

# OPERA: hunting for the $\tau$

SPP seminar  
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Andrea Longhin  
CEA Saclay Irfu/SPP

37 INSTITUTIONS ~ 160 PHYSICISTS

IPNL, IRES, LAPP

Hamburg, Münster, Rostock

Zagreb

L'Aquila, Bari, Bologna, Napoli, Padova,  
Roma, Salerno, LNF, LNGS

Aichi, Toho Kobe, Nagoya Utsunomiya

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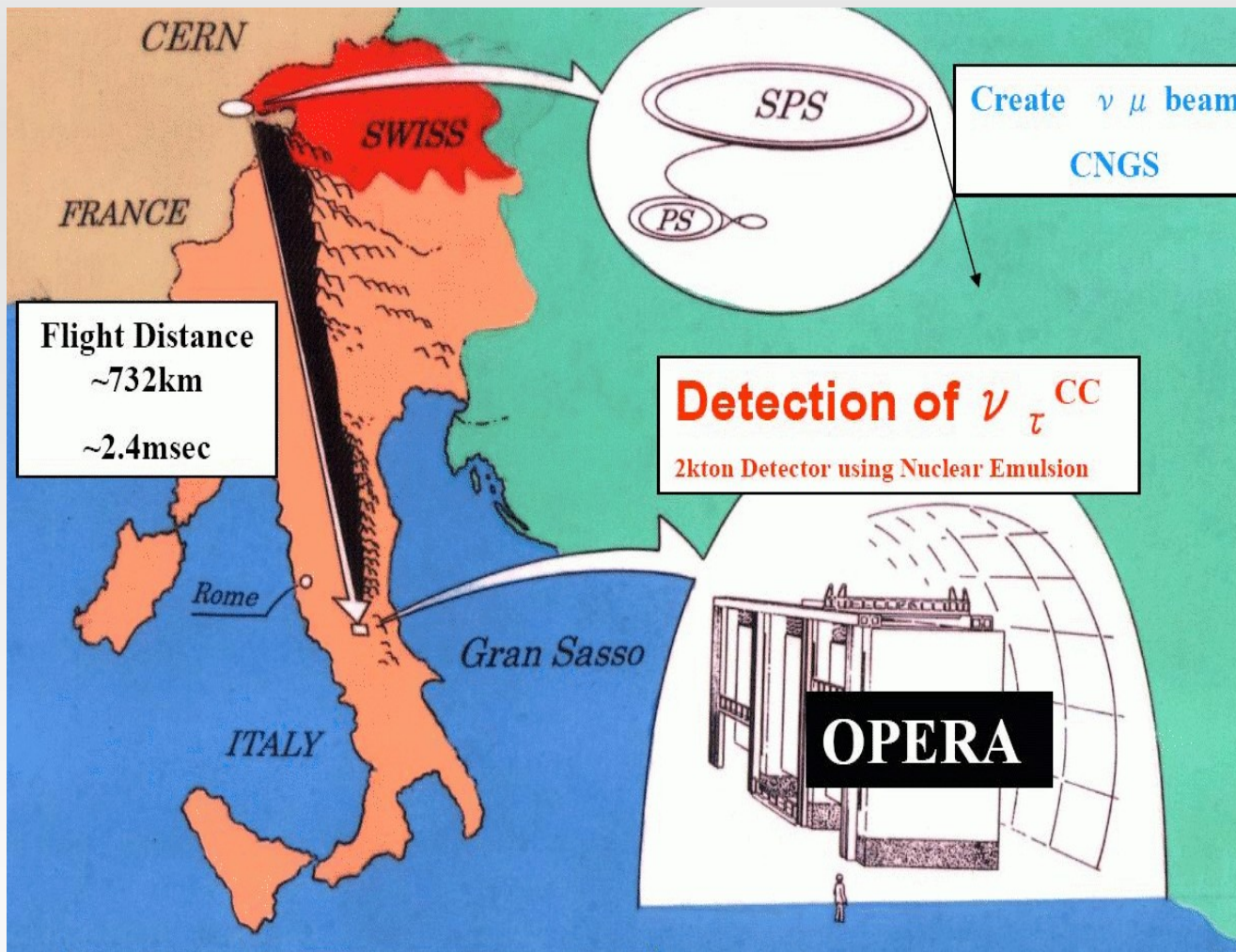
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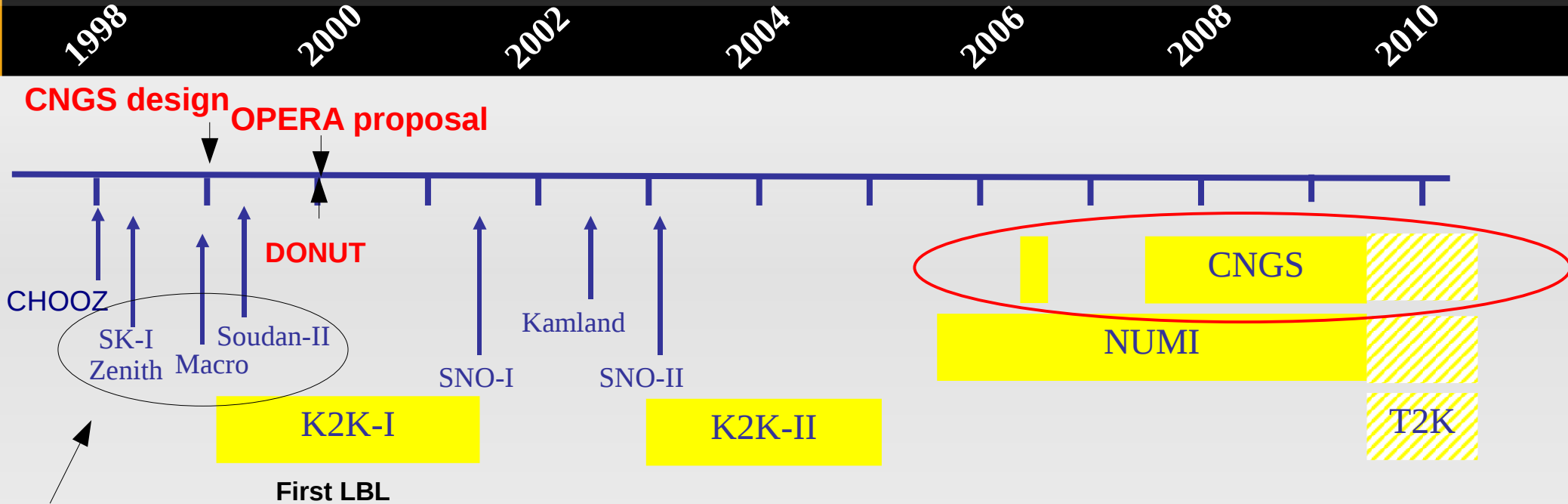
# Outline



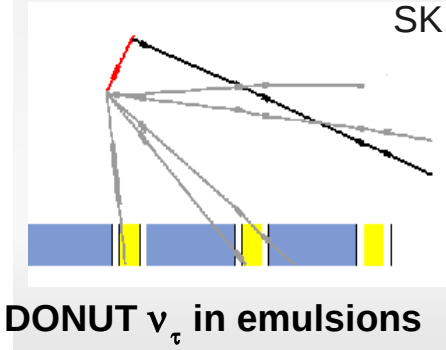
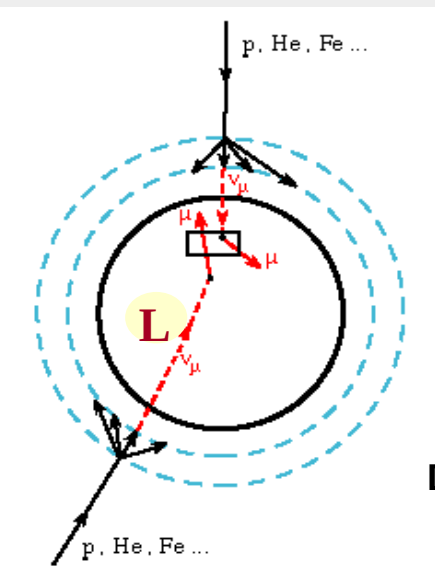
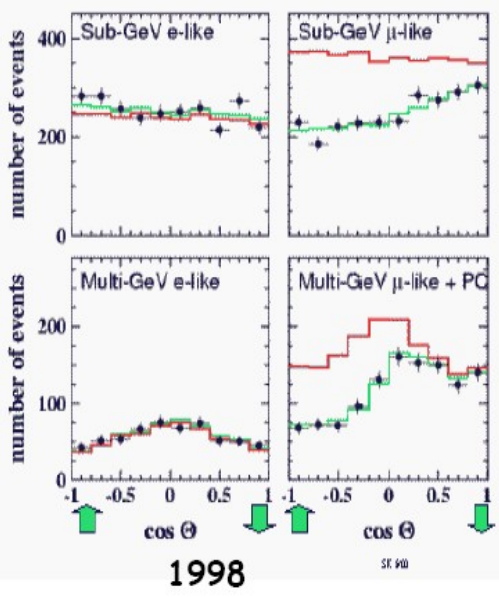
- Physics potential and goals
- Experimental strategy
- the CNGS neutrino beam and the OPERA detector
- Results from first running
- Conclusions

# The road to OPERA

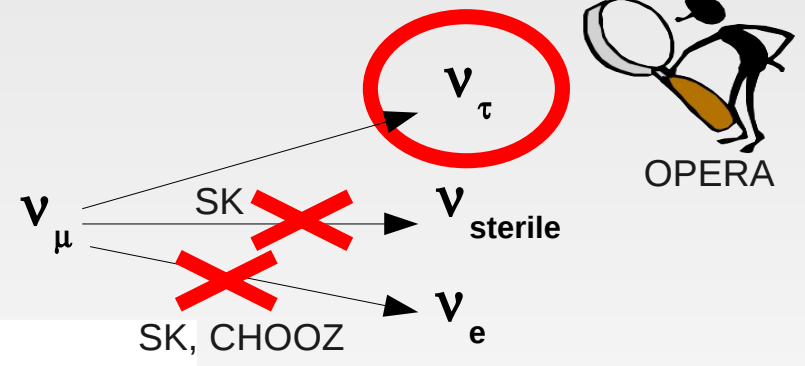
Cern Neutrinos to Gran Sasso



atmospheric neutrino anomaly: deficit of  $\nu_\mu$  (and not  $\nu_e$ ) with zenith angle dependence: **OSCILLATION !!!**

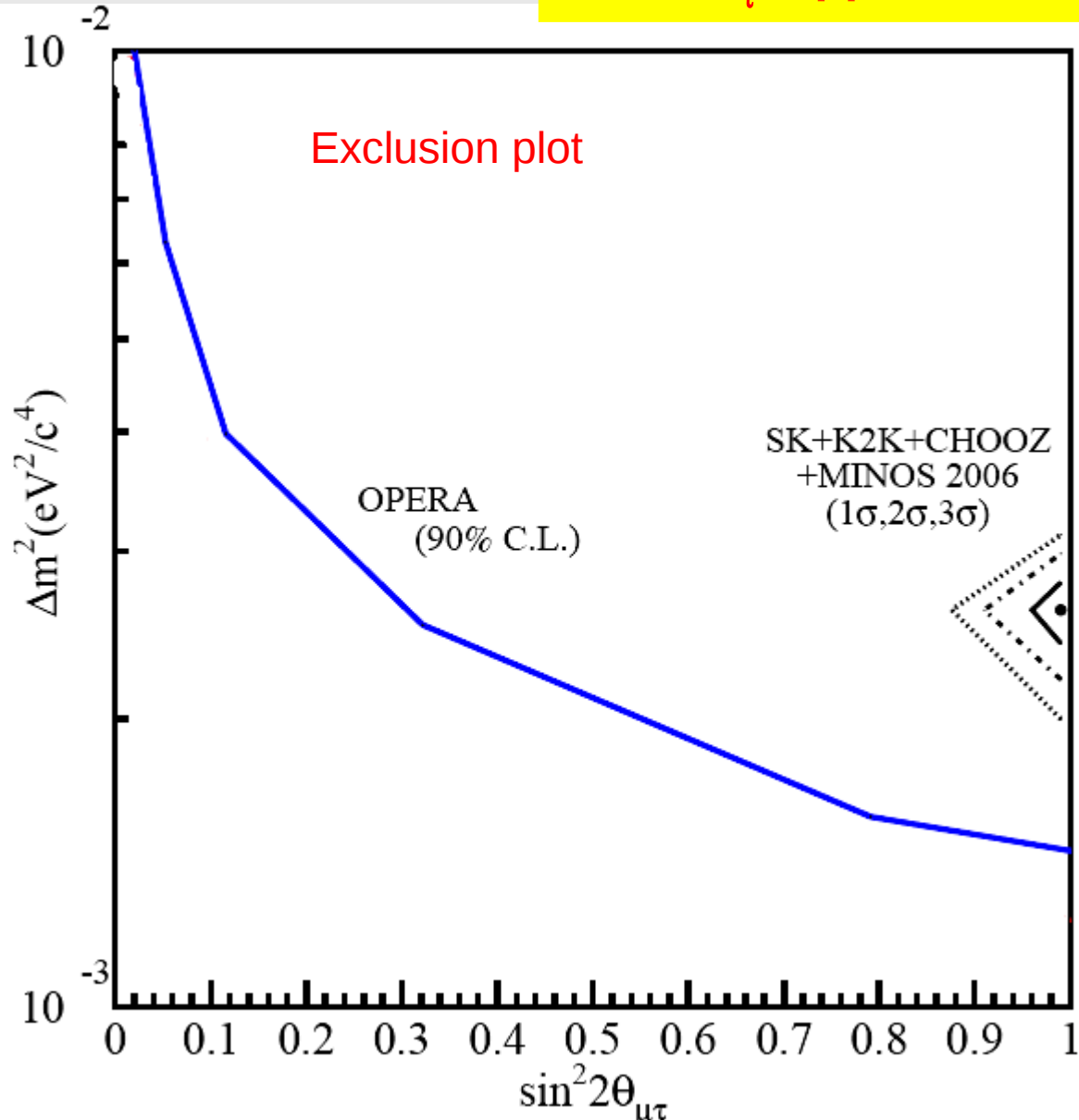


A. Longhin



# OPERA task

provide an unambiguous evidence for  $\nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \nu_{\tau}$  oscillation in the region of atmospheric neutrinos by looking for  $\nu_{\tau}$  appearance in a pure  $\nu_{\mu}$  beam



2008 MINOS results:

$$\Delta m_{23}^2 = (2.43 \pm 0.13) 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2 \text{ (68\% C.L.)}$$

$$\sin^2 2\theta_{23} > 0.90 \text{ (90\% C.L.)}$$

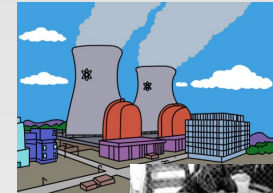
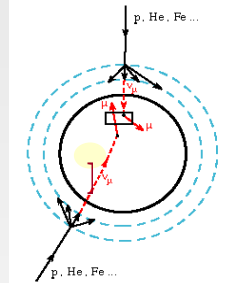
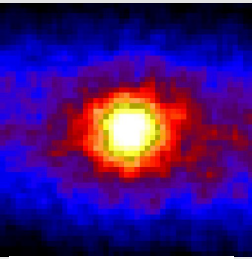
J.Phys.Conf.Ser.136:022014,2008

# A hard path towards appearance !

- Nature has been kind with us since it provided sources where oscillations are a leading effect: atmospheric  $\nu_\mu$  disappearance (oscillations discovered)
  - It has also been a bit malicious:

At **solar scale**, you cannot see explicitly a  $\nu_\epsilon \rightarrow \nu_\mu$  transition through  $\mu$  CC production: no natural (Sun) or man-made source (reactors) are beyond the kinematical **threshold** for  $\mu$  production

At the **atmospheric scale** you have powerful  $\nu_\mu$  source (atmospheric, artificial beams) but...  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$  transitions are suppressed (“ $\theta_{13}$  dilemma”). **We must resort to looking for  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\tau$  !**



– At long baseline (small  $\Delta m^2$ ) **seeking for taus on an event-by-event basis is a major engineering and experimental challenge:**

- It requires a beam  **$O(10)$  more energetic** than any other LBL ( $m_\tau!$ )
- It requires a fine grained far detector  **$O(100)$  more massive** than its short-baseline ancestors (kton-size i.e. CHORUS)

# Nuclear emulsions: a “curriculum” of discoveries

Unique tool to “see” the decay short-lived particles

1896 : radioactivity Bequerel U salts

1947 : pion

discovered in cosmic rays

1971 : charmed mesons

Pb + emulsion sandwich

formerly seen as ‘X-particle’ in cosmic rays

1985 : beauty mesons

WA75 hybrid experiment

first observation

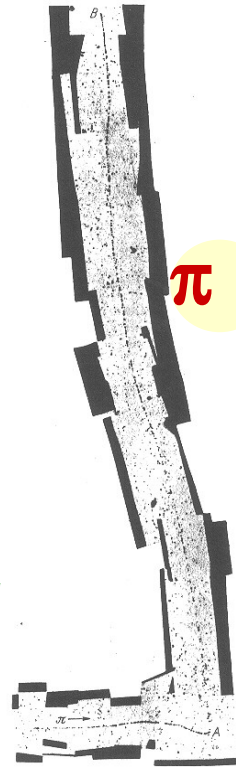
2000 : tau  $\nu$  DONUT “beam-dump” exp.

nowadays

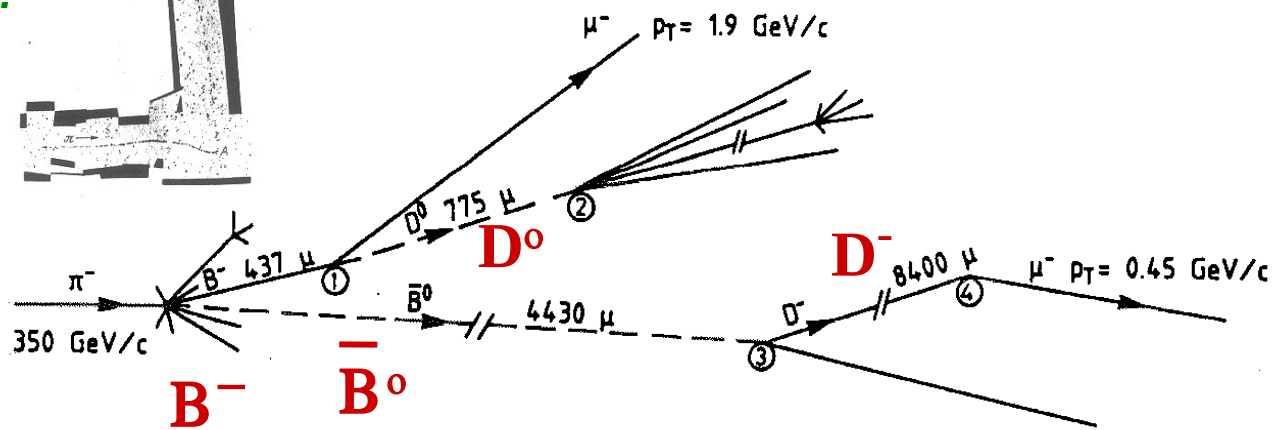
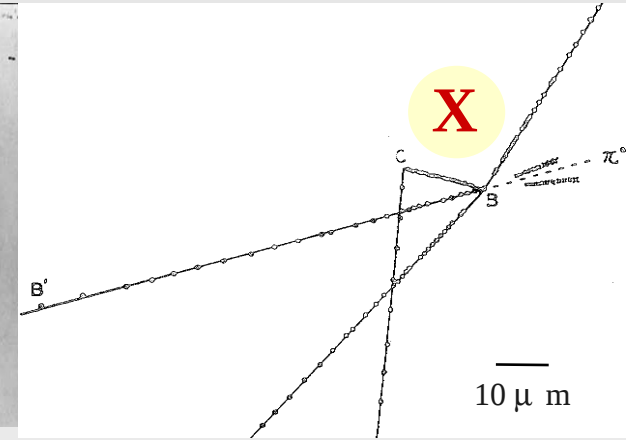
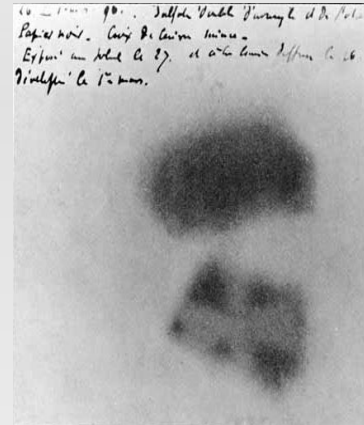
Large scale automatic scanning

+ massive targets

$\tau$  decay search in  $\nu_{\tau}^{CC}$



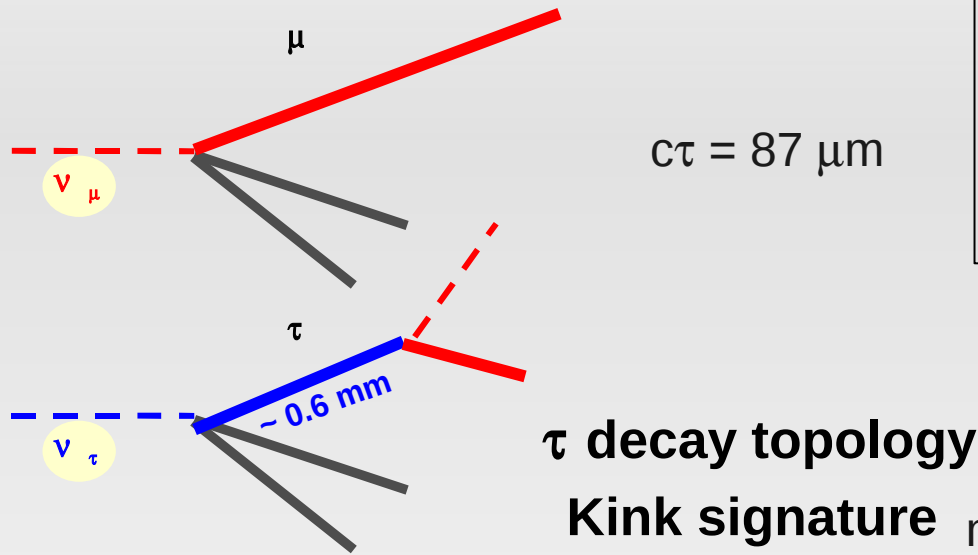
• **Established technique**



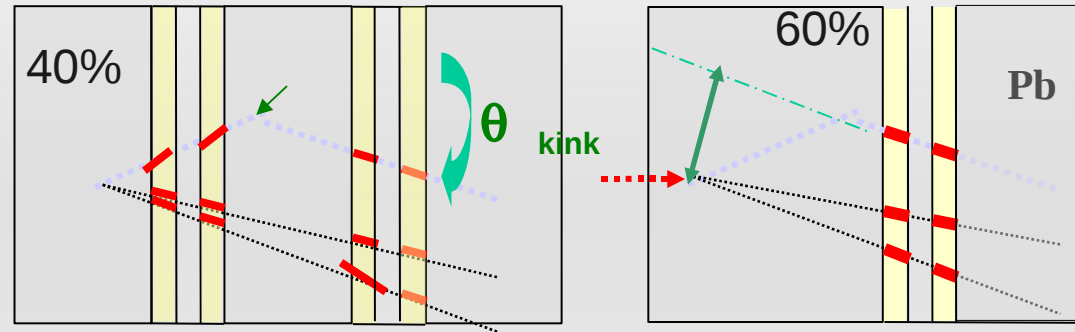
~ “zero background” exp. small statistics is acceptable

**Further experience of E531, CHORUS**

# The $\nu_\tau$ appearance challenge



Kink ("long decays") I.P. (short decays)



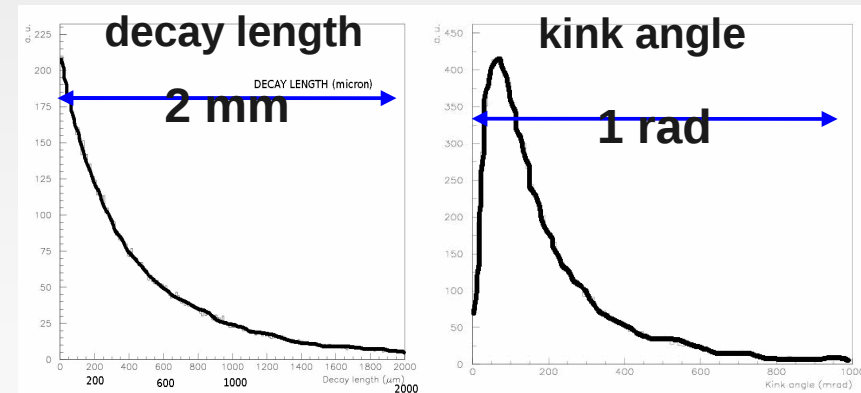
kink

$\tau \Rightarrow \mu \nu_\tau \nu_\mu$	17 %
$\tau \Rightarrow e^- \nu_\tau \nu_e$	18 %
$\tau \Rightarrow h^- \nu_\tau n(\pi^0)$	50 %
$\tau \Rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^- \pi^- \nu_\tau n(\pi^0)$	14 %

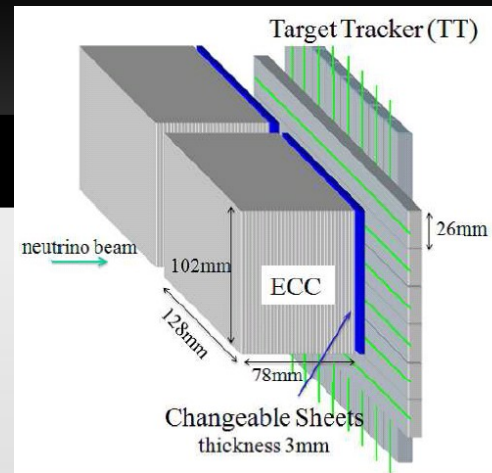
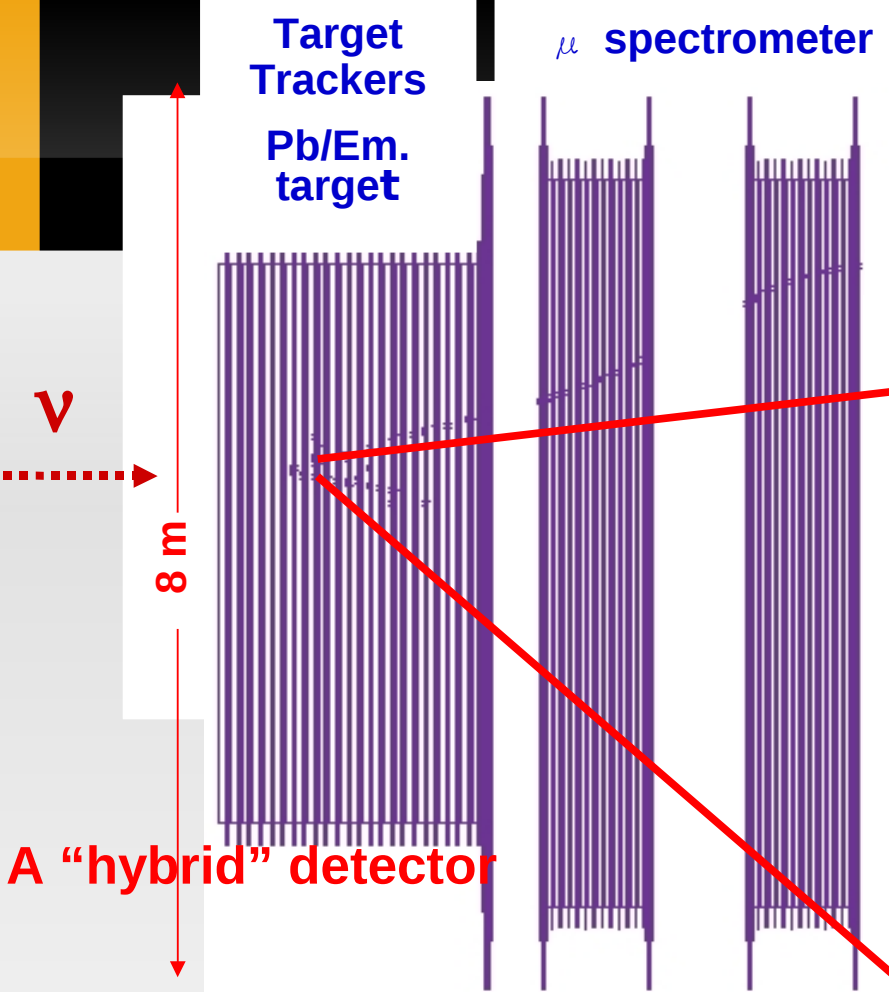
"Emulsion Cloud Chamber" detector reconciles two conflicting requirements:

➤ Large mass  $N_\tau \propto (\Delta m^2)^2 M_{\text{target}}$   
 $O(1 \text{ Kton})$  for  $\Delta m^2 = O(10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2)$

➤ High granularity: ( $\sim \mu\text{m}$  res.)  
 signal selection + background rejection

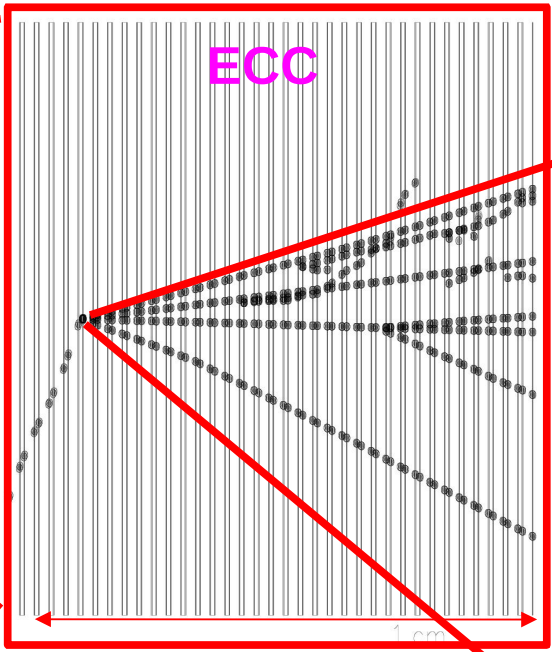


# The OPERA way

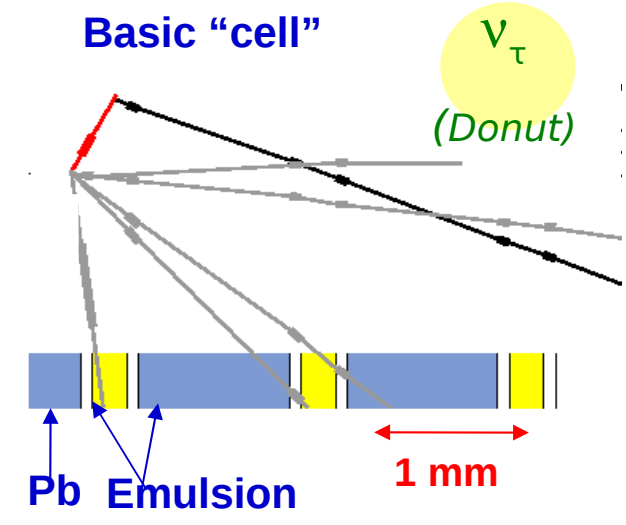


Extract bricks according to electronic det. prediction

Pb/Em. brick



Basic "cell"



Electronic detectors

detect  $\nu$  interaction, brick finding

$\mu$  -ID, Q and p : bckg suppression

based on the only proven technology (DONUT) to identify  $\nu_{\tau}$  on an event-by-event basis (nucl.emuls.&lead driven by real time detectors). A major engineering achievement: brought such technology to an immense size (1.25 kton)

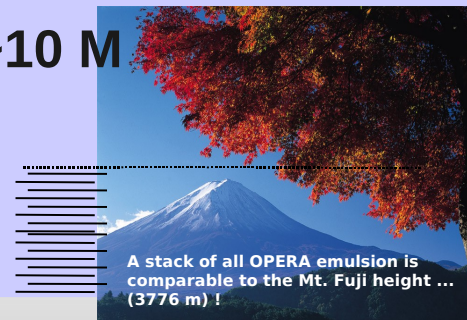
Emulsion detectors:

modular structure of 150000 ECCs  
mass industrial production with high standards

FAST-AUTOMATIC scanning

vertex search, decay search,  $e/\mu$  ID, event kinematics

~10 M

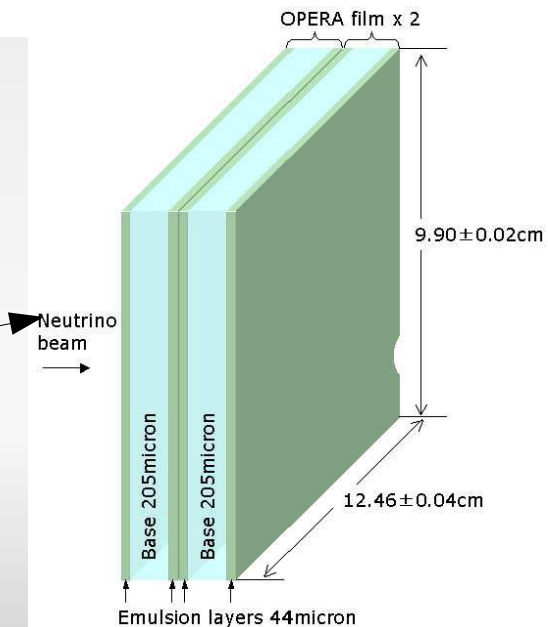
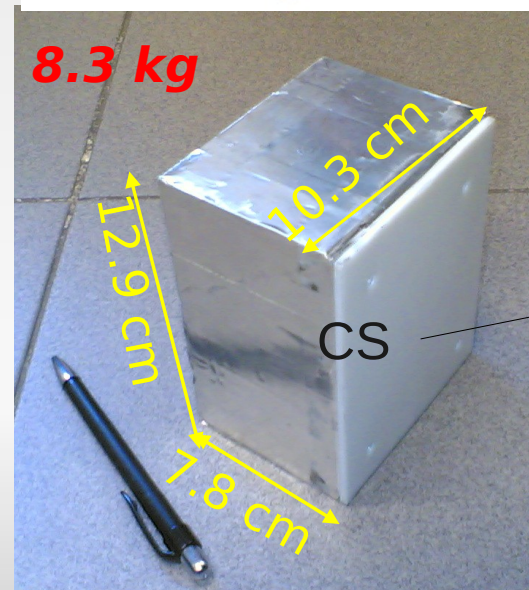
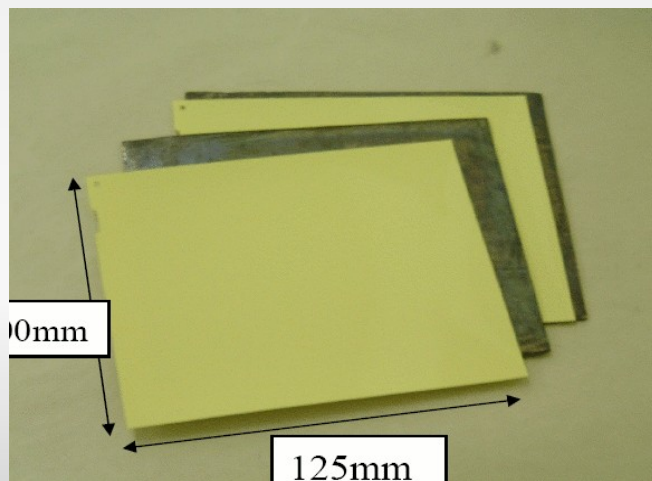
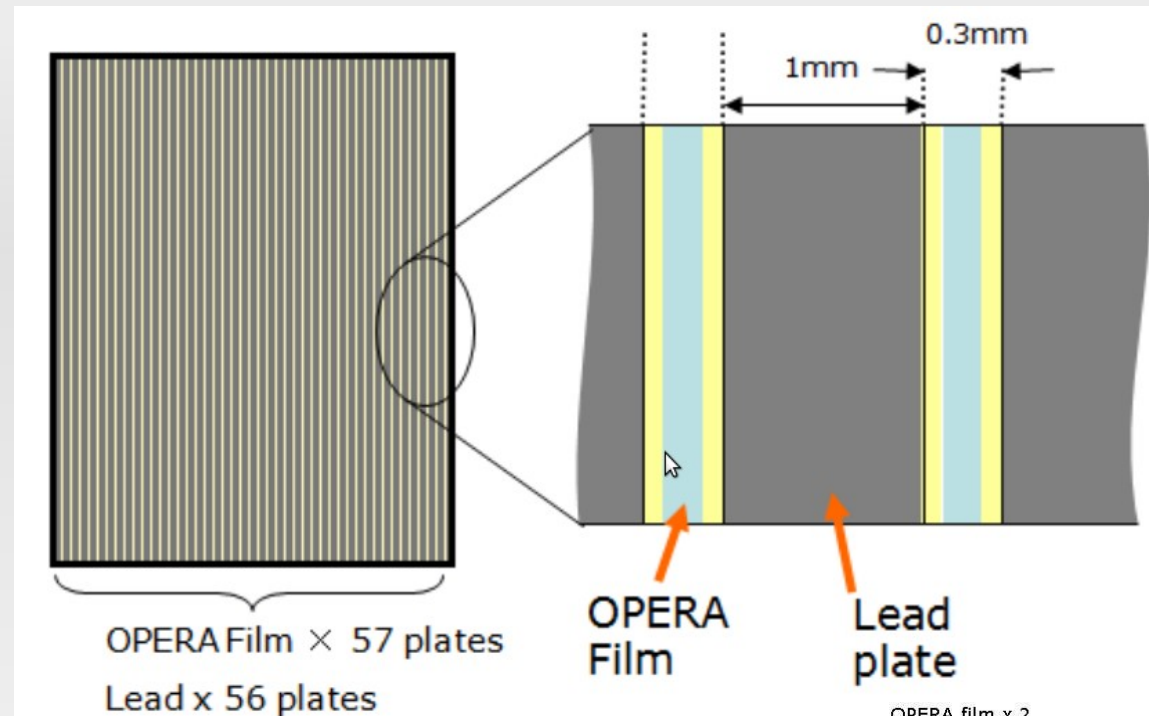


A stack of all OPERA emulsion is comparable to the Mt. Fuji height ... (3776 m) !



# The ECC (emulsion cloud chamber)

- Brick
- 57 lead plates (1 mm) + 56 emulsions (300  $\mu\text{m}$ )
- Changeable Sheet (CS)
  - low-background removable emulsion doublet attached downstream of brick
  - validates the occurrence of event in the selected brick before unpacking and developing
  - “Bridge” between electronic detectors and brick. (thanks to low track density obtained with a special treatment)
  - Triggers the prediction scanning which leads to vertex identification (“scan-back”)



# ECC detector performances

High precision tracking:  $\delta x < 1 \mu\text{m}$ ,  $\delta \theta < 1 \text{mrad}$

- Kink decay topology
- Electron and  $\gamma/\pi^0$  identification

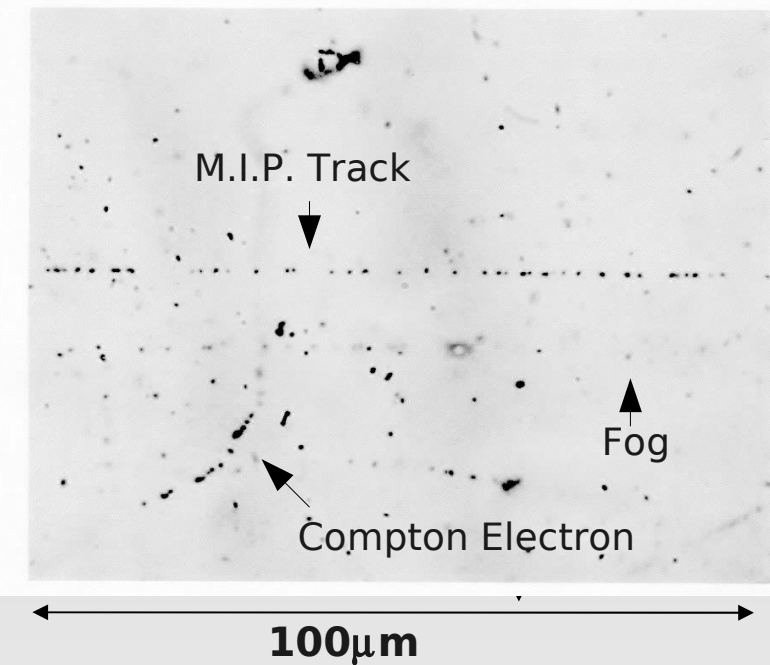
Momentum and Energy measurement

- Multiple Coulomb Scattering
  - $\Delta p/p < 0.2$  after  $5 X_0$  up to 4 GeV
- Track counting  $\sigma/E = 40\%/\sqrt{E}$

Ionization ( $dE/dx$  measurement)

- $\pi/\mu$  separation
- $e/\pi^0$  separation

1 brick  $\sim 10 X_0$

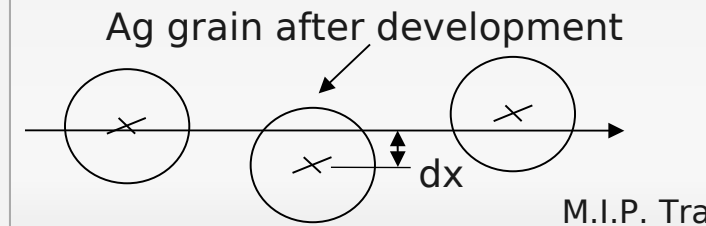
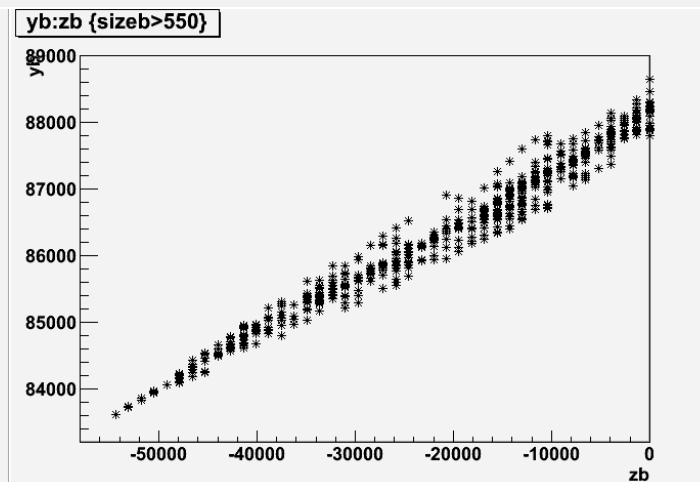
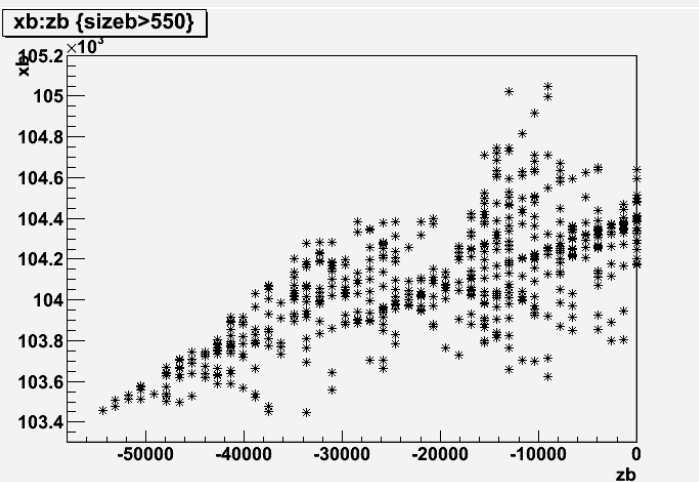


**Sensitivity:  $\sim 36$  grains/100  $\mu\text{m}$  for a m.i.p.**  
**Random noise ("fog")  $\sim 6/(10\mu\text{m})^3$**

Practically a "stand-alone" detector. Some more examples will be shown later on real neutrino events

high density + small radiation length: event containment: lots of information !

A  $\sim 20$  GeV shower (CNGS  $\nu$ )



**NIM A554 (2005) 247**

# An "appearance" optimized beam

**DESIGN:  $4.5 \cdot 10^{19}$  pot./year, 200 days/y for 5 y**

## Beam main features

$L$	<b>732 km</b>
$\langle E_\nu \rangle$	<b>17 GeV</b>
$L / \langle E_\nu \rangle$	<b>43 km/GeV</b>

To sit on the oscillation probability maximum at 732 km one would need a lower energy (~3 GeV cfr the Numi setup) but OPERA aims to produce taus

$\Pr(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\tau) * \sigma_{\nu(\tau)CC}(E) * \text{flux}$

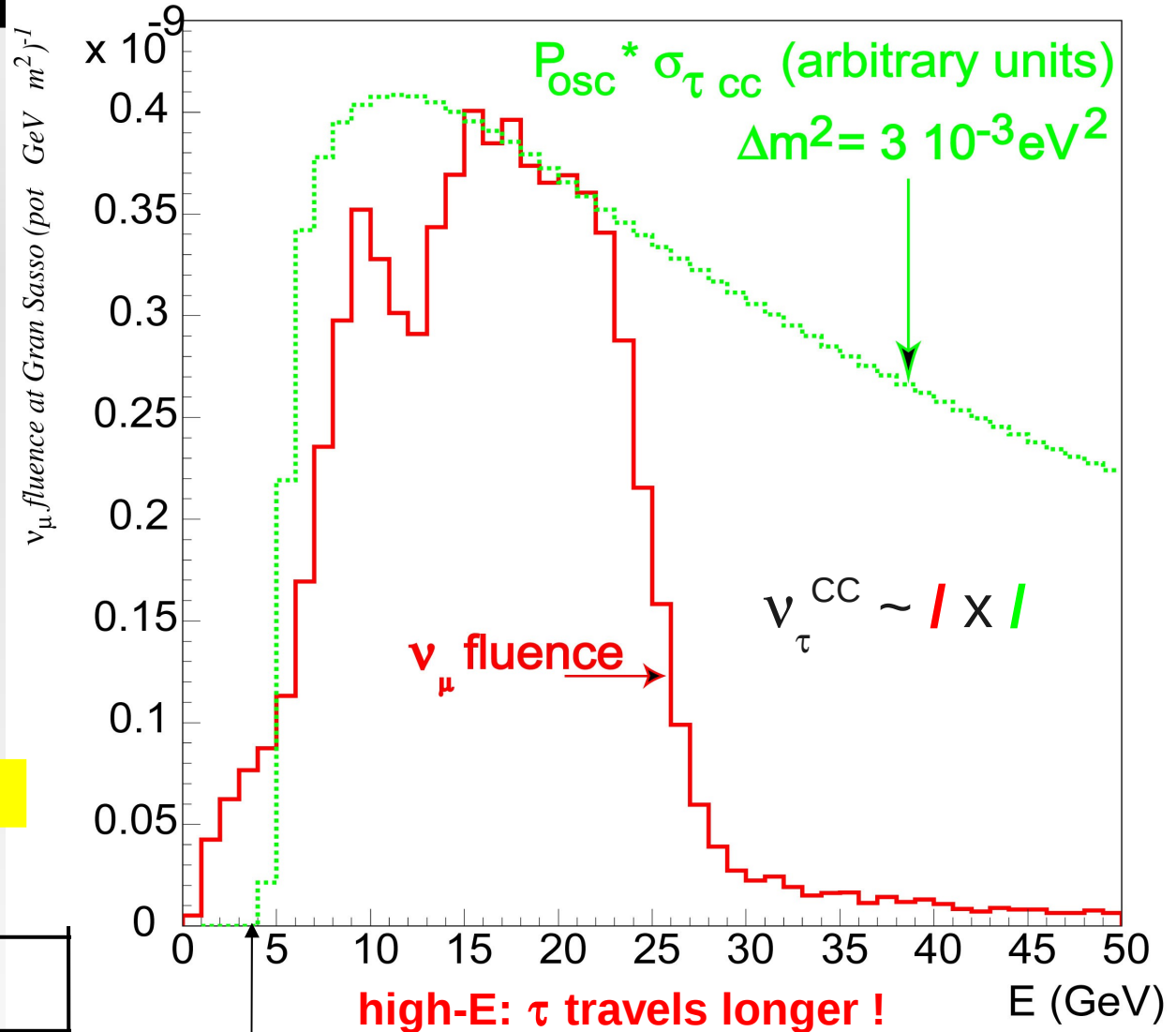
convolution maximized -> high-E

- ~ 18100  $\nu_\mu$  CC + 5400  $\nu_\mu$  NC
- ~ 380 anti  $\nu_\mu$  + 144  $\nu_e$  + 12 anti  $\nu_e$
- ~ 100 produced  $\nu_\tau$  CC
- ~ 24 evts/day

1.25 Kton

$\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$  search

$(\nu_e + \bar{\nu}_e) / \nu_\mu$	<b>0.9%</b>
$\bar{\nu}_\mu / \nu_\mu$	<b>4 %</b>
$\nu_\tau$ prompt	<b>negligible</b> (from $D_s$ )

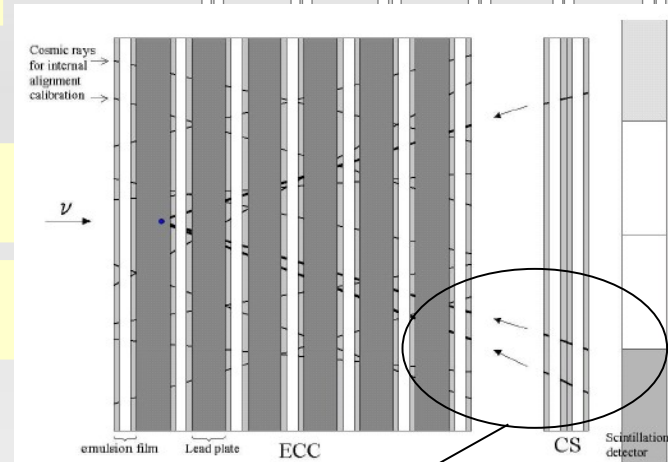
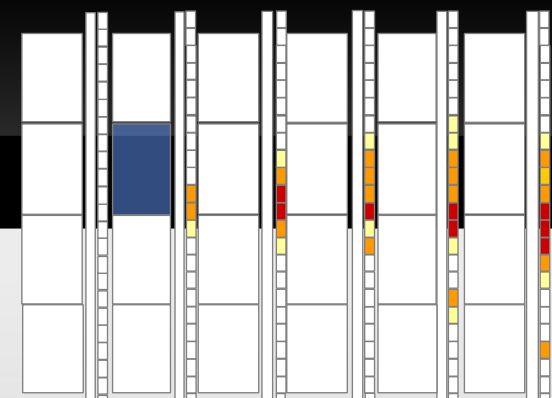


$\tau$  production threshold at ~3.5 GeV

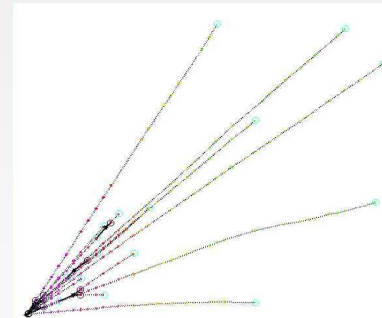
slow rise  $[(m_\tau + m_p)^2 - m_p^2] / 2m_p$

# Analysis flow

Electronic detectors  
Emulsions interplay



if tracks compatible with electronic detectors are found in the CS the brick finding is validated and brick developed



Trigger

Brick finding

Vertex location

decay search

$\mu / e^-$   
@ 1\_ry vtx ?

yes

no

$\nu_{\mu} / e$

$\tau$  decay mode

Kinematics

$\nu_{\tau}$  !

- Predictions from electronic detectors are searched in the **changeable sheet doublet**.
- if tracks compatible with electronic detectors are found in the CS the brick finding is validated and brick developed, the brick is exposed to **cosmic rays** (alignment), developed and **sent to scanning stations/labs**
- The tracks measured in CS are **followed back** inside the brick until tracks stop (prediction scanning is fast !).
- A **volume scanning** around neutrino interaction vertex is performed ( $\sim \text{cm}^2$  for few plates)
- Finally the **event topology & kinematics** reconstruction is performed
- **more bricks** can be extracted if necessary to increase accuracy of kinematic reconstruction

A sample of "minimum bias" events will be fully studied in order to **assess experimentally efficiencies & background** (absolute normalization, e.g. charm).  
**Electron ID** applied to  $\sim$ all the NC events ( $\nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \nu_e$  search)

# Signal and background estimation

Full mixing, 5 years run,  $4.5 \cdot 10^{19}$  pot/year, 1.25 kton fiducial mass  
 $\sim 20000 \nu_{\mu}$  CC interactions expected

Signal  $\sim (\Delta m^2)^2$

Efficiency before tau identification =  $\epsilon_{\text{Trigger}} \cdot \epsilon_{\text{Brick finding}} \cdot \epsilon_{\text{Geometrical}} \cdot \epsilon_{\text{Vertex location}}$

99%      80%      94%      90%

$\tau$ decay channel	B.R. (%)	$\epsilon$ (%)	signal ( $\Delta m^2 = 2.5 \cdot 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$ )	signal ( $\Delta m^2 = 3.0 \cdot 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$ )	background
$\rightarrow e$	17.8	20.8	2.9	4.2	0.17
$\rightarrow \mu$	17.4	17.5	3.5	5.0	0.17
$\rightarrow h$	49.5	5.8	3.1	4.4	0.24
$\rightarrow 3h$	15.0	6.3	0.9	1.3	0.17
<b>Total</b>	B.R. * $\epsilon$ = 10.6%		<b>10.4</b>	14.9	<b>0.75</b>

Backgrounds (channel dep.):

Charm production

Large angle muon scattering

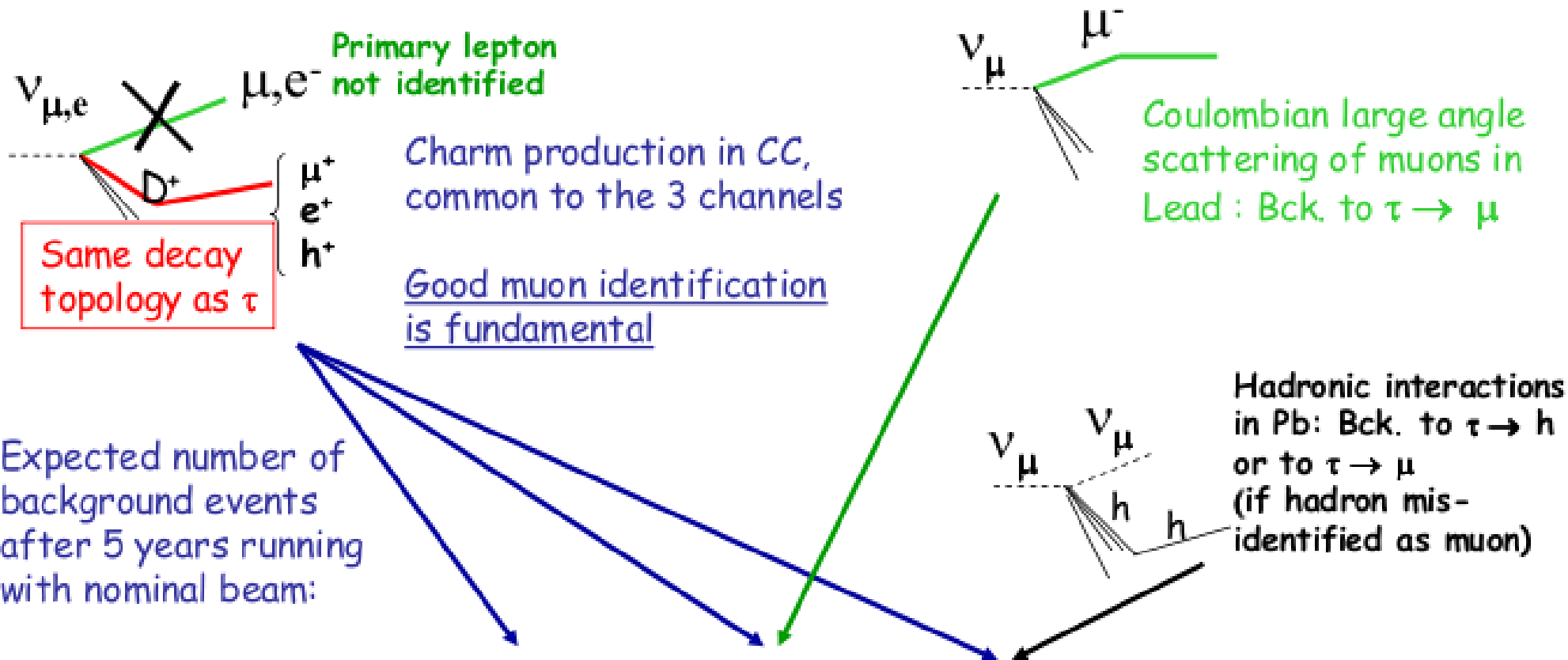
Hadronic reinteraction

Only if primary muon is not detected.

Muon ID is a crucial issue for the experiment

Further contributions:  $\epsilon_{\text{kinematic cuts}} \cdot \epsilon_{\text{Brick to brick connection}} \cdot \epsilon_{\text{particle ID}}$

# $\tau$ search : Backgrounds



	$\tau \rightarrow e$	$\tau \rightarrow \mu$	$\tau \rightarrow h$	$\tau \rightarrow 3h$	Total
Charm background	.173	.008	.134	.181	.496
Large angle $\mu$ scattering		.096			.096
Hadronic background		.077	.095	.	.172
Total per channel	.173	.181	.229	.181	.764

# Not the main goal! but ... sensitivity to $\theta_{13}$

$\Theta_{13}$	SIGNAL	$\nu_e$ beam	$\tau \rightarrow e$	$\nu_\mu$ NC	$\nu_\mu$ CC
$9^\circ$	9.3	18	4.5	5.2	1.0
$7^\circ$	5.8	18	4.5	5.2	1.0
$5^\circ$	3.0	18	4.6	5.2	1.0

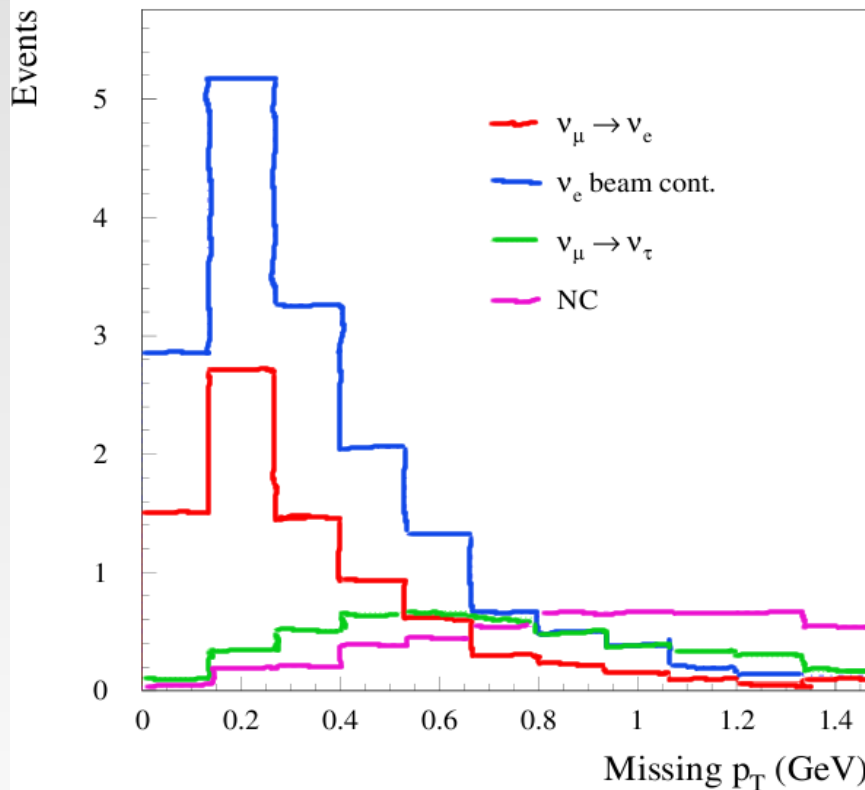
**NB. Nominal mass 1.77 kton**

$\Delta m_{23}^2 = 2.5 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2 \quad \Theta_{23} = 45^\circ$

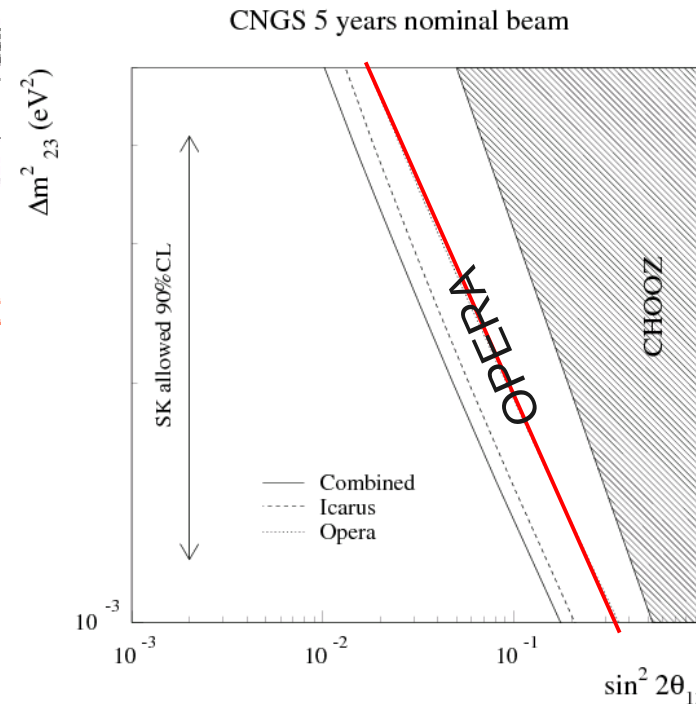
nominal CNGS beam 5 years

- Excellent  $e$  and  $\pi^0$  recon.
- moderate  $\nu_e$  contam. (0.9%)

J.Phys.G29:443,2003.hep-ph/0210043



Combined fit of  $E_\theta$ ,  $E_{vis}$ ,  $(pt)_{miss}$  to improve S/B ratio



"Spin-off" of tau analysis

**90% C.L. limits on  $\sin^2(2\theta_{13})$  and  $\theta_{13}$  :**  
 $\sin^2(2\theta_{13}) < 0.05 \quad \theta_{13} < 7.1^\circ$

~ X 3 improved limit w.r.t. CHOOZ

# $\nu_{\mu}$ CC containing a $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$

1)  $\phi_{e+e-} = (4 \pm 2) \text{ mrad}$   $E_{\gamma} \sim 510 \text{ MeV}$

first event in the OPERA target:

02 Oct 2007 17:04

Two track separation  $< 1 \mu\text{m}$   
 $e+e-$  pairs resolved !

