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Radiation Safety. **Amplified.**

# Recent developments in HPGe detectors

AT CANBERRA (MIRION TECHNOLOGIES)

# Presentation Summary

Recent HPGe developments in HPGe detectors

- **Presentation of CANBERRA (Mirion Technologies)**
- **Key expertise and technologies**
- **Recent HPGe detector developments**



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# CANBERRA

Presentation of the company





## CANBERRA is part of Mirion Technologies since July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016

### Key elements of the merger

### Mirion - Canberra Overview

- 980 employees in 7 countries
- 11 production sites (in USA, Canada, France, UK, Finland)
- 100+ distribution channels worldwide
- Build-up from successive mergers since 2003

#### KEY INDUSTRY PLAYER IN :

- Dosimetry Services
- Health Physics
- Radiation Monitoring Systems
- Sensing Systems
- Imaging Systems
- Maintenance / Repair Services

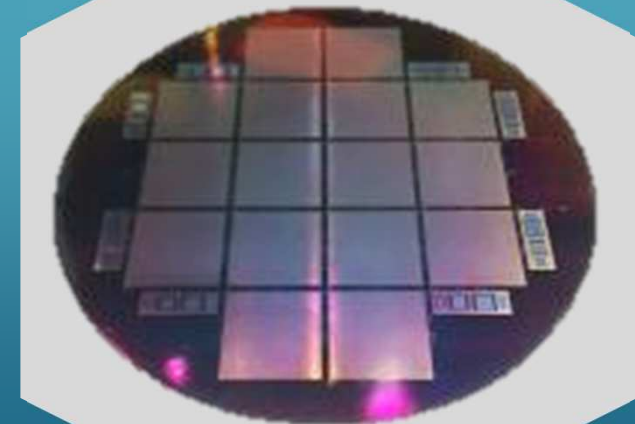
- 930 employees in 9 countries
- 5 production sites (in USA, Canada, France & Belgium)
- 35 independent distributors
- Build-up from acquisitions from 1965 - 2002

#### KEY INDUSTRY PLAYER IN :

- Spectroscopy
- Health Physics
- Radiation Monitoring Systems
- Non-Destructive Assay
- Maintenance / Repair Services
- Measurement & Expertise

# Technologies

Expertise and know-how overview



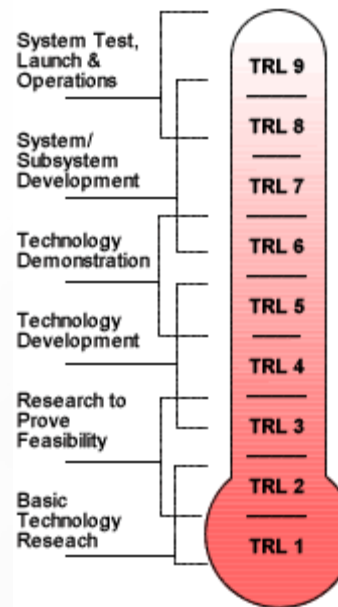


## Key expertise and technologies

### Project Management

- ▶ Long background in both developing advanced technologies (specialty detectors) and large-scale products (standard detectors)
- ▶ Technology Readiness Level (TRL) typically from 3 to 9

*Technology Readiness Levels as originally developed by NASA in the 1980s*

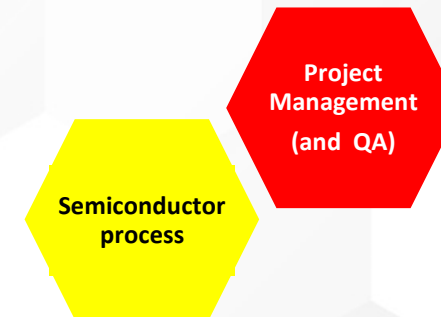


**Project Management  
(and QA)**



## Key expertise and technologies

- Project Management
- Semiconductor Process
  - ▶ Large know-how and proprietary processes (segmentation, passivation)
  - ▶ Full and redundant set of process equipment for Si, Si(Li) and Ge: shaping, PVD, CVD, implantation, diffusion, outgassing / annealing capabilities
  - ▶ Thin layer characterization capability (thickness, stress, reliability, charge carrier life time)
  - ▶ Management of clean / radiopure environments





