

MUST

Introduction & Overview

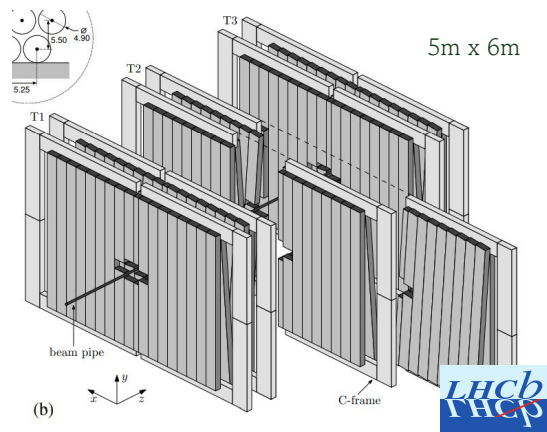
S. Roy, A. Belias



The MUST Concept

MUon STraws

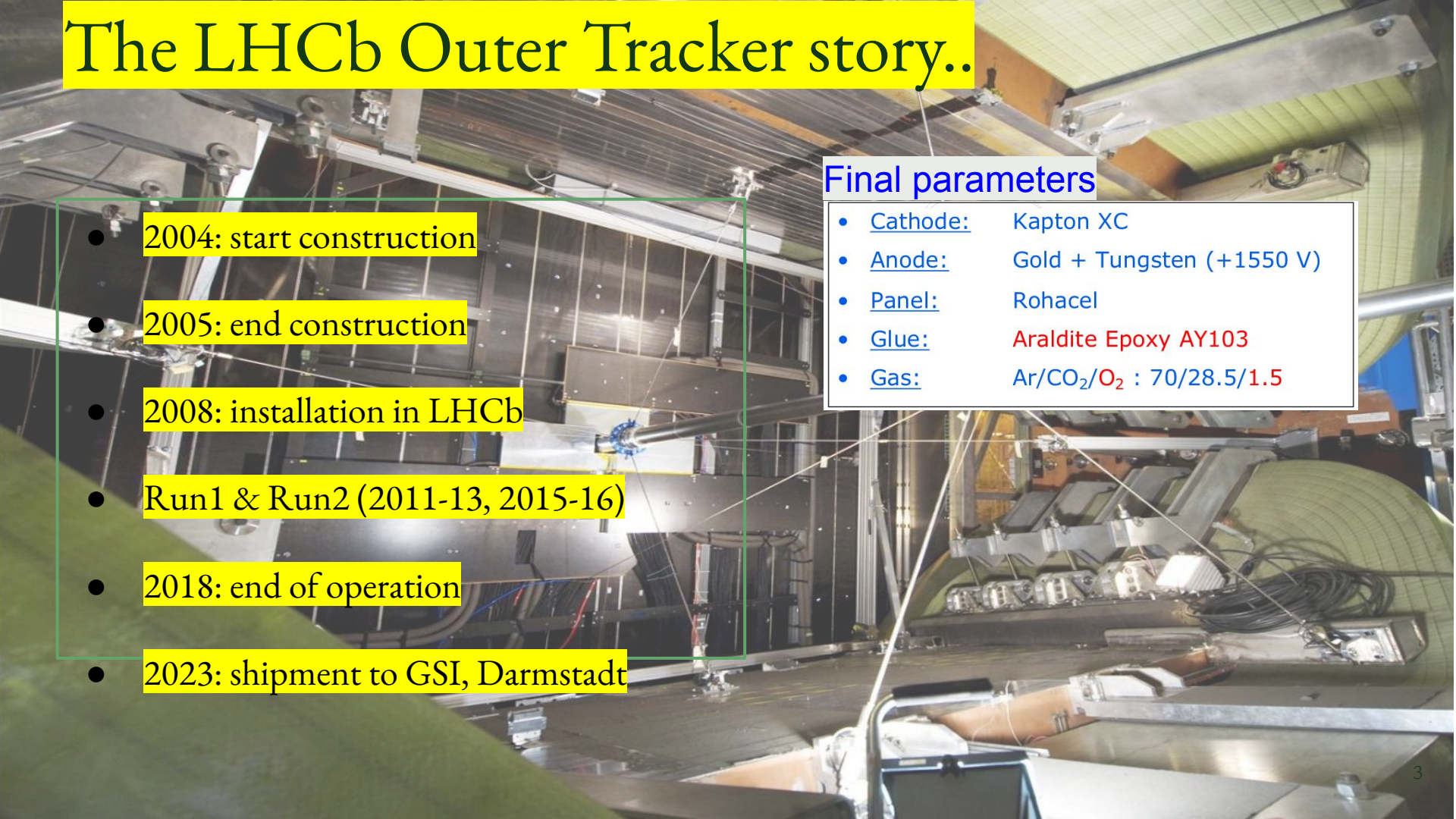
LHCb Outer Tracker



Use in CBM Muon Chamber



The LHCb Outer Tracker story..



Final parameters

- Cathode: Kapton XC
- Anode: Gold + Tungsten (+1550 V)
- Panel: Rohacel
- Glue: Araldite Epoxy AY103
- Gas: Ar/CO₂/O₂ : 70/28.5/1.5

- 2004: start construction
- 2005: end construction
- 2008: installation in LHCb
- Run1 & Run2 (2011-13, 2015-16)
- 2018: end of operation
- 2023: shipment to GSI, Darmstadt


[LHCb NEWS](#)
[PHYSICS ▾](#)
[DETECTOR ▾](#)
[FILTERING DATA](#)
[COLLABORATION](#)
[INSTALLATION ▾](#)
[ACTIVITIES ▾](#)
[COLLABORATION](#)
[DETECTOR](#)

Second life of the LHCb's Outer Tracker at GSI



By Joel Closier

OCT 5, 2023

The Outer Tracker (OT) is the largest component of tracking system in the original version of the LHCb detector. It was [replaced](#) by the Scintillating Fibre detector that is taking data in Run 3. The OT was just transported to [GSI](#) in Darmstadt, Germany, in order to be used in the [PANDA](#) detector at the accelerator facility [FAIR](#) and other experiments. The second life of the OT starts now. The images below show

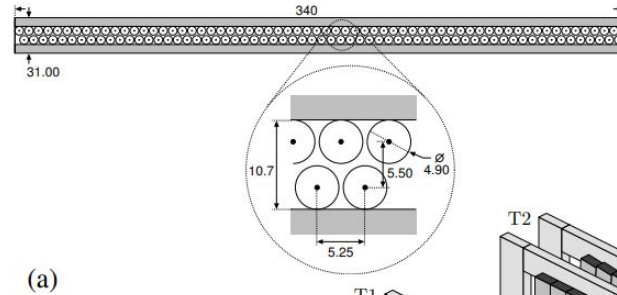
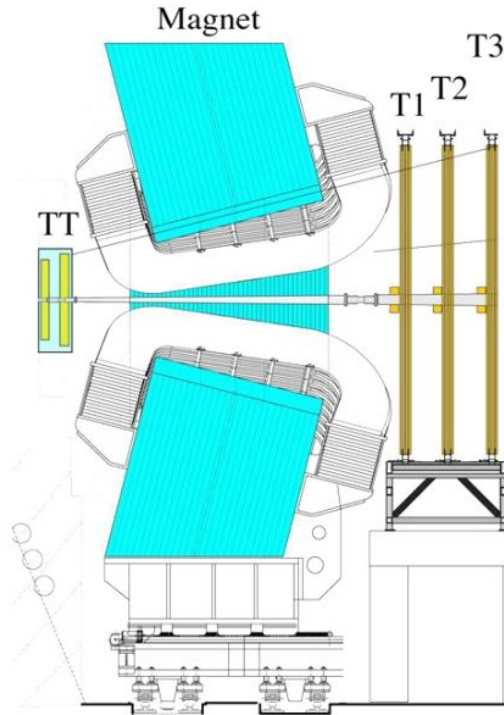


CERN



GSI

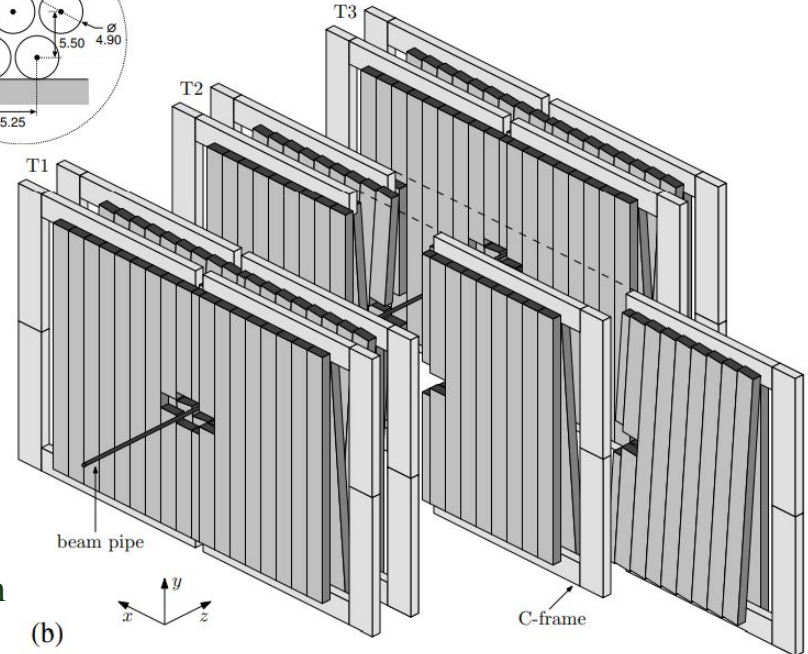
The LHCb Outer Tracker : quick overview



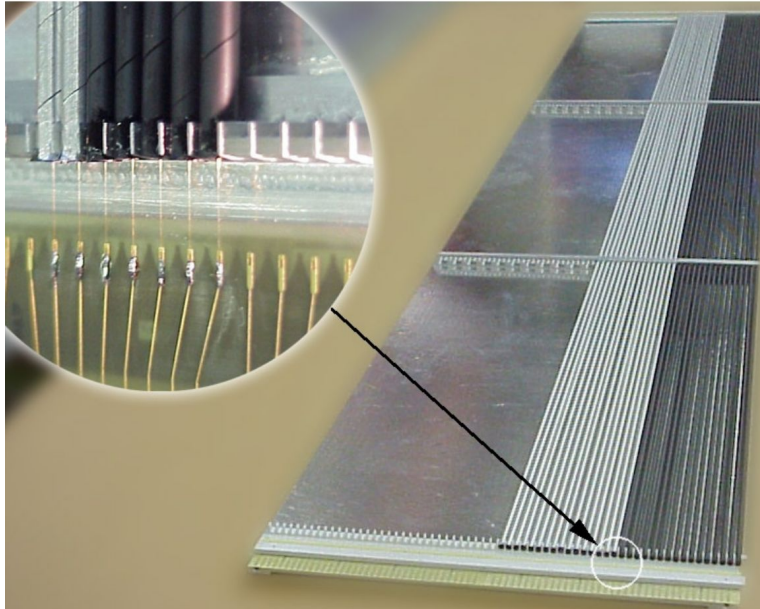
256 straws/module
Total 53760 straws

14 F/module
8 S/module

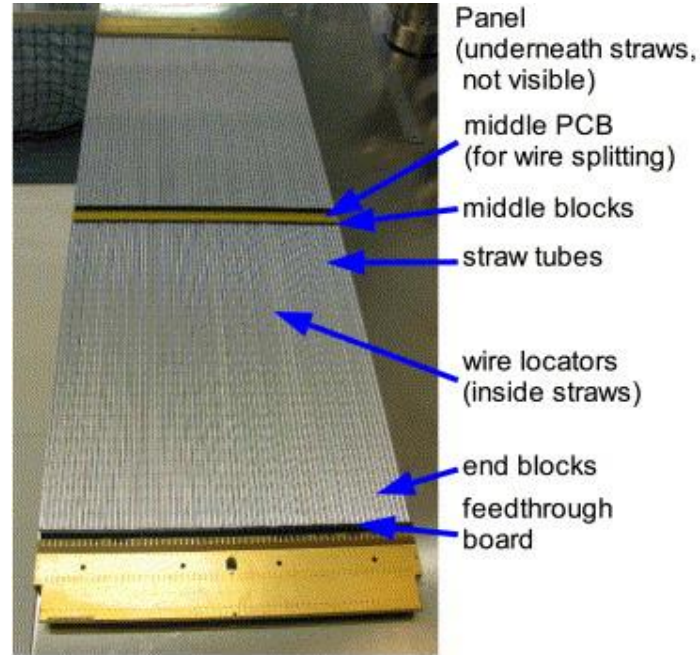
F type = 4.85m length
S type = 2.5m length



Inside of modules : straw tube detectors



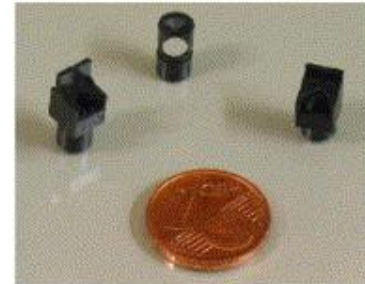
LHCb-PROC-2004-002



(a)



(b)



(c)

Status of the LHCb OT

· Aging :

- The culprit : Glue sample shows outgassing
- Solution : adding 1.5% Oxygen prevents deposits, (formation of O₃)some chemistry involved

S.Bachmann et al., The straw tube technology for the LHCb OT, Nucl. Instr. and Meth. A 535 (2004) 171.

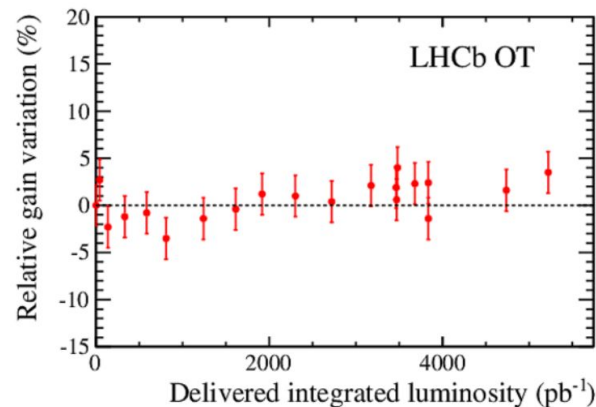
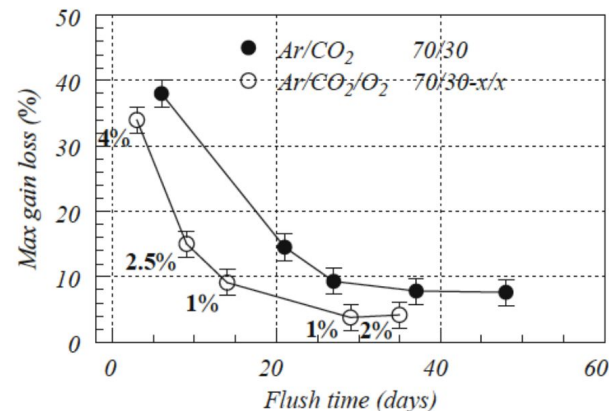
S.Bachmann et al., Ageing in the LHCb Outer Tracker, Nucl. Instr. and Meth. A 617 (2010) 202.

