

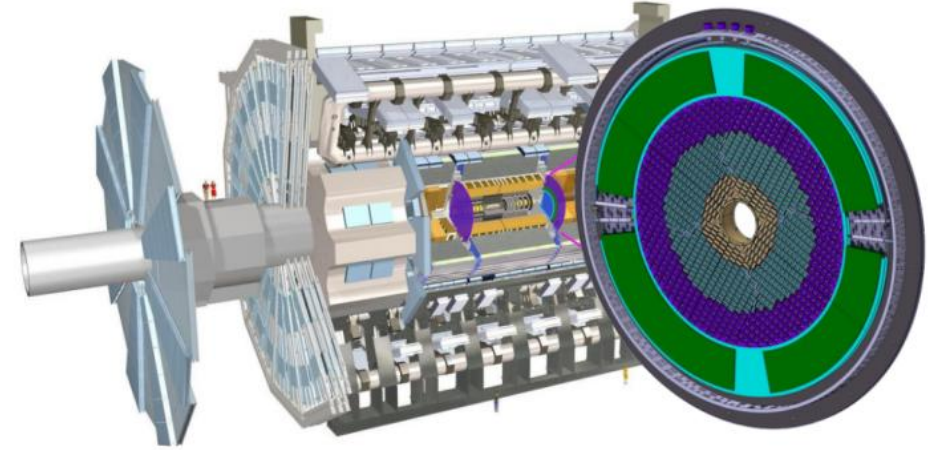
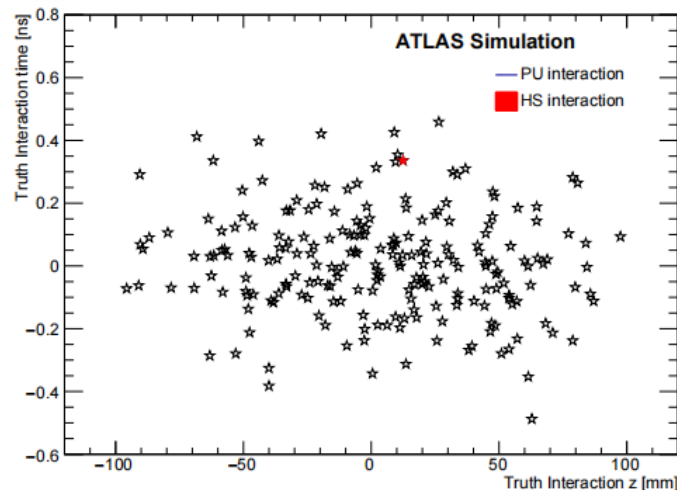
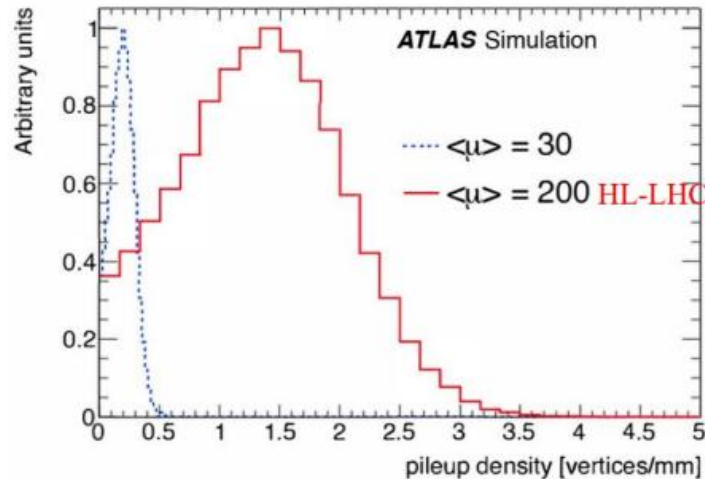


HGTD hybrid performance test at USTC

Zhanhang Zhou, on behalf of HGTD USTC group
30/10/2025

ATLAS High Granularity Timing Detector (HGTD)

- HL-LHC upgrade will increase the luminosity: $2.1 \times 10^{34} \Rightarrow 7.5 \times 10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$, and also increase the pile-up events: 30 $\Rightarrow$ 200 every bunch crossing
- To reject those pile-up events, only using **vertex position information** is not enough
- HGTD project: providing **vertex timing information** for each track with about **40 ps** resolution

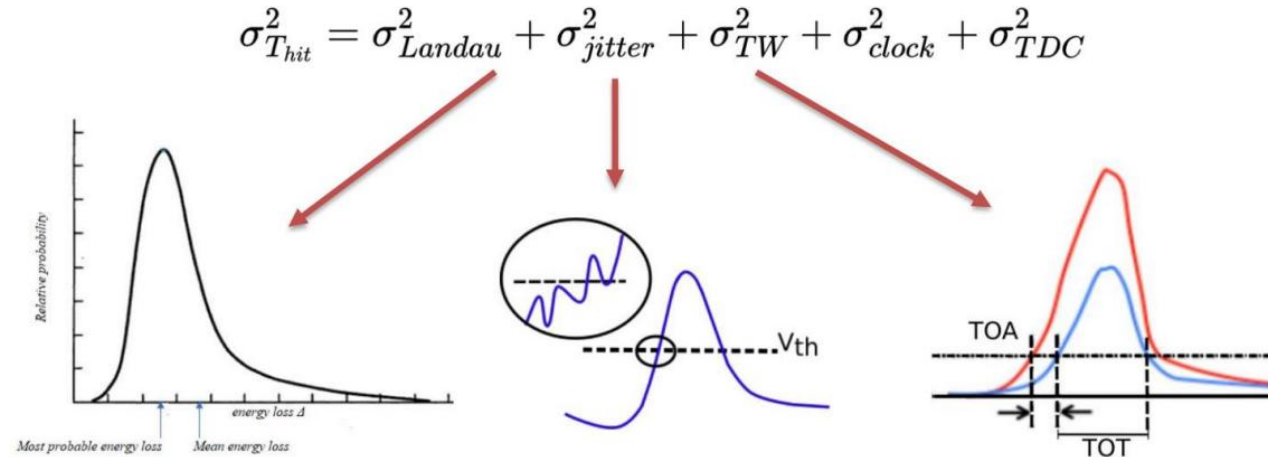
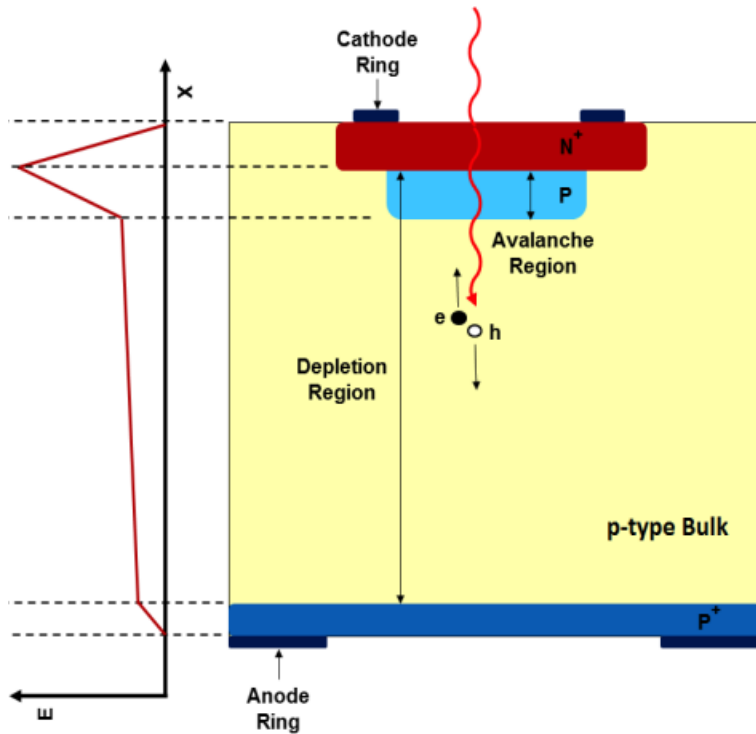


HGTD key requirement

- Hit efficiency $> 95\%$
- Time resolution per hit $> 35 \text{ ps}$
- Radiation hardness
 - Maximum fluence: $2.5E15 \text{ n}_{eq}/\text{cm}^2$
 - Total Ionising Dose: 2 MGy

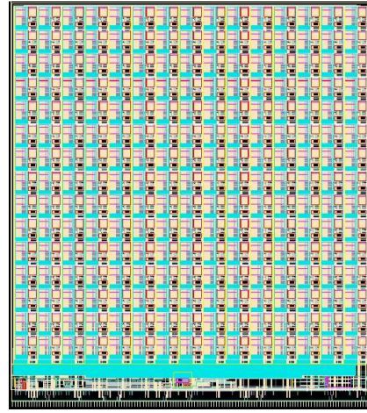
LGAD and time resolution composition

- Low Gain Avalanche Diodes are used as the sensor of HGTD
- $N^+ - P - P^- - P^+$ structure with a moderately doped P-layer to produce a high electrical field
- The gain is realized by the impact ionization of migrating carriers which acquire enough energy in the high electrical field during charge collection process

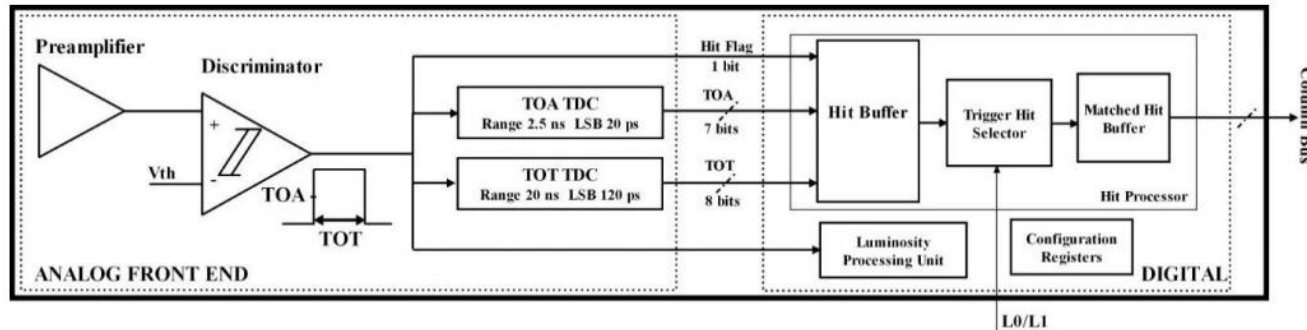


- σ_{Landau} , Landau fluctuation from charge deposition non-uniformity
- $\sigma_{jitter} \sim \frac{t_{rise}}{(S/N)}$, where t_{rise} is the rise time and S/N is signal to noise ratio
- $\sigma_{TW} \sim [\frac{V_{th}}{S} t_{rise}]_{RMS}$, from amplitude variation
- σ_{clock} , uncertainty of reference
- σ_{TDC} , TDC binning resolution