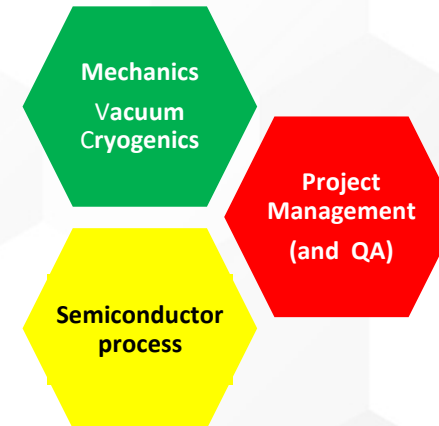


## Key expertise and technologies

- Project Management
- Semiconductor Process
- Mechanics, vacuum and cryogenics
  - ▶ Development of low-vibration and long-life cryocoolers for HPGe



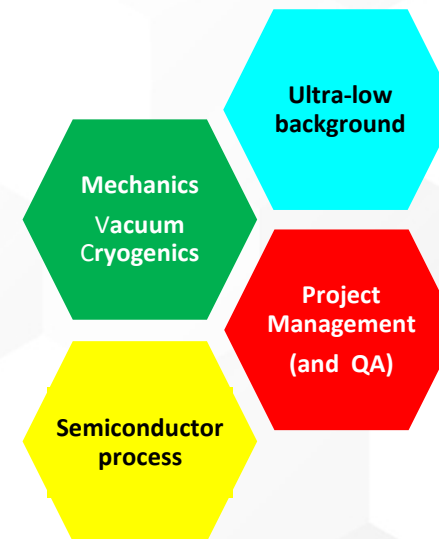
- ▶ Improved thermal balance (necessary for electrical cooling)
- ▶ Proprietary technologies to hold and encapsulated HPGe detectors.
- ▶ Long experience with UHV process





## Key expertise and technologies

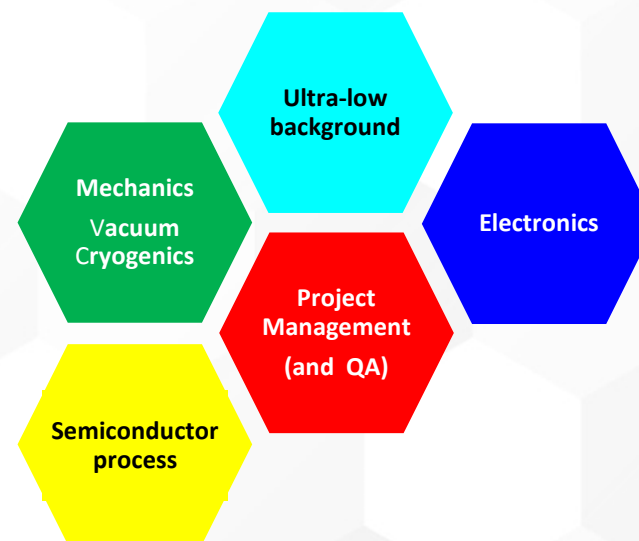
- Project Management
- Semiconductor Process
- Mechanics, vacuum and cryogenics
- Ultra-low background
  - ▶ Systematic characterization, traceability and underground storage of radiopure materials
  - ▶ Collaboration with international low-background laboratories and experiments (double B decay, Dark Matter, neutrino scattering)





