



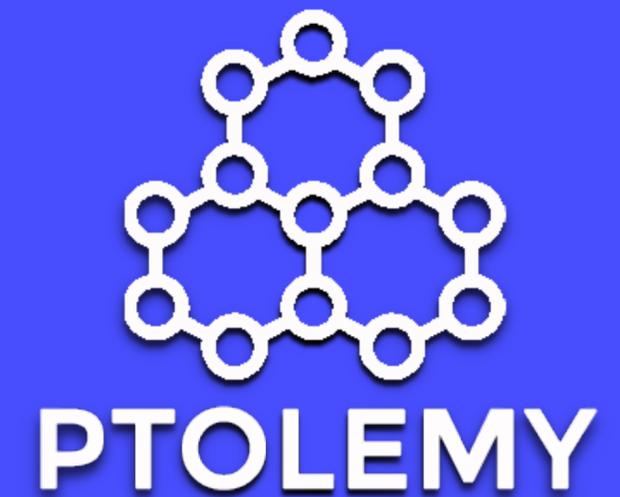
GRAN SASSO
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Ongoing Injection Studies of Electrons from E-gun to Permanent Magnet

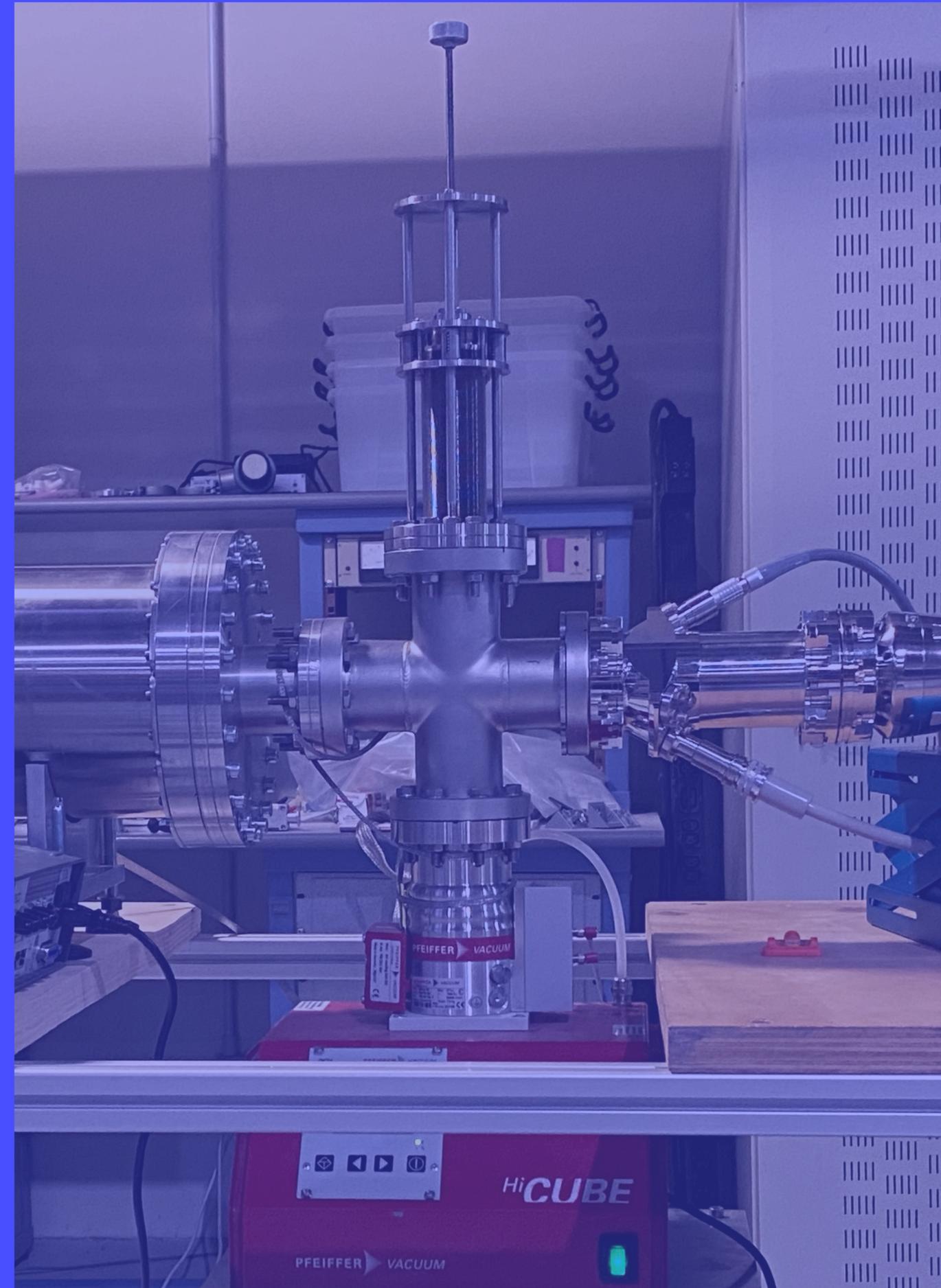
Presentation for PTOLEMY Collaboration Meeting - Nijmegen, 02 July 2025

Francesca Maria Pofi - GSSI, INFN LNGS



Outline

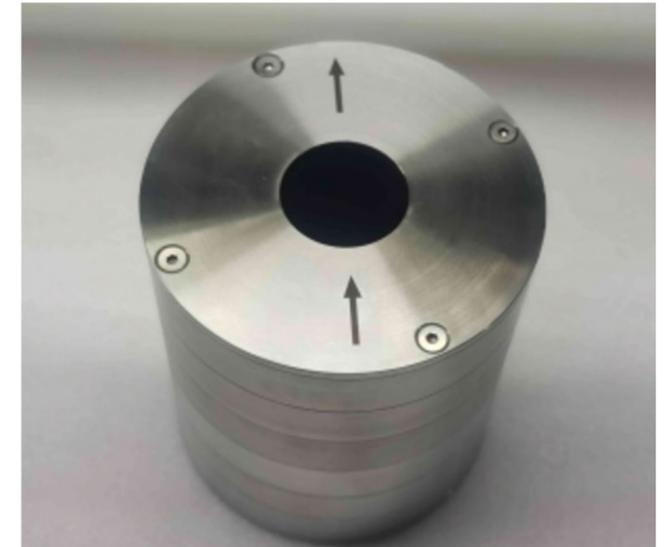
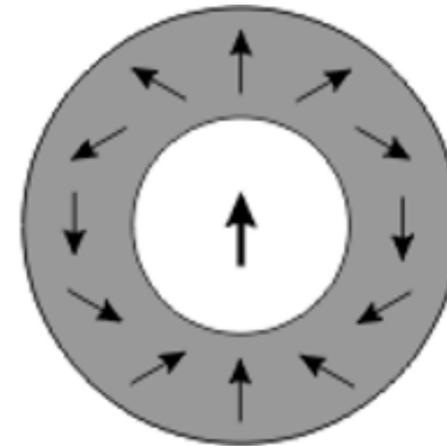
- ❑ Proposes
- ❑ Characterization of permanent magnet
- ❑ 1st setup: the perfect source for RF calibration
- ❑ 2nd setup: how to enter and get out in 1 T field
- ❑ E-gun setup state of art
- ❑ Prospectives & Next steps



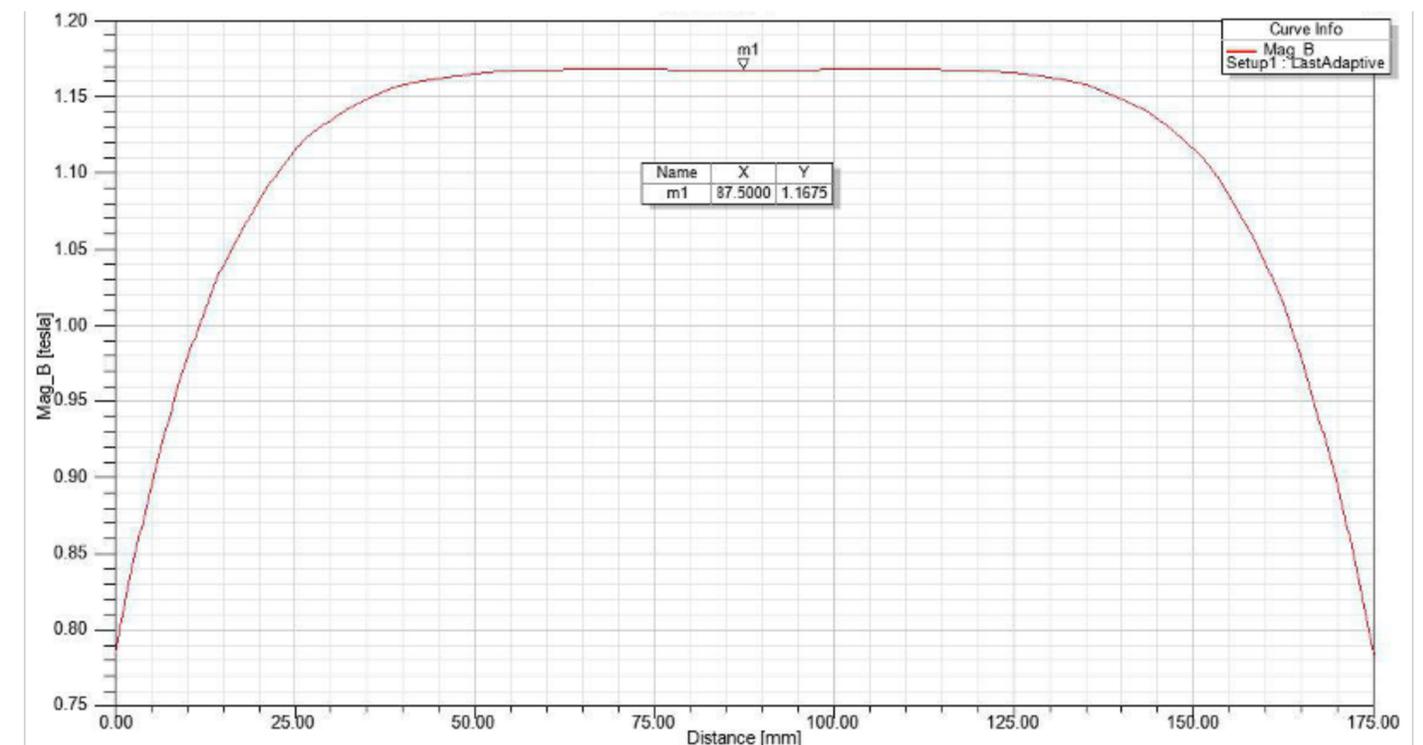
A Compact Powerful Magnet @ LNGS

▶ Magnet in LNGS:

- Halbach cylinder permanent magnet
- 185 mm length, 170 mm external \varnothing , 50 mm internal \varnothing
- 1 T uniform magnetic field in *limited region inside*
- Only z profile of B module from producers
- Field lines difficult to simulate
(field produced by array of magnets)



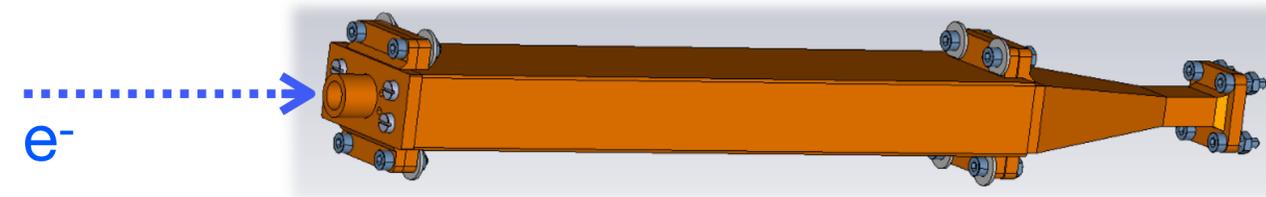
- ▶ Actual usage: RF detection setup with $^{83\text{m}}\text{Kr}$ gas injected directly into trap



E-gun + Magnet: Two Possible Measurements

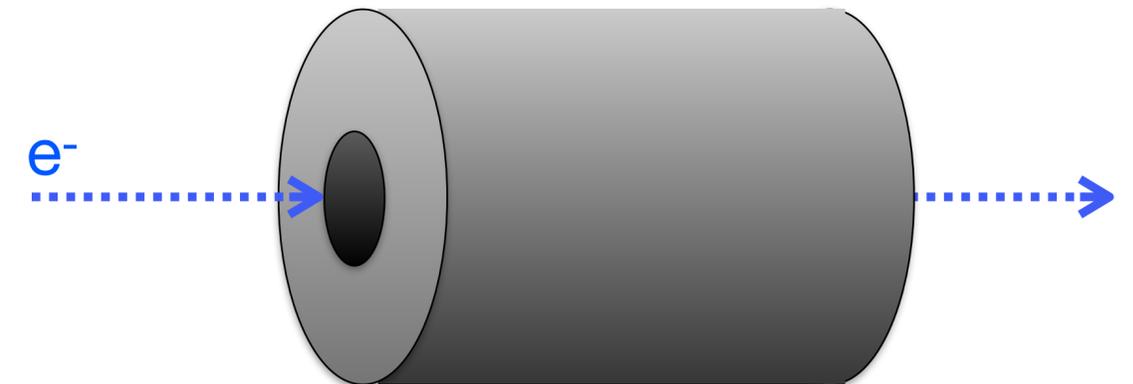
▶ 1st setup: injection of beam electrons in actual RF region setup in LNGS (F. Virzi talk)

- Now: ^{83m}Kr injection → 30.4 keV e^- (L line) produced in random point of trap
- With e-gun:
 - ✓ 18.6 keV electrons
 - ✓ More control on electron initial distribution
 - ✓ More electrons (e-gun current till mA!)



▶ 2nd setup: passage of electrons through 1 T magnetic field proof-of-principle

- Bottle effect breaking demonstration
- Become familiar with same drift exploited in filter



B MAP NEEDED!

Exploiting Laplace Equation for Scalar Potential

▶ Aim: know magnetic field behavior **outside** magnet to simulate e⁻ injection

▶ No sources in region of interest → governing laws:

▶ Procedure:

1. Solve Laplace equation with **Neumann boundary conditions** = B_{\perp} on infinite plane
2. Derive \mathbf{B} from ϕ_m
3. Outcome = magnetic field lines

▶ Only need to measure B_{\perp} on “infinite” plane

- **Gauss's Law for Magnetism:**
 $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$ (No monopoles)

- **Ampère's Law (Static, No Currents):**
 $\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = 0$ (Field is curl-free)

- **Implications:**
 - Existence of a scalar potential:
 $\mathbf{B} = -\nabla \phi_m$

 - Laplace's Equation for ϕ_m :
 $\nabla^2 \phi_m = 0$

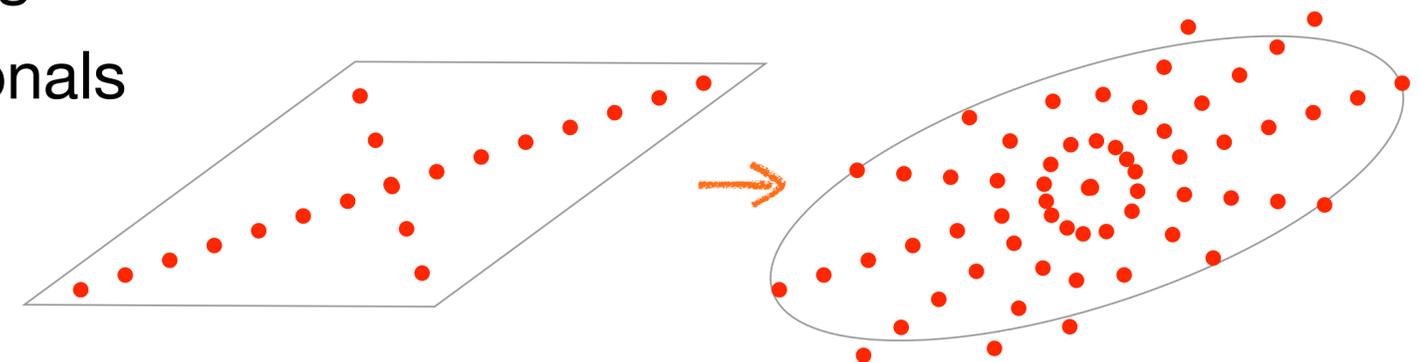
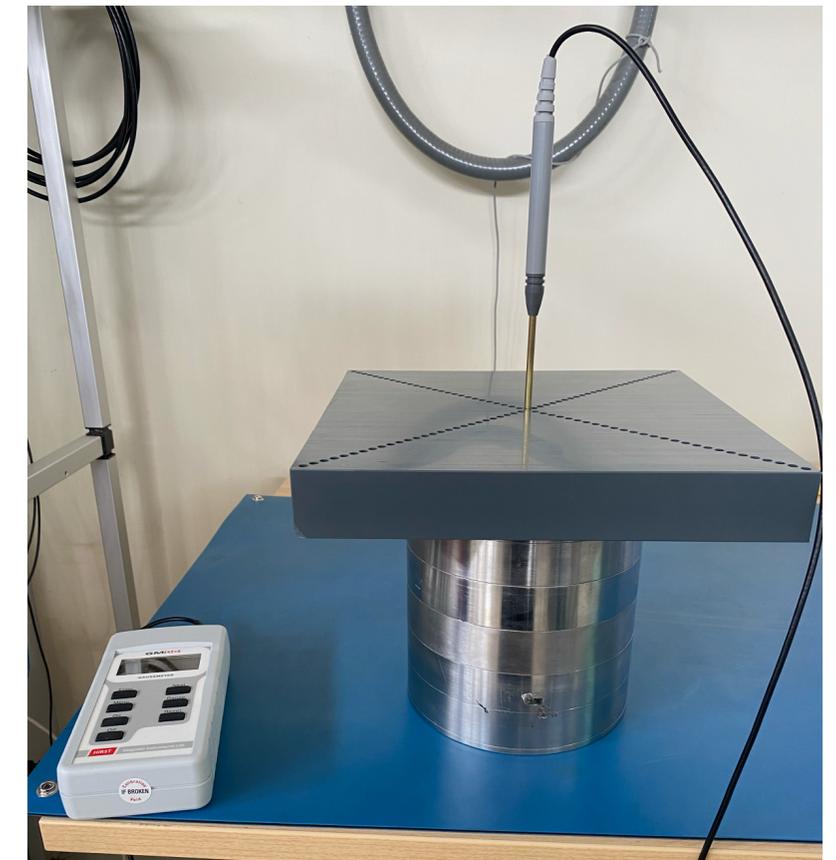
Measurement of Boundary Conditions

