

FJPPN-D_RD_33
AC-LGAD Detector with
Continuous Readout for
4-Dimensional High-Resolution Measurement at
EIC ePIC

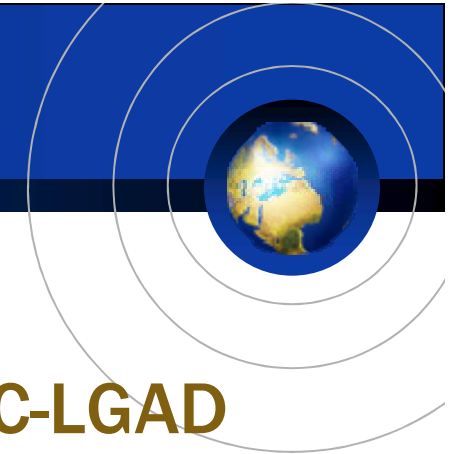


Christophe de La Taille (Ecole Polytechnique)

Kenta Shigaki (Hiroshima University)

TYL/FJPPN and FKPPN Joint Workshop
14–16 May 2025, Nantes, France

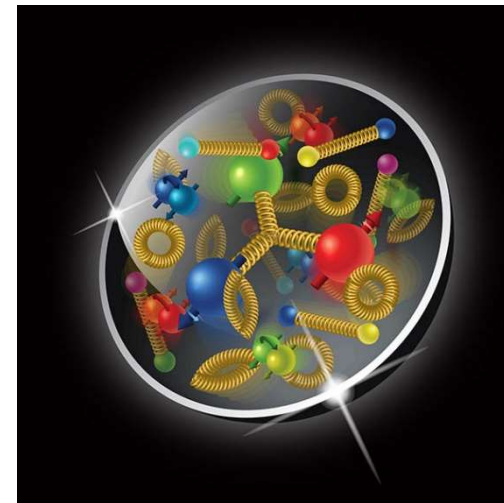
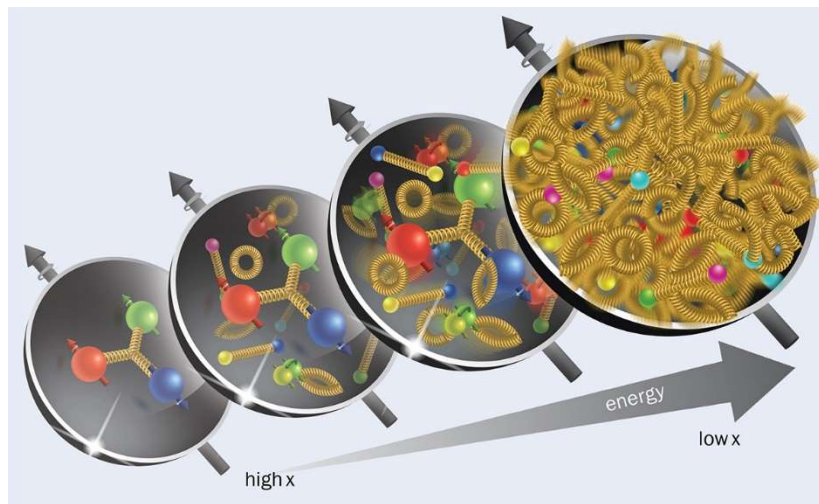
Presentation Outline



- ePIC experiment at electron ion collider
- barrel time of flight detector with strip AC-LGAD
 - perfect combination of Japan - France (- US)
- 2024 highlights (and thanks)
- 2025 plans (and thanks in advance)
- collaborators
 - France/Japan institutes, members, roles
 - PhD students
- summary and concluding remarks

ePIC at Electron Ion Collider at BNL

- electron beam as world premier microscope
- emergent properties of proton/nucleus
 - especially hadronic mass and spin



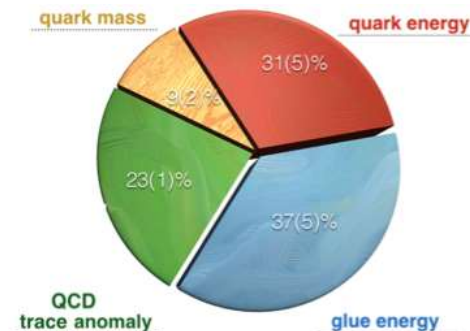
- launched and shooting for start in ~2032
- both particle and nuclear physicists involved

(Personally Biased) Physics Interests



- origin of hadronic mass
 - trace anomaly ~ gluon condensation
 - various hadrons' generalized parton distribution function
 - near-threshold quarkonia

Y.-B. Yang *et al.*,
EPJ Web Conf. 175, 14002 (2018)



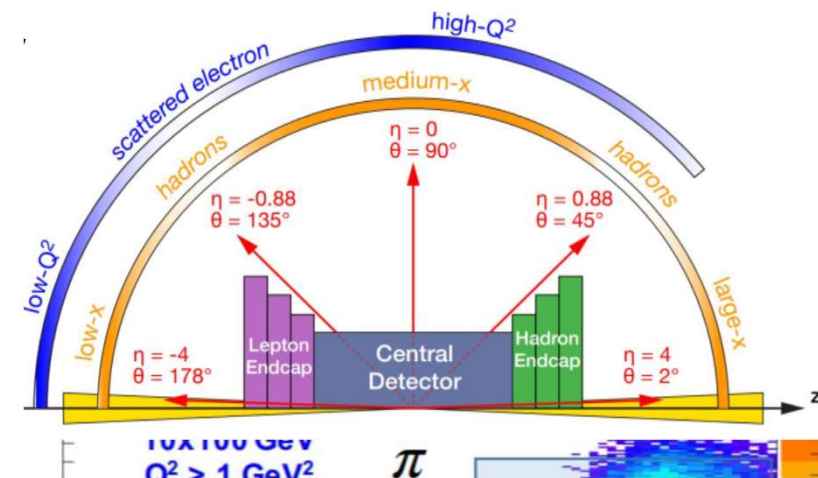
cf. chiral symmetry breaking ~ quark pair condensation

- low mass vector meson spectra
- chiral mass degeneracy (via chiral V-A mixing)
- ..., origin of hadronic spin, gluon saturation,
3-d imaging inside hadron, confinement, ...

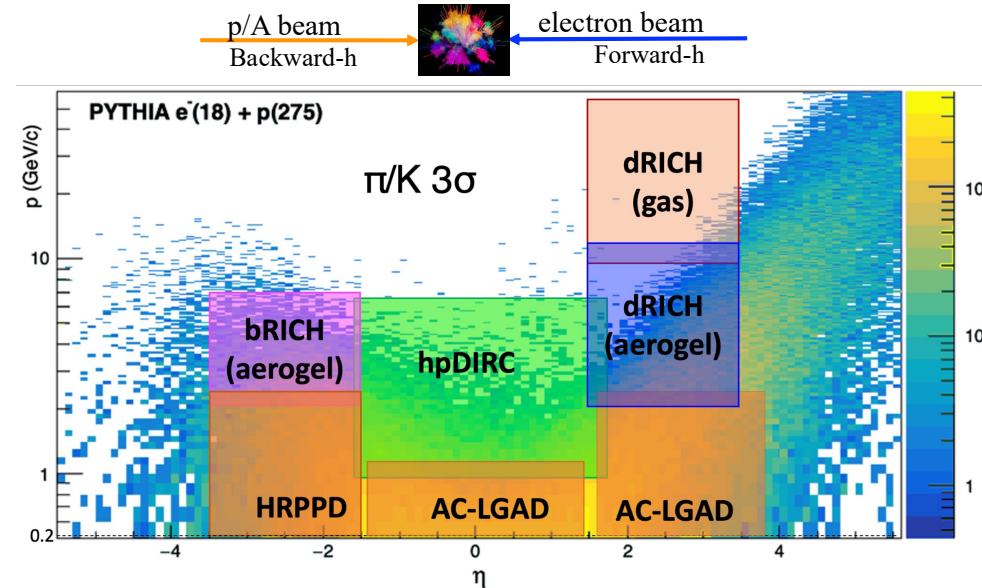
Particle Identification Essential



- **multiple physics channels**
 - electron/pion/kaon/proton identification
 - $> 3\sigma$ separation
- **multiple technologies demanded**
 - wide rapidity coverage
 - $|\eta| < \sim 1.5$ (barrel)
 - $\sim 1.6 < |\eta| < \sim 4.0$ (endcaps)
 - wide momentum coverage
 - $< 50 \text{ GeV}/c$ in hadron endcap
 - $< 8 \text{ GeV}/c$ in barrel
 - $< 10 \text{ GeV}/c$ in electron endcap



PID Technology Choice



- **ToF (Time of Flight)**
 - key in low- to mid- transverse momentum regions
 - in barrel and hadron endcap
- **RICH (Ring Imaging Cherenkov)**
- **DIRC (Detection of Internally Reflected Cherenkov)**

ToF Detector Requirements

- **main PID device at low- to mid- p_T region**

- $|\eta| < 1.4$ (barrel)
- $1.8 < \eta < 3.9$ (hadron endcap)

