The Transition Radiation Detector for ALICE at LHC

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Physics Observables Accessible with the TRD

Quarkonia Production in the QCD matter:

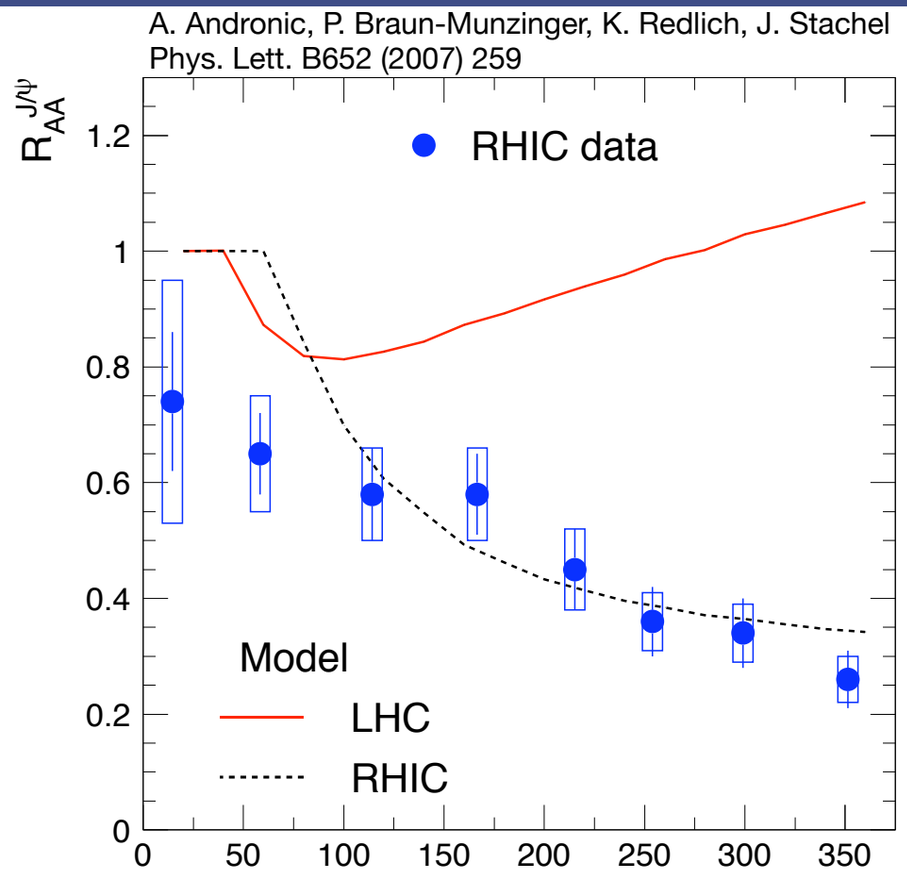
Suppression or Enhancement?

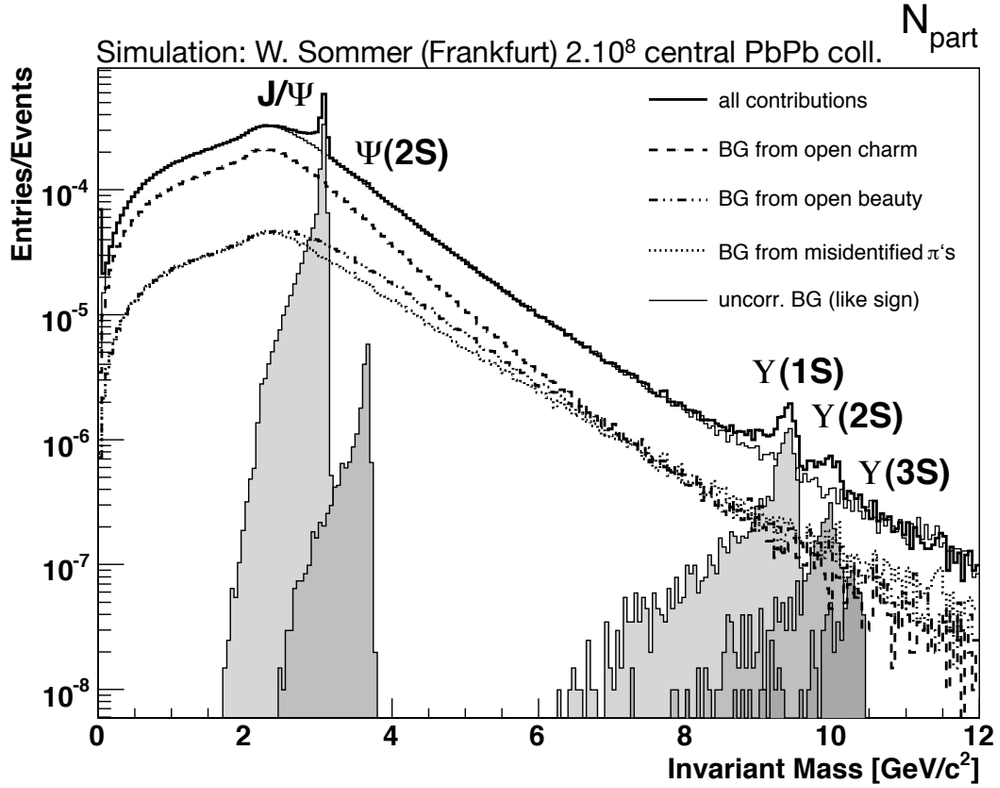
- screening of color charges
  → "melting" of $c\bar{c}$, $b\bar{b}$ bound state

- large abundance of $c\bar{c}$, $b\bar{b}$ quarks at LHC
  → statistical combination to J/ψ, Υ

Golden Channel: J/ψ, $\Upsilon \rightarrow e^+e^-$

⇨ Requires good electron PID



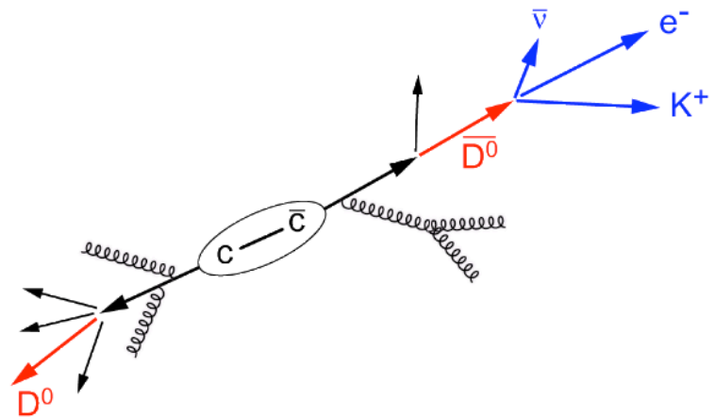


Physics Observables Accessible with the TRD II

Open Heavy Flavor

- open charm, beauty from semi-electronic decays

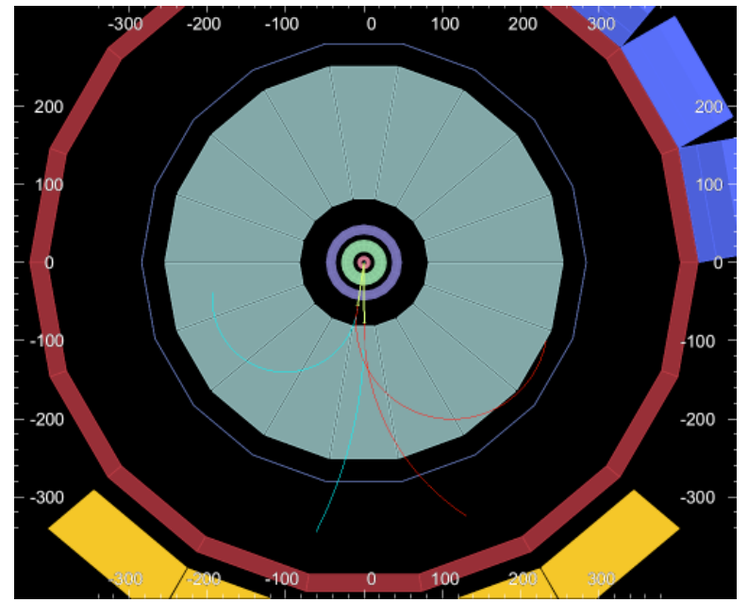
  → charm, beauty cross-section



Neutral Particle Production through Conversion

- $\gamma_{in\ matter} \rightarrow e^+e^-$

  → direct γ, π^0, η

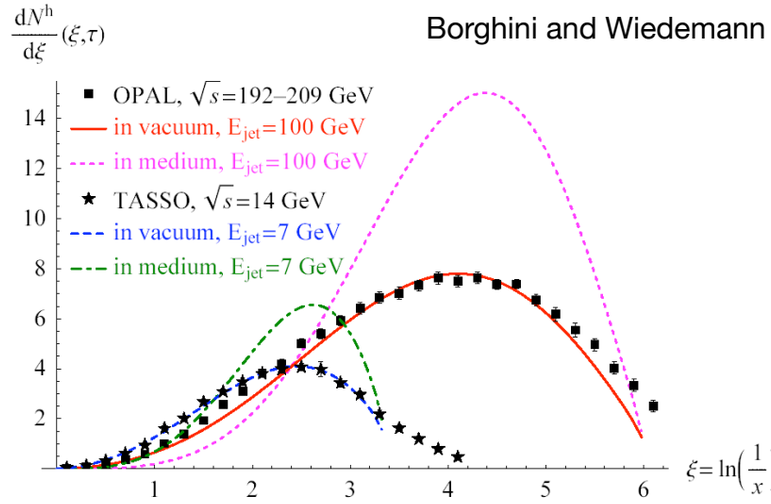


Jets and High-p_T Hadrons

- high-p_T charged particle tracking

  → energy loss in QGP

  → medium-modified fragmentation functions



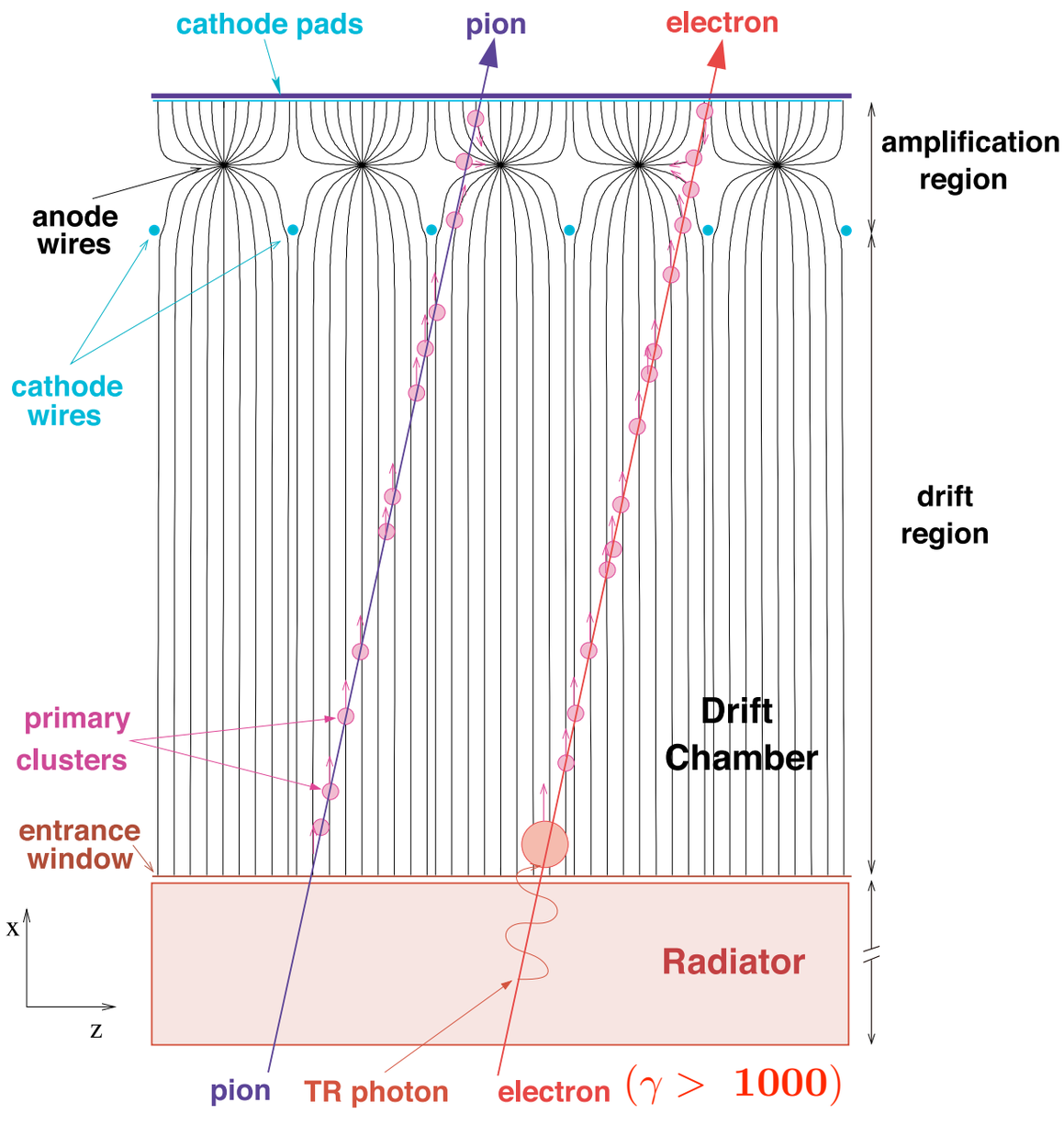
☞ Essential probes for QGP

⇨ Requires:

