

# Prototype of a Cherenkov detector for the LUXE Experiment

Antonios Athanassiadis<sup>1,2</sup>, Louis Helary<sup>1</sup>, Ruth Magdalena Jacobs<sup>1</sup>,  
Jenny List<sup>1</sup>, Gudrid Moortgat-Pick<sup>2</sup>, Evan Ranken<sup>1</sup>, Stefan Schmitt<sup>1</sup>

DPG Spring Meeting, Dresden, 22.03.2023

<sup>1</sup> Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron (DESY)

<sup>2</sup> Universität Hamburg

# LUXE - Laser Und XFEL Experiment

- New experiment at DESY Hamburg to probe non-perturbative strong-field QED regime

# LUXE - Laser Und XFEL Experiment

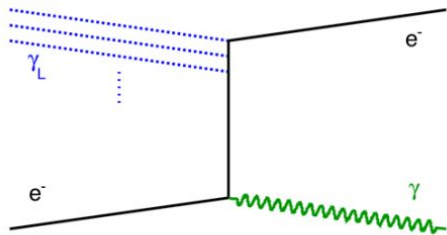
- New experiment at DESY Hamburg to probe non-perturbative strong-field QED regime
- To achieve field strength necessary for this non-linear regime ( $>$ Schwinger-Limit):

# LUXE - Laser Und XFEL Experiment

- New experiment at DESY Hamburg to probe non-perturbative strong-field QED regime
- To achieve field strength necessary for this non-linear regime ( $>$ Schwinger-Limit):
  - Relativistic electrons (16.5 GeV) from EU.XFEL will interact with a 40 - 350 TW laser<sup>1</sup>

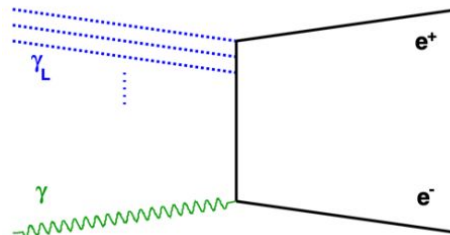
# LUXE - Laser Und XFEL Experiment

- New experiment at DESY Hamburg to probe non-perturbative strong-field QED regime
- To achieve field strength necessary for this non-linear regime (>Schwinger-Limit):
  - Relativistic electrons (16.5 GeV) from EU.XFEL will interact with a 40 - 350 TW laser<sup>1</sup>
  - Two effects have to be considered:



**Non-linear Compton Scattering**

$$e^- + n\gamma_L \rightarrow e^- + \gamma_C$$

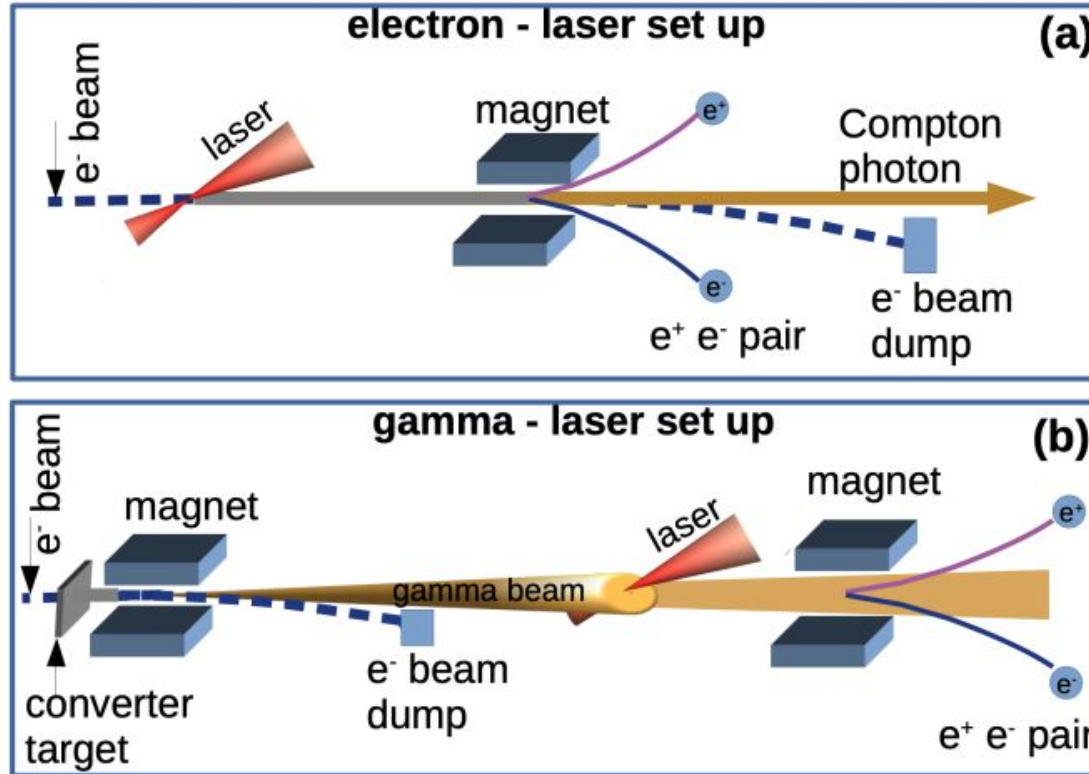


**Breit-Wheeler pair production**

$$\gamma_C + n\gamma_L \rightarrow e^+ + e^-$$

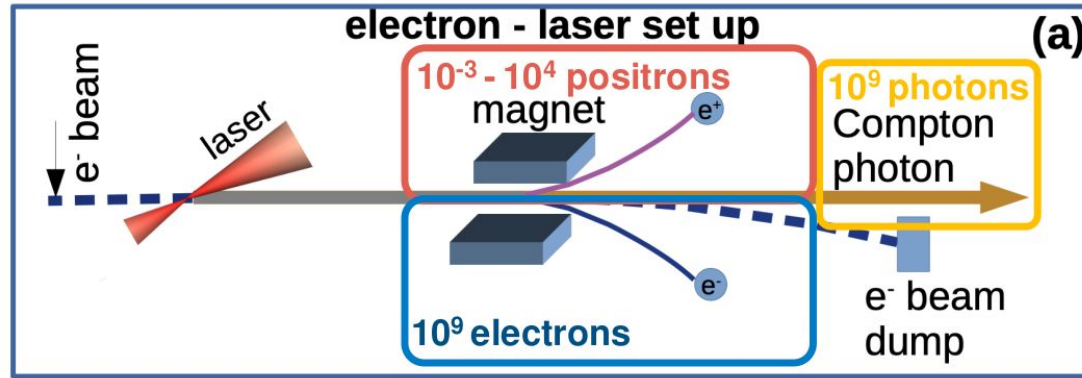
<sup>1</sup>EPJST 230, 2445 - 2560 (2021)

# LUXE - Laser Und XFEL Experiment



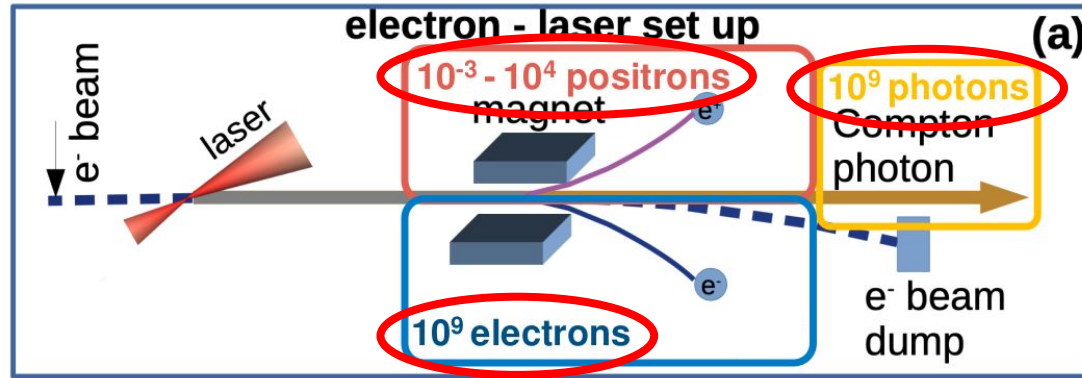
<sup>1</sup>EPJST 230, 2445 - 2560 (2021)

# LUXE - Laser Und XFEL Experiment



- Challenge is to measure electron, positron and photon fluxes as well as energy distributions

# LUXE - Laser Und XFEL Experiment

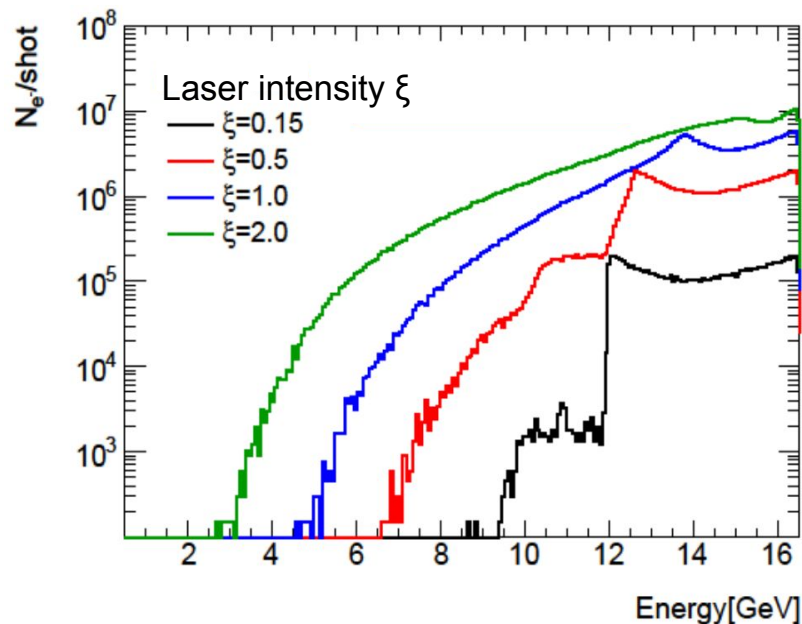


- Challenge is to measure electron, positron and photon fluxes as well as energy distributions
- Detector systems have to deal with high particle rates
  - Here: Focus on the Electron-Detection-System



