

PAUL SCHERRER INSTITUT



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# Gaseous Detectors and specific characteristics of Drift Chambers

PSI, LTP-Seminar, 08.05.2017





## introduction

- interaction of ionizing radiation with matter

## part I

- fundamental processes in gaseous detectors
- operational modes

## part II

- characteristics of drift chambers
- MEG and MEG II drift chambers

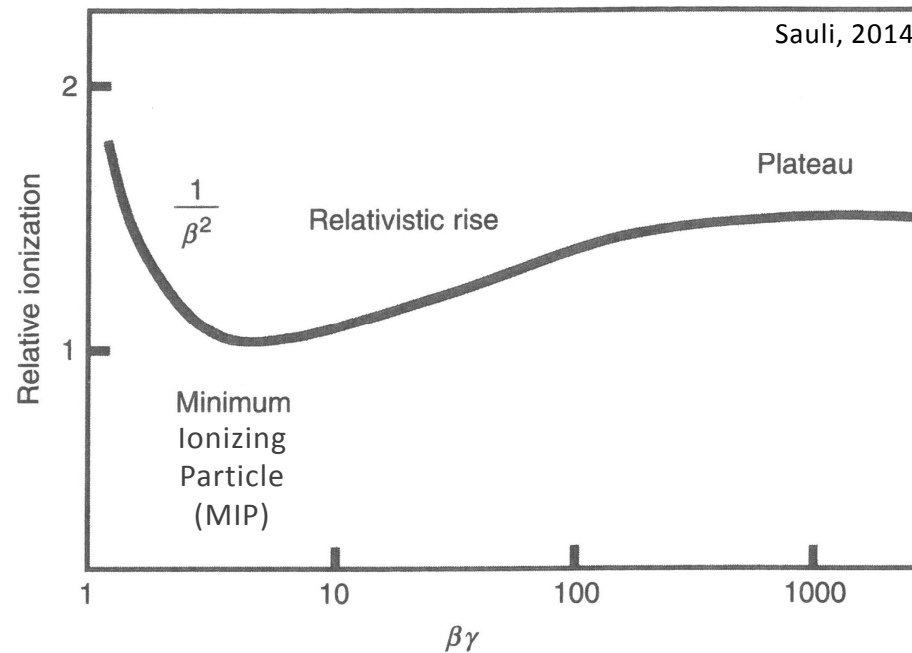


Neutral and charged particles are detected through their interactions with matter:

- neutral particles  $I(x) = I_0 \cdot e^{-f(x)}$
- charged particles  $E(x) = E_0 \cdot e^{-f(x)}$

- charged particles in gases : energy loss by ionization and excitation is described by Bethe-Bloch formula:

$$-\frac{dE}{dx} = 4\pi \cdot N_A \cdot r_e^2 \cdot m_e \cdot c^2 \cdot z^2 \cdot \frac{Z}{A} \cdot \frac{1}{\beta^2} \left[ \ln \frac{2m_e \cdot c^2 \cdot \gamma^2 \cdot \beta^2}{I} - \beta^2 - \frac{\delta}{2} \right]$$



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$$-\frac{dE}{dx} = \underbrace{4\pi \cdot N_A \cdot r_e^2 \cdot m_e \cdot c^2}_{\text{useful constant}} \cdot z^2 \cdot \frac{Z}{A} \cdot \frac{1}{\beta^2} \left[ \ln \frac{2m_e \cdot c^2 \cdot \gamma^2 \cdot \beta^2}{I} - \beta^2 - \frac{\delta}{2} \right]$$

useful constant (and unit) from above:

$$4\pi \cdot N_A \cdot r_e^2 \cdot m_e \cdot c^2 = 0.3071 \frac{\text{MeV}}{\text{g/cm}^2}$$

→ energy loss  $-\frac{dE}{dx}$  is usually given in units of  $\frac{\text{MeV}}{\text{g/cm}^2}$  energy loss per surface mass density

→ energy loss  $-dE$  along track length  $ds$

$$-dE = \frac{dE}{dx} \cdot \rho \cdot ds$$

$\rho \quad \text{density} \left[ \frac{\text{g}}{\text{cm}^3} \right]$

Neutral and charged particles are detected through their interactions with matter:

- absorption or energy loss changes the properties of incident particle
- density  $\rho$  of detection medium influences the change of properties substantially

To follow a charged particle over a long track length, e.g. to measure

- bending radius of the particle trajectory in magnetic field to estimate the particle momentum

a low-density medium is required:

→ typical application of a gaseous detector

radiation length  $X_0$ :  $E(x) = E_0 \cdot e^{-\frac{x}{X_0}} \rightarrow E(X_0) = \frac{1}{e} E_0$

→ filling gas has long radiation length

# Radiation Length

radiation length  $X_0$ :

$$E(x) = E_0 \cdot e^{-\frac{x}{X_0}} \rightarrow E(X_0) = \frac{1}{e} E_0$$

material	$Z$	$A$	$X_0[\text{g}/\text{cm}^2]$	$X_0/\rho$ [cm]	$E_c[\text{MeV}]$
Hydrogen	1	1.01	63	700 000	350
Helium	2	4.00	94	530 000	250
Lithium	3	6.94	83	156	180
Carbon	6	12.01	43	18.8	90
Nitrogen	7	14.01	38	30 500	85
Oxygen	8	16.00	34	24 000	75
Aluminum	13	26.98	24	8.9	40
Silicon	14	28.09	22	9.4	39
Iron	26	55.85	13.9	1.76	20.7
Copper	29	63.55	12.9	1.43	18.8
Silver	47	109.9	9.3	0.89	11.9
Tungsten	74	183.9	6.8	0.35	8.0
Lead	82	207.2	6.4	0.56	7.40
Air	7.3	14.4	37	30 000	84
SiO <sub>2</sub>	11.2	21.7	27	12	57
Water	7.5	14.2	36	36	83

Gruppen, 1996



# Characteristics of Gaseous Detectors

fundamental processes in gaseous detectors:

- creation of charge
- drift of charge
- amplification of charge
- detection of charge ("real" and induced)





# Characteristics of Gaseous Detectors

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- creation of charge
- drift of charge
- amplification of charge
- detection of charge ("real" and induced)

→ gaseous electronics

# Terminology – Gaseous Electronics

All relevant processes in the filling gas of the detector, in particular

- atomic/ molecular physics, e.g.
  - scattering processes
  - rotational, vibrational, electronic excitations in meV – eV range,
  - ionisation, attachment and dissociation
- transport phenomena of charged particles in gases under the influence of electric or electric and magnetic fields, e.g.
  - drift velocity  $v_d$
  - diffusion  $D_L, D_T$
  - magnetic deflection angle  $\alpha_{\text{Lorentz}}$

which are explored in

- kinetic theory and transport theory
- discharge physics and low energy plasma physics

are summarised under the expression "gaseous electronics".

gaseous electronics scales with parameter  $E/N$

reason: collision operator in Boltzmann transport equation  
is proportional to  $N$

particle number density  $N$

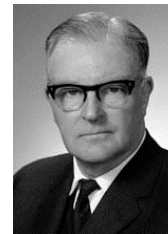
$$N = \frac{n}{V} = \frac{k_B \cdot T}{p}$$

→  $E/N$ : 1 Townsend = 1 Td =  $10^{-21} \text{ Vm}^2$   
(Huxley, Crompton, Elford, 1966)



Sir J.S.E. Townsend  
1868-1957

→  $B/N$ : 1 Huxley = 1Hx =  $10^{-27} \text{ Tm}^3$   
(Ness, 1991)  
(Heylen, 1980:  $10^{-23} \text{ Tm}^3$ )



Sir L.G.H. Huxley  
1902-1988

@ 20°C, 1 bar:

1 Td  $\approx$  250 V/cm

1Hx  $\approx$  0.025 T

following units are often used:

- $[E] = \text{V/cm}$  → T and p need to be defined
- $[E/p] = \text{V}/(\text{cm} \cdot \text{torr}), \text{V}/(\text{cm} \cdot \text{atm}), \text{V}/(\text{cm} \cdot \text{mmHg})$  → T needs to be defined
- $[E/N] = \text{V} \cdot \text{cm}^2$



# Primary Ionisation

creation of charge:

- charged and neutral particles dissipate part or all of their energy by generating electron-ion pairs
  - $\gamma$ : point like
  - charged particle: along particle track
  
- primary ionisation  $n_0$ :
  - $n_0 = \Delta E / w$
  - $w$  value: mean energy to produce electron-ion pair
  - $w$  value  $>$  ionisation potential
    - due to additional excitation of (inner shell) electronic, vibrational or rotational energy levels

separation of charge:

- electrical field to avoid recombination and to separate the electron-ion pairs

# Primary Ionisation

Gas	Z	A	$\delta$ (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	$E_{\text{ex}}$	$E_i$   $I_0$ (eV)		$W_i$	dE/dx for MIP		$n_p$ (i.p./cm) <sup>a)</sup>	$n_T$ (i.p./cm) <sup>a)</sup>
								(MeV/g cm <sup>-2</sup> )	(keV/cm)		
H <sub>2</sub>	2	2	$8.38 \times 10^{-5}$	10.8	15.9	15.4	37	4.03	0.34	5.2	9.2
He	2	4	$1.66 \times 10^{-4}$	19.8	24.5	24.6	41	1.94	0.32	5.9	7.8
N <sub>2</sub>	14	28	$1.17 \times 10^{-3}$	8.1	16.7	15.5	35	1.68	1.96	(10)	56
O <sub>2</sub>	16	32	$1.33 \times 10^{-3}$	7.9	12.8	12.2	31	1.69	2.26	22	73
Ne	10	20.2	$8.39 \times 10^{-4}$	16.6	21.5	21.6	36	1.68	1.41	12	39
Ar	18	39.9	$1.66 \times 10^{-3}$	11.6	15.7	15.8	26	1.47	2.44	29.4	94
Kr	36	83.8	$3.49 \times 10^{-3}$	10.0	13.9	14.0	24	1.32	4.60	(22)	192
Xe	54	131.3	$5.49 \times 10^{-3}$	8.4	12.1	12.1	22	1.23	6.76	44	307
CO <sub>2</sub>	22	44	$1.86 \times 10^{-3}$	5.2	13.7	13.7	33	1.62	3.01	(34)	91
CH <sub>4</sub>	10	16	$6.70 \times 10^{-4}$		15.2	13.1	28	2.21	1.48	16	53
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>10</sub>	34	58	$2.42 \times 10^{-3}$		10.6	10.8	23	1.86	4.50	(46)	195

Sauli, 1977

a) i.p. = ion pairs

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Sauli, 1977

a) i.p. = ion pairs

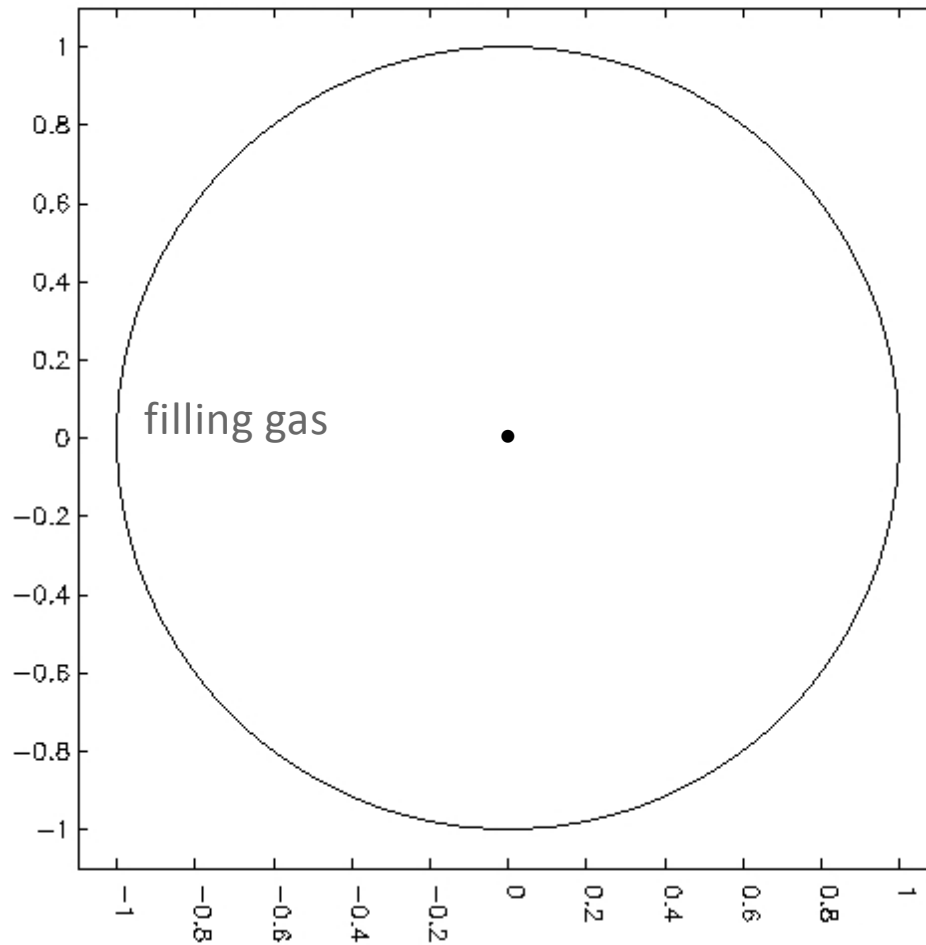
primary ionisation:

- $\sim 100$  e<sup>-</sup>/cm for MIP
- not continuously distributed
- clustered along track length

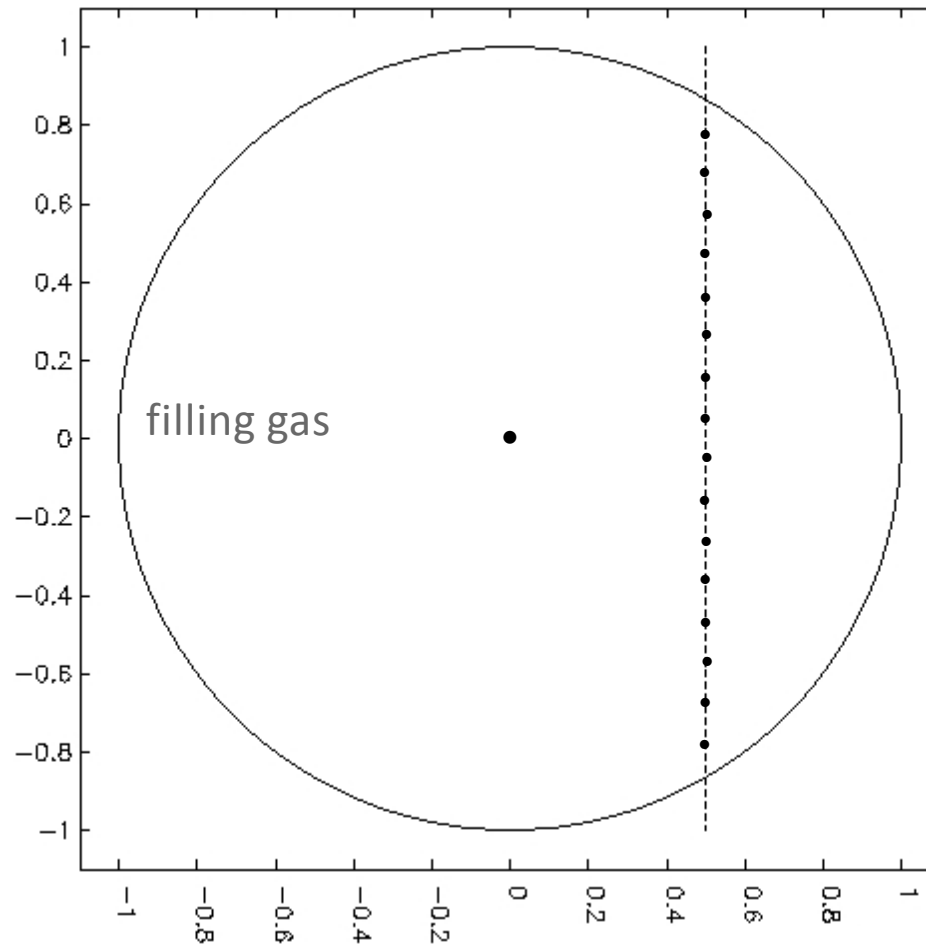




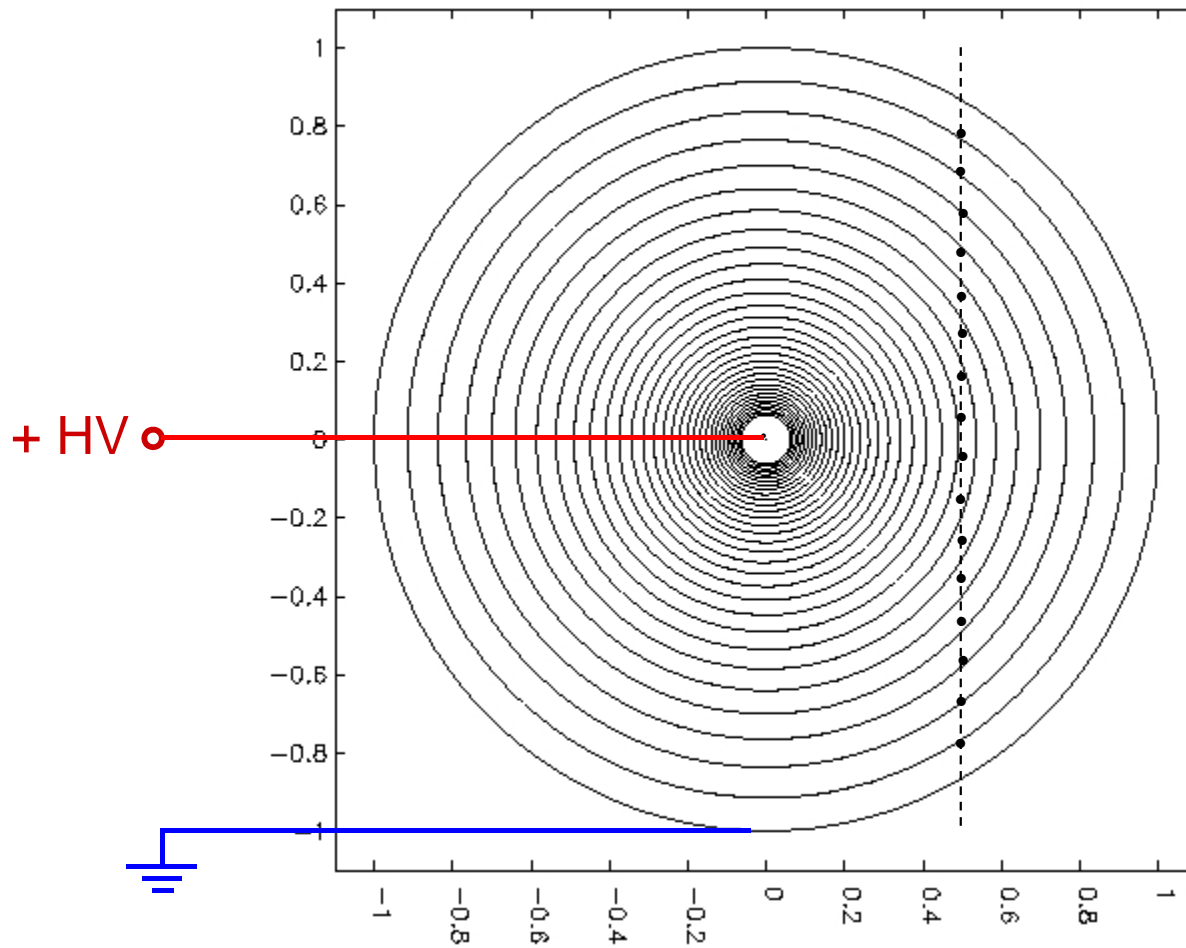
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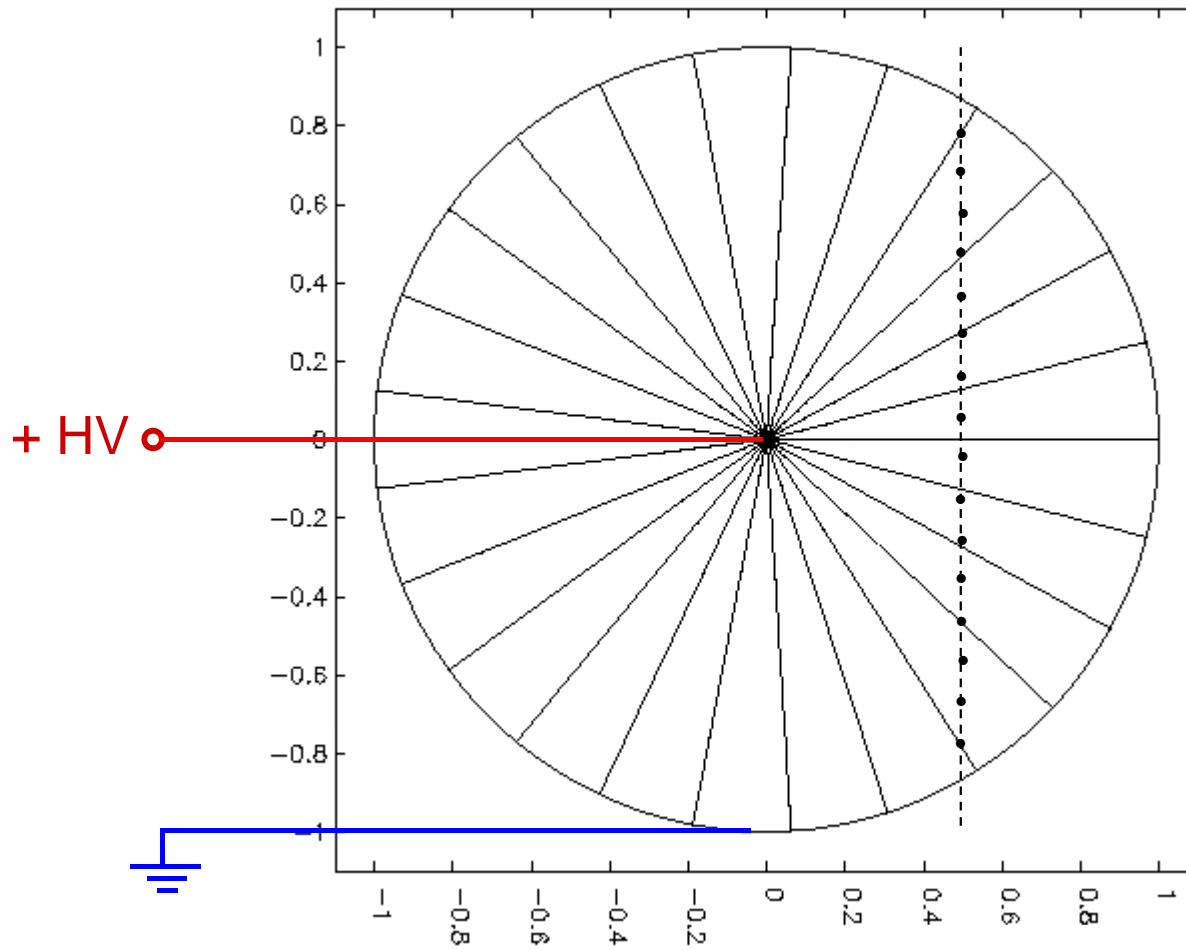
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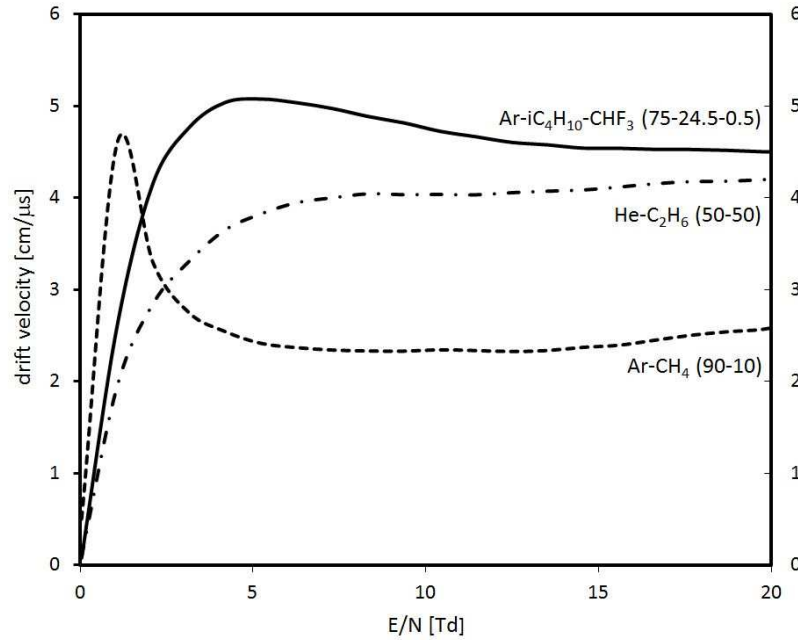


drift of charge:

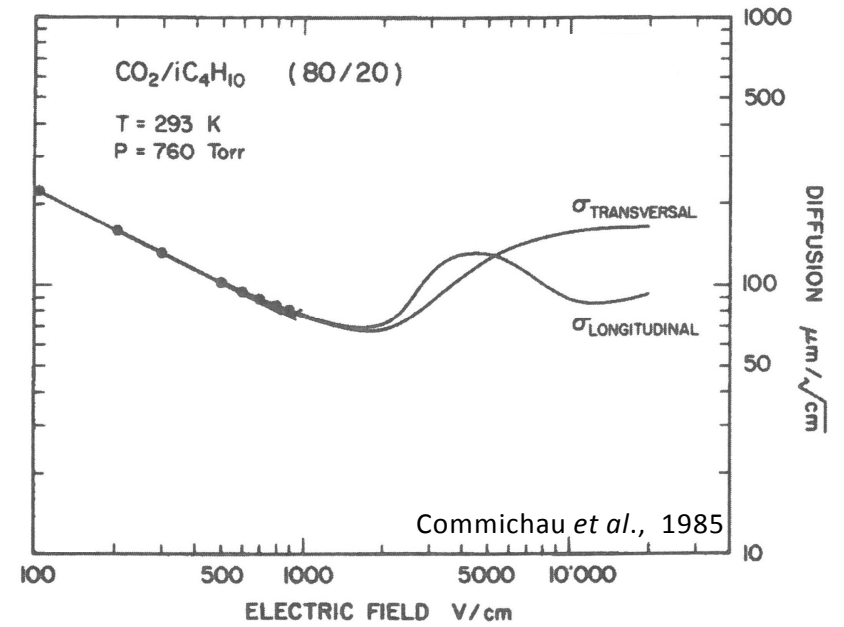
- under the influence of external electric or electric and magnetic fields the electrons and positive ions drift towards their corresponding electrode
- electro-negative gas components / impurities will lead to a loss of charge due to electron attachment → loss of signal size
- equilibrium of energy loss in collisions and energy gain between collisions:
  - $v_{d,electron} \approx 1-10 \text{ cm}/\mu\text{s}$
  - $v_{d,ion^+} \sim 1000\text{-times slower}$   
usually kT-limit → constant  $\mu$  →  $v_{d,ion} = \mu \cdot E$
  - $D_T, D_L \approx 100-500 \mu\text{m}/\sqrt{1\text{cm}}$
  - magnetic deflection angle  $\alpha_{\text{Lorentz}}$