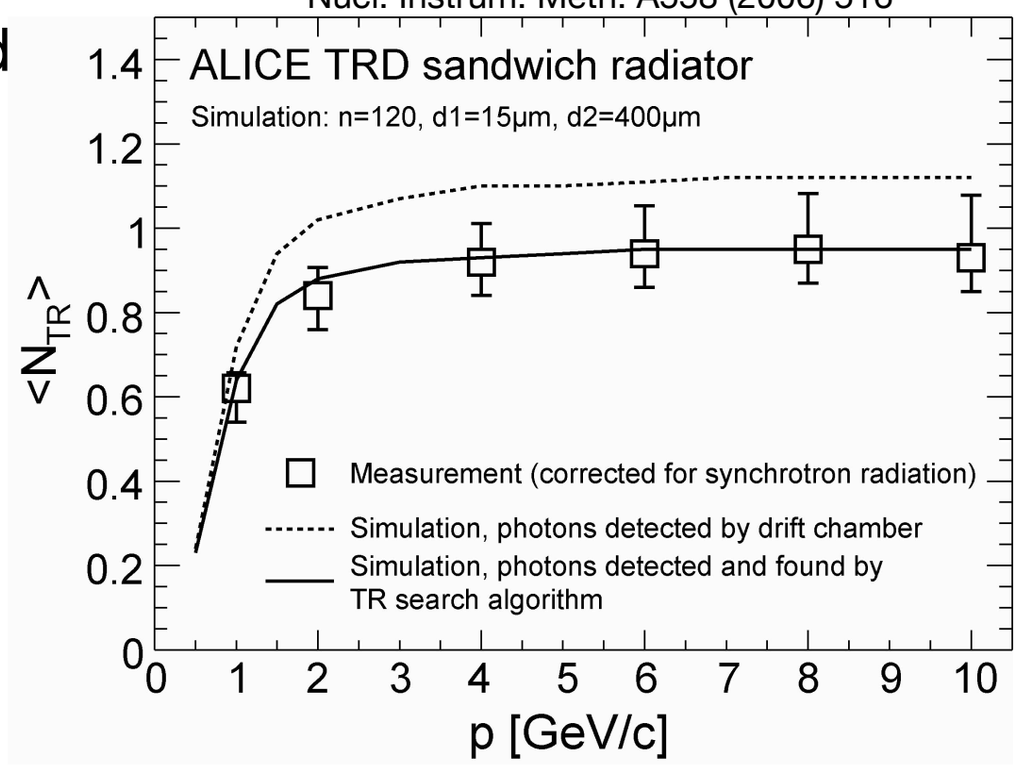
- pion rejection by factor 100 for p > 1 GeV/c
- tracking capability
- trigger on single/pairs of electrons or cluster of high p_T tracks

Working Principle of the TRD

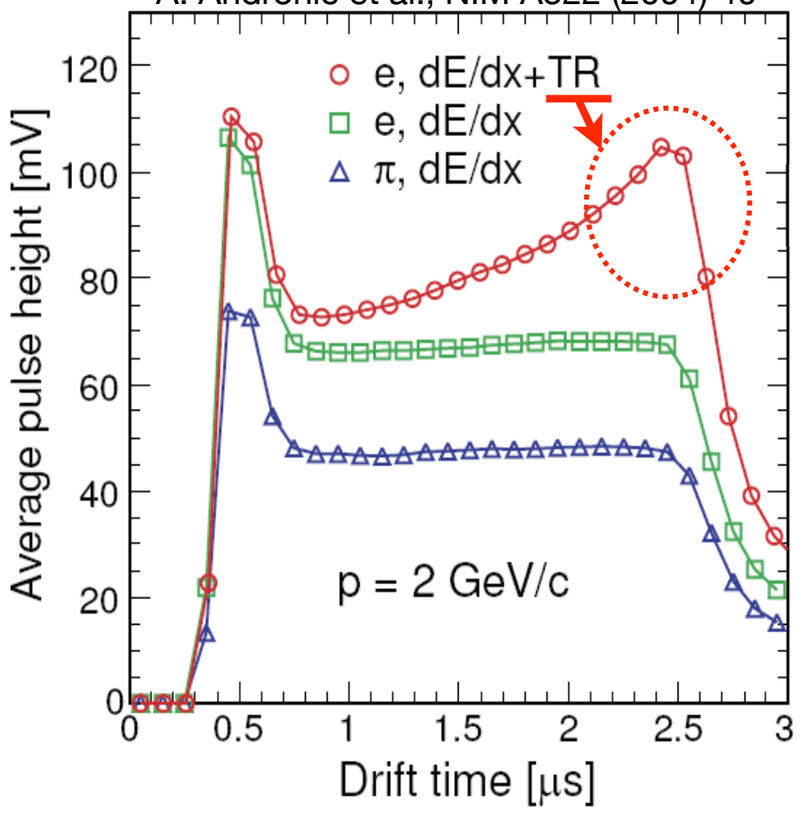
- Drift chambers with cathode pad readout combined with a fiber/foam sandwich radiator in front
- Transition Radiation (TR) photons are absorbed by high-Z gas mixture (Xe + CO_2)



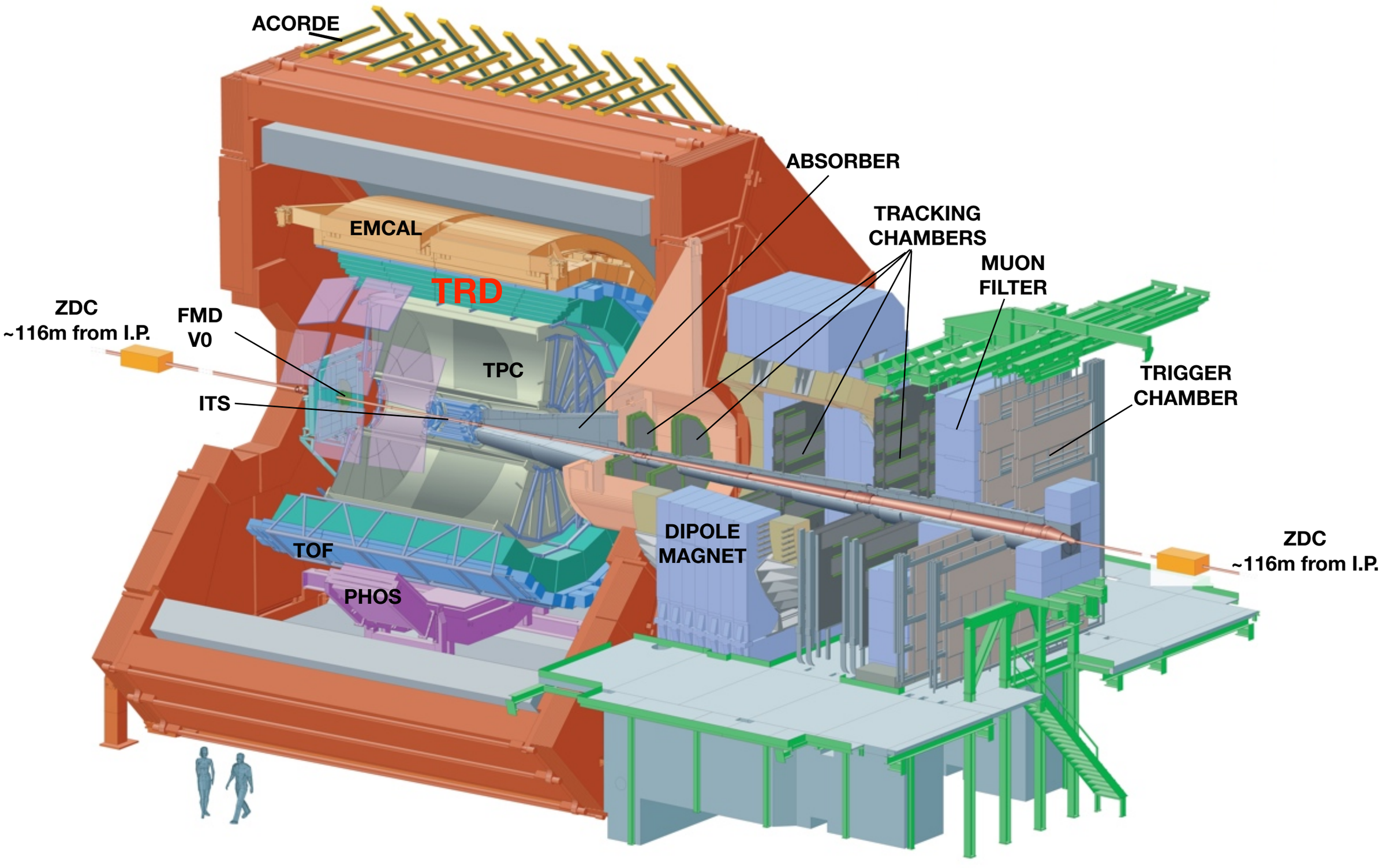
Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A558 (2006) 516



