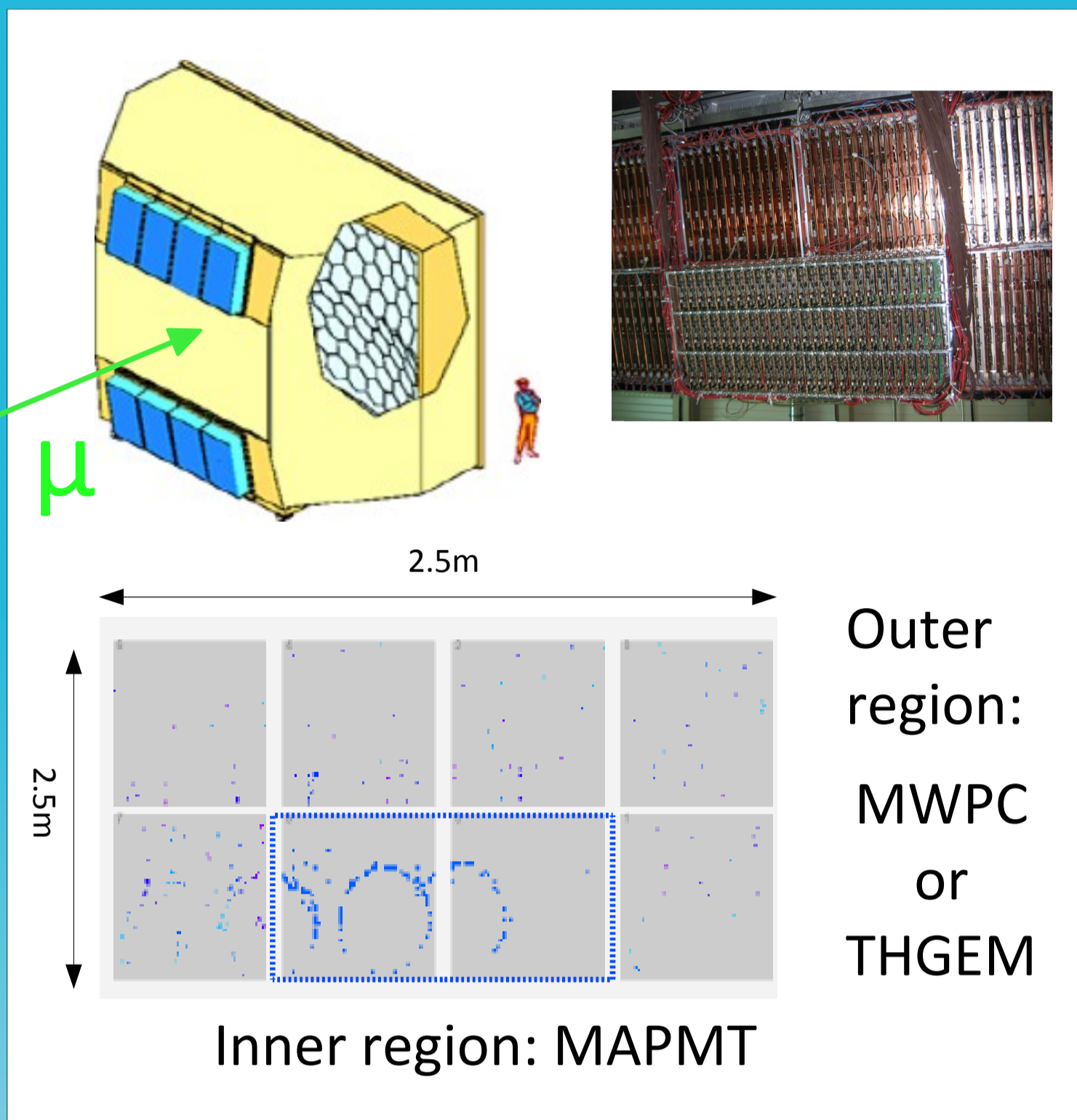


THGEM-BASED PHOTON DETECTOR FOR CHERENKOV IMAGING APPLICATIONS