electrons

▪ drift velocity



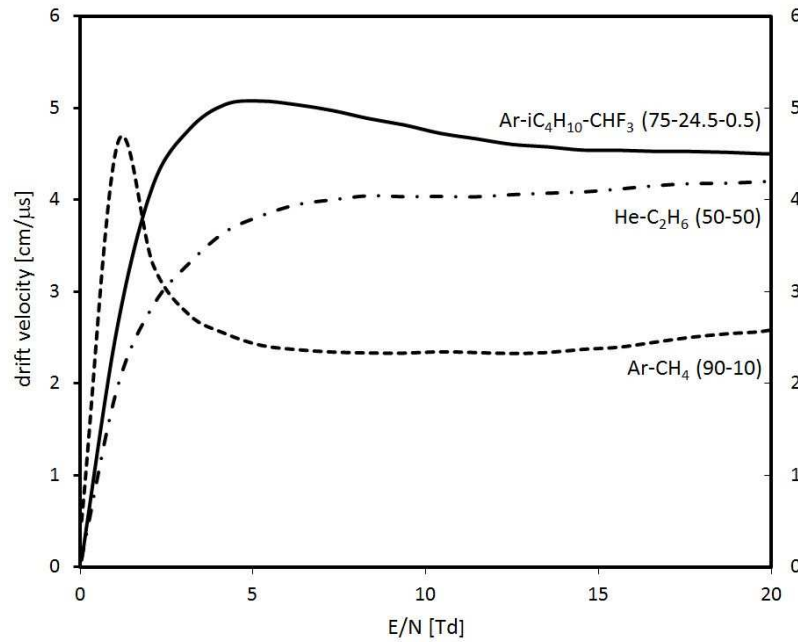
▪ diffusion



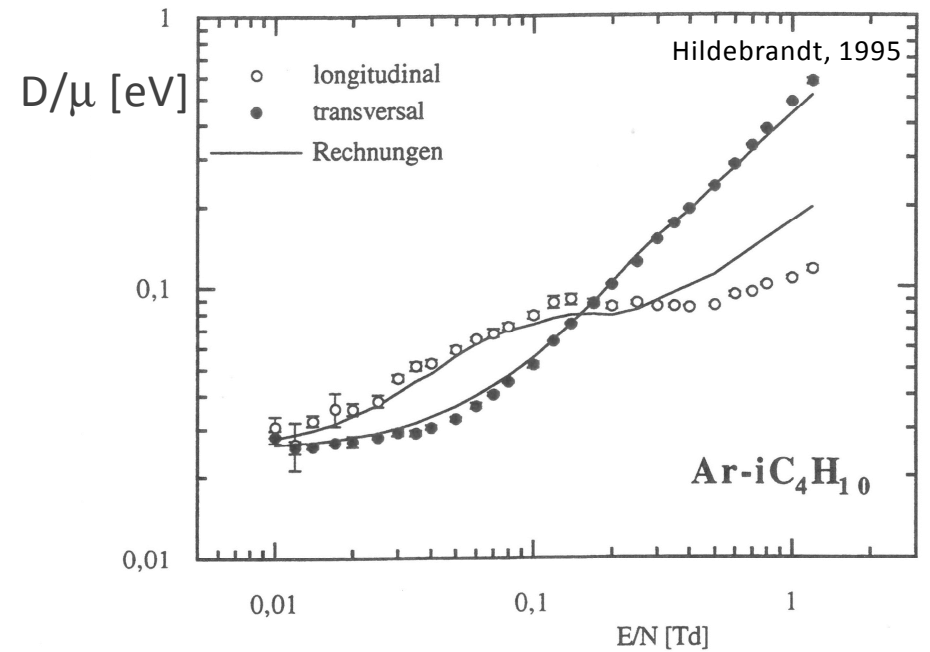
# Drift of Charge

electrons

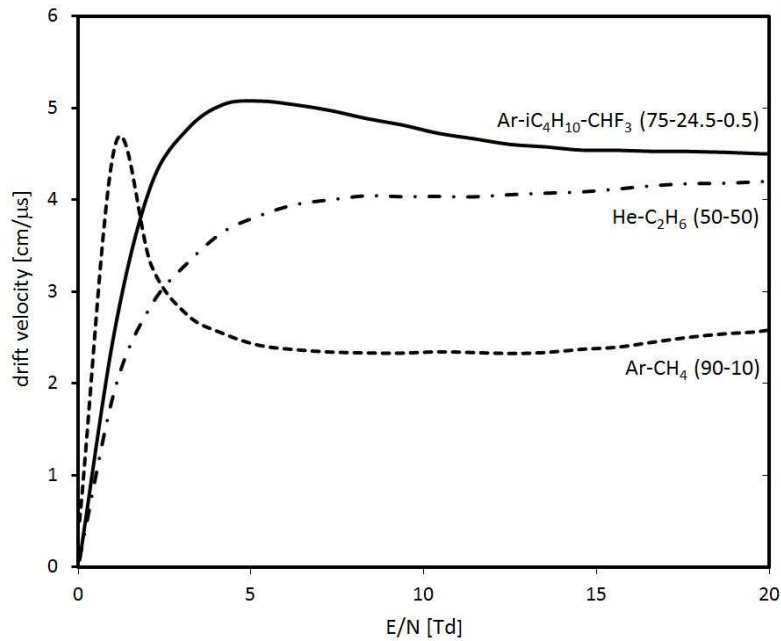
▪ drift velocity



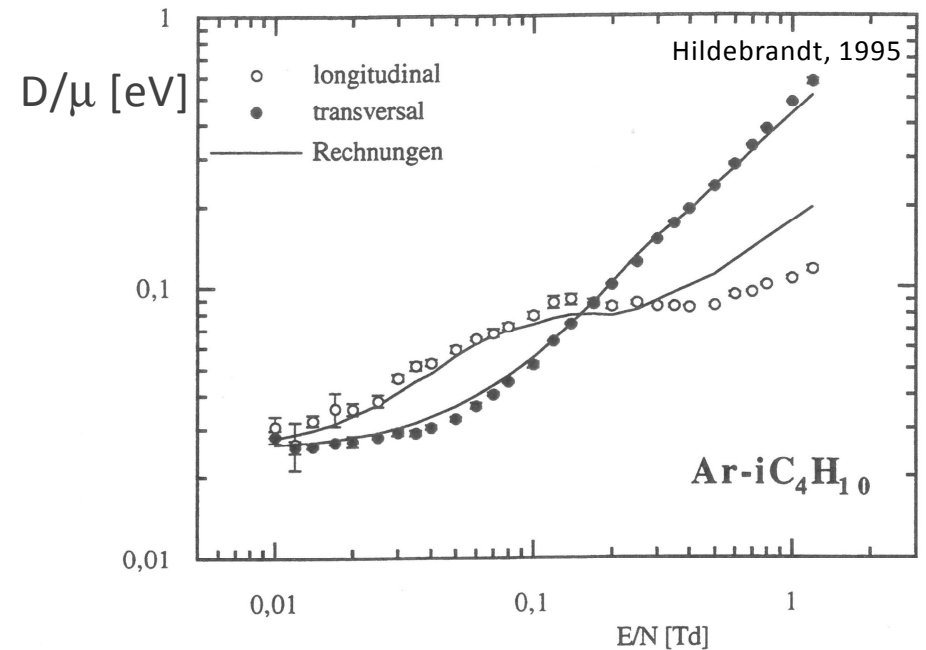
▪ characteristic energy



electrons      ■ drift velocity



■ characteristic energy



positive ions: mobility, diffusion (→ Viehland, Mason, McDaniel, Loeb, Townsend)

gas	$\lambda_{ion}$ [cm]	$D_{ion}$ [cm <sup>2</sup> /s]	$\mu_{ion}$ [ $\frac{cm/s}{V/cm}$ ]
H <sub>2</sub>	$1.8 \cdot 10^{-5}$	0.34	13.0
He	$2.8 \cdot 10^{-5}$	0.26	10.2
Ar	$1.0 \cdot 10^{-5}$	0.04	1.7
O <sub>2</sub>	$1.0 \cdot 10^{-5}$	0.06	2.2

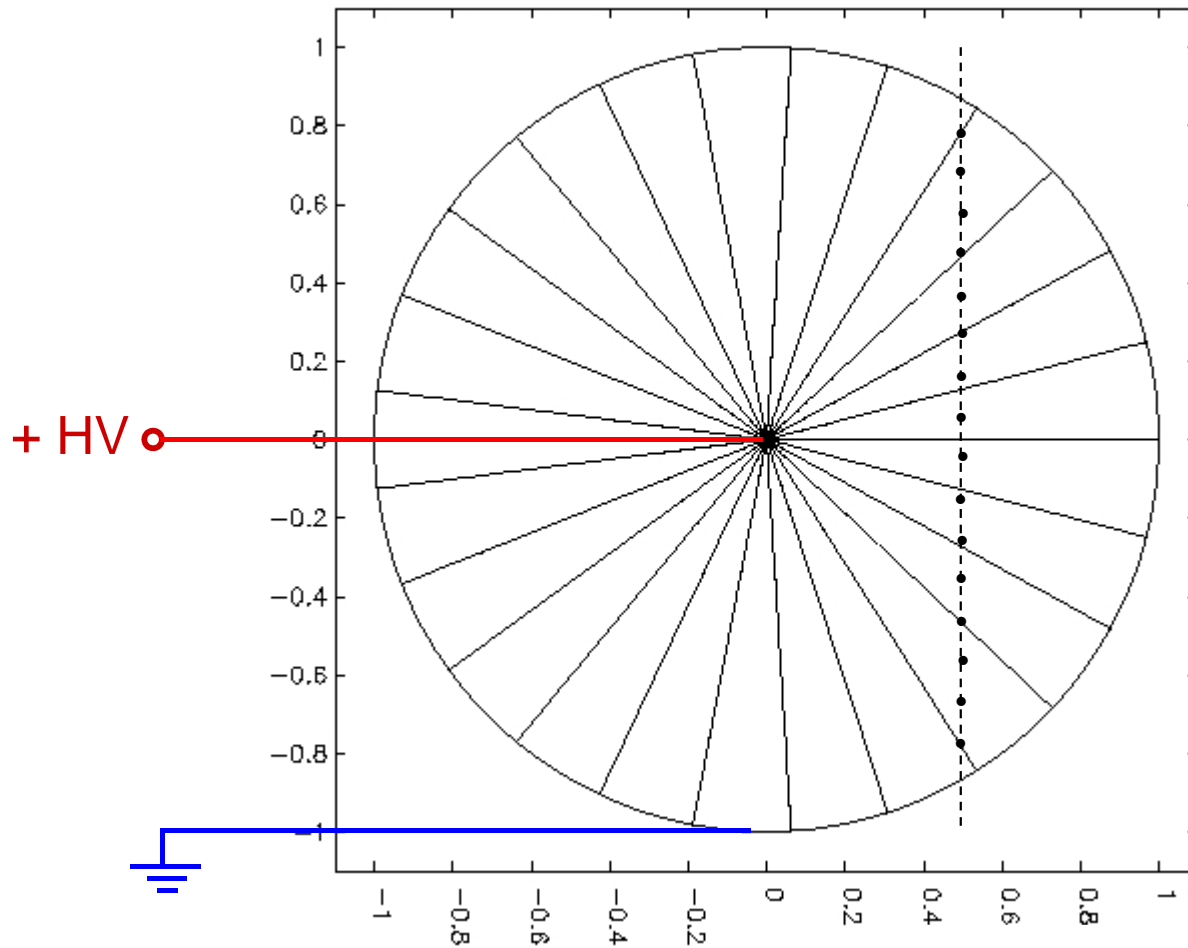
Sauli, 1977; Grupen, 1996

Gas	Ion	Mobility [cm <sup>2</sup> V <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> ]
Ar	Ar <sup>+</sup>	1.54
He	He <sup>+</sup>	10.4
CO <sub>2</sub>	CO <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup>	1.09
Ar	CH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup>	1.87
Ar	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>6</sub> <sup>+</sup>	2.06
Ar	iC <sub>4</sub> H <sub>10</sub> <sup>+</sup>	2.15
Ar	CO <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup>	1.72

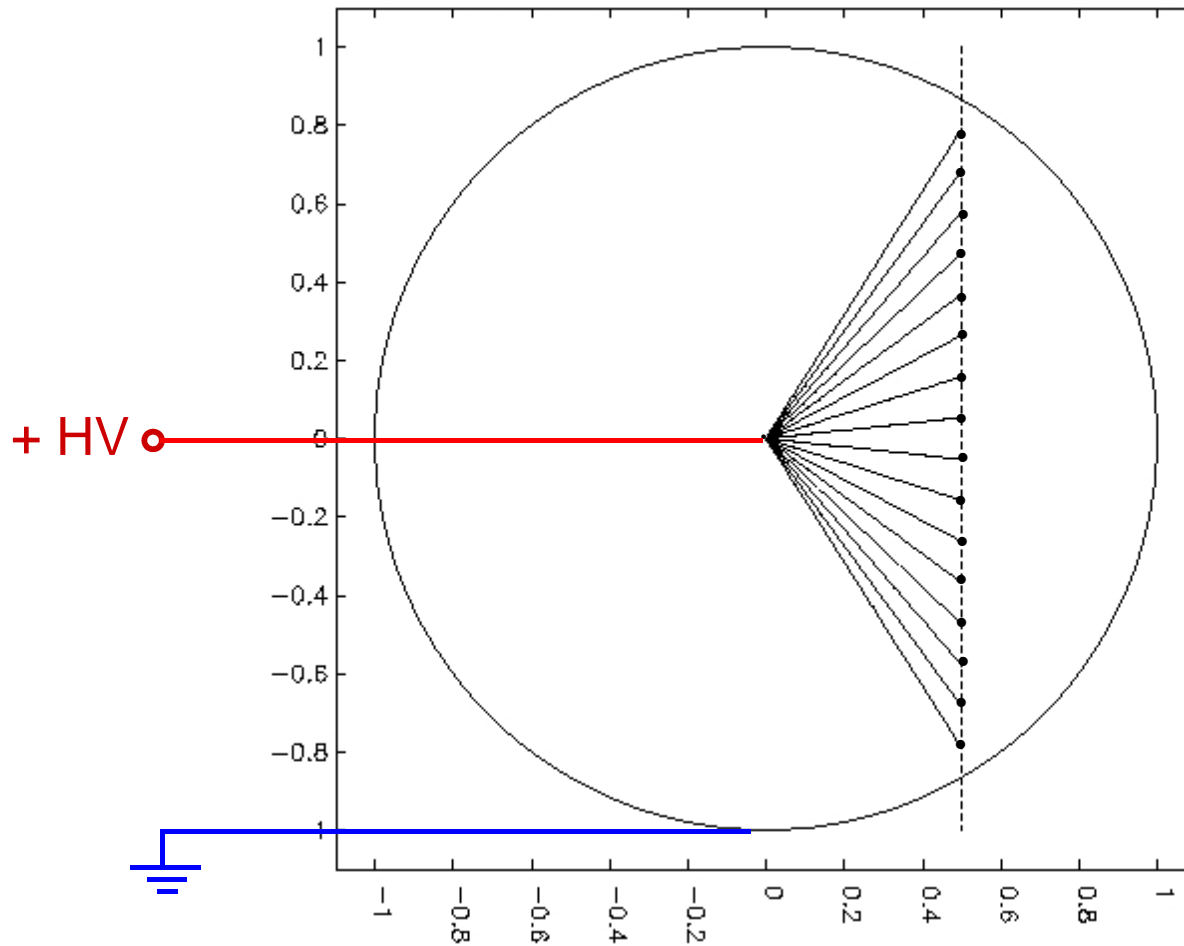
Tavernier, 2010



# Drift of Charge



# Drift of Charge



# Amplification of Charge

Neither  $\sim 100 \text{ e}^-/\text{cm}$  nor  $\sim 25\,000 \text{ e}^-/\text{n-}^3\text{He-capture}$  is a sufficient amount of charge  
→ amplification inside gas volume before electronics is needed

amplification of charge:

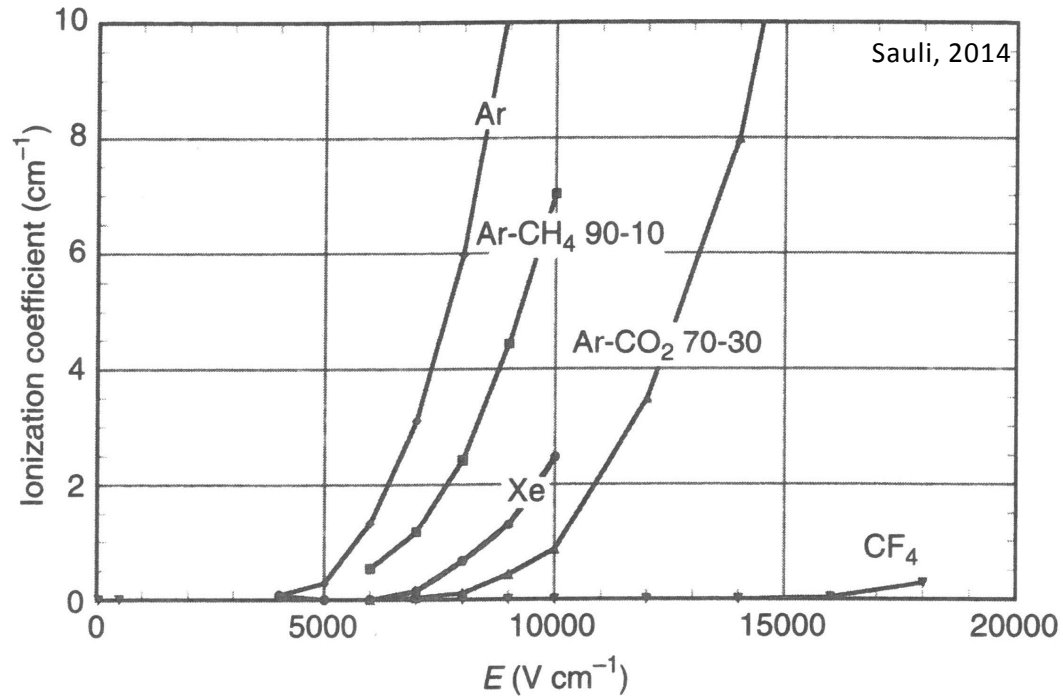
- exceeds the electrical field  $\sim 10 \text{ kV/cm}$  the drifting electron (from primary ionisation) gains sufficient energy between collisions so that  $\mathcal{E}_{\text{mean}} < E_{\text{ionisation}}$ 
  - possible to create additional electron-ion pairs in collisions with neutral gas atoms or molecules
  - growing cascade forms an electron avalanche  
electron multiplication, "gas amplification", gas gain: typically  $\sim 10 - 10^6$

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amplification of charge:

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  - possible to create additional electron-ion pairs in collisions with neutral gas atoms or molecules
  - growing cascade forms an electron avalanche  
 electron multiplication, "gas amplification", gas gain: typically  $\sim 10 - 10^6$
- avalanche process described by 1<sup>st</sup> Townsend coefficient, ionisation coefficient:
  - $\alpha_{\text{Townsend}}$
  - $[\alpha] = 1/\text{cm}$
  - total number of electrons:  $n = n_0 \cdot e^{\alpha \cdot x}$  or  $n = n_0 \cdot e^{\int \alpha(x) dx}$
  - gas gain:  $n/n_0$

ionisation coefficient  $\alpha$



empirical formula (Korff, 1955)

$$\frac{\alpha}{p} = A \cdot e^{-\frac{Bp}{E}}$$

A, B: phenomenological constants

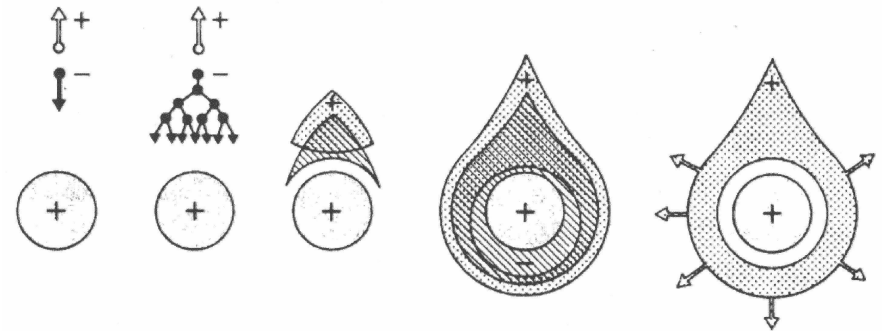
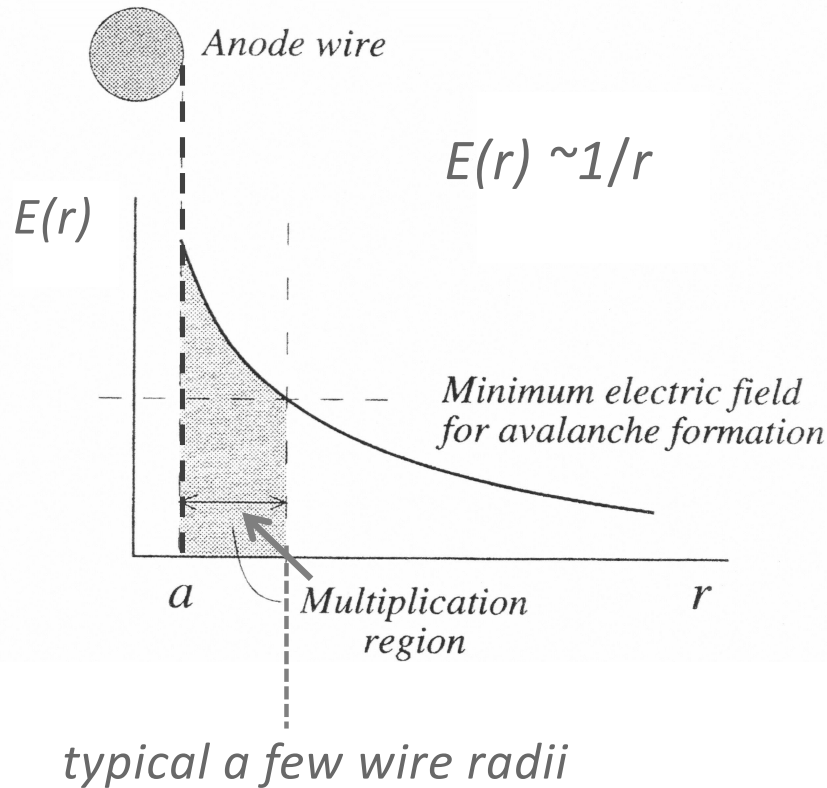
Gas	A (cm <sup>-1</sup> torr)	B (V cm <sup>-1</sup> torr <sup>-1</sup> )
He	3	34
Ne	4	100
Ar	14	180
Xe	26	350
CO <sub>2</sub>	20	466

Sauli, 2014

# Amplification of Charge

location of electron avalanche

- wire: diameter  $\varnothing \approx 10 - 50 \mu\text{m}$ , gain  $\leq 10^6$

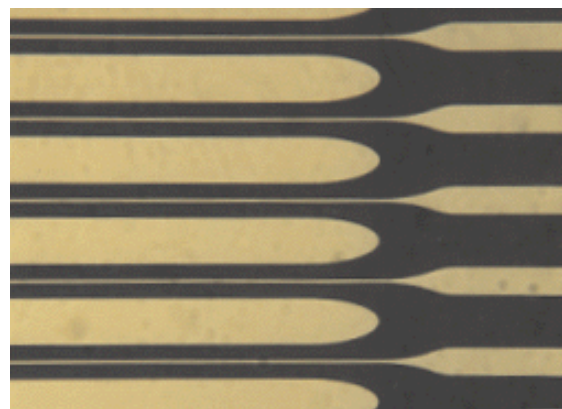
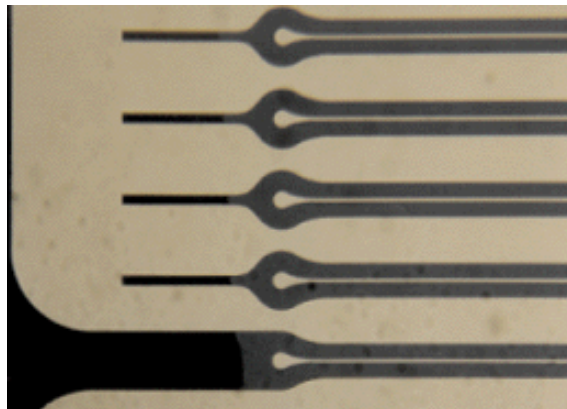
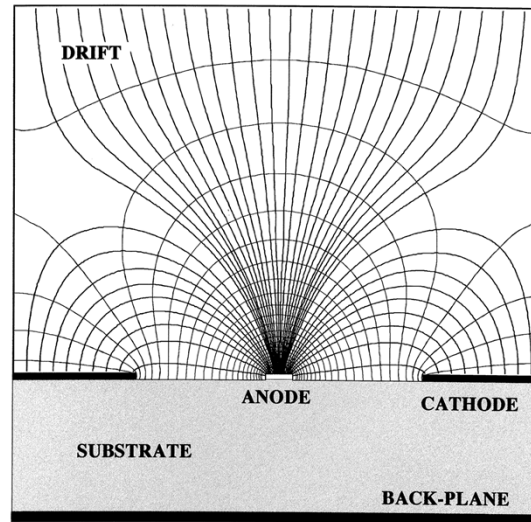
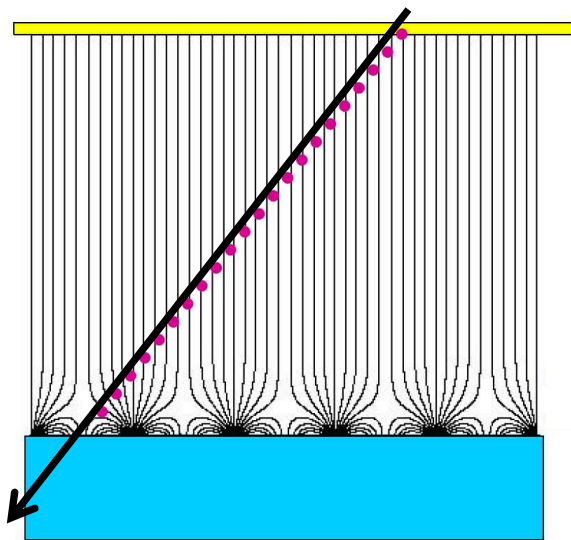


H.Raether, 1949  
 L.B.Loeb, 1960  
 G.Charpak, 1968

# Amplification of Charge

## location of electron avalanche

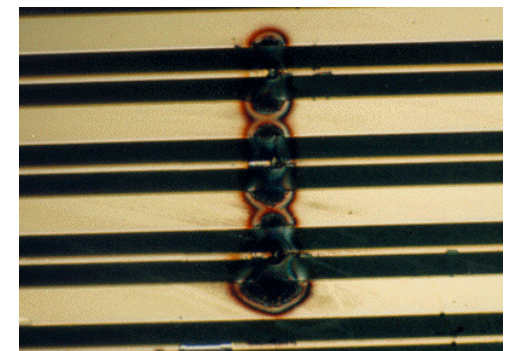
- wire: diameter  $\varnothing \approx 10 - 50 \mu\text{m}$ , gain  $\leq 10^6$
- micro-strips: width  $\sim 10 \mu\text{m}$ , gain  $\leq 10^4$



Oed, NIM A263 (1984) 351

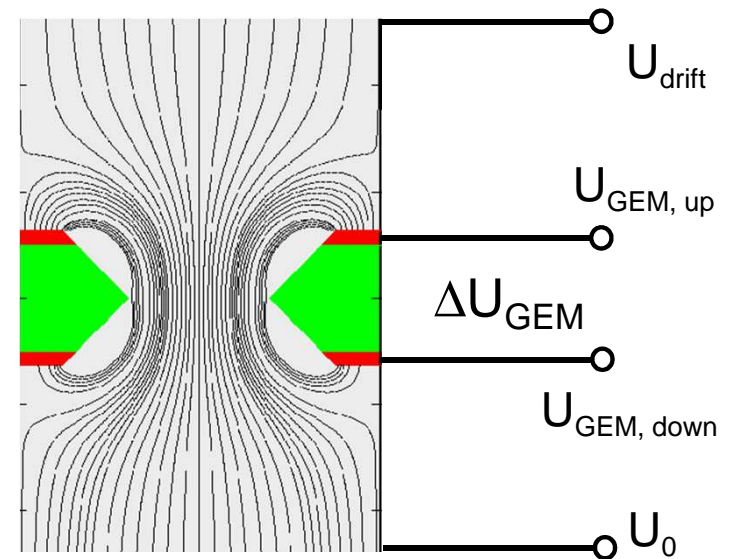
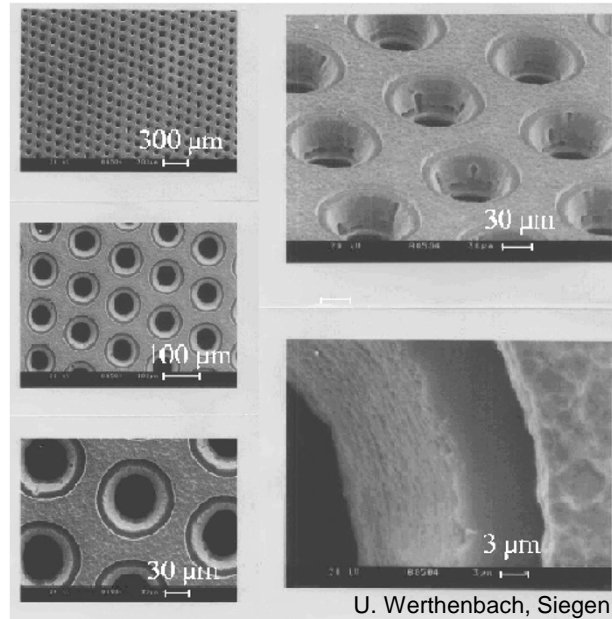
1990's: MSGC supposed to be "all-purpose LHC tracking detector"

today: only D20 at ILL (low gain operation)



## location of electron avalanche

- wire: diameter  $\varnothing \approx 10 - 50 \mu\text{m}$ , gain  $\leq 10^6$
  - micro-strips: width  $\sim 10 \mu\text{m}$ , gain  $\leq 10^4$
  - holes of Gas-Electron-Multiplier (GEM) foil:  $\varnothing \approx 50 - 100 \mu\text{m}$ , gain  $\leq 10^3$
- decoupling of amplification and charge collection



