

The Pentadimensional Tracking Space Detector project, R&D for space-borne LGAD Si-microstrip tracking detectors

M. Barbanera² (INFN - Perugia)

on behalf of the PTSD team

E. Cavazzuti¹, M. Duranti^{2,3}, V. Formato², J. Hu², M. Mergè¹, M. Miliucci¹, M. Movileanu², B. Negri¹, A. Oliva², M. Savinelli³, V. Vagelli^{1,2}

1) Italian Space Agency

2) INFN

3) Università degli Studi di Perugia

+ many thanks to L. Pacini (INFN) and F. Moscatelli (CNR and INFN)

Pentadimensional Tracking Space Detector (PTSD)

is a project funded by NextGenerationEU and Italian Ministry of University and Research

PNRR M4.C2.1.1, PRIN 2022, n. 2022JNF3M4, CUP I53D23001190006



Finanziato
dall'Unione europea
NextGenerationEU



Ministero
dell'Università
e della Ricerca



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Agenzia Spaziale Italiana



Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare

The Pentadimensional Tracking Space Detector project, R&D for space-borne LGAD Si-microstrip tracking detectors

1. Scientific context
2. Reasons for 5D tracking in space
3. The PTSD project: space-driven R&D of LGAD- μ strips detectors
4. PTSD first prototypes and measurements
5. Design of a PTSD CubeSat with ASI-CEF

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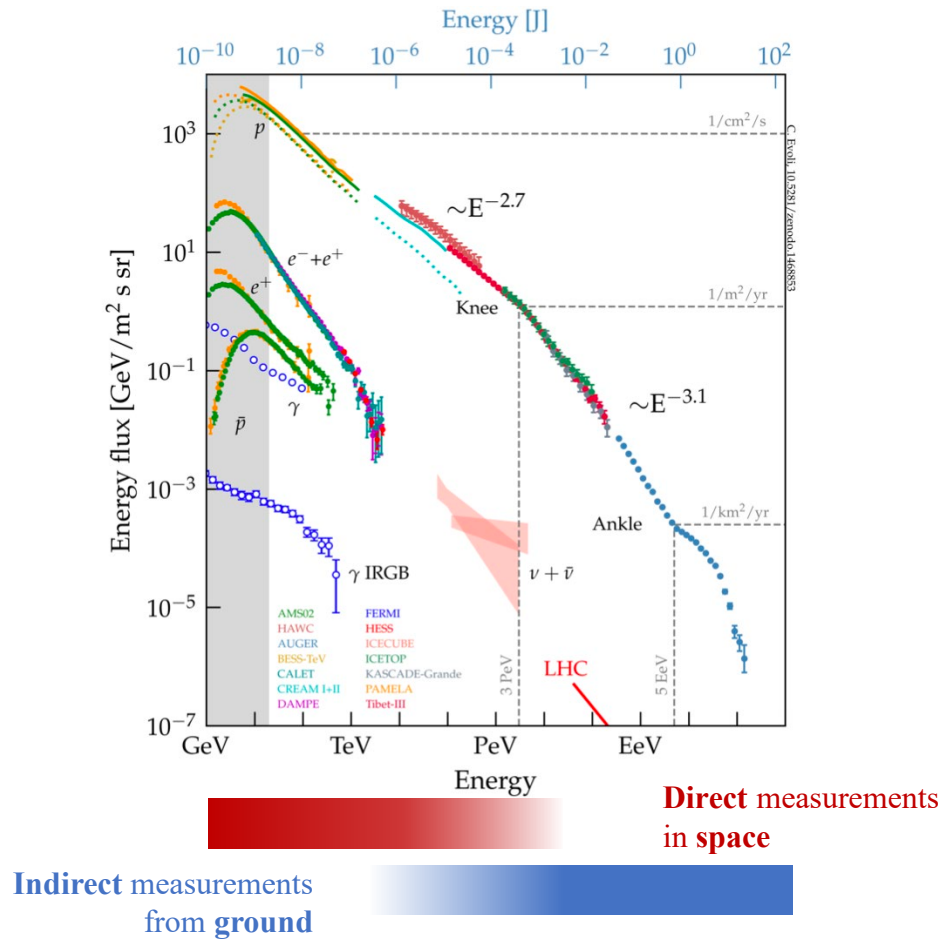


Agenzia Spaziale Italiana



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Charged CRs: state of the art

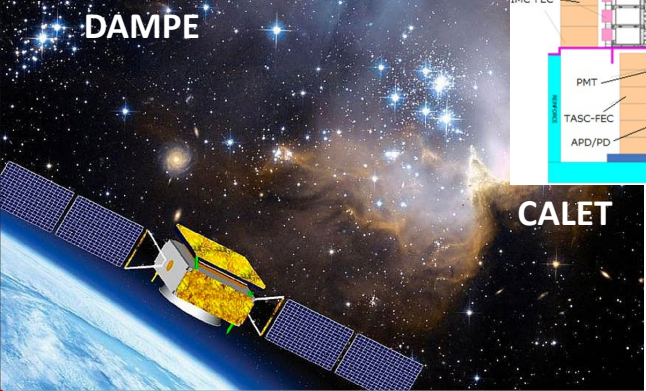


Spectrometers



High precision particle ID (e.g., mass)
Charge-sign discrimination
Rigidity/energy cross-calibration
Acceptance constrained by magnet

Calorimeters



Large acceptance calorimeters
Higher energies
Not sensitive to charge sign / mass

Large acceptance missions remain the most promising approach to new discoveries and high-accuracy space measurements

Si- μ strip detectors are the preferred solution to instrument large area detectors with larger number of electronics channels coping with the limitations on power consumption in space

Most space detectors for charged cosmic ray and γ -ray measurements require **solid state tracking systems based on Si- μ strip sensors**.

Si- μ strip detectors are the preferred solution to instrument

- large area detectors
- large number of electronics channels
- copying with the **power consumption limitations in space**



Operating Missions						
	Mission Start	Si-sensor area	Strip-length	Readout channels	Readout pitch	Spatial resolution
Fermi-LAT	2008	$\sim 74 \text{ m}^2$	38 cm	$\sim 880 \cdot 10^3$	228 μm	$\sim 66 \mu\text{m}$
AMS-02	2011	$\sim 7 \text{ m}^2$	29–62 cm	$\sim 200 \cdot 10^3$	110 μm	$\sim 7 \mu\text{m}$
DAMPE	2015	$\sim 7 \text{ m}^2$	38 cm	$\sim 70 \cdot 10^3$	242 μm	$\sim 40 \mu\text{m}$

Future Missions						
	Planned operations	Si-sensor area	Strip-length	Readout channels	Readout pitch	Spatial resolution
HERD	2030	$\sim 35 \text{ m}^2$	48–67 cm	$\sim 350 \cdot 10^3$	$\sim 242 \mu\text{m}$	$\sim 40 \mu\text{m}$
ALADInO	2050	$\sim 80\text{--}100 \text{ m}^2$	19–67 cm	$\sim 2.5 \cdot 10^6$	$\sim 100 \mu\text{m}$	$\sim 5 \mu\text{m}$
AMS-100	2050	$\sim 180\text{--}200 \text{ m}^2$	$\sim 100 \text{ cm}$	$\sim 8 \cdot 10^6$	$\sim 100 \mu\text{m}$	$\sim 5 \mu\text{m}$

[1] HERD Collaboration. *HERD Proposal*, 2018 <https://indico.ihep.ac.cn/event/8164/material/1/0.pdf>
[2] Battiston, R.; Bertucci, B.; et al. *High precision particle astrophysics as a new window on the universe with an Antimatter Large Acceptance Detector In Orbit (ALADInO)*. Experimental Astronomy 2021. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10686-021-09708-w>
[3] Schael, S.; et al. *AMS-100: The next generation magnetic spectrometer in space – An international science platform for physics and astrophysics at Lagrange point 2*. NIM-A 2019, 944, 162561. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nima.2019.162561>

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Capacitance and daisy-chain: example of AMS-L0 upgrade

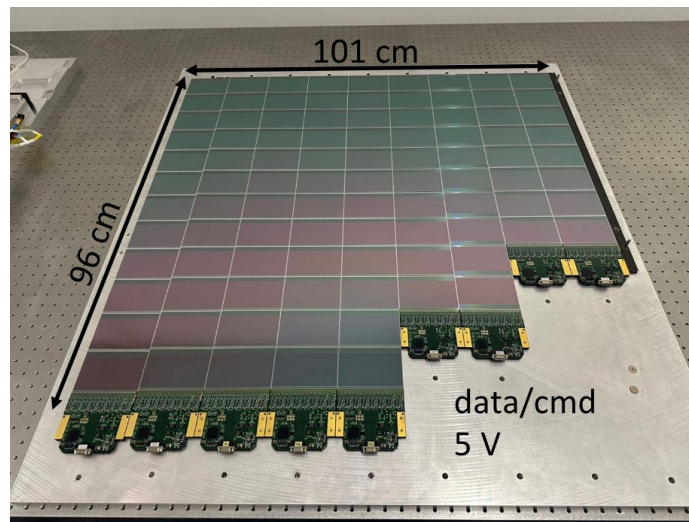
At production level the strips cannot be so long:

- they must be at least shorter than the wafer diagonal (i.e. 6" – some margin)
- Typically, is at most ~ 10 cm long

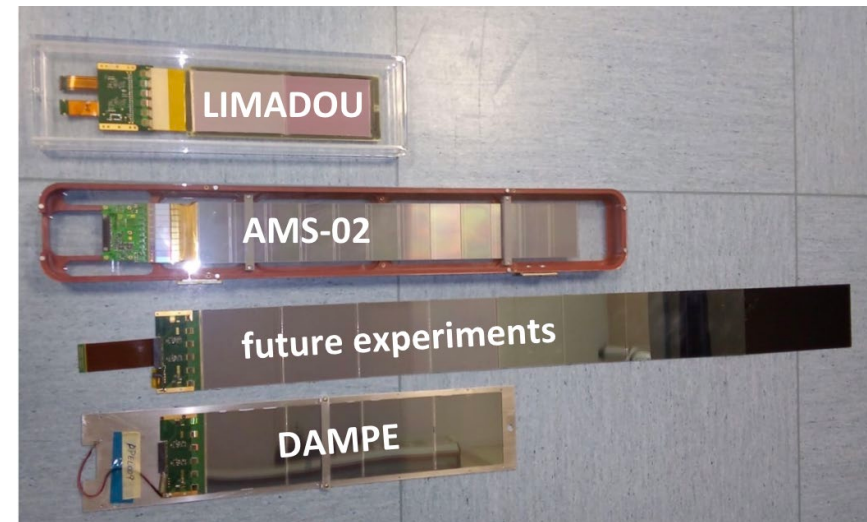


See D. Miao "[Design and testbeam study of AMS-02 Layer-0 silicon strip detector ladders](#)" talk

AMS-02 upgrade, Layer-0 (1/4 plane) @ INFN Perugia, Terni labs



INFN Perugia



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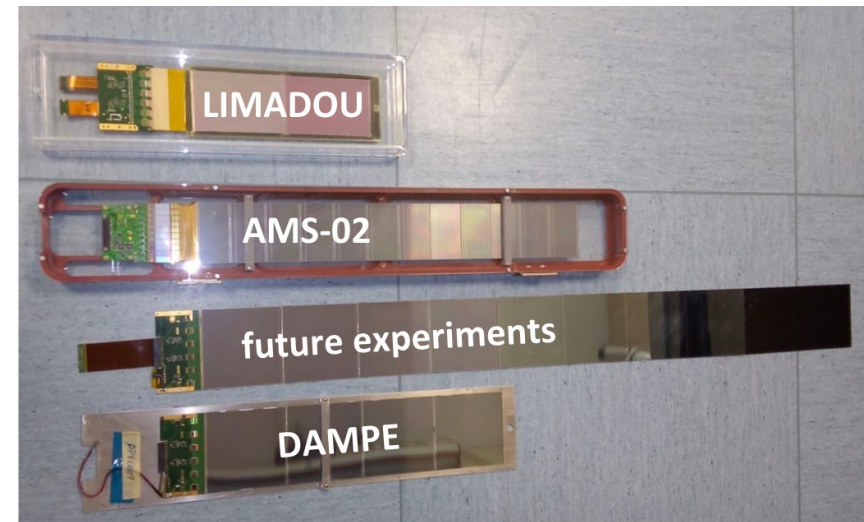
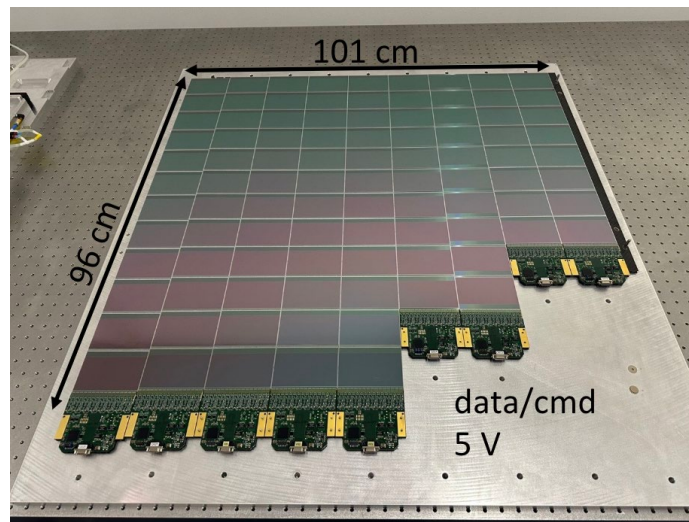
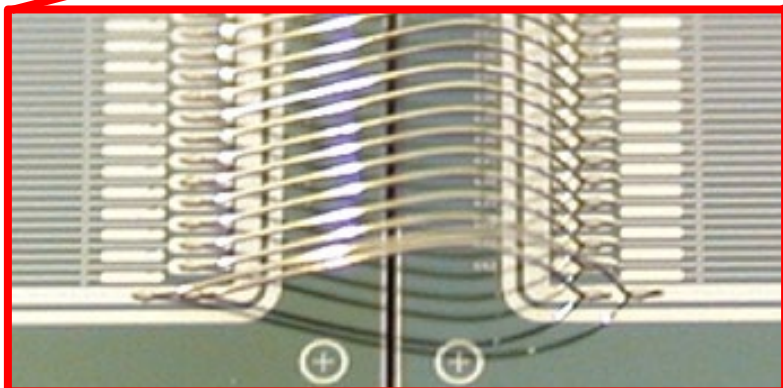
→ 50-100 cm long strips are obtained through daisy-chain



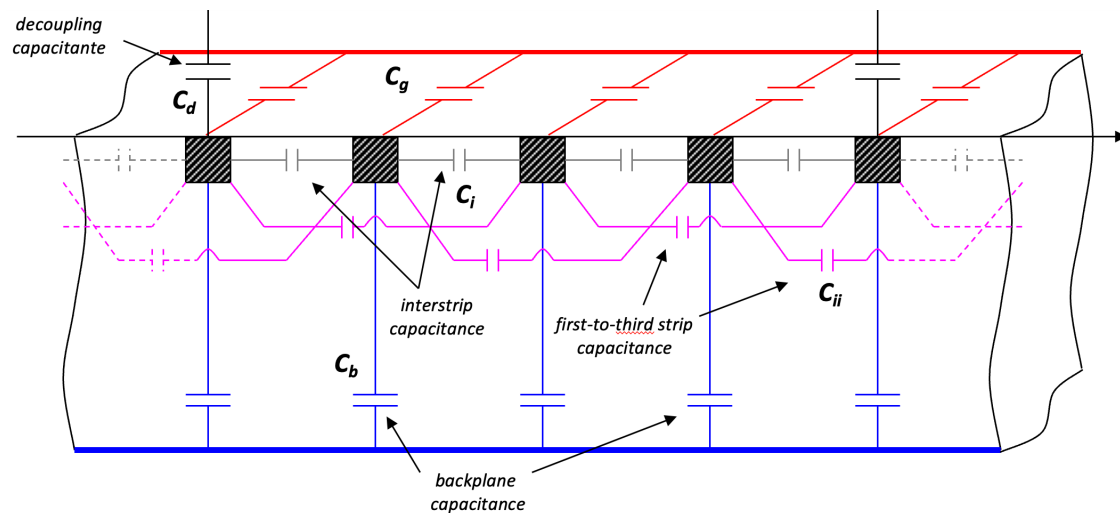
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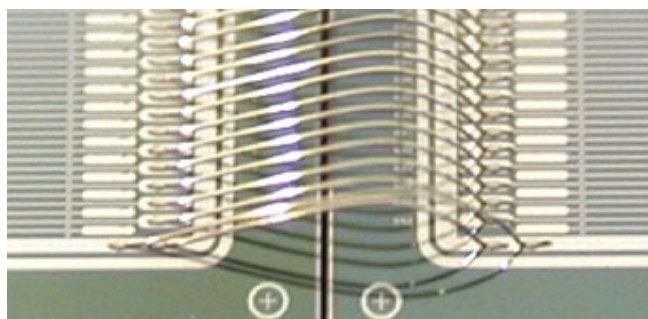


