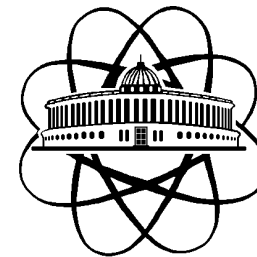


The XXVIth International Baldin Seminar on High Energy Physics Problems

"Relativistic Nuclear Physics and Quantum Chromodynamics"



TPC geometries for NICA MPD simulations

Alexander Bychkov
JINR
September 15 to 20, 2025
Dubna, Russia

Geometric modelling (3D)

- Studies methods and algorithms for the mathematical description of shapes

- Used in

computer-aided design and manufacturing (CAD/CAM)

civil engineering

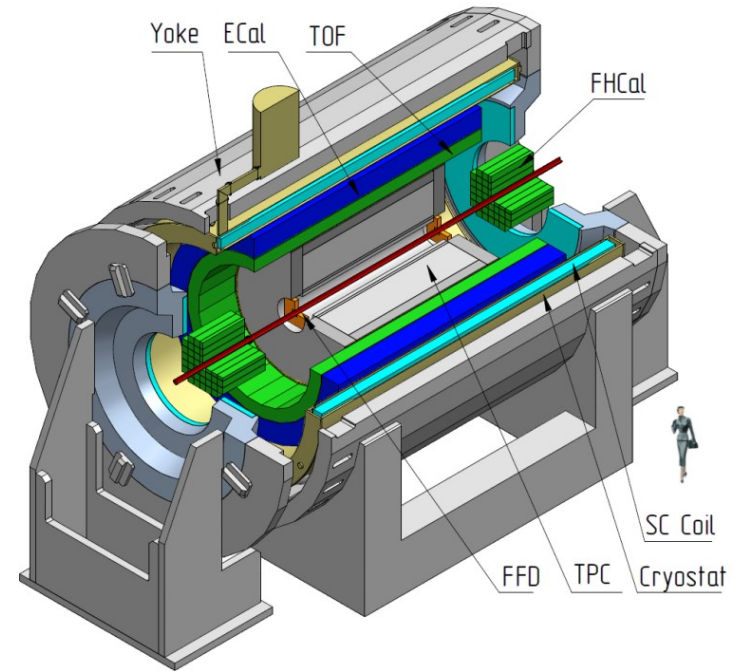
mechanical engineering

architecture

geology

medical image processing

etc



Types of geometries

- Procedural (define by an algorithm)

fractals, L-systems, generative modeling

- Solid geometry

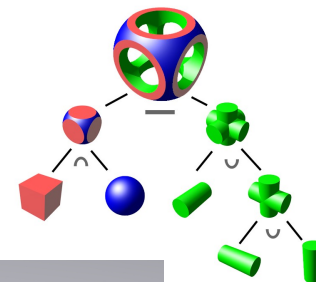
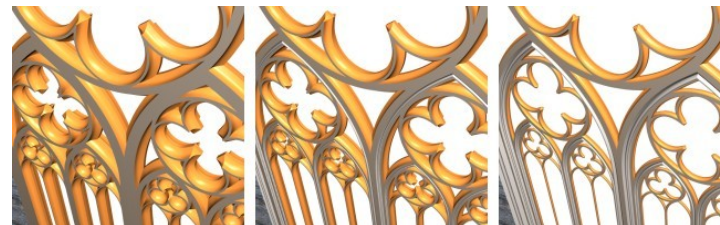
3D space bounded by a two-dimensional closed surface

Constructive solid geometry (CSG)

complex surface by using boolean operators to combine simpler objects

Boundary representation (B-rep or BREP)

in addition to CSG has extrusions, surfaces (NURBS, B-splines, Bezier, etc.), parametric description and other features



