

# The LHCf experiment at LHC

CALOR 2006

Chicago, 5-9 June 2006

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On behalf of the LHCf  
Collaboration

# The LHCf collaboration

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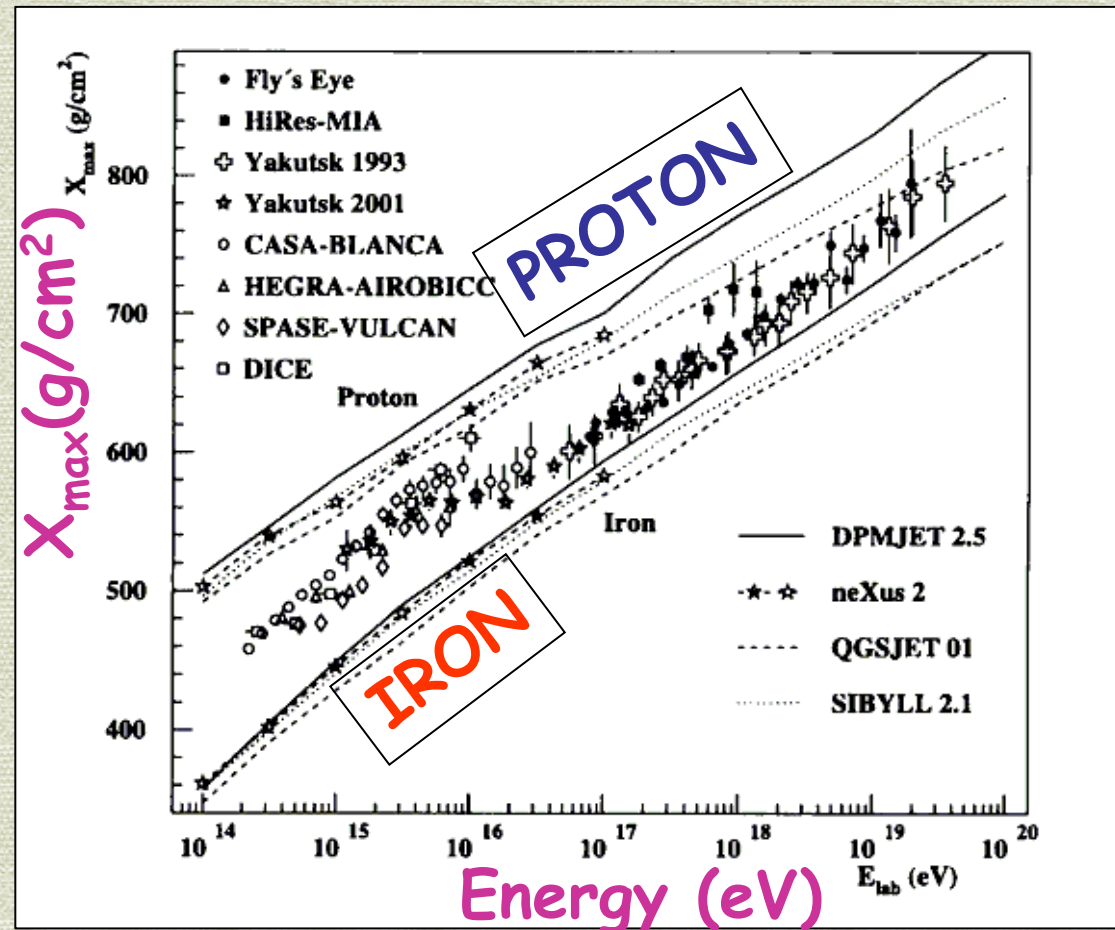
LBNL, Berkeley, California, USA

# Outline

- **Introduction**
  - Problems in HECR physics: chemical composition, GZK cut-off
  - LHCf and HECR
- **The LHCf apparatus**
- **Beam test results**
  - CERN 2004
- **Summary and schedule**
  - Toward the 2007 LHC operation

# Introduction: cosmic ray composition

Different hadronic interaction models lead to different conclusions about the composition of the primary cosmic rays.



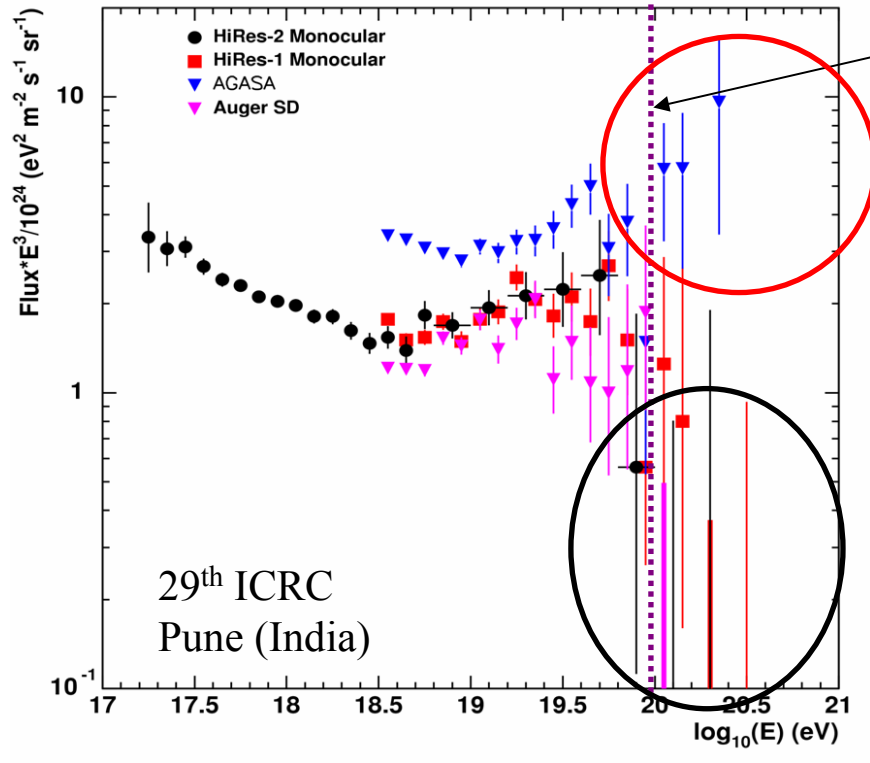
Knapp et al., 2003

# Introduction: GZK cut off

**GZK cutoff:  $10^{20}$  eV**

Existence of the GZK cut off is one of the most important puzzle in HECR physics.

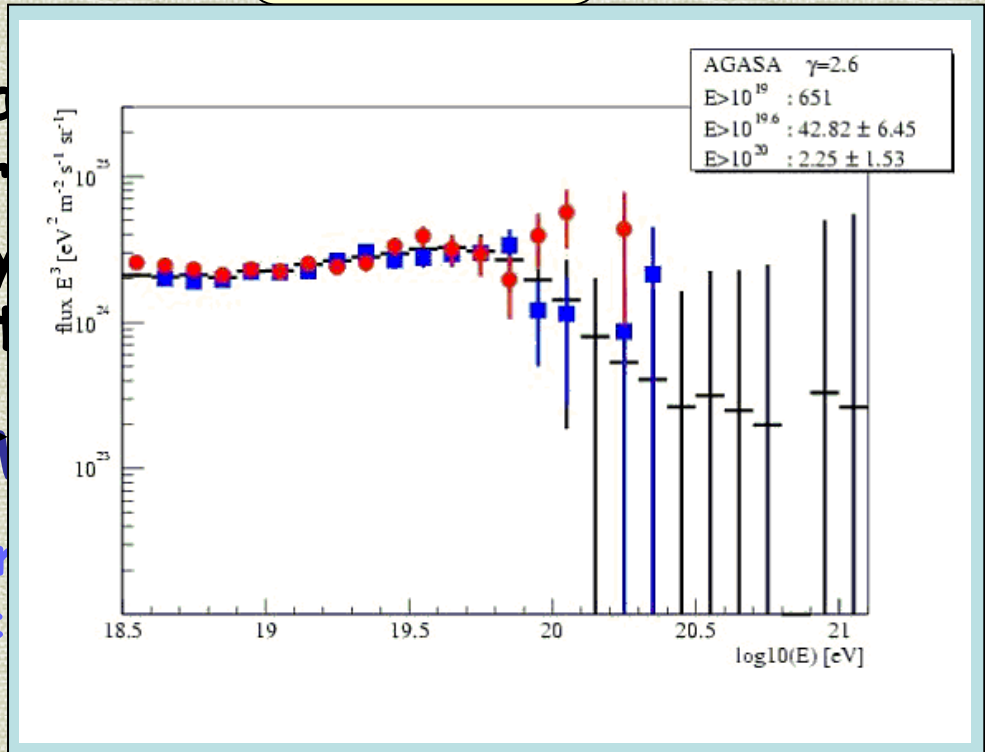
super GZK events?!?



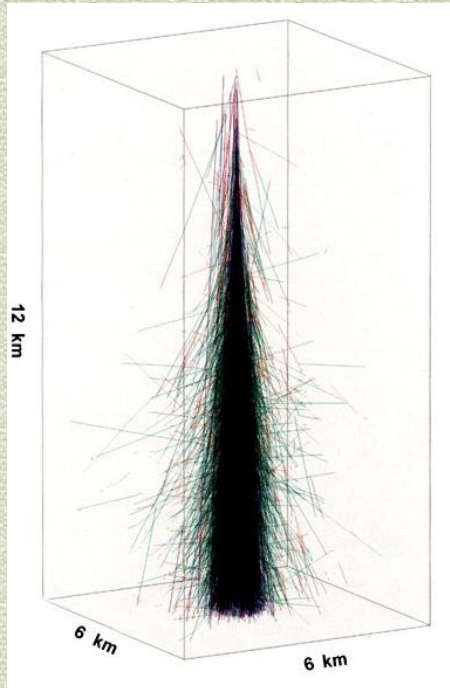
20% correction on the absolute energy scale!!!

Different hadronic interaction models for the primary cosmic rays

HOW



# Development of atmospheric showers



*Simulation of an atmospheric shower due to a  $10^{19}$  eV proton.*

- The dominant contribution to the energy flux is in the very forward region ( $\theta \approx 0$ )
- In this forward region the highest energy available measurements of  $\pi^0$  cross section were done by UA7 ( $E=10^{14}$  eV,  $\gamma = 5\div 7$ ) ←  $y = -\ln \tan \frac{\theta}{2}$

## Summarizing...

Calibration of the models at high energy is mandatory

We propose to use LHC, the highest energy accelerator

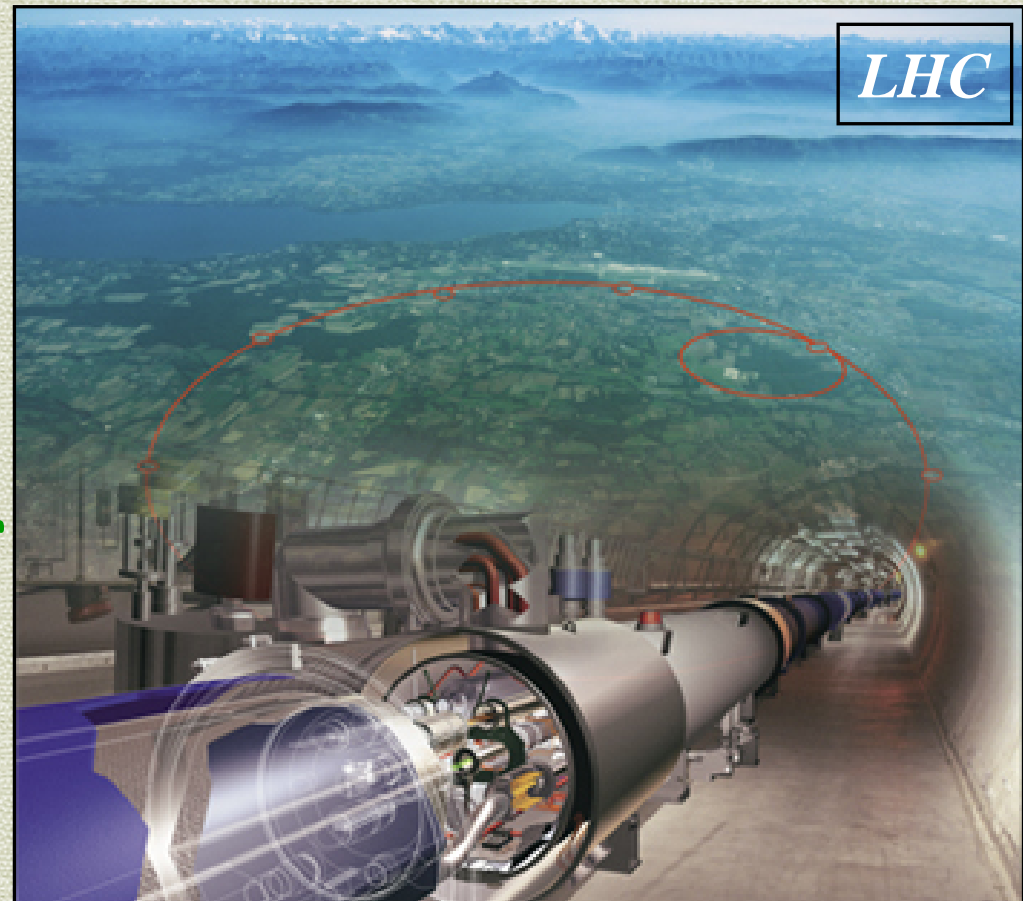
7 TeV + 7 TeV protons

14 TeV in the center of mass

$$E_{\text{lab}} = 10^{17} \text{ eV} \quad (E_{\text{lab}} = E_{\text{cm}}^2 / 2 m_p)$$

Major LHC detectors (ATLAS, CMS, LHCb) will measure the particles emitted in the central region

