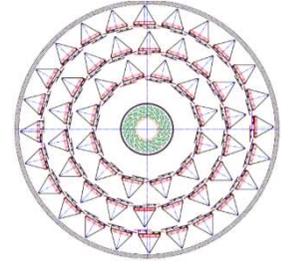


NICA

MPD



Детекторные системы РЯФ сегодня и завтра

Ю.Мурин ЛФВЭ, ОИЯИ

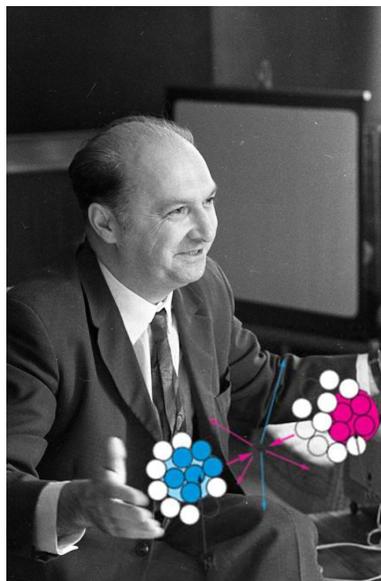
Доклад на сессии ОЯФ РАН,
Москва 19 октября, 2025



*“A chain is only as strong as its weakest link “
«Там где тонко, там и рвётся»*

- ❑ **Scientific background:** brief history of experimental relativistic nuclear physics highlighting the silicon tracking systems.
- ❑ The ongoing silicon revolution in HEP experiments/ Future is being made today!
- ❑ The NICA MPD ITS project experience.
- ❑ Three possible ways for remedy the problem.
- ❑ pCT scanner demonstrator as a spin-off the MPD ITS project.
- ❑ RAS central role in the implementation of the problem solution.
- ❑ Conclusions and outlook.

А.М.Балдин (ФИАН-ОИЯИ)



1926-1978

**Предложение проекта и начало
НИОКР новых технологий для
постройки НУКЛОТРОНА (1987-1993 -)**

A.Poskanzer (BNL-LBL)



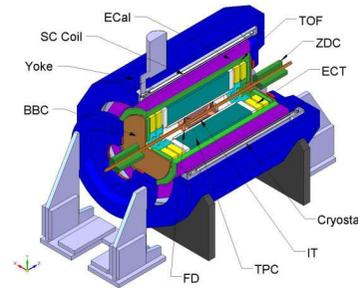
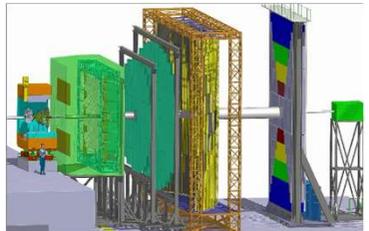
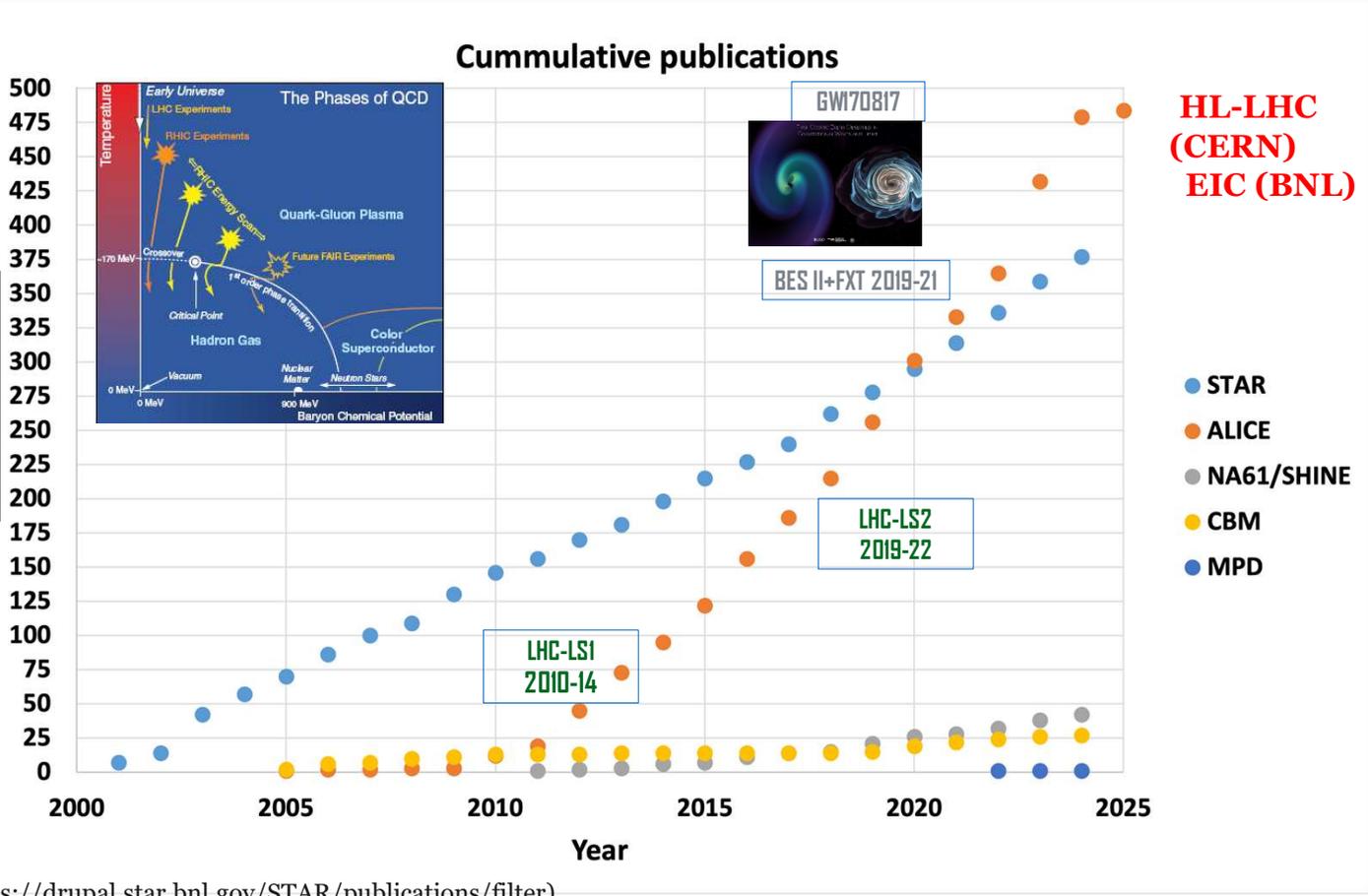
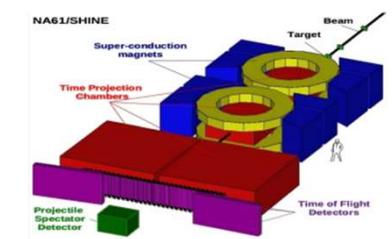
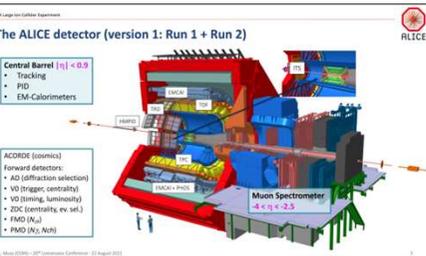
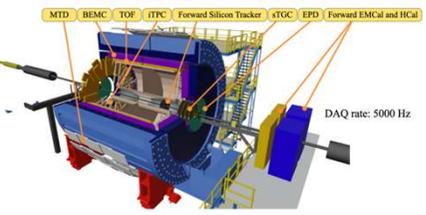
1931-2021

**Plastic Ball @ BEVALAC (1972-1993)
обнаружение коллективных потоков**

H.Gutbrod (LBL-CERN-GSI)



1943 -



STAR Publications and Data (<https://drupal.star.bnl.gov/STAR/publications/filter>)

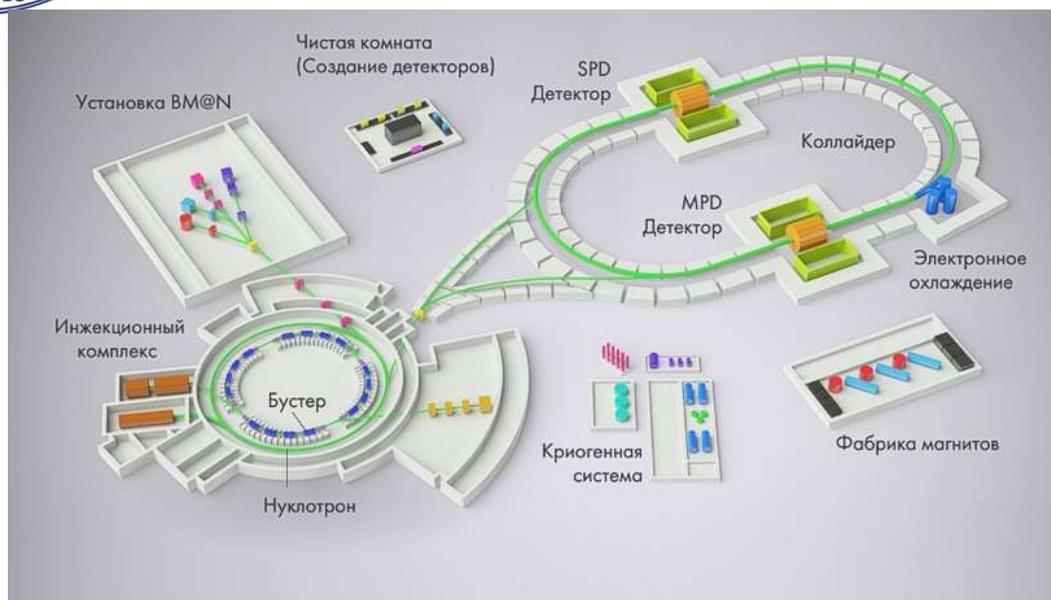
ALICE Publications (<https://alice-publications.web.cern.ch/statistics>)

CERN Document Server NA61/SHINE Papers

(<https://cds.cern.ch/search?p=&cc=NA61+Papers&f=&sf=&so=a&of=hb&rg=10&as=1&ln=en&p1=&p2=&p3=&f1=&f2=&f3=&m1=e&m2=a&m3=a&op1=a&op2=a&sc=0&d1y=2010&d1m=0&d1d=0&d2y=0&d2m=0&d2d=0&dt=&jrec=1>)

Inspire-hep CBM Publications (https://inspirehep.net/literature?sort=mostrecent&size=25&page=1&q=collaboration%3ACBM&doc_type=published)

MPD Collaboration Publications (<https://mpd.jinr.ru/collaboration-publications/>)



NICA start in 2013

First beam in 2025

- **The NICA challenge for study of new state of matter in $\sqrt{S_{nn}} = 3 \div 11,5 \text{ GeV Bi+Bi } L = 10^{27} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ sec}^{-1}$**



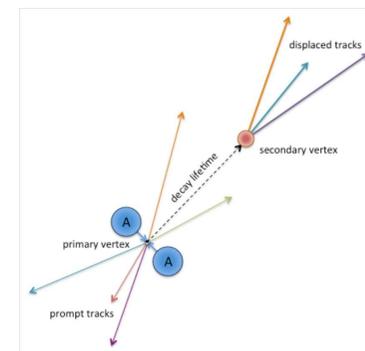
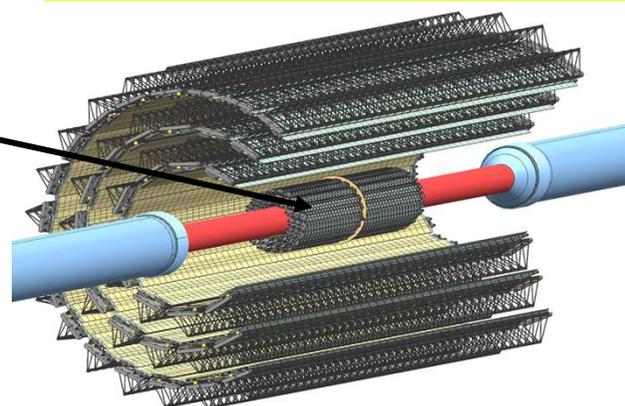
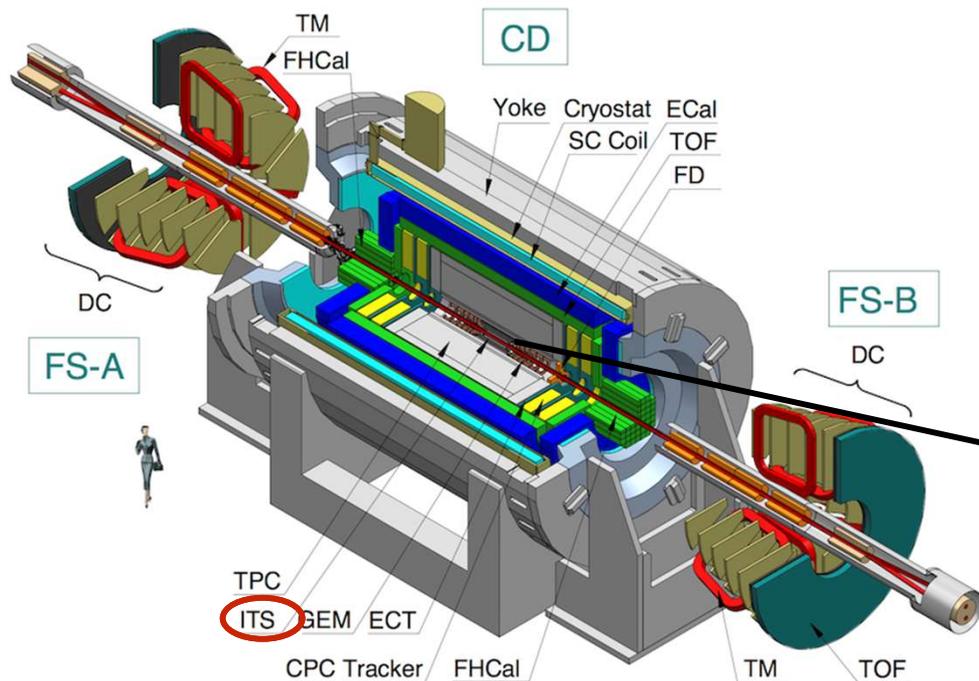
MPD-ITS structure: 3-layers Inner Barrel + 3-layers Outer Barrel .