Summary:

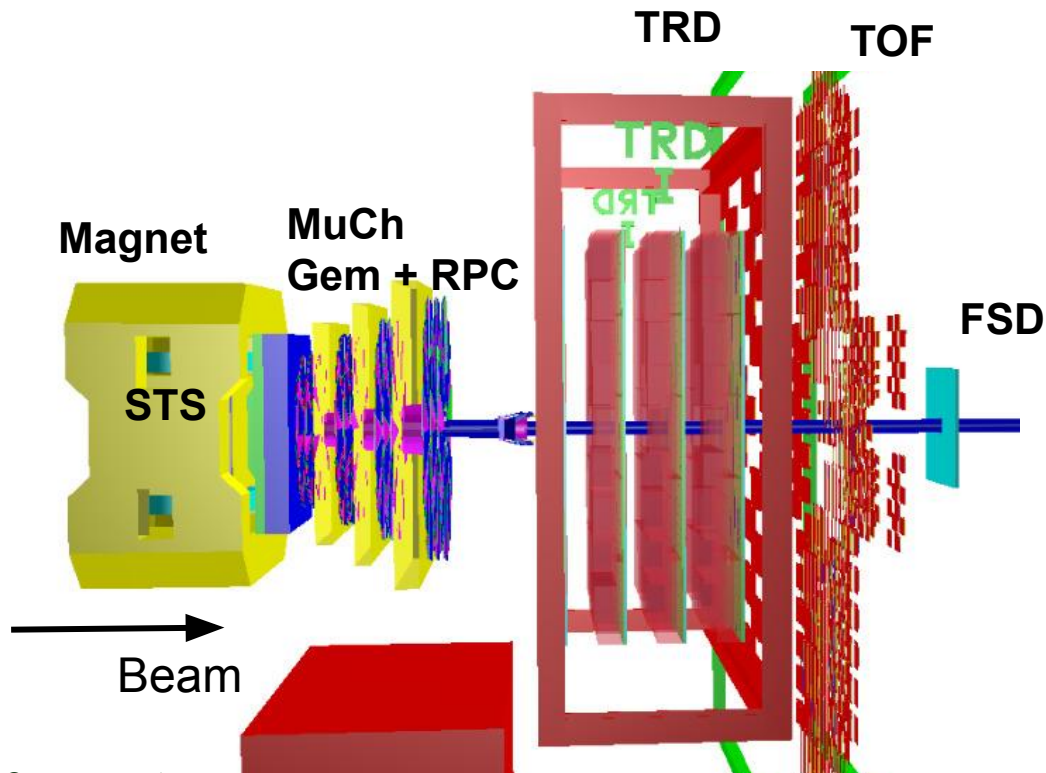
- High hit efficiency (>99%)
- Handled 5 MHz rates/straw
- Good resolution (~200 μm) with BX clock
- No irradiation effects observed (~0.4 C/cm in hottest region)

https://indico.cern.ch/event/1237829/contributions/5609613/attachments/2746316/4778770/OT_Performance-final.pdf

LHCb-CONF-2009-019



Why CBM needs MUST?



Geometry version :

CBM Physics Context

CBM studies dense baryonic matter.

Key observables:

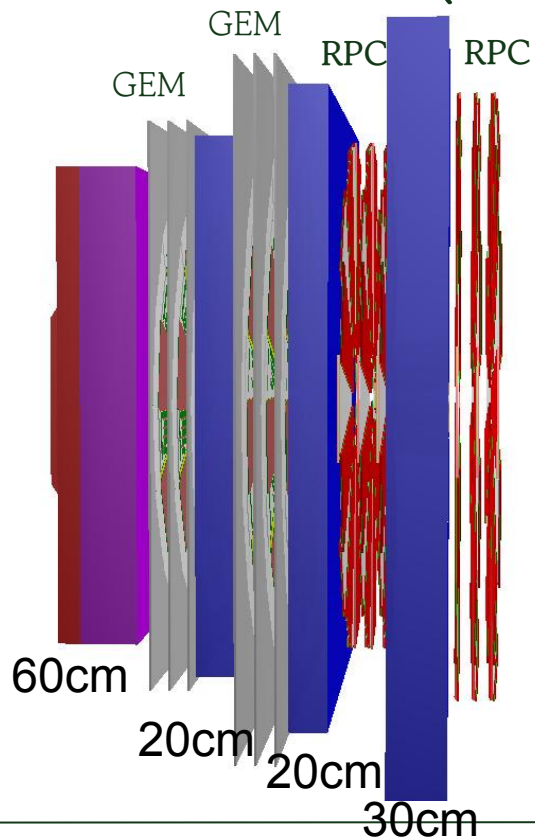
- Low-mass vector mesons (ρ , ω , ϕ)
- Charmonia via $\mu^+\mu^-$

MUCH is the muon detection system.

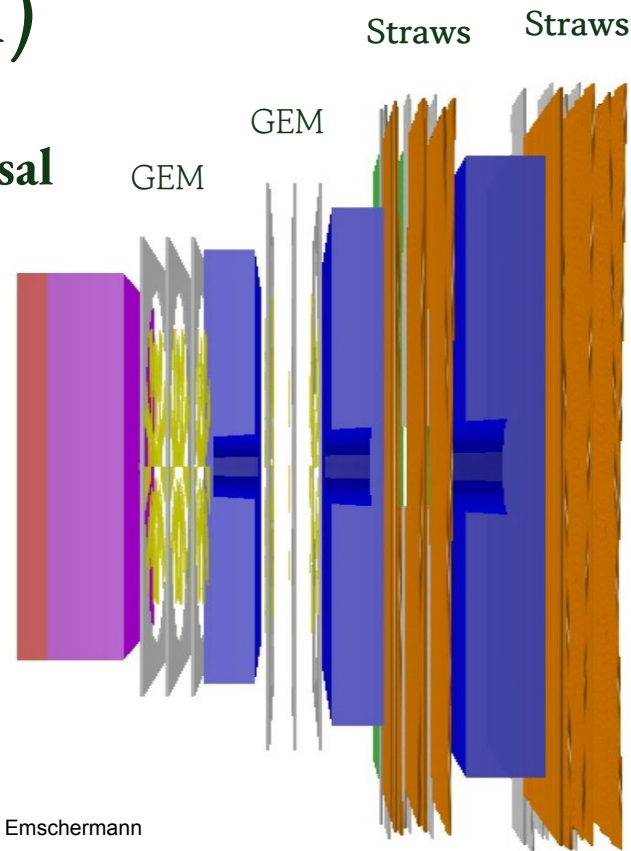
Advantage : Hadronic background is highly suppressed. Clean observables!!

MuCh detector (SIS100 design)

Basic



Proposal



Straws geometry by D. Emschermann

MUST detector role in CBM-MuCh

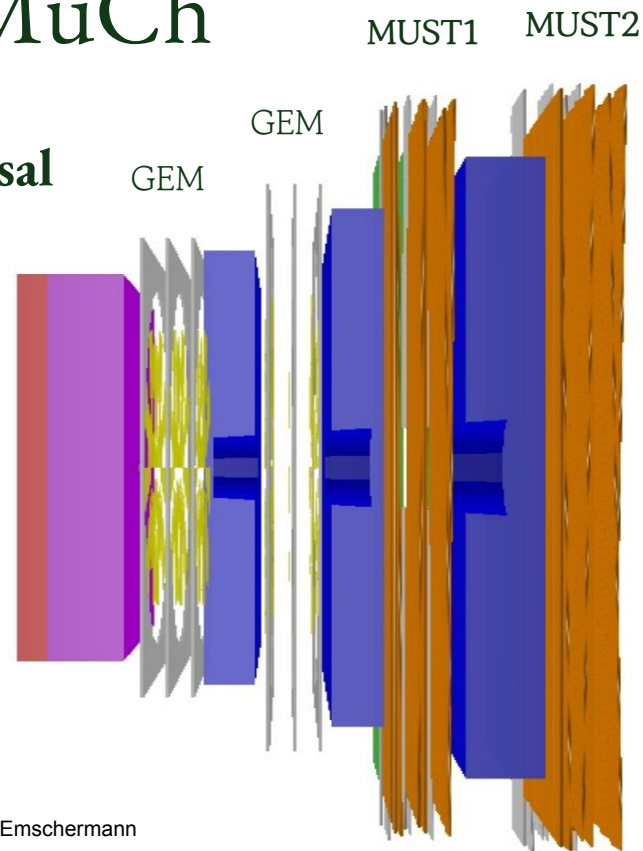
Where MUST sits : Upstream of absorber stack in station 3 and 4 respectively

Why MUST :

- Optimized geometry to fit between absorbers and cover the MUCH acceptance (St. 3–4).
- Provides the spatial and timing resolution required for muon identification.
- Have handled high rates~MHz in LHCb environment

Next step: evaluate the rate capability of the MUST / LHCb OT concept under CBM particle flux conditions

Proposal



MUST geometry by D. Emschermann

MUST Task force

Started : Feb 2025
Concluded : July 2025

The MUST task force group have held 8 meetings

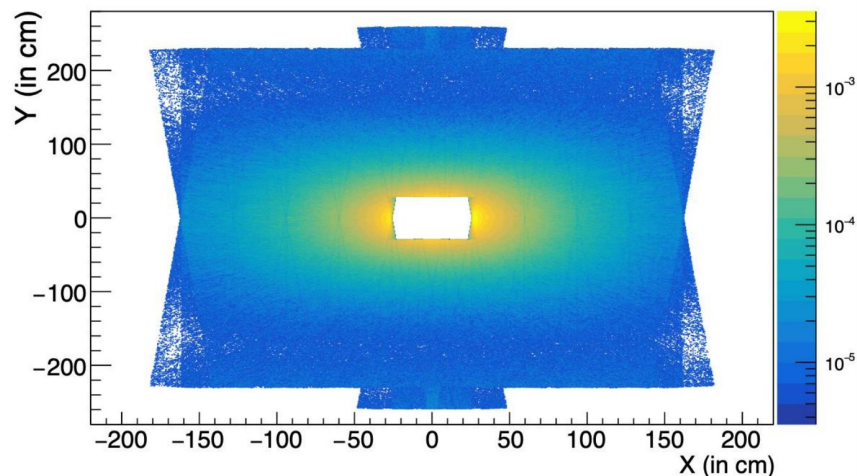
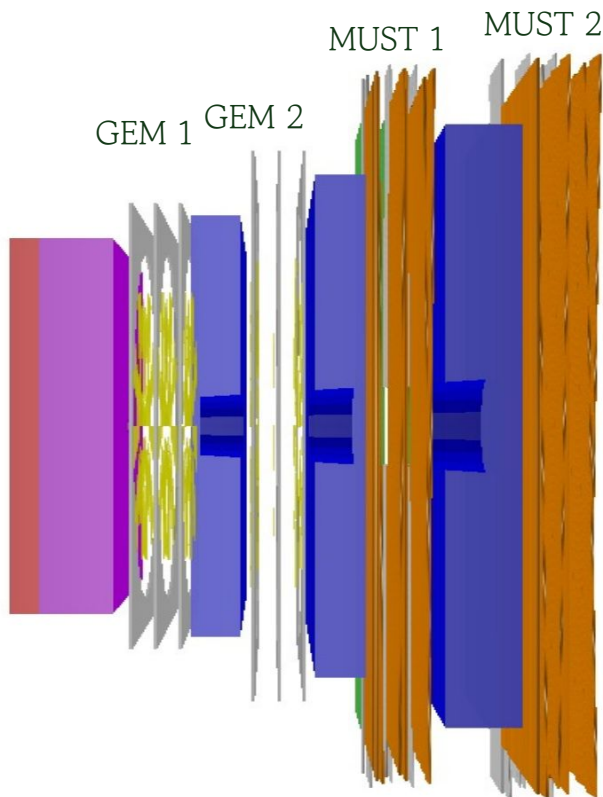
Objective : perform MUST simulations and feasibility studies



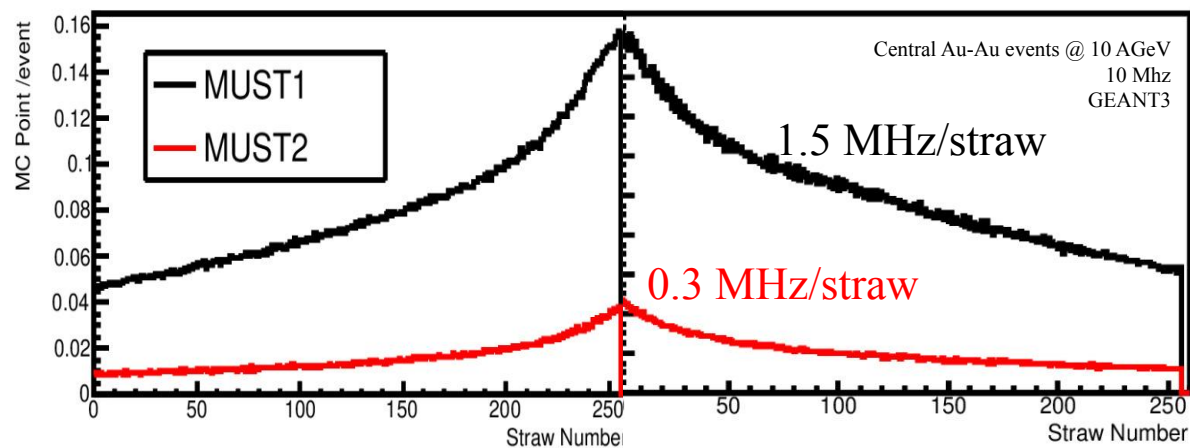
The task force team :

David Emschermann, Radoslaw Karabowicz, Anna Senger, Florian Uhlig, Saikat Biswas, Supriya Das, P. P. Bhaduri
Zubayer Ahammed, Abhishek Kumar Sharma, Anjali Sharma, Somen Gope

Particle rates



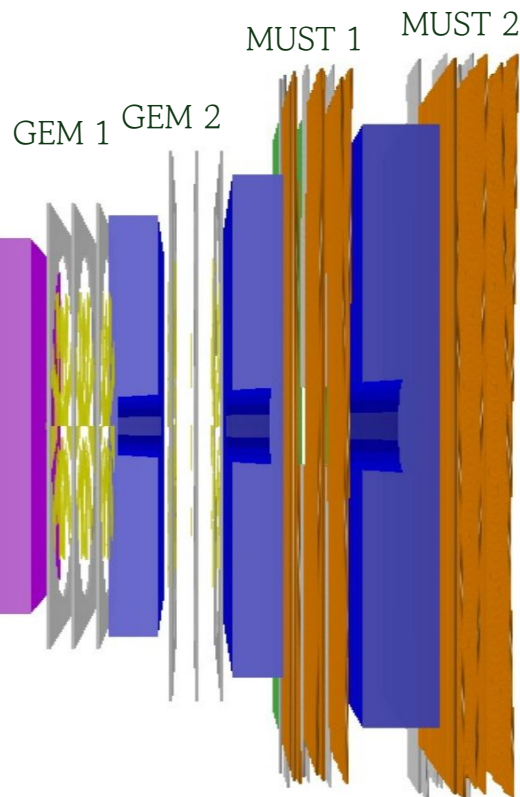
~ A. Sharma



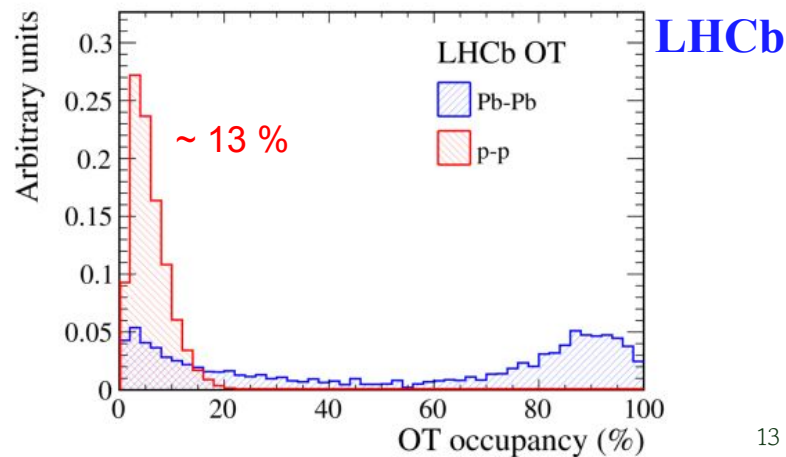
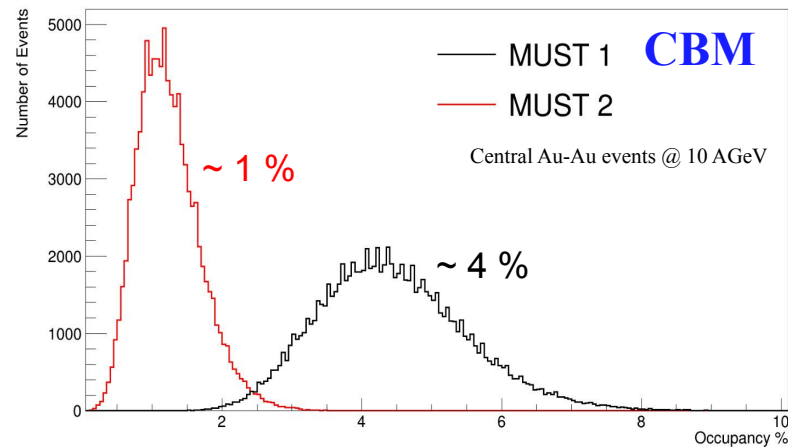
~ A. K. Sharma

