

The MoEDAL-MAPP Facility at the LHC (Expanding the Physics Reach of the LHC)

ERC-HEP Meeting in Marseille 2025

**James Pinfold,
for the MoEDAL-MAPP Collaboration**

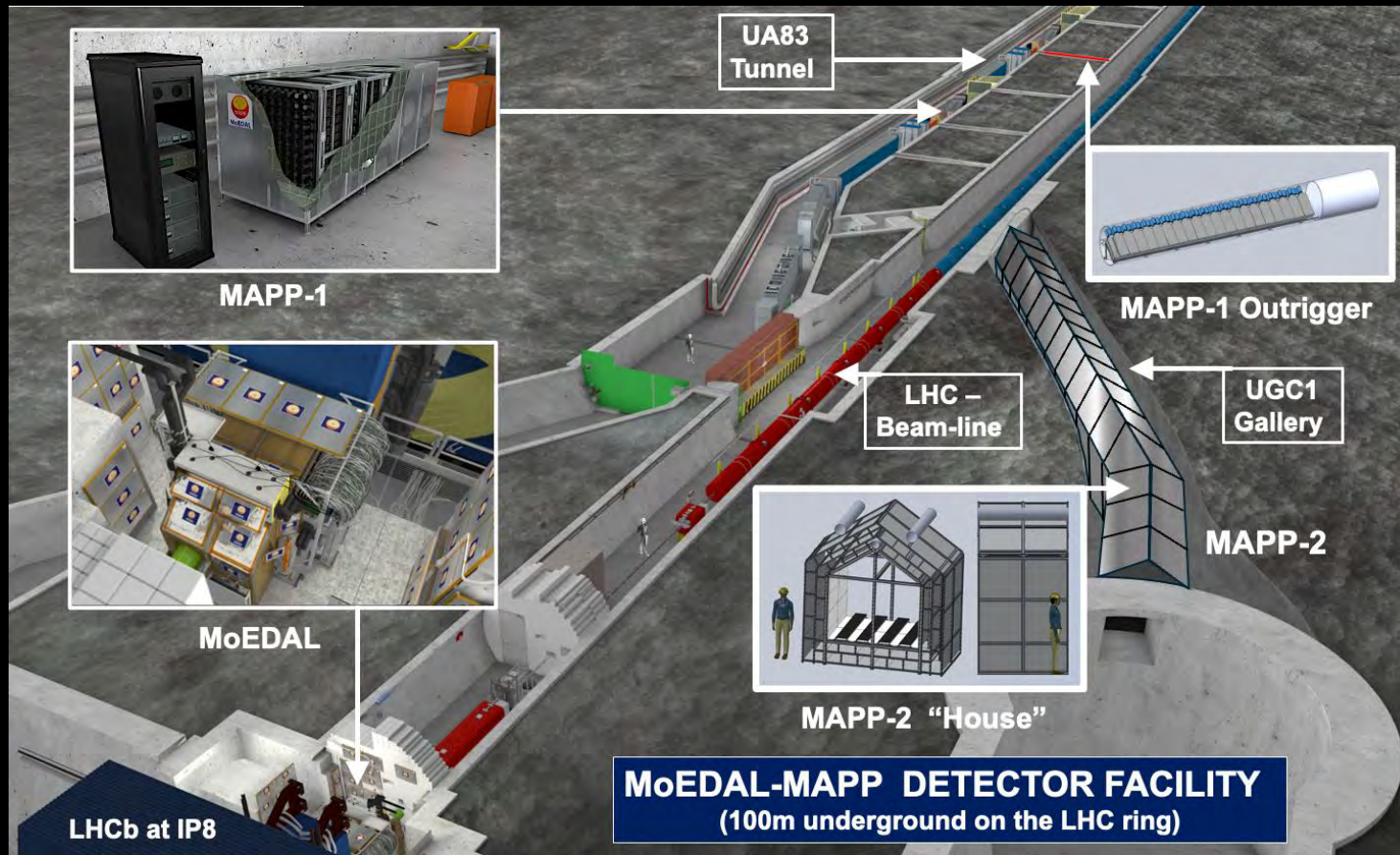




MoEDAL

The MoEDAL-MAPP Facility at the LHC

Sensitive to new physics that challenging or impossible for ATLAS & CMS to observe



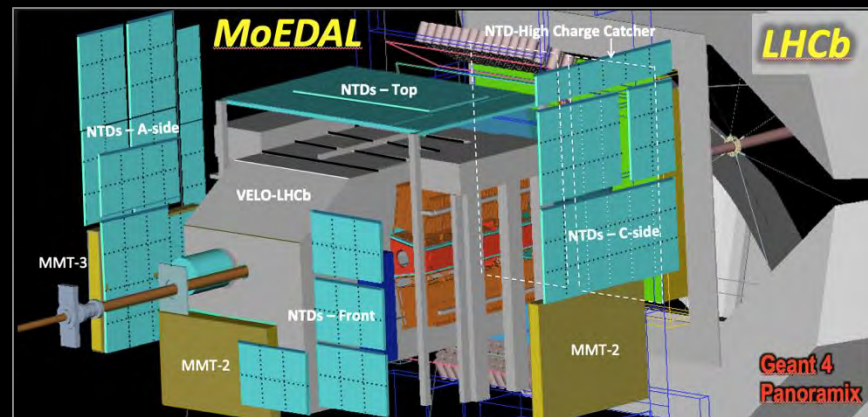
- **MoEDAL (2010 -)** *Highly Ionizing Particles (HIPs): Monopoles, dyons, Q-balls, BH-remnants, etc*
- **MAPP-1 (2021 -) + Outrigger (2025?-)** *Weakly Ionizing Particles (WIPs): Millicharged particles, Anomalous EDM, etc. + some sensitivity to neutral Long-Lived Particles (LLPs)*
- **MAPP-2 (2026?)** *Long-Lived Particles (LLPs): Dark scalars, sterile neutrinos, neutralinos, ALPs, etc.*



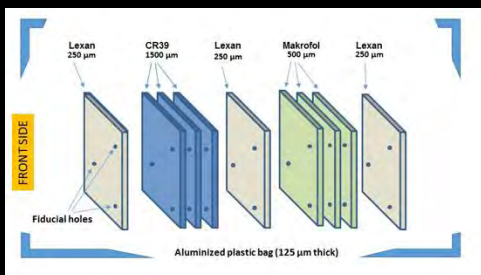
MoEDAL

MoEDAL - LHC's 1st Dedicated Search Expt.