It will supplement the TPC for the precise tracking, momentum determination and vertex reconstruction for **low Pt momenta hyperons (Λ , Ξ , Ω)** and identification of **D-mesons**.

Looking for needle in a haystack

Some of the MPD-ITS requirements:

- Fast, high granularity CMOS pixel sensors with low noise level.
- Spatial resolution of track coordinate registration at the level of $\sim 5-10 \mu\text{m}$.
- Material budget as low as possible.
- Positioned as close as possible to the interaction diamond

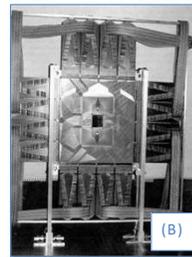
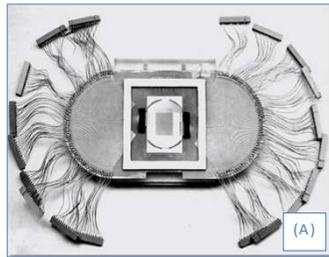


Начало применения кремниевых детекторов в ФВЭ

Конец 1970-х: начало НИОКР устройств для идентификации короткоживущих частиц в ЦЕРН и Пизе

1980: Производство первых микростриповых детекторов по технологии PIN-диодов

1981-1982: Первое использование микростриповых детекторов в ЦЕРН (NA11) и ФНАЛ(E706)



NA11 : 6 плоскостей (24x36 мм²),

2-3ком, 280 мкм, шаг 20 мкм

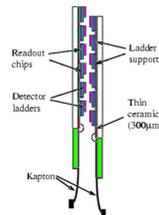
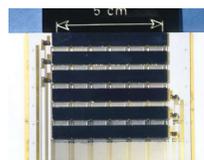
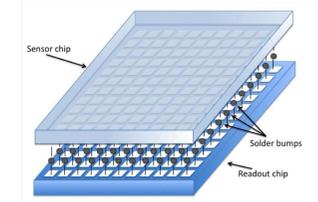
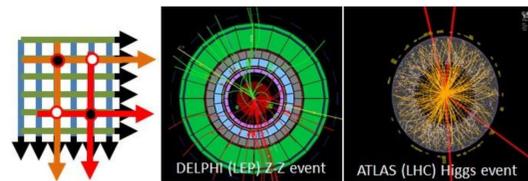
E706 : 4 плоскости (3x3 см²) +

2 плоскости (5x5 см²)

1989-1990: ЦЕРН(DELPHI, ALEPH, OPAL, L3)

→ проблема наложений и деградации свойств

Решение: Использование пиксельных детекторов и систем считывания на VLSI электронике (WA97, DELPHI)



Площадь – (5x5 см²)

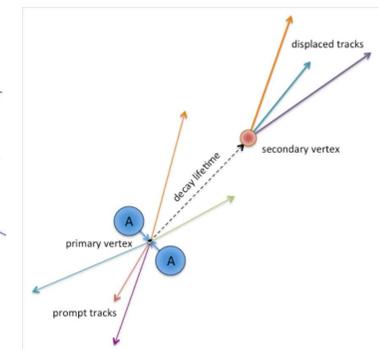
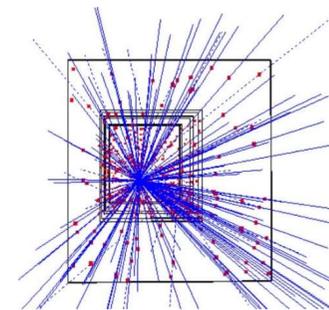
Число плоскостей – 7

Число пикселей – 0.5М

Размер пикселей – 75x500 мкм²

Частота триггера – 1 кГц

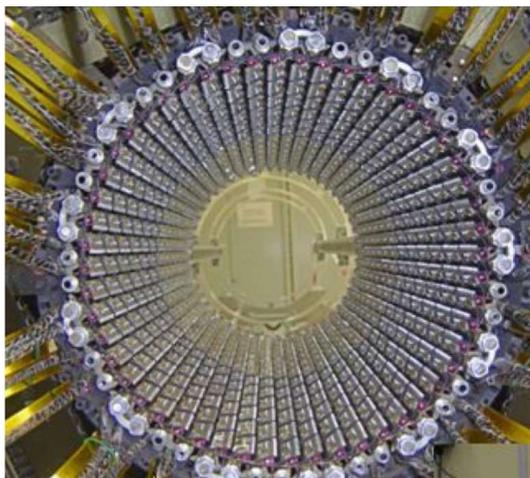
Имя СИМС – Omega2



Пиксельные системы LHC Run#1

Начало 2000-х: внутренние трековые системы включают в себя пиксельные слои трех базовых установок

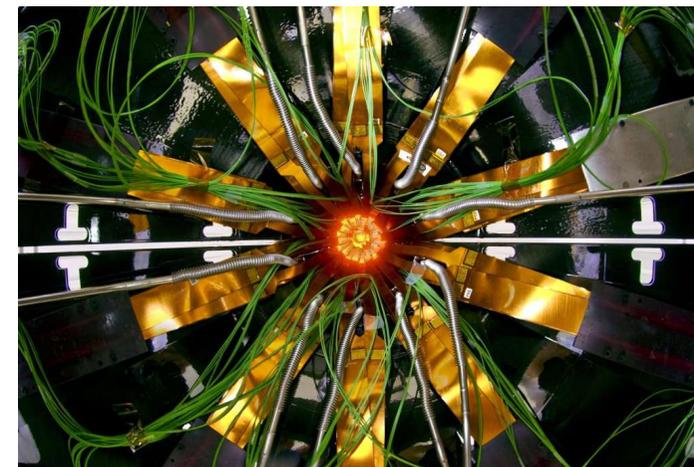
ATLAS



CMS



ALICE

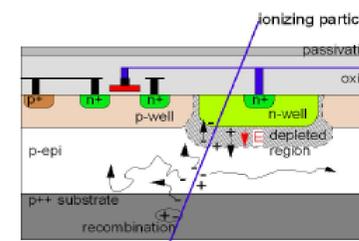


количество слоёв:	2	3	3
количество пикселей:	9.8M	80M	66M
площадь, м ² :	0.21	1.17	1.0
размер пикселя, мкм ²	50x425	50x400	100x150
толщина (Si+ASIC), X/X ₀ [%]	0.21+0.16	0.27+0.19	0.30+0.19

Mimosa series – IPHC Strasbourg - *Move to standard CMOS*

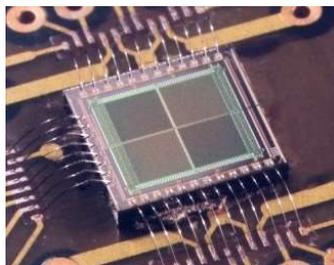
A monolithic active pixel sensor for charged particle tracking and imaging using standard VLSI CMOS technology

R. Turchetta^{a,*}, J.D. Berst^a, B. Casadei^a, G. Claus^a, C. Colledani^a, W. Dulinski^a, Y. Hu^a, D. Husson^a, J.P. Le Normand^a, J.L. Riestler^a, G. Deptuch^{a,†}, U. Goerlach^a, S. Higuere^a, M. Winter^a



NIM A 458 (2001) 677-689

Mimosa1 – 1999
AMS 0.6 μm



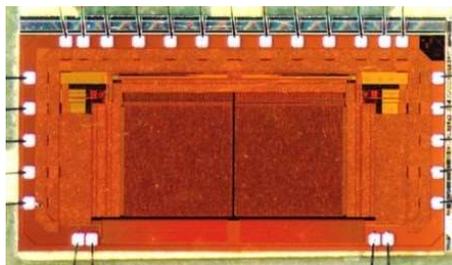
20 μm pixel

Mimosa2 – 2000
MIETEC 0.35 μm



20 μm pixel

Mimosa3 – 2001
IBM 0.25 μm



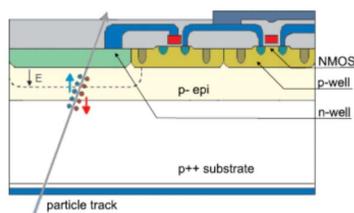
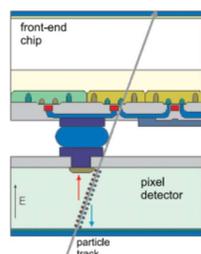
...

Mimosa26 – 2008
AMS 0.35 μm

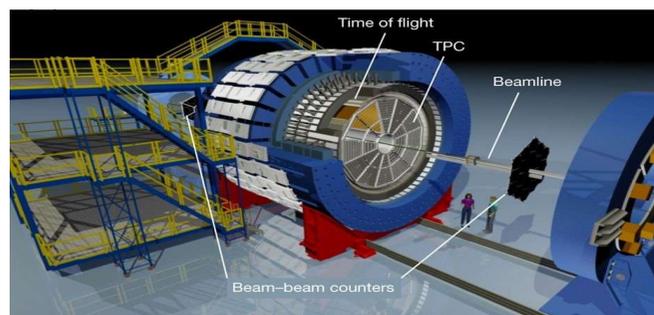


...

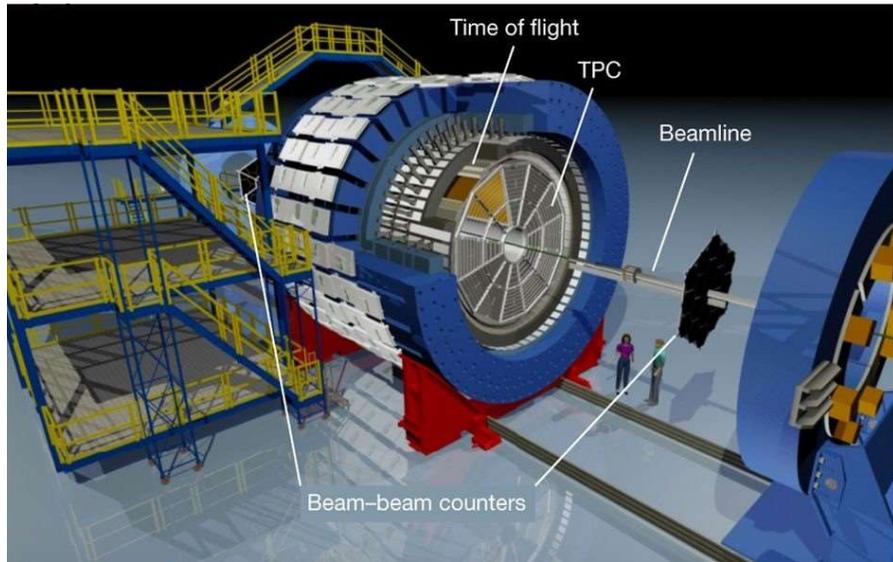
18.4 μm pixel



12 years from idea to first results STAR !



