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2           **Consolidation and longevity of the CMS**  
3           **Resistive Plate Chamber system in view of the**  
4           **High-Luminosity LHC Upgrade**

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Alexis Fagot

Thesis to obtain the degree of  
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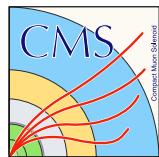


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# List of Acronyms

## List of Acronyms

666	AFL	Almost Full Level
667	ALCTs	anode local charged track boards
668	BARC	Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
669	BLT	Block Transfer
670	BMTF	Barrel Muon Track Finder
671	BNL	Brookhaven National Laboratory
672	BR	Branching Ratio
673	CAEN	Costruzioni Apparecchiature Elettroniche Nucleari S.p.A.
674	CERN	European Organization for Nuclear Research
675	CFD	Constant Fraction Discriminator
676	CFEBs	cathode front-end boards
677	CMB	Cosmic Microwave Background
678	CMS	Compact Muon Solenoid
679	CSC	Cathode Strip Chamber
680	CuOF	copper-to-optical-fiber translators
681	DAQ	Data Acquisition
682	DCS	Detector Control Software
683	DQM	Data Quality Monitoring
684	DT	Drift Tube
685	ECAL	electromagnetic calorimeter
686	EMTF	Endcap Muon Track Finder
687	FCC	Future Circular Collider
688	FEB	Front-End Board
689	FEE	Front-End Electronics
690	FWHM	full-width-at-half-maximum
691	GEANT	GEometry ANd Tracking - a series of software toolkit platforms developed by CERN
692		
693	GEB	GEM Electronics board
694	GEM	Gas Electron Multiplier
695	GIF	Gamma Irradiation Facility
696	GIF++	new Gamma Irradiation Facility
697	GWP	Global Warming Potential
698	HCAL	hadron calorimeter
699	HL-LHC	High Luminosity LHC
700	HPL	High-pressure laminate
701	HSCPs	Heavy Stable Charged Particles
702	HV	High Voltage
703	ICRU	International Commission on Radiation Units & Measurements

704	iRPC	improved RPC
705	IRQ	Interrupt Request
706	ISR	Intersecting Storage Rings
707	LEIR	Low Energy Ion Ring
708	LEP	Large Electron-Positron
709	LHC	Large Hadron Collider
710	LS1	First Long Shutdown
711	LS2	Second Long Shutdown
712	LS3	Third Long Shutdown
713	LV	Low Voltage
714	LVDS	Low-Voltage Differential Signaling
715	MC	Monte Carlo
716	MCNP	Monte Carlo N-Particle
717	MiC1	first version of Minicrate electronics
718	mip's	minimum ionizing particles
719	MRPC	Multigap RPC
720	NIM	Nuclear Instrumentation Module logic signals
721	OH	Optohybrid Board
722	OMTF	Overlap Muon Track Finder
723	PAI	Photo-Absorption Ionisation
724	PAIR	Photo-Absorption Ionisation with Relaxation
725	PMT	PhotoMultiplier Tube
726	PS	Proton Synchrotron
727	PU	pile-up
728	QCD	Quantum Chromodynamics
729	QED	Quantum Electrodynamics
730	RADMON	Radiation Monitoring
731	RMS	Root Mean Square
732	ROOT	a framework for data processing born at CERN
733	RPC	Resistive Plate Chamber
734	SC	Synchrocyclotron
735	SiPM	Silicon Photomultiplier
736	SLAC	Stanford Linear Accelerator Center
737	SM	Standard Model
738	SPS	Super Proton Synchrotron
739	SUSY	supersymmetry
740	TDC	Time-to-Digital Converter
741	TDR	Technical Design Report
742	ToF	Time-of-flight
743	TPG	trigger primitives
744	webDCS	Web Detector Control System
745	YETS	Year End Technical Stop

# 1

746

747

## Introduction

748 Grasping an understanding of the world in which they are leaving in has always been part of hu-  
749 mans lives. Beyond the metaphysical questioning of our origins and purpose, curiosity has brought  
750 mankind to question its surroundings. Following the philosophy of ancient greeks and indians came  
751 the development of sciences as the systematic experimentation aimed at testing hypothesis and re-  
752 producing results obtained by fellow natural philosophers. With the industrial revolution and the  
753 organisation of science, it became possible to go always further in the understanding of the universe  
754 and of the matter in particular. Investigation on the constituant of matter proved to require more and  
755 more powerful machines in order to break apart the bricks of the world into ever smaller pieces, study  
756 their behaviour and extract new knowledge to help the development of humanity. So far, the largest  
757 and most power machine that was built to study the particles composing matter and test the mod-  
758 els thought by physicists to explain their behaviour is the Large Hadron Collider (LHC), a circular  
759 particle accelerator used to collide protons and heavy ions. After only a few years of investigations  
760 conducted thanks to the LHC, several discoveries, predicted by the existing models, have been made  
761 and in the future, in order to boost the discovery potential on the LHC and be able to test hypothesis  
762 lying beyond the already aknoledged models, the instantaneous luminosity, i.e. the rate of particle  
763 interactions, will be slightly increased into a so called High Luminosity phase to boost its discovery  
764 potential.

765 As the Large Hadron Collider will see its instantaneous luminosity be increased, the detectors  
766 on the different experimental sites will have to suffer an increased background irradiation due to the  
767 byproducts of the interaction of the beams with the infrastructure. This will cause for the detectors  
768 a stress which implications need to be understood throughout the High Luminosity LHC (HL-LHC)  
769 phase of operations. In the case of the Compact Muon Solenoid (CMS) experiment, it is important  
770 to understand if the detectors that will be subjected to the higher levels of radiation will be able to  
771 sustain higher detection rates while displaying the same performance they have so far been operated  
772 at and if this level of performance of the detectors will stay stable for a period longer than 10 years.  
773 More specifically, the detectors placed very close to the beam line will be the most subjected to the  
774 change of luminosity. In CMS, the endcap detectors will then be particularly affected by the stronger

775 background radiation. The endcap detectors compose a part of the muon system of CMS and among  
776 them, the Resistive Plate Chamber (RPC)s play a key role in providing the experiment a reliable  
777 trigger on potentially interesting data.

778 CMS experiment main focus revolves around testing the Standard Model (SM) of particle physics  
779 using a multipurpose detector design to detect the interaction products of the protons and ions col-  
780 liding along the LHC. Looking at the successive evolution of the theoretical models that gave birth  
781 to the SM, the need for very intense particle beams in high energy physics experiment becomes clear  
782 in that the higher the center-of-mass energy for each interaction, the greater the probe on very small  
783 cross-section processes predicted by the theory, justifying the successive increase in beam energy  
784 and intensity at LHC.

785 The implications for LHC experiments and in particular for the CMS detector explain the need for  
786 longevity and rate capability studies conducted on the Resistive Plate Chambers which are an impor-  
787 tant part of its Muon System as it is needed to certify the quality of operation of the trigger detectors  
788 throughout the lifetime of HL-LHC.

789 RPCs are gaseous detectors which physics principles are non trivial and are still being investigated.  
790 Nevertheless, key processes driving the electron multiplication in the gas volume, rate capability and  
791 ageing have been successfully identified and will define the parameters that will have to be taken into  
792 consideration while producing the detectors extending the pseudo-rapidity coverage of RPCs toward  
793 the beam line as well as the ones to be monitored during the on-going longevity and rate capability  
794 certification campaign.

795 On the one hand, the present RPC sub-system consists in two different RPC productions. Indeed,  
796 most of the RPC detectors were produced in view of the start of LHC activities in 2010. These  
797 detectors were build in between 2007 and 2008 to equip the barrel and the 3 disks of each endcaps of  
798 the CMS apparatus. But during the First Long Shutdown (LS1) of LHC in between end of 2012 and  
799 2015, a fourth disk of endcap was added in order to reinforce the redundancy of the endcap trigger.  
800 Hence, new RPC detectors using the same technology were built in between 2012 and 2013. These  
801 two sets of detector productions only differ in the properties of the High-pressure laminate (HPL)  
802 used for their electrodes that could lead to a different ageing rate. This is why spare detectors of  
803 both production periods have been tested over the past years to certify their good operation through  
804 HL-LHC.

805 On the other hand, producing detectors to equip a highly irradiated region such as the extension of  
806 CMS RPC endcaps requires to substantially improve the ageing properties of the chosen technology  
807 by reducing the charge deposition per ionizing particle. This can be achieve both by modifying the  
808 design of the detector volume or by improving the signal to noise ratio of the Front-End Electron-  
809 ics (FEE) used to process the charge collected by the read-out strips making them more sensitive to  
810 weaker signals. Two improved RPC (iRPC) designs were selected and tested in order to extend of  
811 CMS endcap coverage.

812 Thanks to the study presented in this document, preliminary conclusions will be brought on the pro-  
813 duction of iRPCs and on the longevity of the present RPC system, providing with a better understand  
814 of the future performance of the RPC sus-system within the CMS experiment.

# 2

815

816

## Investigating the TeV scale

817 Throughout history, physics experiment became more and more powerful in order to investigate finer  
818 details of nature and helped understanding the elementary blocks of matter and the fundamental  
819 interactions that bond them in the microscopic world. Nowadays, the Standard Model of particle  
820 physics is the most accurate theory designed to explain the behaviour of particles and was able to  
821 make very precise predictions that are constantly verified, although some hints of new physics are  
822 visible as bricks are still missing to have a global comprehension of the Universe.

823 To highlight the limits of the SM and test the different alternative theories, ever more powerful  
824 machines are needed. This is in this context that the Large Hadron Collider has been thought and  
825 built to accelerate and collide particles at energies exceeding anything that had been done before.  
826 Higher collision energies and high pile-up imply the use of enormous detectors to measure the prop-  
827 erties of the interaction products. The Compact Muon Solenoid is a multipurpose experiment that  
828 have been designed to study the proton-proton collisions of the LHC and give answers on various  
829 high energy physics scenari. Nevertheless, the luminosity delivered by the collider will in the future  
830 be increased to levels beyond the original plans to improve its discovery potential giving no choice  
831 to experiments such as CMS to upgrade their technologies to cope with the increased radiation levels  
832 and detection rates.

### 833 2.1 The Standard Model of Particle Physics

834 In this early 21<sup>st</sup> century it is now widely accepted that matter is made of elementary blocks referred  
835 to as *elementary particles*. The physics theory that classifies and describes the best the behaviour  
836 and interaction of such elementary particles is the so called Standard Model that formalizes 3 of  
837 the 4 fundamental interactions (electromagnetic, weak and strong interactions). Its development  
838 took place during the 20<sup>th</sup> century thanks to a strong collaboration in between the theoretical and  
839 experimental physicists.

**840 2.1.1 A history of particle physics**

841 The idea that nature is composed of elementary bricks, called *atomism*, is not contemporary as it  
842 was already discussed by Indian or Greek philosophers during antiquity. In Greece, atomism has  
843 been rejected by Aristotelianism as the existance of *atoms* would imply the existance of a void that  
844 would violate the physical principles of Aristotle philosophy. Aristotelianism has been considered  
845 as a reference in the european area until the 15<sup>th</sup> century and the italian *Rinascimento* where antic  
846 text and history started to be more deeply studied. The re-discovery of Platon's philosophy would  
847 allow to open the door to alternative theories and give a new approach to natural sciences where  
848 experimentation would become central. A new era of knowledge was starting. By the begining of  
849 the 17<sup>th</sup> century, atomism was re-discovered by philosophers and the very first attempt to estimate  
850 an *atom* size would be provided by Magnetus in 1646. Although his *atoms* correspond to what would  
851 nowadays be called *molecules*, Magnetus achieved feats by calculating that the number of molecules  
852 in a grain of incense would be of the order of  $10^{18}$  simply by considering the time necessary to smell  
853 it everywhere in a large church after the stick was lit on. It is now known that this number only falls  
854 short by 1 order of magnitude.

855 An alternative philosophy to atomism popularized by Descartes was corpuscularianism. Built on  
856 ever divisible corpuscles, contrary to atoms, it's principles would be mainly used by alchemists like  
857 Newton who would later develop a corpuscular theory of light. Boyle would combine together ideas  
858 of both atomism or corpuscularianism leading to mechanical philosophy. The 18<sup>th</sup> century have  
859 seen the development of engineering providing philosophical thought experiments with repeatable  
860 demonstration and a new point of view to explain the composition of matter and Lavoisier would  
861 greatly contribute to chemistry and atomism by publishing in 1789 a list of 33 chemical elements  
862 corresponding to what is now called *atoms*. In the early 19<sup>th</sup> century Dalton would summarize the  
863 knowledge on composition of matter and Fraunhofer would invent the spectrometer and discover  
864 the spectral lines. The rise of atomic physics, chemistry and mathematical formalism would unravel  
865 the different atomic elements and ultimately, the 20<sup>th</sup> century would see the very first sub-atomic  
866 particles.

**867 Discovery of the inner structure of the atom**

868 The negative *electron* would be the first to be discovered in 1897 by Thomson after 3 decades of  
869 research on cathode rays by proving that the electrification observed in an electroscope, as reported  
870 by Perrin, was due to the rays themselves and that they had to be composed of electrically charged  
871 particles. In 1900, Becquerel would show the *beta rays* emitted by radium had the same charge over  
872 mass ratio than what measured by Thomson for cathode rays, pointing to eletrons as a constituant  
873 of atoms. In 1907, Rutherford and Royds showed that *alpha* particles, once captured in a tube  
874 and subjected to an electric spark causing an electron avalanche, where heliuim ions as they could  
875 combine with 2 electrons to form a  ${}^4\text{He}$ . This discovery was directly followed by the constraint of  
876 the atom structure in 1909 through the gold foil experiment in which the deflection angle of alpha  
877 particles fired at a very thin gold foil was measured and highlighted atoms where mainly empty with  
878 nearly all its mass contained into a tiny positively charged *nucleus*. With these two observations,  
879 he could formulate the Rutherford model of the atom in 1911, shown together with the Thomson  
880 plum pudding model in Figure 2.1. The link in between atomic number and number of positive and  
881 negative charges contained into the atoms would fast be understood and the different kind of element  
882 transmutation appeared to be purely nuclear processes making clear that the electromagnetic nature  
883 of chemical transformation could not possibly change nuclei. Thus a new branch in physics appeared

884 to study nuclei exclusively: the nuclear physics.

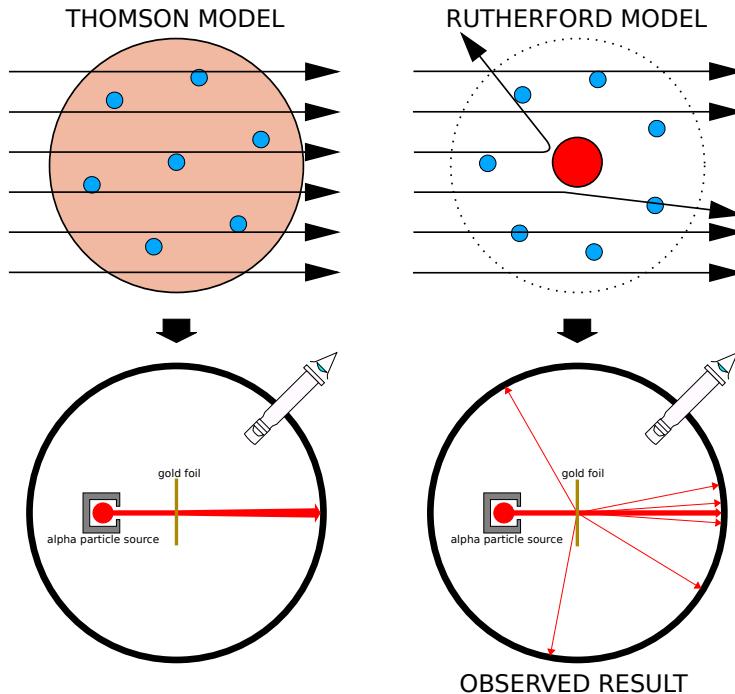


Figure 2.1: Through the gold foil experiment Rutherford could show that most of the mass of atoms was contained in a positively charged nucleus and could then propose a more accurate atomic model than that of Thomson.

885 Moreover, in 1913 quantum physics would be introduced into the atomic model by Bohr based  
 886 on the assumptions of Plank to explain spectral lines, and other observed quantum effects. The same  
 887 year, Moseley would confirm Bohr's model and Debye would extend it by introducing elliptical  
 888 orbits.

889 By studying alpha emission and the product of their interaction with nitrogen gas, Rutherford  
 890 reported in 1919 the very first nuclear reaction leading to the discovery that the hydrogen nucleus was  
 891 composed of a single positively charged particle that was later baptised *proton*. This idea came from  
 892 1815 Prout's hypothesis proposing that all atoms are composed of "protyles" (i.e. hydrogen atoms).  
 893 By using scintillation detectors, Rutherford could highlight typical hydrogen nuclei signature and  
 894 understand that the impact of alpha particles with nitrogen would knock out an hydrogen nucleus  
 895 and produce an oxygen 17, as explicated in Formula 2.1 and would then postulate that protons are  
 896 building bricks of all elements.



897 With this assumption and the discovery of isotopes together with Aston, elements with identical  
 898 atomic number but different masses, Rutherford would propose that all elements' nuclei but hydrogen's are composed of both charged particles, protons, and of chargeless particles, which he called  
 899 *neutrons*, and that these neutral particles would help maintaining nuclei as one, as charged protons  
 900

were likely to electrostatically repulse each other, and introduced the idea of a new force, a *nuclear* force. Though the first idea concerning neutrons was a bond state of protons and electrons as it was known that the beta decay, emitting electrons, was taking place in the nucleus, it was then showed that such a model would hardly be possible due to Heisenberg's uncertainty principle and by the recently measured *spin* of both protons and electrons. The spin, discovered through the study of the emission spectrum of alkali metals, would be understood as a "two-valued quantum degree of freedom" and formalized by Pauli and extended by Dirac, to take the relativist case into account. Measured to be  $\frac{1}{2}\hbar$  for both, it was impossible to arrange an odd number of half integer spins and obtain a global nucleus spin that would be integer. Finally, in 1932, following the discovery of a new neutral radiation, Chadwick could discover the neutron as an uncharged particle with a mass similar to that of the proton whose half integer spin would reveal to be the solution to explain the nuclear spin.

### 913 Development of the Quantum Electrodynamics

Historically, the development of the quantum theory revolved around the question of emission and absorption of discrete amount of energy through light. Einstein used the initial intuition of Plank about the black-body radiation to develop in 1905 a model to explain the photoelectric effect in which light was described by discrete quanta now called *photons*. For this model, Einstein introduced the concept of wave-particle duality as classical theory was not able to describe the phenomenon. With the new understanding of atoms and of their structure, classical theories also proved unable to explain atoms stability. Indeed, using classical mechanics, electrons orbiting around a nucleus should radiate an energy proportionnal to their angular momentum and thus loose energy through time and the spectrum of energy emission should then be continuous, but it was known since the 19<sup>th</sup> century and the discovery of spectral lines that the emission spectrum of material was discrete.

This was Bohr who first suggested that a quantum description of the atom was necessary in 1913. Using the correspondence principle stating that are large enough numbers the quantum calculations should give the same results than the classical theory, he proposed the very first quantum model of the hydrogen atom explaining the line spectrum by introducing the principal quantum number  $n$  describing the electron shell. This model would then be improved by Sommerfeld that would quantize the z-component of the angular momentum, leading to the second and third quantum numbers, or azimuthal and magnetic quantum number,  $l$  and  $m$  defining for the second the orbital angular momentum of the electrons on their shells and thus, the shape of the orbital, and for the third the available orbital on the subshell for each electron. Nevertheless, although the model was not only limited to sperical orbitals anymore, making the atom more realistic, the Zeeman effect couldn't be completely explained by just using  $n$ ,  $l$  and  $m$ . A solution would be brought after the discovery of Pauli in 1924, as Uhlenbeck, Goudsmit, and Kronig proposed in 1925 the idea of intrinsic rotation of the electron, introducing a new angular momentum vector associated to the particle itself, and not to the orbital, and associated to a new quantic number  $s$ , the *spin* projection quantum number explaining the lift of degeneracy to an even number of energy levels.

The introduction of the *spin* happened 1 year after another attempt of improvement of the theory was made by De Broglie in his PhD thesis. The original formulation of the quantum theory only considered photons as energy quanta behaving as both waves and particles. De Broglie proposed that all matter are described by waves and that there momentum is proportional to the oscillation of quantized electromagnetic field oscillators. This interpretation was able to reproduce the previous version of the quantum energy levels by showing that the quantum condition involves an integer

<sup>945</sup> multiple of  $2\pi$ , as shown by Formula 2.2.

$$(2.2) \quad p = \hbar k \Leftrightarrow \int pdx = \hbar \int kdx = 2\pi\hbar n$$

<sup>946</sup> Although the intuition of De Broglie about the wave-particle duality of all matter, his interpretation  
<sup>947</sup> was semiclassical and it's in 1926 that the first fully quantum mechanical wave-equation would  
<sup>948</sup> be introduced by Schrödinger to describe electron-like particles, reproducing the previous semiclassi-  
<sup>949</sup> cal formulation without inconsistencies. This complexe equation describes the evolution of the  
<sup>950</sup> wave function  $\Psi$  of the quantum system, defined by it's position vector  $\mathbf{r}$  and time  $t$  as an energy  
<sup>951</sup> conservation law, in which the hamiltonian of the system  $\hat{H}$  is explicit, by solving the Equation 2.3.

$$(2.3) \quad i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} |\Psi(\mathbf{r}, t)\rangle = \hat{H} |\Psi(\mathbf{r}, t)\rangle$$

<sup>952</sup> In 1927, Dirac would go further in his paper about emission and absorption of radiation by  
<sup>953</sup> proposing a second quantization not only of the physical process at play but also of the electromag-  
<sup>954</sup> netic field, providing the ingredients to the first formulation of *Quantum Electrodynamics (QED)*  
<sup>955</sup> and the description of photon emission by electrons dropping into a lower energy state in which the  
<sup>956</sup> final number of particles is different than the initial one. To complete this model to the many-body  
<sup>957</sup> wave functions of identical particles, Jordan included creation and annihilation operators for fields  
<sup>958</sup> obeying Fermi-Dirac statistics leading to a model describing particles that would be referred to as  
<sup>959</sup> *fermions*. Nevertheless, in order to properly treat electromagnetism, the incorporation of the relativ-  
<sup>960</sup> ity theory developed by Einstein. Including gravity into quantum physics still is a challenge nowa-  
<sup>961</sup> days, but in 1928 Pauli and Jordan would show that special relativity's coordinate transforma-  
<sup>962</sup> tions could be applied to quantum fields as the field commutators were Lorentz invariant. Finally derived  
<sup>963</sup> the same year, the Dirac equation, shown as Equation 2.4, similarly to Schrödinger's equation, is a  
<sup>964</sup> single-particle equation but it incorporates special relativity in addition to quantum mechanics rules.  
<sup>965</sup> It features the  $4 \times 4$  gamma matrices  $\gamma^\mu$  built using  $2 \times 2$  Pauli matrices and unitary matrix, the  
<sup>966</sup> 4-gradient  $\partial_\mu$ , the rest mass  $m$  of any half integer spin massive particle described by the wave func-  
<sup>967</sup> tion  $\psi(x, t)$ , also called a Dirac spinor, and the speed of light  $c$ . In addition to perfectly reproduce  
<sup>968</sup> the results obtained with quantum mechanics so far, it also provided with *negative-energy solutions*  
<sup>969</sup> that would later be interpreted as a new form of matter, *antimatter* and give a theoretical justifica-  
<sup>970</sup> tion to the Pauli equation that was phenomenologically constructed to account for the spin as in the  
<sup>971</sup> non-relativistic limit, the Dirac equation is similar.

$$(2.4) \quad i\hbar\gamma^\mu\partial_\mu\psi - mc\psi = 0$$

<sup>972</sup> The successes of the QED was soon followed with theoretical problems as computations of any  
<sup>973</sup> physical process involving photons and charged particles were showed to be only reliable at the first  
<sup>974</sup> order of perturbation theory. At higher order of the theory, divergent contributions were appearing  
<sup>975</sup> giving nonsensical results. Only two effects were contributing to these infinities.

- <sup>976</sup> • The self-energy of the electron (or positron), the energy that the particle has due its own  
<sup>977</sup> interaction with its environment.

- 978     ● The vacuum polarization, virtual electron–positron pairs produced by a background electro-  
979       magnetic field in the vacuum which is not an "empty" space. These virtual pairs affect the  
980       charge and current distributions generated by the original electromagnetic field.

981     Solving this apparent problem was done by carefully defining the concepts of each observables,  
982       for example mass or charge, as these quantities are understood within the context of a non-interacting  
983       field equation, and that from the experiment point of view, they are abstractions as what is measured  
984       are "renormalized observables" shifted from there "bare" value by the interaction taking place in  
985       the measuring process. The infinities needed to be connected to corrections of mass and charge  
986       as those are fixed to finite values by experiment. This was the intuition of Bethe in 1947 who  
987       successfully computed the effect of such *renormalization* in the non-relativist case. Fully covariant  
988       formulations of QED including renormalization was achieved by 1949 by Tomonaga, Schwinger,  
989       Feynman and Dyson and Feynman is now famous for his association of diagrams to the term of  
990       the scattering matrix, greatly simplifying the representation and computation of interactions as the  
991       diagrams directly corresponded the measurable physical processes and would then be used in every  
992       quantum field theories. With the resolution of infinities, QED had mostly reached its final form,  
993       being still today the most accurate physical theory and would serve as a model to build all other  
994       quantum field theories.

995     **Development of the quark model and Quantum Chromodynamics**

996     To explain the nuclear force that holds *nucleons* (protons and neutrons) together, Yukawa theoreti-  
997       cally proposed in 1934 the existence of a force carrier called *meson* due to it's predicted mass in  
998       the range in between the electron and nucleon masses. Discovered in 1936 by Anderson and Ned-  
999       dermeyer, and confirmed using bubble chambers in 1937 by Street and Stevenson, a first meson  
1000       candidate was observed in the decay products of cosmic rays. Assuming it had the same electric  
1001       charge than electrons and protons, this particle was observed to have a curvature due to magnetic  
1002       field that was sharper than protons but smoother than electrons resulting in a mass in between that  
1003       of electrons and protons. But its properties were not compatible with Yukawa's theory, which was  
1004       emphasized by the discovery of a new candidate in 1947, again in cosmic ray products using photo-  
1005       graphic emulsions.

1006     This new candidate, although it had a similar mass than the already believed *meson*, would rather  
1007       decay into it. For distinction, the first candidate would then be renamed "*mu meson*" when the second  
1008       would be the "*pi meson*". The *mu meson* was behaving like a heavy electron and didn't participate  
1009       in the strong interaction whereas the pion was believed to be the carrier of the nuclear interaction.  
1010     This lead to classify the *mu* in a new category of particles called *leptons* together with the electron  
1011       that shared similar properties and *the neutrino*, and be renamed *muon*. The *pi meson* was finally  
1012       found to be a triplet of particles: a positively charged, a negatively charged, and a neutral particle.  
1013     The neutral *pi meson* has been more difficult to identify as it wouldn't leave tracks on emulsions nor  
1014       on bubble chambers and needed to be studied via it's decay products. It was ultimately identified in  
1015       University of California's cyclotron in 1950 through the observation of its decay into 2 photons.

1016     Also discovered in 1947 but in cloud chamber photographs, the *K meson* as also been an im-  
1017       portant step towards the establishment of the Standard Model. A triplet of particle, 2 charged and a  
1018       neutral, with a mass roughly half that of a proton, were reported. These particles were baptised *K*  
1019       *meson* in contrast to the "light" *pi* and *mu* "L-mesons". The particularity of the *K* were there very  
1020       slow decays with a typical lifetime of the order of  $10^{-10}$ s much greater than the  $10^{-23}$ s of *pi*-proton  
1021       reactions. The concept of *strangeness*, a new quantum number was then introduced by Pais as an

attempt to explain this phenomenon as *strange* particles appeared as a pair production of a strange and anti-strange particle.

With the development of synchrotrons, the particle *zoo* would grow to several dozens during the 1950s as higher energies were reachable through acceleration. In 1961, a first classification system, called Eightfold Way, was proposed by Gell-Mann and finding its roots in the Gell-Mann–Nishijima formula, which relates the electric charge  $Q$ , the third component of the isospin  $I_3$ , the *baryon* number  $B$  and the strangeness  $S$ , as explicited in Formula 2.5. The isospin was a quantum number introduced in 1932 to explain symmetries of the newly discovered neutron using representation theory of SU(2). The baryon number, was introduced by Nishijima as a quantum number for baryons, i.e. particles of the same family as nucleons. The mesons were classified in an octet and baryons of spin  $\pm \frac{1}{2}$  and  $\pm \frac{3}{2}$  were respectively classified into an octet and a decuplet, as shown in Figure 2.2. To complete the baryon decuplet, Gell-Mann predicted the existance of baryon  $\Omega^-$  which would later be discovered in 1964.

$$(2.5) \quad Q = I_3 + \frac{1}{2}(B + S)$$

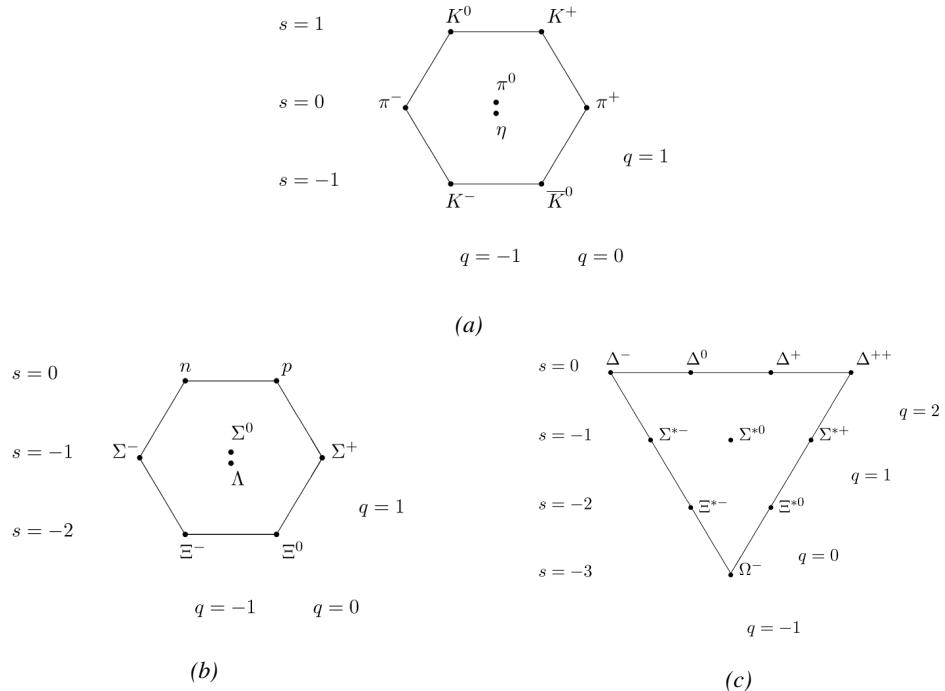


Figure 2.2: Figure 2.2a: Meson octet. Figure 2.2b: Baryon octet. Figure 2.2c: Baryon decuplet.

Strong of this classification using an SU(3) flavor symmetry, Gell-Mann, and independently Zweig, would propose a full theoretical model in which *hadrons* (strongly interacting particles, i.e. mesons and baryons) were not elementary particles anymore. They would rather be composed with 3 flavors of particles called *quarks* and there anti-particles. The 3 flavors were called *up*, *down* and *strange*. *Up* and *down* would be used to explain the nucleons and non-strange mesons, while *strange*

would come into the composition of hadrons showing strangeness. *Up* and *down* flavors would be discovered in 1968 thanks to the deep inelastic scattering experiments conducted at the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center (SLAC), and *strange* could only be indirectly validated even though it provided a robust explanation to *kaon* ( $K$ ) and *pion* ( $\pi$ ). However, in the decade following the Gell-Mann-Zweig quark model proposition, several improvements to the model were brought, first by Glashow and Bjorken the same year that predicted the existence of a fourth quark flavor, the *charm*, that would equalize the then known number of quarks and leptons and finally in 1973 by Kobayashi and Maskawa that would increase the number of quarks to 6 to explain the experimental observation of CP violation. These two quarks were referred to as *top* and *bottom* for the first time in 1975. It's only after these additions to the quark model that finally the *charm* was discovered in 1974 at both SLAC and Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL). A meson where the *charm* was bound with an *anti-charm*, called  $J/\psi$ , would help convince the physics community of the validity of the model. The *top* was discovered soon after in 1977 in Fermilab and indicate the existence of the *bottom* that would resist to discovery until Fermilab's experiments CDF and D $\emptyset$  in 1995 due to its very large mass and the energy needed to produce it.

As remarked by Struminsky, the original quark model proposal composed of 3 quarks should possess an additional quantum number due to mesons such as  $\Omega^-$  or  $\Delta^{++}$ . Indeed, these mesons are composed of 3 identical quarks, respectively 3 *strange* and *up* quark, with parallel spins, which should be forbidden by the exclusion principle. Independently, Greenberg and Han-Nambu proposed an additional SU(3) degree of freedom possessed by the quarks, that would later be referred to as *color charge gauge*, that could interact through *gluons*, the gauge boson octet corresponding to this degree of freedom. Nevertheless, as observing free quarks proved to be impossible, two visions of the quarks were argued mainly due to the failures to observe these particles free to prove their existence. On one side, Gell-Mann proposed to see quarks as mathematical construct instead of real particles, as they are always confined, implying that quantum field theory would not describe entirely the strong interaction. Opposed to this vision, Feynman on the contrary argued that quarks were real particles, that he would call *partons*, that should be described as all other particles by a distribution of position and momentum. The implications of quarks as point-like particles would be verified at SLAC and the concept of *color* would be added to the quark model in 1973 by Fritzsch and Leutwyler together with Gell-Mann to propose a description of the strong interaction through the theory of Quantum Chromodynamics (QCD). The discovery the same year of asymptotic freedom within the QCD by Groos, Politzer and Wilczek, allowed for very precise predictions thanks to the perturbation theory. Nowadays, the confinement of quarks is studied in experiments such as ALICE, through exploration of the quark-gluon plasma.

#### **1074    The Weak interaction, spontaneous symmetry breaking, the Higgs mechanism and the Elec- 1075    troweak unification**

The weak interaction is the process that causes radioactive decays. Thanks to the neutron discovery, Fermi could explain in 1934 the beta radiations through the beta decay process in which the neutron decays into a proton by emitting an electron. Though the missing energy observed during this process triggered a huge debate about the apparent non conservation of energy, momentum and spin of the process, Fermi, as Pauli before him, proposed that the missing energy was due to a neutral not yet discovered particle that would then be baptised *neutrino*. The impossibility to detect such a particle would leave some members of the scientific community sceptical, but hints of energy conservation and of the existence of the neutrino were provided by measuring the energy spectrum

of electrons emitted through beta decay, as there was a strict limit on their energy. It's only 30 years later in 1953 that it would be discovered by the team of Cowan and Reines using the principle of inverse beta decay described through Formula 2.6. The experiment consisted in placing water tanks sandwiched in between liquid scintillators near a nuclear reactor with an estimated neutrino flux of  $5 \times 10^{13} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ . However, in order to explain the absence of some reactions in the experiment of Cowan and Reines, and constraint the beta decay theory of Fermi and extend it to the case of the muon, Konopinski and Mahmoud proposed in 1953 that the muon decay would eject a particle similar to the neutrino and thus predicted the existence of a muon neutrino that would be different than the one involved in the beta decay, related to the electron. With this, the idea of lepton number would arise. The muon neutrino would successfully be detected in 1962 by Lederman, Schwartz and Steinberger.

$$(2.6) \quad \bar{\nu} + p \rightarrow n + e^+$$

The theory could not be valid though as the probability of interaction, called cross-section, would have been increasing without bound with the square of the energy. Fermi assumed in a two vector current coupling but Lee and Yang noted that an axial current could appear and would violate parity. The experiment of Wu in 1956 would confirm the parity violation and Gamow and Teller would try to account for it by describing Fermi's interaction through allowed (parity-violating) and superallowed (parity-conserving) decays. But the success of QED as a quantum field theory would spark the development of such a theory to describe the weak interaction.

As previously discussed, the great success of QED was built on an underlying symmetry, interpreted as a gauge invariance so that the effect of the force is the same in all space-time coordinates, and of the possibility to renormalize it in order to absorb the infinites. Independently in 1958, Glashow, and Salam and Ward used 1957 Schwinger ideas about vector intermediary for the decay processes, could find a way to unite both the electromagnetic and weak interaction into a gauge theory involving 4 gauge bosons, 3 of which were massive and carried out the weak interaction and a massless boson carrying the electromagnetic interaction. Among the 3 massive bosons, 2 were charged and 1 was neutral, similarly to the previously theorized *pi meson* vector of the Yukawa model and all have a mass much greater than nucleons and thus a very short life time implying a finite very short range contrary to the contact interaction originally proposed by Fermi.

Breakthrough in other fields of physics contributed in giving theoretical support and interpretation to the unified electroweak theory. The stepping stone would be the use of spontaneous symmetry breaking that was inspired to Nambu at the end of the 1950s following the development of the BCS superconductivity mechanism in 1957. Cooper had shown that BCS pairs, pairs of electrons bound together at low temperature, could have lower energy than the Fermi energy and where responsible for superconductivity. This lead to the discovery of Goldstone-Nambu bosons as a result of the spontaneous breaking of the chiral symmetry in a theory describing nucleons and mesons developed by Nambu and Jona-Lasinio in 1961, and now understood as a low-energy approximation of QCD. Similarly to mechanism of energy gap appearance in superconductivity, the nucleon mass is suggested to the result of a self-energy of a fermion field and is studied through a four-fermion interaction in which, as a consequence of the symmetry, bound states of nucleon-antinucleon pairs appear and can be regarded as virtual pions. Though the symmetry is maintained in the equations, the ground state is not preserved. Goldstone would later the same year show that the bound states corresponds to spinless bosons with zero mass.

1126 Although the model in itself didn't revolutionize particle physics, spontaneous symmetry breaking  
 1127 would be generalized to quantum field theories. As all fundamental interactions are described  
 1128 using gauge theories based on underlying symmetries, processes such as the chiral symmetry breaking  
 1129 would be introduced soon after the publication of Nambu and Jona-Lasinio. In 1962, Anderson,  
 1130 following an idea of Schwinger who suggested that zero-mass vector bosons were not necessarily  
 1131 required to describe the conservation of baryons contrary to the bosons emerging from chiral sym-  
 1132 metry breaking, discussed the implications of spontaneous symmetry breaking in particles physics.  
 1133 A model was finally independently built in 1964 by Brout and Englert, Higgs, and Guralnik, Hagen,  
 1134 and Kibble, who discovered that combining an additional field into a gauge theory in order to break  
 1135 the symmetry, the resulting gauge bosons acquire a nonzero mass. Moreover, Higgs stated that this  
 1136 implied the existence of at least one new massive, i.e. self-interacting, scalar boson, that are now  
 1137 known as *Higgs bosons* corresponding to this additional field. The Higgs mechanism today specifi-  
 1138 cally refers to the process through which the gauge bosons of the weak interaction acquire mass. In  
 1139 1968, Weinberg could point to the Higgs mechanism to integrate a Higgs field into a new version  
 1140 of the electroweak theory in which the spontaneous symmetry breaking mechanism of the Higgs  
 1141 field would explicitly explain the masses of the weak interaction gauge bosons and the zero-mass  
 1142 of photons.

### 1143 2.1.2 Construction and test of the model

1144 The Standard Model of particle physics was built in the middle of the 1970s after the experimental  
 1145 confirmation of the existence of quarks. It is based on the assembly of the models previously intro-  
 1146 duced and describing the fundamental interactions, except for gravitation, and their gauge bosons  
 1147 as well as the way elementary "matter" particles interact with the fields associated with these force  
 1148 carriers. In this sense, the development of QED and the unification of the electroweak interaction,  
 1149 of the Yukawa interaction and of QCD, and of the Higgs mechanism made it possible to explain most  
 1150 of contemporary physics.

1151 In the SM, "matter" particles, are described by 12 fermion fields of spin  $\frac{1}{2}$  obeying the Fermi-  
 1152 Dirac statistics, i.e. subjected to the Pauli exclusion principle. To each fermion is associated its  
 1153 corresponding antiparticle. The fermions are classified according to the way they interact and, thus,  
 1154 according to the charges they carry. 6 of them are classified as quarks ( $u$ ,  $d$ ,  $c$ ,  $s$ ,  $t$ , and  $b$ ) and  
 1155 are subjected to all interactions and the 6 others as leptons ( $e^-$ ,  $\mu^-$ ,  $\tau^-$ ,  $\nu_e$ ,  $\nu_\mu$ , and  $\nu_\tau$ ). Leptons  
 1156 are not subjected to the strong interaction and among them, the 3 neutrinos only interact weakly as  
 1157 they are neutral particles, which explains why they are so difficult to detect. The gauge boson fields  
 1158 are the gluons  $g$  for the strong interaction, the photon  $\gamma$  for the electromagnetic interaction and the  
 1159 weak bosons  $W^+$ ,  $W^-$ , and  $Z^0$  for the weak interaction. Finally, the Higgs field  $H^0$  is responsible,  
 1160 through the spontaneous symmetry breaking, of the mixing of the massless electroweak boson fields  
 1161  $W_1$ ,  $W_2$ ,  $W_3$ , and  $B$  leading to the observable states  $\gamma$ ,  $W^+$ ,  $W^-$ , and  $Z^0$  that can gain mass while  
 1162 interacting with the Higgs field. This picture of the SM is summarized through Figure 2.3 where the  
 1163 antifermions are not showed.

1164 When the model was first finalized, the existence of the weak gauge bosons, of the charm, of the  
 1165 third quark generation composed of top and bottom quarks to explain the observed CP violation was  
 1166 not proven but the predictions were measured with good precision in the years following. First, the  
 1167 charm quark would be discovered in 1974, followed by the bottom quark in 1977. The weak bosons  
 1168 would be discovered during the next decade in 1983. The top quark would resist until 1995 due to  
 1169 its very large mass but would offer the last piece of the elementary QCD particles. The very last

predicted elementary particle of the model that was not observed yet would prove to be very difficult to observe. the Higgs boson needed the start of the LHC to finally be observed in 2012. A few years more of tests were necessary to measure its properties to confirm the observation of a scalar boson compatible with the predicted Higgs boson  $H^0$ . Even though only quark-antiquark (mesons) and 3 quark states (baryons) were observed, exotic hadrons were not forbidden by QCD and no limit of quark is imposed by the theory. Moreover, gluons could form bound states by themselves and with quarks. These two types of states are called *glueballs* and *hybrid hadrons*. For decades, experiments have been conducted without confirmation of such possible states existing. Nevertheless, in 2014, tetraquarks were observed by LHCb, one of LHC's main experiments, and in 2015, the same experiment reported the discovery of pentaquarks making the SM one of the best tested theories of physics.

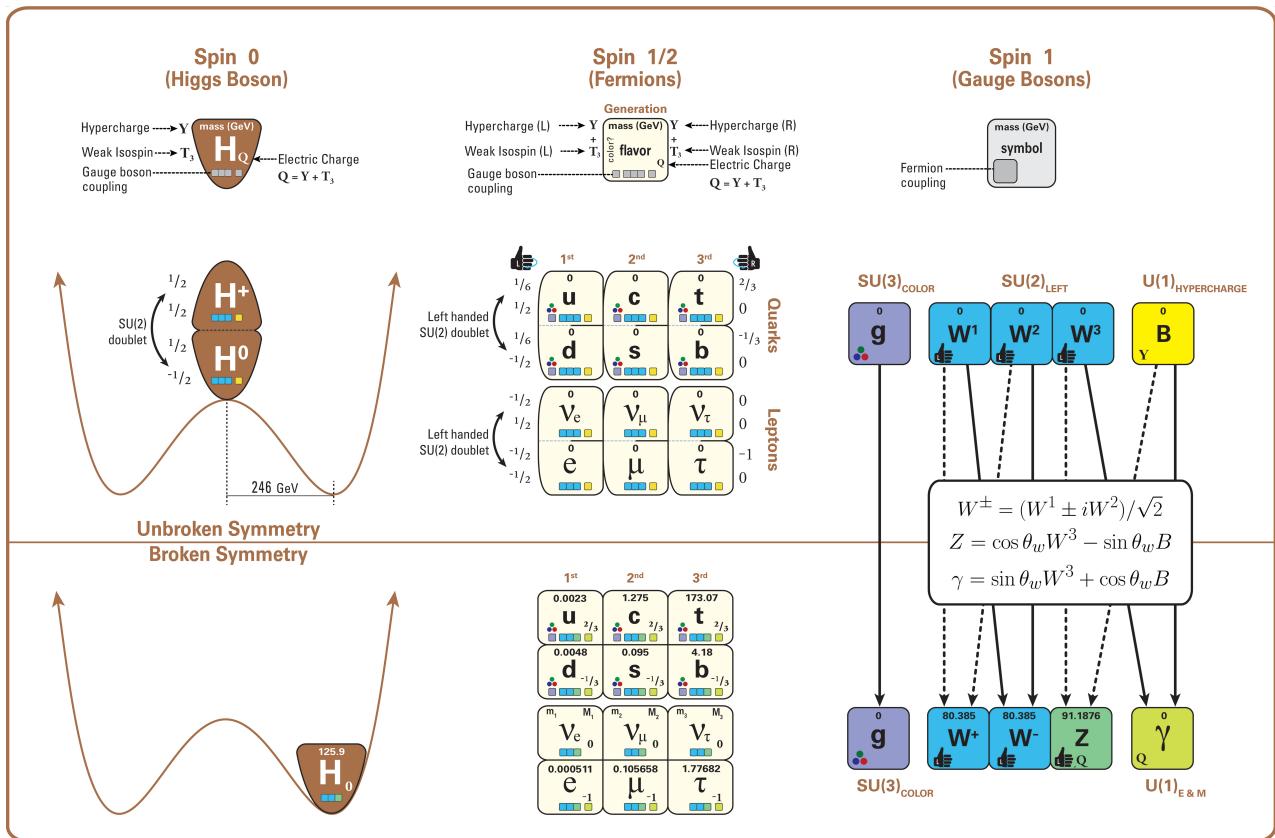


Figure 2.3: The elementary particles of the Standard Model are shown along with their names and properties. Their interactions with the strong, weak and electromagnetic forces have been explicated using color squares. In the left column, the scalar higgs boson is depicted, while the central is focused on the matter particles, the fermions, and the right on the force carriers, the gauge bosons. The role of the Higgs boson in electroweak symmetry breaking is highlighted, and the corresponding way properties of the various particles differ in the (high-energy) symmetric phase (top) and the (low-energy) broken-symmetry phase (bottom) are showed.

### 2.1.3 Investigating the TeV scale

Even though the SM is a well tested theory, several hints of physics going beyond its scope have been observed. First of all, gravity is not explained through this model and huge difficulties are encountered when trying to include gravitation. The strength of gravitational interaction is expected to be negligible at the scale of elementary particles, nevertheless, adding gravitation in the perspective of developing a "*theory of everything*" leads to divergent integrals that could not be fixed through renormalization.

Moreover, the SM considers neutrinos to be massless but it was shown in the late 1960s by the Homestake experiment that the flux of solar neutrinos (i.e.  $\nu_e$ ) measured didn't match the predicted values due to neutrino oscillations, confirmed in the early 2000s by the Sudbury Neutrino Observatory. This oscillation implies that neutrinos that can be observed are a superposition of massive neutrino states. The research on neutrino oscillation is already quite advanced with experiments looking at atmospheric, reactor or beam neutrinos in order to determine the elements of the mixing matrix similar to the CKM matrix describing the mixing of quarks. Nevertheless, no answer to the origin of neutrino mass is provided.

Another intriguing fact is that the universe is dominated by matter. However, the SM predicted that matter and antimatter should have been created in equal amounts and no mechanism is able to explain this matter-antimatter asymmetry. Although this asymmetry is seen from the visible universe, it may be possible that other unknown regions of the Universe are dominated by antimatter. Another possibility to explain the apparent asymmetry would be the existence of a electric dipole in any fundamental particle that would permit matter and antimatter particles to decay at different rates.

The discrepancy of velocity dispersion of stars in galaxies with respect to the visible mass they contain is known since the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century where Kelvin proposed that this problem could be solved if a "*great majority of [the stars] would be dark bodies*". Throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century, physicists like Kapteyn, Zwicky, showed the first hints of a "*dark matter*" by studying star velocities and galactic clusters, followed by robust measurements of galaxy rotation curves by Babcock which suggested that the mass-to-luminosity ratio was different from what would be expected from watching the visible light. Later in the 1970s, Rubin and Ford from direct light observations and Rogstad and Shostak from radio measurements showed that the radial velocity of visible objects in galaxies was increasing with increasing distance to the center of the galaxy. Finally observation of lensing effect by galaxy clusters, temperature distribution of hot gas in galaxies and clusters, and the anisotropies in the Cosmic Microwave Background (CMB) kept on pointing to a "*dark matter*". From all the data accumulated, the visible matter would only account to no more than 5% of the total content on the visible universe. Alternative theories have tried to investigate modified versions of the General Relativity as this theory is only well tested at the scale of the solar system but is not sufficiently tested on wider ranges or even theories in which gravitation is not a fundamental force but rather an emergent one, but so far, such theories have difficulties to reproduce all the experimental observations as easily as through dark matter.

A possible theory to offer dark matter candidates would be supersymmetry (SUSY) which proposes a relationship in between bosons and fermions. In this model, each elementary particle, through a spontaneous spacetime symmetry breaking mechanism would have a *super partner* from the other family of particles. On top of providing heavy dark matter candidates, supersymmetry could also help solving the *Hierarchy problem*, the very large scale difference in between the weak interaction and gravity, although, as mentioned before, in the case gravity is found not to be a fun-

1226 damental force, this problem would automatically fade.

1227

1228 All these different aspects of physics beyond the Standard Model of particle physics and the  
1229 Standard model itself can be tested through the use of very energetic and intense hadron and ion col-  
1230 liders. The LHC at CERN is a perfect tool to seek answers to these open questions except maybe for  
1231 the gravity as gravity is extremely weak at particles level. For example, one of LHCb experiment's  
1232 goal is to investigate CP-violation and thus baryonic asymmetry. In 2017, the collaboration has an-  
1233 nounced to have so far a  $3.3\sigma$  statistical significance over a CP-violation through the study of the  
1234 decays of  $\Lambda_b^0$  and  $\bar{\Lambda}_b^0$  into a proton (or antiproton) and 3 pions. Many analysis teams are also working  
1235 hard on supersymmetry both in ATLAS and CMS collaborations, the two multipurpose experiments  
1236 of LHC, even though no evidence of a supersymmetrical theory was seen, the few hint having the  
1237 tendency to confirm the standard model. These experiments also have the possibility to investigate  
1238 ways to explain Majorana neutrino mass through Yukawa interactions of scalar particles.

1239

1240 The higher the center-of-mass energy, the smaller details the experiments will be able to see, the  
1241 heavier the potential particle creation barrier will be, the stronger the cross-section of certain rare  
1242 decay channels will be. As a comparison, with collisions happening at 14 TeV, the LHC is approxi-  
1243 mately 2 orders of magnitude more sensitive to the Higgs than the Tevatron was with its already very  
1244 powerful 2 TeV. All these advantages eventually lead to new discoveries and deeper understanding  
1245 of the models describing our Universe. But the LHC only is a step forward to gather more precise  
1246 tests of the Standard Model and new knowledge about the physics beyond it. A successful physics  
1247 campaign will probably serve to justify the building of new accelerators with even greater discovery  
1248 potential like for example the Future Circular Collider (FCC) that would push even further the study  
1249 of the unanswered questions of contemporary physics.

## 1249 **2.2 The Large Hadron Collider & the Compact Muon Solenoid**

1250 Throughout its history, CERN has played a leading role in high energy particle physics. Large re-  
1251 gional facilities such as CERN were thought after the second world war in an attempt to increase  
1252 international scientific collaboration and allows scientists to share the forever increasing costs of  
1253 experiment facilties required due to the need for increasing the energy in the center of mass to  
1254 deeper probe matter. The construction of the first accelerators at the end of the 50s, the Synchro-  
1255 cyclotron (SC) and the Proton Synchrotron (PS), was directly followed by the first observation of  
1256 antinuclei in 1965 [1]. Strong from the experience of the Intersecting Storage Rings (ISR), the very  
1257 first proton-proton collider that showed hints that protons are not elementary particles, the Super  
1258 Proton Synchrotron (SPS) was built in the 70s to investigate the structure of protons, the preference  
1259 for matter over antimatter, the state of matter in the early universe or exotic particles, and lead to  
1260 the discovery in 1983 of the W and Z bosons [2–5]. These newly discovered particles and the elec-  
1261 troweak interreaction would then be studied in details by the Large Electron-Positron (LEP) collider  
1262 that will help to prove in 1989 that there only are three generations of elementary particles [6]. The  
1263 LEP would then be dismantled in 2000 to allow for the LHC to be constructed in the existing tunnel.

### 1264 **2.2.1 LHC, the most powerful particle accelerator**

1265 The LHC has always been considered as an option to the future of CERN. At the moment of the  
1266 construction of the LEP beneath the border between France and Switzerland, the tunnel was built in  
1267 order to accomodate what would be a Large Hadron Collider with a dipole field of 10 T and a beam

1268 energy in between 8 and 9 TeV [7] directly followed in 1985 with the creation of a 'Working Group  
 1269 on the Scientific and Technological Future of CERN' to investigate such a collider [8]. The decision  
 1270 was finally taken almost 10 years later, in 1994, to construct the LHC in the LEP tunnel [9] and the  
 1271 approval of the 4 main experiments that would take place at the 4 interaction points would come in  
 1272 1997 [10] and 1998 [11]:

- 1273 • ALICE [12] has been designed in the purpose of studying quark-gluon plasma that is believed  
 1274 to have been a state of matter that existed in the very first moment of the universe.
- 1275 • ATLAS [13] and CMS [14] are general purpose experiments that have been designed with  
 1276 the goal of continuing the exploration of the Standard Model and investigate new physics.
- 1277 • LHCb [15] has been designed to investigate the preference of matter over antimatter in the  
 1278 universe through the CP violation.

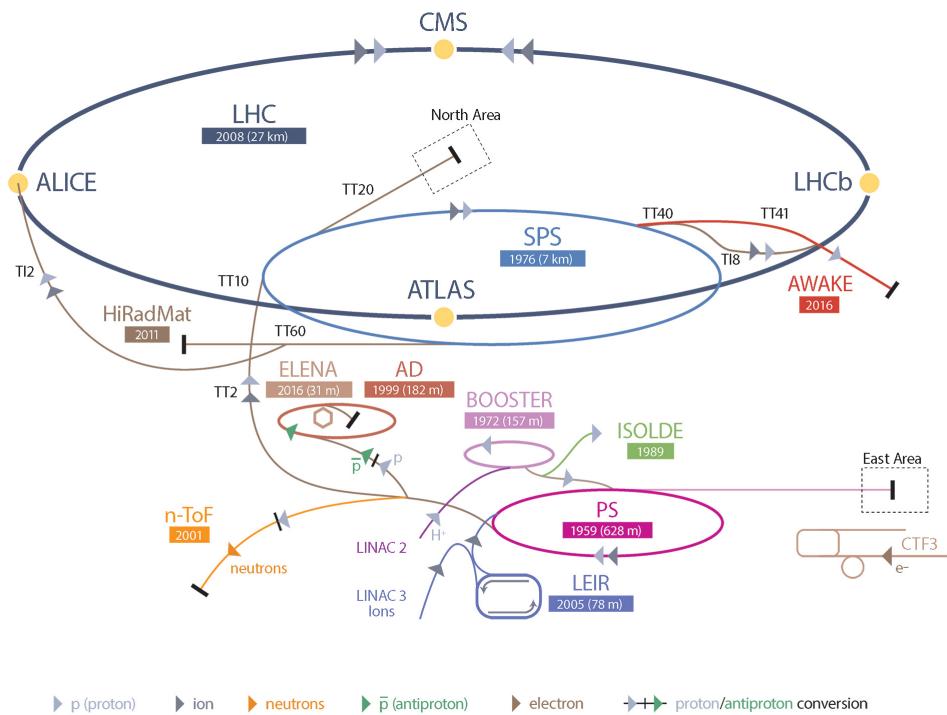


Figure 2.4: CERN accelerator complex.

1279 These large scale experiments, as well as the full CERN accelerator complex, are displayed on  
 1280 Figure 2.4. The LHC is a 27 km long hadron collider and the most powerful accelerator used for  
 1281 particle physics since 2008 [16]. The LHC was originally designed to collide protons at a center-of-mass  
 1282 energy of 14 TeV and luminosity of  $10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ , as well as  $Pb$  ions at a center-of-mass  
 1283 energy of 2.8 TeV/A with a peak luminosity of  $10^{27} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ . Run 1 of LHC, when the  
 1284 center-of-mass energy only was half of the nominal LHC energy, was enough for both CMS and  
 1285 ATLAS to discover the Higgs boson [17] and for LHCb to discover pentaquarks [18] and confirm  
 1286 the existence of tetraquarks [19]. Nevertheless, after the Third Long Shutdown (LS3) (2024-2026),

1287 the accelerator will be in the so called High Luminosity LHC configuration [20], increasing its  
 1288 instantaneous luminosity to  $10^{35} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$  for  $pp$  collisions and to  $4.5 \times 10^{27} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ , boosting the  
 1289 discovery potential of the LHC. The HL-LHC phase should last at least another 10 years depending  
 1290 on the breakthrough this machine would lead to. Already a new accelerating device, the FCC, as  
 1291 been proposed to prepare the future of high energy physics after the LHC.



*Figure 2.5: Pictures of the different accelerators. From top to bottom: first the LINAC 2 and the Pb source of LINAC 3. Then the Booster and the LEIR. Finally, the PS, the SPS and the LHC.*

1292 The LHC is the last of a long series of accelerating devices. Before being accelerated by the  
 1293 LHC, the particles need to pass through different acceleration stages. All these acceleration stages

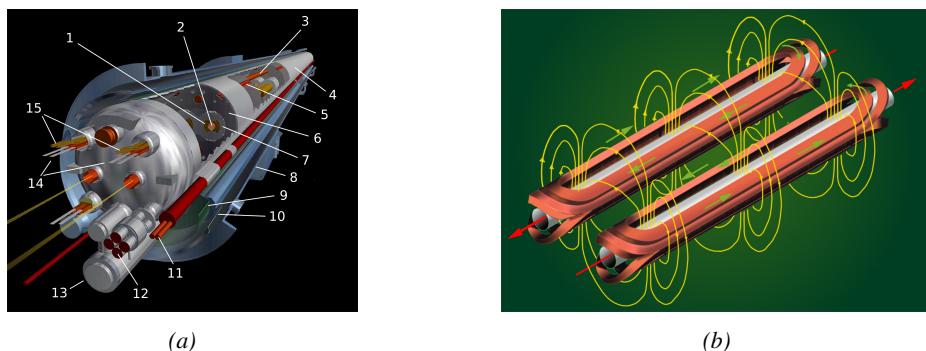
are visible on Figure 2.4 and pictures of the accelerators are showed in Figure 2.5.

The story of accelerated protons at CERN starts with a bottle of hydrogen gas injected into the source chamber of the linear particle accelerator *LINAC 2* in which a strong electric field strips the electron off the hydrogen molecules only to keep their nuclei, the protons. The cylindrical conductors, alternatively positively or negatively charged by radiofrequency cavities, accelerate protons by pushing them from behind and pulling them from the front and ultimately give them an energy of 50 MeV, increasing their mass by 5% in the process.

When exiting the LINAC 2, the protons are divided into 4 bunches and injected into the 4 superimposed synchrotron rings of the *Booster* where they are then accelerated to reach an energy of 1.4 GeV before being injected into the *PS*. Before the Booster was operational in 1972, the protons were directly injected into the PS from the LINAC 2 but the low injection energy limited the amount of protons that could be accelerated at once by the PS. With the Booster, the PS accepts approximately 100 times more particles.

The 4 proton bunches are thus sent as one to the PS where their energy eventually reaches 26 GeV. Since the 70s, the main goal of this 628 m circumference synchrotron has been to supply other machines with accelerated particles. Nowadays, not only the PS accelerates protons, it also accelerates heavy ions from the *Low Energy Ion Ring (LEIR)*. Indeed, the LHC experiments are not only designed to study *pp*-collisions but also *Pb*-collisions. Lead is first injected into the dedicated linear collider *LINAC 3*, that accelerate the ions using the same principle than LINAC 2. Electrons are stripped off the lead ions all along the acceleration process and eventually, only bare nuclei are injected in the LEIR whose goal is to transform the long ion pulses received into short dense bunches for LHC. Ions injected and stored in the PS were accelerated by the LEIR from 4.2 MeV to 72 MeV.

Directly following the PS, is finally the last acceleration stage before the LHC, the 7 km long *SPS*. The SPS accelerates the protons to 450 GeV and inject proton in both LHC accelerator rings that will increase their energy up to 7 TeV. When the LHC runs with heavy lead ions for ALICE and LHCb, ions are injected and accelerated to reach the energy of 2.8 TeV/A.



*Figure 2.6: Figure 2.6a: schematics of the LHC cryodipoles. 1: Superconducting Coils, 2: Beam pipe, 3: Heat exchanger Pipe, 4: Helium-II Vessel, 5: Superconducting Bus-bar, 6: Iron Yoke, 7: Non-Magnetic Collars, 8: Vacuum Vessel, 9: Radiation Screen, 10: Thermal Shield, 11: Auxiliary Bus-bar Tube, 12: Instrumentation Feed Throughs, 13: Protection Diode, 14: Quadrupole Bus-bars, 15: Spool Piece Bus-bars. Figure 2.6b: magnetic field and resulting motion force applied on the beam particles.*

The LHC beams are not continuous and are rather organised in bunch of particles. When in *pp*-collision mode, the beams are composed of 2808 bunches of  $1.15 \times 10^{11}$  protons separated by 25 ns.

1323 When in  $Pb$  collision mode, the 592  $Pb$  bunches are on the contrary composed of  $2.2 \times 10^8$  ions  
 1324 separated by 100 ns. The two parallel proton beams of the LHC are contained in a single twin-  
 1325 bore magnet due to the space restriction in the LEP tunnel. Indeed, building 2 completely separate  
 1326 accelerator rings next to each other was impossible. The dipoles of the 1232 twin-bore magnets are  
 1327 showed in Figure 2.6 alongside the magnetic field generated along the dipole section to accelerate the  
 1328 particles. The dipoles generate a nominal field of 8.33 T, needed to give protons and lead nucleons  
 1329 their nominal energy. Some 392 quadrupoles, presented in Figure 2.7, are also used to focus to the  
 1330 beams, as well as other multipoles to correct smaller imperfections.

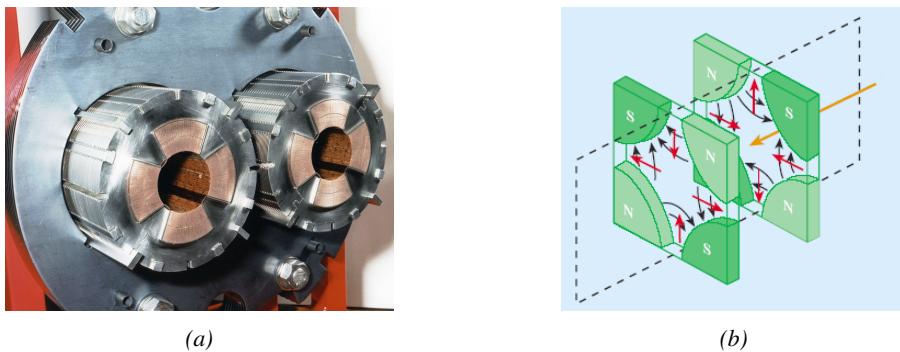


Figure 2.7: Figure 2.7a: picture of the LHC quadrupoles. Figure 2.7b: magnetic fields and resulting focussing force applied on the beam by 2 consecutive quadrupoles.

## 1331 2.2.2 CMS, a multipurpose experiment

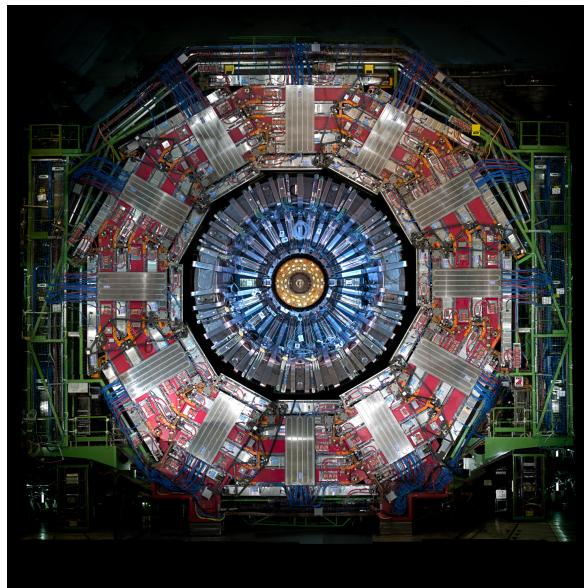


Figure 2.8: Picture of the CMS barrel. The red outer layer is the muon system hosted into the red iron return yokes. The calorimeters are the blue cylinder inside in magnet solenoid and the tracker is the inner yellow cylinder built around the beam pipe.

1332 Among the four main LHC experiments is the Compact Muon Solenoid used as a multipurpose tool to  
 1333 investigate the SM and physics beyond its scope. Proposed through a letter of intention in 1992 [14],  
 1334 and as its name suggests, this very compact detector's uses the muons as a clear tag of most of SM  
 1335 and new physics interesting channels. In the original 1997 Technical Design Report (TDR) [21], the  
 1336 very first sentences were stating that "*Muons are an unmistakable signature of most of the physics*  
 1337 *LHC is designed to explore. The ability to trigger on and reconstruct muons at the highest lumi-*  
 1338 *nosities is central to the concept of CMS, the Compact Muon Solenoid.*" CMS participated in the  
 1339 discovery of the Higgs boson and the measurement of its properties and couplings together with  
 1340 ATLAS and is also actively involved in the search for SUSY and heavy ion collisions. Other exotic  
 1341 physics are also being investigated using the data collected by CMS.

1342 The CMS apparatus in itself is the heaviest detector ever built starring a SI15m diameter and a  
 1343 29 m length for a total weight of 14 kT. A thick 4 T solenoid magnet located at the beam interaction  
 1344 point hosts trackers and calorimeters. Extending in all directions around the magnet, heavy iron  
 1345 return yokes are installed to extend the magnetic field and support a muon system. The apparatus  
 1346 consists of a barrel, referring to the magnet and the detectors contained in it and the part of the  
 1347 muon system built directly in the cylinder around the magnet, and of 2 endcaps in the forward and  
 1348 backward region of the detector that closes the apparatus and complete the detection coverage along  
 1349 the beam line. A front view on the barrel is provided in Figure 2.8 while a detailed view of the  
 1350 apparatus is given in Figure 2.9.

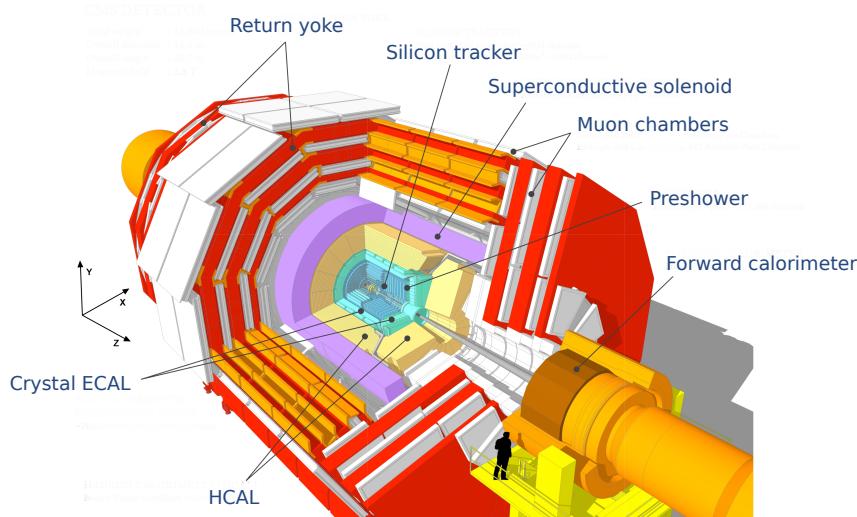


Figure 2.9: View of the CMS apparatus and of its different components.

1351 In order to efficiently detect all long leaving particles and measure their properties with good  
 1352 precision, the CMS detector uses an onion like layout around of the interaction point in order to  
 1353 maximize the covered solid angle. As detailed in Figure 2.10, in the innermost region of the detector,  
 1354 closest to the interaction point, the silicon tracker records the trajectory of charged particles. Around  
 1355 it, the electromagnetic calorimeter (ECAL) stops and measure the energy deposition of electrons  
 1356 and photons. In the next layer, the hadron calorimeter (HCAL), hadrons are stopped and their energy  
 1357 measured. These layers are contained inside of the magnet of CMS, the superconducting solenoid.  
 1358 Outside of the magnet are the muon chambers embedded into iron return yokes used to control the

1359 magnetic field and gives muons, the only particles traveling completely through the whole detector, a  
 1360 double bending helping in reconstructing their energy and trajectory. Note that photons and neutral  
 1361 hadrons are differentiated from electrons and charged hadrons in the calorimeters by the fact that  
 1362 they don't interact with the silicon tracker and that they are not influenced by the magnetic field.

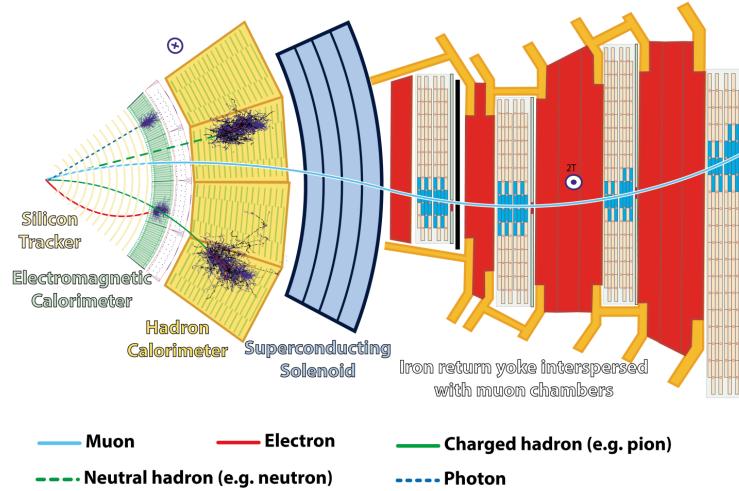


Figure 2.10: Slice showing CMS sub-detectors and how particles interact with them.

