

Determination of effective drift voltage in a new nanodosimetric prototype

02.08.2023

9th Annual Loma Linda Workshop

PhD student:

Irina Kempf irina.kempf@uzh.ch

Supervisor:

Prof. Dr. Uwe Schneider
University of Zurich, Switzerland



**Universität
Zürich**^{UZH}

Content



FIRE detector



Effective drift voltage



Outlook

FIRE Detector

Frequency of Ion REgistration



History

TIDe imaging detector

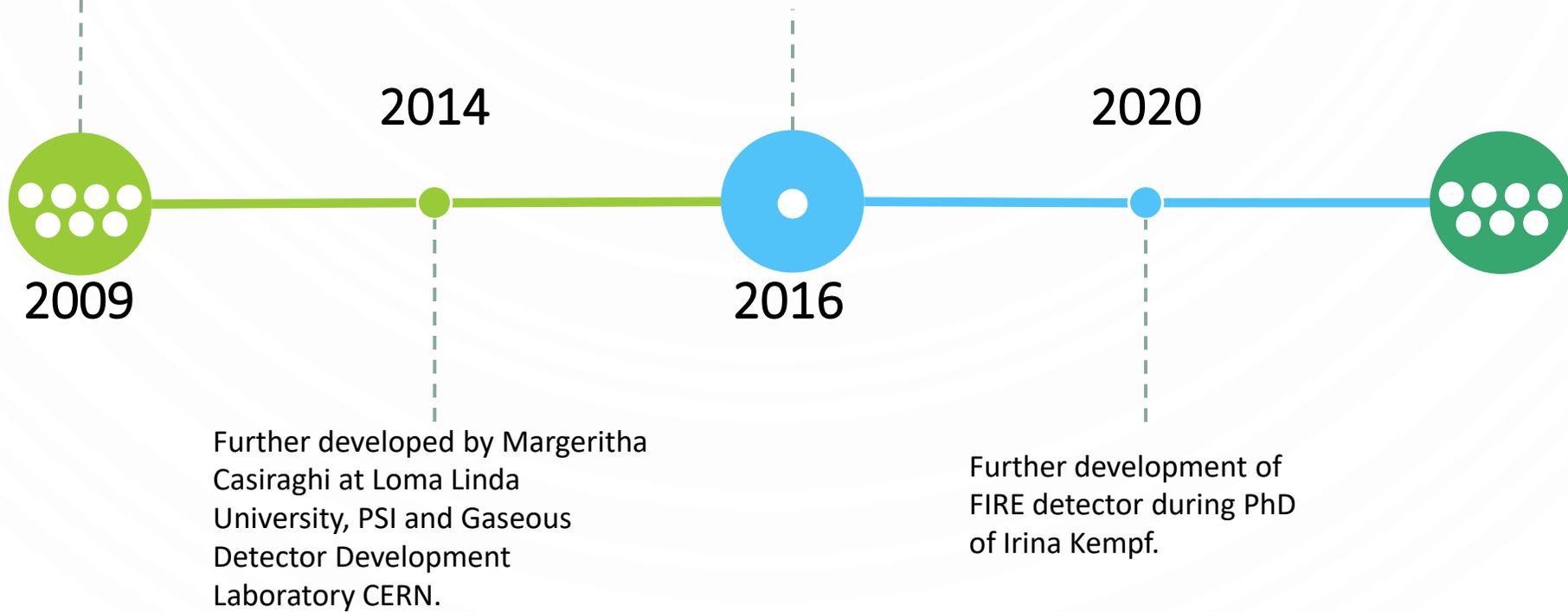
(Track Imaging Detector)

Developed by Vladimir Bashkirov and Reinhard Schulte at Loma Linda University

FIRE detector

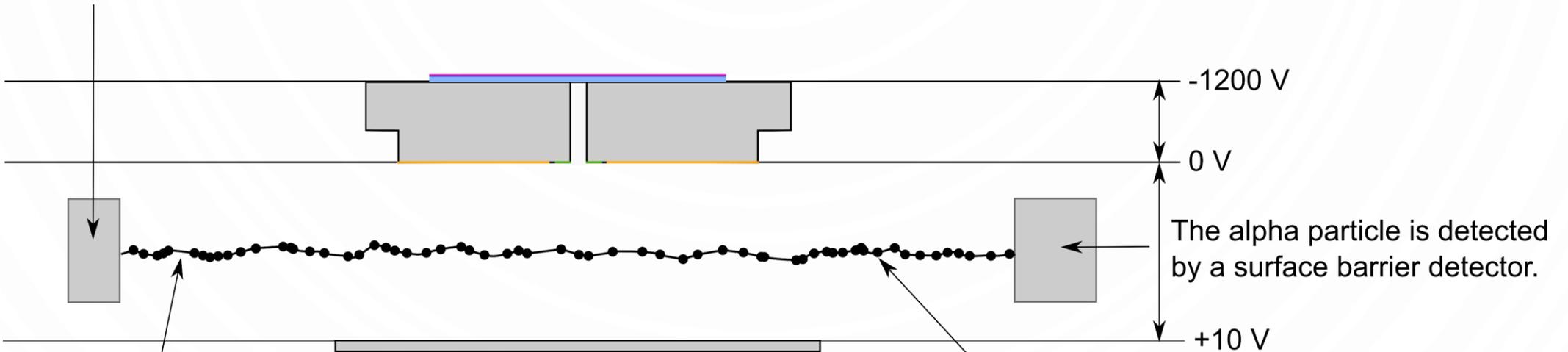
(Frequency of Ion Registration)

Continued development by Fabiano Vasi during his PhD



What is inside the detector chamber?

An Am-241 source emits alpha particles.

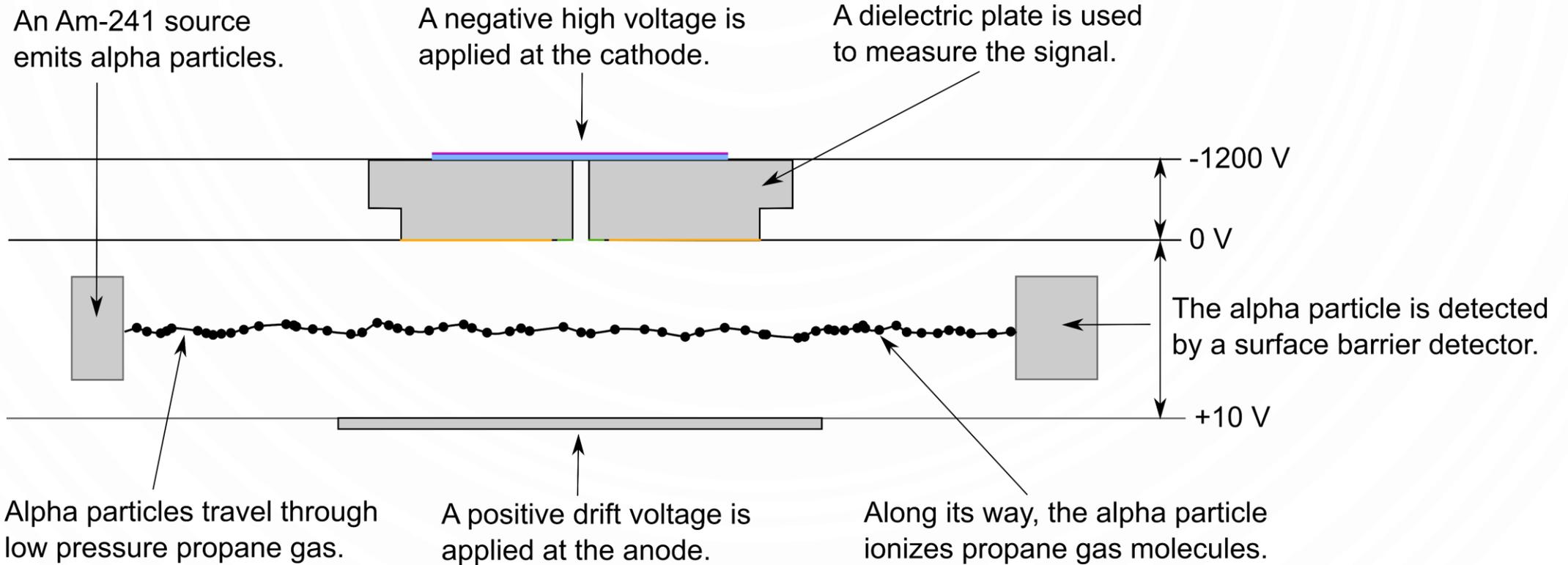


Alpha particles travel through low pressure propane gas.

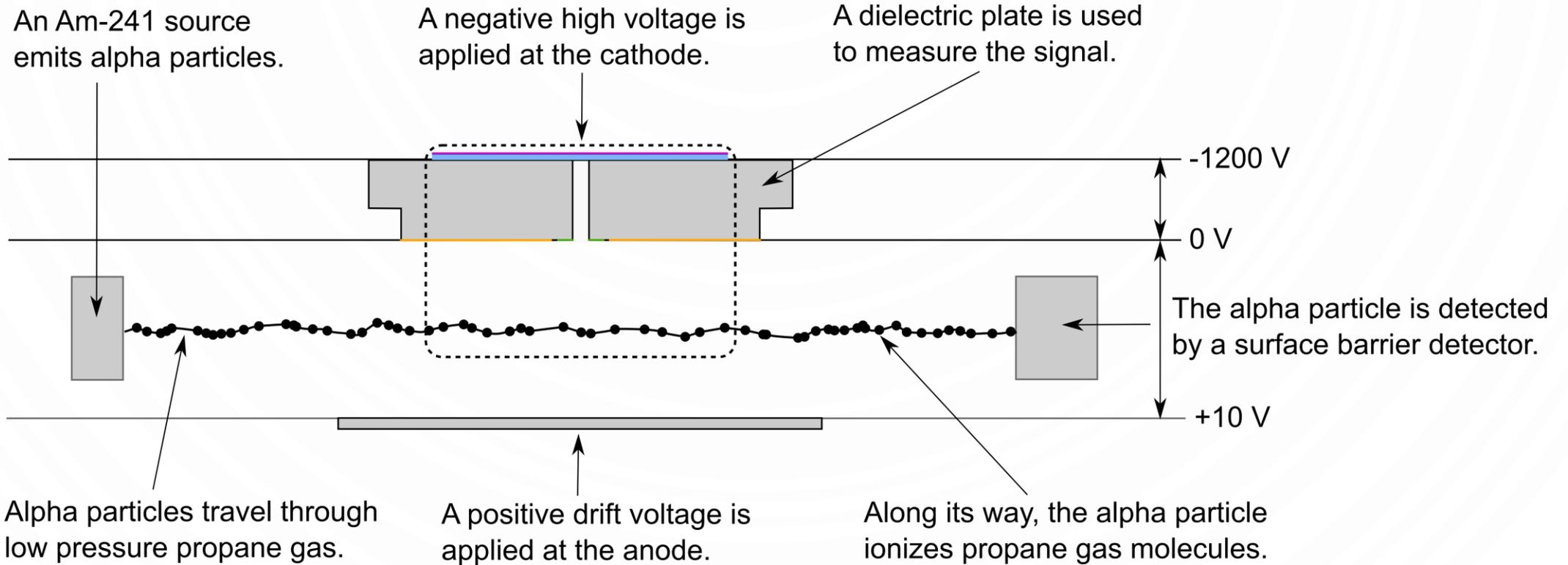
Along its way, the alpha particle ionizes propane gas molecules.

The alpha particle is detected by a surface barrier detector.

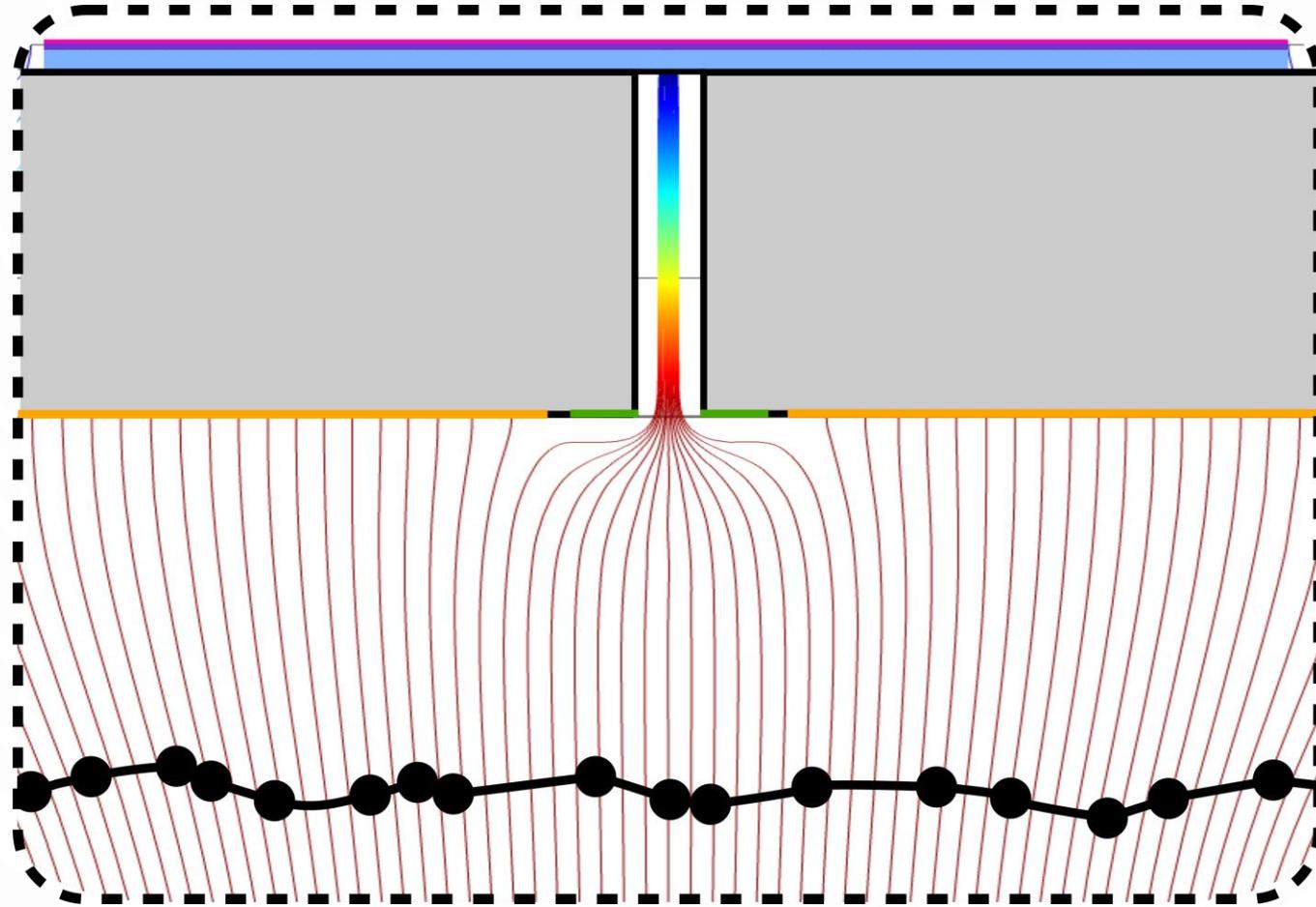
What is inside the detector chamber?