- Special geometries

MPD TPC geometries

Simulation ROOT/GEANT geometry

Many iterations of implementation during years of MpdRoot development

Level of detail as high as possible

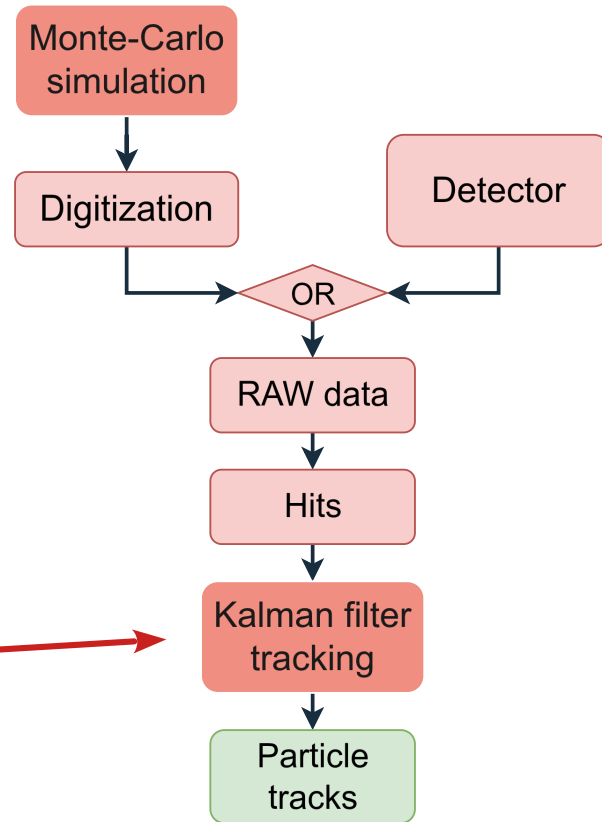
Includes most of service constructions

thermoscreen, ROC-electronics, fieldcage, etc

Tracking ACTS geometry

Representation of sensitive capabilities of detector

New in-development addition to MpdRoot code



ROOT/GEANT geometry

Very similar to CSG

Hierarchy of

Shapes

simple – boxes, tubes, cones, torus, polygons, etc...

composite – unions or boolean intersection of simple shapes

positioned by 3D Transformations

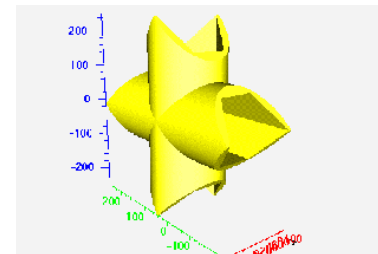
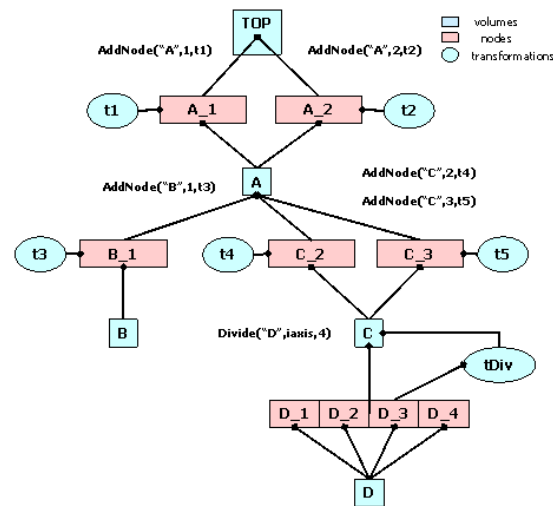
translations, rotations and scale

with shape Material description

described and constructed by code

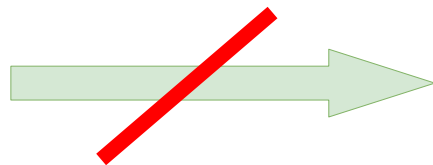
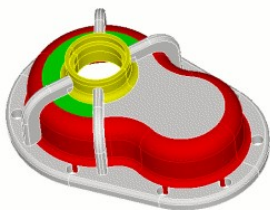
(some elements of procedural generation)

There is plugin for FreeCAD to build new ones ROOT/GEANT compatible geometries but it's a relatively new and not common way.



