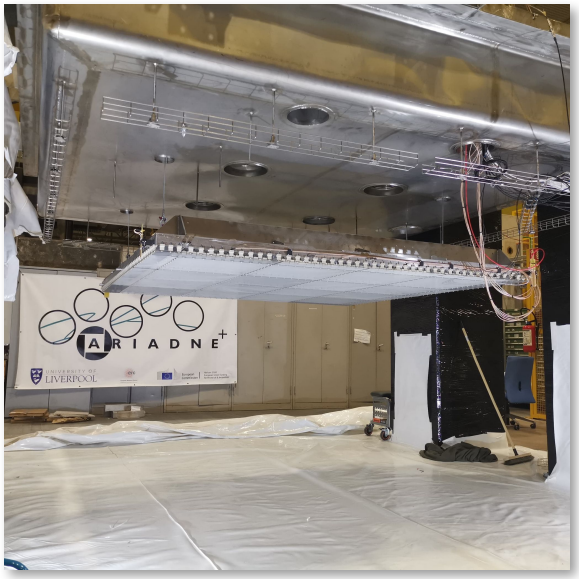
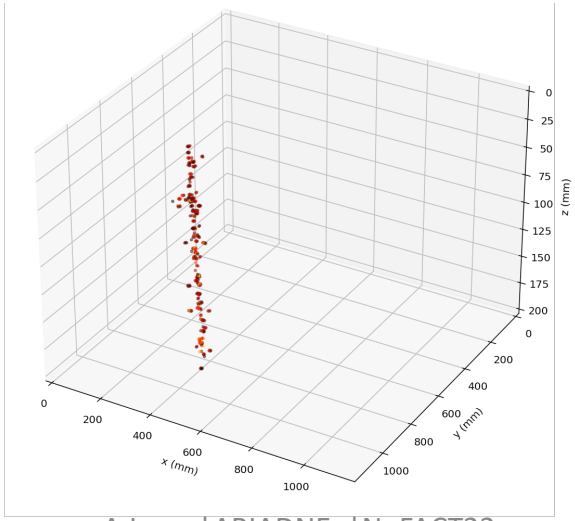
ARIADNE+: Large scale demonstration of fast optical readout for dual-phase LArTPCs at the CERN Neutrino Platform

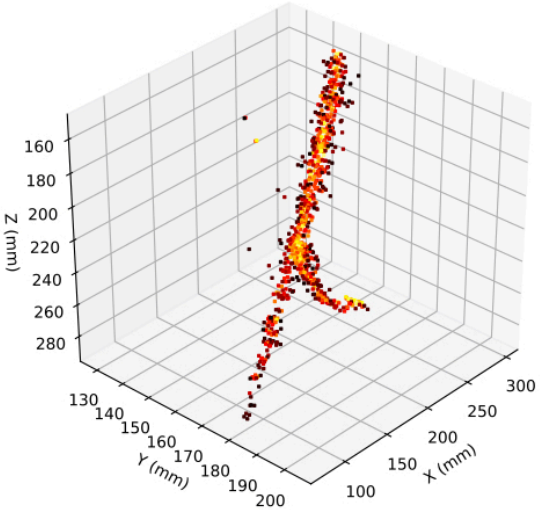


Adam Lowe (University of Liverpool) *on behalf of the ARIADNE+ collaboration*

a.j.lowe@liverpool.ac.uk

NuFACT, August 2022





https://hep.ph.liv.ac.uk/ariadne

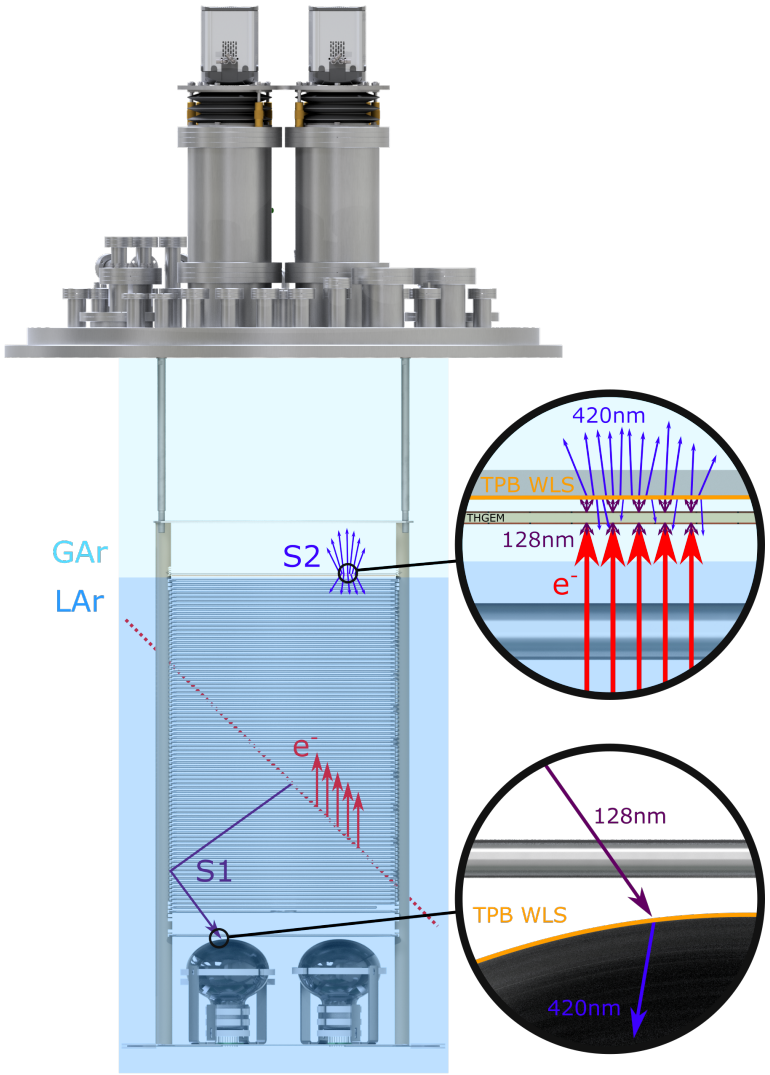
Talk Outline

- Background to the ARIADNE Program
  - Results taken using the 1-tonne dual-phase LAr ARIADNE detector
- The ARIADNE+ detector at the CERN Neutrino Platform
- Ongoing analysis and outlook

ARIADNE Detection Principle

ARIADNE aims to demonstrate light readout as a viable alternative to charge in dual-phase TPC neutrino experiments

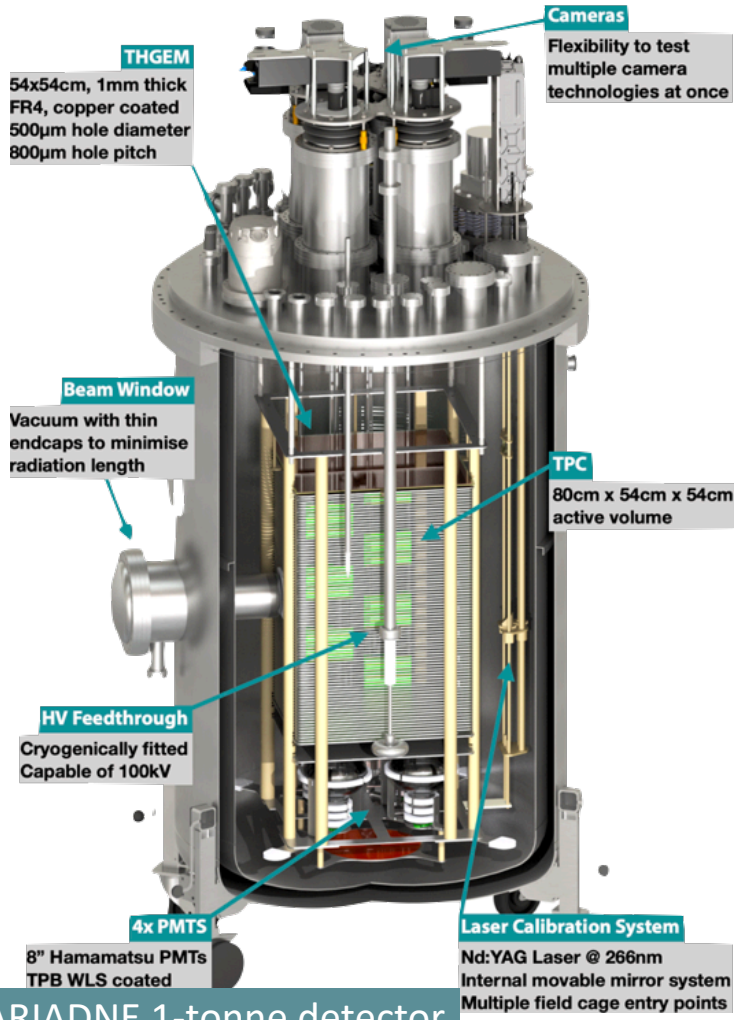
- Incoming particles ionise LAr and create **prompt scintillation** light (**S1**)
- Electrons drift towards the **extraction grid** situated below the liquid level
- A **THGEM** (THick-Gaseous Electron Multiplier) amplifies drift charge (capable of >30 kV/cm in LAr) generating **secondary scintillation** light (**S2**)
- **WLS** (Wavelength Shifting) for an intensifier stage before imaging with Timepix3 camera



***ARIADNE** (**AR**gon **I**m**A**ging **D**etectio**N** chamb**E**r)*

The ARIADNE Advantage - Optical TPCs

- Benefits over previous charge readout methods:
  - **High Resolution:** For e.g. TPX3 camera has 256 x 256 pixels, imaging 35 x 35 cm area, as on ARIADNE, gives ≈1 mm resolution
  - **Sensitivity to low energies:** Gain is generated by the THGEM; a THGEM accelerated electron can generate upwards of 100 photons, cameras can be sensitive to single photons
  - **Very low Noise:** Sensors are decoupled from TPC electronics
  - **Ease of Access:** Technology can be swapped in and out even with TPC operating
  - **Cost Efficient:** No need for thousands of internal charge TPC readout channels, pre-amps etc.

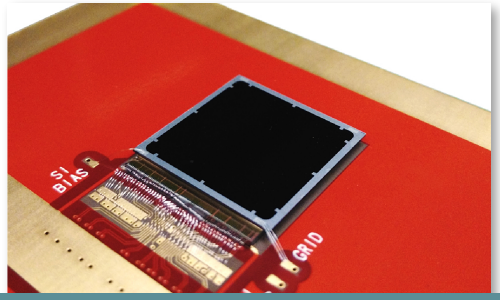


ARIADNE 1-tonne detector

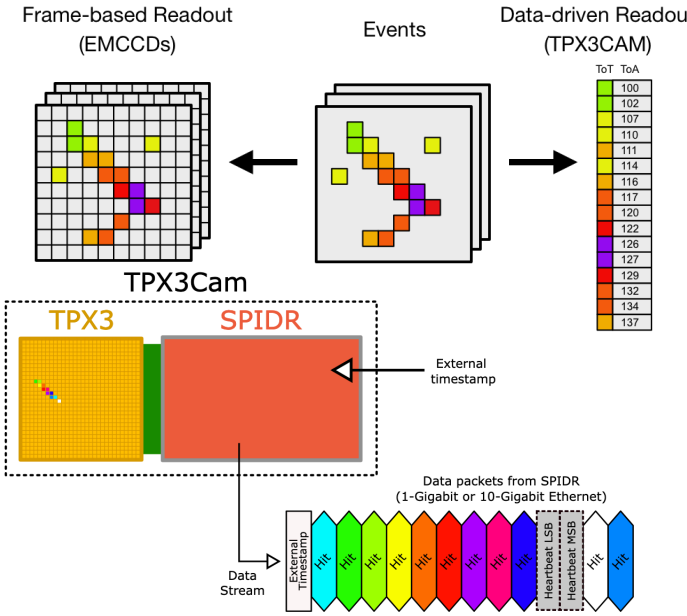
The ARIADNE Advantage - Full 3D optical readout with Timepix3

- Well established technology by the **CERN** Medipix collaboration:
  - **Natively 3D:** Timepix chip gives X and Y position, Time of Arrival (ToA) (which is equivalent to z position) and Time over Threshold (ToT) (equivalent to intensity)
  - **Zero Background Suppression:** Data driven readout based on hits rather than frame
  - **Efficient data storage:** Continuous streaming, trigerless operation - few kBytes per event
  - Technology ready for deployment **now**!

