

Tracking with MAPS

Stefania Maria Beolé

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Charged particle tracker

- GOALS

- Reconstruct charged particles trajectories = “tracks”
- measure position of primary and secondary vertices
- identify particles

- Traditional silicon sensor technologies:

- microstrips
- hybrid pixels
- drift detectors

New stringent requirement for future colliders:

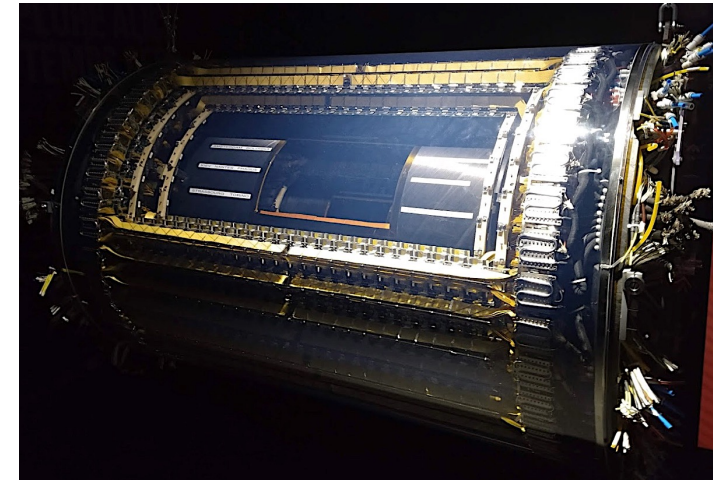
- Peak luminosity: $5-7.5 \times 10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$
- Average pile-up (PU) in pp: up to ~ 200
- Collision rates for ions: 50kHz
- Total Ionizing Dose (TID) up to 1 Grad
- Particle fluence up to $2 \times 10^{16} \text{ n}_{\text{eq}}\text{cm}^{-2}$ in the vertex region

- Solutions:

- improved traditional technologies
- new technologies
 - CMOS sensors
 - 4D sensors

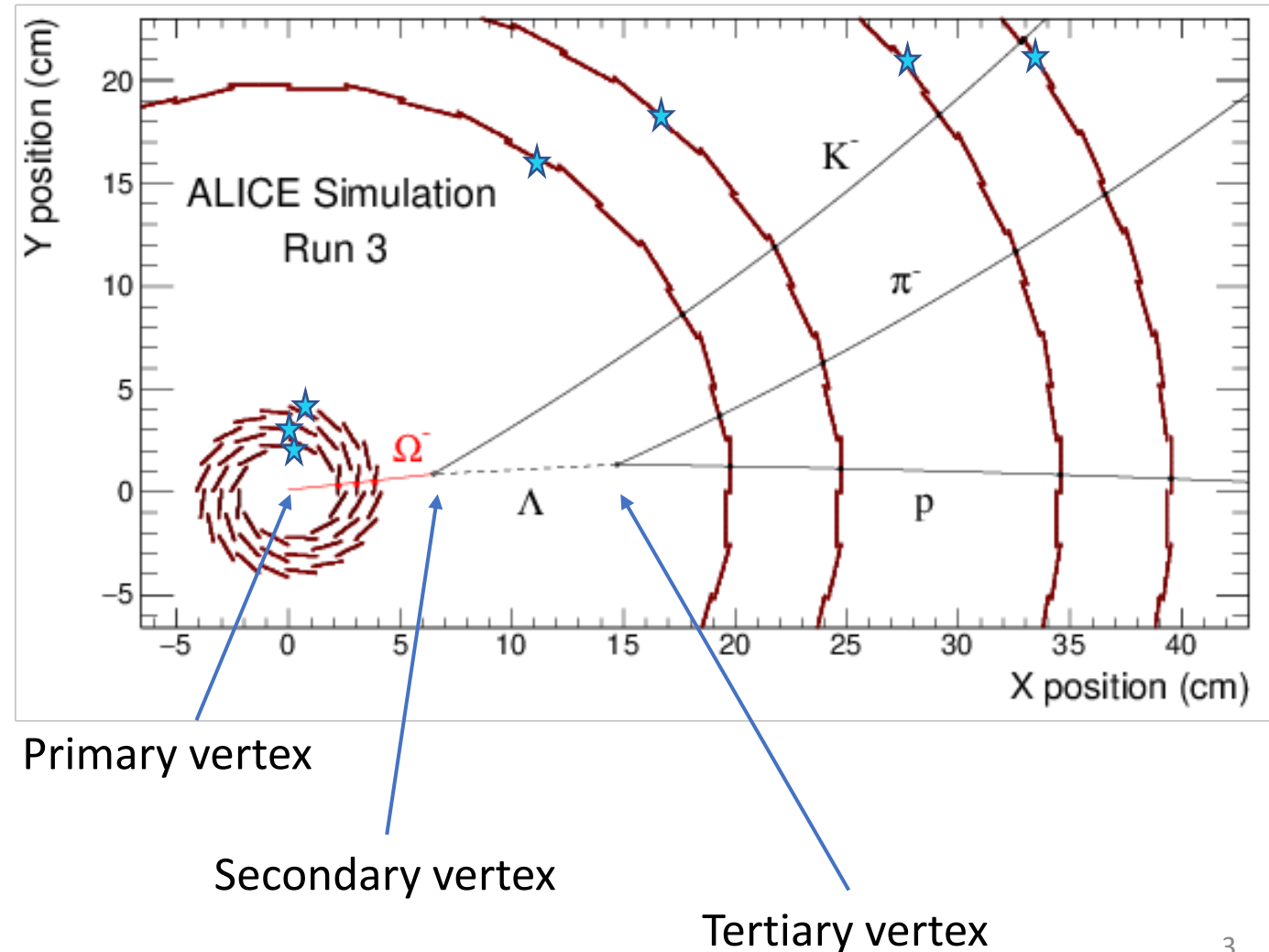
- Challenging requirements:

- excellent pointing resolution
 - position resolution $< 5 \mu\text{m}$
 - material budget $< 1\% X/X_0$
 - distance from IP of the first layer $\sim \text{few cm}$
- high data rates
- radiation tolerant



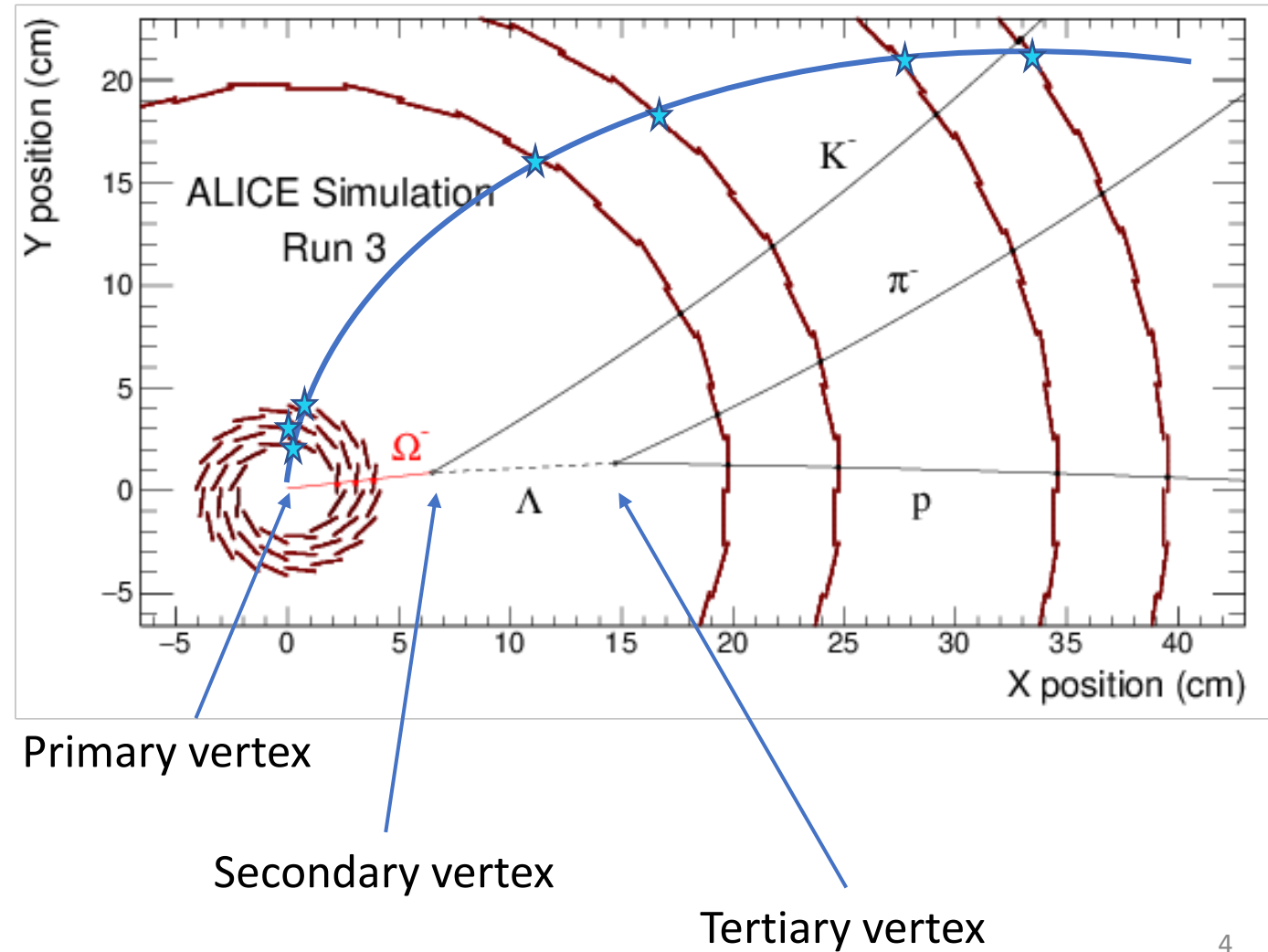
Charged particle tracker: goals

- **Measure trajectory of charged particles**
 - Measure several points along the track and fit curves to the points (helix in a magnetic field)
- **Extrapolate tracks to the point of origin**
 - Determine positions of primary vertices and identify interesting collision vertex: **VERTEXING**
 - Find **secondary vertices** from decay of long-lived particles
- **Use the track curvature to determine the particle momentum: PID**

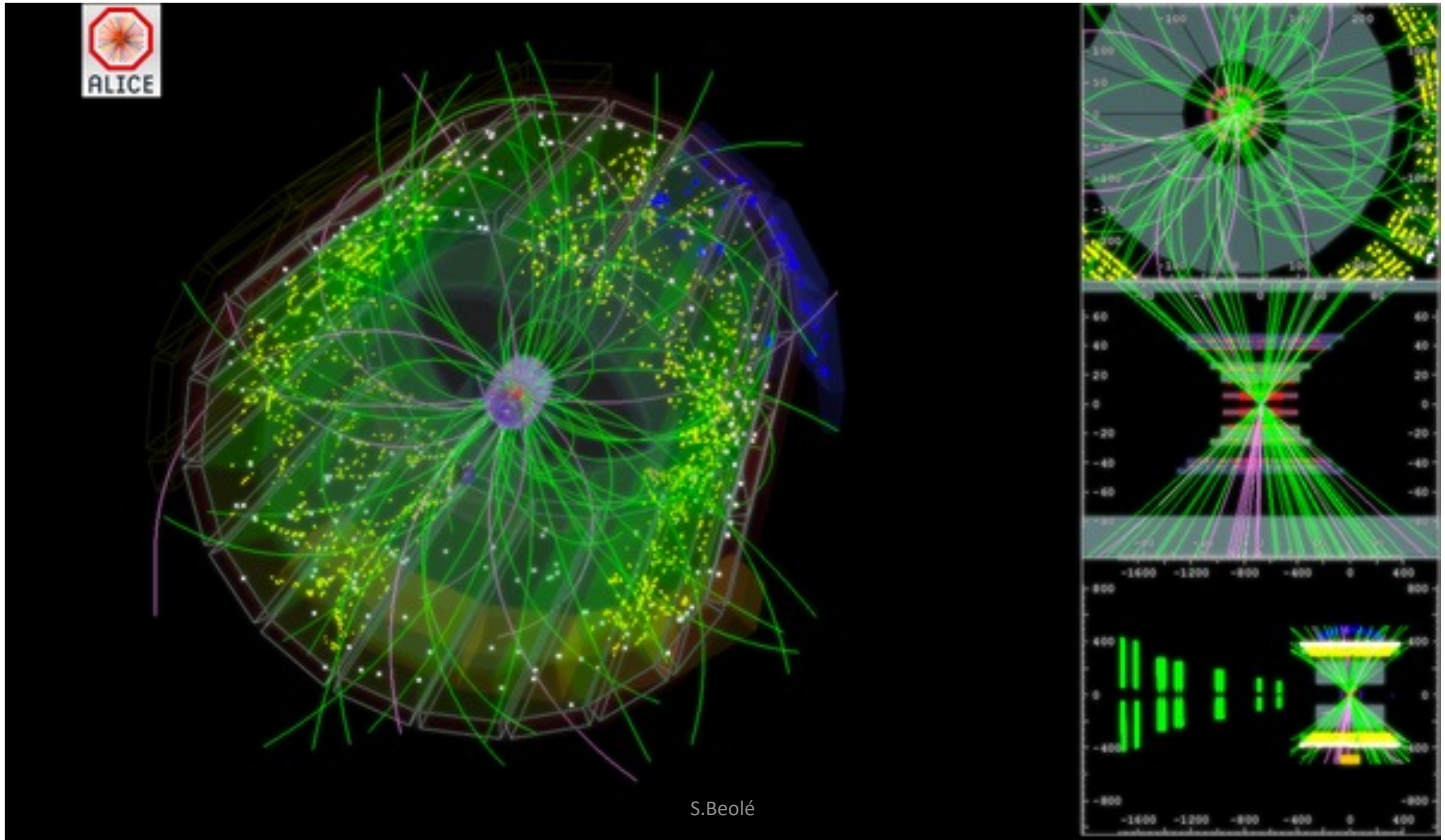


Charged particle tracker: goals

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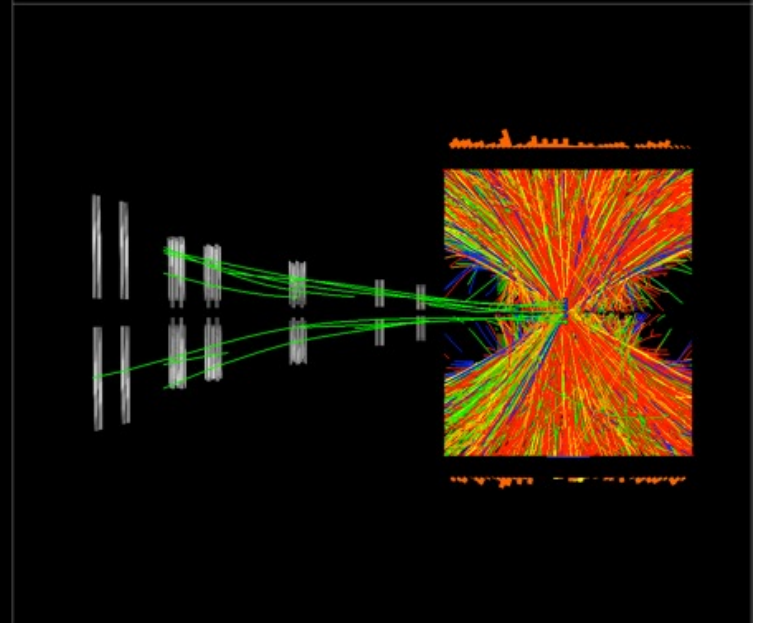
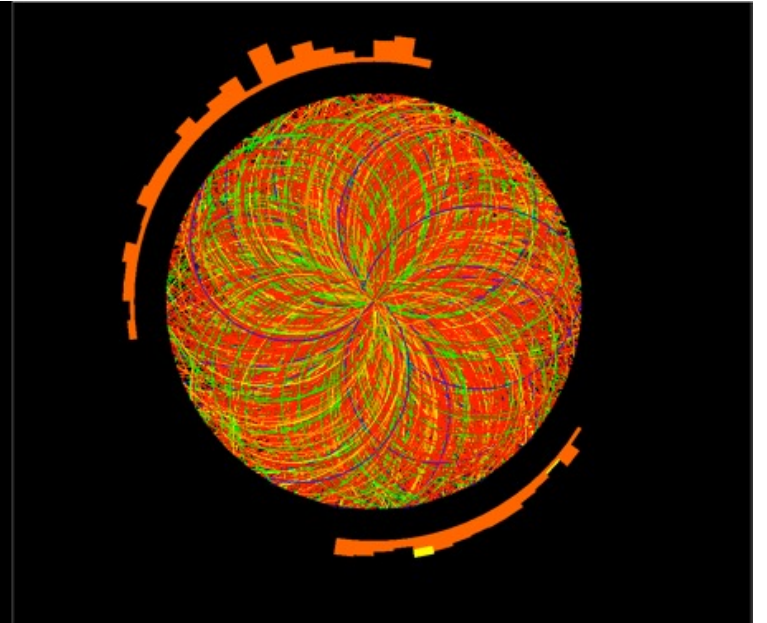
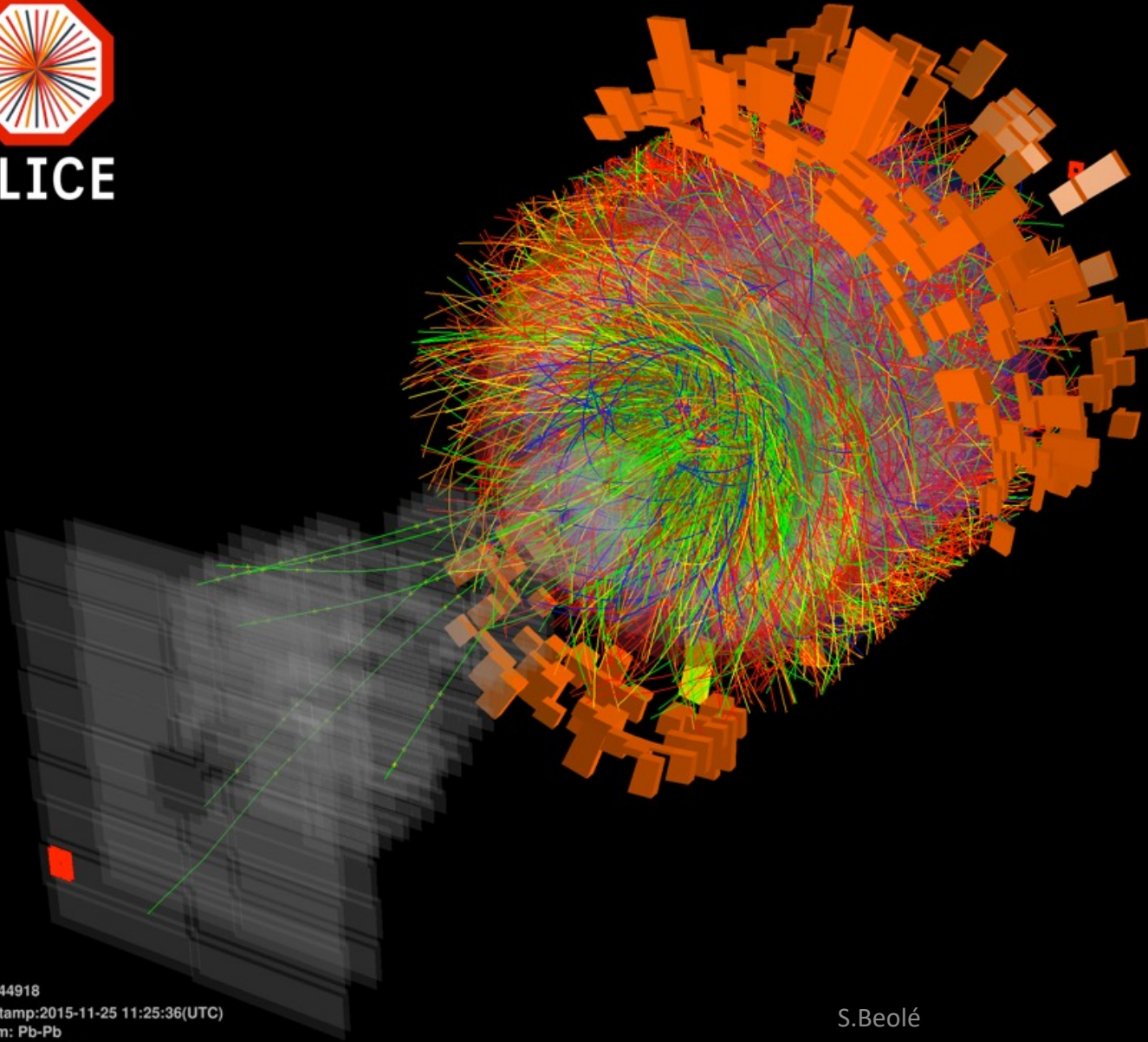
proton-proton collisions at LHC



lead-lead collisions at LHC



ALICE



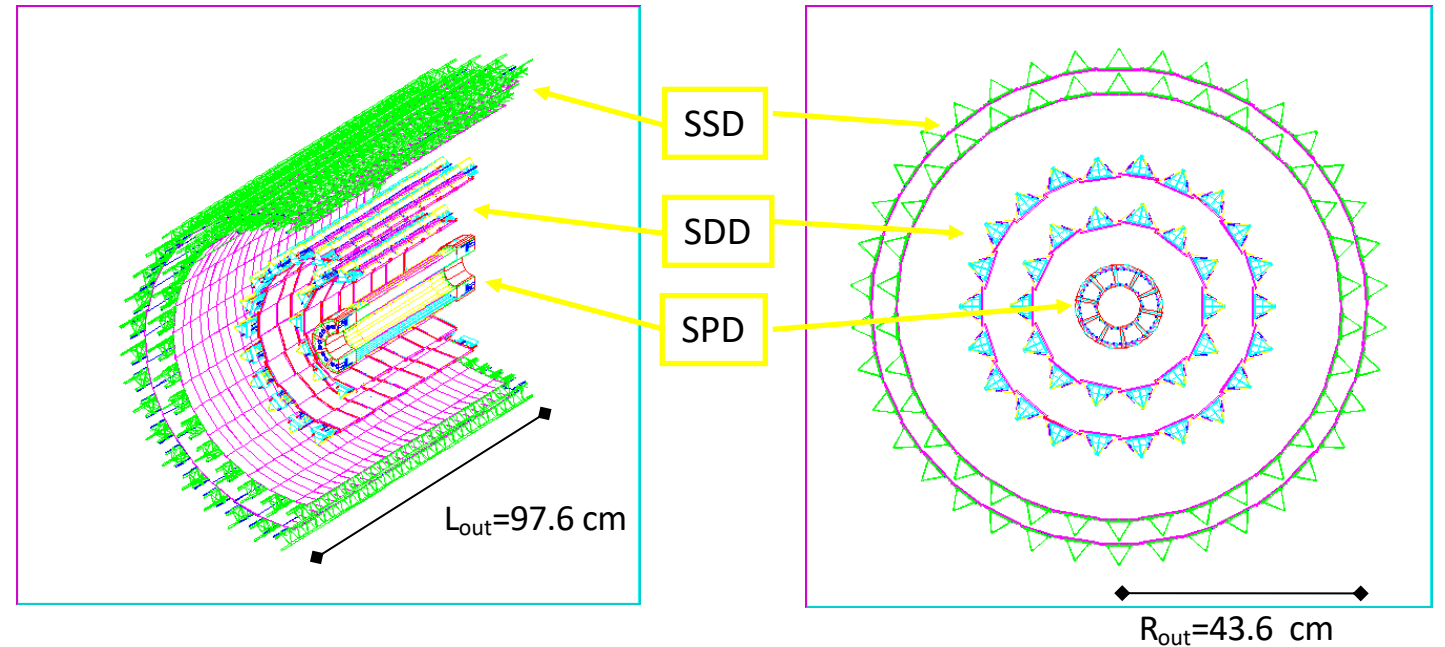
Run:244918
Timestamp:2015-11-25 11:25:36(UTC)
System: Pb-Pb
Energy: 5.02 TeV

S.Beolé

Tracker requirements

- Excellent spatial resolution
 - Single point resolution
 - Double track resolution
- Efficiency (100%)
- As little material as possible
 - Multiple scattering
 - Photon conversion
- Time resolution (4D tracking)
- Radiation hardness

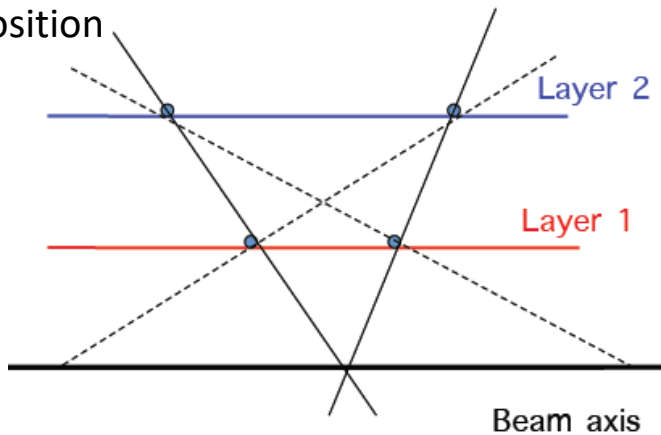
ALICE ITS1



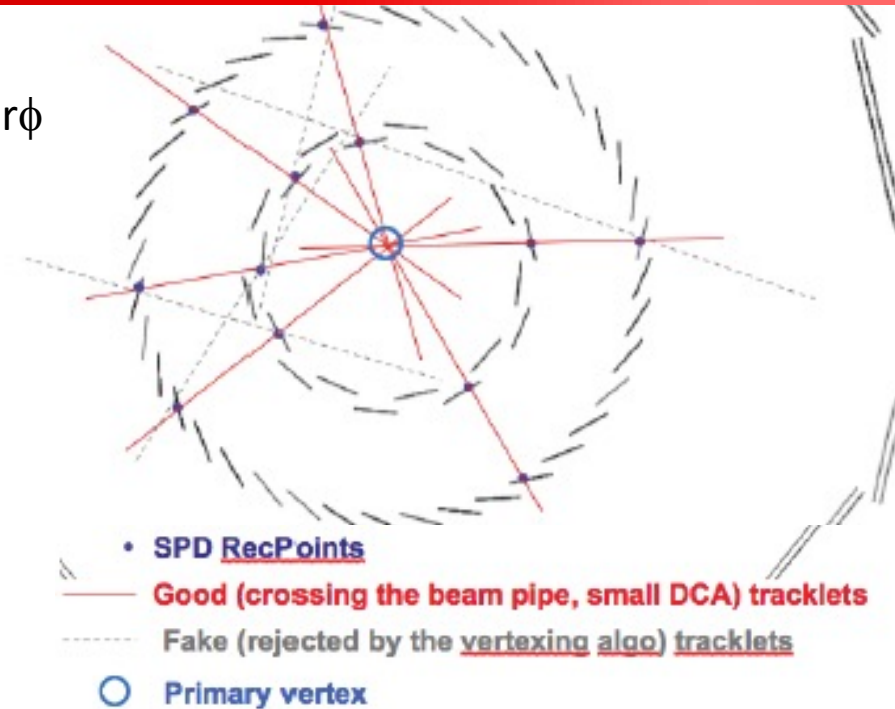
- 6 Layers, three technologies (keep occupancy \sim constant $\sim 2\%$)
 - **SPD: Silicon Pixels (0.2 m², 9.8 Mchannels)**
 - SDD: Silicon Drift (1.3 m², 133 kchannels)
 - SSD: Double-sided Strip Strip (4.9 m², 2.6 Mchannels)