*LHCf will cover the very forward part*  
*May be also in heavy ion runs????*



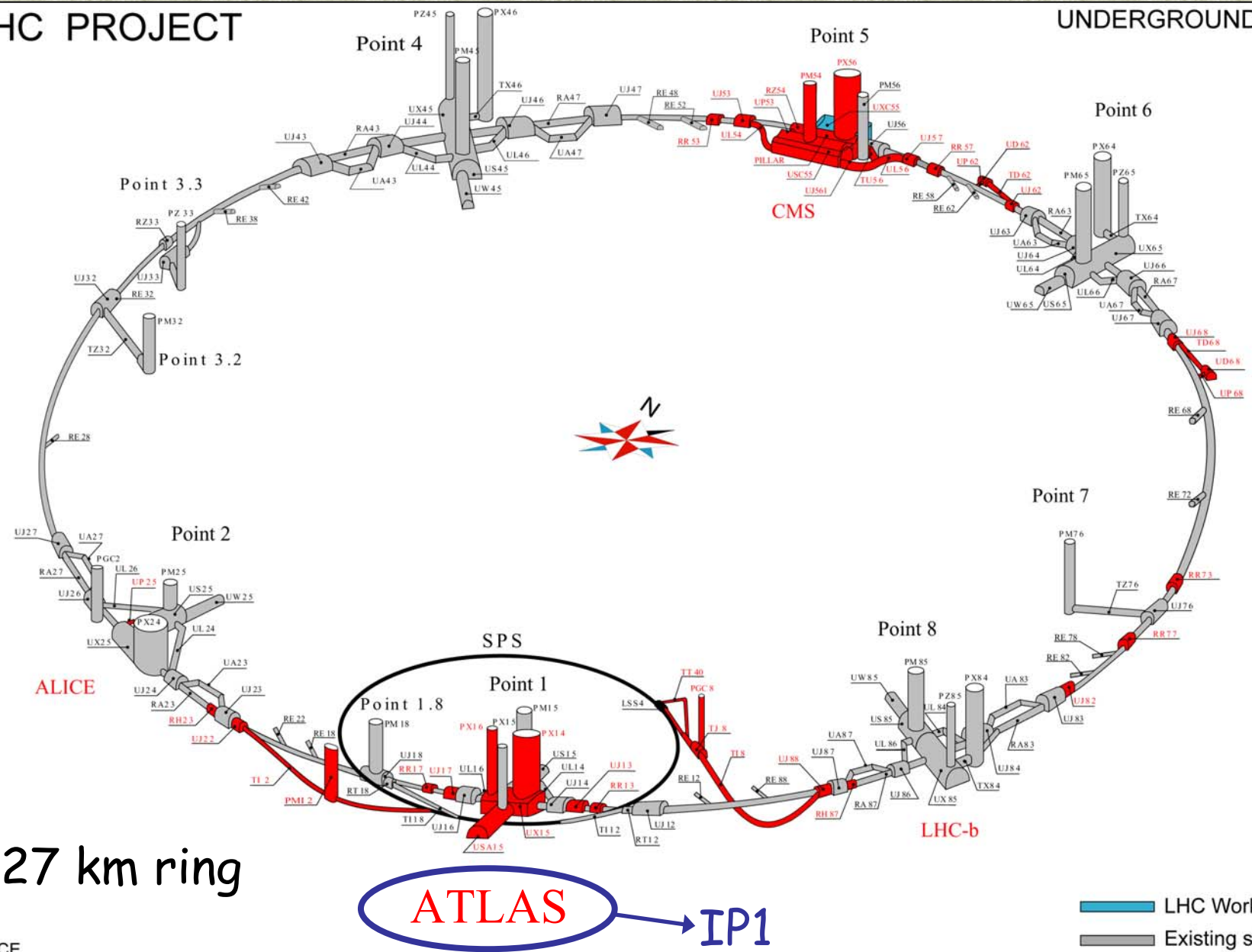
# Part 2

## The LHCf apparatus



# LHC PROJECT

# UNDERGROUND WORKS



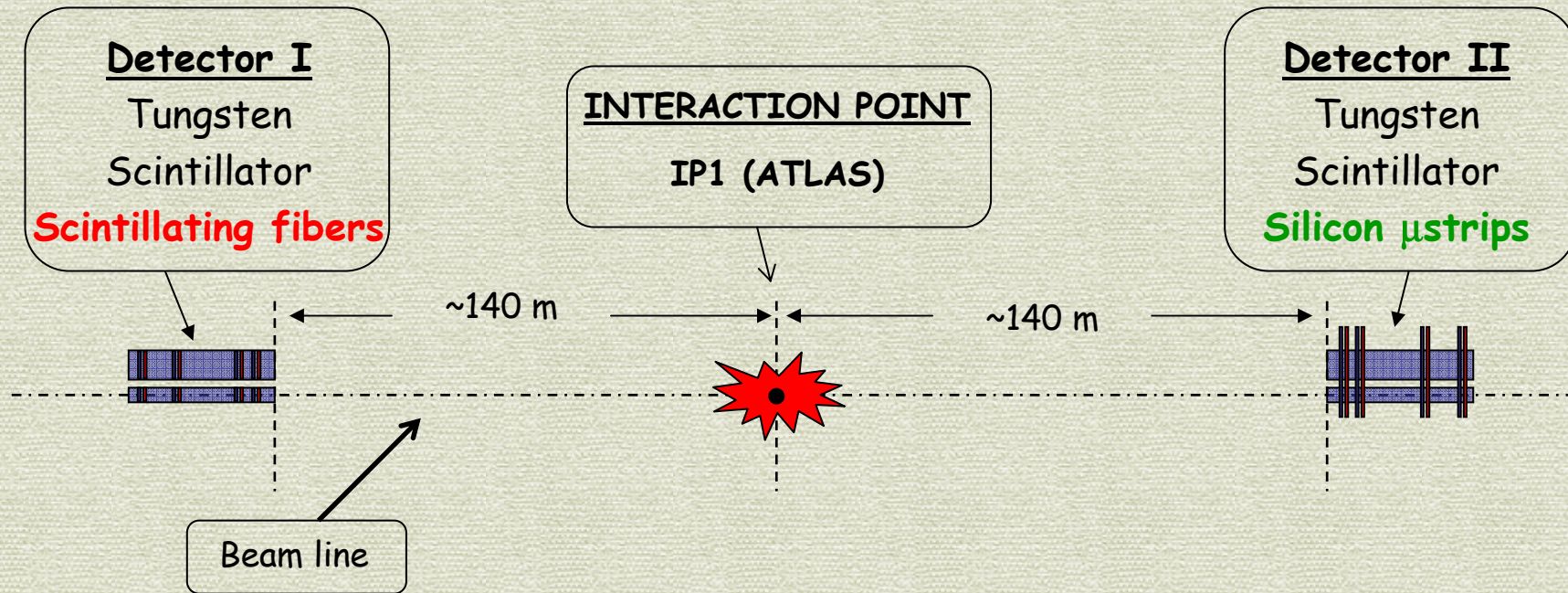
27 km ring

**ATLAS** → IP1

- LHC Works under way
- Existing structures
- LHC Project structures

TS-CE  
06.07.2004

# LHCf location in the IR1 of LHC



Detectors should measure energy and position of  $\gamma$  from  $\pi^0$  decays  $\longrightarrow$  e.m. calorimeters with position sensitive layers

Two independent detectors on both sides of IP1

- ✓ Redundancy
- ✓ Background rejection

# LHCf: general detector requirements

1. Single photon spectrum
2.  $\pi^0$  fully reconstructed (1  $\gamma$  in each tower)
3. Neutron spectrum

$\pi^0$  reconstruction is an important tool for energy calibration ( $\pi^0$  mass constraint)

Basic detector requirements:

- ✓ minimum 2 towers ( $\pi^0$  reconstruction)
- ✓ Smallest tower on the beam (multiple hits)
- ✓ Dimension of the tower  $\rightarrow$  Moliere radius
- ✓ Maximum acceptance (given the LHC constraints)

# Detector #1

Impact point ( $\eta$ )

2 towers ~24 cm long stacked vertically with 5 mm gap

Lower: 2 cm x 2 cm area

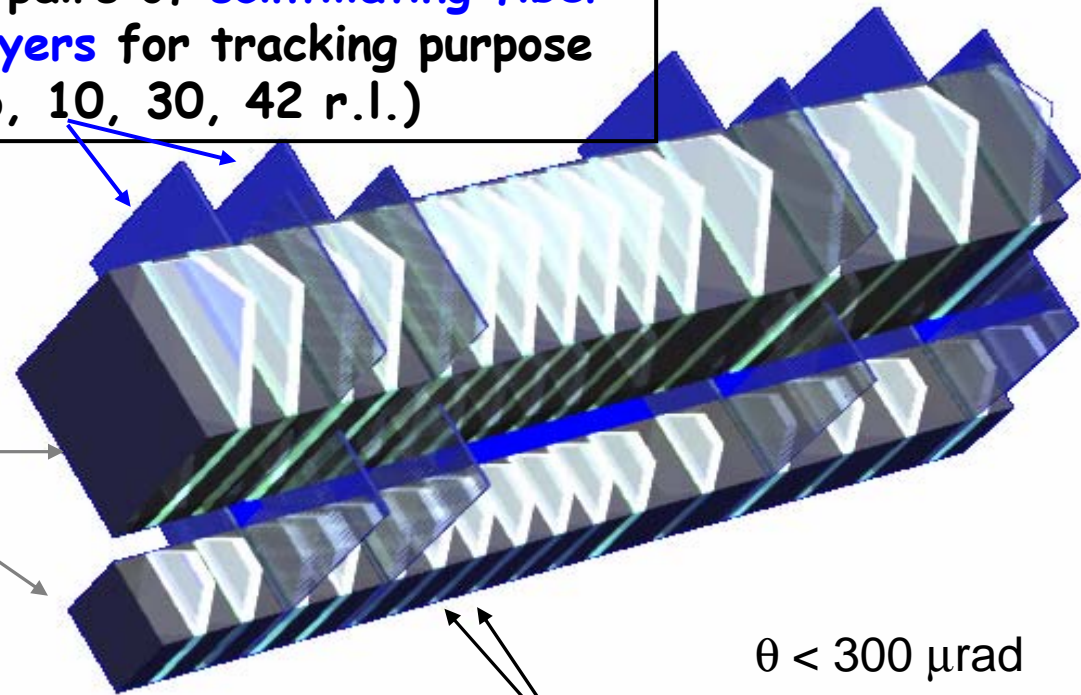
Upper: 4 cm x 4 cm area

4 pairs of scintillating fiber layers for tracking purpose (6, 10, 30, 42 r.l.)

## Absorber

22 tungsten layers 7mm thick  
→ 44  $X_0$  ( $1.6 \lambda_I$ ) in total

(W:  $X_0 = 3.5\text{mm}$ ,  $R_M = 9\text{mm}$ )



$\theta < 300 \mu\text{rad}$

Energy

16 scintillator layers (3 mm thick)

Trigger and energy profile measurements

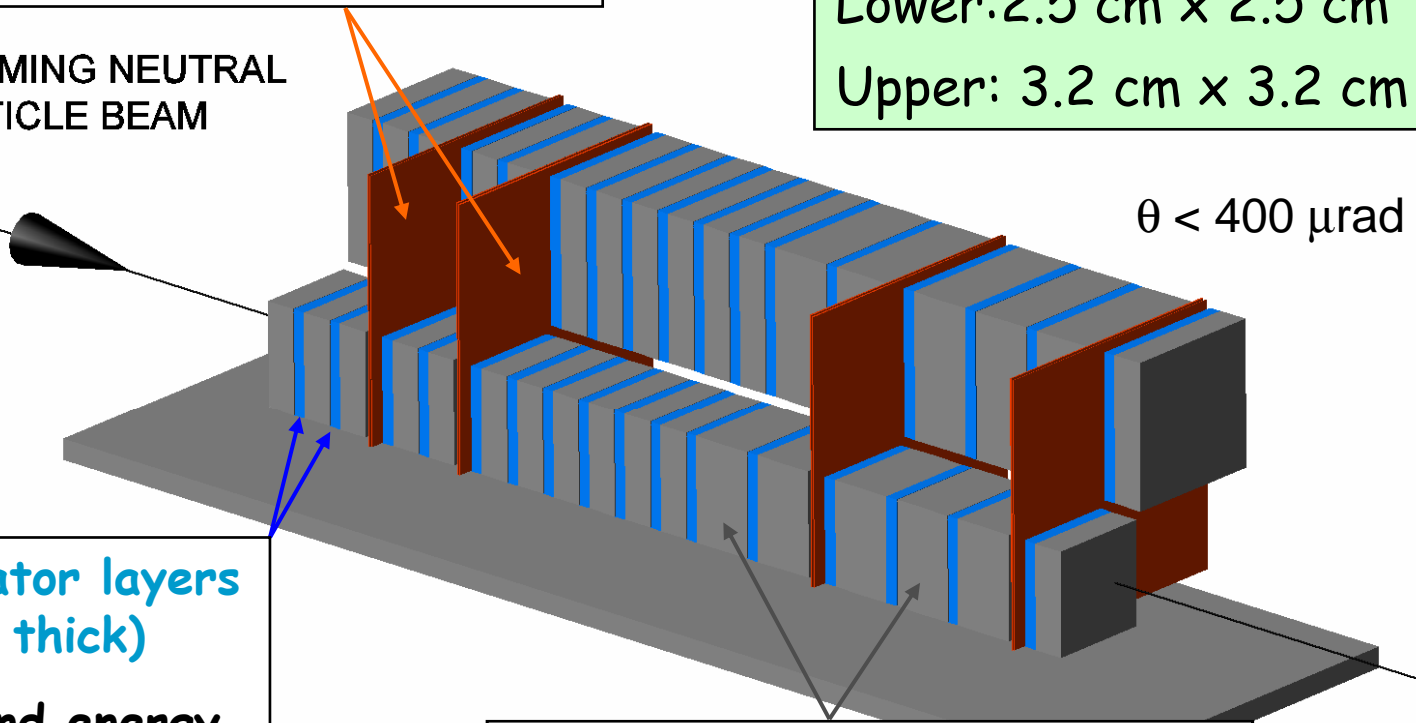
# Detector # 2

We use LHC style electronics and readout

4 pairs of silicon microstrip layers (6, 10, 30, 42 r.l.) for tracking purpose (X and Y) → **impact point**

2 towers 24 cm long stacked on their edges and offset from one another  
Lower: 2.5 cm x 2.5 cm  
Upper: 3.2 cm x 3.2 cm

INCOMING NEUTRAL PARTICLE BEAM

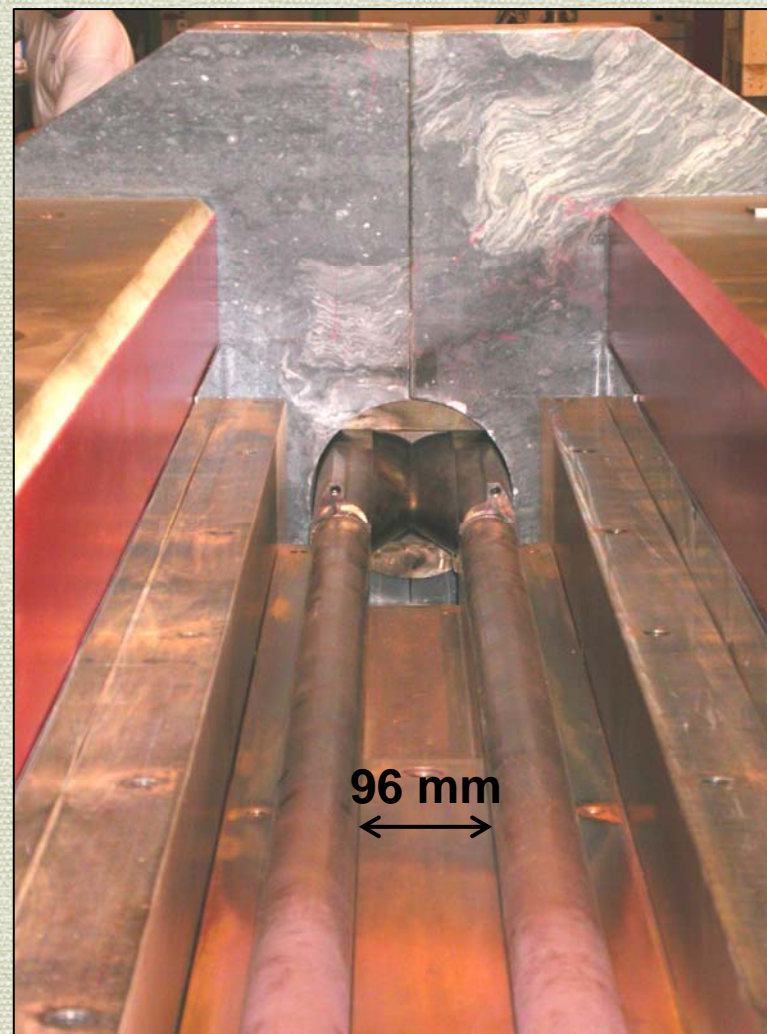
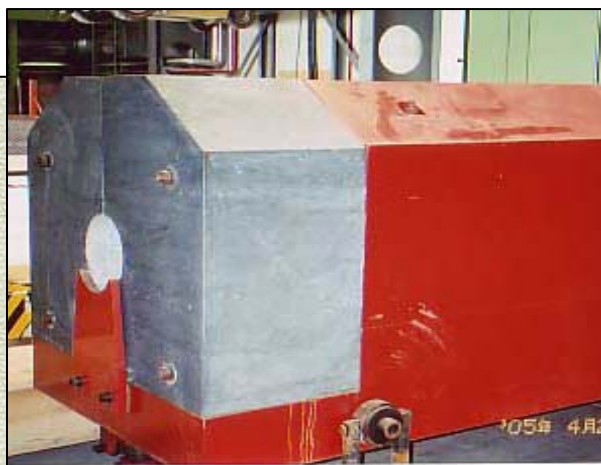
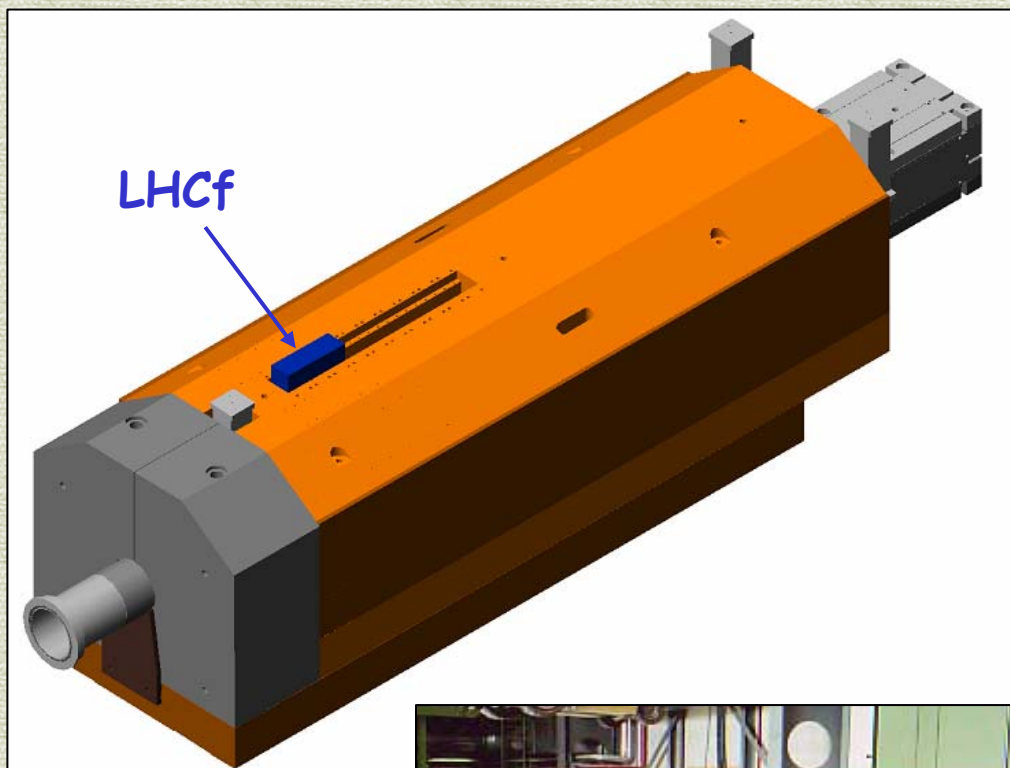