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 l = strip length (typical 50-100 cm)
 d = thickness (typical 300 μm)

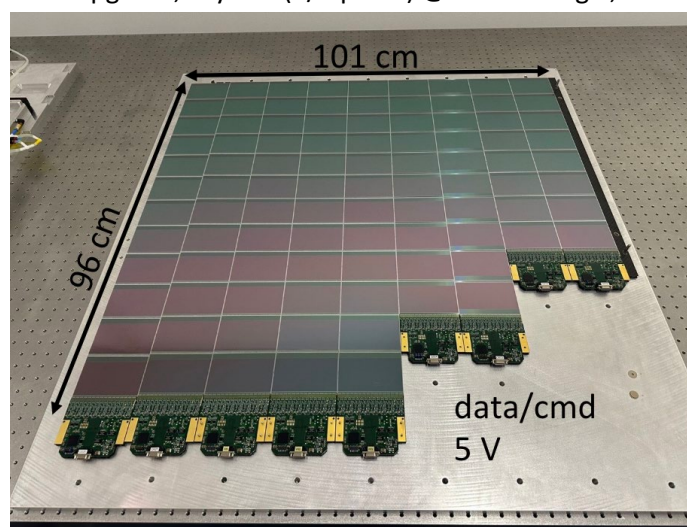
C_i = interstrip capacitance $\sim 1 \text{ pF/cm} * l = 10 - 100 \text{ pF}$
 C_d = decoupling capacitance $\sim 1000 \text{ pF}$ (DC sensors) or 120 pF/mm^2 (AC sensors) $> C_i, C_b, C_g, C_{ii}$
 C_b = backplane capacitance $\sim 1 \text{ pF/cm} * l * p/d = 1/10 * 10 - 100 \text{ pF} = 1 - 10 \text{ pF}$
 C_g = guard-ring capacitance $\ll C_i$
 C_{ii} = first-to-third strip capacitance $\ll C_i$

For thin and long strips, capacitance must be kept under control

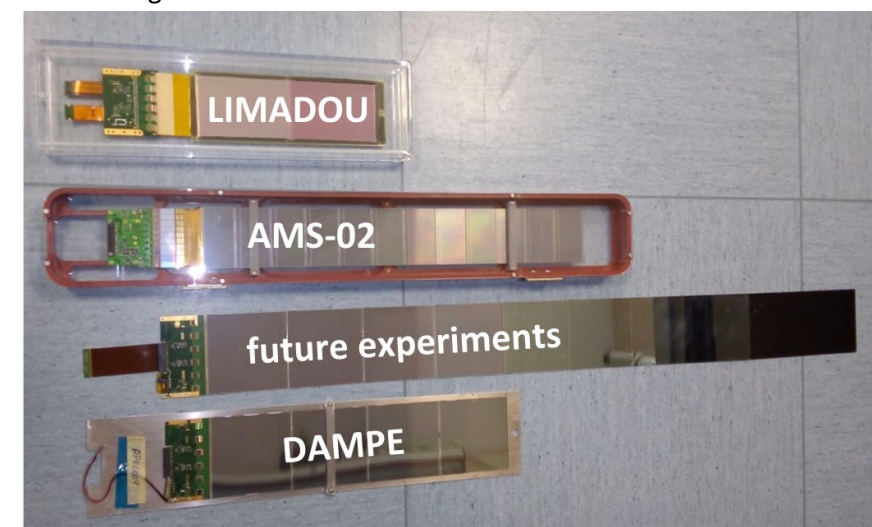
AMS-02 upgrade, Layer-0 ladder @ INFN Perugia

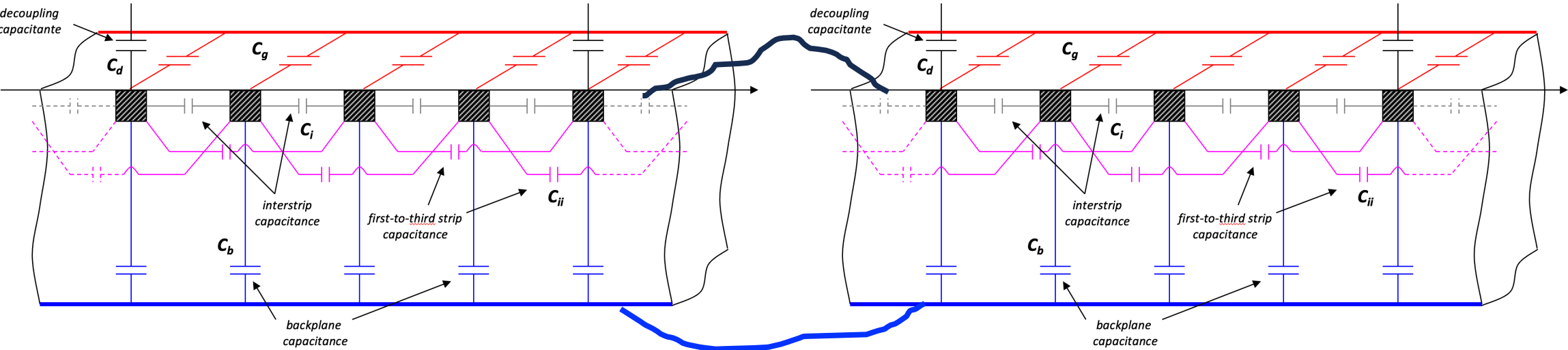


AMS-02 upgrade, Layer-0 (1/4 plane) @ INFN Perugia, Terni labs



INFN Perugia

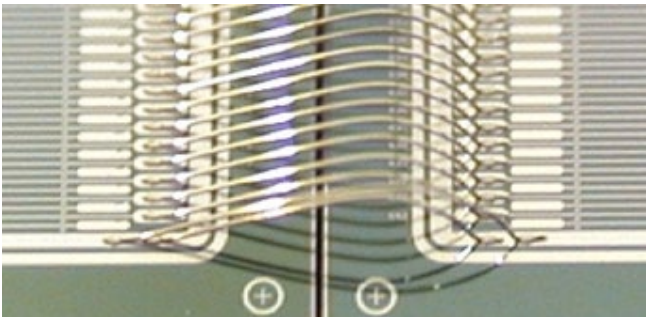


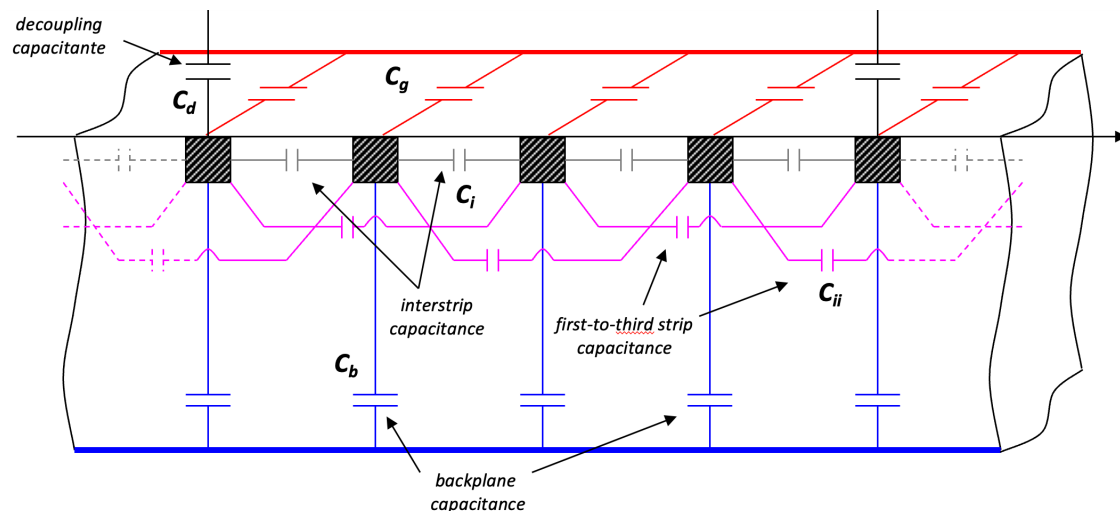


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INFN Perugia





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C_{ii} = first-to-third strip capacitance $\ll C_i$

For thin and long strips, capacitance must be kept under control

$$C_{\text{interstrip}} \sim 1 \text{ pF/cm} * l$$

$$\rightarrow 50 - 100 \text{ pF}$$

$$C_{\text{back}} \sim 1 \text{ pF/cm} * l * p/d$$

$$\rightarrow 100 - 200 \text{ pF}$$

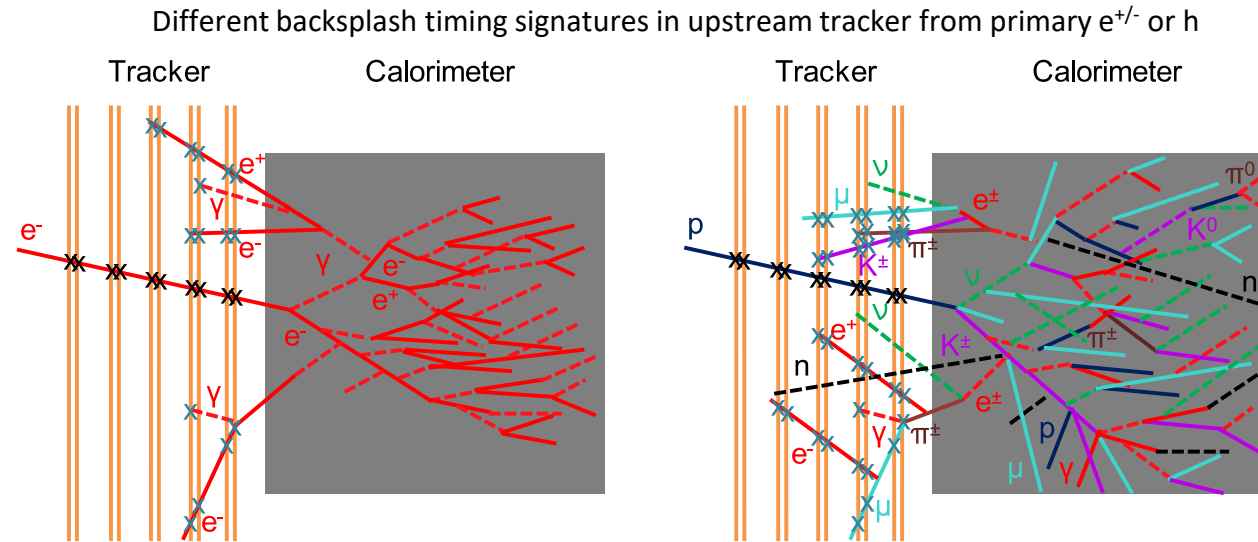
Notice that:

- Typically, 300 μm (AMS, DAMPE) – 500 μm (Fermi-LAT) thick sensors are used
 $\rightarrow C_i$ is $\sim$ dominant
- when you go thinner (as for LGADs, see later) C_i is negligible with respect to C_b

$\rightarrow$ a typical "area" of a strip is of $O(\text{cm}^2)$

$\rightarrow$ a typical "area" for a LHC (LGAD) sensor is $< 1 \text{ mm}^2$

Backsplash particles from downstream calorimeter affect tracking efficiency by tens % at 1 TeV



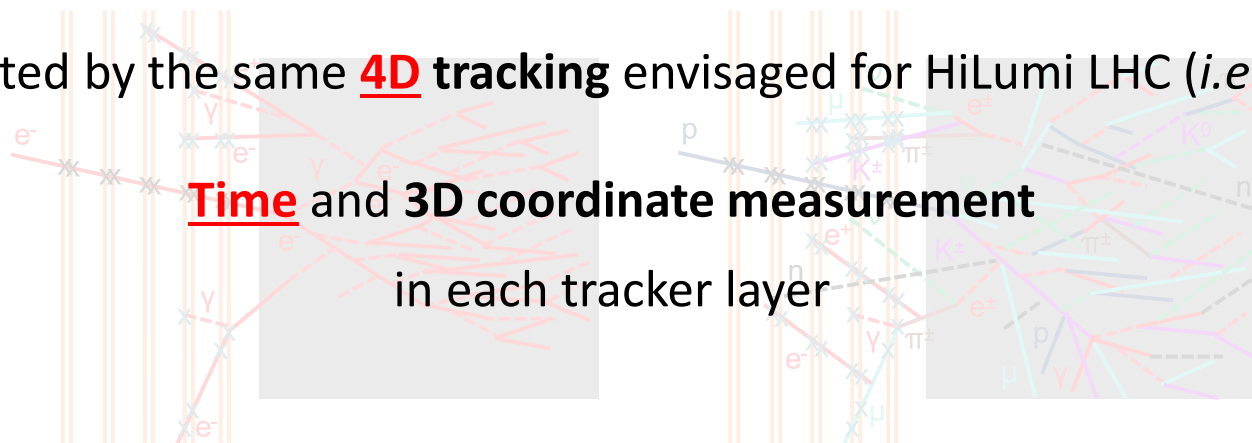
The idea of "exploiting" the backsplash hits in a "timing-tracker" was firstly and preliminarily discussed in 2019 (TREDI2019)

Backsplash particles from downstream calorimeter affect tracking efficiency by tens % at 1 TeV

Different backplash timing signatures in upstream tracker from primary $e^{+/-}$ or h

Tracker Calorimeter Tracker Calorimeter

Could be mitigated by the same **4D tracking** envisaged for HiLumi LHC (*i.e.*, high pile-up)



Time and **3D coordinate measurement**
in each tracker layer

In addition to **coordinate** and **charge** $|Z|$ measurements, **concurrent timing information** at hit-level in tracker (**5D-tracking**) may improve reconstruction efficiency and particle ID, such as:

IMPROVED TRACK FINDING

Hit timing information improves track reconstruction on high rate environments and identifies back-scattering hits from downstream calorimeters

REMOVE "GHOST" HITS

Separating tracks in time can mitigate the ambiguity of "ghost" hits in SiMS with strips running in perpendicular directions

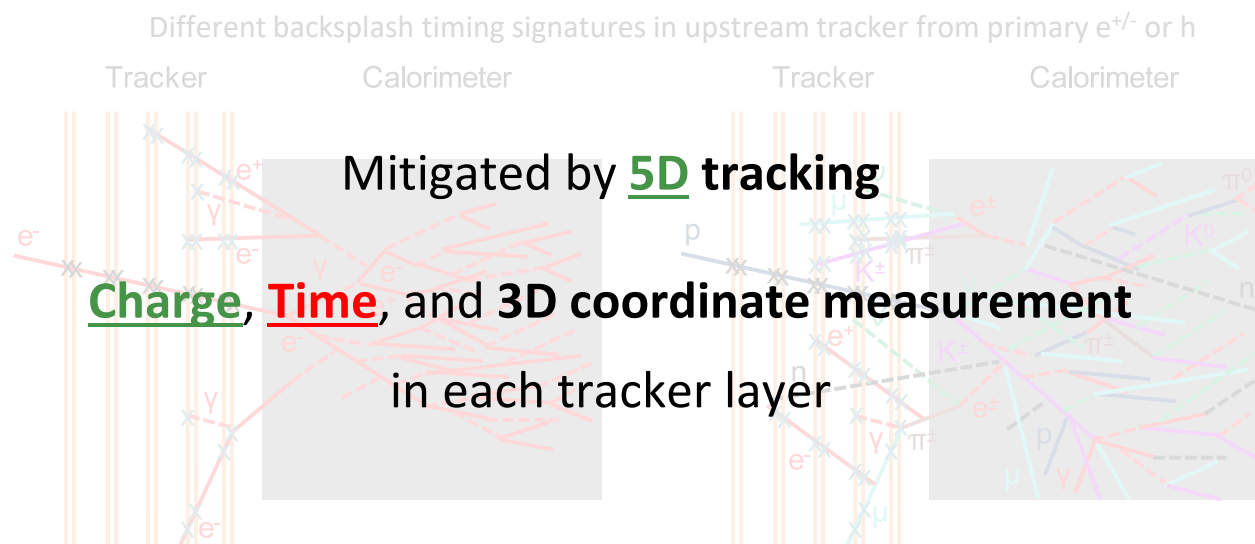
TIME OF FLIGHT

Hit timing resolutions of ~ 100 ps enable ToF measurements with SiMS complementary to scintillators with fast light readout

