

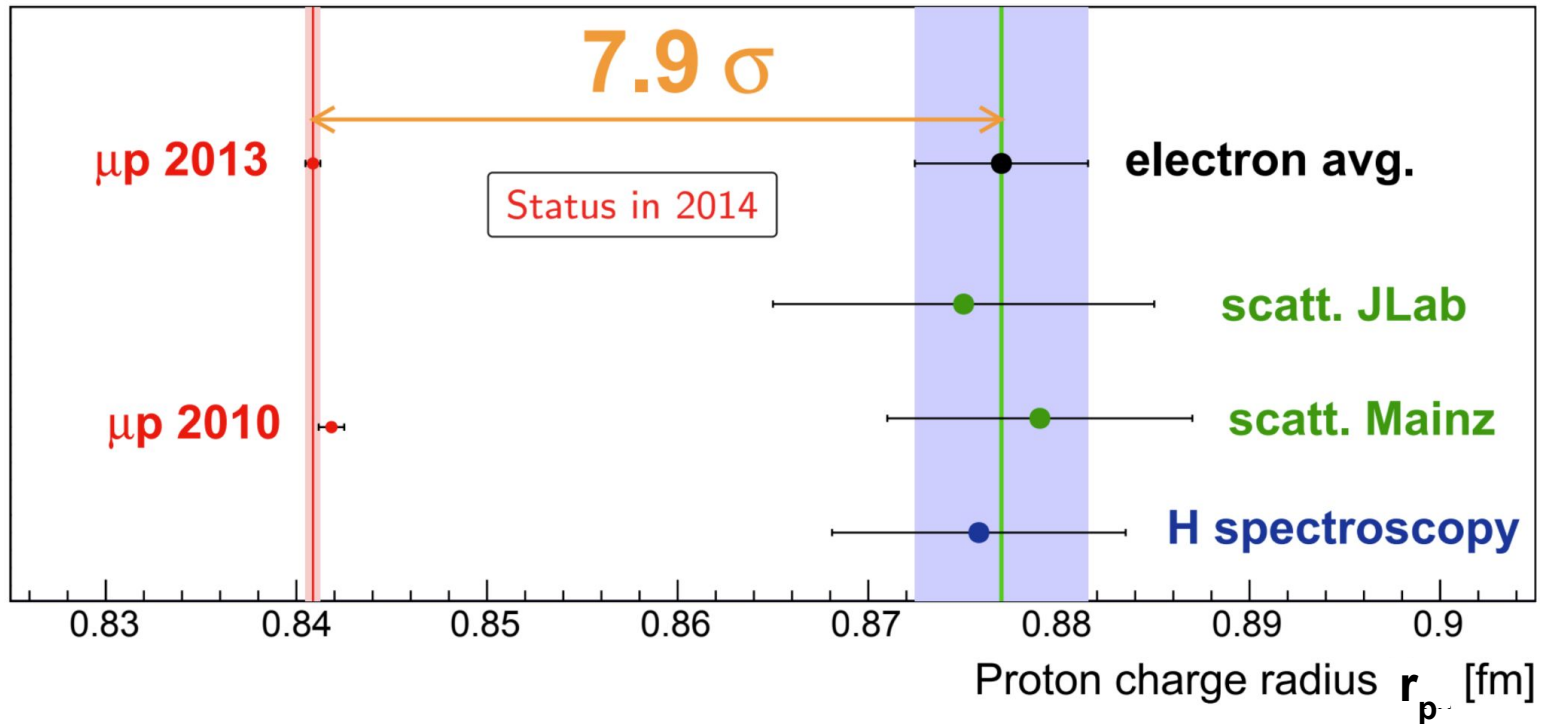
MUSE: The MUon Scattering Experiment

Thomas Krahulik
The George Washington University

April 14, 2026

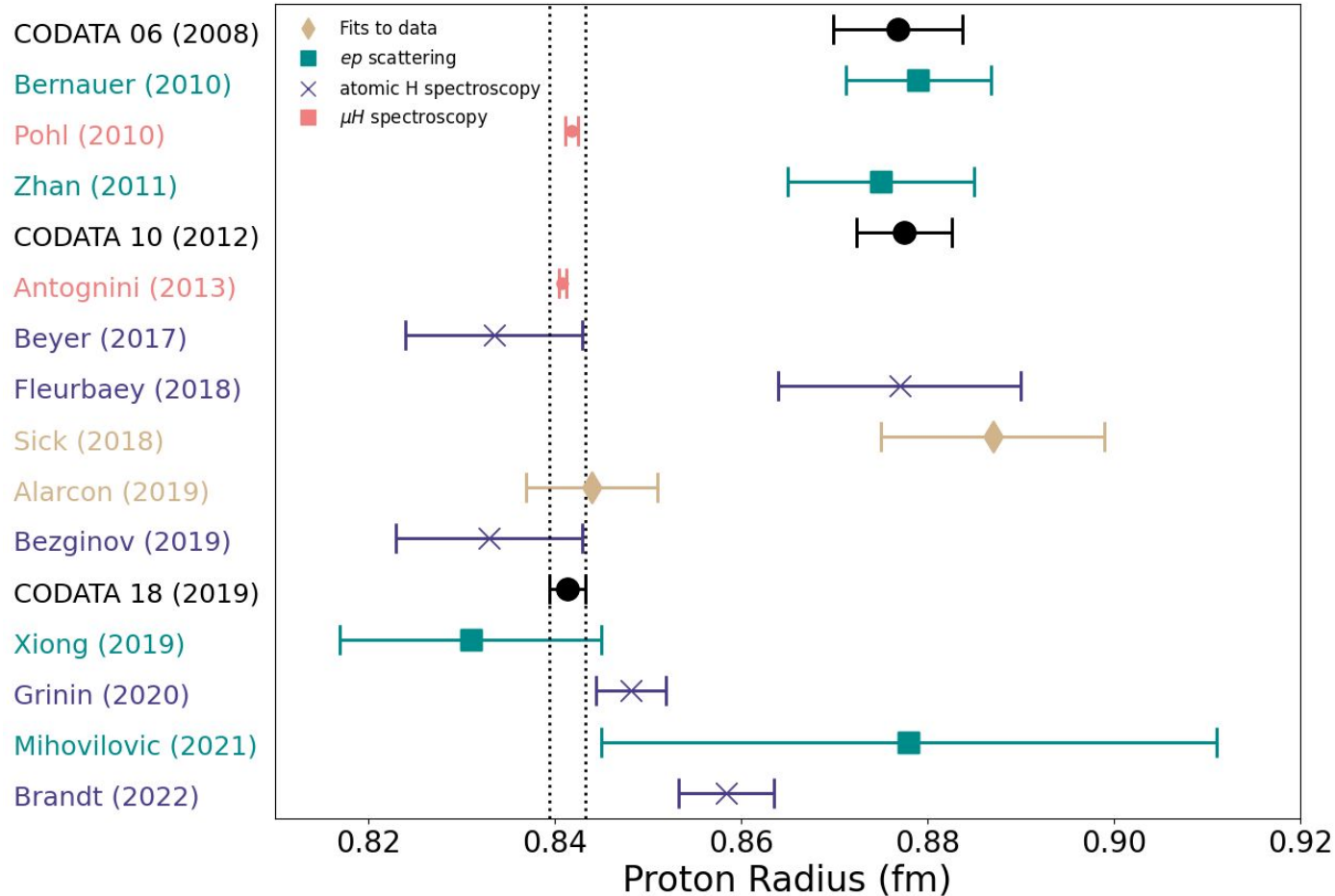
Nuclear Radius Extraction Collaboration Workshop - Stony Brook, NY