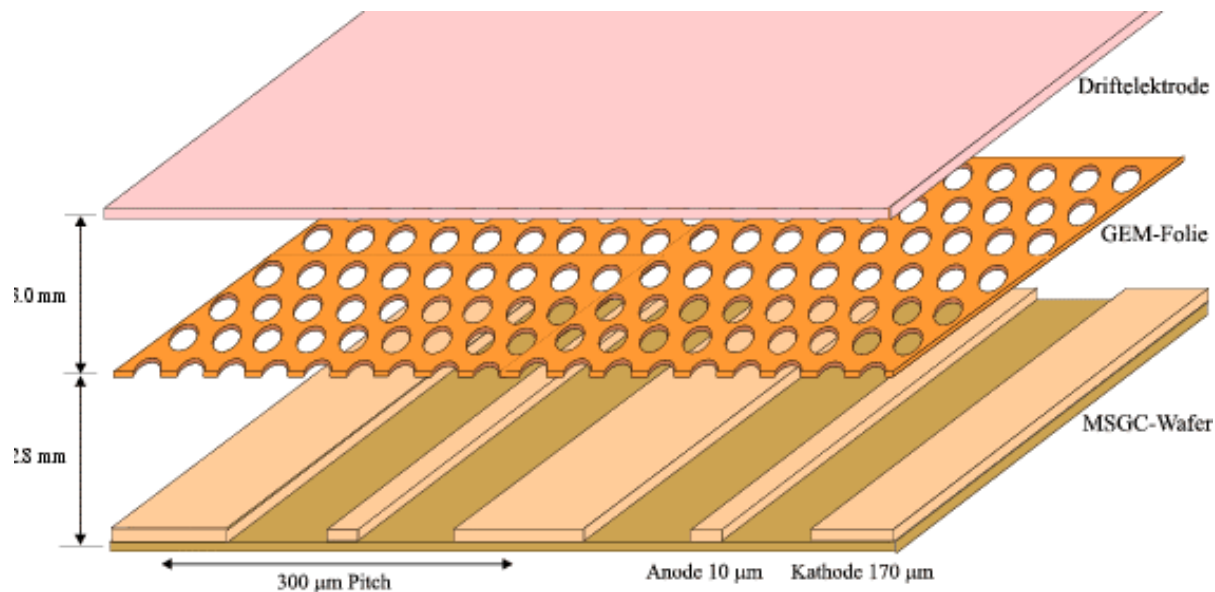
Sauli, NIM A386 (1997) 531



# Amplification of Charge

## location of electron avalanche

- wire: diameter  $\varnothing \approx 10 - 50 \mu\text{m}$ , gain  $\leq 10^6$
  - micro-strips: width  $\sim 10 \mu\text{m}$ , gain  $\leq 10^4$
  - holes of Gas-Electron-Multiplier (GEM) foil:  $\varnothing \approx 50 - 100 \mu\text{m}$ , gain  $\leq 10^3$
- combination of holes and strips: GEM-MSGC



1990s: detector for Inner Tracker HERA-B

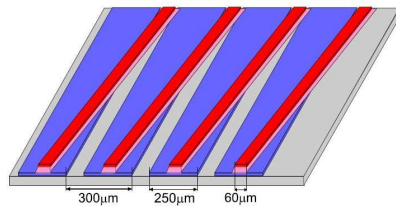
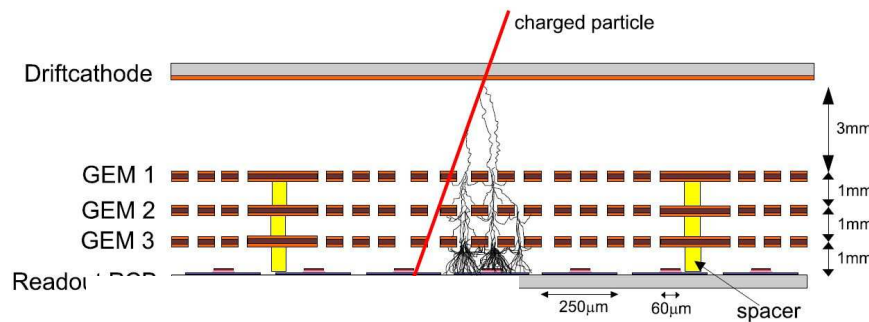
Universities Heidelberg, Siegen, Zürich and CERN

# Amplification of Charge

## location of electron avalanche

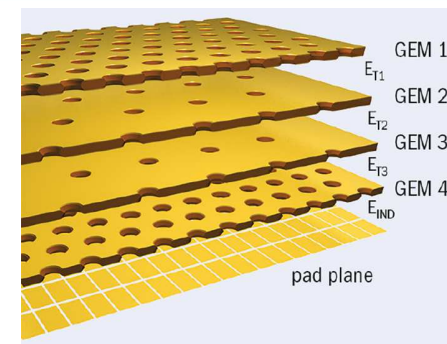
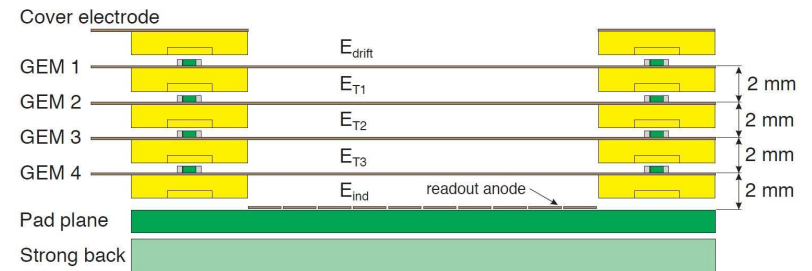
- wire: diameter  $\varnothing \approx 10 - 50 \mu\text{m}$ , gain  $\leq 10^6$
  - micro-strips: width  $\sim 10 \mu\text{m}$ , gain  $\leq 10^4$
  - holes of Gas-Electron-Multiplier (GEM) foil:  $\varnothing \approx 50- 100 \mu\text{m}$ , gain  $\leq 10^3$
- multi-GEM detectors with dedicated readout structure

- triple-GEM detector  
(LHCb inner tracker detector before Si)



Ziegler, 2002

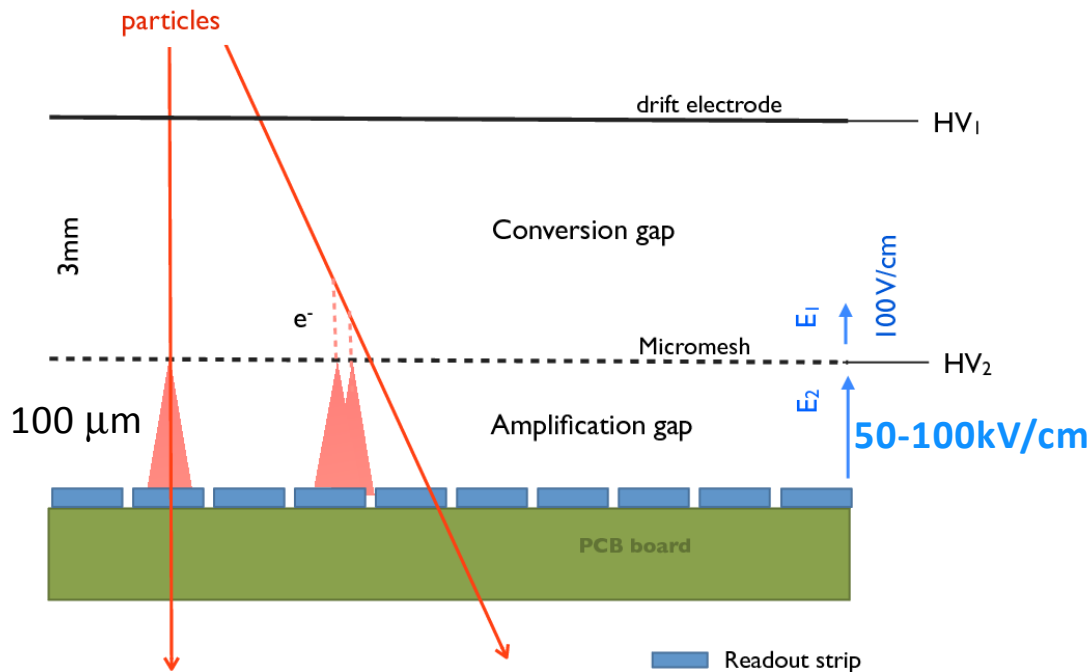
- 4-GEM stack  
(upgrade of ALICE TPC endplate)



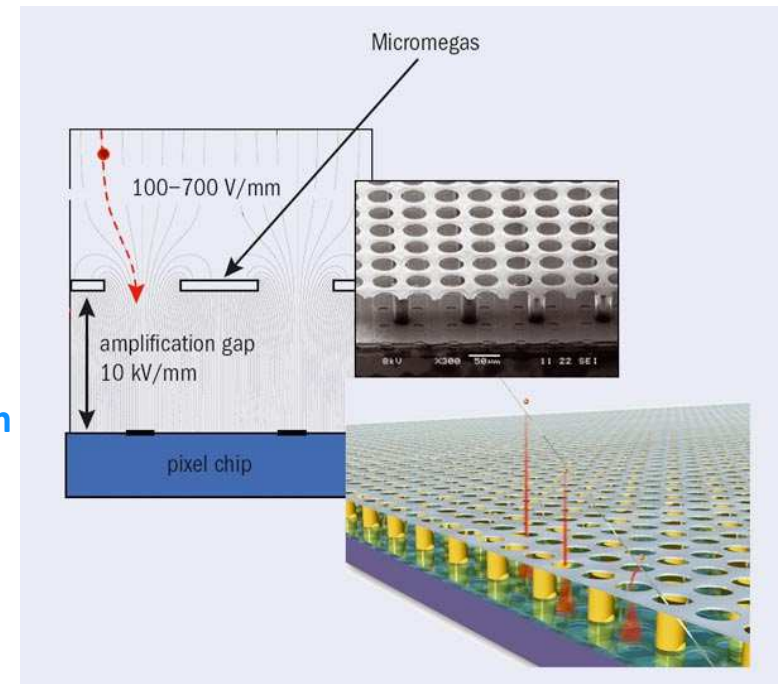
# Amplification of Charge

## location of electron avalanche

- wire: diameter  $\varnothing \approx 10 - 50 \mu\text{m}$ , gain  $\leq 10^6$
- micro-strips: width  $\sim 10 \mu\text{m}$ , gain  $\leq 10^4$
- holes of Gas-Electron-Multiplier (GEM) foil:  $\varnothing \approx 50 - 100 \mu\text{m}$ , gain  $\leq 10^3$
- parallel-plate gap: MICRO-Mesh Gaseous Structure (Micromegas), gain  $\leq 10^5$



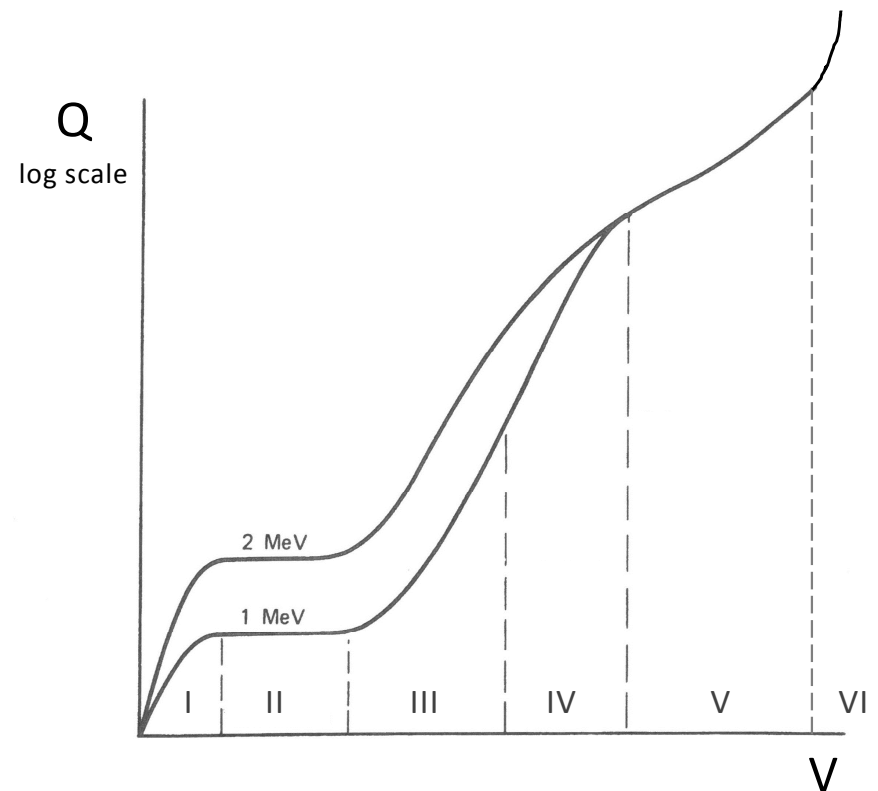
Giomataris, NIM A376 (1996) 29



# Characteristics of Gaseous Detectors

operational modes of gaseous detectors:

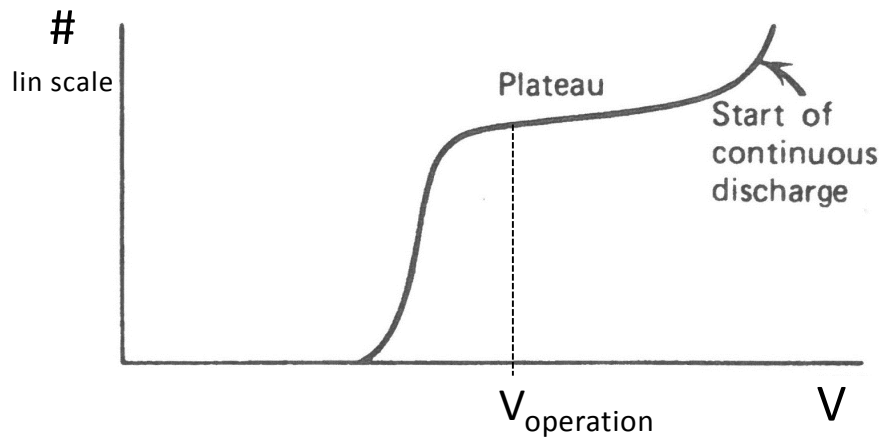
- recombination region
- ionization region
- proportional region
- limited proportional region
- Geiger-Müller region
- discharge region



# Characteristics of Gaseous Detectors

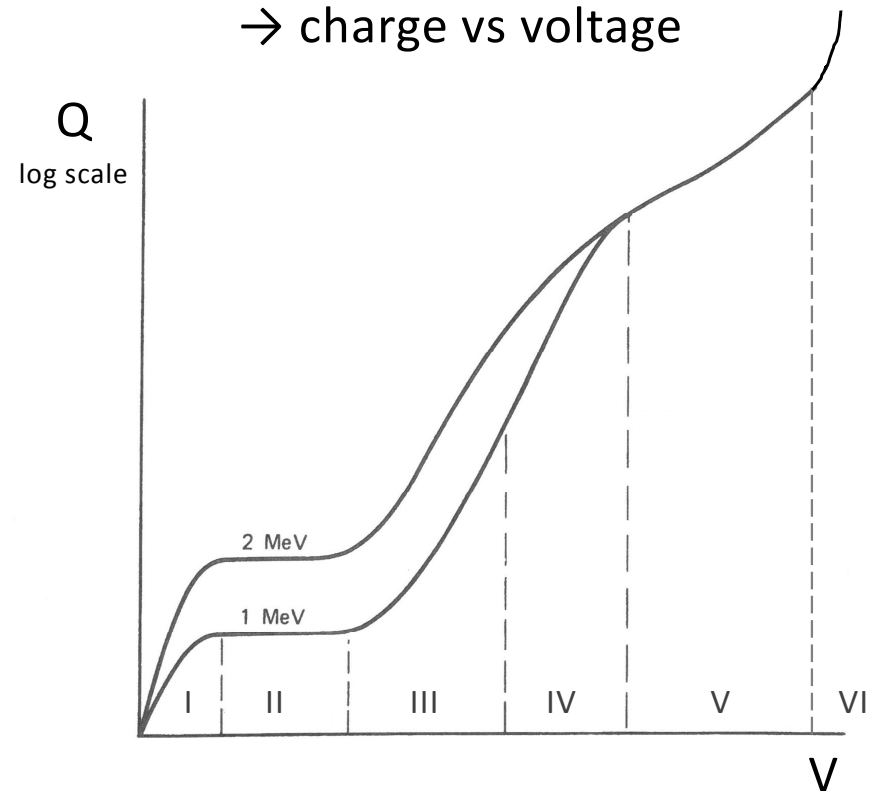
"plateau curve"

→ count rate vs voltage



regions of operation

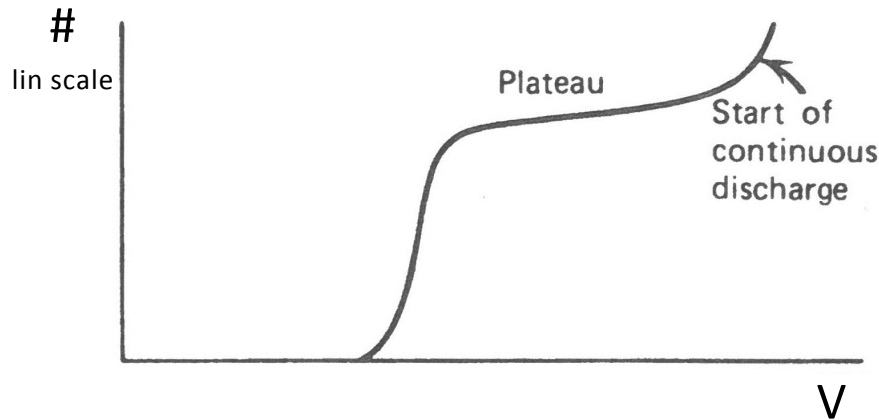
→ charge vs voltage



# Characteristics of Gaseous Detectors

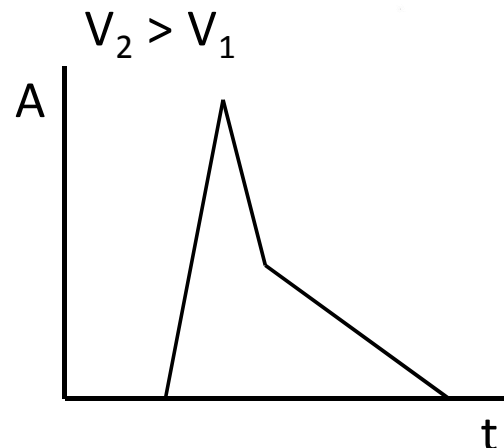
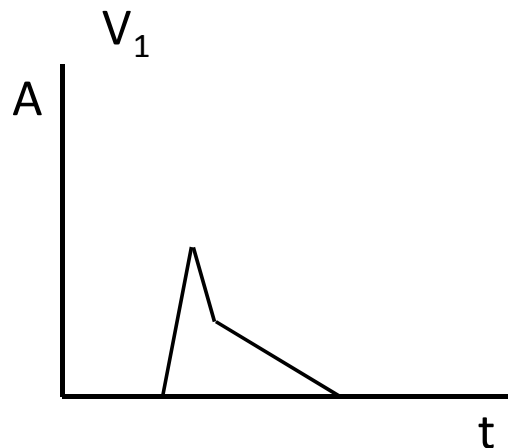
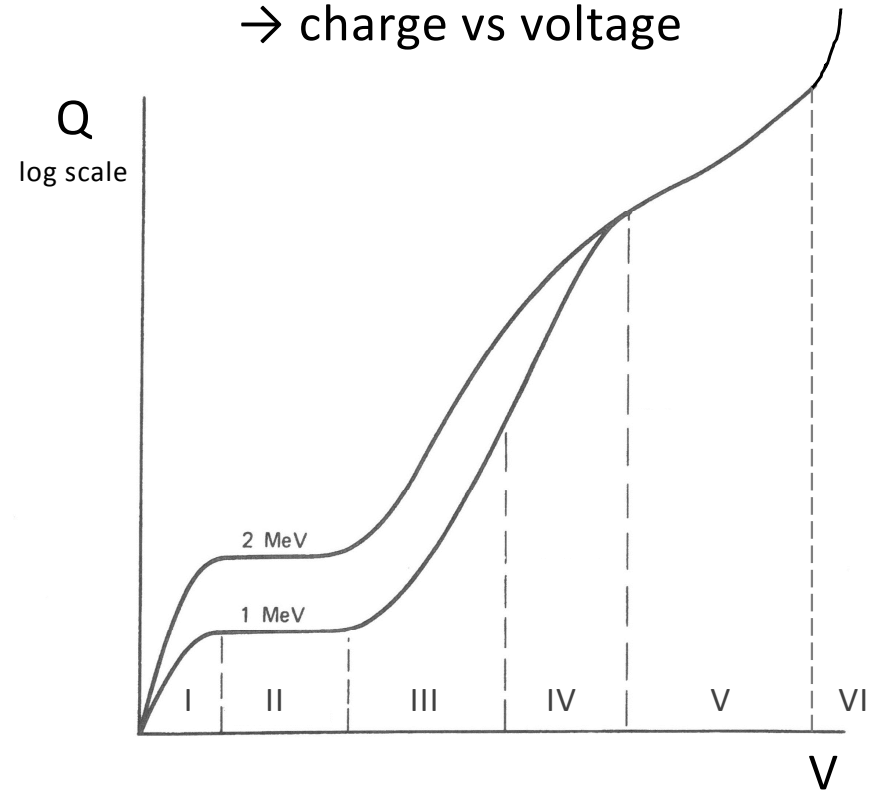
"plateau curve"

→ count rate vs voltage



regions of operation

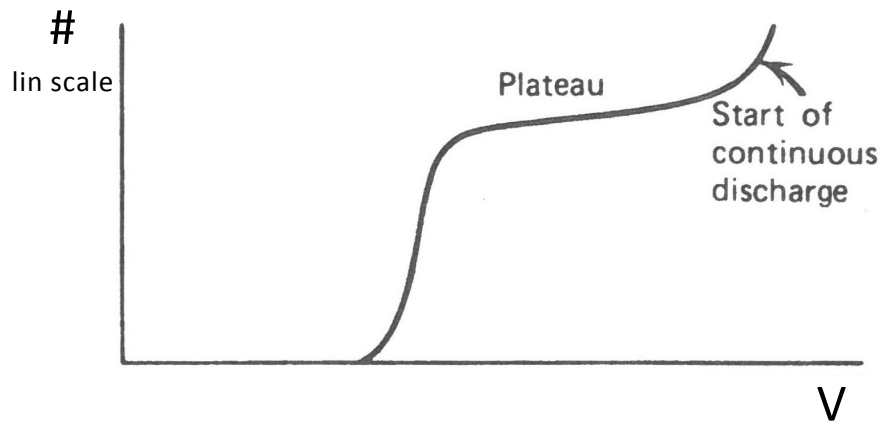
→ charge vs voltage



# Characteristics of Gaseous Detectors

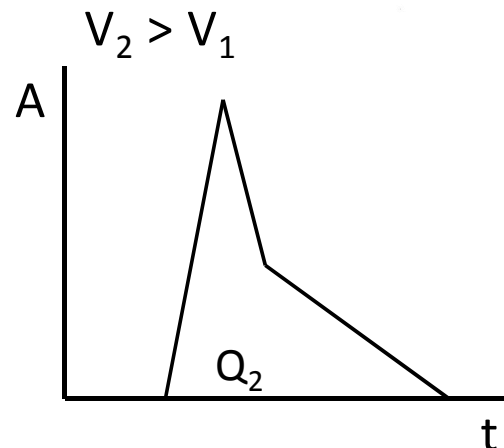
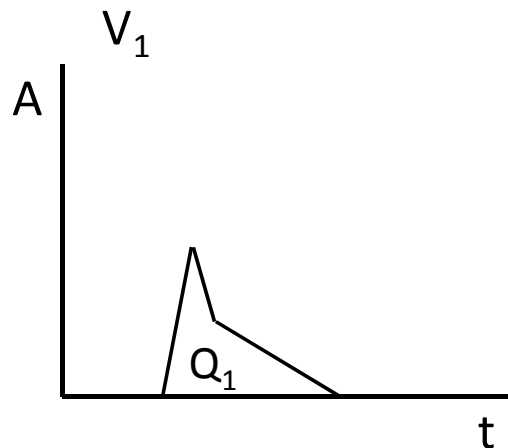
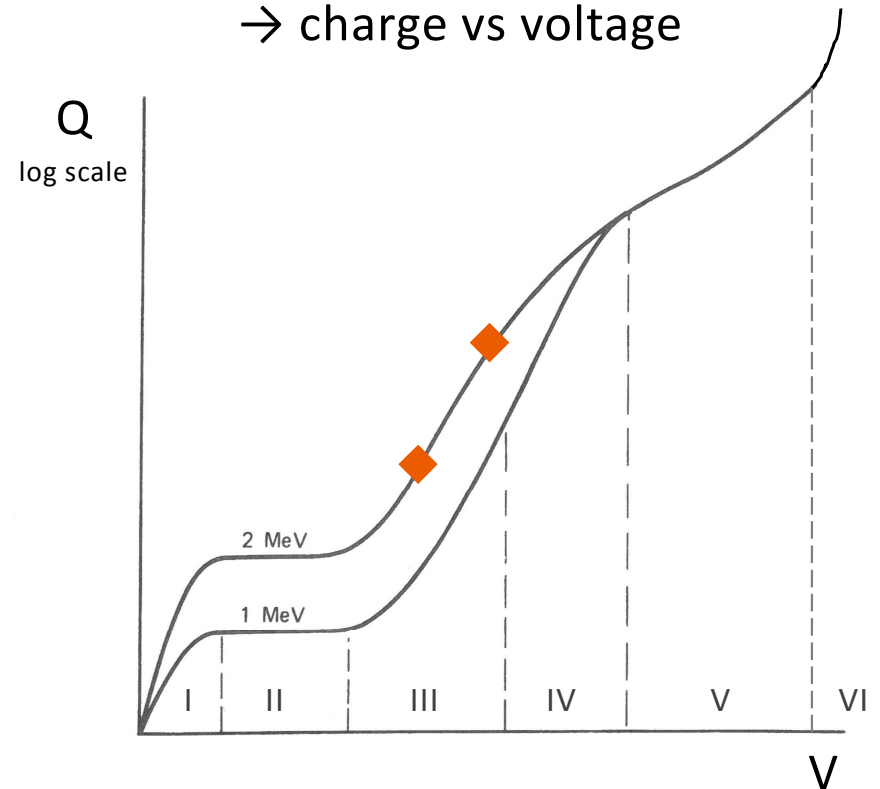
"plateau curve"

→ count rate vs voltage



regions of operation

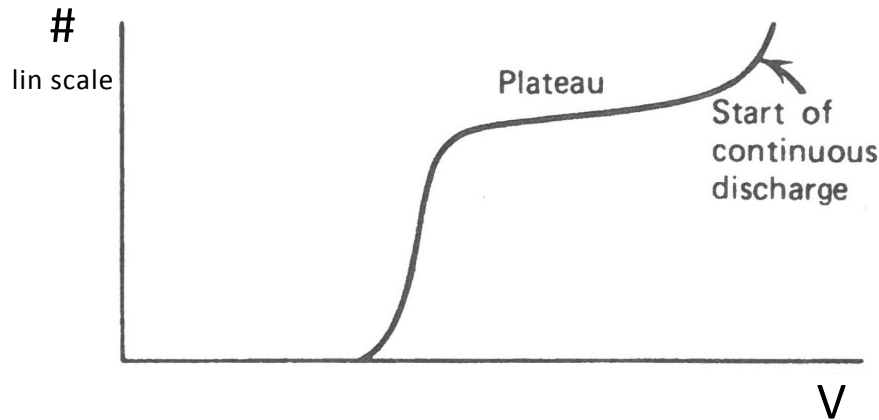
→ charge vs voltage



# Characteristics of Gaseous Detectors

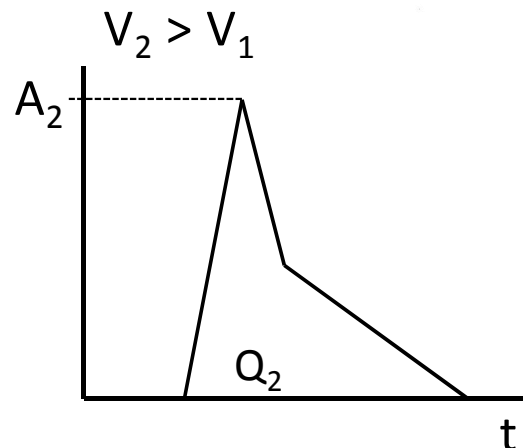
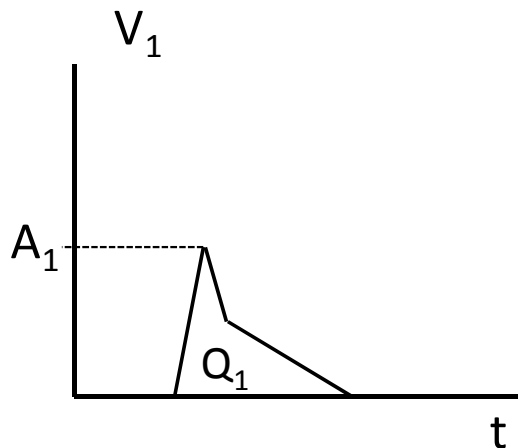
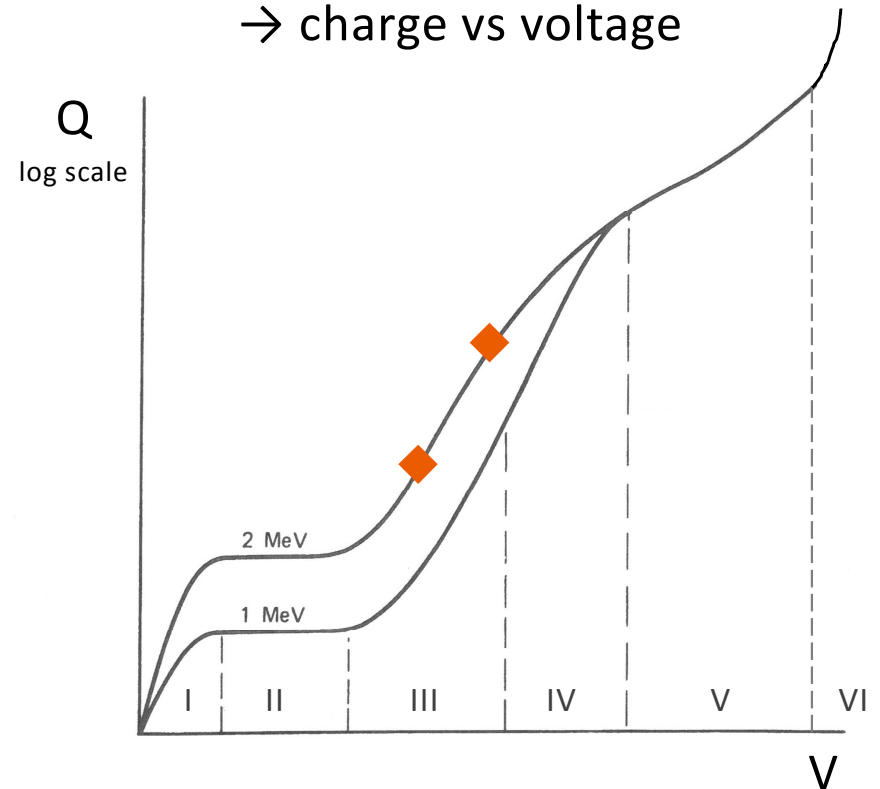
"plateau curve"

