



ECFA

European Committee for Future Accelerators



NuPECC

APPEC

JENAS 2025, Apr 8 – 11, 2025  
Harwell Campus, Didcot, Oxfordshire

# Detector R&D in Particle Physics

Univerza v Ljubljani

Peter Križan

*University of Ljubljana and J. Stefan Institute*



# Contents

---

Introduction: ECFA Detector R&D Roadmap and its implementation

Gas and semiconductor based tracking detectors

Photo-sensors and particle identification

Calorimetry

Electronics + Data acquisition

Quantum sensors

A very broad range of topics for a single talk – very hard to cover all interesting developments  
→ Some examples, also partly reflecting my own interests 😊

Neutrino, DM detectors: talk by Roxanne Guenette

# ECFA Detector R&D Roadmap

The ECFA Detector R&D Roadmap, developed following the 2020 European Strategy for Particle Physics, outlines a long-term vision to advance detector technologies critical for future particle physics experiments.

It emphasizes strategic planning and investment in areas like

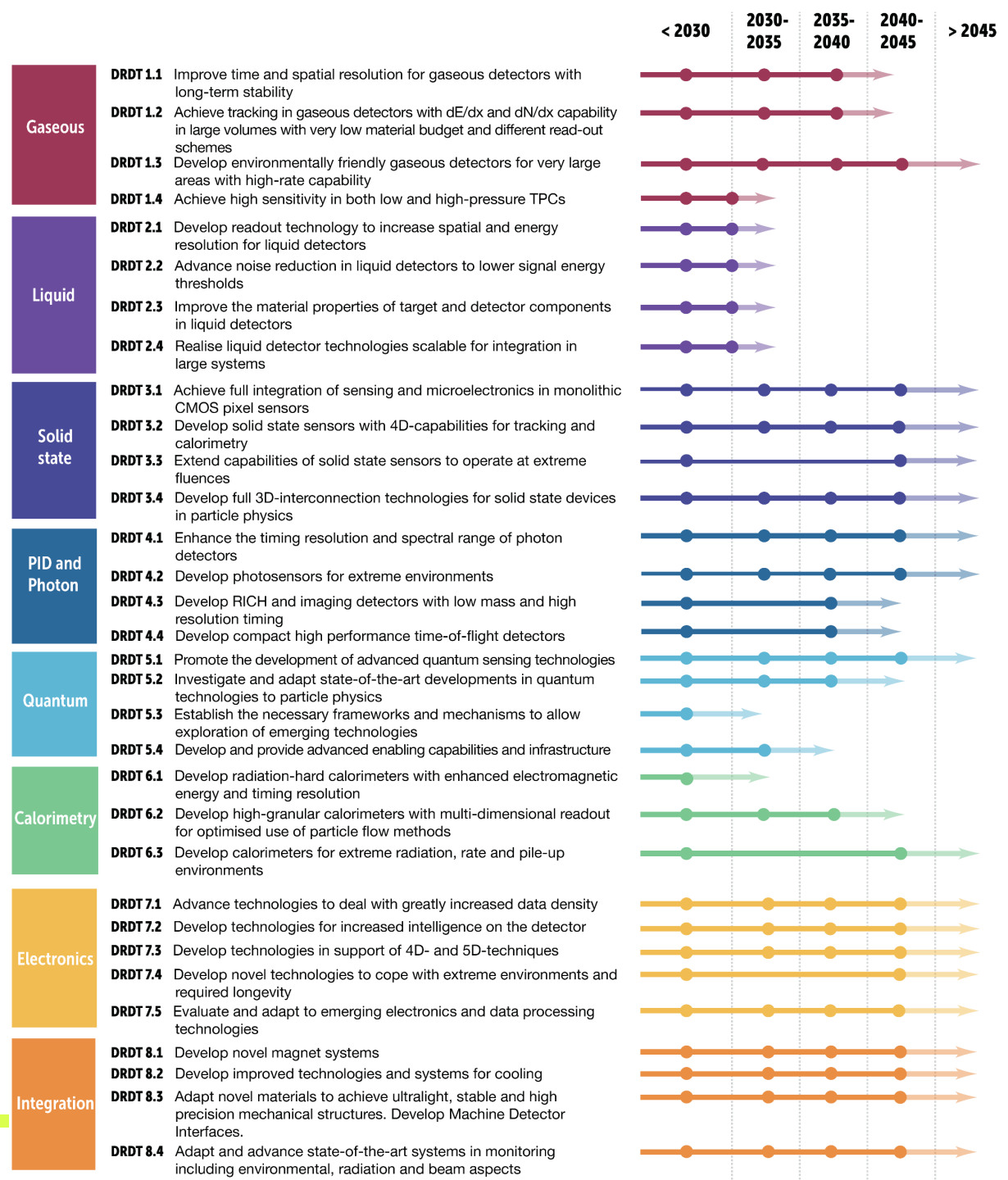
- sensor development (gaseous, liquid, solid-state),
- photon detection,
- quantum sensing,
- calorimetry, and
- integrated electronics.

The roadmap highlights the need for coordinated European efforts, robust infrastructure, training, and industrial partnerships.

Strategic recommendations address challenges such as rising R&D costs, sustainability, and the retention of expert talent to ensure Europe remains a global leader in detector innovation.

It also provides a list of detector research and development themes - DRDTs

# Detector research and development themes (DRDTs)





# ECFA Detector R&D Roadmap implementation: Detector R&D (DRD) Collaborations

## 1. Gaseous

e.g.  
time/spatial  
resolution;  
  
environment  
friendly gases

## 2. Liquid

e.g.  
Light/charge  
readout;  
  
low background  
materials

## 3. Semiconductor

e.g.  
CMOS pixel  
sensors;  
  
High time  
resolution  
(10s ps)

## 4. PID & Photon

e.g.  
spectral range  
of photon  
sensors;  
  
Time  
resolution

## 5. Quantum

quantum  
sensors  
- R&D, incl.  
beyond QFTP  
in conventional  
detectors

## 6. Calorimetry

e.g.  
Sandwich;  
noble liquid;  
optical

## 7. Electronics

e.g.  
ASICs;  
FPGAs;  
DAQ

## 8. Integration

tracking  
detector  
mechanics

# ECFA Detector R&D Roadmap implementation: Detector R&D (DRD) Collaborations

## 1. Gaseous

e.g.  
time/spatial  
resolution;  
  
environment  
friendly gases

## 2. Liquid

e.g.  
Light/charge  
readout;  
  
low background  
materials

## 3. Semiconductor

e.g.  
CMOS pixel  
sensors;  
  
High time  
resolution  
(10s ps)

## 4. PID & Photon

e.g.  
spectral range  
of photon  
sensors;  
  
Time  
resolution

## 5. Quantum

quantum  
sensors  
- R&D, incl.  
beyond QFTP

## 6. Calorimetry

e.g.  
Sandwich;  
noble liquid;  
optical

## 7. Electronics

e.g.  
ASICs;  
FPGAs;  
DAQ

## 8. Integration

tracking  
detector  
mechanics

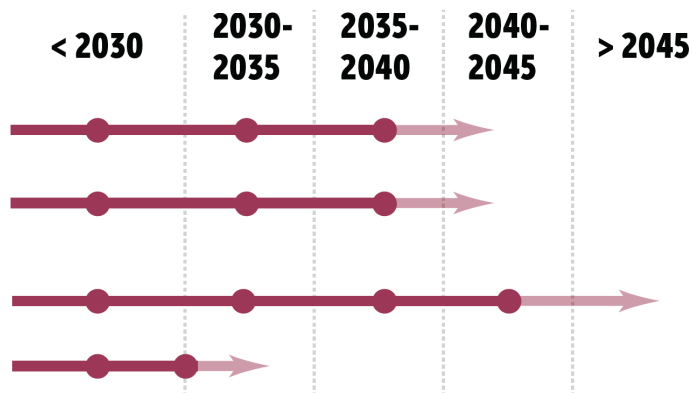
- DRD collaborations have profited in their formation phase from
- experience in CERN RD Collaborations (e.g., RD50 and RD51)
  - EU based large detector R&D projects like AIDAinnova

# DRD1 – gaseous detectors

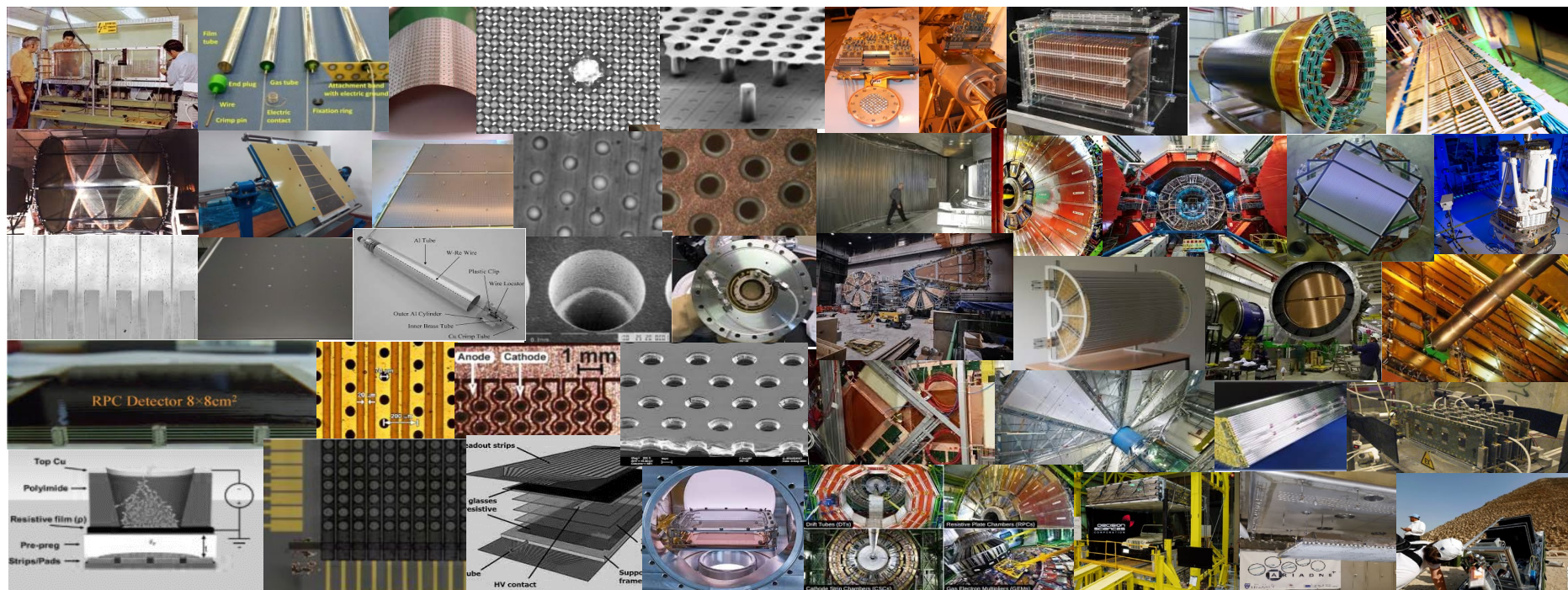
## Detector R&D Themes (DRDTs)

### Gaseous

- DRDT 1.1** Improve time and spatial resolution for gaseous detectors with long-term stability
- DRDT 1.2** Achieve tracking in gaseous detectors with  $dE/dx$  and  $dN/dx$  capability in large volumes with very low material budget and different read-out schemes
- DRDT 1.3** Develop environmentally friendly gaseous detectors for very large areas with high-rate capability
- DRDT 1.4** Achieve high sensitivity in both low and high-pressure TPCs



Builds on the experience of the very successful RD51 collaboration

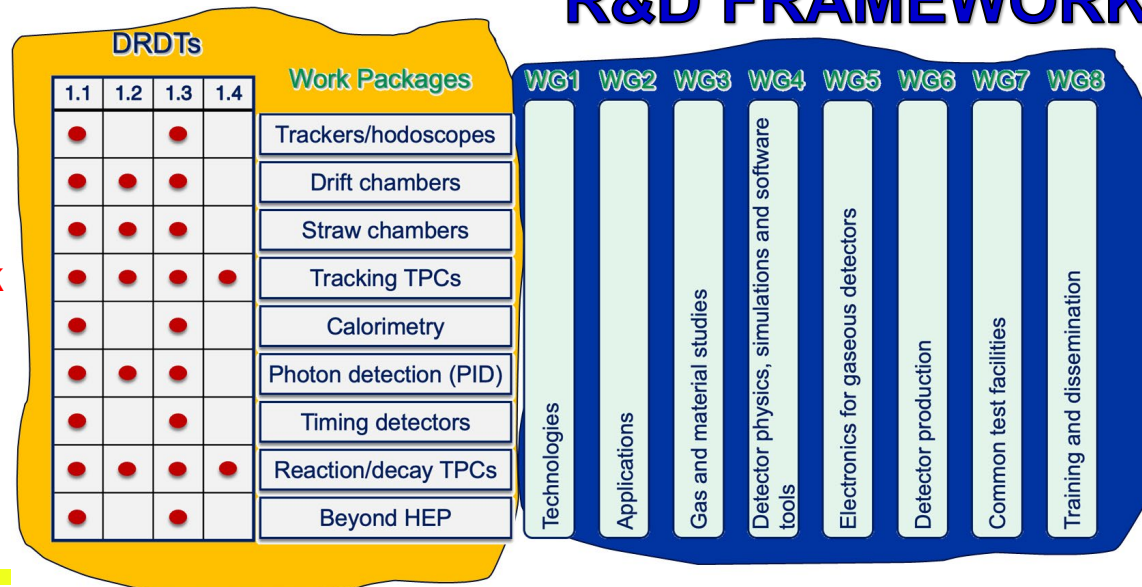


# DRD1 – gaseous detectors

- **Working Groups:** serve as the backbone of R&D: provide a platform for sharing knowledge, expertise & efforts by supporting strategic detector R&D directions, facilitating the establishment of joint projects between institutes
- **Work Packages:** reflect the ECFA DRDTs: long-term projects addressing strategic R&D goals, outlined in the ECFA Detector R&D roadmap with dedicated funding lines
- **Common Projects:** enhance synergies in “blue sky” and generic R&D between institutes: short-term blue-sky R&D or common tool development with limited time and resources, supported by the Collaboration