Vertexing

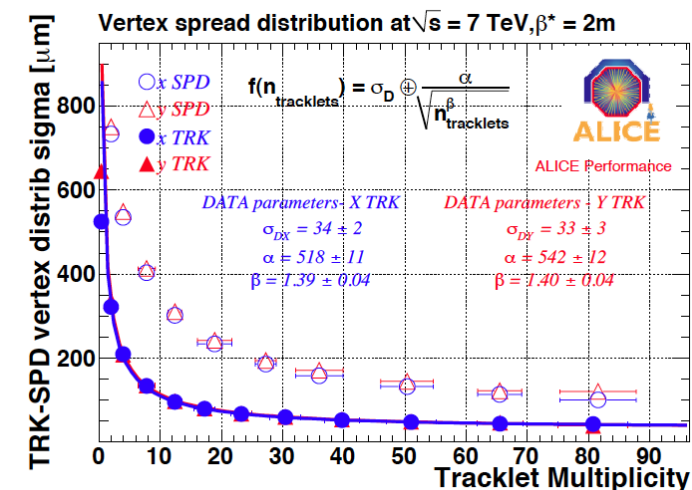
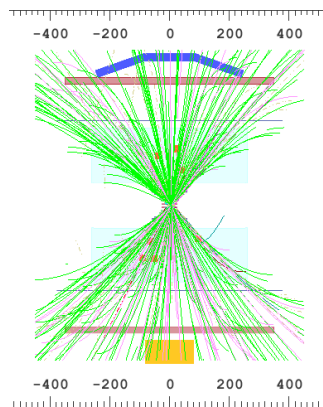
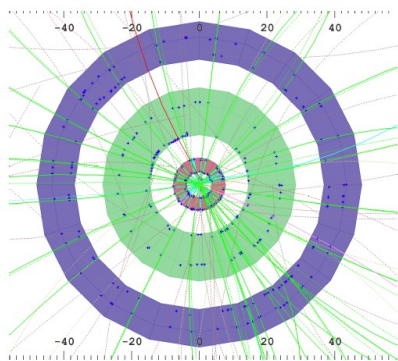
Side view: Z position



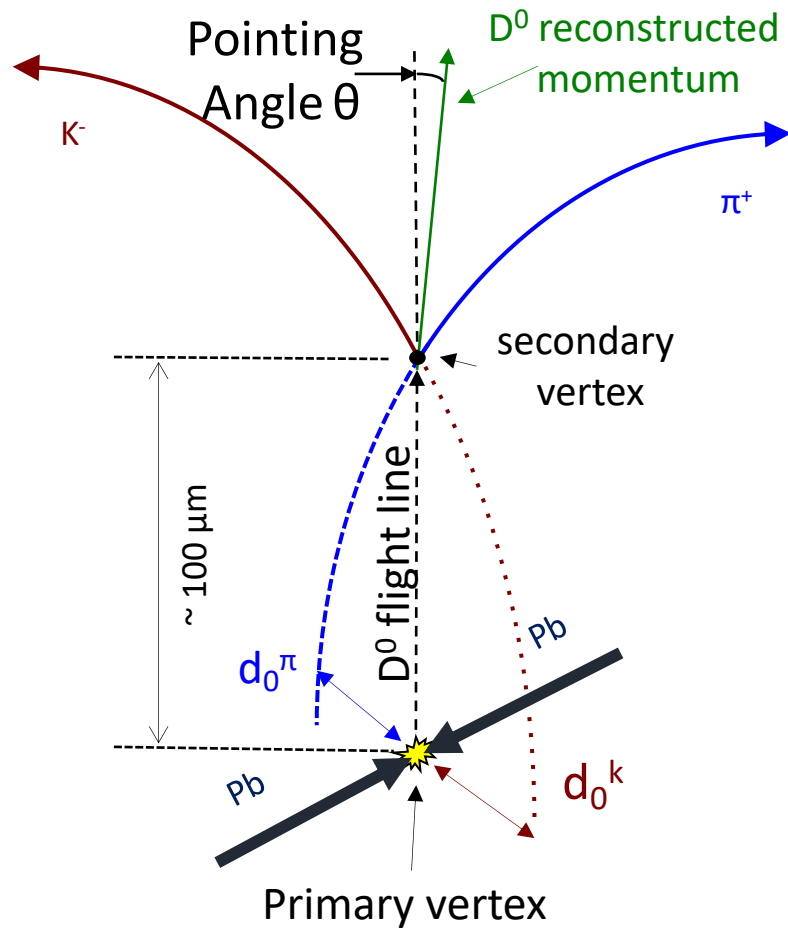
Front view: $r\phi$



- Pixel detector are used to provide vertex position (fast response – online determination)
 - Tracklets instead of tracks
- Vertex is used as seed for tracking
- Tracks are used to refine vertex position measurement after tracking

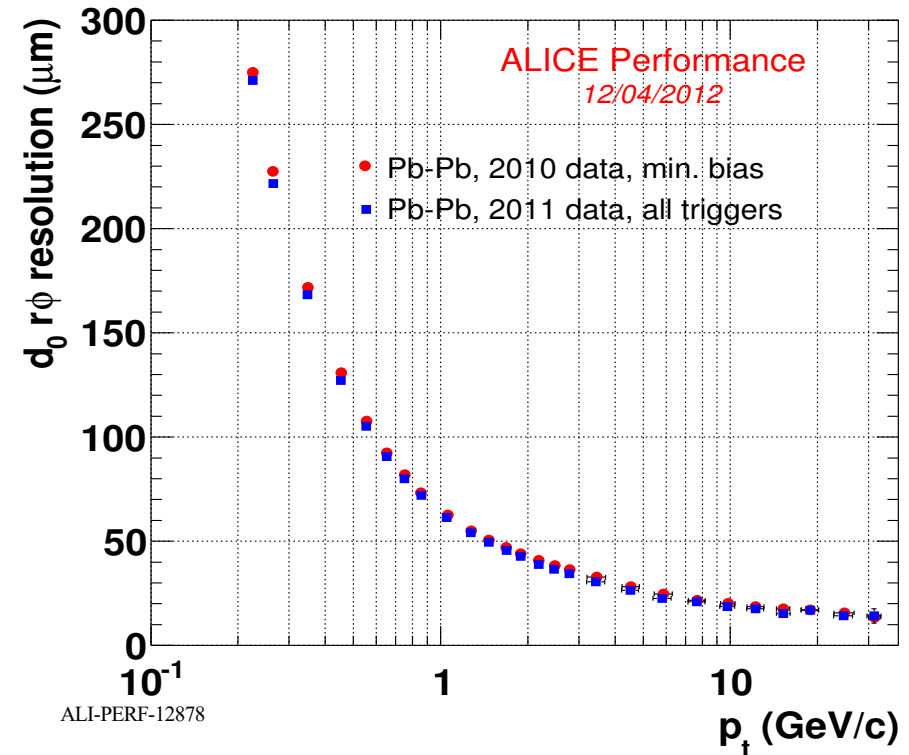


Secondary Vertex reconstruction



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

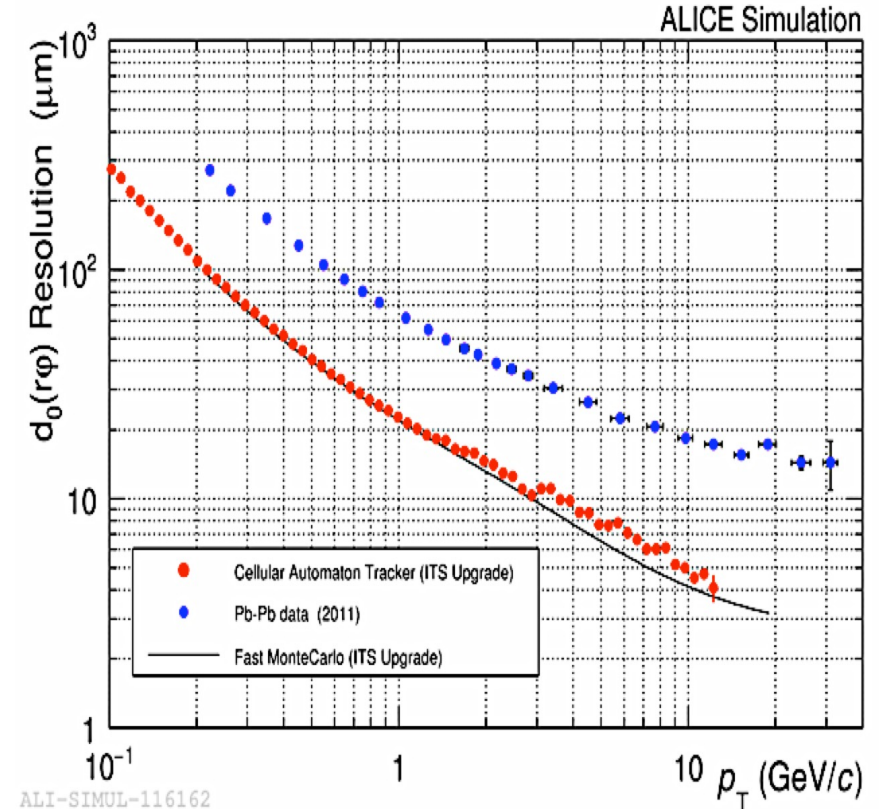
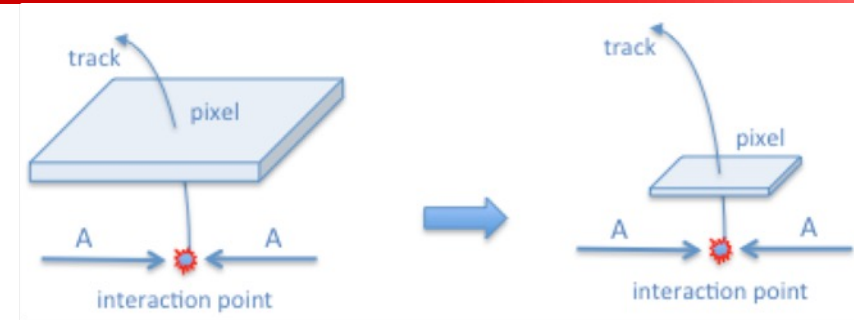
- Example: ALICE ITS1



New generation trackers: CMOS sensors

New ITS (ITS2) Design Objectives

- **Improve impact parameter resolution** by factor ~ 3 in $r\phi$ and factor ~ 5 in z at $p_T = 500$ MeV/c
 - Get closer to Interaction Point: 39 mm \rightarrow 23 mm
 - Reduce material budget: $1.14\% X_0 \rightarrow 0.35\% X_0$ (inner layers)
 - Reduce pixel size: $50 \times 425 \mu\text{m}^2 \rightarrow \sim 30 \times 30 \mu\text{m}^2$
- **Improve tracking efficiency and p_T resolution at low p_T**
 - Increase number of track points: $6 \rightarrow 7$ layers
- **Fast readout**
 - Readout of Pb-Pb collisions at 50 kHz (ITS1: 1 kHz) and p-p at 400 kHz



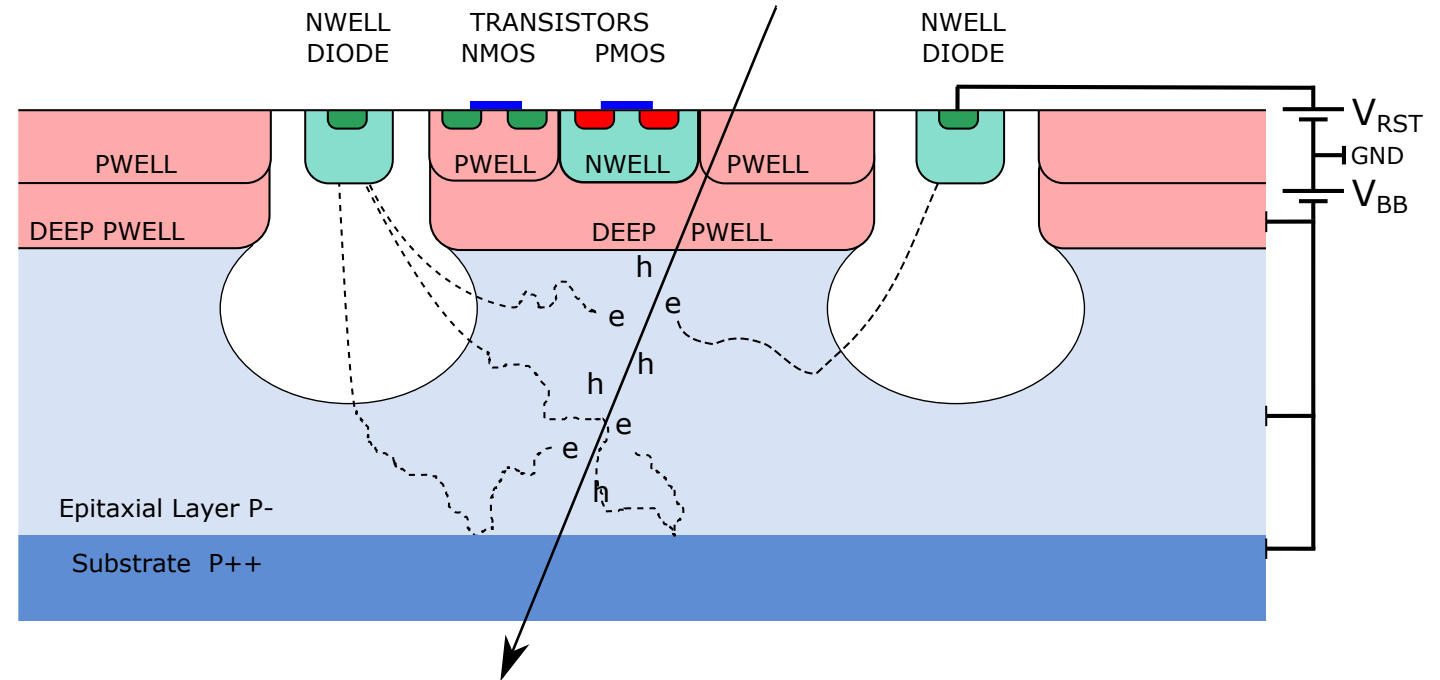
ALPIDE: CMOS monolithic active pixel sensor



MAPS: sensor and electronics on the same substrate

Exploits commercial CMOS imaging sensor process to detect charge particles

A few modifications needed:
DEEP P-WELL to shield CMOS circuitry and avoid loss of efficiency



main advantages:

- thin sensor (all in 1 layer, thinned down to $<50\mu\text{m}$)
- easy integration
- low noise
- low power

ALPIDE Monolithic Pixel Sensor

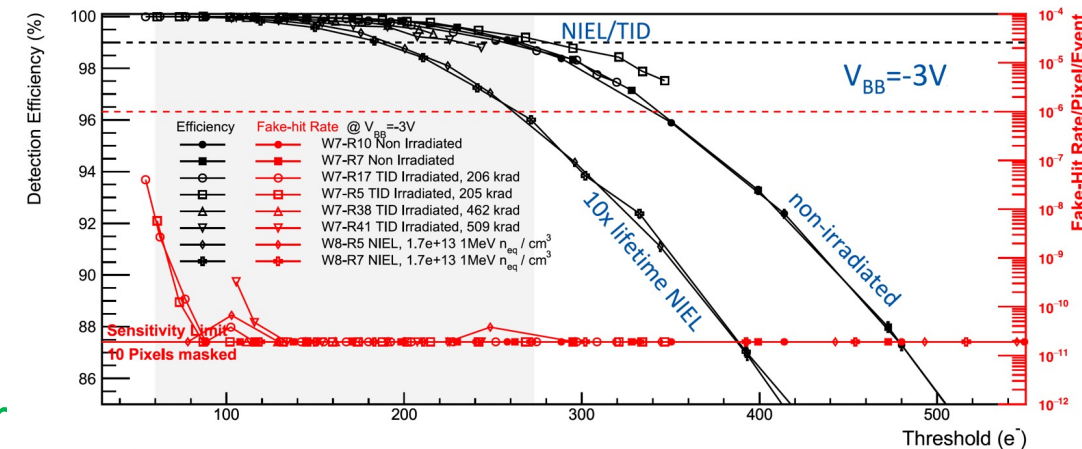
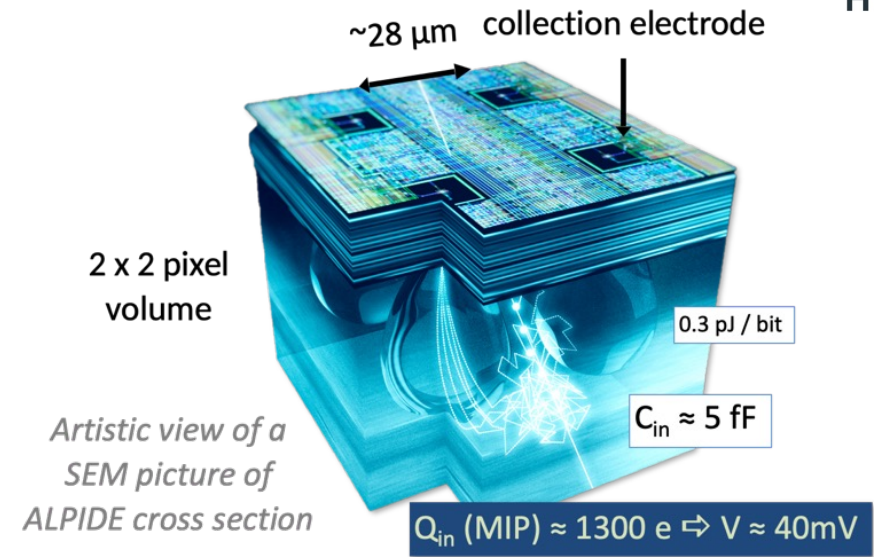


CMOS Pixel Sensor – Tower Semiconductor 180nm CMOS Imaging Sensor (CIS) Process

ALPIDE Key Features

- In-pixel: Amplification, Discrimination, multi event buffer
- In-matrix zero suppression: priority encoding
- Ultra-low power $< 40\text{mW}/\text{cm}^2$ ($< 140\text{mW}$ full chip)
- Detection efficiency $> 99\%$
- Spatial resolution $\sim 5\mu\text{m}$
- Low fake-hit rate: $\ll 10^{-6}/\text{pixel}/\text{event}$ ($10^{-8}/\text{pixel}/\text{event}$ measured during commissioning)
- Radiation tolerance: > 270 krad (TID), $> 1.7 \cdot 10^{13}$ 1MeV/ n_{eq} (NIEL)

Same chip used in ALICE2 for ITS and Muon Forward Tracker (MFT)



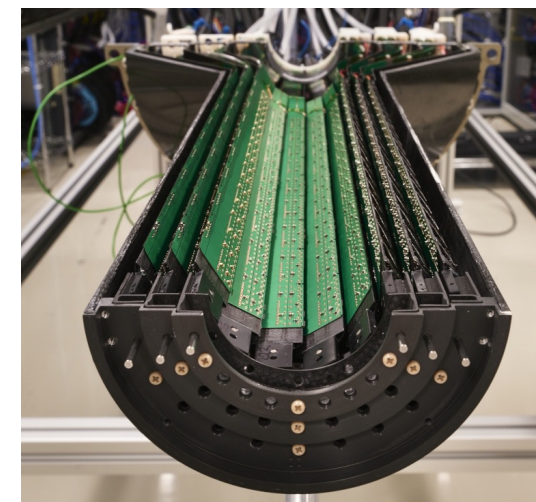
ALPIDE detection efficiency and fake hit rate



ALPIDE: Tower Semiconductor 180nm CMOS Imaging Sensor (CIS) Process

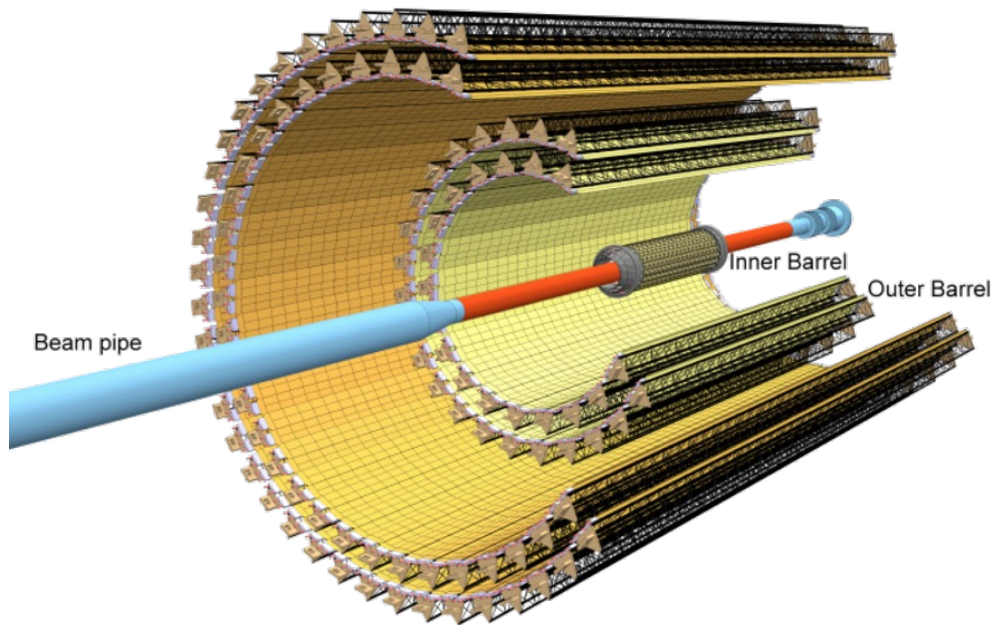
- R&D effort within the ALICE collaboration
 - excellent collaboration with foundry
 - **more than 70k chips produced and tested**
 - ALICE ITS pioneers large area trackers built of MAPS (EIC, ALICE 3, FCC?)
- in parallel studies to optimise process to reach full depletion and improve time response and radiation hardness up to 10^{15} $1\text{MeV}/n_{\text{eq}}$:
 - **More details:** NIM A871 (2017)
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nima.2017.07.046>
 - **Now being further pursued:** MALTA, CLICpix, FastPix, ...

