

DE LA RECHERCHE À L'INDUSTRIE



# SCAN PYRAMIDS



HIP  
INSTITUTE  
HERITAGE  
INNOVATION  
PRESERVATION



ARAB  
REPUBLIC  
OF EGYPT  
MINISTRY OF  
ANTIQUITIES



FACULTY OF  
ENGINEERING  
CAIRO  
UNIVERSITY



# Muography of the Great Pyramid



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Louvain-la-Neuve

19<sup>th</sup> April 2018

- Muography: principles & main technologies
- WatTo: a decisive experiment
- ScanPyramids: preparation and discoveries
- Other applications of muography

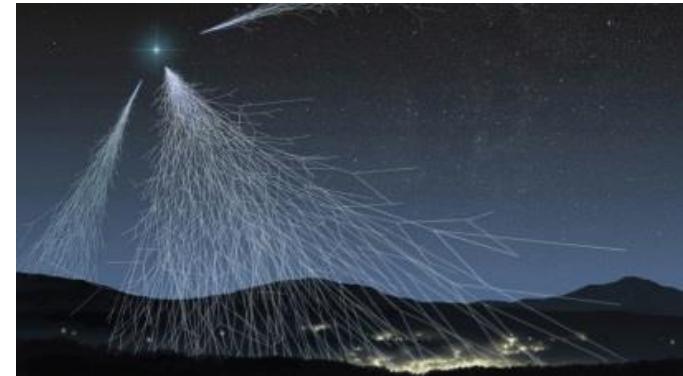


# MUON TOMOGRAPHY / MUOGRAPHY



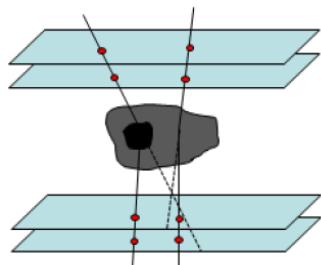
- Cosmic muons produced by cascade of reactions induced by cosmic rays in the upper atmosphere

- Flux:  $\sim 150/\text{m}^2/\text{s} \sim \cos^2\theta$  (maximum in zenith direction)
- Mean energy: 4 GeV
- Life-time: 2  $\mu\text{s}$
- Natural, free and harmless radiation
- Straight propagation (in average)



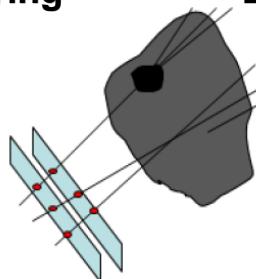
- Electromagnetic interactions with matter

**Coulomb scattering**



*Deviation (3D)*

**Energy loss**

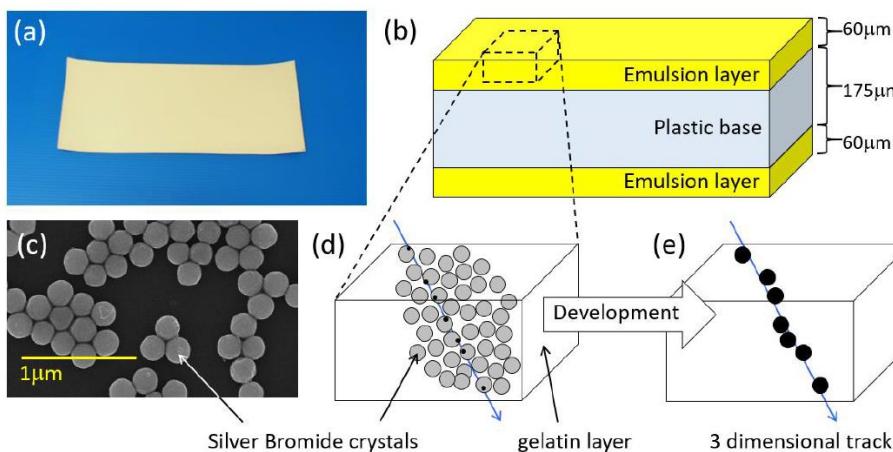
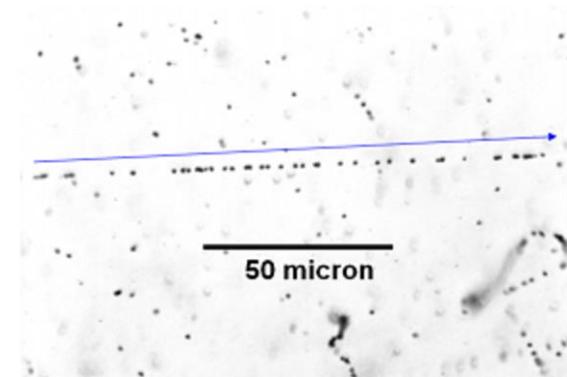


*Absorption/Transmission (2D)*

Material	Thickness	$\theta (\circ)$	$P_{\text{absorption}}$
Air	100 m	0.094	0.78%
Lead	10 cm	1.01	2.9%
Water	1 m	0.35	4.2%
Ground	100 m		99%

