

LGAD sensor development:

From ATLAS high granularity timing detector to future collider

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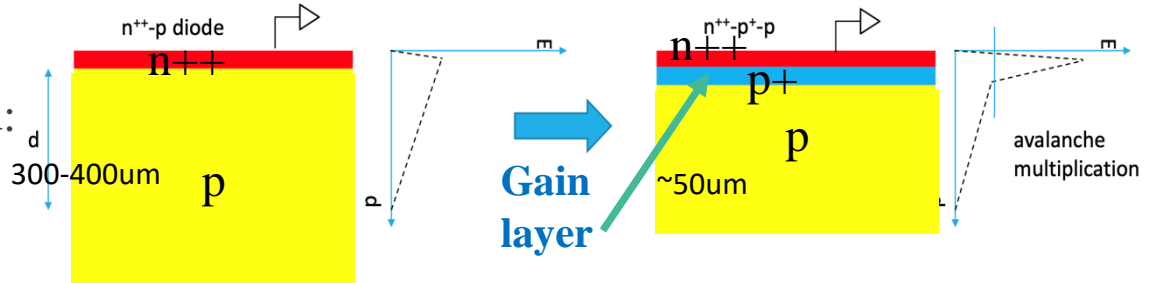


LGAD detector

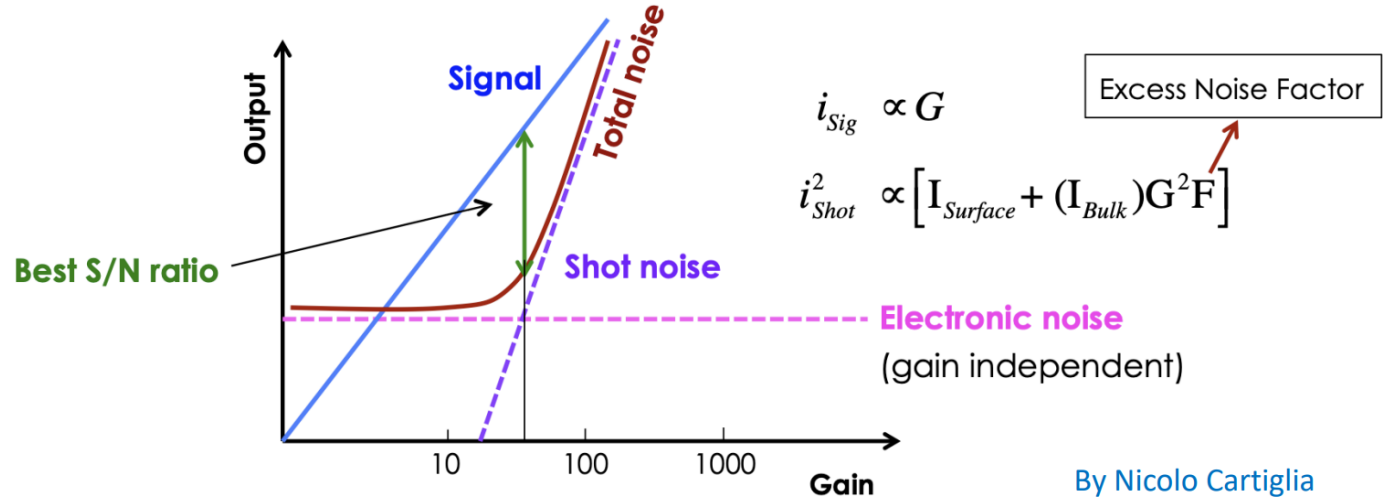
➤ **Low Gain Avalanche Detectors (LGAD)** is a silicon detector technology developed recently, that could measure the particle time at ps precision (~30ps).

➤ Compared with PIN, a gain layer between P and N++ is added:

- Work in a linear mode, Gain:10~50
- Good Signal/Noise ratio without self triggering
- Thin depleted region to decrease t_{rise} (fast timing)

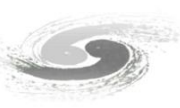


➤ **Owing to its good performance, LGAD technology is chosen as detector for ATLAS HGTD and CMS ETL project.**

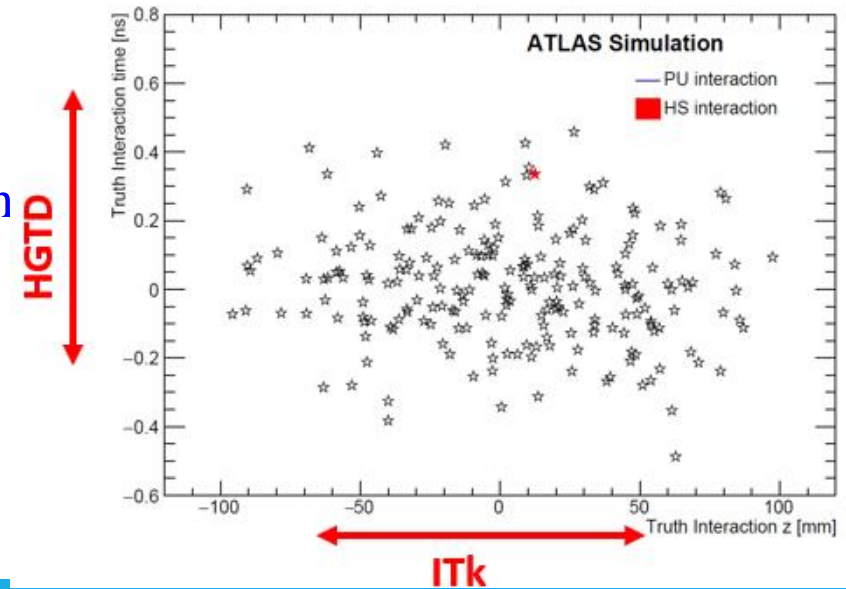
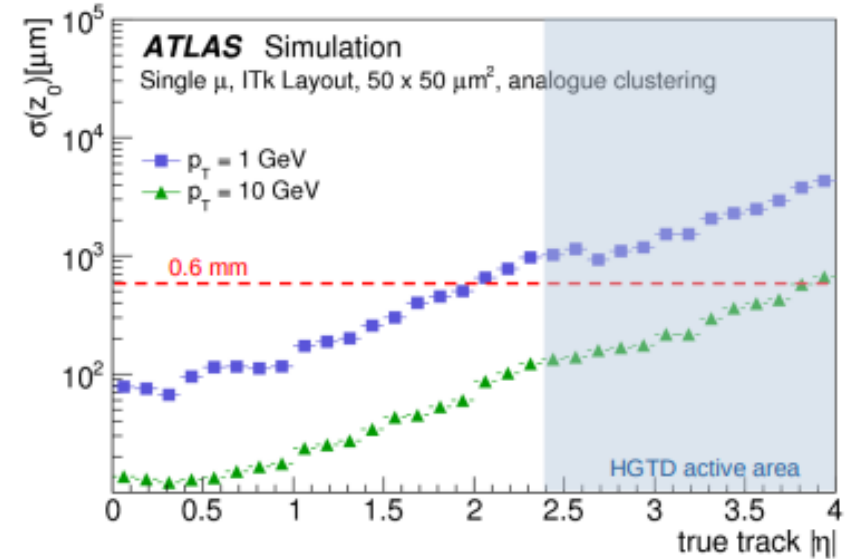


Noise increases faster than then signal
→ the ratio S/N becomes worse at higher gain

<https://doi.org/10.1201/9781003131946>



- At High Luminosity –LHC:
 - Instantaneous luminosity up to $7.5 \times 10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$
 - **Pileup:** $\langle \mu \rangle = 200$ interactions per bunch crossing ~ 1.6 vertex/mm on average
- Problems of the vertex reconstruction in ATLAS
 - Degradation is more significant in the forward region compared to the central region
 - Need z_0 resolution $< 0.6 \text{ mm}$
 - Liquid Argon based electromagnetic calorimeter has coarser granularity
 - **New inner tracker (ITk) has poor z resolution in the forward region**
- Timing information can be used to reduce pile-up and improve object reconstruction
- A High Granularity Timing Detector (HGTD) is proposed in front of the Liquid Argon end-cap calorimeters for pile-up mitigation
 - Combining HGTD high-precision time measurement and ITk position information (vertices longitudinal impact parameter)
 - Will improve performance in the forward region
 - In addition, will provide a direct measurement on the luminosity



HGTD detector

➤ The High Granularity Timing Detector (HGTD) is designed to provide precise timing information to mitigate pile-up in HL-LHC.

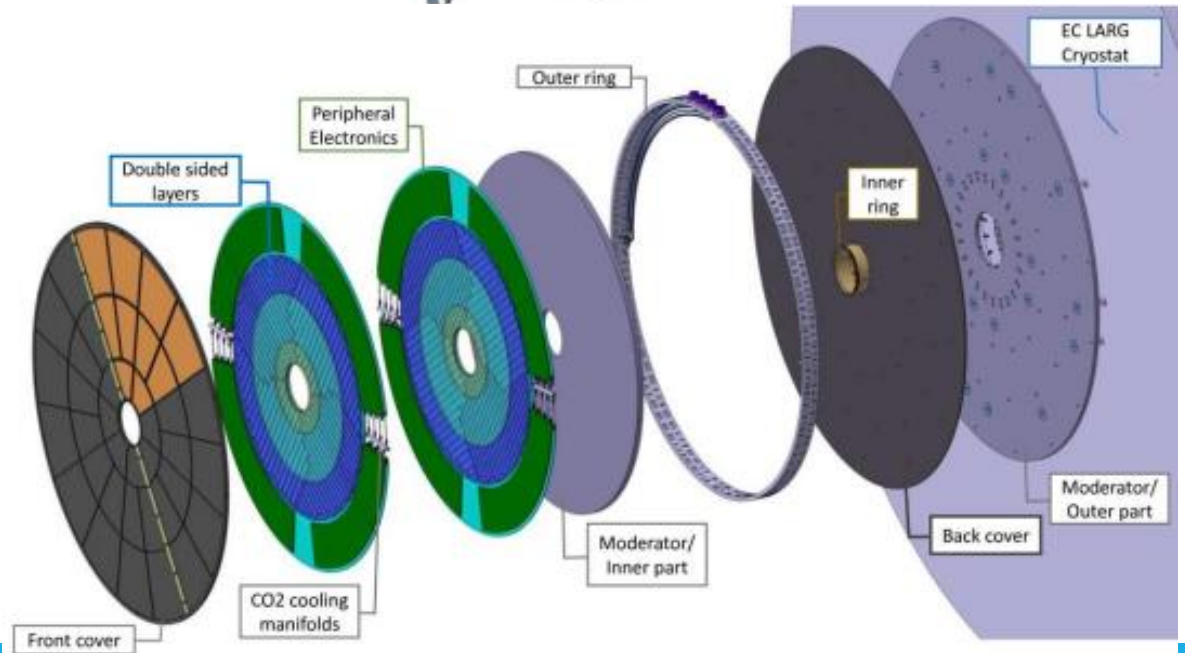
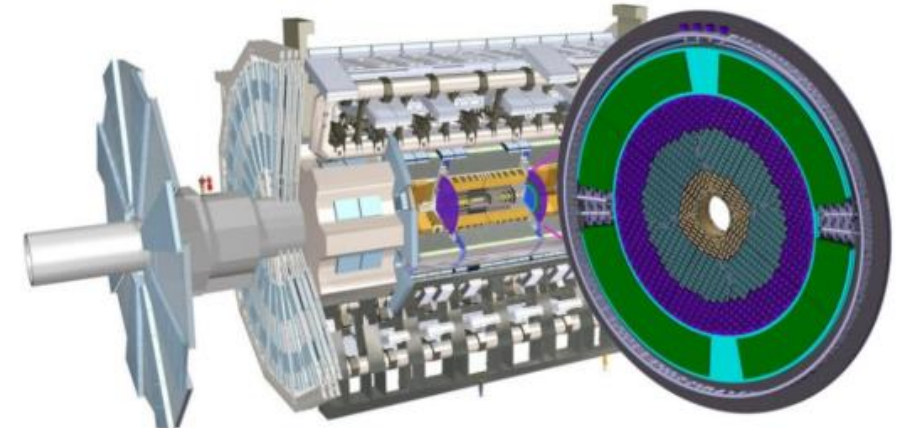
- ~3.6 million $1.3 \times 1.3 \text{ mm}^2$ pixels(channels)
- 6.4 m^2 active area
- Time resolution target
 - 30-50 ps /track
 - 35-70 ps/hit up to 4000 fb^{-1}
- Luminosity measurement
 - Count number of hits at 40 MHz (bunch by bunch)
 - Goal for HL-LHC: 1% luminosity uncertainty

➤ Two end-caps

- $z \approx \pm 3.5 \text{ m}$ from the nominal interaction point
- Total radius: $11 \text{ cm} < r < 100 \text{ cm}$
- Active detector region: $2.4 < |\eta| < 4.0$

➤ Each end-cap

- Two instrumented disks, rotated by 15° for better coverage

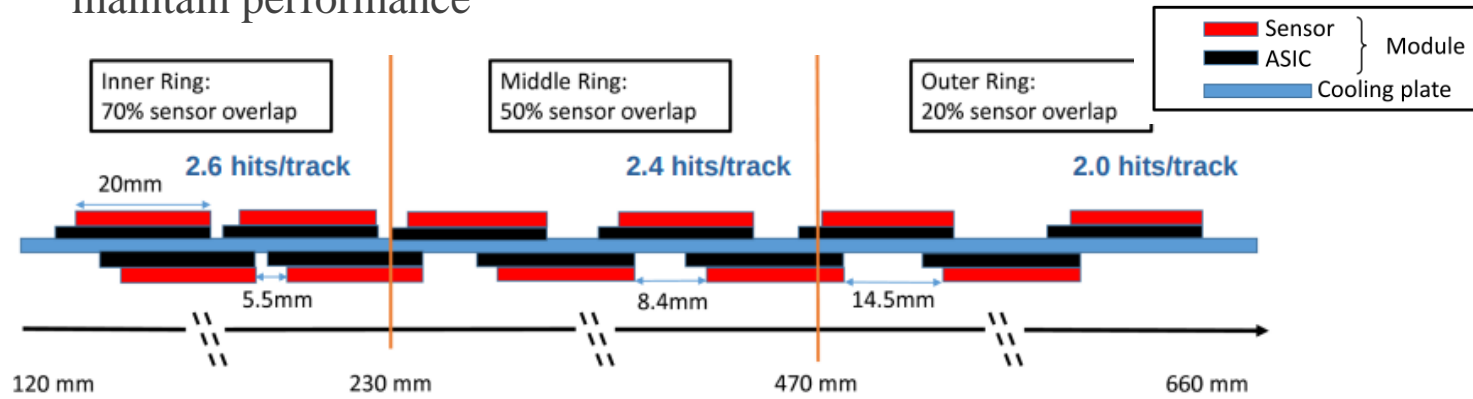


HGTD detector



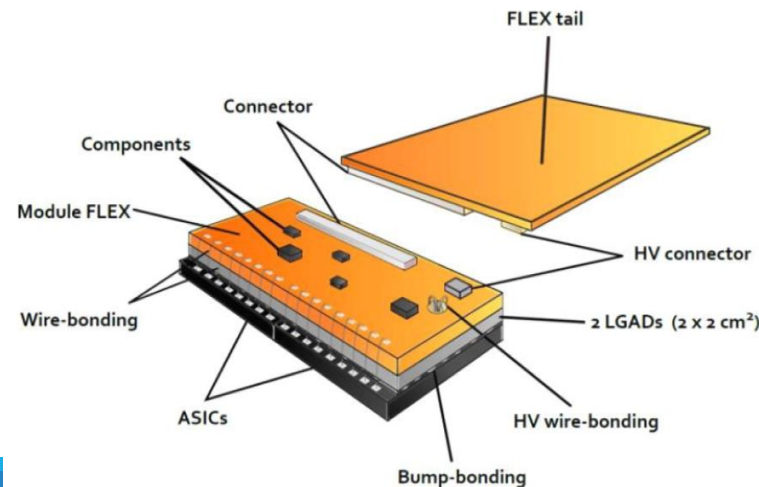
➤ 2 disks, each Disk:

- Double-sided layers mounted on a cooling plate
- 3 rings layout regarding to the fluence received
Overlap between modules on inner, middle and outer ring
- Replacement of inner ring every 1000 fb^{-1} and middle ring at 2000 fb^{-1} to maintain performance



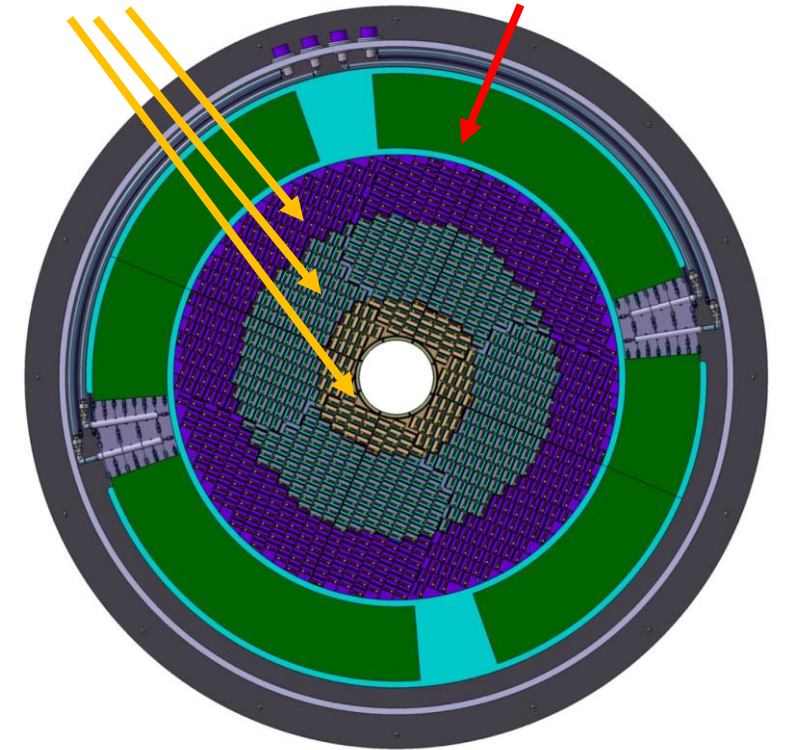
➤ 8032 modules, each module:

- consists of two hybrids (2 sensors+ 2 ASICs)
- $2 \times 4 \text{ cm}^2$, 15×30 channels



Modules

PEBs



- Two bare modules be connected with one module FLEX
- Module Flex be connected via flex tails, arranged in rows, to the Peripheral Electronics Boards (PEB) @ $660 < r < 920 \text{ mm}$

LGAD sensor for HGTD

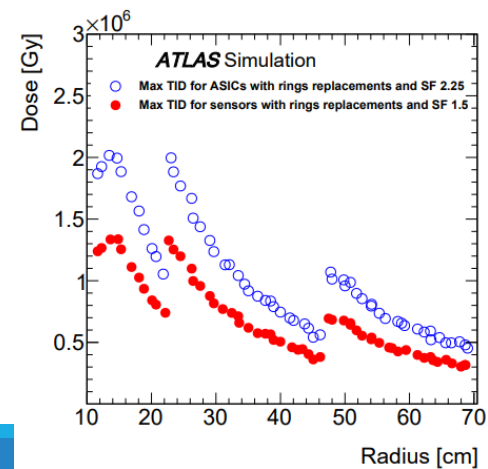
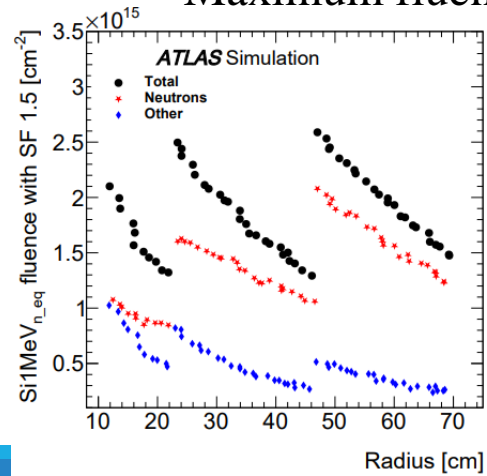
➤ ~21,000 LGAD sensors for HGTD project

➤ Requirements:

- Size: 15x15 array, 1.3x1.3 mm² pixel size
- Active thickness: 50 um(Thin: faster rise time, lower impact from radiation)
- LGAD sensor can withstand the lifetime of the HL-LHC running: irradiation requirement**
 - Maximum n_{eq} fluences: $2.5 \times 10^{15} n_{eq}/cm^2$
 - Total Ionizing Dose (TID): 2 MGy at the end of HL-LHC (4000 fb⁻¹)
- Time resolution: 35 ps (start), 70 ps (end) per hit, while 30 ps (start), 50 ps (end) per track
- Collected charge per hit >4 fC (minimum charge needed by the ASIC to hold good time resolution)
- Hit efficiencies of 97% (95%) at the start (end) of their lifetime

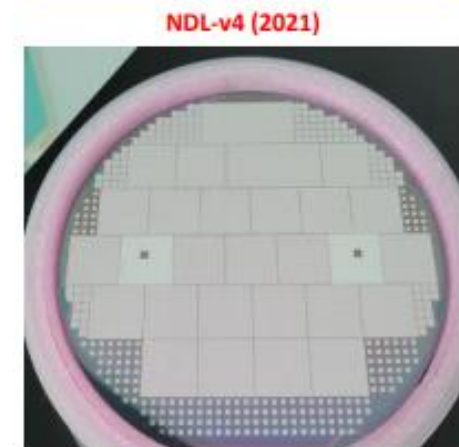
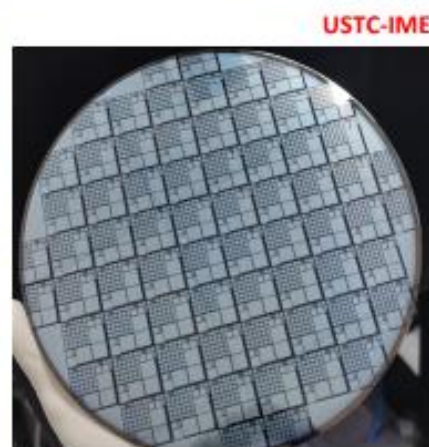
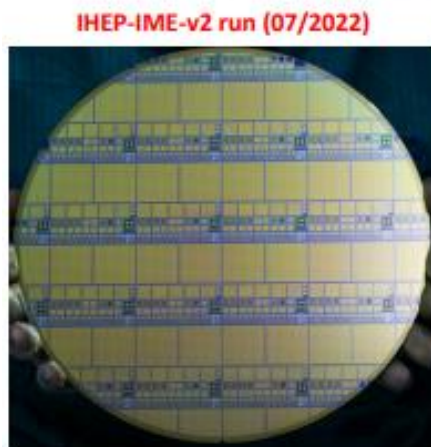
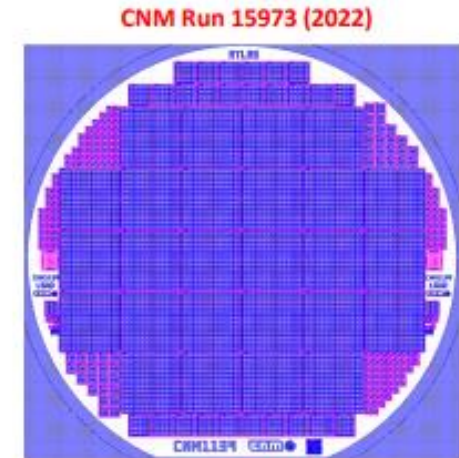
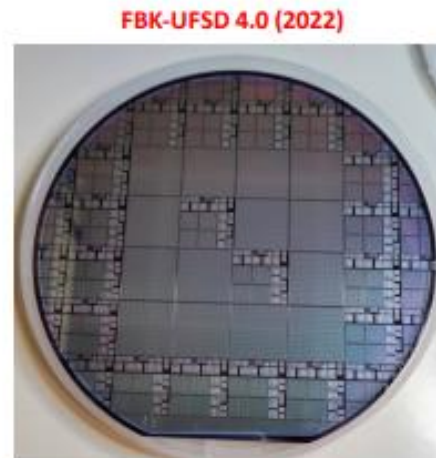
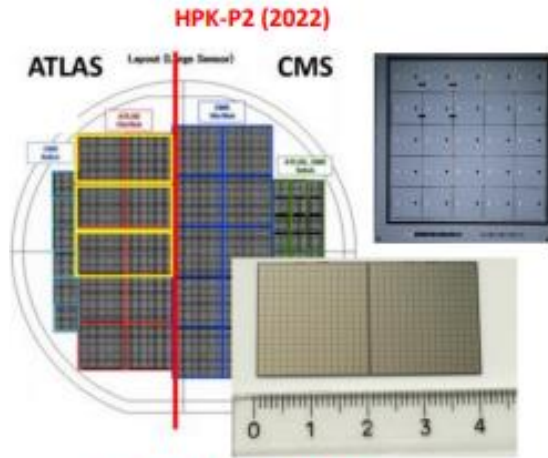
Replacement of inner ring every 1,000 fb⁻¹ and middle ring at 2,000 fb⁻¹

Maximum fluence with replacements



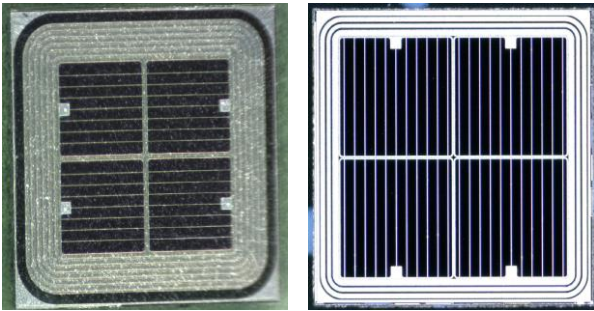
LGAD sensor for HGTD

- LGAD sensors from many vendors have been studied during the R&D phase of the HGTD project.
- Active vendors include: **HPK (Japan)**, **FBK (Italy)**, **CNM (Spain)**, **IHEP-IME (China)**, **USTC-IME (China)**, **IHEP-NDL (China)** ...

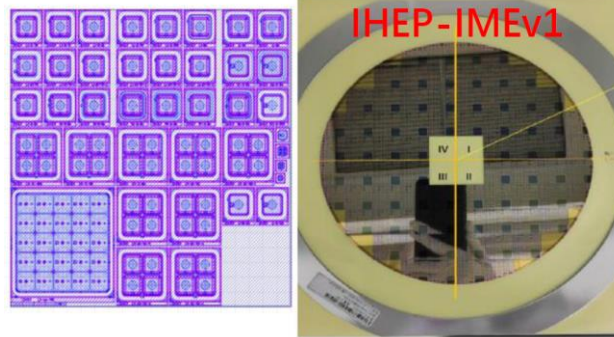


LGAD Development at IHEP

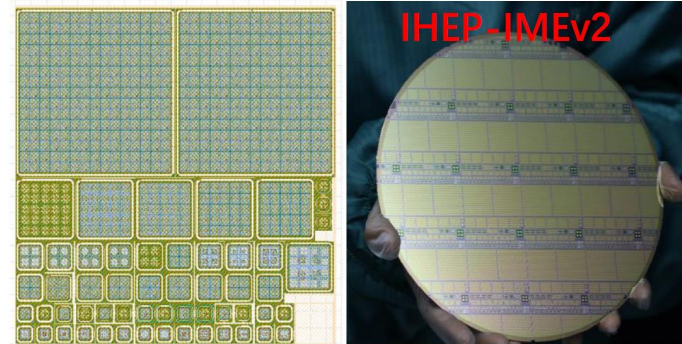
IHEP-NDL(2019)



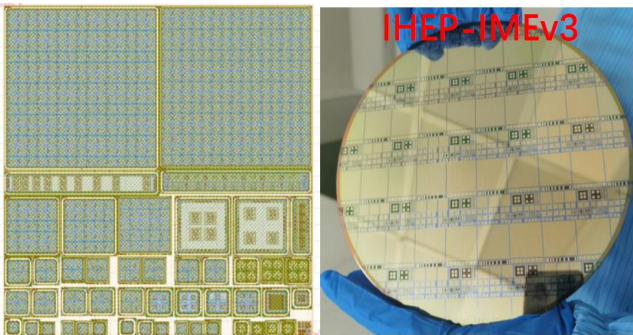
IHEP-IMEv1(2020.9)



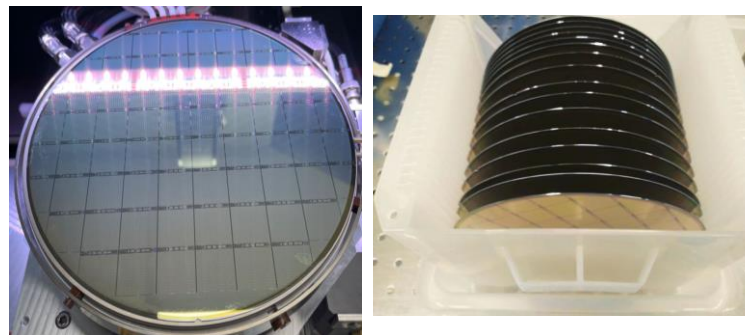
IHEP-IMEv2(2021.6)



IHEP-IMEv3(2022.5)



Pre-production for ATLAS (2023.7)



Mass production
for ATLAS (2024.7)

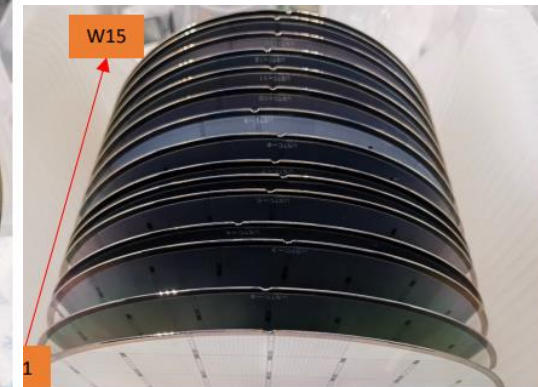
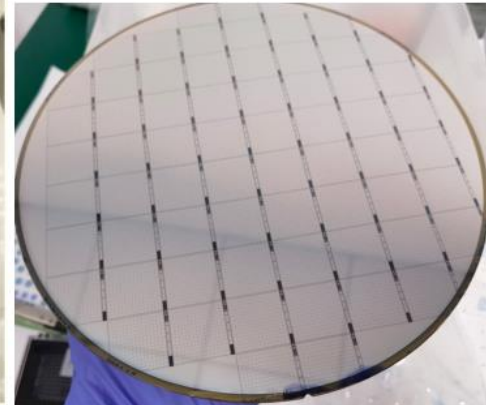
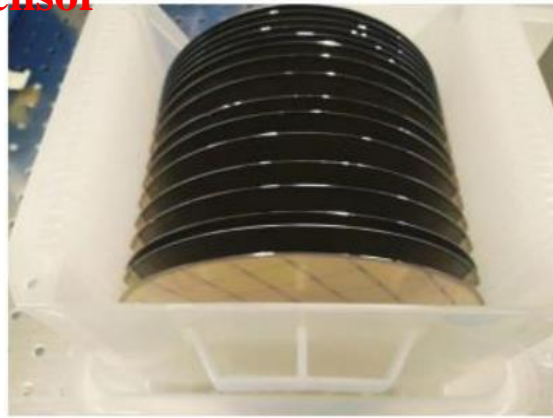
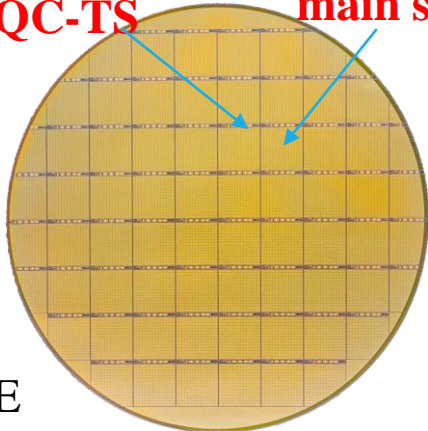
ATLAS HGTD sensor status

- LGAD sensors for HGTD project: ~21,000
 - IHEP design: 90%
 - USTC design: 10%
- In 2023, IHEP design LGAD sensors be selected in the HGTD sensor tendering process.
- Pre-production started at June 2023.
- Sensor pre-productions finished in 2023 – produced comfortably enough sensors for HGTD needs.
- HGTD group testing results show that the sensors properties fulfill HGTD specification.
- PRR passed at July 2024, and final production started after it.