- $e/\pi/K/p$ separation

- π/K up to 1.3/2.4 GeV/c in barrel/endcap

- **excellent time resolution required**

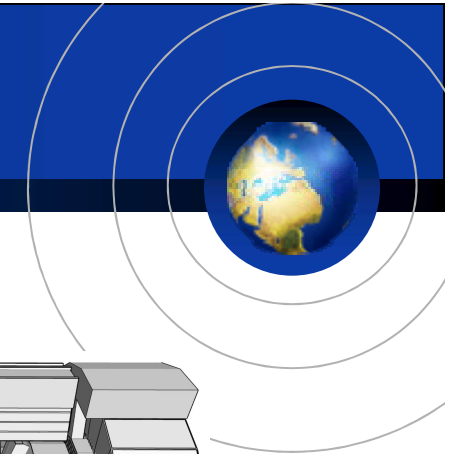
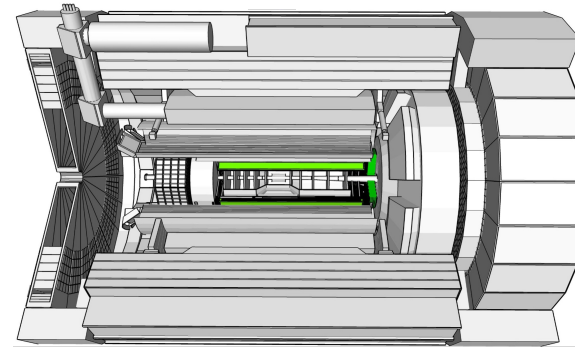
- short path length due to compact ePIC design

- 35/25 ps in barrel/endcap

- **position resolution also demanded**

- to help tracking and momentum measurement

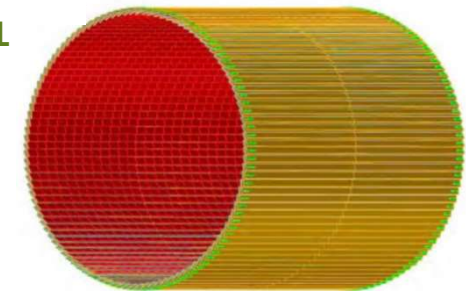
- 30/30 μm in barrel/endcap



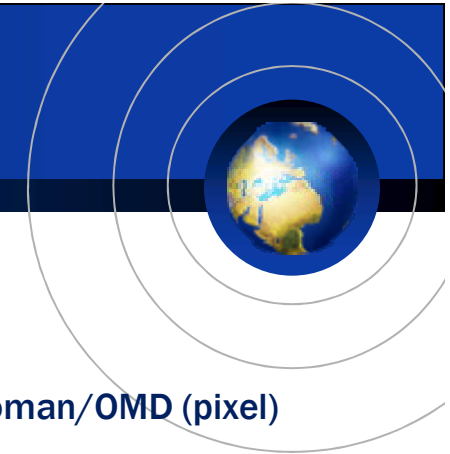
ePIC Barrel Time of Flight Detector



- requirements for barrel ToF at < 0.7 m radius:
 - ~ 35 ps time resolution
 - ~ 30 μm position resolution to help tracking
 - despite with low multiplicity and spatial density
 - a few % X_0 thinness for angle resolution of DIRC behind
 - $\sim 10^{10}$ $n_{\text{eq}} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ radiation tolerance
 - integrated at top luminosity $L \sim 10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$
 - cf. HL LHC $10^{15-16} n_{\text{eq}} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ at $L \sim 10^{35} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$
 - $\sim 12 \text{ m}^2$ area
 - insensitivity to magnetic field
- AC-LGAD chosen along with endcap ToF

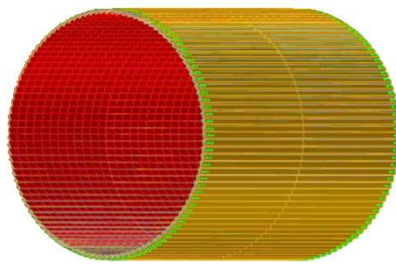


Unique Strip AC-LGAD in ePIC



■ AC-LGAD popularity

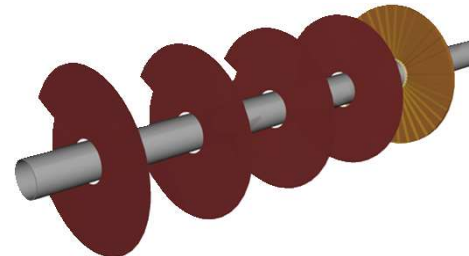
Barrel TOF (strips)



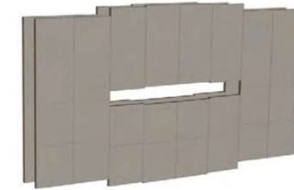
Forward TOF (pixel)



B0 tracker (pixel)



Roman/OMD (pixel)

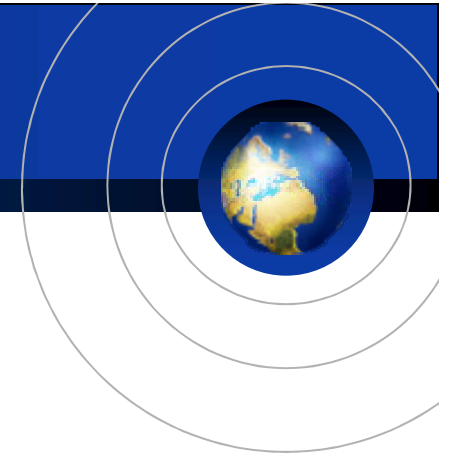


	Area (m ²)	Channel size (mm ²)	# of Channels	Timing Resolution	Spatial resolution	Material budget
Barrel TOF	10	0.5*10	2.4M	35 ps	30 μm in $r \cdot \varphi$	0.01 X ₀
Forward TOF	1.4	0.5*0.5	5.6M	25 ps	30 μm in x and y	0.05 X ₀
B0 tracker	0.07	0.5*0.5	0.28M	30 ps	20 μm in x and y	0.05 X ₀
RPs/OMD	0.14/0.08	0.5*0.5	0.56M/0.32M	30 ps	140 μm in x and y	no strict req.

■ only barrel TOF adopting strip-type AC-LGAD

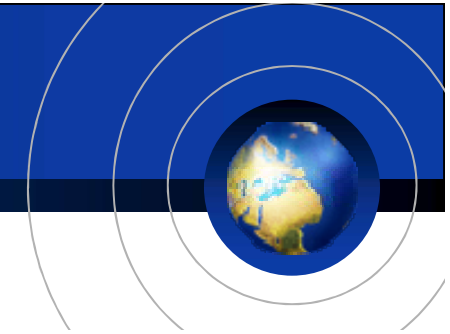
- large area ~ 12 m²
- need of own readout ASIC development

Strip AC-LGAD Sensors

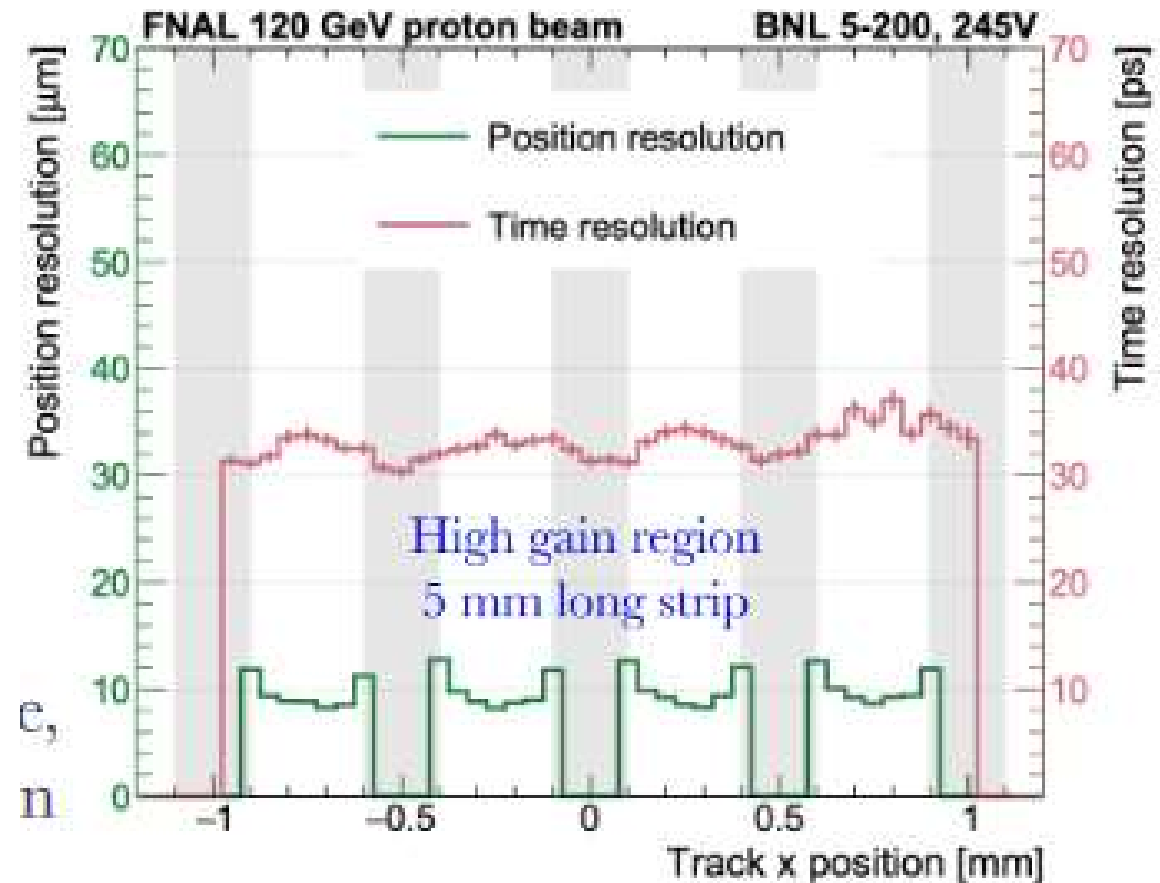


- **HAMAMATSU** (Japan)
PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS
 - multiple meetings in 2024–2025
- **first prototypes in fall 2025**
 - sensor electrode geometry
 - timing resolution, position resolution
 - active layer thickness
 - timing resolution, signal strength
 - readout geometry
 - impact on overall detector design
- **first results coming soon**