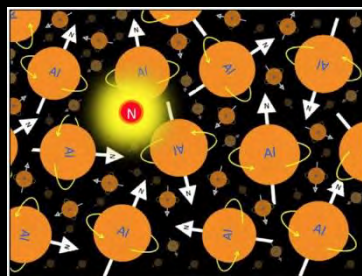
Upgraded for Run-3 with much higher eff. & a factor 10 lower charge thresholds



Searching for Highly Ionizing Particle (HIP) avatars of new physics



NUCLEAR TRACK DETECTOR
Plastic array (185 stacks,
12 m²) – Like a big Camera



TRAPPING DETECTOR ARRAY
A tonne of Al to trap Highly
Ionizing Particles for analysis



TIMEPIX Array a digital
Camera for real time
radiation monitoring

**NO
TRIGGER**

**NO SM BACK-
GROUNDS**

**PERMANENT
RECORD**

**PRECISION
TRACKING (NTDs)**

**DIRECTLY DETECTS
MAGNETIC CHARGE**



MoEDAL's Remote Detector Facilities

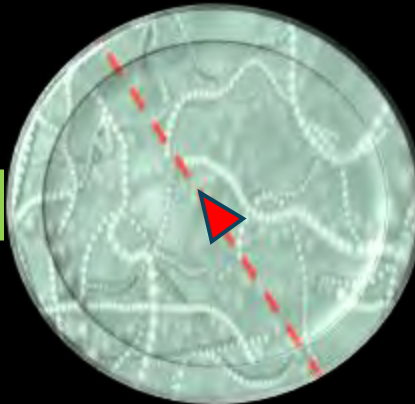
MoEDAL

NTD Processing - INFN Bologna

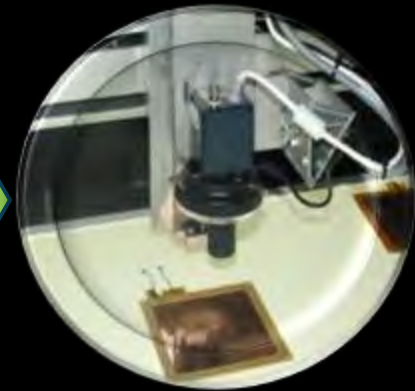
Etching in hot sodium hydroxide reveals damage



HIP causes damage Zone In NTD plastic



Etch pits reveal path and charge of HIP



Etch pits measured by optical microscope

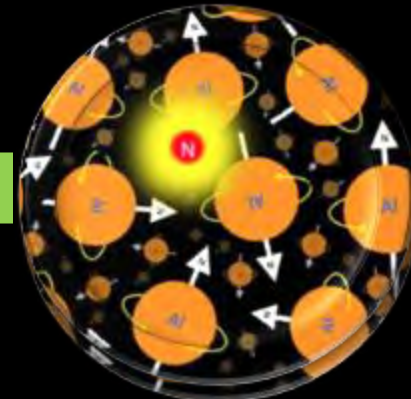
MMT Scanning- ETH Zurich

Trapping volumes are Removed for scanning



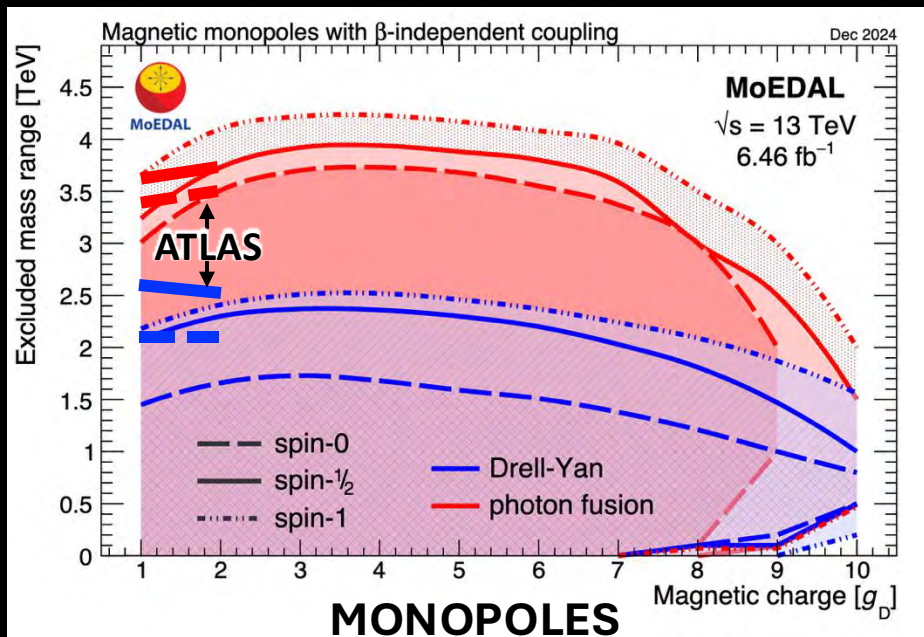
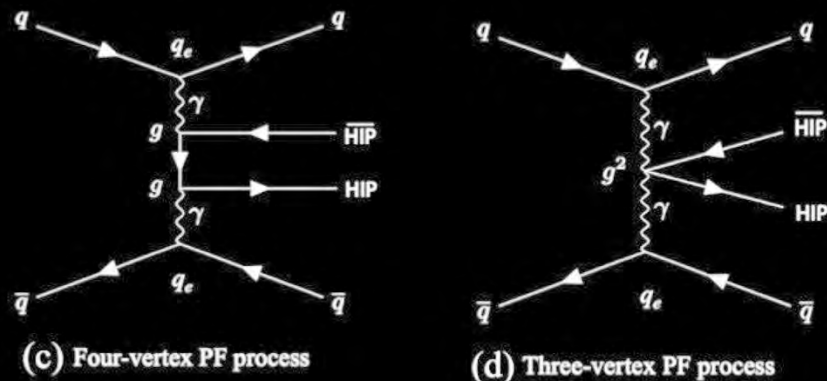
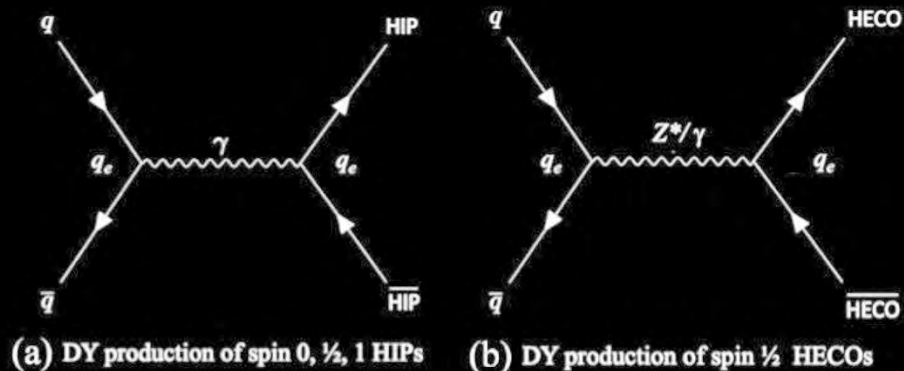
Trapping volumes are Passed through a SQUID