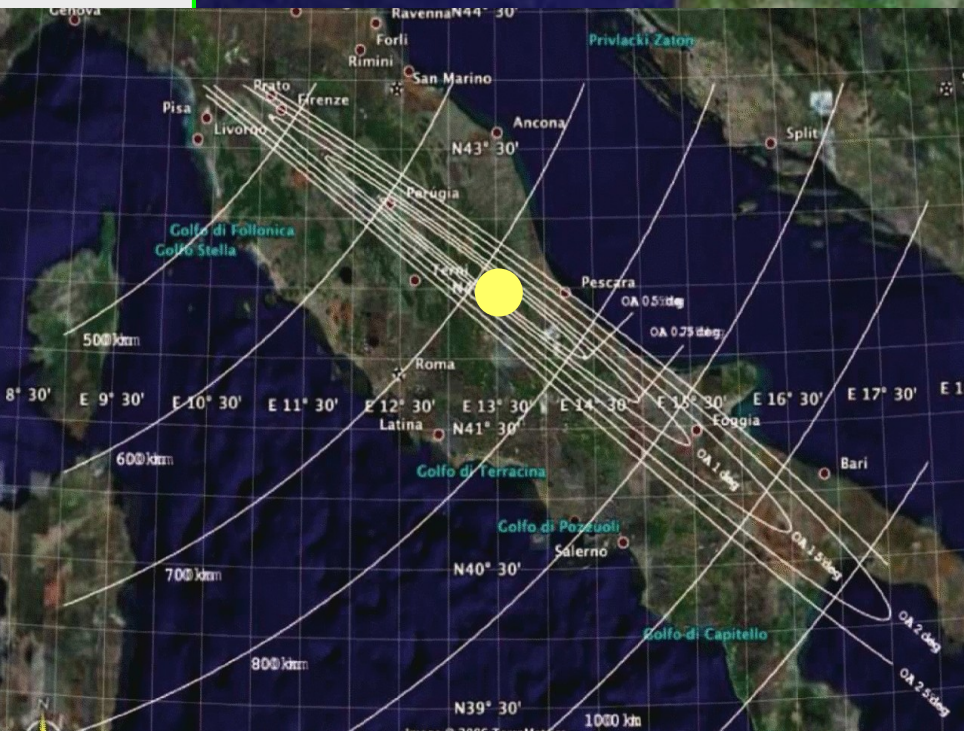
$\text{angle}_{\gamma\gamma} = (300 \pm 20) \text{ mrad}$   
 $m_{\gamma\gamma} = (110 \pm 30) \text{ MeV}$   
compatible with  $\pi^0$  mass

2)  $\phi_{e+e-} = (8 \pm 2) \text{ mrad}$   $E_{\gamma} \sim 260 \text{ MeV}^*$

\* second electron from gamma 2 measured manually (not displayed)



# OPERA roadmap



# CERN NEUTRINOS TO GRAN SASSO

## Underground structures at CERN



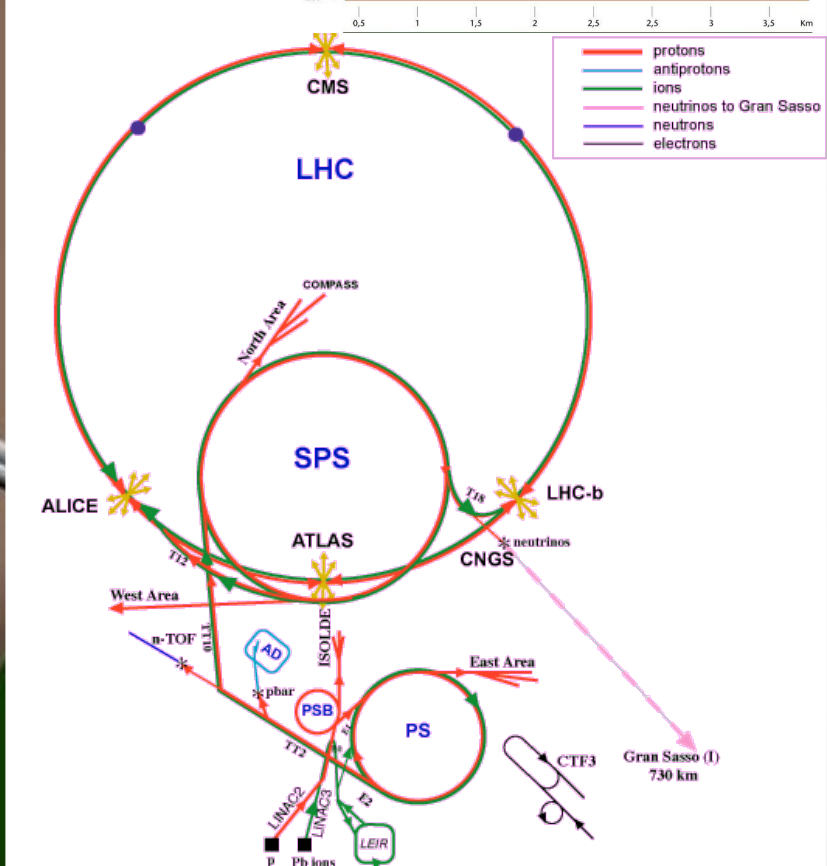
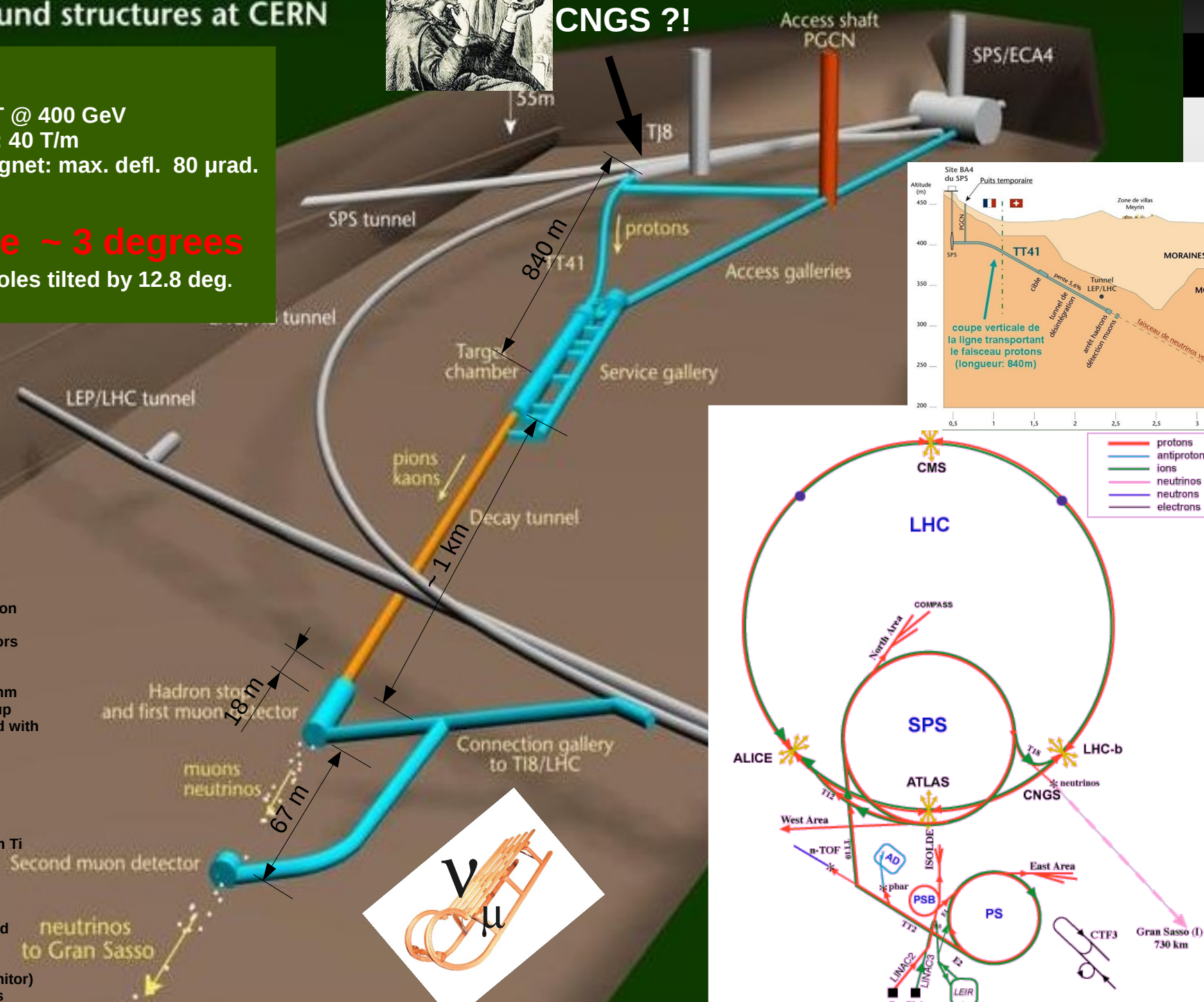
LHC or CNGS ?!

620 m arc + 120 m focusing section

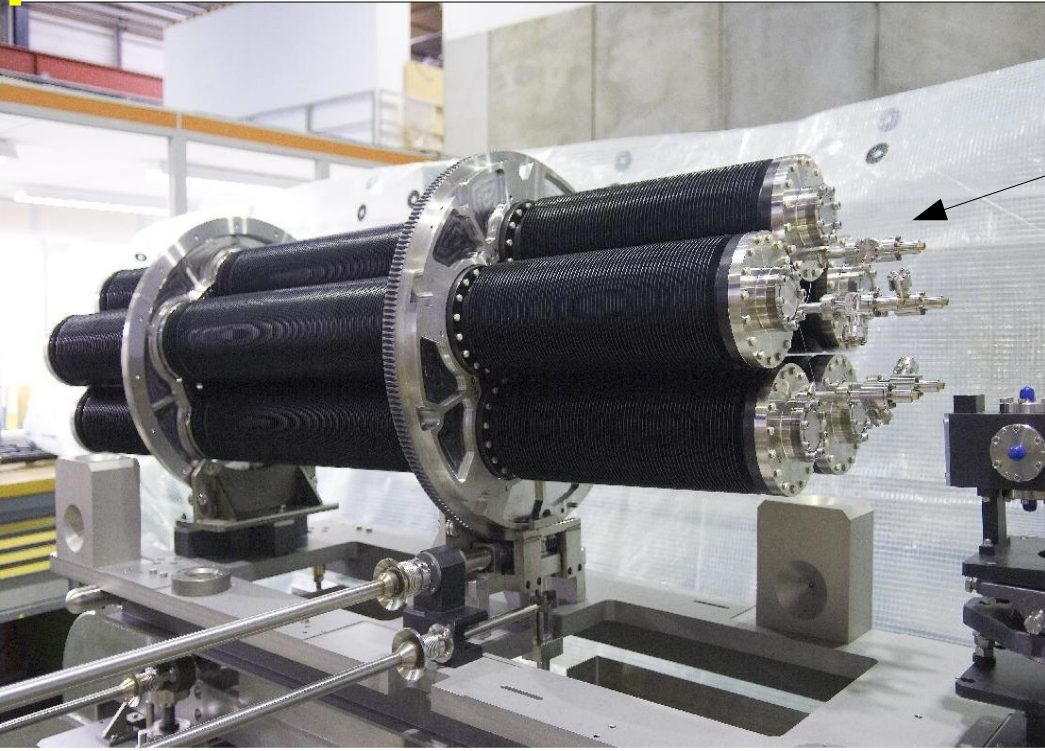
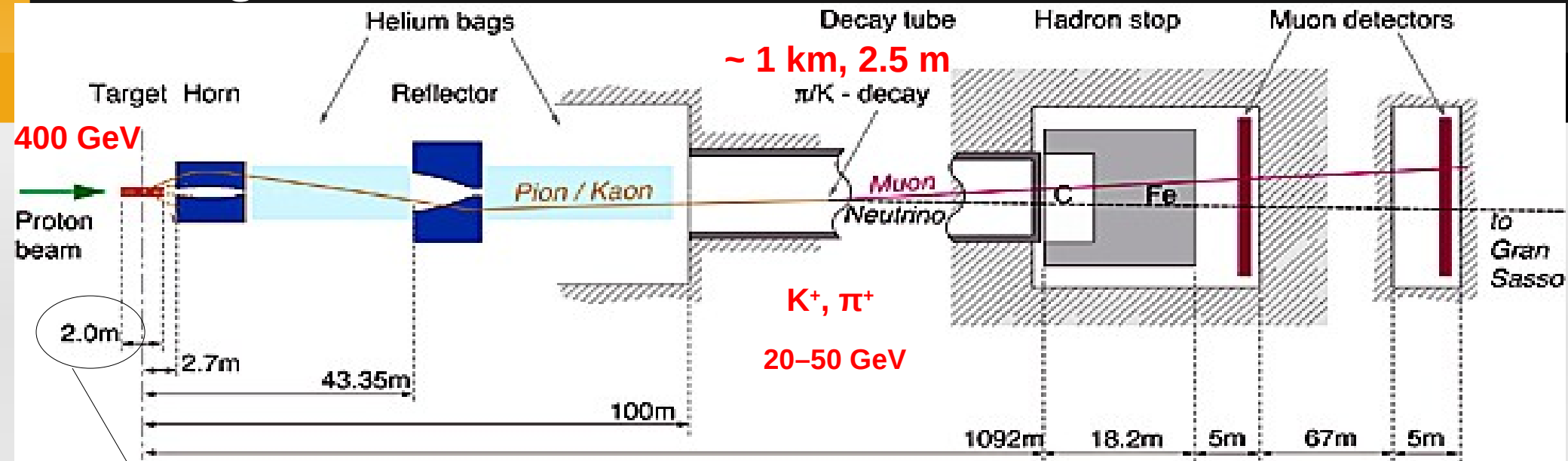
E: 350-450 GeV  
 73 dipoles: 1.7 T @ 400 GeV  
 20 quadrupoles: 40 T/m  
 12 corrector magnet: max. defl. 80  $\mu$ rad.  
**5.6 % slope ~ 3 degrees**  
 32 horizontal dipoles tilted by 12.8 deg.

140m

- 22+1 BPM** (Beam Position Monitors)  
button electrode monitors from LEP. tol  $\pm 0.6$  mm
- last BPM: tol  $\pm 0.035$  mm  
strip-line coupler pick-up mechanically connected with target
- 8 BPM** (beam profile monitor)  
OTR (optical transition radiation monitors)  
75  $\mu$ m C(high.int) 12  $\mu$ m Ti (low int.)
- 2 BCT** (beam current transformer):  
beam intens. at start and end.
- 18 BML** (beam loss monitor)  
N<sub>2</sub> filled ioniz. chambers



# The target downstream beamline



Be

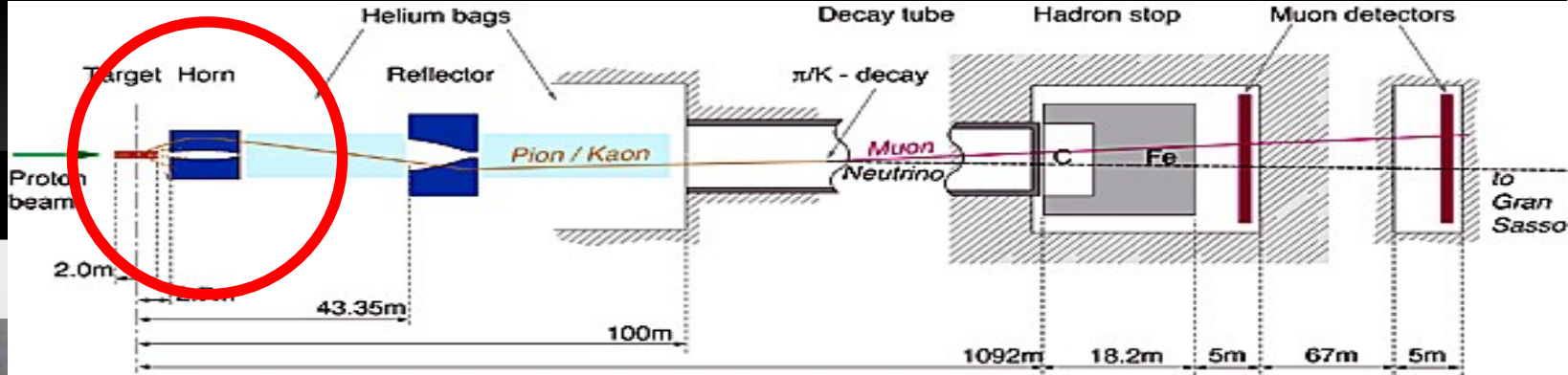
13 10cm-long graphite rods separated by 9 cm gaps.  $r=4$  mm (5mm the first).

"Revolver" design. 1 target + 4 in situ spares

designed to withstand beam induced stress up to  $3.5 \cdot 10^{13}$  p/extraction with 400 GeV (up to **750kW** average power)

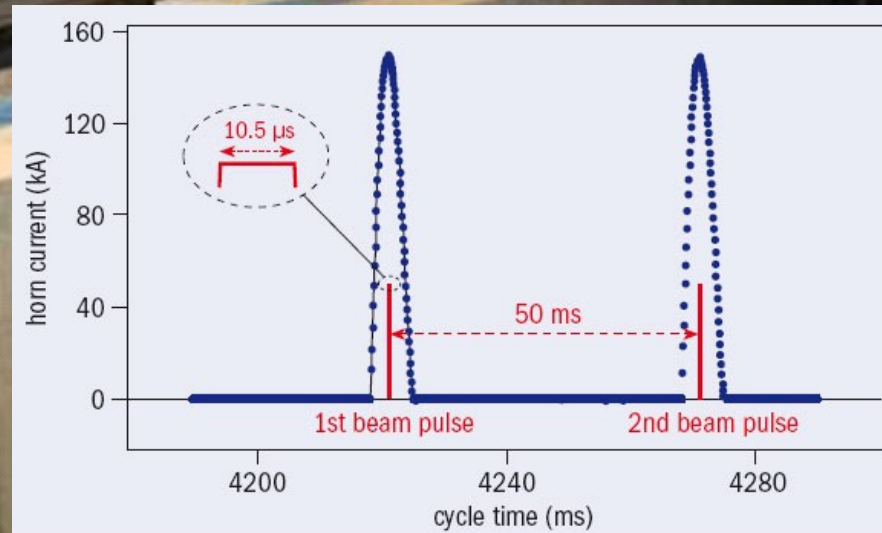
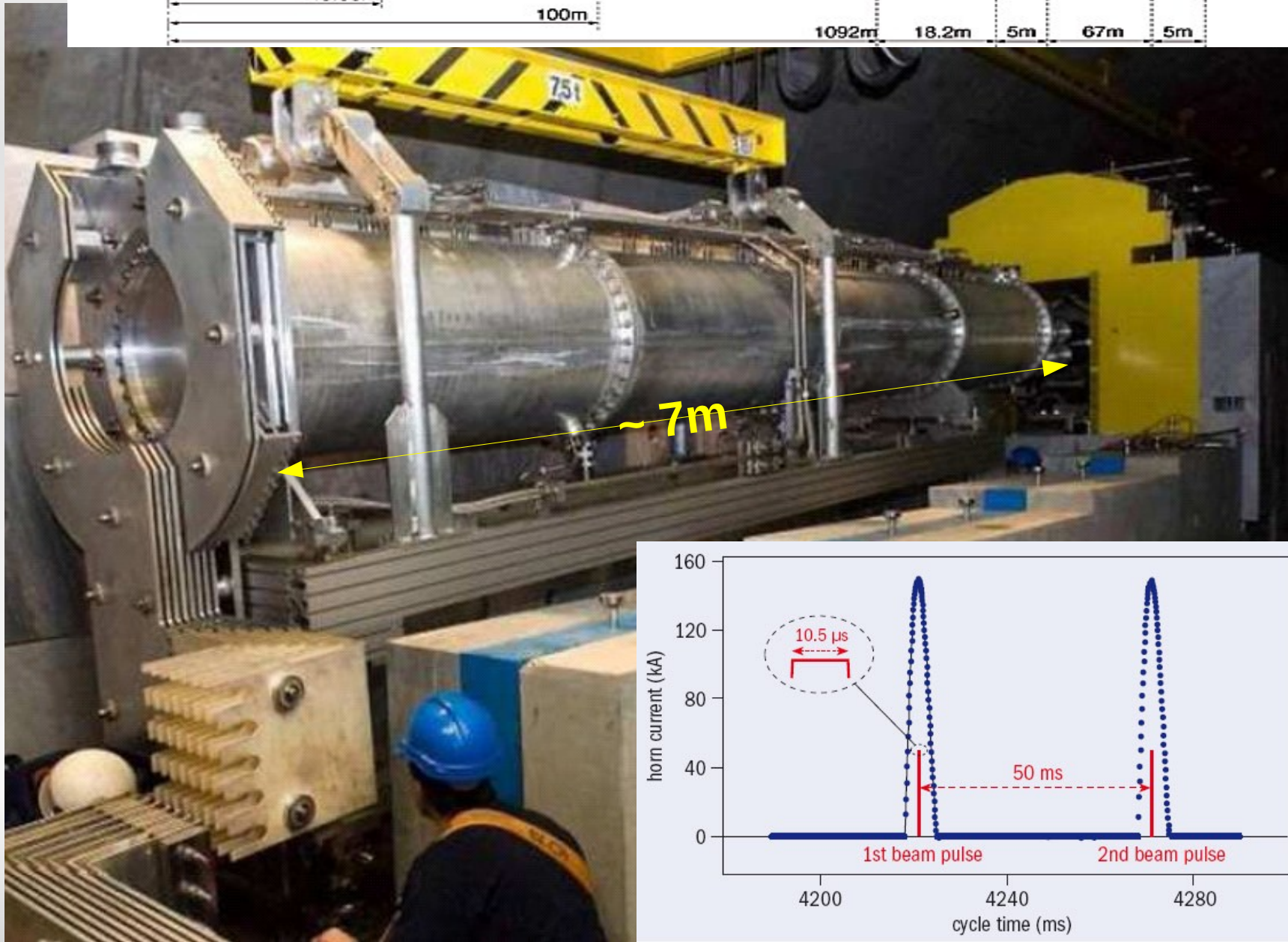
$\sigma = 0.5$  mm (tunable in 0.25-1 mm)  
beam position stability onto the target  
averaged over several days  $\sim 50 \mu$  m (r.m.s.)

# Horn

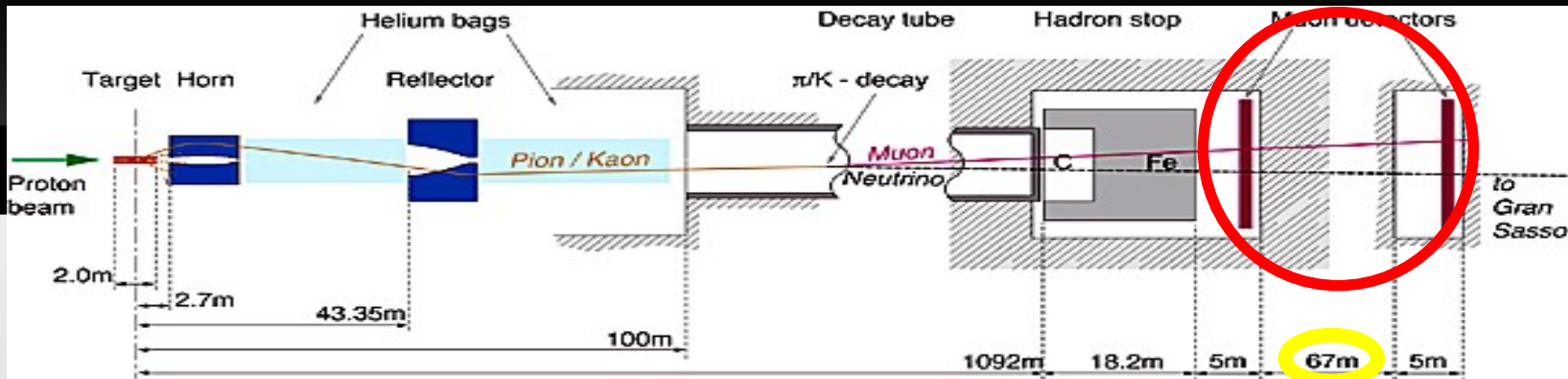


$i=150\text{kA}$   
for a few  
ms  
(180 kA  
for the  
reflector)

water  
cooled



# $\mu$ monitors



2 stations. 67 m rock in between

Station1:  $4.0 \times 10^5 \mu / \text{cm}^2 / 10^{13} \text{ p}$

from Aug. 06 run

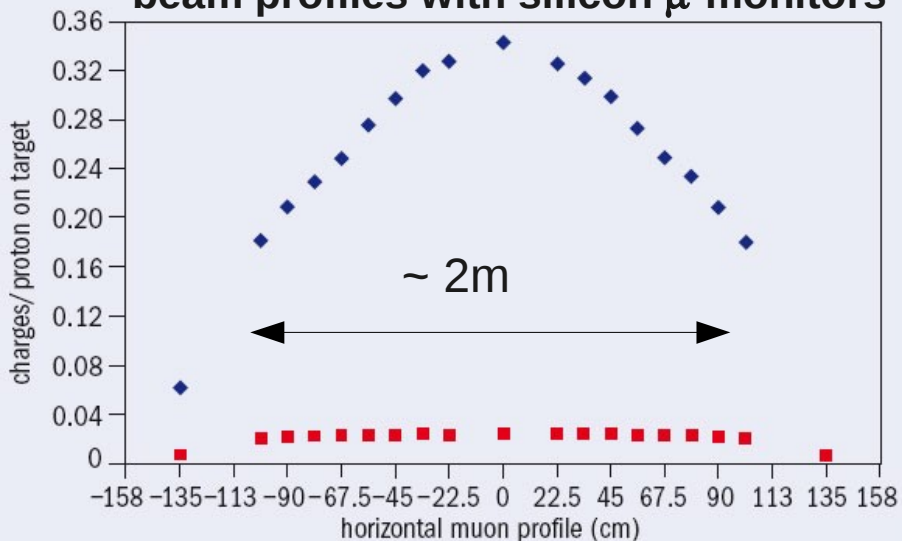
Station2:  $2.5 \times 10^7 \mu / \text{cm}^2 / 10^{13} \text{ p}$

$10^8 \mu/\text{cm}^2/10 \mu\text{s}$ : high rate!

Stat. 1:  $E_\mu > 20\text{GeV}$ . Target-horn alignm.

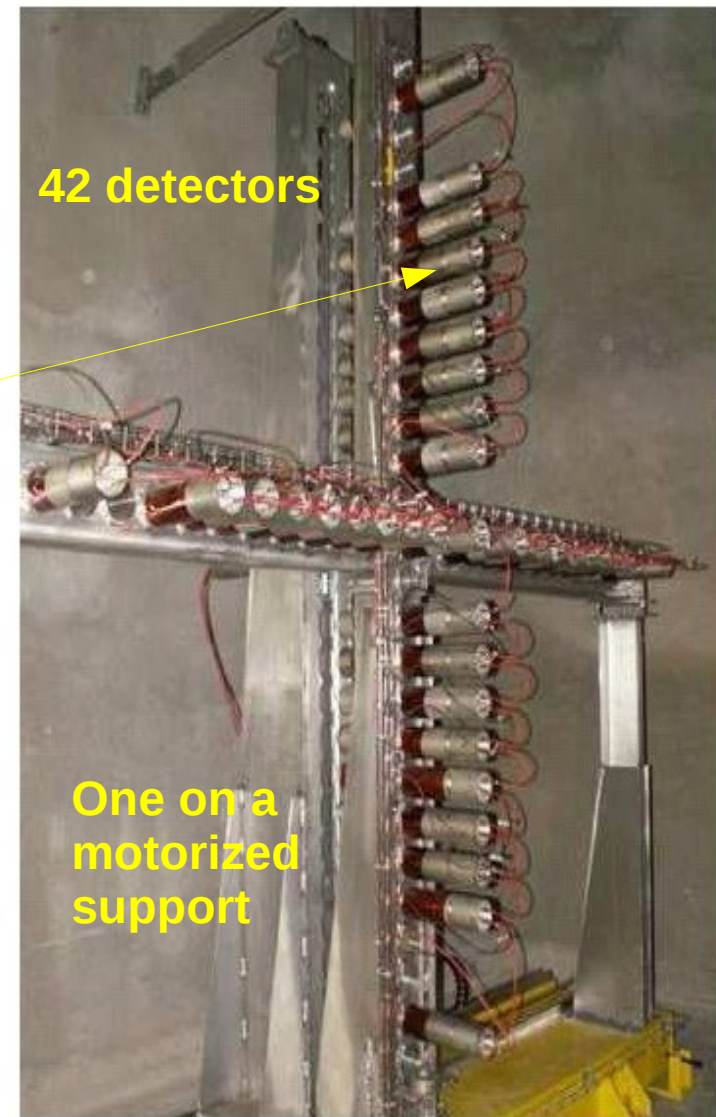
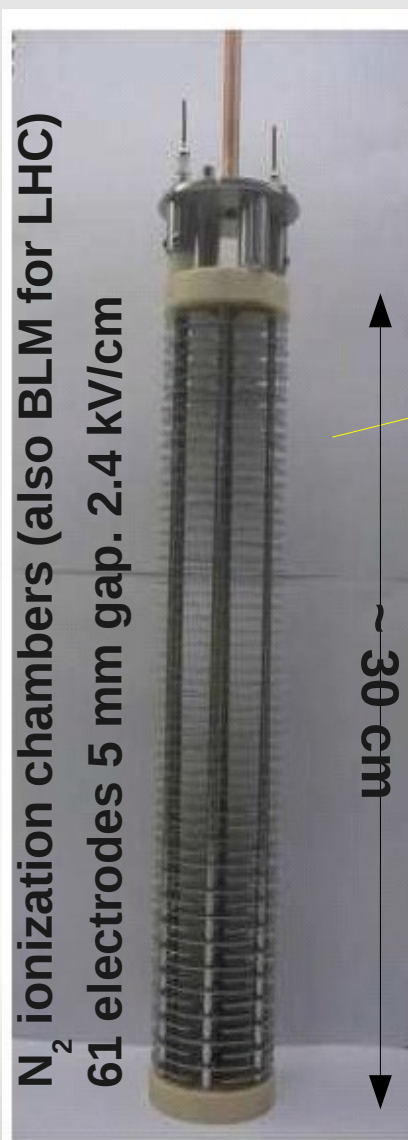
Stat. 2:  $E_\mu > 50\text{GeV}$ . beam-target alignm.

beam profiles with silicon  $\mu$  monitors



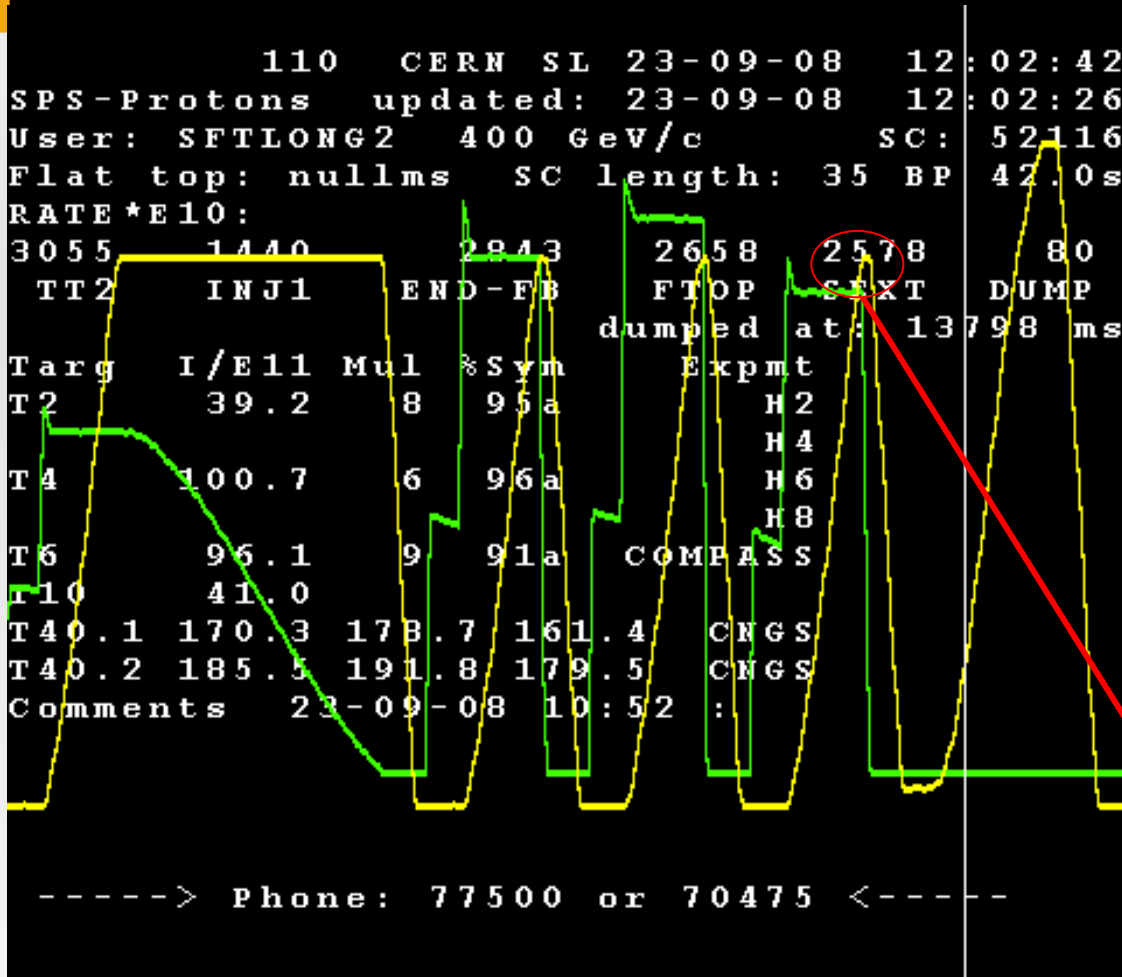
Horn ON/OFF

11/05/2009



# Proton extraction from SPS to CNGS

— SPS magnetic field  
— SPS current

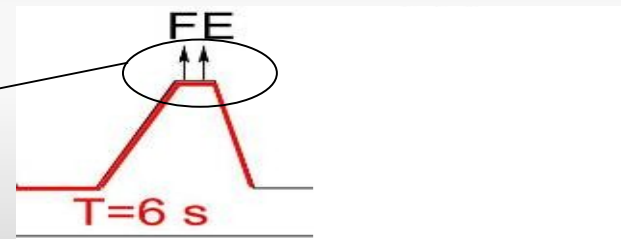
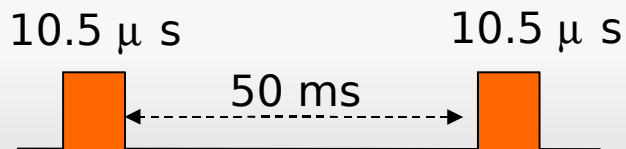


Energy 400 GeV (from SPS)  
 2 extractions/cycle 50 ms apart  
 10.5  $\mu$ s extraction batch length  
 2.4  $10^{13}$  p/extraction (nominal)  
 2100 bunches/extraction  
 2 ns bunch length  
 5 ns bunch spacing

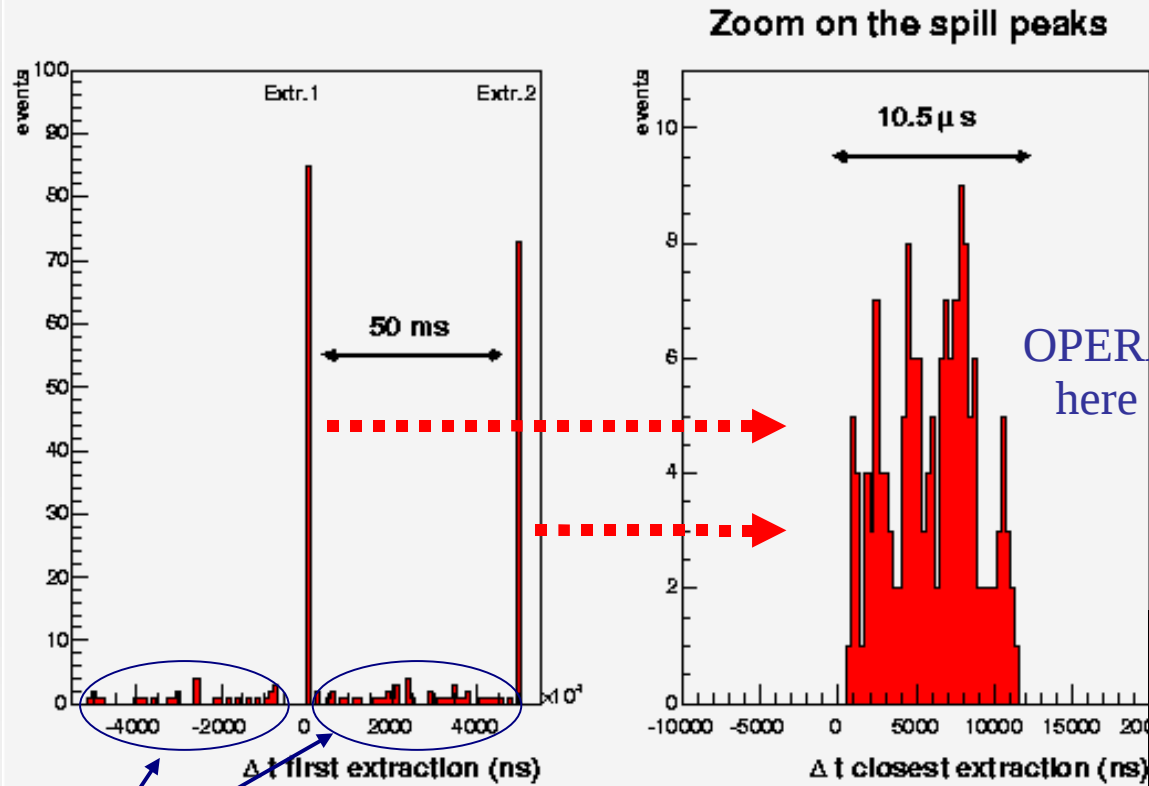
**3 CNGS cycles (6 s each)**

Other fixed target SPS users  
 COMPASS, NA48, NA61/SHINE

**SPS supercycle in September 2008**



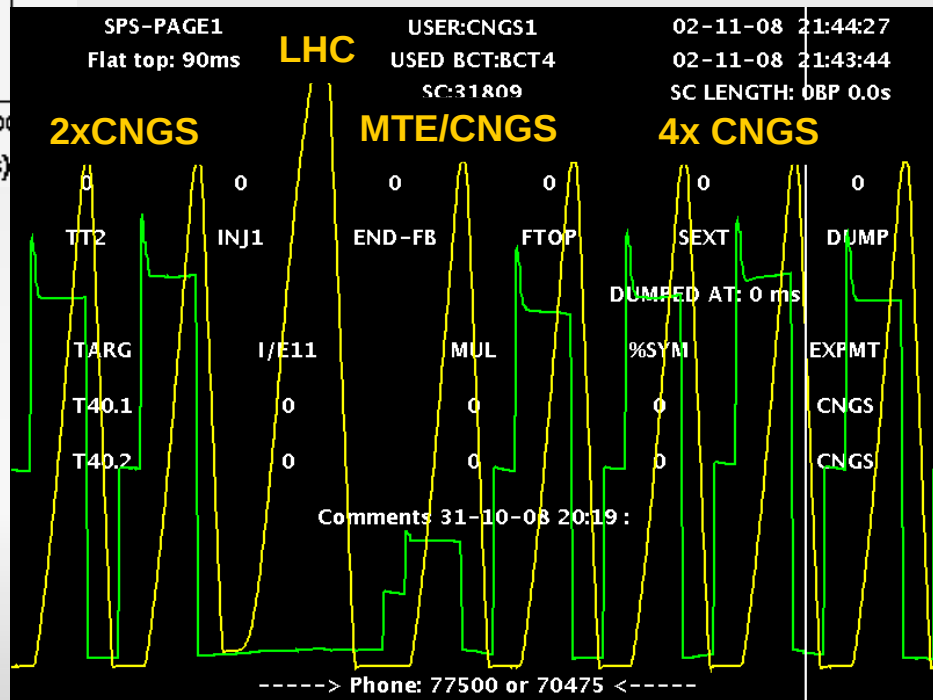
# Time structure observed by OPERA



Cosmics

Aug 2006

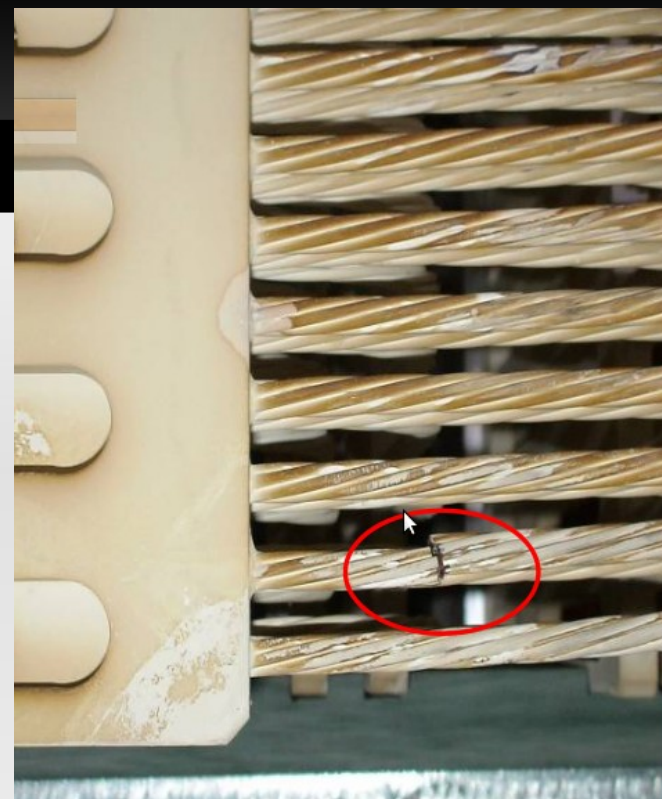
- After the LHC accident, further increase of the integrated intensity for OPERA (duty cycle 37.5% → 83%). 6 CNGS cycles!



# Problems ... and fixes !



Broken stripline (2007)

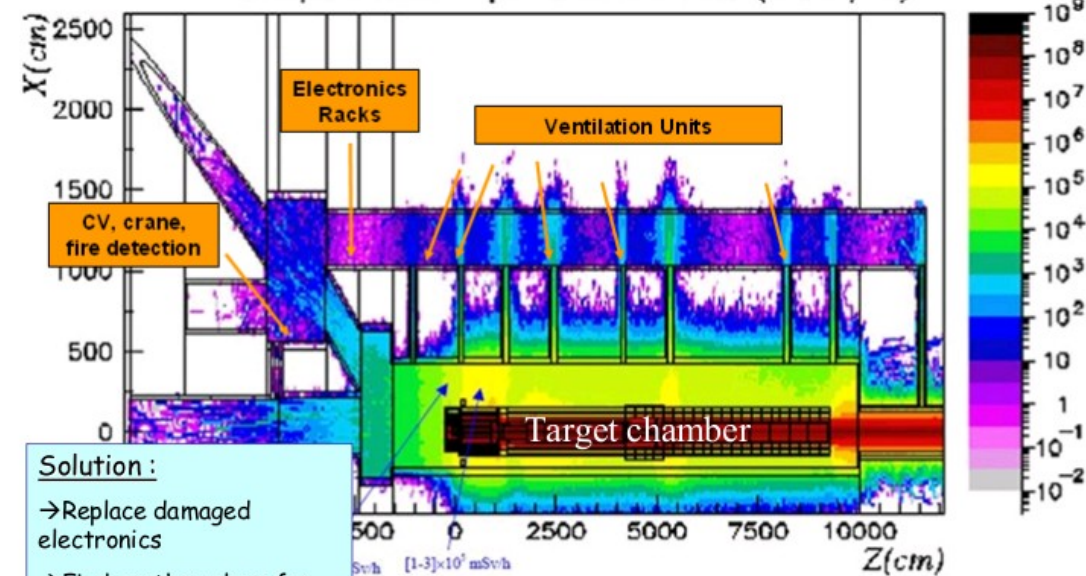


Water leak in horn cooling system (2006)



Electronics fault due to excessive irradiation (2007). Improved design now implemented.

Prompt Dose Equivalent Rate (mSv/h)



M. Sentis et al. AB/ATB. CERN-OPEN-2006-09. 2005

These doses were computed by the Fluka group and known since many years !!  
They were not just taken into account when the ventilation was installed  
Radiation protection measurements confirm the calculations



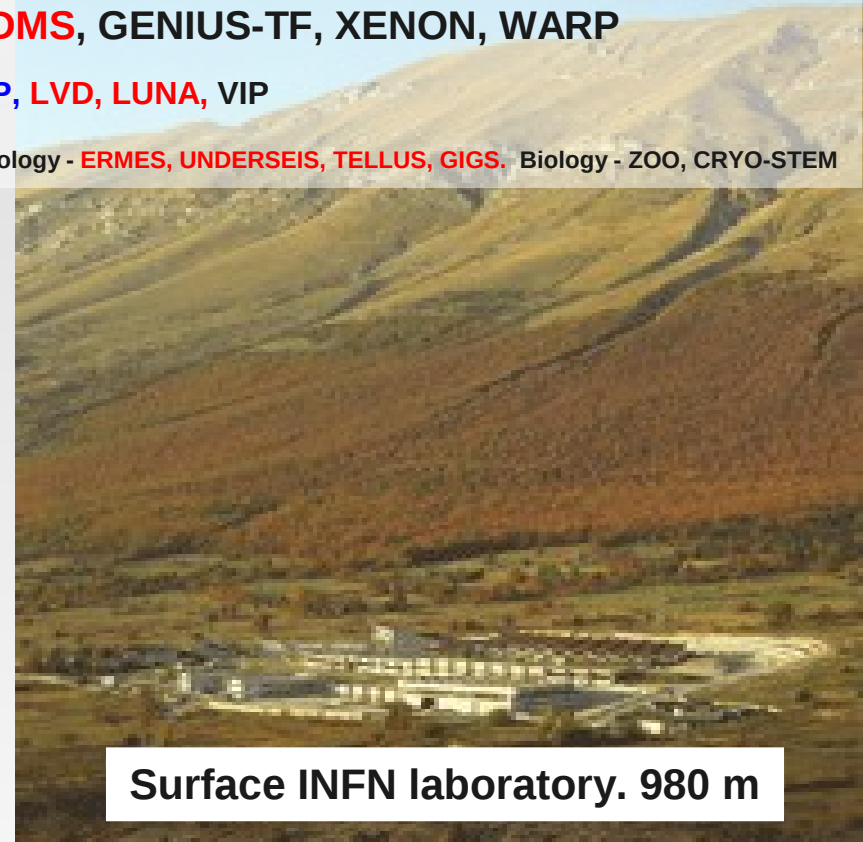
# Finally at LNGS !

## Laboratori Nazionali del Gran Sasso (the largest underground lab)

2912 m

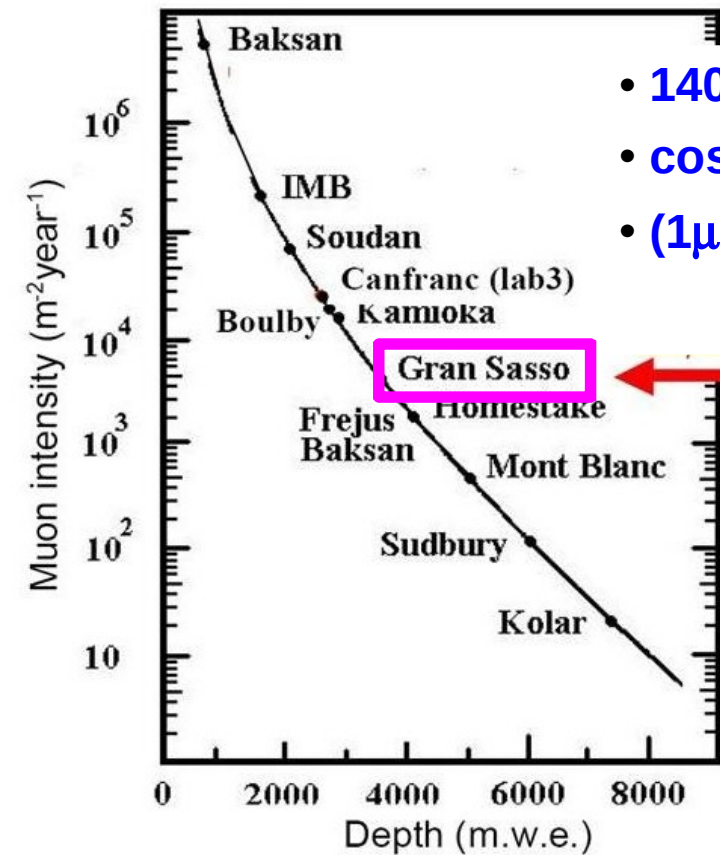


- $\nu$  phys. ( $\beta\beta_{0\nu}$  solar- $\nu$ , atm.- $\nu$ , LB  $\nu$ -osc.)  
**HM $\beta\beta$** , **MACRO**, **GNO**, **BOREXINO**, **OPERA**, **ICARUS**, **CUORICINO**, COBRA, CUORE, GERDA
- DM - **CRESST**, **DAMA**, **LIBRA**, **HDMS**, GENIUS-TF, XENON, WARP
- Particle & nuclear astrophysics - **EASTOP**, **LVD**, **LUNA**, VIP
- Gravitational waves - LISA / Geophys., seismology - **ERMES**, **UNDERSEIS**, **TELLUS**, **GIGS**. Biology - ZOO, CRYO-STEM



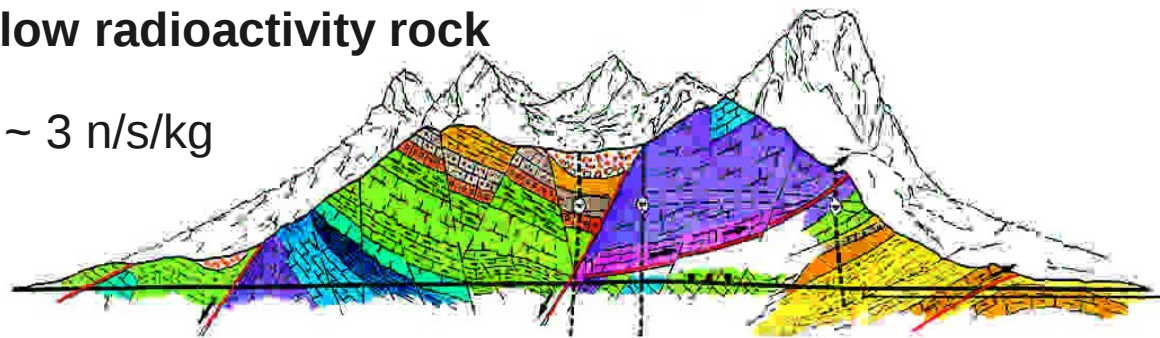
Surface INFN laboratory. 980 m

- 1400 m rock overburden
- cosmic  $\mu$  reduction  $\sim 10^6$
- ( $1\mu$  /m<sup>2</sup>/h)

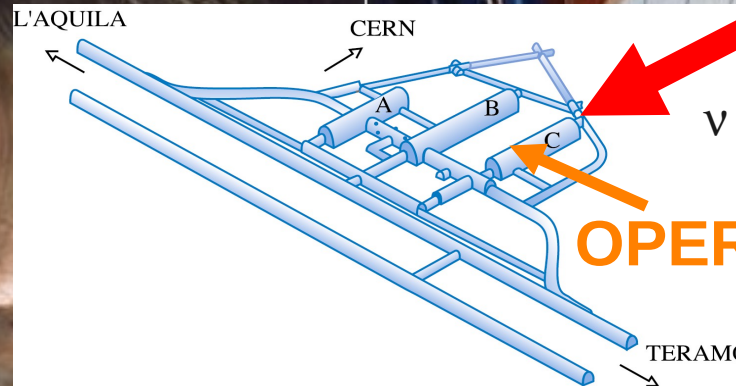


low radioactivity rock

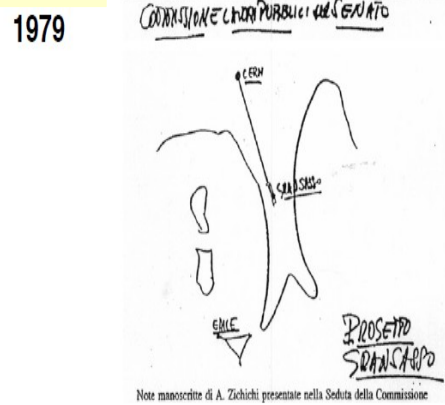
$\sim 3$  n/s/kg



# 1982 Construction



• ~ 750 scientists from 25 countries



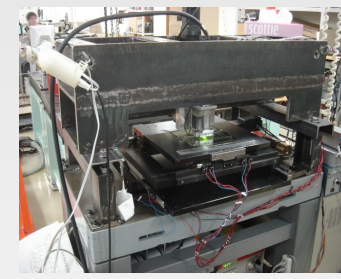
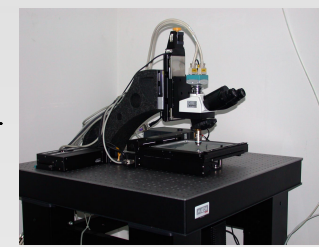
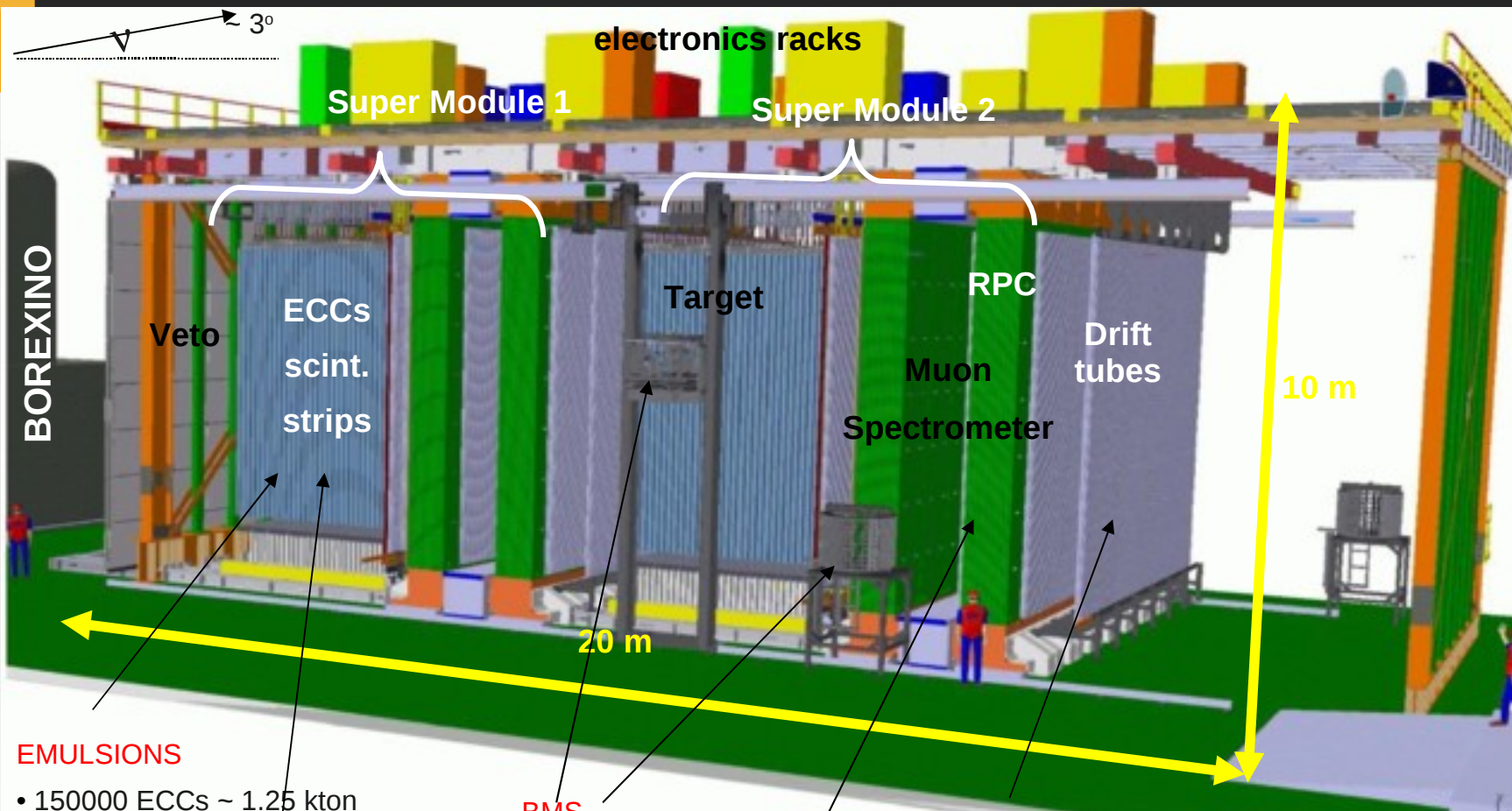
- To summarize, the scientific aims of the "Gran Sasso" laboratory are the study of:
- 1) nuclear stability;
  - 2) neutrino astrophysics;
  - 3) new cosmic phenomenology;
  - 4) neutrino oscillations;
  - 5) biologically active matter;
  - 6) ground stability.

Not only  $\tau_p \neq \infty$

- 3 big experimental halls
- ~ 100 X 20 X 20 m
- ~ 18 000 m<sup>2</sup> underground
- easy access (motorway)
- aligned to CERN to ~1° level !

# The detector

a quite large fine grained  
"vertex detector" !



**EMULSIONS**

- 150000 ECCs ~ 1.25 kton

**BMS**  
Brick Manipulator system

**HIGH PRECISION TRACKERS**  
6 drift-tube layers/spectrometer  
spatial resolution < 0.3 mm

**TARGET TRACKERS**

- 2 x 31 scintillator strips walls
- 256+256 X-Y strips/wall
- both-sides readout, WLS fiber
- 64-channel H7546 PMT
- 63488 channels
- $\sigma \sim 0.8$  cm (2.6 cm pitch)
- $\epsilon \cong 99\%$
- rate  $\cong 20$  Hz/pixel @1 p.e.