Sensor resolution	256x256 pixels
Pixel size	55μm x 55μm
Max readout rate	80Mhits•sec^{-1}
Time resolution	1.6 ns
Time over Threshold Resolution	10 bit

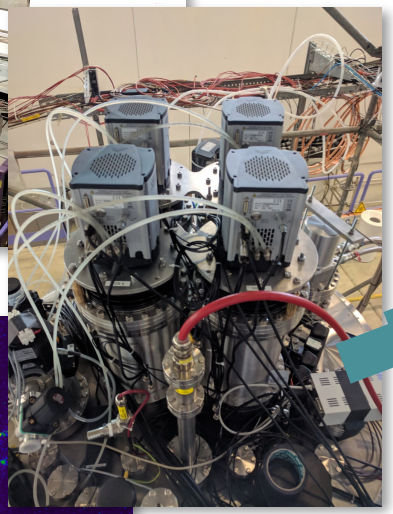


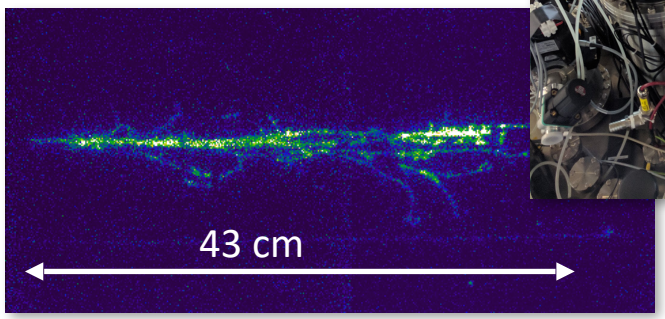
TPX3 ASIC Chip bump bonded to an optical sensor

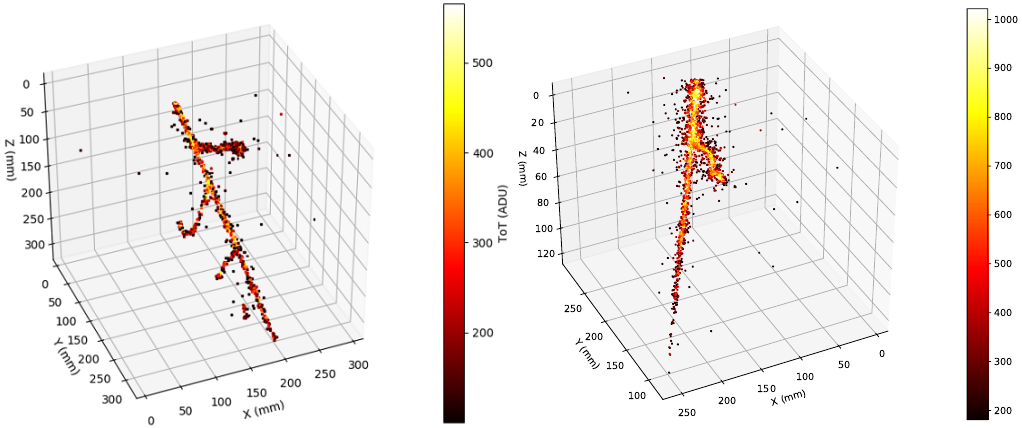


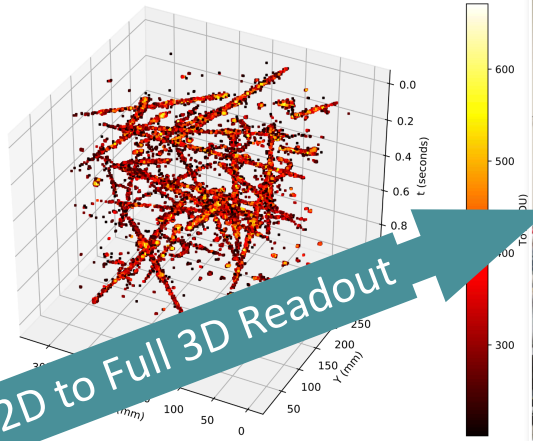
ARIADNE at the T9 Beamline

3 weeks of EMCCD data taken in 2018
T9 Beamline, East Area, CERN
Mix of particles: **e ±, μ ±, π ±, p±. (0.5 – 8 GeV/c.)**



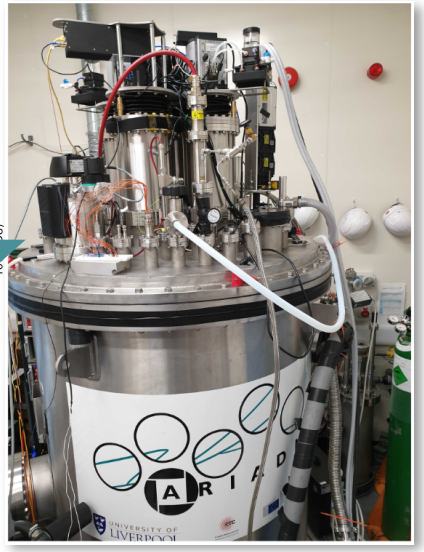






2D to Full 3D Readout

~1 mm Resolution



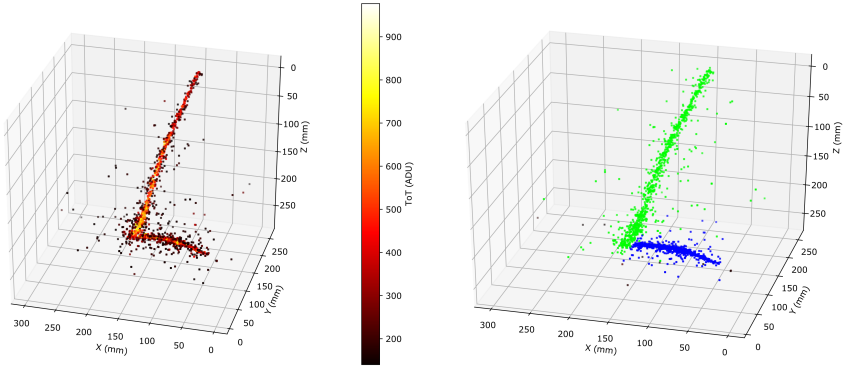
Data taken in 2019
Imaging comics in the LAr Lab at Liverpool

Timepix3 Mounted to ARIADNE

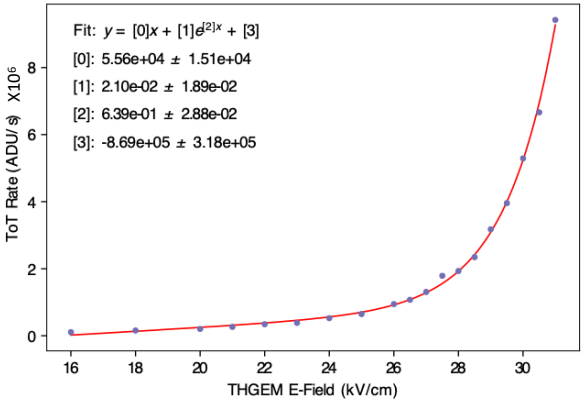
ARIADNE Detector Timepix3 Results

https://www.mdpi.com/2410-390X/4/4/35

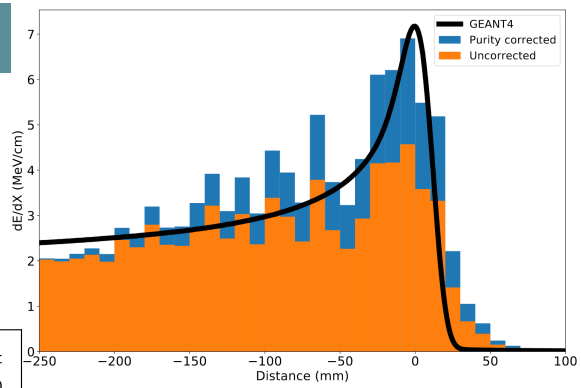
- Analysis done on through going muons and stopping muons
- Energy resolution of **11%**



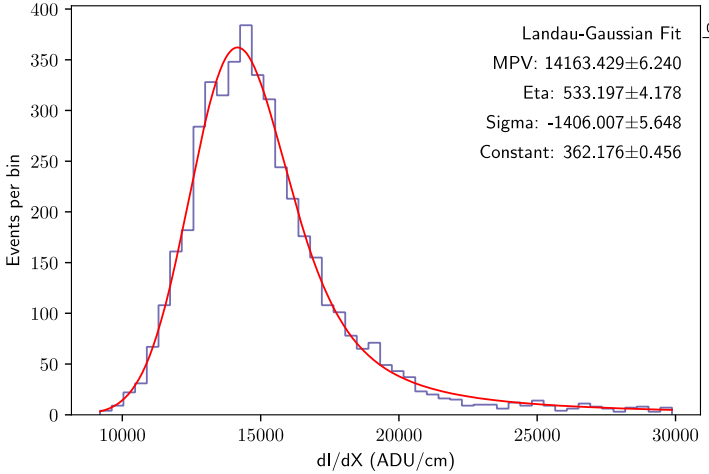
THGEM Bias vs. S2 Light Production

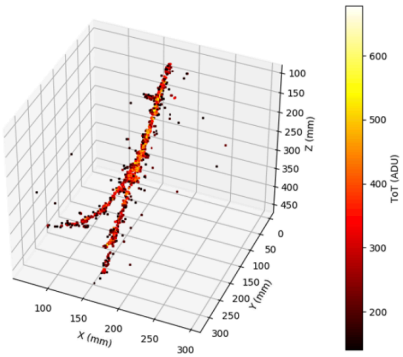


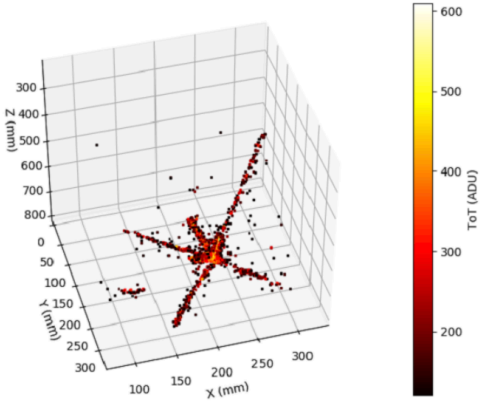
Stopping Muon



ADU/cm vs. No. Of Events







ARIADNE: Optical Readout for kilo-tonne scale LAr TPCs

- Proven scalable technology
- Cost efficient, comparable performance to other readout methods
- An option for a **DUNE Far** LAr Detector?