# LUXE - Laser Und XFEL Experiment

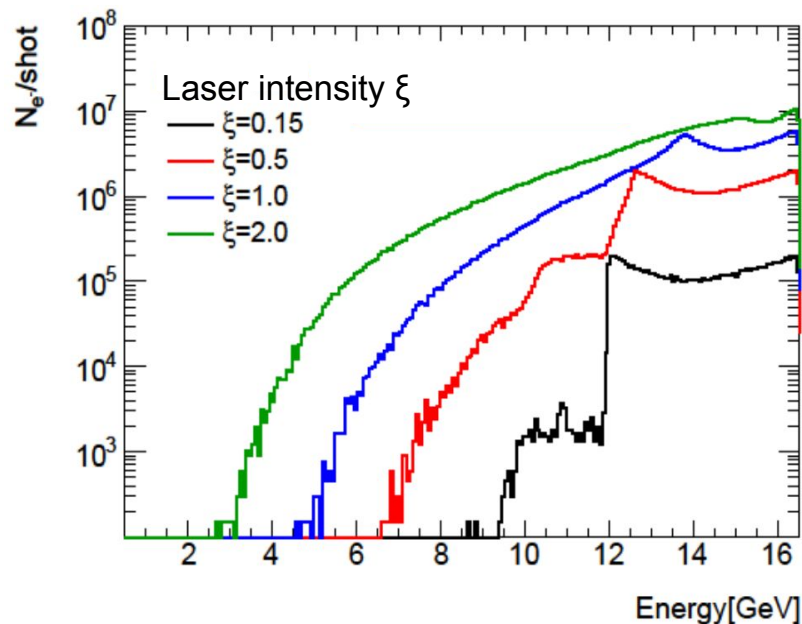
## Preliminary simulation studies



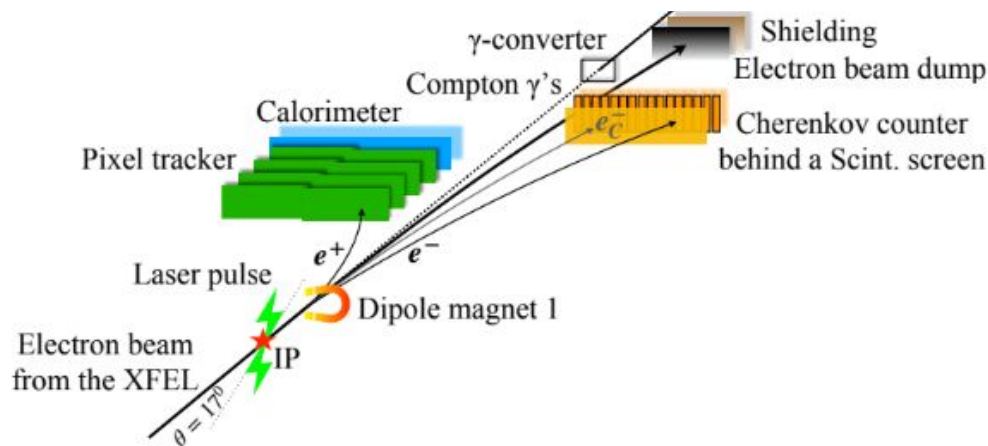
- Compton edge is shifting non-linearly with laser intensity  $\xi$
- Electron intensities:  $10^4$  to  $10^9$  particles
  - High dynamic range in energy spectra
  - **Flux tolerant electron detector needed**

# LUXE - Laser Und XFEL Experiment

## Preliminary simulation studies



- Compton edge is shifting non-linearly with laser intensity  $\xi$
- Electron intensities:  $10^4$  to  $10^9$  particles
  - High dynamic range in energy spectra
  - **Flux tolerant electron detector needed**



# Cherenkov detector system

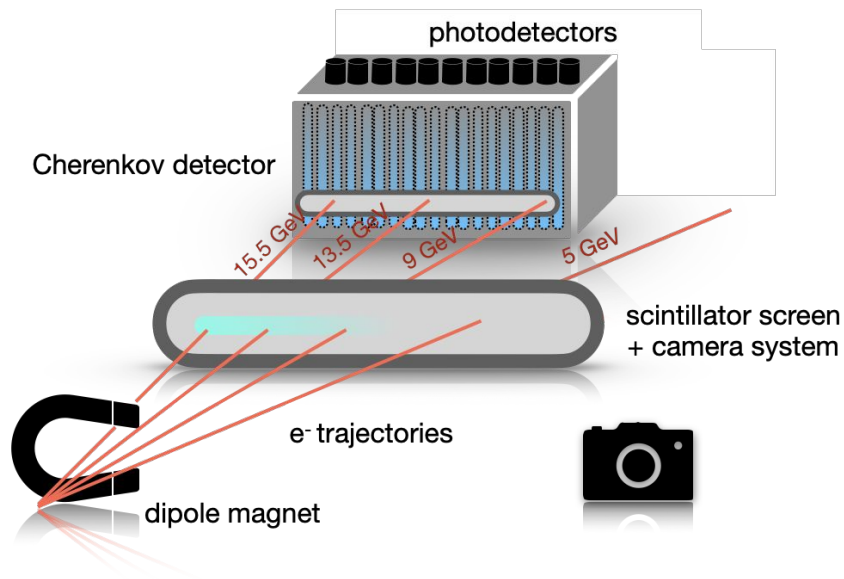
## Requirements

- Requirements strongly linked to dipole properties
  - Area of 15 cm x 1 mm has to be covered
- Aiming for an energy resolution below 2%
  - spatial segmentation of  $\Delta x = 3 \text{ mm}$

# Cherenkov detector system

## Requirements

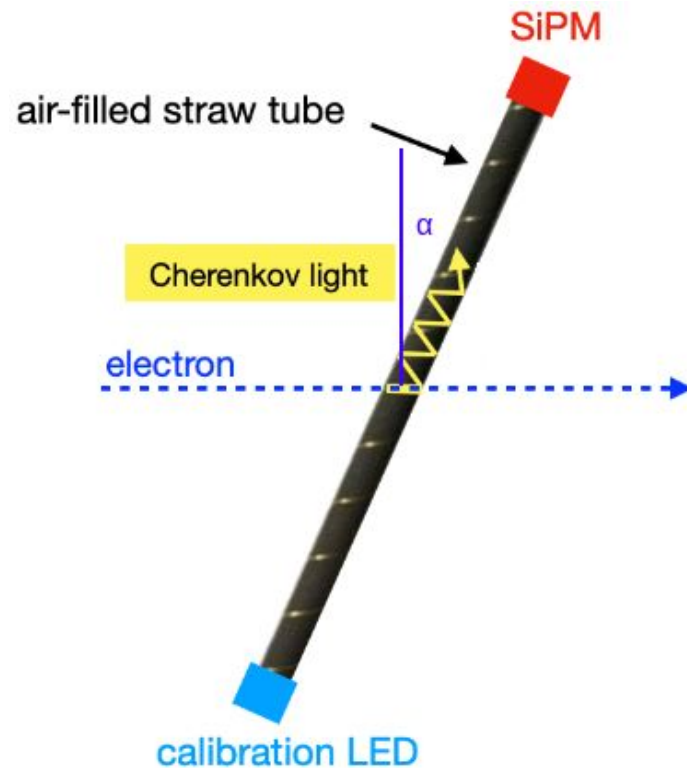
- Requirements strongly linked to dipole properties
  - Area of 15 cm x 1 mm has to be covered
- Aiming for an energy resolution below 2%
  - spatial segmentation of  $\Delta x = 3$  mm
- Cherenkov detector will consist of reflective straws (or tubes) aligned in a grid