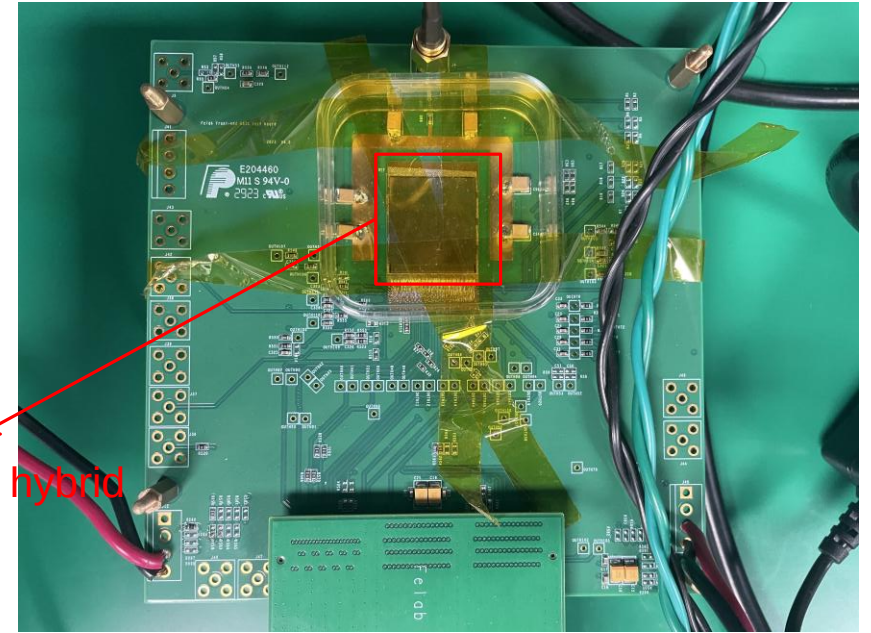
ASIC and hybrid at USTC



15*15 Altiroc layout (size~20mm*22.3mm)



Altiroc on-pixel electronics

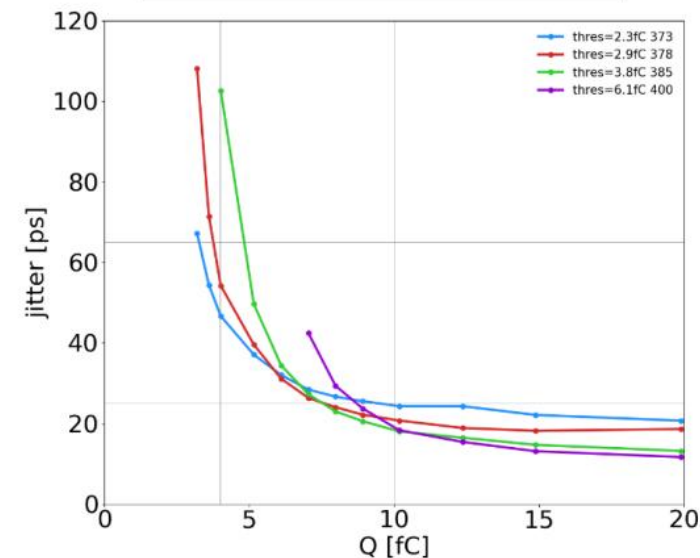
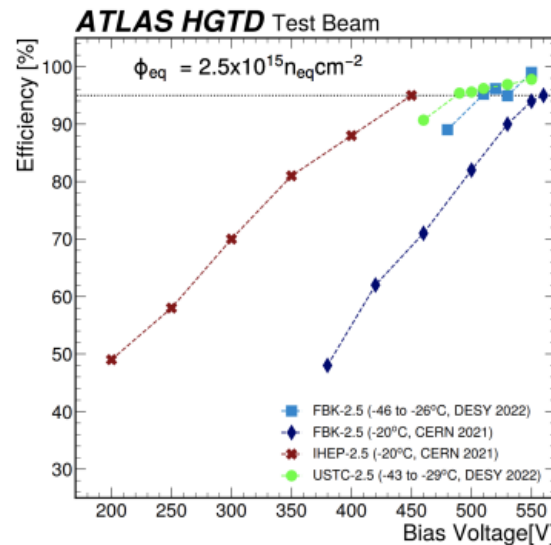
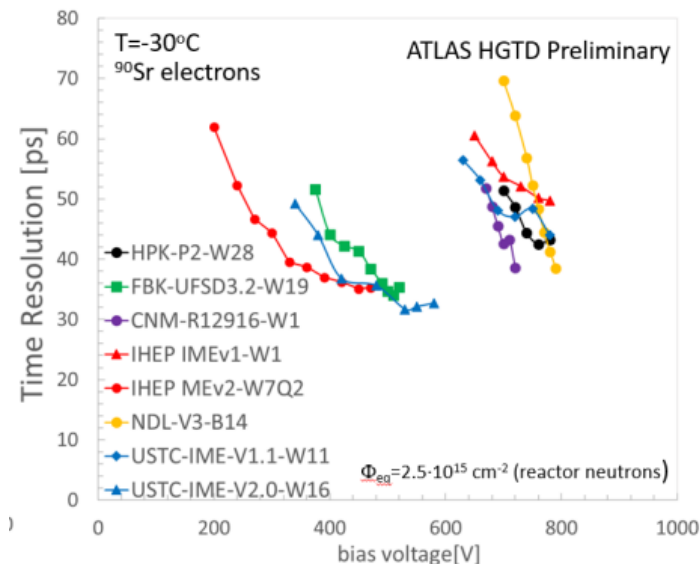


15*15 hybrid

testboard top view

- The ASIC used in HGTD is called Altiroc
- In USTC, we have **Altiroc3 chip + USTC-IME LGAD sensor** hybrid
- To measure the time resolution performance, we integrated the 15*15 hybrid into the testboard for signal readout

HGTD time resolution measurement

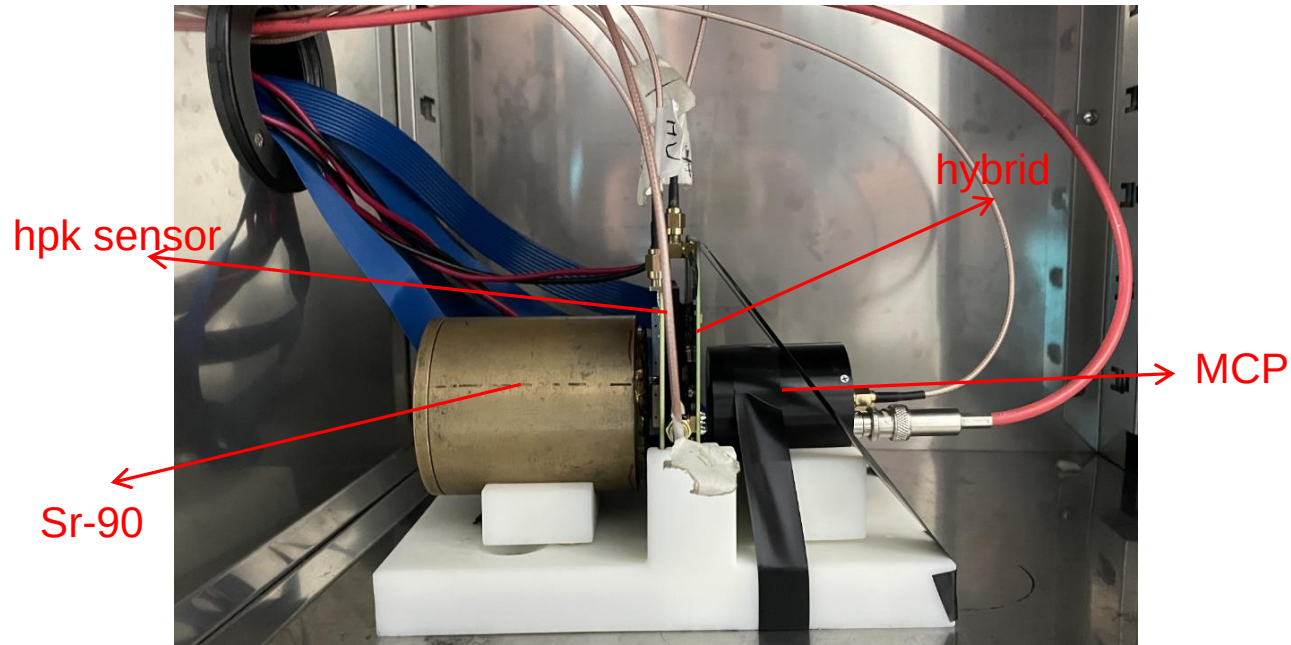


LGAD alone, time resolution (left) and efficiency (right)

Altiroc alone jitter

- The high time precision is the characteristic and also the most important key requirement for HGTD
 - target time resolution per hit: 35 ps at the start of lifetime and not worse than 70 ps at the end of lifetime
- The stand alone performance of LGAD sensor and Altiroc are sufficiently tested and satisfy the requirement
- Combined performance test ongoing
 - testbeam
 - Sr-90 source test (convenient in lab and can serve as the complement to module QA/QC)

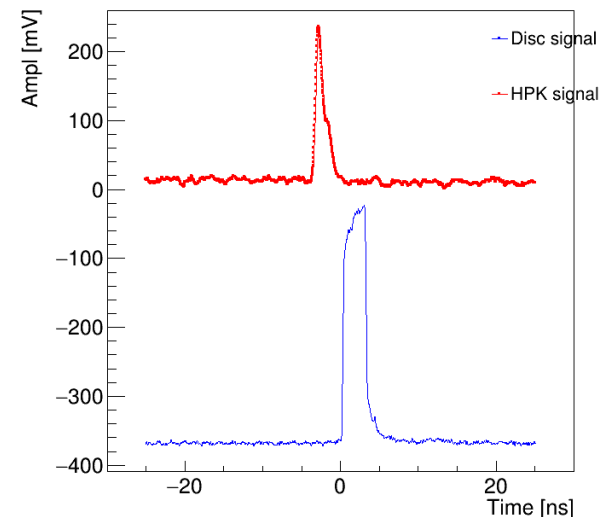
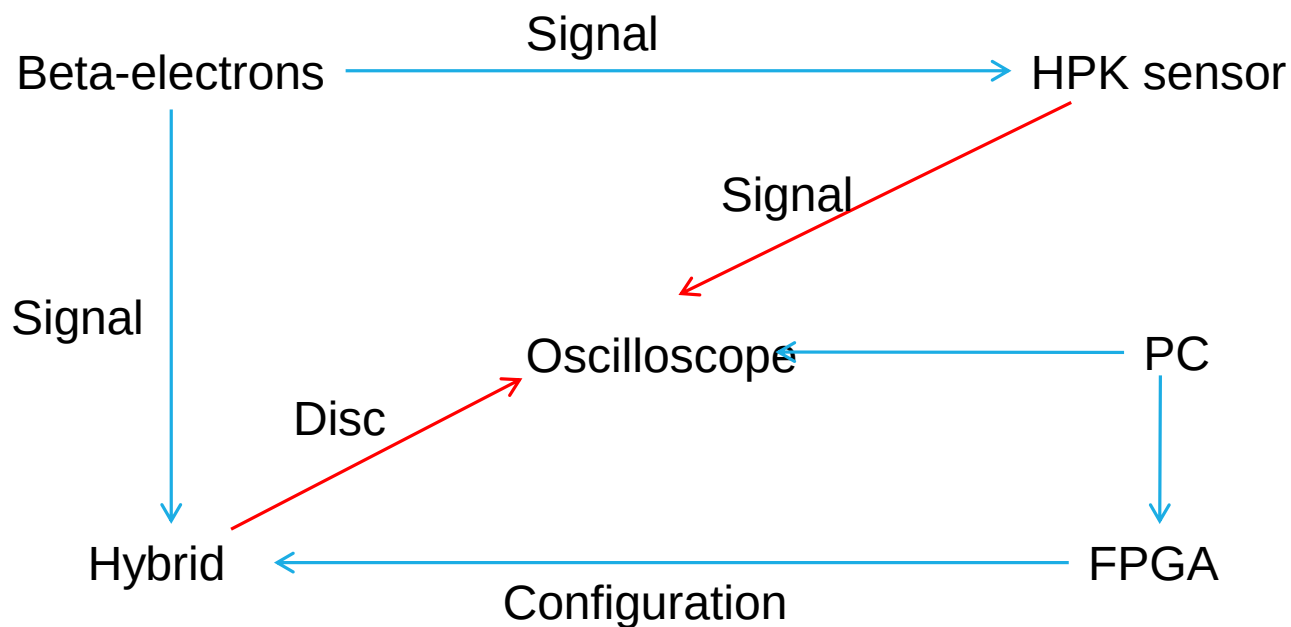
Hybrid time resolution scope test at HGTD



measurement setup

- Setup at USTC: radioactive source => reference sensor (single pad LGAD sensor) => hybrid => MCP
- Using MCP to calibrate the single LGAD sensor, and using single LGAD as the reference to the hybrid
 - The variation of ΔTOA mainly originates from detectors' time uncertainty
 - $\sigma_{hybrid} = \sqrt{\sigma_{\Delta TOA}^2 - \sigma_{Ref}^2}$