12

Occupancy



$$\text{Occupancy} = \frac{\text{no. of straws fired}}{\text{total no. of straws}}$$

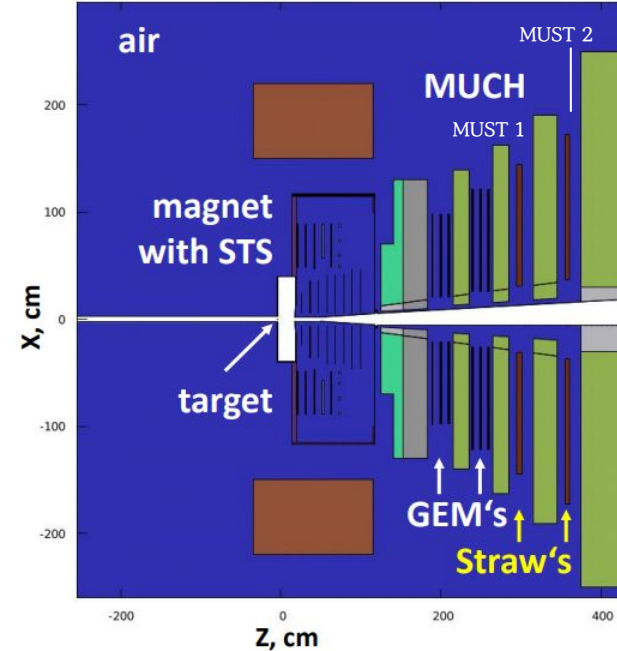


Particle flux (maximum) near beam pipe

FLUKA results : 12 AGeV Au beam or 29 GeV p beam

System	Beam rate (ions/sec)	MUST1 (kHz/cm ²)	MUST2 (kHz/cm ²)
Au+Au	10^9	40	15
p+p	10^9	1	0.5
p+Au	10^{11}	140	50
p+p	10^{11}	100	40

– Preliminary numbers from A. Senger



Remark : Maximum particle flux in LHCb OT ~ 200 kHz/cm²

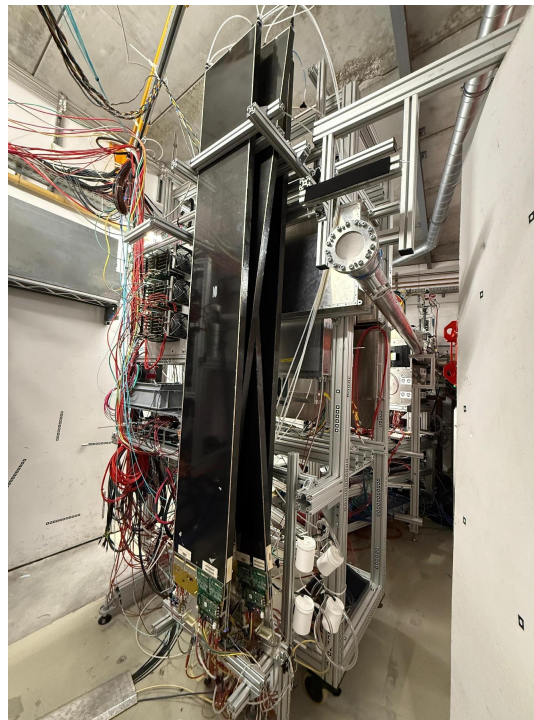
Results summary

1. Radiation dose (1 month CBM) = max 50 Gy or 0.025 C/cm
2. Charge accumulated in 1 year = 0.2 C/cm
3. Maximum occupancy : MUST 1 = 8%, MUST 2 = 4%
3. Double hit occupancy = max 0.13%
4. Spatial resolution without the drift time = 0.7 mm (estimated number)
5. Hit reconstruction efficiency = 97% (expected)
6. Cross talk = 6%
7. Modules needed for MUST 1 = 72, MUST 2 = 84

MUST have PASTA (**P**ANDA **S**TrAws in mCBM)



David Emschermann, Radoslaw Karabowicz, Stefan Koch, Bartosz Sobol, Saikat Biswas, Supriya Das, S. K. Prasad, Somen Gope, Subir Mandal, Souvik Chattopadhyay, Prithwish Pramanick, Shruti Patra, Anuska Dey, Swastika Sarkar



MUST have PASTA

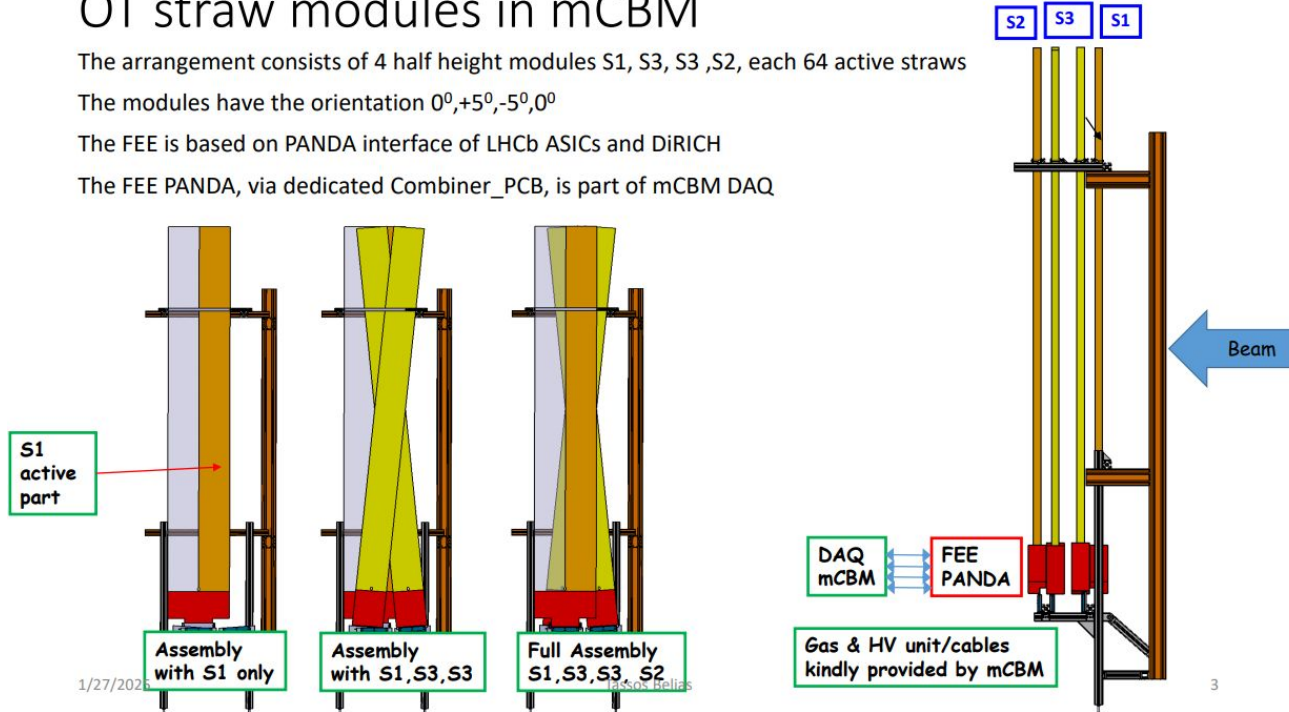
OT straw modules in mCBM

The arrangement consists of 4 half height modules S1, S3, S3, S2, each 64 active straws

The modules have the orientation $0^\circ, +5^\circ, -5^\circ, 0^\circ$

The FEE is based on PANDA interface of LHCb ASICs and DiRICH

The FEE PANDA, via dedicated Combiner_PCB, is part of mCBM DAQ



Follow mCBM meetings for more information.

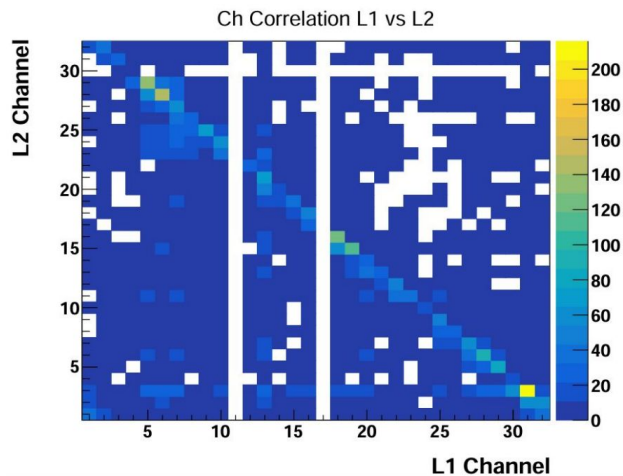
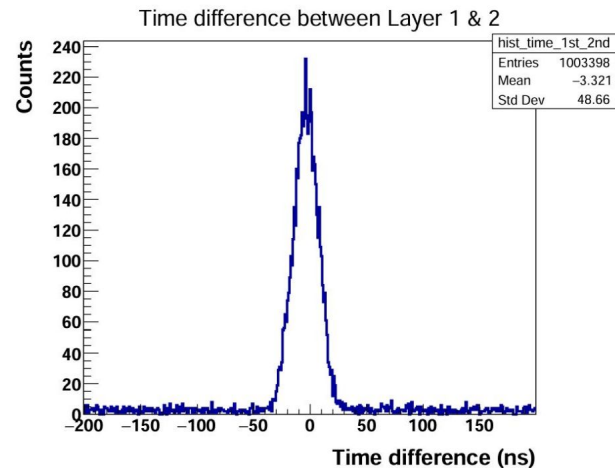
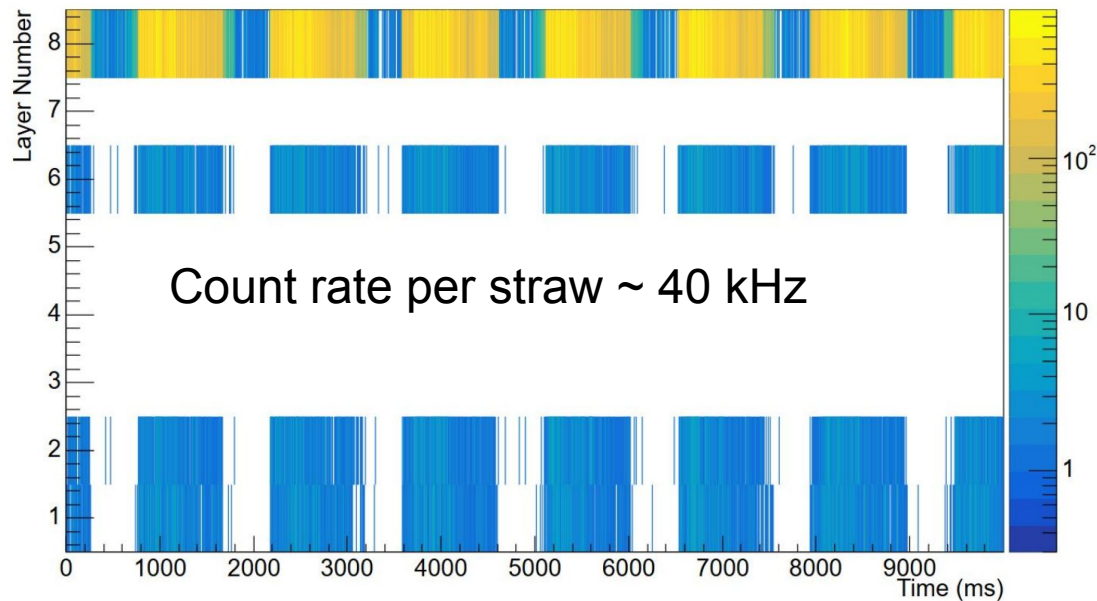


Work in progress

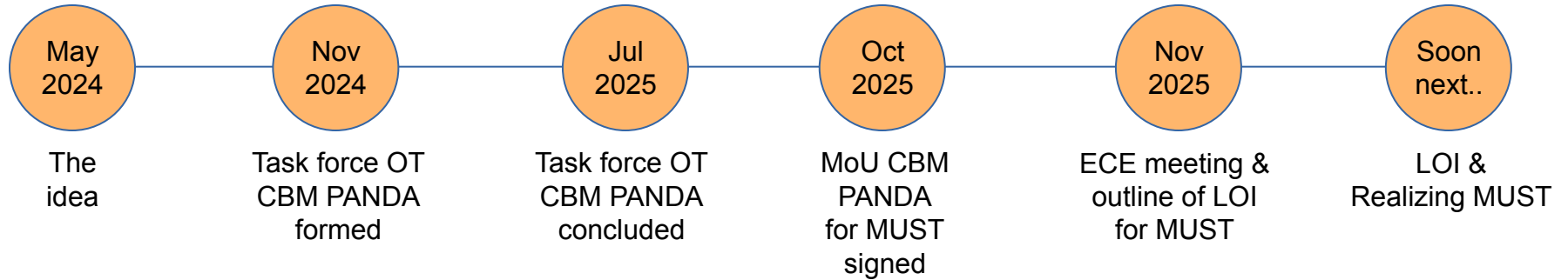
PASTA data analysis

Beam Setup: Fe(26+), Beam Intensity: $\sim 10^7$ /spill

Target: Ni (4mm), Run Number = 3859, HV = 1500 V



MUST timeline



Summary

- ★ MUST adapts the LHCb Outer Tracker concept for CBM-MuCh
- ★ Provides essential muon tracking
- ★ Compatible with CBM-MuCh geometry, rates.
- ★ First feasibility results from the MUST simulations were presented.
- ★ MUST have PASTA provided early hands-on experience with MUST modules and first preliminary performance results.
- ★ MoU between CBM and PANDA was signed on October 7 2025.
- ★ Next step : towards Letter of Intent.

Thank You



News

“Memorandum of Understanding between CBM and PANDA indicate synergy in technical aspects and a broader opportunity for scientific collaboration opening new avenues for hadron physics using the CBM detector”- Prof. T. Galatyuk



the MoU was signed in 7 October

**Memorandum of Understanding
between
the PANDA and the CBM
collaborations**

Purpose of the MoU:

This document regulates the cooperation between the CBM collaboration and the PANDA collaboration in the context of FAIR Day-1, under participation of the CBM collaboration and a group of members of the PANDA collaboration, hereinafter called PANDA@CBM. The objective of PANDA@CBM is to participate in the CBM experiment in the period before the start of the PANDA experiment.