AC LGAD performance [FNAL]



- Strips 500 μm x 5 mm
 - 30-35 ps timing res.
 - 10 μm position res.
- New and promising detector

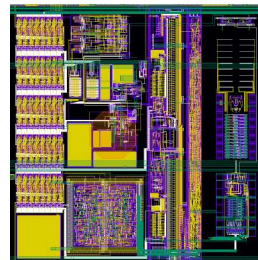
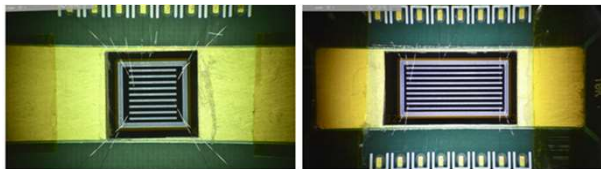


From S. Nanda : <https://indico.cern.ch/event/1232761/contributions/5321425/>

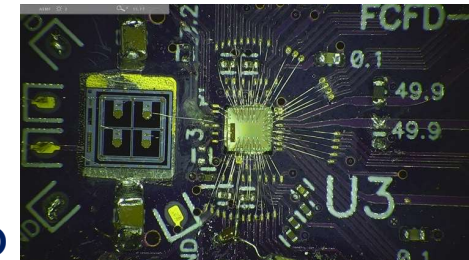
Readout ASICs as R&D Focal Point



- **FCFD by FNAL (US)**
 - “official” first candidate under development
- **CALOROC by Omega (France)**



EICROC

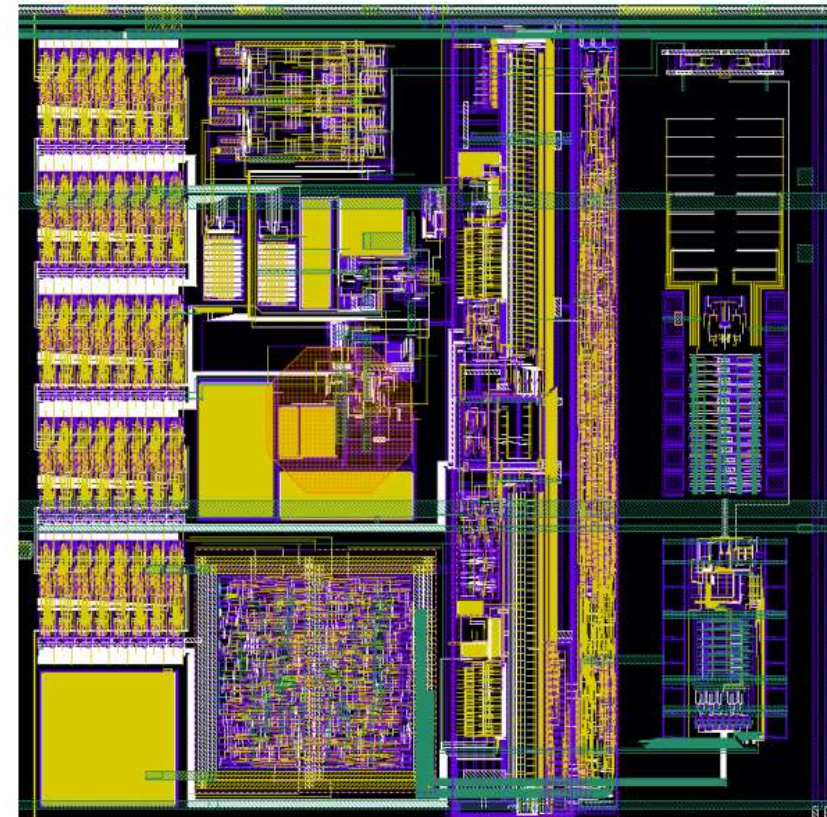
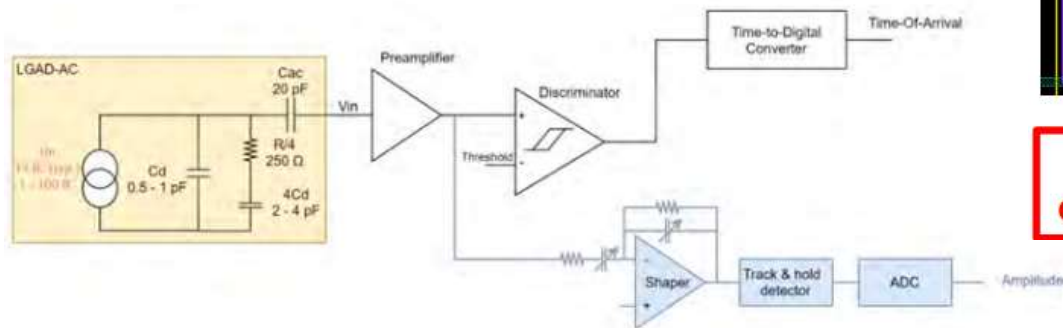


FCFD

- **cf. EICROC by Omega (France) for pixel AC-LGAD**
 - based on ALTIROC (ATLAS) and HGCROC (CMS)
 - under development for ePIC roman pods (500 μm pixel)
 - 2-dimensional layout
 - input capacitance range $< 5 \text{ pF}$

EICROC

- $(500\ \mu\text{m})^2$ pixel readout
 - Derived from ATLAS HGTD
 - ToT replaced by ADC [AGH]
 - TDC from CMS HGCAL [IRFU]



Slow
control

PA
+discr

TOA
TDC

8b 40M
ADC



14 May 2025

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MEGA
Microelectronics

lrfu

AGH

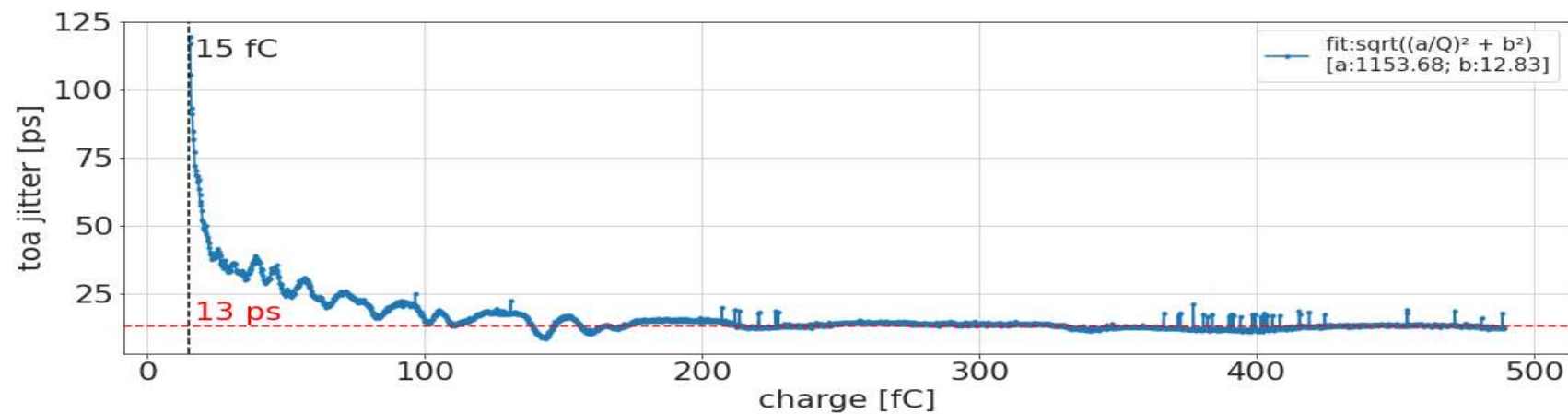
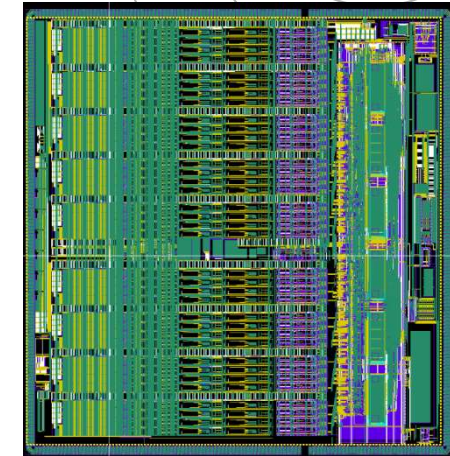
ePIC