16 scintillator layers (3 mm thick)  
Trigger and energy profile measurements

Absorber  
22 tungsten layers 7mm thick  
→ 44  $X_0$  ( $1.6 \lambda_I$ ) in total  
(W:  $X_0 = 3.5\text{mm}$ ,  $R_M = 9\text{mm}$ )

Energy

# Installation of the detectors in the TAN absorbers at 140m from IP1



# Part 3: beam test results

Necessary to verify the simulation (small tower  $2 \times 2 \text{ cm}^2$ : dimensions comparable with the Moliere radius!!!)

SPS-H4 July-August 2004

2 TOWERS ( $2 \times 2$  and  $4 \times 4$ )  $\text{cm}^2$  + Tracking system to determine the impact point on the towers

**ELECTRONS** (50÷250)  $\text{GeV}/c$

**PROTONS** (150÷350)  $\text{GeV}/c$

**MUONS** (150)  $\text{GeV}/c$

x-y Scan (study of the leakage effect as function of the distance of the particle impact point from the edges)

# Prototypes under test

MAPMT and FEC  
for SciFi readout

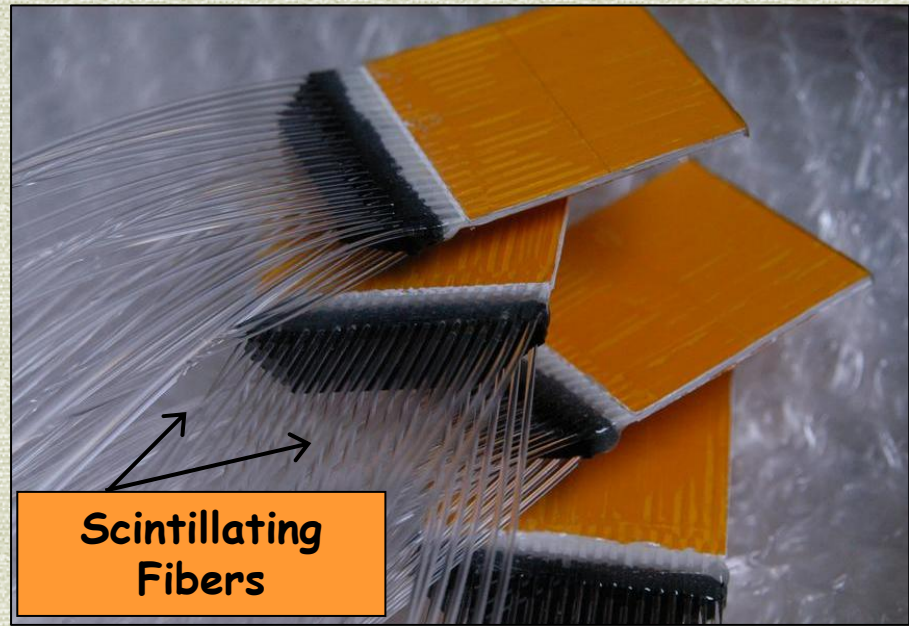