ITS2 Inner Barrel

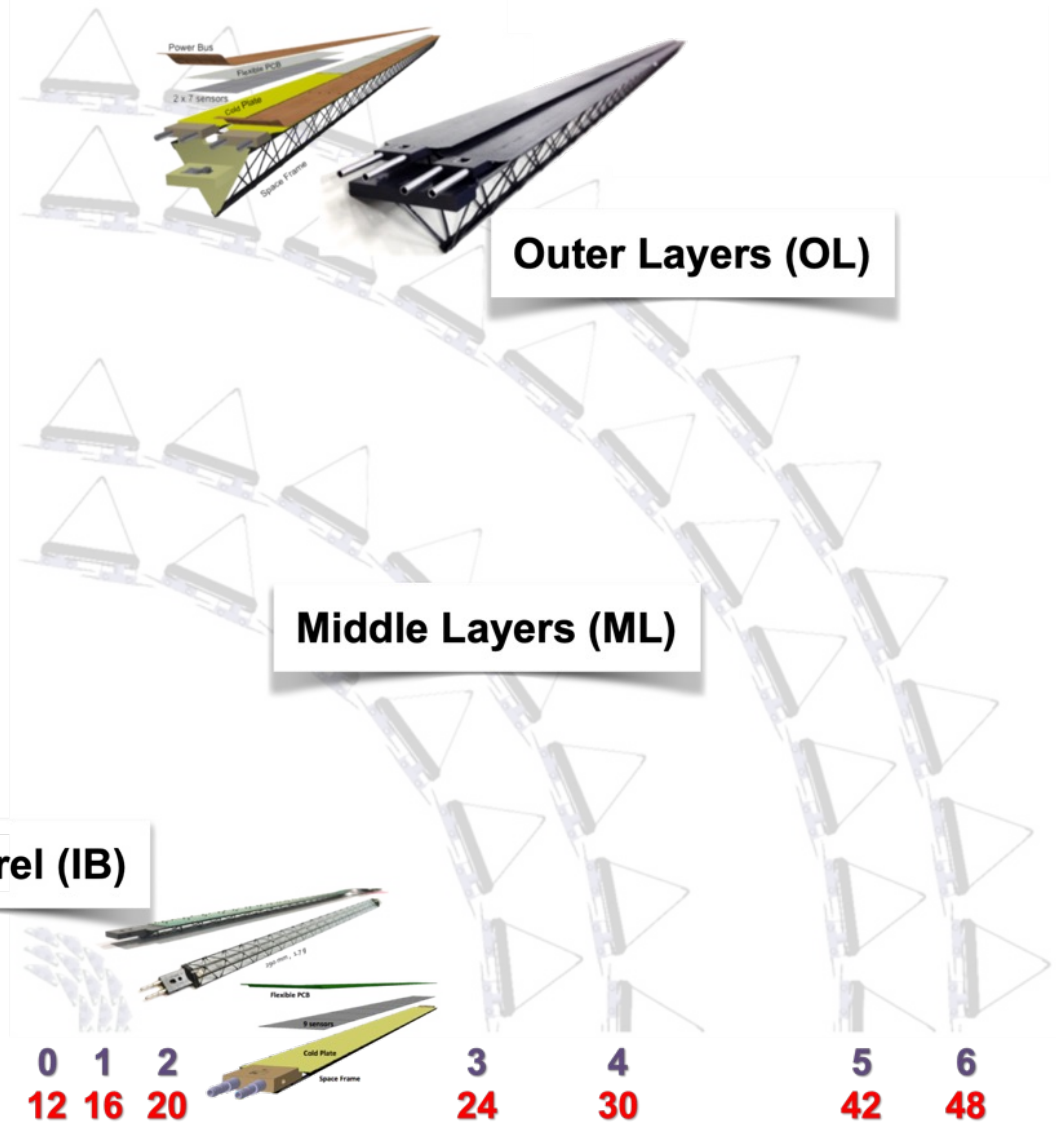


The largest MAPS pixel detector (so far)

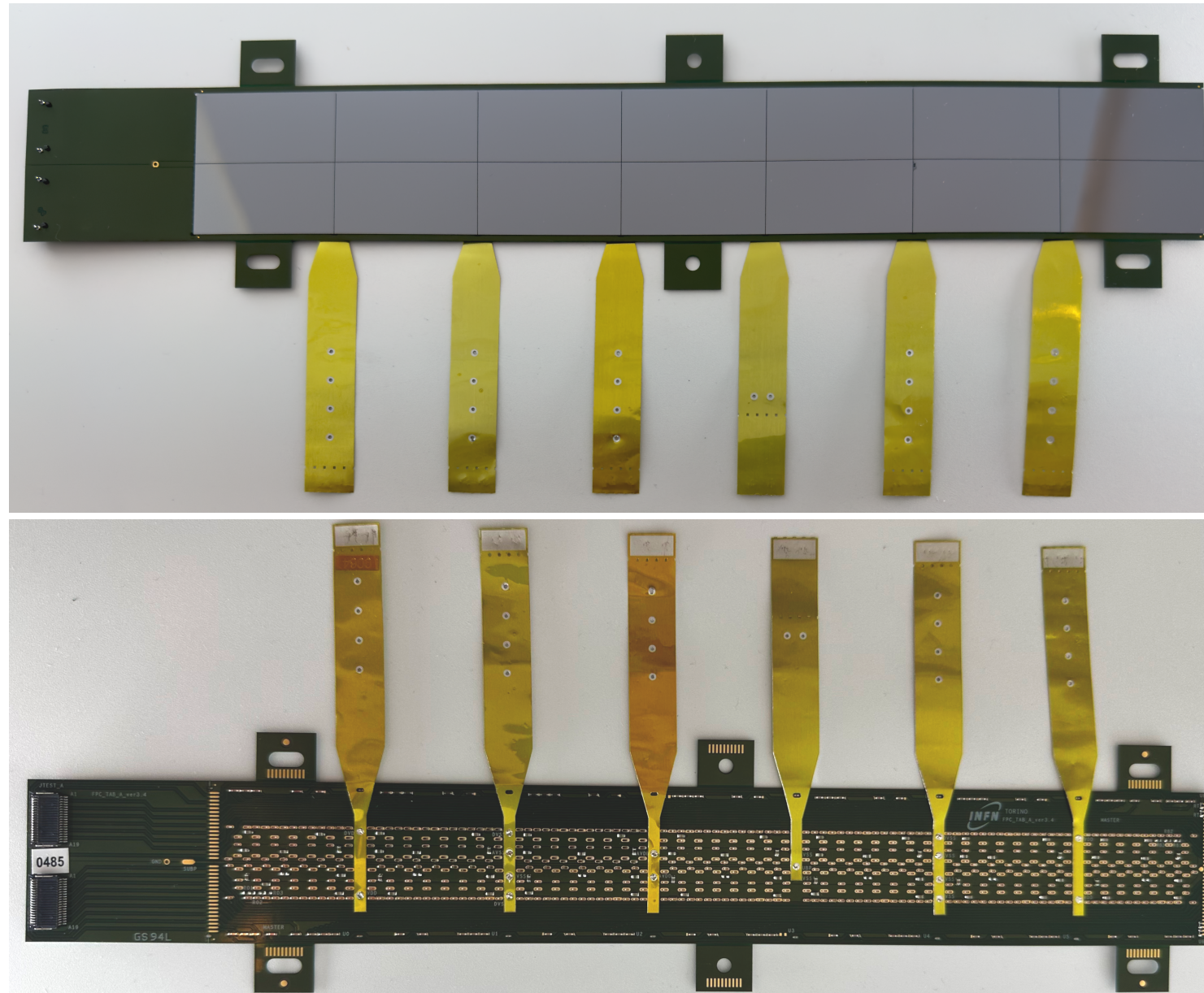
- 7 Layers (3 inner / 2 middle / 2 outer) from R = 22 mm to R = 400 mm
- 192 Staves (48 IL / 54 ML / 90 OL)
- Ultra-lightweight support structure and cooling
- 10 m² active silicon area, 12.5 x 10⁹ pixels



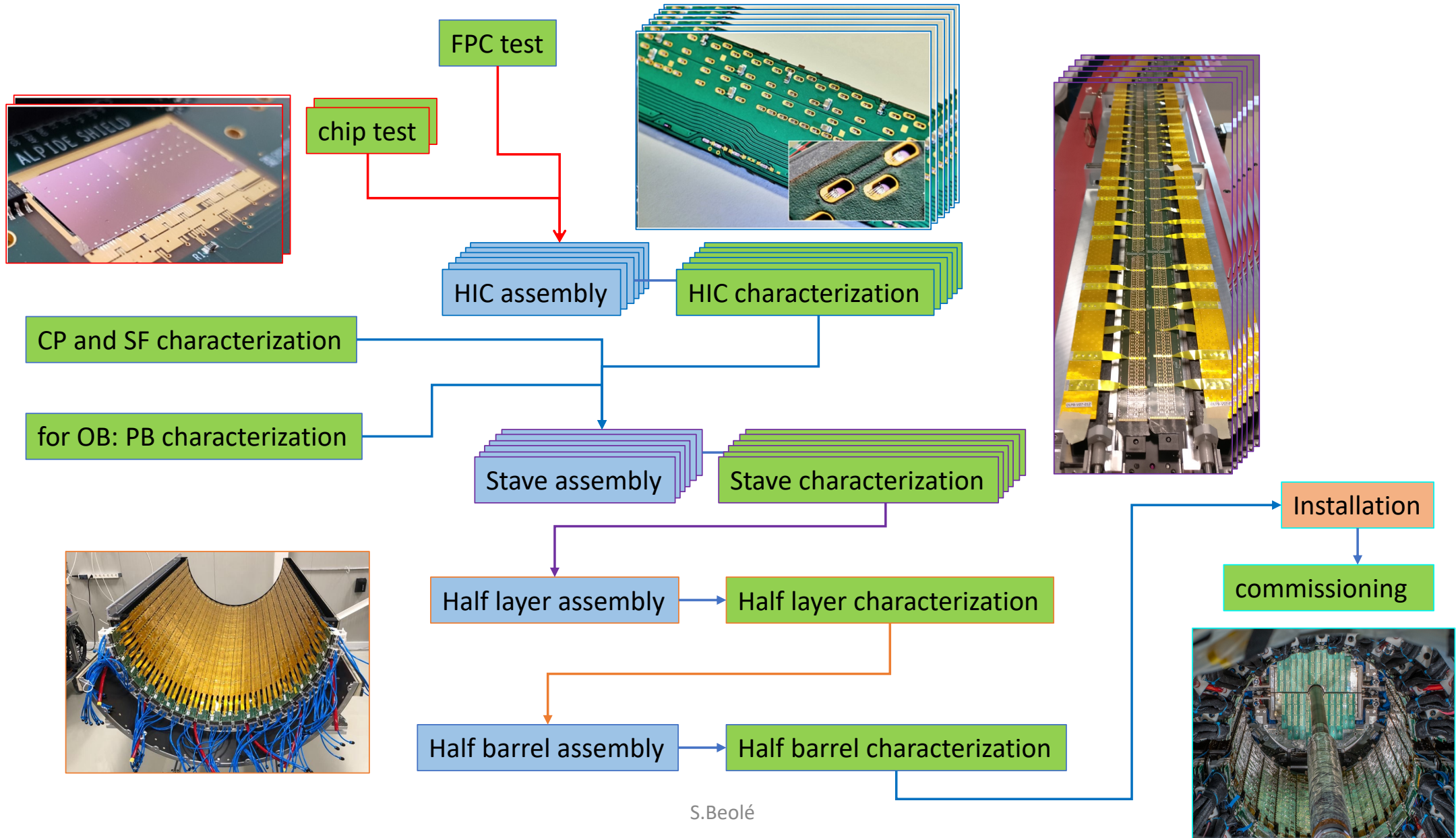
**Outer Barrel (OB)
= ML + OL**



Tiling up



A long and complex journey....

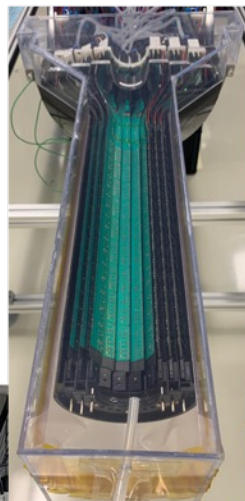


On-Surface Commissioning

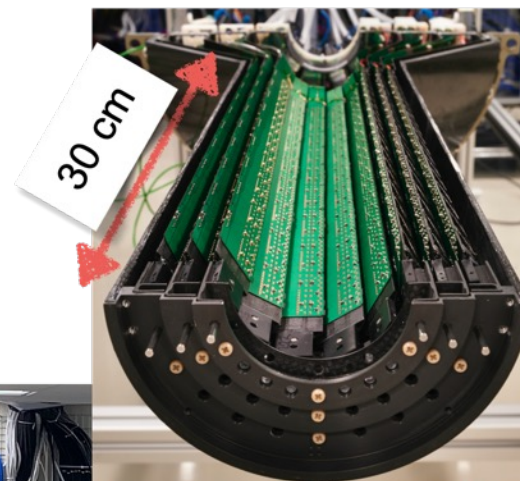


ALICE

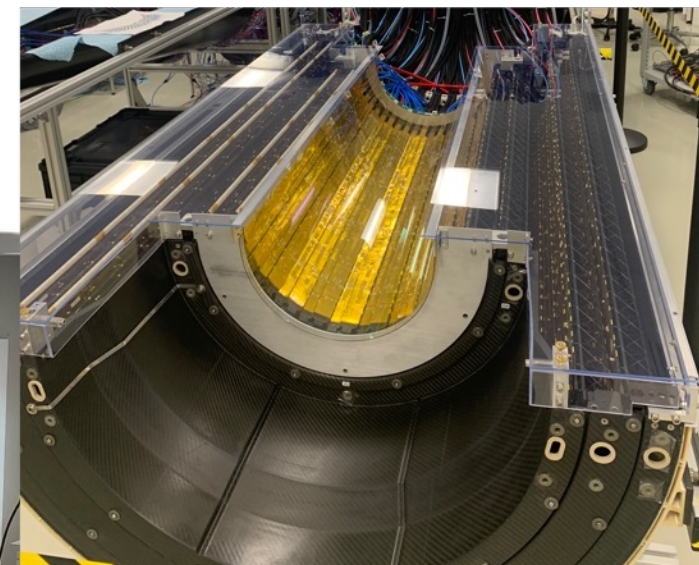
Inner Barrel Top



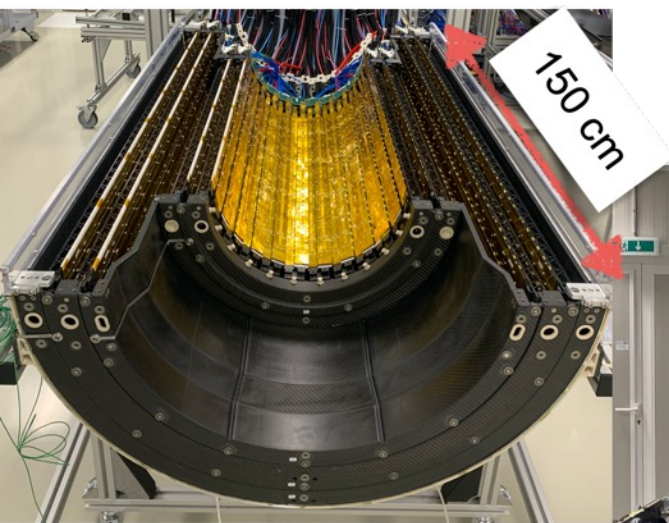
Inner Barrel Bottom



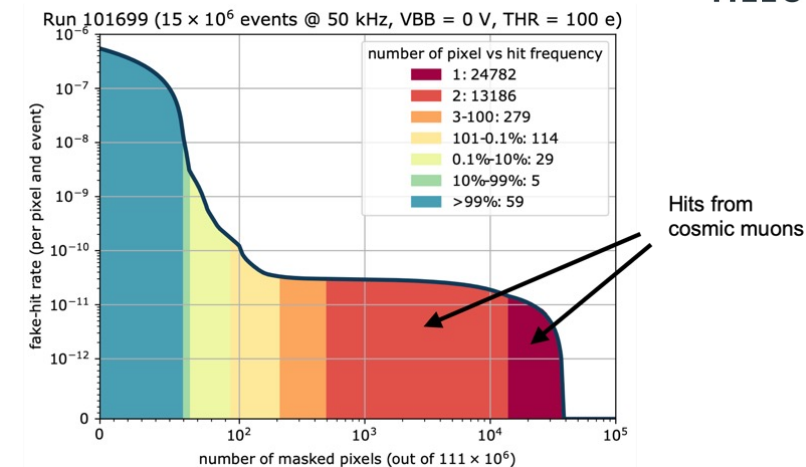
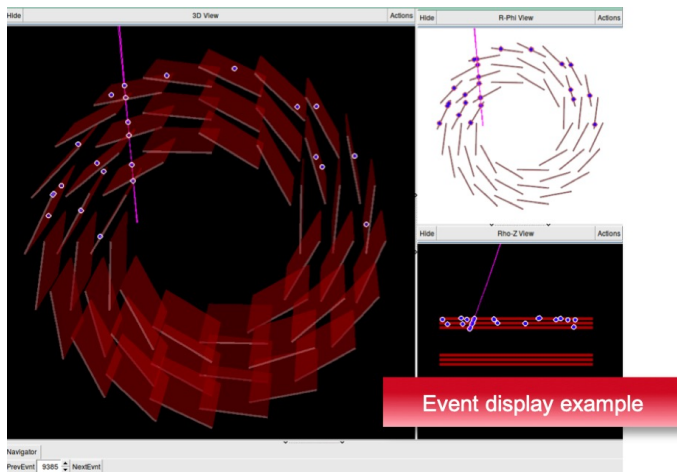
Outer Barrel Bottom



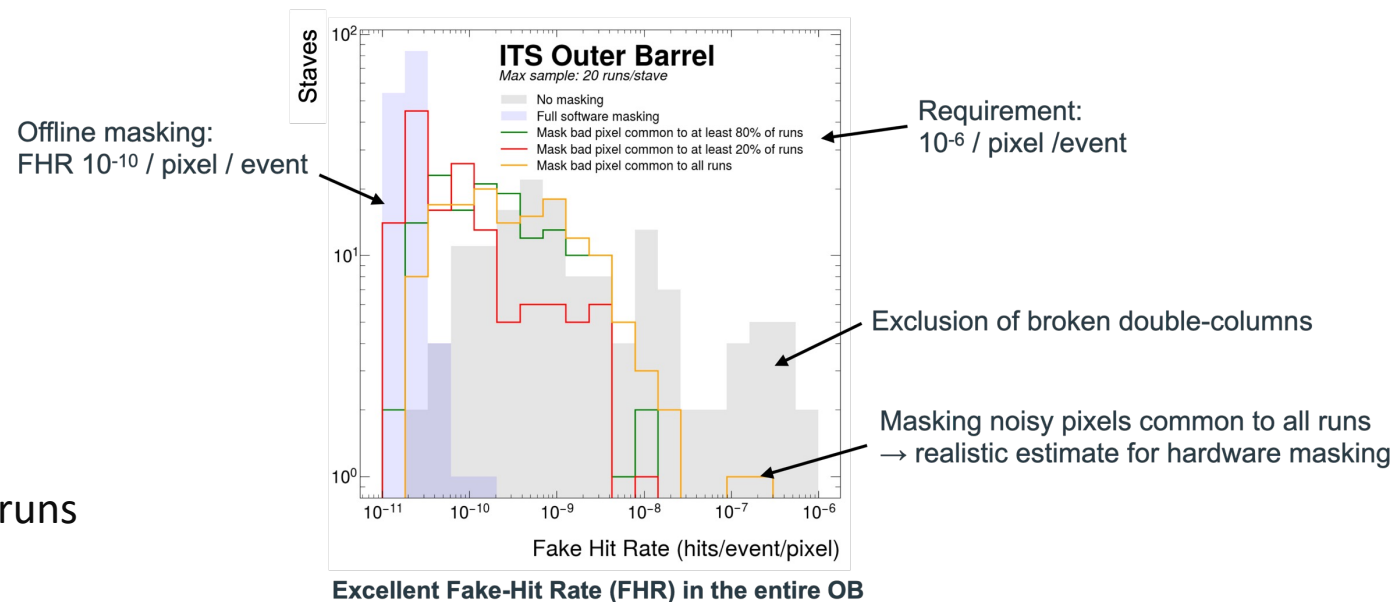
Outer Barrel Top

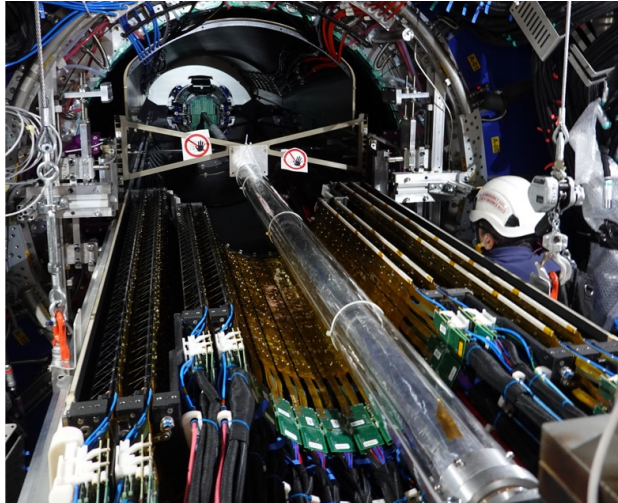


On-Surface Commissioning results

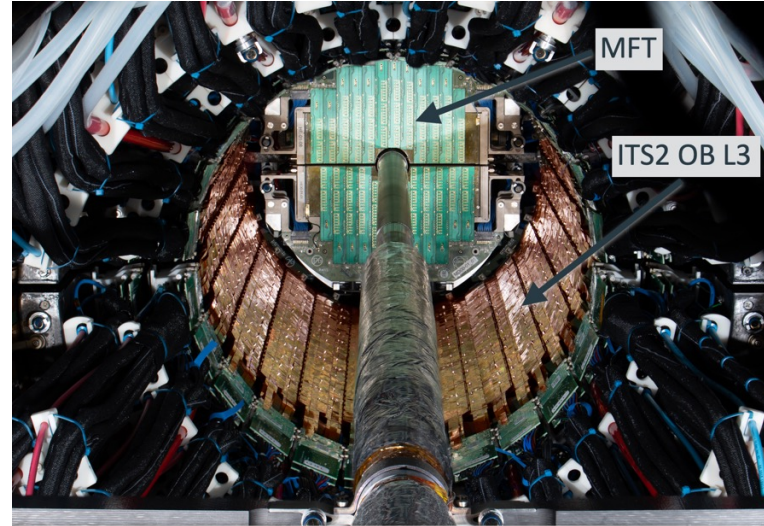


- Cosmics tracks reconstructed
- IB: fake-hit rate of 10^{-10} / pixel / event
 - Achieved by masking fraction of 10^{-8} pixels
- OB: fake-hit rate of 10^{-8} / pixel / event
 - Achieved by masking noisy pixels common to all runs

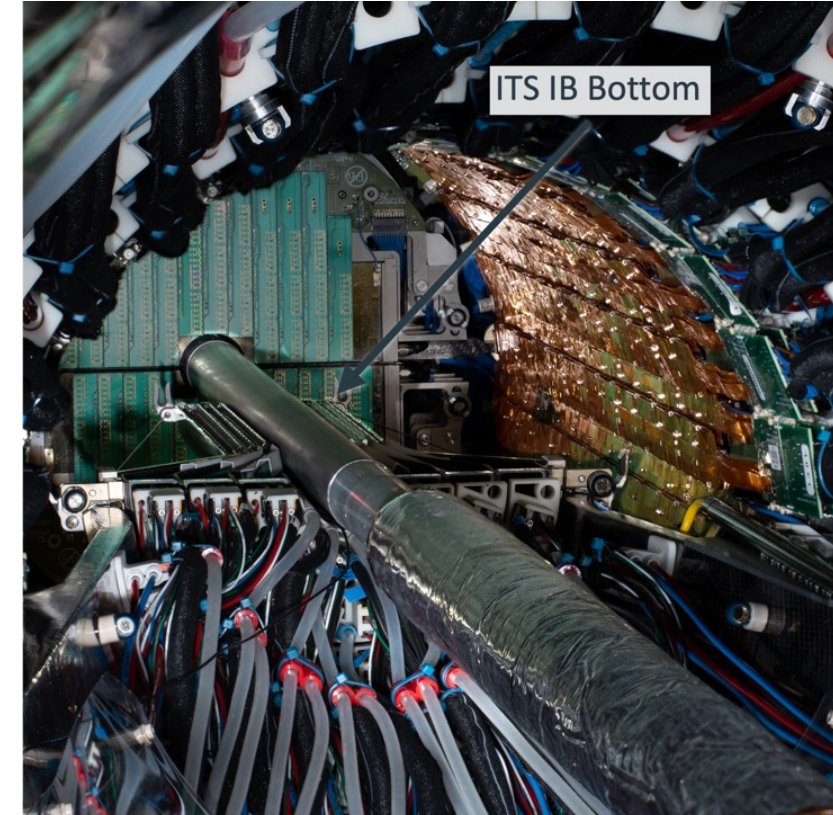




Outer Barrel Bottom being inserted on the rails inside the TPC



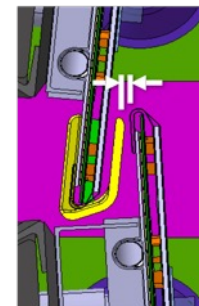
ITS Outer Barrel surrounding the beam pipe, MFT in the back



ITS Inner Barrel Bottom and Outer Barrel

- Installation challenges
 - Precise positioning around the beam pipe (nominal clearance ~ 2 mm)
 - Manipulating from 4 m distance
 - Difficult to see actual position by eye
 - precise mating of top and bottom barrel halves (clearance between adjacent staves ~ 1.2 mm)
- Dry-installation tests on the surface to test and exercise procedures
- Use of 3D scans, surveys and cameras

1.2 mm
nominal
clearance



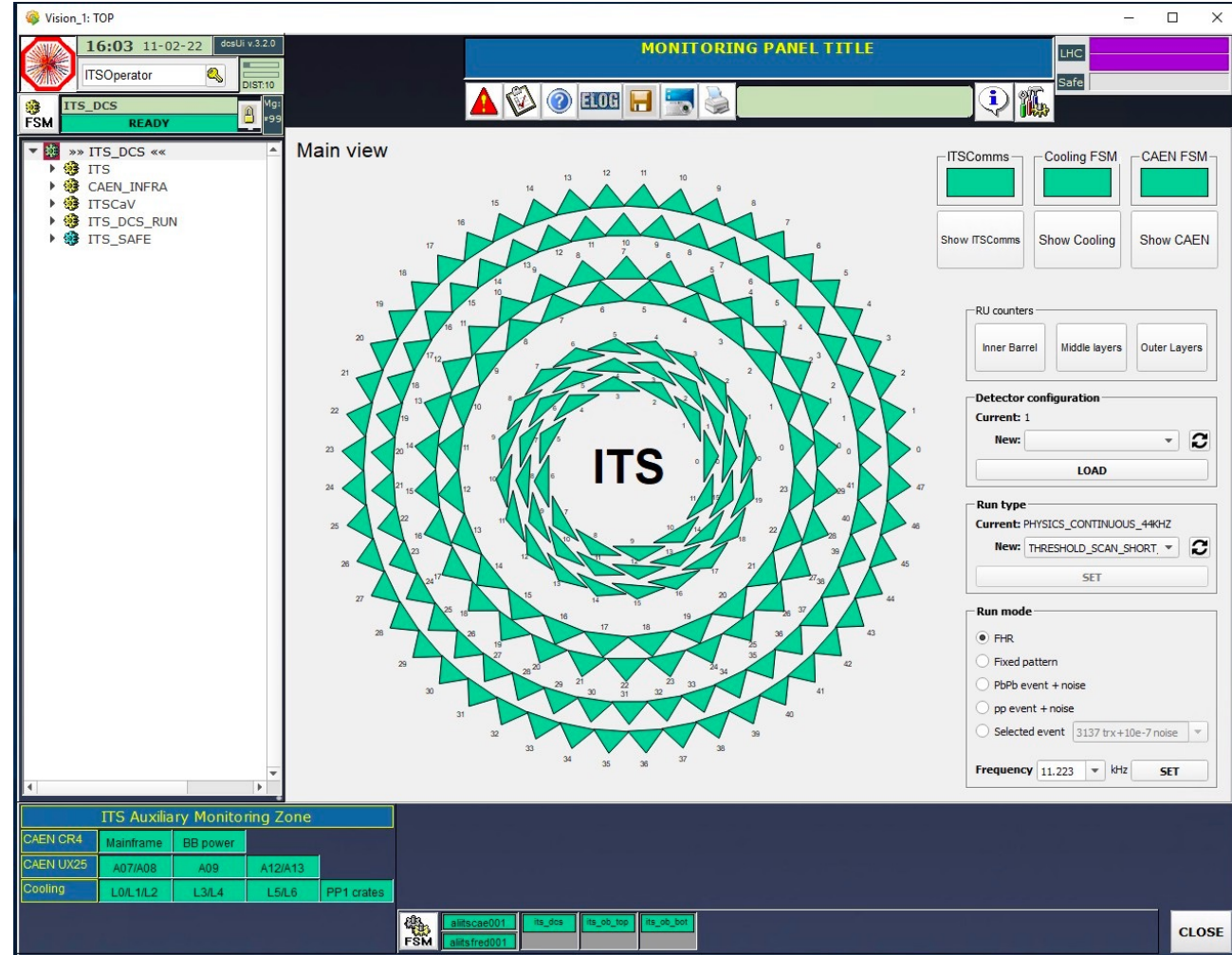
OB stave edge clearance when fully mated

Detector Control System



ALICE

- DCS ready to control detector in all phases of operation:
 - Controls and configures pixel chips and entire infrastructure
 - Error recovery during a run to continue running with minimal data loss
 - Detector functionality implemented in C++ library (pixel chips, readout cards, regulator boards)
 - GUI, FSM and alarms in Siemens WinCC OA
 - fully integrated into ALICE DCS
- Routinely used during commissioning and Pilot Beams