### 1363 2.2.2.1 The silicon tracker, core of CMS

1364 The silicon tracker visible on Figure 2.11 is divided into 2 different sub-systems: the *pixel detector*  
 1365 at the very core and the *microstrip detector* around it. This system is composed of 75 million  
 1366 individual readout channels with up to 6000 channels per squared centimeter for the pixels making  
 1367 it the world's biggest silicon detector. This density allows for measurements of the particle tracks  
 1368 with a precision of the order of  $10 \mu\text{m}$ . This is necessary to reconstruct all the different interaction  
 1369 vertices with precision and have a precise measure of the curvature of the charged particles traveling  
 1370 through the magnetic field to estimate their charge and momentum.

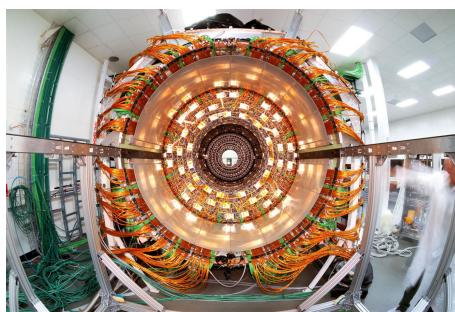
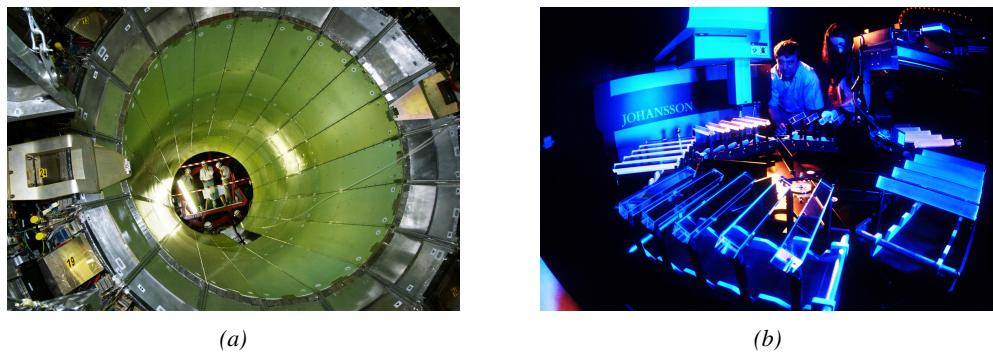


Figure 2.11: CMS tracker.

### 1371 2.2.2.2 The calorimeters, measurement of particle's energy

1372 The ECAL directly surrounding the tracker is composed of crystals of lead tungstate,  $\text{PbWO}_4$ , a  
 1373 very dense but optically transparent material used to stop high energy electrons and photons. These

1374 crystal blocks basically are extremely dense scintillators which scintillate in fast, short light bursts  
 1375 proportionally to the energy deposition. The light is yielded rapidly and contained at 80% in the  
 1376 corresponding 25 ns lasting bunch crossing. Each crystal is isolated from the other by the carbon  
 1377 fiber matrix they are embedded in. It is composed of a barrel containing more than 60,000 crystals  
 1378 and of closing endcaps containing another 15,000 crystals. In front of the ECAL endcap is installed  
 1379 a preshower detector made out of two layers of lead and silicon strip detectors to increase the spatial  
 1380 resolution close to the beam line for pion-photon and single-double photon discrimination purposes.  
 1381 Figure 2.12 shows the calorimeter inside of the magnet and the crystals.



*Figure 2.12: Figure 2.12a: picture of the ECAL. Figure 2.12b: picture of the lead tungstate crystals composing the ECAL.*

1382 The next layer is the HCAL measuring the hadrons momentum and providing indirect hints of  
 1383 non interacting neutral particles, such as neutrinos, as missing transverse momentum. Several layers  
 1384 of brass or steel are interleaved with plastic scintillators readout by photodiodes using wavelength-  
 1385 shifting fibers. The HCAL is also composed of a barrel, showed in Figure 2.13 and of endcaps. It  
 1386 also features forward calorimeters on both sides of CMS in the region very close to the beam line at  
 1387 high pseudorapidity ( $3.0 < |\eta| < 5.0$ ). The role of these forward calorimeters, made using steel and  
 1388 quartz fibers, is to measure very energetic hadrons.



*Figure 2.13: CMS hadron calorimeter barrel.*

1389 Finally, in the outer region of the apparatus, a muon system is used to trigger on potentially  
 1390 interesting event by identifying muons. Indeed, the muon system is a very important part of the  
 1391 CMS trigger infrastructure designed to efficiently select data from the enormous data flow received  
 1392 by the detectors as the LHC delivers collisions at a rate of 40 MHz with a pile-ip of 20 to 30 collisions

1393 per bunch crossing during Phase-I and up to 200 during Phase-II, representing billions of interactions  
 1394 per second among which a large quantity are low energy collisions that are not likely to produce new  
 1395 reactions, and which is physically impossible for nowadays technologies to cope with. Working at  
 1396 a maximum rate of 100 kHz, the trigger system is able to select the 100,000 more interesting events  
 1397 by looking at the energy distribution of the interaction products and clear signatures like muons  
 1398 reconstructed by the muon system. the vast majority of these events will not finally be stored after  
 1399 physics tests are applied.

#### 1400 2.2.2.3 The muon system, corner stone of CMS

1401 The challenge for the muon system is to provide a robust and fast measurement of muons. Three  
 1402 different subsystems, and soon 4 after LS2, compose the muon system as showed in Figure 2.14 in  
 1403 which a quadrant of the CMS detector focused on muon system. Drift Tube (DT) are found in the  
 1404 barrel region covering the low pseudorapidity region where particles transverse momentum is lower  
 1405 and Cathode Strip Chamber (CSC) are found in the endcap region covering higher pseudorapidity  
 1406 region closer to beam line where particles have a stronger momentum. The redundancy of the system  
 1407 is insured by Resistive Plate Chambers in both the barrel and endcap region. Nevertheless, the region  
 1408 closest to the beam line ( $|\eta| > 1.8$ ) was not equipped with RPCs. This lack of redundancy in the high  
 1409 pseudo rapidity region will be solved during LS2, the following Year End Technical Stop (YETS) in  
 1410 2021 and 2022, and LS3 where the necessary services, detectors and Link System, that collects the  
 1411 data and synchronizes them, will be installed.

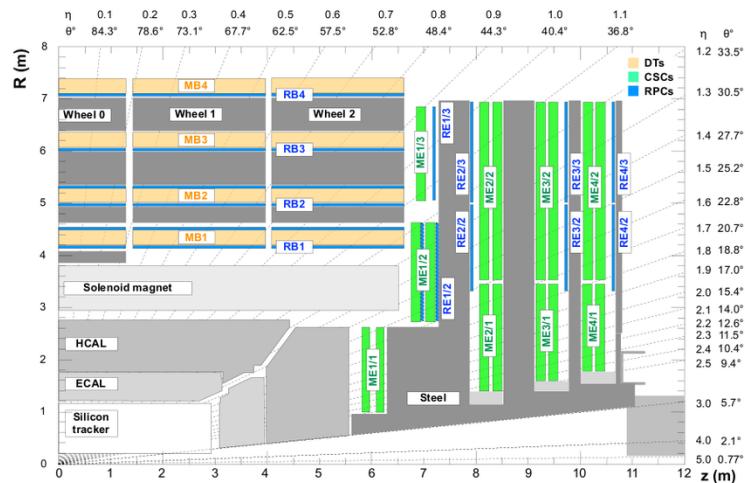


Figure 2.14: A quadrant of the muon system, showing DTs (yellow), RPCs (blue), and CSCs (green).

1412 The barrel region is divided into 5 *wheels* made out of 4 *rings* of detectors with iron return yokes  
 1413 in between them whereas the endcaps are made out of 4 disks, each divided into pseudorapidity  
 1414 stations, 2 for CSCs (except for the first disk where 3 stations are equipped) and 3 for RPCs, although  
 1415 only 2 RPCs stations are equipped at present. The wheels and disks are showed in Figure 2.15. So  
 1416 far, each subsystem was dedicated to a particular task. DTs, in the barrel, and CSCs, in the endcaps,  
 1417 are used mainly for their spatial resolution. Indeed, DTs' resolution is of the order of 100  $\mu\text{m}$  along  
 1418 both the  $(r - \phi)$  and  $(r - z)$  components while the resolution of CSCs is similar but varies in a range

<sup>1419</sup> from 50  $\mu\text{m}$  to 140  $\mu\text{m}$  depending on the distance to the beamline. On the other hand, RPCs are used  
<sup>1420</sup> for their time resolution as they can deliver an information on the muon tracks within 1.5 ns.

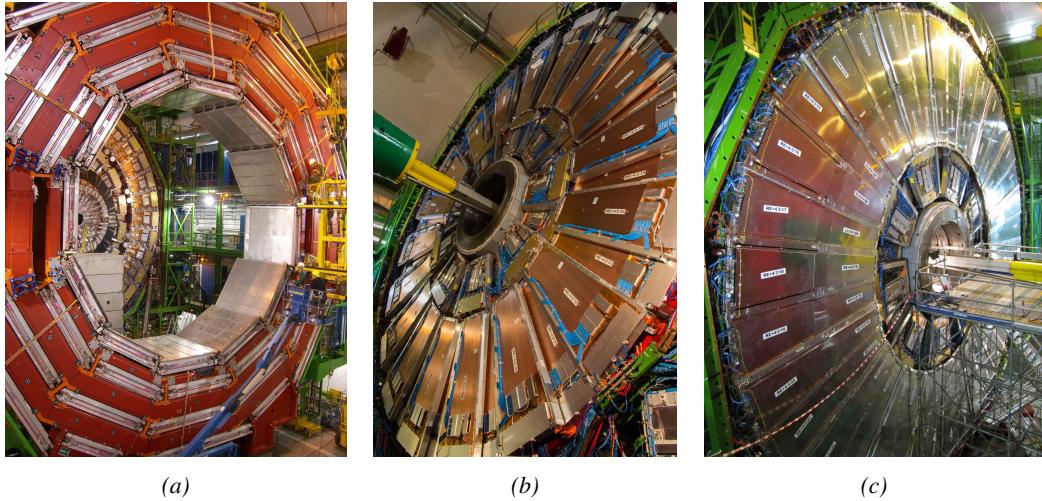


Figure 2.15: Figure 2.15a: Barrel wheel with its detector rings and return yokes. Figure 2.15b: CSC endcap disk with the 2 CSC stations. The outer station is made of 10 deg detectors while the inner station is made of 20 deg detectors. Figure 2.15c: RPC endcap disk. The inner station is not equipped and the inner CSC station can be seen.

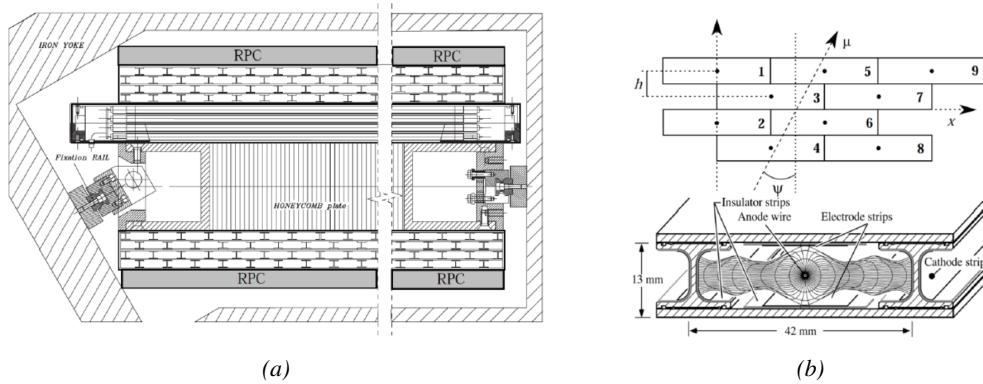


Figure 2.16: Figure 2.16a: Cross section of a DT module showing the two superlayers measuring the  $\phi$  coordinate, perpendicular to the cross section plane, and the superlayer measuring the  $\eta$  coordinate, placed in between the two others with honeycomb and parallel to the cross section plane. The DT detector is sandwiched in between 2 RPCs whose readout strips are perpendicular to the cross section plane, measuring the  $\phi$  coordinate. Figure 2.16b: A DT cell is shown together with its electric field. The path of a muon through a superlayer is shown.

<sup>1421</sup> The 250 CMS DTs, found in the barrel covering the pseudorapidity region  $0 < |\eta| < 1.2$   
<sup>1422</sup> and whose structure is shown in Figure 2.16, are composed of 3 *superlayers* of DT cells. Two of  
<sup>1423</sup> these superlayers are dedicated to measuring the  $\phi$  coordinate of the muons and while the last one  
<sup>1424</sup> measures the  $\eta$  (or  $z$ ) coordinate. Each superlayer consists on 4 layers of 60 to 70 DT cells arranged  
<sup>1425</sup> in quincunx to allow for a precise reconstruction of the muon path through the DT layers. Each DT

1426 cell is a rectangular aluminium gas volume with a central anode wire. Cathode strips are placed on  
 1427 the narrow surface of the cells and electrode strips are placed on the wide surface to help shaping  
 1428 the electric field to ensure a consistent drift velocity of electrons in the drift volume. These detectors  
 1429 are operated using a 85/15 mixture of Ar and  $CO_2$ .

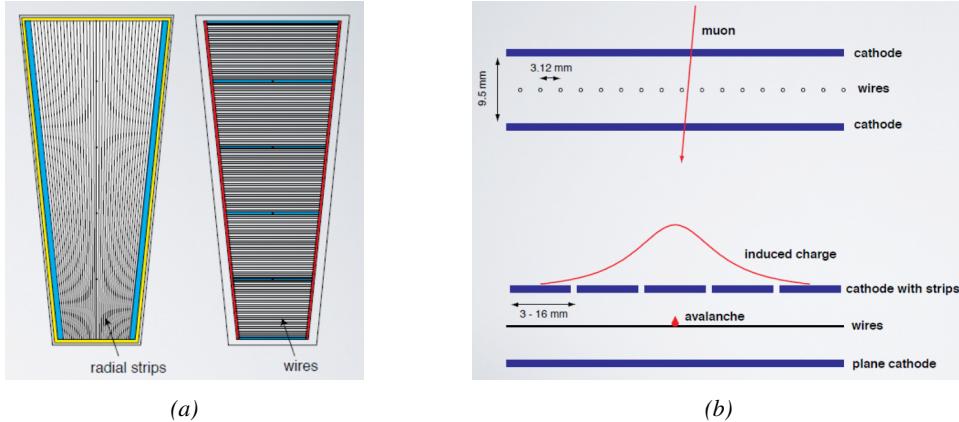


Figure 2.17: Figure 2.17a: cathode strips and anode wire layout of a CSC panel. Figure 2.17b avalanche development and charge collection by anode wires and induction on cathode strips inside of a CSC panel.

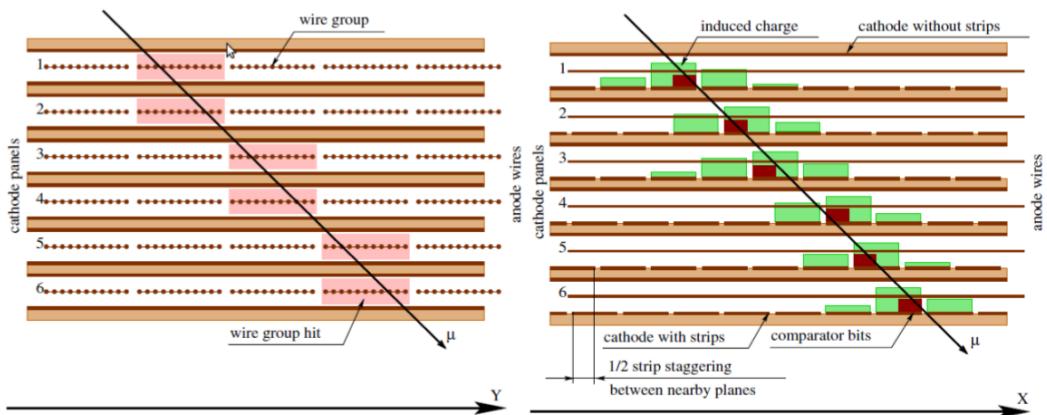


Figure 2.18: Muon track reconstruction through the 6 panels of a CMS CSC using the information of anode wire groups and cathode strip charge distribution combined with comparator bits to decide on which half strip the muon is more likely to have passed.

1430 The 540 CMS CSCs, found in the endcaps covering the pseudorapidity region  $0.9 < |\eta| < 2.5$   
 1431 and described through Figures 2.17 and 2.18, are composed of 6 panels of CSC, each panel consisting  
 1432 in a wide gas volume of 9.5 mm (7 mm in the case of ME1/1 station) containing anode wires and  
 1433 whose surfaces are cathodes. The top cathode is a wide copper plane of the size of the gas volume.  
 1434 The bottom cathode is divided into thin trapezoidal copper strips radially arranged to measure the  
 1435 azimuthal coordinate  $\phi$  with a pitch ranging from 8 to 16 mm. The  $0.50 \mu m$  anode wires are placed  
 1436 perpendicularly to the strips to measure radial coordinate  $r$  and are grouped by 10 to 15 with a wire  
 1437 to wire space of 3.2 mm. In the specific case of ME1/1 placed against the HCAL endcap, the  $0.30 \mu m$

1438 anode wires have a wire to wire distance of 2.5 mm and are not disposed perpendicularly to the strips  
 1439 but slightly tilted by an angle of 29 deg to compensate for the lorentz force due to the very strong  
 1440 local magnetic field of 4 T. These detectors are operated with a 40/50/10 mixture of  $Ar$ ,  $CO_2$  and  
 1441  $CF_4$ . Combining the information of the multiple CSC panels, the detectors achieve a very precise  
 1442 measurement of the muon track.

1443 Despite their excellent spatial resolution, the wire chambers (DTs and CSCs) are limited in terms  
 1444 of time resolution by the fact that the charge needs to drift towards the anode wire and be collected  
 1445 before having the confirmation that a particle was detected as the drift volume is not used to develop  
 1446 avalanches. Indeed, the stronger electric field close to the anode wire triggers the avalanche and the  
 1447 gain of the detector. Due to the drift, the time resolution is thus limited at best to approximately 2 to  
 1448 3 ns. In addition, even though the intrinsic time resolution of the tracking chambers is rather good  
 1449 compared to the 25 ns in between successive collisions, the processing time of the trigger system  
 1450 doesn't allow for very fast triggering as it provides a time precision of only 12.5 ns. Thus, detectors  
 1451 fully dedicated to timing measurement have been installed as a redundant system. These detectors  
 1452 are RPCs, also gaseous detectors but that use current induction instead of charge collection allowing  
 1453 for a time resolution of the order of 1.5 ns only. Theoretically, depending on the design used, RPCs  
 1454 could reach a time resolution of the order of 10 ps but in the context of LHC where bunch crossing  
 1455 happen every 25 ns, a time resolution of 1.5 ns is sufficient to accurately assign the right bunch  
 1456 crossing to each detected muon.

1457 The 1056 RPCs equipping the CMS muon system both in the barrel and endcap regions and  
 1458 covering the pseudorapidity region  $0 < |\eta| < 1.6$  are composed of two layers of RPC *gaps* as  
 1459 described in Figure 2.19. Each gap consists in two resistive electrodes made out of 2 mm thick  
 1460 Bakelite enclosing a 2 mm thick gas volume containing a 95.2/4.5/0.3 mixture of  $C_2H_2F_4$ ,  $i - C_4H_{10}$  and  $SF_6$ . Due to this geometry, the electric field inside of a gap is homogeneous and linear  
 1461 at every point in the gas translating into a uniform development of avalanches in the gas volume as  
 1462 soon as a passing muon ionises the gas. The two gaps sandwich a readout copper strip plane. A  
 1463 negative voltage is applied on the outer electrodes, used as cathodes, and the inner electrodes, the  
 1464 anodes, are simply connected to the ground as well as the readout panel that picks up the current  
 1465 induced by the accumulated charge of the growing avalanches in one or both of the gas gaps. This  
 1466 OR system allows for a lower gain (i.e. a lower electric field) on both gaps to reach the maximal  
 1467 efficiency of such a detector.

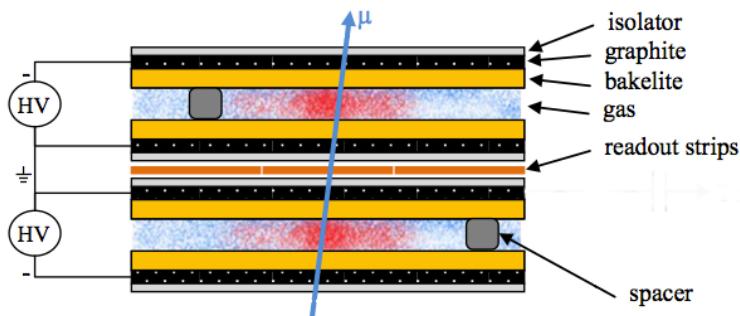


Figure 2.19: Double gap layout of CMS RPCs. Muons passing through the gas volumes will create electron-ion pairs by ionising the gas. this ionisation will immediately translate into a developing avalanche.

# 3

1469

1470

## Muon Phase-II Upgrade

1471 The very first proton beam successfully circulated in the LHC in September 2008 directly followed  
1472 by an incident leading to mechanical damage that would delay the LHC program for a year until  
1473 November 2009, the very first collisions at a center-of-mass energy of 7 TeV taking place in March  
1474 2010. The energy of the beam would be increased after a First Long Shutdown (LS1) starting  
1475 early 2013 after less than 3 years of data taking. During the 2 years of shutdown, the upgrade of  
1476 the accelerator allowed for several maintainances along the beam pipes, repair and consolidation  
1477 of magnet connection and high-current splices. But not only the LHC was upgraded. Indeed, the  
1478 experiments at the 4 collision points also took the advantage of this time to upgrade their system  
1479 in prevision of the next LHC run (Run-II) until 2018 and the Second Long Shutdown (LS2) as the  
1480 luminosity and energy of the beam would be continuously increasing. By the end of Run-II, the  
1481 luminosity will have reached twice its nominal value when the center-of-mass energy has already  
1482 got close to its nominal value by reaching an historical 13 TeV for the first time in 2017.

1483 The next long shutdown will occur at the end of this year and will again be the occasion for sim-  
1484 ilar maintenance and consolidation in prevision of Run-III and the future upgrade of LS3. Still, the  
1485 main occupation of LS2 on LHC side will be the upgrade of LHC injectors. On the experiments side,  
1486 LHCb and ALICE will, in a very tight schedule, implement major upgrades while ATLAS and CMS  
1487 will wait until LS3 to upgrade their detectors in prevision of high luminosity *LHC-Phase-II*. ALICE  
1488 main challenge is an upgrade of their apparatus to cope with the 50 kHz  $Pb - Pb$  collisions. Simi-  
1489 larly, LHCb will upgrade their frontend readout electronics to cope with the full 40 MHz collisions  
1490 delivered by LHC. ATLAS will perform standard maintenance and CMS will focus on the urgent up-  
1491 grade of the pixel detector and on the installation of new muon detectors in order to take profit of LS2  
1492 time to mitigate the upgrade of detectors forseen during LS3. Run-III will start in 2021 with the LHC  
1493 at its nominal center-of-mass energy and will bring LHC-Phase-I to an end at the end of 2023. By  
1494 then the luminosity will only increase to reach 2.5 times the nominal luminosity but during these 3  
1495 years of run, the LHC will deliver as much integrated luminosity as what what brought during the al-  
1496 most 7 years of both Run-I and II of data taking. Phase-I will end with an overall  $300 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  delivered.  
1497

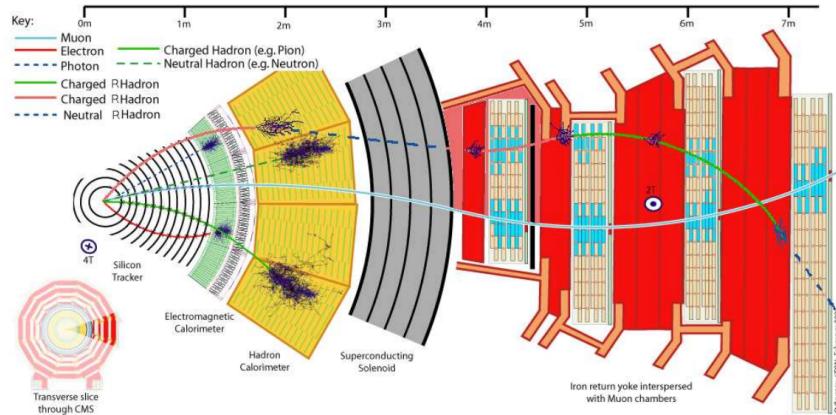
### 1498 3.1 Motivations for HL-LHC and the upgrade of CMS

1499 The first data taking period that took place until the start of LS1 and during which the LHC was  
 1500 only operated at a center-of-mass energy of 7 TeV was sufficient to claim the discovery of a new  
 1501 125 GeV/c<sup>2</sup> particle compatible with the Higgs boson by both CMS and ATLAS in July 2012 and  
 1502 hence achieve a major milestone in the history of science towards the understanding of the funda-  
 1503 mental nature of the universe. Nevertheless, the LHC machine holds the potential to go further and  
 1504 help unravel the remaining mysteries the high energy physics community is facing.

1505 Over its full lifetime, the HL-LHC is expected to deliver an outstanding integrated luminosity  
 1506 of 3000 fb<sup>-1</sup> leading, in the case of Higgs studies to measuring the couplings of the boson to a  
 1507 precision of 2 to 5% thanks to the estimated 15 millions of Higgs created every year providing a  
 1508 more precise measurement of potential deviations from the theoretical predictions and hence test its  
 1509 properties with respect to the SM Higgs neutral boson. SUSY and heavy gauge boson studies would  
 1510 also see their mass range limits pushed away by at least 1 TeV and could lead to a new breakthrough.  
 1511 SUSY is a particularly important topic as it could give an answer to why the Higgs boson can stay so  
 1512 light while coupled to heavy particles by introducing the contributions of the super partners on top  
 1513 of providing dark matter candidates. Finally, the increase of luminosity will give the possibility to  
 1514 investigate "exotic" mode like for example the models introducing extra dimensions to explain the  
 1515 hierarchy problem.

1516 Many of these Standard Model extensions yield Heavy Stable Charged Particles (HSCPs), heavy  
 1517 long-lived particles displaying a high momentum but a velocity significantly lower than the speed of  
 1518 light [22–25] and/or a charge that differs from the elementary charge  $\pm e$  [25–29]. Depending on  
 1519 the model considered, Heavy Stable Charged Particles could be lepton-like heavy particles or on the  
 1520 contrary R-hadron, particles composed of a supersymmetric particle and at least one quark. Due to  
 1521 lifetimes of the order of a few ns HSCPs would travel for long enough distances to cross through en-  
 1522 tire typical collider detectors while appearing almost stable but because of their slow velocity, they  
 1523 can be reconstructed in different bunch crossings if reconstructed at all. Indeed, the trigger algo-  
 1524 rithms in use at CMS were not designed for such slow particles and assume most particles of interest  
 1525 will have a velocity close to the speed of light [25, 30]. As HSCPs are long-lived particles, their  
 1526 identification will be possible thanks to the muon system. The tracks associated to the HSCPs would  
 1527 then be requested to be reconstructed in both the silicon detectors, for precise  $dE/dx$  measurement,  
 1528 and the muon system detectors. In this case, the muon system will be used to perform Time-of-  
 1529 flight (ToF) measurements to discriminate between near speed-of-light particles and slower ones.  
 1530 The full reconstruction will then look for useful signatures such as the large transverse momentum  
 1531 of the candidates, their large ionisation energy loss alongside the low velocity accurately measured  
 1532 thanks to the muon system. The main background will consist of wrongly measured muons which  
 1533 should have a lower transverse momentum, a near to speed-of-light velocity and a low ionisation  
 1534 energy loss. An example of passage of HSCPs through a slice of the CMS detector is showed in  
 1535 Figure 3.1.

1536 The ToF measurement to identify beyond the Standard Model particles will mostly rely on the  
 1537 time information provided by the Drift Tubes, in the barrel region of the detector, and Cathode Strip  
 1538 Chambers, in the endcaps. From CMS point of view it will then become necessary to increase the  
 1539 acceptance and redundancy of the endcaps toward higher pseudo-rapidity. Moreover, the increased  
 1540 background will become problematic in many ways and will force for upgrades or many sub-systems  
 1541 of CMS.



*Figure 3.1: Slice of the CMS detector showing example of passage of SM particles and R-hadrons. On the one hand, lepton-like HSCPs will appear to behave like slow and heavy muons. On the other hand, R-hadrons are likely to convert into other kind of charged or neutral R-hadrons due to interactions inside the detector volume.*

## 3.2 High Luminosity LHC and muon system requirements

After approximately 15 years of operation, the LHC will undergo a new series of upgrade during the LS3 in order to boost its discovery potential as showed in Figure 3.2. This moment onward is what is referred to HL-LHC or Phase-II. The goal is to aim for a luminosity 5 to 7 times stronger than the nominal one trying to reach even 10 times this value if possible. Increasing the luminosity means that the beam size at the collision points needs to be reduced to boost the number of collisions per bunch crossing. For this purpose, new focusing and bending magnets, and collimators will be installed at the collision points as well as newly developed “crab cavities” that will tilt the particle bunches just prior to the collisions by giving them transverse momentum and thus increasing their meeting area. In addition, the full proton injection line will be upgraded.

On the experiments side, the pile-up (PU) will be increased up to 150 to 200 interactions per bunch crossing in ATLAS and CMS, making necessary an strong upgrade of the trigger system and of the inner trackers and of the calorimeters. Both ATLAS and CMS will also need to upgrade the muon trigger at the level of the endcaps mainly focusing on the coverage near the beam line in order to increase the detection acceptance and event selection. Moreover, the increased luminosity will also lead to an increased background rate and a faster ageing of the detectors. This PhD work takes place into this very specific context of muon detector consolidation and certification for the HL-LHC period in order to provide the CMS experiment with robust new detectors and confirm that the present system will survive through the next 20 years of HL-LHC.

The end of 2018 will mark the beginning of LS2 and the start of Phase-II upgrade activities. From the HL-LHC period onwards, i.e. past LS3, the performance degradation due to integrated radiation as well as the average number of inelastic collisions per bunch crossing, seen as pile-up into the detectors’ readout that far exceeds this of the original LHC plans, will rise substantially and become a major challenge for all of the LHC experiments, like CMS, that were forced to address an upgrade program for Phase-II [32]. Dealing with the data from the muon detectors will force to upgrade the detectors and electronics towards the most recent technologies. Simultaneously, this will push new latency requirements onto the Level-1 trigger and the Data Acquisition (DAQ) that

1569 will only be fulfilled by upgrading the system with electronics having deeper buffering and faster  
 1570 processing. Simulations of the expected distribution of absorbed dose in the CMS detector under  
 1571 HL-LHC conditions show, in Figure 3.3, that detectors placed close to the beam line will have to  
 1572 withstand high irradiation, the radiation dose being of the order of a few tens of Gy.

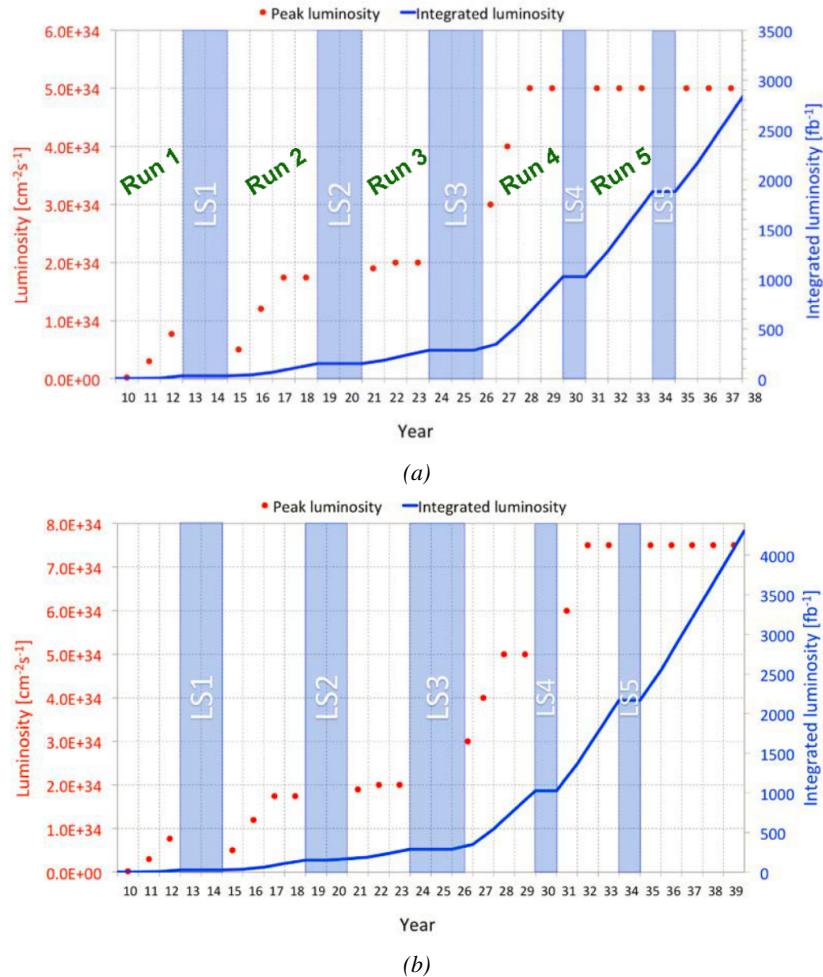


Figure 3.2: Detailed timeline projection of for LHC and HL-LHC operation until 2039 showing the evolution of the instantaneous and integrated luminosity as designed (Figure 3.2a) and in the ultimate case where the instantaneous luminosity is increased to  $7.5 \times 10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$  (Figure 3.2b) [20, 31].

1573 The increase of irradiation close to the beam line will affect the background rate seen by the  
 1574 muon detectors in this area and tracking muons will prove to be difficult as this region is not yet  
 1575 equipped with all the detectors that were already foreseen for Phase-I. Improving this situation will  
 1576 come with the increase of hit numbers recorded along the particle track to reduce the ambiguity on  
 1577 muon versus background detection. Moreover, the measurement of small production cross-section  
 1578 and/or decay branching ratio processes, such as the Higgs boson coupling to charge leptons, and in  
 1579 particular to muons, or the  $B_s \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$  decay, is of major interest and specific upgrades in the  
 1580 forward regions of the detector will be required to maximize the physics acceptance to the largest

<sup>1581</sup> possible solid angle.

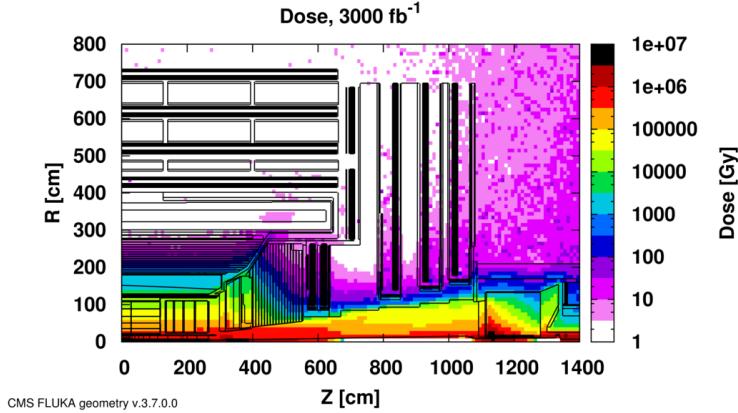


Figure 3.3: Absorbed dose in the CMS cavern after an integrated luminosity of 3000 fb. Using the interaction point as reference,  $R$  is the transverse distance from the beamline and  $Z$  is the distance along the beamline.

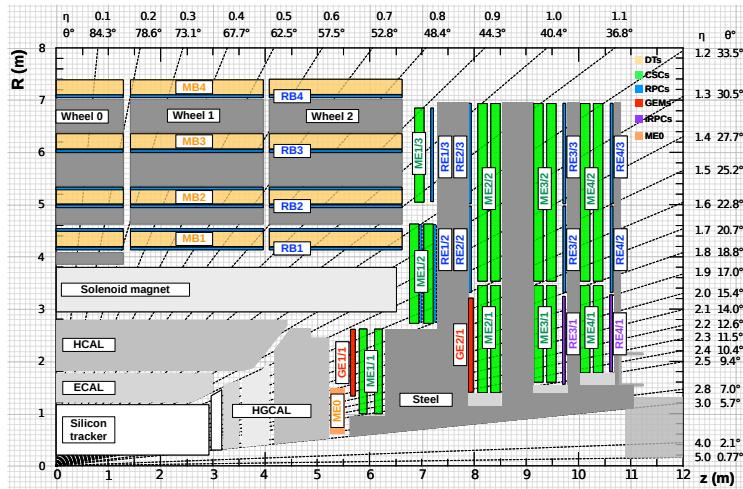


Figure 3.4: A quadrant of the muon system, showing DTs (yellow), RPCs (blue), and CSCs (green). The locations of new forward muon detectors for Phase-II are contained within the dashed box and indicated in red for GEM stations ( $ME0$ ,  $GE1/1$ , and  $GE2/1$ ) and dark blue for improved RPC (iRPC) stations ( $RE3/1$  and  $RE4/1$ ).

<sup>1582</sup> To ensure proper trigger performance within the present coverage, the muon system will be  
<sup>1583</sup> completed with new chambers and the electronics of the present system will need to be upgraded to  
<sup>1584</sup> ensure an efficient triggering. Figure 3.4 shows the addition of Gas Electron Multiplier (GEM) and  
<sup>1585</sup> improved RPC (iRPC) in the pseudo-rapidity region  $1.6 < |\eta| < 2.4$  to complete the redundancy of  
<sup>1586</sup> the already existing CSCs as originally scheduled in the CMS Technical Proposal [33]. A first step  
<sup>1587</sup> into this direction will be taken by installing GEMs on the first endcap disk in position  $GE1/1$  during  
<sup>1588</sup> LS2, during which preparations for the future installation of more GEMs and RPCs will take place  
<sup>1589</sup> by installing the needed services. During the YETS following LS2, iRPCs will be installed on the

1590 third and fourth endcap disks in position RE3/1 and RE4/1, and more GEMs will equip the second  
 1591 endcap in position GE2/1 and the inner layer, closest to the HCAL endcap called ME0 during LS3,  
 1592 finally completing the redundant coverage of the muon system and extending it a little by extending  
 1593 the reach to  $|\eta| = 2.8$ , the redundancy in the region  $2.4 < |\eta| < 2.8$  being maintained by the 6  
 1594 GEM layers contained in each ME0 detector that provide enough tracking points to efficiently reject  
 1595 neutron-induced background.

1596 Nevertheless, the region beyond  $|\eta| > 2.8$  and extending to  $|\eta| = 5.0$  only is covered by the  
 1597 forward HCAL detectors and lack redundant muon detector coverage. Extensions of the tracker in  
 1598 the context of HL-LHC will increase its coverage up to  $|\eta| = 4.0$  but the identification of muons and  
 1599 measurement of their energy with reasonable precision only using the tracker is nearly impossible.  
 1600 Thus, this increased tracker coverage range needs to be put in parallel with a matching muon detector  
 1601 and will open doors to multi-lepton final states in which leptons are likely to have a low transverse  
 1602 momentum and to be found near the beam line.

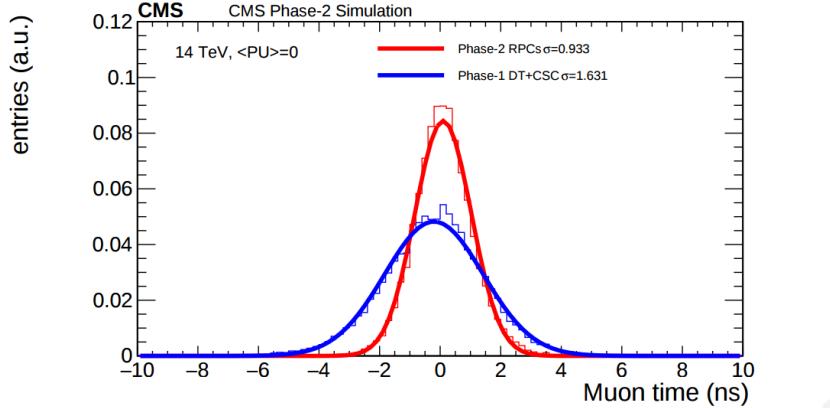
1603 Finally, as the muon system is composed only of gaseous detectors, strong environmental  
 1604 concerns have risen over the last years as the European directives will restrict the use of fluorine based  
 1605 gas mixtures. Both the CSC and RPC subsystems, using  $CF_4$ ,  $C_2H_2F_4$ , or  $SF_6$ , will need to adapt  
 1606 their working gas in order to strongly reduce the greenhouse potential of the mixtures released into  
 1607 the atmosphere due to gas leaks.

### 1608 3.3 Necessity for improved electronics

1609 Drift Tubes and Cathode Strip Chambers are important components used to identify and measure  
 1610 muons, especially thanks to their spatial resolution of the order of  $100\ \mu m$ . Nevertheless, the lumi-  
 1611 nosity and irradiation during HL-LHC will cause serious event loss and ageing on the electronics of  
 1612 these subsystems that will comprise the triggering and data transferring needs of CMS. Thus, elec-  
 1613 tronics upgrade are foreseen to address these expected problems. While only the RPCs' electronic  
 1614 system is able to operate under Phase-II requirements, DTs and CSCs will need to improve their  
 1615 trigger accept rate and latency to ensure that Level-1 trigger threshold stays at the same level [34],  
 1616 and DAQ data transfer rate, that respectively need to achieve a minimum of  $500\ kHz$ , get down to  
 1617  $12.5\ \mu s$  [35], and increase to  $1082\ Gbit/s$  DTs and to  $1026\ Gbit/s$  for CSCs. As of today, the Level-  
 1618 1 trigger accept rate of DTs doesn't reach  $300\ kHz$  while this of CSCs is below  $250\ kHz$  but the  
 1619 foreseen upgrades are expected to increase the rate way beyond the requirement in the of DTs and  
 1620 up to  $4\ MHz$  for CSCs [32].

1621 The first version of Minicrate electronics (MiC1) used by DTs don't allow for high enough  
 1622 trigger rate. In addition to this problem, it was showed that these electronics contain components  
 1623 that are not radiation hard enough to sustain HL-LHC conditions and thus, a too large number of  
 1624 channels may fail due to radiations. The MiC1 will be replaced on each detector by an improved  
 1625 version referred to as MiC2 while front-end electronics and high-voltage modules will not need any  
 1626 replacement. On the other hand, CSCs showed that their electronics would be able to live through  
 1627 the 10 years of Phase-II but the limited buffer depth might cause memory overflows and readout  
 1628 inefficiencies with a fraction of event loss ranging from 5 to more than 10% at an instantaneous  
 1629 luminosity similar to which of HL-LHC depending on the expected background. Thus the replace-  
 1630 ment of CSCs' cathode front-end boards (CFEBs) by digital ones, DCFEBS, with deeper buffer  
 1631 would permit to make event loss negligible and satisfy HL-LHC requirements [32]. All these new  
 1632 DT and CSC electronics will be connected to the trigger electronics via optical links to ensure a

1633 faster communication.



*Figure 3.5: Comparison of the simulated time residuals in between reconstructed and true muon times without (blue) and with (red) the upgraded RPC link system.*

1634 The upgrade on the side of Resistive Plate Chambers will then not come from their on-board  
1635 electronics but from the Link System located in the service cavern of CMS and that connects the  
1636 front-end electronics data of RPCs into CMS trigger processors. The main motivation for such an  
1637 upgrade is that the electronic boards composing the link system are built using obsolete components  
1638 and weak components that can easily suffer from electromagnetic noise. These components may  
1639 be the source of failing channels throughout Phase-II. Moreover, these link boards were originally  
1640 designed only to match RPC digitized signals with the corresponding bunch crossing. Due to this  
1641 feature, the time resolution of the full RPC chain is thus limited to 25 ns and does not exploit the full  
1642 time resolution of the detectors. This would make the synchronization of the RPC system easier and  
1643 allow to have a finer offline background removal within the 25 ns in between bunch crossings thanks  
1644 to the order of magnitude gained in terms of time resolution.

1645 Upgrading RPC link system will require the installation of 1376 new link boards and 216 control  
1646 boards. The new boards will make use of the recent progress made with fast FPGAs and will be a  
1647 great improvement to the ASICs formerly used as they will be able to process signals from several  
1648 detectors in parallel. The benefit from using the full RPC time resolution thanks to the upgraded  
1649 link system can be seen through Figure 3.5 where the resolution of the RPC system itself is better  
1650 than that of DTs and CSCs that was used until now.

### 1651 3.4 New detectors and increased acceptance

1652 In the present muon system, the redundancy was assured by RPCs used for their good timing per-  
1653 formances. The extension of the muon system towards higher pseudo-rapidity in order to complete  
1654 the redundancy in this very region and to contribute to the precision of muon momentum measure-  
1655 ments will require muon chambers with a spatial resolution less or comparable to the contribution  
1656 muon of multiple scattering through the detector volume [21]. Most of the plausible physics is cov-  
1657 ered only considering muons with  $p_T < 100$  GeV hence, in order to match CMS requirements, a  
1658 spatial resolution of  $\mathcal{O}(\text{few mm})$  will be necessary for the proposed new RPC stations while the  
1659 GEMs will need a resolution better than 1 mm, as shown by the simulation in Figure 3.6.

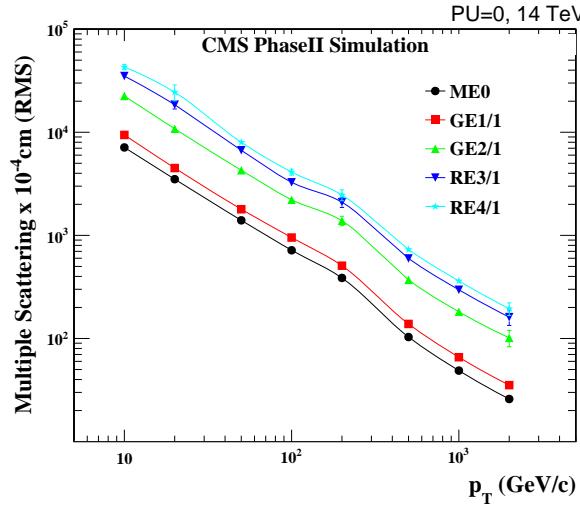


Figure 3.6: RMS of the multiple scattering displacement as a function of muon  $p_T$  for the proposed forward muon stations. All of the electromagnetic processes such as bremsstrahlung and magnetic field effect are included in the simulation.

### 3.4.1 Gas electron multipliers

In the region closer to the interaction point where the spatial resolution is requested to be better than 1 mm for the new detectors (at least for GE1/1 and ME0, GE2/1 being in the same order of requested spatial resolution than the new iRPCs that will equip the third and fourth endcaps), the choice has been made to use triple GEMs, micro pattern gaseous detectors, in the place of RPCs. The GE1/1 project had been the first to be approved and demonstrators had been installed in CMS already during LS1. The rest of the detectors will be installed during LS2 while the GE2/1 and ME0 projects are still under development. ME0, GE1/1 and GE2/1 will be installed respectively next to the HCAL endcap, on the first and on the second muon endcap disks as can be seen from Figure 3.4.

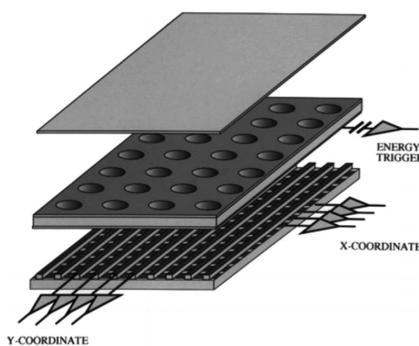


Figure 3.7: Schematics of a GEM showing the cathode on top, the GEM foil separating the gas volume into the drift region, in between the cathode and foil, and the induction region, in between the GEM foil and the anode, and the anode on which a 2D read-out is installed. A negative voltage is applied on the cathode while the anode is connected to the ground.

Gas Electron multipliers are gaseous detectors [37] which gas volume is confined in between

1670 2 planar electrodes, the anode serving as read-out panel. The gas volume is divided in 2 or more  
 1671 regions by a single or multiple *GEM foils* as showed in Figure 3.7. These foils are very thin, of the  
 1672 order of a few tens of  $\mu\text{m}$ , and are pierced with holes as can be seen in Figure 3.8. Both surfaces  
 1673 of the GEM foils are clad with copper in order to apply a strong electric field in between each  
 1674 side that will generate very strong potentials in the holes. The gas region contained in between  
 1675 the cathode and the GEM foil is called the drift region as the electric field is not strong enough to  
 1676 cause avalanches and thus start an amplification. The primary electrons drift toward the foil and are  
 1677 accelerated and amplify by the very high potential within the holes, as showed in Figure 3.8. Then  
 1678 the electrons reach the second drift region in which they will induce signal on the read-out located  
 1679 on the anode. By restraining the amplification process at the level of the holes, the electrons can stay  
 1680 in a very confined space and thus induce a very localized current, providing the GEMs with a very  
 1681 good spatial resolution.

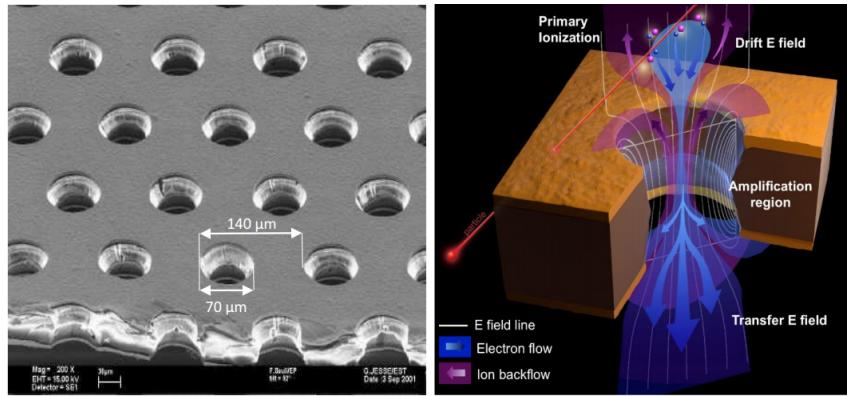


Figure 3.8: Left: Picture of a CMS GEM foil provided by a scanning electron microscope. Right: Representation of the electric field lines in a GEM hole and of the amplification that electrons and ions undergo in the hole's volume due to the very intense electric field.

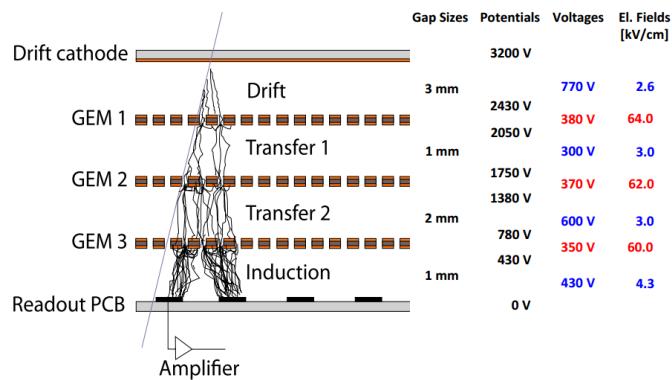


Figure 3.9: Schematic representation of CMS triple GEMs. The gas volume is divided into 4 areas. The drift area is the region where the primary electrons are created before being amplified a first time while passing through the first GEM foil. Then the process of drift and amplification is repeated twice in following two transfer areas and GEM foils. Finally, the charges have been amplified enough to induce current in the read-out strips while in the last drift area. The dimensions, potentials and electric fields are provided.

In order to achieve a stronger amplification, the amplification process can be repeated several times in a row. The GEMs that will be used in CMS are triple GEM detectors operated with a 70/30 gas mixture of  $Ar/CO_2$ . They contain 3 GEM foils and thus 3 electron amplifications, as can be seen in Figure 3.9. The GEM foils used in CMS are 50  $\mu m$  foils clad with 5  $\mu m$  of copper on each side. The foils are pierced with double-canonical holes which inner and outer diameters are respectively 50 and 70  $\mu m$  which are placed 140  $\mu m$  from each other in an hexagonal pattern, as showed in Figure 3.8. These detectors have a time resolution better than 10 ns and reach very good spatial resolutions of less than 200  $\mu rad$  as indeed the position of the hits is not measured along the strips but following the azimuthal angle granularity of the radially organized trapezoidal strips.

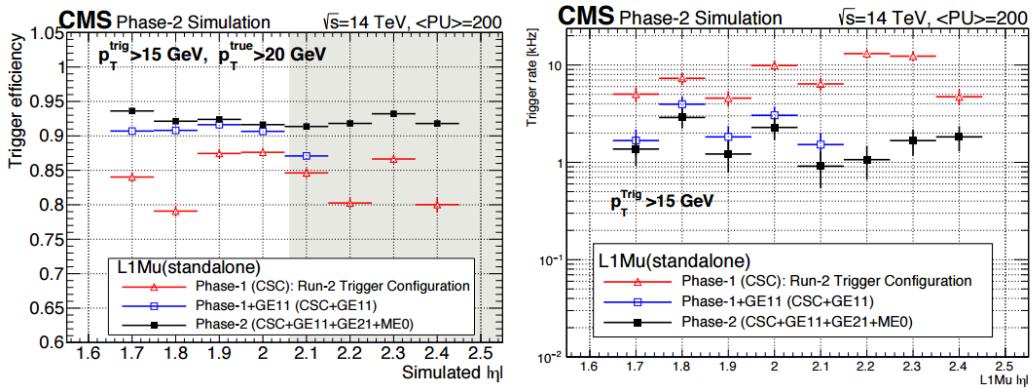


Figure 3.10: Simulated efficiency and rate of the standalone Level-1 muon trigger using tracks reconstructed in CSCs and all GEM stations compared with Phase-I values in the case where only CSCs are used or CSCs+GE1/1. The zones of inefficiency of the CSC subsystem are compensated by the addition of GEMs during Phase-II and the trigger rates is kept from increasing due to the high luminosity.

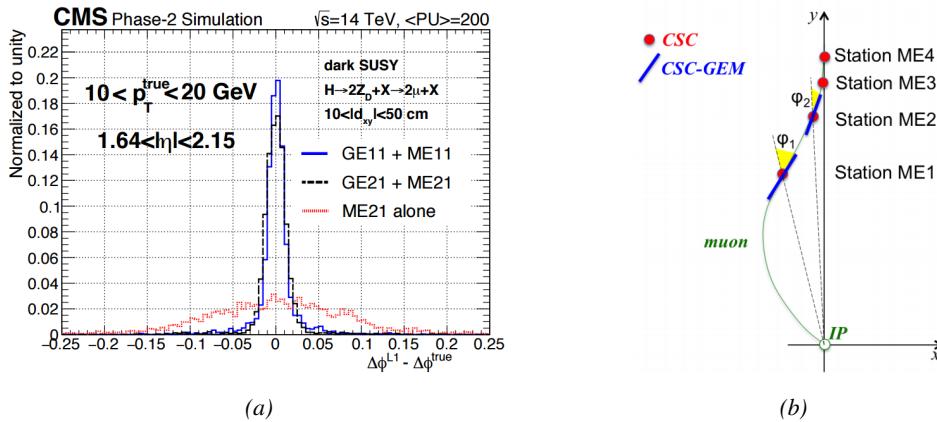


Figure 3.11: Figure 3.11a: Simulated resolution of the muon direction measurement  $\Delta\phi$  with Phase-II conditions. In the second endcap station, the resolution is compared in the case of CSCs (ME2/1) alone and CSCs+GEMs (GE2/1+ME2/1) while a similar resolution measurement is given in the case of the first station (GE1/1+ME1/1). Figure 3.11b: The addition of GEM detectors on stations 1 and 2 (ME0 is considered to contribute to station station 1) as redundant system to CSCs allows to improve the muon momentum improvement through a more accurate measurement of the local bending angles  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$ .

The GEM Upgrade is divided into 3 subsystems as GE1/1 was the first approved project [38] and that the detectors will already be installed during LS2. GE2/1 and ME0, on the other hand, will profit of the R&D knowledge and skills developed for GE1/1 while the requirements for each subsystem are different as they are not placed at the same distance from the interaction point. In this very forward region, a different position with respect to the center of the detector can change dramatically the conditions in which the detectors will have to be operated. In terms of rate capability, GE2/1, which is the furthest, is required to withstand  $2.1 \text{ kHz/cm}^2$  while GE1/1 needs to be better than  $10 \text{ kHz/cm}^2$  and ME0, better than  $150 \text{ kHz/cm}^2$ . In terms of ageing with respect to charge deposition, ME0 needs to be certified to  $840 \text{ mC/cm}^2$ , GE1/1 to  $200 \text{ mC/cm}^2$  and GE2/1 only to  $9 \text{ mC/cm}^2$ . All 3 detectors need to have a time resolution better than 10 ns and an angular resolution better than 500  $\mu\text{rad}$ .

On each GE1/1 ring, 36 super chambers, consisting of 2 single GEM layers and spanning  $10^\circ$ , will be installed covering the pseudo-rapidity region  $1.6 < |\eta| < 2.2$  together with ME1/1 CSCs and the reach of the muon system will be improved thanks to the GE2/1 that will overlap with the GE1/1 and cover a region from  $|\eta| > 1.6$  to  $|\eta| < 2.4$  and complete the redundancy of ME2/1. The super chambers, built with 2 triple GEM layers each consisting of 4 single GEM modules due to the rather large surface of the GE2/1 chambers, that will be installed on the first ring of the second endcap will span  $20^\circ$  each, hence, a total of 72 chambers will be assembled to equip the muon system. Finally, the ME0 installed near the HCAL endcap will cover the region  $2.0 < |\eta| < 2.8$  and this subsystem will consist in super modules of 6 layers of triple GEM detectors covering an azimuthal angle of  $20^\circ$  leading to the construction of 216 single detectors.

Adding the GEMs into the forward region of the muon system will allow to strongly enhance the Level-1 Trigger performance by reducing the inefficiency regions and the trigger rate as showed in Figure 3.10. Moreover, benefiting from the good spatial and angular resolution of the GEMs, the precision into the muon measurement will also be greatly improved by the addition of GEMs as can be seen from the simulation presented in Figure 3.11.

### 3.4.2 Improved forward resistive plate chambers

Figure 3.4 shows that the iRPCs that will equip the third and fourth endcap disks in position RE3/1 and RE4/1 will finally be the partners of the CSCs in position ME3/1 and ME4/1 and complete Phase-I plans but bringing the needed upgrades in the scope of Phase-II as the older chambers are not suitable to equip the forward region of CMS due to HL-LHC rates and charge deposition. By completing the redundancy, more track along the muon trajectory will be available and the lever arm will be improved. The benefits from extending the redundancy of the muon system with iRPCs to the forward most region is showed in Figure 3.12 in which the trigger efficiency is showed with and without RPCs in which it is possible to see that the efficiency of CMS trigger with the complete redundancy is improved is above 95% in the region  $|\eta| > 1.8$  as the iRPCs help filling the holes in the CSC system.

The detectors that will be installed in the coming years will be similar to the already existing RPC system. 18 of the new chambers, each spanning  $20^\circ$  in  $\varphi$  around the beam axis with 96 radially oriented trapezoidal read-out strips, will cover each muon endcap disk leading to the production of 72 iRPCs. The main difference with the old RPC chambers is that these detectors will not have readout strips segmented in  $\eta$  as by using fast front-end electronics the strips will be read-out on both sides allowing for a radial spatial resolution of the order of 2 cm in order to contribute to the better reconstruction of muon in the forward region where the bending of muons by the magnetic

field is low. This is motivated by the fact that, in the case a  $\eta$  segmentation was used, at least 5 pseudorapidity partitions would have been necessary to reach the minimal radial spatial resolution ( $\approx 20$  cm). Having only one strip read-out from both along the chamber reduces by 60% the total number of channels and the necessary cabling and allows for a better spatial resolution. The strip pitch will range from 6.0 mm (5.9 mm) on the high pseudo-rapidity end to 12.3 mm (10.9 mm) on the low one on position RE3/1 (RE4/1). The spatial resolution in the direction perpendicular to the strips should reach approximately 3 mm, better than the minimal needed resolution (Figure 3.6), and the overall time resolution of the new installation will be equally 1.5 ns, as for the present due to the same link system being used.

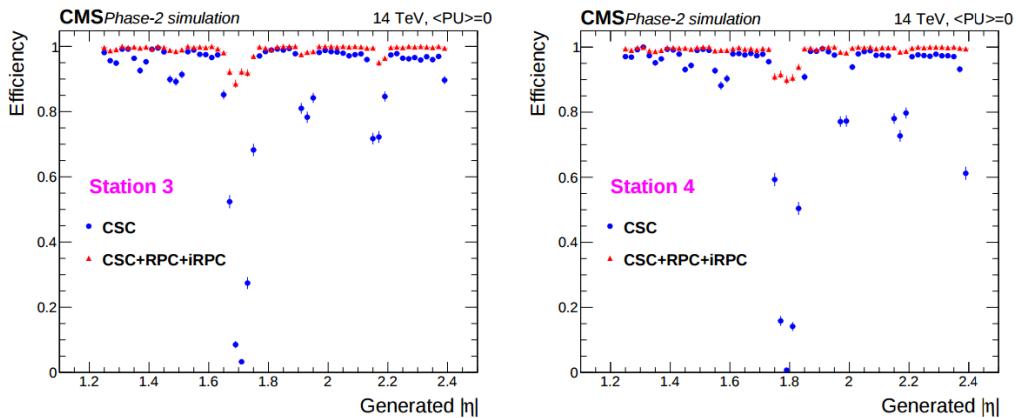
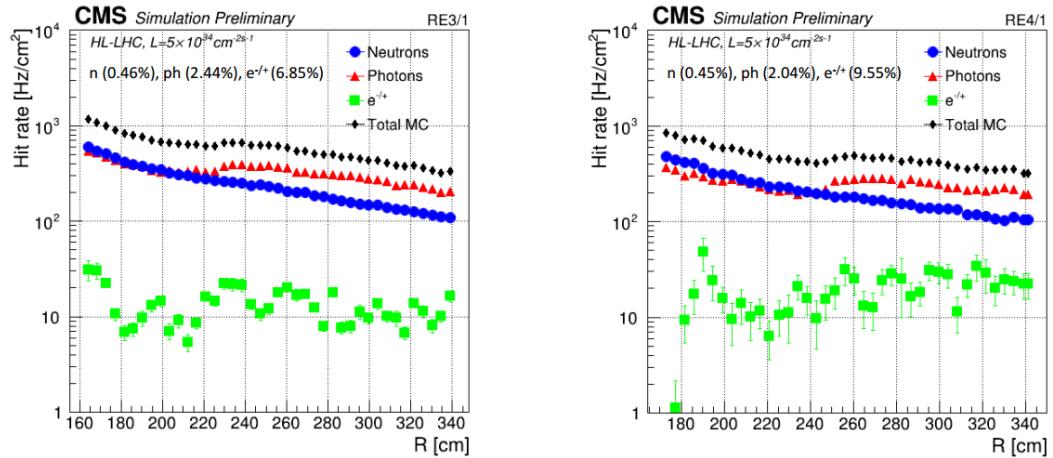


Figure 3.12: Simulation of the impact of RPC hit inclusion onto the local trigger primitive efficiency in station 3 (left) and station 4 (right). The contribution of iRPC starts above  $|\eta| = 1.8$ .

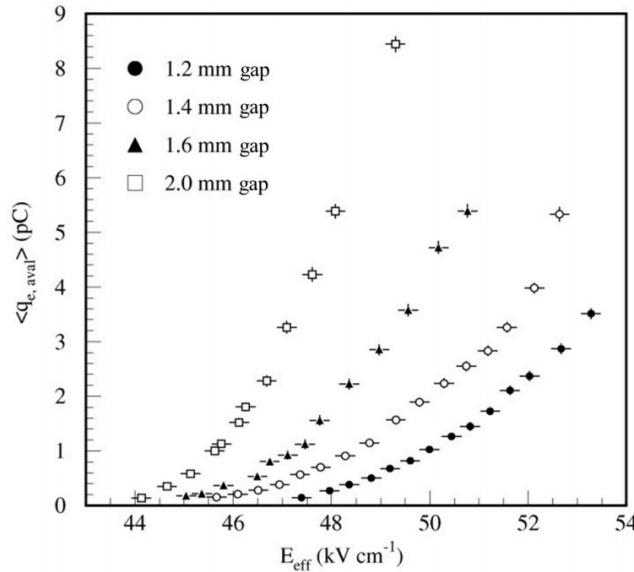
Nevertheless, having only a single strip instead of pseudo-rapidity segmentation will increase the probability of double hits in the same channel. This probability was estimated to be low enough as it shouldn't exceed 0.7%. This estimation was made assuming an average hit rate per unit area of  $600 \text{ Hz/cm}^2$  in the iRPCs (see Figure 3.13), a cluster size (average number of strips fired per muon) of 2, a strip active area of  $158.4 \times 0.87 \text{ cm}^2$  and a safety factor 3 leading to an estimated rate per strip of 380 kHz corresponding to an average time interval of 2600 ns in between 2 consecutive hits. The time for a signal to go through the full strip length is about 10 ns to which can be added 1 ns of dead time and 2 TDC clock cycles of 2.5 ns for a minimal time interval of 16 ns necessary to avoid ambiguities. The probability of having ambiguous double hits in a strip is then the ratio in between this minimal time interval in between 2 consecutive hits and the average time interval estimated from the rate the detectors are subjected to.

The instantaneous luminosity at HL-LHC being very high, the rates at the level of the new chambers needed to be simulated in order to understand the necessary requirements for these detectors. The simulated results for different background components (neutrons, photons, electrons and positrons) are showed in Figure 3.13 assuming known sensitivities to these particles. It is showed that on average over the iRPC areas the rates would be of the order of  $600 \text{ Hz/cm}^2$  ( $600 \text{ Hz/cm}^2$  seen in RE3/1 and  $480 \text{ Hz/cm}^2$  in RE4/1) [36]. Thus, taking into account a safety factor of about 3, it was decided that improved RPCs should at least be certified for rates reaching  $2 \text{ kHz/cm}^2$  which would be achieved thanks to several improvements on the design and on the electronics. The detectors design will be based on the existing RPC design as they will be double gaps. Similarly to the

existing RPC system, the electrode material will be HPL although the thickness of the electrodes and of the gas gap will be reduced to 1.4 mm as a thinner gas gap leads to a decrease of deposited charge per avalanche as showed in Figure 3.14. The smaller the gas gap, the more the detector becomes sensitive to gap non-uniformities across the electrode planes making a gap of 1.4 mm a good compromise in between these two competing factors.



*Figure 3.13: Expected hit rate due to neutrons, photons, electrons and positrons at HL-HLC instantaneous luminosity of  $5 \times 10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$  in RE3/1 and RE4/1 chambers. The sensitivities of iRPCs used in the simulation for each particle are reported and differ from one endcap disk to another as the energies of the considered particles varies with the increasing distance from the interaction point.*



*Figure 3.14: Measured average charge per avalanche as a function of the effective electric field for different gas gap thickness in double gap RPCs using HPL electrodes.*

1769 A lower charge deposition inside of the detector volume means a slower ageing and a longer  
 1770 lifetime for detectors subjected to high irradiation. But, in order to take advantage of the lower  
 1771 detector gain, more sensitive electronics are required so that the part of gain that was formerly done  
 1772 in the gas volume can be moved to the electronics. Achieving this with the technology developed  
 1773 more than 10 years ago for the present system is not possible as the signal over noise ratio of such  
 1774 electronics doesn't allow to detect charges as low as 10 fC. Moreover, the new front-end electronics  
 1775 will need to be radiation hard to survive to more than 10 years of HL-LHC conditions. The new  
 1776 technology that has been chosen is based on the PETIROC ASIC manufactured by OMEGA and is  
 1777 a 64-channel ASIC called CMS RPCROC. The properties of these electronics will be discussed in  
 1778 Chapter 6.

### 1779 **3.4.3 Installation schedule**

1780 The previous discussion on the different upgrade projects makes it clear that a lot of work is schedule  
 1781 for CMS to be ready at the end of LS3 for HL-LHC. Conducting all the upgrades of the muon system  
 1782 together with upgrades of the other subsystems like the replacement of the Tracker and of part of the  
 1783 ECAL, will prove to be very difficult as the opening of CMS to access the Barrel will be done by  
 1784 fully opening the endcaps leaving only the first disk to be accessible. Thus, most subsystems have  
 1785 planed early installation over LS2, and the following YETS until LS3 in order to give more space to  
 1786 LS3 schedule.

1787 First of all, LS2 will see the installation of GE1/1 detectors, all the on-detector schedule of CSCs  
 1788 and the installation of the necessary services for the improved RPCs to be installed later, such as  
 1789 the HV and LV power supply lines, the gas and cooling lines or signal cables. CSCs will have a  
 1790 huge work to do during LS2 as they will need to extract all of their detectors to refurbish them with  
 1791 upgraded DCFEB and ALCT mezzanine boards. The GE1/1 services were installed during LS1  
 1792 together with a few demonstrator and only the detectors needs to be integrated into the first endcap  
 1793 disk. The detectors are presently being built and tested at the different assembly site to prepare for a  
 1794 smooth LS2 work.

1795 The work of GEMs will be continued during the following YETS during which is planned the  
 1796 installation of the GE2/1 stations to only leave the ME0 to be installed during LS3. The iRPC  
 1797 program will follow a similar path as the new detectors will be installed during the YETS preceding  
 1798 LS3 in prevision of the fact that the endcap disks will not be accessible during LS3. This way, all the  
 1799 subsystems, but DTs, made great effort on planing their installation and integration within CMS only  
 1800 to have to deal with off-detector issues during the LS3 period, such as the replacement of ODDBs  
 1801 and HV system in the case of CSCs or the upgrade of the RPC Link System. Finally, during LS3  
 1802 are schedules the replacement of DT minicrates electronics and the installation and integration of  
 1803 ME0 GEMs together with the HGCAL.

