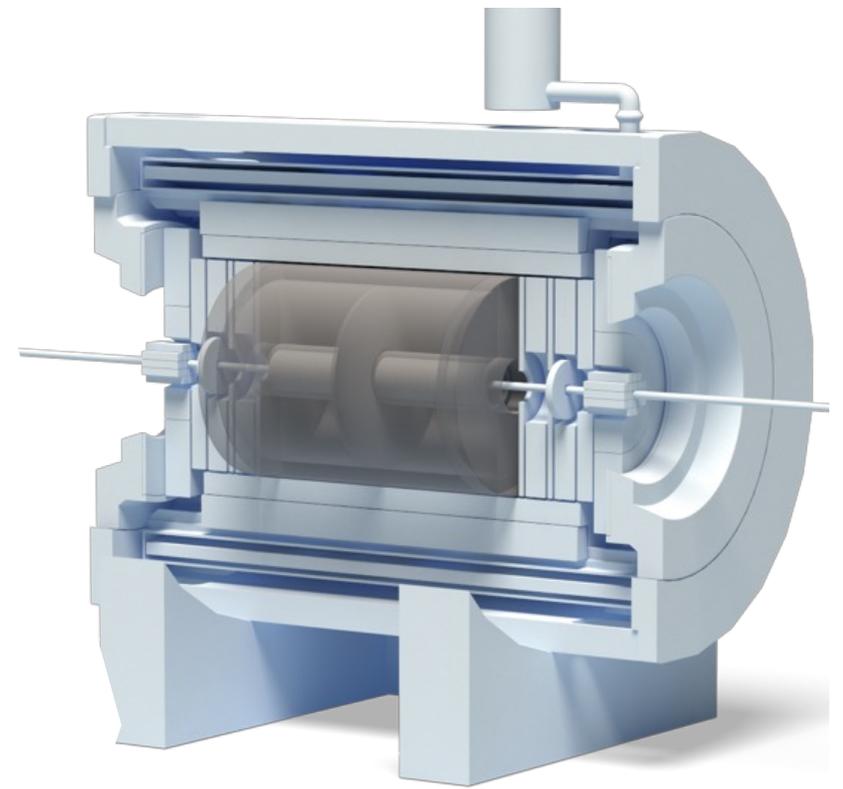


# Time Projection Chamber Assembling

*Stepan Vereschagin, on behalf of the  
TPC/MPD group, VBLHEP, JINR*



# Outline



• Nica complex and MPD experiment	3
• TPC detector: operational principle and overview	5
• TPC cylinders	7
• Field cage and HV electrode	10
• Read-Out chambers	13
• Gating grid system	18
• Low voltage and High voltage power supply	20
• Gas system	21
• Cooling system	23
• Laser calibration system	28
• Data acquisition system	30
• Installation TPC to MPD	36
• TPC engineering infrastructure	37
• Time schedule	40

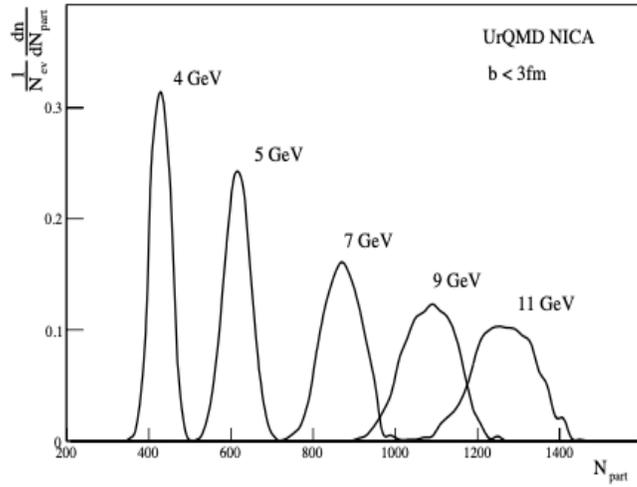
# NICA Complex



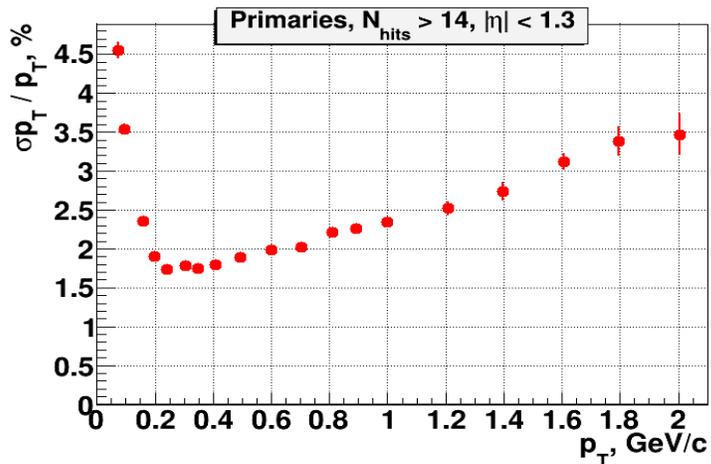
<https://nica.jinr.ru/>

<http://mpd.jinr.ru/>

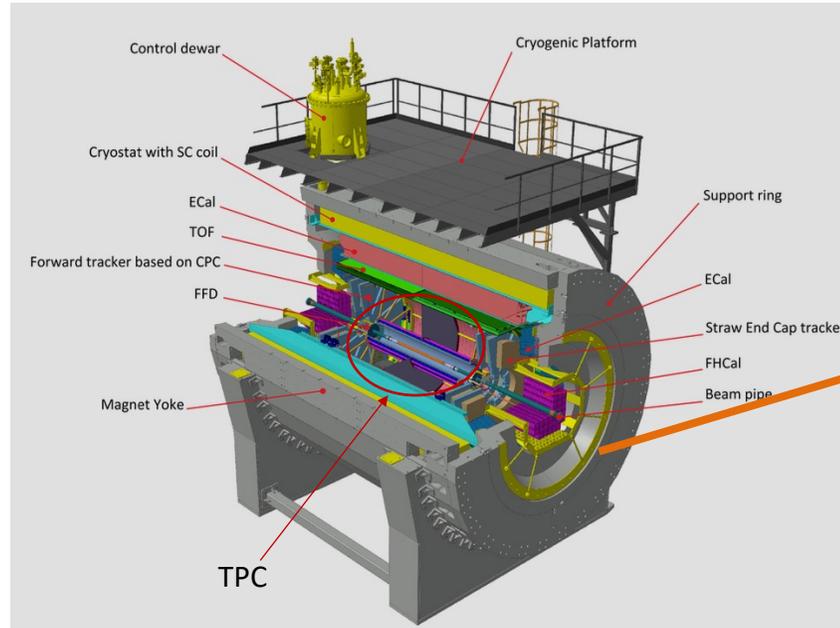
# MPD experimental setup



Charged multiplicity distributions in central Au + Au collisions ( $b < 3$  fm) calculated by UrQMD.



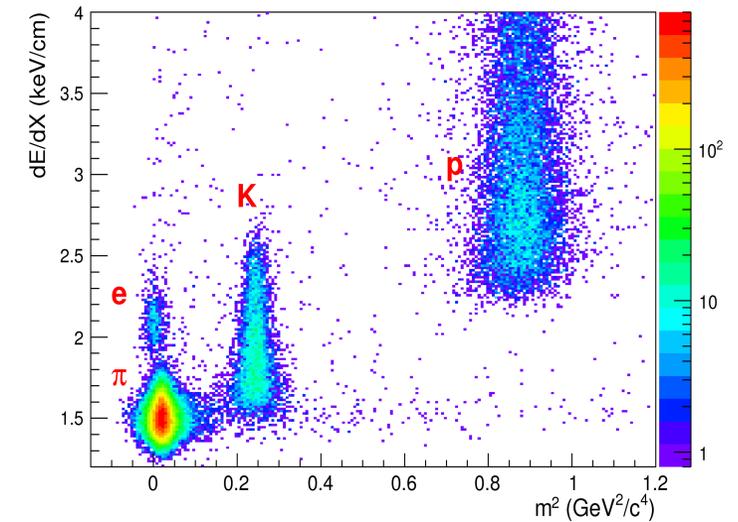
## MPD Stage II



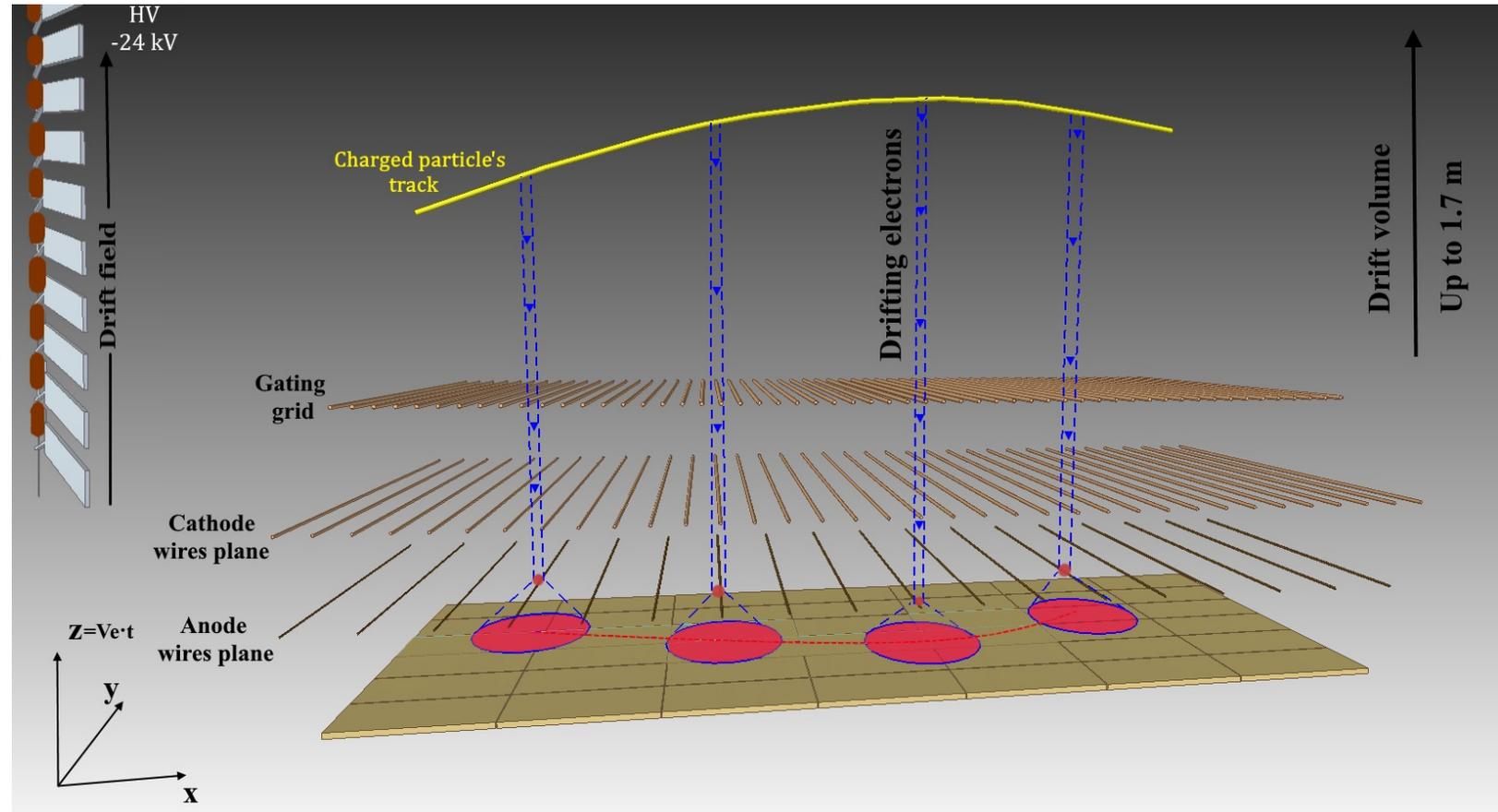
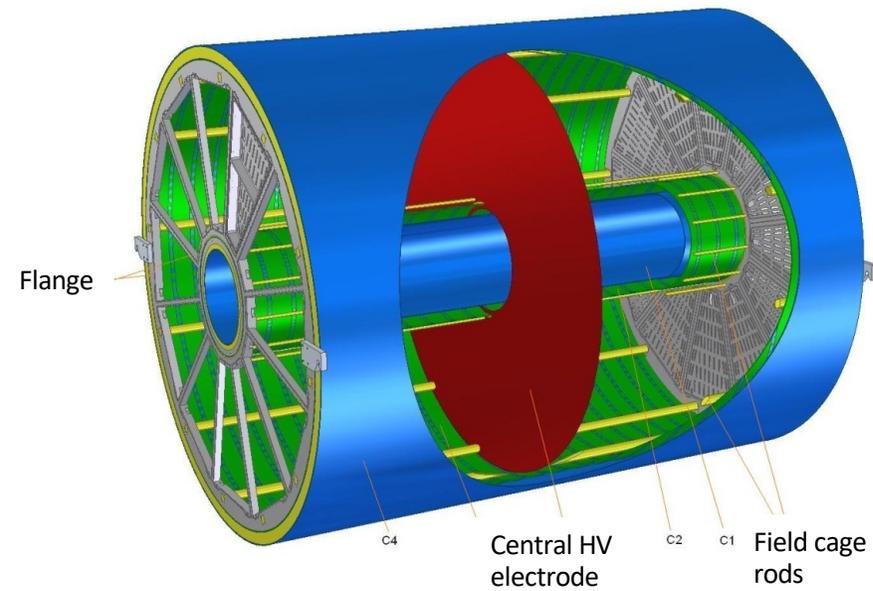
### MPD stage I detectors:

- **ECal:** Electromagnetic Calorimeter
- **FFD:** Fast Forward Detector
- **TOF:** Time of Flight system
- **FHCAL:** Forward Hadron Calorimeter
- **TPC:** Time Projection Chamber

## Magnet assembly in the MPD Hall



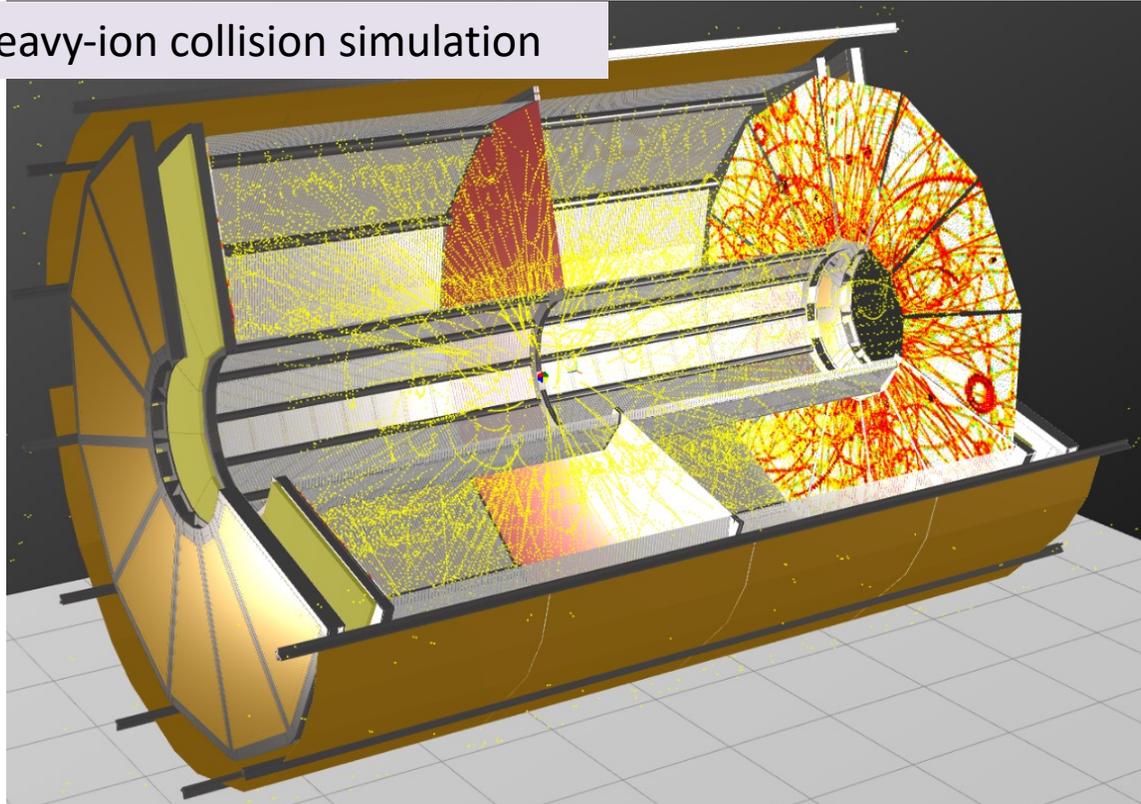
# TPC operational principle



# TPC design requirements and main parameters



Heavy-ion collision simulation



TPC main parameters:

Item	Dimension
Length of the TPC	340cm
Outer radius of vessel	140cm
Inner radius of vessel	27 cm
Outer radius of the drift volume	133cm
Inner radius of the drift volume	34cm
Length of the drift volume	170cm (of each half)
HV electrode	Membrane at the center of the TPC
Electric field strength	~140V/cm;
Magnetic field strength	0.5 Tesla
Drift gas	90% Ar+10% Methane, Atmospheric pres. + 2 mbar
Gas amplification factor	~ 10 <sup>4</sup>
Drift velocity	5.45 cm/μs;
Drift time	< 30μs;
Temperature stability	< 0.5°C
Number of readout chambers	24 (12 per each end-plate)
Segmentation in φ	30°
Pad size	5x12mm <sup>2</sup> and 5x18mm <sup>2</sup>
Number of pads	95232
Pad raw numbers	53
Pad numbers after zero suppression	< 10%
Maximal event rate	< 7 kHz ( Lum. 10 <sup>27</sup> )
Electronics shaping time	~180 ns (FWHM)
Signal-to-noise ratio	30:1
Signal dynamical range	10 bits
Sampling rate	10 MHz
Sampling depth	310 time buckets

### The TPC/MPD design requirements:

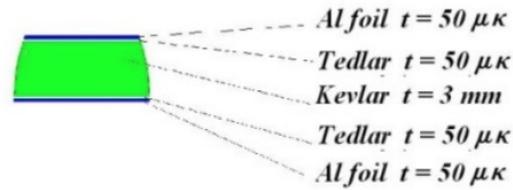
- The overall acceptance:  $\eta < 1.2$
- The momentum resolution for charged particles is under 3% in the transverse momentum range  $0.1 < p_t < 1 \text{ GeV}/c$
- Two-track resolution is of about 1 cm
- Hadron and lepton identification by  $dE/dx$  measurements: with a resolution better than 8%
- Operation trigger rate: 7 KHz

