

**LPNHE**  
PARIS

Romain Gaïor

 **UTokyo**

 **REGENSBURG**

 **Universität  
Münster**

I L  N C E

LPNHE  
2025/06/07  
GDR DUPHY

K. Martens  
M. Yamashita  
C. Ishikawa  
X. Wang

Prof R. Schreiner  
M. Hausladen

Prof C. Weinheimer

# Fea In XE Detector

# Scientific context

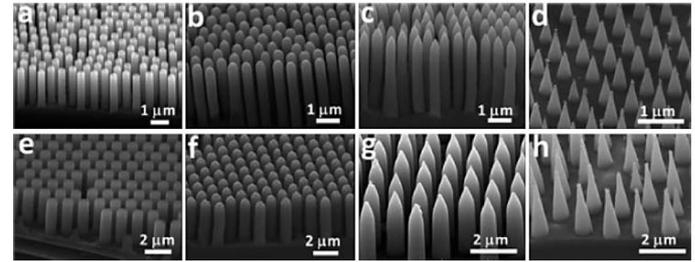
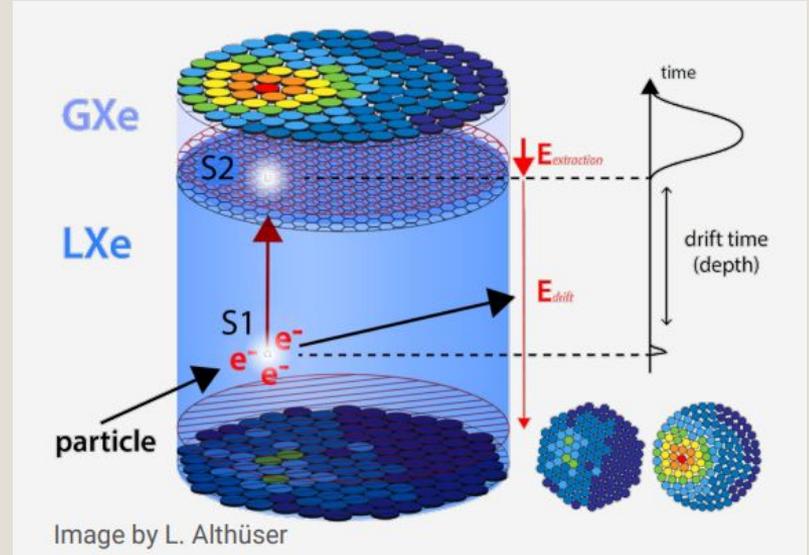
XLZD: Next generation LXe Experiment (50-100 tons) for **rare event searches** (Dark Matter, neutrinos,  $0\nu\beta\beta$ )

(some) Problematics with large detectors

- Radioactive purity: need for faster **purification** methods (Radon)
- Electrodes for **2nd scintillation**:  
Mechanical issues, resolution, spurious charge

FEA: Microscopic Conductive structure

- **Large electric field** site
- Various shape / material (Cu, Si) / fabrication method
- Used in industry in vacuum



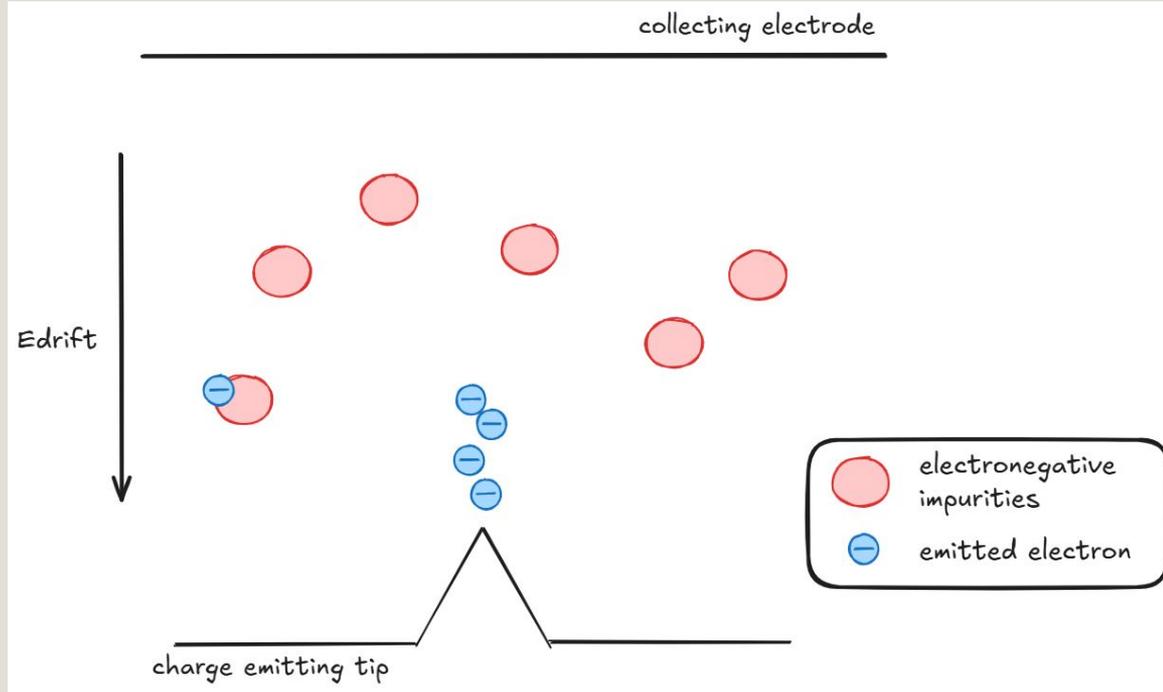
**Figure 14.** SEM images of highly regular (a and e) nanopillar, (b and f) nanorod, (c and g) nanopencil, and (d and h) nanocone Si arrays, produced by wet-etching. (Reproduced from ref. [81] with permission from the authors and the Royal Society of Chemistry).