## STRATEGIC R&D

Strategic R&D and Long-Term Funding (FA) based on **Work Packages**



R&D framework based on **Working Groups** (RD51 legacy)



# DRD1 – gaseous detectors

## Working group tasks

### The collaborative structure of DRD1 keeps RD51 structure in Working Groups

Working-group conveners coordinate R&D tasks of the respective working groups. Two coordinators elected through a nomination process, approved by MB a

WG 1	WG 2	WG 3	WG 4	WG 5	WG 6	WG 7	WG 8
Technologies	Applications	Gas and material studies	Detector physics, simulations, and software tools	Electronics	Detector production	Common test facilities	Training and dissemination
Large Volume Detectors (Drift chambers, TPCs)	Trackers/Hodoscope	Measurement of Gas Properties	Garfield++	Front-End Electronics for Gaseous Detectors	Common Production Facilities and Equipments	Detector Laboratories Network	Knowledge Exchange and Facilitating Scientific Collaborations
MPGDs	Inner and Cenral Tracking with PID Capabilities: - Drift Chambers - Straw tubes - TPC	Studies on Eco-friendly Mixtures	Simulation of Large Charges and Space Charge	Modernised Readout Systems (DAQ): high performances	QA/QC	Test Beam Common Facilities	Training and Dissemination Initiatives
RPCs, MRPCs	Calorimetry	Ageing and Outgassing studies	Simulation of Detectors with Resistive Elements	Modernised Readout Systems (DAQ); FE Integration	Collaboration with Industrial Partner	Irradiation Common Facilities	Career Promotion
TPC	Photon Detector (PID)	Gas sytems	Modelling and Simualtion of Eco-friendly Mixtures	Modernised Readout Systems (DAQ): portability	Gaseous Detector FORUM (know-how)	Specialized laboratories (outgassing/ageing, gas analysers, photocathodes)	Outreach and Education
Straw tubes, TGC, CSC, drift chambers, and other wire detectors	Timing Detectors (PID & Trigger)	Materials studies: - novel material (nanomaterial) - new material for wire - new converter	Optimization of Simulations (time, hw/sw resources)	Instrumentation ( e.g. HV,LV, monitoring )		Common instrumentation and software	
New amplifying structures	TPC as reaction and decay chambers	Photocathodes	Specific Proceses (e.g. Electroluminescence)				
	Beyond HEP - Medical Application - Neutron Science - Muography - Space Applicatios - Oher (Dosimetry, Beam Monitoring, Cultural Heritage, Homeland Security,...)	Precision Mechanics					

# DRD1: Common projects

## Common Project Example: Precise Timing with PICOSEC



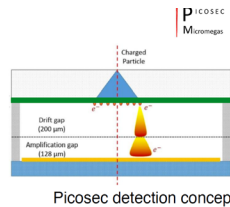
- ✓ The PICOSEC concept overcomes timing limitations of gaseous detectors (goal is to achieve  $< 25$  ps MIPs)
- ✓ Originally PICOSEC Micromegas initiated as the RD51 Common Project in 2015

## Precise timing with PICOSEC Micromegas

Primary charge production is localised in space and time by coupling Cherenkov radiator with photocathode and Micromegas amplification stage for precise timing.

Proof of concept started as **RD51 Common Project** in 2015 and initiated large collaborative effort addressing all aspects of detector optimisation and scaling:

- **Clustering groups around new ideas**
- **Best photocathodes, readout electronics chain.**



TODAY: Active collaboration with multiple developments ongoing in >10 institutes working on PICOSEC technology including lab tests and common test beam activities:

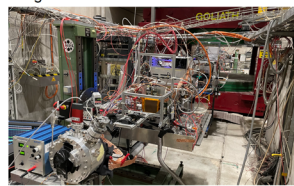
**-Tileable 10x10 pad detector modules** have been tested in MIP test beams and provide good timing resolution also for signals shared across pads.

-Robust photocathodes ( $B_4C$ , DLC), **resistive multi-pad** Micromegas, and scalable readout electronics are implemented in 100-channel detector modules.

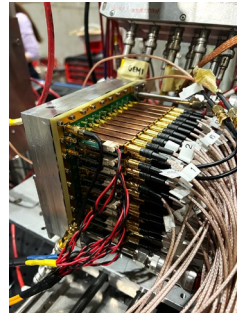
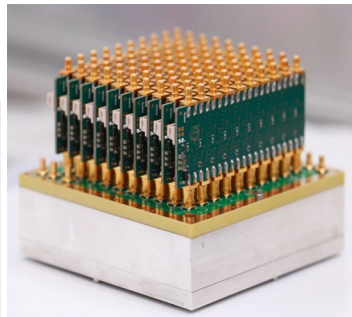
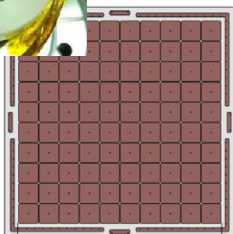
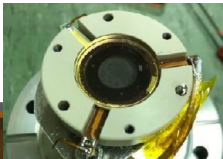


Proof of concept with small prototypes

Regular shared SPS H4 test beams



## Scaling from single pad detectors to tileable multi-pad modules



## Future developments

**Spatial resolution:** optimised pad size, charge sharing (resistive/capacitive)

**Secondary emitters:** minimise material budget, robustness against ion-back flow

**Amplification structure:** optimised double/single gaps, mesh geometries/technologies,  $\mu$ RWELL

**Electronics:** waveform digitisation vs. threshold based timing, FE ASICs

---

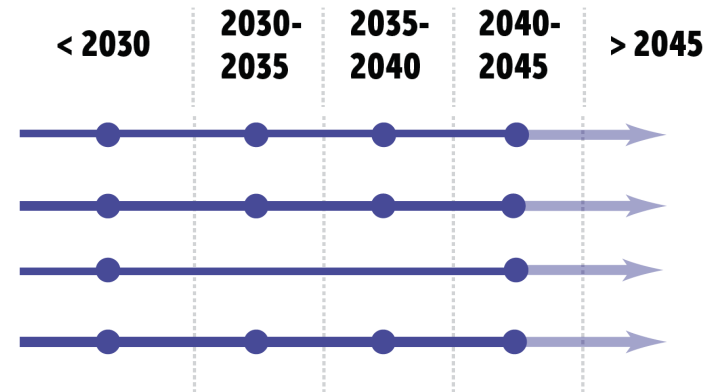
... Waiting for a few R+D examples from the DRD1  
leaders 😊

# DRD3

## Detector R&D Themes (DRDTs)

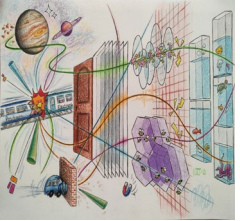
Solid  
state

- DRDT 3.1** Achieve full integration of sensing and microelectronics in monolithic CMOS pixel sensors
- DRDT 3.2** Develop solid state sensors with 4D-capabilities for tracking and calorimetry
- DRDT 3.3** Extend capabilities of solid state sensors to operate at extreme fluences
- DRDT 3.4** Develop full 3D-interconnection technologies for solid state devices in particle physics



Builds on the experience of the very successful RD50 collaboration

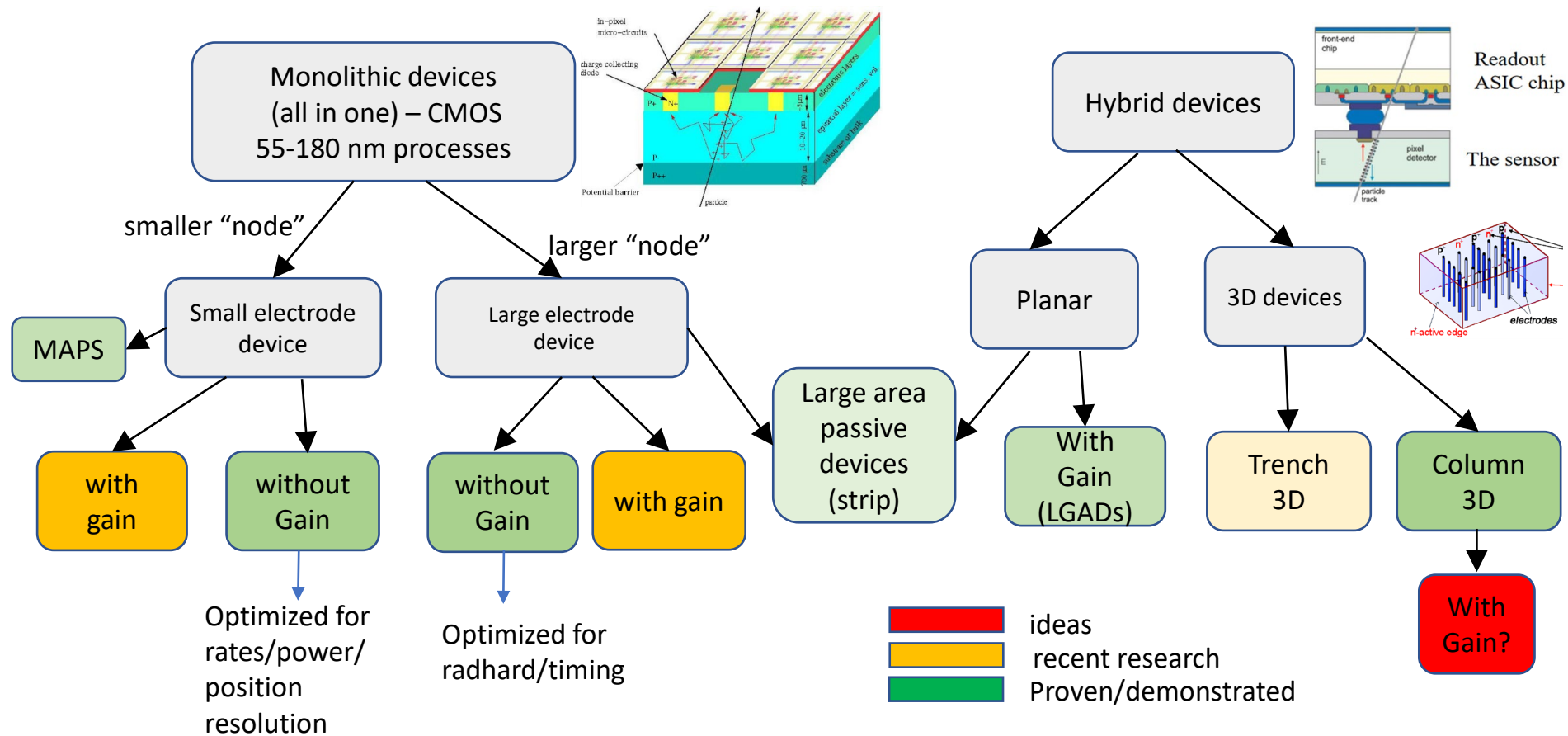


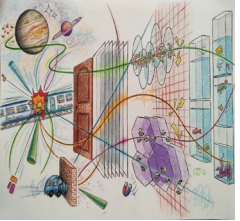


# Paths of present R&D

DRD

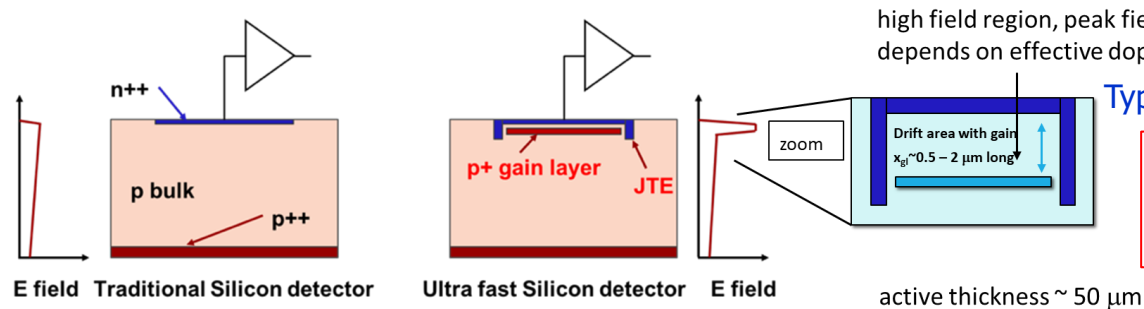
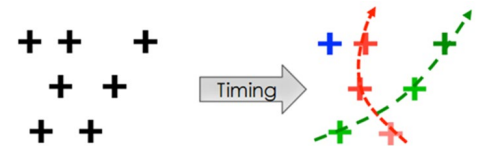
3





# Hybrid silicon technologies towards 4D tracking - LGADs

By “4D tracking” we mean the process of assigning a space and a time coordinate to a hit -  $\sim 10\text{-}30\text{ }\mu\text{m}$  position **and**  $\sim 10\text{-}30\text{ ps}$  time resolution – simultaneously (many benefits in dense particle environment for tracking and PID)



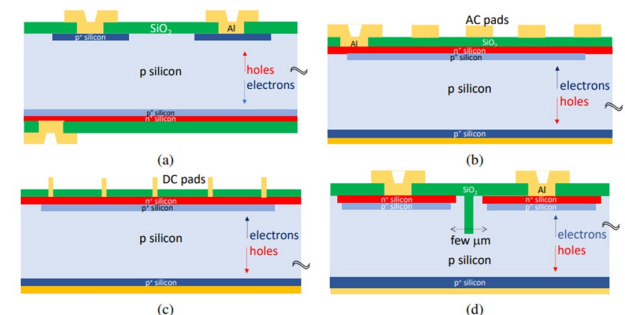
## Limitations for conventional LGADs:

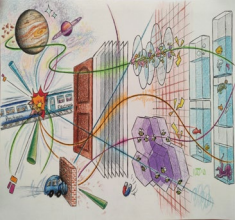
- Fill factor (large cell devices) due to JTE
- Radiation hardness – currently to  $\sim 3e15\text{ cm}^{-2}$

**Improvements in radiation hardness:** co-implantation of carbon in the gain layer (reduction of acceptor removal), was successfully mastered by several vendors

**Fill factor:** several different technologies proposed where the gain layer is not segmented and hence no gap in efficiency for small pitch devices:

(a) Inverse LGADs, (b) AC-LGADs (c.) RSD LGADs and (d) Trench isolated LGADs





# Hybrid silicon technologies towards 4D tracking – 3D detectors

## 3D technology as timing detectors:

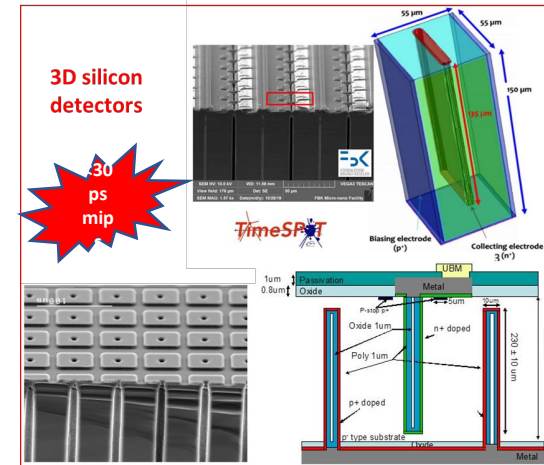
- They have fill factor  $\sim 100\%$  (inclined tracks)
- They are fast (small distance) and can be thick (LF less important)
- The radiation tolerance of small cell size devices is large (for signal) and allows operation at higher bias voltages – shown up to  $\sim 1e17 \text{ cm}^{-2}$
- Technology is already mature – the latest 3D detectors are done in single-sided processing

## Directions of research – 3D sensors with gain

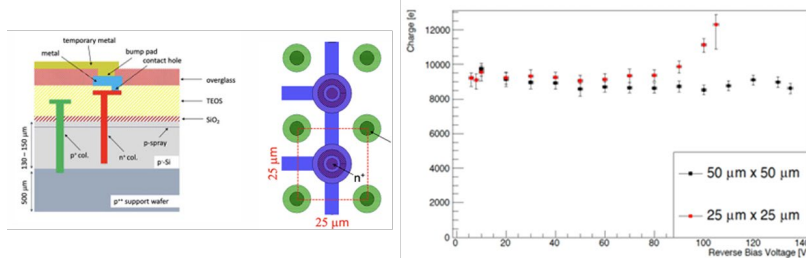
- reduction of cell size
- very small column width (“silicon wire proportional chamber”)

Trench 3D  
(INFN – FBK/IME)

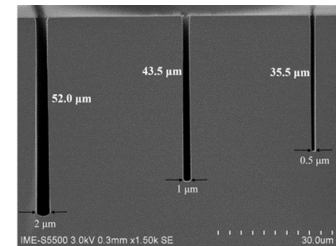
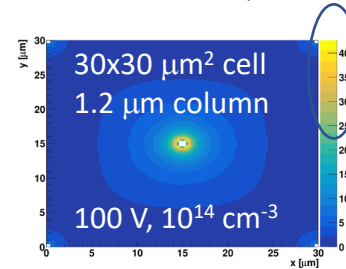
Column 3D  
(CNM/FBK/Sintef/IME...)

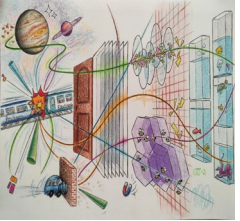


## FBK production



## IMECAS - 8" CMOS process with aspect ratio of **>70**

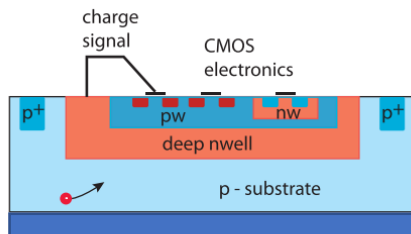




# Monolithic technologies – CMOS MAPS

## LARGE ELECTRODE DESIGN

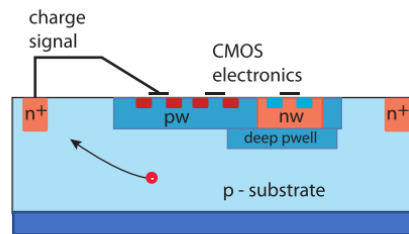
$$\tau \propto \frac{C}{g_m}, ENC_{\text{thermal}} \propto \frac{kT C}{g_m} \text{ compensated by power } (g_m)$$



- Large electrode:  $C \approx 300 \text{ fF}$
- Strong drift field, short drift paths, large depletion depth
- Higher power, slower
- Threshold  $\sim 2000 e^-$

**Timing:** large jitter and small distortion component -  $\sim 100 \text{ ps}$

## SMALL ELECTRODE DESIGN



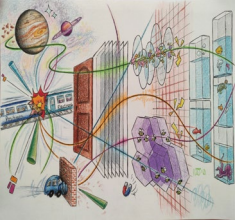
- Small electrode:  $C \approx 3 \text{ fF}$
- Low analogue power
- Faster at given power
- Difficult lateral depletion, process modifications for radiation hardness
- Threshold  $\sim 300 e^-$

**Timing:** small jitter and large distortion/landau component  $\sim 1 \text{ ns}$

The aim is to advance the performance of monolithic CMOS, combining sensing and readout elements, for future tracking applications, tackling the challenges of:

- very high spatial resolution;
- high data rate;
- high radiation tolerance;
- low mass;
- covering large areas;
- reducing power;
- keeping an affordable cost;

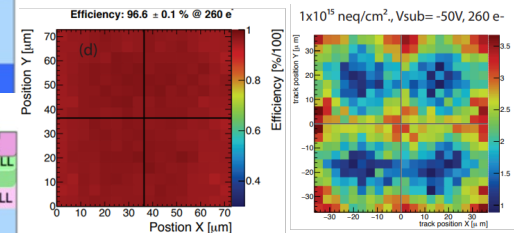
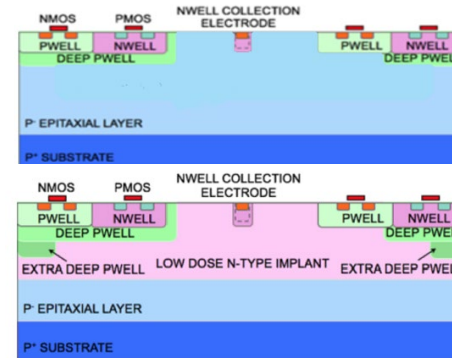
and ultimately combining these requirements in one single sensor device.



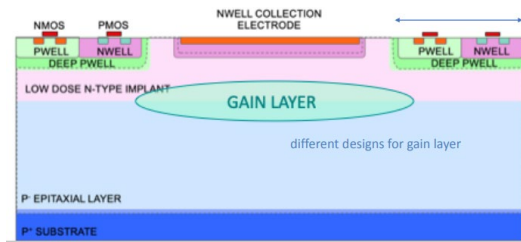
# Monolithic technologies – CMOS MAPS

## The main directions in MAPS research

- Development of modified processes – uniform efficiency over the cell (not needed for visible light – cameras) for small cell devices
- Develop timing capabilities for large cell design  $\sim 50$  ps
- CMOS sensors with gain (faster, less power, better resolution)



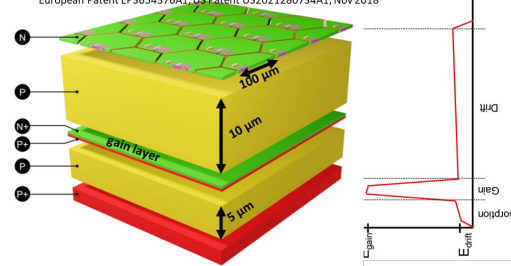
### Cassia (CERN)



“deep junction” gain layer design in TJ180

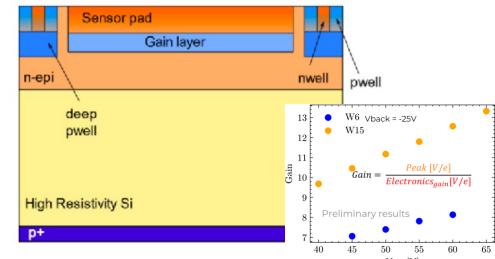
### PicoAdd SiGe130 nm (Uni-Geneve)

G. Iacobucci, L. Paolozzi and P. Valerio. Multi-junction pico-avalanche detector;  
European Patent EP3654376A1, US Patent US2021280734A1, Nov 2018



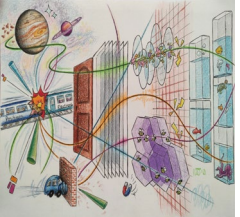
- SiGe bipolar amplifiers – fast (good timing)
- CMOS for digital electronics (monolithic)
- Gain-layer removed from the surface allowing very good spatial resolution without dead area

### ARCADIA LF110 nm (INFN-TO)



- Back side processing
- High-field grows from the back side – high drift field at the back.
- First results Gain 7-13 – more soon!





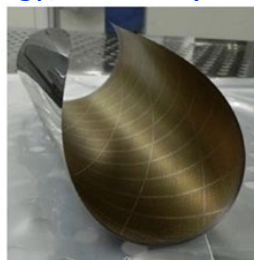
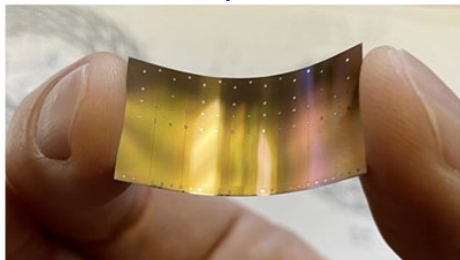
# Monolithic technologies – CMOS MAPS

DRD

3

## The main directions in MAPS research (cont.)

- Wafer area stitched sensors thinned down to few tens  $\mu\text{m}$  foldable vertex detector (65 nm TPSCo technology, for ITS-3)



- Large area CMOS strip detectors

(Reduced material budget, easier integration, potentially low cost and availability)

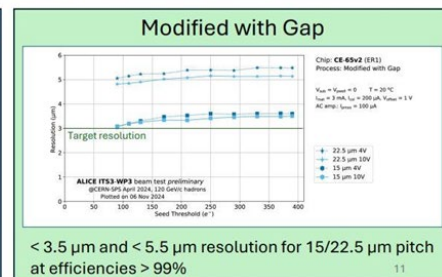
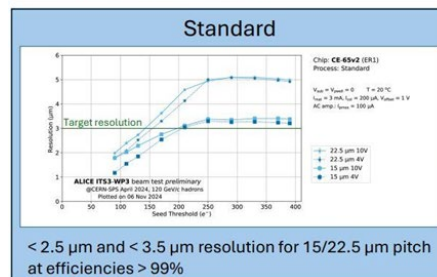
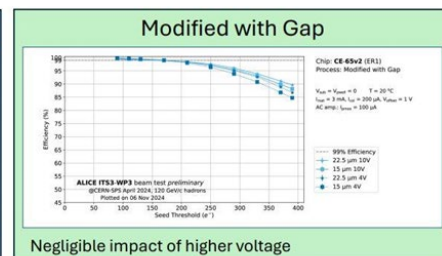
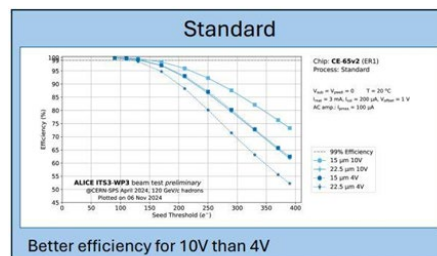
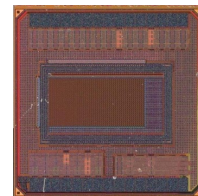
LFA150 nm - Resistivity of wafer:  $>2000 \Omega \cdot \text{cm}$   
ASIC can be implemented at the sides



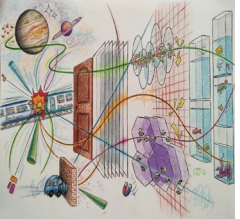
(Dortmund, Freiburg, DESY, Bonn)

- Fine pitch resolution sensors in TPSCo 65 nm technology (ALICE groups)

15  $\mu\text{m}$  pixel pitch, modified design electrode, ITS-3



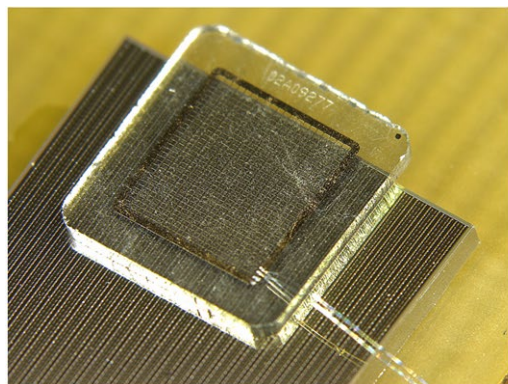




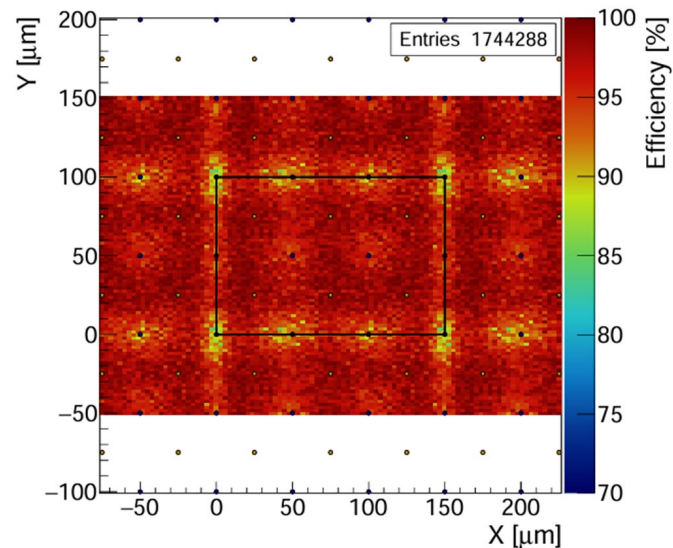
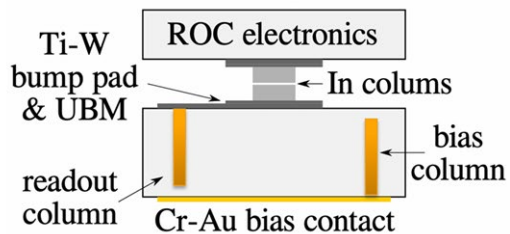
# Diamond detector developments

DRD

3

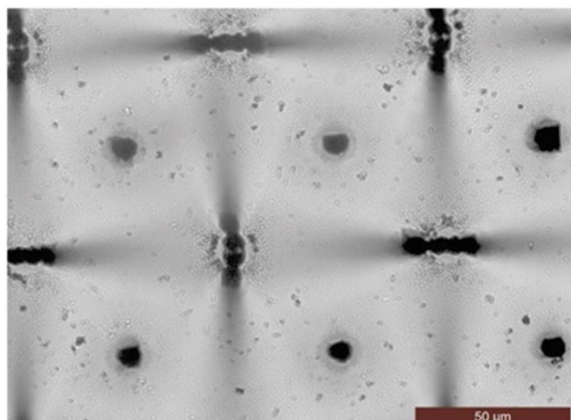
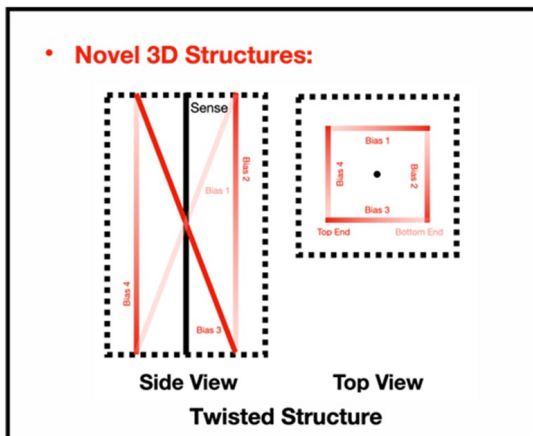


3D diamond detector  
connected to CMS pixel ASIC



3D electrodes made with laser  
(graphitization when focused light  
pulls through the diamond – slow)

Twisted structure would improve  
timing performance and reduce the  
impact of the pCVD grains.