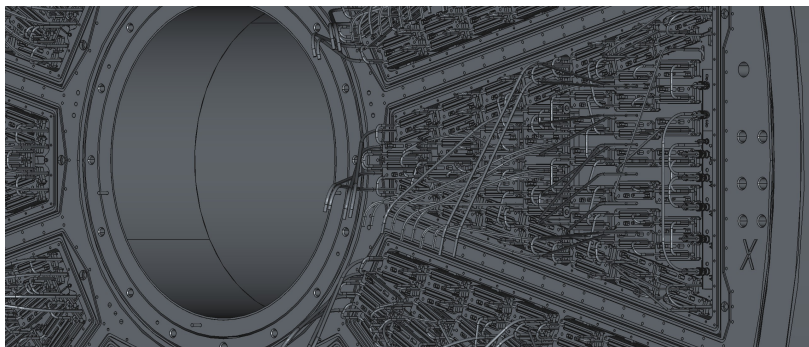
Problems

CAD production geometries



ROOT/GEANT geometries

No common and universal way



level of detail
precision

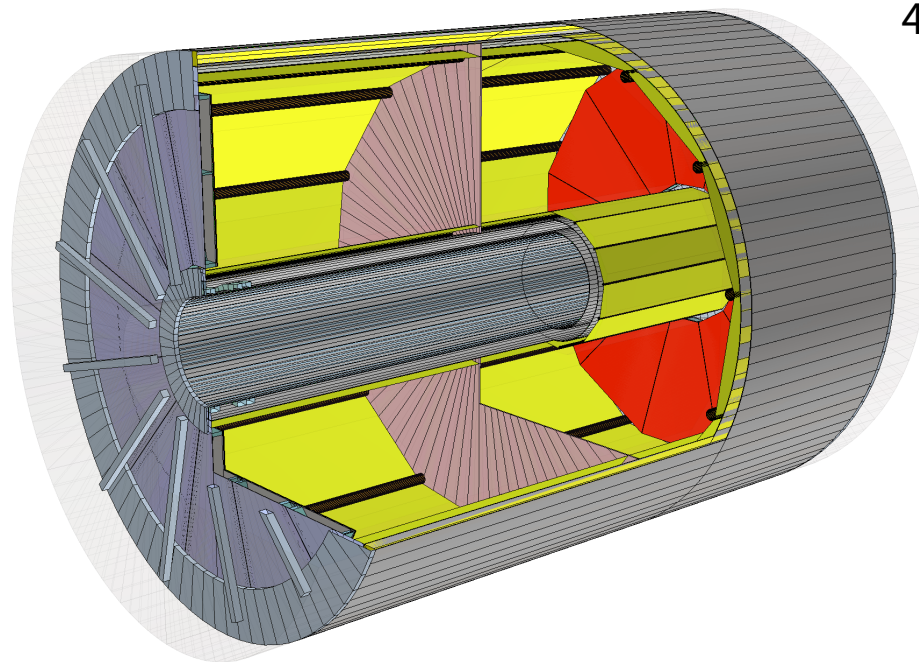
MPD TPC GEANT geometry evolution (1)

1st implementation

Until 2013

No correspondence to any
production drawings

Physics rough expectation about
detector



412 volumes

MPD TPC GEANT geometry evolution (2)