# PURIFICATION

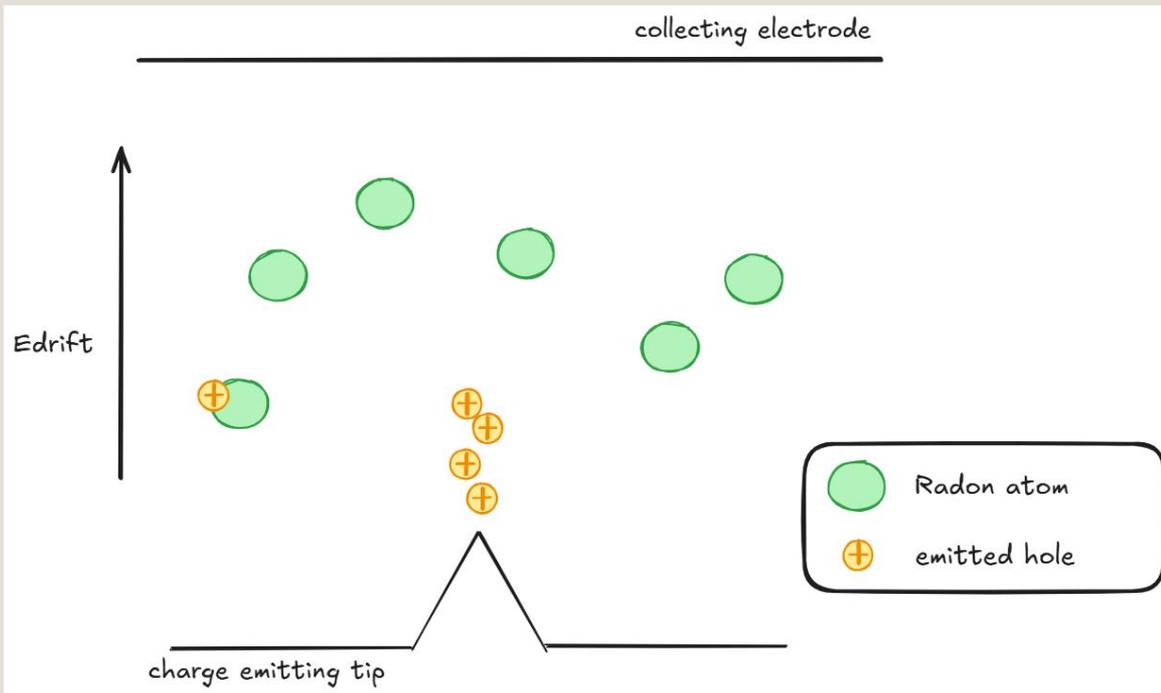
INTRO

CHARGE  
EMISSIONSECONDARY  
SCINTILLATION

CONCLUSION

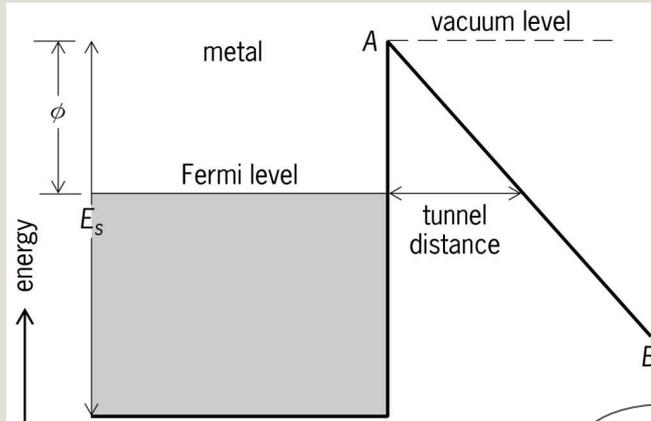


# PURIFICATION



# Field effect charge emission

Fowler-Nordheim tunneling (~1930)



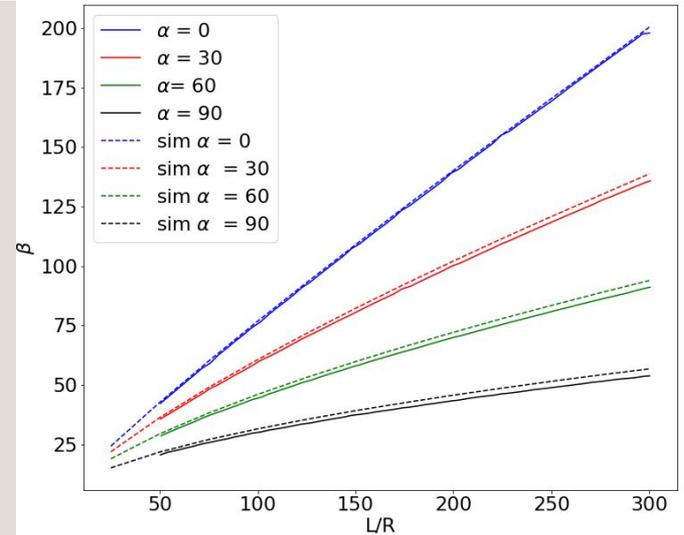
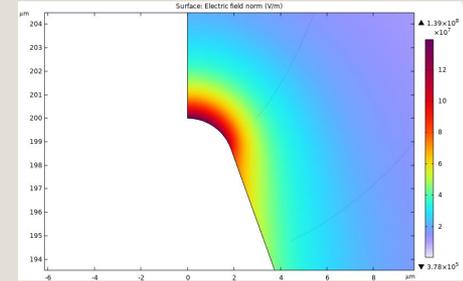
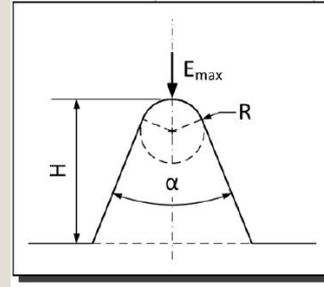
$\sim 10^9 \text{V/m}$

$$j = \frac{q^3}{2\pi h} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{\mu}}{(\phi + \mu) \sqrt{\phi}} \cdot F_l^2 \exp\left(-\frac{4\kappa\phi^{3/2}}{3qF_l}\right)$$