Vendor		Percent
IHEP-IME	CERN	54%
	China in-kind	24%
	Spain in-kind	12%
USTC-IME	China in-kind	10%

	Wafer number	Good sensors
IHEP-IME	58	~1,700
USTC-IME	9	~200

QC-TS main sensor



IHEP-IME

USTC-IME



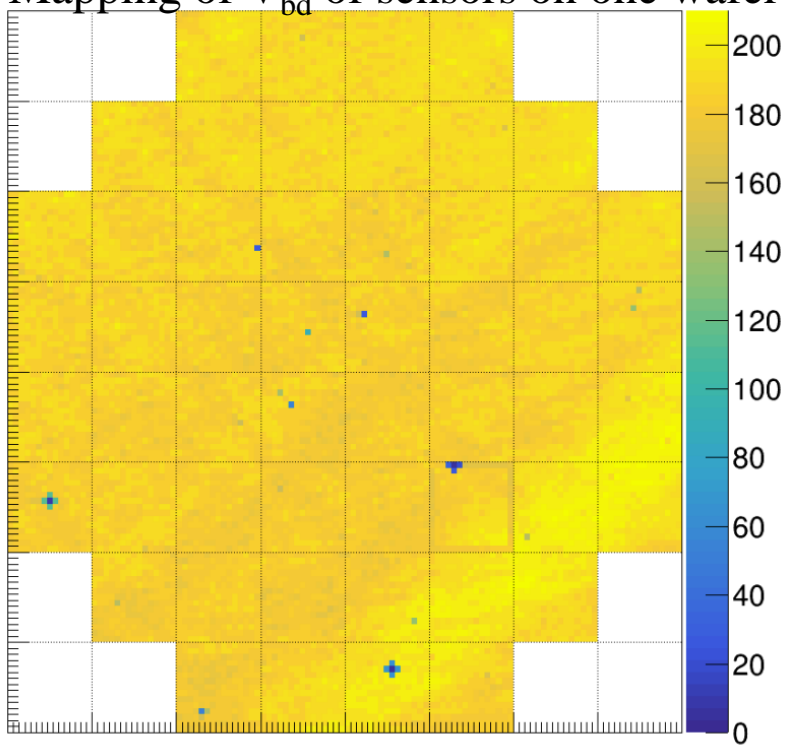
➤ **The 15x15 array sensors have good IV performance and uniformity**

Breakdown voltage deviation for 225 pads is less than 5% : $RMS(V_{bd,pad}) / \langle V_{bd,pad} \rangle < 5\%$

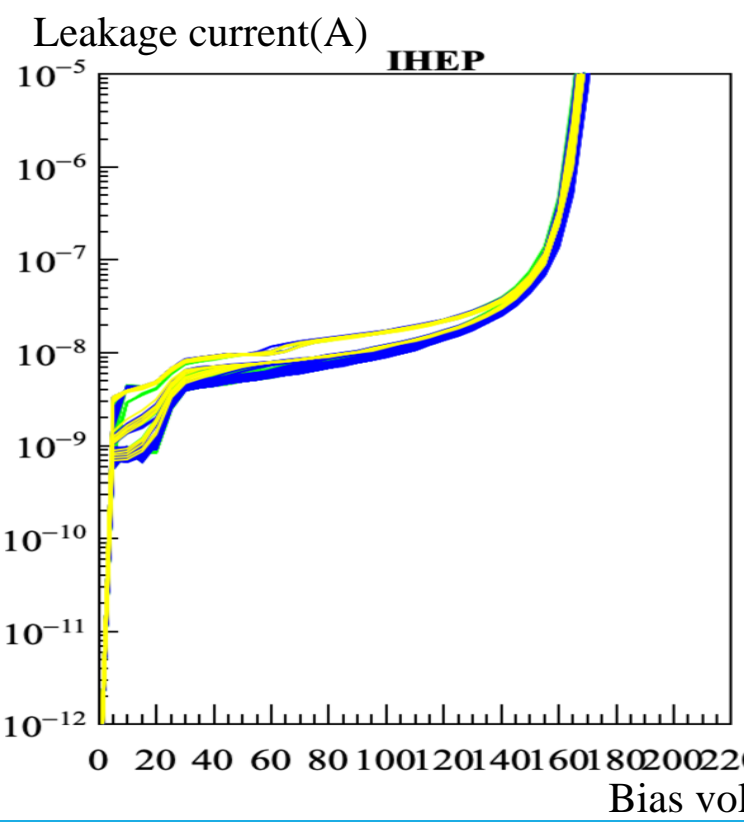
The ratio of the maximum and minimum leakage current is less than 3 (Pad leakage current spread at $0.8V_{bd}$), peak to peak within a factor of 3X.

➤ **Yield:** pad yield: >99%, sensor yield: ~64%

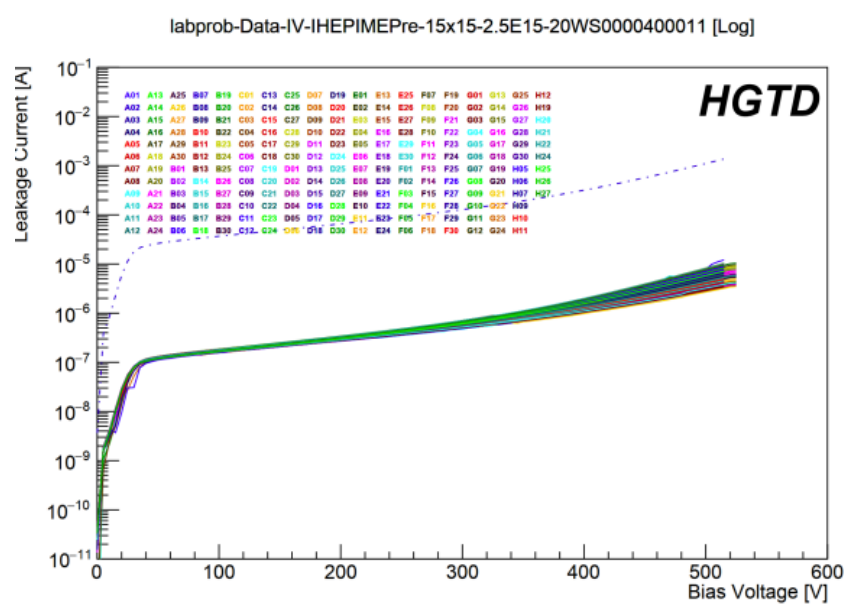
Mapping of V_{bd} of sensors on one wafer

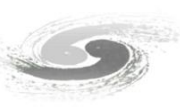


V_{BD} Map



20WS0000400011@2.5E15 n_{eq}/cm^2

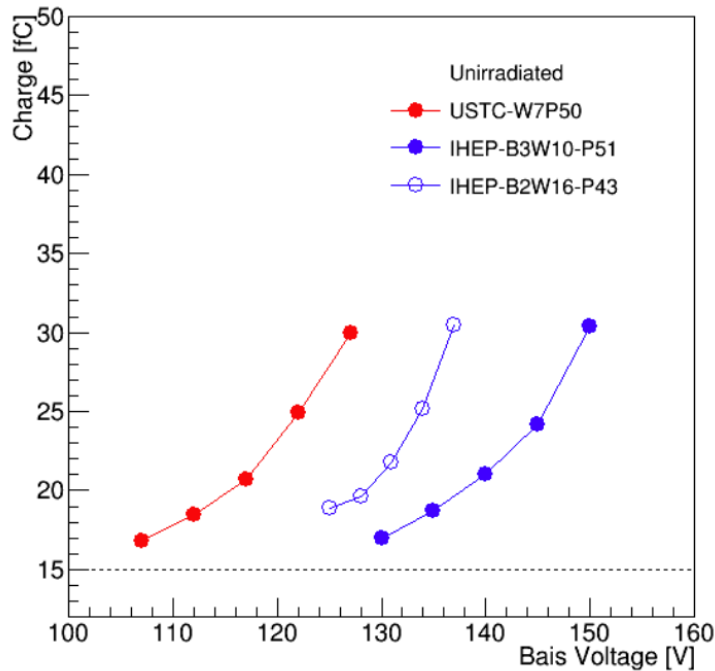




Performance of pre-production sensors: Beam test results

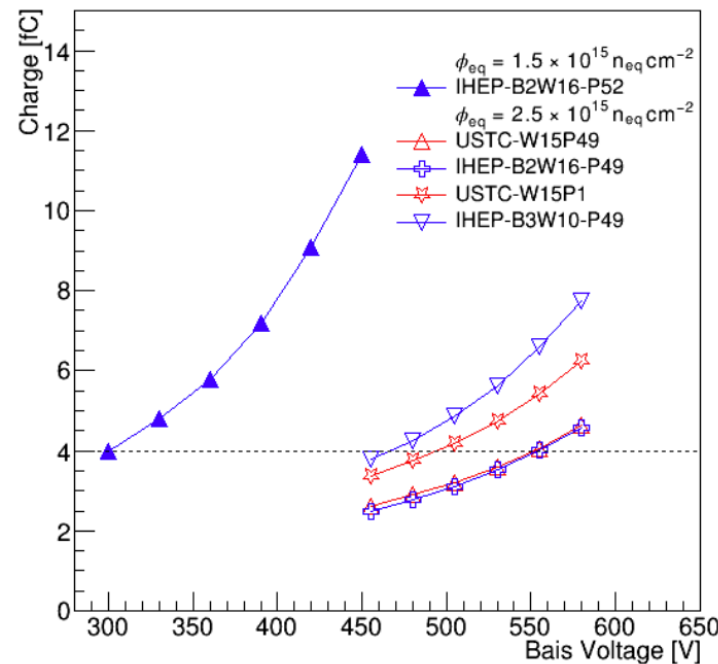
- **Collected charge:** The sensors can collect more than 15 fC charge before irradiation and >4 fC charge after irradiation at bias voltage <550 V (SEB limit)
- **Timing resolution:** The timing resolution is better than 35 ps (50 ps) before(after) irradiation (fluence $2.5 \times 10^{15} \text{ n}_{\text{eq}}/\text{cm}^2$)
- The collected charge and timing performance of sensors from pre-production fulfills HGTD requirement.

Collected Charge - HGTD TB June 2024



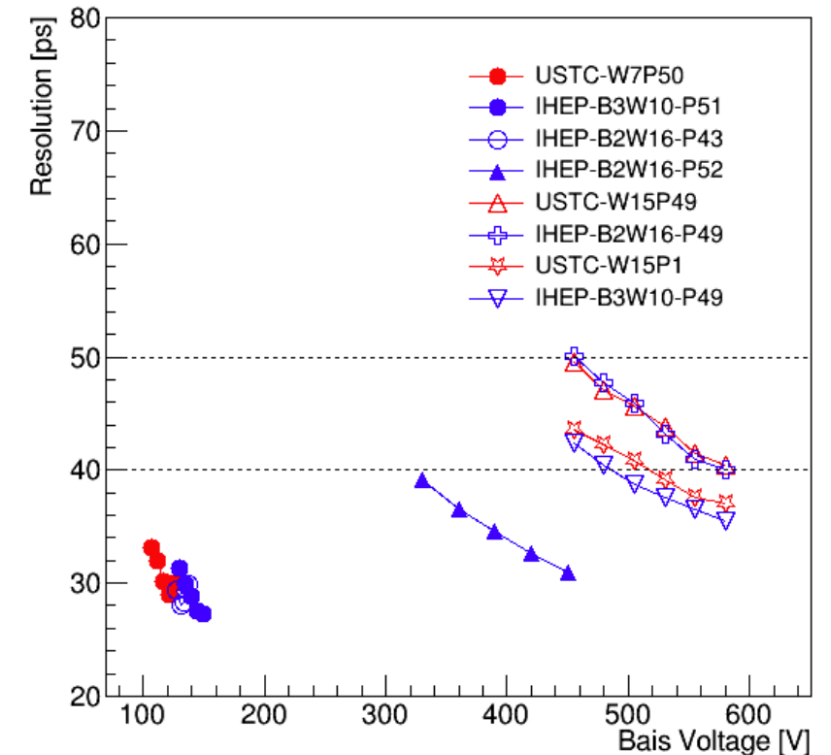
unirradiated sensor

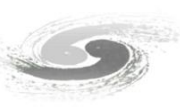
Collected Charge - HGTD TB June 2024



irradiated sensor

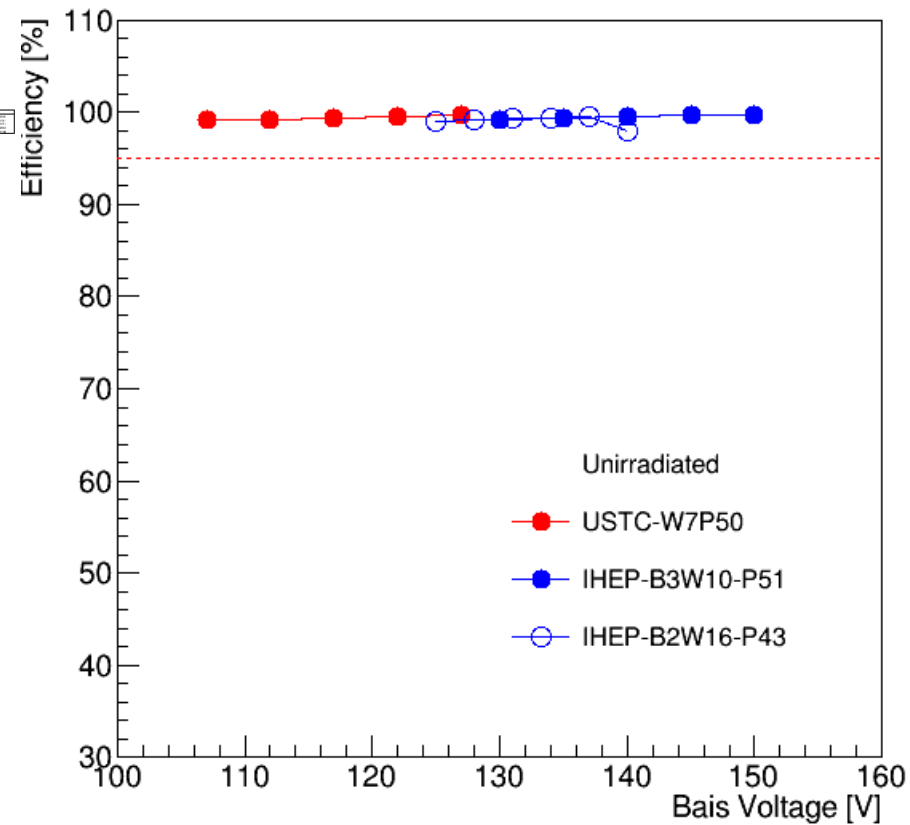
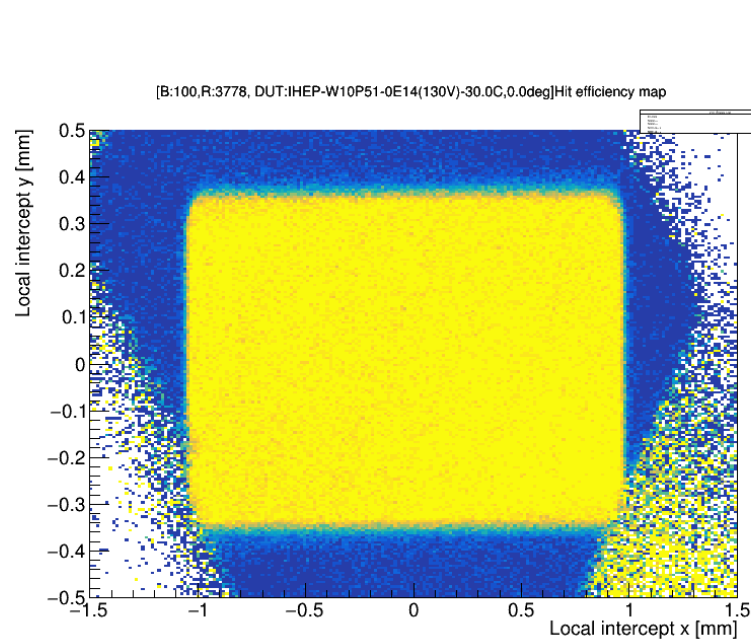
Time Resolution - HGTD TB June 2024



