Minutes of WP-meeting 458

Attendance:
Zoom: Jochen Kaminski, Huirong Qi, Ron Settles, Jan Timmermans, Kanako Watanabe

General News:
Huirong reported on the general situation in China. The final decision on the mega projects funded by the 15th 5-year plan were announced by the Chinese government recently: No HEP project will be funded as also the super tau charm proposal will receive no funding. Though a lot of scientists from universities (in particular USTC) pushed hard for the super tau charm in January to April, the government decided not to support this project. Huirong hopes there The HEP community in China will have a chance to participate in the FCC-ee. The final information will be given next week.
There was a meeting with Jun Cao, the current director of IHEP, and Yifang Wang, the former director, who both confirmed that they will support that the CEPC activities will be continued for 5 more years and will then be proposed similarly as the super tau charm project for the next 5-year plan starting in 2031. To foster progress and keep the community together, Yifang established an CEPC-day every month. On this day, the detector concept and simulations are discussed. This includes also half a day for work on the accelerator. However, as many people are diverted to other projects, the attendance dropped from about 40 at the beginning of the year to about 10 now.
In addition, the director agreed to participate in the BES3 upgrade, which will then be operated for the next 10 years until to 2037. The accelerator BEPC will receive minor upgrades, but no detector upgrades are planned currently. Huirong will be in charge of the operation of the muon detector. Huirong also has some funding for TPC R&D and can continue for next 4 years until 2029. He can pay DRD1 contributions. Other subgroups like silicon detectors, calorimetry etc. also have little funding, but can survive by joining also other experiments like BES3. The same holds true for the super tau charm groups.

News from the groups:
Huirong presented the progress of the TPC R&D at IHEP. Though, officially lead by ?Domini?, Huirong will continue to organize the TPC R&D and discuss the progress of the high granularity readout with Maxim and Paul to complete the open questions of the refTDR. Also simulations on the beam background in the TPC will be continues. There are currently 3 students working on TPC related tasks in Huirongs group.
In collaboration with USTC Micromegas meshes are produced in LC module size. Pillars with 280 µm have been fabricated and they look very nice and are homogenous. Various mesh types were tested and work well, but the stretching of the grid still has to be improved. First tests with ^{55}Fe in the lab show instabilities at high gain, but this problem is overcome and now all detectors are very stable also hat high gains. They also show nice spectra, when the signals is decoupled from the grid, only the noise still needs to be reduced.
A new module with 24 readout chips and 500x500 µm² is being produced and a is being commissioned with the help of Tsinghua University. This module will have to be studied first in the lab. Once it works as expected, a test beam at DESY is planned.
Xin She will finish her PhD. soon ad then apply for a PostDoc position, also in Europe.

Kanako met Paul, Serguey, Shinya and Daniel last week at KEK to discuss the distortion studies. The week Paul, Serguey and Shinya are attending the particle physics network meeting at Hamamatsu from

Monday to Thursday (today). They are presenting their plans to measure the IBF.
Kanako has received feed back of the LCWS 2025 proceedings, implemented them and will resubmit at the end of this week.

Jan mentioned that Peter has reached the formal retirement age, but he got a new contract for another 2 years due to which he can/will spent some time at Nikhef. Next week there will be retirement party for a few hours. Jan plans to attend.

AOB:
The next workpackage meeting will take place on June 11th.