$F_l = \text{Electric surface field}$

Very high local field required

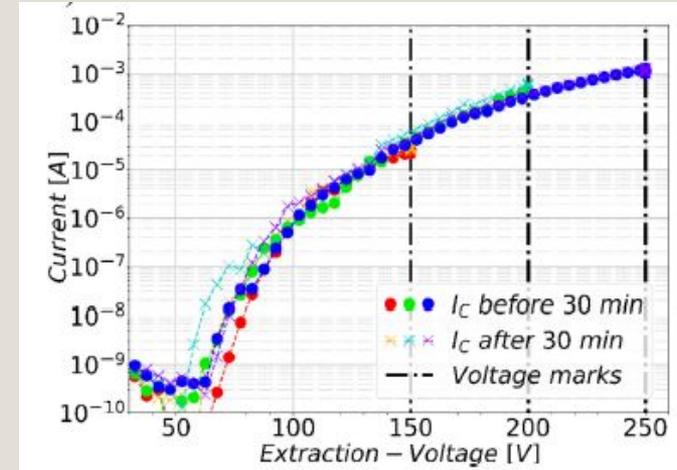
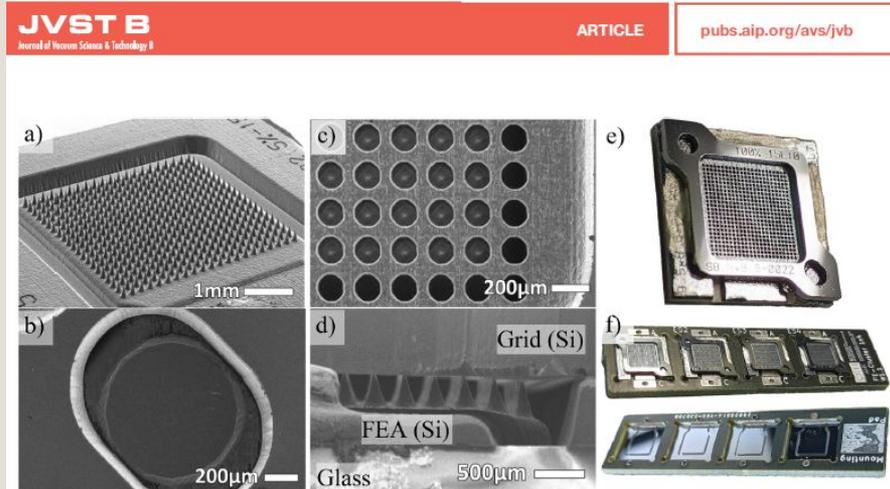
Field enhancement  $\beta$



S.Podenok, M.Sveningsson, K.Hansen, E.Campbell, "Electric field enhancement factor around a metallic, end-capped cylinder", NANO1(1), S.87-93(2006).

# Charge emission in vacuum

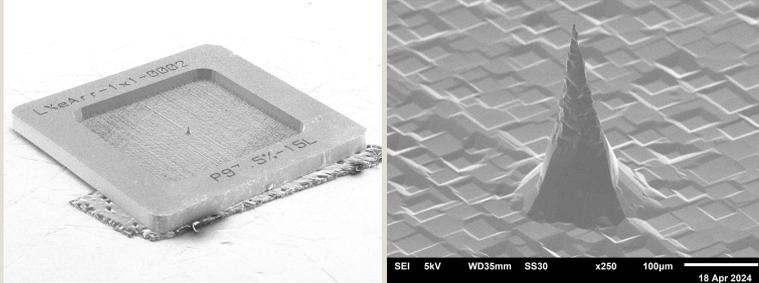
Result from OTH in Vacuum Hausladen *et al.* DOI: [10.1116/6.0003233](https://doi.org/10.1116/6.0003233)



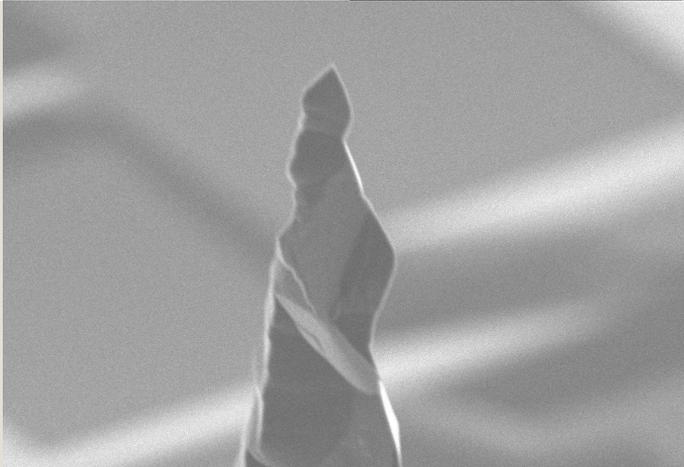
- Silicon laser micromachined tip array of 21x21
- Onset voltage of ~70V
- Stable current obtained
- Current distributed evenly over the array

# Single tip in LXe

Tip for LXe tests



- We took first measurement in 2023 with a 21x21 array  
→ Emission but hard to interpret
- Going back to 1 single tip
- First “conditioning” in vacuum  
→ smoothens the surface