## Key expertise and technologies

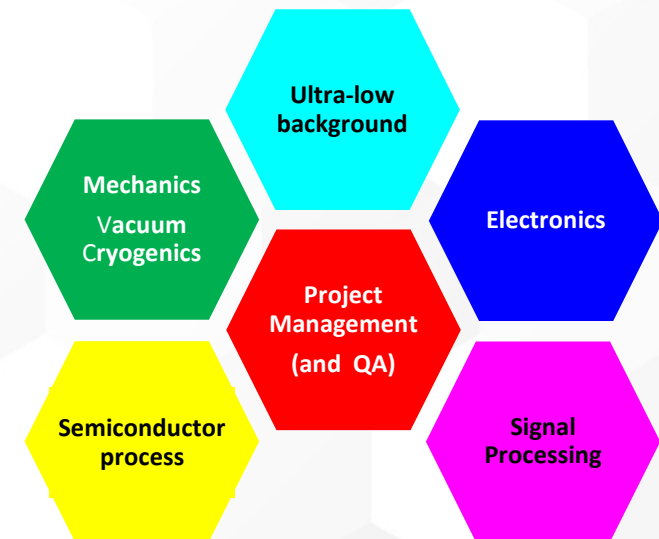
- Project Management
- Semiconductor Process
- Mechanics, vacuum and cryogenics
- Ultra-low background
- Electronics
  - ▶ Strong expertise in analog electronics
  - ▶ Continuous challenge for low-noise, high count rate, low power, multi-channel and more integrated electronics





## Key expertise and technologies

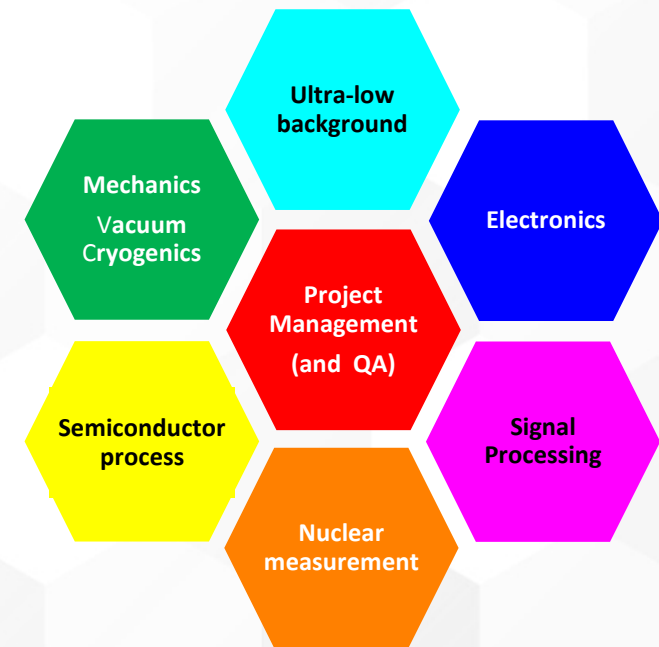
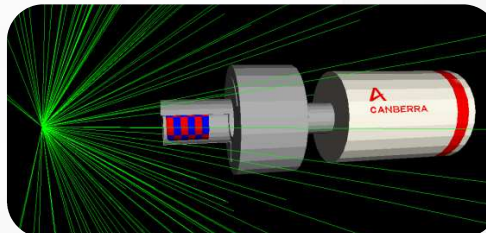
- Project Management
- Semiconductor Process
- Mechanics, vacuum and cryogenics
- Ultra-low background
- Electronics
- Signal Processing
  - ▶ Pulse shape analysis techniques transferred from physics to industrial applications
  - ▶ Growing know-how with digital acquisition to characterize multichannel detectors





## Key expertise and technologies

- Project Management
- Semiconductor Process
- Mechanics, vacuum and cryogenics
- Ultra-low background
- Electronics
- Signal Processing
- Nuclear Measurement (spectroscopy)
  - ▶ Alpha, beta, gamma and x-ray spectroscopy is recognised as core competency of CANBERRA
  - ▶ For Lingolsheim, particularly large experience with low background, low noise and multichannel spectroscopy
  - ▶ In-depth modelling of detectors during design and characterization phases