# Cherenkov detector system

## Technical details

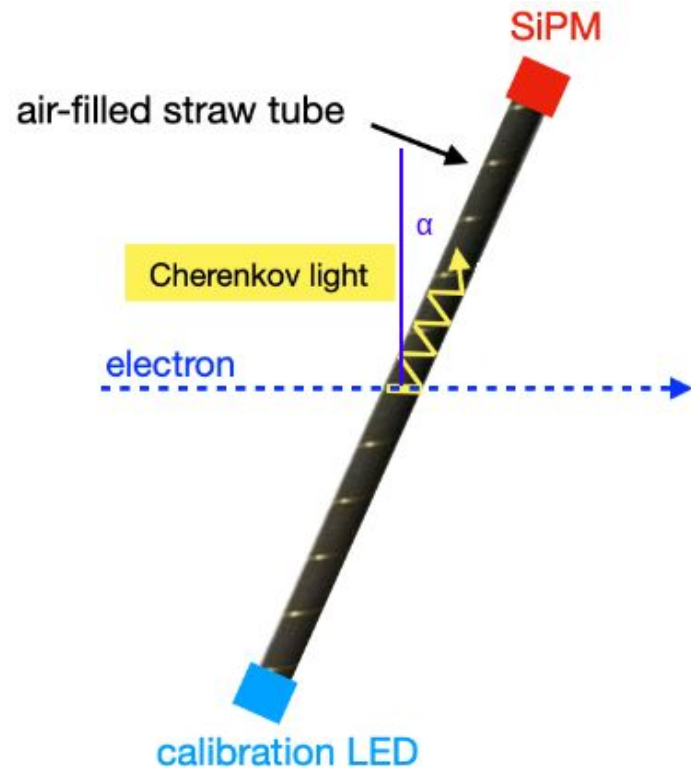
- Straws filled with air as optical medium
- Cherenkov light produced by electrons will be captured
- Optical photons guided towards Silicon-Photomultipliers (SiPMs)



# Cherenkov detector system

## Technical details

- Straws filled with air as optical medium
- Cherenkov light produced by electrons will be captured
- Optical photons guided towards Silicon-Photomultipliers (SiPMs)
- Many parameters have to be optimized:
  - Straw dimensions, material, reflectivity and position
  - SiPM dimensions and characteristics



# Monte-Carlo simulations on the Cherenkov detector

## GEANT4 - Geometry And Tracking 4

- Study of electron interactions via Monte-Carlo techniques

# Monte-Carlo simulations on the Cherenkov detector

## GEANT4 - Geometry And Tracking 4

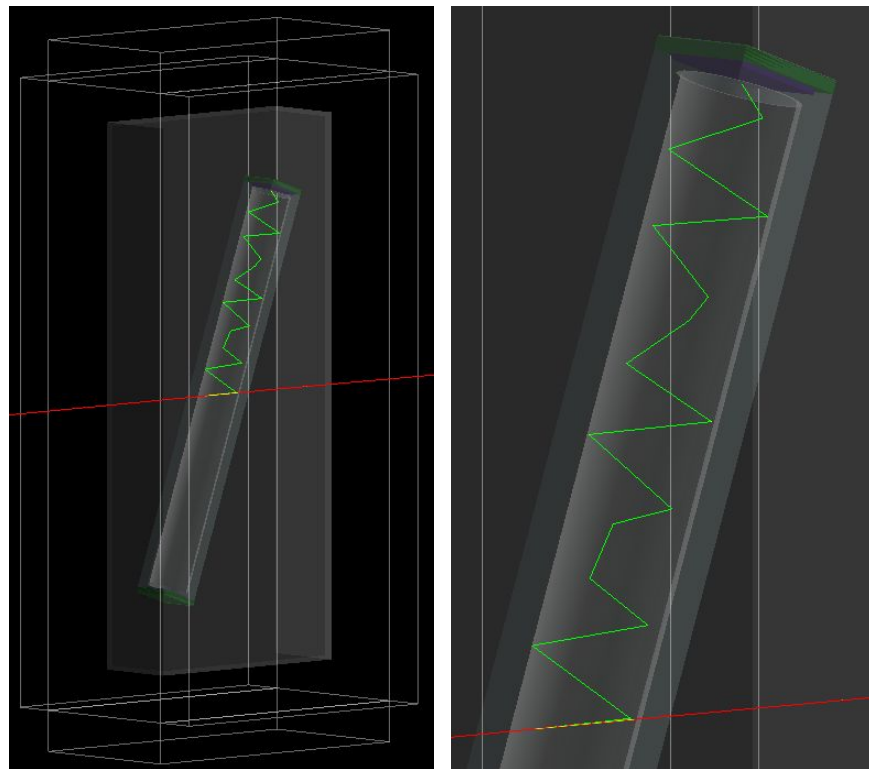
- Study of electron interactions via Monte-Carlo techniques
- GEANT4 used to simulate detector design and materials (here: one single straw)