- Many potential applications

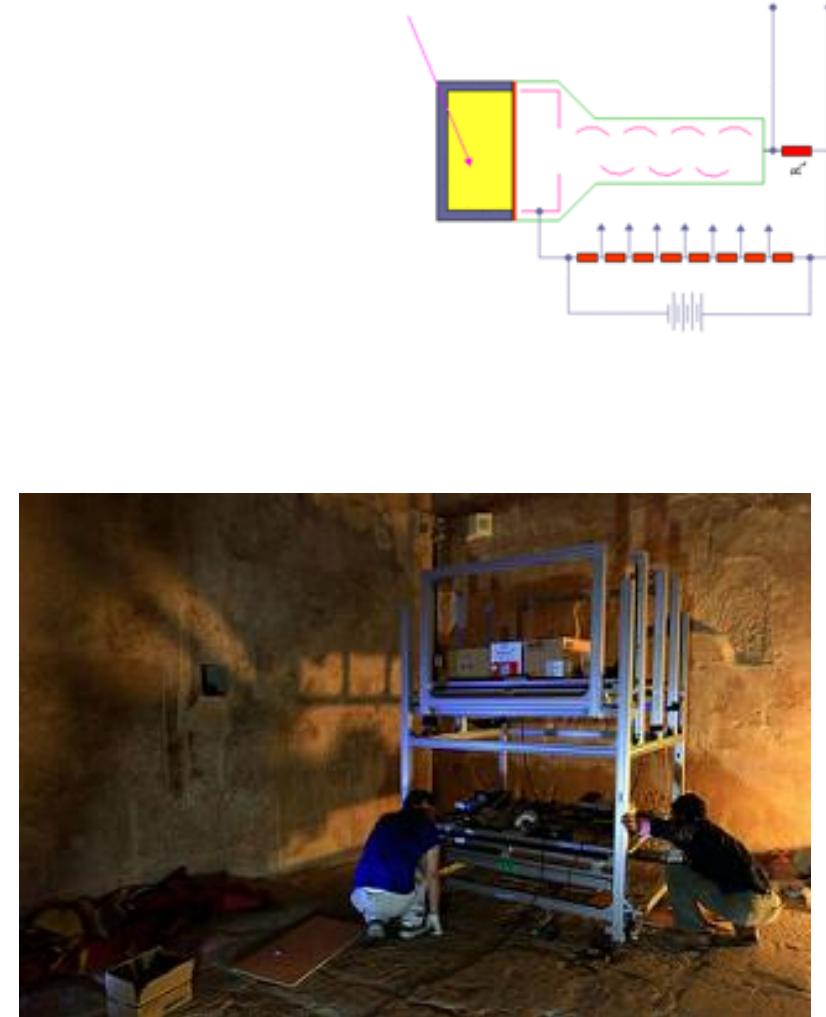
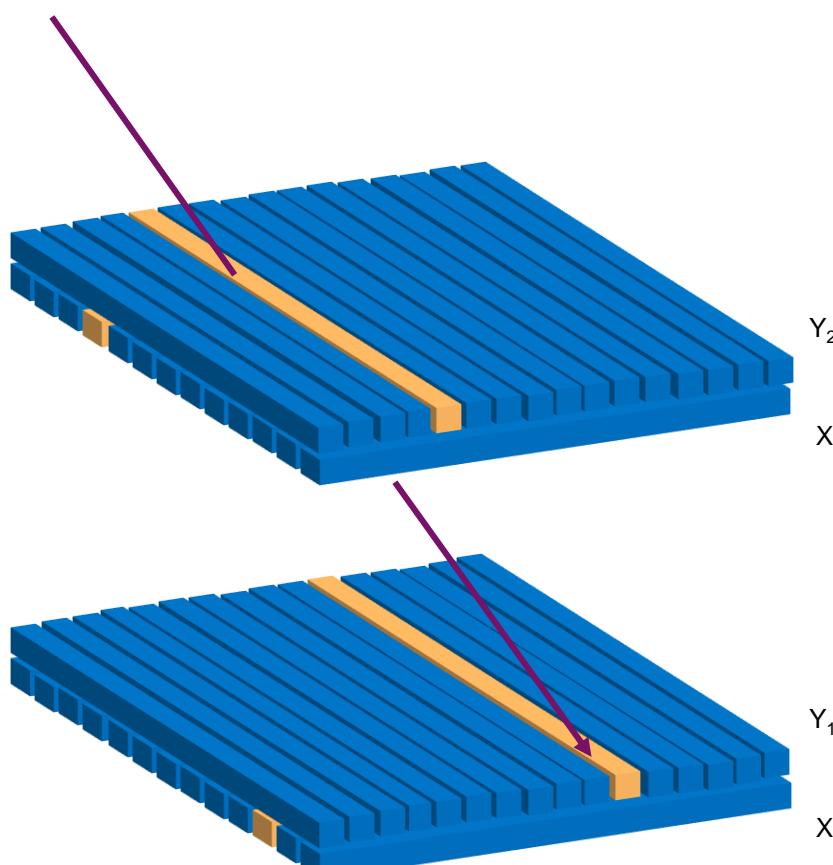
- Photographic plate to record tracks from charged particles
  - Excellent resolution
  - No need for power supply
  - **Fragile**
  - **No real time**



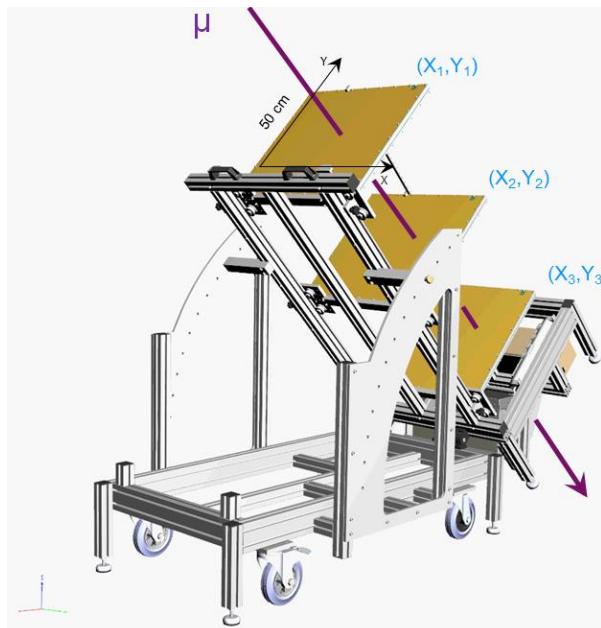
# MUOGRAPHY TECHNOLOGIES: SCINTILLATORS



- Solid, plastic scintillators
  - Robust & well known technology
  - Real time imaging
  - Poor resolution



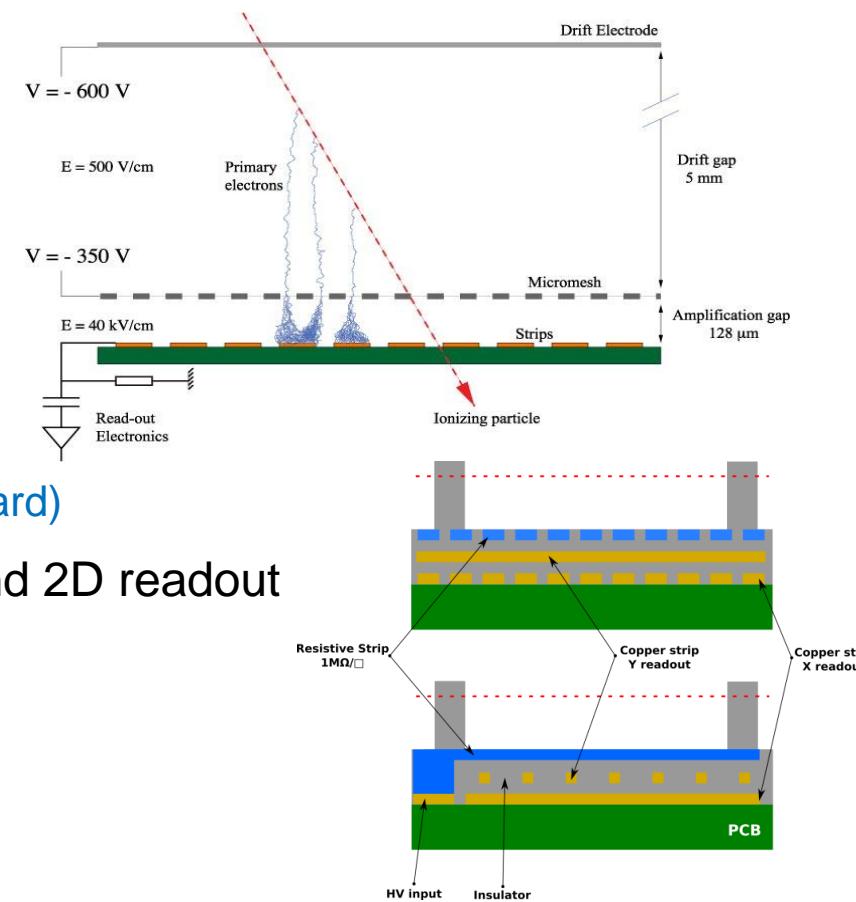
- Based on ionization of the gas by the charged particle
  - Robust
  - Very good resolution
  - Real time



# MICROMEGAS DETECTOR



- Gaseous detector invented at CEA-Saclay (1996)
- Excellent performance for detection in nuclear and particle physics
  - spatial resolution < 100 µm
  - time resolution < 10 ns
  - high rate capability
- *Micromegas bulk technology* (2005) :
  - robust, high area possible
  - easily made in company (printed circuit board)
- resistive strips for spark suppression and 2D readout