▶ Aim:
measure B_{\perp} on infinite plane outside magnet

- plane // to cylinder face, 3 mm from it

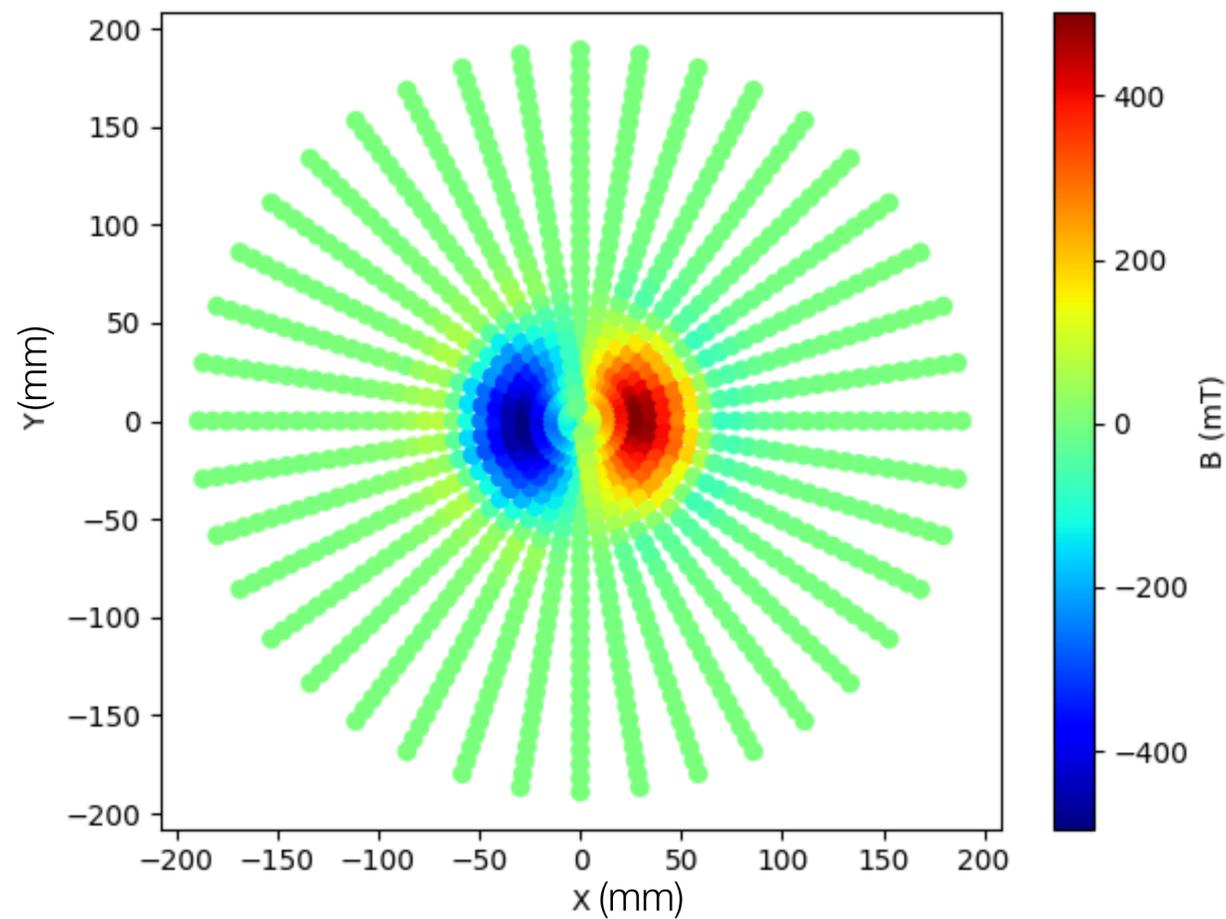
▶ Setup:

- Halbach magnet dismounted from RF setup
- Hirst GM08 Gaussmeter
- cap by LNGS Mechanics Workshop with slots for inserting probe 7 mm apart on both diagonals

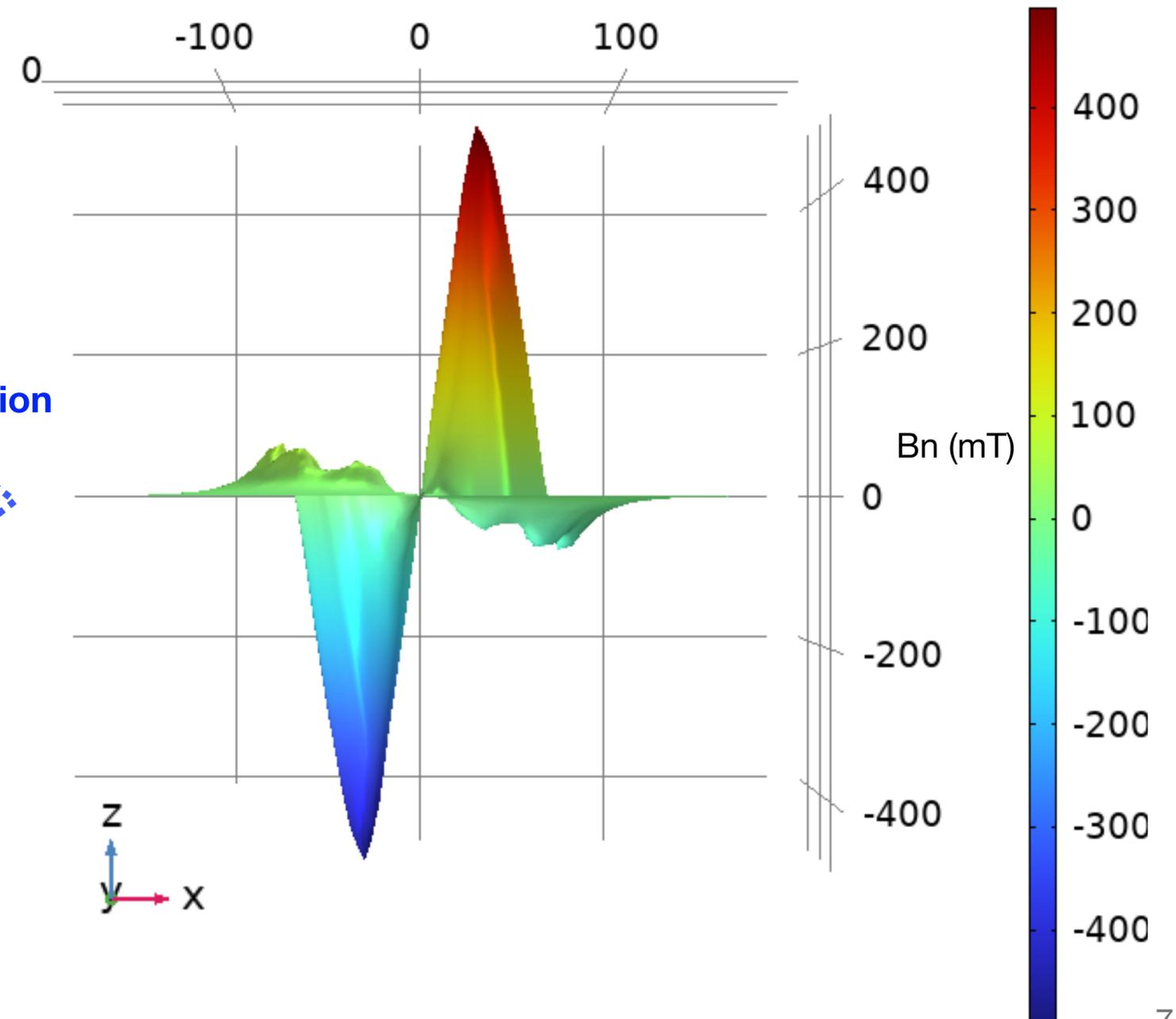
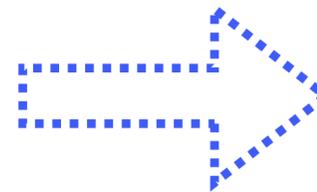


Behavior Showing Two Poles

- ▶ 54 points each diagonal, repeated every 9°
- ▶ Total: 1080 points covering a $r \simeq 20$ cm circle area



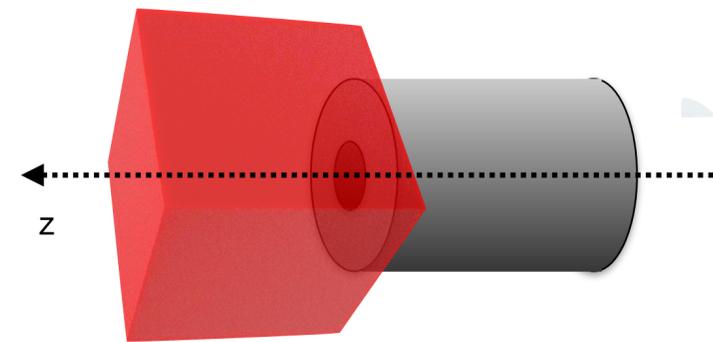
COMSOL
Map Interpolation



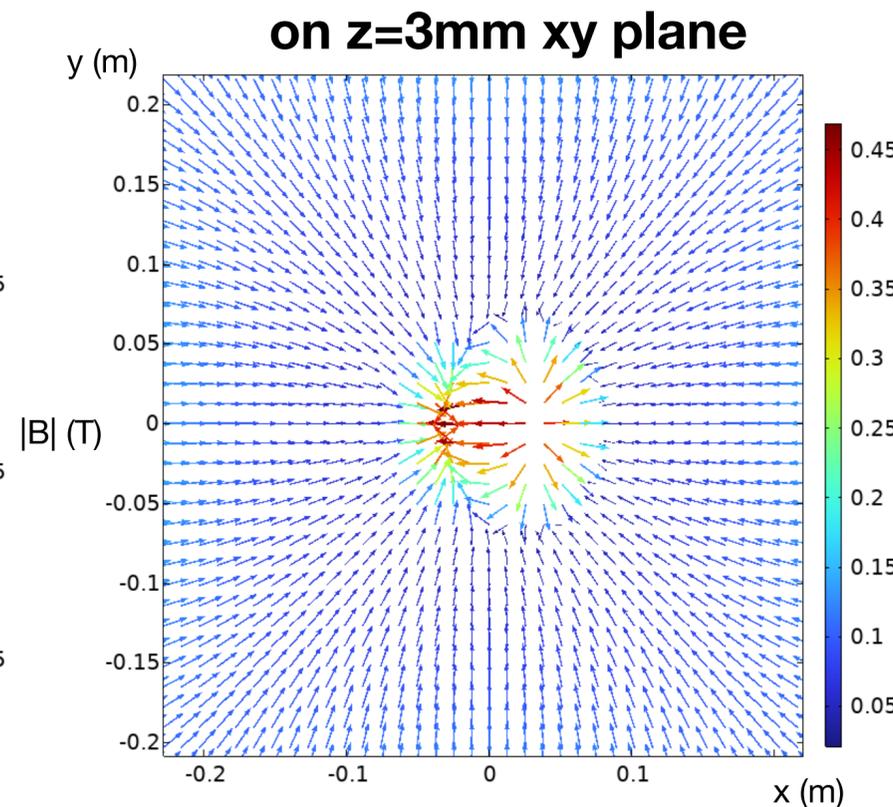
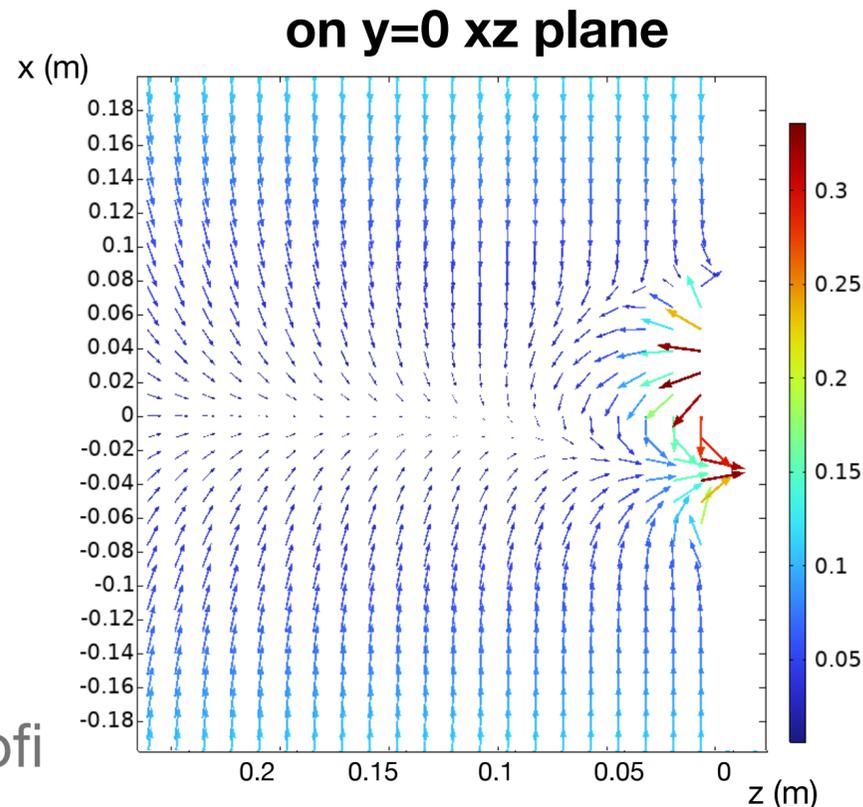
COMSOL Computed Field

▶ Given boundary conditions → solution of Laplace equation

- using **COMSOL simulation software** based on advanced numerical methods
(collab with dr. C.Rizza from UnivAq)
- Field computed in a 35 cm side cubic volume



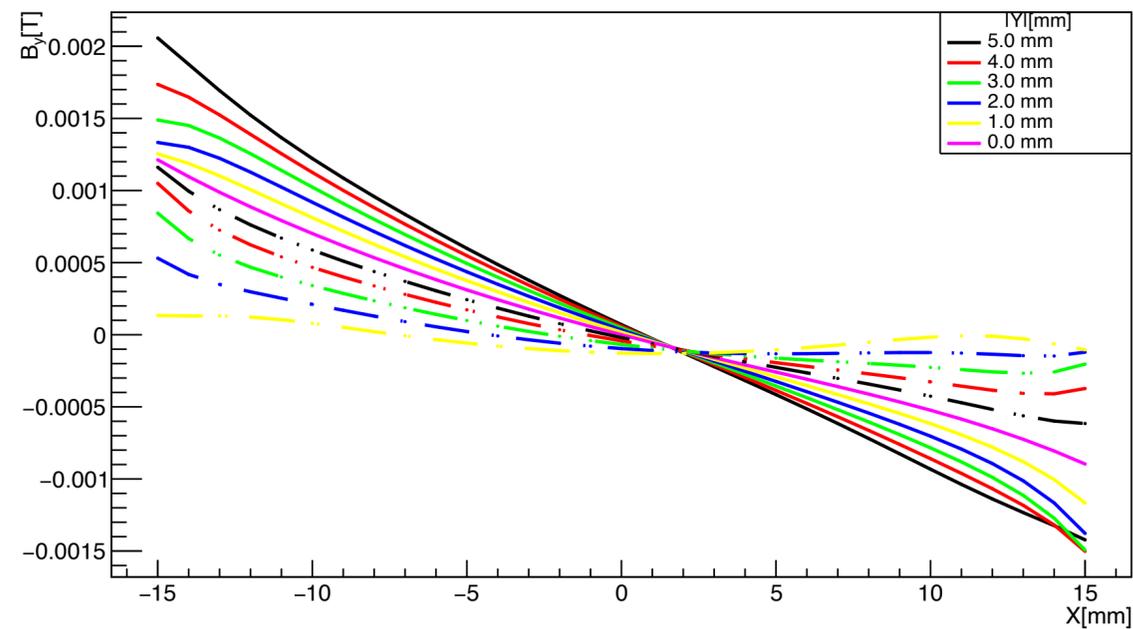
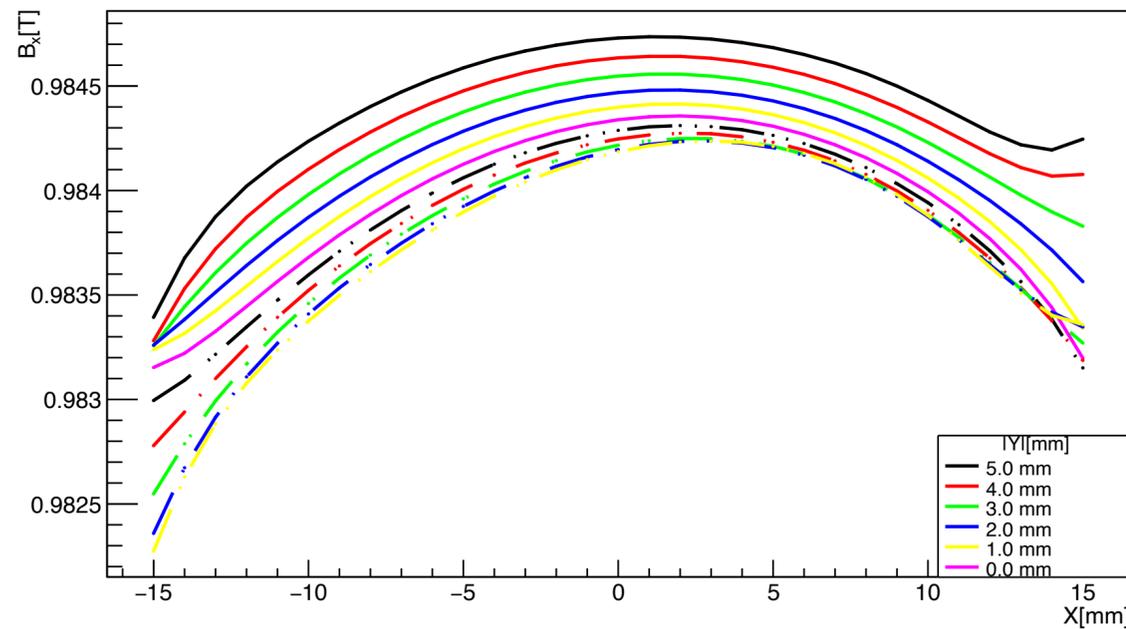
▶ Two examples of arrow plots from field obtained:



Agreement with measured B_{\perp} along a diagonal @ 3 cm distance from magnet face!