# Monte-Carlo simulations on the Cherenkov detector

## GEANT4 - Geometry And Tracking 4

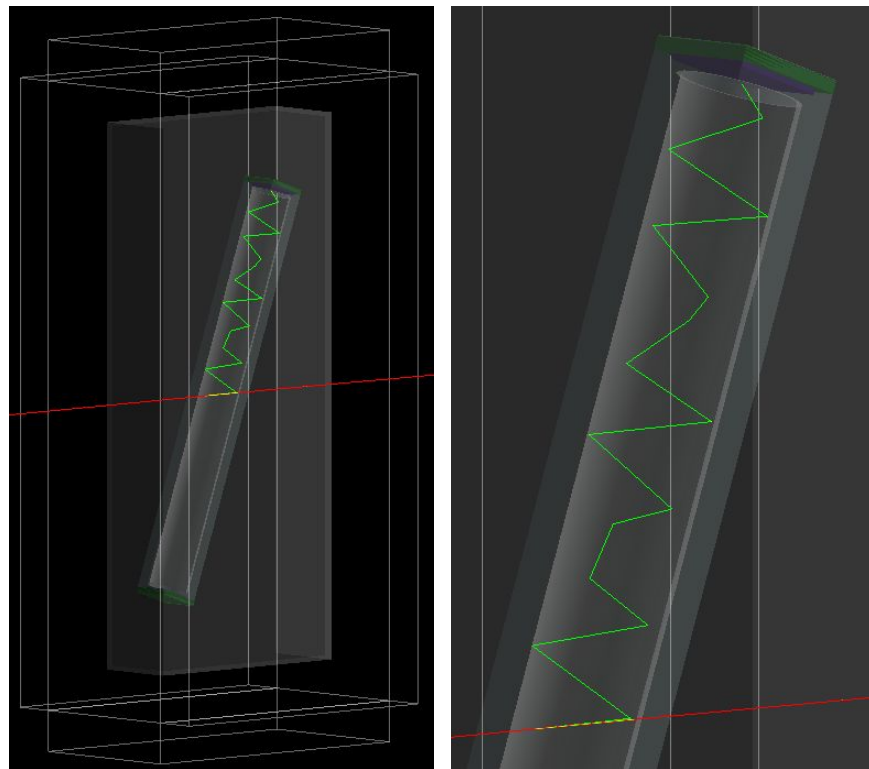
- Study of electron interactions via Monte-Carlo techniques
- GEANT4 used to simulate detector design and materials (here: one single straw)
- Cherenkov light and optical properties simulated



# Monte-Carlo simulations on the Cherenkov detector

## GEANT4 - Geometry And Tracking 4

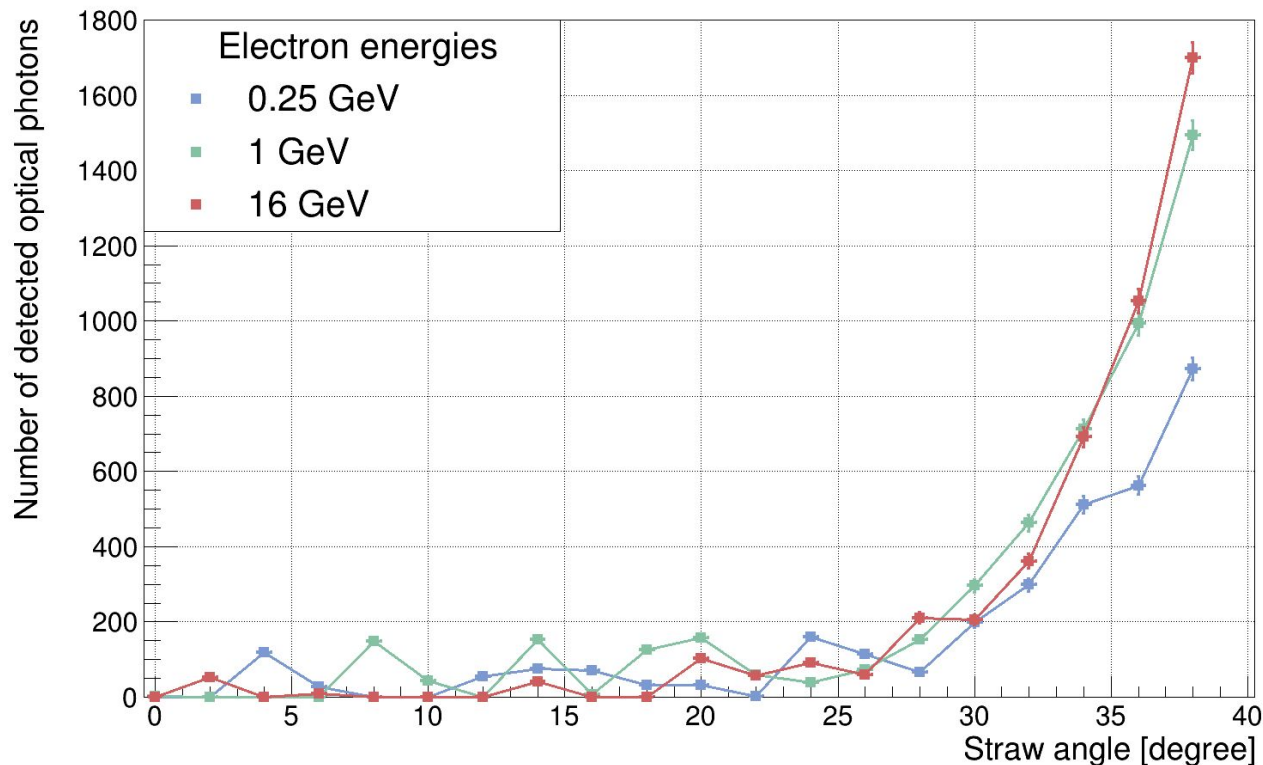
- Study of electron interactions via Monte-Carlo techniques
- GEANT4 used to simulate detector design and materials (here: one single straw)
- Cherenkov light and optical properties simulated
- Straw parameters e.g. **dimensions**, **reflectivity** or the **angle** are considered