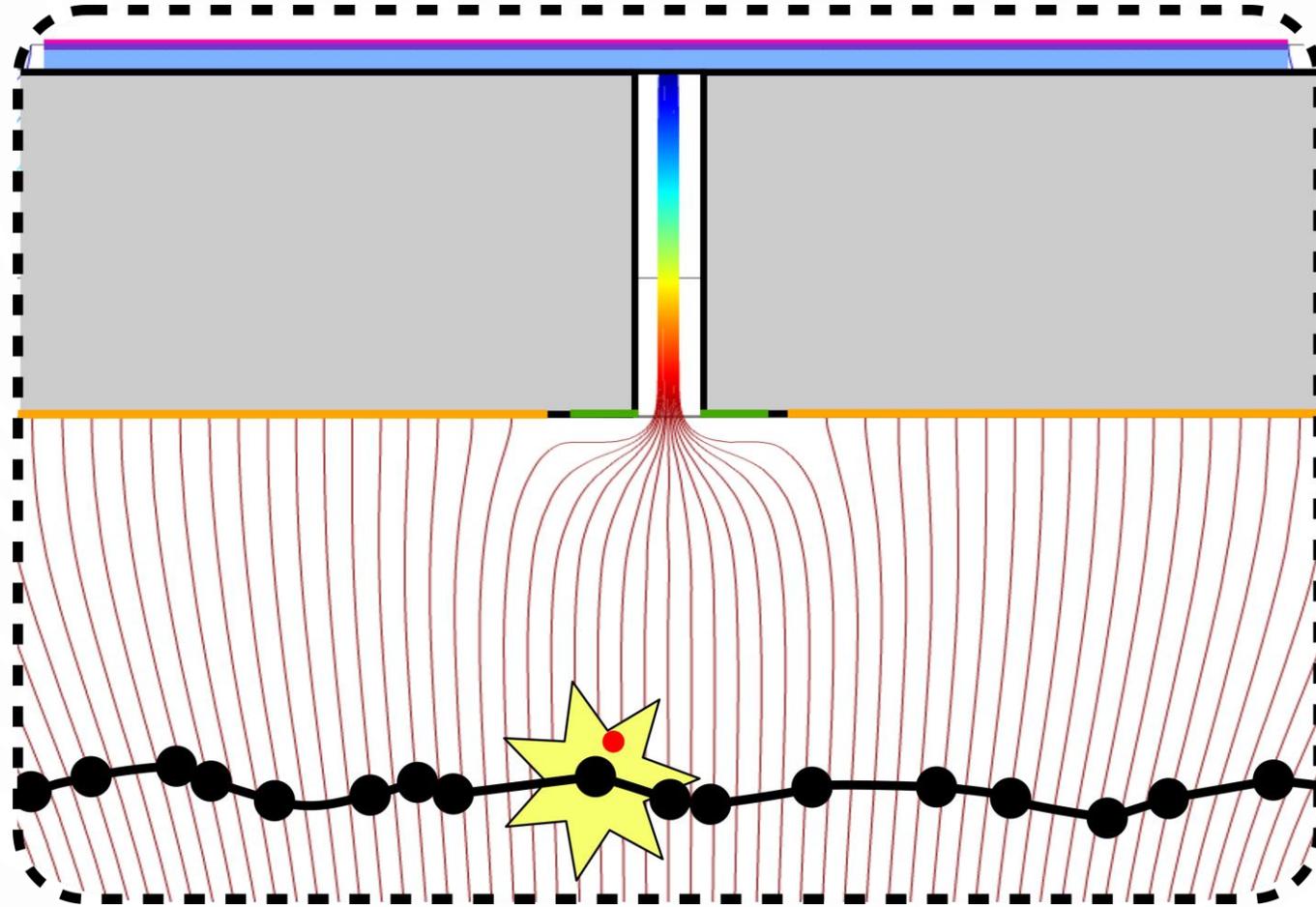
What is inside the detector chamber?



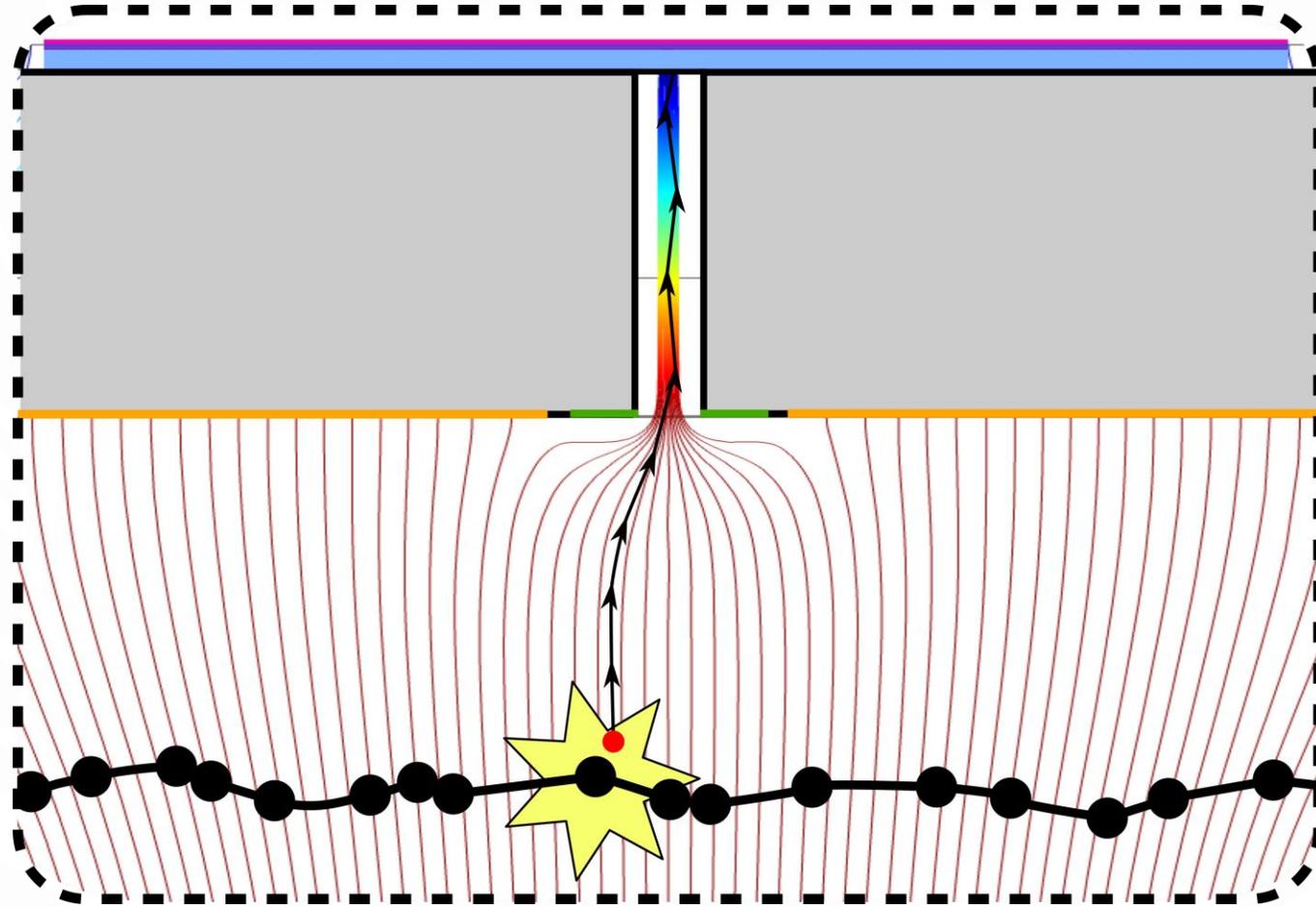
How is the signal produced?



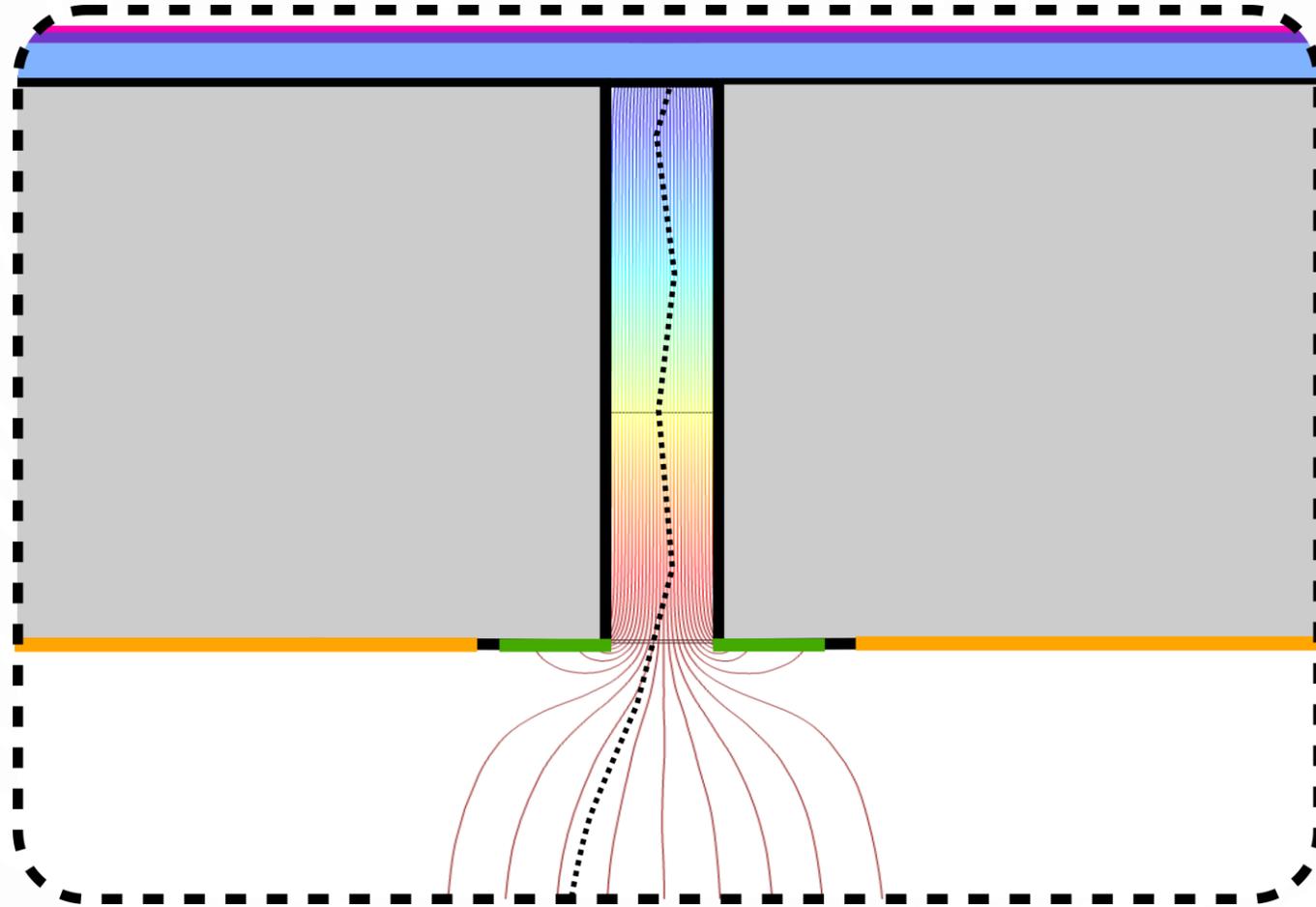
How is the signal produced?



