



NMI3 II FP7

Final General Assembly Meeting

Work Package 21

Detectors

Nigel Rhodes STFC ISIS

Copenhagen 16 October 2015



WP 21 Detectors



**Aim: Development of Large Area Neutron Detectors for
Neutron Scattering Application
without using ^3He**

Two technologies selected for development

Task 21.1

Development of scintillation detectors

Julich ISIS CNR

Task 21.2

Development of gas detectors based on solid ^{10}B converter

TUM HZB BNC CEA

Observers ILL and ESS



WP 21 Detectors

Structure of Task 21.1



Task 21.1 Development of scintillation detectors

Mainly concerned with ZnS/⁶LiF scintillation detectors + WLS fibre readout

Divided into 5 sub tasks

21.1.1 Detector Hardware development

21.1.2 Electronics hardware development

21.1.3 Signal processing development

21.1.4 Evaluation of SiPM potential

21.1.5 Evaluation of final detectors and report

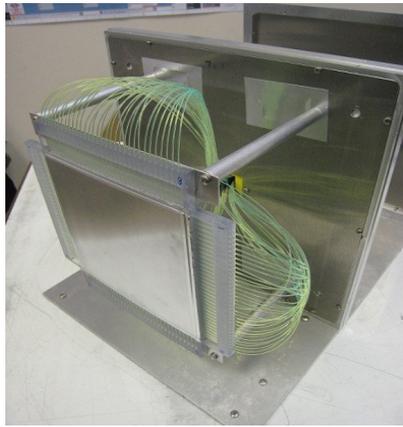


WP 21 Detectors

Task 21.1: Development of scintillation detectors



21.1.1 Detector Hardware development



**ISIS 16 x 16 cm²
64 fibres - pair
coded detector**



**ISIS 16 x 16 cm²
64 fibres - quad
coded detector**



**Julich 30 x 30 cm²
256 fibres**

- ISIS hardware** **D 21.1**
- Julich hardware** **D 21.2**
- Hardware report** **D 21.3**
- Complete Month 24**

Choices of fibre type, fibre dye content, fibre bending, scintillator and reflector determined

ISIS detectors based on pattern recognition, Julich detectors based on centre weighted position reconstruction



WP 21 Detectors

Task 21.1: Development of scintillation detectors

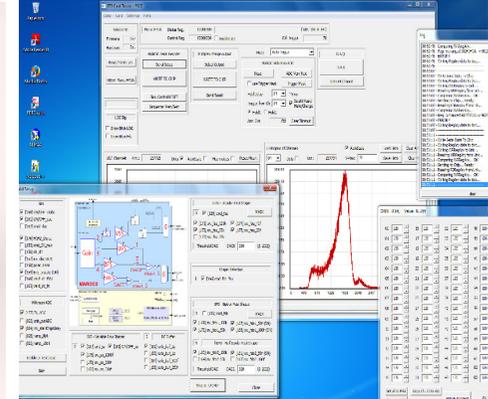


21.1.2 Electronics hardware development

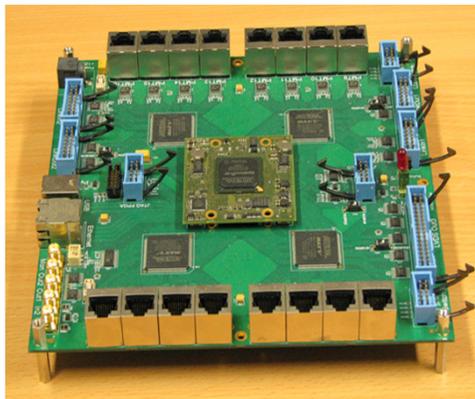
ISIS electronics



Julich electronics



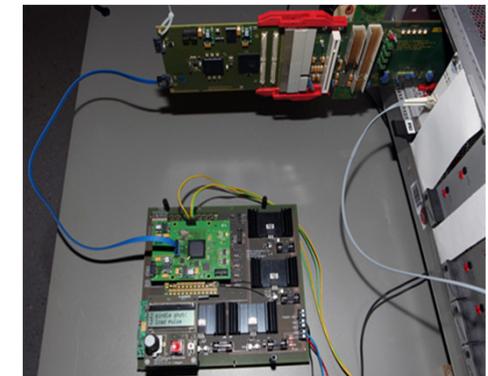
8 channel comparator



64 channel signal processing in FPGA

64 channel ASIC from Omega
FPGA card with Optical or SATA link to PC
ASIC control and readout programme
developed

Pulse simulator developed



FPGA readout board on test

D 21.4 Month 24 Complete

D 21.5 and D21.6 Month 36 Complete

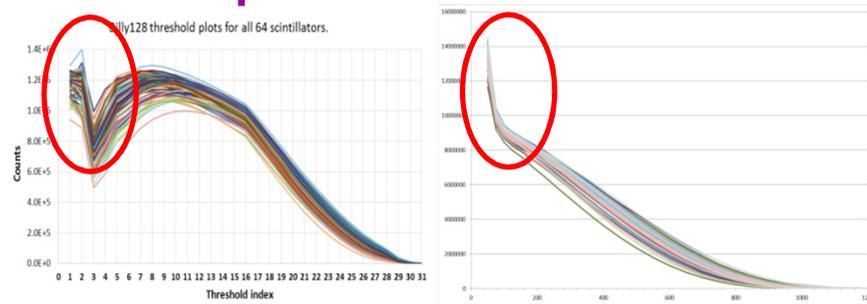


WP 21 Detectors

Task 21.1: Development of scintillation detectors

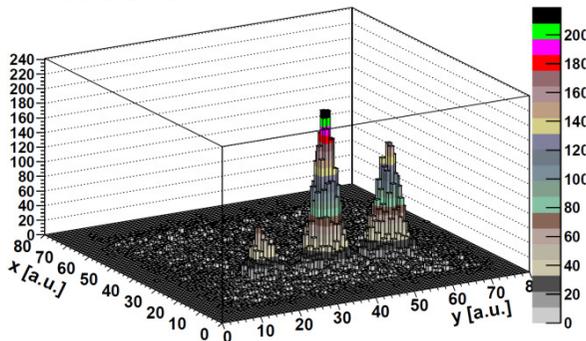
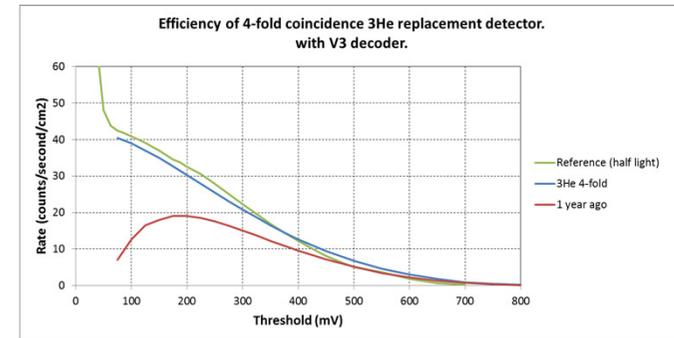