Data taking logic



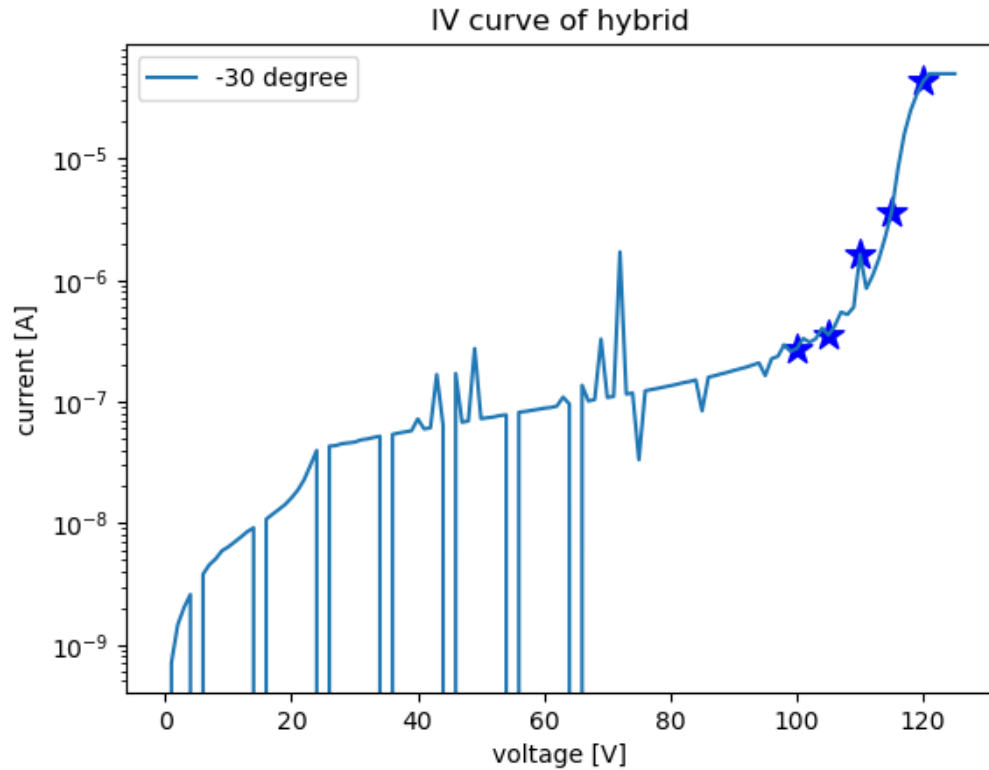
waveform in oscilloscope, the red curve is the reference signal and the blue curve is the hybrid Disc signal

- Extract the Altiroc's **discriminator** signal using the testboard probe pin
- Collect waveform when disc signal and HPK signal **reach their trigger level within 10ns** in oscilloscope
- Use PC to control FPGA register to loop over pixels

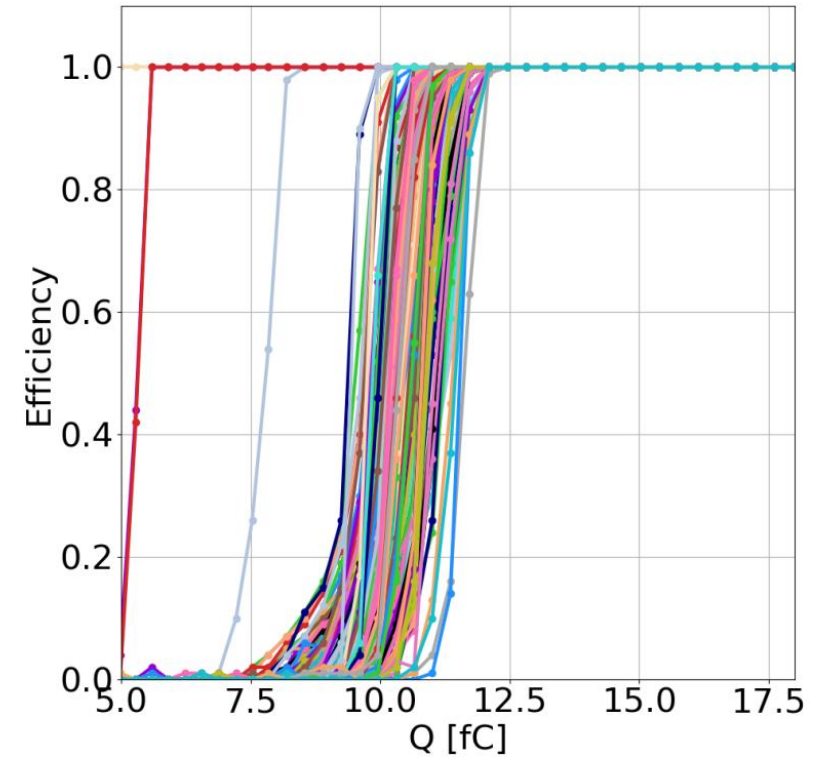
$$\sigma_{T_{hit}}^2 = \sigma_{Landau}^2 + \sigma_{jitter}^2 + \sigma_{TW}^2 + \cancel{\sigma_{clock}^2} + \cancel{\sigma_{TDC}^2}$$

- Since the uncertainty of reference sensor will be subtracted and the signal is directly extracted from discriminator without digitalization, the contribution from σ_{clock} and σ_{TW} can not be seen

Hybrid status



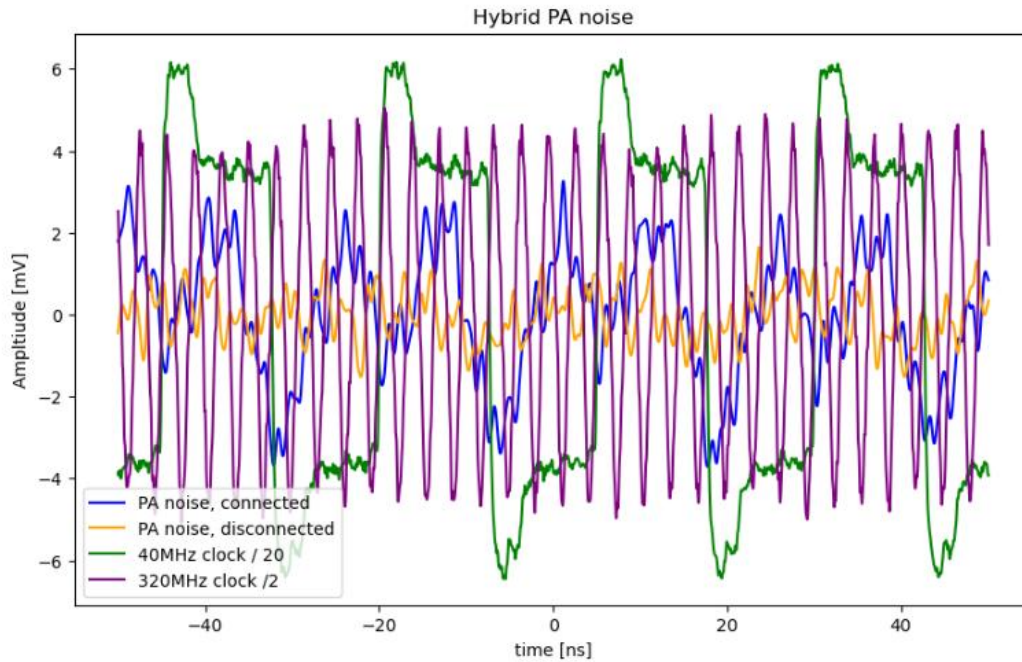
hybrid IV @-30degree



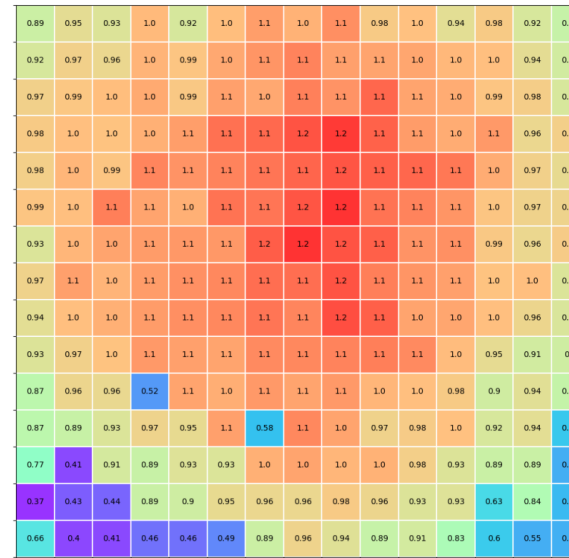
Disc charge threshold after tuning @ -30degree

- Temperature = -30degree, $V_{bd} \sim 123$ V
- break down voltage ~ 123 V; 5 HV settings were tested: 100, 105, 110, 115, 120 V
- Tuned the discriminator threshold at ~ 10 fC

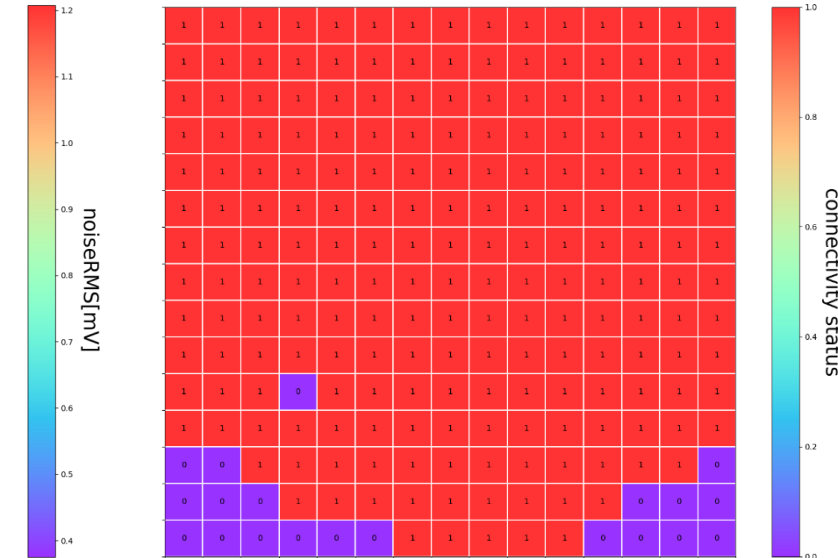
Hybrid noise



noise waveform



hybird noise RMS map

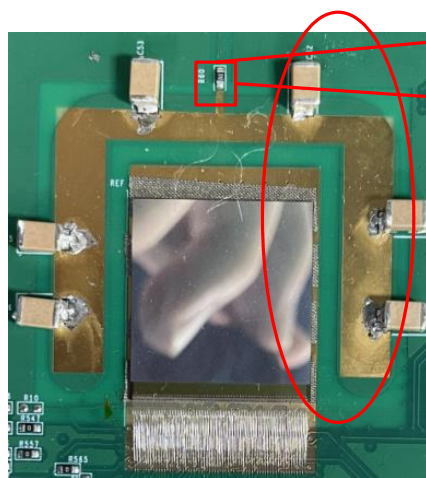


hybird connectivity map tested by source test. red channels are connected while the purple channels are disconnected