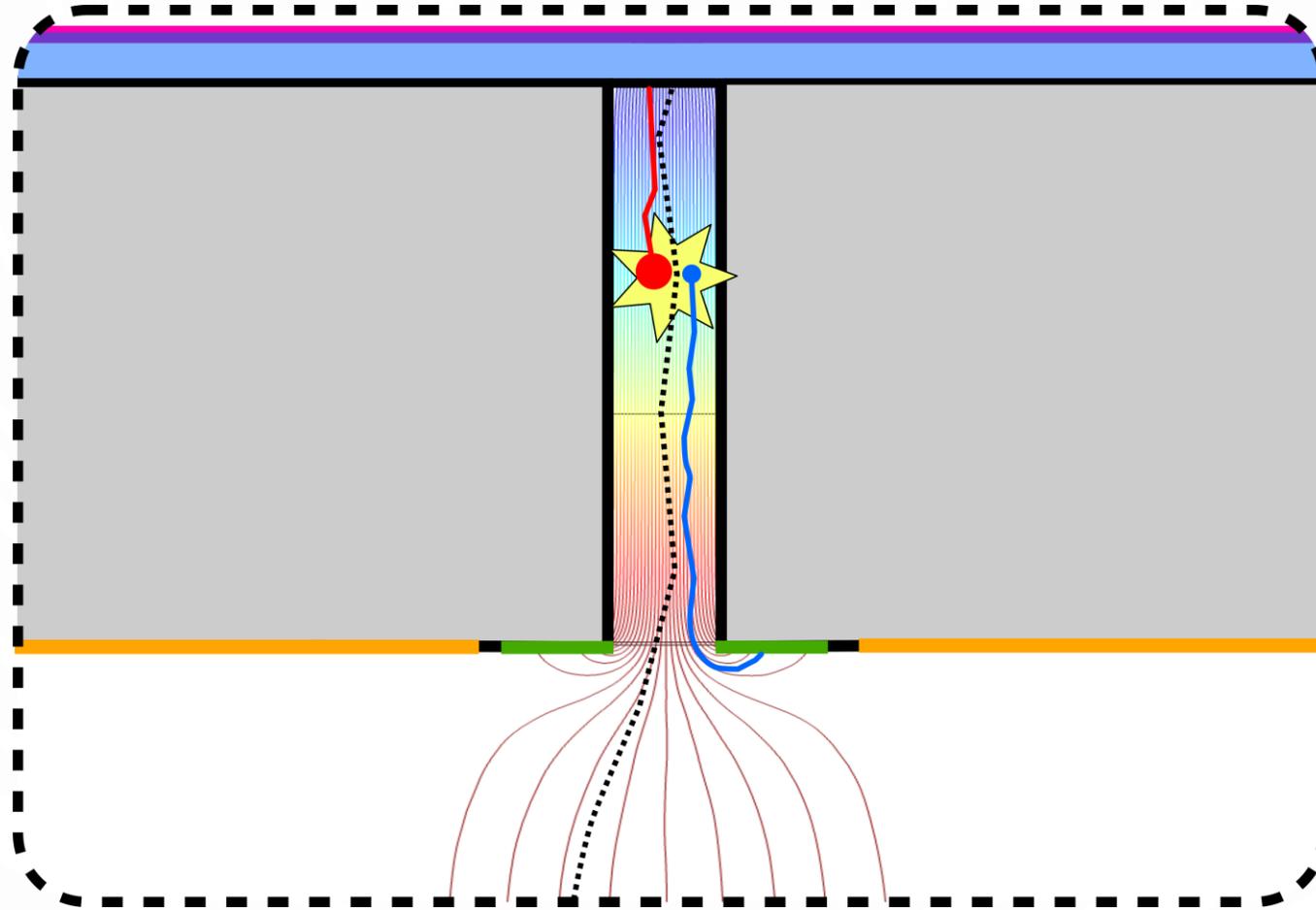
How is the signal produced?



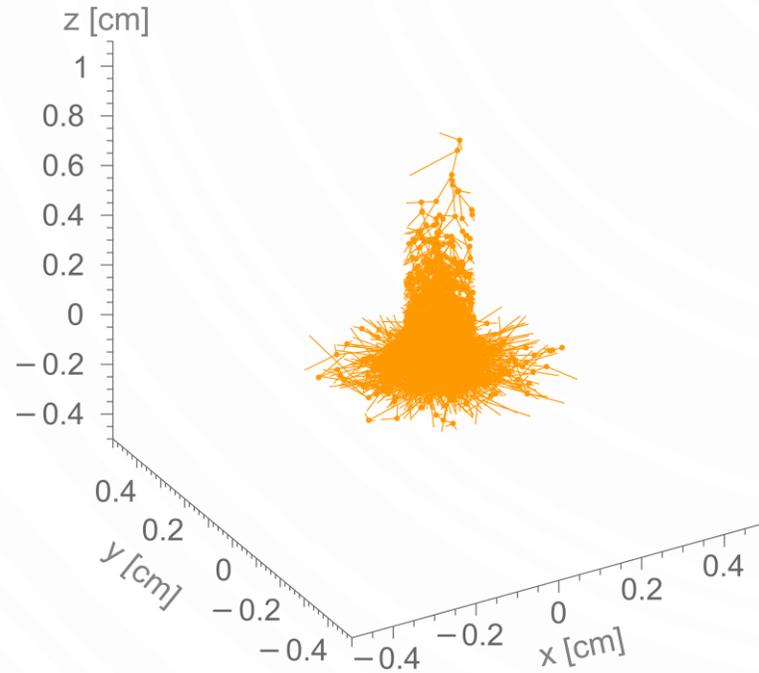
How is the signal produced?



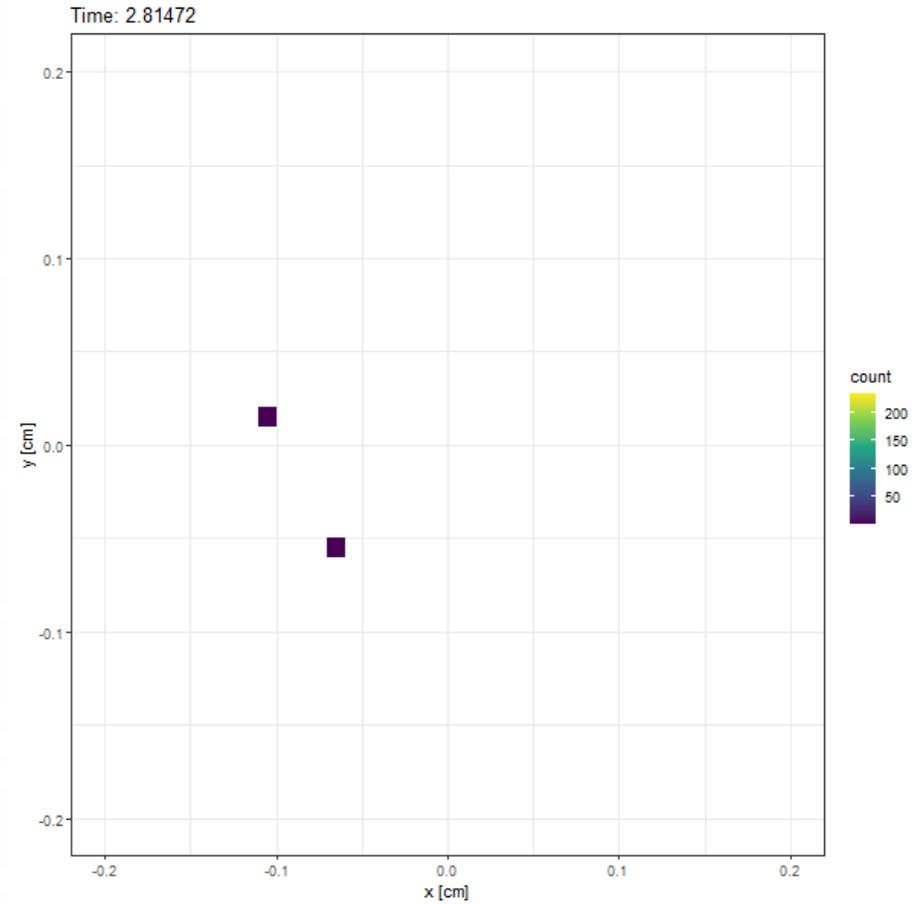
How is the signal produced?