**INNER TRACKERS**

- 990-ton Fe dipole magnets (B= 1.55 T) instrumented with
- 22 RPC planes (streamer mode)
- 3050 m<sup>2</sup> surface
- $\sigma \sim 1.3$  cm spatial resolution
- $\epsilon \cong 96\%$  (geometrical)

+ several essential ancillary facilities:

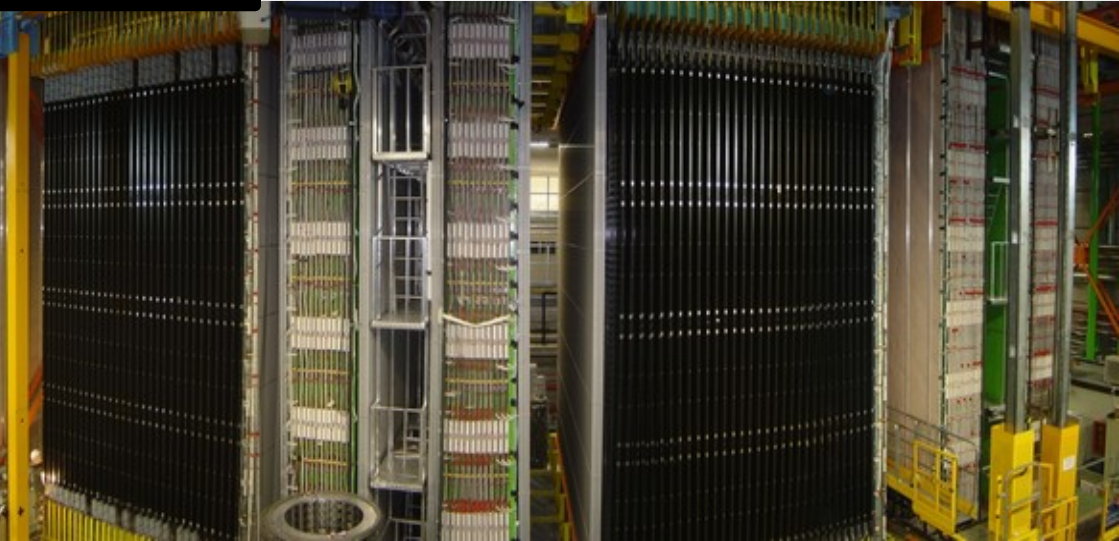
- emulsion "refreshing",
- brick assembly/disassembly
- labelling
- automatic development
- scanning

September 2003

... 2004

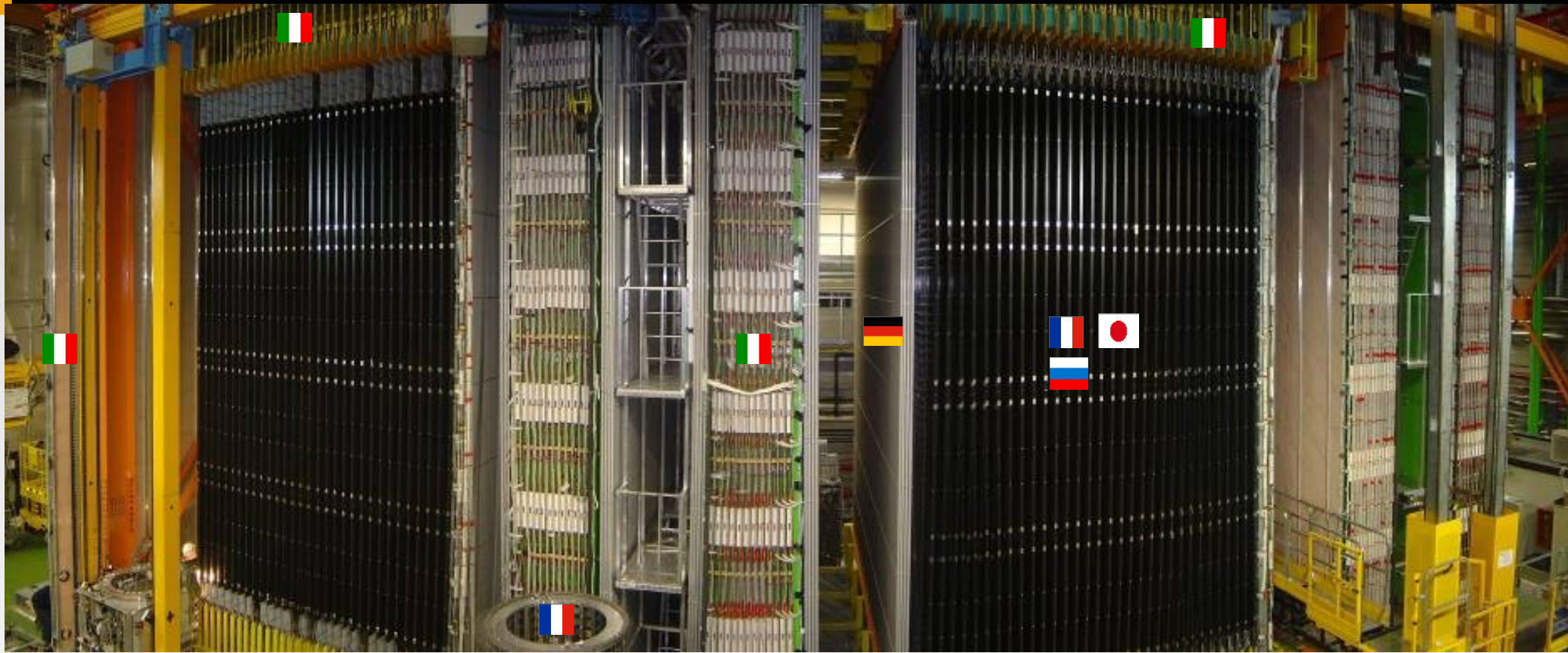


... 2005



Installation completed with VETO and HPT before first half of 2007

# The OPERA detector fish-eye



Electronic detectors fully instrumented and tested since 2007

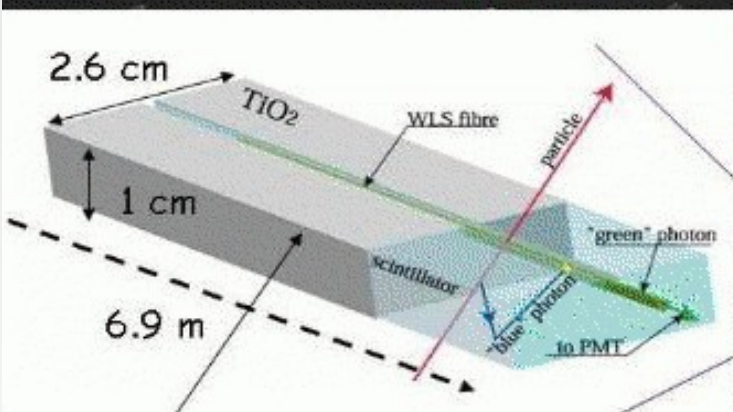
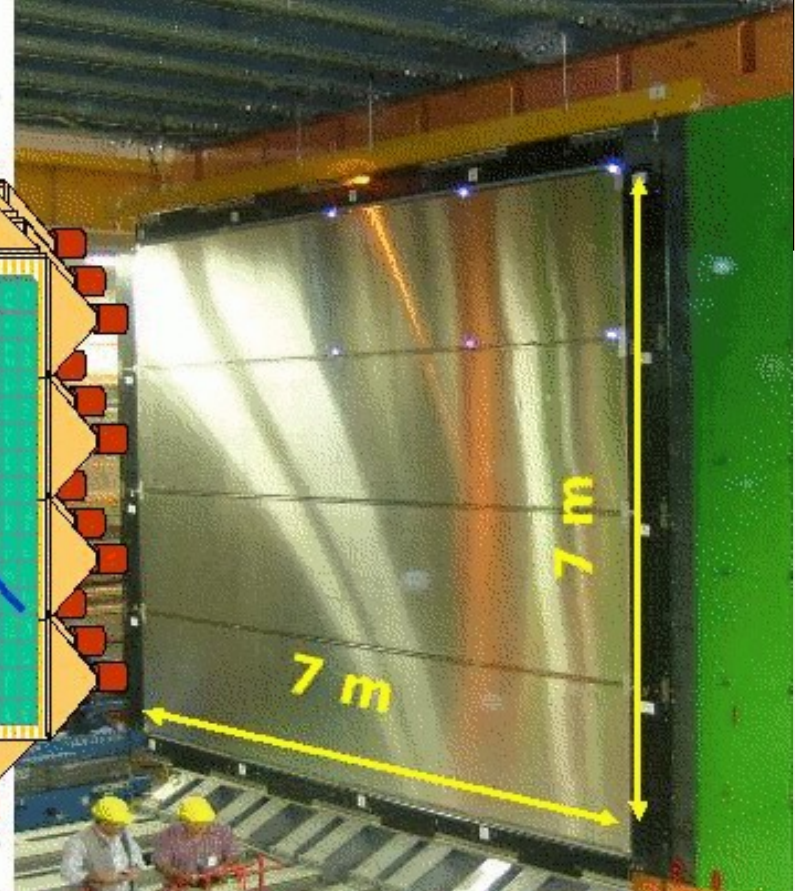
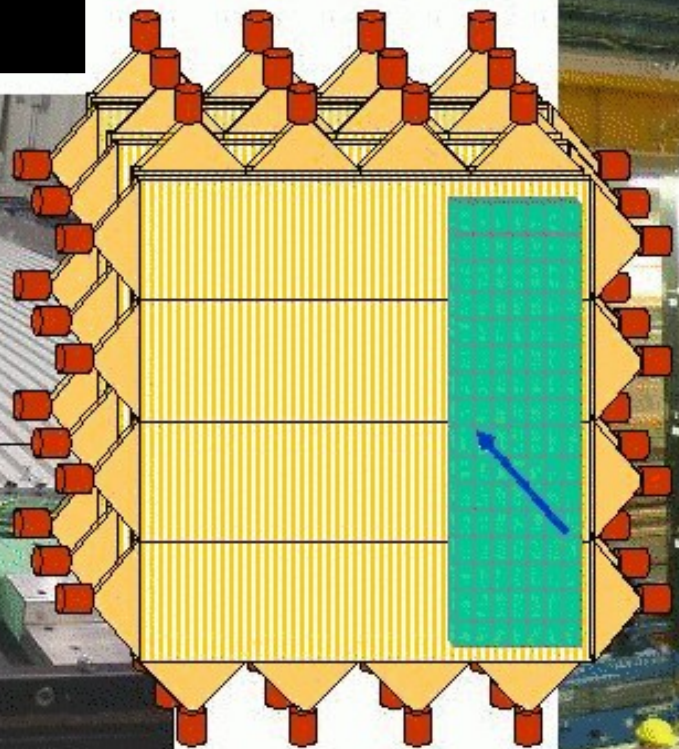
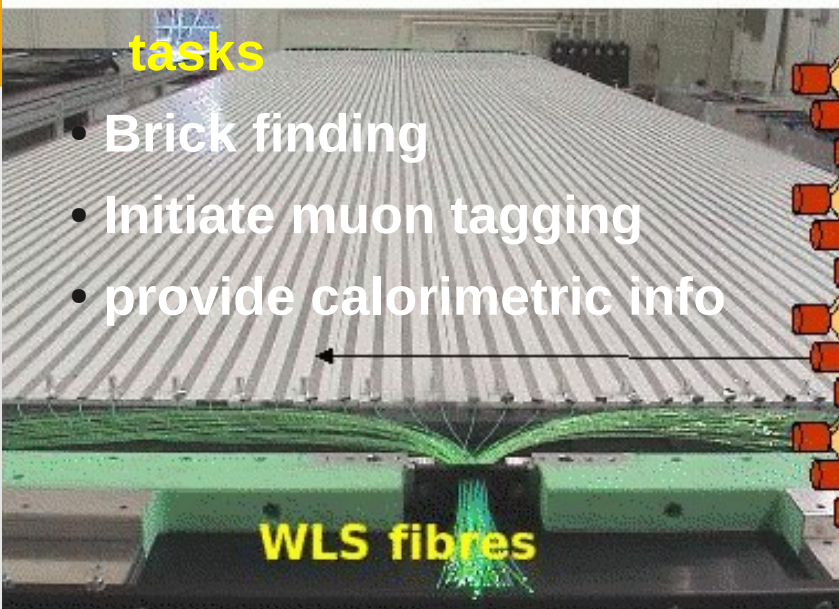
## French contributions:

- Target Tracker (IrES Strasbourg)
- Brick manipulator system (LAPP Annecy),
- DAQ (IPNL Lyon + scanning)

# Target tracker

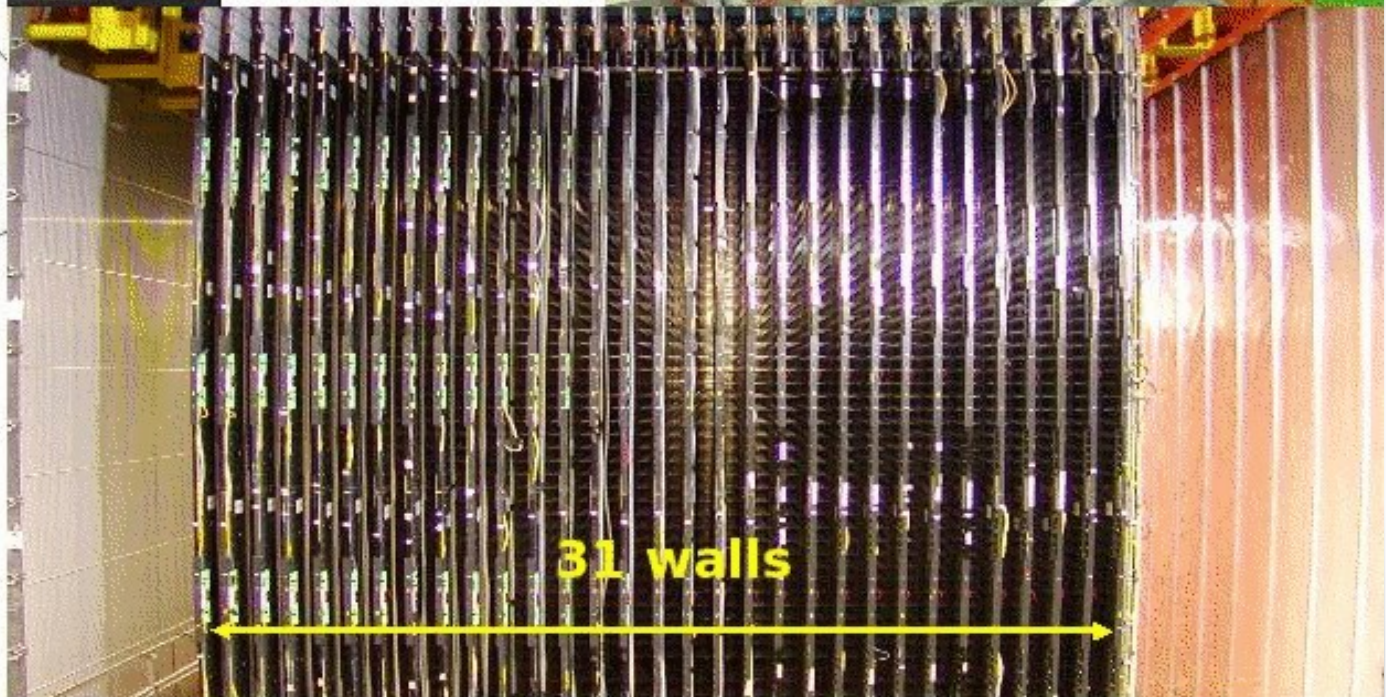
## tasks

- Brick finding
- Initiate muon tagging
- provide calorimetric info



- **Plastic scintillator strips**
- 670 x 2.6 x 1 cm
- R/O by WLS fibres
- 2 ends R/O
- **Hamamatsu PMT's (64 ch.)**
- 6 p.e. minimum
- **Probability 0 p.e. = 0.2 %**

DESY 28/2/2007



# Lead production

- Pb + 0.07% Ca with packaging in air
  - ✓ good mechanical properties
    - 10  $\mu$  m planarity and 100  $\mu$  m at edge
  - ✓ low radioactivity
- produced in Germany (JL Goslar GmbH)
- sent by trucks (~ 100 shipments)



production and  
thickness control in  
Germany

Lead boxes at Gran Sasso



# The refreshing at Tono mine (a huge work!)

Production ~ 1 month ~ 3k tracks/cm<sup>2</sup> (cosmic) >> max density = 100 tracks/cm<sup>2</sup> for brick analysis =>

**REFRESHING (stimulated fading of latent image, "erasing" of previous history)**

3days @ 98% RH and 27°C: grain density of tracks: 36 → <10 grains/100µm with unvaried sensitivity (34 grains/100µm)

Depth of 50 m and 100 m: cosmic flux ~ 1/50 and 1/400

~ 10M emulsions treated by hand

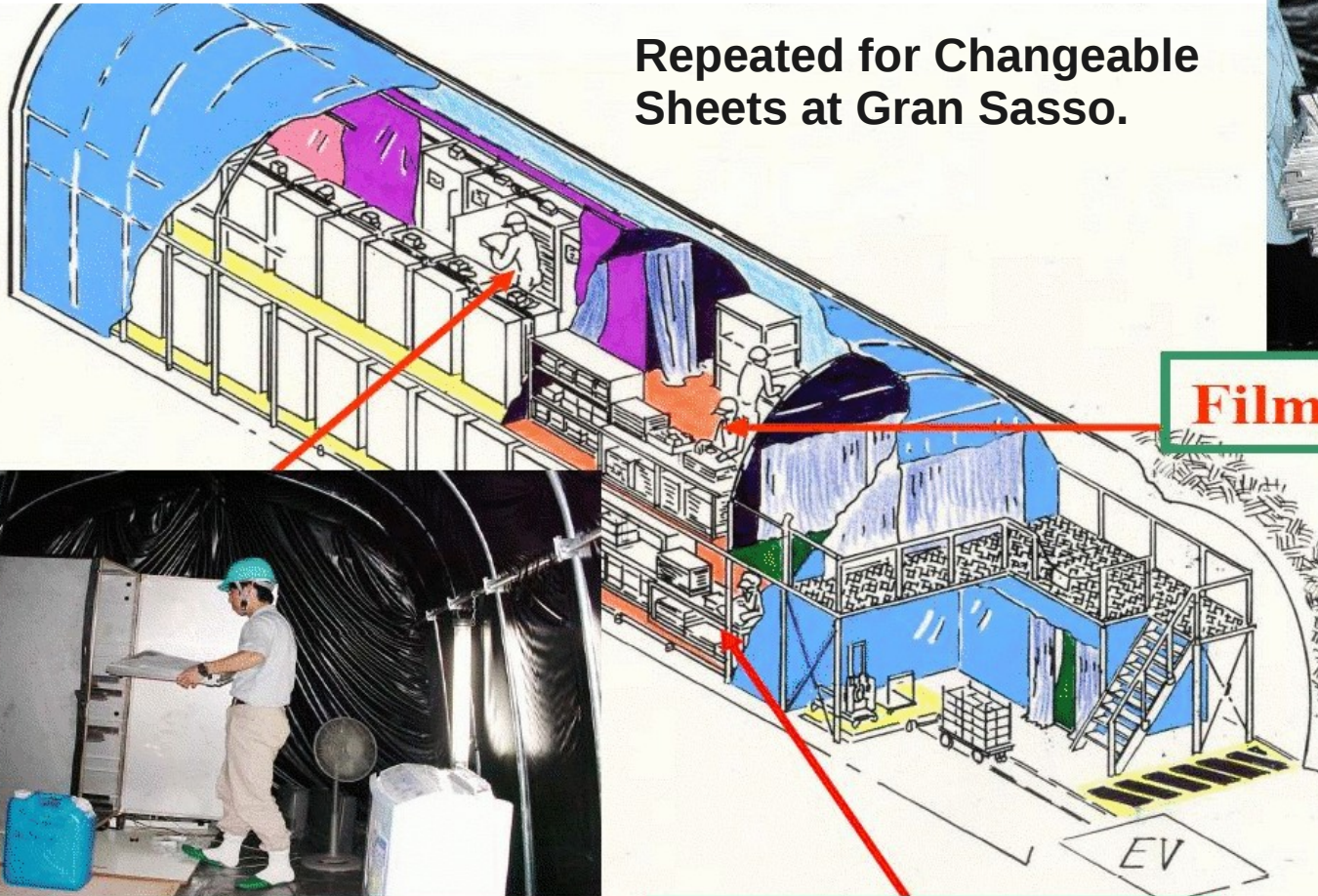
~ 3k tracks/cm<sup>2</sup> → ~100 tracks/cm<sup>2</sup>

fog increase 3 → 6 grains/1000 µm<sup>3</sup>

R&D @ Nagoya & Fujifilm



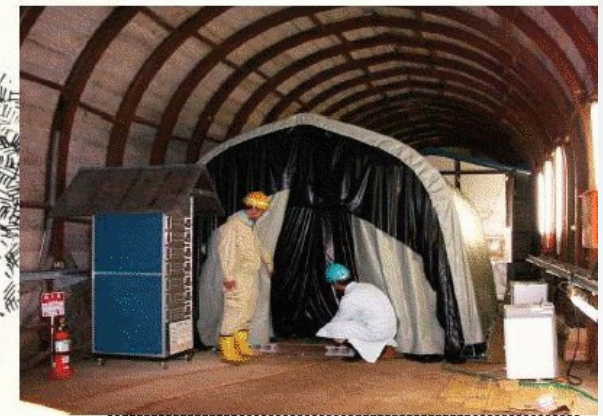
**Film lay out on the plate**



**Repeated for Changeable Sheets at Gran Sasso.**



**Film installation**



Room Size

4.5m × 4.5m × 20m

**Vacuum packing**



# Emulsion delivery (2005)



- Shipment to Gran Sasso **by sea** in ~ 1 month (kept at 15 C and vertical: less cosmics, especially electrons w.r.t. Aircraft): ~ 1000 /cm<sup>2</sup>
- Special underground storage at Gran Sasso (Hall B). 5 cm Fe shielding @ 15-18 C (1 μ/m<sup>2</sup>/h)

- Memory of emulsion order during transportation (from Japan to Europe) is kept and taken into account during brick assembly. Segments which are aligned assuming a spacing equal to the emulsion thickness (cosmics recorded during transportation) are discarded at analysis level : **"virtual erasing"** concept. **Very powerful technique:**
- **43±4 (Tono) → 113±20 tracks/cm<sup>2</sup> with virtual erasing and 1000±50 /cm<sup>2</sup> without !**

# The BAM (brick assembly machine)

5 robotised parallelpiling stations.  
 Operation Underground in dark room (Hall B).



Anthropomorphic robot for brick wrapping

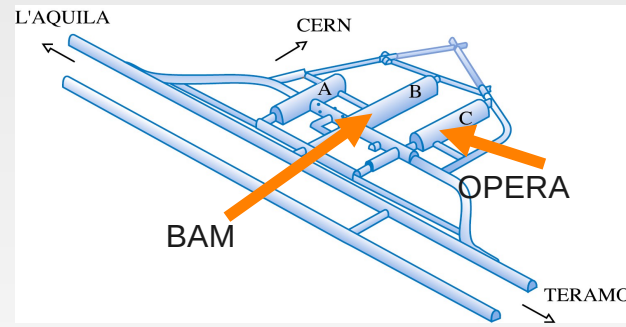
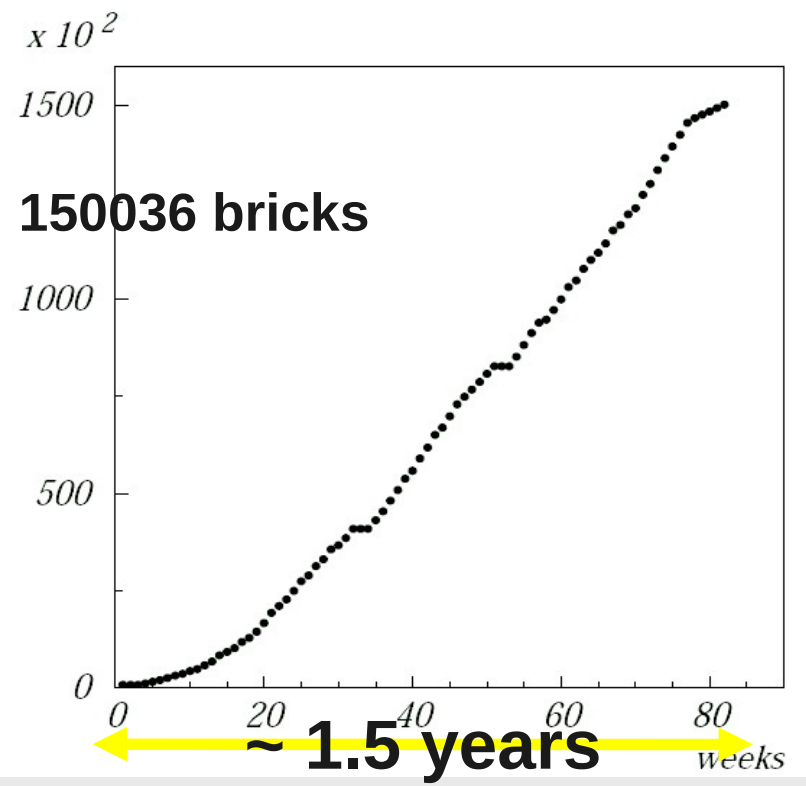


## Automatic stacking and packaging 150K bricks ~> 9M emulsions & lead plates

- 07/2006 @ LNGS
- 09/2006 operational
- 02/2007 commissioning completed
- 03/2007 <- production-> 06/2008: production

On average ~650 bricks/day 2 (8h long ) shifts/day \* 5 days/week  
 (7 operators+1 site manager)

01/2009 production resumed (1 shift/day) in Jan 2009 after JL Goslar accident in 06/2008  
 (+3415 bricks)



# The BMS (brick manipulator system)

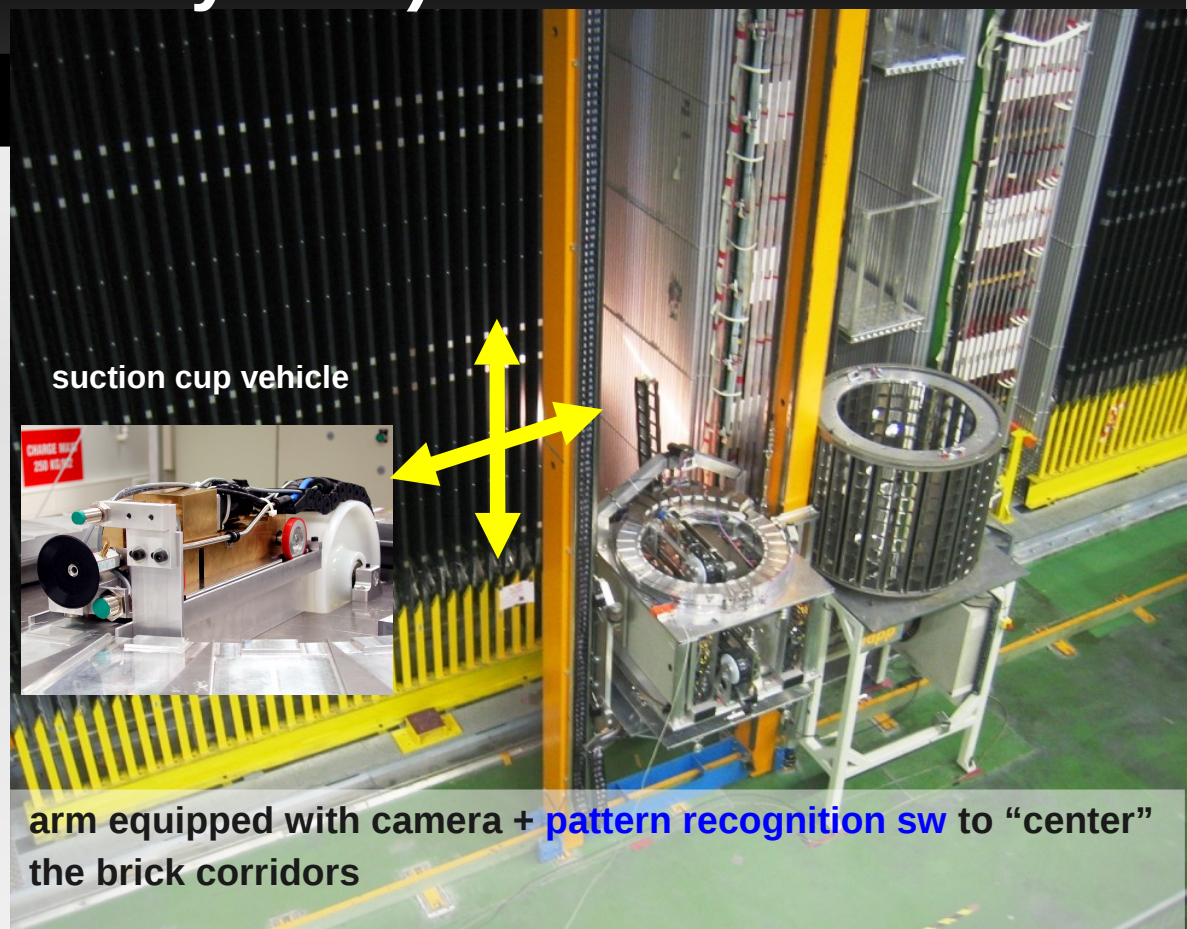
- Automated **detector filling**
- **Routine extractions** of bricks containing  $\nu$  interactions
- “**holes-filling**” to keep the detector compact (no refilling of extracted bricks foreseen  $\sim -10\%/5y$ )

**Replicated** on both detector sides

**0.1 mm** accuracy in positioning over  $\sim 8$  m  
platform weight: 1.3 tons

Continuous brick mapping  
(extraction/reinsertion)  
managed by a **relational DB**

For efficient tracing and retrieval of heterogeneous data: brick and film handling, DAQ, scanning data in various labs, etc.. are also managed by DB



# Brick filling and extractions

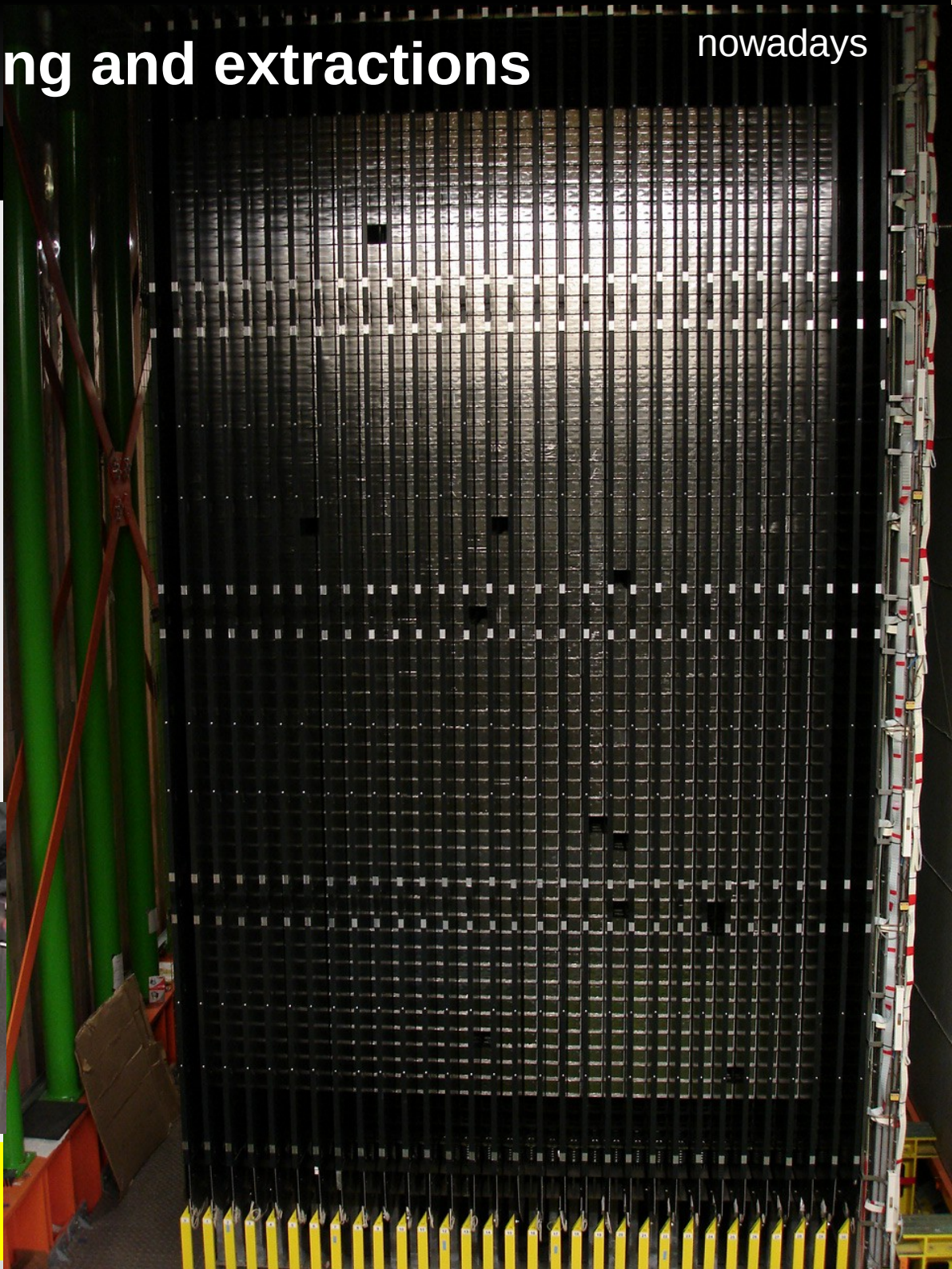
nowadays



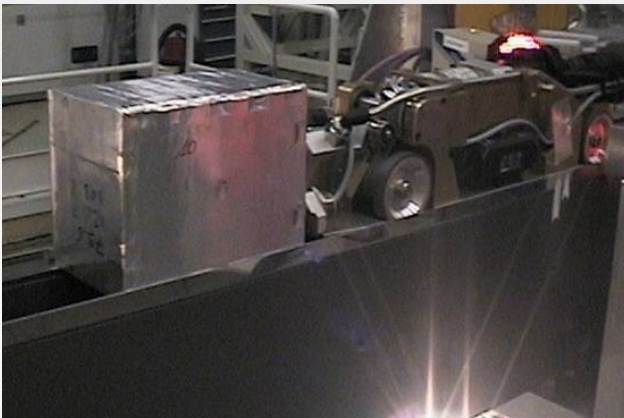
some among the first installed bricks

LAPP Annecy

Accomplished smoothly in parallel to brick production in  $\sim 1.5$  y



Routine extractions in 2008 run:



**Up to 25 bricks per shift (8h). OK!**

# The muon spectrometer

(one per supermodule)

## Charm background rejection

Muon identification (Spectrometer+TT) > 95%

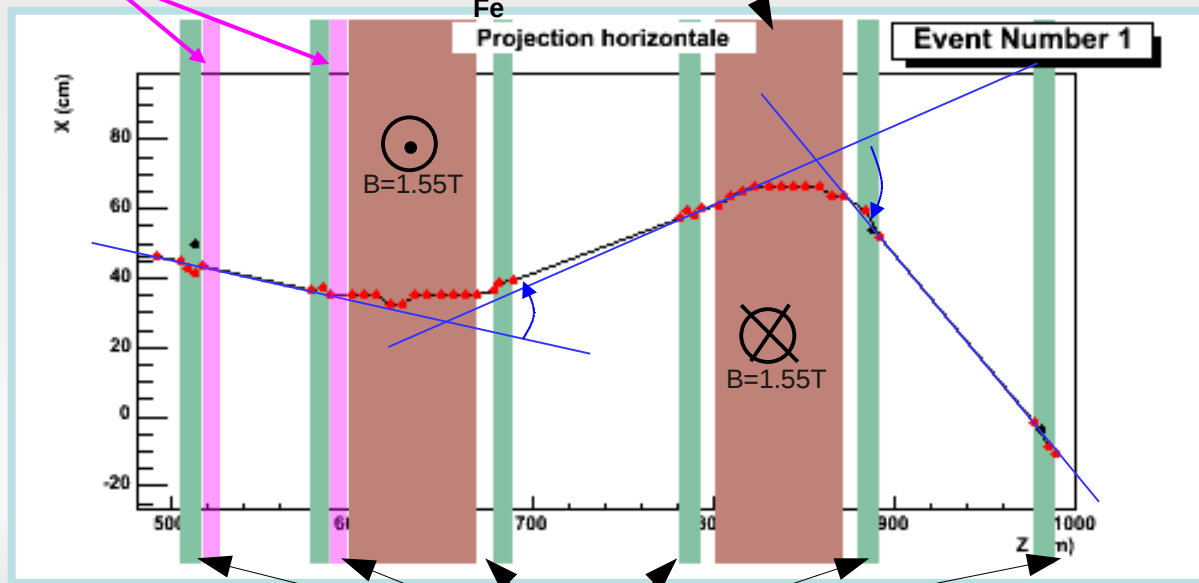
$\Delta p / p < 20\%$  for  $p < 30$  GeV

Charge misidentification < 0.3%

- Inner trackers iron yoke gaps instrumented with RPCs horizontal and vertical strips with digital readout  $\sigma \sim \text{cm}$ 
  - Tracking and  $p$  from range for stopping mu
- Precision trackers 6 vertical drift tubes stations.  $\sigma \sim 0.3$  mm
  - Precise charge mis-ID /  $p$  measurement

• 24 iron slabs, 5 cm thick + 2 cm gap

RPC with inclined strips (to solve PR ambiguities)

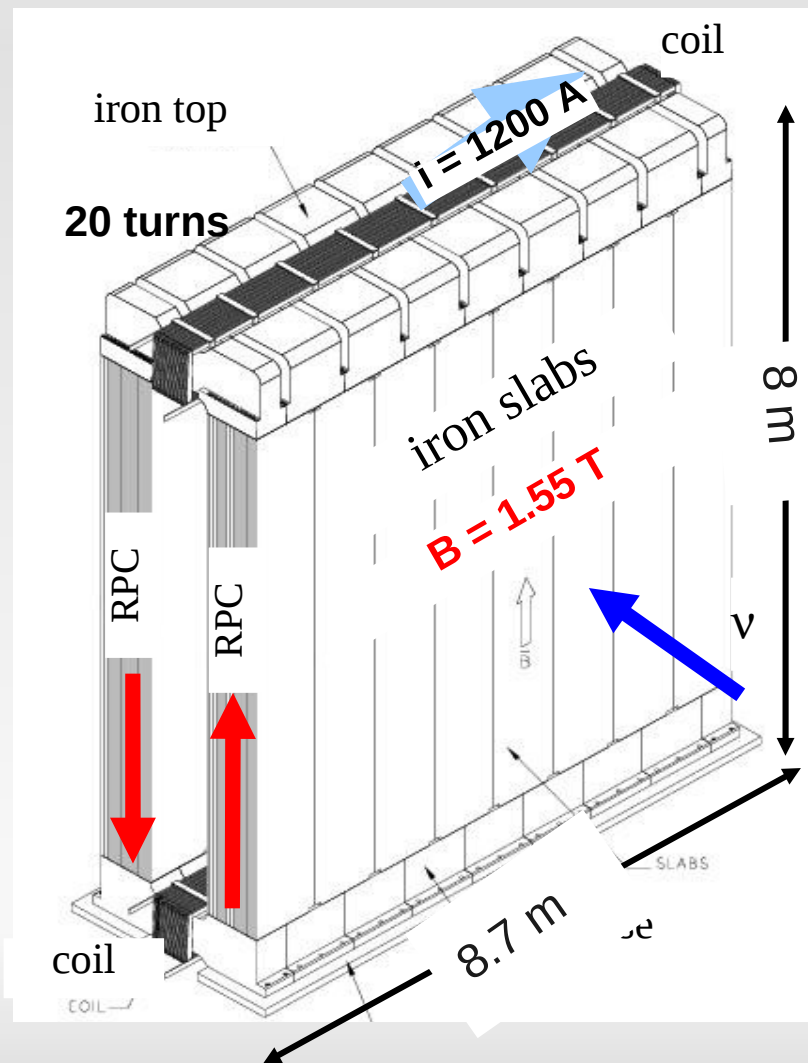


top view

Drift tubes

A. Longhin

- Bipolar magnet ( $B=1.55$  T)



# Muon spectrometer close-up

Copper coils (20 turns)

38 mm diam. 8 m long tubes.  
(never so long before!)

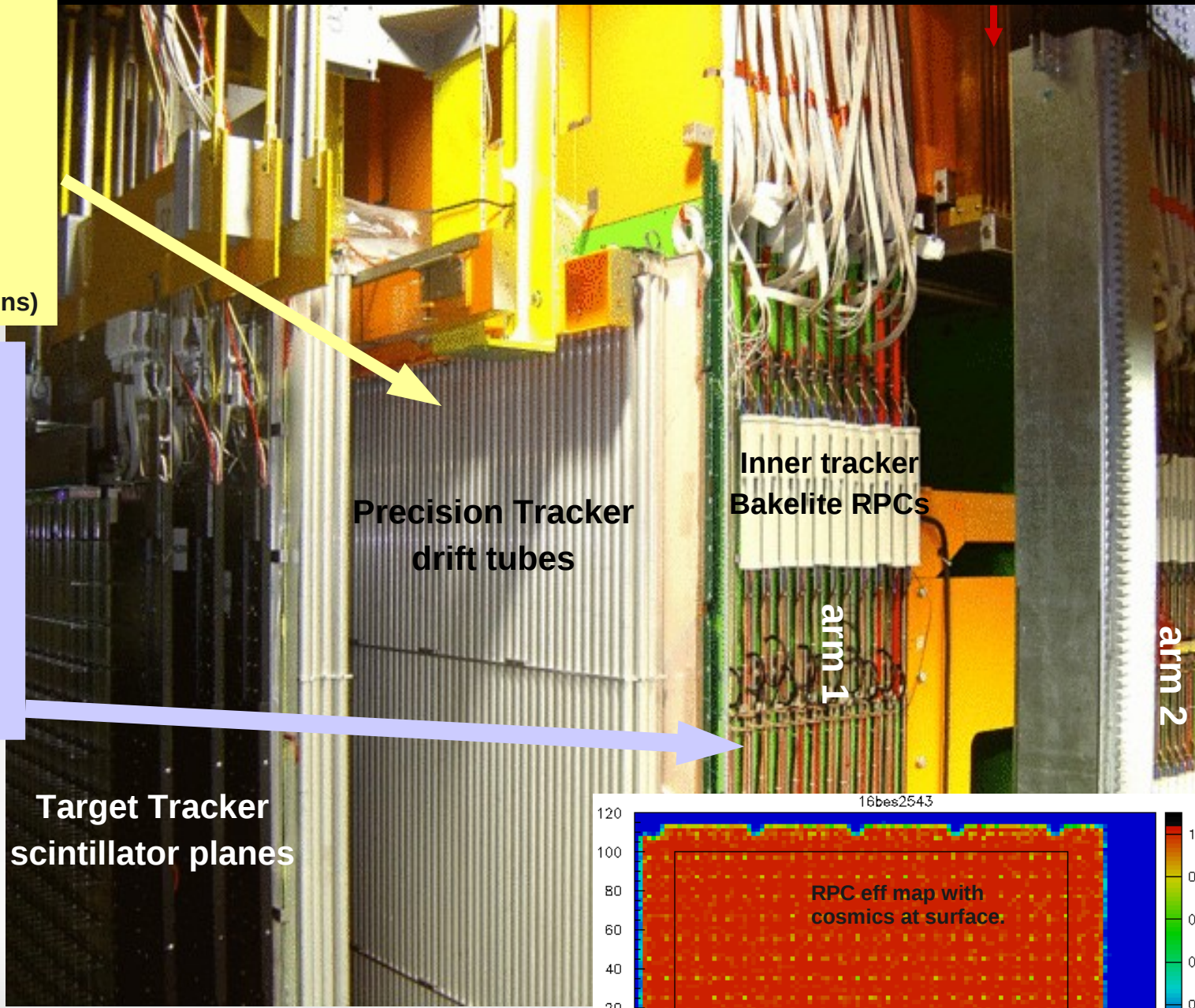
10.000 drift tubes  
4 layers modules (staggered)

Ar/CO<sub>2</sub>: 80/20% @ 1005±5 mbar  
(80 m<sup>3</sup> exchange 1m<sup>3</sup>/h)

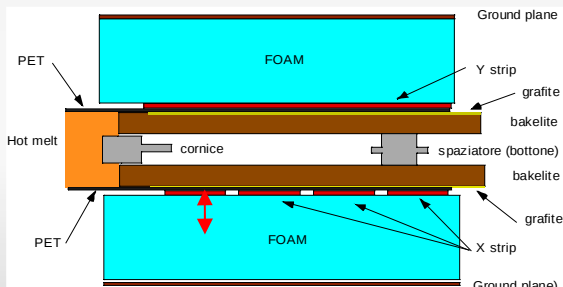
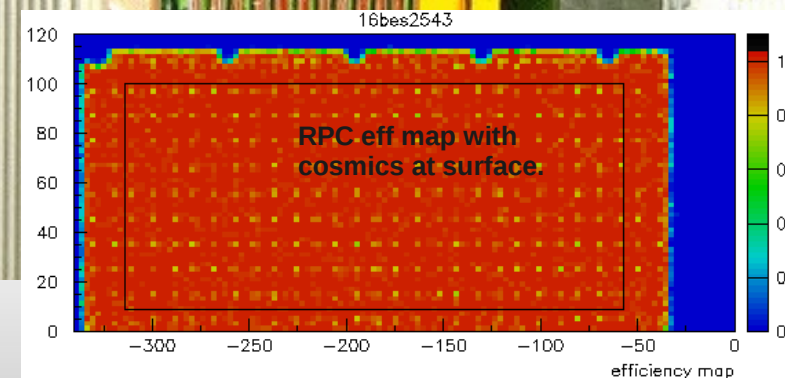
0.85 mm thick. 45 μm wire.

RPC-triggered, 3.2 μs TDCs (LSB 1.5 ns)

- Bakelite RPC (streamer mode)
- 462 RPC + 42 (XPC) x 2 ~ 1000
- 3326 m<sup>2</sup> (2.9 x 1.1 m<sup>2</sup> each)
- digital channels: ~ 27000
- Strips pitch: 2.6, 3.5 cm (Vert, Hor)
- Front-End Boards: 468
- Controller Boards: 52
- 76%Ar+20%TFE+4%Iso+0.6%SF<sub>6</sub>
- 8 kV / 2mm

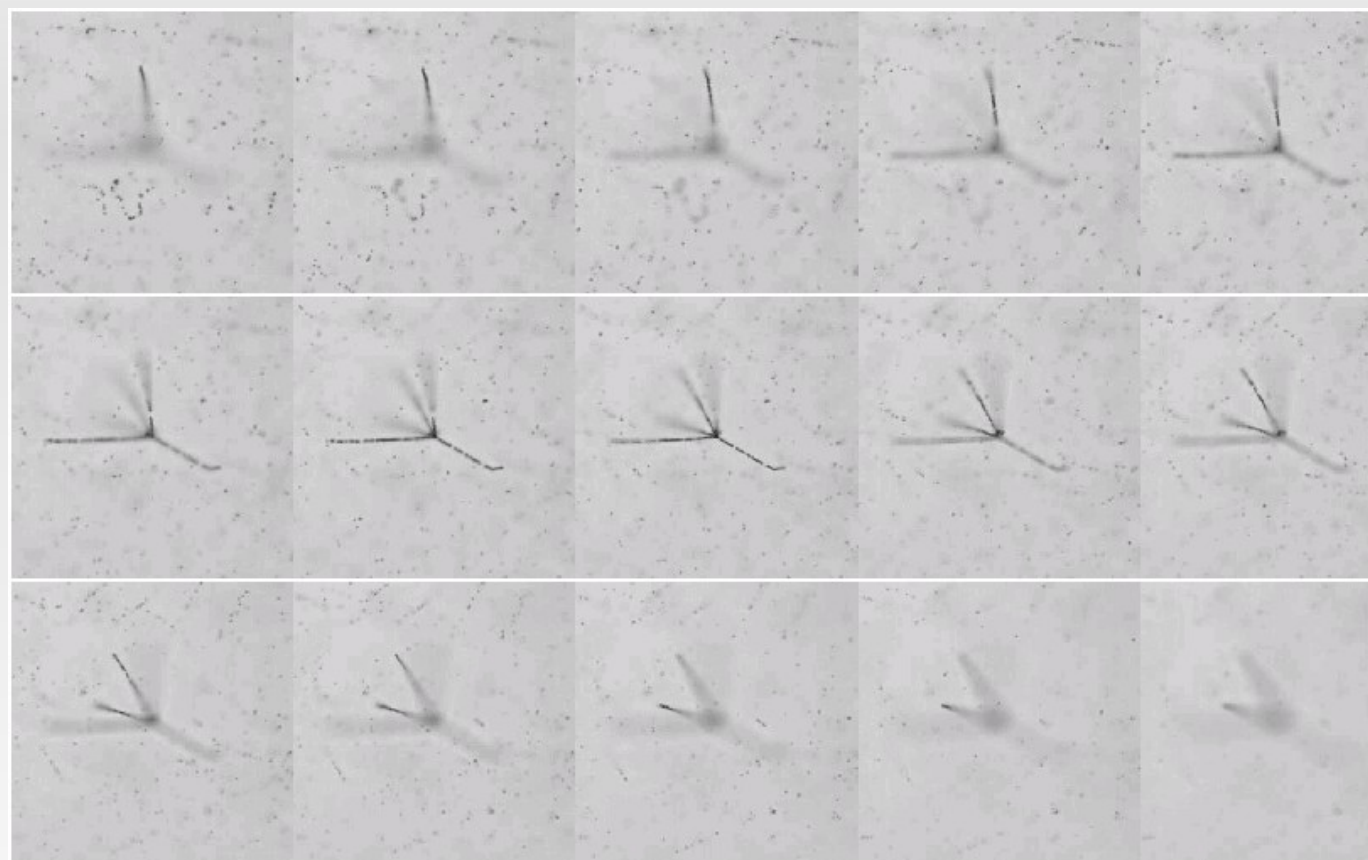


Target Tracker  
scintillator planes

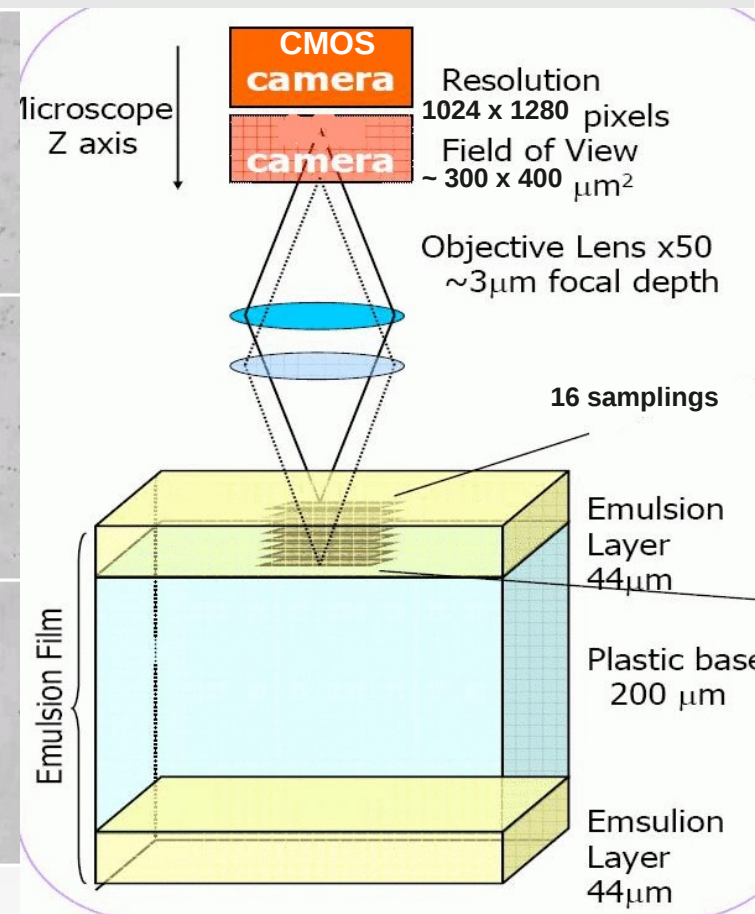


# Scanning principle

tomographic image sequence



Emulsion cuts at different "z"



From the cascade alpha decays of heavy elements in natural decay chains (i.e. U and Th) present in emulsions

The shown zone is only a small fraction of the microscope view (~ 300x400  $\mu\text{m}$ )

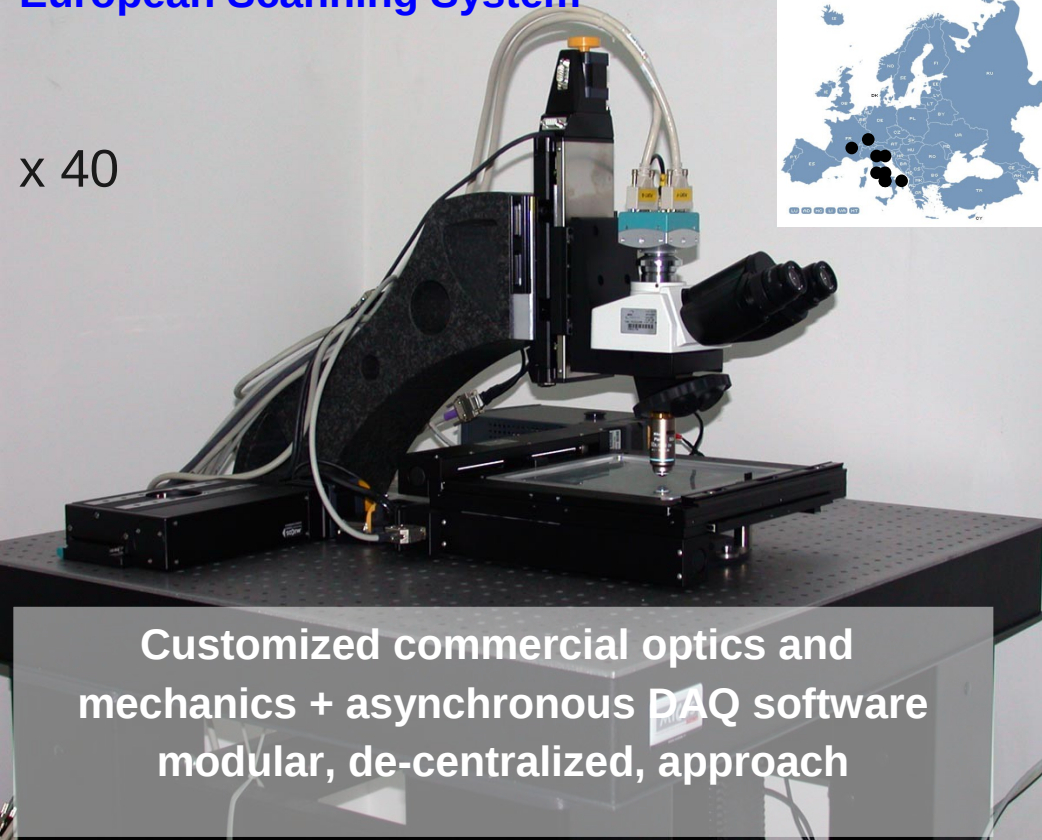
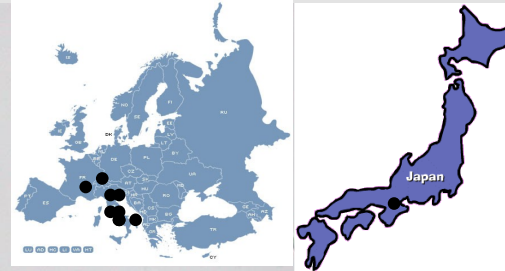
# Emulsion scanning: 'offline' ... data taking !

~ 24 bricks will be daily extracted and analysed using high-speed automatic systems  
~ 40 microscopes distributed in Europe and Japan

2 "schools". Many useful cross checks are possible !  
Common Data Base for data sharing/publication

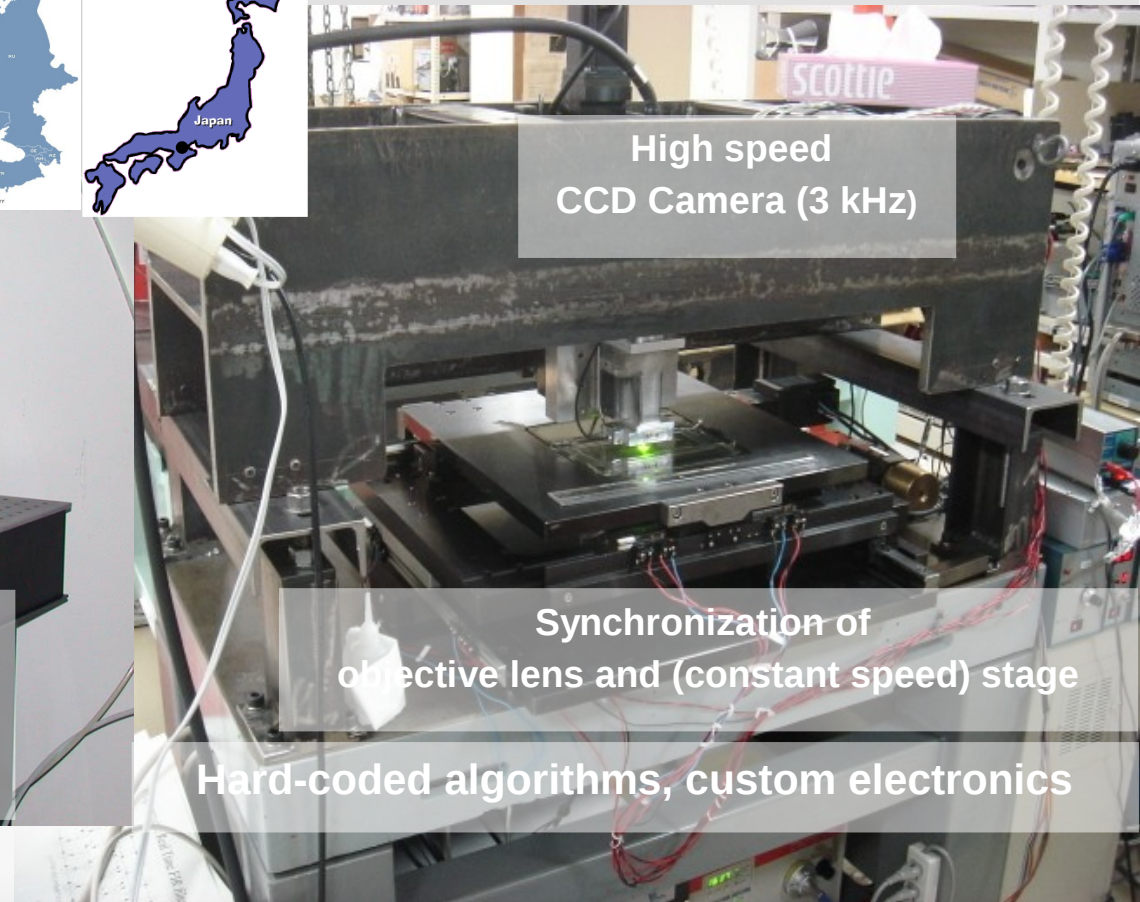
## European Scanning System

x 40



Customized commercial optics and mechanics + asynchronous DAQ software modular, de-centralized, approach

## S-UTS (Japan)



High speed CCD Camera (3 kHz)

Synchronization of objective lens and (constant speed) stage

Hard-coded algorithms, custom electronics

scanning speed ~ 20 cm<sup>2</sup> / h

Up to ~ 50 cm<sup>2</sup> / h

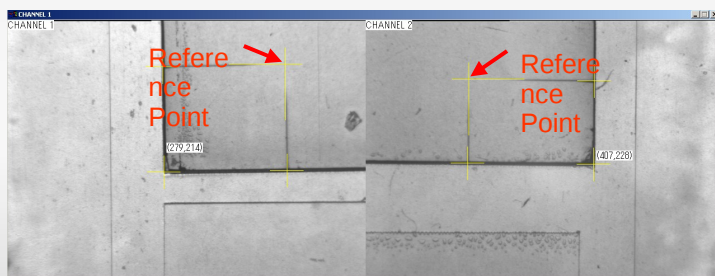


# Auxiliary systems to automate the scan-back procedure

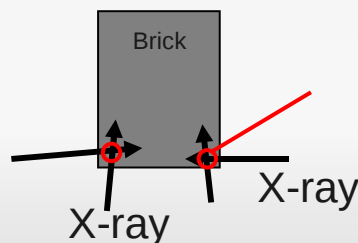
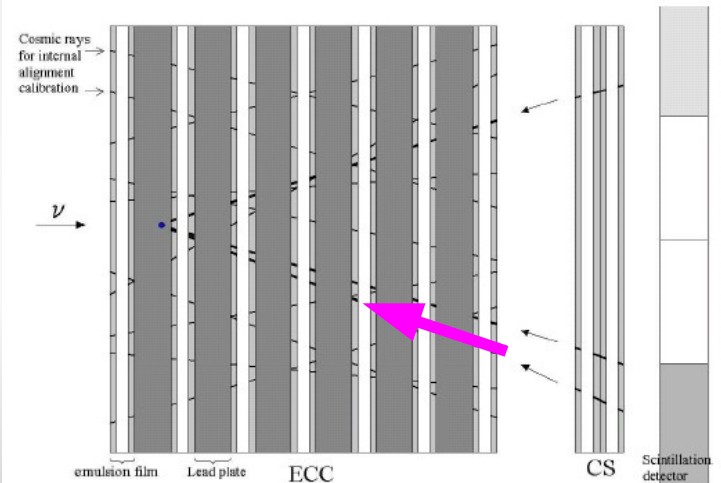
Europe: mechanical plate changer



Allows to run the scan-back procedure without human intervention (i.e. overnight)



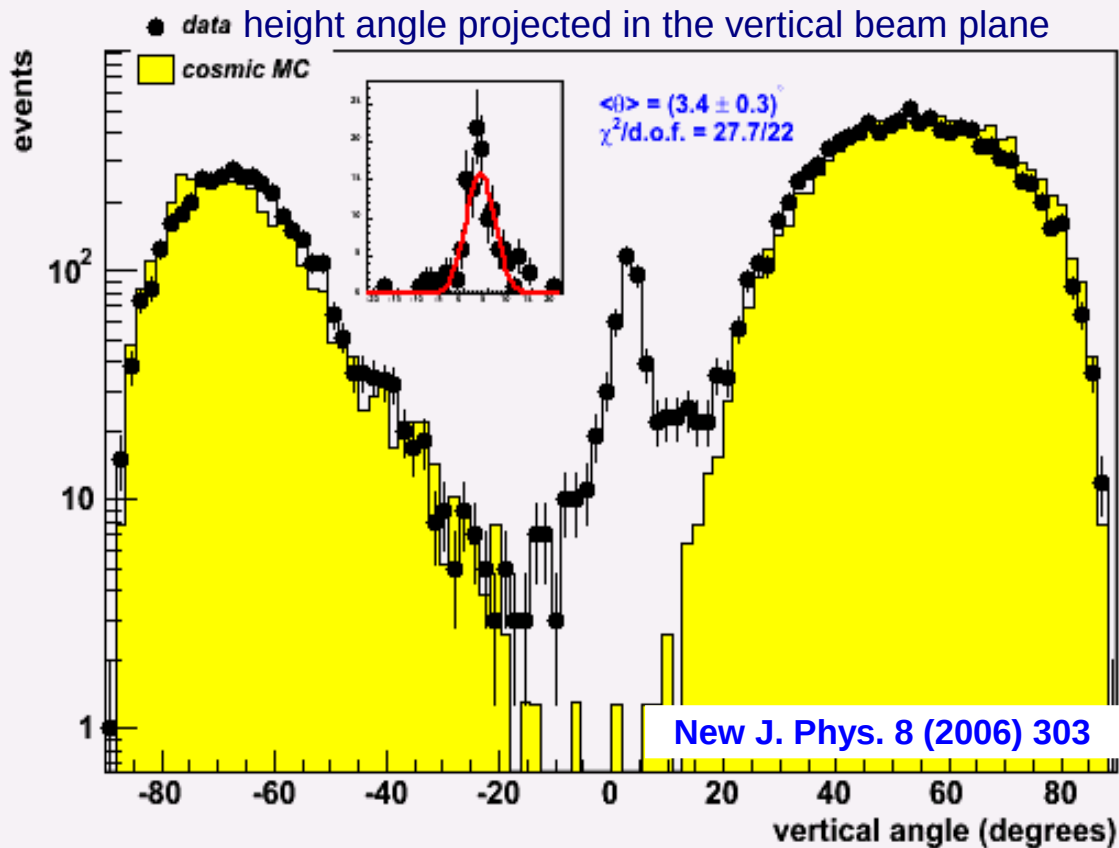
Japan- emulsion glued to a rolling strip



A. Longhin

# Running an hybrid experiment quasi-online !

Description of running ... and first achievements

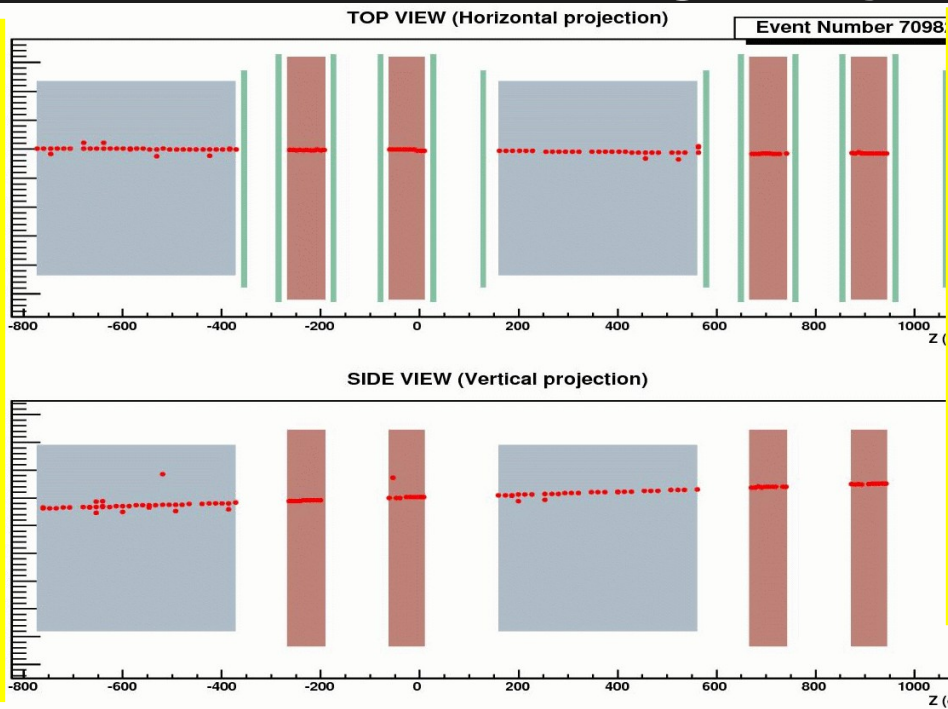


August 2006:  $\langle \theta \rangle = (3.4 \pm 0.3)^\circ$  (statistically dominated))