21.1.3 Signal processing and position reconstruction development



Effect of optical cross talk on MA PMT significantly reduced

At ISIS Pair coded detector works well
Continuing to improve position algorithm



At Julich Center-of-Gravity Method used for position reconstruction

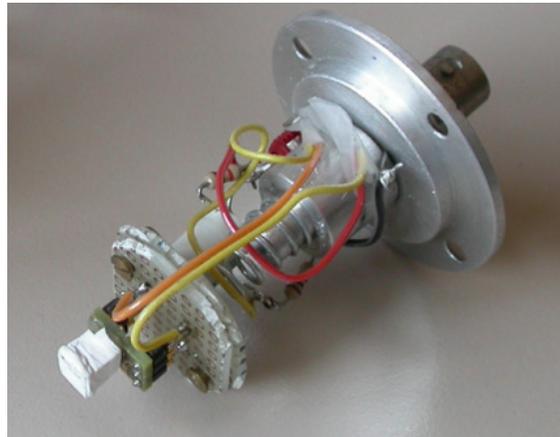
B_4C -diaphragm with 4mm holes and 10mm spacing accurately reproduced in detector

Intrinsic detector background yet to be determined: crucial for INS
Signal processing algorithms determine how well the detectors will perform

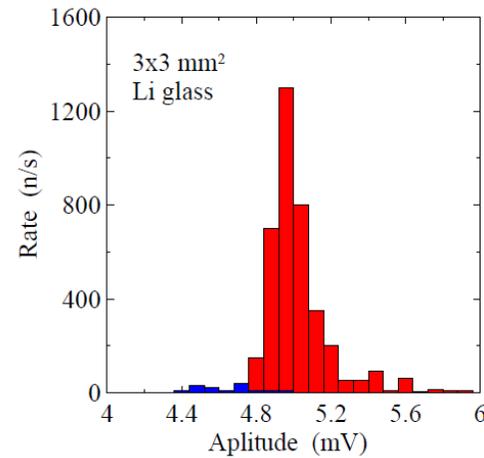
D 21.7 Month 36 Complete

21.1.4 Evaluation of SiPM potential

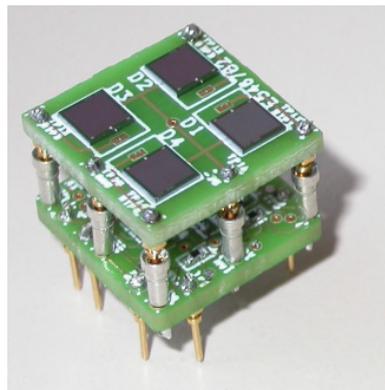
GS20 Glass scintillator coupled to a SiPM



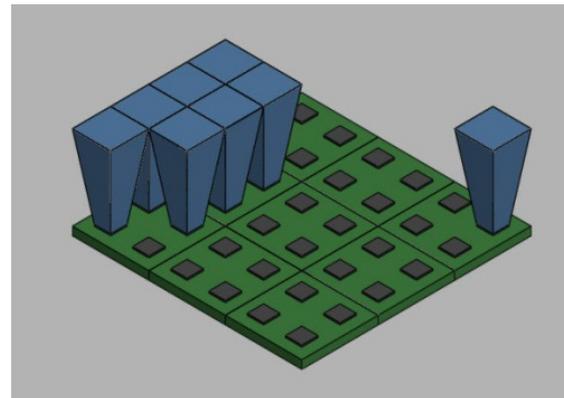
Prototype detector



Experimental Results



Stackable Electronics

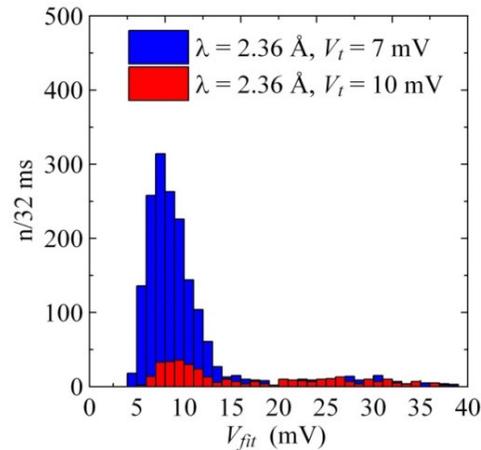
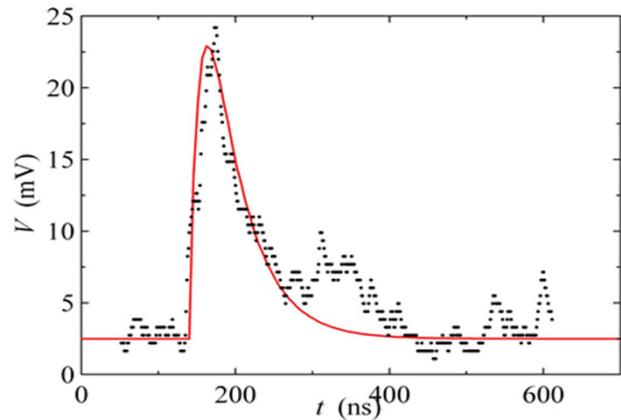


Stackable Detector Concept envisaged

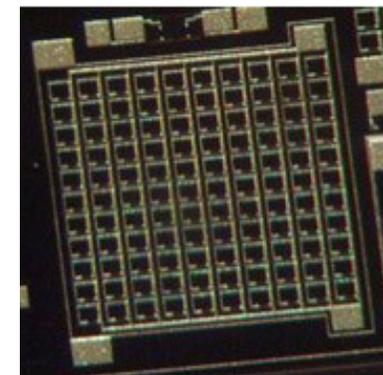
D 21.8 Interim report completed Month 24