How is the signal produced? Electron Avalanche

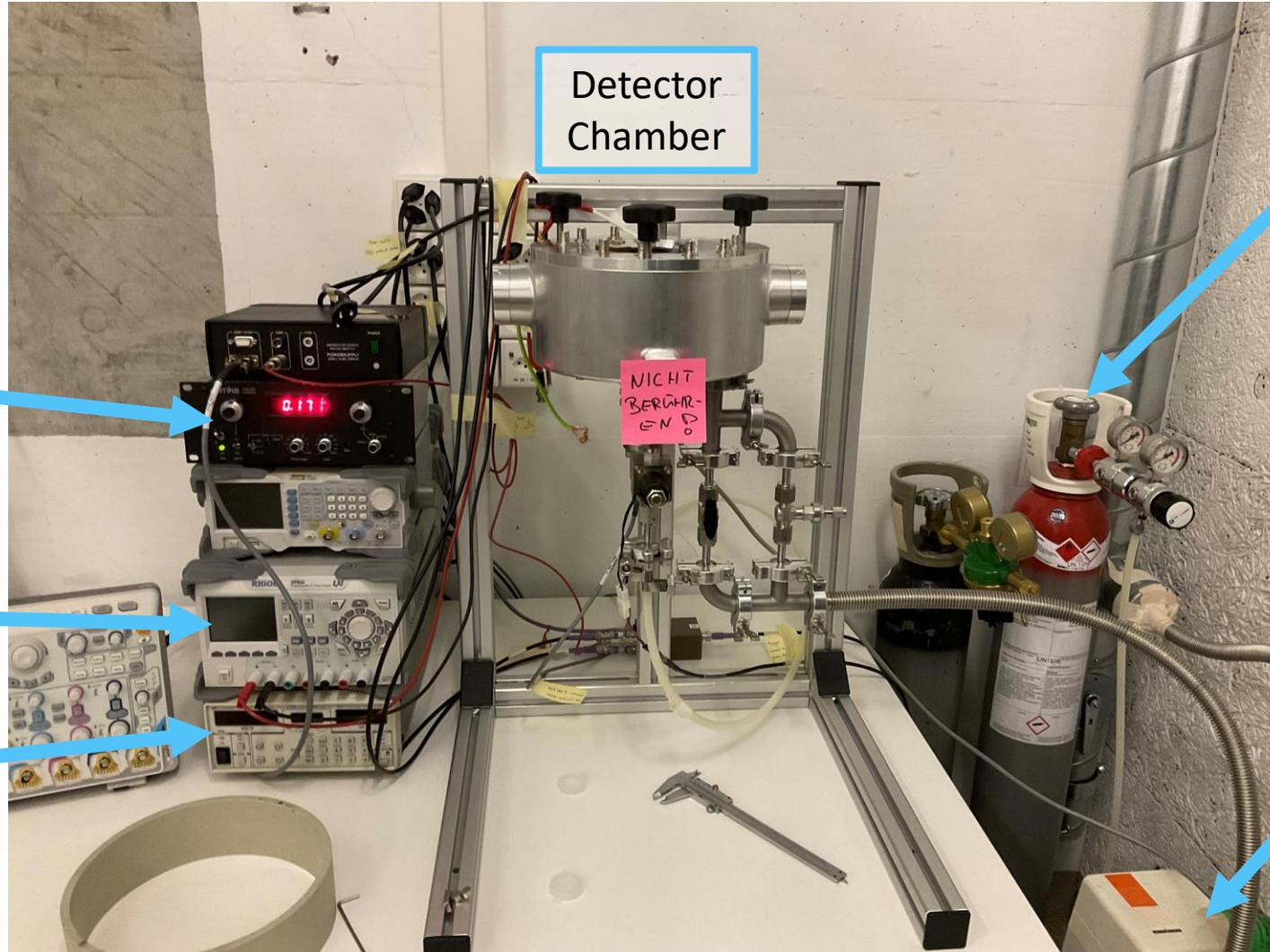


3D view of Monte Carlo simulation of Electron Avalanche



Monte Carlo simulation of electron avalanche arrival at signal read out

Frequency of Ion Registration Detector



Detector Chamber

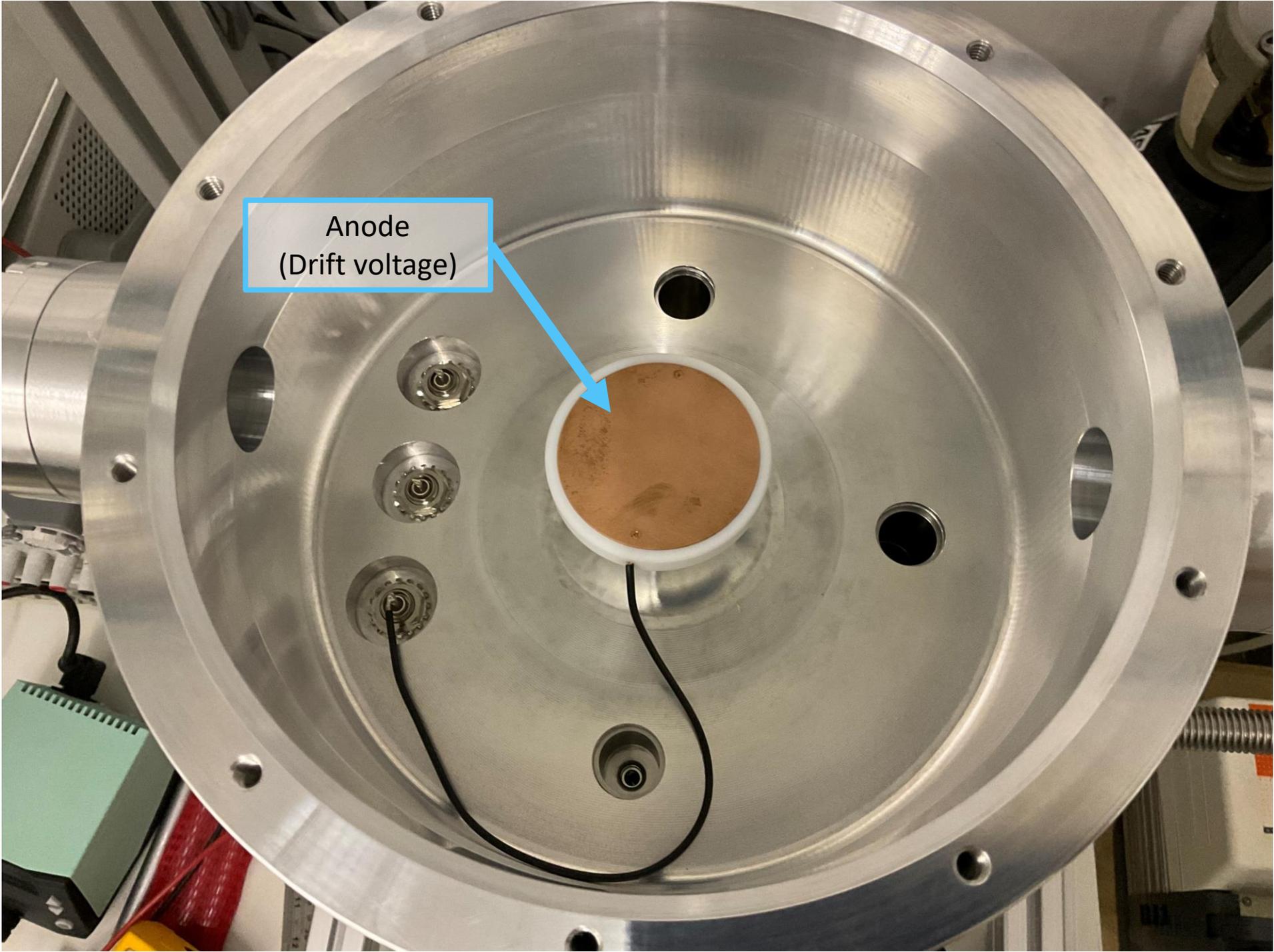
Propane Gas Supply

Pressure control

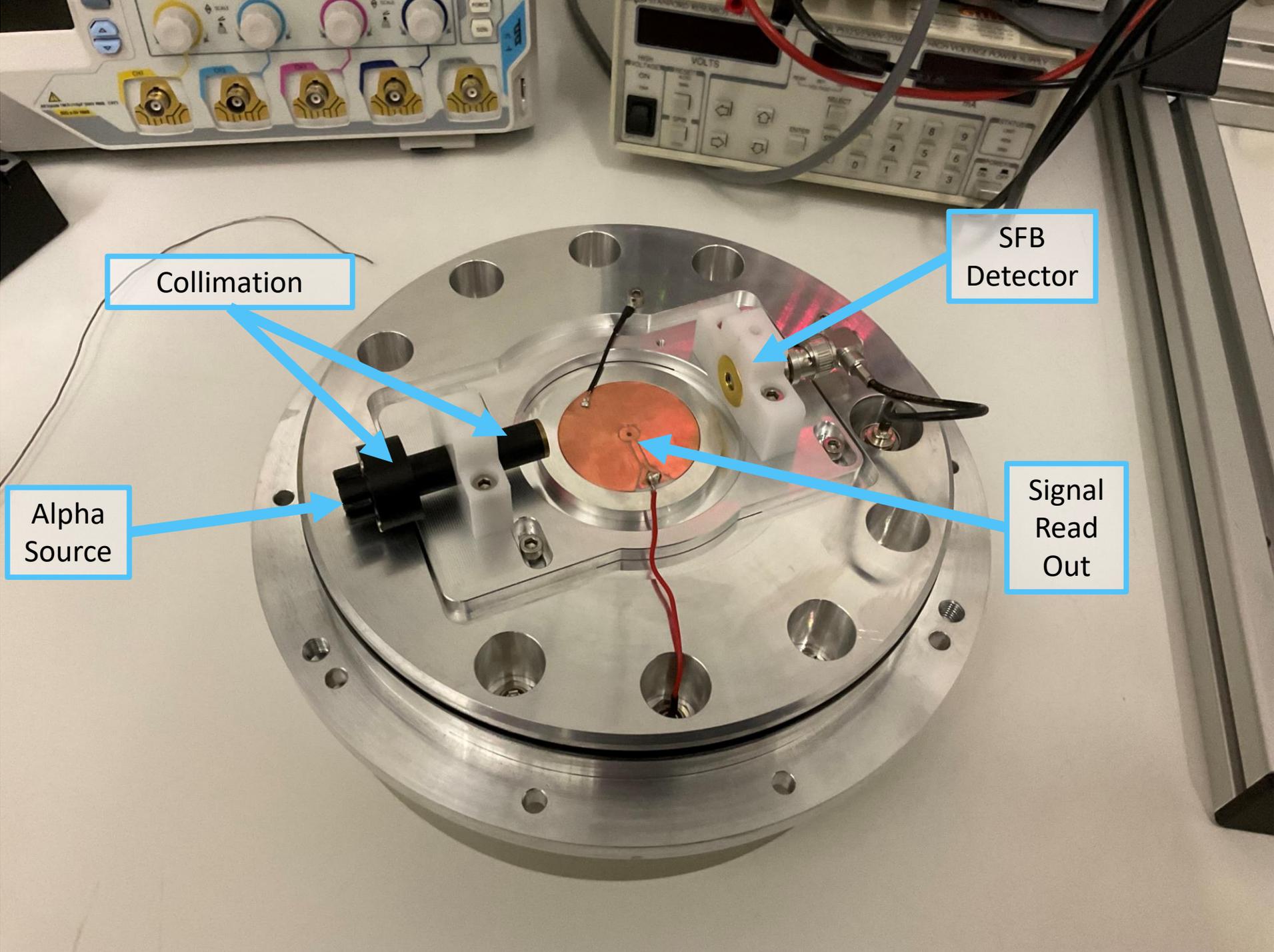
Drift Voltage

High Voltage

Vacuum Pump



Anode
(Drift voltage)



Collimation

SFB
Detector

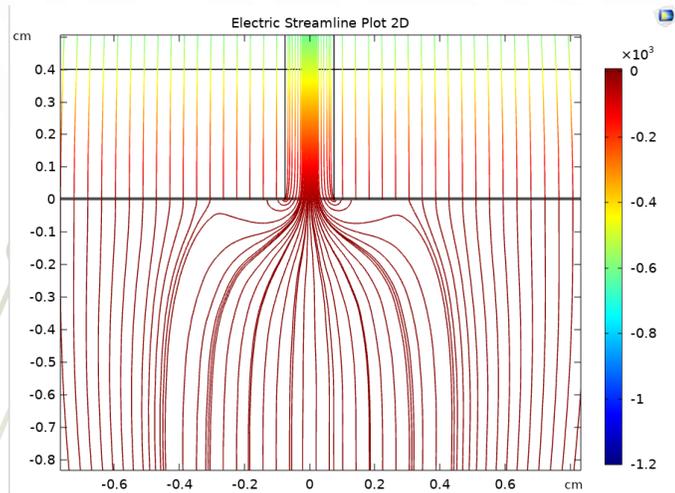
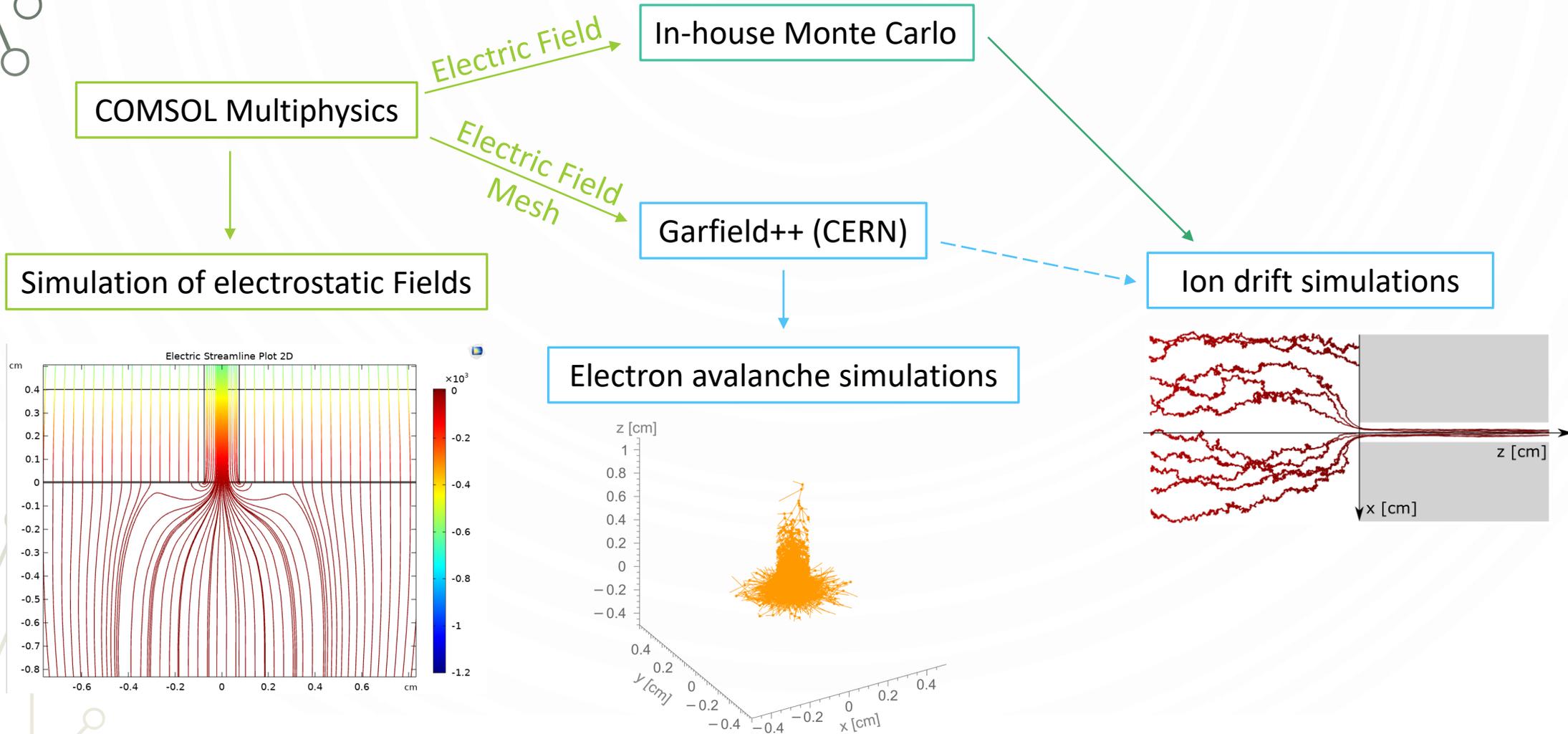
Alpha
Source

Signal
Read
Out

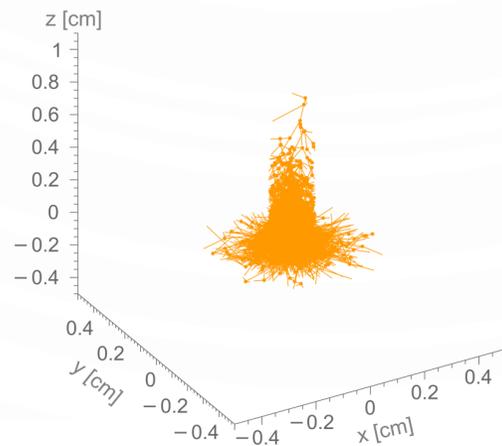
Effective Drift Voltage



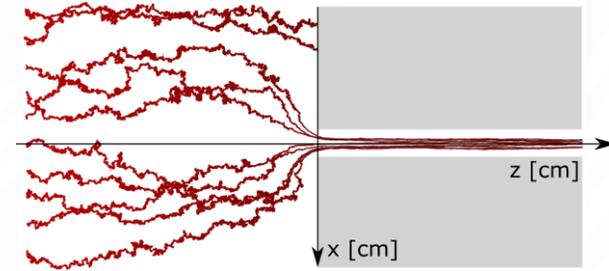
Why do we need to consider effective drift voltage?