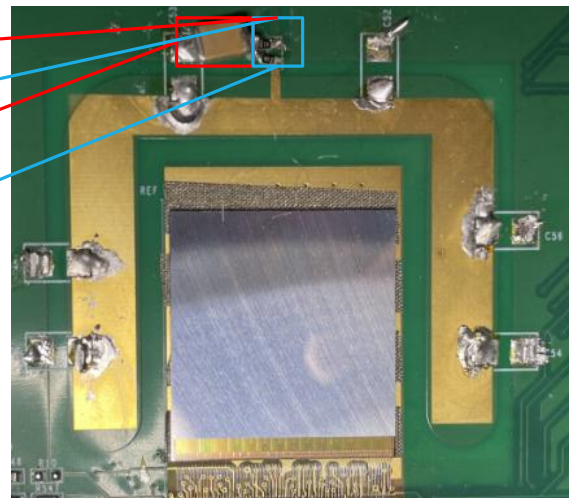
- When we tested the pre-amplifier output without signal, the noise RMS in each channel is obviously not zero
- The noise's main frequency is 40MHz ==> induced by internal 40MHz clock
- The noise amplitude highly correlate with the hybrid connectivity situation
 - The noise disappears when the sensor does not connect to the Altiroc (also does not exist in the digital module / Altiroc alone)
- To get a better performance, we made a HV decoupling on testboard to surpress this noise

HV decoupling

Before HV decoupling



After HV decoupling



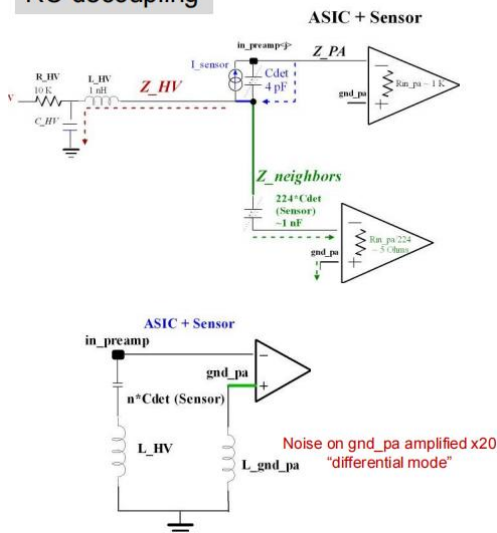
HV input

R1

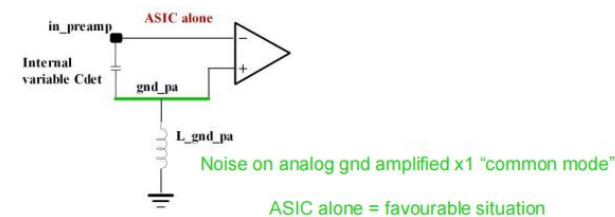
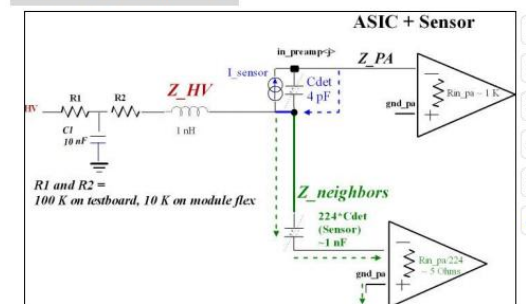
C1

R2

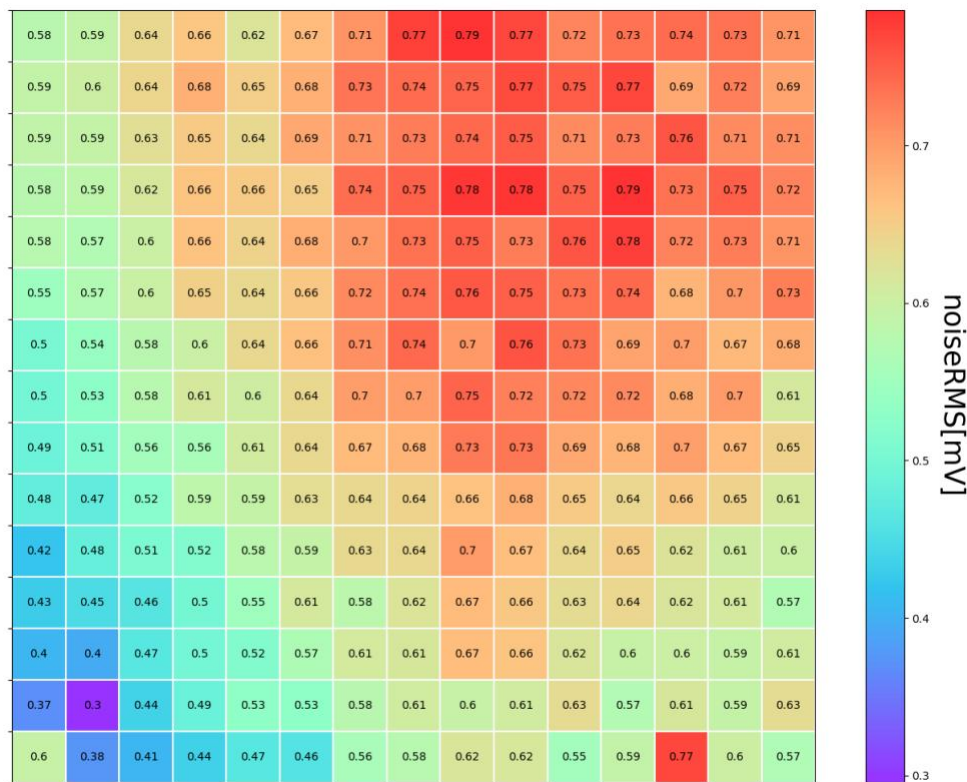
RC decoupling



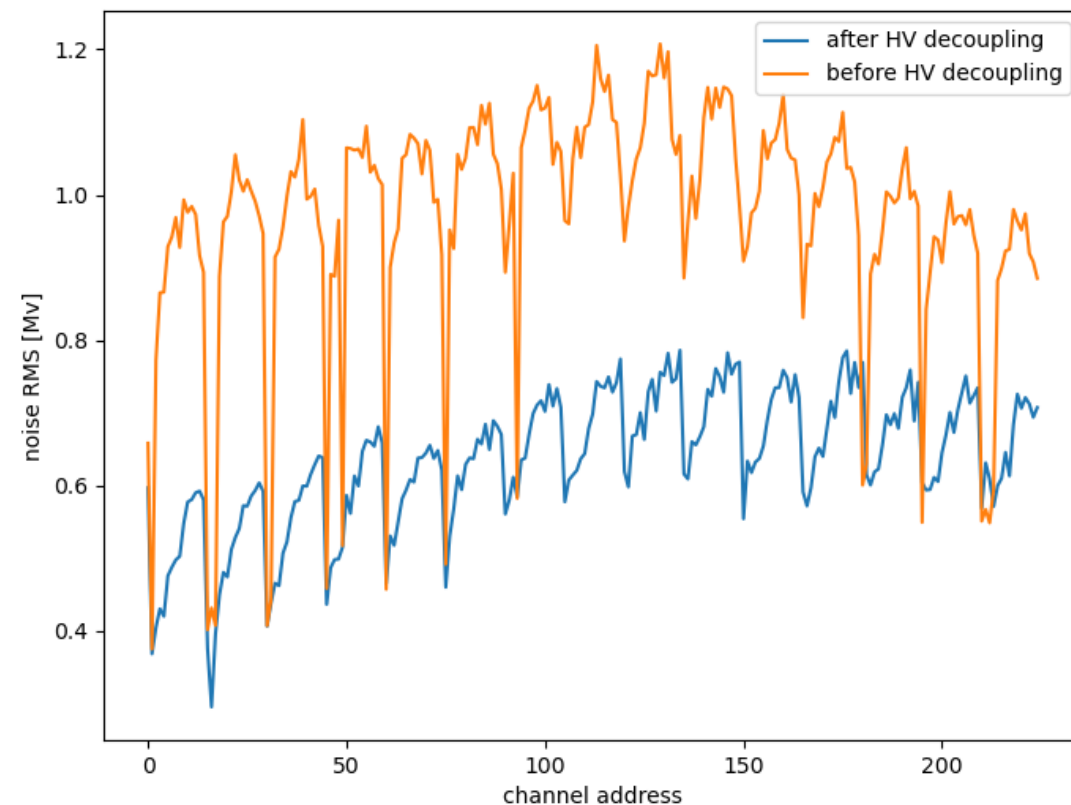
RCR decoupling



Noise level after adjustment



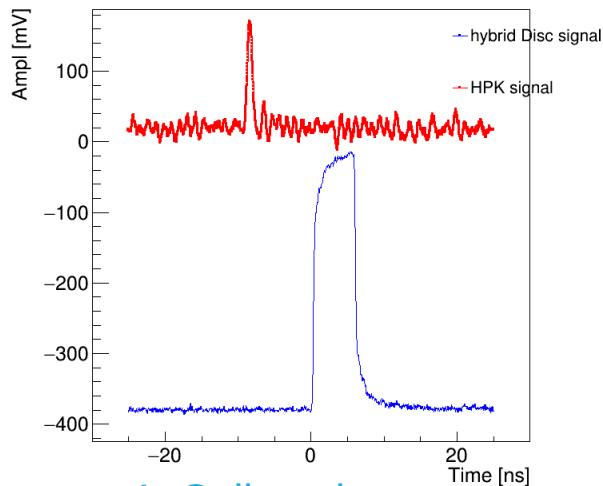
noise RMS map after decoupling



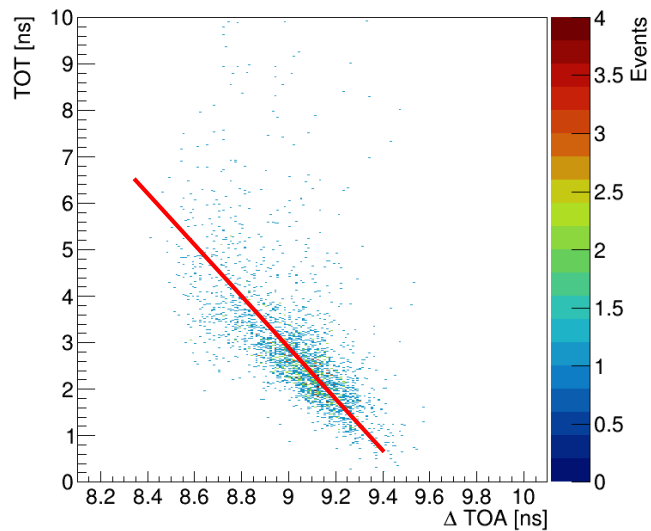
noise RMS vs channel

- After the adjustment, the noise RMS of disconnected channels keep the same while the noise RMS of connected channels decrease much
- The noise level of disconnected channels could be thought as the best noise level we can achieved. After the adjustment, the main reason of the relative larger noise at connected channels is the capacitor of HV layer (yellow layer at the plot of page 10)
- The similar change has been implemented in the module flex