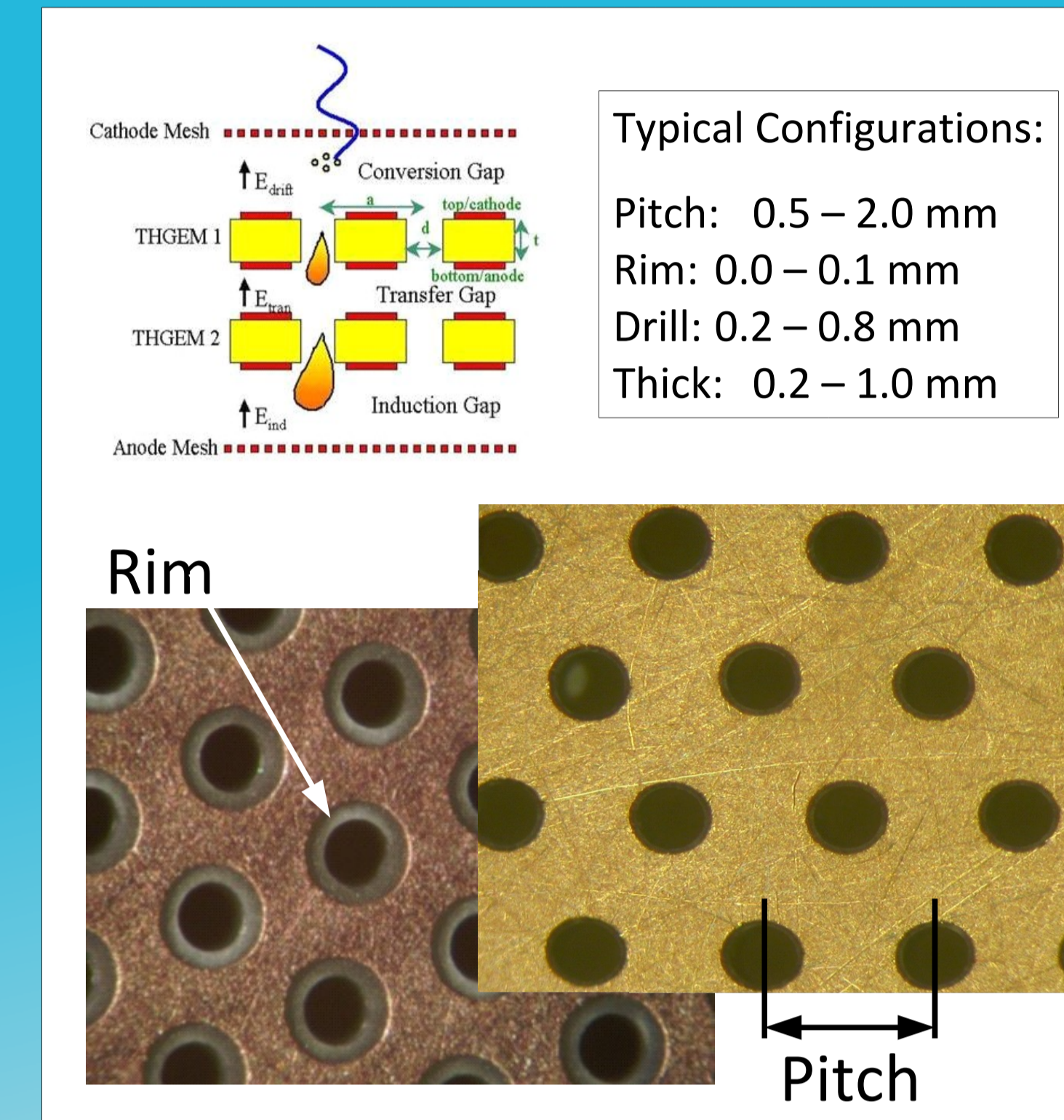
On behalf of an
Alessandria-CERN-Freiburg-Liberec-Prague-Torino-Trieste Collaboration