10mm  $\phi$  PMT  
HAMAMATSU  
H3164-10

4cm x 4cm tower

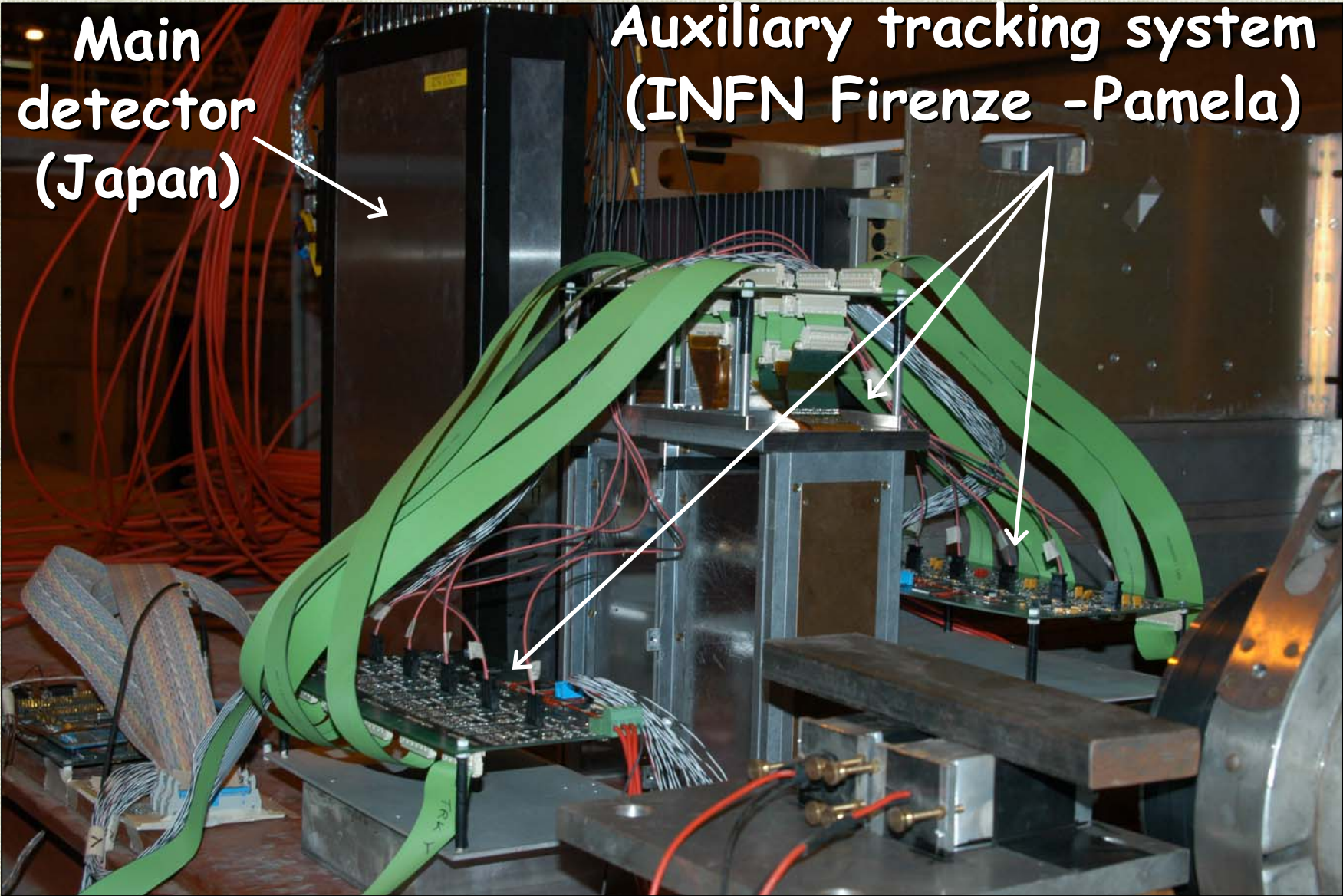
2cm x 2cm tower

90mm width

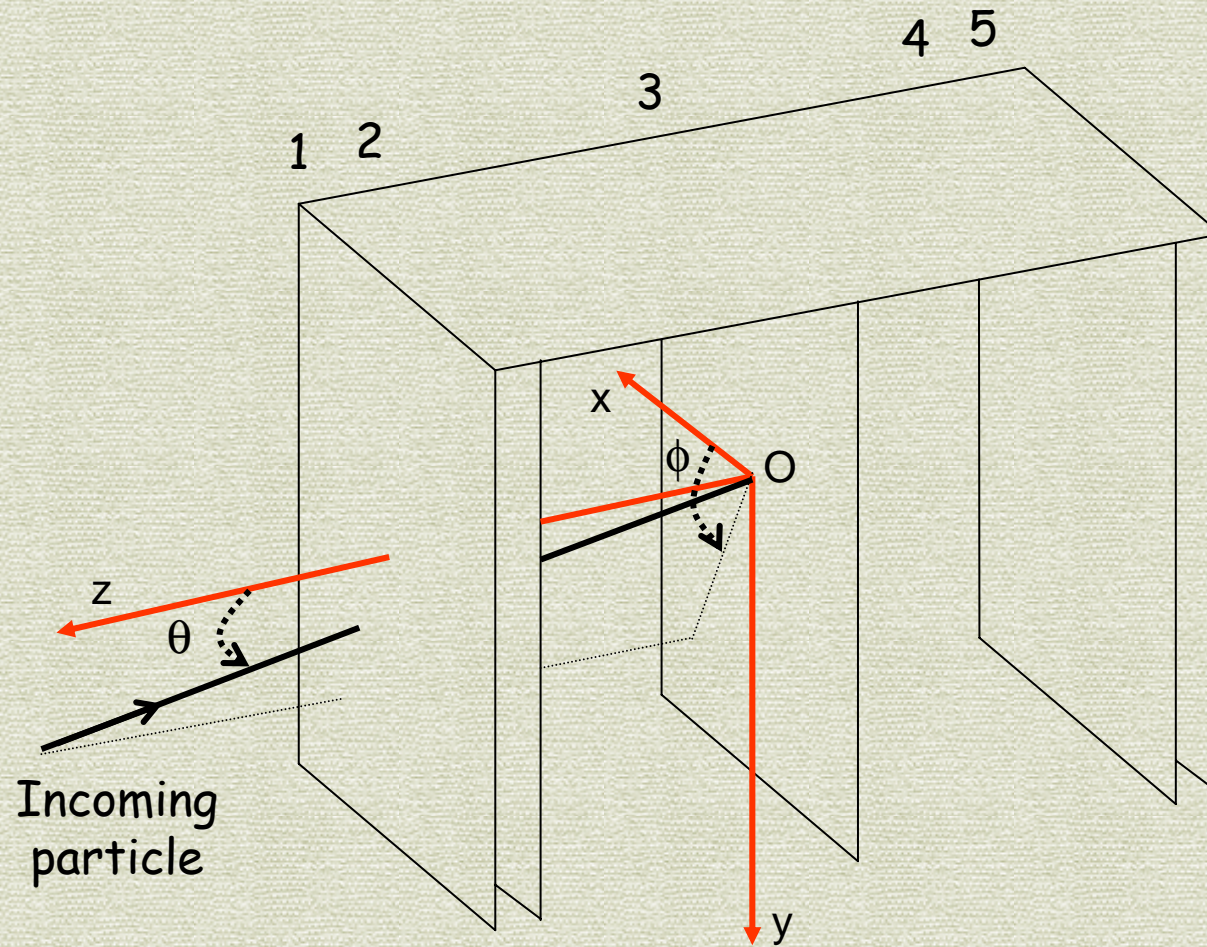


Scintillating  
Fibers

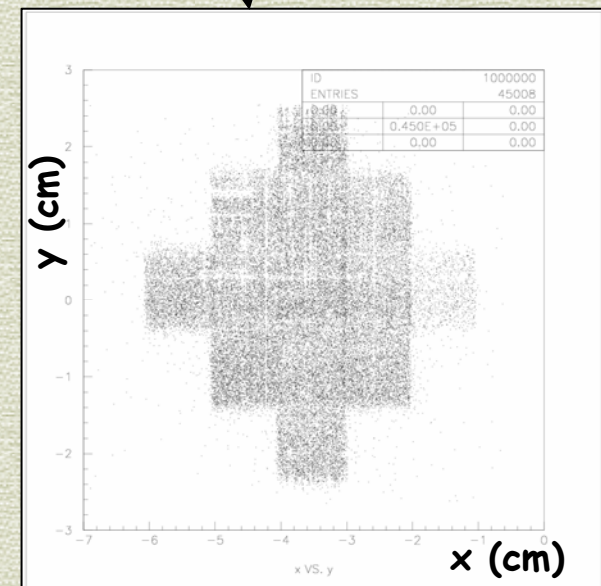




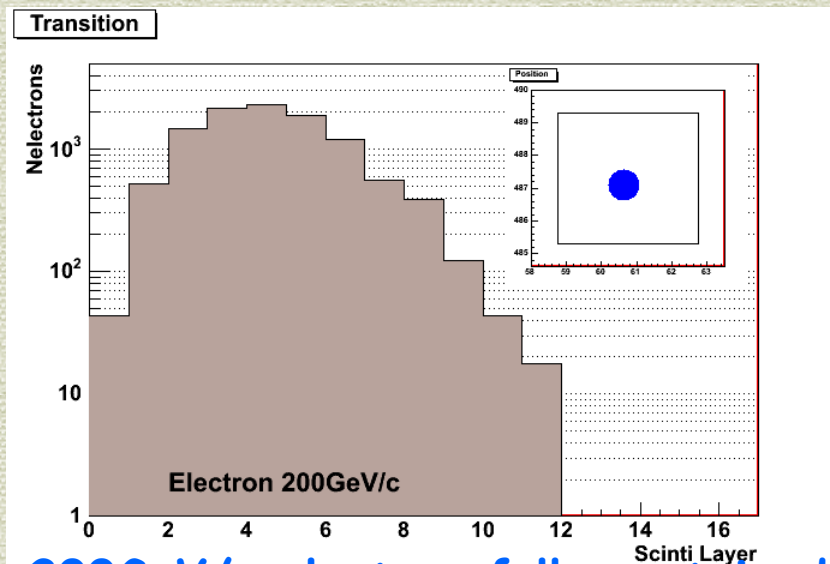
# Impact point reconstruction



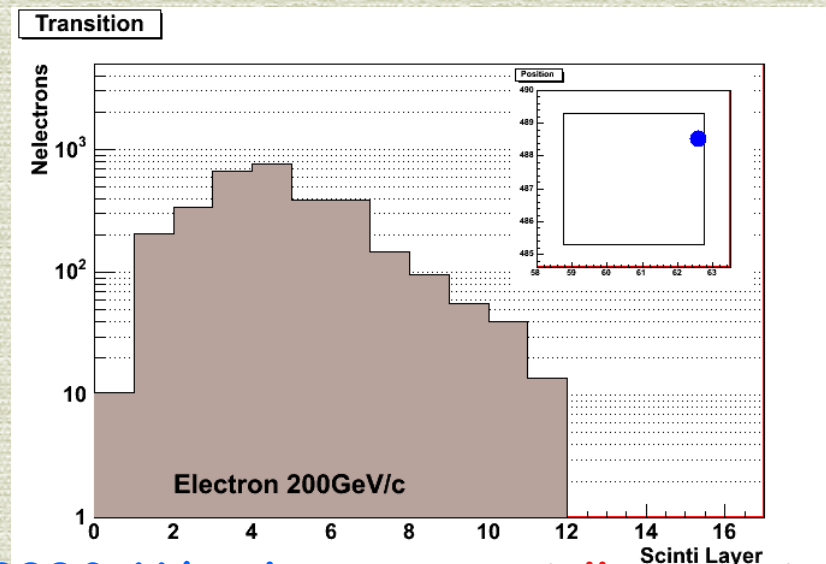
Positions scanning



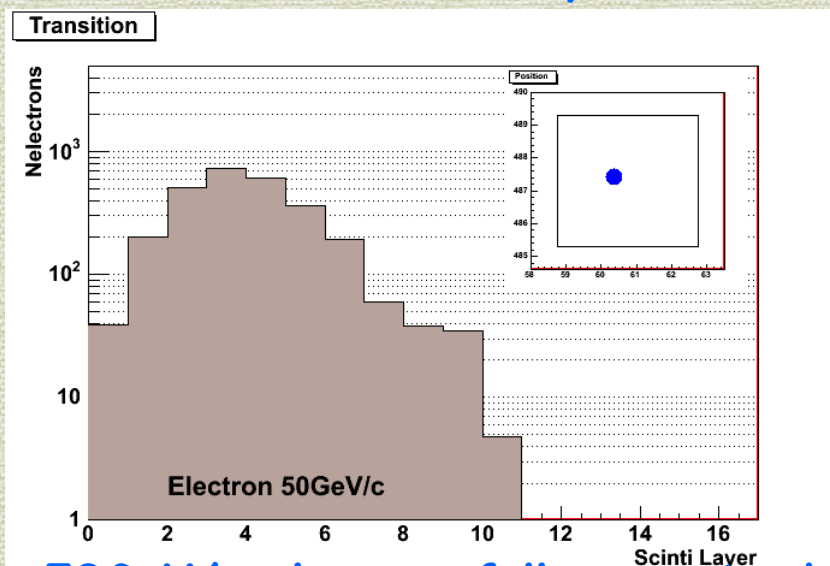
# Some results: longitudinal profile of the showers



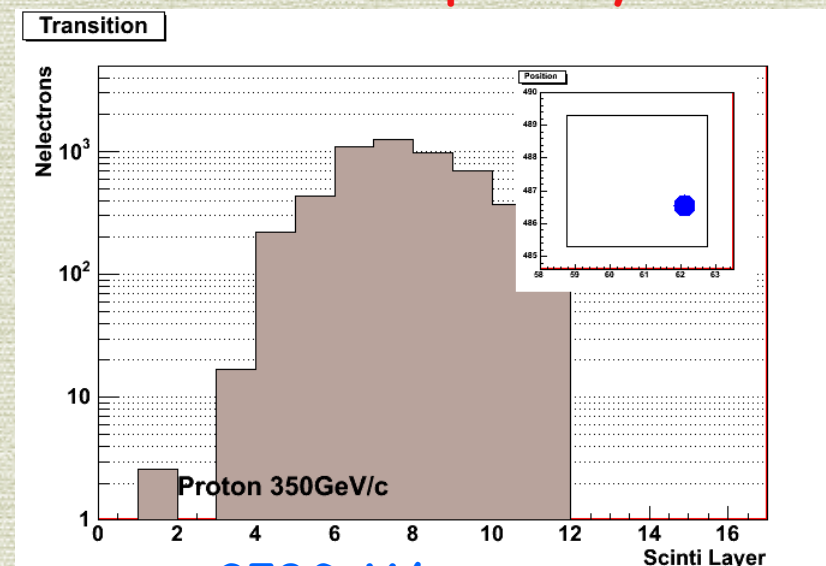
200GeV/c electron fully contained



200GeV/c electron partially contained



50GeV/c electron fully contained

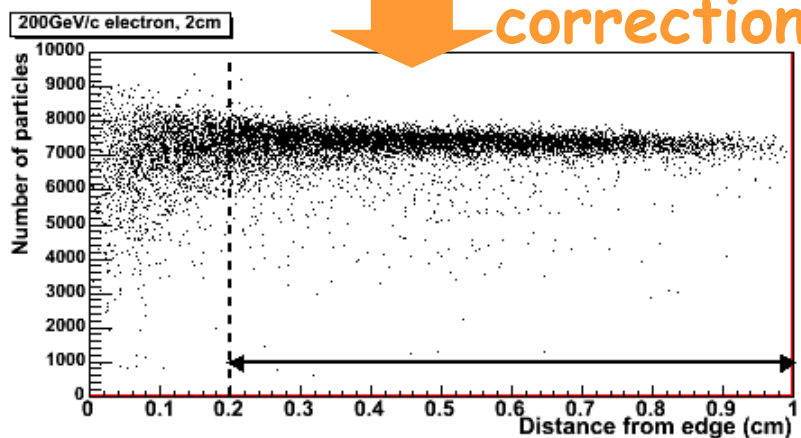
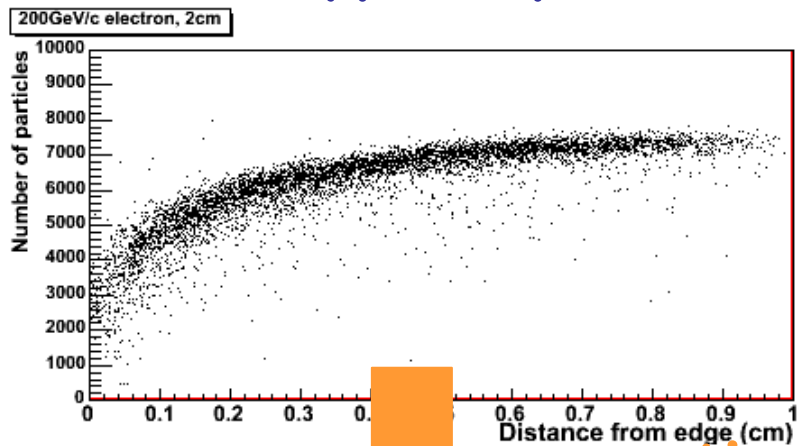


350GeV/c proton

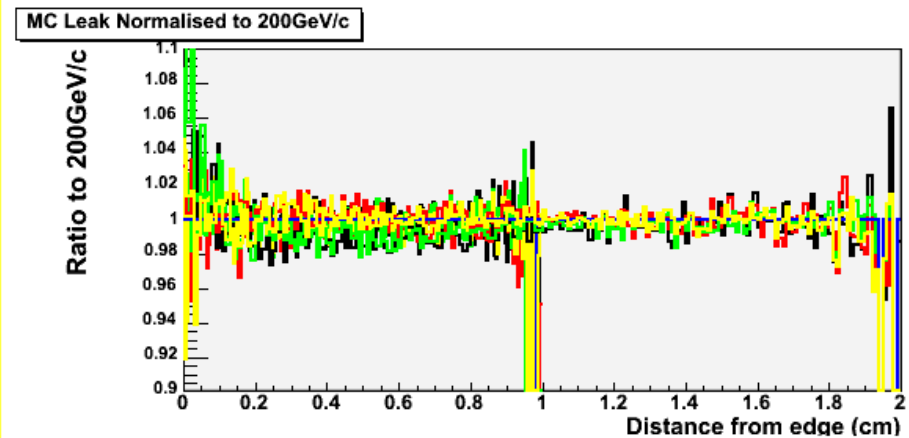
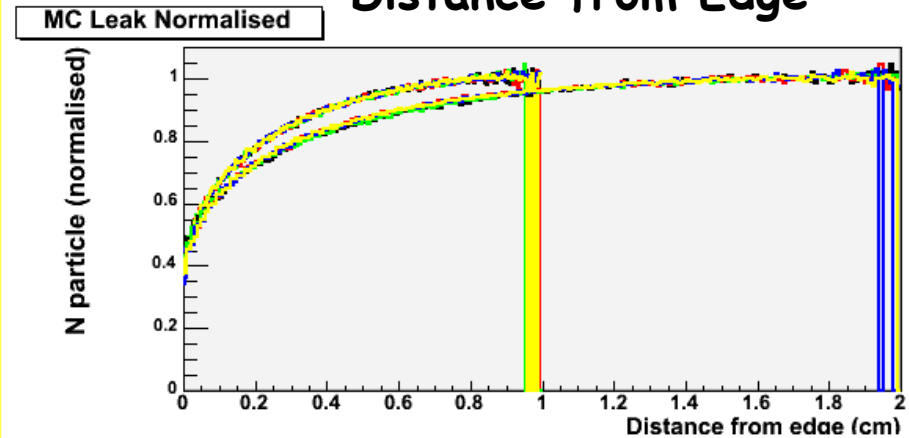
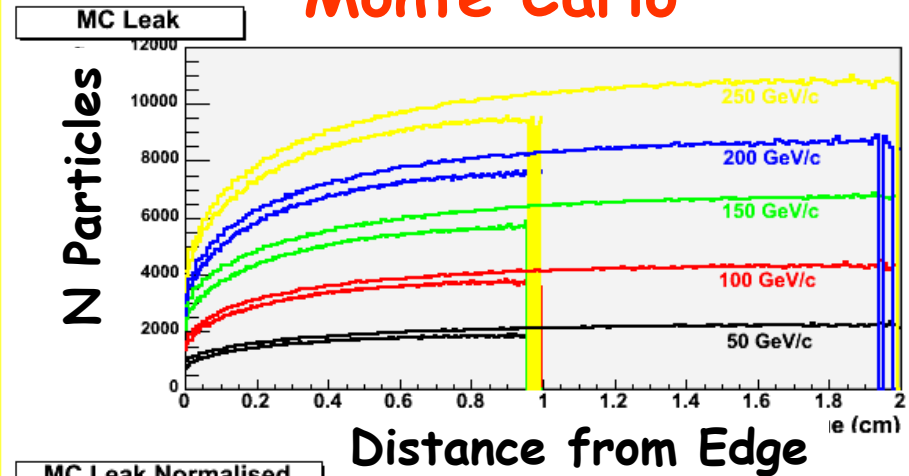
# Leakage Correction

MC predicts that the leakage is energy independent!