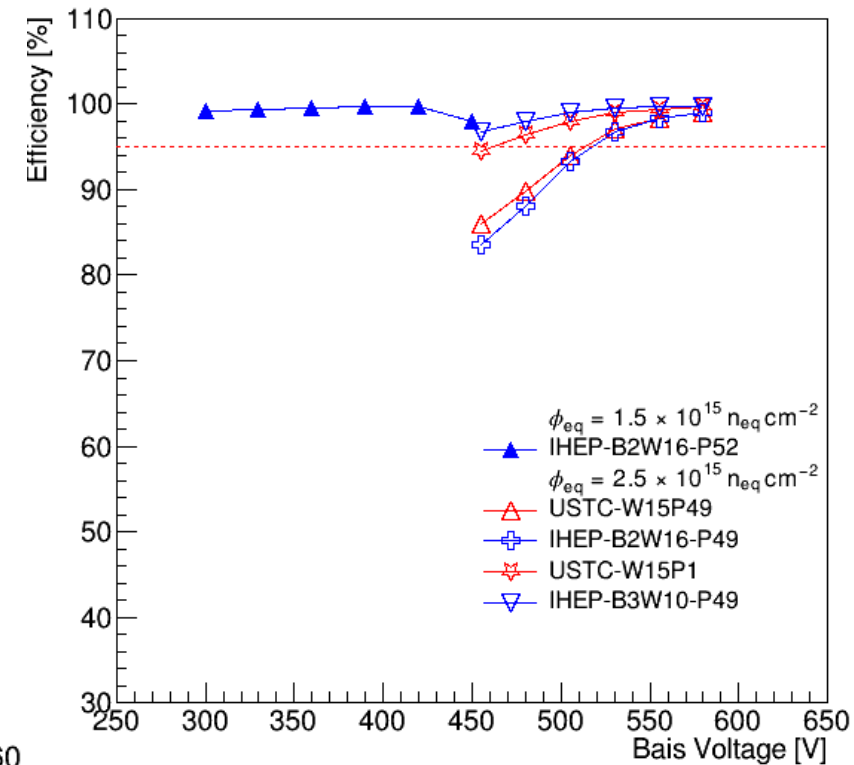


- Performance of pre-production sensors: Beam test results
- Efficiency : 95%~100% for sensors before and after irradiation, fulfills HGTD project requirement

Hit Efficiency - HGTD TB June 2024



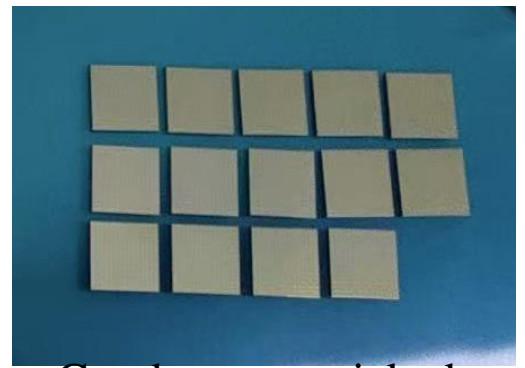
Hit Efficiency - HGTD TB June 2024



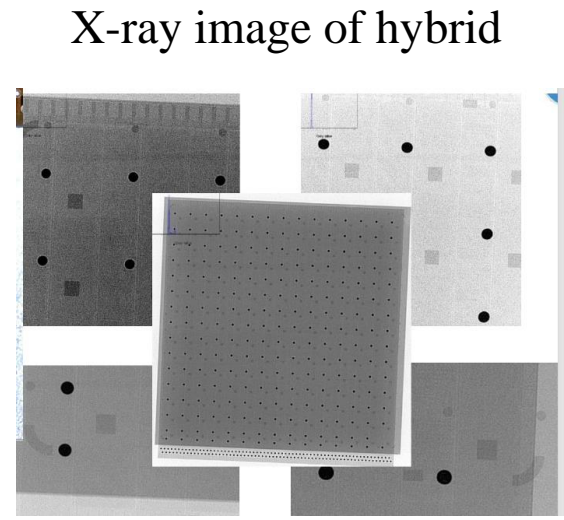
ATLAS HGTD sensor status



- LGAD sensors are connected with ASIC (Altiroc) chip using bump bonding
- Then two hybrids are placed on module flex(one module), the module is supported by support unit



Good sensors picked

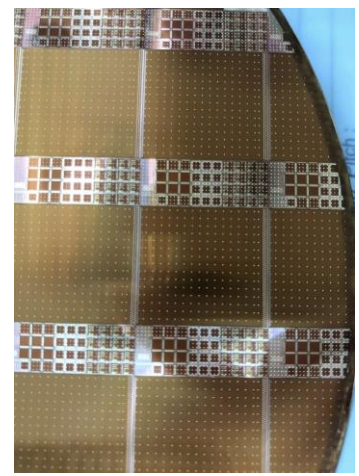
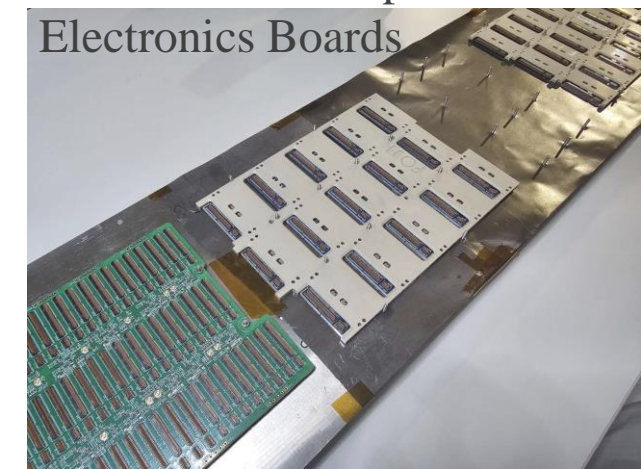


X-ray image of hybrid

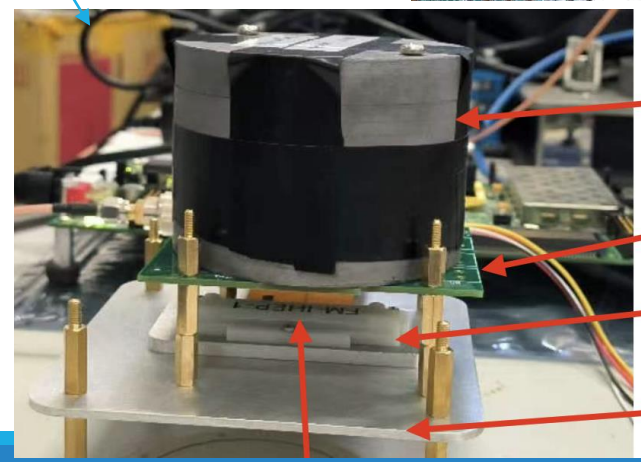
Module flex



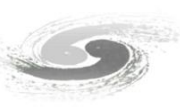
Module on support unit
Connected to Peripheral
Electronics Boards



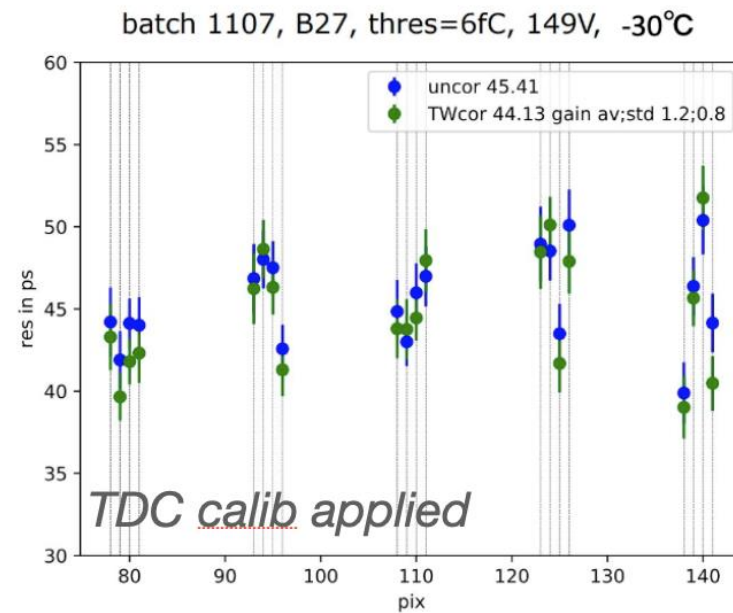
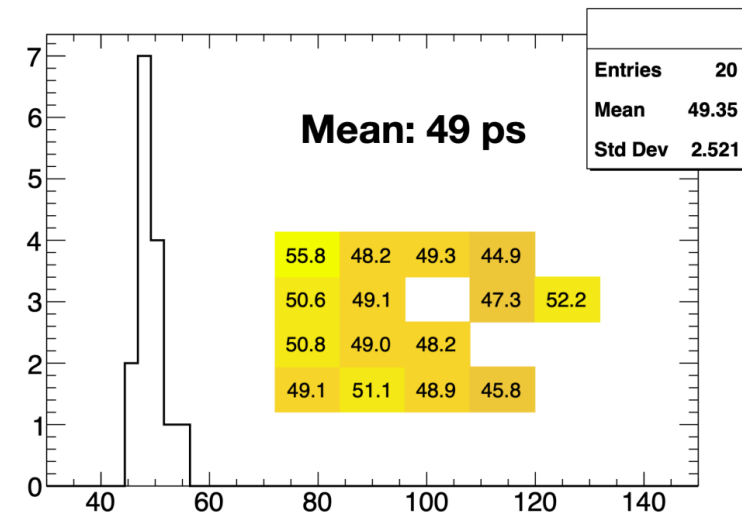
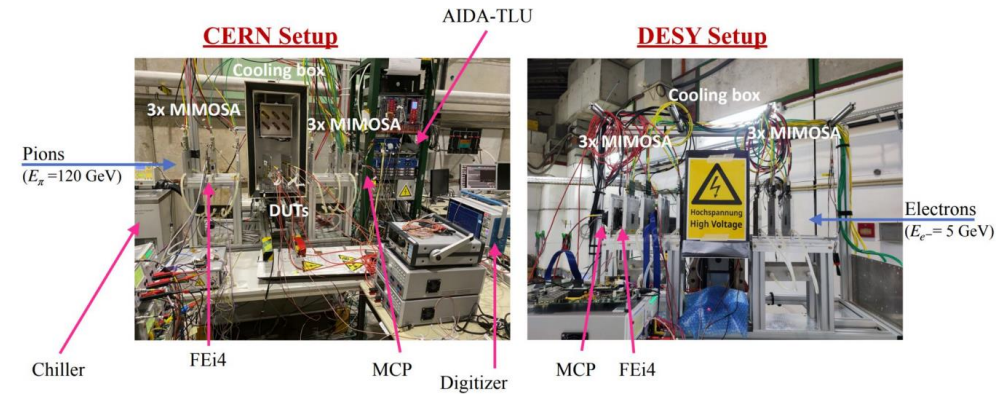
Altiroc wafer with ball for bump bonding



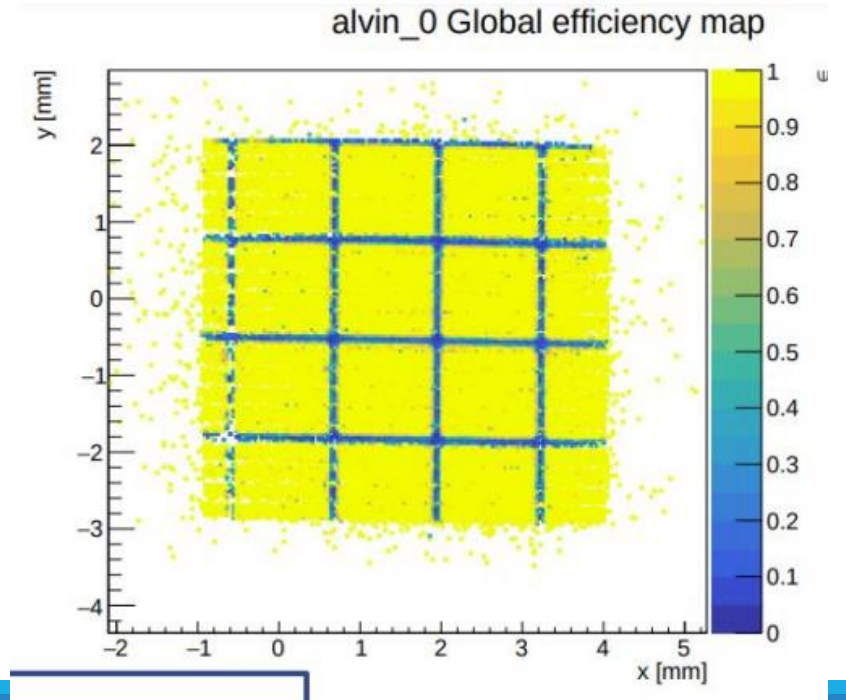
- Sr90
- Holder
- Full Module
- Cooling plate

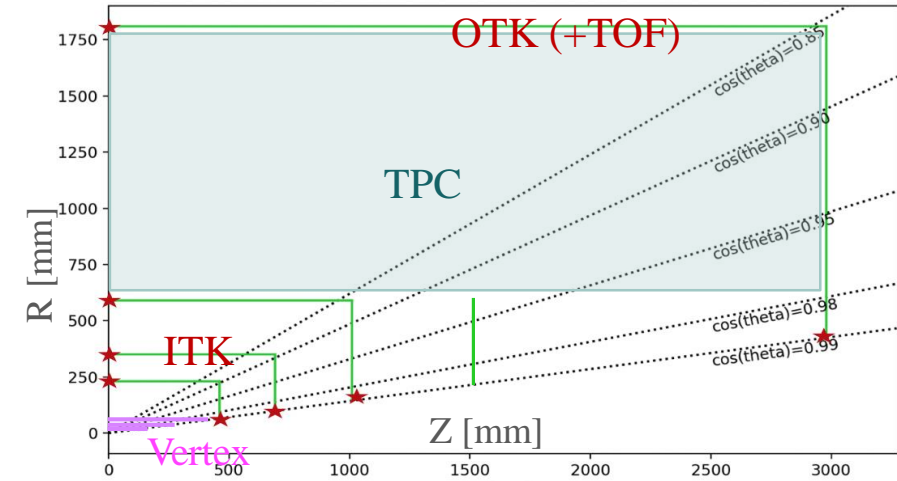
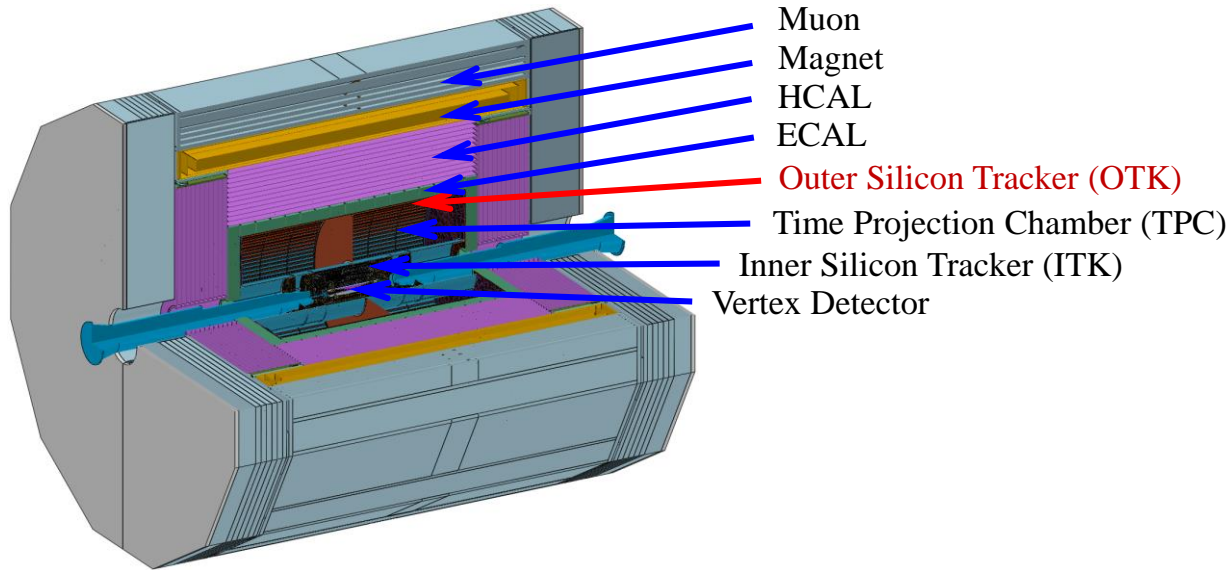
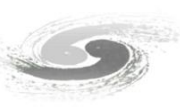