The interest of this group serves two purposes.

First, detector systems, technologies and methods foreseen in PANDA (such as tracking detectors, readout electronics, software modules, online computing, trigger development as part of computing etc.) can be used and tested under realistic experiment conditions.

Second, the group can participate in physics analyses and publication of results, the effort and support by national funding agencies towards a realization.

The CBM collaboration, on the other hand, can strengthen the 3 years of running by adding available instrumentation, manpower is

The goals are: (1) to identify, execute and analyze joint experiments, publications in CBM@FAIR and (2) to retain expert knowledge and for the anti-proton physics experiments of PANDA@FAIR.

Structure of the MoU:

This MoU contains two sections, the first single MoU section (A) and the (B) with one or more supplements/addenda specific to each project of coo. In the main MoU section we address all aspects which are meant to be und. lifetime of the agreement while each specific cooperation initiative forms a s. main MoU.

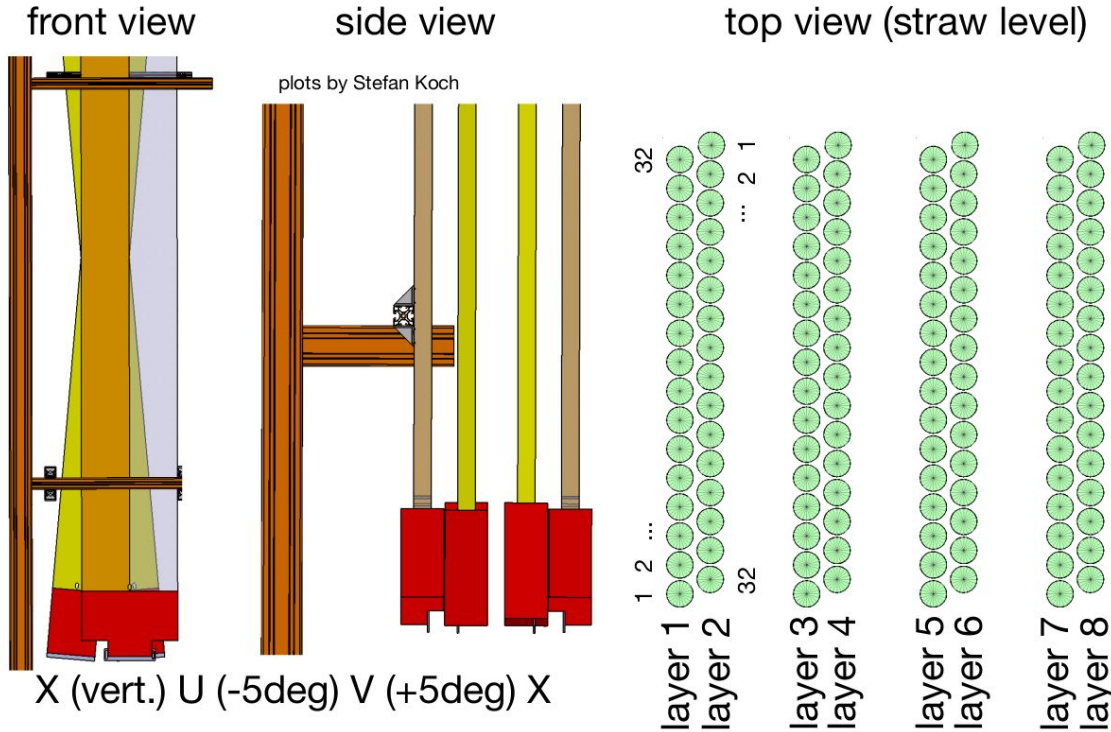
This MoU has been approved by the CBM and PANDA Collaboration Boards and is signed by spokespersons of both collaborations:

Dates of signatures: 30.09.2025


Kai-Thomas Brinkmann
Spokesperson of the PANDA collaboration

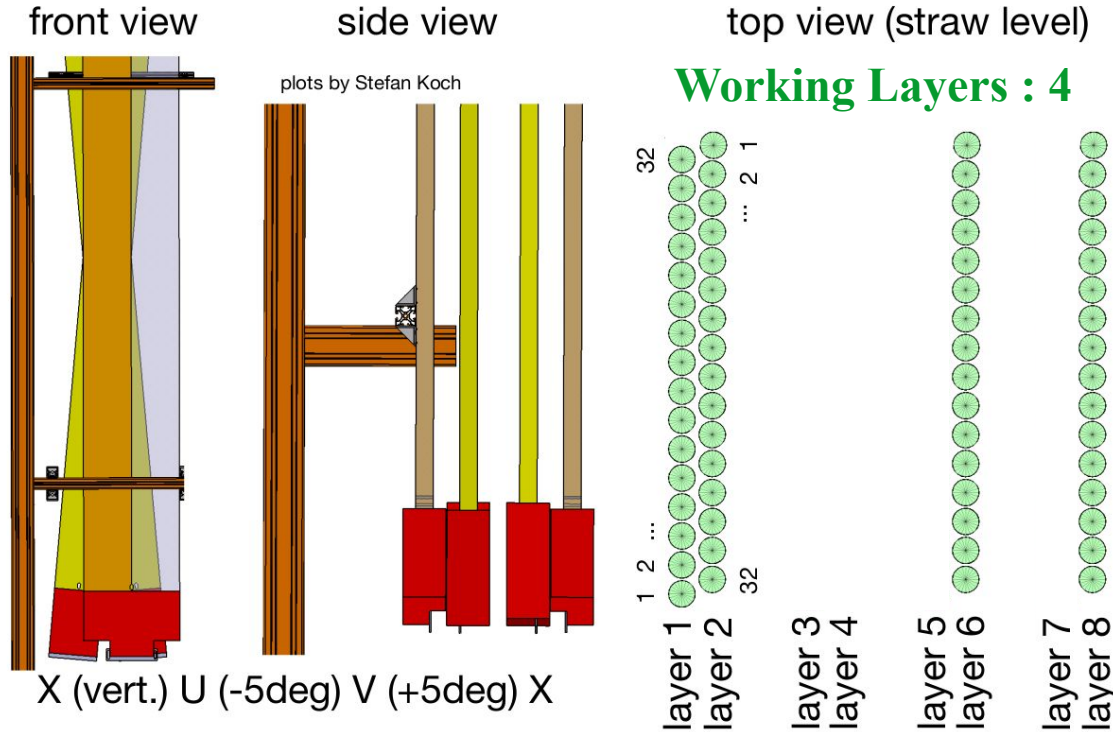

Tetyana Galatyuk
Spokesperson of the CBM collaboration

Geometry of PASTA



- Number of Layers : 8
- Each layer has 32 straws
- High Voltage (HV): 1500 V
- Threshold: 70 mV
- Gas : Ar/CO₂ 70:30

Geometry of PASTA in 2025 beamtime



- Number of Layers : 8
- Each layer has 32 straws
- High Voltage (HV): 1500 V
- Threshold: 70 mV
- Gas : Ar/CO₂ 70:30
- Beamtime information
- Beam Time: May 16–19, 2025
- Beam Setup: 26-Fe (26+)
- Beam Energy: 1.7 AGeV
- Target: 4mm thick Nickel (Ni)
- Rate: 10^7 per 10-second spill

PASTA data monitoring

Data taking team at GSI

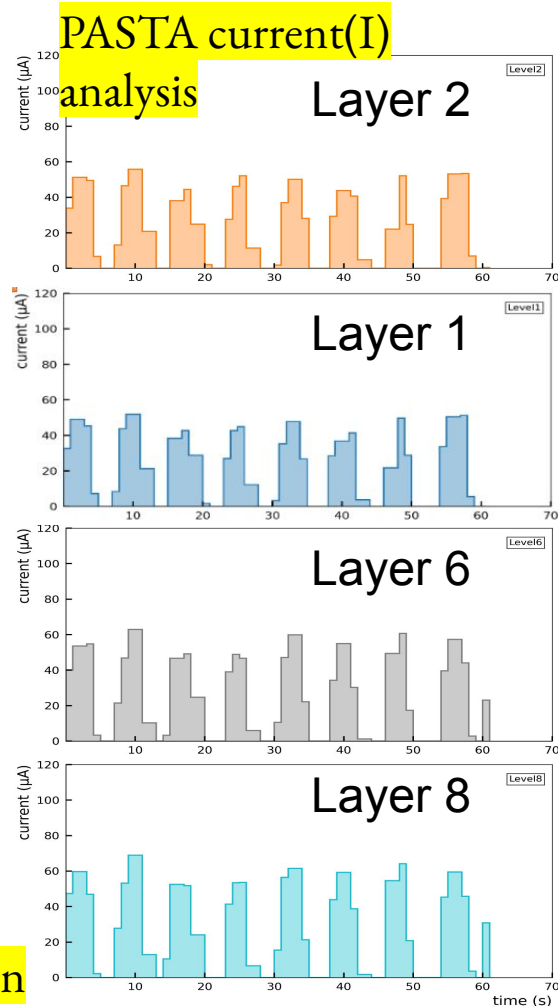


Date: 19.05.2025, Time: 04:08,
Flow Rate: 8.2l/h, Anode voltage: 1450V
Beam: ^{209}Bi , Beam Intensity: 8×10^8 per 6s,
Run No: 4076

PASTA current(I) analysis team
Bose Institute



Observation : Steady current throughout the run



Back ups

Other infos:

- Drift time of straws = 50ns
- Amplifier threshold = 800 mV or 4fC
- Noise occupancy $\sim 10^{-4}$ at nominal threshold

1. Gy to C/cm

The screenshot shows a web-based unit conversion interface. At the top left is a button labeled 'x clear form'. At the top right is a 'Conversion settings' box containing two items: 'Significant figures: 4' with a dropdown arrow and a help icon, and 'Digit groups separator: space' with a dropdown arrow and a help icon. Below this are two main conversion panels. The left panel is for 'gray (Gy)' (Absorbed radiation dose) and shows the input '50' in a text box. The right panel is for 'coulomb per kilogram (C/kg)' (Exposure to ionizing radiation) and shows the output '1.471' in a text box. Both panels have a 'Convert Me' button.

Unit	Value
gray (Gy)	50
coulomb per kilogram (C/kg)	1.471

1 cm of straw ~ 0.33 mg of Ar/CO₂
 $1.47 \text{ C/kg} = 1.47 \times 0.33 \times 10^{-6} \text{ C/cm} \times \text{Gain} (5 \times 10^4)$
 $= 0.024 \text{ C/cm}$ (MUST1 near beam)

Density Ar = 1.6 kg/m^3
Density CO₂ = 1.9 kg/m^3
Volume of straw tube gas in 1cm length = 0.196 cm^3

2. Accumulated charge in 1 month of CBM

Irradiation tests with straws were performed upto 2C/cm ~ 10 years of LHCb (detector gain 4×10^4)
In LHCb Run 1 and 2 total charge accumulated = 0.4C/cm in the hottest region (detector gain 5×10^4).
In CBM, the charge accumulated (detector gain 5×10^4) = Q (C/cm)

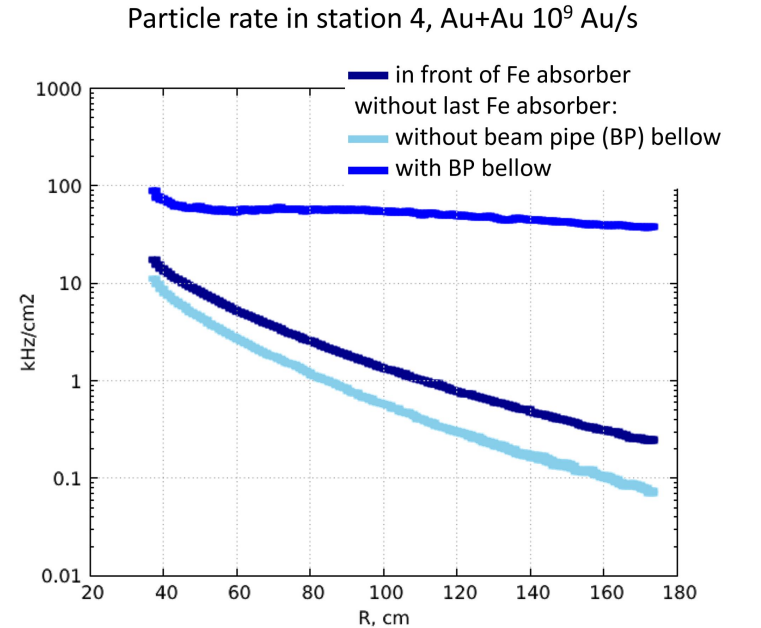
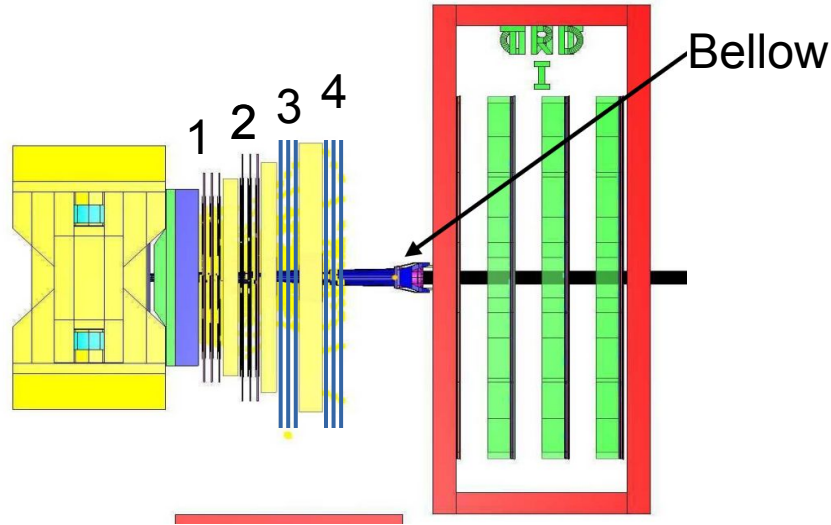
$$Q = n_{\text{primary}} \cdot e \cdot \text{Gain} \cdot n_{\text{flux}}^{\text{MUST1}} \cdot t \cdot \text{straw} \varnothing$$

$$Q = 50 \cdot e \cdot 5 \times 10^4 \cdot 50 \text{kHz} \cdot 1 \text{ month} \cdot 0.5 \text{ cm}$$

$$Q = 0.026 \text{ C/cm in the hottest region!}$$

2C/cm is 125 months/ 10 years of operation in CBM environment.