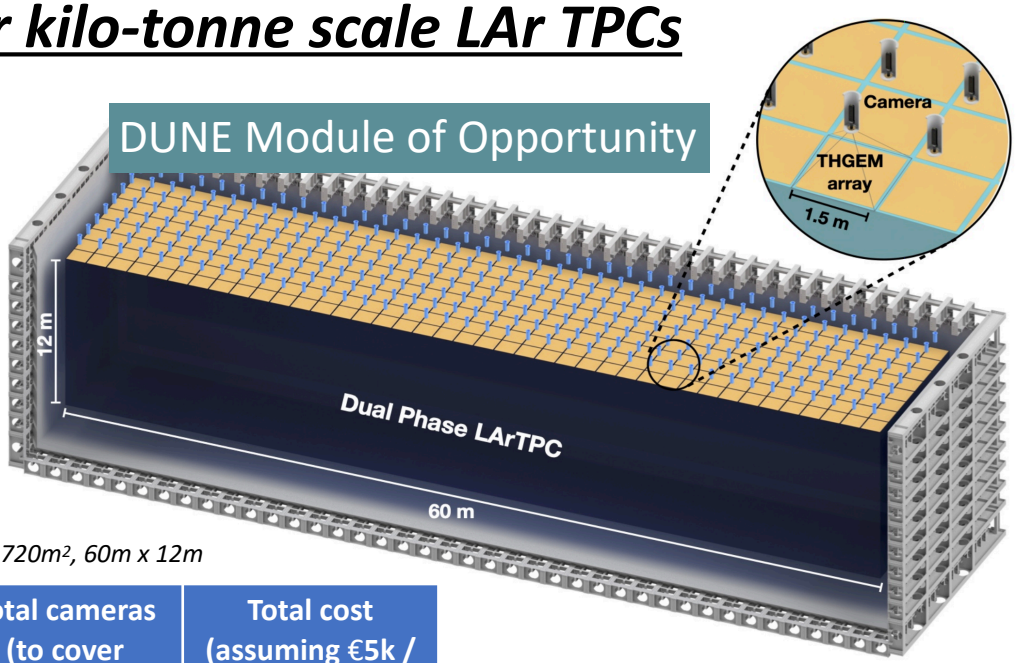
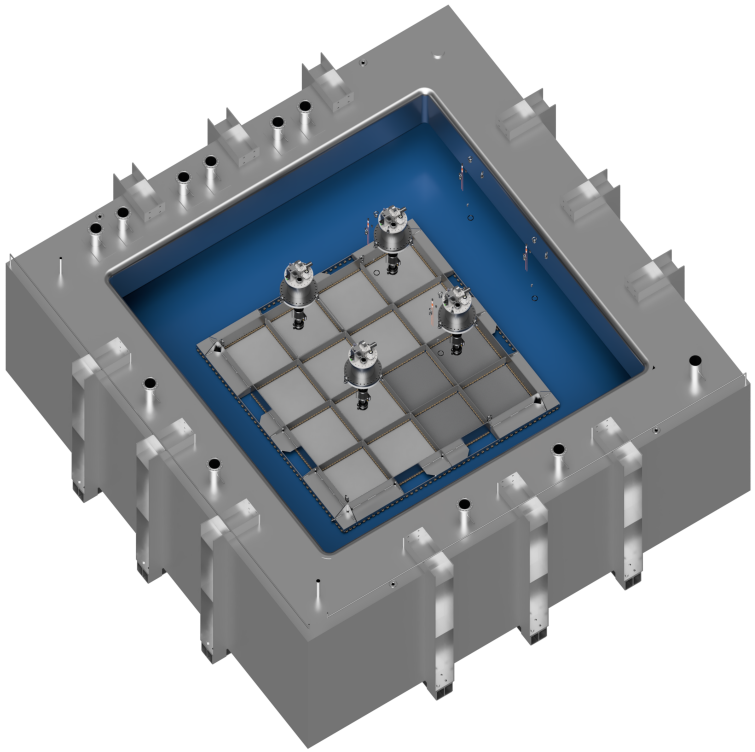


Table: As an example, demonstration figures for use of TimePix within Dune - 720m², 60m x 12m

Camera type	Sen. Size (pixels)	Cameras to cover 1m²	Resolution (mm/ pix)	Total cameras (to cover 720m²)	Total cost (assuming €5k / camera*)
TPX3	256x256	9	1.3 (~ARIADNE)	6480	32.4M
TPX3	256x256	4	2	2880	14.4M
TPX3	256x256	1	4 (~ARIADNE+)	720	3.6M
TPX4	512x448	4	1	2880	14.4M
TPX4	512x448	1	2	720	3.6M
TPX4	**512x448**	**0.66 (1.5m/ cam)**	**3**	**320**	**1.6M**

* Cost is a place holder based on discussions with ASI, assumes large production

Large-scale demonstration of the ARIADNE LArTPC optical readout system at the CERN Neutrino Platform



Testing optical readout on a scale relevant for DUNE using the existing protoDUNE cold box

15 Tonne Cryogenic Vessel filled from protoDUNE Dual-Phase cryostat

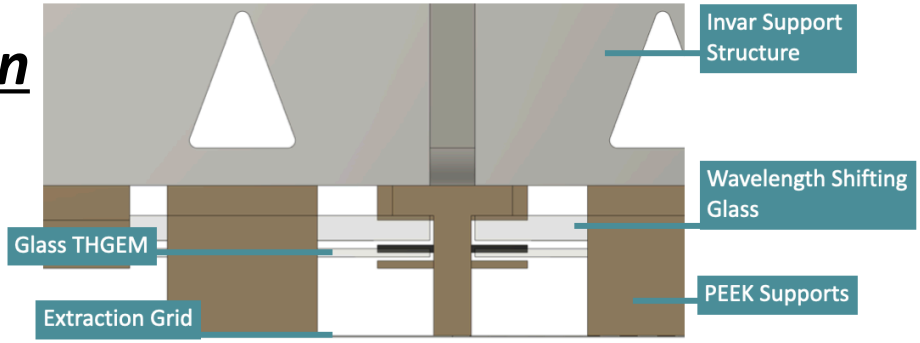
Carried out between February and April of this year

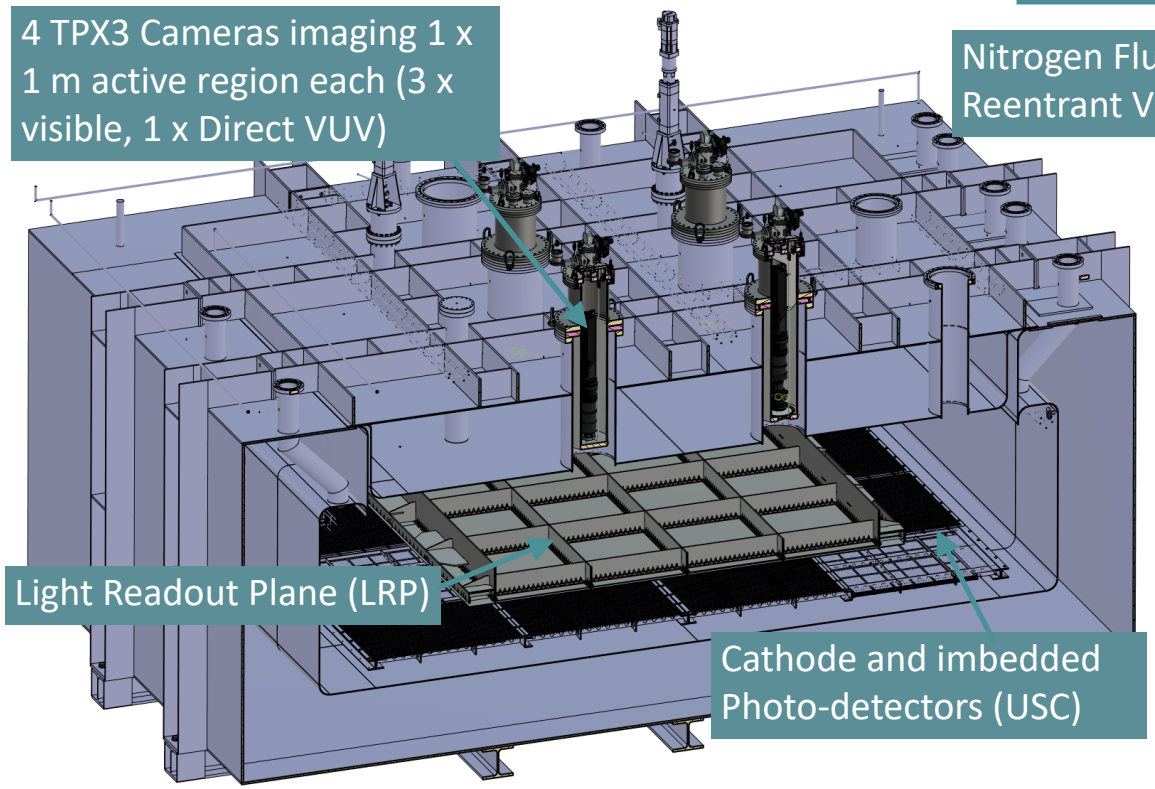
P. Amedo[3], D. González-Díaz[3], A. Lowe[1], K. Majumdar[1], K. Mavrokoridis*[1], M. Nessi†[2], B. Philippou[1], F. Pietropaolo[2], F. Resnati[2], A. Roberts[1], Á. Saá Hernández[3], C. Touramanis[1] and J. Vann[1]

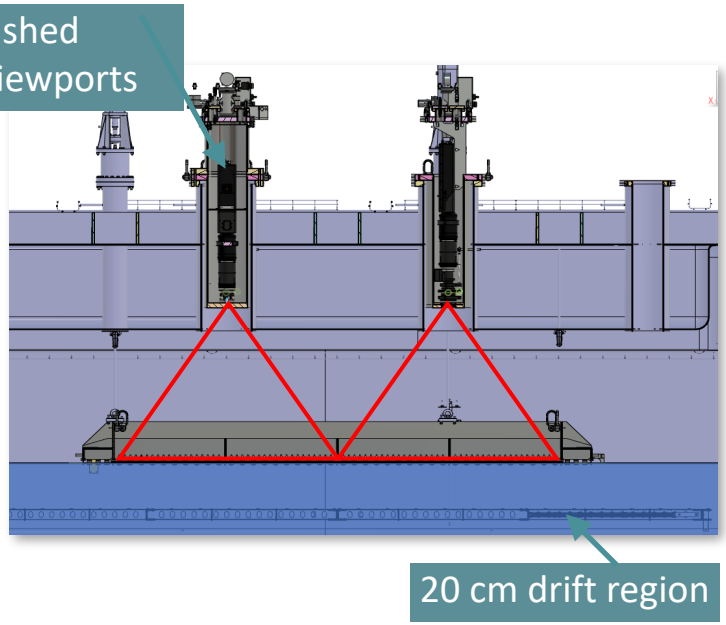
[1] *University of Liverpool, Department of Physics, Oliver Lodge Bld, Liverpool, L69 7ZE, UK*
[2] *European Organization for Particle Physics (CERN), Geneva, Switzerland*
[3] *Instituto Galego de Física de Altas Enerxías (IGFAE) Rúa de Xoaquín Díaz de Rábago, s/n, Campus Vida, 15782 Santiago de Compostela, Spain*