Internal Field: Measurements + CERN Maps

▶ From CERN Magnet characterization: B_x & B_y profiles as function of x & y , mediated in z



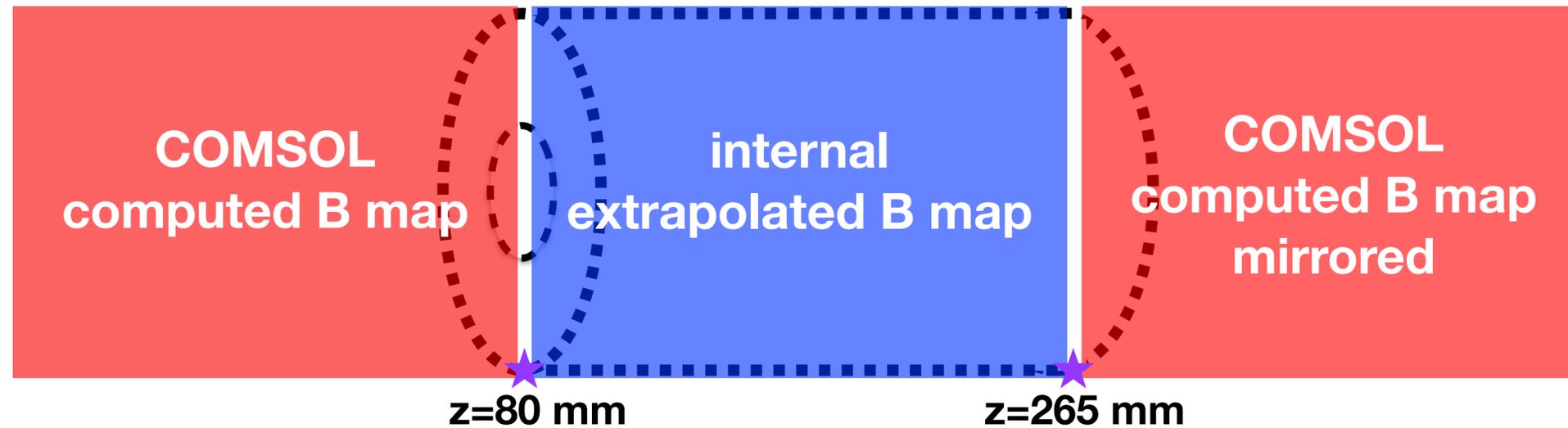
▶ To get z profiles:

- B_x measurement for $x, y=0$ varying z through Gaussmeter (*by Federico*)
- Scale of B_x , B_y for every z according to the measured profile
- B_z scaled linearly from the values on face to the $B_z=0$ point (~ 2 cm far) \rightarrow to be improved!



Very Steep Bx Profile

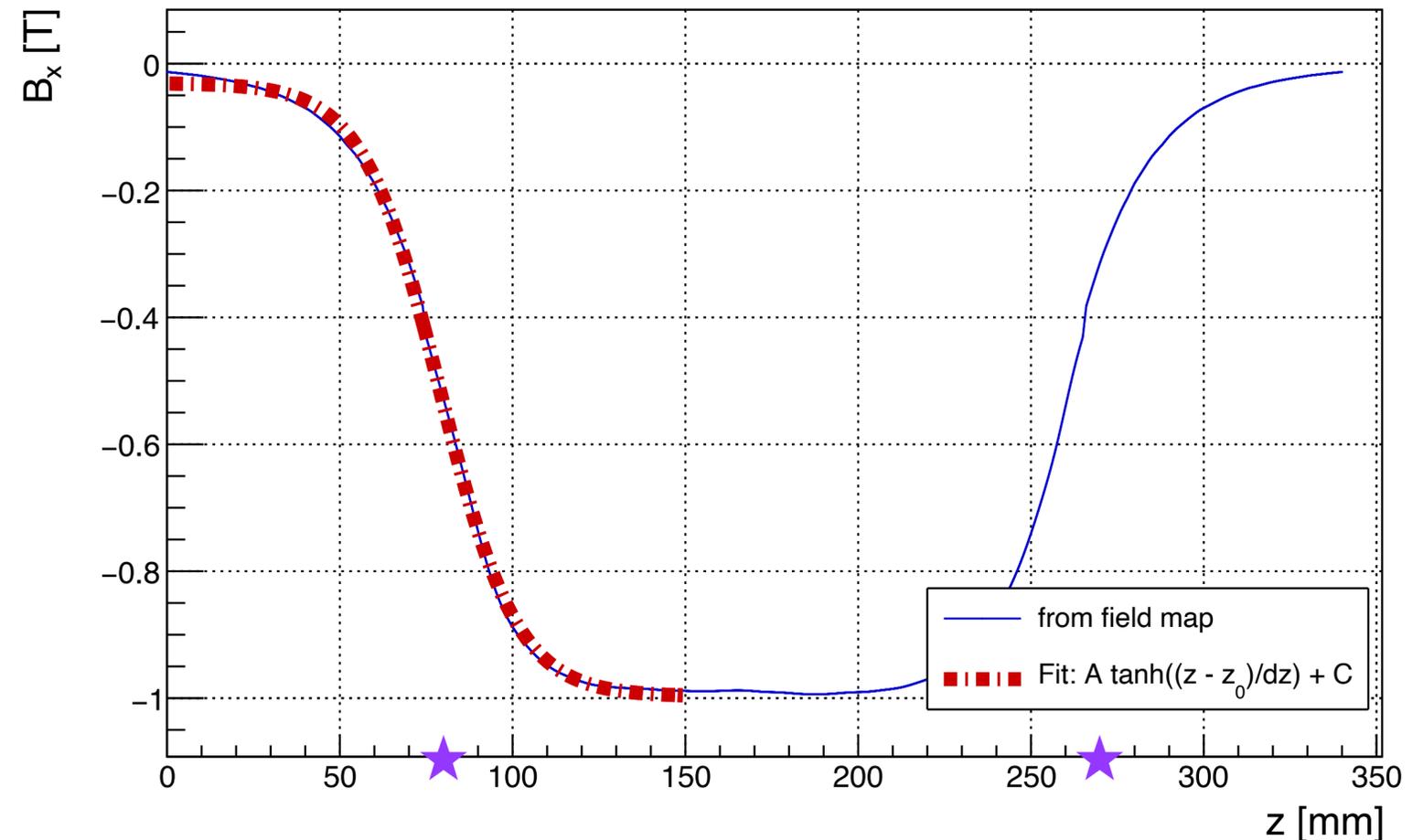
► Merging of



Field Map used for
CST & Lorentz4
simulations!

► Let's have a look to $B_x(x,y=0)$ vs z profile:

- Good matching of different B maps
- very steep magnitude increase:
from 0 to 1 T in ~15 cm
- Sigmoidal shape, fitted with \tanh



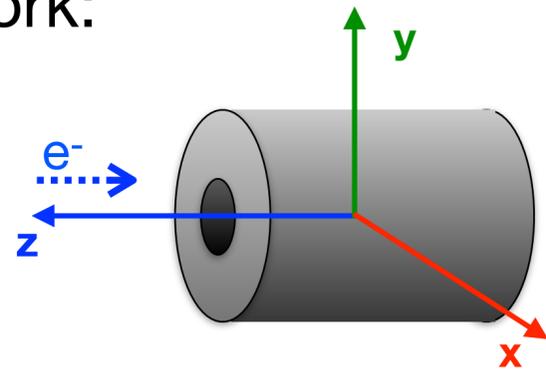
A Compact Simple version of Accelerator Filter

- ▶ Preliminary injection geometry: 5 sets of electrodes (2 bouncing + 1 top + 1 bottom each) to create very compact *single channel accelerator filter*

- ▶ Lot of things to take into account
 1. Limited space in **xy**
 - Tube for vacuum inside magnet cavity with $\varnothing < 50$ mm
 - For RF: rigid space constraints to match with RF electrodes into trap
(15 mm height x 37 mm width)
 2. **B** field limit
 - Too low B → too large Larmor radius; too high B → problems with electrons ejection
 3. Electron energy (**E_e**) limit
 - Too low E → limit in e-gun performances; too high E → too large Larmor radius

Quick Drifts Recap during Injection

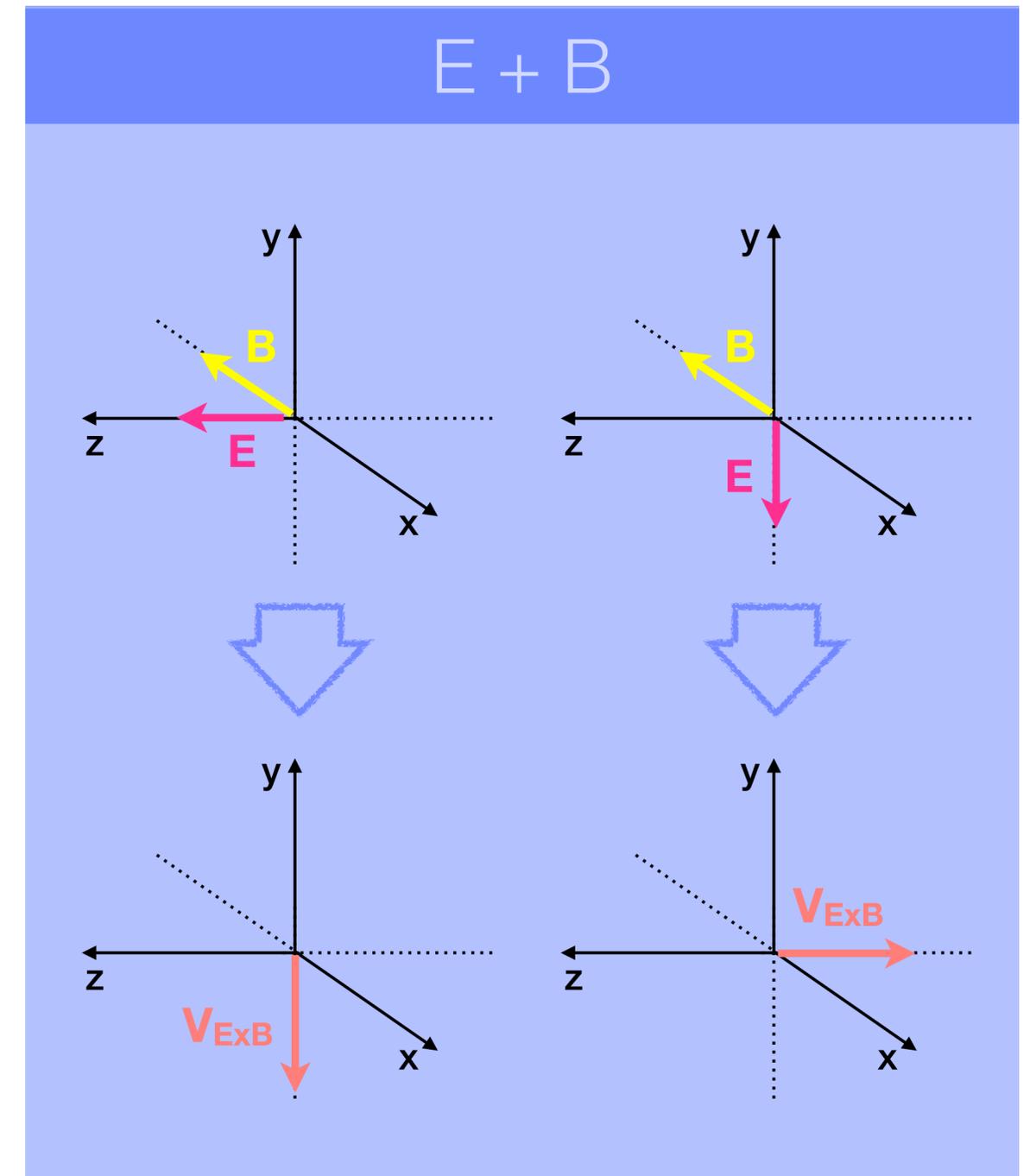
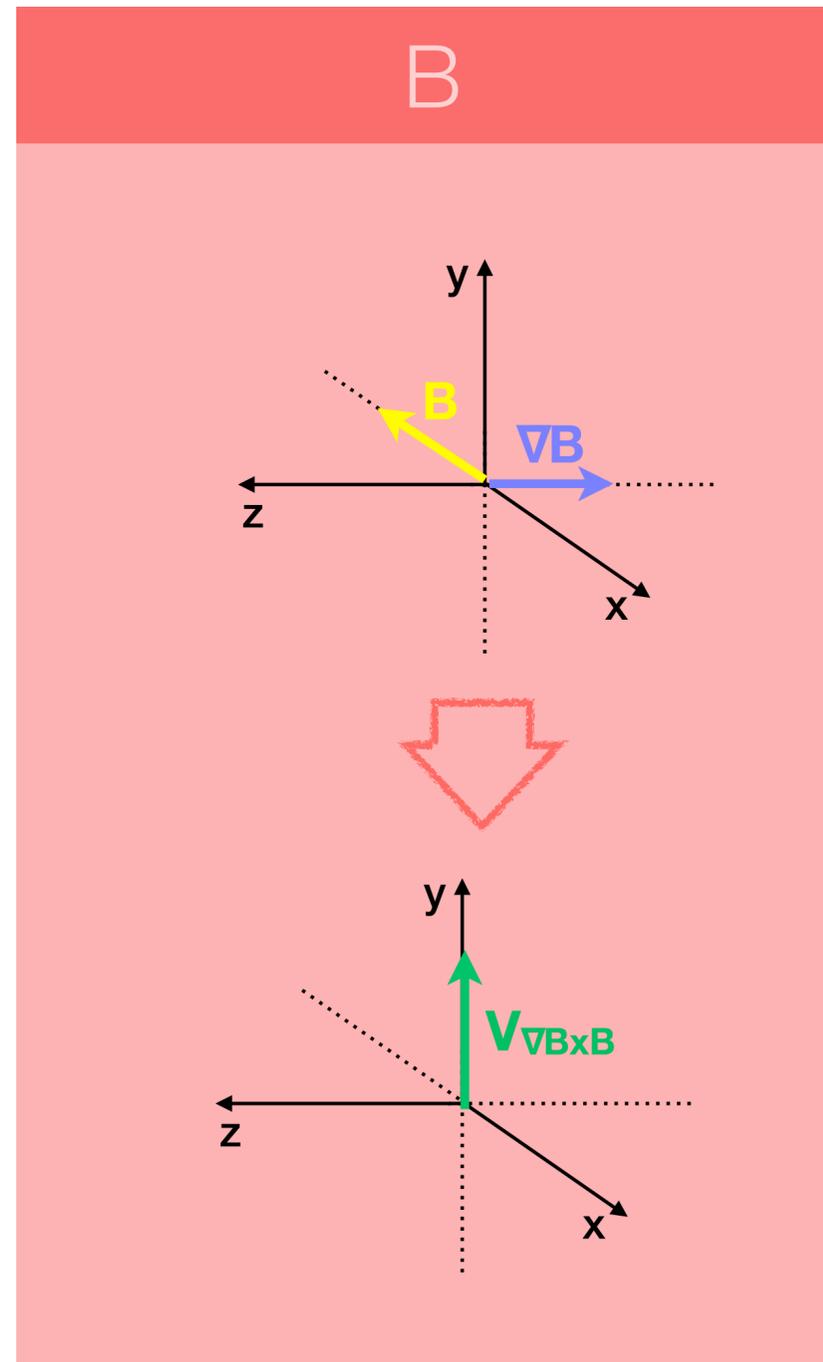
▶ Framework:
(sorry)