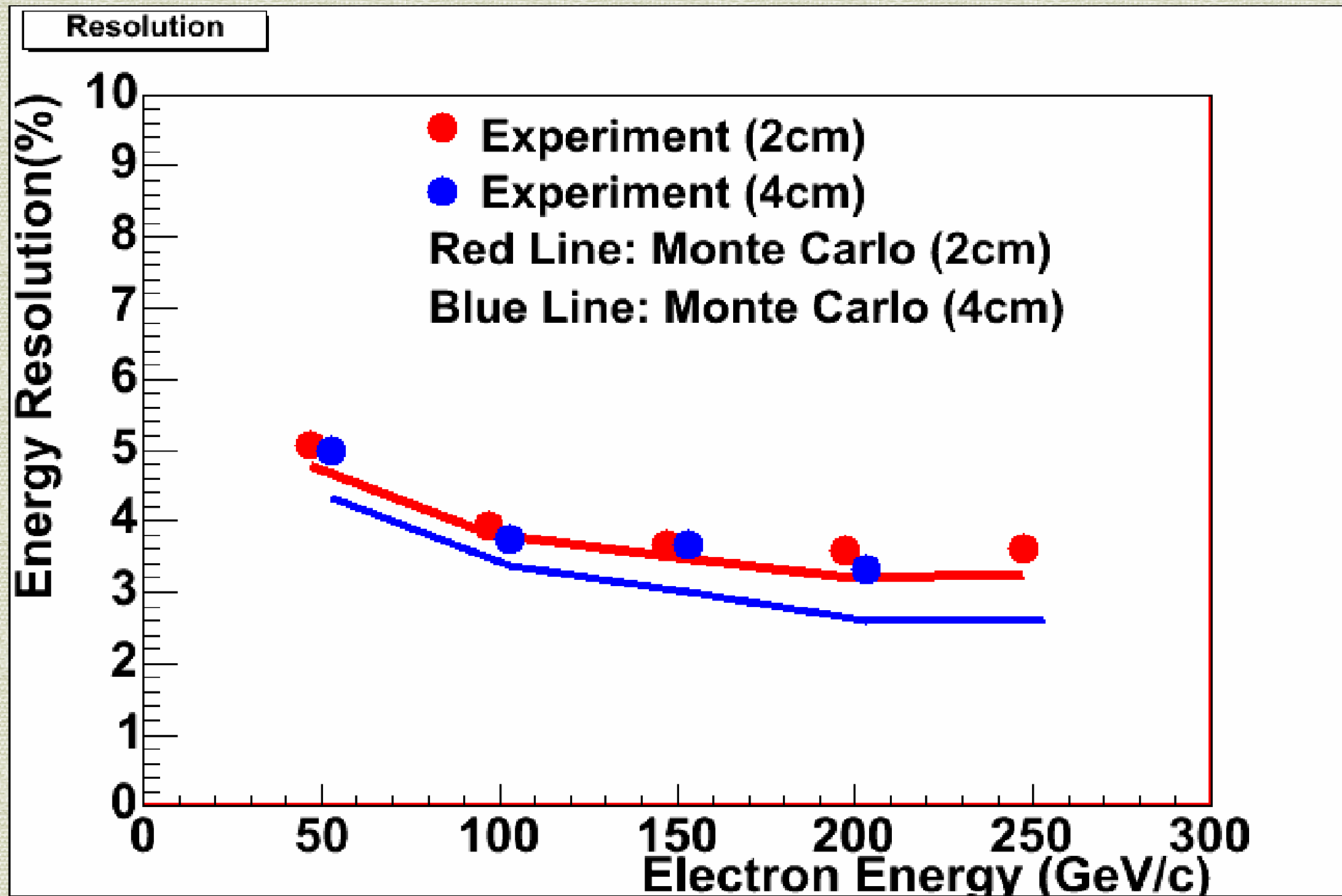
## Prototype Experiment



## Monte Carlo



# Energy Resolution



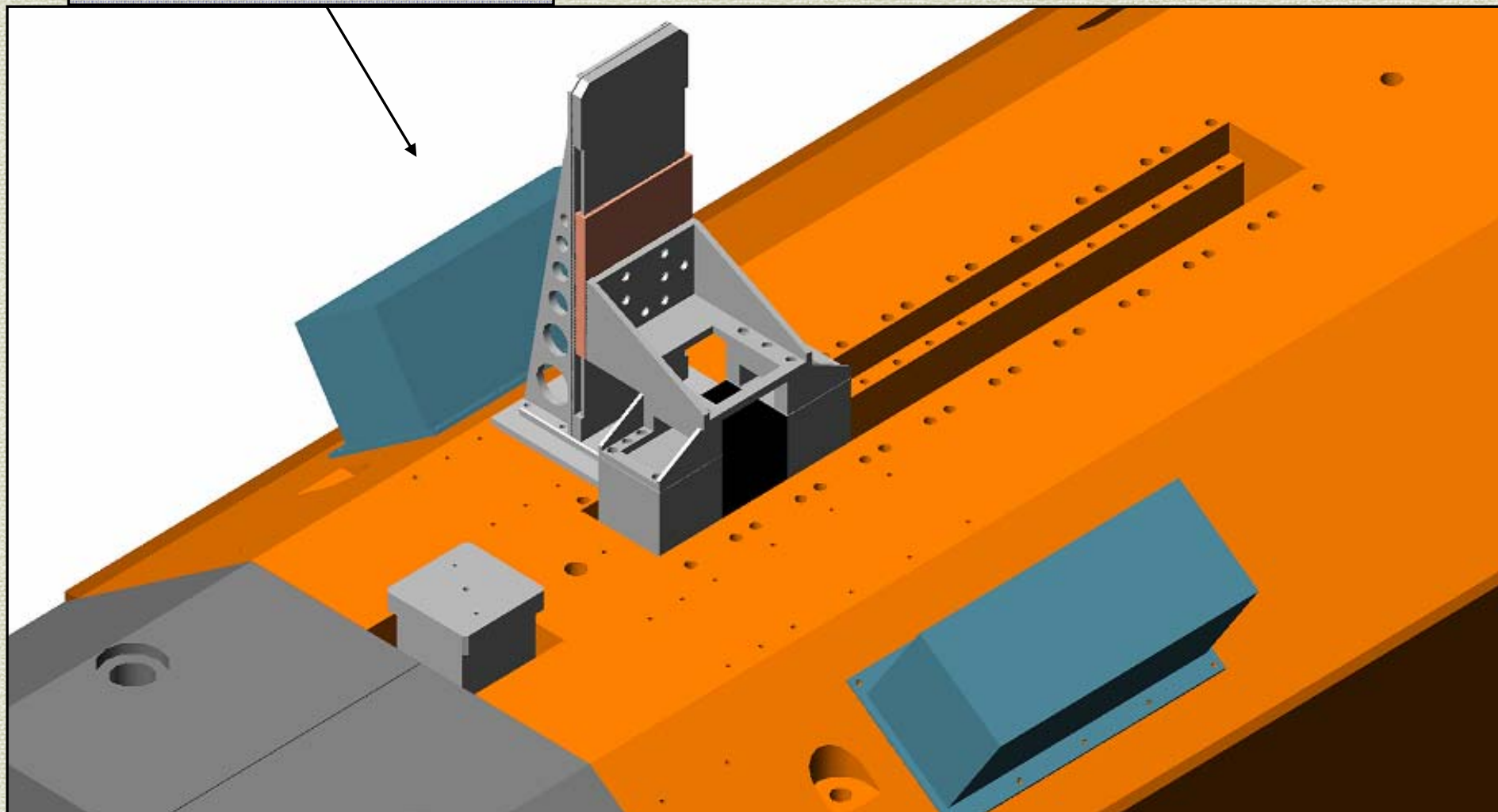
# LHCf: summary and schedule

- LHCf just approved: LHCC 16 May
- Physics performance:
  - able to measure  $\pi^0$  mass with  $\pm 5\%$  resolution.
  - able to distinguish the models by measurements of  $\pi^0$  and  $\gamma$
  - able to distinguish the models by measurements of  $n$
  - Beam crossing angle  $\neq 0$  and/or vertical shifts of LHCf by few cm will allow more complete physics measurements
- Running conditions:
  - Three foreseen phases
    - Phase I: parasitic mode during LHC commissioning
    - Phase II: parasitic mode during TOTEM low luminosity run
    - Phase III: Heavy Ion runs ?
- Beam Test in August 2006:
  - Full detector #1 will be tested
  - Part of detector #2 will be tested
- Installation starting from end of 2006

More slides

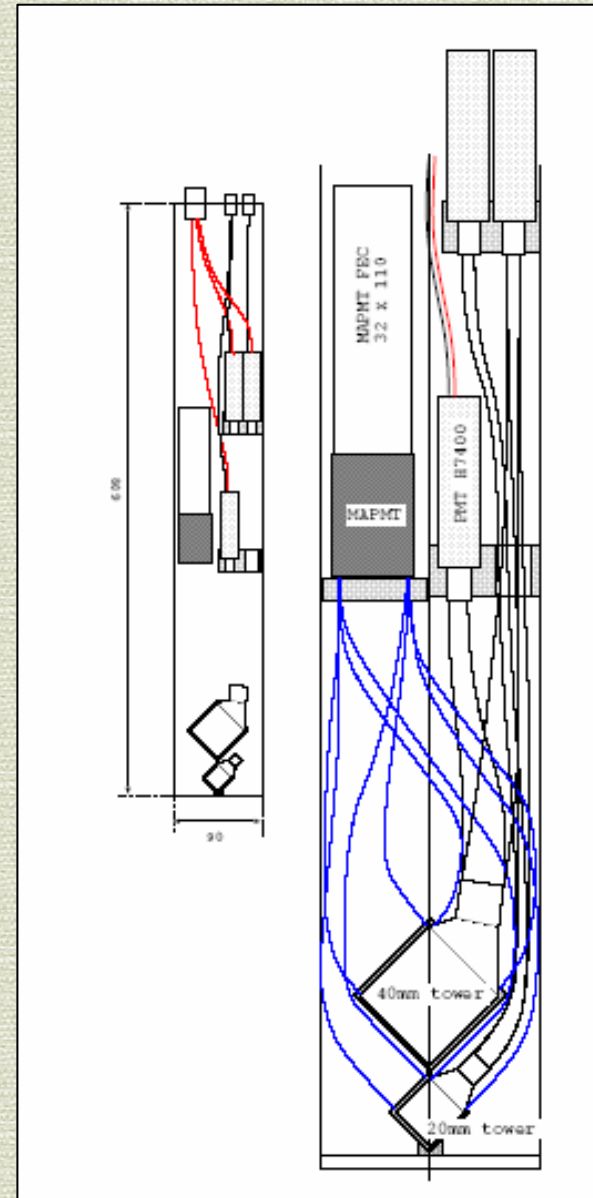
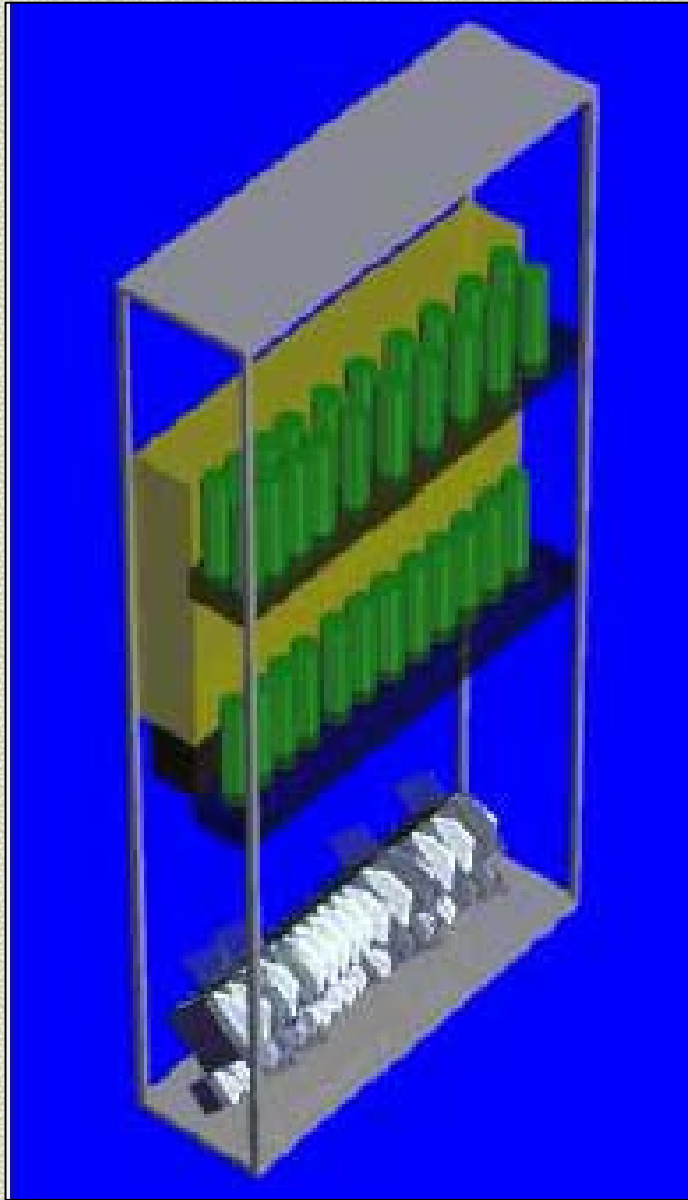
# TAN and LHCF

box ~  $(15 \times 15 \times 40) \text{ cm}^3$

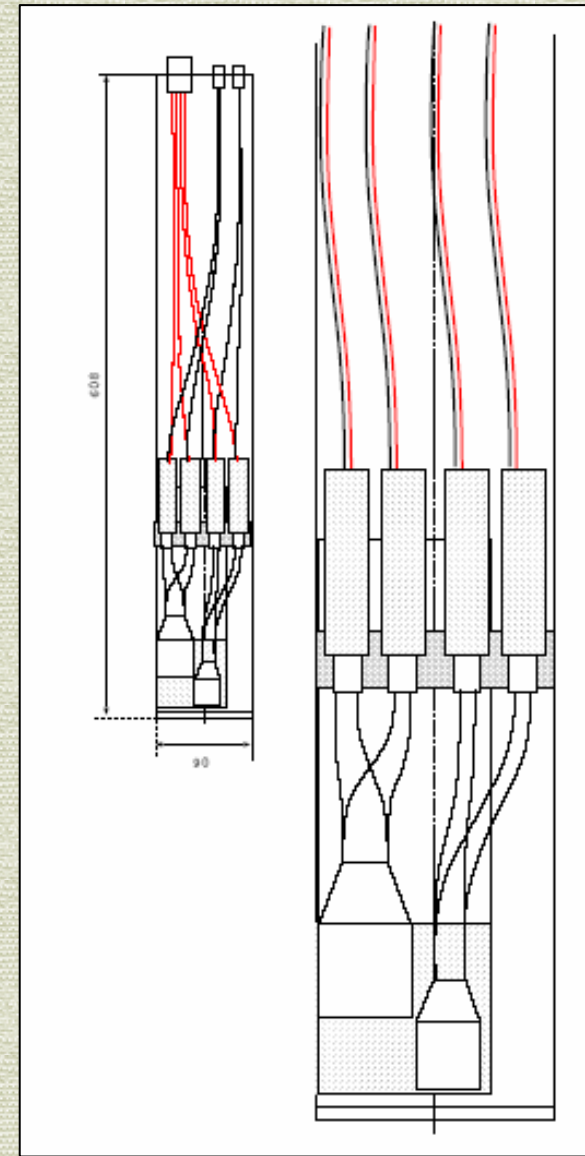
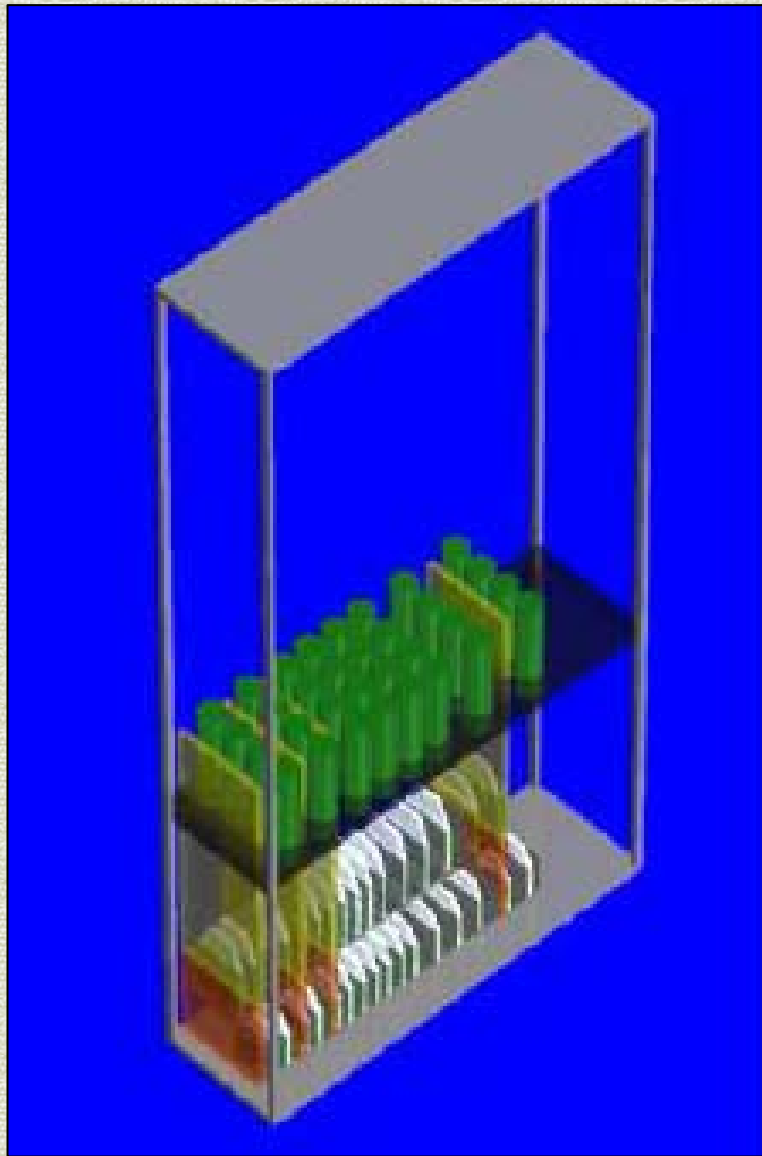