- Pre-production sensors with ASIC: Beam test results
- Timing resolution can reach 50 ps for the sensor/ASIC module
- The efficiency is larger than 98%

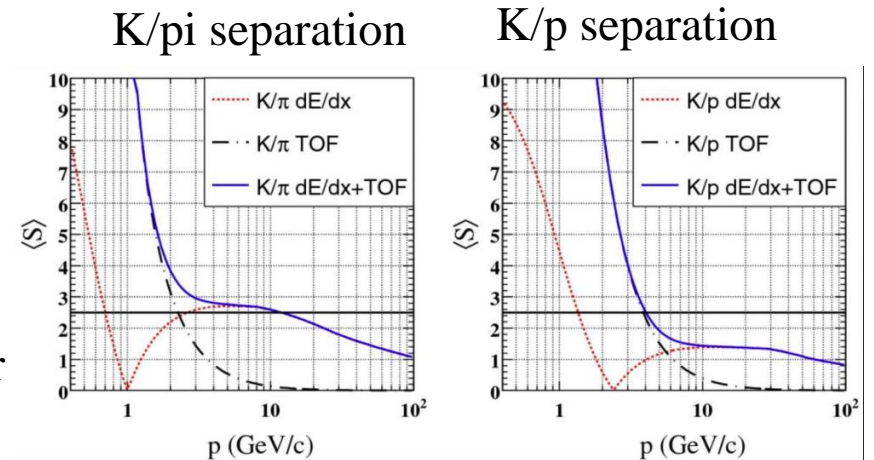


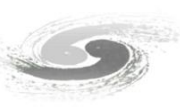
~45 ps after calibration and time walk correction





- **CEPC**--huge measurement potential for precision tests of SM: Higgs, electroweak physics, flavor physics, QCD/Top
- Produce 10^{12} Z boson at Z pole: Rich flavor physics program
- **The LGAD based OTK (+TOF) detector** will be placed between TPC and ECAL
- Timing detector is complementary to gas detector: improves the separation ability: 0 - 4 GeV for K/pi separation, 0 - 8 GeV for K/p separation
- Barrel : 70 m^2 , Endcap 20 m^2





AC-LGAD strip sensor is the choice for CEPC OTK baseline to provide both spatial resolution (bending direction) and timing resolution.

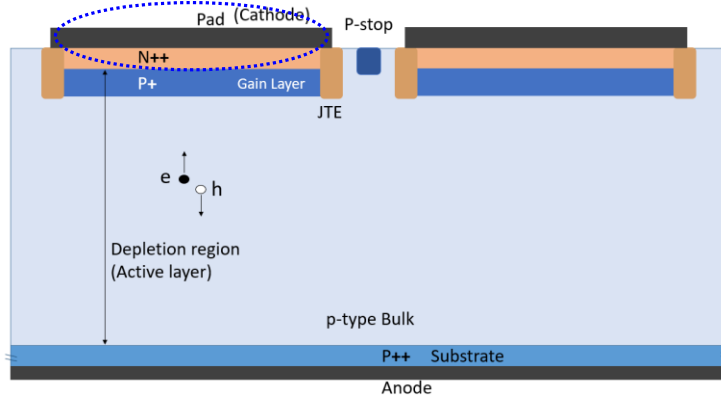
The outer silicon tracker (OTK) requirement :

- Spatial resolution: 10 μm (with a strip pitch of 100 μm)
- Time resolution: 30-50 ps

5cm-9cm length

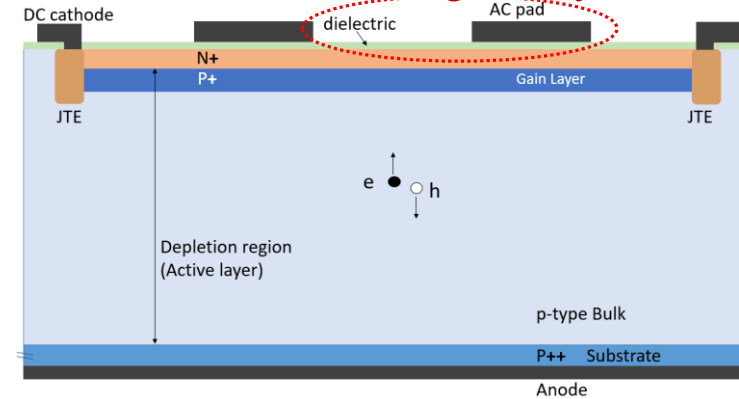
LGAD (Low-Gain Avalanche Diode)

Segmented gain layer



AC-LGAD (AC-coupled LGAD)

Continuous gain layer



- The read-out electrode is placed and connected to the N++ layer.

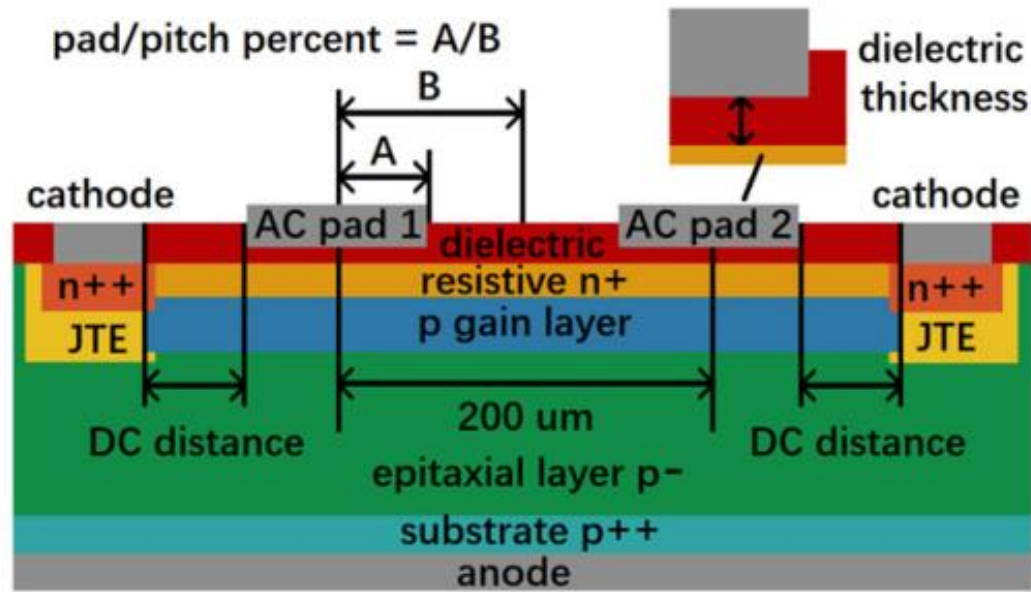
- metal AC readout electrode and a thin dielectric layer (Si_3N_4 , SiO_2) above the N+ layer
- **Less dead area and better position resolution**
- Research institute: FBK, HPK, INFN, BNL, CNM, USTC, IHEP...

AC-LGAD R&D

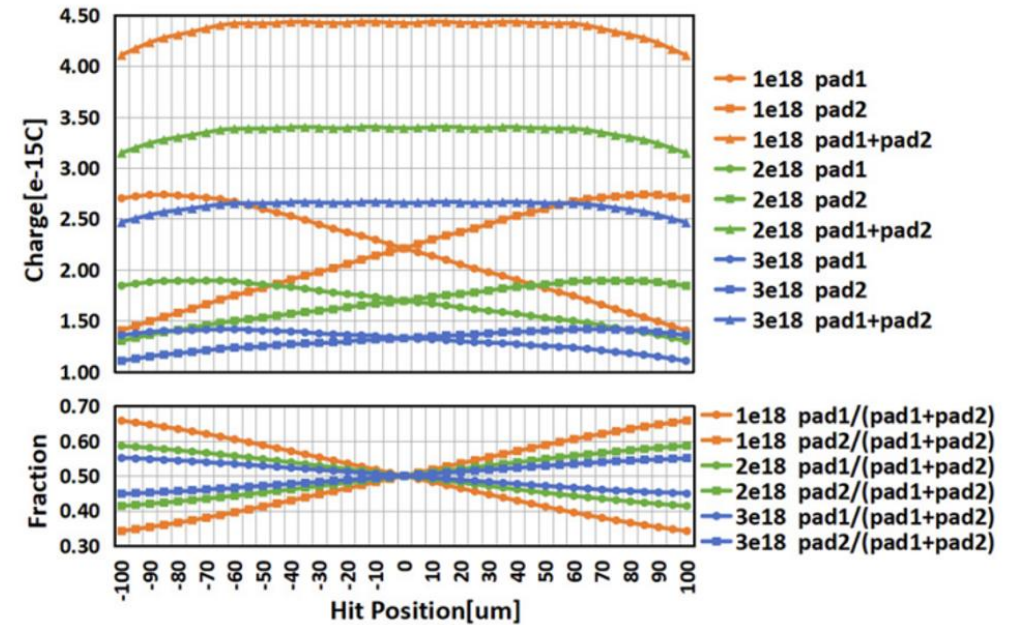
◆ AC-LGAD sensor simulation: Optimization of process and structure parameters

Process parameter: n+ layer dose, AC dielectric material and thickness

Structure parameter: pad shape, pad-pitch size

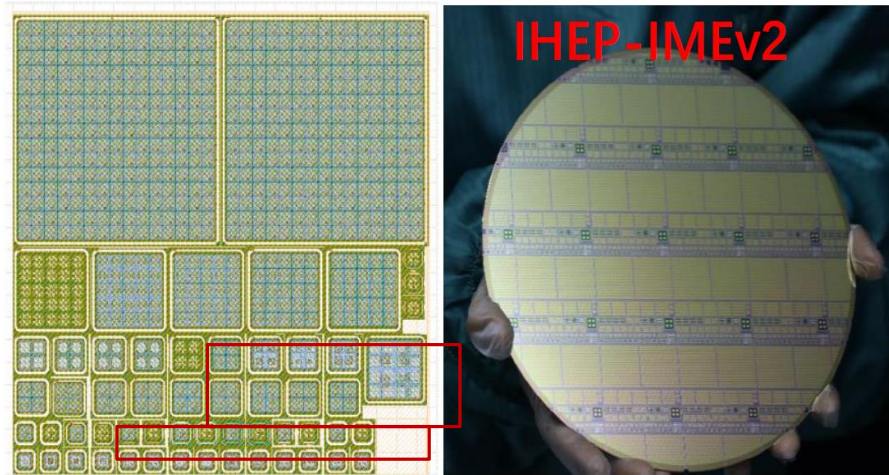
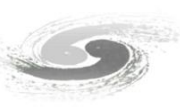


TCAD model of AC-LGAD for simulation



Lower n+ dose → Large resistivity → good spatial resolution

Design of AC-coupled low gain avalanche diodes (AC-LGADs):
 a 2D TCAD simulation study, JINST, 2022.9,
 DOI: [10.1088/1748-0221/17/09/C09014](https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-0221/17/09/C09014)



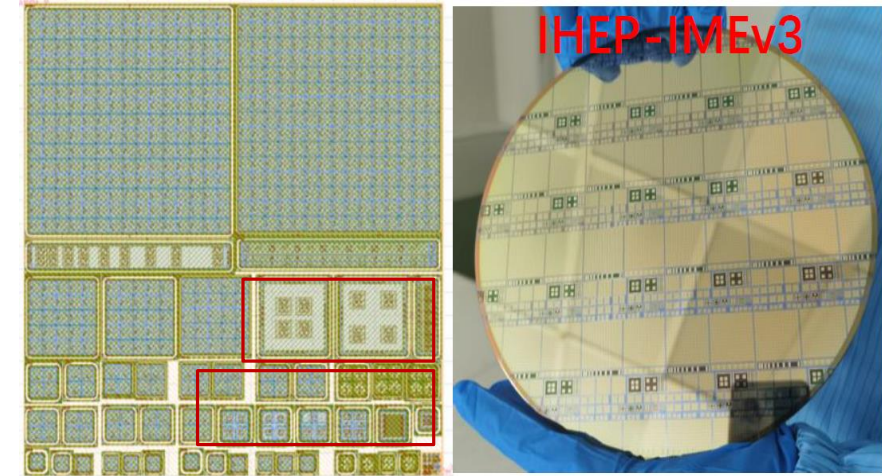
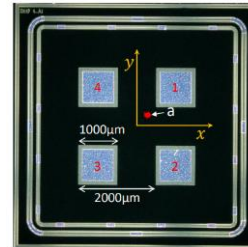
AC-LGAD R&Dv1:

Pixeled AC-LGAD

- With different pad-pitch size
1000-2000um
100-500um
100-200um
50-100um
- wafers: with different n+ dose: 10P to 0.2P

Process parameters be studied.