# Recent developments

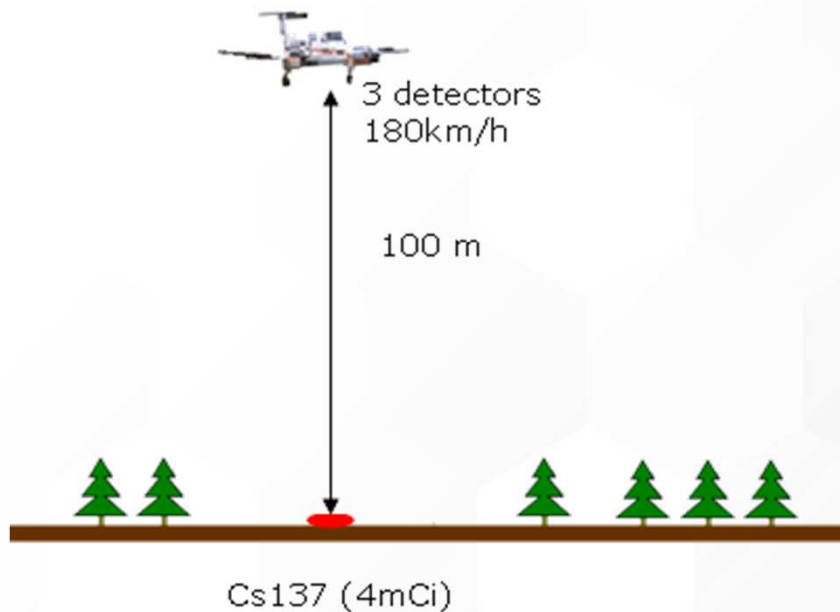
Overview of some specialty products





## Large efficiency spectrometer

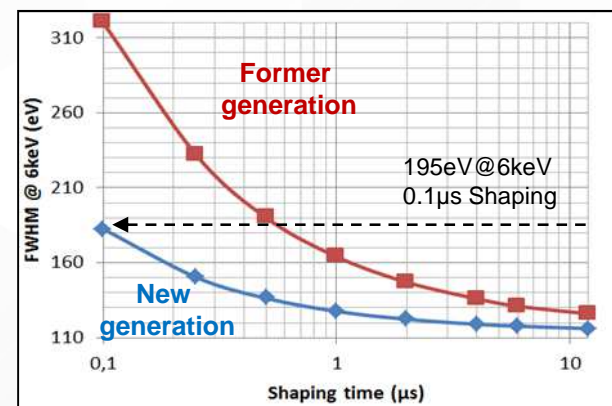
- ✧ Airborne HPGe spectrometer (2013)
- ✧ Rel. efficiency up to 1100% in addback mode
- ✧ Electrically cooled (with UPS)
- ✧ Turn-key system for real time mapping of radionuclides



## Low-noise x-ray detector

### Ongoing development of ultimate low-noise x-ray spectrometer

- ▶ Novel ultra low capacitance detector
- ▶ New generation analog front-ends
- ▶ Low noise and miniaturized contacting methods



### Targetted performance:

Parameter	Unit	Value
FWHM @ 6 keV 0.1μs	[eV]	160
FWHM @ 6 keV 12μs	[eV]	120
FWHM @ 14 keV 0.1μs	[eV]	200
FWHM @ 60 keV 12μs	[eV]	330
FWHM @ 122 keV 12μs	[eV]	450
Max. ICR	[cps]	2-3Mcps