CERN LOI: https://cds.cern.ch/record/2739360

ARIADNE+: Cryostat Configuration

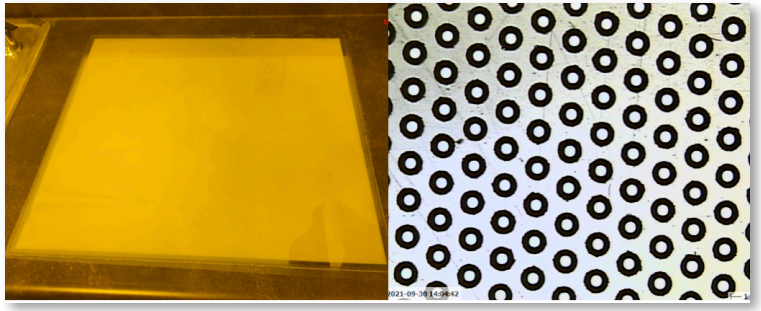


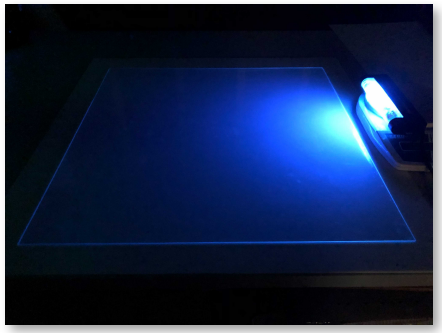




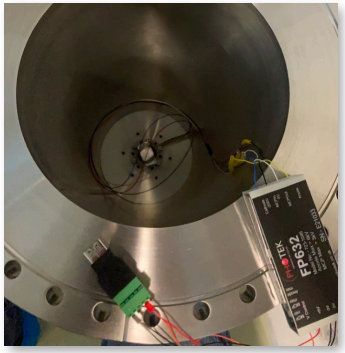
ARIADNE+ Detector - Innovative Ideas

Glass THGEMs - Less prone to sagging compared to FR4 at larger surface areas, conical hole shape collects charge over time and increases light output (https://www.mdpi.com/2076-3417/11/20/9450)

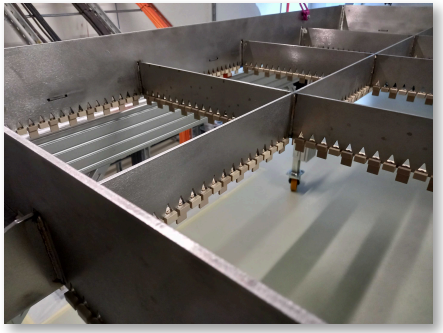




Polyethylene Naphthalate (PEN) Film coated glass panels for Wavelength Shifting (WLS) - commercially available, easier to apply to surfaces then alternatives (TPB)



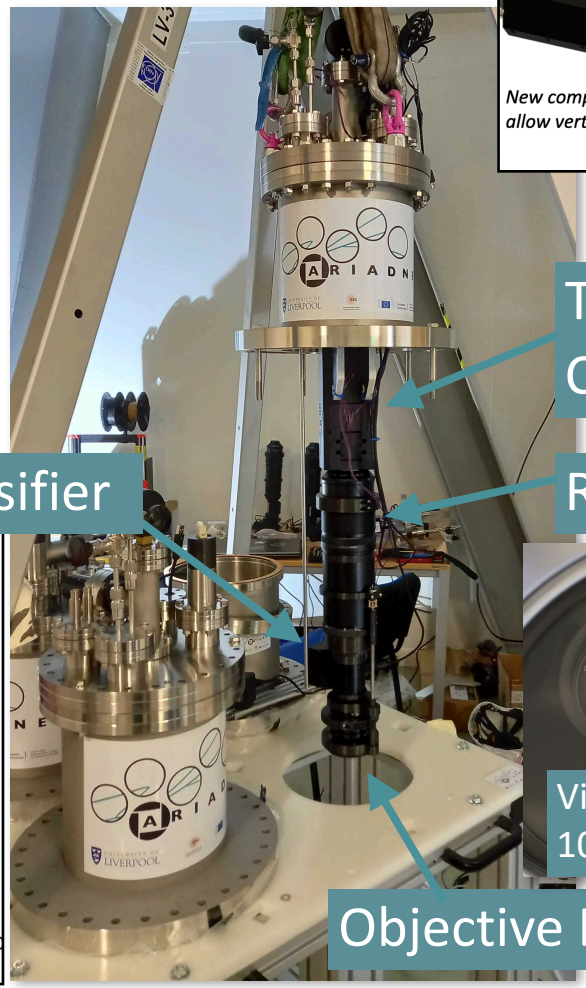
VUV intensifier - imaging the THGEM directly without the need for any WLS

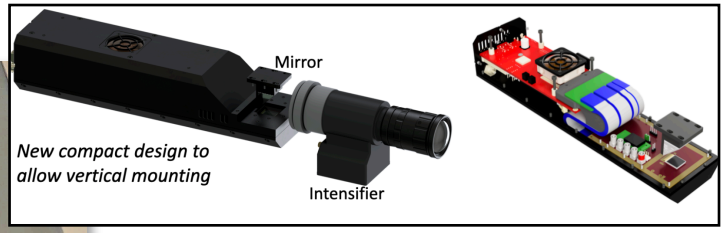


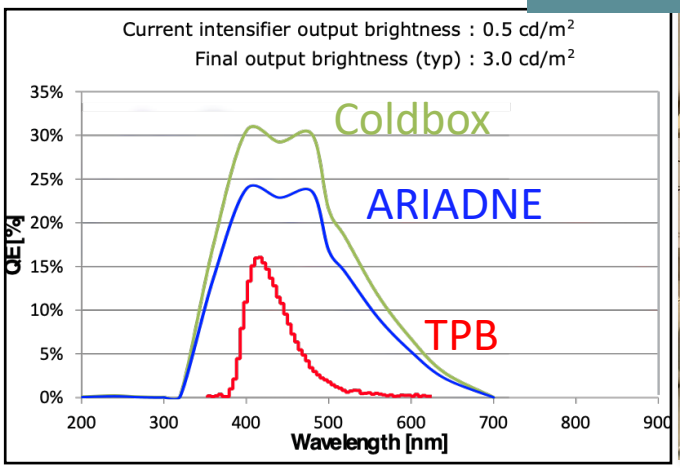
Invar support structure - Uniquely low coefficient of thermal contraction

Chemically etched extraction grid - 15 mm from THGEM instead of 10 mm on ProtoDUNE dual-phase

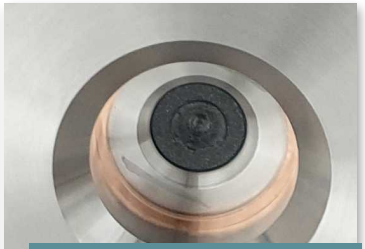
TPX3 Camera Setup







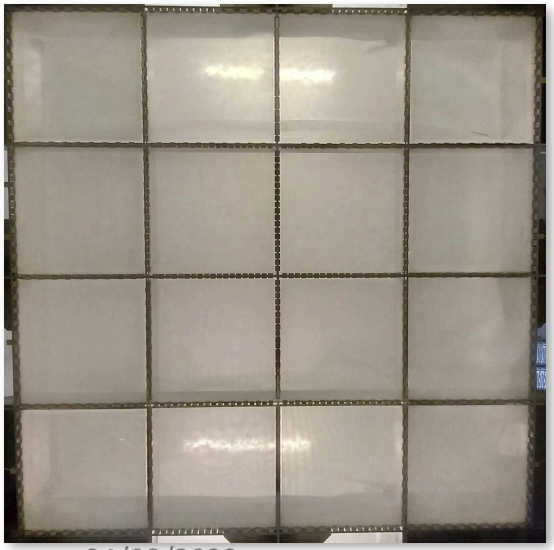
Visible (f0.95, 10.5 mm)

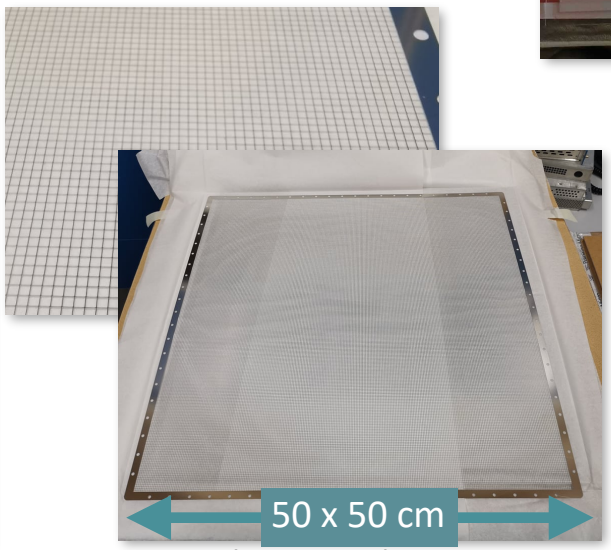


Custom made VUV MgF_2 Lens (f3, 11mm, 5mm diameter)

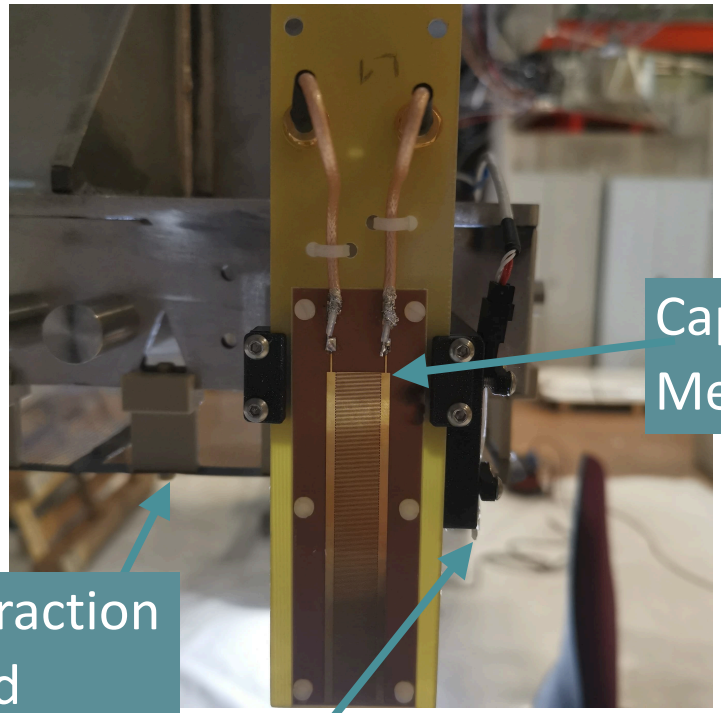
Light Readout Plane (LRP)

- 16 50 x 50 cm Glass THGEMs, developed by Liverpool Patent Pending (Patent pending GB2019563.2)
- 1.1 mm thick, 500 µm ID holes, ~500k holes per THGEM, 800 µm pitch hexagonal array
- 12 50 x 50 cm PEN coated WLS glass
- Photochemically etched modular extraction grid
- 2.3 x 2.3 m frame mounted underneath cold box lid