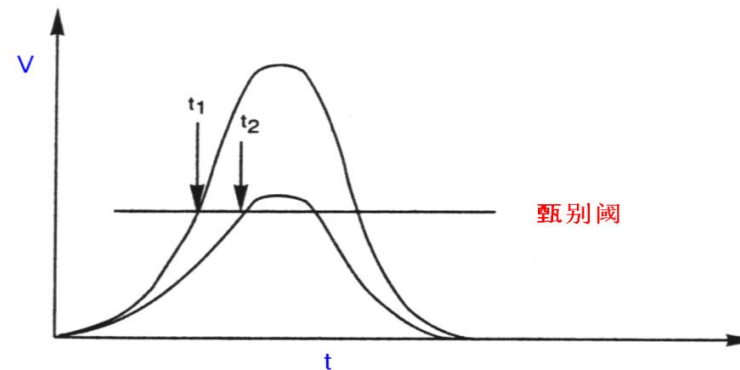
Resolution extraction work flow



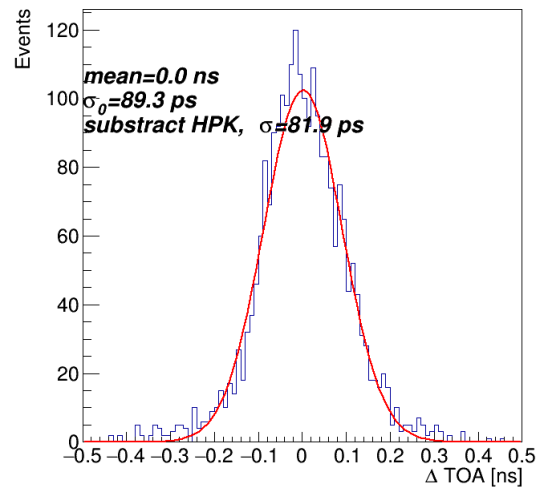
1. Collect data



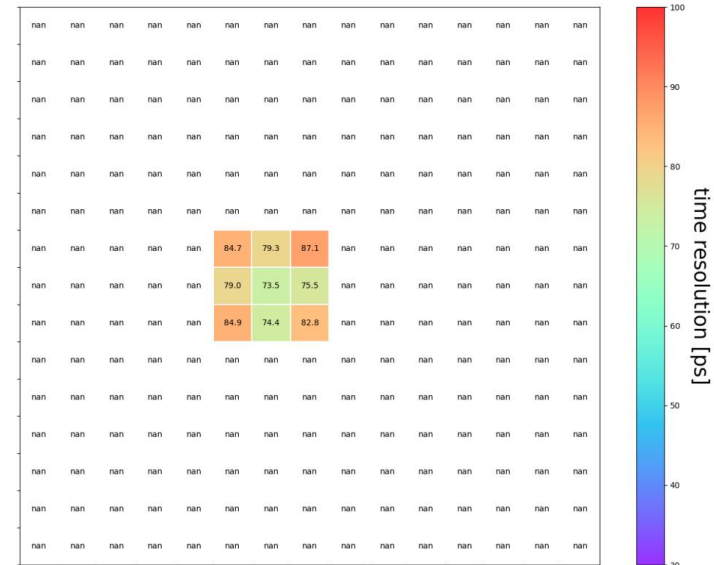
3. Do the time walk correction for Disc TOT vs ΔTOA



2. Determine the TOA for the waveforms; Font edge timing is used for Disc signals while the constant fraction timing is used for HPK signals

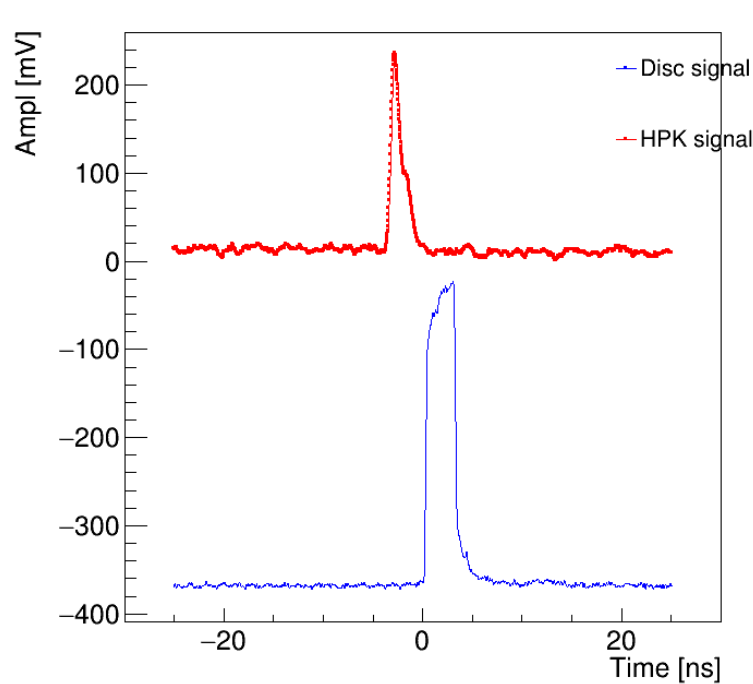


4. Get the uncertainty and subtract the reference's contribution

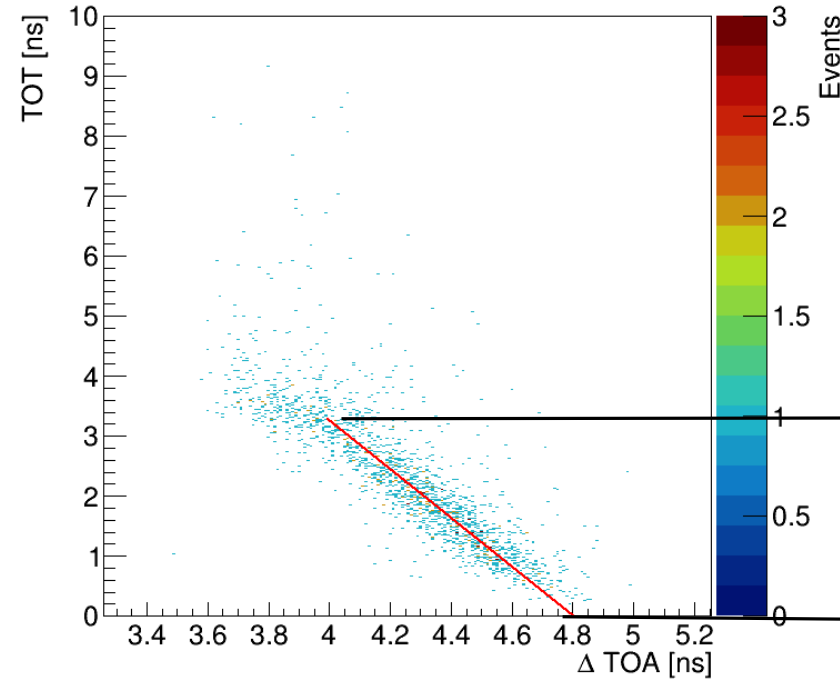


4. Loop over different pixels

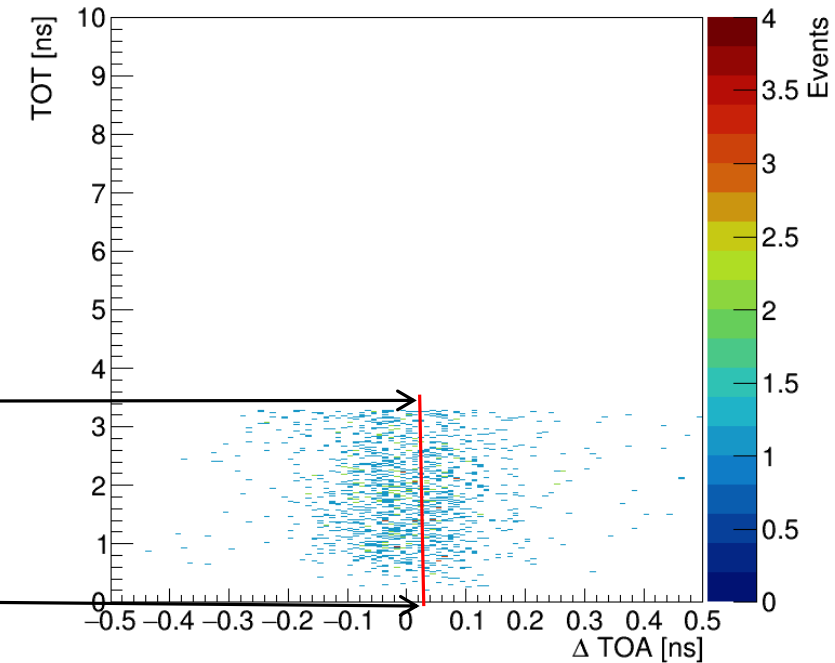
Detail of timing and TW walk correction



Signal event waveform



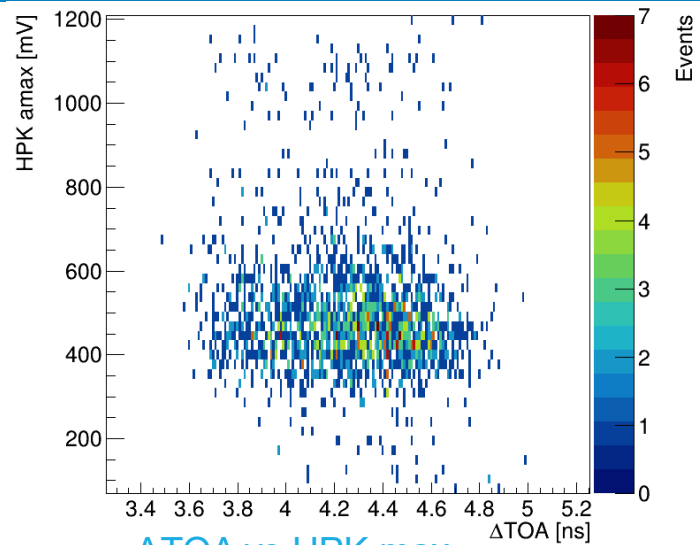
Event distribution in ΔTOA vs ToT



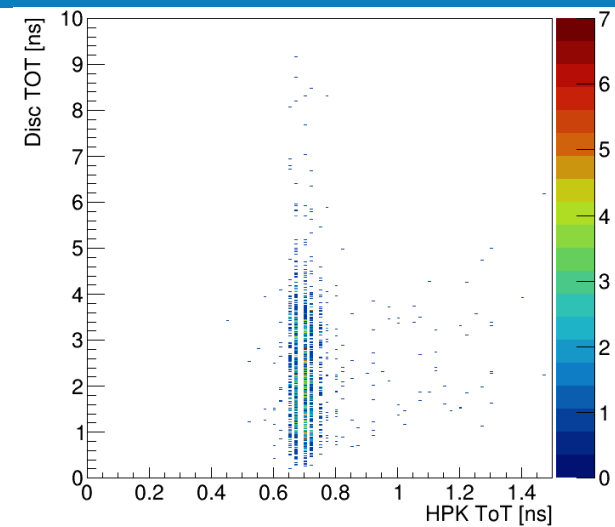
ΔTOA distribution after TW correction

- Front edge timing is used for Disc signal to get the TOA1 and ToT
- Constant fraction timing is used for the HPK signal to the TOA2
- $\Delta\text{TOA} = \text{TOA1} - \text{TOA2}$
- Draw all the events in the ΔTOA vs ToT map. The time walk effect (ΔTOA mean value vs ToT) is obvious
- A linear TW correction is done