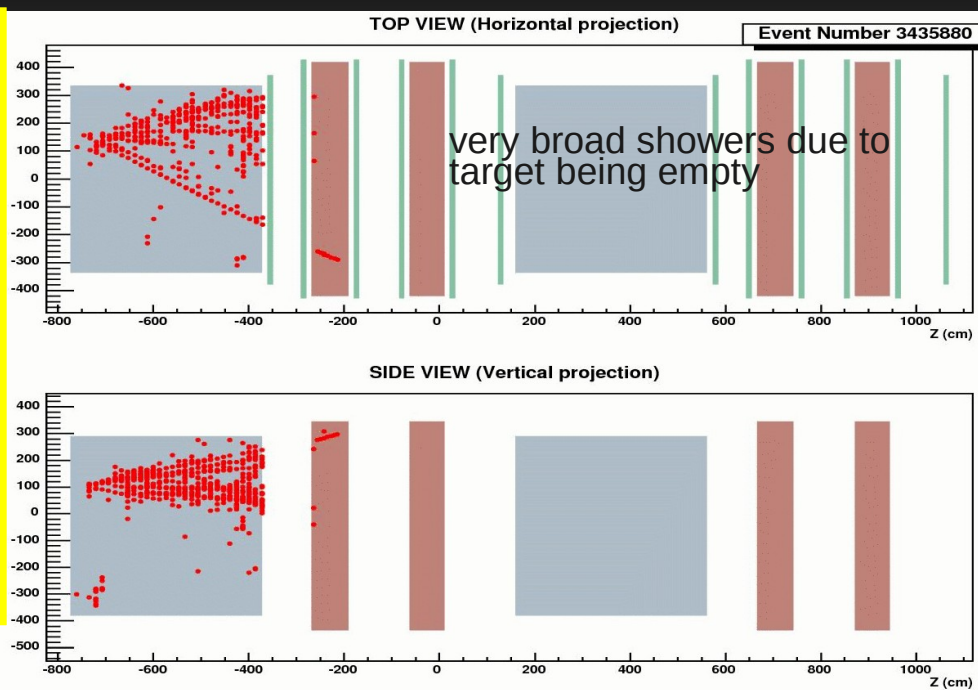
MC: simulation from MACRO parametrization, ABSOLUTE normalization

# The 2006 run event gallery

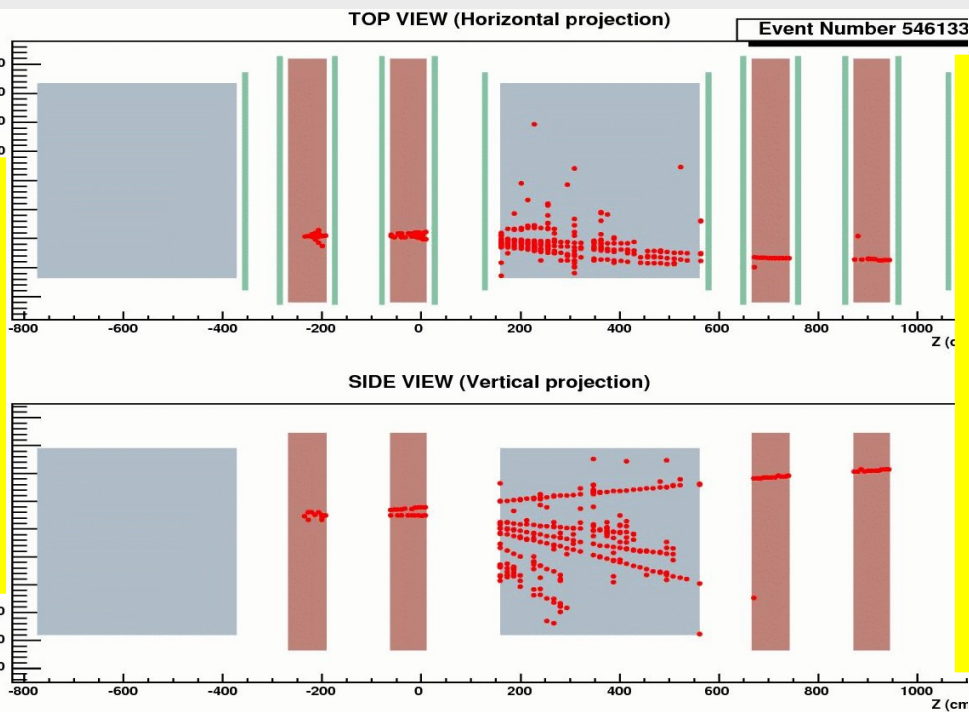
$\nu$  CC in rock (rock muon)



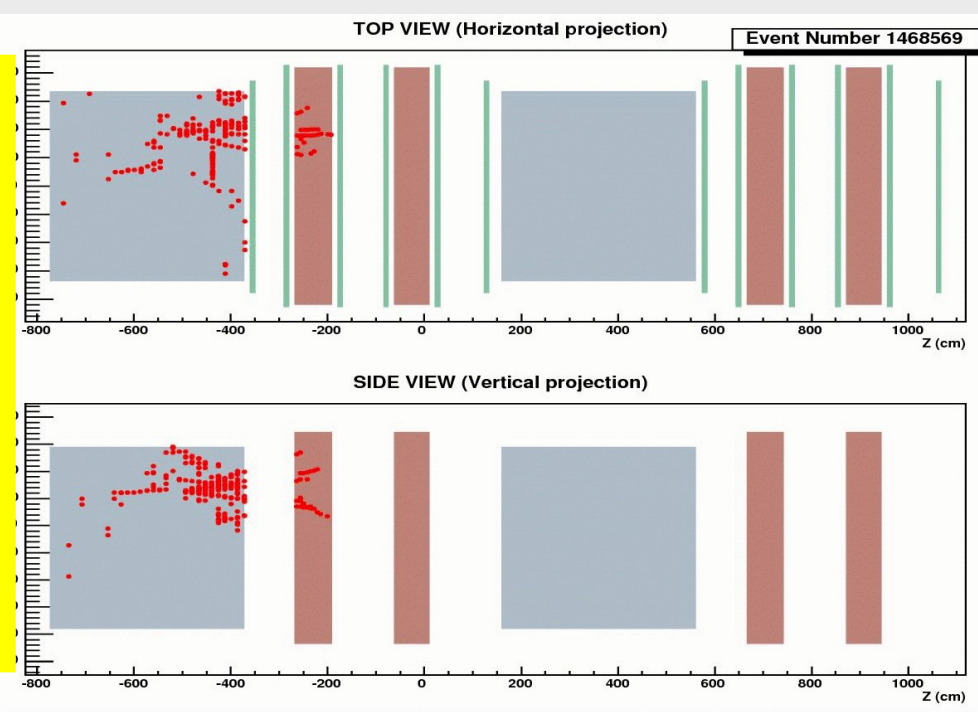
$\nu$  CC in Target Tracker



$\nu$  CC in Magnet



$\nu$  NC in Target Tracker

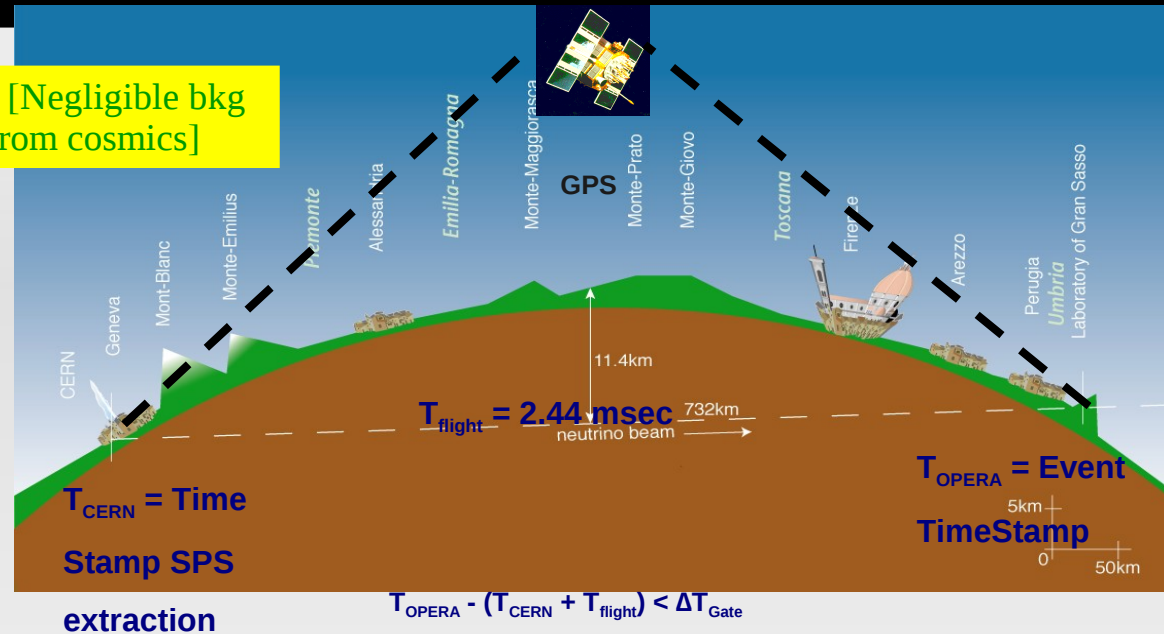


# CNGS + OPERA run summary

Events in the electronic detectors are time-stamped and correlated through GPS with CNGS beam

OK [Negligible bkg from cosmics]

- 2006 Pilot run. After commissioning 10ms Aug, no follow-up in October due to a problem in the cooling of one horn. Moreover, no bricks in OPERA.
- 2007: Major problems in the radiation shielding of the ventilation system. Only  $8 \cdot 10^{17}$  pot. Significant interventions during winter shutdown.



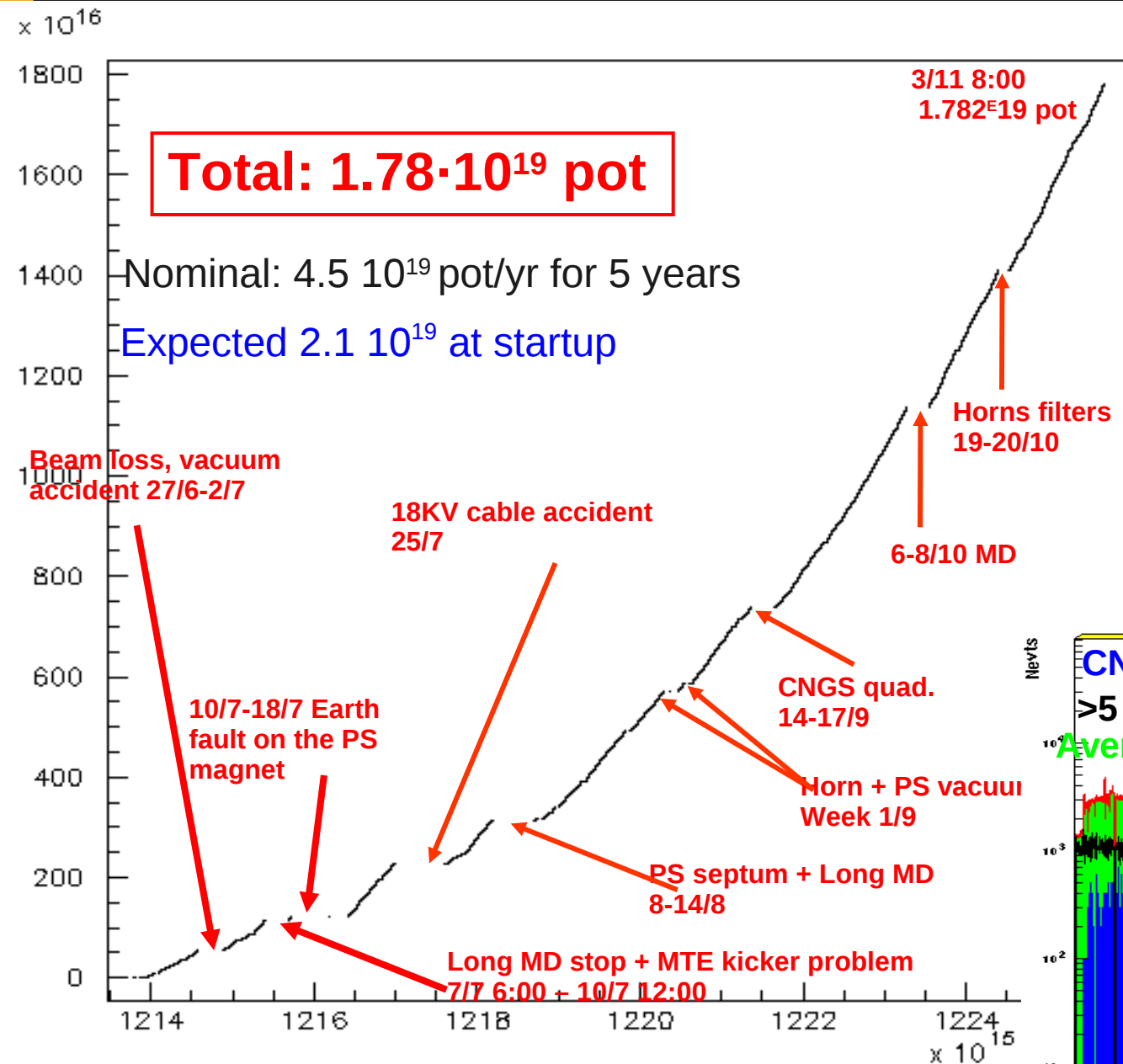
	Delivered pot	Target filling	On-time events	Target events
2006	$8.2 \cdot 10^{17}$	Empty	347	0
2007	$8.24 \cdot 10^{17}$	80% of first Target	393	38
2008	$1.78 \cdot 10^{19}$	Full	10058	1690

- 2008 OPERA fully operational. Some more details next →

Mainly in surrounding material ("rock mu")

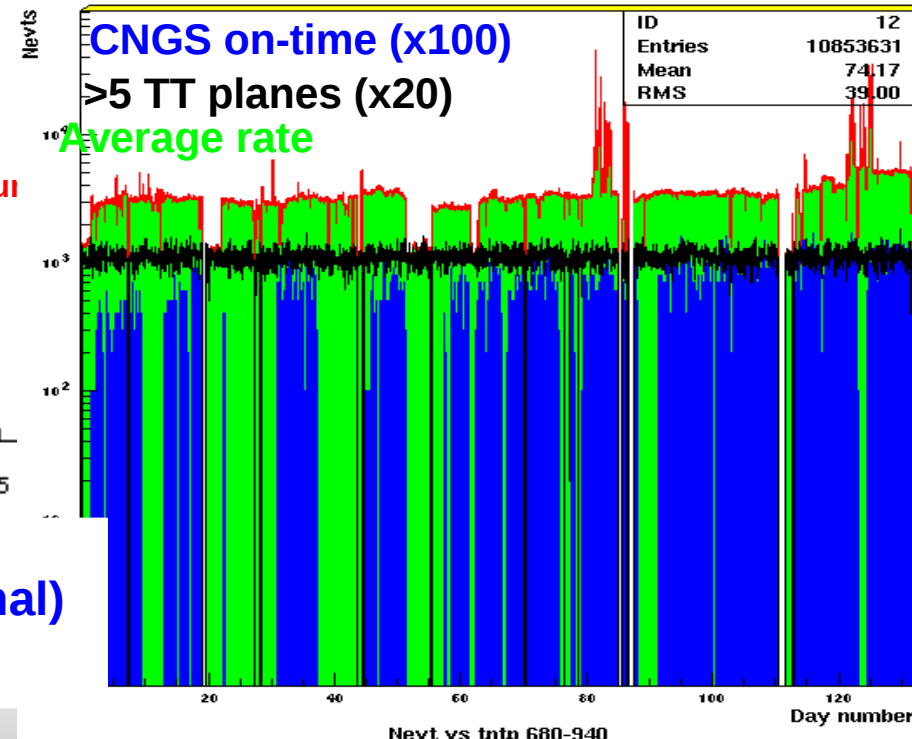
Perspectives for 2009 CNGS run:  $4.5 \cdot 10^{19}$  pot requested ( $3.5 \cdot 10^{19}$  scheduled)

# 2008 run: 18 June- 03 Nov 2008 (~137 days)



Performance of the CERN injection complex **poor at beginning but steadily improving.**

The electronic detectors and the **DAQ ran smoothly (99.96% efficiency for the target tracker during operation, loss of  $2 \cdot 10^{17}$  pot due to power cuts in LNGS)**



**expected taus : 0.7**  
**Peak intensity:  $2.0 \cdot 10^{13}$  pot/extraction (83% of nominal)**  
**Average efficiency = 60% (nominal = 80%)**

# OPERA as a hybrid detector: the status

- Direction and momentum reconstruction for CNGS events
  - $q$  and  $p$  reconstruction for *off-time events* (cosmicray analysis)
  - Prediction of the brick where the interaction occurred (“brick finding”)
  - Alignment and development of the Changeable Sheets
  - Scanning of the Changeable Sheets
  - Extraction of the Bricks at the rate of CNGS events
  - Identification of the *primary vertex*
  - Kinematic reconstruction and decay search*

OK

In progress

In progress

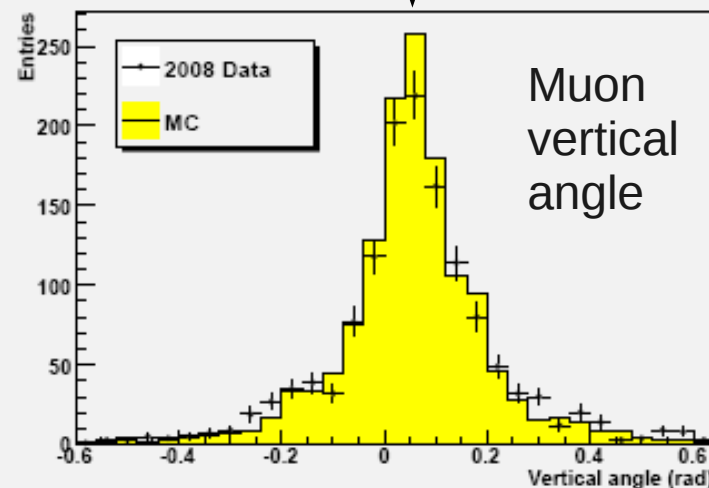
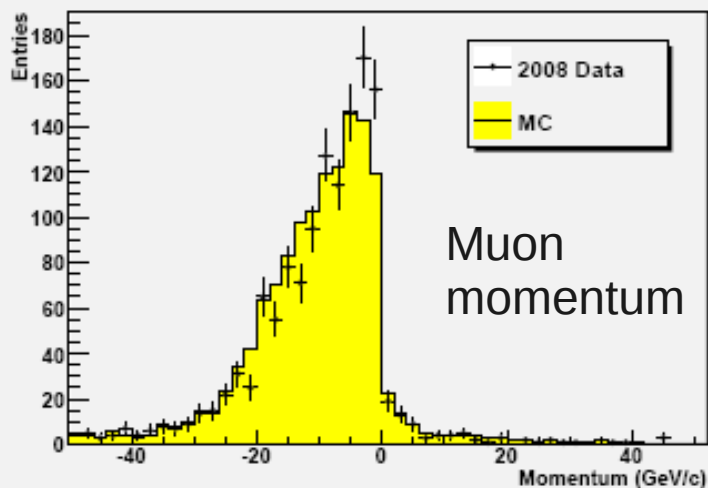
Fully validated

Fully validated

Fully validated

In progress

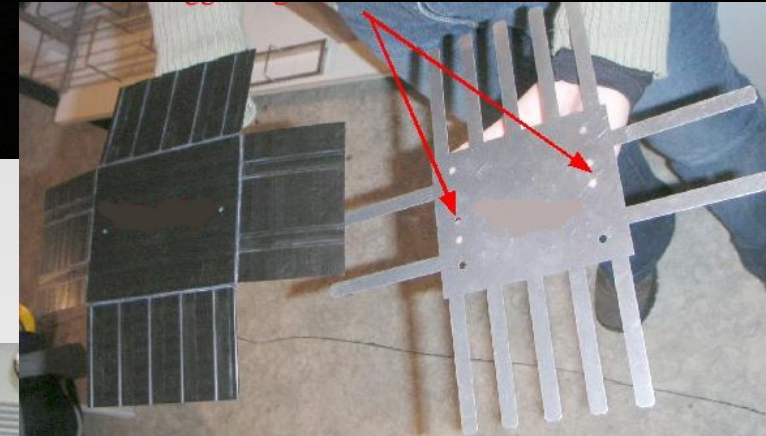
In progress



# Brick operations at surface

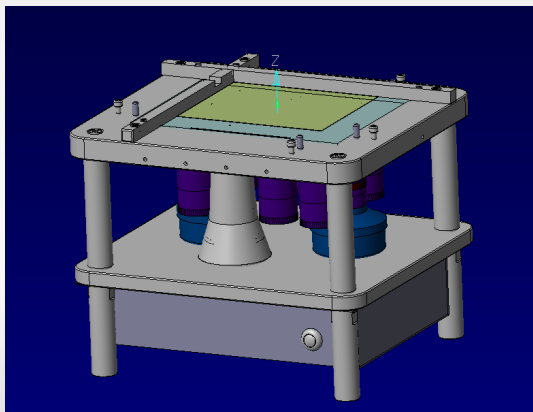
Darkroom operations

- 1) brick **unpacking**. → semi-automatic tools
- 2) occasional piling defects (e.g. double emulsion or lead layers, or damaged emulsions) recorded
- 3) film **labelling** by light exposure (binary code)
- 4) **development** of bricks with automatic chains

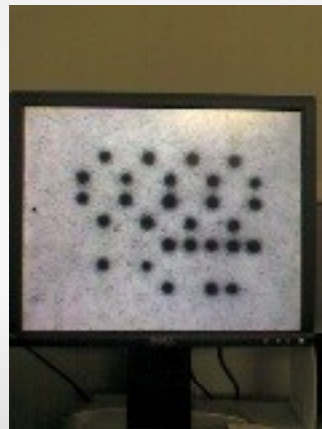


Commercial up-to-date technologies  
Chemical solutions are prepared by an **industrial-type plant**  
fully automated **up to 3000 films/day (~53 bricks)**

Gridding machine



Binary code



# Brick finding

- Use data from the real-time detectors (scint hits, # p.e., identified tracks in the target and spectrometers) to build a **probability map** of the bricks where the interaction might have occurred
- The most probable brick is extracted and the corresponding Changable Sheet is detached and scanned
- If tracks are found compatible with the expectations from the real time detectors -> the brick is developed
- Otherwise try again with the second most probable brick

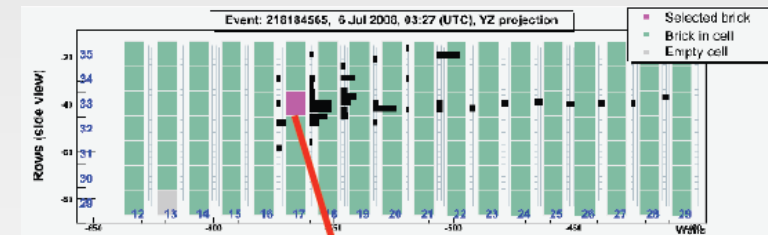
brick finding efficiency after having disentangled the CS inefficiency and the interactions occurring in the dead materials

1st brick BF efficiency: 72.8% +/- 1.7% (MC expectation 72%)

2nd brick BF efficiency: 56.9 +/- 6.1%

BF efficiency combined 1st+2nd brick: 88.3 +/- 5%  
(MC expectation 80%)

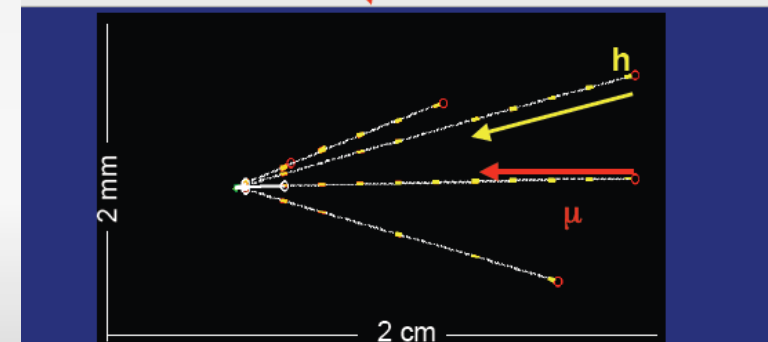
- Many ongoing studies on the first data (alternative algorithms, understanding of backscattering)



Brick finding information: Super module 1

BrickId	Wall	Side	Column	Row	Prob	CS x	CS y
1036423	17	1	9	32	0.59	5.73	15.4
1036440	17	1	9	32	0.37	56.3	129.3
1067422	16	1	9	32	0.02	46.3	117.3

Muon track parameters: Mu-  
Momentum: 3.594 GeV/c  
Angle XZ (rad): 0.154 +/- 0.009  
Angle YZ (rad): 0.026 +/- 0.009





# Scanning of the Changeable Sheets

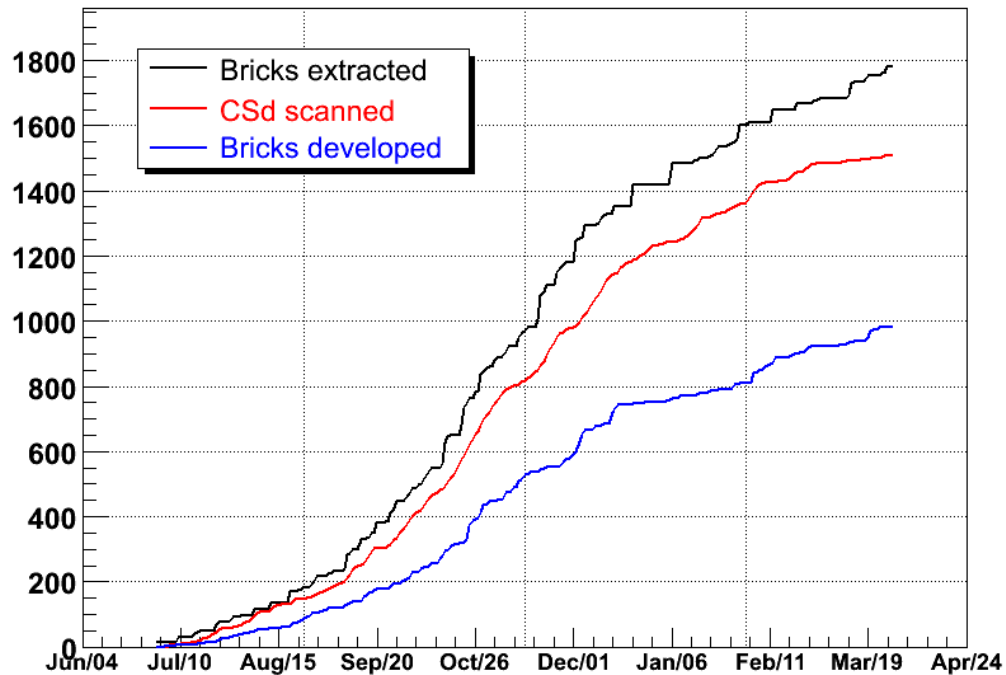
LNGS (Italy)



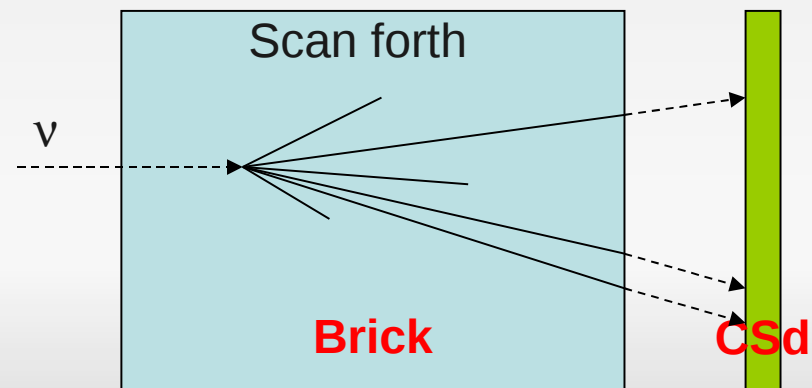
NAGOYA (Japan)



~ 100 CS/week managed



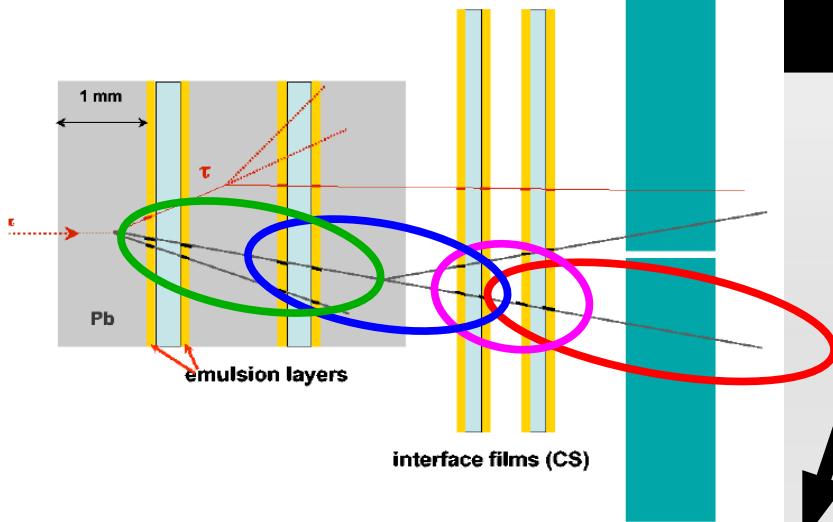
MC independent test of track finding efficiency in CS in a subsample of fully located event ( $\epsilon_{sb} \sim 90\%$ ) OK!



# From electronic detectors to vertices in emulsions

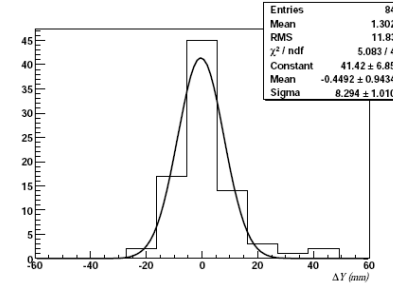
2009 JINST 4 P04018

scintillator trackers

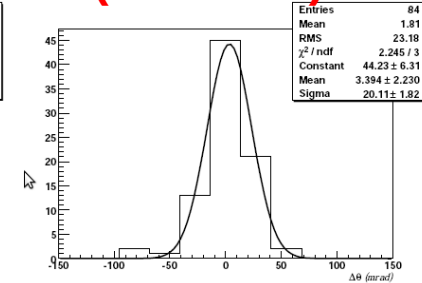


Electronic detectors - Changeable sheet

$(8.3 \pm 1.0)$  mm



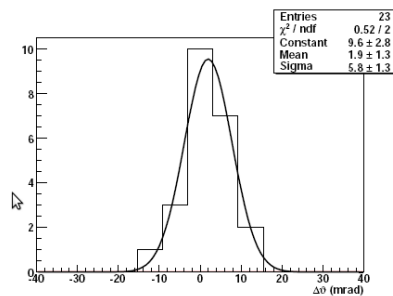
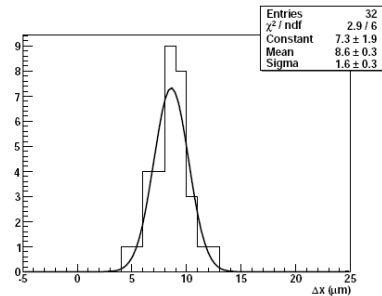
$(20.1 \pm 1.9)$  mm



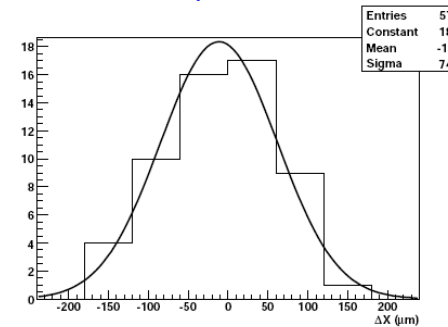
leap of a factor 10000 in precision !

CS1-2

$(1.6 \pm 0.3)$   $\mu\text{m}$   $(6.8 \pm 1.3)$  mrad



74  $\mu\text{m}$



8.2 mrad CS brick

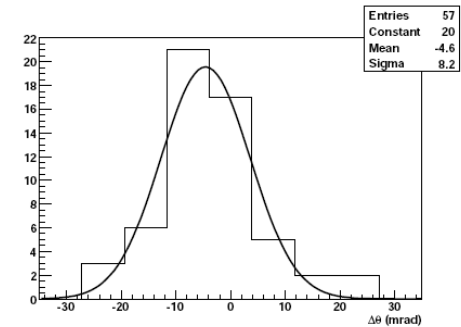
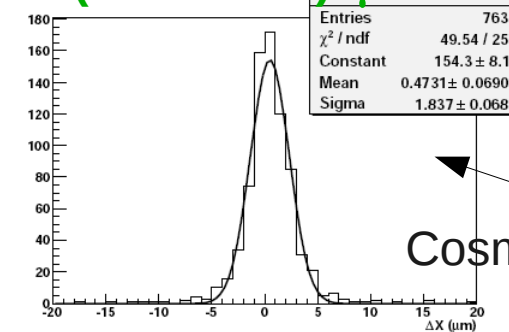
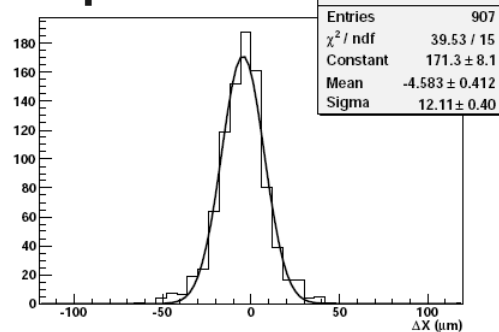


plate-plate

$(12.1 \pm 0.4)$   $\mu\text{m}$   $(1.84 \pm 0.07)$   $\mu\text{m}$

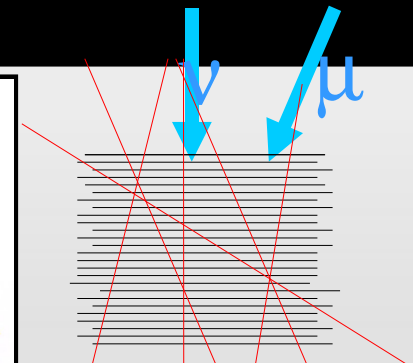
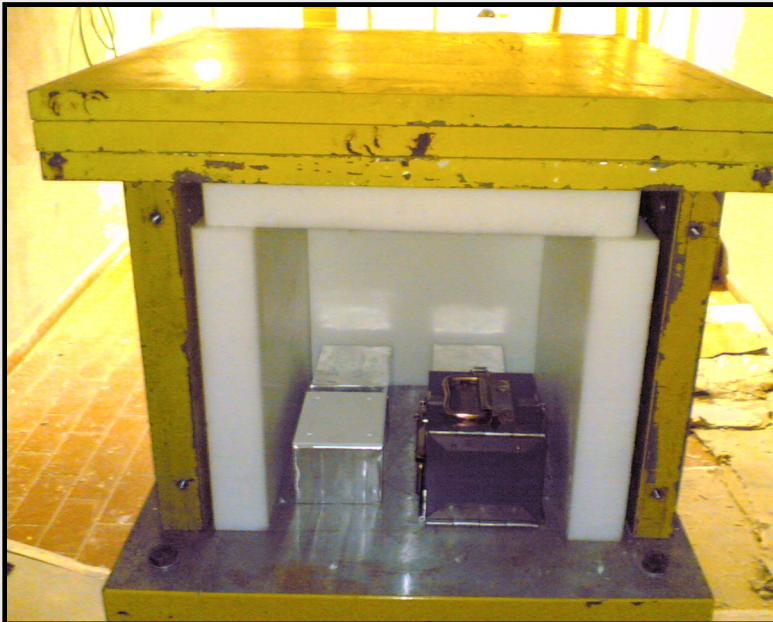


Lateral X-ray marks

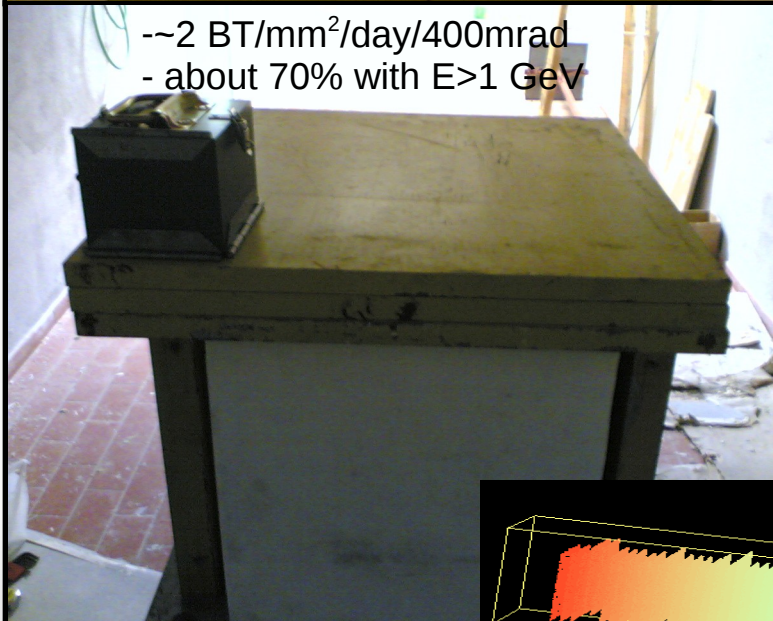
Cosmic ray alignment

# Cosmic ray exposure

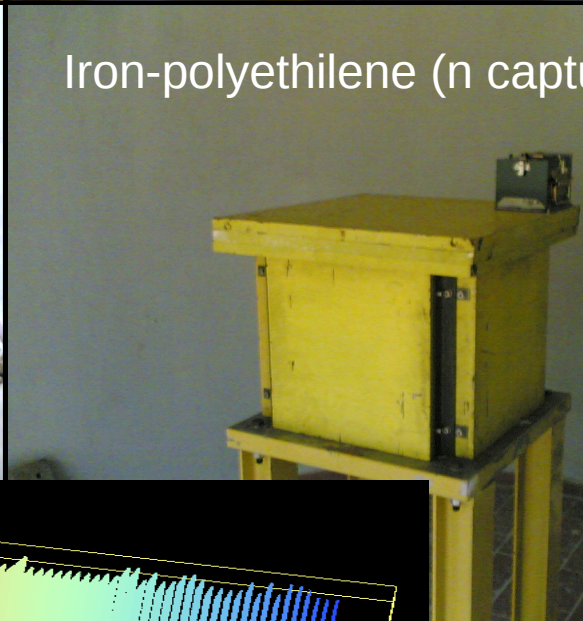
high energy cosmic rays used for local alignment (“pins”) of different emulsions in the brick. Exposure at surface done after brick extraction in a properly designed pit (to suppress the low E component).



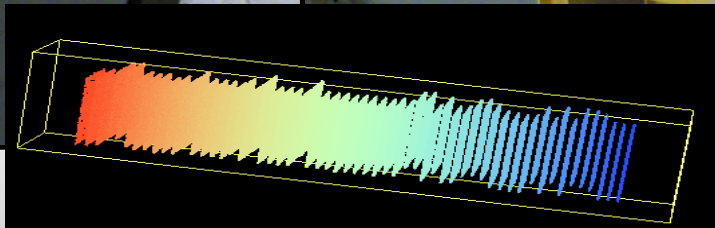
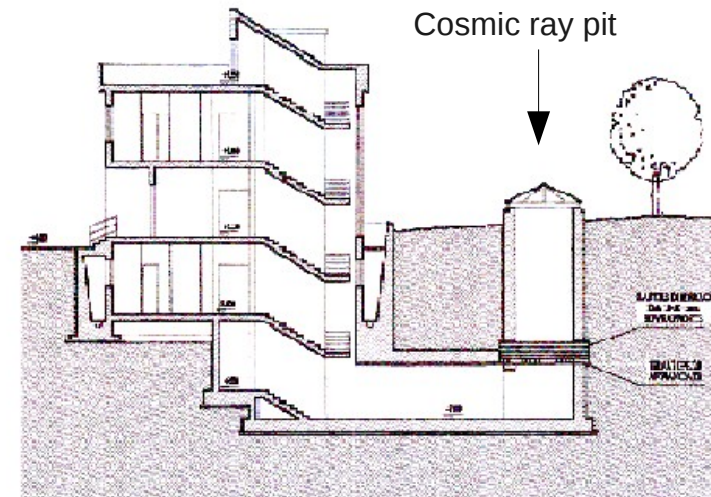
To prevent fake stopping points



--2 BT/mm<sup>2</sup>/day/400mrad  
- about 70% with E>1 GeV



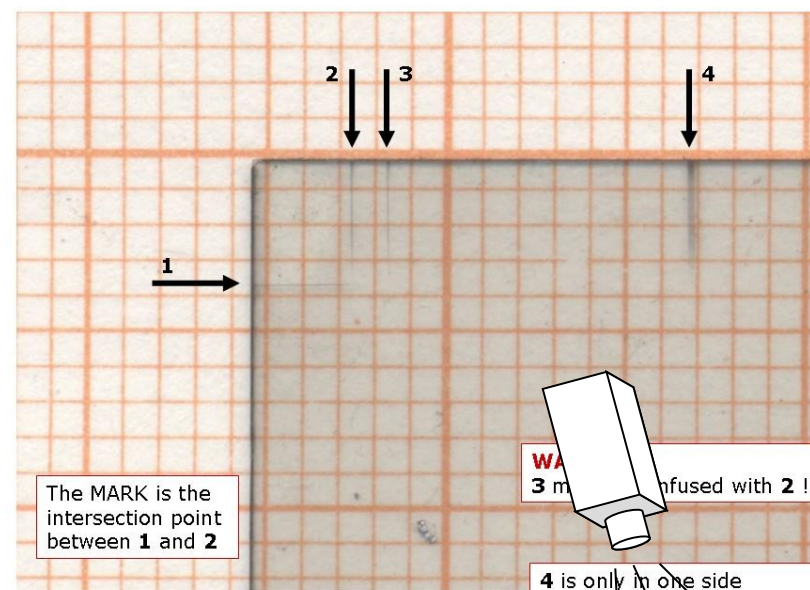
Iron-polyethylene (n capture)



# X-ray marking



- Faster global alignment using **X-ray marks**
- **Marks are automatically detected by a pattern recognition software** and affine transformations among plates are calculated. This procedure allows to perform the scan back procedure in a fast and effective way while cosmics alignment is more accurate but slow (a zone of ~1 cm<sup>2</sup> needs to be scanned to perform the alignment with reasonable statistics). Also provide plate numbering.
- same technique for CS-brick alignment



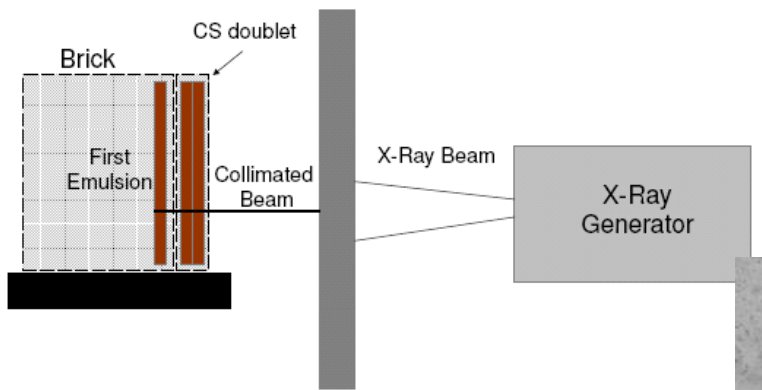
The MARK is the intersection point between 1 and 2

WA 3 m confused with 2 !!

4 is only in one side (plate number)

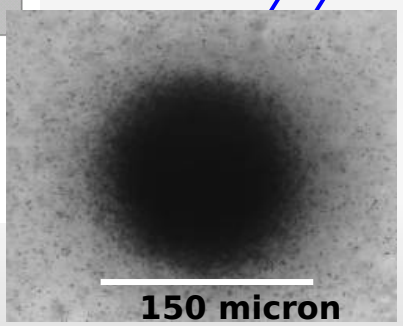
G.Sirri - INFN Bologna LNGS 2007-09-13

## CS-brick (frontal Xray marks)



Lead shield (3 mm) with 100 micron hole

5 circular spots on CS films and most downstreamfilm of the brick.  
precise alignment btw CS1-2 and brick



150 micron

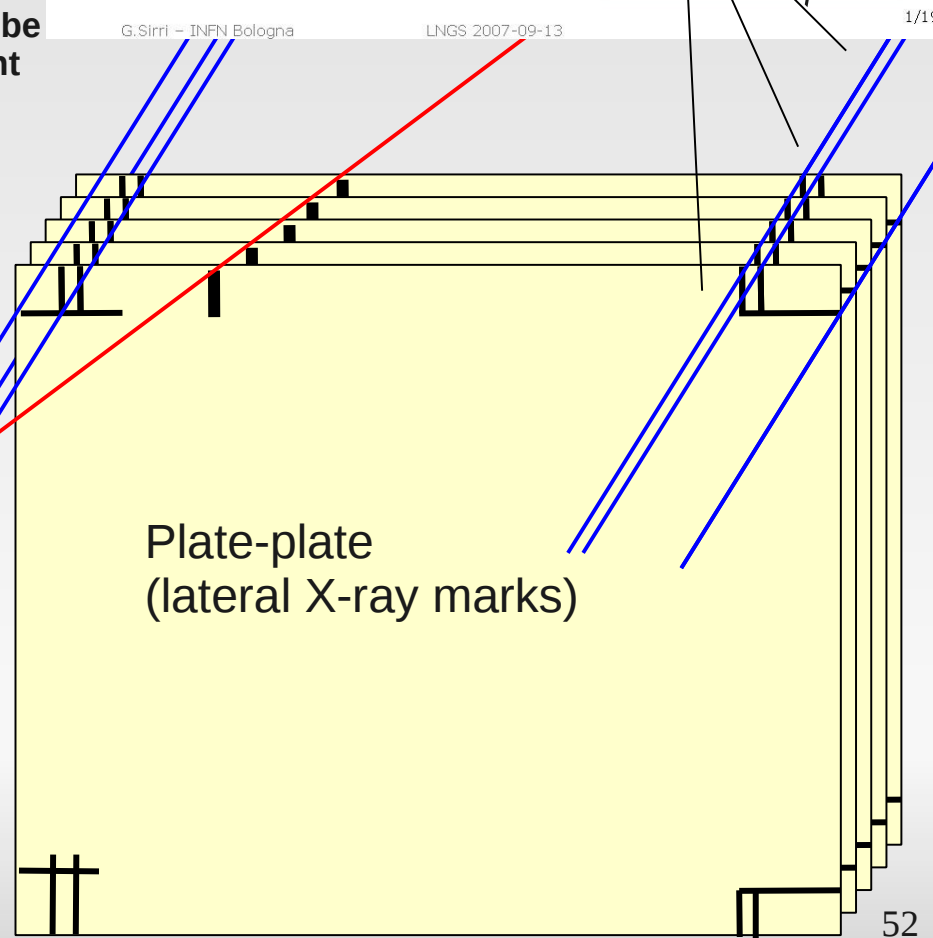
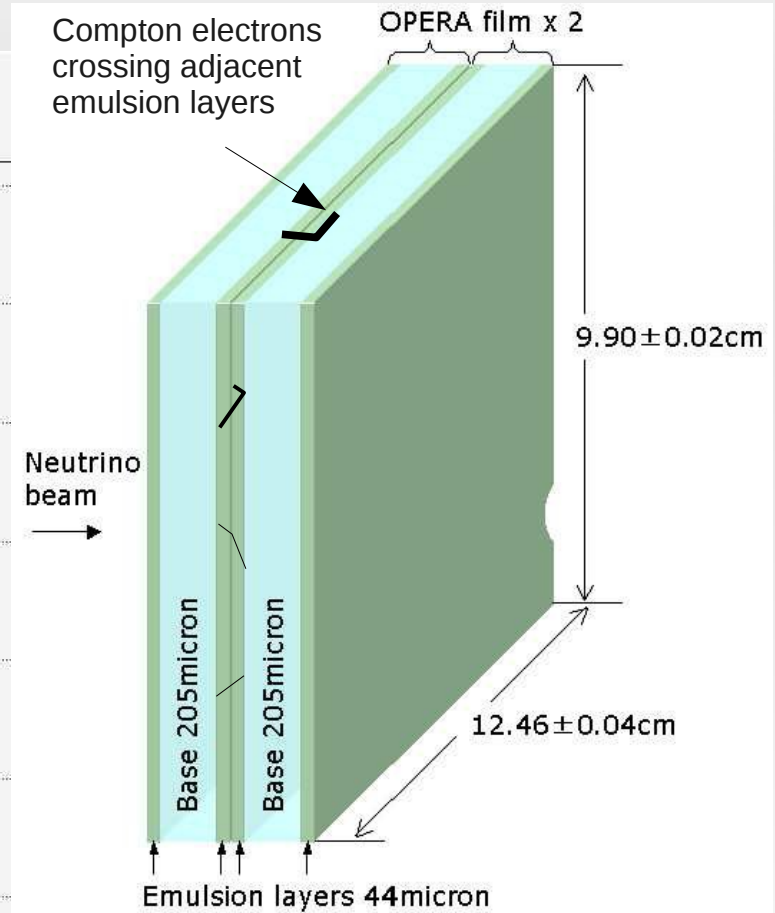
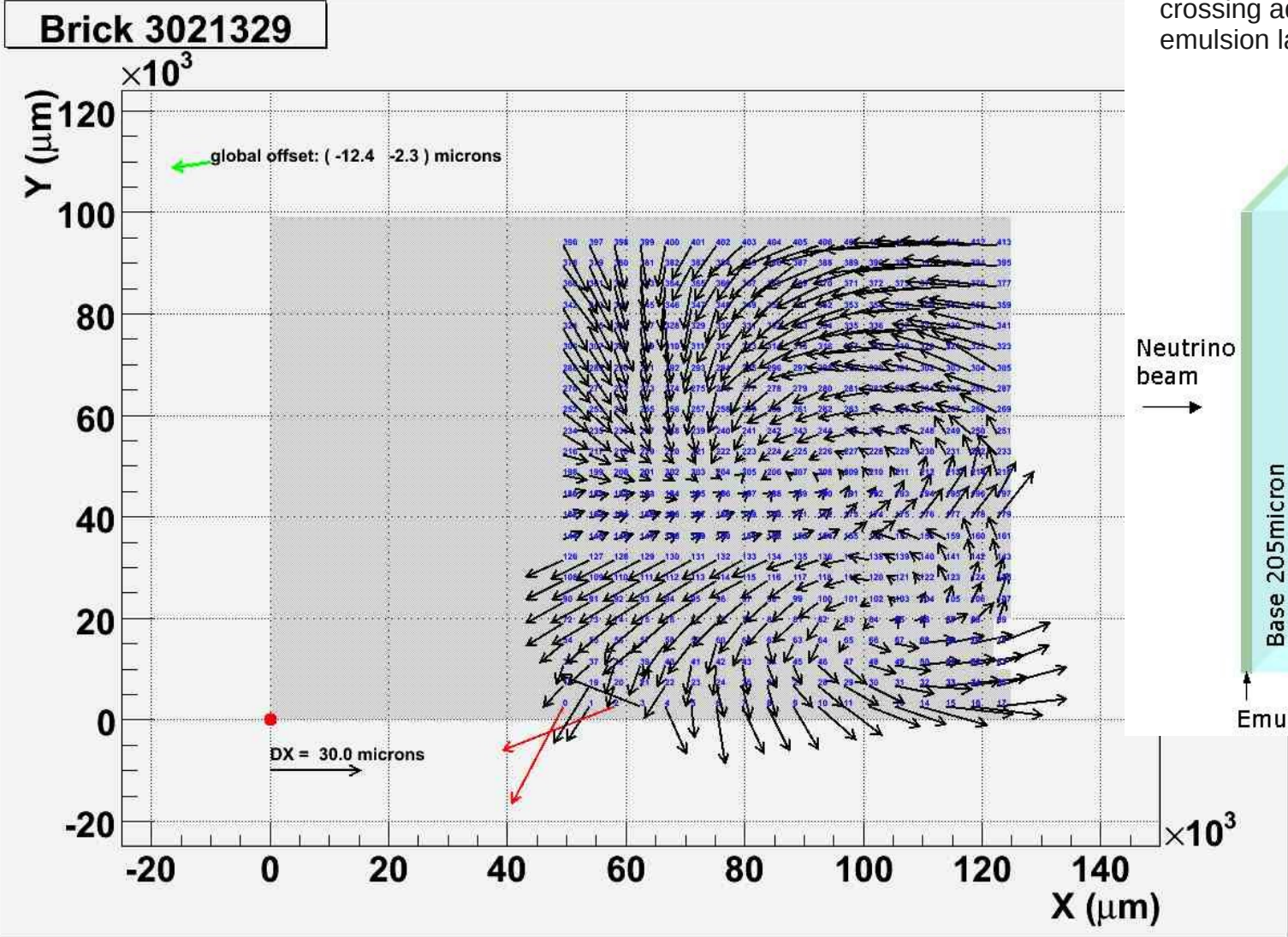


Plate-plate (lateral X-ray marks)

1/19

52

# CS1-CS2 matching: Compton tracks

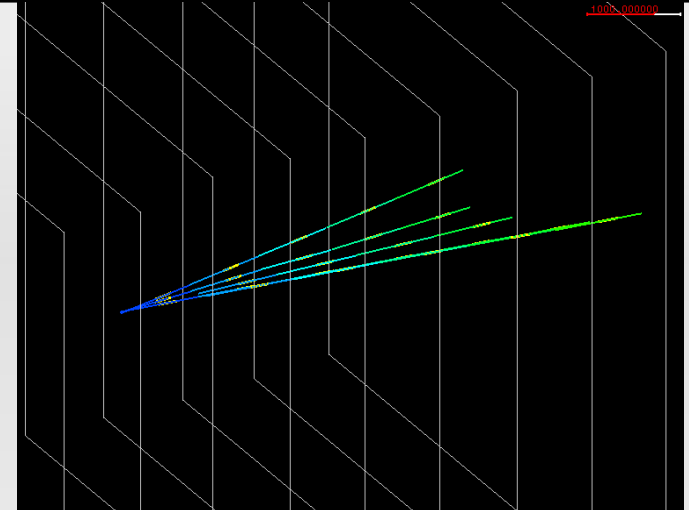
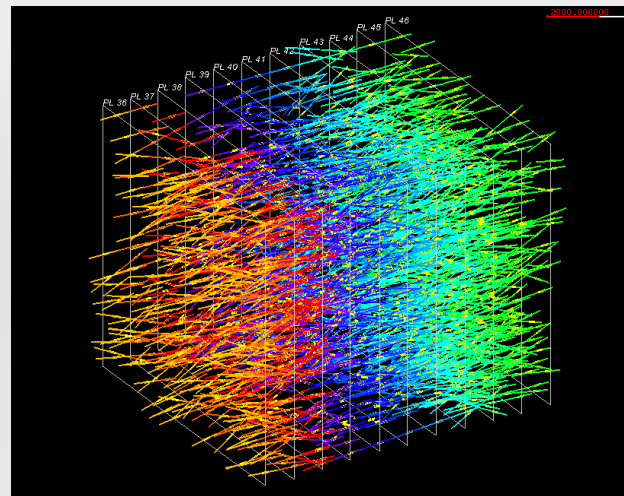
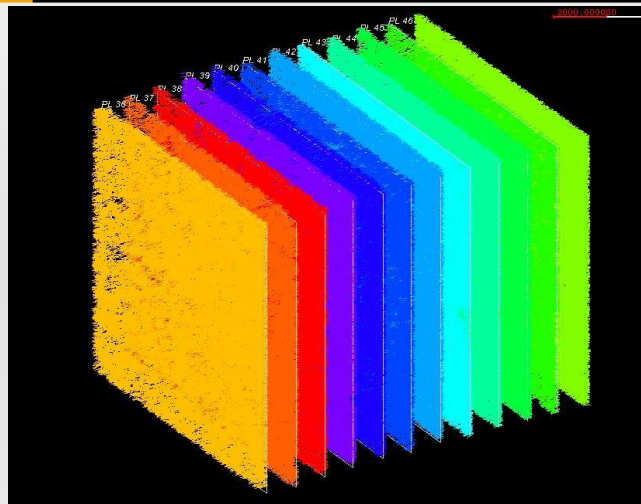


# Steps of volume scanning

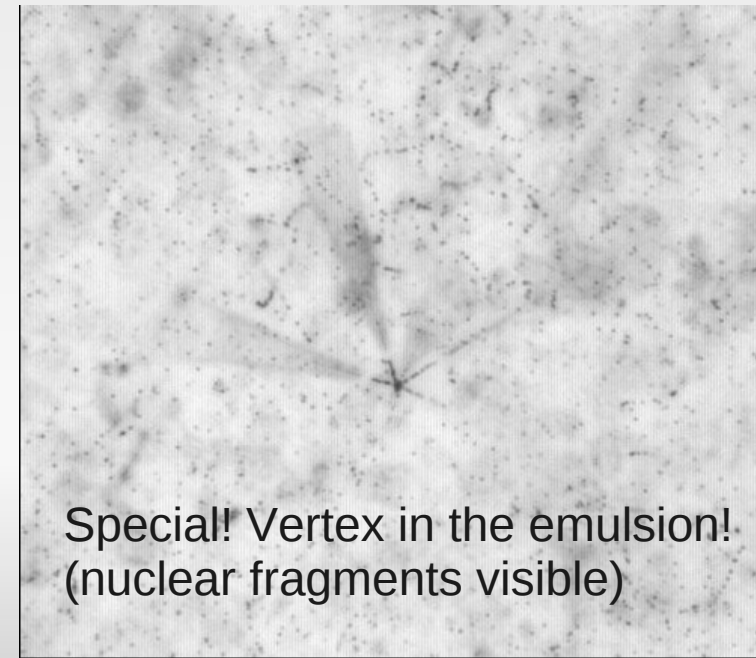
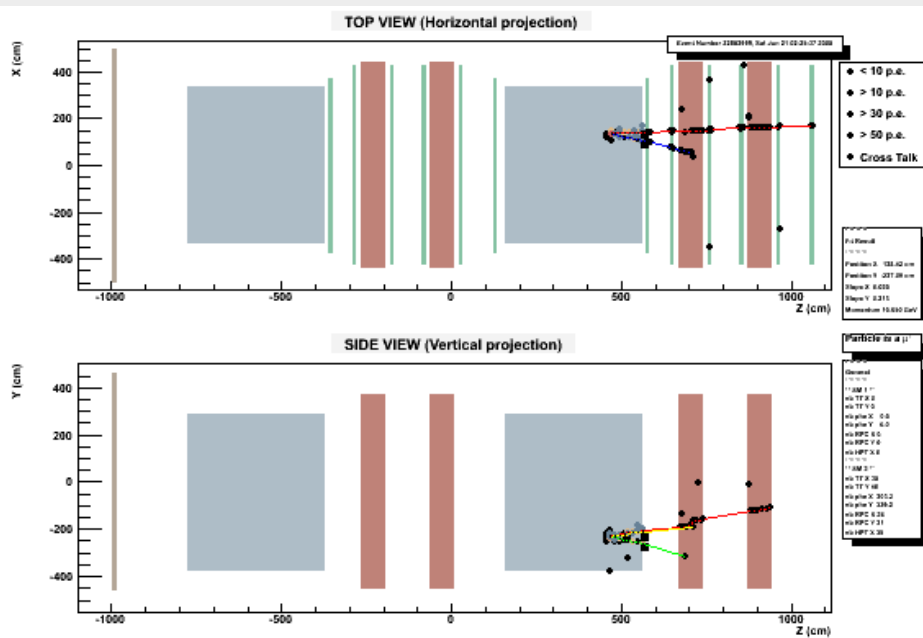
1

2

3



- 1) all base-tracks in the 11 films of the volume are reconstructed
- 2) they participate to the alignment process from which tracks are reconstructed
- 3) passing-through tracks are discarded and the vertexing algorithm reconstructs the vertex.



A. Longhin

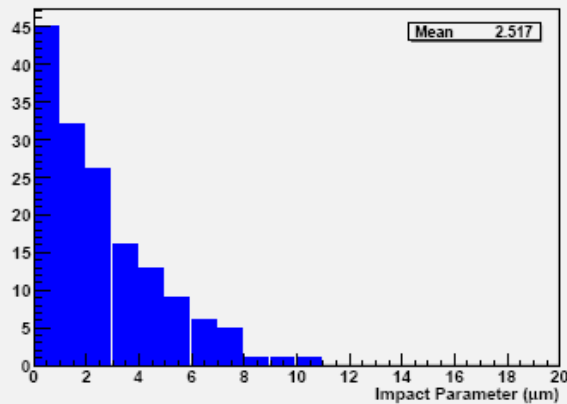
# Vertex location progress

EU subsample	NC	CC	Total
Bricks assigned	84	455	539
Bricks received in the labs	81	425	506
Scanning started	78	413	491
CS to brick connected	71	391	462
Vertices located in the brick	48	322	370
Passing through	8	22	30
Vertices in the dead material	1	7	8

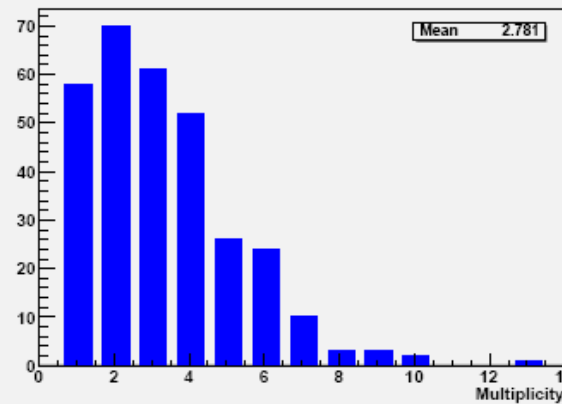
Event location  
 Upper limit : NC: 91% CC: 95%  
 Lower limit: NC: 70% CC: 84%  
 Proposal            81 %   93 %  
 OK!  
 Dead material: 8/370 = 2.2%

Lots of activity in the scanning laboratories  
 Ongoing process!