Detector Levelling

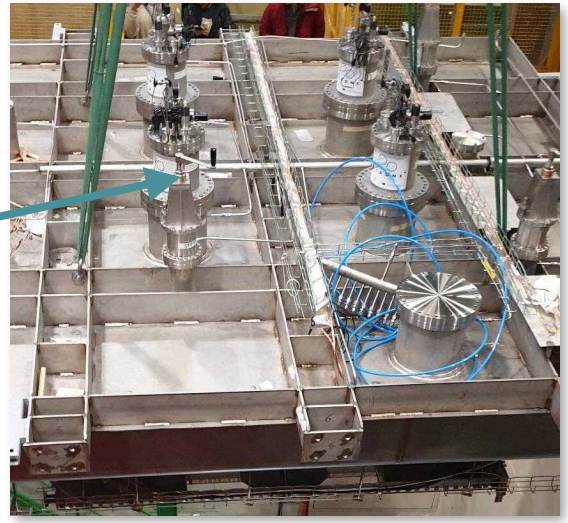


Capacitive Level Meter

Extraction Grid

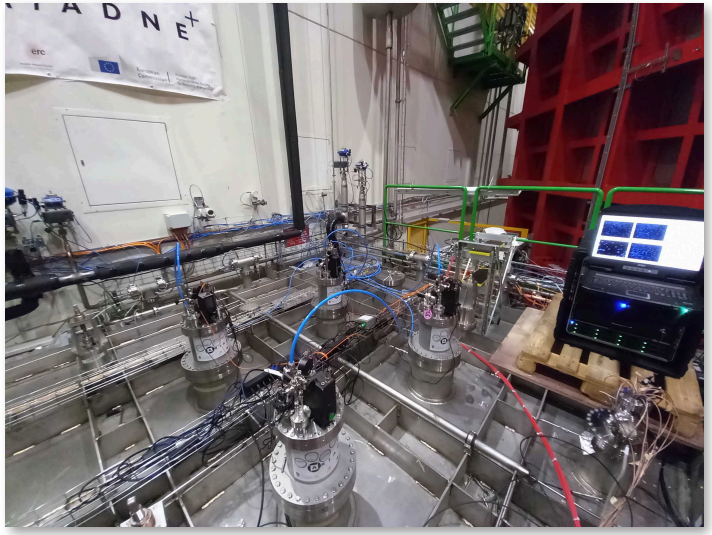
PT100 Temperature Sensor

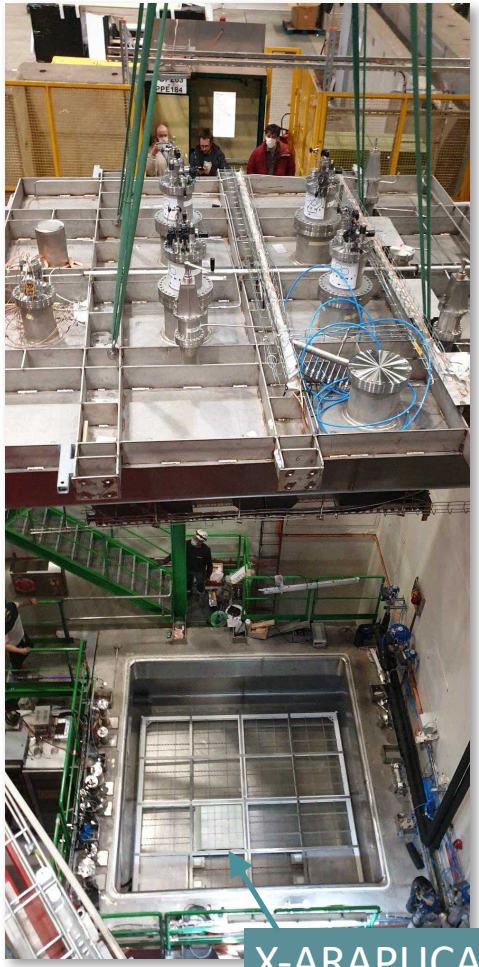
Height Adjustment



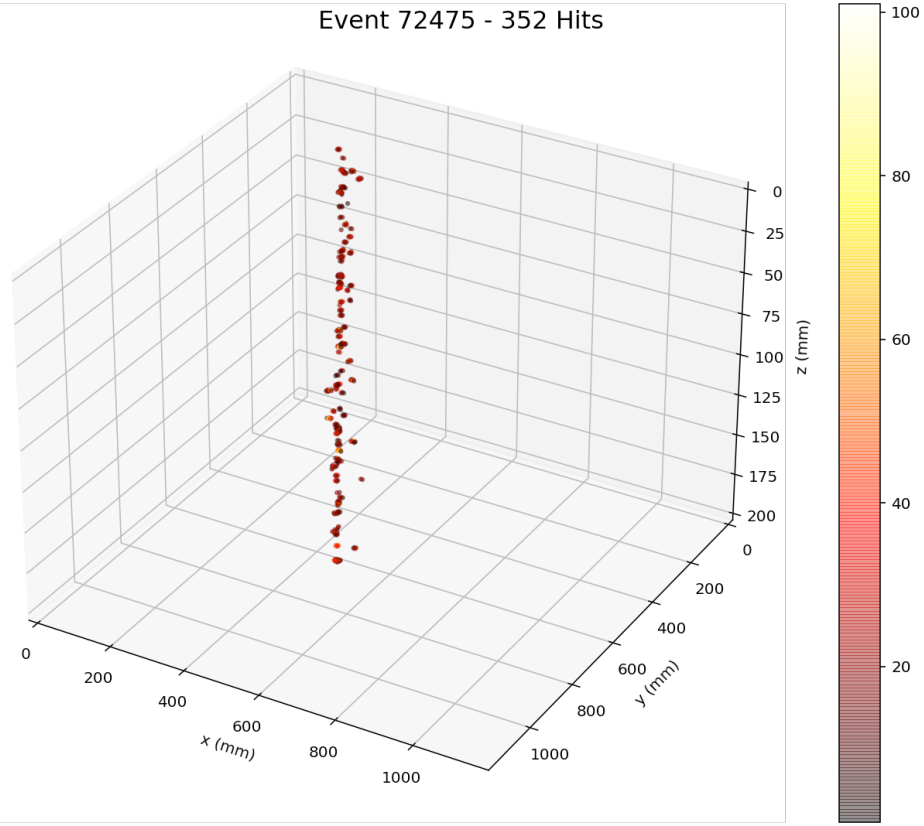
Data Collection

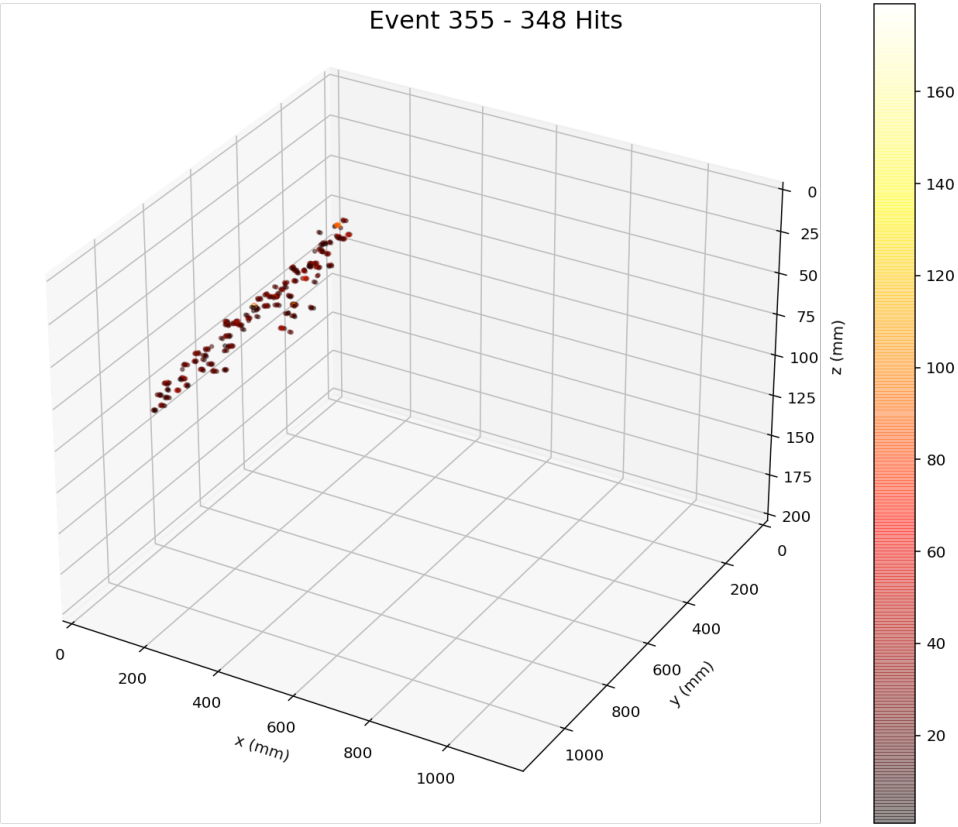
- Very stable cryogenic conditions thanks to the great CERN team
- Argon purity was approximately 0.5 msec
- Three weeks of data collection, refilled twice
- USC collected S1 data using X-ARAPUCAS embedded within the cathode