Monopole is trapped



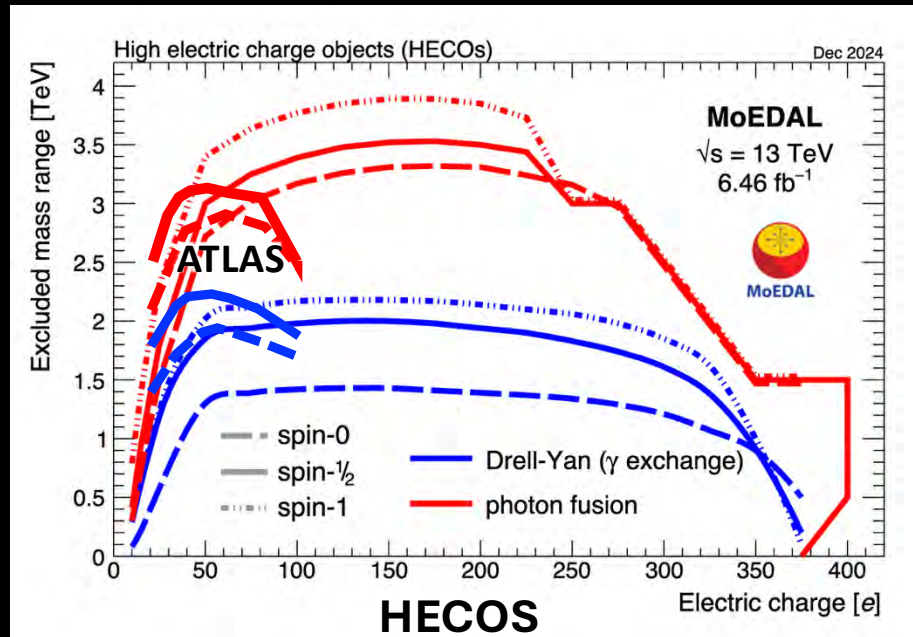
Monopoles cause a stable current in the SQUID

Latest MoEDAL Results on HIPs



MoEDAL – world's best MM mass limits for $g_D > 1$

MoEDAL: PRL 134 7 071802 (2025)



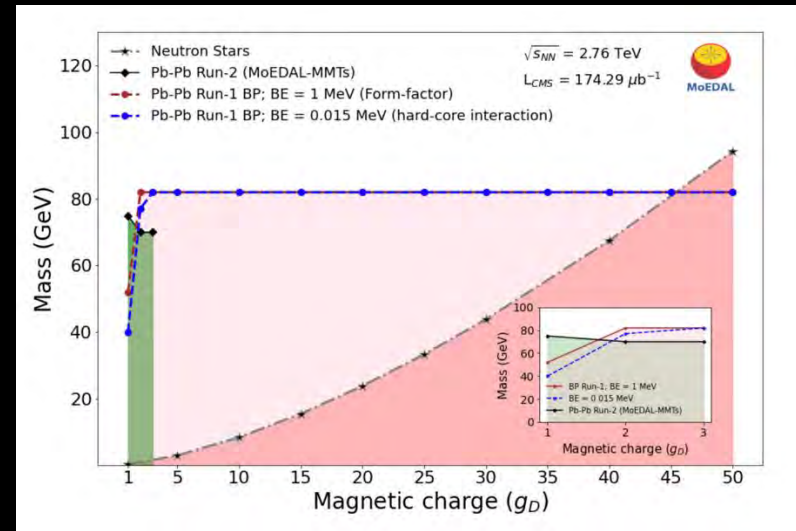
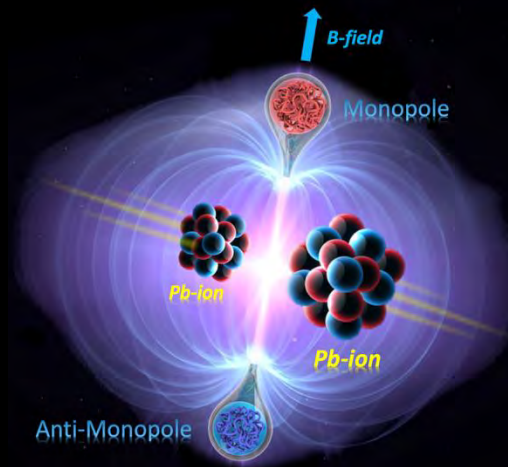
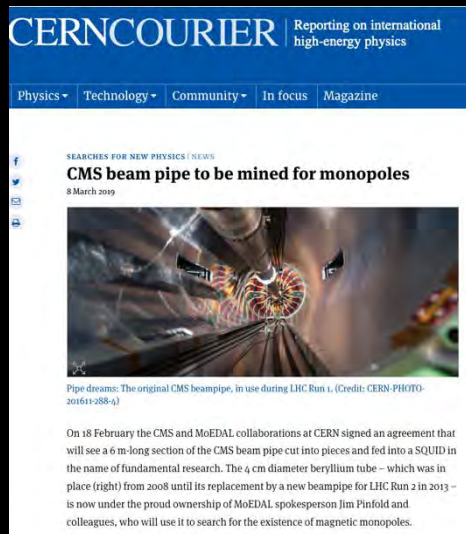
MoEDAL – world's best MM mass limits for $Q \geq 70e$

ATLAS: JHEP 11 2023 112



Schwinger Production of Monopole Pairs

MoEDAL



Pair production of monopole-antimonopole pairs in a very strong magnetic field created in ultraperipheral “collisions” of Pb-ions at the LHC can be as much as $10^{16}T$.