PARTICLE ID

Track timing identifies slow low-energy particles backscattering from downstream calorimeters for primary hadronic particle crossings

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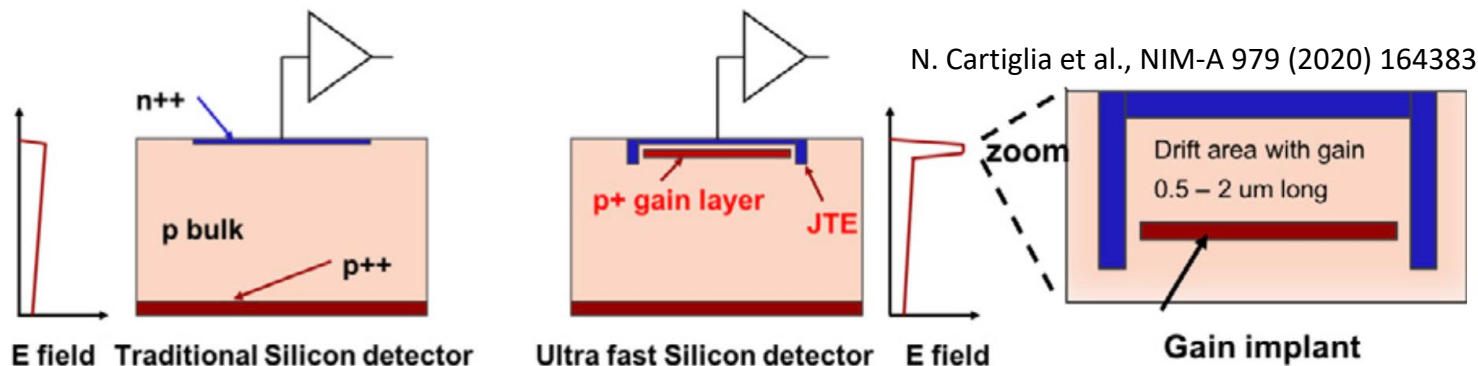
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Tracking with Low Gain Avalanche Diodes

R&D mostly driven by next-generation collider detectors / upgrades

Physics requirement: time information on all hit of tracker detectors for high-energy and high-intensity HEP colliders

- < 30ps timing resolution
- $O(10)\mu\text{m}$ spatial resolution
- $O(10^{16})n_{\text{eq}}/\text{cm}^2$ radiation tolerance



Basic principle:

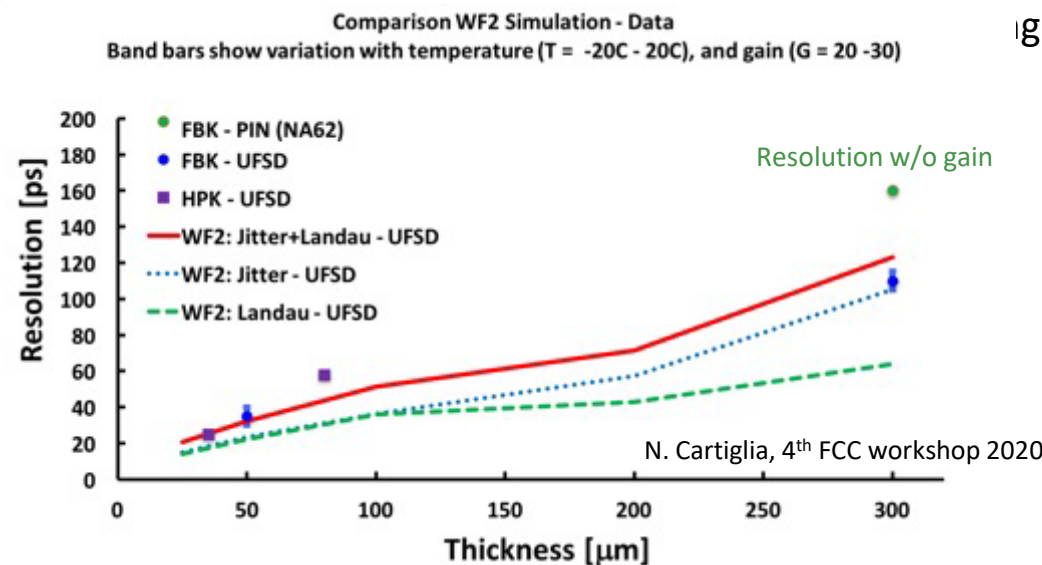
- **Thin** Si sensor (<150 μm), with intrinsic moderate gain obtained with a gain layer creating high E-field
- **Gain:** 10-50
- Excellent **timing** performances: ~20 ps

LGAD design optimized for improved timing resolution
(Ultra Fast Silicon Detectors, UFSD)

$$\sigma_{\text{TIME}}^2 = (\sigma_{\text{TIMEWALK}}^2 + \sigma_{\text{JITTER}}^2 + \sigma_{\text{TDC}}^2)$$

High-V biased thin sensors $\rightarrow$ saturated v_{drift}
increase signal in thin sensors $\rightarrow$ intrinsic gain

Optimal candidate for large-area 4D Tracking devices



Pentadimensional Tracking Space Detector

R&D activity to increase LGAD Si- μ strip TRL for space from TRL=2 to TRL=5

WP1
Management and
dissemination

INFN, ASI

WP2
Sensor design and
production

INFN, ASI

+ FBK as INFN-sub-unit

WP3
Proto-detector
qualification

INFN, ASI

WP4
Scientific applications
space mission design

ASI, INFN

INFN
Perugia, Bologna, Roma Tor Vergata
PI: Matteo Duranti

ASI
Headquarters (Roma)
co-PI: Valerio Vagelli

Main objective

Develop a breadboard laboratory model for verification of requirements, functionalities, and space qualification of LGAD μ strip

Funding and activities started in Sep 2023, duration 2 years, c.a. 200k€ fundings

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PNRR M4.C2.1.1, PRIN 2022, n. 2022JNF3M4, CUP I53D23001190006

Pentadimensional Tracking Space Detector - ASI

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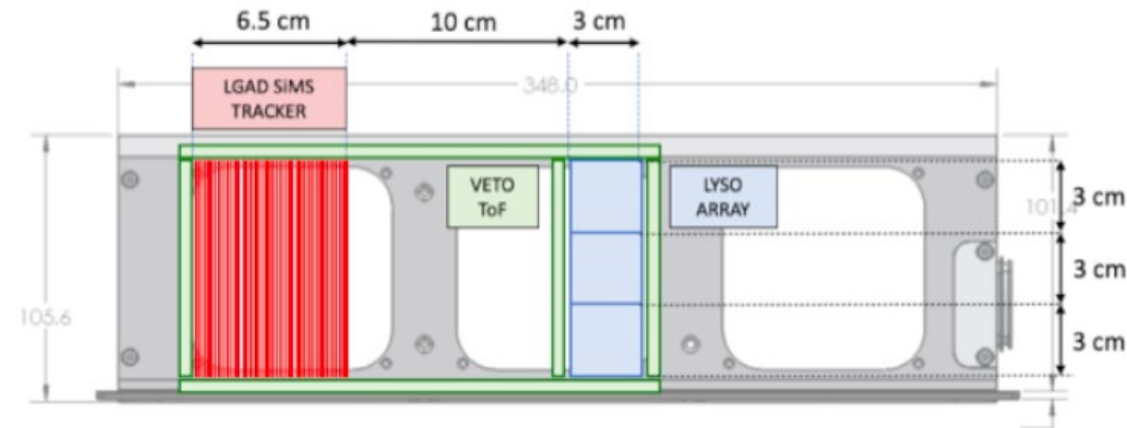
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A conceptual design of the demonstrator compatible with the constraints in weight, volume, and power budget of a CubeSat platform

Hosted in 2 units of a 3U CubeSat,
with one additional unit dedicated to the FEE and DAQ of the demonstrator.

Weight < 3 kg Power < 20 W



LGAD SiMS Tracker

40 layers of 150 μm thick SiMS LGADs
readout pitch: 150 μm

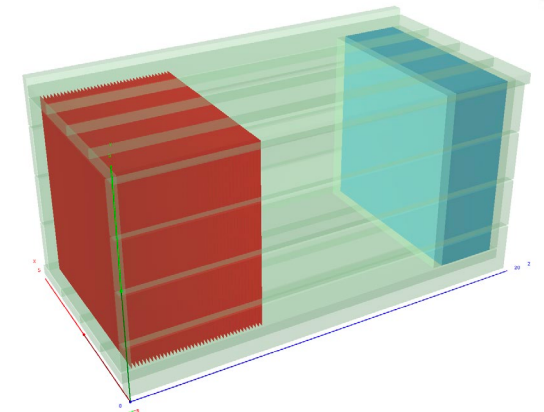
- expected $\Delta x \sim 15 \mu\text{m}$
- Target timing resolution $\sim 100 \text{ ps}$

Veto / Time of Flight system

0.5 cm thick Sci-paddles
SiPM readout using commercial FEE
 $\Delta t \sim 30 \text{ ps}$

Electromagnetic Calorimeter

3x3x3 cm³ array of LYSO crystals
SiPM readout using commercial FEE
Feasibility to add another stack of
LYSO array under study



Simulation of the detector performances is ongoing

Perspectives to fly a CubeSat demonstrator to reach TRL=9 in a follow-up activity

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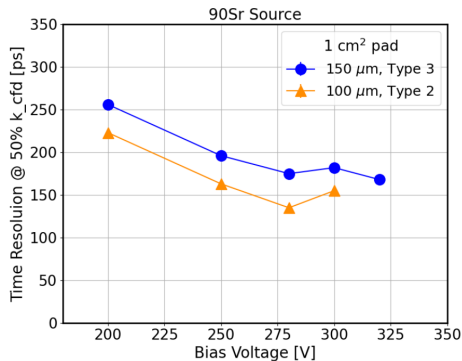
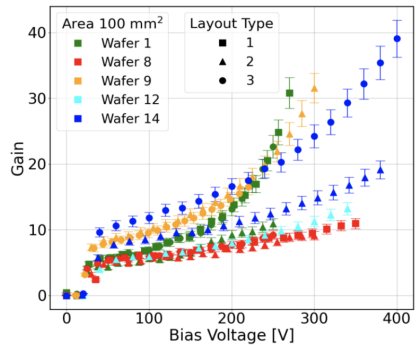
Is possible to cover tens of m² of tracking areas with LGADs and:

- <100 (ideally 20-30) ps timing
- <10 μm spatial resolution
- <100 W / m²
- <100 K_{ch} / m²

?

from ASAPP 2025 L. Cavazzini's talk

Space LGADs for AstroParticle Physics: Performances



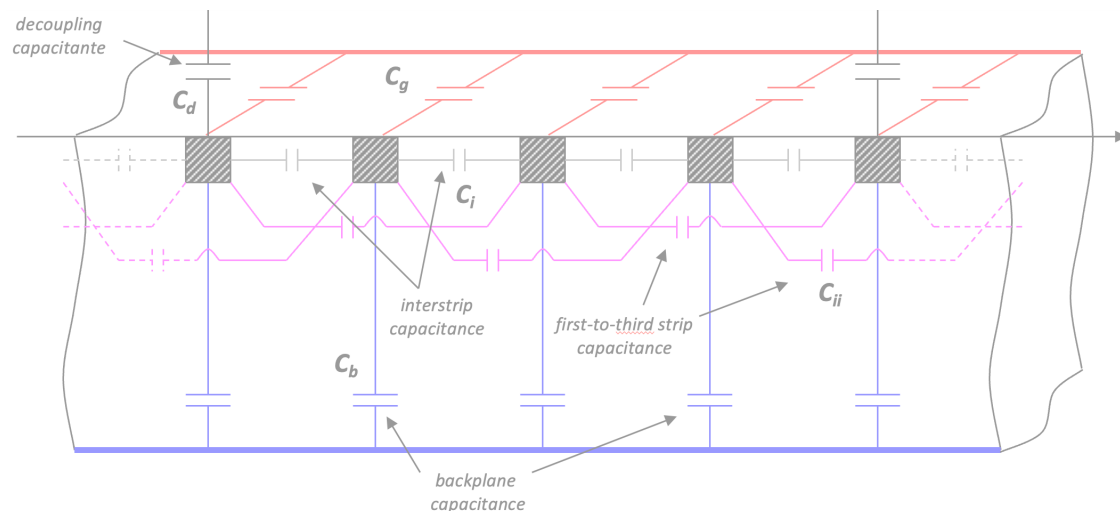
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AMS-100	2050	~ 180-200 m ²	~ 100 cm	~ 8 · 10 ⁶	~ 100 μm	~ 5 μm

How much is the maximum length of a Si LGAD μstrip?

Is it possible to "daisy chain" LGADs?

Is there a way to mitigate this problems and, for example, reduce the capacitance even with very thin LGAD sensors?

In-series readout of LGADs: the SiPM example



p = pitch (typical 25-50 μm)
 l = strip length (typical 50-100 μm)
 d = thickness (typical 300 μm)

C_i = interstrip capacitance $\sim 1 \text{ pF/cm} * l = 10 - 100 \text{ pF}$

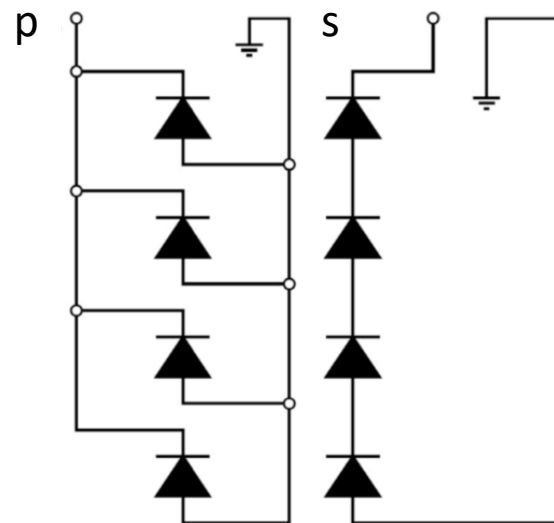
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C_g = guard-ring capacitance $\ll C_i$

C_{ii} = first-to-third strip capacitance $\ll C_i$

For thin and long strips, capacitance must be kept under limit



s) “in-series” readout

X bias voltage scales with number of sensors

✓ total capacitance seen by readout FEE scales **down** with number of sensors

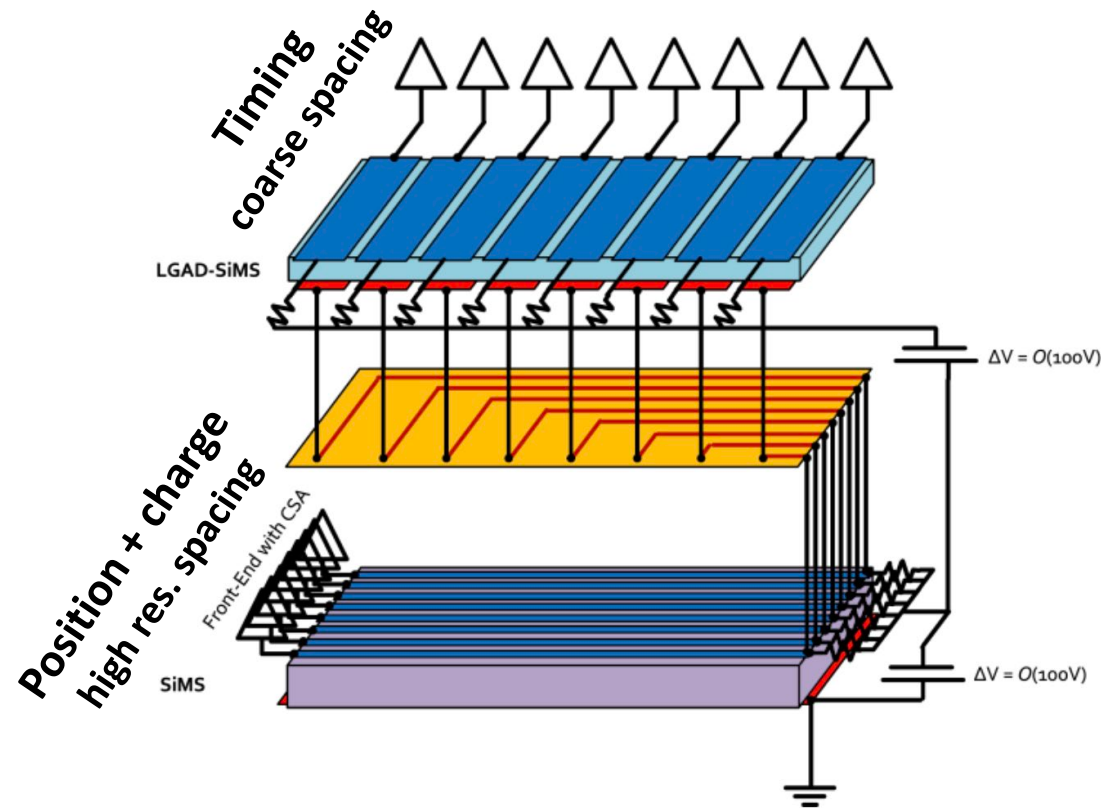
--> can we “port” this approach to LGADs?