Proton Charge Radius

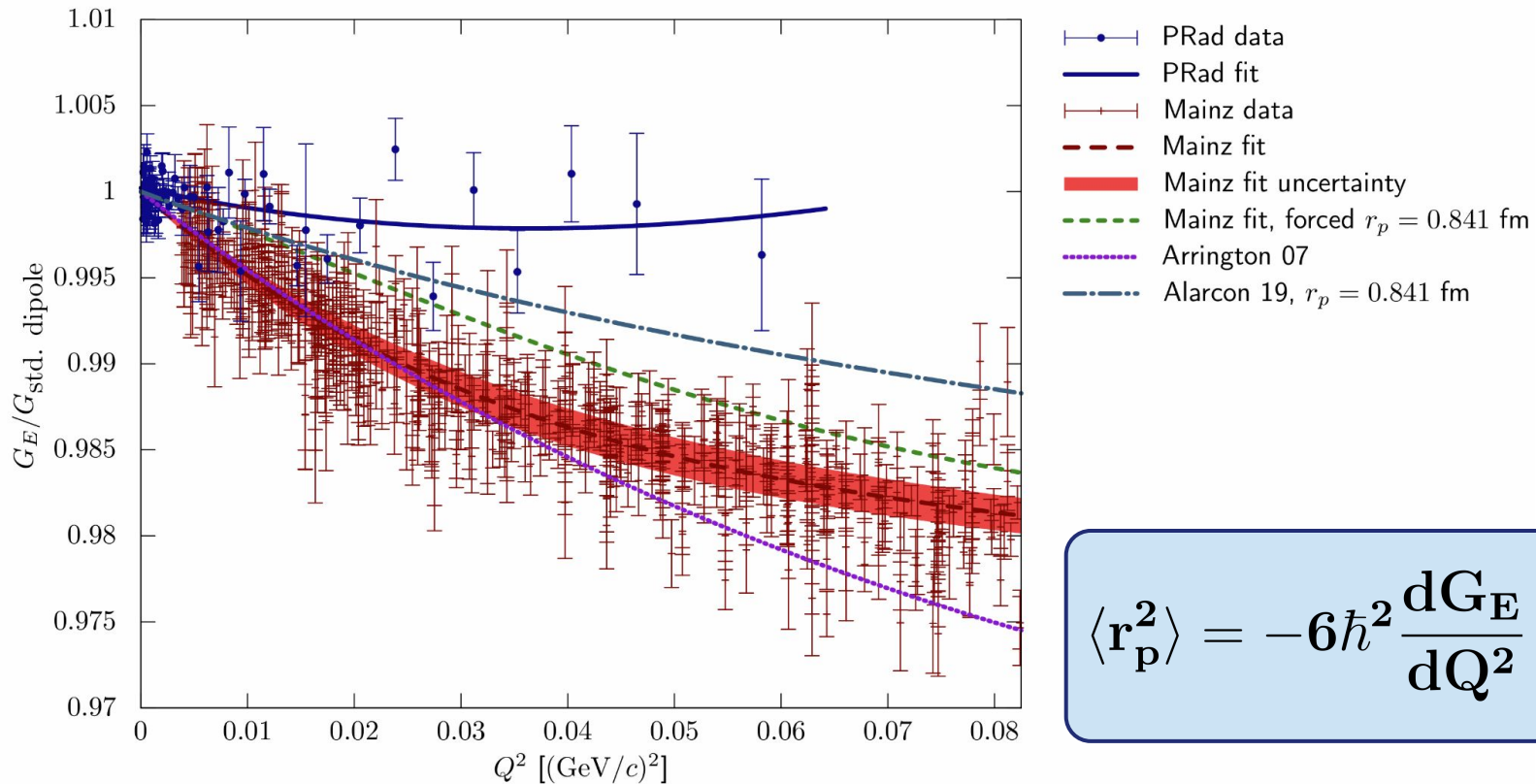


2010: Muonic hydrogen spectroscopy results bring proton charge radius into question

Current Status of the Proton Charge Radius

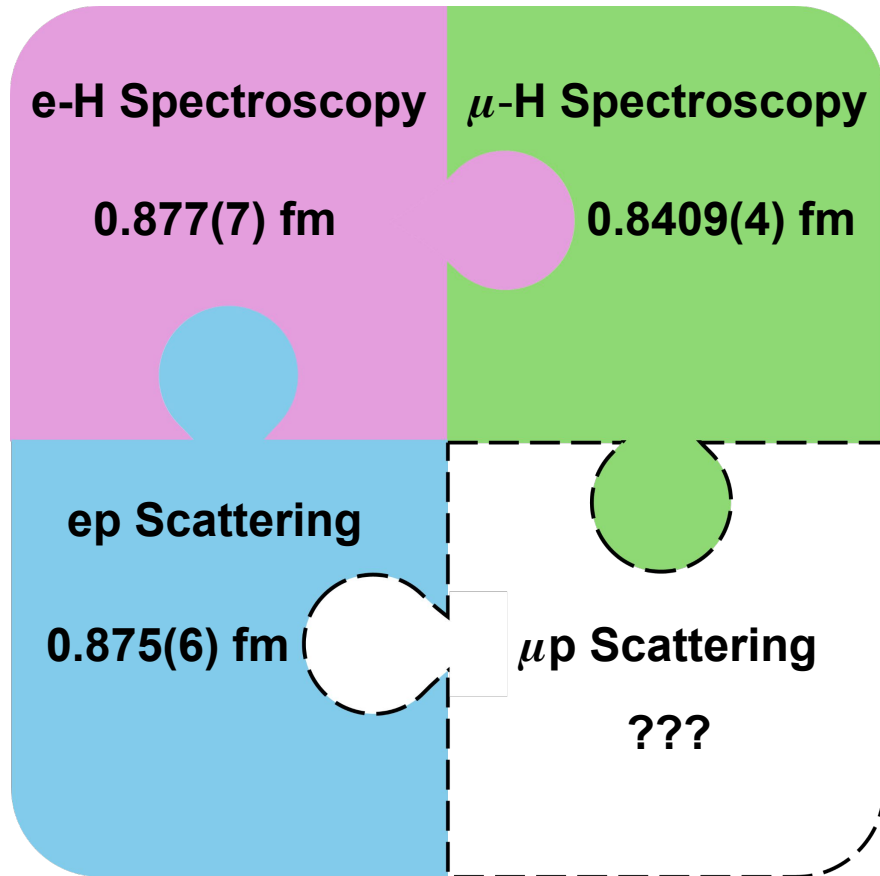


Form Factors for Radius Extraction



Discrepancies exist at the form factor level

Muon-Proton Scattering - The Missing Piece?



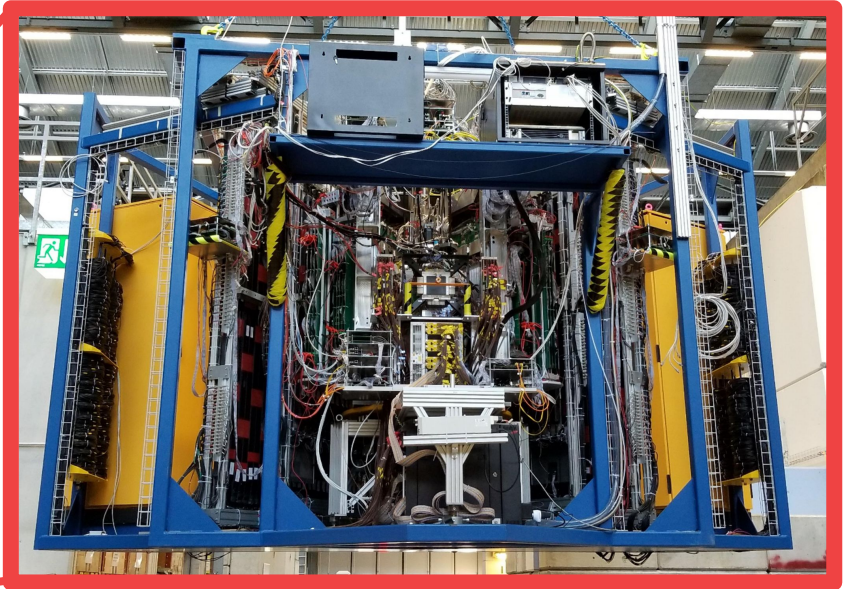
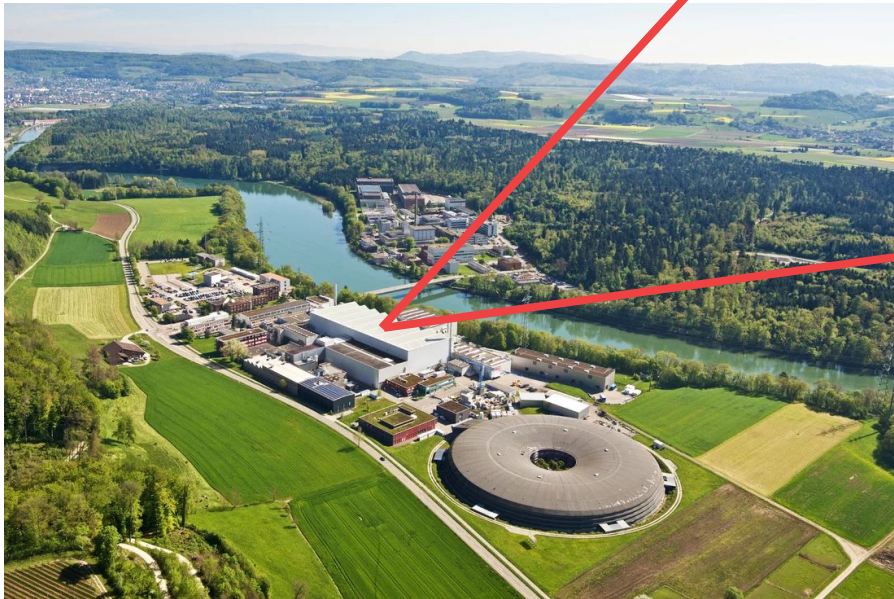
Original Motivations for MUSE

- Muon-proton scattering to address the proton charge radius
- Muon vs Electron Divergence?
- Two Photon Exchange