# TPC cylinders



C1 cylinder

Wall structure



$D_{\text{in}} = 540 \text{ mm}, L = 3400 \text{ mm}$



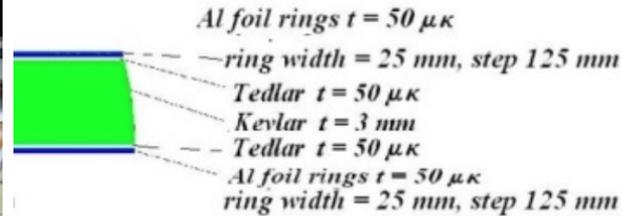
C3 cylinder



$D_{\text{in}} = 2660 \text{ mm}, L = 3400 \text{ mm}$



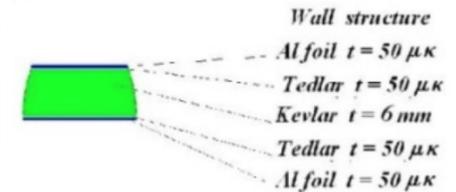
C2 cylinder



$D_{\text{in}} = 676 \text{ mm}, L = 3400 \text{ mm}$

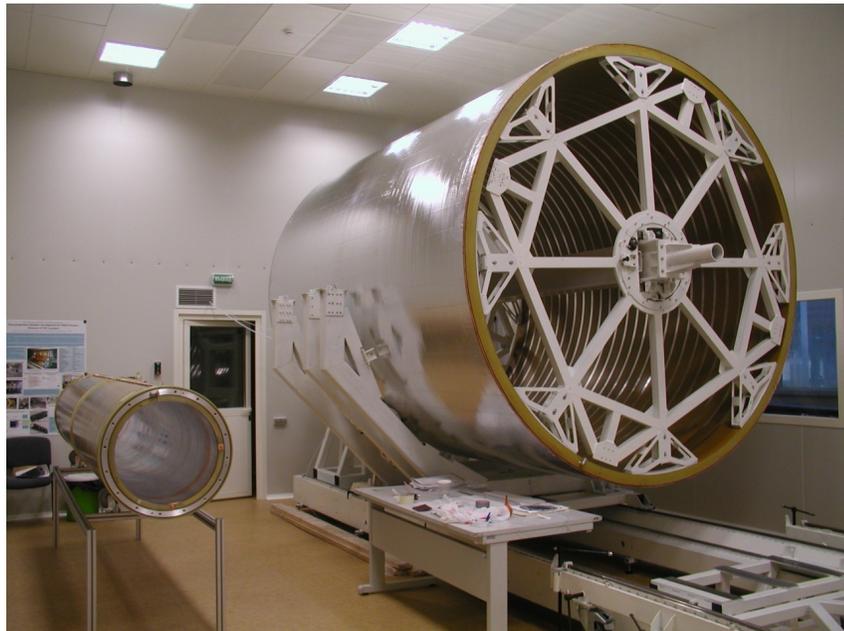
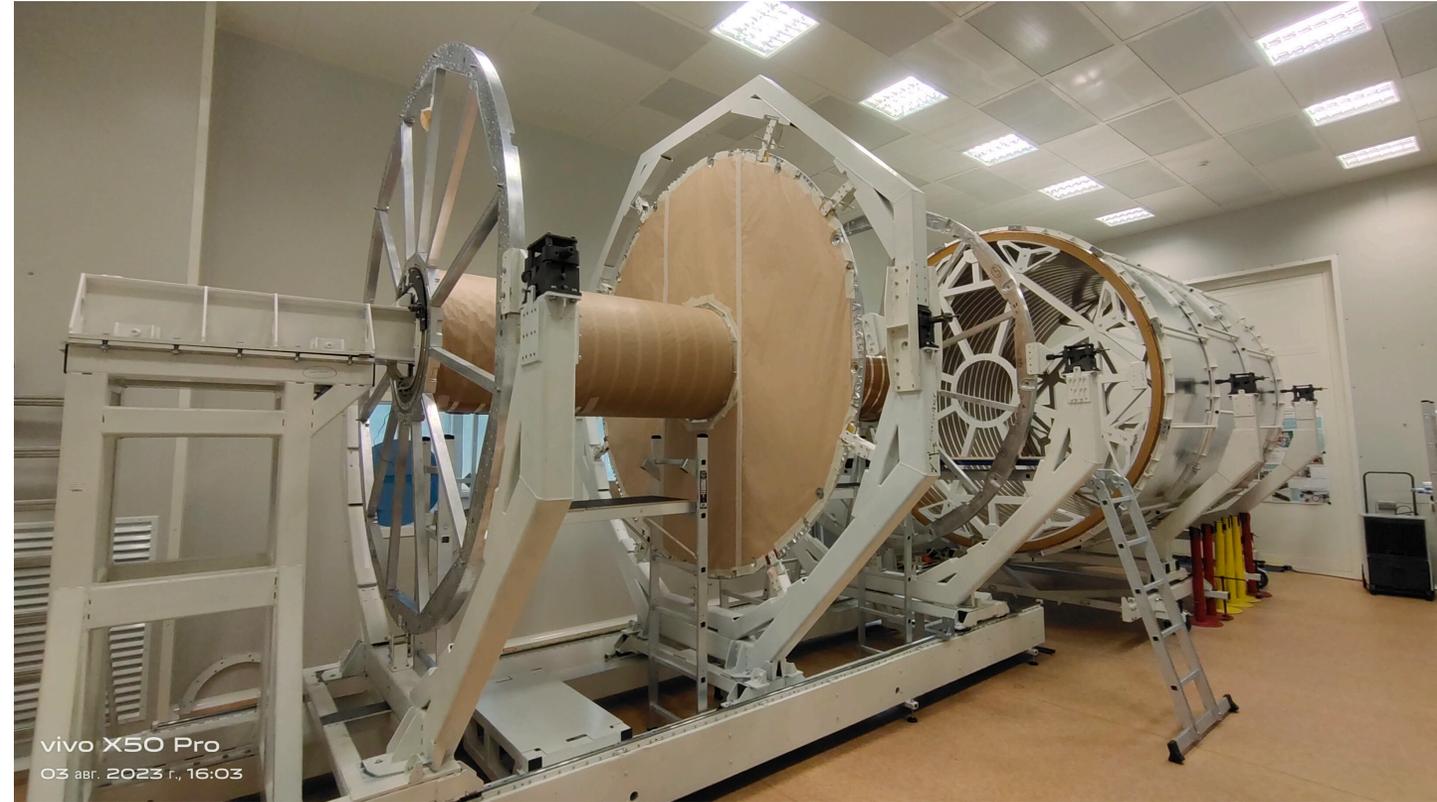


C4 cylinder



$D_{\text{in}} = 2802 \text{ mm},$   
 $L = 3400 \text{ mm}$

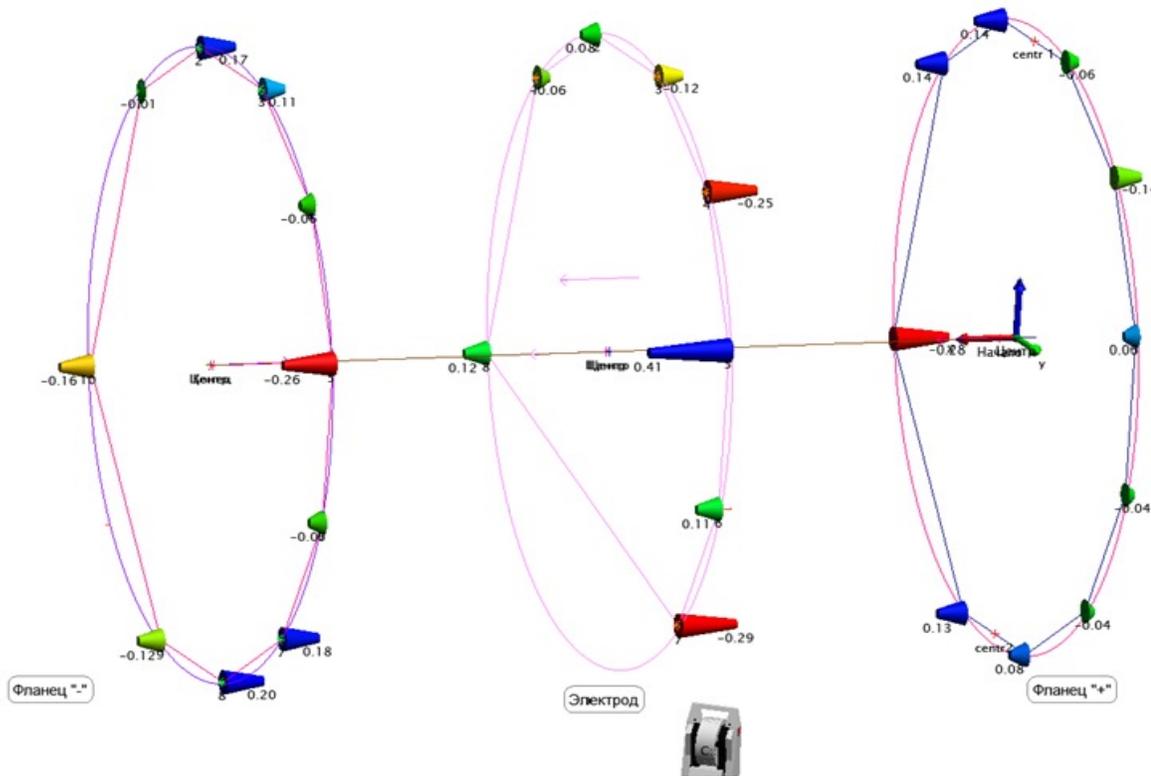
# TPC cylinders assembly



TPC body was assembled with test rods to check TPC geometry by laser tracker AT-402

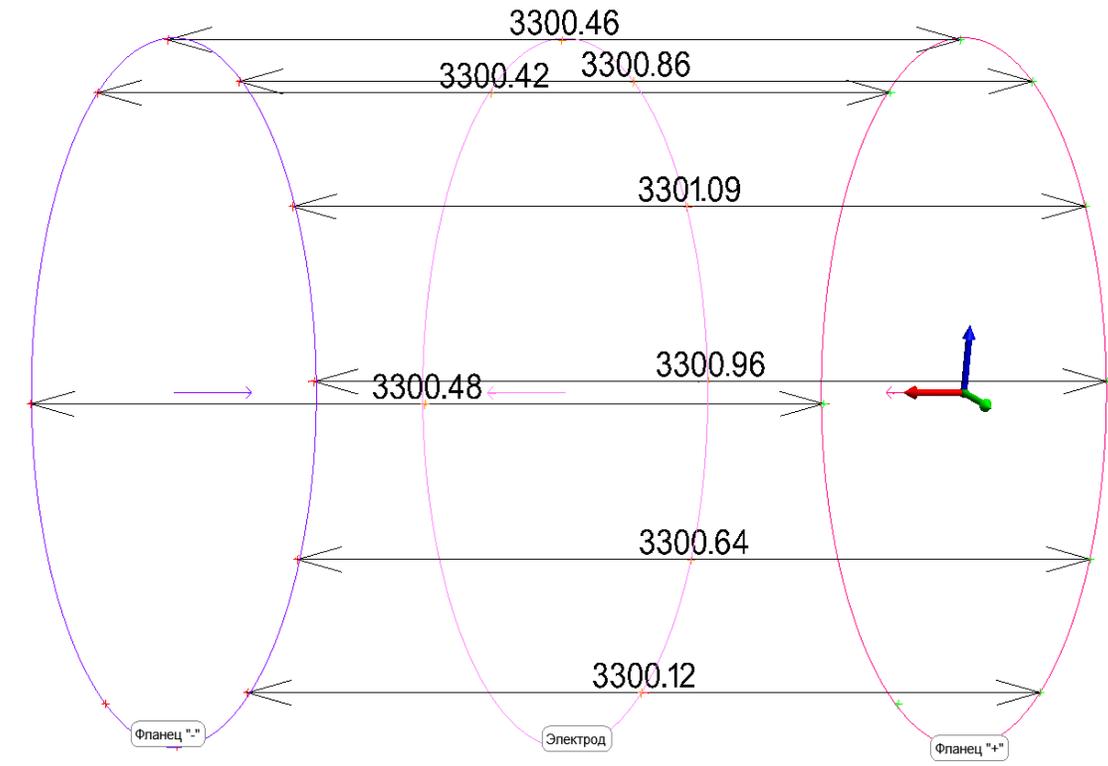
# TPC vessel assembling

Flanges and HV electrode unflatness



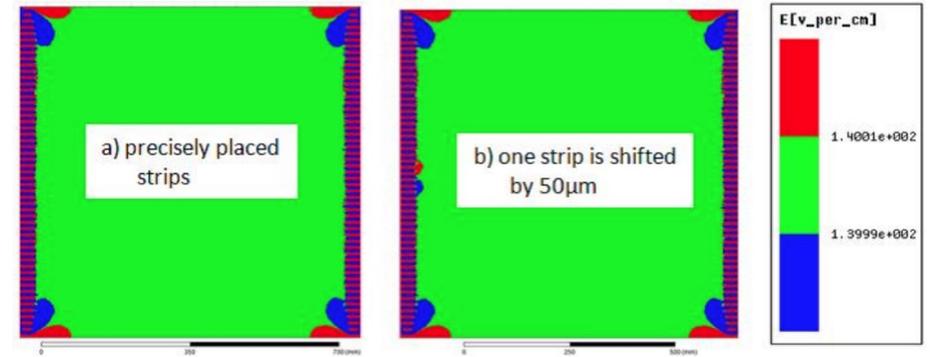
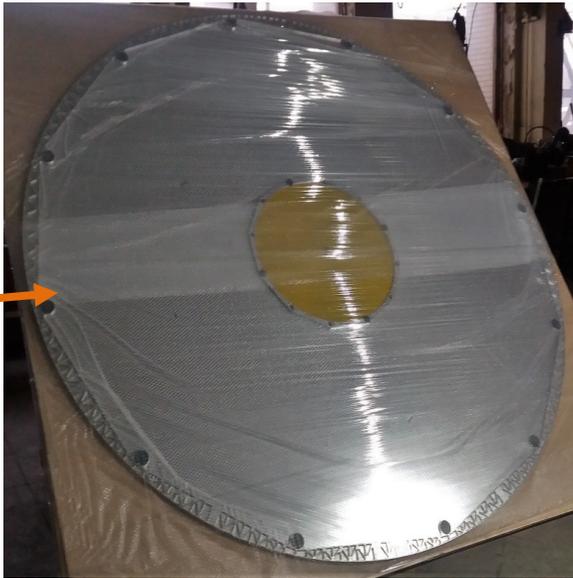
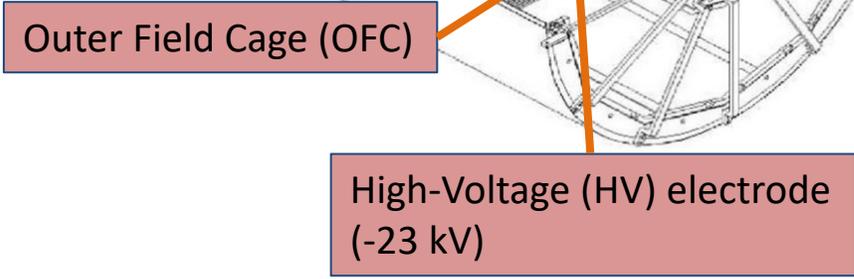
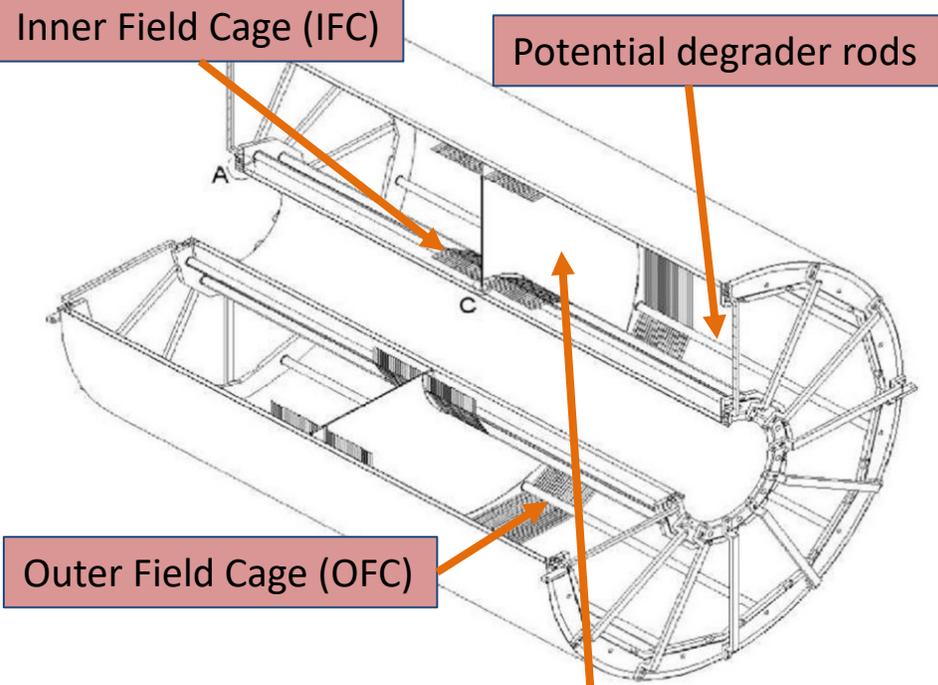
**Flanges unflatness is about 0.5 mm  
HV electrode unflatness is about 0.7 mm**

Flange to flange distance



**$L = (3300.5 \pm 0.5) \text{ mm}$   
(nominal – 3300.0 mm)**

# Field cage and high-voltage electrode



The field distortions in the drift volume defined by Mylar strip system

The non-uniformity of the electric field inside the sensitive TPC volume has to be not more than  $10^{-4}$  relative to nominal value (140 V/cm P10 gas mixture).

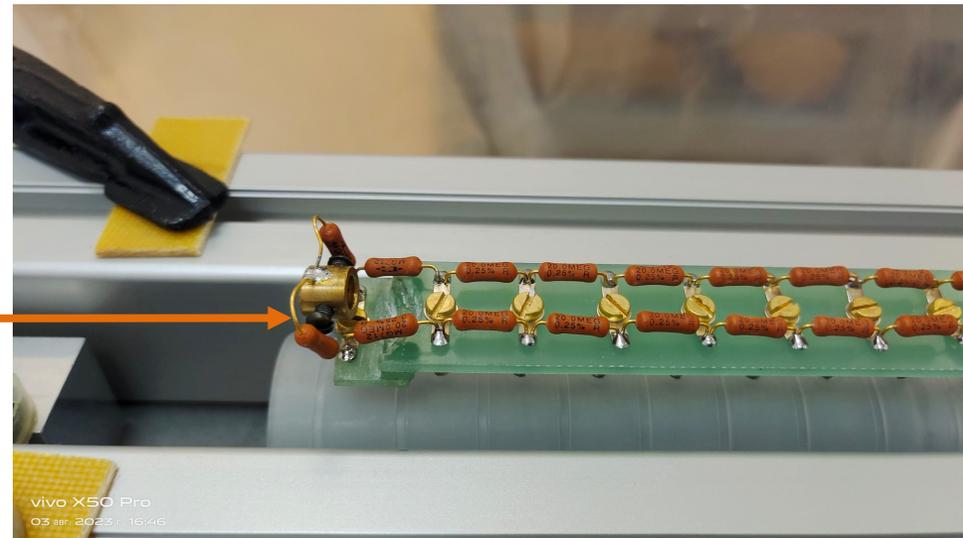
# Potential degrader rods and HV membrane connector