21.1.4 Evaluation of SiPM potential

GS20 Glass scintillator coupled to a SiPM



Stackable Detector



Off-line pulse shape analysis routine developed to identify neutrons

Works well with parallel light guides

Stackable detector concept realised

Evaluation of results on going

21.1.5 Evaluation of final detectors and report

D 21.9 Due Month 48

Huge commercial investment in SiPM technology

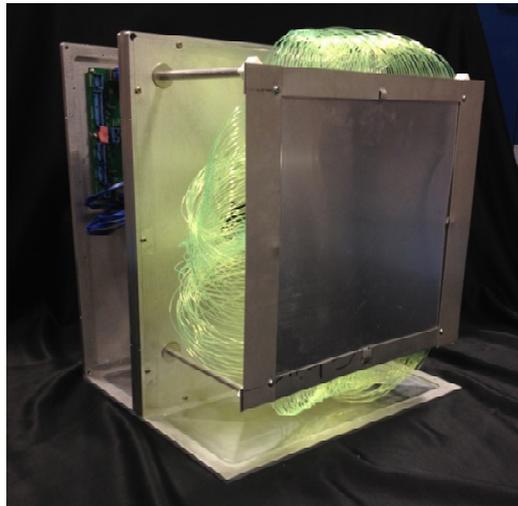


WP 21 Detectors

Task 21.1: Development of scintillation detectors



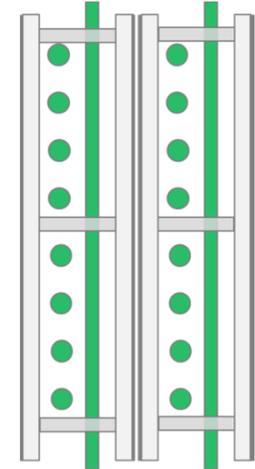
21.1.5 Detector Performance evaluation



Built new ISIS detector for evaluation purposes
Two layers of pixels, one behind the other
Independently coded
16 x 16 pixels per layer, each pixel 20 x 20 mm²
Four 16-channel MaPMTs

Preliminary Efficiency ~ 70% at 1 Å

Continue to evaluate to end of project.
In particular look at gamma sensitivity and intrinsic detector background

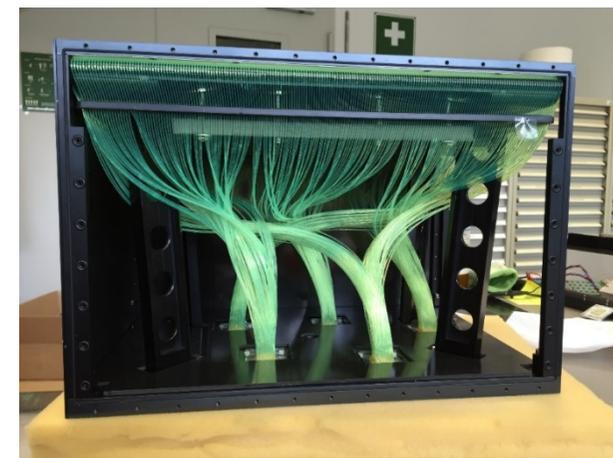


As part of tests FZJ have evaluated many ZnS/⁶LiF samples, some giving similar efficiencies

FZJ electronics has been incorporated on test detector

The Julich the WLS fibre technology has been incorporated into a detector design for detectors for SAPHiR the high pressure instrument at FRM-2.

Detector performance results will be reported in D 21.9 Due Month 48





WP 21 Detectors

Structure of Task 21.2



Task 21.2 Development of gas detectors based on solid ^{10}B converter

Divided into 4 sub tasks

- 21.2.1 Optimisation of substrate and ^{10}B production parameters
- 21.2.2 Exploration of alternative production techniques
- 21.2.3 Measurements with a test detector
- 21.2.4 Concept study for a large area detector
 - a) Based on macro grooved structures with wire readout
 - b) Based on layered structure with micromegas readout



WP 21 Detectors



Task 21.2: Development of gas detectors based on solid ^{10}B

21.2.1 Optimisation of substrate and ^{10}B production parameters

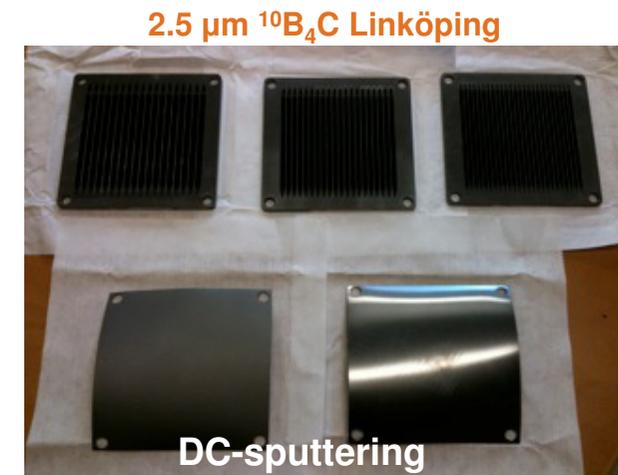
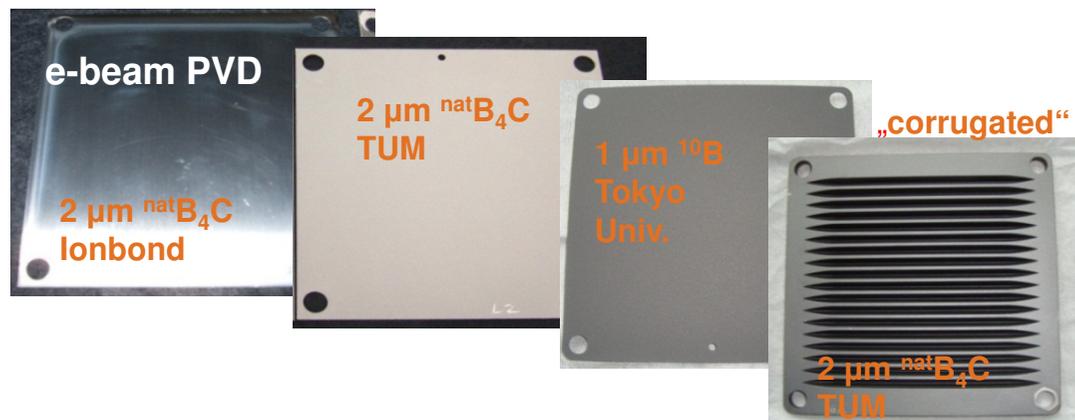
Linköping solved many production issues before JRA began