# ORIGIN OF MUOGRAPHY @ SACLAY

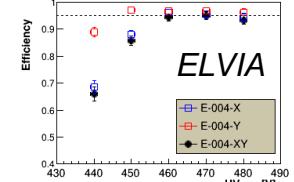
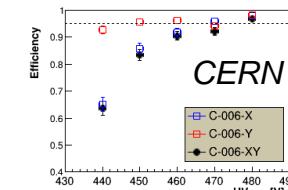
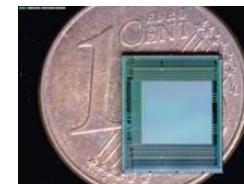
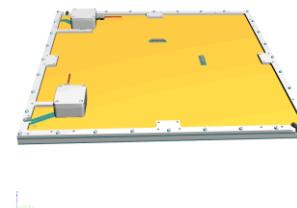
- Dvt of 50x50 cm<sup>2</sup> MM with genetic multiplexing (2012)

- Reduction of electronics (price, consumption) by factor of ~15*
- Use of resistive strips to increase S/N and efficiency*



- First final prototypes available in 2015 (made @ CERN)

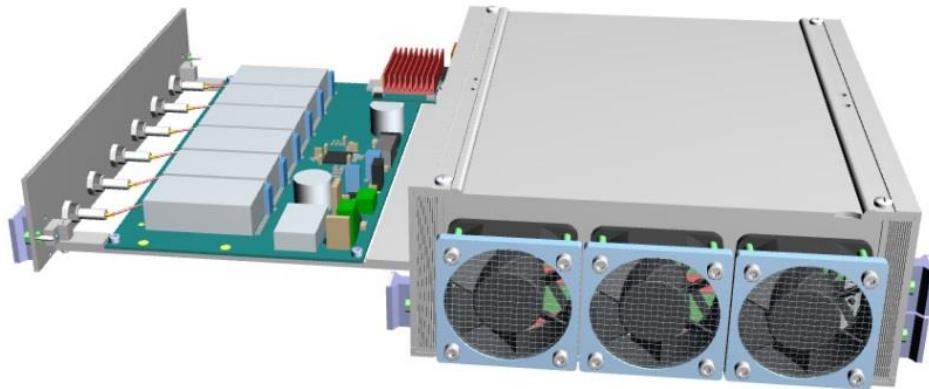
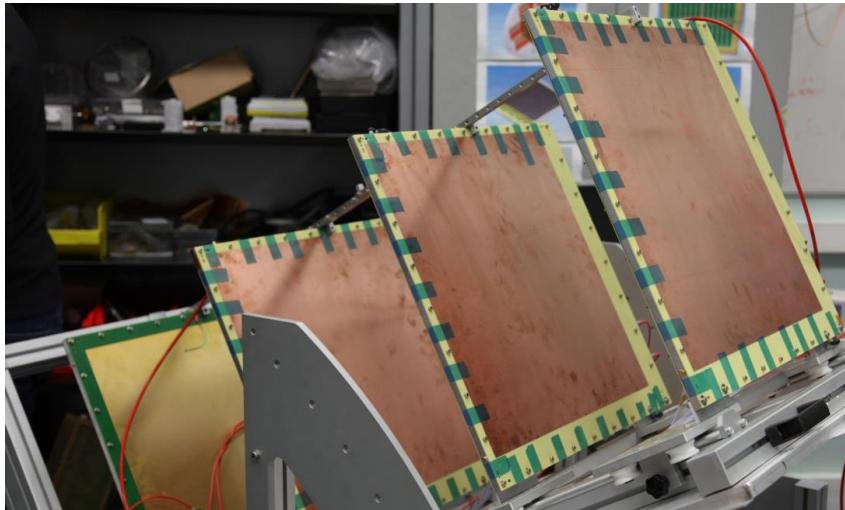
- N~2600 e-, S/N~60-100*
- 1.5 cm drift gap*
- ~97% efficiency in 2D*
- Ar-Iso-CF<sub>4</sub> (95-2-3) mixture (non flamable)*
- ~300 micron resolution*



- Know-how transfer with PCB company in France

⇒ 2014: proposition of a Micromegas-based muon telescope (WatTo)

# WATTo: INTEGRATION

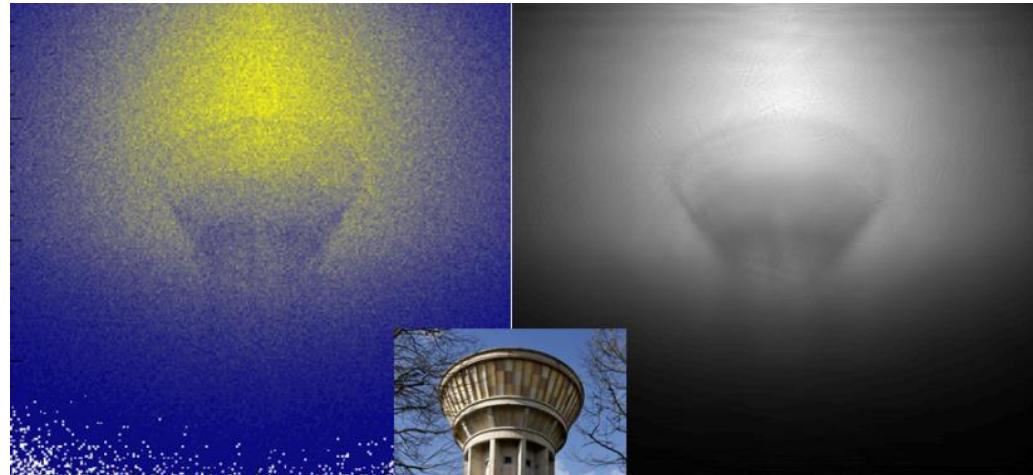


HV+ nano PC + Dream electronics (self-triggering)

# WATTo: RESULTS (1/2)

- Static Muography:

*Integration time: 4 weeks (position 1)*



## How to read a muography:

- *Each pixel is a number (or a flux) of reconstructed muons in the corresponding direction*
- *Light (yellow) colour → more muons → less absorption → less matter*
- *Dark (blue) colour → less muons → more absorption → more matter*

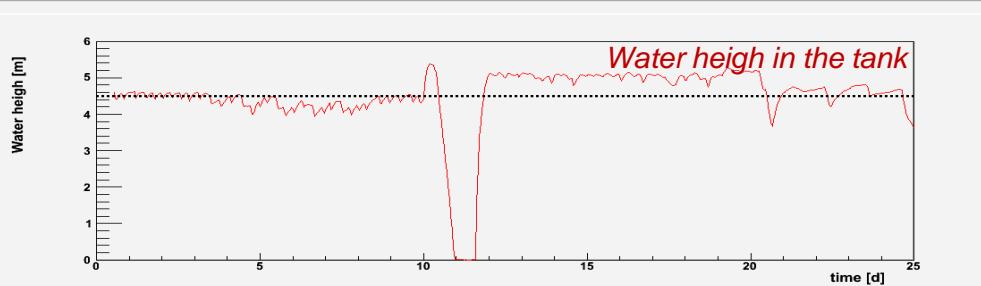
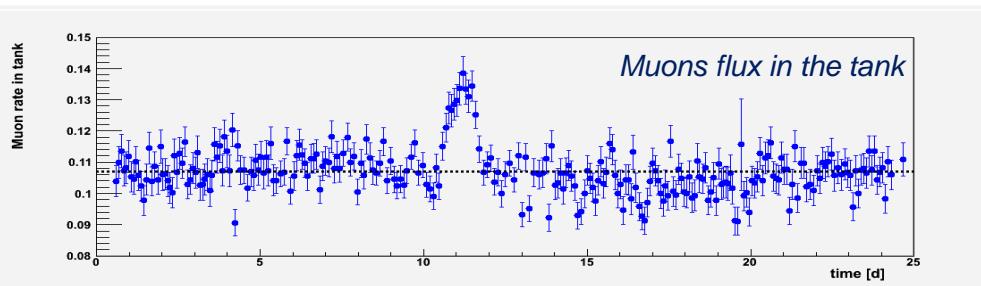
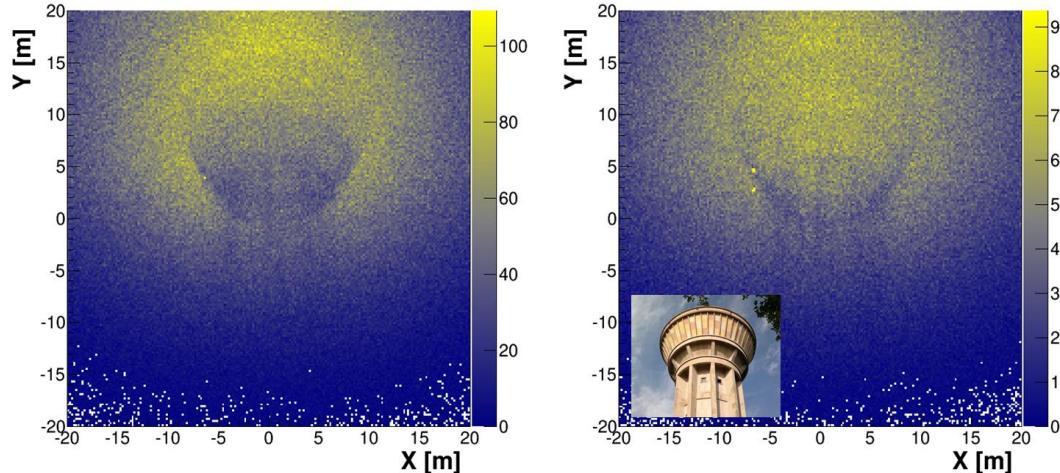