→ count rate vs voltage



regions of operation

→ charge vs voltage

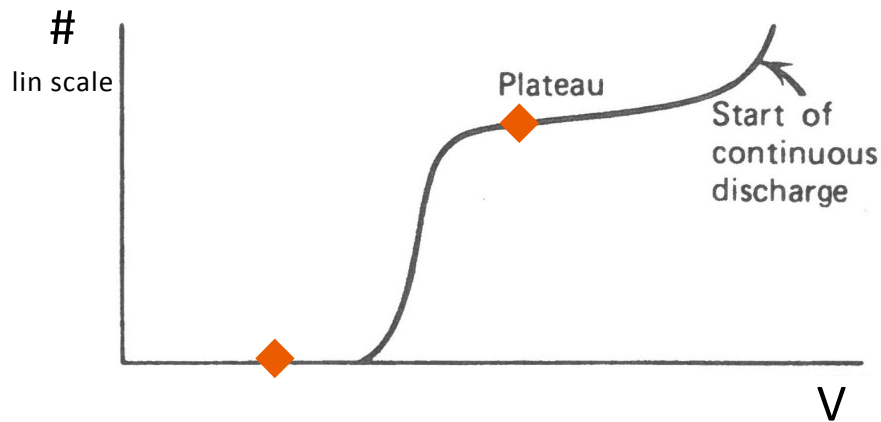




# Characteristics of Gaseous Detectors

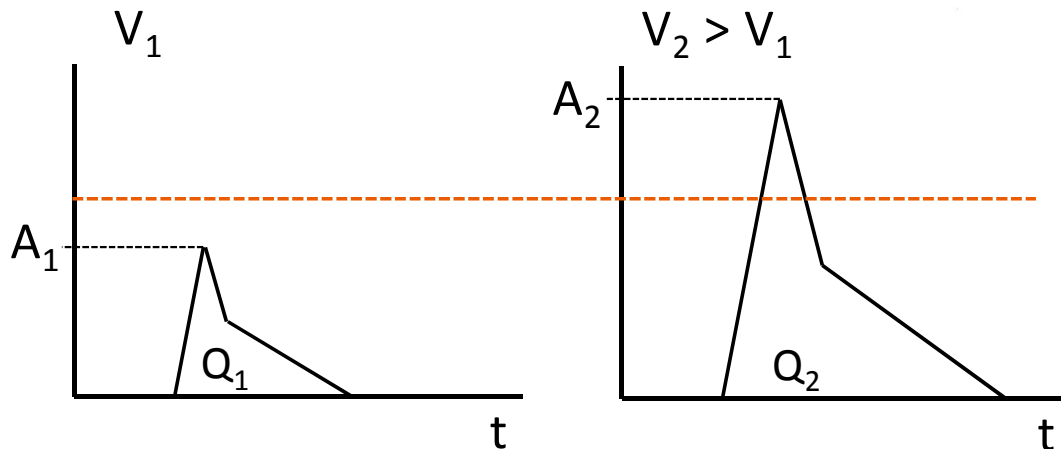
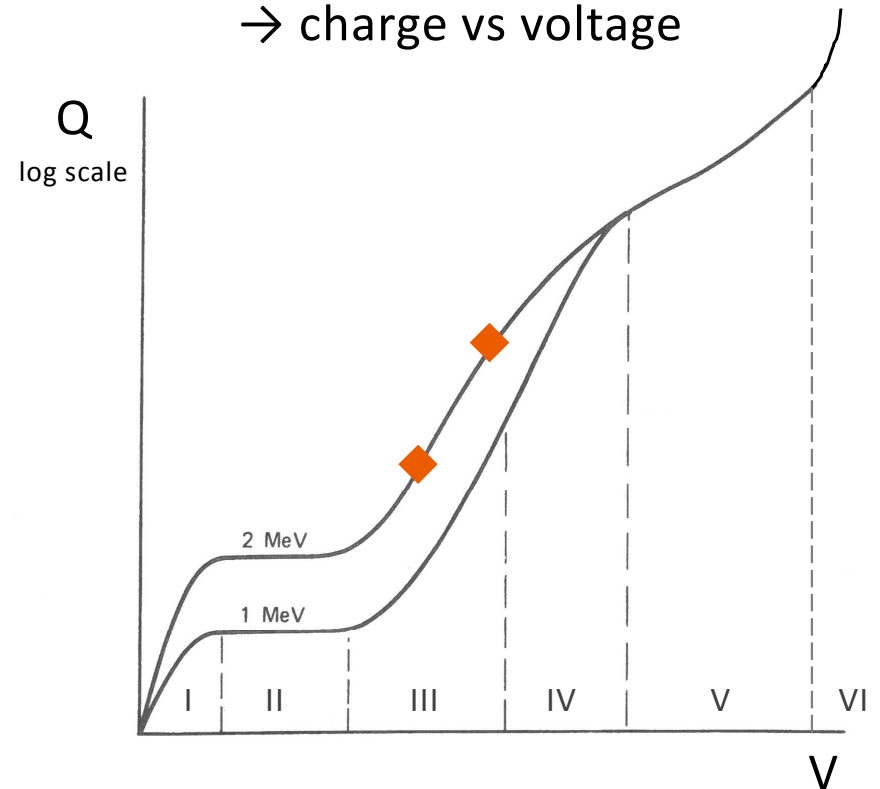
"plateau curve"

→ count rate vs voltage



regions of operation

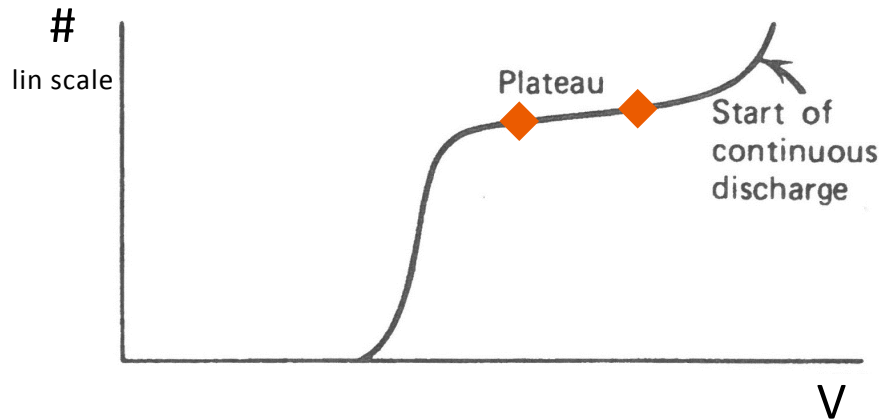
→ charge vs voltage



# Characteristics of Gaseous Detectors

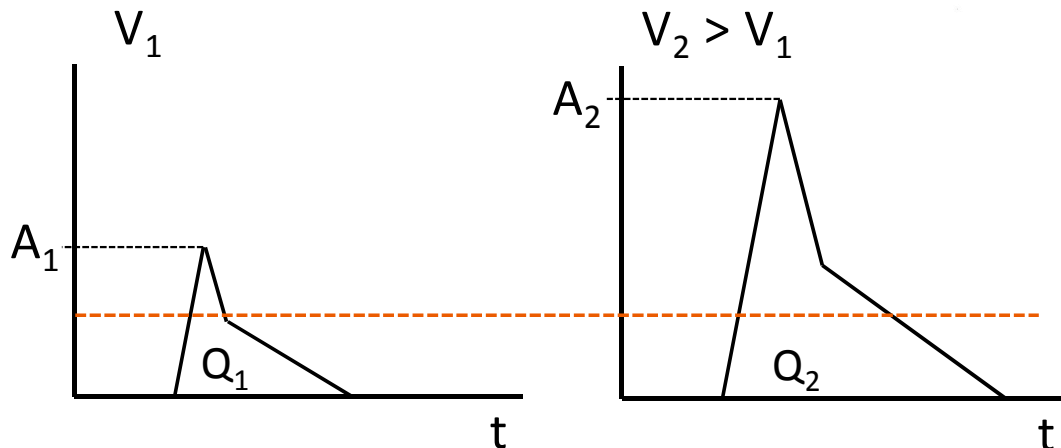
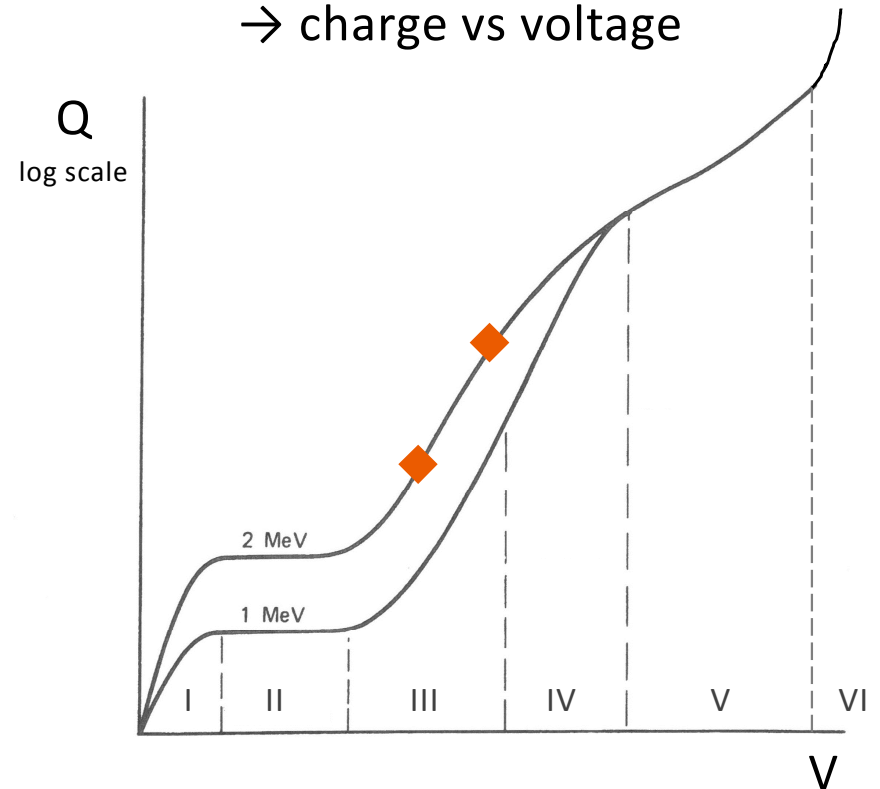
"plateau curve"

→ count rate vs voltage



regions of operation

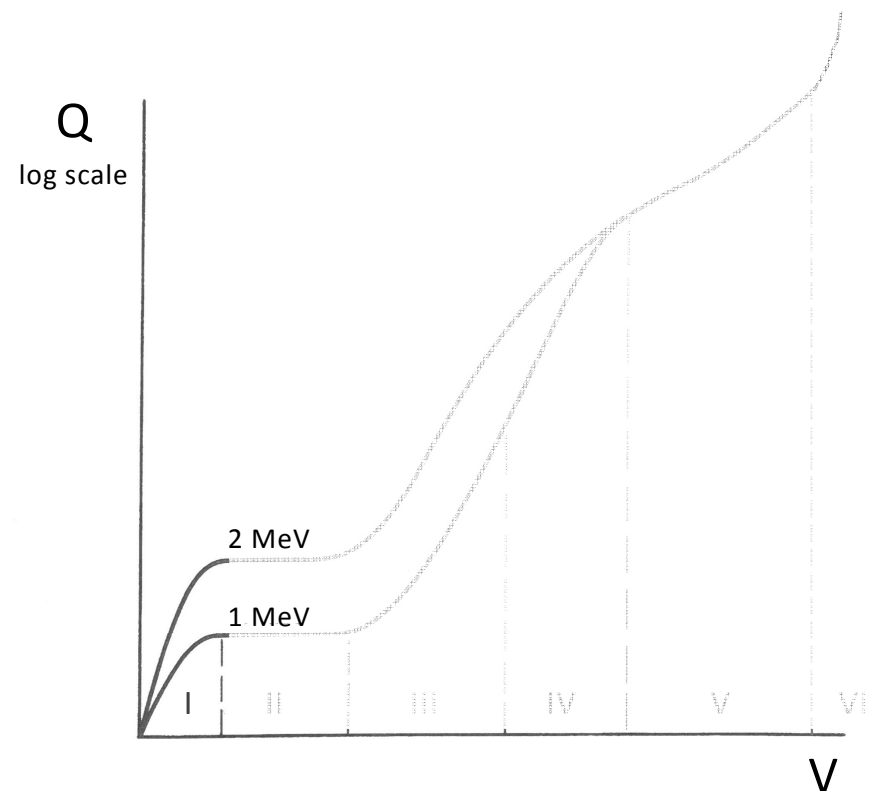
→ charge vs voltage



# Recombination Region

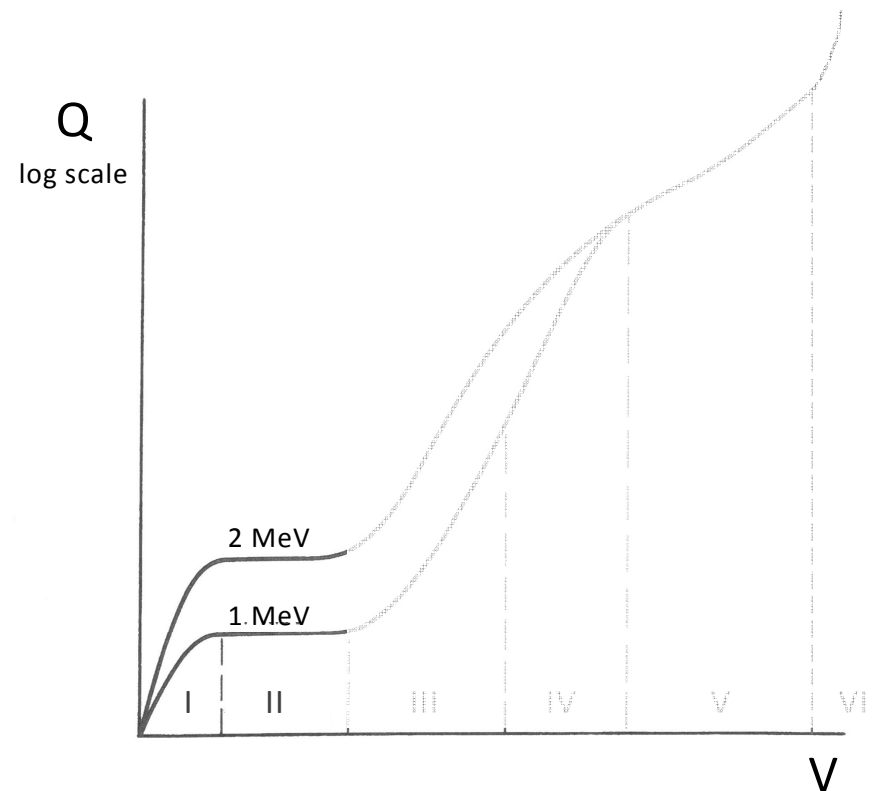
## region I

- applied voltage (and resulting field) very low
- electrons and ions move with relatively slow speeds
- recombination rate of electrons and ions still considerable
- as voltage (and field) increases, charges move faster
- recombination rate decreases up to point where it becomes 0



## region II

- recombination rate is 0 and no new charge is produced
- the collected charge stays constant despite a change of the applied voltage



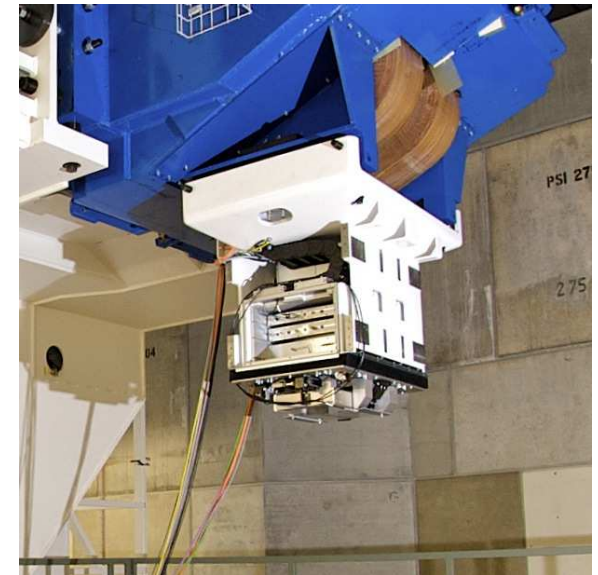
# Ionization Chamber

ionization chamber placed in proton beam at proton therapy

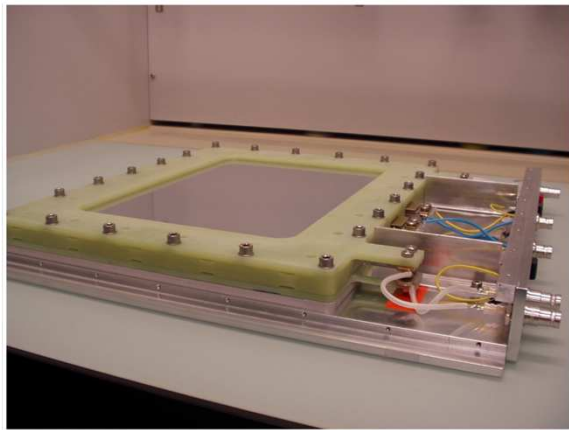
medical proton cyclotron

- $I_{\text{proton}} = 1 - 850 \text{ nA}$
- $E_{\text{kin}} = 250 \text{ MeV}$

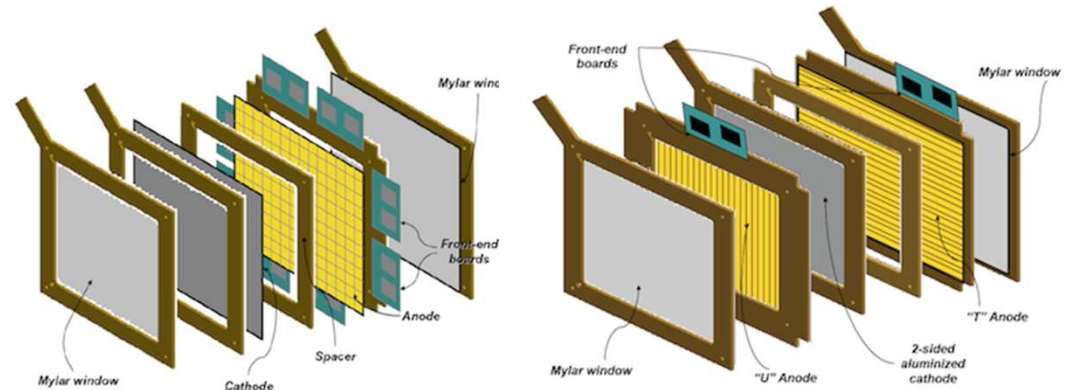
→ huge amount of primary ionisation



dose monitor



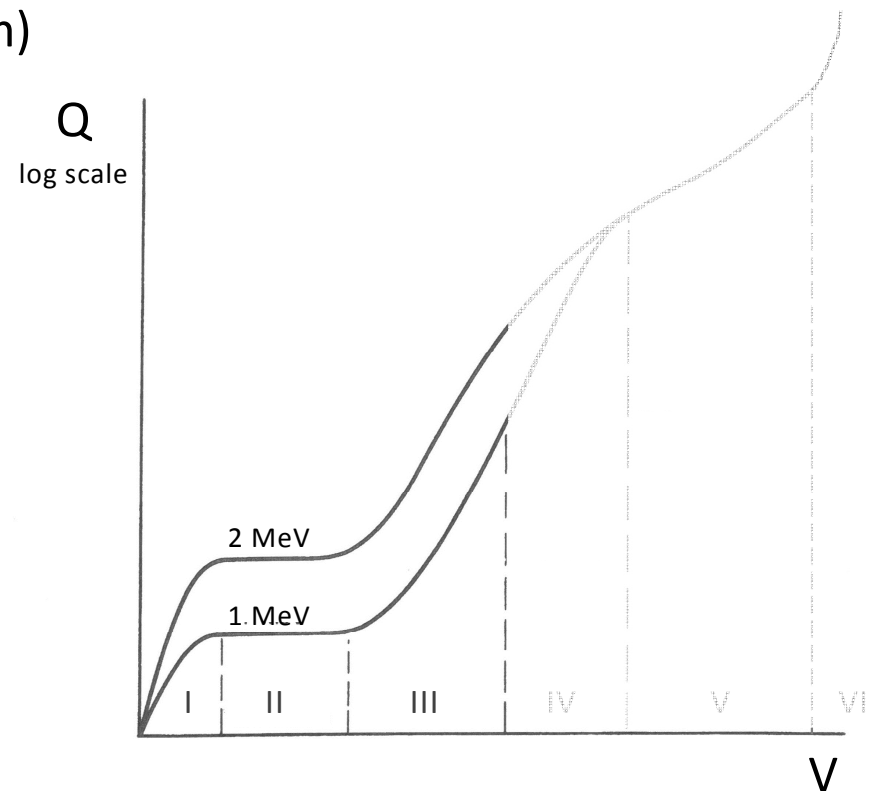
position monitor



# (True) Proportional Region

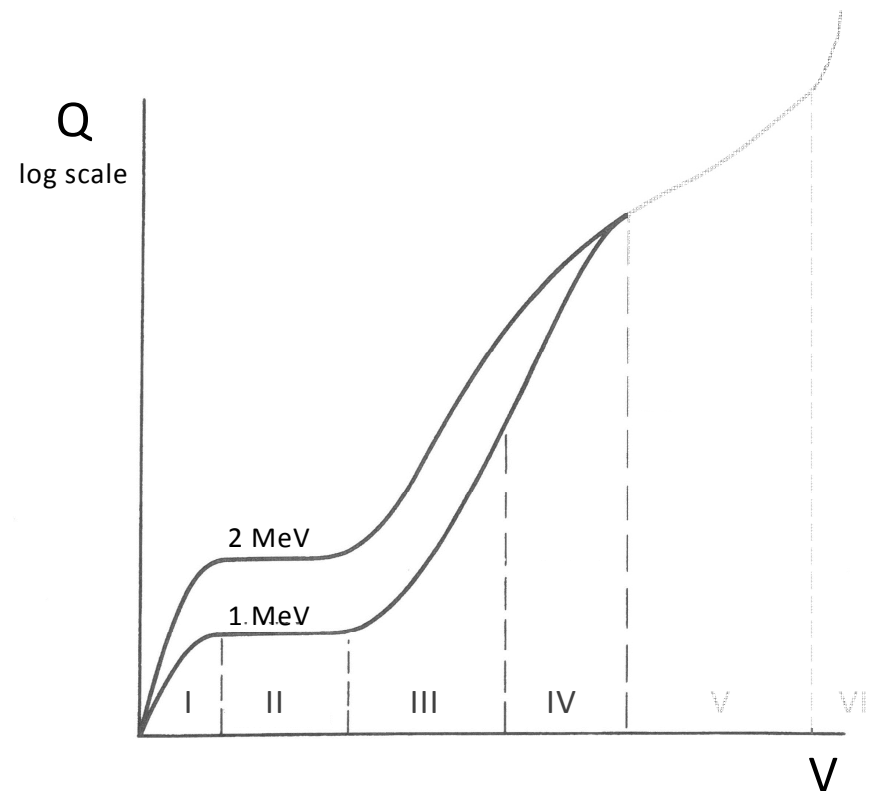
## region III

- electric field is very strong ( $> \sim 10$  kV/cm)  
in certain regions of the detector  
(e.g. wires, micro-strips, holes of  
GEM foil, micro-gaps)
- $e^-$  from primary ionisation acquire  
sufficient energy between collisions  
to produce additional ionisation in  
 $e^-$  atom or  $e^-$  molecule collisions
- the multiplication factor (gas gain) is  
for a given HV independent of  
primary ionisation  $n_0$ 
  - pulse height is proportional to  $n_0$
  - pulse height is proportional to  
dissipated energy



## region IV

- free  $e^-$  are quickly collected, but positive ions move much slower
- each  $e^-$  avalanche creates a cloud of positive ions which shield the amplification region (e.g. wire) and slowly moves towards the cathode
- this space charge can significantly deteriorate the shape of the electrical field
  - reduced “effective field” creates less gas amplification
  - pulse height still increases with increasing number of initial ion pairs but not anymore linearly





# Limited Proportional Region

space charges reduces electrical field:

→ lower "effective" voltage

→ lower amplification

voltage drop  $\Delta V$

$$\Delta V = \frac{s \cdot h^2 \cdot q \cdot \Phi \cdot \ln(r_c / a)}{4 \cdot \pi \cdot \epsilon_0 \cdot \mu \cdot V}$$

$s$  wire spacing

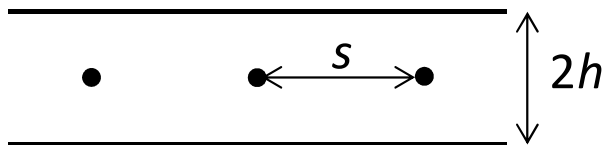
$h$  half gap

$\Phi$  rate

$a$  wire radius

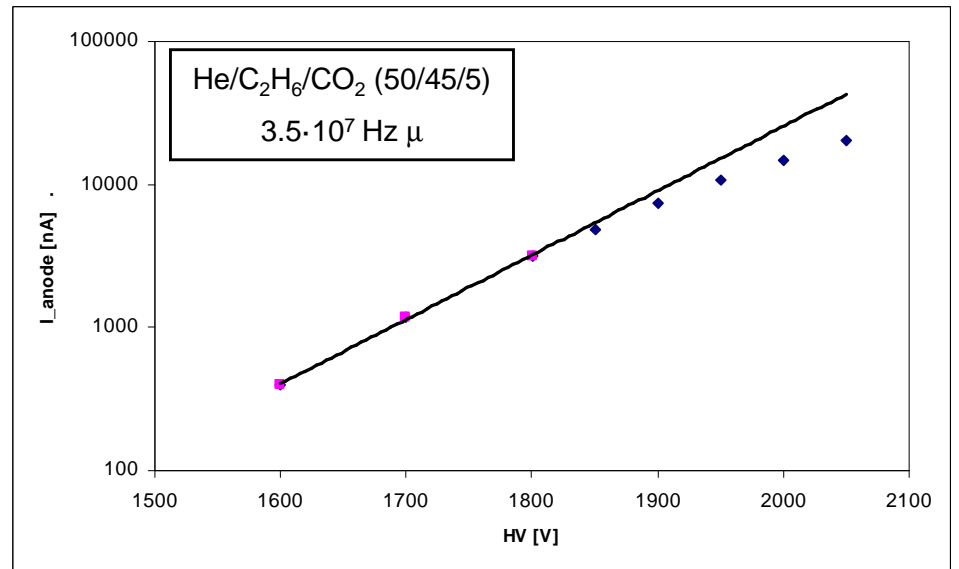
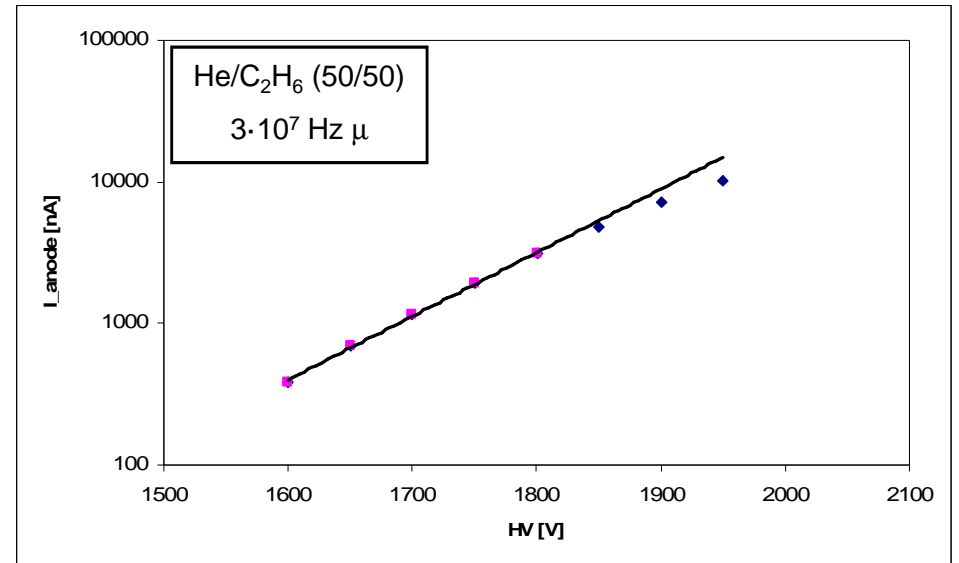
$r_c \approx s, h$