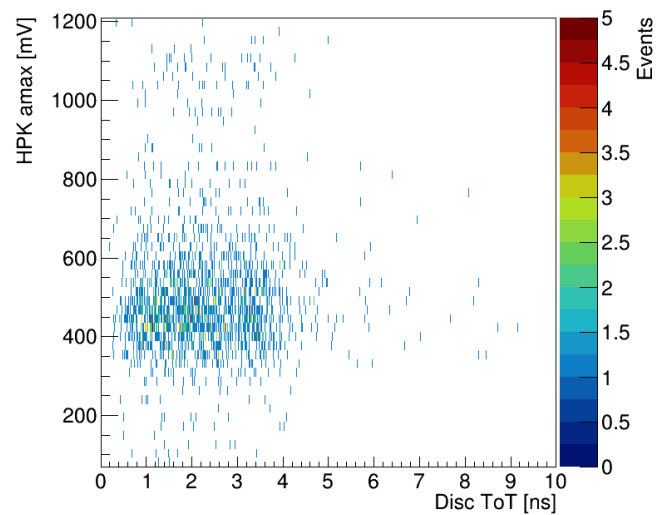
Event distribution



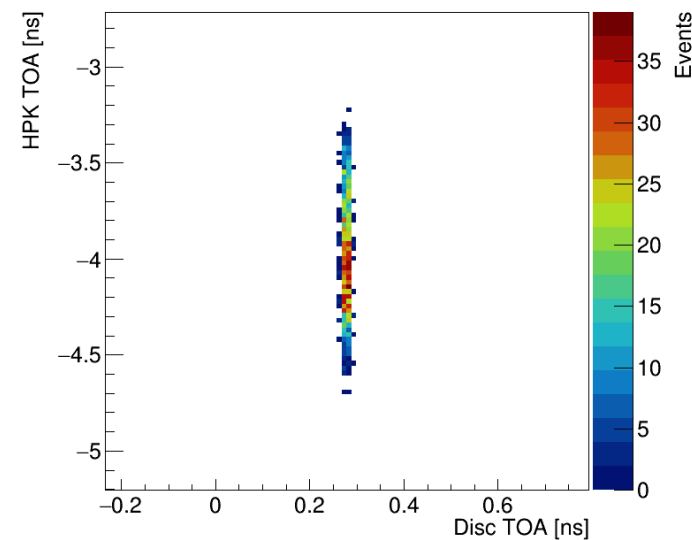
ΔTOA vs HPK max



Disc ToT vs HPK ToT

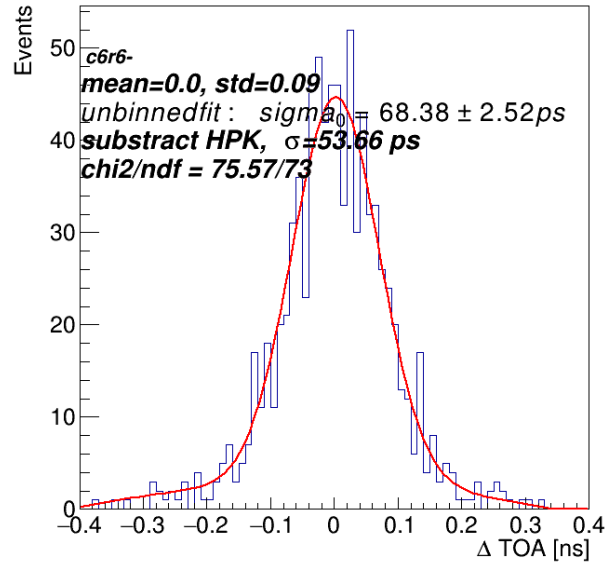


Disc ToT vs HPK max

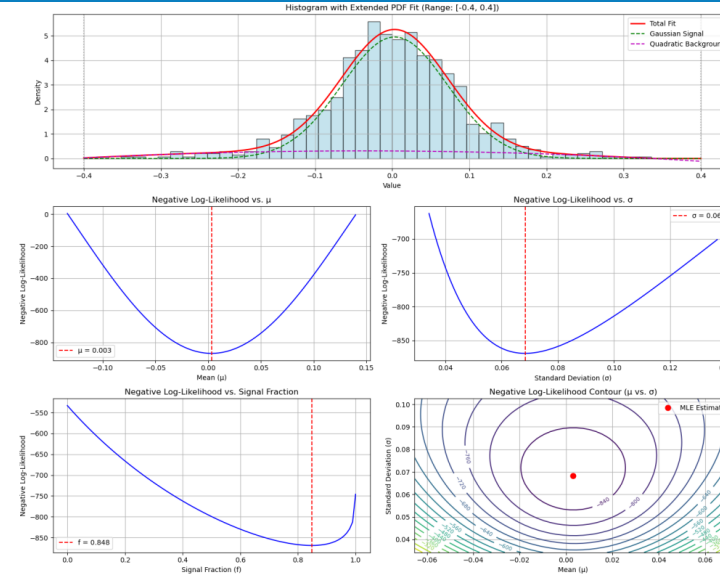


TOA1 vs TOA2

Time resolution extraction: unbinned fitting



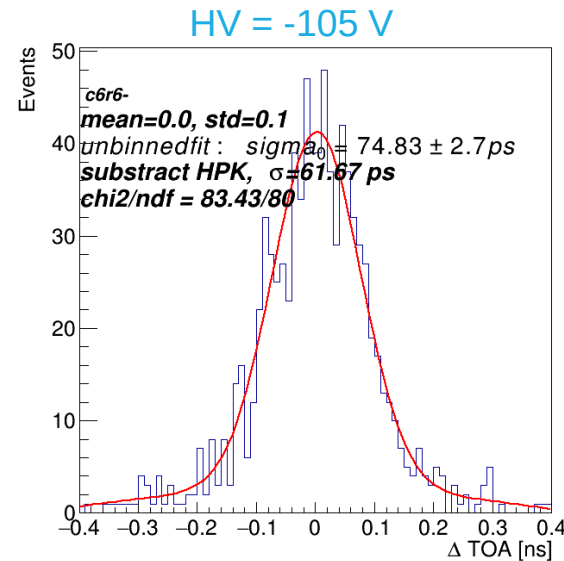
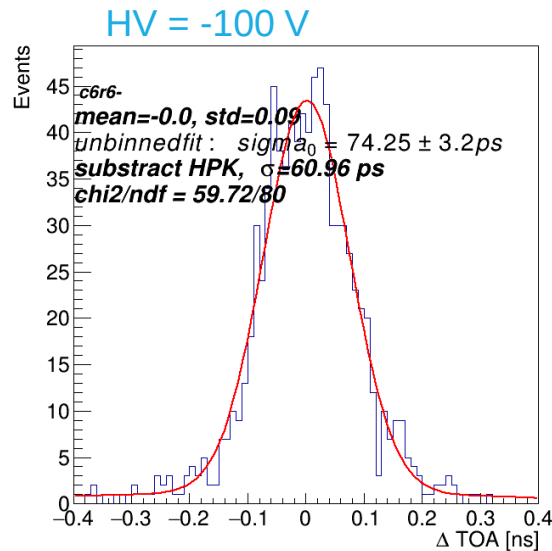
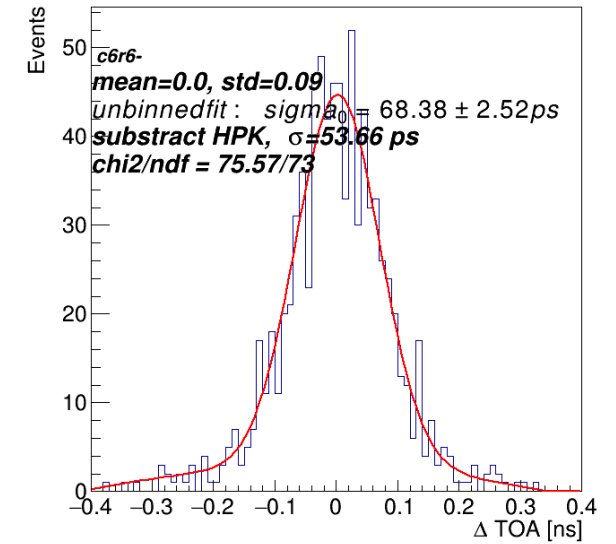
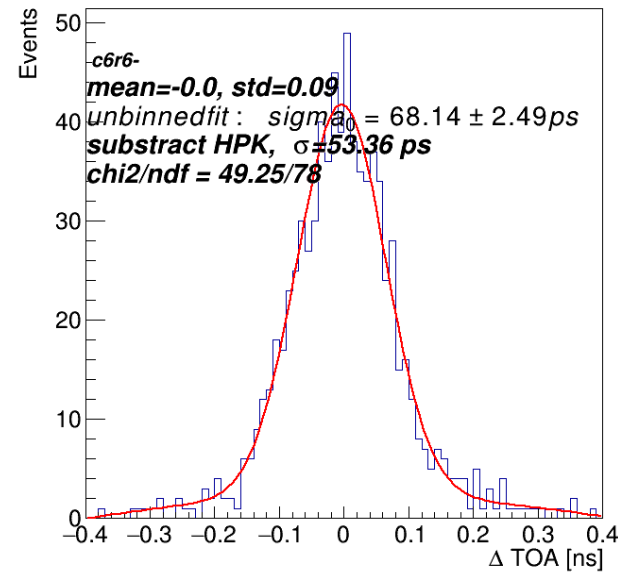
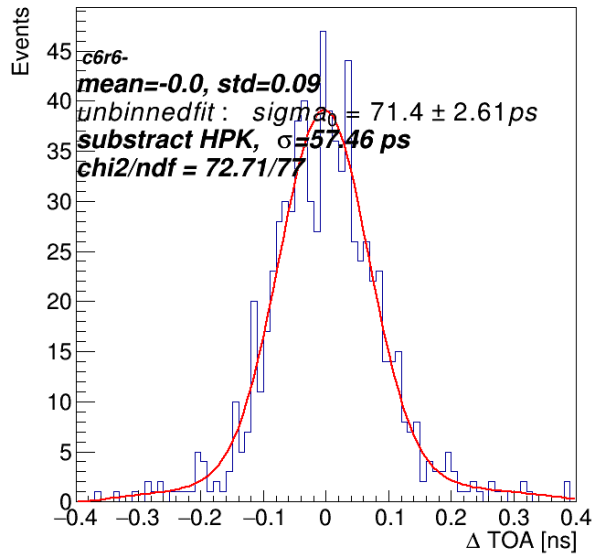
unbinned fit result



NLL vs parameters

- Using c6r6 @ HV = - 110 V as the example
- To account for the coincidence matching events, the ΔTOA distribution is composed of Gaussian signal + quadratic coincident background
- unbinned fit: $pdf(\Delta TOA) = f * Gau(\Delta TOA; \mu, \sigma) + (1 - f) * [a * \Delta TOA^2 + b * \Delta TOA + c]$
 - 6 parameters to be fitted: f, μ, σ, a, b, c
- The χ^2/ndf and NLL vs parameters plots show that the fitting is stable

