

PAPER PRESENTATION: ENHANCING THE LIGHT YIELD OF He:CF_4 BASED GASEOUS DETECTOR

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WHAT WHY WHO

- **What:** Paper on the studies of the different amplification structures and addition of a strong electric field below the last GEM plane
- **Why:** Optimisation of the amplification studies for larger light yield
- **Who:** Giorgio Dho, Elisabetta Baracchini with help and support from Davide Pinci
- **Where:** Different journals under consiration, taking into account OA policies.

JINST Meas. Sci. Tech. (pending OA policy) EPJC Astro. Phys Elsevier

To be decided

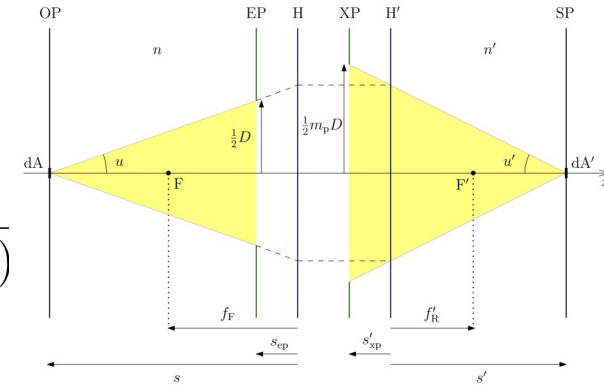
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SECTION I: INTRODUCTION

- Contextualise CYGNO in the dark matter search
- The optical readout allows to image large areas, but the solid angle covered can be as small as 10^{-4}

$$\Omega_f = \frac{1}{(4N^2 (\frac{1}{I} + 1))}$$

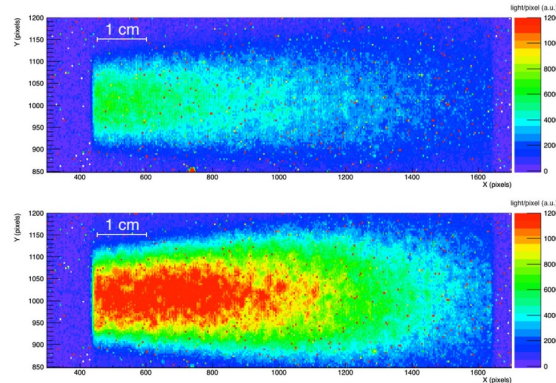
- Maximising the light production** is key for low threshold



Rowalds., book, IOP Publishing (2017)

- Measurement of light enhancement with strong electric field below last GEM

**High field
turned on**



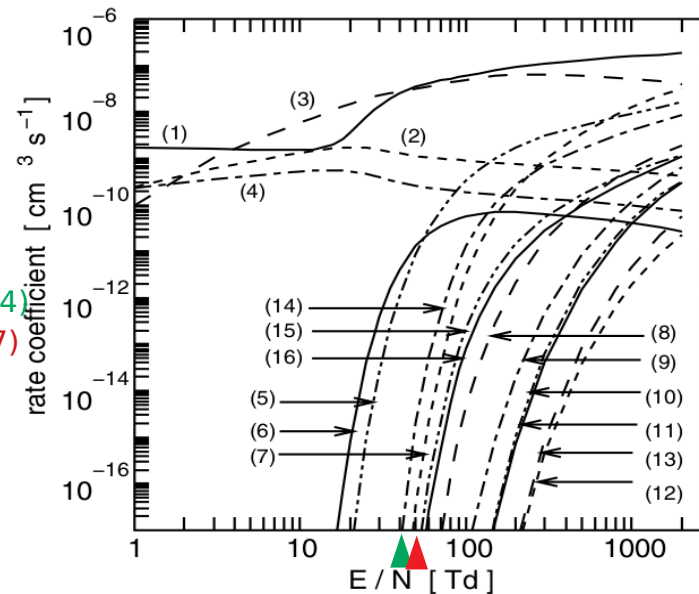
Baracchini et al., JINST, 15 (08) (2020)

SECTION II: SCINTILLATING PROPERTIES He:CF₄

- The general features of the scintillating spectrum of He:CF₄ are briefly introduced
- In CF₄, light produced by neutral fragmentation, charge from ionising fragmentation

Process	Threshold (eV)	Energy loss (eV)
Direct vibrational excitation ν_4	0.078	0.078
ν_3	0.159	0.159
Indirect vibrational excitation	4.0	0.4
Electron attachment	4.3	4.3
Electronic excitation (dissociation into neutral fragments) [†]	12.5 (10)	12.5 (10)
Dissociative ionization [†]	15.9	15.9

Neutral
Fragmentation (14)
First ionisation (7)



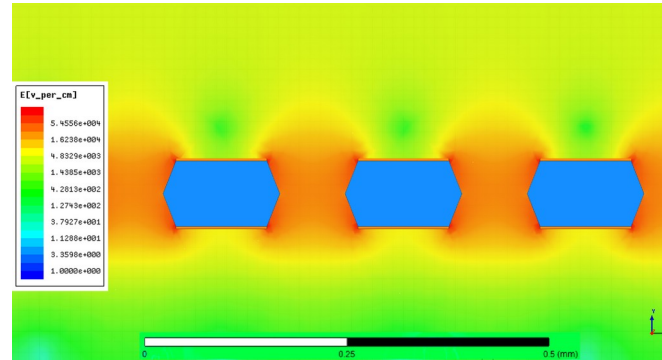
Kurihara et al, JPD, 33 (17) (2000)

- Cross section of pure CF₄**
- It may change with He**
- Large difference in energy threshold among CF₄ and He**

- Passing from 0 to high field, light is first produced → low degradation of energy res can be expected

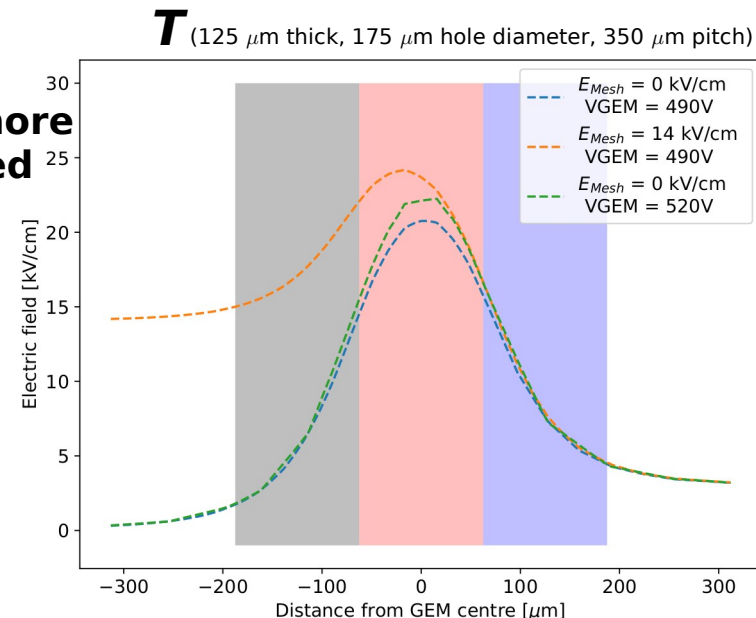
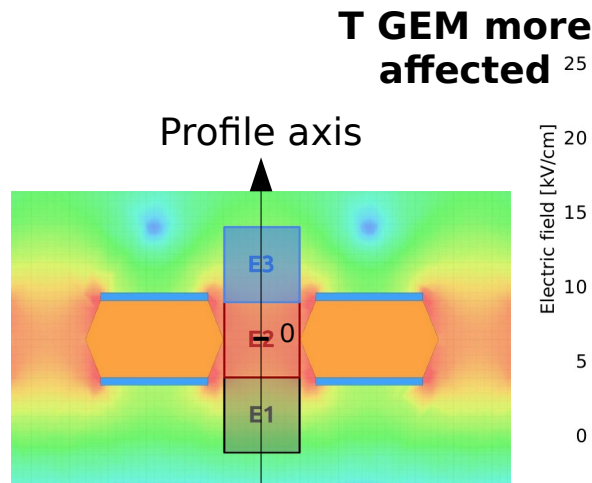
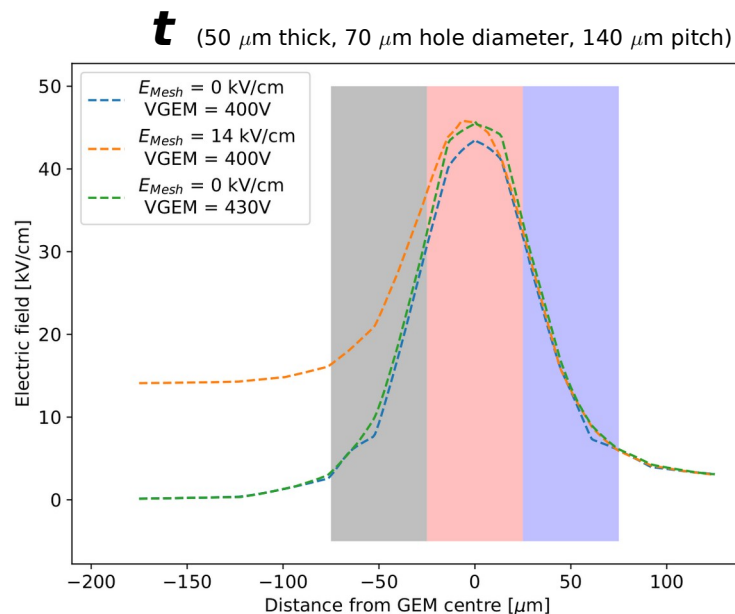
SECTION III: MAXWELL SIMULATION