12/19

CALOROC

■ Adaptation of CMS HGCal HGCROC

- HGCROC analog front-end
- Streaming readout
- 36 channels 10mW/ch
- $C_d < 50$ pF $Q_{\max} = 10$ pC $ENC = 0.3$ fC

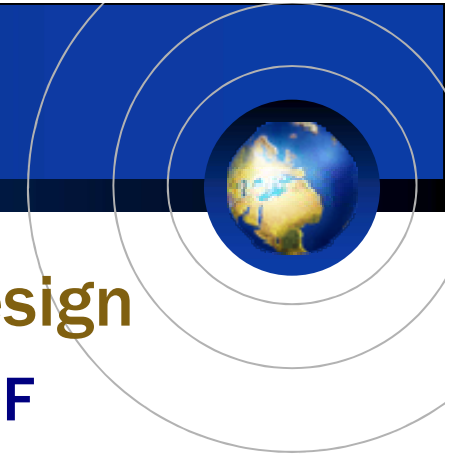


TYL/FJPPN 2024 Highlights

- enhanced collaboration for ePIC barrel TOF
 - Japan taking major responsibilities
 - overall design, AC-LGAD sensor, structures
 - S. Yano (Hiroshima) as deputy detector subsystem lead
 - France perfectly covering “Achilles' heel”
 - readout ASIC
- “in person” readout ASIC meetings
 - 5 people from Japan (incl. KS) on this budget
 - 27–28 January 2025 at Omega and IJCLab
- 3 (!) new PhD candidates at Hiroshima U.
 - external supports (à la FJPPN) greatly appreciated

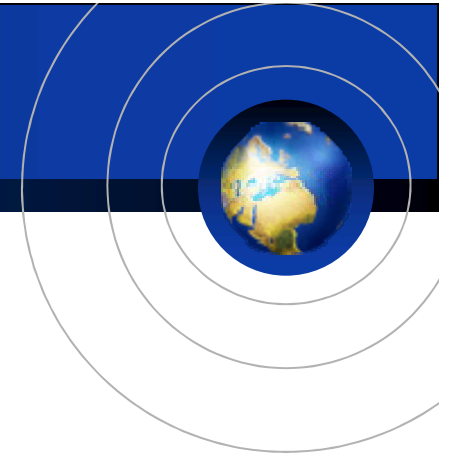


TYL/FJPPN 2025 Plans



- from R&D to Preliminary Engineering Design
 - final technology choices on overall barrel TOF
- full chain test of module assemblies
 - AC-LGAD with various geometries and parameters
 - HPK and BNL prototypes at [Hiroshima U](#)
 - multiple readout ASICs with analog + digital parts
 - FCFD ver.2 by FNAL
 - CALOROC1C by [Omega](#)
- performance tests
 - e.g. temperature dependence
 - lab tests with β particles, IR laser
 - beam tests with protons (FNAL), electrons (ELPH)

TYL/FJPPN France Side

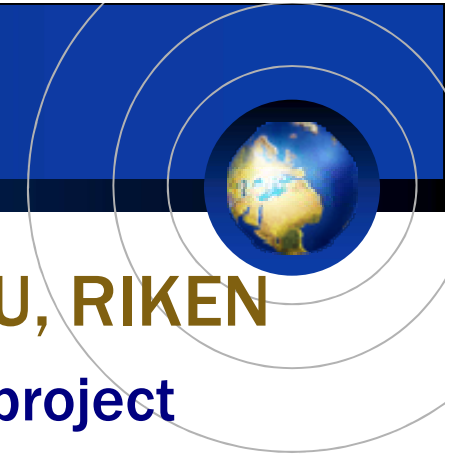


- **Ecole Polytechnique, Omega/IN2P3**
 - leading roles in readout ASIC development



- **CALOROC, EICROC, HGCROC (de La Taille)**

TYL/FJPPN Japan Side

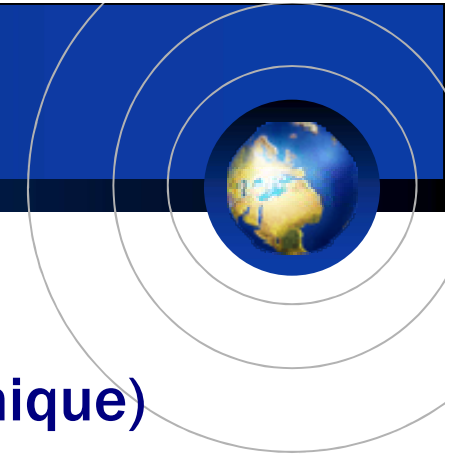


- Hiroshima U, Shinshu U, Nara Women's U, RIKEN
 - leading roles in many aspects of barrel ToF project



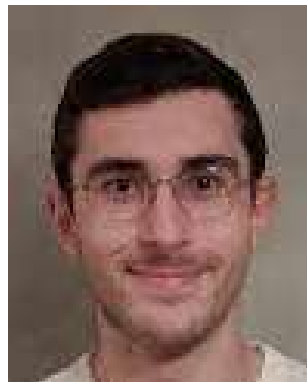
- test/production facility (Shigaki)
- project coordination, sensor (Yano)
- database, simulation, software, calibration (Kawade)
- system test and validation (Hachiya)

Promoting Young Generation

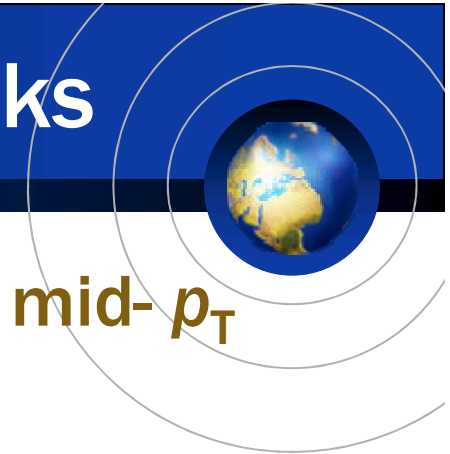


■ joint PhD student supervision

- A. Verplancke (PhD student, Ecole Polytechnique)
- S. Muraoka (PhD student, Hiroshima U)
- K. Matsutani (PhD student from 2026, Hiroshima U)



Summary and Concluding Remarks



- **ePIC ToF with AC-LGAD for PID in low- to mid- p_T**
 - excellent timing resolution (~ 30 ps)
 - high granularity and high fill factor
- **2024–2027 vitally important for ePIC barrel ToF**
 - full detector chain design due in 2025
 - e.g. strip AC-LGAD and readout ASIC compatibility issue
 - R&D and prototyping due in 2026
- **France–Japan(–US) collaboration essential**
- **TYL/FJPPN support very effective for us**
 - tight collab. including PhD students and post docs
 - face-to-face meetings/workshops in France and Japan

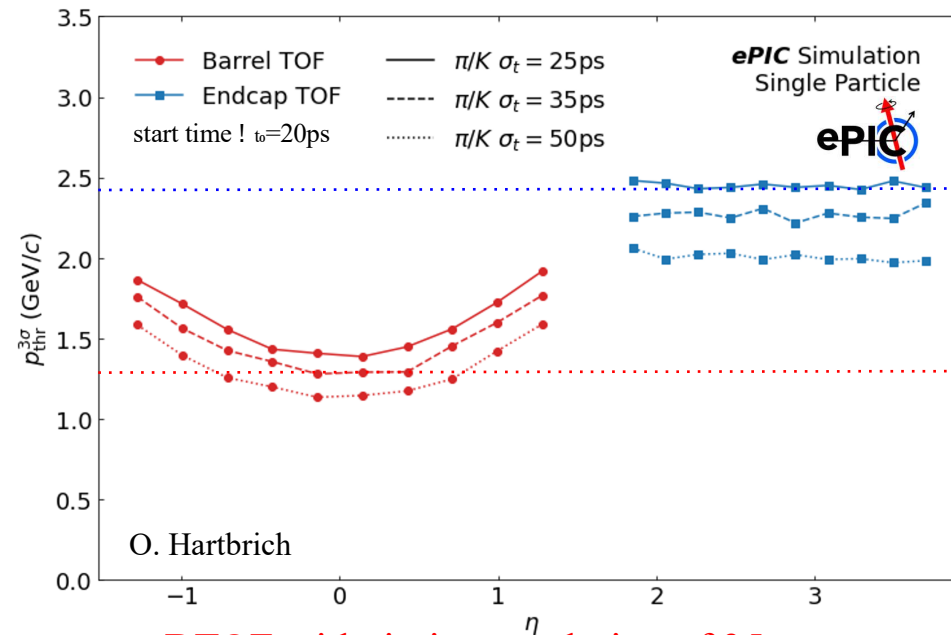
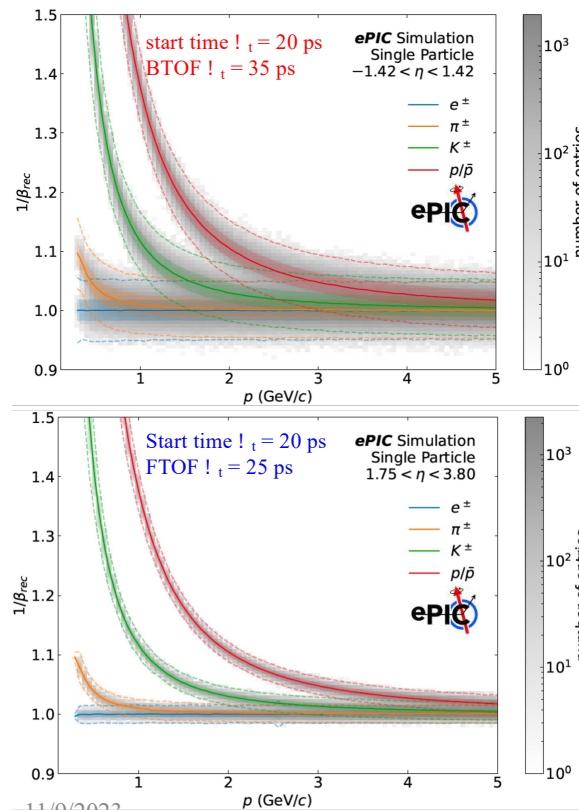
Backup Slides Hereafter