Single pixel resolution vs HV



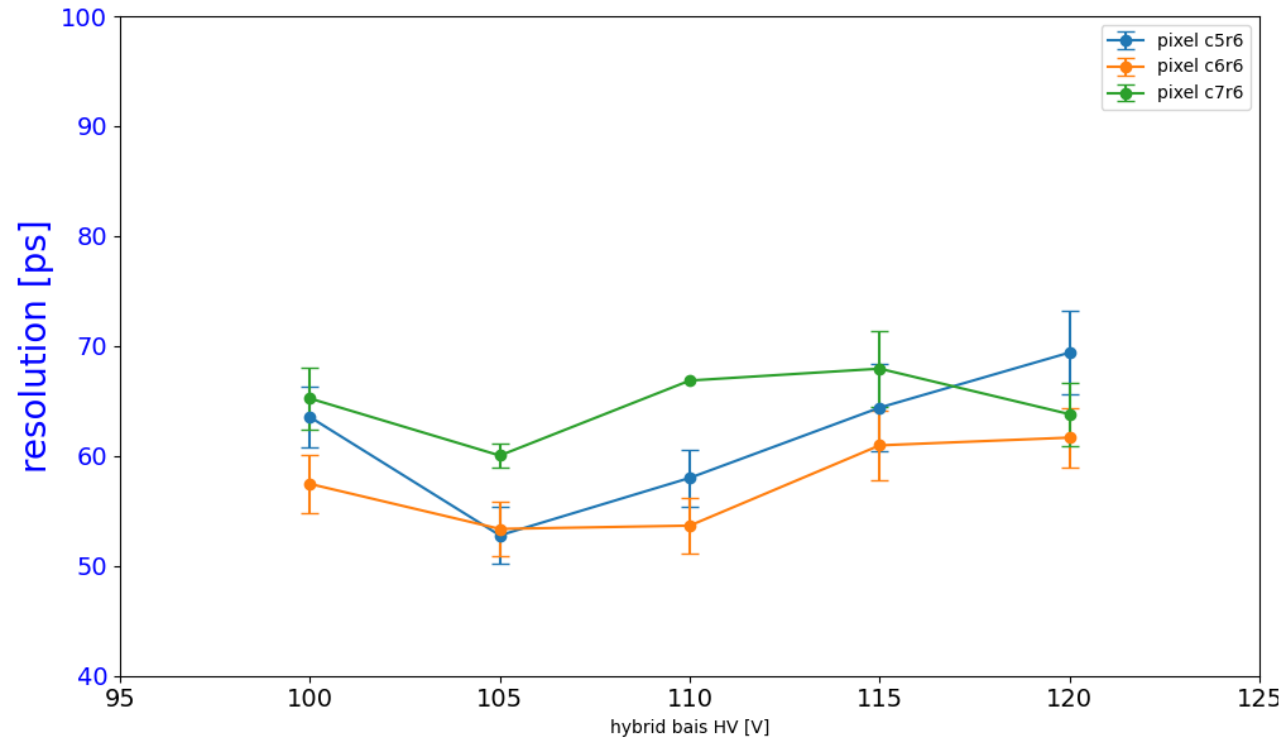
HV = -110 V

HV = -115 V

HV = -120 V

- The time resolution results vs HV of column 6 row 6

Time resolution result



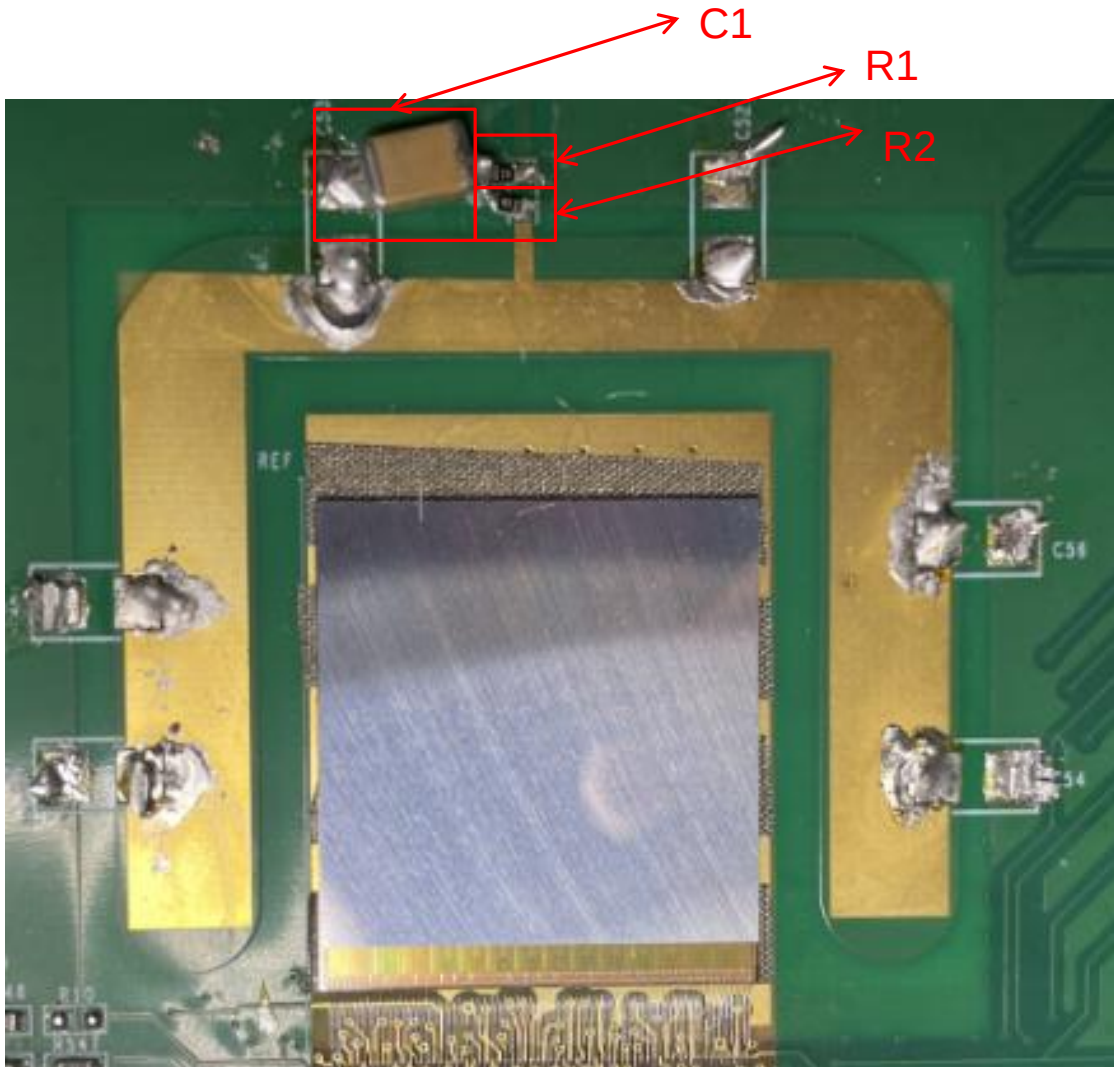
- 3 pixel (c5r6, c6r6, c7r6) were tested
- The time uncertainty first decrease then increase with HV. It is because HV = -120V is too close to breakdown voltage
- The best time resolution performance ~ 53 ps is achieved at HV = -105 V

Summary

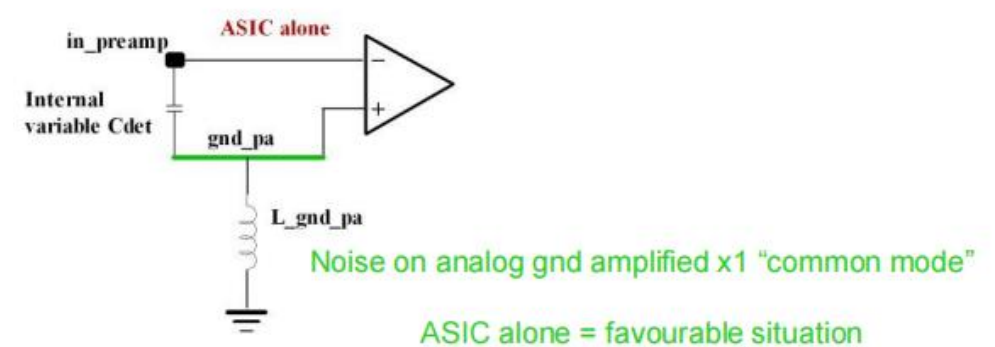
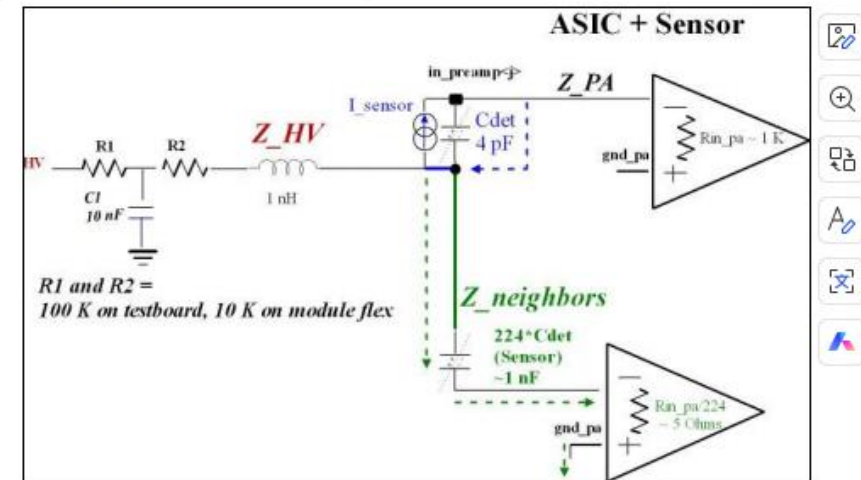
- The time resolution performance is the key requirement of HGTD. Sr-90 source test is a necessary complement to the testbeam
- The set up to measure the time resolution for HGTD module and hybrid has been established at USTC
 - Design a stable frame to get the maximum flux with our Sr-90 source
 - A problem on testboard inducing large jitter is found and fixed
 - Finish the script to loop over pixel and find trigger
- We test the analog time resolution performance of **Altiroc3 + USTC-IME** sensor hybrid is measured, with the **best time resolution ~53 ps**, which is worse than the target resolution
- Outlook:
 - Loop over more pixels to see the uniformity of resolution
 - Extract the signal after digitalization and measure its resolution