Lead role switched from HZB to TUM

TUM measured neutron performance of variety of films

Little difference between manufacturer or technique

Linköping able to supply high quality research quantities



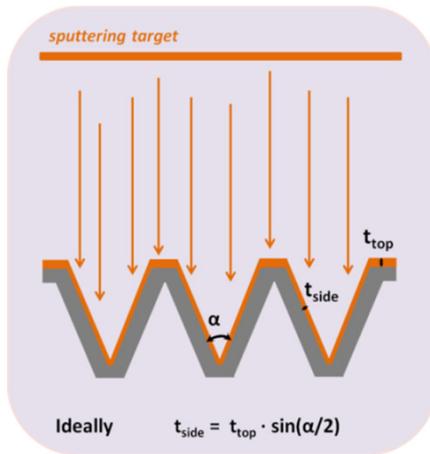
WP 21 Detectors



Task 21.2: Development of gas detectors based on solid ^{10}B

21.2.1 Optimisation of substrate and ^{10}B production parameters TUM

TUM Developed Macro structured converter



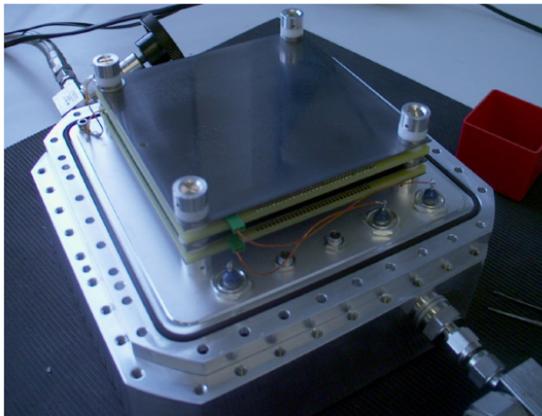
Gives 40% increase in efficiency of flat layer

Task complete

D 21.10 Report Month 36 Complete

D 21.13 Report Month 36 Complete

21.2.3 Measurements with a test detector TUM



Measurements carried out with

Small test detector designed and built for JRA

D 21.12 Month 12 Complete

WP 21 Detectors



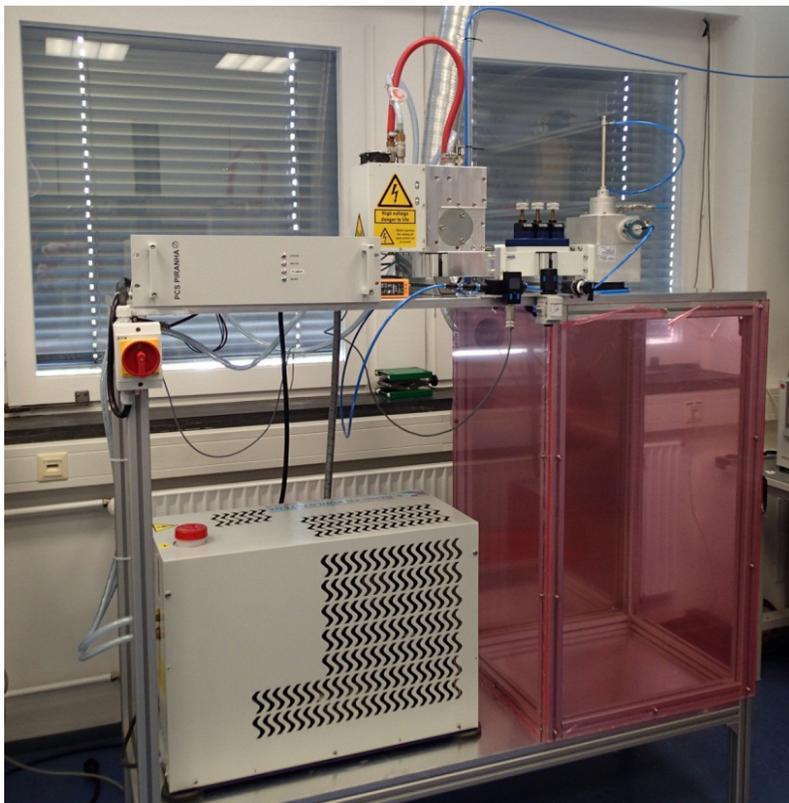
Task 21.2: Development of gas detectors based on solid ^{10}B

21.2.2 Exploration of alternative production techniques - HZB leading

Drivers:

Increase boron layer production rate: Reduce cost
Need to maintain quality and long term stability

Andriy Styervoyedov Explored a variety of alternative techniques



Powder spraying with microwave atmospheric plasma selected

Equipment purchased and installed at HZB

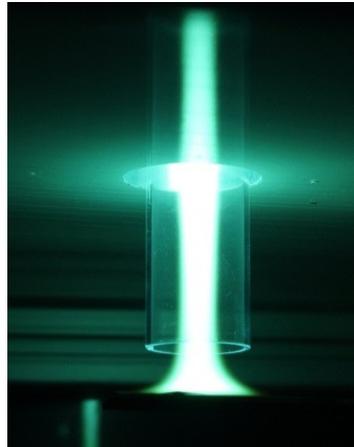
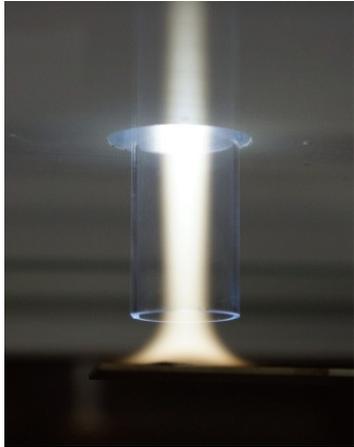
Many parameters optimised including microwave power, gas flow, particle speed, substrate temperature, etc...

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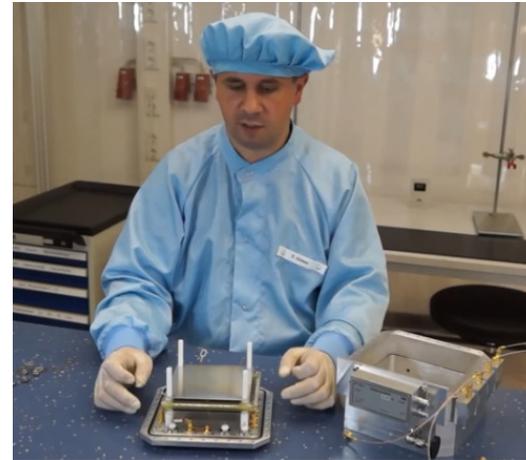
Task 21.2: Development of gas detectors based on solid ^{10}B



21.2.2 Exploration of alternative production techniques - HZB leading



The colour change signifies boron evaporation
See NMI3 Video



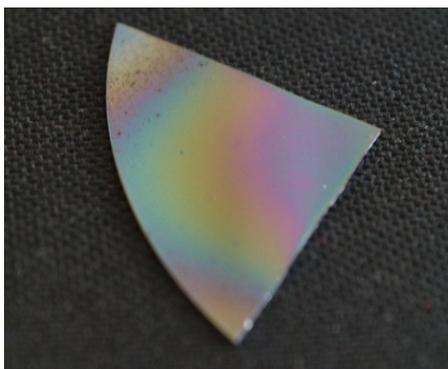
2D MWPC constructed using components produced at BNC

The detector works well. – see D21.11.

