

# NOISE AND LONG TERM BEHAVIOR OF PROTOTYPE GEM CHAMBER

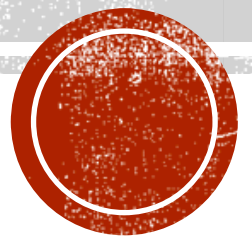
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University of Texas at Arlington

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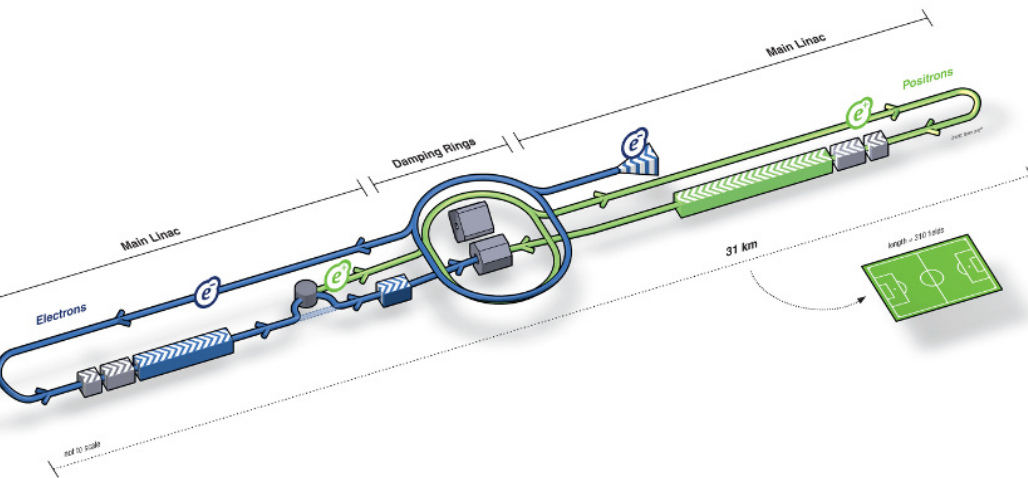
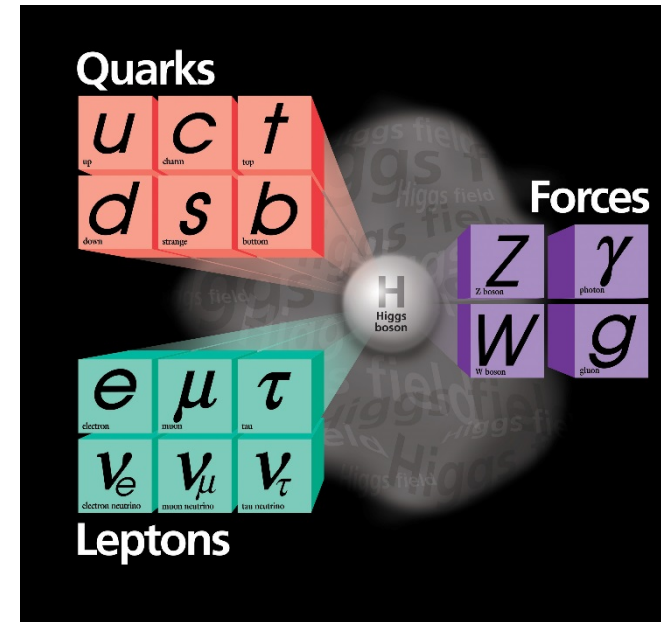
Conference for Undergraduate Women in Physics 2014



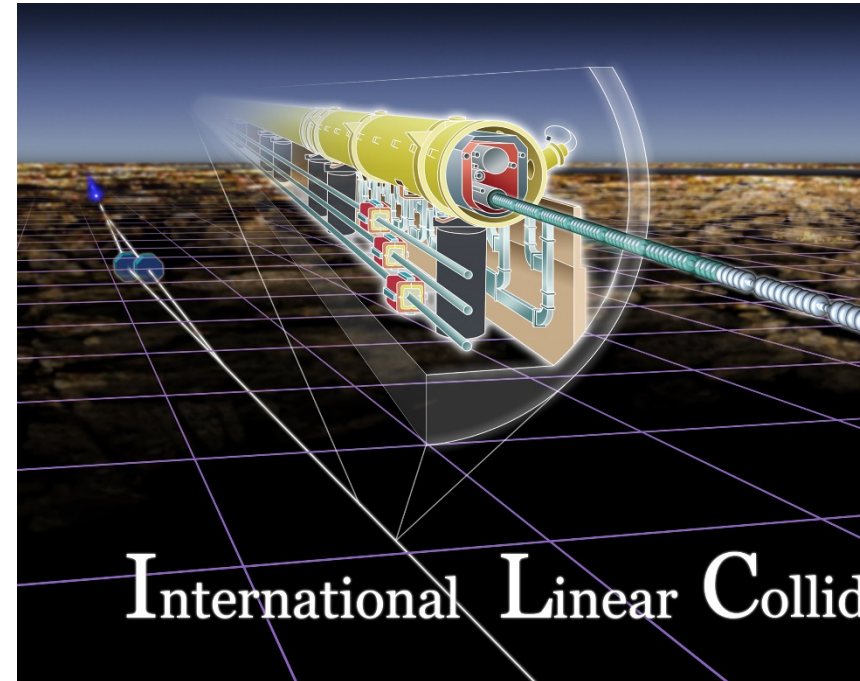
# Motivation and Introduction

Physics topics in the International Linear Collider(ILC) requires **detectors for high precision jet energy** measurements.