ToF Performance Simulation



■ detector geometry, digitization, tracking



■ 35/25 ps resolution assumed in barrel/endcap

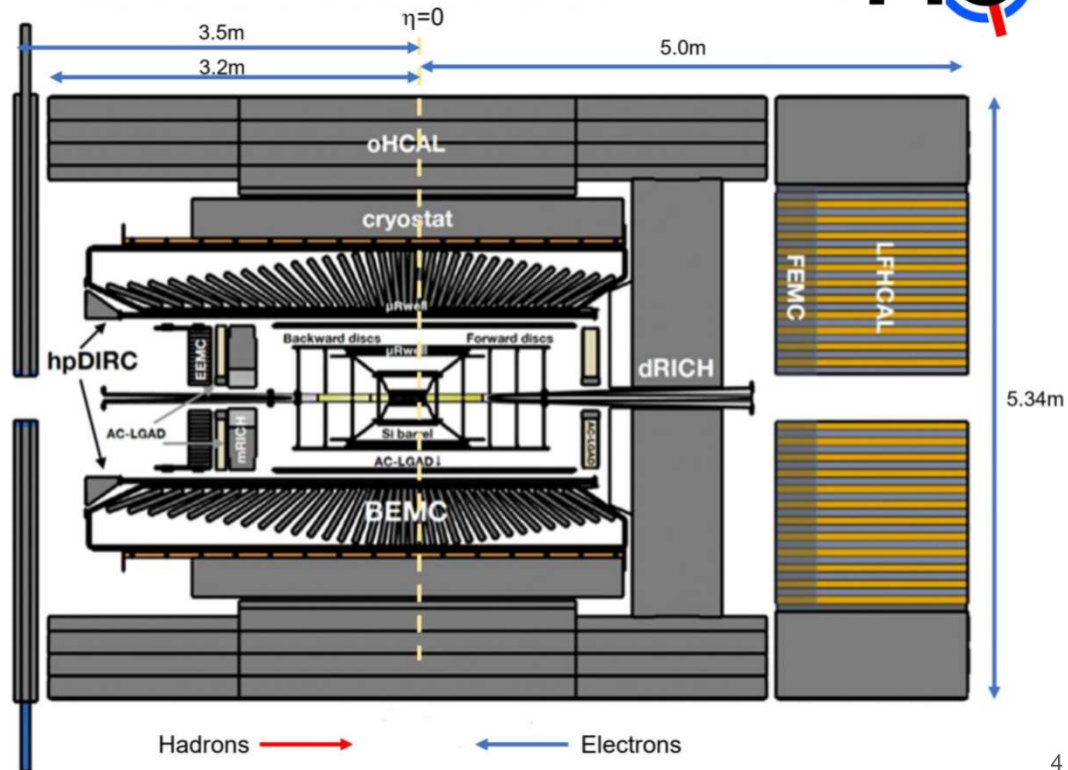


Tue 09:00
R. Milner

The ePIC barrel detector



- **tracking**
 - new 1.7 T magnet
 - Si-MAPS + MPGDs
- **calorimetry**
 - e-side: PbWO_4 EMCal
 - barrel: SciGlass / imaging
 - h-side: finely segmented
 - outer barrel HCal
- **particle ID**
 - AC-LGAD TOF
 - mRICH / pfRICH
 - hpDIRC
 - dRICH



4



広島大学

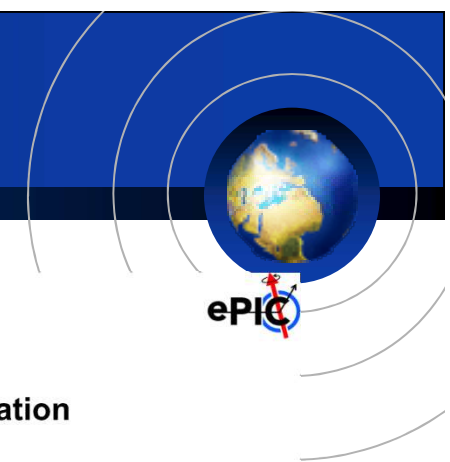
14 May 2025

TYL/FJPPN D_RD_33: Strip AC-LGAD for EIC ePIC – C. de La Taille / K. Shigaki

22/19



AC-LGAD Based ToF



TOF – Time of Flight

based on AC-LGAD technology, also used in far forward ePIC instrumentation

- **two AC-LGAD layers**

- barrel, $|\eta| < 1.4$
- forward, $1.5 < \eta < 3.5$

- **barrel**

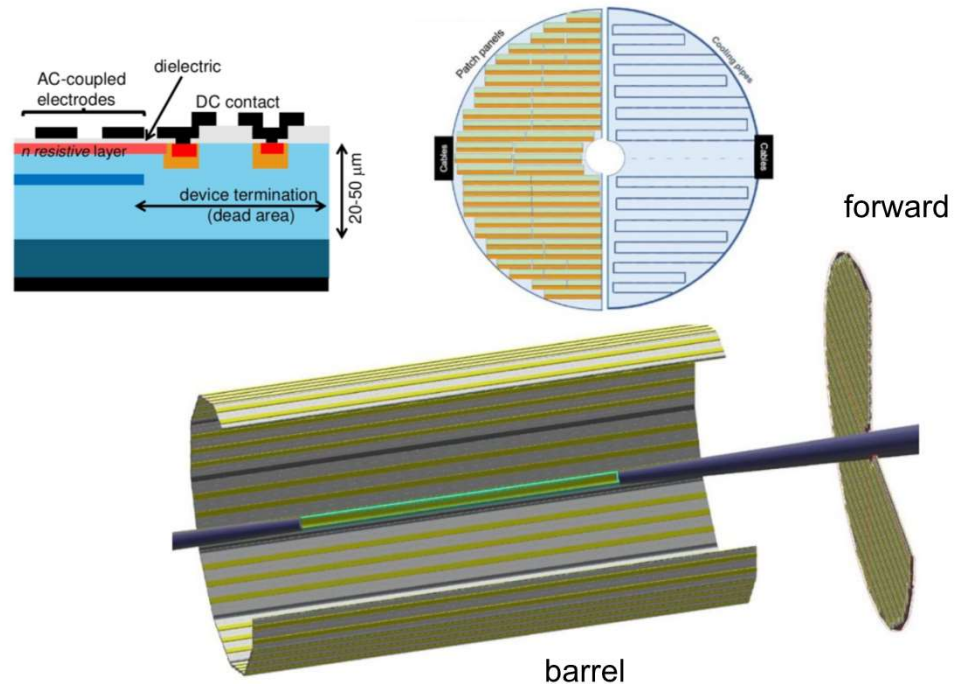
- 500 μm x 1 cm strips
- 1% X_0

- **forward**

- 500 μm x 500 μm pixels
- 8% X_0

- **performance**

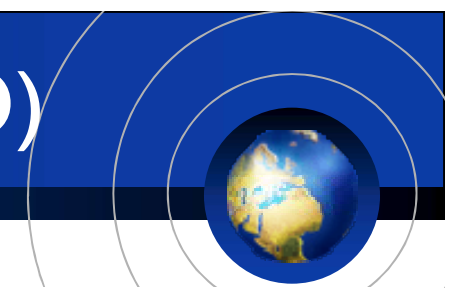
- space resolution: 30 μm
- time resolution: $\sigma \sim 25$ ps



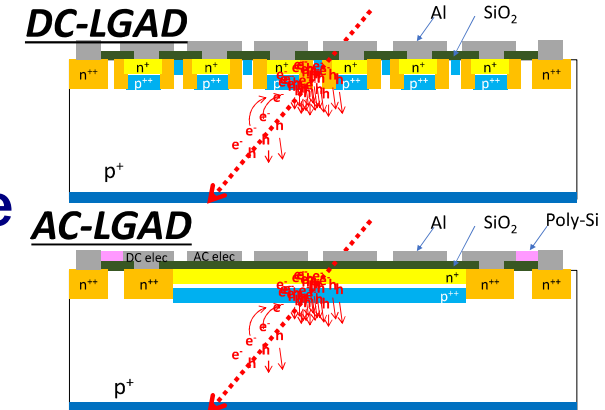
7



Low Gain Avalanche Diode (LGAD)