# Monte-Carlo studies on the Cherenkov detector

## Analysis of efficiency studies

- Number of photons represents signal intensity

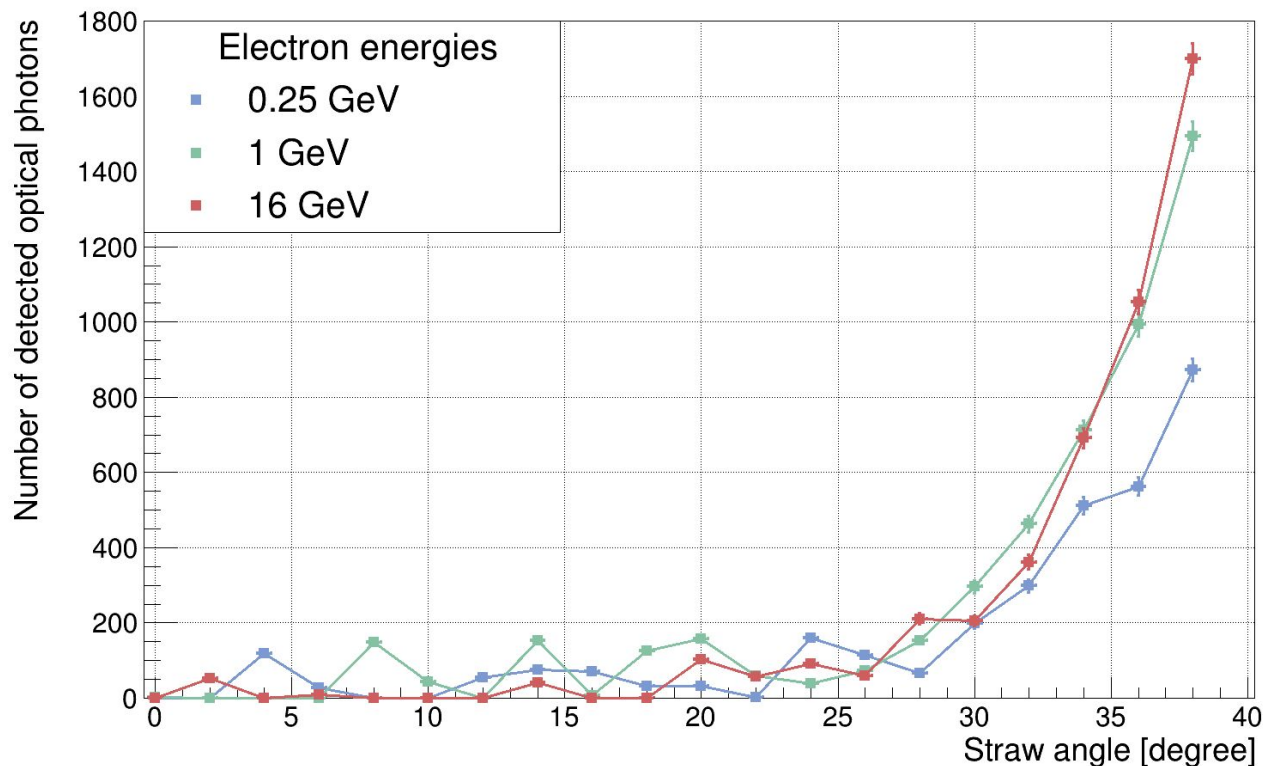


# Monte-Carlo studies on the Cherenkov detector

## Analysis of efficiency studies

- Number of photons represents signal intensity

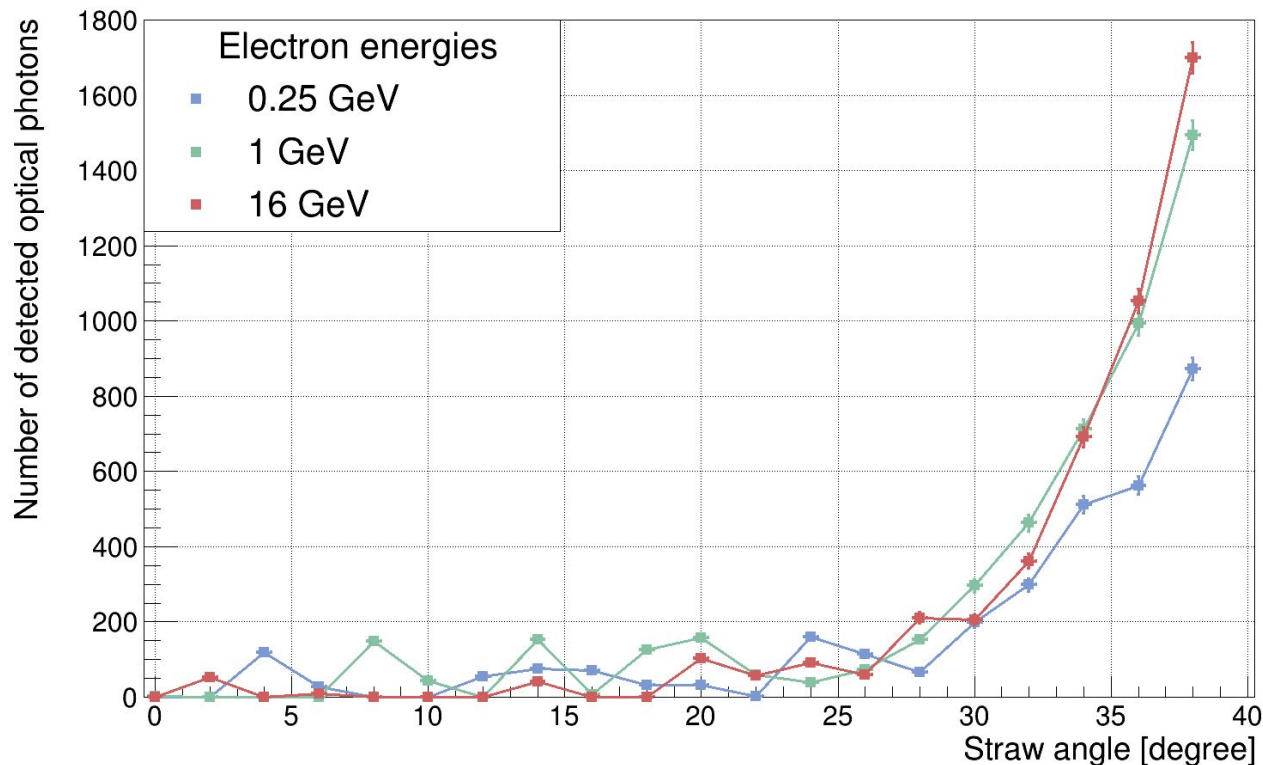
➤ Strong dependence on angle



# Monte-Carlo studies on the Cherenkov detector

## Analysis of efficiency studies

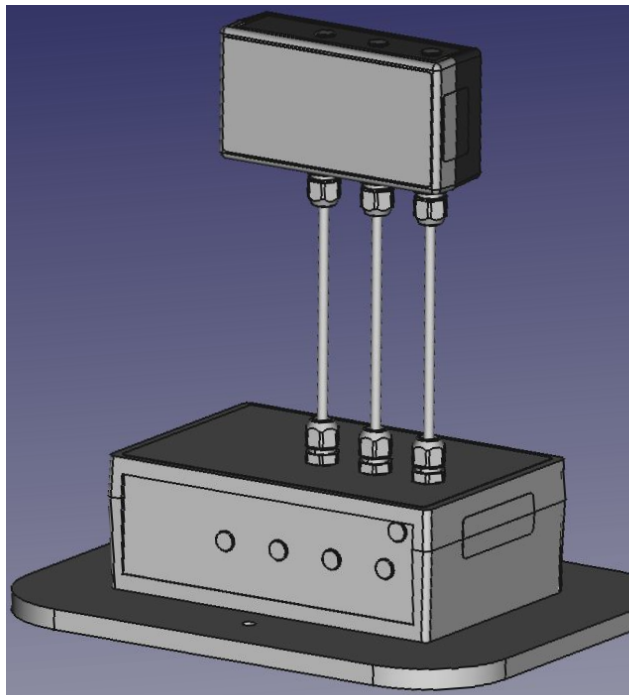
- Number of photons represents signal intensity
- Strong dependence on angle