Calibration



ALICE

The Challenge:

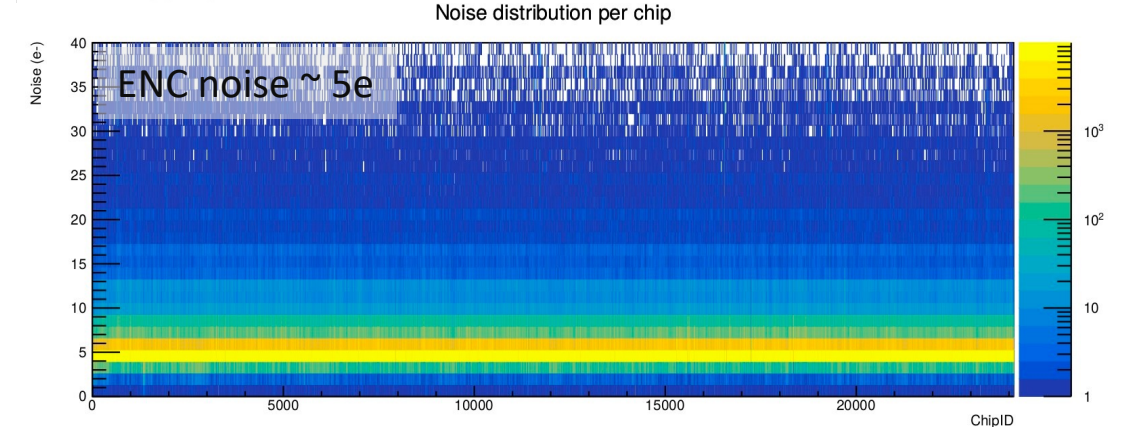
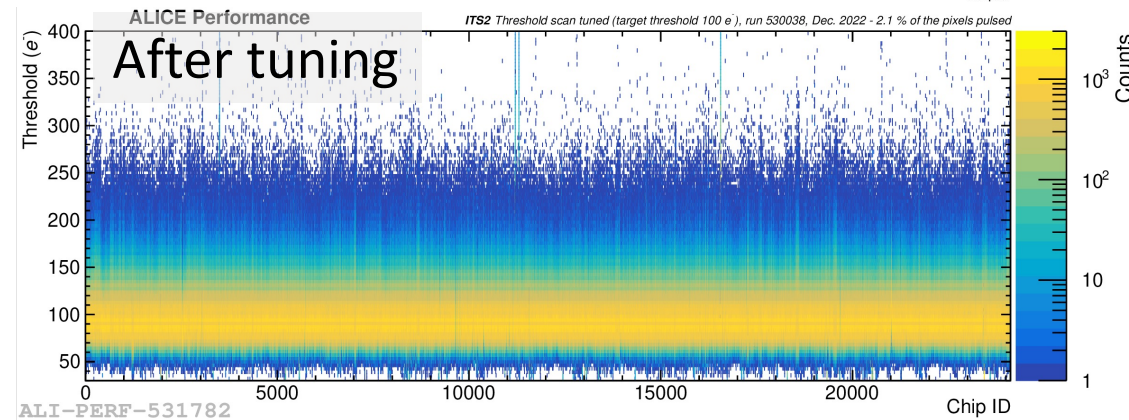
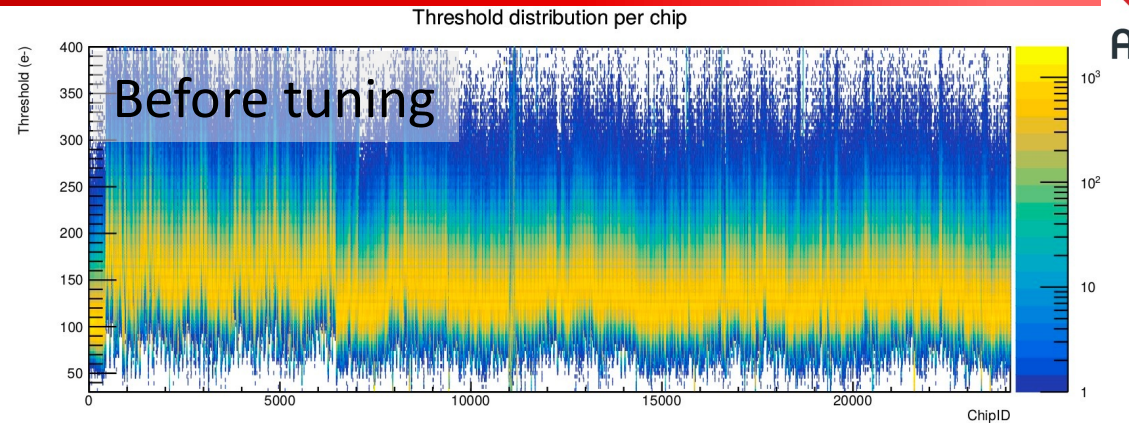
- Online calibration of **12.5 billion channels**
- Threshold scan of full detector: **> 50 TB of event data**
- Several scans to be run sequentially
 - Threshold tuning (adjust thresholds to target)
 - Threshold scan (measure actual thresholds)

Procedure:

- DCS performs actual scans: configure and trigger test injections
- Scan runs in parallel but independently on all staves
- Distributed analysis on event processing nodes
- full procedure takes **less than 30 minutes**

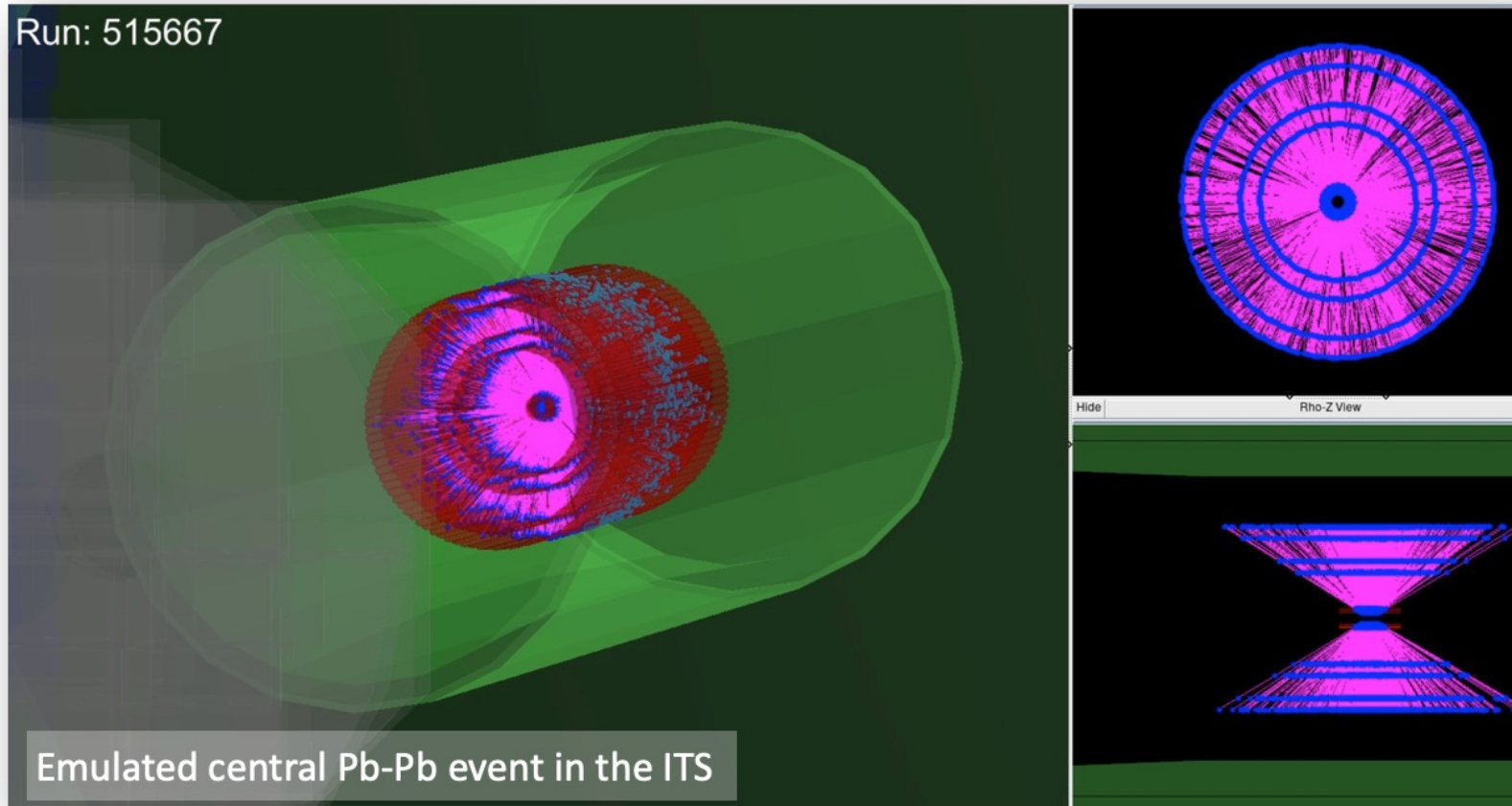
Results:

- Scan with **online analysis** successfully run on full detector
- before tuning: settings used in surface commissioning, **detector already fully efficient**
- After tuning: **Thresholds very stable on all the chips: RMS of threshold distribution** compatible with what we had during production
- ENC noise $\sim 5e^-$

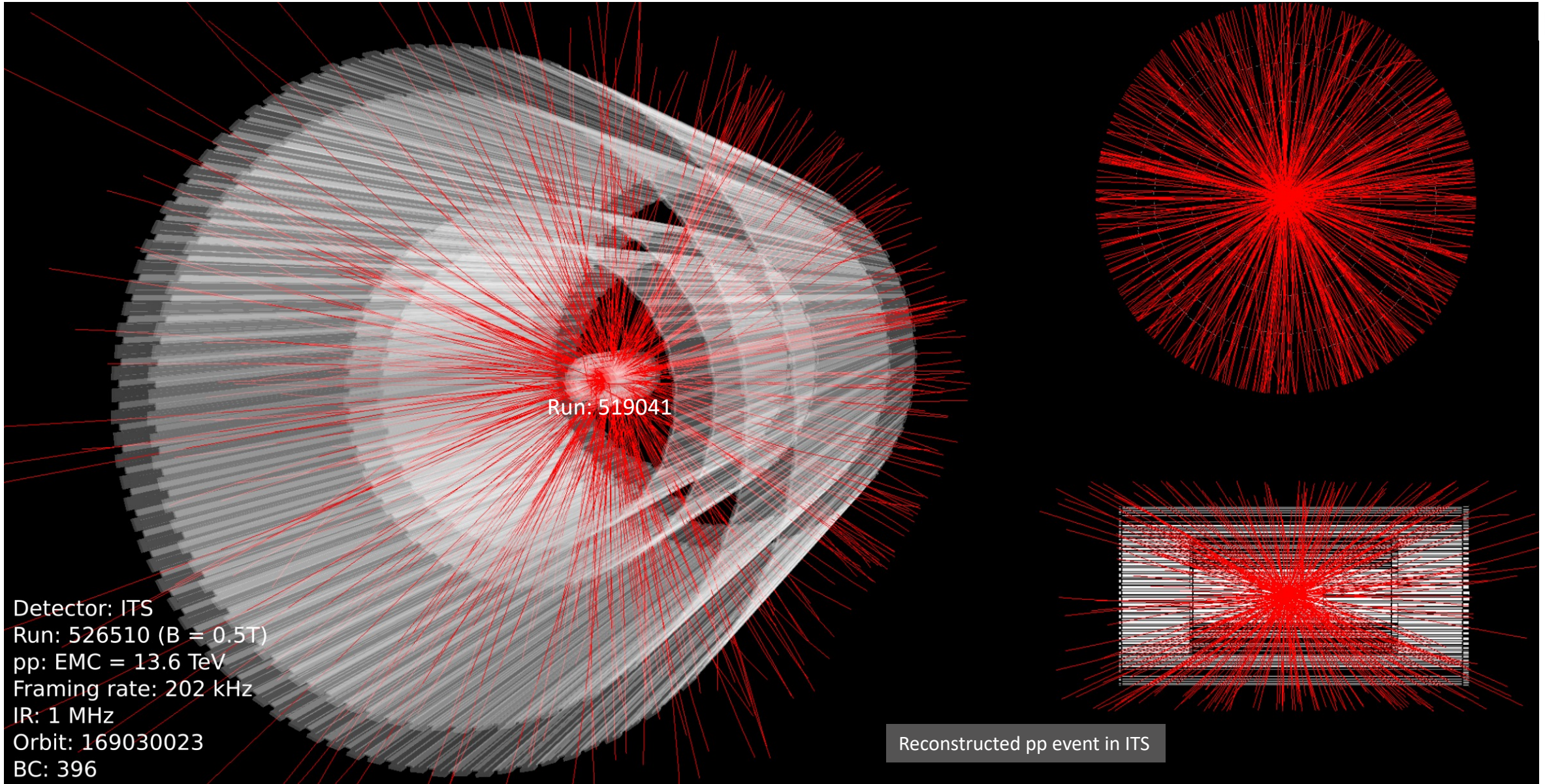


Data Taking Preparation

- Last part of commissioning phase devoted to prepare and test settings optimized for pp with 200 kHz framing rate (instead of 45 kHz for Pb-Pb) to achieve better time resolution reducing pile-up
 - successfully tested tested in pp Pilot Beam (2022)
- **Extensive test runs with emulated Pb-Pb and pp events (injected into the detector front-end) to test detector, processing chain under realistic load**



RUN 3 readiness





ALICE

Pb-Pb 5.36 TeV

LHC22s period

18th November 2022

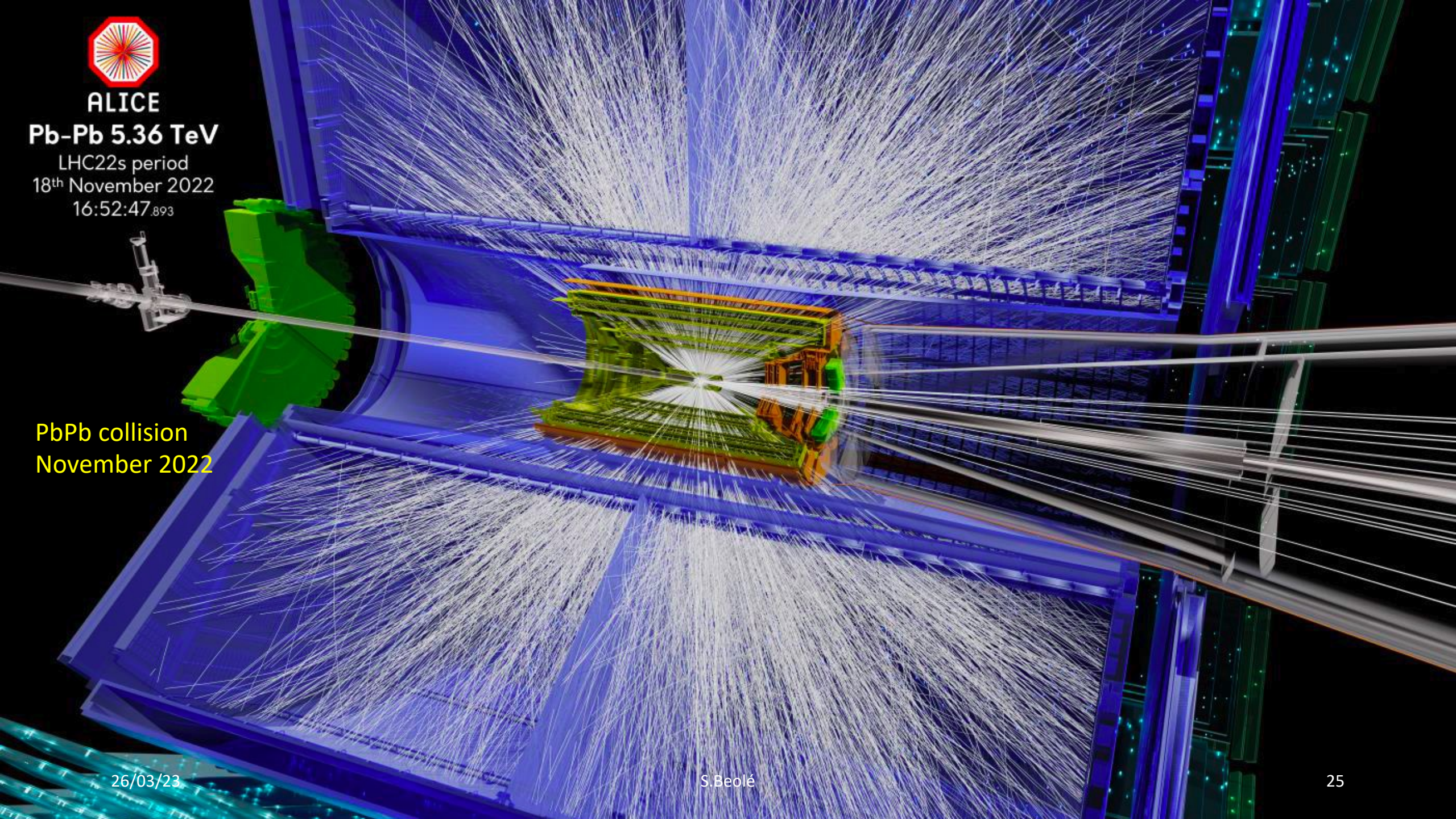
16:52:47.893

PbPb collision
November 2022

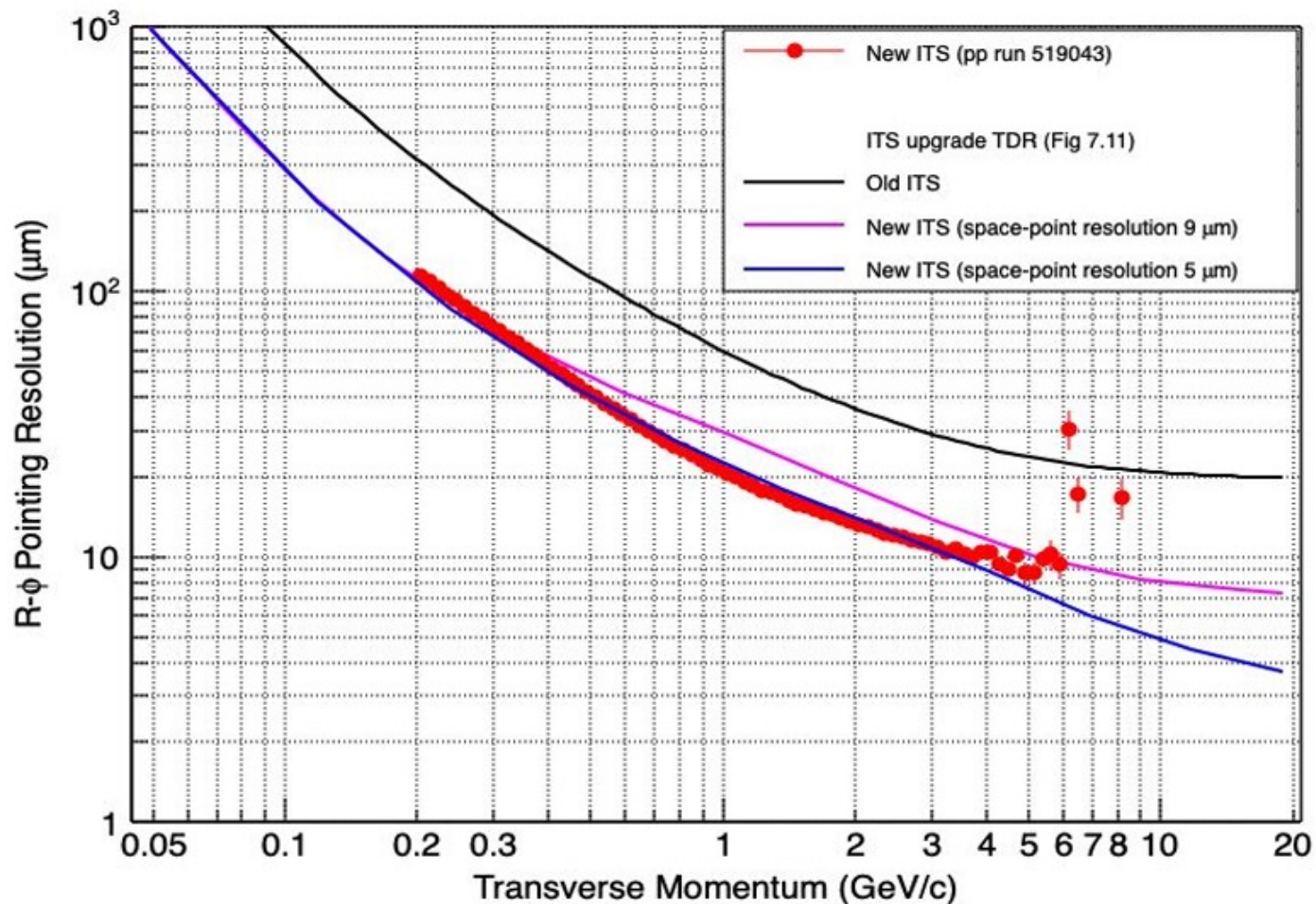
26/03/23

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Impact parameter in pp (preliminary)



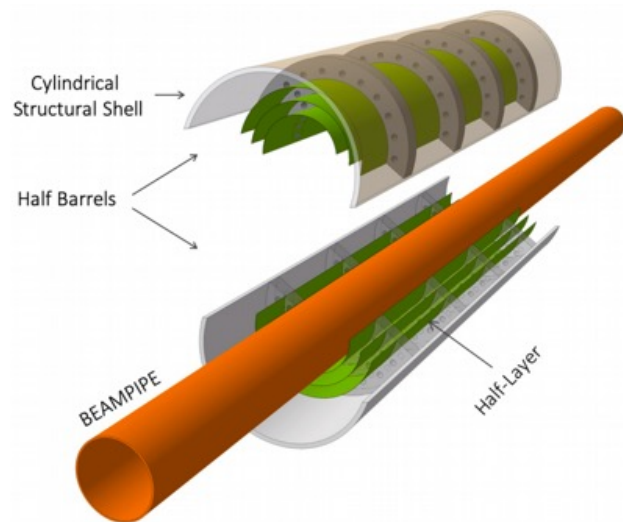
Analysis conditions:

Collisions with at least 6 reconstructed tracks

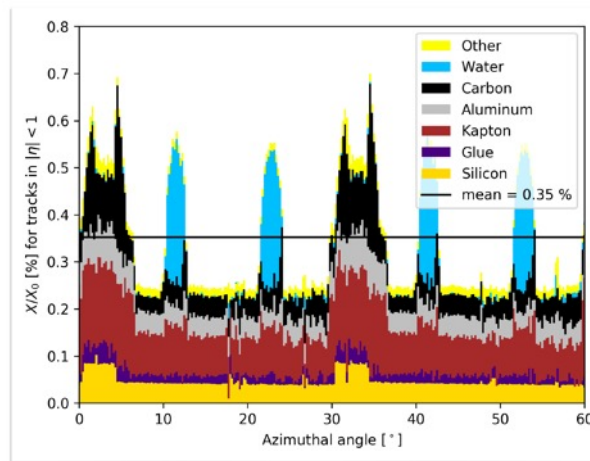
Tracks with 7 clusters only, with a $p_T > 0.2 \text{ GeV}/c$

Can we improve further?