N. Kratochwil et al., **PANDA** experiment

p) standard “parallel” readout

✓ bias voltage independent on number of sensors

X total capacitance seen by readout FEE scales with number of sensors



Starting proposed design

Possible connections for a 5D detector made of a thin LGAD Si- μ strip sensor for timing and moderate resolution coordinate measurement coupled with a thicker standard SiMS sensor for charge and high-resolution coordinate measurement.

Driver design: LGAD + standard Si- μ strip in series readout

- combine a standard μ strip sensor (2D + Z) with an LGAD (2D + timing)
- In-series readout of the "stack" to reduce LGAD capacitance
- use standard μ strip as "structural" material for a very thin LGAD layer

Strips running in opposite directions → measurement of 2D coordinates with different resolutions

- suits the requirements for a **tracking system in a magnetic spectrometer with oriented magnetic field**

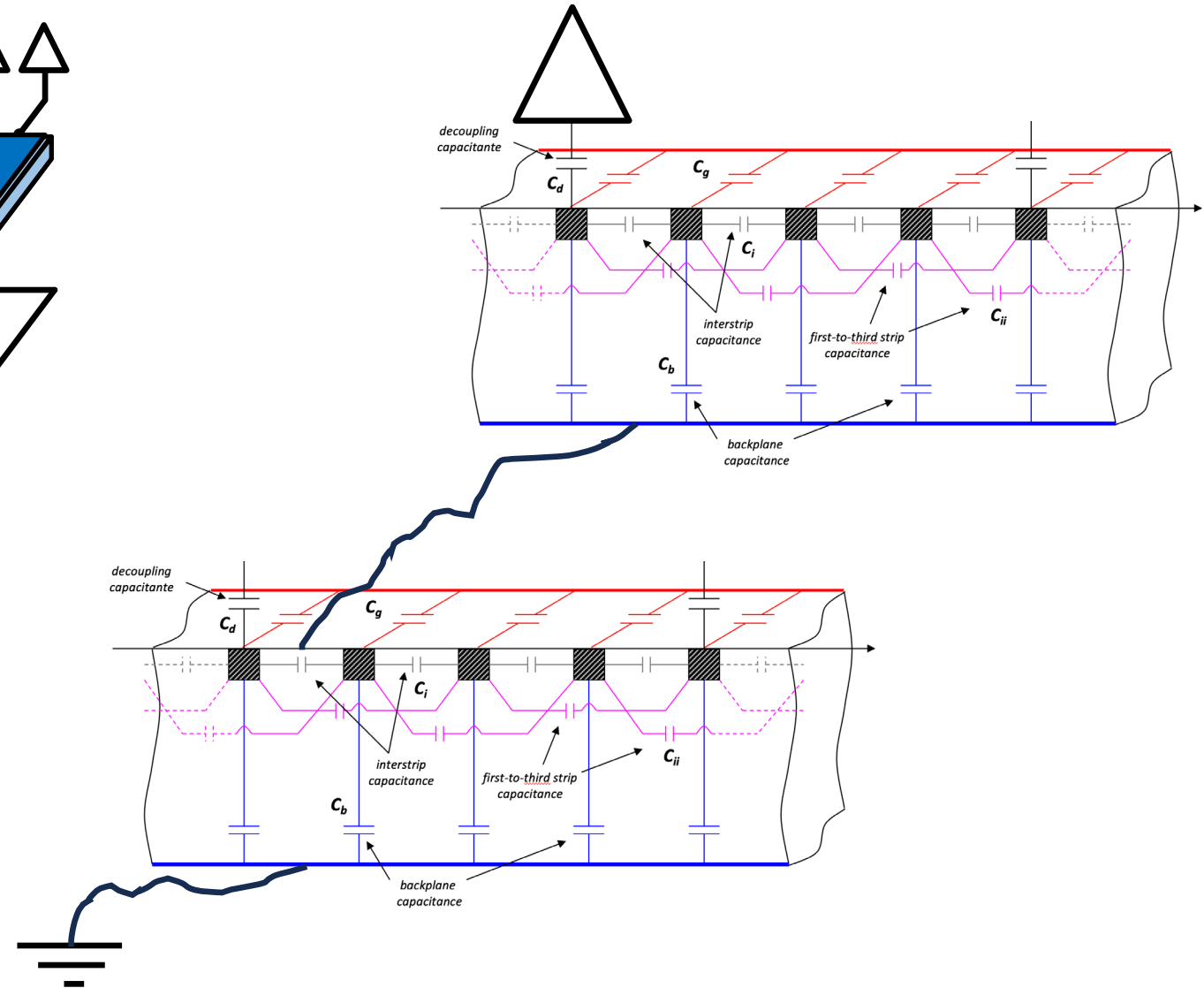
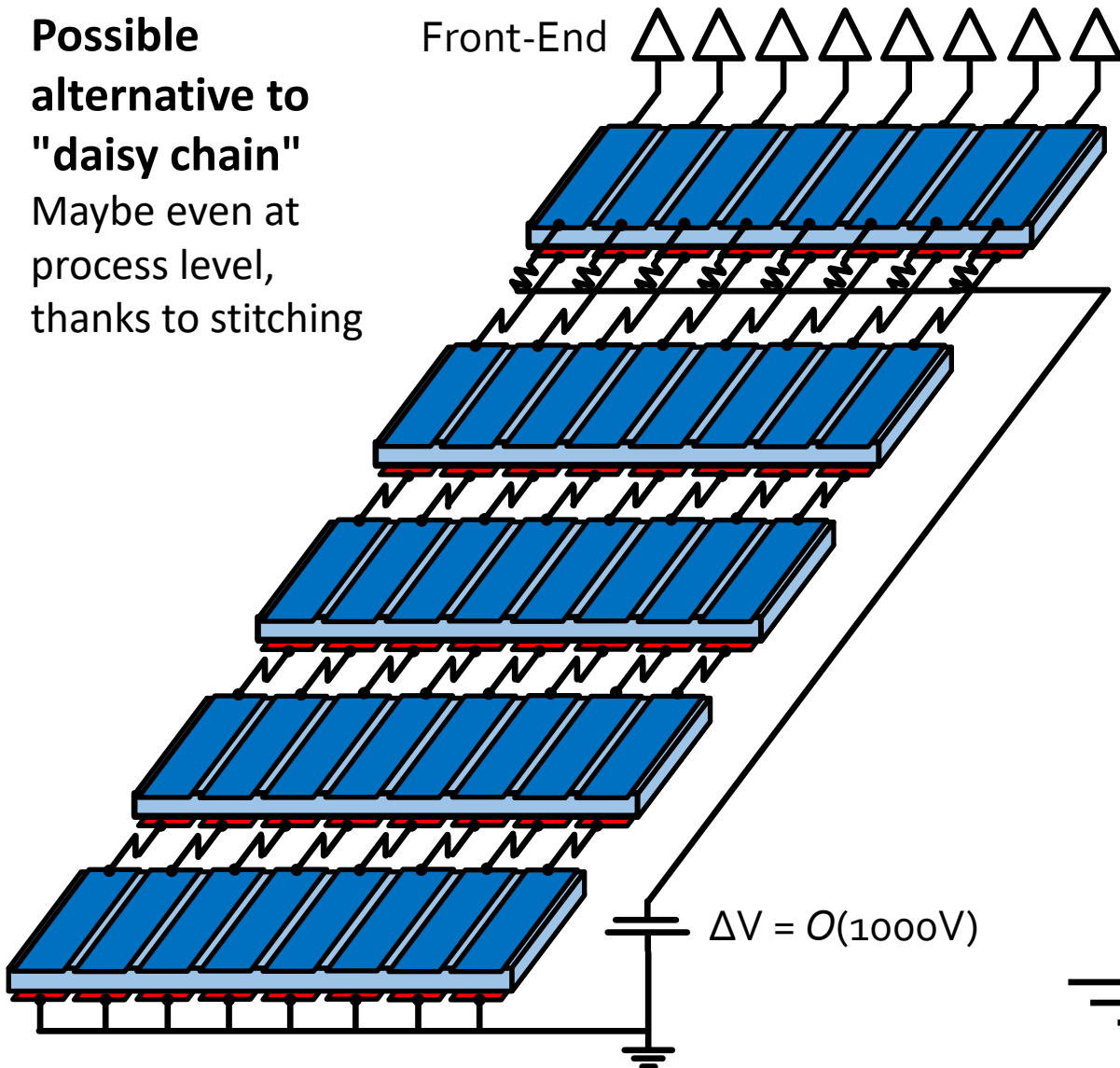
Of course there are not only benefits:

- mechanical structures and interfaces will be an issue
- requires a double-sided LGAD
 - costs and risks of process development, yield, assembly, ... increase

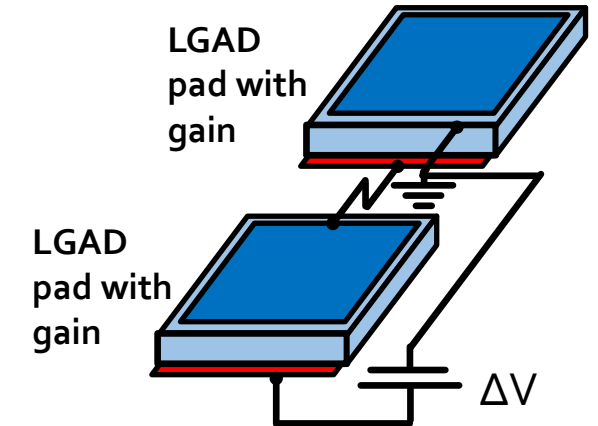
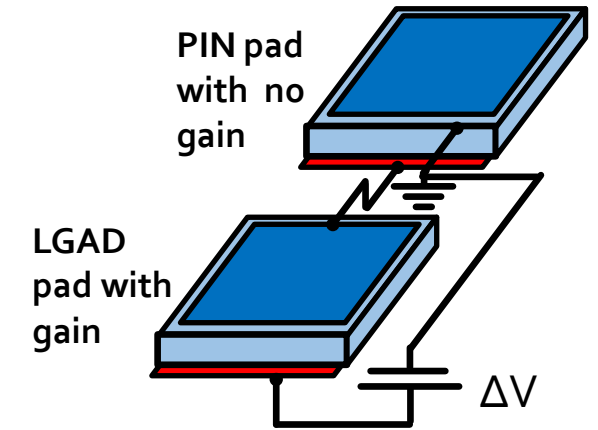
More “advanced” ideas...

Possible alternative to "daisy chain"

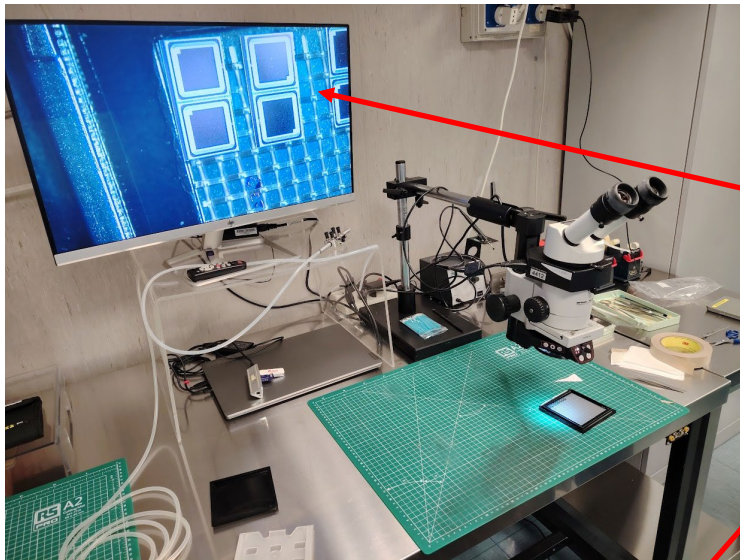
Maybe even at process level, thanks to stitching



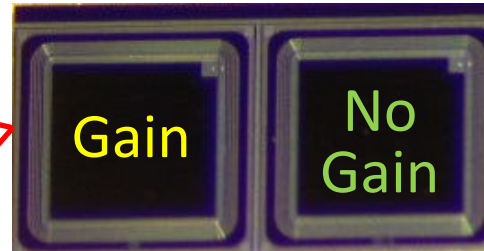
Let's start with a single
pad “sandwich”
To test the idea



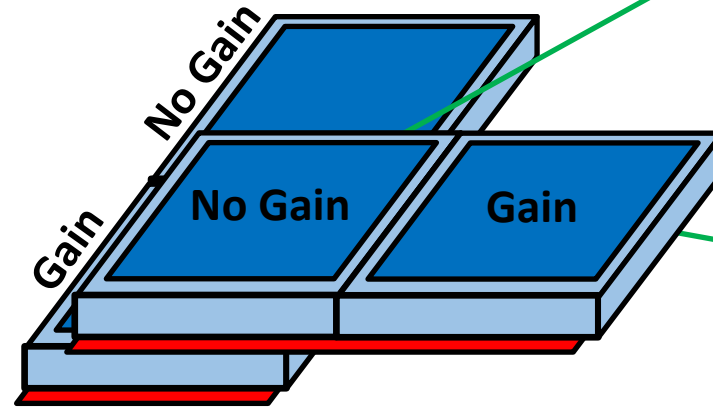
"Stacked" 5D sensor – Proof of concept lab tests



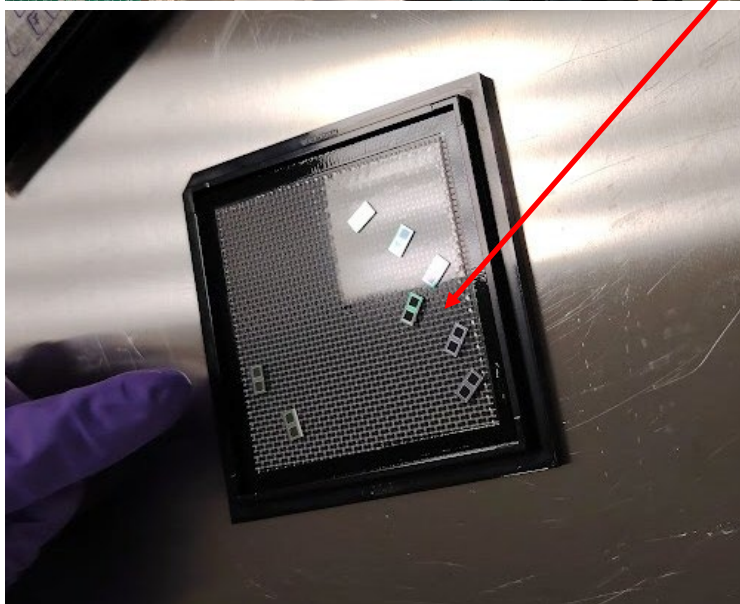
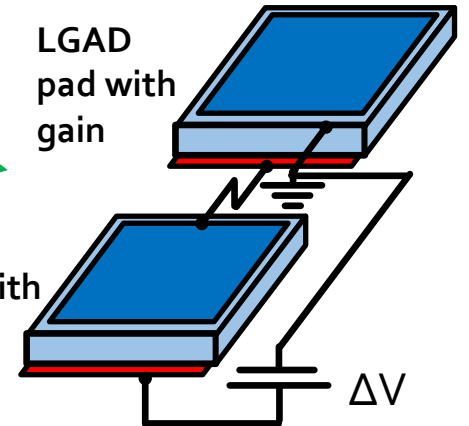
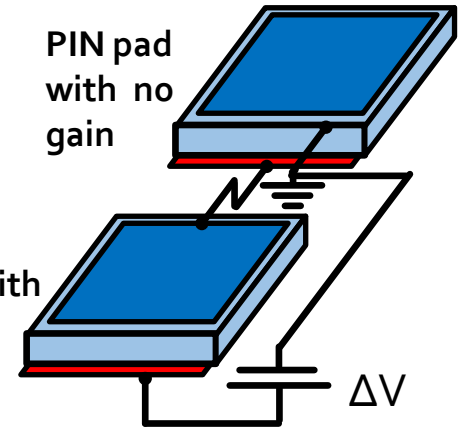
With test structures
(FBK, from the MoveIT project, which we thank)