→ First muography of a recognizable building

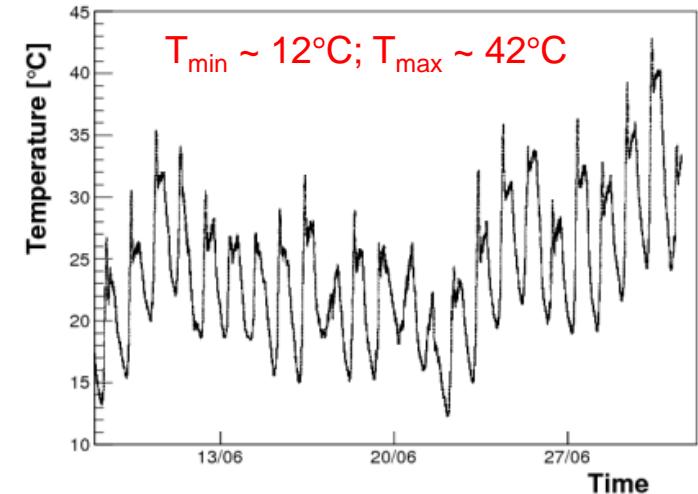
# WATTo: RESULTS (2/2)

- Dynamic Muography:

*Integration time: 4 days each (position 2)*



- *Environmental conditions (noise, T&P effects, etc.)*



- *30 W on solar panel*



- September 2015: end of WatTo experiment ...
- ... announcement of ScanPyramids on October 25<sup>th</sup>

- *Email to Mehdi Tayoubi on October 26<sup>th</sup>*
- *1<sup>st</sup> meeting mid-December in Paris*
- *Official announcement CEA participation April 2016*
- *1<sup>st</sup> telescope installation in Egypt May 2016*
- *2<sup>nd</sup> telescope installation in January 2017*





**Mehdi Tayoubi**  
President & co-founder  
Innovation Strategist



**Hany Helal**  
Vice-president & co-founder  
Professor, Faculty of Engineering, Cairo University  
Former Minister of Higher Education & Scientific Research

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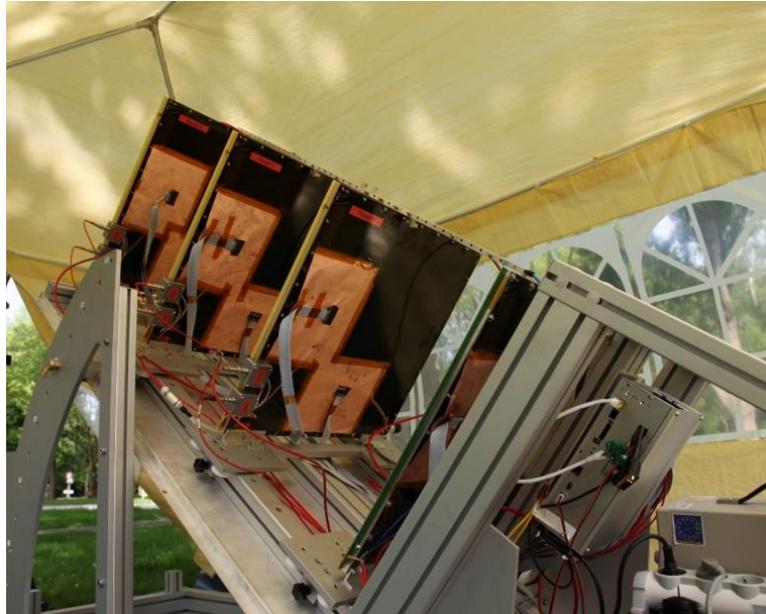


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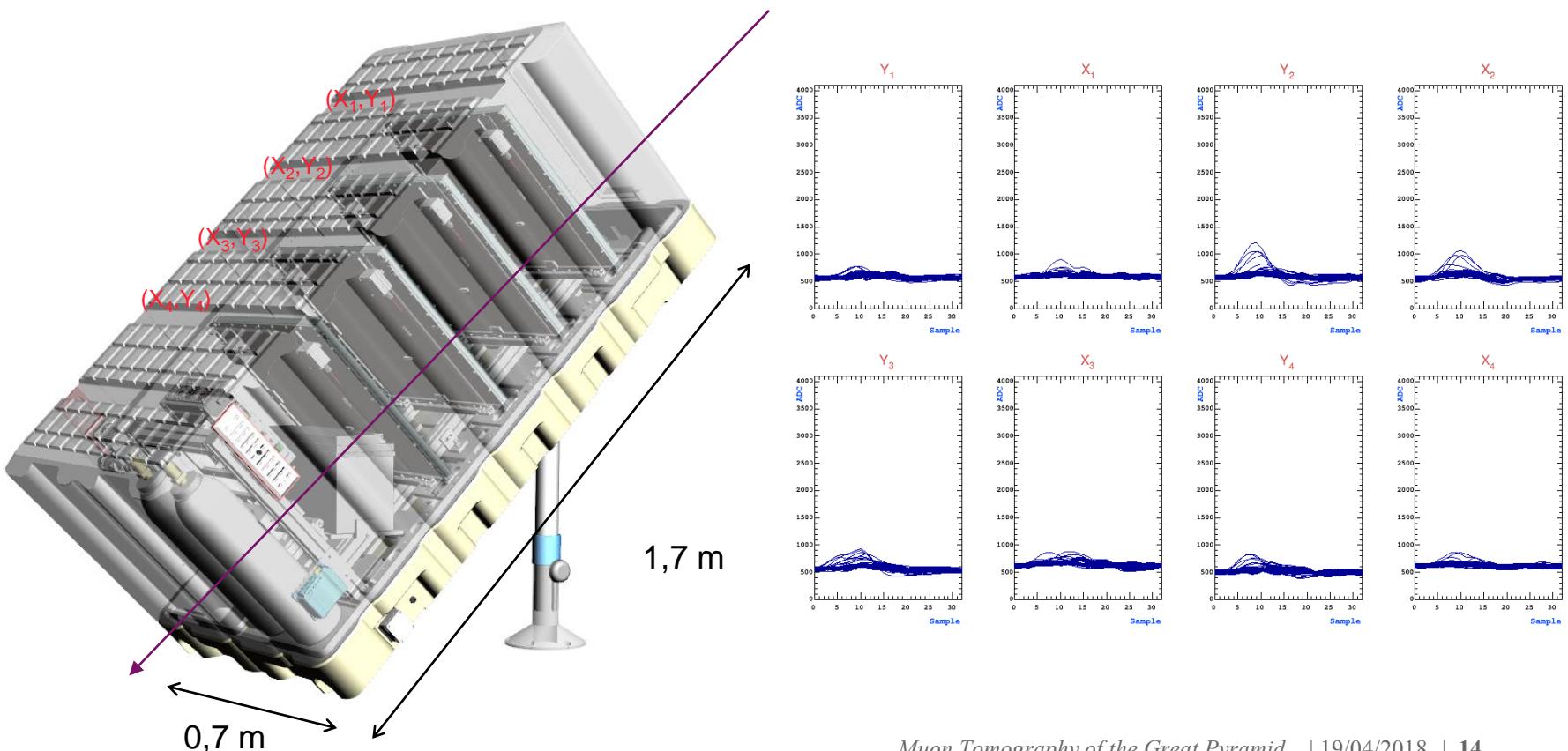
- Telescopes : 1 → 3
- Chassis → valise
- Detection plane: prototype (Cern) → serial (Elvia-PCB company)
- Building period: 9 months → 3 months
- Weight : ~ 200 kg → ~ 130 kg
- Detector high voltage: independent of temperature →  $f(T)$
- Data: raw → raw + pre-processing