SEI 5kV WD26mm SS30 x2,500 10µm 18 Apr 2024

# Single tip in LXe

INTRO

## Inner vessel

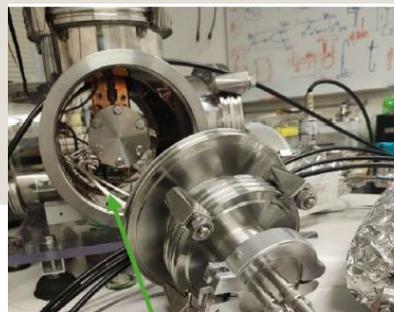


CHARGE EMISSION

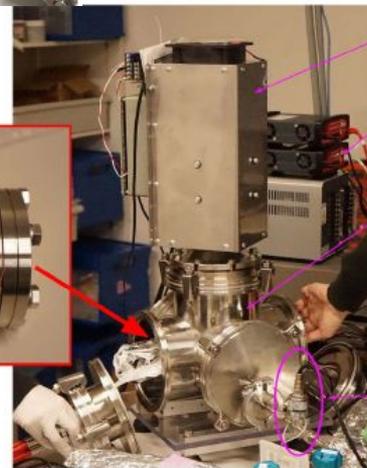


SECONDARY SCINTILLATION

CONCLUSION

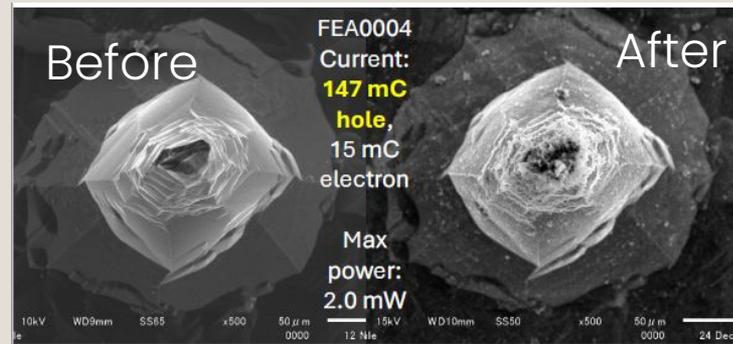


## Cryogenic Setup



# Results

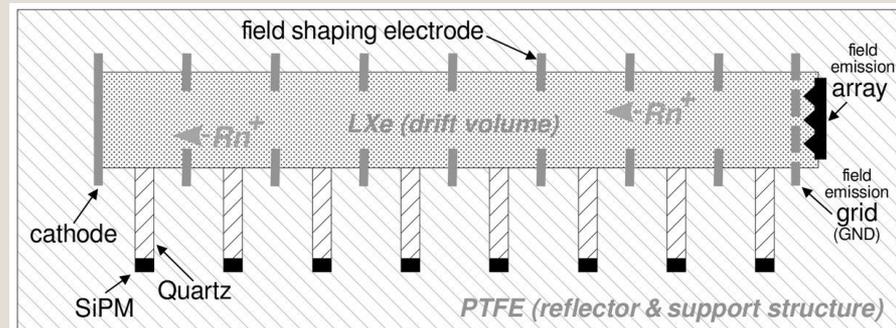
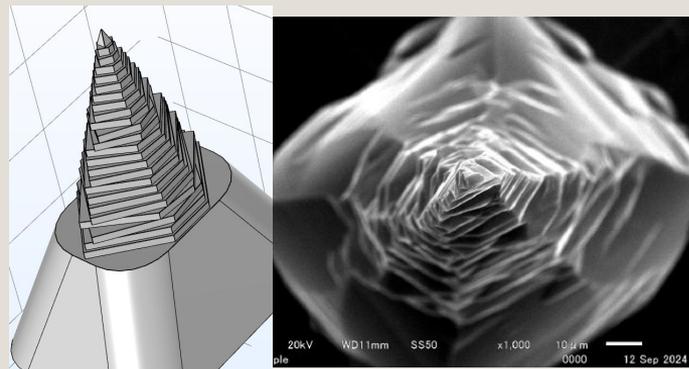
## Electron AND Hole emission observed !



- Established procedure to obtain stable emission
- Change of tip structure observed to be understood
- Effect of coating ?

# Plans

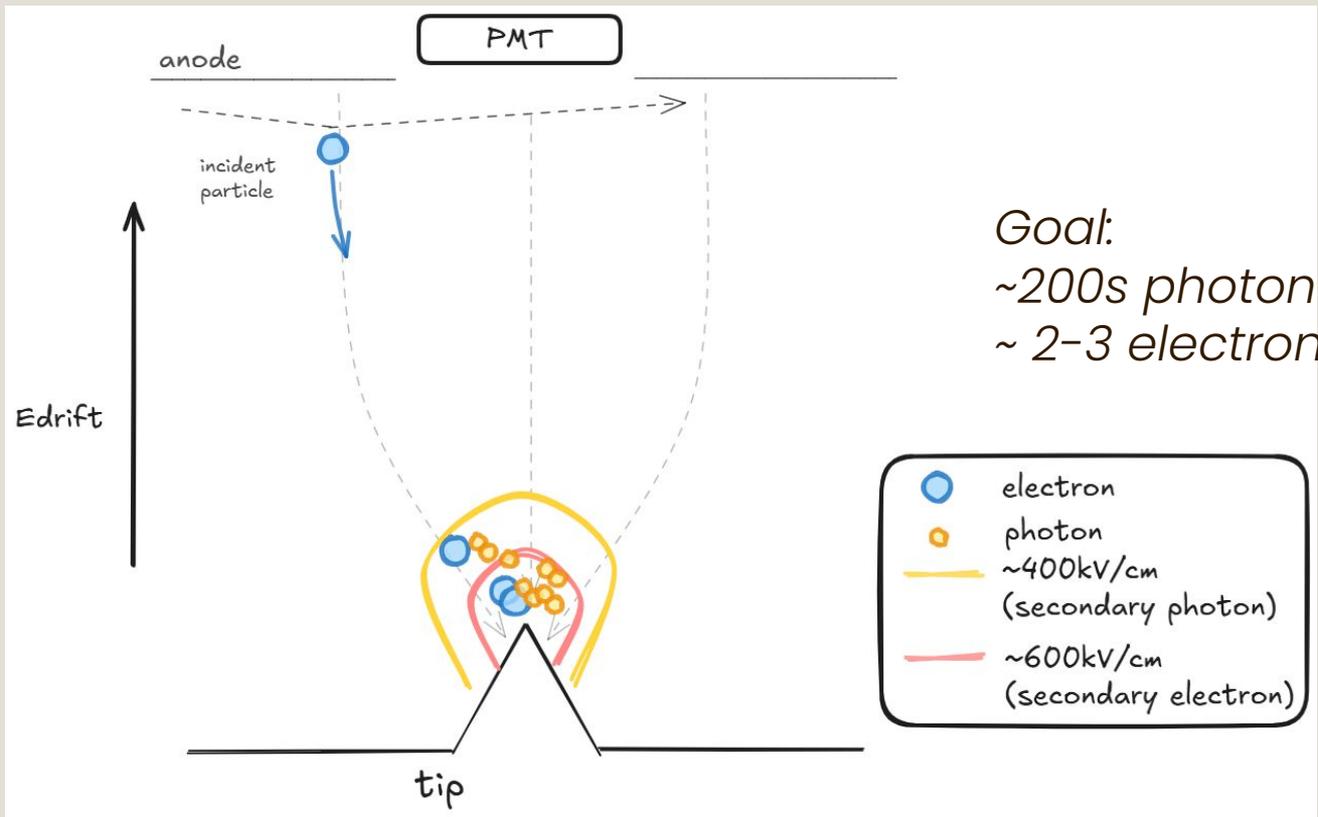
- Experience building up on the tip conditioning
- Work on simulations is ongoing
- Distribute emission over an array
- Measure attachment to radon with a dedicated experiment →