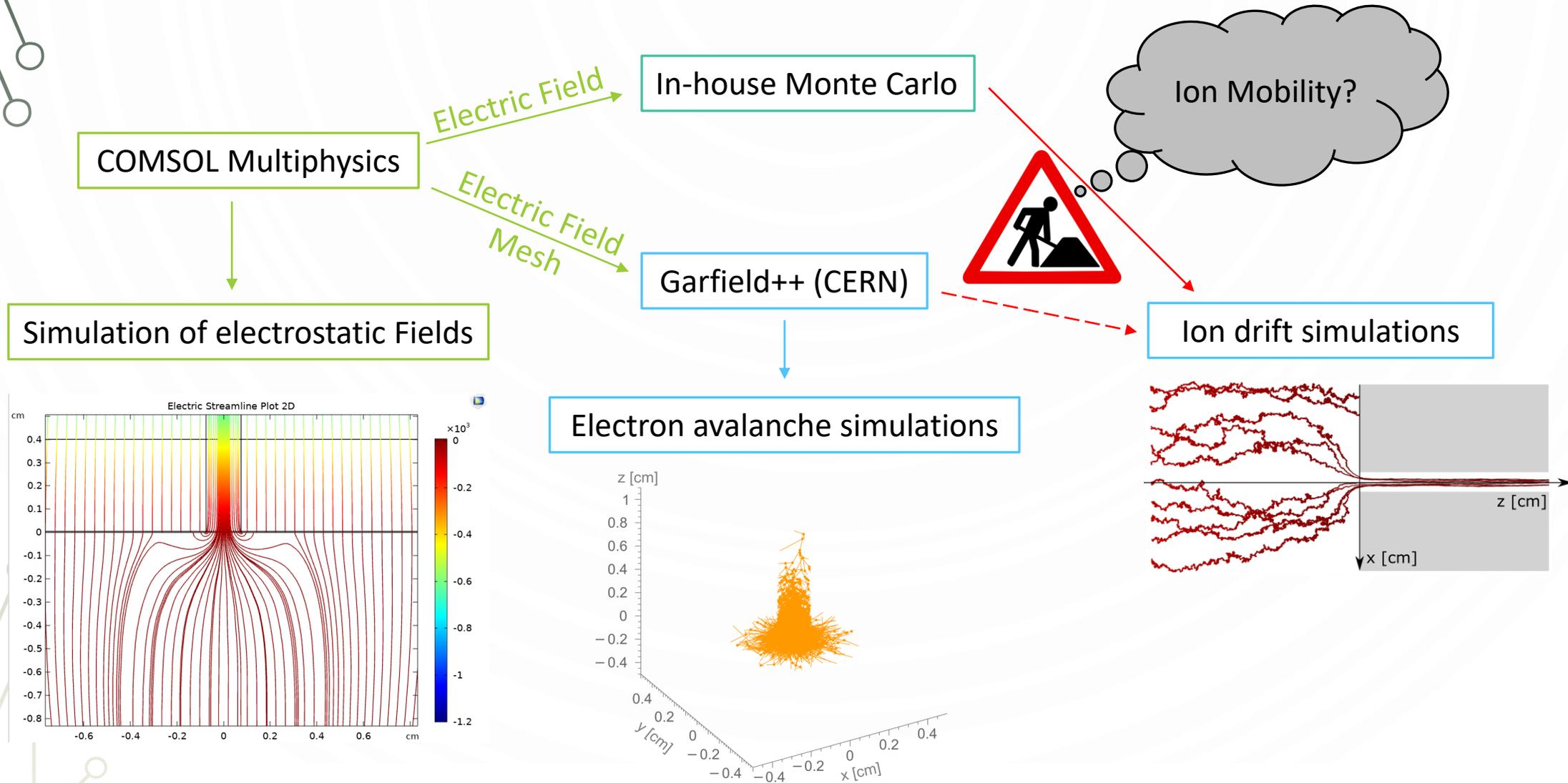
Electron avalanche simulations



Ion drift simulations



Why do we need to consider effective drift voltage?



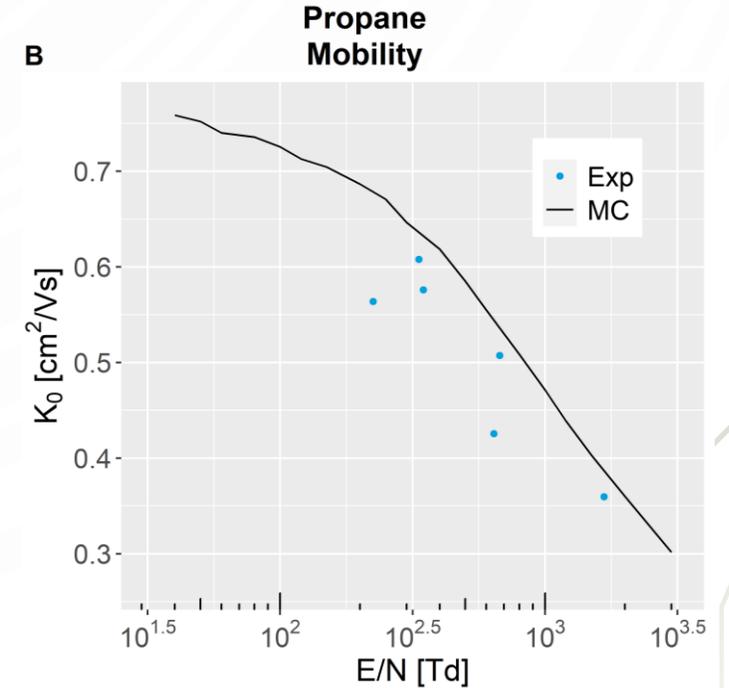
Ion Mobility – What is our problem?

$$K = \frac{v_{drift}}{E}$$

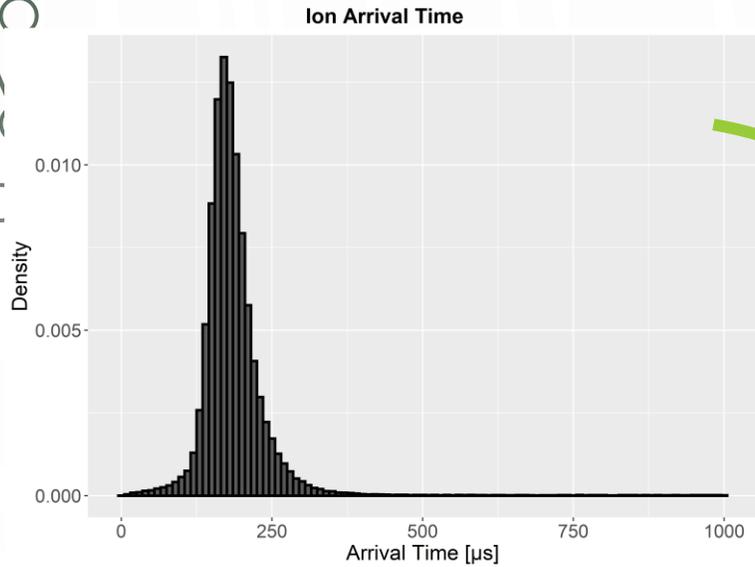
Ion Mobility – What is our problem?

$$K = \frac{v_{drift}}{E}$$

$$K_0 = \frac{p [\text{Torr}]}{760} \frac{273}{T [\text{K}]} K$$



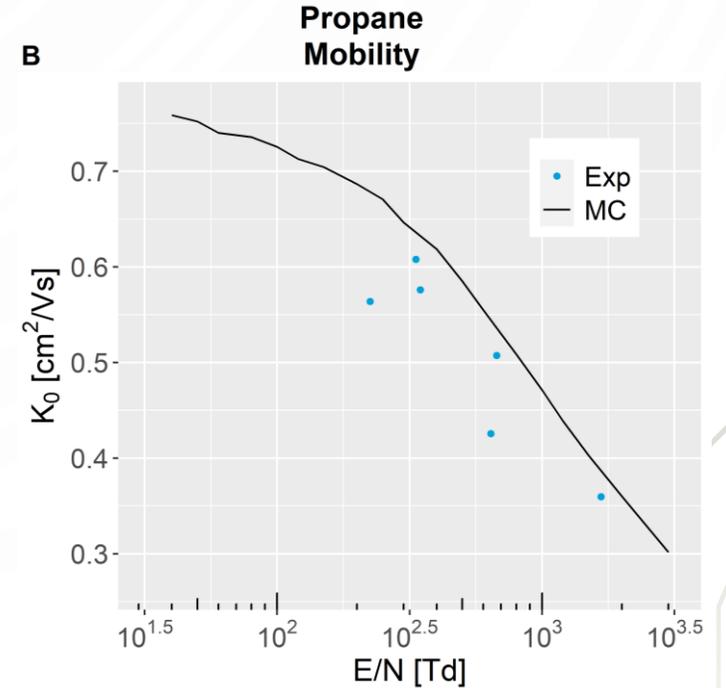
Ion Mobility – What is our problem?



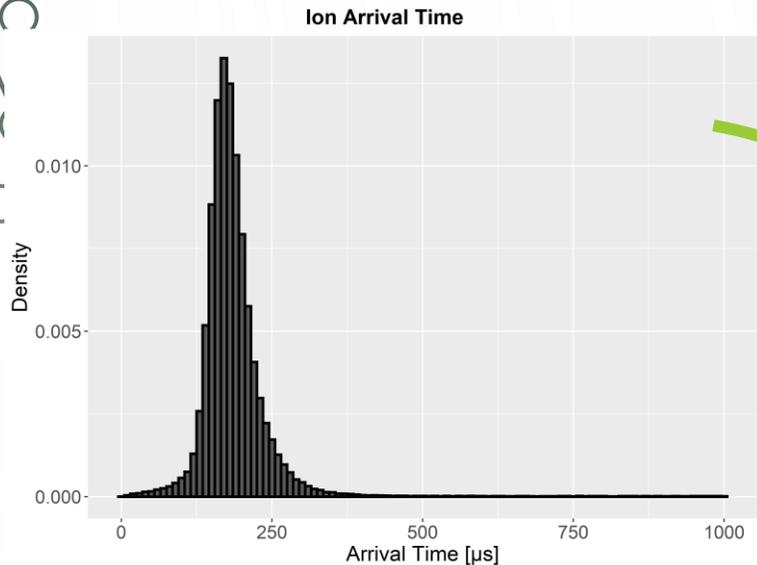
v_{drift}

$$K = \frac{v_{drift}}{E}$$

$$K_0 = \frac{p [\text{Torr}]}{760} \frac{273}{T [\text{K}]} K$$



Ion Mobility – What is our problem?

