- IRT functionality is restored in a standalone GEANT4 code
- Under the following basic assumptions:
  - 40cm long expansion volume
  - 80% HRPPD geometric efficiency (tight tiling, but *no flat funneling mirrors*)
  - HRPPD PDE can mimic SiPM one used for ATHENA, but *peaks at 30%* rather than 45%
  - A single layer 3cm thick aerogel with n ~ 1.045 1.050
  - 70% safety factor
  - Aerogel absorption & Rayleigh parameterizations taken from CLAS12 data (*Russian producer*)
- ... one can reach  $< n_{pe} > \sim 9..10$  and Cherenkov angle resolution  $\sim 2.2$  mrad ...
- ... which meets the YR requirement of  $3\sigma \pi/K$  separation at 7 GeV/c (gap ~7.5mrad)

- We may therefore want to stick to such a simple configuration as a *baseline*
- In case anything of the below list happens:
  - Tracker requests some space back (and we end up with <40cm expansion volume)
  - Incom delivers peak PDE well below 30% [in the future]
  - Collaboration realizes that  $3\sigma \pi/K$  as defined everywhere in the specs is in fact ~1.5 $\sigma$
  - Collaboration decides that it needs higher momentum reach (or re-evaluates the YR text) anyway
- ... we consider *more* sophisticated extensions
  - Dual aerogel configuration
  - Flat funneling mirrors in the acceptance
  - Whatever else fancy we can come up with between now and ~Dec,1