- Ansys Maxwell program used to simulate the electric field of the experimental setup (TPC) and GEMs
- The uniformity of the field in the induction gap was confirmed (the gap between the last GEM and a new induction electrode)
- However, a hundred of micrometer away from GEM holes the fields are far from constant



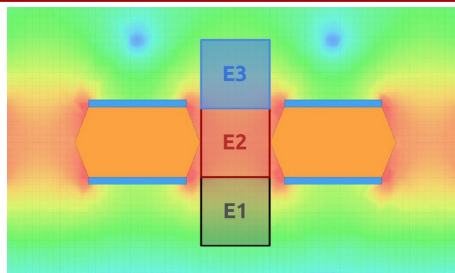
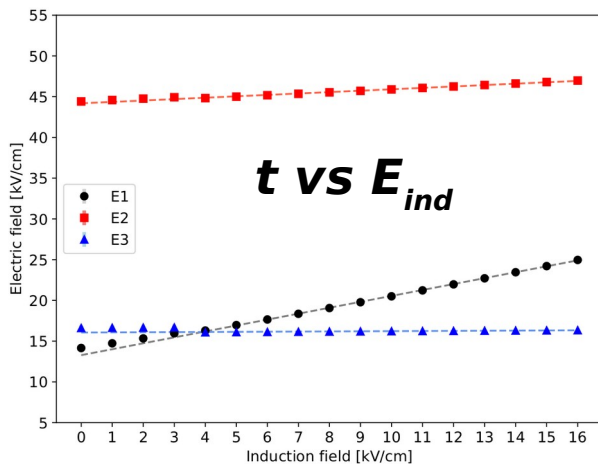
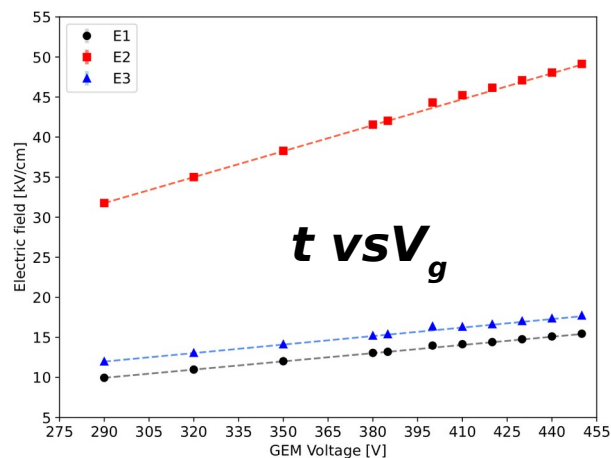
- The profile of the electric field is studied on an axis perpendicular to the GEM plane in three conditions
 - Low V_g , no induction field
 - High V_g , no induction field
 - Low V_g , high induction field

SECTION III: MAXWELL SIMULATION (II)

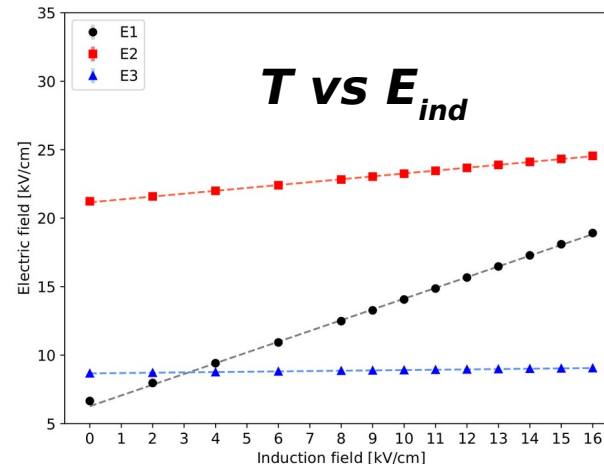
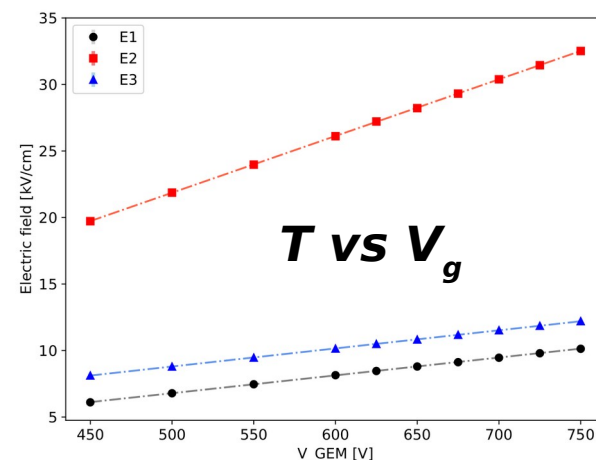


- Increasing V_g enhances the field strength without changing the structure
- A strong E_{mesh} modifies the shape of the profile generating a region below the GEM where light production and amplification can take place
- To quantify the electric field intensity, the value is averaged in 3 regions

SECTION III: MAXWELL SIMULATION (III)

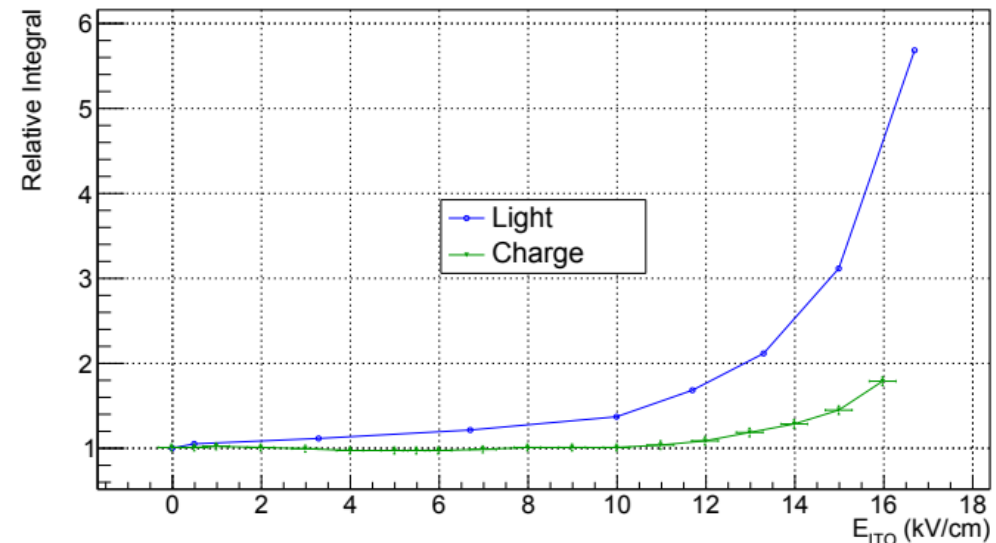
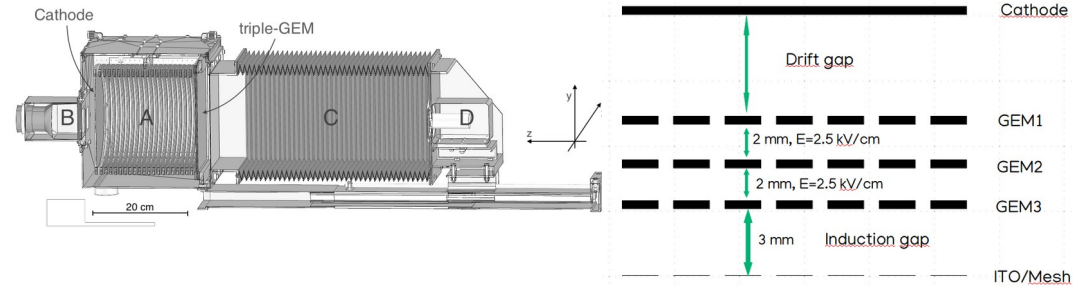


- The induction field does not affect the field above the GEM
- The induction field increases the field inside the GEM hole, but less than V_g
- The field below the GEM is strongly enhanced up to values where amplification is achievable
- T GEM has intrinsically lower fields, so the induction field is relatively larger