A. Andronic et al., NIM A522 (2004) 40



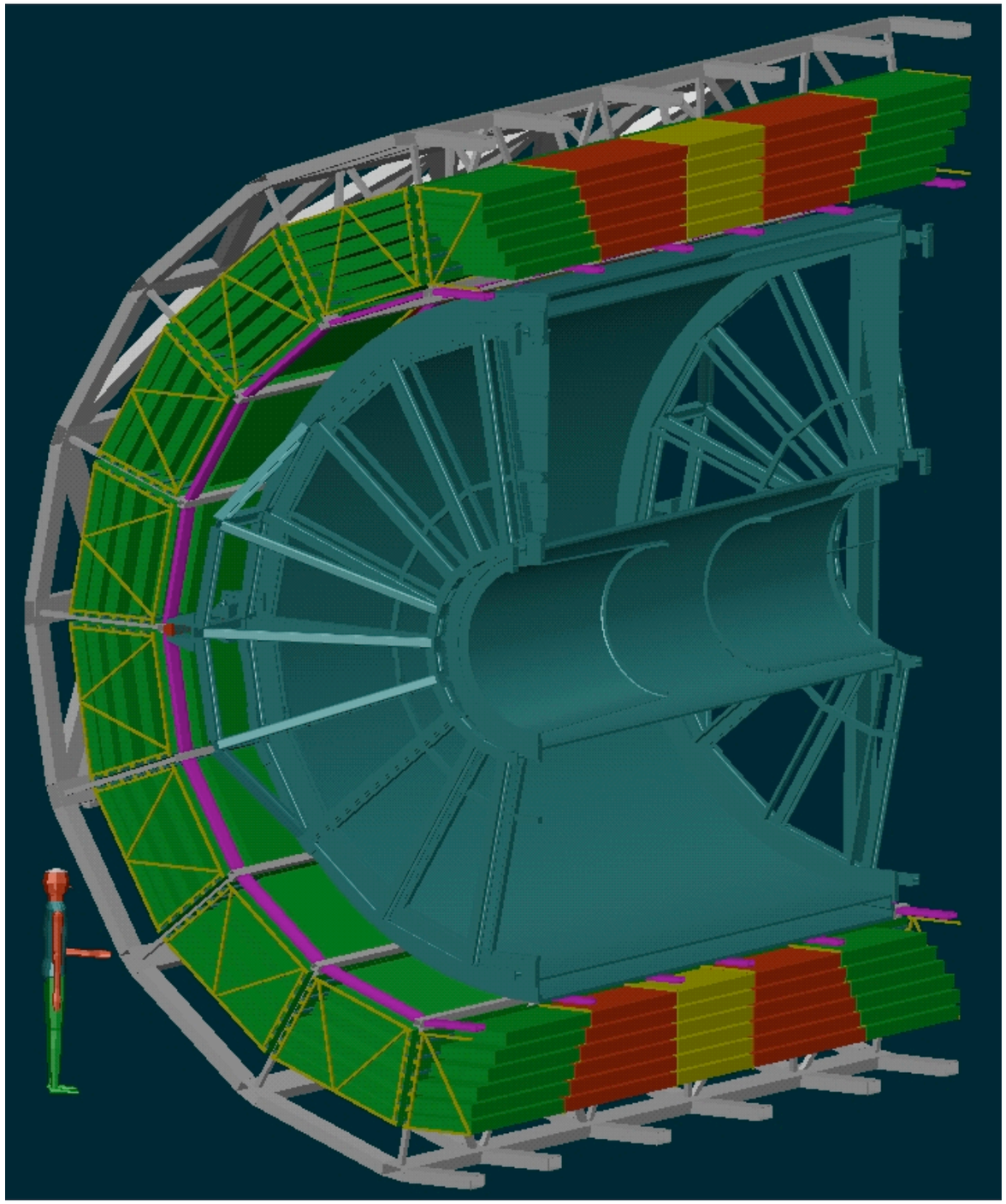
A Large Ion Collider Experiment



Collaboration: 31 countries, 109 institutes, > 1000 people

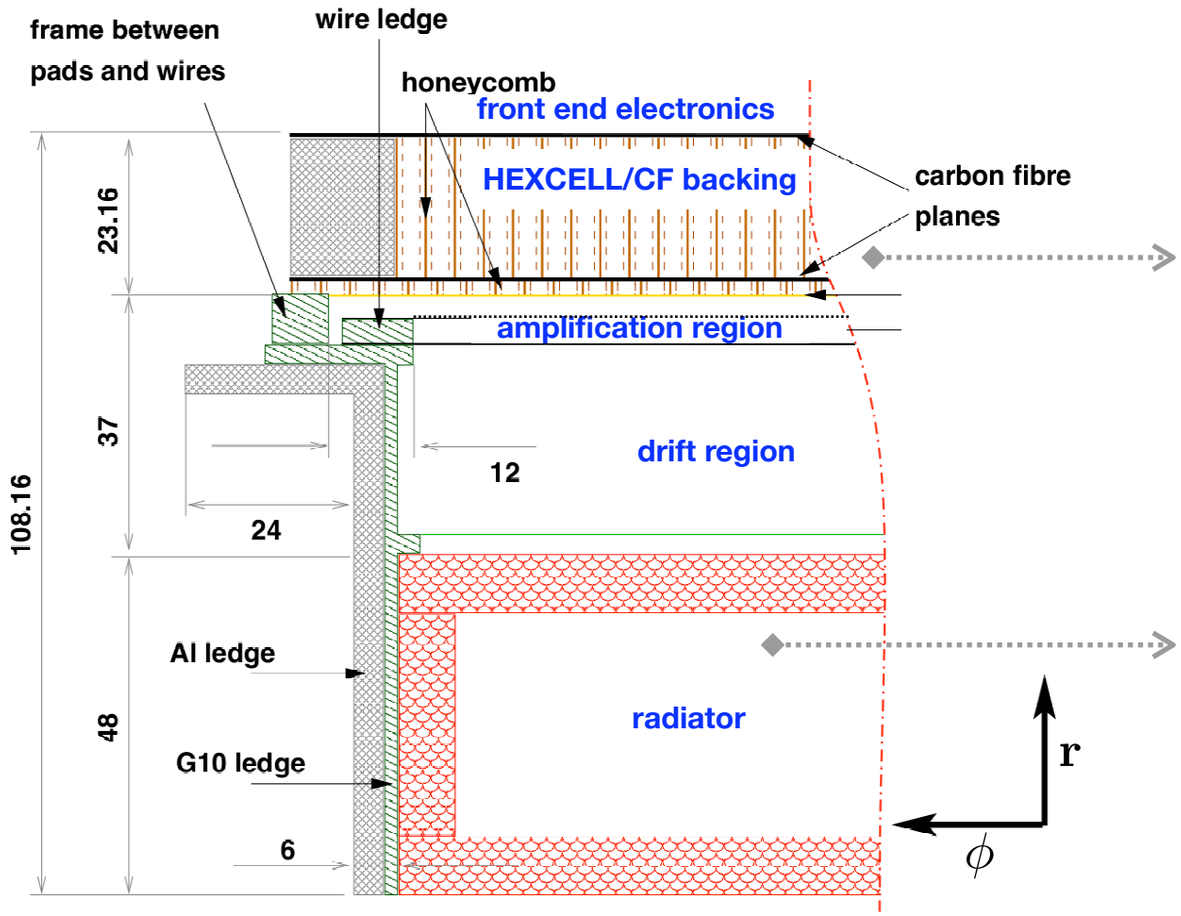
The ALICE TRD

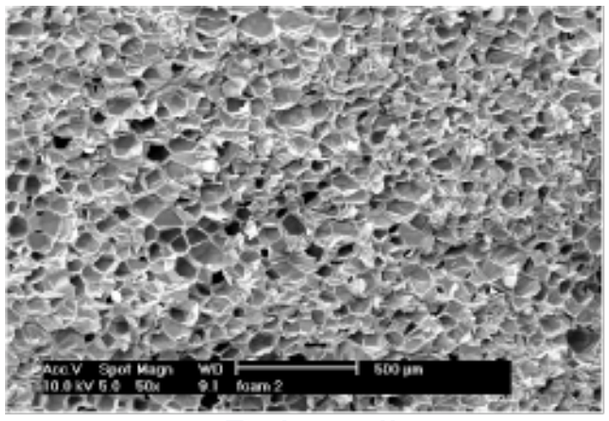
- Surrounds ALICE TPC
  - radial position 2.9 < *r* < 3.7 m
  - maximal length 7 m
  - full azimuthal coverage
  - $|\eta| < 0.9$
- 540 detector modules arranged in:
  - ϕ: 18 super modules
  - *r*: 6 layers
  - *z*: 5 stacks
- 694 m^2 active area
- 28 m^3 detector gas of Xe/CO_2
- $X/X_0 \sim 24$ %
- 30 tons
- 10 M Euro and 250 person years



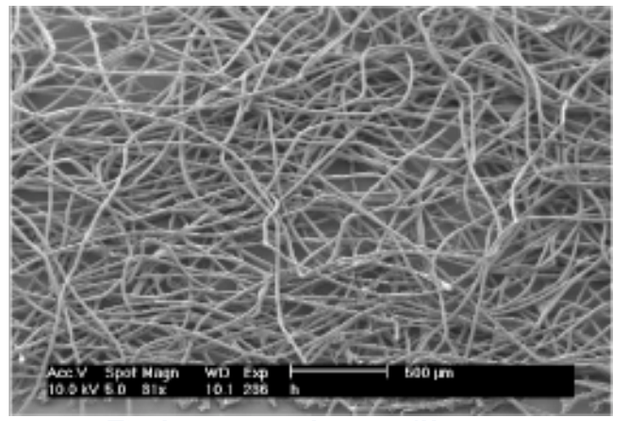
Collaboration for TRD: Bucharest , FH Cologne, TU Darmstadt, Dubna, U Frankfurt, GSI , U Heidelberg, U Münster, U Tokyo, U Tsukuba, FH Worms

TRD Readout Chamber





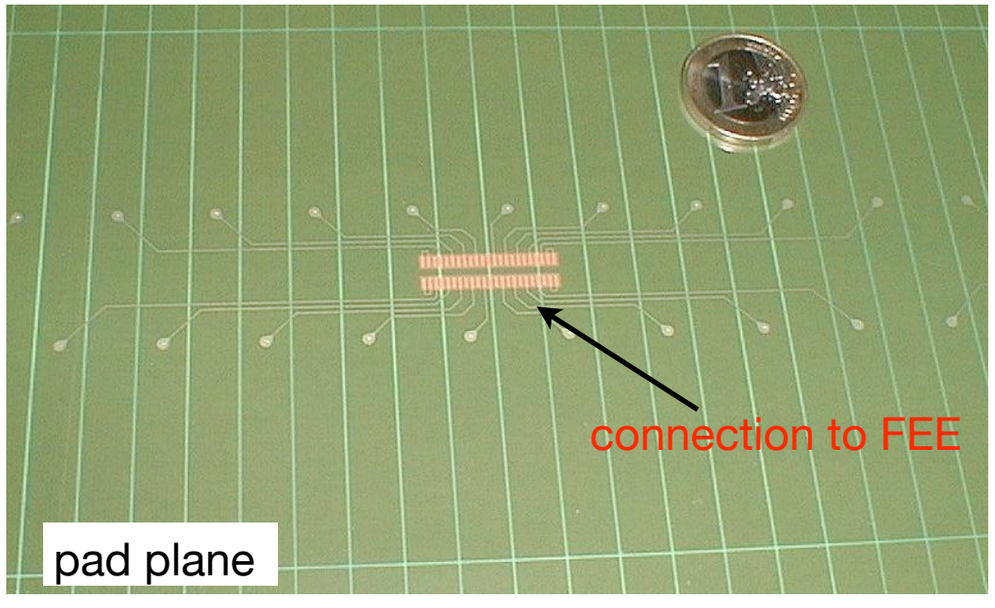
Rohacell



Polypropylene fibers

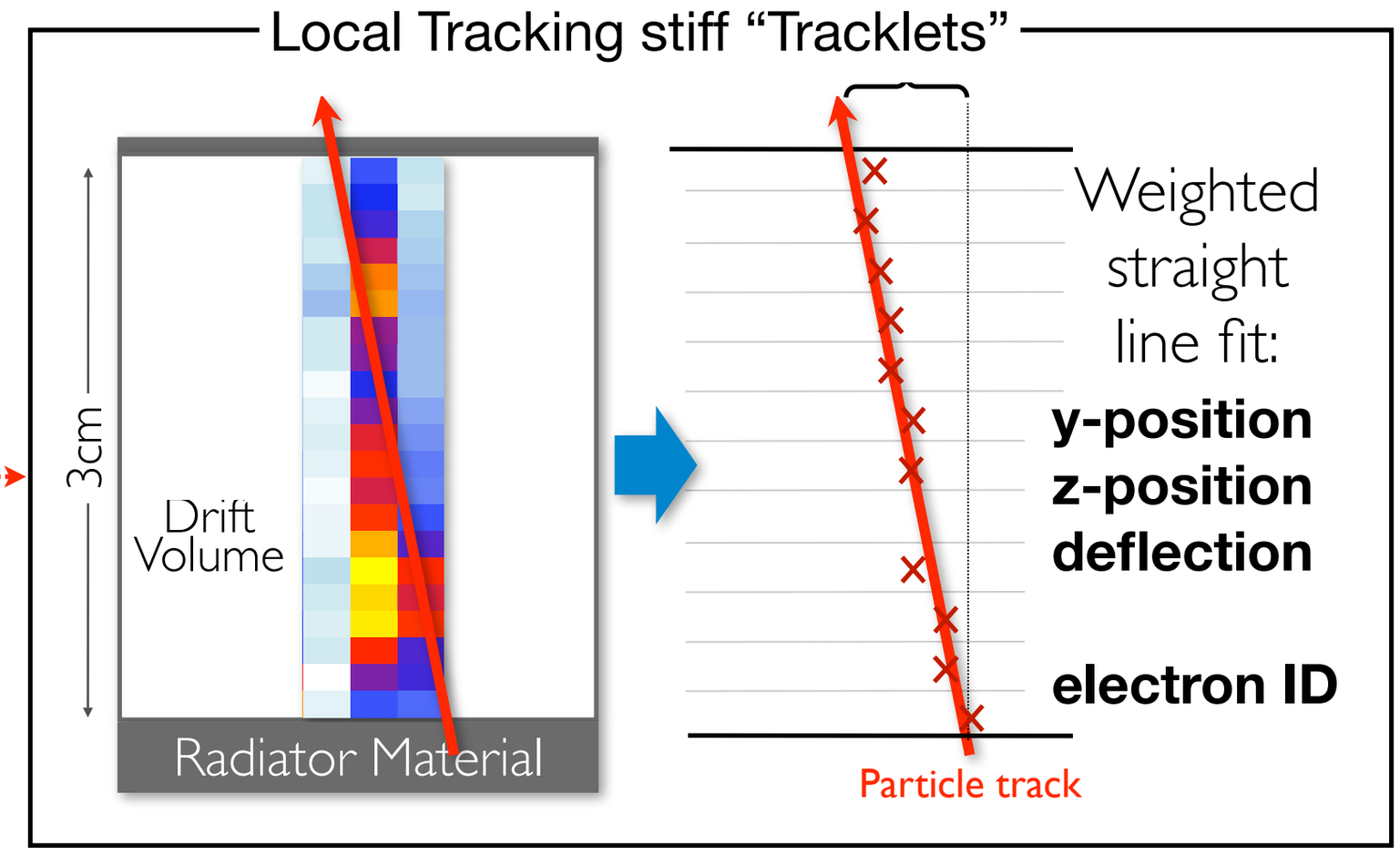
- Electronics directly on detector
- Detector needs to be very thin in radiation lengths, but at the same time very rigid (keep gain uniformity better than 20%)