Al foil gluing



vivo X50 Pro  
03 sep. 2023 r. 16:46

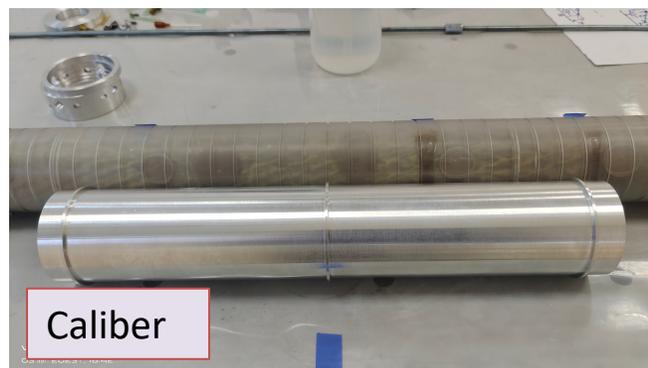


vivo X50 Pro  
03 sep. 2023 r. 16:46

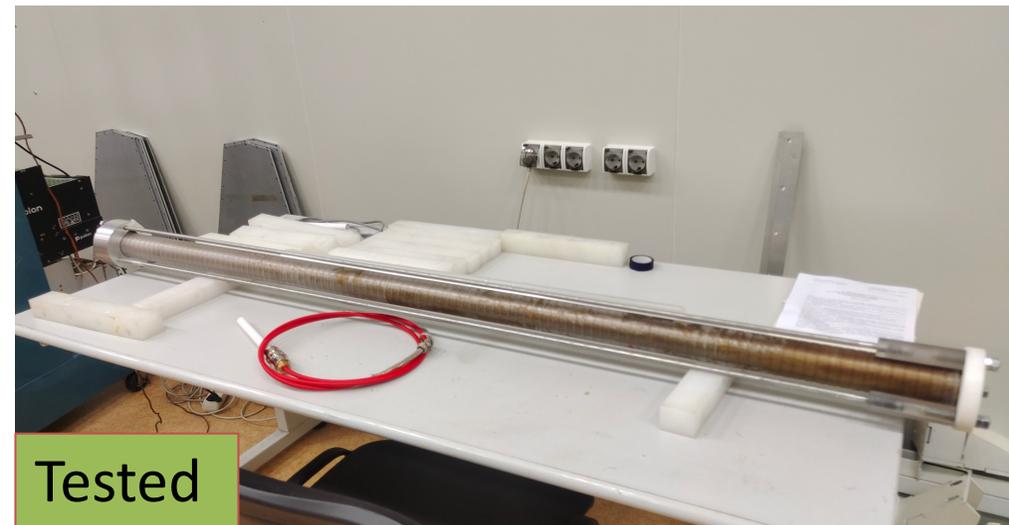
tools



Glue point per point



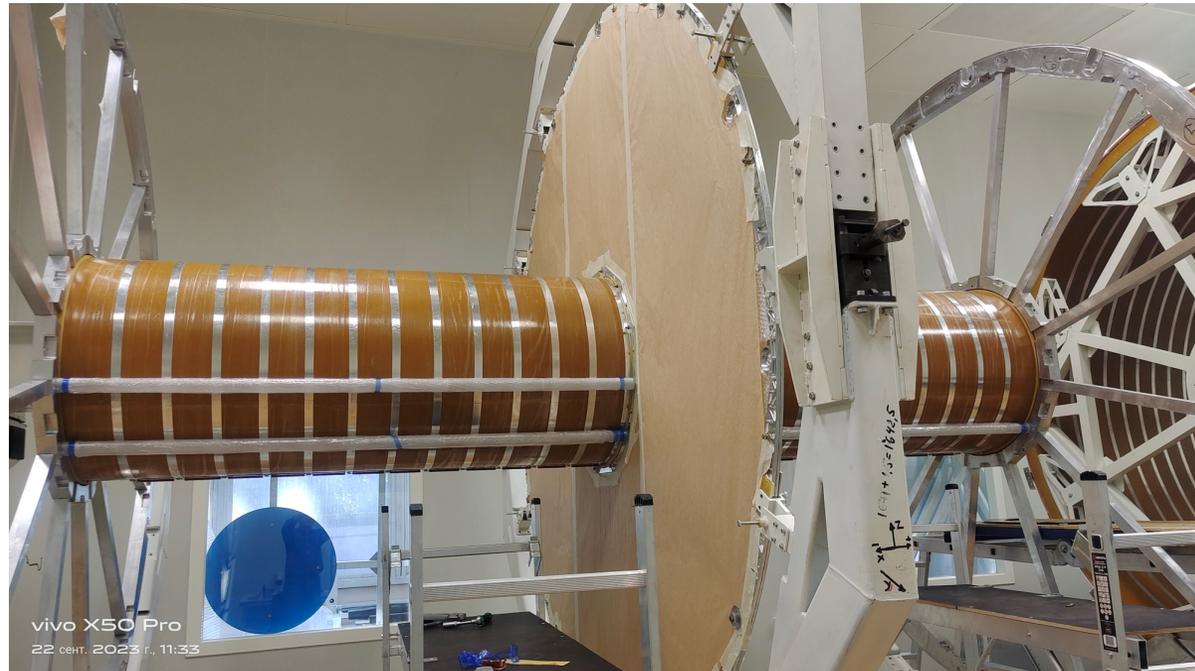
Caliber



Tested

S.Vereschagin, JINR, XII Collaboration Meeting of the MPD Experiment at the NICA Facility, Belgrade, Serbia, October 2-6

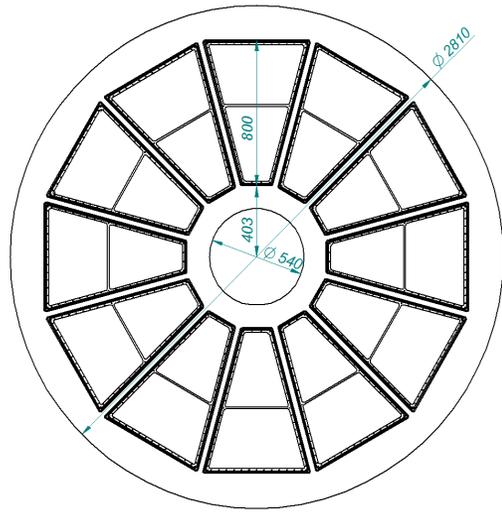
# Field cage assembly



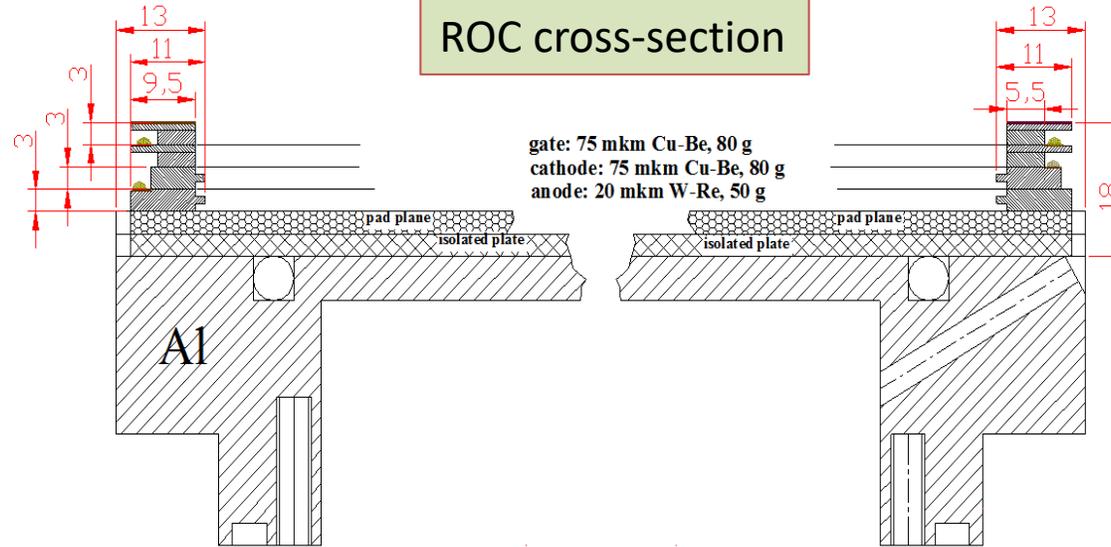
Inner field cage rods installation  
20% installed

# Read-Out chambers (ROC)

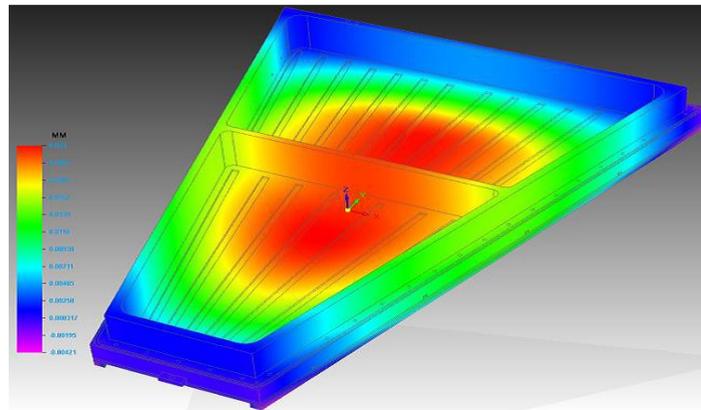
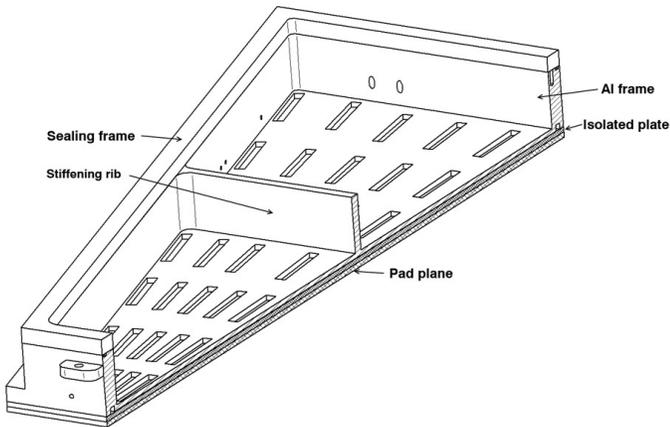
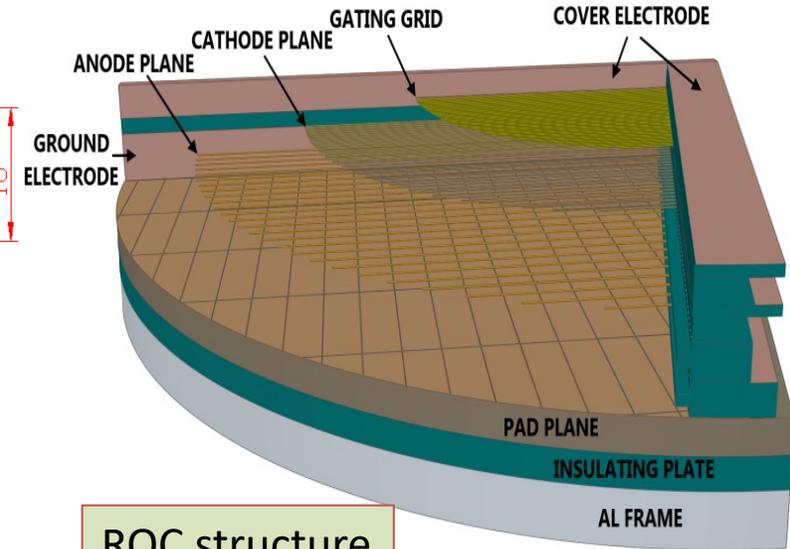
ROCs location



ROC cross-section

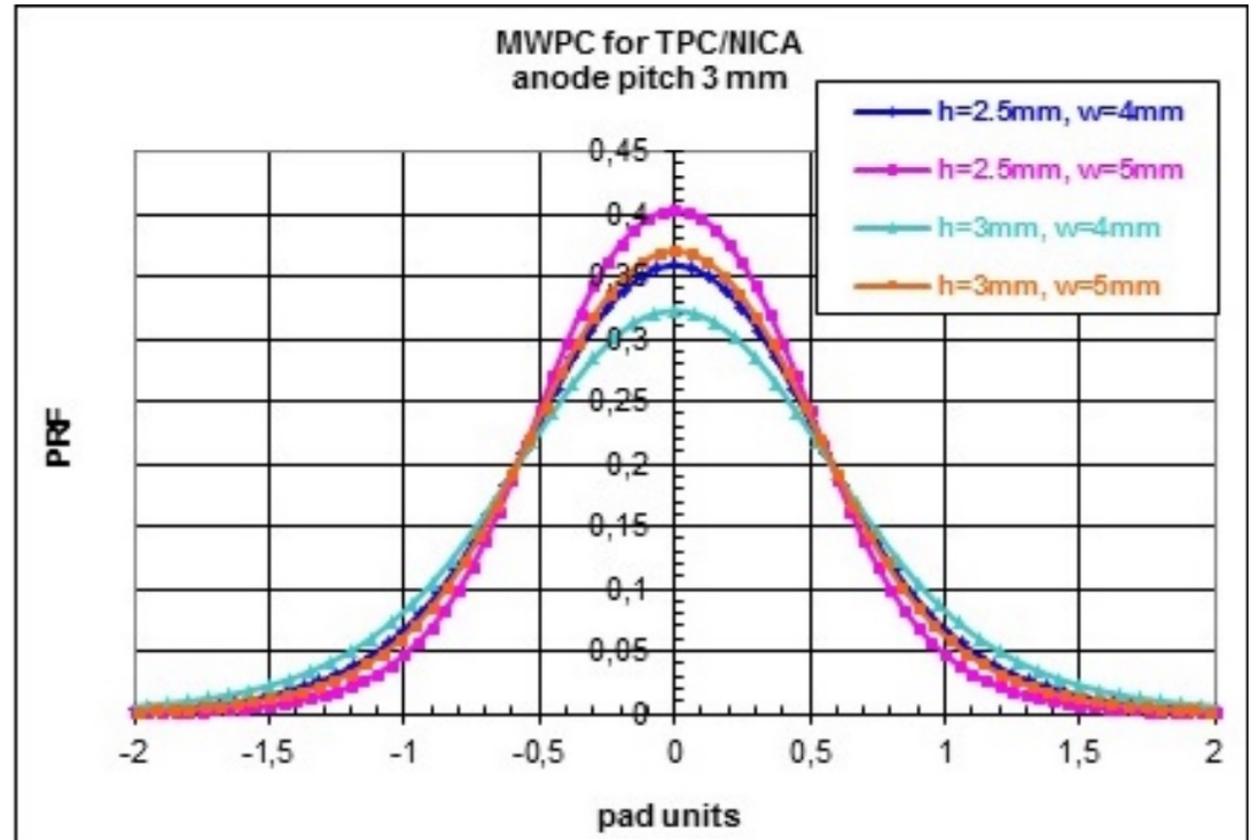
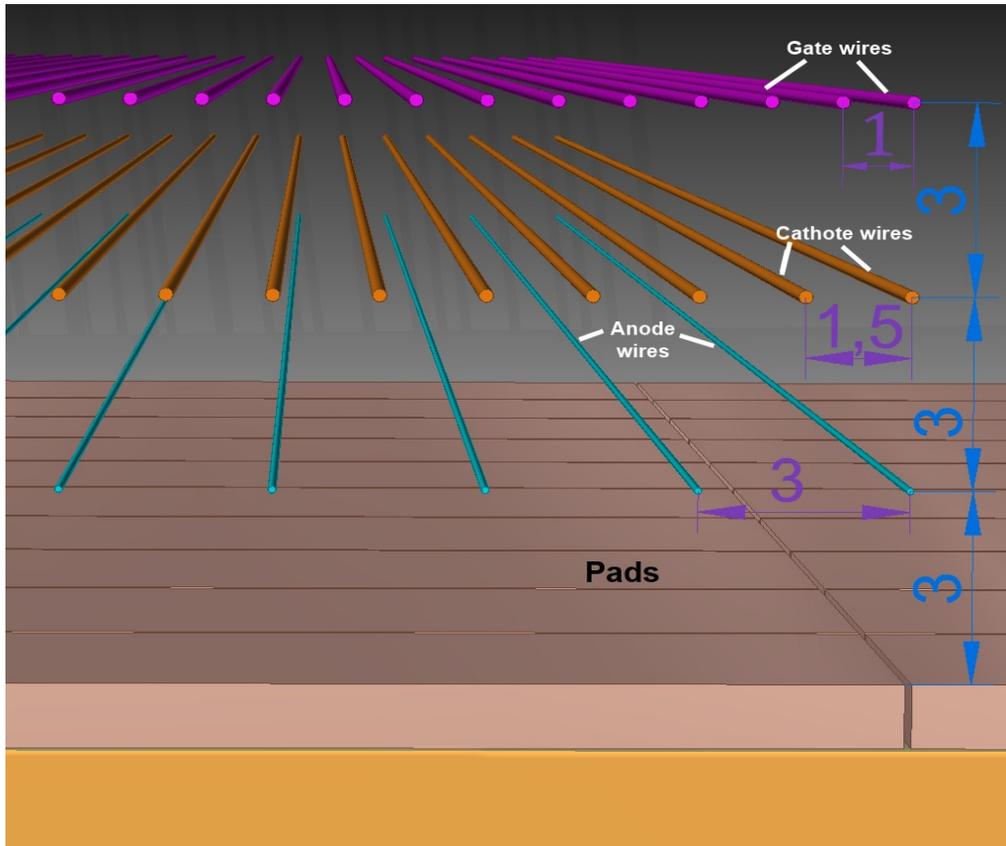


ROC structure

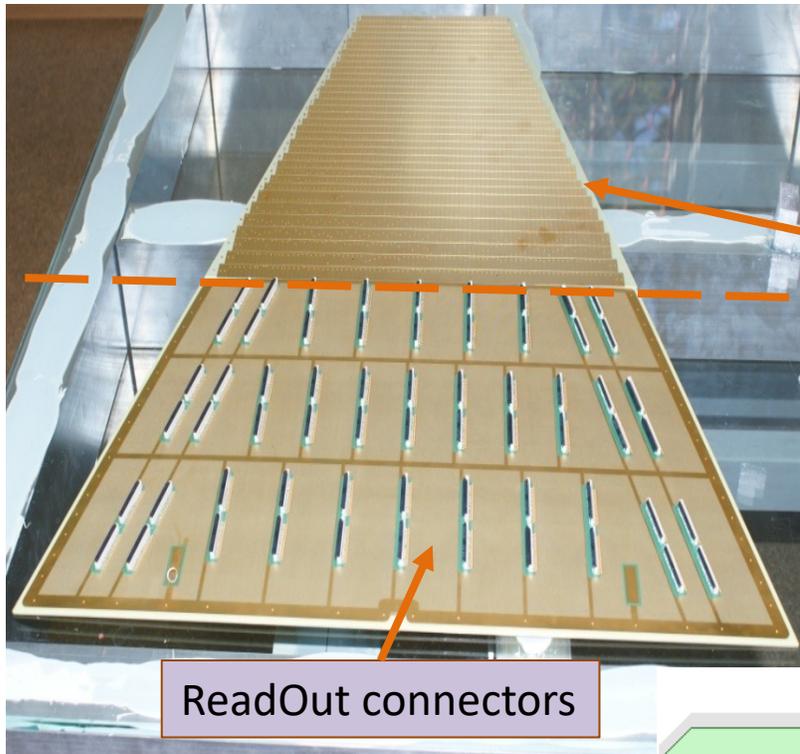


Finite element calculation of the chamber deformation caused by the wire tension ( $F = 800 \text{ N}$ ) and overpressure 5 mBar. The maximum deformation is **27  $\mu\text{m}$**

# Pad Response Function



# PadPlane overview



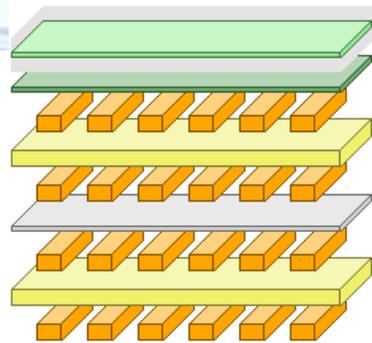
Pads



**PadPlane structure**  
 pad raw number: 53  
 rectangle shape  
 - small pads  $5 \times 12 \text{ mm}^2$   
 - large pads  $5 \times 18 \text{ mm}^2$   
 Total number of signal pads per one ROC: 3968

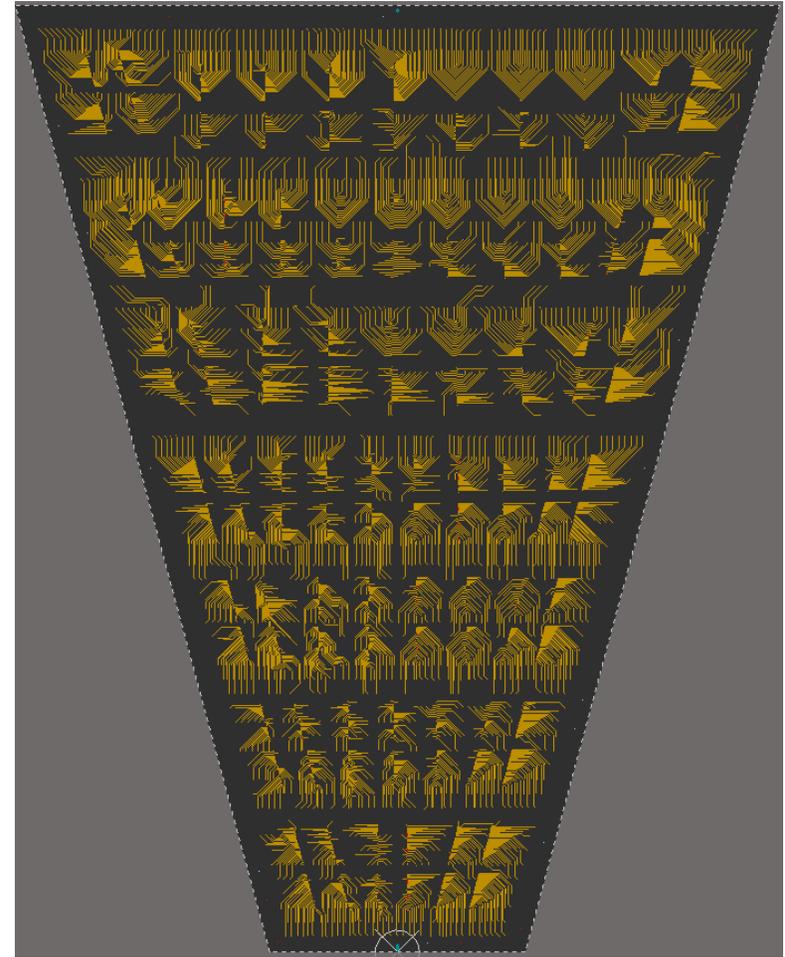
ReadOut connectors

- Connectors layer →
- Routing layer →
- GND layer →
- Pads layer →



PadPlane PCB structure

Layer Name	Type	Material	Thickness (mm)
Top Overlay	Overlay		
Top Solder	Solder Mask/Co...	Surface Material	0.01016
Top Layer	Signal	Copper	0.018
Dielectric1	Dielectric	Core	1
Signal Layer 1	Signal	Copper	0.035
Dielectric2	Dielectric	Prepreg	1
Signal Layer 2	Signal	Copper	0.035
Dielectric3	Dielectric	Core	1
Bottom Layer	Signal	Copper	0.018