Application: COMPASS Ring Imaging Cherenkov Detector



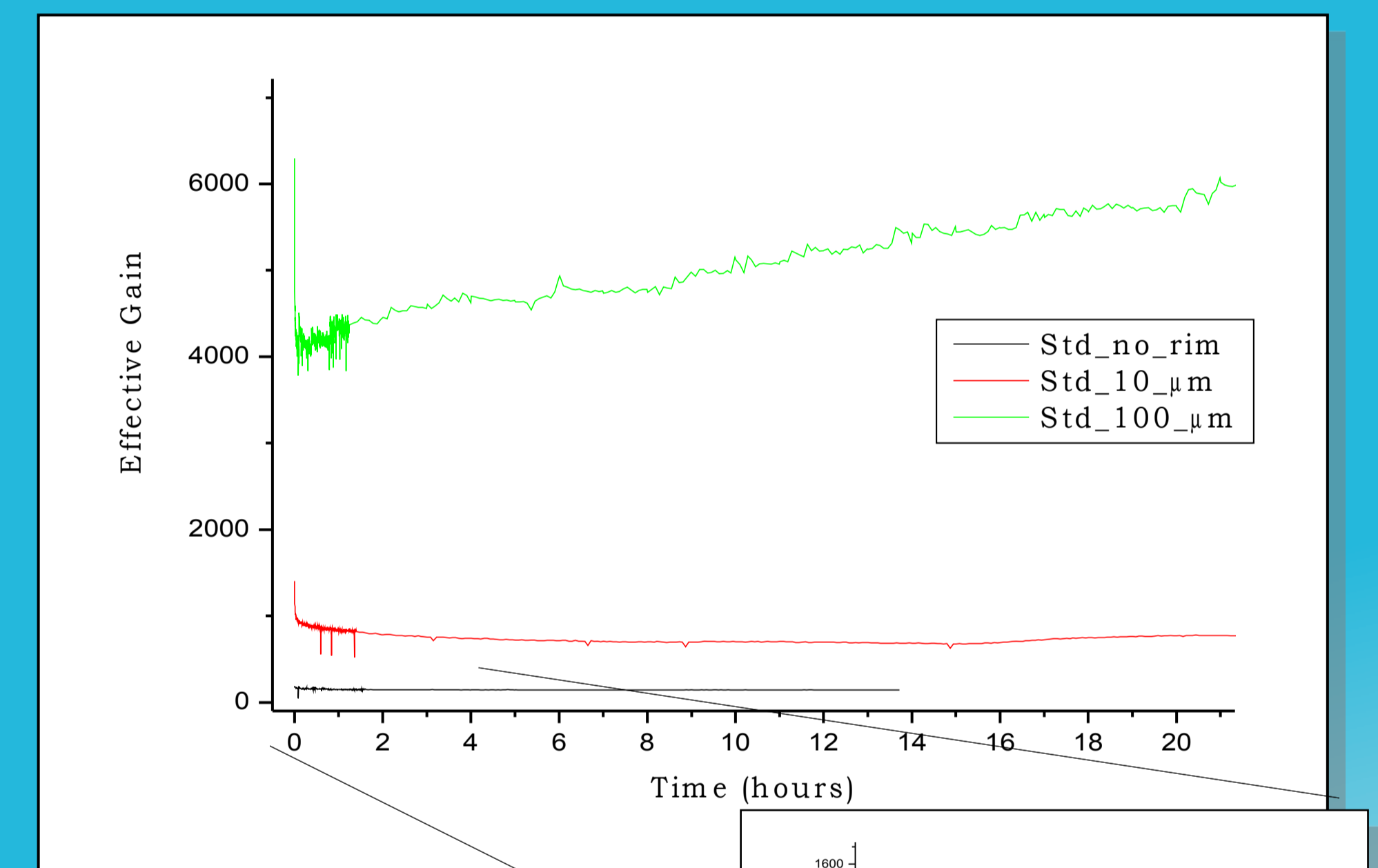
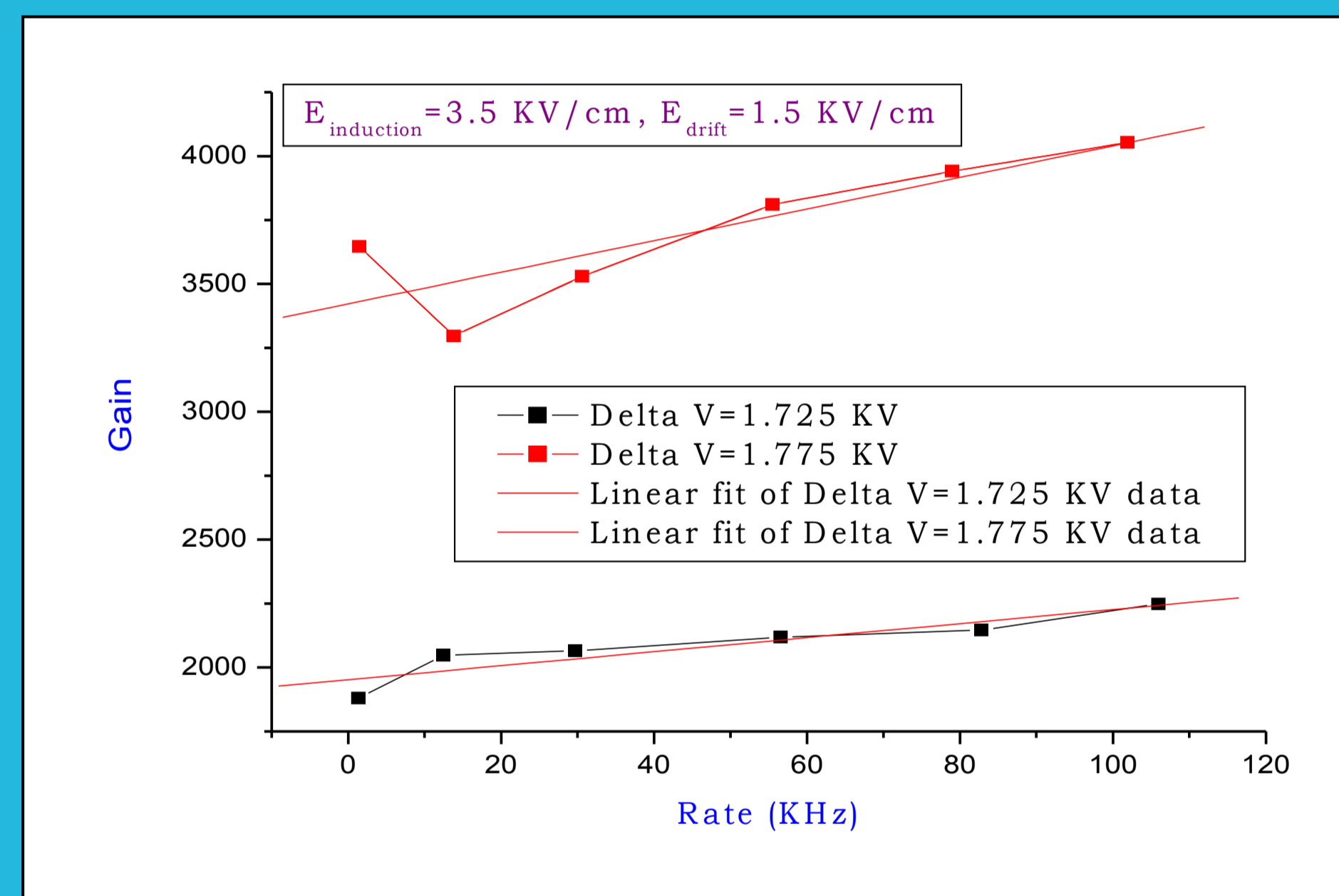