The **Gas Electron Multiplier(GEM)** is a good candidate as a **active gap detector** for the calorimeter by the particle flow approach(PFA).(Yu)



Above: International Linear Collider-Schematics



# WHAT IS GEM?

stands for **Gas Electron Multiplier**

Next Generation Micro-strip Detector Technology

Key features:

**Lower voltage** is needed

Lower chance of **discharge**/sparks that may damage the electronics

**Excellent Resolution.**

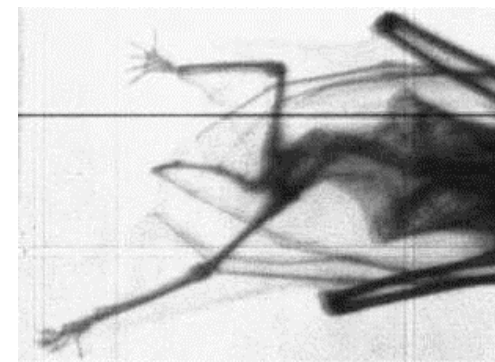
**Wide application:**

Particle and radiation detector in ILC and LHC,  
Medical Diagnostics and Portal Imaging.

Intensifier for CCD camera

Ray Polarimeter to study polarization of supernovas

and pulsars



8 keV absorption radiography of mammal. The horizontal image is

# HOW DOES GEM WORK?

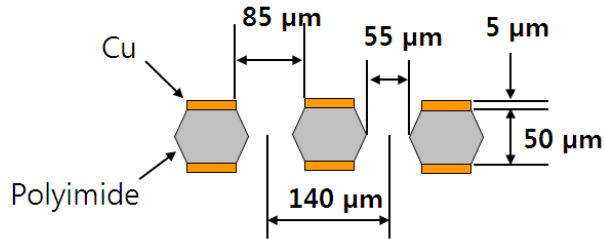
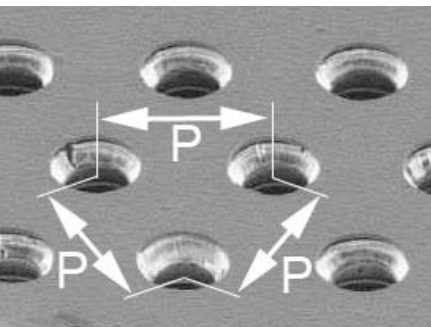
A cosmic ray passes through chamber it ionizes ArCO<sub>2</sub> mixture in the chamber.

Ionized electrons travel down by the electric field (drift region:  $1.3 \times 10^4$  V/m), they pass through holes in the 2 layers of GEM foils with a much higher electric field. ( $7 \times 10^6$  V/m)

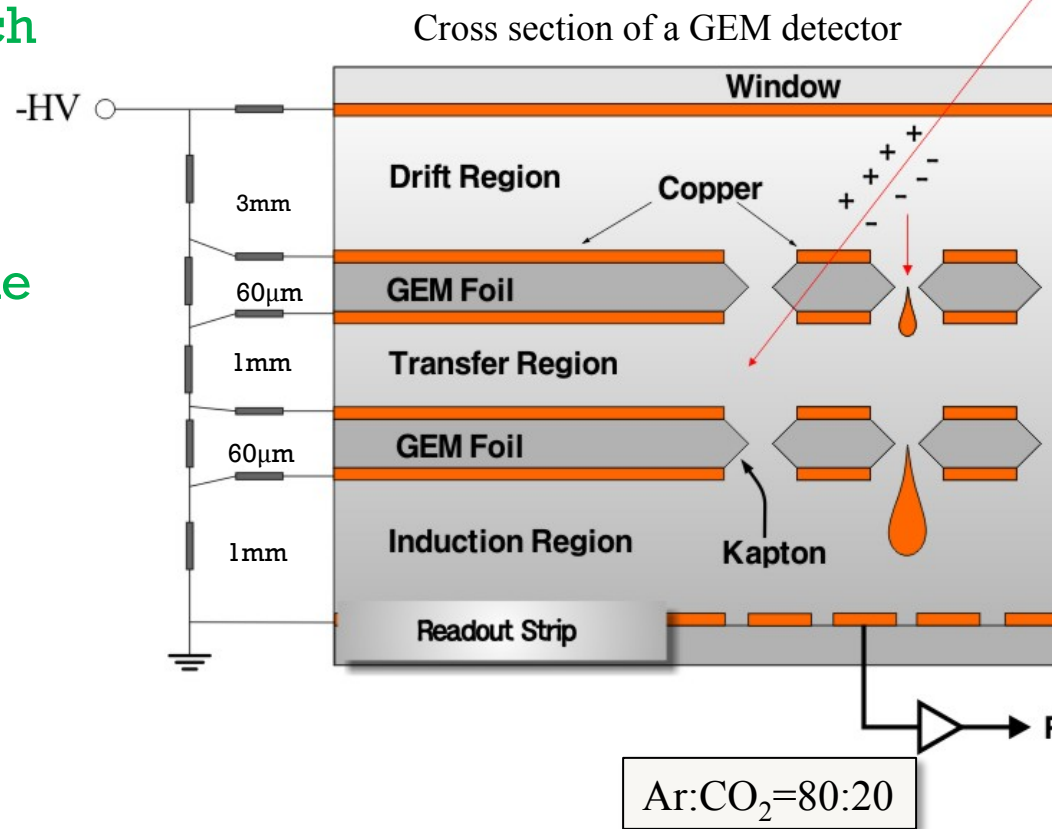
The high electric field cause a cascade of electron to be ionized (Multiplication)

The multiplied electrons is read out at the anode

*Gain = # of electrons read out on the anode / # of electrons ionized in the drift region*



Microscopic view of a standard GEM foil with regular pierced bi-conical holes  
 Thickness: 100 μm; Diameter of the holes: D(cu): 85 μm; D(polyimide): 55 μm