FIRST MAPS in HEP: MIMOSA28 (ULTIMATE) in STAR PXL



Full detector Jan 2014

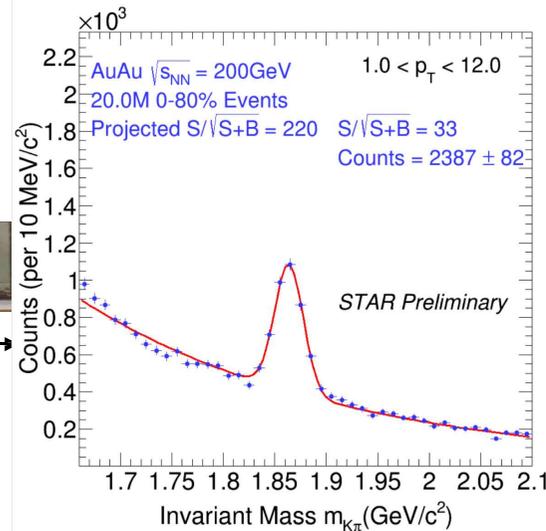
Physics Runs in 2015-2016

- 2 layers (2.8 and 8 cm radii)
- 10 sectors total (in 2 halves)
- 4 ladders/sector
- Radiation length (1st layer)
- $x/X_0 = 0.39\%$ (Al conductor flex)

Ladder with 10 MAPS sensors



2-layer kapton flex cable with Al traces



MIMOSA28 (ULTIMATE) – 2011

First MAPS system in HEP

Twin well 0.35 μ m CMOS (AMS)

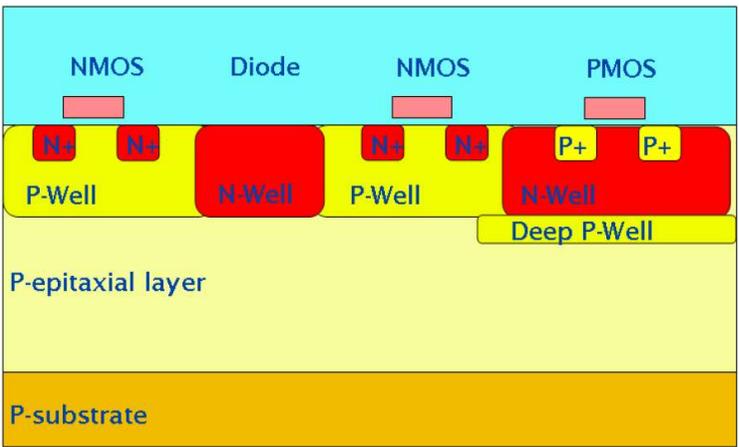
- 18.4 μ m pitch
- 576x1152 pixels, 20.2 x 22.7 mm²
- Integration time 190 μ s
- No reverse bias \rightarrow NIEL $\sim 10^{12}$ n_{eq}/cm²
- Rolling shutter readout

The INMAPS process: STFC development, in collaboration with TowerJazz: *a game changer* Additional deep p-well implant allows *full CMOS in the pixel* and 100 % fill factor

Monolithic Active Pixel Sensors (MAPS) in a Quadruple Well Technology for Nearly 100% Fill Factor and Full CMOS Pixels

Jamie Alexander Ballin², Jamie Phillip Crooks¹, Paul Dominic Dauncey², Anne-Marie Magnan², Yoshinari Mikami^{3,**}, Owen Daniel Miller^{1,3}, Matthew Noy², Vladimir Rajovic^{3,***}, Marcel Stanitzki¹, Konstantin Stefanov¹, Renato Turchetta^{1,*}, Mike Tyndel¹, Enrico Giulio Villani¹, Nigel Keith Watson³, John Allan Wilson³

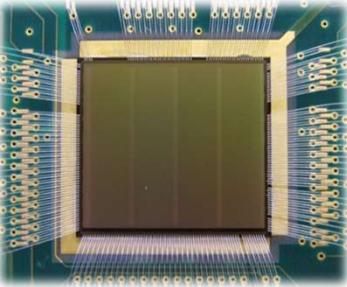
¹ Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC), Harwell Science and Innovation Campus, Didcot, OX11 0QX, U.K
² Department of Physics, Blackett Laboratory, Imperial College London, London, SW7 2AZ, U.K
³ School of Physics and Astronomy, University of Birmingham, Birmingham, B15 2TT, U.K



Sensors 2008 (8) 5336, DOI:10.3390/s8095336

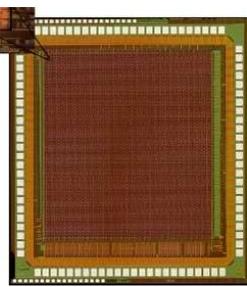
New generation of CMOS sensors for scientific applications in TowerJazz CIS 180nm

TPAC
ILC ECAL (CALICE)



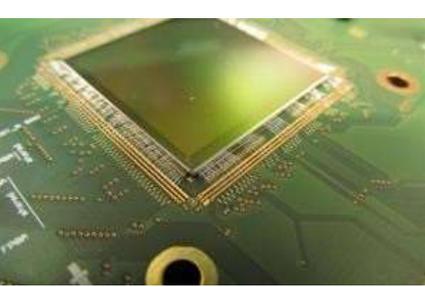
50 um pixel

DECAL
Calorimetry



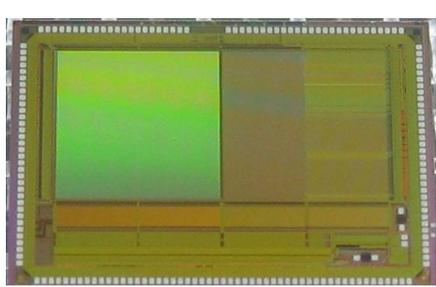
50 um pixel

PIMMS
TOF mass spectroscopy

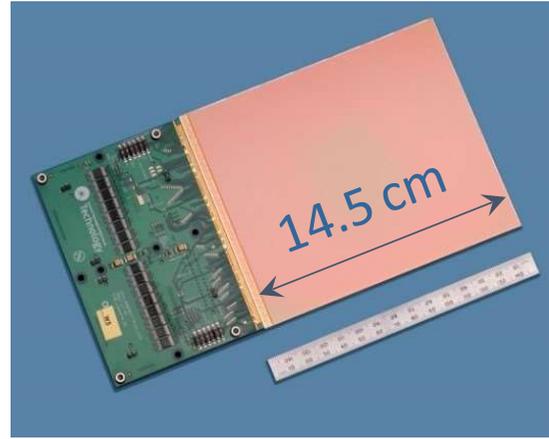


70 um pixel

CHERWELL
Calorimetry/Tracking



48 um x 96um ixel

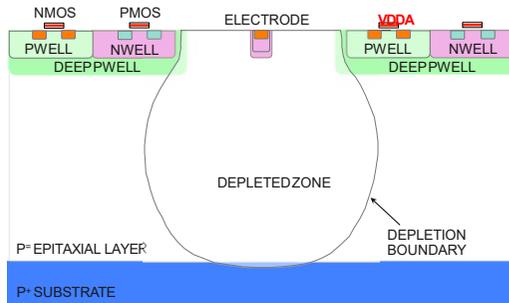


50um pixel, *waferscale*

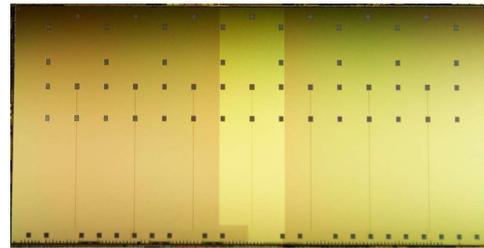
ALPIDE

Zero-suppressed readout, no hits no digital power

G. Aglieri et al. NIM A 845 (2017) 583-587

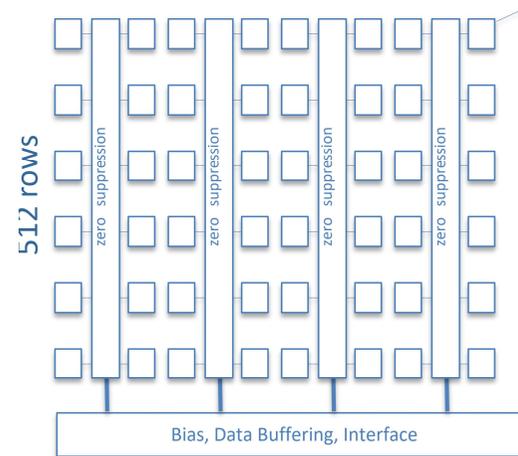


15 mm



30 mm

1024 pixel columns



130,000 pixels / cm² 27x29x25 μm³

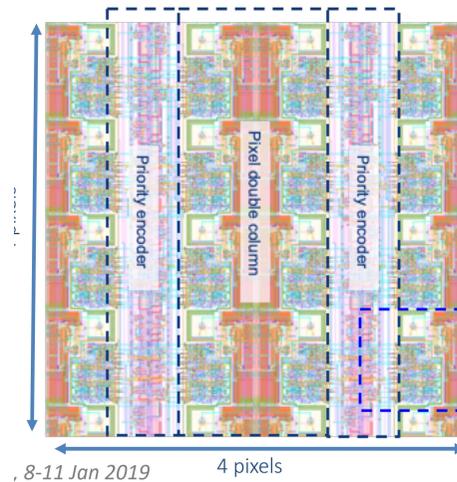
charge collection time <30ns (V_{bb} = -3V)

Max particle rate: 100 MHz/cm²

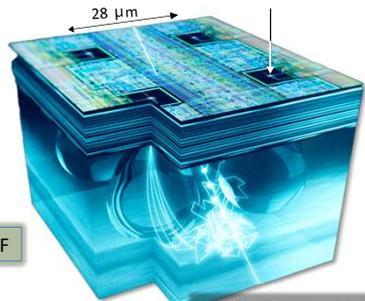
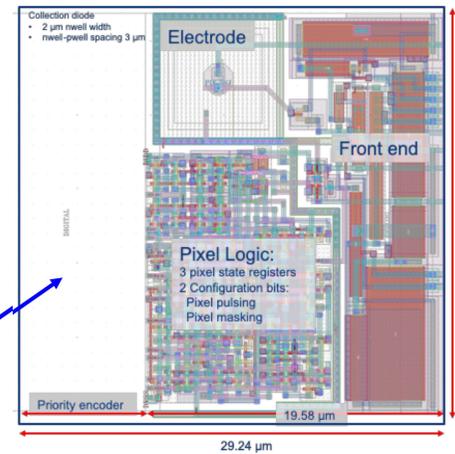
fake-hit rate: < 1 Hz/cm²

power : ≈300 nW /pixel (<40mW/cm²)

Matrix Layout



Pixel Layout



Artistic view of a SEM picture of ALPIDE cross section

2 x 2 pixel volume

C_{in} ≈ 5 fF

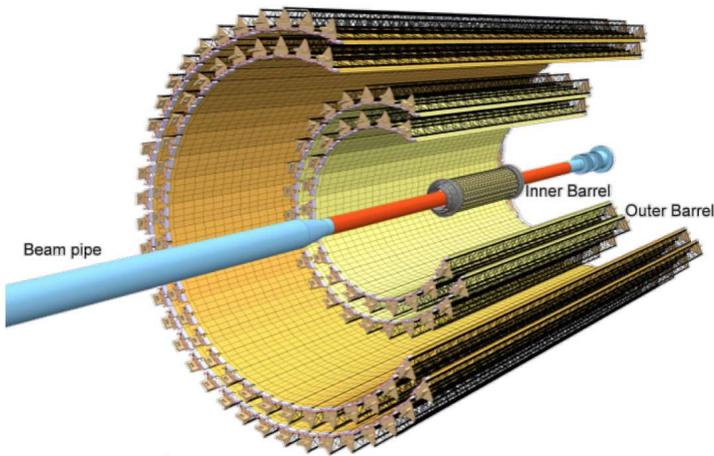
Q_{in} (MIP) ≈ 1300 e⁻ → V ≈ 40mV

, 8-11 Jan 2019

4 pixels

29.24 μm

Design team: G. Aglieri, C. Cavicchioli, Y. Degerli, C. Flouzat, D. Gajanana, C. Gao, F. Guilloux, S. Hristozkov, D. Kim, T. Kugathasan, A. Lattuca, S. Lee, M. Lupi, D. Marras, C.A. Marin Tobon, G. Mazza, H. Mugnier, J. Rousset, G. Usai, A. Dorokhov, H. Pham, P. Yang, W. Snoeys (Institutes: CERN, INFN, CCNU, YONSEI, NIKHEF, IRFU, IPHC) and comparable team for test
1 MPW run and 5 engineering runs 2012-2016, production 2017-2018



ALPIDE – 2017-2018

Twin well 0.180 μm CMOS (INMAPS)