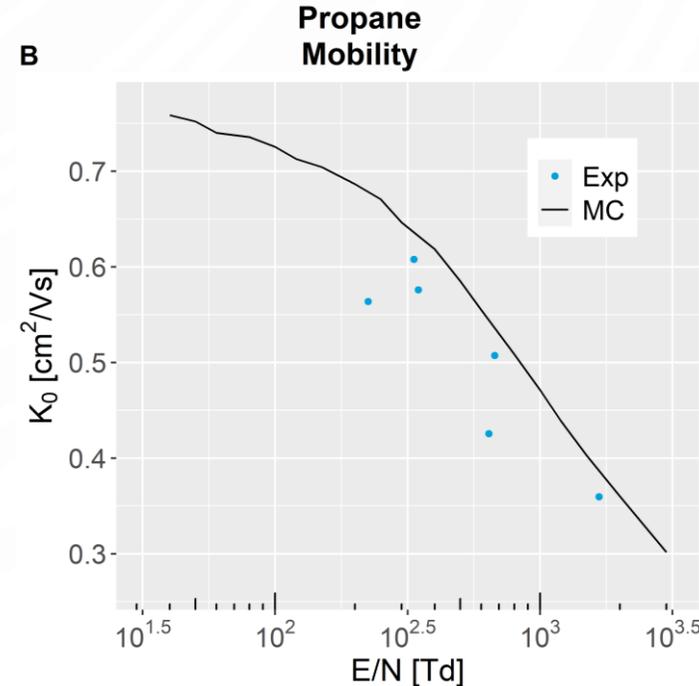


v_{drift}

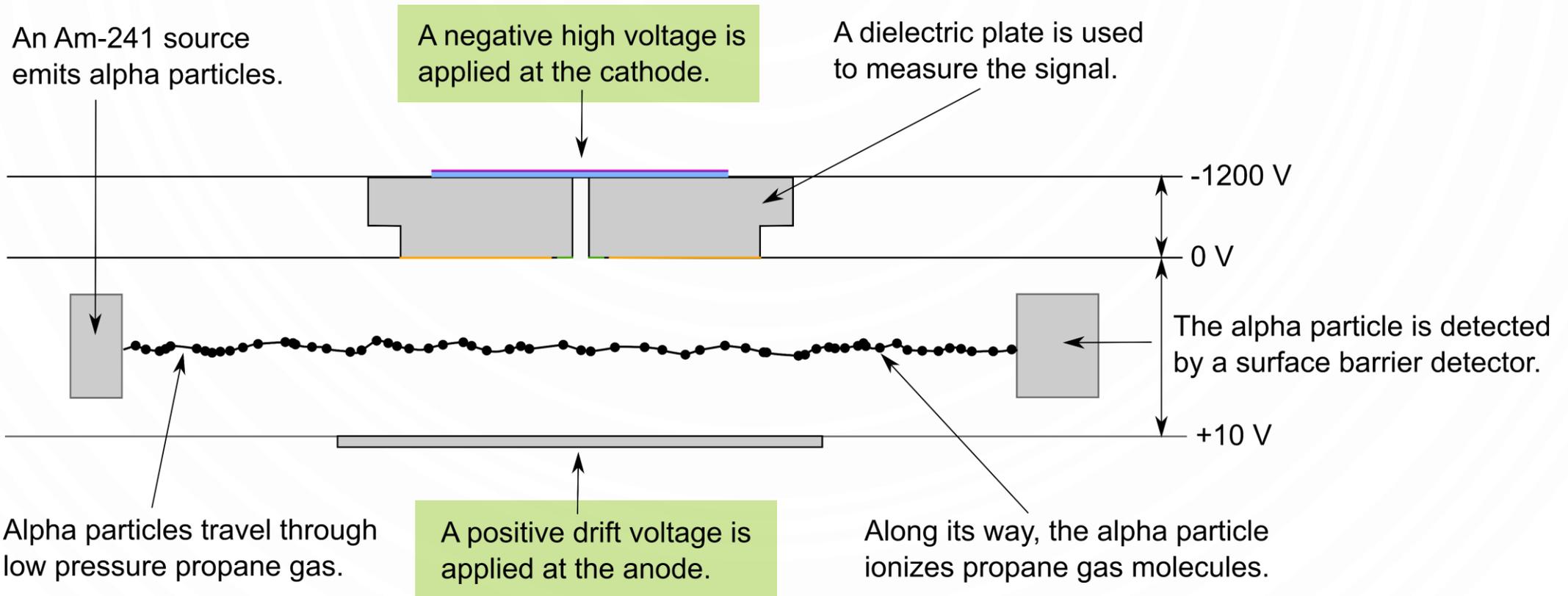
$$K = \frac{v_{drift}}{E}$$

$$E = \frac{U_{drift}}{d}$$

$$K_0 = \frac{p [Torr]}{760} \frac{273}{T [K]} K$$

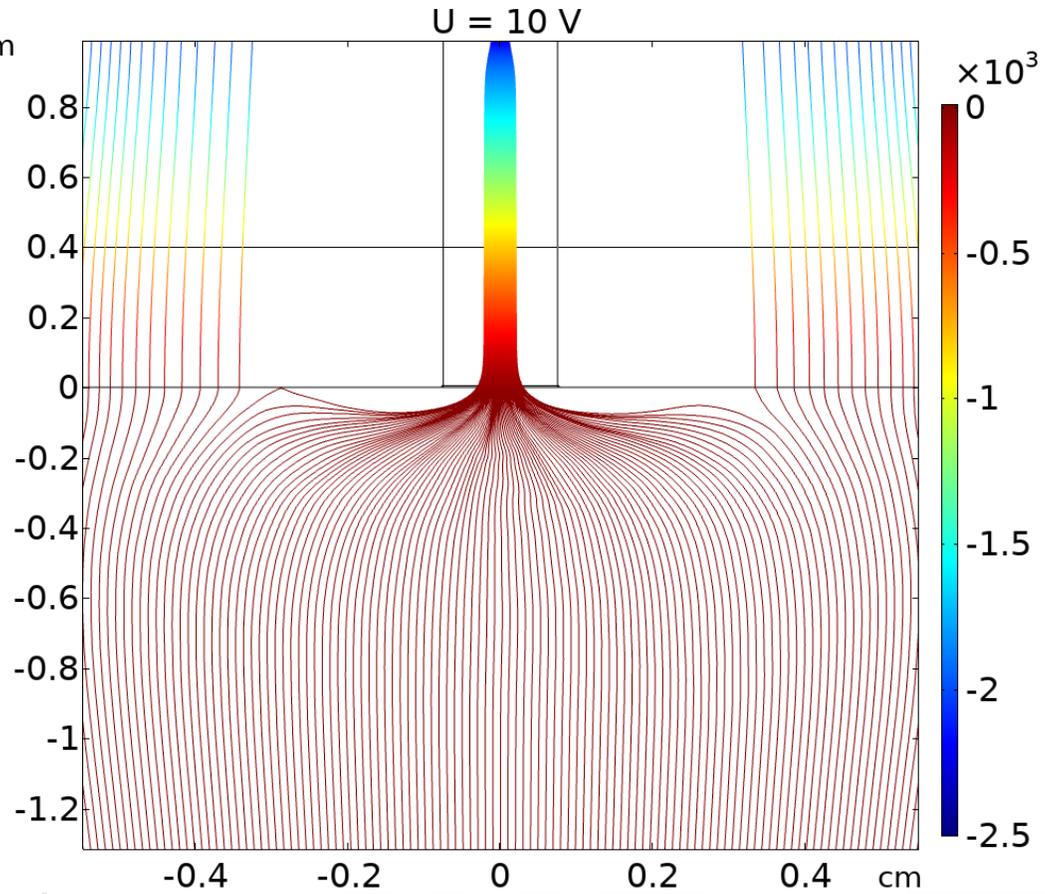


Experiment: Drift Voltage

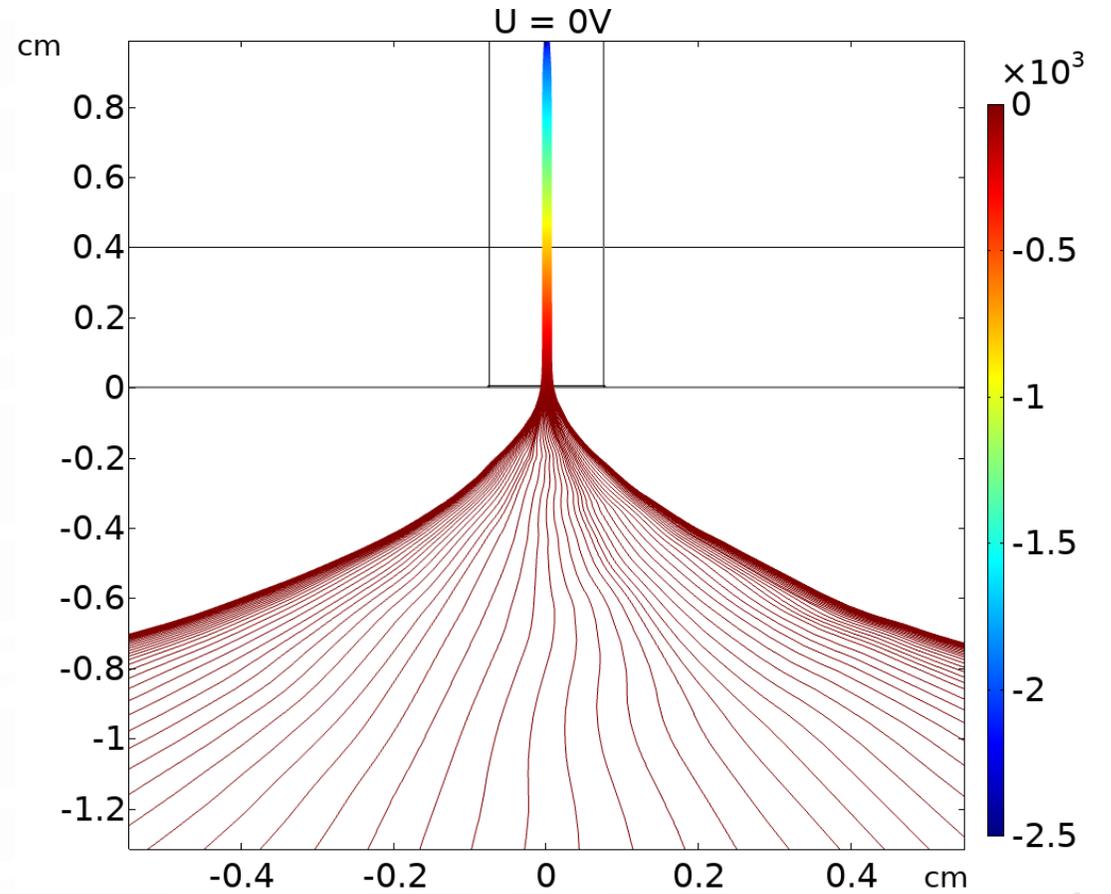


Experiment: Influence of Cathode Voltage

Drift & High Voltage

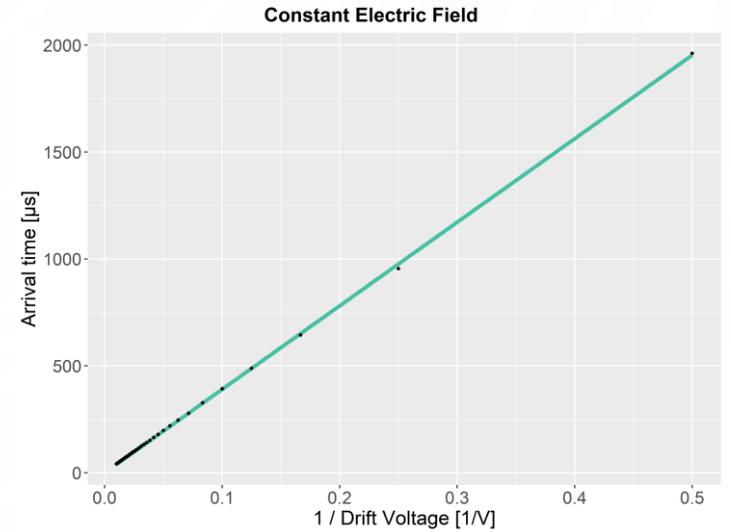
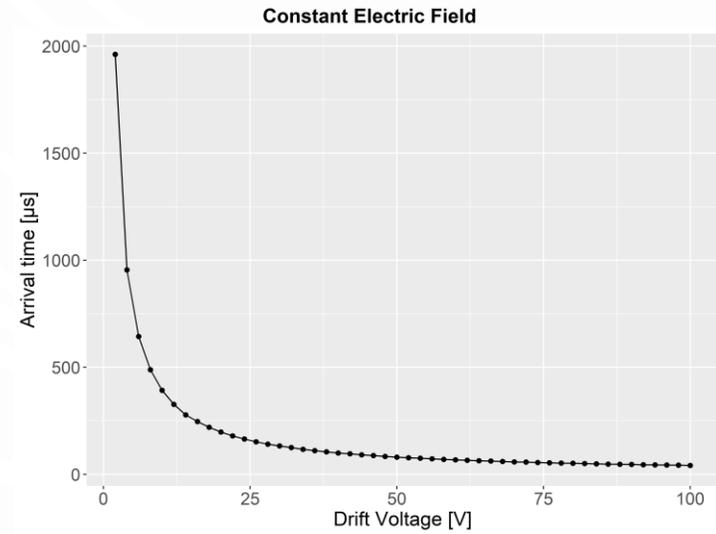
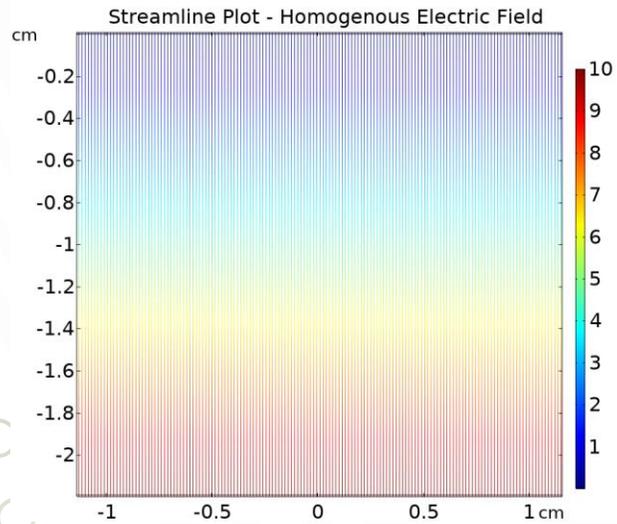
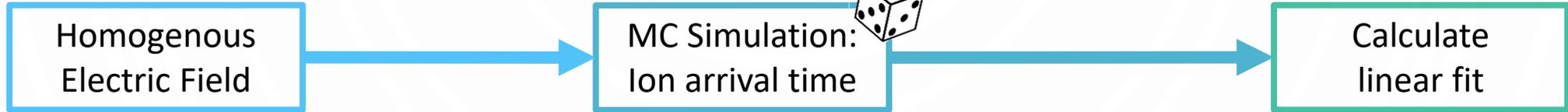


Only High Voltage



Streamline plots: Electric field strength is not proportional to line density!