# WATTo→SCANPYRAMIDS



- New telescope:
  - transportable and easily functional
  - $4 \times 2D$  resistive Micromegas (version 2)
  - 3G connection for operation, monitoring and transfer of processed data



# TELESCOPE INTEGRATION AND CONSTRUCTION

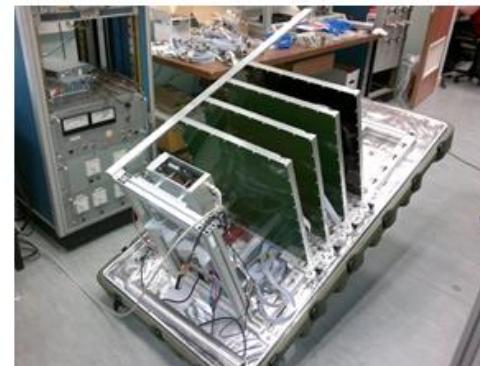
- Detection plane integration in clean room



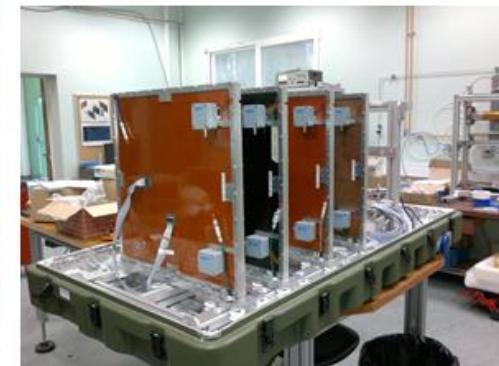
- Tests in outdoor conditions



*Alhazen (n°1)*



*Alvarez (n°2)*



*Brahic (n°3)*

- 3 telescopes assembled and shipped to Egypt

# GIZA PLATEAU INSTALLATION

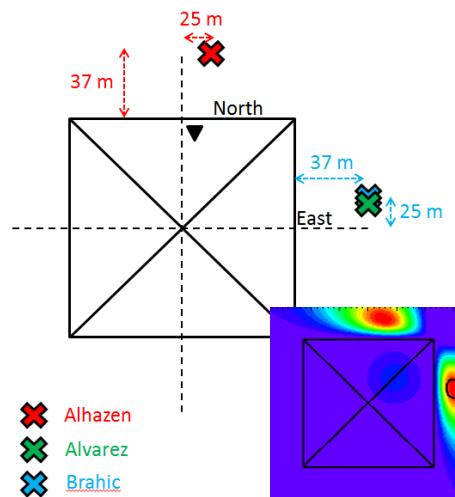


# MEASUREMENT CAMPAIGNS

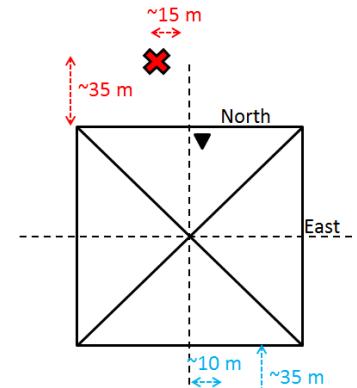


- 3 missions between 2016 & 2017

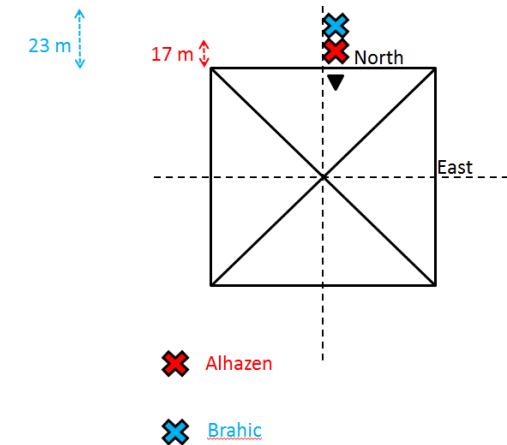
*1<sup>st</sup> mission (jun-aug 2016)*



*2<sup>nd</sup> mission (jan-april 2017)*



*3<sup>rd</sup> mission 3 (may-jul 2017)*

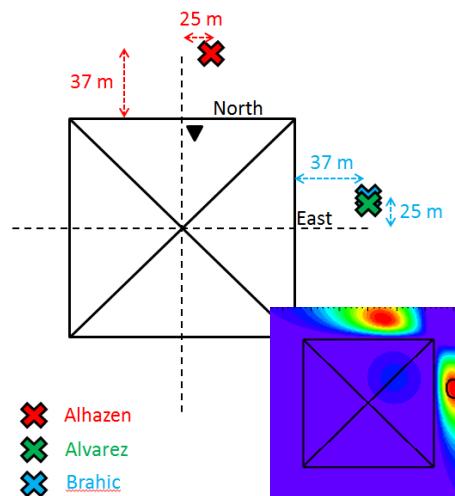


# MEASUREMENT CAMPAIGNS

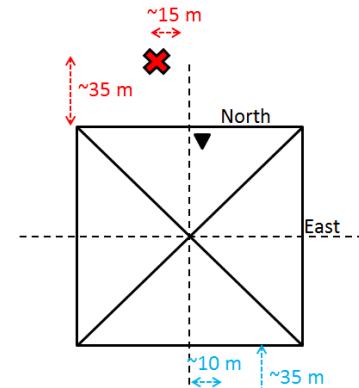


- 3 missions between 2016 & 2017

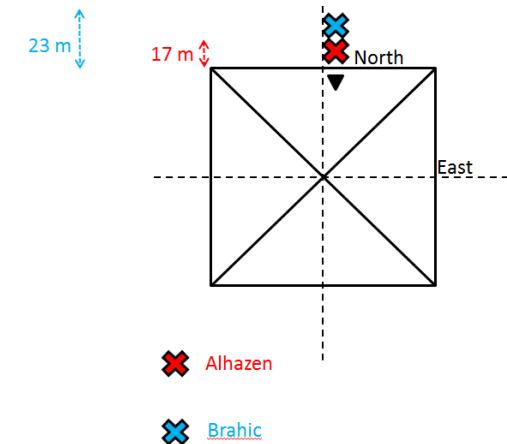
*1<sup>st</sup> mission (jun-aug 2016)*



*2<sup>nd</sup> mission (jan-april 2017)*



*3<sup>rd</sup> mission 3 (may-jul 2017)*



- Statistics: around 200 millions muons!