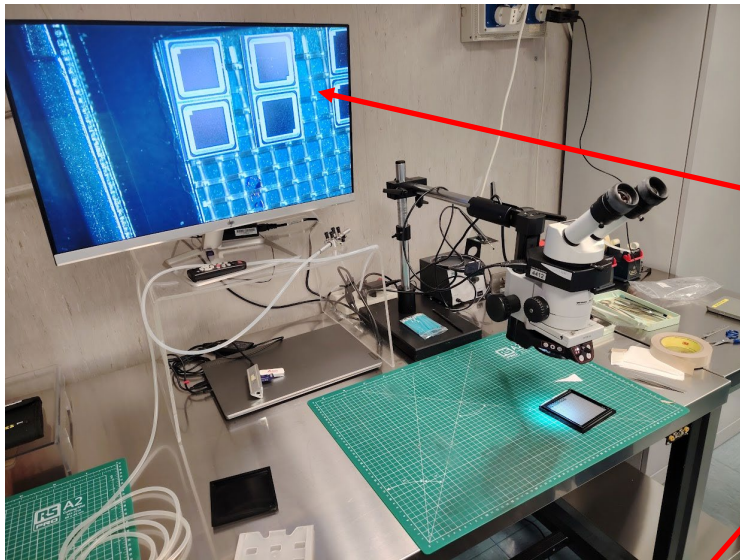
we could test (J. Hu and M. Savinelli) the idea with a prototype like this:



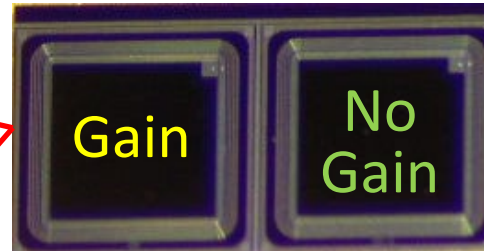
the two devices were glued with small spots of glue: the "No Gain" region on the bottom was "protected" with Kapton so to connect only the "Gain" region with the back of the top device



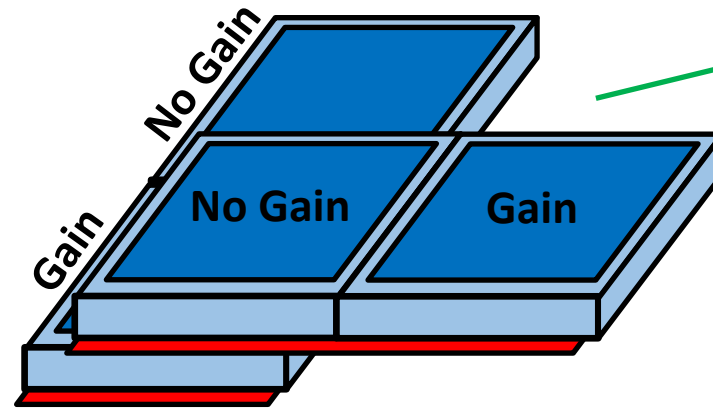
"Stacked" 5D sensor – Proof of concept lab tests



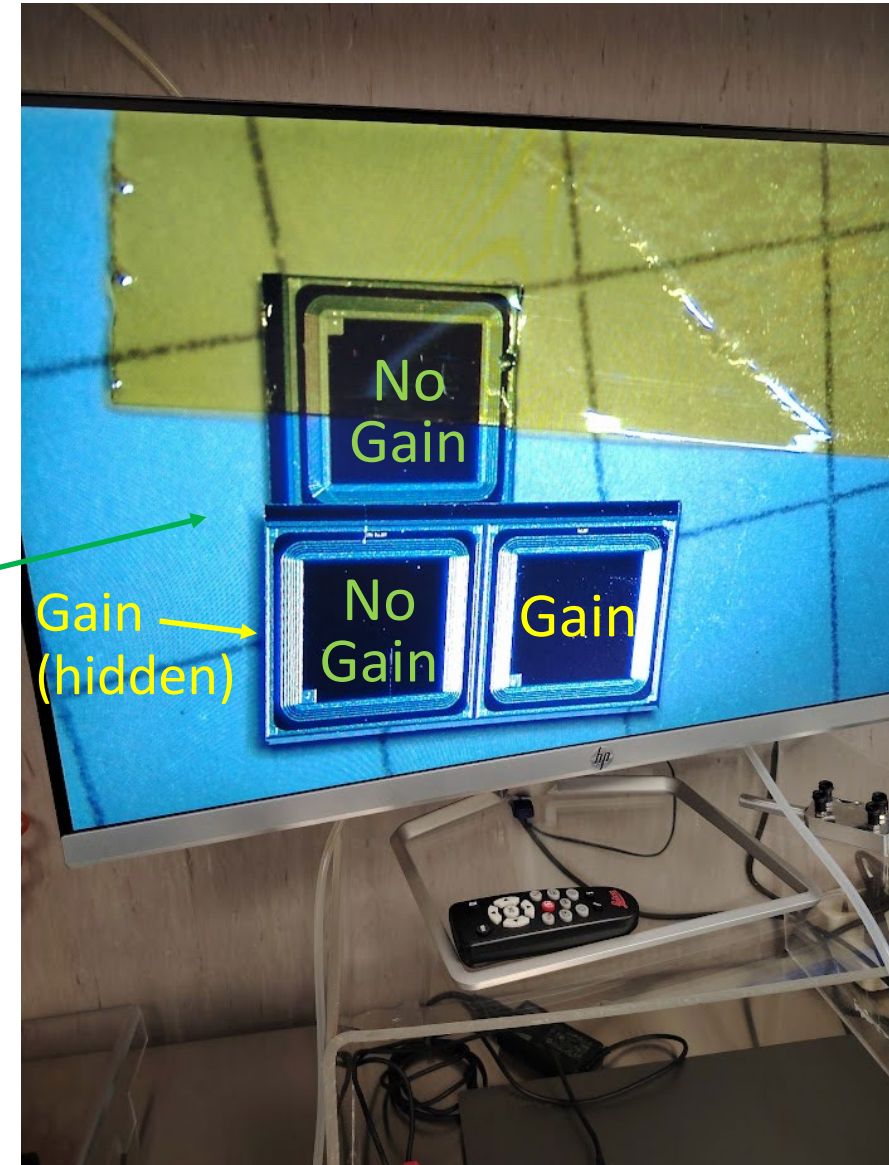
Thanks to test structures
(FBK, from the MoveIT project, that we thanks)



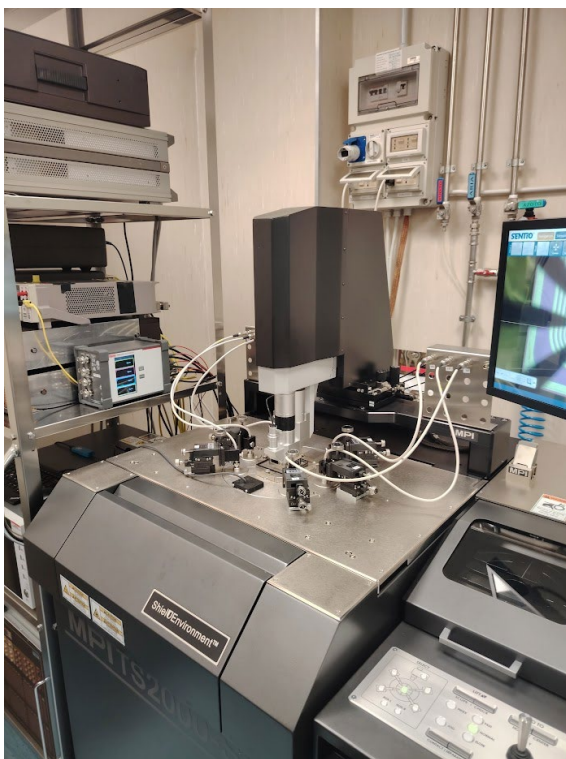
we could test (J. Hu and M. Savinelli) the idea with
a prototype like this:



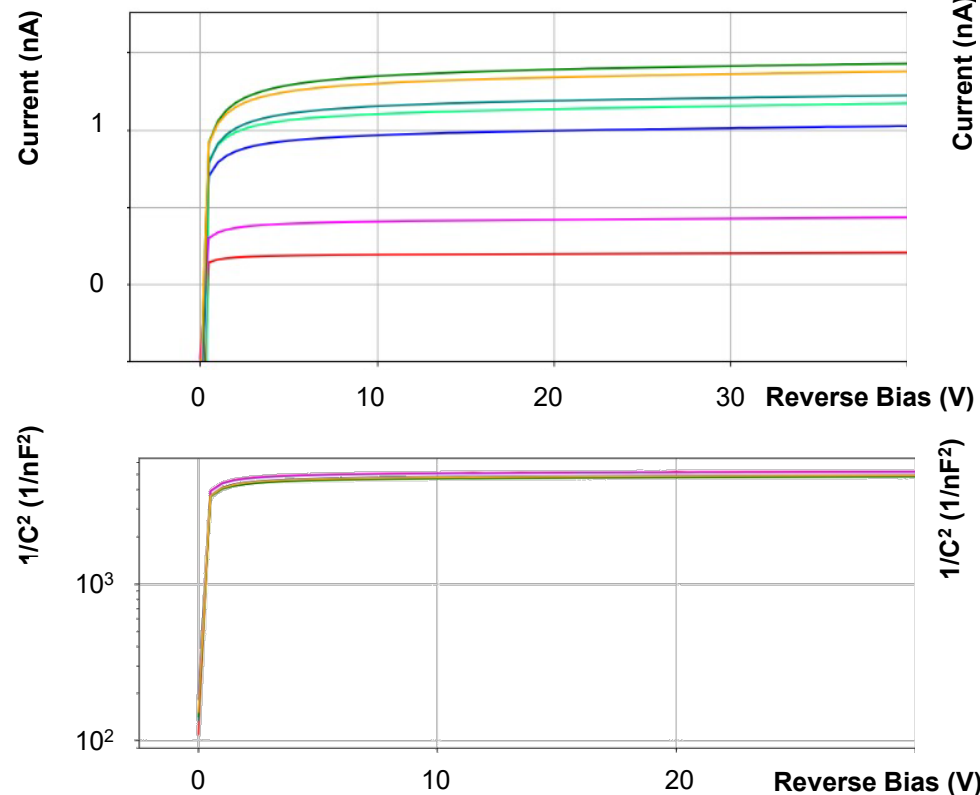
the two devices were glued with small spots of
glue: the "No Gain" region on the bottom was
"protected" with kapton so to connect only the
"Gain" region with the back of the top device



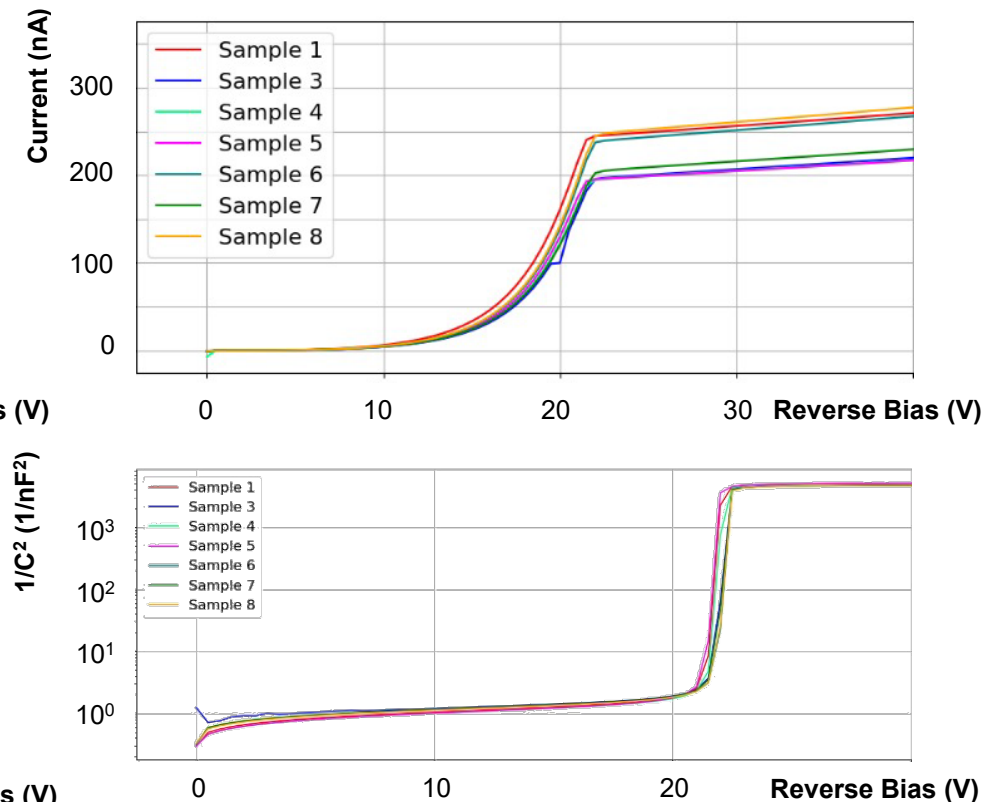
C-V and I-V measurements with the probe-station in the INFN Perugia Clean Room (thanks to F. Moscatelli)