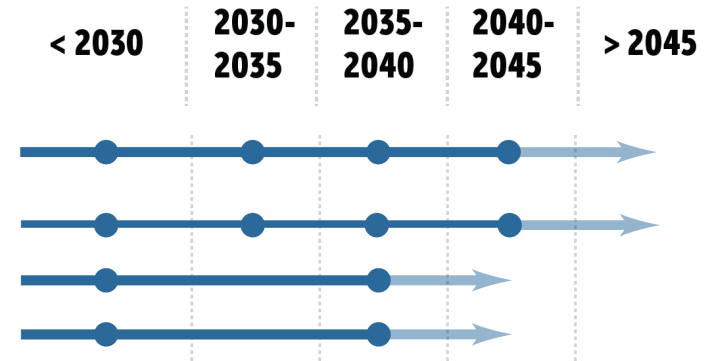


# DRD4: photon detectors and PID

## Detector R&D Themes (DRDTs)

### PID and Photon

- DRDT 4.1** Enhance the timing resolution and spectral range of photon detectors
- DRDT 4.2** Develop photosensors for extreme environments
- DRDT 4.3** Develop RICH and imaging detectors with low mass and high resolution timing
- DRDT 4.4** Develop compact high performance time-of-flight detectors

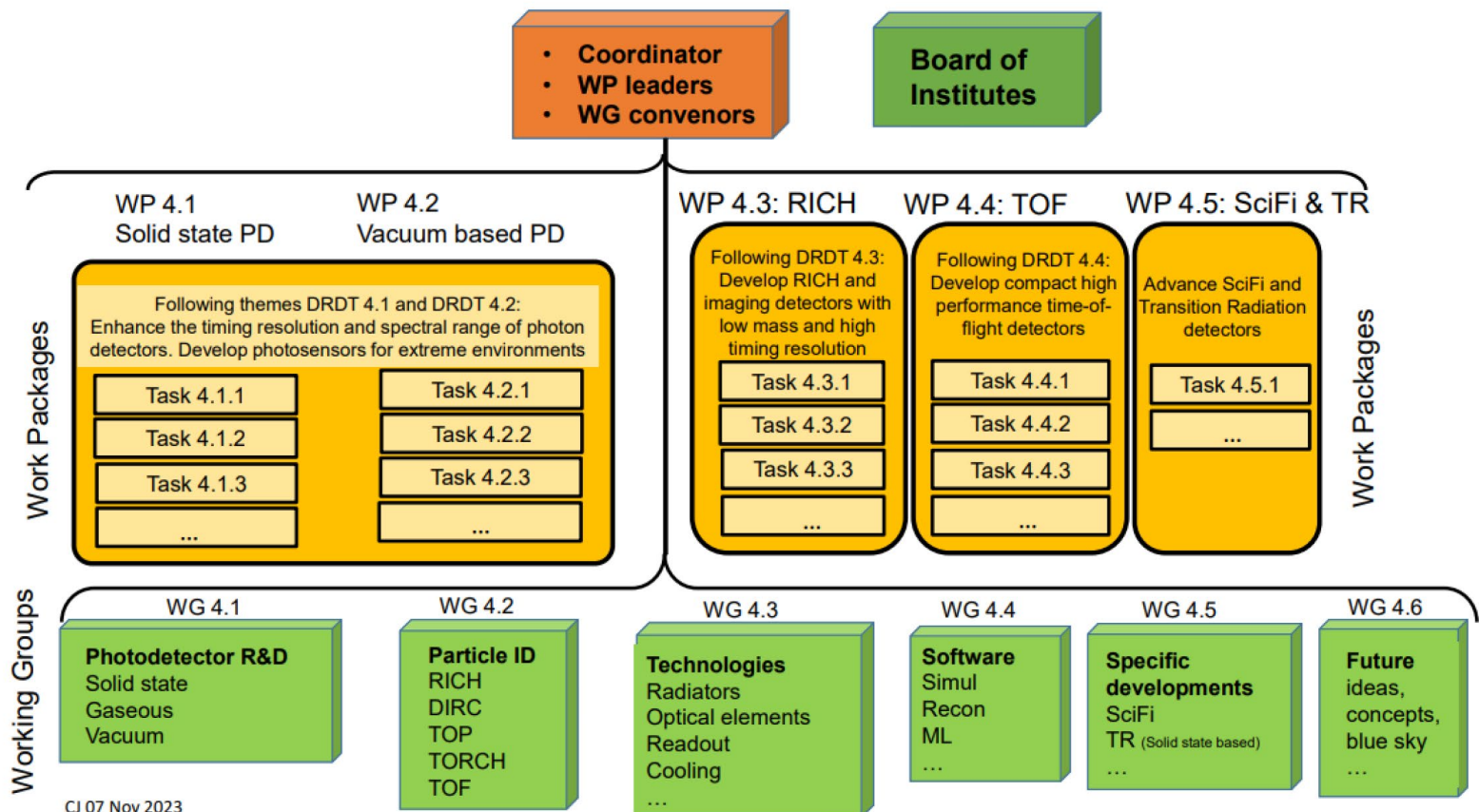


- Single-photon sensitive photodetectors (vacuum, solid state, hybrid)
- PID techniques (Cherenkov-based, Time of Flight)
- Scintillating Fiber (SciFi) tracking
- Transition Radiation (TR) using solid state X-ray detectors

# DRD4 : photon detectors and PID

## Organization:

- Work packages: projects
- Working groups: discussion forums



# DRD4 work packages and tasks

---

## WP1: Solid-State Photodetectors

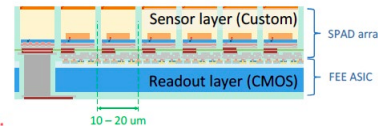
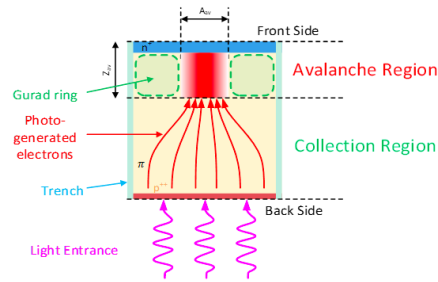
- Task 1 -SSPD with new configurations and modes: Development of back-side illuminated SiPM (potential for better PDE and radiation tolerance); development of ultra-granular SiPM that integrates with the electronics by using 2.5D or 3D interconnection techniques; development of CMOS-SPAD light monolithic sensors for HEP; study of new materials for light detection
- Task 2 -Fast radiation hard SiPMs: Standardize procedures for quantification of radiation effects; irradiated SiPMs characterization in wide temperatures range (down to -200 °C); study of annealing; study and quantify other measures enabling the use of SiPM in highly irradiated areas (e.g. smaller SiPMs, macro-and micro-light collectors)
- Task 3 -Timing of SSPD, including readout electronics: Study and improve the timing of SiPMs; co-design of a multi-ch. readout ASIC exploiting the timing potential; integration and packaging with integrated cooling; vertical integration of SiPM arrays to FEE (better timing via reduction of interconnections' parasitic inductances and capacitances)

# DRD4 -Solid State Photon Detectors

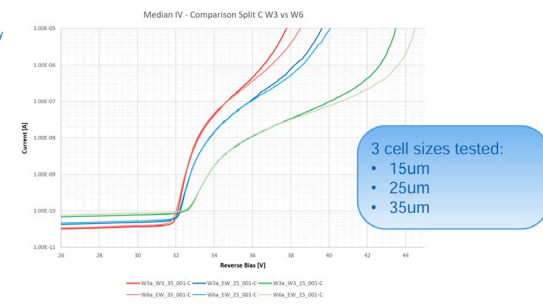


## Backside illuminated (BSI)

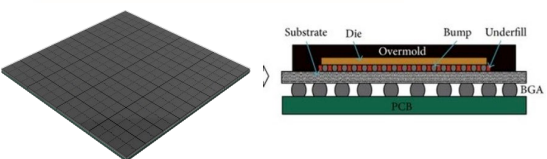
SiPMs: potential for an enhanced PDE and a better radiation tolerance.



The first results of the FBK IBIS Run samples



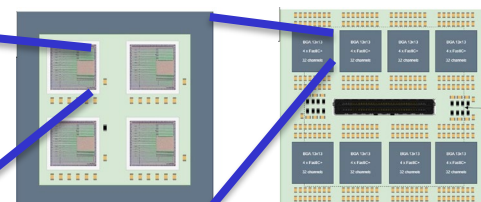
## Timing of SSPD & Developing ultra-granular SiPM that integrates with the readout electronics



3x3mm2 SiPM Array

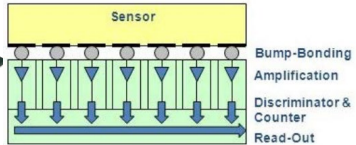
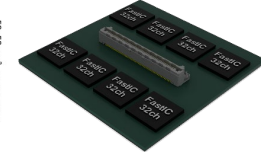
FastIC+  
(collab. CERN  
ICCUB)  
Low power  
Chip

2024 Produced  
and evaluated



BGA design &  
production end of  
June 2025

256 Ch 5x5cm2  
Module proposal



Ultra granular SiPMs

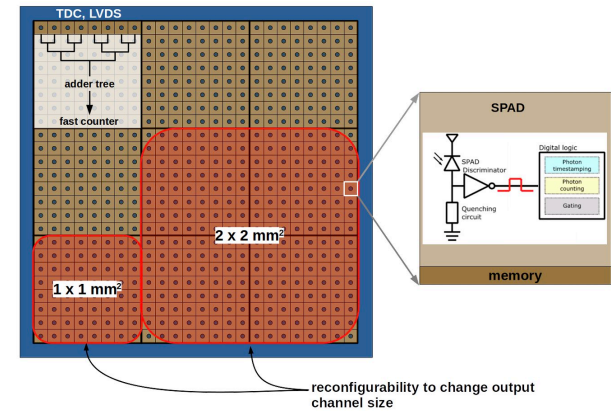
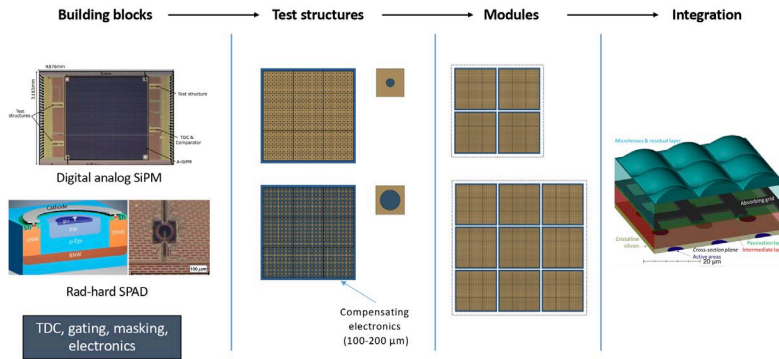
Long term goal  
1x1mm2 SiPM  
array

- Study and **improve the timing of SiPMs.**
- **Optimised, reliable, cost-effective integration** and packaging with integrated cooling.
- **Vertical integration of SiPM arrays to FEE:** optimise timing by reducing the interconnections' parasitic inductances and capacitances.