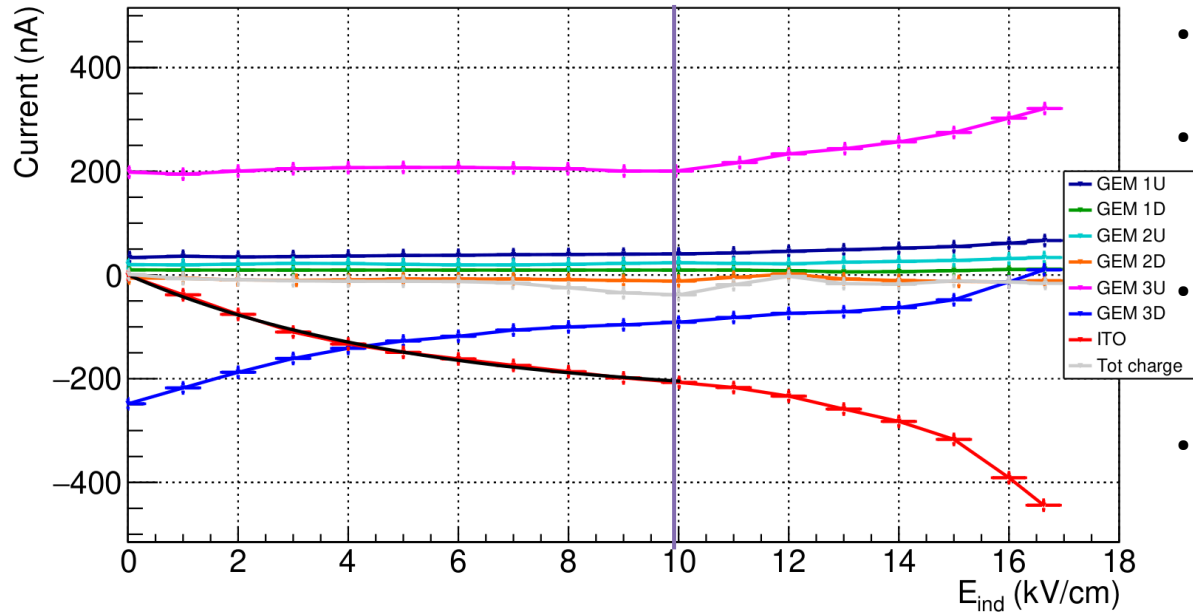
SECTION IV: LEMON

- LEMON detector: 20x24 cm² readout area and 20 cm drift, effective granularity 125 x 125 μm²)
- Studies on the light amplification induced by electric field below the last GEM extended with LEMON prototype and an ITO glass (T=0.9)
- ⁵⁵Fe source (5.9 keV X-ray) of 115 MBq produces current signals well above the sensitivity of the LEMON current reader (10 nA)
- The light measurements used 1 s exposure and average light output on different areas (after noise pedestal subtraction)



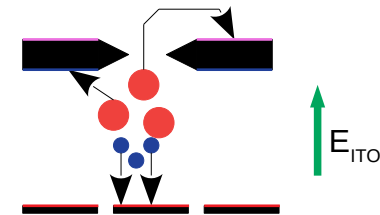
Light increment far exceeds the extra charge produced

SECTION IV: LEMON (II)



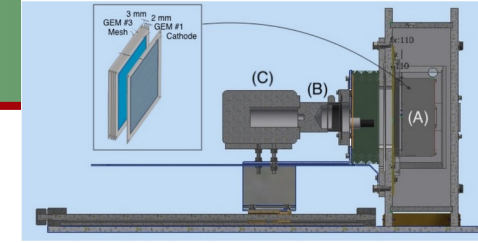
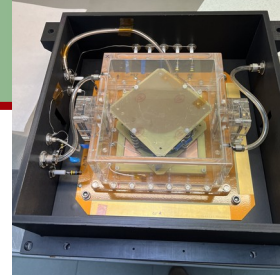
- Below 10 kV/cm 3U is constant
- Above 10 there is a rise in charge → **Charge is produced**
- The amount of charge created can be evaluated from the ITO after taking into account for the sharing of electrons between 3D and ITO

- Total sum of the charge is zero (gray)
- 3U collects ions from 3rd stage of amplification (magenta)
- ITO (red) and 3D (blue) share the electrons generated by the amplification
- If any new charge is generated in the induction:
 - 3D and 3U collect the ions
 - ITO only collects electrons

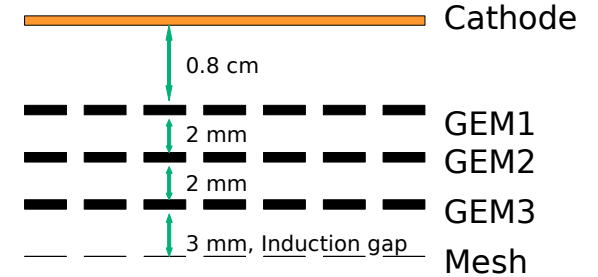


SECTION V: MANGO

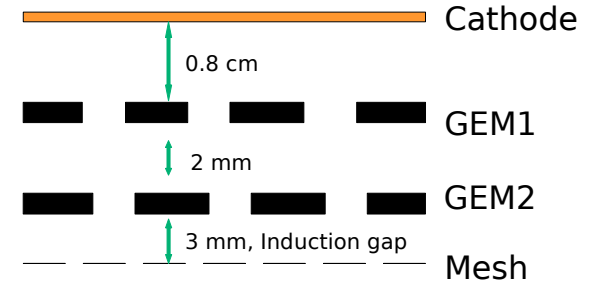
- MANGO detector used to extend the induction field study to other GEM configurations and He concentrations (60% or 70%)
- MANGO is 10x10 cm² readout area with variable drift gap (0.8 cm here)
- Metallic mesh employed as induction electrode (T=0.55)
- **ttt**: Stack of 3 thin GEMs (50 μ m thick, 70 μ m hole diameter, 140 μ m pitch)
- **TT**: Stack of 2 thicker GEMs (125 μ m thick, 175 μ m hole diameter, 350 μ m pitch)
- **Tt**: Stack of 1 *T* GEM and a *t* one



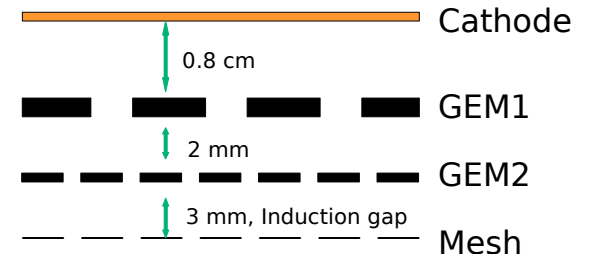
ttt



TT

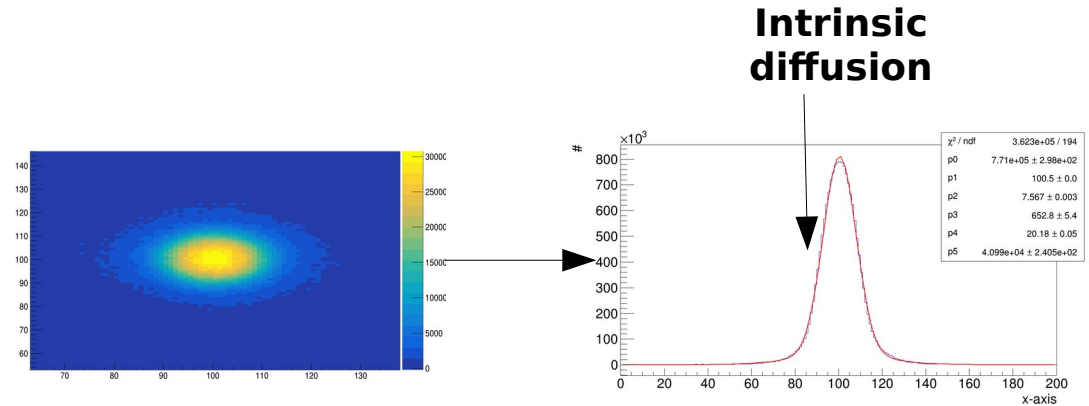
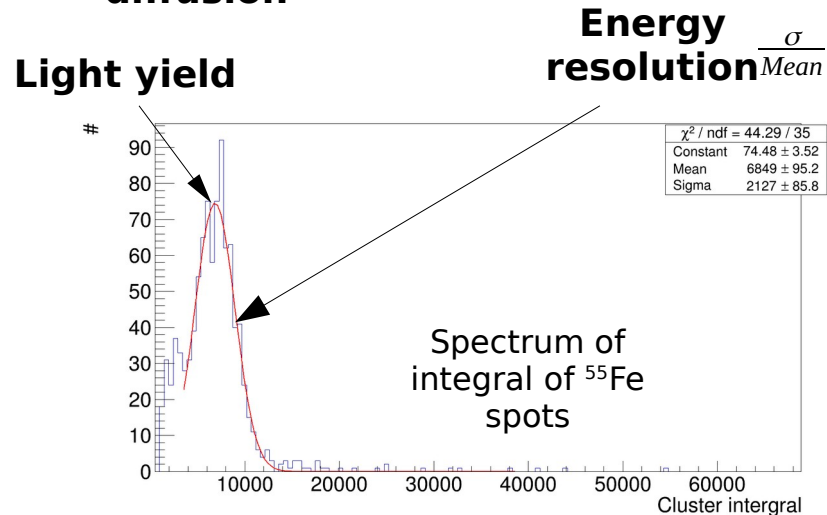
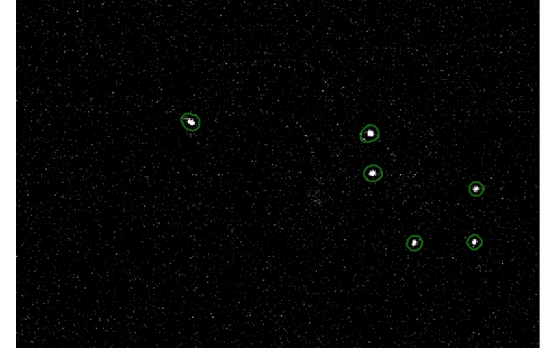