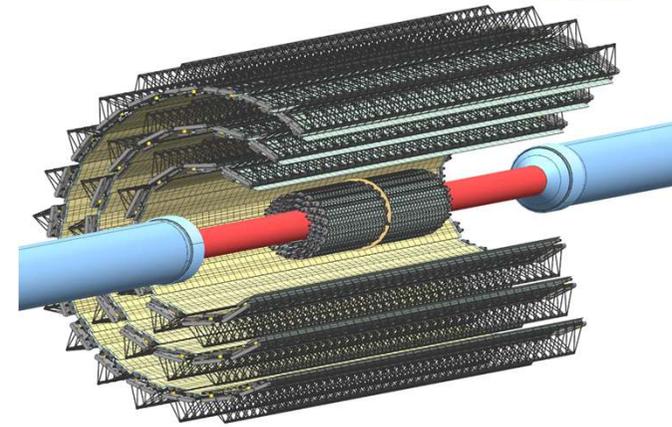
§ 29 x 27 μm pitch

§ 512x1024 pixels, 29 x 27 mm^2

§ Integration time 6 μs (190 μs)

§ No reverse bias \rightarrow NIEL $\sim 3 \cdot 10^{13} n_{\text{eq}}/\text{cm}^2$

§ Global shutter readout (TRO or SRO)

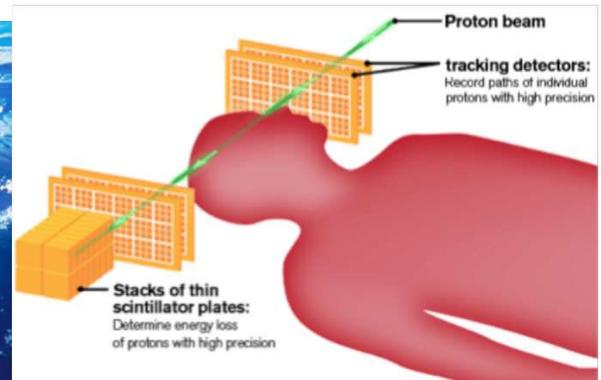
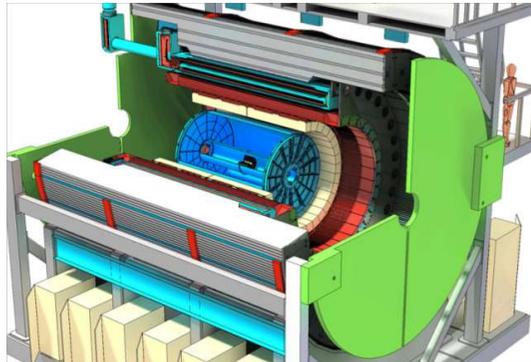
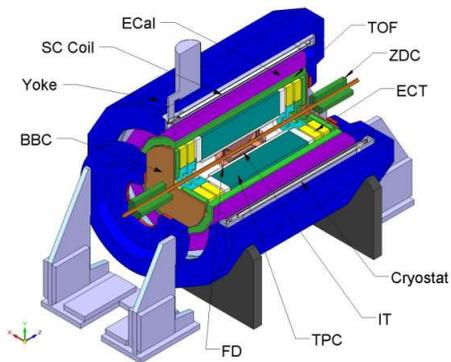


MPD (planned!)

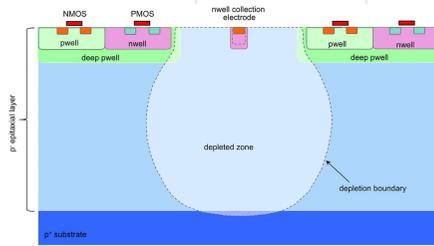
SUPERPHENIX (under construction)

CSES-LIMADOU (launched Dec 2024)

BERGEN pCT (to commissioned 2025)



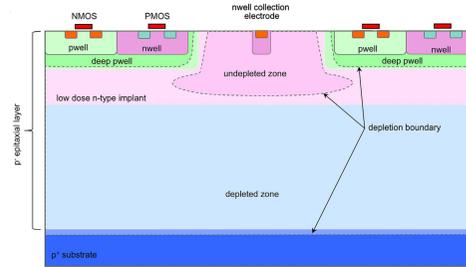
Standard pixel design



it is difficult to deplete the epitaxial layer over its full width

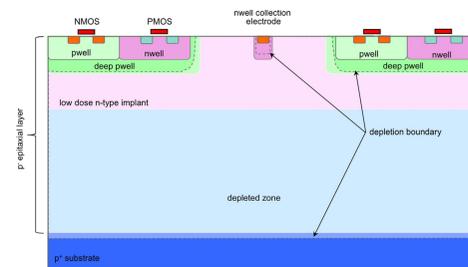
$\sim 10^{13}$ 1 MeV n_{eq}/cm^2
temperature

Modified with gap



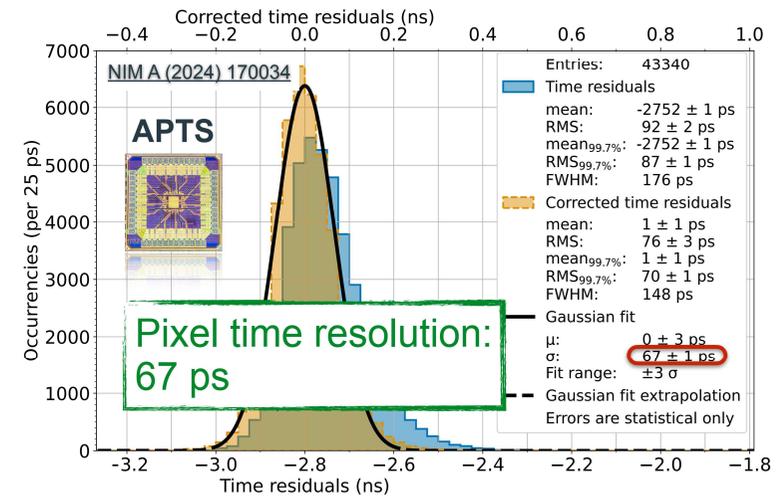
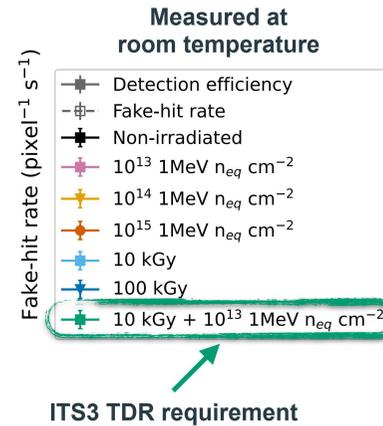
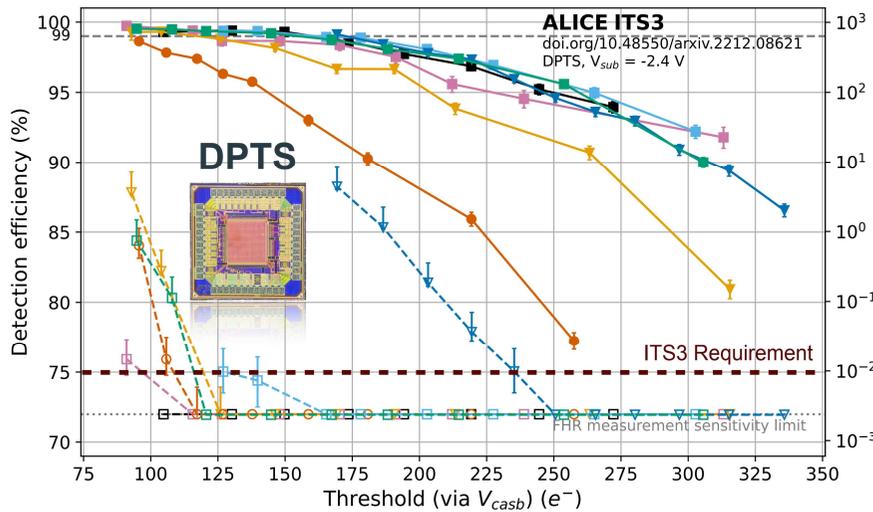
without bias

$\sim 10^{14}$ 1 MeV n_{eq}/cm^2 (180 nm)

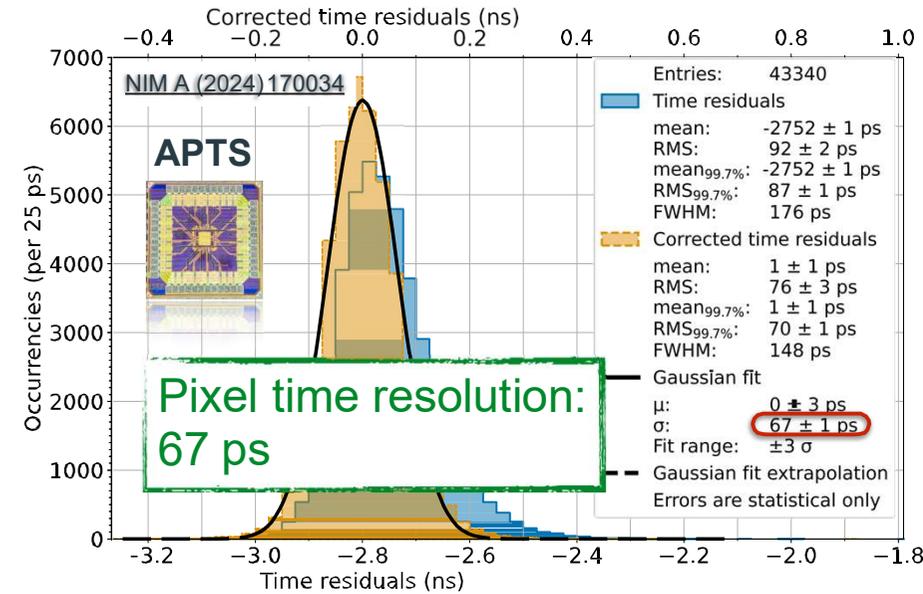
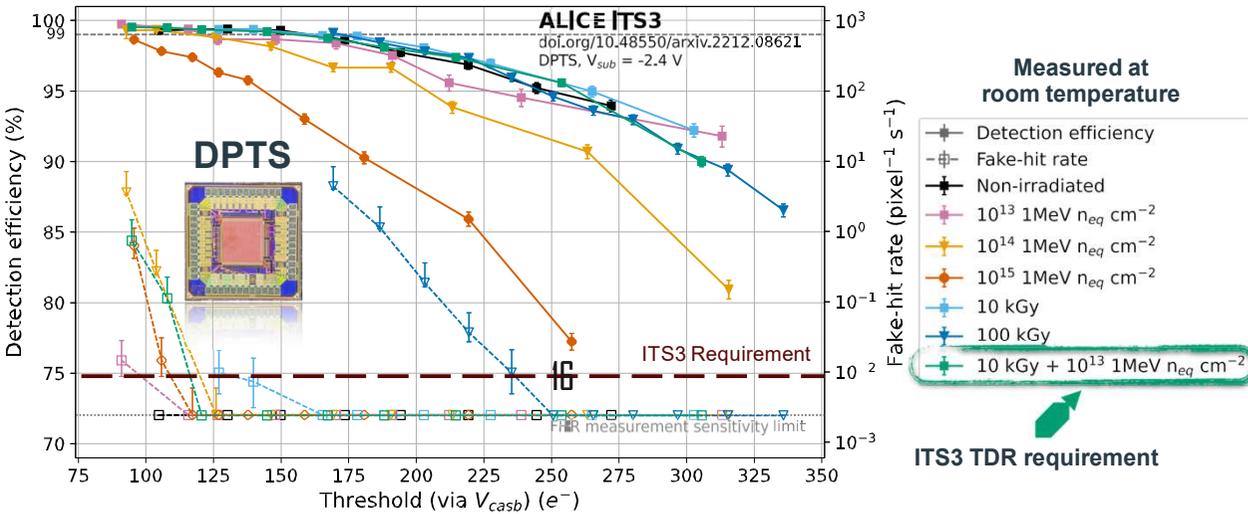