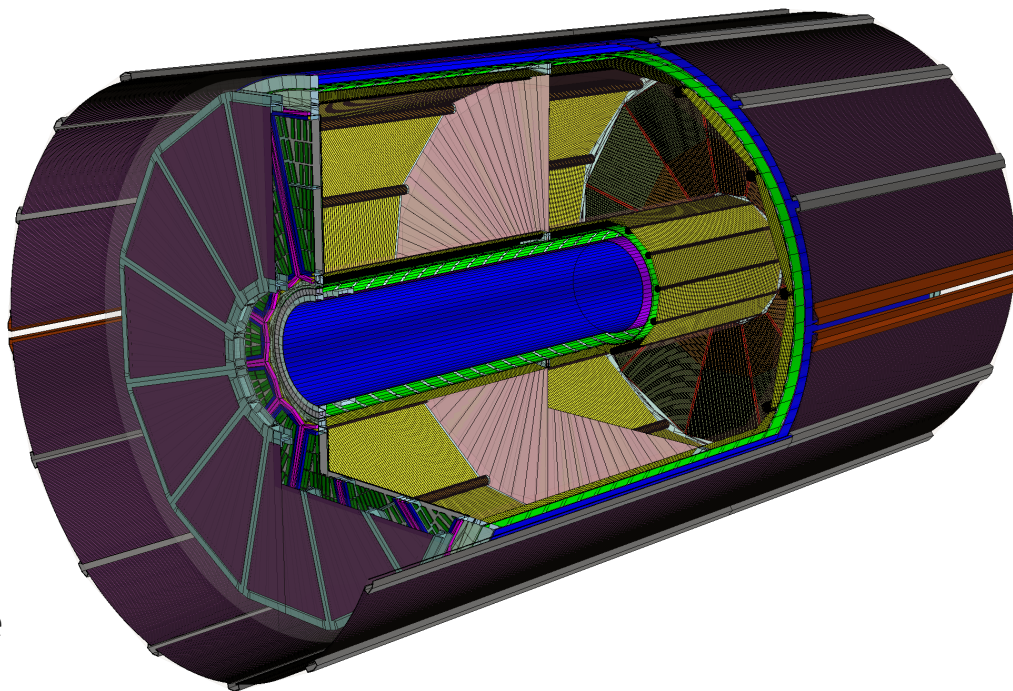
2nd generation

General
correspondence to
production
drawings

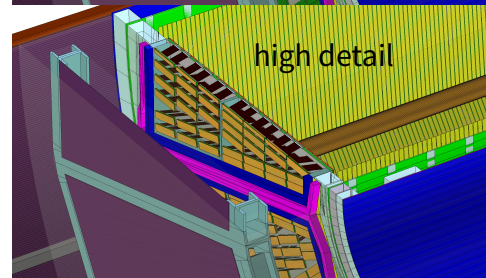
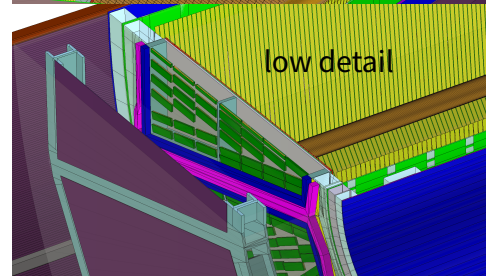
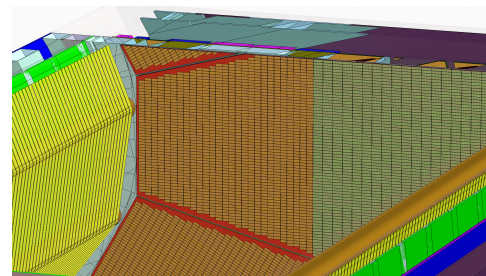
1st version of
thermoscreen

3 level of ROC
electronics detail

~2500 lines of code



103288 - 130936 volumes



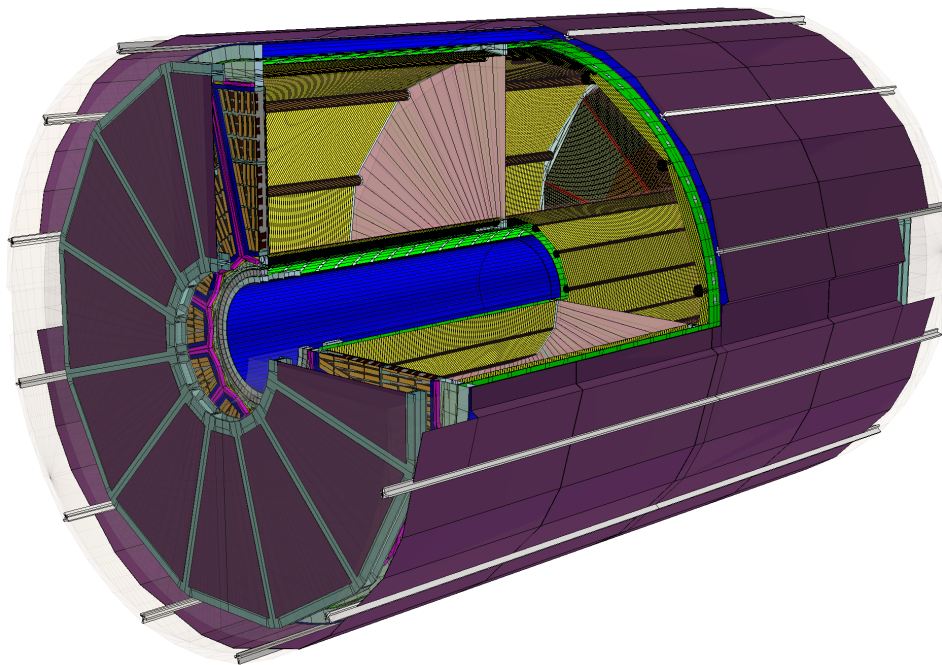
MPD TPC GEANT geometry evolution (3)

3rd generation

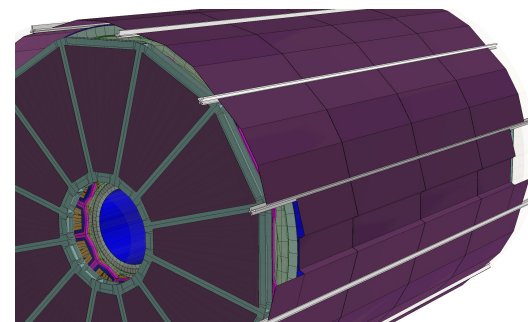
New thermoscreen
because of
production
reasons

(curved → edged)

Anything else the
same as 2nd
generation



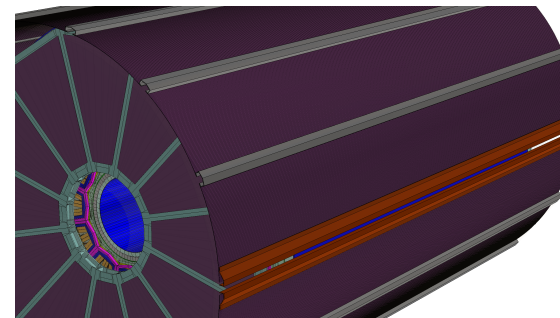
103326 - 130974 volumes



New



Old



MPD TPC GEANT geometry evolution (4)

