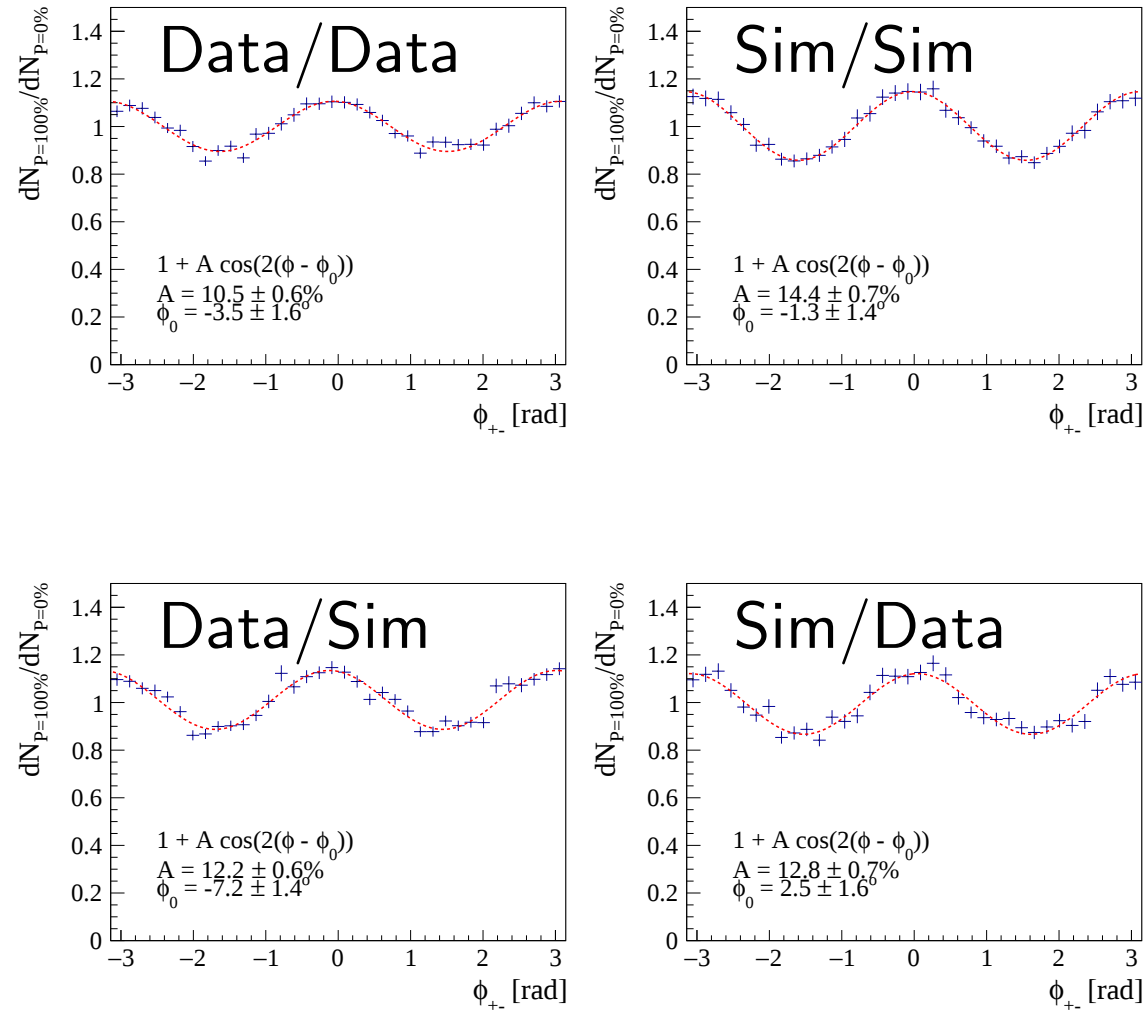
Polarization asymmetry dilution



- Measured polarization asymmetry (“Data”) compatible with QED value when dilution due to single-track resolution taken into account (“expectation”) (Kotov expression, slide 7)