with bias

$\sim 10^{15}$ 1 MeV n_{eq}/cm^2 (65 nm) at room

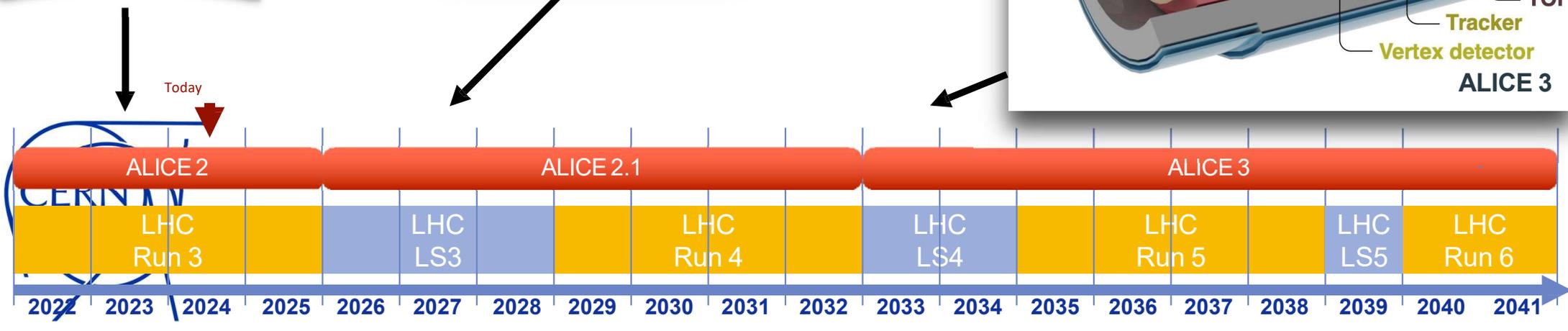
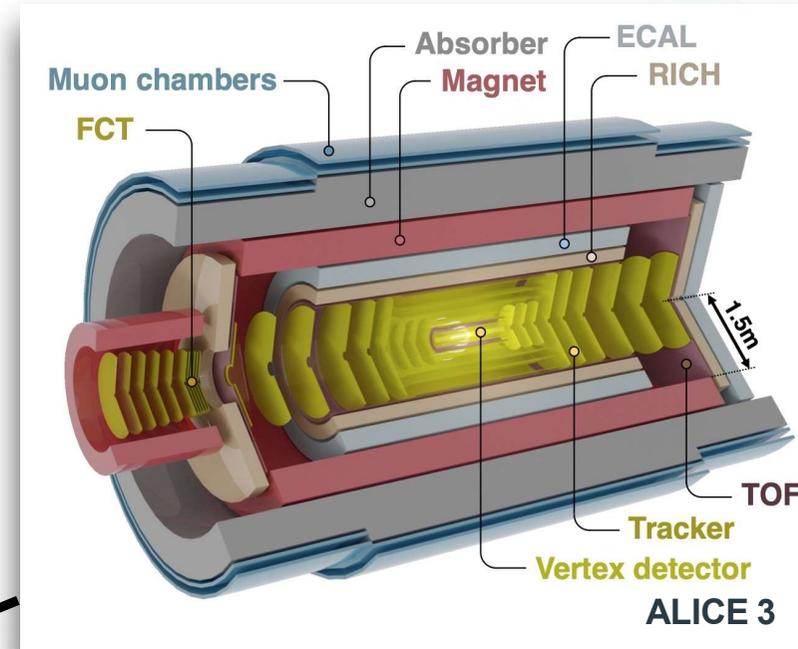
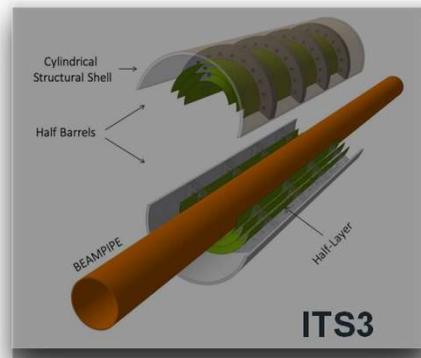


TPSCo 65 nm technology qualification — pixel prototype chips (selection)

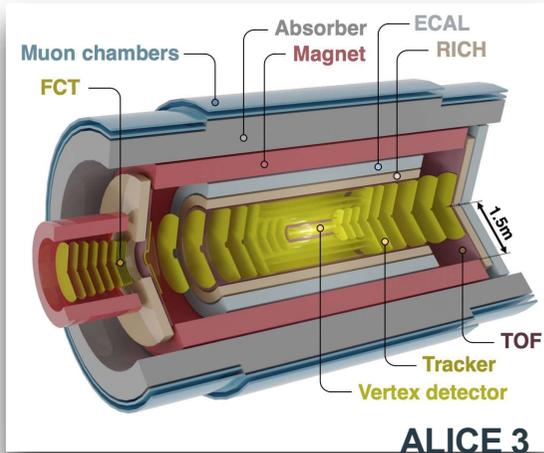


- Technology explored far beyond the requirements of ITS3 in terms of radiation hardness and time resolution Promising also for future applications like ALICE 3 Vertex Detector and FCC-ee
- Various small scale prototypes with pixel matrices and ancillary circuitry
- Multi-Layer Reticle 1 (MLR-1):** common effort by ALICE ITS3 and CERN EP R&D

ALICE 3



ALICE 3:



Detector concept

- Compact, low-mass all-silicon tracker
- Retractable vertex detector
- Excellent vertex reconstruction and PID capabilities
- Large acceptance
- Super conduction magnet system
- Continuous readout and online processing and cooling

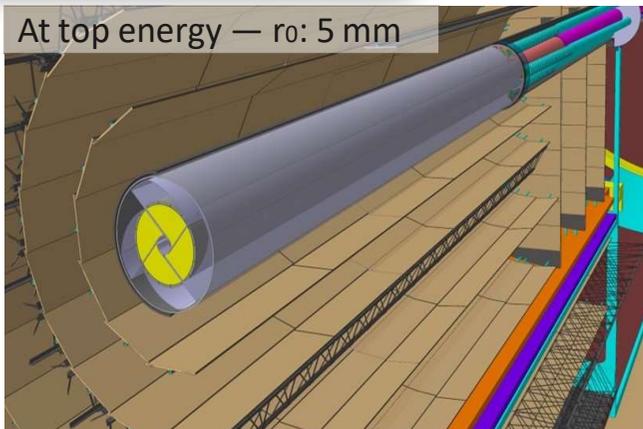
<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2211.02491.pdf>

Vertex detector: key characteristics

- 3 detection layers
- Retractable: $r_0 = 5 \text{ mm}$
- Material budget: 0.1% X_0 / layer
- Spatial resolution $2.5 \mu\text{m}$

main R & D challenges

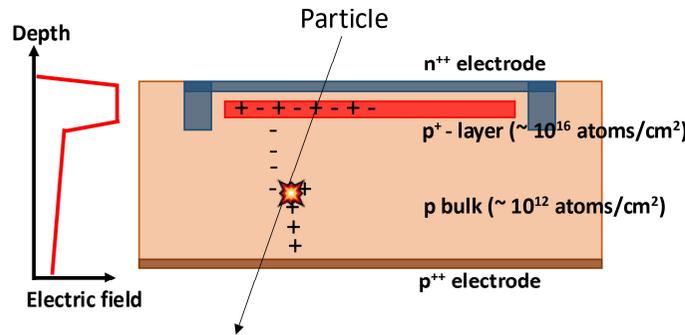
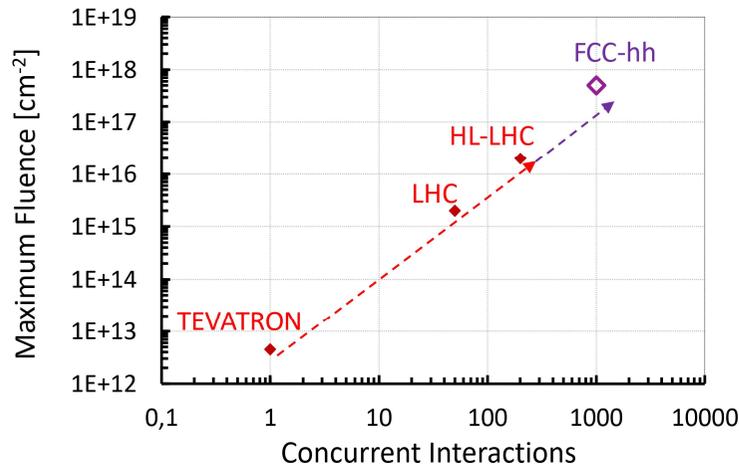
- 10 μm pixel pitch
- Hit rate in the inner layer 100 MHz/mm² for a 50 cm barrel
- Tolerant to $10^{16} \text{ 1 MeV } n_{\text{eq}}/\text{cm}^2 + 300 \text{ Mrad}$
- Light-weight in-vacuum mechanics and cooling



Specifications of tracker/vertex detector very similar/equivalent to those of FCCee, except at higher radiation levels.
Ideal as a stepping stone towards an FCCee detector.

See also MAPS for FCCee workshop
<https://indico.cern.ch/event/1417976/timetable/>

Enabling 4D tracking with planar silicon sensors up to the fluence of $2 \cdot 10^{16} n_{eq}/cm^2$



LGADs are n-in-p planar silicon sensors with internal moderate gain (20–30) controlled by the external bias ($E_{field} \geq 300$ kV/cm generated by gain implant)

gain implant (p^+ -layer) obtained by the implantation of acceptor in a confined volume underneath the n^{++} electrode

	Wafer number	Good sensors
IHEP-IME	58	~1,700
USTC-IME	9	~200

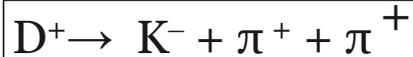
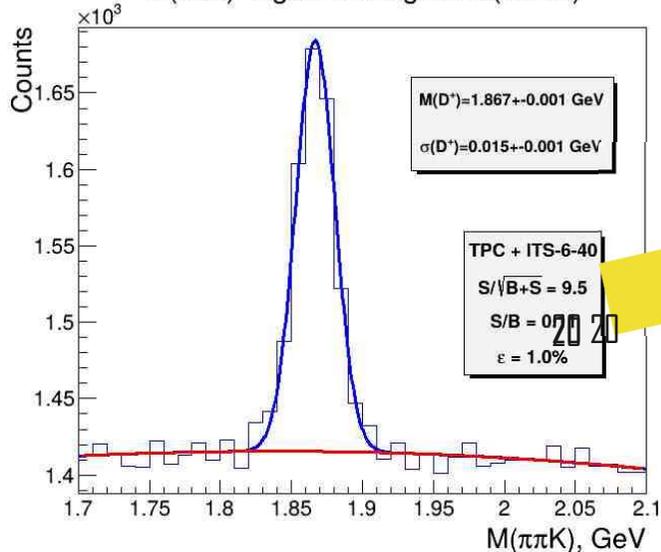
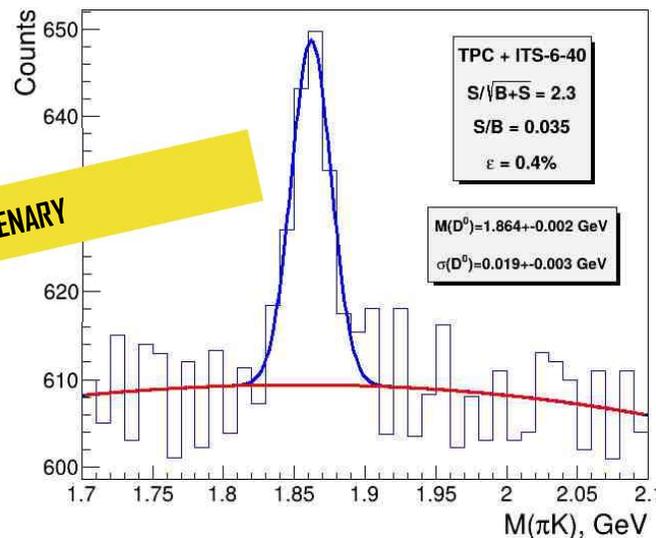
LGAD performance

- Timing ~ 30ps
- Tracking (TI-LGAD, RSD) ~ 10-20 μm
- Radiation resistance up to fluence of $\sim 3E15 n_{eq}/cm^2$

State of the art of silicon sensor performance in hadron colliders:

- Precise tracking down to $\sim 10 \mu m \rightarrow 1$ fC up to $2 \cdot 10^{16} n_{eq}/cm^2$
- Precise timing down to ~ 30 ps $\rightarrow 5$ fC up to $3 \cdot 10^{15} n_{eq}/cm^2$

10,8 GeV Bi+Bi: D^+ and D^0 reconstruction using KF with TPC-TOF PID

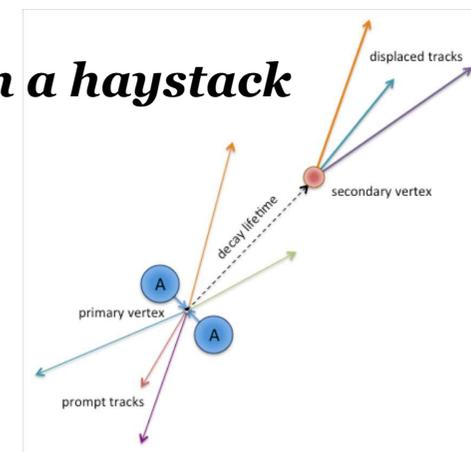
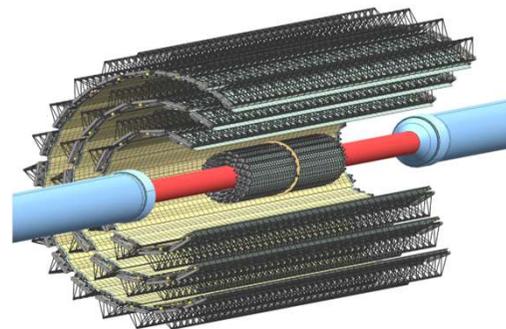

 $M(\pi\pi K)$: signal+background(100M)

 $M(\pi K)$: signal+background(100M)


Particle	Decay Channel	$c\tau$ (μm)
D^0	$K^- \pi^+$ (3.8%)	123
D^+	$K^- \pi^+ \pi^+$ (9.5%)	312
D_s^+	$K^+ K^- \pi^+$ (5.2%)	150
Λ_c^+	$p K^- \pi^+$ (5.0%)	60

$N_D = 19\,000$ mesons/month for D^+
 $N_D = 3\,200$ mesons/month for D^0

Using the optimal BDT cut allows to reconstruct D^+ and D^0 with an efficiency of **1.0%** and **0.4%** respectively.