### To be combined with advanced DAQ chains and signal processing techniques

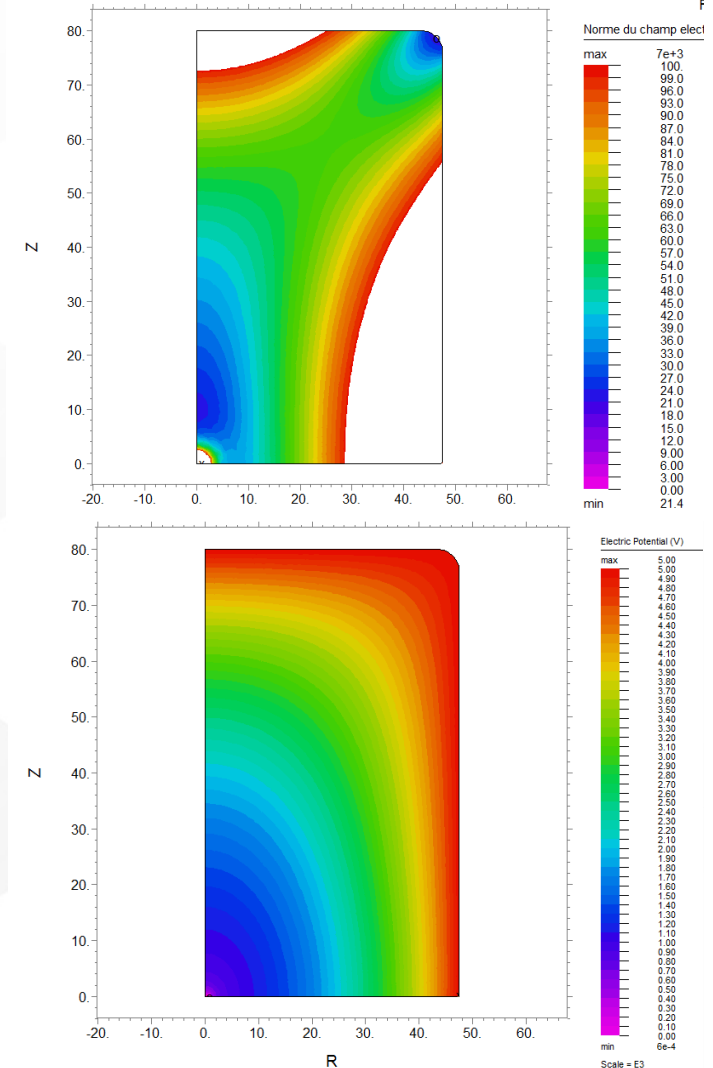
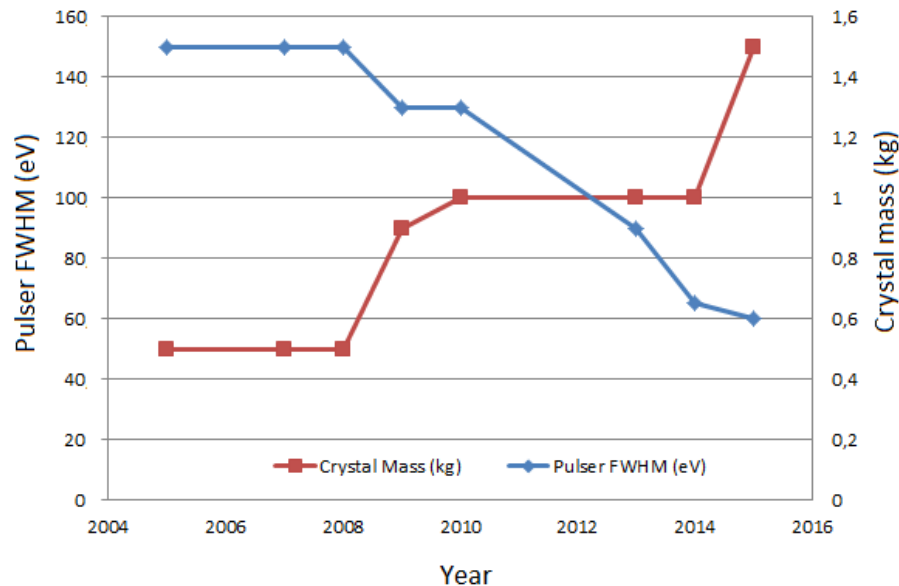






## Low noise - low background point contact detector

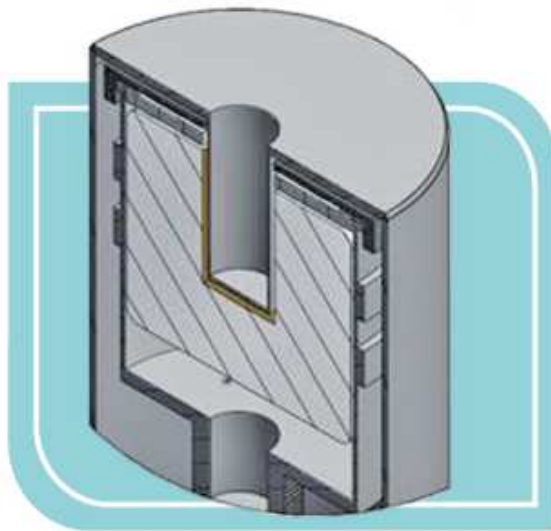
- Main applications: Dark Matter search and neutrino scattering experiments
- Continuous records in PC detectors volume
  - Current target: 2.4 kg
- Continuous improvement in electronic noise
  - Current target: FWHM < 50 eV @ pulser