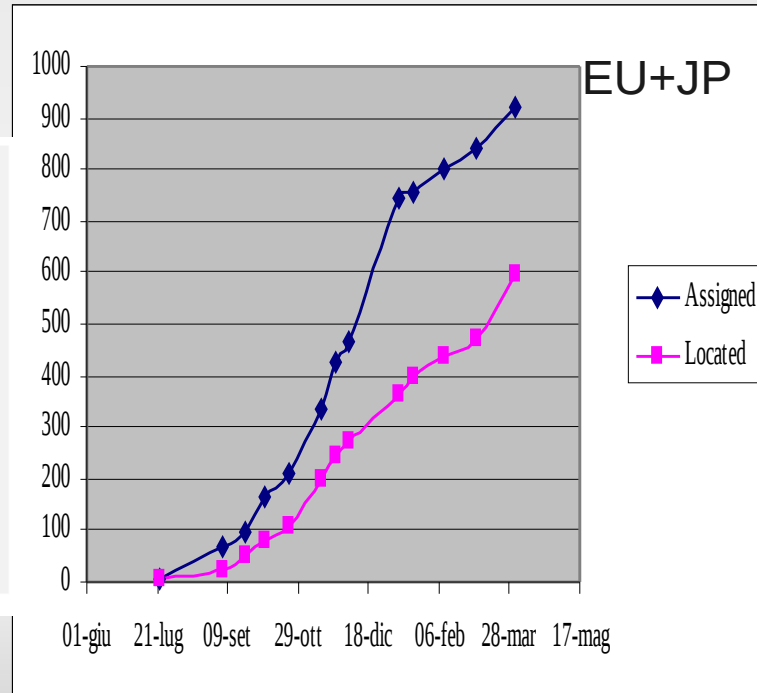
[arXiv:0903.2973v1 \[hep-ex\]](https://arxiv.org/abs/0903.2973v1)



Muon Impact parameter



Vertex multiplicity



01-giu 21-lug 09-set 29-ott 18-dic 06-feb 28-mar 17-mag

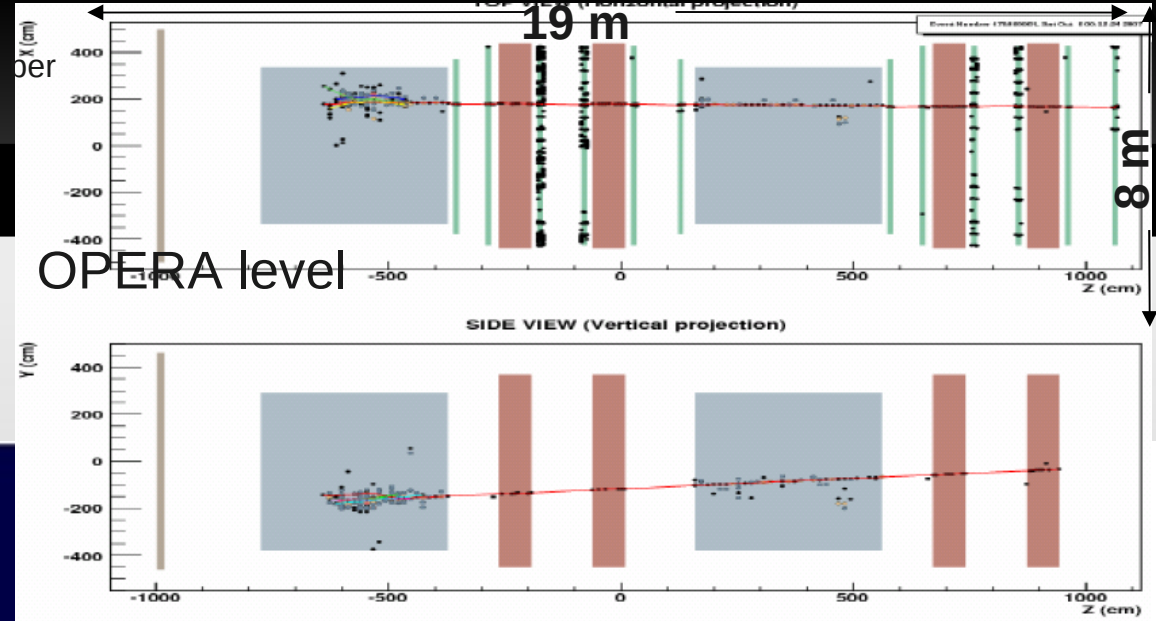
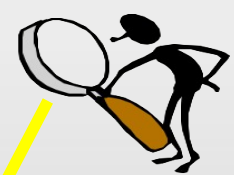
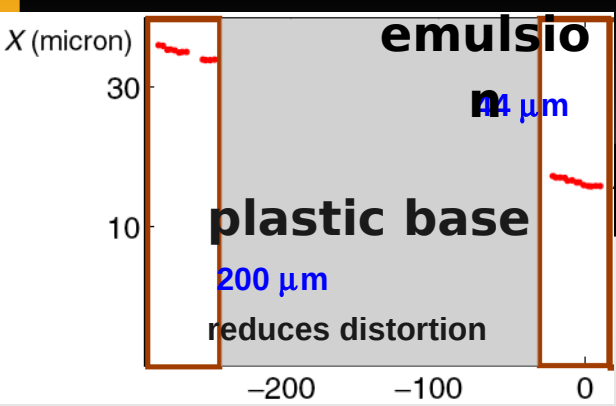
# And now let's "open the box" ... !



A selection of neutrino vertices  
reconstructed in the emulsion  
detectors

~>

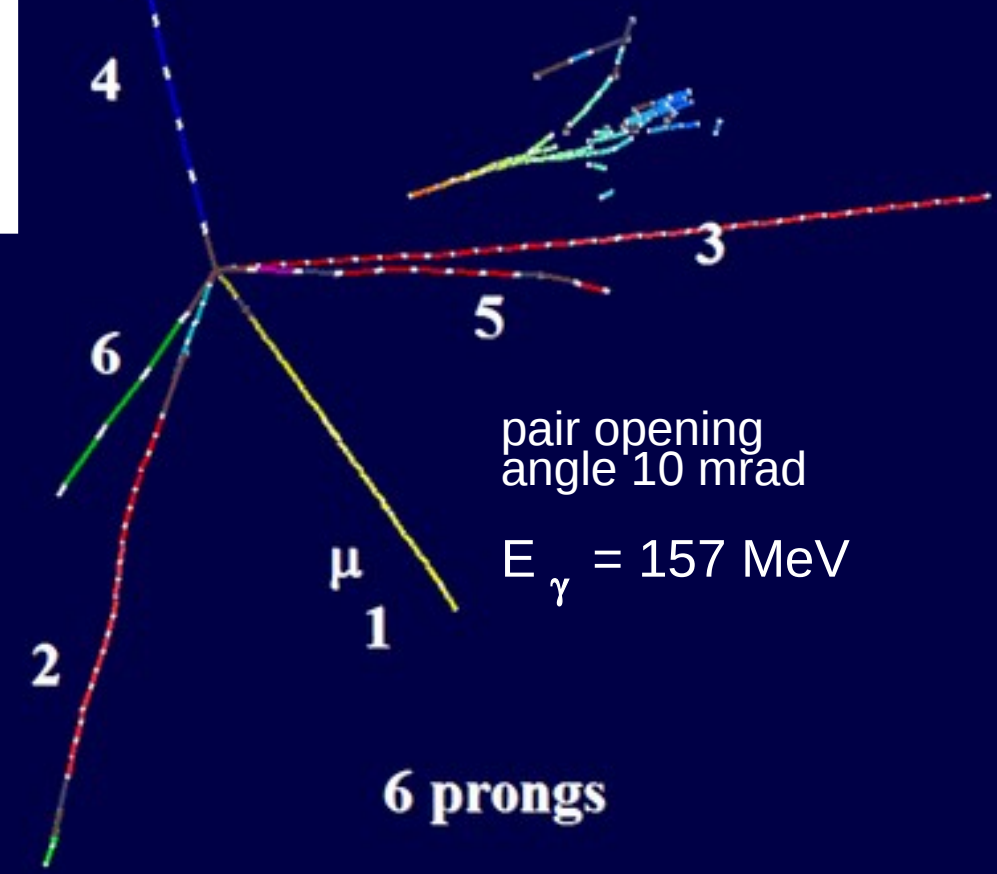




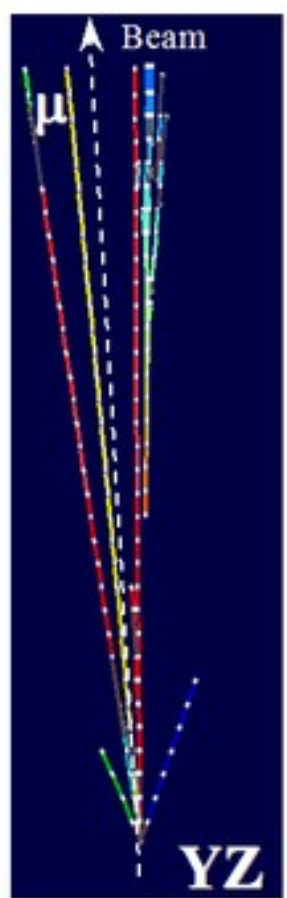
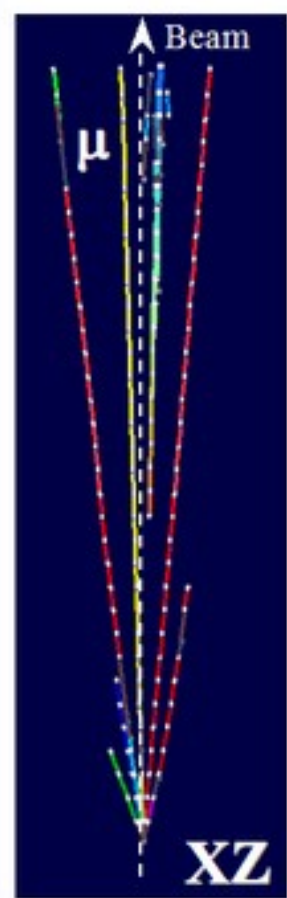
**XY**

A beautiful  
 $\nu_{\mu}$  CC

ECC level



low p track

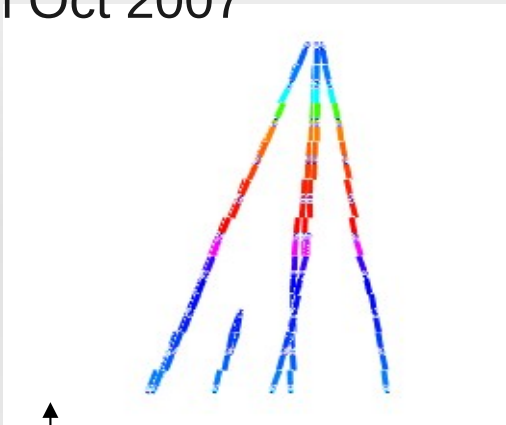


# brick - brick connection

improvement of momentum resolution with track length

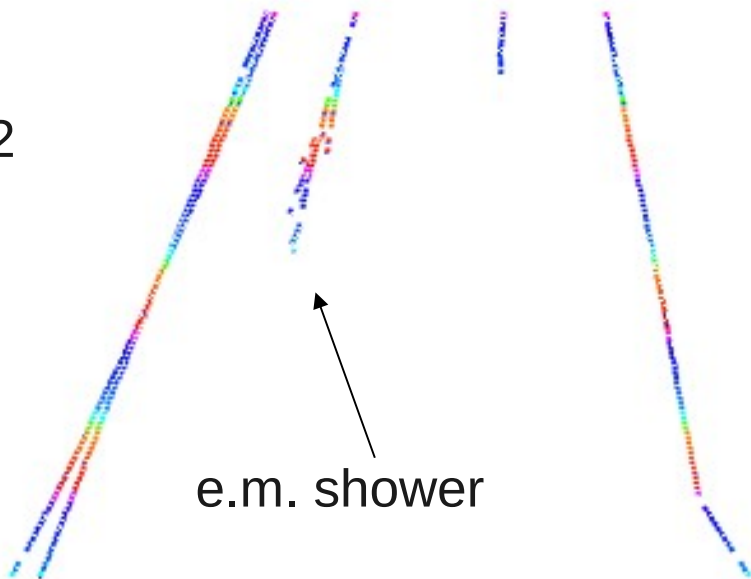
real  $\nu_\mu$  CC from Oct 2007 run

ECC 1

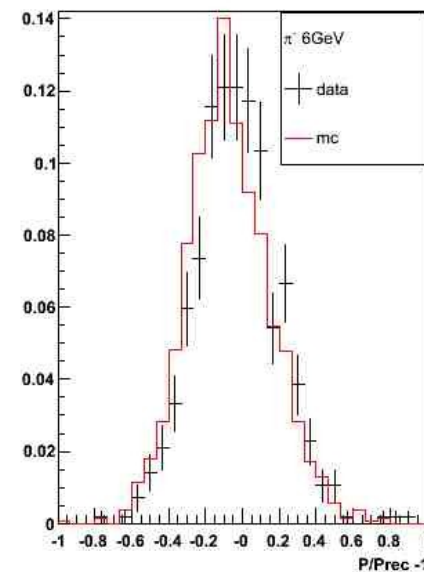
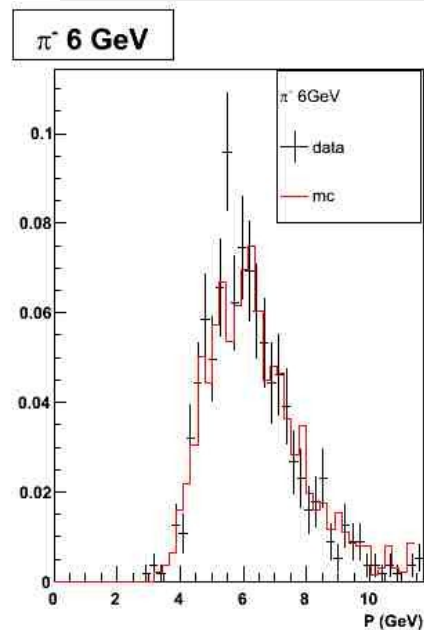
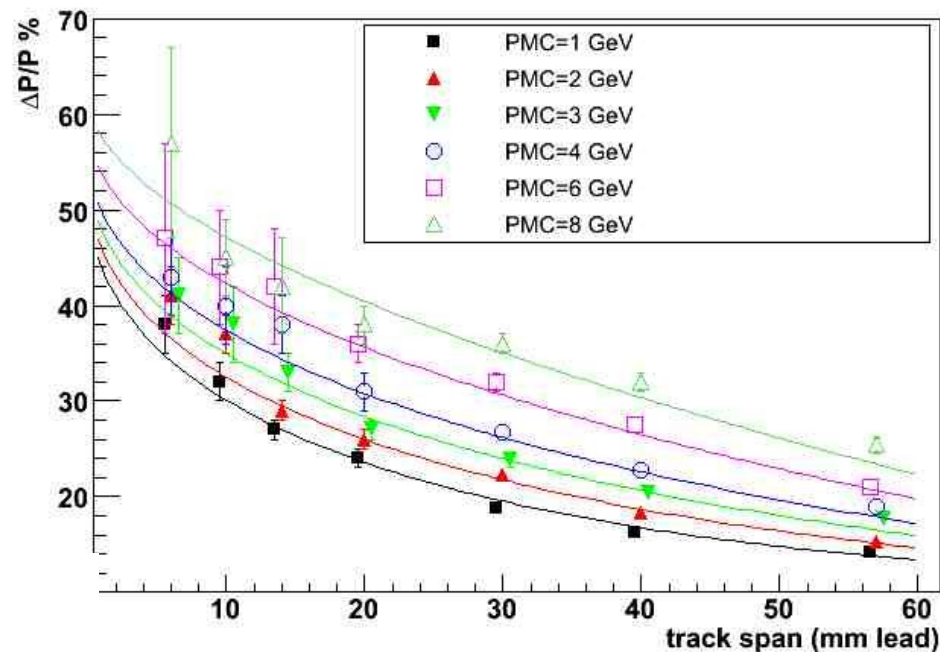


5.5 cm

ECC 2



e.m. shower



# Background studies

The accumulated statistics allows the study of backgrounds on real data and to validate estimates based on simulation

Scan-forth of muon and hadronic tracks from the primary vertex

direct measurement of

- Coulomb scattering and
- hadronic interactions

~100 m of hadronic track length needed to have a reasonable stat of background events. So far 3.85 m

8 secondary interaction vertices have been found.

1 “white kink” candidate  
kink: 144 mrad  
 $p_T = 265 \text{ MeV}/c$

## Brick 61231

1ry: plate 9

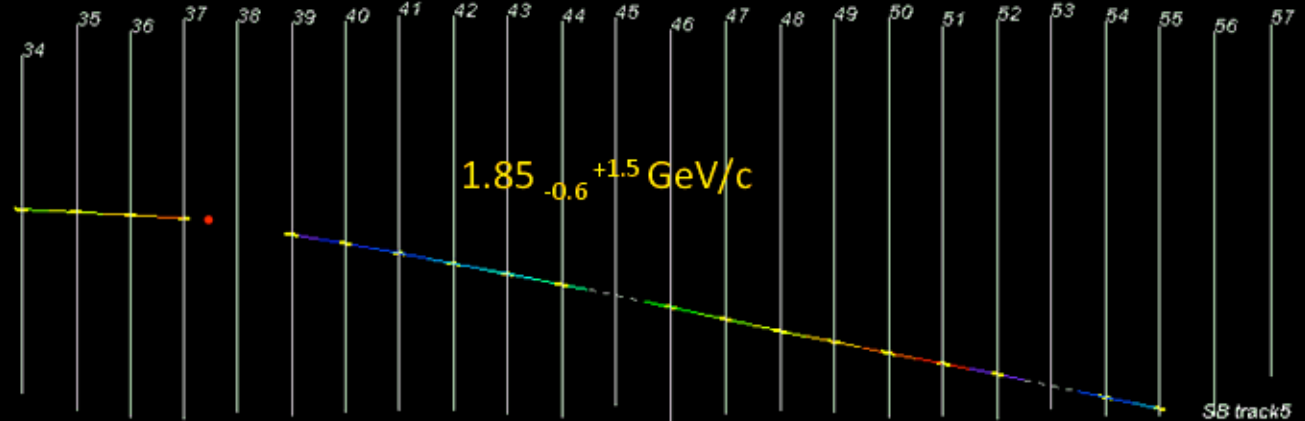
2ry: plate 38

Parent ( 0.033,-0.055)  $4.6_{-3.5}^{+6.6} \text{ GeV}/c$

Daughter (-0.046,-0.175)  $1.85_{-0.6}^{+1.5} \text{ GeV}/c$

Kink angle (-0.079, -0.120) = 0.144 rad

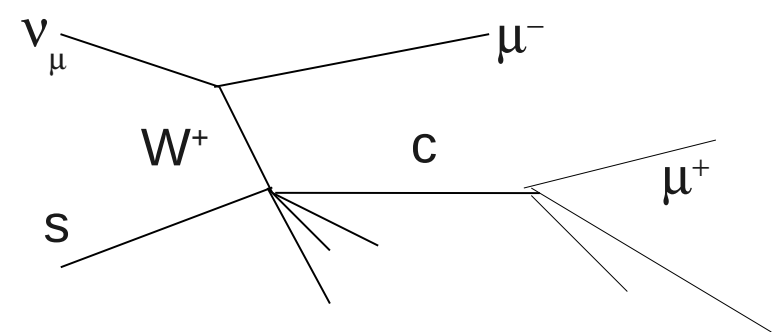
$P_t = 1.85 \text{ GeV}/c \times \sin(0.144 \text{ rad}) = 0.265 \text{ GeV}/c$



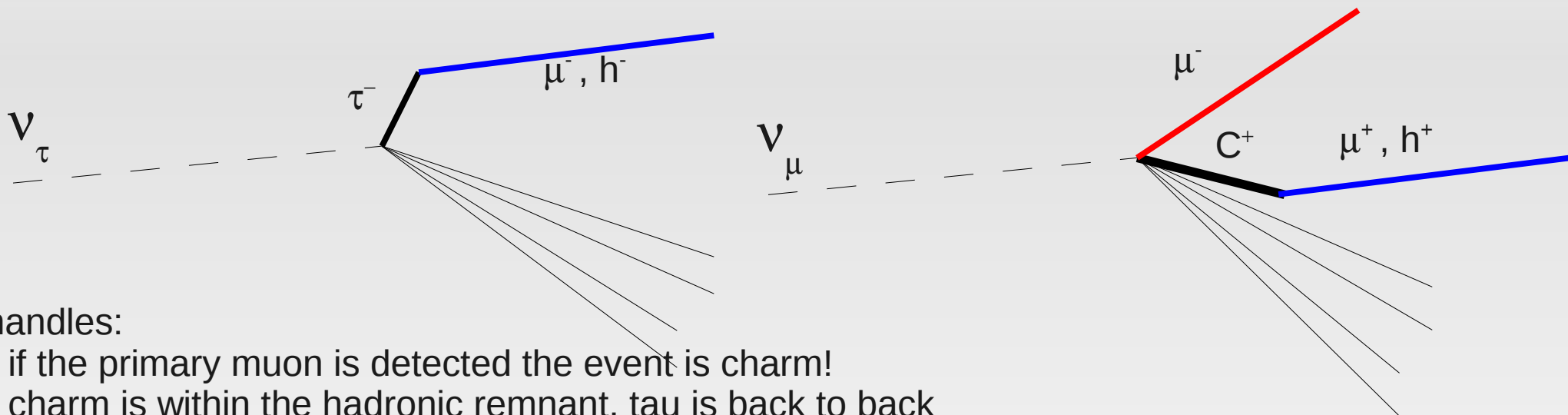
No nuclear fragment found

$\tau \rightarrow 1h$  analysis requires a  $p_T$  larger than 600 MeV/c

# Charm searches



Similar topology: **general validation of tau reconstruction efficiencies !**



handles:

- if the primary muon is detected the event is charm!
- charm is within the hadronic remnant, tau is back to back

2007+2008 550 numu CC analysed → **8 candidates**, rough efficiency estimation ~44%

Background ~ 0.1 events. **~10 expected**

From CHORUS (>~10<sup>3</sup> charm statistics)

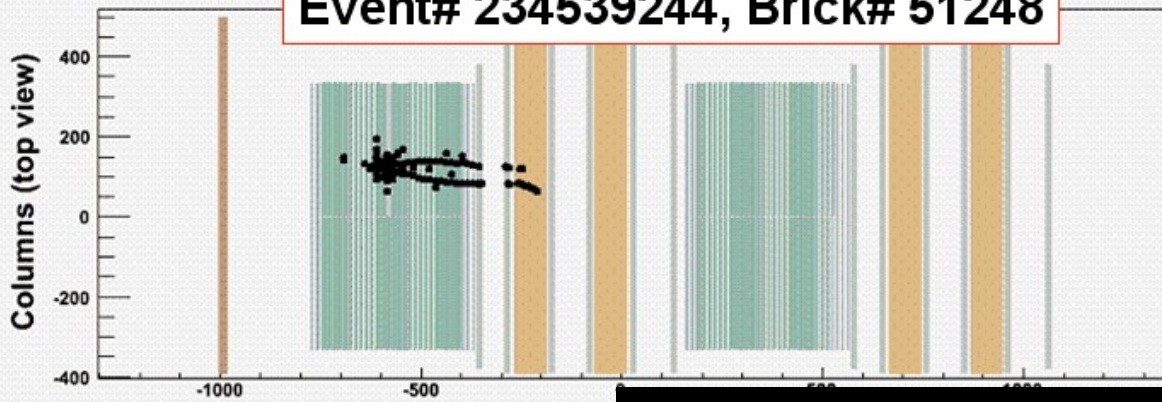
$$\sigma(C^+)/\sigma(CC) = (2.47 \pm 0.22)\%$$

Topology	Expected	obs
1 prong	3.86	3
3 prongs	2.03	1
2 prongs	3.25	3
4 prongs	0.67	1
Total	9.82	8

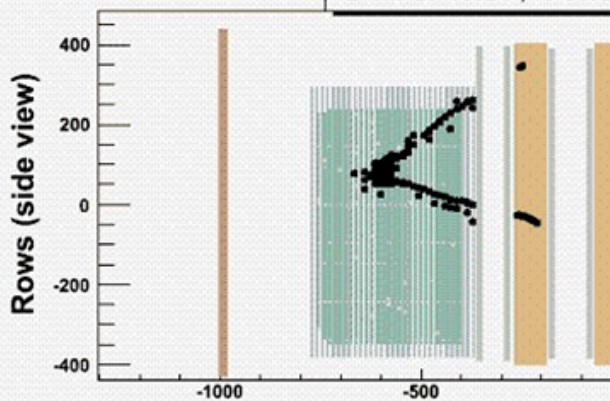
35% statistical accuracy

# A charm dimuon candidate !

Event# 234539244, Brick# 51248

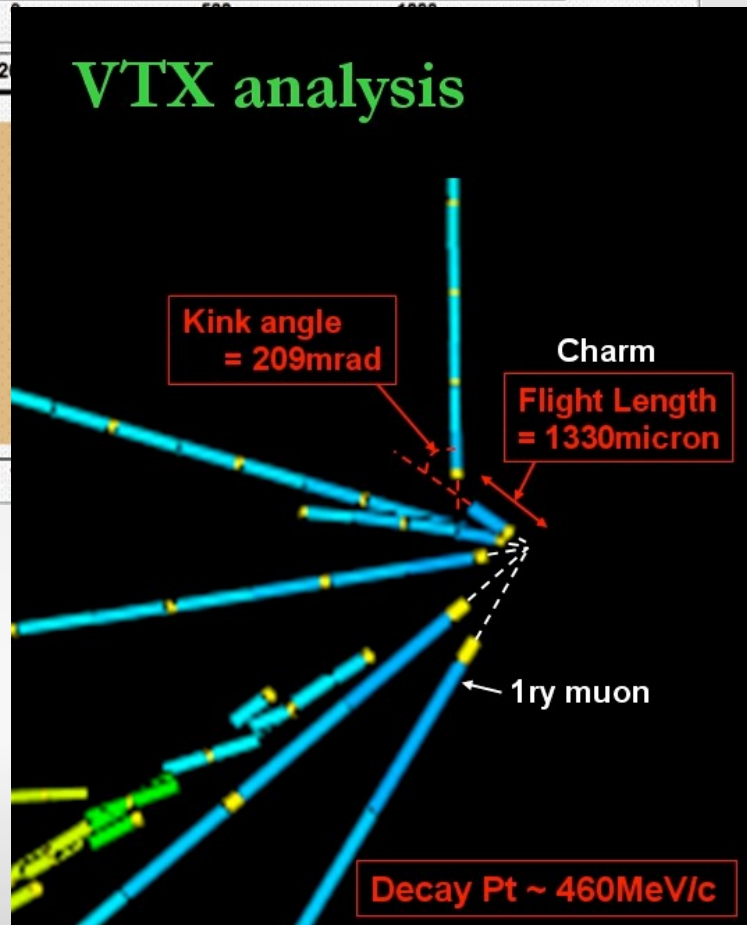


Event: 234539244, 10 Oct 2008

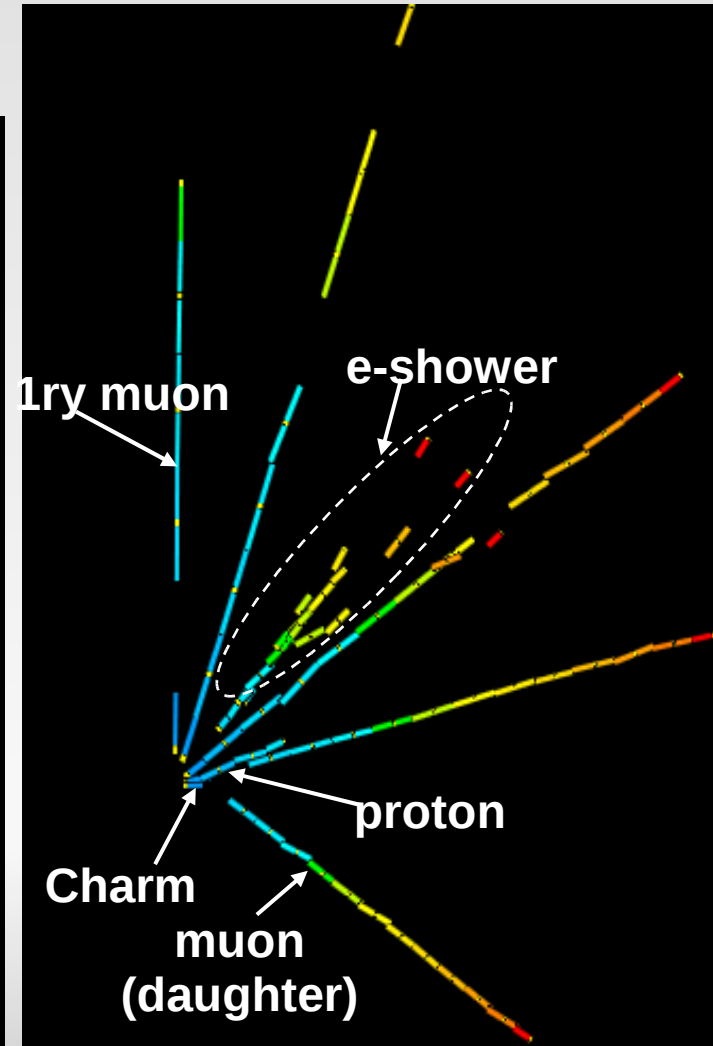


charm daughter is a  $\mu^+$   
 $p = 2.0$  GeV (1ry)  
 $p = 2.3$  GeV (2ry)  
(from range)

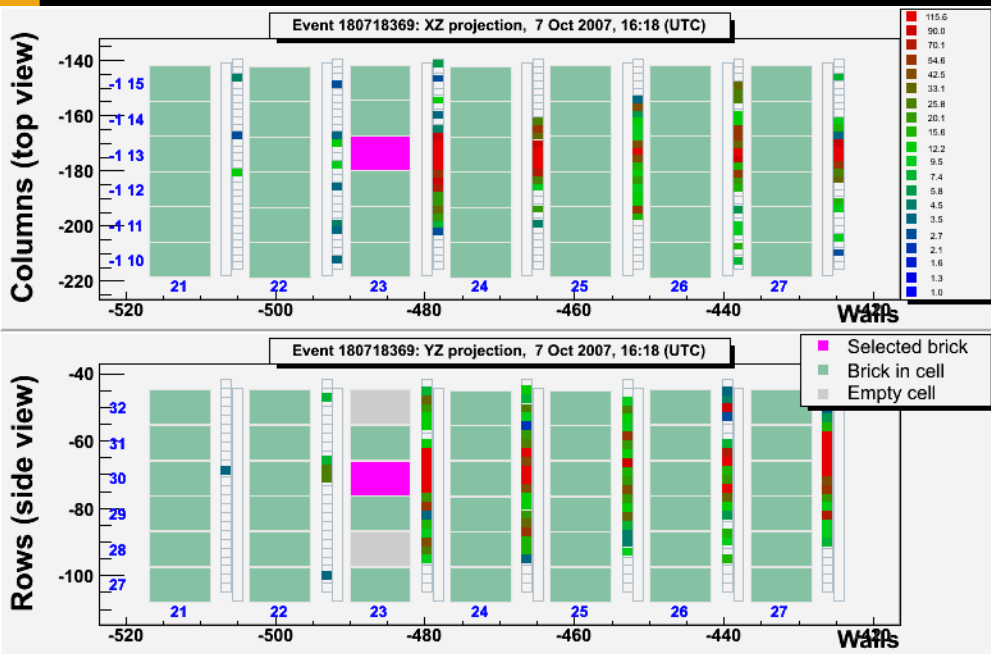
## VTX analysis



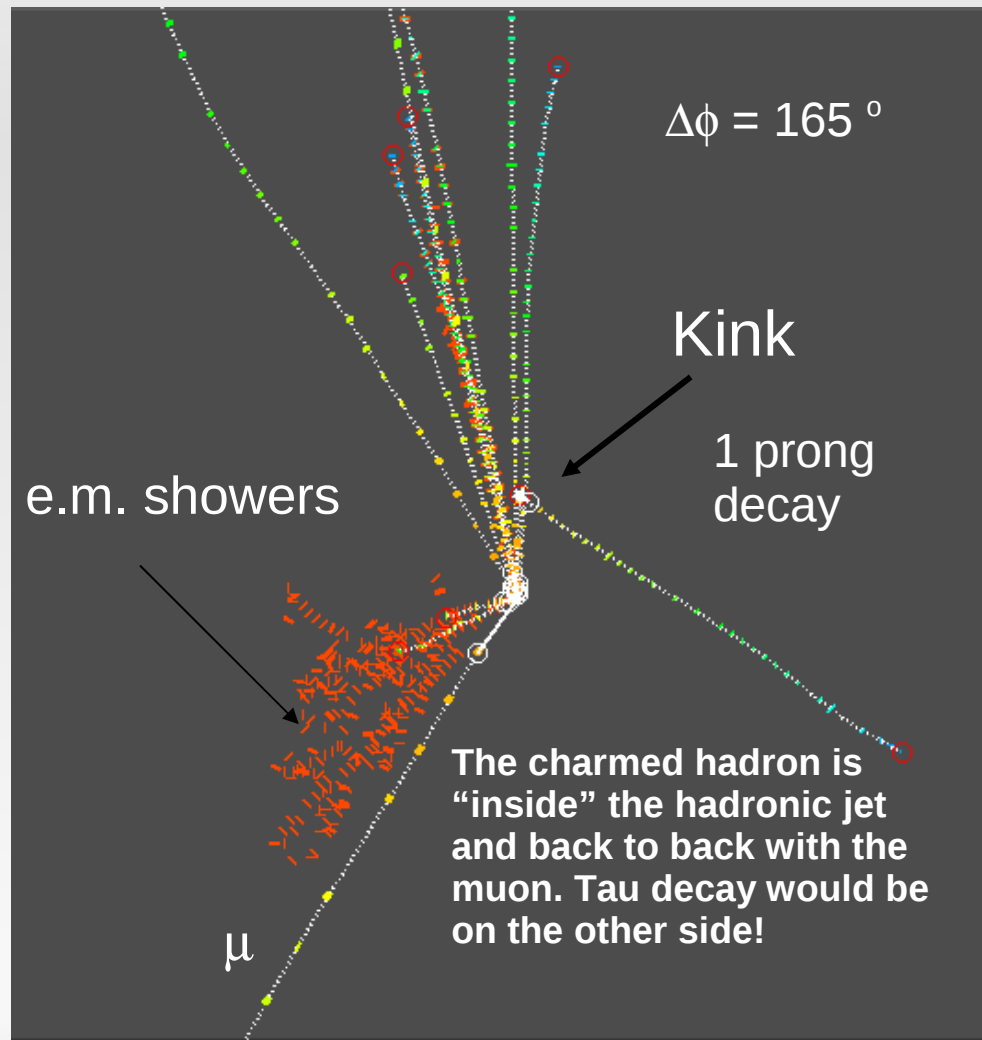
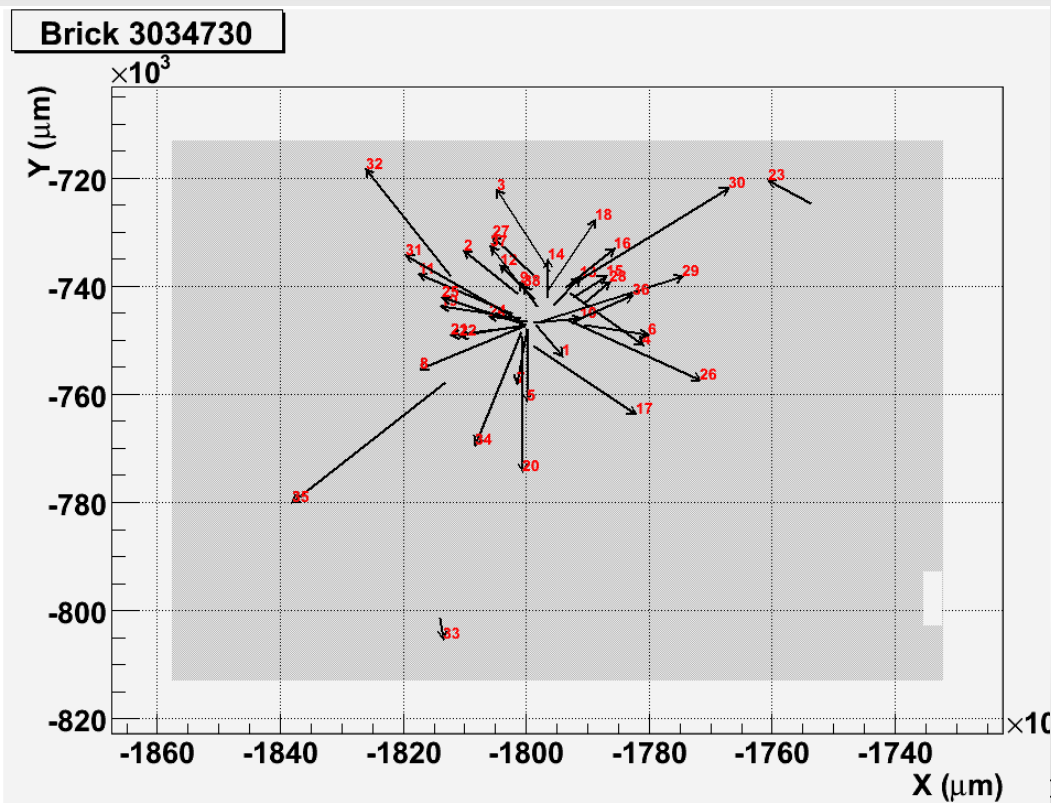
flight length: 1330  $\mu\text{m}$   
kink: 209 mrad  
 $p_T \sim 460$  MeV/c



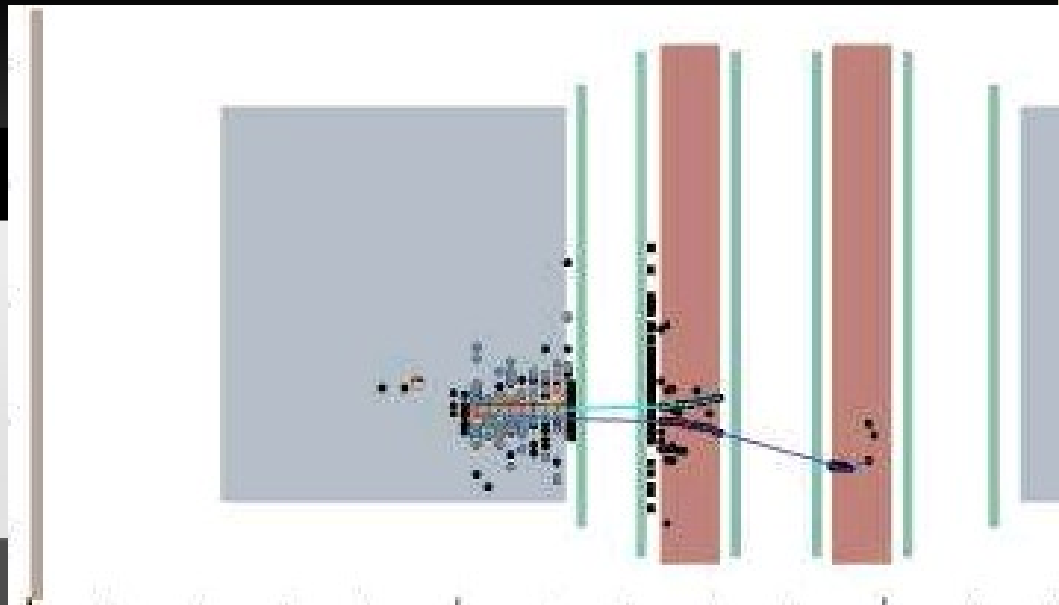
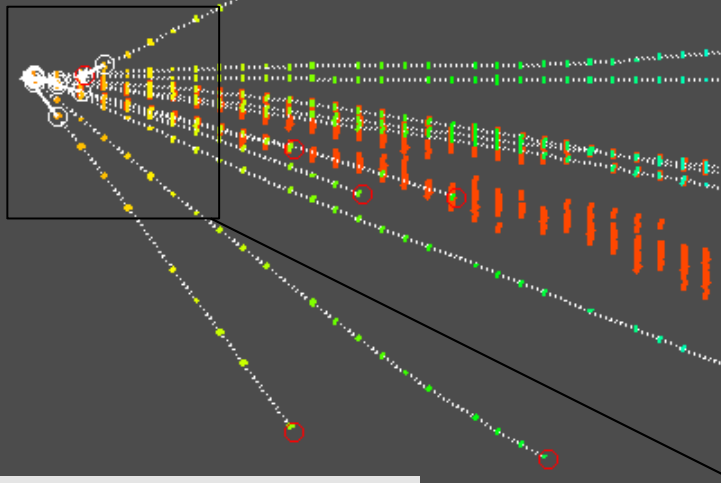
# A charm single prong candidate



vertex signature already evident in the CS

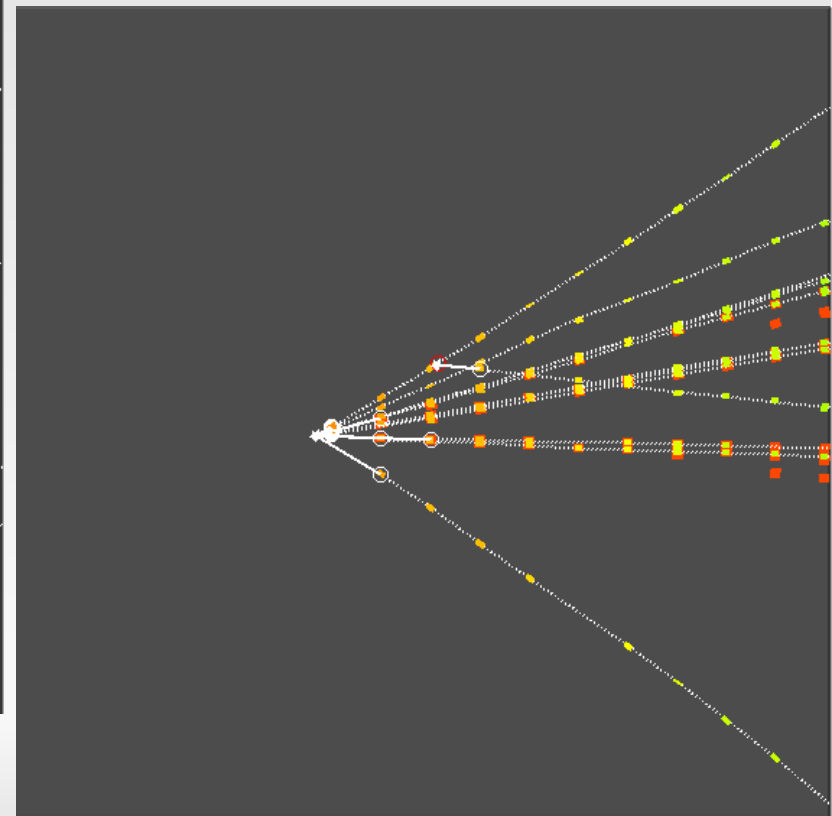
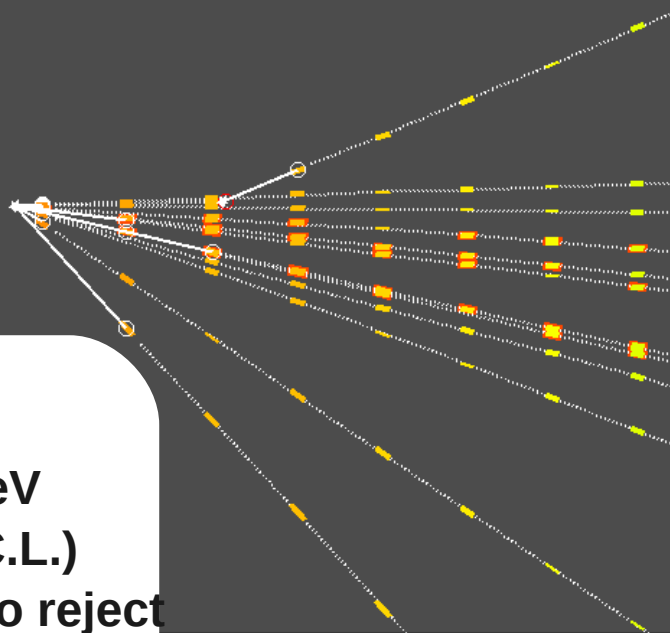


... more views



**Secondary Vertex  
(1 prong decay)**

kink angle = 204 mrad  
Decay length = 3247  $\mu\text{m}$   
 $p(\text{daughter}) = 3.9^{+1.7}_{-0.9}$  GeV  
 $p_t = 600\text{-}1150$  MeV (90% C.L.)  
well above the cut used to reject  
hadronic decays (250 MeV)

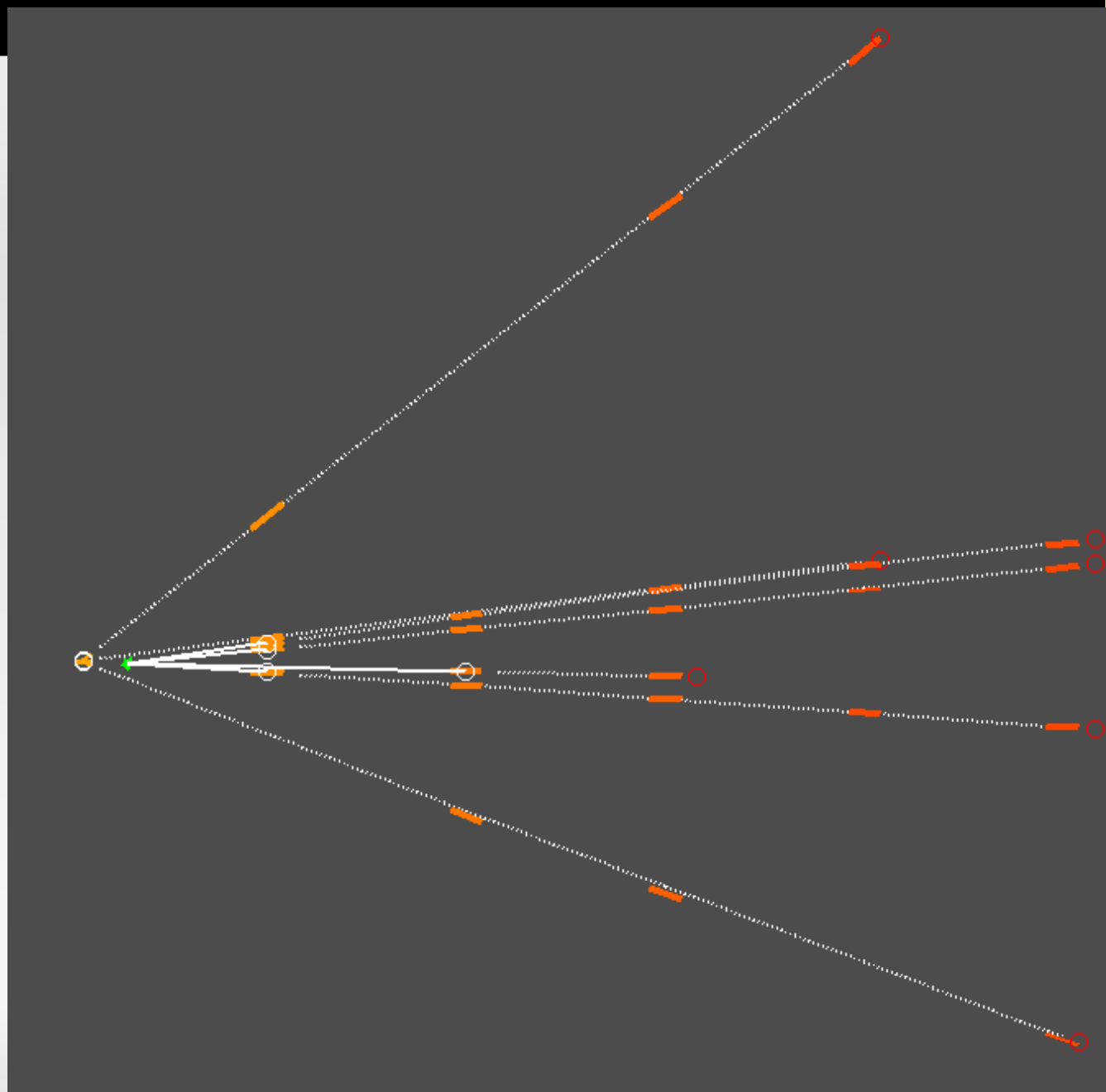


# A $D^0$ candidate

Flight Length = 315  $\mu\text{m}$

Tracks at 1ry	IP ( $\mu\text{m}$ )
1	1.36
2	0.88
3	0.51

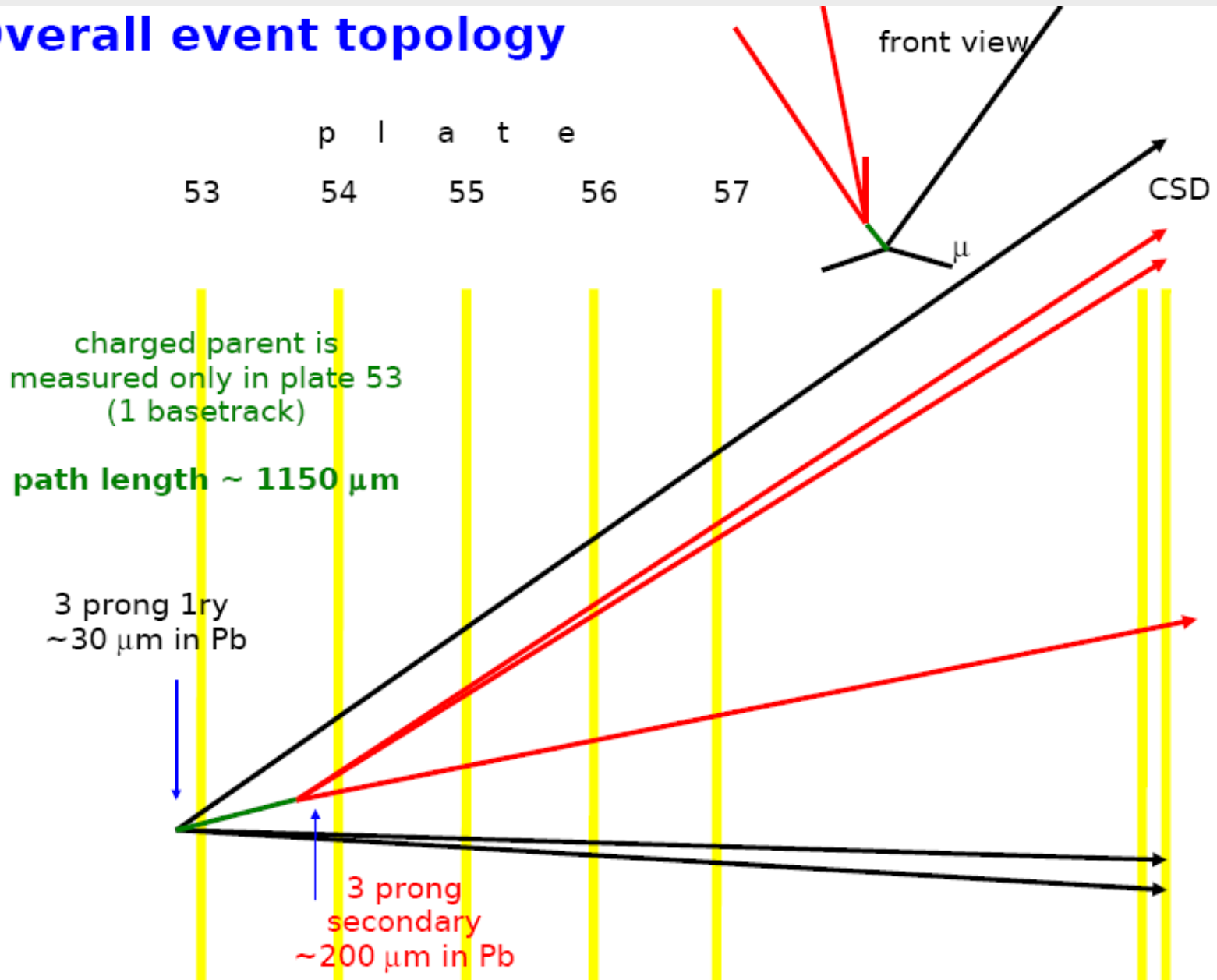
Tracks at decay	IP ( $\mu\text{m}$ )
1	1.33
2	1.81
3	1.99
4	1.39





# A 3-prong charm candidate

## Overall event topology



(Proudly) found  
in Padova !