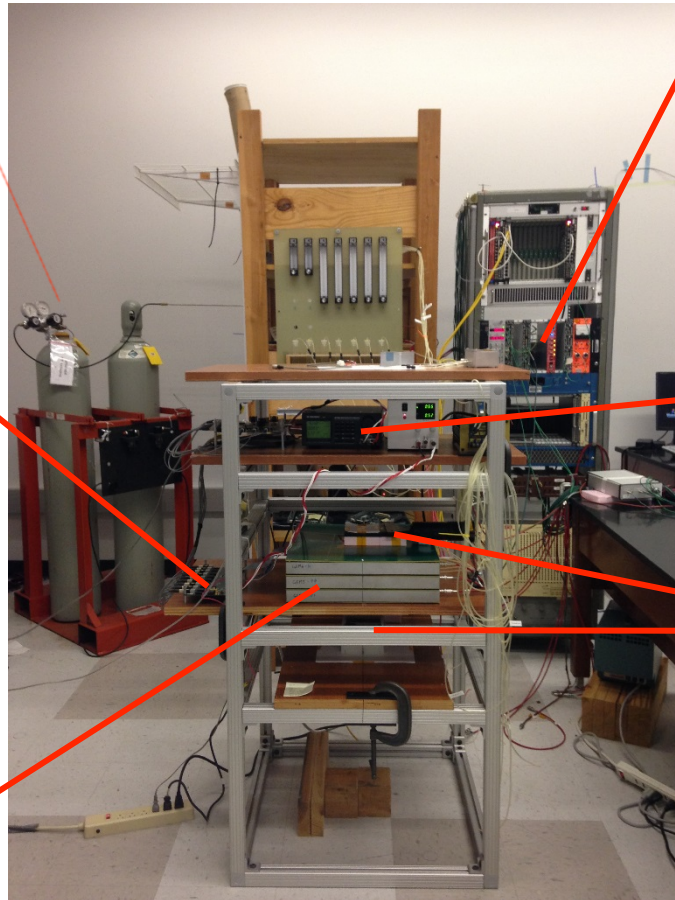
# GEM AT UT ARLINGTON

Dr. Andy White proposed to have GEM as an active element of DHCAL in 2002. The group has been working on the GEM project since then.

**ArCO<sub>2</sub> gas Supply**  
Ar: CO<sub>2</sub> -> 80:20

**Kpix Readout system**  
System that reads out the signal from GEM to the computer system is able to read a wide range of signal->can measure **effective gain** and **efficiency** of the GEM chamber  
64 channels in use

**4 GEM chambers**  
Dimensions and Specifications:  
Size: **310x310 mm<sup>2</sup>**  
Active area: **280x280 mm<sup>2</sup>**  
Gas room: **350x350x6 mm<sup>3</sup>**  
Readout channels (1x1 cm<sup>2</sup>)



**High Voltage Supply**  
Across each GEM chamber (1900V)

**Low Voltage supply**  
For the readout electronics (5V)

- 2 scintillator**
- Sandwiching the GEM chamber
  - Work as a **Hodoscope**
  - The Kpix system only reads out hit data when both scintillators detect a signal->Less stress on electronics

# MOTIVATION OF THIS STUDY

- **Effective Gain**-> An Important index of how **efficient** GEM is.
- **Stability** of GEM chamber over a long period of time
  - The more stable it is the more reliable of an candidate GEM is as a gap detector
  - Investigation of the long term behavior of GEM is therefore important

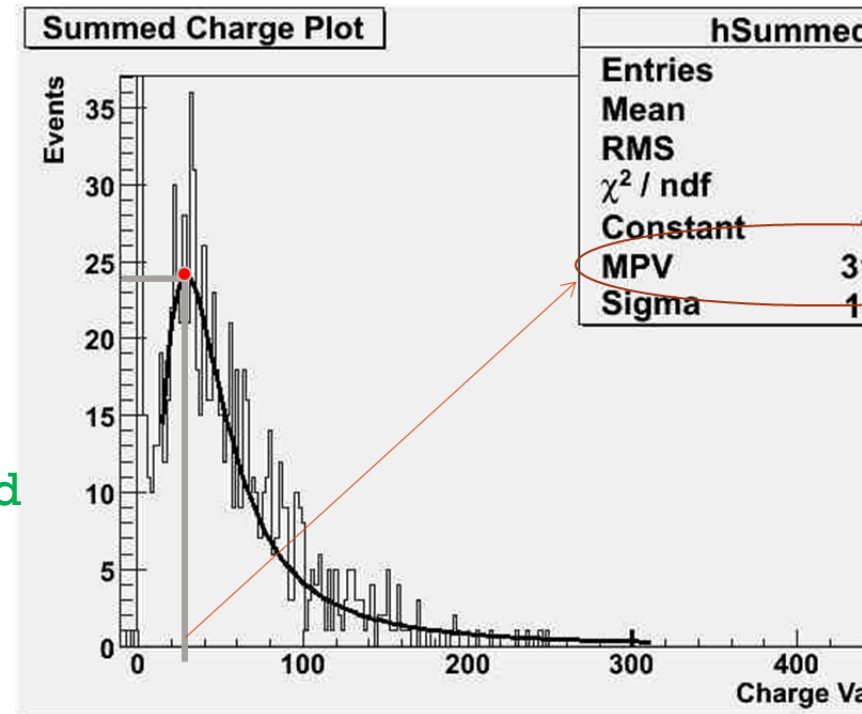
# METHODOLOGY: RESPONSE OF THE GEM CHAMBER

$n = \# \text{ of Electrons read out on the anode board} / \# \text{ of electrons ionized in the drift region}$

$n = \text{read out on the anode board} = \text{MPV} / \text{Charge of an electron}$



When the # of electron ionized at the drift region is constant, then the **MPV** value of the charge distribution Plot is a **good analogy** to the **effective gain** of the GEM device!