  → enforcement by low-Z composite structures



Front-End Electronics

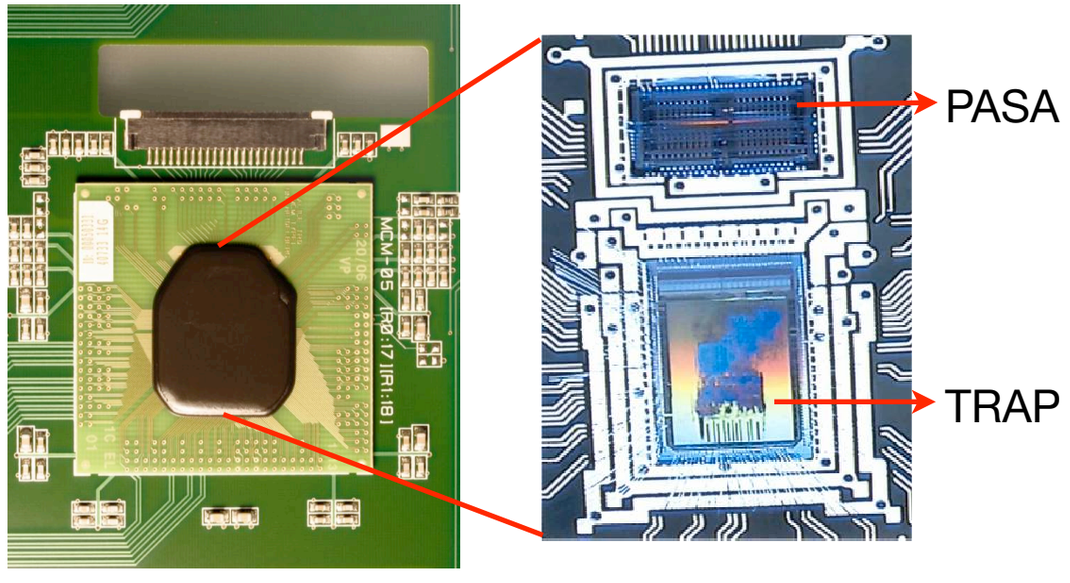
FEE on detector:
Amplifying/Shaping
AD Conversion
Digital filtering
Local Tracking
Raw data readout



Multi Chip Module (MCM)

- PASA: PreAmplifier/ShAper (for 18 channels)
- TRAP: TRAcklet Processor
  - 21 ADCs (10 MHz)
  - Digital Filters
  - Event Buffer, Preprocessor
  - 4 CPUs (120 MHz RISC)
  - Readout Network Interface

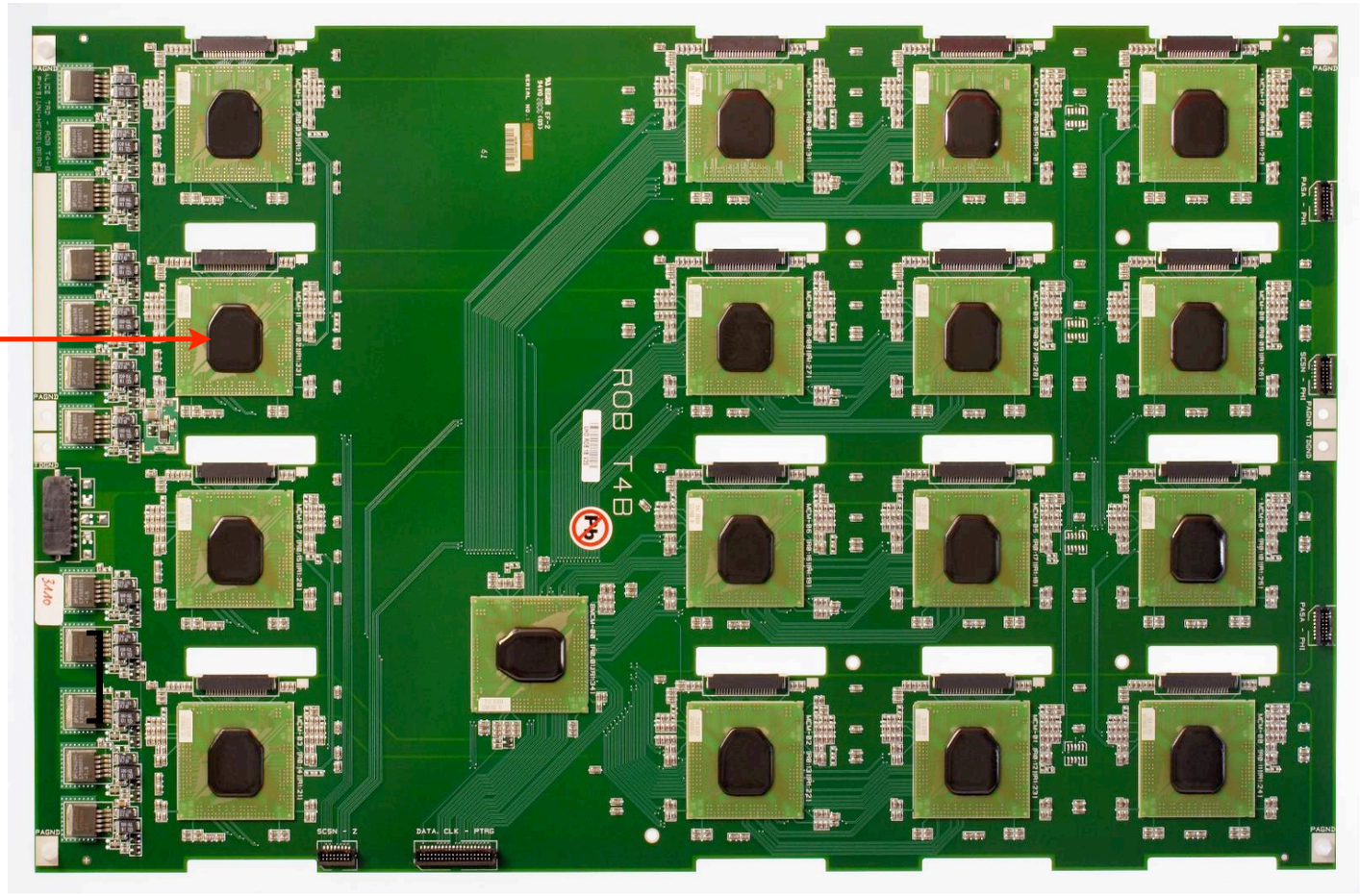
MCM



Readout Chamber Electronics

Read Out Board (ROB)

- MCMs on ROB



6/8 ROBs

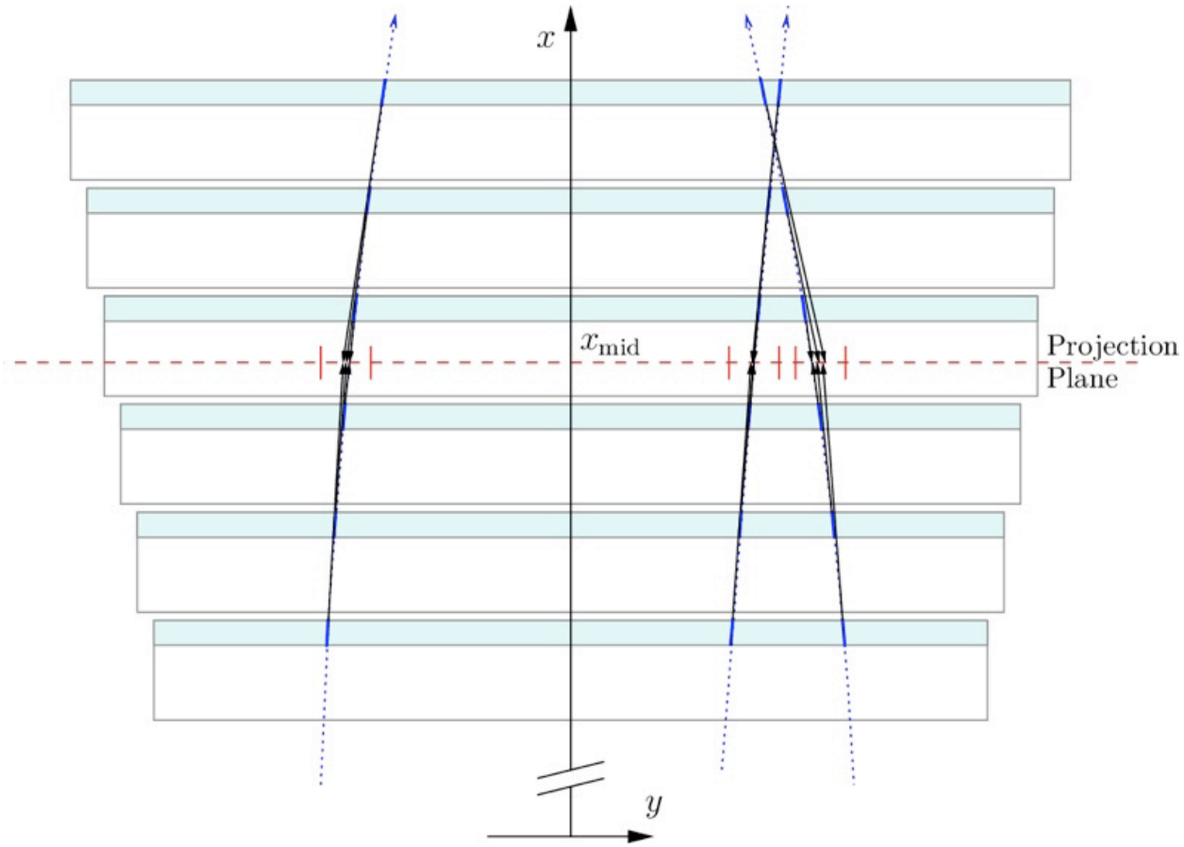
+ 1 linux based Detector Control System (DCS) board
+ 2 Optical Readout Interfaces (ORI) for data shipping

} equipped on one read out chamber

Global Tracking Unit

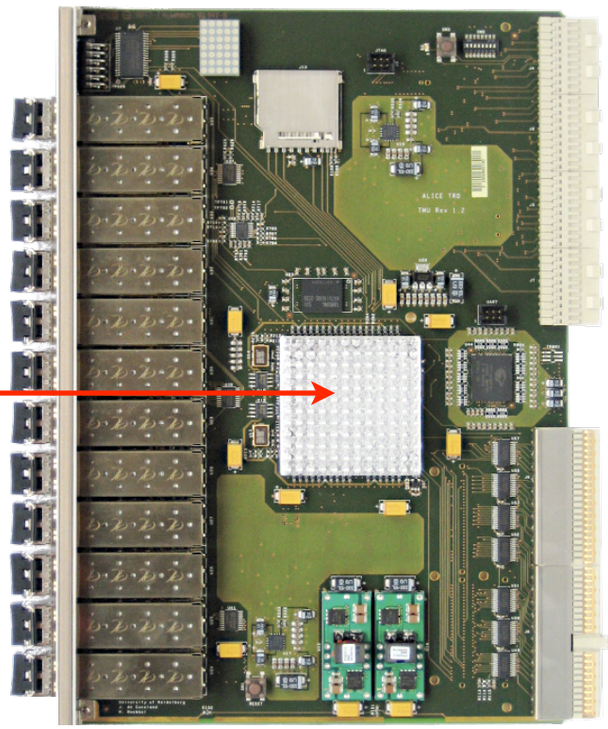
Trigger

- merge tracklets from MCMs
- reconstruct tracks, calculate momentum
- find high p_T tracks, identify electrons
- apply various trigger schemes:
  di-lepton decays, jets, cosmics,...
- level-1 trigger decision, done within 6.5 μs from collision