Limits on Schwinger monopoles of 1 – 3 g_D and masses up to 80 GeV

Advantages of Schwinger monopole production:

- X-section calculation does not suffer from non-perturbative nature of coupling;
- No exponential suppression for finite-sized monopoles.

1st time non-pointlike monopoles detectable?

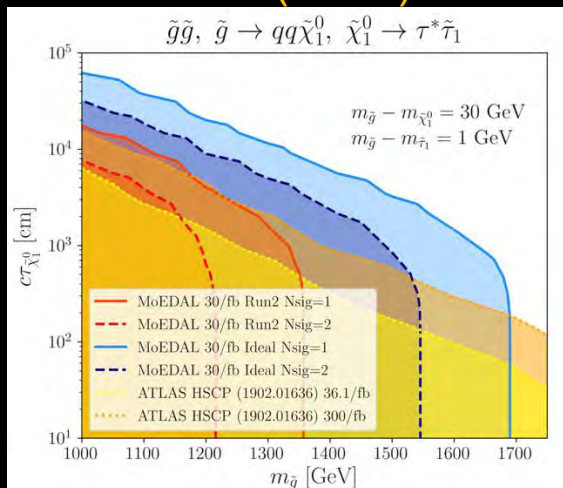


Searching for Long-Lived HIPS

MoEDAL

Due to the absence of trigger, timing & SM backgrounds, MoEDAL can relax selection requirements + increase sensitivity to charged, SUSY LLPs

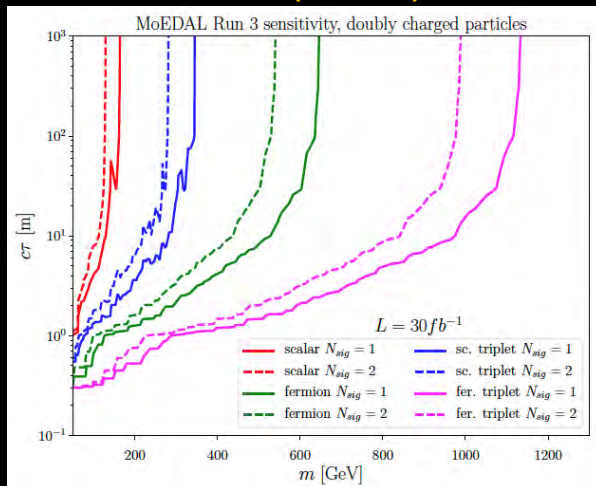
EPJC 80 (2020) 431



MoEDAL can cover the long-lifetime region at Run-2/3 for gluinos, stops, sleptons & charginos

SLEPTONS

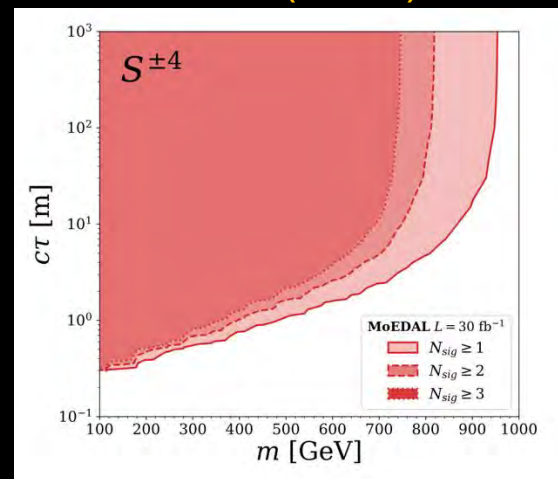
EPJC 80 (2020) 572



Authors added doubly charged scalars & fermions in various SU(2)_L rep's, to the SM particle content .

DOUBLY CHARGED

EPJC 81 (2021) 697



In this class of neutrino mass models, the SM is extended with two scalar fields, and 3 pairs of vector-like fermions.

2,3 and 4 CHARGED

- If sufficiently slow moving, even singly or multiply ($\lesssim 10e$) charged particles may leave a track in NTDs
- Supersymmetry offers such long-lived states: sleptons, R-hadrons, charginos
- Multiply charged scalars or fermions are, for example, predicted in several neutrino mass models.

MoEDAL – HIP Innovations

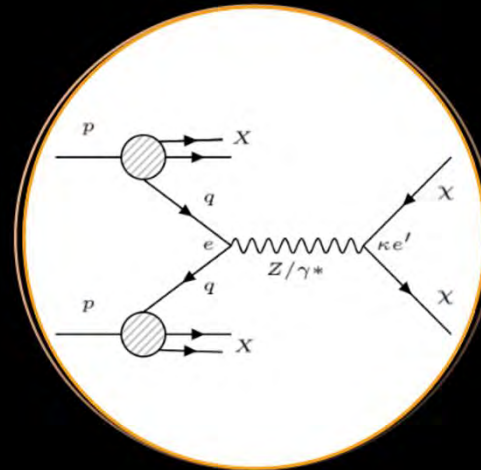
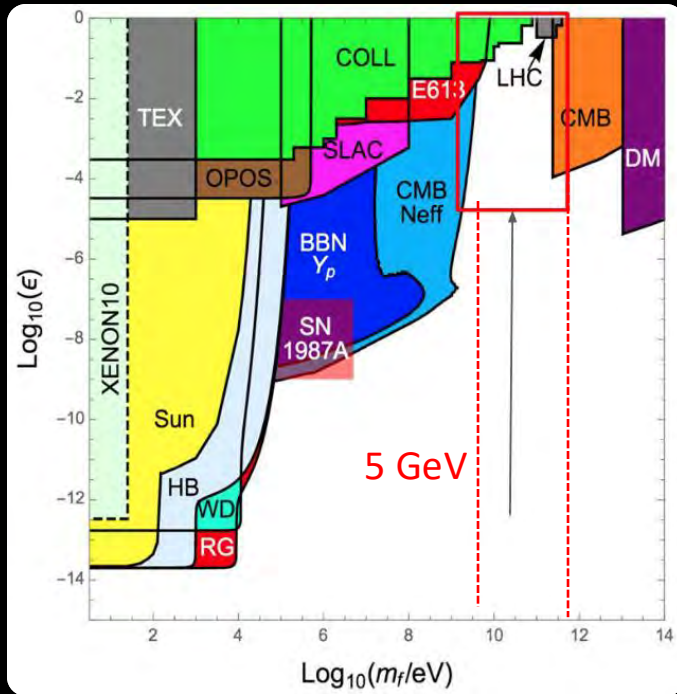
By MoEDAL Theory Board (Chaired by John Ellis) & MoEDAL Experimentalists