Tt



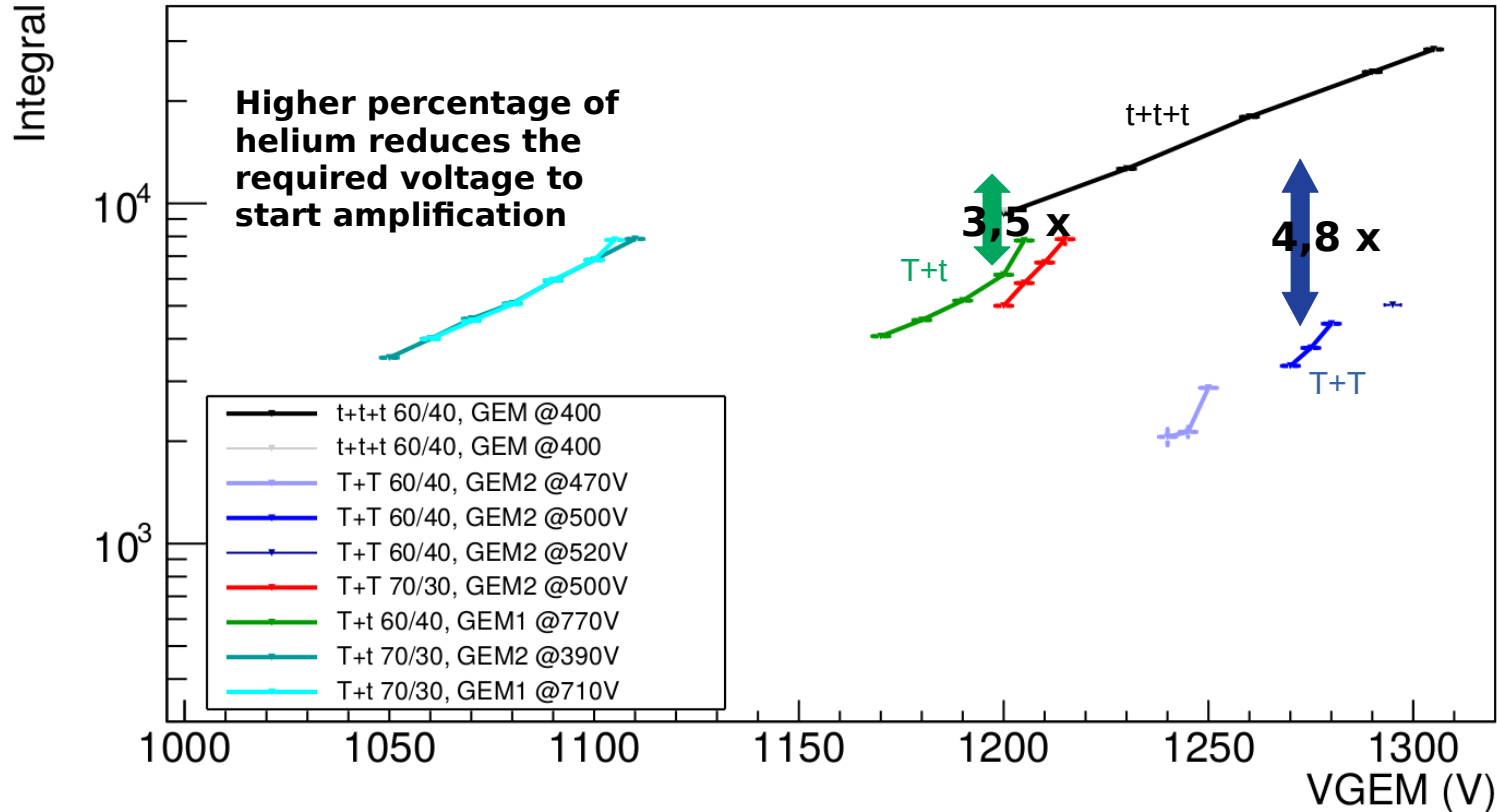
SECTION V: MANGO (II)

- ^{55}Fe source of 48 kBq allows an event by event analysis of the images
- Camera exposure 0.5 s exposure
- Optimisation of the amplification structure based on the analysis of **light yield**, **energy resolution** and **intrinsic diffusion**



SECTION VI: IMAGE ANALYSIS (CHARGE GAIN)

- Characterisation of the setups with regular operation



SECTION VI: IMAGE ANALYSIS (CHARGE GAIN II)

- The gain can be parametrised as a function of a *reduced field* (Σ) inside the GEM holes as (T.N. Thorpe, S.E. Vahsen, 10.1016/j.nima.2022.167438)

$$\Gamma = \frac{\ln(G)}{n_g p t} = A_0 + B_0 \Sigma = A_0 + \frac{B_0}{p n_g t} V_g$$
$$\Sigma = \frac{V_g}{n_g p t}$$

- (Γ) reduced gain
- p pressure
- n_g number of GEMs

- A_0, B_0 free parameters
- t thickness of GEM
- V_g sum of voltage across GEMs

- Table obtained by fitting the data of previous slide
- The consistency of the parameters suggests the parametrisation is correct within the uncertainties
- Good understanding of the multiplication process

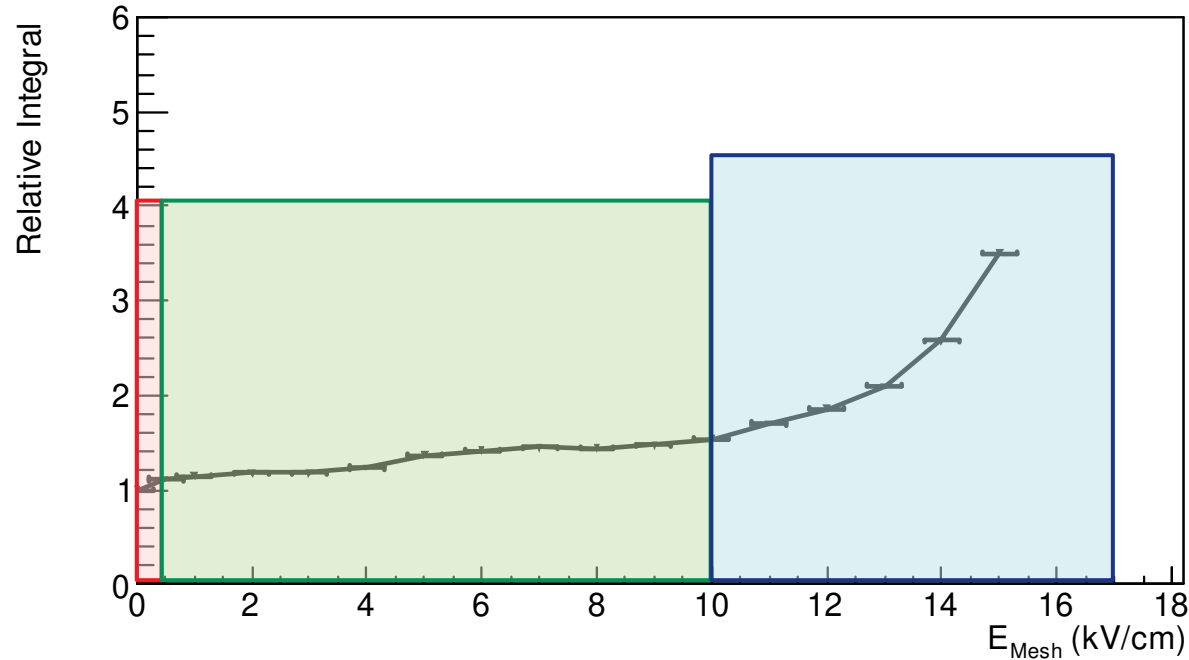
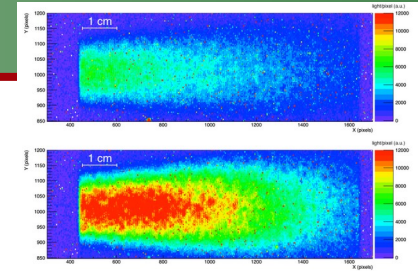
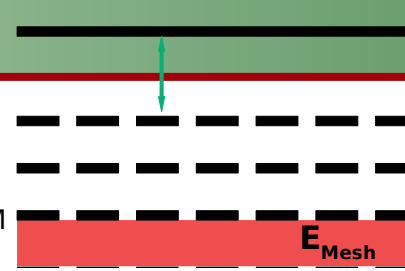
Config	Colour	[0] $\frac{1}{\text{torr}\cdot\text{cm}}$	$\sigma[0] \frac{1}{\text{torr}\cdot\text{cm}}$	[1] $\frac{1}{\text{torr}\cdot\text{cm}\cdot\text{V}}$	$\sigma[1] \frac{1}{\text{torr}\cdot\text{cm}\cdot\text{V}}$
ttt 60/40	Black	-0.36	0.14	0.00106	0.00011
Tt 60/40	Green	-0.7	0.2	0.0012	0.0004
Tt 70/30	Cyan	-0.6	0.2	0.0012	0.0003
Tt 70/30	Dark Green	-0.49	0.19	0.0011	0.0002
TT 60/40	Blue	-1.6	0.9	0.0017	0.0007
TT 70/30	Red	-1.6	1.0	0.0018	0.0006