P. Gros et al., *Astroparticle Physics* 97 (2018) 10

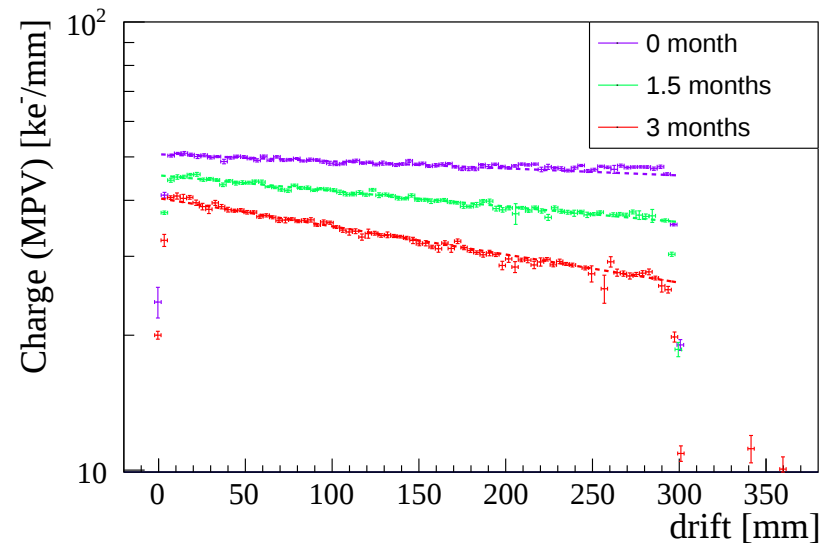
Bias correction by normalization to $P = 0$ distribution: effectiveness of Monte Carlo simulation



P. Gros et al., Astroparticle Physics 97 (2018) 10

Gas purity on the long term

- HARPO pressure vessel extremely dirty: scintillator, WLS, PVC box, PCB, epoxy, O-rings ..
- We have observed the evolution of the gaz quality in sealed mode [Fev. - Jun.] 2015 (2.1 bar).