4th generation

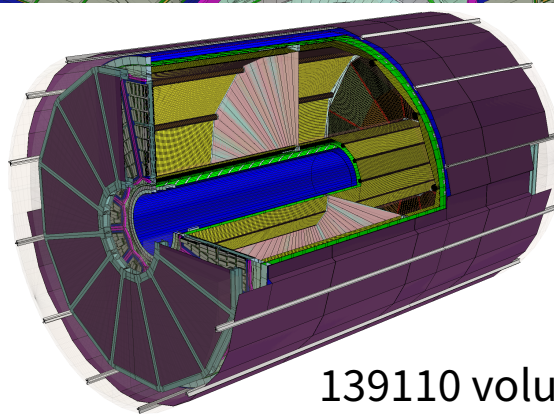
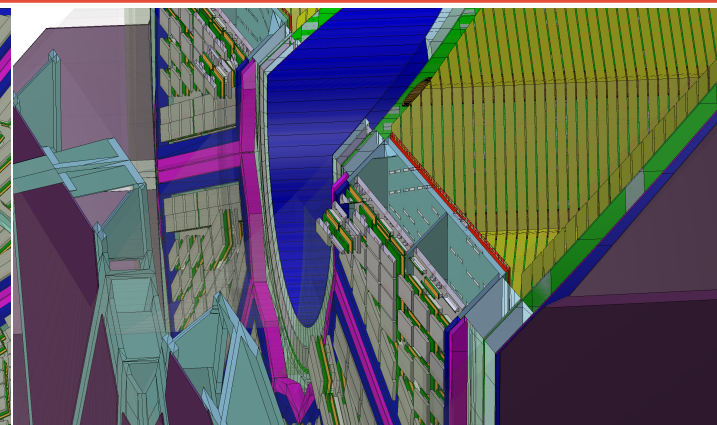
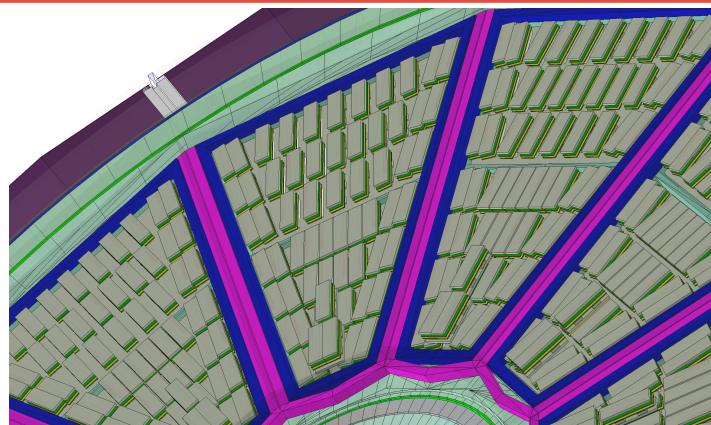
Rebuild of Read-Out
Cameras

New IO card
modules

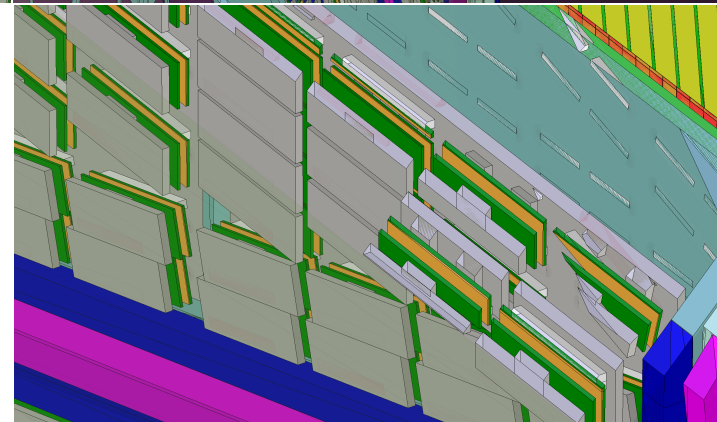
New IO cars layout

Single level of detail

Anything else the
same as 3rd
generation



139110 volumes



Why so detailed? (example)