## 1804 **3.5 Implications of the different upgrades on the Level-1 Trigger- 1805 trigger. Improvement of physics performance.**

1806 The upgrades of the different subsystems will have a subsequent impact on the Level-1 Trigger.  
 1807 Indeed, although its main scheme will not be affected, the efficiency of the trigger in efficiency  
 1808 identifying muons and provide the DAQ with good and fast trigger that can cope with HL-LHC  
 1809 instantaneous luminosity is a major improvement. In addition to the upgrade of the muon system in

1810 terms of trigger accept rate and latency, the Level-1 Trigger will get extra information in including  
 1811 the Tracker Trigger into its Muon Track Finder logic and combine the L1 Muon Trigger with Tracker  
 1812 and Calorimeter Triggers to generate a Global L1 Trigger with a much better momentum resolution,  
 1813 as showed in Figure 3.15.

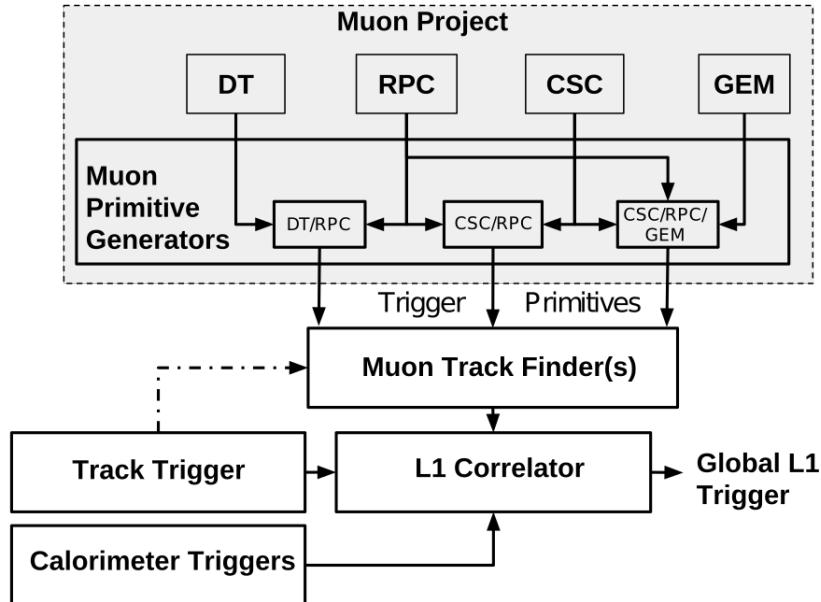


Figure 3.15: Data flow of the Level-1 Trigger during Phase-II operations.

1814 In terms of muon trigger, 3 regions are considered due to their different track finding logic: the  
 1815 Barrel Muon Track Finder (BMTF), the Endcap Muon Track Finder (EMTF) for both the barrel and  
 1816 endcap regions, and finally the Overlap Muon Track Finder (OMTF) which concerns the pseudo-  
 1817 rapidity region in which there is a common coverage by both the barrel and endcap muon systems.  
 1818 This region can be seen in Figure 3.4 for  $0.9 < |\eta| < 1.2$  and requires a specific more complex  
 1819 logic to provide with an efficient reconstruction of the muons due to the different orientation of  
 1820 the detectors and of the more complex magnetic field of this region that needs to be taken into  
 1821 account. The benefits of the upgrade for each of these track finders will be coming from different  
 1822 improvements and will be detailed sector by sector.

1823 The main contribution to the improvement of the BMTF is the time resolution improvement of  
 1824 RPC link systems that will allow to take profit of the full 1.5 ns resolution of the detectors. From the  
 1825 perspective of RPCs only, this improvement will help reducing the neutron induced background and  
 1826 slightly improve the bunch crossing assignment. The upgrade of DT electronics is also to take into  
 1827 account as the trigger primitive generator will be renewed through the use of TDCs that will send  
 1828 the digitized signals directly to the back-end electronics instead of having an on-detector trigger  
 1829 logic as it will be the case until the end of Phase-I. The front data of both DTs and RPCs will be  
 1830 sent to the same back-end electronics. These upgrades were detailed in section 3.3 and will lead  
 1831 to a more robust operation of the trigger in the barrel region. Indeed, the combination of RPC hits  
 1832 together with DT primitives will bring improvement in the bunch crossing assignment and improve  
 1833 the efficiency of the trigger in between the wheels were the quality of DT primitives is the poorest.

1834 Moreover, having a redundant information is important in the case of failure and loss of efficiency  
 1835 of one of either subsystems.

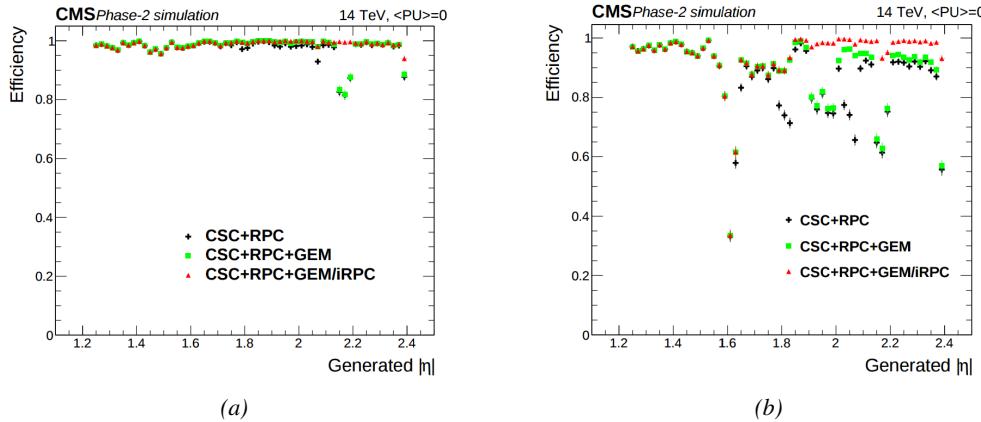


Figure 3.16: Efficiency of the L1 trigger in the endcap region after Phase-II upgrade in the case CSC/GEM/RPC hits are requested in at least 2 stations out of four (3.16a) and in all four stations (3.16b).

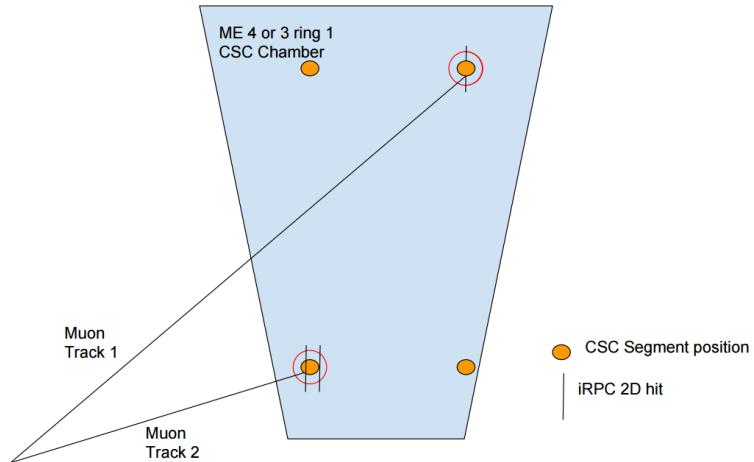


Figure 3.17: Resolution of the LCT ambiguous events thanks to the combination of CSC and iRPC readout data. Using CSCs only, 2 pairs of hits are possible.

1836 With new detectors to cover the very forward region and the upgrade of RPC Link System,  
 1837 the EMTF will be greatly improved. The current EMTF already use more sophisticated algorithms  
 1838 by combining together RPC hits and CSC primitives and will also benefit from the improved time  
 1839 resolution of the RPC system. The GEMs, in stations 1 and 2, and the iRPCs, in stations 3 and 4,  
 1840 will be added into the EMTF algorithm. Both these contributions will help increasing the efficiency  
 1841 of the L1 trigger in the endcap region in one hand, as showed by Figure 3.16, and help lowering the  
 1842 L1 trigger rate in the other hand, especially in the most forward region. The improvement of the  
 1843 efficiency will come both from the better time resolution of RPC link boards and from the addition  
 1844 of more hits along the muon tracks and also a contribution from the GEMs to the lever arm of each

1845 track thanks to there high angular resolution.

1846 The rate will be partly reduced in the forward region thanks to the better spatial resolution of  
 1847 iRPCs, with respect to the current RPC system, that will reduce the ambiguity brought by multiple  
 1848 local charged tracks in CSCs, as explained through Figure 3.17. Indeed, as the rates will increase,  
 1849 the probability to record more than a single local charged track will greatly increase. This is due to  
 1850 the fact that the trigger algorithm uses information from 3 consecutive bunch crossings to find muon  
 1851 tracks. It is estimated that with iRPCs operated at 95% efficiency the resolution of ambiguous events  
 1852 would be of the order of 99.7%.

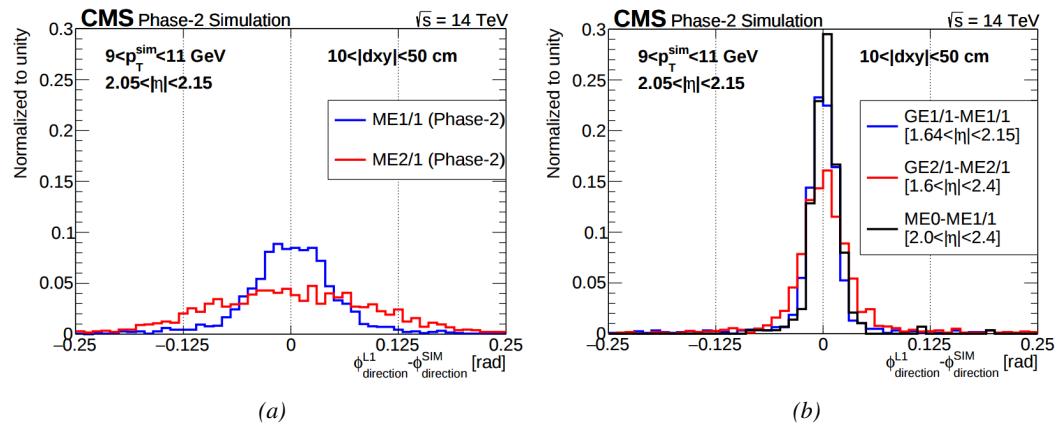


Figure 3.18: The angular resolution on reconstructed muon tracks in the GEM overlap region  $2.0 < |\eta| < 2.15$  is compared for Phase-II conditions in the case CSC are alone (Figure 3.18a) and in the case the GEMs' data, including MEO, is combined to which of CSCs (Figure 3.18b).

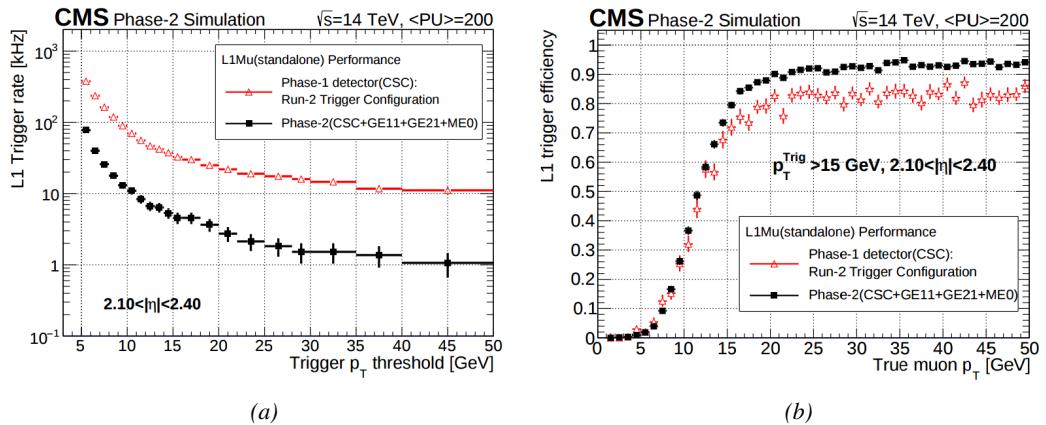


Figure 3.19: Comparison of L1 trigger performances for prompt muons with and without the addition of GEMs in the region  $2.1 < |\eta| < 2.4$  at Phase-II conditions. GEMs would allow a reduction of the trigger accept rate by an order of magnitude (Figure 3.19a) while increasing the trigger efficiency (Figure 3.19b).

1853 The addition of GEMs will improve greatly the measured muon momentum resolution by im-  
 1854 proving the global resolution of the direction of muon tracks, as can be seen in Figure 3.18, which  
 1855 will contribute to lowering the trigger rate and increase the efficiency, as can be seen from Figure 3.19

that focuses especially in the most challenging pseudo-rapidity region. Data from both CSCs and GEMs are combined into the OTMB to build on each station, GEM/CSC primitives matching space and time information from both subsystems.

Finally, the development of a track finder specific to the overlap region was already achieved during the Phase-I upgrade of the L1-Trigger [40]. Nevertheless, the improvements of DT spatial resolution and RPC timing will be carried and implemented into the OMTF.

### 3.6 Ecofriendly gas studies

Future strict restrictions in the use of certain gases will affect the gaseous detectors of several experiment, including CMS. The European Commission adopted a new "F-gas regulation" in 2014 [41] with the goal to strongly control and reduce the use of fluorinated gases with high Global Warming Potential (GWP). Using  $CF_4$ ,  $C_2H_2F_4$  and  $SF_6$ , both CSC and RPC subsystems will need to address this problem by finding new gas mixture for the operation of their detectors. Finding a replacement for these gas component that were used for very specific reasons will be a great challenge. Indeed, CSCs use  $CF_4$  in order to enhance the longevity of the detectors, increase the drift velocity of electrons and quench photons with a non-flammable gas mixture. RPCs use a mixture mainly composed of  $C_2H_2F_4$ , or  $R134a$ , that features a high effective Townsend coefficient and the great average fast charge allowing for operations with a high threshold, and contains a small fraction of  $SF_6$  that is used for its electronegative properties that prevents the development of delta-rays in the gas volume that might trigger multiple ionization and avalanches.

	CSC	RPC
Greenhouse gases used	$CF_4$	$C_2H_2F_4$ and $SF_6$
Greenhouse gases fraction in the gas mixture	10%	95.2% and 0.3%
Global Warming Potential (relative to $CO_2$ )	6500	1300 and 23900
Gas mixture re-circulation	Yes, 90%	Yes, 85%
Gas mixture replenishing rate (l/hr)	700	1100
F-gas recuperation	Yes, $\approx 40\%$	No
F-gas venting rate (l/hr)	42	1047 and 3.3
$CO_2$ -equivalent rate ( $m^3/h$ )	273	1440
Relative impact (entire muon system = 100%)	16%	84%

Table 3.1: Details of the greenhouse fluorinated gases used in CMS and of their GWP [32].

Nevertheless, all these gases have a very high GWP, as reported in Table 3.1, and only few options are left. The subsystems need to work on strongly decrease the loss of these gases due to leaks in the gas system or completely change their gas mixture for more ecofriendly ones. Reducing the amount of F-gas released in the atmosphere due to leaks on the current gas system will require installation of a F-gas recuperation system on RPCs side and an upgrade of CSCs existing one in addition to the repair of existing leaks. With such measures, it is expected that the total rate of greenhouses gas vented in the atmosphere would represent only 1.6% of the current levels [32]. In the most critical case the F-gas were to be banned, it would be necessary to have replacement mixtures to operate CMS. CSC is presently investigating replacement for  $CF_4$  such as  $CF_3I$ ,  $C_4F_6$ ,  $IC_3F_6$ ,  $C_3F_8$  or  $CHF_3$  while RPCs, in collaboration with the ATLAS RPC group which uses the same gas mixture and, hence, faces similar restrictions, have identified  $CF_3I$  ( $GWP \leq 1$ ) and  $C_3H_2F_4$  ( $GWP \leq 1$ ), referred to as HFO-1234ze, as potential candidates with mixtures containing  $CO_2$  but more

R&D needs to be conducted for both subsystems before concluding on the best alternative. No good alternative to the present mixtures will require very efficient abatement system in CMS to burn and convert the greenhouse gases into less harmful ones. This way, the air pollution would be strongly reduced.

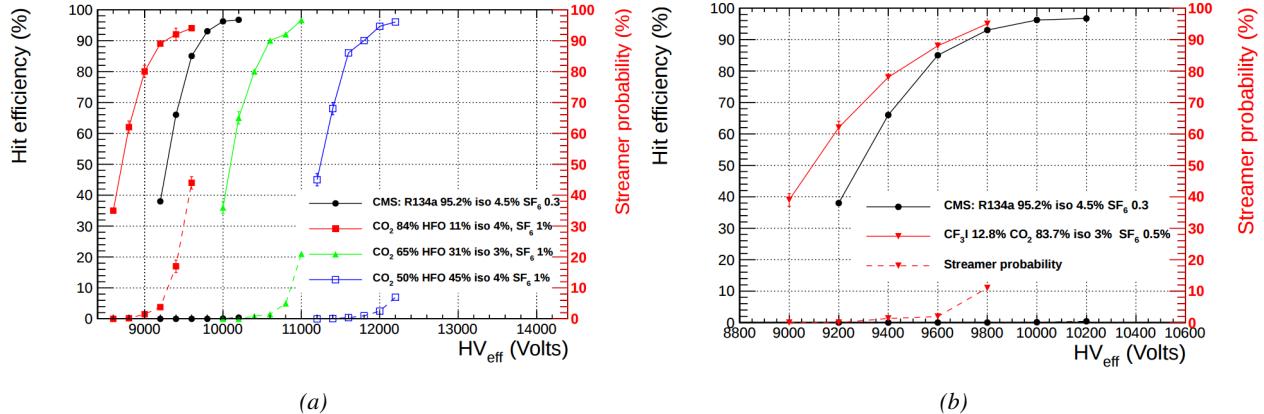


Figure 3.20: The efficiency (solid lines) and streamer probability (dashed lines) of HFO/CO<sub>2</sub> (Figure 3.20a) and CF<sub>3</sub>I/CO<sub>2</sub> (Figure 3.20b) based gas mixtures as a function of the effective high-voltage are compared with the present CMS RPC gas mixture represented in black. The detector used for the study is a single gap RPC with similar properties than CMS RPCs. The streamer probability is defined as the proportion of events with a deposited charge greater than 20 pC.

The status of RPC studies are presented in Figure 3.20 in which the performance (efficiency and streamer probability) of an RPC operated with alternative gas mixtures is compared to the present CMS RPC mixture. Although the efficiency of detectors operated with mixtures containing CO<sub>2</sub>/CF<sub>3</sub>I or CO<sub>2</sub>/HFO as a replacement for C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>F<sub>4</sub> seem to reach similar levels than which of the detectors operated with the present mixture, the new gas mixtures feature a streamer probability (probability to have very large avalanches whose induced charge is greater than 20 pC) that far exceeds which of the present fluorinated mixture. The SF<sub>6</sub>, being a component of the mixture added in order to reduce the probability of large avalanches thanks to its electronegativity, doesn't seem to prevent streamers as efficiently even when used at levels more than 3 times higher than with the standard CMS RPC mixture. Nevertheless, it is important to note that these results were obtained with a single gap RPC while the use of a double gap RPC would reduce the operation voltage by 200 to 300 V, lowering the induced charge. A compromise in between good efficiency and acceptable level of streamer probability and the fine tuned composition of potential replacement gas mixtures will be studied using a standard double-gap CMS RPC.



# 4

1905

1906

## Physics of Resistive plate chambers

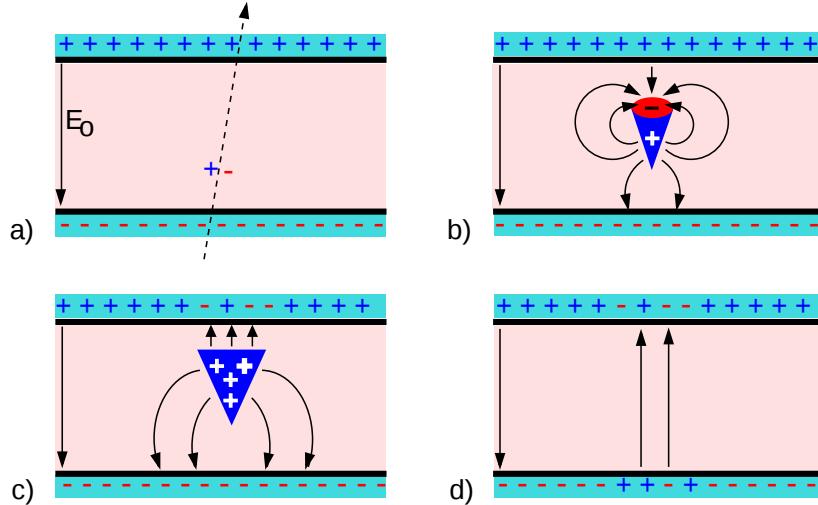
1907 A Resistive Plate Chamber (RPC) is a gaseous detector used in high-energy physics experiments as  
1908 described in Chapter 3. It has been developed in 1981 by Santonico and Cardarelli [42], under the  
1909 name of *Resistive Plate Counter*, as an alternative to the local-discharge spark counters proposed in  
1910 1978 by Pestov and Fedotovich [43, 44]. Working with spark chambers implied using high-pressure  
1911 gas and high mechanical precision which the RPC simplified by formerly using a gas mixture of  
1912 argon and butane flowed at atmospheric pressure and a constant and uniform electric field propagated  
1913 in between two parallel electrode plates. Moreover, a significant increase in rate capability was  
1914 introduced by the use of electrode plate material with high bulk resistivity, preventing the discharge  
1915 from growing throughout the whole gas gap. Indeed, the effect of using resistive electrodes is that  
1916 the constant electric field is locally canceled out by the development of the discharge, limiting its  
1917 growth.

1918 Through its development history, different operating modes [45–47], gas mixtures [42, 47–52]  
1919 and new detector designs [53–55] have been discovered, leading to further improvement of the rate  
1920 capability of such a detector. The low developing costs and easily achievable large detection ar-  
1921 eas offered by RPCs, as well as the wide range of possible designs, made them a natural choice to  
1922 as muon chambers and/or trigger detectors in multipurpose experiments such as CMS [21] or AT-  
1923 LAS [56], time-of-flight detectors in ALICE [57], calorimeter with CALICE [58] or even detectors  
1924 for volcanic muography with ToMuVol [59].

### 1925 4.1 Principle

1926 RPCs are ionisation detectors composed of two parallel resistive plate electrodes in between which  
1927 a constant electric field is set. The space in between the electrodes, referred to as *gap*, is filled with  
1928 a dense gas that is used to generate primary ionization into the gas volume. The free charge carriers  
1929 (electrons and cations) created by the ionization of the gas molecules are then accelerated towards the  
1930 electrodes by the electric field, as shown in Figure 4.1 [60]. RPCs being passive detectors, a current  
1931 on pick-up copper read-out placed outside of the gas volume is induced by the charge accumulation

1932 during the growth of the avalanche resulting from the acceleration of the charge carriers. As a  
 1933 consequence, the time resolution of the detector is substantially increased as the output signal is  
 1934 generated while the electrons are still in movement. The advantage of a constant electric field, over  
 1935 multi-wire proportional chambers, is that the electrons are being fully accelerated from the moment  
 1936 charge carriers are freed and feel the full strength of the electric field that doesn't depend on the  
 1937 distance to the readout and that the output signal doesn't need for the electrons to be physically  
 1938 collected.



*Figure 4.1: Different phases of the avalanche development in the RPC gas volume subjected to a constant electric field  $E_0$ . a) An avalanche is initiated by the primary ionisation caused by the passage of a charged particle through the gas volume. b) Due to its growing size, the avalanche starts to locally influence the electric field. c) The electrons, lighter than the cations reach the anode first. d) The ions reach the cathode. While the charges have not recombined, the electric field in the small region around the avalanche stays affected and locally blinds the detector.*

1939 After an avalanche developed in the gas, a time long compared to the development of a discharge  
 1940 is needed to recombine the charge carriers in the electrode material due to their resistivity. This  
 1941 property has the advantage of affecting the local electric field and avoiding sparks in the detector  
 1942 but, on the other hand, the rate capability is intrinsically limited by the time constant  $\tau_{RPC}$  of the  
 1943 detector. Using a quasi-static approximation of Maxwell's equations for weakly conducting media,  
 1944 it can be shown that the time constant  $\tau_{RPC}$  necessary to the charge recombination at the interface  
 1945 in between the electrode and the gas volume is given by the Formula 4.1 [61].

$$(4.1) \quad \tau_{RPC} = \frac{\epsilon_{electrode} + \epsilon_{gas}}{\sigma_{electrode} + \sigma_{gas}}$$

1946 A gas can be assimilated to vacuum, leading to  $\epsilon_{gas} = \epsilon_0$  and  $\sigma_{gas} = 0$ , and the electrodes  
 1947 permittivity and conductivity can be written as  $\epsilon_{electrode} = \epsilon_r \epsilon_0$  and  $\sigma_{electrode} = 1/\rho_{electrode}$ ,  
 1948 showing the strong dependence of the time constant to the electrodes resistivity in Formula 4.2.

$$(4.2) \quad \tau_{RPC} = (\epsilon_r + 1)\epsilon_0 \times \rho_{electrode}$$

Very few materials with a low enough resistivity exist in nature. The resistivity targeted to build RPCs ranges from  $10^9$  to  $10^{12} \Omega \cdot \text{cm}$ . The most common RPC electrode materials are displayed in Table 4.1. When the doped glass and ceramics can offer short time constants of the order of 1 ms, the developing cost of such materials is quite high due to the very low demand. Thus, High-pressure laminate (HPL) is often the choice for high rate experiments using very large RPC detection areas. Other experiments working at cosmic muon fluxes can safely operate with ordinary float glass.

Material	$\rho_{\text{electrode}} (\Omega \cdot \text{cm})$	$\epsilon_r$	$\tau_{\text{RPC}} (\text{ms})$
Float glass	$10^{12}$	~7	~700
High-pressure laminate	$10^{10}$ to $10^{12}$	~6	~6 to 600
Doped glass (LR S)	$10^9$ to $10^{11}$	~10	~1 to 100
Doped ceramics (SiN/SiC)	$10^9$	~8.5	~1
Doped ceramics (Ferrite)	$10^8$ to $10^{12}$	~20	~0.2 to 2000

Table 4.1: Properties of the most used electrode materials for RPCs.

## 4.2 Rate capability and time resolution of Resistive Plate Chambers

The electrode material plays a key role in the maximum intrinsic rate capability of RPCs. R&D is continuously being done to develop at always cheaper costs material with lower resistivity. Nevertheless, the amount of charge released, i.e. the size of the discharge, if reduced leads to a smaller blind area in the detector, increasing the rate capability of the detector. On the other hand, the drift velocity of electrons in the gas volume being quite stable with the applied electric field, the design of a detector and the associated read-out and pulse-processing electronics will be a major component of the time resolution of RPCs. Moreover, the sensitivity of the electronics will also help increasing the rate capability by lowering the gain the gas volume needs to be operated at, increasingly lowering the gas volume in which the signals will develop.

### 4.2.1 Operation modes

Being a gaseous detector using an accelerating electric field to amplify the signal of primary charge carriers, the RPC can be operated into different modes as the electric field intensity varies. Each mode offers different performances for such a detector, and it will be showed that the operating mode corresponding to the lowest electric field possible is best suited for high rate detectors working in collider experiments.

RPCs where developed early 1980s. At that time it was using an operating mode now referred to as *streamer mode*. Streamers are large discharges that develop in between the 2 electrodes enough to locally discharge the electrodes. If the electric field inside of the gas volume is strong enough, with electrons being fast compared to ions, a large and dense cloud of positive ions will develop nearby the anode and extend toward the cathode while the electrons are being collected, eventually leading to a streamer discharge due to the increase of field seen at the cathode. The field is then strong enough so that electrons are pulled out of the cathode. Electrodes, though they are a unique volume of resistive material, can be assimilated to capacitors. At the moment an electric field is applied in between their outer surfaces, the charge carriers inside of the volume will start moving leading to a situation where there is no voltage across the electrodes and a higher density of negative charges,

i.e. electrons, on the inner surface of the cathode. Finally, when a streamer discharge occurs, these electrons are partially released in the gas volume contributing to increase the discharge strength until the formation of a conductive plasma, the streamer. This can be understood through Figure 4.2 [45]. Streamer signals are very convenient in terms of read-out as no further amplification is required with output pulses amplitudes of the order of a few tens to few hundreds of mV as can be seen on Figure 4.3.

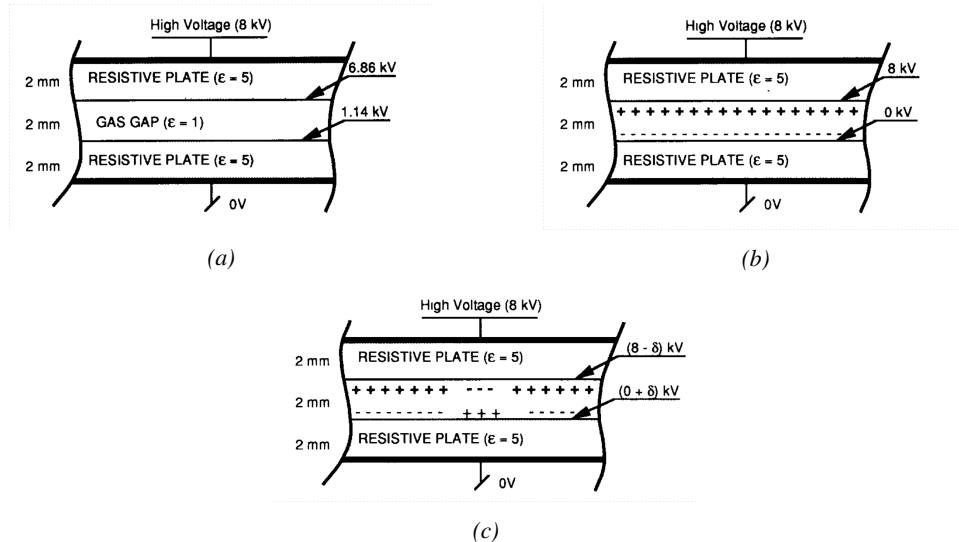


Figure 4.2: Movement of the charge carriers in an RPC. Figure 4.2a: Voltage across an RPC whose electrode have a relative permittivity of 5 at the moment the tension is applied. Figure 4.2b: After the charge carriers moved, the electrodes are charged and there is no voltage drop over the electrodes anymore. The full potential is applied on the gas gap only. Figure 4.2c: The streamer discharge initiated by a charged particle transports electrons and cations towards the anode and cathode respectively.

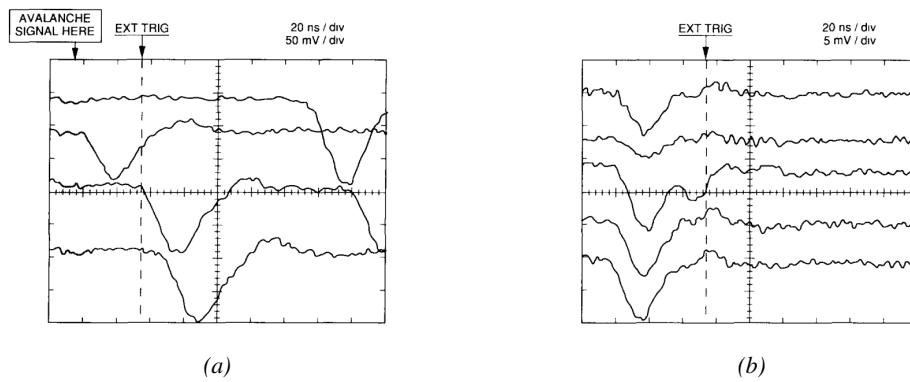


Figure 4.3: Typical oscilloscope pulses in streamer mode (Figure 4.3a) and avalanche mode (Figure 4.3b). In the case of streamer mode, the very small avalanche signal is visible.

When the electric field is reduced though, the electronic gain is small until the electrons get close enough to the anode and the positive ion cloud is much smaller. The electric field cannot rise to the

point a field emission of electrons on the cathode is possible. The resulting signal is weak, of the order of a few mv as shown on Figure 4.3, and requires amplification. This is the *avalanche mode* of RPC operation. This mode offers a higher rate capability by providing smaller discharges that don't affect the electrodes charge and are more locally contained in the gas volume as was demonstrated by Crotty with Figure 4.4 [45]. The detector only stays locally blind the time the charge carriers are recombined and there is no need for electrode recharge which is a long process affecting a large portion of the detector. Another advantage of avalanche signals over streamer is the great time consistency. Figure 4.3 shows very clearly that avalanche signals have a very small time jitter. Thus, using such a mode is a natural choice for experiments in which the detectors are required to have a high detection rate.

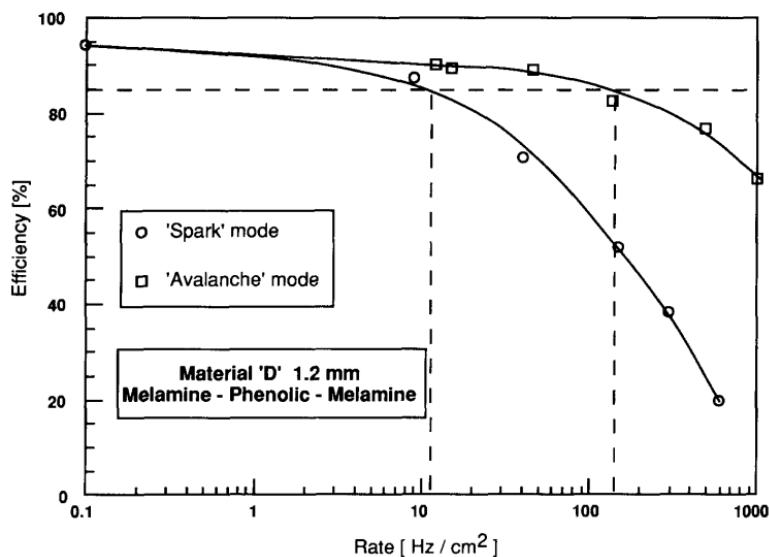
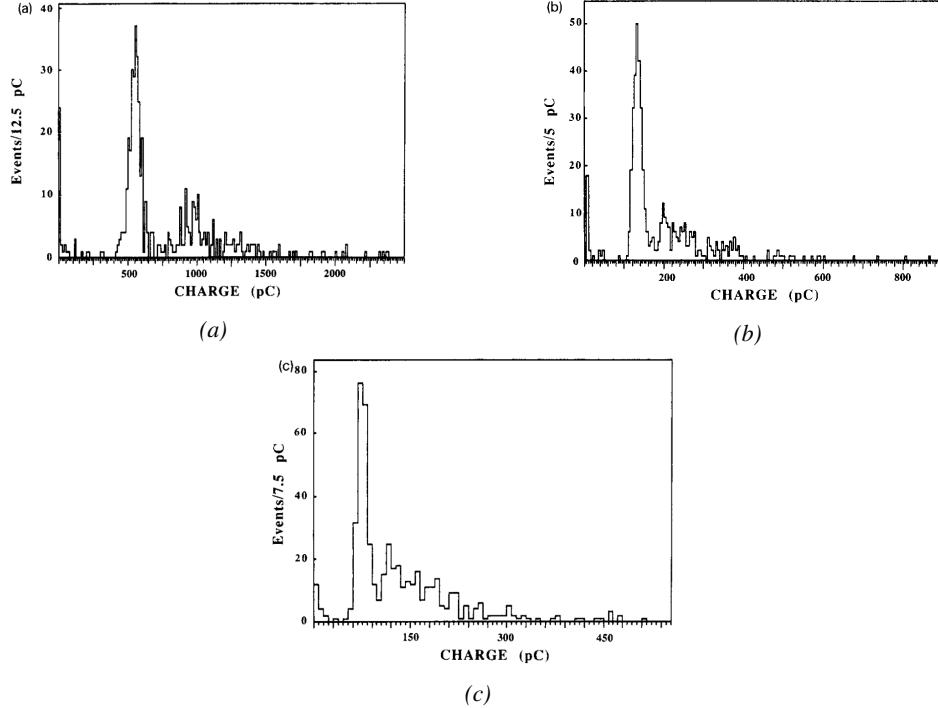


Figure 4.4: Rate capability comparison for the streamer and avalanche mode of operation. An order of magnitude in rate capability for a maximal efficiency drop of 10% is gained by using the avalanche mode over the streamer mode.

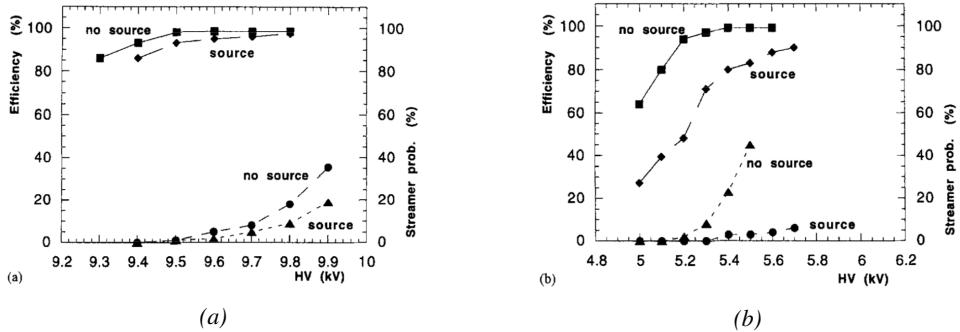
#### 4.2.2 Standard gas mixture for RPCs operated in collider experiments

The first RPC working in streamer mode was operated with a 50/50 mixture of argon and butane [42], a standard mixture used at that time in multi-wire proportional chambers, taking profit of the good effective Townsend coefficient of argon to maximize the number of primary charge carriers freed in the gas by ionizing particles and of the quenching properties of butane. Before the discovery of the avalanche mode of RPC operation and concerned about the rate capability of RPCs operated in streamer mode, the performance improvement of the detectors through the increase of fast charge ratio in the signal development ,decreasing the charge induced per avalanche as can be seen through Figure 4.5, was studied by adding Freon based gases, such as  $CF_3Br$ , into the typical  $Ar/C_4H_{10}$  gas mixture was studied and showed that a lower induced charge could lead to an improvement the rate capability [48]. This consideration lead to the discovery of the avalanche mode which confirmed that the smaller the induced charge, the better the rate capability of the RPCs [45]. This discovery could happen thanks to the increased number of lower induced charge events allowed by adding a

2013 fraction of strong quencher in the gas mixture.



*Figure 4.5: Comparison of the charge distribution of signals induced by cosmic muons in an RPC operated with a gas mixture of argon, butane and bromotrifluoromethane (CF<sub>3</sub>Br). The Ar/C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>10</sub> is kept constant at 60/40 in volume while the total amount of CF<sub>3</sub>Br in the mixture is varied: 0% (Figure 4.5a), 4% (Figure 4.5b) and 8% (Figure 4.5c) [48].*



*Figure 4.6: Comparison of the efficiency and streamer probability, defined as the fraction of events with an induced charge 10 times larger than that of the average avalanche, with and without irradiation by a 24 GBq <sup>137</sup>Cs source of an RPC successively operated with a 90/10 mixture C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>F<sub>4</sub>/i-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>10</sub> (Figure 4.6a) and a 70/5/10/15 mixture of Ar/i-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>10</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub>/C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>F<sub>4</sub> (Figure 4.6b) [49].*

2014 From this moment onward, more and more studies were conducted in order to find a gas mixture  
2015 that would allow for the best suppression of streamers for the benefit of low charge avalanches. Most

R&D groups working with narrow gaps started using freon-based gas mixtures while users of wide gap RPCs kept using  $Ar/CO_2$  based mixtures. The differences in between narrow and wide gaps will be later discussed in Section 4.2.3. The  $CF_3Br$  having a high GWP, tetrafluoroethane ( $C_2H_2F_4$ ) was preferred to it as more suitable ecofriendly gas in the middle of the 90s. An advantage of this new freon component is that it featured a high primary ionization and a low operating voltage, as reported by Cardarelli [47]. Thus, the new gas mixtures used were mainly composed of tetrafluoroethane alone with lower content of isobutane in order to reduce the flammability of the mixtures in the case it were to be used in accelerator experiments for safety reasons. Performance and models about such mixtures were discussed in papers of Abbrescia [49, 50] and showed a better suitability of such a gas mixture, with respect to argon based ones, for operations with high radiation backgrounds leading to a need for high rate capability of the detectors, as can be seen from Figures 4.6 and 4.7. Indeed, although the operating voltage of a tetrafluoroethane based mixture is higher than which of an argon based mixture but the efficiency under irradiation is more stable, the voltage range with negligible streamer probability is much wider, and the fast charge ratio available is much greater, providing with more stable operation of the detector.

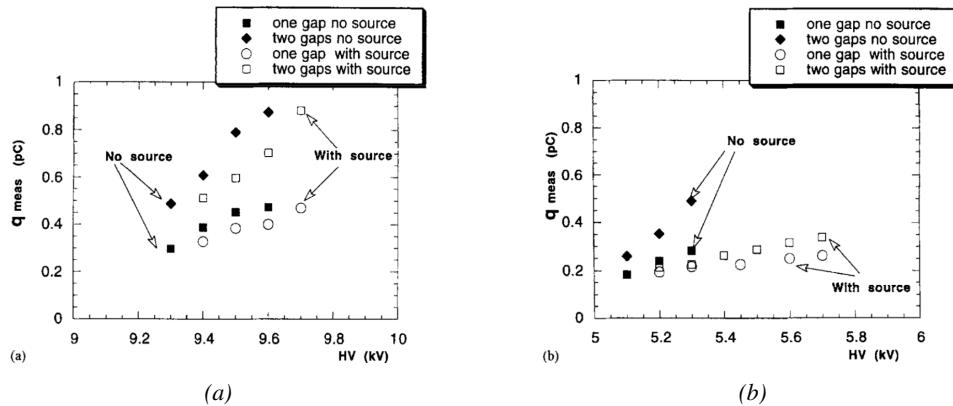


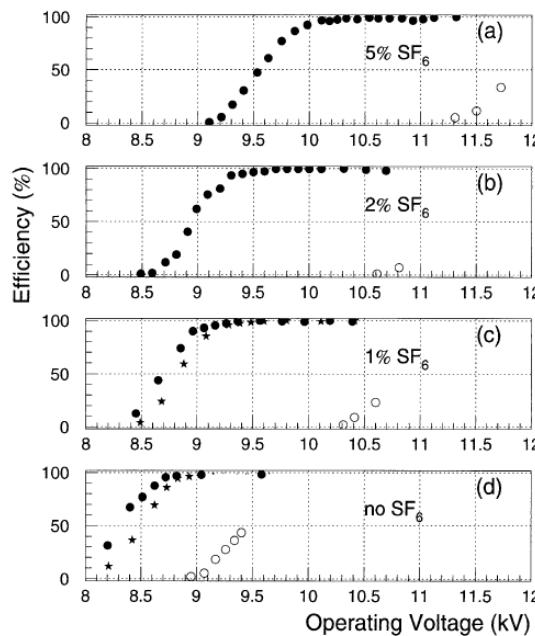
Figure 4.7: Comparison of the fast charge ratio with and without irradiation by a 24 GBq  $^{137}Cs$  source of an RPC successively operated with a 90/10 mixture  $C_2H_2F_4/i-C_4H_{10}$  (Figure 4.7a) and a 70/5/10/15 mixture of  $Ar/i-C_4H_{10}/CO_2/C_2H_2F_4$  (Figure 4.7b). The results are provided for both single gap and double gap operation [49].

Aside of the improvement of the rate capability through linseed oil surface treatment of HPL electrodes, which allowed for a lower intrinsic noise rate and dark current of the detectors by improving the smoothness of the electrodes surface [62], it was later found that the streamers could be further suppressed by adding an electronegative compound into the gas mixture. The benefits of adding  $SF_6$  in order to push the transitions from avalanche to streamers towards high voltages has been discussed in 1998 [51, 52] and eventually the high rate RPC destined to be used in accelerator physics would unanimously start using this compound into RPC gas mixtures. Being able to control the creation of streamers allows for slower ageing of the detector and lower power consumption as the currents driven by the electrodes consecutively to the induced charges would be smaller. In summary, the typical gas mixture RPCs are operated with is generally composed of the following 3 gas compounds, although, as mentioned in Chapter 3.6, research is being conducted into new more ecofriendly gas mixture using gases with a much lower Global Warming Potential:

- Tetrafluoroethane ( $C_2F_4H_2$ ), also referred to as *Freon* or *R134a*, is the principal compound

2044 of the RPC gas mixtures, with a typical fraction above 90%. It is used for its high effective  
 2045 Townsend coefficient and the great average fast charge that allows to operate the detector  
 2046 with a high threshold with respect to argon, for example, that has similar effective Townsend  
 2047 coefficient but suffers from a lower fast charge. To operate with similar conditions, argon  
 2048 would require a higher electric field leading to a higher fraction of streamers, thus limiting the  
 2049 rate capability of the detector [49, 50].

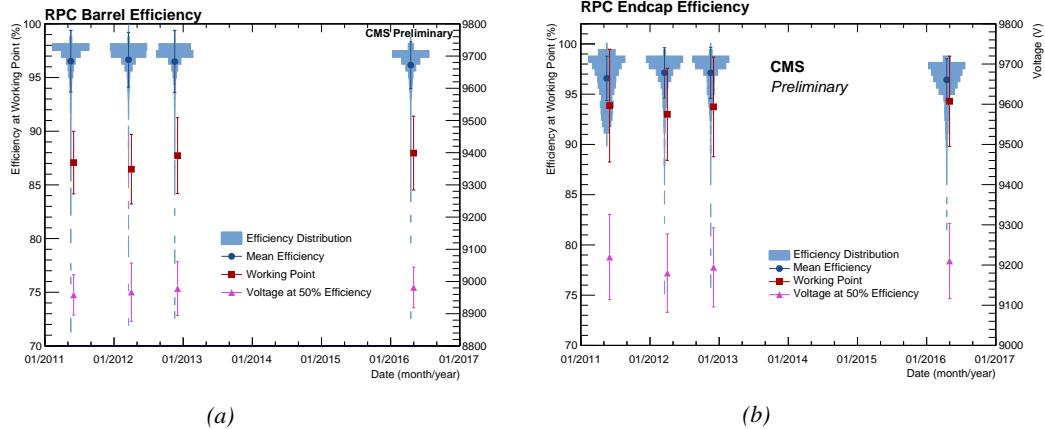
- 2050 • Isobutane ( $i\text{-C}_4\text{H}_{10}$ ), only present in a few percent in the gas mixtures, is used for its UV  
 2051 quenching properties [63] helping to prevent streamers due to UV photon emission during the  
 2052 avalanche growth.
- 2053 • Sulfur hexafluoride, ( $\text{SF}_6$ ), simply referred to as  $\text{SF}_6$ , is used in very little quantities for its  
 2054 high electronegativity. Excess of electrons are being absorbed by the compound and stream-  
 2055 ers are suppressed [51, 52]. Nevertheless, a fraction of  $\text{SF}_6$  higher than 1% will not bring  
 2056 any extra benefice in terms of streamer cancelation power but will lead to higher operating  
 2057 voltage [51], as can be understood through Figure 4.8.



2058 *Figure 4.8: Efficiency (circles and stars with 30 mV and 100 mV thresholds respectively) and streamer prob-  
 2059 ability (opened circles) as function of the operating voltage of a 2 mm single gap HPL RPC flushed with a gas  
 2060 mixture containing (a) 5%, (b) 2%, (c) 1% and (d) no  $\text{SF}_6$  [51].*

2061 In the last steps of R&D, the gas mixture of CMS RPCs was foreseen to be a 96.2/3.5/0.3 compo-  
 2062 sition of  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2\text{F}_4/i\text{-C}_4\text{H}_{10}/\text{SF}_6$  [64] but finally it was slightly changed into a 95.2/4.5/0.3 mixture  
 2063 of the same gases [65]. A summary of the operation performance of the RPCs since the start of LHC  
 and of CMS data taking is given in Figure 4.9 [66]. The performance of the detectors is regularly  
 monitored and the operating voltages updated in order to obtain a very stable performance through  
 time. Nevertheless, the detectors will face new challenges during Phase-II during which they will

exposed to more extreme radiation conditions. Description of the longevity tests with extreme irradiation and the conclusions regarding the operation of the present RPC system will be given in Chapter 5.



*Figure 4.9: Evolution of the efficiency, working voltage, and voltage at 50% of maximum efficiency for CMS Barrel (Figure 4.9a) and Endcap (Figure 4.9b) RPCs obtained through yearly voltage scans since 2011. The working voltage of each RPC is updated after each voltage scan to ensure optimal operation [66].*

It was already discussed that in the future, it is likely that the use of freon gases could be banned. As potential replacement for tetrafluoroethane was proposed the trifluoriodomethane ( $CF_3I$ ), a molecule with similar properties than  $CF_3Br$  which was replaced by the tetrafluoroethane, and the 1,3,3,3-tetrafluoropropene ( $C_3H_2F_4$  or HFO-1234re), a molecule with similar properties than the actual tetrafluoroethane and proposed as a replacement in refrigerating and air conditioning systems [67]. These 2 gases have stronger quenching properties than  $C_2H_2F_4$  which means a much stronger electric field needs to be applied on the parallel electrodes of the RPCs in order to reach full efficiency. But the power supply system of CMS RPC is limited to 15 kV and so is ATLAS power supply system which is participating in a joined R&D. As can be seen from Figure 3.20, reducing the working voltage was achieved by mixing the potential replacements together with  $CO_2$ . Introducing carbon dioxide into the mixture while keeping similar levels of isobutane and  $SF_6$  increases the streamer probability and the best candidate identified for a compromise in between low enough working voltage and acceptable levels of streamers corresponds to a mixture containing 50% of  $CO_2$ , 45% of HFO, 4% of isobutane and 1% of  $SF_6$  but is not yet considered satisfactory. On the other hand, no good replacement for  $SF_6$  has yet been identified. With its very high Global Warming Potential (23900), even small fraction of this gas in the mixture (it only represents 0.3% of CMS standard mixture but more than 5% of its overall GWP) substantially increase the danger for the environment. Although finding a replacement for this gas is less critical than for the tetrafluoroethane composing more than 90% of usual RPC standard mixtures, the problem will need to be addressed.

### 4.2.3 Detector designs and performance

Different RPC design have been used and each of them present its own advantages. Historically, the first type of RPC to have been developed is what is now referred to as *narrow gap* RPC [42, 68].

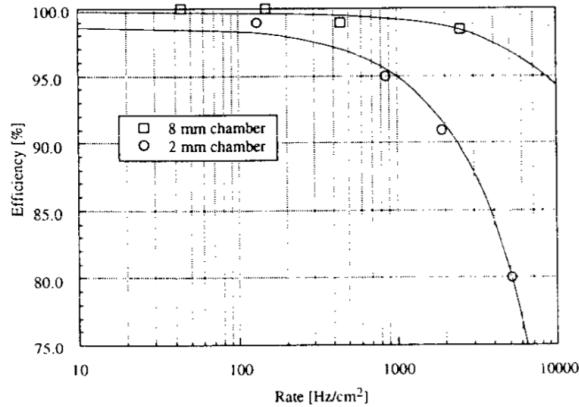


Figure 4.10: Comparison of the rate capability of 8 mm and 2 mm wide RPCs. The lines are linear fits on the data [68].

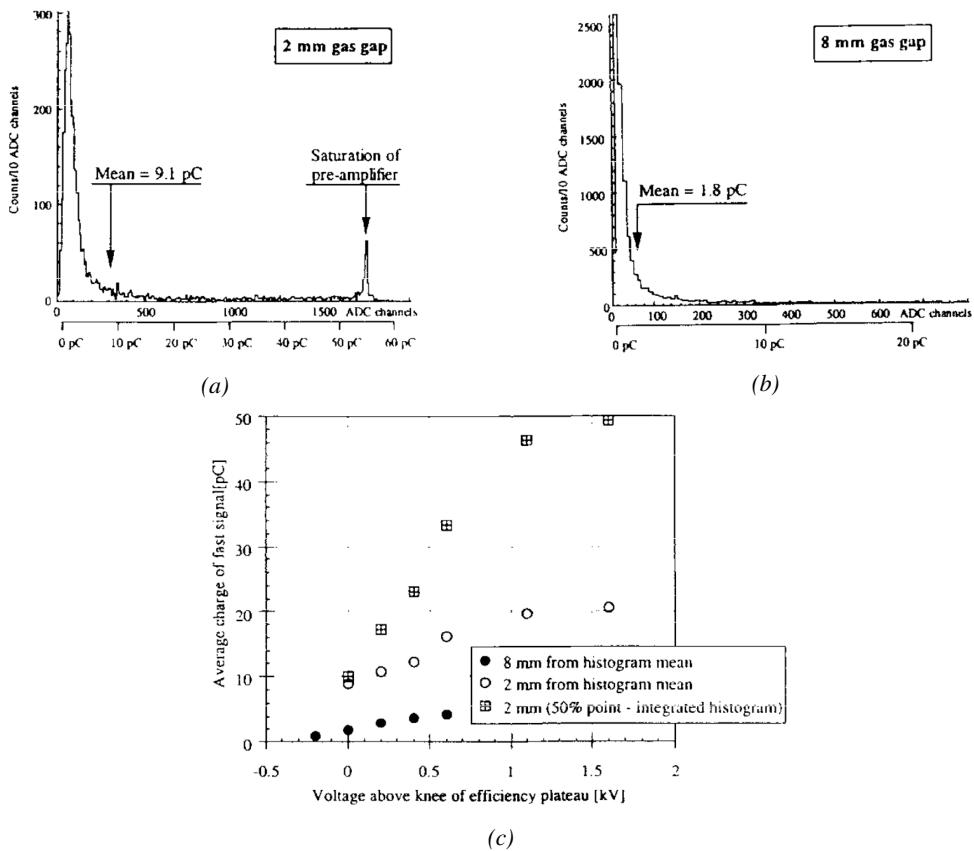


Figure 4.11: Distributions of the induced charge of fast signals on 2 mm (Figure 4.11a) and 8 mm (Figure 4.11b) RPCs exposed to a radiation rate of  $100 \text{ Hz/cm}^2$ . Average induced charge of fast signals as a function of the high voltage applied on 2 mm and 8 mm RPCs (Figure 4.11c). In the case of the 2 mm RPC, a saturation of the pre-amplifier was observed. The average of the distribution is underestimated and the median is showed together with the average to account for this bias [68].

After the avalanche mode has been discovered [45], it has been showed that increasing the width of the gas gap lead to higher rate capability, due to lower charge deposition per avalanche, and lower power dissipation [68], as is showed in Figures 4.10 and 4.11. The distance in between the electrode being greater, a weaker electric field can be applied and a lower gain used as a longer gas volume will contribute to the signal induction on the read-out circuit. Nevertheless, by increasing the gas gap width, the time resolution of the detector decreases. This is a natural result if the increase of active gas volume in the detector is taken into account. Indeed, for a given detection threshold on the induced charge per signal, only the small fraction of gas closest to the cathode will provide enough gain to have a detectable signal. In the case of a wider gas volume, the active region is then larger and a larger time jitter is introduced with the variation of starting position of the avalanche, as discussed in [53] and showed in Figure 4.12.

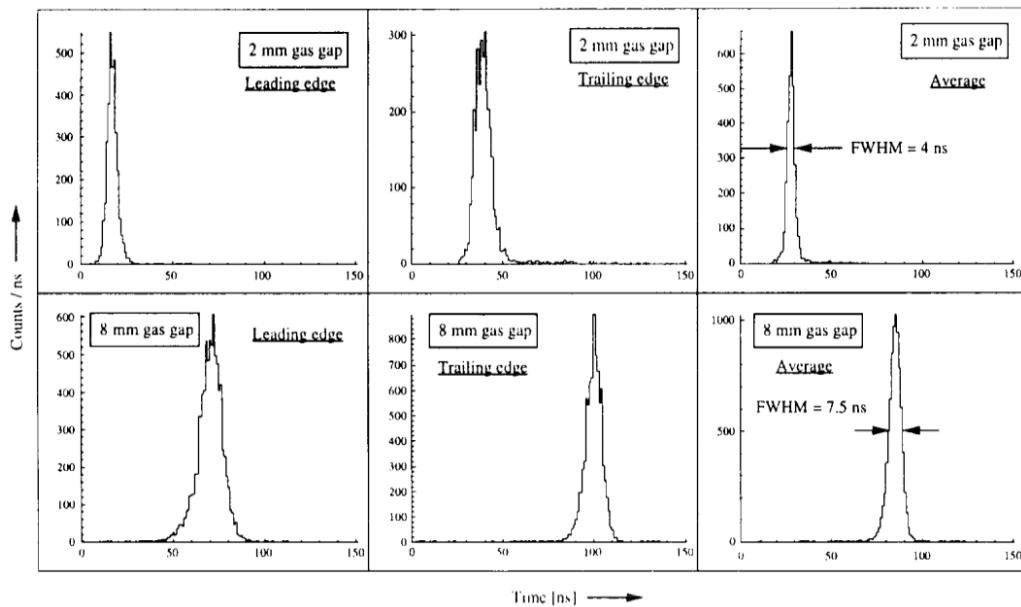


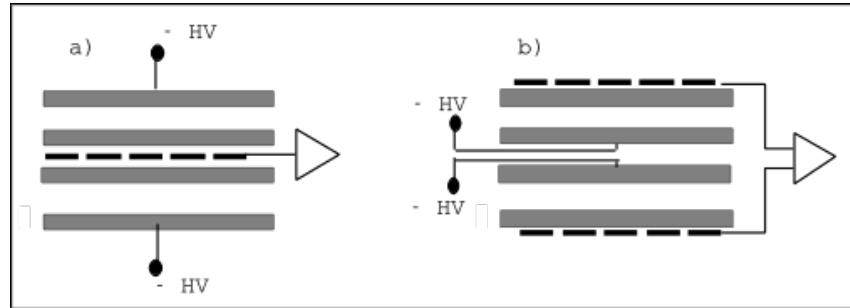
Figure 4.12: Time distributions of the leading, trailing, and average of both leading and trailing edges for 2 mm (top row) and 8 mm (bottom row) RPCs exposed to a 100 Hz/cm<sup>2</sup> radiation rate. The data was collected with RPCs operated at the voltage corresponding to the knee of the efficiency distribution, defined as the point where 95% of the maximum efficiency is obtained [68].

To improve both the time resolution and the rate capability, different methods were used trying to take advantage of both narrow and wide gap RPCs into a single design. Thus, double gap RPCs, combining two narrow gaps into a single detector to increase the effective sensitive volume, and multigap RPCs, which divided the large volume of a wide gap RPC into thinner sub-gaps by adding intermediate electrodes in between the cathode and anode to improve the time resolution by mimicking narrow gap RPCs, were developed starting from the middle of the 90s.

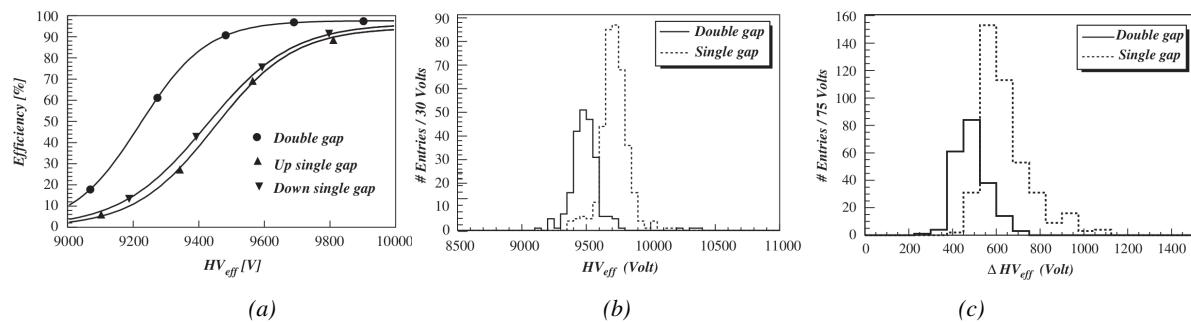
#### 4.2.3.1 Double gap RPC

Made out of 2 narrow RPC detectors stacked on top of each other as shown in Figure 4.13, this detector layout, popularized by the two multipurpose experiments CMS [21] and ATLAS [56] at LHC, can be used as an OR system in which each individual chamber participates in the output signal

and increases the overall sensitive volume of the detector apparatus. Keeping the copper strip read-out system at the ground, CMS and ATLAS, due to different goals, have chosen different designs as CMS RPCs possess a 1D read-out while ATLAS RPCs offer a 2D read-out. The difference comes from placing the read-out in between the gaps, the anodes facing each other, or to have both RPC gaps in between 2 layers of read-out panels, one along the X-axis and one along the Y-axis, the cathodes facing each other.



*Figure 4.13: Possible double-gap RPC layouts: a) "standard" 1D double-gap RPC, as used in CMS experiment, where the anodes are facing each other and a 1D read-out plane is sandwiched in between them, b) double read-out double-gap RPC as used in ATLAS experiment, where the cathodes are facing each other and 2 read-out planes are used on the outer surfaces. This last layout can offer the possibility to use a 2D reconstruction by using orthogonal read-out planes.*



*Figure 4.14: Comparison of performance of CMS double and single gap RPCs using cosmic muons [64]. Figure 4.14a: Comparison of efficiency sigmoids. Figure 4.14b: Voltage distribution at 95% of maximum efficiency. Figure 4.14c:  $\Delta_{10\%}^{90\%}$  distribution.*

The gain of such a detector is reduced by a factor 2 with respect to single-gap RPCs with an efficiency plateau reached at lower voltage, as visible on Figure 4.14, due to the two gas gaps contributing to the signal formation and offering a dynamic range closer to witch of a wide gap RPC. A double gap is then fully efficient while the individual RPC gaps composing it are only 70 to 80% efficient. Naturally, by operating the double gap at a lower voltage, the rate capability is found to be increased as the induced charge per gap is then lower than in the case of a single gap detector also leading to a reduction of the streamer probability and a better extraction of the fast charge of the total signal as could be seen through previously presented Figure 4.7.

2125 **4.2.3.2 Multigap RPC (MRPC)**

2126 MRPCs are layouts in which floating sub electrode plates are placed into a wide gap RPC to divide  
 2127 the gas volume and create a sum of narrow gaps [53, 54]. Similarly to the double gap RPC for which  
 2128 the gain could be reduced by increasing the dynamic range, the multigap reduces the gain while  
 2129 keeping a total dynamic range similar to which of a wide gap RPC by reducing the size of each  
 2130 individual sub-gap composing the detector. The dynamic range, associated to the sensitive volume,  
 2131 and the comparison of each detector layout to the wide gap RPC is showed in Figure 4.15.

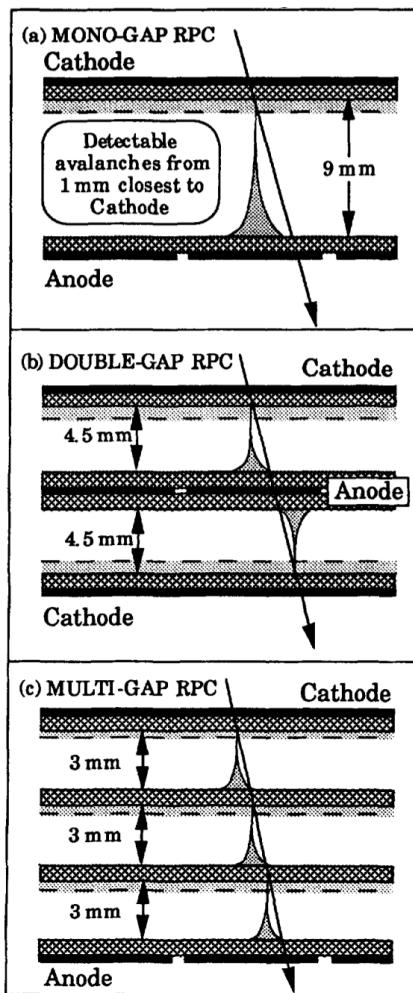


Figure 4.15: Representation of different RPC layouts (wide gap on Figure (a), double gap on Figure (b) and multigap on Figure (c)), of the corresponding sensitive volume in gray, and of the associated avalanche size [54].

2132 By operating the detector with thinner gaps, the time resolution is improved. Comparatively to  
 2133 the time resolution presented in Figure 4.12 for the wide gap RPC of 8 mm, a complementary study  
 2134 was conducted on multigaps using two 4 mm and four 2 mm subgaps and showed, via Figure 4.16,  
 2135 an improvement of the time resolution with the reduction of the gap width and of the number of gaps

<sup>2136</sup> while the same sensitive volume was kept [54].

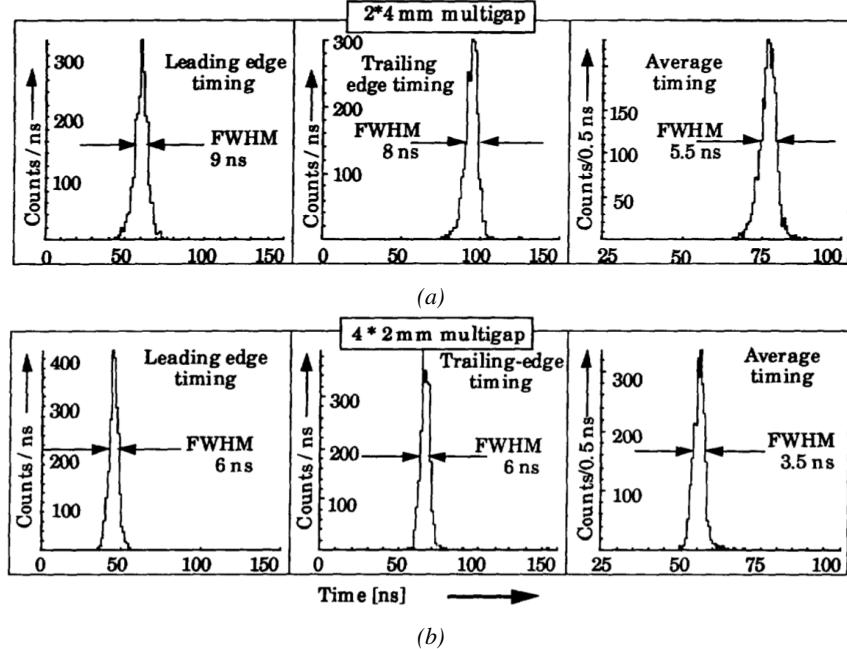


Figure 4.16: Time distributions of the leading, trailing, and average of both leading and trailing edges for multigap RPCs consisting in two 4 mm (Figure 4.16a) and four 2 mm (Figure 4.16b) exposed to a  $100 \text{ Hz/cm}^2$  radiation rate. The data was collected with RPCs operated at the voltage corresponding to the knee of the efficiency distribution, defined as the point where 95% of the maximum efficiency is obtained [54].

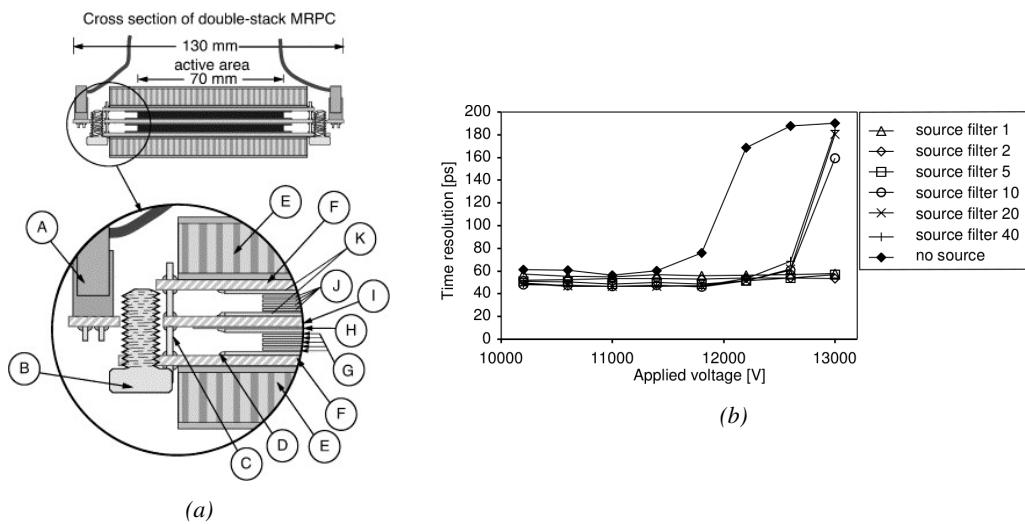


Figure 4.17: Presentation of a study of a possible ALICE MRPC cell using  $250 \mu\text{m}$  gas gaps,  $620 \mu\text{m}$  outer glass electrodes, and  $550 \mu\text{m}$  inner floating electrodes (Figure 4.17a), and of its time resolution performance as a function of the applied high voltage for different radiation levels referred through different filter settings of the  $740 \text{ GBq } ^{137}\text{Cs}$  source the former CERN GIF facility [69].

After the problem of streamers was solved by adding  $SF_6$  into the gas mixture, the size of the MRPCs decreased as the research groups started applying the concept of dividing the gas volume into subvolumes to the narrow gap RPCs leading to the now widely used micro gap MRPCs. The time resolution of such a detector can reach of few tens of ps, with gas gaps of the order of a few hundred  $\mu\text{m}$  as showed in Figure 4.17 representing a single cell of ALICE Time-of-flight (ToF) system consisting of double MRPCs, as it was studied in the early 2000s [69].

Sometimes used as a double multigap RPC, taking advantage of the OR of double gap RPCs to both be able to operate a higher number of gaps while keeping a reasonable high voltage applied in between the cathode and anode and to further reduce the gain, the MRPC is mainly used as ToF detector [69–73] due to its excellent timing properties that allow to perform particle identification as explained by Williams in [74]. The principle of particle identification using ToF is simply the measurement of the velocity of a particle. Indeed, particles are defined by their mass (for the parameter of interest here, their electric charge being measured using the bending angle of the particles traveling through a magnetic field) and this mass can be calculated by measuring the velocity  $\beta$  and momentum of the particle:

$$(4.3) \quad \beta = \frac{p}{\sqrt{p^2 + m^2}}$$

Intuitively, it is trivial to understand that 2 different particles having the same momentum will have a different velocity due to the mass difference and thus a different flight time  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  through the detector and this is used to separate and identify particles. The better the time resolution of the ToF system used, the stronger will the separation be:

$$(4.4) \quad T = \frac{L}{v} = \frac{L}{c \cdot \beta}, \quad \Delta T = T_1 - T_2 = \frac{L}{c} \left( \sqrt{1 + m_1^2/p^2} - \sqrt{1 + m_2^2/p^2} \right) \cong (m_1^2 - m_2^2) \frac{L}{2cp^2}$$

An example of particle identification is given for the case of STAR experiment in Figure 4.18.