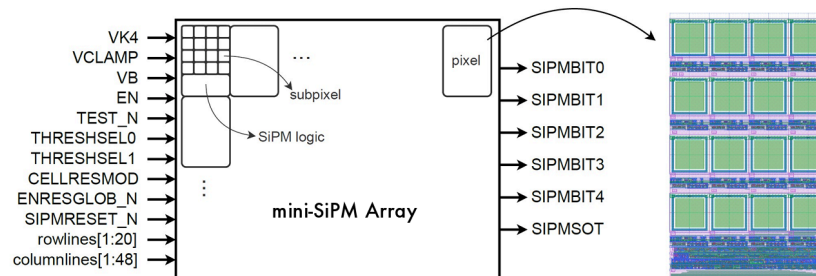
# DRD4 -Solid State Photon Detectors

**CMOS-SPAD light sensors:** co-integration of SPADs and electronics, digitised output signals

spadRICH - Radiation-hard digital analog silicon photomultipliers for future upgrades of Ring Imaging Cherenkov detectors



ASPIDES -Development of a technology platform for the design, production and commissioning of dSiPMs



# DRD4 -Solid State Photon Detectors



## Fast & radiation hard SiPMs - enabling the use of SiPM in highly irradiated areas

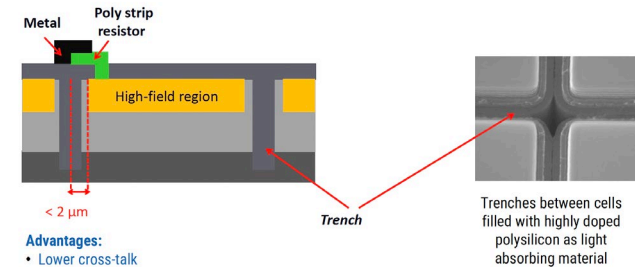
Experimental structures, AidaInnova Run – exp. May 2025

Two different technologies:

- Low electric field
- Ultra Low electric field

Cell pitch: 15, 25, 40, 75 $\mu$ m; SiPM sizes: (0.25, 0.5, 1, 2, 3) $^2$  mm $^2$

NUV-HD for AIDAInnova



# DRD4 work packages and tasks

---

## **WP2: Vacuum-based Photodetectors**

■ Task 1 -New materials, coatings, longevity and rate capability studies: Develop new materials and techniques to increase MCP-PMT tube lifetime and improve rate capabilities; use new techniques with new materials to achieve high aspect ratio with small diameter for better gain, time, and spatial resolution

■ Task 2 -New photocathode materials, structure and high QE VPD: Search for new materials with the required characteristics to be used as photocathodes; develop photocathodes with new structures

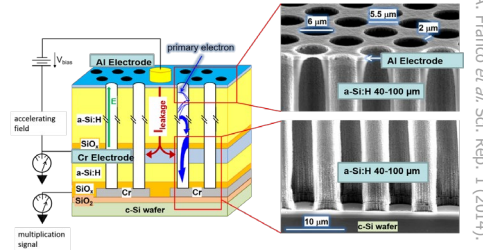
■ Task 3 -VPD time and spatial resolution performance: Development of large area MCP-based photodetector with combined excellent timing and position resolution, including electronics integration



# DRD4 – Vacuum-based Photon Detectors

## 4.2.1: VPD: New material, new coatings, longevity and rate capability study

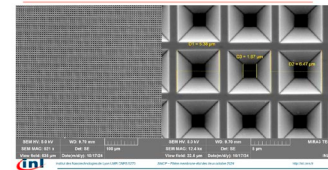
This concerns the R&D on new materials to produce VPD, new shapes and new coatings and their consequences on their longevity and rate capability



Amorphous Si MCPC(Geneva)

## 4.2.2: VPD-PMT: New photocathode materials, structure and high quantum efficiency VPD

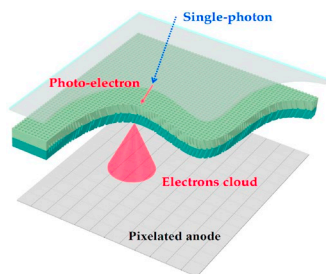
New photocathode materials, new structures and their impact on improving the quantum efficiency for different wavelengths



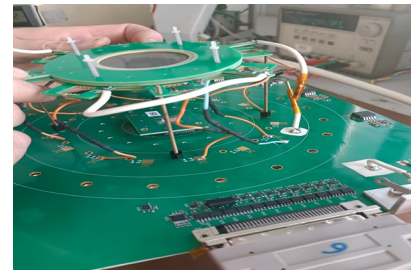
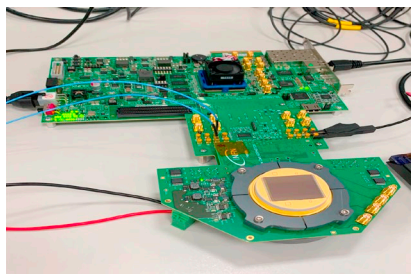
Si nanometric structure for reflective photocathode (Lyon)

## 4.2.3: VPD time and spatial resolution performance

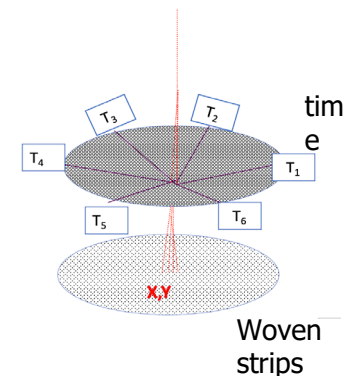
Study of VPD timing and spatial performance using appropriate readout electronics and appropriate anode structures



MCP+Timepix4  
(Ferrara)

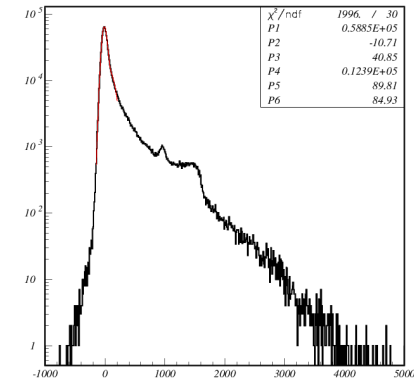
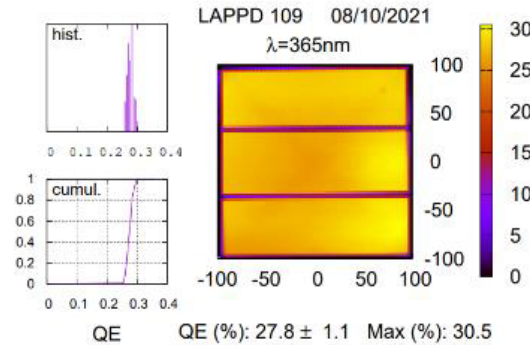
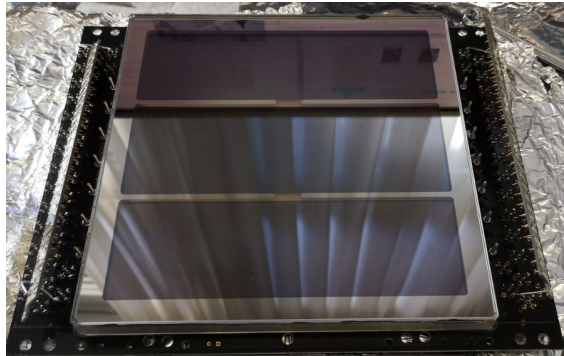


MCP+PICMIC concept  
(Lyon)





# DRD4 – Vacuum-based Photon Detectors



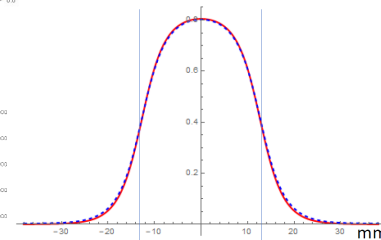
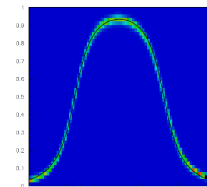
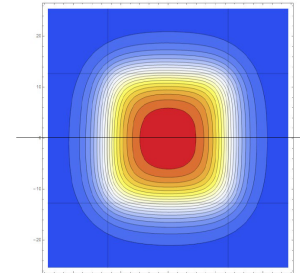
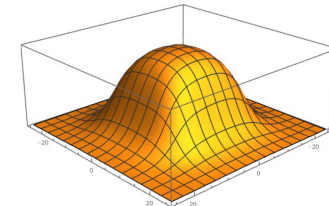
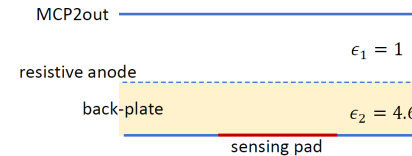
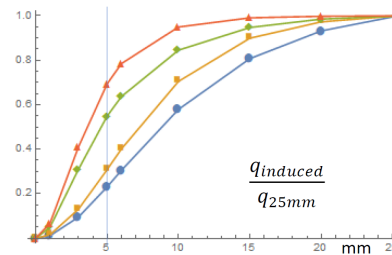
LAPPD (large area picosecond photodetector) Gen II by INCOM

- Fast MCP PMT based detector
- 230mm x 220mm active area
- Nice agreement between modeling and measurements.

## LAPPD charge sharing

- calculation of charge sharing for different MCP2out-resistive anode/resistive anode-sensing electrode distances (6/5-measured, 2/5, 6/2, 2/2)

- fraction of the charge induced vs. square pad size when signal is produced in the centre of the pad



# DRD4 work packages and tasks

---

## **WP3: RICH and other imaging detectors**

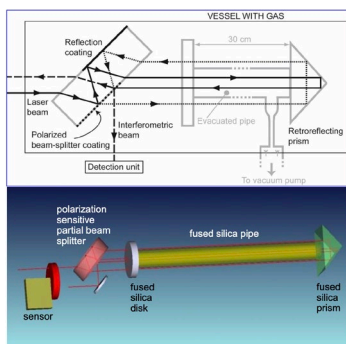
- Task 1 -New Materials Radiators and Components: Gas alternatives; optimized aerogel modules; precise interferometric measurement of refractive index
- Task 2 -Development of new RICH detector concepts for improved performance: High-pressure gas radiator; fast timing, combined RICH/TOF; cryo-RICH; modular RICH; technological demonstrators & proof of concepts
- Task 3 -Prototype Single-Photon Sensitive Module for Imaging Arrays from sensor to DAQ and self-calibration systems: Fully functional autonomous modules; scalable R/O electronics; integration to arrays with cooling; on-detector calibration/alignment/monitoring
- Task 4 -Study of RICH detectors for future e+e- colliders: Prototype a cell for the ARC concept
- Task 5 -Software and Performance: Fast simulation; reconstruction for high occupancy, high background

# DRD4 – RICH and other imaging detectors for future experiments

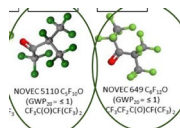


- **WP4.3.1: New Materials Radiators and Components**  
Study of novel and optimized radiators, including gas alternatives to perfluorocarbons and enhanced aerogel tiles, along with the development of advanced instrumentation and techniques for the characterization, quality assessment, and monitoring of Cherenkov radiators.

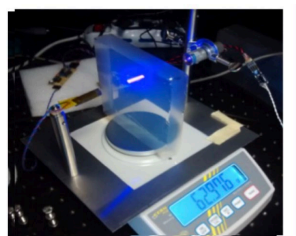
Modified folded Jamin interferometer for gas refractive index monitoring (INFN Trieste)



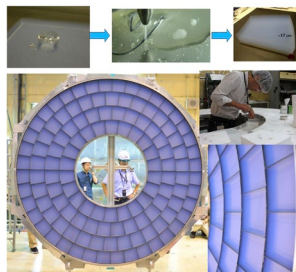
Study of gas alternatives to perfluorocarbons or eco-friendly fluorocarbon gas system



Optimized Aerogel Radiator Tiles



INFN Ferrara

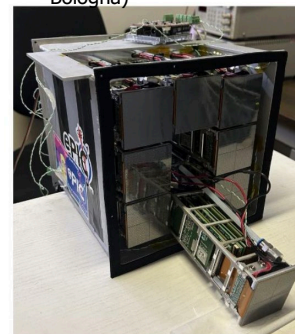
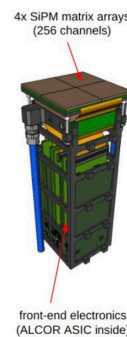


Jozef Stefan Institute

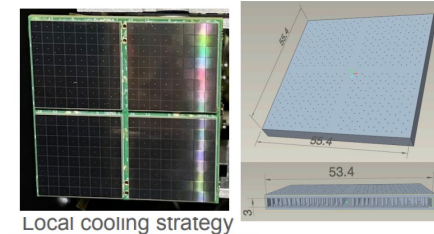
- **WP4.3.2:** Development of new RICH detector concepts for improved performance.
  - Several new concepts and detector designs under consideration including a pressurized RICH with inert gasses like Argon as a possible alternative to fluorocarbon greenhouse gases.

- **WP4.3.3:** Prototype Single-Photon Sensitive Module for Imaging Arrays from sensor to DAQ and self-calibration systems.

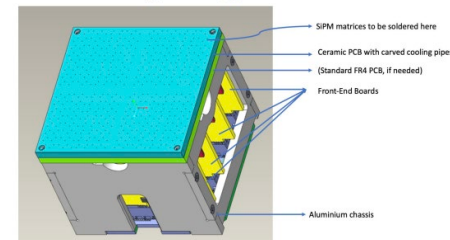
EPIC dRICH prototype SiPM module (INFN Bologna)



Prototype SiPM Housing with local cooling (Uni and INFN Genova)



Local cooling strategy

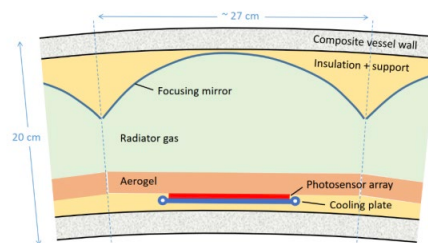
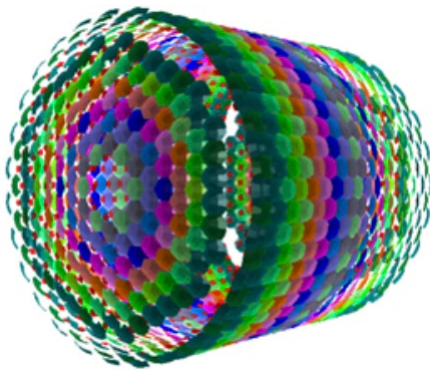


# DRD4 – RICH and other imaging detectors for future experiments



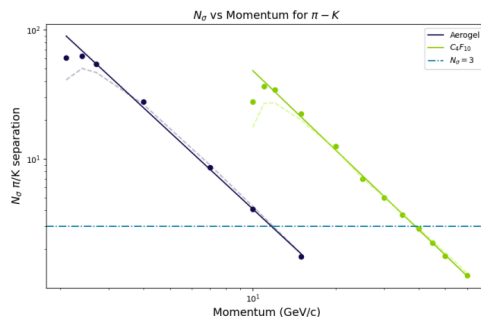
- **WP4.3.4:** Study of RICH detectors for future electron-positron colliders (CERN, University and INFN Genova, University of Oxford, University of Warwick)

ARC detector concept for FCC-ee



- **WP4.3.5:** Software and Performance
  - Review of available frameworks for fast Cherenkov optical photon tracing within the context of Geant4 simulations
  - Review of approaches for PID algorithms, including those based on Machine Learning (ML) and Artificial Intelligence (AI)
  - Review of external software tools used by the community

- Performance evaluation with simulation and development and testing of a prototype compact RICH cell



# DRD4 work packages and tasks

---

## WP4: Time of Flight Detectors

- Task 1 -Study the coupling of a thin Cherenkov radiator to a single-photon detector array, for TOF of charged particles: High precision timing ( $\sim 10$  ps) using high refractive index solid Cherenkov radiators coupled to SiPMs arrays or MCPs
- Task 2 -Develop a SiPM array for single-photon detection, with mm-scale pixelation, suitable for use in TOF prototypes: Integration of SiPM arrays with multichannel R/O electronics to provide mm-scale position sensitivity and fast timing of Cherenkov light at the very high rates expected with HL-LHC and future colliders
- Task 3 -Develop lightweight mechanical supports for DIRC-type TOF: Development of prototype support using lightweight materials with minimal distortion of quartz, detectors, electronics
- Task 4 -Develop techniques for measuring the optical properties of optical components for TOF detectors: Develop precision measurement characterization of quartz Cherenkov radiators; share existing facilities

# DRD4 – Time of Flight Detectors



- **WP4.4.1:** Study the coupling of a thin Cherenkov radiator to a single-photon detector array, for TOF of charged particles
- **Participants:** INFN Bari, INFN Bologna, FBK, Istanbul, Marseille

## INFN Bari – SiPMs with radiators

### Cherenkov-based timing measurements

#### Principle of operation

- Implementation of a Cherenkov radiator coupled to SiPM layer
- Benefit of single photoelectron statistics for precise MIP timing

Possibility of achieving time resolutions down to ~ 20 ps with ~ 100 % charged particle detection efficiency !!!