Attempts to deposit thin $^{10}\text{B}_4\text{C}$ layers on aluminium unsuccessful.

Needs further work in optimisation of operation parameters and possible pre treatment of aluminium surface.

Beyond scope of this project



High deposition rate achieved on silicon substrate

D 21.11 Status report. Month 36 Complete

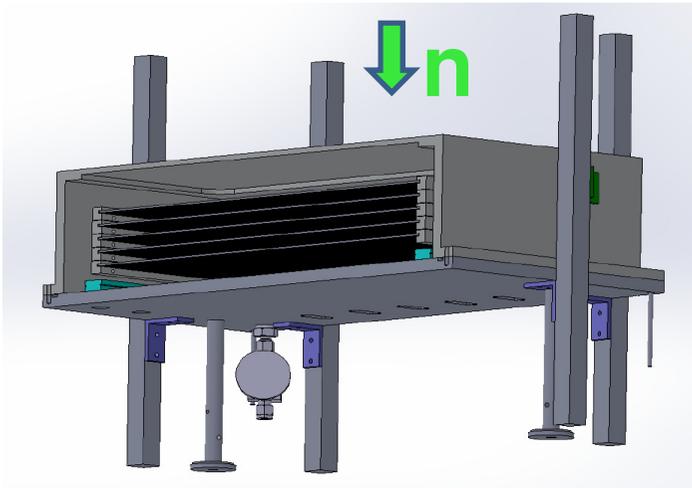
WP 21 Detectors



Task 21.2: Development of gas detectors based on solid ^{10}B

21.2.4 Concept study for a large area detector

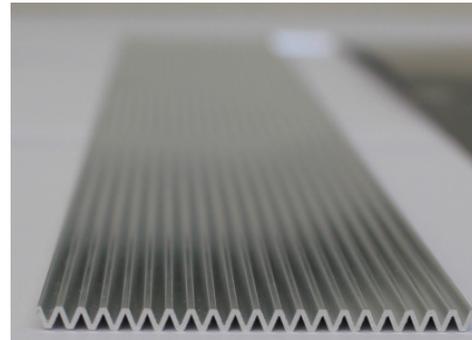
a) Based on macro grooved structures with wire readout TUM



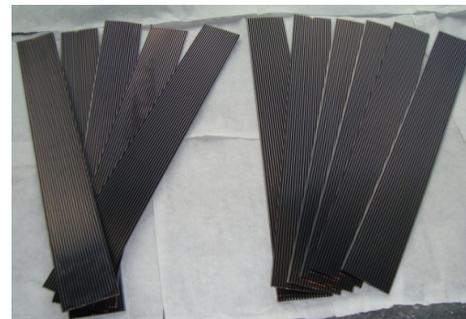
40 cm x 40 cm active area

Incorporates a stack with 3 layers of macrostructured planes (2 MWPCs) each coated with $1.4 \mu\text{m } ^{10}\text{B}_4\text{C}$ by magnetron sputtering.

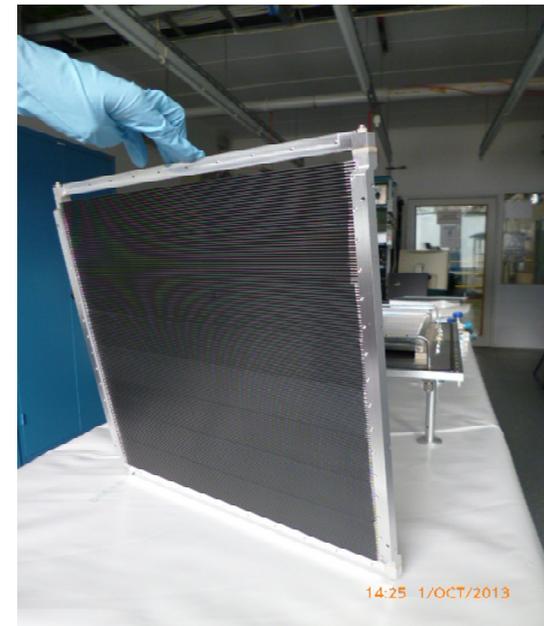
Operated in a continuous flow of Ar/CO_2 gas.



5 cm x 40 cm macrostructured plate fabricated by extrusion (MIFA, Holland).



$^{10}\text{B}_4\text{C}$ -coated plates for the demonstrator (Univ. Linköping, Sweden).



Cathode panel, 40 cm x 40 cm (8 plates).

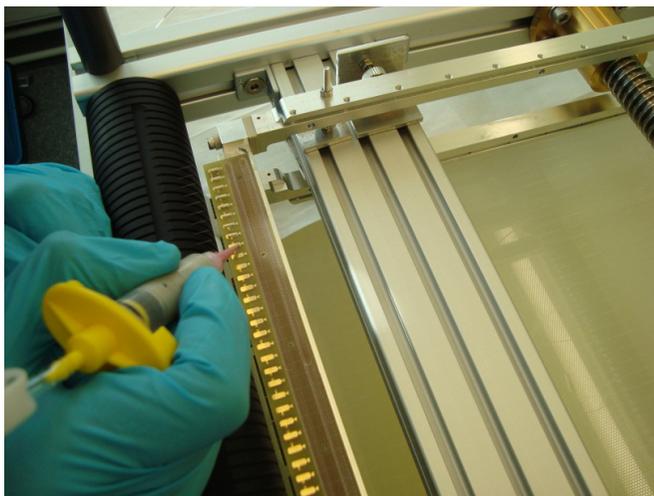
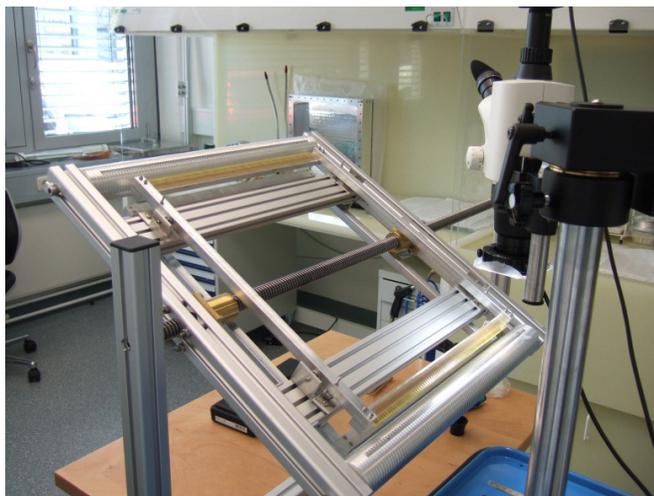
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Task 21.2: Development of gas detectors based on solid ^{10}B