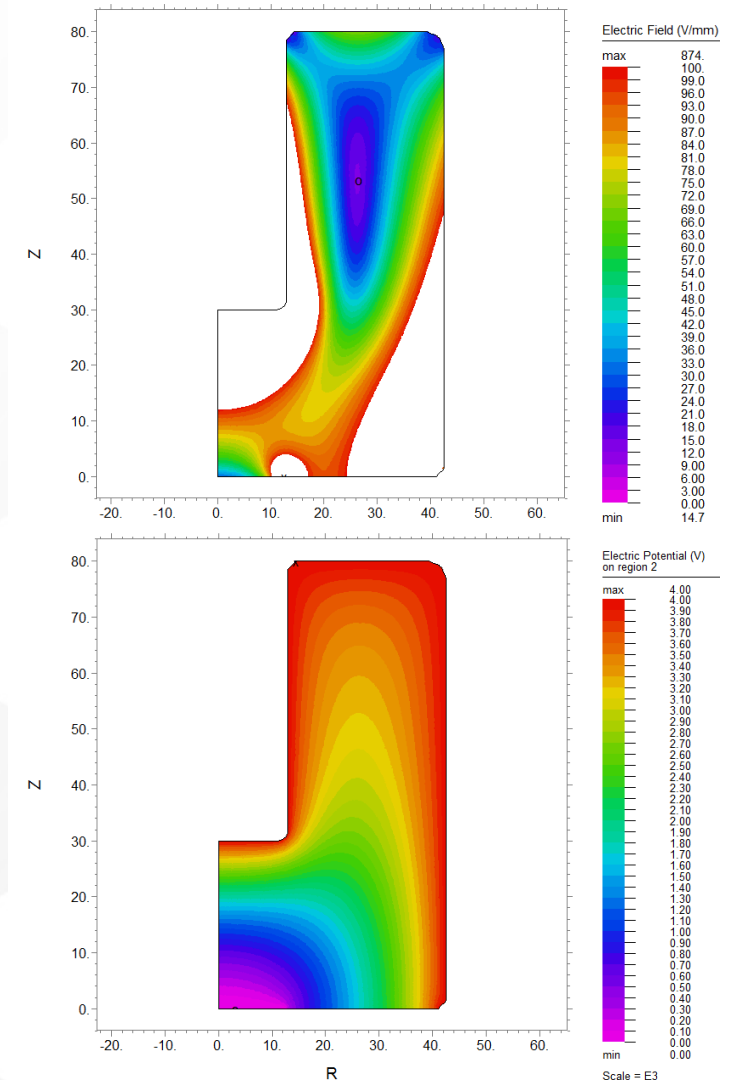


## SAGe™ Well detectors

- Combination of
  - excellent energy resolution at low and high energies (similar to Point Contact / BeGe configurations)
  - maximum efficiency (similar to well detectors)



- Also offers lower depletion voltage with respect to point contact (SAGe) configuration of the same volume





## Inverted (point contact) coaxial detector

### ❖ Inverted Coaxial detector

- ▶ Long drift time on purpose for improved position resolution
- ▶ See R.J. Cooper et al., NIM A 665 (2012) 25