- *MoEDAL constantly innovates, pushing the theory of HIPs as much as the experiment.*
- *Here are some innovations by the MoEDAL-MAPp's experimentalists and theoreticians that are first ever or at least first at the LHC*
 - *Development of the theory of the EW Monopole for LHC physics*
 - *MM β -dependent couplings*
 - *$\gamma\gamma$ - fusion production of HIPs*
 - *p-p cross-sections for Spin-1 HIPs*
 - *Phenomenological treatment of Schwinger production of MMs in p-p collisions*
 - *First ever search at a collider for non-pointlike monopoles.*
 - *Resummation techniques applied to HIPs*

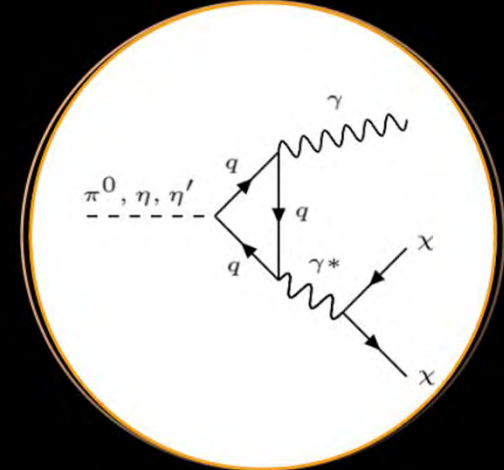


Production of Milli-charged at Colliders

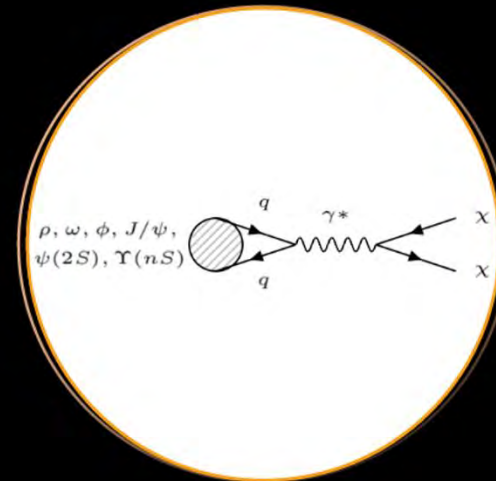
MoEDAL *mCPs arise naturally from the dark sector via the Vector Portal/Dark Photon*