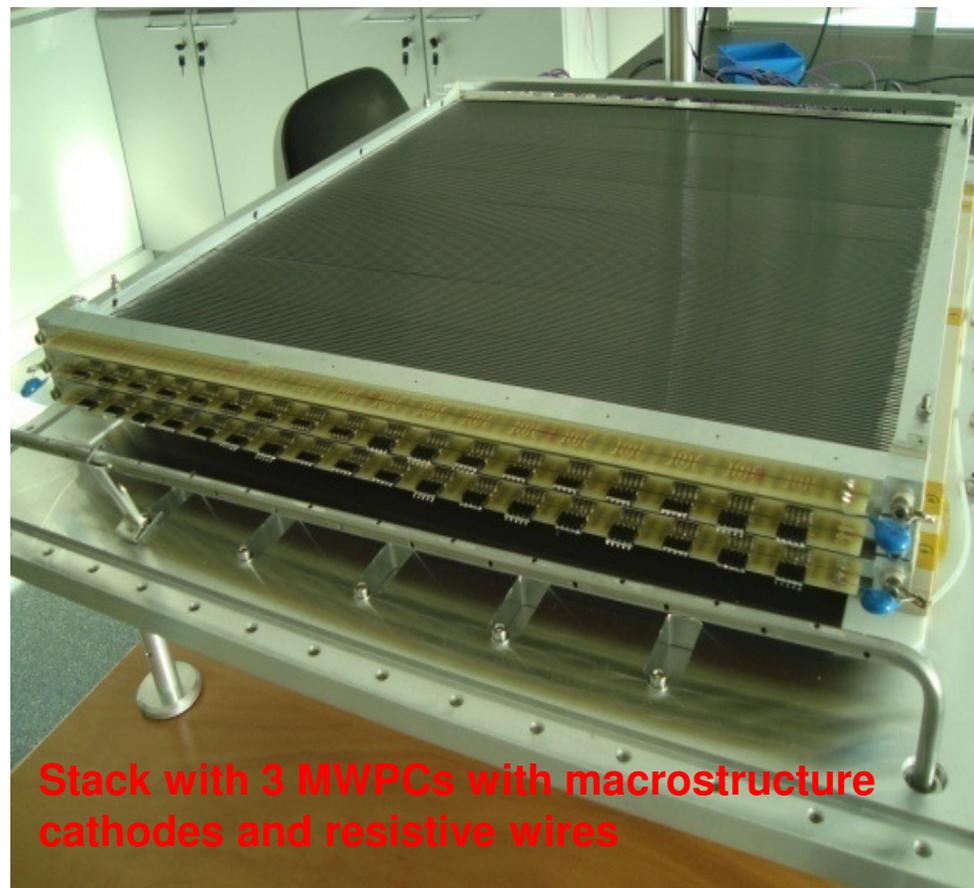


21.2.4 Concept study for a large area detector

a) Based on macro grooved structures with wire readout TUM



Stablohm 875 (resistive) wire $\text{Ø}=17\ \mu\text{m}$ 72 / plane
wire pitch = 5 mm anode - cathode distance: 7 mm



Stack with 3 MWPCs with macrostructure cathodes and resistive wires

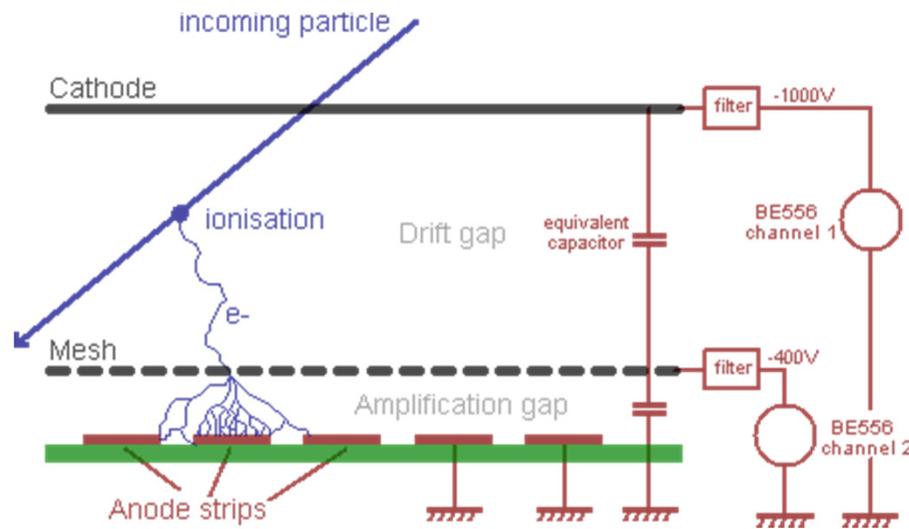
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Task 21.2 Solid 10B Gas Detector Development



T21.2.4: Concept study for a large area detector

Based on layered structure with micromegas readout – LLB IFRU



Micromegas detector
2 region gas detector

Conversion region and
Amplification region separated
by a micromesh

Amplification gap is small,
typically 50 μm – mesh
supported on pillars

IFRU developed Bulk Micromegas technology as robust, low cost detectors for HEP

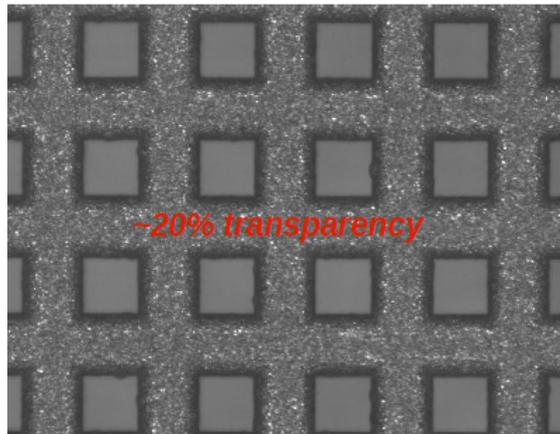
IFRU has also developed MicroBulk technology for higher detector performance applications

WP 21 Detectors



T21.2.4: Concept study for a large area detector: Micromegas

Neutron sensitivity is by coating the micromesh with enriched $^{10}\text{B}_4\text{C}$.