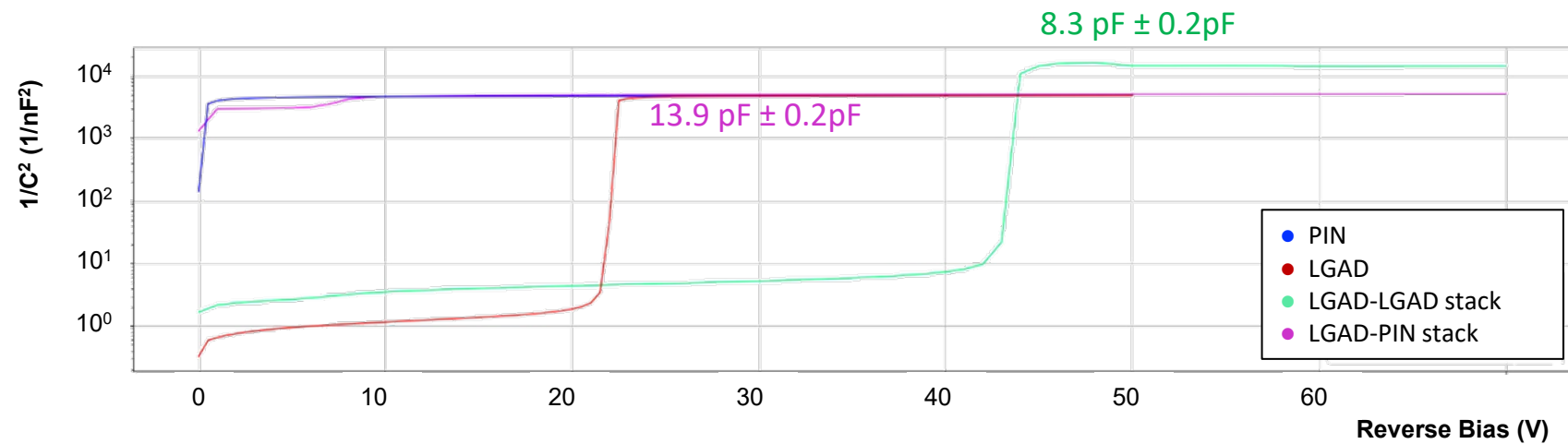
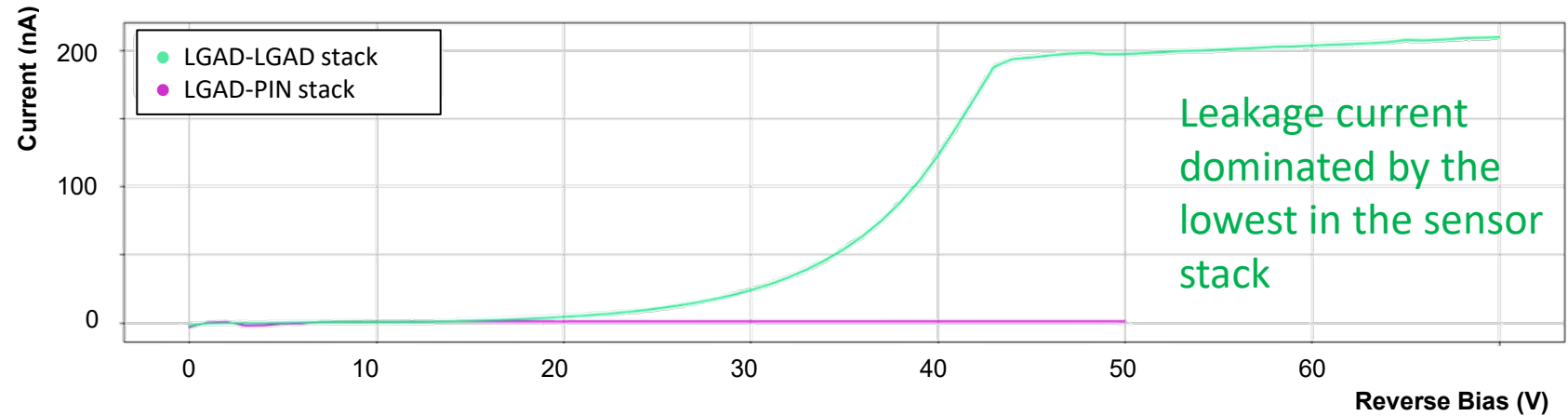
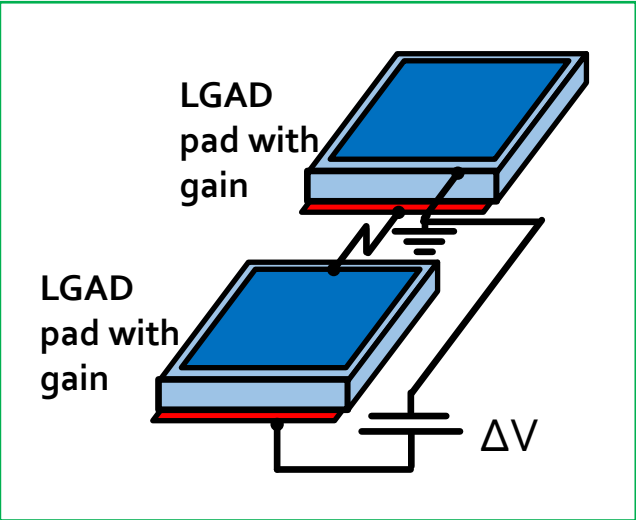
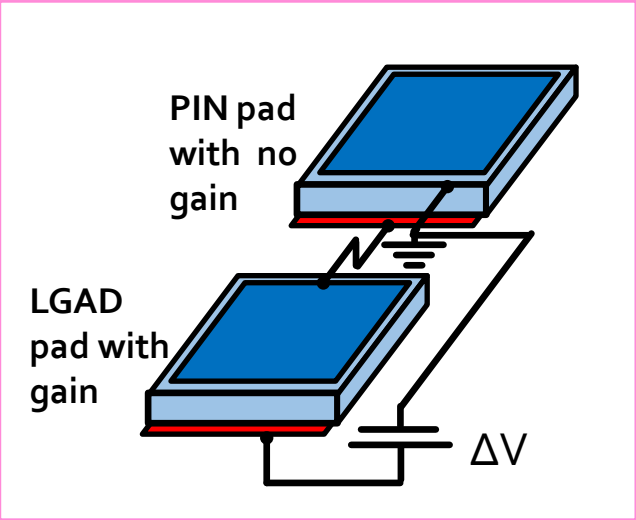
“No gain” / PIN
 $I_{\text{LEAK}}: 0.5 - 1.5 \text{ nA}$
 $C: 13.9 - 14.7 \pm 0.2 \text{ pF}$



“Gain” / LGAD
 $I_{\text{LEAK}}: 250 - 350 \text{ nA}$
 $C: 13.9 - 14.7 \pm 0.2 \text{ pF}$



Proof of concept lab tests: “stacked” test structures



$$C_{tot} = \left(\frac{1}{C_1} + \frac{1}{C_2} \right)^{-1}$$

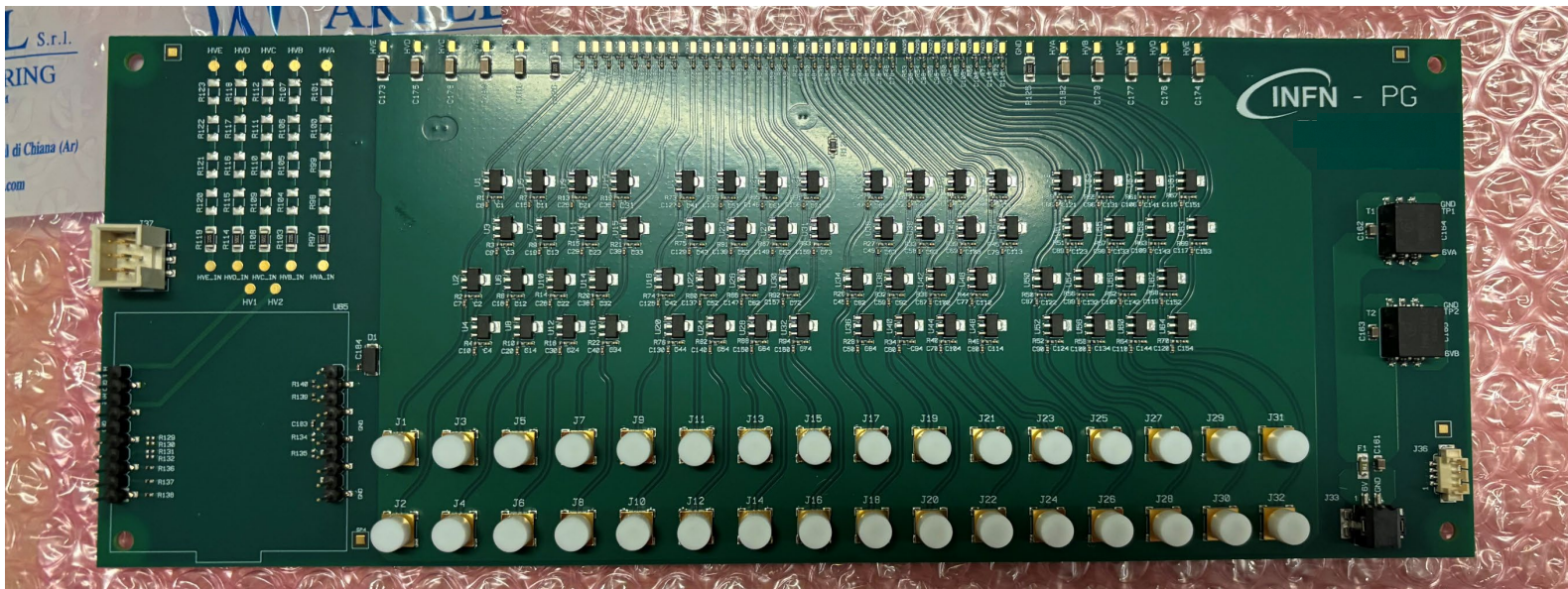
LGAD-LGAD stack $C \sim \text{half } C_{PIN}$
LGAD-PIN stack $C \sim C_{PIN}$

interesting results, more measurements to address discrepancies

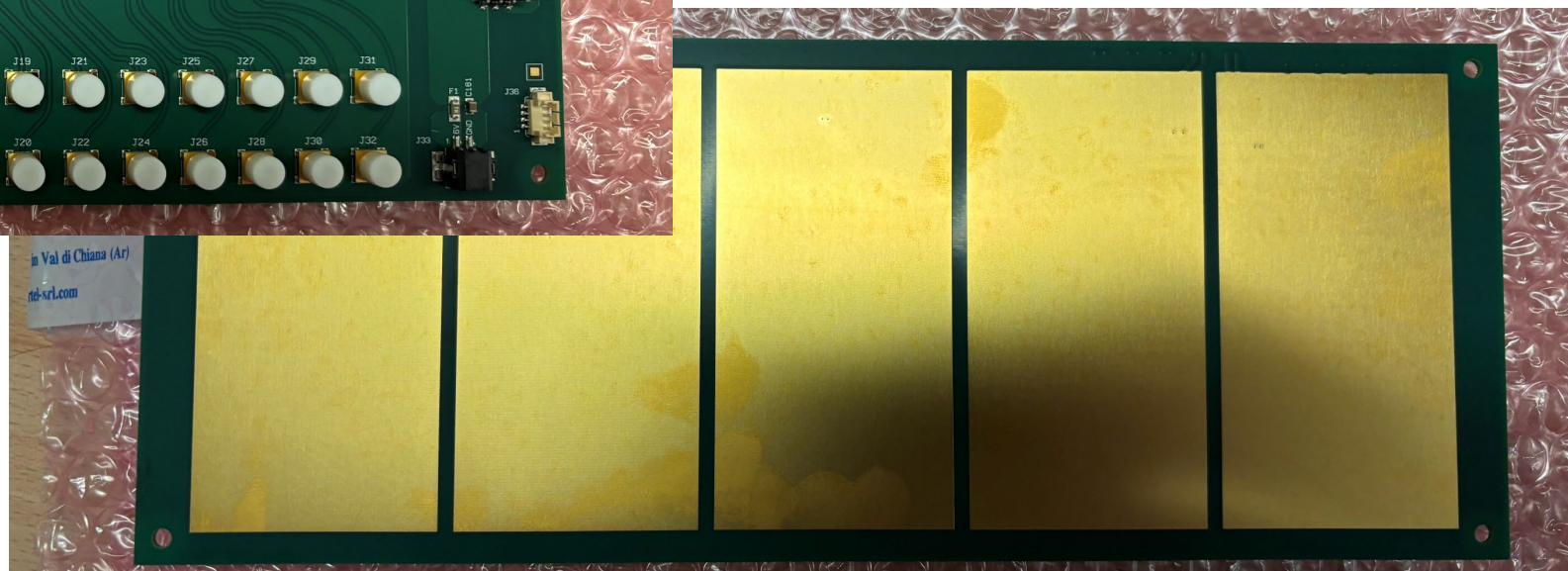
Based on the Fermilab board (thanks V. Sola, INFN Torino) we're developing our own read-out board:

- 2 stage amps
- 32 channels
- "plate" (with back bias) to stick (conductive tape) the samples to be tested

The 32 channels can be read directly to an oscilloscope or to a digitizer



The board lets us measure the timing performances without dedicate ASICs





TCT system to measure:

- spatial resolution estimation
- timing resolution estimation

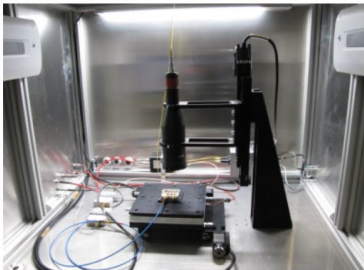
on

- “stacked” test structures
- larger detector (test structures on silicon spares)
- custom sensors (production by end of 2026)

Specifications:

Component	Parameter	Properties
Laser		
particulars, advanced measurement systems	Laser diode	
	wavelength:	660 nm or 1064 nm (optional others on demand)
	pulse power:	few m.i.p. - 100 m.i.p. (equivalent in 300 micron Si)
	pulse width:	<350 ps - 4000 ps (tunable)
	coupling:	single core fibre
	Driver	
	control:	with PC over USB
	running mode:	single pulse: 50 Hz - 1MHz
		pattern mode: mHz to 100 kHz
		1024 bits deep sequence of pulses
		minimum distance between two pulses 440 ns
	external control:	external NIM logical signal
	I/O:	ext. trigger in/trigger out MC/trigger out laser

large scanning tct



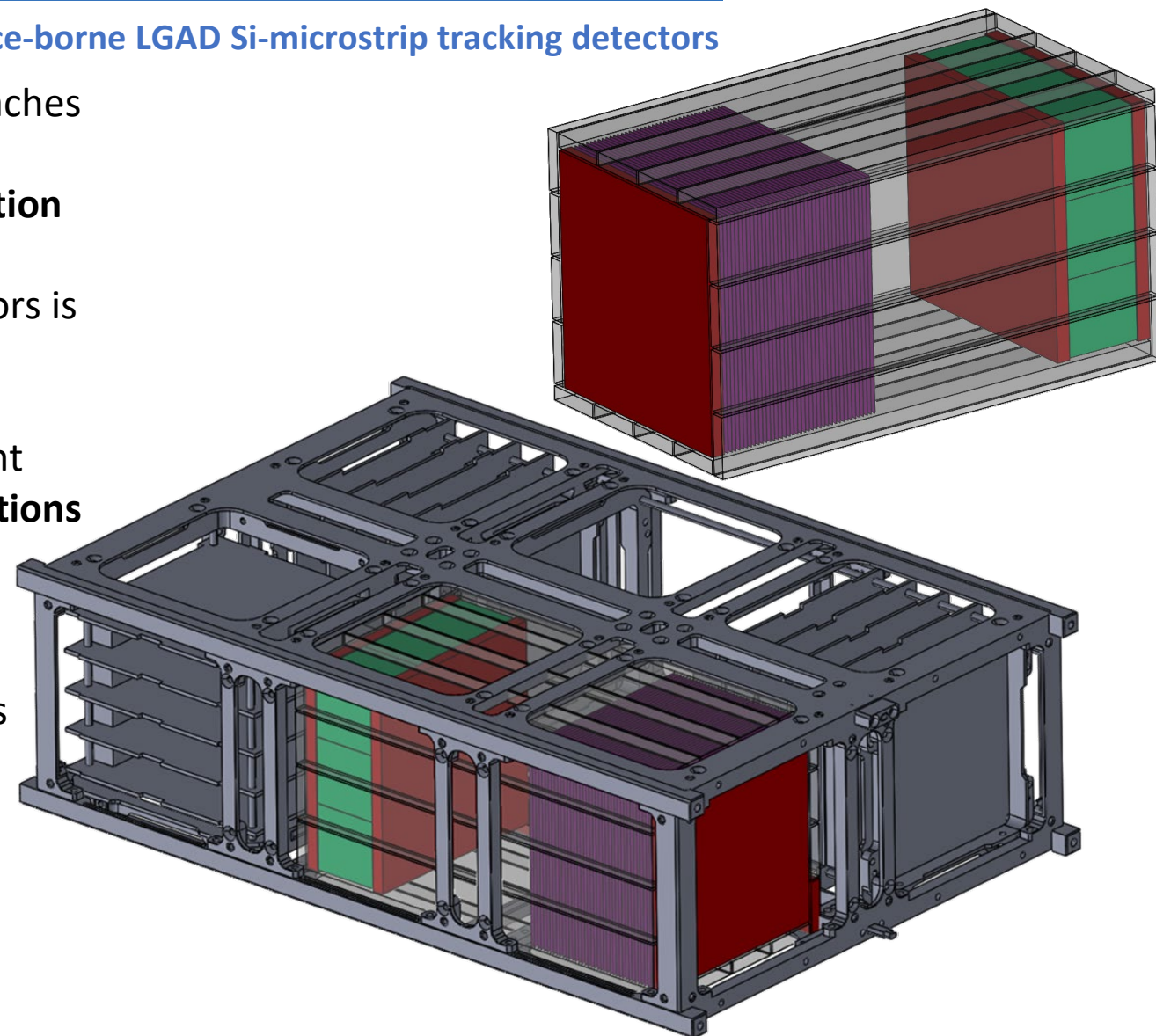
Large Scanning-TCT aims for the same applications as Scanning TCT. The main difference with respect to the latter is the vertical placement of the optical system and larger and more robust stages that can carry heavy load. The mounting surface is cooled by a combination of several Peltier elements with the combined power of 200W. The mounting plane is much larger and allows also for wider range of movements. Performance wise the properties of both systems are similar.