ALICE 2.1: ITS3 the “all silicon” detector

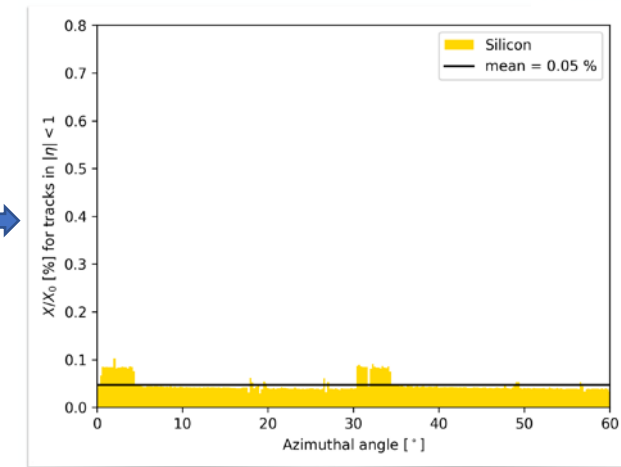


- **GOAL for ALICE ITS3:**
 - improve determination of primary and secondary vertices at high rate
 - go closer to interaction point
 - reduce material budget X/X_0 0.35% \rightarrow 0.05%
- **“SILICON ONLY” TRACKER?**
 - exploit stitching \rightarrow large area sensors
 - thin and bend \rightarrow single sensor half layers
- **TECHNOLOGY CHOICE:**
 - 65 nm TPSCo (Tower & Partners Semiconductor): 300mm wafers and stitching available
 - 65 nm \rightarrow lower power consumption
 - 7 metal layers



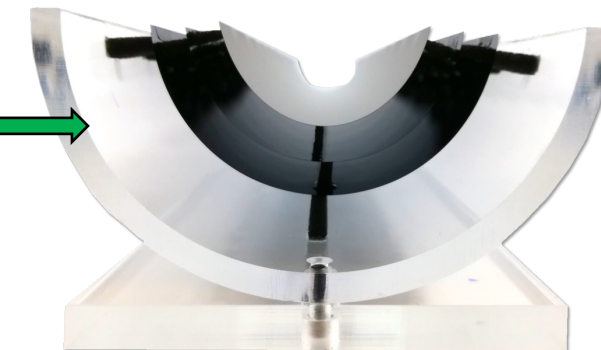
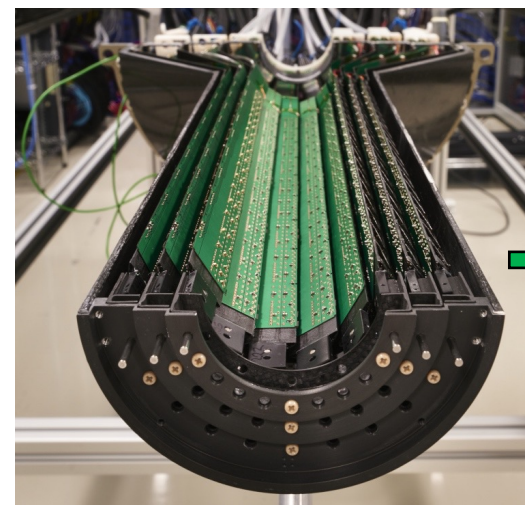
ITS2 Layer 0: $X/X_0=0.35\%$

ITS2 Inner Barrel



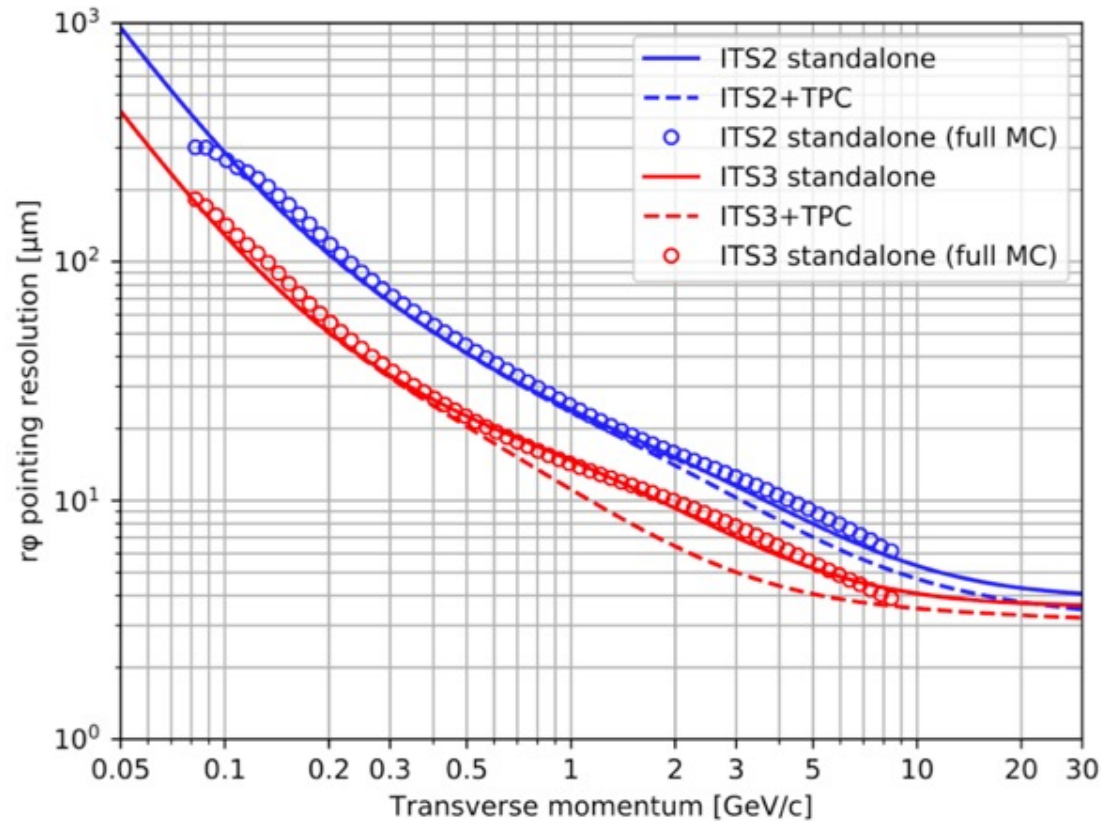
ITS3 only silicon: $X/X_0=0.05\%$

ITS3 mechanical mockup



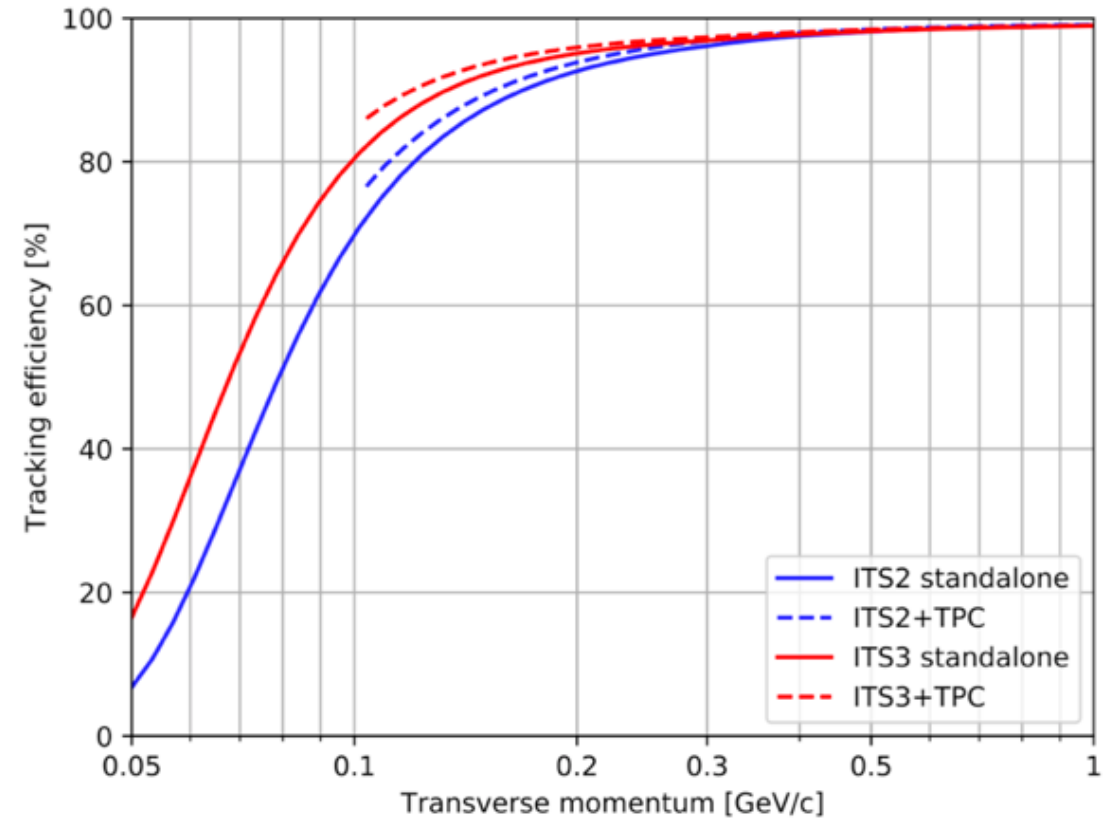
ITS3 expected performance

pointing resolution



Improvement of a factor 2 over all momenta

tracking efficiency

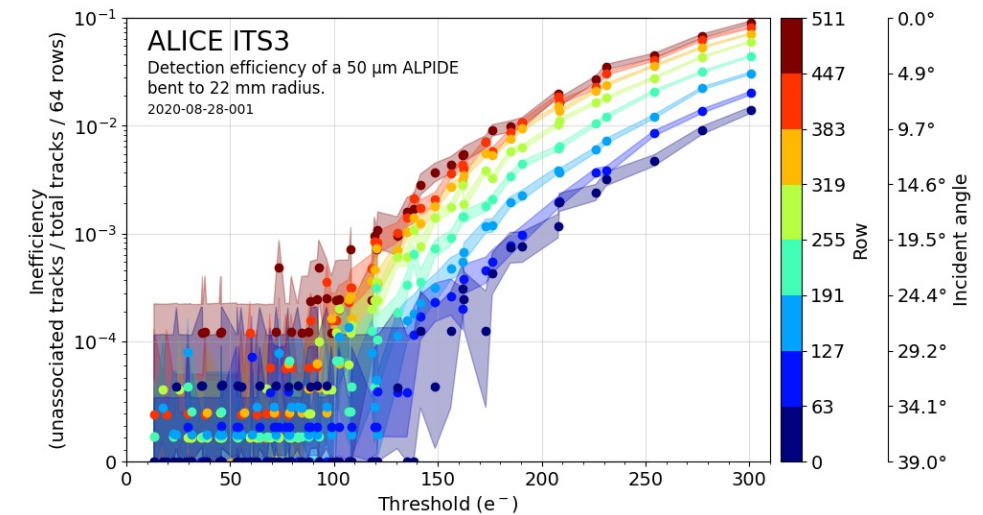
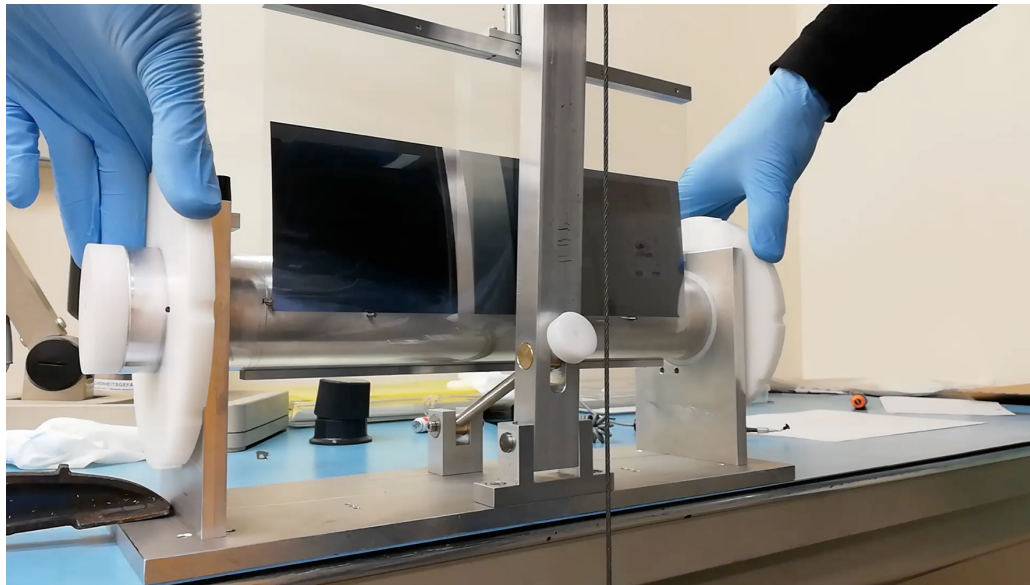
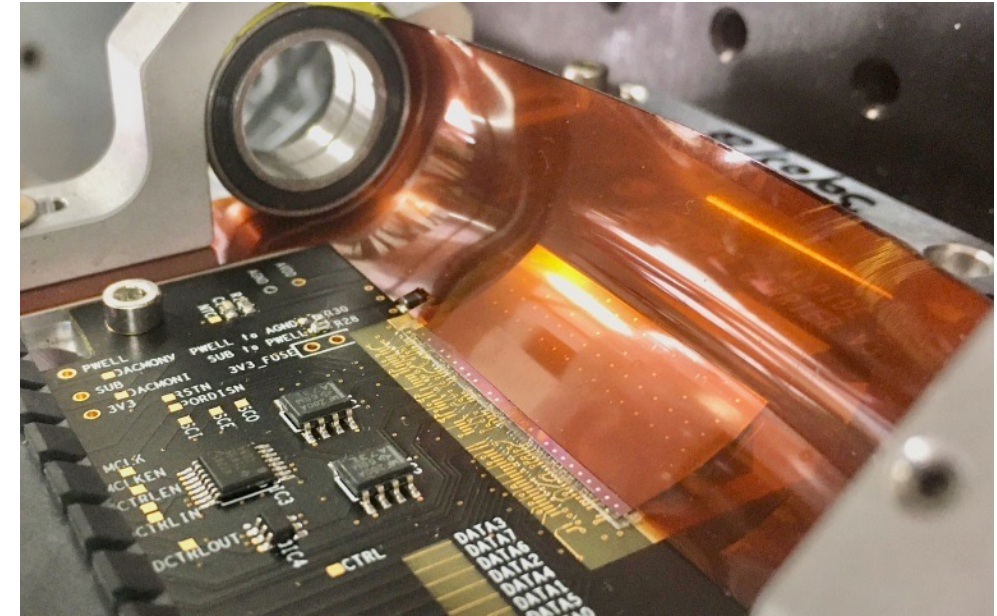


Large Improvement for low transverse momenta

Ongoing R&D: Thinning and Bending of CMOS sensors



- Bending of 180nm small size MAPS
 - 50 μm thick ITS2 chip (ALPIDE) bent to 22 mm showed excellent efficiency in the beam test in 2020
- Development of tools to bend large area silicon sensors

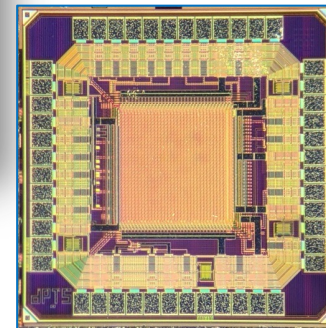
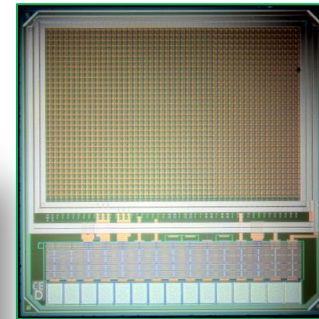
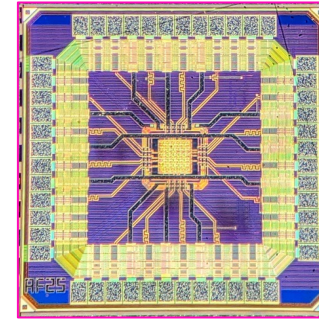
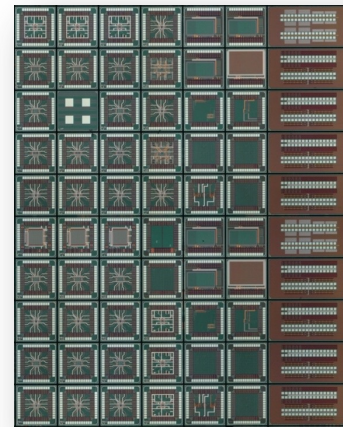
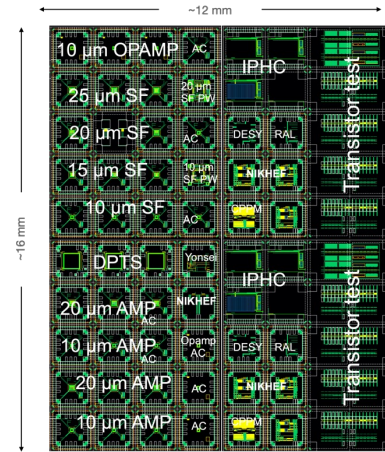


Ongoing R&D: technology validation



ALICE

- First test submission (MLR1) for 65nm in December 2020
- Main goals:
 - Learn technology features
 - Characterize charge collection
 - Validate radiation tolerance
- Each reticle (12×16 mm²):
 - 10 transistor test structures (3×1.5 mm²)
 - 60 chips (1.5×1.5 mm²)
 - Analogue blocks
 - Digital blocks
 - Pixel prototype chips: APTS, CE65, DPTS
- Testing since September 2021:
 - huge effort shared among many institutes
 - laboratory tests with ⁵⁵Fe source
 - beam tests @ PS, SPS, Desy, MAMI



APTS:

- 6×6 pixel matrix
- Direct analogue readout of central 4×4 submatrix
- Two types of output drivers:
 1. Traditional source follower (APTS-SF)
 2. Very fast OpAmp (APTS-OA)
- 4 pitches: 10, 15, 20, 25 μm

CE65:

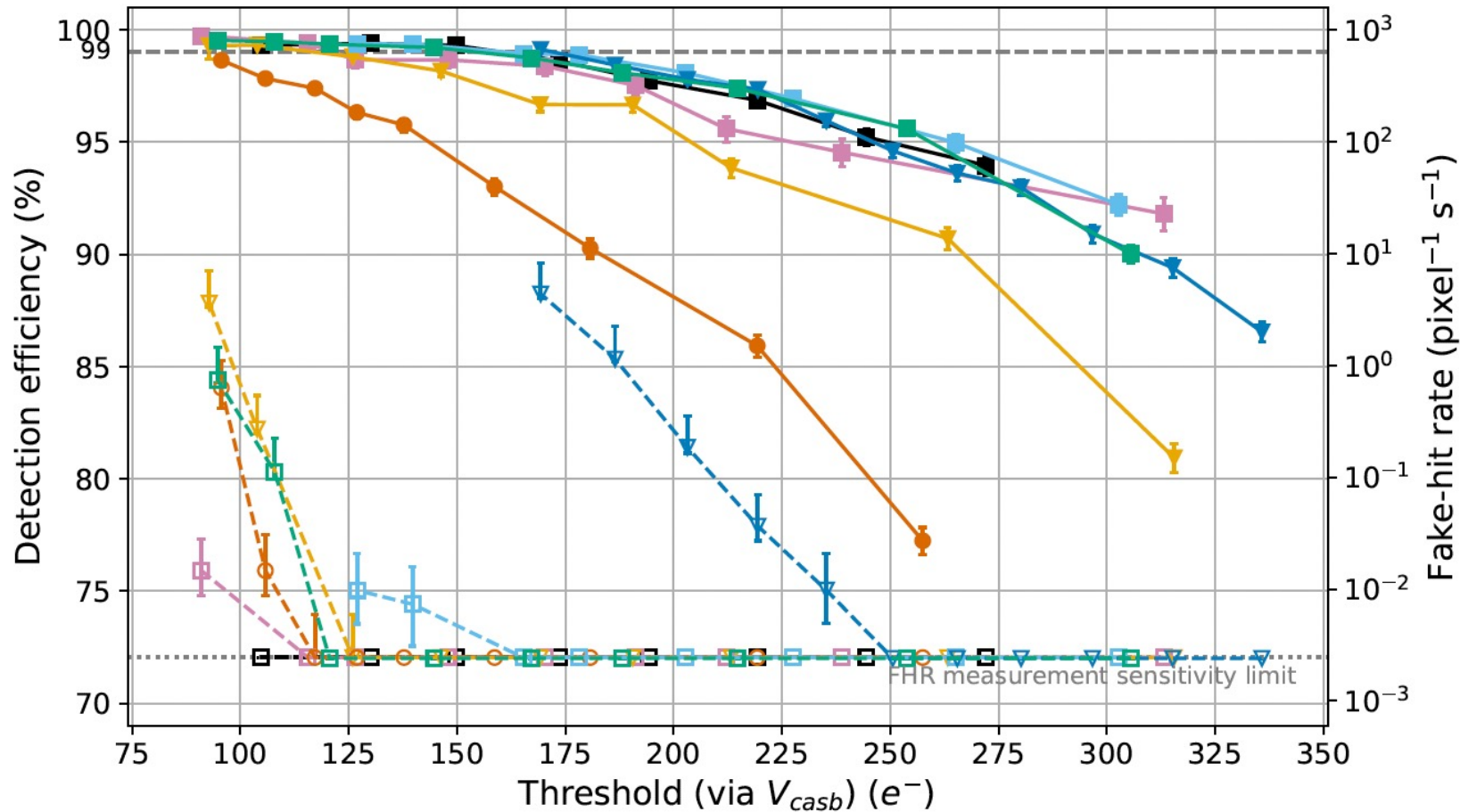
- 2 matrix sizes, 15 or 25 μm pitch
- Rolling shutter readout (50 μs integration time)
- 3 in-pixel architectures:
 1. AC-coupled amplifier
 2. DC-coupled amplifier
 3. Source follower

DPTS:

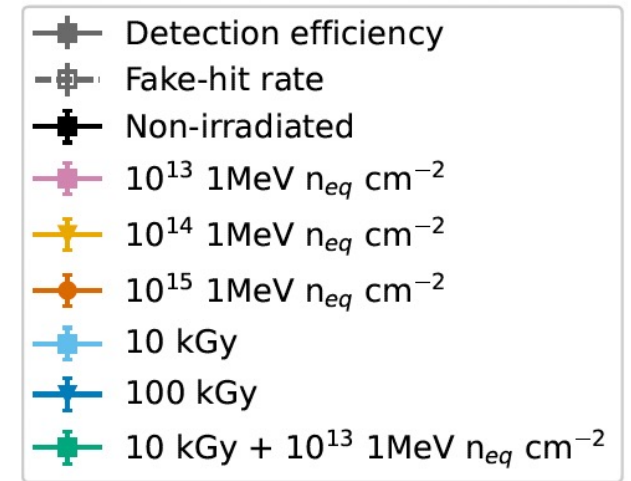
- 32×32 pixel matrix
- Asynchronous digital readout
- Time-over-Threshold information
- Pitch: 15×15 μm²

AREA: 1.5×1.5 mm²

Chosen results for DPTS: radiation hardness



Detectors operated at 20°C

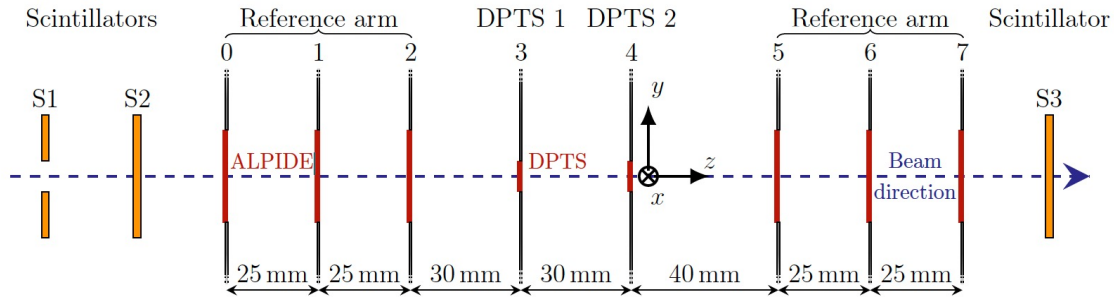


DPTS:

- 32×32 pixel matrix
- Asynchronous digital readout
- Time-over-Threshold information
- Pitch: $15 \times 15 \mu\text{m}^2$

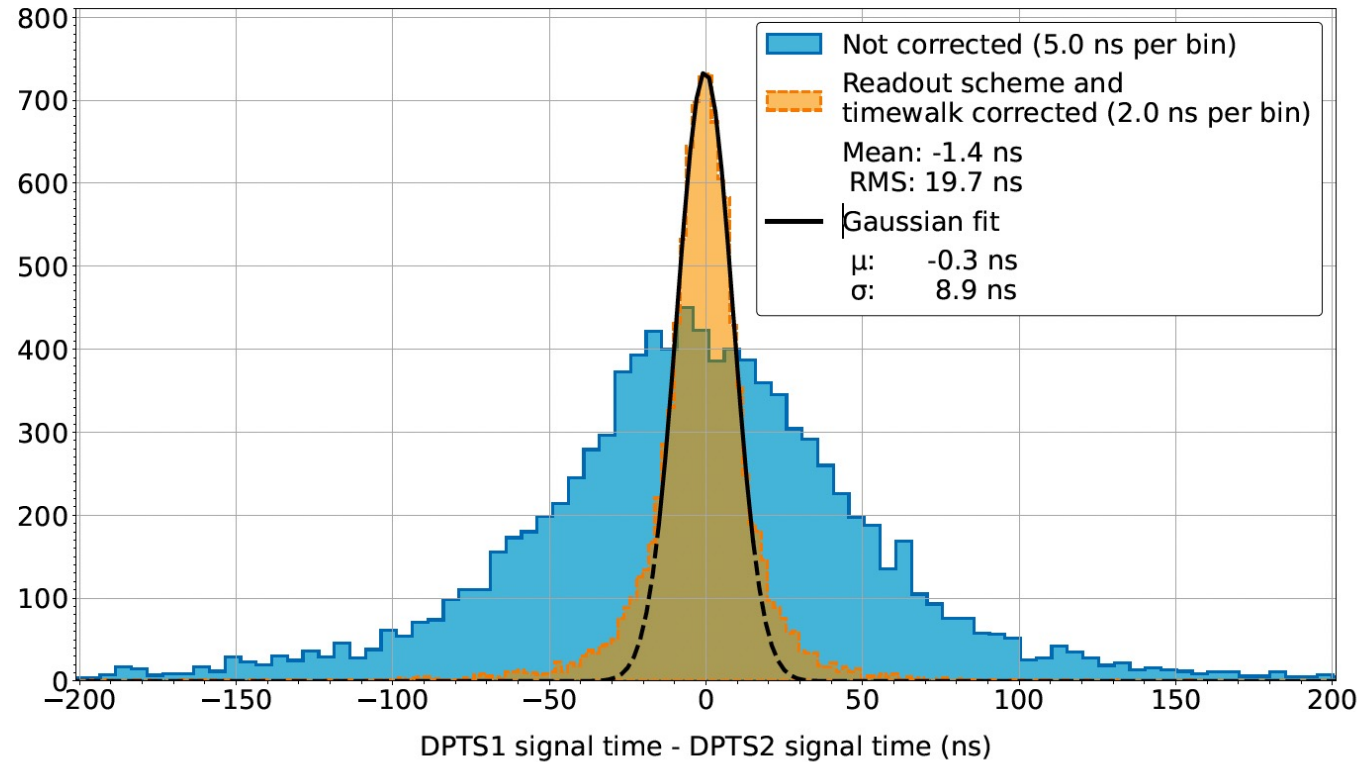
Detection efficiency and FHR for different irradiation levels