SECTION VI: IMAGE ANALYSIS (E_{IND})

- Fixing the V_g and increasing the induction field (E_{Mesh})

ttt case

Last GEM



- Immediate increase**, due to better defined field lines below the last GEM (Maxwell simulations)
- Linear increase
- Exponential growth

SECTION VI: IMAGE ANALYSIS (E_{IND} II)

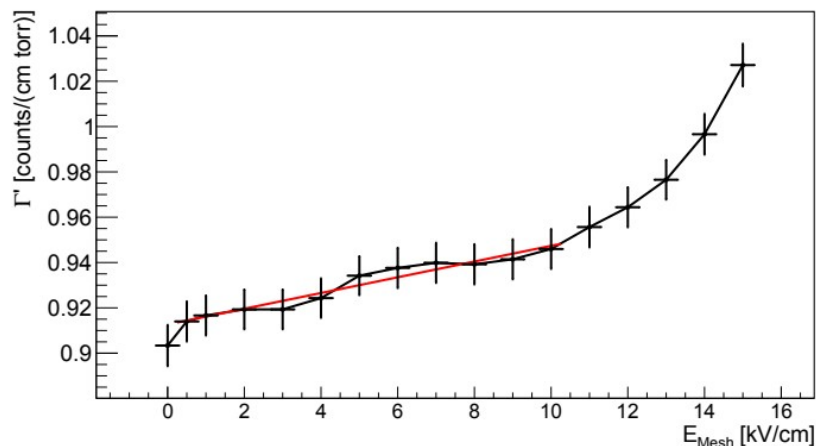
- Employing the parametrisation of the gain, the reduced field can be expanded with a term to include the influence of E_{mesh} , as suggested by Maxwell simulations

$$\Sigma = \frac{1}{p} \left(\frac{V_g}{n_g t} + \alpha E_{\text{mesh}} \right)$$

Once V_g is fixed this is a constant term ([0]) which should match the terms fitted with the gain
(Condition C)

$$\Gamma = A_0 + \frac{B_0}{pn_g t} V_g + \frac{B_0 \alpha}{p} E_{\text{mesh}}$$

[1]:
Term proportional to E_{Mesh}

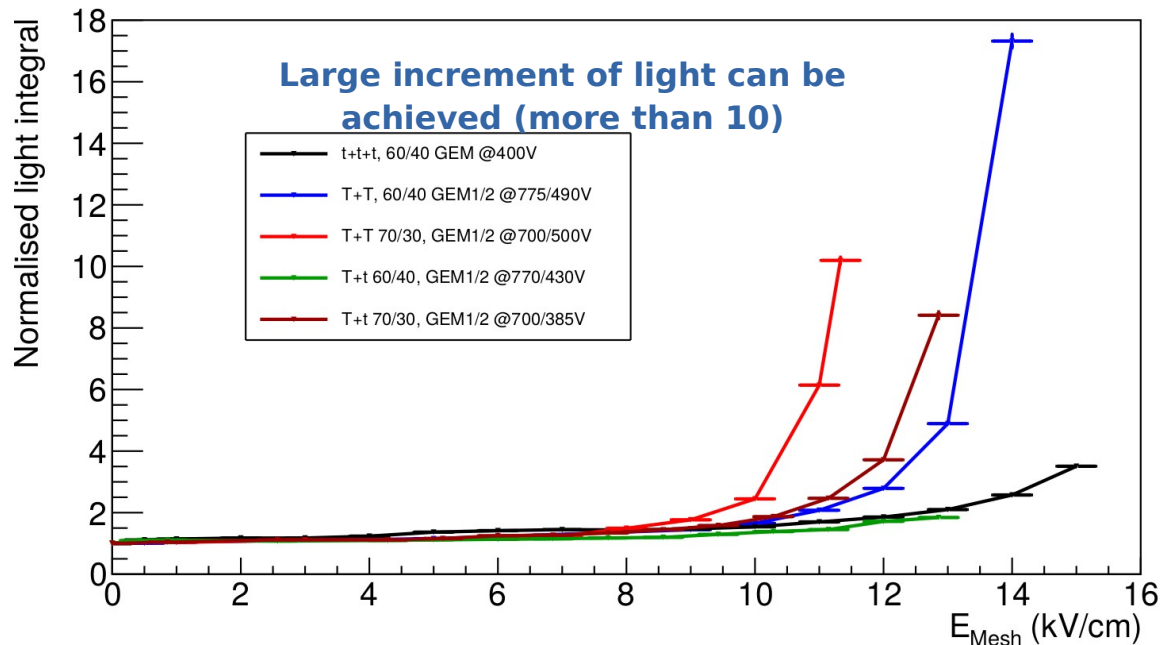


Conf	[0] $\frac{1}{\text{torr}\cdot\text{cm}}$	$\sigma_{[0]} \frac{1}{\text{torr}\cdot\text{cm}}$	[1] $\frac{1}{\text{torr}\cdot\text{kV}}$	$\sigma_{[1]} \frac{1}{\text{torr}\cdot\text{kV}}$	Cond. C
ttt 60/40	0.912	0.005	0.0036	0.0010	✓
Tt 60/40	0.747	0.009	0.0010	0.0009	✓
Tt 70/30	0.704	0.007	0.0029	0.0015	✓
TT 60/40	0.48	0.01	0.0025	0.0013	✓
TT 70/30	0.505	0.004	0.0016	0.0010	✓

- Above 10 kV/cm the linear fit fails to represent the data
- New phenomenon must be happening at larger fields

SECTION VI: IMAGE ANALYSIS (E_{IND} III)

- The exponential part is studied after removing the linear contribution



**As suggested by simulations,
structures with T last GEM generate
larger light enhancement**

- The **intensity** of the light increase depends on the last GEM
- The data are fitted in order to find the breaking point of the exponential growth