TPC end-caps particle parameter changing

No magnetic field

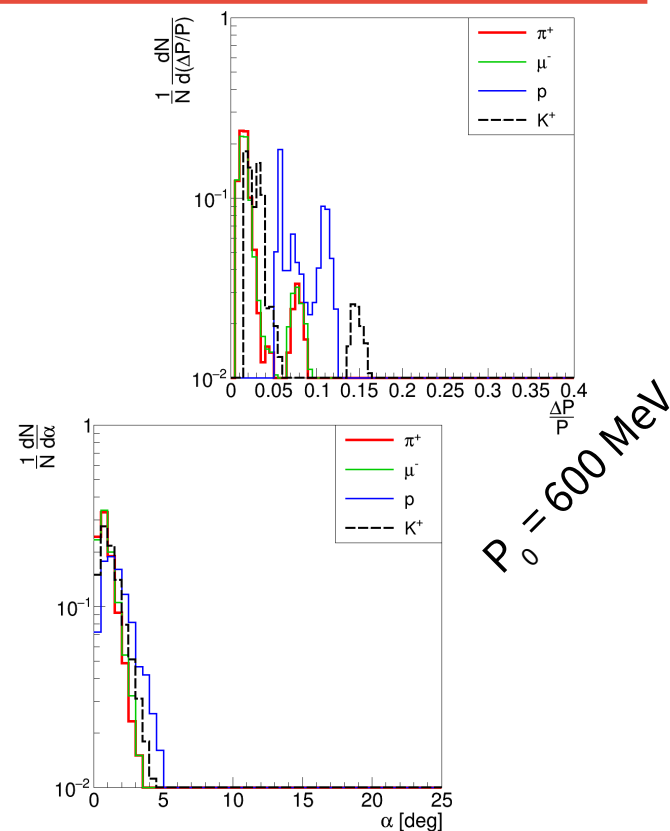
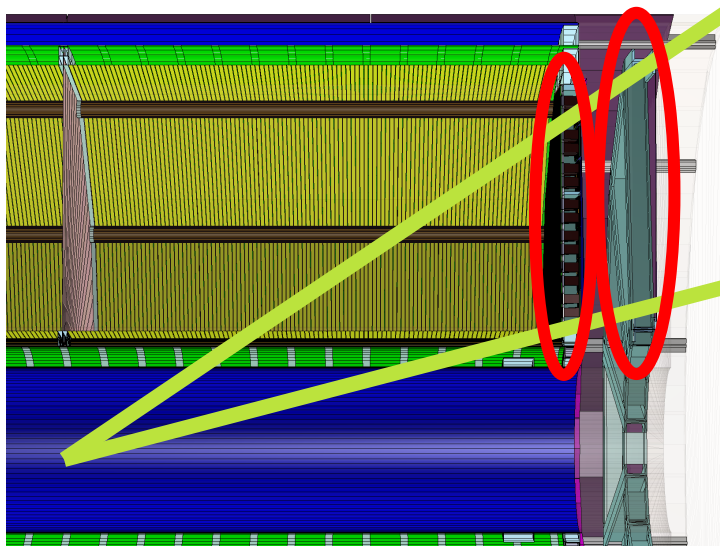
All tracks starts from (0, 0, 0)

Tracks: p , π^+ , μ^- , K^+

$$\Delta P = P_{\text{in}}^{\text{end-caps}} - P_{\text{out}}^{\text{end-caps}}$$

$P_{\text{in}}^{\text{end-caps}}$, $P_{\text{out}}^{\text{end-caps}}$ –
momentum in/out TPC
end-caps

$$\alpha = \overbrace{P_{\text{in}}^{\text{end-caps}}, P_{\text{out}}^{\text{end-caps}}}$$