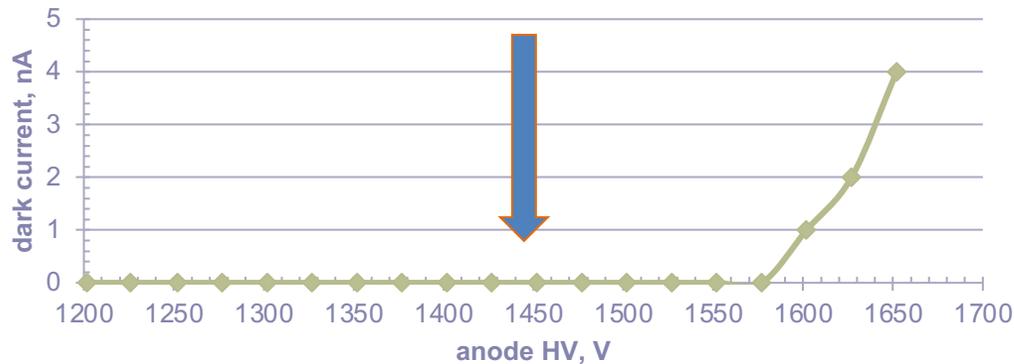


# ROCs production status

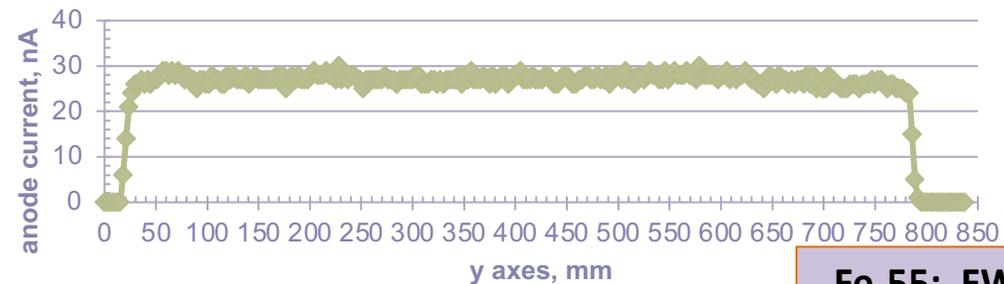


- Test procedure:
- counting plateau
  - dark current
  - energy resolution (Fe-55)
  - uniformity of gas gain
    - ✓ linear scan
    - ✓ area scan

ROC-14, Ar/CH4 (90/10), dark current

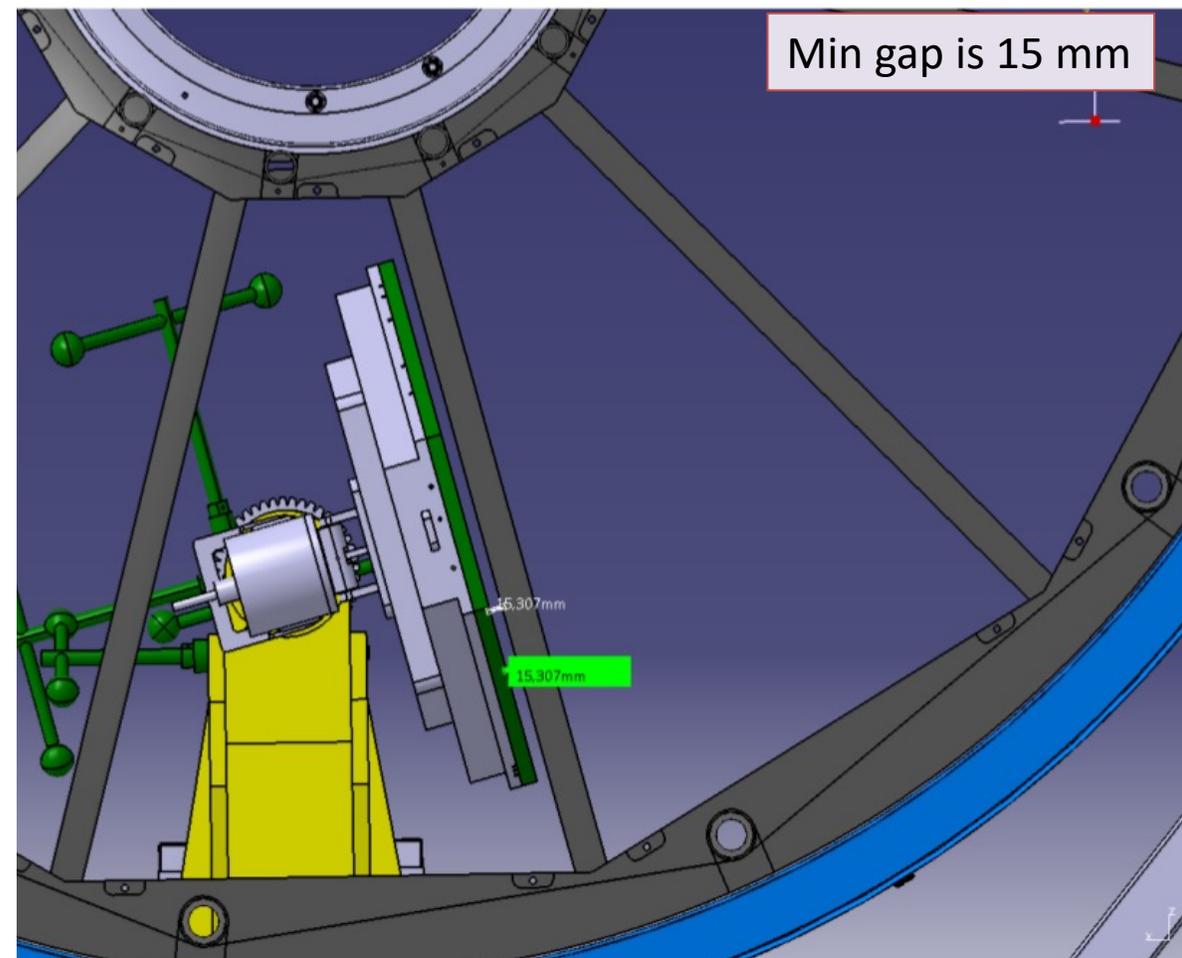
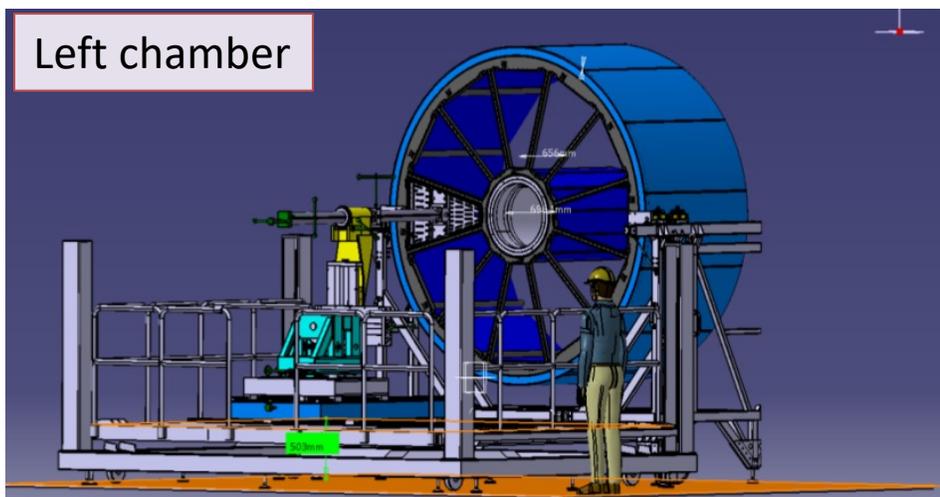
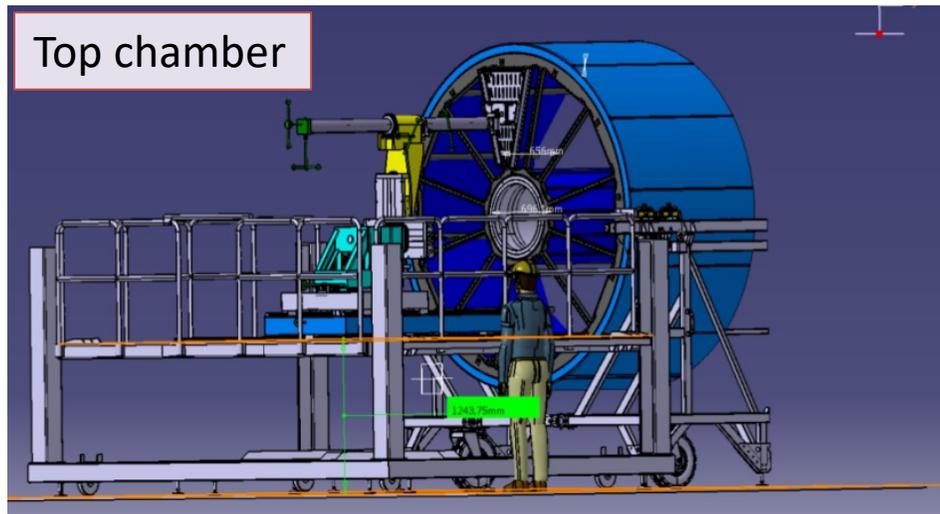


ROC-14, Xray line scan, step 3 mm, Ar/CH4 (90/10),  $U_a = 1,45$  kV,  $U_{dr} = -1120$ V, **uniformity 18,4%**



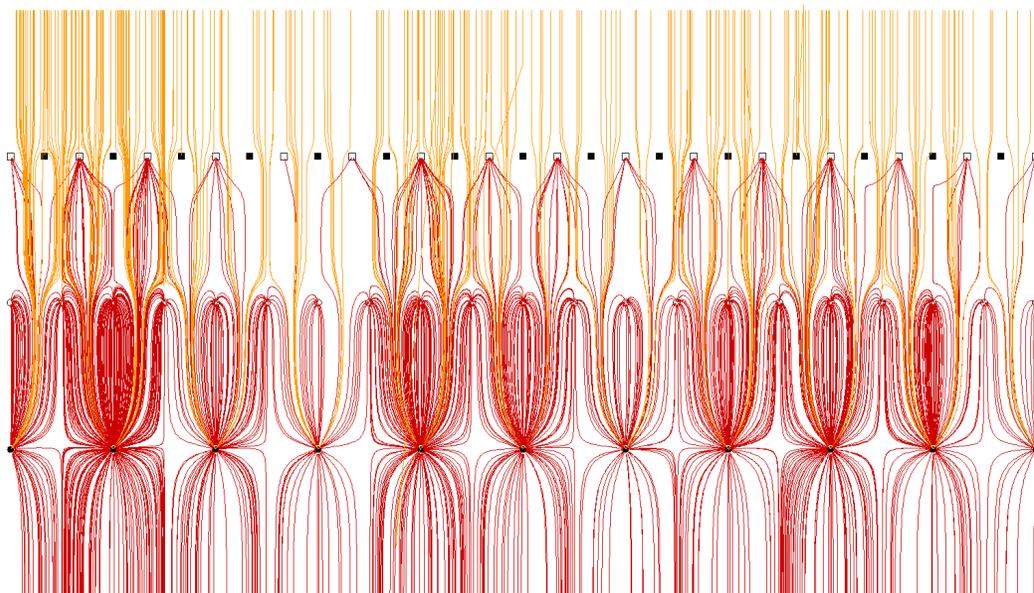
**Fe-55: FWHM ~ 20%**

# ROC chamber installation

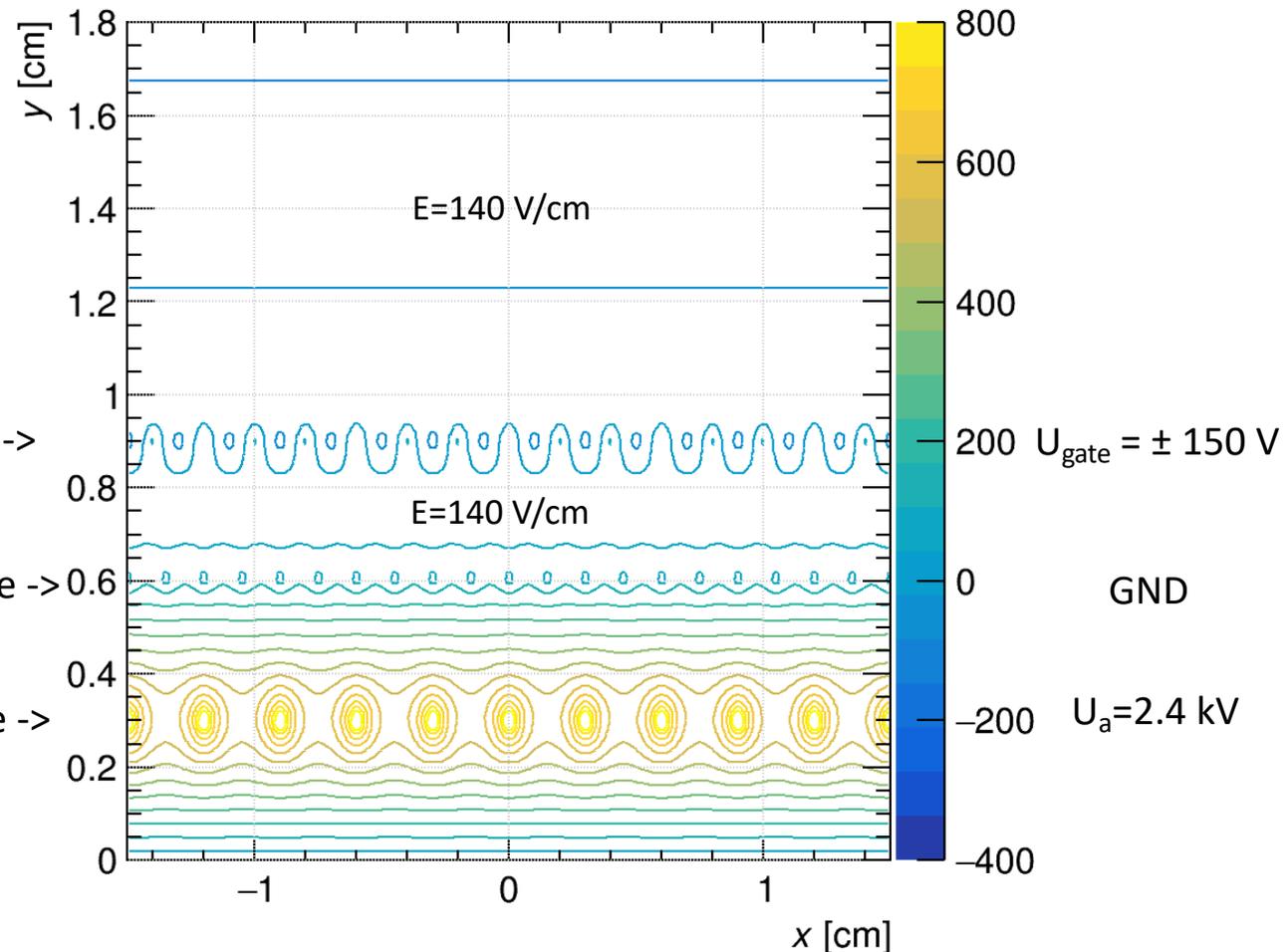


# Gating grid system

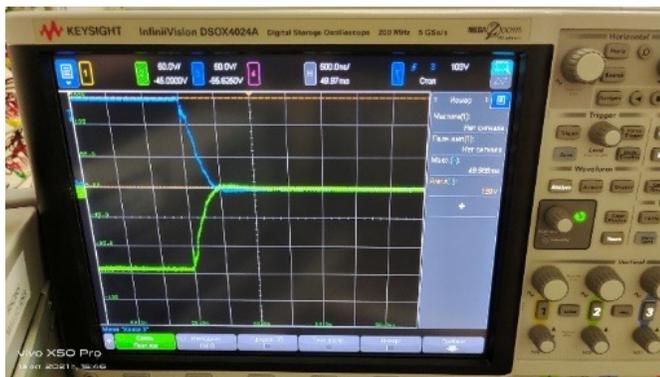
Ion drift lines



Shape of the TPC equipotentials



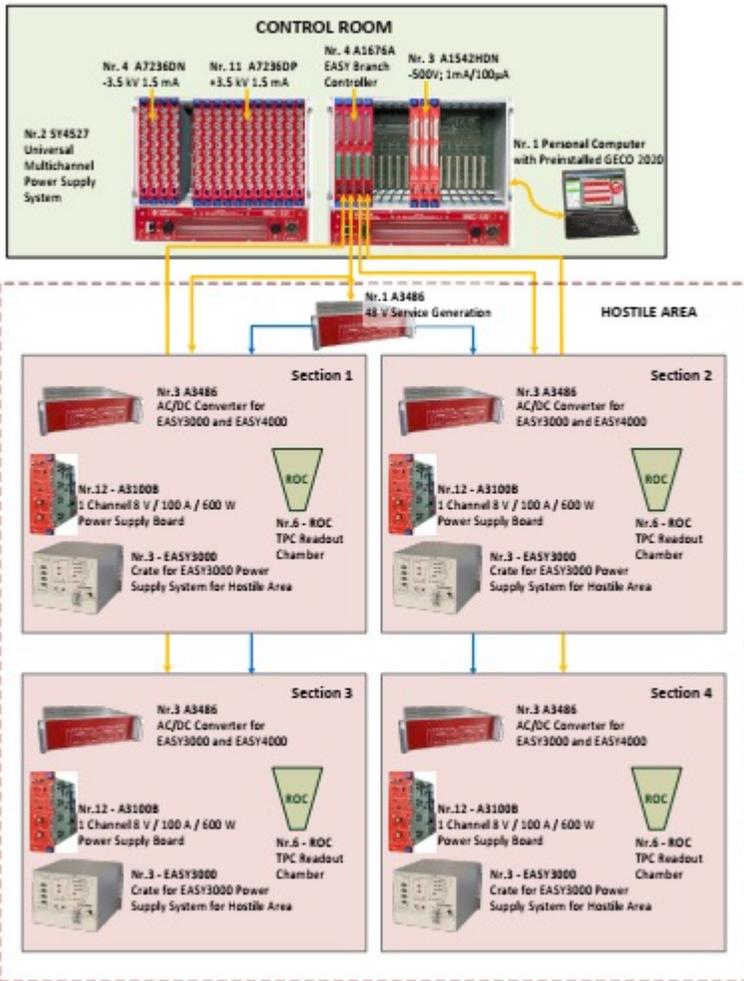
# Gating grid system test setup



Pulse rise time  
- 500 ns: OK

Mass-production: **in progress**  
Delivery to JINR: **Dec. 2023**

# Low voltage and High voltage power supply



LV&HV system based on CAEN rad. hard design:  
(up to 2000 Gauss and 15 kRad)

- power converters A3486 AC/DC (380 V -> 48 V): 15+3 pc
- EASY3000 crates: 14+2 pc
- LV module - A3100B (8V/100A): 48+8 pc
- LV module - A3100HBP (14V/50A): 6+2 pc
- HV modules -A3540P (+4kV/1mA): 8+3 pc
- HV modules -A3540N (- 4kV/1mA): 2+2 pc

Status:

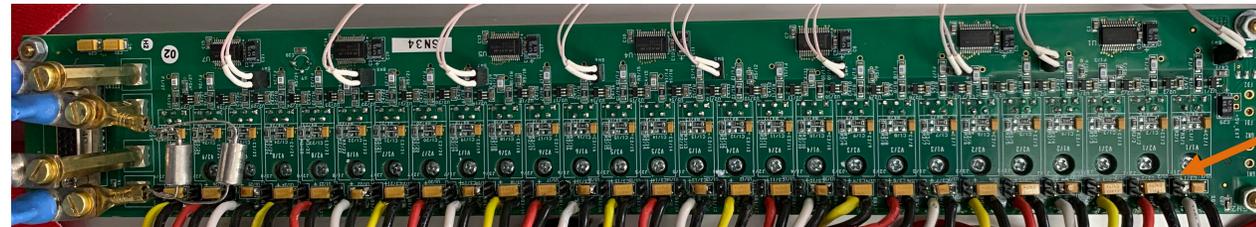
LV+HV system: JINR-CAEN contract was signed