#### Radiator choice

- Use high refractive index material to minimize Cherenkov thresholds and to enhance photon yield and cluster size

1 mm SiO<sub>2</sub> (n=1.47) + 0.85 mm epoxy resin (n=1.55), 1x1 mm<sup>2</sup> SiPMs

• MIP at 0° incidence



• MIP at 50° incidence



Material	Refractive index at 400 nm	$P_{thr}$	$P_{thr} \cdot \mu$ (1/cm)	Max $\theta_c$ (degrees)	$N_{ph}$ at 400 nm (nm <sup>2</sup> )
SiO <sub>2</sub>	1.47	0.75	139	41.3	13
AgCl	1.60	0.70	140	46.0	14
SiO <sub>2</sub>	1.47	0.68	129	47.9	14
SiPM resin	1.50	0.60	124	49.2	18
SiPM resin	1.50	0.68	127	46.0	17
Highly Conducting	1.84	0.34	60	57.3	21

\* Assuming PDE of 513360-3050CS SiPMs at  $V_{op} = 3V$

\* Neglecting material absorption in the calculation

Nicola Mazzoni – University and INFN Bari, Italy

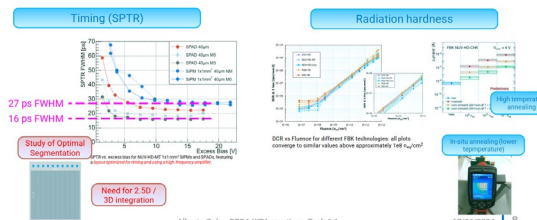
4

- **WP4.4.2:** Develop a SiPM array for single-photon detection, with mm-scale pixelation, suitable for use in TOF prototype
- **Participants:** Aachen, Barcelona, INFN Bari, FBK, Leicester, Marseille

## FBK – SiPM developments for ToF – overlap with WP4.1

### Custom technology developments: examples

Several customized SiPM developments are needed for specific big science applications.



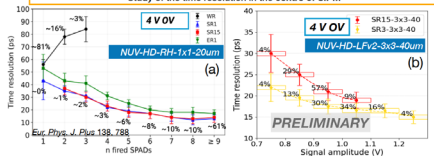
Alberto Gola - DRD4 WP1 meeting - Task 1.1

17/06/2024 | 8

## INFN Bologna – SiPM characterization

### Time resolution wrt n SPADs

#### Study of the time resolution in the centre of SiPM



- SiPMs with protection layers: larger n fired SPADs -> better time resolution
- SiPM without protection layer: larger n fired SPADs -> worse time resolution (events are mainly due to intrinsic CT)
- In (a) -> n SPADs directly discriminated
- In (b) -> n SPADs not directly discriminated (-0.7-1.2 V corresponds to ~10-20 SPADs)
- Sensors in (b) under study for possible interconnections in the samples

Time resolution trend improving as number of SPADs increase: -> 20 ps for more than a few SPADs firing where the majority of events lie.

TOP sensors RAD: SiPMs | B. Sabiu | DRD4

0/11

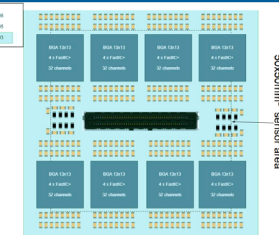
## ICCUB, Barcelona – FastIC chip - overlap with WP4.1

#### PCB proposal:

- 65x65 mm<sup>2</sup>
- 8x FastIC+32\_BGA 12 x 12 mm
- 256 SiPM decoupling capacitors (0603 metric)
- 100 pin connector example (TBD): LSHM-150-02.5-L-DV-A-S-TR

Decoupling capacitors have to handle HV for the SiPM V<sub>BIAS</sub>

\*Voltage regulators are not in this PCB



21-25 October 2024

ICCUB  
Institut de Ciències de l'Universitat de Barcelona

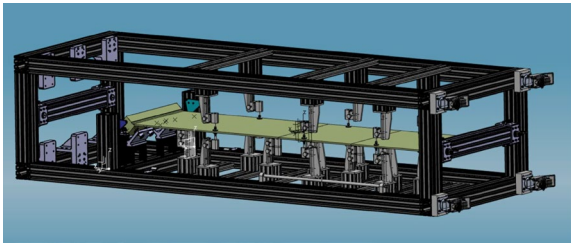


# DRD4 – Time of Flight Detectors



- **WP4.4.3:** Develop lightweight mechanical supports for DIRC-type TOF detectors
- **Participants:** GSI, USTC, Oxford

## Oxford – lightweight mechanical structures for TORCH radiators



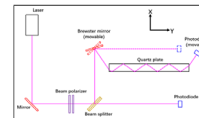
- **WP4.4.4:** Develop techniques for measuring the optical properties of optical components for TOF detectors
- **Participants:** GSI, USTC, Istanbul, Oxford, Yerevan

## Developments at USTC – Optical characterizations

DTOF R&D related to WP4.4.4

### Optical characterization of fused silica

- Requirements
  - Roughness <1nm (reflectivity, error <0.1%)
  - Absorption length >100m,  $\pm 10\%$  ( $\lambda > 300\text{nm}$ )
- Method
  - Measuring laser intensity change after crossing fused silica
- Plan
  - Setup optical test stand in dark room, 2024–2025
  - Test fused silica plates for endcap and barrel DTOF prototype, 2025–2026



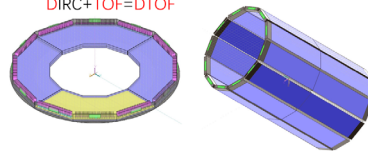
## Developments at USTC – PID Mechanics

DTOF R&D related to WP4.4.3

### Light-weight mechanical structure

Endcap PID  
DIRC+TOF=DTOF

Barrel PID (DTOF option)



Plan to join LHCb-TORCH group (associate membership)  
→ Contribute to detector/electronics/mechanical etc.

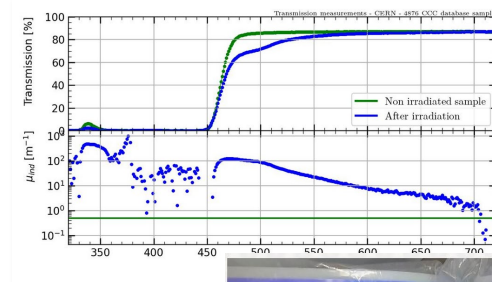
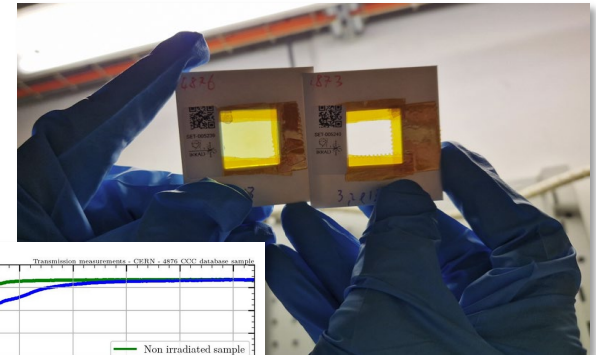
- Requirements:
  - Overall material budget <0.3  $X_0$  as low as possible
  - Fit in the limited space between tracker and ECAL
- Plan:
  - 1<sup>st</sup>-version design (C fiber, Al honeycomb), 2024
  - Prototyping & optimization, 2025
  - Final design, 2026

# DRD4 WP5

## WP5.1 Investigating new Scintillating Fibre development for HEP Applications

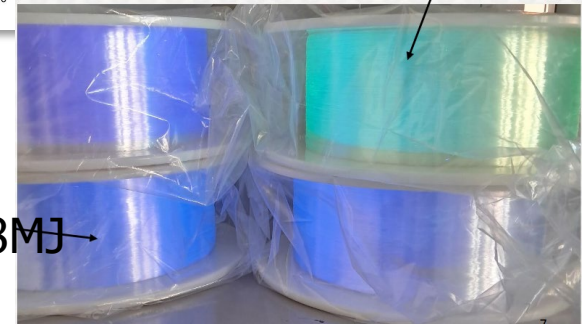
### Recent Developments:

1. Irradiation of new green commercial sample with good timing (in partnership with ECAL DRD6 WP3) shows poor hardness (transmission loss) even at 10 kGy
2. Samples of 3 improved attenuation length Luxium (formerly Saint Gobain) fibres delivered to EPFL.
  - Will be wound as fibre mats and irradiated at IRRAD to LHCb Upgrade 2 doses in April (10 kGy peak)
3. Discussions with Organic Scintillator developers at Scintillator Brainstorming Meeting organized by E. Auffray  
<https://indico.cern.ch/event/1507749/>
  - Very useful, made new contacts!



BCF-20

SCSF-78MJ



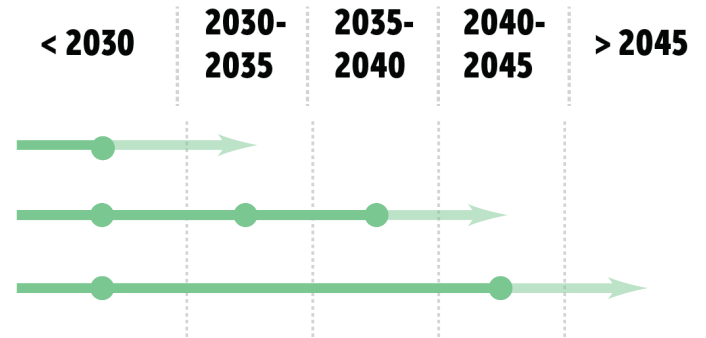


# DRD6

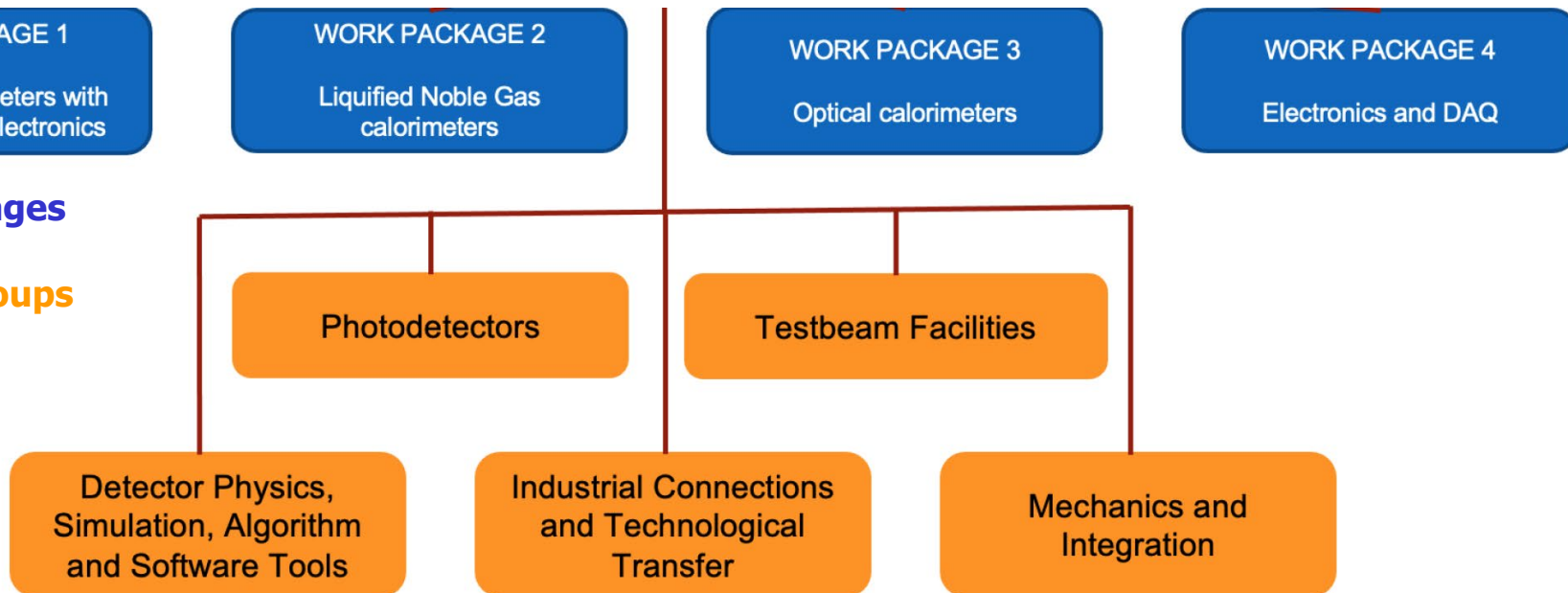
## Detector R&D Themes (DRDTs)