- Control of high dynamic range via straw angle variations



# Experimental work

## Prototype

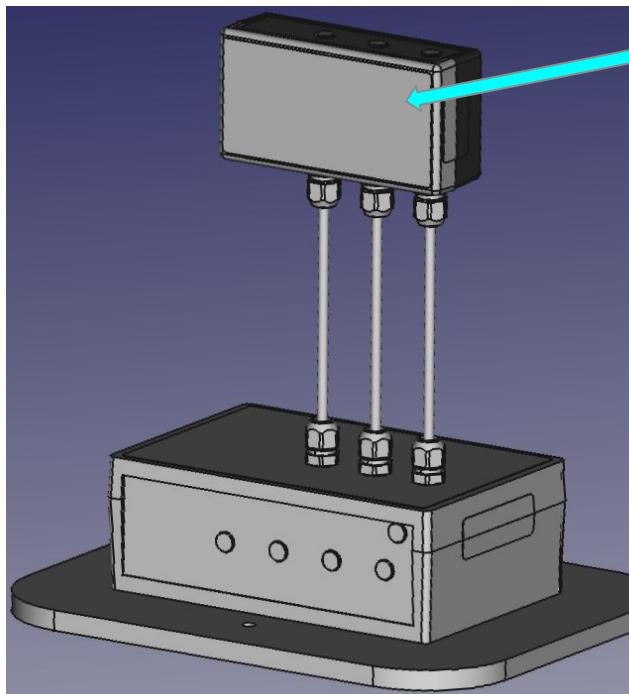
- Designed prototype was built by the technical team for studies on a high-rate electron testbeam



# Experimental work

## Prototype

- Designed prototype was built by the technical team for studies on a high-rate electron testbeam

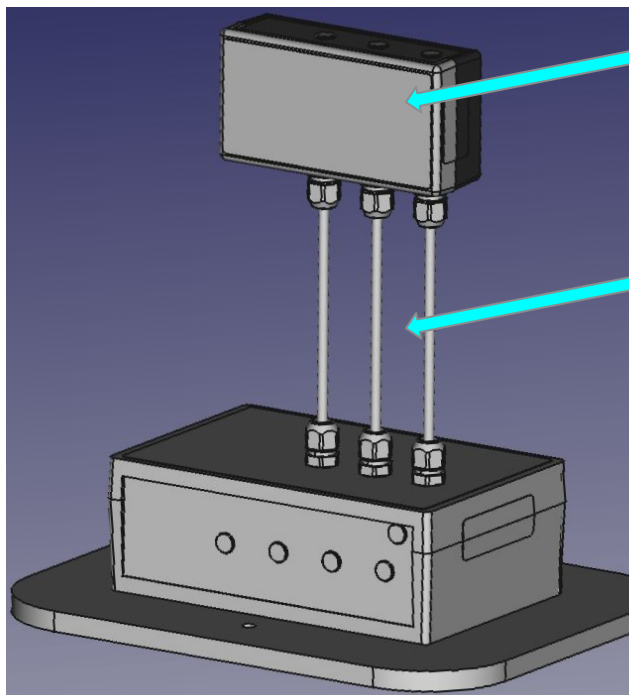


Circuit with calibration LED

# Experimental work

## Prototype

- Designed prototype was built by the technical team for studies on a high-rate electron testbeam