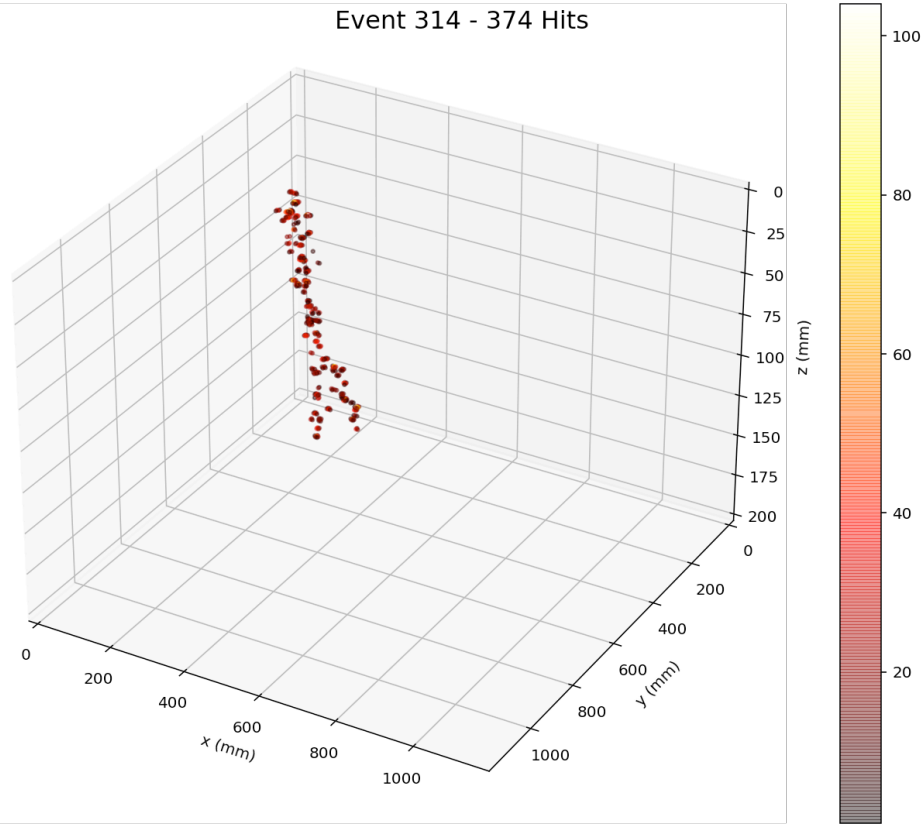
Gallery of Events - Visible Light

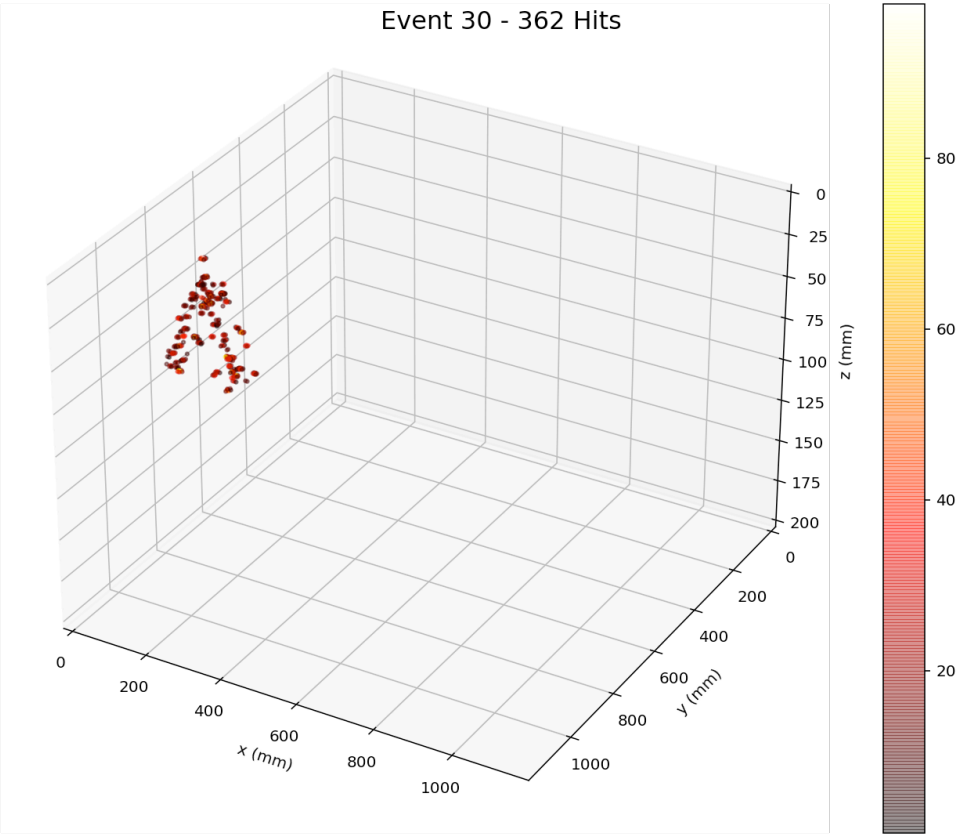




~4 mm Resolution

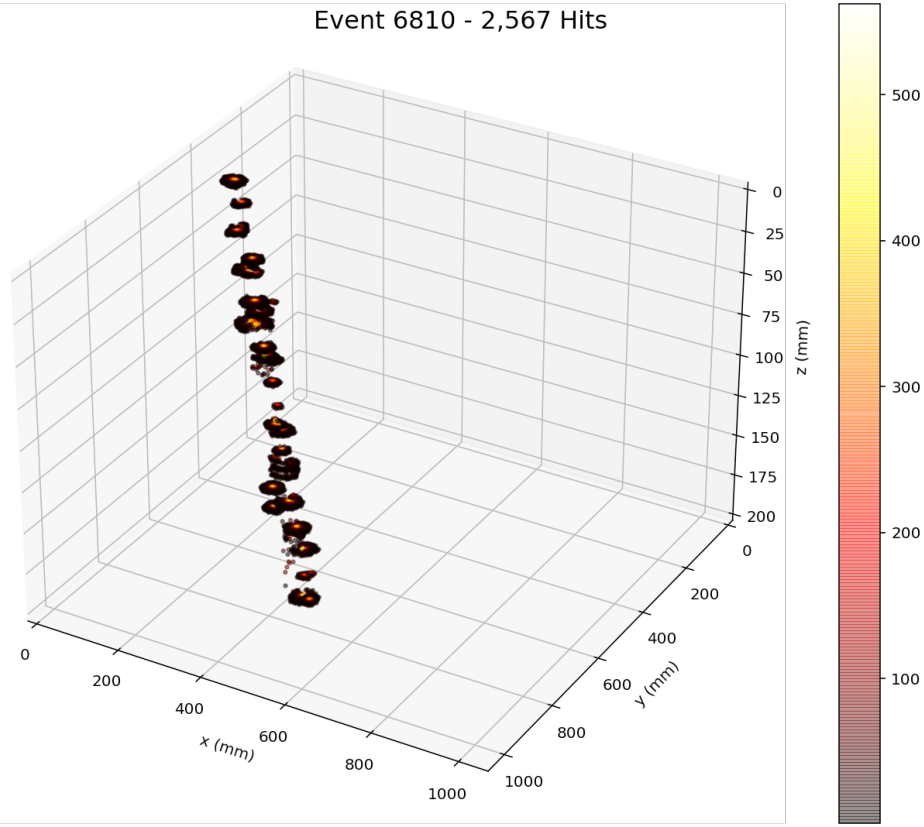
Gallery of Events - Visible Light

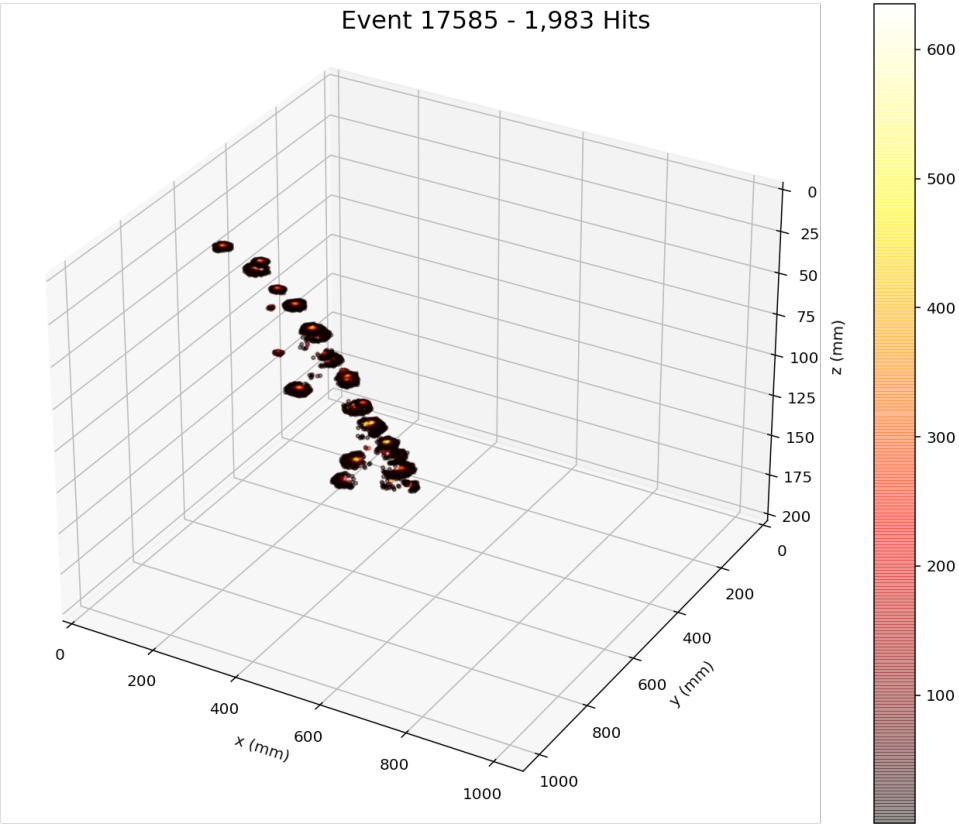




~4 mm Resolution

Gallery of Events - VUV

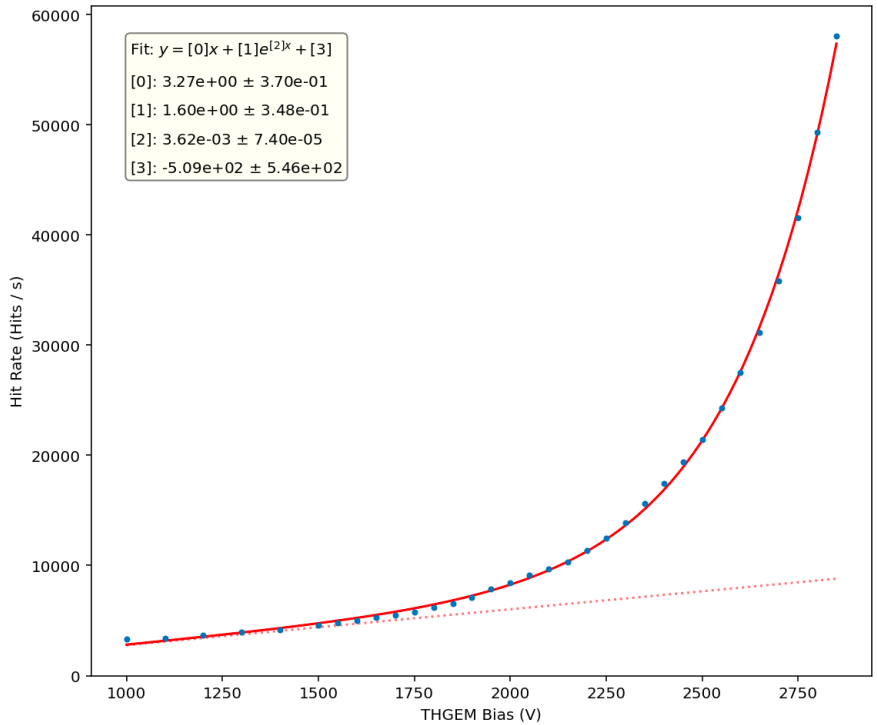




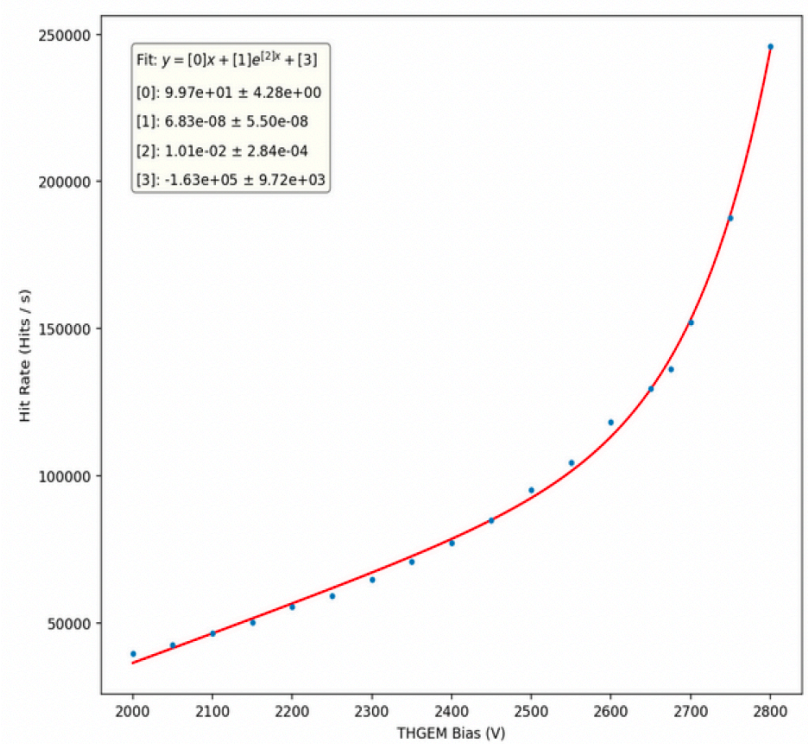
~4 mm Resolution

Glass THGEM Light Study

Visible Light

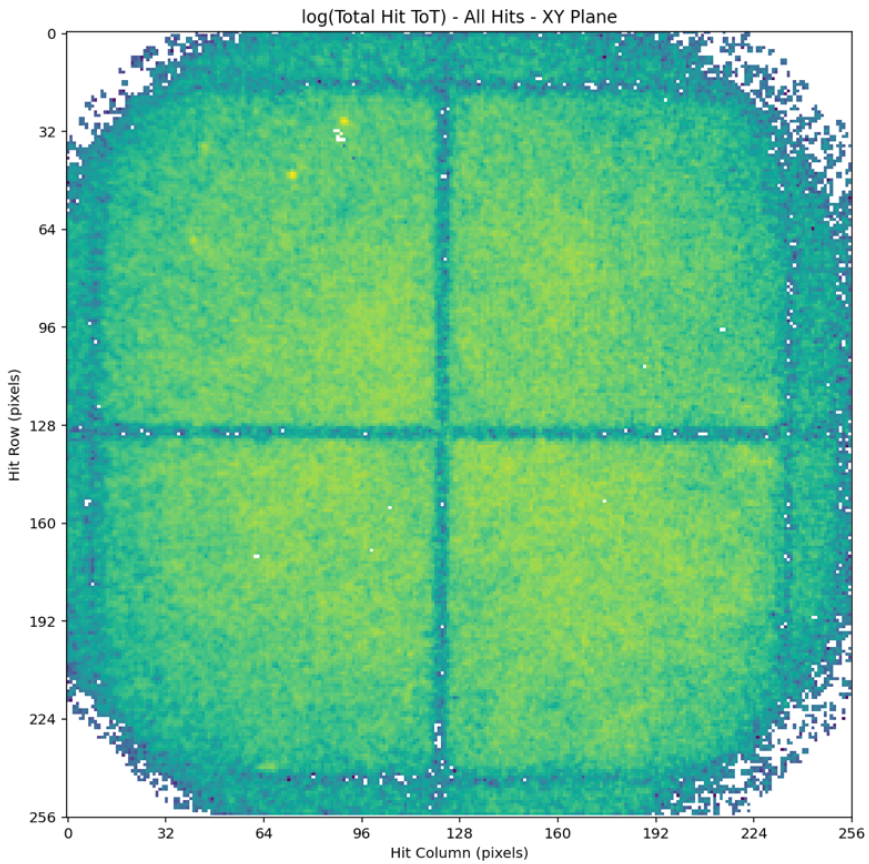