**Fig. 1 Schematic of LXe drift volume**

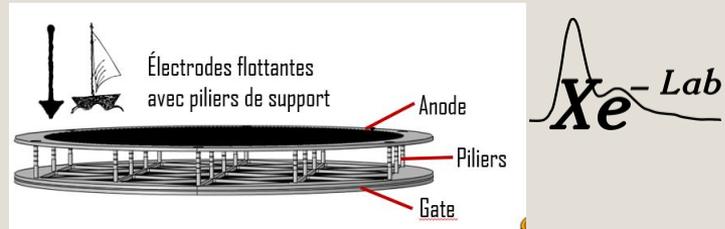
*K. Martens credit*

# Secondary scintillation

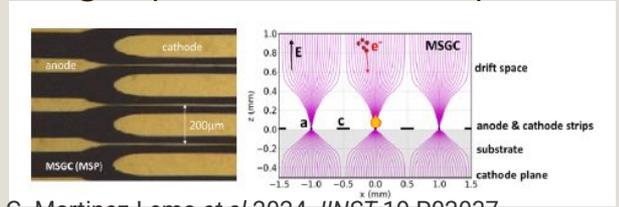


# Electrode R&Ds

## Double phase "Floating electrodes"

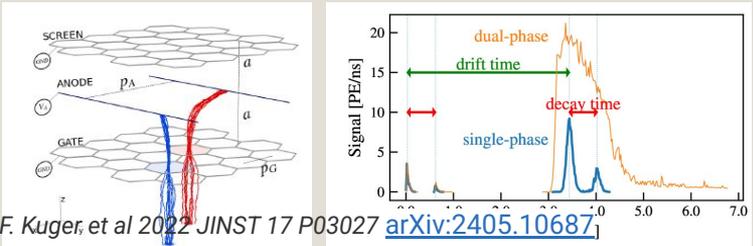


## Single phase Microstrips



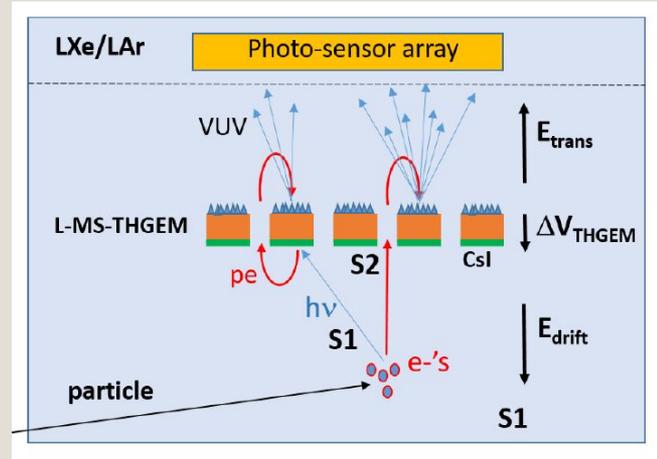
G. Martinez-Lema et al 2024 JINST 19 P02037

## Single phase with wire



F. Kuger, et al 2022 JINST 17 P03027 [arXiv:2405.10687](https://arxiv.org/abs/2405.10687)

## Single phase with micro/nano structure



A. Breskin 2022 JINST 17 P08002 / arXiv:2203.01774

- **No liquid - gas interface**
- **No electrode sagging**
- **No delayed electrons**
- **Cleaner S2 signal**
- **Large local electric field**
- **Not as studied as double phase for rare event searches**

INTRO

CHARGE EMISSION

SECONDARY SCINTILLATION

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# Secondary scintillation simulation

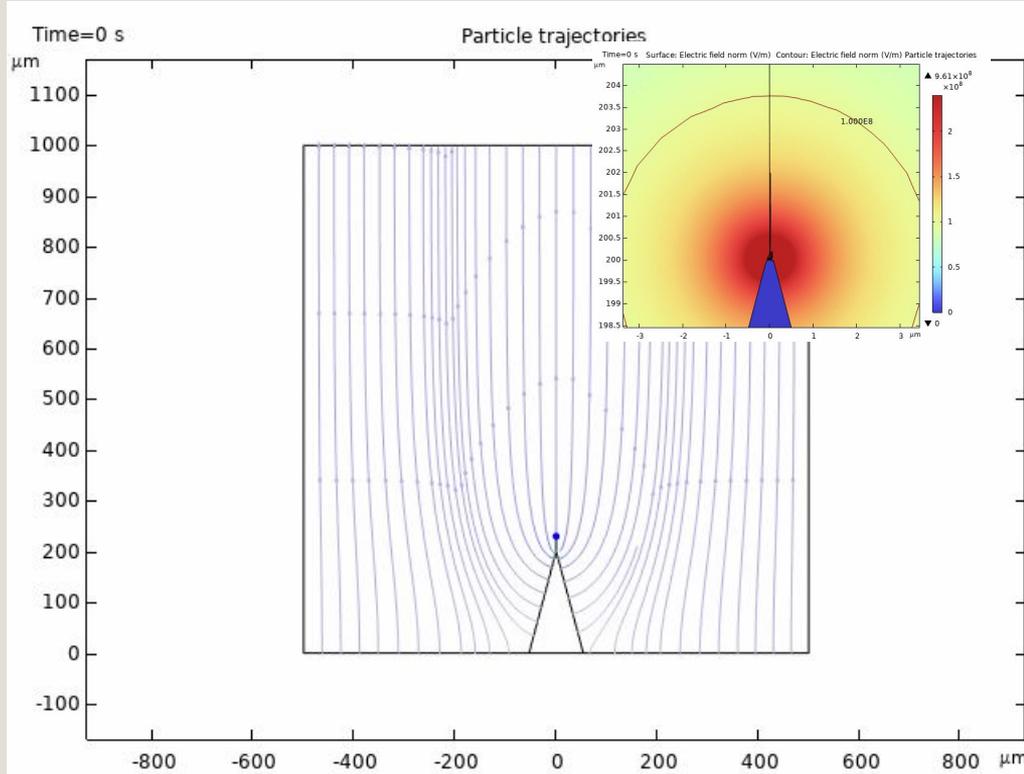
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INTRO