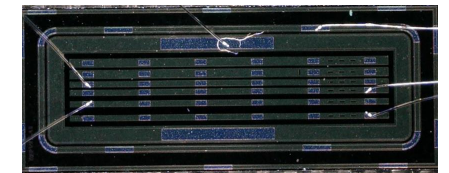
The performance of large-pitch AC-LGAD with different N+ dose, Trans. Nucl. Sci., 2023.6



AC-LGAD R&Dv2:

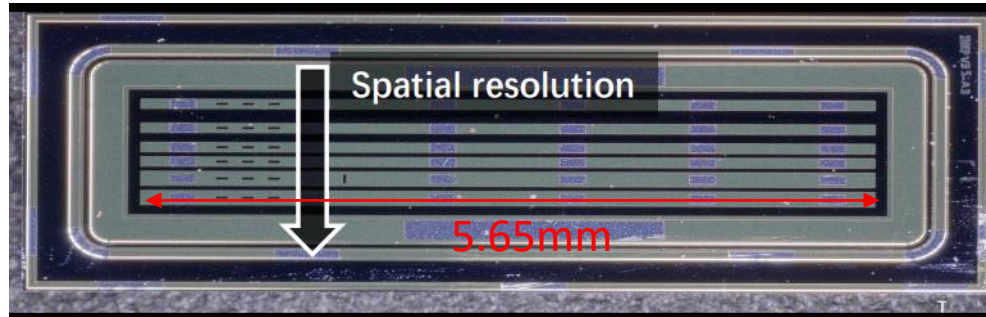
Pixeled and strip AC-LGAD

- With different pad-pitch size
1000-2000um pixel
100-250um strip
100-150um strip
50-100um strip
- wafers: with different n+ dose: 0.2P to 0.01P

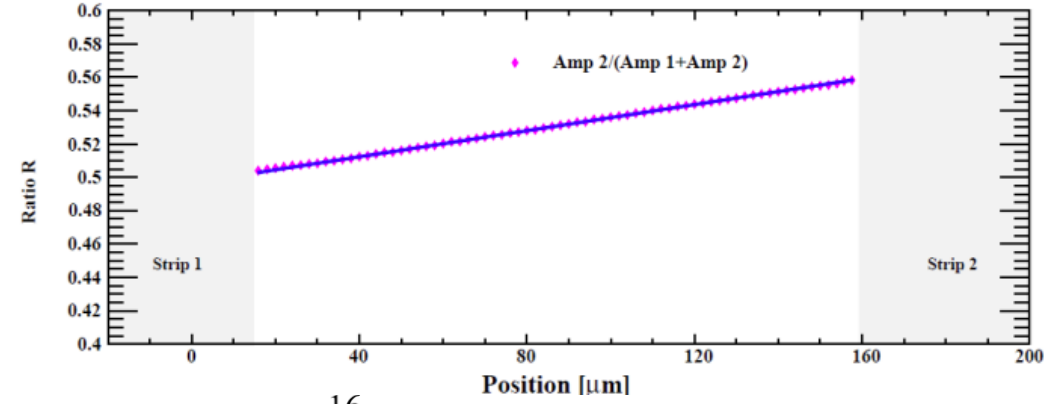


The performance of AC-coupled Strip LGAD developed by IHEP, NIMA, Volume 1062, May 2024, 169203

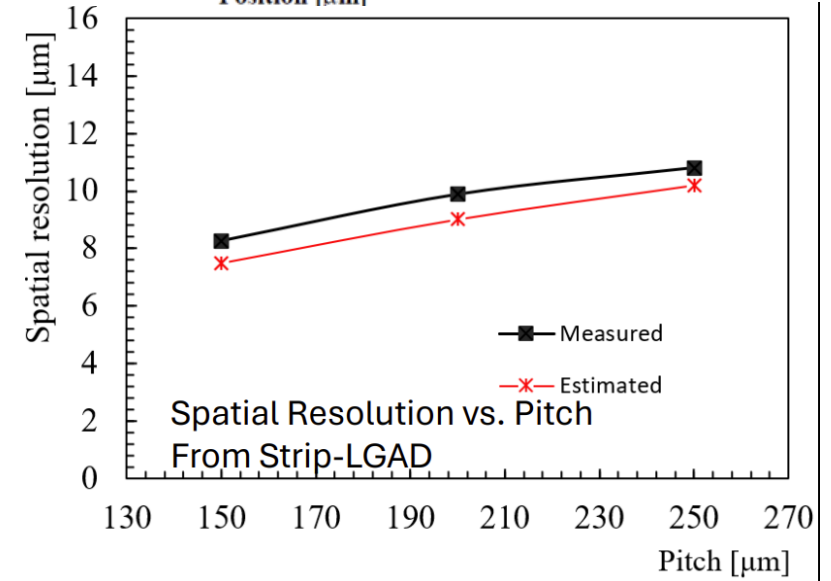
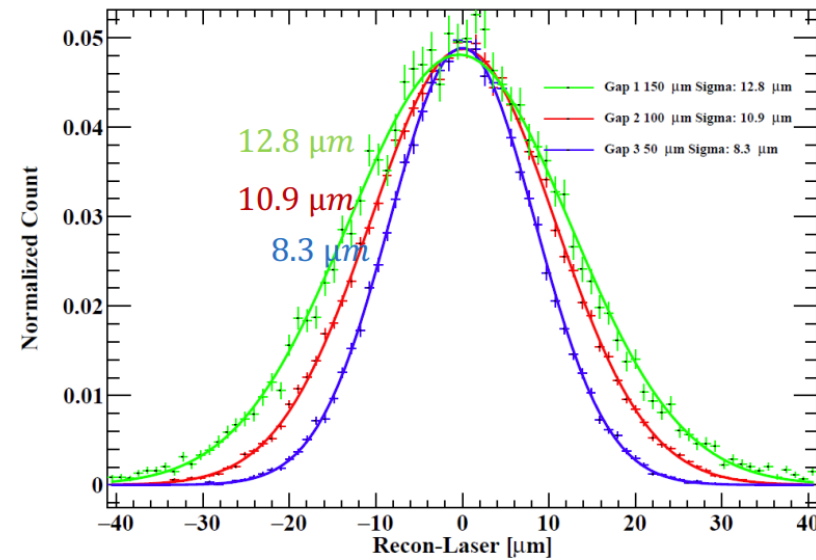
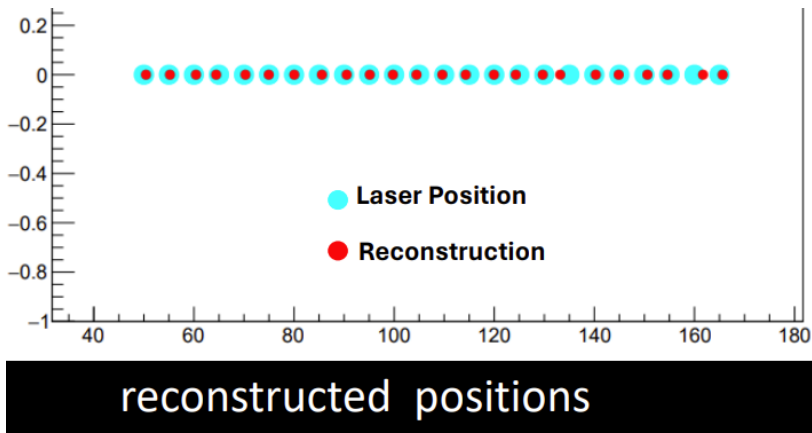
Spatial resolution: Laser testing



Amplitude information

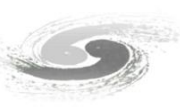


Position reconstruction

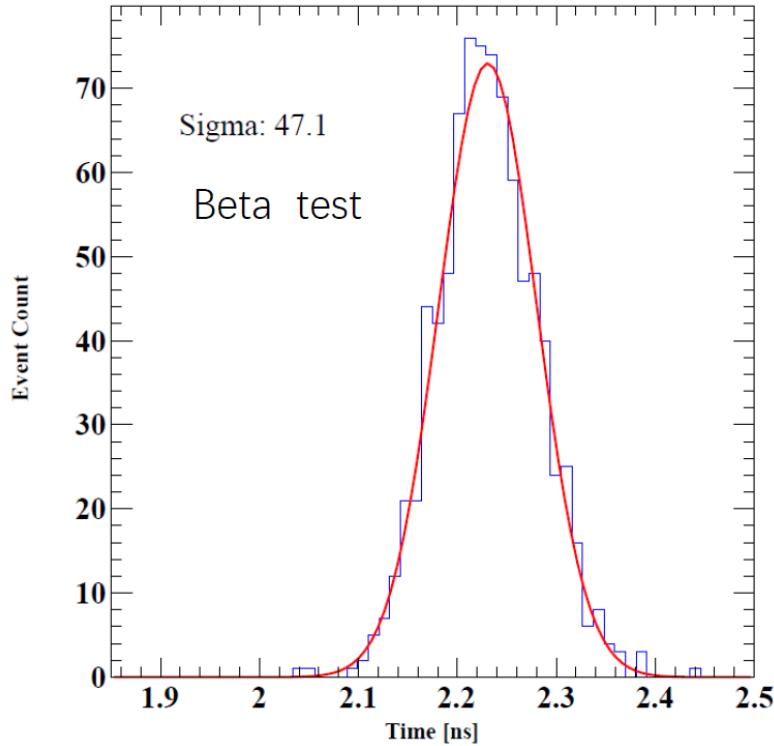


Pitch 150 μm : Best spatial resolution~8 μm

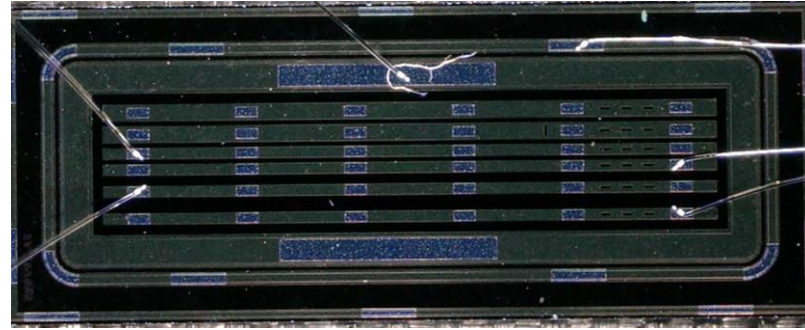
The performance of AC-coupled Strip LGAD developed by IHEP, NIMA, Volume 1062, May 2024, 169203



Timing resolution

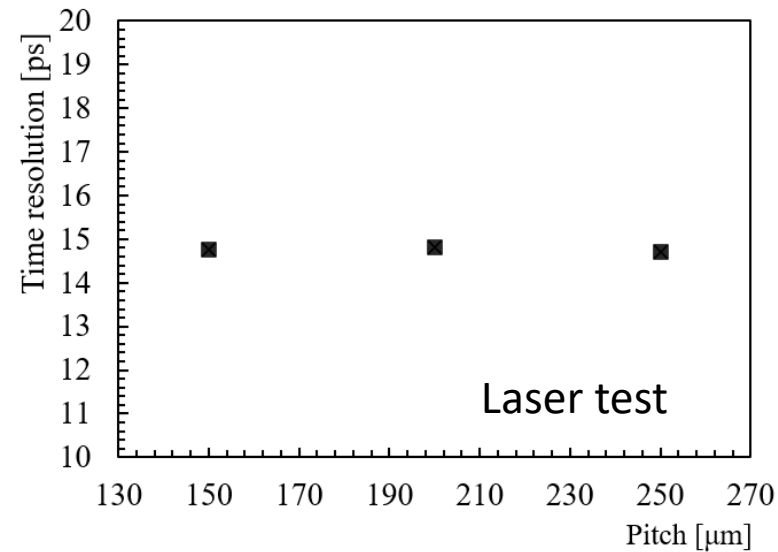


Time residual sigma: 47.1 ps
Time resolution: 37.5 ps

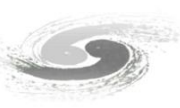


- Strip length 5.6mm
- pad-pitch size:
 - 100-250 μm
 - 100-200 μm
 - 100-150 μm

Timing resolution:



The time resolution does not change significantly, ~15-17 ps.



➤ **Beam testing for spatial resolution:** low noise board design ongoing

➤ **Timing performance of LGAD with long strip:**

- Large capacitance: effect to the timing resolution and power consumption
- Long transmission lines: signal delay, impedance, capacitance between strips
- Process control and yield

➤ **Prototype design for the CEPC application:**

- Pitch as 50 um, 100 um, 200 um, to 500um, and the strip length as 1cm, 2cm, and 4cm.
- Optimized design for reduction of the sensor capacitance
- Process design for better spatial resolution

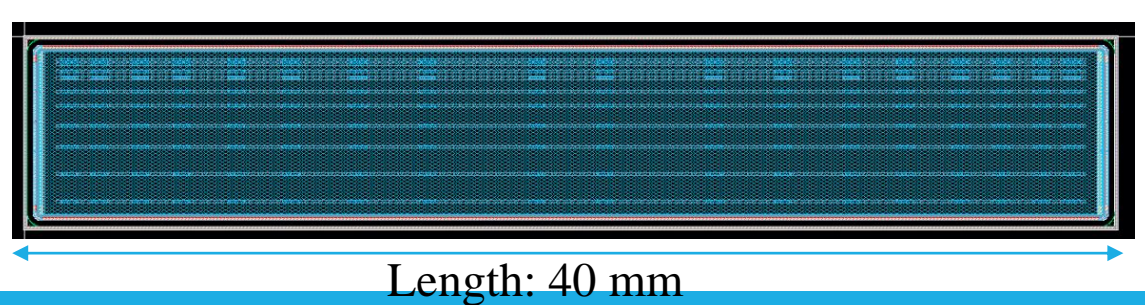
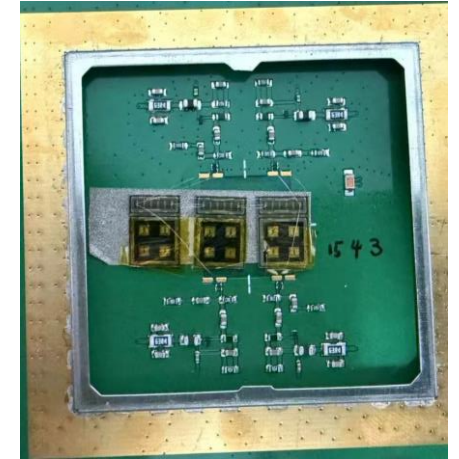
$$\sigma_j = \frac{\sigma_n}{\left| \frac{dV}{dt} \right|} = \frac{\sigma_n}{\left| \frac{S}{t_r} \right|} = \frac{t_r}{\left| \frac{S}{\sigma_n} \right|}$$

Size of noise

Slope of vol.

Size of signal

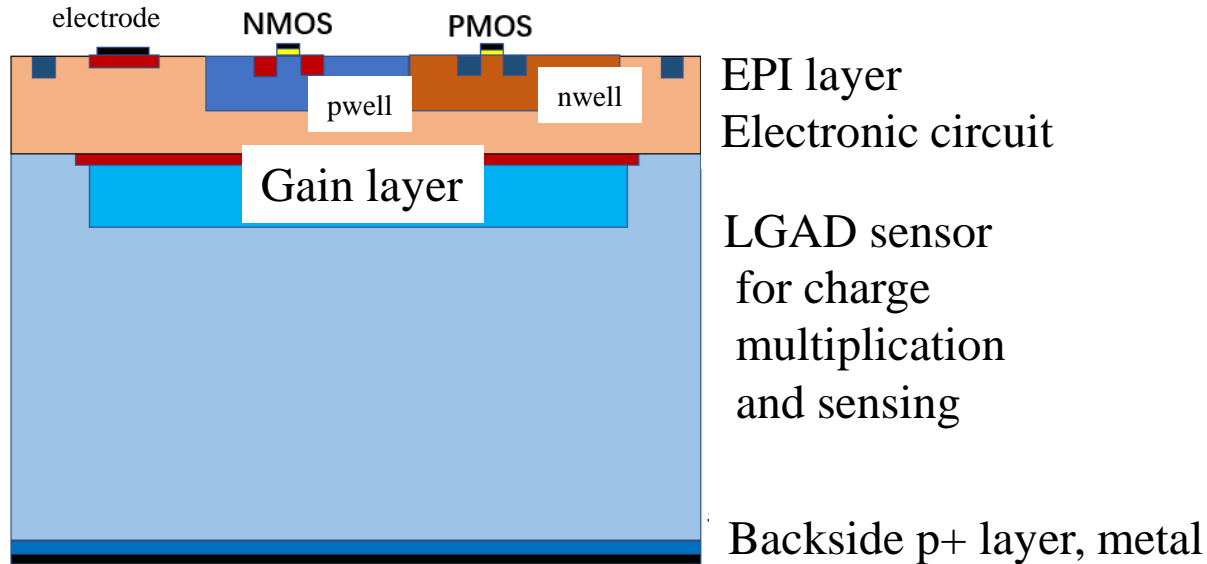
Ramping time





For future collider: Monolithic LGAD?

➤ Monolithic LGAD: Fermilab, University of Geneva, CERN, INFN, CNM, FBK...