A sample Charge distribution plot of the signal

# METHODOLOGY: PRESSURE

## CORRECTION

motivation:  
The gain process  $\rightarrow$  pressure

dependent

(GEM is a open air system)

Factor:

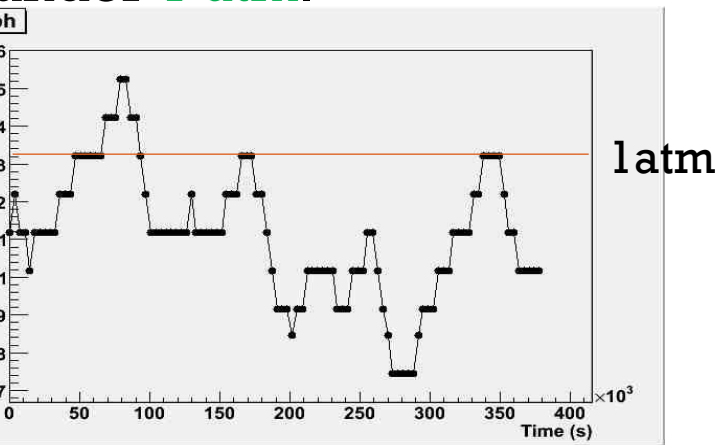
Pressure correct the cosmic run

data to get cosmic ray

amplification data that reflects

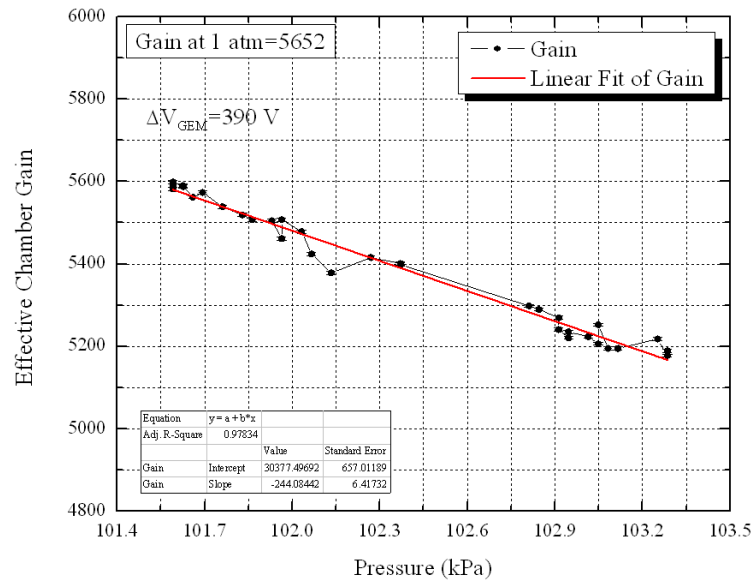
the performance of the detector

under 1 atm.

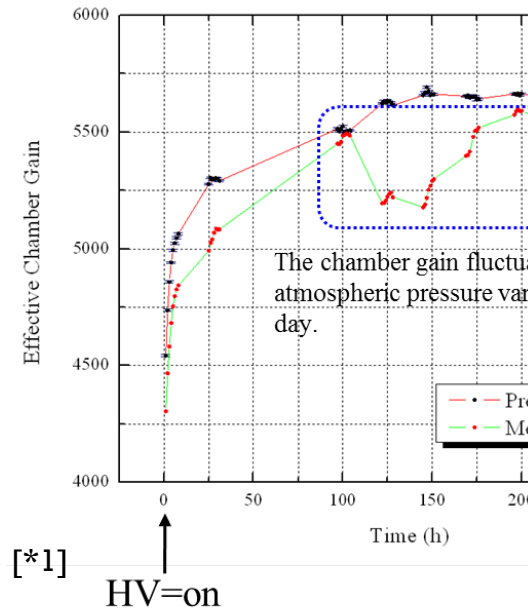


sample pressure data of a cosmic run

Effective Gain = # of Electrons read out at the anode board / # of Electrons ionized at the drift region



$$Gain = -303.9 \text{ Pressure (in Pascal)} + 35509 \quad [*2]$$



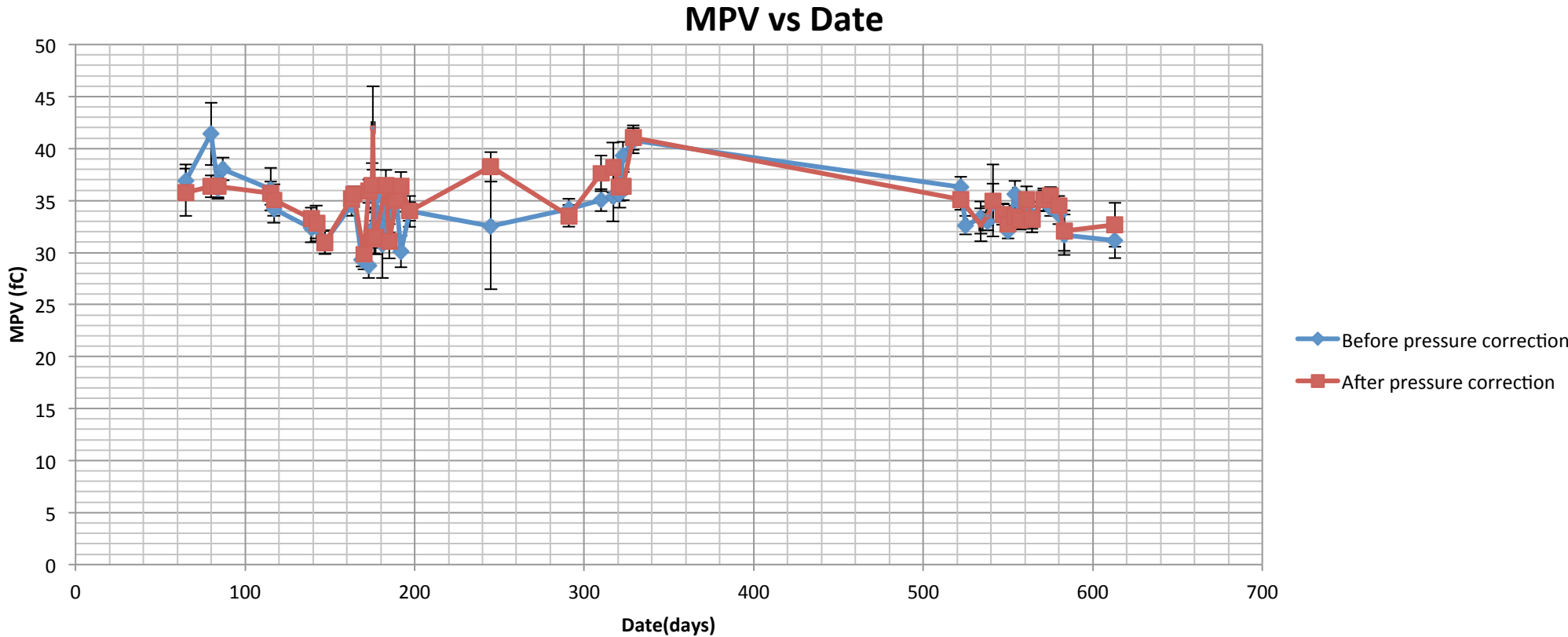
[\*1] Park, Seongtae PhD. "Hadron Calorimeter with GEMs", Powerpoint, CALICE Workshop