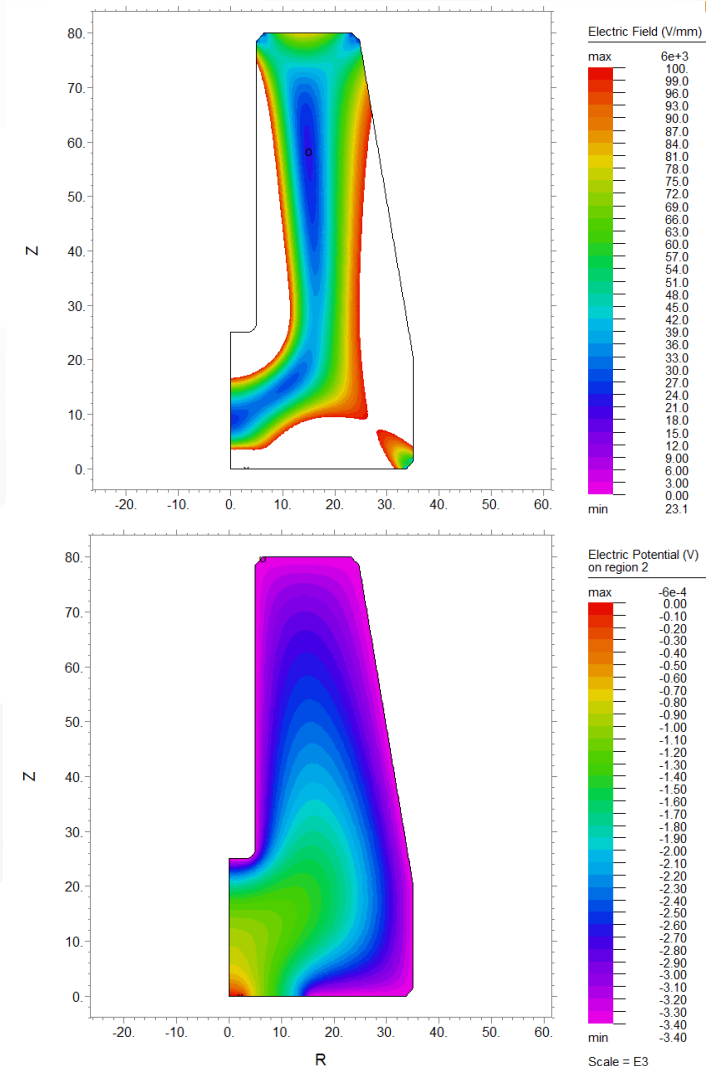
### ❖ 1st segmented prototype (2012)