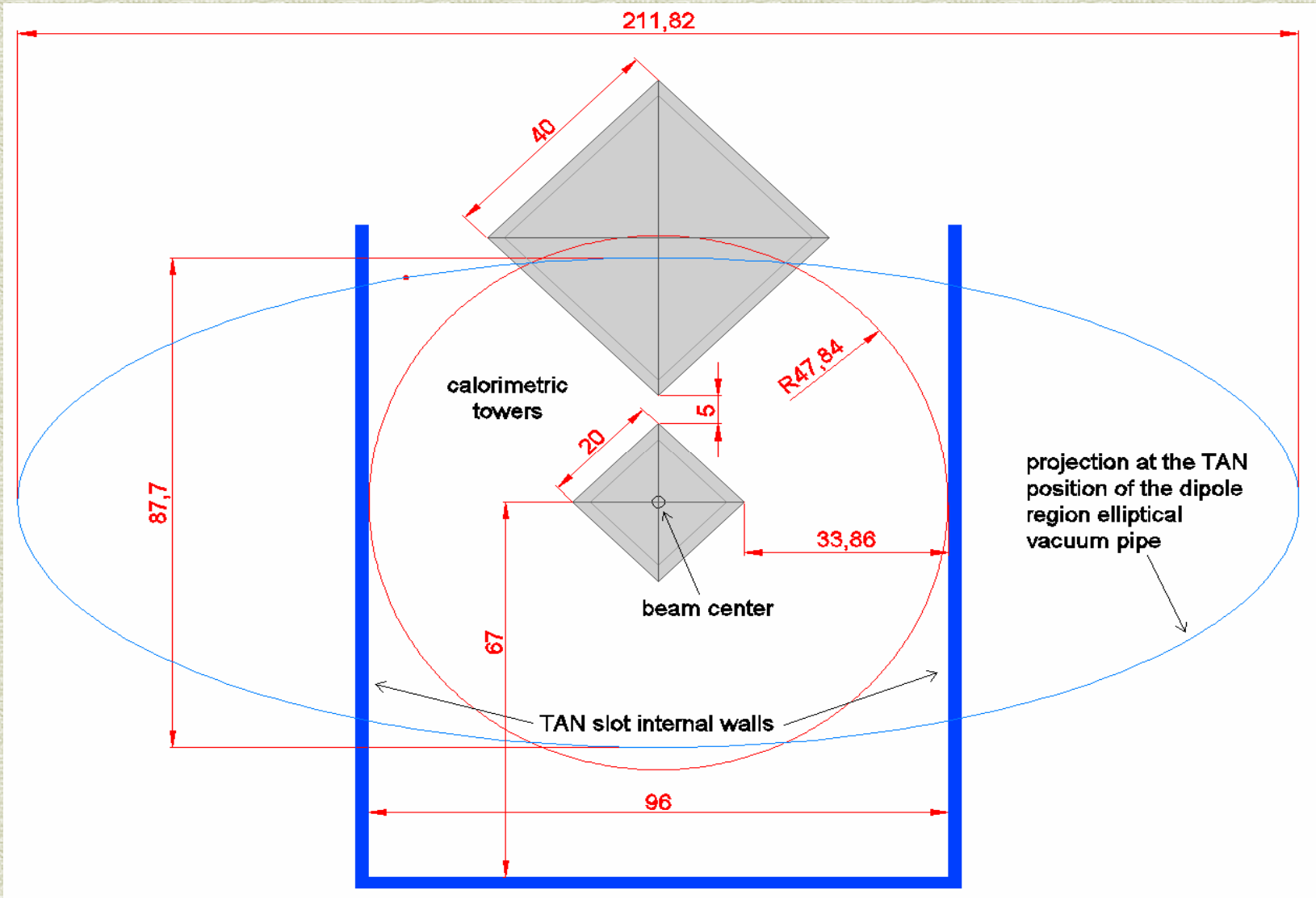
# Detector # 1: layout



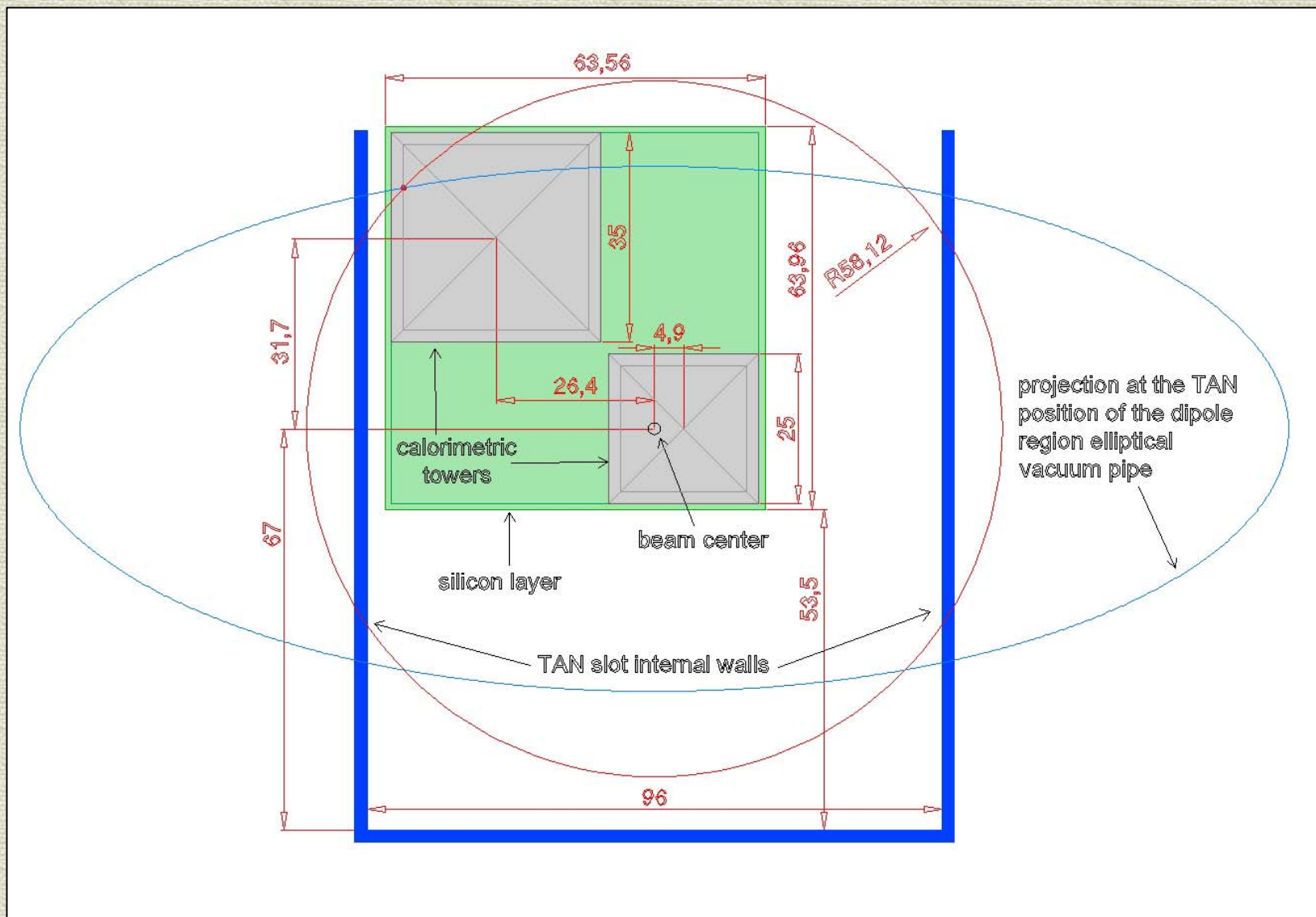
# Detector # 2: layout



# Transverse projection of detector #1 in the TAN slot



# Transverse projection of detector #2 in the TAN slot

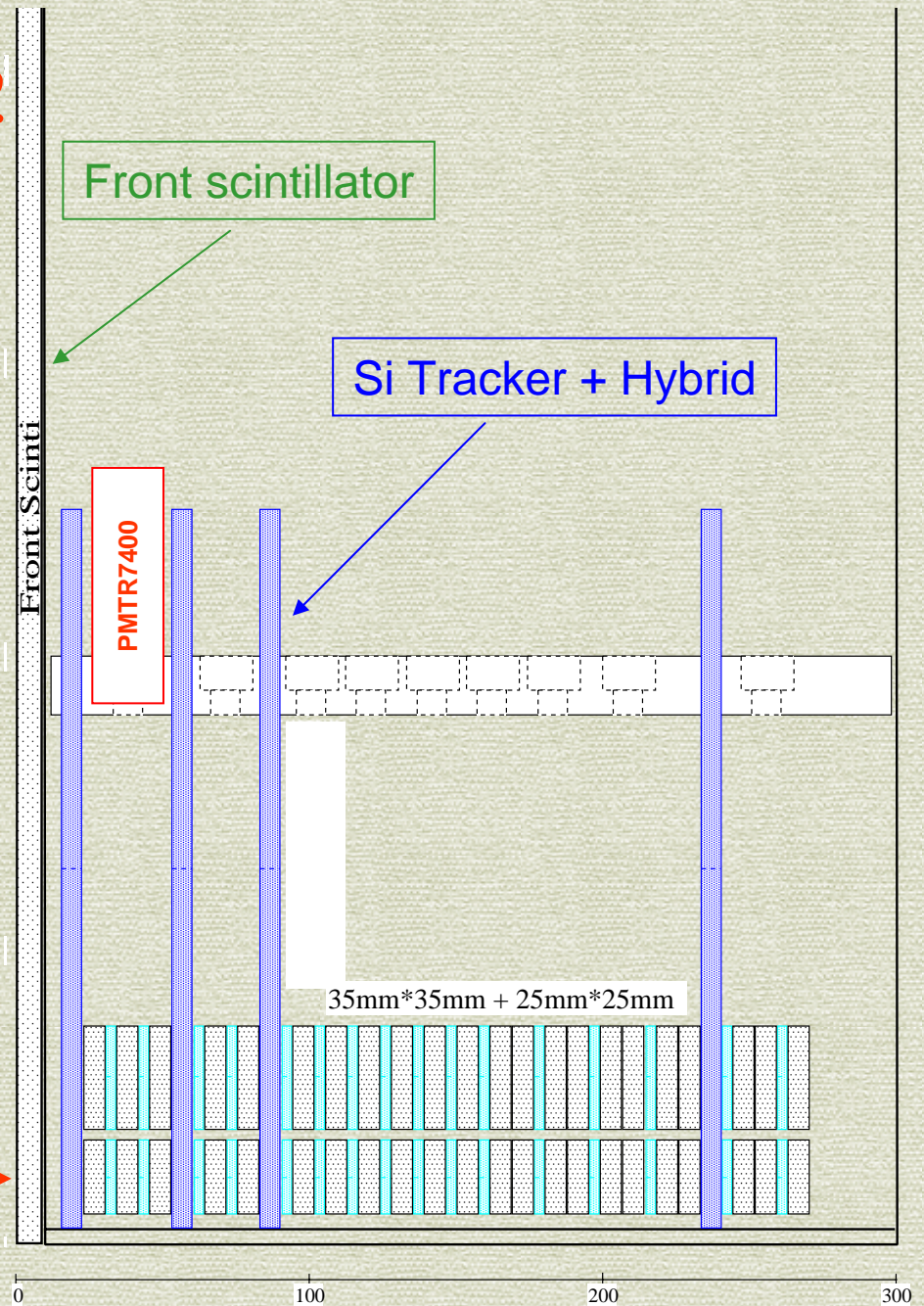


# Lateral view of ARM #2

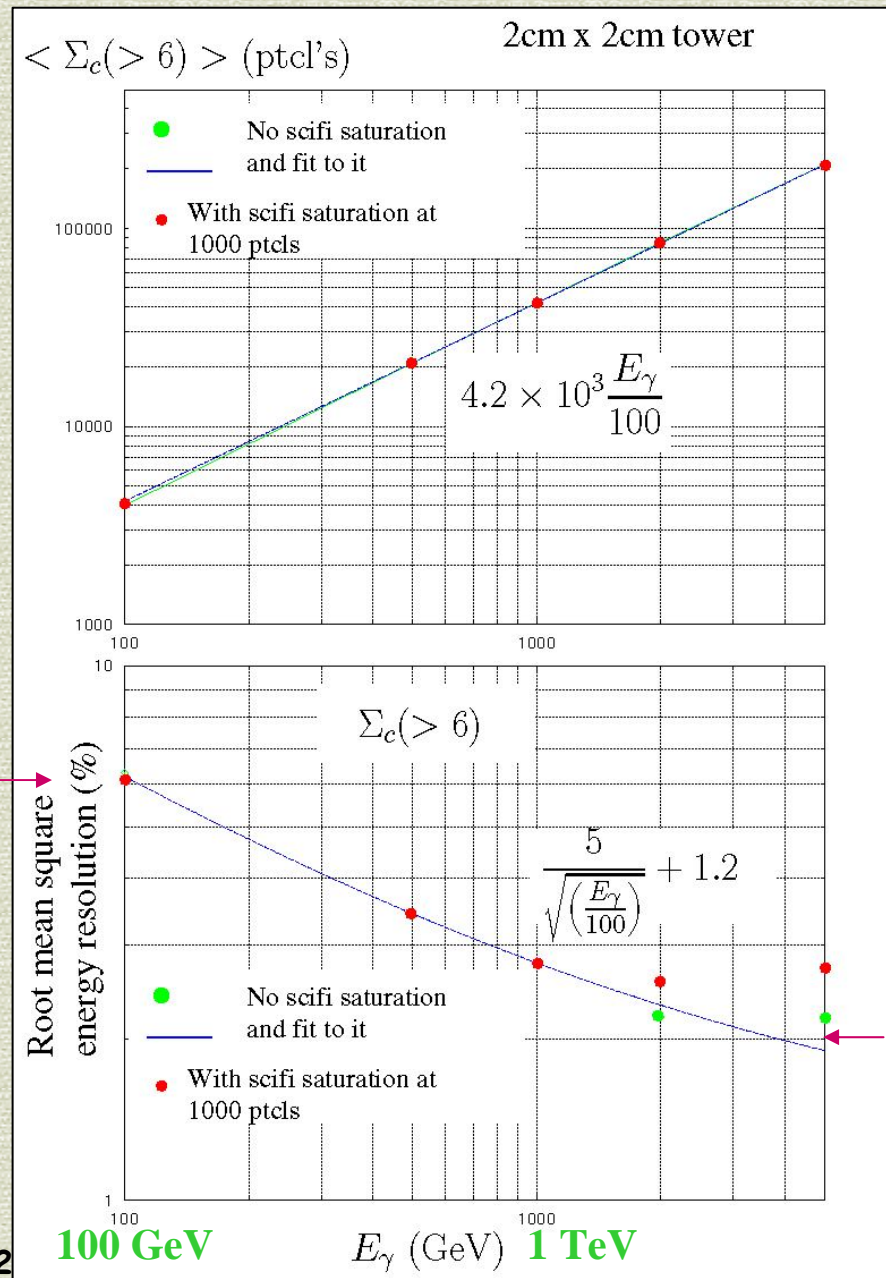
Front scintillator:  
Fixed position wrt to TAN