[\*2]: Baldelomar, Edward (Unpublished).



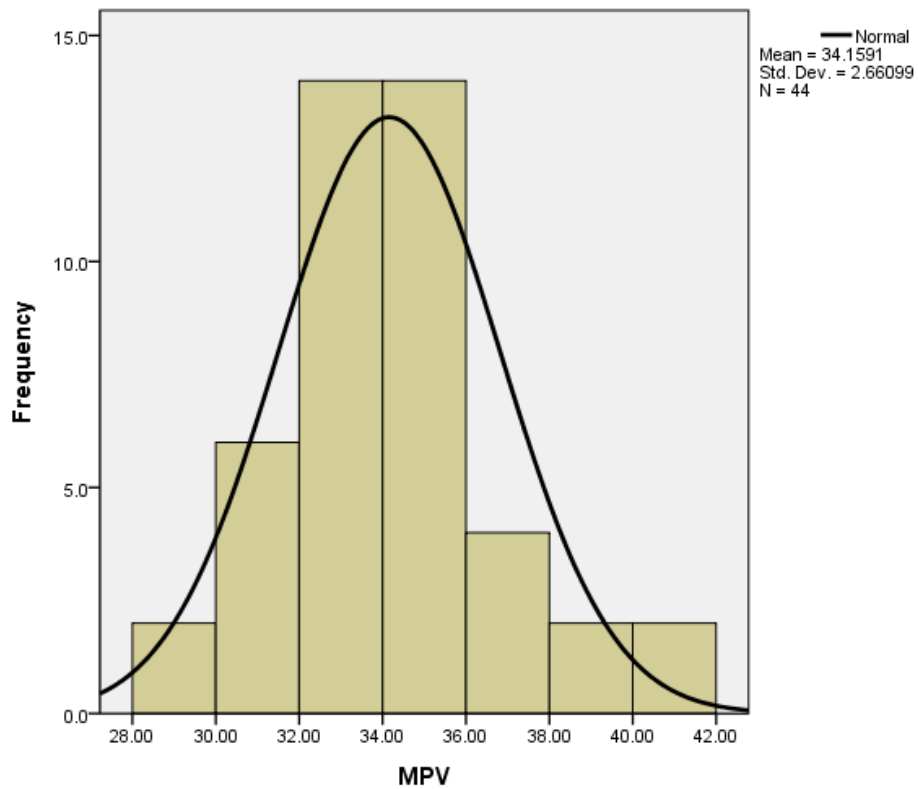
# LONG TERM BEHAVIOR OF GEM ANALYSIS BY KPIX

- Long term behavior of the **MPV of the charge value** at the anode read-out pads