DPTS Timing resolution



Sketch of the beam test telescope

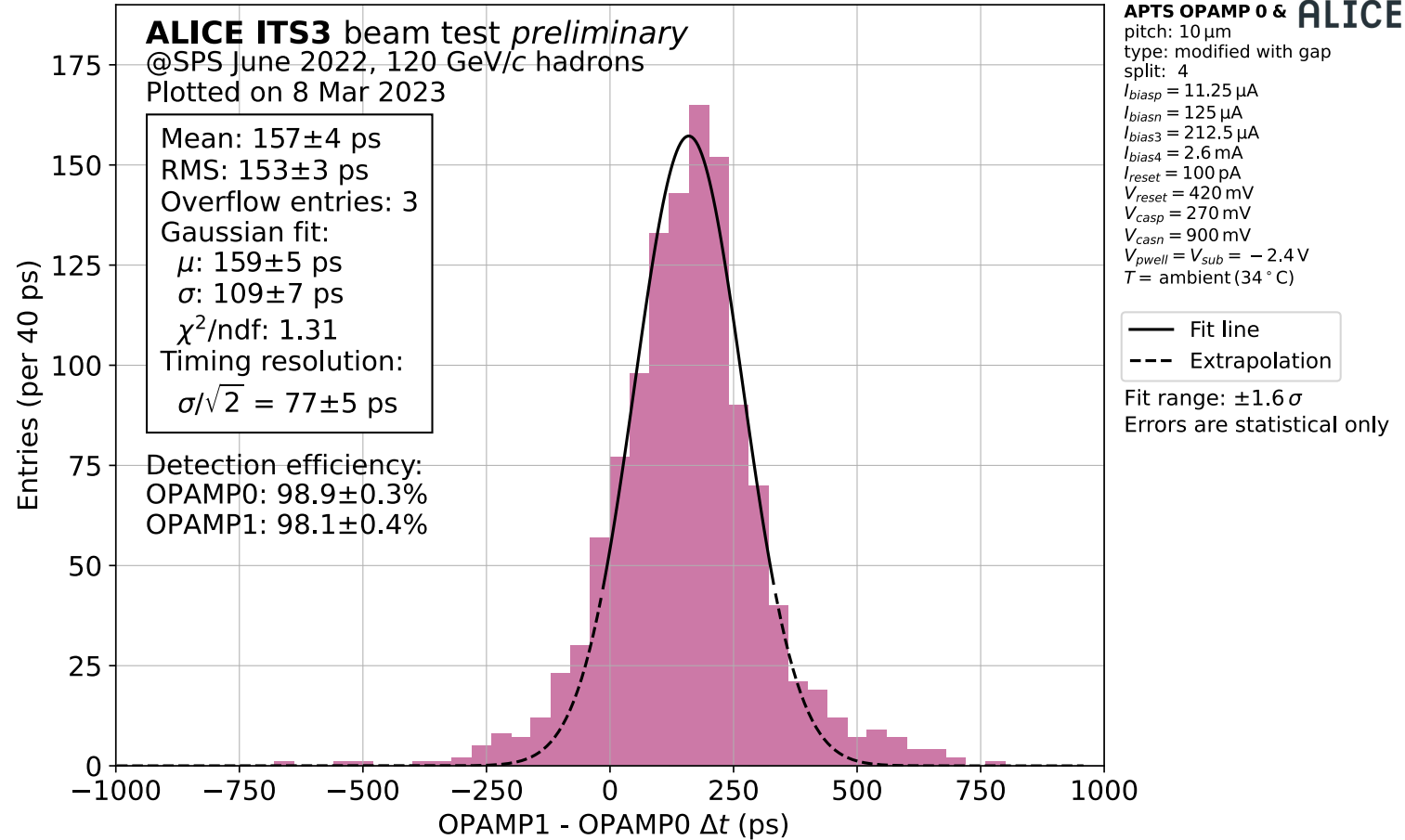
- Two DPTS are sandwiched between reference planes made of ALPIDE chips.
- Two scintillators (S2 and S3), operated in coincidence, and one featuring a 1mm hole (S1), operated in anti-coincidence, are used for triggering.
- The trigger can also be provided by one of the two DPTS
- Beam: 5.4 GeV/c electrons



- Time residuals distributions of two DPTSs with no corrections (blue) and with readout scheme and time walk corrections applied (orange)
- FE parameters not optimised for timing performance ($I_{\text{bias}}=10\text{nA}$): more results coming soon



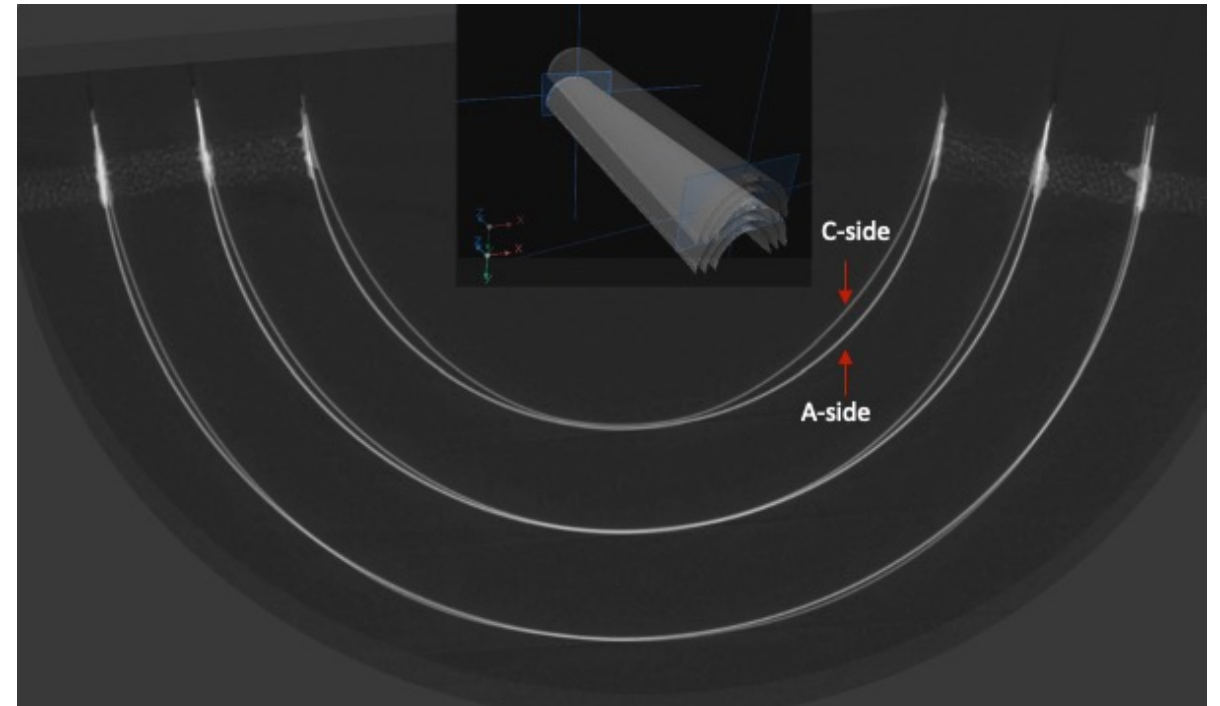
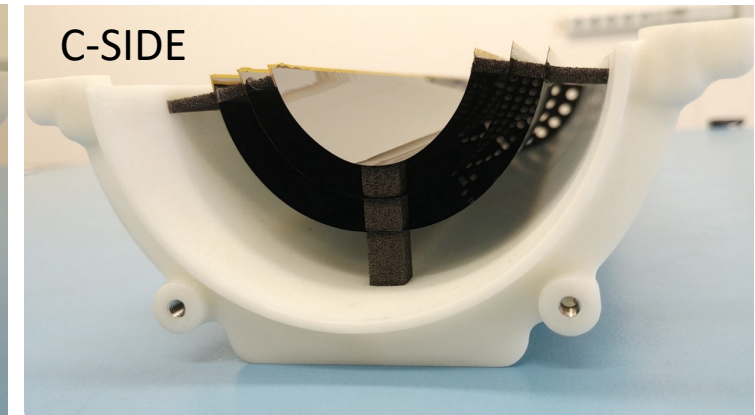
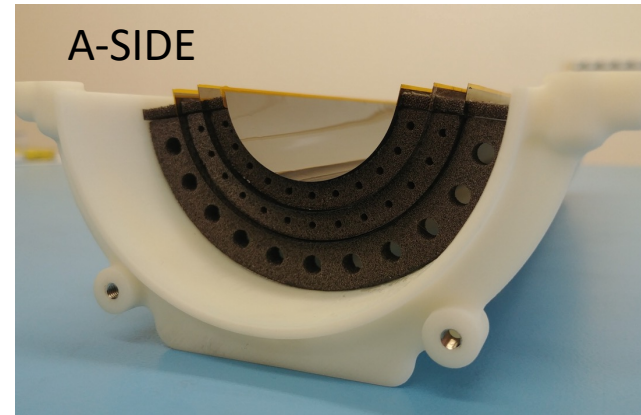
- Analog output test structure with OpAmp to start test the timing performance of the technology
- First results from June 2022 beam test available:
 - timing performance
 - efficiency



- **CFD Time stamp** $t = t_{10\%CFD}$
- **Time difference** $\Delta t = t_{OPAMP1} - t_{OPAMP0}$ distribution is fitted with **Gaussian** function
- Fitted with $\pm 1.5\sigma$ range (solid line)
- **Efficiency** on both OPAMP plane with **5.5 mV (150e)** threshold: **~99%**
- **Time resolution: 77 ± 5 ps** without time walk/jitter correction

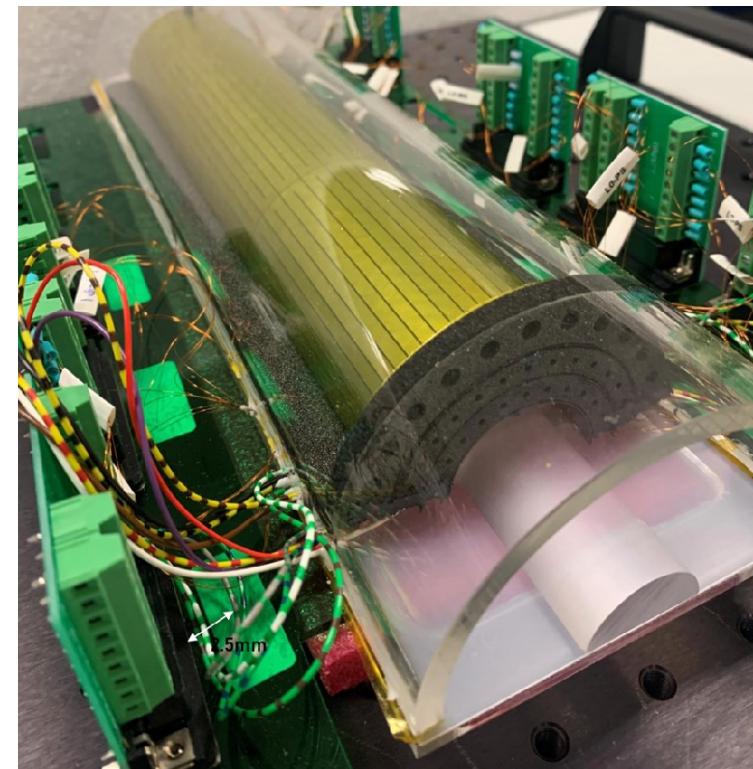
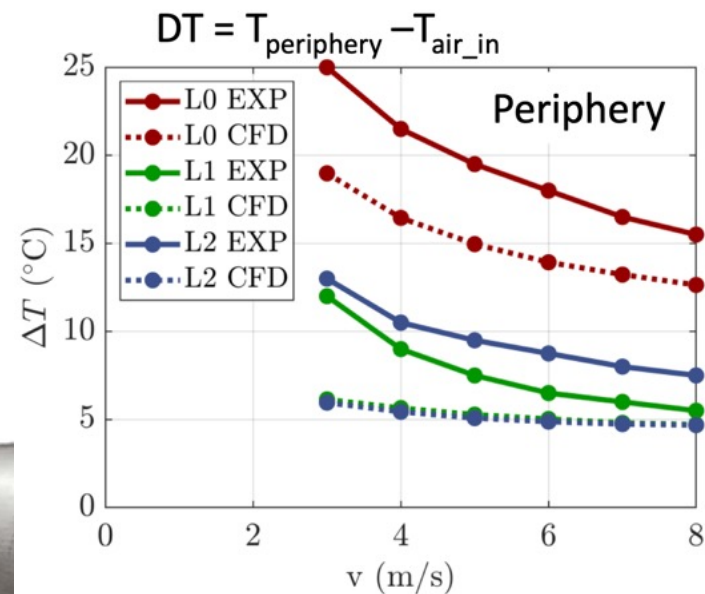
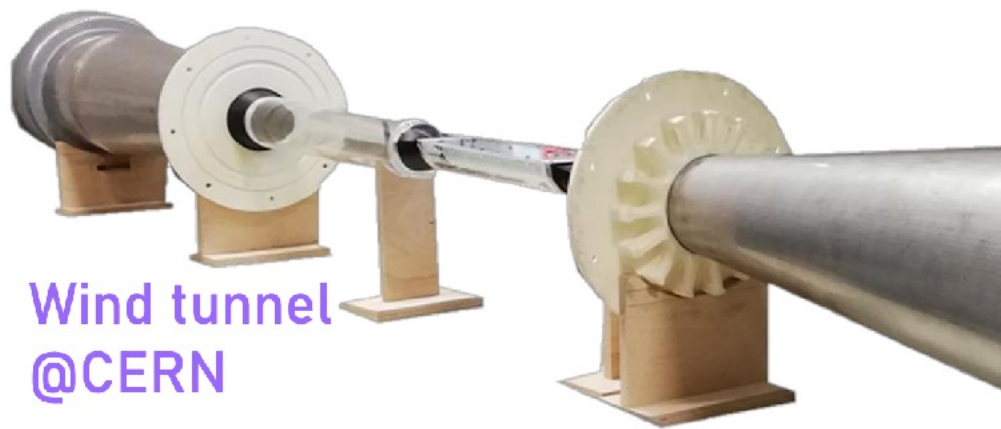
Mechanics:

- Engineering models of ITS3 are being produced
 - Equipped with dummy silicon
- Used to study:
 - support structures
 - bending
 - integration
 - resulting geometry
- Very successful integration of EM1 and EM2
- Off-shape distortions are identified and mitigation will be implemented in EM3



Cooling:

- Models including heating elements are being developed
- In a custom wind tunnel, thermal and mechanical properties are studied

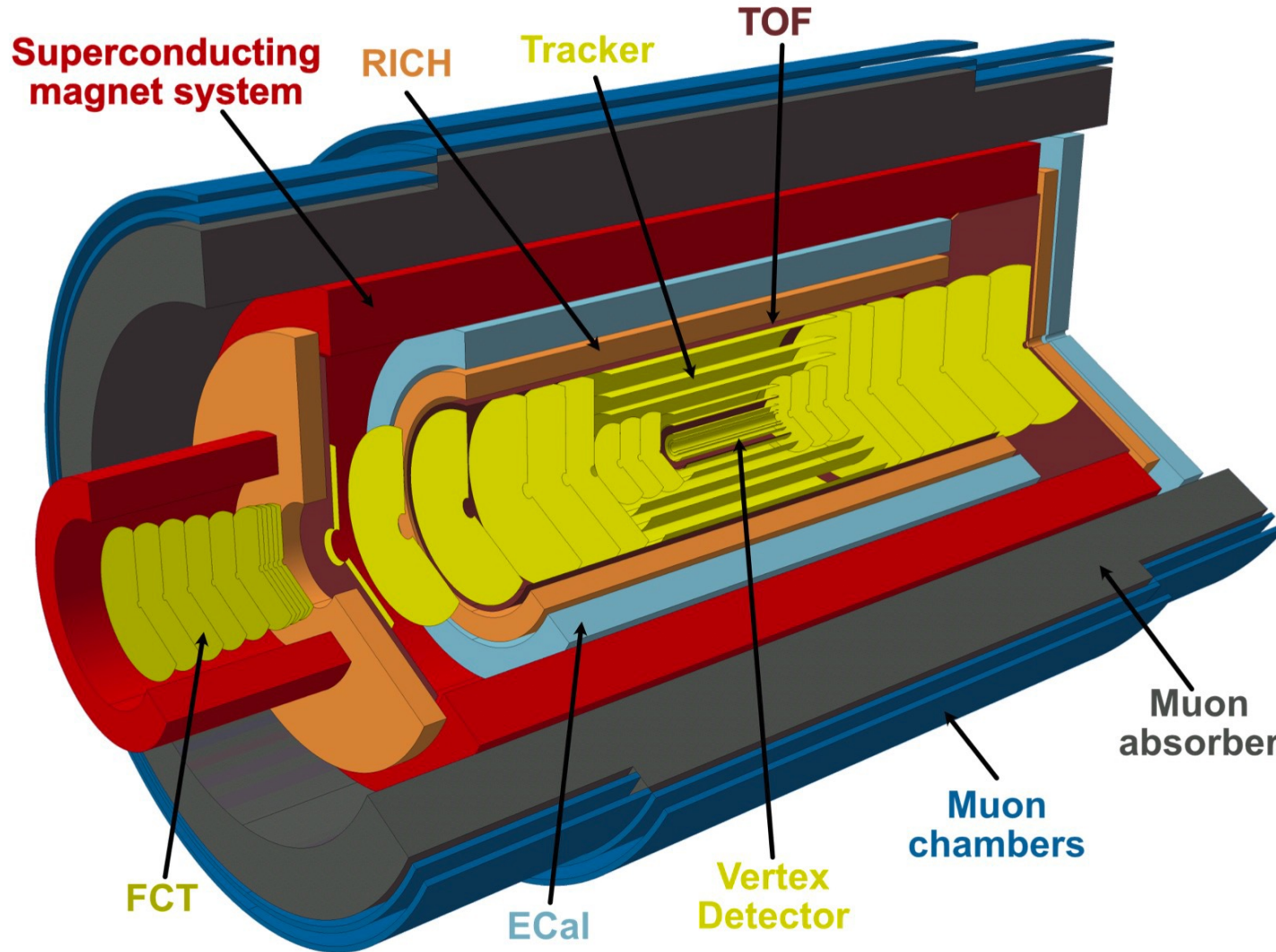


A silicon only experiment?

Large future silicon based experimental set-ups

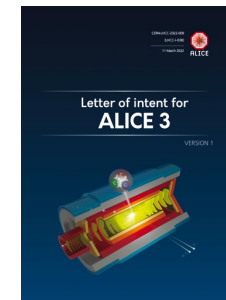


LHC timeline after RUN 4:



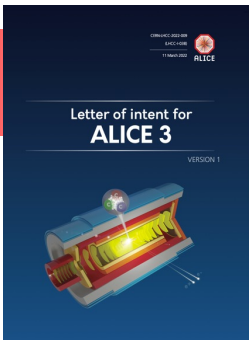
ALICE3

Ambition to design a new experiment to continue with a rich heavy-ion programme at the HL-LHC” mentioned in the **Update of the European strategy for particle physics**



arXiv:2211.02491

ALICE 3: tracker + vertex detector

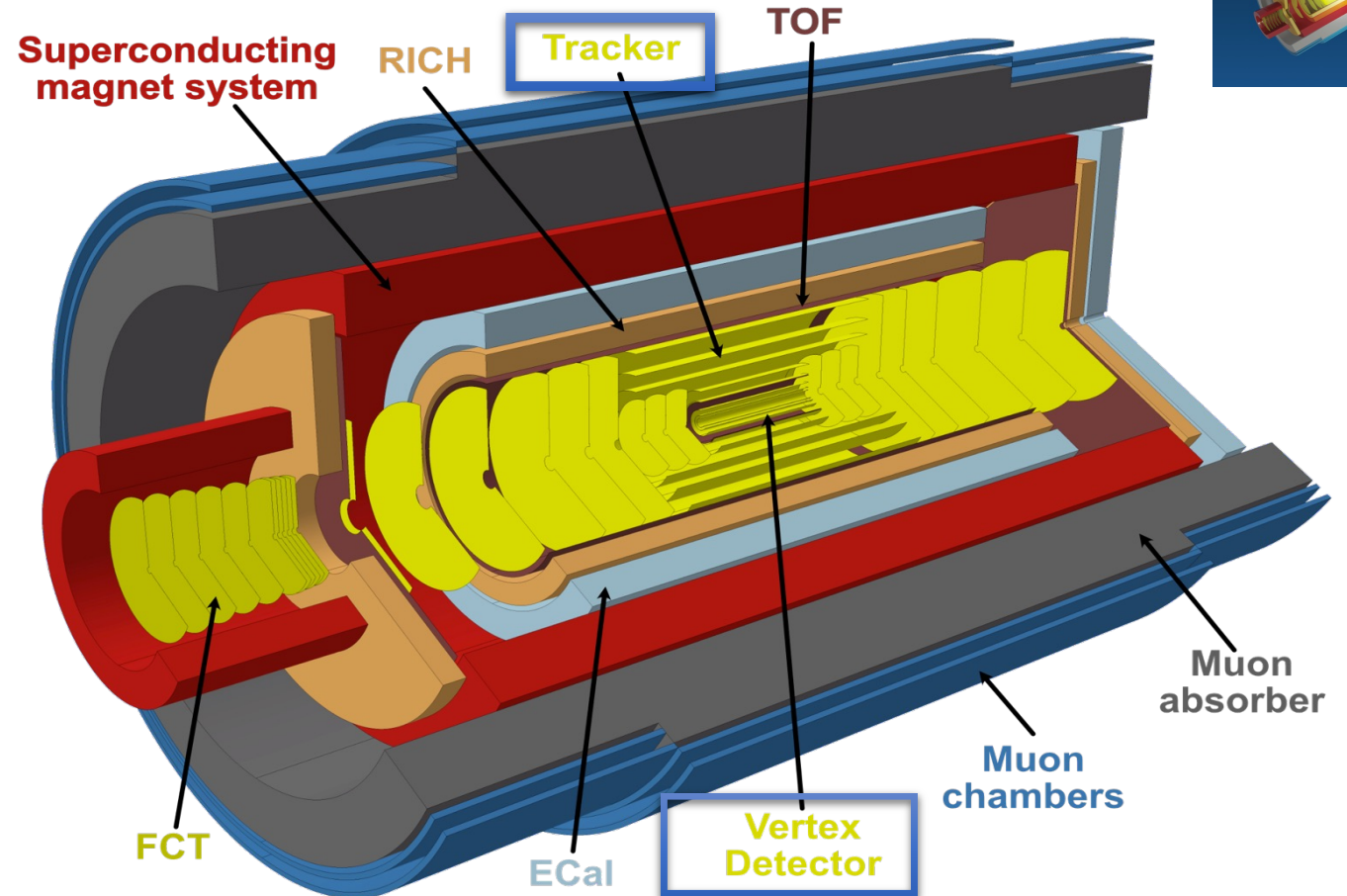


GOALS:

- Tracking and PID over large acceptance
- Excellent vertexing
- Continuous readout

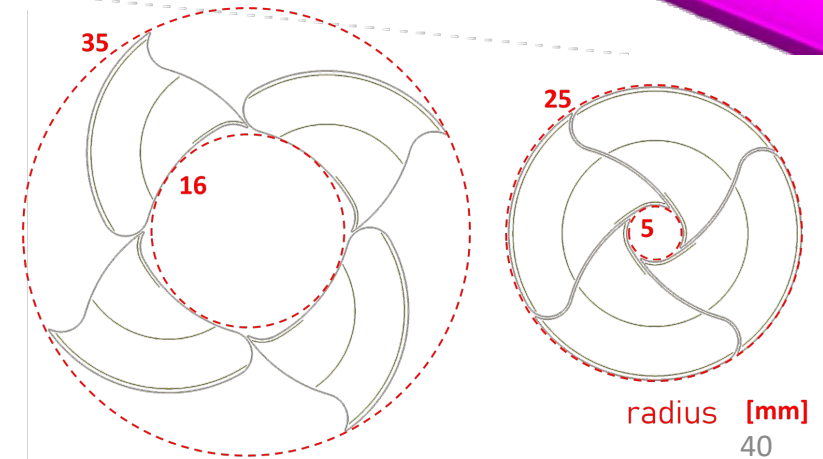
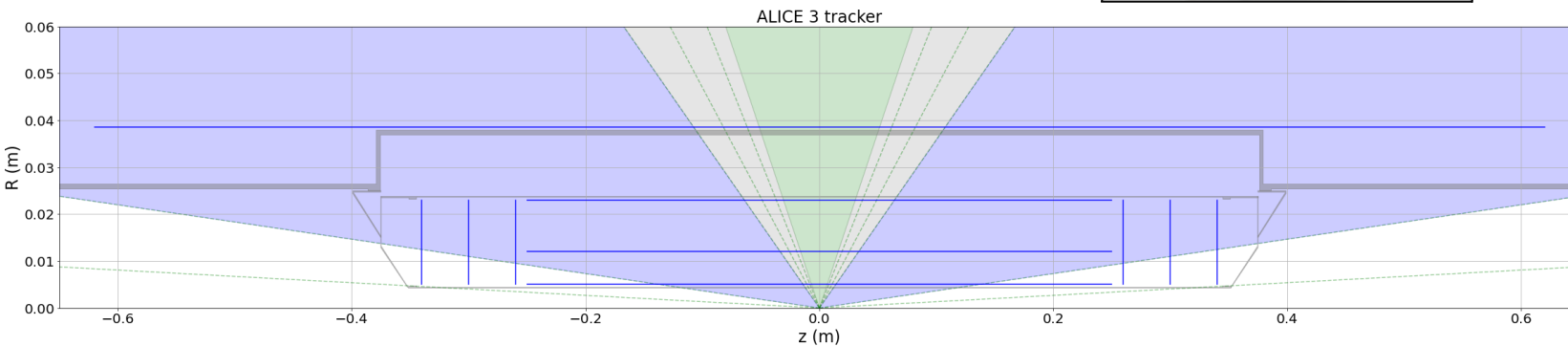
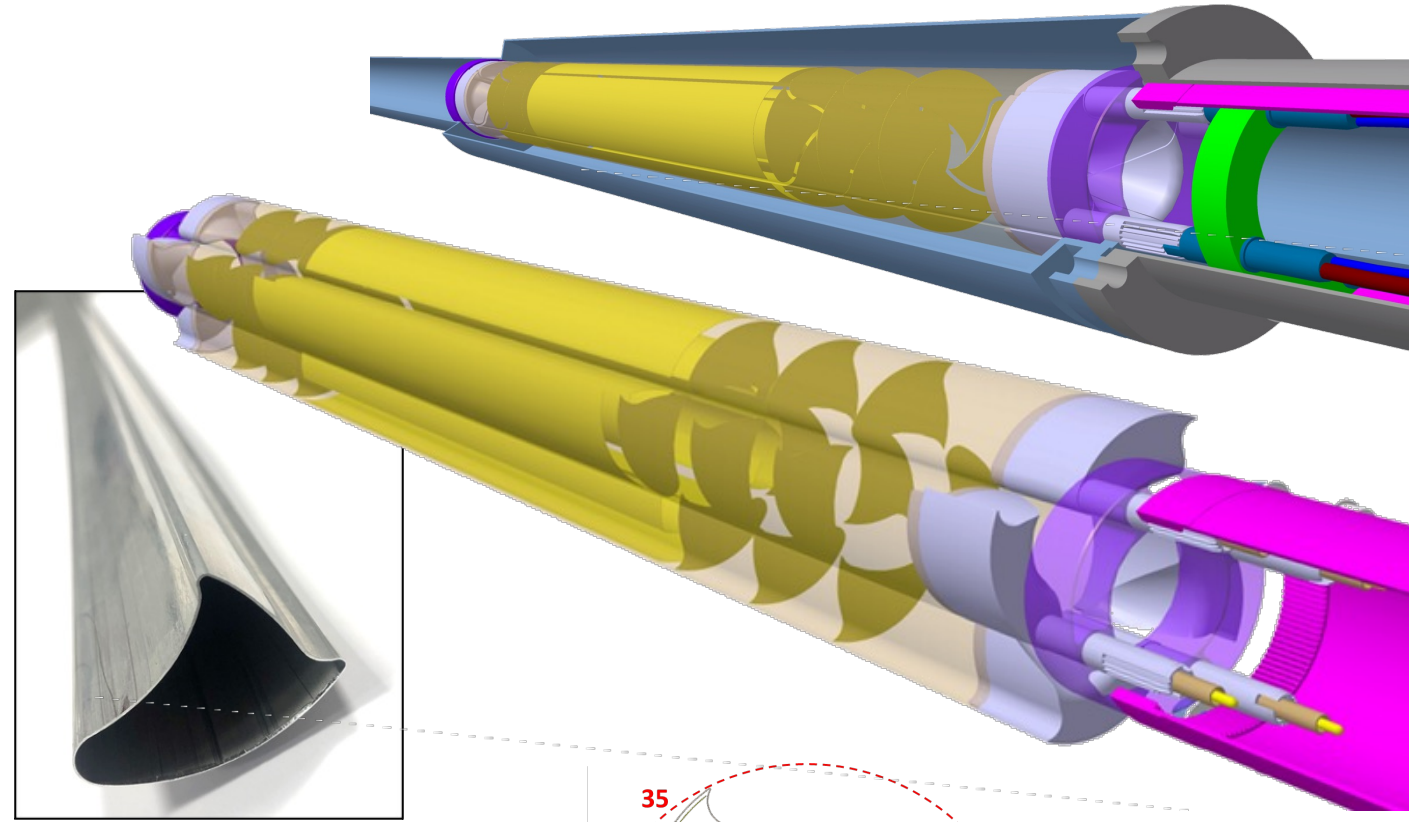
REQUIREMENTS