Via the Drell-Yan process



Via Dalitz decays of pseudoscalar mesons

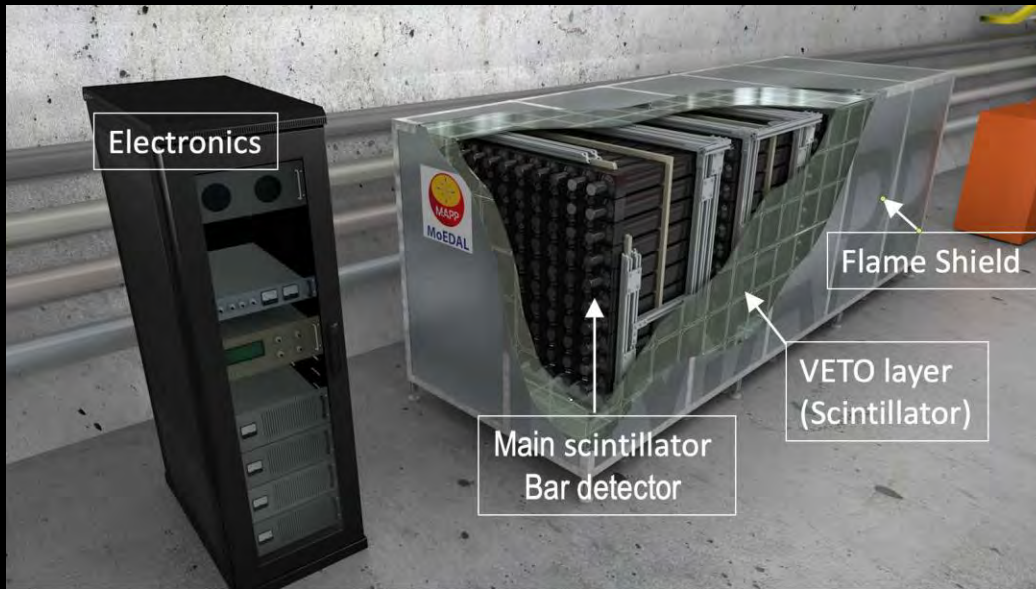


Via direct decays of vector mesons

The Sweet Spot
arXiv:1511.01122

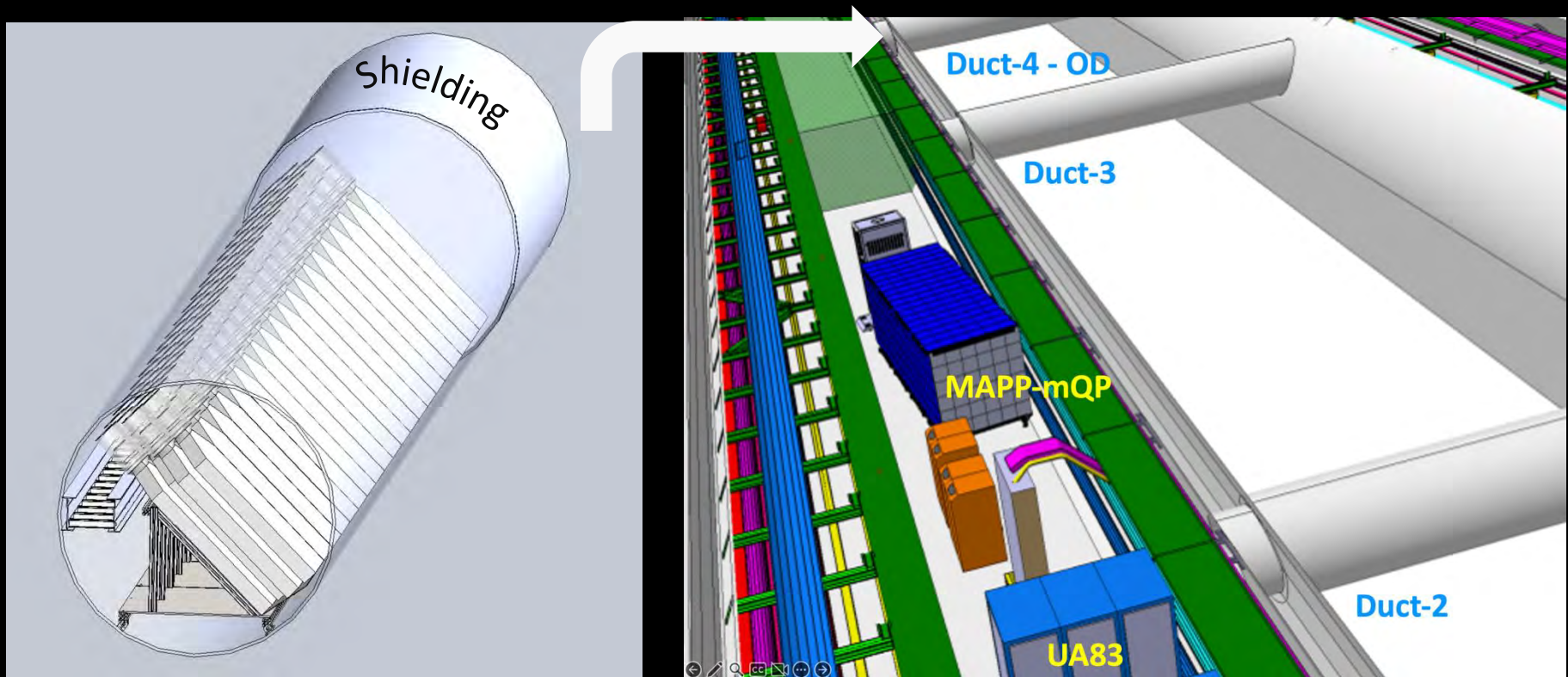


MoEDAL's MAPP-1 Detector @ UA83



- 400 scintillator bars ($10 \times 10 \times 75 \text{ cm}^3$) in 4 sections readout by 3" PMTs - Protected by a hermetic VETO counter system
- MAPP is sensitive to:
 - Milli-charged ($10^{-3}e$) particles
 - Long-lived neutral particles
 - Charged particles (using MoEDAL's MMTs)
- Latest paper: "Searching for minicharged particles at the energy frontier with the MoEDAL-MAPP experiment at the LHC", JHEP 04 (2024) 137

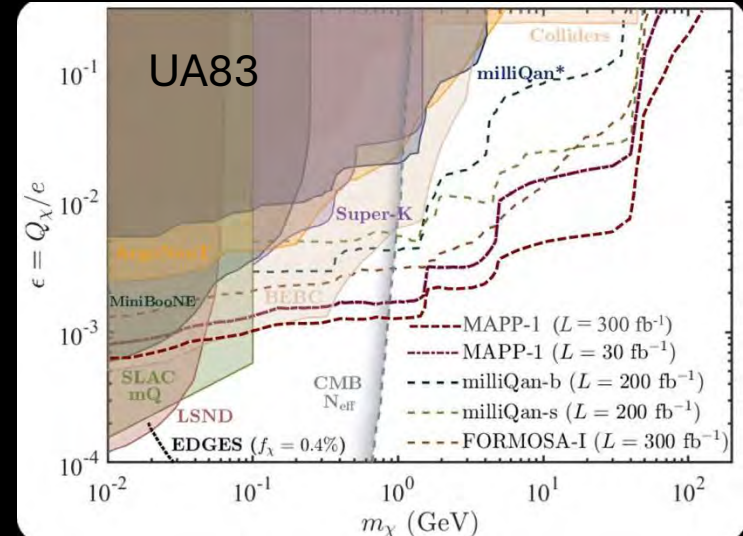
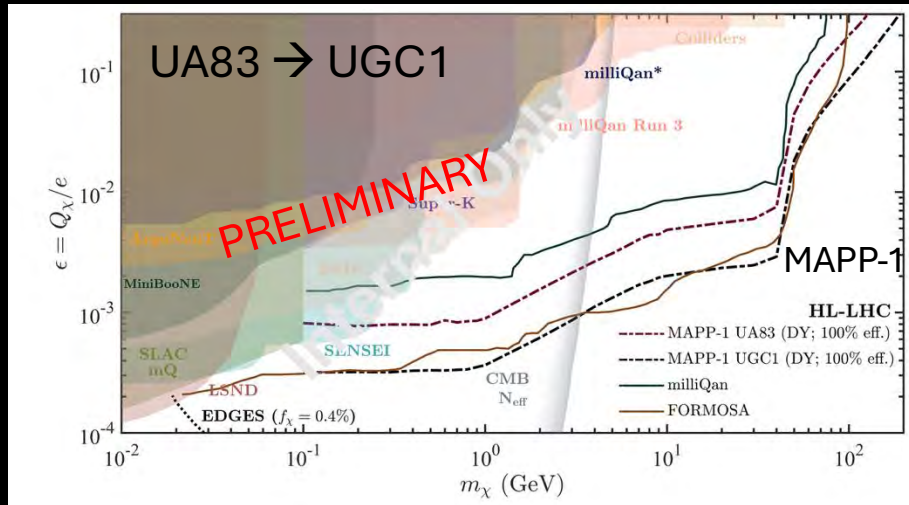
The MAPP-1 Outrigger



- **OUTRIGGER**- An extension of the MAPP bar detector to improve the overall reach for higher mass mCP s (above a few GeV)
- 4 scintillator planes (each comprised of 20 60 cm x 30 cm x 5 cm sub-planes angled at 45 degrees) readout by coincident PMTs – an effective area of $\sim 2.6\text{m}^2$
- We expect to install this for HL-LHC running.