Expected delivery date to JINR: was delivered

test system: testing is ongoing

LV cables (halogen free, low smoke), S=50 mm<sup>2</sup>: was delivered

HV cables: was ordered



Low voltage distribution board.  
Designed in INP BSU (Minsk)

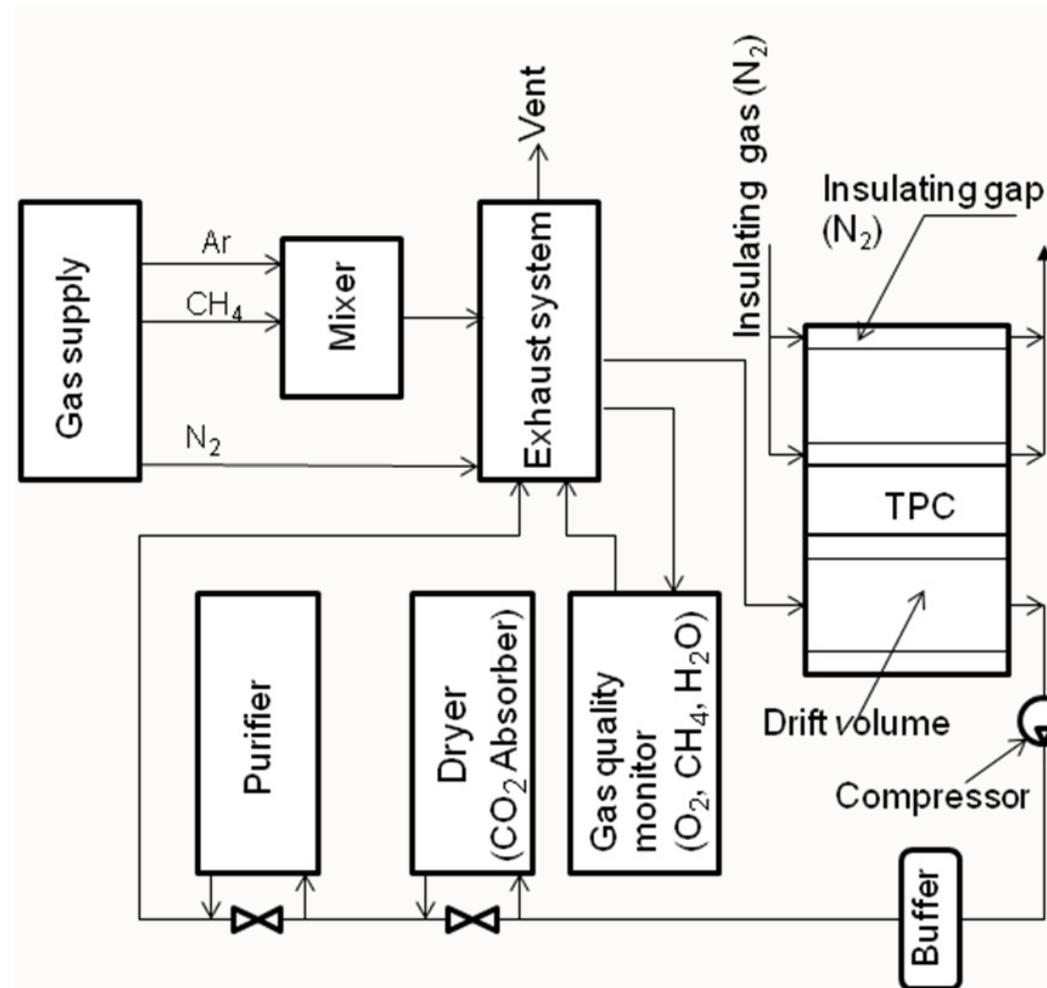
# Gas system scheme

## Gas system main features:

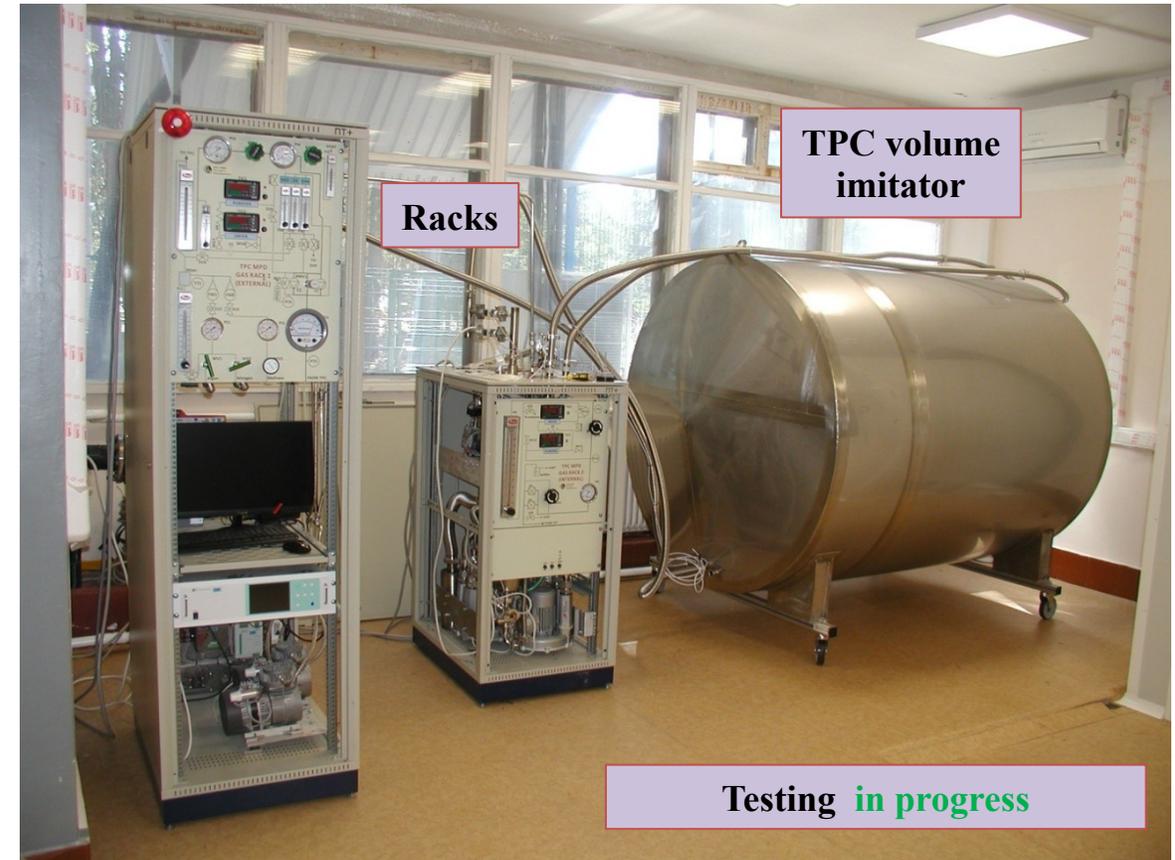
- Drift gas mixture: 90%Ar + 10%CH<sub>4</sub> (P10);
- Insulating gas: N<sub>2</sub>;
- Operating pressure: atmospheric + 2.0 ± 0.03 mbar;
- Drift volume: 17640 liters;
- Insulating gaps volume: 2380 liters;
- Oxygen content: 5 ppm;
- Moisture content: 10 ppm;
- Recirculation rate of outer loop: 30 L/min;
- Recirculation rate of inner loop: 20 L/min

## Gases consumption:

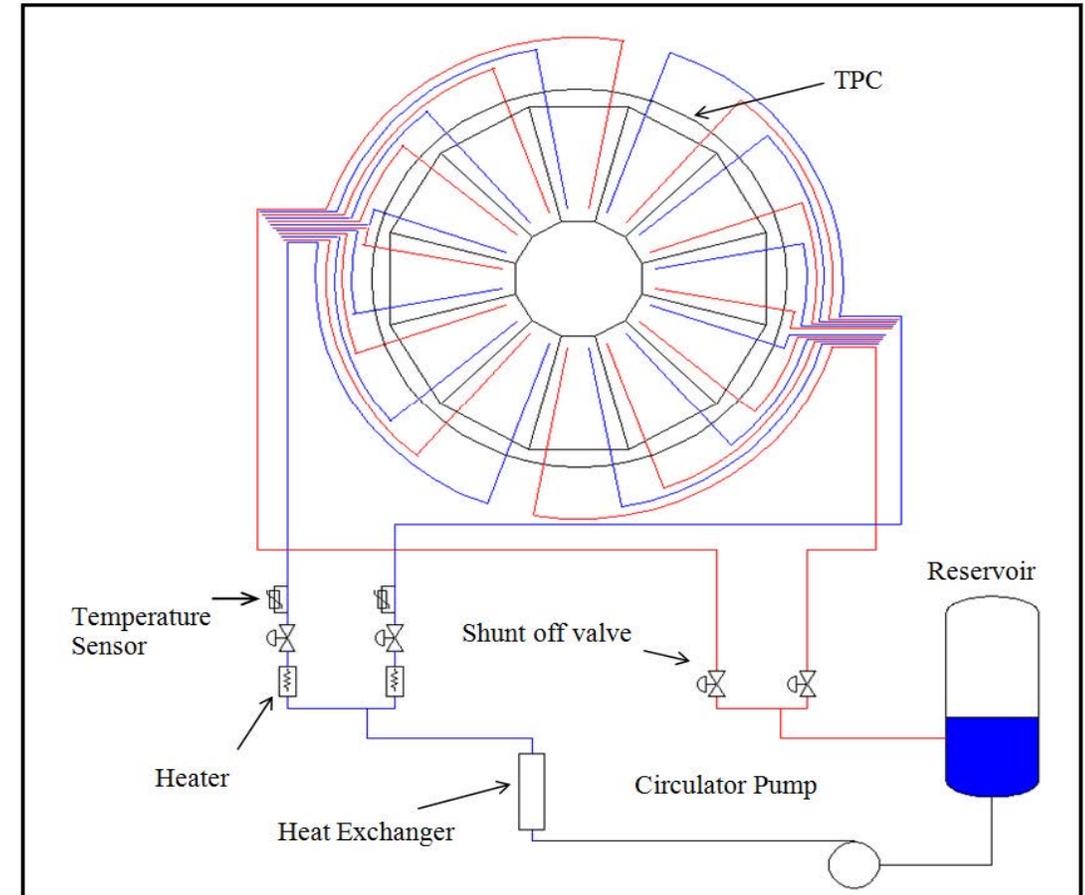
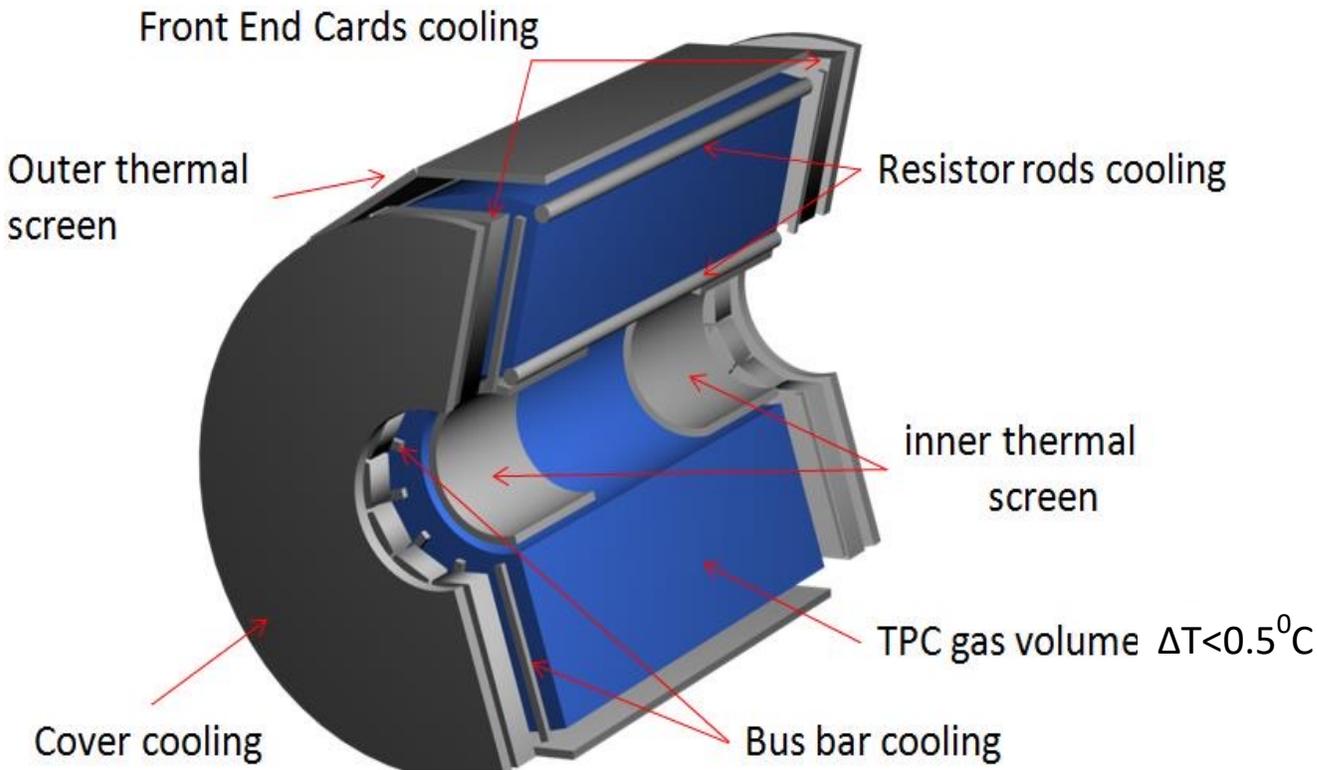
Mode	Argon, m <sup>3</sup>	Methan, m <sup>3</sup>	Nitrogen, m <sup>3</sup>
TPC purging	84	5.4	36
Experiment:			
Per day	7.8	0.86	8.6
Per month	234	25.9	259



# Gas system



# Cooling system



# Cooling plates

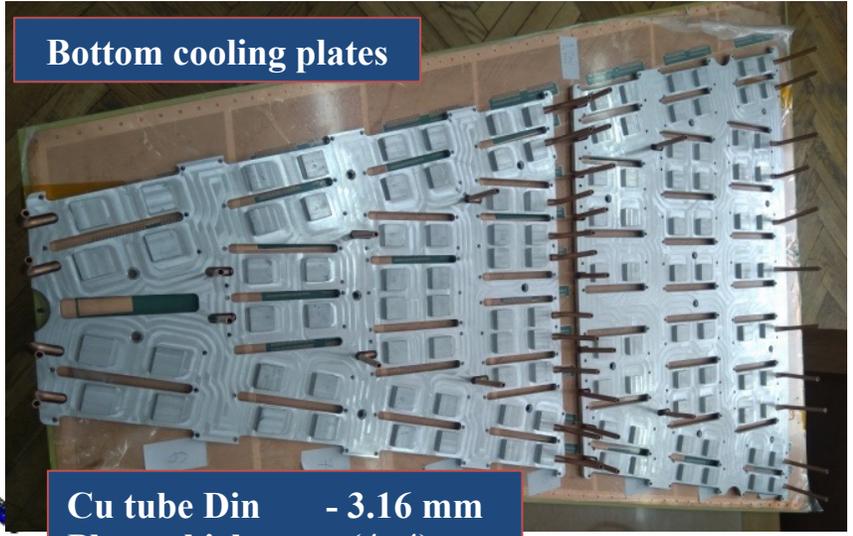
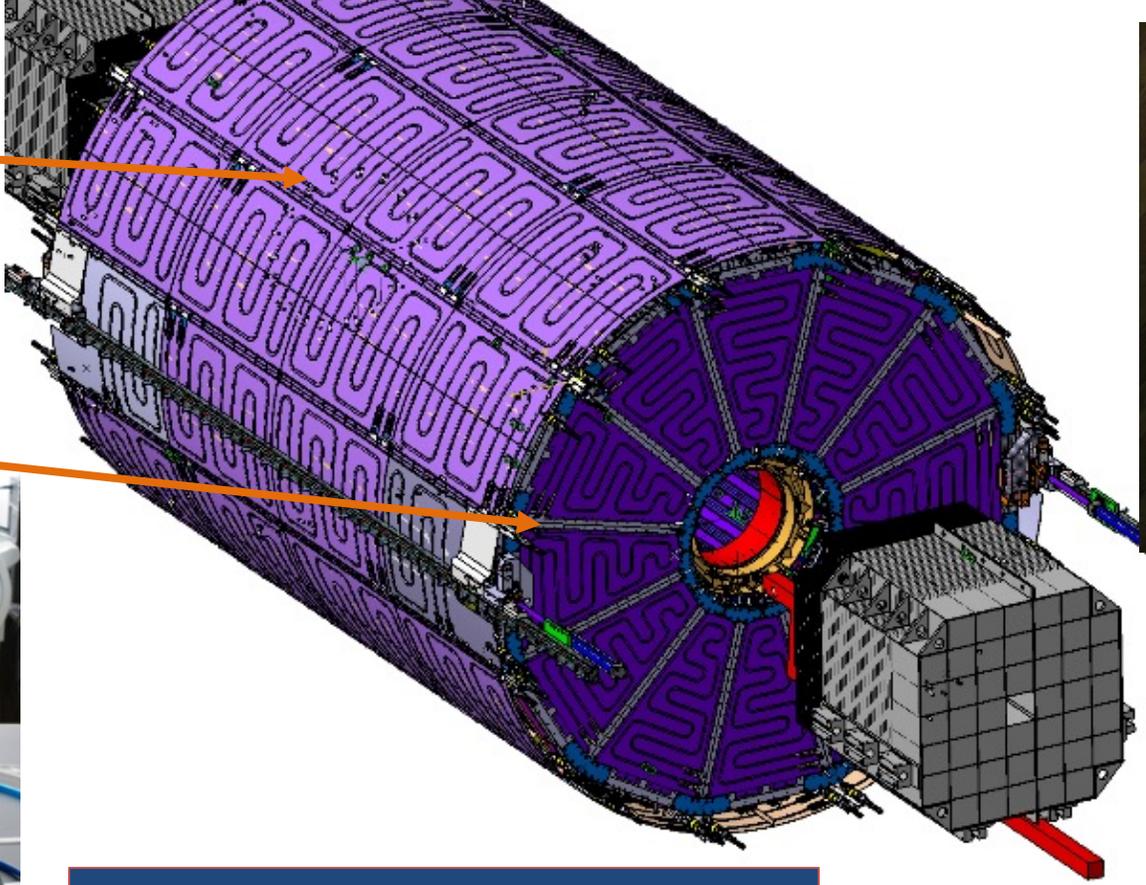
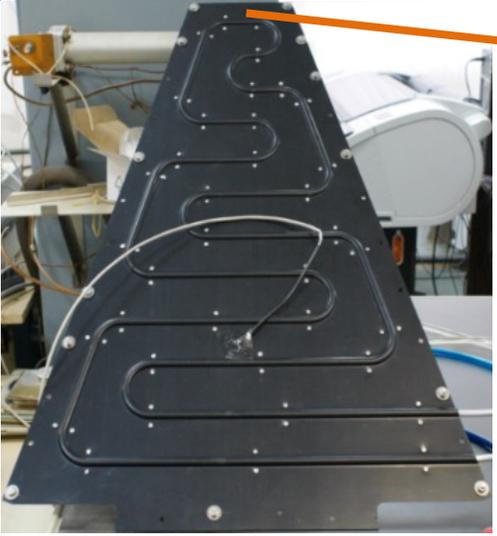
FEE cooling plates