- **Tracker:** low power, large surface **60 m²** (challenges: yield, fill factor)
 - Monolithic CMOS sensors with timing (4D tracking)
- **Vertex detector:** very close to IP (challenges: high rate, high radiation load)
 - Retractable detector (iris tracker) $R_{in} \approx 5$ mm
 - Wafer-scale monolithic CMOS sensors



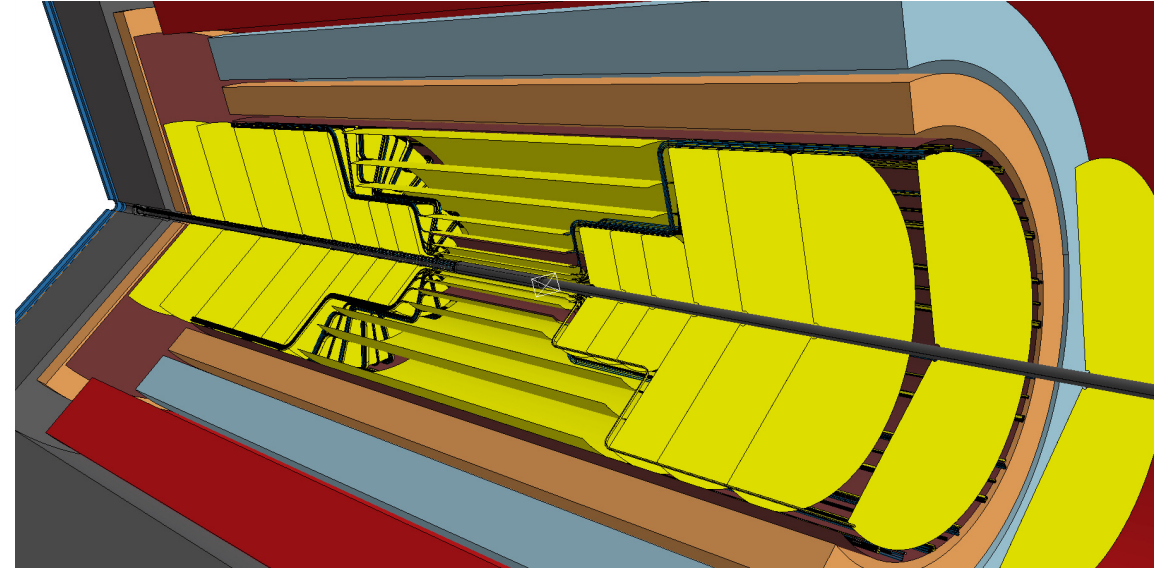
Vertex Detector

- **Conceptual study**
 - wafer-sized, **bent MAPS** (leveraging on ITS3 activities)
 - rotary petals for secondary vacuum (thin Be walls to minimise material)
 - feed-throughs for power, cooling, data
- **R&D challenges** on mechanics, cooling, radiation tolerance

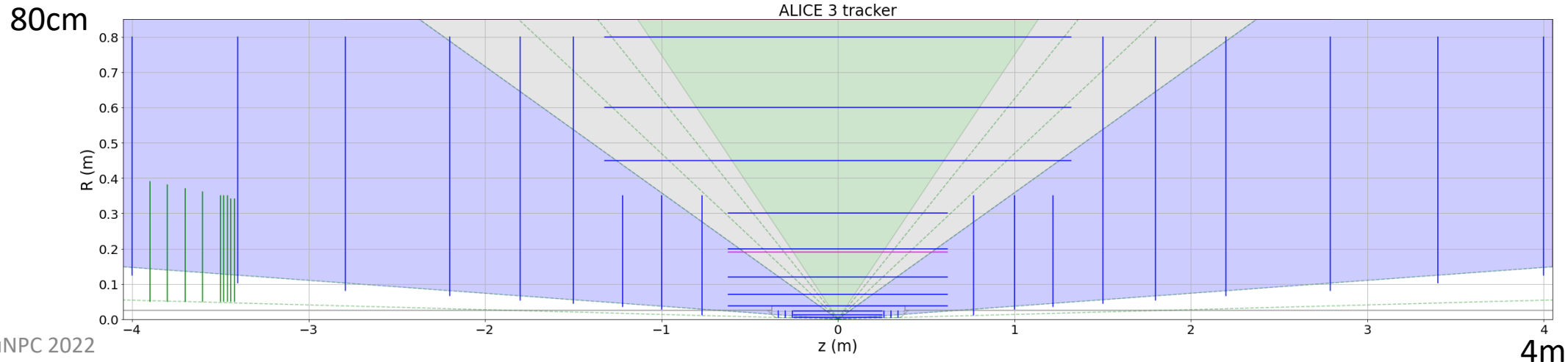


Tracking: Outer tracker

- **Relative p_T resolution** $\propto \frac{\sqrt{x/X_0}}{B \cdot L} \rightarrow \sim 1\%$ up to $\eta = 4$
 - critically depends on integrated magnetic field and overall material budget
- **Layout: ~ 11 tracking layers (barrel + disks)**
 - **MAPS modules** on water-cooled carbon-fibre cold plate
 - $\sigma_{\text{pos}} \sim 10 \mu\text{m} \rightarrow 50 \mu\text{m}$ pixel pitch
 - **timing resolution ~ 100 ns** (\rightarrow reduce mismatch probability)
 - material $\sim 1\%$ X_0 / layer \rightarrow overall $X/X_0 = 10\%$
- **R&D challenges on**
 - **powering scheme** (\rightarrow material)
 - **industrialisation**



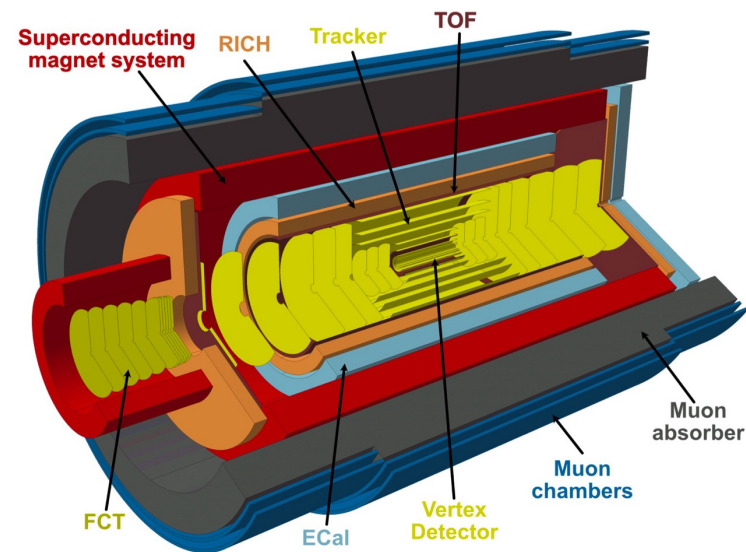
Total silicon surface $\sim 60 \text{ m}^2$



ALICE 3 time of flight with silicon sensors?

Innovative detector concept

- ❑ Compact and lightweight all-silicon tracker
- ❑ Retractable vertex detector
- ❑ **Extensive particle identification**
- ❑ Large acceptance
- ❑ Superconducting magnet system
- ❑ Continuous read-out and online processing



TOF

- outer TOF at $R \approx 85$ cm
- inner TOF at $R \approx 19$ cm
- forward TOF at $z \approx 405$ cm

Separation power $\propto L/\sigma_{TOF}$

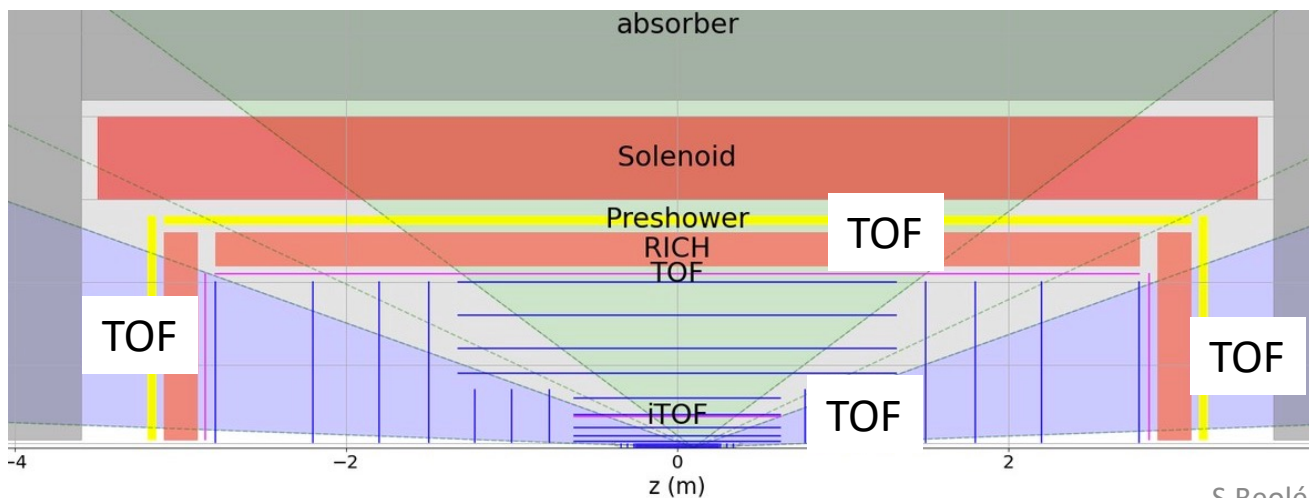
- distance and time resolution crucial
- larger radius results in lower p_T bound

2 barrel + 1 forward TOF layers 45 m² in total

Silicon timing sensors ($\sigma_{TOF} \approx 20$ ps)

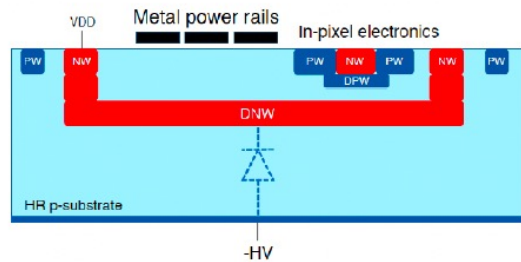
Material budget: 1-3% X/X₀

Power consumption: <50mW/cm²

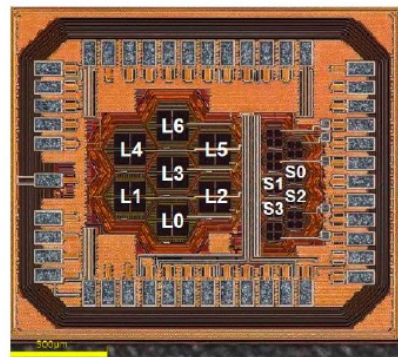


- Advantages:

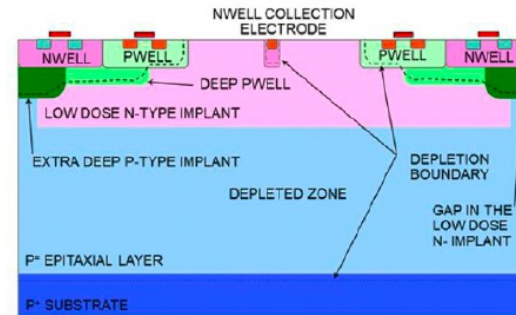
- Potentially 100% efficiency
- Excellent radiation hardness demonstrated for several processes
- Cost-effectiveness—on chip digitization, time-tagging and data pre-processing



Y. Degerli et al., 2020 JINST 15 P06011



G. Iacobucci et al., 2019 JINST 14 P11008



T. Kugathasan et al., Nucl. Inst. Meth. A Vol. 979, Nov. 2020

Several monolithic projects targeting enhanced timing resolution

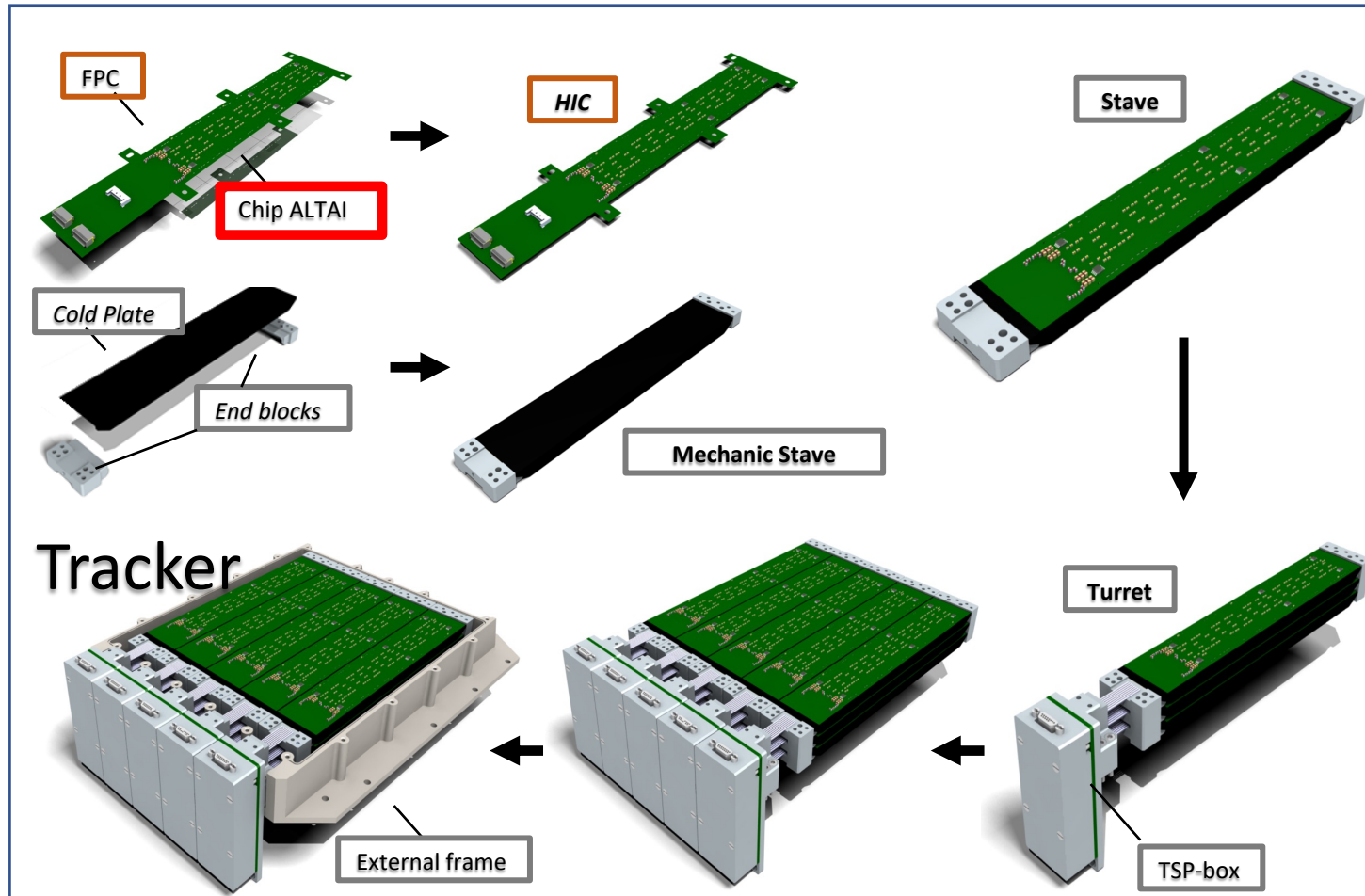
- Challenges

- Fast collection (100s of ps) and low capacitance at the same time
- Low power consumption
- **20 ps resolution obtained experimentally recently by Monolith project (<https://arxiv.org/abs/2301.12244>)**, not yet in reach for the other developments...

MAPS in SPACE

Monolithic Active Pixel Sensors: first use in space

Limadou HEPD02 on the CSES2 mission



Tracker

An 80 megapixel CMOS camera for charged radiation

26/03/23

S.Beol 

Advantages:

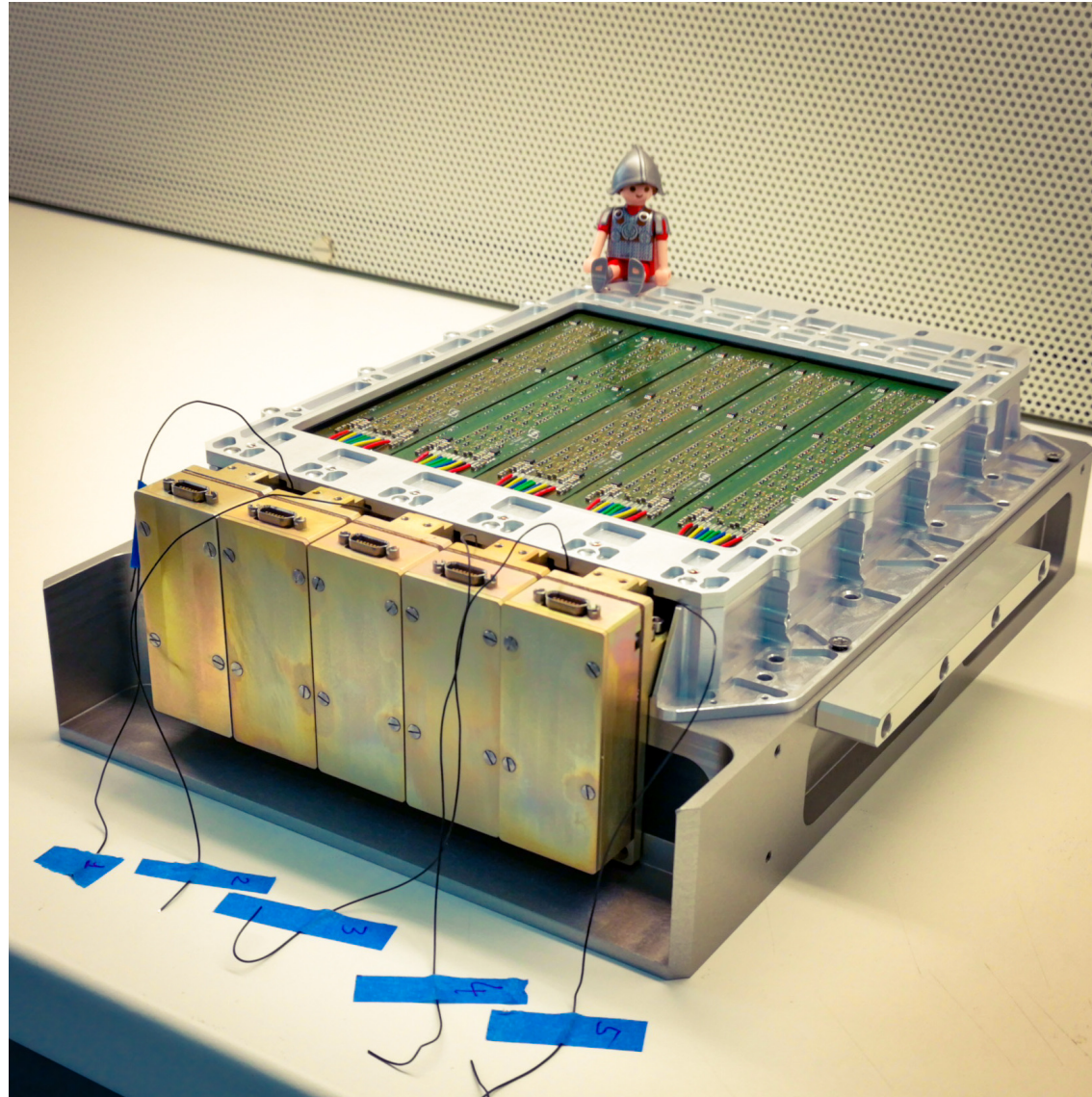
- reduces systematic uncertainties on tracking: down to 4um single-hit resolution
- no multi-hit degeneracy
- Extremely low material budget: 50um thin, control and read-out based on ultra-thin (180 um) flexible printed circuits
- Cheaper than standard microstrips
- Monolithic: in-pixel FE electronics: unmatched S/N ratio (10^{-8} fake hits per trigger)

Challenges for use in space

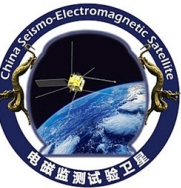
- Tradeoff for mechanical supports: avoid multiple scattering but withstand launch acceleration and vibrations
- Limited power budget
- Heat dissipation
- Digital readout: limited information about charge

Monolithic Active Pixel Sensors: first use in space

full QM HEPD-02 tracker dry assembly test

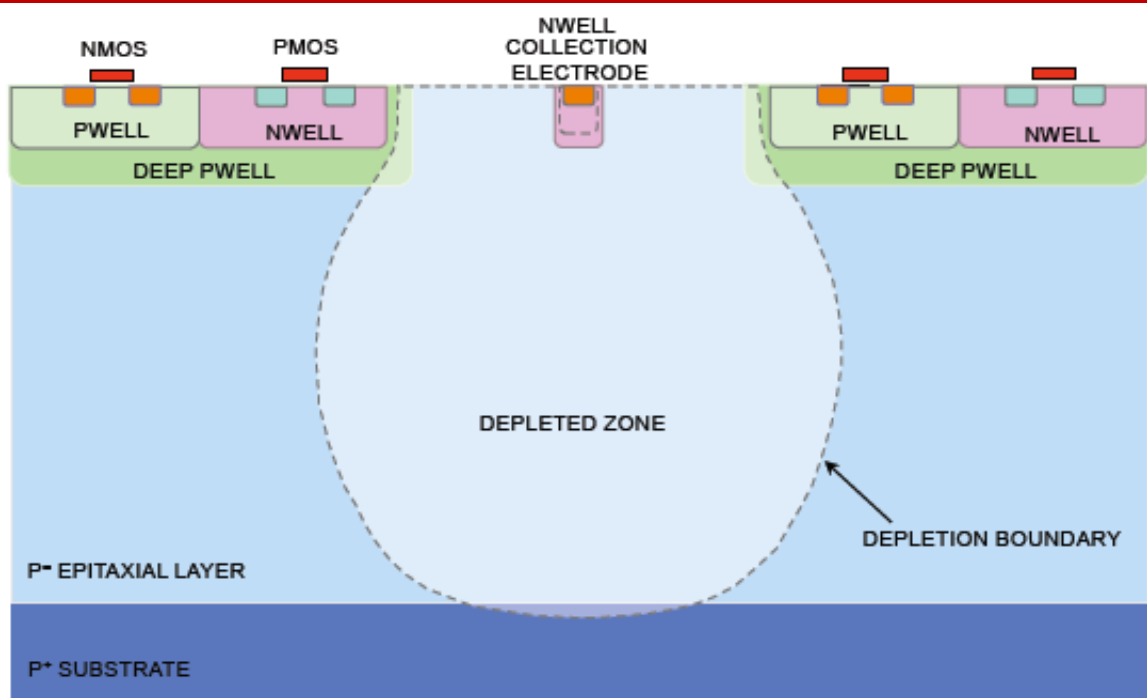


S.Beolé

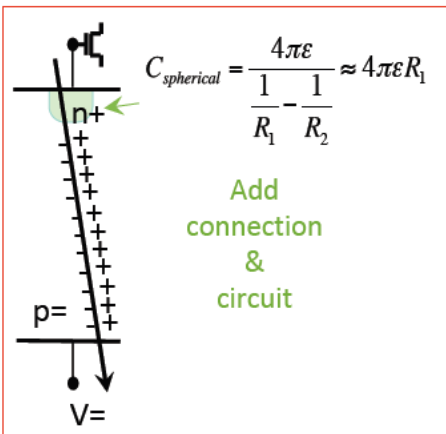


BACK UP SLIDES

ALPIDE: Standard process: sensitive epitaxial layer not depleted



- Signal charge is collected from the non-depleted layer, diffusion dominated and prone to trapping after irradiation
- Planar vs spherical junction
 - Planar junction: depletion thickness proportional to **square root of reverse bias**.
 - Spherical junction : depletion thickness proportional only to **cubic root of reverse bias**, inner radius R1 to be kept small for low capacitance
- Deep well and substrate limit extension of the depletion: to fix this -> pixel design/process modification, see next slide.