ACTS geometry

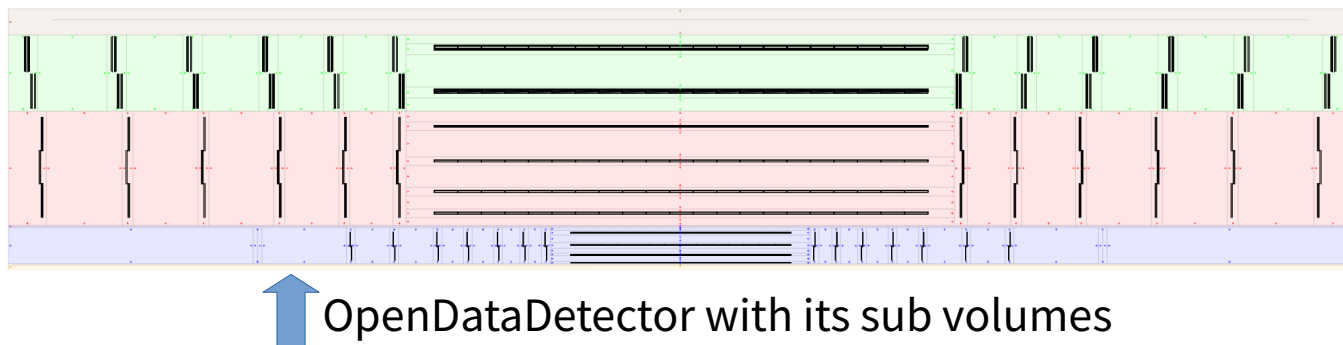
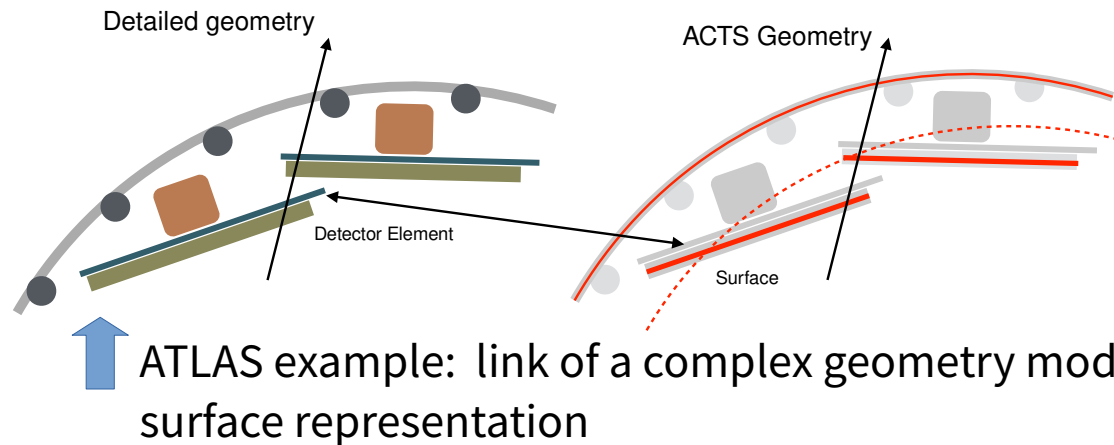
Special geometry for track propagation by Kalman filter