$V$  applied voltage



→ to reduce  $\Delta V$ : reduce  $s$  and  $h$

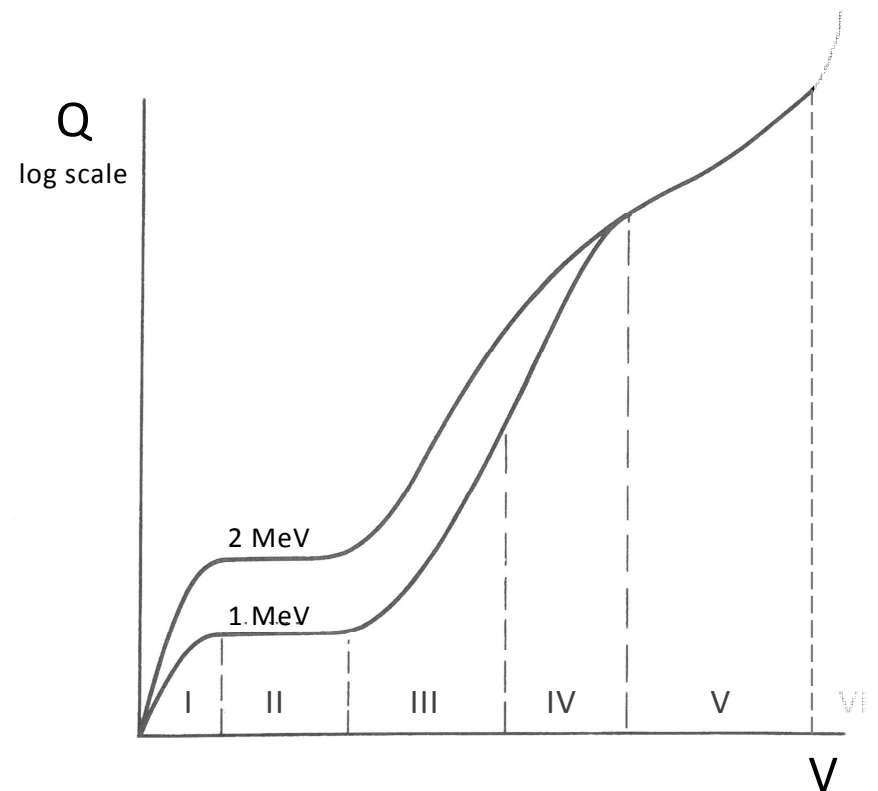
→ to increase rate capability: reduce cell size / increase granularity (e.g. MPGD)





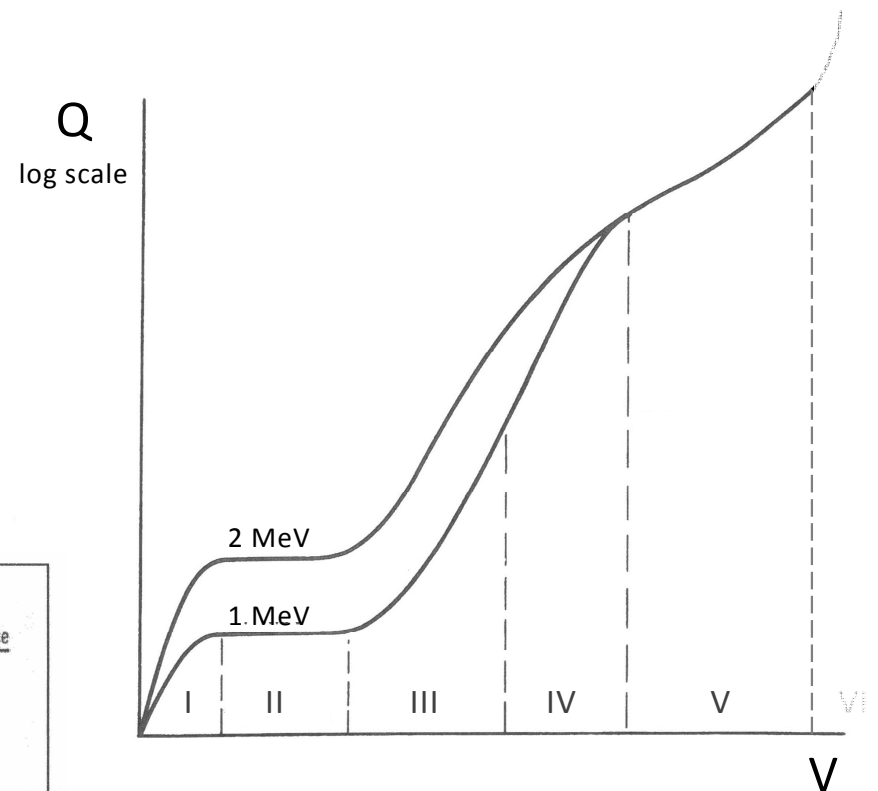
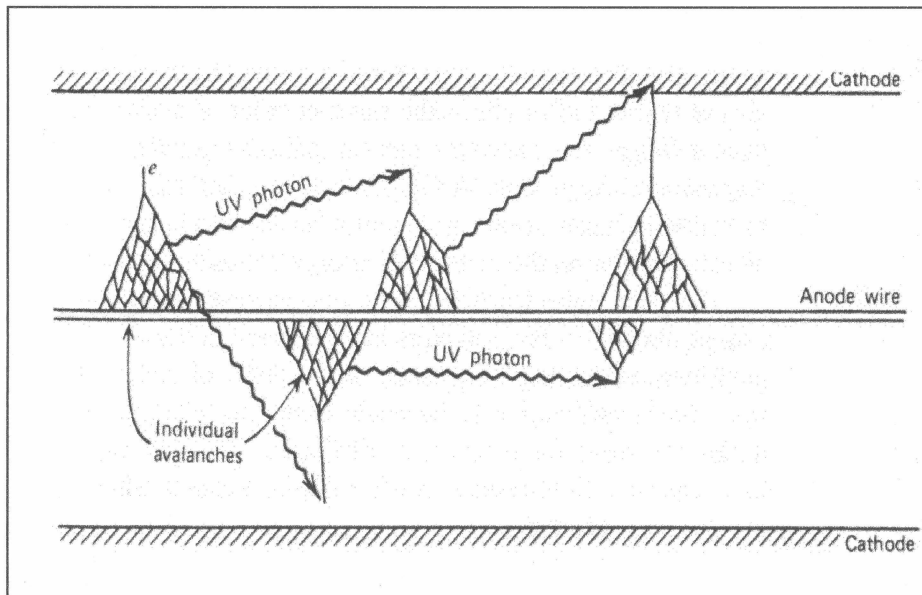
## region V

- space charge created by positive ions becomes completely dominant
  - shielding effect of amplification region increases such that the effective field decreases below the field strength where multiplication starts
- self-limited process which will terminate when the same total amount of positive ions have been created
- pulse shape and height are independent of primary ionisation  $n_0$  and no longer reflect any properties of the incident radiation



## region V

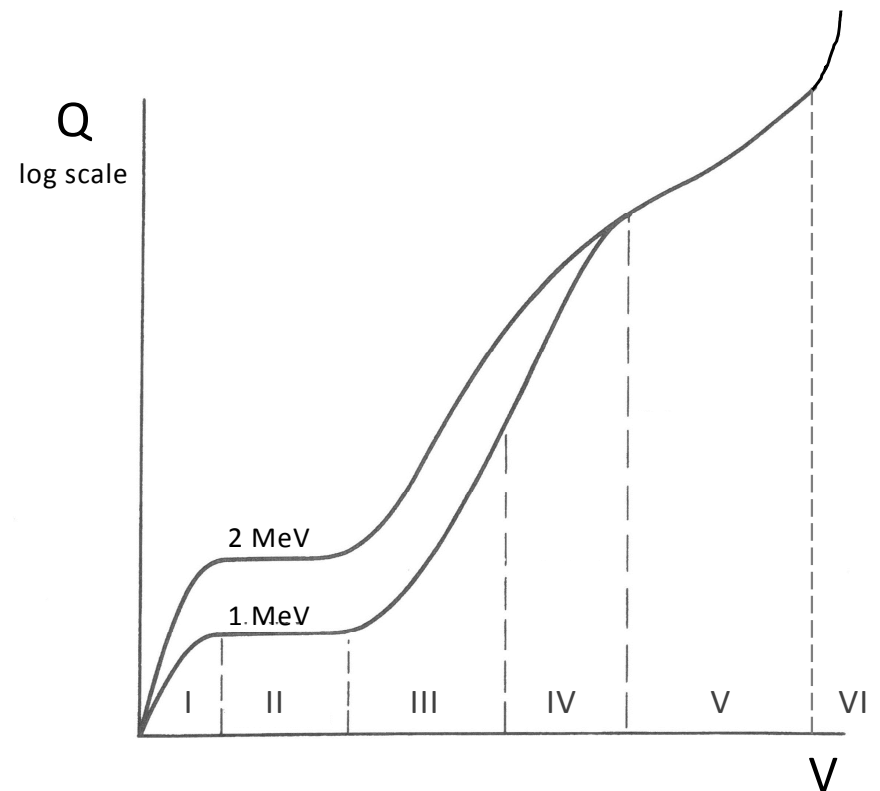
- depending on amount of “quencher” (photon absorber) in the gas:
  - photons emitted from excited atoms and molecules in the avalanche lead to
    - additional avalanches and
    - a spread along the entire length of the wire



# Discharge Region

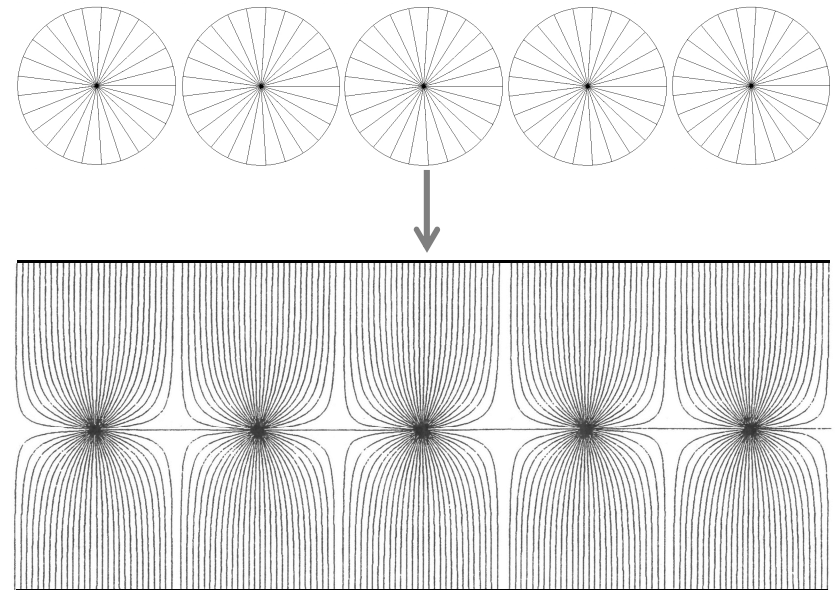
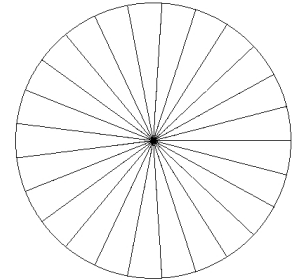
## region VI

- continuous breakdown with or without radiation (self-sustaining discharge)  
→ should be avoided to prevent damage to detector



# Large Area Gaseous Detectors

- **1908:** first wire counter to study natural radioactivity  
E.Rutherford, H.Geiger, 1908  
Geiger, 1913
- **1928:** Geiger-Müller counter with single electron sensitivity  
H.Geiger, W.Müller, 1928  
H.Geiger, W.Müller, 1928, 1929
- **1945:** proportional tubes  
H.Raether, 1949
- **1968:** multi-wire proportional chambers  
G.Charpak, 1968  
G.Charpak *et al.*, 1968

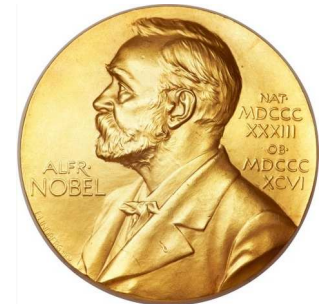


# Large Area Gaseous Detectors

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E.Rutherford, H.Geiger, 1908  
Geiger, 1913
- 1928: Geiger-Müller counter with single electron sensitivity  
H.Geiger, W.Müller, 1928  
H.Geiger, W.Müller, 1928, 1929
- 1945: proportional tubes  
H.Raether, 1949
- 1968: multi-wire proportional chambers  
G.Charpak, 1968  
G.Charpak *et al.*, 1968
- 1992: Nobel Price in Physics: G.Charpak  
*"...for his invention and development of particle detectors, in particular the multiwire proportional chamber."*



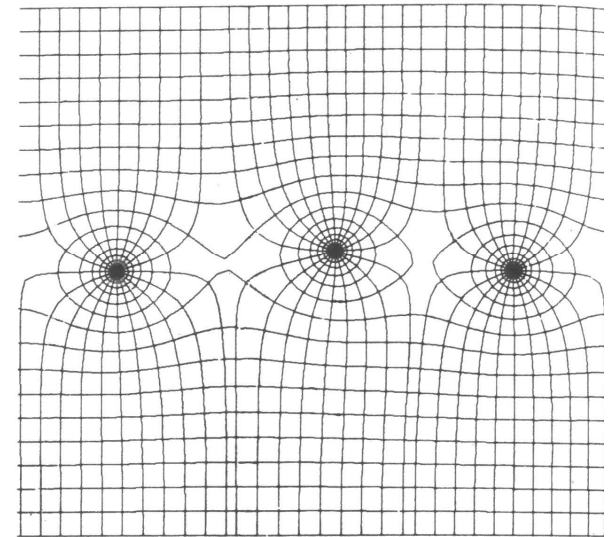
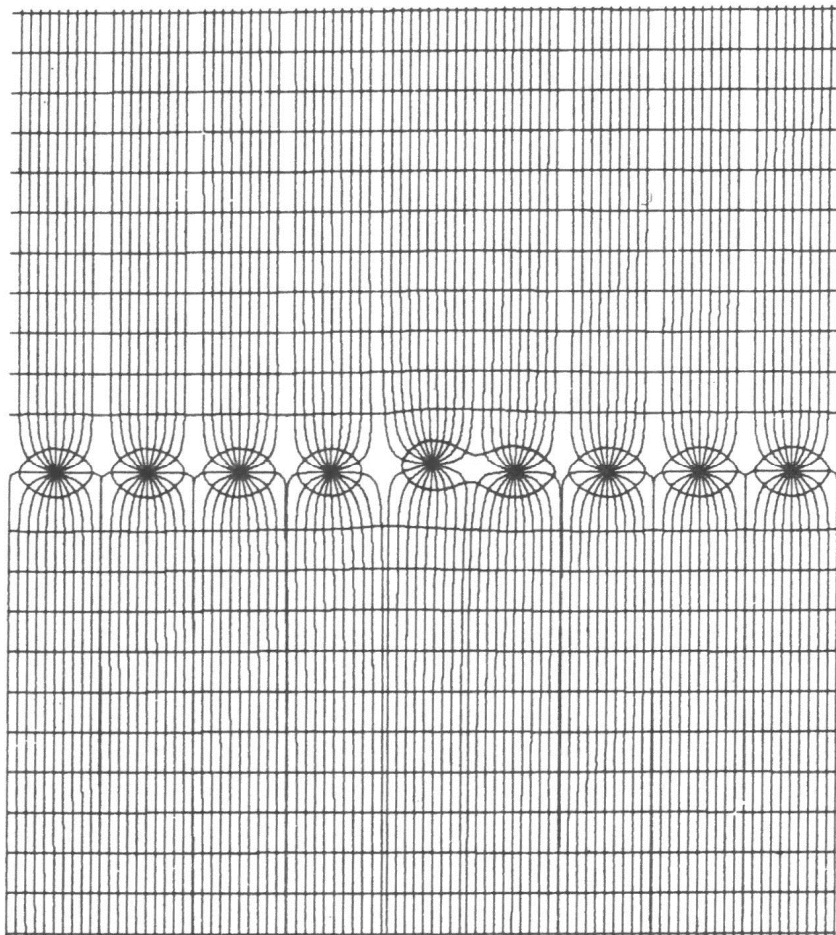
G.Charpak (1924 - 2010)



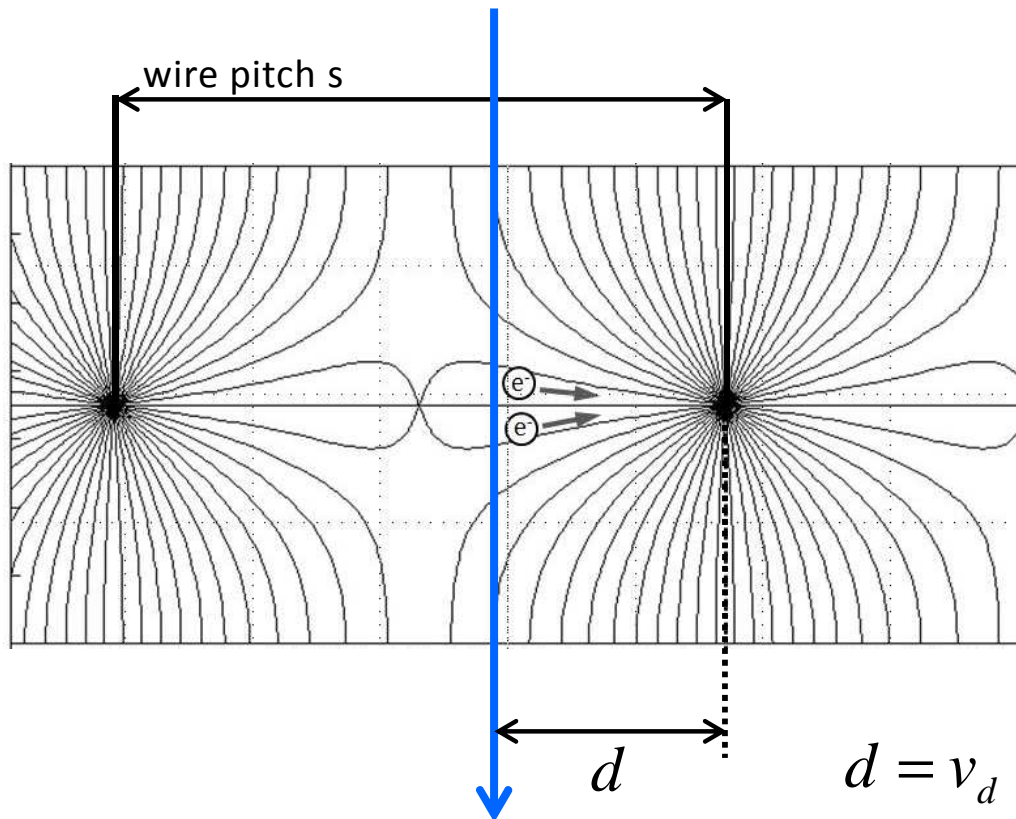
# Large Area Gaseous Detectors - Limitations

multi-wire proportional chamber (MWPC):

- spatial resolution given by granularity of anode wires (several mm)
- field distortions due to (electrostatic) displacements of anode wires



# Drift Chamber - Principle



$$d = v_d \cdot t$$

in case  $v_d = \text{constant}$

$$d = \int_{t_1}^{t_2} v_d(t) dt$$

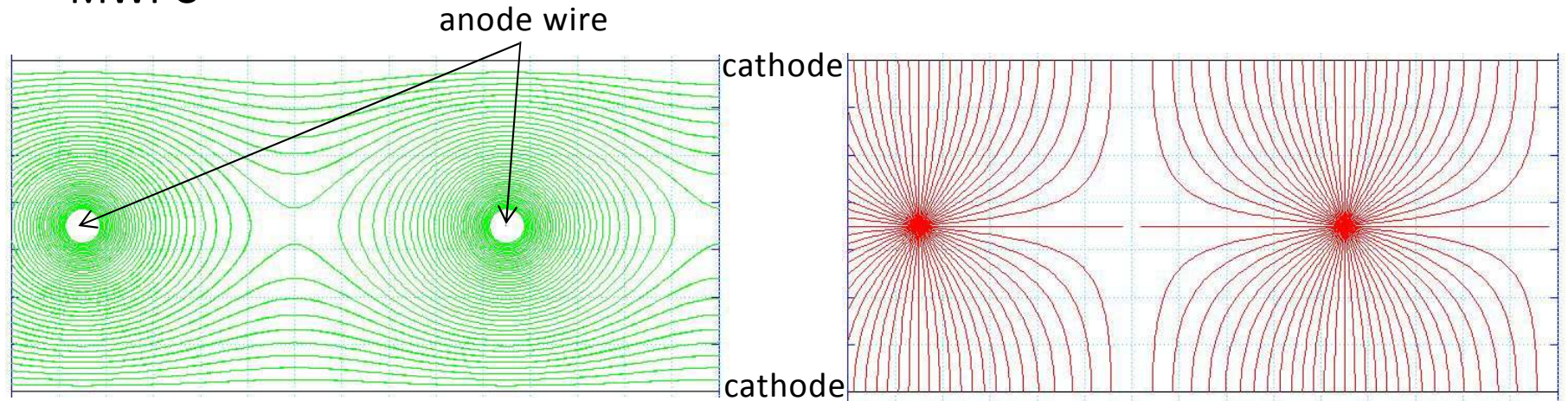
in case  $v_d = v_d(E)$

- characteristic features of drift chamber design:
  - geometry: small variations of  $E$  within drift cell
  - gaseous electronics, as  $v_d = v_d(E)$ : small  $\Delta v_d$  for unavoidable  $\Delta E$

# Drift Chamber – Adjustment of Electrical Field

electrical field without and with potential wire:

- MWPC

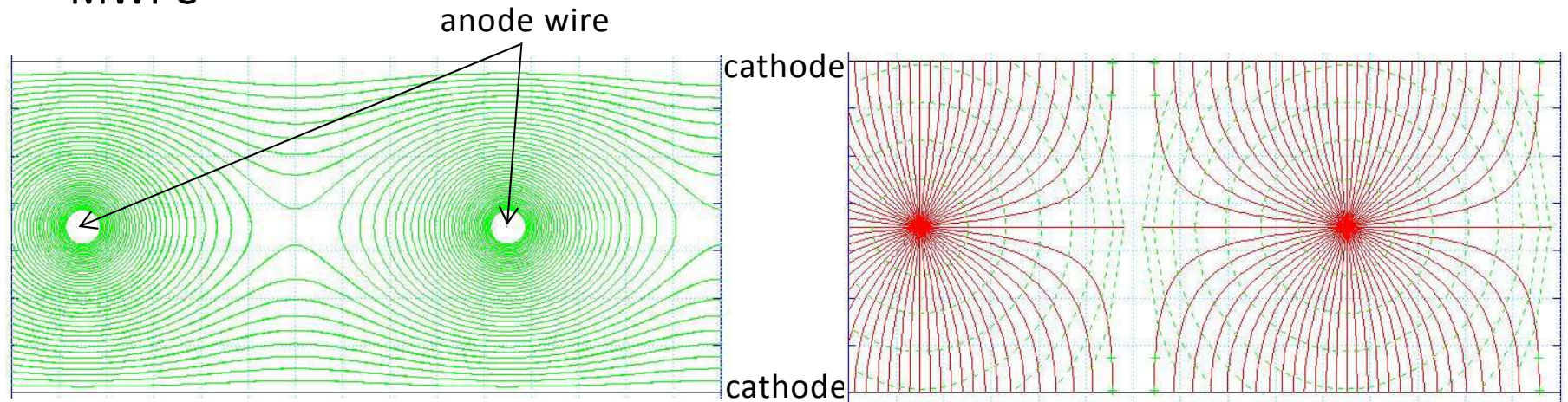




# Drift Chamber – Adjustment of Electrical Field

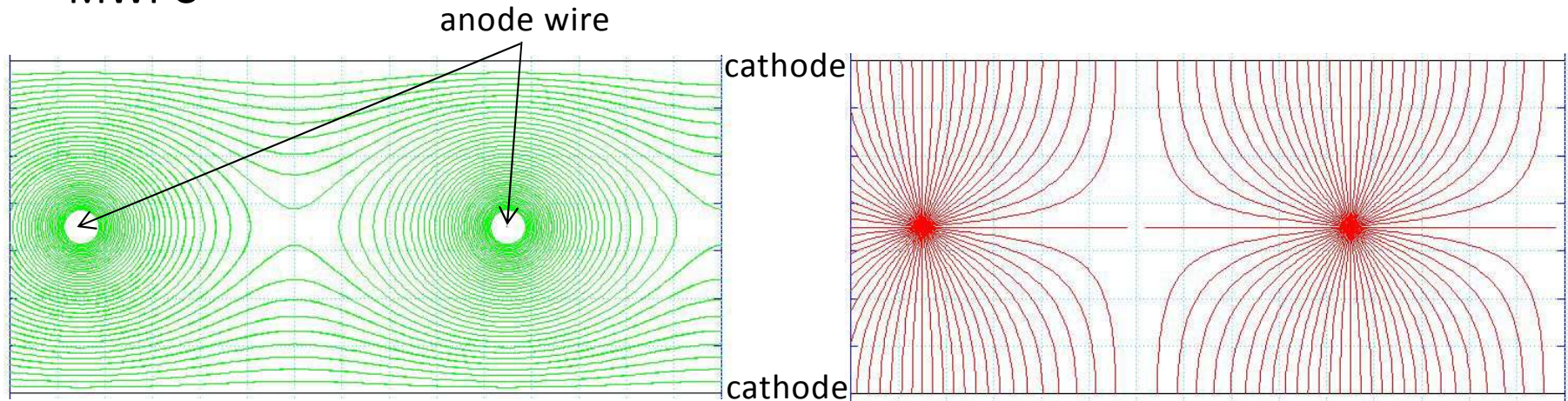
electrical field without and with potential wire:

- MWPC

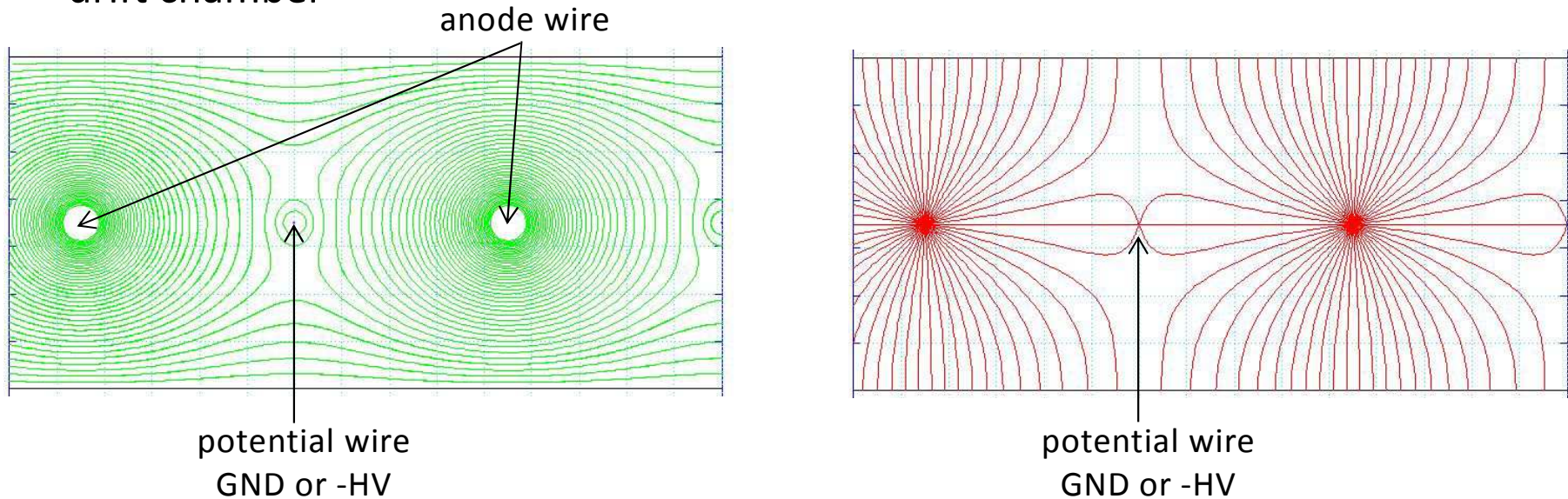


electrical field without and with potential wire:

- MWPC

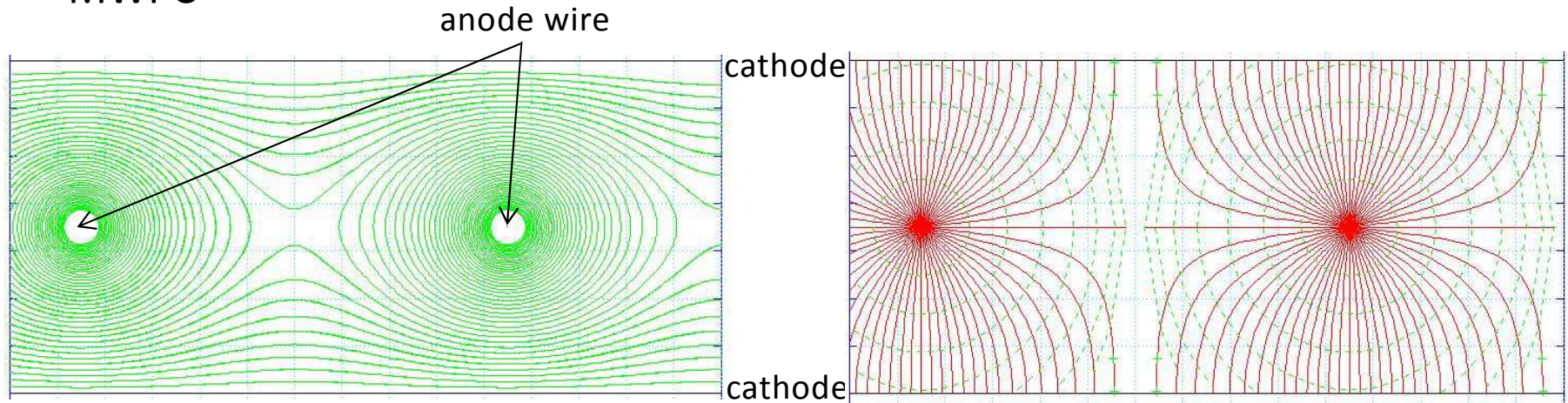


- drift chamber

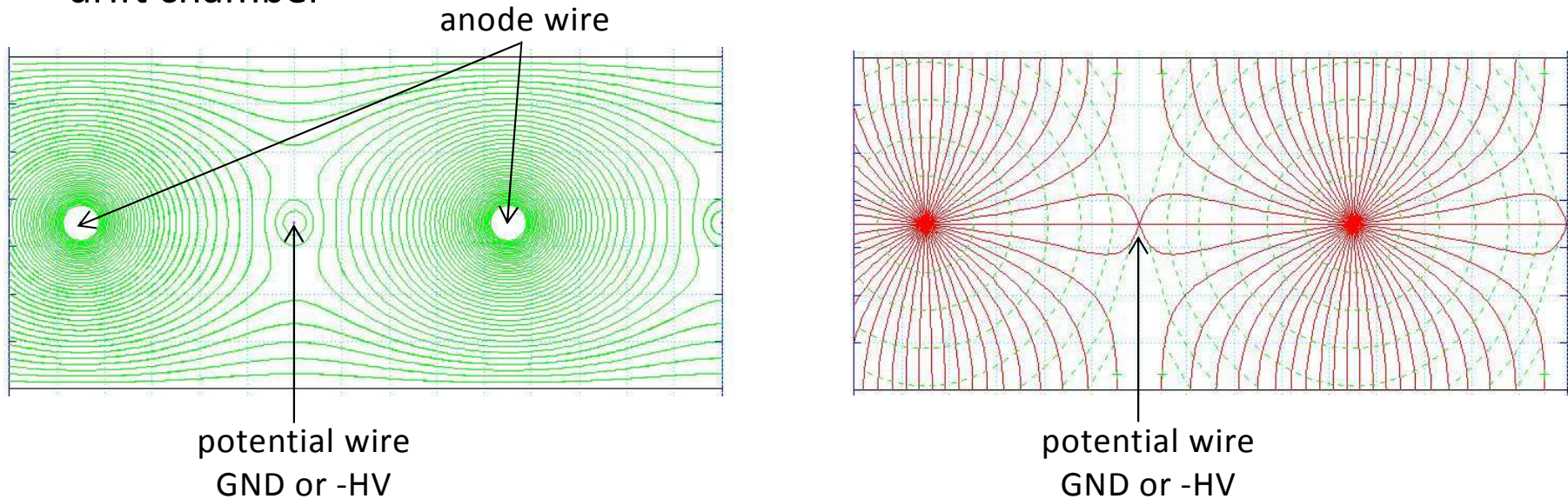


electrical field without and with potential wire:

- MWPC



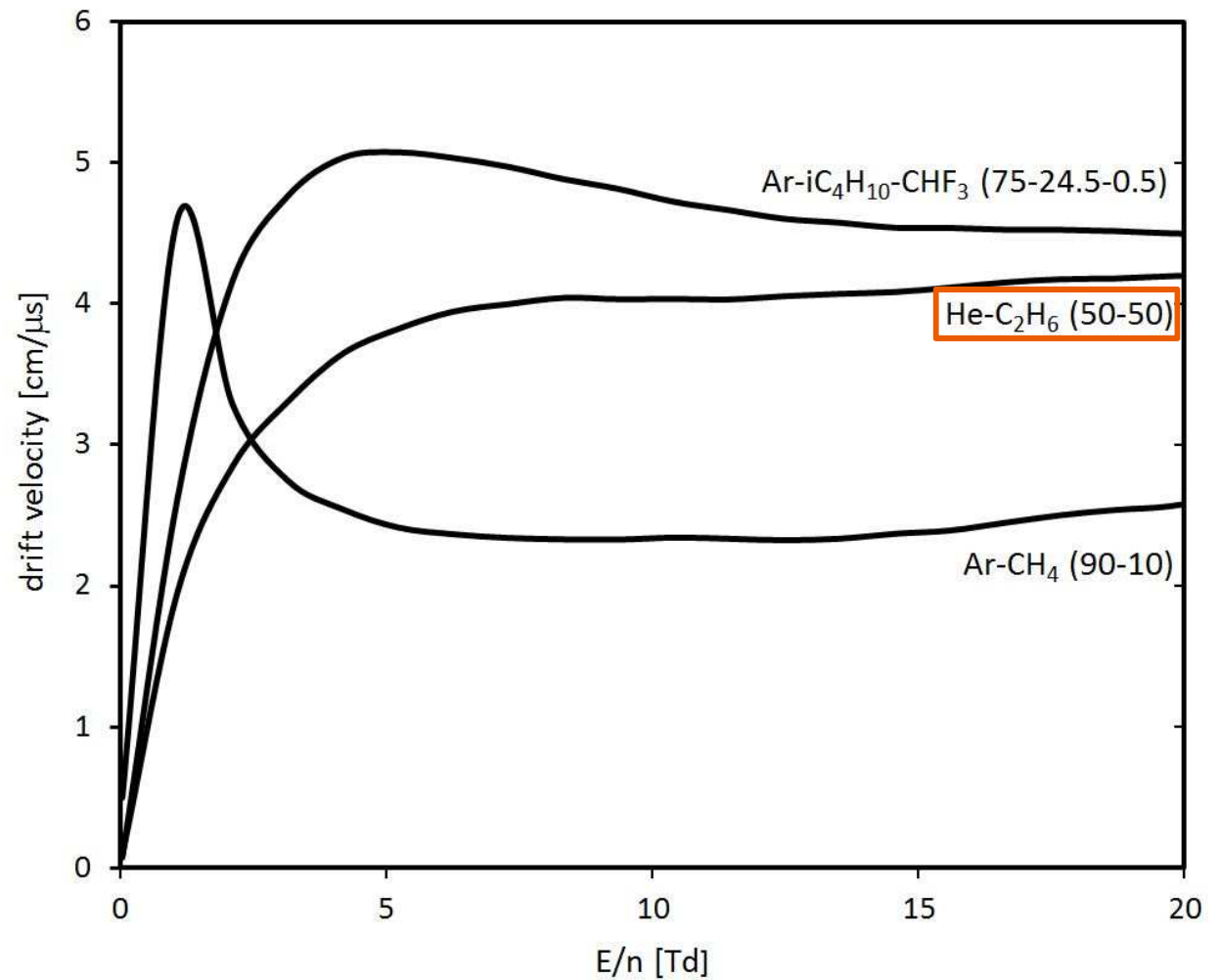
- drift chamber



# Drift Chamber – Choice of Gas

requirements for appropriate drift chamber filling gas:

- fast  $v_d$
- $v_d$  vs HV plateau
- small diffusion

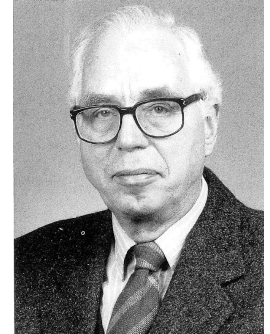


The drift chamber was "born" in Heidelberg:

- 1968/69: diploma thesis A. H. Walenta
- 1971: A. H. Walenta, J. Heintze and B. Schürlein, Nuclear Instruments and Methods 92 (1971) 373-380  
"The multiwire drift chamber - a new type of proportional wire chamber"
- 1972: PhD thesis A. H. Walenta: "Lokalisierung von Teilchenspuren durch Messung der Elektronendriftzeiten in grossflächigen Proportionalzählern"



A.H.Walenta



J.Heintze

NUCLEAR INSTRUMENTS AND METHODS 92 (1971) 373-380; © NORTH-HOLLAND PUBLISHING CO.

**THE MULTIWIRE DRIFT CHAMBER  
A NEW TYPE OF PROPORTIONAL WIRE CHAMBER\***

A. H. WALENTA, J. HEINTZE and B. SCHÜRLEIN

*I. Physikalisches Institut der Universität Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany*

Received 27 November 1970

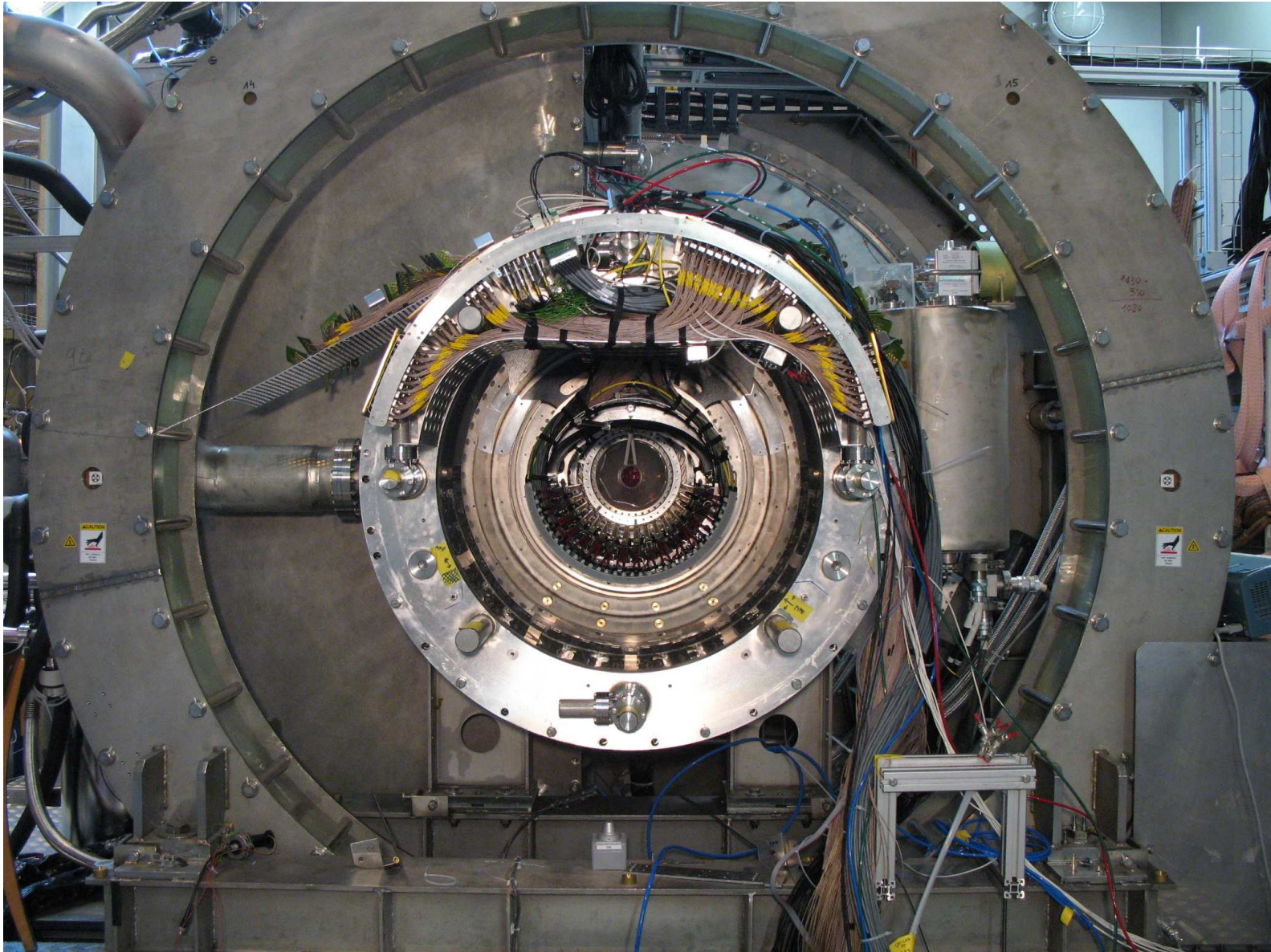
In this article a new type of proportional wire chamber is described with large wire distances and accurate position determination by drift time measurement. The electronic circuitry required has been considerably reduced while the space resolution has been improved as compared to a conventional propor-

tional wire chamber. The limit for position accuracy seems to be at present  $\sigma = 0.2$  mm.

The complete system with computer read out described in this article has a location accuracy of  $\sigma = 0.47$  mm.

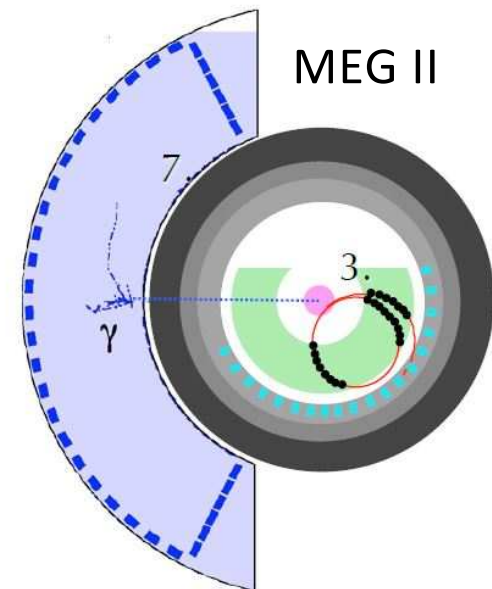
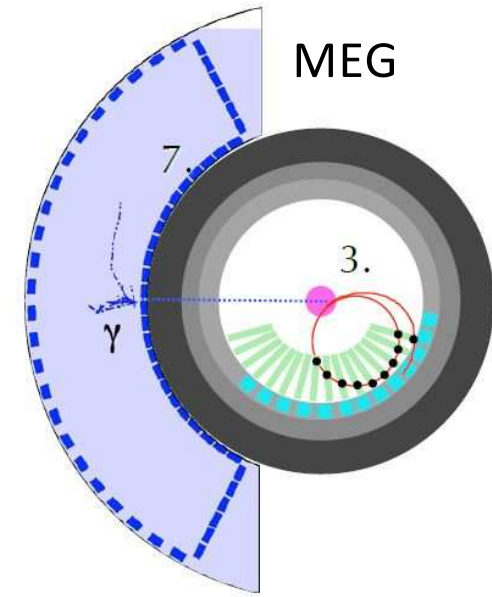
**$\sigma = 0.2$  mm even with wire pitch  $\sim 10$  mm**

# MEG Experiment



# MEG and MEG II experiment

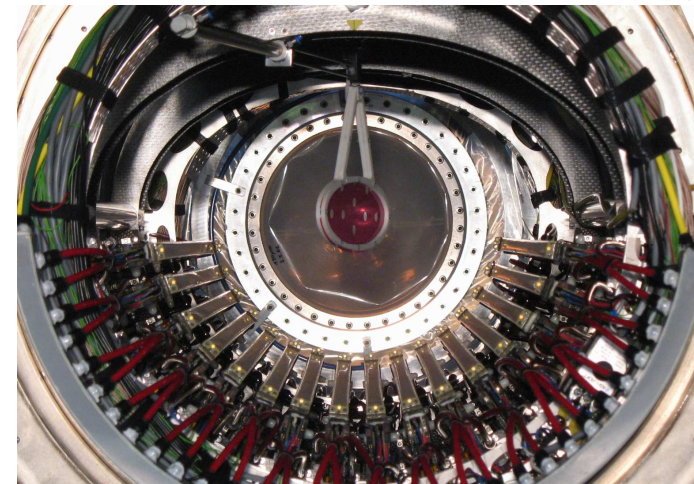
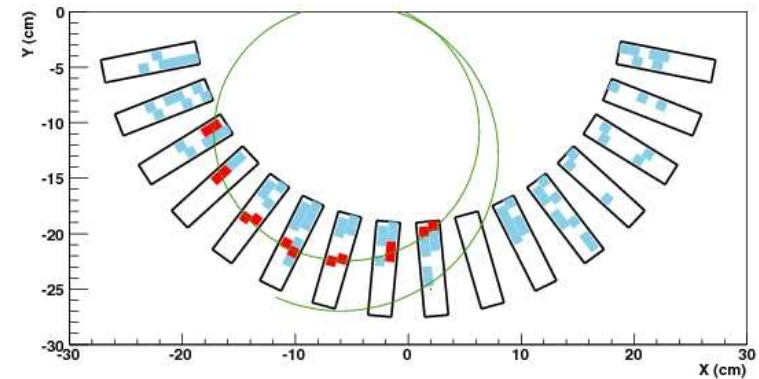
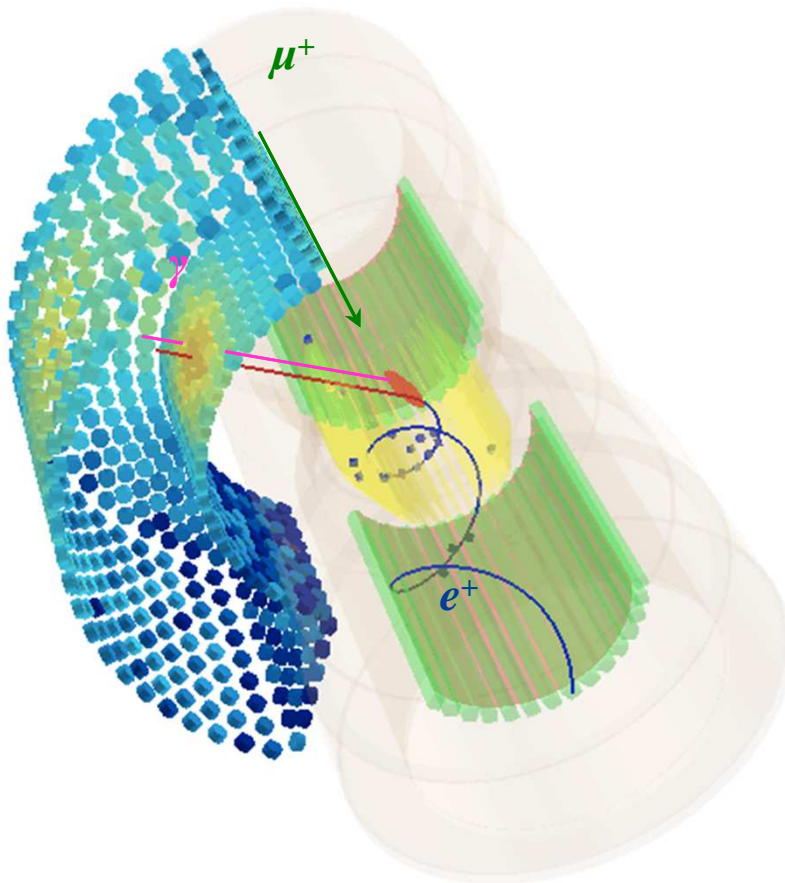
- dedicated experiments for the search for the charge lepton violating decay
 
$$\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \gamma$$
  - MEG:  $B(\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \gamma) < 4.2 \cdot 10^{-13}$  (90% CL)
  - MEG II: x10 improvement in sensitivity
- positron spectrometer (tracker & timing counter) designed for precision measurement of 52.8 MeV/c  $e^+$
- tracker system
  - high momentum resolution (< 0.4%)
  - high angular resolution (~5mrad)
  - low-mass tracker for low multiple Coulomb scattering contribution
  - very good spatial resolution in sub-mm region
- gaseous detector: drift chamber



# Radiation Length

MEG experiment: material budget (in units of  $X_0$ ) along  $e^+$  track

	MEG	MEG II
detector module	$2.6 \cdot 10^{-4}$	
track (7.5 modules)	$2.0 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$1.1 - 1.2 \cdot 10^{-3}$

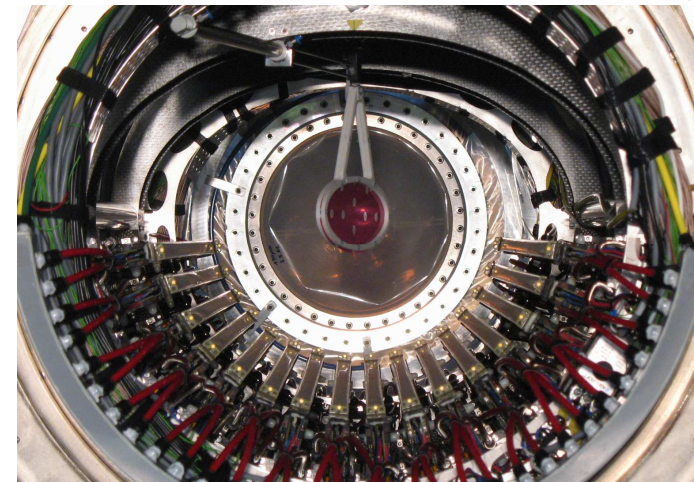
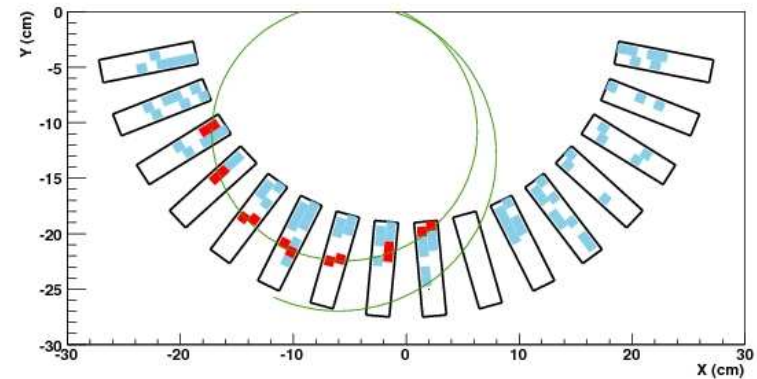
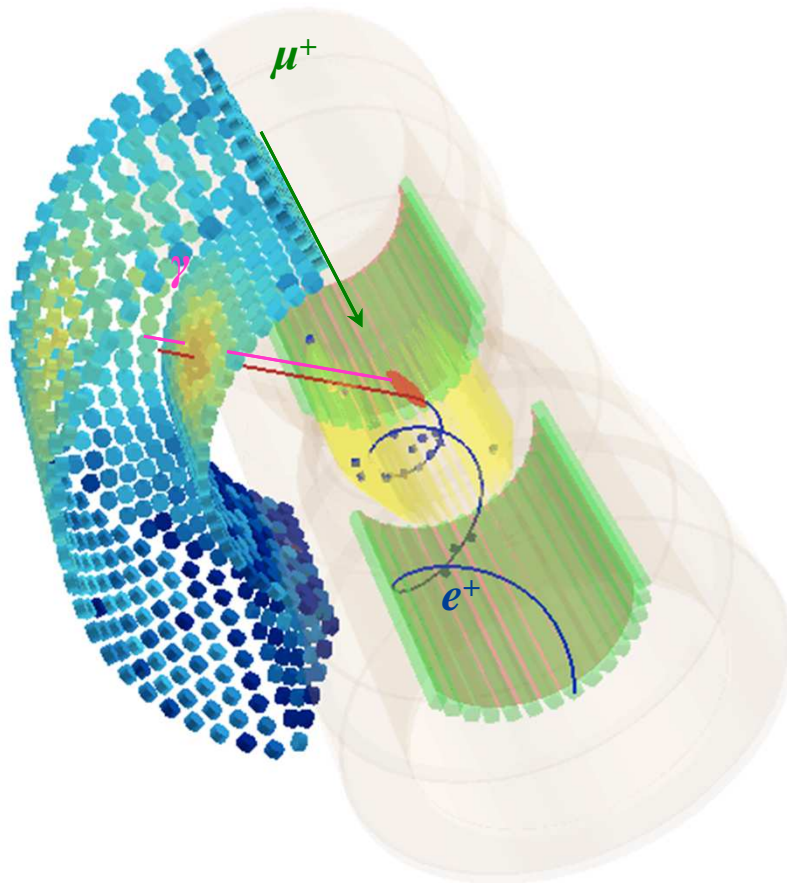




# Radiation Length

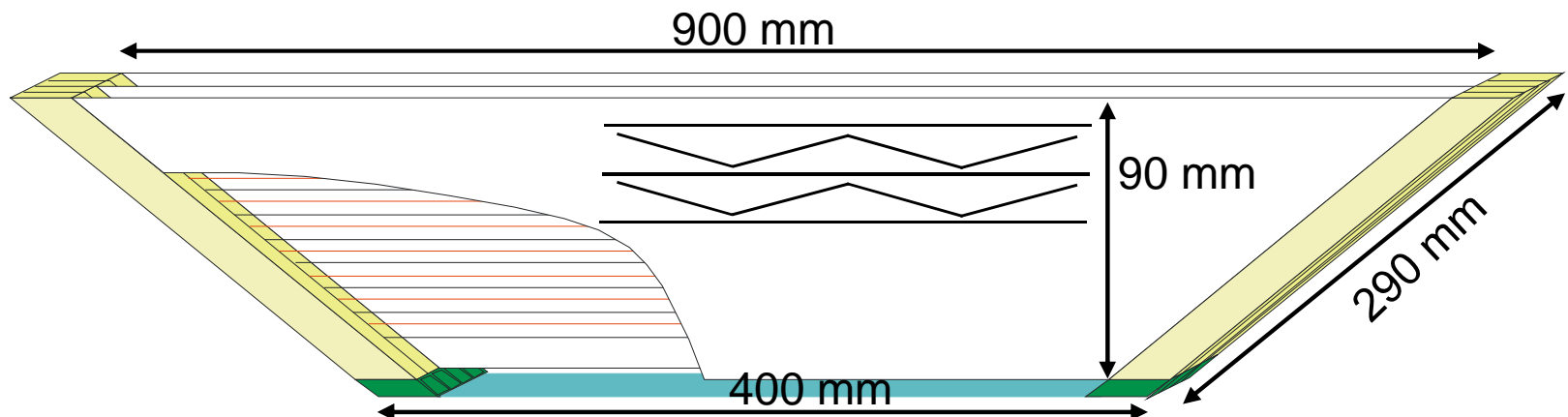
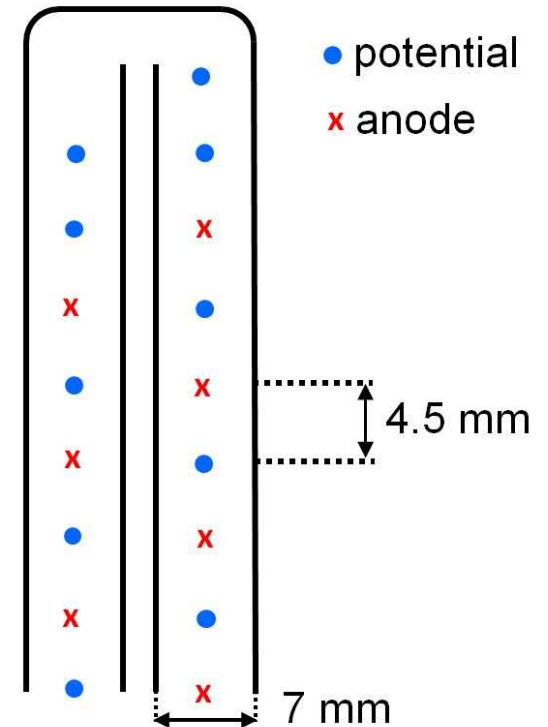
MEG experiment: material budget (in units of  $X_0$ ) along  $e^+$  track

	MEG	MEG II	300 $\mu$ m Si	50 $\mu$ m Si
detector module	$2.6 \cdot 10^{-4}$		$32 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$5.3 \cdot 10^{-4}$
track (7.5 modules)	$2.0 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$1.1 - 1.2 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$24 \cdot 10^{-3} (?)$	$4.0 \cdot 10^{-3} (?)$