Beam pipe bellow effect



~ A. Senger

Ageing tests in LHCb

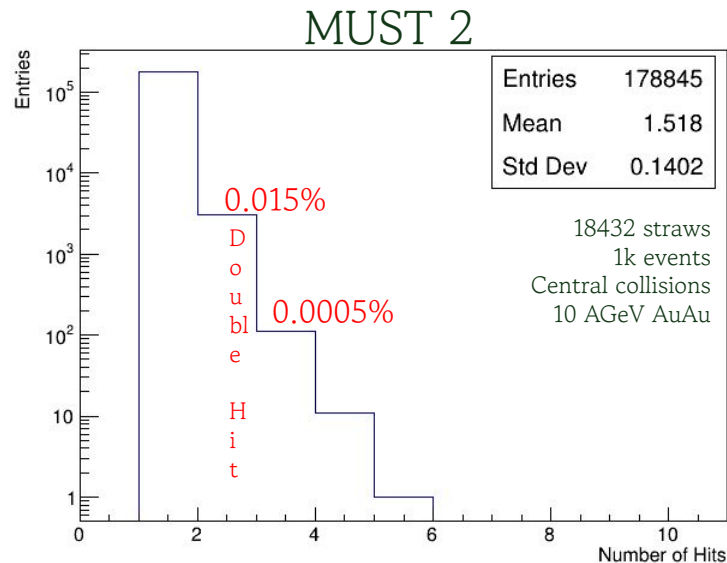
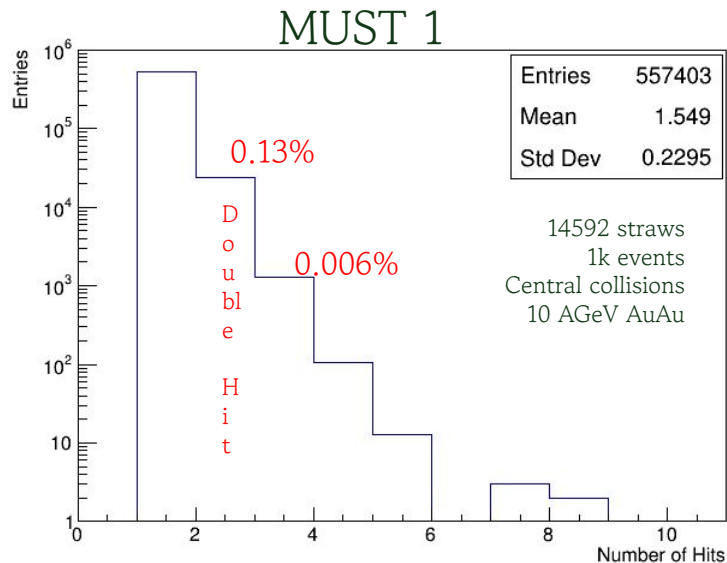
The S-module was irradiated with 9 keV X-rays for 60 days, with an intensity of about 500 kHz/cm, corresponding to an accumulated charge of about 1 C/cm. No significant irradiation damage was observed.

The F-module has been irradiated for 1200 hours, with a source profile as shown in Fig. 4, resulting in a total accumulated charge of 0.3 C/cm at the point of highest intensity of 70nA/cm. A negligible gain loss of $5\% \pm 2\%$ was observed

3. Double hit occupancy

Very low but need to check

$$\% \text{ probability of } n \text{ hits} = \frac{\text{Entries}}{N_{\text{straws}} \times n_{\text{events}}}$$



4. Spatial resolution without drift time

The spatial resolution of OT straws are 180μ , which the LHCb was able to achieve because of known bunch crossing time and the capability of the electronics to read the straw tube signal drift time, plus alignment.

In CBM there is neither bunch crossing info nor drift time measurement will be possible. Therefore, the MUST subsystem will have a spatial resolution that is proportional to the diameter of the straw 5 mm, more precisely using the well known formula $\sigma = d/\sqrt{12} = 5/\sqrt{12} = 1.44$ mm

Again, because of the staggered orientation of the straws (monolayers), the hit position resolution will improve by factor of two ~ 0.7 mm

In MuCh , 1 deg pad segmentation (1 & 2) was the requirement.

5. Hit occupancy in segmented straw 2cm

Question asked by Ingo Deppner (CBM TOF group). He asks to change the definition of the straws occupancy to similar to RPC occupancy which is calculated using RPC pad size of 2cm.

6. Reconstruction efficiency

Question asked by Ralf (PANDA collaboration). How does the spatial resolution of the straws affect the momentum resolution and reconstruction efficiency?

Ans. We will not reconstruct momentum with the MUST detector. Hit reconstruction efficiency will be determined after the implementation of the digitization (taking into account 99% hit efficiency of the straws) and reconstruction algorithms. Usually it is somewhere between 96%-98%.

7. Check FLUKA numbers for p+H₂

To be done by Anna

if we have 5 cm LH2, then we have the following areal density.

$$5 \text{ cm} * 0.07 \text{ g/cm}^3 = 0.35 \text{ g/cm}^2$$

This times Avogadro's number makes

$$0.35 \text{ g/cm}^2 * 6 * 10^{23} * 2 \text{ (H-atoms/molecule) /mole} / (2 \text{ g/mole (H}_2 \text{ molecule))} = 2.1 * 10^{23} \text{ H-atoms / cm}^2$$

For a total pp cross section of 50 mb we get an interaction probability of

$$2.1 * 10^{23} \text{ H/cm}^2 * 0.05 \text{ b} * 10^{-24} \text{ cm}^2/\text{b} = 0.01 \text{ or } 1\% \text{ interaction probability}$$

$$P = n \times \sigma \times d$$

Where P is the **interaction probability**, n is the number density of hydrogen atoms, and the cross-section (σ), d - target thickness

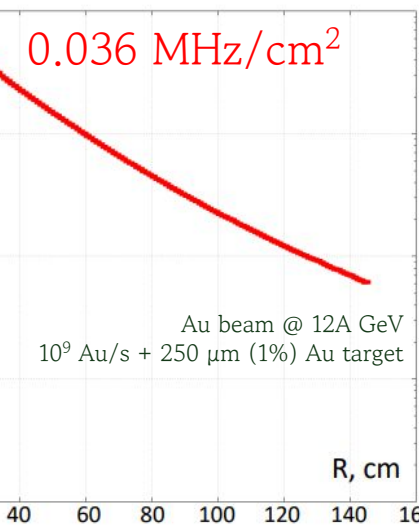
Particle flux (maximum) near beam pipe

	12 AGeV AuAu	10 AGeV AuAu central	
	FLUKA (straws) (MHz/cm ²)	GEANT3 (straws) (MHz/cm ²)	GEANT3 MuCh RPC (MHz/cm ²)
MUST 1	0.036	0.050	0.057 (3rd station)
MUST 2	0.010	0.010	0.015 (4th station)

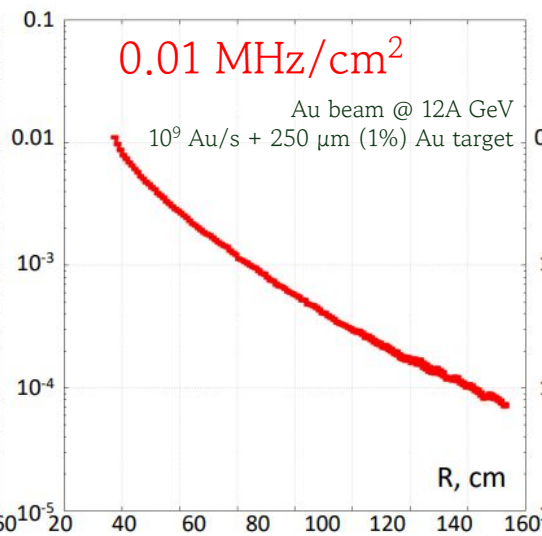
– Preliminary numbers

Remark : Maximum particle flux in LHCb OT ~ 0.2 MHz/cm²

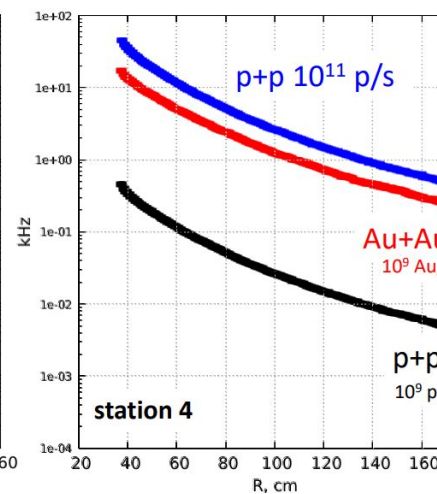
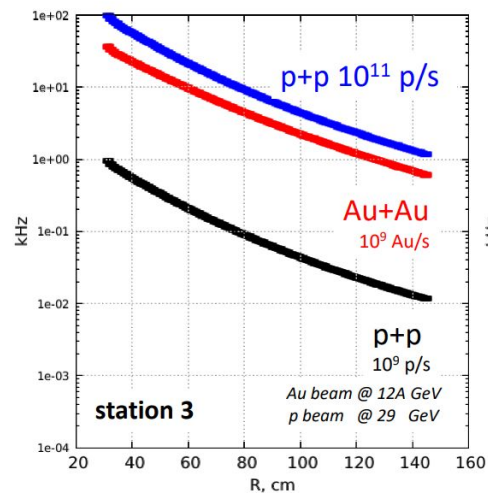
MUST 1



MUST 2

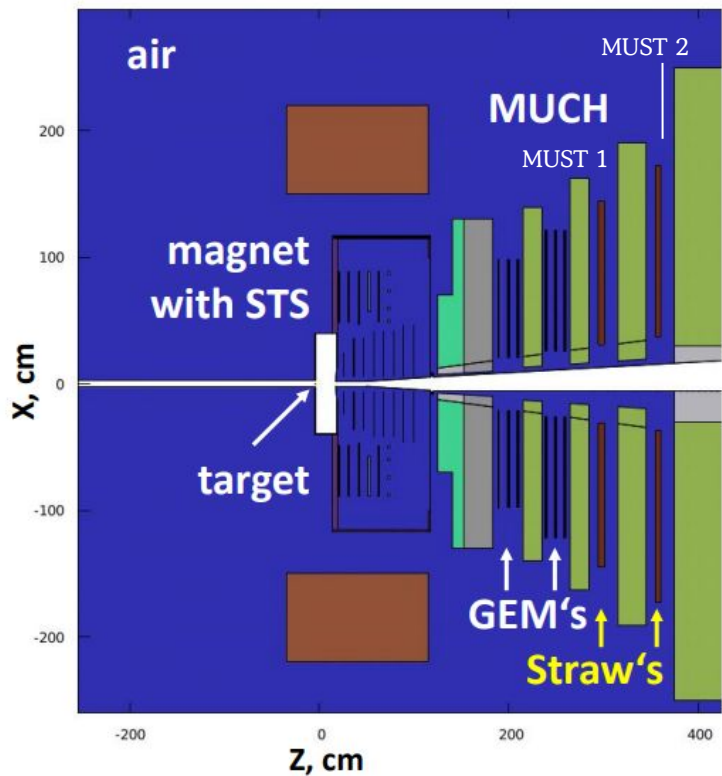


Charged particle distributions

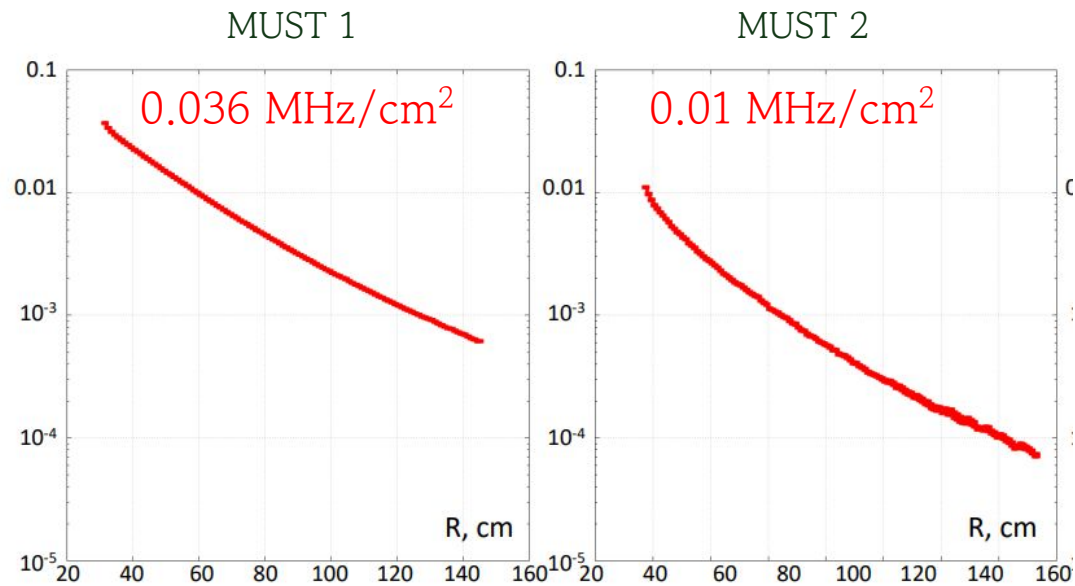


FLUKA results

Au beam @ 12A GeV energy
 10^9 Au/s + 250 μm (1%) Au target

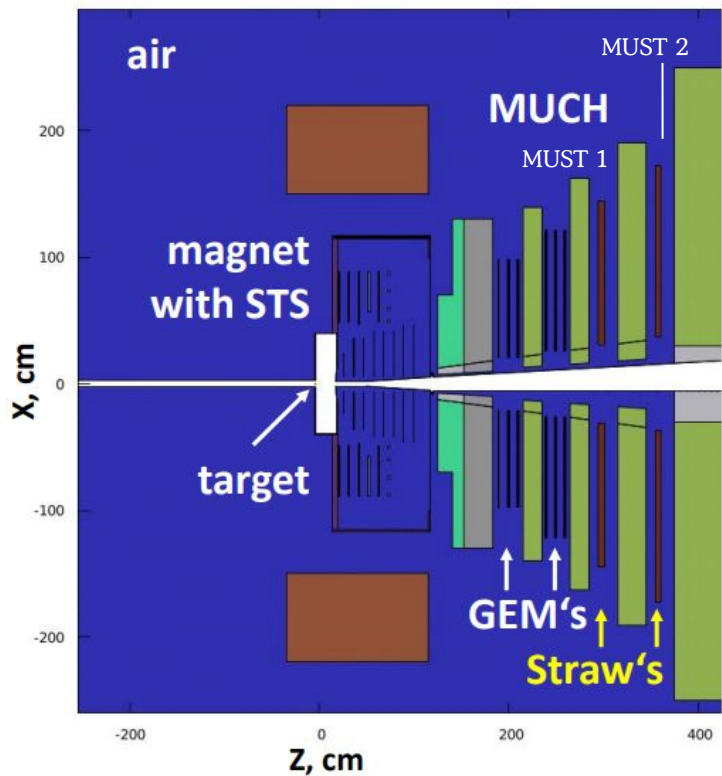


Charged particle rates



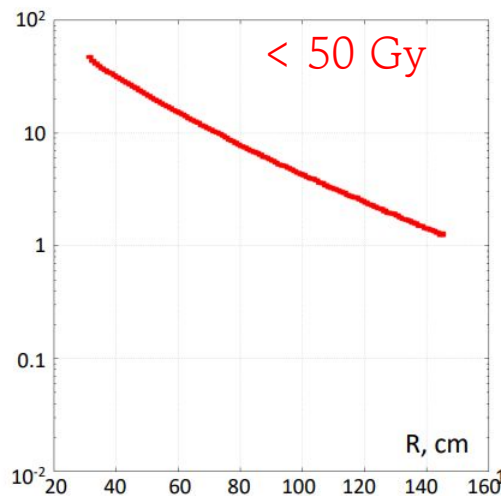
FLUKA results

Au beam @ 12A GeV energy
 10^9 Au/s + 250 μm (1%) Au target

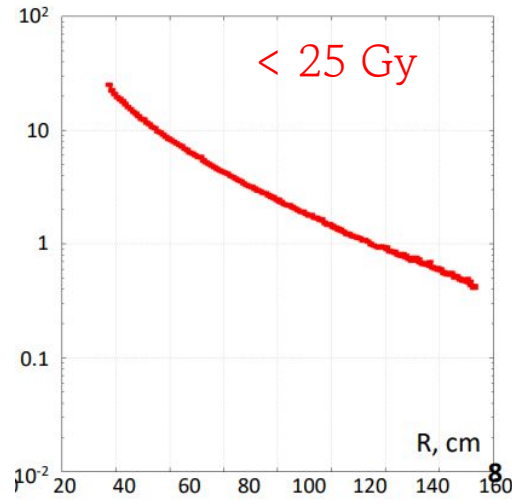


Radiation dose (Gy) after 1 month

MUST 1



MUST 2



MUST software – on the way!