CHARGE EMISSION

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1. E-field simulation
2. Electron tracking
3. Emission simulation

$$\Delta N_e = N_e \theta_0 \exp\left(-\frac{\theta_1}{E(\vec{x}, V_A, d_w) - \theta_2}\right) \Delta \vec{x},$$

$$\Delta N_\gamma = N_e \theta_3 (E(\vec{x}, V_A, d_w) - \theta_4) \Delta \vec{x},$$

$$\theta_2 = 400 \text{ kV/cm}$$

$$\theta_4 = 600 \text{ kV/cm}$$

arXiv:1408.6206v3 / E Aprile et al 2014 JINST 9 P11012

→ Started with full COMSOL

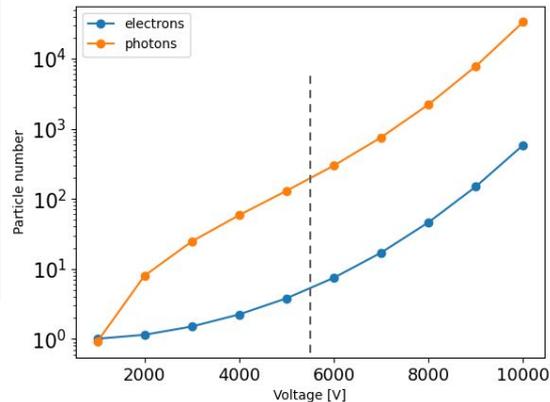
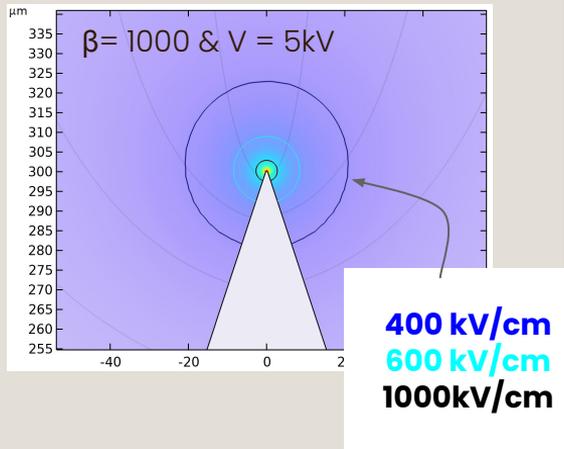
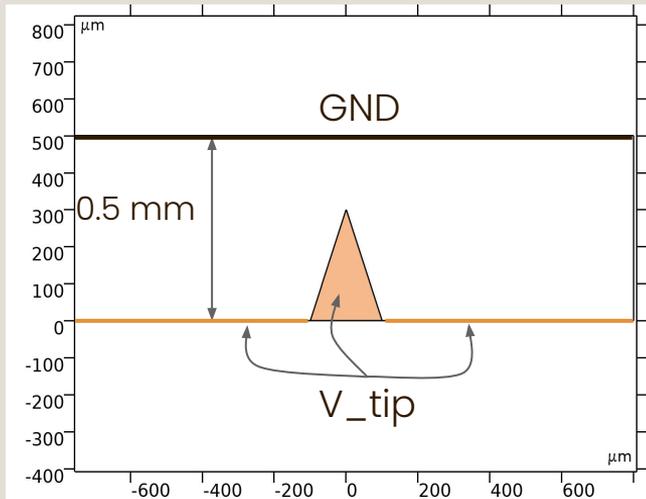
→ Now Emission with python code

# Simple geometry

INTRO

CHARGE EMISSION

SECONDARY SCINTILLATION



CONCLUSION

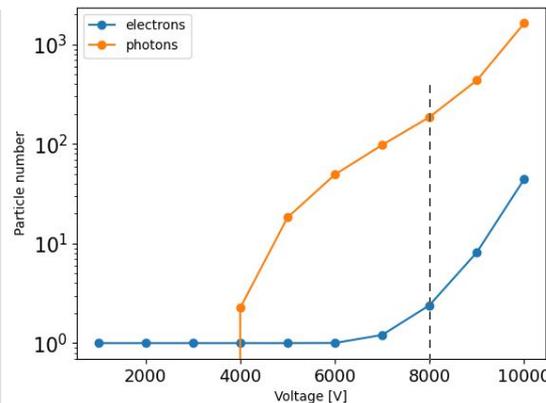
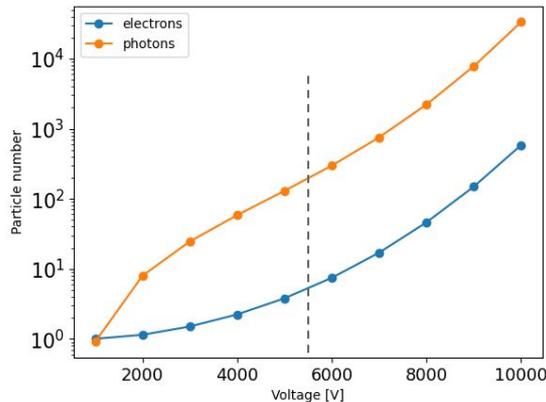
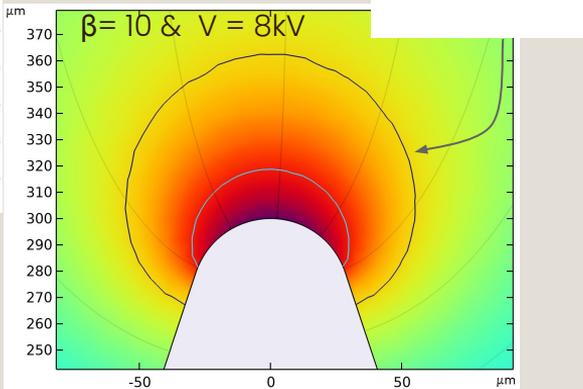
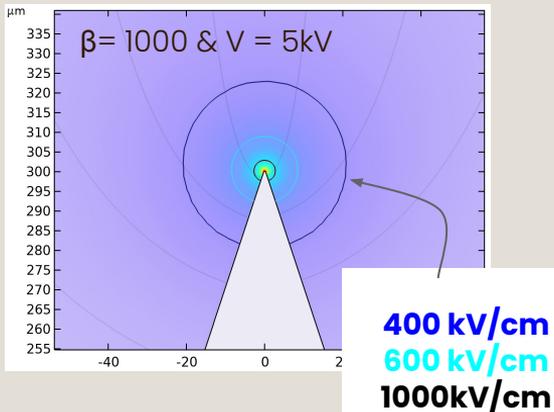
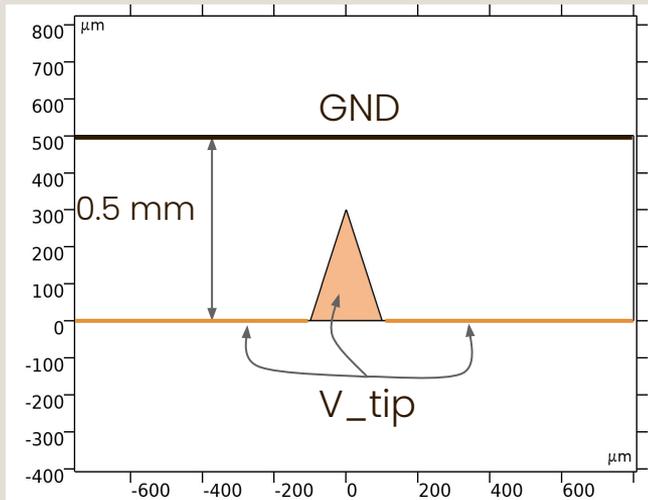
- Number of electron vs photon
- Charge emission ?