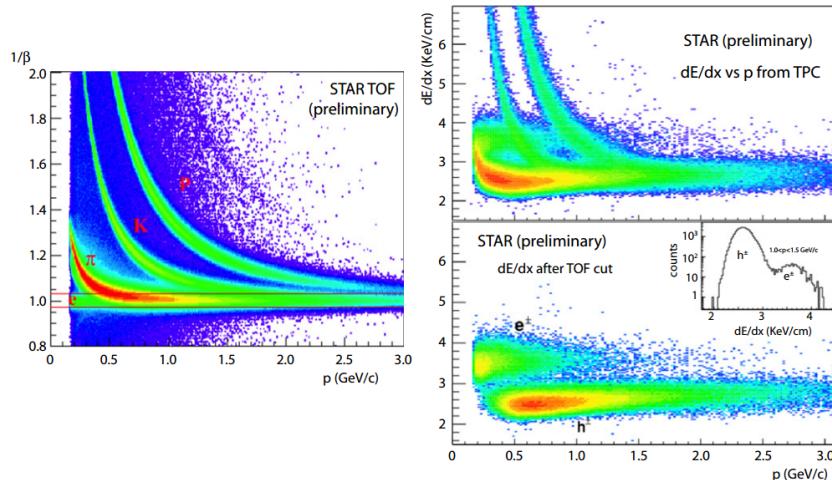
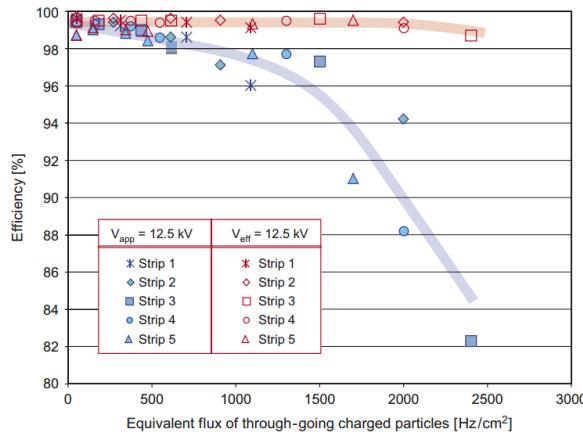


Figure 4.18: Particle identification applied to electrons in the STAR experiment. The identification is performed combining ToF and  $dE/dx$  measurements [74].

2157 Taking into account the distortion effect on the electric field inside of a MRPC built using micro  
 2158 gaps due to the exposition to irradiation, distortion that can be understood by monitoring the current  
 2159 drawn by the detector which should stay constant at constant electric field, another benefice of using  
 2160 such small gas gaps is the strong reduction of the average avalanche volume and thus of the blind  
 2161 spot on MRPCs leading to an improved rate capability. Multigaps can sustain backgrounds of several  
 2162 kHz/cm<sup>2</sup> as demonstrated in Figure 4.19.



2163 *Figure 4.19: Comparison of the detector performance of ALICE ToF MRPC [75] at fixed applied voltage (in blue) and at fixed effective voltage (in red). The effective voltage is kept fixed by increasing the applied voltage accordingly to the current drawn by the detector.*

#### 2163 4.2.3.3 Charge distribution and performance limitations

2164 [This part could be moved in the next section of the chapter and deepened using the perspective  
 2165 of the avalanche physics.]

2166 The direct consequence of the different RPC layouts is a variation of intrinsic time resolution of  
 2167 the RPC as the gap size decreases and of the rate capability when the deposited charge per event is  
 2168 spread over a larger number of amplification volumes, allowing for a reduction of the overall gain of  
 2169 the detectors which is replaced by an on-electronics pre-amplification of the signals. in this sense,  
 2170 an advantage is given to multigaps whose design use sub-millimeter gas volumes providing very  
 2171 consistent signals.

2172 From the charge spectrum point of view, each layout has its own advantages. When the double-  
 2173 gap has the highest induced over drifting charge ratio, as seen in Figure 4.20, the multigap has a  
 2174 charge spectrum strongly detached from the origin, as visible in Figure 4.21. A high induced over  
 2175 drifting charge ratio means that the double gap can be safely operated at high threshold or that at  
 2176 similar threshold it can be operated with a twice smaller drifting charge, meaning a higher rate  
 2177 capability if operated with sensitive enough electronics. On the other hand, the strong detachment  
 2178 of the charge spectrum from the origin in the MRPC case allows to reach a higher efficiency with  
 2179 increasing threshold as most of the induced charge is not low due to the convolution of several  
 2180 single gap spectra. The range of stable efficiency increases with the number of gap, as presented in  
 2181 Figure 4.22.

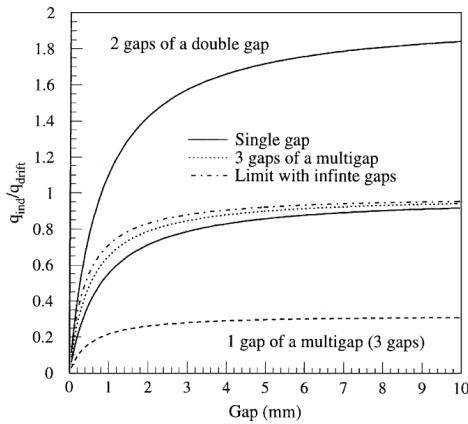


Figure 4.20: Ratio between total induced and drifting charge have been simulated for single gap, double-gap and multigap layouts [76]. The total induced charge for a double-gap RPC is a factor 2 higher than for a multigap.

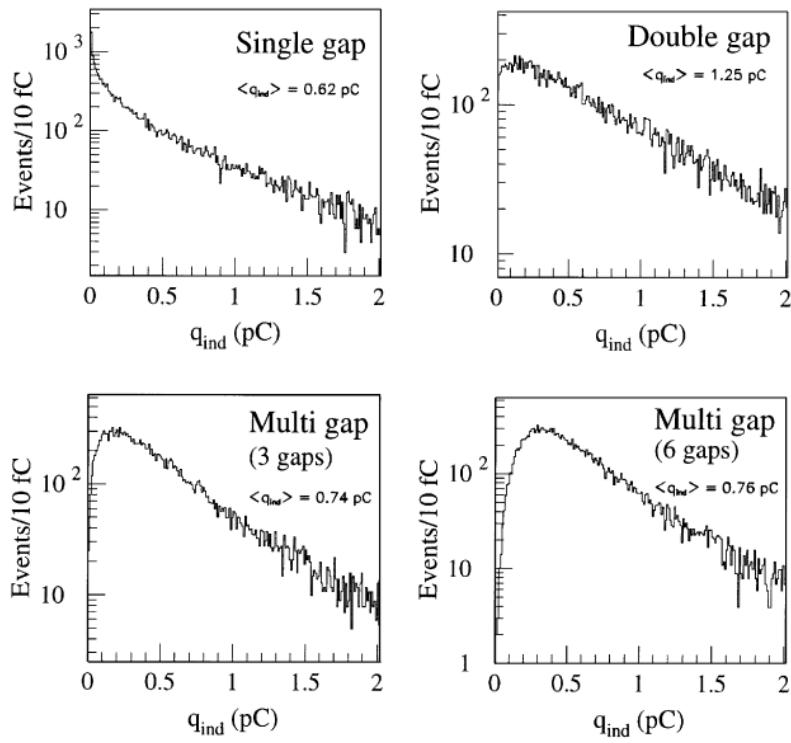


Figure 4.21: Charge spectra have been simulated for single gap, double-gap and multigap layouts [76]. It appears that when single gap shows a decreasing spectrum, double and multigap layouts exhibit a spectrum whose peak is detached from the origin. The detachment gets stronger as the number of gaps increases.

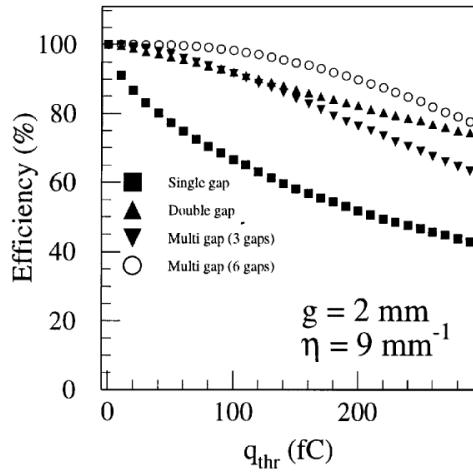


Figure 4.22: The maximal theoretical efficiency is simulated for single gap, double-gap and multigap layouts [76] at a constant gap thickness of 2 mm and using an effective Townsend coefficient of  $9 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ .

### 4.3 Signal formation

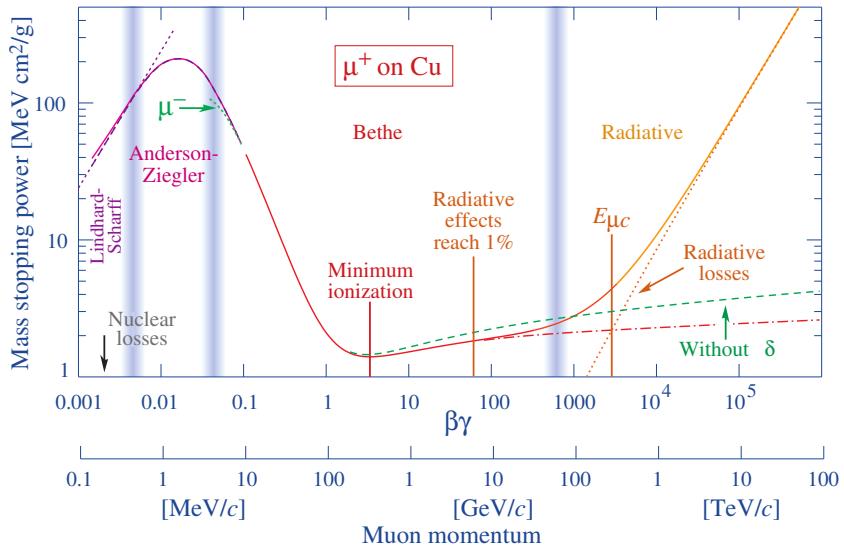


Figure 4.23: Mass stopping power as a function of  $\beta\gamma = p/Mc$  for positive muons in copper [77]. The total stopping power is indicated with solid line and local components with dashed lines. The vertical bands are used to indicate boundaries between different approximations used at different energy range.

The physics of Resistive Plate Chambers still is far from being fully understood and work is regularly being accomplished in trying to model these detectors the best way possible by phenomenological models using well-defined physics [60, 78, 79]. These theoretical works have nevertheless lead to a better understanding of the key principles that account for RPCs signal formation. As previously

discussed, the typical mixture of such a detector is in great majority composed by a ionizing gas with some quenching properties and a low ionization potential to easily produce electrons, with the addition of UV quencher and electronegative compounds. The electronic avalanche formation will be triggered by a charged particle passing through the gas, typically a muon in the case of most uses of RPCs. The production of electrons in the gas of a detector is related to the energy lost by the incoming particle traveling through a material medium. The example of the mass stopping power of copper on muons is given in Figure 4.23 on which the different energy loss mechanisms at different energy ranges are visible. Once primary electrons have been freed in the gas volume, the electric field applied in between the electrodes of the RPC will make the charges move and there will be a competition in the gas in between the Townsend and attachment coefficient which describe the evolution of the number of electrons in an avalanche. While drifting through the gas, the electrons are also subjected to diffusion that will affect the evolution of the avalanches. Finally, when the avalanche is big enough, the accumulation of negative (electrons) and positive (ions) charges in the gas volume will start affecting the local electric field. This effect is known as space charge effect.

### 4.3.1 Energy loss at intermediate energies

Intuitively, a particle traveling through a medium will interact with its components, losing energy. When a muon travels through the gas of a gaseous detector, at the energy range usually observed, it interacts with the molecules of the gas leading to dissipation of the transferred energy in the form of inelastic diffusion or ionization. The photons and electron-ion pairs resulting from these interaction can trigger avalanches in the gas which will contribute to feed the avalanche growth thanks to the strong electric field applied in between the 2 electrodes of a RPC.

The mass stopping power of moderately relativistic ( $0.1 \lesssim \beta\gamma \lesssim 1000$ ) heavy particles ( $M \gg m_e$ ) traveling through a medium via excitation and ionization processes was studied by Bethe in 1930 [80] and is well described by the so called the Bethe Formula given in Equation 4.5.

$$(4.5) \quad \left\langle -\frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle = K z^2 \frac{Z}{A} \frac{1}{\beta^2} \left( \frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{2m_e c^2 \beta^2 \gamma^2 W_{max}}{I^2} - \beta^2 - \delta(\beta\gamma) \right)$$

The different parameters used in this equation are

$E$	- incident particle energy $\gamma Mc^2$	MeV
$x$	- mass per unit area	$\text{g cm}^{-2}$
$N_A$	- Avogadro's number	$6.022\ 140\ 857(74) \times 10^{23} \text{ mol}^{-1}$
$c$	- speed of light in vacuum	$299\ 792\ 458 \text{ m s}^{-1}$
$\mu_0$	- permeability of free space	$4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{ N A}^{-2}$
$\epsilon_0$	- permittivity of free space $\epsilon_0 = 1/\mu_0 c^2$	$8.854\ 187\ 817\dots \times 10^{-12} \text{ F m}^{-1}$
$\alpha$	- fine structure constant $\alpha = e^2/4\pi\epsilon_0\hbar c$	$1/137.035\ 999\ 139(31)$
$r_e$	- classical electron radius $r_e = e^2/4\pi\epsilon_0 m_e c^2$	$2.817\ 940\ 3227(19) \text{ fm}$
$e$	- elementary charge of the electron	$-1.6021766208(98) \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$
$m_e c^2$	- electron mass $\times c^2$	$0.510\ 998\ 9461(31) \text{ MeV}$
$K$	- constant defined as $K = 4\pi N_A r_e^2 m_e c^2$	$0.307\ 075 \text{ MeV mol}^{-1} \text{ cm}^2$
$z$	- charge number of incident particle	
$Z$	- atomic number of absorbing medium	
$A$	- atomic mass of absorbing medium	$\text{g mol}^{-1}$
$\beta$	- velocity of particle $\beta = v/c$	
$\gamma$	- Lorentz factor $\gamma = (1 - \beta^2)^{-1/2}$	

$W_{max}$	- maximum energy transfer through a single collision	MeV
$I$	- mean excitation energy of absorbing medium	eV
$\delta(\beta\gamma)$	- density effect correction to ionization energy loss	

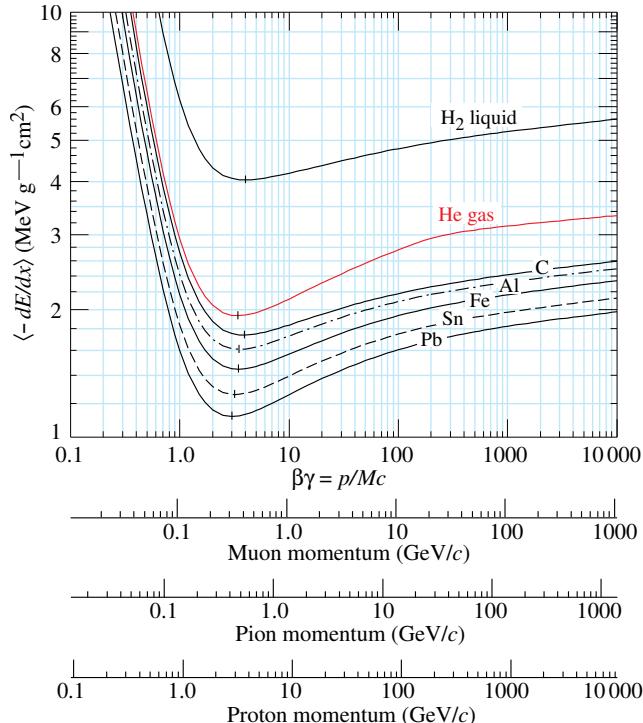


Figure 4.24: Mean mass stopping power for liquid hydrogen, as used in bubble chambers, gaseous helium, carbon, aluminum, iron, tin, and lead without the inclusion of radiative effect at higher  $\beta\gamma$  necessary for pions and muons in denser materials [77].

In this equation, the maximum energy transfer  $W_{max}$  is defined as function of the incident particle mass  $M$ , expressed in  $\text{MeV}/c^2$

$$(4.6) \quad W_{max} = \frac{2m_e c^2 \beta^2 \gamma^2}{1 + 2\gamma m_e / M + (m_e / M)^2}$$

and the mean excitation energy  $I$  depends on the absorber and its determination is non-trivial but recommendation are given by the International Commission on Radiation Units & Measurements (ICRU) based on experimental measurements and interpolations as showed in Figure 4.25.

For the case of copper, the mean stopping power is visible in Figure 4.23. The mean stopping power corresponding only to the Bethe range for other materials is given in Figure 4.24 and shows that  $\langle -dE/dx \rangle$  is similar for each material with a slow decrease with  $Z$ . The factor affecting the equation the most is  $\beta$  as the dependence on  $M$  is introduced at higher energies in the logarithm via the max transfer energy per single collision but in most practice cases, only the dependence on  $\beta$  is considered as most of the relativistic particles are closed to the lowest mean energy loss rate and are

referred to as minimum ionizing particles (mip's). The almost logarithmic relation in between the mean energy loss rate for minimum ionizing particles and  $Z$  is showed in Figure 4.26.

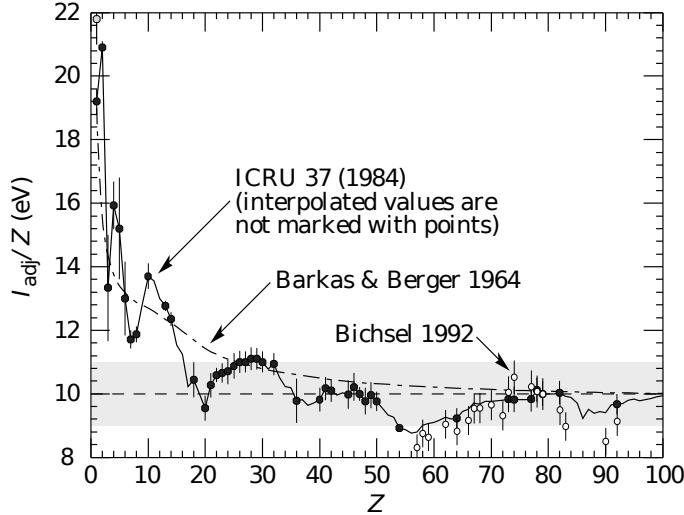


Figure 4.25: Mean excitation energies normalized to the atomic number as adopted by the ICRU [77, 81, 82].

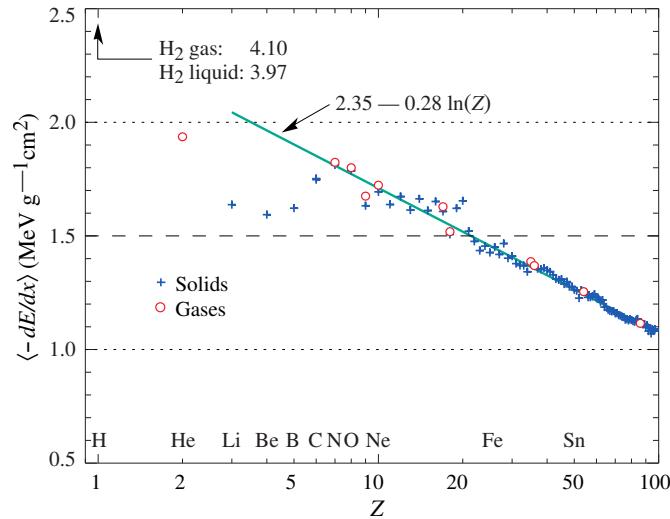


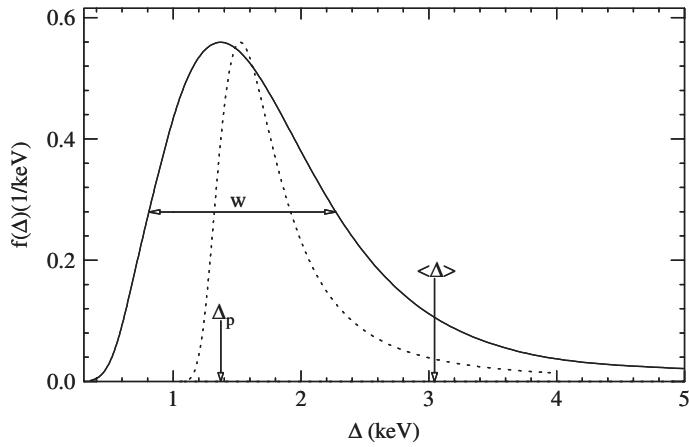
Figure 4.26: Mean mass stopping power at minimum ionization as a function of the atomic number [77].

Finally, the term  $\delta(\beta\gamma)/2$  corresponds to the density effect correction introduced to account for the polarization of a real media that limits the spatial extension of the electric field of relativistic particles. Indeed, as the energy of a particle increases, the associated electric field will flatten and extend. Due to this effect, the distant collision contribution to Equation 4.5 will increase as  $\ln(\beta\gamma)$  but the polarization of the media trunc this rise. At high energies, the correction is given by Equa-

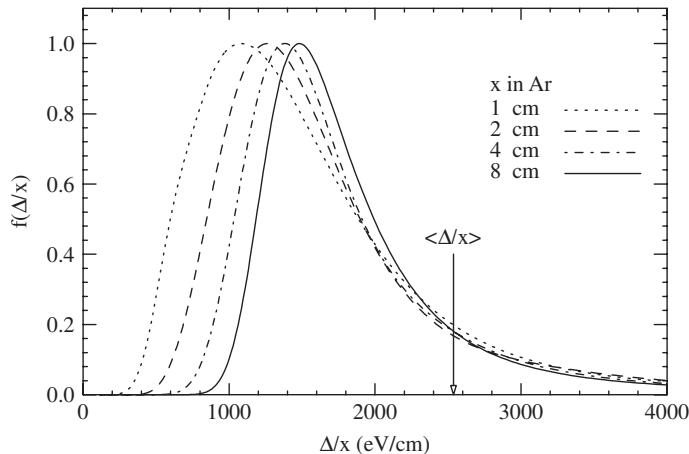
2230 tion 4.7

$$(4.7) \quad \delta/2 \longrightarrow \ln(\hbar\omega_p/I) + \ln(\beta\gamma) - 1/2$$

2231 where  $\hbar\omega_p$  represents the plasma energy that depends on the electron density of the media and  
2232 the electron mass and can be calculated as  $\sqrt{\rho\langle Z/A\rangle} \times 28.816$  eV. The introduction of this cor-  
2233 rection term reduces the increase of the mean stopping power at higher energies as can be seen in  
2234 Figure 4.23. Moreover, due to poorer electron density, the effect is less visible on gases than on  
2235 liquids and solids has van be seen from Figure 4.24.



*Figure 4.27: Example of straggling function  $f(\Delta)$  of particles passing through 1.2 cm of Argon gas with a  $\beta\gamma$  of 3.6 and represented with a solid line. The original Landau distribution is showed with a dashed line [83].*



*Figure 4.28: Evolution of straggling functions  $f(\Delta)$  of particles passing through a volume of Argon gas with a  $\beta\gamma$  of 3.6 with increasing thickness  $x$  [83].*

2236 The mean energy loss per collision can be difficult to measure for low data samples and is not  
2237 always representative of the energy loss distribution for a given incident particle energy. Hence, it is

2238 easier to access the most probable energy loss which is a lower value than than the average loss due  
 2239 to the distribution of the energy transfer. This value is well described by a highly skewed Landau  
 2240 distribution for detectors with "moderate" thickness  $x$ , expressed in g mol<sup>-1</sup>. But for gas volumes,  
 2241 a Landau distribution greatly underestimates the width  $w$  of the distribution and only succeeds to  
 2242 provide with a correct value for the most probable energy loss, as showed in Figure 4.27. Thus,  
 2243 the energy loss distribution is better represented by its most probable energy loss  $\Delta_p$  and its full-  
 2244 width-at-half-maximum (FWHM)  $w$ . As showed by Figure 4.28, the distribution is affected by  
 2245 the thickness of the gas volume and the most probable energy loss normalized to the thickness is  
 2246 increased and the width decreased, converging towards the Landau distribution, whereas the mean  
 2247 energy loss is unchanged. Correction are brought to the original Landau equation in order to account  
 2248 better for the number of collisions leading to an increased width of the energy loss distribution [83].

2249 In the case of gas mixtures, composed of several elements, using Bragg additivity it can be  
 2250 understood that the mean energy loss of the mixture is the sum of the mean energy losses in each  
 2251 individual element  $j$  layer of weight  $w_j$ .

$$(4.8) \quad \left\langle \frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle = \sum w_j \left\langle \frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle_j$$

### 2252 4.3.2 Primary ionization

2253 Using Bethe formula to understand the mean energy transfer of charged particle when traveling  
 2254 through a gas volume give an intuition of the physics that affect the particle but doesn't provide a  
 2255 detailed enough information about the individual ionizations along its tracks at a microscopic level.  
 2256 In order to simulate efficiently an RPC and hence understand the processes governing avalanches  
 2257 creation and growth, knowledge on the ionization process is necessary.

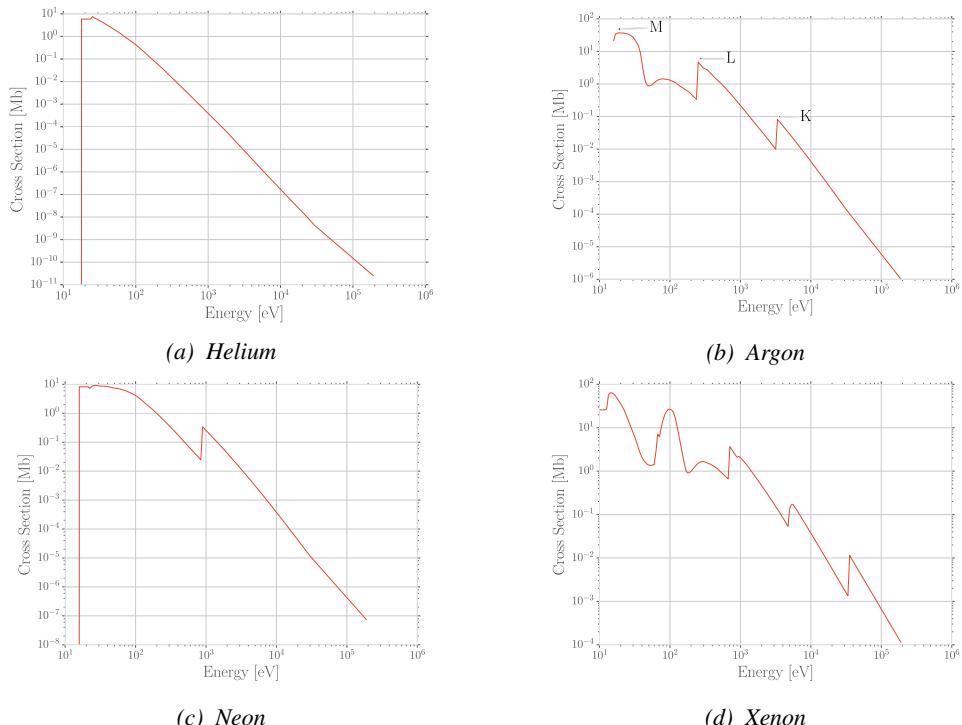
2258 To convert the energy loss rate into a number of primary ionizations was developed in 1980 the  
 2259 Photo-Absorption Ionisation (PAI) model [84] based on the cross section of ionization of gas atoms  
 2260 to real photons and the dielectric constant of the medium through which the charged particles are  
 2261 going. Indeed, the interaction of charged particles with the gas molecules being of electromagnetic  
 2262 nature, it is mediated by quasi-real photons and, hence, the cross section to photon ionization is  
 2263 important to understand. This approach is nevertheless semi-classical as it relies on classical elec-  
 2264 trodynamics and it only gives access to the energy transfer to the gas atoms and no information on  
 2265 the energy dissipation and secondary emissions is available on the output of the model. The energy  
 2266 transferred to the medium is not all used for ionization. For an energy deposition  $\Delta$ , the number of  
 2267 electron-ion pairs produced is:

$$(4.9) \quad \Delta = n_i W$$

2268  $W$  corresponds to the mean work per pair production that depends on the medium and is greater  
 2269 than the ionization potential leading to the conclusion that part of the transferred energy is dissipated  
 2270 through other processes [79, 85]. In order to understand the energy dissipation and the secondary  
 2271 emissions, the fine structure of each atom is taken into account. Through the PAI model, the incident  
 2272 charged particle interacts is assumed to interact with the full atom rather than with a single electron.

2273 Although, considering that the particle interacts with a single electron, leads to the possibility  
 2274 to study the excited state of the atom once the photo-electron has been emitted with an energy

corresponding to the transferred energy minus the binding energy of the electronic shell. The resulting vacancies in the electronic shell will be filled through emission of photons or Auger electrons and can contribute to further ionization or excitation in the gas volume. Fluorescence photons are usually not considered as they only constitute a very small fraction of secondary emissions [86]. Assuming that the transferred energy is absorbed in its totality by a single electronic shell, the PAI model was modified to include relaxations and constitute the new Photo-Absorption Ionisation with Relaxation (PAIR) model [86]. In this model, the cross section corresponding to the whole atom is re-expressed using a sum of partial cross sections corresponding to the different electronic shells. When one or more electrons are knocked out of the atom, the vacancies are filled by electrons of the shell above with relaxation by Auger electron emission. These processes happen in cascade from the inner shell to the outer one until all the vacancies are filled and the energy has been released.



*Figure 4.29: Photo-absorption cross section as computed by HEED for nobles gases with different electric shell numbers [79].*

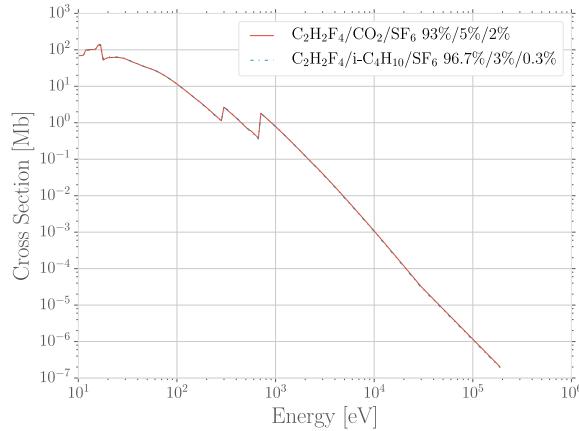


Figure 4.30: Photo-absorption cross section as computed by HEED for typical RPC gas mixtures [79]. The RPC mixture with CO<sub>2</sub> corresponds to the mixture used by CALICE SDHCAL [87] while the other one was foreseen for the experiment ATLAS [88] but has been changed since then.

This model is included in the program HEED developed at CERN [89] and called by Garfield, a program developed for the simulation of gaseous detectors. The results for the cross section for a few noble gases are given in Figure 4.29. It can be seen that for each shell, the cross section is increased. More complex patterns are seen with bigger atoms such as Xenon on Figure 4.29d. For gas mixtures, like the typical RPC mixtures, the cross section is showed in Figure 4.30. Both mixtures being mainly composed of C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>F<sub>4</sub>, the variations in between the 2 cross section profiles are very subtle and depends on the concentration of the other compounds.

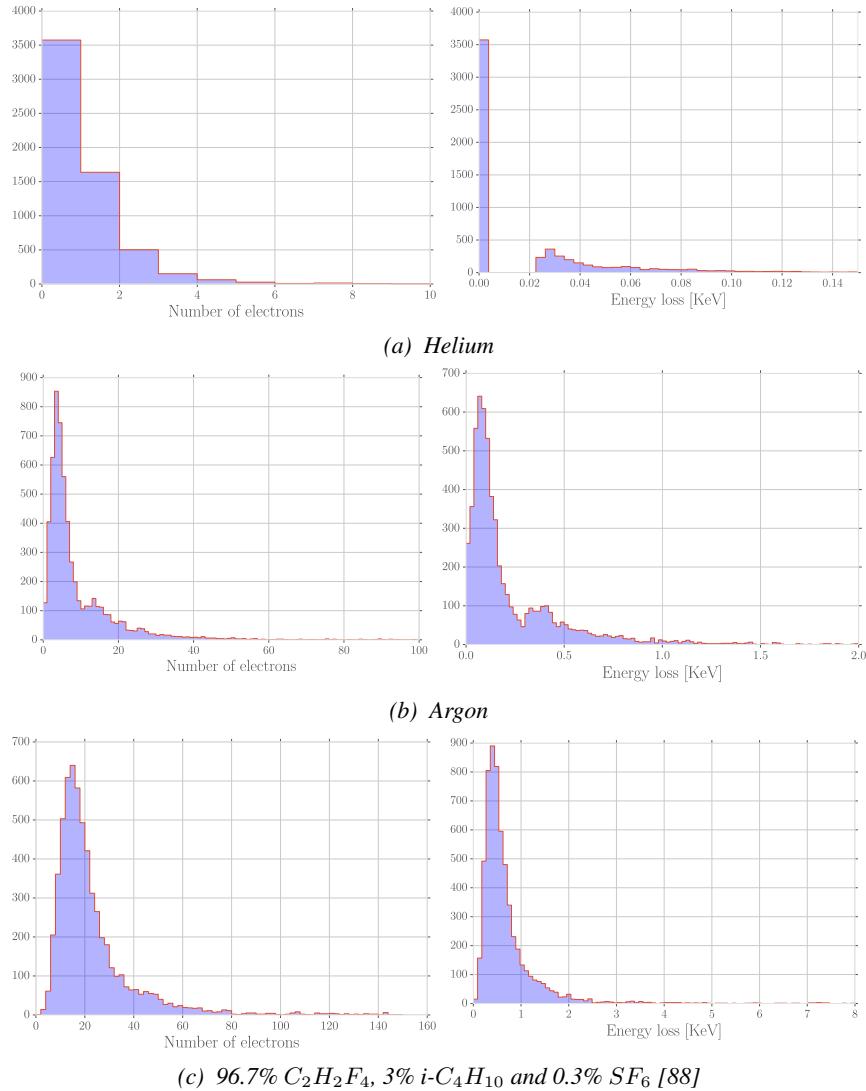


Figure 4.31: Distributions of number of electrons (left) and energy loss (right) for a 5 GeV/c muon passing through 1.2 mm of Helium (Figure 4.31a), Argon (Figure 4.31b) or a typical RPC gas mixture (Figure 4.31c) [79].

Once the cross section of interaction is known, it is possible to extract the distribution of energy loss and of the number of electron produced, as showed in Figure 4.31 for Helium, Argon, which is used in gaseous detectors, and for a typical RPC mixture [79]. The distributions are computed using HEED and show typical straggling function profiles with some complex structures that can be related to interaction of the incoming particle with the different electronic shells. Helium does not have a great photo-absorption cross-section according to Figure 4.29a and a muon will not be likely to lose a lot of energy and to create a lot of electrons whereas in a more complex atom like Argon, the cross-section is greater and will lead to a greater energy loss of muons and more electron produced. Finally, a complex gas mixture used in RPCs will offer an even greater cross-section, a wider energy loss distribution and will be able to produce more electrons. The same information is seen by looking

at the evolution of the mean number of cluster as a function of the lorentz factor associated to muons showed in Figure 4.32a. Indeed, the greater photo-absorption cross-section of RPC mixtures allow for a much greater amount of clusters to be created by charged particles. The size of these clusters is studied through Figure 4.32b which shows that, in most of the cases ( $\approx 80\%$ ), the clusters only are composed of a single electron which is consistent with minimum ionizing particles.

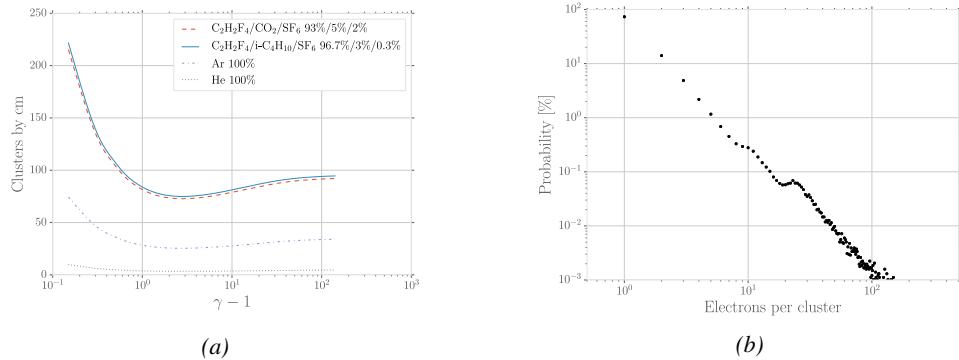


Figure 4.32: Figure 4.32a: Mean cluster density for muons through different gas volumes [79]. Figure 4.32b: Distribution of the number of electrons per cluster for a 5 GeV/c muon traveling through a mixture of 96.7%  $C_2H_2F_4$ , 3%  $i-C_4H_{10}$  and 0.3%  $SF_6$  [79, 88].

### 4.3.3 Development and propagation of avalanches

From the clusters released in the gas volume by the charged particles, free electrons will start drifting due to the electric applied in between the electrodes of the RPC. Gaining velocity and energy, these electrons in their turn will be able to ionize the gas. This process being repeated by all the produced electrons will trigger an avalanche to develop.

The growth of the avalanche can be intuitively understood as a competition between 2 effects. Due to their increasing energy, electrons have a probability to trigger new ionizations by interacting with gas molecules. On the other hand, before the minimal amount of energy is reached, the electrons can get attached to a gas molecule instead. These two effects can be described using a simple model in which the multiplication and attachment processes are given by the Townsend coefficient  $\alpha$  and the attachment coefficient  $\eta$ , assuming that the history of previous interactions in the gas does not influence new interactions. This model simply takes into account probabilities to have at the gas depth  $z$  for a given number  $n$  of free electrons in the gas  $n+1$  or  $n-1$  electrons at the depth  $z+dz$  (respectively  $n\alpha dz$  and  $n\eta dz$ ). Then, the mean number of electrons  $\bar{n}$  and cations  $\bar{p}$  can be written for single compound gases as

$$(4.10) \quad \frac{d\bar{n}}{dz} = (\alpha - \eta)\bar{n}, \quad \frac{d\bar{p}}{dz} = \alpha\bar{n}$$

which, assuming the initial conditions  $\bar{n}(0) = 1$  and  $\bar{p}(0) = 0$ , lead to the mean number of electrons and cations at a depth  $z$

$$(4.11) \quad \bar{n}(z) = e^{(\alpha-\eta)z}, \quad \bar{p}(z) = \frac{\alpha}{\alpha-\eta} \left( e^{(\alpha-\eta)z} - 1 \right)$$

2325 The Townsend and attachment coefficient as a function of the applied electric field are given in  
 2326 Figure 4.33 for a standard RPC gas mixture using Magboltz [90].

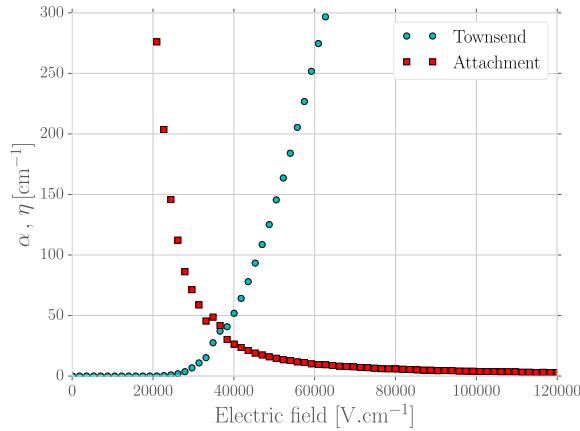


Figure 4.33: Townsend and attachment coefficient for a typical 96.7/3/0.3 mixture of  $C_2H_2F_4/i-C_4H_{10}/SF_6$ , at a temperature  $T = 296.15\text{ K}$  and a pressure  $P = 1013\text{ hPa}$  [79, 88].

2327 Nevertheless, there are more to the avalanche growth than simply these two factors. Throughout  
 2328 the 20<sup>th</sup> century, models have been developed to better understand the physics of discharges in gas.  
 2329 In 1937, Furry developed a model to describe electromagnetic cascades [91] that would be used for  
 2330 electron avalanches in gas during the 1950s. Furry realized that the use of a Poisson law to describe  
 2331 the distribution of shower sizes could not be accurate as he understood that the events occurring in  
 2332 the development of a cascade are not independent from each other, as a Poisson law would suggest.  
 2333 Indeed, part of the particles produce others and this process depends on both their original energy  
 2334 and energy lost. Experimental results showed excess of small showers and an under estimate of very  
 2335 large ones. To solve this problem, Furry proposed a distribution of sizes of following the likelihood  
 2336 described in Equation 4.12, in which  $\bar{n} = e^{\alpha z}$ , compared with a Poisson law in Figure 4.34.

$$(4.12) \quad P(n, \bar{n}) = \bar{n}^{-1}(1 - \bar{n}^{-1})^{n-1}$$

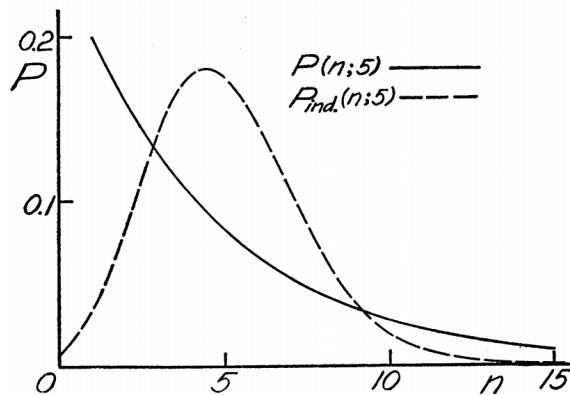


Figure 4.34: Comparison of the distribution law of Furry and the Poisson law for  $\bar{n} = 5$  [91].

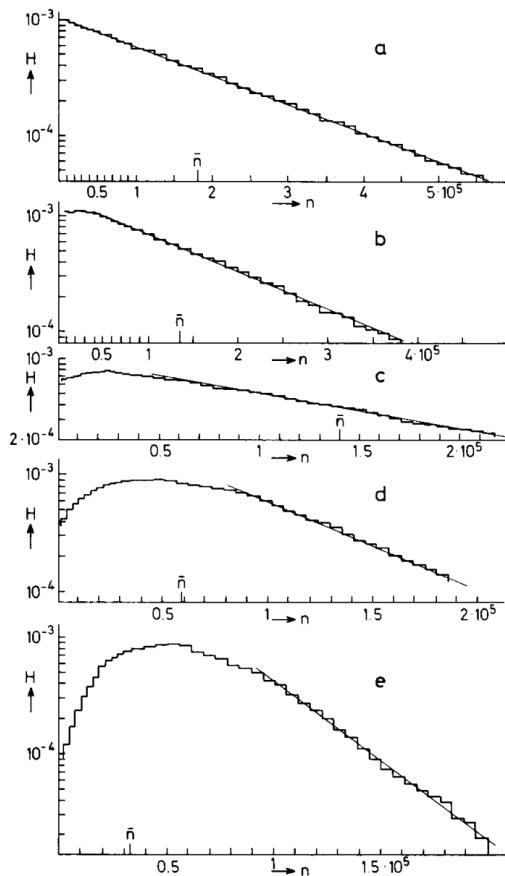


Figure 4.35: Single-electron avalanche size distribution in a proportionnal counter filled with methylal at different  $E/p$  values. (a) 70, (b) 76.5, (c) 105, (d) 186.5, (e) 426V/cm torr [92].

In this model, no extra energy is brought to the electrons in the showers, contrary to the case of a gaseous detector such as a RPC where an electric field accelerates them. Using the Furry model, Genz studied the fluctuations in electron avalanches in gaseous detectors [92]. Collisions leading to ionizations leave electrons with an energy much smaller than the ionization energy  $eU_i$ , where  $U_i$  is the ionization potential of a gas molecule. Hence, the electrons need to travel a distance  $s = U_i/E$  along the electric field  $E$  to acquire a high enough energy to trigger a new ionization. For the probability of a new ionization to be independent from the path followed by the electrons since the previous ionization, the mean free path  $1/\alpha$  of electrons in the gas has to be large compared to  $s$  and thus  $E/\alpha \gg U_i$ . The Townsend coefficient is related to the gas pressure leading to conditions on the value of  $E/p$ . Avalanches in gas are large compared to the showers Furry has studied in his original paper. For very large avalanche sizes, Equation 4.12 can be written as an exponential, as showed in Equation 4.13.

$$(4.13) \quad P(n, \bar{n}) = \bar{n}^{-1} e^{-n/\bar{n}}$$

This exponential behaviour is showed through Figure 4.35. In practice, to fully understand the avalanche growth, taking into account the path followed by electrons from one ionization to another

will become necessary. In the same paper, Genz then discusses models using Polya distributions to estimate the multiplication by looking at the size of the avalanche it self. Indeed, the number of charge carriers in the avalanche might become important enough to have an effect on the multiplication process. To account for this, it was proposed to use a varying Townsend coefficient such as described by Equation 4.14 depending on the position  $x$  in which  $\theta$  is an empirical parameter leading to the probability distribution of Equation 4.15. In the limit case where  $\theta$  goes to 0, the formula describes again the Furry model. But the data deviates from this model as well at large  $n$  values. Moreover, the introduction of an empirical parameters makes the model hard to interpret physically.

$$(4.14) \quad \alpha(n, x) = \alpha(x) \left(1 + \frac{\theta}{n}\right), \quad n > 0$$

$$(4.15) \quad P(n, x) = \frac{1 + \theta}{\bar{n}} \frac{1}{\theta!} \left(\frac{n(1 + \theta)}{\bar{n}}\right)^{\theta} e^{-\frac{n(1 + \theta)}{\bar{n}}}$$

In order to have a model that describes reality better, the introduction of the attachment into the model is an important step. Despite its limitations, the Furry model had the advantage to describe well avalanches occurring when the attachment could be ignored. This is only natural that this model was then extended to included attachment. This was done by Riegler, Lippmann and Veenhof [88] which showed that what was important was to consider both the Townsend coefficient describing the multiplication *and* the attachment coefficient, not only the effective multiplication coefficient  $\bar{\alpha} = \alpha - \eta$ . The probability to see an avalanche started by a single electron grow to a size  $n$  after having traveled a distance  $z$  through the gas is given by Equation 4.16.

$$(4.16) \quad \begin{aligned} P(n, z) = & P(n - 1, z) (n - 1)\alpha dz (1 - (n - 1)\eta dz) \\ & + P(n, z) (1 - n\alpha dz) (1 - n\eta dz) \\ & + P(n, z) n\alpha dz n\eta dz \\ & + P(n + 1, z) (1 - (n + 1)\alpha dz) (n + 1)\eta dz \end{aligned}$$

The first term of this probability that from a state with  $n - 1$  electrons, only 1 multiplies while the others don't get attached. Both the second and third terms describes the probability that from a state with already  $n$  electrons the total number of electrons stay the same. On the second term, no electron gets attached nor multiplies while on the third term, 1 electron gets multiplied and 1 gets attached to compensate. Finally, the fourth term describes the probability to fall from a state with  $n + 1$  to a state with  $n$  electrons due to the attachment of a single electron. At the first order, the evaluation of the previous expression leads to Equation 4.17 which general solution is given in Equation 4.18 in which are introduced the variables  $\bar{n}(z)$ , defined as in Equation 4.11, and  $k = \eta/\alpha$  making explicit the fact that the distribution not only depends on the effective Townsend coefficient.

$$(4.17) \quad \frac{dP(n, z)}{dz} = -P(n, z)n(\alpha + \eta) + P(n - 1, z)(n - 1)\alpha + P(n + 1, z)(n + 1)\eta$$

$$(4.18) \quad P(n, z) = \begin{cases} k^{\frac{\bar{n}(z)-1}{\bar{n}(z)-k}}, & n = 0 \\ \bar{n}(z) \left(\frac{1-k}{\bar{n}(z)-k}\right)^2 \left(\frac{\bar{n}(z)-1}{\bar{n}(z)-k}\right)^{n-1}, & n > 0 \end{cases}$$

The example given through Figure 4.36 shows the importance of each individual process in the growth of avalanches and the fluctuation of their size. The values of  $\alpha$  and  $\eta$  will influence the probability distribution, as can be seen from Figure 4.36a. Then, Figure 4.36b shows that the fluctuation really takes place within the very first interactions. Indeed, when the avalanche contains a large enough amount of charge carriers (a few hundreds), its size then increases like  $e^{z(\alpha-\eta)}$ .

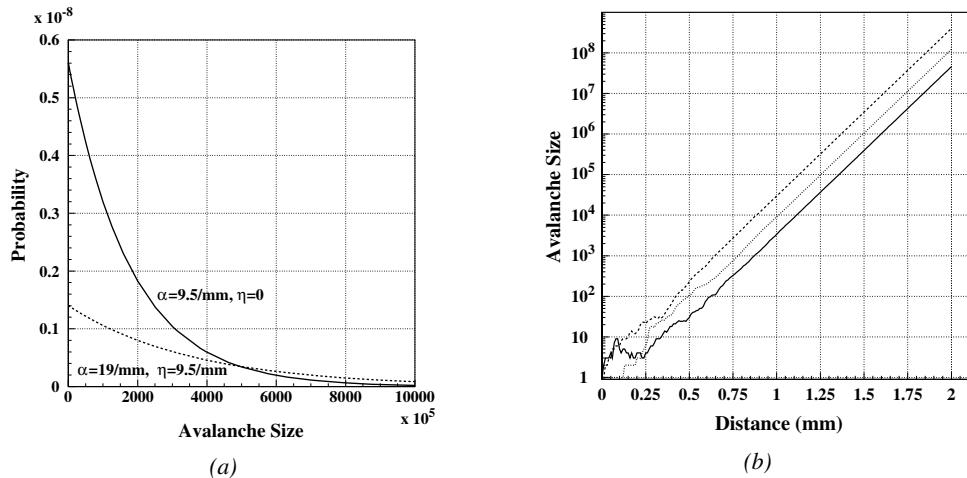


Figure 4.36: Figure 4.36a: Comparison of avalanche size distributions for different values of Townsend and attachment coefficients. The effective Townsend coefficient is the same for both distributions. Figure 4.36b: Fluctuation in avalanche size for avalanche started by a single electron with  $\alpha = 13 \text{ mm}^{-1}$  and  $\eta = 3.5 \text{ mm}^{-1}$  [88].

#### 4.3.4 Drift and diffusion of the electron cloud

During the growth of avalanches, an electron cloud drifting along the electric field through the gas will undergo thermal diffusion due to random collisions with the gas molecules. This phenomenon can be studied using Maxwell-Boltzmann distribution whose mean is defined by the thermal energy of the cloud  $\langle E \rangle = 3/2kT$  with an extra component coming from the constant drift motion. The drift of electrons along the field lines is usually observed on a macroscopic scale through which the speed can be assimilated to a constant  $v_D$  which corresponds to the mean drift speed over a large number of collisions in the gas.

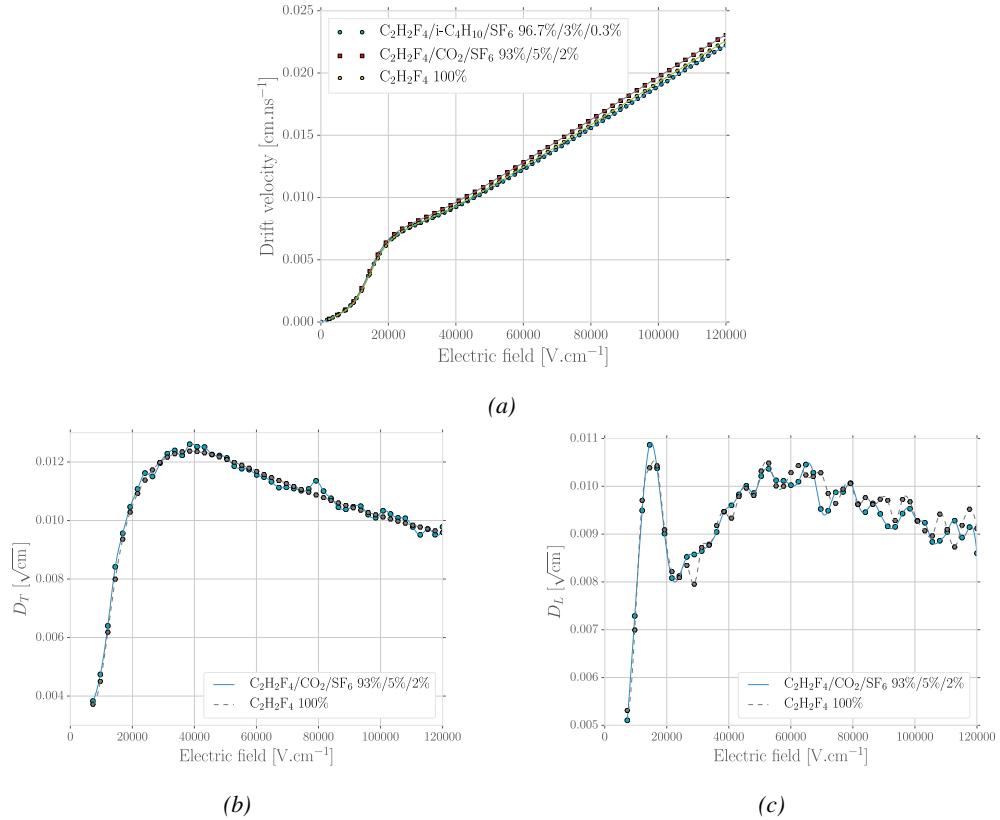


Figure 4.37: Figure 4.37a: Electron mean drift velocity  $v_D$  in pure C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>F<sub>4</sub> and typical RPC gas mixtures. Figure 4.37b: Transverse diffusion coefficient in pure C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>F<sub>4</sub> and a typical RPC gas mixture. Figure 4.37c: Longitudinal diffusion coefficient in pure C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>F<sub>4</sub> and a typical RPC gas mixture. All results are given with a pressure  $P = 760$  Torr and a temperature  $T = 296.15$  K [79].

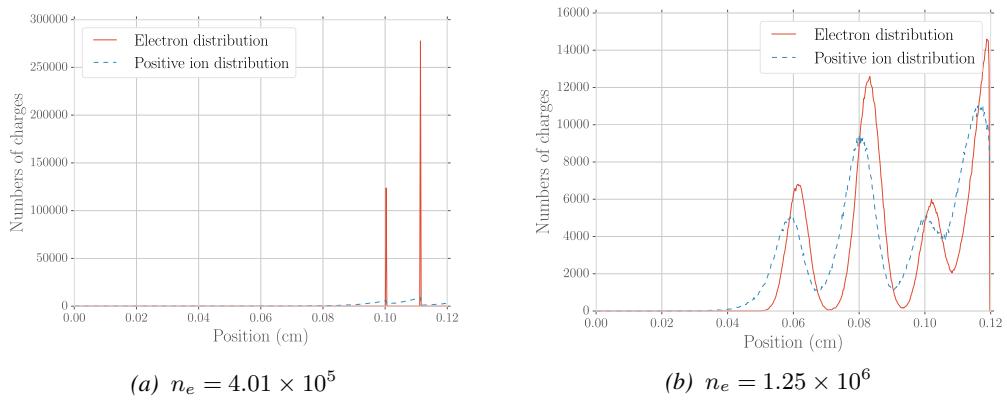


Figure 4.38: Comparison of the free charge carriers in the gas after a time  $t = 7.90$  ns in the case where no diffusion is taken into account to simulate the avalanche (Figure 4.38a) and in the case where the diffusion is implemented (Figure 4.38b) [79].

Indeed, at the microscopic scale, the electrons are drifting over a distance  $\delta z$  while acquiring the corresponding kinetic energy  $T = e_0 |\vec{E}| \delta z$  until they are slowed down by a collision in which they lose part of their energy. This process is repeated as long as electrons are free carriers. Starting from a point-like electron cloud, the Gaussian density distribution at  $\vec{r}_0$  will be described by Formula 4.19 in which the width of the isotropic distribution is  $\sigma = 2\bar{D}t$ , with  $\bar{D}$  being a diffusion coefficient expressed in  $\text{m}^2/\text{s}$  [60].

$$(4.19) \quad \varphi(\vec{r}, t) = \frac{1}{(\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma(t))^3} \exp\left(-\frac{(\vec{r} - \vec{r}_0)^2}{2\sigma^2(t)}\right)$$

Now, if the constant drifting motion is added, the distribution is anisotropic and can be divided onto transversal (Formula 4.20) and longitudinal (Formula 4.21) terms,  $\varphi(r, z, t) = \varphi_T(r, t)\varphi_L(z, t)$ , with a cylindrical symmetry around the field axis [60]. The variables  $t$  and  $\sigma_{T,L}(t)$  can be hidden to the profit of the diffusion coefficients by using the relations  $v_D = l/t$  and  $\sigma_{T,L}^2(t) = 2\bar{D}_{T,L}l/v_D$  and introducing new diffusion coefficients  $D_{T,L} = \sqrt{2\bar{D}_{T,L}/v_D}$  in order to explicitly show the dependence of the Gaussian width in drifted distance  $l$ .

$$(4.20) \quad \varphi_T(r, t) = \frac{1}{D_T^2 l} \exp\left(-\frac{(r - r_0)^2}{2D_T^2 l}\right)$$

$$(4.21) \quad \varphi_L(z, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi l} D_L} \exp\left(-\frac{(z - z_0)^2}{2D_L^2 l}\right)$$

These coefficients, as well as the drift velocity of the electrons, can be calculated thanks to Magboltz as showed in Figure 4.37. The influence of the diffusion on the distribution of charge carriers throughout the gas volume is depicted in Figure 4.38. From very localised electron clusters in the gas in Figure 4.38a, a Gaussian diffusion is then visible in Figure 4.38b. Due to the interactions with gas molecules during the drift, diffusions can occur in the forward and backward direction. Electrons diffused backward will effectively drift over a longer distance and multiply more than electrons diffused forward that will see a shorter drift length. As an effect, the avalanche develops over a longer time and extends over a greater gas volume than in the case the electron cloud is considered as point like and without diffusion. Moreover, as a side effect to the longer growth of the avalanche due to backward longitudinal diffusion, the total production of electrons is increased.

### 4.3.5 Space charge effect & streamers

Now that have been considered the basic processes that influence the development of avalanches in a gaseous detector in the previous sections, it is now important to consider the influence of the charge carriers present in the avalanche on the electric field seen by the avalanche. Indeed, each charged particle induces an electric field and it is only natural that the increasing density of electrons and ions in the detector volume will affect the electric field. Thus, parameters such as the Townsend and attachment coefficients, drift velocity or diffusion coefficients will find themselves to be modified along the gas gap length due to this effect referred to as *space charge effect*. Figure 4.39 is a more detailed version of Figure 4.1 (b) in which three electric regions are distinguished [60]. When compared to the linear electric field of strength  $E_0$  that is developed in between the detector's electrodes, the

2421 accumulation of negative charges (electrons) on the front of the avalanche will reinforce the effective  
 2422 electric field in between the anode of the avalanche front. Deeper in the gas volume, the positive  
 2423 charges (cations) slowly drift towards the cathode and can induce together with the avalanche front  
 2424 opposite electric field loops. Finally, due to the density of positive charges, the electric field seen in  
 2425 between the ions tails and the cathode charged with negative charges is on average stronger than  $E_0$   
 2426 and compensate for the locally reversed field  $E_2$ . Lippmann roughly estimated by considering that  
 2427  $10^6$  charges were contained in a sphere of radius  $r_d = 0.1$  mm that the space charge effect could  
 2428 change the electric field by 3% and the Townsend and attachment coefficient up to 14% [60, 79].

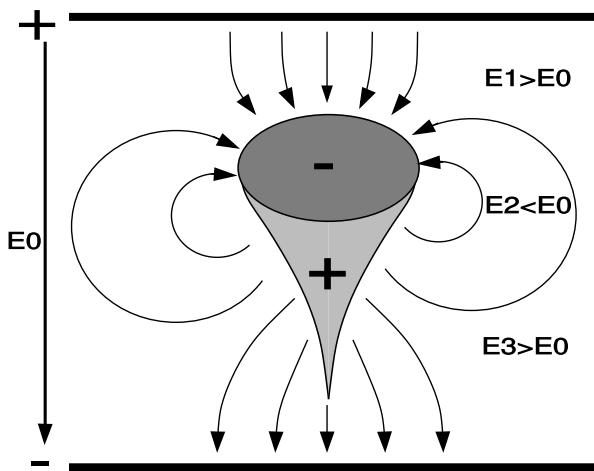


Figure 4.39: Schematic representation of an avalanche and of the electric field deformation it causes due to the local concentration of charge carriers [60].

2429 To account for the space charge effect, the electric potential and field of free charges are solved  
 2430 and applied to each charges in the avalanche [60, 79]. As discussed by Français who has been working  
 2431 on simulating RPCs similar to that used by the SDHCAL project of ILC, the computation of  
 2432 these equations for each individual charge carrier to dynamically know the space charge field at every  
 2433 stage of an avalanche development is a difficult task and would require far too much computation  
 2434 time and a solution is to pre-compute an interpolation table keeping an adequately large number of  
 2435 values of the space charge field for each positions in space thanks to which the values stored in the  
 2436 interpolation table become very close to the analytic solution and allow for a much faster simulation.  
 2437

2438 The study of space charge effect through simulation shows that it can lead to a saturation of  
 2439 the avalanche growth due to the deformation of the electric field, as showed through Figure 4.40.  
 2440 Additionnally, a more precise understanding of the space charge effect is given through Figure 4.41  
 2441 which looks at the distribution of charges and the distortion of the electric field at different steps of  
 2442 the evolution of an avalanche in a RPC. At the moment a 5 GeV muon ionizes the gas, electron-ion  
 2443 pairs are created in the gas in different clusters (Figure 4.41a). Later, the first clusters have reached  
 2444 the anode while the clusters that where created the closest to the cathode are now big enough to start  
 2445 influencing the electric field in the gap (Figure 4.41b). When a cluster is big enough, the electric field  
 2446 in front of it locally increases a lot and contributes to a stronger but very localised multiplication. At  
 2447 the same moment, the positive ions right behind the cluster avalanche front decrease the electric field,  
 2448 saturating the electron multiplication on the tail of the electron cloud (Figure 4.41c). Finally, when

2449 all the electrons have reached the anode and are relaxing, the electric field still is very deformed  
 2450 by the distribution of both positive and negative ions in the the gas volume closest to the anode  
 2451 (Figure 4.41d).

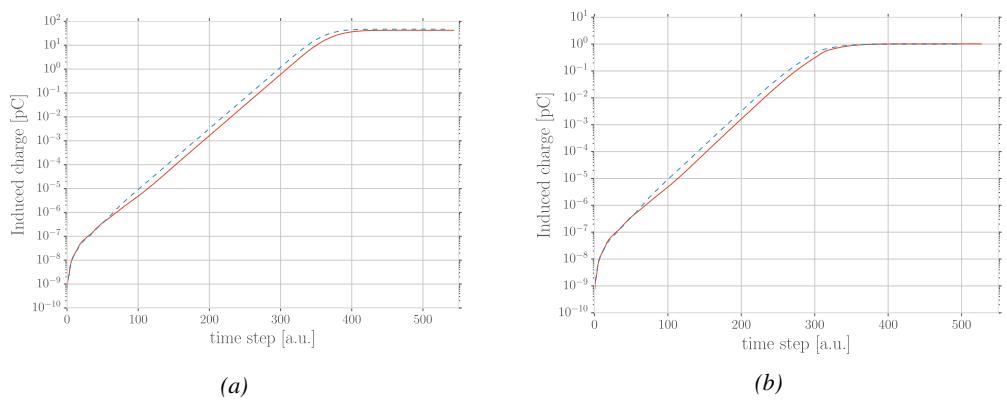
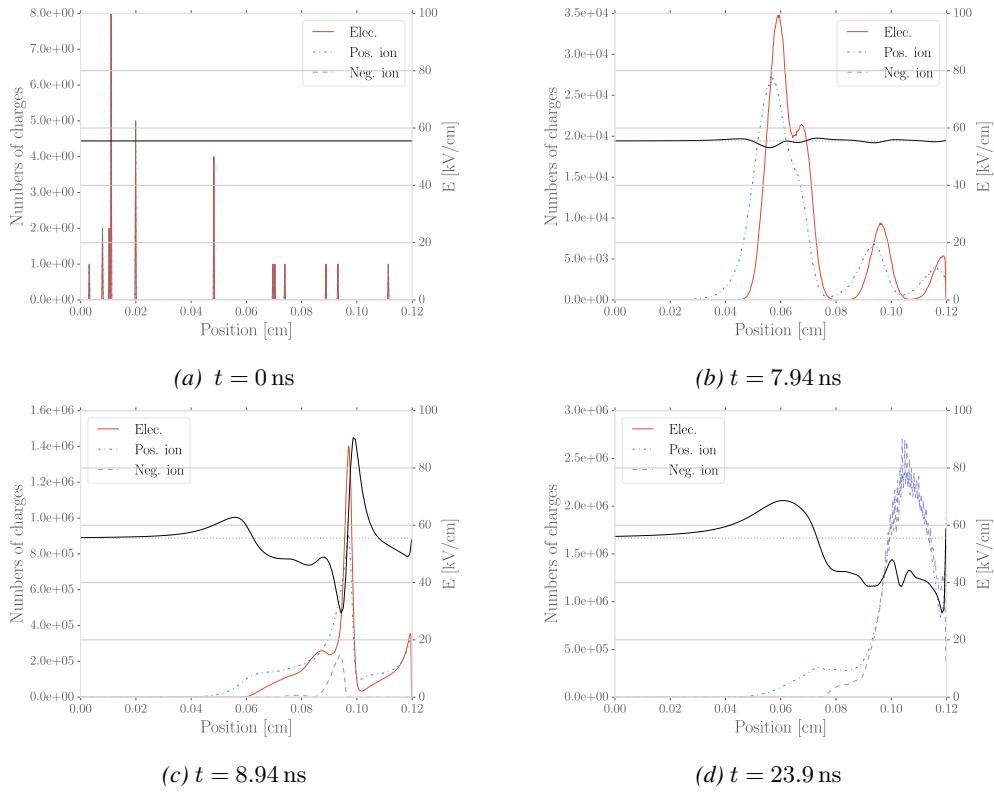


Figure 4.40: Evolution of the charge induced by an avalanche started by a single electron in a 1.2 mm thick RPC with an applied electric field of 54 kV/cm in the case space charge is not taken into account (Figure 4.40a) and in the case it is implemented into the simulation (Figure 4.40b). The total induced charge is correlated to the size of the avalanche [79].



*Figure 4.41: Distributions of charge carriers within the gas volume of a 1.2 mm thick RPC and the corresponding deformation of the electric field at different time steps with an applied electric field of 55.5 kV/cm [79].*

2452     The electric field following the development of an avalanche can stay perturbed for a long time  
 2453     with respect to the avalanche development due to the slow drift of the much heavier ions. This can  
 2454     result in powerful secondary avalanches triggered by the fluctuation of the electric field together with  
 2455     the emission of UV-photons leading to emission of electrons at the surface of the electrode. This is  
 2456     a slow phenomenon compared to the development of avalanches. Experimentally, it is observed that  
 2457     the stronger the electric field applied over the gap, the sooner after the avalanche, referred to as *pre-*  
 2458     *cursor signal* in this context, and the stronger will the secondary avalanche be, possibly reaching the  
 2459     streamer regime. This could be due to the amount of UV-photons emitted by the growing precursor.  
 2460     These photons will be able to trigger new avalanches in a radius of a few mm around the precursor  
 2461     by knocking electrons from the cathode by photoelectric effect. The strong distortions of the electric  
 2462     field due to a large avalanche will be more likely to emit UV-photons as the electric field at the front  
 2463     of the precursor avalanche will be large, providing the electrons with a larger energy. Eventually, the  
 2464     new avalanches can grow to form streamers.

## 4.4 Effect of atmospherical conditions on the detector's performance

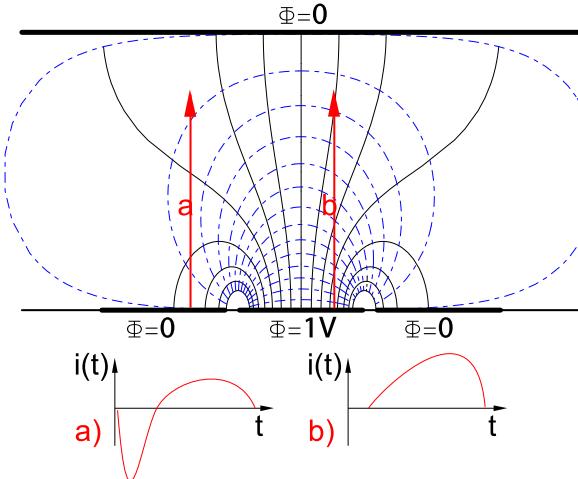


Figure 4.42: Representation of the weighting field in the volume of a RPC and the resulting induced current in the strip placed at 1 V and its neighbour connected to the ground. The induced current corresponds, as can be understood from Formula 4.22 [60].

Accordingly to Ramo's theorem, the movement of charge carriers, and in particular, the movement of a dense electron cloud toward the anode induces a current signal on one or more of the readout electrodes (strips or pads). The ions on the other hand induce only a very small current as their movement is much slower than which of the electrons. The current induced by  $n_{Cl}$  clusters of  $N_j(t)$  charge carriers drifting at velocities  $\vec{v}_{Dj}(t) = \vec{x}_j(t)$  at a time  $t$  is given by Formula 4.22 in which  $e_0$  is the unit charge and  $\vec{E}_w$  is the weighting field.

$$(4.22) \quad i(t) = \sum_{j=1}^{n_{Cl}} \vec{E}_{wj}(\vec{x}_j(t)) \cdot \vec{v}_{Dj}(t) e_0 N_j(t)$$

The weighting field, that has been schematised in Figure 4.42, corresponds to the electric field that would be observed in the gas gap if a readout electrode is placed at a potential of 1 V while keeping all the other electrodes grounded. Then the induced charge in the readout can be simply obtained by integrating Formula 4.22 over the duration  $T$  of the signal, as given by Formula 4.23.

$$(4.23) \quad Q(t) = \int_0^T \sum_{j=1}^{n_{Cl}} \vec{E}_{wj}(\vec{x}_j(t)) \cdot \vec{v}_{Dj}(t) e_0 N_j(t)$$

The signal induced in the readout of RPCs operated in avalanche mode is then sent into Front-End Electronics in which they will be pre-amplified and discriminated. The discrimination and digitization of signals in CMS FEE is described through Figure 4.43. On a first stage, analogic signals are amplified, following the curve given on Figure 4.44, and then sent to the Constant Fraction

Discriminator (CFD) described in Figure 4.45. At the end of the chain, 100 ns long pulses are sent in the LVDS output. The digital signals are both used as trigger for CMS and to evaluate the performance of the detectors. The performance will depend on the applied HV, i.e. on the electric field inside of the gas volume, but also on the threshold applied on the CFDs. Indeed, in order to reduce the probability to measure noise, the threshold is set to a level where the noise is strongly suppressed while the signals are not too affected. Typically, CMS FEEs are set to a threshold of 215 mV after pre-amplification, corresponding to an input charge of about 140 fC.