Merged Prepare framework for new MUST detector subsystem

updated 3 months ago

Computing / cbmroot !2101 · created 5 months ago by Florian Uhlig

Remove ECbmModuleId::kEcal from the enumerator and reuse the connected integer value 7 for the new entry ECbmModuleId::kMust. Remove all usage of ECbmModuleId::kEcal from the source code and implement...

CodeOwners

Framework

core

Open Draft: Add the new MUST detector system

updated 2 weeks ago

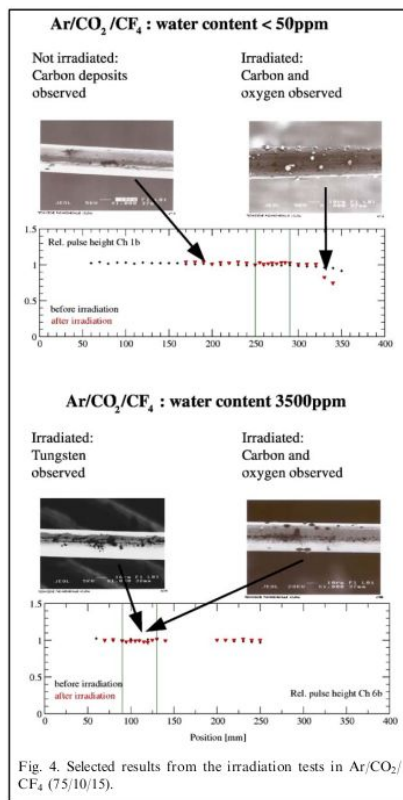
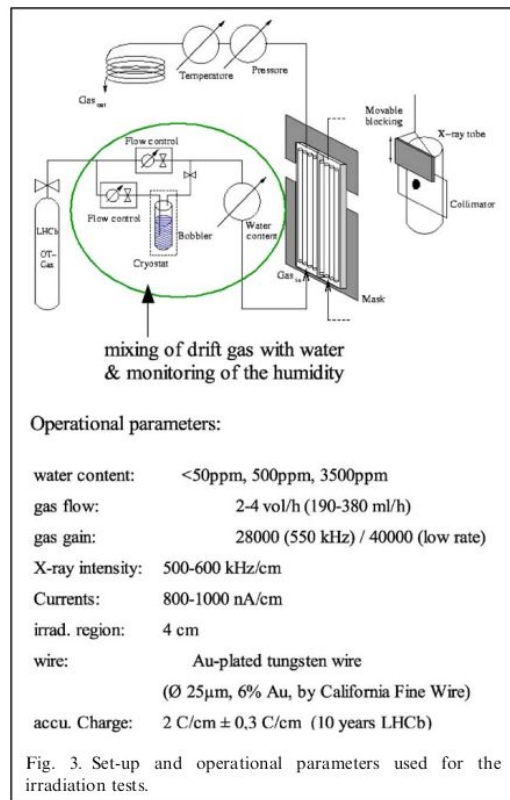
Computing / cbmroot !2138 · created 3 months ago by Florian Uhlig

This MR ist based on and supersedes !2040 Initially !2040 included also changes to the framework code of CbmRoot. These changes were properly separated and were added with !2101 such that !2040 only ...

CodeOwners

https://git.cbm.gsi.de/computing/cbmroot/-/merge_requests/2138

Ageing studies prior to construction



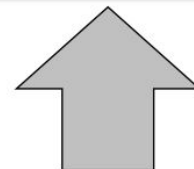
- Irradiated to 2 C/cm
- Decision to change from Ar/CO₂/CF₄ to Ar/CO₂

Table 1
Summary of measurements

Ar/CO ₂ (70/30)	Ar/CO ₂ /CF ₄ (75/10/15)
Carbon deposits observed for all levels of water content, but no gain variations in dry gas.	Carbon deposits observed for all levels of water content.
For wet gases 'classical aging' in irradiated regions, i.e. deposits of C and O and gain drops up to ~30%.	Gain variations at ≤ 50 ppm and 500 ppm.
No indications for wire etching.	At ≤ 50 ppm and 500 ppm: gain drop and deposits in non-irradiated sections.
	At 3500 ppm: deposits of C and O in irradiated section but no gain drop, tungsten from wire observed: hint for wire etching.

Careful studies of all materials, prior to construction:

S.Bachmann et al.
The straw tube technology for the LHCb outer tracking system
NIMA 535(2004)171



Occupancy in LHCb OT

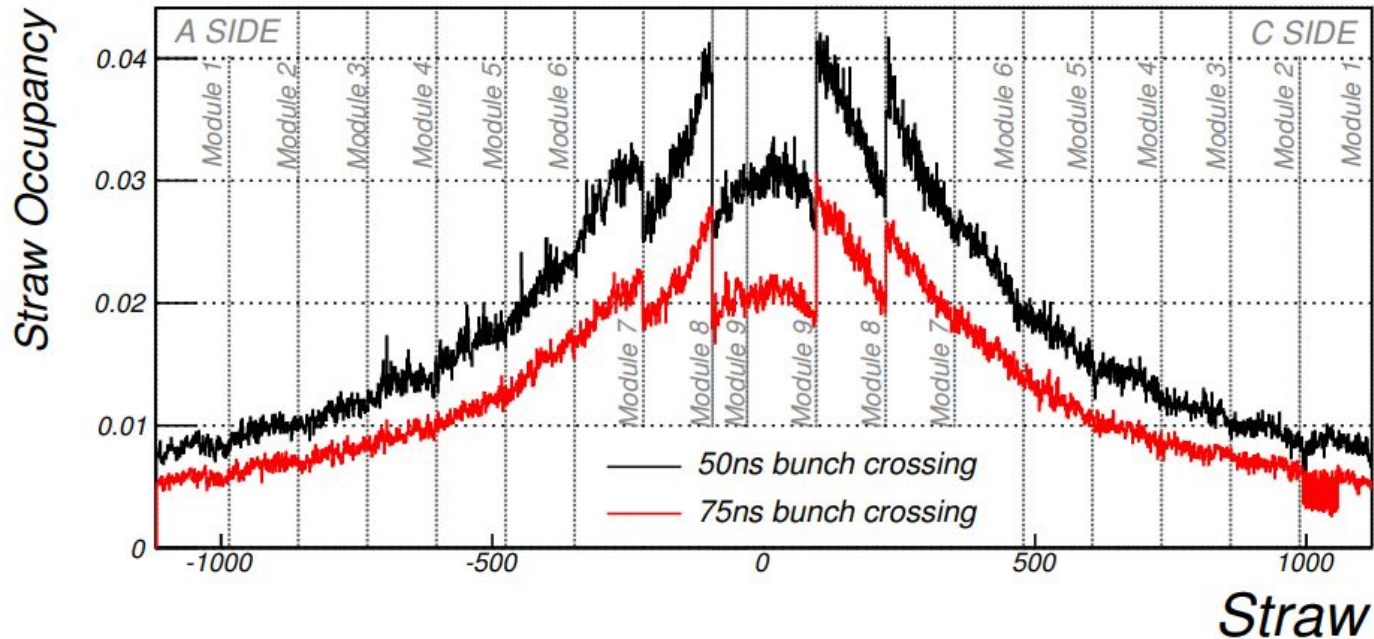
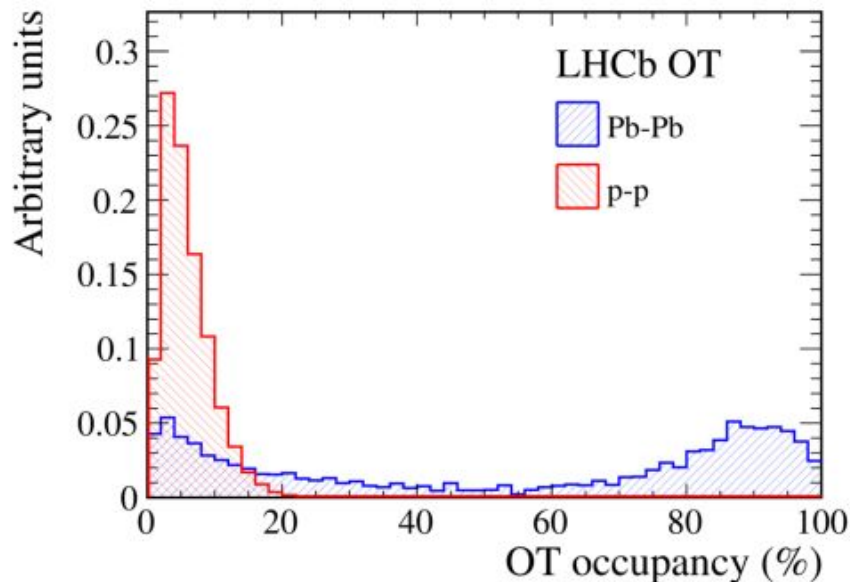


Figure 14: Straw occupancy for 75 ns bunch-crossing spacing in red, and 50 ns bunch-crossing spacing in black.

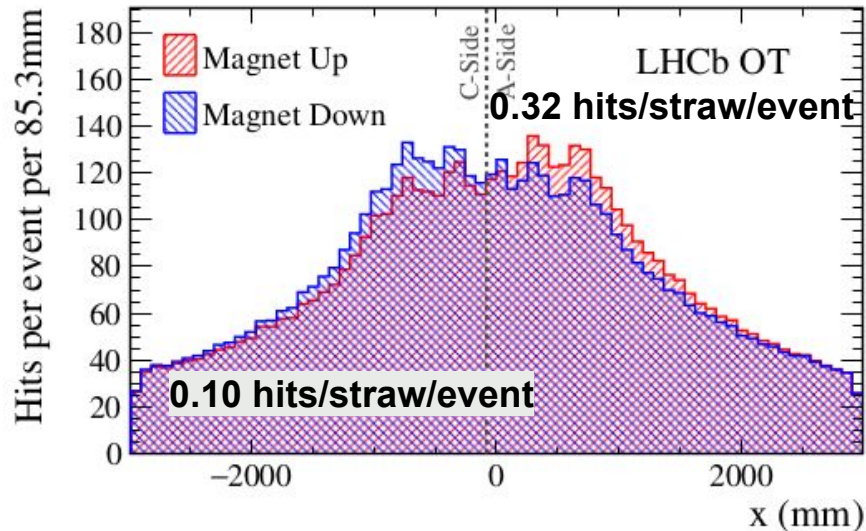
OCCUPANCY IN PROTON AND LEAD COLLISIONS

- Average occupancy for pp -collisions in Run II (2015&2016) is 12.7%.
- Only 30 noise hits per event compared to ~ 6800 hits from particles
- Maximum particle flux: 168 kHz/cm²
- OT has been operated during Pb-Pb runs, but analysis limited to event centrality of 60%



Hit rates/straw in LHCb vs CBM

- pp collisions (COM energy 1.38 TeV)



At the central region:

(LHCb) $0.32 \times 30\text{MHz} = 9.5 \text{ MHz/straw}$

(CBM*) $\sim 0.086 \times 10 \text{ MHz} = 0.86 \text{ MHz/straw}$

At the sides:

(LHCb) $0.1 \times 30\text{MHz} = 3 \text{ MHz/straw}$

(CBM*) $\sim 0.02 \times 10\text{MHz} = 0.2 \text{ MHz/straw}$

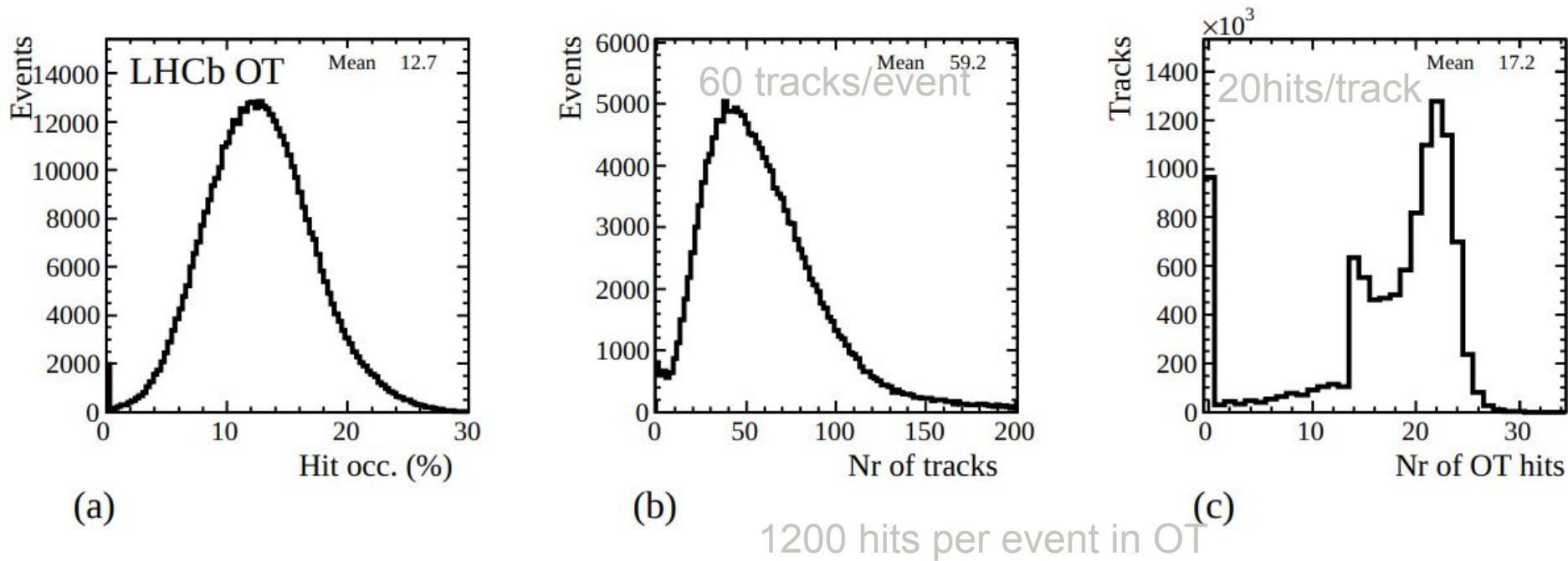


Figure 3. Typical run conditions for a run in June 2012 (run 118335), with (a) hit occupancies per event around 13% and (b) 60 tracks per event with hits in both the Vertex Locator and the tracking stations (so-called “long” tracks). (c) The number of OT hits assigned to these long tracks peaks around 22. A fraction of the tracks do not have any OT hits assigned, as these tracks only traverse the inner silicon detector at large rapidity close to the beampipe.