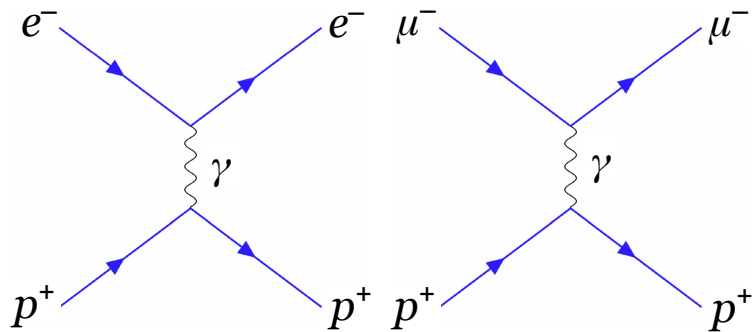
MUSE: The MUon Scattering Experiment

- Simultaneous **electron** and **muon scattering** experiment at Paul Scherrer Institute (PSI)
- PiM1 Secondary Beamline



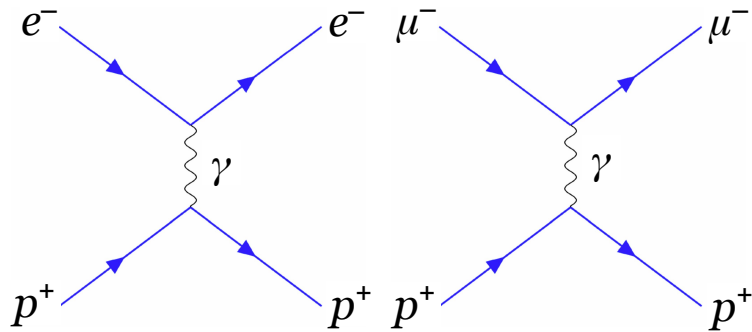
- Mixed particle species beam: e, μ, π
- Positive and negative particle charge polarities

Simultaneous ep and μp



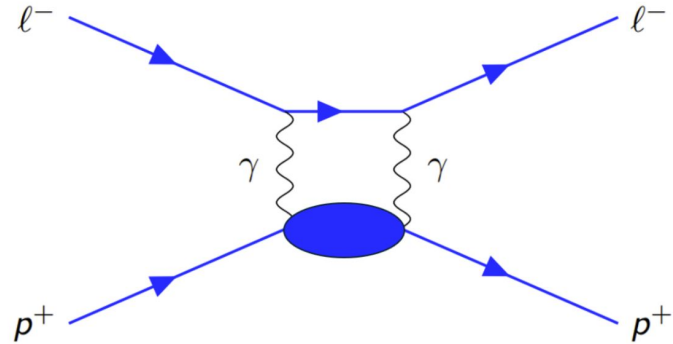
- Extraction of **proton charge radius from μp scattering**
- Direct comparison of ep and μp **cross section** and $\mathbf{G_E}$ results
- Test of **lepton universality**

Simultaneous ep and μp



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Two Photon Exchange



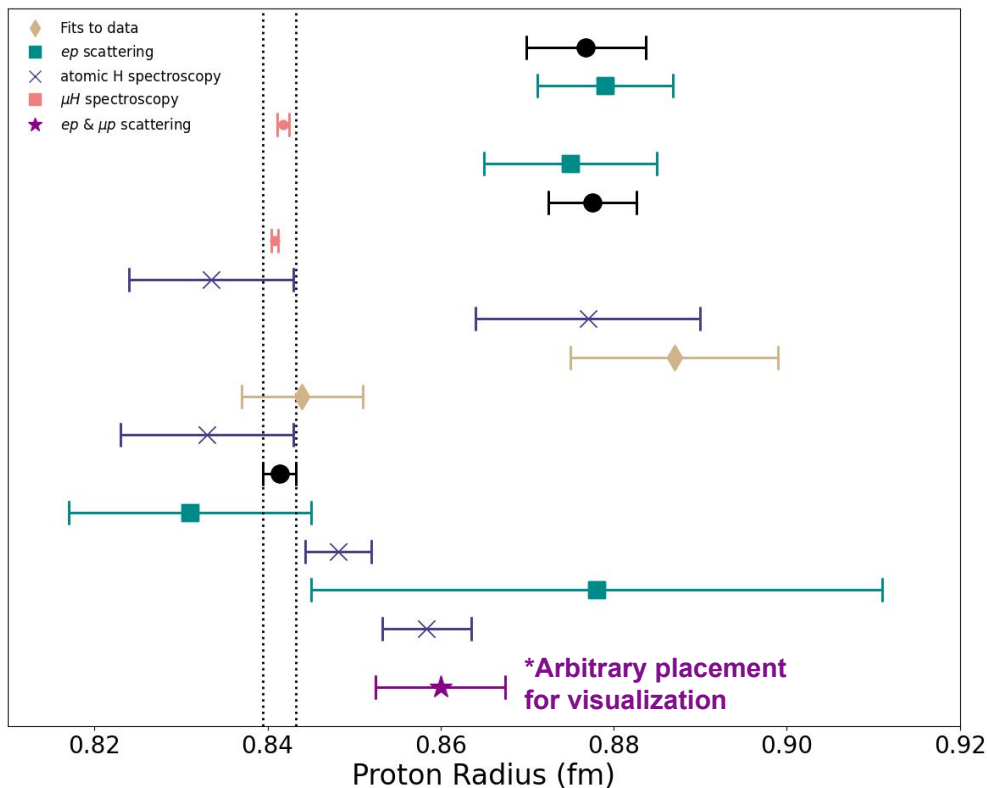
- Extract **TPE effects** with access to both lepton charge polarities

$$\sigma(l^\pm p) = \sigma_{1\gamma}(1 \pm \delta_{2\gamma})$$

$$\frac{\sigma(l^+ p)}{\sigma(l^- p)} \approx 1 + 2\delta_{2\gamma}$$

Precision Goals of MUSE

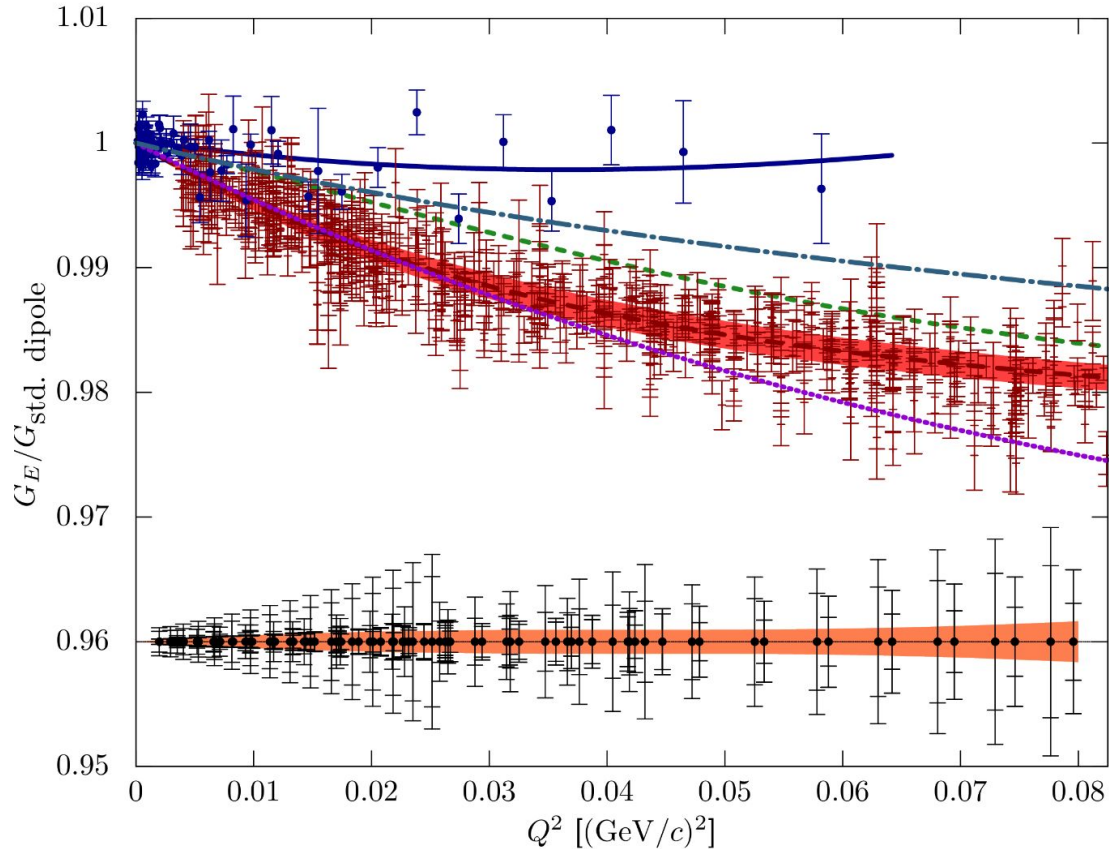
- CODATA 06 (2008)
- Bernauer (2010)
- Pohl (2010)
- Zhan (2011)
- CODATA 10 (2012)
- Antognini (2013)
- Beyer (2017)
- Fleurbay (2018)
- Sick (2018)
- Alarcon (2019)
- Bezniov (2019)
- CODATA 18 (2019)
- Xiong (2019)
- Grinin (2020)
- Mihovilovic (2021)
- Brandt (2022)
- MUSE (future)*