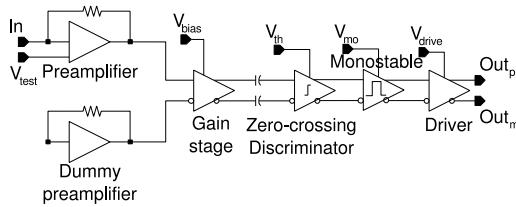


Figure 4.43: Schematics of CMS RPC FEE logic.

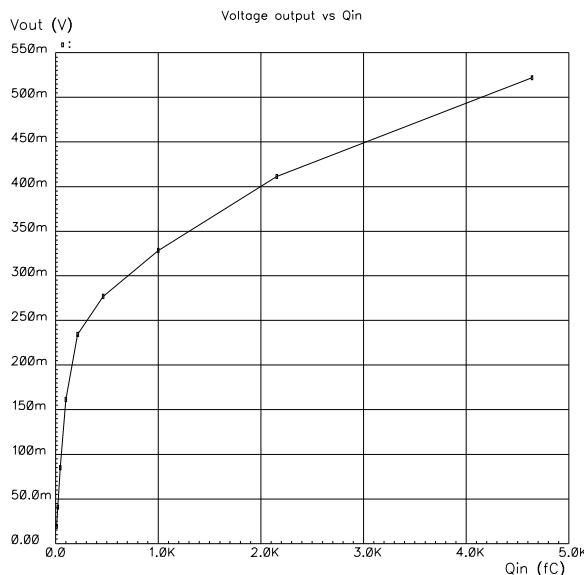
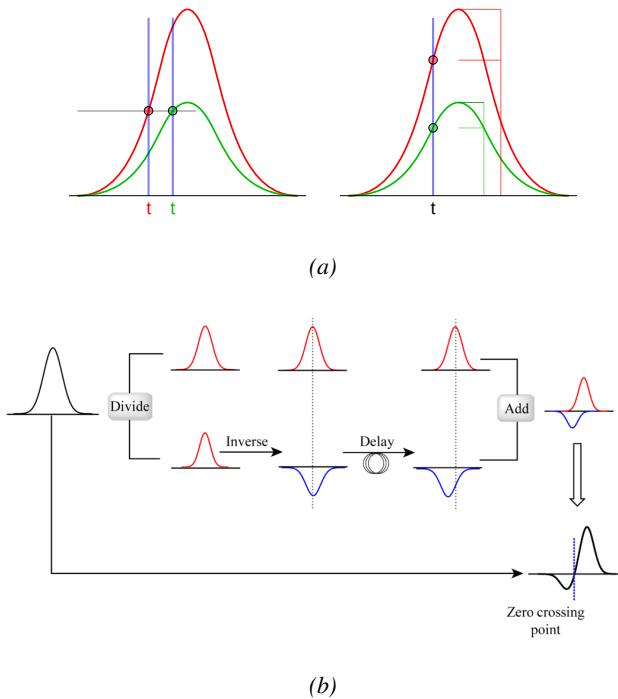


Figure 4.44: Equivalence in between the charge of the induced signal in input of the CMS FEE and the signal strength on the output of the pre-amplifier.



*Figure 4.45: Description of the principle of a CFD. A comparison of threshold triggering (left) and constant fraction triggering (right) is shown in Figure 4.45a. Constant fraction triggering is obtained thanks to zero-crossing technique as explained in Figure 4.45b. The signal arriving at the input of the CFD is split into three components. A first one is delayed and connected to the inverting input of a first comparator. A second component is connected to the noninverting input of this first comparator. A third component is connected to the noninverting input of another comparator along with a threshold value connected to the inverting input. Finally, the output of both comparators is fed through an AND gate.*

The performance of a detector is then simply measured relatively to which of a reference detector used as trigger as the ratio in between the number of events recorded in coincidence in the detector and the reference and the total amount of trigger events,  $\epsilon = n_{events}/n_{triggers}$ . An example of efficiency measured as a function of the effective voltage  $HV_{eff}$  is given in Figure 4.46 and can be fitted thanks to a sigmoidal function described as in Formula 4.24 and where  $\epsilon_{max}$  is the maximal efficiency of the detector,  $\lambda$  is proportional to the slope at half maximum and  $HV_{50}$  is the value of the voltage when the efficiency reaches half of the maximum.

$$(4.24) \quad \epsilon(HV_{eff}) = \frac{\epsilon_{max}}{1 + e^{-\lambda(HV_{eff} - HV_{50})}}$$

CMS RPC also define two points on this sigmoid that called *knee* and *working point*. The corresponding voltages  $HV_{knee}$  is defined as the voltage at 95% of the maximum efficiency, and  $HV_{WP}$  is defined as in Formula 4.25.

$$(4.25) \quad HV_{WP} = HV_{knee} + \begin{cases} 100V & \text{(barrel)} \\ 150V & \text{(endcap)} \end{cases}$$

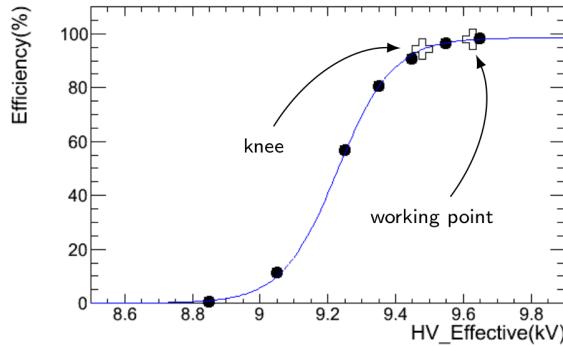
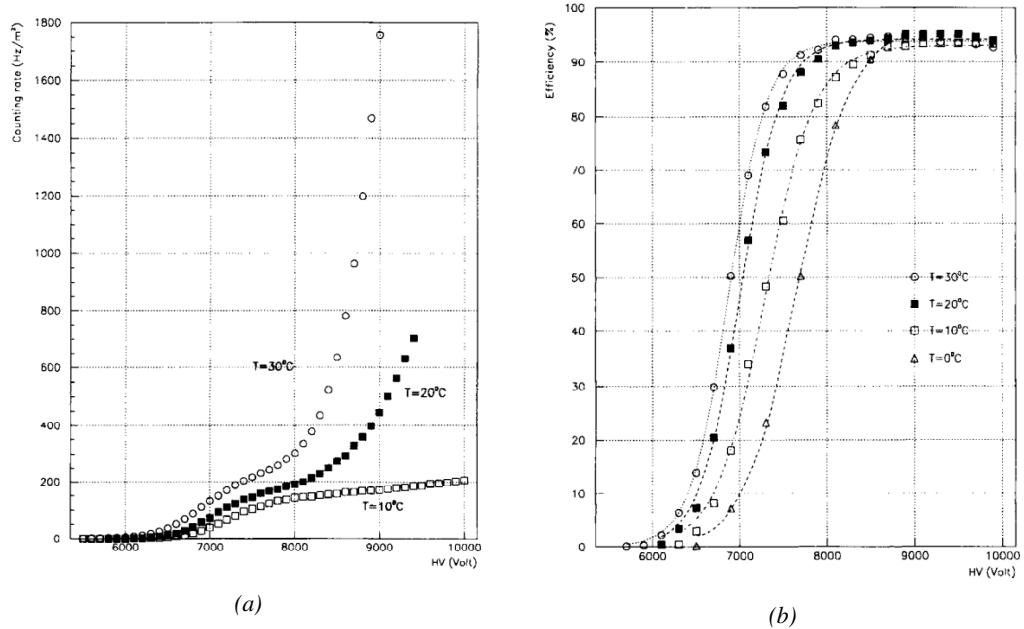


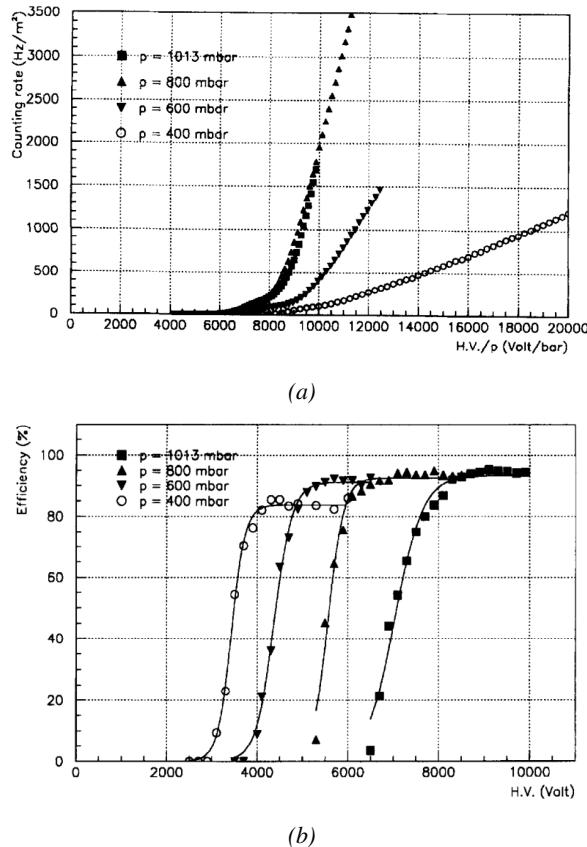
Figure 4.46: Typical efficiency sigmoid of a CMS RPC detector. The black dots correspond to the data, the blue line to the sigmoid fit and the opened cross to the knee and working extracted from the fit line.

Nevertheless, the voltage applied on a detector may vary due to a change in environmental conditions. Indeed, the variation of temperature and/or pressure will have effects on the gas density and the electrodes' resistivity which can be overcome by changing the electric field accordingly. The variation in temperature and pressure are depicted respectively in Figure 4.47 and Figure 4.48. A standard procedure to correct for temperature and pressure variations is to keep the factor  $HV \cdot T/P$  constant using Formula 4.26 [93, 94] with reference values for  $T_0$  and  $P_0$ . For example, CMS uses  $T_0 = 293.15$  K and  $P_0 = 965$  hPa.

$$(4.26) \quad HV_{app} = HV_{eff} \frac{P_0}{P} \frac{T}{T_0}$$



*Figure 4.47: Effect of the temperature variation on the rate (Figure 4.47a) and the efficiency (Figure 4.47b) of a RPC [93].*



*Figure 4.48: Effect of the pressure variation on the rate (Figure 4.48a) and the efficiency (Figure 4.48b) of a RPC [94].*

It was actually found that such a simple procedure would overcorrect the applied voltage in the case the variations of temperature or pressure were too important [95–98]. CMS, considering that the temperature variations in the detector cavern were very small, decided only to improve the pressure correction, giving rise to Formula 4.27 [95] while on the other hand, ATLAS decided to have a more robust correction for both parameters and uses Formula 4.28 instead [98]. The coefficients  $\alpha$ , in the case of CMS, and  $\alpha, \beta$ , in the case of ATLAS, are extracted from fit on available dataset obtained during the operation of the detectors.

$$(4.27) \quad HV_{app} = HV_{eff} \left( 1 - \alpha + \alpha \frac{P_0}{P} \right) \frac{T}{T_0}, \quad \alpha = 0.8$$

$$(4.28) \quad HV_{eff} = HV_{app} \left( 1 + \alpha \frac{\Delta T}{T_0} \right) \left( 1 - \beta \frac{\Delta P}{P_0} \right), \quad \alpha = 0.5, \beta = 0.71$$

# 5

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## Longevity studies and Consolidation of the present CMS RPC subsystem

2515 The RPC system, located in both barrel and endcap regions, provides a fast, independent muon trigger  
2516 with a looser  $p_T$  threshold over a large portion of the pseudo-rapidity range ( $|\eta| < 1.6$ ). During  
2517 HL-LHC operations the expected conditions in terms of background and pile-up will make the iden-  
2518 tification and correct  $p_T$  assignment a challenge for the muon system. The goal of RPC upgrade is to  
2519 provide additional hits to the Muon System with more precise timing. All this information will be  
2520 elaborated by the Trigger System in a global way enhancing the performance of the trigger in terms  
2521 of efficiency and rate control. The RPC Upgrade is based on two projects: an improved Link Board  
2522 System and the extension of the RPC coverage up to  $|\eta| = 2.4$ .

2523 The Link Board System is responsible for the processing, the synchronization and the zero-  
2524 suppression the signals coming from the RPC FEBs. The Link Board components have been pro-  
2525 duced between 2006 and 2007 and will be subjected to ageing and failure on a long term scale. An  
2526 upgraded Link Board System will overcome the ageing problems and will allow for a more precise  
2527 timing information to the RPC hits from 25 to 1.5 ns.

2528 In order to develop an improved RPC that fulfills CMS requirements, an extensive R&D program is  
2529 being conducted. The benefits of adding two new RPC layers in the innermost ring of stations 3 and  
2530 4 will be mainly observed in the neutron-induced background reduction and efficiency improvement  
2531 for both trigger and offline reconstruction.

2532 The coverage of the RPC System up to higher pseudo-rapidity  $|\eta| = 2.1$  was part of the original  
2533 CMS TDR. Nevertheless, the expected background rates being higher than the certified rate capabili-  
2534 ty of the present CMS RPCs in that region and the budget being limited, RPCs were restricted to a  
2535 shorter range. Even though the iRPC technology that will equip the extension of the Muon System  
2536 will be different than the current CMS RPC technology, it is necessary to certify the rate capability  
2537 and longevity of the existing detectors as the radiation level will increase together with the increase  
2538 of instantaneous luminosity of the LHC. For this purpose, spare RPC detectors built but not installed  
2539 in CMS have been installed in different irradiation facilities, first of all, to certify the detectors to the

new levels of irradiation they will be subjected to and, finally, to study their ageing and certify their good operation throughout the HL-LHC program.

## 5.1 Testing detectors under extreme conditions

The upgrade from LHC to HL-LHC will increase the peak luminosity from  $10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$  to reach  $5 \times 10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , increasing in the same way the total expected background to which the RPC System will be subjected to. Mainly composed of low energy gammas, neutrons, and electrons and positrons from  $p$ - $p$  collisions, but also of low momentum primary and secondary muons, punch-through hadrons from calorimeters, and particles produced in the interaction of the beams with collimators, the background will mostly affect the regions of CMS that are the closest to the beam line, i.e. the RPC detectors located in the endcaps.

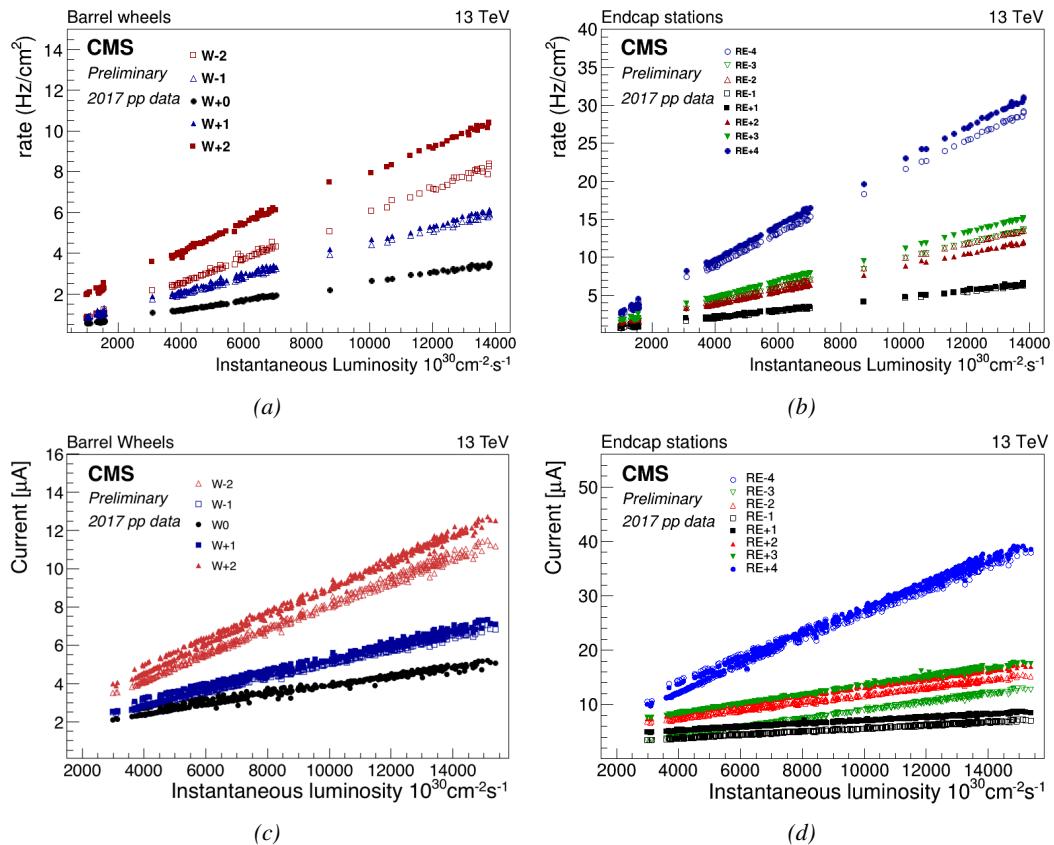
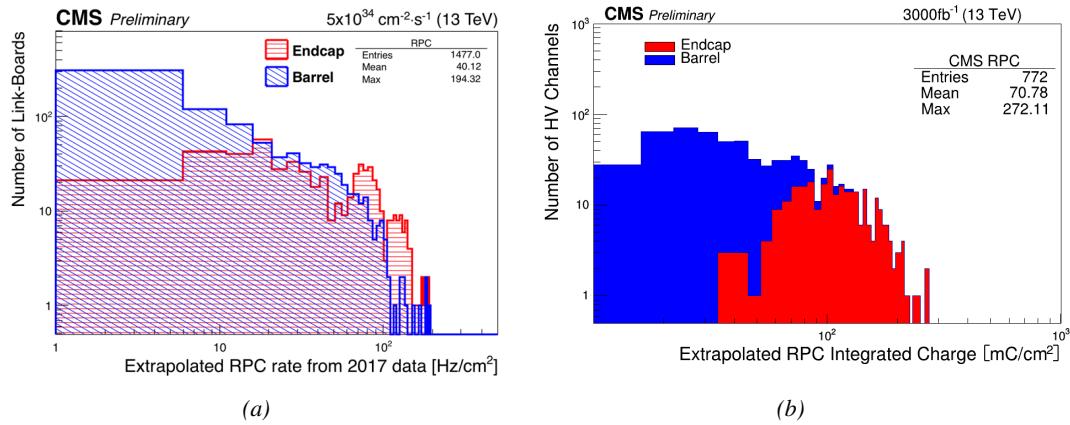


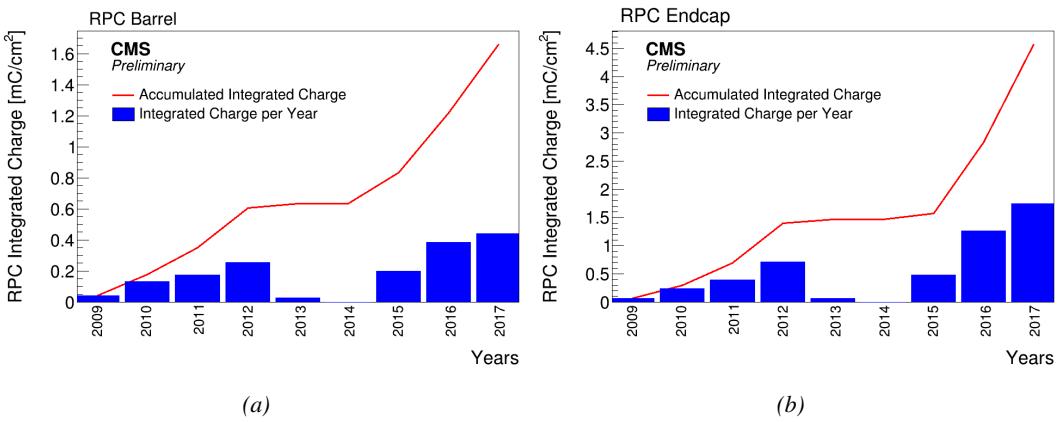
Figure 5.1: Mean RPC Barrel (left column) and Endcap (right column) rate (top row) and current (bottom row) as a function of the instantaneous luminosity as measured in 2017  $p$ - $p$  collision data.

Data collected over 2017, presented through Figure 5.1, allows to study the values of the background rate in all the RPC System. This was achieved thanks to a monitoring of the rates in each RPC rolls, where rolls correspond to the pseudo-rapidity partitioning of the readout electronics, and of the current in each HV channel. A linear dependence in between the mean rate or current with

instantaneous luminosity is showed in selected runs with identical LHC running parameters. In Figure 5.2, a linear extrapolation of the distribution of the background hit rate per unit area as well as the integrated charge is showed at a HL-LHC condition. The maximum rate per unit area in the endcap detectors at HL-LHC conditions is expected to be of the order of  $600 \text{ Hz/cm}^2$  while the charge deposition should exceed  $800 \text{ mC/cm}^2$ . The detectors will then be certified up to an irradiation of  $840 \text{ mC/cm}^2$ . These extrapolations are provided with a required safety factor 3 for the certification study.



*Figure 5.2: Figure 5.2a: The hit rate per region (Barrel, Endcap) is linearly extrapolated to HL-LHC highest instantaneous luminosity ( $5 \times 10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) using the rate as a function of instantaneous luminosity recorded by RPCs in 2017 showing a linear dependence. Figure 5.2b: The integrated charge per region (Barrel, Endcap) is extrapolated to HL-LHC integrated luminosity ( $3000 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ ) using the data accumulated in 2016 in every HV channels.*



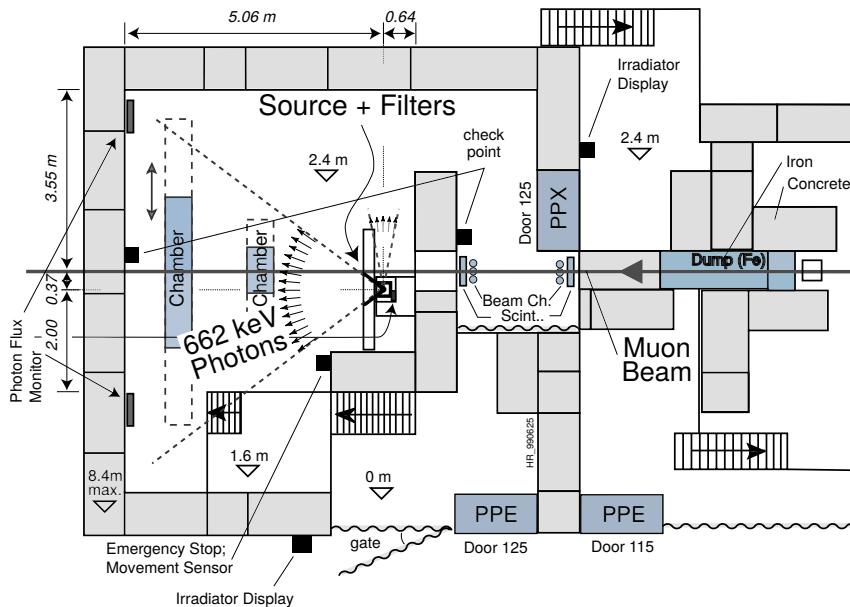
*Figure 5.3: CMS RPC mean integrated charge in the Barrel region (Figure 5.3a) and the Endcap region (Figure 5.3b). The integrated charge per year is shown in blue. The red curve shows the evolution of the accumulated integrated charge through time. The blank period in 2013 and 2014 corresponds to LS1. The total integrated charge for the entire operation period (Oct.2009 - Dec.2017) is estimated to be about  $1.66 \text{ mC}/\text{cm}^2$  in the Barrel and  $4.58 \text{ mC}/\text{cm}^2$  in the Endcap.*

In the past, extensive long-term tests were carried out at several gamma and neutron facilities

certifying the detector performance. Both full size and small prototype RPCs have been irradiated with photons up to an integrated charge of  $\sim 0.05 \text{ C/cm}^2$  and  $\sim 0.4 \text{ C/cm}^2$  respectively and were certified for rates reaching  $200 \text{ Hz/cm}^2$  [99, 100]. Since the beginning of Run-I until December 2017, the RPC system provided stable operation and excellent performance and did not show any ageing effects for a maximum integrated charge in a detector of the order of  $0.01 \text{ C/cm}^2$  - the average being of the order of  $2 \text{ mC/cm}^2$  in the Barrel and  $5 \text{ mC/cm}^2$  in the Endcap, closer to the beam line, as can be seen from Figure 5.3 - and a peak luminosity reaching  $1.4 \times 10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$  during 2017 data taking period.

To perform the necessary studies on the present CMS RPC detectors, facilities offering the possibility to irradiate the chambers are necessary in order to recreate HL-LHC conditions or stronger and study their performance through time. Such facilities exist at CERN and were exploited to conduct this study. A first series of preliminary studies were conducted in the former gamma facility of CERN (GIF) before its dismantlement. This preliminary study was used as a stepping stone towards the building of a more powerful irradiation fully dedicated to longevity studies of CMS and ATLAS subsystems in the perspective of HL-LHC. The period of preliminary work has also been a key moment in the elaboration and improvement of data acquisition, offline analysis and online monitoring tools that are extensively used in the new gamma irradiation facility.

### 5.1.1 GIF



*Figure 5.4: Layout of the test beam zone called X5c GIF at CERN. Photons from the radioactive source produce a sustained high rate of random hits over the whole area. The zone is surrounded by 8 m high and 80 cm thick concrete walls. Access is possible through three entry points. Two access doors for personnel and one large gate for material. A crane allows installation of heavy equipment in the area.*

Located in the SPS West Area at the downstream end of the X5 test beam, the Gamma Irradiation Facility (GIF) was a test area in which particle detectors were exposed to a particle beam in presence of an adjustable gamma background [101]. Its goal was to reproduce background conditions these

detectors would suffer in their operating environment at LHC. GIF layout is showed in Figure 5.4. Gamma photons are produced by a strong  $^{137}\text{Cs}$  source installed in the upstream part of the zone inside a lead container. The source container includes a collimator, designed to irradiate a  $6 \times 6 \text{ m}^2$  area at 5 m maximum to the source. A thin lens-shaped lead filter helps providing with a uniform out-coming flux in a vertical plane, orthogonal to the beam direction. The photon rate is controlled by further lead filters allowing the maximum rate to be limited and to vary within a range of four orders of magnitude. Particle detectors under test are then placed within the pyramidal volume in front of the source, perpendicularly to the beam line in order to profit from the homogeneous photon flux. Adjusting the background flux of photons can then be done by using the filters and choosing the position of the detectors with respect to the source.

As described on Figure 5.5, the  $^{137}\text{Cs}$  source emits a 662 keV photon in 85% of the decays. An activity of 740 GBq was measured on the 5<sup>th</sup> of March 1997. To estimate the strength of the flux in 2014, was considered the nuclear decay through time associated to the Cesium source whose half-life is well known ( $t_{1/2} = (30.05 \pm 0.08) \text{ y}$ ). The GIF tests were done in between the 20<sup>th</sup> and the 31<sup>st</sup> of August 2014, i.e. at a time  $t = (17.47 \pm 0.02) \text{ y}$  resulting in an attenuation of the activity from 740 GBq in 1997 to 494 GBq in 2014.

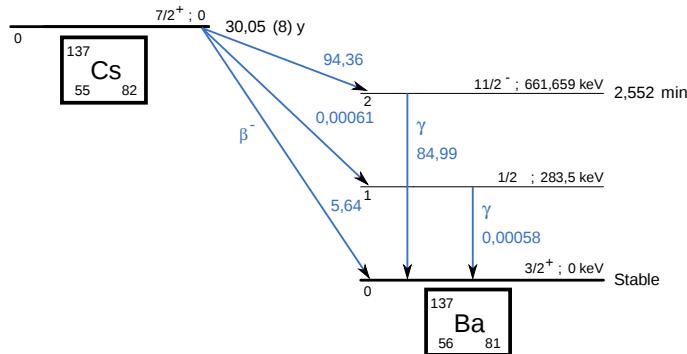


Figure 5.5:  $^{137}\text{Cs}$  decays by  $\beta^-$  emission to the ground state of  $^{137}\text{Ba}$  (BR = 5.64%) and via the 662 keV isomeric level of  $^{137}\text{Ba}$  (BR = 94.36%) whose half-life is 2.55 min.

### 5.1.2 GIF++

The new Gamma Irradiation Facility (GIF++), located in the SPS North Area at the downstream end of the H4 test beam, has replaced its predecessor during LS1 and has been operational since spring 2015 [102]. Like GIF, GIF++ features a  $^{137}\text{Cs}$  source of 662 keV gamma photons, their fluence being controlled with a set of filters of various attenuation factors. The source provides two separated large irradiation areas for testing several full-size muon detectors with homogeneous irradiation, as presented in Figure 5.6.

The source activity was measured to be about 13.5 TBq in March 2016. The photon flux being far greater than HL-LHC expectations, GIF++ provides an excellent facility for accelerated ageing tests of muon detectors. The source is situated in a bunker designed to perform irradiation test along a muon beam line, the muon beam being available during selected periods throughout the year. The H4 beam, providing the area with muons with a maximum momentum of about 150 GeV/c, passes through the GIF++ zone and is used to periodically study the performance of the detectors placed under long term irradiation. Its flux is of  $104 \text{ particles/s/cm}^2$  focused in an area similar to

2613  $10 \times 10 \text{ cm}^2$ . Therefore, with properly adjusted filters, one can simulate the background expected at  
 2614 HL-LHC and study the performance and ageing of muon detectors in HL-LHC environment.

2615

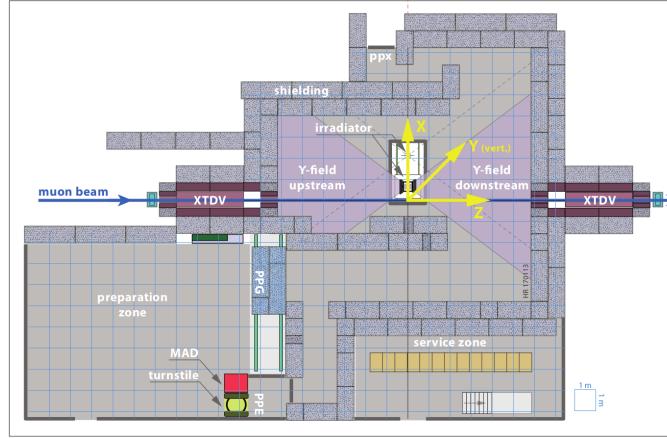


Figure 5.6: Floor plan of the *GIF++* facility. When the facility downstream of the *GIF++* takes electron beam, a beam pipe is installed along the beam line ( $z$ -axis). The irradiator can be displaced laterally (its center moves from  $x = 0.65 \text{ m}$  to  $2.15 \text{ m}$ ), to increase the distance to the beam pipe.

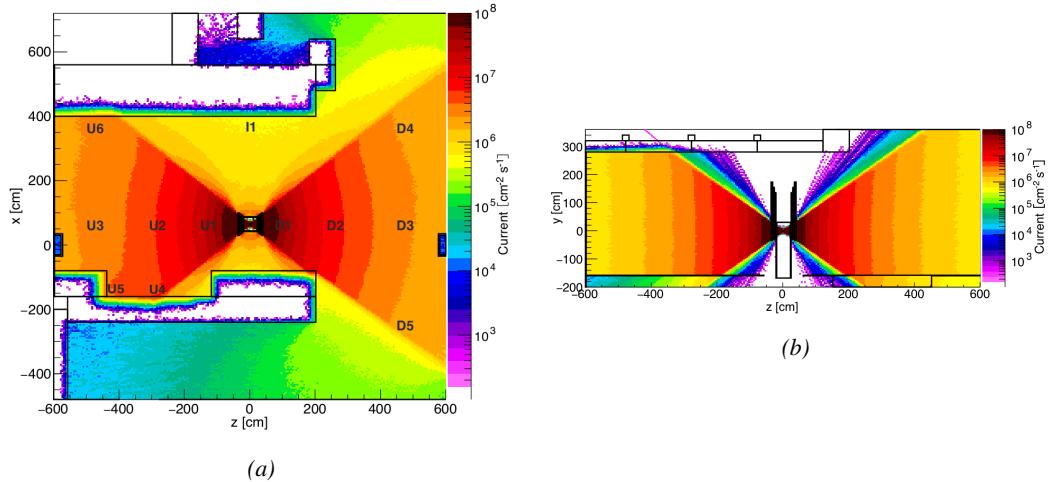


Figure 5.7: Simulated unattenuated current of photons in the  $xz$  plane (Figure 5.7a) and  $yz$  plane (Figure 5.7b) through the source at  $x = 0.65 \text{ m}$  and  $y = 0 \text{ m}$  [103]. With angular correction filters, the current of 662 keV photons is made uniform in  $xy$  planes.

2616 The gamma current as simulated with GEANT4 is presented in Figure 5.7 in which the labels  
 2617 UN, DN, with  $N \in [1 : 5]$  and I1 correspond to the position of different Radiation Monitoring  
 2618 (RADMON) sensors dedicated to measuring the irradiation in the bunker area [103]. According to  
 2619 the simulation results, that agree within 12% to the doses measured with the RADMONs, the RPCs  
 2620 that will be tested in *GIF++* can expect a maximal gamma current of the order of  $2$  to  $5 \times 10^6$

2621  $\text{cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$  assuming they will always stay in a region in between sensor U5 and the back wall of the  
 2622 upstream area.

## 2623 5.2 Preliminary studies at GIF

### 2624 5.2.1 RPC test setup

2625 During summer 2014, preliminary tests have been conducted in the GIF area on an endcap chamber  
 2626 of type RE4/2 and labeled RE-4-2-BARC-161 produced for the extension of the endcap with a  
 2627 fourth disk in 2013. This chamber has been placed into a trolley covered with a tent. The position  
 2628 of the RPC inside the tent and of the tent with respect to the source in the bunker are described in  
 2629 Figure 5.8. The goal of the study were to have a preliminary understanding of the rate capability  
 2630 of the present technology used in CMS. It was decided to measure the efficiency of the RPC under  
 2631 irradiation at detecting cosmic muons as, at the time of the tests, the beam not operational anymore.  
 2632 Three different absorber settings were used and compared to the case where the detector was not ir-  
 2633 radated in order to study the evolution of the performance of the detector with increasing exposition  
 2634 to gamma radiation. First of all, measurements were done with fully opened source. To complete  
 2635 this preliminary study, the gamma flux has been attenuated by a factor 2, a factor 5 and finally the  
 2636 source was shut down. Was measured the efficiency of the RPC at detecting the cosmic muons in  
 2637 coincidence with a cosmic trigger as well as the background rate as seen by the detectors.

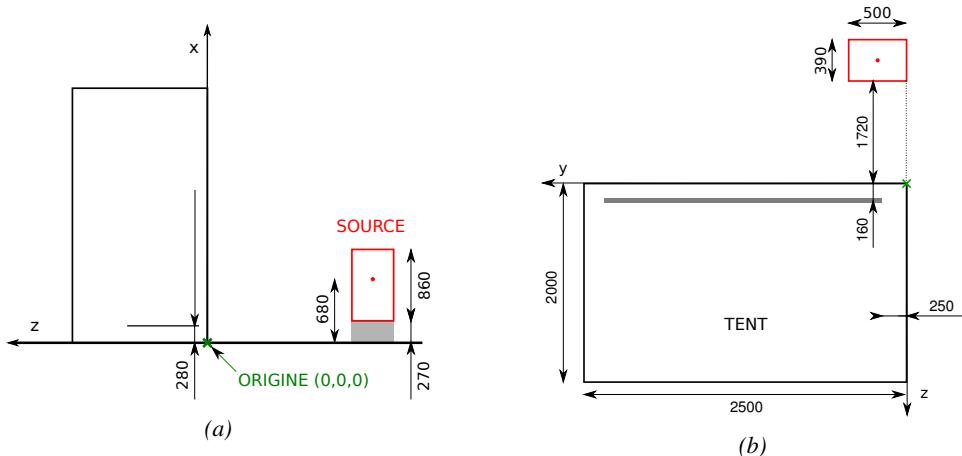


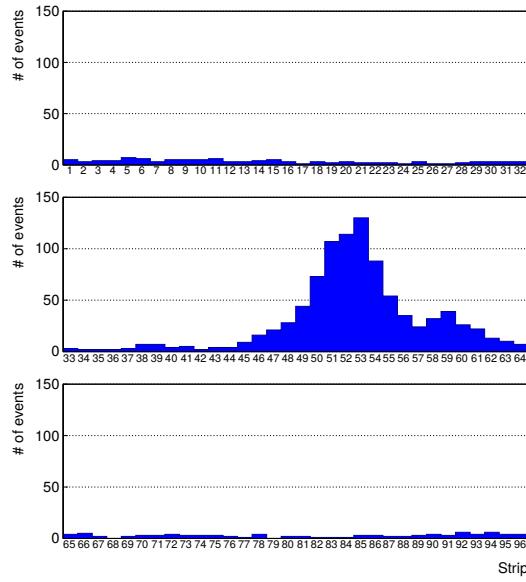
Figure 5.8: Description of the RPC setup. Dimensions are given in mm. A tent containing RPCs is placed at 1720 mm from the source container. The source is situated in the center of the container. RE-4-2-BARC-161 chamber is 160 mm inside the tent. This way, the distance between the source and the chambers plan is 2060 mm. Figure 5.8a provides a side view of the setup in the xz plane while Figure 5.8b shows a top view in the yz plane.

2638 The trigger system was composed of 2 plastic scintillators and was placed in front of the setup  
 2639 with an inclination of  $10^\circ$  with respect to the detector plane in order to look at cosmic muons. Using  
 2640 this particular trigger layout, showed in Figure 5.9, leads to a cosmic muon hit distribution into the  
 2641 chamber similar to the one of Figure 5.10. Measured without gamma irradiation, two peaks can  
 2642 be seen on the profile of readout partition B, centered on strips 52 and 59. Section 5.2.2 will help  
 2643 us understand that these two peaks are due respectively to forward and backward coming cosmic

2644 particles where forward coming particles are first detected by the scintillators and then the RPC  
 2645 while the backward coming muons are first detected in the RPC.



*Figure 5.9: RE-4-2-BARC-161 chamber is inside the tent as described in Figure 5.8. In the top right, the two scintillators used as trigger can be seen. This trigger system has an inclination of 10° relative to horizontal and is placed above half-partition B2 of the RPCs. PMT electronics are shielded thanks to lead blocks placed in order to protect them without stopping photons from going through the scintillators and the chamber.*



*Figure 5.10: Hit distributions over all 3 partitions of RE-4-2-BARC-161 chamber is showed. Top, middle and bottom figures respectively correspond to partitions A, B, and C. The profiles show that some events still occur in other half-partitions than B2, which corresponds to strips 49 to 64, in front of which the trigger is placed, contributing to the inefficiency of detection of cosmic muons. In the case of partitions A and C, the very low amount of data can be interpreted as noise. On the other hand, it is clear that a little portion of muons reach the half-partition B1, corresponding to strips 33 to 48.*

The data taking is then performed thanks to a CEAN TDC module of type V1190A [104] to which is connected the digitized output of the RPC Front-End Board, as described in Figure 5.11a and the trigger signal from the telescope. The communication with the computer is performed thanks to a CAEN communication module of type V1718 [105]. In order to control the rates recorded by the detector, the digitized RPC signals are also sent to scalers as described in Figure 5.11b. The C++ DAQ software used in GIF was developed as an early attempt towards the understanding of the CAEN libraries and the data collected by the TDCs was saved into .dat files is analysed with an algorithm computing parameters such as efficiency, hit profile, cluster size, or gamma and noise rates which was developed with C++ as well. Finally, histograms and curves are produced using ROOT.

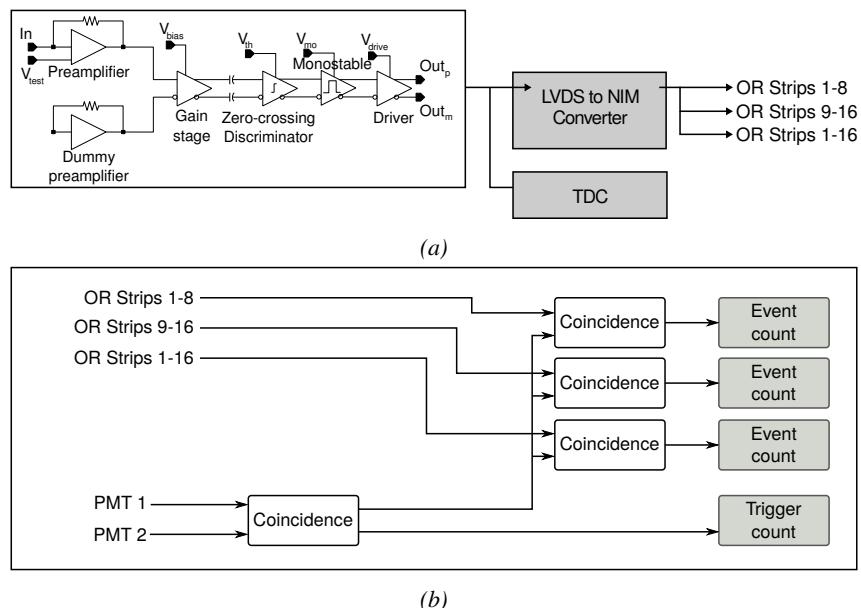


Figure 5.11: Signals from the RPC strips are shaped by the FEE described on Figure 5.11a. Output LVDS signals are then read-out by a TDC module connected to a computer or converted into NIM and sent to scalers. Figure 5.11b describes how these converted signals are put in coincidence with the trigger.

## 5.2.2 Geometrical acceptance of the setup layout to cosmic muons

In order to profit from a constant gamma irradiation, the detectors inside of the GIF bunker need to be placed in a plane orthogonal to the beam line. The muon beam that used to be available was meant to test the performance of detectors under test. This beam not being active anymore, an other solution to test detector performance had to be used. Thus, it has been decided to use cosmic muons detected through a telescope composed of two scintillators. Lead blocks were used as shielding to protect the photomultipliers from gammas as can be seen from Figure 5.9.

An inclination of  $\sim 10^\circ$  has been given to the cosmic telescope to maximize the muon flux. A good compromise had to be found between good enough muon flux and narrow enough hit distribution to be sure to contain all the events into only one half partitions as required from the limited available readout hardware. It was then foreseen to detect muons and read them out only from half-partition B2, the last 16 channels of readout partition B (i.e. strips 49 to 64). Nevertheless,

a consequence of the misplaced trigger, that can be seen as a loss of events in half-partition B1 (strips 33 to 48) in Figure 5.10, is an inefficiency. The observed inefficiency of approximately 20% highlighted in Figure 5.12 by comparing the performance of chamber RE-4-2-BARC-161 as measured prior to the study at GIF and at GIF without irradiation seems too important, compared to the 12.7% of data contained into the first 16 strips observed on Figure 5.10, to only be explained by the geometrical acceptance of the setup itself. Simulations have been conducted to show how the setup brings inefficiency.

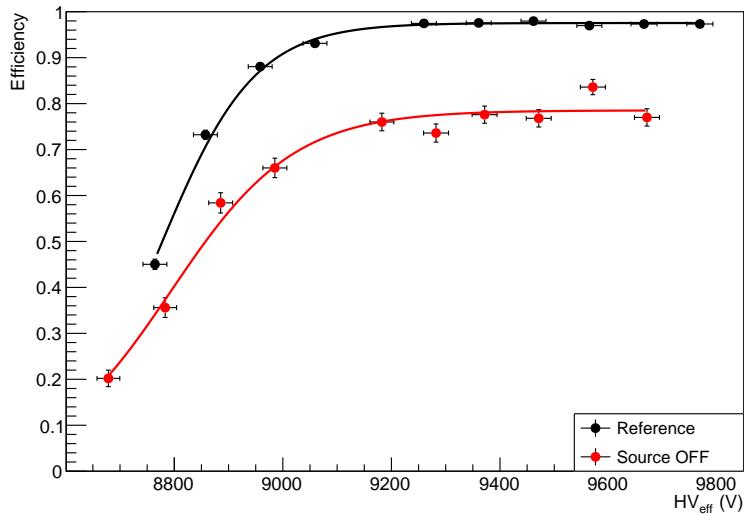


Figure 5.12: Results are derived from data taken on half-partition B2 only. On the 18<sup>th</sup> of June 2014, data has been taken on chamber RE-4-2-BARC-161 at CERN building 904 (Prevessin Site) with cosmic muons providing us a reference efficiency plateau of  $(97.54 \pm 0.15)\%$  represented by a black curve. A similar measurement has been done at GIF on the 21<sup>st</sup> of July with the same chamber giving a plateau of  $(78.52 \pm 0.94)\%$  represented by a red curve.

### 5.2.2.1 Description of the simulation layout

The layout of GIF setup has been reproduced, only roughly using Figure 5.9 due to the lack of measures, and incorporated into a C++ Monte Carlo (MC) simulation to study the geometrical acceptance of the telescope projected onto the readout strips [106]. A 3D view of the simulated layout is given into Figure 5.13. Muons are generated randomly in a horizontal plane located at a height corresponding to the lowest point of the PMTs. This way, the needed size of the plane in order to simulate events happening at very large azimuthal angles (i.e.  $\theta \approx \pi$ ) can be kept relatively small while the total number of muon tracks to propagate is kept relatively small. The muon flux is designed to follow the usual  $\cos^2\theta$  distribution for cosmic particles. The goal of the simulation is to look at muons that pass through the telescope composed of the two scintillators and define their distribution onto the RPC read-out plane. During the reconstruction, the read-out plane is then divided into read-out strips and each muon track is assigned to a strip.

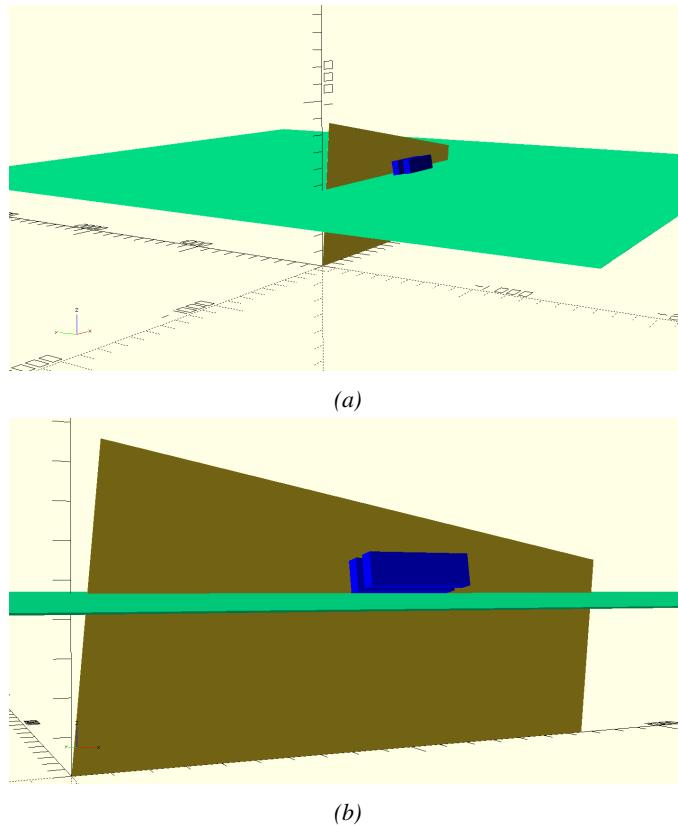


Figure 5.13: Representation of the layout used for the simulations of the test setup. The RPC read-out plane is represented as a yellow trapezoid while the two scintillators as blue cuboids looking at the sky. The green plane corresponds to the muon generation plane within the simulation. Figure 5.8a shows a global view of the simulated setup. Figure 5.8b shows a zoomed view that allows to see the 2 scintillators as well as the full RPC plane.

### 2687 5.2.2.2 Simulation procedure

2688  $N_\mu = 10^8$  muons are randomly generated inside the muon plane with an azimuthal angle  $\theta$  chosen  
 2689 to follow a  $\cos^2\theta$  distribution. Infinite planes are associated to each surface of the scintillators.  
 2690 Knowing the muon position into the muon generation plane and its direction allows, by assuming  
 2691 that muons travel in a straight line, to compute the intersection of the muon track with these planes.  
 2692 Applying conditions to the limits on the contours of the scintillators' faces then gives an answer to  
 2693 whether or not the muon passed through the scintillators. In the case the muon was not *detected* into  
 2694 both scintillators, the simulation discards the muon and generates a new one.

2695 On the contrary, if the muon is labeled as good, its position within the RPC read-out plane  
 2696 is computed and the corresponding strip, determined through geometrical tests, gets a *hit*. Muon  
 2697 hits fill different histograms whether they are associated to forward or backward coming muons.  
 2698 A discrimination is performed according to their direction components. An  $(x, y, z)$  position into  
 2699 the generation plane as well as a  $(\theta; \phi)$  pair are associated to each generated muon providing with  
 2700 information on the direction the track follows. This way, muons satisfying the condition  $0 \leq \phi < \pi$   
 2701 are labeled as *backward* coming muons while muons satisfying  $\pi \leq \phi < 2\pi$  as *forward* coming

2702 muons.

2703 **5.2.2.3 Results and limitations**

2704 The output from the simulation is given in Figure 5.14 in which the distribution is showed for all  
 2705 muons but also for the separate contributions of forward and backward coming muons. The strip  
 2706 number is here given in a range of 1 to 32 corresponding to the 32 strips contained in each RPC  
 2707 read-out partition, without taking into account the fact that partition B of an RPC correponds, by  
 2708 convention, to strips 33 to 64. Comparing the number of muons recorded respectively in the first 16  
 2709 strips and the in all of the 32 strips of the RPC read-out panel, it can be established than, out of the  
 2710 total amount of muons that have passed through the telescope and reached the RPC, 16.8% where to  
 2711 be detected in the 16 first strip of the read-out plane corresponding to half partition B1. This brings  
 2712 a geometrical inefficiency of the same amount that can then be used to correct the data by scaling up  
 2713 by a factor  $c_{geo} = 1/(1 - 0.168)$  the maximum efficiency measured during data taking.

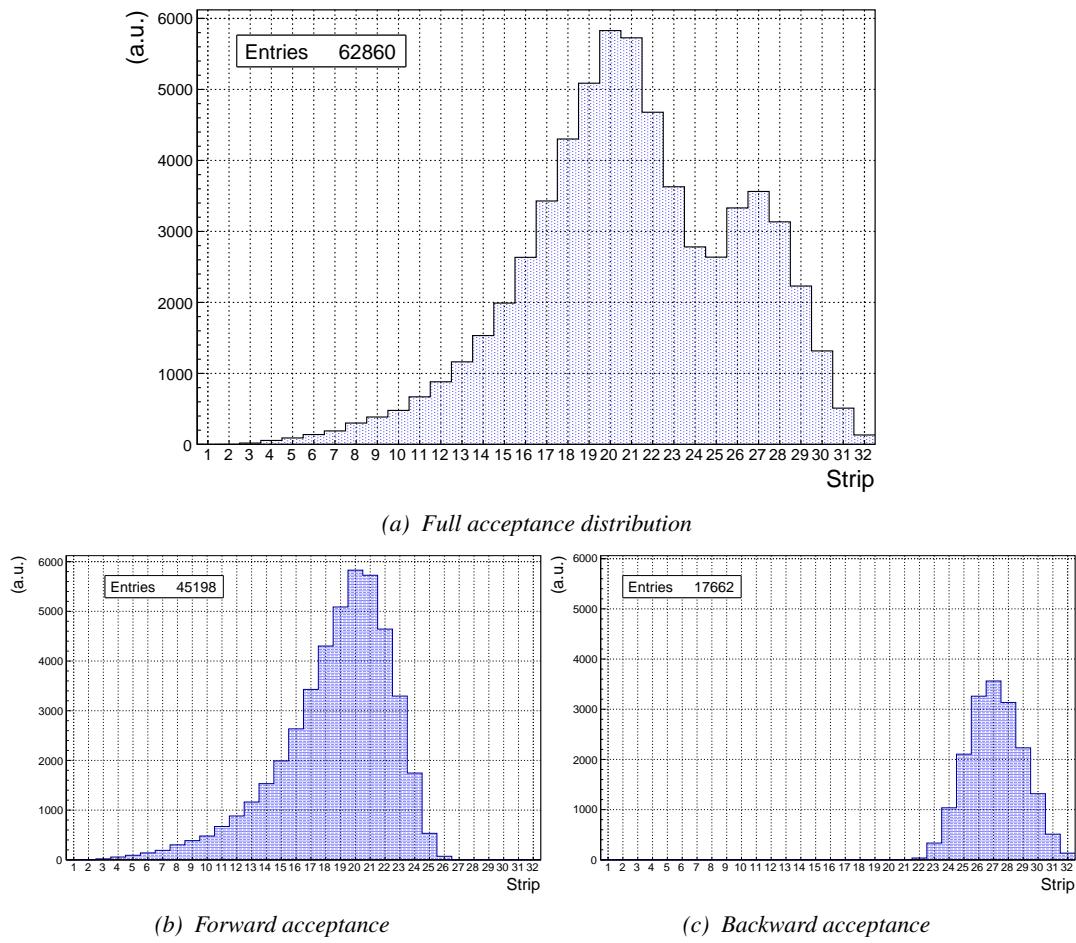


Figure 5.14: Geometrical acceptance distribution as provided by the Monte Carlo simulation.

2714 Nevertheless, it is difficult to evaluate a systematical uncertainty on this geometrical correction

for different reasons. First of all, even though the dimensions of the scintillators and of the RPC are well known, the position of each element of the setup with respect to one another was not measured. It was then necessary, using known dimensions, to extract the positions of each element from Figure 5.9 with unknown uncertainty. The inclination is also roughly measured to be  $10^\circ$  and even if the position of each peak, distant in the simulation of 7 strips, tends to confirm this assumption, the geometrical inefficiency would be affected by a variation of the inclination angle. Introducing in the simulation an error of  $\pm 2^\circ$  would lead to a correction factor  $c_{geo} = 1.20^{+0.04}_{-0.03}$  that allows for a good improvement of the efficiency measured in GIF, as can be seen from Figure 5.15. GIF measurement is in agreement with the reference curve within statistical errors.

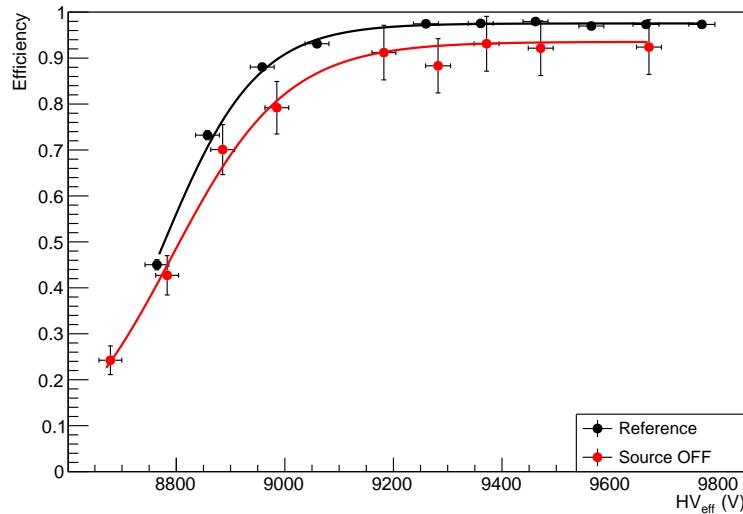
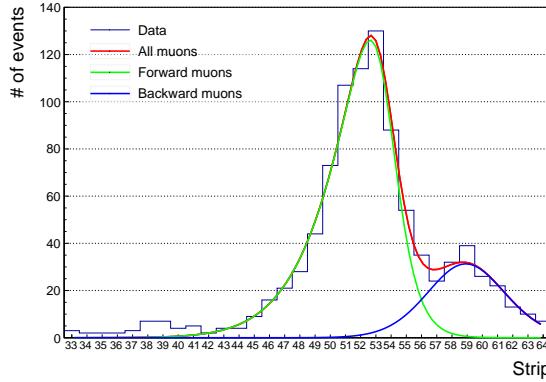


Figure 5.15: Correction of the efficiency without source. The efficiency after correction gets much closer to the Reference measurement performed before the study in GIF by reaching a plateau of  $(93.52 \pm 2.64)\%$ .

Further corrections could be also be brought as it can easily be understood that the distribution showed through Figure 5.14a differs from the measured hit profile showed in Figure 5.10. The contributions of forward and backward muon indicate that 28.1% of the total geometrical acceptance should contribute to detecting backward muons whereas it is measured that the hit profile contains 22.0% of backward data only. This estimation of the backward versus forward content in the data was done through a fit using a sum of two skew distribution, one acting on the forward muon peak while the other acts on the backward muon fit, as showed in Figure 5.16. Although a skew distribution lacks physical interpretation, it allows to easily fit such kind of data. A description of a skew distribution, as the product of a gaussian and a sigmoid (Formula 5.1), is given through Formula 5.2.

$$(5.1) \quad g(x) = A_g e^{\frac{-(x-\bar{x})^2}{2\sigma^2}}, \quad s(x) = \frac{A_s}{1 + e^{-\lambda(x-x_i)}}$$

$$(5.2) \quad sk(x) = g(x) \times s(x) = A_{sk} \frac{e^{\frac{-(x-\bar{x})^2}{2\sigma^2}}}{1 + e^{-\lambda(x-x_i)}}$$



*Figure 5.16: Hit distributions over read-out partition B of RE-4-2-BARC-161 chamber together with skew distribution fits corresponding to forward and backward coming muons.*

From the obvious difference in between geometrical simulation and data, it is necessary to realize that the geometrical acceptance and the hit profile are two distinct information. When the geometrical acceptance only provides with the information about what the detector can expect to see in a perfect world where all muons are detected in the exact same way independently from their energy, angle of incidence, fluctuation of the detector gain due to complexe avalanche development, thresholds applied on the scintillators and on the RPC FEEs to reduce the noise, the cross-talk and corresponding spread of the induced charge observed on the read-out strips, the hit profile provides the final product of all the previously mentioned contributions and can greatly differ from purely geometrical considerations. A full physics analysis involving softwares such as GEANT would be required to further refine the correction on the measured efficiency at GIF.

### 5.2.3 Photon flux at GIF

In order to understand and evaluate the  $\gamma$  flux in the GIF area, simulations had been conducted at the time GIF was opened for research purposes [101]. Table 5.1 presented in this article gives the  $\gamma$  flux for different distances  $D$  to the source. The simulation was done using GEANT and a Monte Carlo N-Particle (MCNP) transport code, and the flux  $F$  is given with the estimated error from these packages expressed in %.

Nominal ABS	Photon flux $F$ [ $\text{cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ]			
	at $D = 50 \text{ cm}$	at $D = 155 \text{ cm}$	at $D = 300 \text{ cm}$	at $D = 400 \text{ cm}$
1	$0.12 \times 10^8 \pm 0.2\%$	$0.14 \times 10^7 \pm 0.5\%$	$0.45 \times 10^6 \pm 0.5\%$	$0.28 \times 10^6 \pm 0.5\%$
2	$0.68 \times 10^7 \pm 0.3\%$	$0.80 \times 10^6 \pm 0.8\%$	$0.25 \times 10^6 \pm 0.8\%$	$0.16 \times 10^6 \pm 0.6\%$
5	$0.31 \times 10^7 \pm 0.4\%$	$0.36 \times 10^6 \pm 1.2\%$	$0.11 \times 10^6 \pm 1.2\%$	$0.70 \times 10^5 \pm 0.9\%$

*Table 5.1: Total photon flux ( $E\gamma \leq 662 \text{ keV}$ ) with statistical error predicted considering a  $^{137}\text{Cs}$  activity of 740 GBq at different values of the distance  $D$  to the source along the x-axis of irradiation field [101].*

The simulation does not provide with an estimated flux at the level of the RPC under test. First of all, it is necessary to extract the value of the flux from the available data contained in the original paper and then to estimate the flux in 2014 at the time the experimentation took place. In the case of a pointlike source emitting isotropic and homogeneous gamma radiations, the gamma flux  $F$  at a

2753 distance  $D$  from the source with respect to a reference point situated at  $D_0$  where a known flux  $F_0$   
 2754 is measured will be expressed like in Formula 5.3, assuming that the flux decreases as  $1/D^2$ , where  
 2755  $c$  is a fitting factor that can be written from Formula 5.3 as Formula 5.4. Finally, using Equation 5.4  
 2756 and the data of Table 5.1, with  $D_0 = 50$  cm as reference point, Table 5.2 can be built. It is interesting  
 2757 to note that  $c$  for each value of  $D$  doesn't depend on the absorption factor.

$$(5.3) \quad F^{ABS} = F_0^{ABS} \times \left( \frac{cD_0}{D} \right)^2$$

$$(5.4) \quad c = \frac{D}{D_0} \sqrt{\frac{F^{ABS}}{F_0^{ABS}}} , \quad \Delta c = \frac{c}{2} \left( \frac{\Delta F^{ABS}}{F^{ABS}} + \frac{\Delta F_0^{ABS}}{F_0^{ABS}} \right)$$

Nominal ABS	Correction factor $c$		
	at $D = 155$ cm	at $D = 300$ cm	at $D = 400$ cm
1	$1.059 \pm 0.70\%$	$1.162 \pm 0.70\%$	$1.222 \pm 0.70\%$
2	$1.063 \pm 1.10\%$	$1.150 \pm 1.10\%$	$1.227 \pm 0.90\%$
5	$1.056 \pm 1.60\%$	$1.130 \pm 1.60\%$	$1.202 \pm 1.30\%$

Table 5.2: Correction factor  $c$  is computed thanks to Formula 5.4 taking as reference  $D_0 = 50$  cm and the associated flux  $F_0^{ABS}$  for each absorption factor available in table 5.1.

2758 For the range of  $D/D_0$  values available, it is possible to use a simple linear fit to get the evolution  
 2759 of  $c$  that can be expressed as  $c(D/D_0) = aD/D_0 + b$ . Using Formula 5.5, but neglecting the  
 2760 uncertainty on  $D$  that will only be used when extrapolating the values for the position of the RPC  
 2761 under test whose position is not perfectly known, the results showed in Figure 5.17 is obtained.  
 2762 Figure 5.17b confirms that using only a linear fit to extract  $c$  is enough as the evolution of the rate  
 2763 that can be obtained superimposes well on the simulation points.

$$(5.5) \quad F^{ABS} = F_0^{ABS} \left( a + \frac{bD_0}{D} \right)^2 , \quad \Delta F^{ABS} = F^{ABS} \left[ \frac{\Delta F_0^{ABS}}{F_0^{ABS}} + 2 \frac{\Delta a + \Delta b \frac{D_0}{D} + \Delta D \frac{bD_0}{D^2}}{a + \frac{bD_0}{D}} \right]$$

2764 In the context of the 2014 GIF tests, the RPC read-out plane is located at a distance  $D = 206$  cm  
 2765 from the source. Moreover, to estimate the strength of the flux in 2014 it is necessary to consider the  
 2766 nuclear decay through time assiciated to the Cesium source whose half-life is well known ( $t_{1/2} =$   
 2767  $(30.05 \pm 0.08)$  y). The very first source activity measurement has been done on the 5<sup>th</sup> of March  
 2768 1997 while the GIF tests where done in between the 20<sup>th</sup> and the 31<sup>th</sup> of August 2014, i.e. at a time  
 2769  $t = (17.47 \pm 0.02)$  y resulting in an attenuation of the activity from 740 GBq in 1997 to 494 GBq in  
 2770 2014. All the needed information to extrapolate the expected flux through the detector at the moment  
 2771 of GIF preliminary tests has now been assembled, leading to Table 5.3. By assuming a sensitivity of  
 2772 the RPC to  $\gamma$  of  $2 \times 10^{-3}$ , the order of magnitude of the expected hit rate per unit area would be of  
 2773 the order of the kHz for the fully opened source, as reported in the last column of the table.

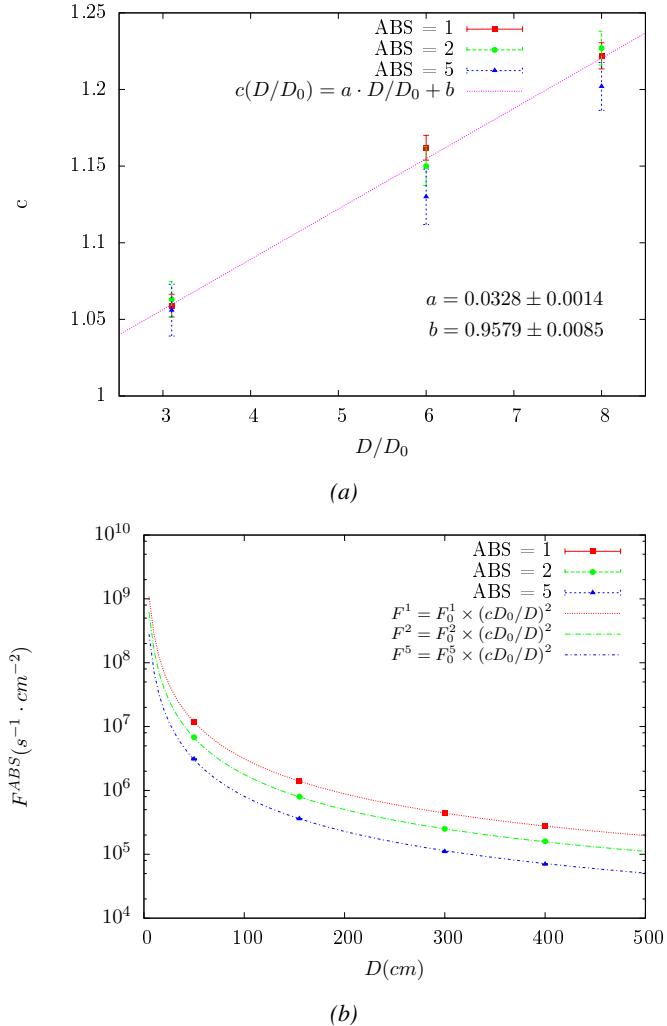


Figure 5.17: Figure 5.17a shows the linear approximation fit performed on data extracted from table 5.2. Figure 5.17b shows a comparison of Formula 5.5 with the simulated flux using  $a$  and  $b$  given in figure 5.17a in formulae 5.3 and the reference value  $D_0 = 50\text{ cm}$  and the associated flux for each absorption factor  $F_0^{ABS}$  from table 5.1

Nominal ABS	Photon flux $F$ [ $\text{cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ]			Rate [ $\text{Hz}/\text{cm}^2$ ] at $D^{2014} = 206\text{ cm}$
	at $D_0^{97} = 50\text{ cm}$	at $D^{97} = 206\text{ cm}$	at $D^{2014} = 206\text{ cm}$	
1	$0.12 \times 10^8 \pm 0.2\%$	$0.84 \times 10^6 \pm 1.2\%$	$0.56 \times 10^6 \pm 1.2\%$	$1129 \pm 14$
2	$0.68 \times 10^7 \pm 0.3\%$	$0.48 \times 10^6 \pm 1.2\%$	$0.32 \times 10^6 \pm 1.2\%$	$640 \pm 8$
5	$0.31 \times 10^7 \pm 0.4\%$	$0.22 \times 10^6 \pm 1.2\%$	$0.15 \times 10^6 \pm 1.2\%$	$292 \pm 4$

Table 5.3: The data at  $D_0$  in 1997 is taken from [101]. Using Formula 5.5, the flux at  $D$ , including an error of 1 cm, can be estimated in 1997. Then, taking into account the attenuation of the source activity, the flux at  $D$  can be estimated at the time of the tests in GIF in 2014. Assuming a sensitivity of the RPC to  $\gamma$  s =  $2 \times 10^{-3}$ , an estimation of the hit rate per unit area is obtained.

2774 The goal of the study will be to have a good measurement of the intrinsic performance without  
 2775 source irradiation. Then, taking profit of the two working absorbers, at absorbtion factors 5 (300 Hz)  
 2776 and 2 ( $\sim 600$  Hz) the goal will be to show that the detectors fulfill the performance certification of  
 2777 CMS RPCs. Finally, a first idea of the performance of the detectors at higher background will be  
 2778 provided with absorbtion factor 1 (no absorbtion and  $>1$  kHz)).

### 2779 5.2.4 Results and discussions

2780 The data taking at GIF has been conducted in between the 21<sup>st</sup> and the 31<sup>st</sup> of August, 2014. Data  
 2781 has been collected with both source OFF and ON using three different absorber settings (ABS 5, 2  
 2782 and 1) in order to vary the irradiation on the RPC. For each source setting, two HV scans have been  
 2783 performed with two different trigger settings. During a first scan the trigger sent to the TDC module  
 2784 was the coincidence of the two scintillators composing the telescope while during a second scan the  
 2785 trigger was a pulse coming from a pulse generator in order to measure the noise or gamma rate seen  
 2786 by the chamber. Indeed, using a pulse allows to trigger at moments not linked to any physical event  
 2787 and, hence, to obtain a *RANDOM* trigger on noise and gamma events to measure the associated rates,  
 2788 the probability to have a pulse in coincidence with a cosmic muon being negligible.

2789 From the cosmic trigger scans, a summary of the efficiencies and corresponding cluster sizes is  
 2790 showed in Figure 5.18. The efficiency curves with Source ON show a shift with respect to the case  
 2791 without irradiation. With ABS 5, the general shape of the efficiency curve stays unchanged whereas  
 2792 a clear alteration of the performance is observed at ABS 2 and ABS 1. From the cluster size results,  
 2793 a reduction of the cluster size under irradiation can be oberved at equivalent efficiency. This effect  
 2794 can be due to the perturbation of the electric field by the strong rate of gamma particles starting  
 2795 avalanches in the gas volume of the detector.