MAPP-1 Sensitivity to Millicharged Matter

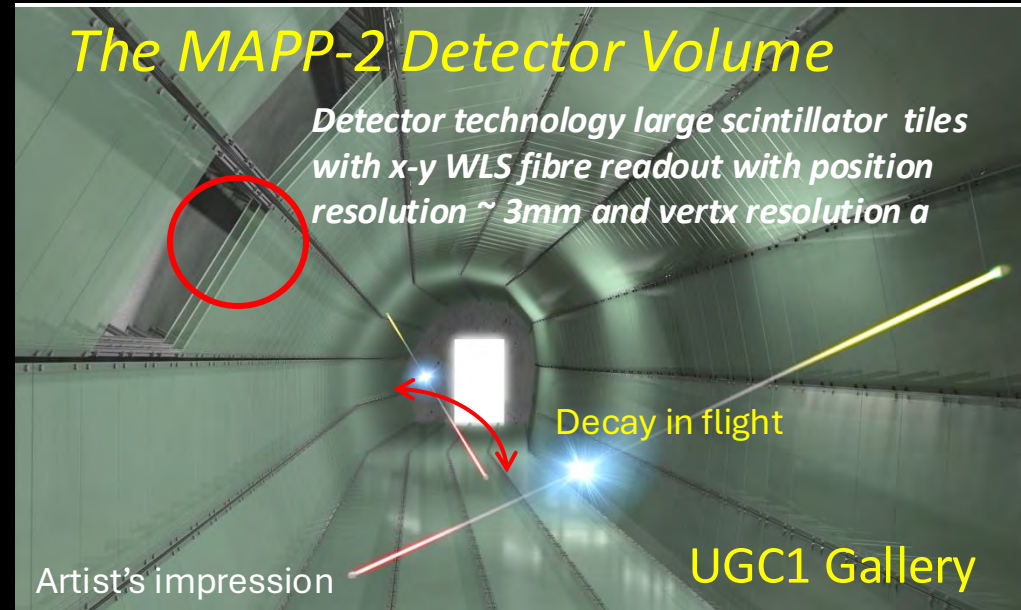
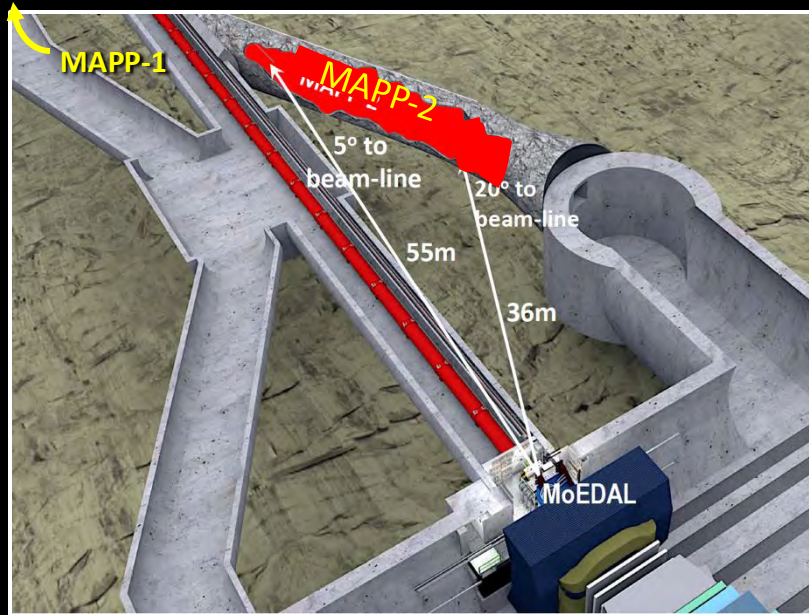
milliQan results—Phys. Rev. D 104, 032002 (2021); FORMOSA results—Phys. Rev. D 104, 035014 (2021)



- The 95% CL exclusion Limits for MAPP-1 for mCPs produced by DY mech. + direct decays of heavy quarkonia, light vector mesons, and single Dalitz decays of PS mesons.
- Signal efficiency estimates included
- The move to UGC1 (the initial choice for MAPP-1) improves things immensely especially – still need to add in mesons and efficiencies