Things to know about OT

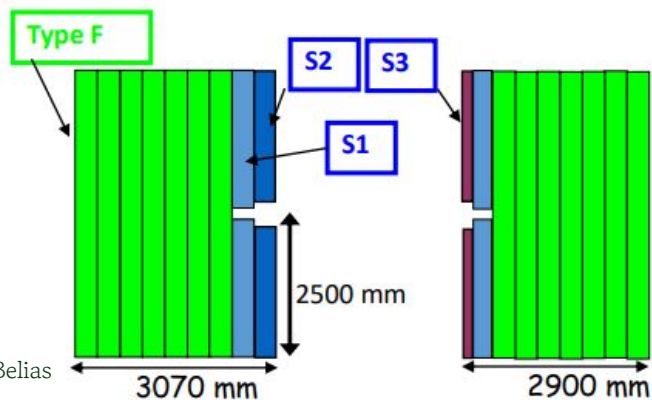
The Outer Tracker consists of 3 stations T1, T2, T3 (~0.5m apart)

- Station

- 2 support frames (C-frames) mounted vertically each C-frame with 2 layers of detector modules
- Station $\Rightarrow$ 4 layers of modules with orientation $0^0, +5^0, -5^0, 0^0$
- Every C-frame is in two halves that can be moved horizontally in and out around the beam pipe

- Layer

- 14 type F modules; full height
- 4 type S modules; half height outside the hot region



Slide from A. Belias

LHCb Operating conditions (*)

LHCb	OT
Operating conditions	
Total counting rate in the FT	50×10^7 tracks/s
Maximum counting rate per straw	5000 kHz
Maximum particle flux	200 kHz/cm^2
Maximum radiation dose in 10 years	
Maximum accumulated charge in 10 years	2.5 C/cm
Maximum current per straw	$0.7 \mu\text{A}$
Occupancy (at max. counting rate)	
Performance	
Discrimination threshold	4 fC
Position resolution per straw	$180 \mu\text{m}$
Momentum resolution (p range?)	0.4%

(*) Communications with N. Tuning (Nikhef/CERN)

Project: PASTA - PAnda STRaws

S1,S2,S3 modules in PANDA

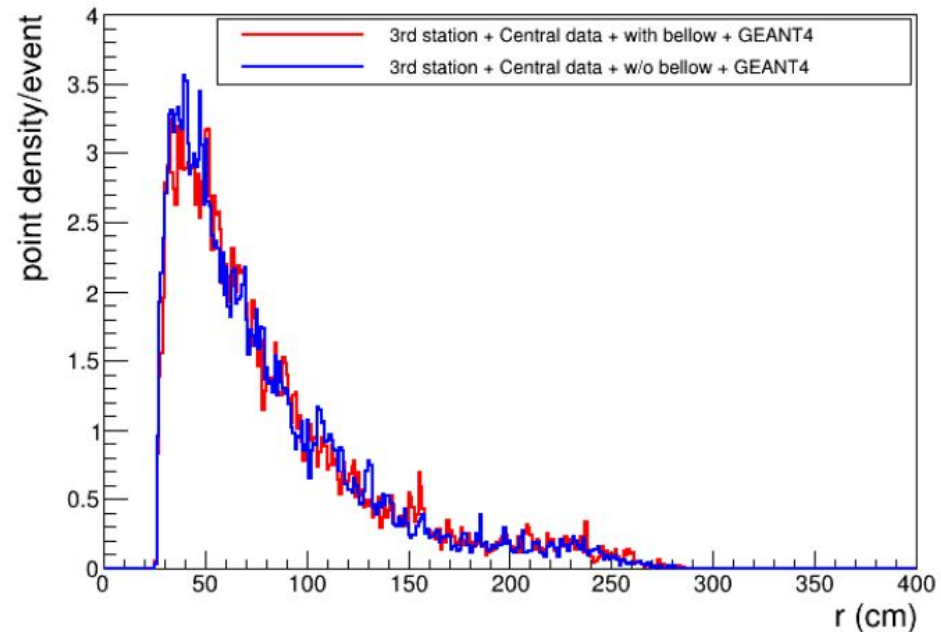
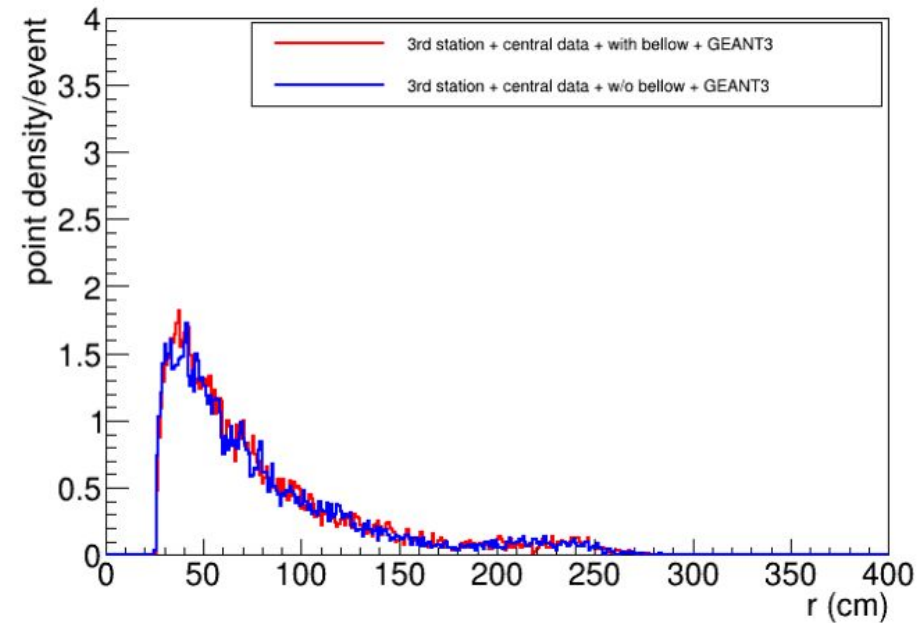
@mCBM: Beam times 2025 started

Project: MUST - MUon Straws

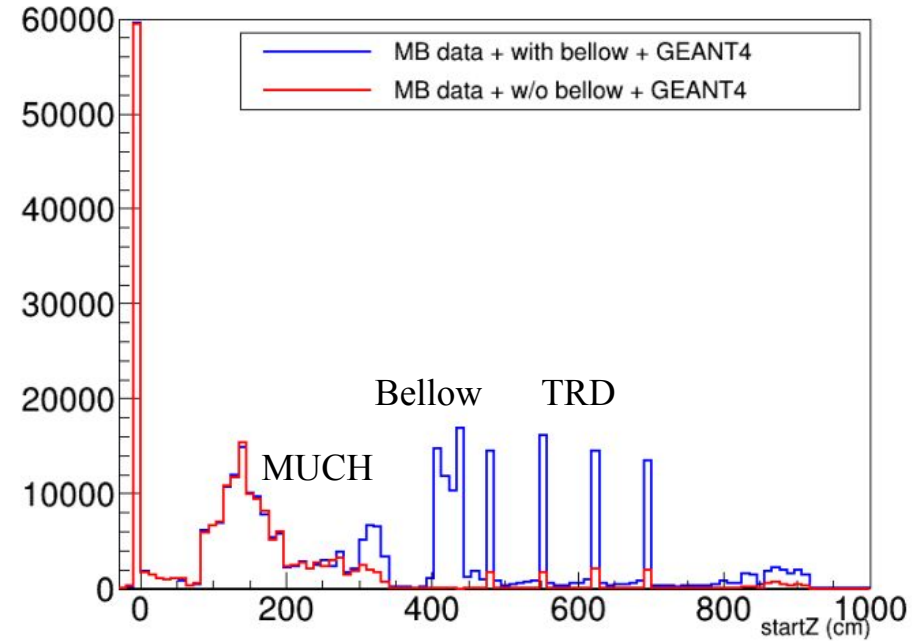
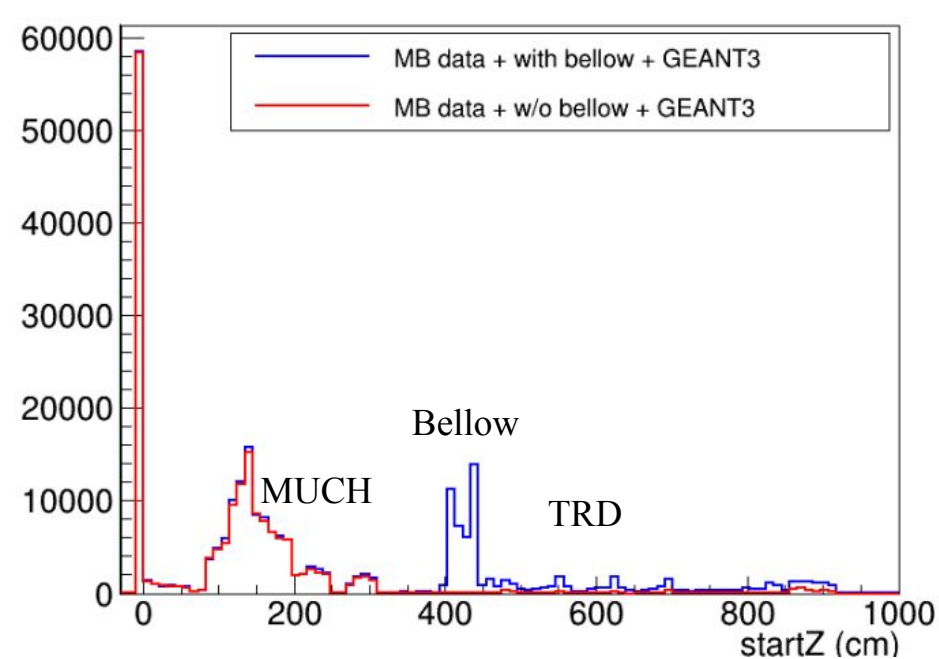
F modules possibly in CBM

@Cave-C: Beam tests 2026/27

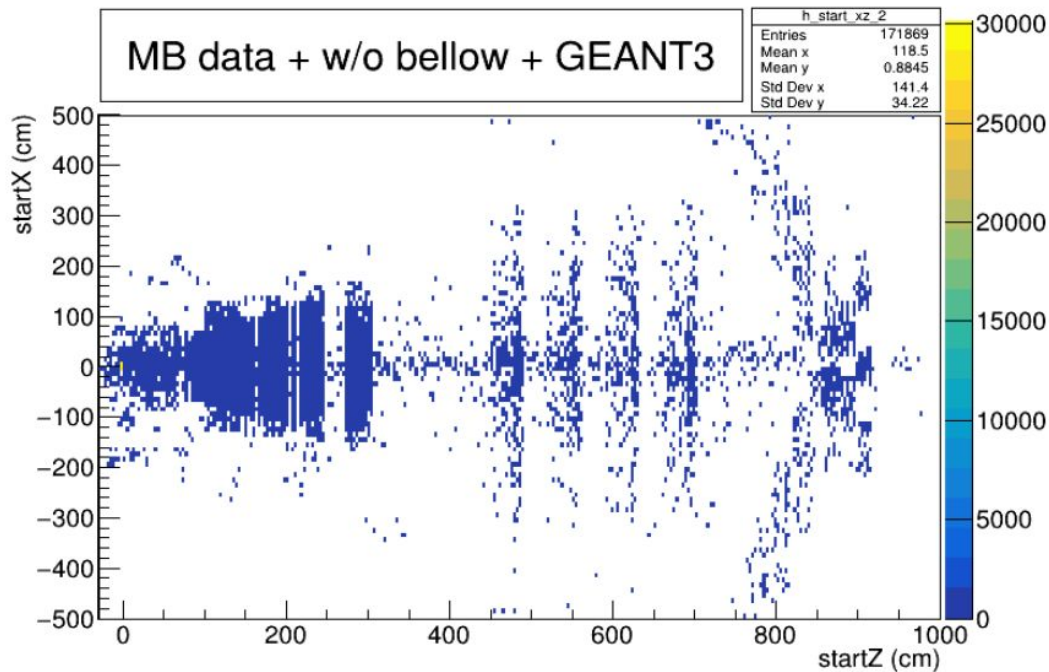
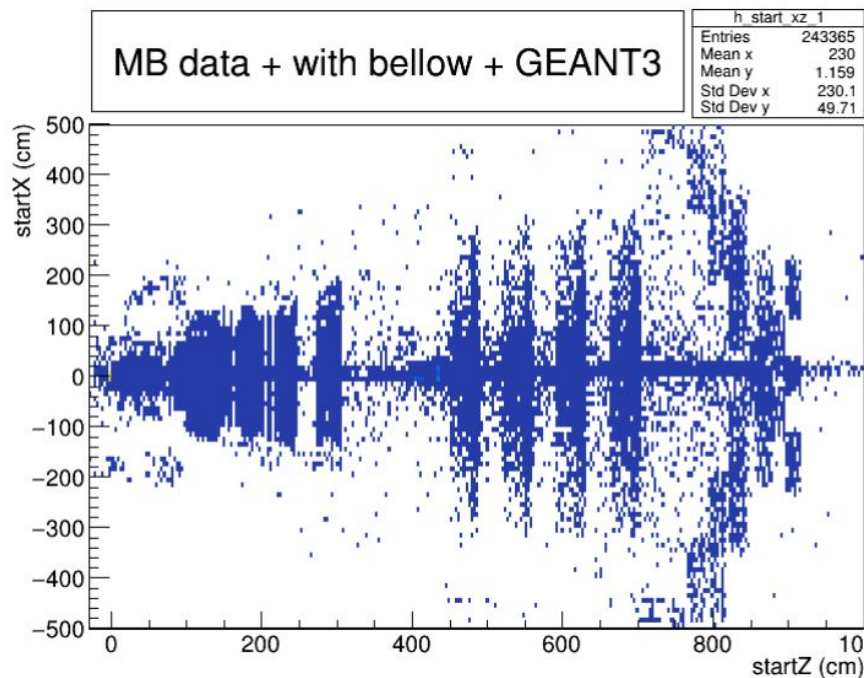
Bellow effect



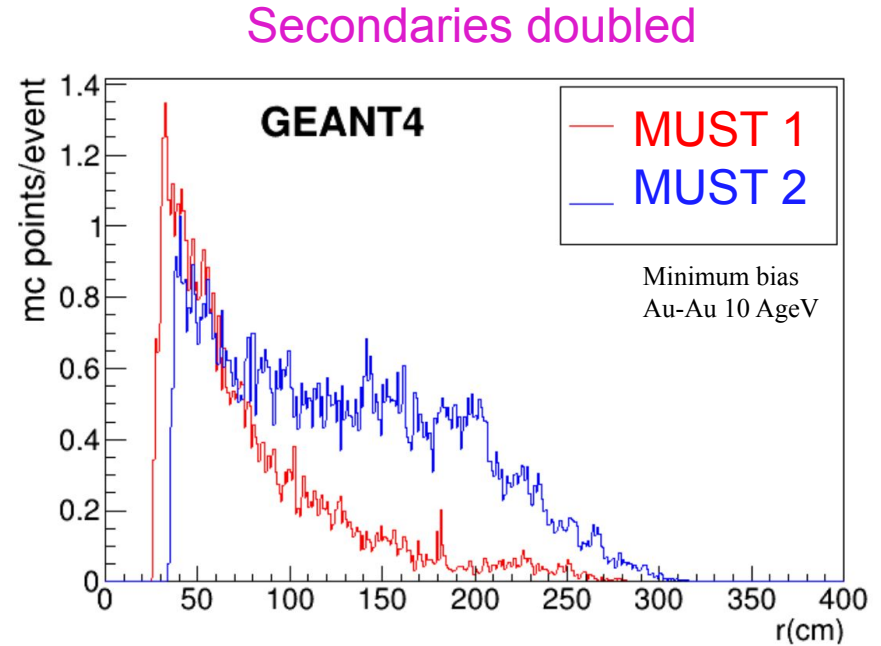
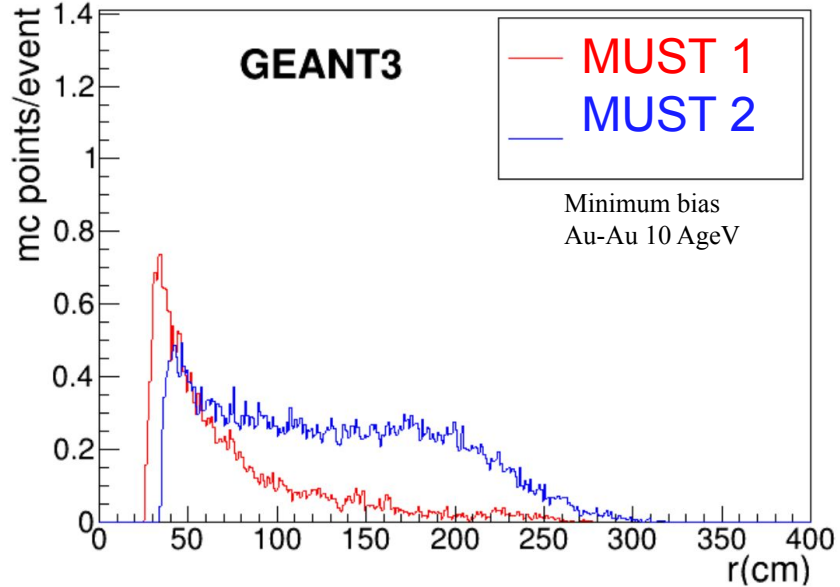
Geant3 vs Geant4 (tracks start z)