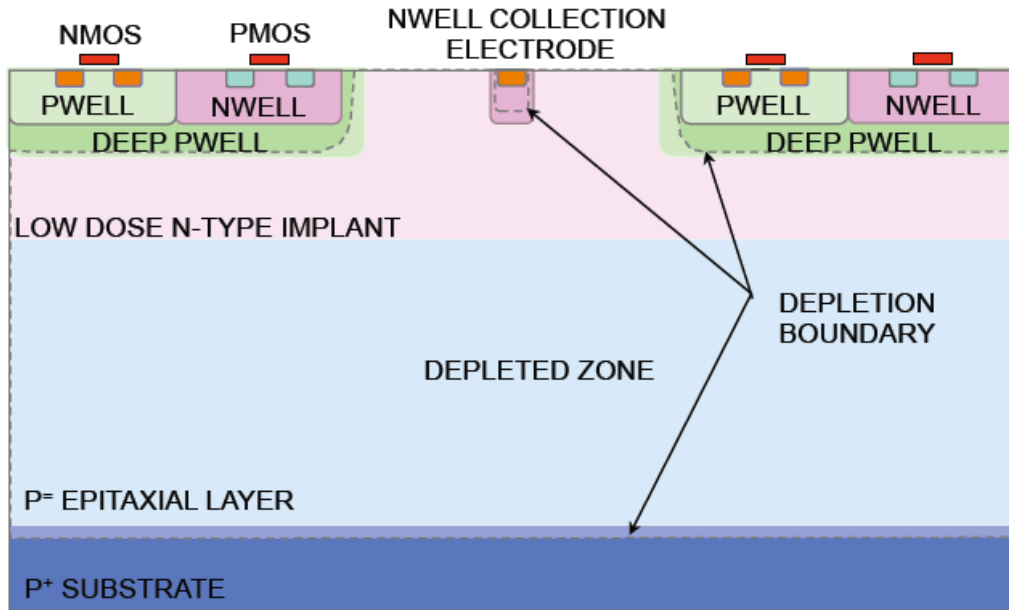
$$C_{spherical} = \frac{4\pi\epsilon}{\frac{1}{R_1} - \frac{1}{R_2}} \approx 4\pi\epsilon R_1$$

Add
connection
&
circuit

Planar junction
Depletion width = $\sqrt{\frac{2\epsilon|V|}{qN_A}}$

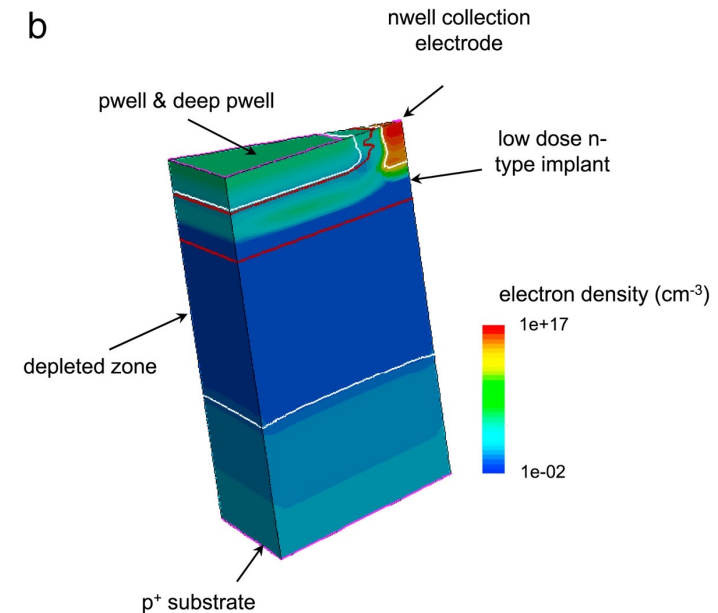
Spherical junction
Outer depletion radius = $\sqrt[3]{\frac{2\epsilon|V|}{qN_A} \frac{3R_1}{2}}$

Sensor optimization (1): DEPLETED MAPS

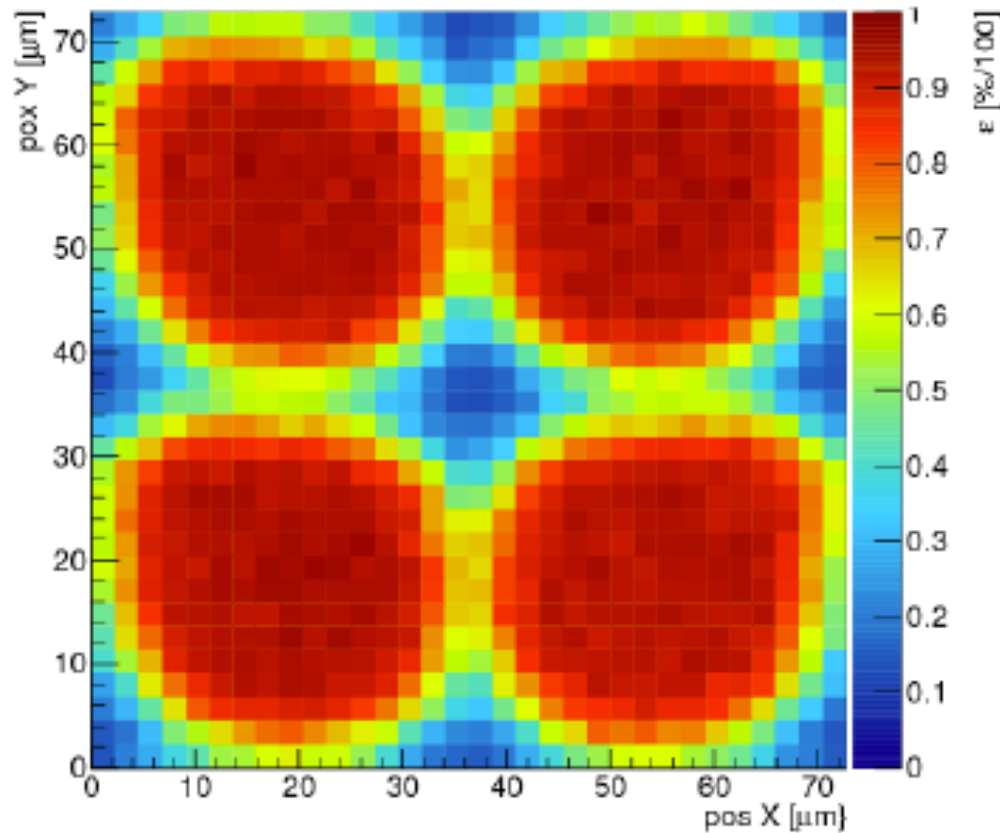


- GOAL: create planar junction using deep **low dose n-type implant** and deplete the epitaxial layer
- initial interest from ATLAS followed by many others: MALTA/TJ MONOPIX development (Bonn, CPPM, IRFU and CERN)

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nima.2017.07.046> (180nm)



Sensor optimization (1): results

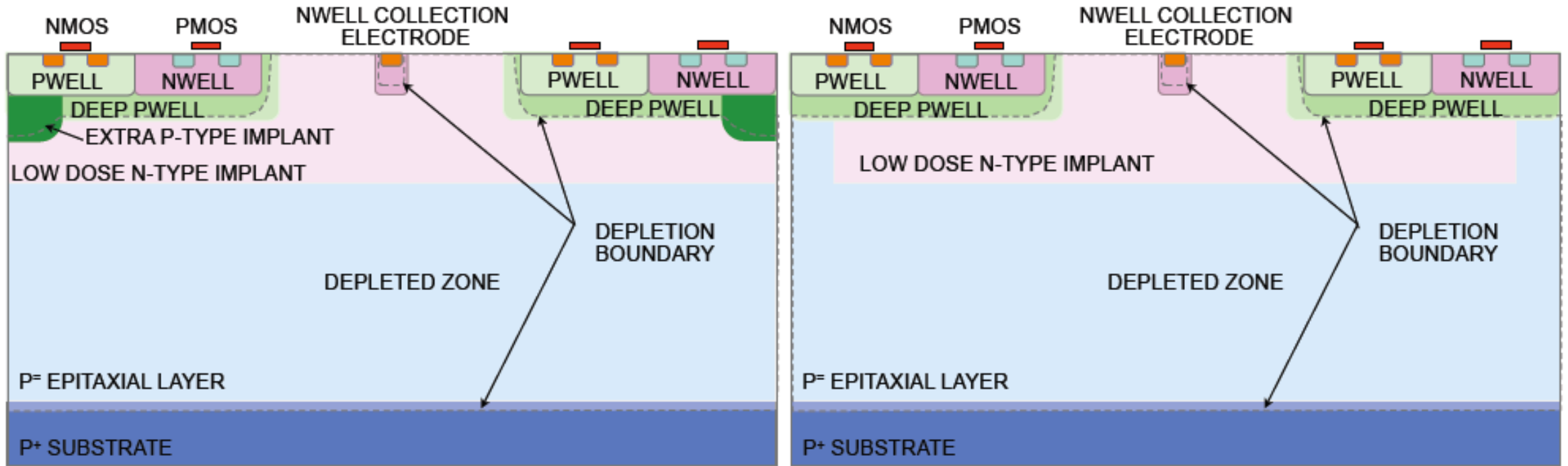


However:

- efficiency loss at $\sim 10^{15}$ 1 MeV n_{eq}/cm^2 on the pixel edges and corners due to a too weak lateral field
- Lateral electric field not sufficient to push the deposited charge towards the small central electrode.
- Efficiency decreases in pixel corners
- Effect amplified by radiation damage

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nima.2019.162404>

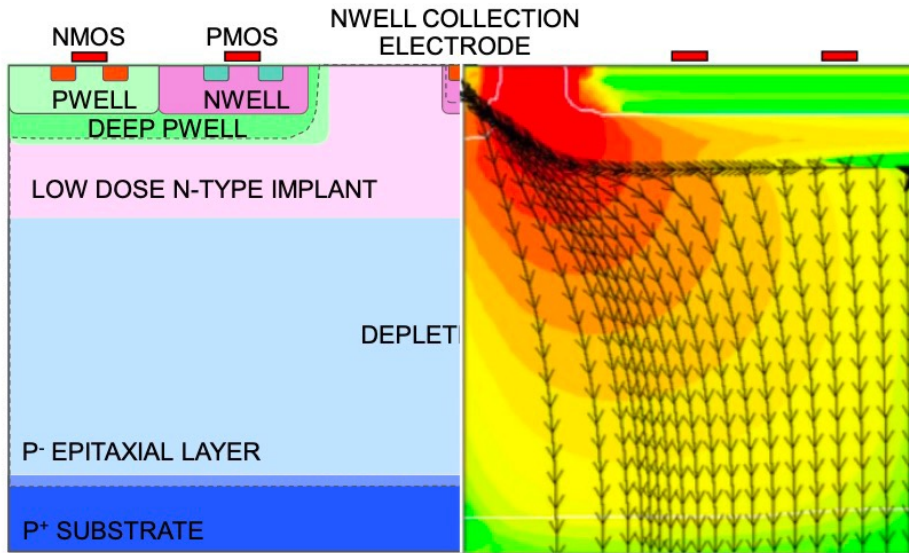
Sensor optimization (2): improvement of the lateral field



3D TCAD simulation M. Munker et al. PIXEL2018 <https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1748-0221/14/05/C05013>

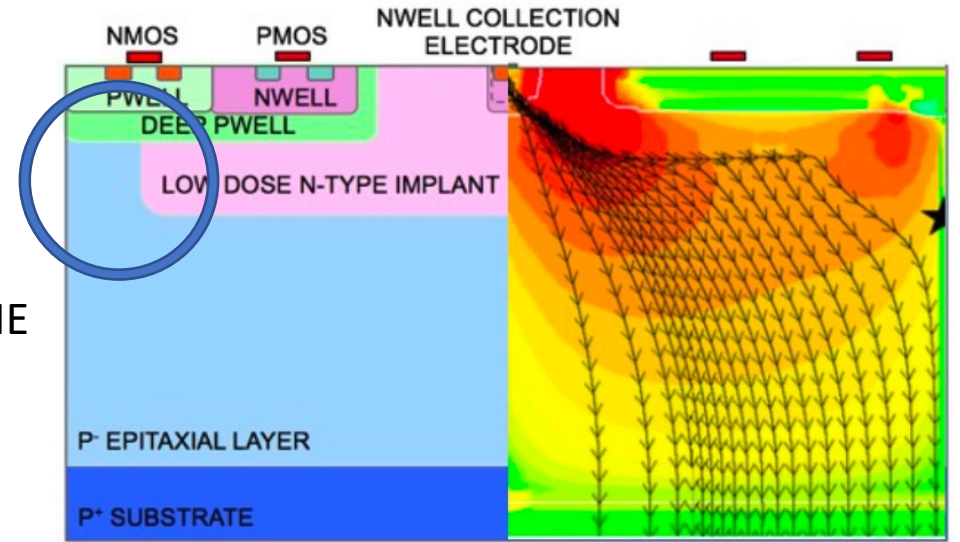
- Additional deep p-type implant or gap in the low dose n-type implant improves lateral field near the pixel boundary and accelerates the signal charge to the collection electrode.

Sensor optimization (2): improvement of the lateral field



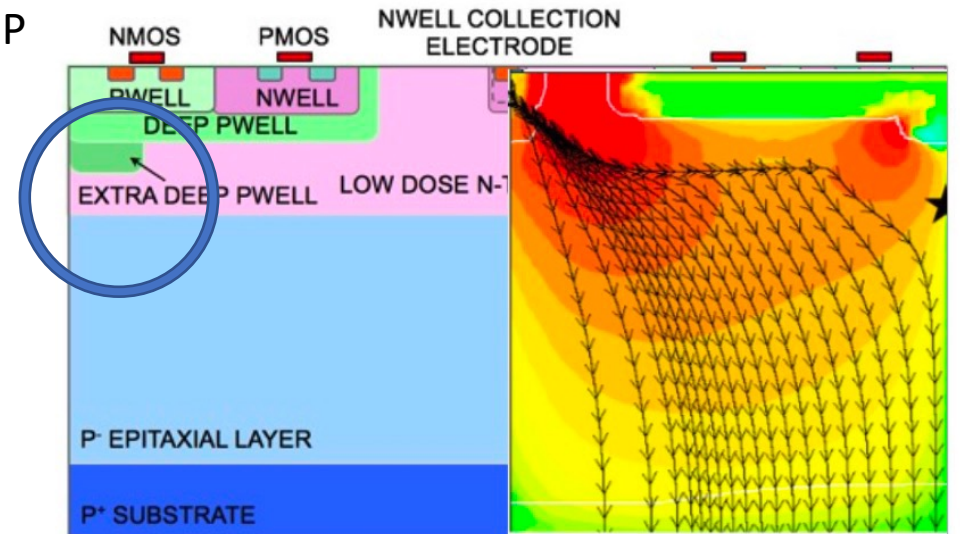
Standard modified process

GAP IN THE
N LAYER



Gap in the n- layer (NGAP)

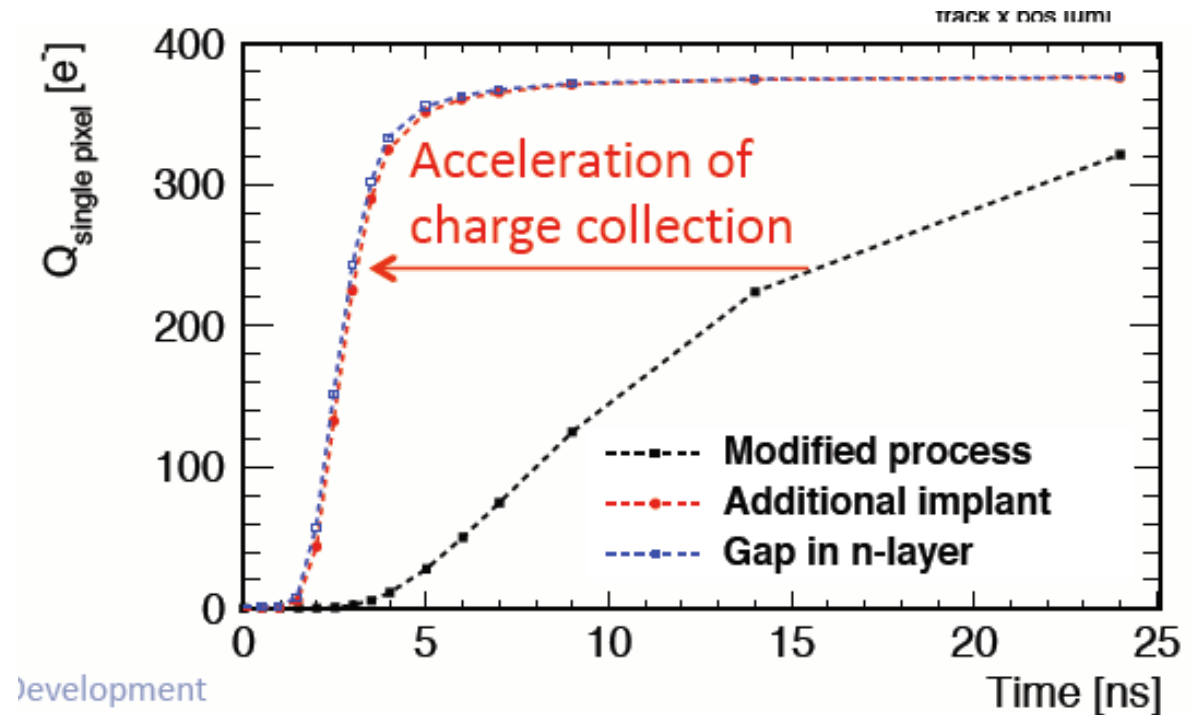
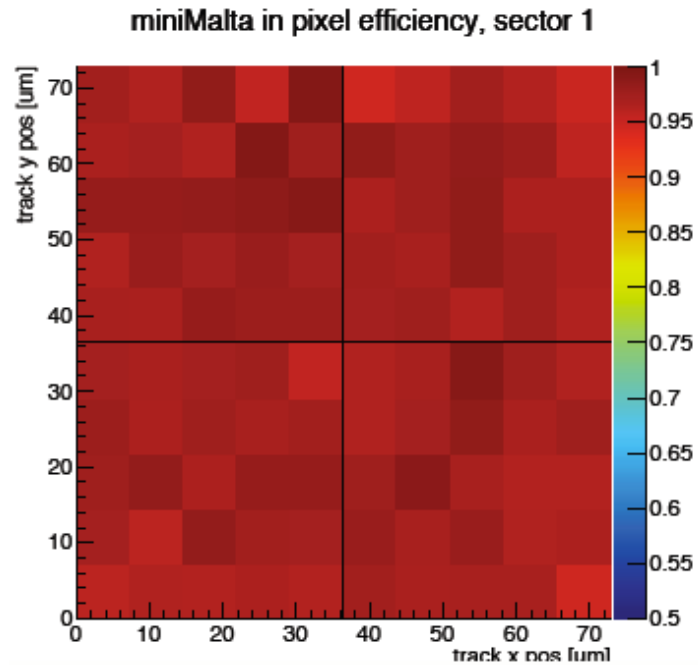
EXTRA DEEP
P-WELL



Extra deep p-well (EDPW)

Process modifications to improve charge collection in the pixel edges

Sensor optimization (2): results



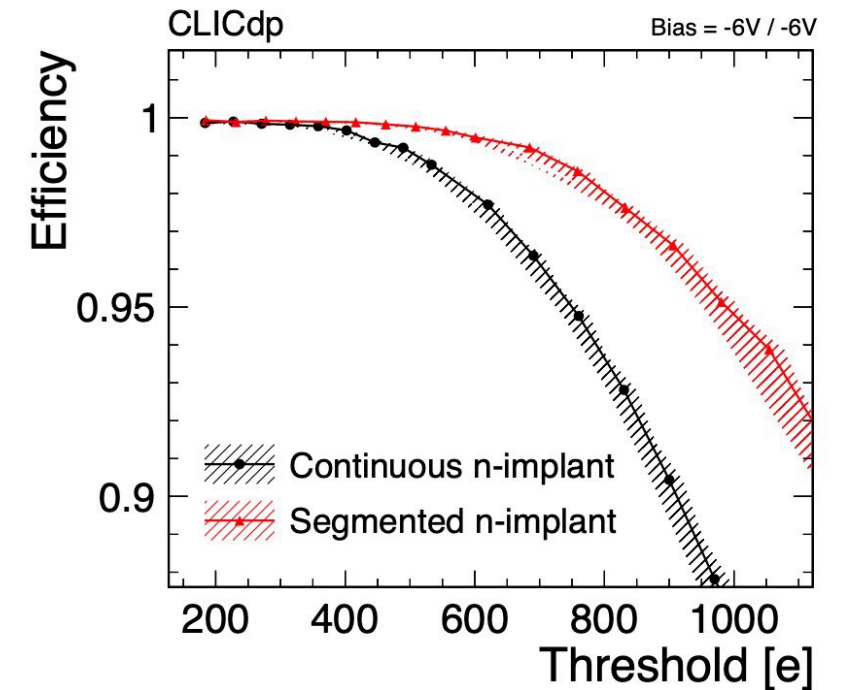
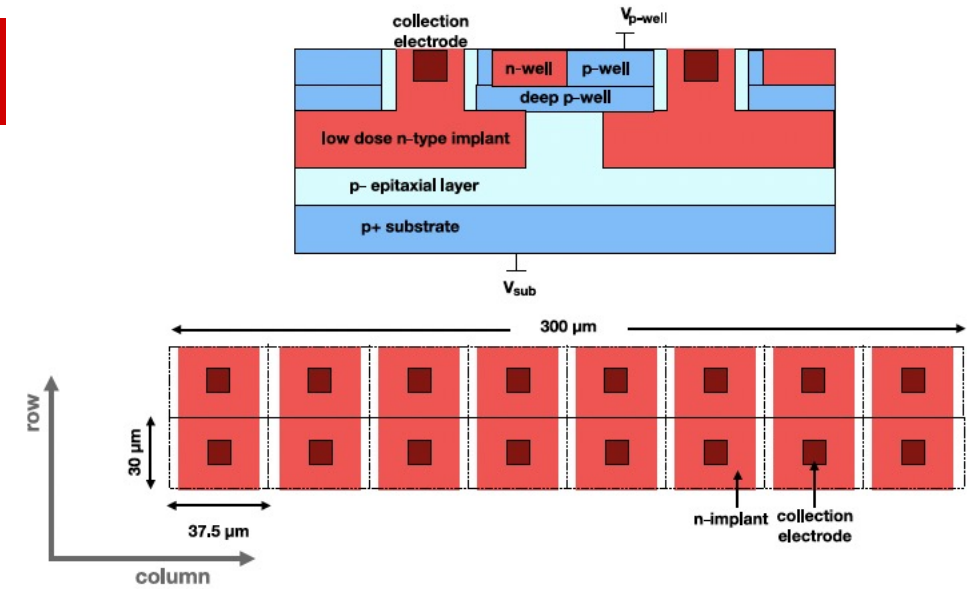
- Full detection efficiency at $10^{15} n_{\text{eq}}/\text{cm}^2$
- better sensor timing

H. Pernegger et al., Hiroshima 2019,
M. Dyndal et al 2020 JINST 15 P0200

3D TCAD simulation M. Munker et al. PIXEL2018
<https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1748-0221/14/05/C05013>

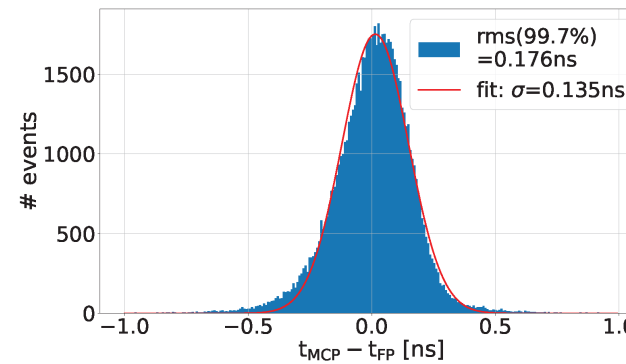
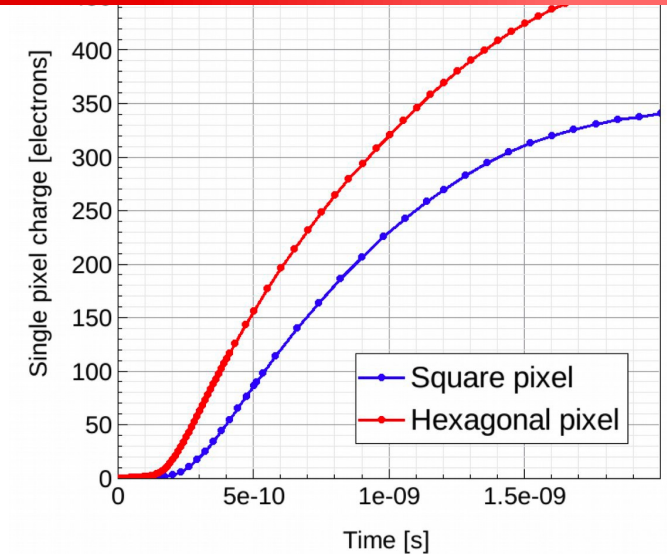
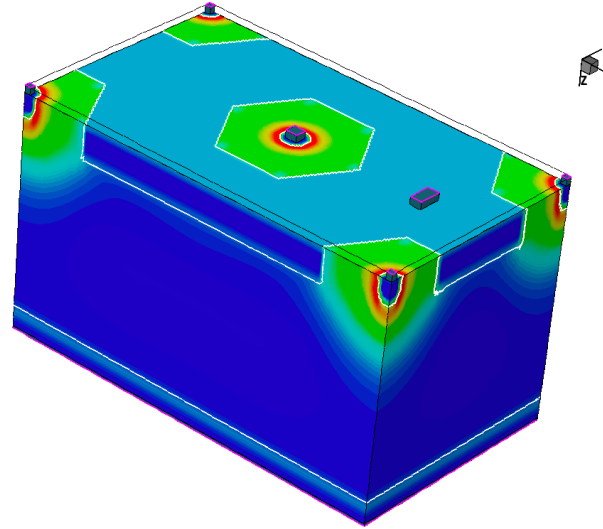
Optimization example: CLICTD

- CLICTD 180 nm monolithic sensor: modified 180nm CMOS imaging process with small-collection electrode
- Target: CLIC tracker
 - a matrix of 16 x 128 detection channels
 - size of 300 μm x 30 μm . In column channels are segmented into eight sub-pixels
 - Simultaneous time and energy measurement per channel
- Exploring
 - large parameter space of sensor-design modifications:
segmentation in the low dose n-type implant along the column
 - Reduced charge sharing leads to higher concentration of charge in one pixel cell -> Improved efficiency at high thresholds
 - substrate materials (epitaxial, high resistivity Cz)
 - thicknesses (40-300 μm)

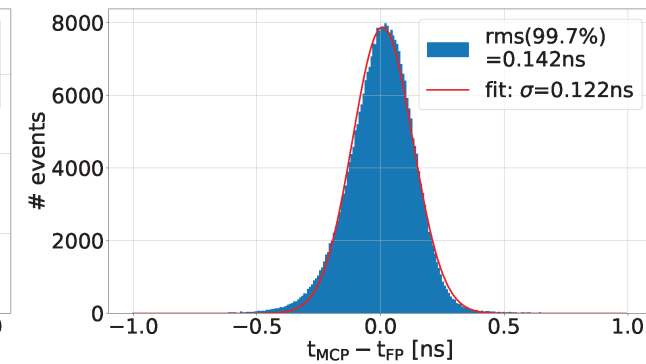


- Hexagonal design reduces the number of neighbors and charge sharing → **higher efficiency**
- Hexagonal design minimizes the edge regions while maintaining area for circuitry → **faster charge collection**
- Optimisations important not only for timing, but also for efficiency and radiation tolerance

Preliminary test-beam results showed MIP time resolution of approximately 120-130 ps



(a)



(b)

Seed-pixel time residuals after timewalk correction for the inner region of the 10 μm (a) and 20 μm (b) pitch matrix.

More news on most recent results in Justus Braach's presentation later on this afternoon