- ▶ For ORNL currently tested in Berkeley
- ▶ N-type crystal

### ❖ 2st segmented prototype (in indevelopment)

- ▶ For Univervisity of Liverpool (SIGMA)
- ▶ P-type crystal

→ Talk of Laura Harkness in this workshop for details

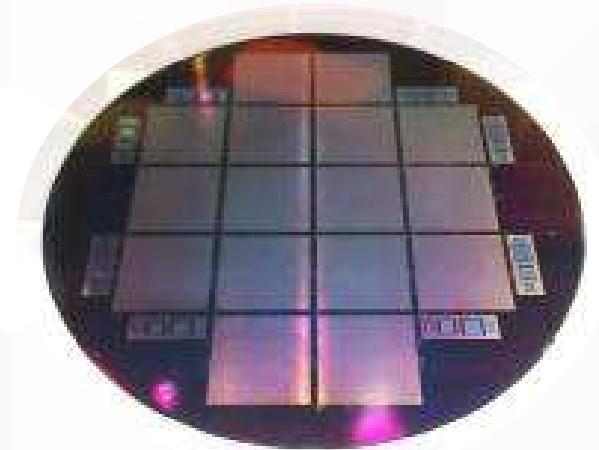




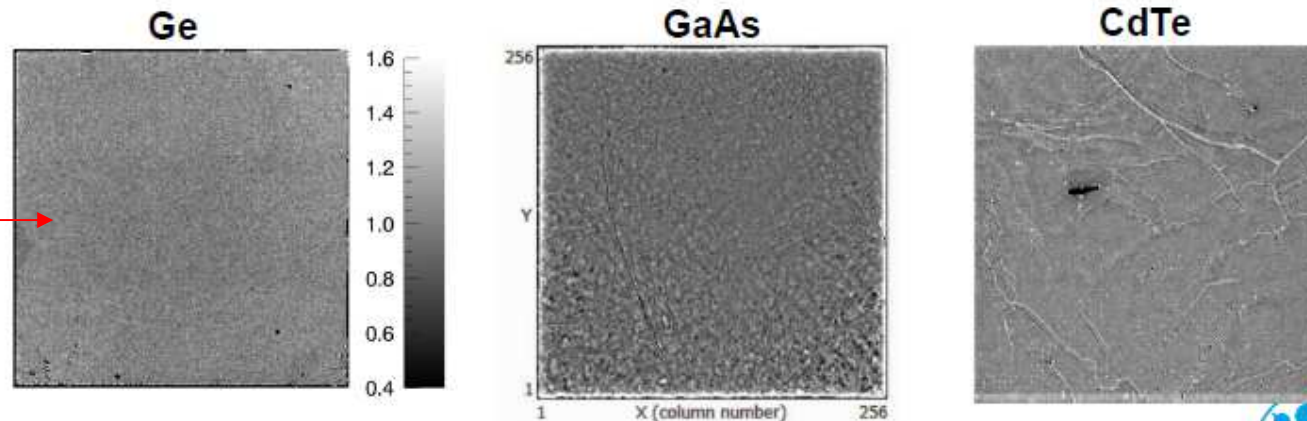
## Fine pixel imagers

### Developments of HPGe wafers with micrometric pixels

- Wafers are coupled to user ASICS (e.g. Medipix 3)
- Application: imaging or very high count rates
- Down to 55 $\mu\text{m}$ ; arrays of chips possible
- Advantage of Germanium
  - High efficiency and stopping power
  - High quality & large diameter wafers available



Flat field with much  
less flaws than other  
high Z materials



D Pennicard | LAMBDA, High-Z sensors and the HORUS simulation tool | Three-way meeting, APS, August 2013 | Page 28





## Spectro-imagers (Compton cameras)

- Mid-term industrial challenge: development of 3<sup>rd</sup> generation radiation imagers, combining high detection efficiency and high-resolution spectroscopy



Single electrically-cooled DSSD for Compton imaging (Si(Li) or HPGe)

Example of industrial application: waste drum imaging in Fukushima



Courtesy of Dr. Motomura (Riken Kobe)



Setup of the imaging experiment

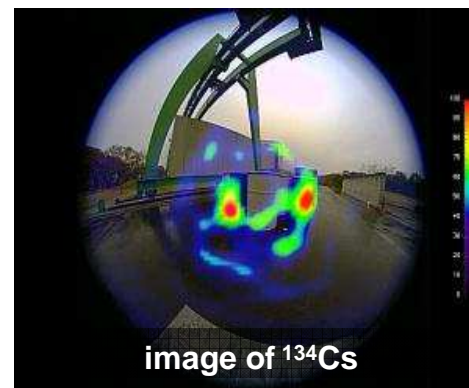
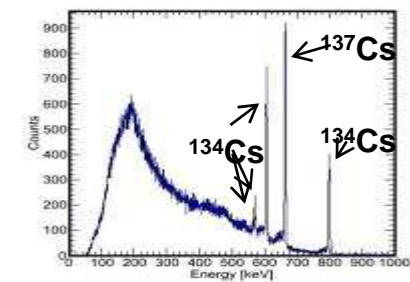


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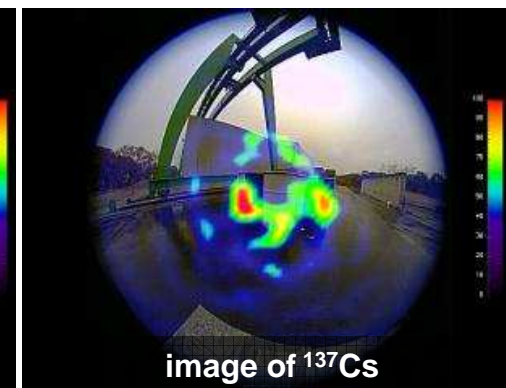


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## Recent HPGe developments: trends

- Already good inputs (challenges) collected from previous talks in this workshop
- Energy resolution
  - ▶ Still room for noise improvement at low energy (from 100 eV down to a few tens eV):
    - Small detectors with high count rates, mostly for x-ray spectroscopy
    - large PCGe detectors have for Dark Matter experiments
- Count rate
  - ▶ For x-ray spectroscopy, detectors, electronics and signal processing suited for more than 1Mcps without resolution degradation
- Position sensitivity
  - ▶ Relevance of count rate requirements and sensitivity to trapping ?
  - ▶ Need for increased segmentation ?
- Detection efficiency
  - ▶ Better match of application needs ?
- Operation
  - ▶ Increasing need for electrically cooled detectors, even for scientific applications