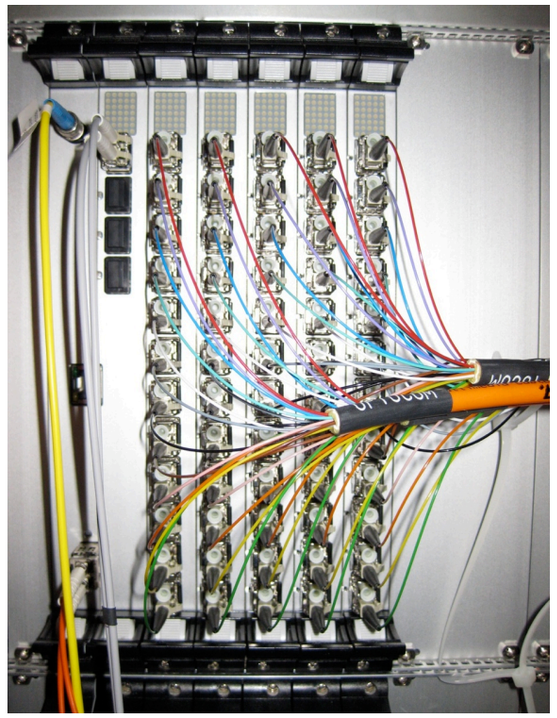


⇨ processing of large amount of data in a short time

(Virtex-4 FX100 FPGA: 95k LCs, 768 I/Os, 20 Internal Multi-Gigabit Serializer/ Deserializer Units, 2 PowerPC cores)



GTU processing node (TMU)



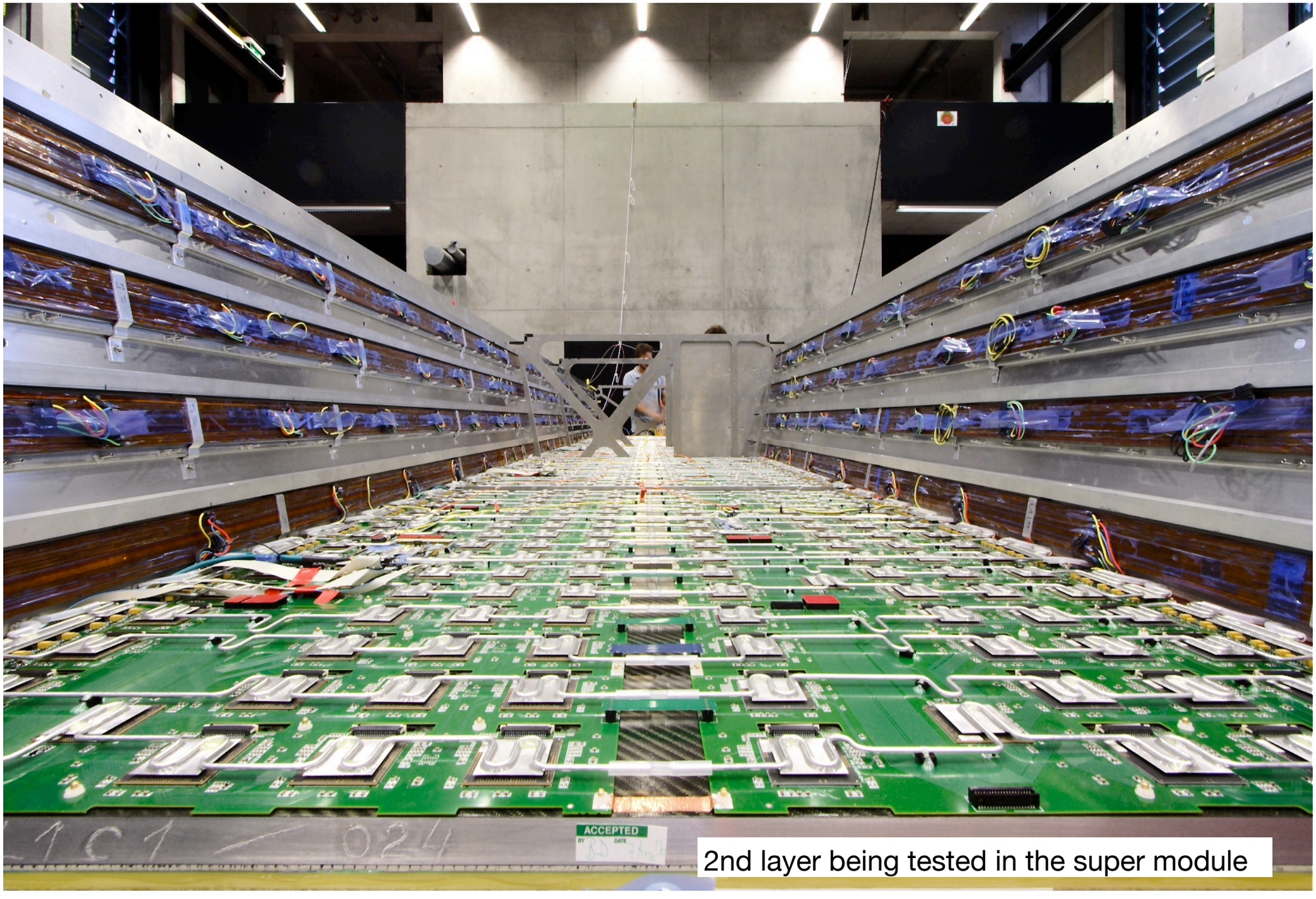
GTU segment for one TRD SM

Raw Data Readout

- collect data from ROCs
- forward to DAQ

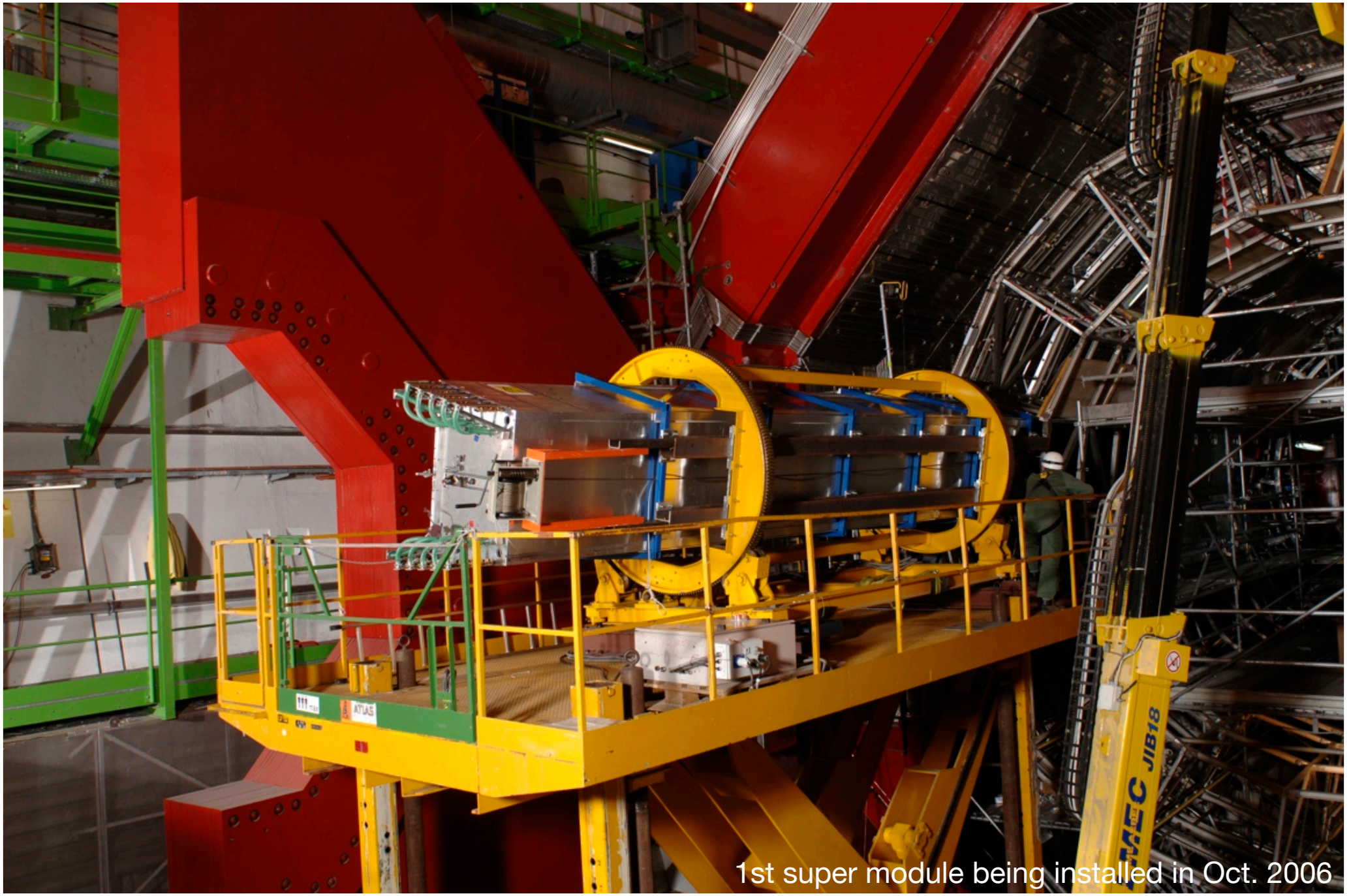
Super Module Integration

Install electronics, assembles into one super module



2nd layer being tested in the super module

Installation at ALICE

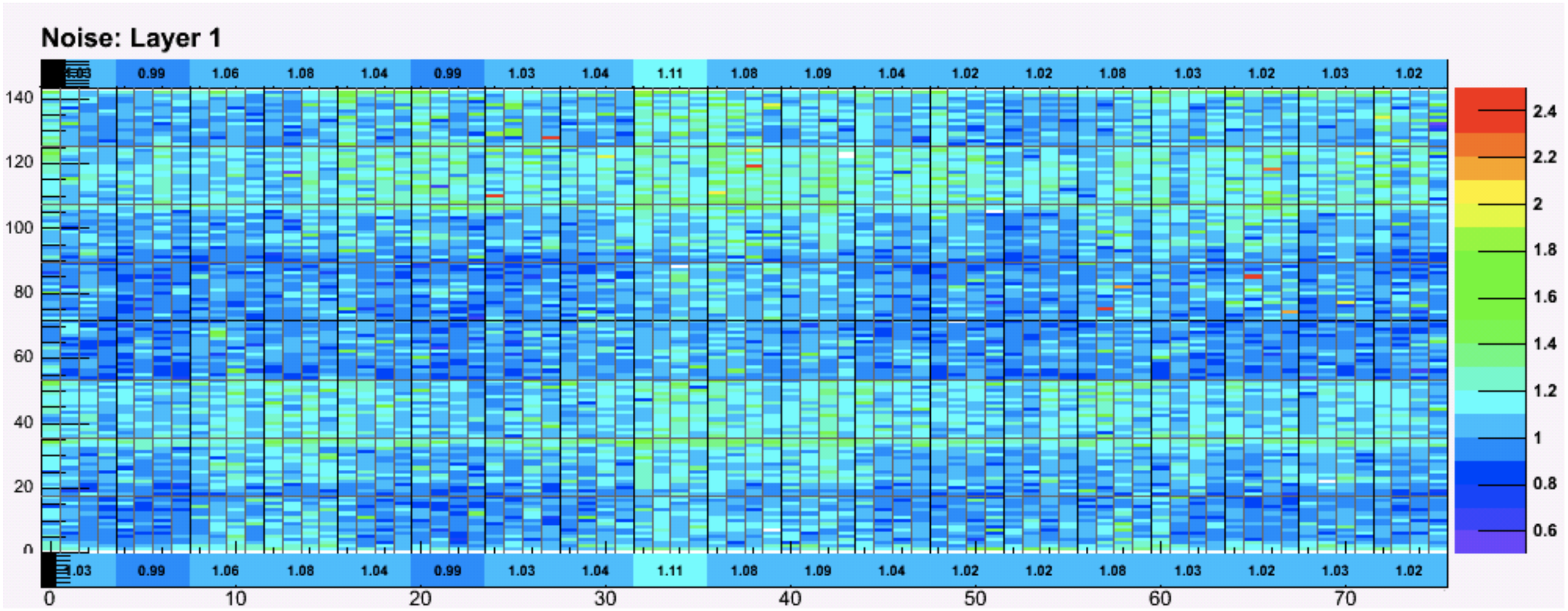


1st super module being installed in Oct. 2006

- 1st TRD super module installed in October 2006
- 6th super module installed January 2009