Bottom cooling plates

Cu tube Din - 3.16 mm  
Plates thickness - (4+4) mm

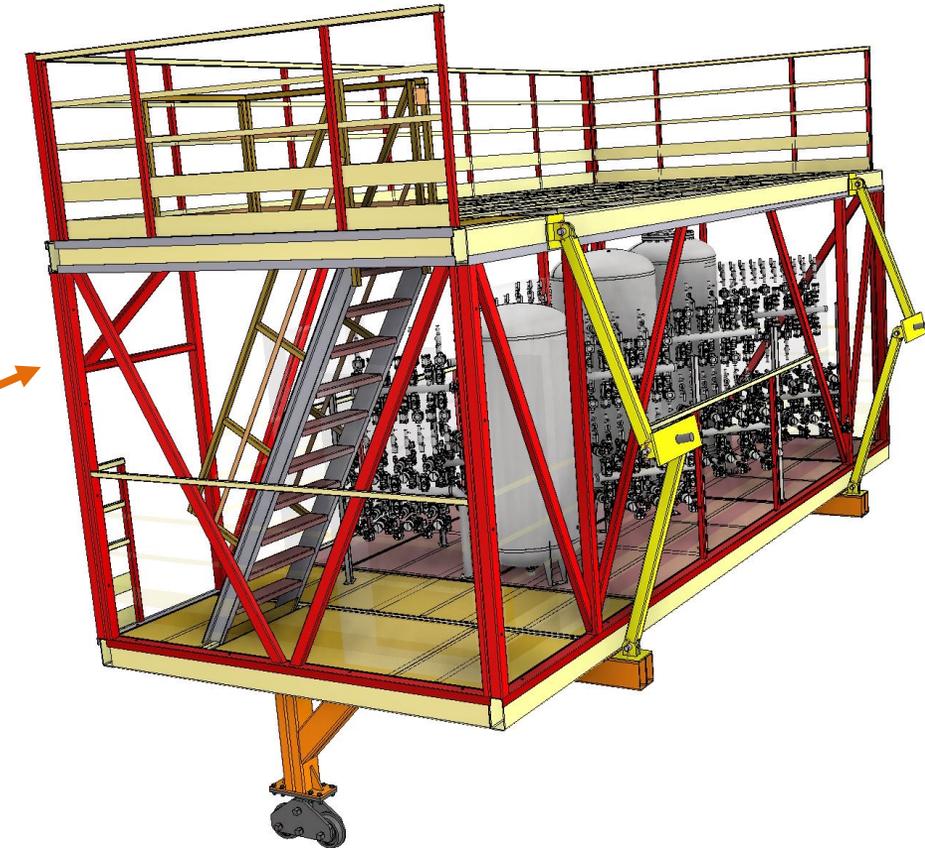
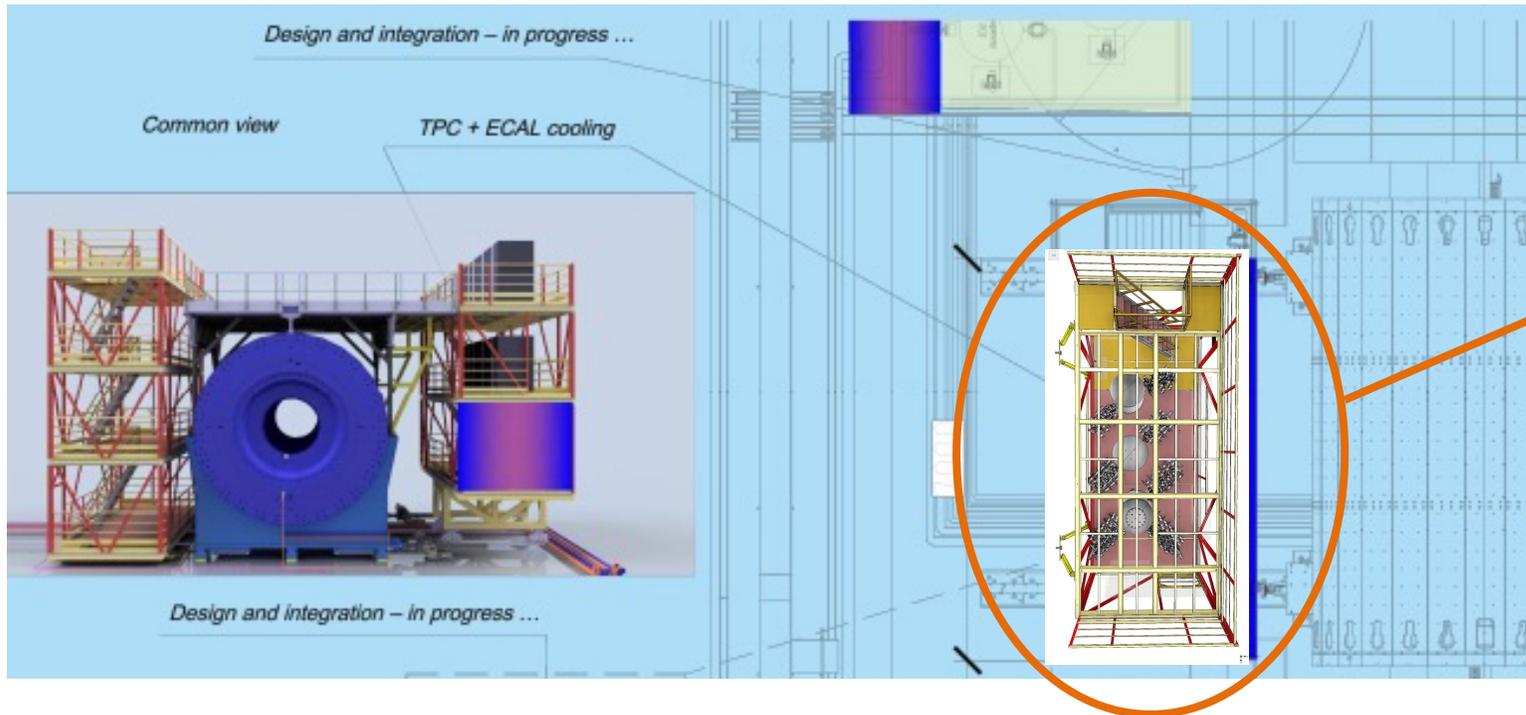
Set of top cooling plates

Full set of panels was delivered



# Cooling system position

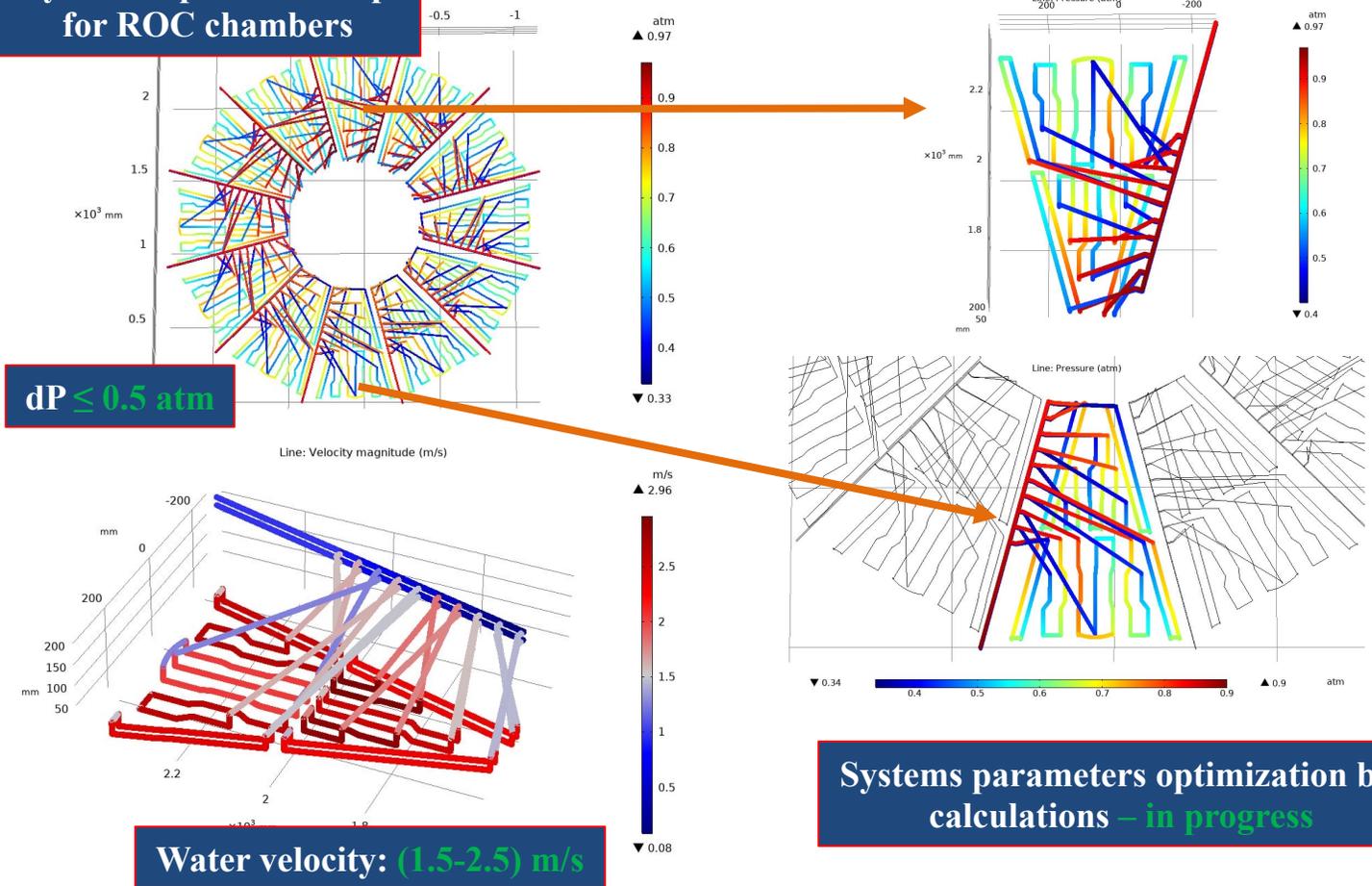
**NEW cooling system position → 2-nd floor of a  
additional platform – design and optimization in progress**



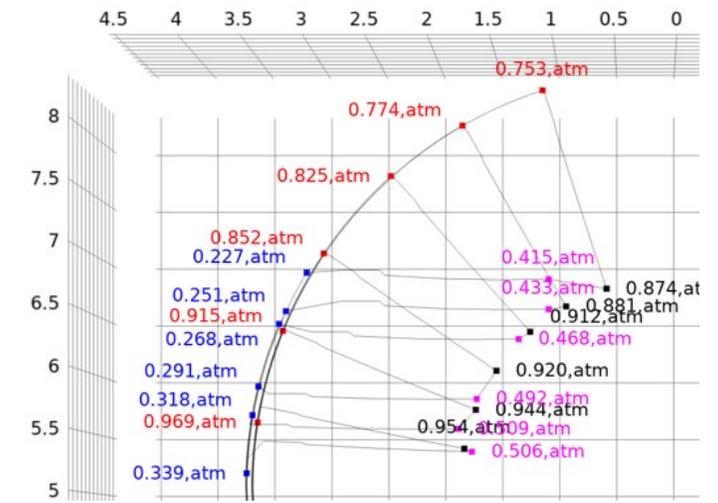
cooling system equipment arrangement

# Serial cooling system calculations

Hydraulic pressure drop for ROC chambers



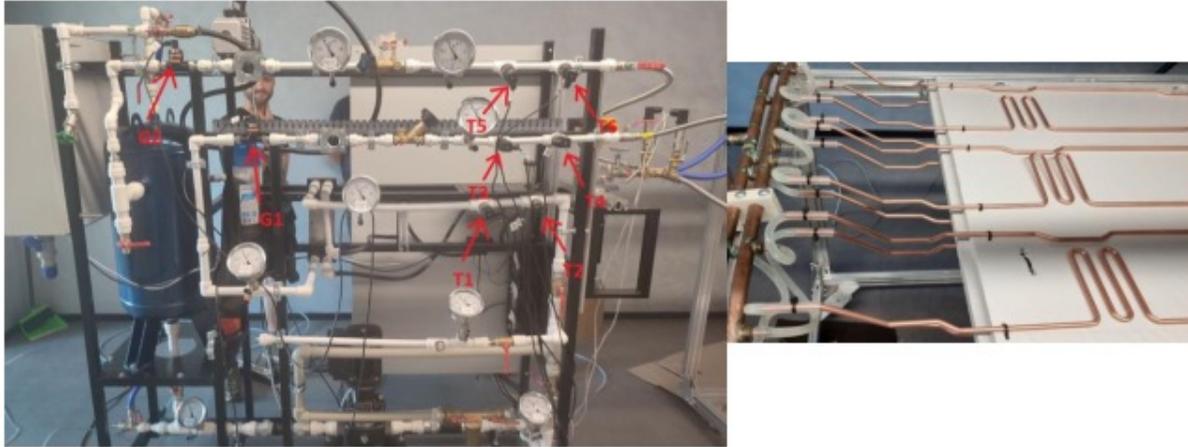
TPC system pressure with water column height



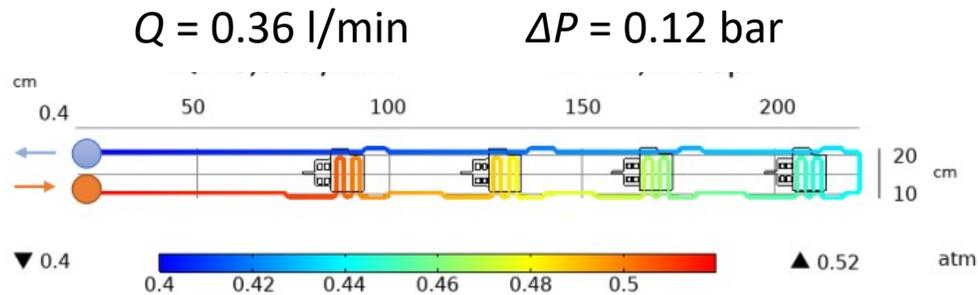
Systems parameters optimization by calculations – in progress

# Test setup measurement results

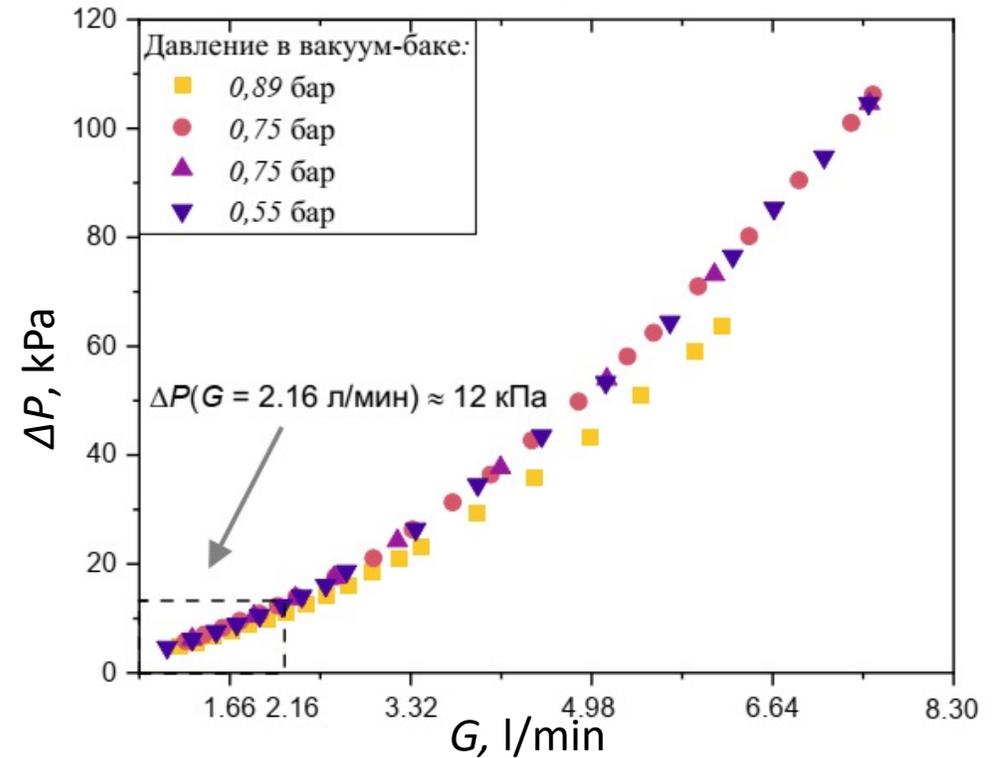
Comparison of experimental and calculated test results



Picture of the panel test setup

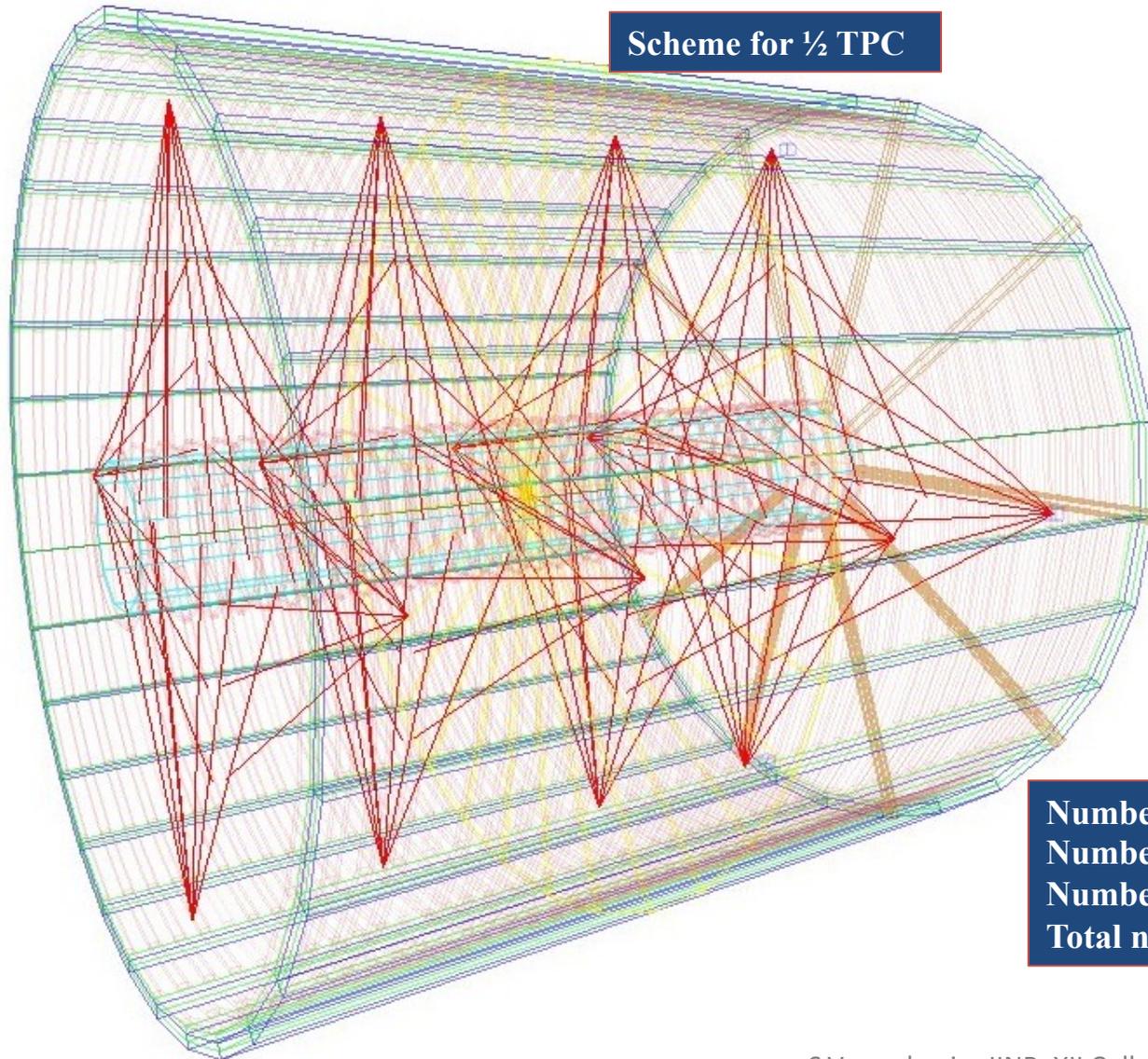


Design pressure drop of the panel  $\Delta P = 0.12$  bar at coolant flow  $Q = 0.36 \text{ l/min}$



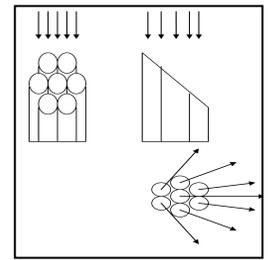
Experimental pressure drop across six panels  $\Delta P$  as function of volumetric flow rate coolant  $Q$  pressure in the tank  $P_{tank} \{0.89, 0.75, 0.55\} \text{ bar}$