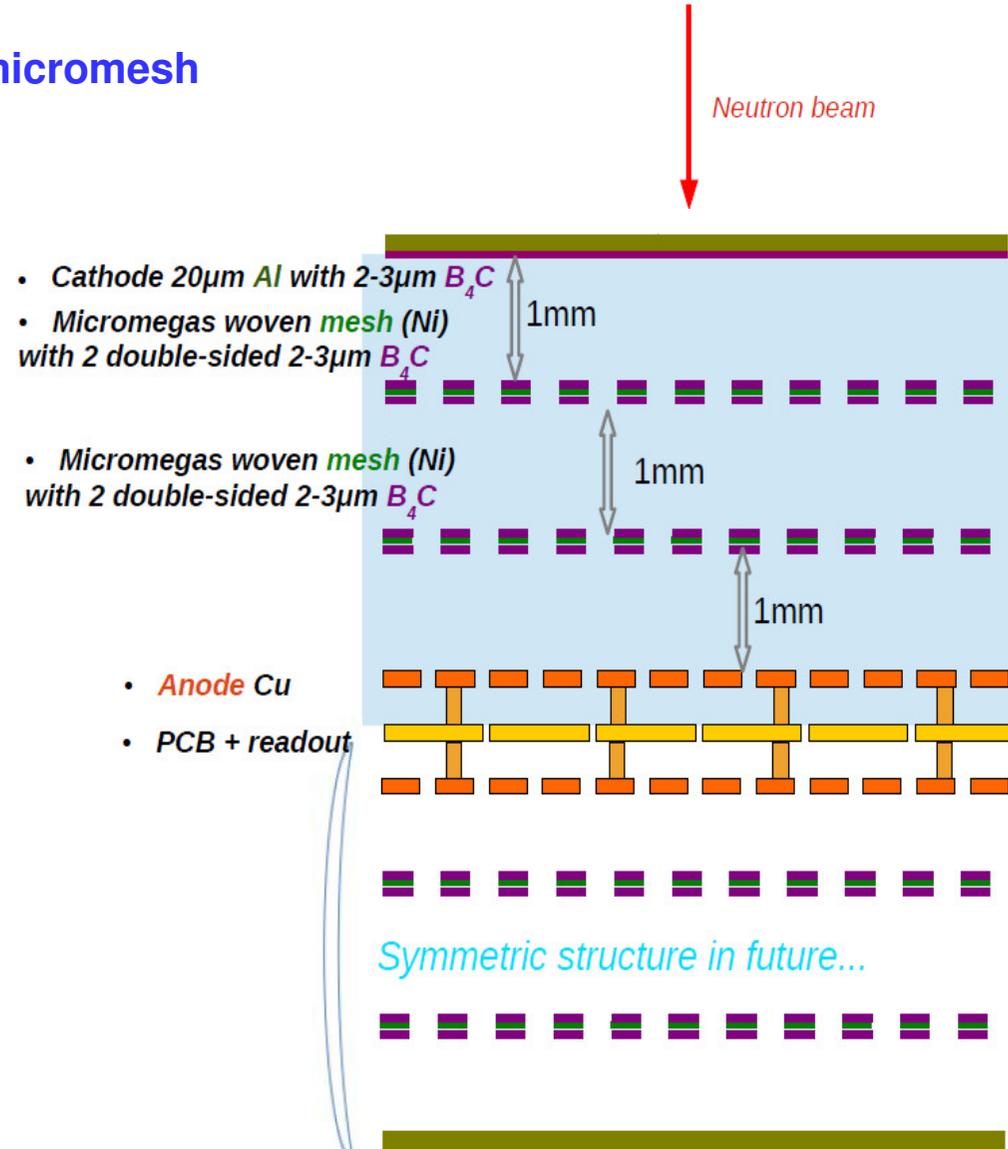


An initial design has been developed

2 micromeshes

5 layers of $^{10}\text{B}_4\text{C}$

Can be symmetric in future



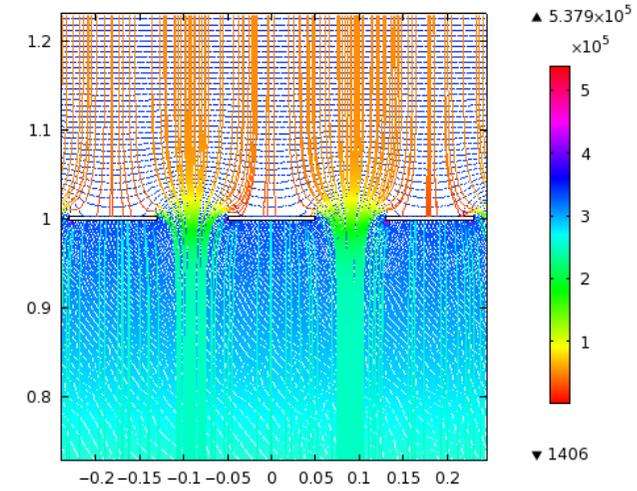
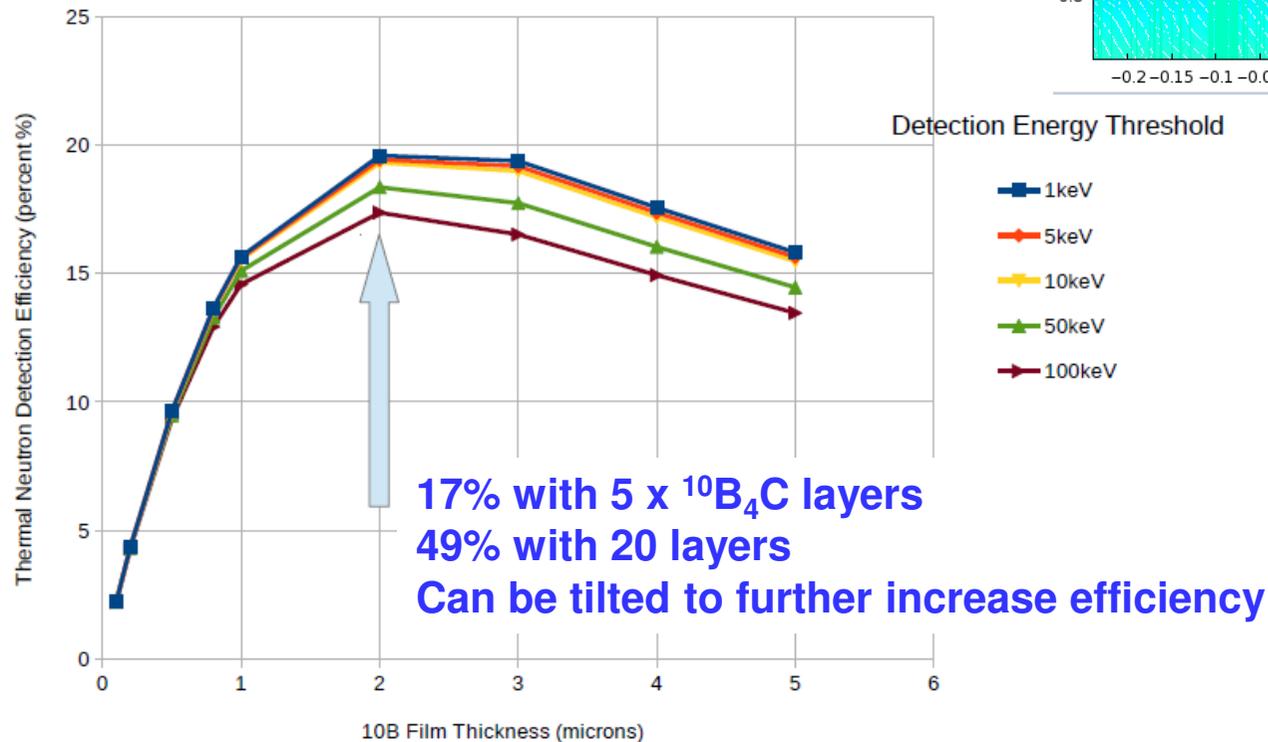
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T21.2.4: Concept study for a large area detector: Micromegas