$$a + b \cdot e^{cE_M - d}$$

- The helium content modifies the breaking point

$$E_{\text{break},60/40} = (9.7 \pm 0.8) \text{ kV/cm}$$

$$E_{\text{break},70/30} = (8.7 \pm 0.7) \text{ kV/cm}$$

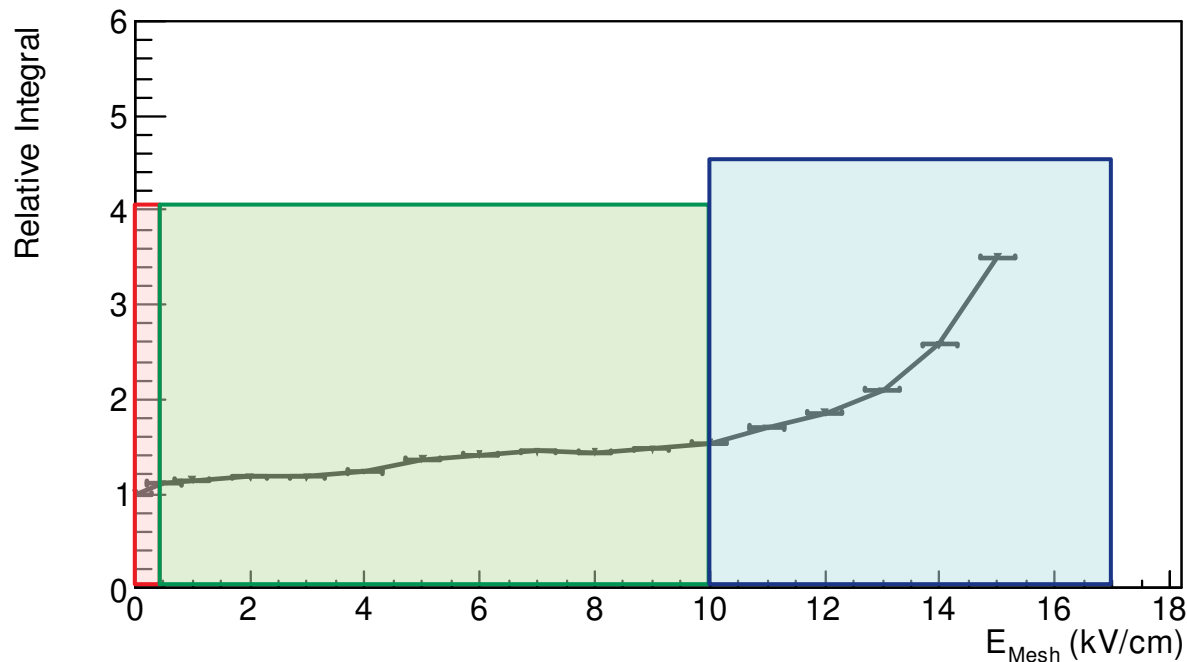
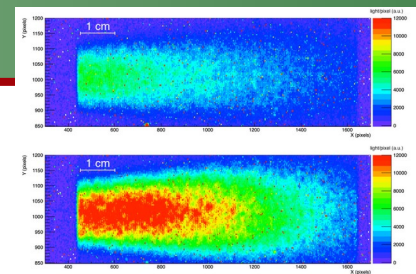
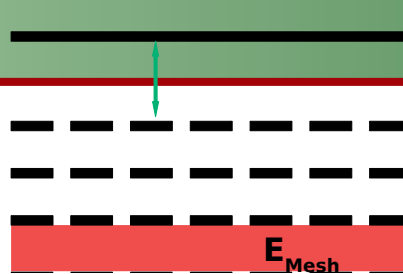
**As for the gain scan, more
helium requires lower field for
the phenomenon to begin**

SECTION VI: IMAGE ANALYSIS (E_{IND} IV)

- Fixing the V_g and increasing the induction field (E_{Mesh})

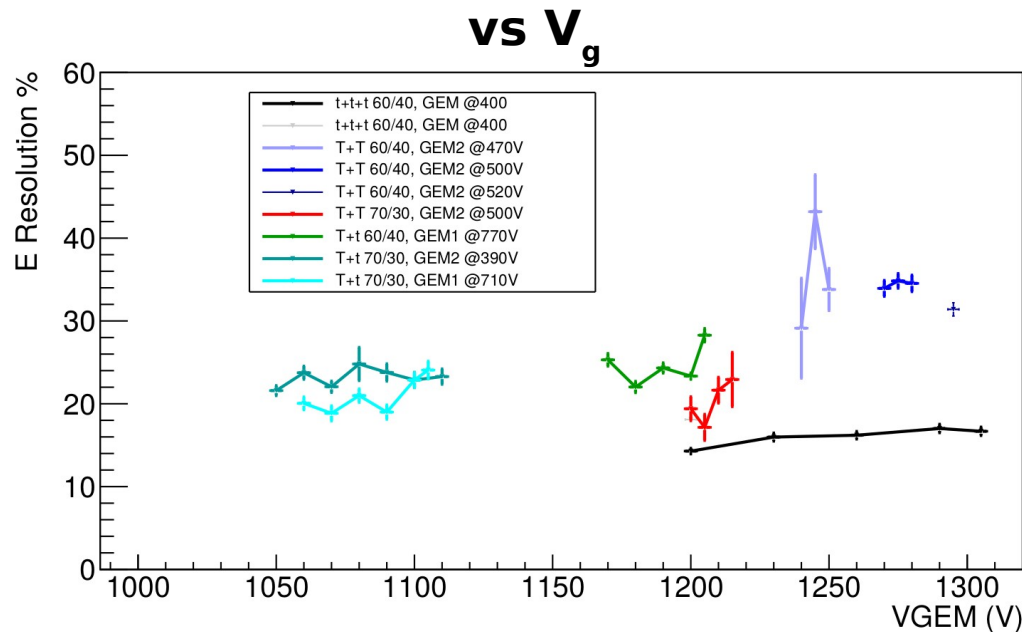
ttt case

Last GEM

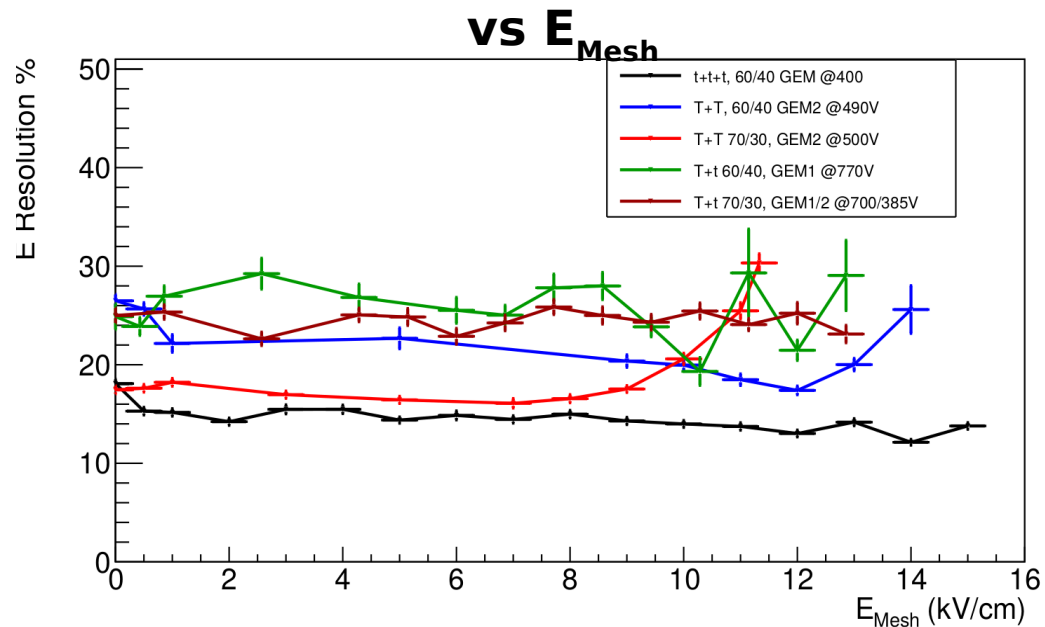


- Increase due to better defined field lines below the last GEM (Maxwell simulations)
- Linear increase due to the induction field affecting the field inside GEM
- Exponential growth due to the large electric field generated in the small region below the last GEM

SECTION VI: IMAGE ANALYSIS (E RESOLUTION)

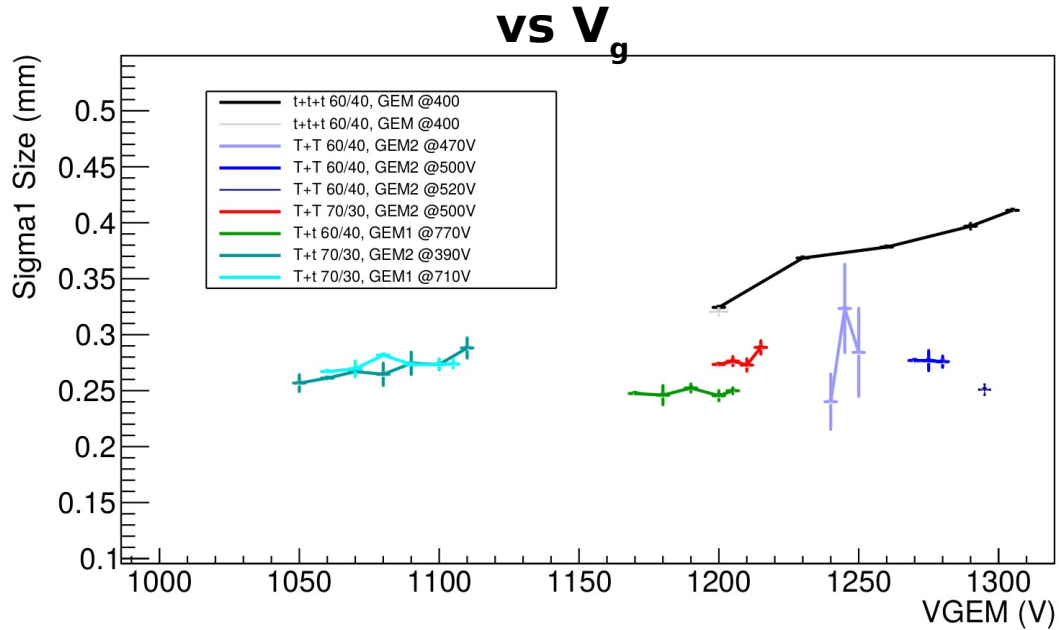


- Best energy resolution obtained with stronger fields and higher gain (*ttt*)
- Energy resolution roughly constant with V_g