▶ Bx increase in -z direction
→ drift in +y direction

▶ To compensate it:
E in +z direction needed

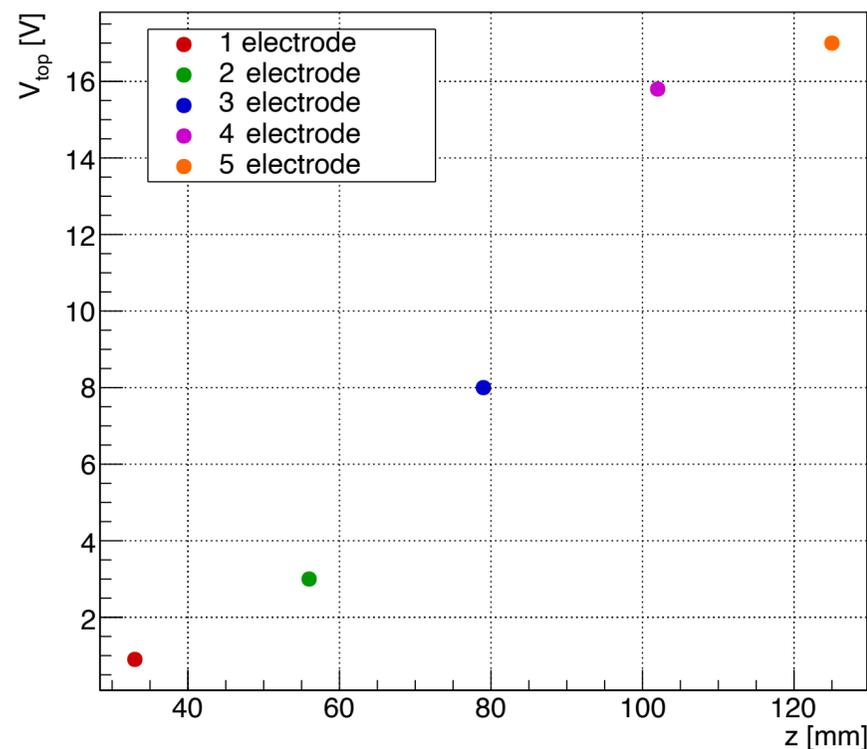
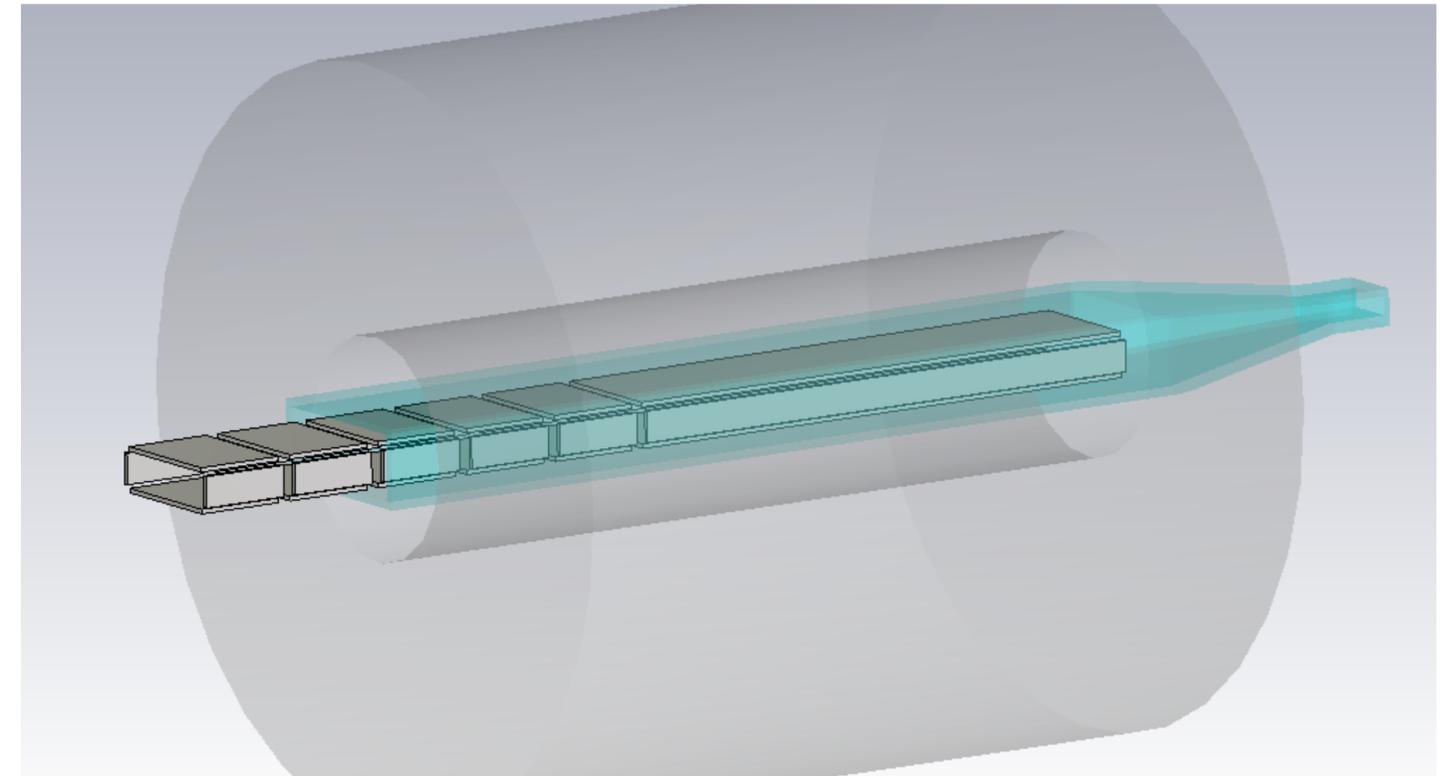
▶ To let electrons drift along z:
E in -y direction needed



RF Setup: Injection & Slowdown Strategies

▶ Electrodes setup:

- 5 electrodes' sets of 2 cm length + RF ones
- dimensions matching with RF:
 - 8.2 mm distance in y,
 - 30 mm in x

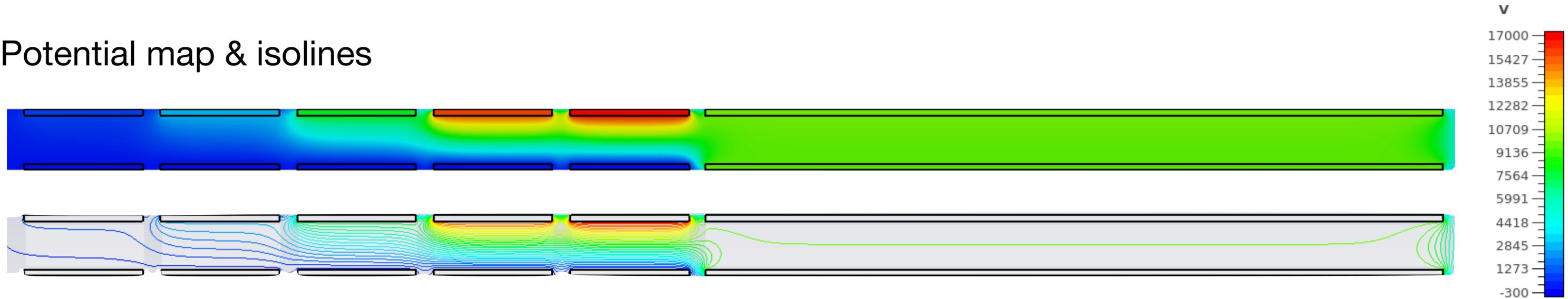


▶ Voltages applied:

- top injection electrodes following a sigmoidal (smoother) profile
- grounded injection bottom electrodes
- RF electrodes to minimize z-drift (still to optimize!)

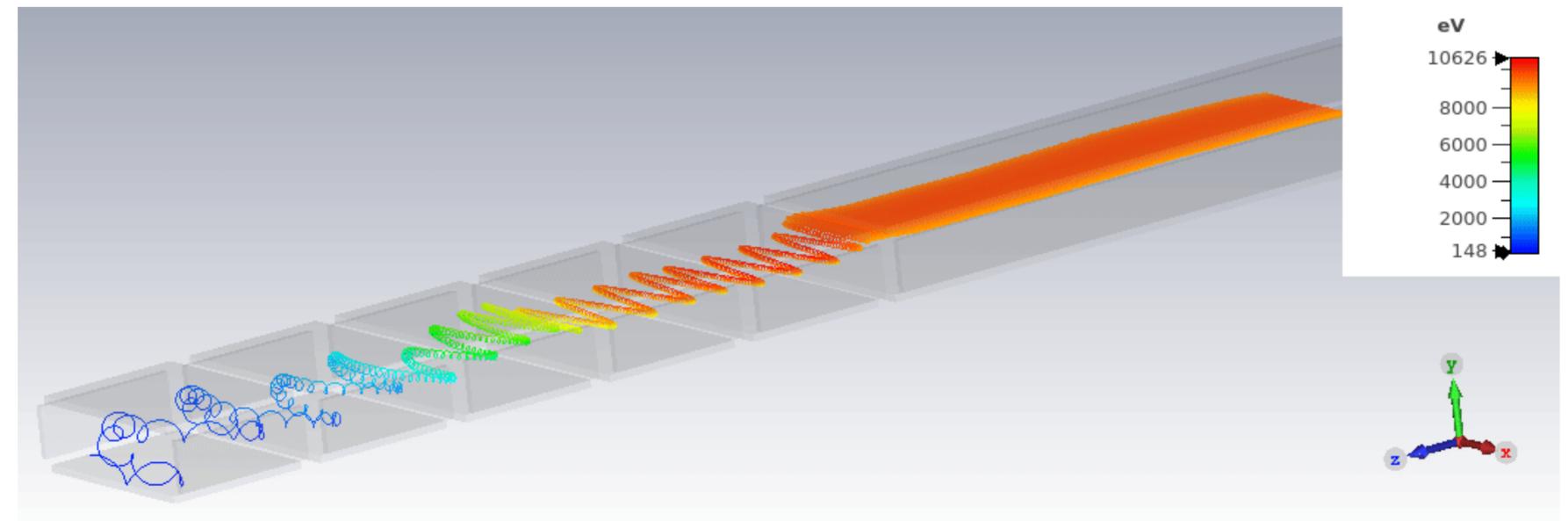
RF Setup: Injection & Slowdown Strategies

▶ Potential map & isolines



▶ Particle source

- B field - Energy compromise:
 - ✓ 600 eV electron
 - ✓ 6 cm far from magnet ($B_x = 38$ mT)
- Pitch angle of 50°
- Centered in xy plane



Minimum Detectable Energy, Still Too Fast

▶ Preliminary CST results:

✓ 1T region reached

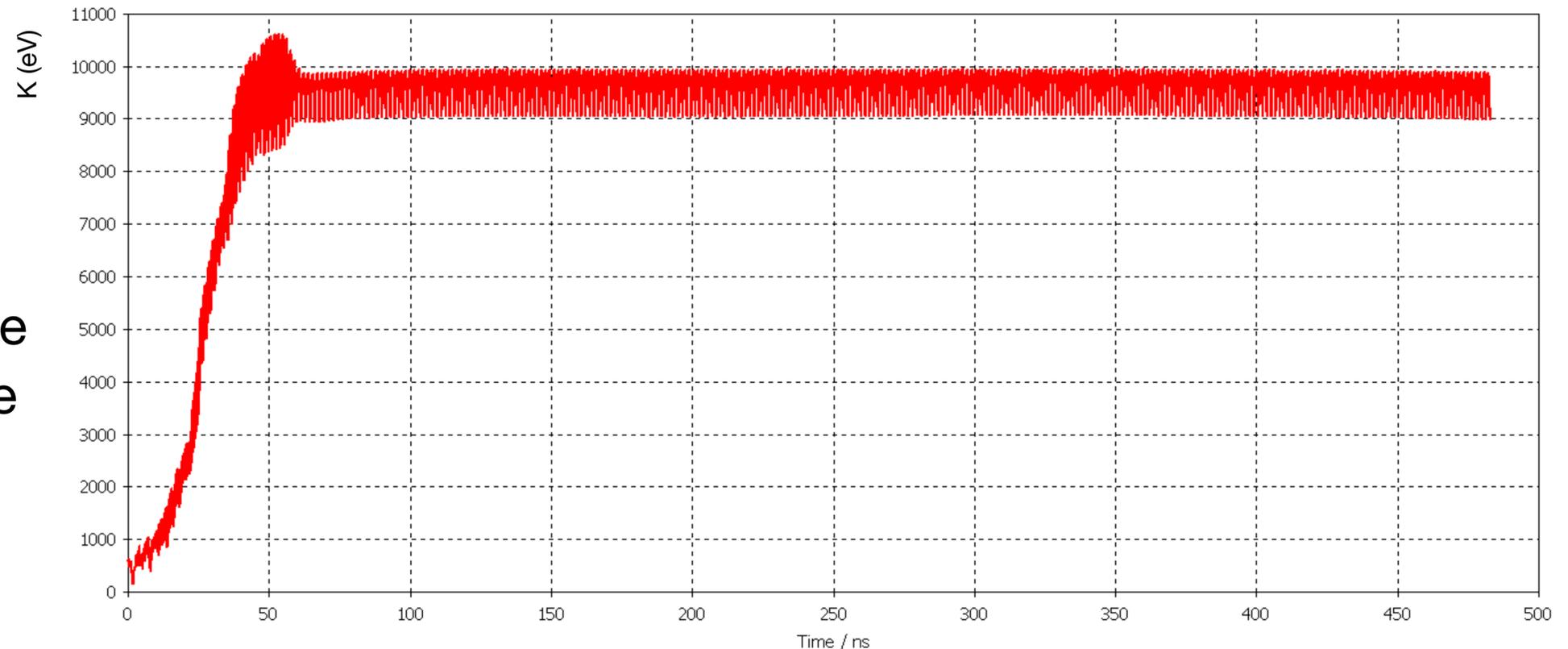
- from 600 eV to ~10 keV

→ RF power ~0.7 fW → in principle detectable

- 50 ns to reach RF region,
450 ns to travel 5 cm of it



good slowdown, still not enough to be detectable (minimum 30 μ s needed)



▶ Next steps:

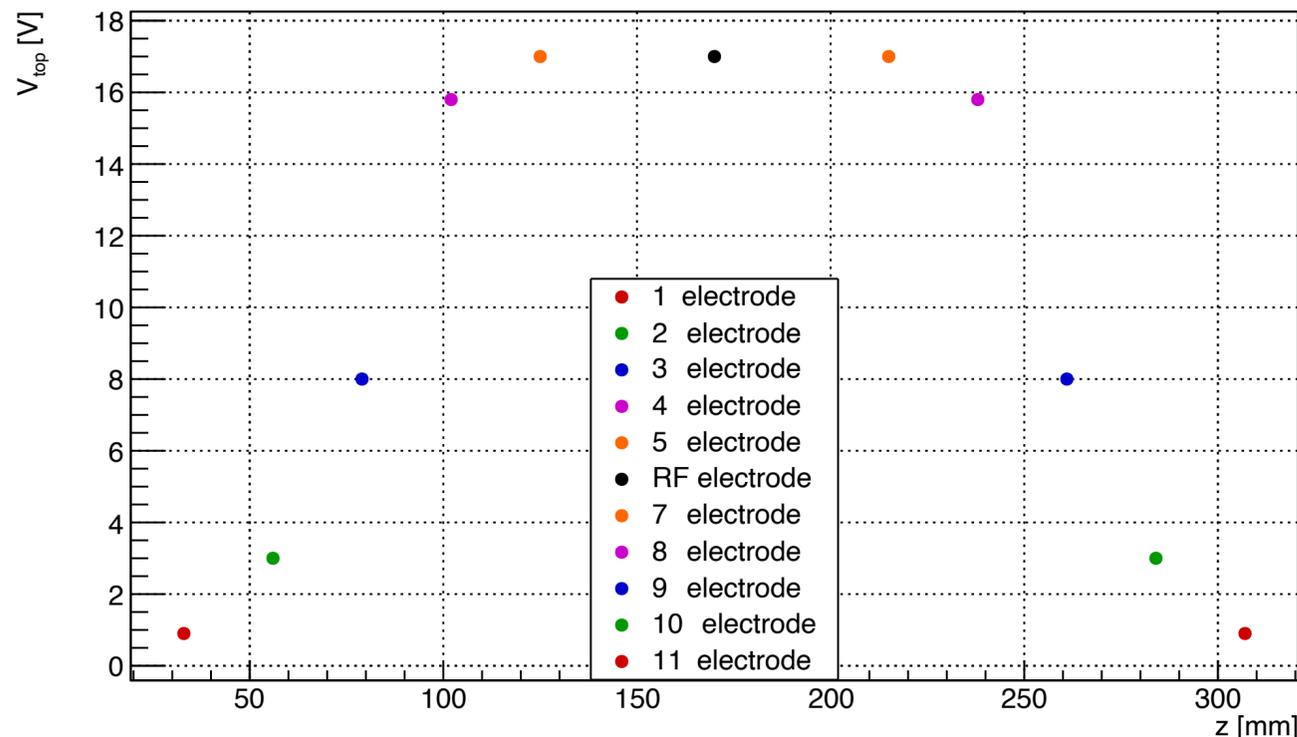
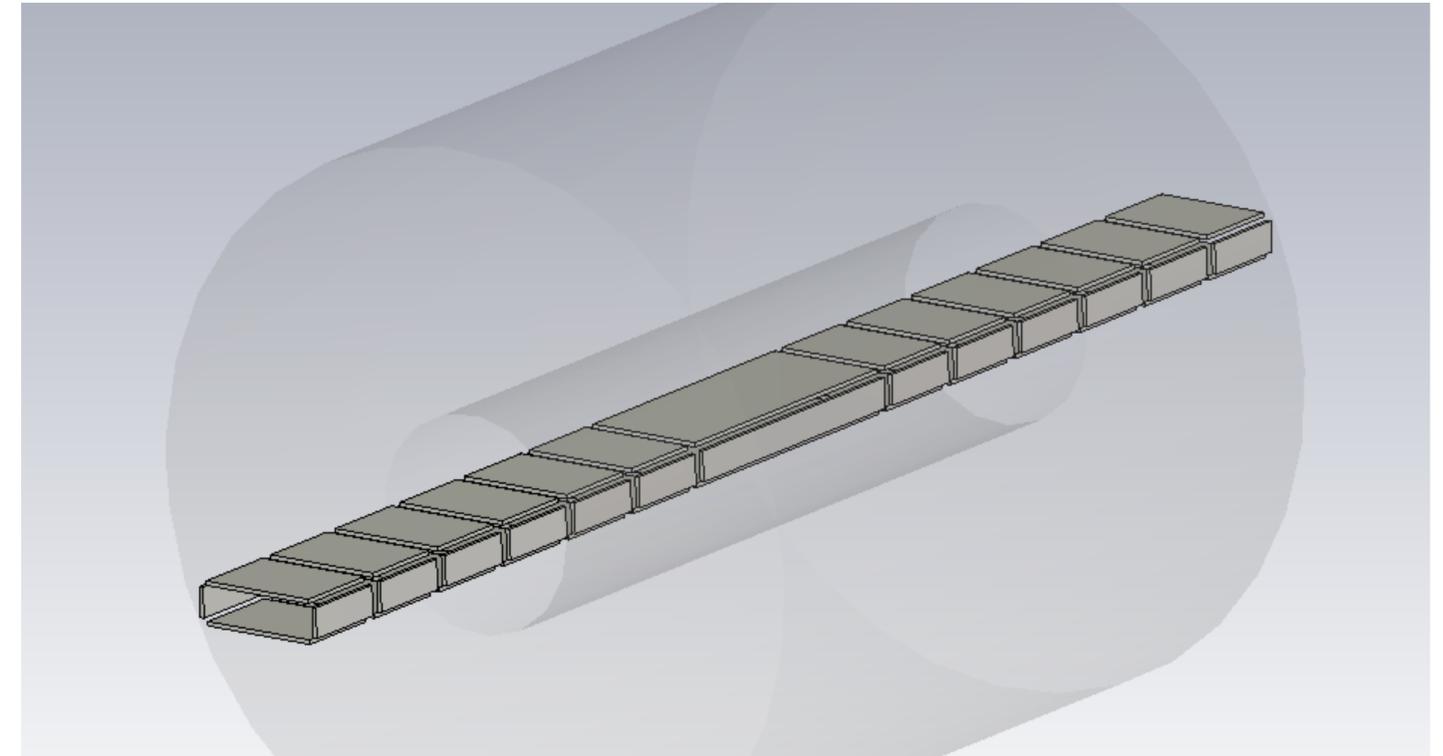
- find right RF voltages to keep e- @ same altitude (now too close to top electrode)