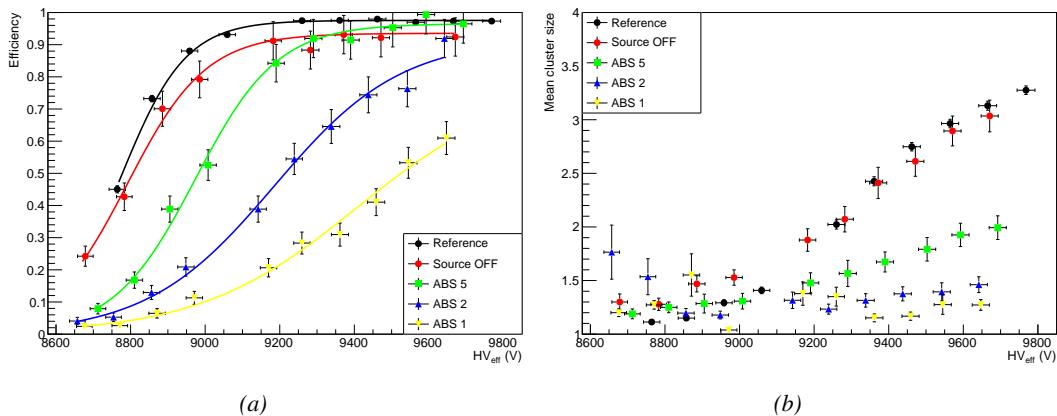
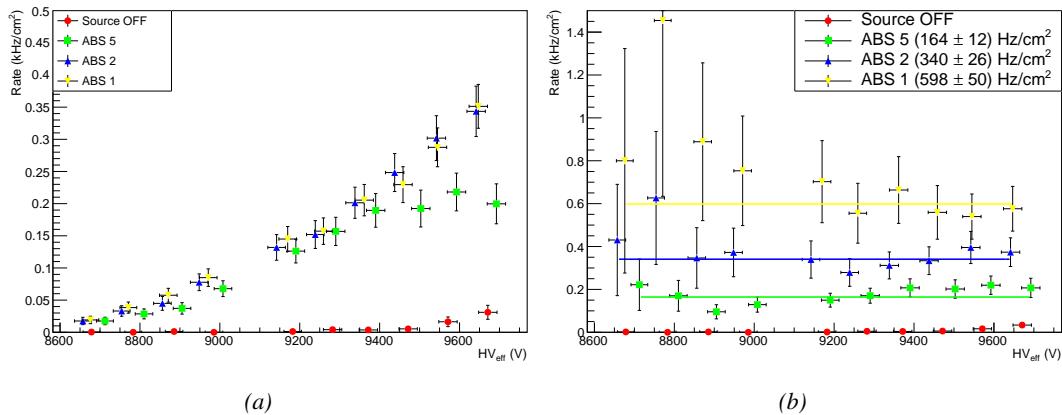


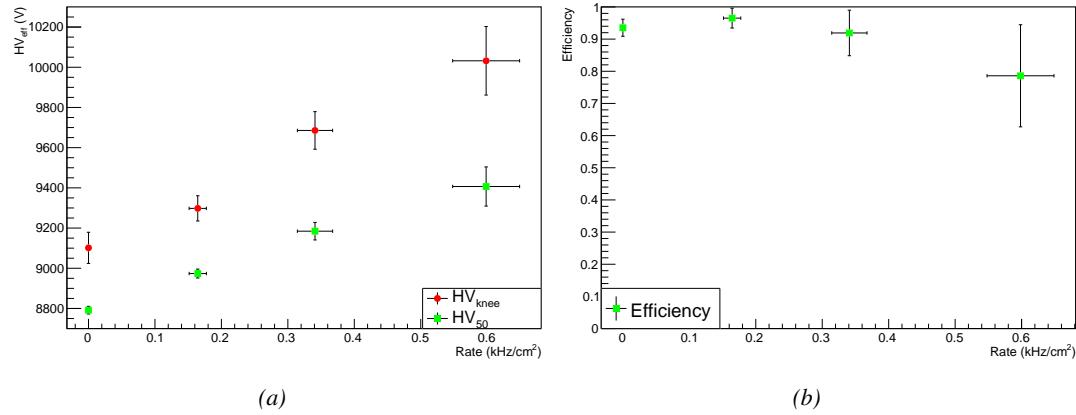
Figure 5.18: Efficiency (Figure 5.18a) and cluster size (Figure 5.18b) of chamber RE-4-2-BARC-161 measured at GIF with Source OFF (red) and Source ON using different absorber settings: ABS 5 (green), ABS 2 (blue) and ABS 1 (yellow). The results are compared to the Reference values obtained with cosmics.

2796 It is necessary to study the evolution of the performance of the chamber with the increasing rate.  
 2797 In Figure 5.19a, the noise rate when the source is OFF stays low but increases at voltages above  
 2798 9500 V. The rise of the noise rate in the detector can be related to the increased streamer probability  
 2799 observed with such a large electric field. The rates with source ON measured at GIF all show a

similar behaviour until a high voltage of approximately 9400 V at which the rate of ABS 5 saturates, corresponding to the chamber reaching full efficiency. It is important to note that, even though the rates look similar independently from the gamma flux, relatively to the efficiency of the chamber, the rate actually increases with increasing flux at equivalent efficiency. A rough way to measure the rate effectively observed by the detector for each source setting would be to normalize the measured rates to the efficiency of the detector. This exercise was done with Figure 5.19b from which constant fits were done on Source ON data in order to extract the rate the chamber was subjected to.



*Figure 5.19: Rates in chamber RE-4-2-BARC-161 measured at GIF with Source OFF (red) and Source ON using different absorber settings: ABS 5 (green), ABS 2 (blue) and ABS 1 (yellow). On Figure 5.19b, the rates of Figure 5.19a were normalized to the measured efficiency and constant fits are performed on Source ON data showing the gamma rate in the chamber.*



*Figure 5.20: Evolution of the voltages at half maximum and at 95% of the maximum efficiency (Figure 5.20a), and of the maximum efficiency (Figure 5.20b) as a function of the rate in chamber RE-4-2-BARC-161. The data is extracted from the fits in Figures 5.18a and 5.19b.*

The results need to be taken with care as a better estimation of the rate would have been to push the detector towards higher voltages to reach the efficiency plateau for each absorber configuration

and only then extract the measured rate at working voltage, defined as in Formula 4.25. Nevertheless, using this method to estimate the rate the chamber is subjected to, it is possible to look at the evolution of the  $HV_{50}$  and  $HV_{knee}$  (the working voltage being defined to be 150 V above the knee in the endcap) as a function of the increasing rate as showed in Figure 5.20. The results from GIF suggest that at a rate of 600 Hz/cm<sup>2</sup> the working voltage of the chamber is increased by a thousand V while the efficiency is reduced to approximately 80%, although the result still is consistent with an efficiency better than 90% due to the large error on the measurement. Moreover, it is likely that the rates obtained through fitting on normalized values is underestimated. Indeed, monitoring the current in the 3 gaps composing a CMS endcap RPC (Figure 5.21) while knowing the rate, the charge deposition per avalanche  $q_\gamma$  can be computed.

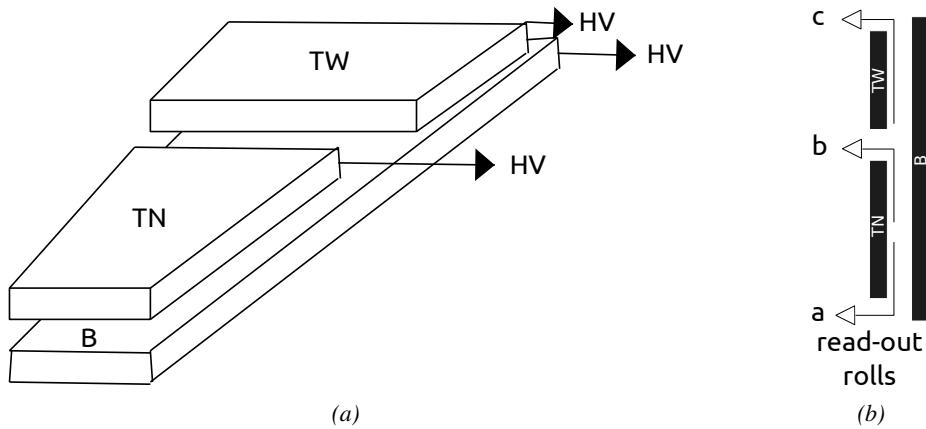
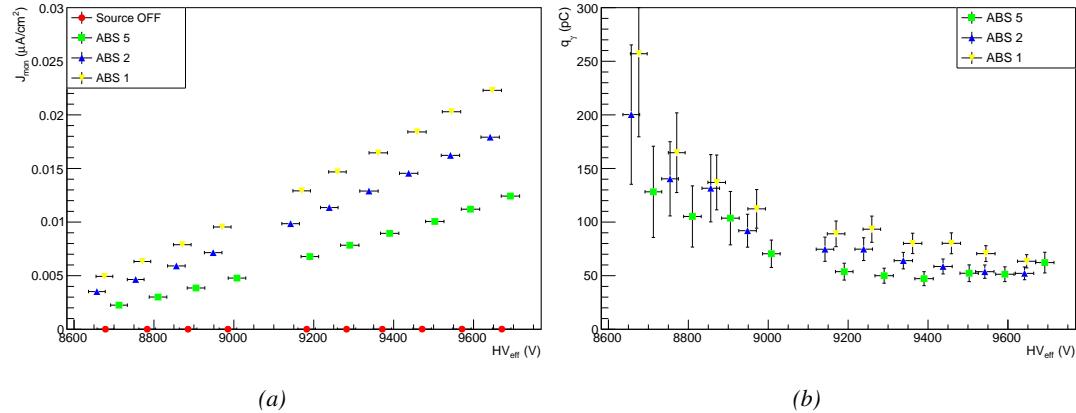


Figure 5.21: Presentation of a double-gap endcap RPC with its 3 RPC gaps. Due to the partitioning of the read-out strips into 3 rolls, the TOP layer of gap is divided into 2 gaps: TOP NARROW (TN) and TOP WIDE (TW). The BOTTOM (B) only consists in 1 gap.

A charge is expressed in C which is consistent with a current density, expressed in A/cm<sup>2</sup>, divided by a rate per unit area, expressed in Hz/cm<sup>2</sup>. The current driven by the RPC is assumed to be due to the irradiation, hence, to the avalanches developing in the gas volume due to the photons of the Cesium source. On the other hand, the rate is supposed to be a measure of the number of photons interacting with the detector. This way, it comes that the charge deposition per avalanche is expressed like  $q_\gamma = J_{mon}/R_\gamma$ ,  $J_{mon}$  being the monitored current density and  $R_\gamma$  the measured  $\gamma$  rate. The current density is computed as the sum of the current density measured on the top gap layer and of which measured in the bottom gap layer,  $J_{mon} = (I_{mon}^{TW} + I_{mon}^{TN})/(A_{TW} + A_{TN}) + I_{mon}^B/A_B$ ,  $A_{B,TN,TW}$  being the active area and  $I_{mon}^{B,TN,TW}$  the monitored currents of the gaps. According to Figure 5.22, the charge deposition per avalanche consistently converges to a value of the order of 50 pC for each absorber setting which corresponds to a value more than twice greater than what reported in litterature for CMS detectors [107, 108] indicating that the rates could have been wrongly evaluated during the short study performed at GIF. An increase of the  $\gamma$  rate by a factor 2 would be consistent with the expected rates calculated in Table 5.3, assuming the sensitivity to  $\gamma$  to be of the order of  $2 \times 10^{-3}$ .



*Figure 5.22: Current density and charge deposition per gamma avalanche, defined as the current density normalized to the measured rate taken from Figure 5.19a as a function of the effective high voltage in chamber RE-4-2-BARC-161 measured at GIF with Source ON using different absorber settings: ABS 5 (green), ABS 2 (blue) and ABS 1 (yellow).*

Overall, working at GIF has been a rewarding experience as it offered CMS RPC R&D team the possibility to start developing the necessary skills and tools that would become the core of GIF++ experiment. The quality of the results can be argued both due to the little robustness of the experimental setup and the lack of available statistics to draw conclusions from, bringing large errors on the final result. The confrontation of the data to known results pointed to a failure in correctly measuring the  $\gamma$  rate at working voltage and, hence, to an overestimation of the charge per avalanche and of the drift of working voltage with increasing rate. Nevertheless, the prototypes of DAQ and offline analysis tools proved to be reliable.

### 5.3 Longevity tests at GIF++

#### 5.3.1 Selection and characterization of CMS RPCs for longevity at GIF++

First proposed in 2009 [109], the new Gamma Irradiation Facility of CERN was thought in the perspective of future upgrades of PHC that would bring detectors to be operated in a high irradiation environment. GIF++ would thus provide all LHC R&D teams working on behalf of the different LHC experiment with a facility to perform longevity studies using a very intense Cesium gamma source.

In the specific case of CMS RPC, the longevity studies imply a constant irradiation of selected detectors in order to accumulate a charge equivalent to what is expected during HL-LHC, i.e. a charge of  $0.8 \text{ C}/\text{cm}^2$  according to Figure 5.2 including a safety factor 3, while other detectors are left non irradiated to be used as references. Throughout the irradiation campaign, the performance of the irradiated and reference detectors will be periodically probed using the high intensity H4 muon beam. Dedicated test beam periods will be used to measure the efficiency and  $\gamma$  rate at the level of the detectors with different source absorber settings to have access to the rate capability of CMS RPCs, that needs to be certified above  $600 \text{ Hz}/\text{cm}^2$ , and to identify signs of ageing in the case the performance of the irradiated detectors diverges from those of the reference detectors with increasing accumulated charge. Other than the performance of the detectors, signs of ageing

2859 could come from increasing dark current that would be related to local ageing of the electrodes  
 2860 triggered by the fluoridric acid (*HF*) production in an irradiated environment. *HF* is produced  
 2861 by the decomposition of  $C_2H_2F_4$  molecules during the charge multiplication process and leads to  
 2862 increased dark current and noise in Bakelite RPCs treated with linseed oil. This effect is strongly  
 2863 reinforced by the presence of UV photons [110, 111]. A close monitoring of the current driven by  
 2864 the detectors will then be necessary as well as dedicated periodical electrode resistivity measurement  
 2865 and chromatography measurement on the gas exhaust.

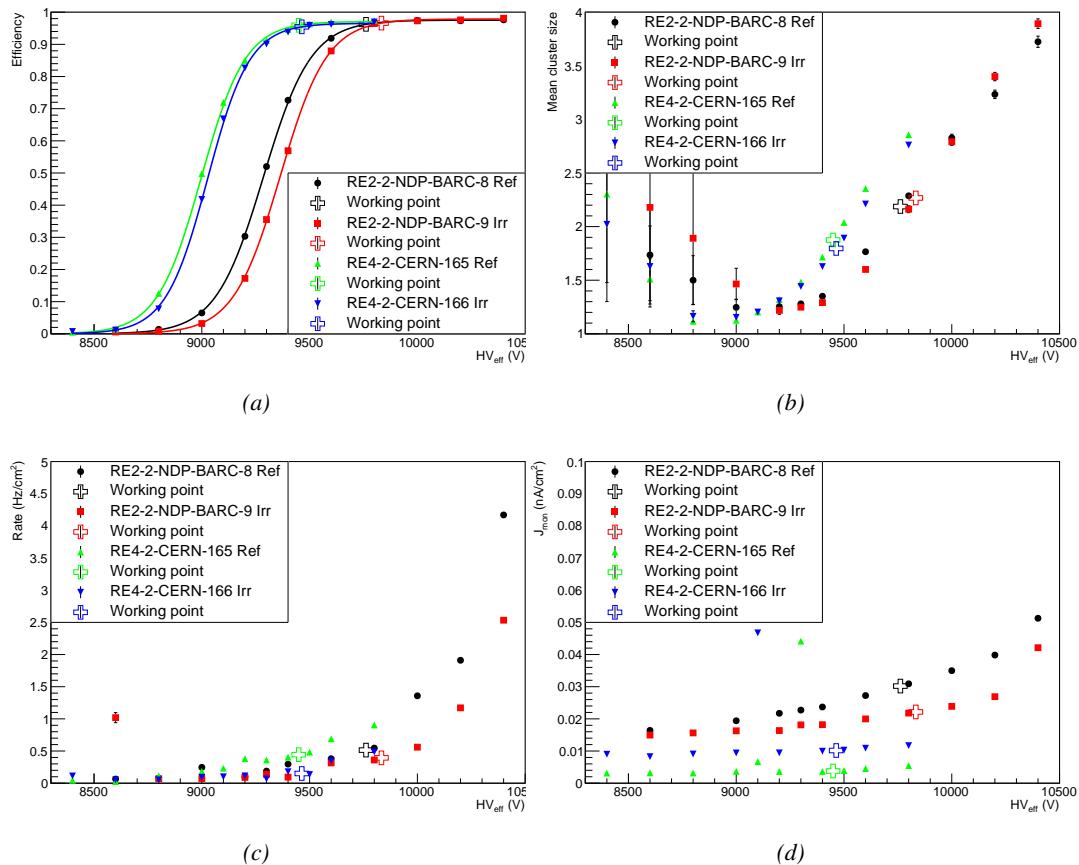


Figure 5.23: Characterization of CMS RPC detectors foreseen to be used at Gif++ for longevity studies of the present system. Using cosmic muons, efficiency (Figure 5.23a) and cluster size (Figure 5.23b) were measured as well as noise rate (Figure 5.23c) and current density (Figure 5.23d). For each detector, the working voltage, defined as in Formula 4.25, was extracted from sigmoid fits performed in Figure 5.23a and the values of efficiency, cluster size, noise rate and current density at this voltage are reported using open crosses.

2866 As the maximum background is found in the endcap, the choice naturally was made to focus  
 2867 the Gif++ longevity studies on endcap chambers. Most of the RPC system was installed in 2007.  
 2868 Nevertheless, the large chambers in the fourth endcap (RE4/2 and RE4/3) have been installed during  
 2869 LS1 in 2014. The Bakelite of these two different productions having different properties, four spare  
 2870 chambers of the present system were selected. From the original CMS RPC system, two RE2/2  
 2871 spares were selected along two RE4/2 spares from the newest detectors. Having two chambers of

2872 each type allows to always keep one of them non irradiated as reference. Due to the limited gas  
 2873 flow in GIF++, the RE4 chamber remained non-irradiated until end of November 2016 where the  
 2874 longevity studies could finally be started on those chambers.

2875 The performance of the chambers prior to the start of the longevity campaign has been char-  
 2876 acterized in Ghent before being shipped to CERN to be installed in GIF++. The results of the  
 2877 characterization are showed in Figure 5.23 and summarized in Table 5.4. A clear difference in per-  
 2878 formance for both types of chambers is observed as the working voltages of the newest chambers,  
 2879 of type RE4, are 300 to 400 V lower to the older chambers indicating that the gap thickness of RE4  
 2880 detectors could be thinner. This conclusion could as well be supported by the lower cluster size at  
 2881 working voltages that also are smaller in RE4 chambers. Even though the measured currents are  
 2882 low, RE4 detectors draw less current without irradiation than RE2 detectors pointing to a difference  
 2883 in electrode resistivity that were produced at different moments. Efficiency and noise rate levels are  
 2884 of the same order of magnitude for both type of RPCs.

RPC	RE2-2-NPD-BARC-08	RE2-2-NPD-BARC-09	RE4-2-CERN-165	RE4-2-CERN-166
Used as	Reference	Irradiation	Reference	Irradiation
$HV_{WP}$ [V]	(9762 $\pm$ 6)	(9833 $\pm$ 6)	(9449 $\pm$ 5)	(9464 $\pm$ 5)
Efficiency at WP	(96.2 $\pm$ 0.3)	(96.6 $\pm$ 0.3)	(95.9 $\pm$ 0.3)	(95.5 $\pm$ 0.3)
Cluster size at WP	(2.19 $\pm$ 0.04)	(2.27 $\pm$ 0.05)	(1.88 $\pm$ 0.04)	(1.80 $\pm$ 0.04)
Noise at WP [Hz/cm <sup>2</sup> ]	(0.51 $\pm$ 0.01)	(0.39 $\pm$ 0.01)	(0.44 $\pm$ 0.00)	(0.15 $\pm$ 0.01)
$J^{WP}$ [pA/cm <sup>2</sup> ]	(30.1 $\pm$ 0.1)	(22.2 $\pm$ 0.1)	(3.8 $\pm$ 0.0)	(10.2 $\pm$ 0.0)

Table 5.4: Summary of the characterization measurement performed in Ghent on CMS RPC detectors foreseen to be used at GIF++ for longevity studies of the present system. For each detector, the working voltage, defined as in Formula 4.25, was extracted from sigmoid fits performed in Figure 5.23a and the values of efficiency, cluster size, noise rate and current density at this voltage are reported.

### 2885 5.3.2 RPC test setup

2886 For an easy manipulation of the detectors, a trolley with a structure containing slots in which the  
 2887 RPCs can be slid vertically and referred to as T1 was used. In this position, each chamber is in a  
 2888 plane perpendicular to the beam line and the source flux as can be seen through Figure 5.24, receiving  
 2889 a uniform irradiation. Moreover the trolley allows for easy movement of the system. Indeed, the  
 2890 position of trolley varies according to the period of the year.

2891 During the dedicated test beam periods during which GIF++ longevity experiments are in control  
 2892 of the muon beam, the trolley is placed in the upstream region of the bunker, in the beam line, as  
 2893 described through Figure 5.24a. The CMS RPC detectors are the ones being further away from the  
 2894 source on this side of the source as other detectors need to be certified at higher background rates. An  
 2895 additional trolley, referred to as T3, containing iRPCs and tracking RPCs is placed in between the  
 2896 source and the trolley containing present CMS RPCs. Indeed, iRPCs need to be certified at higher  
 2897 rates and thus need to be placed closer to the source to receive a stronger irradiation using the same  
 2898 absorber settings. The space on T1 being limited, the tracking RPCs used for extra offline informa-  
 2899 tion during the analysis are placed on the same trolley than iRPCs and are kept at full efficiency at  
 2900 all time to reconstruct muon tracks in correlate them with hits recorded in T1 chambers. The beam  
 2901 trigger system is composed of 2 scintillators placed outside on each side of the bunker and of a third  
 2902 scintillator placed in between T1 and the wall of the bunker along the beam line.

2903 However, most of the year, T1 is placed in the so called *ageing position* corresponding to the

furthest position from the source outside of the beam line, which needs to stay clear during periods where GIF++ doesn't have the control of the beam so that a beam tube can be installed through the bunker, as can be seen in Figure 5.24b. The reason for placing the chambers as far as possible from the source comes from the too high irradiation delivered by the source during the irradiation periods where all the other experiment having placed detectors into the bunker requires to integrate as much charge as possible. Hence, the source is operated with any absorbers. On the contrary, during the test beam periods, all the groups working in GIF++ are interested in operating the source using various absorber settings to study the performance of their detectors under different irradiation conditions. The time spent with a source fully opened and during which the RPCs of T1 are kept at a standby voltage of 6500 V much lower than what necessary to grow avalanches in the gas is then small compared to the time spent with other source settings and during which data can be taken.

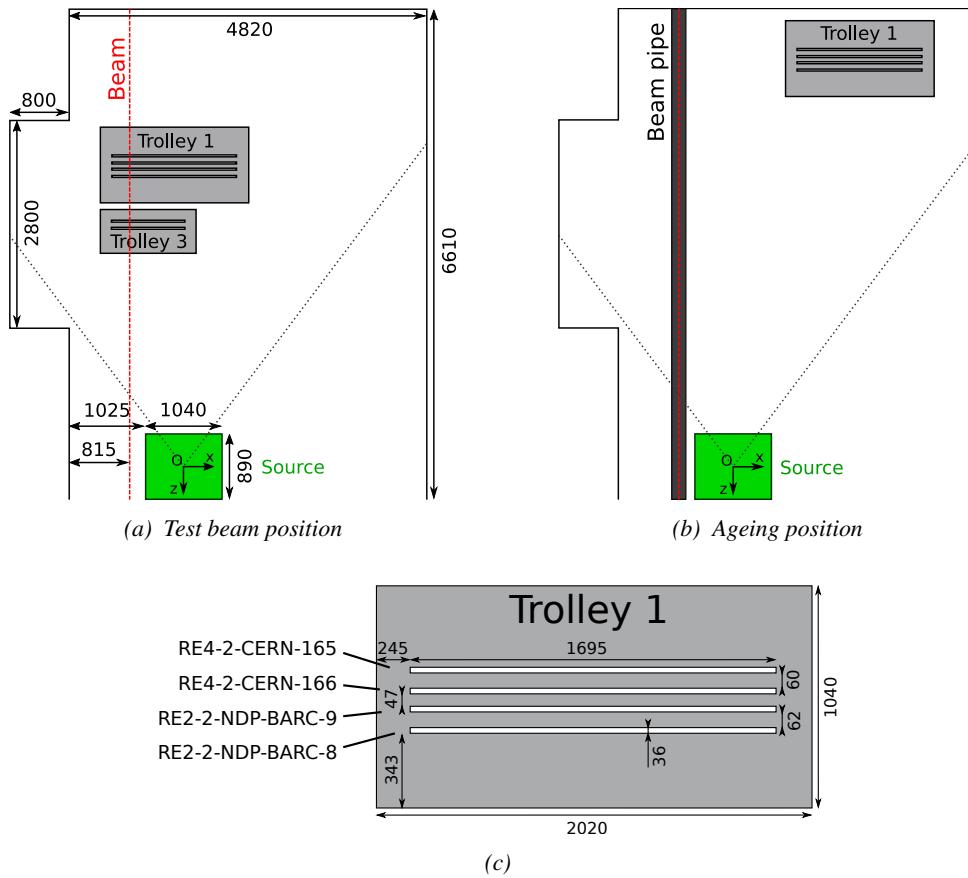


Figure 5.24: CMS RPC setup inside of GIF++ bunker during test beam (Figure 5.24a) and ageing periods (Figure 5.24b). The space in between the RPCs and the source is usually used by other detectors while the space in between T1 and the upstream wall is not filled. Due to the presence of the beam pipe, the trolley is moved away from the beam line during irradiation periods and placed further away from the source for less intense irradiation. The position of the trolley can vary due to the use of the space by other setups and is then not exact. In the contrary, the position of the chambers in the trolley is fixed and given in Figure 5.24c.

From the bunker area, the detectors are connected to the service area, visible in Figure 5.6, through the wooden floor tanks to long cable. The service area hosts all the high and low voltage power

2917 supplies, the TDCs and computers used for data acquisition and preliminary offline analysis used  
 2918 to fill the Detector Control Software (DCS) webpage, referred to as WebDCS, with Data Quality  
 2919 Monitoring (DQM) histograms useful for the shifters on duty in the control room located further in  
 2920 the building, away from the beam lines, as well as the gas system required for the gaseous detectors  
 2921 installed in GIF++ [112]. The detectors read-out is, as in the case of GIF, connected to V1190A  
 2922 VME TDCs communicating with the DAQ computer thanks to a V1718 VME bridge manufactured  
 2923 by CAEN. Moreover, a constant monitoring of all the environmental parameters, in different points  
 2924 of the bunker area, gas parameters, to control its composition, temperature and pressure, and of the  
 2925 voltages and currents delivered by the power supplies is performed and displayed on the homepage  
 2926 of the WebDCS interface.

### 2927 5.3.3 GIF++ data flow

2928 At GIF++, the CMS RPC R&D experiment collects different types of data coming from the detectors  
 2929 monitored parameters, such as voltage and currents, the gas, source, and environmental parameters,  
 2930 and, of course, the TDC data in which are collected the actual muon and gamma physics. These  
 2931 different data source compose 3 different data flows as presented in Figure 5.25.

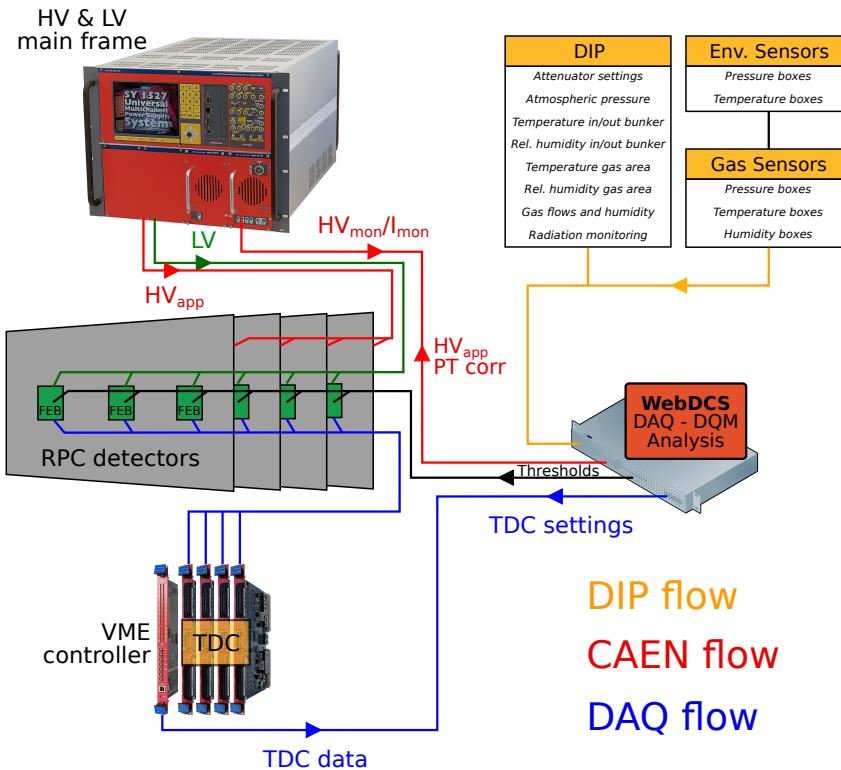


Figure 5.25: Visualtion of the main data flows in GIF++. The yellow flow lines corresponds to the DIP flow used for source, environmental and gas information. The red flow lines are for the CAEN flow through which the WebDCS communicates the voltages to be applied on the detectors using pressure and temperature information and retrieves the monitored voltages and currents. Finally, the blue flow lines corresponds to the DAQ flow through which the RPC data is collected from the TDCs by the computer.

2932 The *DIP flow*, DIP being a communication system allowing for exchange of real-time information  
 2933 between systems, concerns all the data coming from the gas composition, temperature and humidity, the environmental temperature and pressure, the source settings and the radiation monitoring sensors. The experimental area is in charge of measuring, storing and distributing the data  
 2934 of interest for all of the users of the facility (source settings, radiation monitoring, gas composition  
 2935 at the exit of the gas mixer and general environmental information). Retrieving this data is done by  
 2936 accessing to the database of the experimental hall in which GIF++ is located through DIP communica-  
 2937 tion. More specific data such as gas flow, temperature and humidity at the level of the detectors  
 2938 (upstream and downstream of the detectors) as well as environmental parameters are at the charge  
 2939 of the users. For this reason, several pressure, temperature and humidity sensors were installed on  
 2940 the gas distribution system of the RPC trolleys. The corresponding data flow, although not related  
 2941 to DIP itself, is saved together with the DIP data into the local CMS RPC database and displayed  
 2942 on the front page of the WebDCS together with alerts in the case the values measured are out of  
 2943 optimal working range. The data is particularly important to perform the PT correction described in  
 2944 Section 4.4 of Chapter 4 and keep stable the effective voltage of the detectors. Monitoring history  
 2945 plots are made using JavaScript are also displayed for an easy access to past information, as  
 2946 showed in Figure 5.26.  
 2947

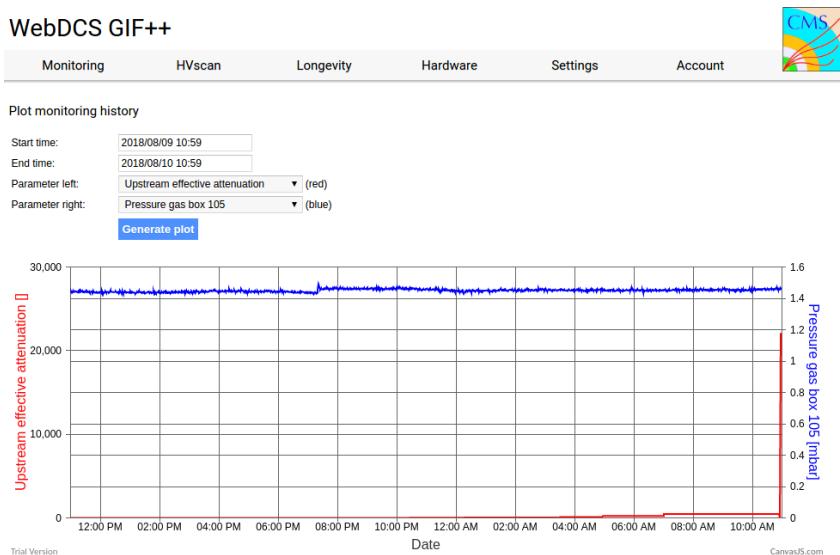


Figure 5.26: *DIP monitoring history accessed through GIF++ WebDCS interface.*

2949 The data flow related to the monitoring of detector high voltages and currents, referred to as  
 2950 *CAEN flow* as a reference to the manufacturer of power supplies, is retrieved thanks to computer  
 2951 to main frame communications. Indeed, during the operations (irradiation or beam period), these  
 2952 values can be accessed directly through the bus of the main frame hosting the high voltage supplies.  
 2953 Finally, the DAQ flow concerns all data acquired through the use of the TDCs, i.e. all the muon or  
 2954 gamma data recorded by the detectors under test at GIF++.

### 2955 5.3.4 Measurements performed during beam periods

2956 As previously described, two types of measurement are performed on the chambers during beam  
 2957 periods. On one hand, it is interesting to measure the efficiency of the RPCs with increasing voltage  
 2958 with different source absorber settings but on the other hand, it is important to correlate the efficiency  
 2959 information to the gamma rate seen by the chambers at the voltages that were scanned for efficiency.  
 2960 The choice was made to separate efficiency measurements from rate measurements to better manage  
 2961 time and data volume. In both cases, TDC data recorded during so called *HV scans* is divided into  
 2962 *runs*, one for each high voltage point, whose data is stored into ROOT files. The TDC settings  
 2963 used during both these scans as well as the ROOT data structure are detailed in Section A.4.2 of  
 2964 Appendix A.

2965 The goal of both efficiency and rate scans is to measure the rate capability of the detectors but  
 2966 also to monitor any degradation of the performance due to ageing. This way, during test beam  
 2967 periods the efficiency and corresponding gamma background are measured to correlate the evolution  
 2968 of rate capability at different stages of irradiation. In the absence of other signs of ageing, a reduction  
 2969 of the rate capability could be related to an increase of the electrodes resistivity.

#### 2970 5.3.4.1 Efficiency scans

2971 The HV scans performed to specifically measure the muon detection efficiency under different ir-  
 2972 radiation conditions follow a standardized procedure. Data using the DAQ is taken at the same 12  
 2973 HV points for all chambers, ranging from 9 kV to 10.1 kV by steps of 100 V. For each HV run, a  
 2974 minimum of 5000 muon beam triggers, provided by the coincidence of the 3 scintillators, is required  
 2975 in order to accumulate enough statistics for a reliable computation of the efficiency of the detectors.  
 2976 In addition to the 4 RPCs held on T1, 2 tracking RPCs installed on T3 are kept at a fixed voltage of  
 2977 9.7 kV to provide the analysis software [113] with beam position information to exclude off-track  
 2978 signals. The tracking RPCs, whose design is based on which of CMS RPCs, are double gap detectors  
 2979 featuring 2 mm HPL electrodes and 2 mm gas gaps. Finally, the monitored currents and voltages are  
 2980 recorded in histograms along the TDC data in a different ROOT file for each run.

2981 HV scans are taken for different source settings as the goal is to irradiate all the detectors with a  
 2982 minimal rate of 600 Hz/cm<sup>2</sup>. Usually, a full study of the performance of the detectors is performed  
 2983 with Source OFF, and then with 9 absorber settings that attenuate the nominal gamma flux by factors  
 2984 from more than 200 to only 3, settings with fully opened source being avoided with RPCs in test  
 2985 beam position. Adjusting the gamma flux is possible thanks to the 3 layers of absorbers featured on  
 2986 the Cesium source [114].

#### 2987 5.3.4.2 Rate scans

2988 These background measurement are performed using a similar HV scan procedure than in the case  
 2989 of efficiency measurements. The HV scan in test beam period will be taken fewer HV points than  
 2990 for the efficiency scans as the region of interest is located around the knee and efficiency plateau  
 2991 of the detectors in order to extract through linear interpolation the value of the rate at the working  
 2992 voltage deduced from the efficiency scan. Thus, these scans are performed only on 6 HV points  
 2993 ranging from 9.5 kV to 10 kV. Rate scans are substantially heavier than efficiency scans. Indeed, a  
 2994 good estimation of the rate requires a long enough integrated time worth of data. The way data is  
 2995 collected, detailed in Appendix A, makes the DAQ search for data stored in the TDC buffers prior to  
 2996 the trigger signal. The time window from which the data is collected ranges in between only 25 ns

2997 to more than  $50\ \mu\text{s}$ . The Cesium source delivering a consistent gamma flux, it was decided than a  
 2998 total integrated time of 0.2 s would be enough to have a reliable calculation of the  $\gamma$  rate. This is  
 2999 achieved by taking 20,000 random trigger pulses delivered by a pulse generator at a frequency of  
 3000 300 Hz while extracting  $10\ \mu\text{s}$  of data from the buffers for each trigger.

3001 Separating rate measurements from efficiency measurement was motivated by the inconsistency  
 3002 of the muon beam provided in GIF++. Using periods without beam to measure rates with a good  
 3003 statistics allows for faster study programs. Moreover, depending on the muon strength that can  
 3004 strongly vary due to users placed upstream of GIF++ and using magnets, the number of muon de-  
 3005 livered per beam spill can make the accumulation of 20,000 events too long for the other users of  
 3006 GIF++. Hence, efficiency scans are performed with lower statistics and the time window from which  
 3007 the data is extracted is strongly reduced (400ns for efficiency scans versus  $10\ \mu\text{s}$  for rate scans) to  
 3008 keep the data size to its bare minimum.

### 3009 5.3.4.3 Offline analysis and Data Quality Monitoring

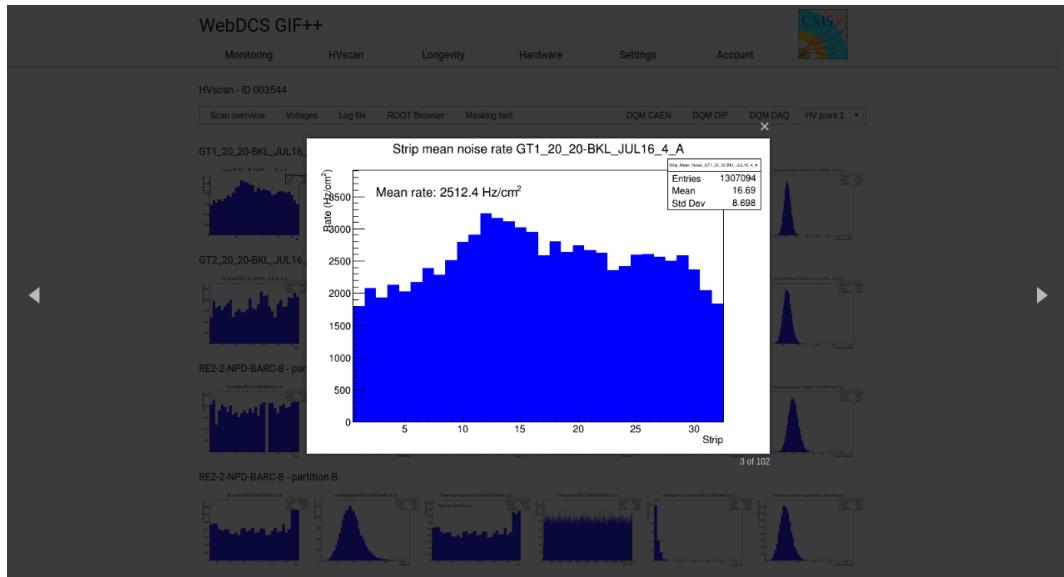
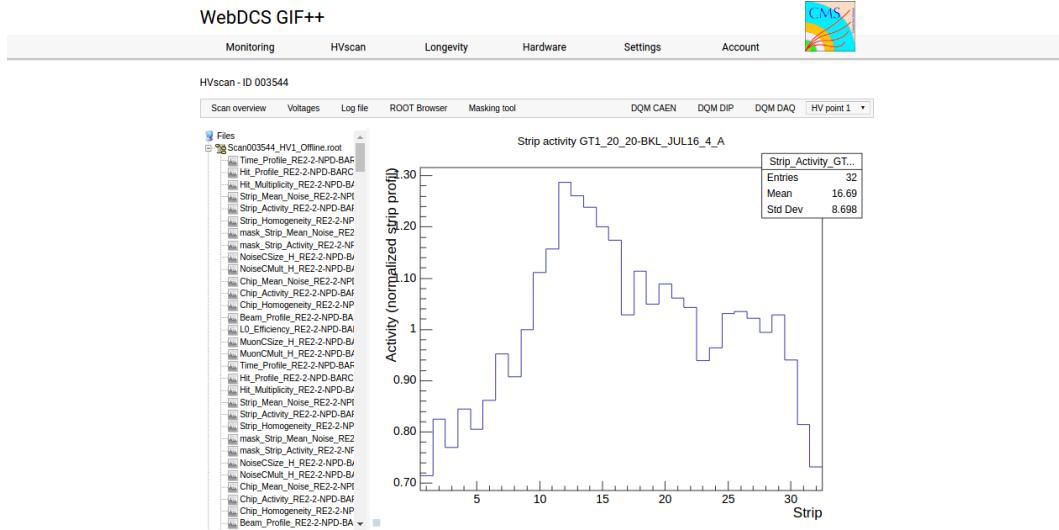


Figure 5.27: Example of DQM page available on CMS WebDCS in GIF++. Here is presented the rate measured in one of the tracking chambers, namely GT1\_20\_20-BKL\_JUL16\_4. The DQM page allows to click on each histogram to extend its view and to navigate through the histograms thanks to the left and right arrows.

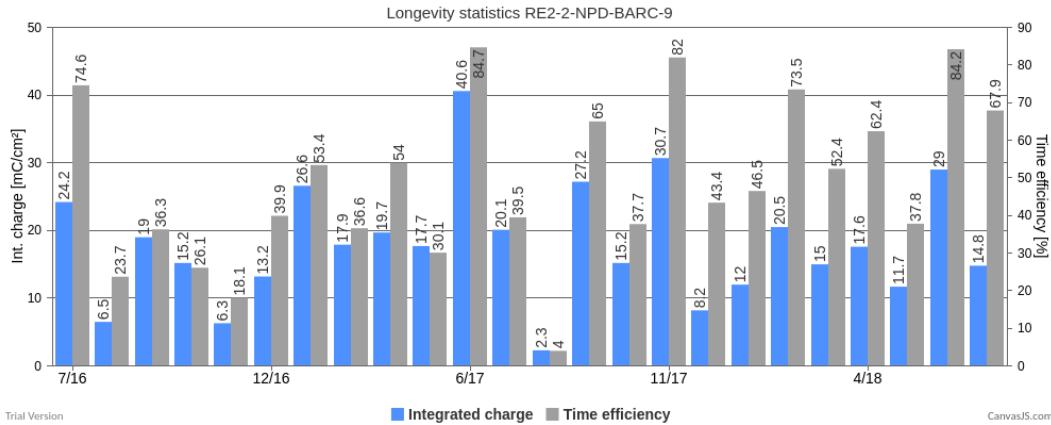
3010 The data recorded during efficiency and rate scans always consist in two ROOT files per run, a run  
 3011 corresponding to a HV point. One of the files corresponds to the TDC data, a collection of hits  
 3012 per active channel on the read-out of the RPCs, while the second is the CAEN main frame data,  
 3013 offering a monitoring of the currents and high voltages. This data is systematically analysed at the  
 3014 end of each scan thanks to the Offline Analysis tool of GIF++, detailed in Appendix B, that produces  
 3015 histograms such as hit, rate and time profiles, hit multiplicities, gamma cluster sizes or multiplicities  
 3016 for the DQM display of the WebDCS, as showed in Figure 5.27. More histograms can be accessed  
 3017 through the ROOT browser included in the WebDCS, as showed in Figure 5.28. Moreover, the  
 3018 analysis performed thanks to the Offline tool is definitive in the case of evaluating the rates from rate

3019 scans. On the contrary, the algorithm for efficiency calculation is kept simple and approximative in  
 3020 the tool as including traking into the analysis requires manual adjustment for each individual scan.



*Figure 5.28: Example of DQM ROOT Browser page available on CMS RPC WebDCS in GIF++. Here is presented the strip activity profile, defined as the rate profile normalized to the mean rate, in one of the tracking chabers, namely GT1\_20\_20-BKL\_JUL16\_4. Available ROOT files and histograms can be browsed thanks to the left panel showing the directory and files structures.*

### 3021 5.3.5 Measurements performed during irradiation periods



*Figure 5.29: Longevity statistics of chamber RE2-2-NPD-BARC-9 in GIF++. For each month since July 2017, the integrated charge (in blue) as well as the time efficiency of irradiation (in gray) is reported.*

3022 Even though test beam periods are stressful times has an extensive data taking planing needs to  
 3023 be finalized in a short amount of time, the biggest amount of data comes from irradiation periods.

Indeed, when T1 is moved back to its ageing position in between each test beam periods, data is recorded at any time the source can be switched ON for irradiation. Indeed, other experiments in the area might prevent the source from staying opened continuously. As an example, the time efficiency of irradiation of CMS RPC detectors in Gif++ is presented in Figure 5.29.

Several types of measurement are performed throughout the irradiation period. Indeed, as long as the detectors are being irradiated, a monitoring of the currents is performed to evaluate the corresponding integrated charge considering the irradiation time. Moreover, the corresponding gamma rates need to be measured on a regular basis. Ageing signs can be understood through an increase of the detector noise correlated with an increased dark current. For this purpose, HV scans are performed to measure the noise with increasing voltage and the dark currents. Another way to highlight ageing is through the loss of rate capability of the detectors. During irradiation periods this can be looked through thanks to HV scans performed at various source settings, which are referred to as *source scans*. The loss in rate capability could be understood by a saturation of the measured at higher gamma flux. This effect could be correlated with an increase of the electrodes resistivity. The resistivity is then measure periodically during the year, generally before or after test beam periods by the use of Argon breakdown technic.

### 5.3.5.1 Longevity scans

The main activity of irradiation periods consist in the *longevity scans* during which the currents of the irradiated chambers is continuously monitored. The two irradiated chambers, RE2-2-NPD-BARC-09 and RE4-2-CERN-166, are both brought to a voltage of 9.8 kV while the source flux can vary depending on the need of experiments using the facility. The currents are recorded on each active gas volume and each gap contribution is then translated into the mean chamber integrated charge as can be seen from Figure 5.30. At the end of each longevity scan the integrated charge accumulated in each chamber is used to update the summary plots providing the collaboration with official results to be spread.

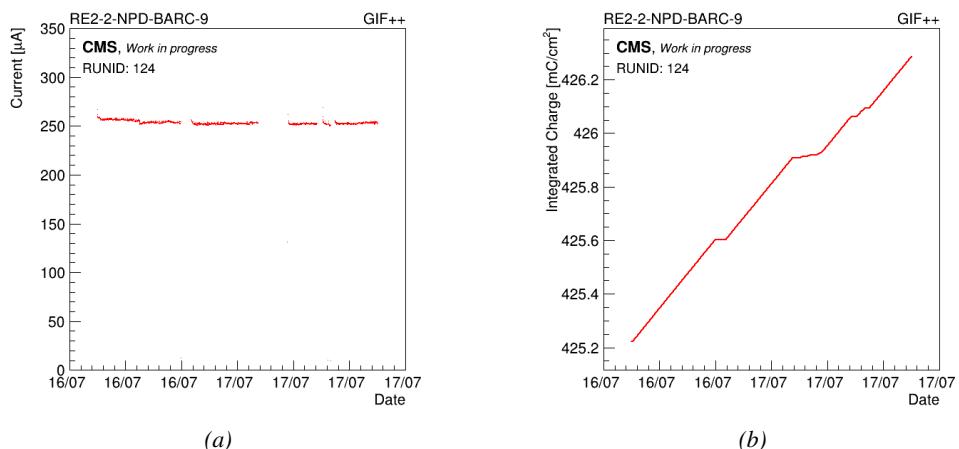


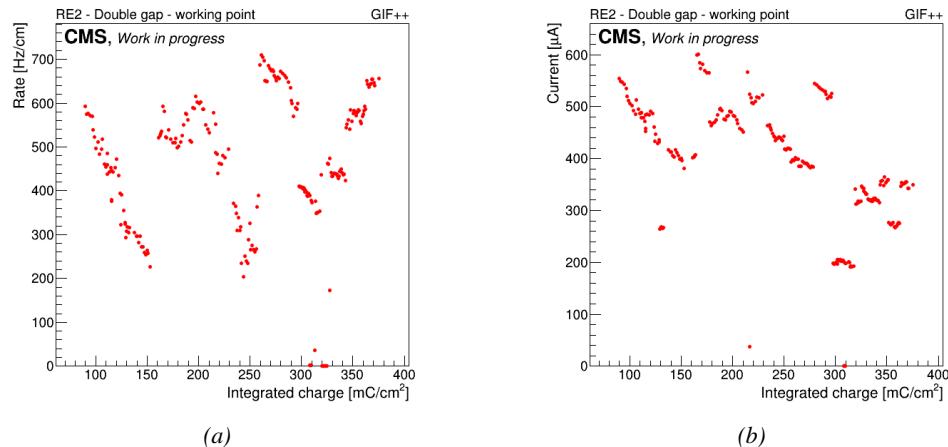
Figure 5.30: Example of current monitoring (Figure 5.30a) and of corresponding integrated charge (Figure 5.30b) of chamber RE2-2-NPD-BARC-09. The decrease of current are related to a decrease of the voltage due to the daily rate scan procedure or to periods during which the source was turned OFF.

3049 **5.3.5.2 Daily rate monitoring scans**

3050 Every night during longevity scans, the DAQ is used to perform *daily rate scans*. These scans aim  
 3051 at keeping track of the gamma rate measured in the irradiated RPCs during longevity but is also  
 3052 measured the noise rate at standby voltage and this, for each gap individually. The procedure for  
 3053 these HV scans consist in 9 runs for which 50,000 random triggers are requested, corresponding to  
 3054 0.5 s of total integrated time.

- 3055 1- All gaps are first left at the irradiation voltage of 9.8 kV to measure the  $\gamma$  rate.  
 3056 2- Then all gaps are brought to the standby voltage of 6.5 kV to measure the noise rate of the full  
 3057 detectors.  
 3058 3- Both top gaps (TW and TN) are brought to a voltage equivalent to an OFF status, i.e. 1 kV so  
 3059 that the noise contribution of only the bottom gap at standby voltage can be measured.  
 3060 4- The bottom gaps are ramped up toward the working voltage of 9.8 kV to measure their contri-  
 3061 bution to the gamma rate estimation.  
 3062 5-8 The steps 3 and 4 are repeated on TN and then on TW, keeping the bottom and the top gap  
 3063 which is not of interest at a voltage of 1 kV. This way, the individual contribution to the noise  
 3064 and gamma rates are known.  
 3065 9- Finally, both TW and TN are brought to working voltage while the bottom gap is left at 1 kV  
 3066 to measure the gamma rate for the full top layer at once.

3067 Finally, the voltages of all gaps are brought back to working voltage for the longevity program  
 3068 to continue until the next daily scan.



3069 *Figure 5.31: Example of rate (Figure 5.31a) and current (Figure 5.31b) monitoring of chamber  
 3070 RE2-2-NPD-BARC-09 with increasing integrated charge. The variations of rate and current are correlated  
 3071 and corresponds to change of source irradiation, gas flow, gas humidity, or environmental conditions.*

3069 Naturally, as this data is taken using Gif++ DAQ, 2 ROOT files containing the DAQ data and  
 3070 CAEN data are created for each runs in the exact same way than for efficiency or rate scans taken  
 3071 during test beam periods but while the currents are still monitored by the longevity scan and saved

3072 into GIFT++ database for an easy evaluation of the currents to the integrated charge. The Offline  
 3073 Analysis tool provides then the DQM page with histograms and daily values can be assembled in  
 3074 long term monitoring plots to study the variations of rate and current with increasing integrated  
 3075 charge, as presented in Figure 5.31. The rates on every single read-out channel is also tracked to  
 3076 control their activity with increasing integrated charge and, this way, understand the appearance of  
 3077 hot spots through noisy channels, as showed in Figure 5.32.

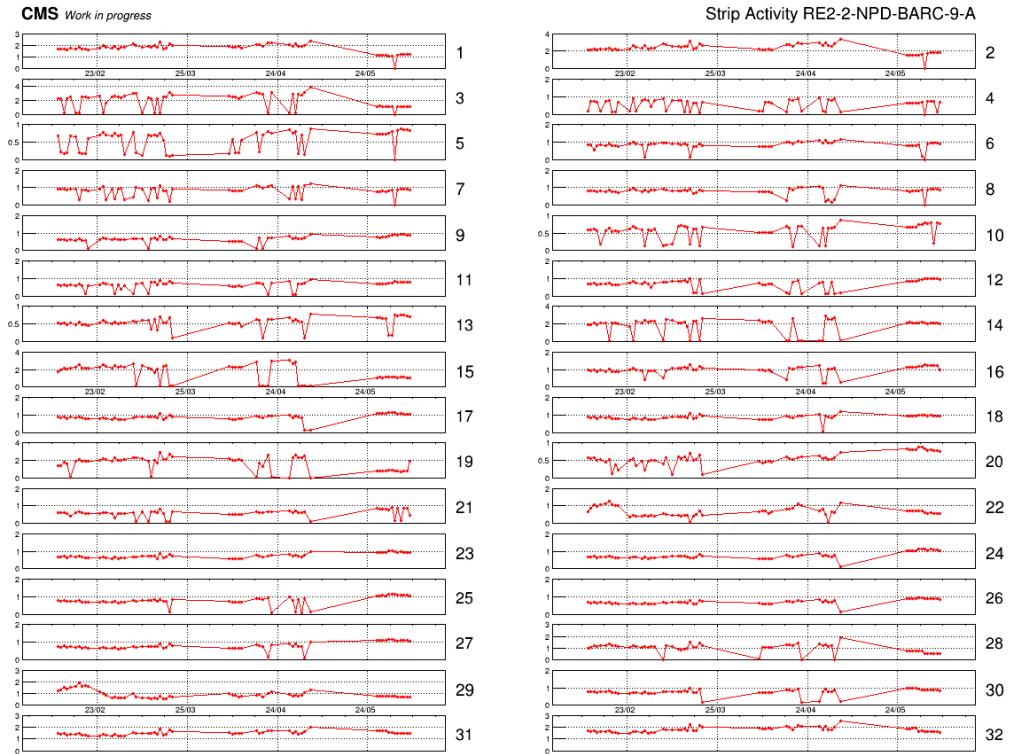


Figure 5.32: Example of strip activity of chamber RE2-2-NPD-BARC-09 monitoring through time. The activity of a strip is defined as the rate of the individual channel normalized to the mean rate measured in the corresponding read-out partition.

### 3078 5.3.5.3 Weekly noise monitoring scans

3079 Once a week, the source is turned OFF for the CMS RPC to make a noise scan, which consist into  
 3080 a HV scan composed of 7 runs and involving both the irradiated but also the reference chambers,  
 3081 providing with a weekly monitoring of the evolution of the irradiated chambers noise and dark  
 3082 current. The first run is taken at standby voltage for all chambers while the next 6 runs are taken  
 3083 with voltages ranging from 9.4 to 9.9 kV in order to have for both type of chambers, RE2 and RE4, a  
 3084 coverage of the noise rate in the voltage region in which the efficiency rises and reaches the plateau.

### 3085 5.3.5.4 Weekly source scans

3086 Directly following the weekly noise scans, HV rate scans are organised at 3 different source settings,  
 3087 usually corresponding to ABS 6.8, 4.6 and 3.3. The procedure of these HV scans is strictly similar to

3088 which of weekly noise scans, involving the four RPCs in order to have a weekly comparison of the  
 3089 values recorded in every chambers. Measuring with all detectors at the same time allows to get rid  
 3090 of potential systematics that might make the rates (noise or gamma) vary from one measurement to  
 3091 another. If such systematic effect occurs, it will be observed in all detectors.

### 3092 **5.3.5.5 Weekly current scans**

3093 The previously detailed daily rate scans, but also the weekly noise and source scans are interesting  
 3094 tools to look at an increase of noise rates and dark currents or at a loss of rate capability and point  
 3095 to an increase of surface resistivity of the electrodes through the absorption of fluoridric acid. Nev-  
 3096 ertheless, periodically measuring the currents on wider high voltage ranges allows to have access  
 3097 to the ohmic part of the current driven by the detectors related to the electrodes resistance. This is  
 3098 why precise current scans, consisting only in measuring the current driven through the 4 detectors,  
 3099 are performed each week. The scan procedure consists in 131 high voltage steps in between 500 V  
 3100 and 10 kV by steps of 100 V until the standby voltage of 6.5 kV is reached and then by steps of  
 3101 50 V. The current increase in between 500 V and the voltage where charge multiplication starts to  
 3102 occur is only driven by the resistance of the detector to current and thus increases linearly. A fit on  
 3103 this linear increase of the currents in the range before charge multiplication occurs gives access to  
 3104 the resistance of the system electrodes/gas. If any variation of the electrode resistance occurs, the  
 3105 global resistance will increase and so will the current. Technically, these scans will record a ROOT  
 3106 file per HV step that will have the same format than the CAEN ROOT file saved during other HV  
 3107 scans and is also analysed using the Offline Analysis tool to provide with DQM histograms as well  
 3108 as standardised  $I/V$  tables.

### 3109 **5.3.5.6 Resistivity measurements**

3110 Aside of the parameters monitored to spot ageing, the resistivity of the HPL planes is measured  
 3111 regularly before or after test beam periods through high voltage scans of the detectors operated  
 3112 with pure Argon. The electric field strength at which Argon breaks down being well known, the  
 3113 breakdown voltage in the detectors is measured and gives an information about the resistance of the  
 3114 electrodes, as above the breakdown voltage Argon turns into a conductive plasma and thus does not  
 3115 offer electric resistance anymore, which then can be used to calculate the resistivity of the electrode  
 3116 material. The Argon line in GIF++ are not kept humid and thus this measurement is not performed  
 3117 too often to make sure the electrodes don't dry out, leading to an increase of the electrode resistivity.

## 3118 **5.3.6 Results and discussions**

3119 Since 2015, CMS RPCs have been irradiated in GIF++ with the goal to reach a total integrated  
 3120 charge per irradiated detector of  $0.84 \text{ C/cm}^2$  while certifying the detectors to a rate capability of  
 3121  $600 \text{ Hz/cm}^2$ . As of today, the RE2 and RE4 chambers respectively achieved 51 and 26% of the  
 3122 total irradiation program. A few years of irradiation are expected before reaching the end of the  
 3123 longevity study and a final answer on whether the detector will be able to live through HL-LHC or  
 3124 not. A negative answer to this question would probably lead to solutions to replace the detectors  
 3125 before HL-LHC or to improve the shielding of these detectors against background radiation in CMS  
 3126 cavern, which could be a more sustainable solution.

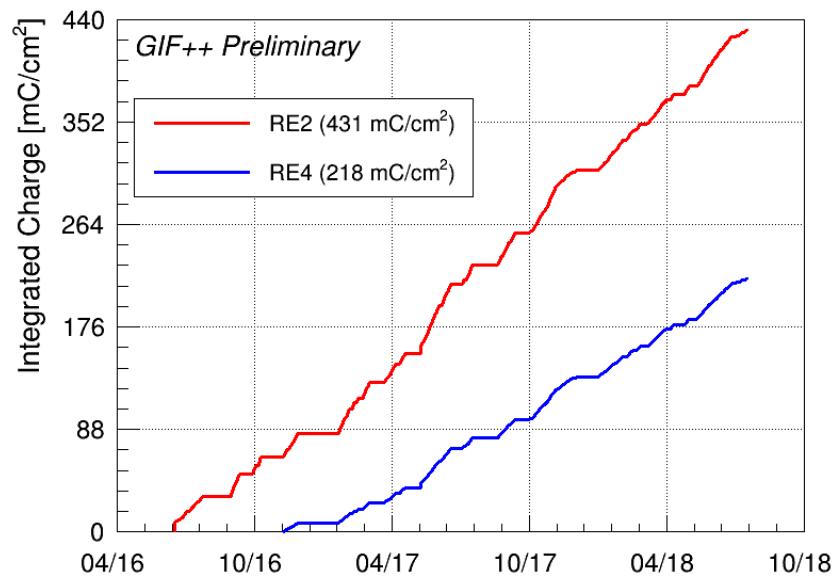


Figure 5.33: Total integrated charge in the irradiated RPCs, RE2–2–NPD–BARC–9 and RE4–2–CERN–165, before starting August 2018 test beam period. The irradiation of the RE2 chamber started in June 2016 while the RE4 chamber couldn't be irradiated before November 2016.



# 6

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3129

## Improved RPC investigation and preliminary electronics studies

3130 The extension in the endcap of the RPC sub-system towards higher pseudo-rapidity will bring the  
3131 new detectors to be exposed to much more intense background radiations due to the proximity of  
3132 the detectors with the beam line. The challenge will be to produce high counting rate detectors  
3133 with limited ageing rate to ensure a stable operation of the detector over a period longer than 10  
3134 years. In Chapter 4 was discussed the influence of the detector design (number and thickness of  
3135 gas volumes, OR system, etc...) on the charge deposition and rate capability. Nevertheless, this  
3136 question can also be addressed from the electronics point of view as a better signal to noise ratio  
3137 would also mean the possibility to greatly lower the charge threshold on the signals to be detected,  
3138 allowing to use the detector at lower gain, hence lowering the charge deposition per avalanche in the  
3139 gas volume. Cardarelli showed that the production of low-noise fast FEE could help decreasing the  
3140 charge deposition per avalanche at working voltage by an order of magnitude virtually increasing  
3141 the life expectancy of such a detector in the same way [115].

### 3142 **6.1 Extension of the RPC endcap**

### 3143 **6.2 FEE candidate for the production of iRPCs**

3144 In the context of the CMS Muon Upgrade, two Front-End Electronics (FEE)s solutions have been  
3145 considered to equip the new improved RPC (iRPC)s that are to be added on CMS endcaps. The  
3146 baseline for the RPC upgrade is based on the PETIROC ASIC, initially for Time-of-flight (ToF)  
3147 applications. A back-up solution is also under study and focusses on a new low-noise preamplifier  
3148 designed in INFN laboratories in Rome to replace the preamplification stage of the already existing  
3149 CMS RPC Front-End Board (FEB).

3150 The FEEs that are foreseen to equip the new RPCs need to be able to detect charges as small as  
3151 10 fC. Not only the new electronics need to be fast and reliable, they also should be able to sustain

3152 the high radiation the detectors will be subjected to in the region closest to the beam.

### 3153 6.2.1 CMS RPCROC: the RPC upgrade baseline

3154 Designed by Weeroc, a spin-off company from the french OMEGA laboratory, the PETIROC 2A  
 3155 consists in a fast and low jitter 32-channel ASIC originally developed to read-out Silicon Photomul-  
 3156 tiplier (SiPM) in ToF applications and that allows for precise time measurements [116, 117]. The  
 3157 ASIC uses an AMS 350 ns SiGe technology. The block diagram of the ASIC is showed on Fig-  
 3158 ure 6.1. A 10-bit DAC allows to adjust the trigger level in a dynamical range spanning from 0.5 to  
 3159 a few tens of photoelectrons and a 6-bit DAC to adjust the response of each individual channel to  
 3160 similar a level.

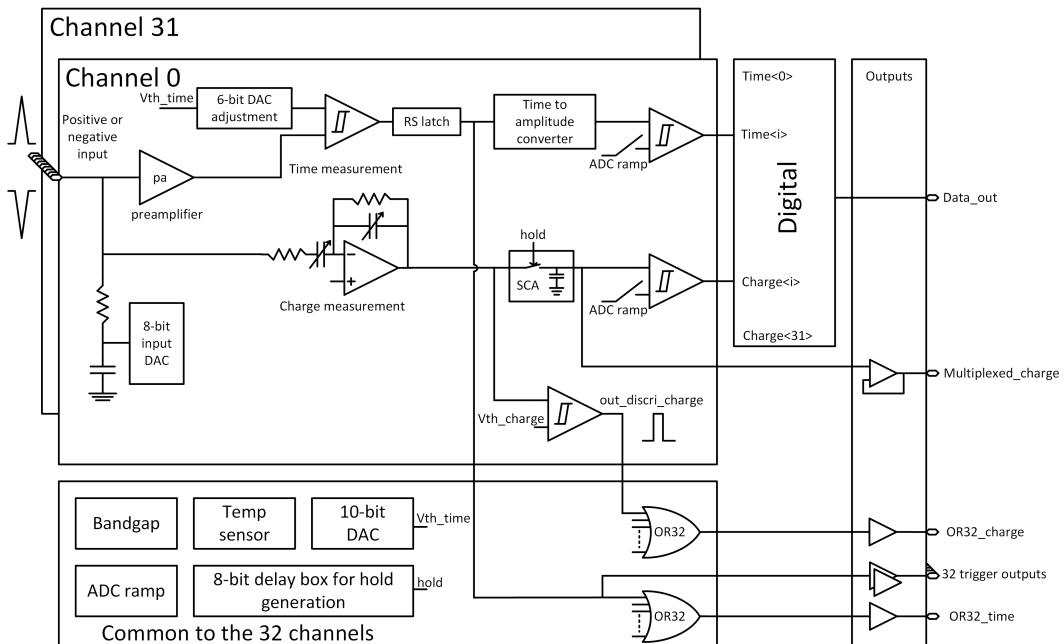


Figure 6.1: PETIROC 2A block diagram.

3161 Nevertheless, in order to adapt this ASIC to CMS, modifications were brought to the PETIROC [32].  
 3162 In the new CMS RPCROC, the measurement of the charge will be performed by a TimeOverTech-  
 3163 nique, taking profit of the capacity the ASIC has in measuring both the leading and trailing edges of the  
 3164 input signals. The dynamic range will be expanded towards lower values to allow for the detection  
 3165 of charges as low as 10 fC. Due to the radiation levels that are foreseen at the level of the iRPCs, the  
 3166 SiGe technology will be replaced by the Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company (TSMC)  
 3167 130 nm CMOS, to increase its radiation hardness. Finally, the number of channels will be increased  
 3168 to 64.

3169 on which the original SiGe technology will be replaced by CMOS to increase its radiation hard-  
 3170 ness while keeping fast pre-amplification and discrimination with a very low jitter that can reach less  
 3171 than 20 ps if no internal clock is used, as can be seen from Figure 6.2. The ASIC is associated with  
 3172 an FPGA which purpose is to measure time thanks to a TDC with a time resolution of 50-100 ps  
 3173 developed by Tsinghua University and that will provide a measurement of the signal position along

3174 the strip with a precision of a few cm by measuring the signal timing on both ends of the strips.  
 3175 In order to read-out all 96 strips, 3 ASICs and 3 TDCs, each having 64 channels, are hosted on a  
 3176 front-end board attached to the chamber.

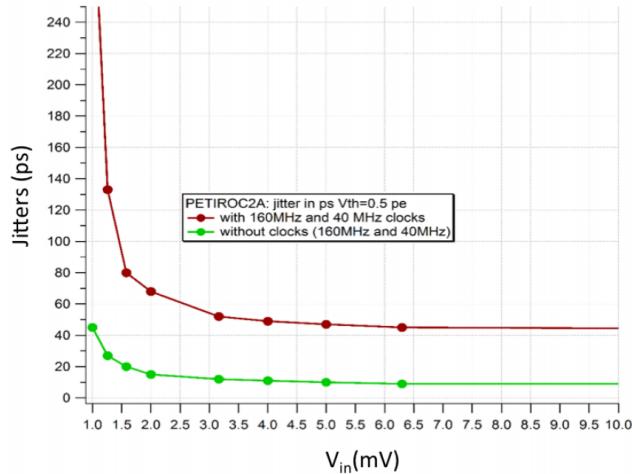


Figure 6.2: The PETIROC time jitter as a function of the input signal amplitude, measured with and without internal clocks.

### 3177 6.2.2 INFN Front-End Electronics: a robust back-up solution

### 3178 6.3 Preliminary tests at CERN

### 3179 6.4 Test



# 7

3180

3181

## Conclusions and outlooks

3182 **7.1 Conclusions**

3183 **7.2 Outlooks**



# A

3184

3185

## A data acquisition software for CAEN VME TDCs

3186

3187 Certifying detectors in the perspective of HL-LHC required to develop tools for the GIF++ expe-  
3188 riment. Among them was the C++ Data Acquisition (DAQ) software that allows to make the commu-  
3189 nications in between a computer and TDC modules in order to retrieve the RPC data [118]. In this  
3190 appendix, details about this software, as of how the software was written, how it functions and how  
3191 it can be exported to another similar setup, will be given.

### 3192 A.1 GIF++ DAQ file tree

3193 GIF++ DAQ source code is fully available on github at [https://github.com/afagot/GIF\\_](https://github.com/afagot/GIF_DAQ)  
3194 DAQ. The software requires 3 non-optional dependencies:

- 3195 • CAEN USB Driver, to mount the VME hardware,
- 3196 • CAEN VME Library, to communicate with the VME hardware, and
- 3197 • ROOT, to organize the collected data into a TTree.

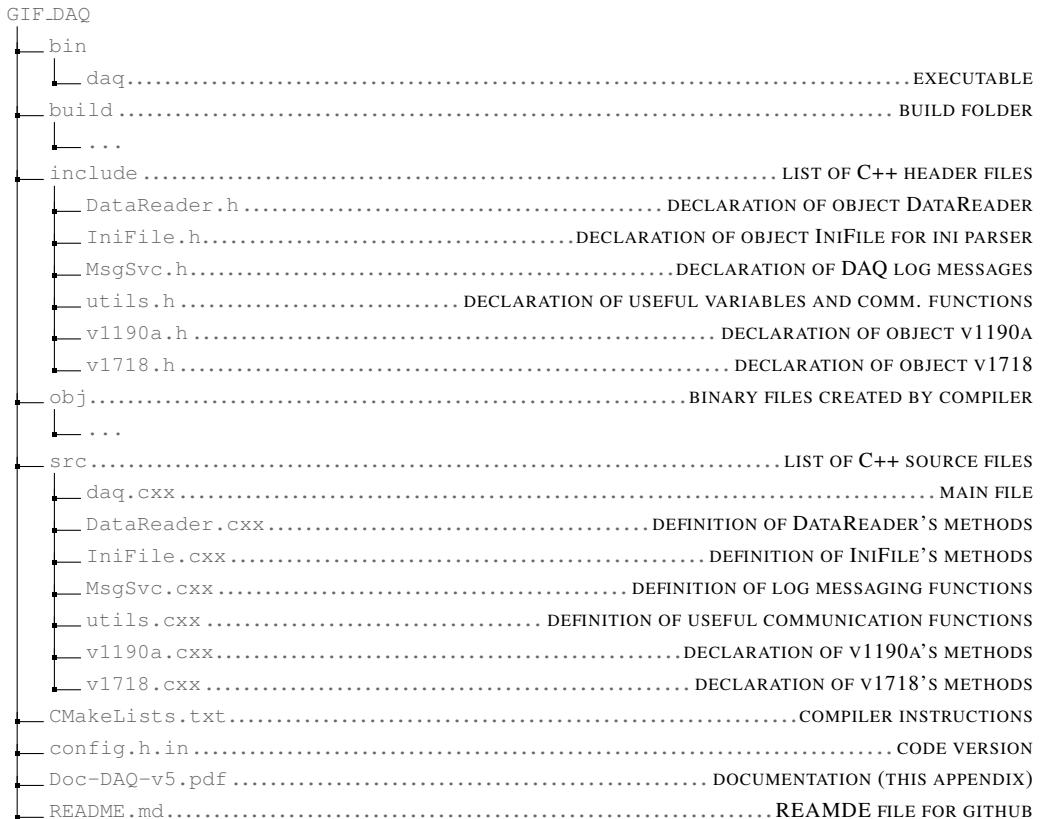
3198 The CAEN VME library will not be packaged by distributions and will need to be installed man-  
3199 ually. To compile the GIF++ DAQ project via a terminal, from the DAQ folder use the command:

```
3200 mkdir build  
3201 cd build  
3202 cmake ..  
3203 make install
```

3202 The source code tree is provided below along with comments to give an overview of the files' con-  
3203 tent. The different objects created for this project (`v1718`, `v1190a`, `IniFile` & `DataReader`) will be

3204 described in details in the following sections.