Electronics Noise

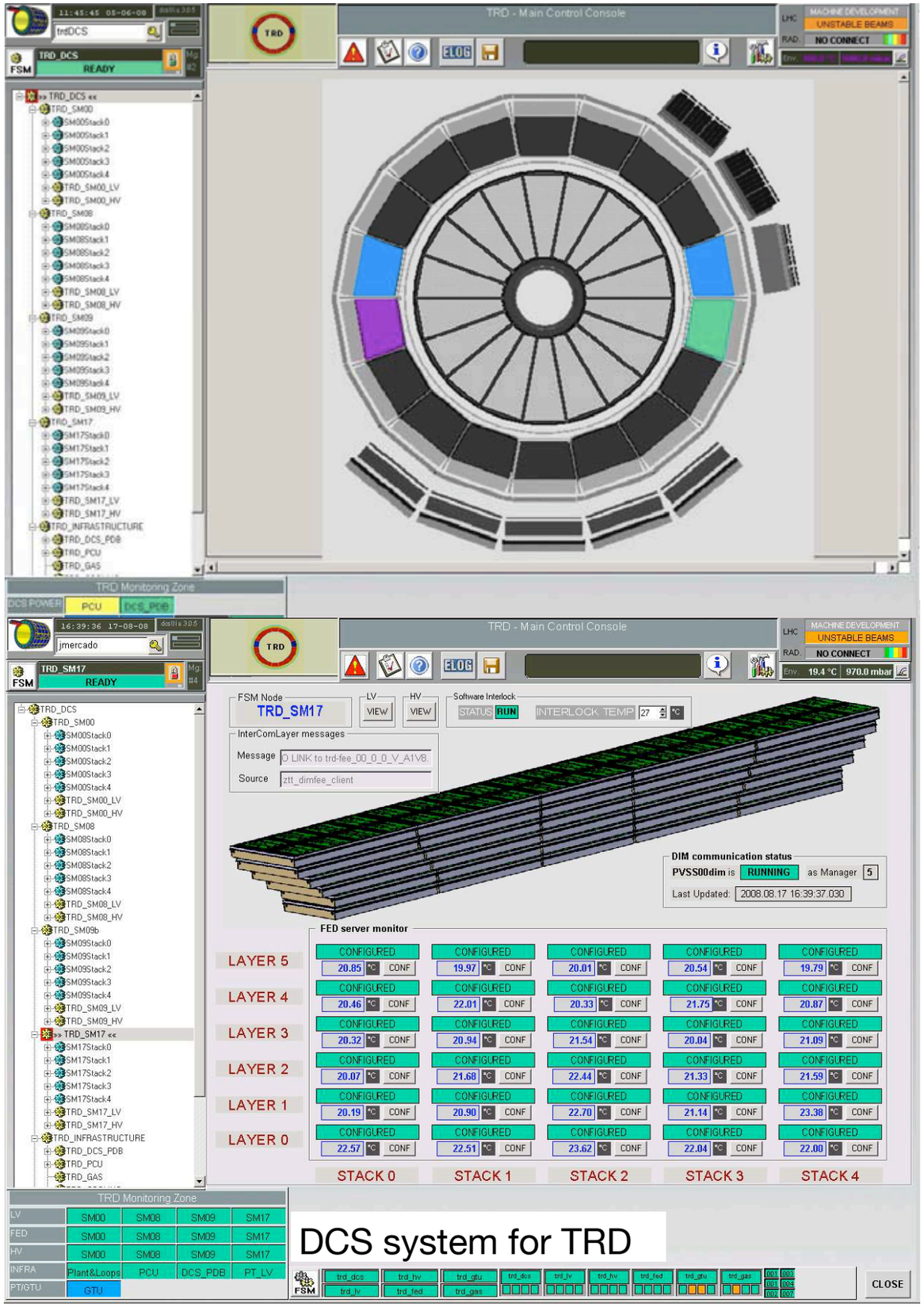
RMS noise map of one layer of a super module integrated into ALICE



1.1 ADC ≙ 1100 *e*

- average 1.1 ADC → achieved design goal
- dead channels < 0.1 %

Detector Control System



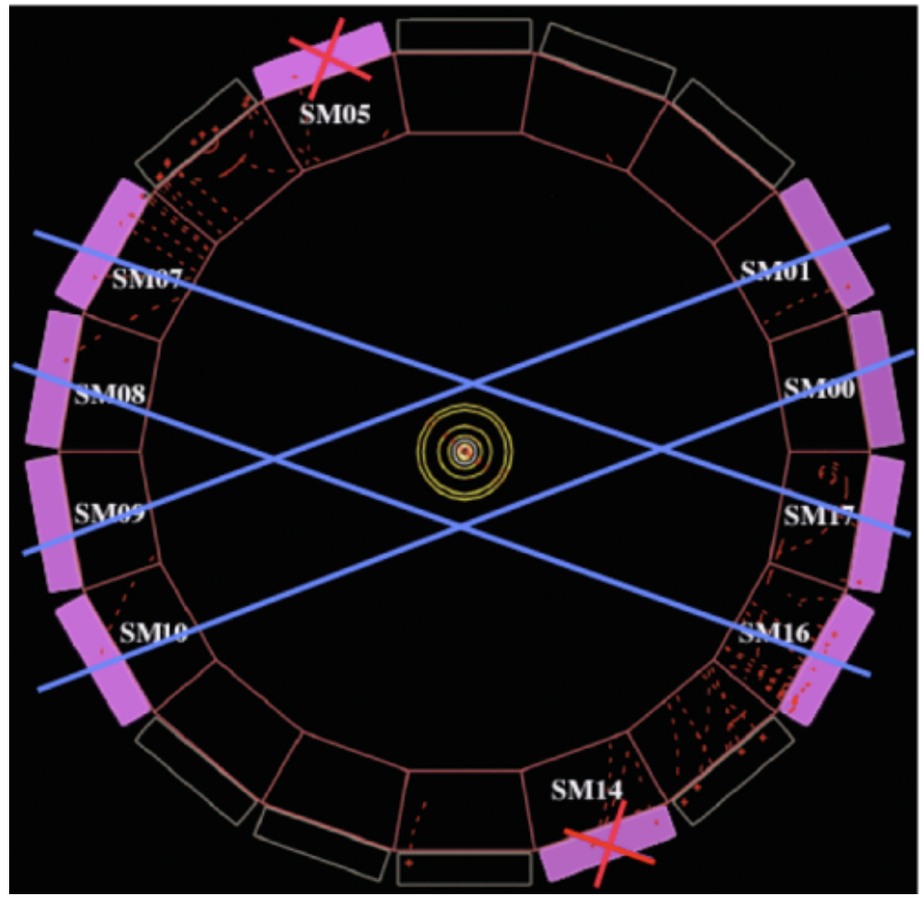
- User friendly detector control system based on PVSS-II
- Ensure safe/stable detector operation and monitoring:
  - 90 low voltage power supplies
  - 1080 HV channels
  - 540 node linux cluster
  - 280 k on-detector CPUs
  - 1.2 M channels of preamplifiers and ADCs and digital filters
  - gas systems
  - cooling systems (for 63 kW power consumption)
  - trigger systems
- Based on tree structure of distributed Finite State Machines
- TRD can be operated by half a shift person (combined shift with TPC)

Commissioning

ALICE cosmic runs (Dec. 2007, Jul.~Oct. 2008)

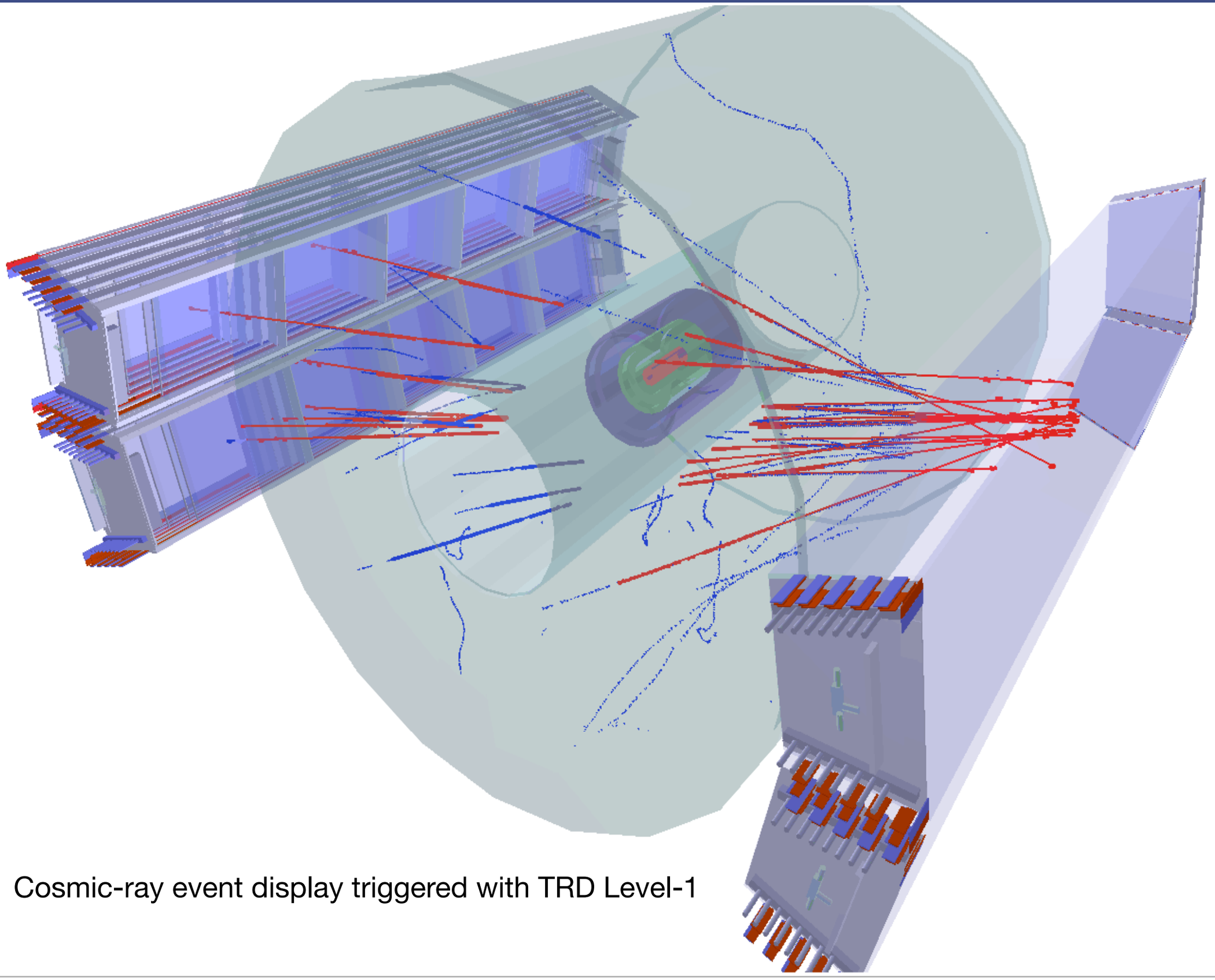
- 4-TRD super modules participated
  (total $\Delta\phi = 80^{\circ}$)
- combined running with other detectors
- TOF pretrigger
  - coincidence of two opposite modules
- GTU L1 trigger
  - 1st running L1 trigger in ALICE
  - L1/L0 ~ 1/20, L1 rate 0.05 Hz
  - purity > 85 %
- 55 k tracks under difficult constraints for cosmic radiation:
  - 60m below the surface
  - require tracks close to horizontal