# A 3-prong charm candidate (I)

Top View  
Side View  
Front View  
Draw Detector  
Rotate  
OpenGL  
X3D  
NeighParms  
TrackParms

ROOT  
- OPERA -  
FEDRA

Pick  
Zoom  
UnZoom

Impact Parameters

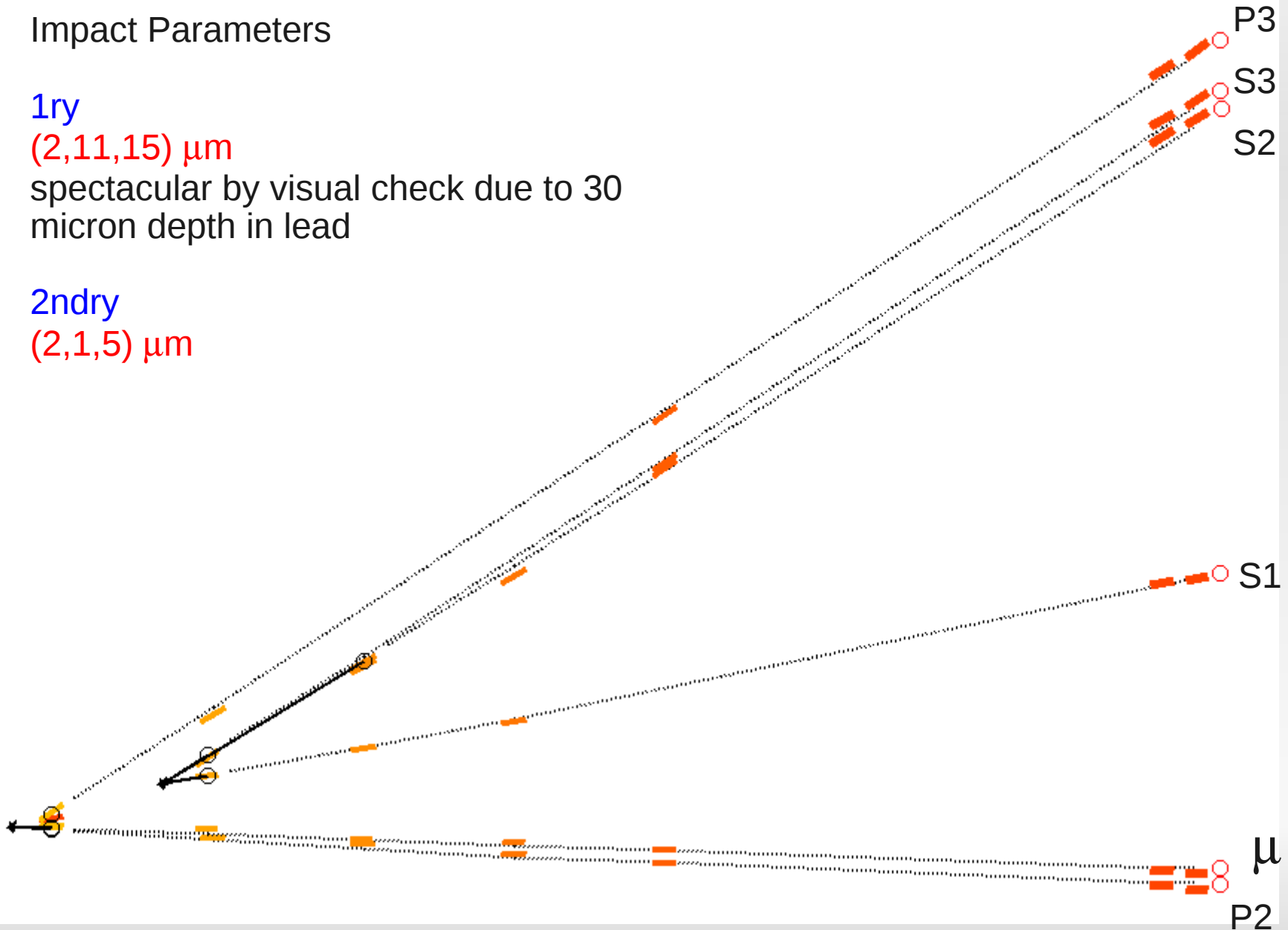
1ry

(2,11,15)  $\mu\text{m}$

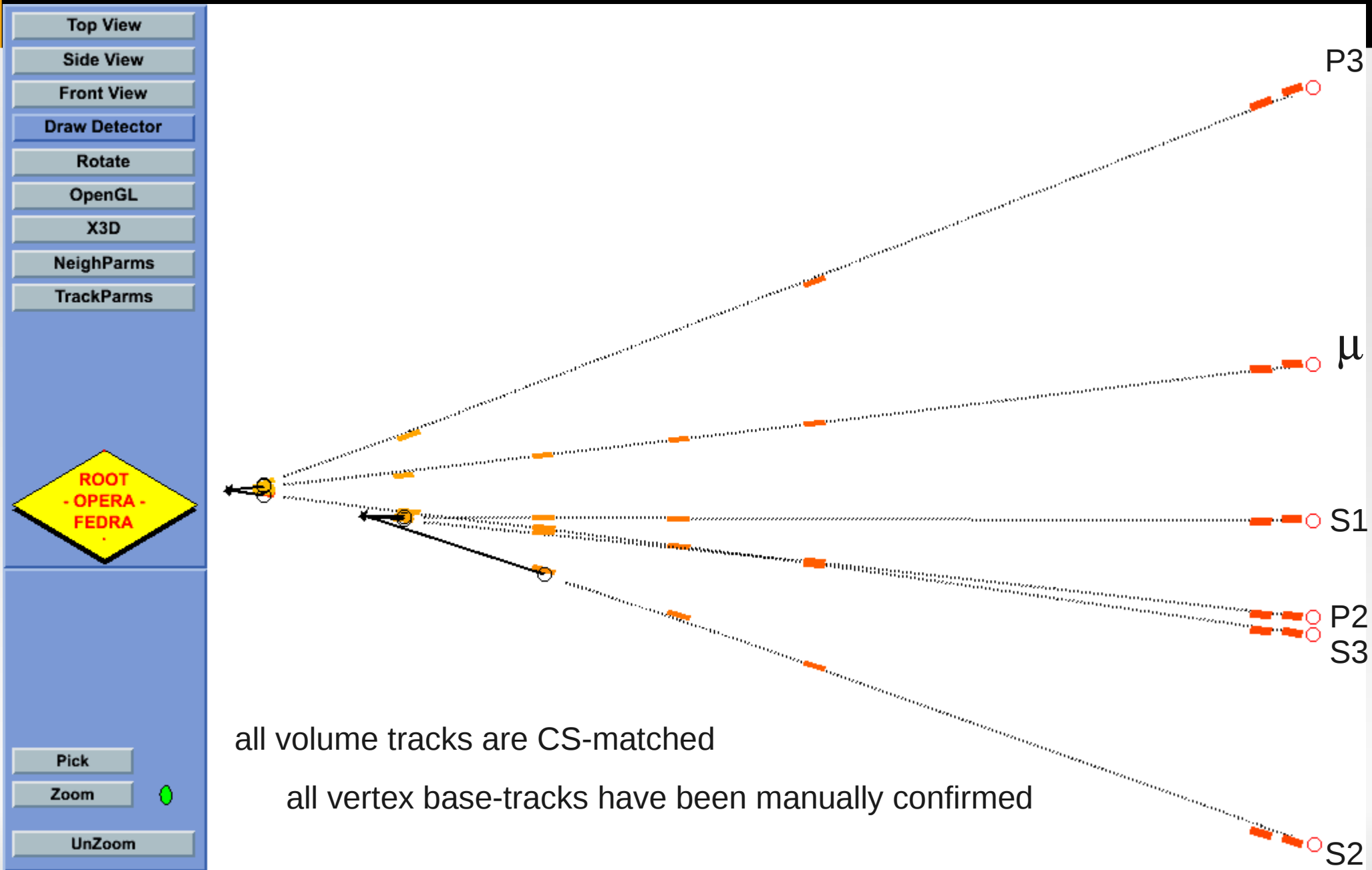
spectacular by visual check due to 30  
micron depth in lead

2ndry

(2,1,5)  $\mu\text{m}$



# A 3-prong charm candidate (II)

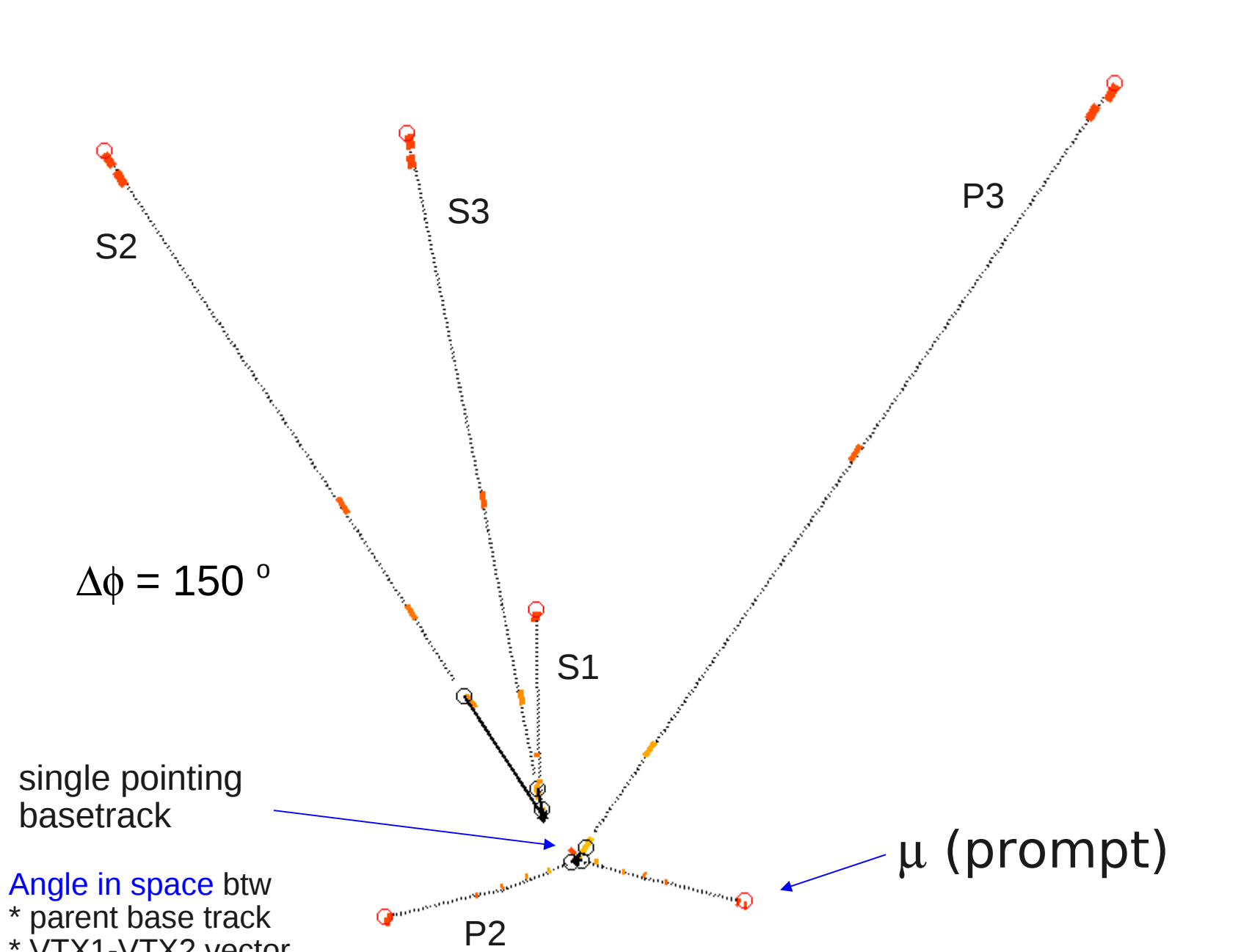


# A 3-prong charm candidate (III)

Top View  
Side View  
Front View  
Draw Detector  
Rotate  
OpenGL  
X3D  
NeighParms  
TrackParms

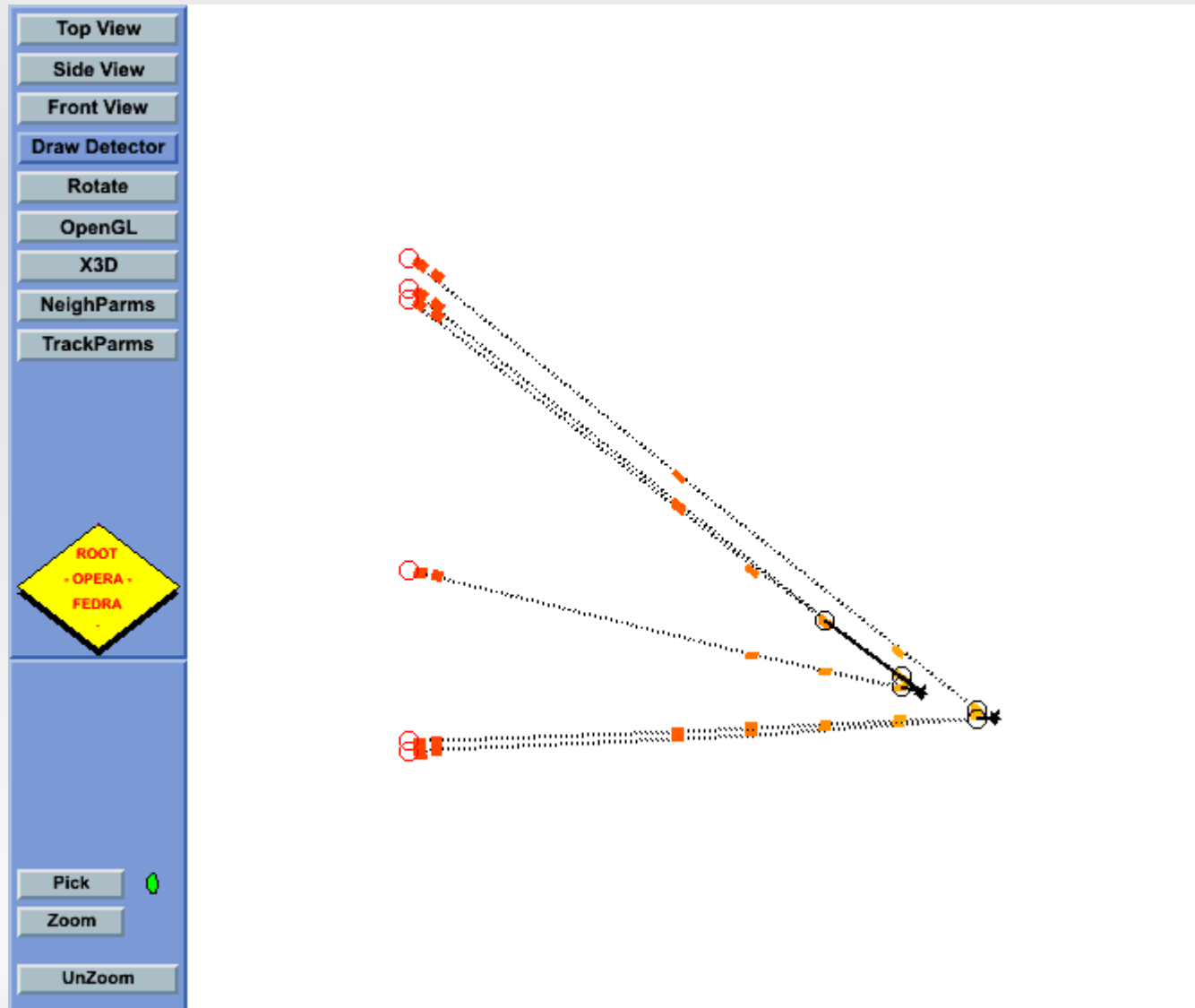
ROOT  
- OPERA -  
FEDRA

Pick  
Zoom  
UnZoom

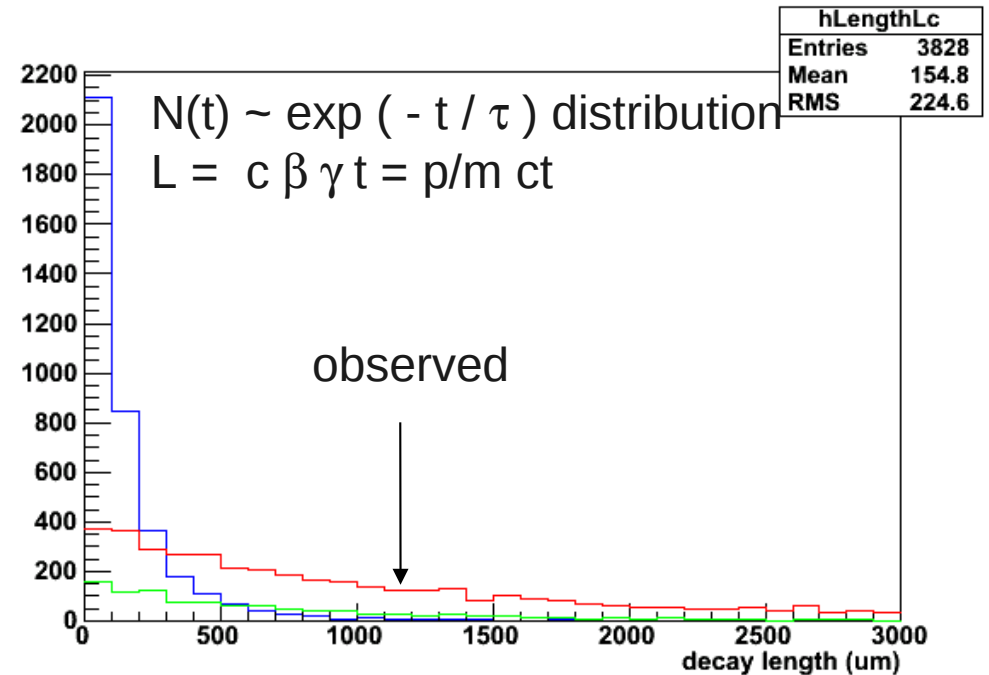
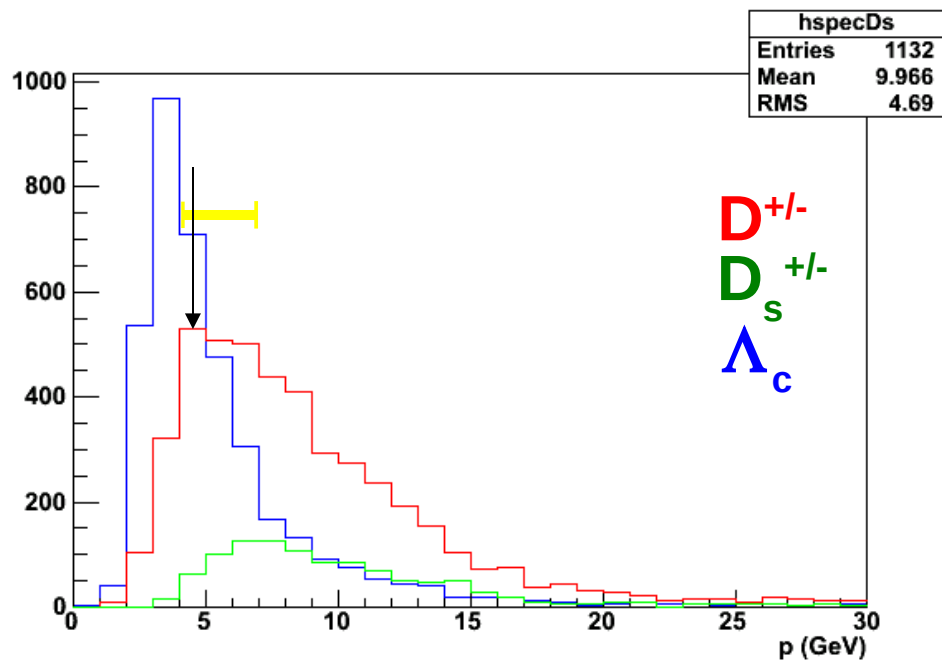


Angle in space btw  
\* parent base track  
\* VTX1-VTX2 vector  
= 6 mrad : GOOD AGREEMENT

# Animated display



# Kinematic analysis and Monte Carlo expectations



D interpretation favoured by measured decay length assuming expected spectra & relative abundances

After brick-brick connection and kinematic analysis of the downstream brick momenta were measured from multiple scattering:

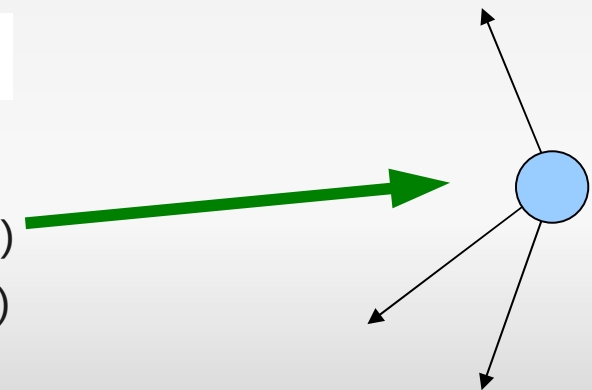
$$p_1 = 2.4^{+1.3}_{-0.6}, p_2 = 1.3^{+0.4}_{-0.3} \text{ and } p_3 = 1.2^{+1.7}_{-0.4} \text{ GeV}/c$$

$$p_{\text{tot}} = 4.8^{+2.2}_{-0.8} \text{ GeV}/c$$

$$D \rightarrow K\pi\pi \text{ hyp.: } m = 1.1^{+0.2}_{-0.1} \text{ GeV}/c^2 \text{ (missing } \pi^0 \text{ ?)}$$

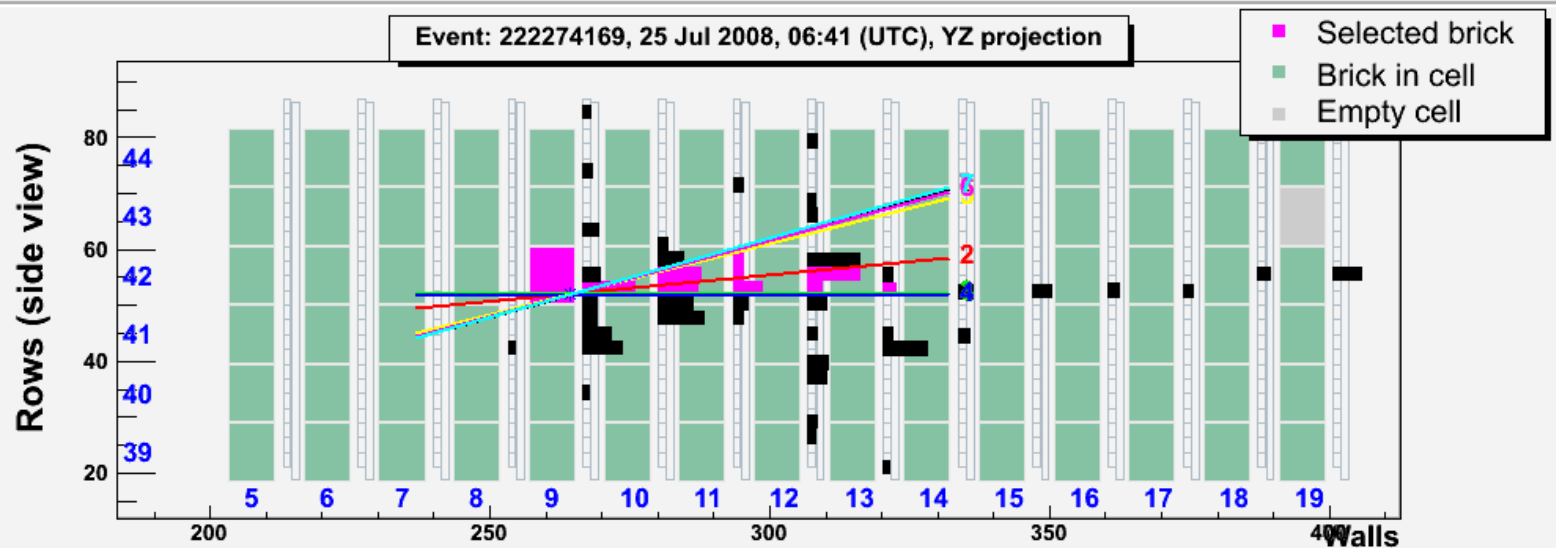
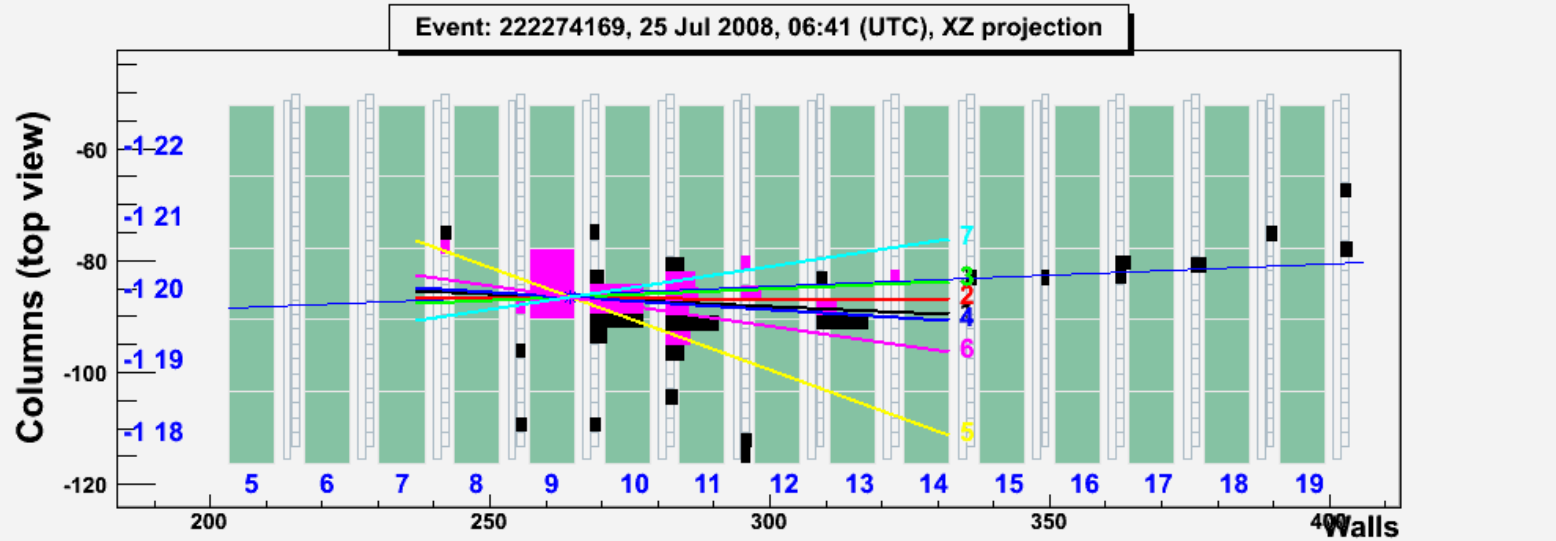
$$D_s \rightarrow KK\pi \text{ hyp.: } m = 1.5^{+0.4}_{-0.1} \text{ GeV}/c^2 \text{ (compatible)}$$

Secondary tracks in the transverse plane wrt parent flight direction



# Emulsion tracks superimposed to electronic deector

no clear evidence of missing tracks in emulsions

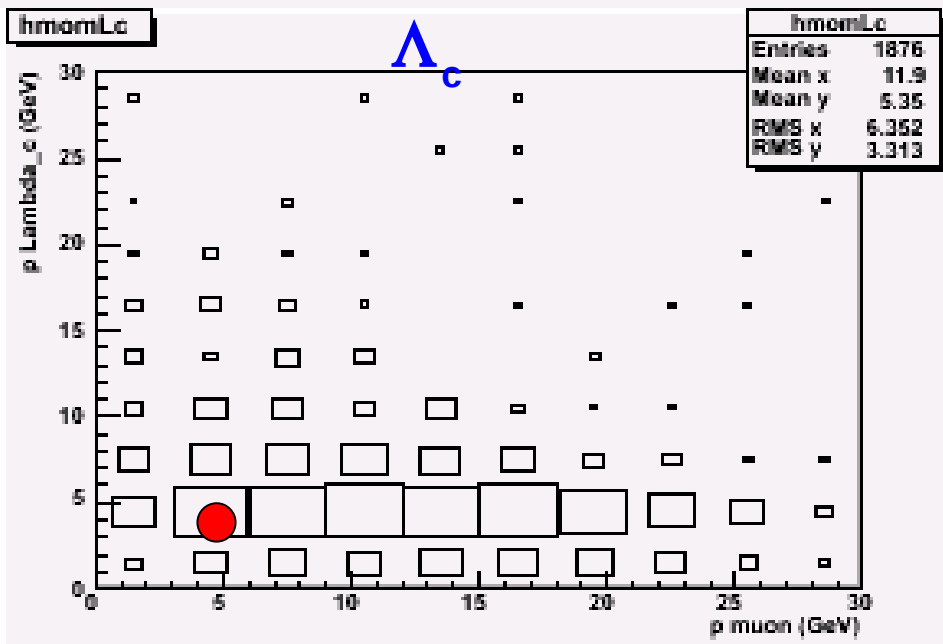
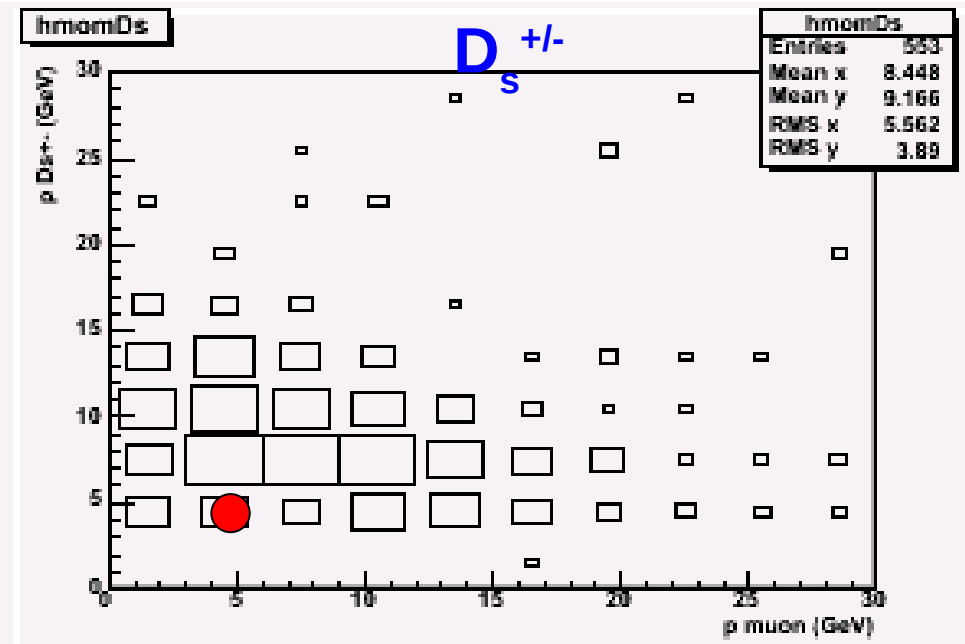
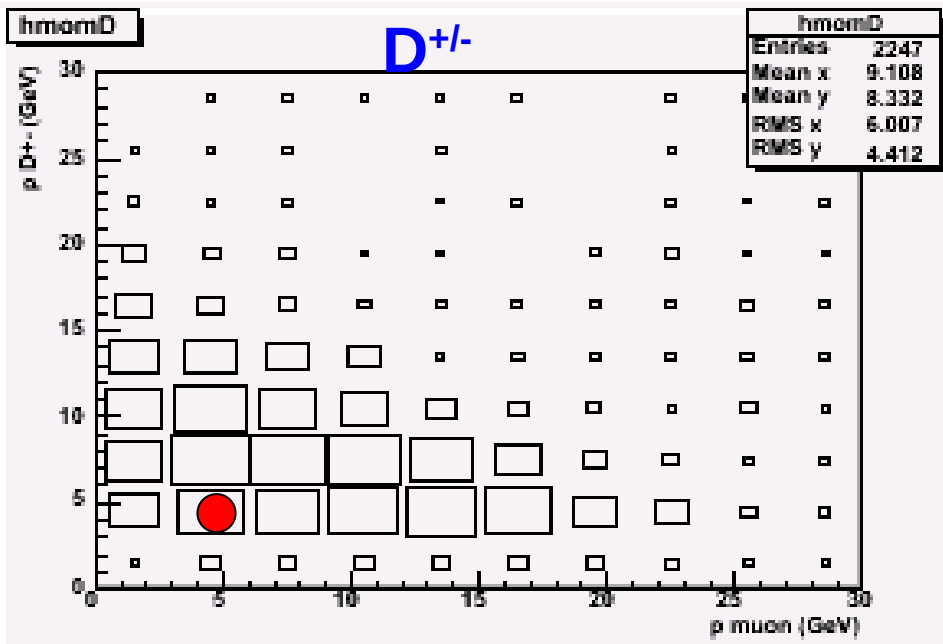


Brick finding information: Super module 2

Muon track parameters: Mu-

	BrickId	Wall	Side	Column	Row	Prob	CS x	CS y	Momentum: 4.666 GeV/c	Angle XZ (rad): 0.041+/-1.571	Angle YZ (rad): N/A
brick 1:	1127653	9	-1	20	42	0.82	-1.0	-1.0			
brick 2:	1127679	9	-1	20	41	0.11	-1.0	-1.0			
brick 3:	1127757	10	-1	20	42	0.06	-1.0	-1.0			

# Monte Carlo muon charm (anti)correlations



$p(\mu) = 4.7$  GeV  
 from spectrometer: quite on the “peak”

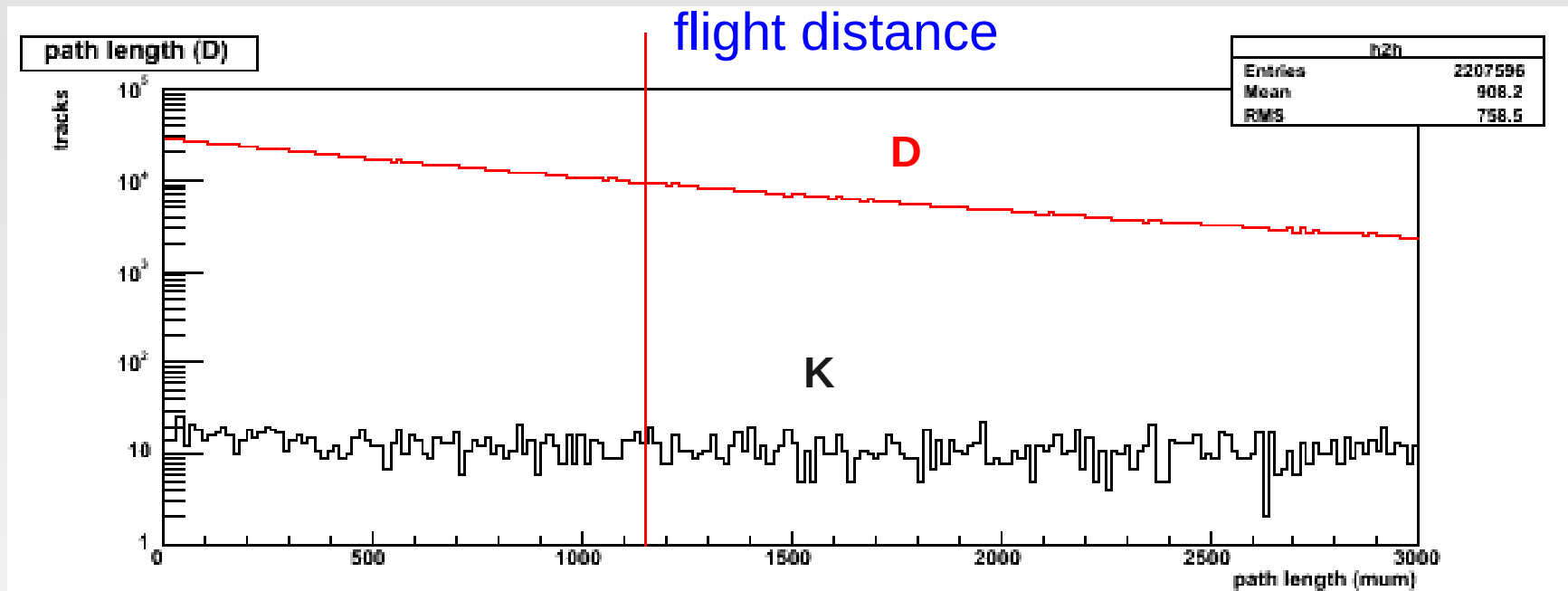
$p$  (charm):  
 from opening angles

NB. disk size has nothing to do with errors!



# Backgrounds to charm interpretation

K decay in flight probability  $\sim 10^{-3}$

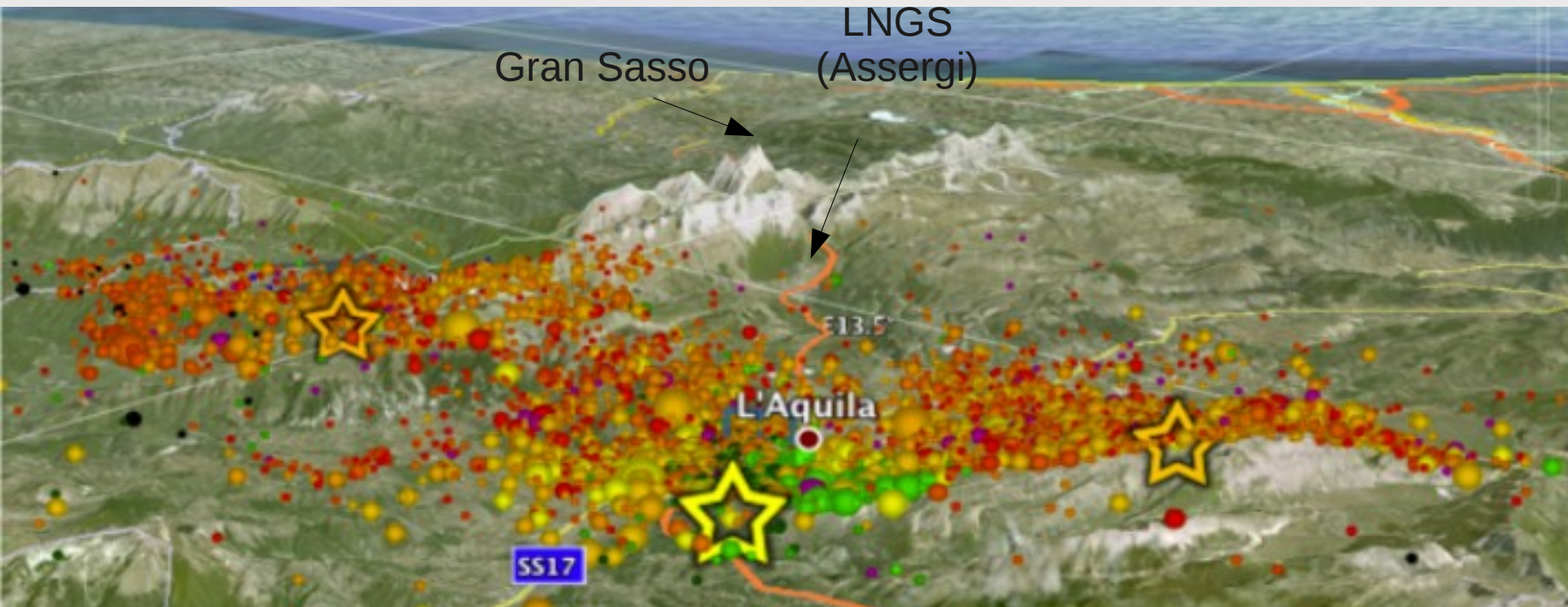
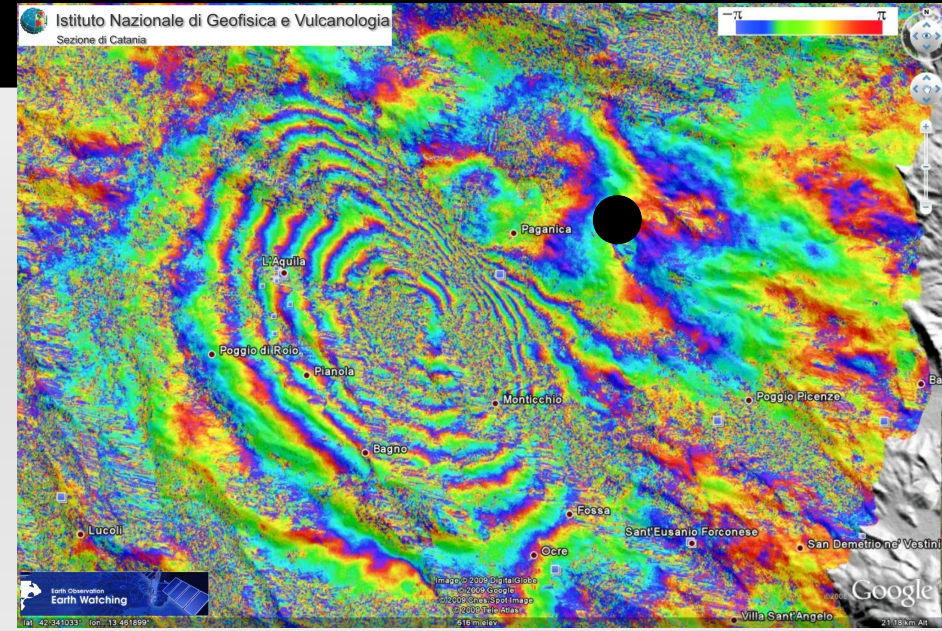


hadronic interaction probability  $\sim 10^{-6}$  (FLUKA)

# The 6 April 2009 L'Aquila earthquake

interferogram

6.3 Richter, **298 people died**. Epicenter ~10 Km from LNGS. Thousands of aftershocks for weeks.



~4500  
events

# Earthquake impact

**All people working at LNGS are safe** but several people are **homeless**. (Severe damages at L'Aquila and various nearby villages).

No relevant infrastructural damages at LNGS or at the facilities underground (inspection two days after!). **The detector looks in good condition**. Some (rough) alignment measurements done do not show macroscopic problems. More refined checks are ongoing these days.

**LNGS reopened on May 4 th (~ 1 month stop)**

Main concern is about the **manpower** for running the experiments. INFN offered accommodations to cope with the emergency.

Start of 2009 CNGS run **expected 14 may** but at least two weeks of delay may be unavoidable.

# Conclusions

- After a troublesome startup, CNGS has delivered a significant integrated intensity in 2008 ( $\sim 2 \cdot 10^{19}$  p.o.t.). It represents the first real physics run for OPERA.
- The **construction of OPERA is over**; the subdetectors and the ancillary facilities are fully operative.
- Already after 4 months from the end of CNGS data taking, most of the analysis chain has been validated. A **crucial milestone** for this experiment.
- Plan to complete the last steps (vertex and kinematic analysis of the full sample) in a few months. **A lot of physics can be drawn from this sample.** Moreover, **7/10 of a tau** are waiting 😊
- The 6 April earthquake was a major drama for many people working at LNGS
- Impact on future activities seems less important than it could have been
- Perspectives for 2009 are good but not at the level of the design, yet ( $3.5$  versus  $4.5 \cdot 10^{19}$  p.o.t. are expected this year). OPERA is a small fish in the storm of the LHC startup, but CERN confirmed recently its commitment in the LBL programme; at the same time, OPERA has the duty of **keeping pressure** on it for the success of the CNGS project.

# Backup slides

# Beam monitors

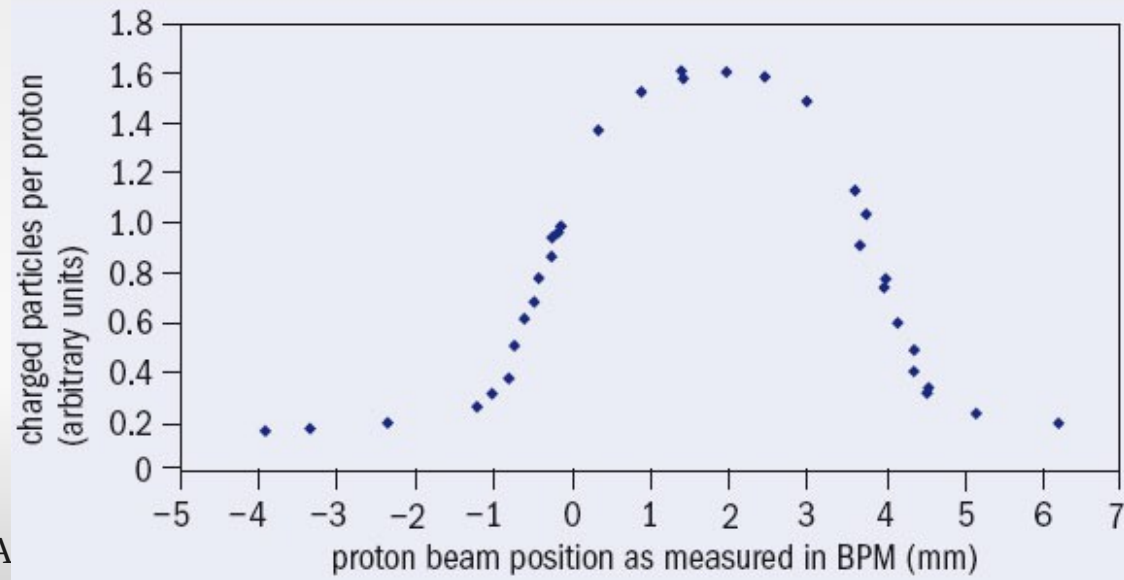
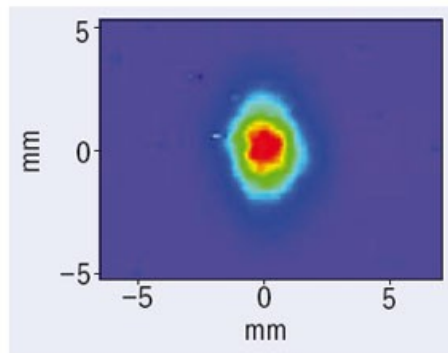
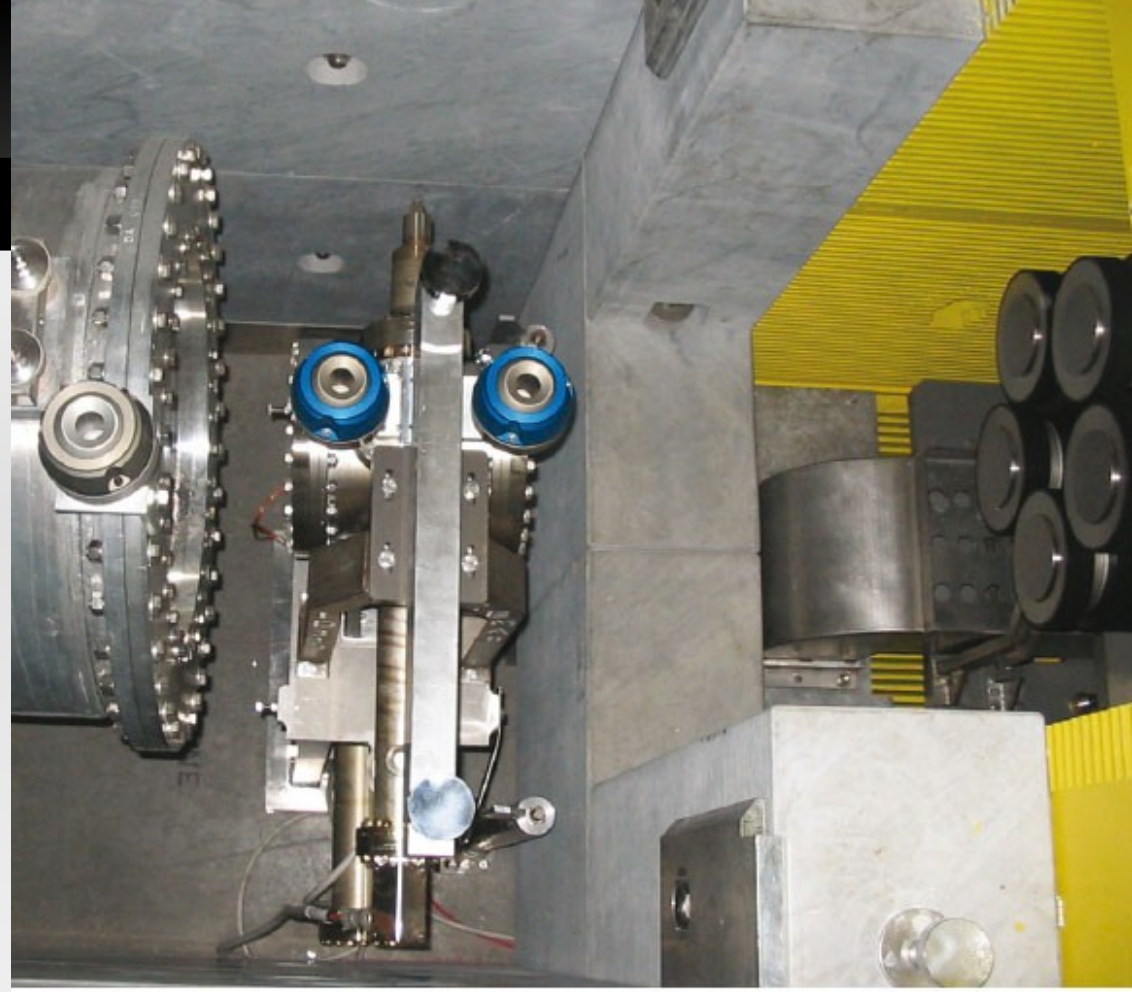
**22+1 BPM** (Beam Position Monitors)  
button electrode monitors from LEP. tol  $\pm 0.6$  mm

last BPM: tol  $\pm 0.035$  mm  
strip-line coupler pick-up mechanically connected  
with target

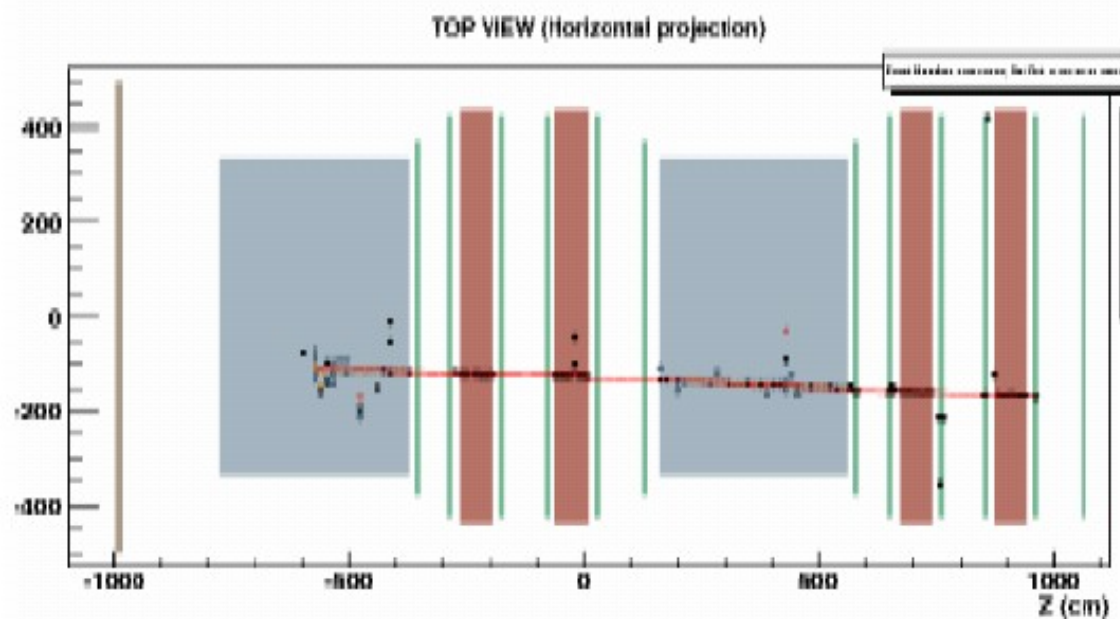
**8 BPM** (beam profile monitor)  
OTR (optical transition radiation monitors)  
75  $\mu\text{m}$  C(high.int) 12  $\mu\text{m}$  Ti (low int.)

**2 BCT** (beam current transformer):  
beam intens. at start and end.

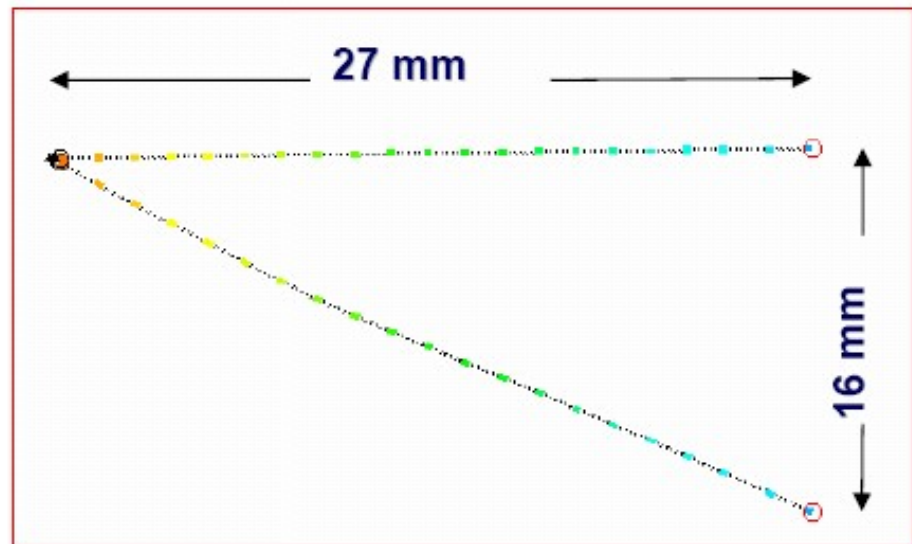
**18 BML** (beam loss monitor)  
 $\text{N}_2$  filled ioniz. chambers



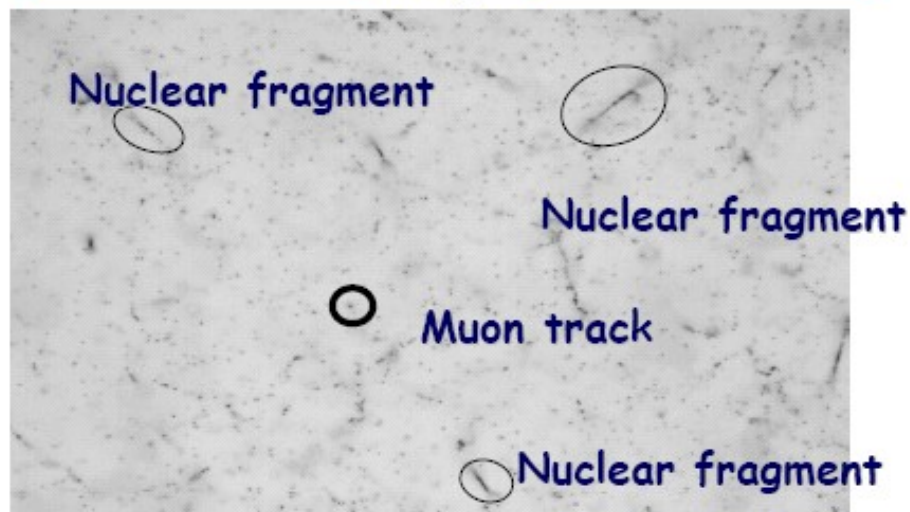
# A $\nu_\mu$ quasi-elastic CC interaction



Event 179673325 QE-like topology

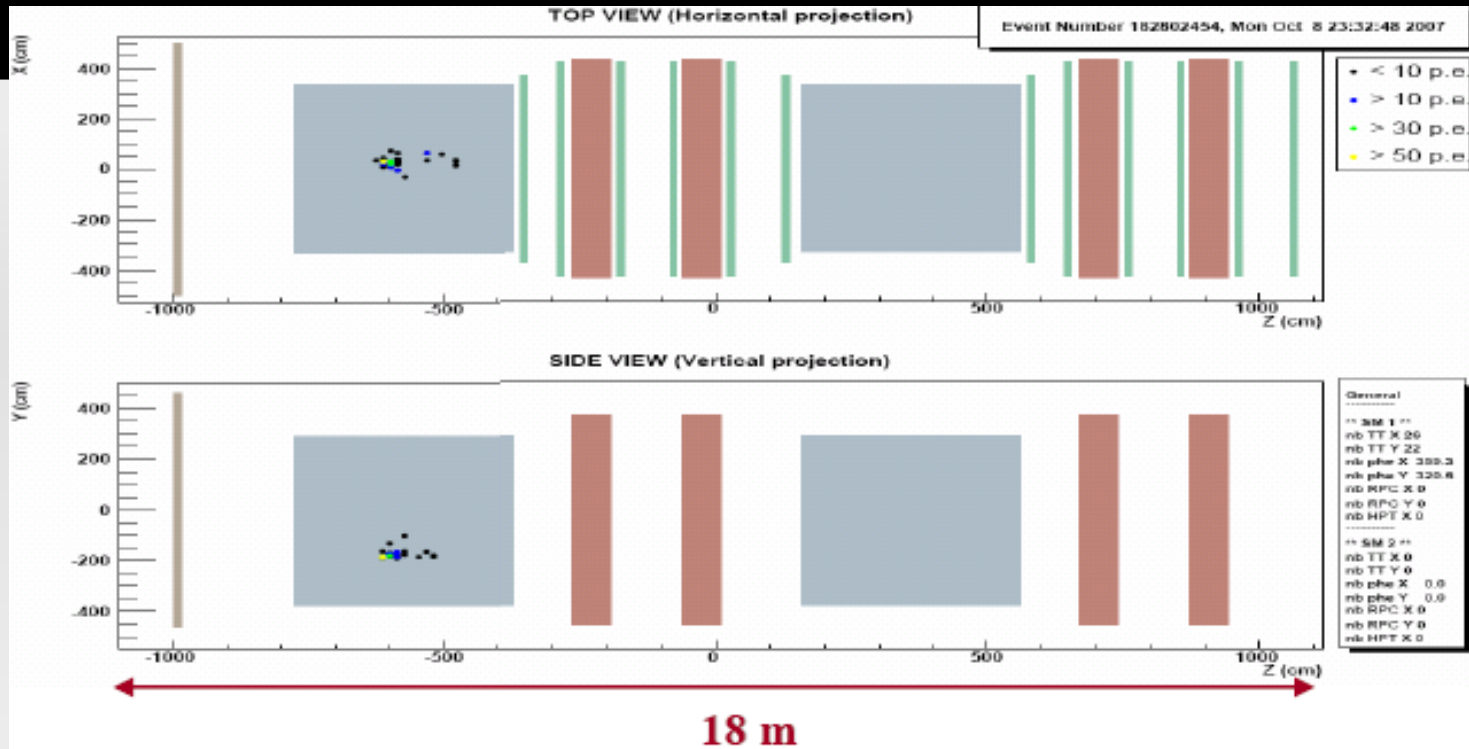


300  $\mu\text{m}$



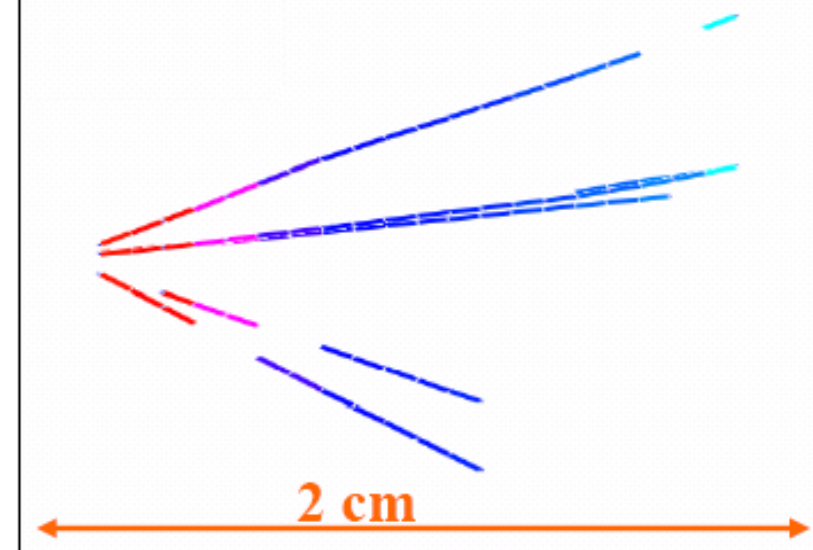
The visual inspection allows the observation of nuclear fragments and the classification of the event as DIS

# A $\nu_{\mu}$ NC



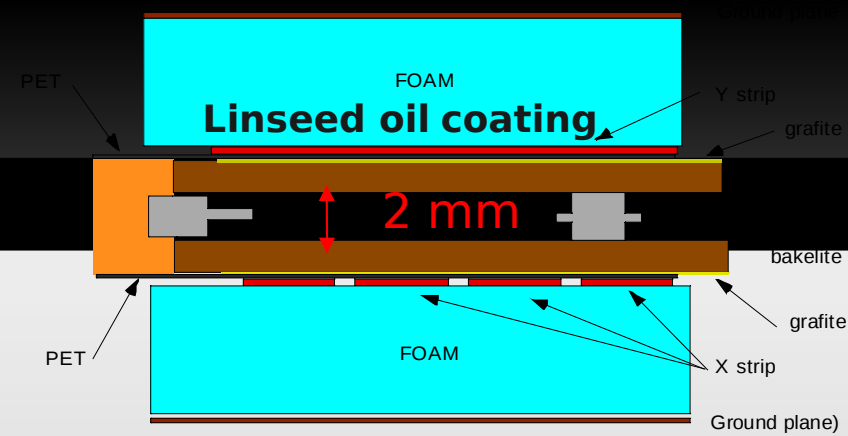
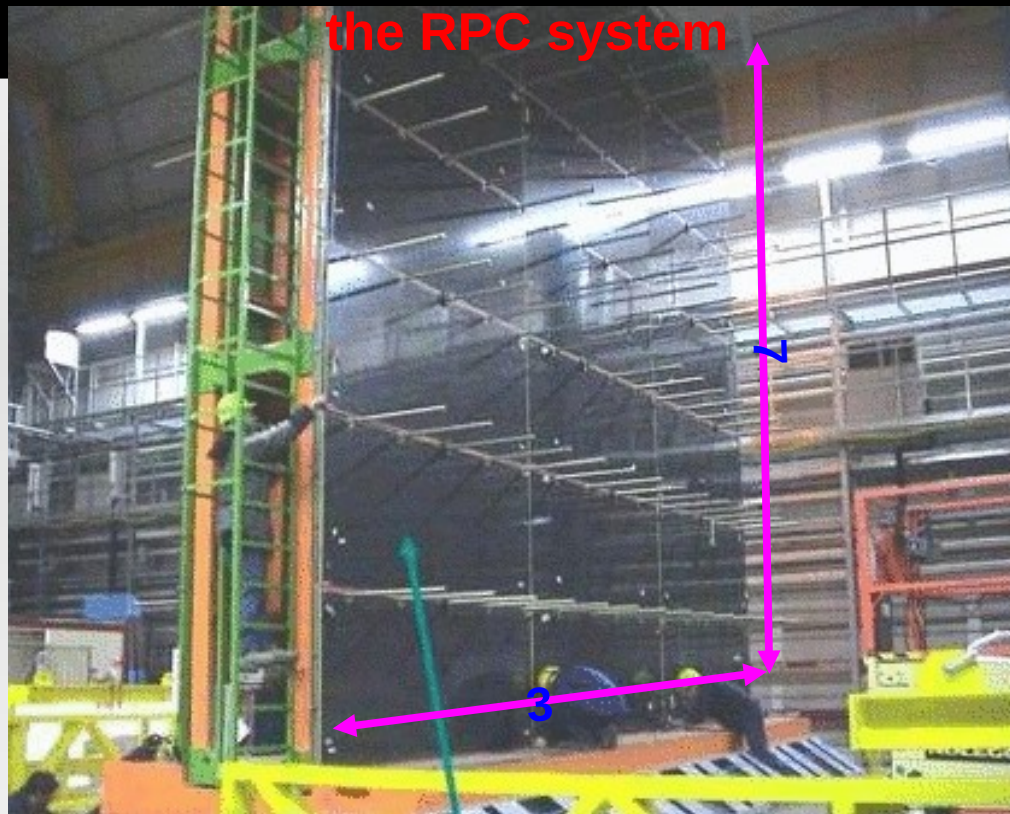
due to the lack of a clear vertex pointing high energy track  $\sim$  larger area to be scanned in Changeable Sheets

vertex in emulsions

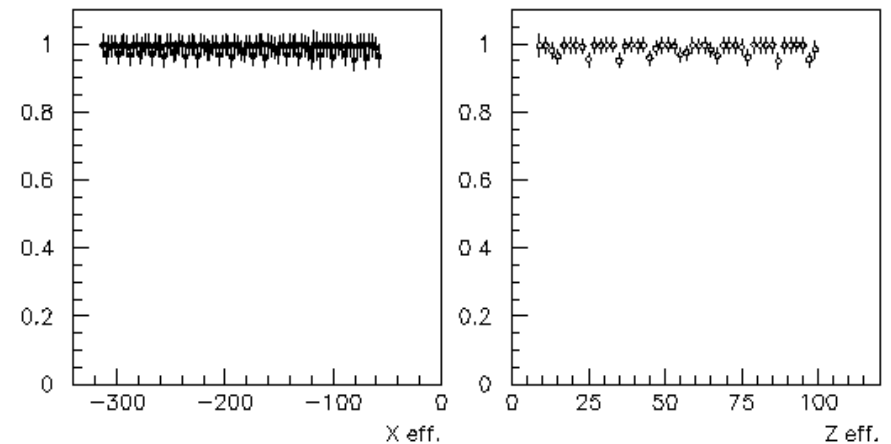
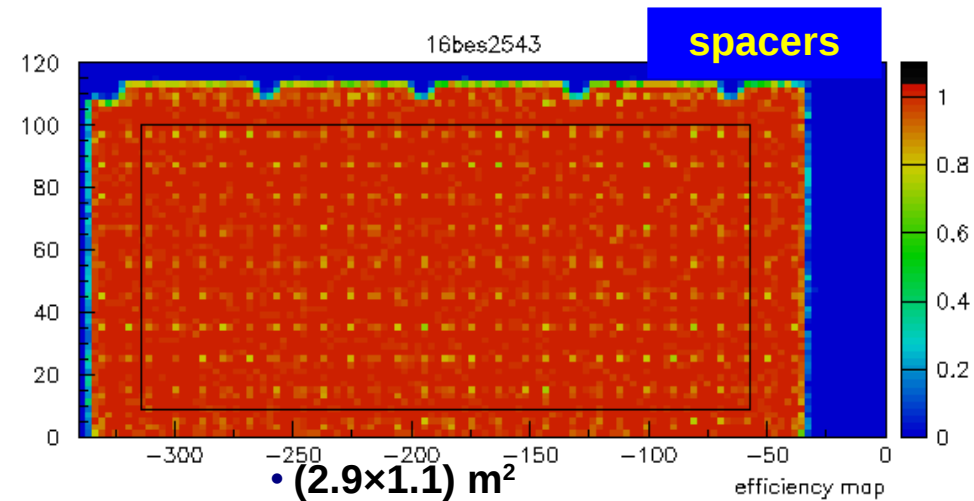




# The inner trackers



cosmic ray efficiency map for 1 chamber (at surface!)