Projected Uncertainties:
 $\sigma(r_p^{\mu} - r_p^e) = \pm 0.005$ fm
 $\sigma(r_p) = \pm 0.008$ fm

*Projected MUSE measurement placed arbitrarily for visualization

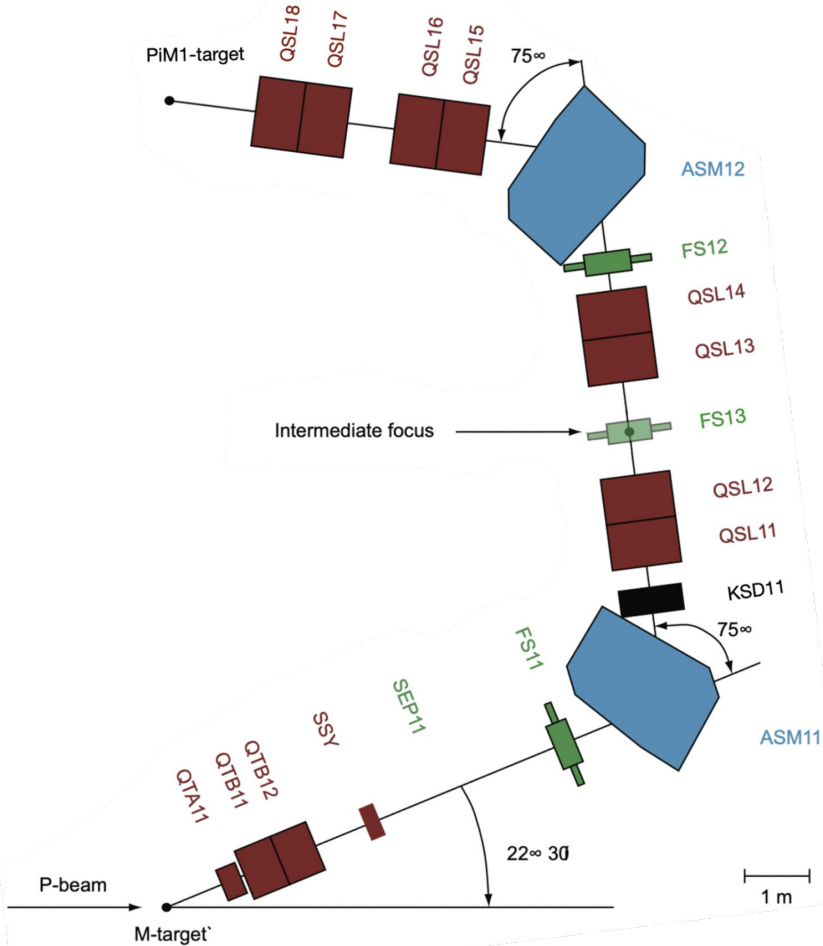
Precision Goals of MUSE



Projected Uncertainties:
 $\sigma(r_p^u - r_p^e) = \pm 0.005$ fm
 $\sigma(r_p) = \pm 0.008$ fm

- PRad data
- PRad fit
- Mainz data
- Mainz fit
- Mainz fit uncertainty
- Mainz fit, forced $r_p = 0.841$ fm
- Arrington 07
- Alarcón 19, $r_p = 0.841$ fm
- MUSE data uncertainty on G_E
- Projected MUSE uncertainty

PiM1 Beam at PSI

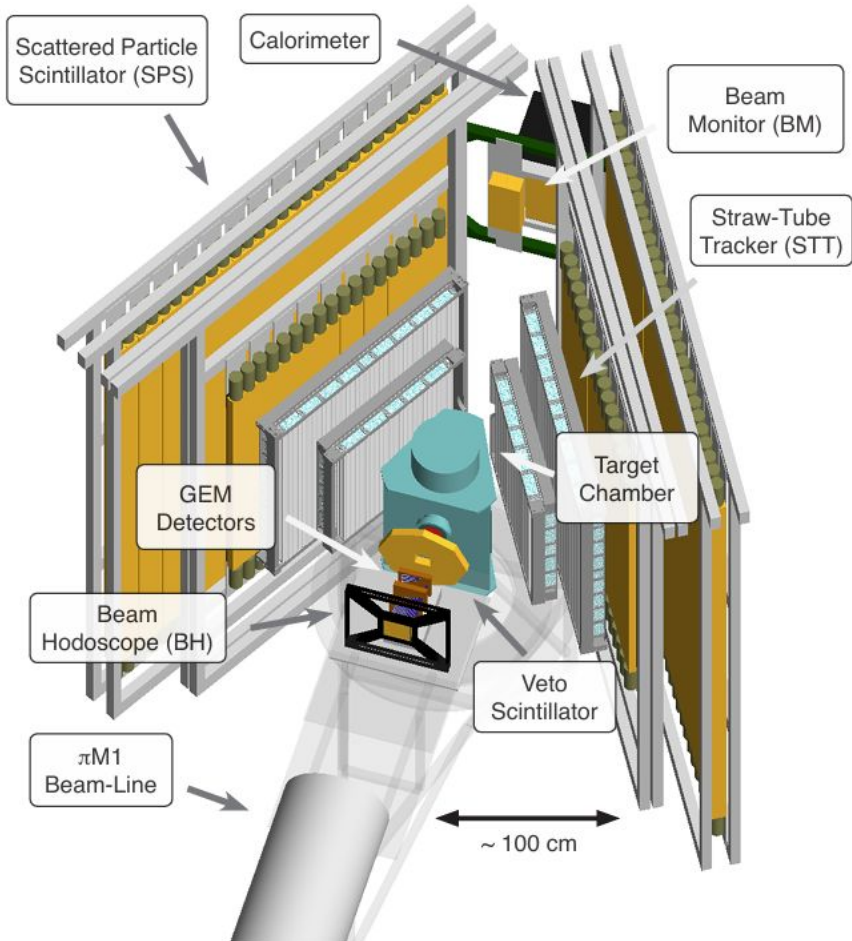


HIPA: 2 mA proton beam, 590 MeV
PiM1: e , μ , π beam, 100-500 MeV/c

- Mixed particles species beam (e , μ , π) produced from M-target (graphite)
- e 's and π 's generated in point-like source; μ 's from π decay - extended source
- Particle species separated in time - PID
- MUSE constructed with PiM1 beam properties in mind

[E. Cline *et al.*, PRC 105, 05201 \(2022\) \[arXiv \]](#)

MUSE Apparatus

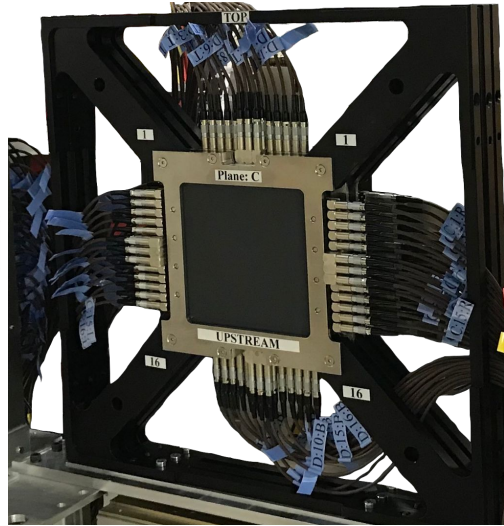
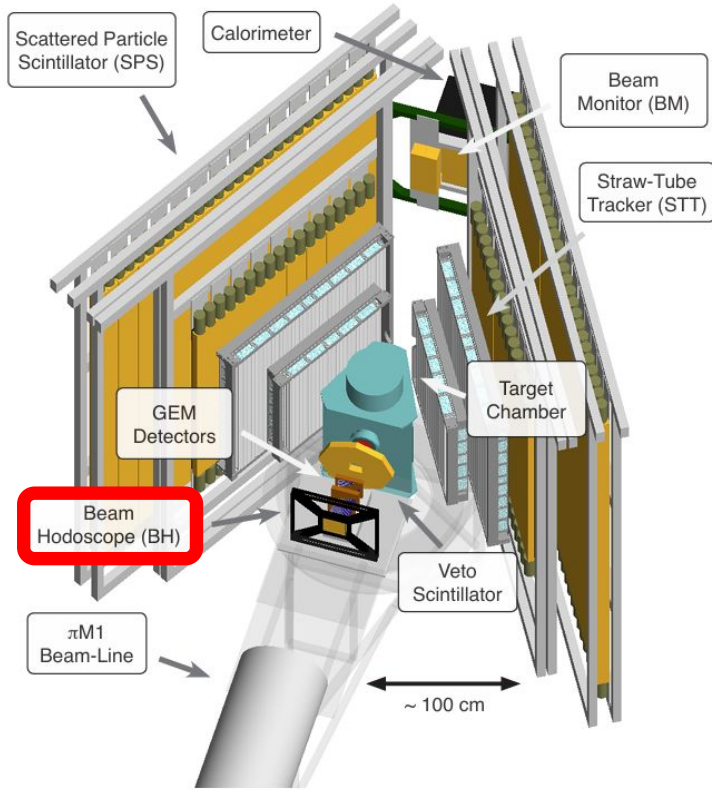