Coincidence condition for pretrigger



TRD ready for beam in September 2008

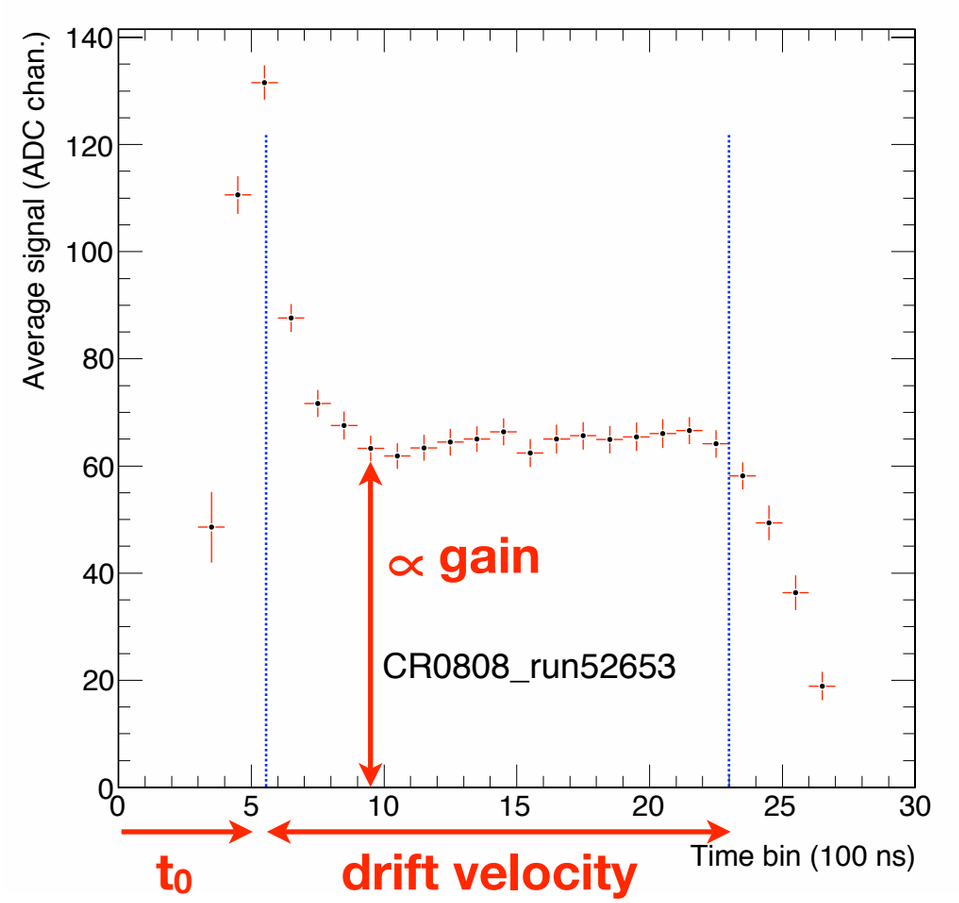
Triggered Cosmic Event

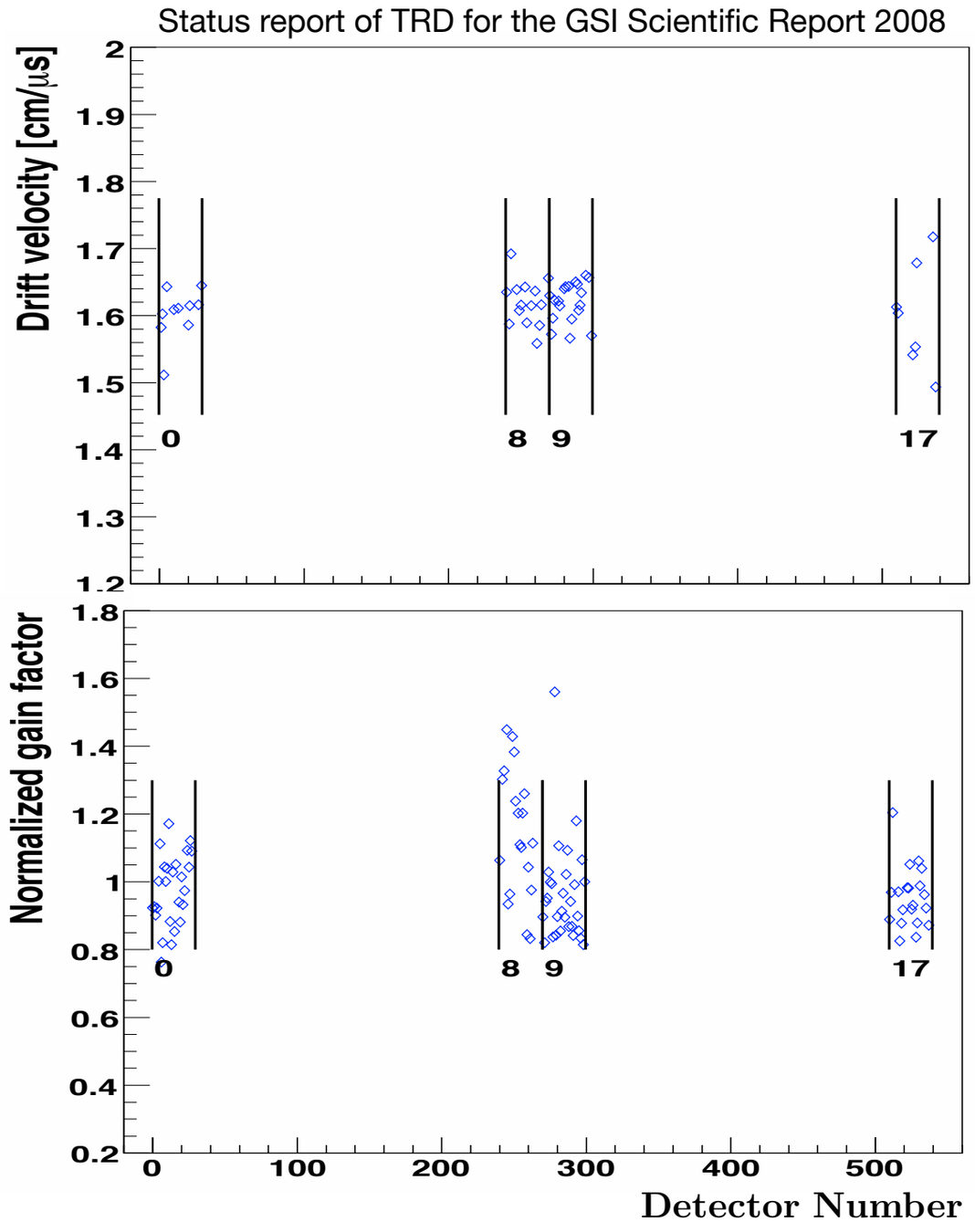


Cosmic-ray event display triggered with TRD Level-1

Calibration

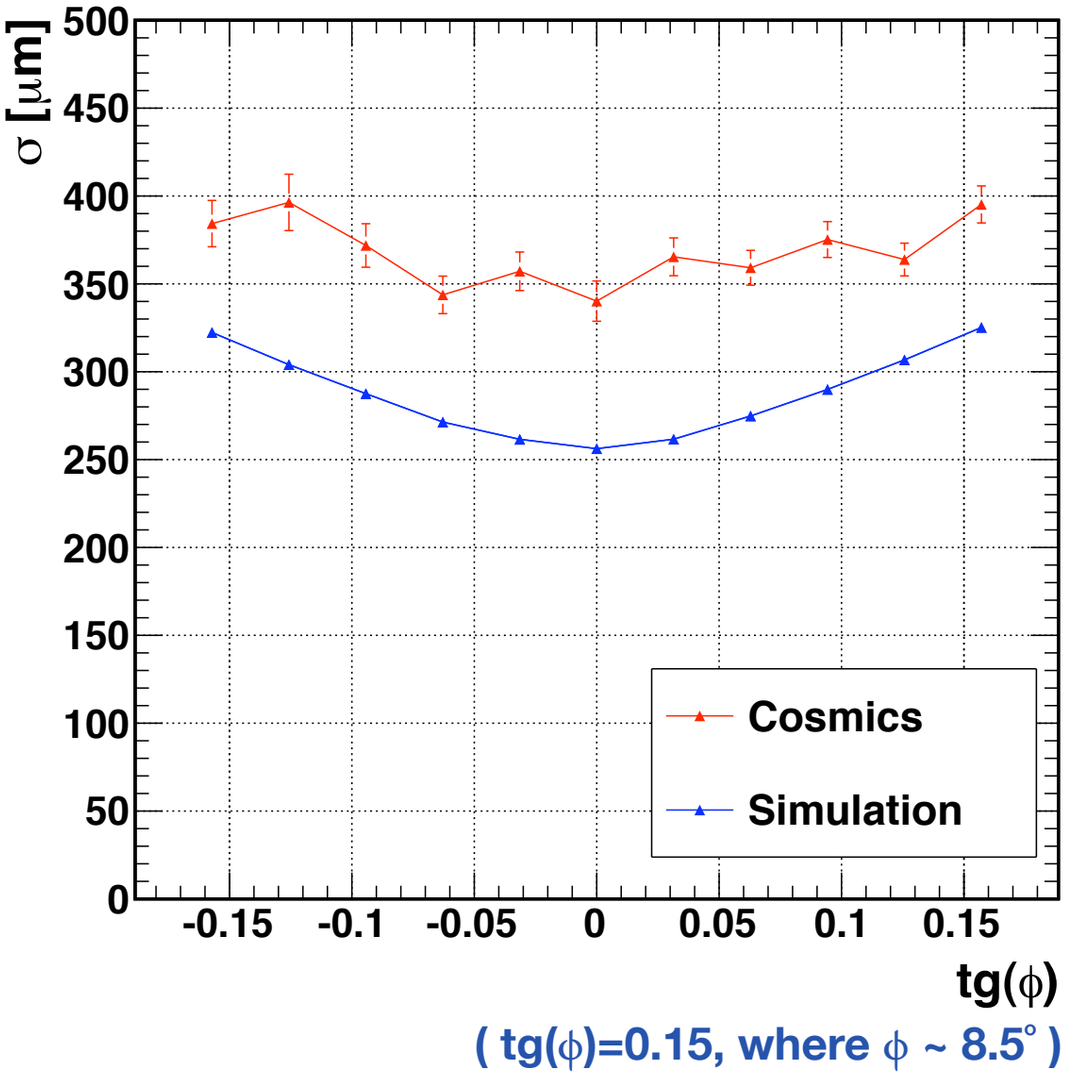
	nominal conditions	cosmic run
gas	Xe, CO_2 (15%)	Ar, CO_2 (18%)
U_a (V)	1550	1450
U_d (V)	-2100	-1200
v_d (cm/μs)	1.5	1.61





- Drift velocity ≈ 1.62 cm/μs, in the expected range from simulation and variation ≈ 3.3 %
- Gain variation ≈ 16 % (gain uniformity is important for online trigger)

Tracking Performance

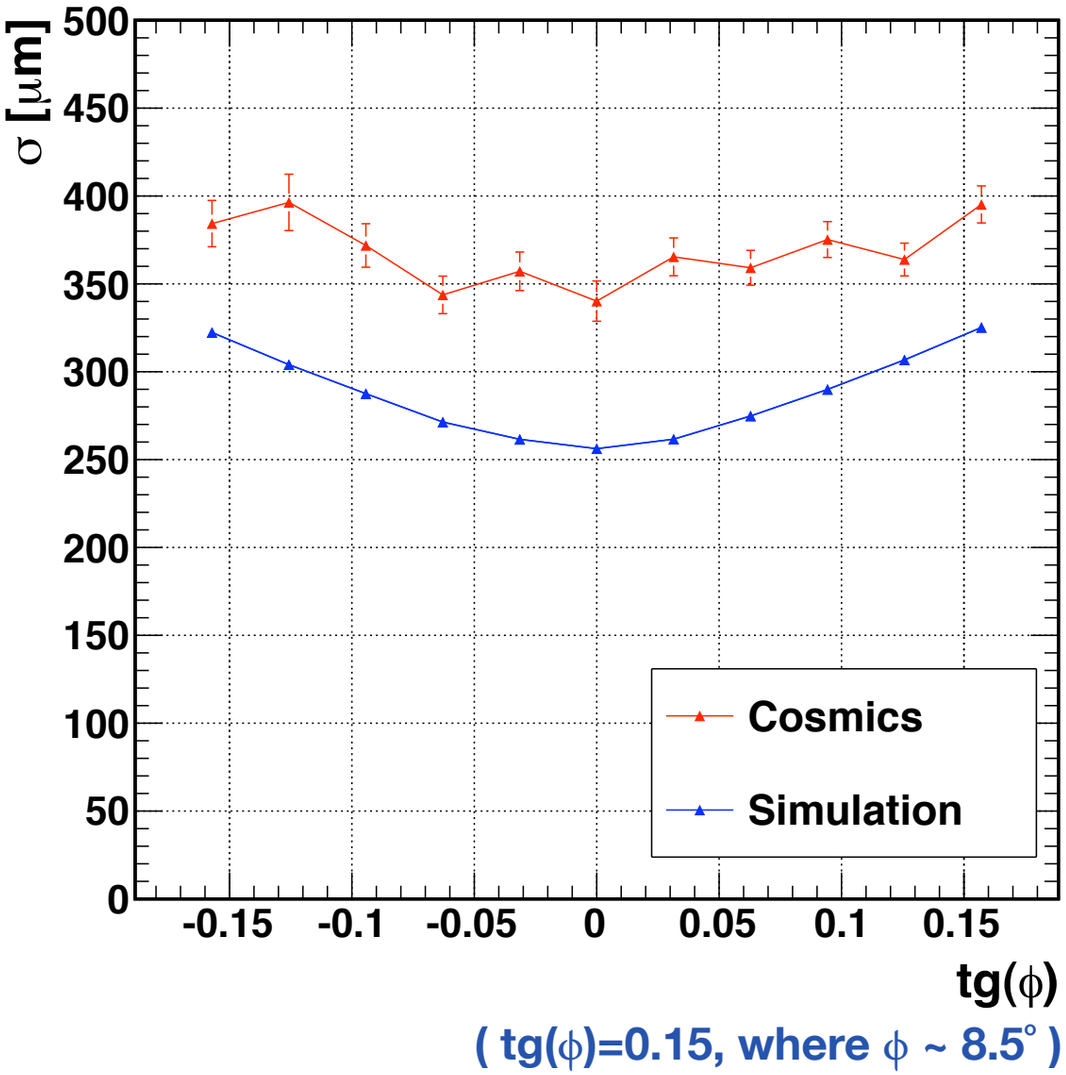


(tg(ϕ)=0.15, where ϕ ~ 8.5°)