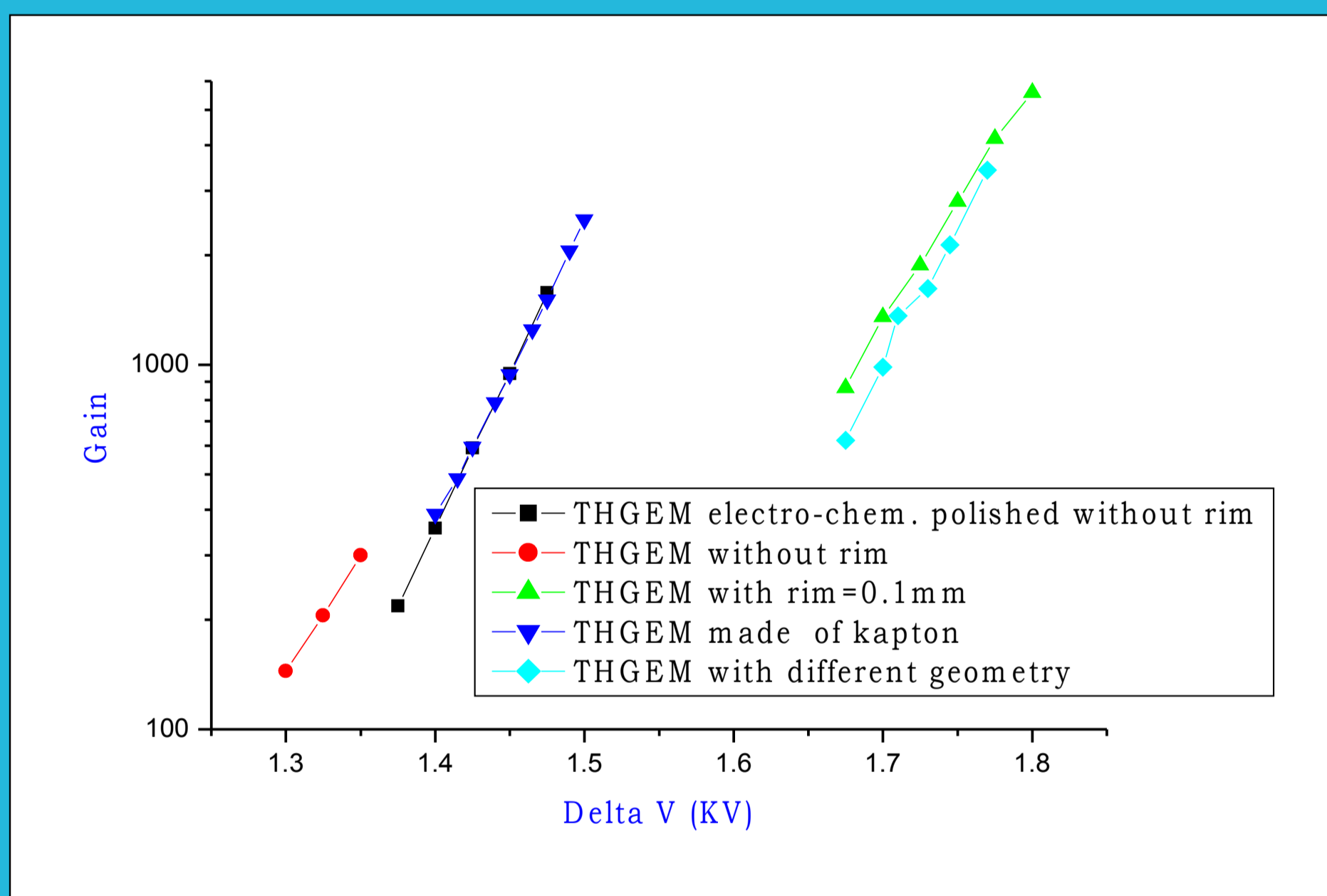
- Now: -Combined readout with MAPMT and CsI MWPC
- MAPMT: -High resolution in near beam region
- MWPC: -Moderate Gain: $\sim 10^4$
-Long recovery time after discharge $\sim 1d$
- Future: -Readout with MAPMT & THGEM to reach higher gain and stability for large surface of $5 m^2$