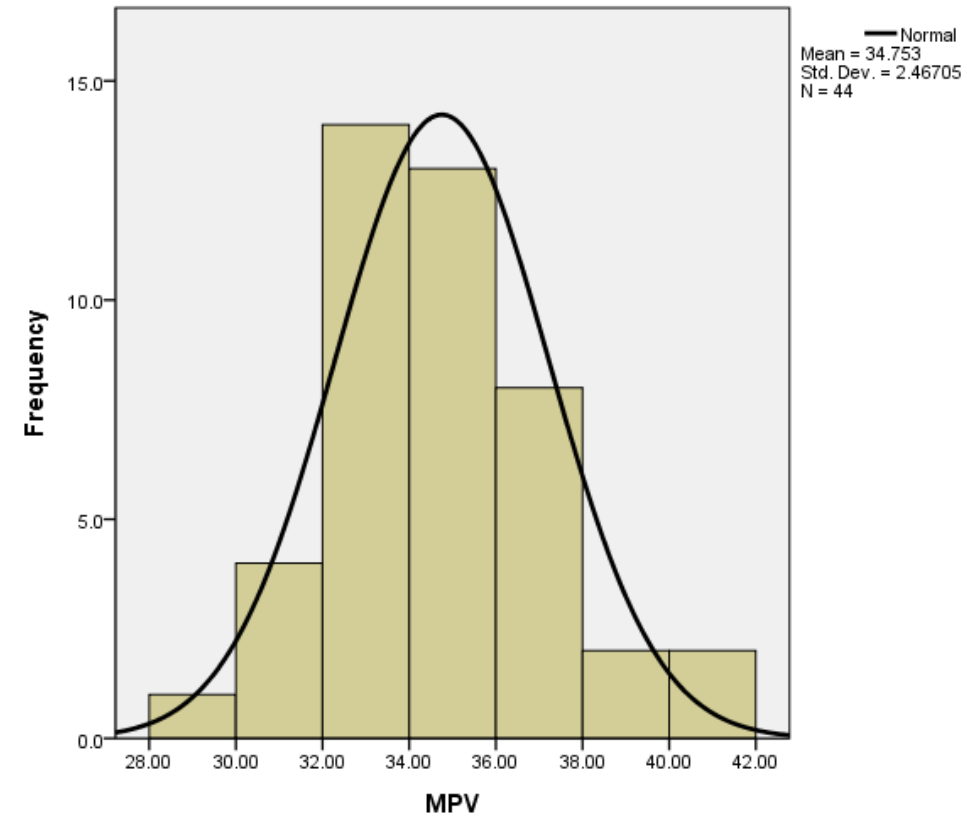
# MPV DISTRIBUTION

MPV Distribution **Before pressure correction**



$$\langle Q \rangle = 33.12 \pm 0.40 \text{ fC}$$

MPV Distribution **After pressure correction**



$$\langle Q \rangle = 34.75 \pm 0.37 \text{ fC}$$

# NOISE STUDY- BACKGROUND

Challenge:

Aging readout KPiX  
chip.

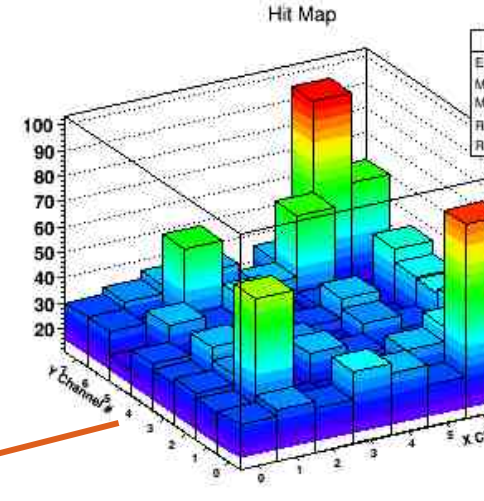
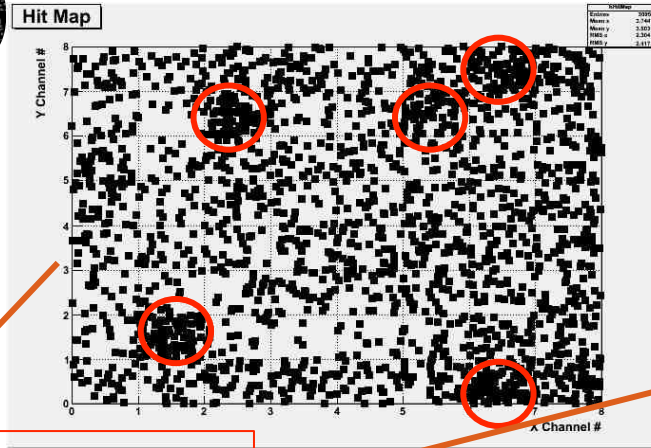
Some channels are  
performing worse than  
the rest.

Study:

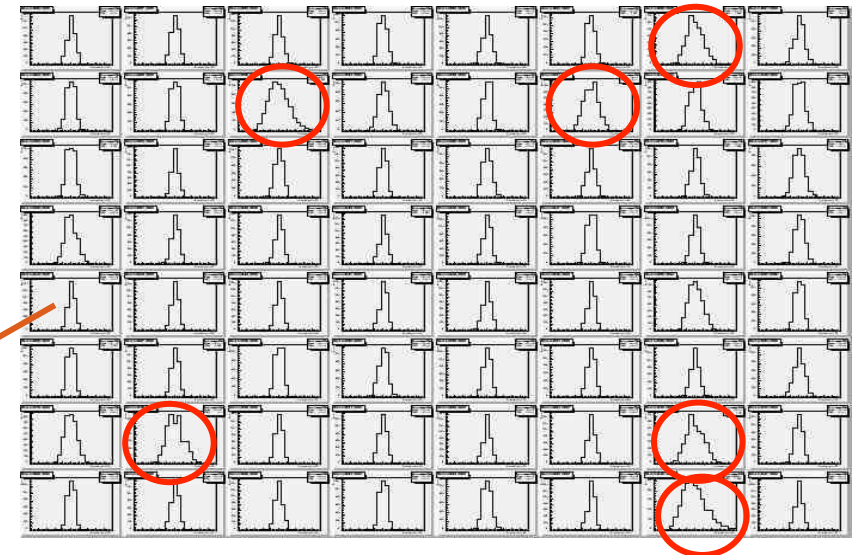
isolating the bad  
channels

Possible solution:

Raising the threshold  
Masking the channel

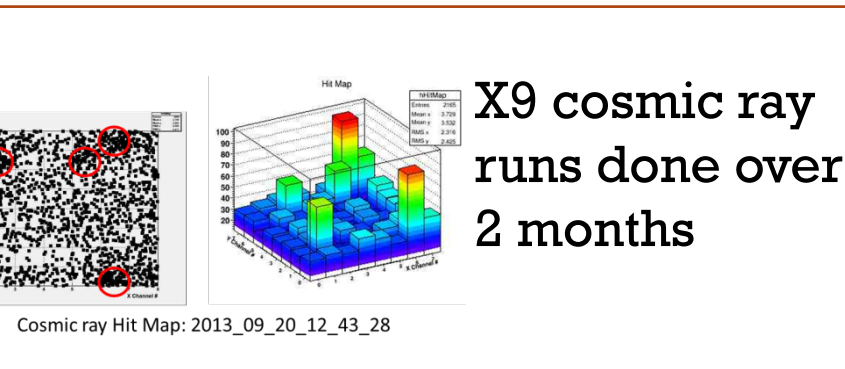


Cosmic ray Hit Map: 2013\_09\_20\_12\_43\_28



Pedestal run: 2013\_09\_24\_20\_09\_44

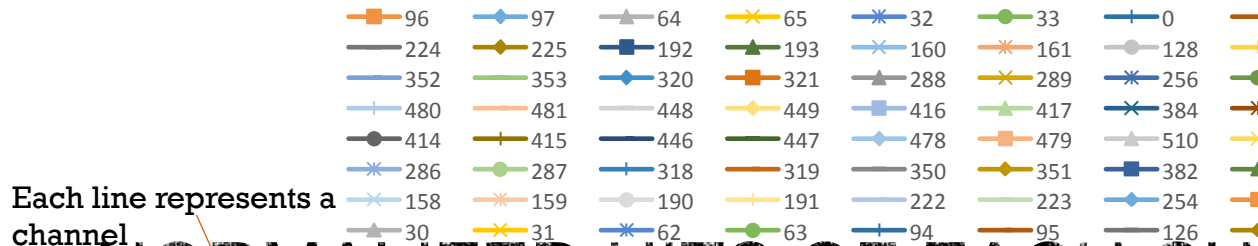
# Identifying bad Channels: By normalized hit count in cosmic ray runs



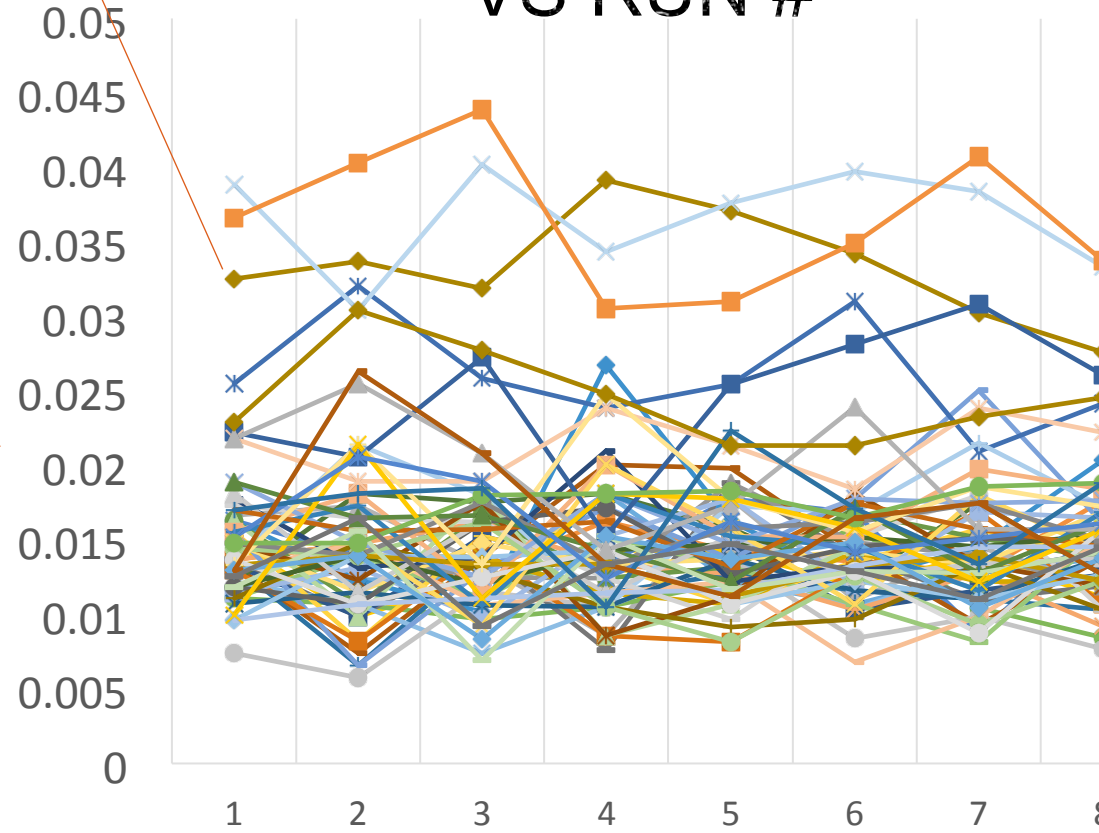
Normalization of the hit count of each channel

Creating a Normalized hits of each channel vs runs graph

Finding a list of channels with the highest average normalized hit value



## NORMALIZED HITS OF EACH CHANNEL VS RUN #



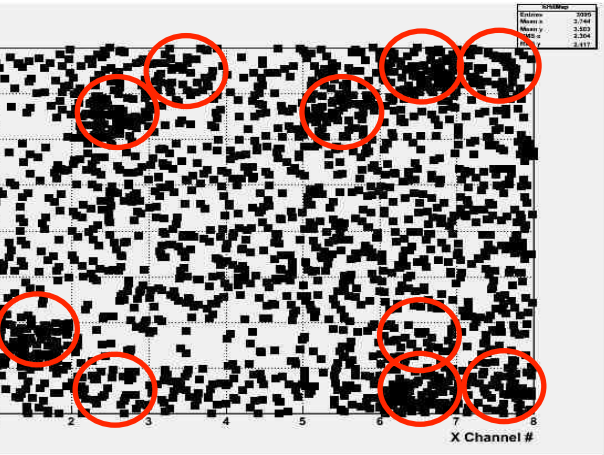


# BAD CHANNEL LOCATION

## RESULT:

Noise run top 10 highest RMS

Cosmic Run top 10 Normal



Channel#:	Average RMS value (femtoCoulomb)
126	1.357756
192	1.219496
0	1.15875
159	1.071566
254	1.04514
161	0.963316
510	0.879144
490	0.867683
128	0.774578
158	0.770403

126	0.039
0	0.034
159	0.034
192	0.03
161	0.02
127	0.02
1	0.02
254	0.018
65	0.018
62	0.015