- **DC (i.e. standard) -LGAD**
 - n^{++} -in-p type sensor w/ p^+ gain layer
 - individual p^+ gain layer per electrode
 - inactive gaps between granules

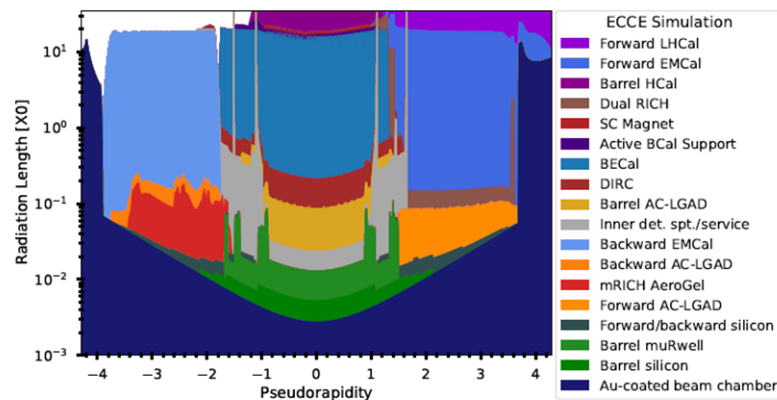
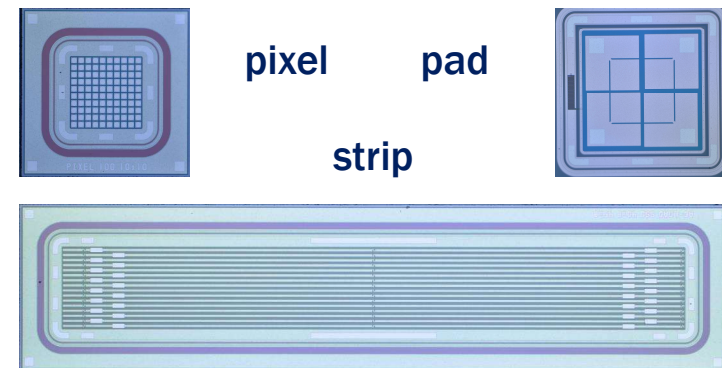


- **AC-LGAD**
 - n^+ -in-p type sensor w/ p^+ gain layer
 - lower dope for low sideward conductivity
 - spanning p^+ gain layer w/ multiple electrodes
 - AC coupling w/ oxide layer between n^+ layer and electrodes
 - ~100% fill factor w/ fine pitch
 - good position resolution with charge sharing
- **high hope for relatively new AC-LGAD technology**

K. Nakamura *et al.*,
JPS Conf. Proc. 34, 010016 (2021)

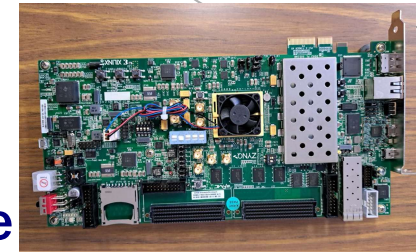
AC-LGAD ToF R&D Guidelines

- basics: resolution, stability, radiation tolerance
- large area sensor with uniformity
 - simple construction and operation
 - cost reduction
- material budget
 - ~1% radiation length in barrel
 - tracking/EM performance



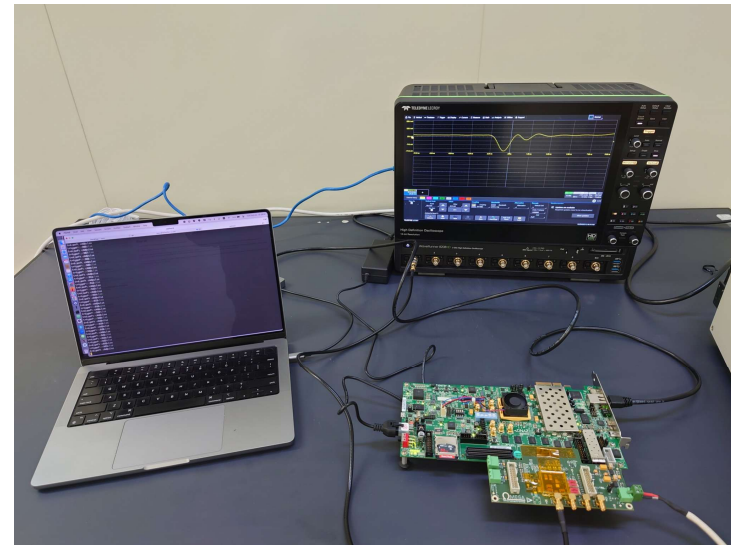
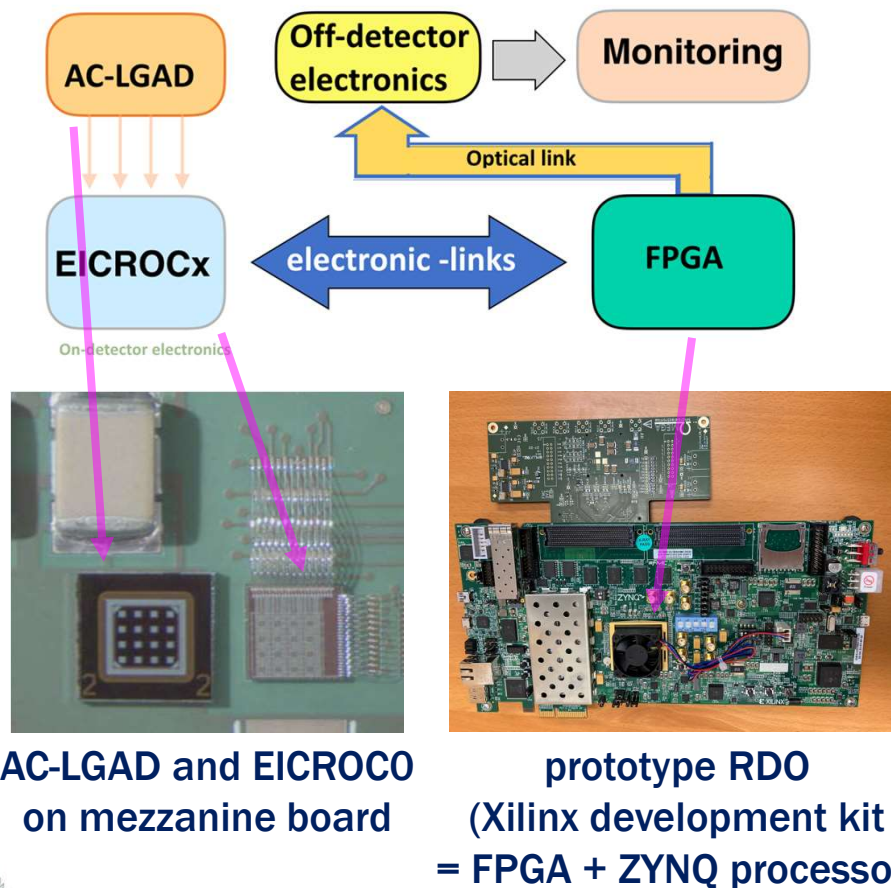
Test bench at Hiroshima

- **Test of the AC-LGAD and EICROC (readout board for EIC)**
 - Work closely with HPK for effective development
- **Equipment based on the suggestion from BNL/KEK/Tsukuba teams**
 - Focusing on timing resolution and cross-talk (charge measurement)
- **FPGA, digitizer (flash ADC), oscilloscope, and PMT**
 - FPGA: ZC706
 - Oscilloscope: WaveRunner 8208HD (10GS/s, 8ch)
 - Digitizer: CAEN DT5742 (5GS/s, 16ch)
 - PMT: PHOTEK PMT240 (60 ps rising time)
 - Looking forward to receiving AC-LGAD and EICROC

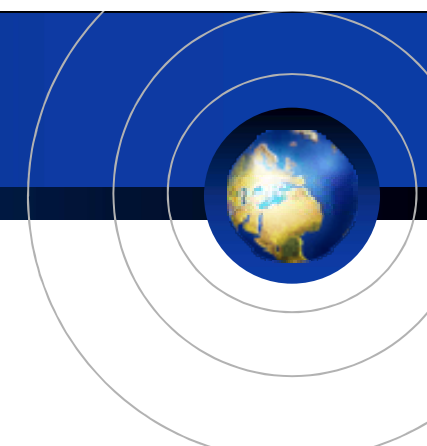


Full Chain Test Bench at Hiroshima U

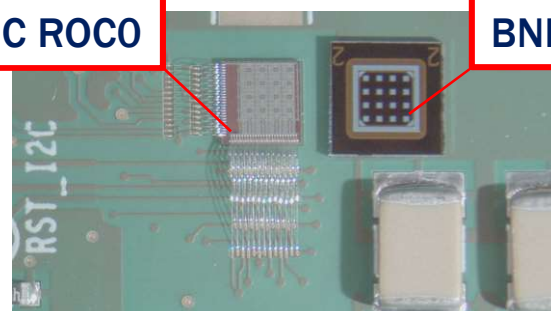
- second facility following only BNL
 - in collaboration with IJC Lab (France)