THGEM: Functionality, Design and Techniques



- Robust design for large surfaces
- Production: Standard PCB techniques
- 30 Different configurations in pitch, rim, hole diameter and PCB thickness tested
- Setup THGEM with up to four layers to increase gain

Characterisation: Gain, Rate Capability, Long Term Stability

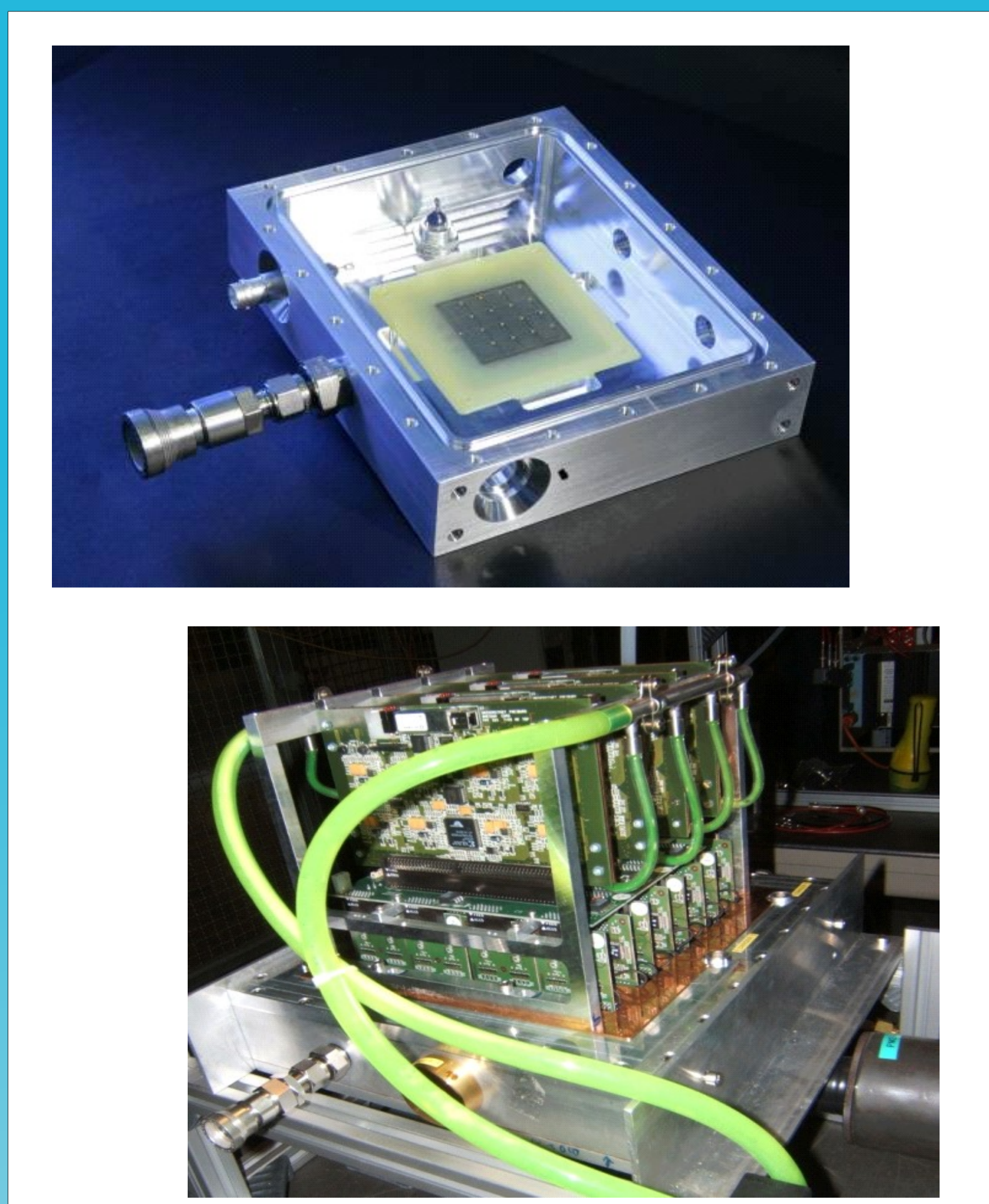


- Large Rim size allows higher Gain and better stability
- The time to reach stabilization is shorter for smaller rims

- For large rims, strong dependence of the gain on the irradiation history of the THGEM
- $300 e^- @ 120kHz/mm^2 \rightarrow$ single electron rate of $35MHz/mm^2$

- Factor $\gg 2$ in gain variation between the initial drop and the stabilization
- Larger thickness of PCB allows higher gains

Single Photon Detection and First Electronic Readout



- Test facility in COMPASS area
- 4 Layer CsI coated THGEM detector
Different gas mixture setups
- Measurements with ^{55}Fe source and pulsed UV Light source: 600ps pulses @ up to 40MHz
- Electronic readout of chamber:
-MAD4 CMOS amplifier chip
-108ps F1 TDC on Dreisam Board
-COMPASS data acquisition
- Timing resolution of THGEM $< 1ns$