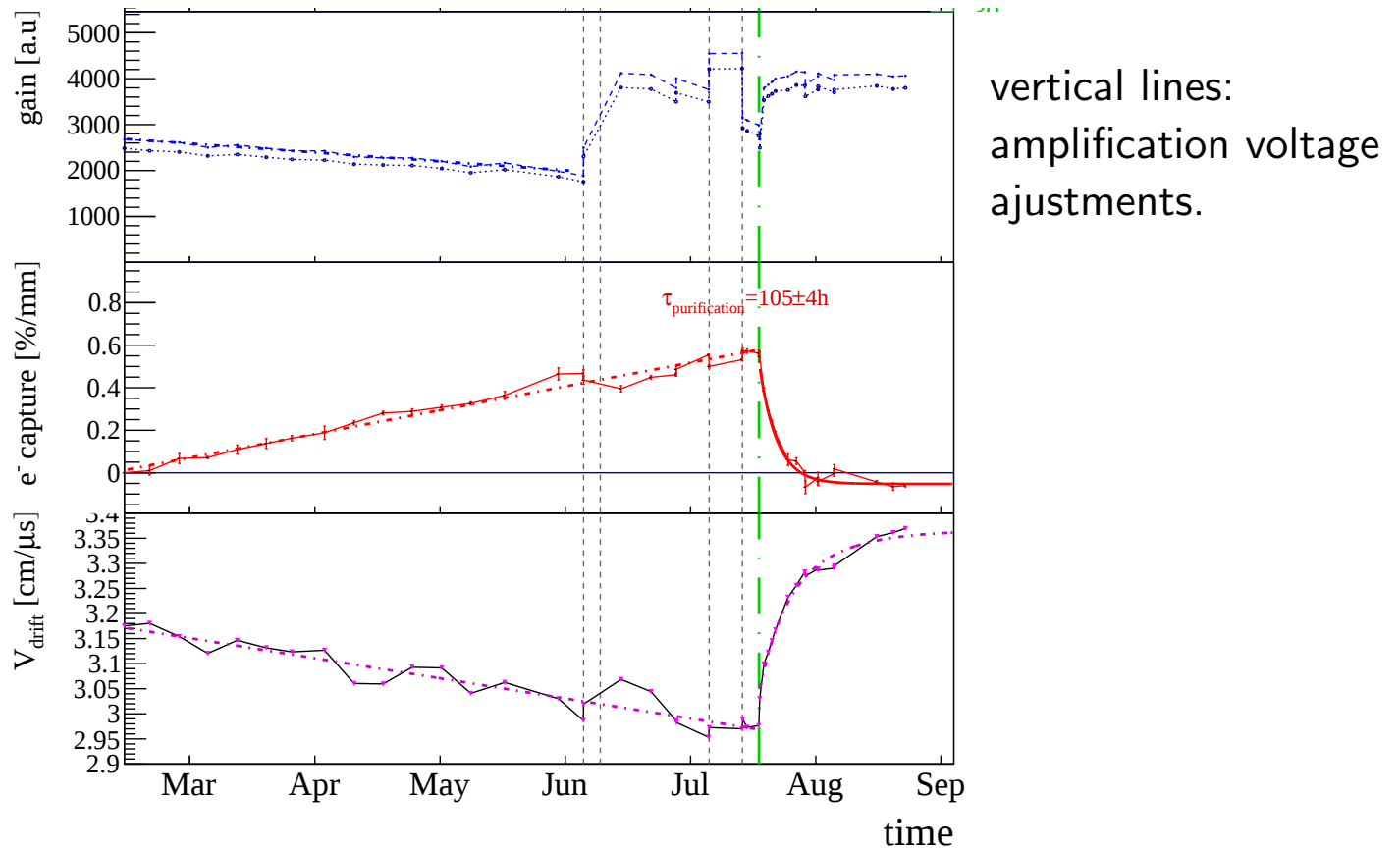


Cumulative charge drift-length-distribution of one-hour cosmic-rays (through-tracks) runs.

- **O₂ fraction peaked at 180 ppm** on Jul. 08. $O_2/(O_2 + N_2) = 0.225$, compatible with air.
- Then we switched an oxisorb recirculation to operation. **O₂ fraction disappeared (< 20 ppm)**

M. Frotin et al., EPJ Web Conf. 174 (2018) 05002

Gas purity on the long term: results



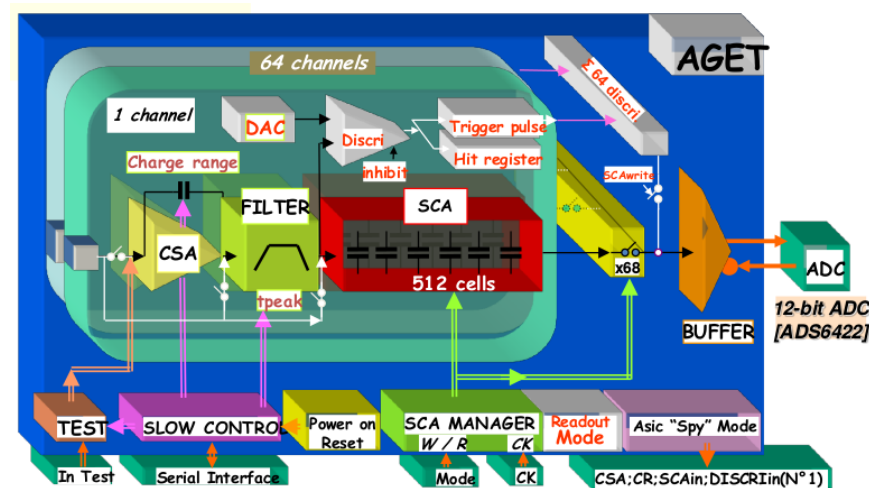
Time evolution of the amplification gain, of the electron capture and of the drift velocity as measured with cosmic-rays through [Fev. - Sept.] 2015.

- Interpreted as air leak or air outgassing, with complete gas cleaning upon purification
- Good prospects to run a TPC for years with a simple oxisorb cleaning

M. Frodin et al., EPJ Web Conf. 174 (2018) 05002

AGET: ASIC for Generic Electronics for TPC

- Input current polarity: positive or negative
- 64 analog channels
- 4 charge ranges/channel: 120 fC to 10 pC
- shaping: 16 peaking time values: 70 ns to 1 μ s
- 512 analog memory cells / channel
- F_{sampling}: 1 MHz to 100 MHz; F_{read}: 25 MHz
- Auto triggering: discriminator + threshold (DAC)
- Real time (25 MHz) Multiplicity signal: analog OR
- Readout:



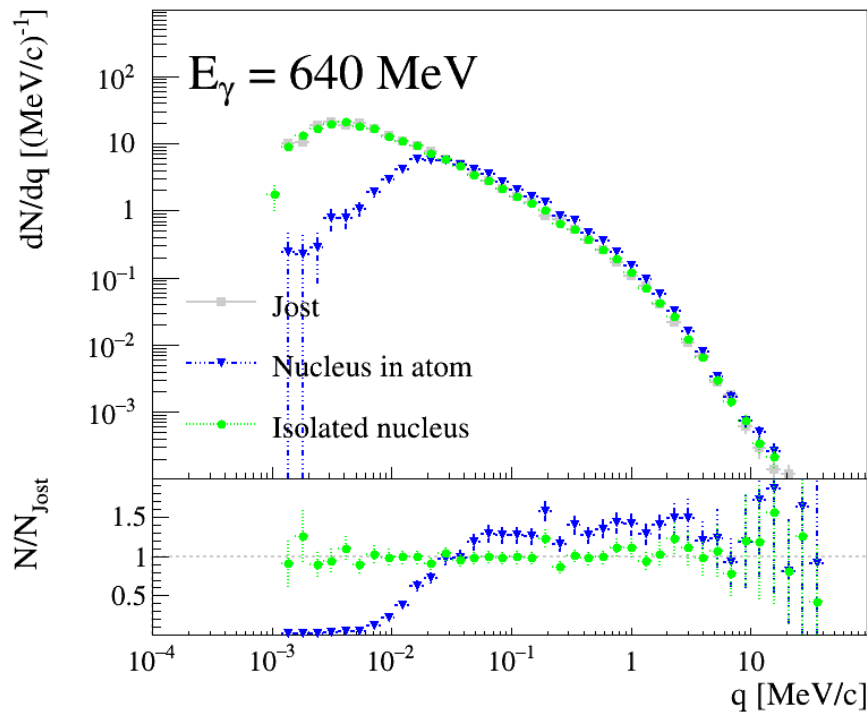
S. Anvar *et al.*, NSS/MIC, 2011 IEEE 745.

- Address of the hit channel(s)
- 3 readout modes: All, hit or specific channels
- Predefined number of analog cells / trigger (1 to 512)

- AGET → **radhard** ASTRE: “Asic with SCA & Trigger for detector Readout Electronics”:

Prototype series tested, including latch-up in beam [D. Baudin et al., Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A 912 \(2018\) 66](#)

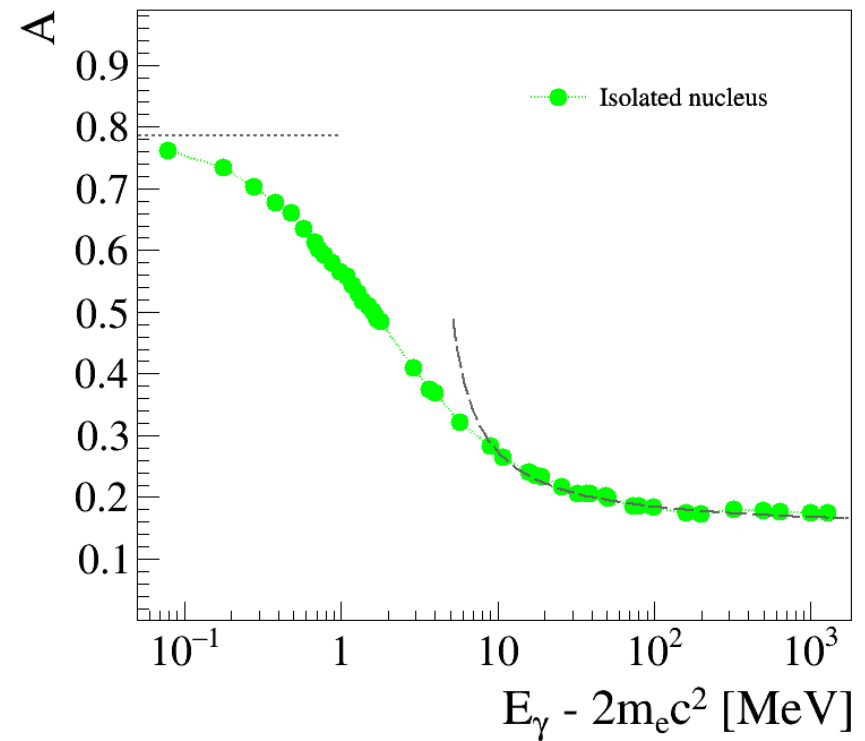
G4BetheHeitler5DModel Physics Model in Geant4 Release 10.5



Recoil momentum distribution compared to the analytical high-energy expression from

[Jost et al., Phys. Rev. 80, 189 \(1950\)](#).

The ratio plot is relative to Jost.



Polarisation asymmetry as a function of available energy, compared to published asymptotic expressions

[doi: 10.1016/j.nima.2018.09.154](#) (and [Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A 899 \(2018\) 85](#), [Astroparticle Physics 88 \(2017\) 60](#))