All and any detectors as sensitive surfaces

No volume detectors

Each reconstructed hit must belong to one and only one surface

Volumes of material contain sensitive surfaces



MPD TPC ACTS geometry evolution

Cylindrical geometry

Converted from
ROOT/GEANT geometry

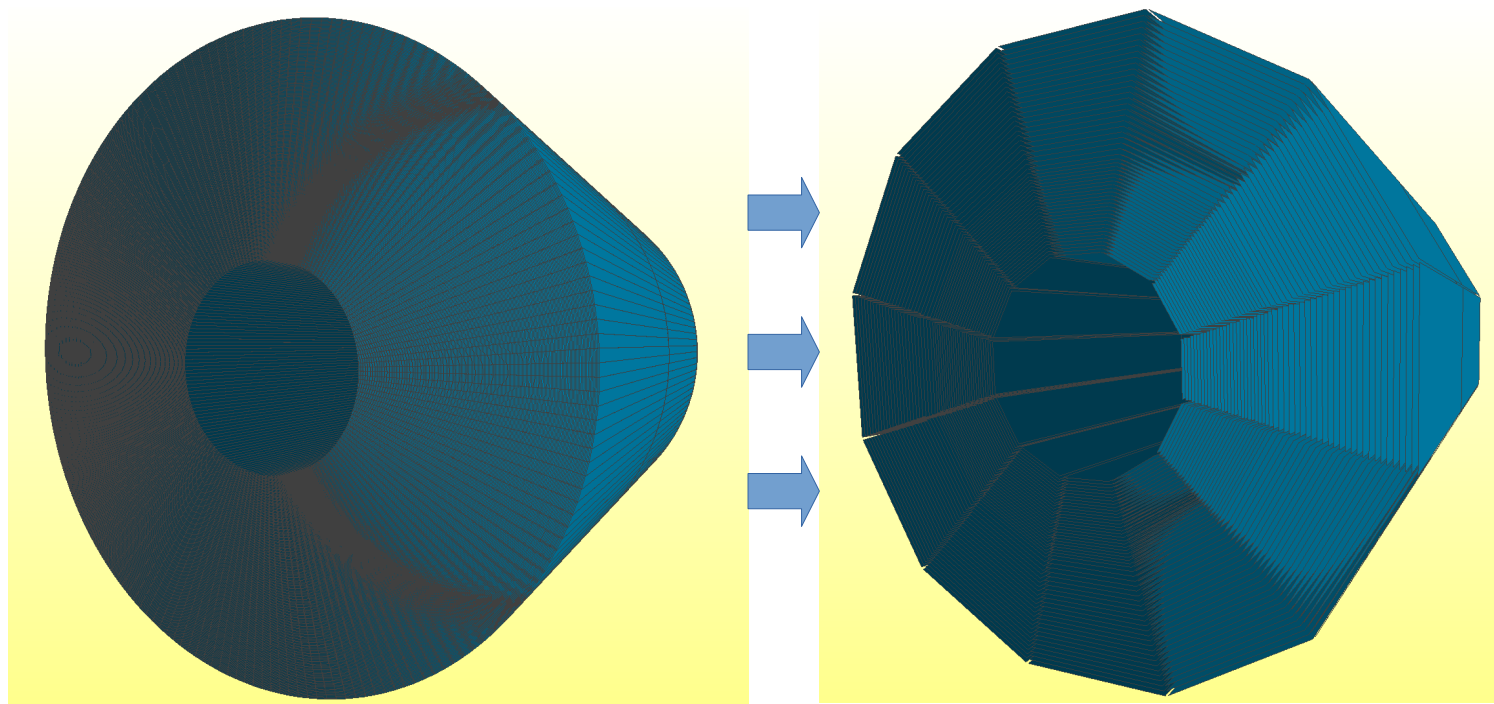
180 layers-cylinders

Sectoral geometry

Native (build w/o
converter)

TPC exact representation

53 layers | 12 sectors



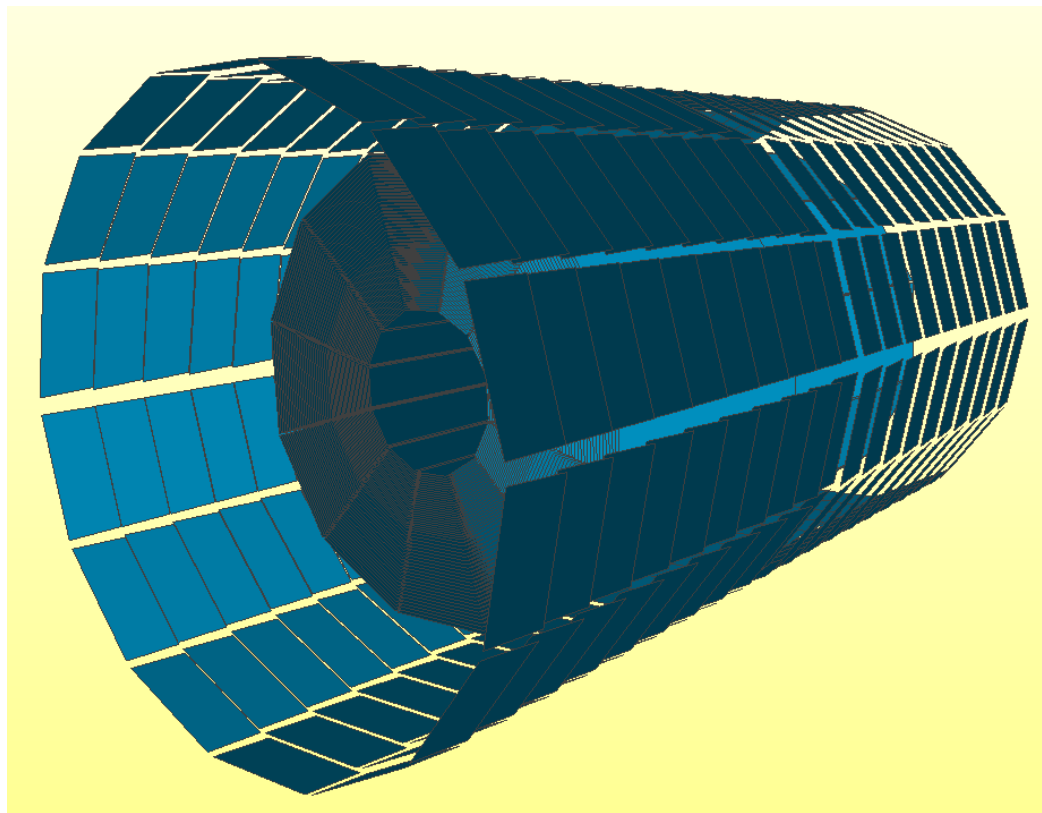
MPD TPC ACTS geometry evolution

TPC + TOF as single detector

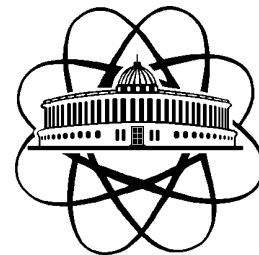
ACTS Kalman filter works with
single space for both detectors

Tracks propagate from TPC to TOF
automatically

additional hits per track



Thats it



Thank you!
for your attention
Q & A ?