Hiroshima test bench (only partially shown)



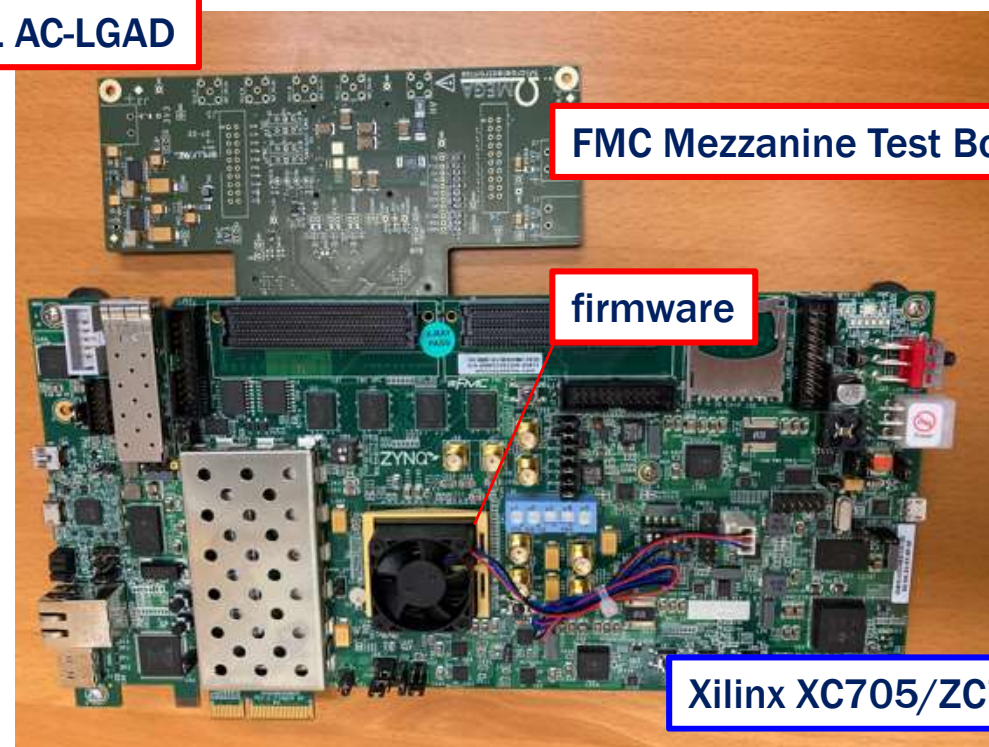
EIC ROC0



BNL AC-LGAD



FMC Mezzanine Test Board



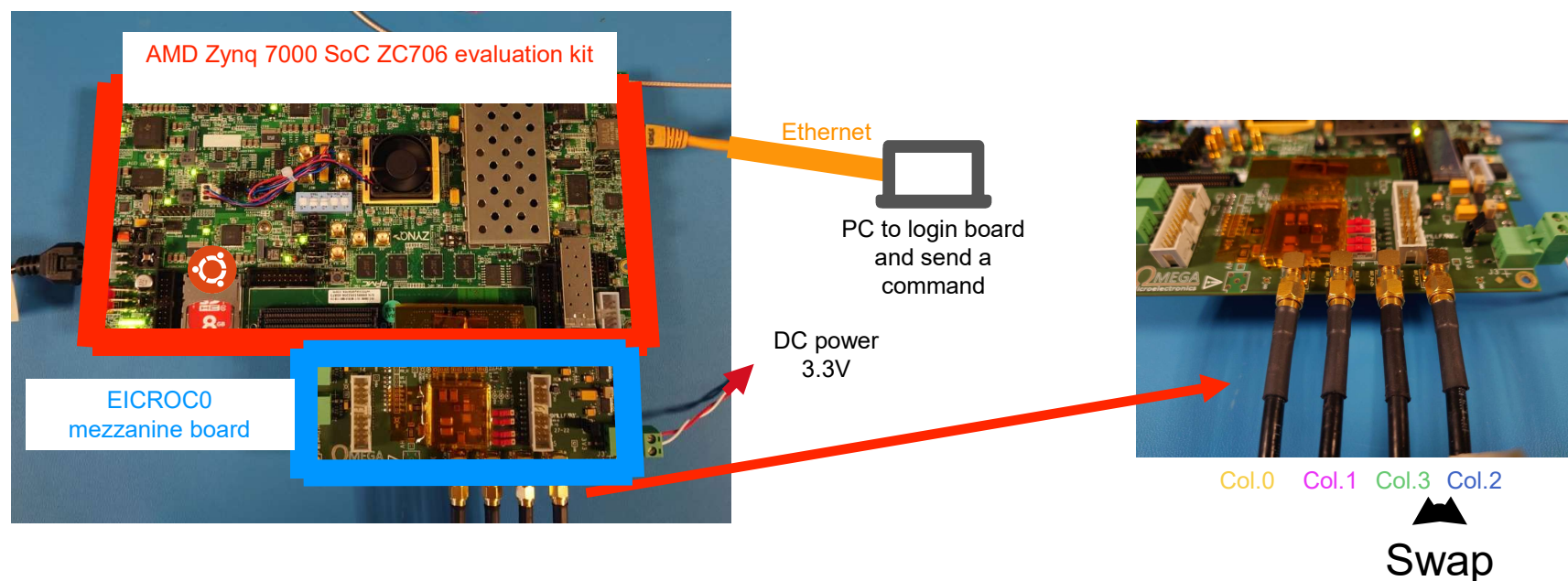
firmware

Xilinx XC705/ZC706

Activity for EICROC R&D @ BNL

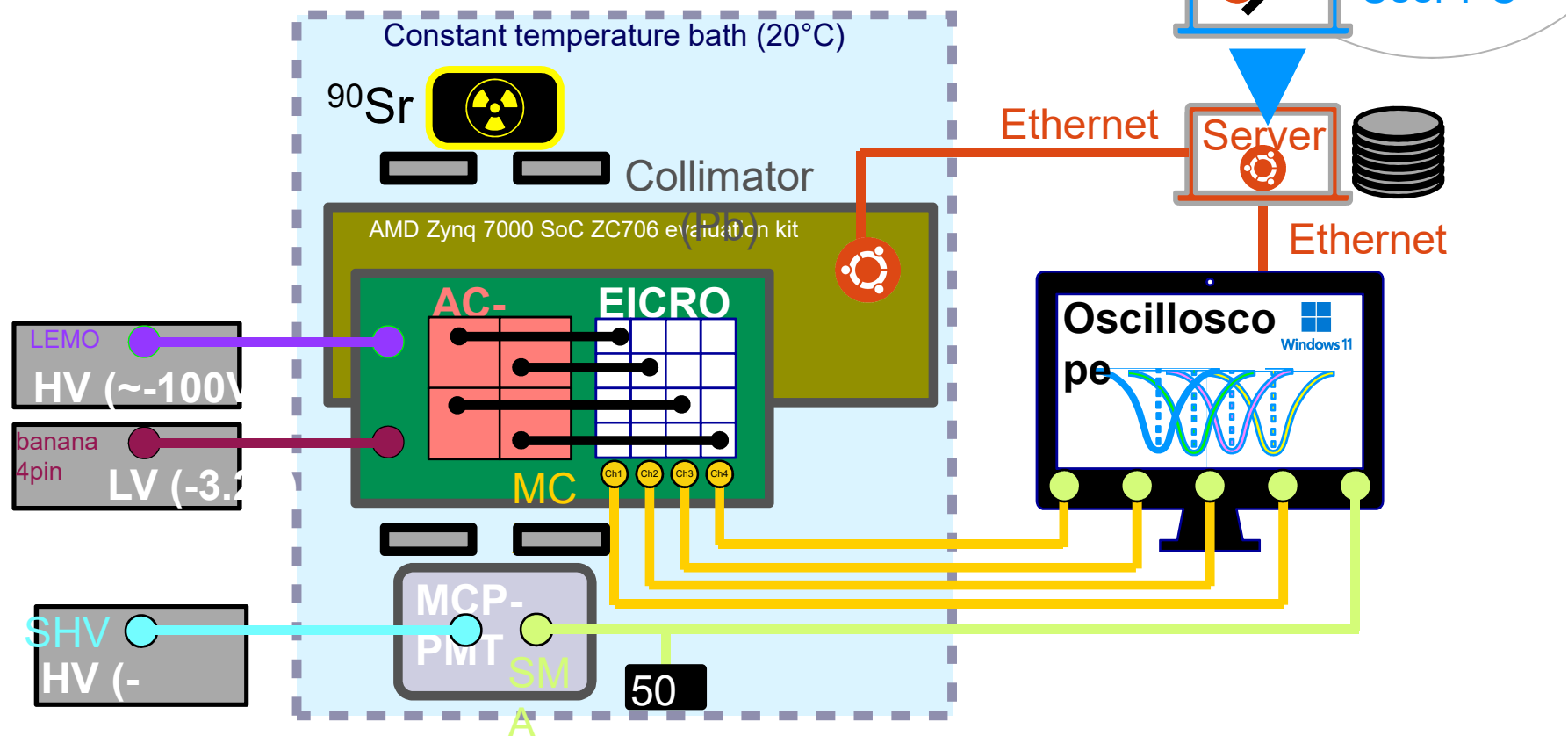


■ charges

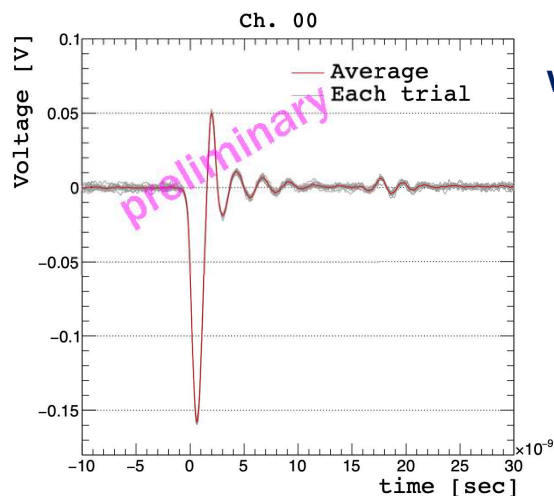
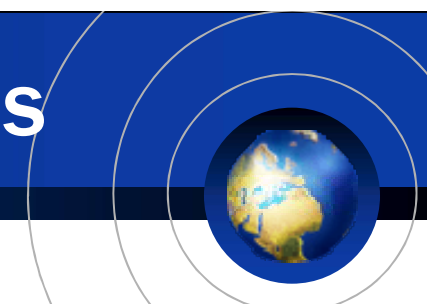


Hiroshima Test Bench Overview

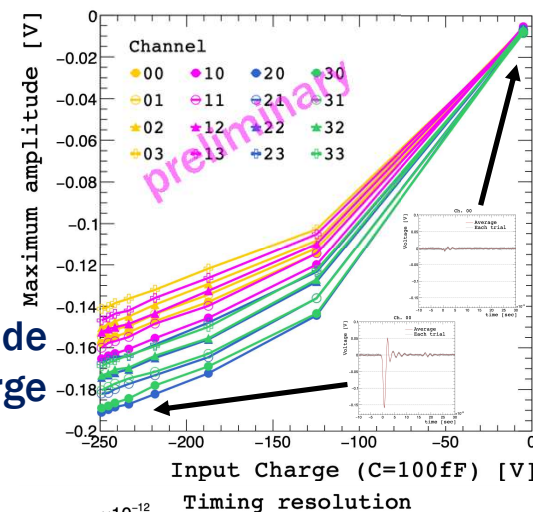
■ in preparation



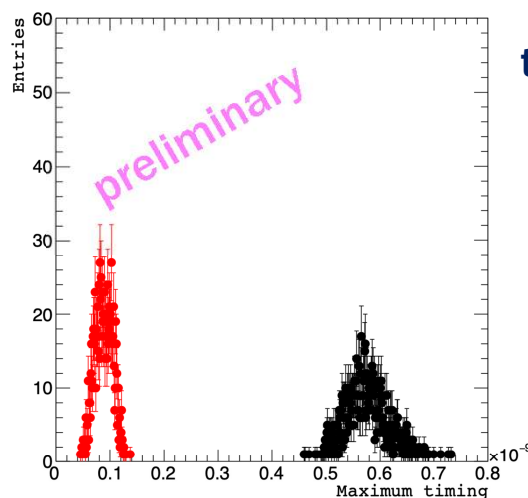
Quick Look at First Measurements



waveform

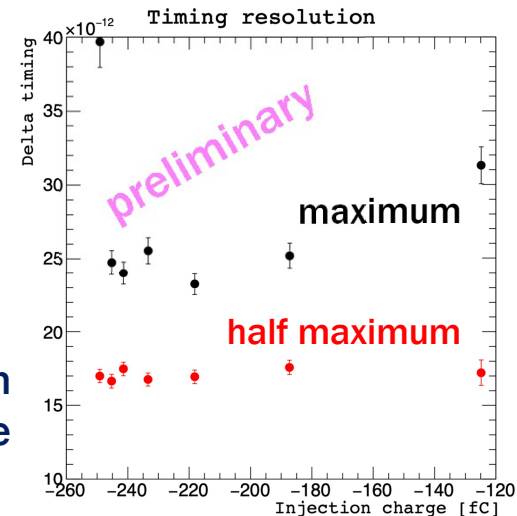


signal amplitude
v.s. injected charge



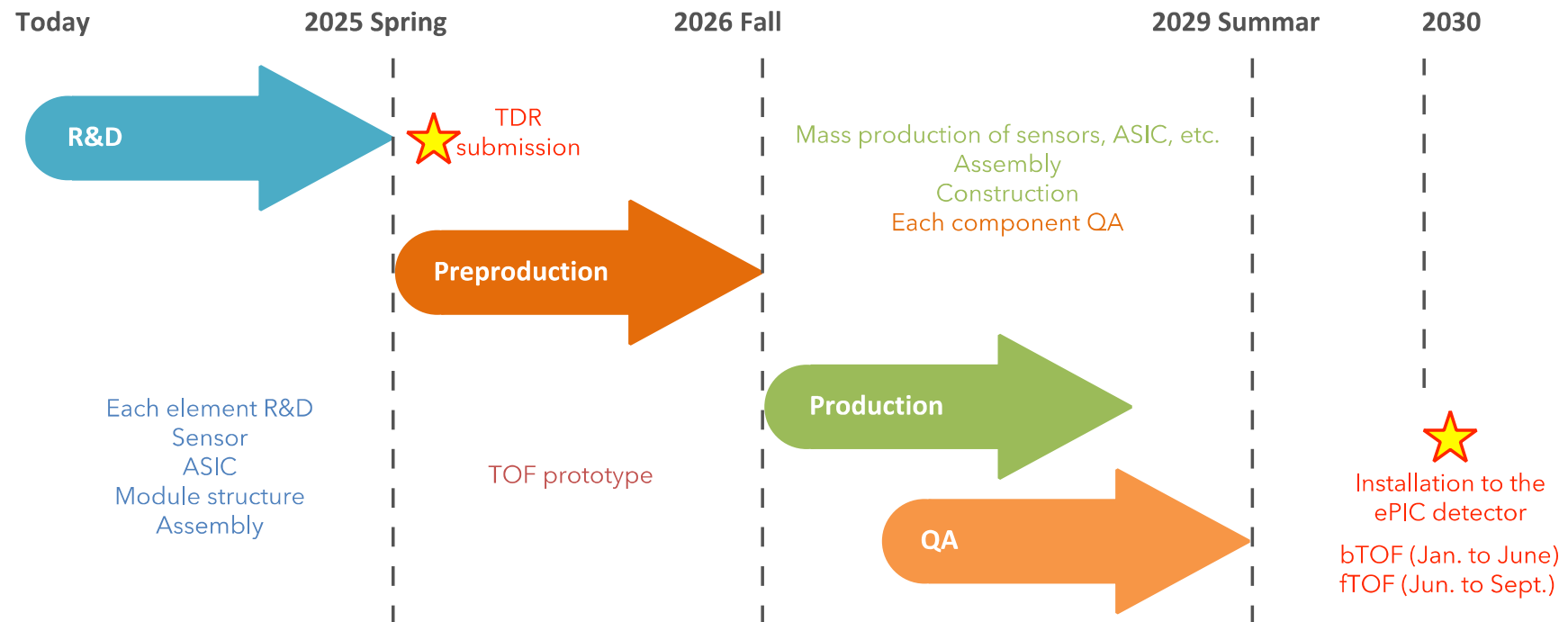
timing fluctuation

timing fluctuation
v.s. injected charge



Longer Term Scope (up to 4 Years)

- 2.5 more years for R&D and prototyping



Team Japan Background

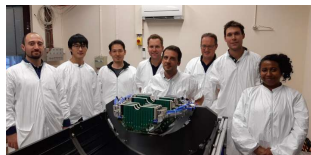
- Riken w/ sPHENIX INTT experience
 - w/ Japanese technologies
 - R&D, mass production, QA environments available
- Hiroshima w/ ALICE forward μ tracker experience

sPHENIX INTT Japan (led by Riken) (spin)

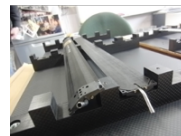
+ Hiroshima Univ. (heavy ion)

+ Shinshu Univ. (high energy)

MFT assembling @ CERN



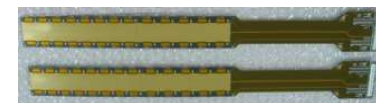
Staves



Bas extender



FPC



Silicon sensor



広島大学

14 May 2025

TYL/FJPPN D_RD_33: Strip AC-LGAD for EIC ePIC – C. de La Taille / K. Shigaki

33/19



France–Japan Collaboration



- **vital and pressing for ePIC barrel ToF**
 - full detector chain design due in 2025
- **Japan–US link on AC-LGAD**
- **France–US link on readout ASIC**
- **direct France–Japan link only since 2023**
 - biweekly EICROC meetings hosted by Omega
 - feedback from Hiroshima test bench (as well as BNL)
- **also fostering strip AC-LGAD expertise in Japan**
 - design, fabrication, simulation, integration, analysis