- 462 ( Bakelite RPC) + 42 (XPC) x 2 ~ 1000
- tot. surface: 3326 m<sup>2</sup>
- digital channels: ~ 27000
- strip pitches: 2.6, 3.5 cm (Vert, Hor)
- Front-End Boards: 468
- Controller Boards: 52
- Gas: 76%Ar+20%TFE+4%Iso+0.6%SF<sub>6</sub>
- 8 kV/2mm

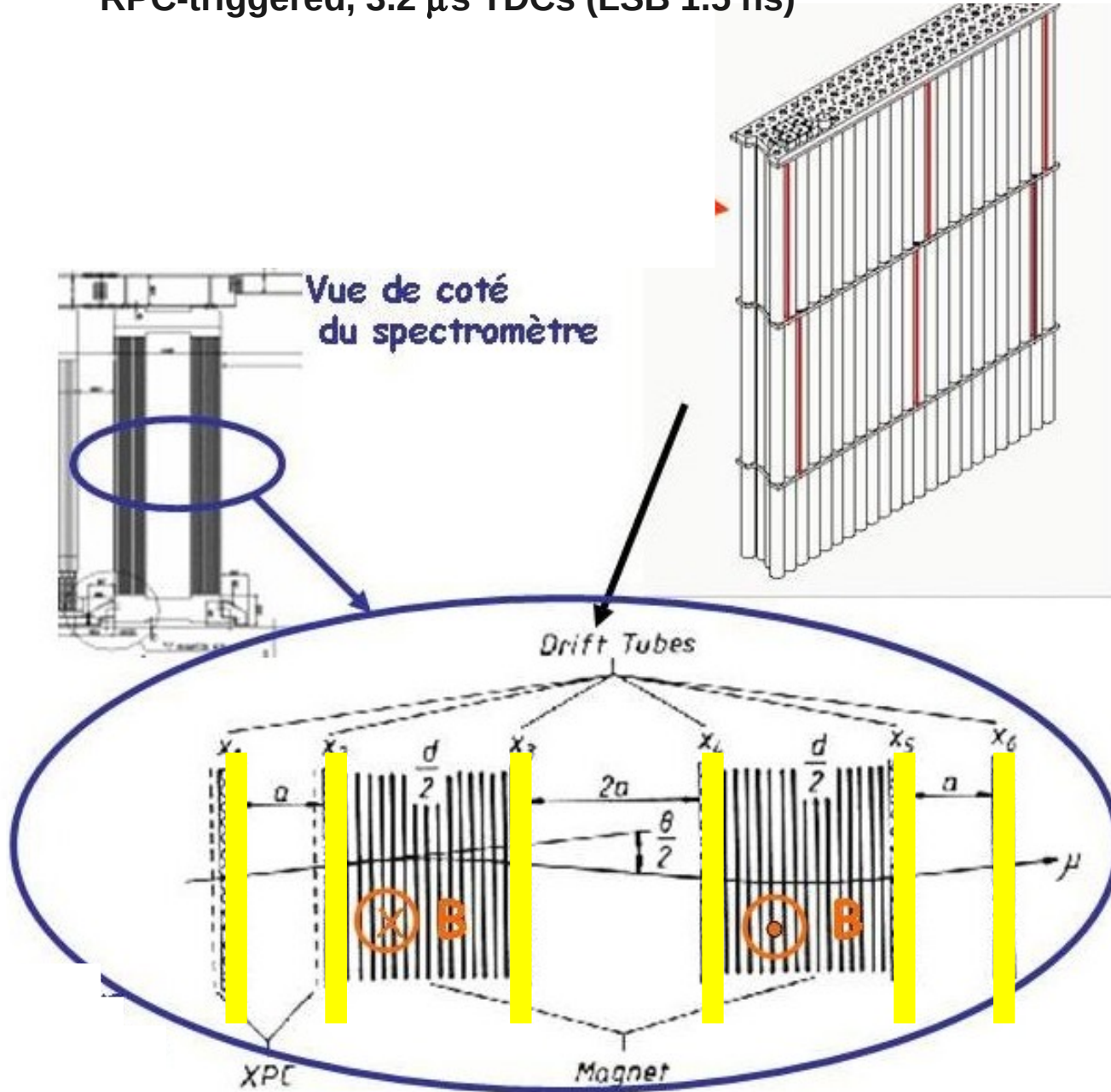
# The precision trackers

38 mm diam. 8 m long tubes. 0.85 mm thick. 45  $\mu\text{m}$  wire.  
4 layers modules (staggered)  
10.000 drift tubes  
Ar/CO<sub>2</sub>: 80/20% @ 1005 $\pm$ 5 mbar (80 m<sup>3</sup> exchange 1m<sup>3</sup>/h)  
RPC-triggered, 3.2  $\mu\text{s}$  TDCs (LSB 1.5 ns)

prototype in Hamburg



8 m (technical challenge, never so long before)

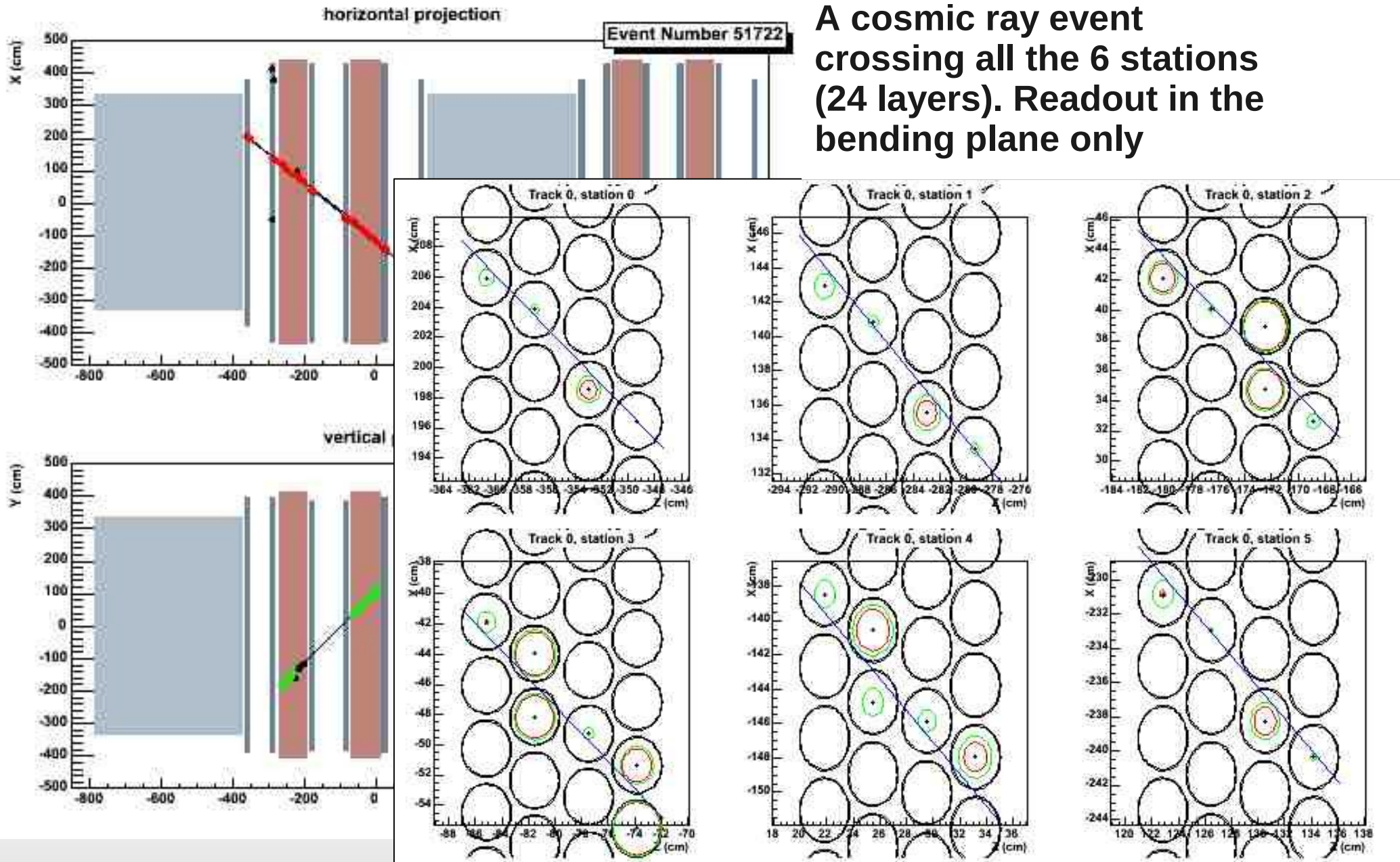


spatial resolution < 300  $\mu\text{m}$

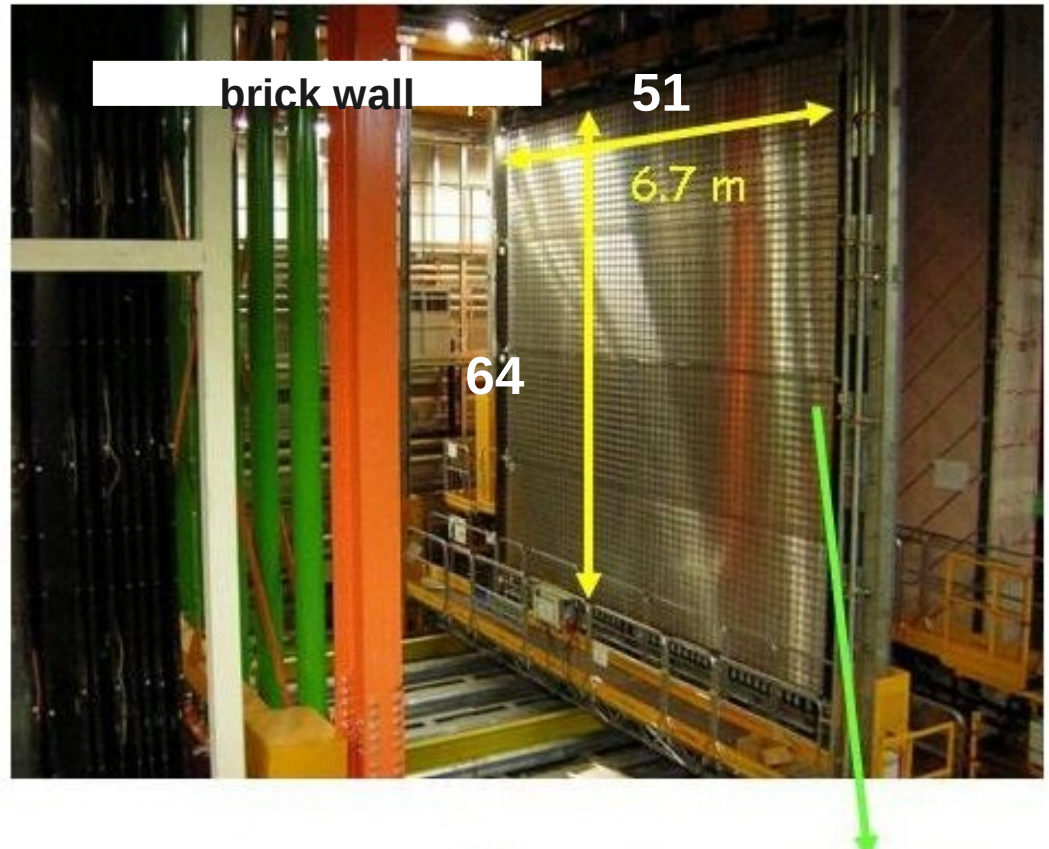
single tube hit eff > 98%  
+ correct r  $\sim$  90%

# The precision trackers at work

A cosmic ray event crossing all the 6 stations (24 layers). Readout in the bending plane only

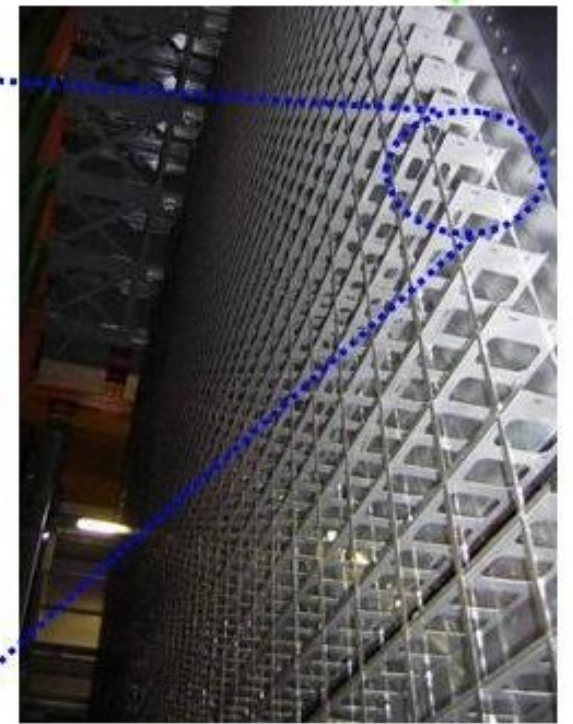


# Target tracker plane photo-grammetry



## The target wall

- 51 x 64 bricks (27 tons)
- light (0.5 % of weight)
- robust structure

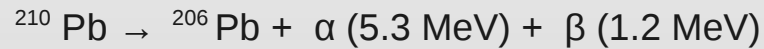


# Radioactivity checks on lead

Surface Barrier Silicon Detectors (SBSiD) and CR39 nuclear track detectors

Needs of **long-term (5-10 years) compatibility with the emulsions:**

- low radioactivity
- no chemical reactions



maximum tolerable rates:  $20 \alpha$  ,  $100 \beta$  / $\text{cm}^2$  /day

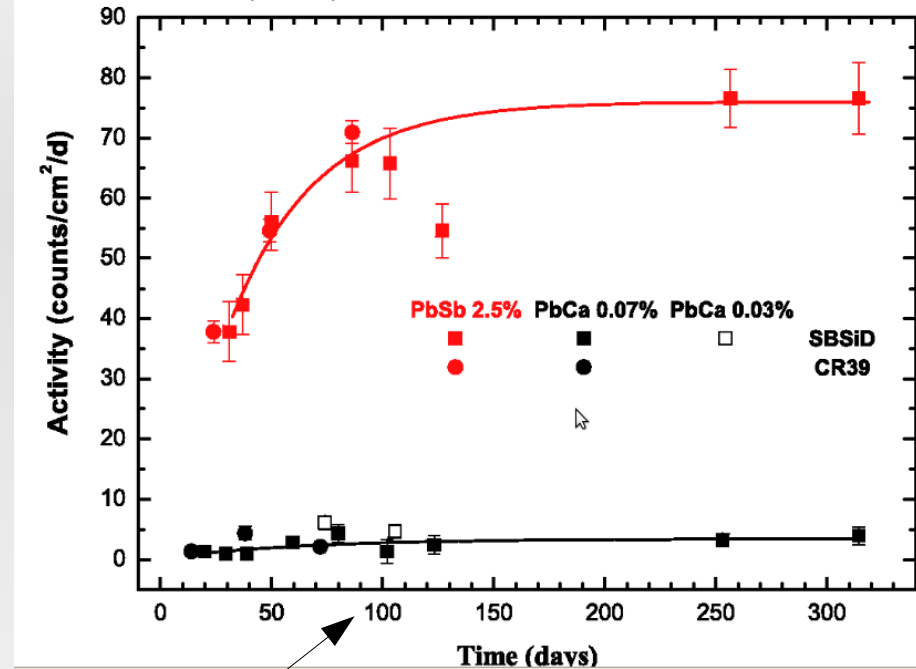
pure lead too soft to be laminated and cut precisely  
 → add Calcium (0.03 to 0.07%) or Antimony (2.5%).

## PbCa or PbSb alloys

- **chemical** long term compatibility tests (heating up to 40° C):
  - with vacuum packing PbCa produces an increase of random grains(fog), PbSb is safe.
  - with packing in air both safe (reduced concentration of poisoning gas) ← chosen
- **α activity**
  - much larger in PbSb plates than in PbCa (and increasing with time)

25 μ m long and 2.5 μ m thick All ~ same length:  
 emitted at surface! 5.3 MeV:

**migration to the surface of  $^{210}\text{Po}$  ( $\rightarrow ^{210}\text{Pb} \rightarrow ^{210}\text{Po} \rightarrow ^{206}\text{Pb}$ ).**



# The beam composition and radial profile at LNGS

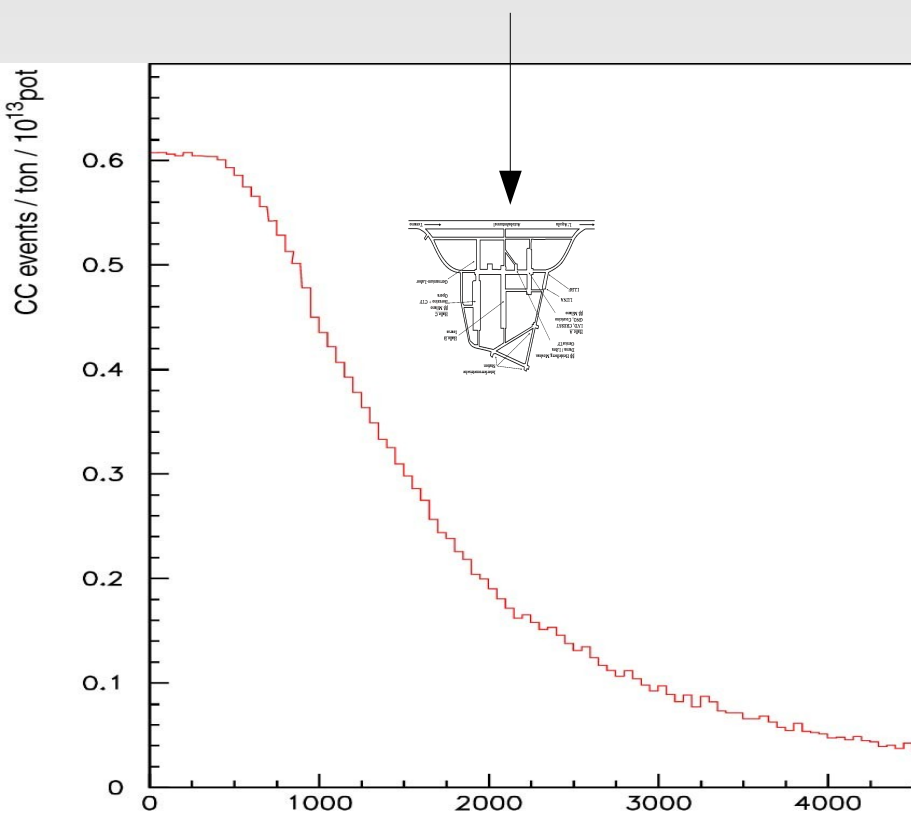
$(\nu_e + \bar{\nu}_e) / \nu_\mu$	0.9%
$\bar{\nu}_\mu / \nu_\mu$	4%
$\nu_\tau$ prompt	negligible

relevant for  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$  search

(from  $D_s$ )

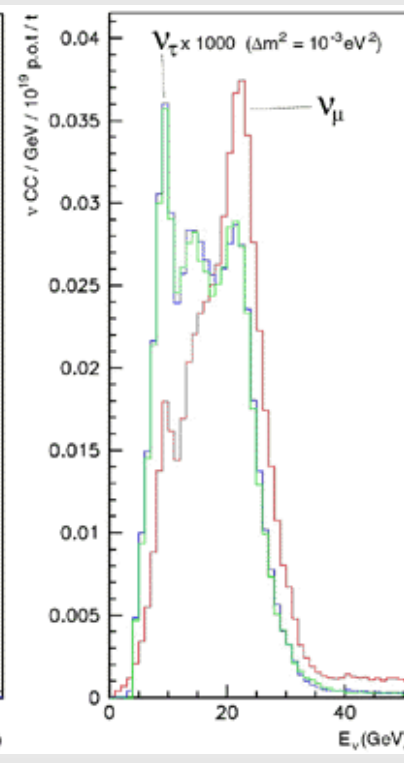
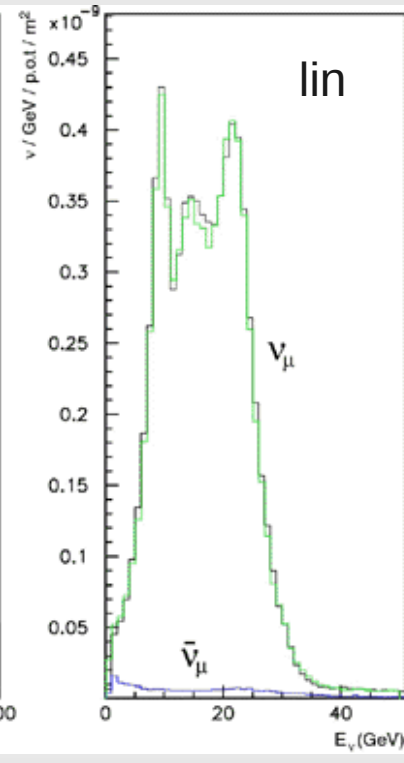
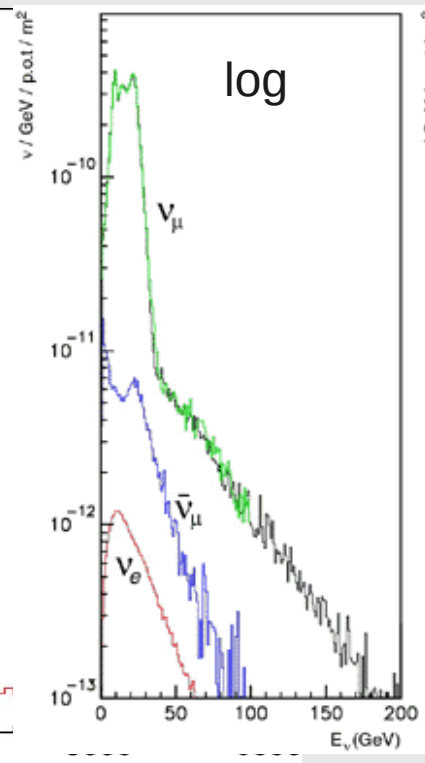
FLUKA based simulation

LNGS (approximately to scale)



fluxes

interactions

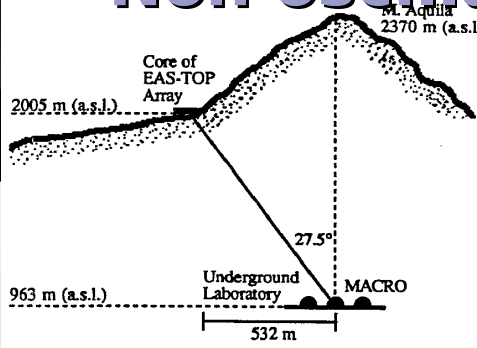


Distance from beam axis (m)

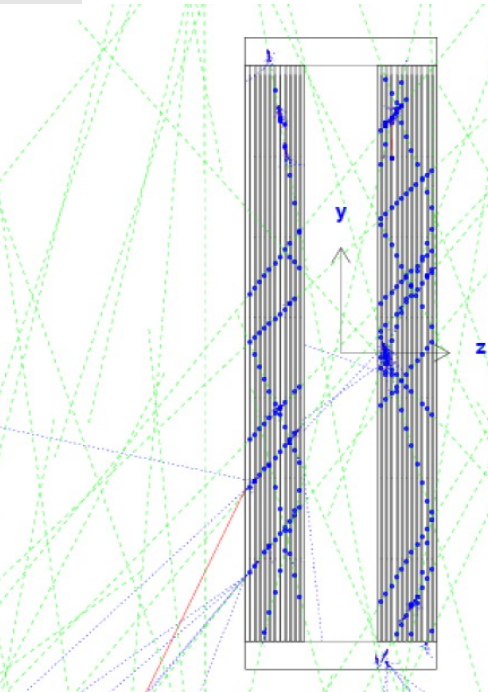
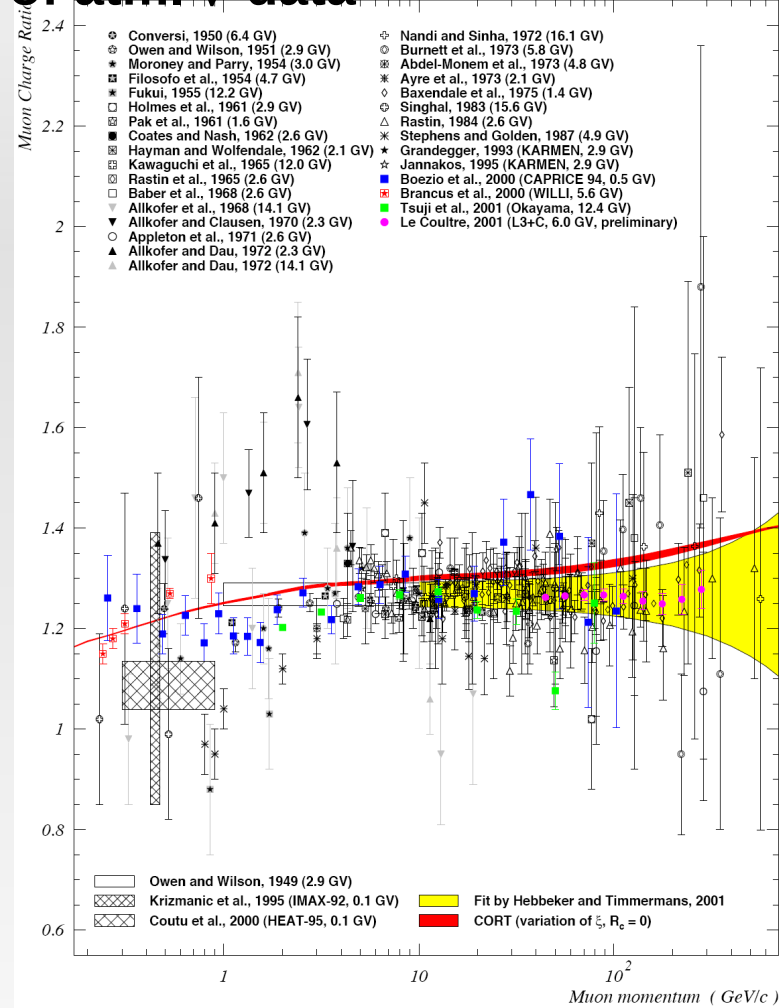
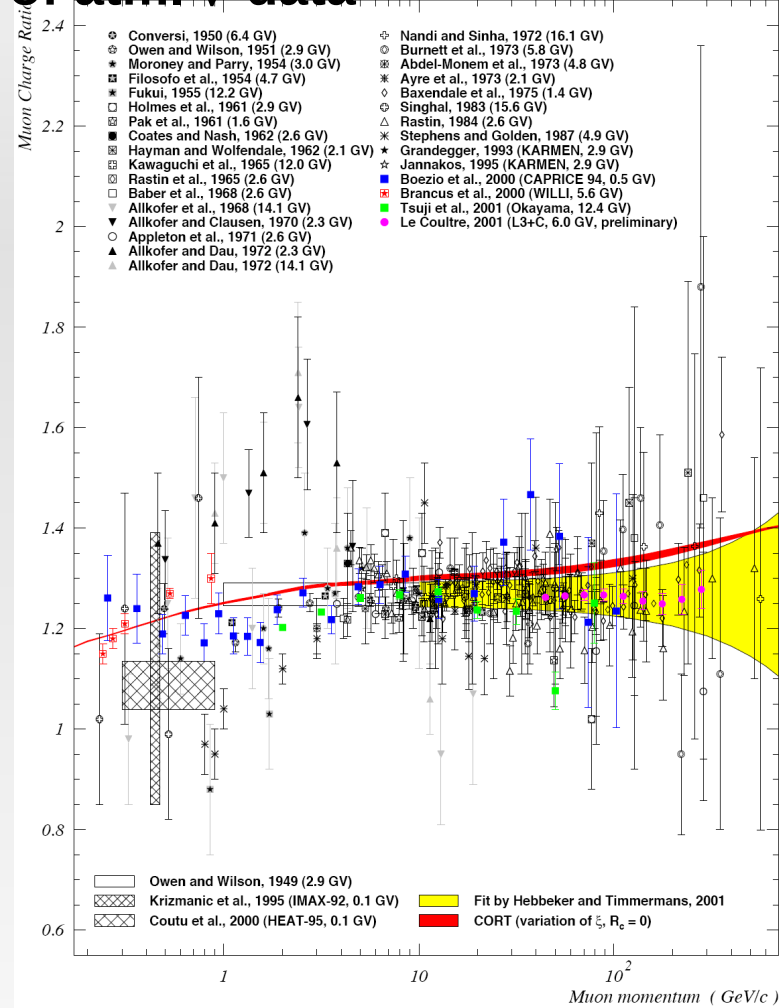
<http://www.mi.infn.it/~psala/lcarus/cngs.html>

# Non oscillation physics: high-E $\mu$ charge ratio

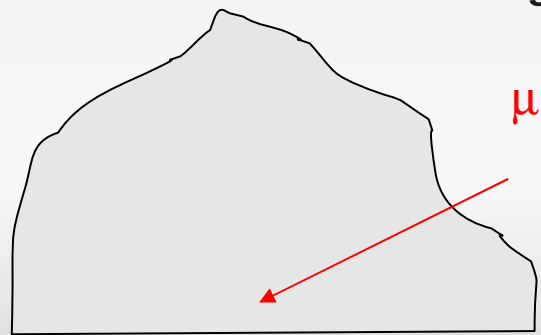
– cosmic ray composition studies



non-muons: systematics of atm.  $\nu$  data



• Mean muons underground energy: 300 GeV

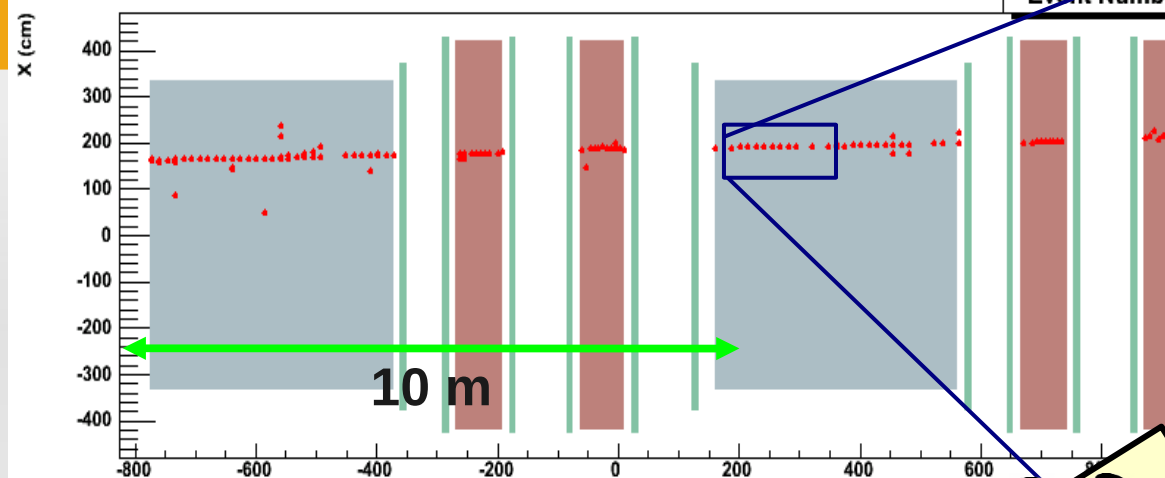


threshold energy at LNGS ~ 1 TeV

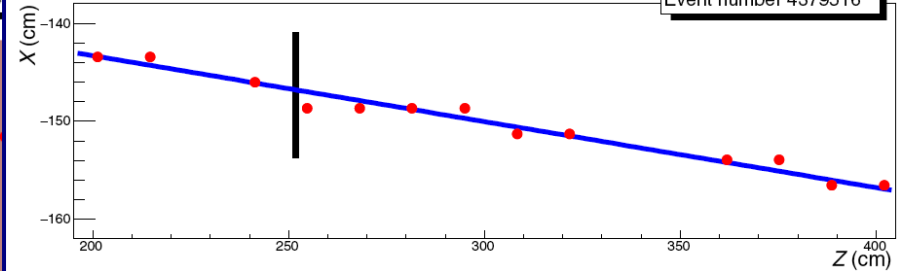
Underground experiments measure the charge ratio in a higher energy region: muons are energy-selected with the overburden

# Target Tracker - CS connection

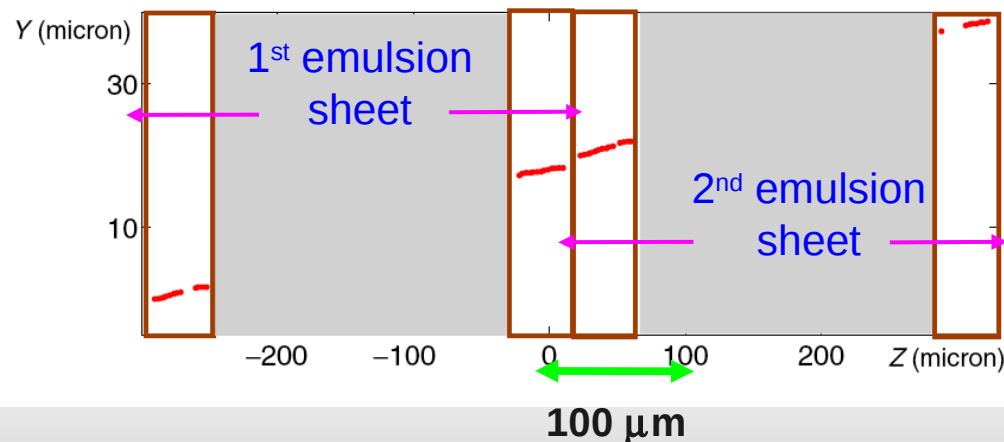
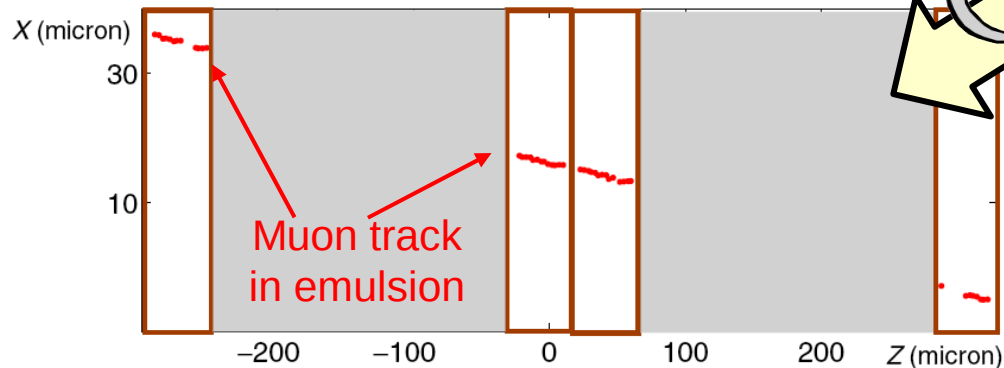
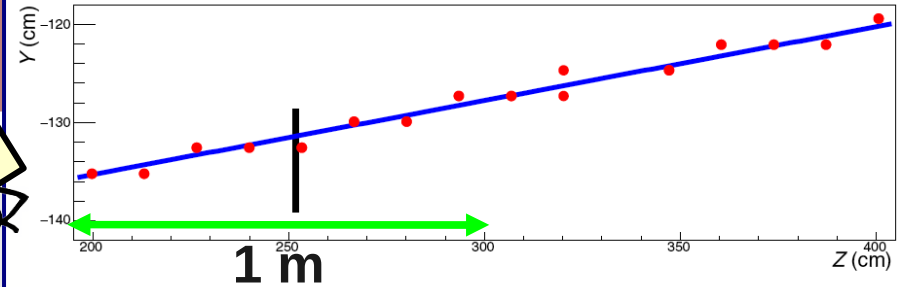
TOP VIEW (Horizontal projection)



Top view (horizontal projection)



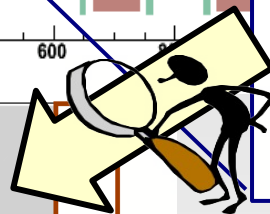
Side view (vertical projection)



- One target wall partially instrumented with dummy bricks with real Changeable Sheet (CS) doublet to test the Target Tracker to Brick connection

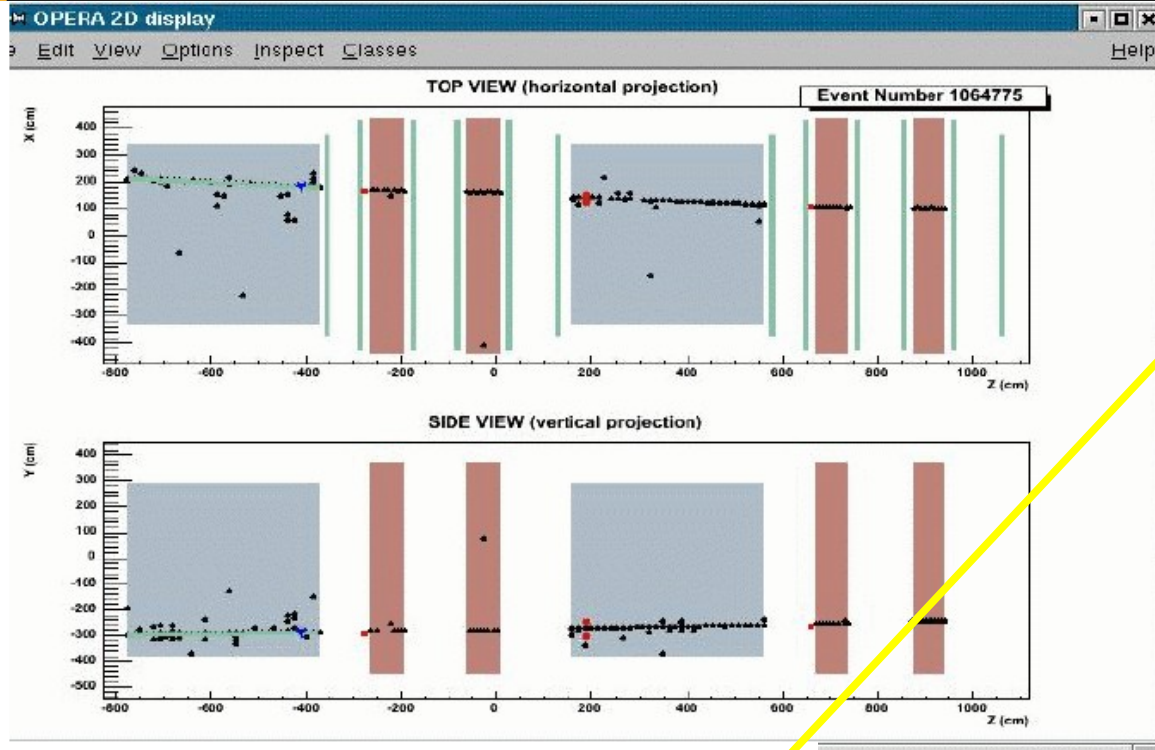
- Muon tracks predicted by target tracker found in the CS doublets.

- Angular difference between prediction and found track **<10 mrad**, dominated by electronic detector resolution



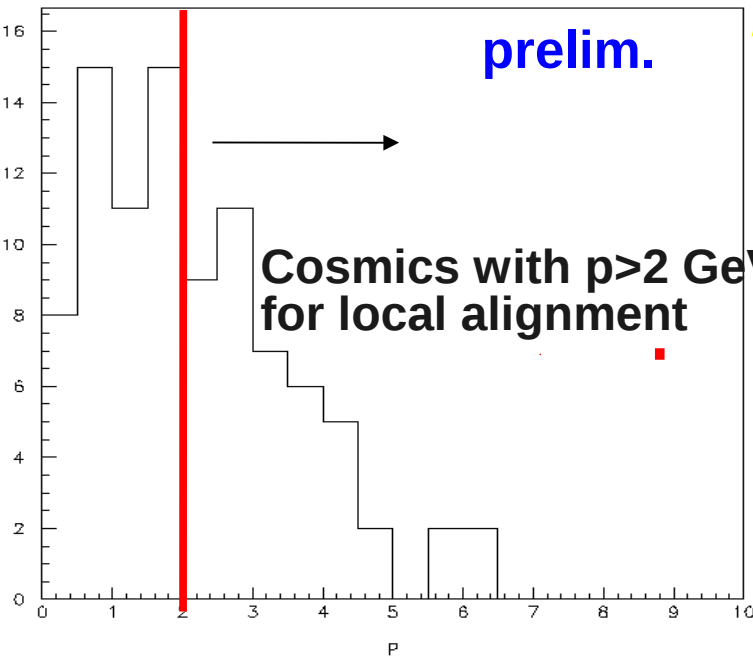
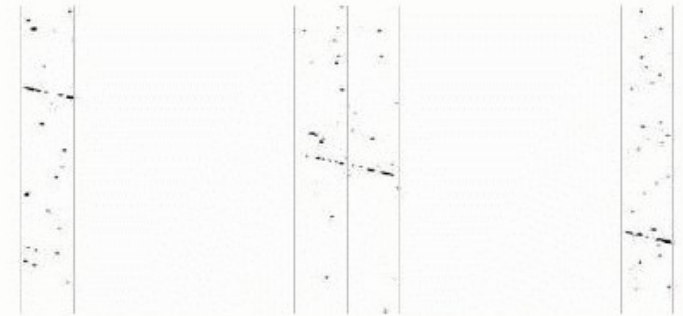


# Momentum in the emulsions (Oct 06)

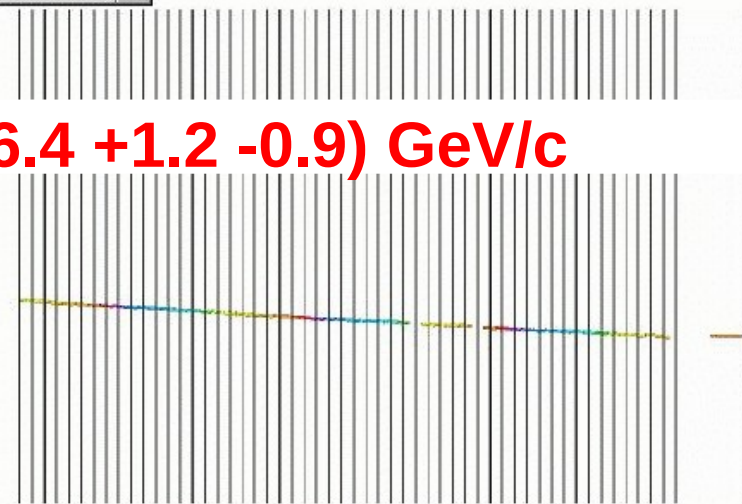


cosmics spectrum after surface exposure measured in emulsions with multiple scattering (angular method)

CS doublet



$$p = (6.4 + 1.2 - 0.9) \text{ GeV/c}$$



# Tau channels and backgrounds

$$\nu_\tau + N \rightarrow \tau^- + X$$

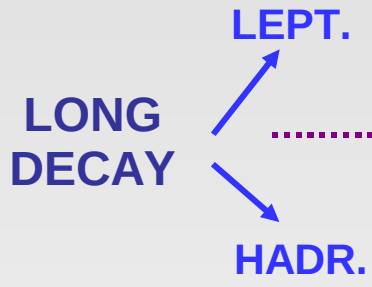
	signature	background
$\tau^- \rightarrow e^- \nu_\epsilon \nu_\tau$	e.m. shower in the ECC	charm production in $\nu_\mu$ CC with e- decay without primary $\mu$ identification
$\tau^- \rightarrow \mu^- \nu_\mu \nu_\tau$	$\mu$ ID (MS + Spectr.)	Large angle $\mu$ scattering
$\tau^- \rightarrow h^- \nu_\tau \quad (n\pi^0)$	Events with a kink without muon or electron	charm production with hadronic decays + reinteractions

Dedicate kinematic analysis for each channel

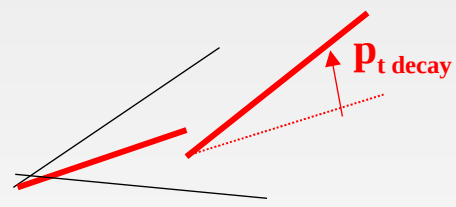
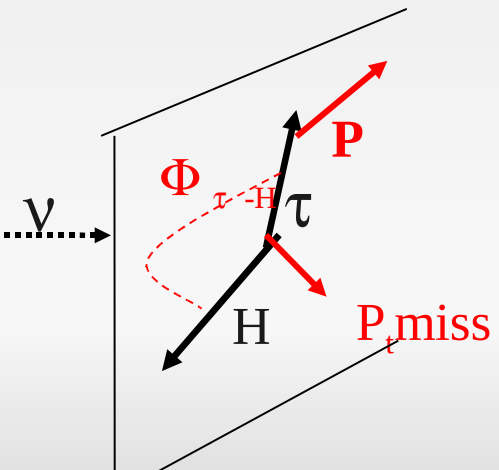


# Selection and backgrounds

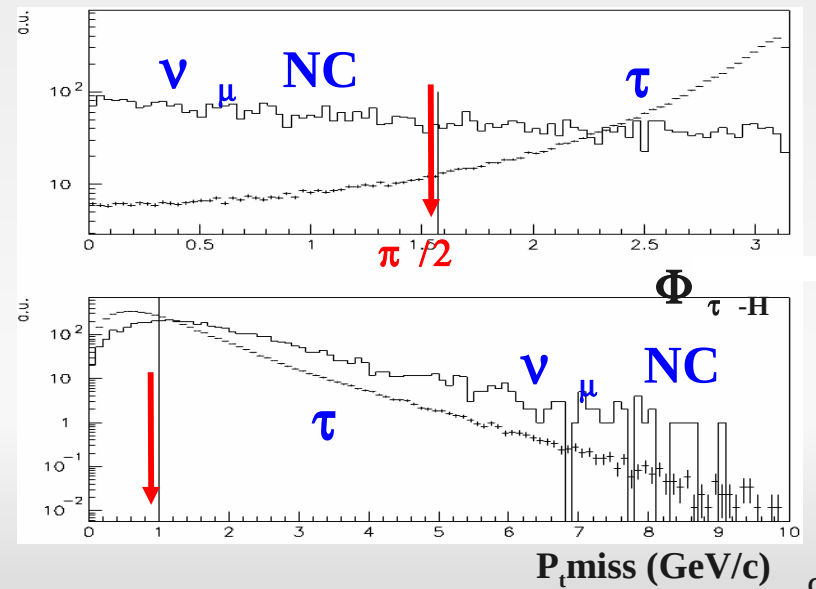
TOPOLOGY	BCKG	CUTS	EFFECT
SHORT DECAY	CHARM PROD.	$M_{\text{had}} > 2 \text{ GeV}$	Signal/15 bckg/ 1000
LONG DECAY	beam mis-ID	$2 \text{ GeV} < p_{\text{daught.}} < 15 \text{ GeV}$ $p_{\text{T}}^{\text{@decay.vtx}} (e^- \text{ channel}) > 100 \text{ MeV}$ $p_{\text{T}}^{\text{@decay.vtx}} (\mu \text{ channel}) > 250 \text{ MeV}$	bck to reas. level
	hadronic re- interactions	$p_{\text{daught.}} < 2 \text{ GeV}$ $p_{\text{T}}^{\text{@decay.vtx}} (\text{w } \gamma) > 300 \text{ MeV}$ $p_{\text{T}}^{\text{@decay.vtx}} (\text{w/o } \gamma) \gtrsim 600 \text{ MeV}$ $p_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}} < 1 \text{ GeV}$ ; $\Phi_{\tau-H} > \pi/2$	$\nu_{\mu}$ NC bck suppressed (high $p_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}}$ low $\Phi_{\tau-H}$ )

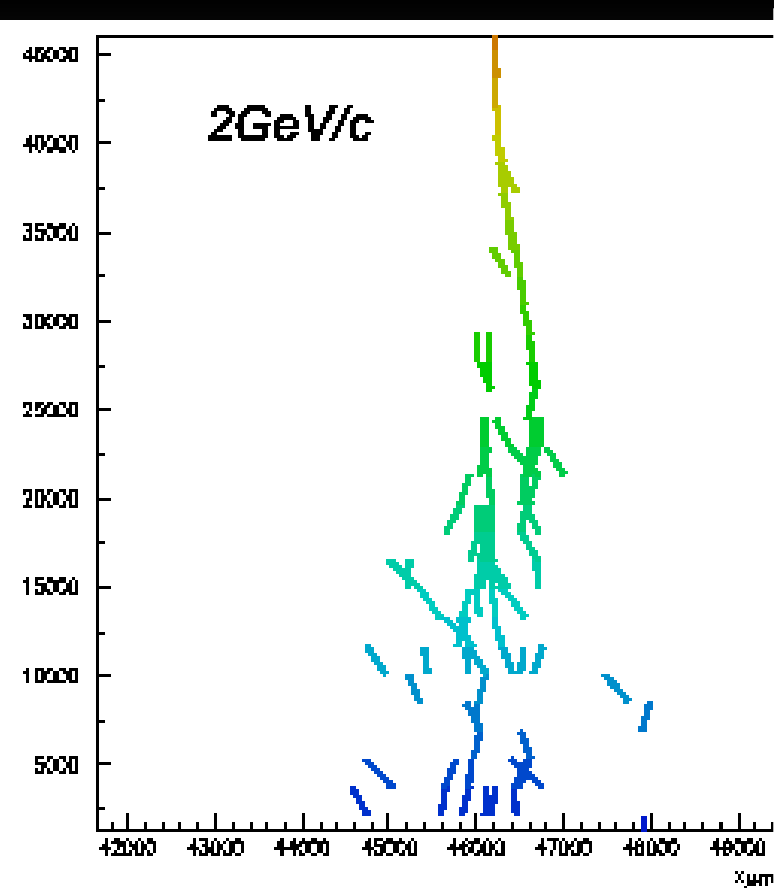
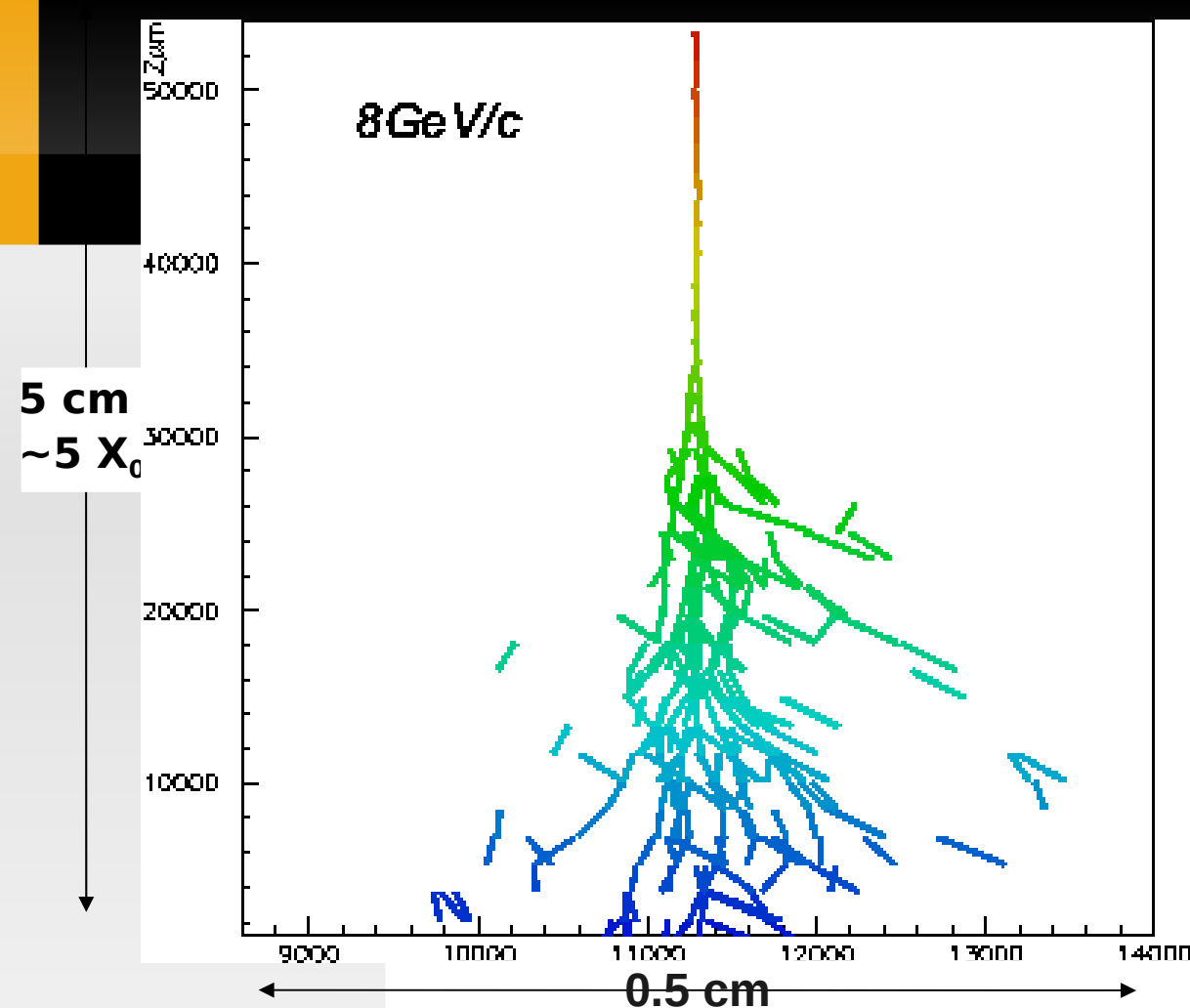


signal:  $\tau$  & hadrons are back-to-back



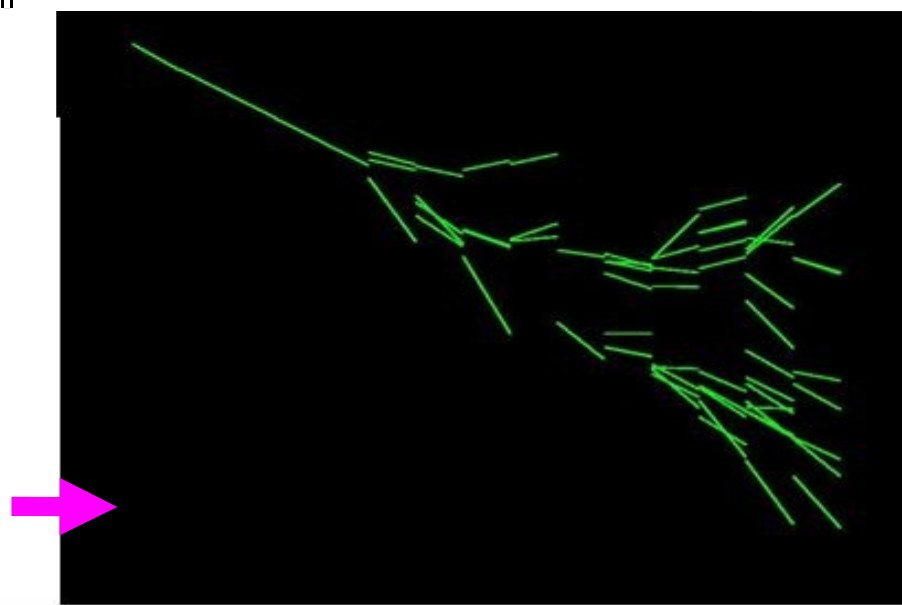
(\*): due to low % of  $\nu_{\mu}$  NC evt with prompt  $\gamma$ .  
If  $\gamma \rightarrow$  measured  $p_{\text{T}}$ , higher so higher eff. at same bckg.



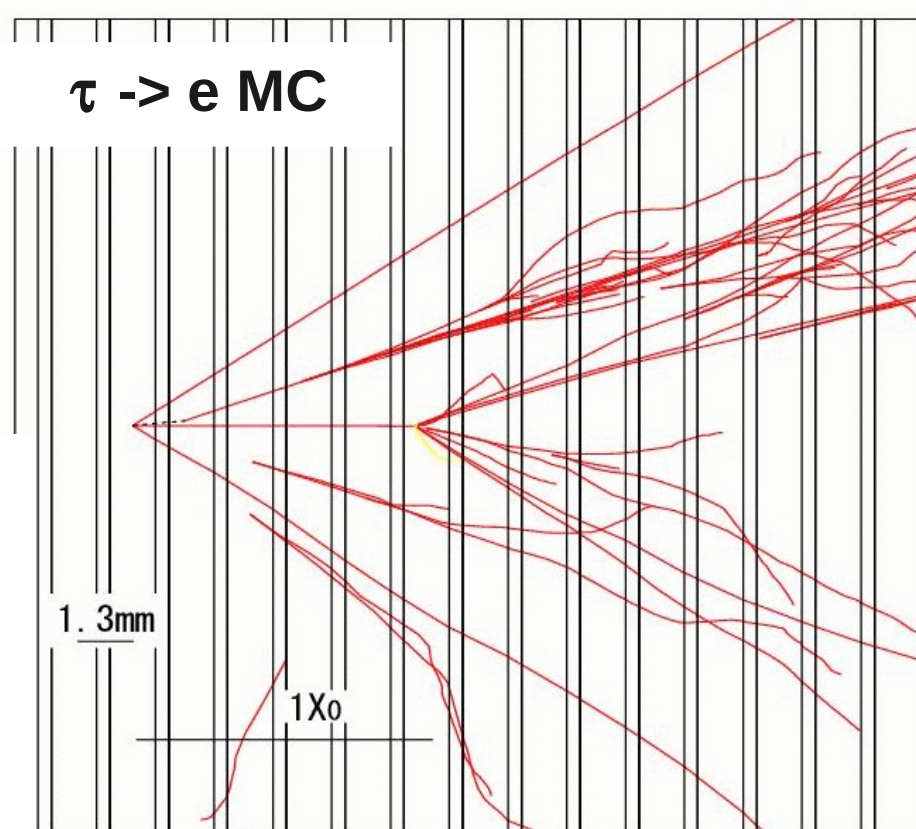
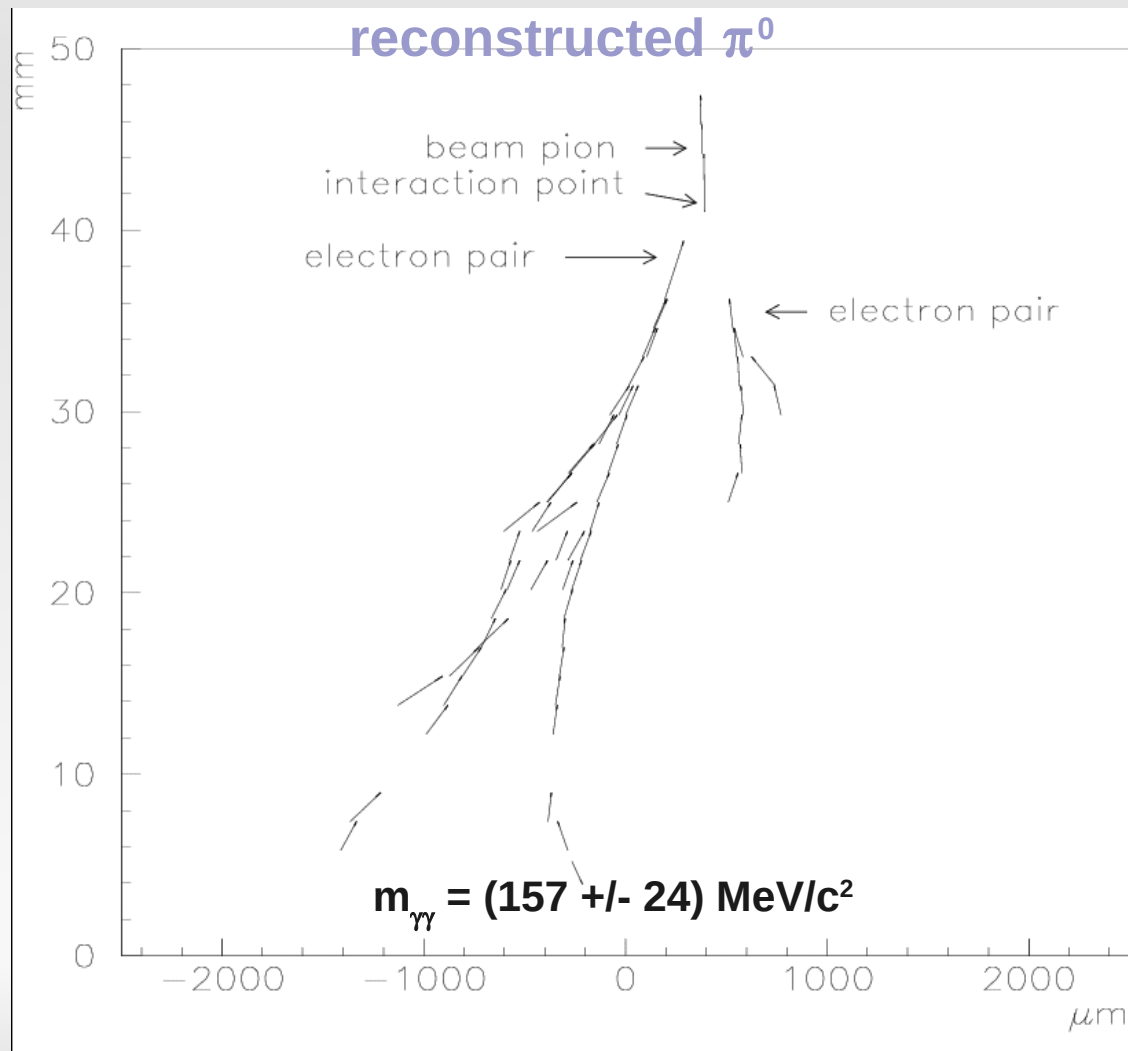


## Electron identification in the ECC

**DESY 2003 e-test beam: 6 GeV**

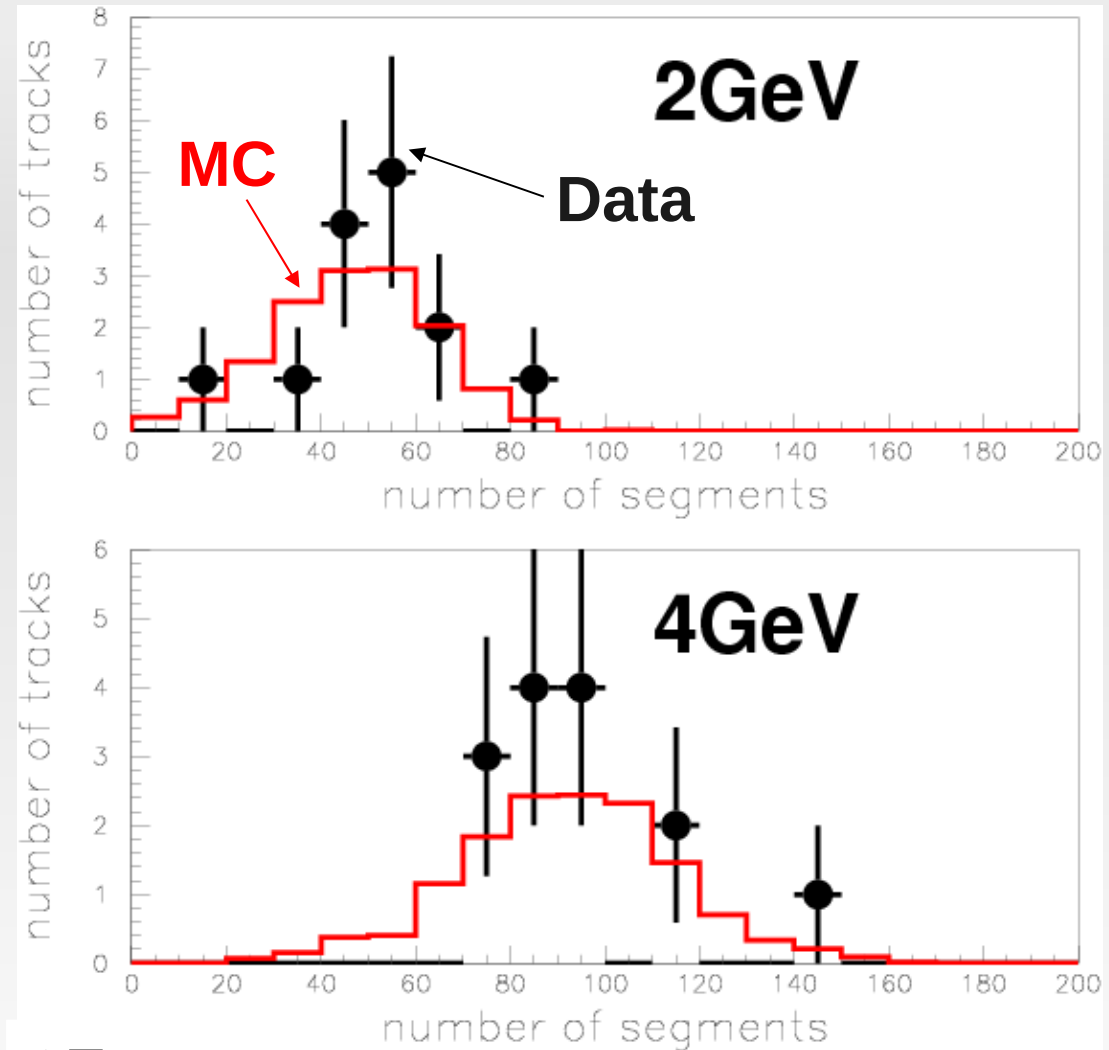
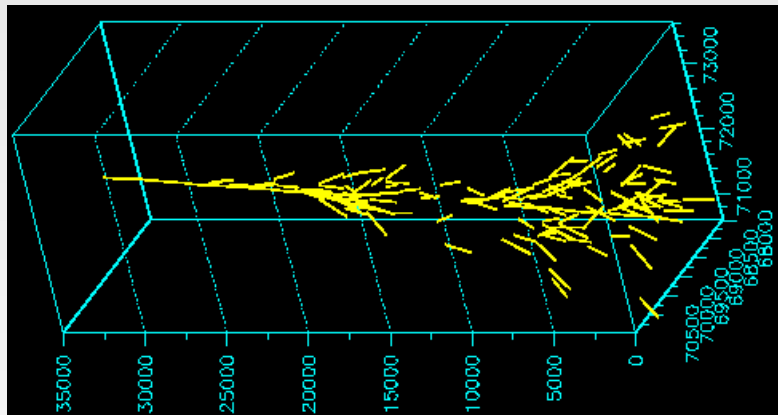
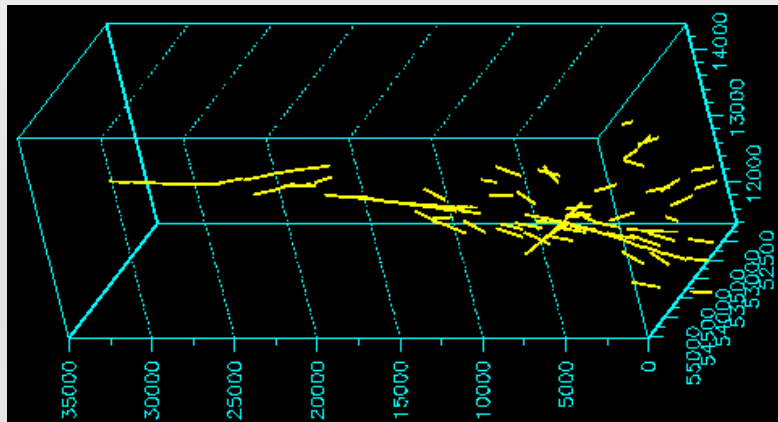