VUV Light

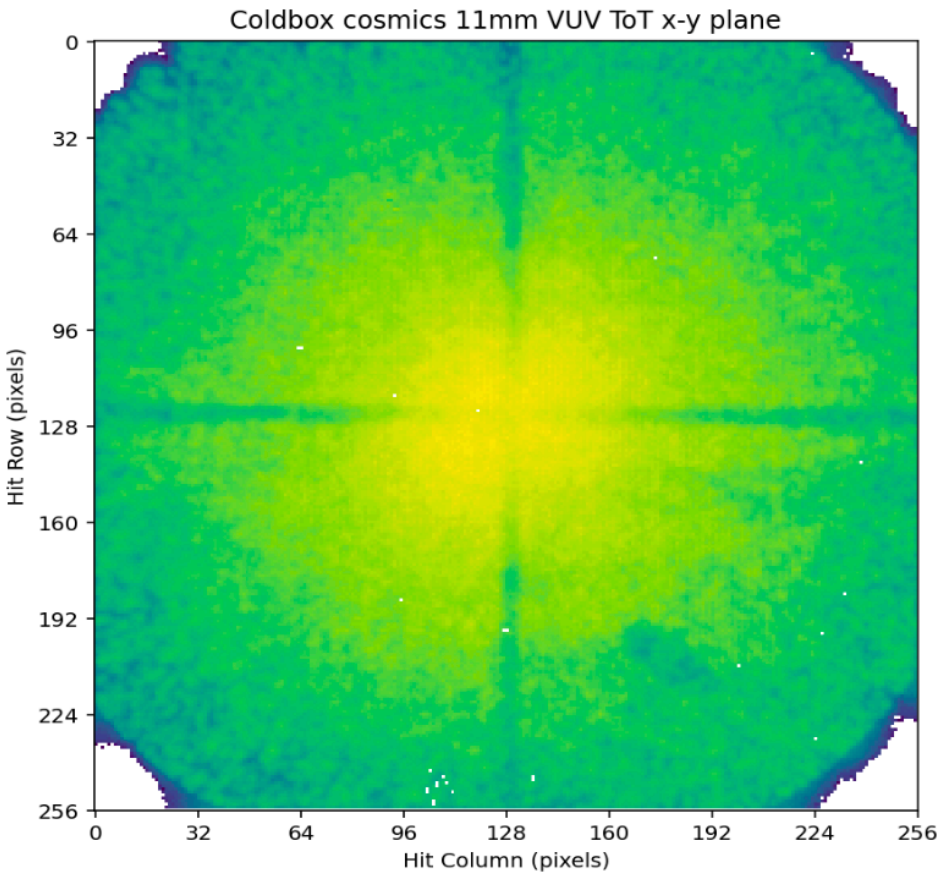


30 Second Exposure Cosmics

Visible Light

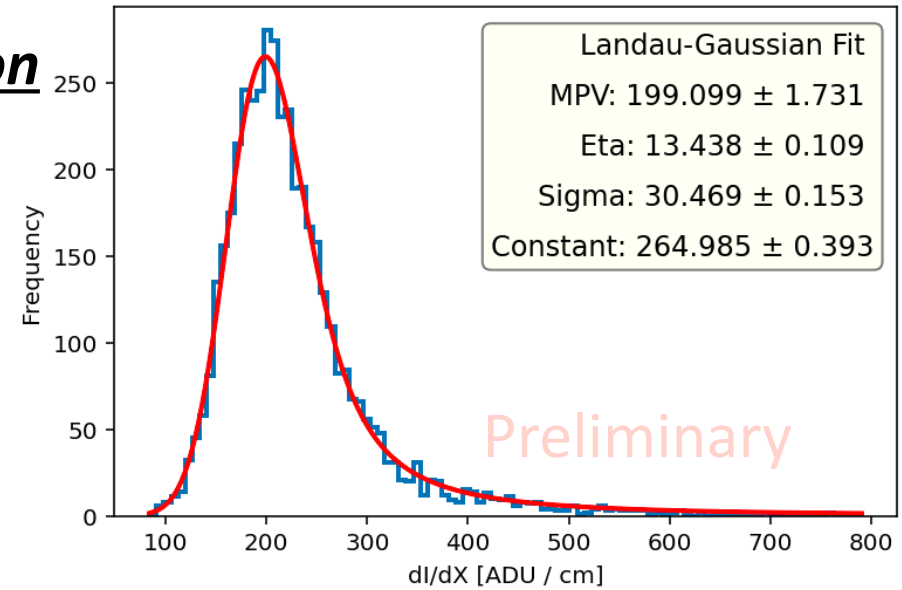


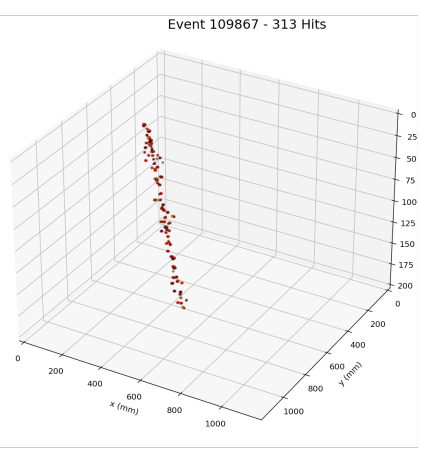
VUV Light

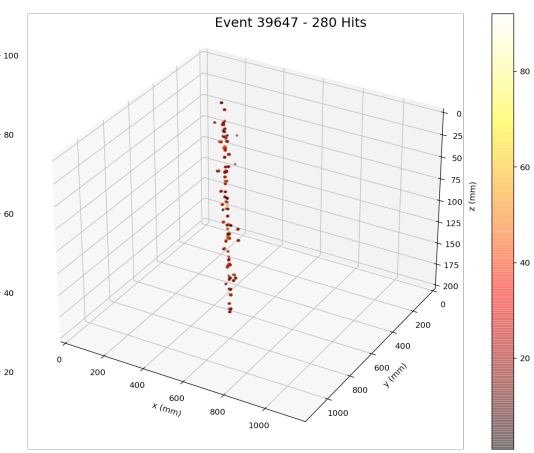


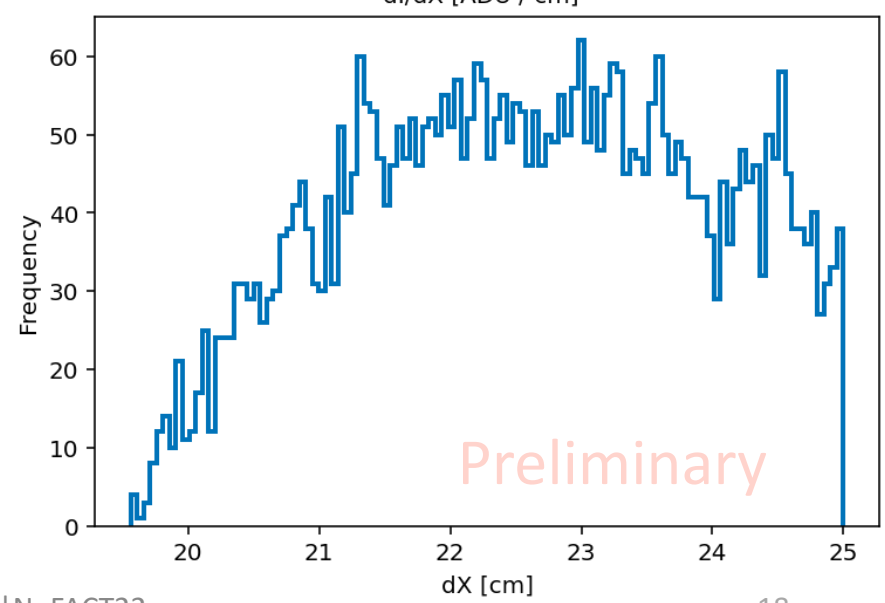
Energy Calibration and Resolution

- Track fitting to through going muons (Through THGEM and greater than 19 cm depth)
- Energy conversion : **199.10 ± 1.73 ADU / MeV**
- Energy resolution : **16.73 ± 0.16 %**