### Calorimetry

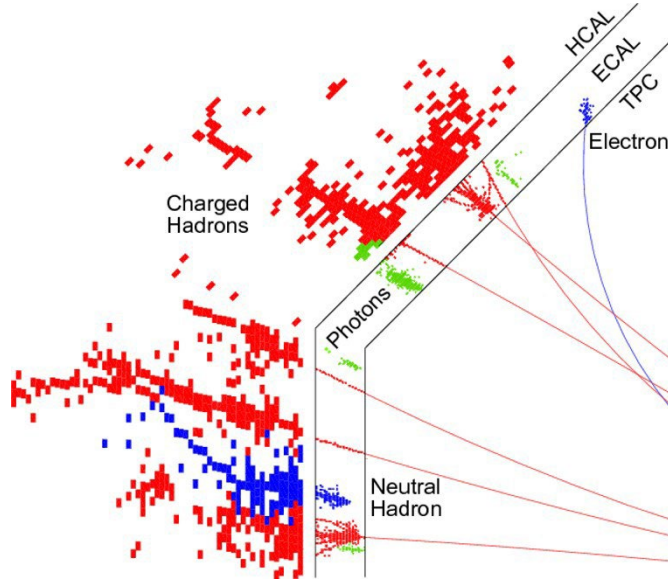
- DRDT 6.1** Develop radiation-hard calorimeters with enhanced electromagnetic energy and timing resolution
- DRDT 6.2** Develop high-granular calorimeters with multi-dimensional readout for optimised use of particle flow methods
- DRDT 6.3** Develop calorimeters for extreme radiation, rate and pile-up environments



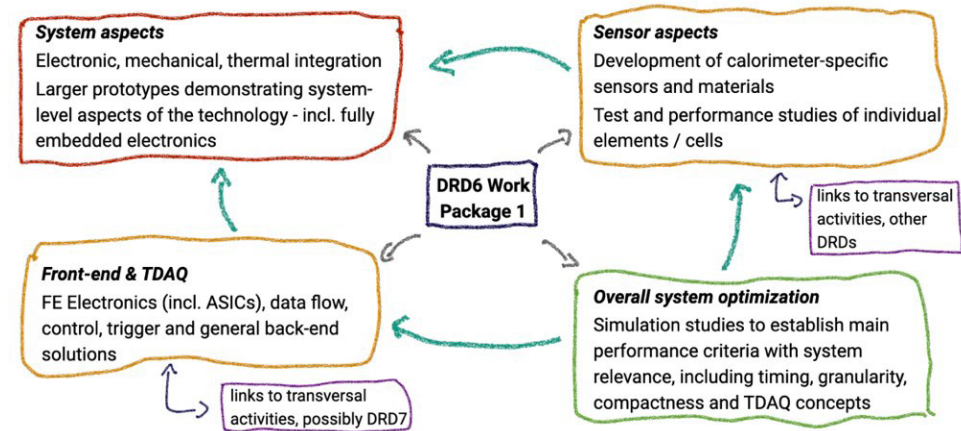
### Work packages and working groups



# Work Package 1: sandwich calorimeters with embedded electronics



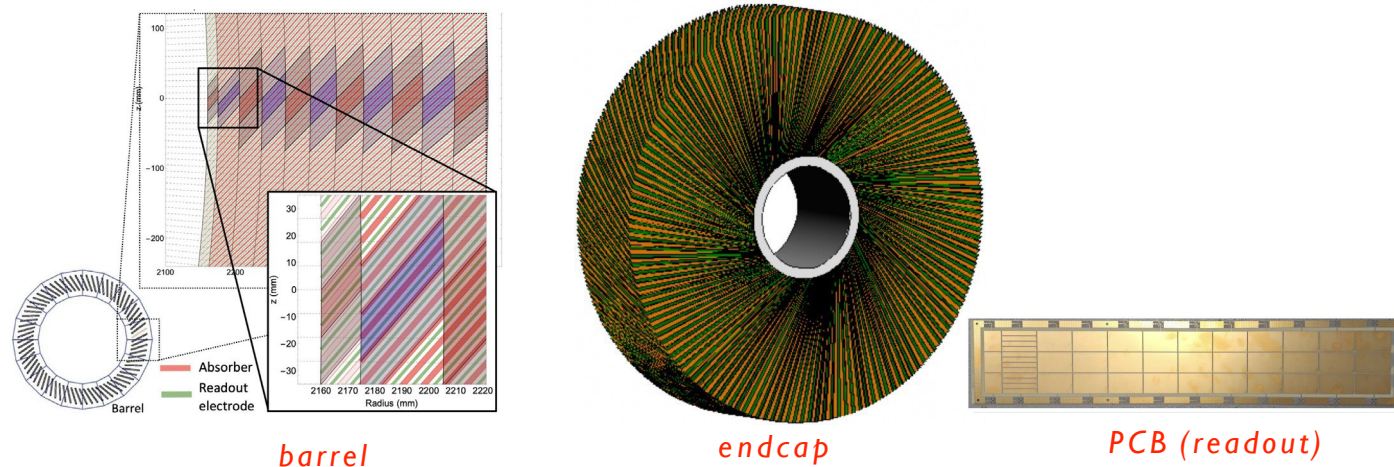
- Imaging calorimeters live on the high separation power for Particle Flow One
- calorimeter - Subdivided into electromagnetic and hadronic sections



- **Challenges:**
  - High pixelisation, 4n hermetic -> little room for services
  - Detector integration plays a crucial role
- **New strategic R&D issues**
  - Detector module integration
  - Timing
  - High rate e+e- collider (such as FCC-ee)

# Work Package 2: liquefied noble gas calorimeters

- Focused on R&D on noble-liquid calorimetry
- Main target in the foreseeable future: sampling EM calorimeter for  $e^+e^-$  factories – one of the key features of the "ALLEGRO" detector concept for FCC-ee (<https://allegro.web.cern.ch/>)
  - highly granular calorimeter with absorber planes inclined in r-phi (barrel) / arranged in turbine-like structure (endcap)
  - readout by segmented PCB planes alternated to Pb (or W) absorbers, gaps in between filled with LAr (or LKr)

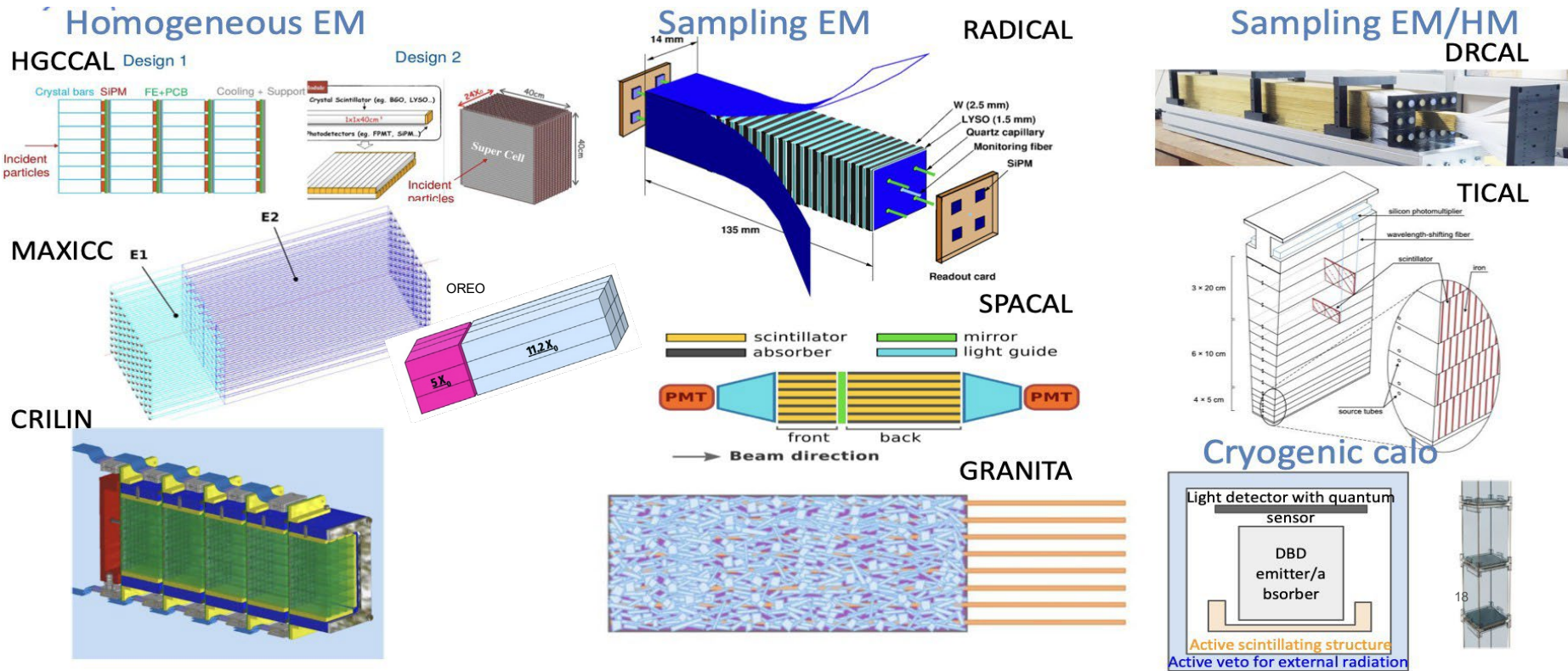


R. Pöschl, DRDC Nov 2024

# Work Package 3: optical calorimeters

Involvement from ~70 institutes working on 11 different projects

**The goal:** explore, optimize, and demonstrate with full shower-containment prototypes, new concepts of sampling and homogeneous calorimeters based on scintillating materials



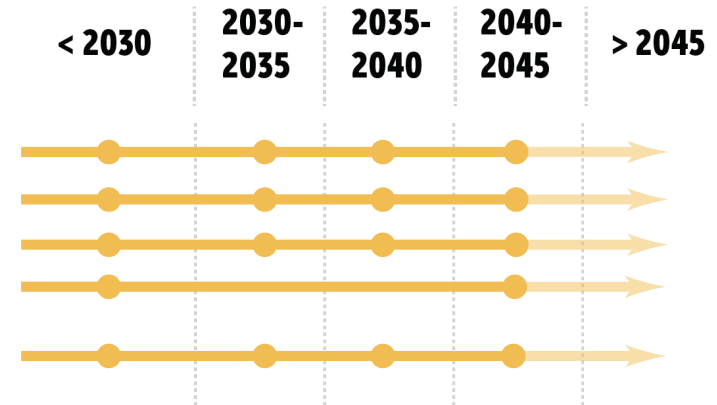
R. Pöschl, DRDC Nov 2024

# DRD7: electronics

## Detector R&D Themes (DRDTs)

Electronics

- DRDT 7.1** Advance technologies to deal with greatly increased data density
- DRDT 7.2** Develop technologies for increased intelligence on the detector
- DRDT 7.3** Develop technologies in support of 4D- and 5D-techniques
- DRDT 7.4** Develop novel technologies to cope with extreme environments and required longevity
- DRDT 7.5** Evaluate and adapt to emerging electronics and data processing technologies





# DRD7 Projects

- 7.1 Data density and power efficiency
  - 7.1a Silicon photonics transceivers
  - 7.1b Powering next generation detector systems
  - 7.1c Wireless allowing data and power transmission
- 7.2 Intelligence on detector
  - 7.2b Radiation Tolerant RISC-V SoC
  - 7.2c Virtual Electronic System Prototyping
- 7.3 4D and 5D techniques
  - 7.3a High Performance ADCs and TDCs
  - 7.3b Characterizing and calibrating sources impacting time measurements
  - 7.3c Timing distribution techniques
- 7.4 Extreme environnements
  - 7.4a: Modelling and development of cryogenics PDKs and IPs
  - 7.4b Radiation resistance of advanced CMOS nodes
  - 7.4c Cooling and cooling plates
- 7.5 Back-end systems and COTS
  - 7.5a: DAQOverflow
  - 7.5b: From front-end to back-end with 100 GbE
- 7.6 Complex imaging ASICs and technologies
  - 7.6a: Common access to selected imaging technologies
  - 7.6b: Shared access to 3D integration

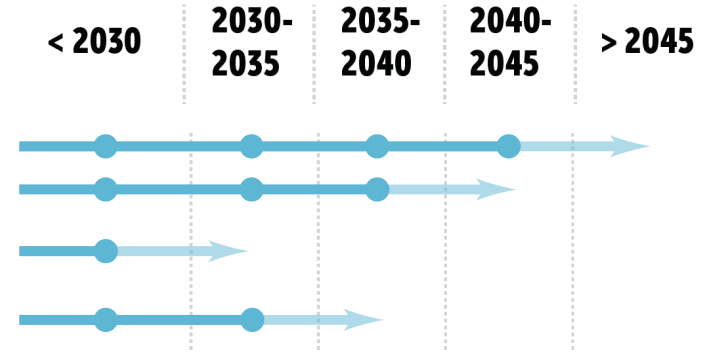


# DRD5

## Detector R&D Themes (DRDTs)

### Quantum

- DRDT 5.1** Promote the development of advanced quantum sensing technologies
- DRDT 5.2** Investigate and adapt state-of-the-art developments in quantum technologies to particle physics
- DRDT 5.3** Establish the necessary frameworks and mechanisms to allow exploration of emerging technologies
- DRDT 5.4** Develop and provide advanced enabling capabilities and infrastructure



WP1

Exotic systems in traps & beams (HCl's, molecules, Rydberg systems, clocks, interferometry, ...)

WP4

Scaling up to macroscopic ensembles (spins; nano-structured materials; hybrid devices, opto-mechanical sensors,...)