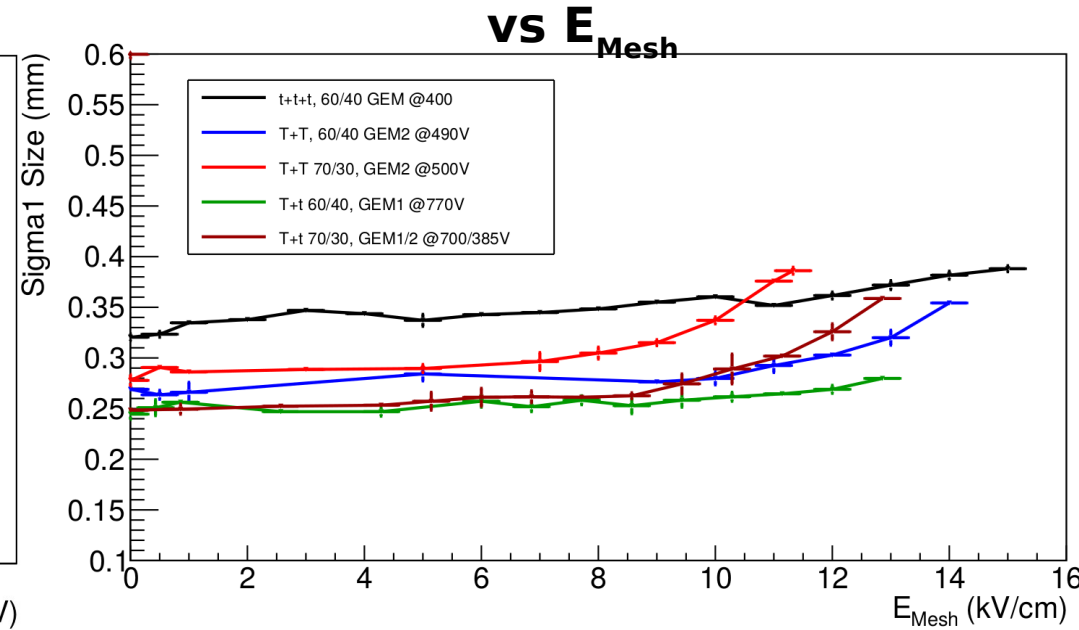


- Energy resolution is constant or improves with field if the last GEM is thin
- At the breaking point the *TT* GEMs have a clear worsening of the resolution

SECTION VI: IMAGE ANALYSIS (INTRINSIC DIFFUSION)



- Diffusion is in general independent of the V_g
- *ttt* clearly worsens with the applied voltage
- *Tt* has the lowest diffusion among all (only two GEMs and the granularity copes with the GEM pitch)



- From the breaking point the spot size increases
- Expected as extra light is generated out of the focus

SECTION VII: DISCUSSION

- Innovative way to enhance light yield with He:CF₄ mixture
- The induction field allows any structure to reach larger light yield

		Integral	E res (%)	Diff [μm]
<i>ttt</i>	min	9510 $\pm$ 40	16.0 $\pm$ 0.3	320 $\pm$ 4
	max V_{GEM}	28400 $\pm$ 110	16.6 $\pm$ 0.3	412 $\pm$ 5
	max E_{Mesh}	33500 $\pm$ 140	13.8 $\pm$ 0.3	388 $\pm$ 5
<i>TT</i>	min	3410 $\pm$ 20	28.0 $\pm$ 1.5	260 $\pm$ 3
	max V_{GEM}	5090 $\pm$ 30	31.0 $\pm$ 0.6	255 $\pm$ 3
	max E_{Mesh}	58800 $\pm$ 300	25.7 $\pm$ 0.5	356 $\pm$ 5
<i>Tt</i>	min	4600 $\pm$ 30	25.2 $\pm$ 0.5	245 $\pm$ 3
	max V_{GEM}	7700 $\pm$ 40	27.8 $\pm$ 0.5	245 $\pm$ 3
	max E_{Mesh}	11800 $\pm$ 50	26.8 $\pm$ 0.5	280 $\pm$ 4

SECTION VII: DISCUSSION (II)

- Innovative way to enhance light yield with He:CF₄ mixture
- The induction field allows any structure to reach larger light yield
- Each structure excels in a particular feature

		Integral	E res (%)	Diff [μm]
<i>t t t</i>	min	9510 $\pm$ 40	16.0 $\pm$ 0.3	320 $\pm$ 4
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	max E_{Mesh}	11800 $\pm$ 50	26.8 $\pm$ 0.5	280 $\pm$ 4

Max E_{Mesh}		E_{Mesh} [kV/cm]	Integral	E res (%)	Diff [μm]
	ttt	15 ± 0.3	33500 ± 140	13.8 ± 0.3	388 ± 5
	TT	14 ± 0.3	58800 ± 300	25.7 ± 0.5	356 ± 5
	Tt	12.8 ± 0.2	11830 ± 50	26.8 ± 0.5	280 ± 4

- *t t t* Energy resolution
- *T T* light yield
- *T t* intrinsic diffusion
- Application to many fields depending optimisable depending on need

SECTION VIII: CONCLUSION

- Conclusion with cyclical style to adhere to the introduction
- Highlight on the improvements possible with the strong induction field introduction for a He:CF₄ gas mixture
- Presenting the agreement of the simulation estimation with the experimental results
- Focus on the versatility of the different amplification structures depending on the experimental needs

BACKUP

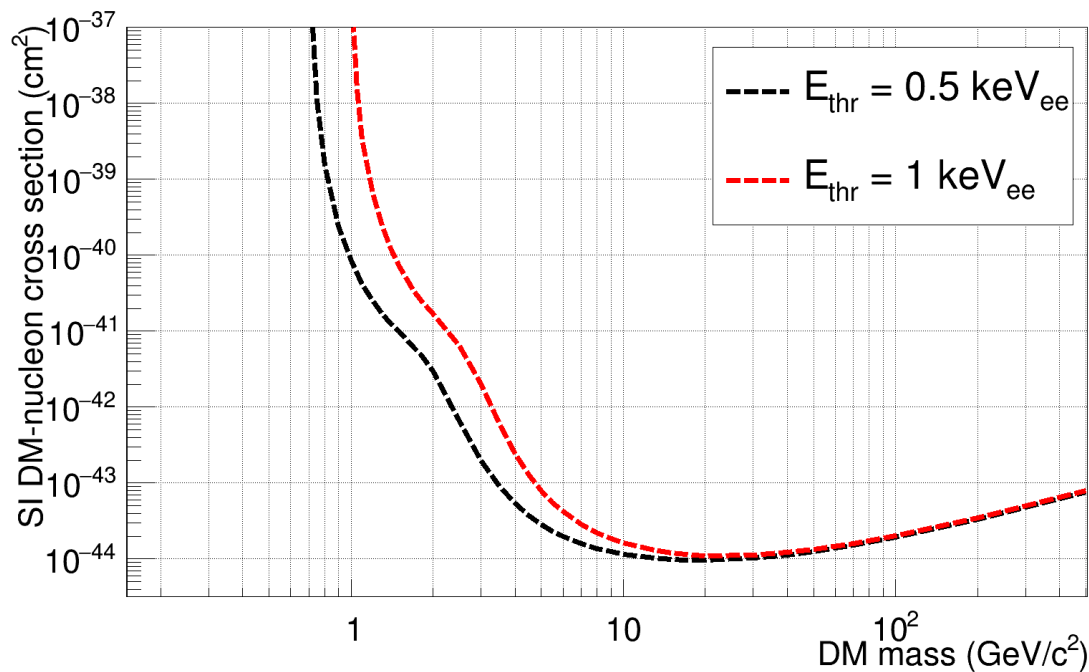
THRESHOLD 1 OR 0.5 keV_{ee}

- The WIMP masses which can induce detectable recoils depend on the E_{thr}

$$E_{\text{max}} = \frac{1}{2} m_{\chi} r (v_{\text{lab}} \cos \gamma + v_{\text{esc}})^2$$

	1 keV _{ee}		0.5 keV _{ee}	
	$E_{\text{thr},\text{nr}}$ (keV _{nr})	Min DM mass (GeV/c ²)	$E_{\text{thr},\text{nr}}$ (keV _{nr})	Min DM mass (GeV/c ²)
H	1.4	0.5	0.8	0.3
He	2.1	1.0	1.2	0.7
C	3.1	1.9	1.8	1.4
F	3.8	2.5	2.2	1.9