- Deeper result analysis with *Lorentz4* (see *N.Rossi talk*)

From RF to Magnet Crossing Setup

▶ Preliminary electrodes setup:

- Symmetric geometry:
 - 5 injection electrodes' sets,
 - "RF electrodes" (reduced in length)
 - 5 ejection electrodes' sets
- dimensions still matching with RF (not needed!)

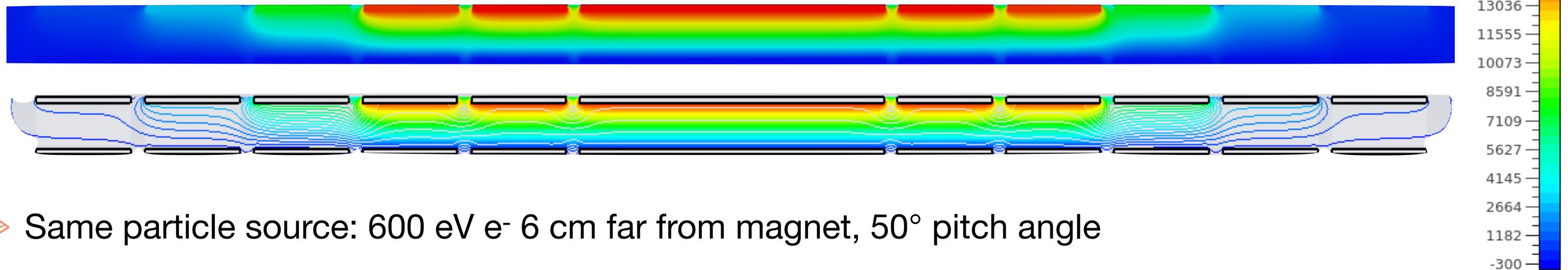


▶ Voltages applied:

- Injection as previous setup
- RF voltages matching 5th electrodes' ones
- Ejection with mirrored voltages wrt center
(∇B inversion \rightarrow E in -z direction to compensate!)

From RF to Magnet Crossing Setup

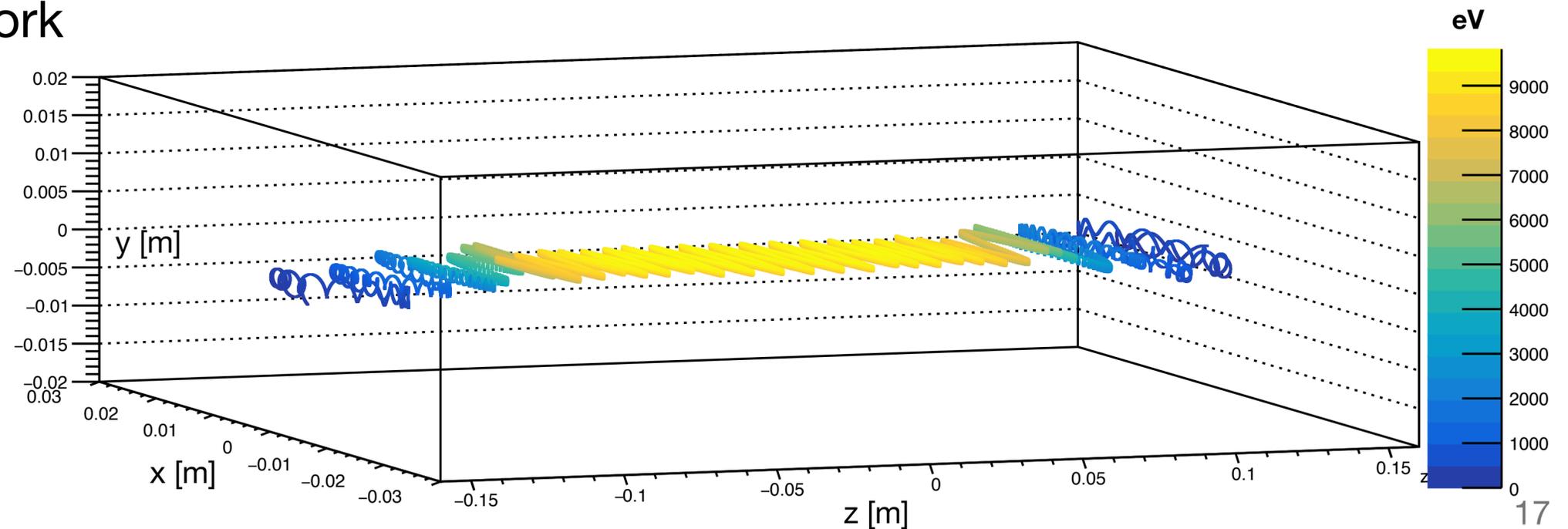
▶ Potential map & isolines



▶ Same particle source: 600 eV e⁻ 6 cm far from magnet, 50° pitch angle

▶ New trajectory simulation framework = *Lorentz4*

- takes as input CST field maps
- reduced simulation time
- customizable post-processing

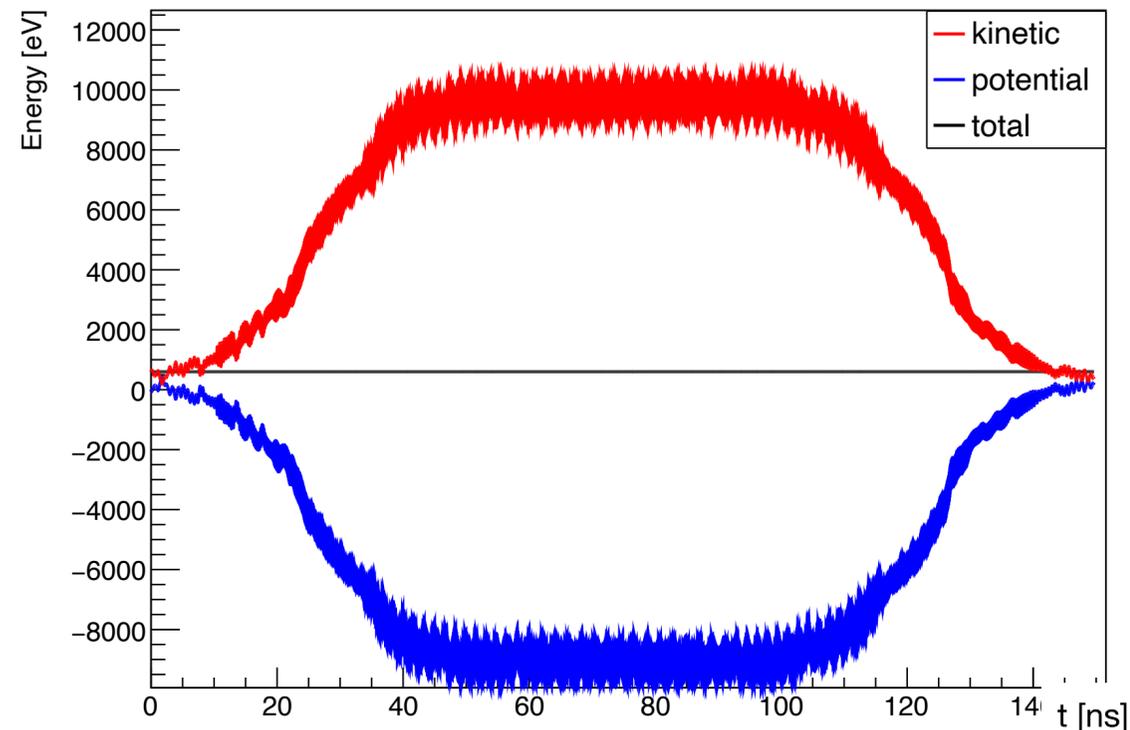
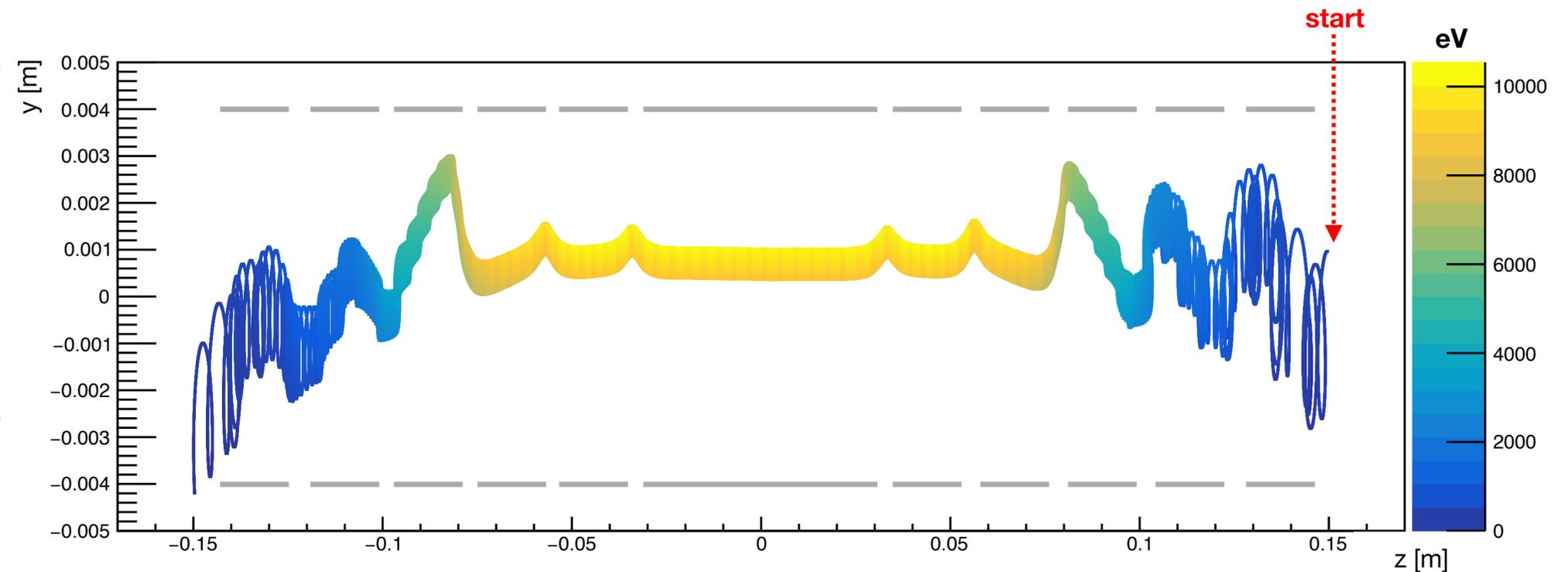


Kinetic into Potential Energy Transformation

yz trajectory projection showing **drifts balance**

- +y (-y) drift along electrodes
- -y (+y) drift along gaps

asymmetries reflecting B field ones



- ✓ Electron coming out from electrode system
- ✓ Good trajectory control despite poor segmentation
- ✓ Kinetic energy from 600 eV to ~ 10 keV and viceversa in ~ 30 cm!

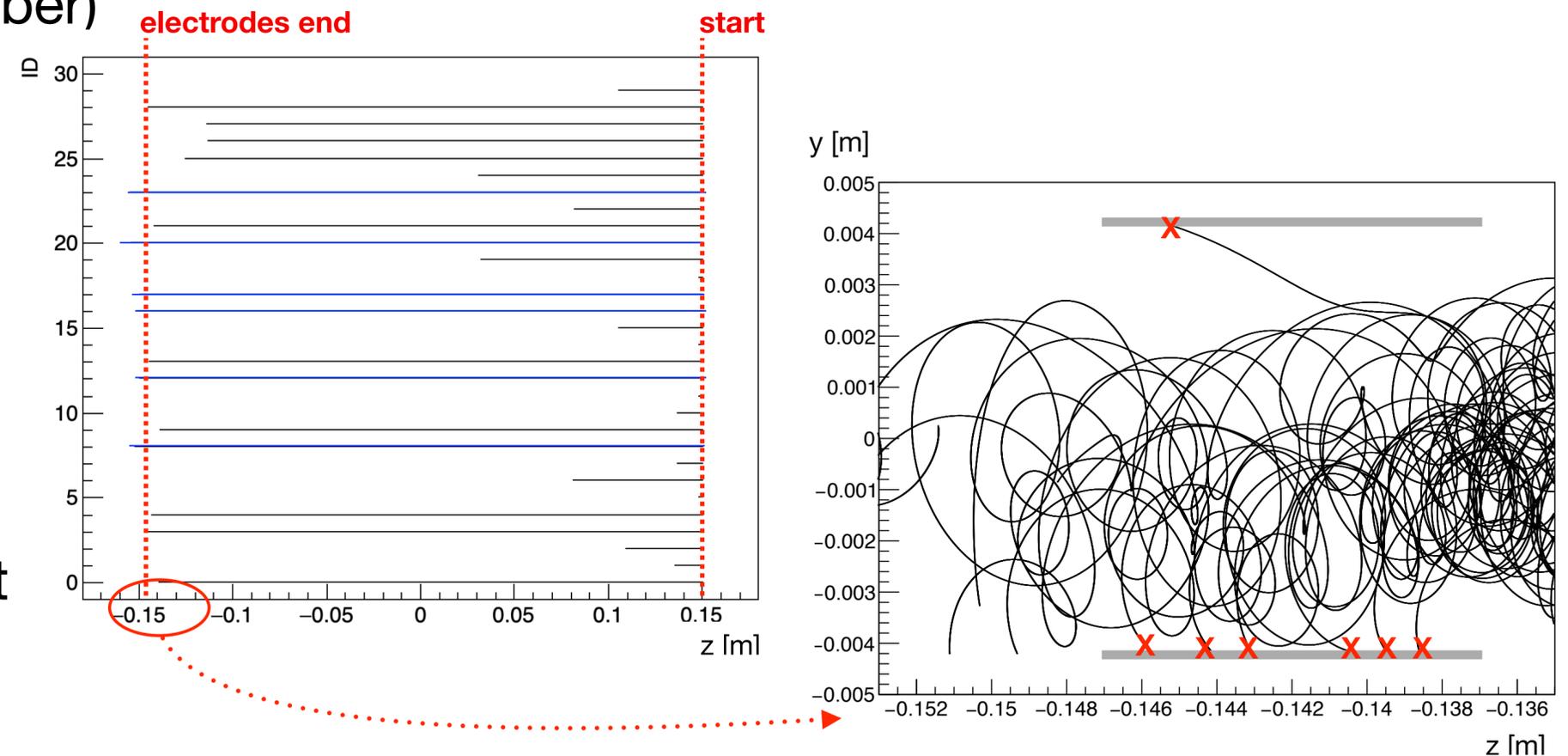
Efficiency Strongly Limited by Y-Dimension