# Electron identification



# Electron energy measurement

Test exp. @ CERN



**Energy determination  
by calorimetric method**

$$\frac{\Delta E}{E} = \frac{0.4}{\sqrt{E(\text{GeV})}}$$

**@ a few GeV**

# $dE/dx$ measurement

$dE/dx$  ~ spatial density of grains

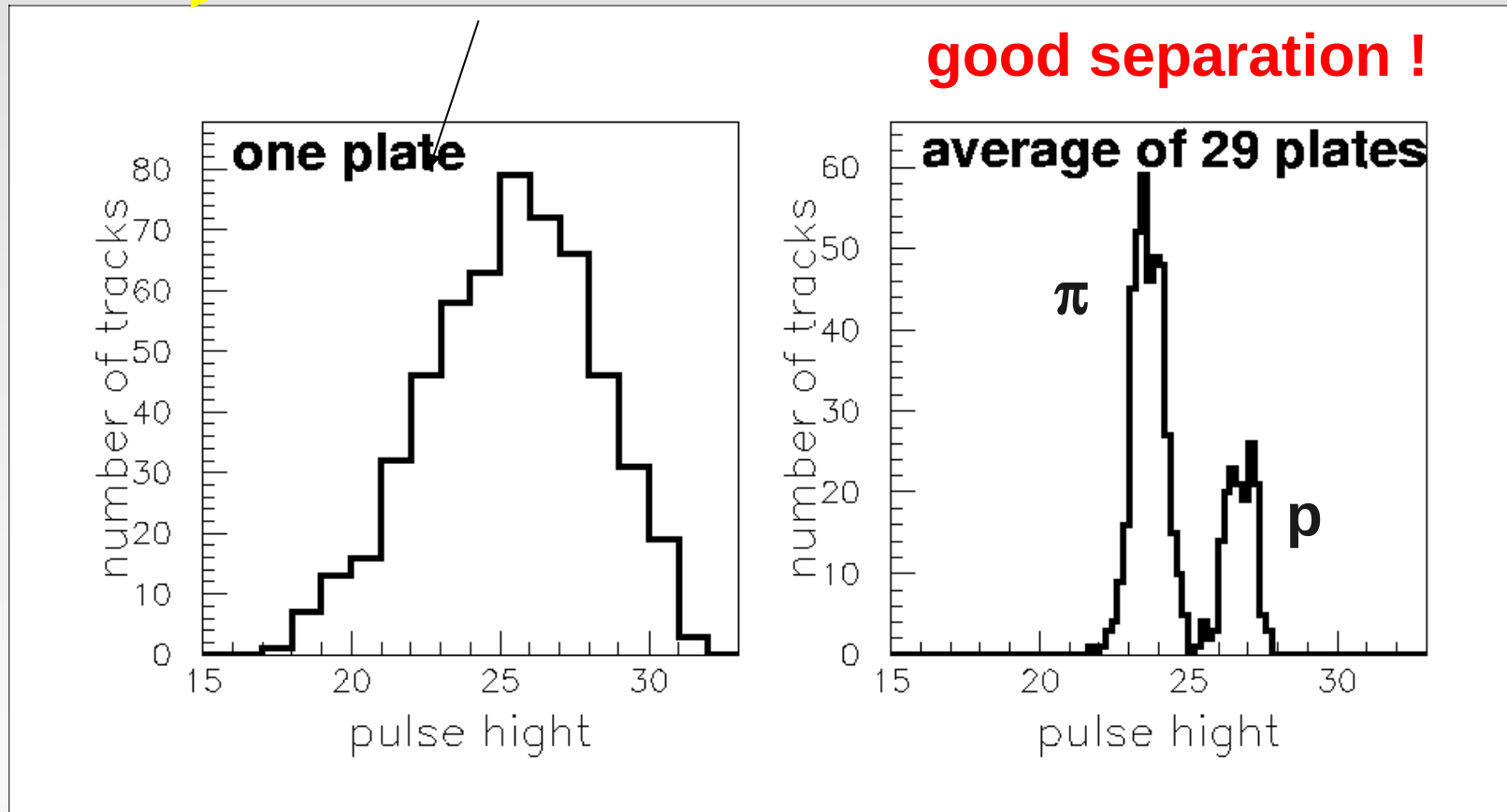
$$I := dE/dx = k / \beta^2, E = M\beta^2/2$$

$$\rightarrow M \sim 4 I^2 x / k$$

$$\delta M/M = 0.12$$

$p = 1.2 \text{ GeV}/c$   $p, \pi^+$  @ KEK/PS

10 emulsions before stop point  $\rightarrow \delta M(\pi) = 16 \text{ MeV}$



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# Momentum by multiple scattering

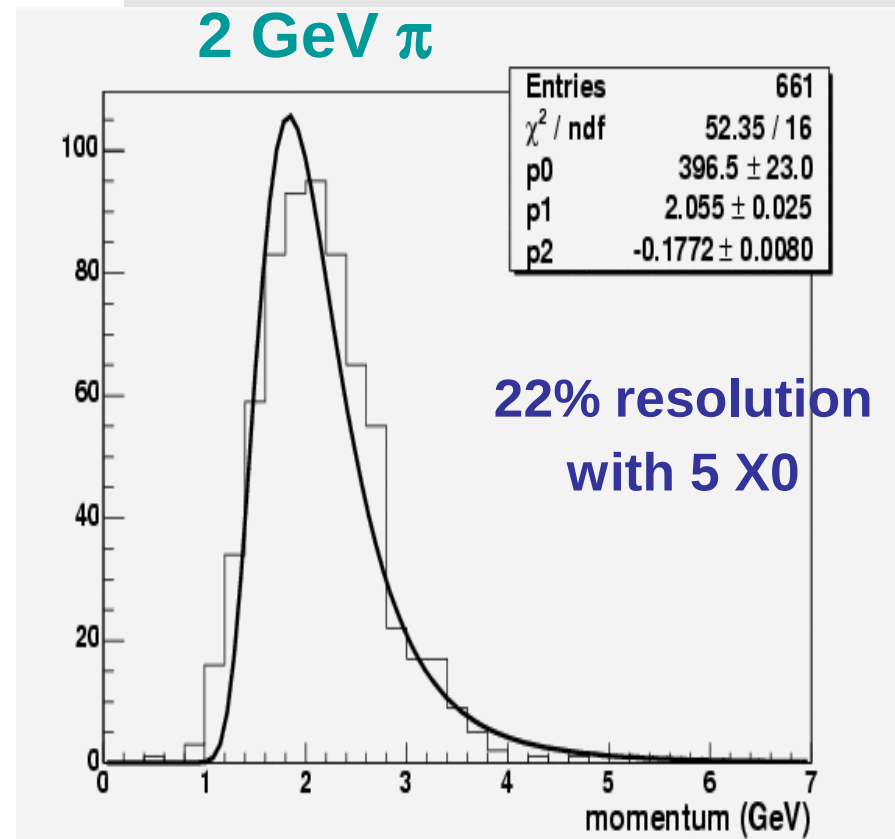
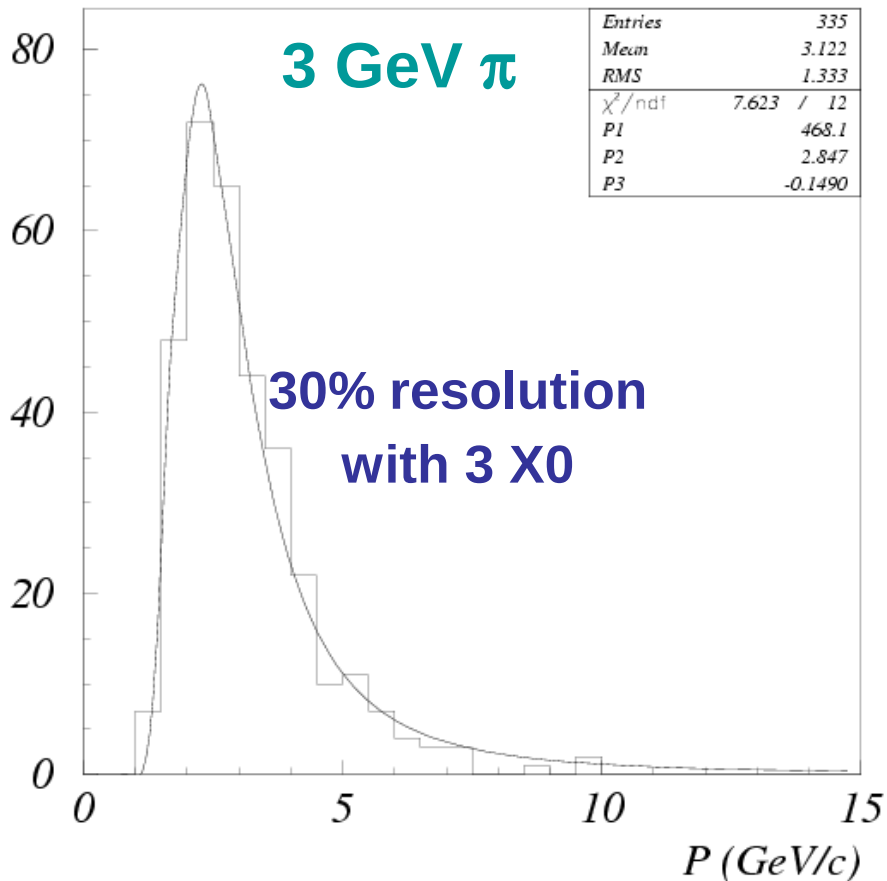
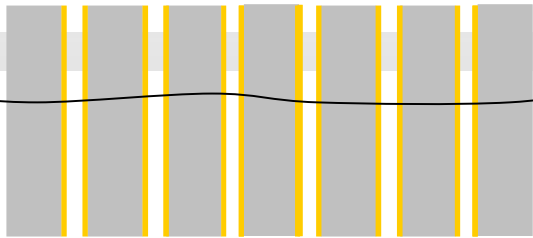
$$\theta_0 = \frac{13.6 \text{ MeV}/c}{p\beta} \sqrt{X}$$

## Angular method

- based on angular difference btw adjacent base tracks
- not sensitive to relative shift but
- good parallelism of surfaces required

## Coordinate method

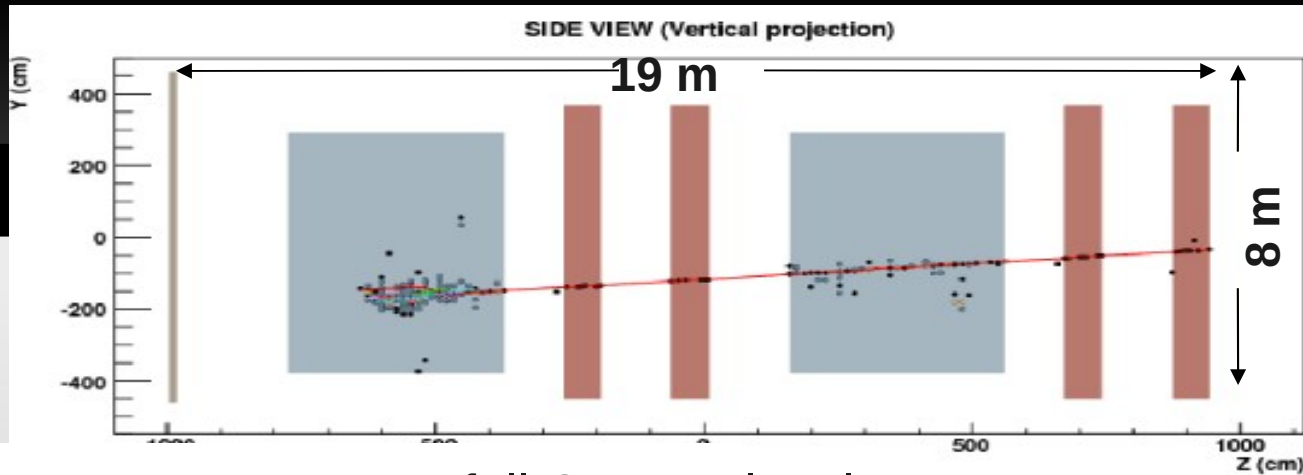
- based on displacements btw adjacent base tracks
- Longer lever arm (high p).
- Good local alignment required (cosmic ray exposure)



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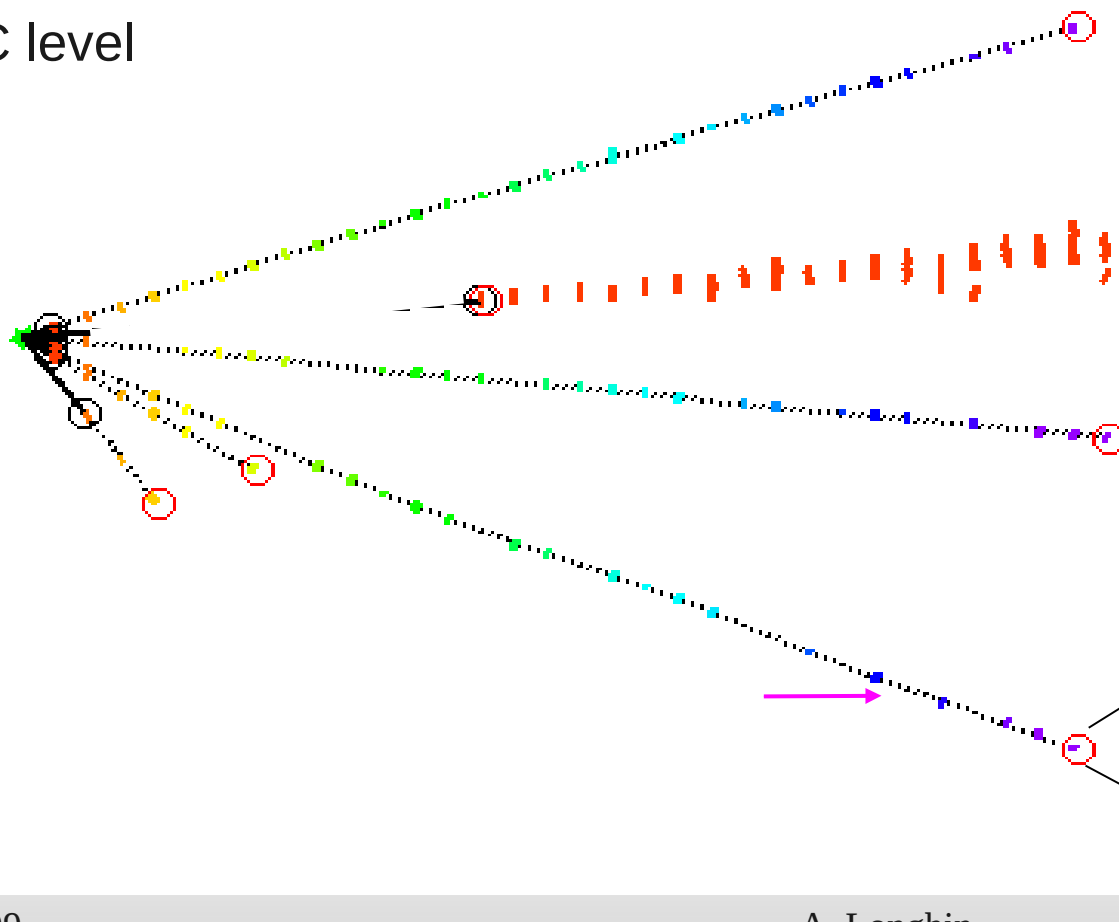
# $A \nu_{\mu} CC$ interaction



full OPERA level

43 mm

ECC level



5 prongs with mean impact parameter  $9 \mu\text{m}$

e.m. shower from  $\gamma$  conversion pointing to the vertex

•AgBr crystals diluted in a gelatine matrix

emulsio

44  $\mu\text{m}$

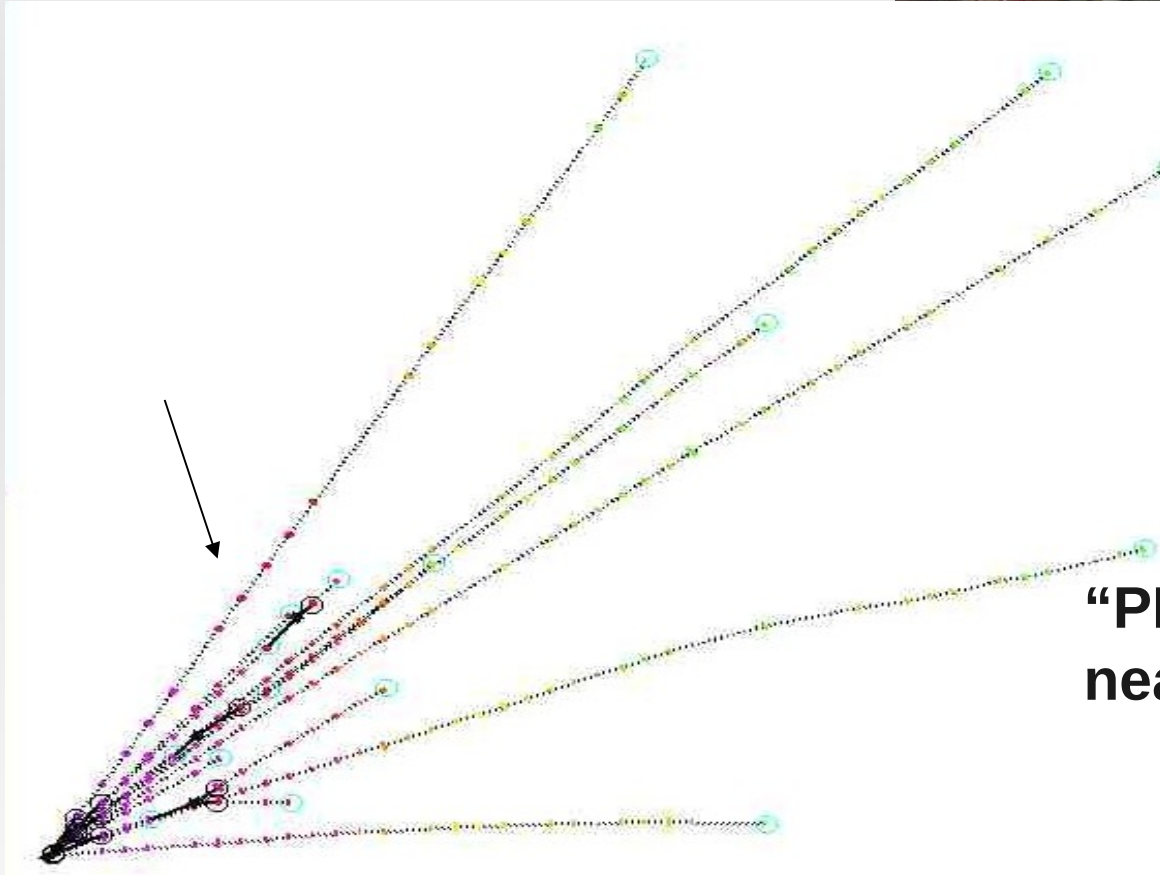
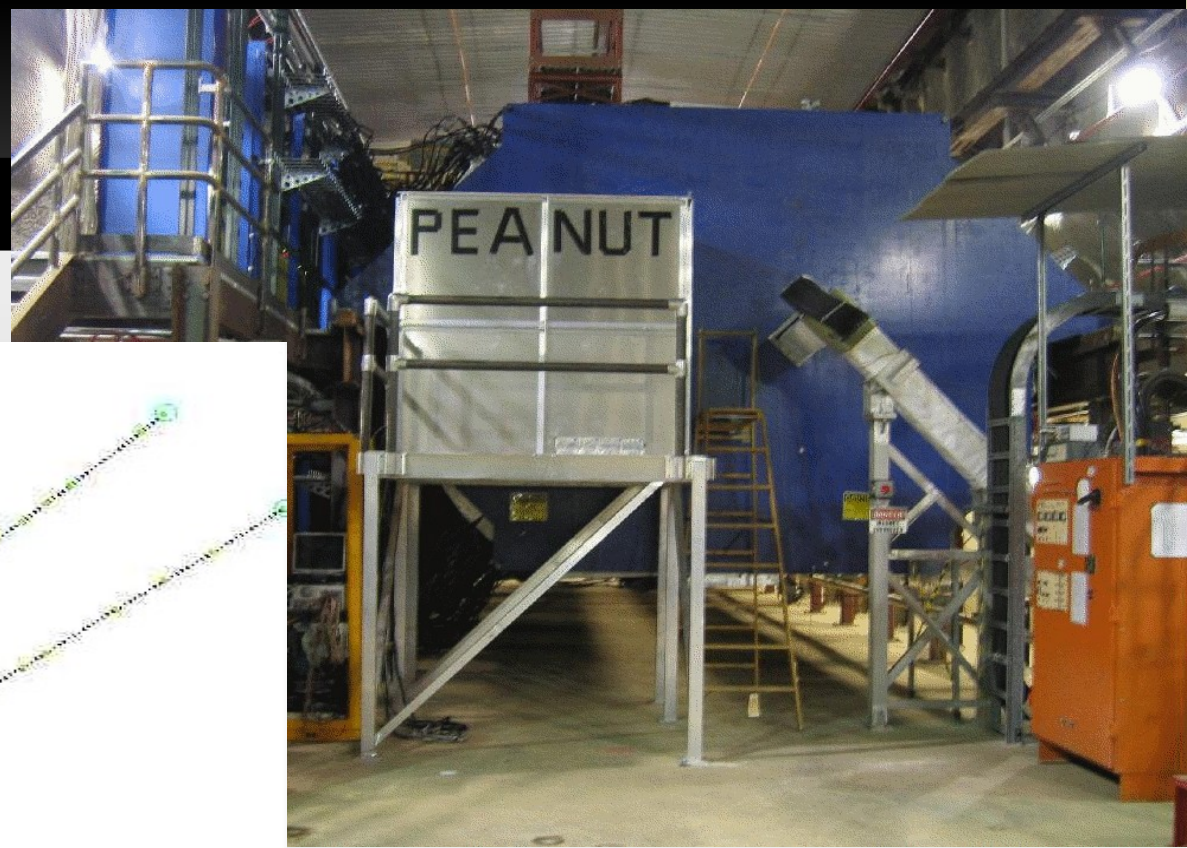
plastic base

200  $\mu\text{m}$

reduces distortion

-200 -100 0

# Experience with PEANUT



“PEANUT” in front of the MINOS near detector

high multiplicity  $\nu$ -Pb interaction

(real data: NUMI test beam exposure “PEANUT” 2005)

NB.  $\nu$  energy is just  $\sim 3$  GeV

# The 2007 run

Short physics run (~40% target)  $0.824 \cdot 10^{18}$  pot

**$31.5 \pm 6$**  expected events in bricks

**38** events registered in the target  
(29 CC-like and 9 NC-like)

Out of target interactions (rock muons, vtx in the spectr.):

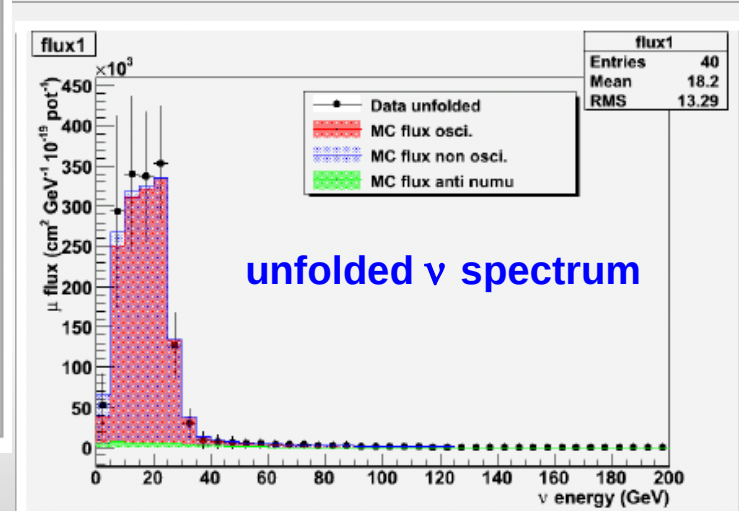
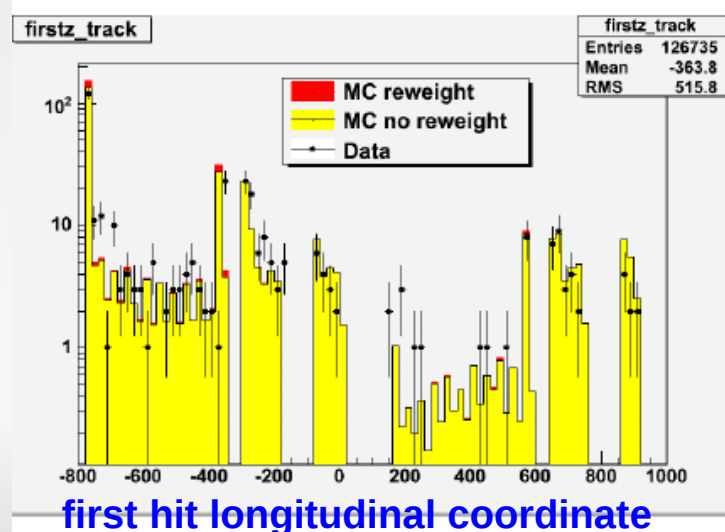
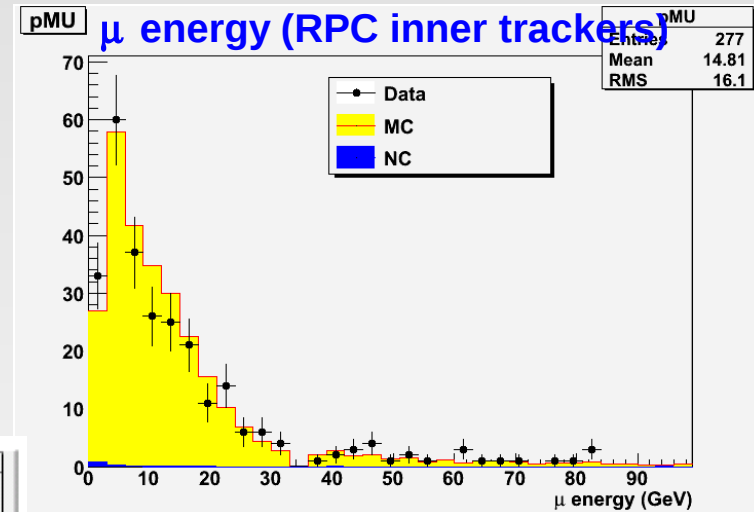
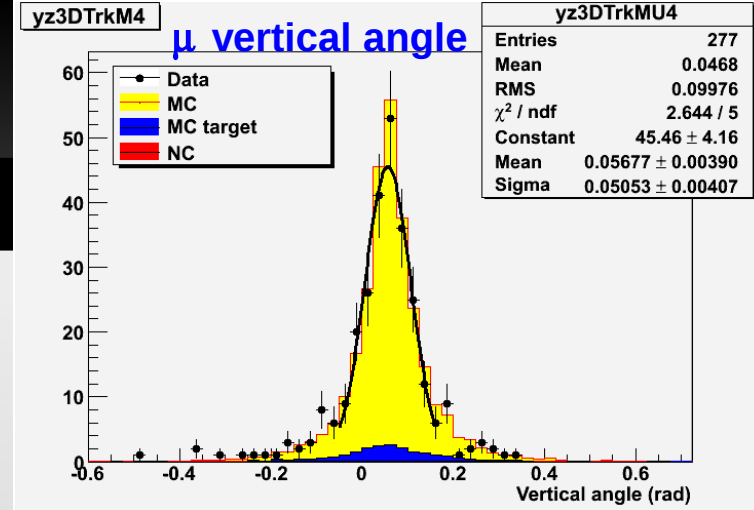
**331** events passed the analysis cut

**303** expected

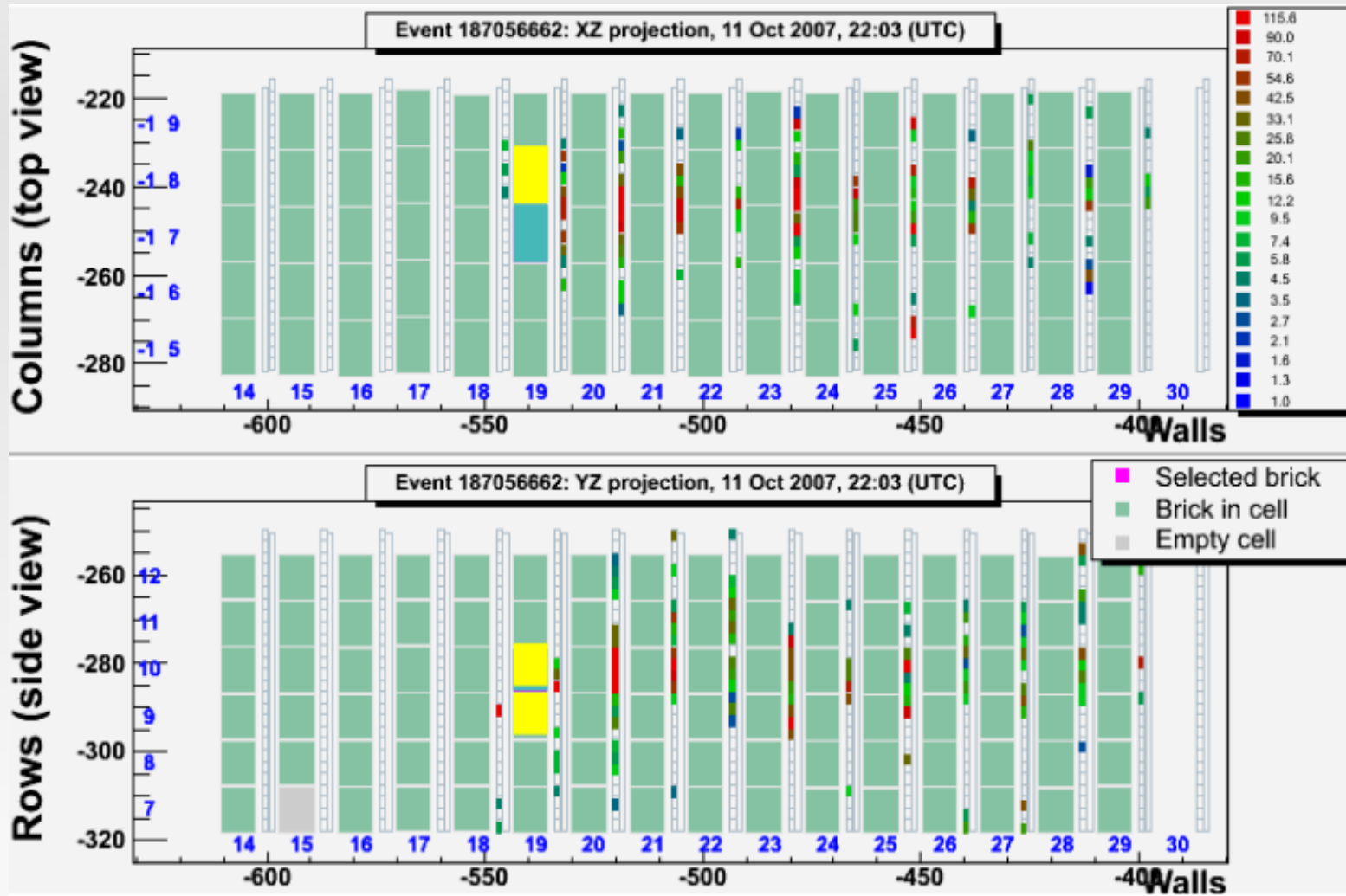
First test on real neutrino interactions for  
Brick handling, Film Processing, Scanning

**Analysis almost completed.  
Unfortunately statistics has been limited:**

**problem at CERN for cooling/ventilation and monitoring electronics**



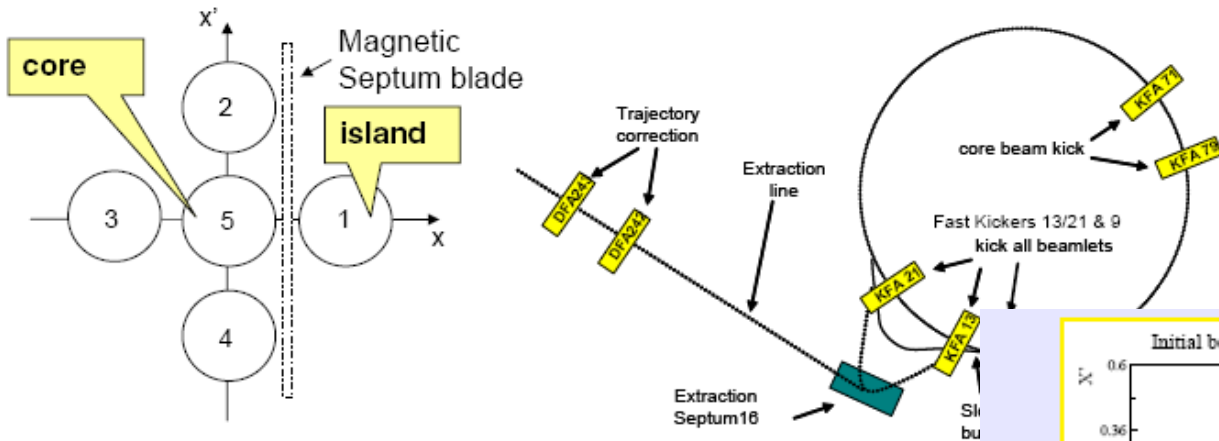
# Brick finding



- The beam is separated into a central beam and four islands by means of non-linear magnetic elements like sextupoles and octupoles.
- Each beamlet is ejected using fast kickers and a magnetic septum

# Multi-turn extraction

Virtually loss-less



2001 First proposal (linked to 1.5 intensity increase for CNGS)

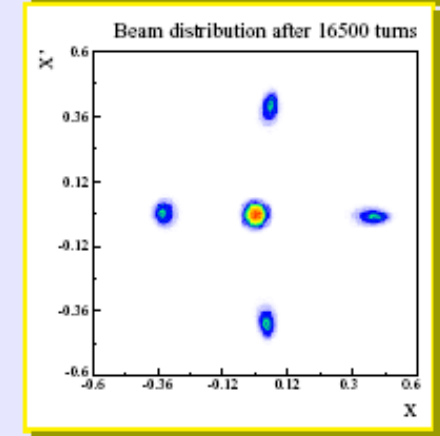
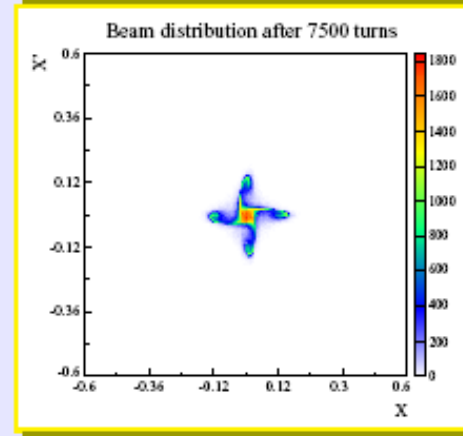
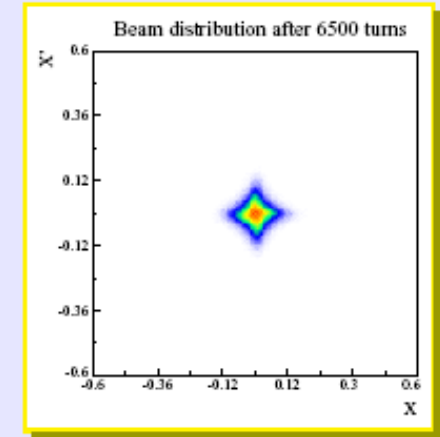
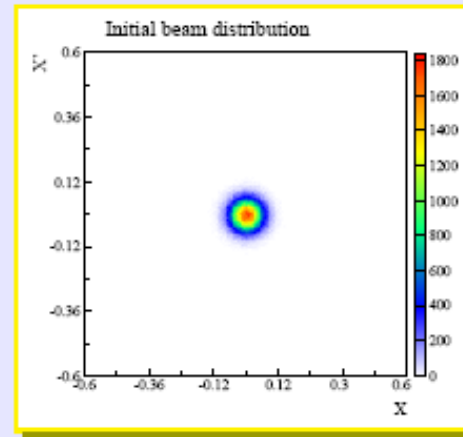
R&D and tests 2002-2004

Implementation study group 2005

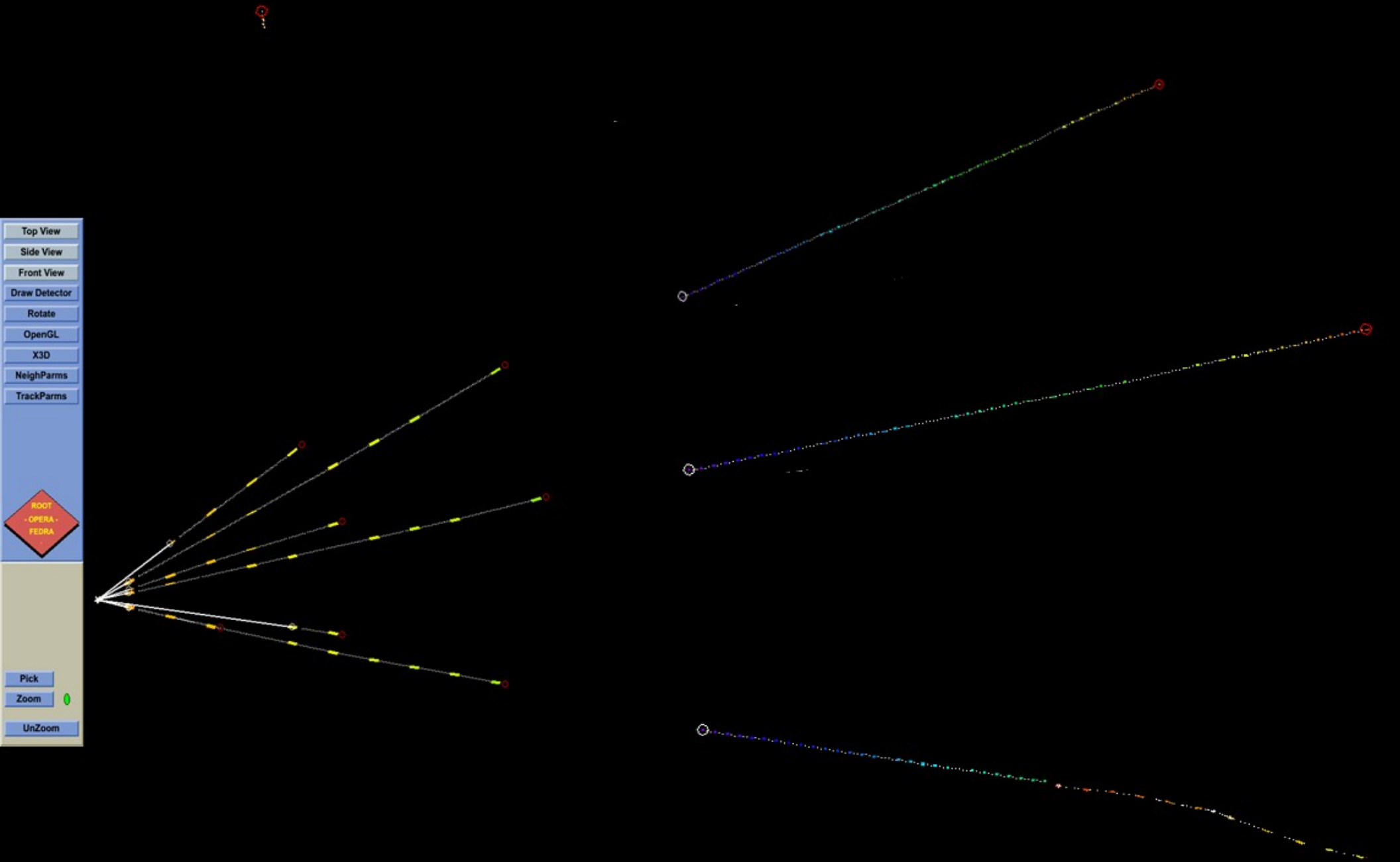
March 2006 TDR

October 2006 Project approved !

Important step for a safe achievement of the goal of  $4.5 \cdot 10^{19}$  pot



# Brick-brick connection

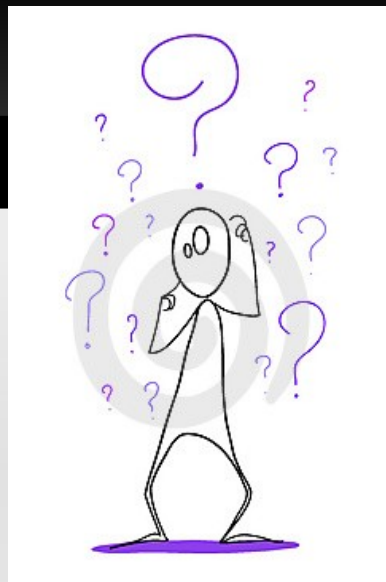


# The BMS eyes

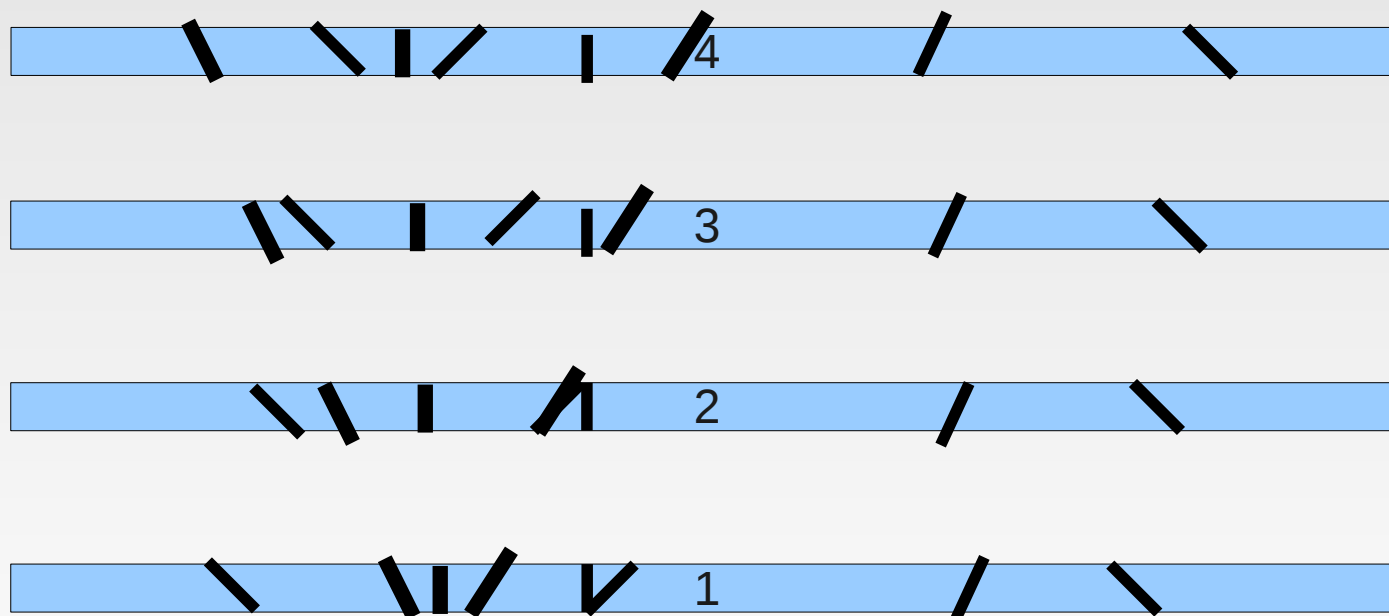


Pictures of a tray taken by the BMS vision system before (left) and after (right) insertion of bricks. The shadow of the tray visible on the brick surface is used to compute the distance of the brick with respect to the tray border.

# Virtual erasing I

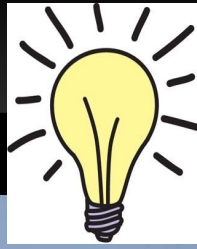


Exposure order  
 $\Delta z = 1.3 \text{ mm}$

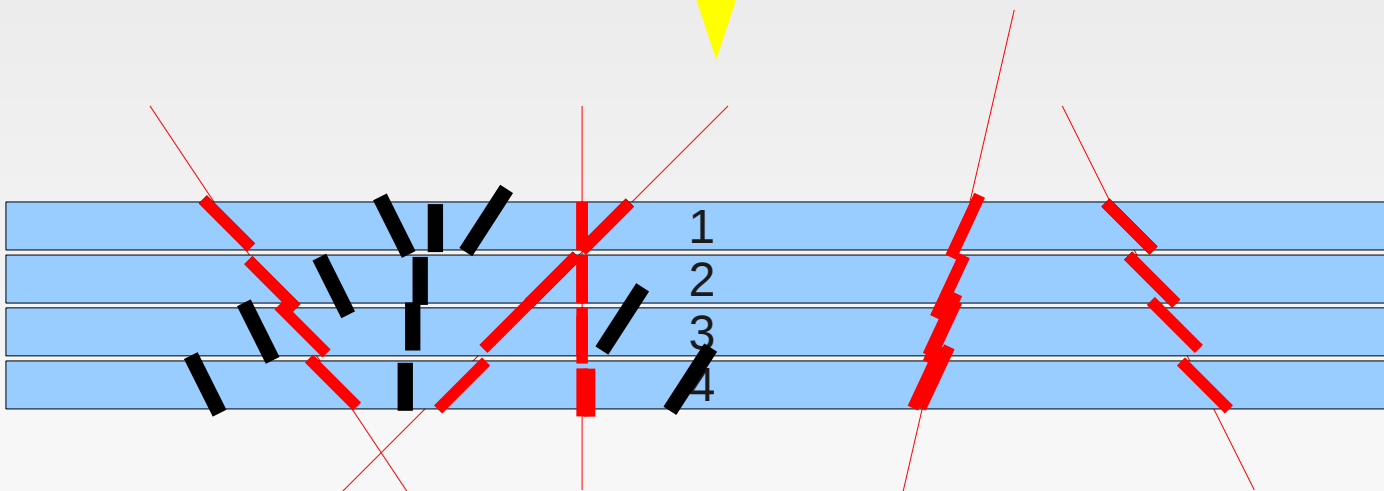
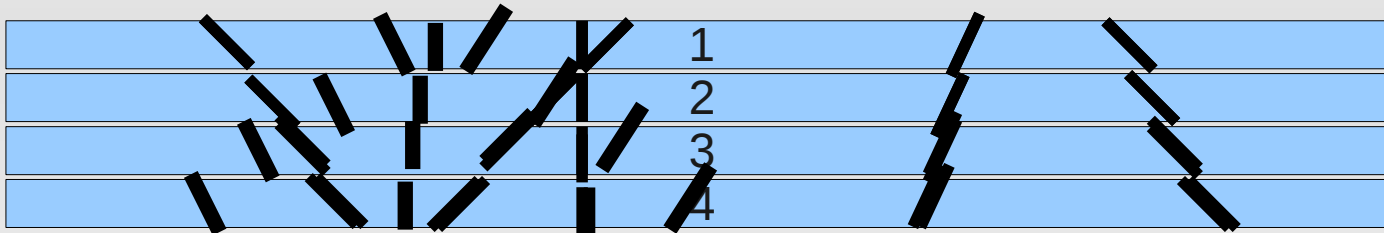




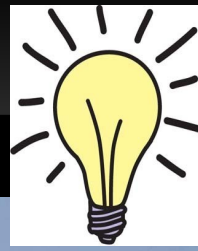
# Virtual erasing II



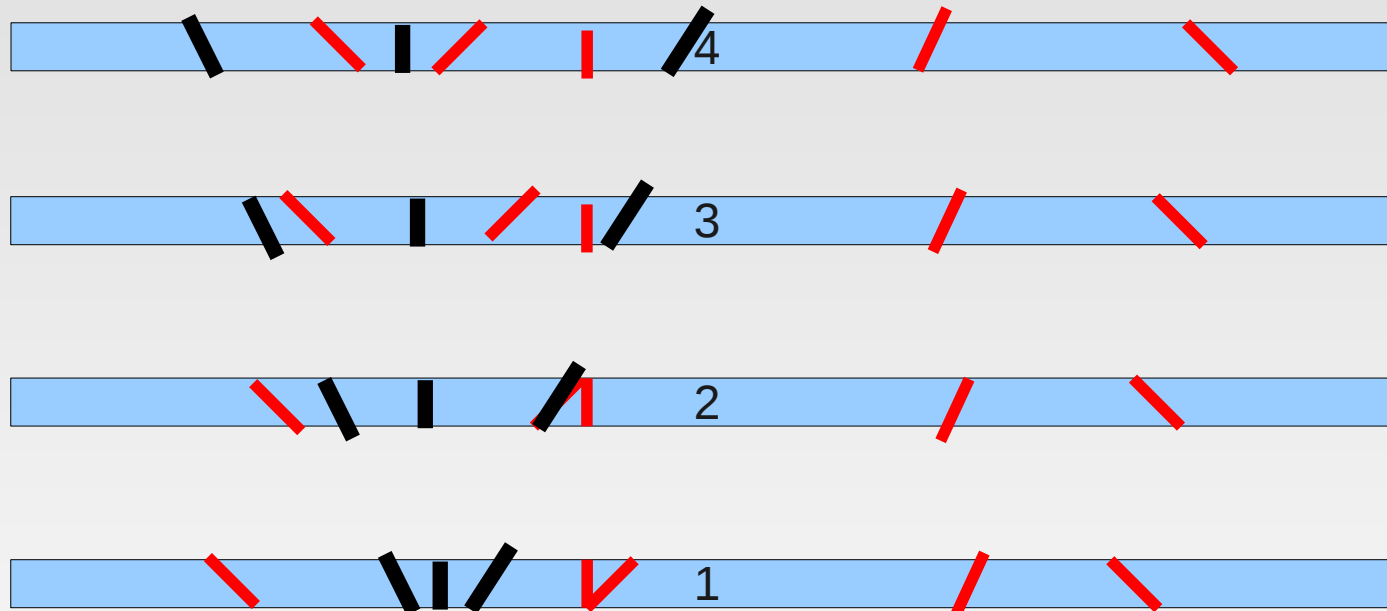
transportation order  
 $\Delta z = -0.3 \text{ mm}$



# Virtual erasing III

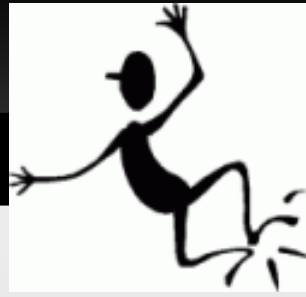


Exposure order  
 $\Delta z = 1.3 \text{ mm}$

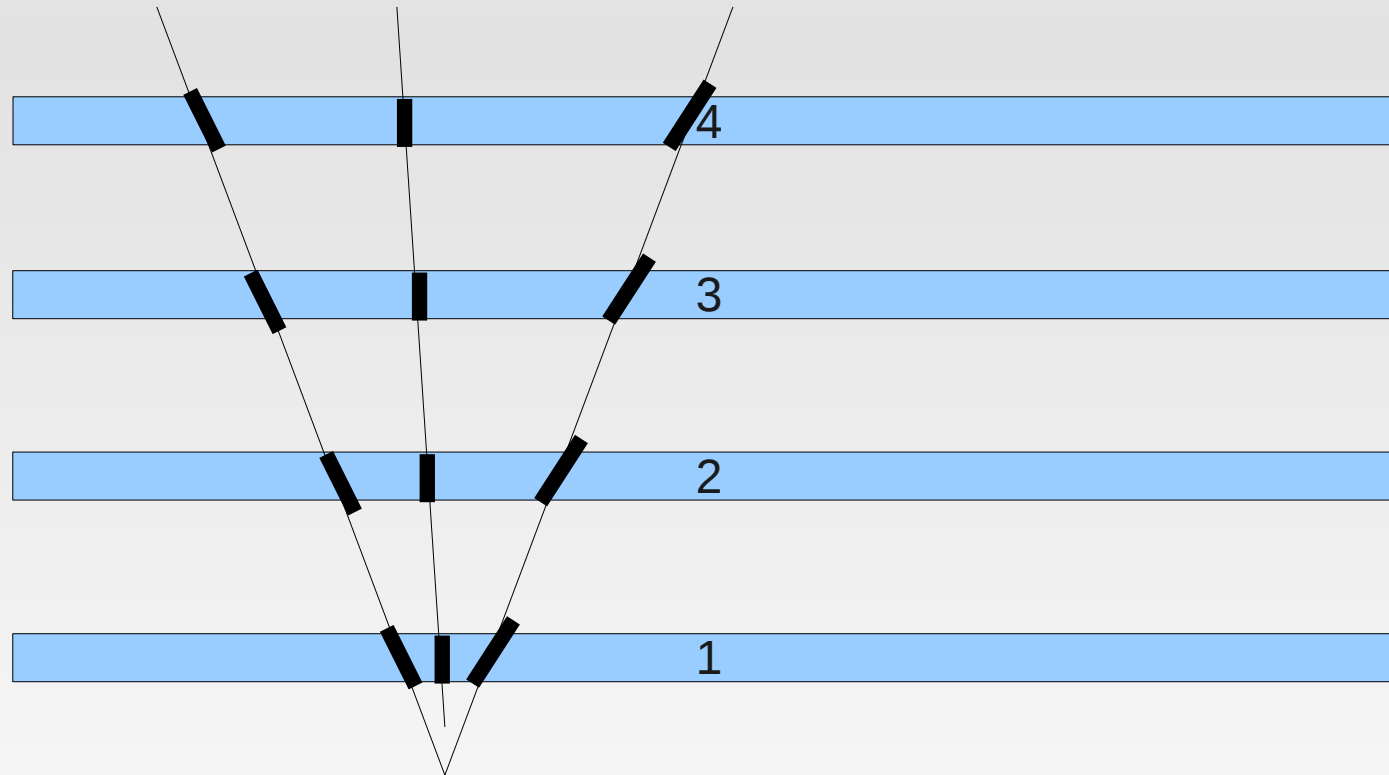


Base tracks which form "volume tracks" in transportation alignment are tagged and excluded ("erased")

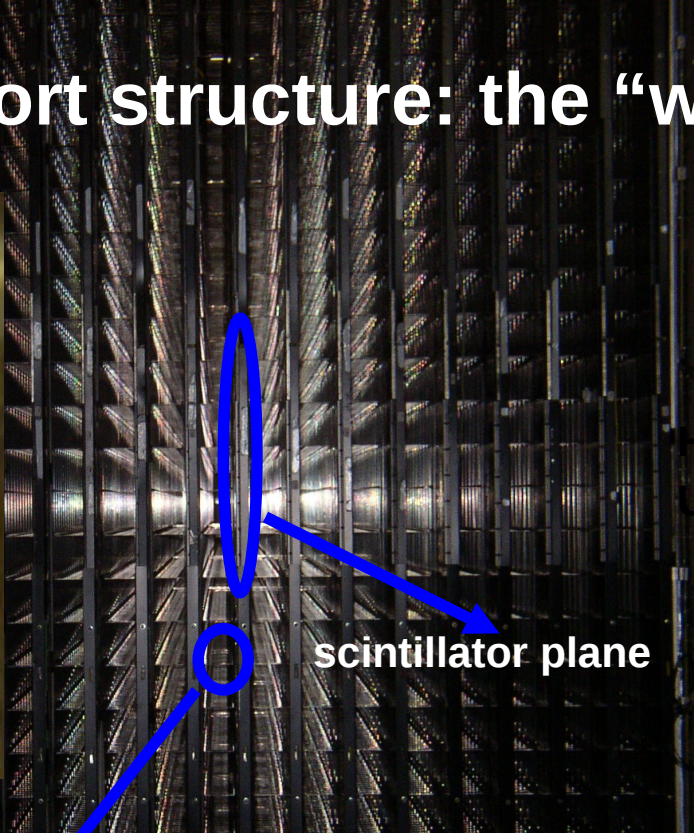
# Virtual erasing IV



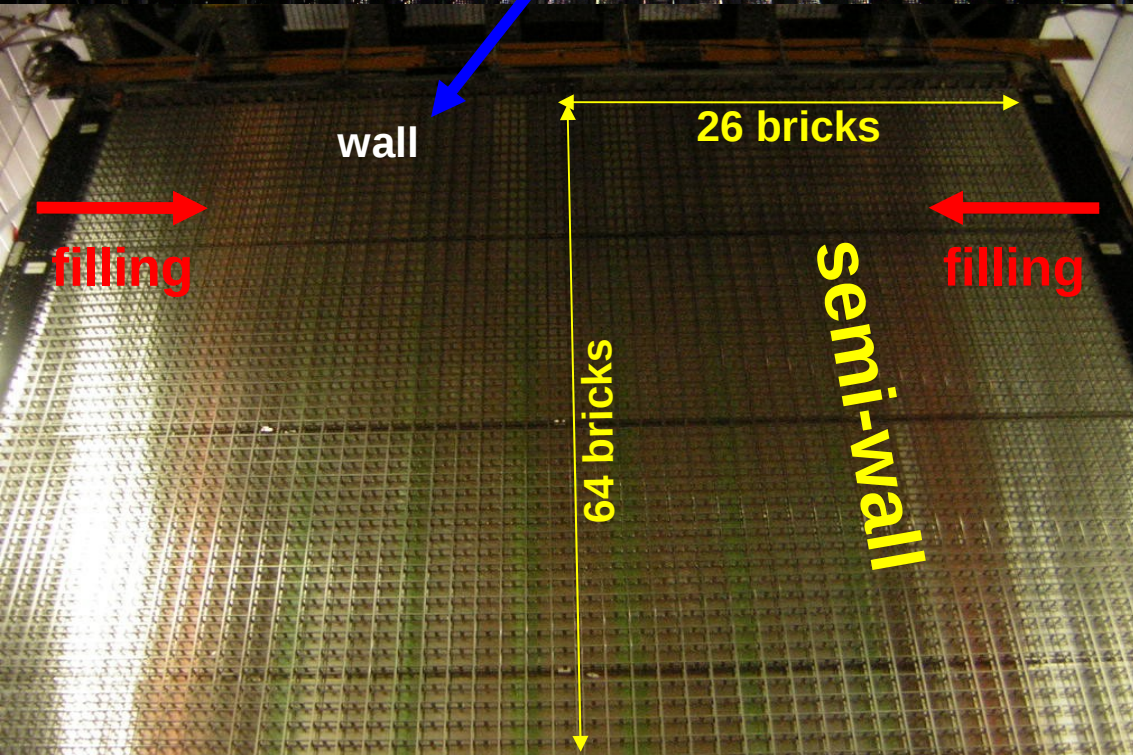
Exposure order  
 $\Delta z = 1.3 \text{ mm}$



# Bricks support structure: the “wall”



scintillator plane



**Tight mechanical tolerances for brick positioning accuracy and low mass to minimize interactions in passive target**

Holds **3328 bricks ~ 28 ton**

Ultra-light: **0.4% of bricks mass**

Stainless steel vertical ribbons

(0.8 x10 x 6780 mm)

Laser-welded U-shaped trays

(0.7mm)

Spring tensioning system

**Achieved precisions:**

- construction (*w. mech. gauges*)  
( $105.3 \pm 0.1$  /  $82.6 \pm 0.25$  /  $7330 \pm 0.6$ ) mm
- positioning (*measured during installation w. high. res photogrammetry*)

vertical < **0.3 mm**

transverse & longitudinal < **0.5 mm**

planarity < **1 mm**

# Development lab

Commercial up-to-date technologies  
Chemical solutions are prepared by an industrial-type plant fully automated up to 3000 films/day (~53 bricks)

6 parallel motorized chains connected to a series of tanks that contain the chemical solutions

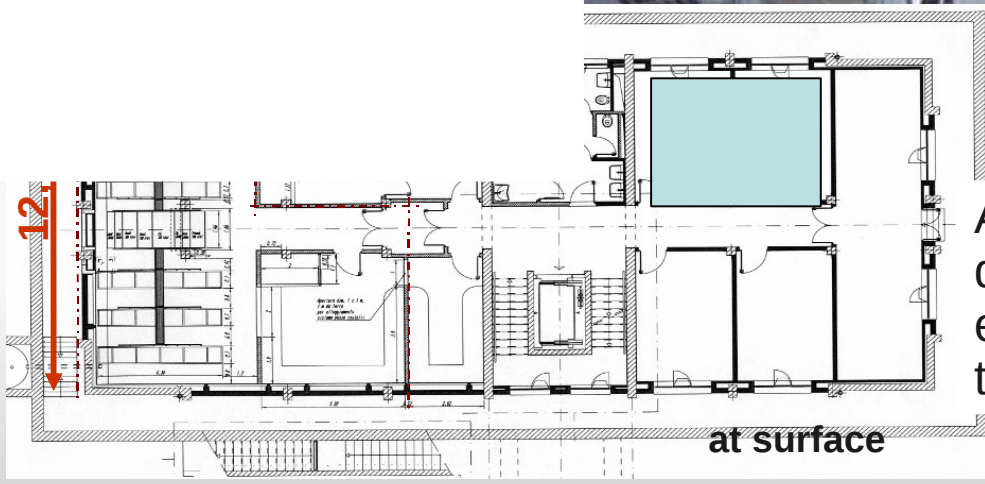
movable arms under PLC control displace and insert the plate holders in/out of each tank at scheduled times

development/stopping/fixing/hickening/washing

each phase is from 5' → ~20'  
>= 1 brick per chain simultaneously

automatic exhaustion of chemical waste and insertion of fresh ones

~ 130 m<sup>2</sup>



A smaller independent development facility exists underground for the changeable sheets