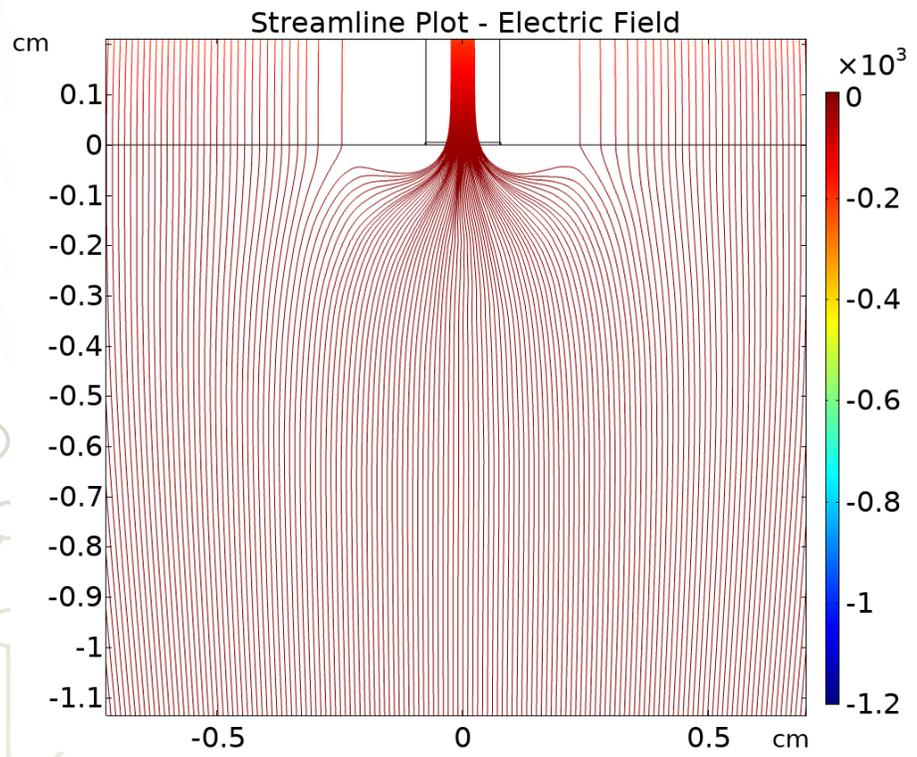
Case: Homogenous Electric Field



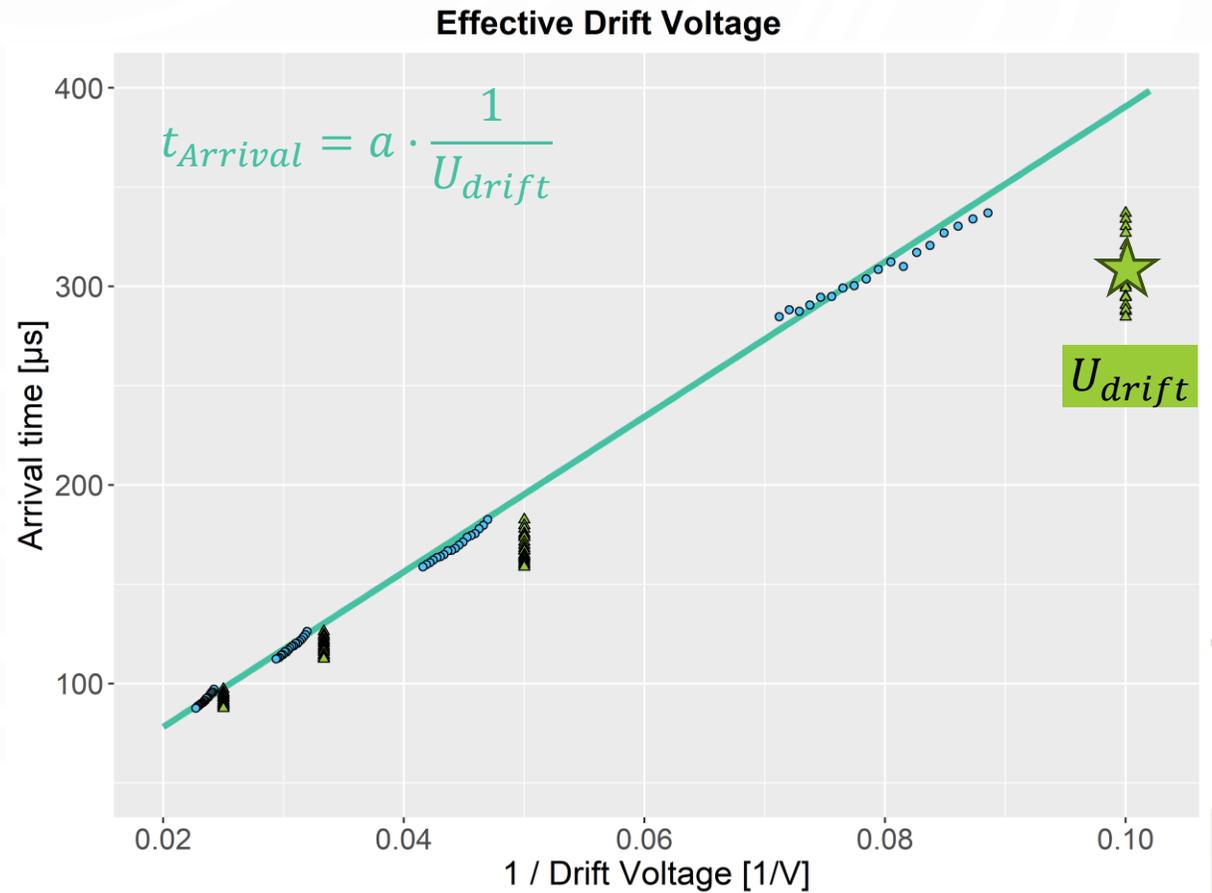
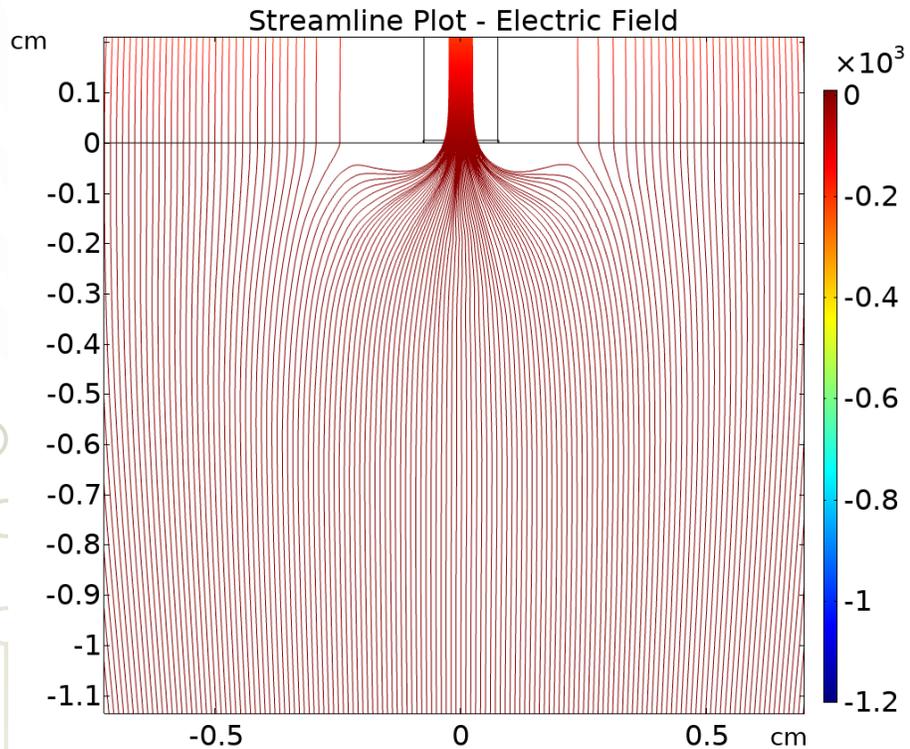
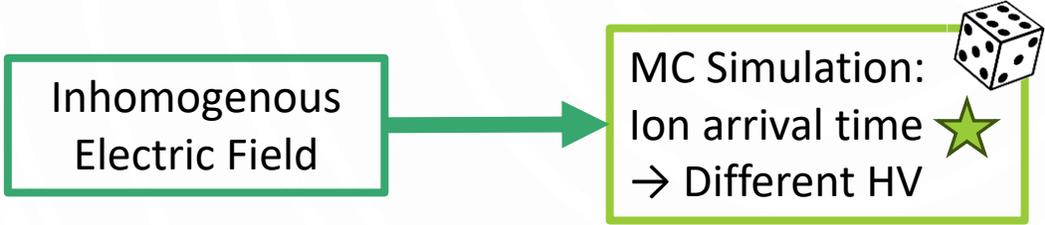
$$t_{Arrival} = a \cdot \frac{1}{U_{drift}}$$

Case: Inhomogenous Electric Field

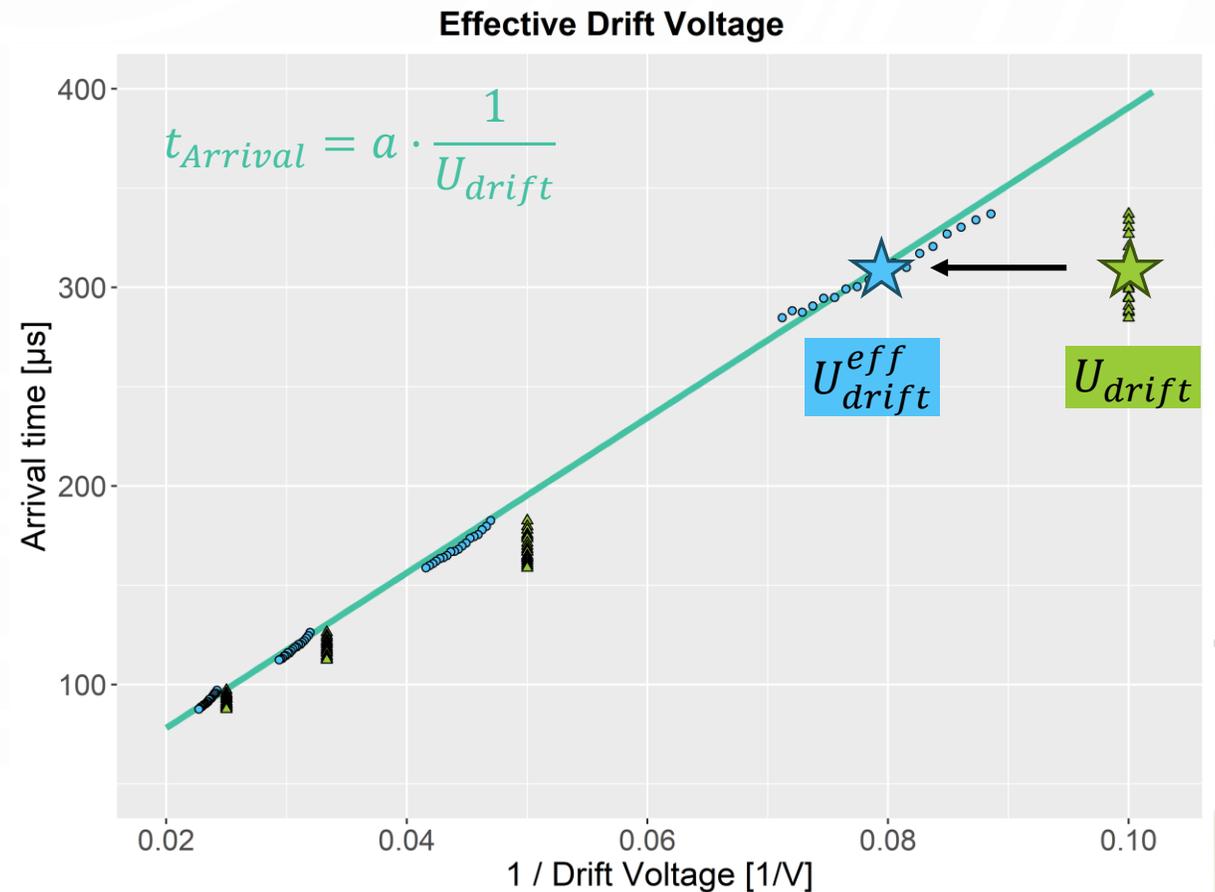
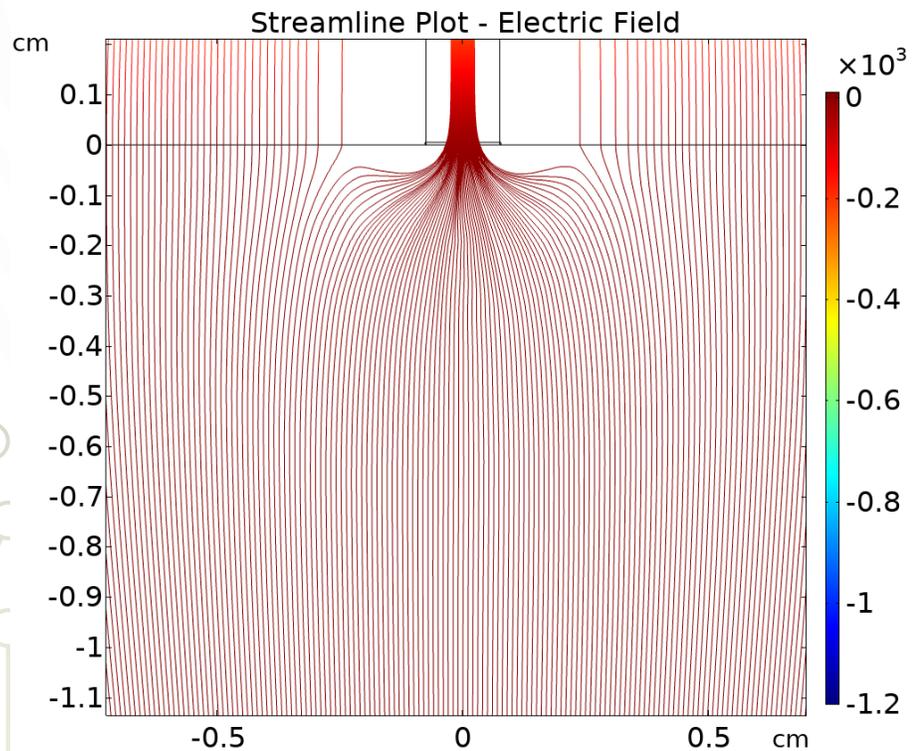
Inhomogenous Electric Field