→ Need a smaller enhancement factor

# Simple geometry

INTRO

CHARGE EMISSION



SECONDARY SCINTILLATION

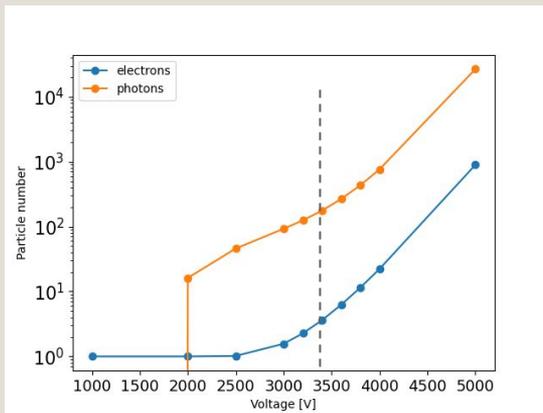
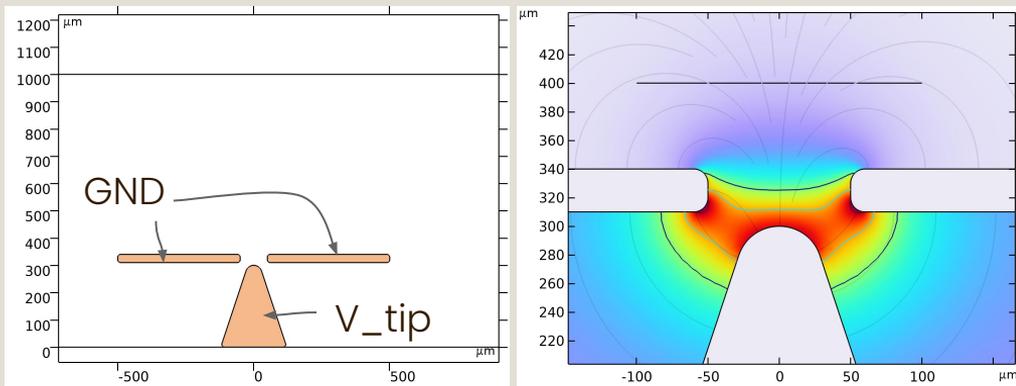
CONCLUSION

- Number of electron vs photon
- Charge emission ?

→ Need a smaller enhancement factor

# Many possibilities

Gated FEA



INTRO

CHARGE EMISSION

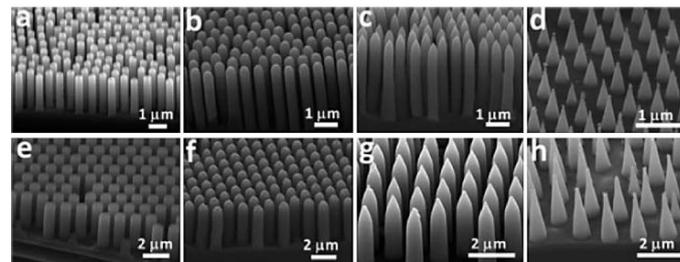
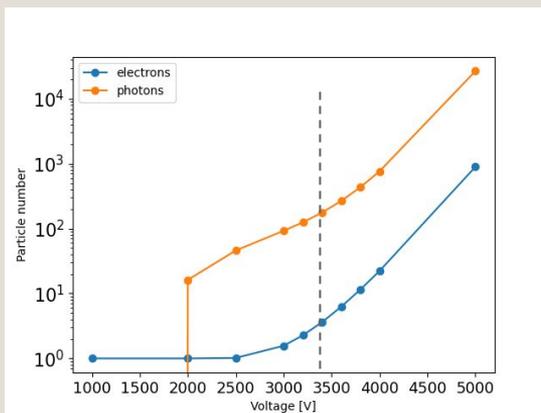
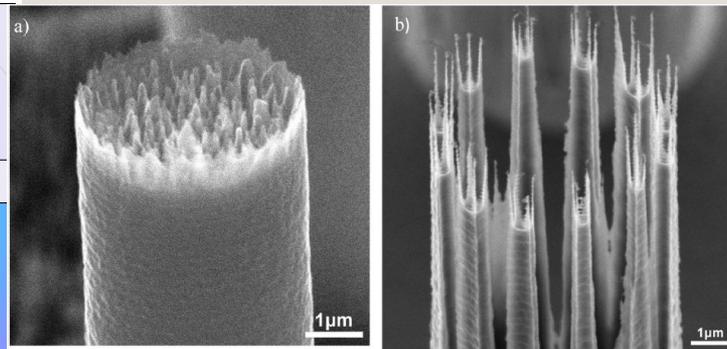
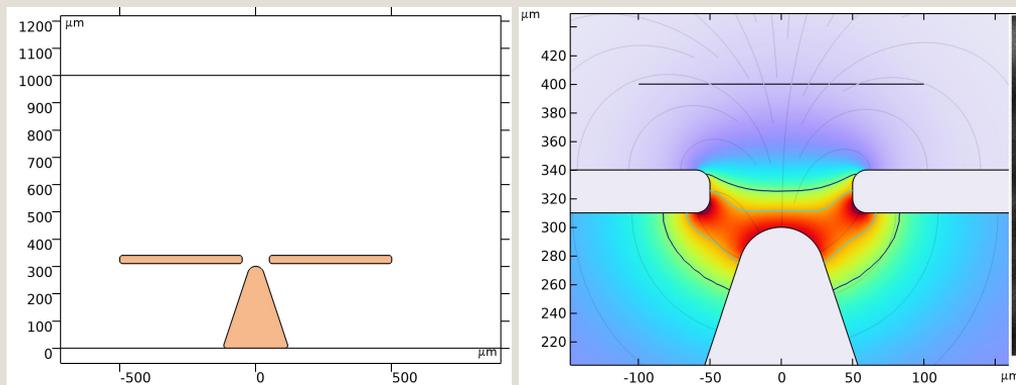
SECONDARY SCINTILLATION