Telescope	Mission1	Mission2	Mission3
Alhazen	29,0 millions	34,1 millions	16,6 millions
Brahic	24,6 millions	25,6 millions	16,9 millions
Alvarez	18,3 millions	28,0 millions	X
Total	71,9 millions	87,7 millions	33,5 millions

# DATA TAKING

- Relatively smooth

before

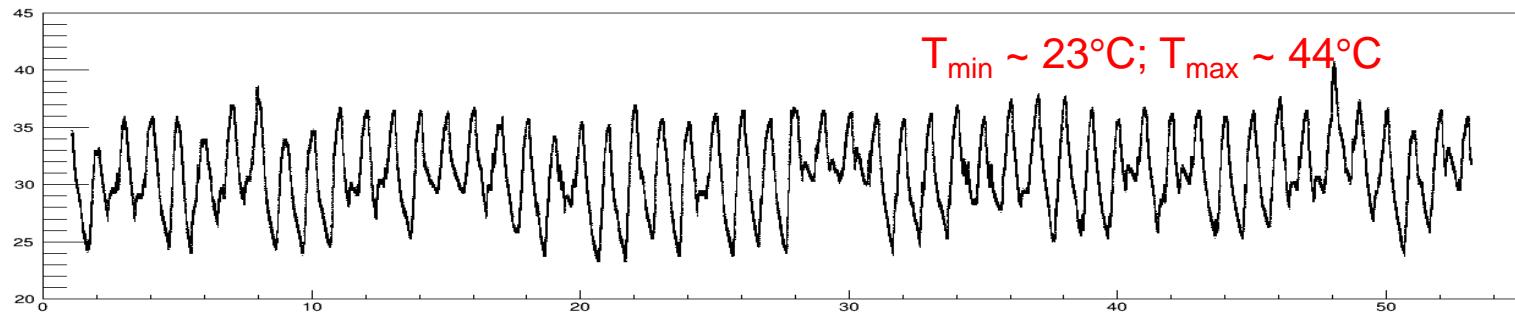


after



+ issues with 3G/4G  
+ ...

- Temperature variations (gas & electronics & mechanics)



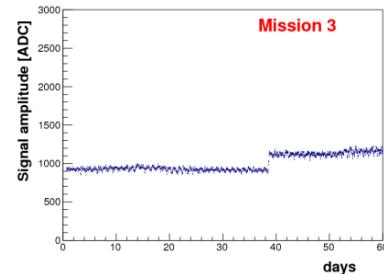
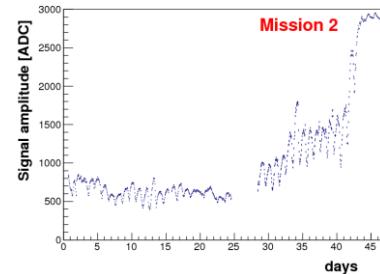
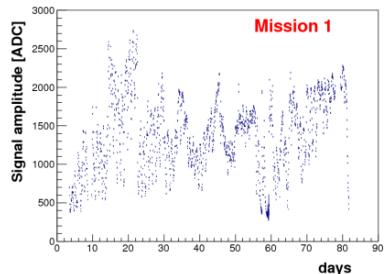
(instruments checked at Saclay between 2°C and 55°C)

# DATA TAKING



- Successive improvements of the instruments

## Signal stability



## Monitoring of environmental conditions



## Full, online analysis on the nano-PC



CEA



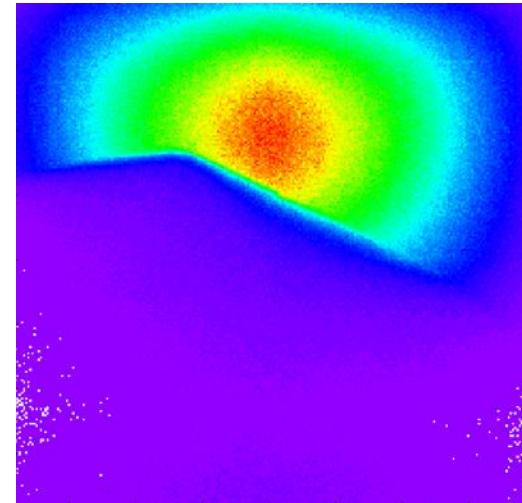
Nagoya

- Necessity to adjust photo and muo for comparison with 3D model

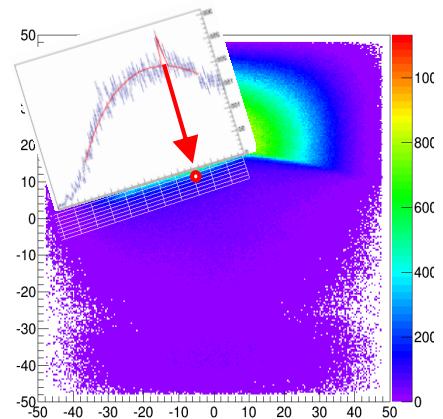
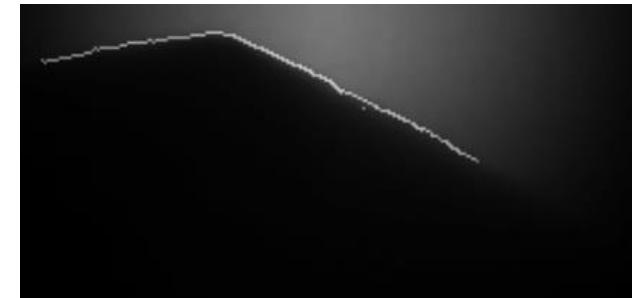
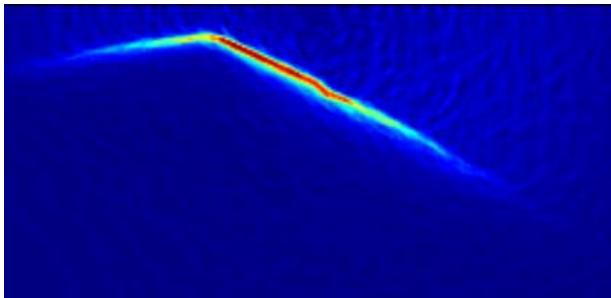
photo