Looking for a needle in a haystack

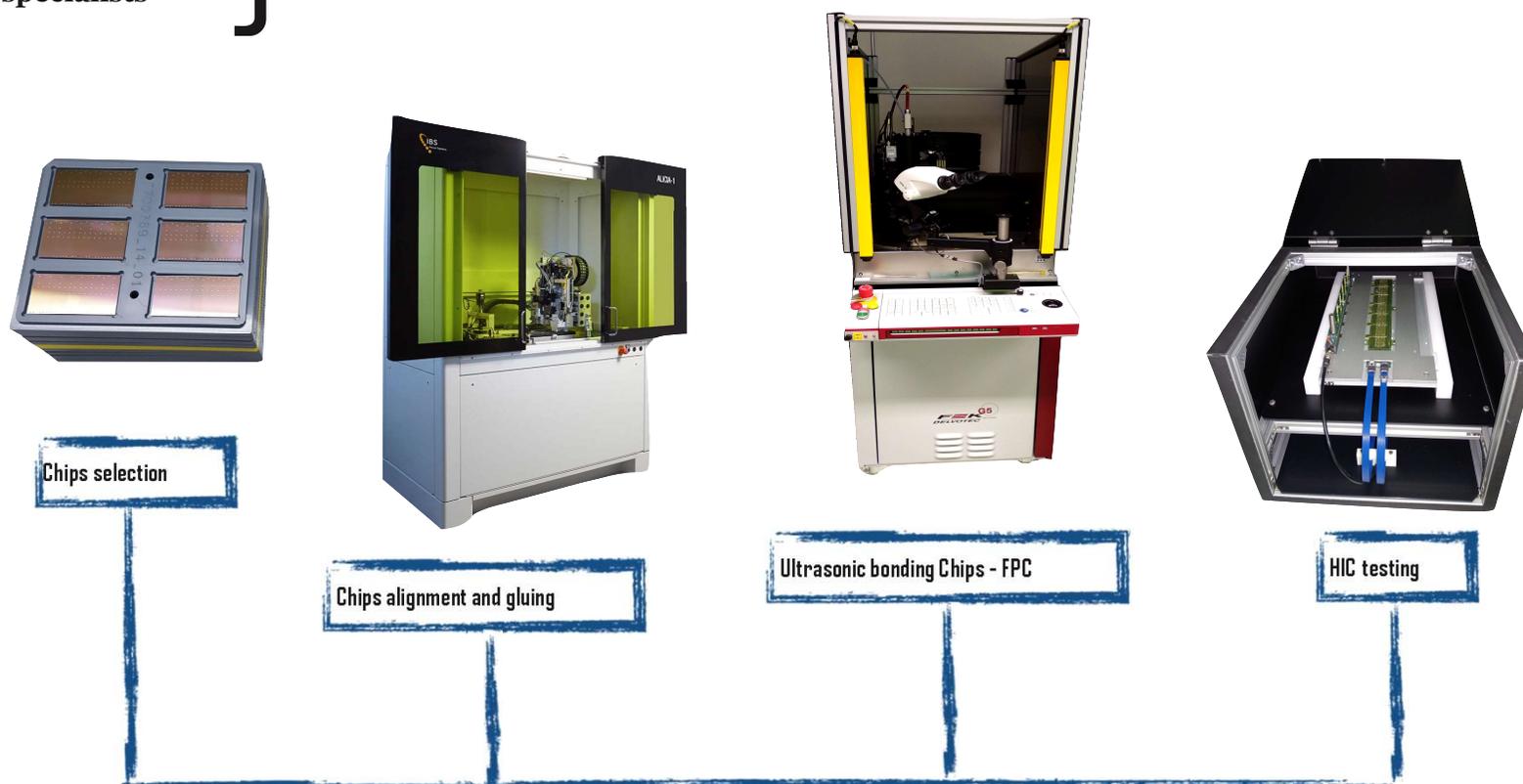
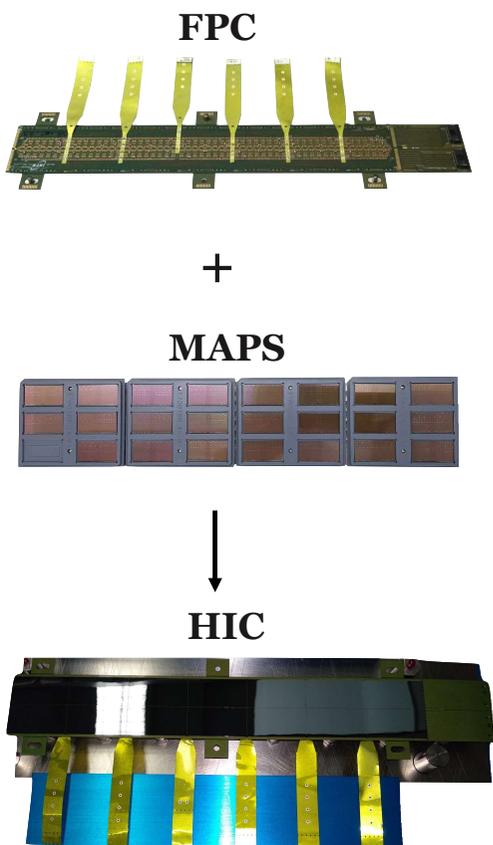


Full technological transfer from ALICE to MPD

- Complete KnowHow
- Detector assembly and testing hardware/software
- Supervision and support from ALICE specialists



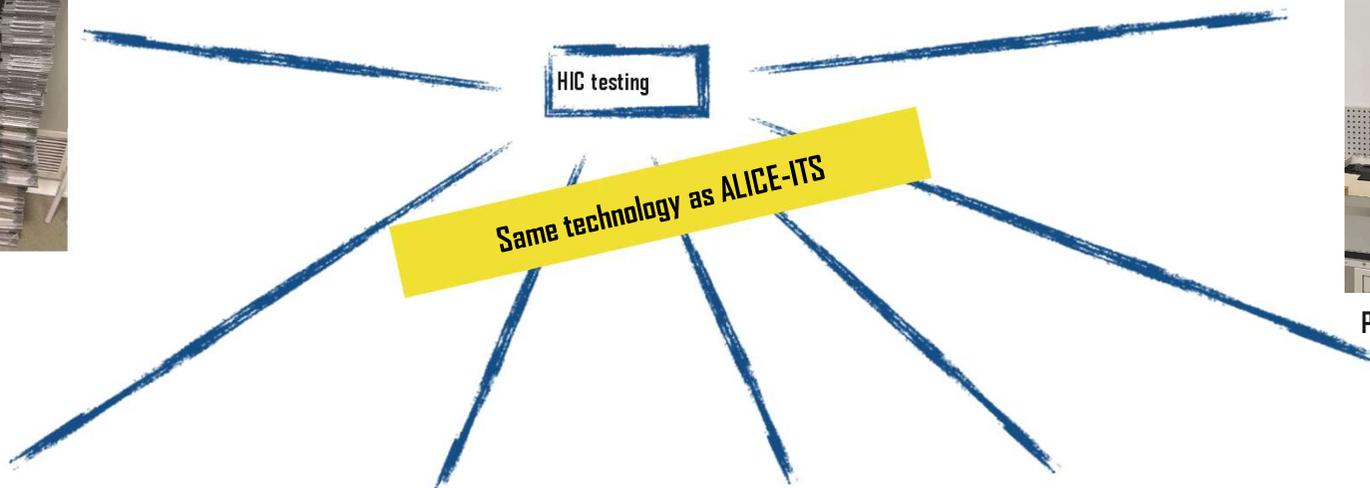
Setup at JINR of the full detector assembly line from chips to detector layers



Full technological transfer from ALICE to MPD



Carrier Plates



Peel test station



Qualification and Endurance test boxes



MOSAIC boards



Power boards

(*) Power Boards BoB to be produced



Pull test station



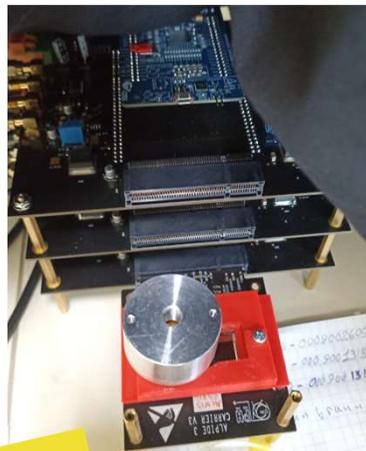
Visual inspection Station

Preparation for sensor bench & in-beam tests

CERN-Equivalent DAQ boards and MAPS carrier-plates
Made in JINR



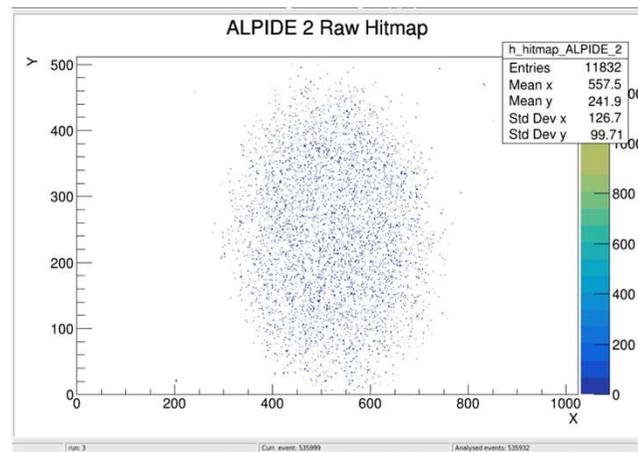
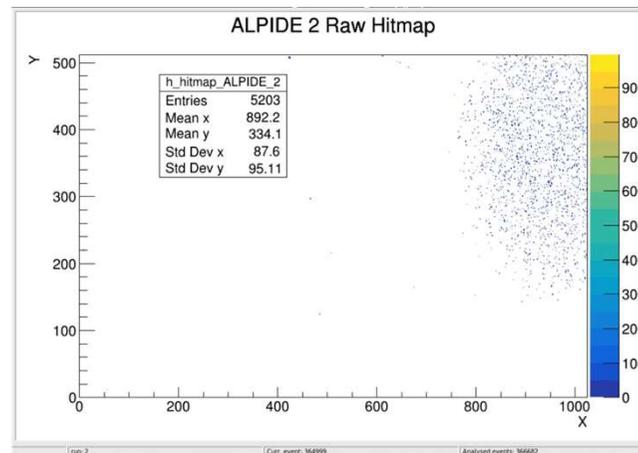
Electronics



MAPS courtesy of SPbSU

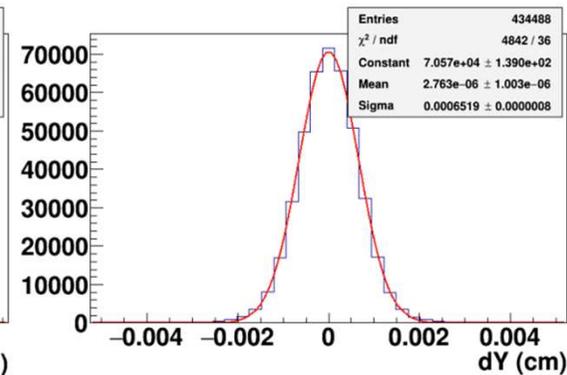
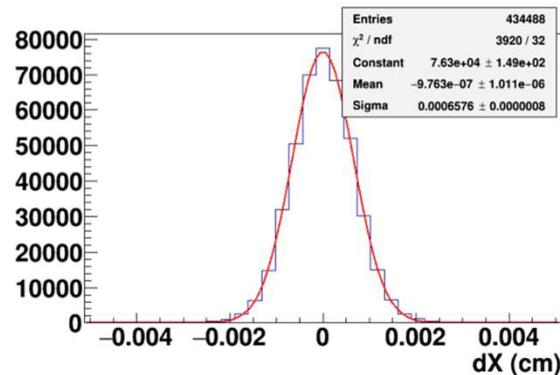
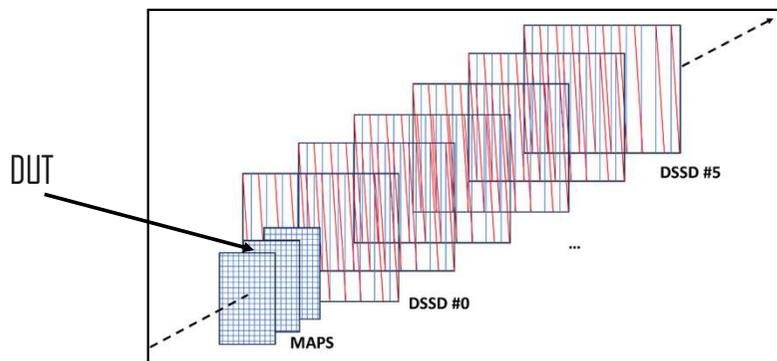


^{55}Fe source with Aluminum collimator



Tests with 1 GeV proton beam in Gatchina

Residuals



Residual X/Y = 6.58 μm / 6.52 μm ;
 Spatial resolution X/Y = $4.1 \pm 0.4 \mu\text{m}$ / $4.06 \pm 0.4 \mu\text{m}$;
 Efficiency > 99 %



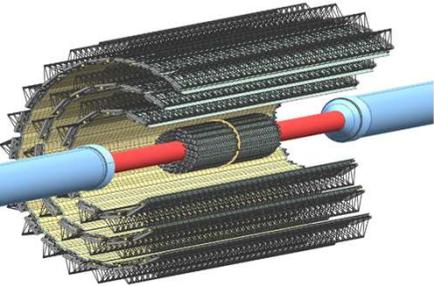
MAPS courtesy of SPbSU readout and DAQ by JINR



ban of export of the ALPIDE chip to Russia

By 2021 we had been fighting for a year for receiving the already paid ALPIDE MAPS (~ 1.8 MCHF).