CONCLUSION

# Many possibilities

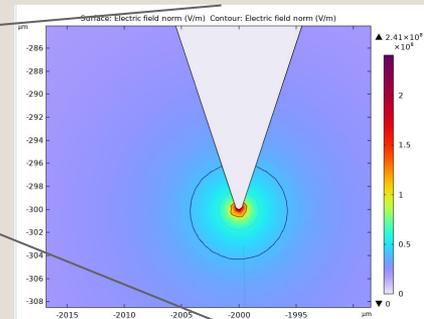
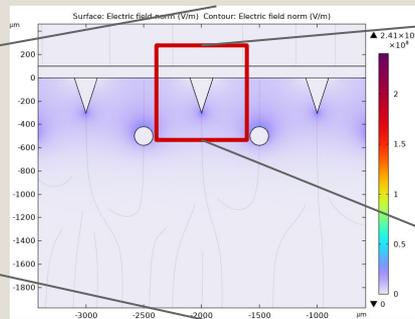
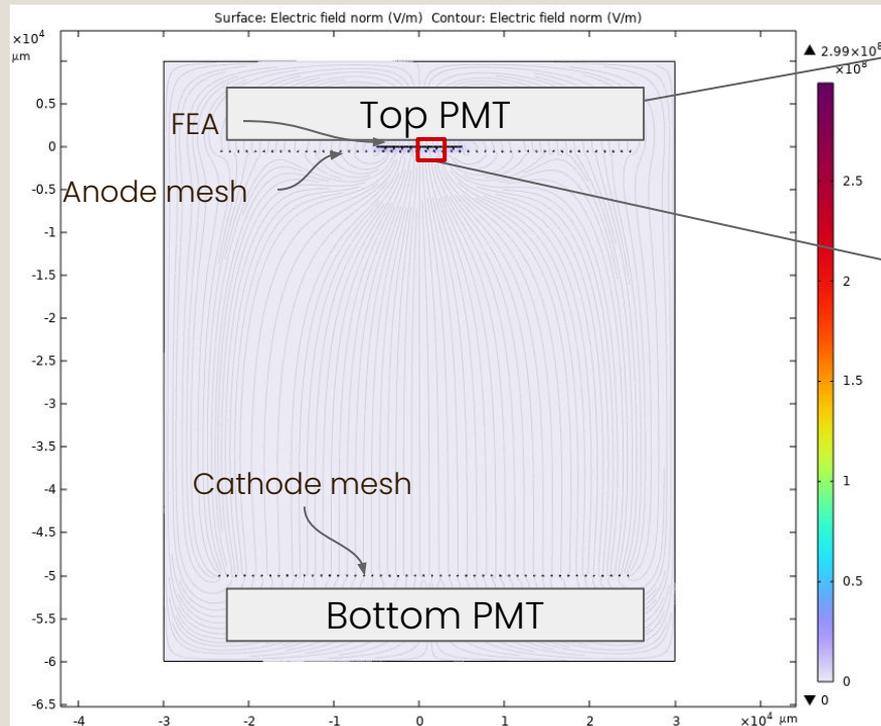
Gated FEA

Various geometry



**Figure 14.** SEM images of highly regular (a and e) nanopylar, (b and f) nanorod, (c and g) nanopencil, and (d and h) nanocone Si arrays, produced by wet-etching. (Reproduced from ref. [81] with permission from the authors and the Royal Society of Chemistry).

# Simple Tip+Mesh TPC



- Simple TPC with tip and mesh
- Demonstrate the concept, photon yield measurement

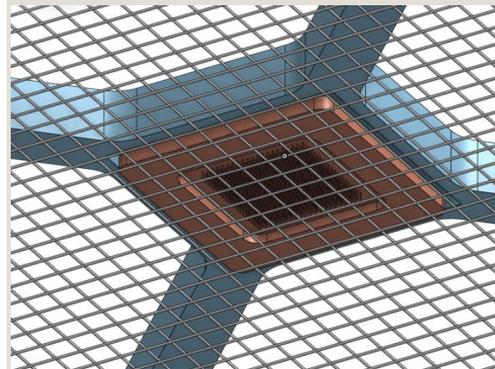
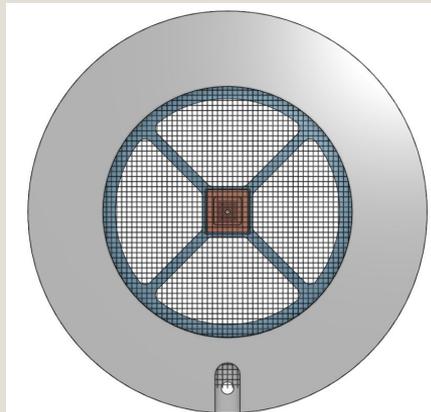
# Simple Tip+Mesh TPC

INTRO

CHARGE EMISSION

SECONDARY  
SCINTILLATION

CONCLUSION



- Simple adaptation of Xelab
- Gate + Anode  $\rightarrow$  FEA + Anode

# Plans

- Explore / optimize geometries with simulation
  - among existing ones
  - discuss feasibility if not existing
- Test simulation with experiment
  - Xelab@LPNHE is now an option
- Measure performances of these structures