3205



3206

## A.2 Usage of the DAQ

3207 GIF++ DAQ, as used in GIF++, is not a standalone software. Indeed, the system being more com-  
 3208 plexe, the DAQ only is a sub-layer of the software architecture developped to control and monitor  
 3209 the RPCs that are placed into the bunker for performance study in an irradiated environment. The top  
 3210 layer of GIF++ is a Web Detector Control System (webDCS) application. The DAQ is only called  
 3211 by the webDCS when data needs to be acquired. The webDCS operates the DAQ through command  
 3212 line. To start the DAQ, the webDCS calls:

3213

3214    bin/daq /path/to/the/log/file/in/the/output/data/folder

3215 where /path/to/the/log/file/in/the/output/data/folder is the only argument required. This  
 3216 log file is important for the webDCS as this file contains all the content of the communication of the  
 3217 webDCS and the different systems monitored by the webDCS. Its content is constantly displayed  
 3218 during data taking for the users to be able to follow the operations. The communication messages  
 3219 are normally sent to the webDCS log file via the functions declared in file `MsgSvc.h`, typically  
 3220 `MSG_INFO(string message)`.

3221

### A.3 Description of the readout setup

The CMS RPC setup at GIF++ counts 5 V1190A Time-to-Digital Converter (TDC) manufactured by CAEN [104]. V1190A are VME units accepting 128 independent Multi-Hit/Multi-Event TDC channels whose signals are treated by 4 100 ps high performance TDC chips developed by CERN / ECP-MIC Division. The communication between the computer and the TDCs to transfer data is done via a V1718 VME master module also manufactured by CAEN and operated from a USB port [105]. These VME modules are all hosted into a 6U VME 6021 powered crate manufactured by W-Ie-Ne-R than can accommodate up to 21 VME bus cards [119]. These 3 components of the DAQ setup are shown in Figure A.1.

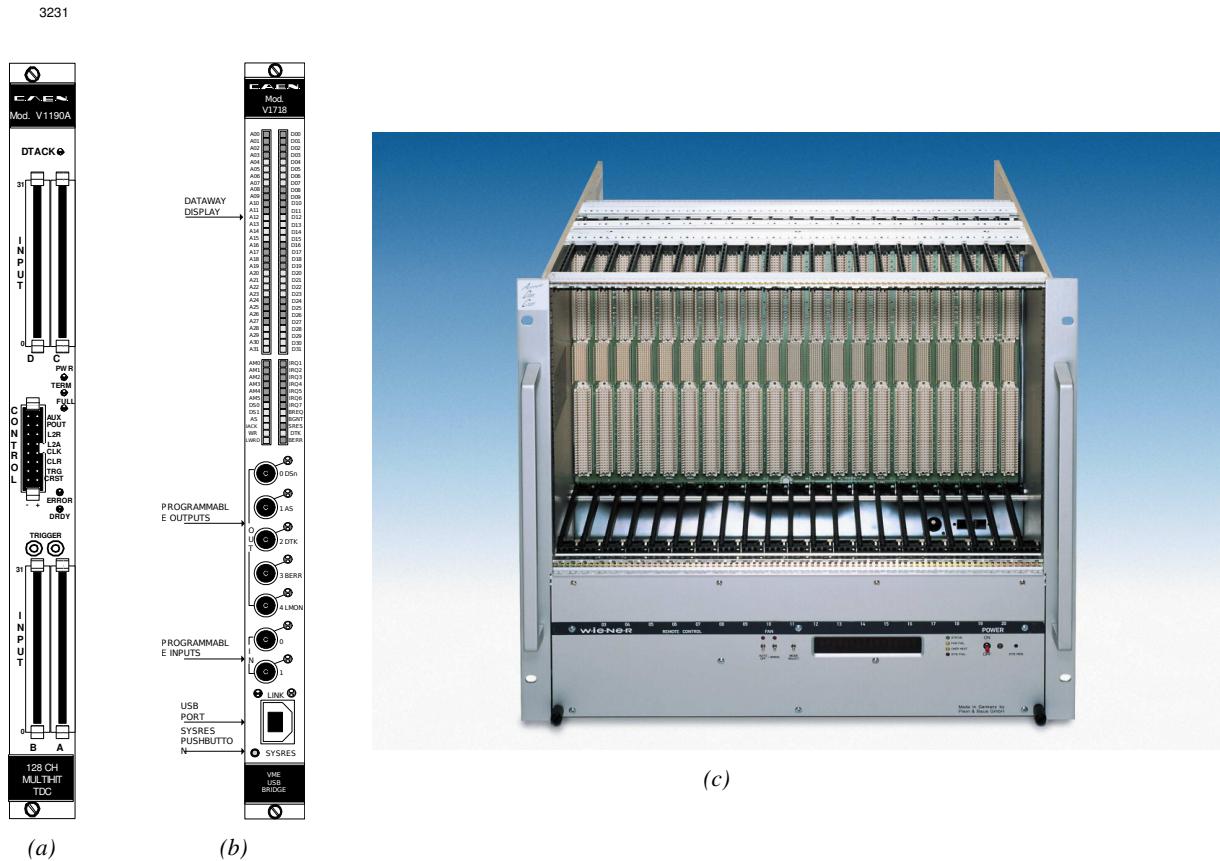


Figure A.1: (A.1a) View of the front panel of a V1190A TDC module [104]. (A.1b) View of the front panel of a V1718 Bridge module [105]. (A.1c) View of the front panel of a 6U 6021 VME crate [119].

### A.4 Data read-out

To efficiently perform a data readout algorithm, C++ objects to handle the VME modules (TDCs and VME bridge) have been created along with objects to store data and read the configuration file that comes as an input of the DAQ software.

### A.4.1 V1190A TDCs

The DAQ used at GIF takes profit of the *Trigger Matching Mode* offered by V1190A modules. This setting is enabled through the method `v1190a::SetTrigMatching (int ntdcs)` where `ntdcs` is the total number of TDCs in the setup this setting needs to be enabled for (Source Code A.1). A trigger matching is performed in between a trigger time tag, a trigger signal sent into the TRIGGER input of the TDC visible on Figure A.1a, and the channel time measurements, signals recorded from the detectors under test in our case. Control over this data acquisition mode, explained through Figure A.2, is offered via 4 programmable parameters:

- **match window:** the matching between a trigger and a hit is done within a programmable time window. This is set via the method  
`void v1190a::SetTrigWindowWidth(Uint windowHeight, int ntdcs)`
- **window offset:** temporal distance between the trigger tag and the start of the trigger matching window. This is set via the method  
`void v1190a::SetTrigWindowWidth(Uint windowHeight, int ntdcs)`
- **extra search margin:** an extended time window is used to ensure that all matching hits are found. This is set via the method  
`void v1190a::SetTrigSearchMargin(Uint searchMargin, int ntdcs)`
- **reject margin:** older hits are automatically rejected to prevent buffer overflows and to speed up the search time. This is set via the method  
`void v1190a::SetTrigRejectionMargin(Uint rejectMargin, int ntdcs)`

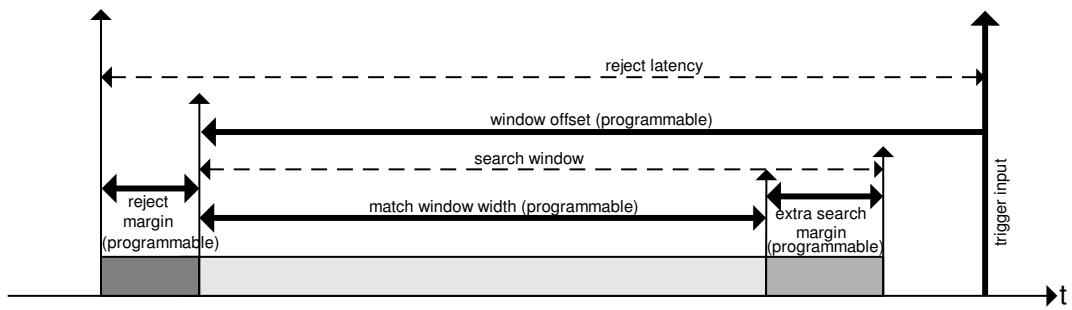


Figure A.2: Module V1190A Trigger Matching Mode timing diagram [104].

Each of these 4 parameters are given in number of clocks, 1 clock being 25 ns long. It is easy to understand at this level that there are 3 possible functioning settings:

- **1:** the match window is entirely contained after the trigger signal,
- **2:** the match window overlaps the trigger signal, or
- **3:** the match window is entirely contained before the trigger signal as displayed on Figure A.2.

In both the first and second cases, the sum of the window width and of the offset can be set to a maximum of 40 clocks, which corresponds to 1  $\mu$ s. Evidently, the offset can be negative, allowing

3264 for a longer match window, with the constraint of having the window ending at most 1  $\mu$ s after the  
3265 trigger signal. In the third case, the maximum negative offset allowed is of 2048 clocks (12 bit) cor-  
3266 responding to 51.2  $\mu$ s, the match window being strictly smaller than the offset. In the case of GIF++,  
3267 the choice has been made to use this last setting by delaying the trigger signal. During the studies  
3268 performed in GIF++, both the efficiency of the RPCs, probed using a muon beam, and the noise or  
3269 gamma background rate are monitored. The extra search and reject margins are left unused.

3270 To probe the efficiency of RPC detectors, the trigger time tag is provided by the coïncidence of  
3271 scintillators when a bunch of muons passes through GIF++ area is used to trigger the data acquisi-  
3272 tion. For this measurement, it is useful to reduce the match window width only to contain the muon  
3273 information. Indeed, the delay in between a trigger signal and the detection of the corresponding  
3274 muon in the RPC being very contant (typically a few tens of ns due to jitter and cable length), the  
3275 muon signals are very localised in time. Thus, due to a delay of approximalety 325 ns in between  
3276 the muons and the trigger, the settings were chosen to have a window width of 24 clocks (600 ns)  
3277 centered on the muon peak thanks to a negative offset of 29 clocks (725 ns).

3278 On the otherhand, monitoring the rates don't require for the DAQ to look at a specific time window.  
3279 It is important to integrate enough time to have a robust measurement of the rate as the number of  
3280 hits per time unit. The triggering signal is provided by the pulse generator integrated into the com-  
3281 munication module V1718 at a frequency of 100 Hz to ensure that the data taking occurs in a random  
3282 way, uncorrelated with beam physics, to probe only the irradiation spectrum on the detectors. The  
3283 match window is set to 400 clocks (10  $\mu$ s) and the negative offset to 401 clocks as it needs to exceed  
3284 the value of the match window.

3285

3286 The v1190a object, defined in the DAQ software as in Source Code A.1, offers the possil-  
3287 ity to store all TDCs in the readout setup into a single object containing a list of hardware ad-  
3288 dresses (addresses to access the TDCs' buffer through the VME crate) and each constructor and  
3289 method acts on the list of TDCs to set the different acquisition parameters as describe above.  
3290 The type of trigger matching is chosen with `v1190a::SetTrigMatching()` and the time substrac-  
3291 tion, used to have a time measurement referring to the beggining of the time window, is set by  
3292 `v1190a::SetTrigTimeSubtraction()`. Then, the wiwdow width and offset are respectively set  
3293 thanks to `v1190a::SetTrigWindowWidth()` and `v1190a::SetTrigWindowOffset()`. The rejection  
3294 and extra search margin, even if left unused and hence set to a default value of 0, can be set through  
3295 `v1190a::SetTrigRejectionMargin()` and `v1190a::SetTrigSearchMargin()`. These methods are  
3296 then called in `v1190a::SetTrigConfiguration()` that uses the information contained in the config-  
3297 uration file `IniFile *iniFile` to set the different TDC parameters. A thorough explaination of the  
3298 content of the configuration file is provided in Section A.5.2.

3299

3300 Among the other methods of class `v1190a` can be found a set of the detection mode (`v1190a::SetTDC`  
3301 `DetectionMode()`), of the TDC time resolution (`v1190a::SetTDCResolution()`), of the dead time  
3302 in between two consecutive signals recorded into a single channel (`v1190a::SetTDCDeadTime()`) or  
3303 of the maximal number of signals that can be recorded per event (`v1190a::SetTDCEventSize()`). To  
3304 help with setting these parameters, `enum` were used (`EdgeMode`, `Resolution`, `DeadTime` and `HitMax`  
3305 are defined in `include/v1190a.h`).

```

3306
class v1190a
{
private :
    long             Handle;
    vector<Data32>   Address;
    CVDataWidth      DataWidth;
    CVAddressModifier AddressModifier;

public:
    v1190a(long handle, IniFile *inifile, int ntdcs);
    ~v1190a();
    Data16 write_op_reg(Data32 address, int code, string error);
    Data16 read_op_reg(Data32 address, string error);
    void Reset(int ntdcs);
    void Clear(int ntdcs);
    void TestWR(Data16 value,int ntdcs);
    void CheckTDCStatus(int ntdcs);
    void CheckCommunication(int ntdcs);
    void SetTDCTestMode(Data16 mode,int ntdcs);
    void SetTrigMatching(int ntdcs);
    void SetTrigTimeSubtraction(Data16 mode,int ntdcs);
    void SetTrigWindowWidth(Uint windowHeight,int ntdcs);
    void SetTrigWindowOffset(Uint windowOffset,int ntdcs);
    void SetTrigSearchMargin(Uint searchMargin,int ntdcs);
    void SetTrigRejectionMargin(Uint rejectMargin,int ntdcs);
    void GetTrigConfiguration(int ntdcs);
    void SetTrigConfiguration(IniFile *inifile,int ntdcs);
    void SetTDCDetectionMode(Data16 mode,int ntdcs);
    void SetTDCResolution(Data16 lsb,int ntdcs);
    void SetTDCDeadTime(Data16 time,int ntdcs);
    void SetTDCHeadTrailer(Data16 mode,int ntdcs);
    void SetTDCEventSize(Data16 size,int ntdcs);
    void SwitchChannels(IniFile *inifile,int ntdcs);
    void SetIRQ(Data32 level, Data32 count,int ntdcs);
    void SetBlockTransferMode(Data16 mode,int ntdcs);
    void Set(IniFile *inifile,int ntdcs);
    void CheckStatus(CVErrorCodes status) const;
    int ReadBlockD32(Uint tdc, const Data16 address,
                     Data32 *data, const Uint words, bool ignore_berr);
    Uint Read(RAWData *DataList,int ntdcs);
};

3307

```

3308       *Source Code A.1: Description of C++ object v1190a.*

3309       The detection mode corresponds to the type of edge detection the TDC will be using to  
 3310       record the data. The TDCs can record the time stamp of the leading edge alone, of the trailing edge  
 3311       alone, of both or they can operate in pair mode, meaning that the leading edge is recorded together  
 3312       with the time difference in between leading and trailing edges. This last mode is not very practical  
 3313       for the case of GIFT++ measurements as the information is coded into a single words in the TDC's  
 3314       buffer, putting strong constraints on the time window and duration of the input signals. Indeed,  
 3315       when recording the edges individually (single edge or both edges), a 32-bit word, of which 18 are  
 3316       used to provide the time information alone, is stored into memory for each signal edge. With the  
 3317       pair mode, instead of having one 32-bit word per edge, only a single 32-bit word is written of which  
 3318       12 are used for the leading edge time information and 6 for the width of the pulse, as described on  
 3319       p73 of reference [104]. This way, even though the pair mode is convenient to use as it automatically

3320 correlates a leading edge with the corresponding signal width in a single word, it is advised to be  
 3321 careful when using it and to be aware of the extra time constraints (for both leading time and signal  
 3322 width) that will come for choosing this setting. If it is necessary to work with large input signals,  
 3323 the mode recording both edges will be preferred to the pair mode and the association of a leading  
 3324 and trailing edges pair will then be performed offline by the user. Then, the time resolution is to be  
 3325 chosen in a range from 100 to 800 ps, the dead time in a range from 5 to 100 ns, and the maximal  
 3326 number of hits per event in a range from 0 to 128 with the possibility to choose to have no limits.

#### 3327 A.4.2 DataReader

3328 Enabled thanks to `v1190a::SetBlockTransferMode()`, the data transfer is done via Block Transfer  
 3329 (BLT). Using BLT allows to transfer a fixed number of events called a *block*. This is used together  
 3330 with an Almost Full Level (AFL) of the TDCs' output buffers, defined through `v1190a::SetIRQ()`.  
 3331 This AFL gives the maximum amount of 32735 words (16 bits, corresponding to the depth of a TDC  
 3332 output buffer) that can be written in a buffer before an Interrupt Request (IRQ) is generated and seen by  
 3333 the VME Bridge V1718, which sends a `BUSY` signal intended to stopping the data acquisition during  
 3334 the transfer of the content of each TDC buffers before resuming. For each trigger, 6 words or more  
 3335 are written into the TDC buffer:

- 3336 • **a global header** providing information of the event number since the beginning of the data  
 3337 acquisition,
- 3338 • **a TDC header** which is enabled thanks to `v1190a::SetTDCHeadTrailer()`,
- 3339 • **the TDC data (if any)**, 1 for each hit recorded during the event, providing the channel and the  
 3340 time stamp associated to the hit,
- 3341 • **a TDC error** providing error flags,
- 3342 • **a TDC trailer** which is enabled thanks to `v1190a::SetTDCHeadTrailer()`,
- 3343 • **a global trigger time tag** that provides the absolute trigger time relatively to the last reset,  
 3344 and
- 3345 • **a global trailer** providing the total word count in the event.

3346 CMS RPC FEEs provide with 100 ns long LVDS output signals that are injected into the TDCs'  
 3347 input. Any avalanche signal that gives a signal above the FEEs threshold is thus recorded by the  
 3348 TDCs as a hit within the match window. Each hit is assigned to a specific TDC channel with a time  
 3349 stamp, with a precision of 100 ps. The reference time,  $t_0 = 0$ , is provided by the beginning of the  
 3350 match window. Thus for each trigger, coming from a scintillator coincidence or the pulse generator,  
 3351 a list of hits is stored into the TDCs' buffers and will then be transferred into a ROOT Tree.

3352 When the BLT is used, it is easy to understand that the maximum number of words that have been set  
 3353 as AFL will not be a finite number of events or, at least, the number of events that would be recorded  
 3354 into the TDC buffers will not be a multiple of the block size. In the last BLT cycle to transfer data,  
 3355 the number of events to transfer will most probably be lower than the block size. In that case, the  
 3356 TDC can add fillers at the end of the block but this option requires to send more data to the computer  
 3357 and is thus a little slower. Another solution is to finish the transfer after the last event by sending a  
 3358 bus error that states that the BLT reached the last event in the pile. This method has been chosen in

3359   GIF++.

3360   Due to irradiation, an event in GIF++ can count up to 300 words per TDC. A limit of 4096 words  
 3361   (12 bits) has been set to generate IRQ which represent from 14 to almost 700 events depending on  
 3362   the average of hits collected per event. Then the block size has been set to 100 events with enabled  
 3363   bus errors. When an AFL is reached for one of the TDCs, the VME bridge stops the acquisition by  
 3364   sending a BUSY signal.

3365

3366   The data is then transferred one TDC at a time into a structure called `RAWData` (Source Code A.2).  
 3367   Note that the structure as presented here is used when a single edge detection is used as there is only  
 3368   one time stamp list associated to the hits. When using detection on both edges, a second time stamp  
 3369   list could be added and when using pair detection, a list with the signal width could be added instead.  
 3370

```
3371   struct RAWData {
  3372     vector<int>                   *EventList;
    vector<int>                   *NHitsList;
    vector<int>                   *QFlagList;
    vector<vector<int> >    *ChannelList;
    vector<vector<float> > *TimeStampList;
  };
```

3372

*Source Code A.2: Description of data holding C++ structure `RAWData`.*

```
3373   class DataReader
  {
    private:
      bool       StopFlag;
      IniFile *iniFile;
      Data32 MaxTriggers;
      v1718 *VME;
      int       nTDCs;
      v1190a *TDCs;
      RAWData TDCData;

    public:
      DataReader();
      virtual ~DataReader();
      void      SetIniFile(string inifilename);
      void      SetMaxTriggers();
      Data32     GetMaxTriggers();
      void      SetVME();
      void      SetTDC();
      int       GetQFlag(Uint it);
      void      Init(string inifilename);
      void      FlushBuffer();
      void      Update();
      string     GetFileName();
      void      WriteRunRegistry(string filename);
      void      Run();
  };
```

3374

*Source Code A.3: Description of C++ object `DataReader`.*

3375   In order to organize the data transfer and the data storage, an object called `DataReader` was  
 3376   created (Source Code A.3). On one hand, it has `v1718` and `v1190a` objects as private members for  
 3377   communication purposes, such as VME modules settings via the configuration file `*iniFile` or data

3378 read-out through `v1190a::Read()` and on the other hand, it contains the structure `RAWData` that allows  
 3379 to organise the data in vectors reproducing the tree structure of a ROOT file.  
 3380 Each event is transferred from `TDCData` and saved into branches of a ROOT `TTree` as 3 integers  
 3381 that represent the event ID (`EventCount`), the number of hits read from the TDCs (`nHits`), and the  
 3382 quality flag that provides information for any problem in the data transfer (`qflag`), and 2 lists of  
 3383 *nHits* elements containing the fired TDC channels (`TDCCh`) and their respective time stamps (`TDCTS`),  
 3384 as presented in Source Code A.4. The ROOT file file is named using information contained into  
 3385 the configuration file, presented in section A.5.2. The needed information is extracted using method  
 3386 `DataReader::GetFileName()` and allow to build the output filename format `ScanXXXXXX_HVX_DAQ.root`  
 3387 where `ScanXXXXXX` is a 6 digit number representing the scan number into GIF++ database and `HVX`  
 3388 the HV step within the scan that can be more than a single digit. An example of ROOT data file is  
 3389 provided with Figure A.3.

```
3390
  RAWData TDCData;
  TFile *outputFile = new TFile(outputFileName.c_str(), "recreate");
  TTree *RAWDataTree = new TTree("RAWData", "RAWData");

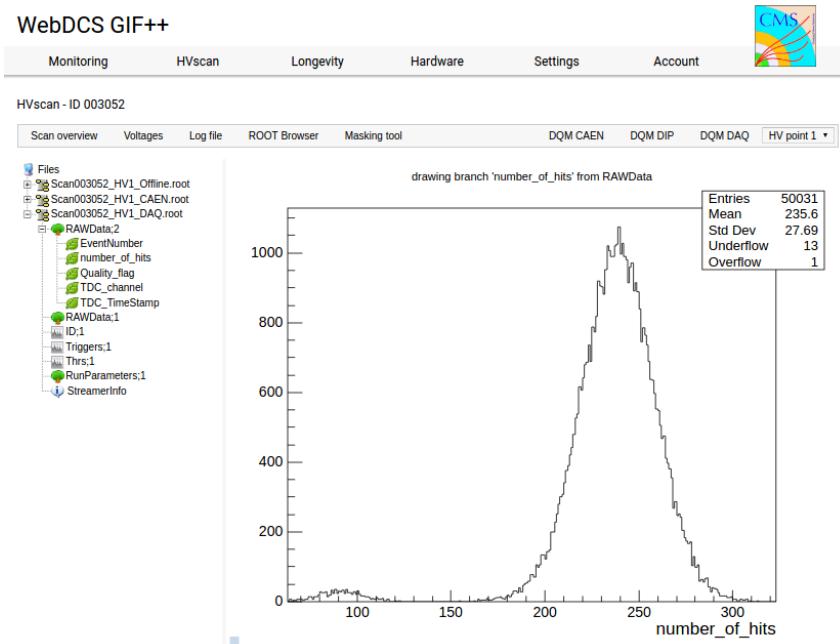
  int EventCount = -9;
  int nHits = -8;
  int qflag = -7;
  vector<int> TDCCh;
  vector<float> TDCTS;

  RAWDataTree->Branch("EventNumber", &EventCount, "EventNumber/I");
  RAWDataTree->Branch("number_of_hits", &nHits, "number_of_hits/I");
  RAWDataTree->Branch("Quality_flag", &qflag, "Quality_flag/I");
  RAWDataTree->Branch("TDC_channel", &TDCCh);
  RAWDataTree->Branch("TDC_TimeStamp", &TDCTS);

  //...
  //Here read the TDC data using v1190a::Read() and place it into
  //TDCData for as long as you didn't collect the requested amount
  //of data.
  //...

  for(Uint i=0; i<TDCData.EventList->size(); i++) {
    EventCount = TDCData.EventList->at(i);
    nHits = TDCData.NHitsList->at(i);
    qflag = TDCData.QFlagList->at(i);
    TDCCh = TDCData.ChannelList->at(i);
    TDCTS = TDCData.TimeStampList->at(i);
    RAWDataTree->Fill();
  }
}
```

3392 *Source Code A.4: Highlight of the data transfer and organisation within `DataReader::Run()` after the data  
 has been collected into `TDCData`.*



*Figure A.3: Structure of the ROOT output file generated by the DAQ. The 5 branches (EventNumber, number\_of\_hits, Quality\_flag, TDC\_channel and TDC\_TimeStamp) are visible on the left panel of the ROOT browser. On the right panel is visible the histogram corresponding to the variable nHits. In this specific example, there were approximately 50k events recorded to measure the gamma irradiation rate on the detectors. Each event is stored as a single entry in the TTree.*

#### 3393 A.4.3 Data quality flag

3394 Among the parameters that are recorded for each event, the quality flag is determined on the fly  
 3395 by checking the data recorded by every single TDC. An `enum` called `QualityFlag` was written to  
 3396 associate the key `GOOD` to the integer 1 and `CORRUPTED` to 0. From method `v1190a::Read()`, it can  
 3397 be understood that the content of each TDC buffer is readout one TDC at a time. Entries are created  
 3398 in the data list for the first TDC and then, when the second buffer is readout, events corresponding  
 3399 to entries that have already been created to store data for the previous TDC are added to the existing  
 3400 list element. On the contrary, when an event entry has not been yet created in the data list, a new  
 3401 entry is created.

3402 It is possible that each TDC buffer contains a different number of events. In cases where the first  
 3403 element in the buffer list is an event for corresponds to a new entry, the difference in between the  
 3404 entry from the buffer and the last entry in the data list is recorded and checked. If it is greater than 1,  
 3405 what should never be the case, the quality flag is set to `CORRUPTED` for this TDC and an empty entry  
 3406 is created in the place of the missing ones. Missing entries are believe to be the result of a bad hold  
 3407 on the TDC buffers at the moment of the readout. Indeed, the software hold is effective only on 1  
 3408 TDC at a time and no solution as been found yet to completely block the writting in the buffers when  
 3409 an IRQ is received.

3410 At the end of each BLT cycle, the ID of the last entry stored for each TDC buffer is not recorded.  
 3411 When starting the next cycle, if the first entry in the pile corresponds to an event already existing  
 3412 in the list, the readout will start from this list element and will not be able to check the difference

3413 in between this entry's ID and the one of the last entry that was recorded for this TDC buffer in  
 3414 the previous cycle. In the case events were missing, the flag stays at its initial value of 0, which is  
 3415 similar to CORRUPTED and it is assumed that then this TDC will not contribute to number\_of\_hits,  
 3416 TDC\_channel or TDC\_TimeStamp. Finally, since there will be 1 RAWData entry per TDC for each event  
 3417 (meaning nTDCs entries, referring to DataReader private attribute), the individual flags of each TDC  
 3418 will be added together. The final format is an integer composed nTDCs digits where each digit is the  
 3419 flag of a specific TDC. This is constructed using powers of 10 like follows:

3420        TDC 0: QFlag =  $10^0 \times \text{QualityFlag}$

3421        TDC 1: QFlag =  $10^1 \times \text{QualityFlag}$

3422        ...

3423        TDC N: QFlag =  $10^N \times \text{QualityFlag}$

3424        and the final flag to be with N digits:

3425        QFlag = n....3210

3426        each digit being 1 or 0. Below is given an example with a 4 TDCs setup.

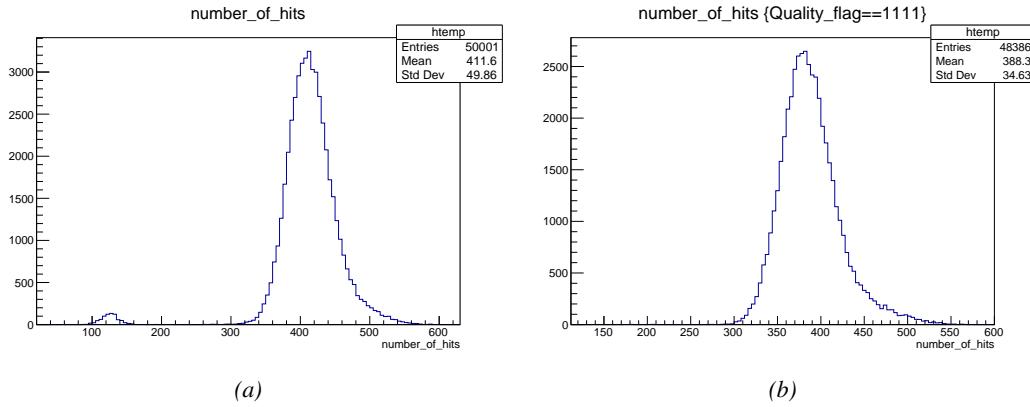
3427        If all TDCs were good : QFlag = 1111,

3428        but if TDC 2 was corrupted : QFlag = 1011.

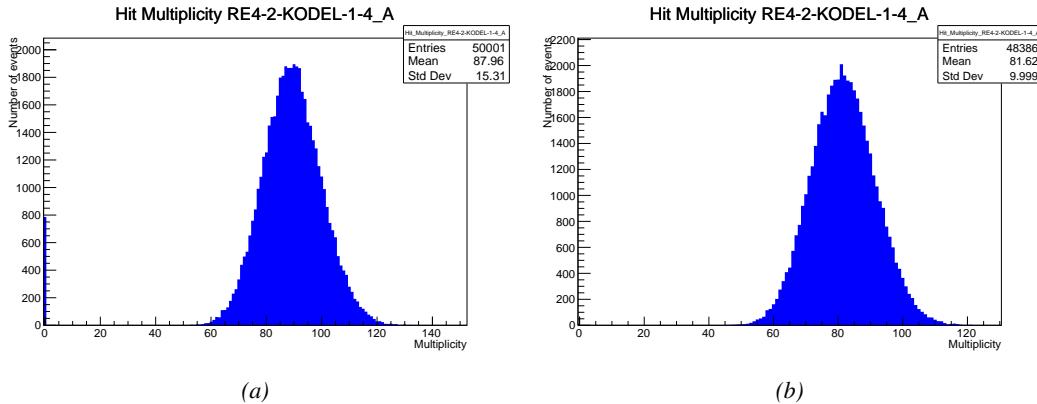
3429        When data taking is over and the data contained in the dynamical RAWData structure is transferred  
 3430 to the ROOT file, all the 0s are changed into 2s by calling the method DataReader::GetQFlag().  
 3431 This will help translating the flag without knowing the number of TDCs beforehand. Indeed, a flag  
 3432 111 could be due to a 3 TDC setup with 3 good individual TDC flags or to a more than 3 TDC setup  
 3433 with TDCs those ID is greater than 2 being CORRUPTED, thus giving a 0.

3434        The quality flag has been introduced quite late, in October 2017 only, to the list of GIFT++ DAQ  
 3435 parameters to be recorded into the output ROOT file. Before this addition, the missing data, corrupting  
 3436 the quality for the offline analysis, was contributing to artificially fill data with lower multiplicity.  
 3437 Looking at TBranch number\_of\_hits provides an information about the data of the full GIFT++  
 3438 setup. When a TDC is not able to transfer data for a specific event, the effect is a reduction of the  
 3439 total number of hits recorded in the full setup, this is what can be seen from Figure A.4. After offline  
 3440 reconstruction detector by detector, the effect of missing events can be seen in the artificially filled  
 3441 bin at multiplicity 0 shown in Figure A.5. Nonetheless, for data with high irradiation levels, as it is  
 3442 the case for Figure A.5a, discarding the fake multiplicity 0 data can be done easily during the offline  
 3443 analysis. At lower radiation, the missing events contribution becomes more problematic as the mul-  
 3444 tiplicity distribution overlaps the multiplicity 0 and that in the same time the proportion of missing  
 3445 events decreases. Attempts to fit the distribution with a Poisson or skew distribution function were  
 3446 not conclusive and this very problem has been at the origin of the quality flag that allows to give a  
 3447 non ambiguous information about each event quality.

3448



*Figure A.4: The effect of the quality flag is explained by presenting the content of TBranch `number_of_hits` of a data file without `Quality_flag` in Figure A.4a and the content of the same TBranch for data corresponding to a `Quality_flag` where all TDCs were labelled as `GOOD` in Figure A.4b taken with similar conditions. It can be noted that the number of entries in Figure A.4b is slightly lower than in Figure A.4a due to the excluded events.*



*Figure A.5: Using the same data as previously showed in Figure A.4, the effect of the quality flag is explained by presenting the reconstructed hit multiplicity of a data file without `Quality_flag` in Figure A.5a and the reconstructed content of the same RPC partition for data corresponding to a `Quality_flag` where all TDCs were labelled as `GOOD` in Figure A.5b taken with similar conditions. The artificial high content of bin 0 is completely suppressed.*

## 3449 A.5 Communications

3450 To ensure data readout and dialog in between the machine and the TDCs or in between the webDCS  
 3451 and the DAQ, different communication solutions were used. First of all, it is important to have a  
 3452 module to allow the communication in between the TDCs and the computer from which the DAQ  
 3453 operates. When this communication is effective, shifters using the webDCS to control data taking  
 3454 can thus send instructions to the DAQ.

3456 **A.5.1 V1718 USB Bridge**

3457 In the previous section, the data transfer as been discussed. The importance of the `v1718` object  
 3458 (Source Code A.5), used as private member of `DataReader`, was not explicited. VME master  
 3459 modules are used for communication purposes as they host the USB port that connects the pow-  
 3460 ered crate buffer to the computer were the DAQ is installed. From the source code point of view,  
 3461 this object is used to control the communication status, by reading the returned error codes with  
 3462 `v1718::CheckStatus()`, or to check for IRQs coming from the TDCs through `v1718::CheckIRQ()`.  
 3463 To ensure that triggers are blocked at the hardware level, a NIM pulse is sent out of one of the two  
 3464 first programmable outputs of the module (`v1718::SendBUSY()`) to the VETO of the coïndidence  
 3465 module where the trigger signals originate. As long as this signal is ON, no trigger can reach the  
 3466 TDCs anymore. Finally, used in the case of noise and background measurements in which the trig-  
 3467 ger needs not to be provided by the muon bean but by an uncorrelated source, a pulse generator  
 3468 is enabled with `v1718::RDMTriggerPulse()`. The "random" pulse is sent through the third and  
 3469 fourth outputs of the module. Both the BUSY signal and the random pulse are shaped in the method  
 3470 `v1718::SetPulsers()` where the number of pulses to be generated, their width, as well as the period  
 3471 of the pulse generator is defined.

3472

```
class v1718{
    private:
        int             Handle;
        Data32          Data;           // Data
        CVIRQLevels     Level;         // Interrupt level
        CVAddressModifier AM;          // Addressing Mode
        CVDataWidth     DataSize;       // Data Format
        Data32          BaseAddress;   // Base Address

    public:
        v1718(IniFile *inifile);
        ~v1718();
        long            GetHandle(void) const;
        int             SetData(Data16 data);
        Data16          GetData(void);
        int             SetLevel(CVIRQLevels level);
        CVIRQLevels     GetLevel(void);
        int             SetAM(CVAddressModifier am);
        CVAddressModifier GetAM(void);
        int             SetDataSize(CVDataWidth datasize);
        CVDataWidth     GetDataSize(void);
        int             SetBaseAddress(Data16 baseaddress);
        Data16          GetBaseAddress(void);
        void            CheckStatus(CVErrorCodes status) const;
        bool            CheckIRQ();
        void            SetPulsers(UINT RDM_Frequency);
        void            SendBUSY(PulserLevel level);
        void            RDMTriggerPulse(PulserLevel level);
};
```

3474

*Source Code A.5: Description of C++ object v1718.*

### 3475 A.5.2 Configuration file

3476 The DAQ software takes as input a configuration file written using INI standard [120]. This file is  
 3477 partly filled with the information provided by the shifters when starting data acquisition using the  
 3478 webDCS, as shown by Figure A.6. This information is written in section **[General]** and will later  
 3479 be stored in the ROOT file that contains the DAQ data as can be seen from Figure A.3. Indeed,  
 3480 another `TTree` called `RunParameters` as well as the 2 histograms `ID`, containing the scan number,  
 3481 start and stop time stamps, and `Triggers`, containing the number of triggers requested by the shifter,  
 3482 are available in the data files. Moreover, `ScanID` and `HV` are then used to construct the file name  
 3483 thanks to the method `DataReader::GetFileName()`.

Chamber	RE2-2-NPD-BARC-8	RE2-2-CERN-105	RE2-2-NPD-BARC-9	RE4-2-CERN-105	RE4-2-KODEL-1-4	Max triggers
HV <sub>eff</sub> 1	8600	8500	8600	8500	6500	
HV <sub>eff</sub> 2	8700	8600	8700	8600	6600	
HV <sub>eff</sub> 3	8800	8700	8800	8700	6700	
HV <sub>eff</sub> 4	8900	8800	8900	8800	6800	
HV <sub>eff</sub> 5	9000	8900	9000	8900	6900	
HV <sub>eff</sub> 6	9100	9000	9100	9000	7000	
HV <sub>eff</sub> 7	9200	9100	9200	9100	7100	
HV <sub>eff</sub> 8	9300	9200	9300	9200	7200	
HV <sub>eff</sub> 9	9400	9300	9400	9300	7300	
HV <sub>eff</sub> 10	9500	9400	9500	9400	7400	

Figure A.6: WebDCS DAQ scan page. On this page, shifters need to choose the type of scan (Rate, Efficiency or Noise Reference scan), the gamma source configuration at the moment of data taking, the beam configuration, and the trigger mode. These information will be stored in the DAQ ROOT output. Are also given the minimal measurement time and waiting time after ramping up of the detectors is over before starting the data acquisition. Then, the list of HV points to scan and the number of triggers for each run of the scan are given in the table underneath.

3484 The rest of the information is written beforehand in the configuration file template, as explicated  
 3485 in Source Code A.6, and contains the hardware addresses to the different VME modules in the  
 3486 setup as well as settings for the TDCs. As the TDC settings available in the configuration file are not  
 3487 supposed to be modified, an improvement would be to remove them from the configuration file and  
 3488 to hardcode them inside of the DAQ code itself or to place them into a different INI file that would  
 3489 host only the TDC settings to lower the probability for a bad manipulation of the configuration file  
 3490 that can be modified from one of webDCS' menus.

```
3491 [General]
TdcS=4
ScanID=$scanid
HV=$HV
RunType=$runtype
MaxTriggers=$maxtriggers
Beam=$beam
[VMEInterface]
Type=V1718
BaseAddress=0xFF0000
Name=VmeInterface
int_trig_freq=100
[TDC0]
Type=V1190A
BaseAddress=0x00000000
Name=Tdc0
StatusA00-15=1
StatusA16-31=1
StatusB00-15=1
StatusB16-31=1
StatusC00-15=1
StatusC16-31=1
StatusD00-15=1
StatusD16-31=1
[TDC1]
Type=V1190A
BaseAddress=0x11110000
Name=Tdc1
StatusA00-15=1
StatusA16-31=1
StatusB00-15=1
StatusB16-31=1
StatusC00-15=1
StatusC16-31=1
StatusD00-15=1
StatusD16-31=1
3492 [TDC2]
Type=V1190A
BaseAddress=0x22220000
Name=Tdc2
StatusA00-15=1
StatusA16-31=1
StatusB00-15=1
StatusB16-31=1
StatusC00-15=1
StatusC16-31=1
StatusD00-15=1
StatusD16-31=1
[TDC3]
Type=V1190A
BaseAddress=0x44440000
Name=Tdc3
StatusA00-15=1
StatusA16-31=1
StatusB00-15=1
StatusB16-31=1
StatusC00-15=1
StatusC16-31=1
StatusD00-15=1
StatusD16-31=1
[TDCSettings]
TriggerExtraSearchMargin=0
TriggerRejectMargin=0
TriggerTimeSubtraction=0b1
TdcDetectionMode=0b01
TdcResolution=0b10
TdcDeadTime=0b00
TdcHeadTrailer=0b1
TdcEventSize=0b1001
TdcTestMode=0b0
BLTMode=1
```

*Source Code A.6: INI configuration file template for 4 TDCs. In section [General], the number of TDCs is explicitated and information about the ongoing run is given. Then, there are sections for each and every VME modules. There buffer addresses are given and for the TDCs, the list of channels to enable is given. Finally, in section [TDCSettings], a part of the TDC settings are given.*

3493

```

typedef map< const string, string > IniFileData;

class IniFile{
    private:
        bool          CheckIfComment(string line);
        bool          CheckIfGroup(string line, string& group);
        bool          CheckIfToken(string line, string& key, string& value);
        string         FileName;
        IniFileData   FileData;
        int           Error;

    public:
        IniFile();
        IniFile(string filename);
        virtual      ~IniFile();

3494    // Basic file operations
        void          SetFileName(string filename);
        int           Read();
        int           Write();
        IniFileData   GetFileData();

        // Data readout methods
        Data32 addressType(string groupname, string keyname, Data32 defaultvalue);
        long          intType(string groupname, string keyname, long defaultvalue);
        long long    longType(string groupname, string keyname, long long
        ↵ defaultvalue);
        string         stringType(string groupname, string keyname, string defaultvalue);
        float         floatType(string groupname, string keyname, float defaultvalue);

        // Error methods
        string         GetErrorMsg();
};

3495
```

*Source Code A.7: Description of C++ object IniFile used as a parser for INI file format.*

3496

In order to retrieve the information of the configuration file, the object `IniFile` has been developed to provide an INI parser, presented in Source Code A.7. It contains private methods returning a boolean to check the type of line written in the file, whether a comment, a group header or a key line (`IniFile::CheckIfComment()`, `IniFile::CheckIfGroup()` and `IniFile::CheckIfToken()`). The key may sometimes be referred to as *token* in the source code. Moreover, the private element `FileData` is a map of `const` string to string that allows to store the data contained inside the configuration file via the public method `IniFile::GetFileData()` following the formatting (see method `IniFile::Read()`):

3497

3498

3499

3500

3501

3502

3503

3504

3505

```

        string group, token, value;
        // Get the field values for the 3 strings.
        // Then concatenate group and token together as a single string
        // with a dot separation.
        token = group + "." + token;
        FileData[token] = value;

```

3506 More methods have been written to translate the different keys into the right variable format  
 3507 when used by the DAQ. For example, to get a **float** value out of the configuration file data, knowing  
 3508 the group and the key needed, the method `IniFile::floatType()` can be used. It takes 3 arguments  
 3509 being the group name and key name (both `string`), and a default **float** value used as exception in  
 3510 the case the expected combination of group and key cannot be found in the configuration file. This  
 3511 default value is then used and the DAQ continues on working after sending an alert in the log file for  
 3512 further debugging.

3513

### 3514 A.5.3 WebDCS/DAQ intercommunication

3515 When shifters send instructions to the DAQ via the configuration file, it is the webDCS itself that  
 3516 gives the start command to the DAQ and then the 2 softwares use inter-process communication  
 3517 through file to synchronise themselves. This communication file is represented by the variable `const`  
 3518 `string __runstatuspath`.

3519 On one side, the webDCS sends commands or status that are readout by the DAQ:

- 3520 • INIT, status sent when launching a scan and read via function `CtrlRunStatus(...)`,
- 3521 • START, command to start data taking and read via function `CheckSTART()`,
- 3522 • STOP, command to stop data taking at the end of the scan and read via function `CheckSTOP()`,  
 3523 and
- 3524 • KILL, command to kill data taking sent by user and read via function `CheckKILL()`. Note that  
 3525 the DAQ doesn't stop before the current ROOT file is safely written and saved.

3526 and on the other, the DAQ sends status that are controled by the webDCS:

- 3527 • DAQ\_RDY, sent with `SendDAQReady()` to signify that the DAQ is ready to receive commands  
 3528 from the webDCS,
- 3529 • RUNNING, sent with `SendDAQRunning()` to signify that the DAQ is taking data,
- 3530 • DAQ\_ERR, sent with `SendDAQError()` to signify that the DAQ didn't receive the expected com-  
 3531 mand from the webDCS or that the launch command didn't have the right number of argu-  
 3532 ments,
- 3533 • RD\_ERR, sent when the DAQ wasn't able to read the communication file, and
- 3534 • WR\_ERR, sent when the DAQ wasn't able to write into the communication file.

### 3535 A.5.4 Example of inter-process communication cycle

3536 Under normal conditions, the webDCS and the DAQ processes exchange commands and status via  
 3537 the file hosted at the address `__runstatuspath`, as explained in subsection A.5.3. An example of  
 3538 cycle is given in Table A.1. In this example, the steps 3 to 5 are repeated as long as the webDCS tells  
 3539 the DAQ to take data. A data taking cycle is the equivalent as what is called a *Scan* in GIFT++ jargon,

3540 referring to a set a runs with several HV steps. Each repetition of steps 3 to 5 is then equivalent to a  
 3541 single *Run*.

3542 At any moment during the data taking, for any reason, the shifter can decide that the data taking  
 3543 needs to be stopped before it reached the end of the scheduled cycle. Thus at any moment on the  
 3544 cycle, the content of the inter-process communication file will be changed to `KILL` and the DAQ will  
 3545 shut down right away. The DAQ checks for `KILL` signals every 5s after the TDCs configuration is  
 3546 over. So far, the function `CheckKILL()` has been used only inside of the data taking loop of method  
 3547 `DataReader::Run()` and thus, if the shifter decides to KILL the data taking during the TDC con-  
 3548 figuration phase or the HV ramping in between 2 HV steps, the DAQ will not be stopped smoothly  
 3549 and a *force kill* command will be sent to stop the DAQ process that is still awake on the computer.  
 3550 Improvements can be brought on this part of the software to make sure that the DAQ can safely  
 3551 shutdown at any moment.

3552

step	actions of webDCS	status of DAQ	<code>__runstatuspath</code>
1	launch DAQ ramp voltages ramping over wait for currents stabilization	readout of IniFile configuration of TDCs	INIT
2		configuration done send DAQ ready wait for <code>START</code> signal	DAQ_RDY
3	waiting time over send <code>START</code>		START
4	wait for run to end monitor DAQ run status	data taking ongoing check for <code>KILL</code> signal	RUNNING
5		run over send <code>DAQ_RDY</code> wait for next DCS signal	DAQ_RDY
6	ramp voltages ramping over wait for currents stabilization		DAQ_RDY
3	waiting time over send <code>START</code>		START
4	wait for run to end monitor DAQ run status	update IniFile information data taking ongoing check for <code>KILL</code> signal	RUNNING
5		run over send <code>DAQ_RDY</code> wait for next DCS signal	DAQ_RDY
7	send command <code>STOP</code>	DAQ shuts down	STOP

Table A.1: Inter-process communication cycles in between the webDCS and the DAQ through file string signals.

## A.6 Software export

3553 In section A.2 was discussed the fact that the DAQ as written in its last version is not a standalone  
 3554 software. It is possible to make it a standalone program that could be adapted to any VME setup

3556 using V1190A and V1718 modules by creating a GUI for the software or by printing the log messages  
3557 that are normally printed in the webDCS through the log file, directly into the terminal. This  
3558 method was used by the DAQ up to version 3.0 moment where the webDCS was completed. Also, it  
3559 is possible to check branches of DAQ v2.X to have example of communication through a terminal.  
3560 DAQ v2.X is nonetheless limited in its possibilities and requires a lot of offline manual interventions  
3561 from the users. Indeed, there is no communication of the software with the detectors' power  
3562 supply system that would allow for a user a predefine a list of voltages to operate the detectors at  
3563 and loop over to take data without any further manual intervention. In v2.X, the data is taken for a  
3564 single detector setting and at the end of each run, the softwares asks the user if he intends on taking  
3565 more runs. If so, the software invites the user to set the operating voltages accordingly to what is  
3566 necessary and to manual update the configuration file in consequence. This working mode can be a  
3567 very first approach before an evolution and has been successfully used by colleagues from different  
3568 collaborations.

3569 For a more robust operation, it is recommended to develop a GUI or a web application to interface  
3570 the DAQ. Moreover, to limit the amount of manual interventions, and thus the probability to make  
3571 mistakes, it is also recommended to add an extra feature into the DAQ by installing the HV Wrapper  
3572 library provided by CAEN of which an example of use in a similar DAQ software developped by a  
3573 master student of UGent, and called TinyDAQ, is provided on UGent's github. Then, this HV Wrapper  
3574 will help you communicating with and give instructions to a CAEN HV powered crate and can  
3575 be added into the DAQ at the same level where the communication with the user was made in DAQ  
3576 v2.X. In case you are using another kind of power system for your detectors, it is stringly adviced to  
3577 use HV modules or crates that can be remotely controloled via a using C++ libraries.

3578



# B

3579

3580

## Details on the offline analysis package

3581 The data collected in GIF++ thanks to the DAQ described in Appendix A is difficult to interpret by  
3582 a human user that doesn't have a clear idea of the raw data architecture of the ROOT data files. In  
3583 order to render the data human readable, a C++ offline analysis tool was designed to provide users  
3584 with detector by detector histograms that give a clear overview of the parameters monitored during  
3585 the data acquisition [113]. In this appendix, details about this software in the context of GIF++, as  
3586 of how the software was written and how it functions will be given.

### 3587 B.1 GIF++ Offline Analysis file tree

3588 GIF++ Offline Analysis source code is fully available on github at [https://github.com/aafagot/GIF\\_OfflineAnalysis](https://github.com/aafagot/GIF_OfflineAnalysis). The software requires ROOT as non-optionnal dependency  
3589 as it takes ROOT files in input and write an output ROOT file containing histograms. To compile the  
3590 GIF++ Offline Analysis project is compiled with cmake. To compile, first a build/ directory must  
3591 be created to compile from there:

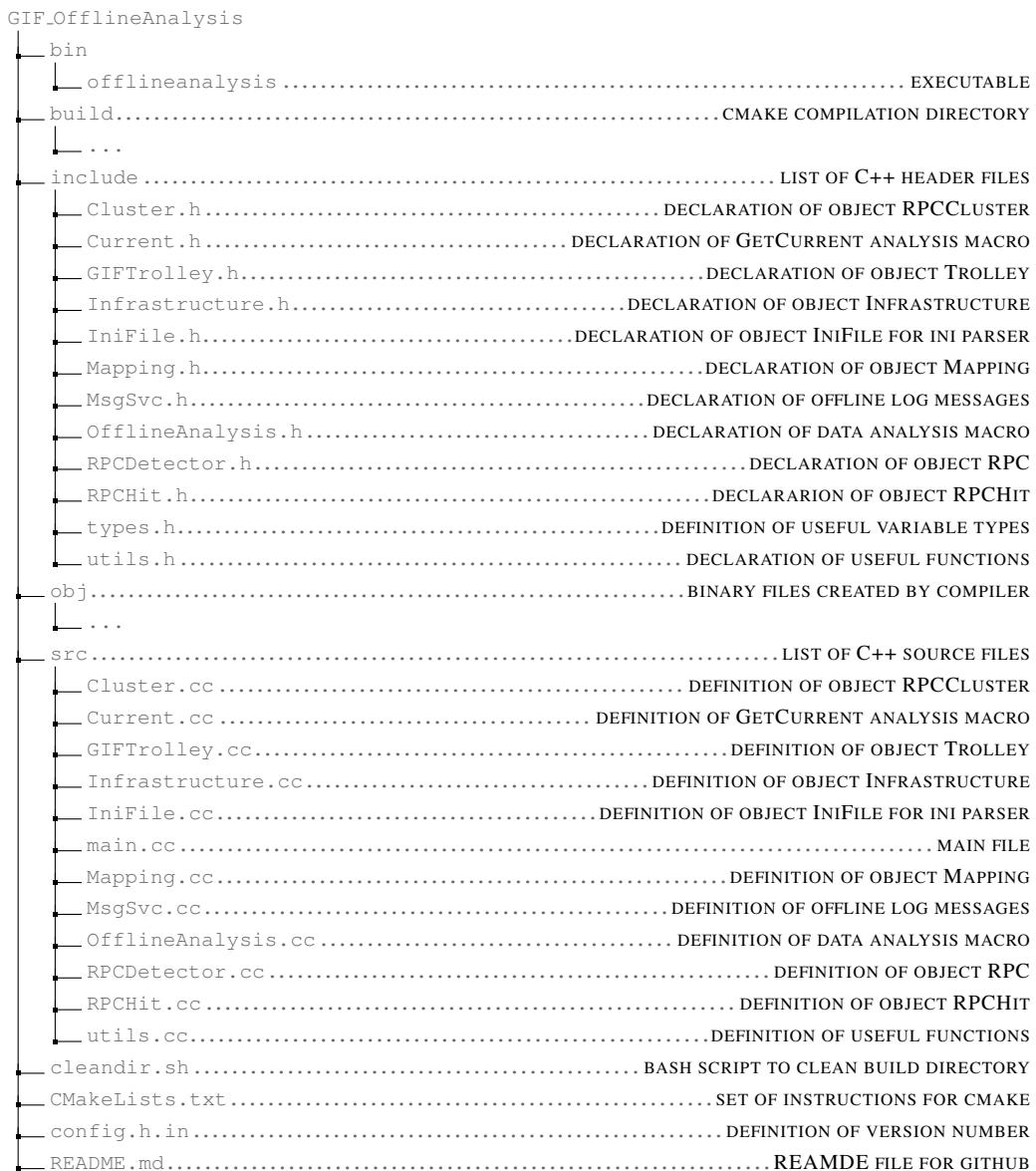
```
3593 mkdir build
3594 cd build
3594 cmake ..
3594 make
3594 make install
```

3595 To clean the directory and create a new build directory, the bash script cleandir.sh can be used:

```
3596
3597 ./cleandir.sh
```

3598 The source code tree is provided below along with comments to give an overview of the files' con-  
3599 tent. The different objects created for this project (`Infrastructure`, `Trolley`, `RPC`, `Mapping`, `RPCHit`,  
3600 `RPCCluster` and `Inifile`) will be described in details in the following sections.

3601



3602

## B.2 Usage of the Offline Analysis

3603

In order to use the Offline Analysis tool, it is necessary to know the Scan number and the HV Step of the run that needs to be analysed. This information needs to be written in the following format:

3605

3606

```
Scan00XXXX_HVY
```

3607

where XXXX is the scan ID and y is the high voltage step (in case of a high voltage scan, data will be taken for several HV steps). This format corresponds to the base name of data files in the database

3608

3609 of the Gif++ webDCS. Usually, the offline analysis tool is automatically called by the webDCS at  
 3610 the end of data taking or by a user from the webDCS panel if an update of the tool was brought.  
 3611 Nonetheless, an expert can locally launch the analysis for tests on the Gif++ computer, or a user can  
 3612 get the code on its local machine from github and download data from the webDCS for its own anal-  
 3613 ysis. To launch the code, the following command can be used from the `GIF_OfflineAnalysis` folder:

3614  
 3615     `bin/offlineanalysis /path/to/Scan00XXXX_HVY`

3616 where, `/path/to/Scan00XXXX_HVY` refers to the local data files. Then, the offline tool will by itself  
 3617 take care of finding all available ROOT data files present in the folder, as listed below:

- 3618     ● `Scan00XXXX_HVY_DAQ.root` containing the TDC data as described in Appendix A.4.2 (events,  
 3619       hit and timestamp lists), and
- 3620     ● `Scan00XXXX_HVY_CAEN.root` containing the CAEN mainframe data recorded by the monitor-  
 3621       ing tool webDCS during data taking (HVs and currents of every HV channels). This file is  
 3622       created independently of the DAQ.

## 3623     **B.2.1 Output of the offline tool**

### 3624     **B.2.1.1 ROOT file**

3625 The analysis gives output ROOT datafiles that are saved into the data folder and called using the  
 3626 naming convention `Scan00XXXX_HVY_Offline.root`. Inside those, a list of `TH1` histograms can be  
 3627 found. Its size will vary as a function of the number of detectors in the setup as each set of histograms  
 3628 is produced detector by detector. For each partition of each chamber, can be found:

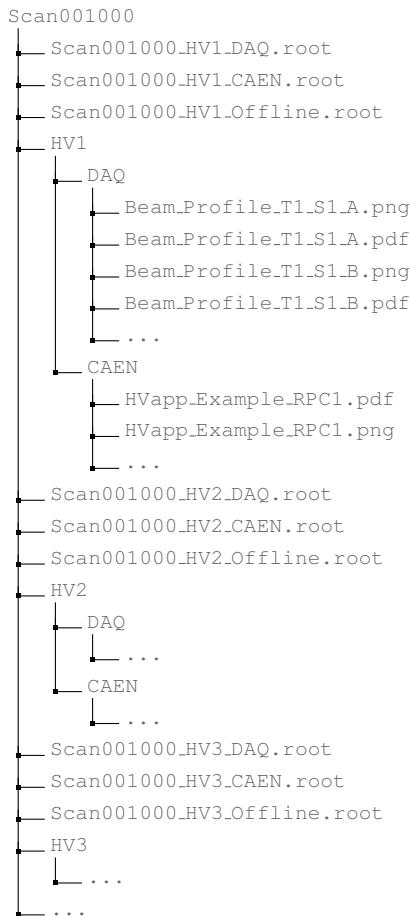
- 3629     ● `Time_Profile_Tt_Sc_p` shows the time profile of all recorded events (number of events per  
 3630       time bin),
- 3631     ● `Hit_Profile_Tt_Sc_p` shows the hit profile of all recorded events (number of events per chan-  
 3632       nel),
- 3633     ● `Hit_Multiplicity_Tt_Sc_p` shows the hit multiplicity (number of hits per event) of all recorded  
 3634       events (number of occurrences per multiplicity bin),
- 3635     ● `Time_vs_Strip_Profile_Tt_Sc_p` shows the 2D time vs strip profile of all recorded events  
 3636       (number of events per time bin per strip),
- 3637     ● `Strip_Mean_Noise_Tt_Sc_p` shows noise/gamma rate per unit area for each strip in a se-  
 3638       lected time range. After filters are applied on `Time_Profile_Tt_Sc_p`, the filtered version  
 3639       of `Hit_Profile_Tt_Sc_p` is normalised to the total integrated time and active detection area  
 3640       of a single channel,
- 3641     ● `Strip_Activity_Tt_Sc_p` shows noise/gamma activity for each strip (normalised version of  
 3642       previous histogram - strip activity = strip rate / average partition rate),
- 3643     ● `Strip_Homogeneity_Tt_Sc_p` shows the *homogeneity* of a given partition ( $\text{homogeneity} = \exp(-\text{strip rates standard deviation}(\text{strip rates in partition}/\text{average partition rate}))$ ),

- 3645     ● `mask_Strip_Mean_Noise_Tt_Sc_p` shows noise/gamma rate per unit area for each masked  
 3646       strip in a selected time range. Offline, the user can control the noise/gamma rate and decide to  
 3647       mask the strips that are judged to be noisy or dead. This is done via the *Masking Tool* provided  
 3648       by the webDCS,
- 3649     ● `mask_Strip_Activity_Tt_Sc_p` shows noise/gamma activity per unit area for each masked  
 3650       strip with respect to the average rate of active strips,
- 3651     ● `NoiseCSize_H_Tt_Sc_p` shows noise/gamma cluster size, a cluster being constructed out of  
 3652       adjacent strips giving a signal at the *same time* (hits within a time window of 25 ns),
- 3653     ● `NoiseCMult_H_Tt_Sc_p` shows noise/gamma cluster multiplicity (number of reconstructed  
 3654       clusters per event),
- 3655     ● `Chip_Mean_Noise_Tt_Sc_p` shows the same information than `Strip_Mean_Noise_Tt_Scp` us-  
 3656       ing a different binning (1 chip corresponds to 8 strips),
- 3657     ● `Chip_Activity_Tt_Sc_p` shows the same information than `strip_Activity_Tt_Scp` using  
 3658       chip binning,
- 3659     ● `Chip_Homogeneity_Tt_Sc_p` shows the homogeneity of a given partition using chip binning,
- 3660     ● `Beam_Profile_Tt_Sc_p` shows the estimated beam profile when taking efficiency scan. This  
 3661       is obtained by filtering `Time_Profile_Tt_Sc_p` to only consider the muon peak where the  
 3662       noise/gamma background has been subtracted. The resulting hit profile corresponds to the  
 3663       beam profile on the detector channels,
- 3664     ● `Efficiency_Fake_Tt_Ss_p` shows the efficiency given by fake hits by probing outside the  
 3665       peak in an uncorrelated window as wide as the peak window,
- 3666     ● `Efficiency_Peak_Tt_Ss_p` shows the efficiency given by hits contained in the peak window,
- 3667     ● `PeakCSize_H_Tt_Sc_p` shows the cluster size that was estimated using all the hits in the peak  
 3668       window,
- 3669     ● `PeakCMult_H_Tt_Sc_p` shows the cluster multiplicity that was estimated using all the hits in  
 3670       the peak window,
- 3671     ● `L0_Efficiency_Tt_Sc_p` shows the level 0 muon efficiency that was estimated **without** muon  
 3672       tracking after correction,
- 3673     ● `MuonCSize_H_Tt_Sc_p` shows the level 0 muon cluster size that was estimated **without** muon  
 3674       tracking after correction, and
- 3675     ● `MuonCMult_H_Tt_Sc_p` shows the level 0 muon cluster multiplicity that was estimated **without**  
 3676       muon tracking after correction.

3677     In the histogram labels, *t* stands for the trolley number (1 or 3), *c* for the chamber slot label in  
 3678       trolley *t* and *p* for the partition label (A, B, C or D depending on the chamber layout) as explained  
 3679       in Chapter 5.3.

3681 In the context of GIF++, an extra script called by the webDCS is called to extract the histograms  
 3682 from the ROOT files. The histograms are then stored in PNG and PDF formats into the correspond-  
 3683 ing folder (a single folder per HV step, so per ROOT file). An example of histogram organisation is  
 3684 given bellow for an hypothetical scan 001000 with at least 3 HV steps and whose chamber located in  
 3685 slot 1 of trolley 1 is called *Example\_RPC1* and has at least 2 read-out partitions A and B. The goal is  
 3686 to then display the histograms graphs on the Data Quality Monitoring (DQM) page of the webDCS,  
 3687 as presented in Figure 5.27, in order for the users to control the quality of the data taking at the end  
 3688 of data taking.

3689



3690

### B.2.1.2 CSV files

3691

Moreover, up to 4 CSV files can be created depending on which ones of the 3 input files were in the  
 3692 data folder:

3693

- Offline-Corrupted.csv , is used to keep track of the amount of data that was corrupted and removed from old data format files that don't contain any data quality flag.

3694

- 3695     ● `Offline-Current.csv`, contains the summary of the currents and voltages applied on each  
3696       RPC HV channel.
- 3697     ● `Offline-L0-EffCl.csv`, is used to write the efficiencies, cluster size and cluster multiplicity  
3698       of efficiency runs. Note that `L0` refers here to *Level 0* and means that the results of efficiency and  
3699       clusterization are a first approximation calculated without performing any muon tracking in  
3700       between the different detectors. This offline tool provides the user with a preliminar calcula-  
3701       tion of the efficiency and of the muon event parameters. Another analysis software especially  
3702       dedicated to muon tracking is called on selected data to retrieve the results of efficiency and  
3703       muon clusterization using a tracking algorithm to discriminate noise or gamma from muons  
3704       as muons are the only particles that pass through the full setup, leaving hits than can be used  
3705       to reconstruct their tracks.
- 3706     ● `Offline-Rate.csv`, is used to write the noise or gamma rates measured in the detector readout  
3707       partitions.

3708     Note that these 4 CSV files are created along with their *headers* (`Offline-[...]-Header.csv`  
3709       containing the names of each data columns) and are automatically merged together when the offline  
3710       analysis tool is called from the webDCS, contrary to the case where the tool is runned locally from  
3711       the terminal as the merging bash script is then not called. Thus, the resulting files, used to make  
3712       official plots, are:

- 3713     ● `Corrupted.csv`,
- 3714     ● `Current.csv`,
- 3715     ● `L0-EffCl.csv`.
- 3716     ● `Rate.csv`.

### 3717     **B.3 Analysis inputs and information handling**

3718     The usage of the Offline Analysis tool as well as its output have been presented in the previous sec-  
3719       tion. It is now important to dig further and start looking at the source code and the inputs necessary  
3720       for the tool to work. Indeed, other than the raw ROOT data files that are analysed, more information  
3721       needs to be imported inside of the program to perform the analysis such as the description of the  
3722       setup inside of GIFT++ at the time of data taking (number of trolleys, of RPCs, dimensions of the  
3723       detectors, etc...) or the mapping that links the TDC channels to the coresponding RPC channels in  
3724       order to translate the TDC information into human readable data. Two files are used to transmit all  
3725       this information:

3726

- 3727     ● `Dimensions.ini`, that provides the necessary setup and RPC information, and
- 3728     ● `ChannelsMapping.csv`, that gives the link between the TDC and RPC channels as well as the  
3729       *mask* for each channel (masked or not?).

### 3730    B.3.1 Dimensions file and IniFile parser

3731    GIF++ CMS RPC setup consists in detectors held into trolleys inside of the GIF++ bunker. Each of  
 3732    these detector may have a read-out segmented to cover different pseudo-rapidity range once intalled  
 3733    in CMS. The segmentation of the read-out is referred to as "partitions". This input file, present in  
 3734    every data folder, allows the analysis tool to know of the number of active trolleys, the number of  
 3735    active RPCs in those trolleys, and the details about each RPCs such as the number of RPC gaps, the  
 3736    number of pseudo-rapidity partitions, the number of strips per partion or the dimensions. To do so,  
 3737    there are 3 types of groups in the INI file architecture. Groups are sections of the INI file content  
 3738    starting with a title encapsulated in between square brackets. A first general group, appearing only  
 3739    once at the head of the document, gives information about the number of active trolleys as well  
 3740    as their IDs, as presented in Source Code B.1. For each active trolley, a group similar to Source  
 3741    Code B.2 can be found containing information about the number of active detectors in the trolley  
 3742    and their IDs. Each trolley group as a `Tt` name format, where `t` is the trolley ID. Finally, for each  
 3743    detector stored in slots of an active trolley, there is a group providing information about their names  
 3744    and dimensions, as shown in Source Code B.3. Each slot group as a `TtSs` name format, where `s` is  
 3745    the slot ID of trolley `t` where the active RPC is hosted.

```
3746    [General]
3747    nTrolleys=2
3748    TrolleysID=13
```

Source Code B.1: Example of `[General]` group as might be found in `Dimensions.ini`. In GIF++, only 2 trolleys are available to hold RPCs and place them inside of the bunker for irradiation. The IDs of the trolleys are written in a single string as "13" and then read character by character by the program.

```
3749    [T1]
3750    nSlots=4
3751    SlotsID=1234
```

Source Code B.2: Example of trolley group as might be found in `Dimensions.ini`. In this example, the file tells that there are 4 detectors placed in the holding slots of the trolley `T1` and that their IDs, written as a single string variable, are 1, 2, 3 and 4.

```
3751    [T1S1]
3752    Name=RE2-2-NPD-BARC-8
3753    Partitions=3
3754    Gaps=3
3755    Gap1=BOT
3756    Gap2=TN
3757    Gap3=TW
3758    AreaGap1=11694.25
3759    AreaGap2=6432
3760    AreaGap3=4582.82
3761    Strips=32
3762    ActiveArea-A=157.8
3763    ActiveArea-B=121.69
3764    ActiveArea-C=93.03
```

Source Code B.3: Example of slot group as might be found in `Dimensions.ini`. In this example, the file provides information about a detector named `RE2-2-NPD-BARC-8`, having 3 pseudo-rapidity readout partitions and stored in slot `S1` of trolley `T1`. This is a CMS RE2-2 type of detector. This information will then be used for example to compute the rate per unit area calculation.

3753     This information is read-out and stored in a C++ object called `IniFile`, that parses the information  
 3754     of the INI input file and stores it into a local buffer for later use. This INI parser is the exact  
 3755     same one that was previously developed for the GIF++ DAQ and described in Appendix A.5.2.

### 3756     **B.3.2 TDC to RPC link file and Mapping**

3757     The same way the INI dimension file information is stored using `map`, the channel mapping and  
 3758     mask information making the link in between TDC channels and RPC strips is stored and accessed  
 3759     through `map`. First of all, the mapping CSV file is organised into 3 columns separated by tabulations:

3761	RPC_channel	TDC_channel	mask
------	-------------	-------------	------

3762         using as formatting for each field:

3763	TSCCC	TCCC	M
------	-------	------	---

3765     TSCCC is a 5-digit integer where `T` is the trolley ID, `s` the slot ID in which the RPC is held inside  
 3766     the trolley `T` and `ccc` is the RPC channel number, or *strip* number, that can take values up to  
 3767     3-digits depending on the detector,

3768     TCCC is a 4 digit integer where `T` is the TDC ID to which the RPC is connected, `ccc` is the TDC  
 3769     channel number linked to the RPC strip that can take values in between 0 and 127, and

3770         M is a 1-digit integer indicating if the channel should be considered (`M = 1`) or discarded (`M = 0`)  
 3771         during analysis. Note that the absence of a third column is interpreted by the mapping file  
 3772         parser as `M = 1` by default.