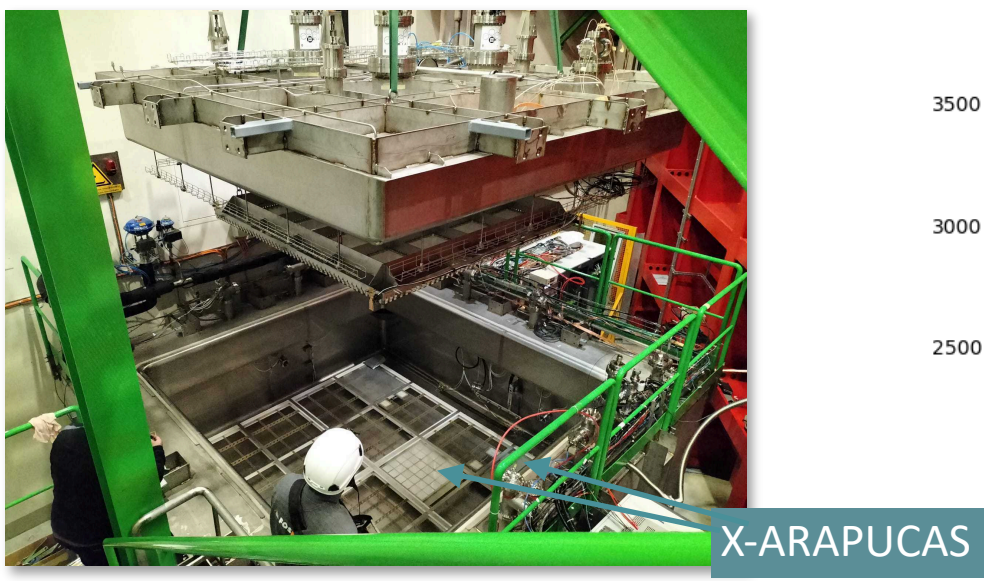


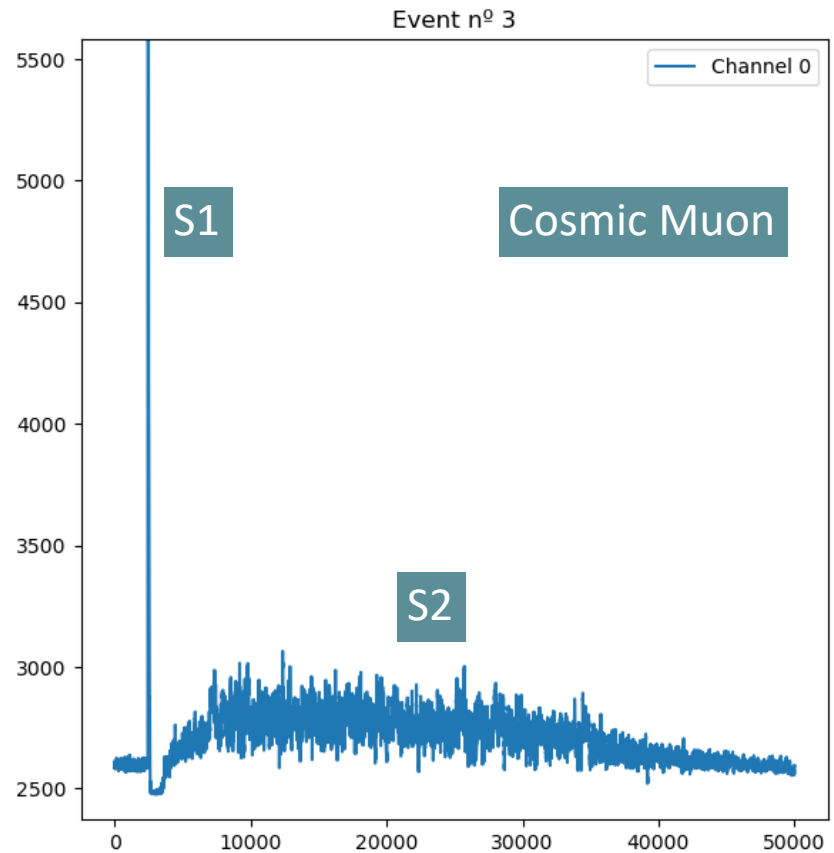




S1 Light Collection Studies

- USC collected data using the X-ARAPUCAS embedded within the cathode of the cold box
- Studies into discriminating between S1 and S2 signals
- Analysis is ongoing - correlation between X-ARAPUCA signal and ARIADNE+ data





Conclusions and Outlook

TPX3Cam TPC Benefits

Raw data is natively 3D

Huge readout rates possible (80 MHits/s)

Zero suppressed readout (approx. few kbytes per event)

High resolution with approx. 1 mm per pixel

Easy access for swapping in/out technologies

Same readout is possible for dual phase or gas TPCs

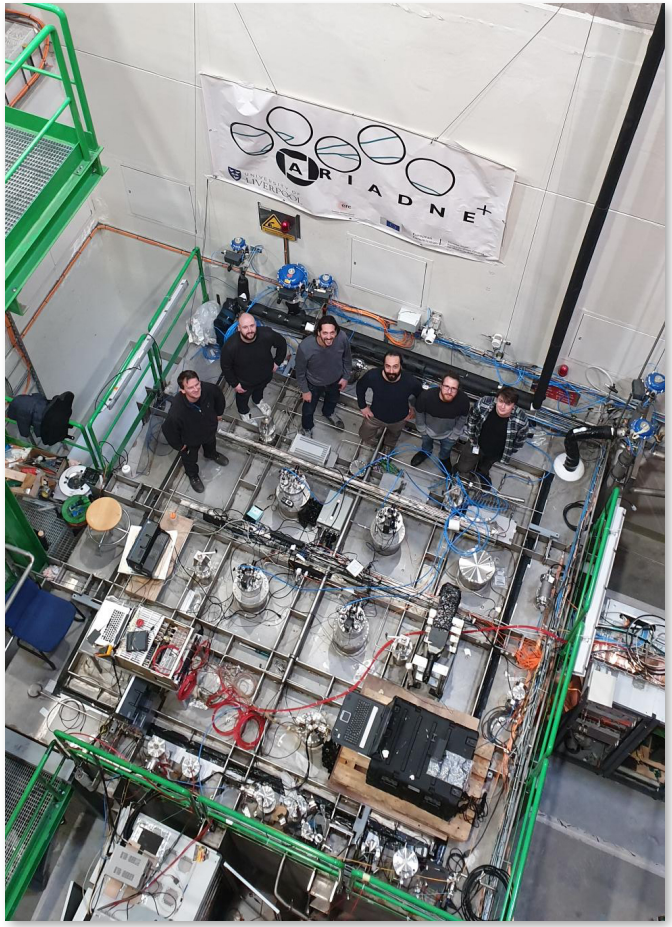
Comparatively low cost to other readout methods

- Optical readout achieved with stable detector conditions has been demonstrated at the same scales as that for vertical drift tests (CERN Neutrino Platform Cold Box)
- TPX3 and Glass THGEM technology is ready for deployment **now**
- An option for DUNE LAr Far Detector, DUNE LAr Near Detector and DUNE GAr Near Detector (if enough light is produced in pressurised gas Argon)?

We are open to expanding our collaboration!

Thank You for Listening!

Any questions?



Once again thank you to the amazing CERN team for hosting ARIADNE+ and all their help getting the detector up and running!

Extra Slides

TPX3 to TPX4

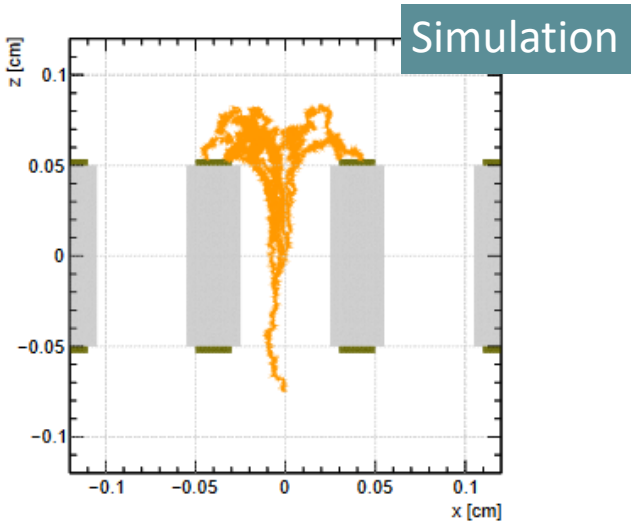
			Timepix3 (2013)	Timepix4 (2019)	
Technology			130nm – 8 metal	65nm – 10 metal	
Pixel Size			55 x 55 µm	55 x 55 µm	
Pixel arrangement			3-side buttable 256 x 256	4-side buttable 512 x 448	**3.5x**
Sensitive area			1.98 cm^2	6.94 cm^2	
Readout Modes	Data driven (Tracking)	Mode	TOT and TOA		
		Event Packet	48-bit	64-bit	**33%**
		Max rate	0.43×10^6 hits/mm^2/s	**3.58×10^6 hits/mm^2/s**	**8x**
		Max Pix rate	1.3 KHz/pixel	**10.8 KHz/pixel**	
	Frame based (Imaging)	Mode	PC (10-bit) and iTOT (14-bit)	CRW: PC (8 or 16-bit)	
		Frame	Zero-suppressed (with pixel addr)	Full Frame (without pixel addr)	
		Max count rate	~0.82×10^9 hits/mm^2/s	~5×10^9 hits/mm^2/s	**6x**
TOT energy resolution			< 2KeV	**< 1Kev**	**2x**
Time resolution			1.56ns	**195.3125ps**	**8x**
Readout bandwidth			≤5.12Gb (8x SLVS@640 Mbps)	≤163.84 Gbps (16x @10.24 Gbps)	**32x**
Target global minimum threshold			<500 e^-	<500 e^-	

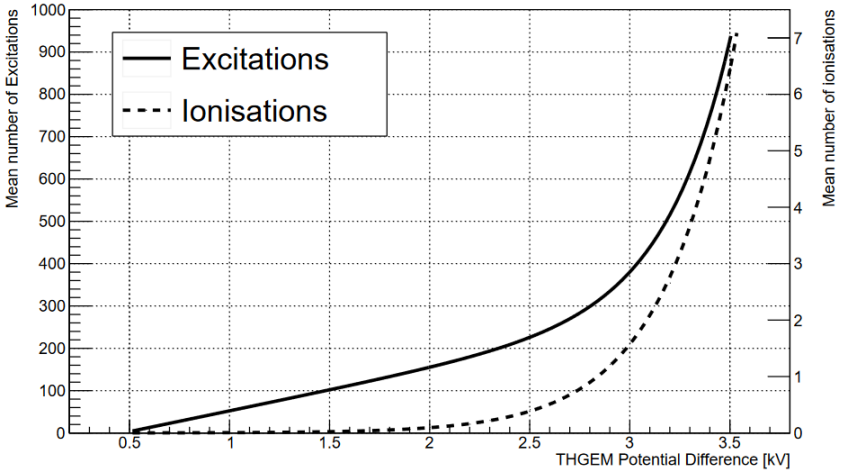
THGEM S2 Light Production

VUV (126nm) light produced through de-excitation of Argon gas.
TPB Wavelength shifter above THGEM converts to 430nm.

At low field (<2kV/cm), S2 light production is linearly proportional to THGEM field. No charge gain. Very stable operation without discharges. No ion production.

At higher fields, electron multiplication occurs (Townsend avalanche).
Exponentially increasing S2 light production -> Improved sensitivity/threshold

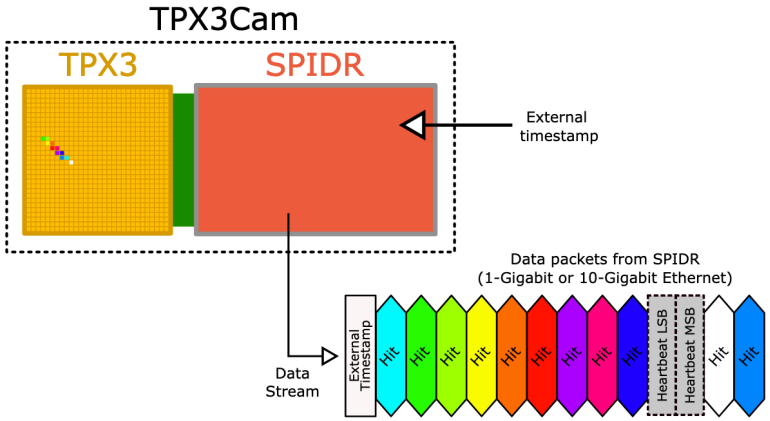




TPX3 Data Packets

Each Hit (Min 500 electrons):

- X Position
- Y Position
- Time of Arrival (ToA)
- Time over Threshold (ToT)



THGEM Characterisation

Mean TPX3Cam ToT rate (calculated as the summed ToT of all hits in a run divided by the total duration of the run and measured in ADU per second) as a function of the electric field across the THGEM. A single function—comprising a combination of linear and exponential functions is fitted to the data

Energy Calibration and Resolution

Simply the conversion between the incident light intensity in ADU and the corresponding physical energy in MeV

Through-going muons are ideal for calculating this calibration, they are minimum-ionising particles (“MIPs”) with a well-known mean energy deposition rate, dE/dX , of 2.12 MeV/cm

The summed ToT is calculated across all hits which comprise each event, and this summation is divided by the 3D track length of the through-going track.

The energy resolution, defined as the Landau (eta) and Gaussian (sigma) widths combined in quadrature and expressed as a fraction of the MPV