Geant3 (tracks start xz)

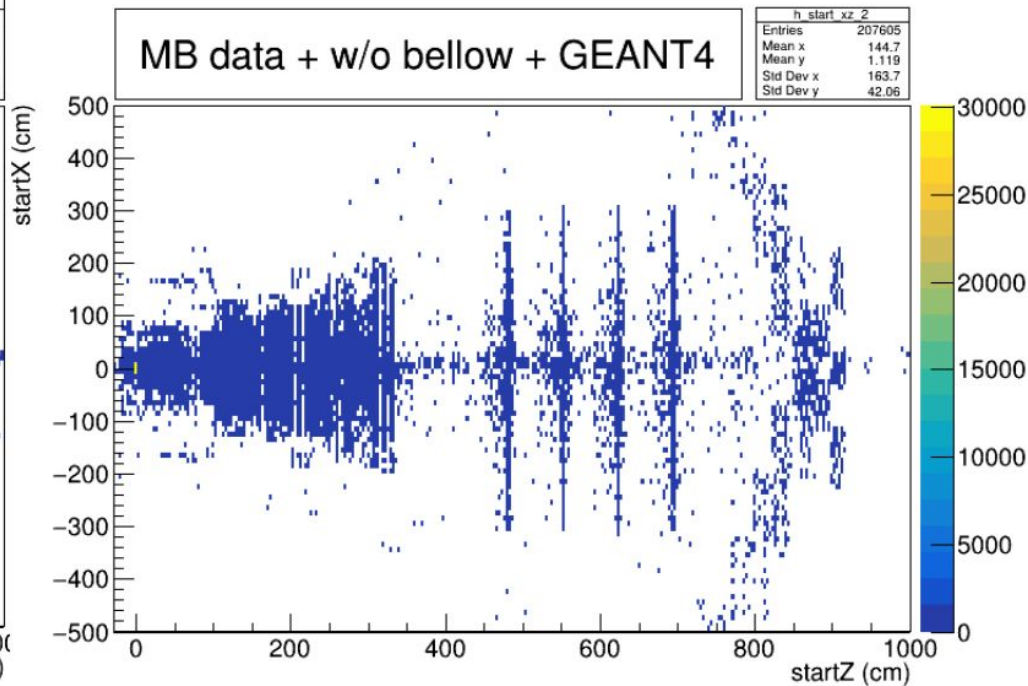
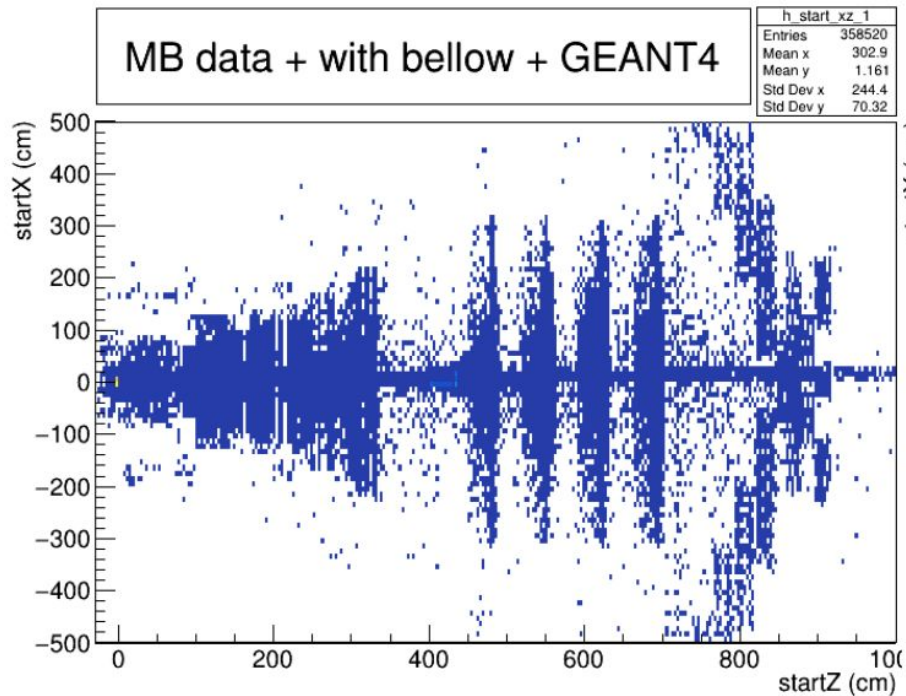


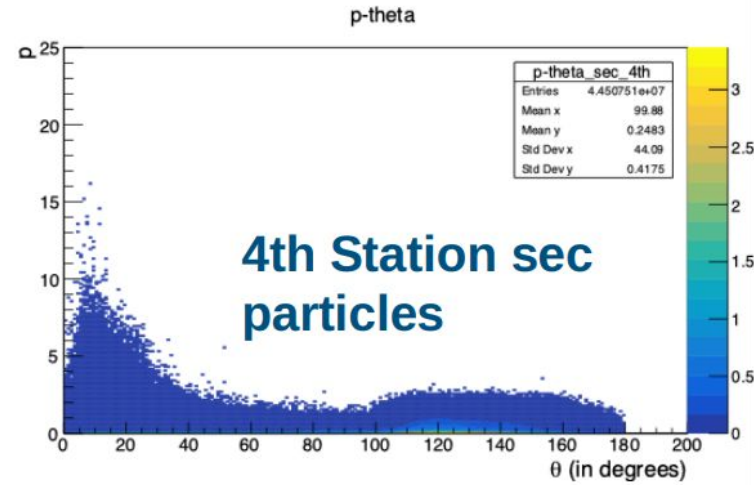
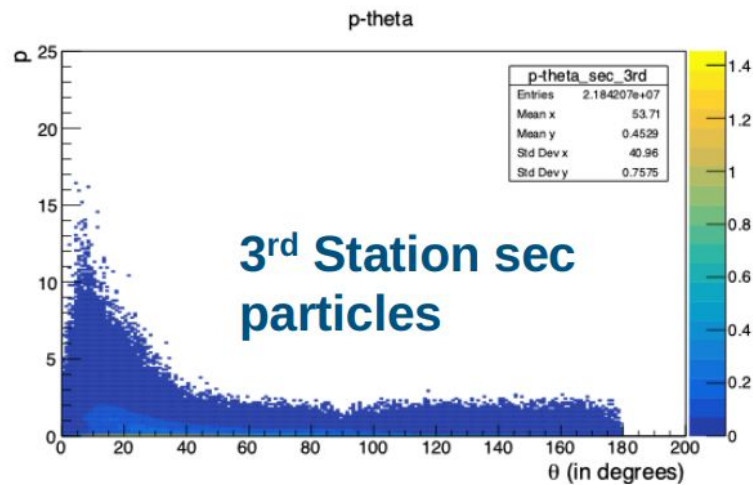
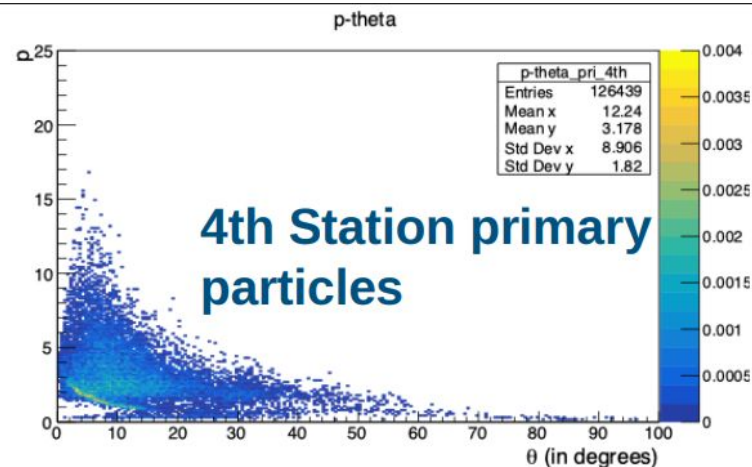
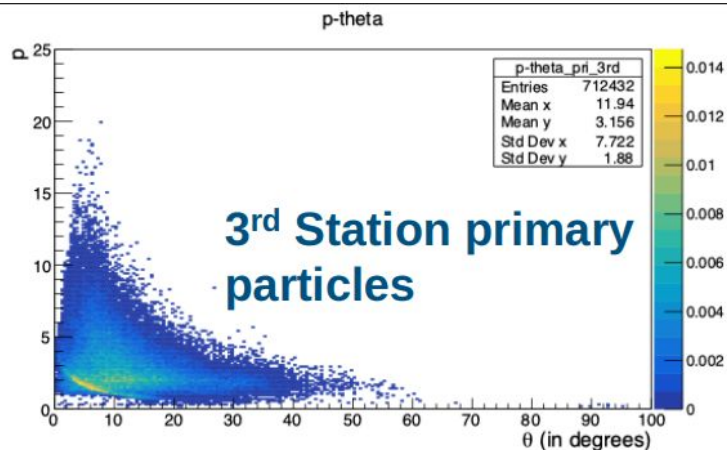
GEANT3 vs GEANT4



~ S. Gope

Geant4 (tracks start xz)





Measured current of PASTA straws during mCBM beamtime campaign in May 2025

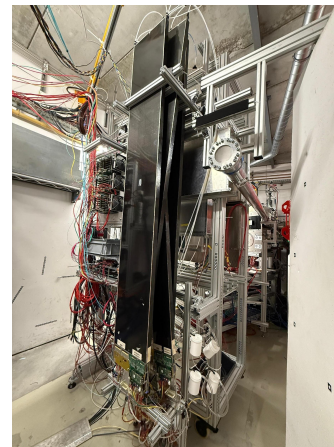
Duration of Data taking : 16-18 May 2025;

Beam: ^{209}Bi

Gas Flow Rate : ~ 8 l/h

Response of the straws are observed monitoring the anode current in with spill

Beam Intensity	Average current (μA)
3×10^8 per 10 s	~ 10 -20 (1500V)
6×10^7 per 10 s	~ 12 (1500V)
1×10^7 per 10 s	~ 10 -20 (1400-1550V)
5×10^8 per 8 s	~ 10 -40 (1350-1550V)
8×10^8 per 6 s	~ 20 -80 (1350-1450V)



PASTA
set-up



During beamtime at GSI



Analysis team at Bose Institute

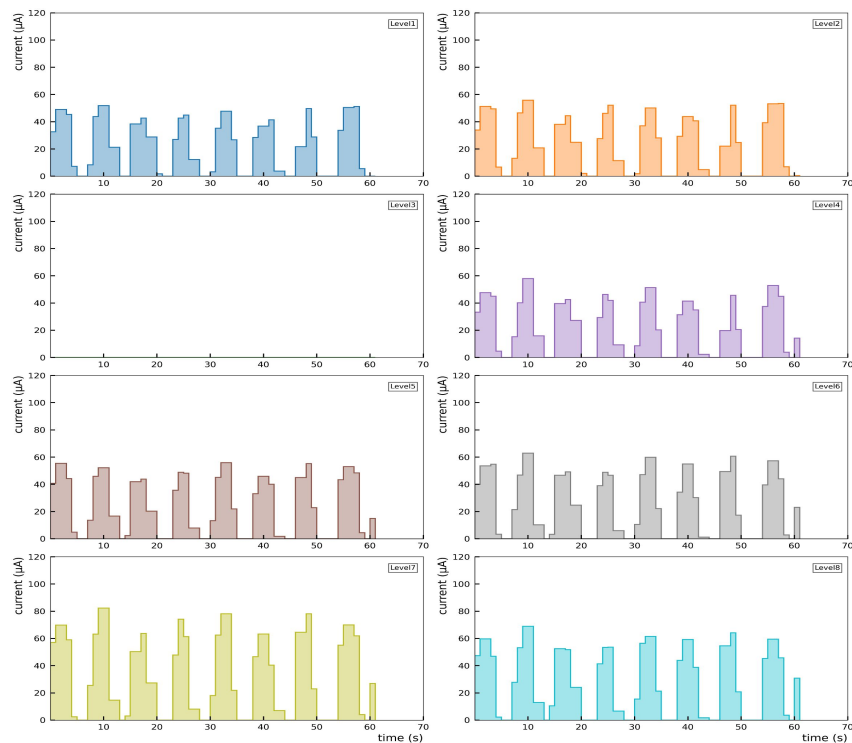


Measured current of PASTA straws during mCBM beamtime campaign in May 2025

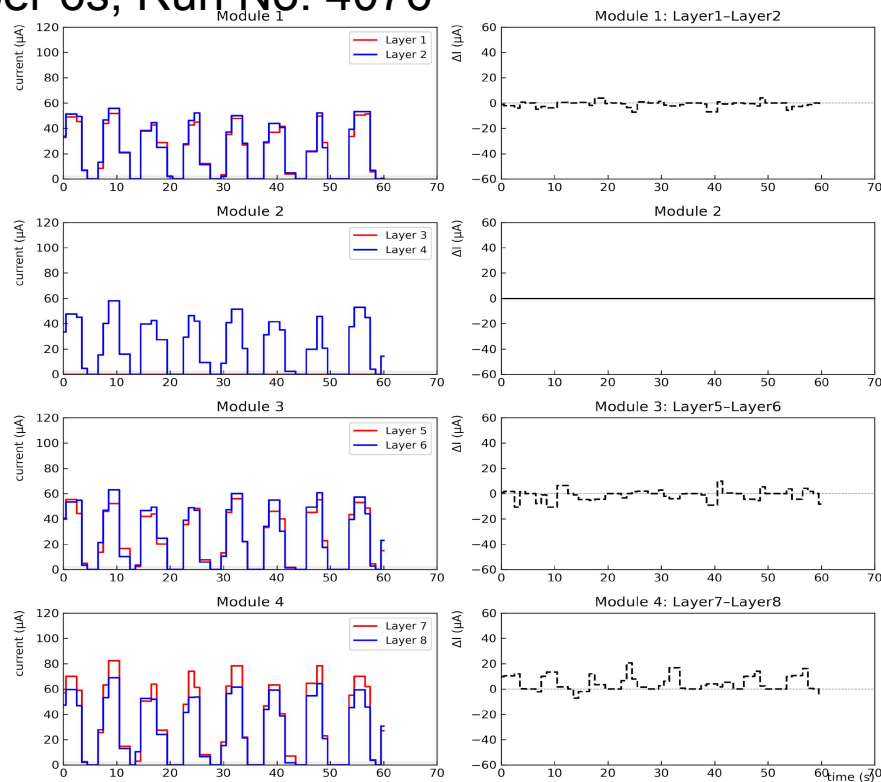
Date: 19.05.2025, Time: 04:08, Flow Rate: 8.2 l/h, Anode voltage: 1450 V

Beam: ^{209}Bi ,

Beam Intensity: 8×10^8 per 6 s, Run No: 4076



Anode current during spill



Difference in anode current between layers

Time spill structure Layer 8 (bin 1 ms)