- Large acceptance, non-magnetic spectrometer
- High precision timing for PID
- Incident and scattered particle tracking
- Control of radiative corrections

Kinematic Coverage of MUSE

- $p_{e,\mu,\pi} = 115, 160, 210 \text{ MeV}/c$
- $\theta_{e,\mu,\pi} = 20^\circ - 100^\circ$
- $0.0016 \text{ GeV}^2 < Q_e^2 < 0.0820$
- $0.0016 \text{ GeV}^2 < Q_\mu^2 < 0.0799$

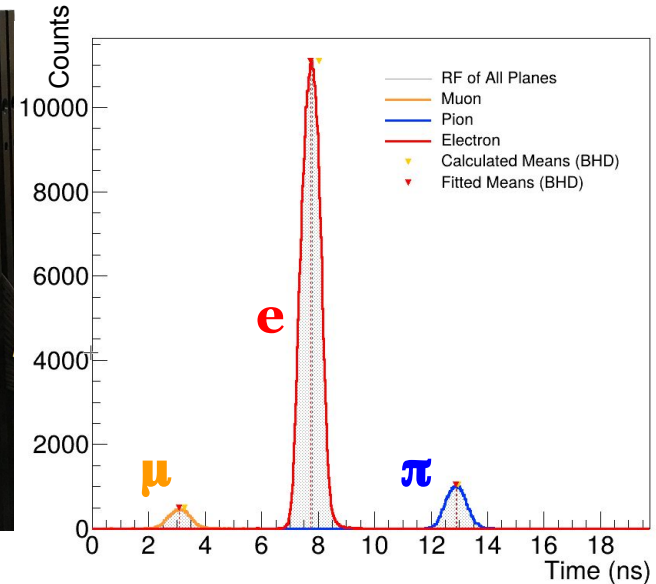
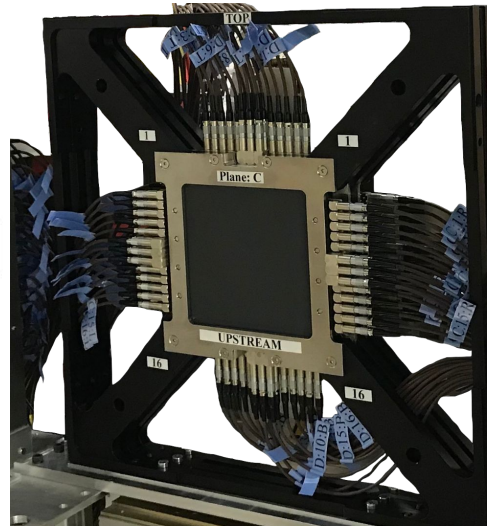
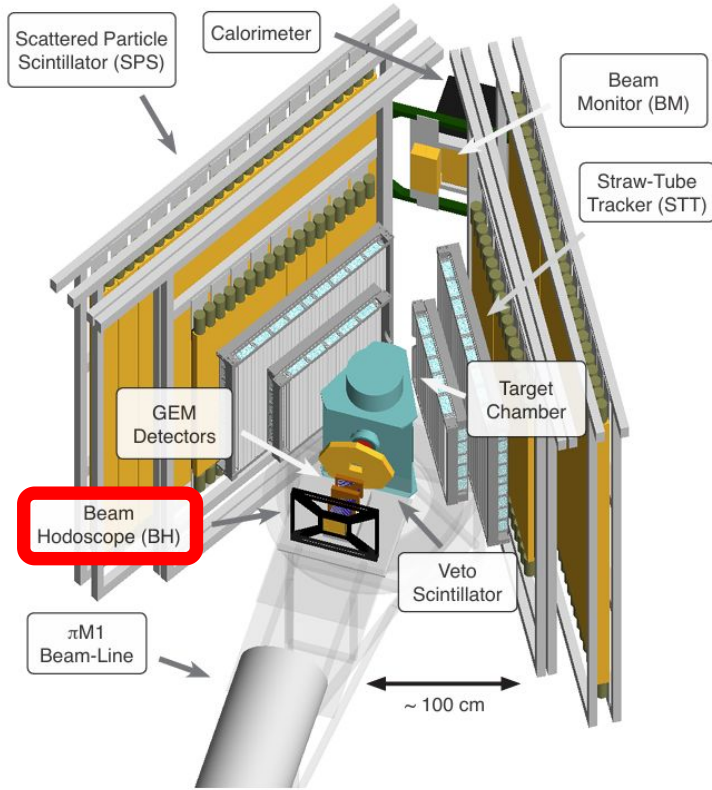
MUSE Apparatus: Beam Hodoscope



- Thin scintillating paddles with double-ended SiPM readout
- Precision timing of incident particles, combined with accelerator RF signal for PID

[T. Rostomyan et al., NIM A 986, 164801 \(2021\)](#) [[arXiv](#)]

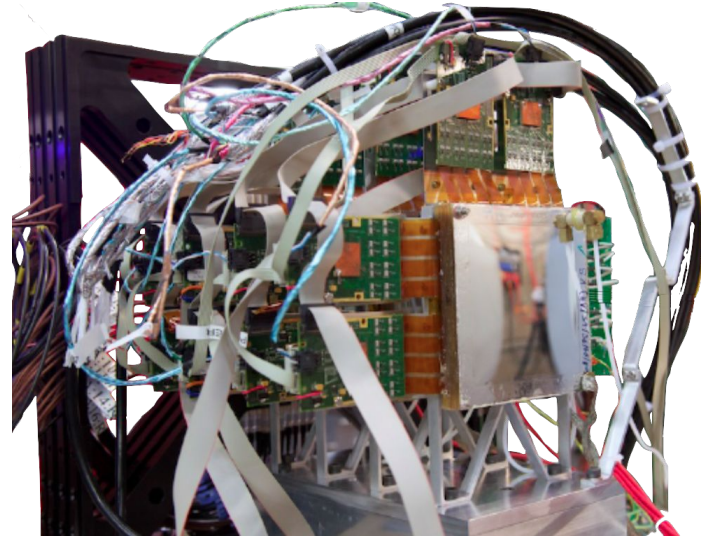
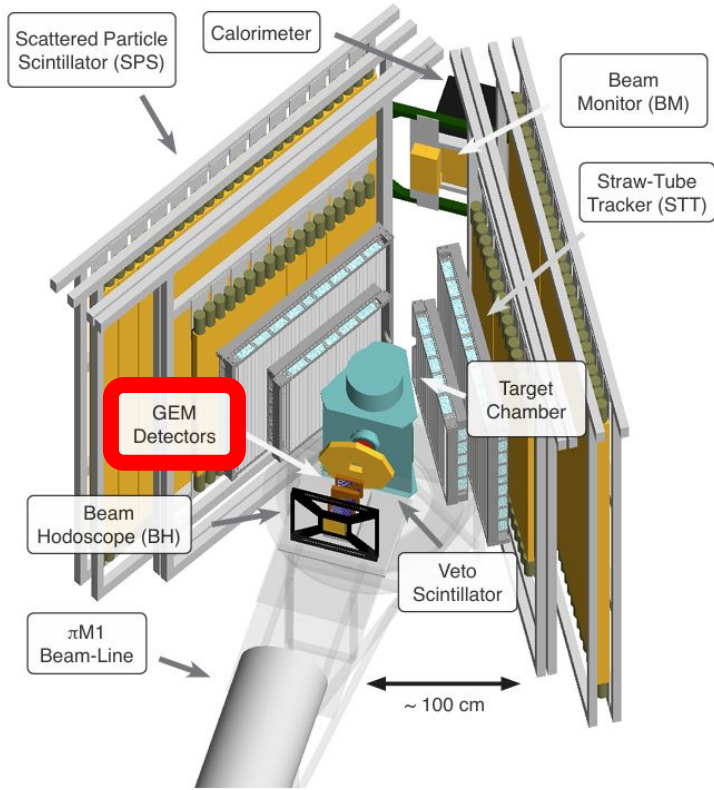
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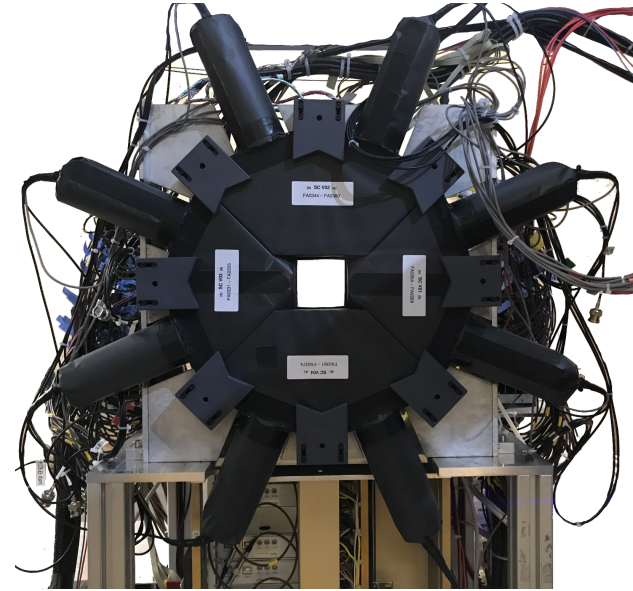
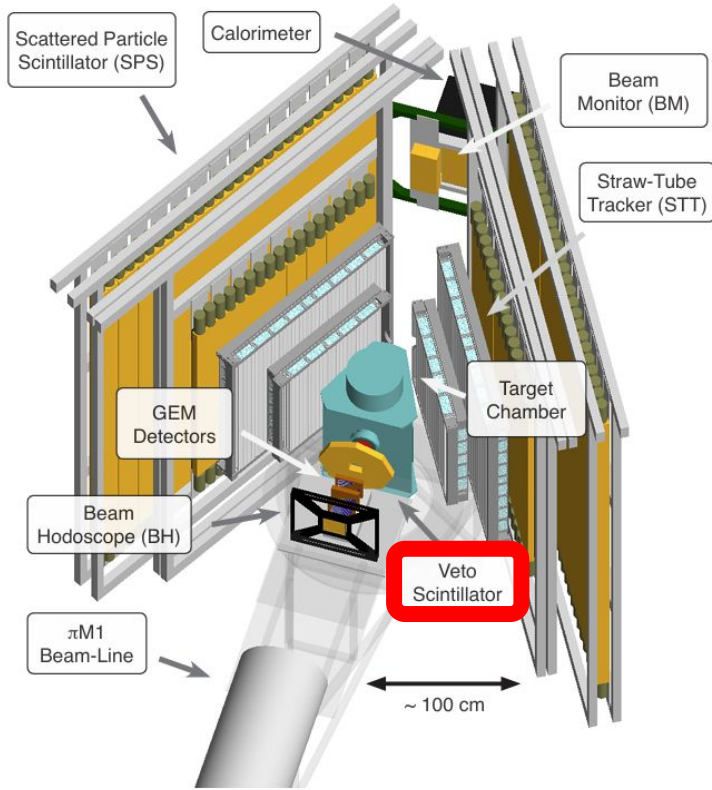
[T. Rostomyan et al., NIM A 986, 164801 \(2021\) \[arXiv \]](#)