Backup

HV decoupling



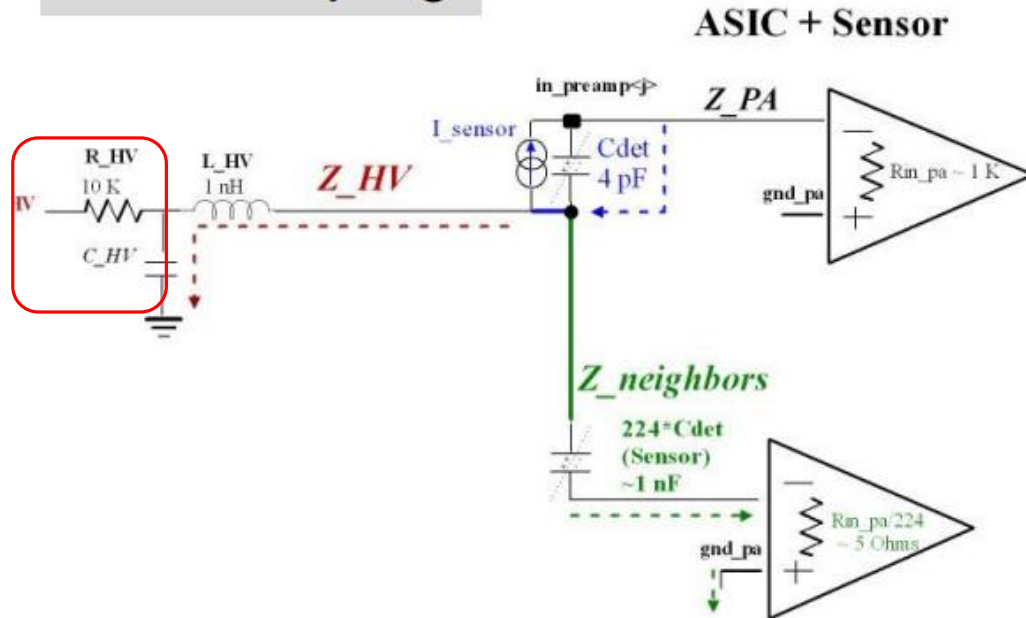
RCR decoupling



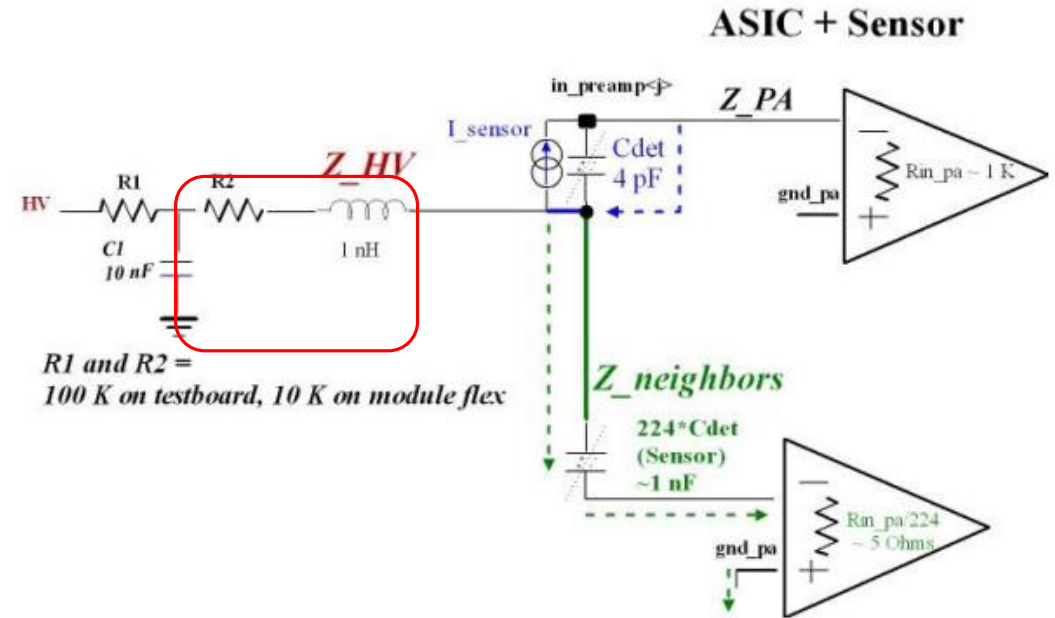
- By RCR decoupling, we can suppress this noise
- The reason of the noise and the effect of the RCR decoupling can be found at back up

HV decouple

RC decoupling

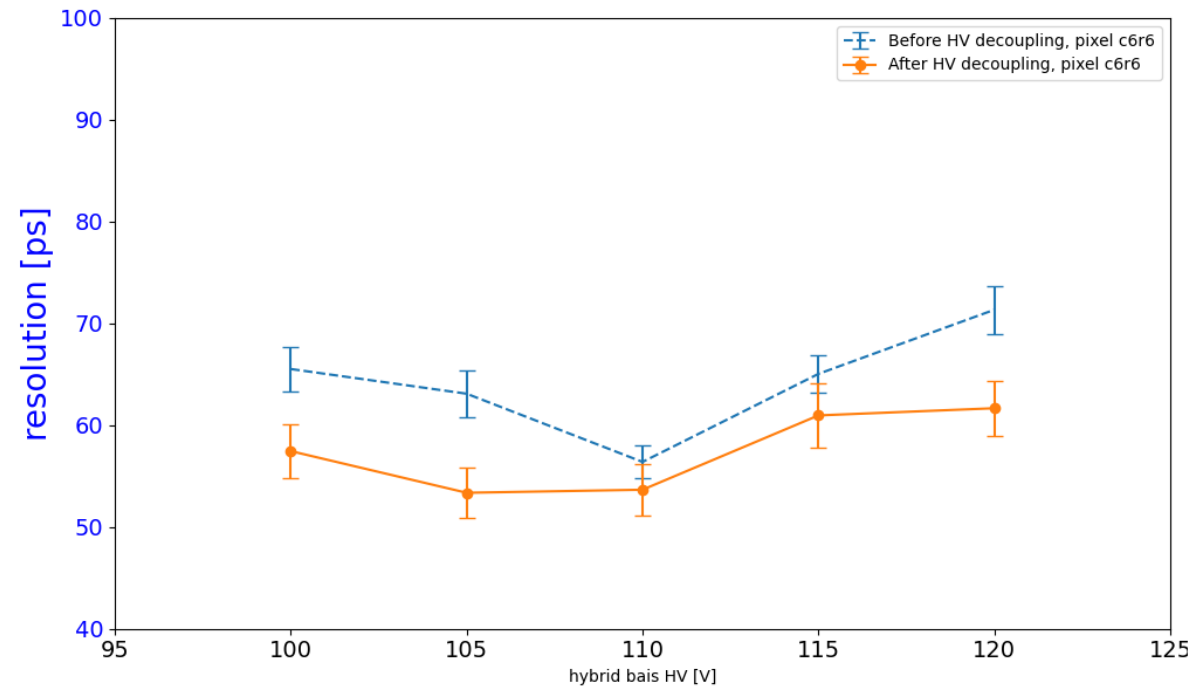


RCR decoupling



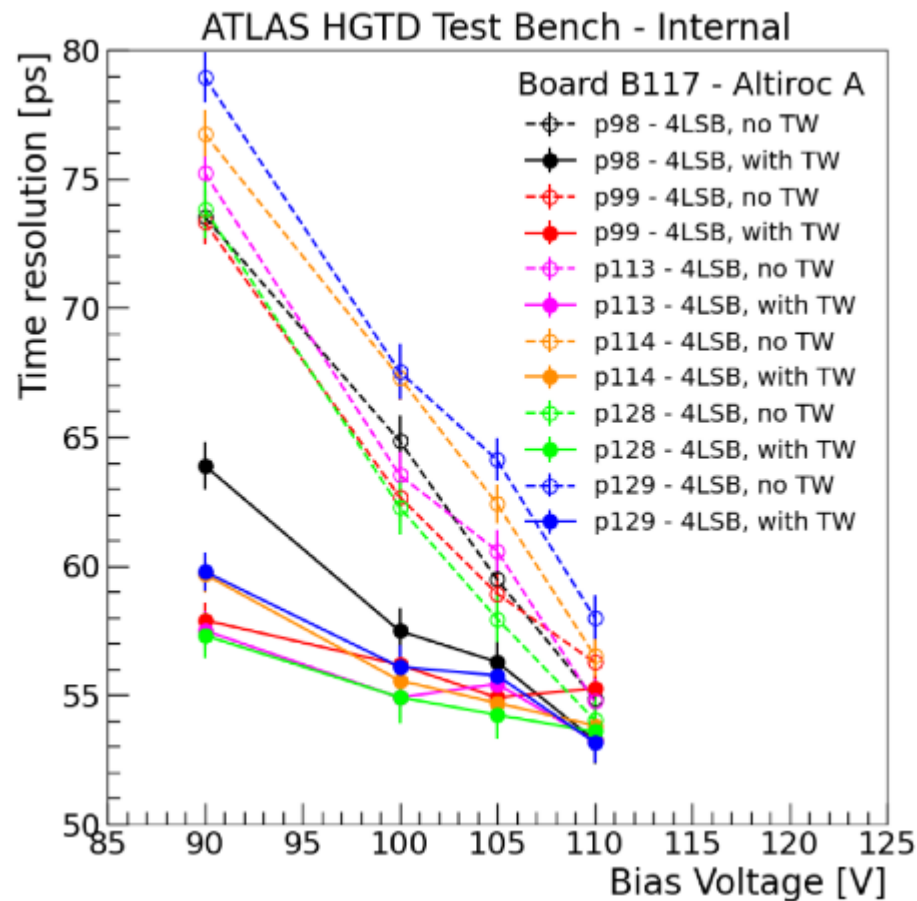
- A way to reduce the noise is to change the RC decoupling to the RCR decoupling
- This is because the pre-amplifier negative input (Z_PA) can connect to the gnd_pa **through the neighbor channels**
- In RC decoupling, considering the noise frequency is around 40MHz
 - impedance to the chip ground: $Z \approx \sqrt{R^2 + \left(\frac{1}{\omega C}\right)^2} = \sqrt{5^2 + \left(\frac{1}{2\pi \cdot 4e7 \cdot 1e-9}\right)^2} = 6 \Omega$
 - impedance to the testboard ground: $Z \approx \omega L = 2\pi \cdot 4e7 \cdot 1e-9 = 0.25 \Omega$
- To make sure the Z_PA close to the chip ground instead of testboard ground, we need to increase the impedance to the testboard ground (block this circuit) ==> adding the R2 ==> RCR decouple

time resolution improvement after HV decoupling

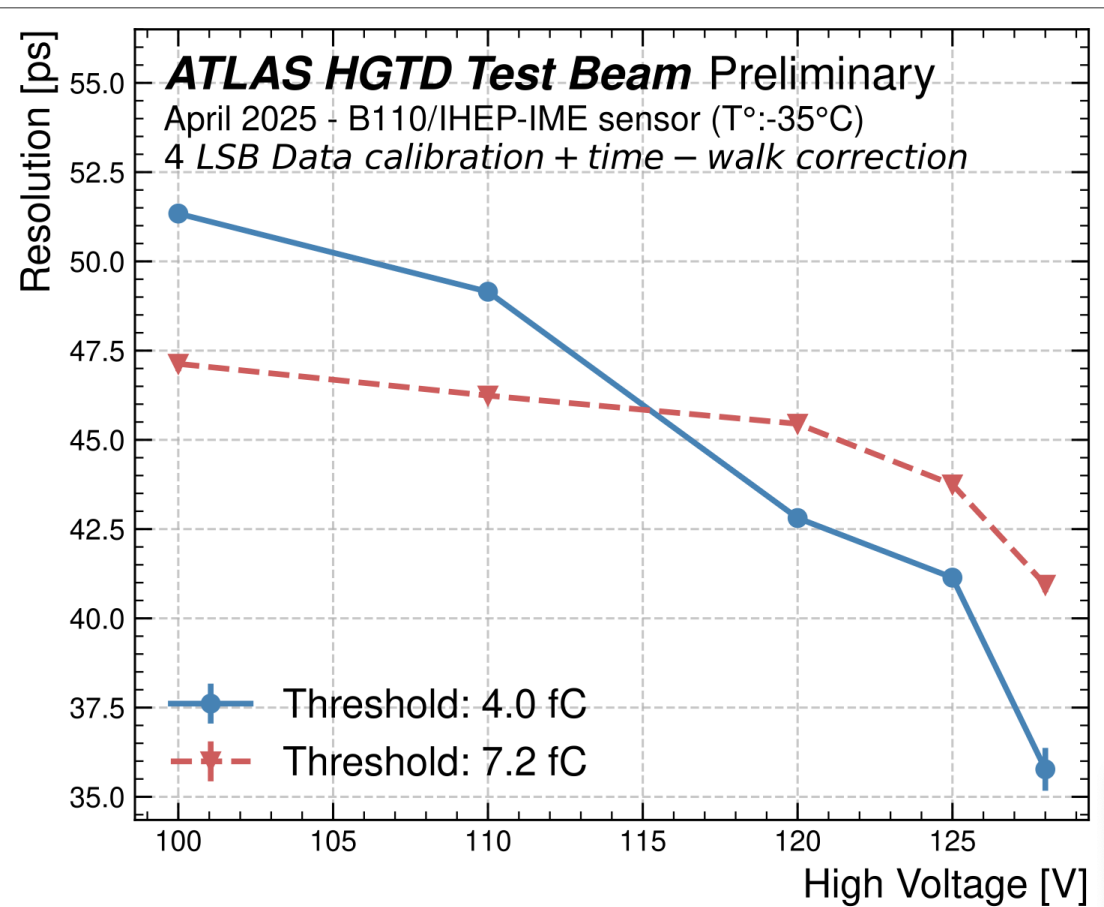


- The same work flow is used for one pixel before and after HV decoupling
- There is an improvement of about ~10 ps

Resolution result of CERN



CERN Sr-90 result



CERN testbeam result