▶ Lorentz for (small) Montecarlo to simulate a real electron source features (e-gun ones)

- 2 mm diameter spot (pessimistic number)
- 5° angle spread

▶ Result: 6 over 30 potentially detectable

▶ Lot of electrons lost in last electrodes set by hitting top or bottom one

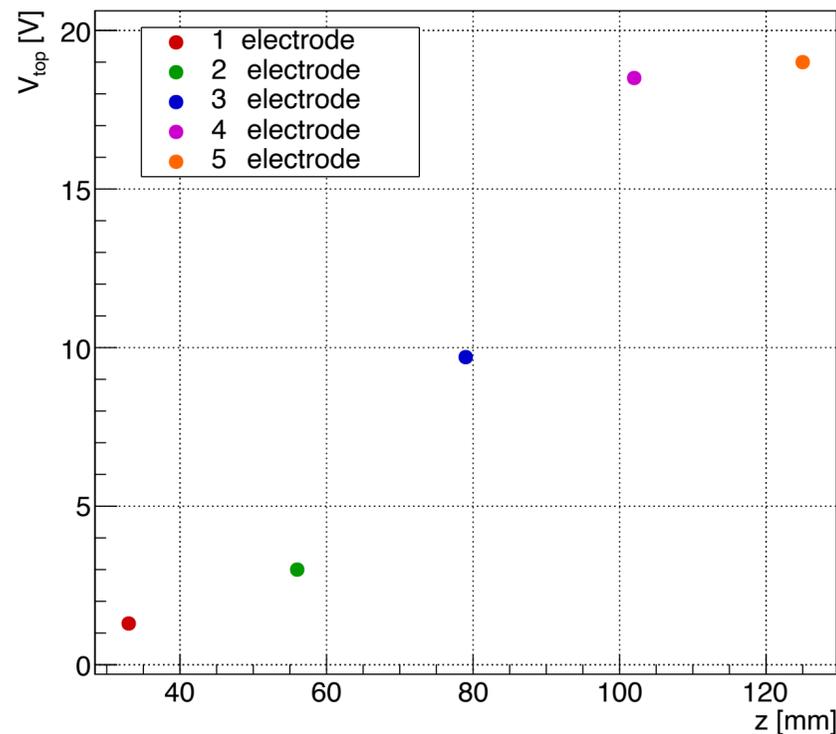
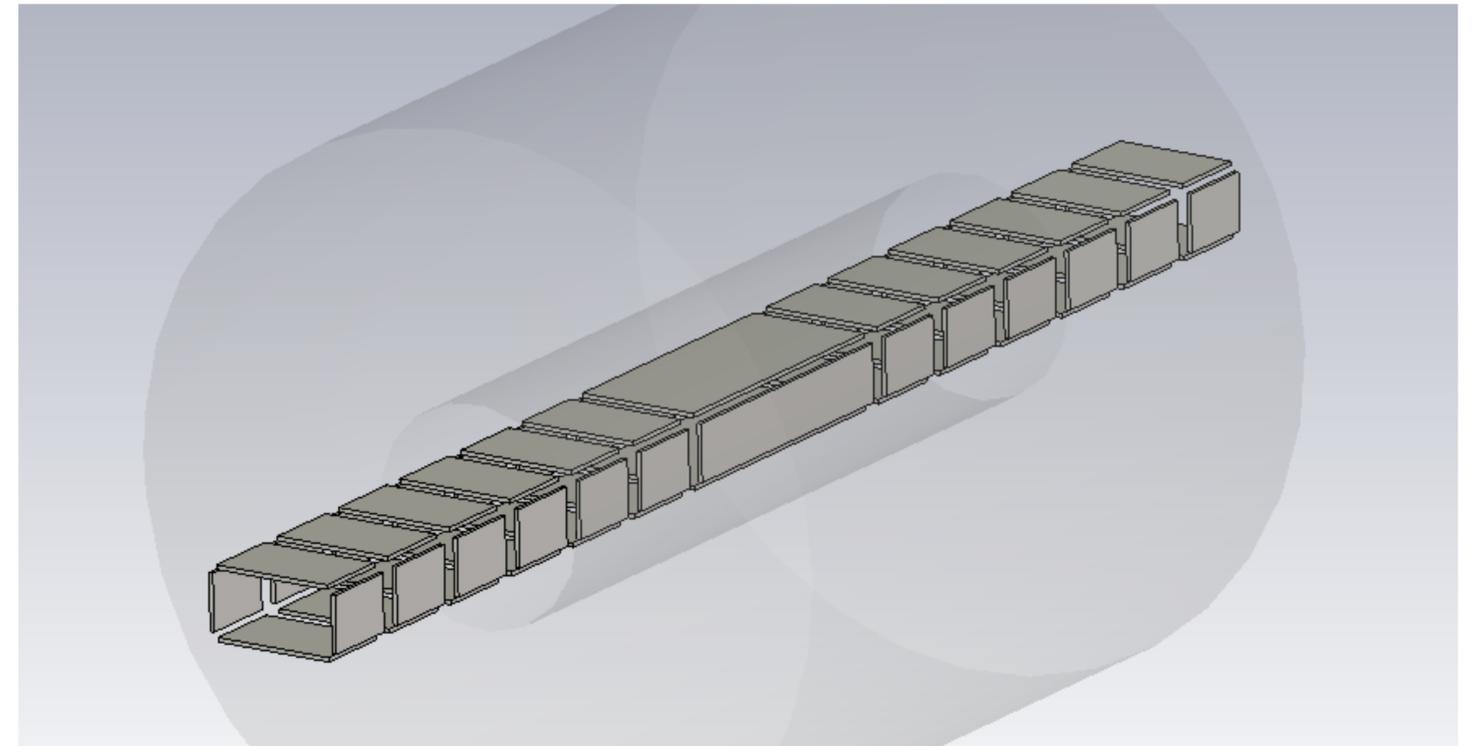


- Still using dimensions matching trap constraints! Not needed for this setup
- Can enlarge a bit x-y dimensions (still $\varnothing < 50$ mm constraint)

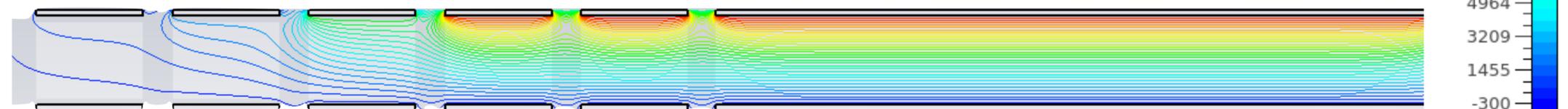
Road to Magnet Crossing Setup Optimization

▶ Dimensions changing:

- ✓ y distance from 8.2 to 15 mm
- x distance from 30 to 35 mm
→ higher y/x → less field uniformity ✗
- electrode length from 20 to 18 mm

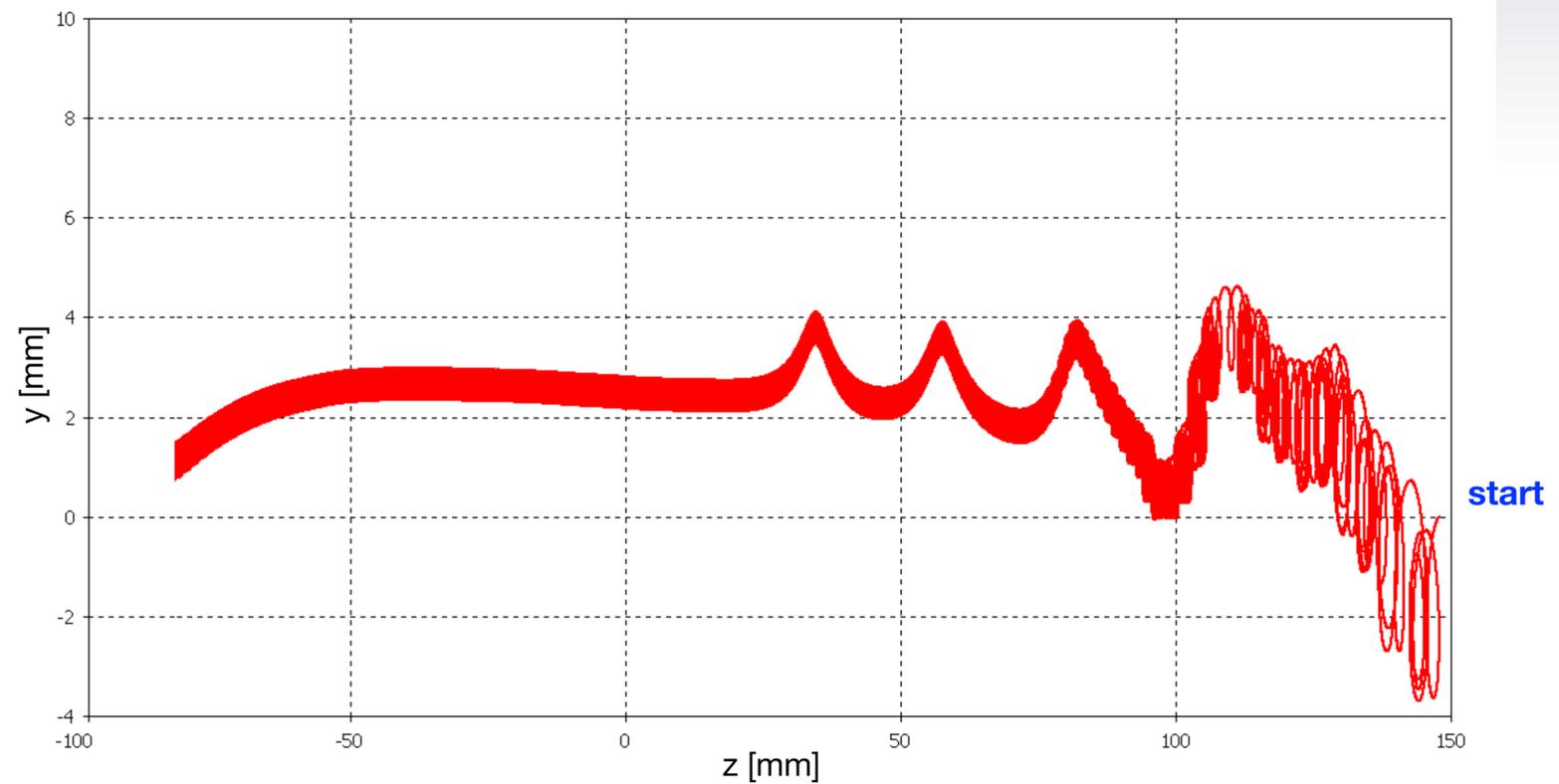
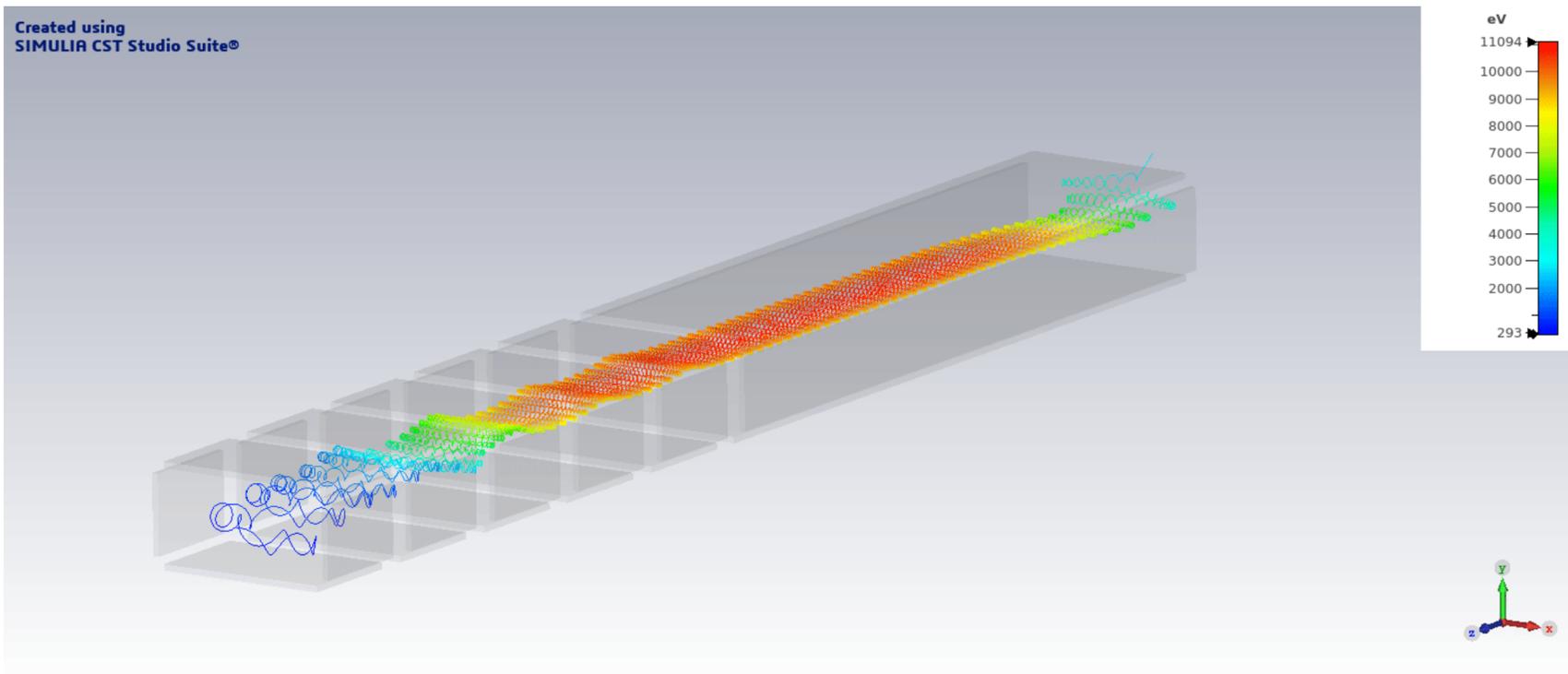


▶ Voltages applied:
same shape but optimized for new dimensions
(only injection part tried for now)



Promising Preliminary Results

- ▶ Particle source: **700 eV** e⁻ (better for e-gun!)
6 cm far from magnet, 50° pitch angle
- ▶ Just a quick partial trial before coming here



- ▶ Promising features:
 - electron altitude kept farer from electrodes
 - smaller Larmor radius/y distance ratio

Our Electron Gun: Features & Critical Points

KIMBALL PHYSICS KP
Excellence in Electron and Ion Optics

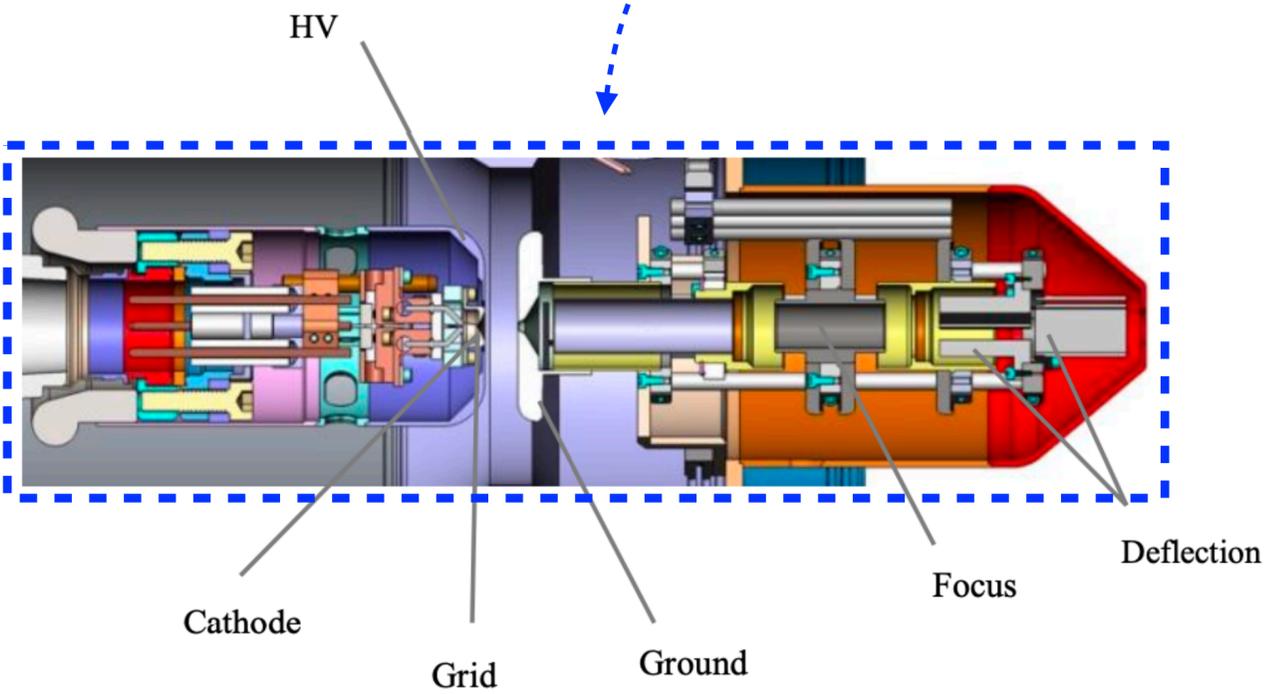
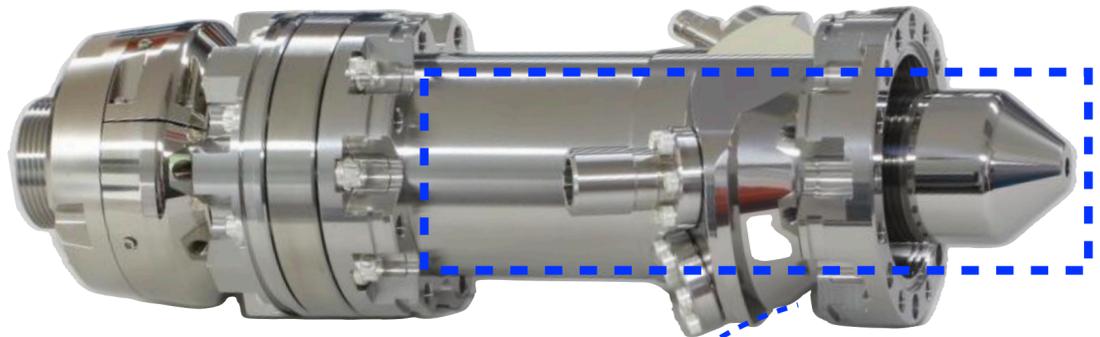
EMG-4212 / EGPS-3212
 ELECTRON SOURCE / POWER SUPPLY

▶ Features:

- Ta disk = grounded Anode
- HV to accelerate electrons up to -20 kV
- Wehnelt
- Focus system (Einzel lens)
- X/Y deflection plates

▶ Critical points:

- Performances guaranteed from 1 to 20 keV
 → need to be tested @ 600/700 eV
- Minimal working distance = 10 cm
 → μ -metal tube till setup starting point ?