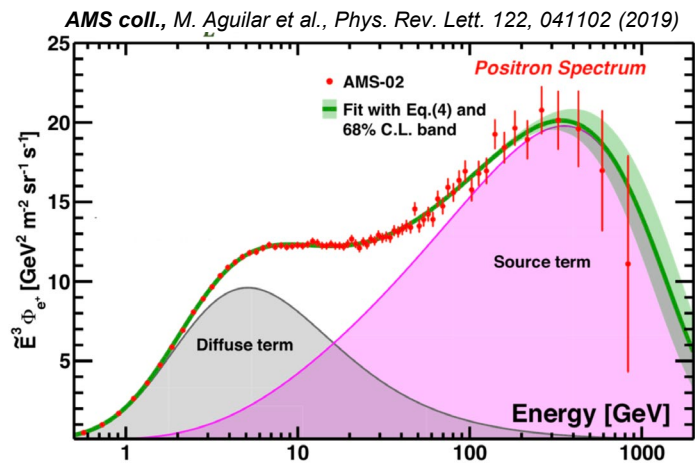
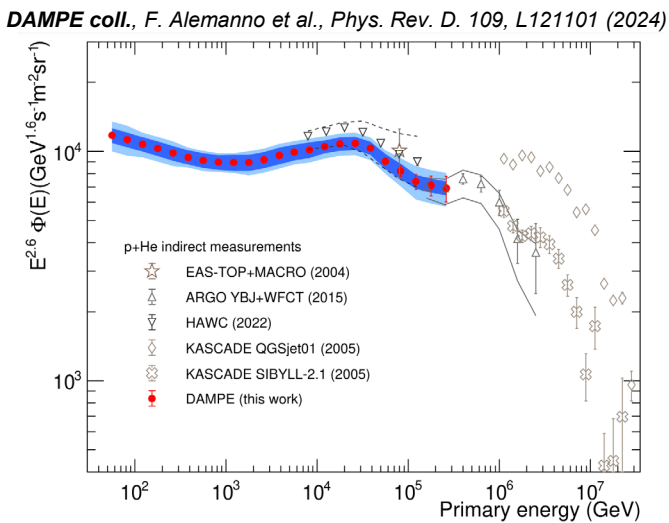
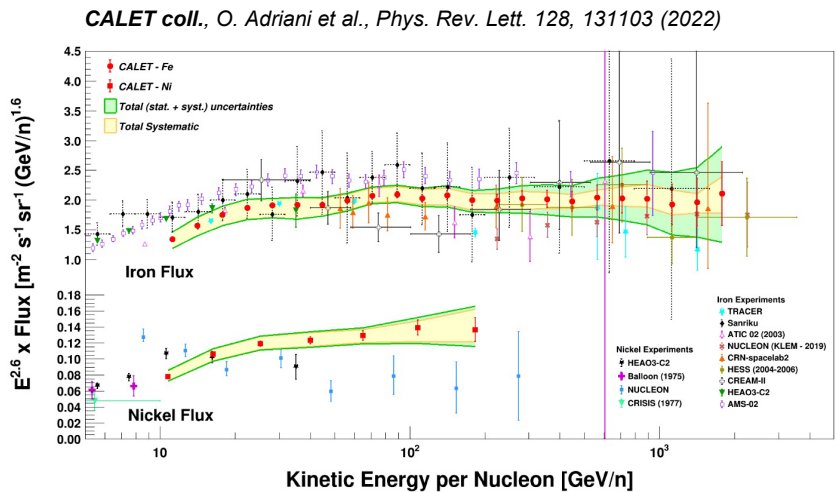
The Pentadimensional Tracking Space Detector project, R&D for space-borne LGAD Si-microstrip tracking detectors

- **5D tracking in space** may open new diagnostics and approaches in cosmic-ray and gamma-ray next-generation instruments
- LGAD best candidate technology to achieve **<100 ps resolution in large area space trackers**
- **R&D** and **spin-in / spin-off** from ground accelerator detectors is needed to increase the TRL

The **PTSD program** aims at:

- verifying proof-of concept and test a breadboard instrument
- reach **TRL=5 for a timing Si-LGAD system for space applications**
- Design optimization through simulations and laboratory measurements
- Stacked LGAD device laboratory tests as proof of concept
- Details on readout board design and production in progress
 - **Results are encouraging**
- Consolidating **mission requirements** for a **CubeSat demonstrator to reach TRL=9**
- Ongoing in the Italian Space Agency (ASI) Concurrent Engineering Facility (CEF) (6 out of 8 sessions already done)





- I. What is the origin of the **hardening observed in the spectra of CR nuclei** at rigidity of 300 GV and ~10 TV?
- II. Why is the slope of the spectrum of CR **proton and helium** different?
- III. What is the origin of the prominent **break** observed at a particle energy of **1 TeV in the electron spectrum**?
- IV. Why do the **proton, positron, and antiproton** spectra have roughly same slopes at particle energies larger than 10 GeV?
- V. What is the origin of the **rise in the positron fraction** at particle energies above 10 GeV?
- VI.

S. Gabici @ ICRC 2023
CR direct rapporteur

COMPOSITION
frontier

ENERGY
frontier

ANTIMATTER
frontier

NEW paradigm of CR origin, acceleration and propagation

Novel experimental approaches that target all opportunities of space platforms must be addressed, from **cubesats and nanosatellite constellations** up to **large-size space missions** and **Moon**, including **stratospheric balloon flight missions**.

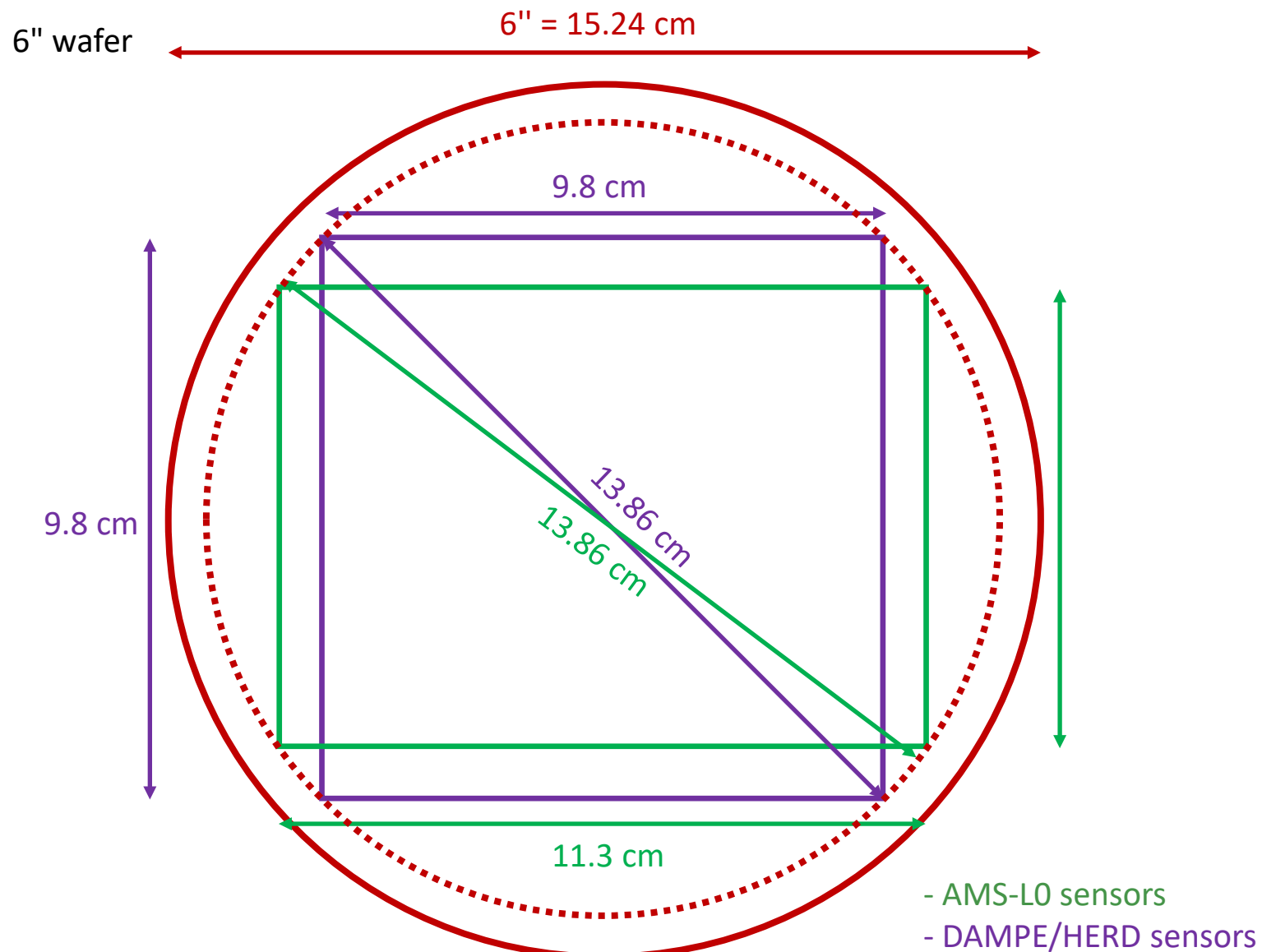
+ synergic activity at ground laboratories and accelerators to tackle **technological challenges** and enable **new observational approaches**
Large acceptance missions remain the most promising approach to new discoveries and high-accuracy space measurements

Capacitance and daisy-chain

At production level the strips cannot be so long:

- they must be at least shorter than the wafer diagonal (i.e. 6" – some margin)
- typically is at most ~ 10 cm long

→ 50-100 cm long strips are obtained through daisy-chain

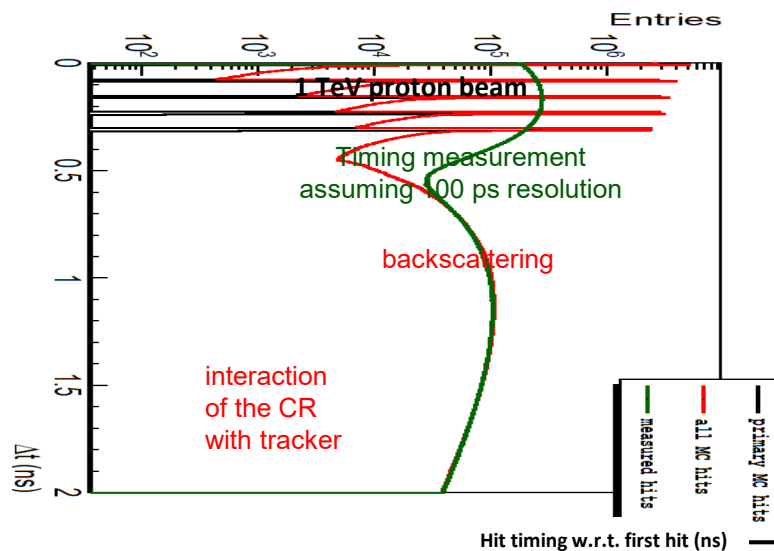
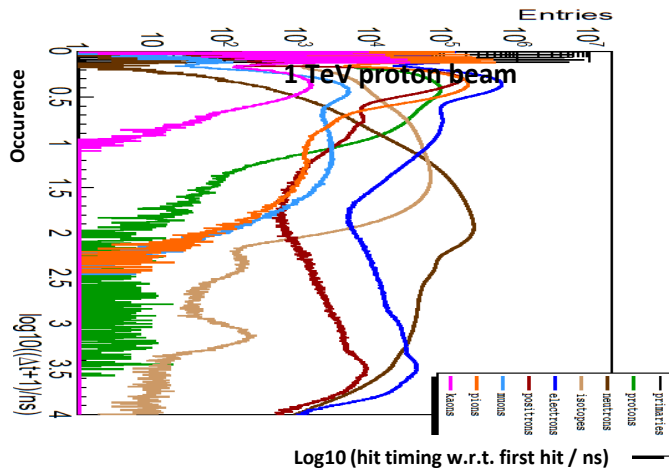
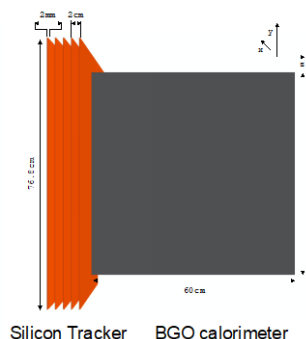


Effects of 5D-Tracking in backscattering events

M. Duranti et al., *Instruments* 2021, 5(2), 20

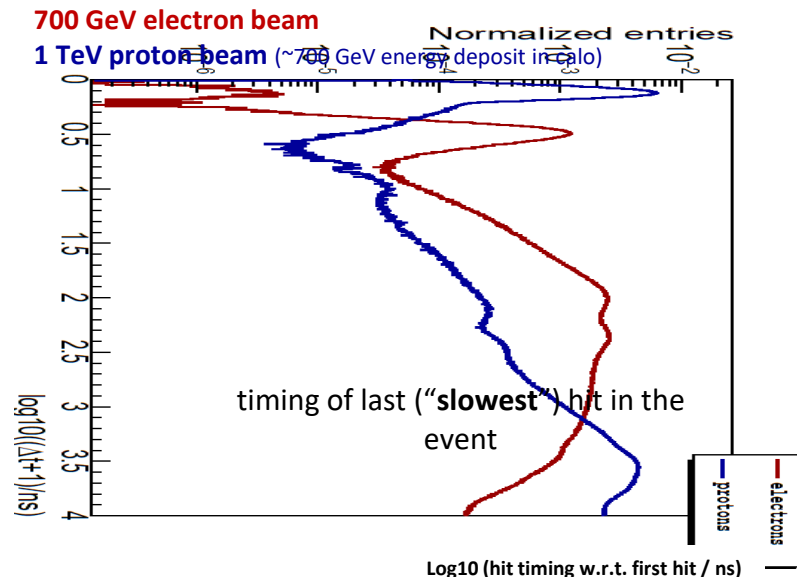
MC simulation of backscattered particles from downstream calorimeter on tracker layers

Simulation based on GGS Generic Geant Simulationn Mori N, NIM-A 1002, 2021



100 ps resolution allows to separate hits from primary particles and from secondary backplash (tracker and calorimeter are 2cm far from each other)

Prospects for improved tracking efficiency



Different timing signatures from p and $e^{\pm}$ showers

Prospects to use in MVA classifiers for e/p separation

Timing resolution benchmark: < 100 ps (enabled with Si- μ strip LGAD [+ mitigation of FE consumption])

Break-through objectives (e.g.: performant isotope separation): **< 50 ps** (requires readout noise mitigation approaches)

Tracking with Low Gain Avalanche Diodes

Gains from material budget reduction in low-energy CR and g-ray measurements

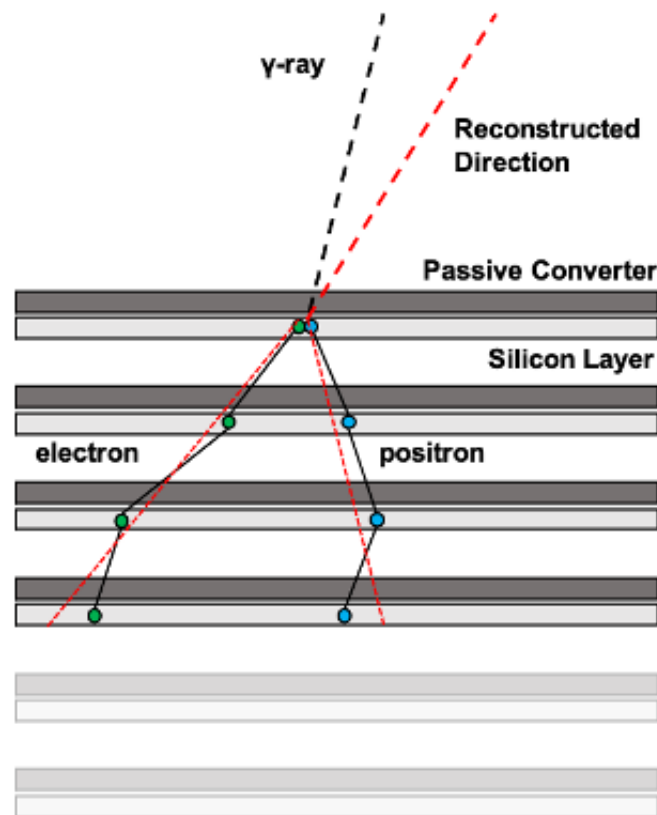
Thin high signal Si sensors: the LGAD intrinsic gain improves the SNR for thin sensors and allows for reduced active material budget tracking planes

The PSF of γ -ray experiments (Fermi-LAT, DAMPE, ...) is degraded at low energies by Coulomb MS in materials (passive converter and Si-sensors)