3773         This mapping and masking information is readout and stored thanks to the object `Mapping`, pre-  
 3774         sented in Source Code B.4. Similarly to `IniFile` objects, this class has private methods to provide  
 3775         with parser rules. The first one, `Mapping::CheckIfNewLine()` is used to find the newline character  
 3776         '`\n`' or return character '`\r`' (depending on which kind of operating system interacted with the file).  
 3777         Finding and identifying a newline or return character is used for the simple reason that the masking  
 3778         information has been introduced only during the year 2017 but the channel mapping files exist since  
 3779         2015 and the very beginning of data taking at GIF++. This means that in the older data folders,  
 3780         before the upgrade, the channel mapping file only had 2 columns, the RPC channel and the TDC  
 3781         channel. For compatibility reasons, this method helps controlling the character following the readout  
 3782         of the 2 first fields of a line. In case any end of line character is found, no mask information is present  
 3783         in the file and the default `M = 1` is used. On the contrary, if the next character was a tabulation or a  
 3784         space, the mask information is present.

3785         Once the 3 fields have been readout, the second private method `Mapping::CheckIfTDCCh()` is  
 3786         used to control that the TDC channel is an existing TDC channel by checking its format. Finally,  
 3787         the information is stored into 3 different maps (`Link`, `ReverseLink` and `Mask`) thanks to the public  
 3788         method `Mapping::Read()`. `Link` allows to get the RPC channel by knowing the TDC channel while  
 3789         `ReverseLink` does the opposite by returning the TDC channel by knowing the RPC channel. Finally,  
 3790         `Mask` returns the mask associated to a given RPC channel.

```

3791 typedef map<UInt, UInt> MappingData;

3792 class Mapping {
3793     private:
3794         bool          CheckIfNewLine(char next);
3795         bool          CheckIfTDCCh(UInt channel);
3796         string        FileName;
3797         MappingData Link;
3798         MappingData ReverseLink;
3799         MappingData Mask;
3800         int           Error;
3801
3802     public:
3803         Mapping();
3804         Mapping(string baseName);
3805         ~Mapping();
3806
3807         void SetFileName(const string filename);
3808         int Read();
3809         UInt GetLink(UInt tdcchannel);
3810         UInt GetReverse(UInt rpcchannel);
3811         UInt GetMask(UInt rpcchannel);
3812     };

```

3793 *Source Code B.4: Description of C++ object Mapping used as a parser for the channel mapping and mask file.*

## 3794 B.4 Description of GIF++ setup within the Offline Analysis tool

3795 In the previous section, the tool input files have been discussed. The dimension file information is  
 3796 stored in a map hosted by the `IniFile` object. But this information is then used to create a series of  
 3797 new objects that helps defining the GIF++ infrastructure directly into the Offline Analysis. Indeed,  
 3798 from the `RPC`, to the more general `Infrastructure`, every element of the GIF++ infrastrucutre is  
 3799 recreated for each data analysis based on the information provided in input. All this information  
 3800 about the infrastructure will be used to assign each hit signal to a specific strip channel of a specific  
 3801 detector, and having a specific active area. This way, rate per unit area calculation is possible.  
 3802

### 3803 B.4.1 RPC objects

3804 `RPC` objects have been developped to represent physical active detectors in GIF++ at the moment  
 3805 of data taking. Thus, there are as many `RPC` objects created during the analysis than there were  
 3806 active `RPCs` tested during a run. Each `RPC` hosts the information present in the corresponding INI  
 3807 slot group, as showed in B.3, and organises it using a similar architecture. This can be seen from  
 3808 Source B.5.

3809 To make the object more compact, the lists of gap labels, of gap active areas and strip active  
 3810 areas are stored into `vector` dynamical containers. `RPC` objects are always contructed thanks to the  
 3811 dimension file information stored into the `IniFILE` and their ID, using the format `TtSs`. Using the  
 3812 `RPC` ID, the constructor calls the methods of `IniFILE` to initialise the `RPC`. The other constructors  
 3813 are not used but exist in case of need. Finally, some getters have been written to access the different  
 3814 private parameters storing the detector information.

3815

**3816 B.4.2 Trolley objects**

3817 Trolley objects have been developed to represent physical active trolleys in GIF++ at the moment  
3818 of data taking. Thus, there are as many trolley objects created during the analysis than there were  
3819 active trolleys hosting RPCs under test during a run. Each Trolley hosts the information present in  
3820 the corresponding INI trolley group, as shown in B.2, and organises it using a similar architecture.  
3821 In addition to the information hosted in the INI file, these objects have a dynamical container of RPC  
3822 objects, representing the active detectors the active trolley was hosting at the time of data taking.  
3823 This can be seen from Source Code B.6.

3824 Trolley objects are always constructed thanks to the dimension file information stored into the  
3825 IniFILE and their ID, using the format `Tt`. Using the Trolley ID, the constructor calls the methods  
3826 of `IniFile` to initialise the Trolley. Retrieving the information of the RPC IDs via `SlotsID`, a new  
3827 RPC is constructed and added to the container `RPCs` for each character in the ID string. The other  
3828 constructors are not used but exist in case of need. Finally, some getters have been written to access  
3829 the different private parameters storing the trolley and detectors information.

3830

**3831 B.4.3 Infrastructure object**

3832 The Infrastructure object has been developed to represent the GIF++ bunker area dedicated to  
3833 CMS RPC experiments. With this very specific object, all the information about the CMS RPC  
3834 setup within GIF++ at the moment of data taking is stored. It hosts the information present in the  
3835 corresponding INI general group, as shown in B.1, and organises it using a similar architecture. In  
3836 addition to the information hosted in the INI file, this object has a dynamical container of Trolley  
3837 objects representing the active trolleys in GIF++ area, themselves containing RPC objects. This can  
3838 be seen from Source Code B.7.

3839 The Infrastructure object is always constructed thanks to the dimension file information stored  
3840 into the `IniFILE`. Retrieving the information of the trolley IDs via `TrolleysID`, a new Trolley is  
3841 constructed and added to the container `Trolleys` for each character in the ID string. By extension,  
3842 it is easy to understand that the process described in Section B.4.2 for the construction of RPCs  
3843 takes place when a trolley is constructed. The other constructors are not used but exist in case of  
3844 need. Finally, some getters have been written to access the different private parameters storing the  
3845 infrastructure, trolleys and detectors information.

```

3846 class RPC{
    private:
        string      name;          //RPC name as in webDCS database
        Uint        nGaps;         //Number of gaps in the RPC
        Uint        nPartitions;   //Number of partitions in the RPC
        Uint        nStrips;       //Number of strips per partition
        vector<string> gaps;      //List of gap labels (BOT, TOP, etc...)
        vector<float>  gapGeo;     //List of gap active areas
        vector<float>  stripGeo;   //List of strip active areas

    public:
        RPC();
        RPC(string ID, IniFile* geofile);
        RPC(const RPC& other);
        ~RPC();
        RPC& operator=(const RPC& other);

        string GetName();
        Uint GetNGaps();
        Uint GetNPartitions();
        Uint GetNStrips();
        string GetGap(Uint g);
        float GetGapGeo(Uint g);
        float GetStripGeo(Uint p);
    };

```

3848 *Source Code B.5: Description of C++ objects RPC that describe each active detectors used during data taking.*

```

class Trolley{
    private:
        Uint      nSlots;        //Number of active RPCs in the considered trolley
        string    SlotsID;       //Active RPC IDs written into a string
        vector<RPC*> RPCs;     //List of active RPCs

    public:
        Trolley();
        Trolley(string ID, IniFile* geofile);
        Trolley(const Trolley& other);
        ~Trolley();
        Trolley& operator=(const Trolley& other);

        Uint GetNSlots();
        string GetSlotsID();
        Uint GetSlotID(Uint s);
        RPC* GetRPC(Uint r);
        void DeleteRPC(Uint r);

        //Methods to get members of RPC objects stored in RPCs
        string GetName(Uint r);
        Uint GetNGaps(Uint r);
        Uint GetNPartitions(Uint r);
        Uint GetNStrips(Uint r);
        string GetGap(Uint r, Uint g);
        float GetGapGeo(Uint r, Uint g);
        float GetStripGeo(Uint r, Uint p);
    };

```

3850 *Source Code B.6: Description of C++ objects Trolley that describe each active trolley used during data taking.*

```

class Infrastructure {
    private:
        Uint             nTrolleys;   //Number of active Trolleys in the run
        string          TrolleysID;  //Active trolley IDs written into a string
        vector<Trolley*> Trolleys;  //List of active Trolleys (struct)

    public:
        Infrastructure();
        Infrastructure(IniFile* geofile);
        Infrastructure(const Infrastructure& other);
        ~Infrastructure();
        Infrastructure& operator=(const Infrastructure& other);

        Uint    GetNTrolleys();
        string GetTrolleysID();
        Uint    GetTrolleyID(Uint t);

3851      Trolley* GetTrolley(Uint t);
        void    DeleteTrolley(Uint t);

        //Methods to get members of GIFTrolley objects stored in Trolleys
        Uint    GetNSlots(Uint t);
        string GetSlotsID(Uint t);
        Uint    GetSlotID(Uint t, Uint s);
        RPC*   GetRPC(Uint t, Uint r);

        //Methods to get members of RPC objects stored in RPCs
        string GetName(Uint t, Uint r);
        Uint    GetNGaps(Uint t, Uint r);
        Uint    GetNPartitions(Uint t, Uint r);
        Uint    GetNStrips(Uint t, Uint r);
        string GetGap(Uint t, Uint r, Uint g);
        float  GetGapGeo(Uint t, Uint r, Uint g);
        float  GetStripGeo(Uint t, Uint r, Uint p);
    };

```

*Source Code B.7: Description of C++ object Infrastructure that contains the full information about CMS RPC experiment in GIF++.*

## **3853 B.5 Handeling of data**

**3854** As discussed in Appendix A.4.2, the raw data uses a `TTree` architecture where every entry is related  
**3855** to a trigger signal provided by a muon or a random pulse, whether the goal of the data taking was to  
**3856** measure the performance of the detector or the noise/gamma background respectively. Each of these  
**3857** entries, referred also as events, contain a more or less full list of hits in the TDC channels to which  
**3858** the detectors are connected. To this list of hits corresponds a list of time stamps, marking the arrival  
**3859** of the hits within the TDC channel.

**3860** The infrastructure of the CMS RPC experiment within `GIF++` being defined, combining the raw  
**3861** data information with the information provided by both the mapping/mask file and the dimension  
**3862** file allows to build new physical objects that will help in computing efficiency or rates.

### 3863 B.5.1 RPC hits

3864 The raw data stored in the ROOT file as output of the GIFT++ DAQ, is readout by the analysis tool  
 3865 using the structure `RAWData` presented in Source Code B.9 that differs from the structure presented  
 3866 in Appendix A.4.2 as it is not meant to hold all of the data contained in the ROOT file. In this sense,  
 3867 this structure is in the case of the offline analysis tool not a dynamical object and will only be storing  
 3868 a single event contained in a single entry of the `TTree`.

```
3869
class RPCHit {
  private:
    Uint Channel;      //RPC channel according to mapping (5 digits)
    Uint Trolley;      //0, 1 or 3 (1st digit of the RPC channel)
    Uint Station;      //Slot where is held the RPC in Trolley (2nd digit)
    Uint Strip;        //RPC strip where the hit occurred (last 3 digits)
    Uint Partition;    //Readout partition along eta segmentation
    float TimeStamp;   //Time stamp of the arrival in TDC

  public:
    RPCHit();
    RPCHit(Uint channel, float time, Infrastructure* Infra);
    RPCHit(const RPCHit& other);
    ~RPCHit();
    RPCHit& operator=(const RPCHit& other);

    Uint GetChannel();
    Uint GetTrolley();
    Uint GetStation();
    Uint GetStrip();
    Uint GetPartition();
    float GetTime();
};

typedef vector<RPCHit> HitList;
typedef struct GIFHitList {HitList rpc[NTROLLEYS][NSLOTS][NPARTITIONS];}
  ↪ GIFHitList;

bool SortHitbyStrip(RPCHit h1, RPCHit h2);
bool SortHitbyTime(RPCHit h1, RPCHit h2);
```

3871 *Source Code B.8: Description of C++ object RPCHit.*

```
3872
struct RAWData{
  int          iEvent;     //Event i
  int          TDCNHits;   //Number of hits in event i
  int          QFlag;      //Quality flag list (1 flag digit per TDC)
  vector<Uint> *TDCCh;    //List of channels giving hits per event
  vector<float> *TDCTS;    //List of the corresponding time stamps
};
```

3873 *Source Code B.9: Description of C++ structure RAWData.*

3874 Each member of the structure is then linked to the corresponding branch of the ROOT data tree,  
 3875 as shown in the example of Source Code B.10, and using the method `GetEntry(int i)` of the ROOT  
 3876 class `TTree` will update the state of the members of `RAWData`.

3877 The data is then analysed entry by entry and to each element of the TDC channel list, a `RPCHit` is  
 3878 constructed by linking each TDC channel to the corresponding RPC channel thanks to the Mapping

object. The information carried by the RPC channel format allows to easily retrieve the trolley and slot from which the hit was recorded (see section B.3.2). Using these 2 values, the readout partition can be found by knowing the strip channel and comparing it with the number of partitions and strips per partition stored into the `Infrastructure` object.

```
3879   TTree* dataTree = (TTree*)dataFile.Get("RAWData");
3880   RAWData data;
3881
3882   dataTree->SetBranchAddress("EventNumber", &data.iEvent);
3883   dataTree->SetBranchAddress("number_of_hits", &data.TDCNHits);
3884   dataTree->SetBranchAddress("Quality_flag", &data.QFlag);
3885   dataTree->SetBranchAddress("TDC_channel", &data.TDCCh);
3886   dataTree->SetBranchAddress("TDC_TimeStamp", &data.TDCTS);
```

3885       *Source Code B.10: Example of link in between RAWData and TTree.*

3886       Thus `RPCHit` objects are then stored into 3D dynamical list called `GIFHitList` (Source Code B.8) where the 3 dimensions refer to the 3 layers of the readout in `GIF++`: in the bunker there are *trolleys* ( $\tau$ ) holding detectors in *slots* ( $s$ ) and each detector readout is divided into 1 or more pseudo-rapidity *partitions* ( $p$ ). Using these 3 information allows to assign an address to each readout partition and this address will point to a specific hit list.

3891

### 3892       B.5.2 Clusters of hits

3893       All the hits contained in the ROOT file have been sorted into the different hit lists through the  
 3894 `GIFHitList`. At this point, it is possible to start looking for clusters. A cluster is a group of adjacent  
 3895 strips getting hits within a time window of 25 ns. These strips are then assumed to be part of the same  
 3896 physical avalanche signal generated by a muon passing through the chamber or by the interaction of  
 3897 a gamma stopping into the electrodes of the RPCs.

3898       To keep the cluster information, `RPCCluster` objects have been defined as shown in Source  
 3899 Code B.11. Using the information of each individual `RPCHit` taken out of the hit list, it stores  
 3900 the cluster size (number of adjacent strips composing the cluster), the first and last hit, the center for  
 3901 spatial reconstruction and finally the start and stop time stamps as well as te time spread in between  
 3902 the first and last hit.

3903

3904       To investigate the hit list of a given detector partition, the function `Clusterization()` defined  
 3905 in `include/Cluster.h` needs the hits in the list to be time sorted. This is achieved by calling func-  
 3906 tion `sort()` of library `<algorithm>` using the comparator `SortHitbyTime(RPCHit h1, RPCHit h2)`  
 3907 defined in `include/RPCHit.h` that returns `true` if the time stamp of hit `h1` is lower than that of `h2`.  
 3908 A first isolation of strips is made only based on time information. All the hits within the 25 ns win-  
 3909 dow are taken separately from the rest. Then, this sub-list of hits is sorted this time by ascending  
 3910 strip number, using this time the comparator `SortHitbyStrip(RPCHit h1, RPCHit h2)`. Finally, the  
 3911 groups of adjacent strips are used to construct `RPCCluster` objects that are then stored in a temporary  
 3912 list of clusters that is at the end of the process used to know how many clusters were reconstructed  
 3913 and to fill their sizes into an histogram that will allows to know the mean size of muon or gamma  
 3914 clusters. This method to group hits together into clusters is limited as no systematic study of the  
 3915 average avalanche time development into TDC hits was performed and that there is no correlation

3916 of both spatial and time information to make the first selection of hits. Due to this, two clusters  
 3917 developping consecutively next to each other during a total time longer to 25 ns could be wrongly  
 3918 grouped as a cluster composed of the first developed cluster plus a part of the second cluster while  
 3919 the rest of the second cluster would be placed in a second truncated cluster. This kind of event  
 3920 is not likely but needs to be taken into account nonetheless. A possible improvement would be to  
 3921 identify clusters in a 2D space whose dimensions are time and strip. In this 2D space, the cluster  
 3922 could be geometrically identified as isolated groups of adjacent strips receiving a hit at a similar time.  
 3923

```

3923
3924   class RPCCluster{
3925     private:
3926       Uint ClusterSize; //Size of cluster #ID
3927       Uint FirstStrip; //First strip of cluster #ID
3928       Uint LastStrip; //Last strip of cluster #ID
3929       float Center; //Center of cluster #ID ((first+last)/2)
3930       float StartStamp; //Time stamp of the earliest hit of cluster #ID
3931       float StopStamp; //Time stamp of the latest hit of cluster #ID
3932       float TimeSpread; //Time difference between earliest and latest hits
3933                           //of cluster #ID
3934
3935     public:
3936       RPCCluster();
3937       RPCCluster(HitList List, Uint cID, Uint cSize, Uint first, Uint firstID);
3938       RPCCluster(const RPCCluster& other);
3939       ~RPCCluster();
3940       RPCCluster& operator=(const RPCCluster& other);
3941
3942       Uint GetID();
3943       Uint GetSize();
3944       Uint GetFirstStrip();
3945       Uint GetLastStrip();
3946       float GetCenter();
3947       float GetStart();
3948       float GetStop();
3949       float GetSpread();
3950   };
3951
3952   typedef vector<RPCCluster> ClusterList;
3953
3954   //Other functions to build cluster lists out of hit lists
3955   void BuildClusters(HitList &cluster, ClusterList &clusterList);
3956   void Clusterization(HitList &hits, TH1 *hcSize, TH1 *hcMult);
  
```

3925

*Source Code B.11: Description of C++ object Cluster.*

## 3926 B.6 DAQ data Analysis

3927 All the ingredients to analyse GIFT++ data have been introduced. This section will focus on the  
 3928 different part of the analysis performed on the data, from determining the type of data the tool is  
 3929 dealing with to calculate the hit and cluster rate per unit area in each detector or reconstructing  
 3930 muon or gamma clusters.

### 3931 B.6.1 Determination of the run type

3932 In GIF++, both the performance of the detectors in detecting muons in an irradiated environment  
 3933 and the gamma or noise background can be independantly measured. These correspond to different  
 3934 run types and hence, to different TDC settings giving different data to look at.

3935 In the case of performance measurements, the trigger for data taking is provided by the coin-  
 3936 cidence of several scintillators when muons from the beam passing through the area are detected.  
 3937 Data is collected in a 600 ns wide window centered around the arrival of muons in the RPCs. The  
 3938 expected time distribution of hits is shown in Figure B.1a. The muon peak is clearly visible in the  
 3939 center of the distribution and is to be extracted from the gamma background that composes the flat  
 3940 part of the distribution.

3941 On the other hand, gamma background or noise measurements are focussed on the non muon  
 3942 related physics and the trigger needs to be independant from the muons to give a good measurement  
 3943 of the gamma/noise distribution as seen by the detectors. The trigger is then provided by a pulse  
 3944 generated by the DAQ at a frequency of 100 Hz whose pulse is not likely to be on time with a muon.  
 3945 In order to increase the integrated time without increasing proportionnaly the acquisition time, the  
 3946 width of the acquisition windows are increased to 10  $\mu$ s. The time distribution of the hits is expected  
 3947 to be flat, as shown by Figure B.1b.

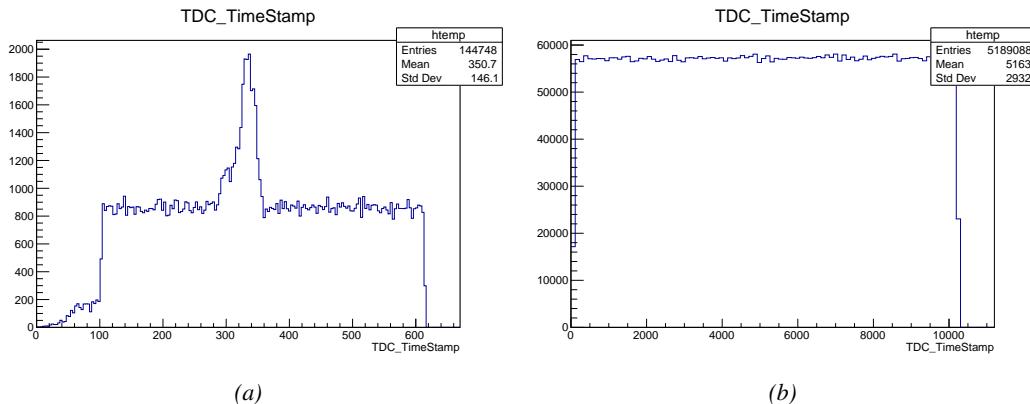


Figure B.1: Example of expected hit time distributions in the cases of efficiency (Figure B.1a) and noise/gamma rate per unit area (Figure B.1b) measurements as extracted from the raw ROOT files. The unit along the x-axis corresponds to ns. The fact that "the" muon peak is not well defined in Figure B.1a is due to the contribution of all the RPCs being tested at the same time that don't necessarily have the same signal arrival time. Each individual peak can have an offset with the ones of other detectors. The inconsistancy in the first 100 ns of both time distributions is an artefact of the TDCs and are systematically rejected during the analysis.

3948 The ROOT files include a `TTree` called `RunParameters` containing, among other things, the infor-  
 3949 mation related to the run type. The run type can then be accessed as described by Source Code B.12  
 3950 and the function `IsEfficiencyRun()` is then used to determine if the run file is an efficiency run or,  
 3951 on the contrary, another type of run (noise or gamma measurement).

3952 Finally, the data files will have a slightly different content whether it was collected before or after  
 3953 October 2017 and the upgrade of the DAQ software that brought a new information into the ROOT  
 3954 output. This is discussed in Appendix A.4.3 and implies that the analysis will differ a little depending  
 3955 on the data format. Indeed, as no information on the data quality is stored, in older data files, the cor-  
 3956 rections for missing events has to be done at the end of the analysis. The information about the type

3957 of data format is stored in the variable **bool** `isNewFormat` by checking the list of branches contained  
 3958 in the data tree via the methods `TTree::GetListOfBranches()` and `TCollection::Contains()`.

```
3959
3960     TTree* RunParameters = (TTree*)dataFile.Get("RunParameters");
3961     TString* RunType = new TString();
3962     RunParameters->SetBranchAddress("RunType", &RunType);
3963     RunParameters->GetEntry(0);
```

3961       *Source Code B.12: Access to the run type contained in `TTree* RunParameters`.*

## 3962     B.6.2 Beam time window calculation for efficiency runs

3963 Knowing the run type is important first of all to know the width of the acquisition window to be used  
 3964 for the rate calculation and finally to be able to seek for muons. Indeed, the peak that appears in the  
 3965 time distribution for each detectors is then fitted to extract the most probable time window in which  
 3966 the tool should look for muon hits. The data outside of this time window is then used to evaluate the  
 3967 noise or gamma background the detector was subjected to during the data taking. Computing the  
 3968 position of the peak is done calling the function `SetBeamWindow()` defined in file `src/RPCHit.cc` that  
 3969 loops a first time on the data. The data is first sorted in a 3D array of 1D histograms (`GIFH1Array`, see  
 3970 `include/types.h`). Then the location of the highest bin is determined using `TH1::GetMaximumBin()`  
 3971 and is used to define a window in which a gaussian fit will be applied to compute the peak width.  
 3972 This window is a 80 ns defined by Formula B.1 around the central bin.

$$(B.1a) \quad t_{center}(ns) = bin \times width_{bin}(ns)$$

$$(B.1b) \quad [t_{low}; t_{high}] = [t_{center} - 40; t_{center} + 40]$$

3973 Before the fit is performed, the average number of noise/gamma hits per bin is evaluated using  
 3974 the data outside of the fit window. Excluding the first 100 ns, the average number of hits per bin  
 3975 due to the noise or gamma is defined by Formula B.2 after extracting the amount of hits in the time  
 3976 windows  $[100; t_{low}]$  and  $[t_{high}; 600]$  thanks to the method `TH1::Integral()`. This average number  
 3977 of hits is then subtracted to every bin of the 1D histogram, in order to *clean* it from the noise or  
 3978 gamma contribution as much as possible to improve the fit quality. Bins where  $\langle n_{hits} \rangle$  is greater  
 3979 than the actual bin content are set to 0.

$$(B.2a) \quad \Delta t_{noise}(ns) = 600 \overbrace{-t_{high} + t_{low}}^{-80ns} - 100 = 420ns$$

$$(B.2b) \quad \langle n_{hits} \rangle = width_{bin}(ns) \times \frac{\sum_{t=100}^{t_{low}} + \sum_{t=t_{high}}^{600}}{\Delta t_{noise}(ns)}$$

3980 Finally, the fit parameters are extracted and saved for each detector in 3D arrays of **float**  
 3981 (`muonPeak`, see `include/types.h`), a first one for the mean arrival time of the muons, `PeakTime`,  
 3982 a second for the height or strength of the peak, `PeakHeight`, and a third one for the width of the  
 3983 peak, `PeakWidth`. The width is on purpose chosen to be wider than the peak and defined as  $6\sigma$  of the  
 3984 gaussian fit, for a peak range being as given by Formula B.3.

$$(B.3) \quad [t_{low}^{peak}; t_{high}^{peak}] = [t_{center}^{peak} - 3\sigma; t_{center}^{peak} + 3\sigma]$$

3985 For a finer analysis, it is advised to determine more precisely the width of the peak to exclude  
 3986 as much noise or background hits as possible. The same settings are applied to every partitions of  
 3987 the same detector. To determine which one of the detector's partitions is directly illuminated by the  
 3988 beam, the peak height of each partition is compared and the highest one is then used to define the  
 3989 peak settings.

3990 It is not possible to identify the particles causing the hits, hence muons, background gamma  
 3991 particles or even noise could be responsible of hits within the time window. To be able to account  
 3992 for this effect, the peak width extracted from the fit on the peak will also be used to define a fake  
 3993 time window, uncorrelated to the muon peak and in which a fake efficiency, contribution from both  
 3994 background and noise, will be measured. This window corresponds to the time range described in  
 3995 Formula B.4.

$$(B.4) \quad [t_{low}^{fake}; t_{high}^{fake}] = [600 - 6\sigma; 600]$$

### 3996 B.6.3 Data loop and histogram filling

3997 3D arrays of histogram are created to store the data and display it on the DQM of GIF++ webDCS  
 3998 for the use of shifters. The dimensions correspond to the different layers held into the GIF++ infras-  
 3999 tructure (trolleys `T` containing RPCs or `slots` `s` each being divided into read-out partitions `p`). These  
 4000 histograms, presented in section B.2.1.1, are filled while looping on the data. Before starting the  
 4001 analysis loop, it is necessary to control the entry quality for the new file formats featuring `QFlag`. If  
 4002 the `QFlag` value for this entry shows that 1 TDC or more have a `CORRUPTED` flag, then this event is  
 4003 discarded. The loss of statistics is low enough to be neglected. `QFlag` is controlled using the func-  
 4004 tion `IsCorruptedEvent()` defined in `src/utils.cc`. As explained in Appendix A.4.3, each digit of  
 4005 this integer represent a TDC flag that can be either 1 or 2. Each 2 is the sign of a `CORRUPTED` state.  
 4006 Then, the data is accessed entry by entry in the ROOT `TTree` using `RAWData` and each hit in the hit  
 4007 list is assigned to a detector channel and saved in the corresponding histograms. As described in  
 4008 Source Code B.13, in the first part of the analysis, in which the loop over the ROOT file's content is  
 4009 performed, the different steps are:

4010 **1- RPC channel assignment and control:** a check is done on the RPC channel extracted thanks  
 4011 to the mapping via the method `Mapping::GetLink()`. If the channel is not initialised and is 0, or if  
 4012 the TDC channel is not contained in a range in between X000 and X127, X being the TDC ID, the  
 4013 hit is discarded. This means there was a problem in the mapping. Often a mapping problem leads to  
 4014 the failure of the offline tool.

4015 **2- Creation of a `RPCHit` object:** to easily get the trolley, slot and partition in which the hit has  
 4016 been assigned, this object is particularly helpful.

4017 **3- General histograms are filled:** the hit is filled into the time distribution, global hit distribution  
 4018 and time versus strip histograms, and if the arrival time is within the first 100 ns, it is discarded and  
 4019 nothing else happens and the loop proceeds with the next hit in the list, going back to step 1.

4020

```

for(int h = 0; h < data.TDCCh->size(); h++) {
    Uint tdcchannel = data.TDCCh->at(h);
    Uint rpcchannel = RPCChMap->GetLink(tdcchannel);
    float timestamp = data.TDCTS->at(h);
    //Get rid of the hits in channels not considered in the mapping
    if(rpcchannel != NOCHANNELLINK) {
        RPCHit hit(rpcchannel, timestamp, GIFInfra);
        Uint T = hit.GetTrolley();
        Uint S = hit.GetStation()-1;
        Uint P = hit.GetPartition()-1;
        //Fill the time and hit profiles
        TimeProfile_H.rpc[T][S][P]->Fill(hit.GetTime());
        HitProfile_H.rpc[T][S][P]->Fill(hit.GetStrip());
        TimeVSChanProfile_H.rpc[T][S][P]->Fill(hit.GetStrip(), hit.GetTime());
        //Reject the 100 first ns due to inhomogeneity of data
        if(hit.GetTime() >= TIMEREJECT) {
            Multiplicity.rpc[T][S][P]++;
            if(IsEfficiencyRun(RunType)) {
                //Define peak time range for efficiency calculation
                float lowlimit_eff = PeakTime.rpc[T][S][P]
                    - PeakWidth.rpc[T][S][P];
                float highlimit_eff = PeakTime.rpc[T][S][P]
                    + PeakWidth.rpc[T][S][P];
                bool peakrange = (hit.GetTime() >= lowlimit_eff
                    && hit.GetTime() < highlimit_eff);
                //Fill hits inside of the defined peak and noise range
                if(peakrange) {
                    BeamProfile_H.rpc[T][S][P]->Fill(hit.GetStrip());
                    PeakHitList.rpc[T][S][P].push_back(hit);
                } else {
                    StripNoiseProfile_H.rpc[T][S][P]->Fill(hit.GetStrip());
                    NoiseHitList.rpc[T][S][P].push_back(hit);
                }
                //Then define time range for fake efficiency
                float highlimit_fake = BMTDCWINDOW;
                float lowlimit_fake = highlimit_fake
                    - (highlimit_eff-lowlimit_eff);
                bool fakerange = (hit.GetTime() >= lowlimit_fake
                    && hit.GetTime() < highlimit_fake);
                //Fill the hits inside of the fake window
                if(fakerange) {
                    FakeHitList.rpc[T][S][P].push_back(hit);
                }
            } else {
                //Fill the hits inside of the defined noise range
                StripNoiseProfile_H.rpc[T][S][P]->Fill(hit.GetStrip());
                NoiseHitList.rpc[T][S][P].push_back(hit);
            }
        }
    }
}

```

4021

*Source Code B.13: For each entry of the raw ROOT data file, the code loops over the list of channels and corresponding time stamps contained in branches `TDC_channel` and `TDC_TimeStamp` and constructs `RPCHit` objects that are filled in the peak, noise and fake hit lists and also fills the time, hit, beam and noise profiles.*

4022

**4- Multiplicity counter:** the hit multiplicity counter of the corresponding detectors is incremented.

4023

4024 **5-a-1 Efficiency runs - Is the hit within the peak window? :** if the hit is contained in the peak  
 4025 window previously defined by Formula B.3, it is filled into the beam hit profile histogram of the  
 4026 corresponding chamber, added into the list of peak hits and increments the counter of *in time* hits.  
 4027 The term *in time* here refers to the hits that are likely to be muons by arriving in the expected time  
 4028 window. If the hit is outside of the peak window, it is filled into the noise profile histogram of  
 4029 the corresponding detector, added into the list of noise/gamma hits and increments the counter of  
 4030 noise/gamma hits.

4031 **5-a-2 Efficiency runs - Is the hit within the fake window? :** if the hit is contained in the fake  
 4032 window previously defined by Formula B.4, it is added into the list of fake hits. Counting the fake  
 4033 hits outside the peak window allows to estimate the probability to detect in time background or noise.

4034 **5-b- Noise/gamma rate runs - Noise histograms are filled:** the hit is filled into the noise profile  
 4035 histogram of the corresponding detector, added into the list of noise/gamma hits and increments the  
 4036 counter of noise/gamma hits.

```
4037
  for(UInt tr = 0; tr < GIFInfra->GetNTrolleys(); tr++) {
    UInt T = GIFInfra->GetTrolleyID(tr);
    for(UInt sl = 0; sl < GIFInfra->GetNSlots(tr); sl++) {
      UInt S = GIFInfra->GetSlotID(tr,sl) - 1;
      UInt nStripsPart = GIFInfra->GetNStrips(tr,sl);
      string rpcID = GIFInfra->GetName(tr,sl);
      for (UInt p = 0; p < GIFInfra->GetNPartitions(tr,sl); p++) {
        //Clusterize noise/gamma data
        sort(NoiseHitList.rpc[T][S][p].begin(),
              NoiseHitList.rpc[T][S][p].end(),SortHitbyTime);
        Clusterization(NoiseHitList.rpc[T][S][p],
                       NoiseCSize_H.rpc[T][S][p],NoiseCMult_H.rpc[T][S][p]);
        //Clusterize muon data and fill efficiency histograms based on
        //the content of peak and fake hit vectors if efficiency run
        if(IsEfficiencyRun(RunType)){
          //Peak data
          sort(PeakHitList.rpc[T][S][p].begin(),
                PeakHitList.rpc[T][S][p].end(),SortHitbyTime);
          Clusterization(PeakHitList.rpc[T][S][p],
                         PeakCSize_H.rpc[T][S][p],PeakCMult_H.rpc[T][S][p]);
          if(PeakHitList.rpc[T][S][p].size() > 0)
            EfficiencyPeak_H.rpc[T][S][p]->Fill(DETECTED);
          else EfficiencyPeak_H.rpc[T][S][p]->Fill(MISSED);

          //Fake data
          if(FakeHitList.rpc[T][S][p].size() > 0)
            EfficiencyFake_H.rpc[T][S][p]->Fill(DETECTED);
          else EfficiencyFake_H.rpc[T][S][p]->Fill(MISSED);
        }
        //Save and reinitialise the hit multiplicity
        HitMultiplicity_H.rpc[T][S][p]->Fill(Multiplicity.rpc[T][S][p]);
        Multiplicity.rpc[T][S][p] = 0;
      }
    }
  }
```

4039       Source Code B.14: Loops to clusterize the hit lists and fill efficiency and multiplicity histograms.

4040       After the loop on the hit list of the entry is over, the next step is to clusterize the 3D lists filled

4041 in the previous steps, as displayed in Source Code B.14. A 3D loop is then started over the active  
 4042 trolley, slot and RPC partitions to access these objects. Each `NoiseHitList` and `PeakHitList`, in  
 4043 case of efficiency run, are clusterized as described in section B.5.2. There corresponding cluster size  
 4044 and multiplicity histograms are filled at the end of the clustering process.

4045 Then, the peak and fake efficiency histograms are filled in case of efficiency run. The selection is  
 4046 simply made by checking whether the RPC detected signals in the peak window or/and fake window  
 4047 during this event. In the case a hit is recorded in either of both time windows, the histogram is  
 4048 filled with 1. On the contrary, the histogram is filled with 0. Finally, it is useful to remind that  
 4049 at this level, it is not possible yet to discriminate in between a muon hit and noise or gamma hit.  
 4050 the histograms `PeakCSize_H`, `PeakCMult_H` and `EfficiencyPeak_H` are then subjected to noise and  
 4051 background contamination. This contamination is estimated thanks to the fake efficiency histogram  
 4052 `EfficiencyFake_H` and corrected at the moment the results will be written into output CSV files and  
 4053 the histograms `MuonCSize_H`, `MuonCMult_H` and `Efficiency0_H` will be filled. The correction will be  
 4054 explained in Section B.6.4.3.

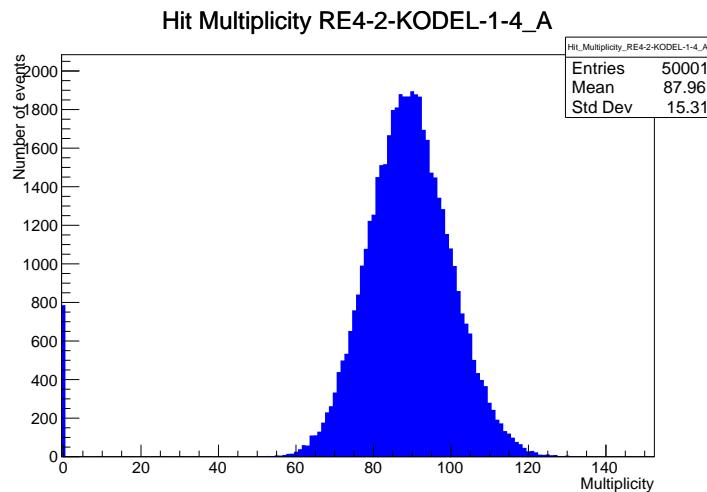
4055 Finally, the loop ends on the filling of the general hit multiplicity histogram of each detector  
 4056 partitions.

#### 4057 **B.6.4 Results calculation**

4058 As mentioned in section B.2.1, the analysis of DAQ data provides the user with 3 CSV files and  
 4059 a ROOT file associated to each and every ROOT data file. The fourth CSV file is provided by the  
 4060 extraction of the CEAN main frame data monitored during data taking and will be discussed later.  
 4061 After looping on the data in the previous part of the analysis macro, the output files are created and a  
 4062 3D loop on each RPC readout partitions is started to extract the histograms parameters and compute  
 4063 the final results.

4064

##### 4065 **B.6.4.1 Rate normalisation**



*Figure B.2: The effect of the quality flag is explained by presenting the reconstructed hit multiplicity of a data file without `Quality_flag`. The artificial high content of bin 0 is the effect of corrupted data.*

4066 The hit rate normalization corresponds to translating a number of hits recorded during the full duration  
 4067 of data taking into a rate per unit area value. In order to achieve such result, it is first needed  
 4068 to know the total integrated time and the active area of the read-out partition on which the hits are  
 4069 counted. The total integrated is simply the noise window used for each event multiplied by the total  
 4070 number of events stored in the data file.

```
4071
  if(!isNewFormat){
    TF1* GaussFit = new TF1("gaussfit","[0]*exp(-0.5*((x-[1])/[2])**2)",0,Xmax);
    GaussFit->SetParameter(0,100);
    GaussFit->SetParameter(1,10);
    GaussFit->SetParameter(2,1);
    HitMultiplicity_H.rpc[T][S][p]->Fit(GaussFit,"LIQR","");
    HitMultiplicity_H.rpc[T][S][p]->Fit(GaussFit,"LIQR","");
  }

  TF1* SkewFit = new TF1("skewfit","[0]*exp(-0.5*((x-[1])/[2])**2) / (1 +
  ← exp(-[3]*(x-[4])))",0,Xmax);
  SkewFit->SetParameter(0,GaussFit->GetParameter(0));
  SkewFit->SetParameter(1,GaussFit->GetParameter(1));
  SkewFit->SetParameter(2,GaussFit->GetParameter(2));
  SkewFit->SetParameter(3,1);
  SkewFit->SetParameter(4,1);
  HitMultiplicity_H.rpc[T][S][p]->Fit(SkewFit,"LIQR","");
  HitMultiplicity_H.rpc[T][S][p]->Fit(SkewFit,"LIQR","");
}

4072
  double fitValue = SkewFit->Eval(1,0,0,0);
  double dataValue = (double)HitMultiplicity_H.rpc[T][S][p]->GetBinContent(2);
  double difference = TMath::Abs(dataValue - fitValue);
  double fitTOdataVSentries_ratio = difference / (double)nEntries;
  bool isFitGOOD = fitTOdataVSentries_ratio < 0.01;
  double nSinglehit = (double)HitMultiplicity_H.rpc[T][S][p]->GetBinContent(1);
  double lowMultRatio = nSinglehit / (double)nEntries;
  bool isMultLOW = lowMultRatio > 0.4;
  if(isFitGOOD && !isMultLOW){
    nEmptyEvent = HitMultiplicity_H.rpc[T][S][p]->GetBinContent(1);
    nPhysics = (int)SkewFit->Eval(0,0,0,0);
    if(nPhysics < nEmptyEvent)
      nEmptyEvent = nEmptyEvent-nPhysics;
  }
}
double corrupt_ratio = 100.*(double)nEmptyEvent / (double)nEntries;
outputCorrCSV << corrupt_ratio << '\t';
float rate_norm = 0.;
float stripArea = GIFIInfra->GetStripGeo(tr,sl,p);

if(IsEfficiencyRun(RunType)){
  float noiseWindow = BMTDCWINDOW - TIMEREJECT - 2*PeakWidth.rpc[T][S][p];
  rate_norm = (nEntries-nEmptyEvent)*noiseWindow*1e-9*stripArea;
} else
  rate_norm = (nEntries-nEmptyEvent)*RDMNOISEWDW*1e-9*stripArea;
```

4073 *Source Code B.15: Definition of the rate normalisation variable. It takes into account the number of non corrupted entries and the time window used for noise and background calculation, to estimate the total integrated time, and the strip active area to express the result as rate per unit area.*

4074 Nevertheless, to analyse old data format files, not containing any quality flag, it is needed to  
 4075 estimate the amount of corrupted data via a fit as the corrupted data will always fill events with a  
 4076 fake "0 multiplicity". Indeed, as no hits were stored in the DAQ ROOT files, these events artificially  
 4077 contribute to fill the bin corresponding to a null multiplicity, as shown in Figure B.2. In the case the  
 4078 mean of the hit multiplicity distribution is high, the contribution of the corrupted data can easily be

evaluated for later correction by comparing the level of the bin at multiplicity 0 and of a skew fit curve that should indicate a value consistent with 0. A skew fit has been chosen over a Poisson fit as it was giving better results for lower mean multiplicity values. Nevertheless, for low irradiation cases, as explained in Appendix A.4.3, the hit multiplicity distribution mean is, on the contrary, rather small and the probability to record events without hits can't be considered small anymore, leading to a difficult and non-reliable estimation of the corruption.

As can be seen in Source Code B.15, conditions have been applied to prevent bad fits and wrong corruption estimation in cases where :

- The difference in between the data for multiplicity 1 and the corresponding fit value should be lower than 1% of the total amount of data :  $\frac{|n_{m=1} - sk(1)|}{N_{tot}} < 0.01$  where  $n_{m=1}$  is the number of entries with multiplicity 1,  $sk(1)$  the value of the skew fit, as defined by Formula 5.2, for multiplicity 1 and  $N_{tot}$  the total number of entries.
- The amount of data contained in the multiplicity 0 bin should not exceed 40% of the total data content:  $\frac{n_{m=0}}{N_{tot}} \leq 0.4$  where  $n_{m=0}$  is the number of entries with multiplicity 0. This number has been determined to be the maximum to be able to separate the excess of data due to corruption from the hit multiplicity distribution.

Those 2 conditions need to be fulfilled to estimate the corruption of old data format files. If the fit was successful, the level of corruption is written in `Offline-Corrupted.csv` and the number of corrupted entries, refered as the integer `nEmptyEvent`, is subtracted from the total number of entries when the rate normalisation factor is computed as explicitated in Source Code B.15. Note that for new data format files, the number of corrupted entries being set to 0, the definition of `rate_norm` stays valid.

#### B.6.4.2 Rate and activity

At this point, the strip rate histograms, `StripNoiseProfile_H.rpc[T][S][p]`, only contain an information about the total number of noise or background rate hits each channel received during the data taking. As described in Source Code B.16, a loop on the strip channels will be used to normalise the content of the rate distribution histogram for each detector partitions. The initial number of hits recorded for a given bin will be extracted and 2 values are computed.

- The strip hit rate, defined as the number of hits recorded in the bin normalised like described in the previous section, using the variable `rate_norm` and the corresponding bin in histogram `StripNoiseProfile_H.rpc[T][S][p]` is updated, and
- the strip activity, defined as the number of hits recorded in the bin normalised to the average number of hits per bin contained in the partition histogram, using the variable `averageNhit`. This value provides an information on the homogeneity of the detector response to the gamma background or of the detector noise. An activity of 1 corresponds to an average response. Above 1, the channel is more active than the average and bellow 1, the channel is less active. This value is filled in the histograms `StripActivity_H.rpc[T][S][p]`.

```

int nNoise = StripNoiseProfile_H.rpc[T][S][p]->GetEntries();
float averageNhit = (nNoise>0) ? (float) (nNoise/nStripsPart) : 1.;

for(UInt st = 1; st <= nStripsPart; st++){
    float stripRate =
        StripNoiseProfile_H.rpc[T][S][p]->GetBinContent(st)/rate_norm;
    float stripAct =
        StripNoiseProfile_H.rpc[T][S][p]->GetBinContent(st)/averageNhit;

    StripNoiseProfile_H.rpc[T][S][p]->SetBinContent(st,stripRate);
    StripActivity_H.rpc[T][S][p]->SetBinContent(st,stripAct);
}

```

*Source Code B.16: Description of the loop that allows to set the content of each strip rate and strip activity channel for each detector partition.*

On each detector partitions, which are read-out by a single FEE, all the channels are not processed by the same chip. Each chip can give a different noise response and hence, histograms using a chip binning are used to investigate chip related noise behaviours. The average values of the strip rate or activity grouped into a given chip are extracted using the using the function `GetChipBin()` and stored in dedicated histograms as described in Source Codes B.17 and B.18 respectively.

```

float GetChipBin(TH1* H, UInt chip){
    UInt start = 1 + chip*NSTRIPSCHIP;
    int nActive = NSTRIPSCHIP;
    float mean = 0.;

    for(UInt b = start; b <= (chip+1)*NSTRIPSCHIP; b++) {
        float value = H->GetBinContent(b);
        mean += value;
        if(value == 0.) nActive--;
    }

    if(nActive != 0) mean /= (float)nActive;
    else mean = 0.;

    return mean;
}

```

*Source Code B.17: Function used to compute the content of a bin for an histogram using chip binning.*

```

for(UInt ch = 0; ch < (nStripsPart/NSTRIPSCHIP); ch++) {
    ChipMeanNoiseProf_H.rpc[T][S][p]->
        SetBinContent(ch+1,GetChipBin(StripNoiseProfile_H.rpc[T][S][p],ch));
    ChipActivity_H.rpc[T][S][p]->
        SetBinContent(ch+1,GetChipBin(StripActivity_H.rpc[T][S][p],ch));
}

```

*Source Code B.18: Description of the loop that allows to set the content of each chip rate and chip activity bins for each detector partition knowing the information contained in the corresponding strip distribution histograms.*

The activity variable is then used to evaluate the homogeneity of the detector response to background or of the detector noise. The homogeneity  $h_p$  of each detector partition can be evaluated

4130 using the formula  $h_p = \exp(-\sigma_p^R / \langle R \rangle_p)$ , where  $\langle R \rangle_p$  is the partition mean rate and  $\sigma_p^R$  is the  
 4131 rate standard deviation calculated over the partition channels. The more homogeneously the rates  
 4132 are distributed and the smaller will  $\sigma_p^R$  be, and the closer to 1 will  $h_p$  get. On the contrary, if the  
 4133 standard deviation of the channel's rates is large,  $h_p$  will rapidly get to 0. This value is saved into  
 4134 histograms as shown in Source Code B.19 and could in the future be used to monitor through time,  
 4135 once extracted, the evolution of every partition homogeneity. This could be of great help to under-  
 4136 stand the apparition of eventual hot spots due to ageing of the chambers subjected to high radiation  
 4137 levels. The monitored homogeneity information could then be combined with a monitoring of the  
 4138 activity of each individual channel in order to have a finer information. Monitoring tools have been  
 4139 suggested and need to be developed for this purpose.

```
4140
float MeanPartSDev = GetTH1StdDev(StripNoiseProfile_H.rpc[T][S][p]);
float strip_homog = (MeanPartRate==0)
    ? 0.
    : exp(-MeanPartSDev/MeanPartRate);
StripHomogeneity_H.rpc[T][S][p]->Fill("exp -#left(#frac{\#sigma_{Strip}
    \rightarrow Rate}{\#mu_{Strip Rate}}\#right)",strip_homog);
StripHomogeneity_H.rpc[T][S][p]->GetYaxis()->SetRangeUser(0.,1.);

4141
float ChipStDevMean = GetTH1StdDev(ChipMeanNoiseProf_H.rpc[T][S][p]);
float chip_homog = (MeanPartRate==0)
    ? 0.
    : exp(-ChipStDevMean/MeanPartRate);
ChipHomogeneity_H.rpc[T][S][p]->Fill("exp -#left(#frac{\#sigma_{Chip}
    \rightarrow Rate}{\#mu_{Chip Rate}}\#right)",chip_homog);
ChipHomogeneity_H.rpc[T][S][p]->GetYaxis()->SetRangeUser(0.,1.);
```

4142 *Source Code B.19: Storage of the homogeneity into dedicated histograms.*

#### 4143 B.6.4.3 Correction of muon performance parameters

4144 By previously filling the peak and fake efficiency histograms as well as the peak and noise cluster  
 4145 size and cluster multiplicity it is possible to compute the efficiency of muon detection, the muon  
 4146 cluster size, as well as the muon cluster multiplicity. This calculation is based on independent  
 4147 event probabilities. The independent events that can be measured in the data are, " $\mu$ : A muon was  
 4148 detected" and " $\gamma$ : noise or background was detected". It is trivial to realize that the data in the peak  
 4149 window corresponds to the intersection of both events, " $\mu \cup \gamma$ : a muon or noise or background was  
 4150 detected". This way, the efficiency measured in the peak window is actually the probability of the  
 4151 event  $\mu \cup \gamma$  while the efficiency in the fake window is then the probability of the event  $\gamma$  alone.  
 4152 Assuming that  $\mu$  and  $\gamma$  are independent, the probability of their intersection can be written as in  
 4153 Formula B.5.

$$(B.5) \quad P(\mu \cup \gamma) = P(\mu) + P(\gamma) - P(\mu)P(\gamma)$$

4154 Isolating the probability of the event  $\mu$  alone, actually corresponding to the muon detection  
 4155 efficiency, can be then calculated with the quantities that are contained in the peak and fake histogram  
 4156 as in Formula B.6.

$$(B.6) \quad P(\mu) = \frac{P(\mu \cup \gamma) - P(\gamma)}{1 - P(\gamma)} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \epsilon_\mu = \frac{\epsilon_{peak} - \epsilon_{fake}}{1 - \epsilon_{fake}}$$

```

if(IsEfficiencyRun(RunType)){  

    //Evaluate the probabilities for each detection case with errors  

    float P_peak = EfficiencyPeak_H.rpc[T][S][p]->GetMean();  

    float P_fake = EfficiencyFake_H.rpc[T][S][p]->GetMean();  

    float P_muon = (P_peak-P_fake)/(1-P_fake);  

    float P_both = P_muon*P_fake;  

    float P_peak_err = sqrt(P_peak*(1.-P_peak)/nEntries);  

    float P_fake_err = sqrt(P_fake*(1.-P_fake)/nEntries);  

    float P_muon_err = sqrt(P_muon*(1.-P_muon)/nEntries);  

    float P_both_err = sqrt(P_both*(1.-P_both)/nEntries);  

    Efficiency0_H.rpc[T][S][p]->Fill("muon efficiency",P_muon);  

    Efficiency0_H.rpc[T][S][p]->Fill("muon efficiency error",P_muon_err);  

    //For each case get the fraction of events it represents  

    float F_both = P_both/P_peak;  

    float F_muon = (P_muon-P_both)/P_peak;  

    float F_fake = (P_fake-P_both)/P_peak;  

    float F_both_err = F_both*(P_both_err/P_both+P_peak_err/P_peak);  

    float F_muon_err = (P_muon_err+F_both_err+F_muon*P_peak_err)/P_peak;  

    float F_fake_err = (P_fake_err+F_both_err+F_fake*P_peak_err)/P_peak;  

    //Get the measured cluster sizes correcting using the fractions  

    float CS_peak = PeakCSIZE_H.rpc[T][S][p]->GetMean();  

    float CS_fake = NoiseCSIZE_H.rpc[T][S][p]->GetMean();  

    float CS_peak_err = 2*PeakCSIZE_H.rpc[T][S][p]->GetStdDev()  

        /sqrt(PeakCSIZE_H.rpc[T][S][p]->GetEntries());  

    float CS_fake_err = 2*NoiseCSIZE_H.rpc[T][S][p]->GetStdDev()  

        /sqrt(NoiseCSIZE_H.rpc[T][S][p]->GetEntries());  

    float CS_muon = (CS_peak-CS_fake*(F_fake+F_both/2.))/(F_muon+F_both/2.);  

    float CS_muon_err = (CS_peak_err  

        +(F_fake+F_both/2.)*CS_fake_err  

        +CS_muon*F_muon_err  

        +CS_fake*(F_fake_err+F_both_err/2.))  

        /(F_muon+F_both/2.);  

    MuonCSIZE_H.rpc[T][S][p]->Fill("muon cluster size",CS_muon);  

    MuonCSIZE_H.rpc[T][S][p]->Fill("muon cluster size error",CS_muon_err);  

    //Finally get the muon cluster multiplicity as peak-fake  

    float noiseWindow = BMTDCWINDOW - TIMEREJECT - 2*PeakWidth.rpc[T][S][p];  

    float peakWindow = 2*PeakWidth.rpc[T][S][p];  

    float CM_peak = PeakCMult_H.rpc[T][S][p]->GetMean();  

    float CM_fake = NoiseCMult_H.rpc[T][S][p]->GetMean()*peakWindow/noiseWindow;  

    float CM_muon = CM_peak-CM_fake;  

    float CM_peak_err = 2*PeakCMult_H.rpc[T][S][p]->GetStdDev()  

        /sqrt(PeakCMult_H.rpc[T][S][p]->GetEntries());  

    float CM_fake_err = 2*NoiseCMult_H.rpc[T][S][p]->GetStdDev()  

        /sqrt(NoiseCMult_H.rpc[T][S][p]->GetEntries())  

        * peakWindow/noiseWindow;  

    float CM_muon_err = CM_peak_err + CM_fake_err;  

    MuonCMult_H.rpc[T][S][p]->Fill("muon cluster multiplicity",CM_muon);  

    MuonCMult_H.rpc[T][S][p]->Fill("muon cluster multiplicity  

    ↳ error",CM_muon_err);  

    //Write in the output CSV file  

    outputEffCSV << P_muon << '\t' << P_muon_err << '\t'  

        << CS_muon << '\t' << CS_muon_err << '\t'  

        << CM_peak << '\t' << CM_peak_err << '\t';
}

```

4158      Source Code B.20: Analysis algorithm to compute muon efficiency, cluster size and multiplicity knowing the peak and fake efficiency, cluster size and multiplicity.

When it comes to the computation of the muon cluster size, a similar reasoning than for the muon detection efficiency computation can be used. Indeed, using Formula B.5, out of the total number of events where a muon or noise or background can be expressed as a sum of fractions of events  $\mu$ ,  $\gamma$  and  $\mu \cap \gamma$ , the later being the event corresponding to the detection of both events simultaneously, as showed in Formula B.7. The fractions can be expressed as a ratio of the probabilities already known, using this time the notation  $P(\mu \cap \gamma)$  instead of  $P(\mu)P(\gamma)$ . This choice was made to make the code a little clearer.

$$(B.7) \quad 1 = F_\mu + F_\gamma + F_{\mu \cap \gamma} = \frac{P(\mu) - P(\mu \cap \gamma)}{P(\mu \cup \gamma)} + \frac{P(\gamma) - P(\mu \cap \gamma)}{P(\mu \cup \gamma)} + \frac{P(\mu \cap \gamma)}{P(\mu \cup \gamma)}$$

Each ones of these events have an associated cluster size. The cluster size of the noise or background already is measured thanks to the clusterization of the noise hit list. In the same way, the peak cluster size corresponds to the cluster measured for the event  $\mu \cup \gamma$ . Nevertheless, the cluster of the event  $\mu \cap \gamma$  is not known but it can be assumed that the probability of having more than 1 noise or background cluster contained in the peak window is very low if the peak wondow duration is compared to the background rate that rarely seen to go beyond 2000 Hz/cm<sup>2</sup> [to be confirmed]. Hence, the cluster size that is likely to be measured in such kind of event where both a muon and a background or noise cluster was recorded is the average of the muon cluster size and the background cluster size. The cluster size  $C_{\mu \cup \gamma}$  probed in the peak can then be written as in Formula B.8 and leads to the expression for the muon cluster size  $C_\mu$  written in Formula B.9.

$$(B.8) \quad C_{\mu \cup \gamma} = C_\mu F_\mu + C_\gamma F_\gamma + \frac{C_\mu + C_\gamma}{2} \times F_{\mu \cap \gamma}$$

$$(B.9) \quad C_\mu = \frac{C_{\mu \cup \gamma} - C_\gamma \times (F_\gamma + F_{\mu \cap \gamma}/2)}{F_\mu + F_{\mu \cap \gamma}/2}$$

Finally, the computation of the muon cluster multiplicity comes quite naturally as the cluster multiplicity measured in the peak to which is subtracted the background cluster multiplpicity taken in a window of similar width. These calculations, as well as the error propagation that was not explicitated here, can be seen going through Source Code B.20.

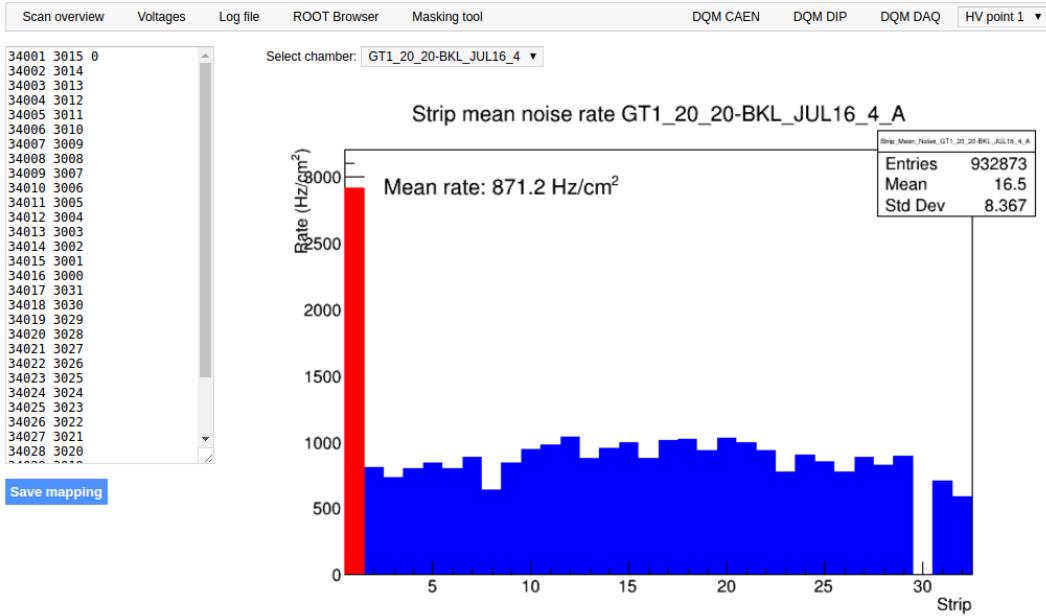
#### B.6.4.4 Strip masking tool

The offline tool is automatically called at the end of each data taking to analyse the data and offer the shifter DQM histograms to control the data quality. After the histograms have been published online in the DQM page, the shifter can decide to mask noisy or dead channels that will contribute to bias the final rate calculation by editing the mask column of `ChannelsMapping.csv` as can be seen in Figure B.3.

From the code point of view, the function `GetTH1Mean()` is used to retrieve the mean rate partition by partition after the rates have been calculated strip by strip and filled into the histograms `StripNoiseProfile_H.rpc[T][S][p]`, as described through Source Code B.21.

Once the mask for each rejected channel has been updated, the shifter can manually run the offline tool again to update the DQM plots, now including the masked strips, as well the rate results written in the output CSV file `Offline-Rate.csv`. If not done during the shifts, the strip masking

4192 procedure needs to be carefully done by the person in charge of data analysis on the scans that were  
 4193 selected to produce the final results.



*Figure B.3: Display of the masking tool page on the webDCS. The window on the left allows the shifter to edit ChannelsMapping.csv. To mask a channel, it only is needed to set the 3rd field corresponding to the strip to mask to 0. It is not necessary for older mapping file formats to add a 1 for each strip that is not masked as the code is versatile and the default behaviour is to consider missing mask fields as active strips. The effect of the mask is directly visible for noisy channels as the corresponding bin turns red. The global effect of masking strips will be an update of the rate value showed on the histogram that will take into consideration the rejected channels.*

```

float GetTH1Mean (TH1* H) {
    int nBins = H->GetNbinsX();
    int nActive = nBins;
    float mean = 0.;

    for(int b = 1; b <= nBins; b++){
        float value = H->GetBinContent (b);
        mean += value;
        if(value == 0.) nActive--;
    }

    if(nActive != 0) mean /= (float)nActive;
    else mean = 0.;

    return mean;
}

```

*Source Code B.21: The function GetTH1Mean() is used to return the mean along the y-axis of TH1 histograms containing rate information. In order to take into account masked strips whose rate is set to 0, the function looks for masked channels and decrement the number of active channels for each null value found.*

4196 **B.6.4.5 Output CSV files filling**

```

for (UInt tr = 0; tr < GIFInfra->GetNTrolleys(); tr++) {
    UInt T = GIFInfra->GetTrolleyID(tr);
    for (UInt sl = 0; sl < GIFInfra->GetNSlots(tr); sl++) {
        UInt S = GIFInfra->GetSlotID(tr,sl) - 1;
        float MeanNoiseRate = 0.;
        float ClusterRate = 0.;
        float ClusterSDev = 0.;

        for (UInt p = 0; p < GIFInfra->GetNPartitions(tr,sl); p++) {
            float MeanPartRate = GetTH1Mean(StripNoiseProfile_H.rpc[T][S][p]);
            float cSizePart = NoiseCSize_H.rpc[T][S][p]->GetMean();
            float cSizePartErr = (NoiseCSize_H.rpc[T][S][p]->GetEntries()==0)
                ? 0.
                : 2*NoiseCSize_H.rpc[T][S][p]->GetStdDev() /
                    sqrt(NoiseCSize_H.rpc[T][S][p]->GetEntries());
            float cMultPart = NoiseCMult_H.rpc[T][S][p]->GetMean();
            float cMultPartErr = (NoiseCMult_H.rpc[T][S][p]->GetEntries()==0)
                ? 0.
                : 2*NoiseCMult_H.rpc[T][S][p]->GetStdDev() /
                    sqrt(NoiseCMult_H.rpc[T][S][p]->GetEntries());
            float ClustPartRate = (cSizePart==0) ? 0.
                : MeanPartRate/cSizePart;
            float ClustPartRateErr = (cSizePart==0) ? 0.
                : ClustPartRate * cSizePartErr/cSizePart;

            outputRateCSV << MeanPartRate << '\t'
                << cSizePart << '\t' << cSizePartErr << '\t'
                << cMultPart << '\t' << cMultPartErr << '\t'
                << ClustPartRate << '\t' << ClustPartRateErr << '\t';

            RPCArea += stripArea * nStripsPart;
            MeanNoiseRate += MeanPartRate * stripArea * nStripsPart;
            ClusterRate += ClustPartRate * stripArea * nStripsPart;
            ClusterSDev += (cSizePart==0)
                ? 0.
                : ClusterRate*cSizePartErr/cSizePart;
        }
        MeanNoiseRate /= RPCArea;
        ClusterRate /= RPCArea;
        ClusterSDev /= RPCArea;
        outputRateCSV << MeanNoiseRate << '\t' << ClusterRate << '\t'
            << ClusterSDev << '\t';
    }
}

```

4198 *Source Code B.22: Description of rate result calculation and writing into the CSV output Offline-Rate.csv. Are saved into the file for each detector, the mean partition rate, cluster size and cluster mutiplicity, along with their errors, for each partition and as well as a detector average.*

4199 All the histograms have been filled. Parameters will then be extracted from them to compute the  
4200 final results that will later be used to produce plots. Once the results have been computed, the very  
4201 last step of the offline macro is to write these values into the corresponding CSV outputs. Aside of  
4202 the file Offline-Corrupted.csv, 2 CSV files are being written by the macro OfflineAnalysis(),  
4203 Offline-Rates.csv and Offline-L0-EffCl.csv that respectively contain information about noise  
4204 or gamma rates, cluster size and multiplicity, and about level 0 reconstruction of the detector effi-  
4205 ciency, muon cluster size and multiplicity. Details on the computation and file writing are respec-

<sup>4206</sup> tively given in Sources Codes B.22 and B.20.

<sup>4207</sup> **Noise/gamma background variables** are computed and written in the output file for each detector  
<sup>4208</sup> partitions. A detector average of the hit and cluster rate is also provided, as shown through Sources  
<sup>4209</sup> Code B.22. The variables that are written for each partition are:

- <sup>4210</sup> • The mean partition hit rate per unit area, `MeanPartRate`, that is extracted from the histogram  
<sup>4211</sup> `StripNoiseProfile_H` as the mean value along the y-axis, as described in section B.6.4.4. No  
<sup>4212</sup> error is recorded for the hit rate as this is considered a single measurement. No statistical error  
<sup>4213</sup> can be associated to it and the systematics are unknown.
- <sup>4214</sup> • The mean cluster size, `cSizePart`, is extracted from the histogram `NoiseCSize_H` and it's  
<sup>4215</sup> statistical error, `cSizePartErr`, is taken to be  $2\sigma$  of the total distribution.
- <sup>4216</sup> • The mean cluster multiplicity per trigger, `cMultPart`, is extracted from the histogram `NoiseCMult_H`  
<sup>4217</sup> and it's statistical error, `cMultPartErr`, is taken to be  $2\sigma$  of the total distribution. It is impor-  
<sup>4218</sup> tant to point to the fact that this variable gives an information that is dependent on the buffer  
<sup>4219</sup> window width used for each trigger for the calculation.
- <sup>4220</sup> • The mean cluster rate per unit area, `ClustPartRate`, is defined as the mean hit rate normalised  
<sup>4221</sup> to the mean cluster size and it's statistical error, `ClustPartRateErr`, is then obtained using the  
<sup>4222</sup> relative statistical error on the mean cluster size.

<sup>4223</sup> **Muon performance variables** are computed as discussed in the Section B.6.4.3 and written in  
<sup>4224</sup> the output file for each detector partitions as shown through Sources Code B.20. It is reminded that  
<sup>4225</sup> this offline tool doesn't include any tracking algorithm to identify muons from the beam and only  
<sup>4226</sup> relies on the hits arriving in the time window corresponding to the beam time and is corrected thanks  
<sup>4227</sup> to the estimation of the contribution of the background and noise to the efficiency of the detector.  
<sup>4228</sup> Assuming that the detection of background and muons were independent events, a probabilistic  
<sup>4229</sup> approach was then used to correct efficiency, muon cluster size and muon cluster multiplicity. The  
<sup>4230</sup> variables that are written for each partition are:

- <sup>4231</sup> • The muon efficiency, referred to as the probability to detect a muon in the peak window  
<sup>4232</sup> `P_muon`, also filled in histogram `Efficiency0_H`. The statistical error related to the efficiency,  
<sup>4233</sup> `P_muon_err`, is computed using a binomial distribution, as the efficiency measures the proba-  
<sup>4234</sup> bility of "success" and "failure" to detect muons.
- <sup>4235</sup> • The mean muon cluster size, `CS_muon`, and its related statistical error, `CS_muon_err`, also filled  
<sup>4236</sup> in the histogram `MuonCSize_H`.
- <sup>4237</sup> • The mean muon cluster multiplicity, `CM_muon`, and its related statistical error, `CM_muon_err`,  
<sup>4238</sup> also filled in the histogram `MuonCMult_H`.

<sup>4239</sup> In addition to these 2 CSV files, the histograms are saved in ROOT file `Scan00XXXX_HVY_Offline.root`  
<sup>4240</sup> as explained in section B.2.1.1.

## 4241    B.7 Current information extraction

4242 Detectors under test at GIF++ are connected both to a CAEN HV power supply and to a CAEN  
4243 ADC that reads the currents inside of the RPC gaps bypassing the supply cable. During data tak-  
4244 ing, the webDCS records into a ROOT file called `Scan00XXXX_HVY_CAEN.root` histograms with the  
4245 monitored parameters of both CAEN devices. Are recorded for each RPC channels (in most cases,  
4246 a channel corresponds to an RPC gap):

- 4247     • the effective voltage,  $HV_{eff}$ , set by the webDCS using the PT correction on the CAEN power  
4248       supply,
- 4249     • the applied voltage,  $HV_{app}$ , monitored by the CAEN power supply, and the statistical error  
4250       related to the variations of this value through time to follow the variation of the environmental  
4251       parameters defined as the RMS of the histogram divided by the square root of the number of  
4252       recorded points,
- 4253     • the monitored current,  $I_{mon}$ , monitored by the CAEN power supply, and the statistical error  
4254       related to the variations of this value through time to follow the variation of the environmental  
4255       parameters defined as the RMS of the histogram divided by the square root of the number of  
4256       recorded points,
- 4257     • the corresponding current density,  $J_{mon}$ , defined as the monitored current per unit area,  
4258        $J_{mon} = I_{mon}/A$ , where  $A$  is the active area of the corresponding gap,
- 4259     • the ADC current,  $I_{ADC}$ , recorded through the CAEN ADC module that monitors the dark  
4260       current in the gap itself. First of all, the resolution of such a module is better than that of  
4261       CAEN power supplies and moreover, the current is not read-out through the HV supply line  
4262       but directly at the chamber level giving the real current inside of the detector. The statistical  
4263       error is defined as the RMS of the histogram distribution divided by the square root of the  
4264       number of recorded points.

4265       Once extracted through a loop over the element of GIF++ infrastructure via the C++ macro  
4266       `GetCurrent()`, these parameters, organised in 9 columns per detector HV supply line, are written in  
4267       the output CSV file `Offline-Current.csv`. The macro can be found in the file `Current.cc`.

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