CERN agreed to create a non radiation-hard version: the ALTAI



	2020	by February 2022
	ALPIDE	ALTAI

We fought for another year trying to get the ALTAI chips...and failed

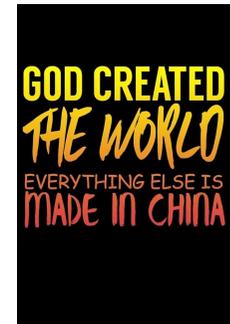
Highly prioritized tasks:

- Strengthen the international cooperation (specially with China).
- Solve the microelectronic limitations (due to sanctions).
- Finish the mechanics on time for the commissioning of the MPD.



Do nothing, waiting for the problem to be resolved by itself or by someone.

Go to China and develop the required ASICs, produce them and export them to Russia in large quantities.



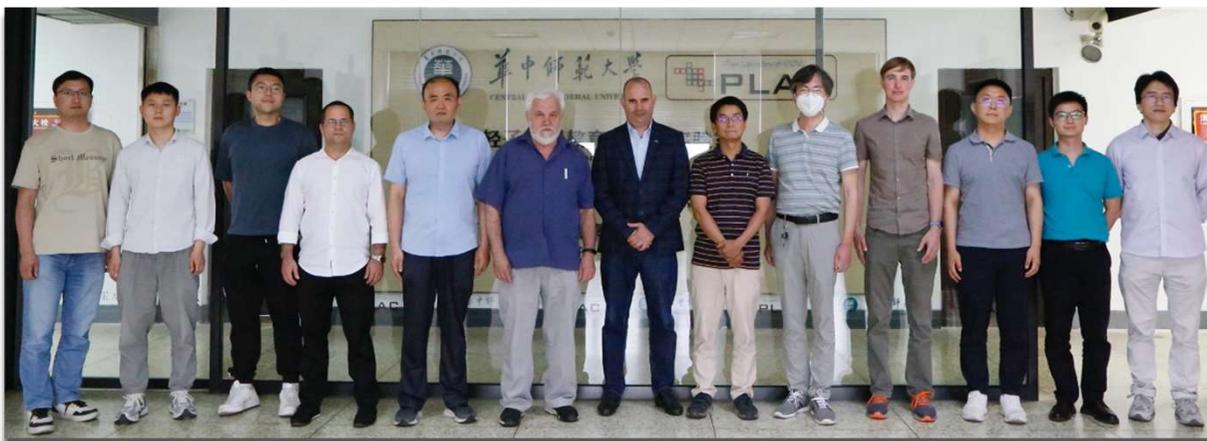
Develop the chips in Russia to secure technological independence and wide-range availability.



We propose to follow the last two options. One of them is already in motion.

The long-term sustainable proposal

NICA-MPD/ITS Seminar on China-Russia Cooperation, Wuhan, 2023.06.15-16



Participants: JINR, CCNU, USTC, IHEP and IMP.

It was agreed: A joint development and construction of Monolithic Active Pixel Sensors (**MAPS**) for fundamental and applied science experiments **including front-end electronics** to make this technology **freely accessible** to China and Russia.

Yu. A. Murin, C. Ceballos Sanchez for the MPD-ITS Collaboration, "*Modern Microelectronics for MPD-ITS. Monolithic Active Pixel Sensors and Readout System*", accepted for publication in the 4th issue of Phys. Part. and Nucl. in 2024

2023



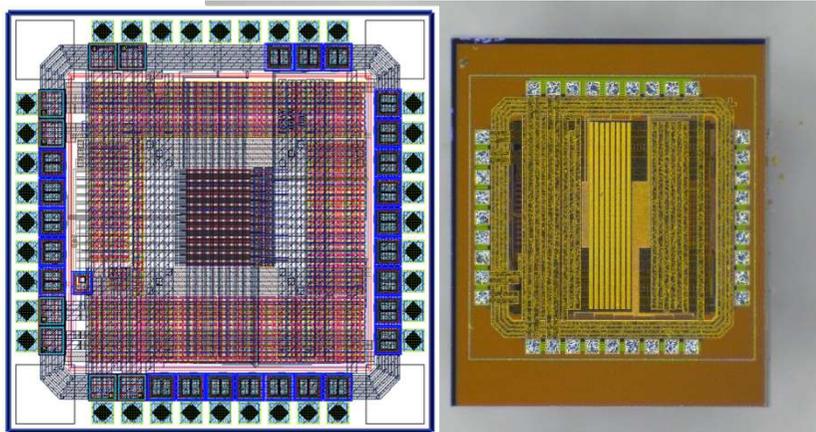
MICA

Summary MPW Pixel Technology Research

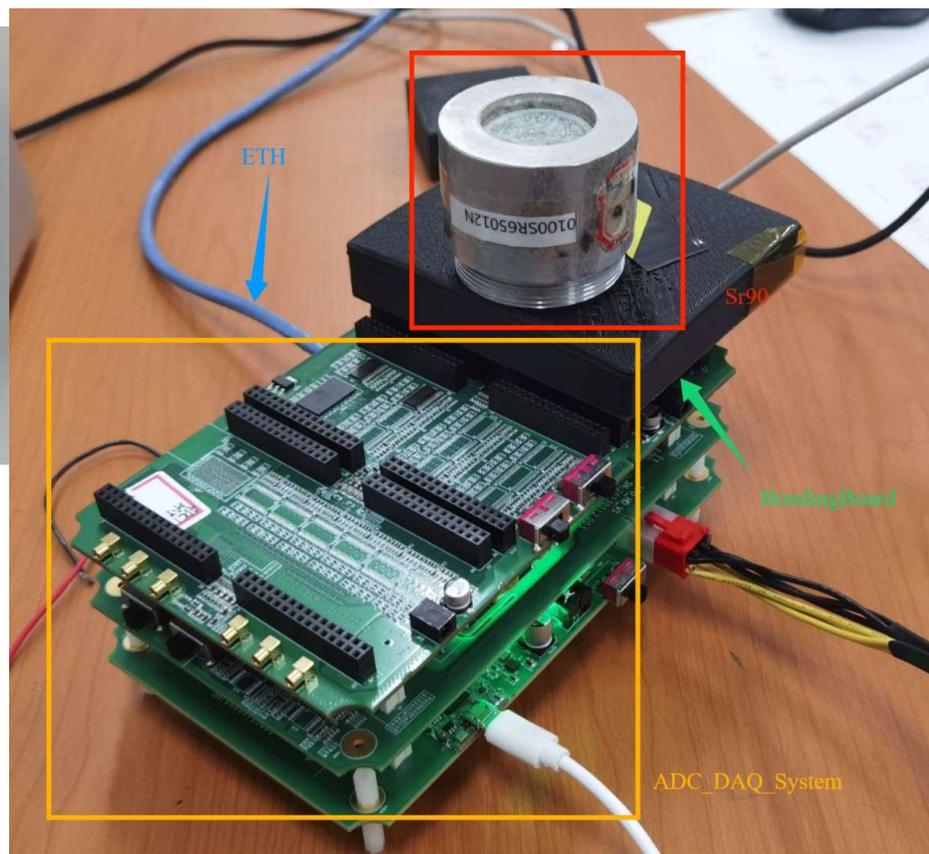
⁹⁰ Sr test	55 nm CIS technology	180 nm High Voltage technology 0V bias	180 nm High Voltage technology -9V bias	130 nm Bulk CMOS process Low resistance substrate	130 nm Bulk CMOS process High resistance substrate 0V bias	130 nm Bulk CMOS process High resistance substrate -9V bias
MPV (ADC Value)	10(178e ⁻)	10 (462e ⁻)	To be tested	6.5	8.5	12
Case rate (per hour)	4100	1440	To be tested	840	2760	11700
Pixel size	24u x 24u	30u x 30u		40u x 40u		

Research on 180 nm High Voltage Process Pixel Chip—Chip Test

Pixel Array Testing Chip



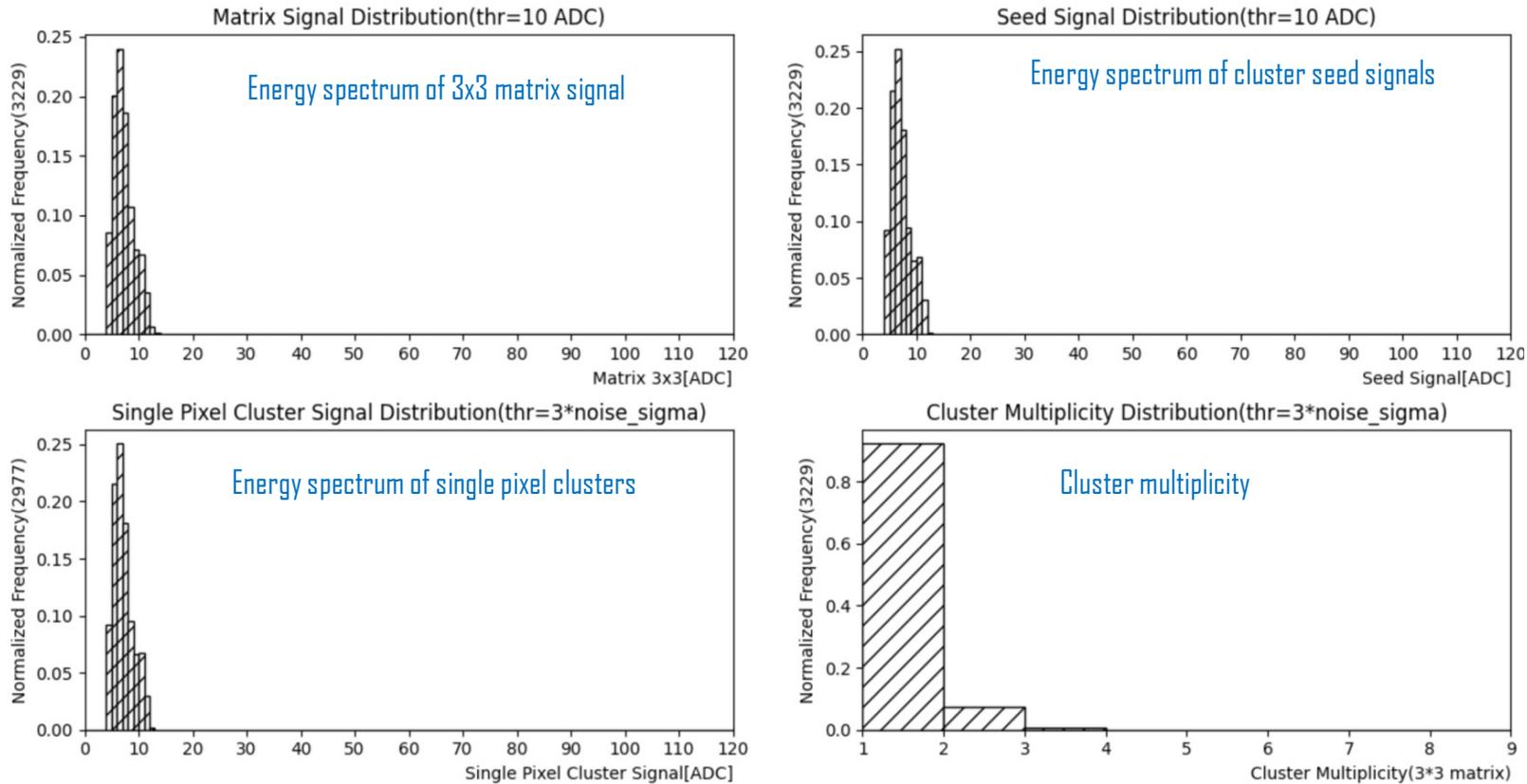
- Pixel Structure : Diode + SF
- Pixel Size : $30 \times 30 \mu\text{m}$
- Array Size : $(4 \times 4) \times 6$
- Chip Size : $1580\mu\text{m} \times 1550\mu\text{m}$
- PXL<0:7> : DIODE RESET
- PXL<8:15> : PMOS RESET