Simulations have been carried out to optimise
Electron collection efficiency
 B_4C layer thickness
Neutron detection efficiency

Thermal Neutron Detection Efficiency



Detection Energy Threshold

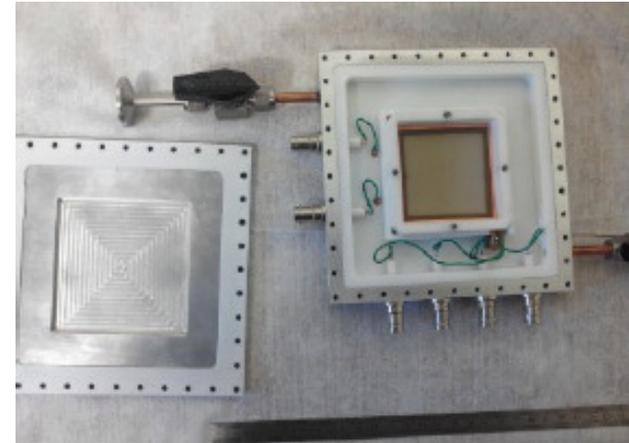
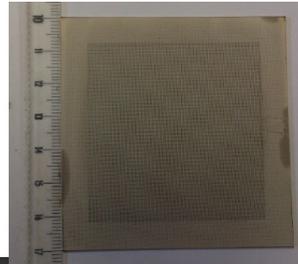
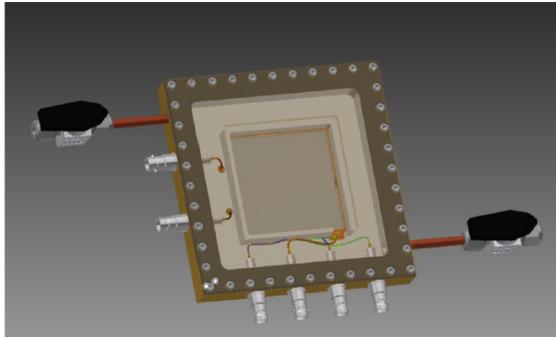
- 1keV
- 5keV
- 10keV
- 50keV
- 100keV

WP 21 Detectors

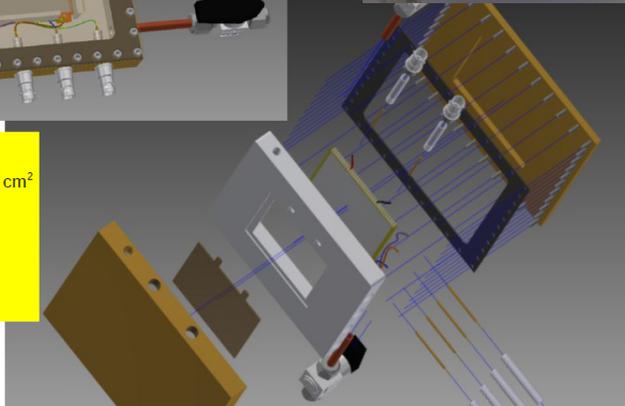


T21.2.4: Concept study for a large area detector: Micromegas

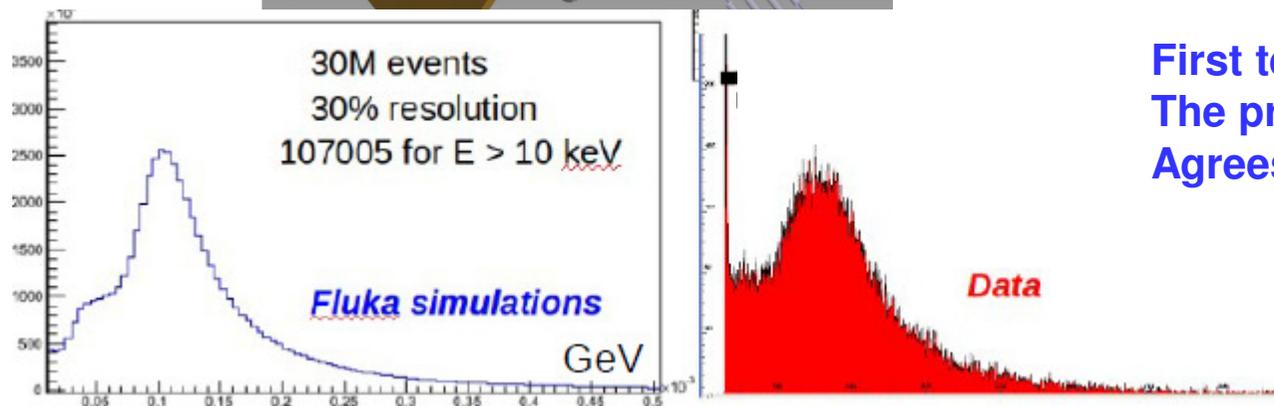
Current design



- Overall dimension: $\sim 15 \times 15 \text{ cm}^2$
- Frame: $7 \times 7 \text{ cm}^2$
- Active zone: $5.4 \times 5.4 \text{ cm}^2$
- Mesh thickness: $4 \mu\text{m}$



7 x 7 cm² test detector has been designed constructed and tested



First tests:
The principle works.
Agrees well with simulation



WP 21 Detectors



Next Detectors JRA Meeting Early December 2014 Munich

Task 21.1 Development of scintillation detectors

- 21.1.1 Detector Hardware development
- 21.1.2 Electronics hardware development
- 21.1.3 Signal processing development
- 21.1.4 Evaluation of SiPM potential
- 21.1.5 Evaluation of final detectors **and report**

Task 21.2 Development of gas detectors based on solid 10B converter

- 21.2.1 Optimisation of substrate and 10B production parameters
- 21.2.2 Exploration of alternative production techniques
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Complete Ongoing **Not yet started**