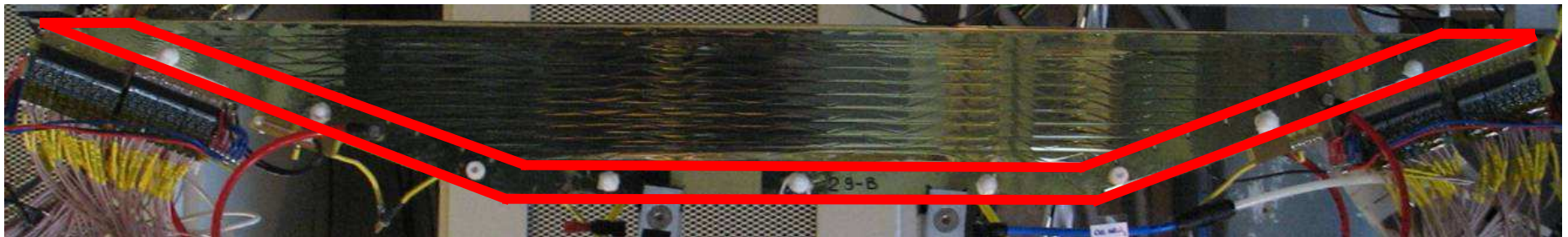
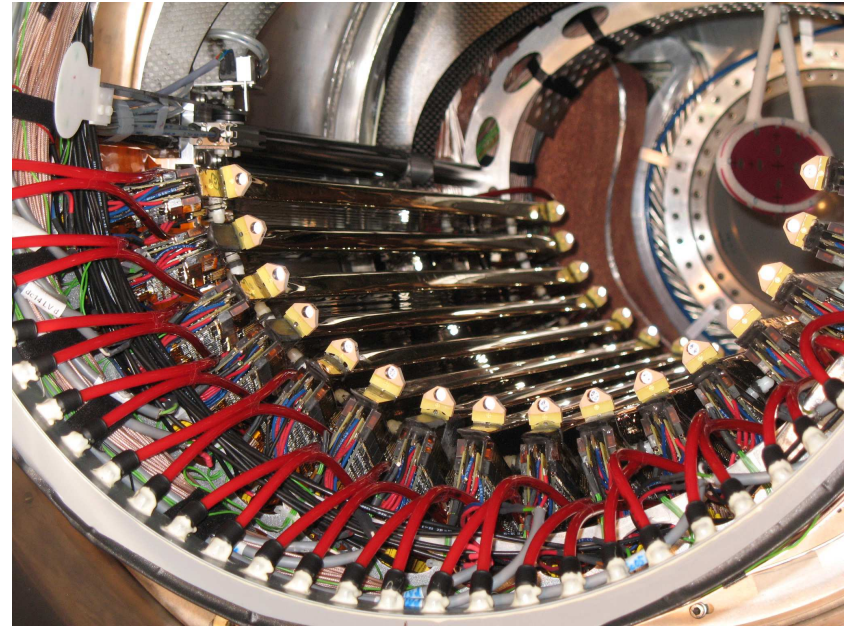
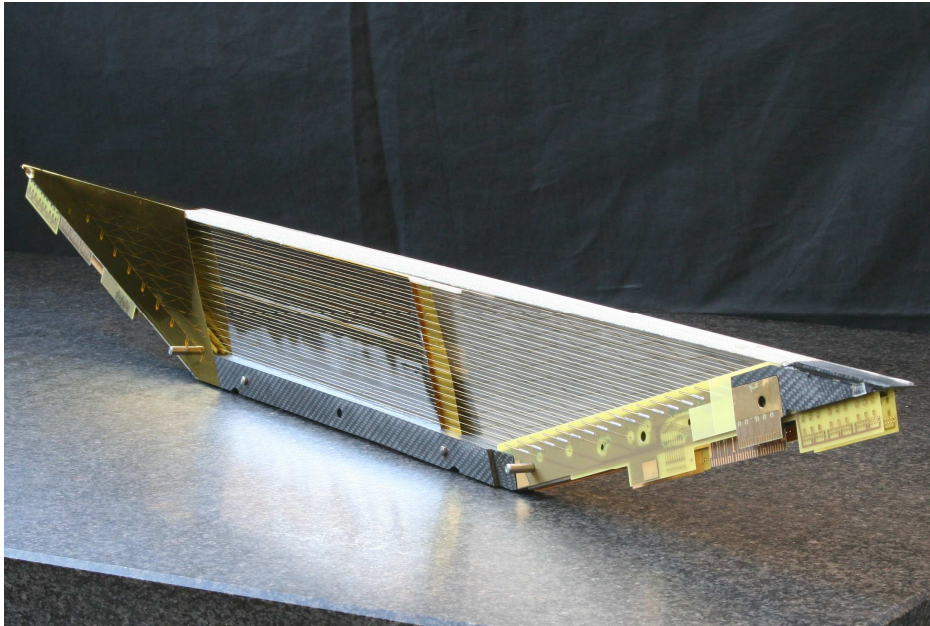


# MEG Drift Chamber

- V shaped frame → "no" material in sensitive area
- DC module consists of detector two planes
- middle cathode/cathode hood  
12.5  $\mu\text{m}$  polyimid foil, 250 nm Al deposition
- two wire planes: alternating anode and potential wires
- wires planes shifted by  $d_{\text{anode-pot.wire}}$

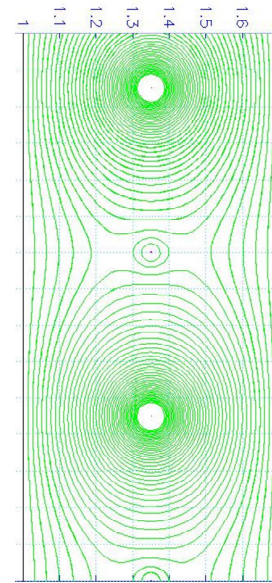
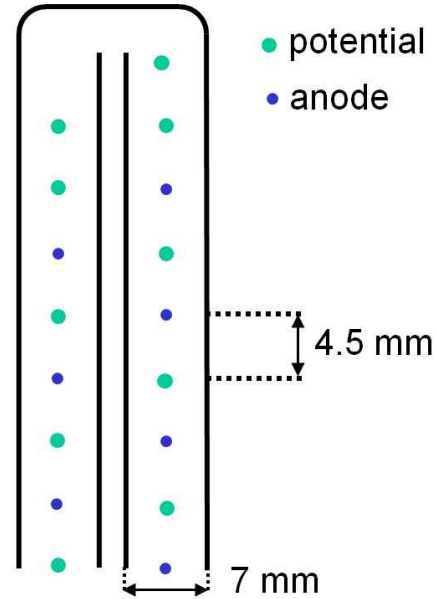


# MEG Drift Chamber



# MEG Drift Chamber – Characteristics I

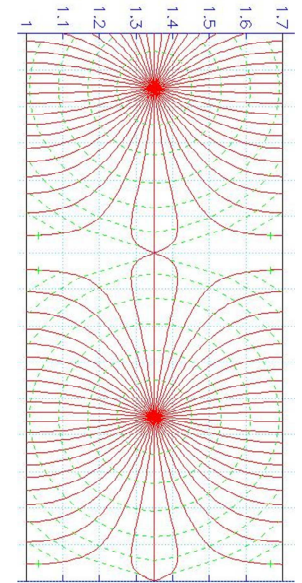
▪ field geometry:



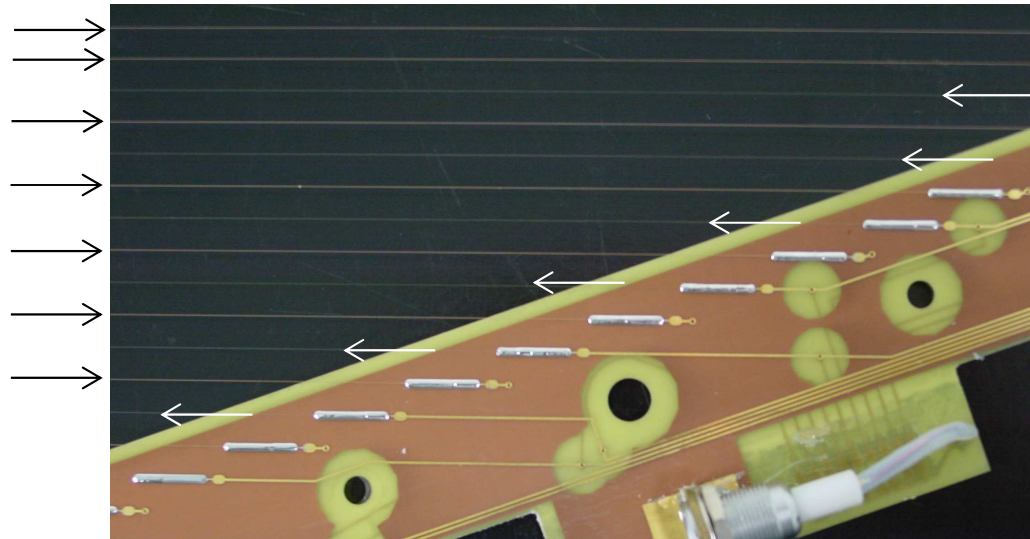
anode

potential

anode

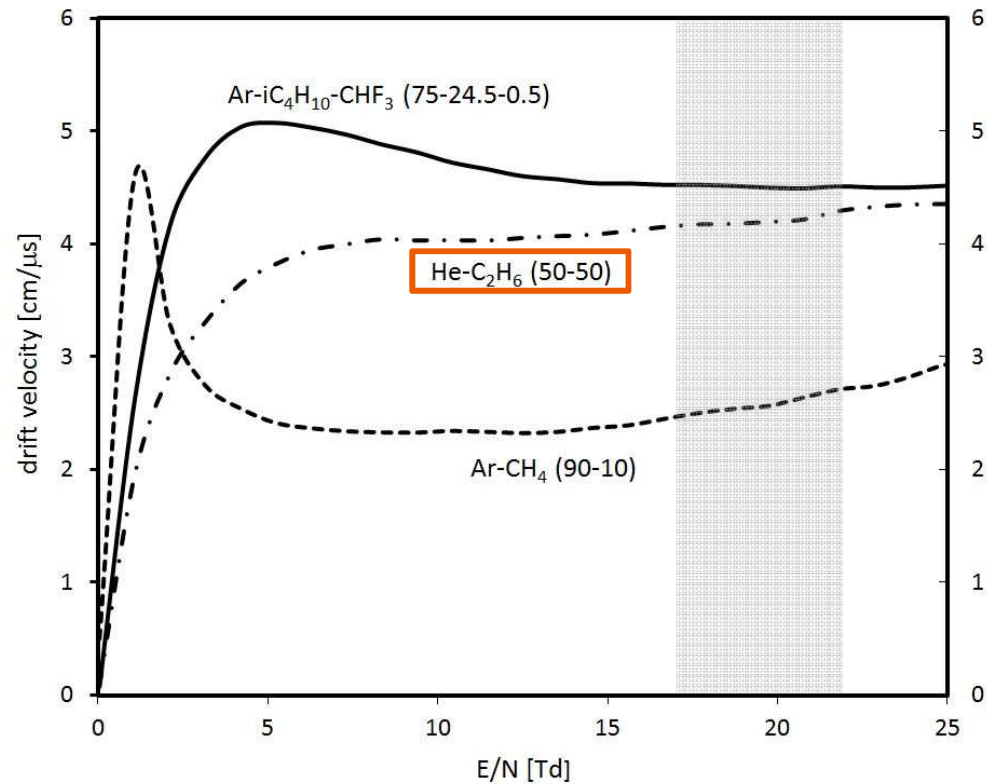


potential wires  
 Cu 98/Be 2  
 $\varnothing$  50  $\mu$ m



anode wires  
 Ni 80/Cr 20  
 $\varnothing$  25  $\mu$ m

- filling gas He-C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub> (50-50)
  - quite high  $v_d$
  - $v_d$  vs HV plateau
  - long radiation length due to He
  - good HV stability due to C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub>

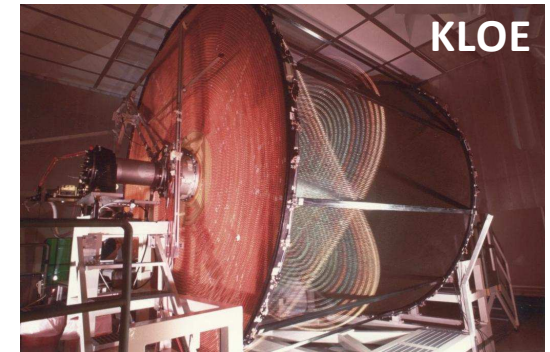


"P10": Ar-CH<sub>4</sub> (90-10)

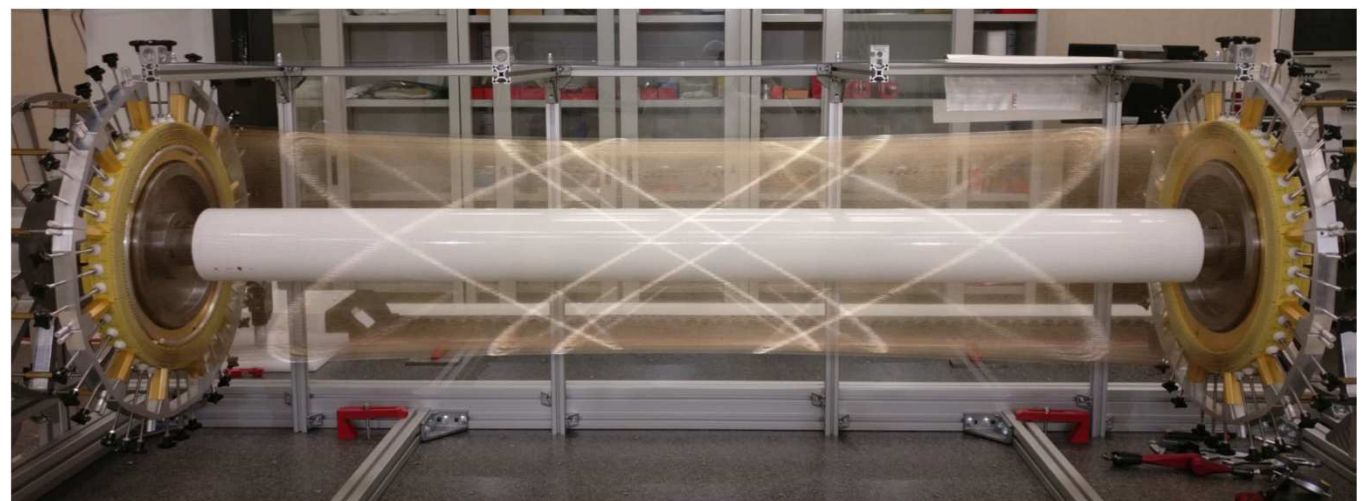
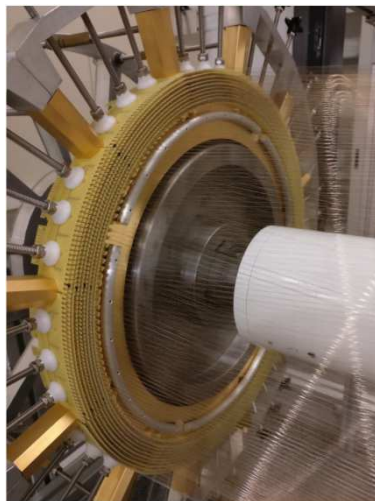
"magic gas": Ar-iC<sub>4</sub>H<sub>10</sub>-CHF<sub>3</sub> (75-24.5-0.5)

# MEG II Cylindrical Drift Chamber

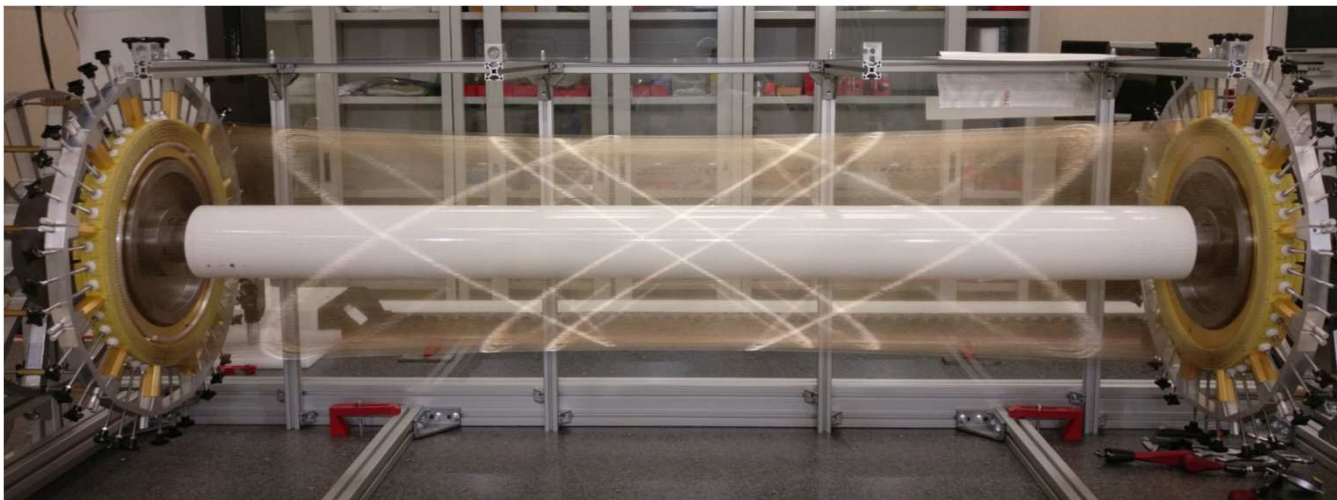
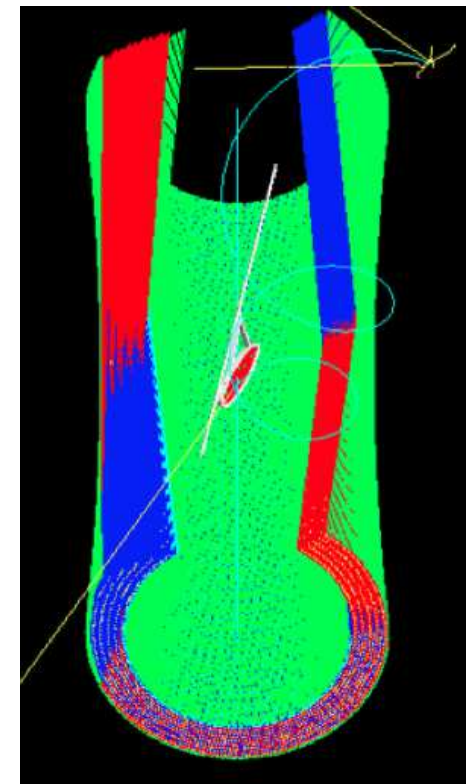
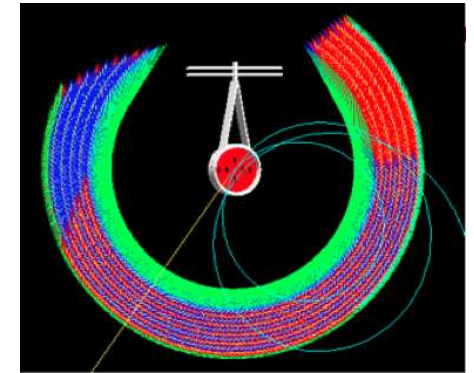
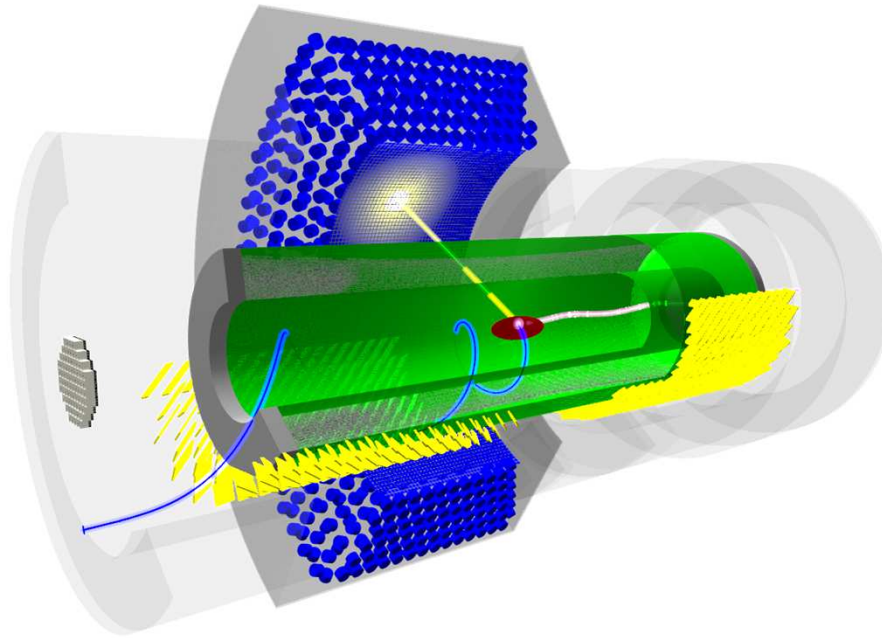
- based on drift chamber of KLOE experiment at DAΦNE (INFN Frascati)
- single, cylindrical volume (L ~200 cm,  $\varnothing_{\text{outer}}$  60 cm)
- wires with stereo angle and U - V views  
→ determination of hit position along wire
- small drift cell sizes (7 mm)
- ~1400 anode wires (gold-plated W,  $\varnothing$  20  $\mu\text{m}$ )  
~7500 cathode/guard wires (silver-plated Al,  $\varnothing$  40/50  $\mu\text{m}$ )



KLOE

L=3.3m,  $\varnothing$  4m, 52140 wires

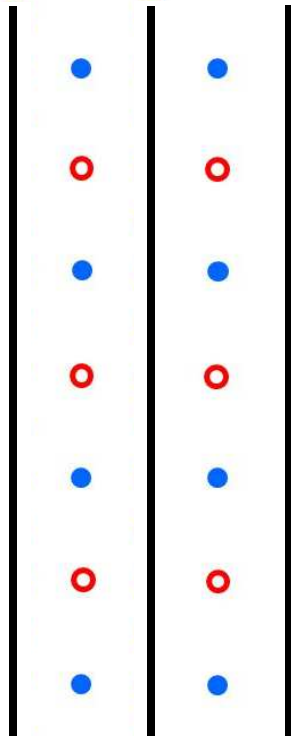
# MEG II Cylindrical Drift Chamber





# MEG II Cylindrical Drift Chamber

- drift cell geometry (MEG)



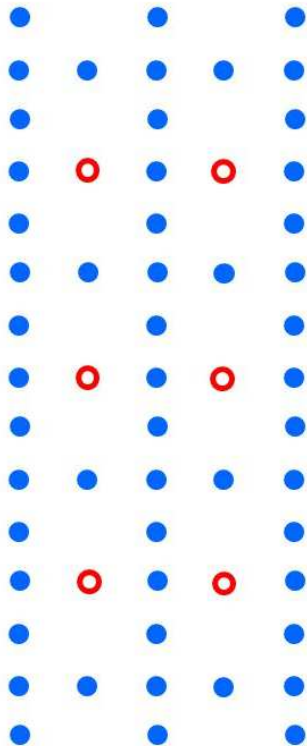
○ anode  
● cathode





# MEG II Cylindrical Drift Chamber

- drift cell geometry

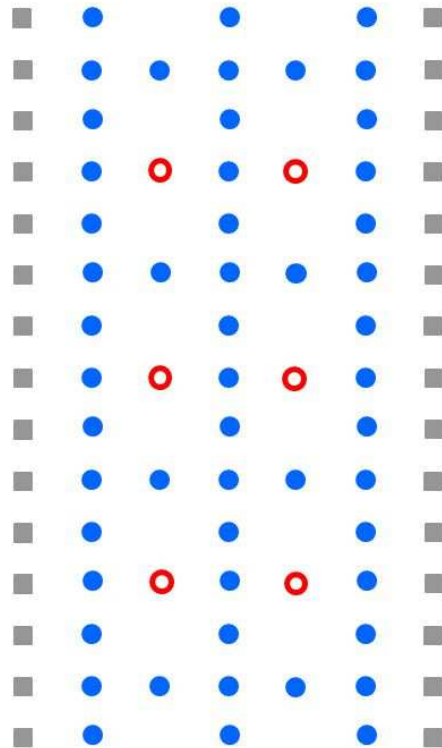


○ anode  
● cathode



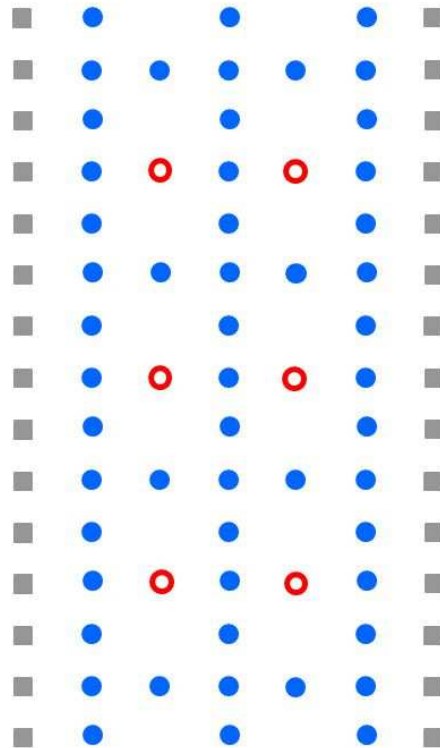
# MEG II Cylindrical Drift Chamber

- drift cell geometry

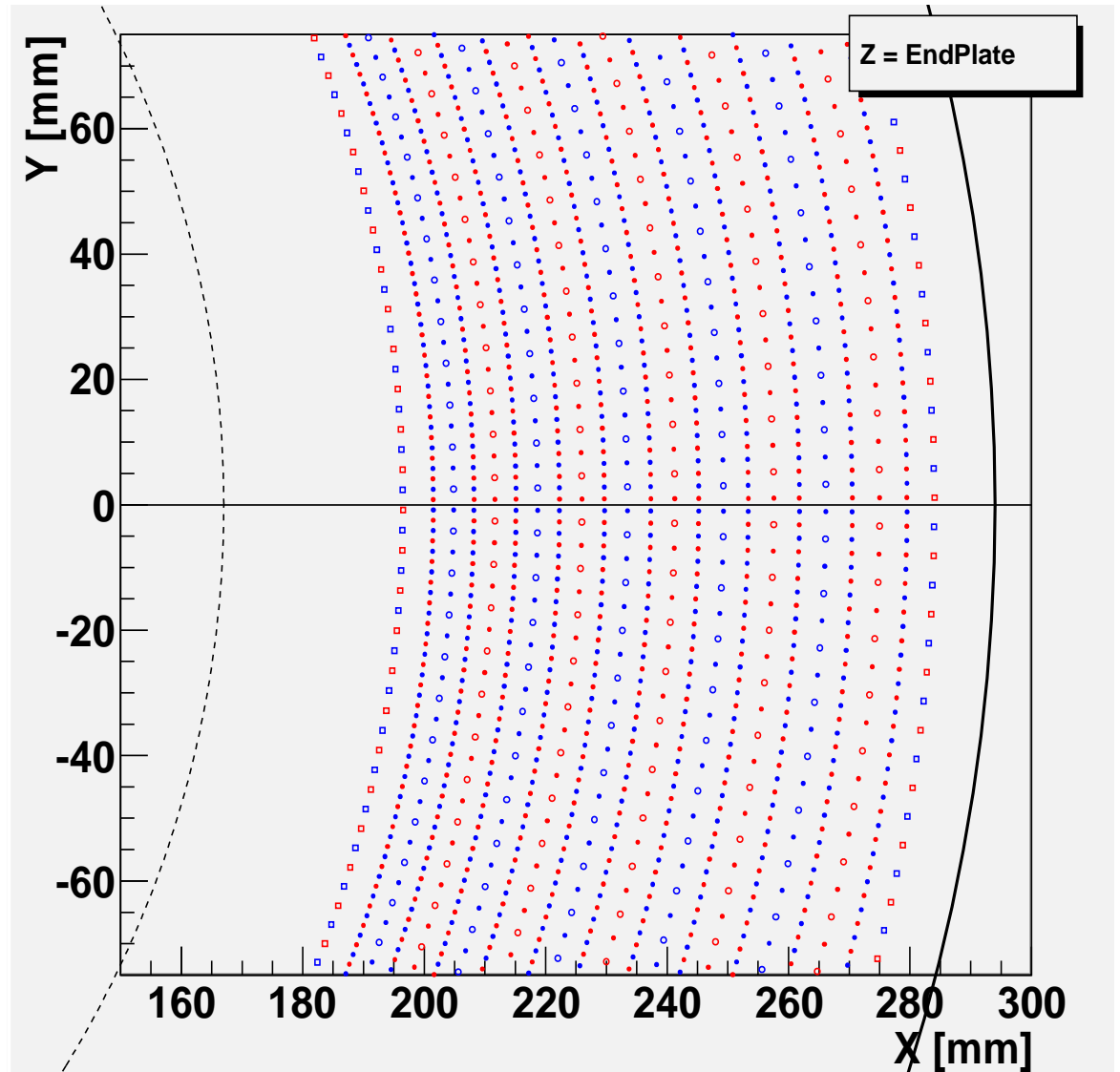


- anode
- cathode
- guard

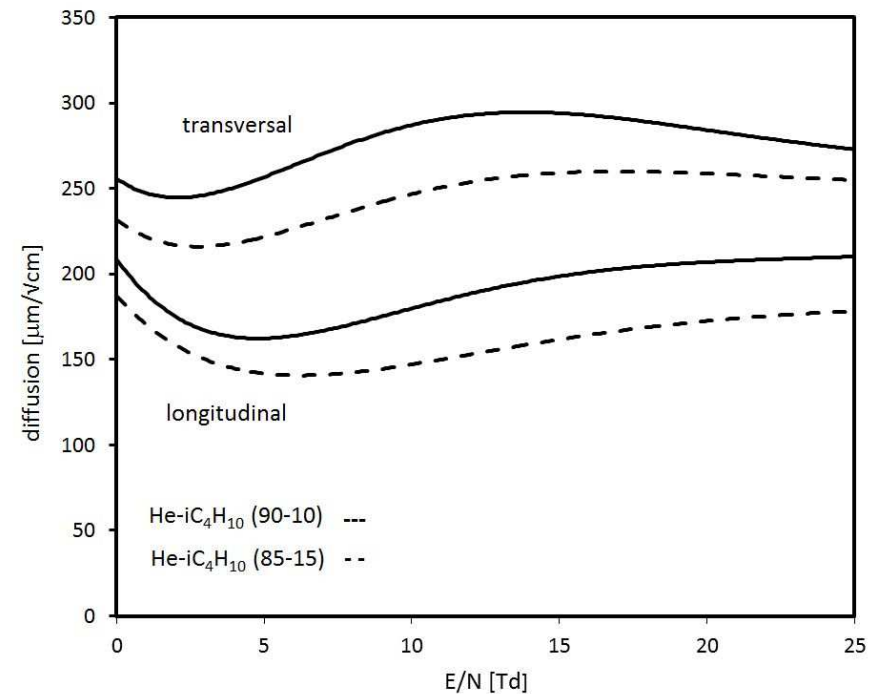
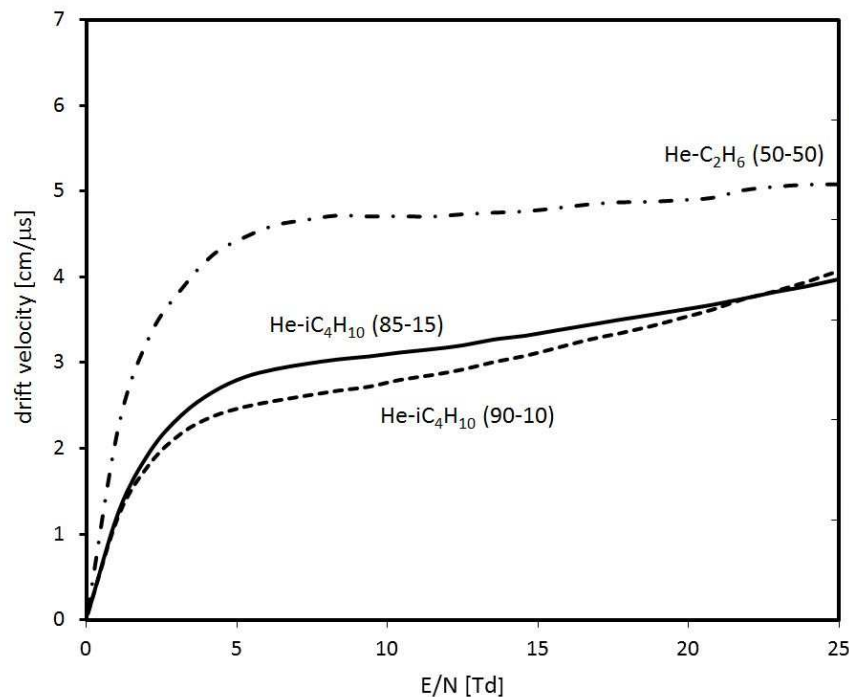
- drift cell geometry