muo



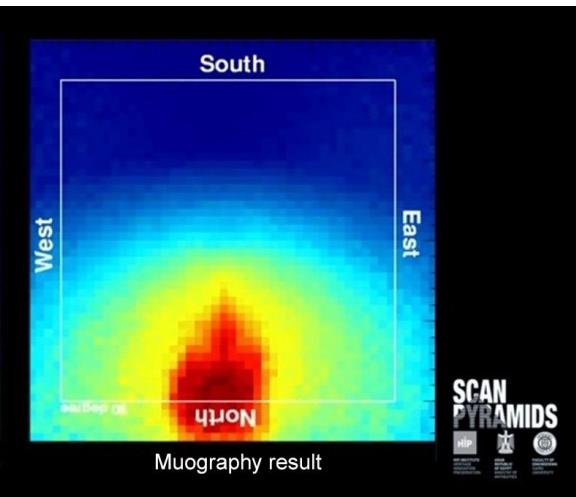
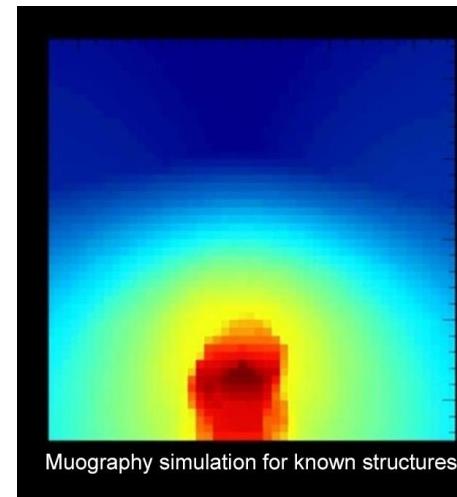
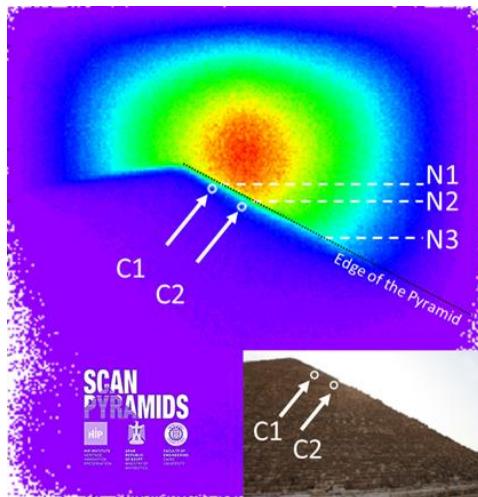
- Requires edge detection (image filtering)



# RESULTS - 2016



- October 2016: discoveries of 2 voids in the pyramid



⇒ **Question for egyptologists: what is the purpose of these voids?**

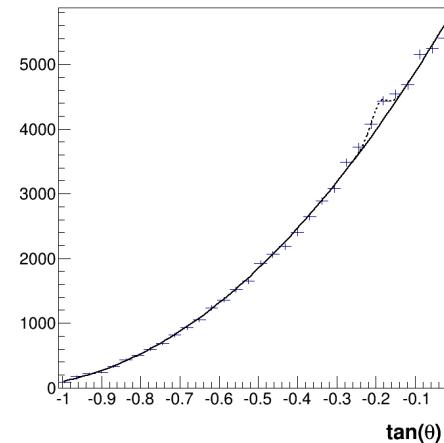
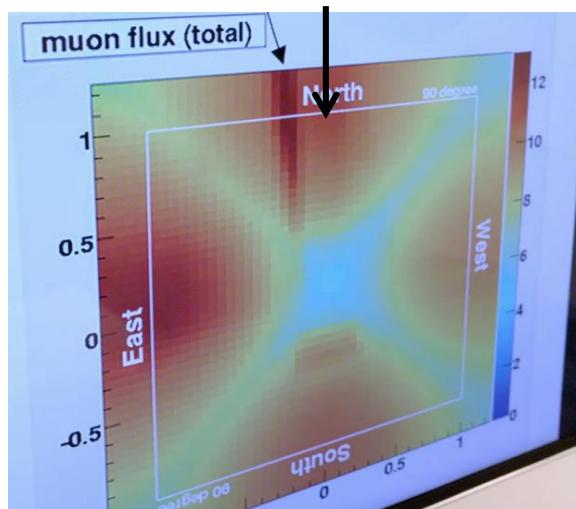
# RESULTS



- Early 2017: 1<sup>st</sup> results from Nagoya emulsion in Queen's Chamber...

Significant muon excess close to the Grand Galery  $\Rightarrow$  void

Anomalies appearing also on KEK scintillator (Queen's Chamber), and on CEA telescope (No...



- 3D model suggests that all these anomalies point to the same direction

$\Rightarrow$  Dedicated measurement campaign started

- Queen's Chamber: new emulsion from Nagoya and move of the ...
- Outside: move of 2 telescopes in front of the North face Chevrons

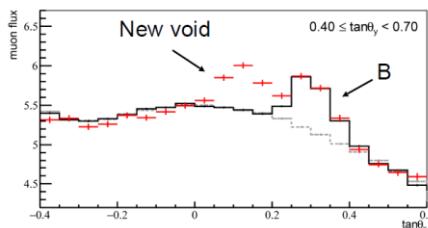
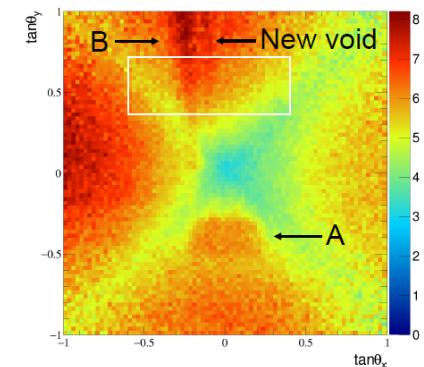


# RESULTS (FROM NATURE PAPER)

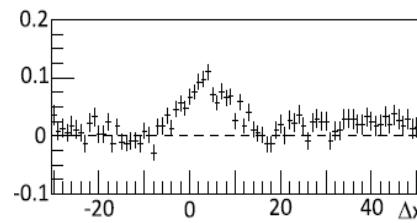
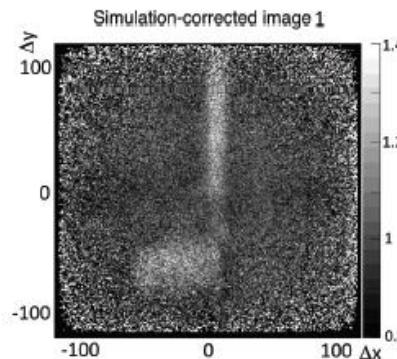


- All the measurements confirm a large void above the Grand Gallery

Nagoya

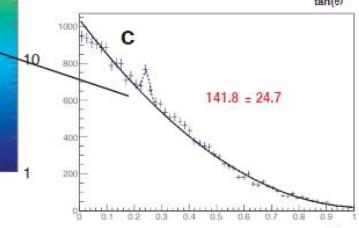
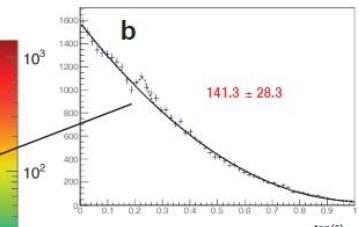
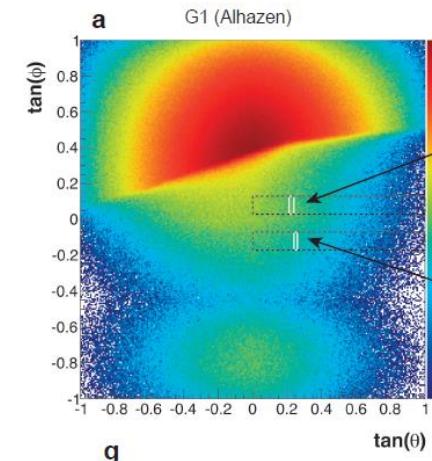