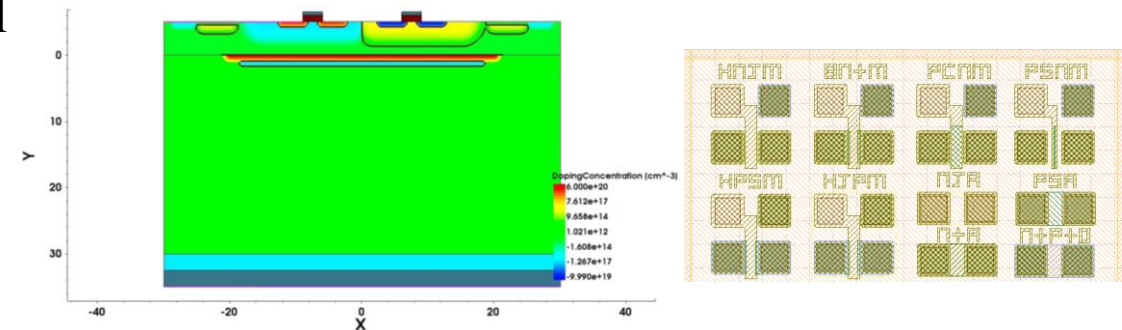
MAPS detector timing information: 10ns \rightarrow < 50ps

➤ Researches at IHEP:

- Simulation by using TCAD tools is ongoing.
- LGAD with MOSFET transistor be fabricated and tested. Amplifier design ongoing.

Monolithic silicon sensors with very high time resolution will enable making 4D measurements better and in a single and cost-effective silicon tracker, and will also influence how future particle-physics experiments will be designed and constructed.

---G. Iacobucci et al 2022 JINST 17 P10040





Summary

- For ATLAS HGTD project, **LGAD sensors' pre-production** is finished, and sensors fulfill the project requirement. Review passed and final production started.
- Things learned from HGTD: LGAD sensor design/fabrication, module assembly, Backend electronic design and so on.
- **AC-LGAD** R&D chip has been designed and studied. Process and structure parameters affect the sensors performance.
- **Strip type AC-LGAD with long electrode** needs more study for CEPC OTK(TOF) application.
- Monolithic LGAD as new 4D tracking detector has application prospect for future collider.
- DRD3 project be proposed: more radiation hard LGAD, AC-LGAD.

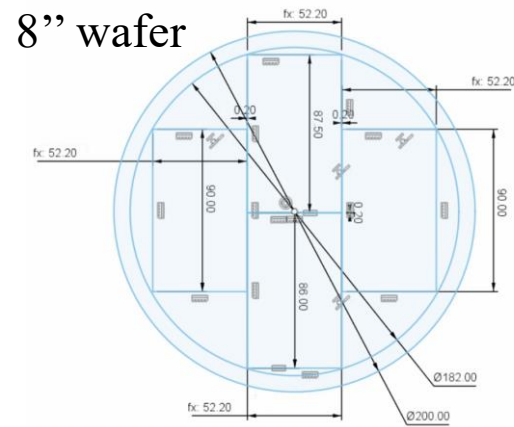
Collaboration are welcome.

zhaomei@ihep.ac.cn

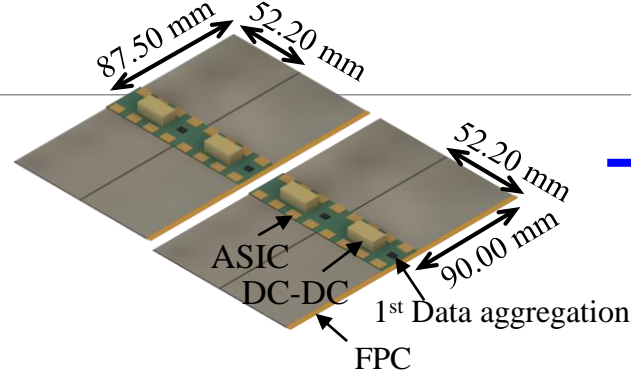
Backup

ASIC: [TWEPP 2024 Topical Workshop on Electronics for Particle Physics \(30 September 2024 - 4 October 2024\): An ASIC for ToF-PET application with MCP-PMTs · Indico](#)

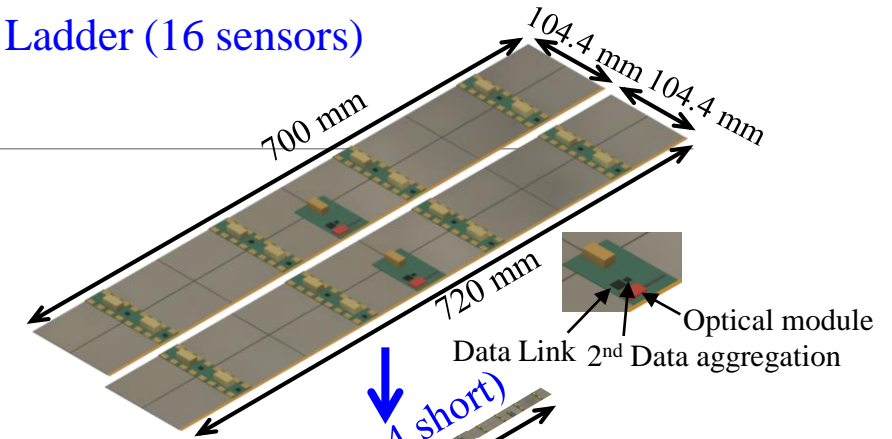
CEPC OTK Barrel Design (AC-LGAD Strips)



Module (2x2 sensors)



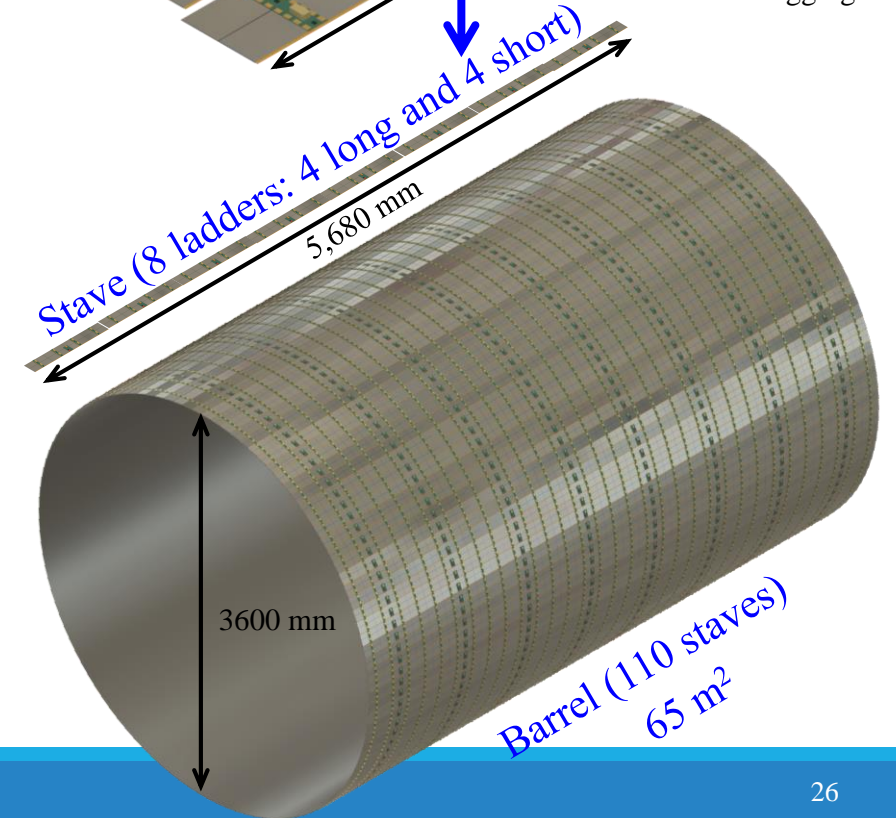
Ladder (16 sensors)



■ CEPC outer silicon tracker (OTK) utilizes AC-LGAD (Low Gain Avalanche Detector) developed by IHEP-IME:

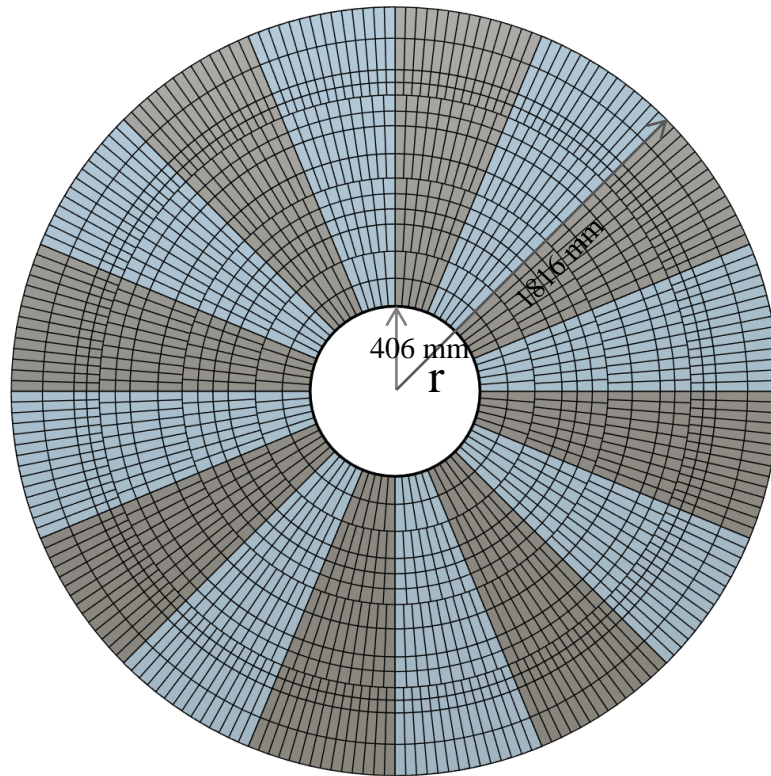
- Sensor size: 8.75 cm × 5.22 cm
9.00 cm × 5.22 cm
- Strip number per sensor: 512
- Strip pitch size: 100 μm
- Spatial resolution: 10 μm
- Time resolution: 50 ps
- Power consumption: ~300 mW/cm²

Maximum usage of silicon wafers for OTK barrel: a total 3,520 wafers, with 15% higher efficiency compared to a conventional single-piece sensor cut from a wafer.

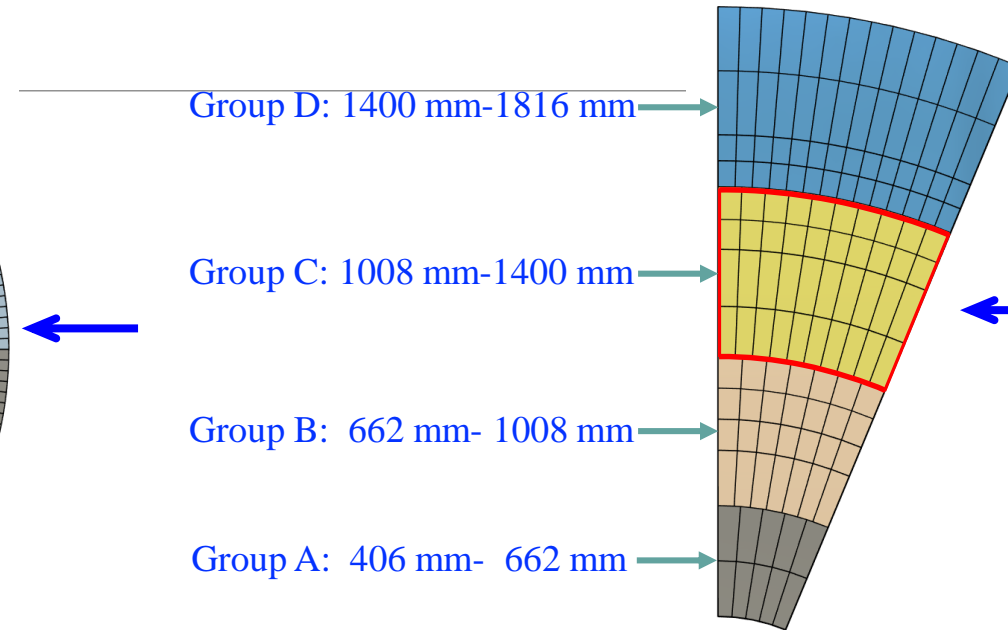


CEPC OTK Endcap Design (AC-LGAD Strips)

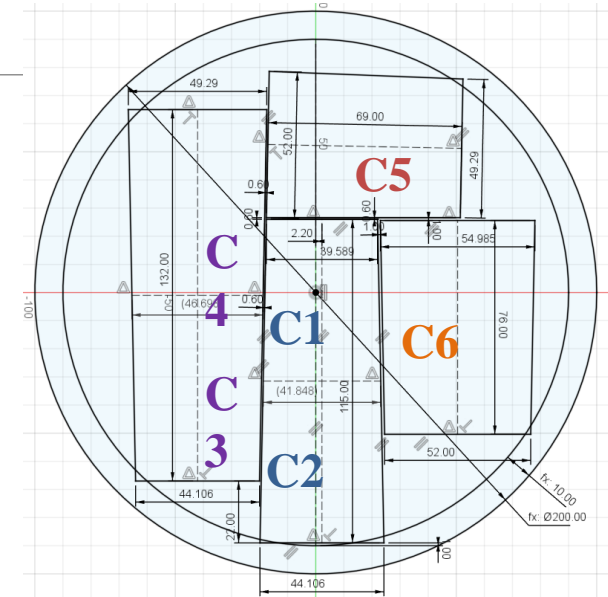
Endcap (16 sectors, 10 m²):



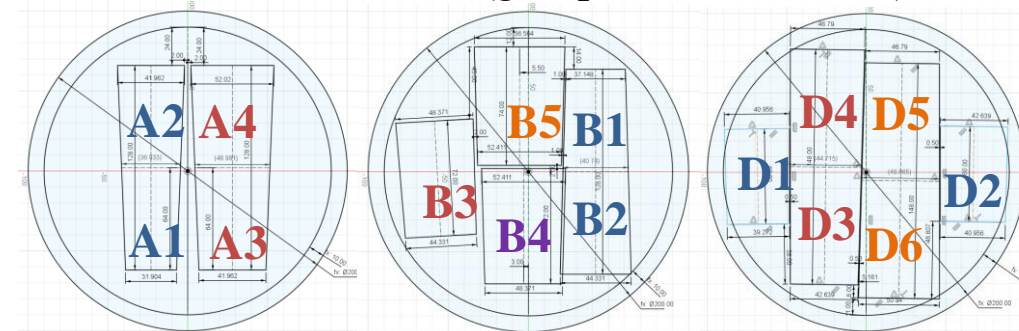
1/16 Sector:



Sensor: 8'' wafer (group C sensors)



8'' wafer (group A, B, D sensors)



- OTK endcap consists of 14 rings, arranged into 4 groups.
- Each group contains 2-4 types of trapezoid sensors, which can be fitted to one 8'' silicon wafer.
- Each group of sensors is aligned to a 1/16 sector.
- The long sensor contains 2 sets of short-strip sensors.