Circuit with calibration LED

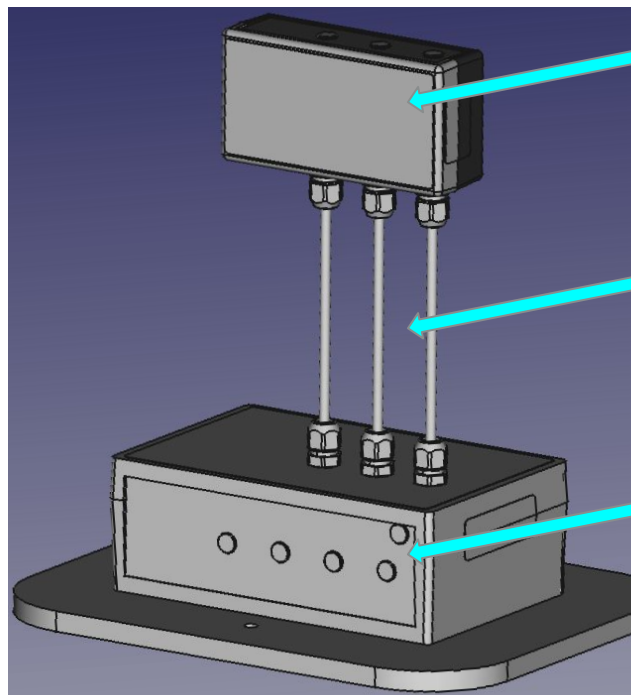
Mounted straws can be exchanged to test various types



# Experimental work

## Prototype

- Designed prototype was built by the technical team for studies on a high-rate electron testbeam



Circuit with calibration LED

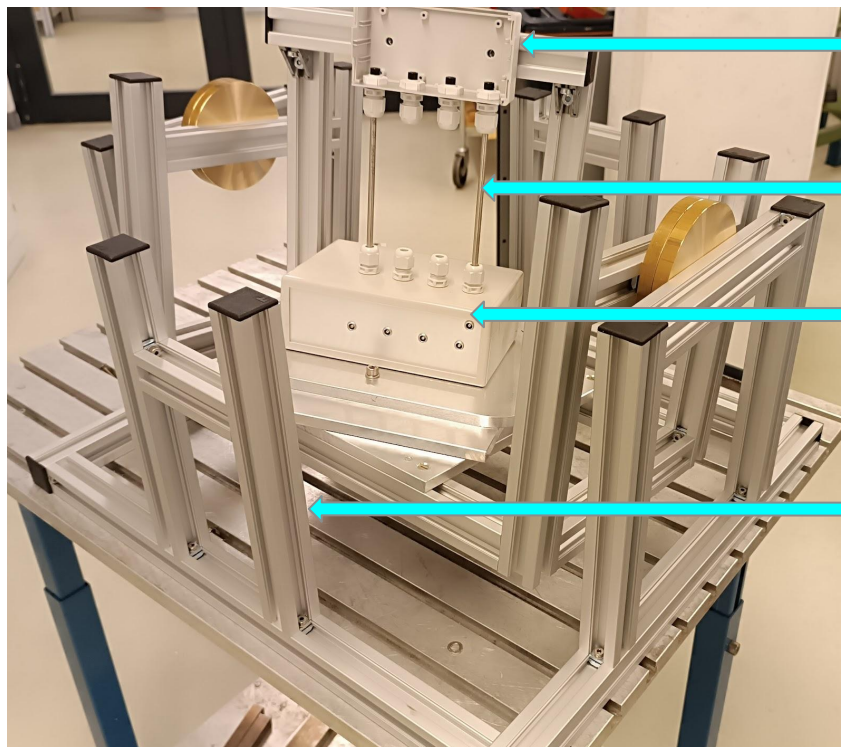
Mounted straws can be exchanged to test various types

The lower box contains a readout board for the SiPMs

# Experimental work

## Prototype

- Dimensions of 50x50x40 cm<sup>3</sup>
- Straws / SiPMs exchangeable
- Straws rotatable
  - Along / Parallel to beam
  - Angle of max.  $\pm 30^\circ$



Calibration LEDs

Straws

Box with SiPMs

Rotatable frame

# Future plans

- Progress in the laboratory and first testbeam measurements will lead to:
  - A final selection of the SiPM model
  - A decision on the straw material and dimensions

# Future plans

- Progress in the laboratory and first testbeam measurements will lead to:
  - A final selection of the SiPM model
  - A decision on the straw material and dimensions
- Development of readout boards for the final components

# Future plans

- Progress in the laboratory and first testbeam measurements will lead to:
  - A final selection of the SiPM model
  - A decision on the straw material and dimensions
- Development of readout boards for the final components
- A new LED pulser system to calibrate the whole Cherenkov detector setup

# Future plans

- Progress in the laboratory and first testbeam measurements will lead to:
  - A final selection of the SiPM model
  - A decision on the straw material and dimensions
- Development of readout boards for the final components
- A new LED pulser system to calibrate the whole Cherenkov detector setup
- Further simulation studies will underline measurements

# Conclusion

- LUXE demands many requirements on the detectors in order to measure the observables to characterise QED in the strong regime

# Conclusion

- LUXE demands many requirements on the detectors in order to measure the observables to characterise QED in the strong regime
- The Cherenkov detector is a suitable system to measure accurately the electron energy distribution despite the high rate of particles expected



# Conclusion

- LUXE demands many requirements on the detectors in order to measure the observables to characterise QED in the strong regime
- The Cherenkov detector is a suitable system to measure accurately the electron energy distribution despite the high rate of particles expected
- First simulation studies show that signal intensities can be adjusted by straw angle variations

# Conclusion

- LUXE demands many requirements on the detectors in order to measure the observables to characterise QED in the strong regime
- The Cherenkov detector is a suitable system to measure accurately the electron energy distribution despite the high rate of particles expected
- First simulation studies show that signal intensities can be adjusted by straw angle variations
- To validate simulation data, further measurements have to be taken

# Thank you

## Contact

Deutsches Elektronen-  
Synchrotron (DESY)

Antonios Athanassiadis  
FH-FTX

[antonios.athanassiadis@desy.de](mailto:antonios.athanassiadis@desy.de)

[www.desy.de](http://www.desy.de)

+49 40 8998 3462