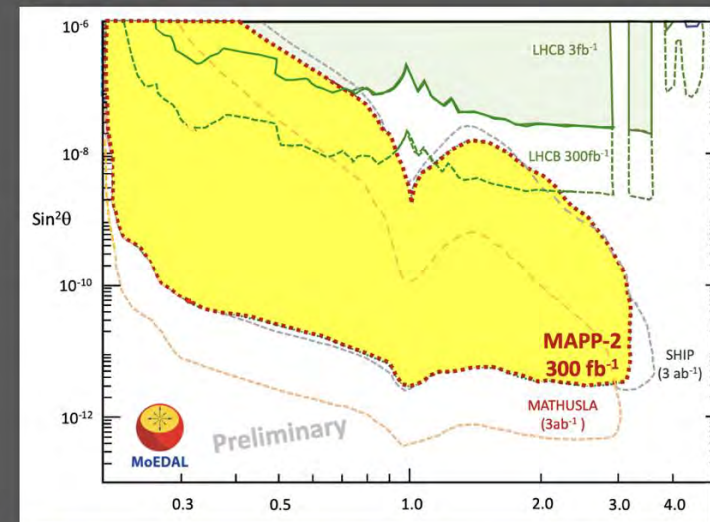
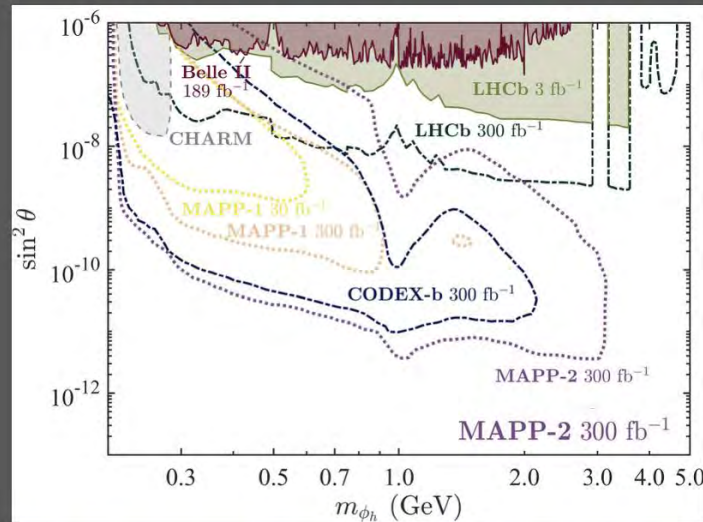
The Future – Detecting LLPs

Phase-2 → MAPP-2 for HL-LHC

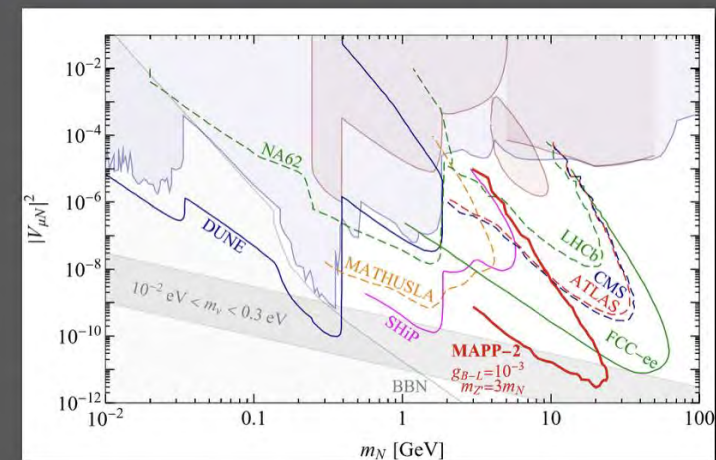
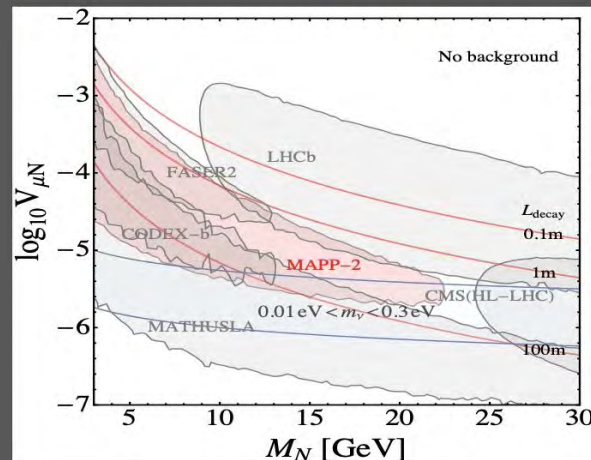


- The MAPP-2 detector would fill the UGC1 gallery adjacent to LHCb
- The UGC1 gallery would be prepared during LS3 prior to HL-LHC
- The tracking detectors form 3 hermetic scintillator containers - one within the other lining the walls of UGC1 – creating a completely open decay volume
- MAPP-2 $\sim 1200 \text{ m}^3$ of instrumented decay volume – est. cost $\sim 10 \text{ M CHF}$
 - Non-gaseous detector technology gives rise to large cost savings
 - Detect Long-Lived particle decays to charged particle & photons

MAPP-2 – Sensitivity Benchmarks



The Higgs mixing portal admits inclusive $B \rightarrow X_s \phi$ decays, where ϕ is a light CP-even scalar that mixes with the Higgs, with mixing angle $\vartheta \ll 1$. See PRD97 (1) (2018) 15023.



Pair production of right-handed neutrinos from the decay of an additional neutral Z^0 boson in the gauged B-L model – Phys. Rev. D100 (2019), 035005.

Final Words

“New directions in science are launched by new tools much more often than by new concepts.” Freeman Dyson

- ***MoEDAL-MAPP pioneered the use of Dedicated Search Detectors at the LHC. These detectors are the new tools now being used to reveal physics beyond the SM at the LHC and beyond***
- ***WE ALWAYS NEED NEW COLLABORATORS – IF YOU ARE INTERESTED, PLEASE contact jpinfeld@ualberta.ca***



EXTRA SLIDES



Upgraded MoEDAL Installed for Run-3

Upgrades to the Run-2 MoEDAL Detector, for Run-3 – completed in March 2023



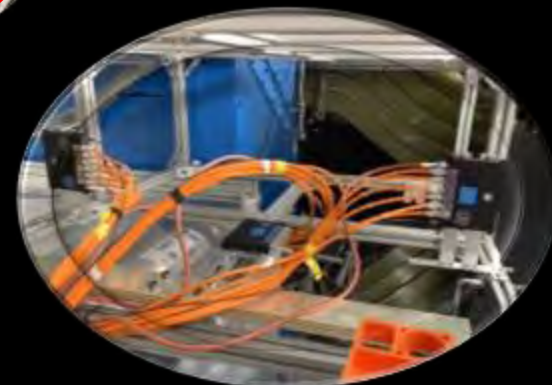
NTD Stacks
Point to IP



Forward MMT
box reconfigured



VELO-TOP NTD
array installed



TimePix3 Chips
connected to LHC clock

The Search for Highly ionizing particles (HIPs) continues with:

5 x Higher
Instantaneous
Luminosity at IP8

a) Improved
Detector Efficiency
b) X10 lower threshold

Slightly higher
Centre-of-mass
Energy