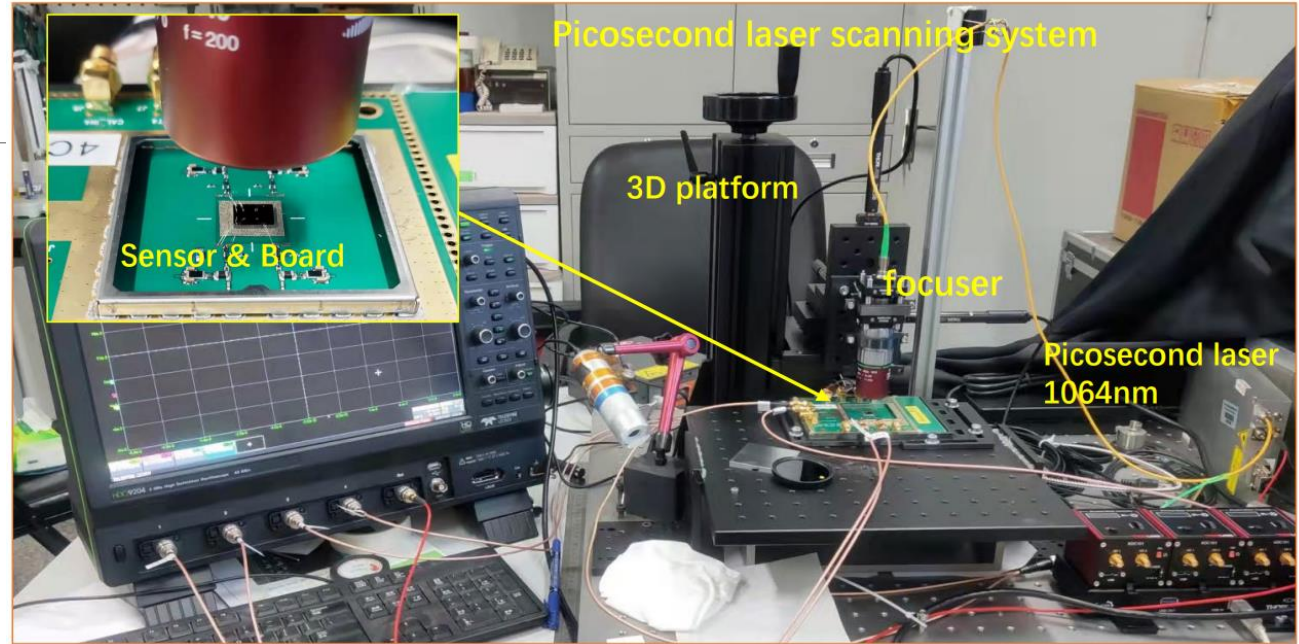
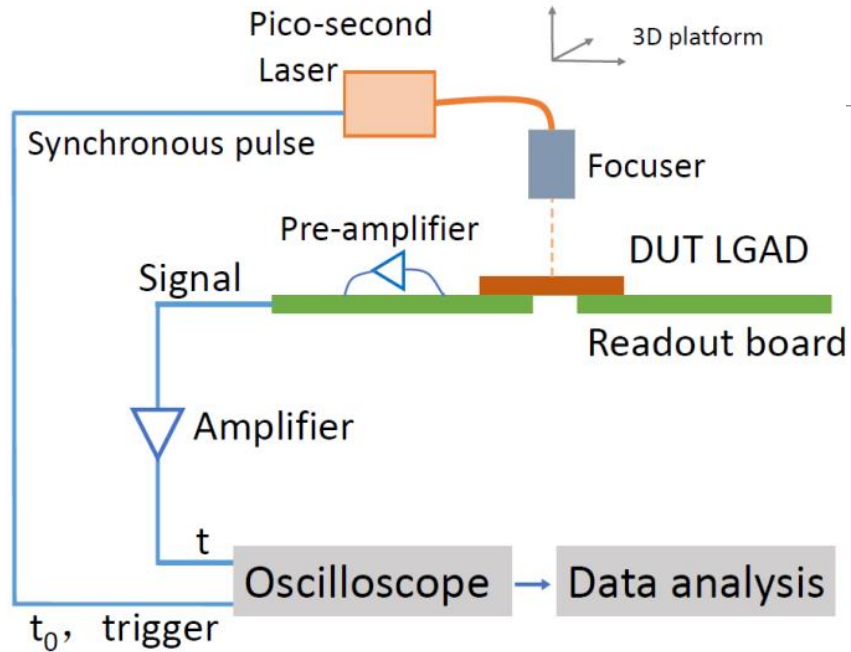
Maximize the use of silicon wafers and facilitate detector assembly.



Backup

Pico-second laser testing system for AC-LGAD

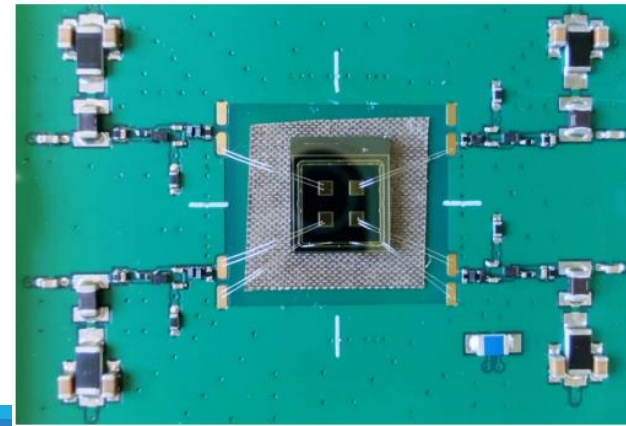
◆ AC-LGAD sensor testing system



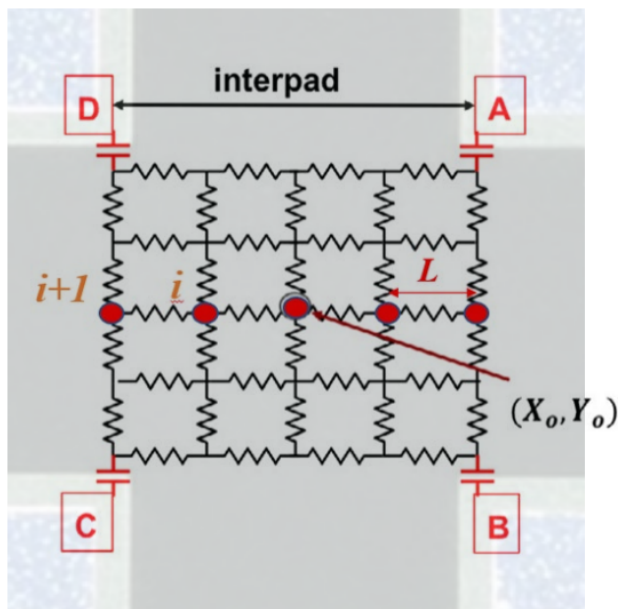
4 channels readout board with fast amplifiers

Picosecond laser testing system

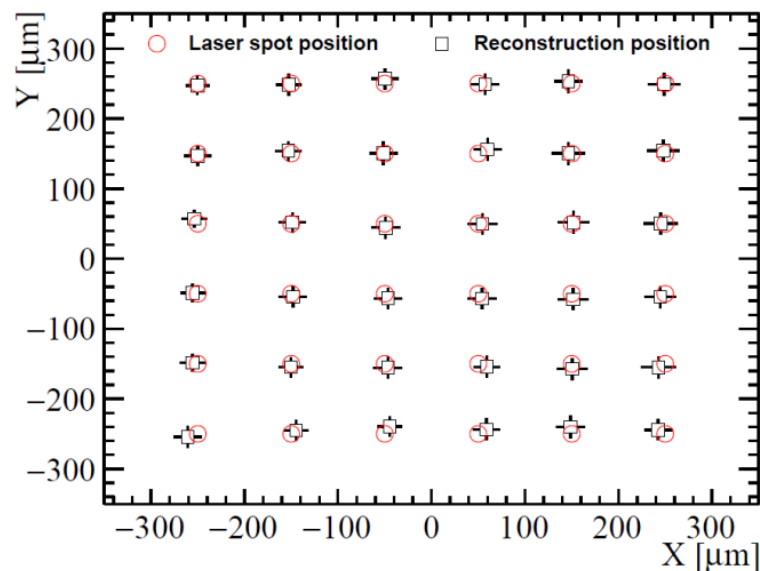
- Automated scanning
- Displacement accuracy: $1 \mu\text{m}$
- Picosecond laser: 1064nm
- Laser spot size: $2\sim 5 \mu\text{m}$



Position reconstruction, spatial resolution and timing performance of AC-LGAD be calculated based on the results from 4 pads.

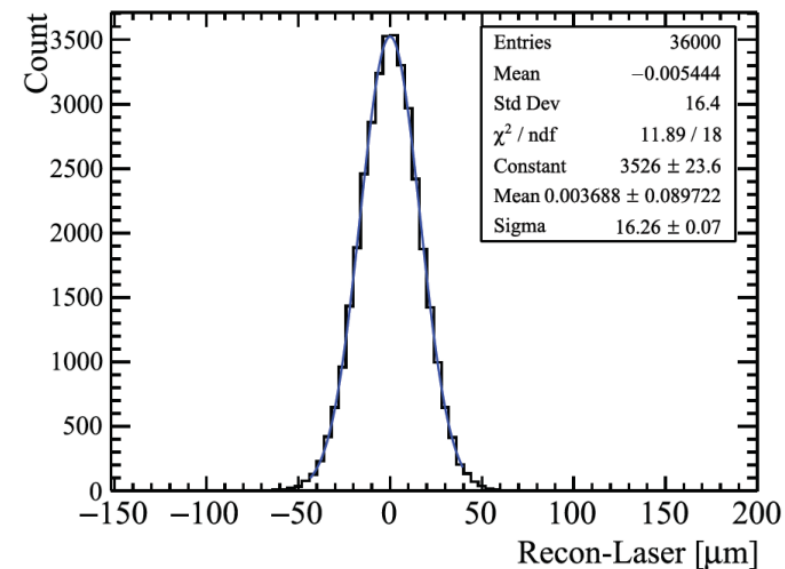


reconstructed 6x6 positions



Good consistency

Spatial resolution: reconstruction - laser



$$X = X_0 + k_x \left(\frac{q_A + q_B - q_C - q_D}{q_A + q_B + q_C + q_D} \right) = X_0 + k_x m$$

$$Y = Y_0 + k_y \left(\frac{q_A + q_D - q_B - q_C}{q_A + q_B + q_C + q_D} \right) = Y_0 + k_y n$$

Correction factor: k_x k_y

$$k_x = L \frac{\sum(m_{i+1} - m_i)}{\sum(m_{i+1} - m_i)^2} \quad k_y = L \frac{\sum(n_{i+1} - n_i)}{\sum(n_{i+1} - n_i)^2}$$

**Discretized
Positioning
Circuit model
(DPC)**

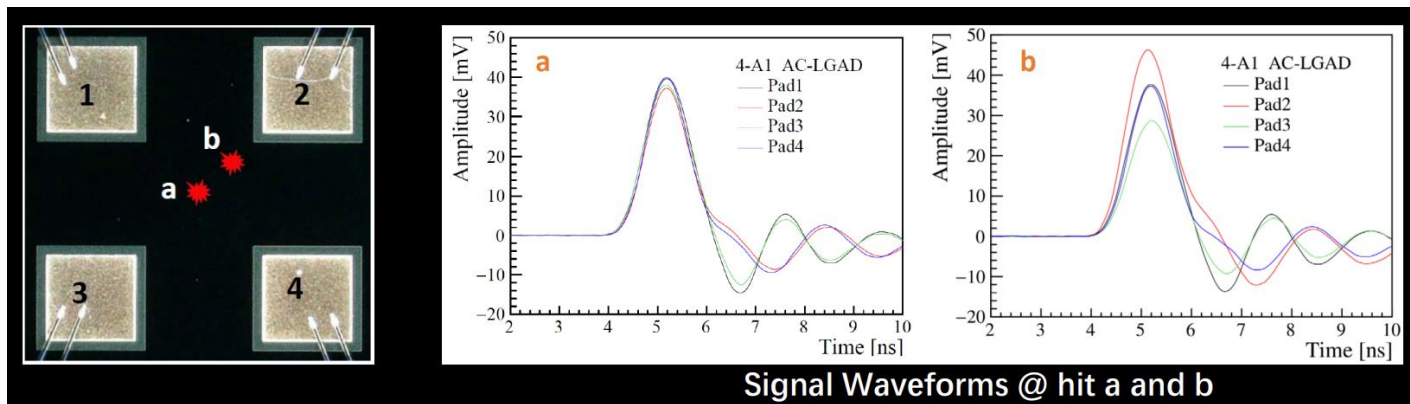
Spatial resolution :

- the sigma of the difference between the laser and the reconstructed position

$$\sigma_{\text{spatial}} = \sigma_{\text{reconstruction-laser}}$$

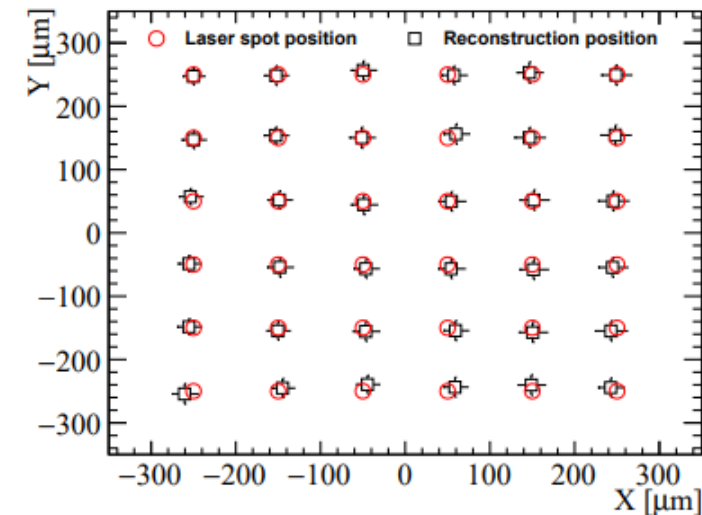
Discretized Positioning Circuit model
Machine learning method ongoing

IHEP AC-LGAD

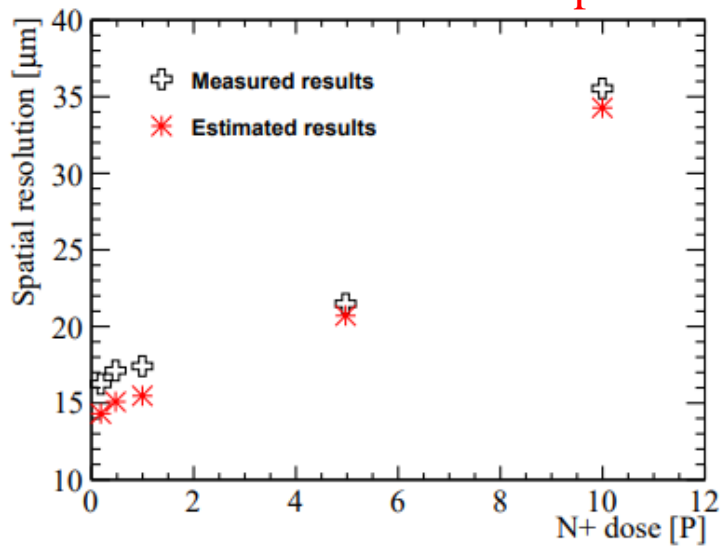


Signal Waveforms @ hit a and b

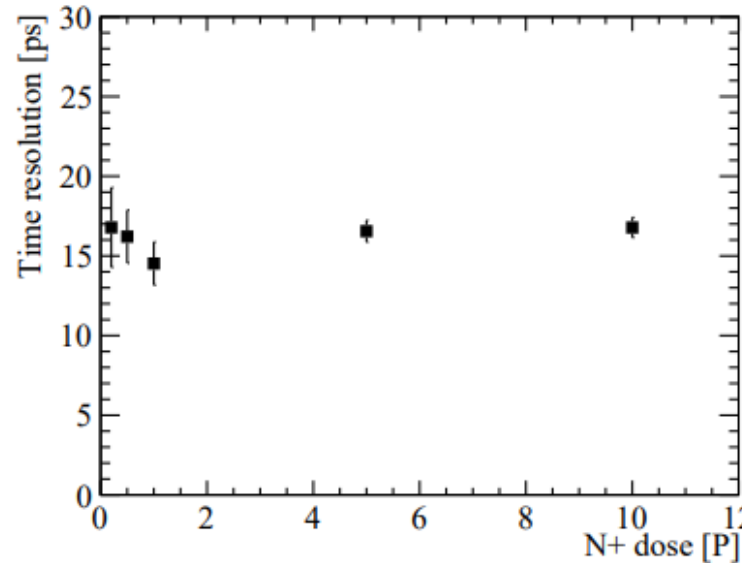
Pixel AC-LGAD
Pad-pitch: 1000-2000um



Position reconstruction



Position resolution as n+ dose changing



Timing resolution(laser testing): 15ps

The performance of large-pitch AC-LGAD with different N+ dose,
Trans. Nucl. Sci. , 2023.6