# Laser calibration system

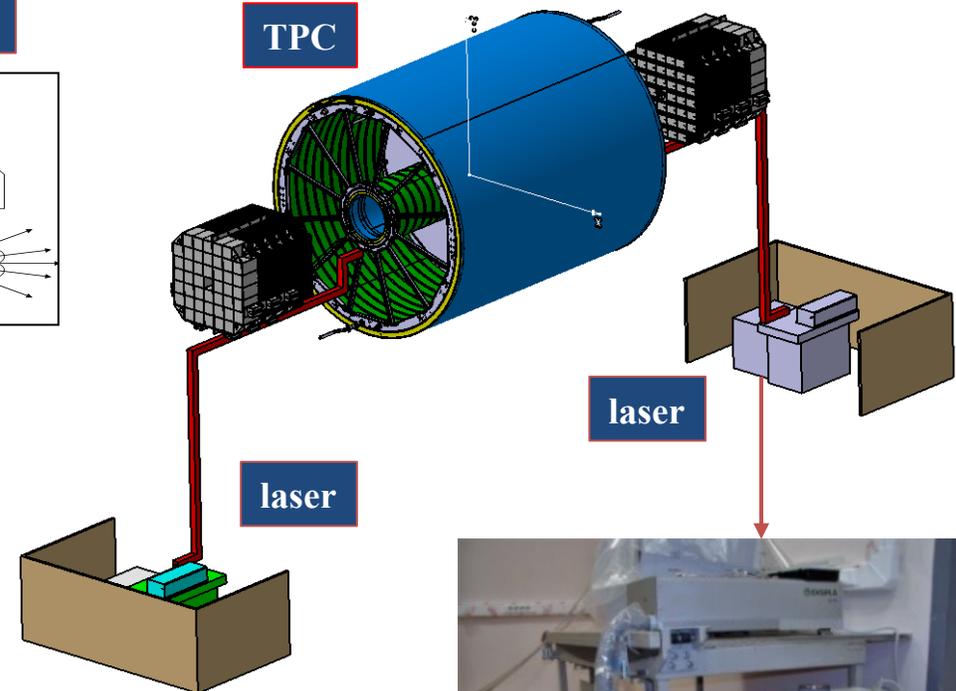


Scheme for 1/2 TPC

micro-mirror bundles



TPC



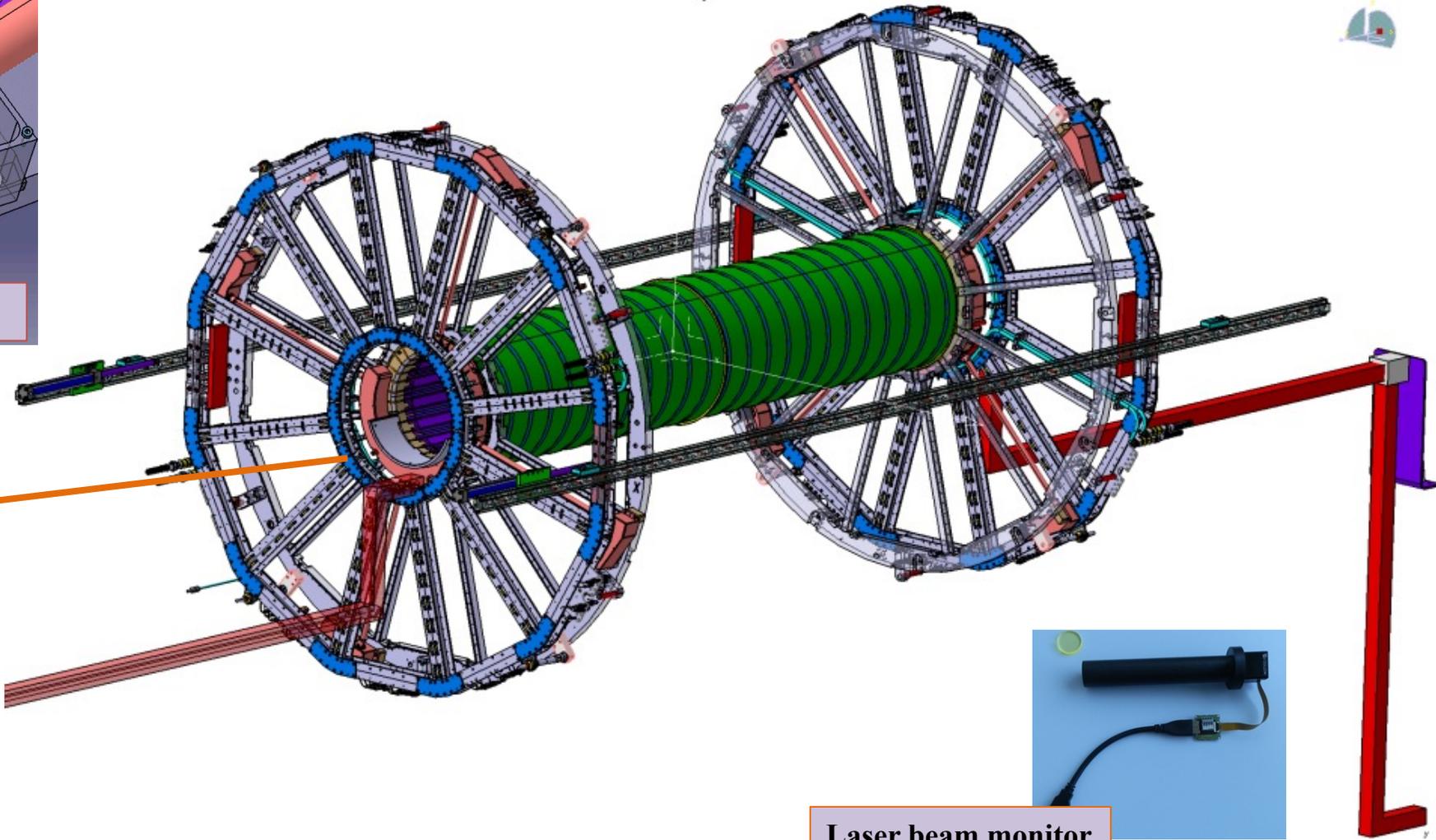
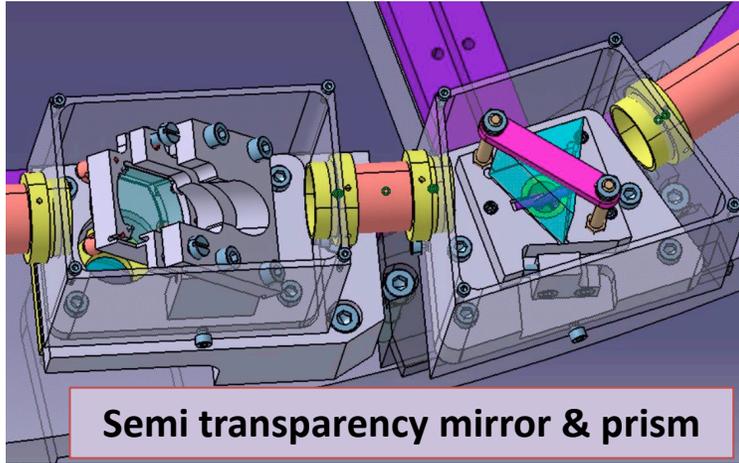
laser

laser

Number of laser "planes":	4
Number of micro-mirrors bundles per plane:	4
Number of beams from micro-mirrors bundle:	7
Total number of laser "tracks" (N = 112x2):	224



# Laser calibration system



# TPC/MPD data acquisition system main parts



Front-End-Cards (FEC): 1488 pc., 95 232 10-bit ADCs in total

1488 ×



Readout and Control Units (RCU): 24 pc. in total

24 ×



Data Concentrator Units (DCU): 6 pc. in total

6 ×



Local Data Concentrator (LDC) servers: 6 pc. in total

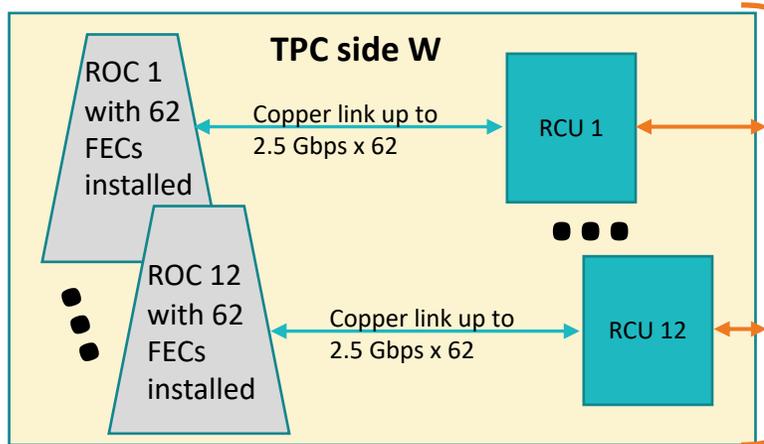
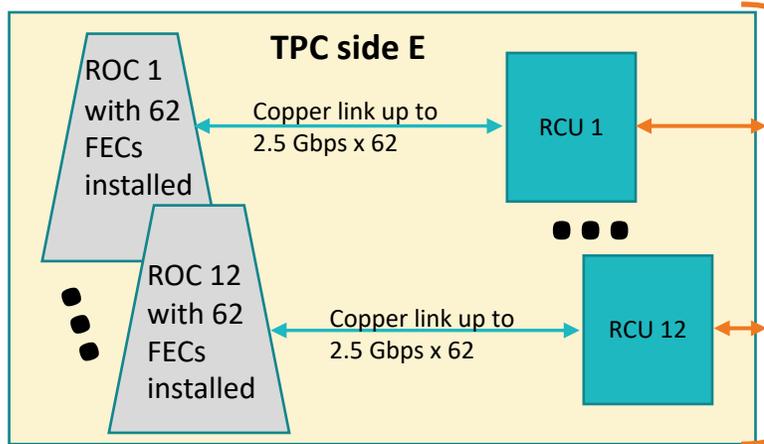
6 ×



# TPC/MPD DAQ conceptual scheme

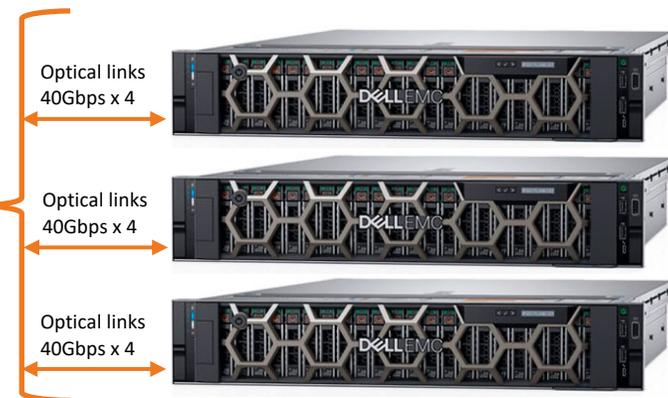
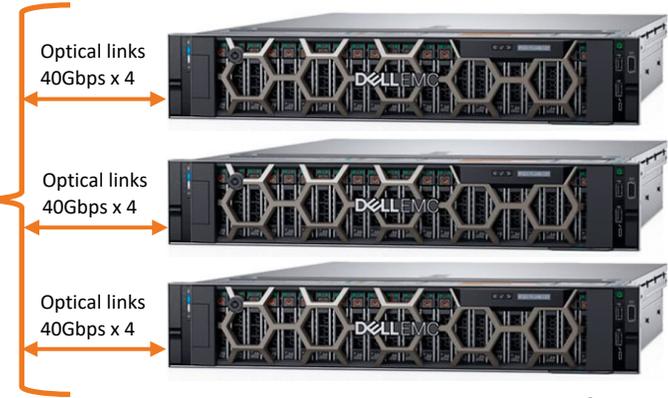


On the TPC (inside the MPD magnet)

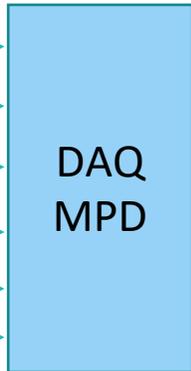


Outside the MPD magnet

Optical links  
40Gbps x 12

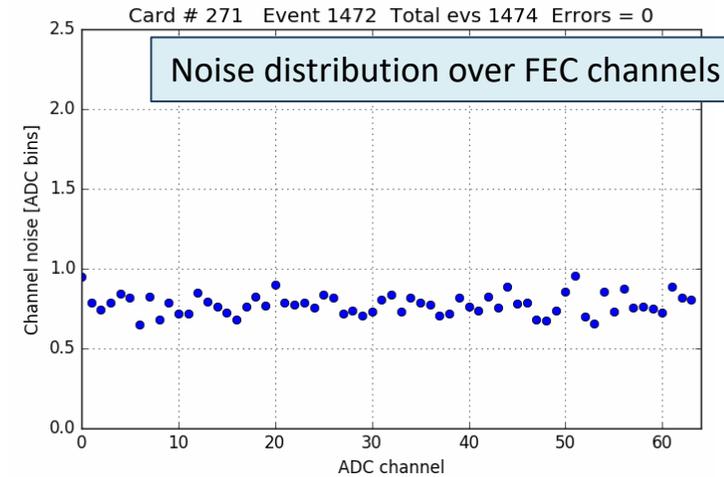


Ethernet  
100Gbps



# Front-End Card

Double-desk FEC formfactor: a) SAMPA board; b) Controller board;



1LSB = 625  $e^-$

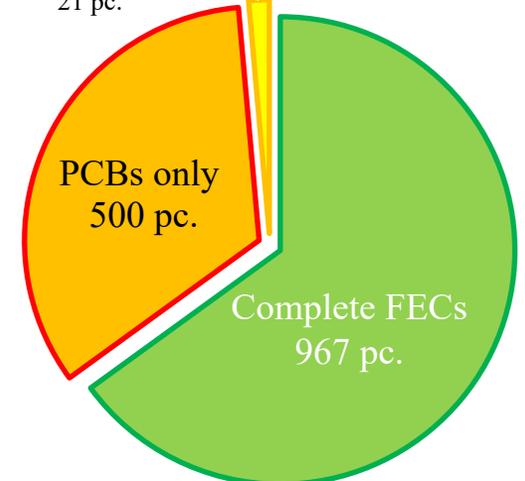
- The total number of registration channels: 64
- Maximum input charge in a linear range: 100 fC
- ADC resolution: 10 bit
- ENC: less than 1000  $e^-$
- Readout serial interface: up to 2.5 Gbps
- The total number of monitored values of current, voltage, and temperature: 16
- SAMPA chips management via FPGA high speed interface
- Double-PCB FEC provides opportunities for possible upgrade of the card readout.
- Transfer of data and trigger signals was realized with the same high-speed serial interface.
- Onboard circuit and embedded protection functionality against SEU are provided.
- Remote system update for FEC firmware was provided.

FEE with cooling

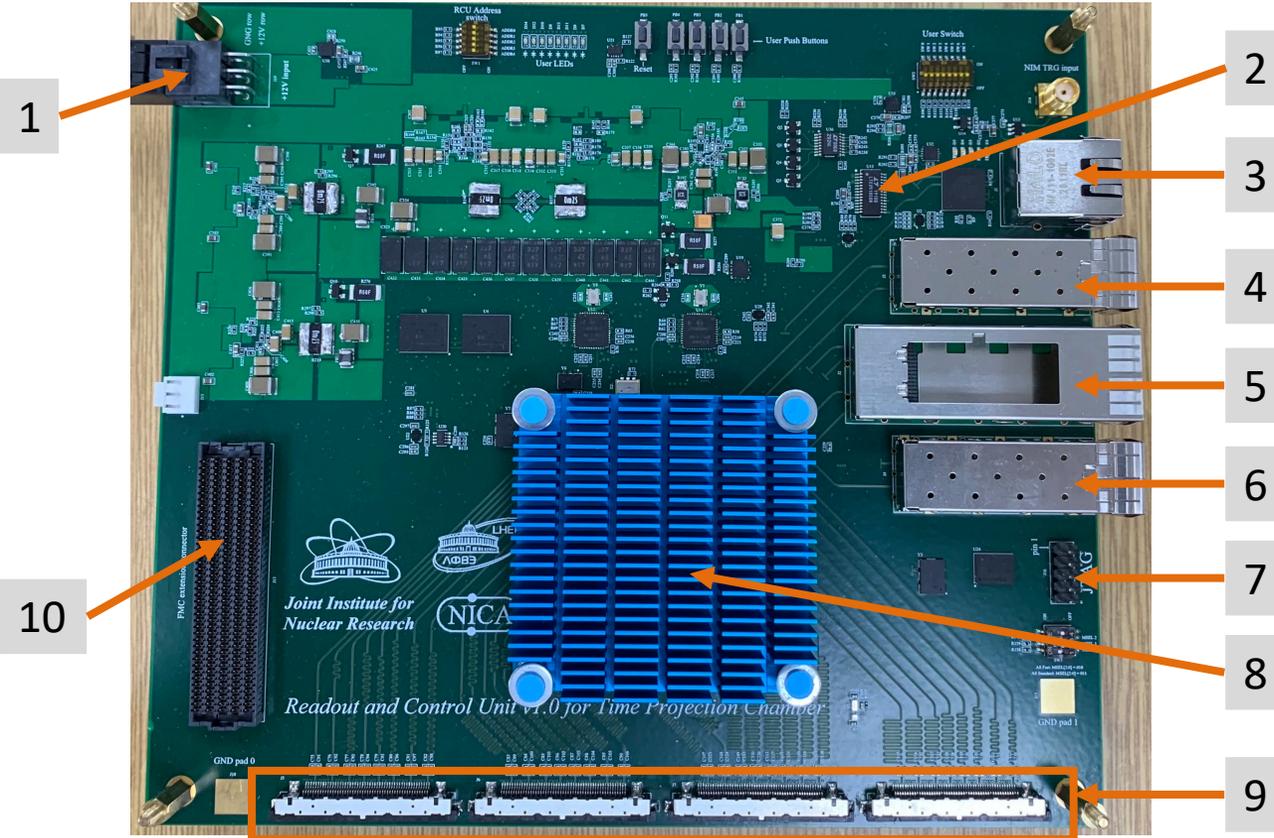


FEC production status:

PCBs & FECs to be ordered  
21 pc.