# CONCLUSION

- ✓ **Pressure Correction:**
  - Found the gain of the chamber at 1 atm.
- ✓ **The Noise Channels Studies:**
  - Some channels need to be **masked** or the **threshold need to be raised**.
- ✓ **The Long Term Behavior:**
  - GEM is capable of giving us a **stable long term behavior**
  - Chamber is Characterized by:
    - ~**35 fC** MPV for cosmic ray MIPs
    - ~**0.5 fC** of KPiX noise,
    - A few fC** of Chamber noise

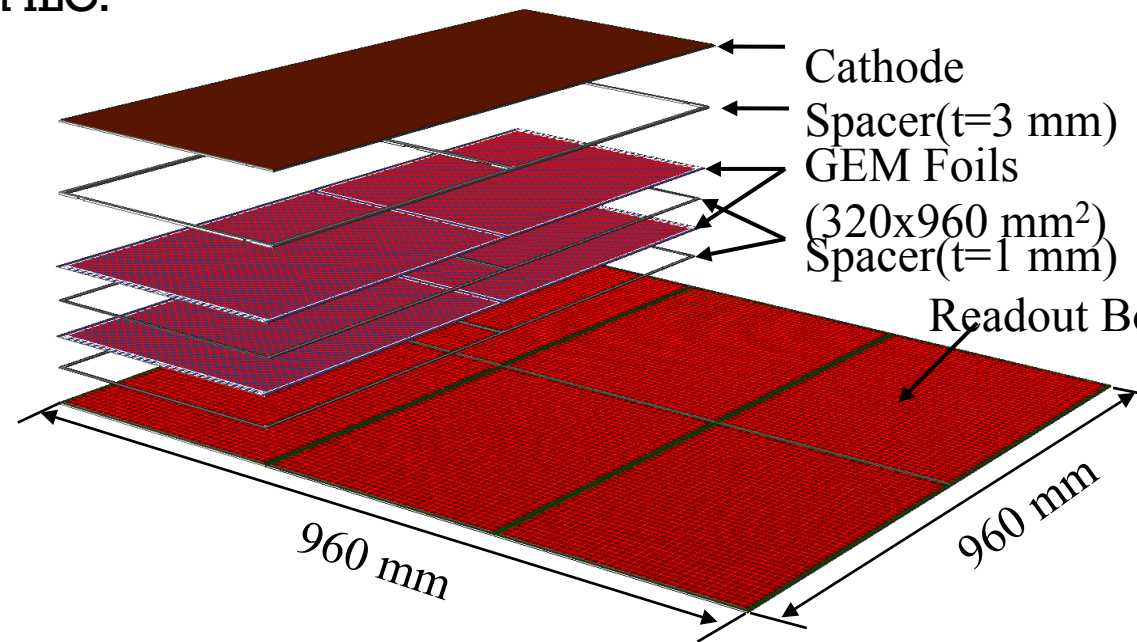
We conclude that GEM-based active layer should work well for a digital calorimeter

# FUTURE WORK

UTA has worked on the GEM system for over 10 years:

- Different chambers have been used: 10cm x 10cm, 1 inch x 1 inch, 30cm x 30 cm

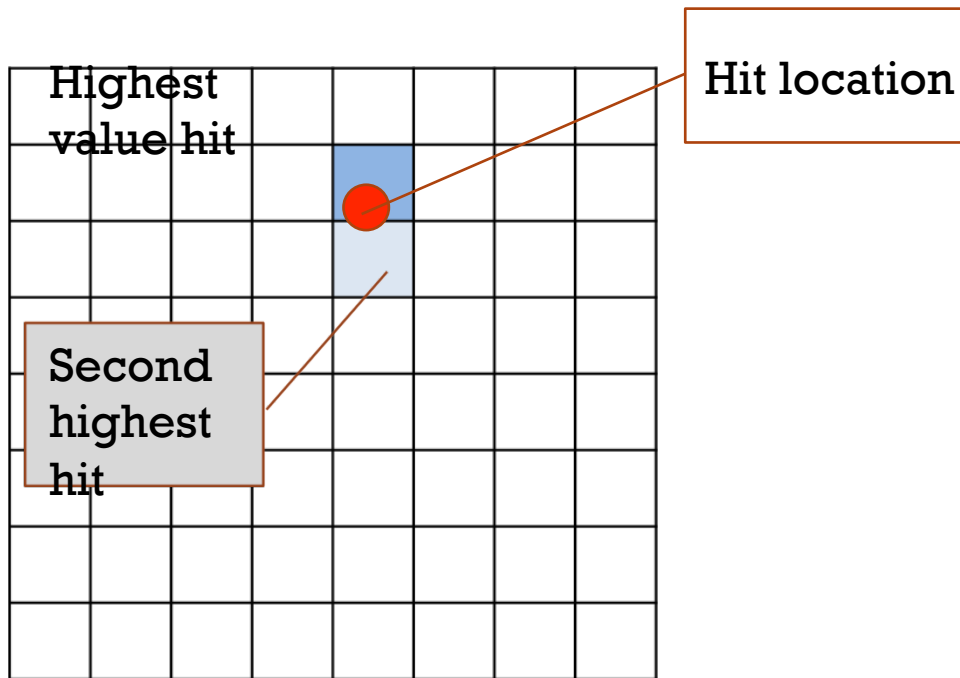
The **30x30 prototype chamber** has shown a stable behavior over the past 2 years. A new prototype chamber **1m x 1m LGEM** is under construction right now for us to understand the technology better as a potential gap detector for the project in ILC.





**BACKUP SLIDES**

# MECHANISM BEHIND SUMMED CHARGE VALUE:



(Above): Kpix read-out pad,  
made out of 64 small  
individual pads, stimulation  
of a hit

Adding the **highest** and **second highest** value together for a **summed charge value**  
->Enable detecting of charge signal that fall between **2 readout pads**