Testing System

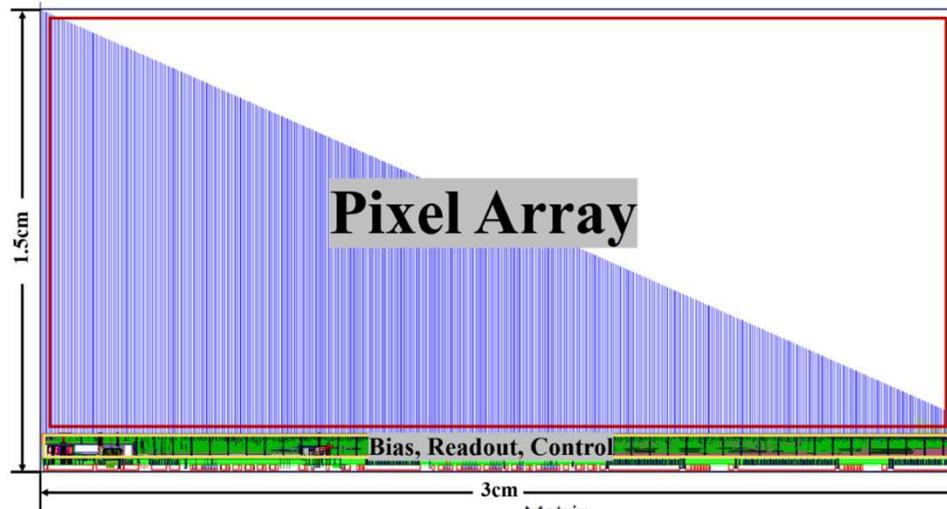
Research on 130nm Bulk CMOS Process Pixel Chip—Chip Test

^{55}Fe Energy Spectrum (High Resistance Substrate -9V Bias)



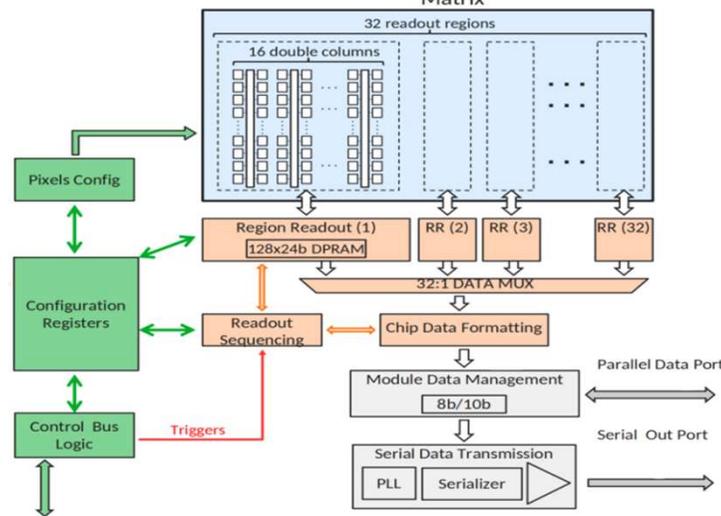
The signal of ^{55}Fe source did not fully reach the sensing area, and no calibration peak was measured.

Research on 130nm Bulk CMOS Process Pixel Chip——MIC6_V3

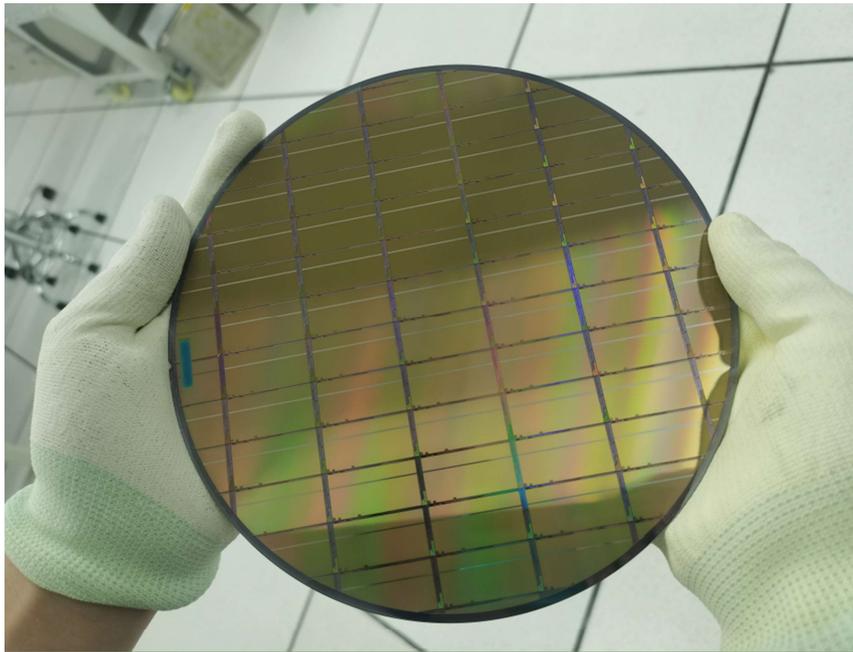


Fully functional MAPS chip MIC6_V3

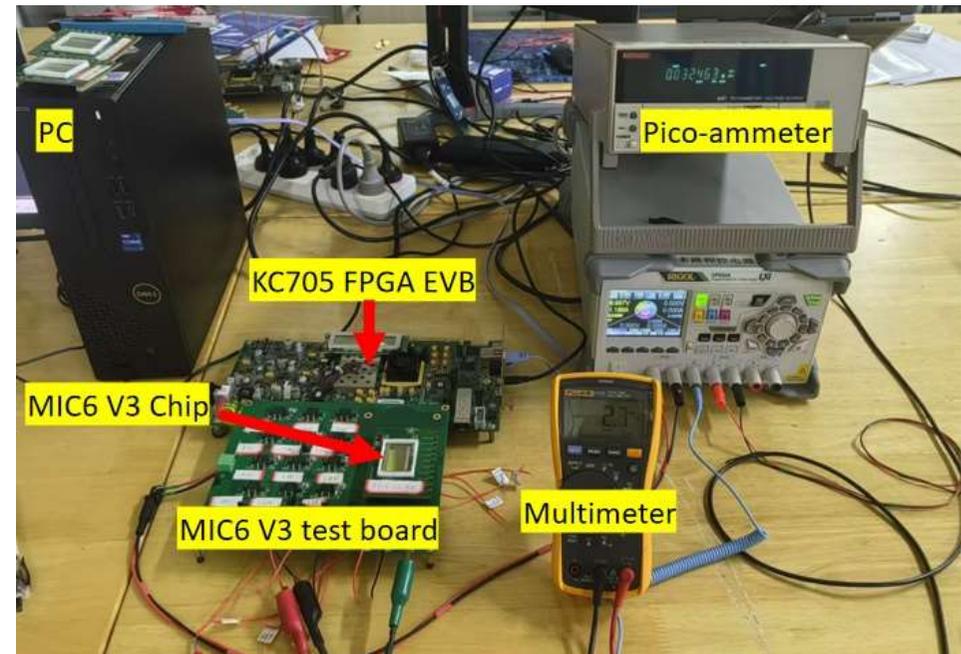
- Process: 130 nm bulk CMOS
- Chip Size: 15mm x 30mm
- Pixel Array: 512 × 1024
- Pixel Size: 30.53 μ m × 26.8 μ m
- Peaking Time: < 1us
- Integral Time: 5-10 us
- Parallel Data Port: 80 MHz I/O CMOS 3.3 V
- High Speed Serial Data Port: 1.1 Gb/s, 8B10B encoding
- Configuration Interface: SPI
- Two Readout Modes: trigger mode and continuous mode
- Single pixel can be masked; Pixel includes built-in testing functionality
- Zero Compression Readout



Research on 130nm Bulk CMOS Process Pixel Chip—MIC6_V3



MIC6 V3 Wafer photo



MIC6 V3 Test Platform

On possibility of ALPIDE-like chip manufacturing in Russia

MPD - ITS



“Если раньше передовые технологии можно было купить за рубежом, то сегодня перед Россией стоит задача обретения научно-технологической независимости. И здесь мы должны рассчитывать на свои силы.” Г.Я.Красников, 2024

Complexity of the task is not only in technical but mostly organizational challenge to

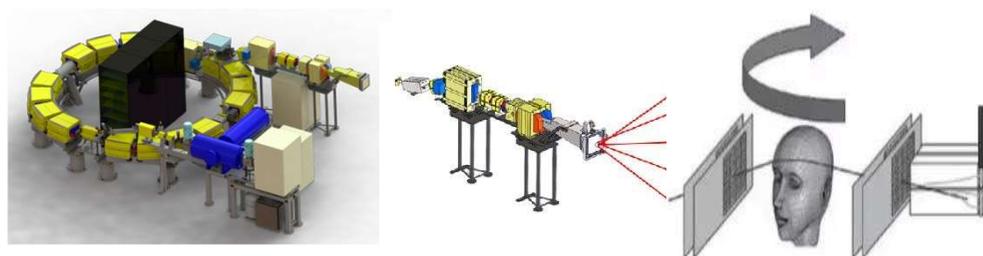
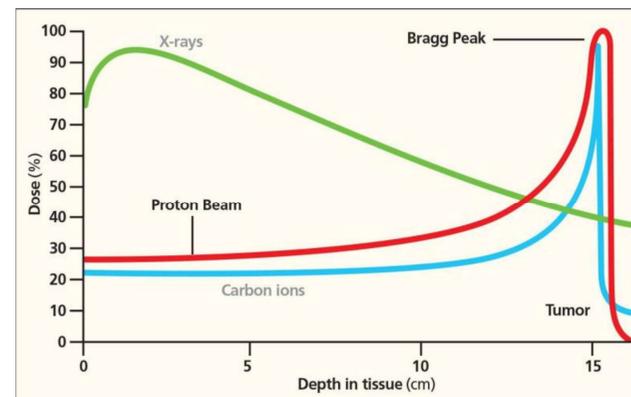
- ❑ Identify and coordinate the potential consumers of a chip to prevent duplication of developing chips with the same functionality (a typical error of the former years)
- ❑ Establish working cooperation between consumers, designers and foundries
- ❑ Guarantee the future usage of new technology by adding new courses to the existing educational programs for training young researchers and engineers
- ❑ Gain support from the country top medical experts to the application for financing the pCT demonstrator project as additional source of funding of the project

RAS seems to be the best choice as a coordinator for pursuing these goals!

The pCT demonstrator based on ALPIDE-like chip?

Current state

- Planning with x-rays, treating with protons
- X-ray attenuation is not directly related to proton RSP
- Errors in planning decrease advantages of proton therapy
- Currently WET errors up to 5%



Proton Imaging

- Same particle source for imaging and treatment
- Image metallic implants without artifacts
- Capable of daily range checks and patient alignment:
 - From 10 to 100 x lower dose to the patient compared to x-ray
 - Verify Anatomical changes before every fraction
- Significant reduction of uncertainty margin (WET errors below 1%) enables accurate treatment delivery

Gordon Isaacs – first patient to be treated in USA in 1957...

Conclusions and the outlook

- ❑ The increasing use of custom-designed VLSI microelectronics in HEP experiments is fundamentally changing the way of constructing experimental setups allowing for getting much more data, containing much more information, in less time.
- ❑ Unfortunately, at present and at any foreseen future this modern technology (ASICs) is and will be denied to reach Russia.
- ❑ Such a situation in fact dooms the Russian megaprojects to use 20-years-old outdated technical solutions that jeopardize the achievement of the goals they were created for. This brings the necessity to develop such technology in homeland.
- ❑ The ALPIDE-like Monolithic Active Pixel Sensor seems to be a good choice to start with due to its perspective of use both in fundamental science and medical application.

RAS seems to be the best choice to act as the coordinator of the project pursuing these goals!

THANK YOU !