Silicon + Tungsten + Scintillator:  
+/- 5 cm vertical excursion

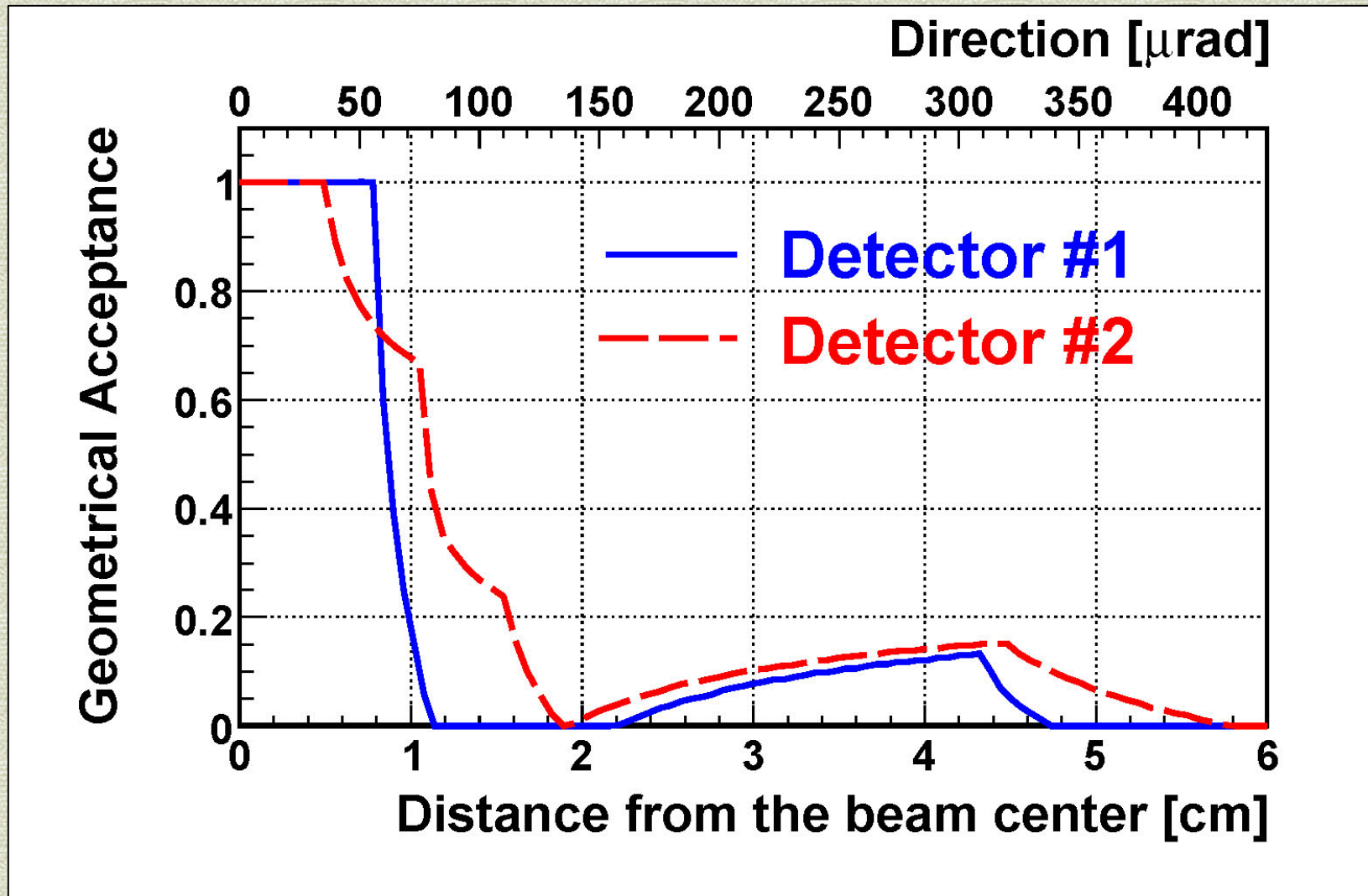
Beam axis  
→



# Energy resolution



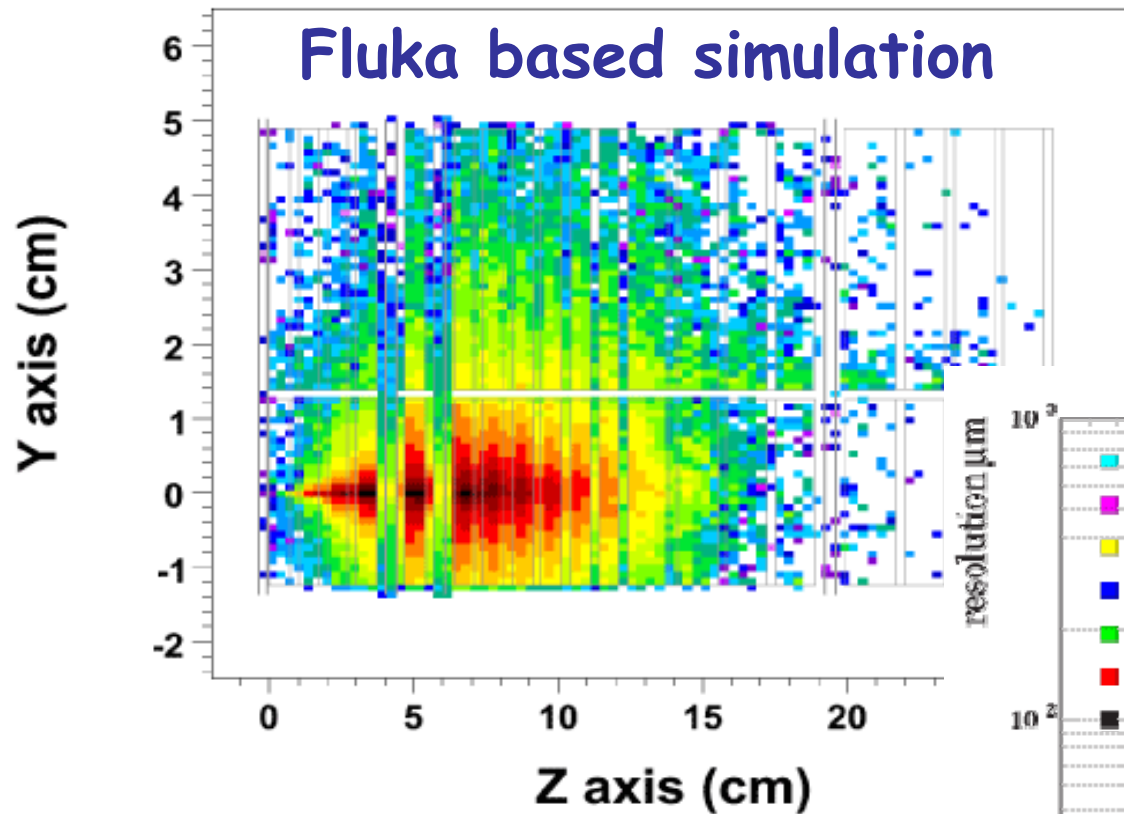
# LHCf performances: single $\gamma$ geometrical acceptance



# LHCf performance: $\gamma$ shower in Arm #2

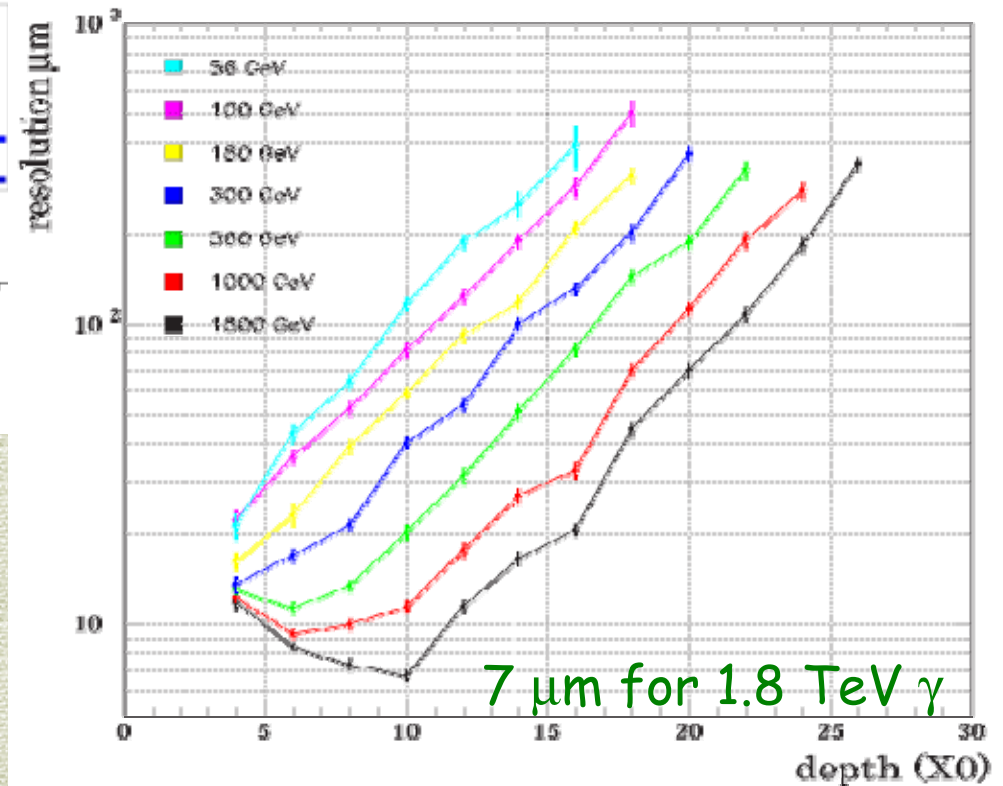
500 GeV  $\gamma$  shower

Fluka based simulation



Position resolution  
of detector # 2

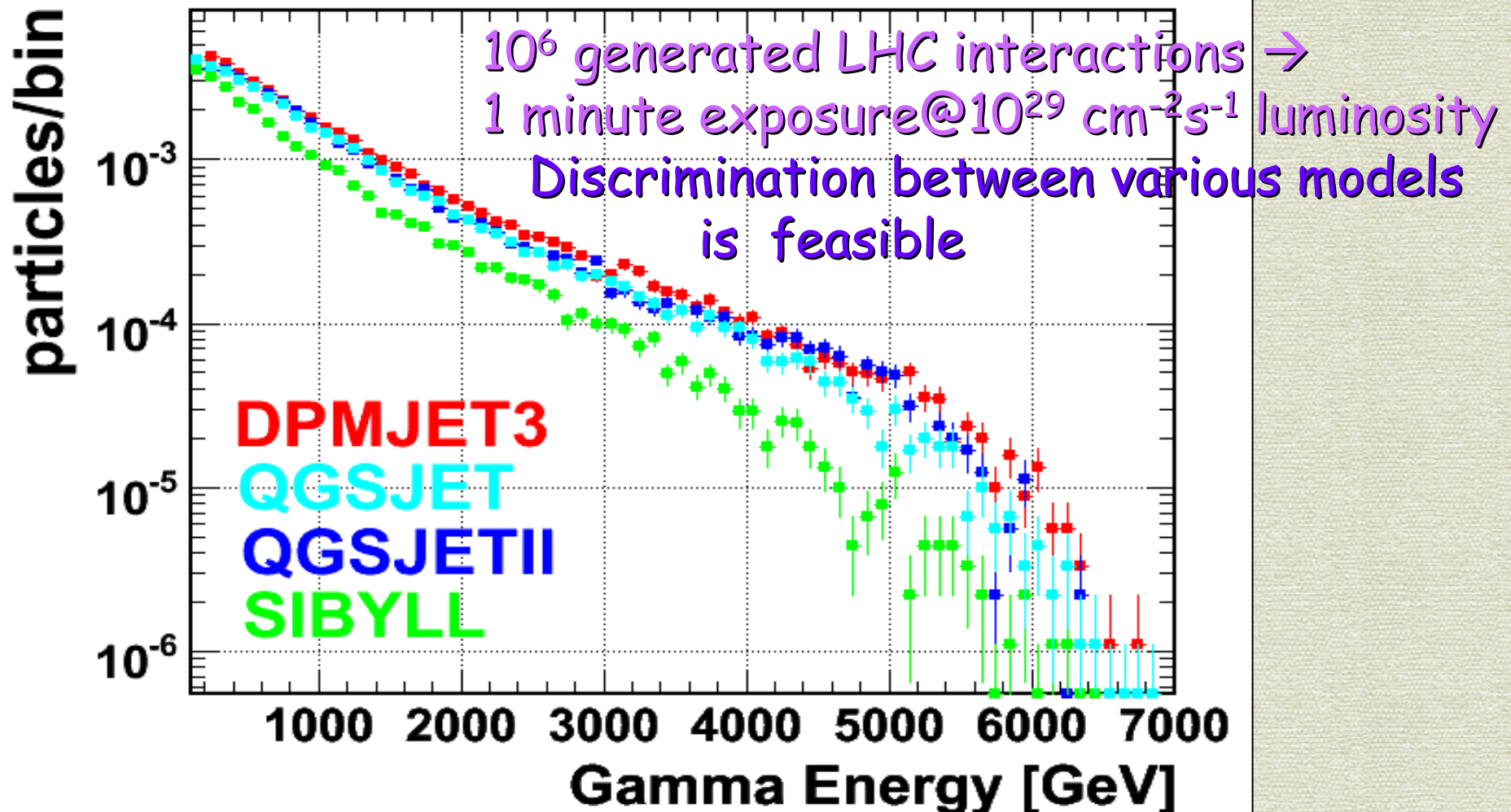
Photons





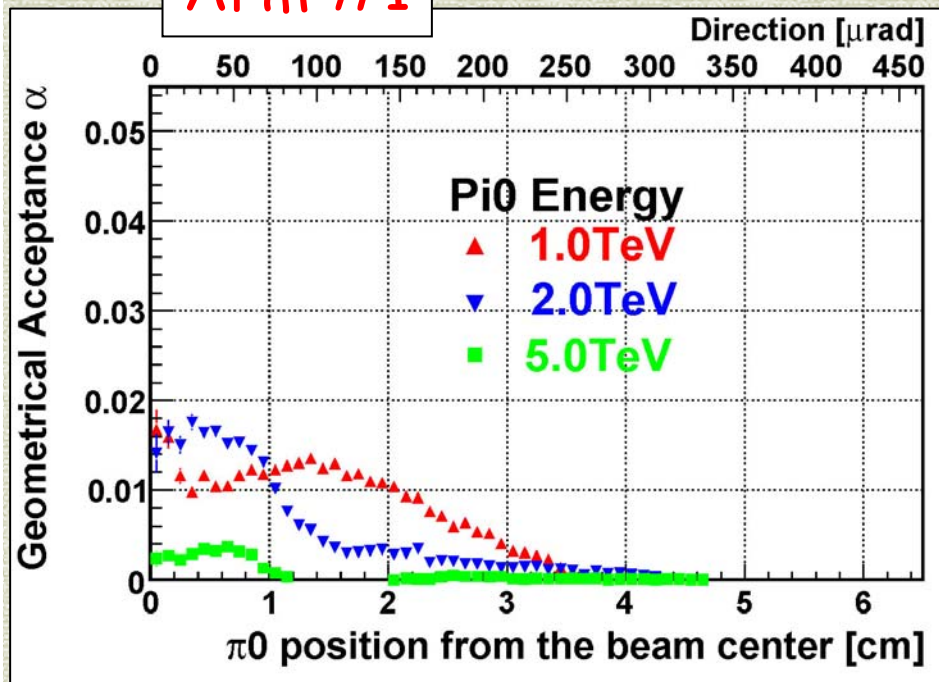
LHCf performance: Monte Carlo  $\gamma$ -ray energy spectrum  
(5% Energy resolution is taken into account)