KEK



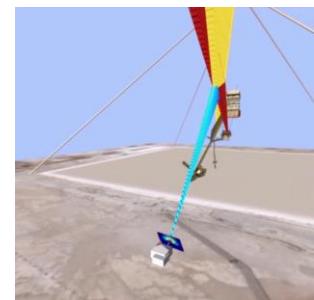
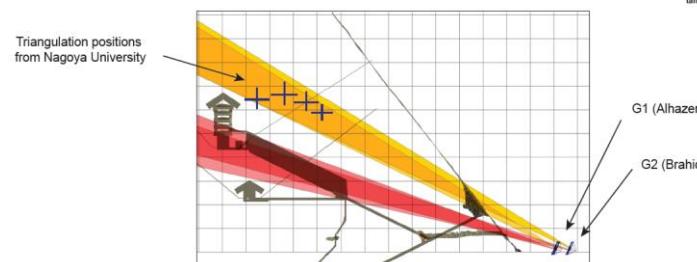
CEA

G1 (Alhazen)



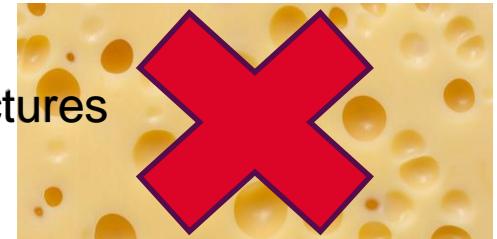
- Only 2 such voids detected
- 1<sup>st</sup> detection ever from outside of a deep structure

- Good triangulation with Nagoya and CEA instruments



# SCANPYRAMIDS BIG VOID

- Remarkable features of the ScanPyramids Big-Void:
  - Within the same plane as all other known (big) structures
  - Large under-density, only at this place



- Volume estimate: several hundreds of m<sup>3</sup>
- Length: > 30 m
- Inclined or horizontal... ⇒ **More measurements needed!**

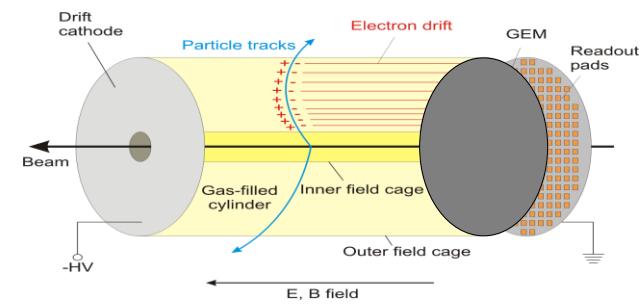
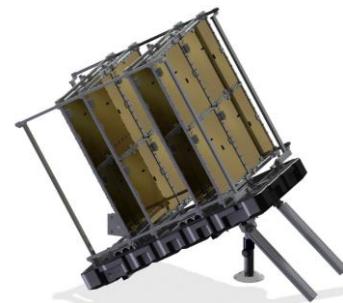
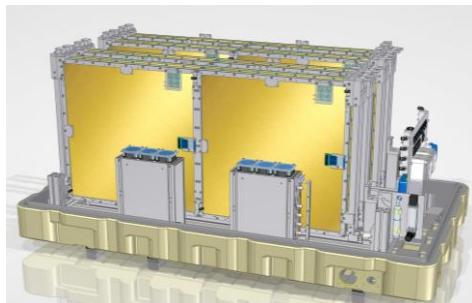
# NEXT STEP(s)



- Electronic management of the gas flow with new HVPS-v2 card
  - *Test in progress*

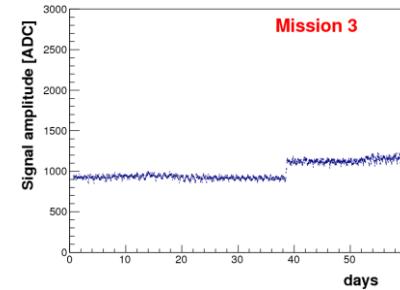
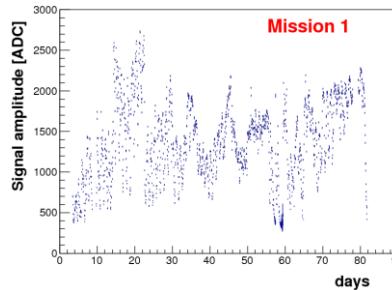


- Proposition of a mission inside the pyramid to better observe the Big Void
  - *Goal: < 1 m³ in 4 months*
  - *Could take place in Spring 2018*
- Longer term: sealed, bigger telescopes and TPC
  - *Vacuum chamber at Saclay, test started*



# CONCLUSION (BEYOND BIG VOID...)

- MPGD robust enough for extreme condition applications in spite of gas



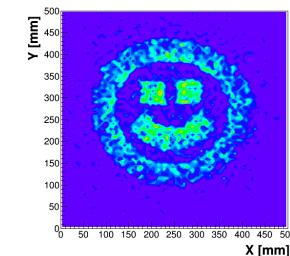
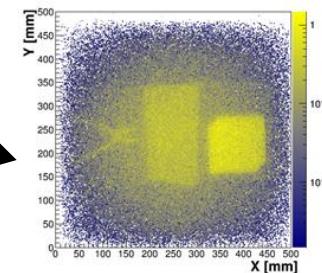
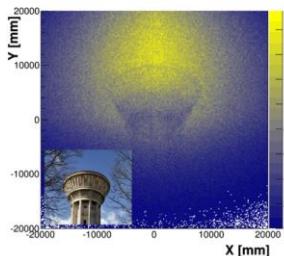
- Probably the best technology for precise muography

	Nuclear emulsion Nagoya University	Hodoscopes KEK	Gas detectors CEA
Angular Resolution	2-14 mrad	7-10 mrad	0.8 - 4 mrad
Angular Acceptance	45 degrees	34 - 45 degrees	45 degrees
Active area (for this analysis)	30 cm x 25 cm / unit: 0.75 m x 0.6 m (NE1) 0.9 m x 0.5 m (NE2)	1.2 m x 1.2 m	50 cm x 50 cm
Position Resolution	1 μm	10 mm	400 μm
Height	0.2 mm	1-1.5 m	60 cm
Power requirement	No	Yes (300W)	Yes (35W)
Data taking	Need development	Real time	Real time

# CONCLUSION (BEYOND PYRAMID...)



- Deep imaging: many more applications  
 « high def » muography: can now recognize structures and even small objects



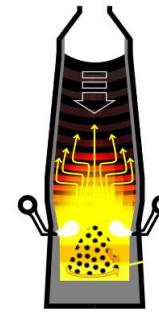
Civil engineering



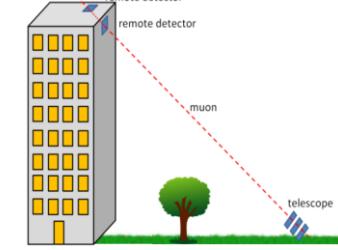
Dismantling, nuclear waste



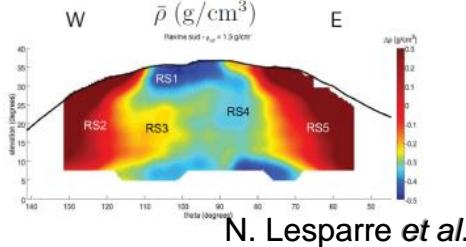
Paste furnace



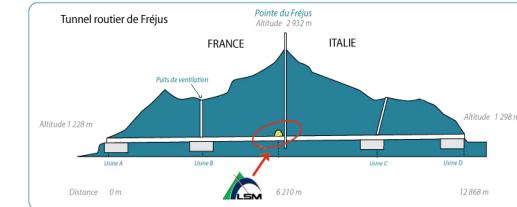
(muon) metrology



Volcanology



+ ...



# MUOGRAPHY (BEYOND IMAGINATION...)



- Painting



- Photography



- Muography?