$r\phi$ directional position resolution:

- ≈ 350 μm at 0° angle of incidence
- close to design goal

Tracking Performance



(tg(ϕ)=0.15, where ϕ ~ 8.5°)

$r\phi$ directional position resolution:

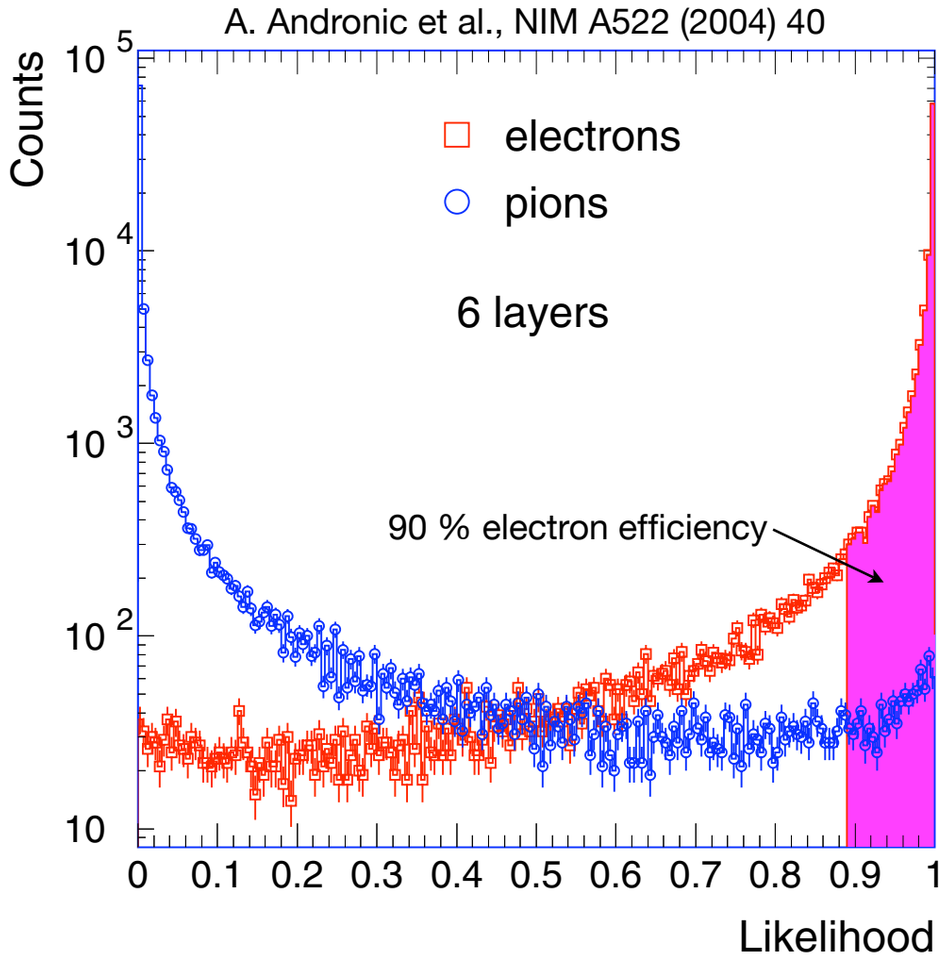
- ≈ 350 μm at 0° angle of incidence
- close to design goal

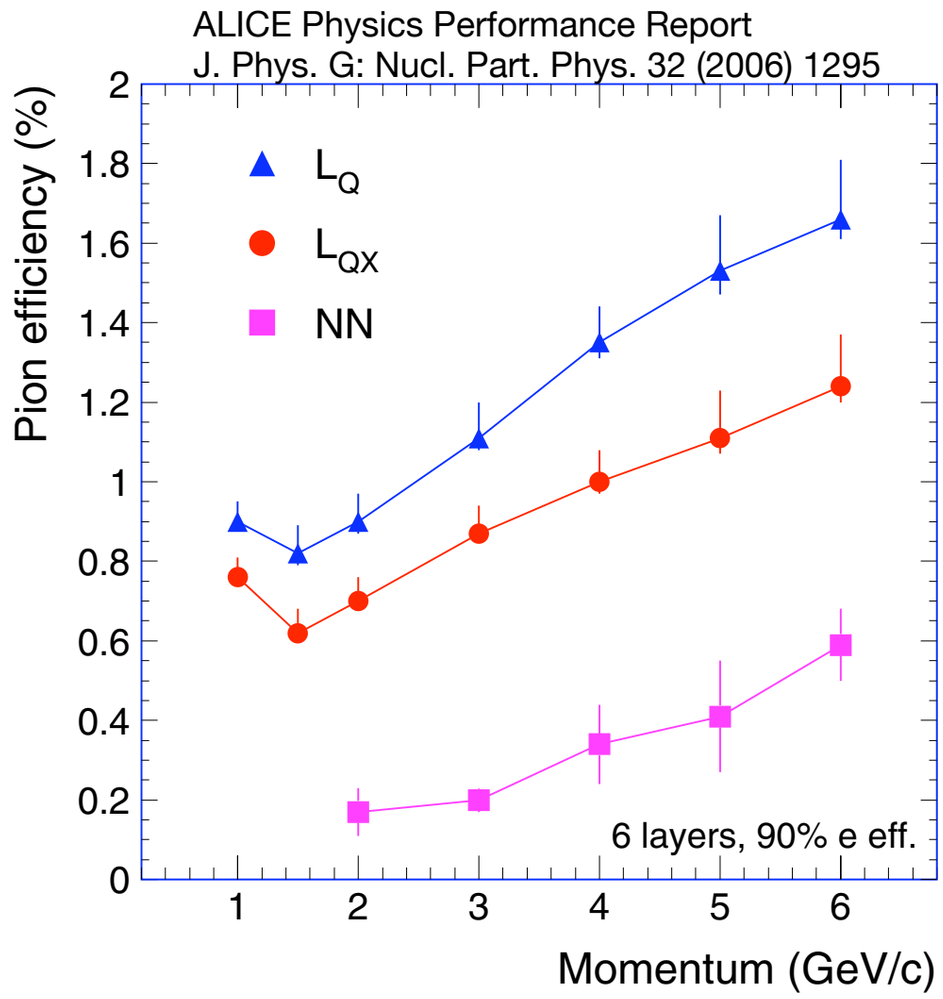
Various analyses ongoing:

- TPC-TRD track matching resolution
- geometrical alignment

Electron Identification and Pion Rejection

Test beam measurement at CERN PS with electron and pion beam





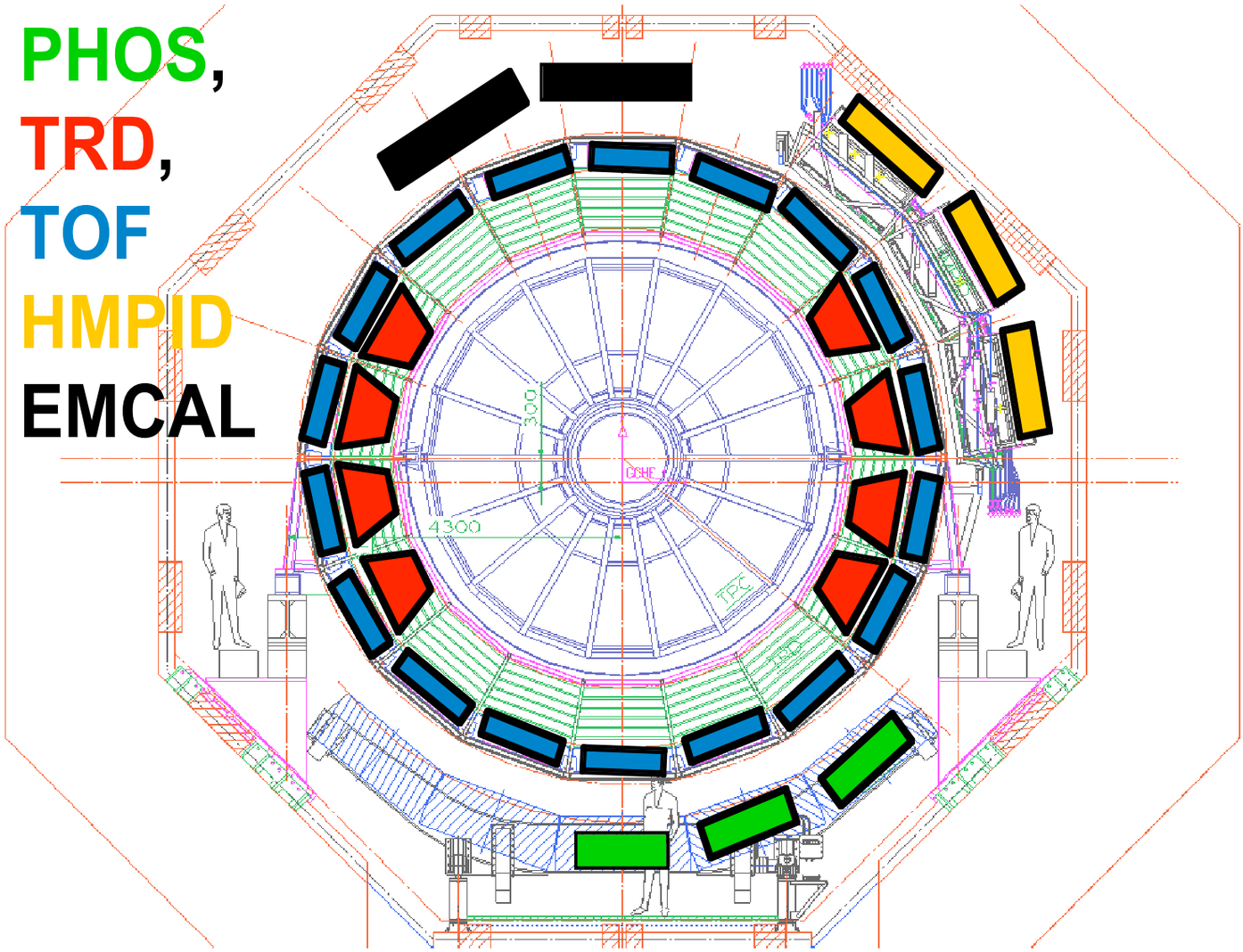
- Likelihood can be based on:
  - total deposited charge (LQ)
  - deposited charge/position (LQX)
- Exceed design goal of factor 100 pion rejection for isolated tracks

Summary and Outlook

- TRD provides excellent electron identification and fast trigger capability
- 4-TRD super modules were commissioned successfully in 2008

- Continuos cosmic run will be from August until colliding beams

- For 2009 LHC run, 8 super modules will be ready
- Full TRD will be ready for 2011 run



TRD is ready and waiting for colliding beams!