- Also it modifies the part of the velocity distribution which can cause a recoil

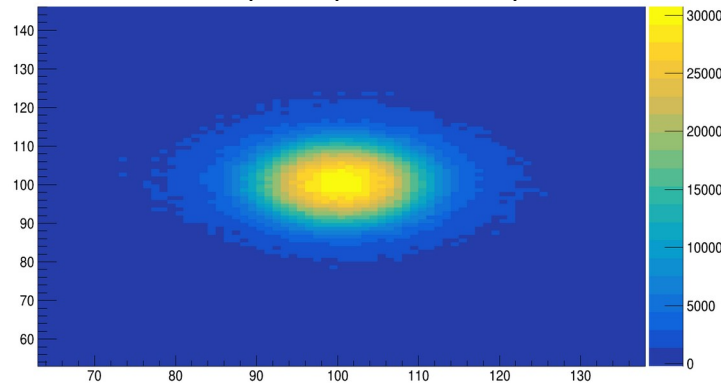


He:CF₄ gas in
CYGNO-like 30 m³

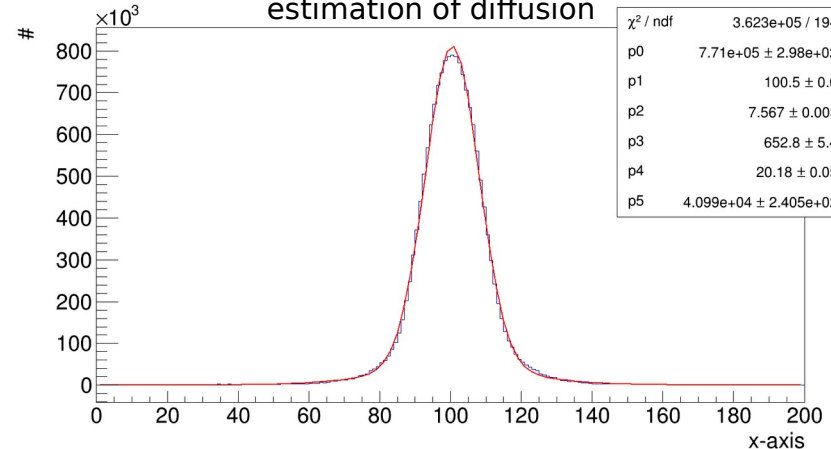
DIFFUSION MEASUREMENT

- ^{55}Fe emits X-rays of 5.9 keV which induce ERs travelling for $O(100) \mu\text{m}$ in the gas
- The diffusion contribution prevails over the topology of the original track → Round spots on camera images
- Given the extremely small drift gap, the intrinsic diffusion of the **amplification stage dominates**
- A double Gaussian fit is applied to the spatial distribution of the overlap of all the ^{55}Fe signal once their barycentres are aligned
- Method independent of the light intensity

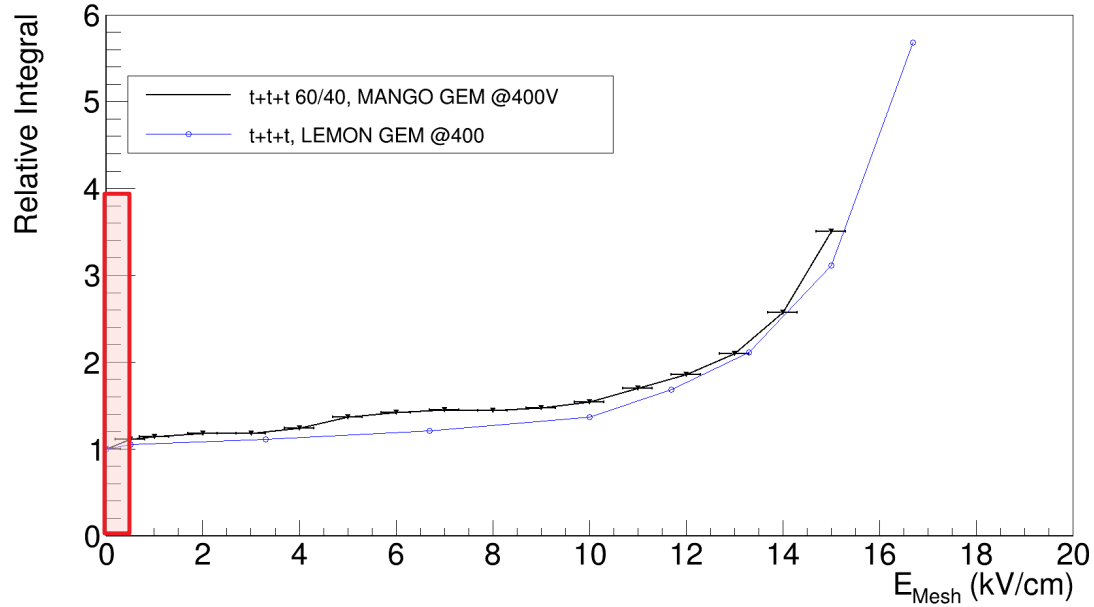
Average spatial projection of the superimposed ^{55}Fe spots



Primary sigma taken as the estimation of diffusion

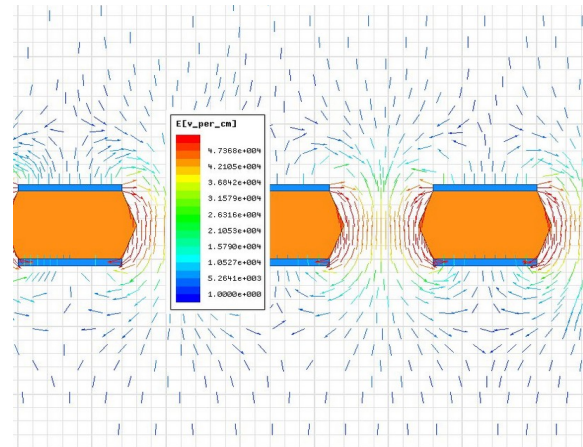
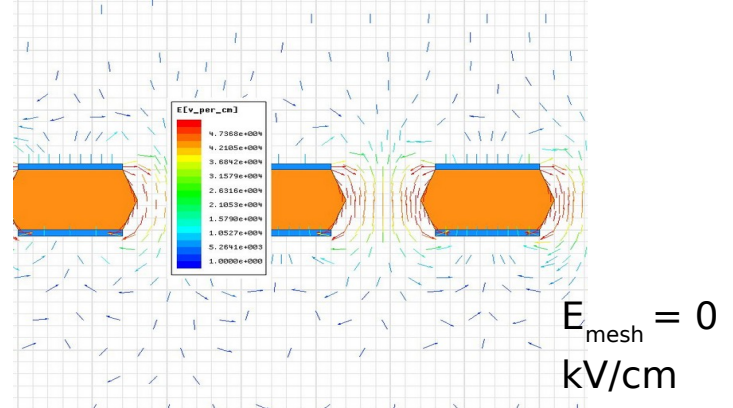


INCREASE AT LOW FIELD

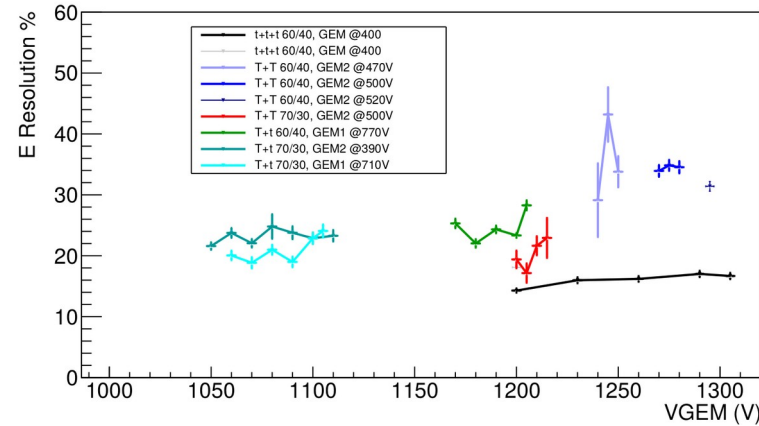


$E_{\text{mesh}} = 1$
kV/cm

Increase due to better defined field lines below the last GEM (Maxwell)



ENERGY RESOLUTION



$$\sigma_E^2 = \left(\frac{\sigma_{n_0}}{n_0} \right)^2 + \frac{1}{n_0} \left(\frac{\sigma_A}{\bar{A}} \right)^2 = \left(\frac{F}{n_0} \right) + \frac{1}{n_0} \left(\frac{\sigma_A}{\bar{A}} \right)^2$$

Depends on a function χ : Alkhazov, NIM, 89 (1970)
the larger χ , the smaller σ_A

**Favours large
reduced fields: $t\bar{t}t$**