### Gamma Energy Spectrum of 20mm square at Beam Center

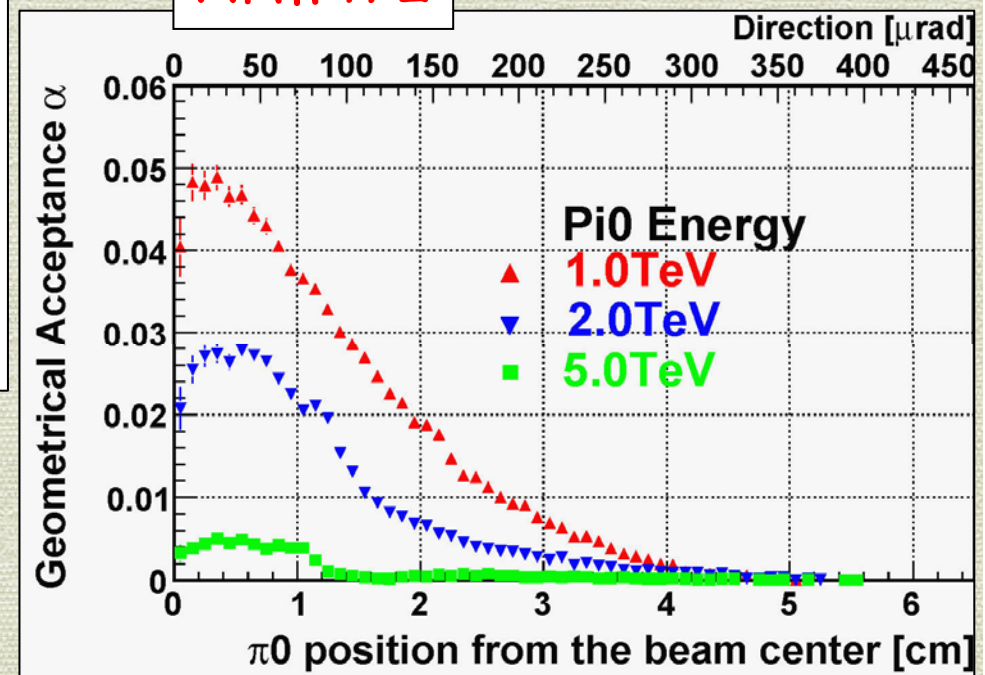


# LHCf performance: $\pi^0$ geometrical acceptance

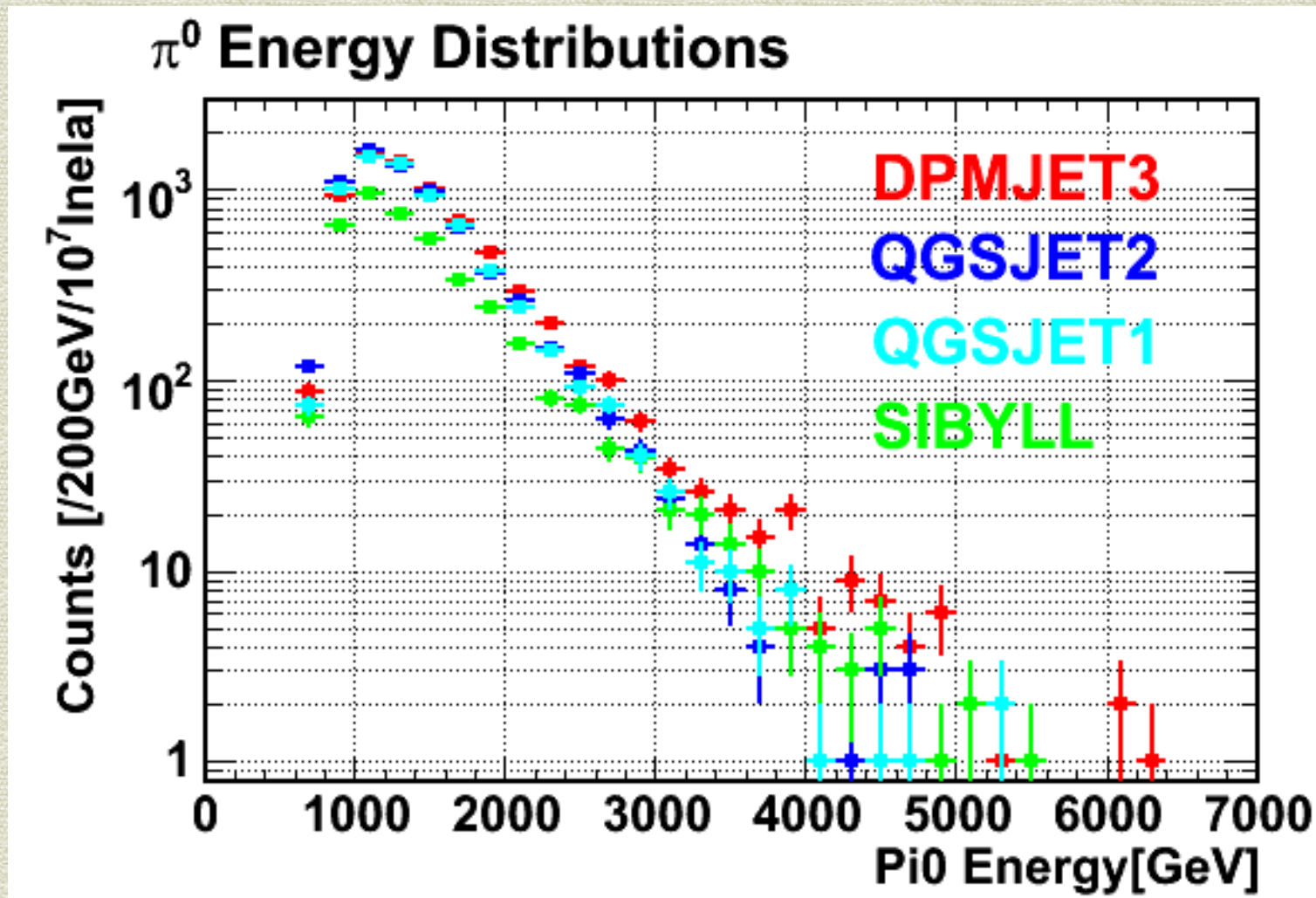
Arm #1



Arm #2

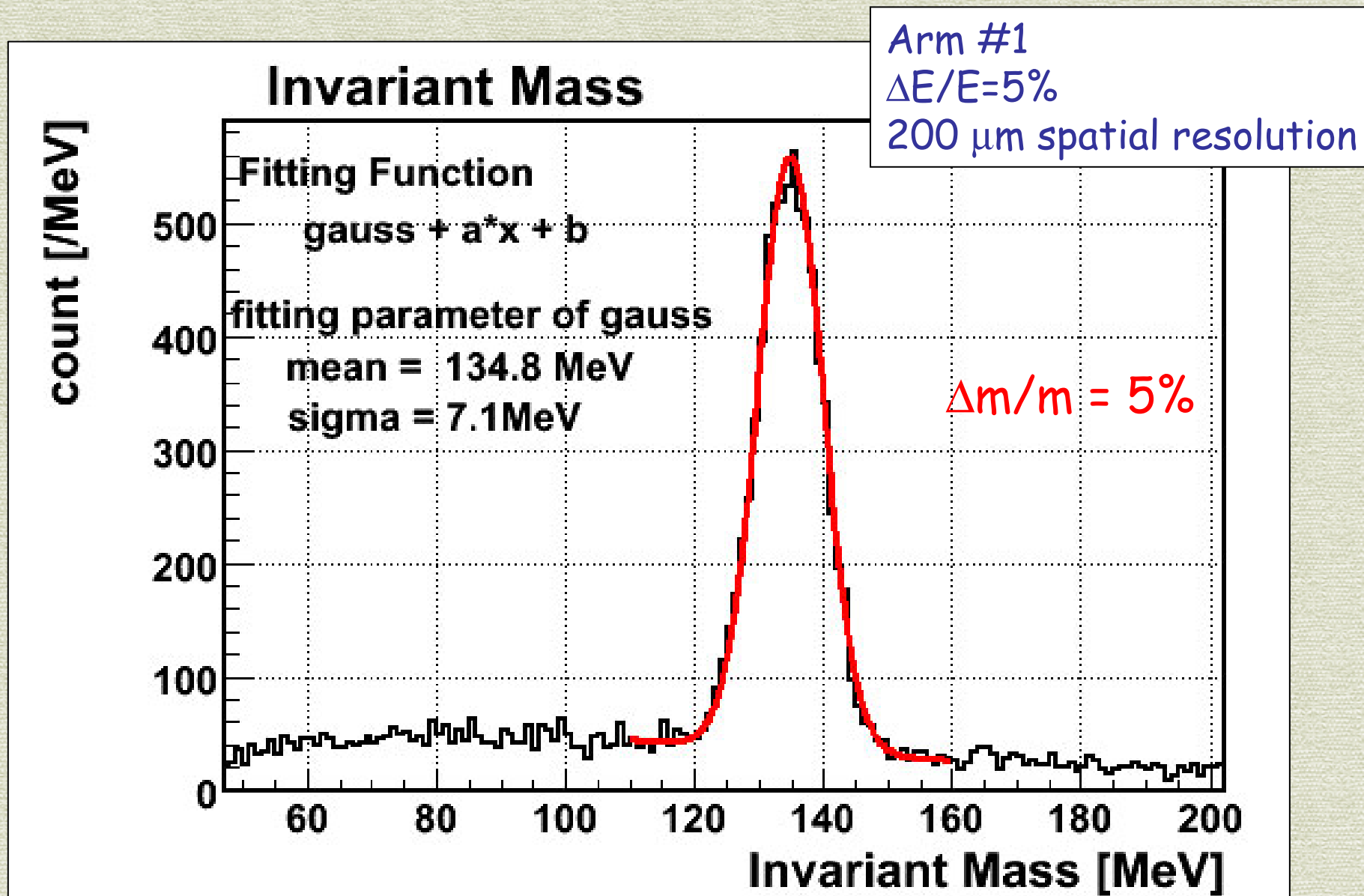


# LHCf performance: energy spectrum of $\pi^0$



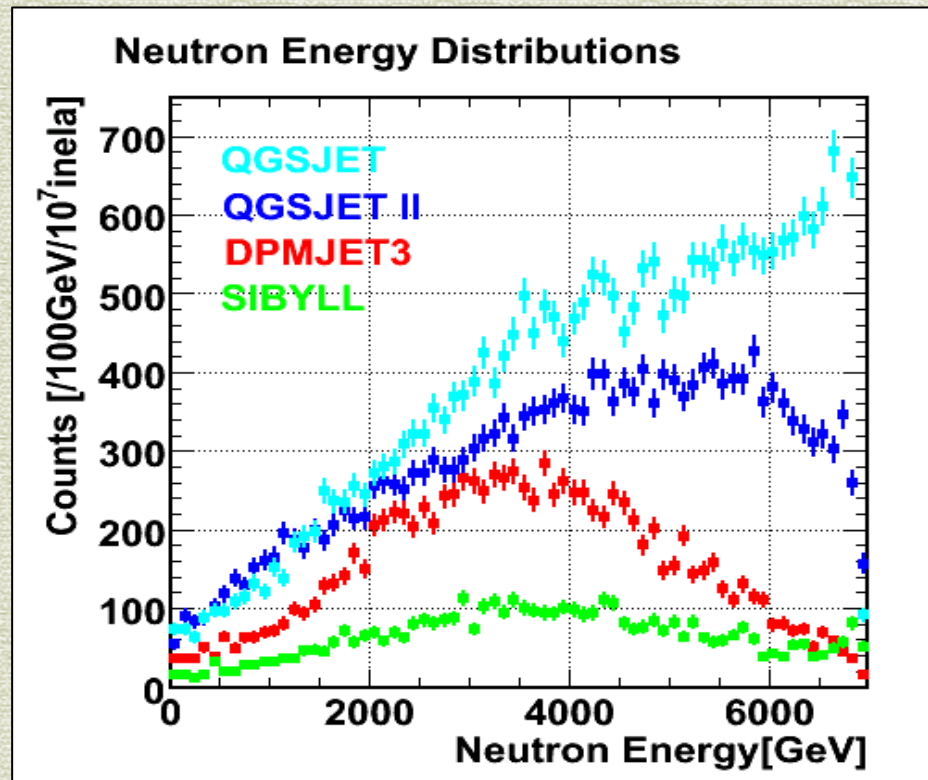
Typical energy resolution of  $\gamma$  is 3 % at 1TeV

# LHCf performance: $\pi^0$ mass resolution

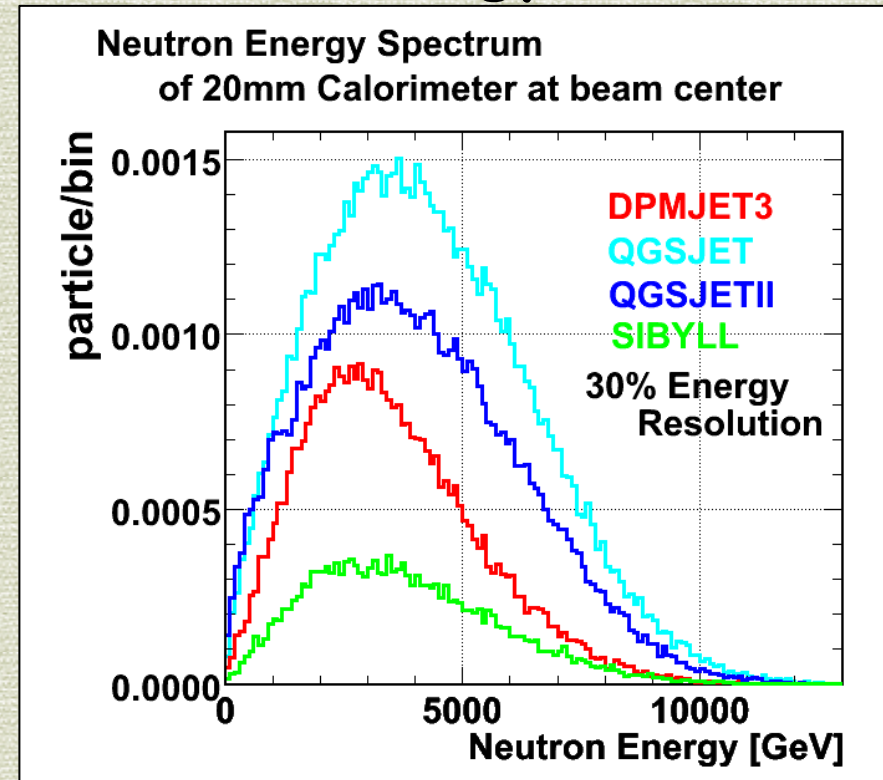


# LHCf performance: model dependence of neutron energy distribution

## Original n energy



## 30% energy resolution



# Estimate of the background

- beam-beam pipe

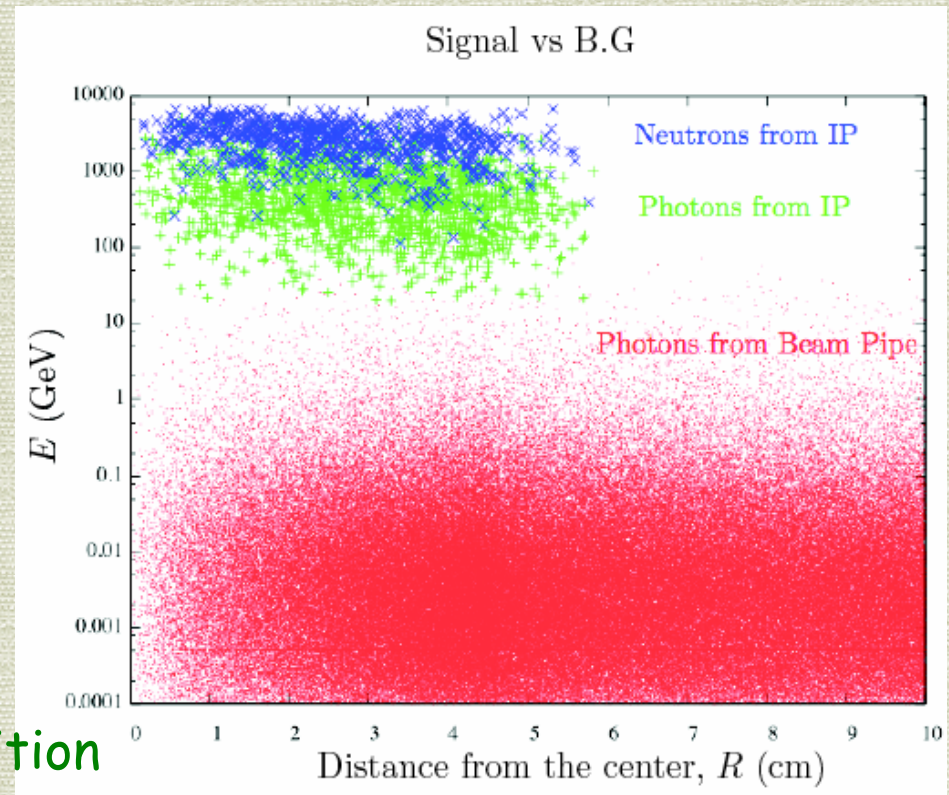
→  $E_\gamma(\text{signal}) > 200 \text{ GeV}$ , OK  
background  $< 1\%$

- beam-gas

→ It depends on the beam condition  
background  $< 1\%$  (under  $10^{-10}$  Torr)

- beam halo-beam pipe

→ It has been newly estimated from the beam loss rate  
Background  $< 10\%$  (conservative value)



# Particles from the beam pipe: background vs signal