WP2

Quantum materials (0-, 1-, 2-D) (Engineering at the atomic scale)

WP5

Quantum techniques for sensing (back action evasion, squeezing, entanglement, Heisenberg limit)

WP3

Quantum superconducting systems (4K electronics; MMC's, TES, SNSPD, KID's/...; integration challenges)

WP6

Capability expansion (cross-disciplinary exchanges; infrastructures; education)

Michael Doser, report to the DRDC, Feb 2025

# Potential HEP impact

Applied (detectors)

Fundamental physics

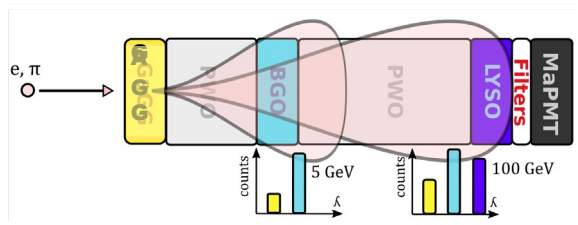
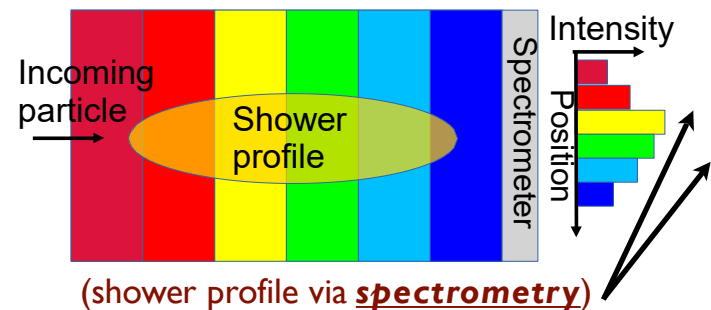
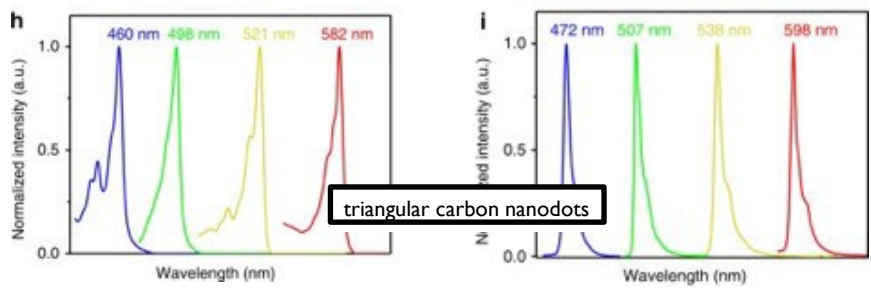
Improved quantum measurements

HEP function Work package	Tracking	Calorimetry	Timing	PID	Helicity
WP 1 (Quantum systems in traps and beam)	Rydberg TPC	BEC WIMP scattering (recoil)	O(fs) reference clock for time-sensitive synchronization (photon TOF)	Rydberg dE/dx amplifiers	
WP2 (Quantum materials: 0-, 1- and 2-D)	“DotPix”; improved GEM’s; chromatic tracking (sub-pixel); active scintillators	Chromatic calorimetry	Suspended / embedded quantum dot scintillators	Photonic dE/dx through suspended quantum dots in TPC	
WP 3 (Superconducting quantum devices)	O(ps) SNSPD trackers for diffractive scattering (Roman pot)	FIR, UV & x-ray calorimetry	O(ps) high Tc SNSPD	Milli- & microcharged particle trackers in beam dumps	
WP 4 (scaled-up bulk systems for mip’s)	Multi-mode trackers (electrons, photons)	Multi-mode calorimeters (electrons, photons, phonons)	Wavefront detection (e.g. O(ps) embedded devices)		Helicity detector via ultra-thin NV optically polarized scattering / tracking stack
WP 5 (Quantum techniques)				Many-to-one entanglement detection of interaction	
WP 6 (capacity building)	Technical expertise of future workforce (detector construction); broadened career prospects and thus enhanced attractiveness; cross-departmental networking and collaboration; broadened user base for infrastructure (beam tests, dilution refrigerators, processing technologies)				

( under way; in preparation; under discussion or imaginable applications; long-range potential )

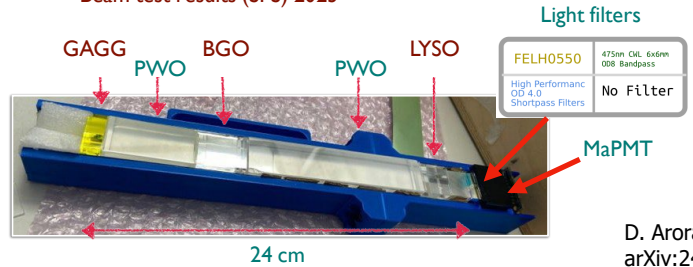
Michael Doser, report to the DRDC, Feb 2025

# Specific example for a potential particle physics impact: WP-2 chromatic calorimetry

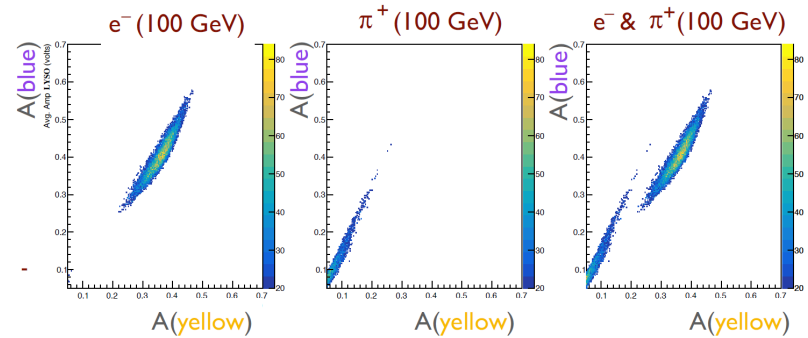


Proof of concept

Beam test results (SPS) 2023



“Chromatic” electron-pion discrimination



86% “chromatic” electron - pion discrimination

D. Arora et al, EPJ Web Conf. 320 (2025) 00029;  
arXiv:2411.03685 [physics.ins-det]

Michael Doser, report to the DRDC, Feb 2025

# Blue-sky research

---

Innovative instrumentation research is one of the defining characteristics of the field of particle physics.

Blue-sky (more explorative, without addressing immediate detector specifications) R&D has often resulted in game-changing developments which could not have been anticipated even a decade in advance.

Examples include micro-pattern gas detectors, SiPMs and new technologies for very fast (10 ps) timing coupled with accurate spatial information - 4D-detectors.

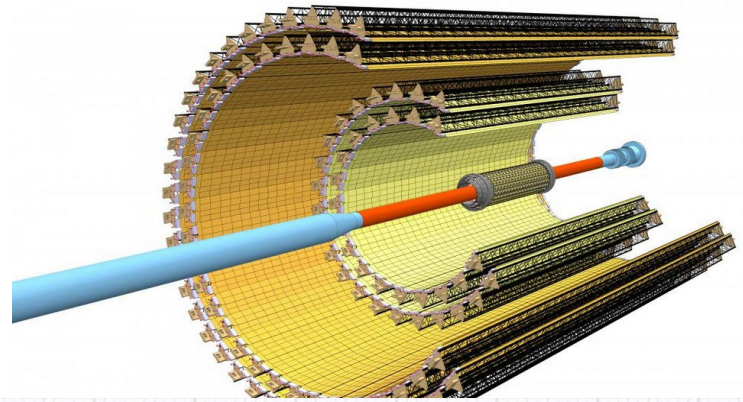
Blue-sky developments have often been of broad application and had immense societal benefit (World Wide Web, Magnetic Resonance Imaging, Positron Emission Tomography and X-ray imaging for photon science).

From 'The 2021 ECFA Detector Research and Development Roadmap'

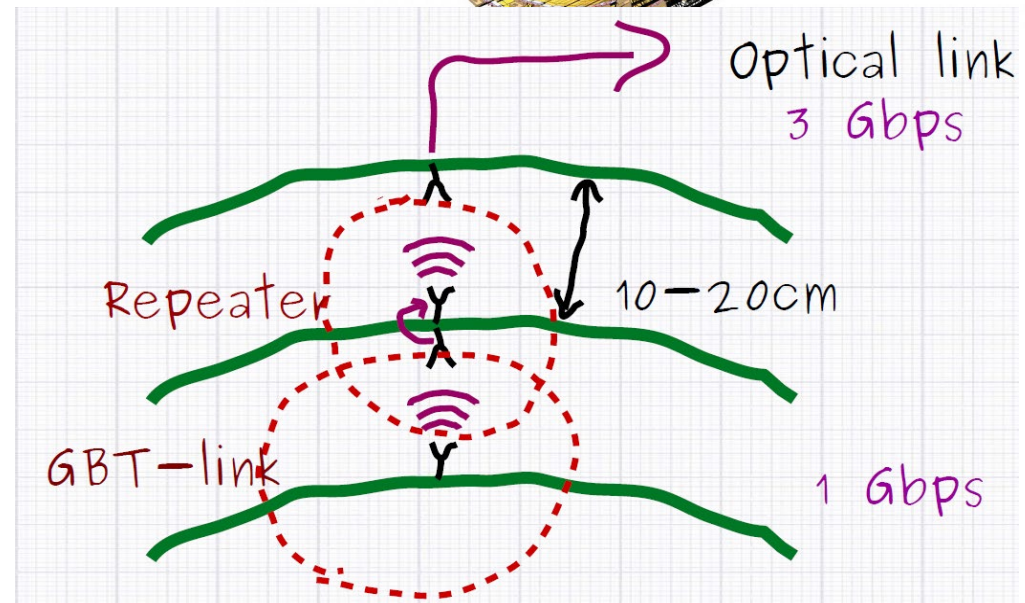
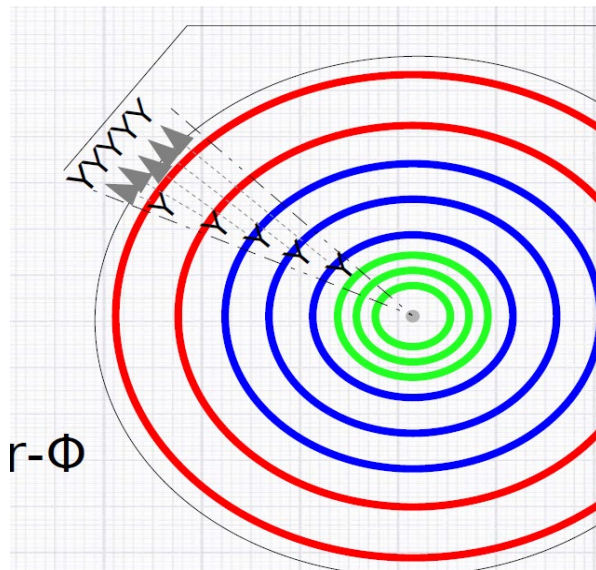
# Blue-sky research, example: Wireless data acquisition

Physics events propagate from the collision point radially outwards – while the detectors are read out axially

- Not optimal for triggering
- Not optimal for material distribution (in particular at the barrel-endcap boundary)



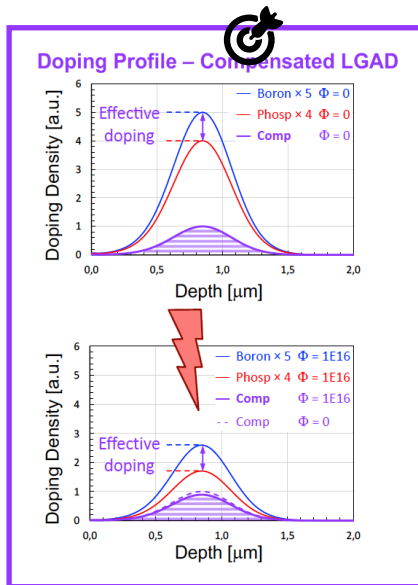
Idea: read out wirelessly





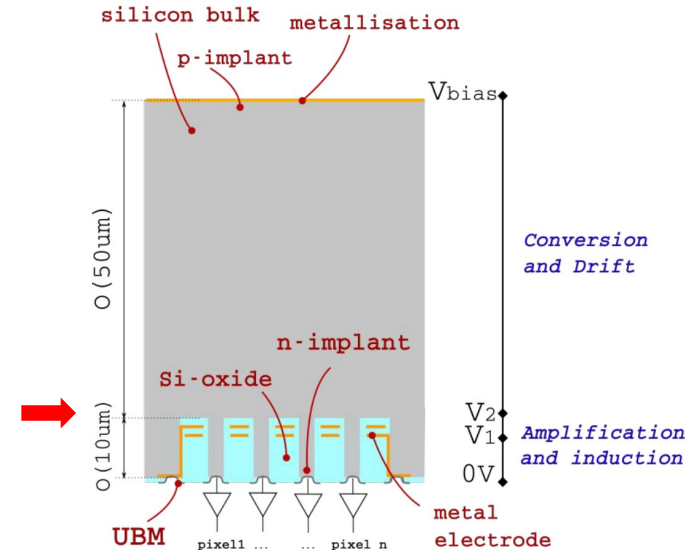
# AIDAinnova Blue Sky projects

AIDAinnova is a large EU-funded detector R+D project hosted by CERN. Most of the effort is targeted research, but one of the work packages is devoted to blue-sky research.

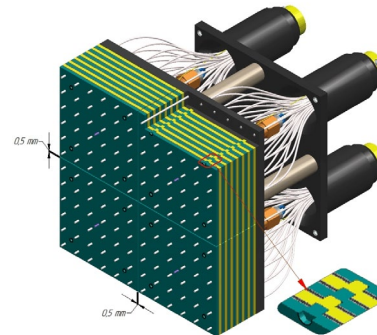
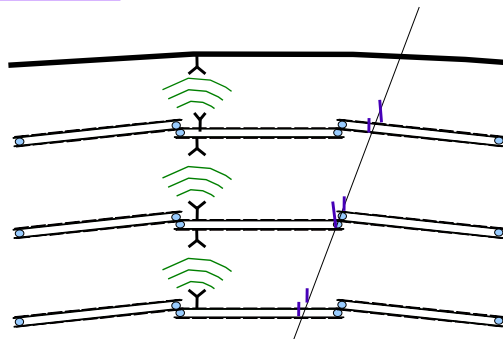


Radiation resistance of Si sensors through:

- Clever doping – compensated LGAD
- Amplification through electrodes in Si - SiEM



Wireless read-out



Shashlik calorimeter with nano-composites in polymer or glass matrix; decay times  $O(100 \text{ ps})$ , radiation hard to  $O(1 \text{ MGy})$



# Summary

---

Detectors for particle physics experiments are our discovery tools – well-designed and well-functioning devices have been essential for our present understanding of elementary particles and their interactions.

A very vibrant research area: a large variety of new methods and techniques has either been developed recently or is under commissioning or early data taking.

New challenges are waiting for us when planning the next generation of experiments as documented in the ECFA Detector R&D Roadmap. The DRD collaborations are helping the community to get organized in a structured way.

Blue sky research has traditionally been an important driver of progress in particle physics – and has to be supported also in the future. Many blue sky studies of today will become mainstream tomorrow.

Novel ideas will also come from discoveries in condensed matter physics, advanced materials, needs in medical imaging, and innovations in the industry.