How the Full Setup Looks Like: Some Upgrades



ELECTRON GUN
(E-GUN)

POWER SUPPLY

VACUUM PUMP
*with primary pump
separated to reduce
vibrations*

FEEDTHROUGH
+ (INSIDE)
Faraday Cup (FC)
*coated with
colloidal graphite*
&/or
phosphorous
screen

MICRO CHANNEL
PLATE
(INSIDE)

RESISTIVE CIRCUIT
*To connect 8.5 digits
multimeter*

ANTISTATIC FLOOR

NEW

NEW

NEW

NEW

Recap & Next Steps

✓ Toy setup with only 5 injection electrodes sets worked → good starting point!

▶ Time to

- Increase segmentation (e.g. 1 cm electrodes) → more trajectory control
- optimize parameters (almost everything)

▶ Aims for each setup:

- RF: acceleration system till 18.6 keV + slowdown till 30 μ s in RF region
- Magnet Crossing: maximize efficiency + possible detection setup

▶ To Do:

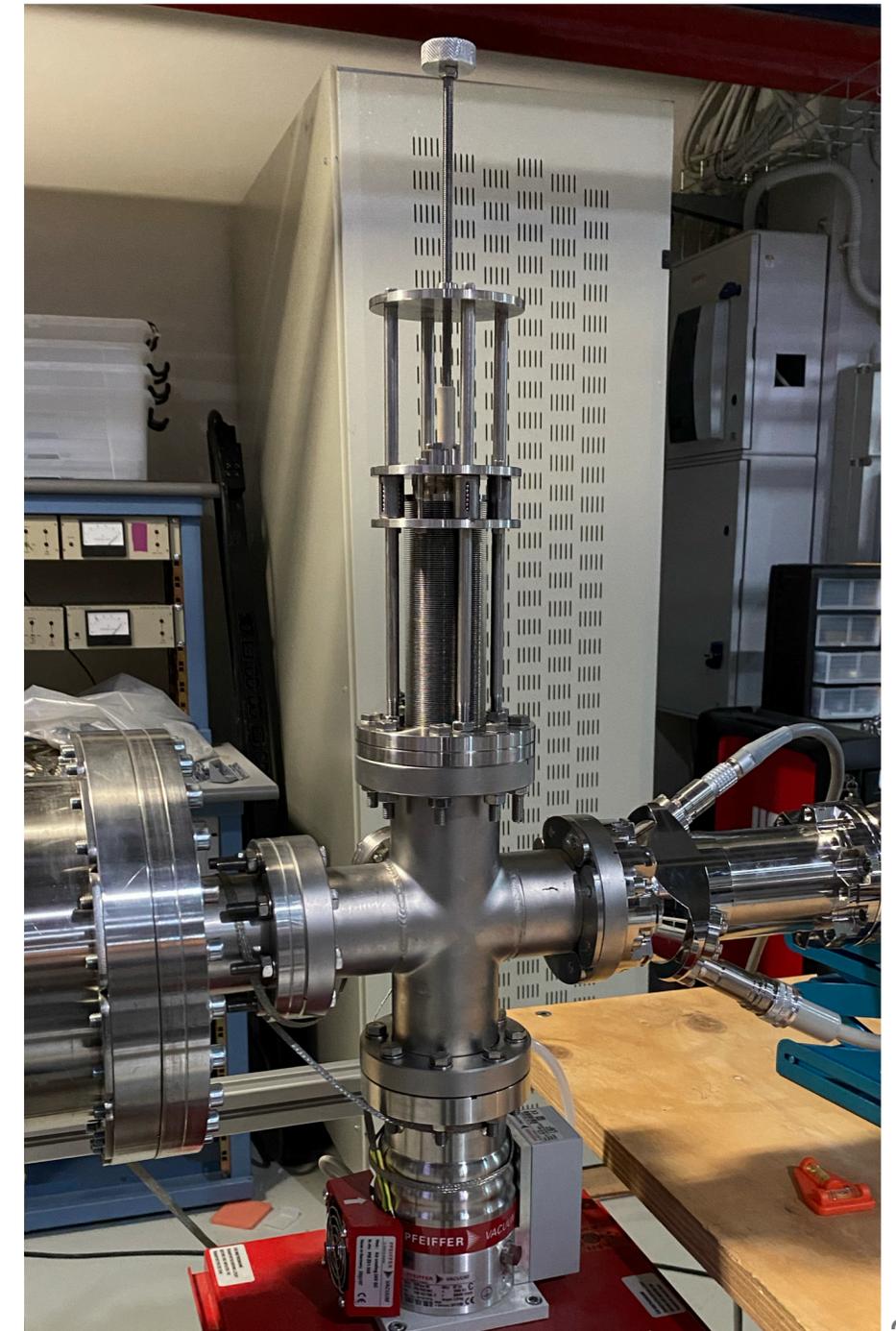
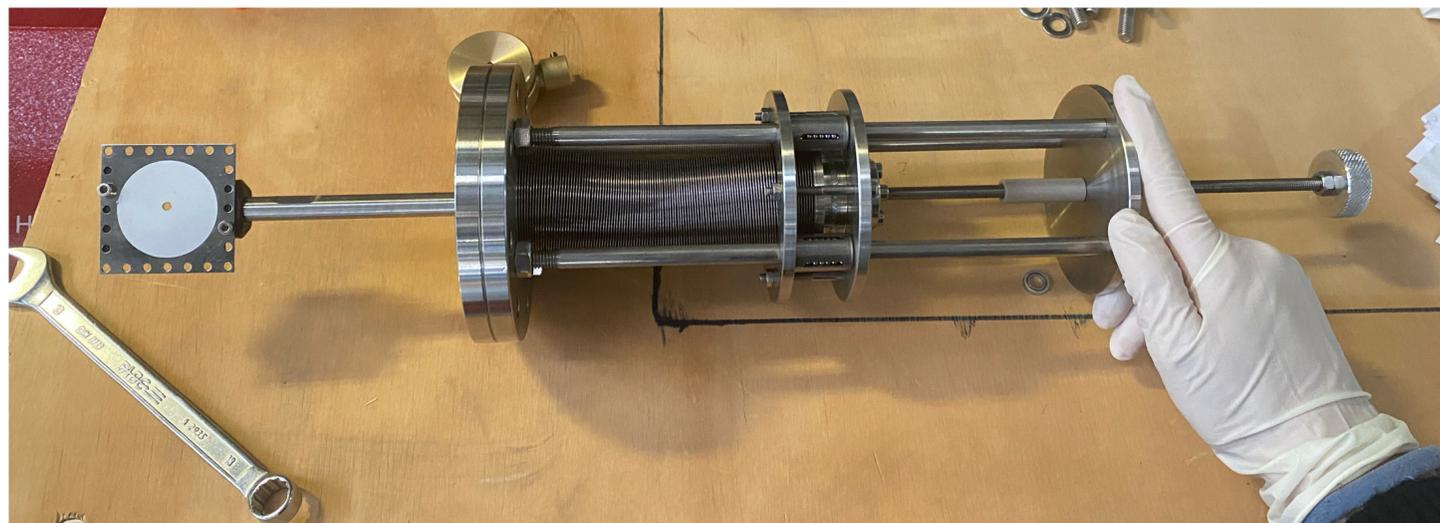
- Better measurement of B field inside magnet (eg. Bz profile)
- E-gun characterization @ 600/700 eV



BACKUP SLIDES

A Versatile Setup

- ▶ Faraday cup &/or phosphor screen mounted on a feedthrough
 - ✓ Custom-made, in collaboration with LNGS Mechanics Workshop
 - ✓ Allows shifts on y-axis with sub-mm precision
 - ✓ Allows to completely remove beam monitoring unit from beam path



Wehnelt as a Beam Intensity Filter

▶ What is?

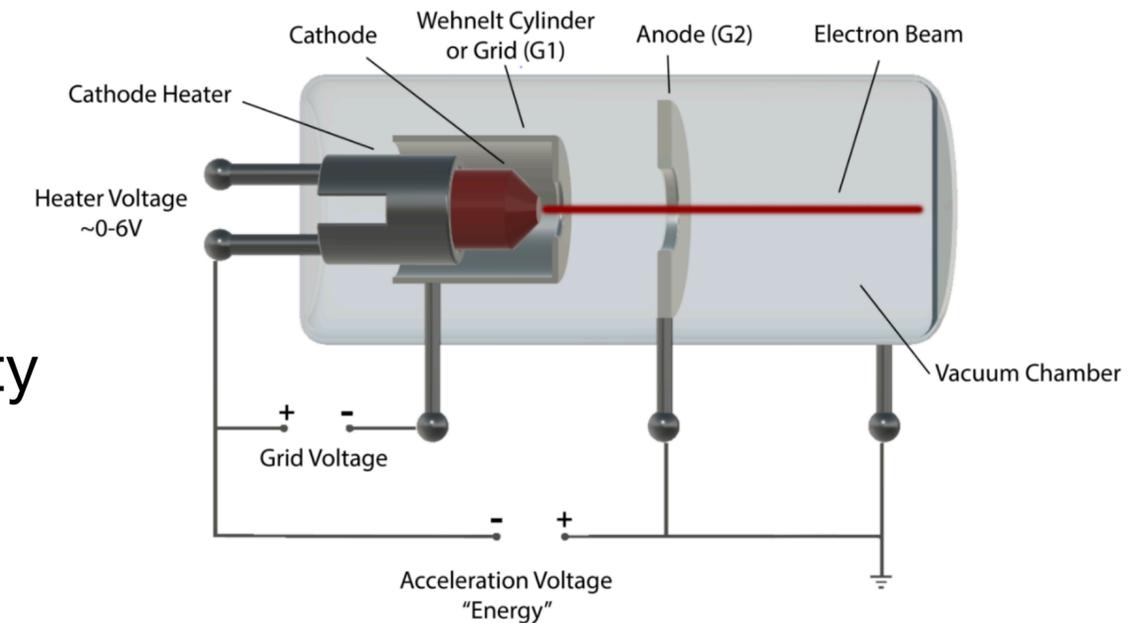
- Tubular housing for cathode with fixed aperture
- Negative bias → secondary electric field in cathode proximity

▶ How can be employed?

- Mid-range voltage → adjust beam divergence & uniformity → beam characterization (spot size, I-V curve etc.)
- High voltage → reduce electron emission from cathode edges till complete beam suppression

→ **Beam Intensity Filter**

possible needing for future usage as *electron trap calibration source*



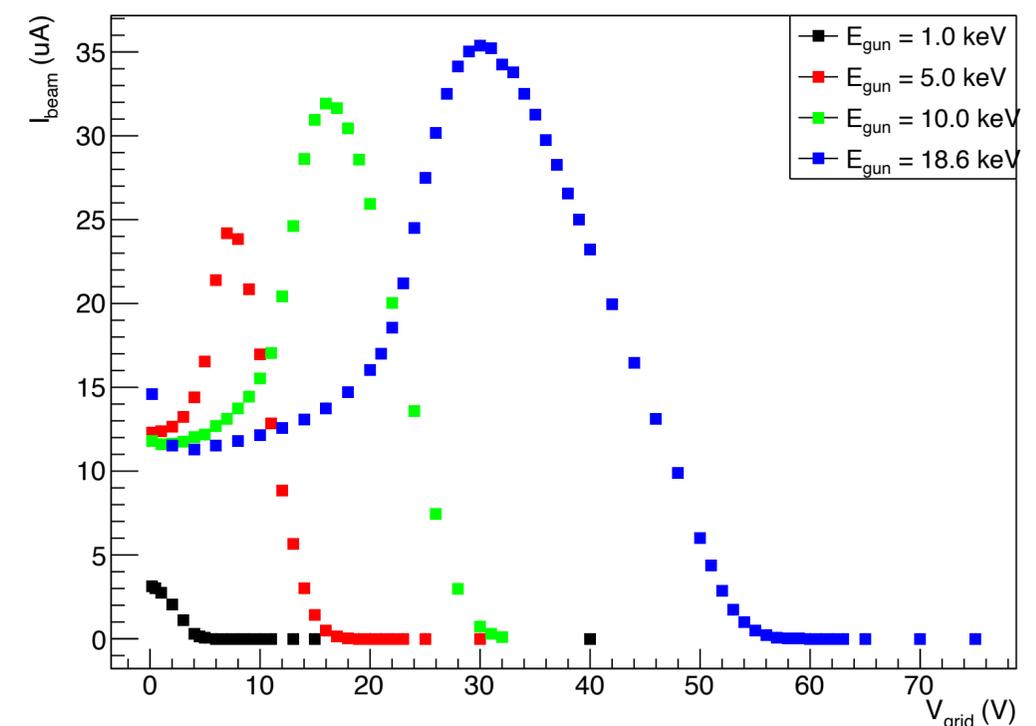
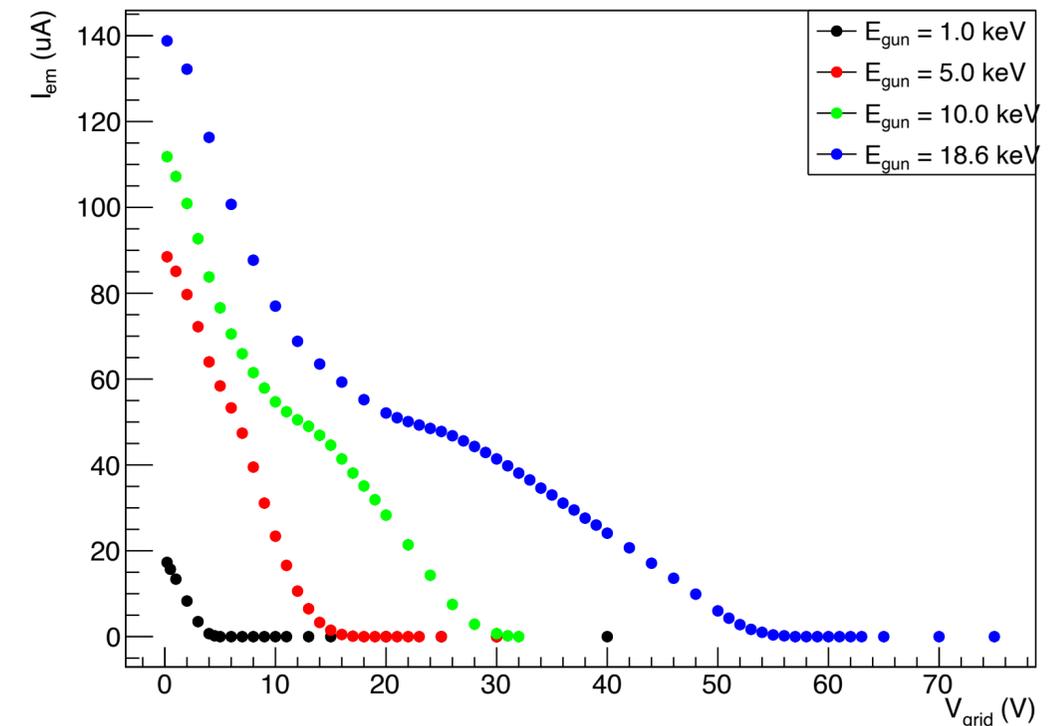
Beam Current Optimized by Wehnelt

Setup:

- Keithley 2450 SourceMeter + double Faraday cup
- Beam electron energy: 1 keV, 5 keV, 10 keV, 18.6 keV
- Source voltage (V_{source}) set to 1.521 V
- Focusing & deflection voltages optimized through Phosphor screen for each energy
- Base pressure: 10^{-7} mbar

Results:

- Similar behaviors, different V_{grid} optimizing beam current
- Better $I_{\text{beam}}/I_{\text{em}}$ ratio for lower electron energies