- anode
- cathode
- guard

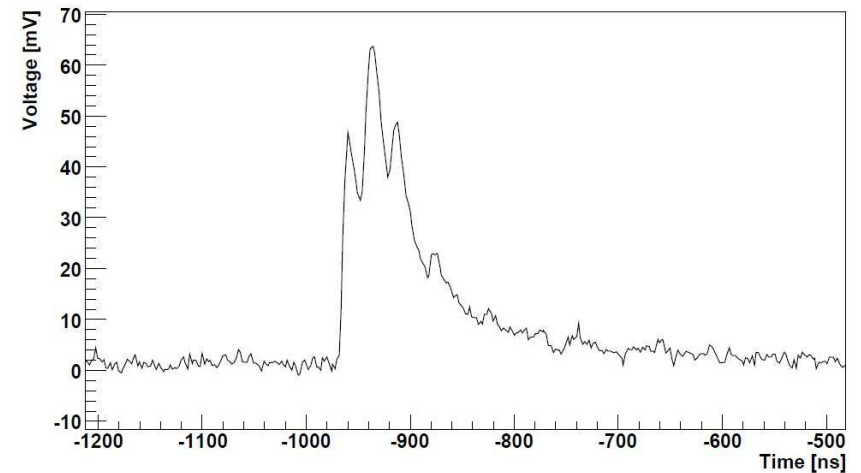
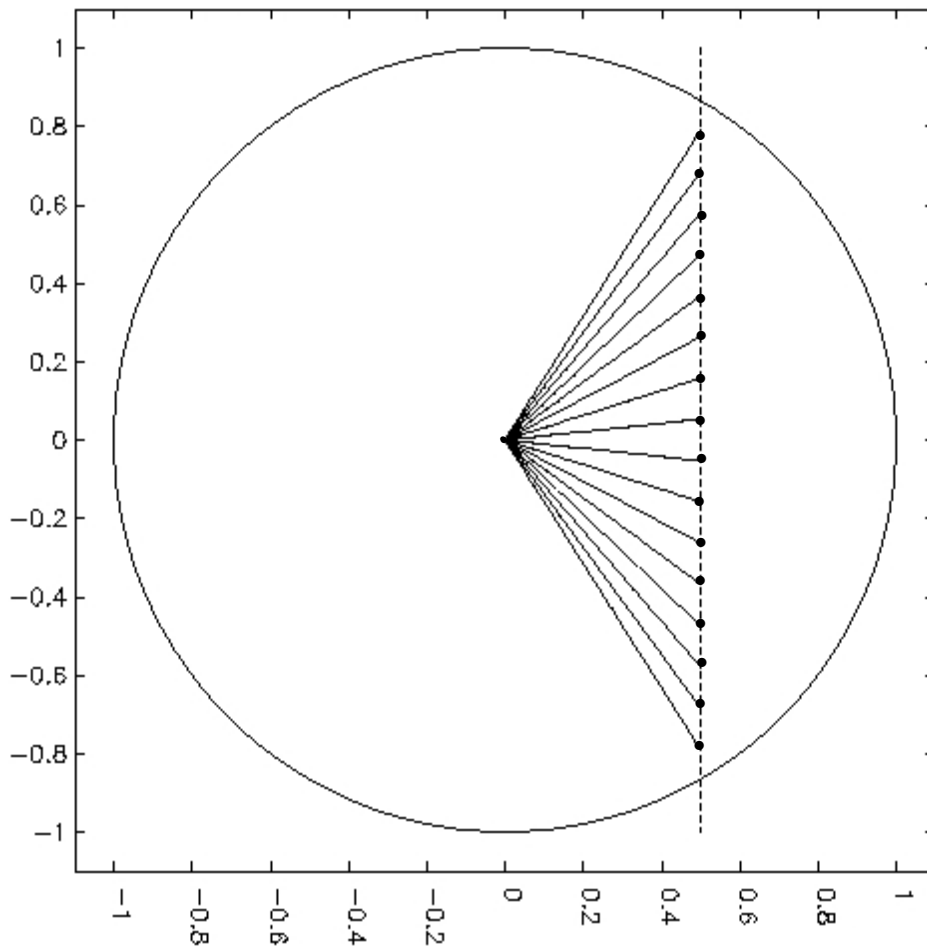


- filling gas He- $i\text{C}_4\text{H}_{10}$  (85-15 or 90-10)
  - long radiation length due to high He fraction  
→ low multiple scattering, good momentum resolution
  - slow  $v_d$ , no  $v_d$  vs HV plateau, large diffusion
  - small number of primary ionisation clusters  $\sim 13/\text{cm}$  (MEG: He- $\text{C}_2\text{H}_6$  50-50:  $\sim 35/\text{cm}$ )  
→ large spacing between clusters



# Cluster Counting Technique – in a very tiny nutshell

- MEG: He-C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub> (50-50): ~35 e<sup>-</sup>cluster/cm

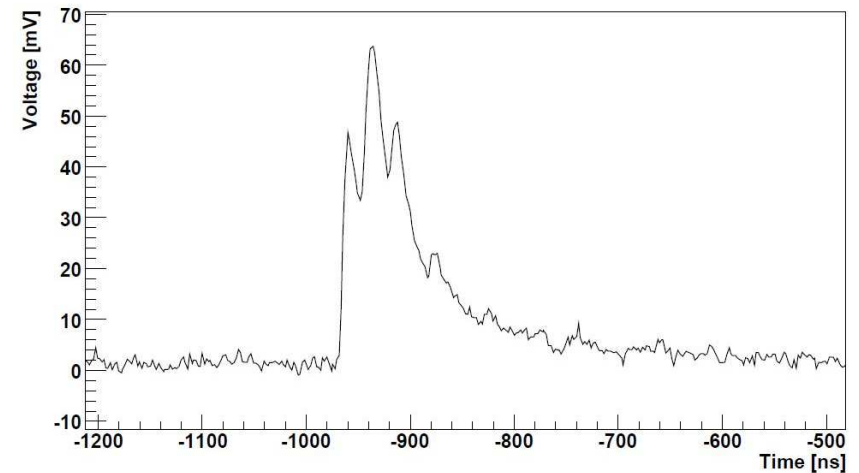
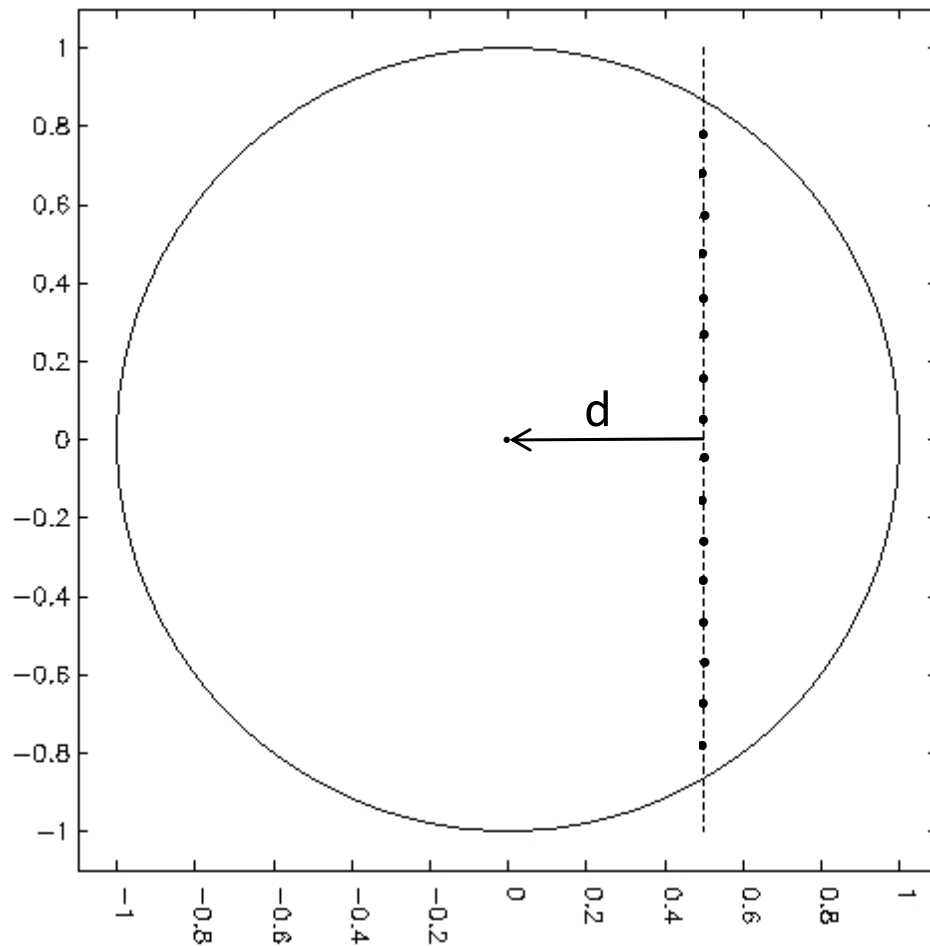




# Cluster Counting Technique – in a very tiny nutshell

- MEG: He-C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub> (50-50): ~35 e<sup>-</sup>cluster/cm

in reality

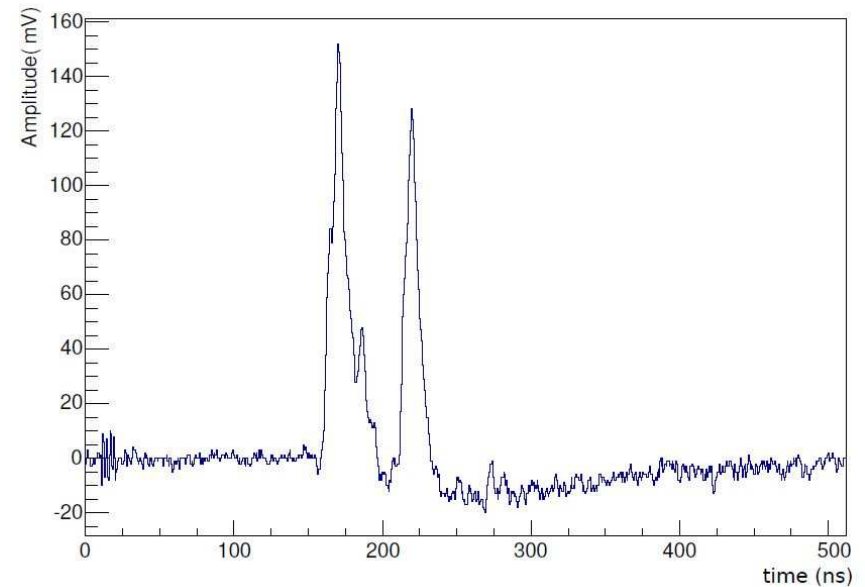
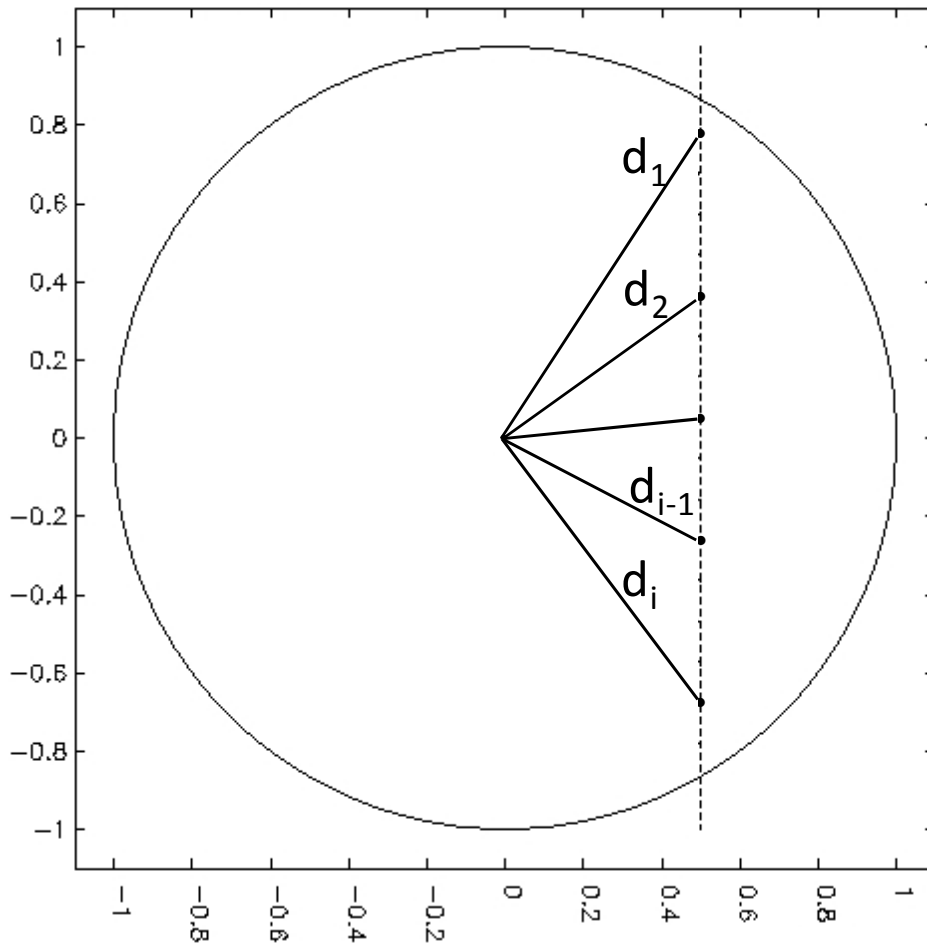


# Cluster Counting Technique – in a very tiny nutshell

- MEG II: He- $iC_4H_{10}$  (85-15 or 90-10):  $\sim 13$  e<sup>-</sup>cluster/cm

increased number of "supporting points" along trajectory of incident particle in single drift cell → improvement in

- track fitting accuracy and
- determination of particle momentum



# MEG Drift Chambers - Performances

	single hit	resolution ( $\sigma$ ) momentum	angular
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MEG drift chamber Adam <i>et al.</i>, Eur.Phys.J. C (2013) 73:2365</li> </ul>	r 210 $\mu\text{m}$ z 800 $\mu\text{m}$	~330 keV (0.6%)	$\theta$ 9.4 mrad $\phi$ 8.4 mrad
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MEG II drift chamber PhD thesis M.Venturini, 2017</li> </ul>	r ~110 $\mu\text{m}$ (prototype)	~100 keV (0.2%) (MC)	$\theta$ ~6 mrad $\phi$ ~7 mrad (MC)



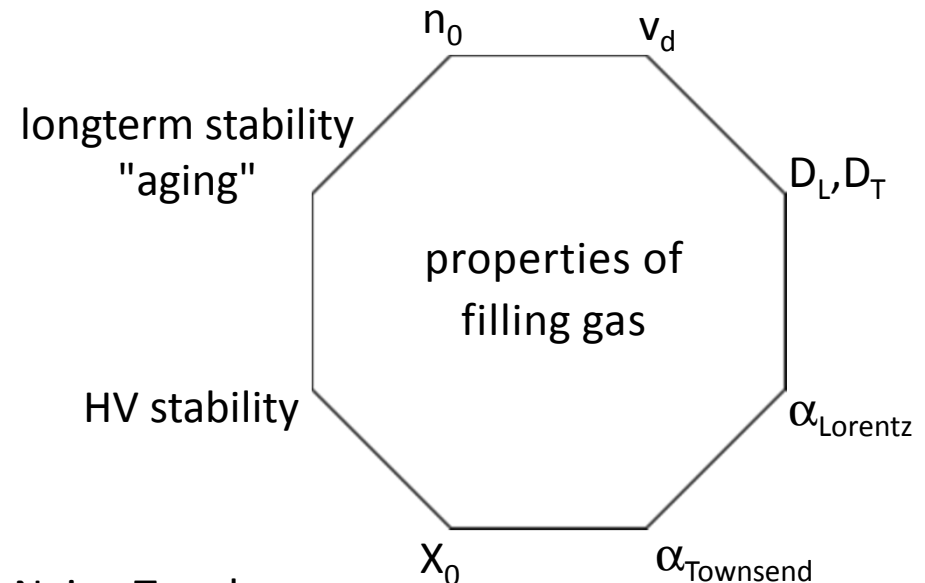
# Magic Octagon – the Choice of the Filling Gas

quantities in gaseous electronics, like:

- primary ionisation  $n_0$
- drift velocity  $v_d$
- longitudinal, transversal diffusion  $D_L, D_T$
- magnetic deflection angle  $\alpha_{\text{Lorentz}}$
- size of electron avalanche ( $\alpha_{\text{Townsend}}$ )
- radiation length  $X_0$
- HV stability, breakdown voltage
- sensitivity to radiation induced degradation

- are a function of:
- particle number density  $N$ , i.e.  $T$  and  $p$
  - gas components and mixing ratios
  - electrical and/or magnetic fields
  - rate environment

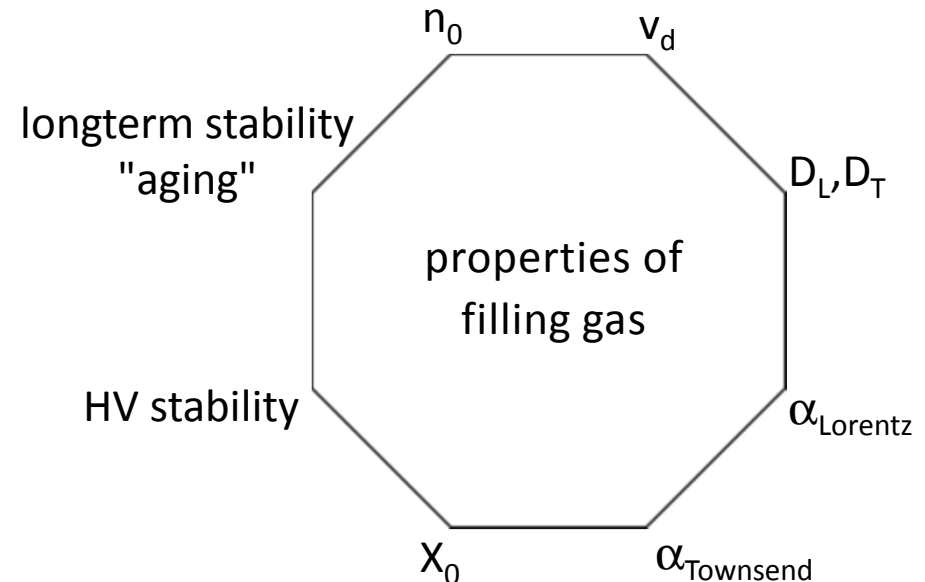
and the characteristics of the quantities are connected to each other!



# Magic Octagon – the Choice of the Filling Gas

corners of "magic Octagon" are interconnected with elastic bands  
 → improving one quantity may worsen another

- He:
  - long radiation length  $X_0$   
 → good momentum resolution
  - high w-value (41 eV)  
 → low primary ionisation
  - large diffusion  
 → reduced spatial resolution
  - low breakdown voltage
  
- hydrocarbons:
  - small w-value (~25 eV)  
 → high primary ionisation
  - good HV stability
  - short radiation length  $X_0$   
 → reduced momentum resolution
  - bad longterm stability (polymerisation of C-chains)



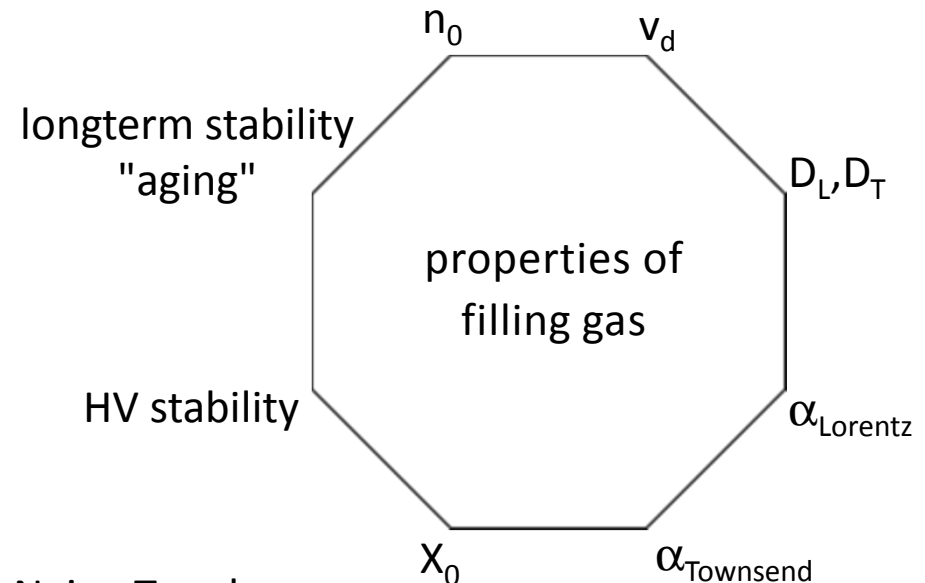
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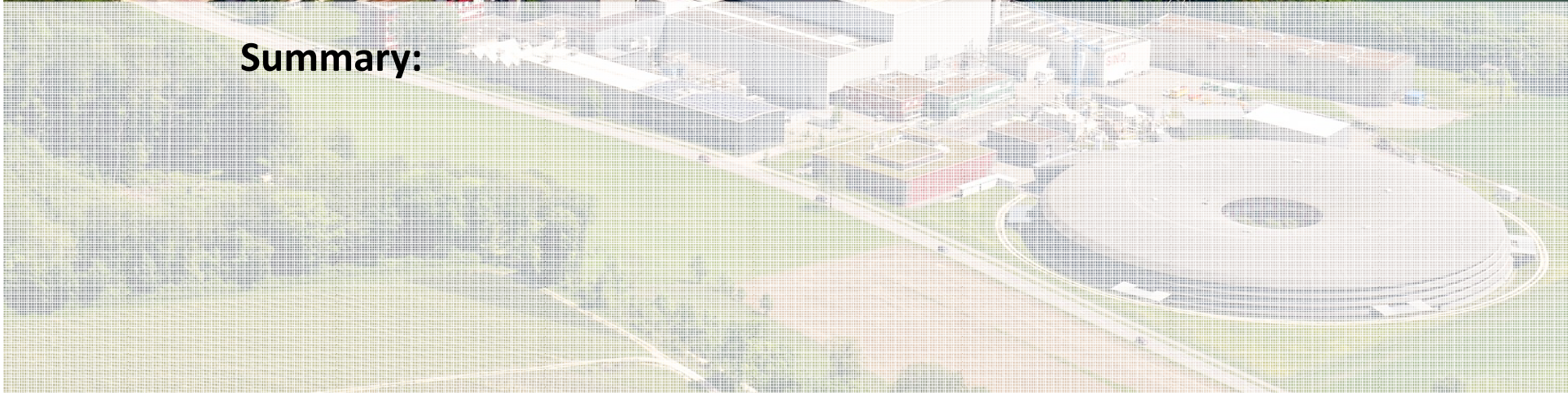
and the characteristics of the quantities are connected to each other!

→ The choice of a counting gas is a complicated task with many compromises and weighing up of advantages, disadvantages and risks and one always has to look at the overall picture!





**Summary:**



# Milestones in History

- **1908:** first wire counter to study natural radioactivity  
E.Rutherford, H.Geiger, Proc. Roy. Soc. A81 (1908) 141-161  
„An Electrical Methode of Counting the Number of  $\alpha$ -Particles from Radio-Active Substances“  
H.Geiger, Verh. d. Deutsch. Phys. Ges. 15 (1913) 534-539  
„Über eine einfache Methode zur Zählung von  $\alpha$ - und  $\beta$ -Teilchen“
- **1928:** Geiger-Müller counter with single electron sensitivity  
H.Geiger, W.Müller, Naturwissenschaften 16 (1928) 617-618  
„Elektronenzählrohr zur Messung schwächster Aktivitäten“  
H.Geiger, W.Müller, Phys. Zeits. 29, 839 (1928) and 30, 489 (1929) and 30, 523 (1929)  
„Das Elektronenzählrohr – Wirkungsweise und Herstellung eines Zählrohrs“
- **1945:** proportional tubes  
H.Raether, Ergeb. Exakt. Naturwiss., Band 22 (1949) 73-120  
„ Die Elektronenlawine und ihre Entwicklung“
- **1968:** multi-wire proportional chambers  
G.Charpak, Proc.Int.Symp.Nuclear Electronics, Versailles 10-13 Sep 1968  
G.Charpak *et al.*, Nucl. Inst. and Meth. 62 (1968) 262-268  
„ The use of multiwire proportional counters to select and localize charged particles“

# Milestones in History

- 1971: drift chamber

A.H.Walenta, J.Heintze, B.Schürlein, Nucl. Inst. and Meth. 92 (1971) 373-380  
„The multiwire drift chamber a new type of proportional wire chamber“

- 1974: Time Projection Chamber

D.R.Nygren, LBL Internal report (Feb 1974); D.R.Nygren PEP 198 (1975)  
A.R.Clark *et al.*, „A Proposal for a PEP Facility Based of the Time Projection Chamber“  
D.R.Nygren, Physica Scripta Vol.23 (1981) 584-598, „Future Prospects of the TPC idea“

- 1983:

**GASEOUS DETECTORS FOR PARTICLE PHYSICS: A STILL BLOOMING SOURCE OF NEW INSTRUMENTS**

G. CHARPAK  
*CERN, Geneva, Switzerland*

Nuclear Instruments and Methods 217 (1983) 5–7  
North-Holland Publishing Company

- 1986:

**WILL GASEOUS DETECTORS SURVIVE THE RAPID PROGRESS IN THE COMPETING TECHNIQUES?**

G. CHARPAK  
*CERN, Geneva, Switzerland*

Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research A252 (1986) 131–136  
North-Holland, Amsterdam

# Milestones in History

- **1988: micro-strip gas chamber (MSGC)**  
A.Oed, Nucl. Instr. and Meth. A263 (1988) 351-359  
„Position-sensitive detector with micro-strip anode for electron multiplication with gases“
  
- **1990's: huge variety of Micro-Pattern Gaseous detectors (MPGD)**  
micro-strip gas chamber, gas electron multiplier, micro-mesh-gaseous structure, micro groove detector, micro gap detector, contour a trous, micro dot avalanche chamber, micro slit gas detector, ...
  
- **1996: MICRO-Mesh-Gaseous Structure (MICROMEAS)**  
Y.Giomataris et al., Nucl. Instr. and Meth. A376 (1996) 29-35  
„MICROMEAS: a high-granularity position-sensitive gaseous detector for high particle-flux environment“
  
- **1997: gas electron multiplier (GEM)**  
F.Sauli, Nucl. Instr. and Meth. A386 (1997), 531-534  
„GEM: A new concept for electron amplification in gas detectors“

<p><u>remark:</u> 1978-1998: Wire Chamber Conference WCC in Vienna since 2001: Vienna Conference on Instrumentation VCI</p>
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