MUSE Apparatus: GEM Detectors



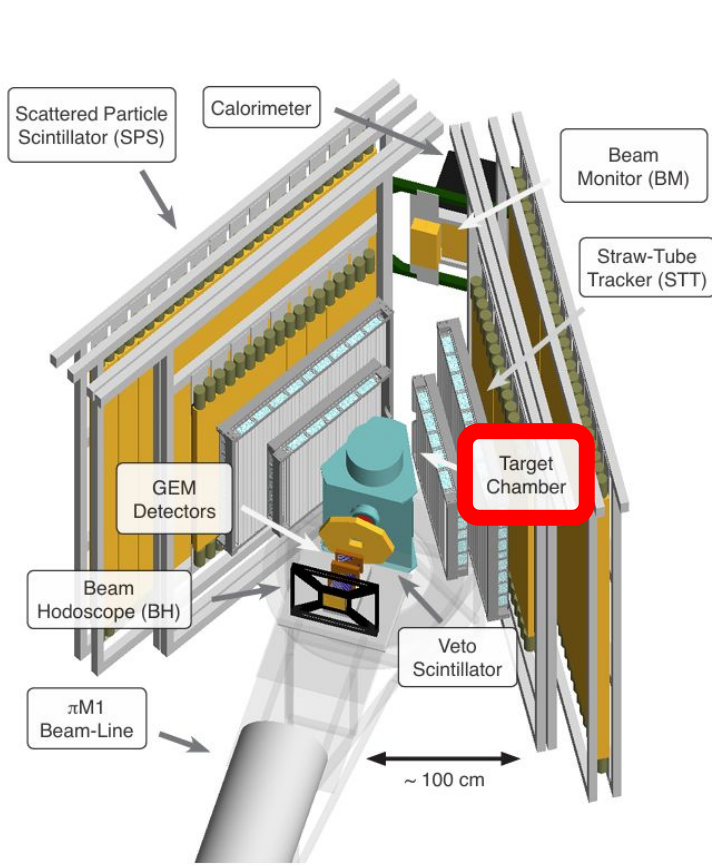
- 4-plane GEM detector (10 cm x 10 cm)
- Incident beam tracking for vertex reconstruction

MUSE Apparatus: Veto



- 4-piece octagonal scintillator PMT readout
- Reduction of triggers induced by background events (upstream scattering, beam decay)

MUSE Apparatus: Target



Movable MUSE Target Ladder

Full Cell:

LH₂ target, 6 cm inner diameter

Empty Cell:

Background scattering measurements

Rod Target:

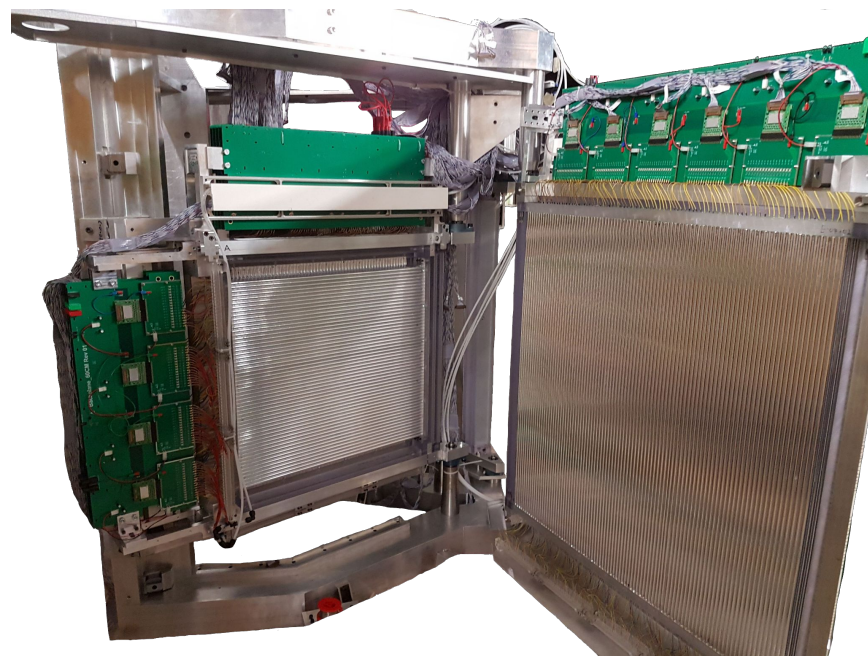
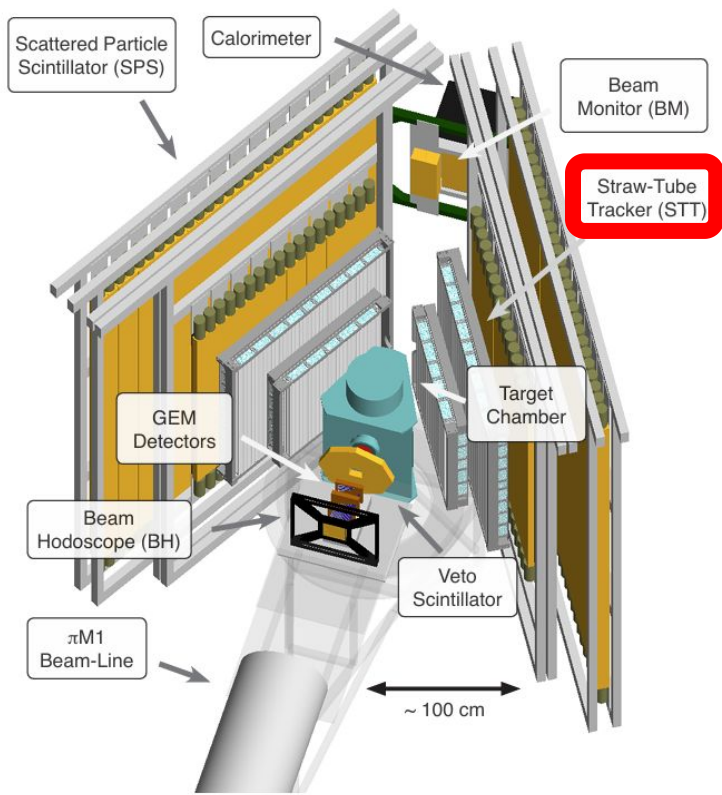
Vertex resolution studies

Beam Focus Monitor:

Beam monitoring at target position

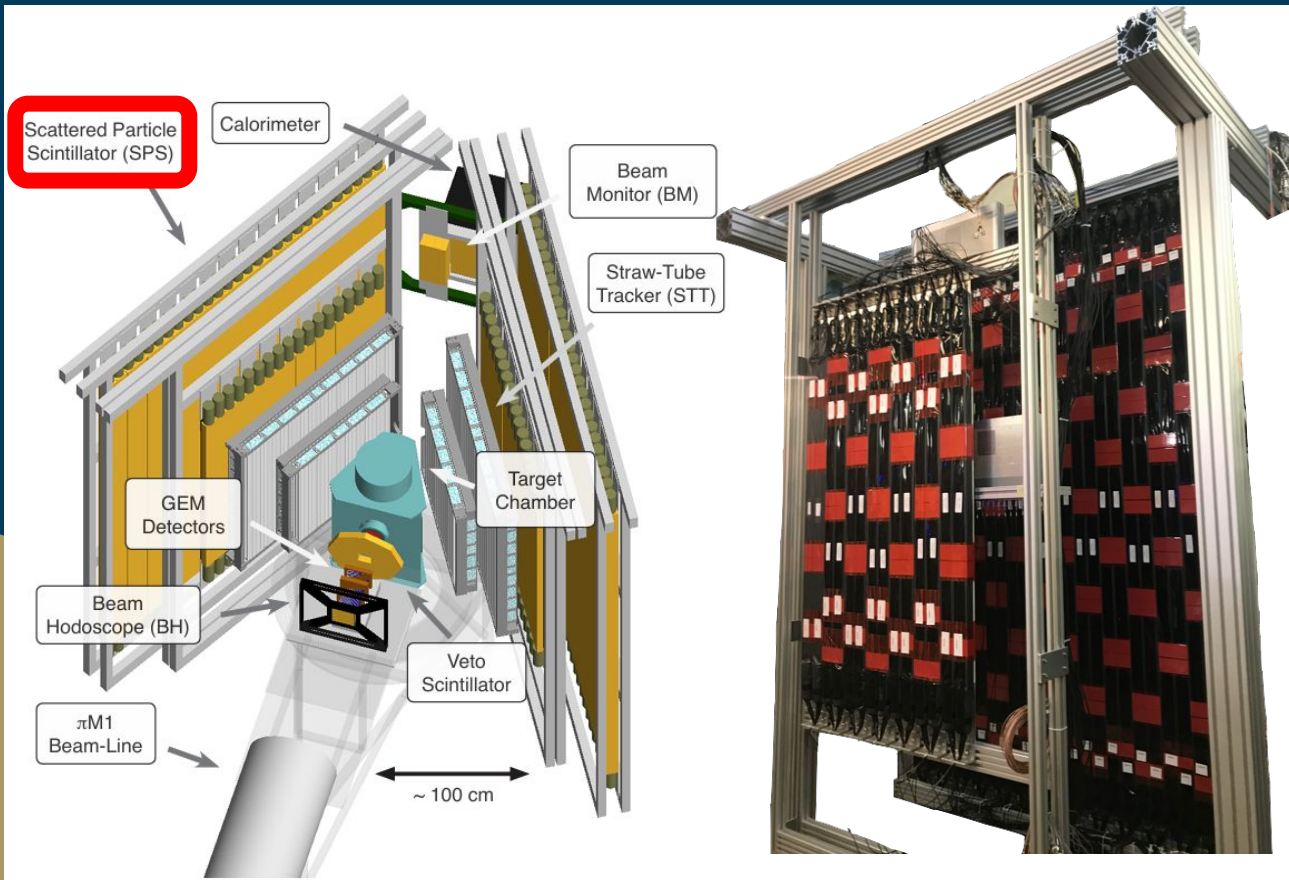
[P. Roy et al., NIM A 949, 162874 \(2020\)](#) [[arXiv](#)]

MUSE Apparatus Straw-Tube Tracker



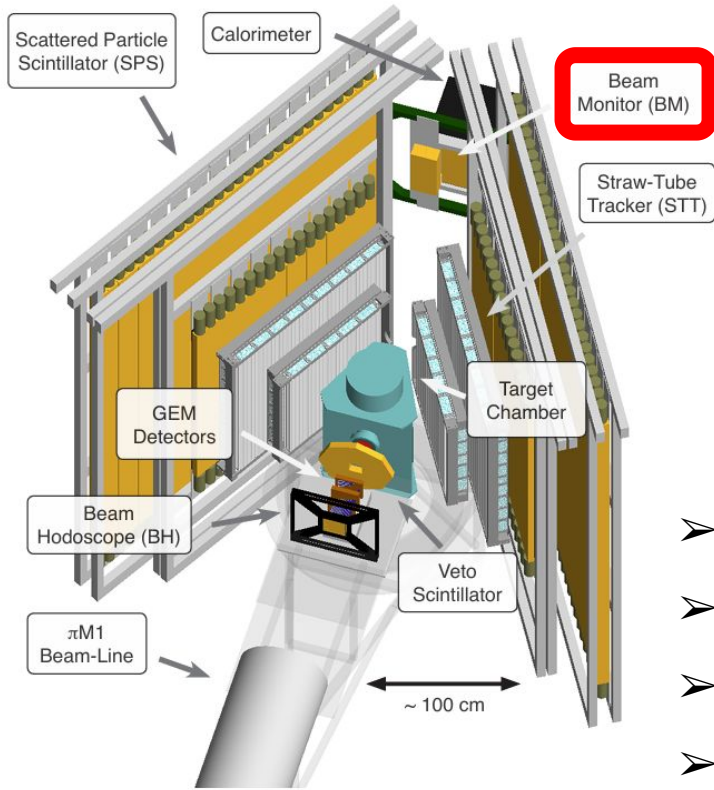
- 2 chambers per side; 5 vertical straw planes, 5 horizontal straw planes per chamber
- Tracking of scattered particles

MUSE Apparatus: Scattered Particle Scintillator



- 2 walls of plastic scintillator bars on each side of MUSE
- Front Wall : 18 Bars
Rear Wall: 28 Bars
- Scattered particle trigger - lookup table
- TOF measurements

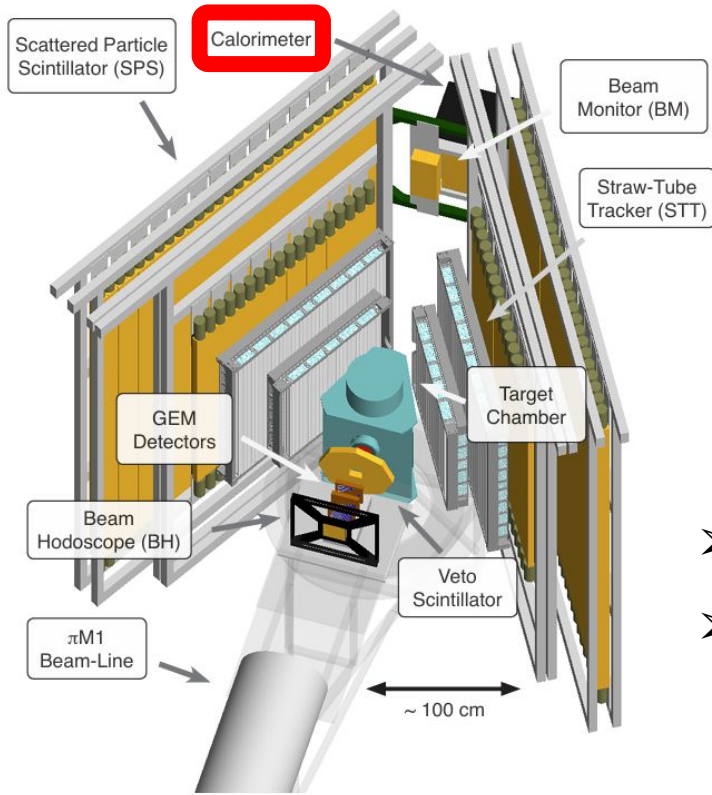
MUSE Apparatus: Beam Monitor



- 2 planes of 16 scintillator bars with SiPM readout
- Additional adjustable plane, 4 paddles with PMT readout
- Monitoring of beam luminosity
- TOF measurements for calibrations

[T. Rostomyan et al., NIM A 986, 164801 \(2021\)](#) [[arXiv](#)]