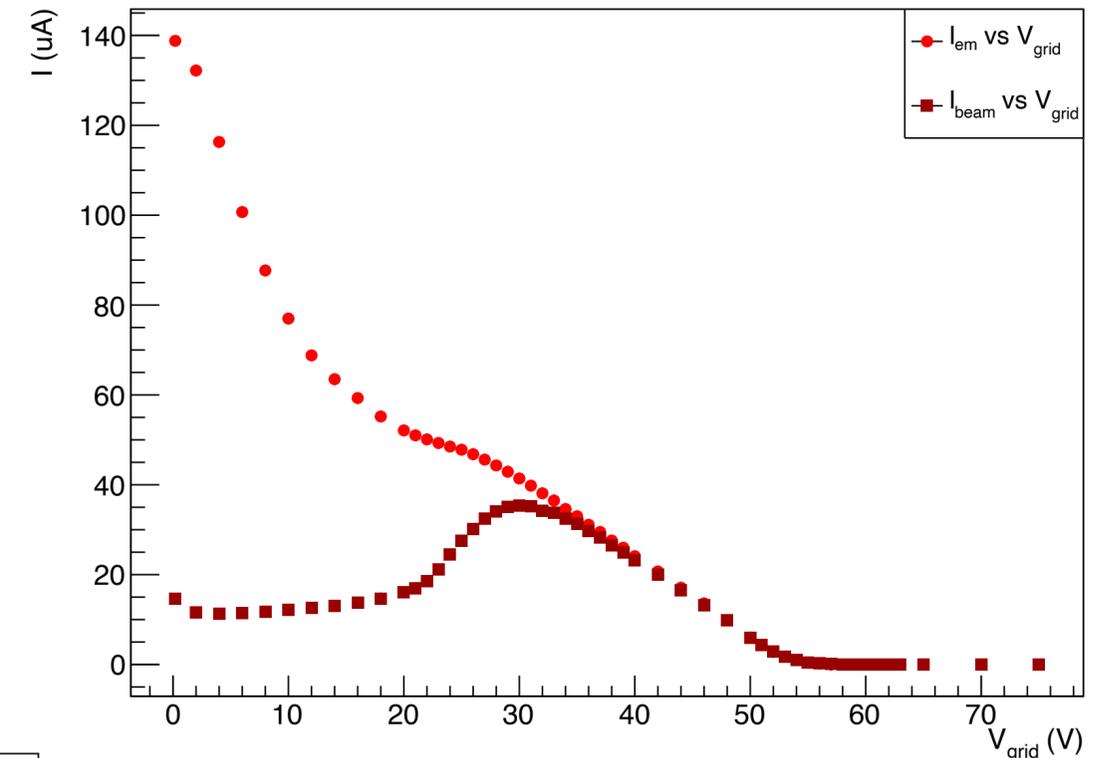


Up to 10^{-4} Reduction Factor

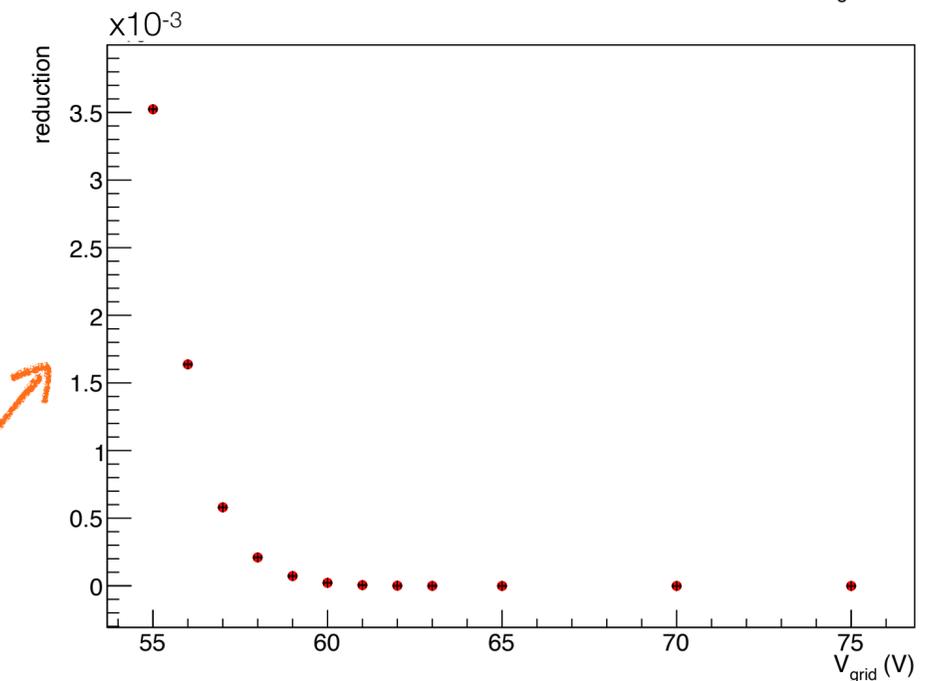
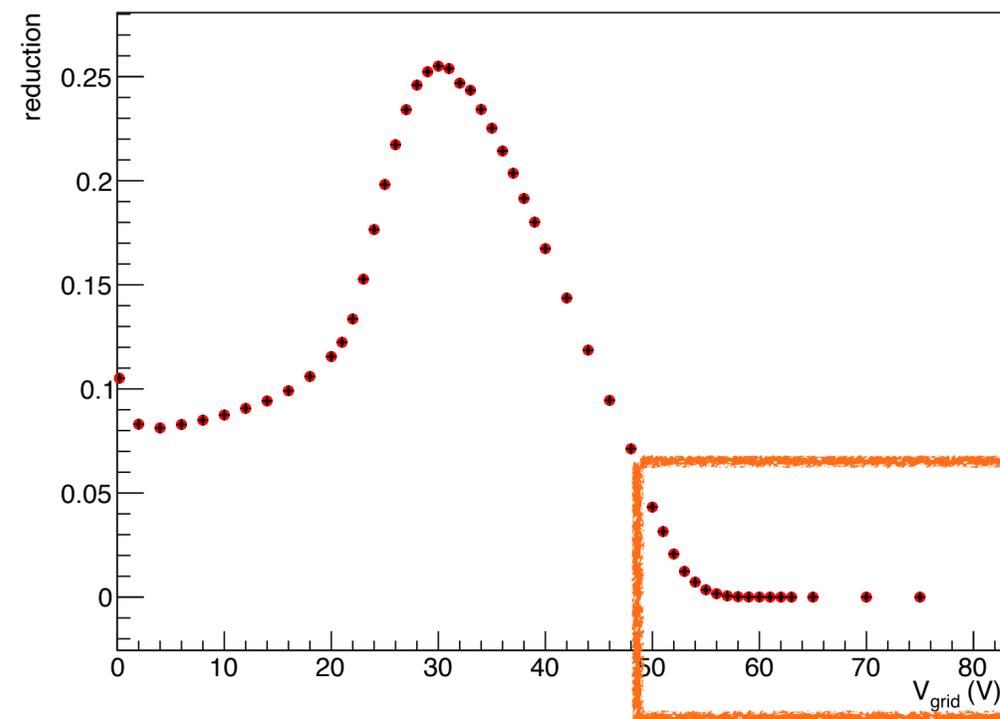
- ▶ Let's define:
 - "collection" efficiency $\epsilon = I_{beam}/I_{em}$
 - reduction factor $r = I_{beam}/I_{em}(V_{grid} = 0V)$

▶ Focusing on run @ 18.6 keV:

- beam current I_{beam} maximized for $V_{grid} = 30$ kV
- ϵ from 11% to ~100% for $V_{grid} > 45$ kV
- $r > 10^{-4}$ for $V_{grid} > 57$ kV



from 140 μ A to 700 pA!
not able to read
higher reduction
for instrumental limit



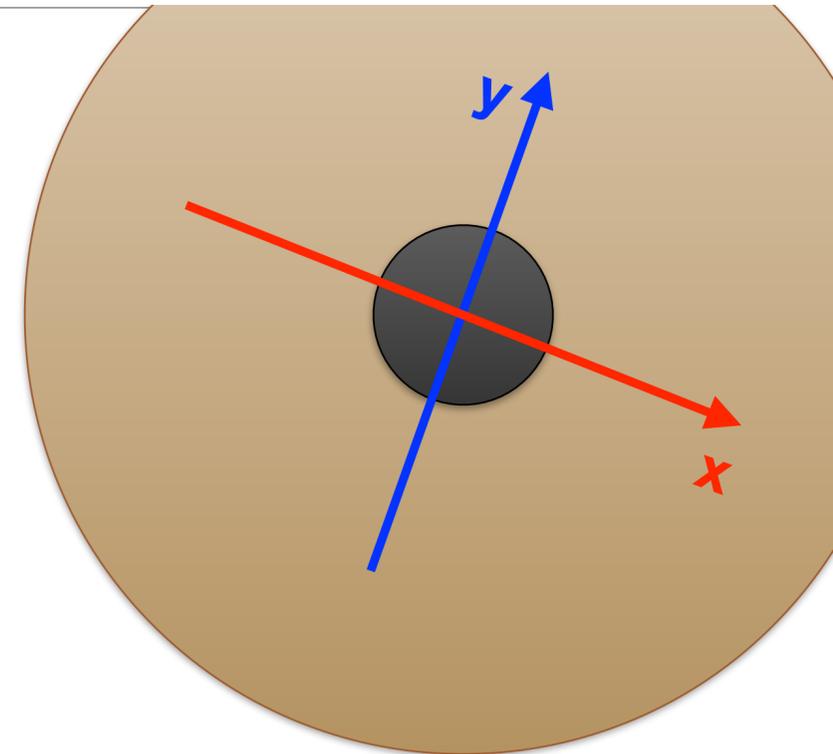
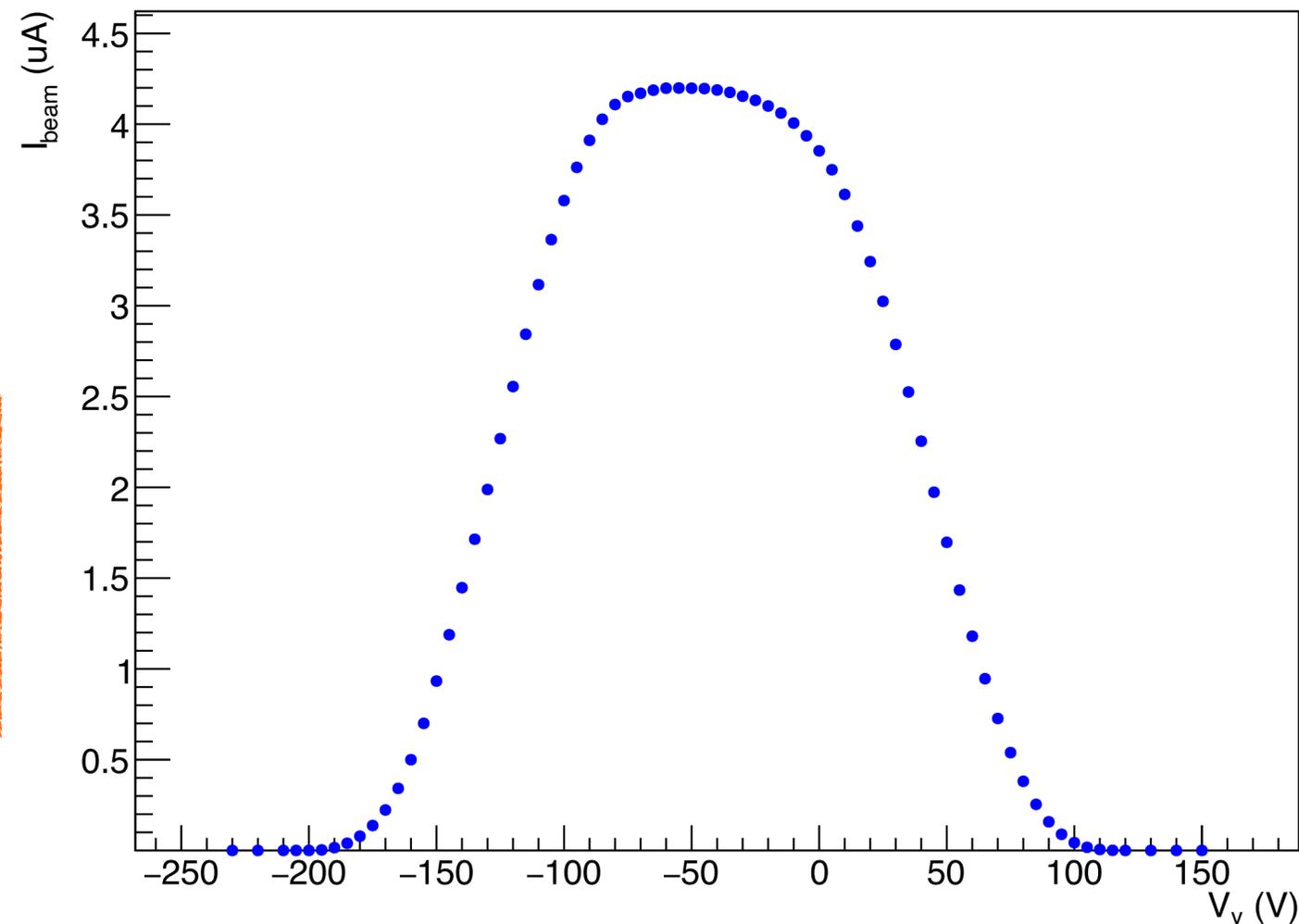
Preliminary Estimate of Beam Size

- ▶ Aims: estimate beam size + find correlation deflection voltage - position shift
- ▶ Scan of 3 mm Faraday cup hole moving beam with deflection voltages

- I_{em} fixed to 5 μA
- V_y from -240 V to 150 V with 5 V steps

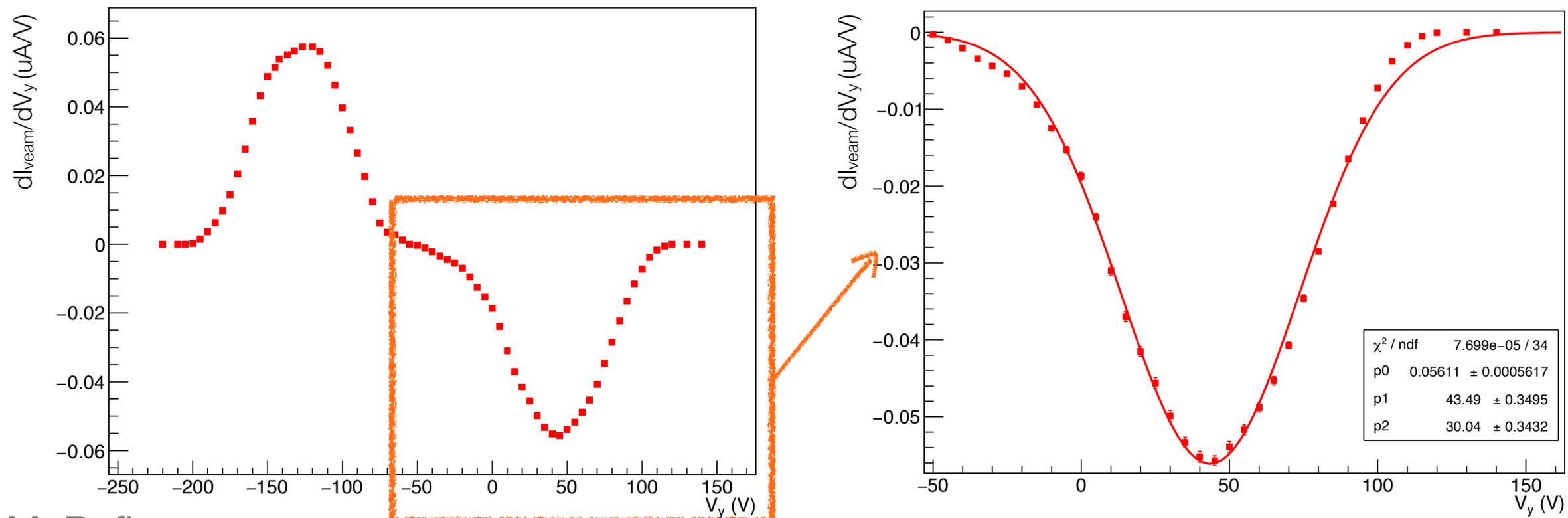
Result = convolution of

- gaussian (e-gun spatial current distrib)
- step function (FC hole)



Sub-mm Spot Size

- ▶ From 1st derivative of I_{beam} vs V_y points (computed as $I_{\text{beam}}(V_y^i) - I_{\text{beam}}(V_y^{i-1}) / V_y^i - V_y^{i-1}$)
 - Gaussians reflecting beam spatial distribution with
 - Distance (peak to peak) $\simeq 170$ V = FC hole diameter = 3 mm \rightarrow 1 V = 0.0176 mm
 - $\sigma = 30 \pm 0.3$ V (fitted from 2nd gaussian) \rightarrow $\sigma = 0.53$ mm



Recap & Next Steps

- ✓ Beam Current with reduction factor 10^{-4} exploiting Wehnelt grid
- ✓ 1st beam size estimate of ~ 0.5 mm
+ correlation deflection voltage - position shift
- ✓ I vs V from $0.1 \mu\text{A}$ to $180 \mu\text{A}$
- ✓ Setup to measure B_{\perp} on extended plane ready



TO DO

- Beam Current with femtoammeter to probe higher reduction
- Estimate using manual shift via feedthrough
+ optimize focusing voltage
- Curve down to pA (or fA)
- Measurement, COMSOL solution, File Upload, Geometry implementation, Multiparticle Simulation
- Helmholtz coils cage