Case: Inhomogenous Electric Field



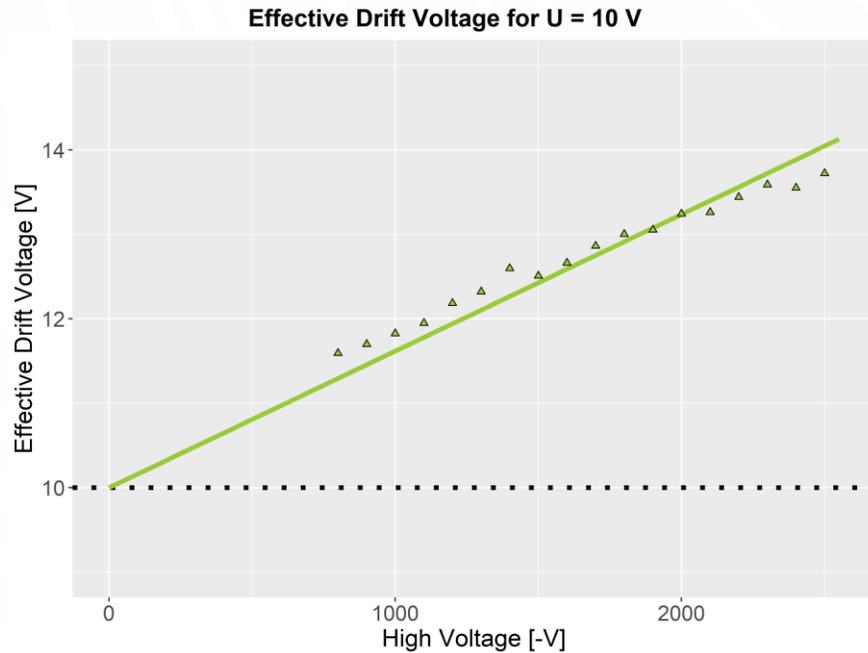
Case: Inhomogenous Electric Field



Case: Inhomogenous Electric Field

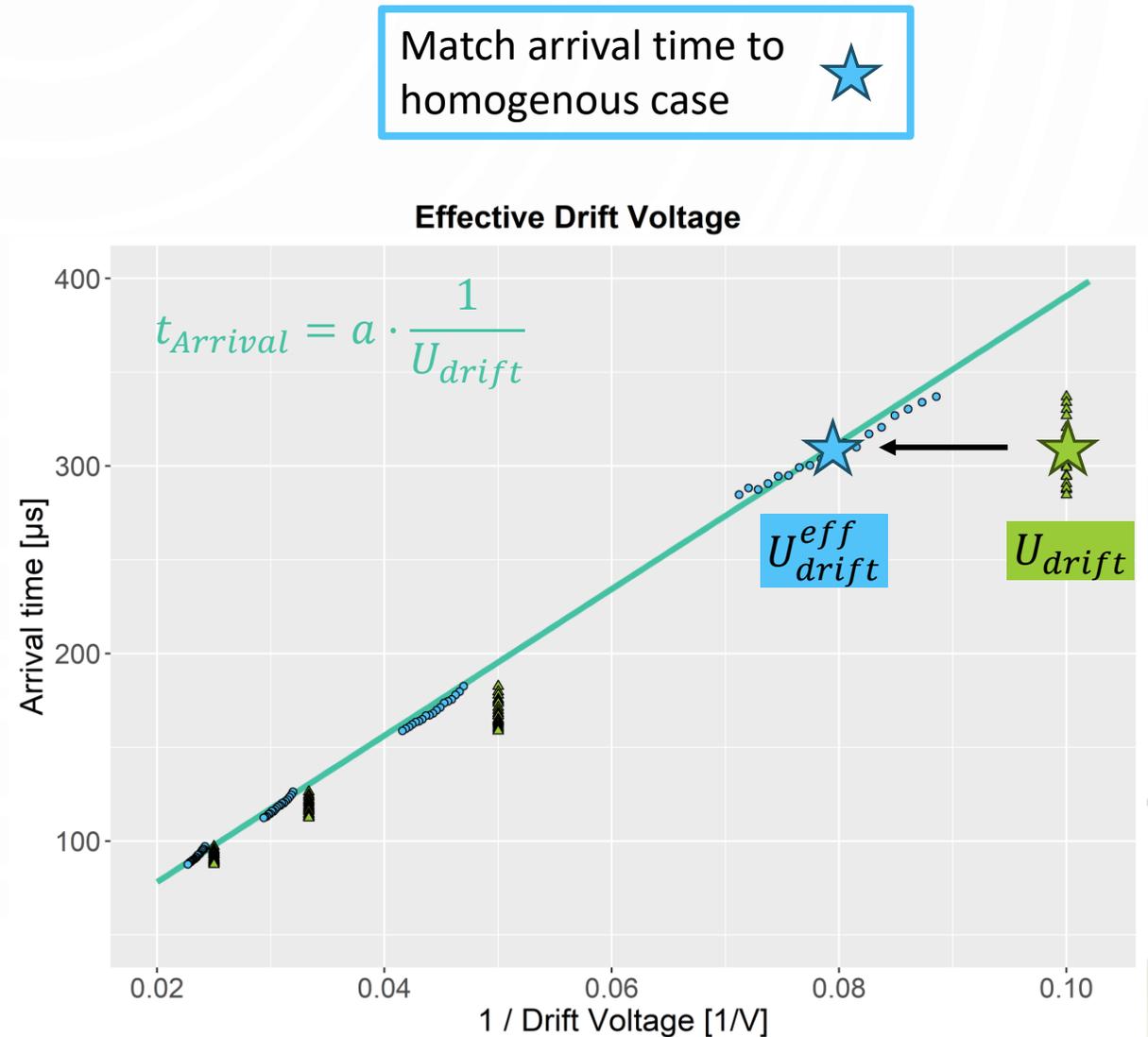
1) For each drift setting, calculate linear fit:

$$U_{drift}^{eff} = U_{drift} + b \cdot HV$$

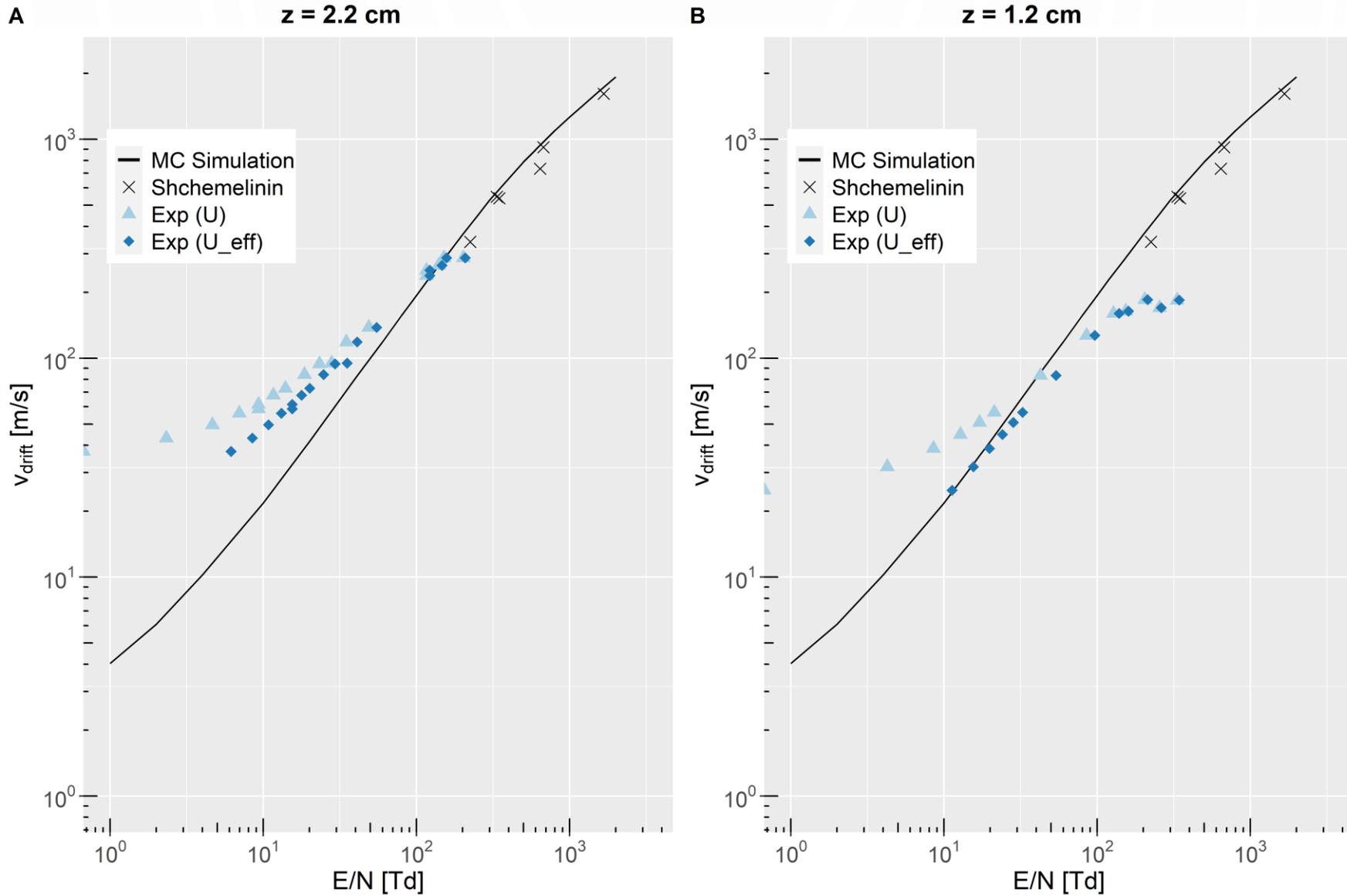


2) Average over different drift settings:

$$b = 0.001618629$$



Applying Correction Factor to Experimental Data



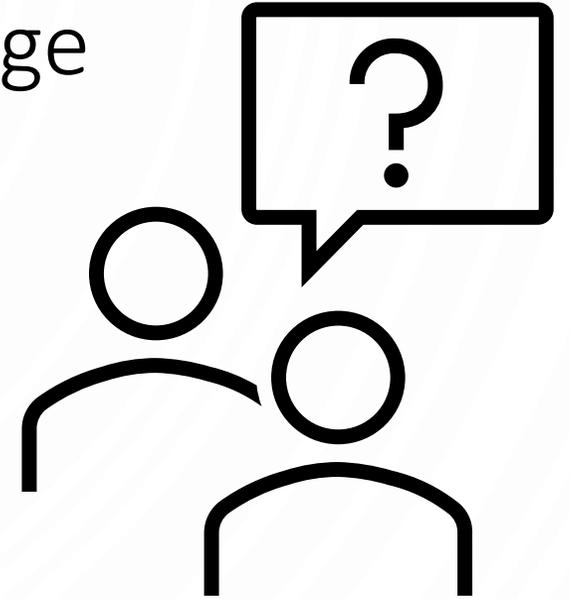
Outlook

- Measurements with different gases
 - Nitrogen (N_2)
- Ion Mobility
 - Propane (C_3H_8)



Determination of effective drift voltage
in a new nanodosimetric prototype

Thank you for your attention!



**Universität
Zürich**^{UZH}

Contact information & Sources

Irina Kempf

Email: irina.kempf@uzh.ch

- [1] Paganetti, H. (2019). Proton therapy physics (H. Paganetti (Ed.); Second edition) [Book]. CRC Press, Taylor & Francis Group.
- [2] Grosswendt, B. (2002). Formation of ionization clusters in nanometric structures of propane-based tissue-equivalent gas or liquid water by electrons and α -particles. *Radiation and Environmental Biophysics*, 41(2), 103–112. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00411-002-0155-6>
- [3] Kempf, I., Stäubli, T., & Schneider, U. (2022). Electrostatic field simulations and dynamic Monte Carlo simulations of a nanodosimetric detector. *Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research Section A: Accelerators, Spectrometers, Detectors and Associated Equipment*, 1028, 166374. <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.NIMA.2022.166374>
- [4] Amir Mahdian, Artjom Krukow, and Johannes Hecker Denschlag. Direct observation of swap cooling in atom-ion collisions. *New Journal of Physics*, 23(6), 2021. ISSN 13672630. doi: 10.1088/1367-2630/ac0575.
- [5] S. A. Maierov. Ion drift in a gas in an external electric field. *Plasma Physics Reports*, 35(9):802–812, 2009. ISSN 1063780X. doi: 10.1134/S1063780X09090098.
- [6] Scott Robertson and Zoltan Sternovsky. Monte Carlo model of ion mobility and diffusion for low and high electric fields. *Physical Review E - Statistical Physics, Plasmas, Fluids, and Related Interdisciplinary Topics*, 67(4):9, 2003. ISSN 1063651X. doi: 10.1103/PhysRevE.67.046405.
- [7] Shchemelinin, S., Breskin, A., Chechik, R., Colautti, P., & Schulte, R. W. M. (1999). First measurements of ionisation clusters on the DNA scale in a wall-less sensitive volume. *Radiation Protection Dosimetry*, 82(1), 43–50. <https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.rpd.a032605>
- [8] Kempf, I., Vasi, F., Besserer, J., & Schneider, U. (2021). FIRE: A compact nanodosimeter detector based on ion amplification in gas. *Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research, Section A: Accelerators, Spectrometers, Detectors and Associated Equipment*, 999(January), 165116. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nima.2021.165116>
- [9] Vasi, F., & Schneider, U. (2021). First measurements of ionization cluster-size distributions with a compact nanodosimeter. *Medical Physics*, 48(5), 2566–2571. <https://doi.org/10.1002/mp.14738>
- [10] Teledyne SP Devices ADQ14 <https://www.spdevices.com/products/hardware/14-bit-digitizers/adq14>

- 
- [11] Matsumoto, Y. (2020). Relative Biological Effectiveness and Fractionation of Proton-Beam Therapy. In: Tsuboi, K., Sakae, T., Gerelchuluun, A. (eds) Proton Beam Radiotherapy. Springer, Singapore. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-13-7454-8_16
- [12] Amaldi, Ugo & Dosanjh, Manjit & Balosso, Jacques & Overgaard, Jens & Sørensen, Brita. (2019). A Facility for Tumour Therapy and Biomedical Research in South-Eastern Europe. 10.23731/CYRM-2019-002.