# Readout and Control Unit



1. PS connector (+12 V)
2. 16-ch. ADC (health monitoring)
3. RJ45 connector (NIOS Ethernet 1Gbps)
4. SFP+ connector (optical trigger up to 10 Gbps)
5. QSFP connector (data transfer interface up to 40 Gbps)
6. SFP+ connector (spare optical channel up to 10 Gbps)
7. JTAG connector (FPGA programming end debugging + spare management channel)
8. Arria 10 GX FPGA
9. FECs XCVR connectors 64 full duplex channels
10. Multifunctional connector with GPIO pins and 2 spare XCVR

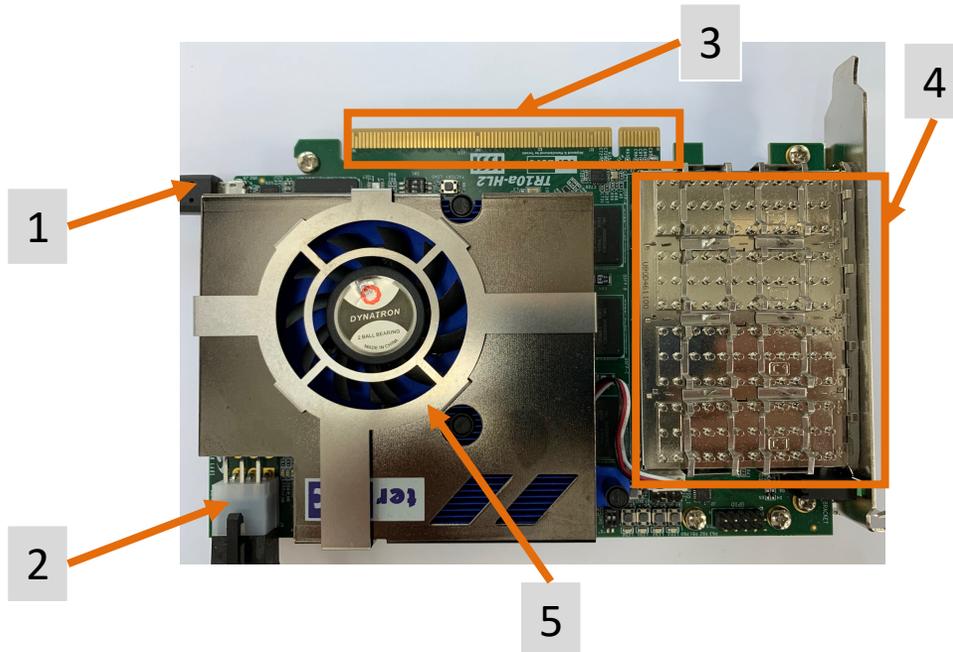
- Main **RCU** functionality:
- Receiving data packets from 62 FECs;
  - Buffering data with subsequent transmission to the DCU via optical channel;
  - Organizing high-speed management channel to the FECs;
  - Organizing FECs synchronization;

# Data Concentrator Unit and Local Data Concentrator server



## DELL R740XD rack unit

Receiving data via PCIe of the DCU card and after transmitting it to the MPD DAQ via 100G Ethernet



## DCU card based on commercial development board

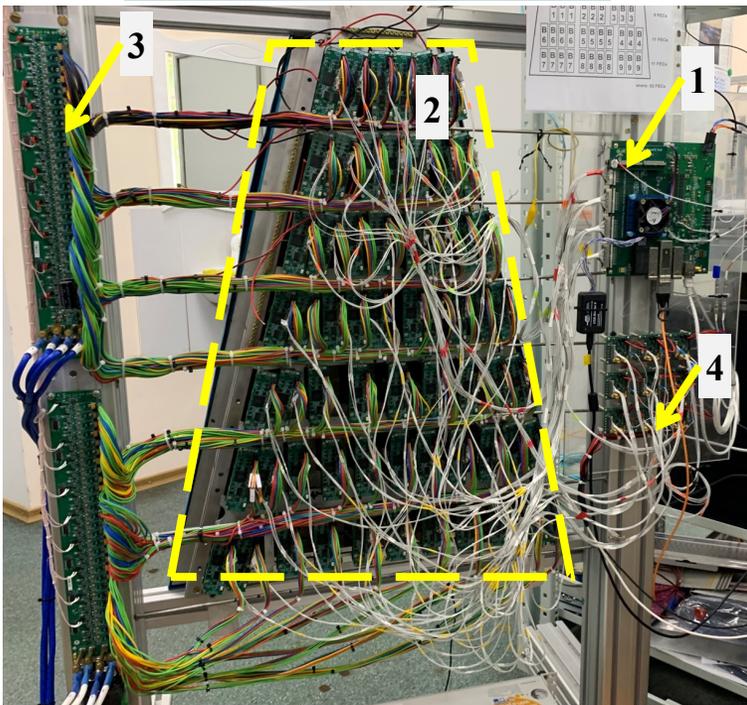
- 1) USB connector for onboard usb-blaster;
- 2) PS connector +12 V;
- 3) PCIe gen 3 x16 connector (double x8);
- 4) 4 QSFP connectors for data taking and management;
- 5) Arria 10 GX FPGA;

## DCU functionality:

- Receiving data packets from four RCUs;
- Organizing high-speed management channel via PCIe;
- Managing of all downstream devices (RCUs, FECs);
- Buffering data with subsequent transmission to the server memory via PCIe ;

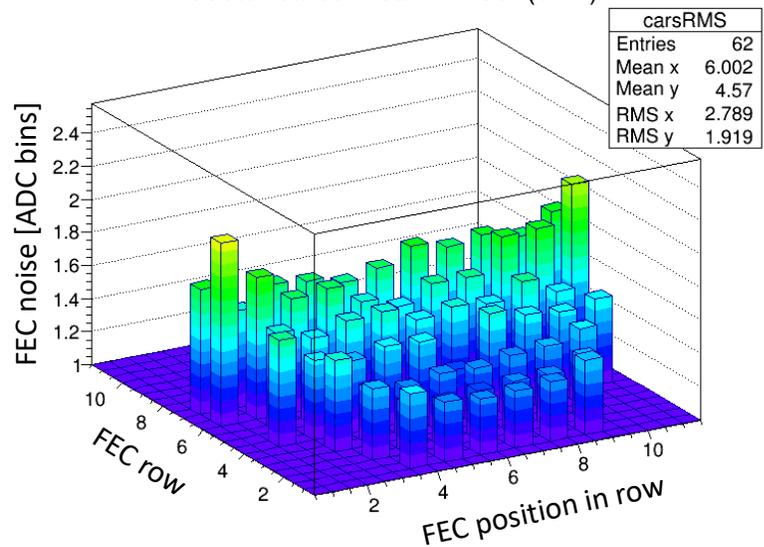
# ReadOut Chamber DAQ test setups

Test setup in bld. 201

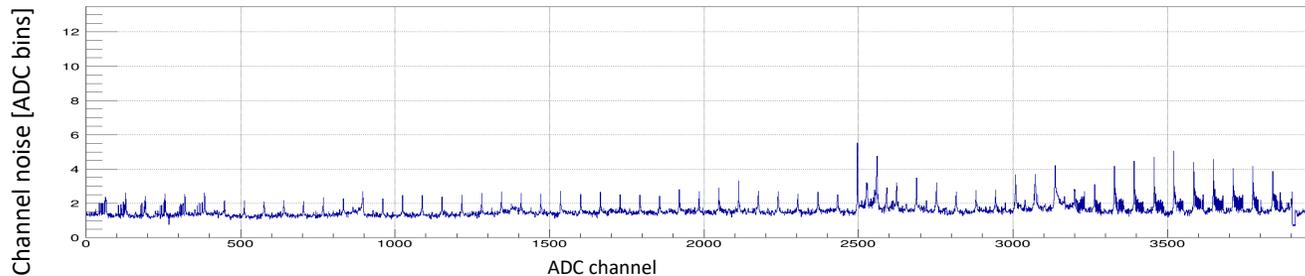
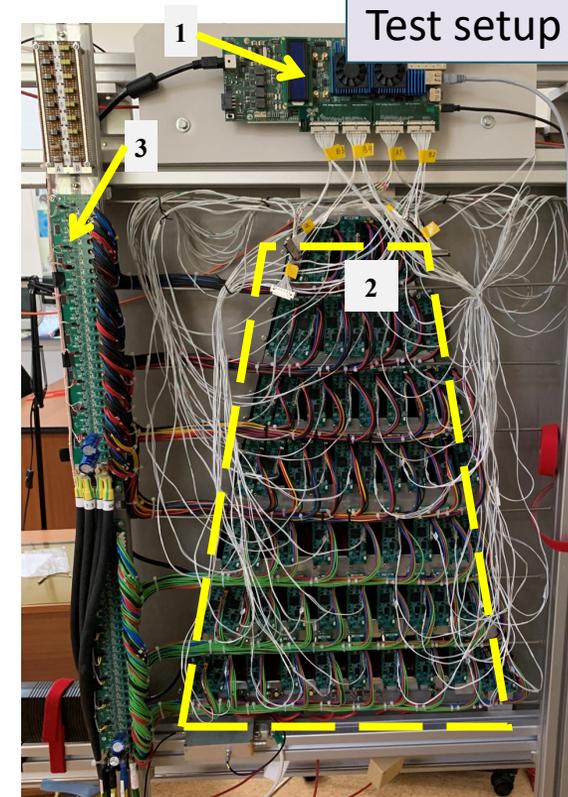


1. RCU64 (left) and RCU32 (right)
2. FECs on the ROC (62 pc)
3. LVDB modules
4. Clock fanout

Sector cards mean RMSs (ev.4)



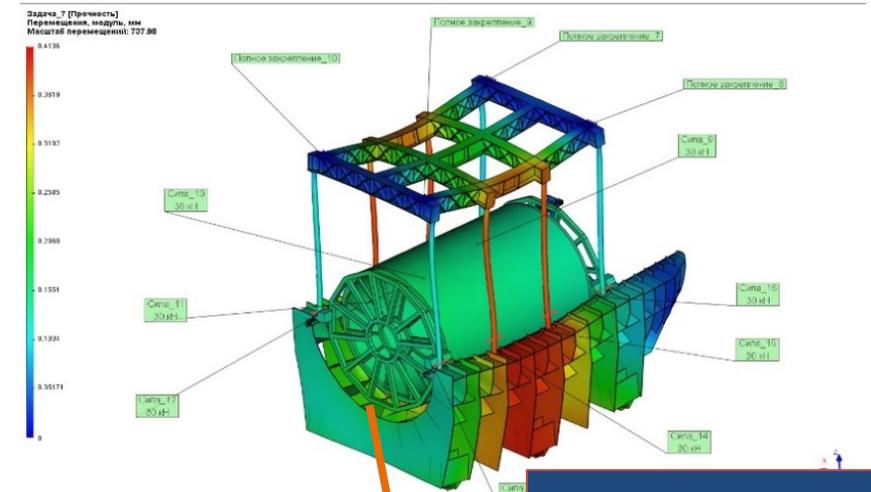
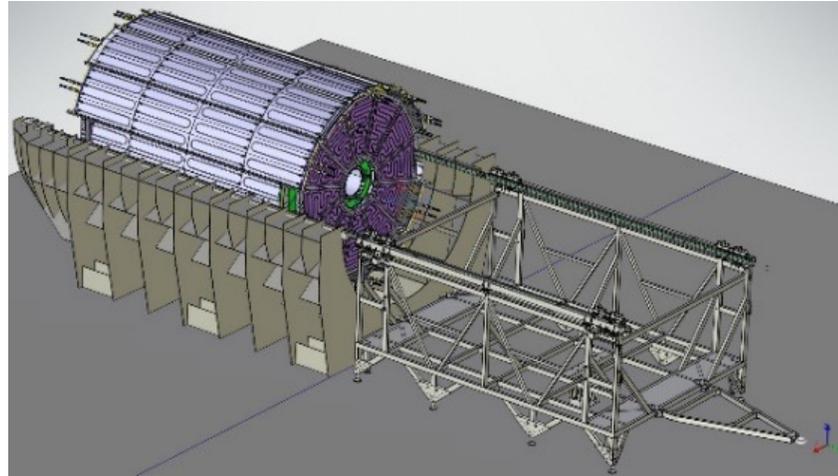
Test setup in bld. 40



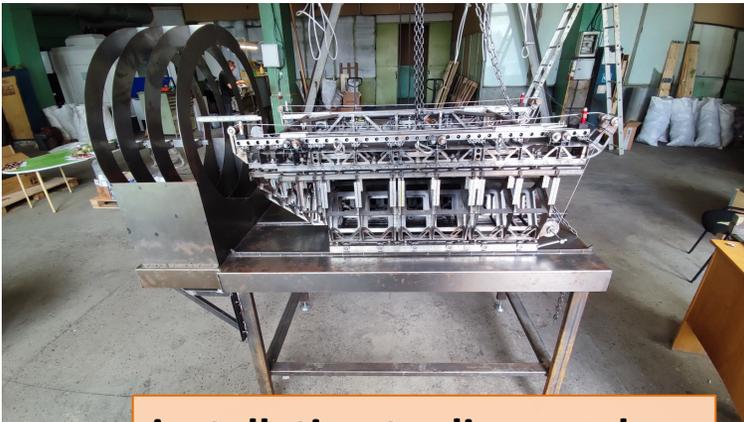
Vital element of the ROC data acquisition system is microcoaxial cable assembly based on  $\mu$ coax 36 AWG cables and Hirose FX15, FX16 series connectors.



# Tooling for Installation TPC to MPD



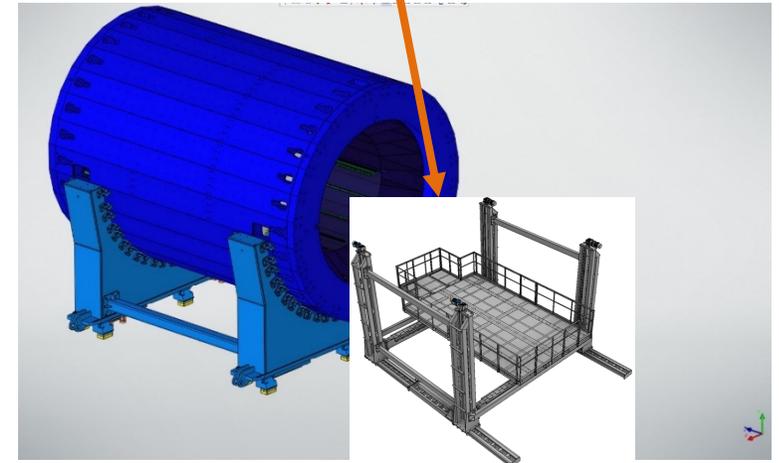
24 tons,  
Maximum sagging  
is 0.41 mm



installation tooling mockup

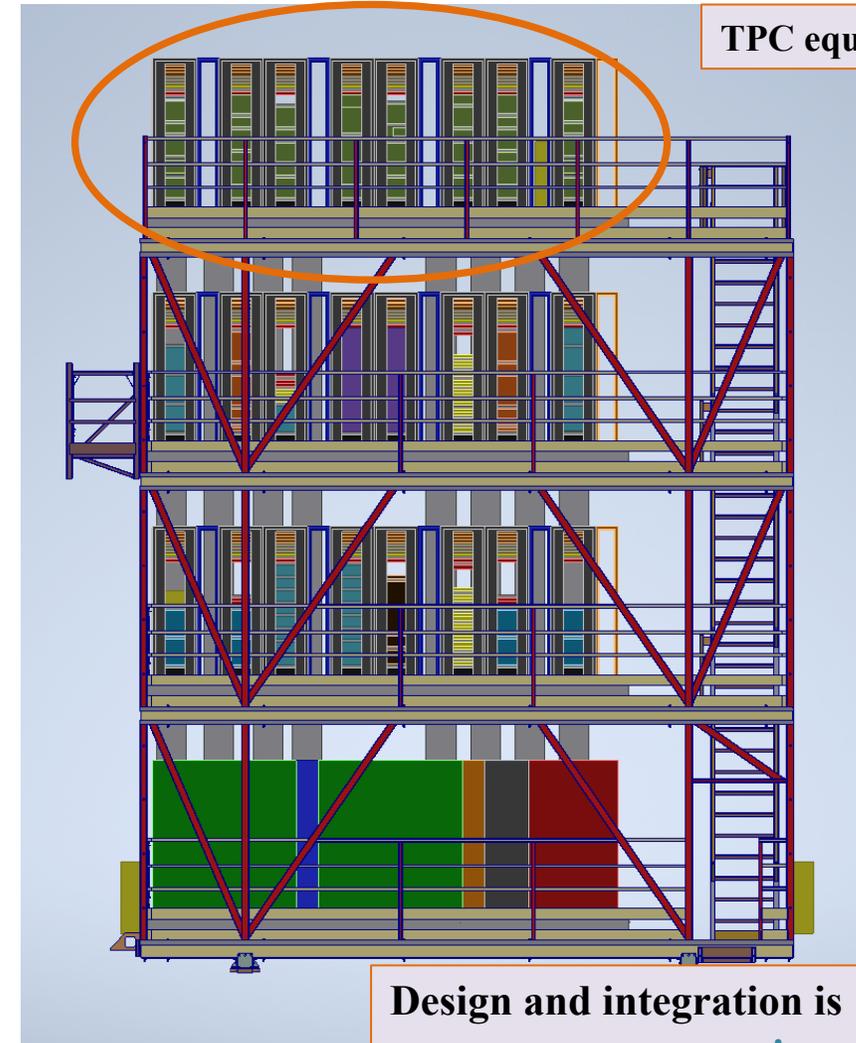
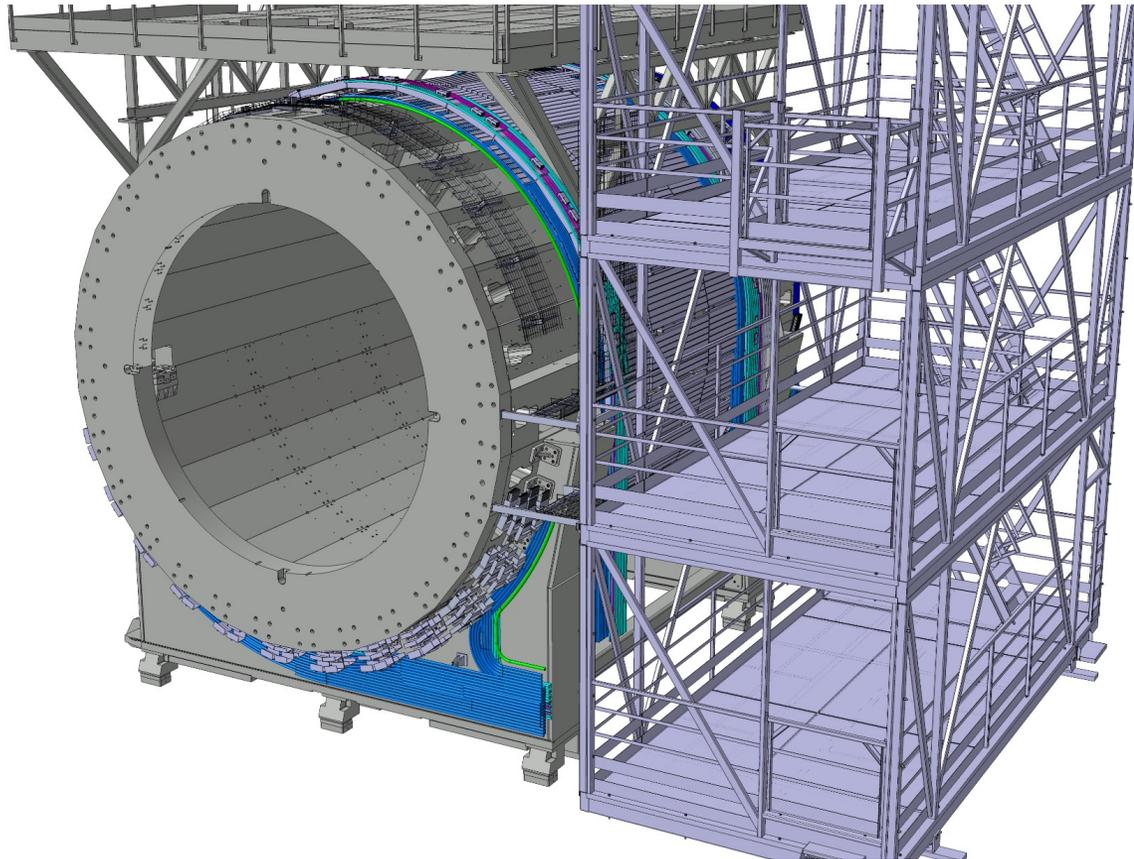


50 kg



# NICA-MPD-Plattform (NMP)

Common view



TPC equipment

Design and integration is  
in progress ...

# MPD electronic platform



## TPC equipment racks composition (4<sup>th</sup> floor)

F4-R1 (русск)	F4-R2 LV	F4-R3 LV	F4-R4	F4-R5	F4-R6 (LV)	F4-R7 (LV)	F4-R8 (русск)
47	47	47	47	47	47	47	47
46	46	46	46	46	46	46	46
45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45
44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44
43	43	43	43	43	43	43	43
42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42
41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41
40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40
39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39
38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38
37	37	37	37	37	37	37	37
36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36
35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35
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33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33
32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
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30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29
28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28
27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27
26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26
25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25
24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24
23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23
22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22
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15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14
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11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

# TPC cabling and piping

Integration

Structures for cables and pipes fixation

TPC

Beam pipe

Structure design - in progress

Prototype for cabling and piping



TPC+TOF+ECAL cabling is in progress  
Piping is not started yet

# Time schedule



## TPC assembling:

Field cage assembly:	July 2023	→ Nov 2023
HV tests:	August 10 2023	→ Nov 2023
TPC vessel ready (glue by epoxy):	August 30 2023	→ Dec 2023
Laser beams position measurements:	Sept 2023	→ Jan 2024
TPC vessel tightness measurements:	Oct 2023	→ Jan 2024
24 ROC chambers installation:	Nov-Dec 2023	→ Feb 2024
TPC tests: laser tracks and cosmic test:	Jan-Sept 2024	→ March - Sep 2024

## Integration TPC to MPD:

TPC racks (8pc) + cabling:	Oct – Dec 2024
TPC rails (2pc manufacture and delivery):	Dec 30 2023
Rails installation to ECAL support structure:	May 2024

## Tooling for installation TPC to MPD:

Design optimization + prototype 1:5:	Done
Tooling manufacture (9 month):	Aug 2024
Delivery to JINR:	Aug 30 2024

## TPC+ECAL cooling systems:

systems delivery:	Apr 2024
commissioning:	Sept 30 2024

## TPC installation to MPD:

## MPD commissioning:

Oct 1-Nov 30 2024
Jan 10 - Feb 2025

**Thank you for  
your attention!**