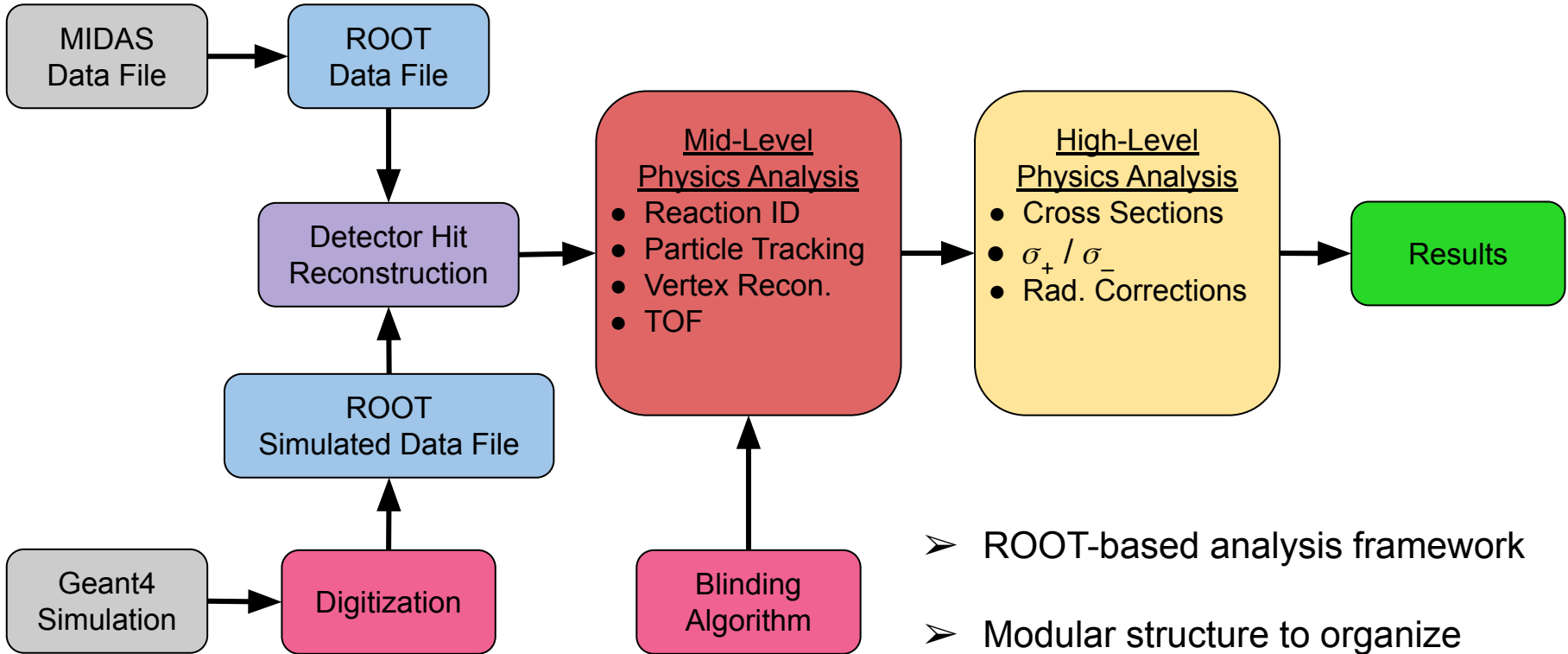
MUSE Apparatus: Electromagnetic Calorimeter



- 64 lead-glass bars with PMT readout
- Measurement of radiative photons downstream of target for better control of radiative corrections

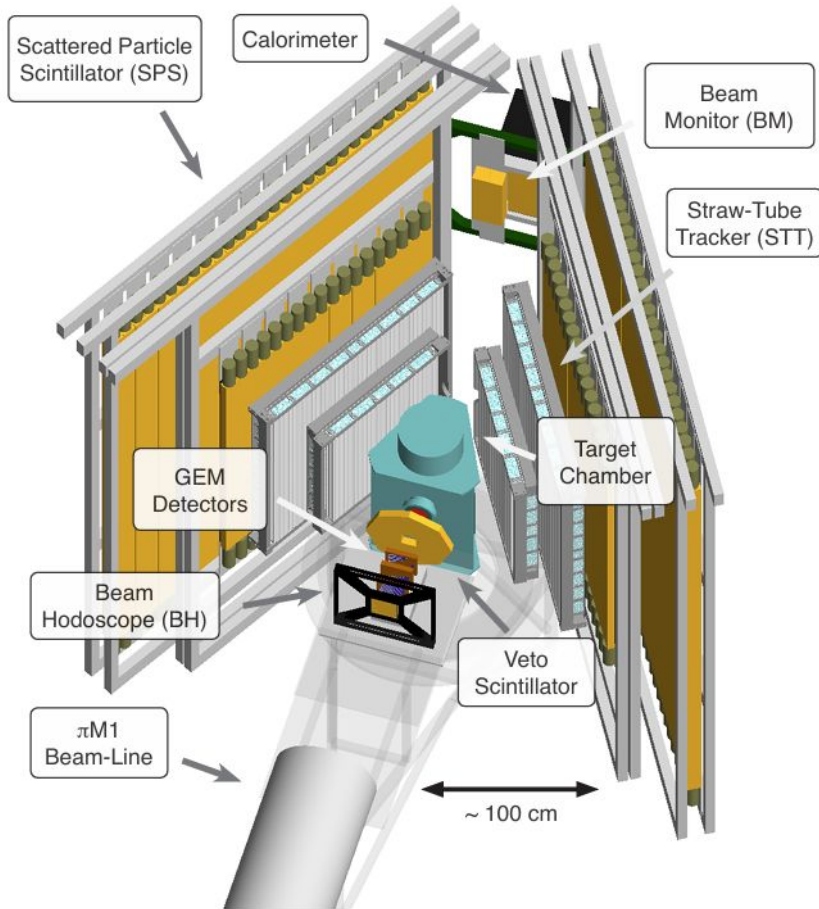
[W. Lin et al., NIM A 1080, 170754 \(2025\)](#) [[arXiv](#)]

Analysis Chain



- ROOT-based analysis framework
- Modular structure to organize different levels of analysis

Geant4 Simulation



- Full Geant4 simulation of MUSE to support analysis
- Realistic detector responses
- Radiative corrections incorporated into simulation with custom physics model from Olympus (RadGen)
- Realistic beam characterization from data

Blinding

- Scattered tracks stochastically blinded to prevent bias
- Tracks encrypted with angular dependence:

$$P = 0.2 \left(A + 0.3 \cos(B\theta) \right) \left(\frac{3 - \theta}{3} \right)$$

$$\text{for } A = [0.25, 1], B = [3, 10]$$

- Track encrypted when $P \leq R$ for randomly generated $R = [0, 1]$
- Decryption requires collaboration approval and 2 keys from senior members
- Detailed review: Bernauer *et al.*, (2023) [arxiv:2310.11469](https://arxiv.org/abs/2310.11469)
- NREC talk: “Blinding Precision Scattering Experiments” by Ethan Cline

Systematics in MUSE

Estimated MUSE Relative Systematic Cross Section Uncertainties

Systematic Uncertainty	Angular Distributions (%)	μ/e (%)	+/- (%)
Radiative Corrections	0.1 (μ), 0.5 (e)	0.5	1γ - <i>small</i>
Detector Efficiencies	0.1	0.1	0.1
Scattering Angle Offset	0.2	<i>small</i>	<i>small</i>
Beam Momentum Offset	0.1	0.1	0.1
Subtraction of μ Decay	0.1	0.1	<i>small</i>
Target Wall Subtraction	0.3	<i>small</i>	<i>small</i>
Beam PID/Reaction ID	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total	0.5 (μ), 0.7 (e)	0.5	0.2

The MUon Scattering Experiment at PSI (MUSE), MUSE Technical Design Report, [arXiv:1709.09753](https://arxiv.org/abs/1709.09753)

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NREC Talk:

“Instrumental Uncertainties in Radiative Corrections for the MUSE Experiment”
by Steffen Strauch

The MUon Scattering Experiment at PSI (MUSE), MUSE Technical Design Report, [arXiv:1709.09753](https://arxiv.org/abs/1709.09753)

Completed

- ❑ 15 Months Production Data-Taking
 - 2022-2025
 - Statistics goals reached

- ❑ Systematic studies run in parallel with production data-taking:
 - Time-of-flight measurements
 - Detector efficiency and resolution studies
 - Beam characterization and stability studies

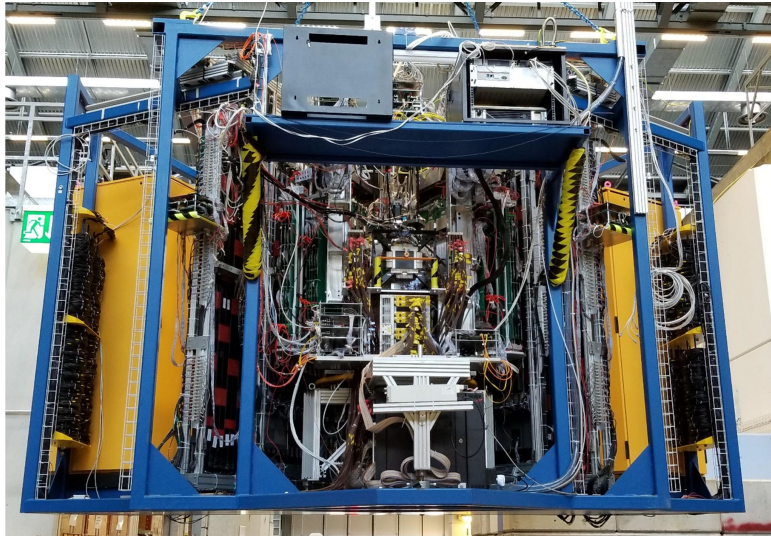
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In Progress

- ❑ 12 Weeks Beamtime Summer 2026
- ❑ Standalone Systematics Studies:
 - Efficiency measurements
 - Background events
 - Energy-loss corrections
- ❑ These studies will accelerate the analysis timeline with better handling of systematics

Summary



- MUSE will provide insight into the proton charge radius (and G_E) through the first simultaneous measurements of ep and μp elastic scattering on the proton
- MUSE will measure TPE effect
- Production data collection complete in December 2025 - statistics goals achieved!
- Final systematic studies Summer 2026

Questions?