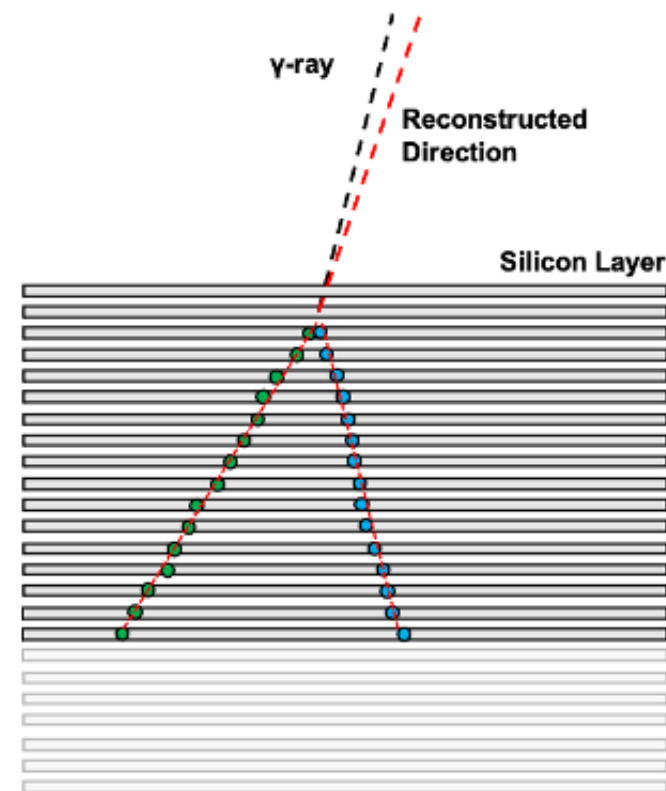
- **Remove passive materials**
- **Use thin active detectors**
- **Increase number of active layers to boost the GR conversion probability** (approach first proposed in X. Wu et al., "PANGU: A high resolution gamma-ray space telescope", Proc. SPIE 9144 (2014))

Sub-GeV γ -ray detectors
Opportunity for improved PSF below 1 GeV

PANGU ref.: 1 deg PSF @ 100 MeV (1/5 Fermi-LAT)
0.2 deg PSF @ 1 GeV (1/5 Fermi-LAT)



Standard approach
converter tracker



Novel approach
fully active multi-layer tracker

Pentadimensional Tracking Space Detector - INFN



R&D activity to increase LGAD Si-μstrip TRL for space from TRL=2 to TRL=5

WP1
Management and dissemination

INFN, ASI

WP2
Sensor design and production

INFN, ASI

+ FBK as INFN-sub-unit

WP3
Proto-detector qualification

INFN, ASI

WP4
Scientific applications space mission design

ASI, INFN

INFN
Perugia, Bologna, Roma Tor Vergata
PI.: Matteo Duranti

ASI
Headquarters (Roma)
co-PI: Valerio Vagelli

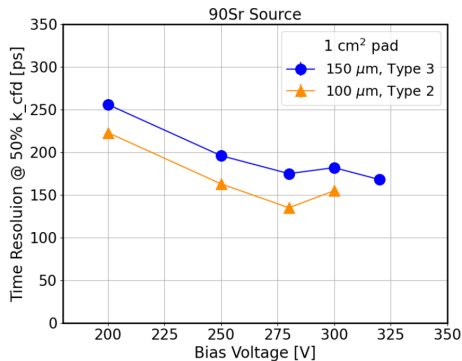
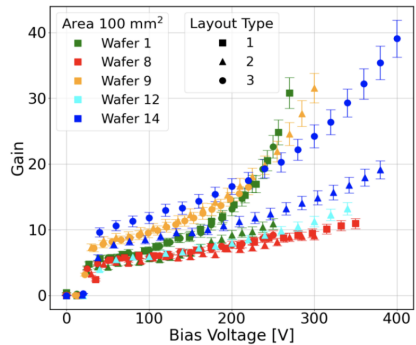
Is possible to cover tens of m² of tracking areas with LGADs and:

- <100 (ideally 20-30) ps timing
- <10 μm spatial resolution
- <100 W / m²
- <100 K_{ch} / m²

?

from ASAPP 2025 L. Cavazzini's talk

Space LGADs for AstroParticle Physics: Performances



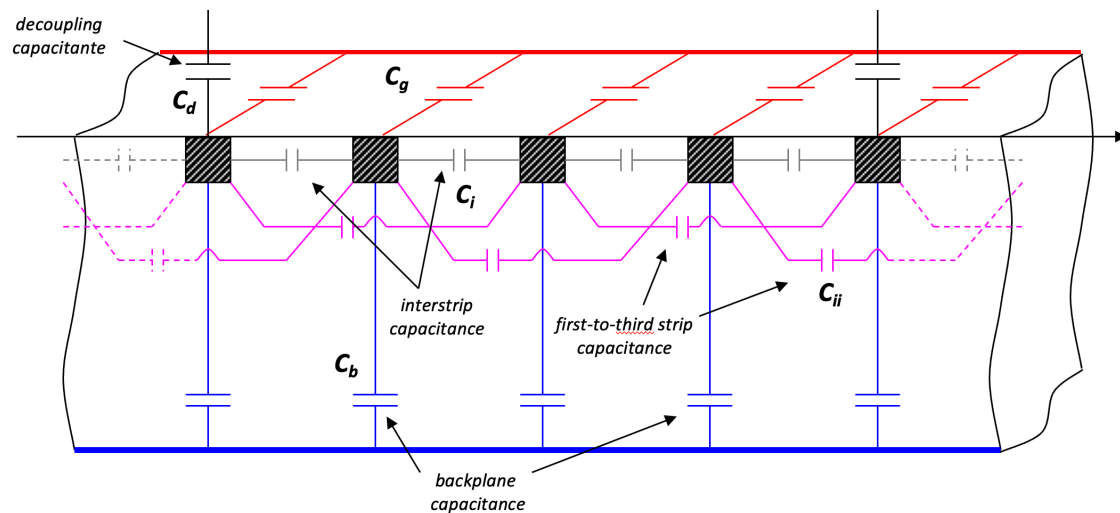
BUT WE
ARE NOT
HAPPY
JUST YET!

Future Missions						
	Planned operations	Si-sensor area	Strip-length	Readout channels	Readout pitch	Spatial resolution
HERD	2030	~ 35 m ²	48–67 cm	~ 350 · 10 ³	~ 242 μm	~ 40 μm
ALADInO	2050	~ 80-100 m ²	19–67 cm	~ 2.5 · 10 ⁶	~ 100 μm	~ 5 μm
AMS-100	2050	~ 180-200 m ²	~ 100 cm	~ 8 · 10 ⁶	~ 100 μm	~ 5 μm

How much is the maximum length of a Si LGAD μstrip?

Is possible to "daisy chain" LGADs?

Is there a way to mitigate this problems and, for example, reduce the capacitance even with very thin LGAD sensors?



p = pitch (typical 25-50 μm)
 l = strip length (typical 50-100 cm)
 d = thickness (typical 300 μm)

C_i = interstrip capacitance $\sim 1 \text{ pF/cm} * l = 10 - 100 \text{ pF}$

C_d = decoupling capacitance $\sim 1000 \text{ pF}$ (DC sensors) or 120 pF/mm^2 (AC sensors) $> C_i C_b C_g C_{ii}$

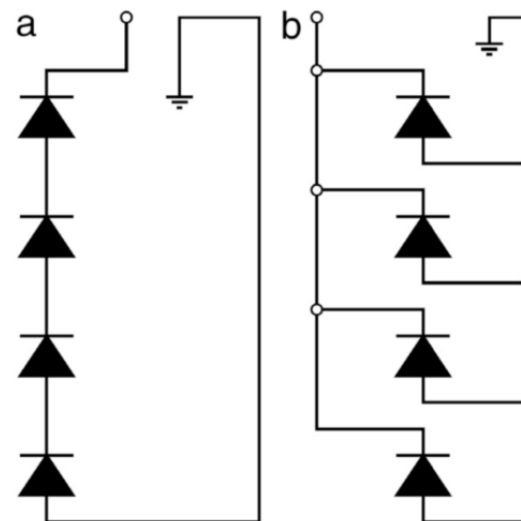
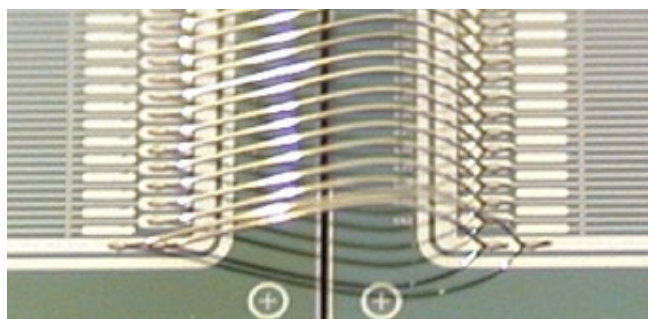
C_b = backplane capacitance $\sim 1 \text{ pF/cm} * l * p/d = 1/10 * 10 - 100 \text{ pF} = 1 - 10 \text{ pF}$

C_g = guard-ring capacitance $\ll C_i$

C_{ii} = first-to-third strip capacitance $\ll C_i$

For thin and long strips, capacitance must be kept under limit

AMS-02 upgrade, Layer-0 ladder @ INFN Perugia



For SiPMs:

b) standard "parallel" readout

✓ bias voltage independent on number of sensors

✗ total capacitance seen by readout FEE scales with number of sensors

a) "in-series" readout

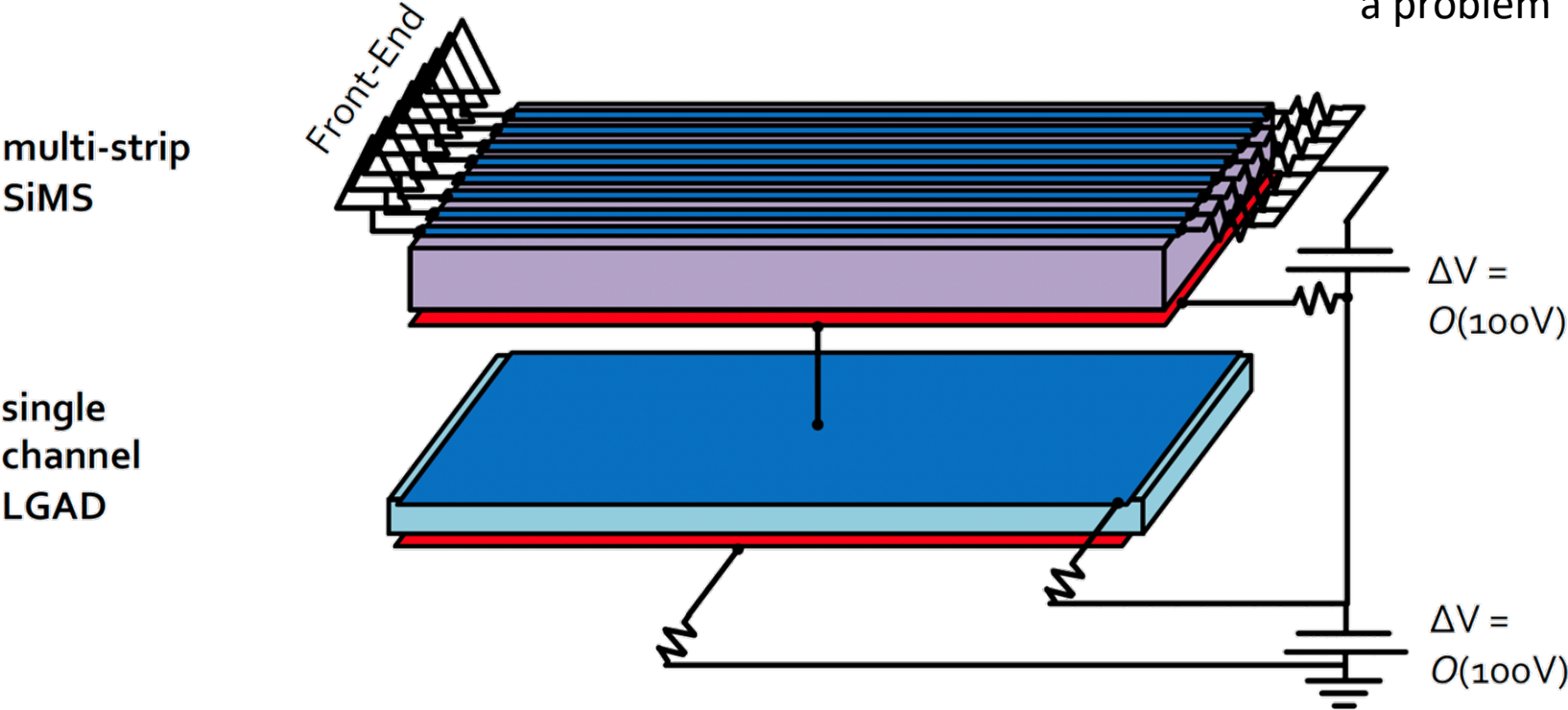
✗ bias voltage scales with number of sensors

✓ total capacitance seen by readout FEE scales **down** with number of sensors

N. Kratochwil et al., PANDA experiment

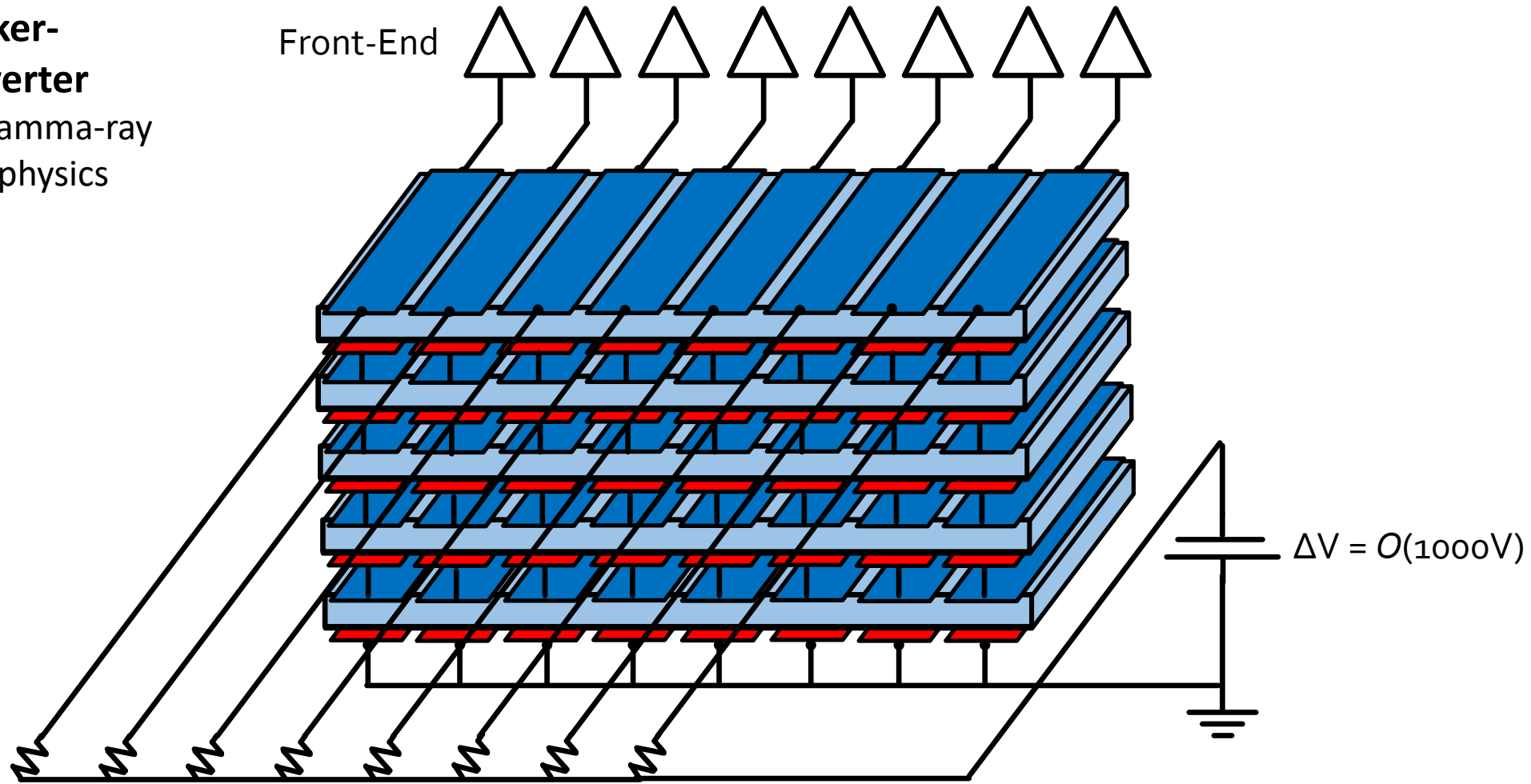
→ can we "port" it to LGADS?

**Single timing
microstrip sensor**
Fill factor naturally not
a problem



More "evolved" ideas...

**Tracker-
converter**
For gamma-ray
astrophysics



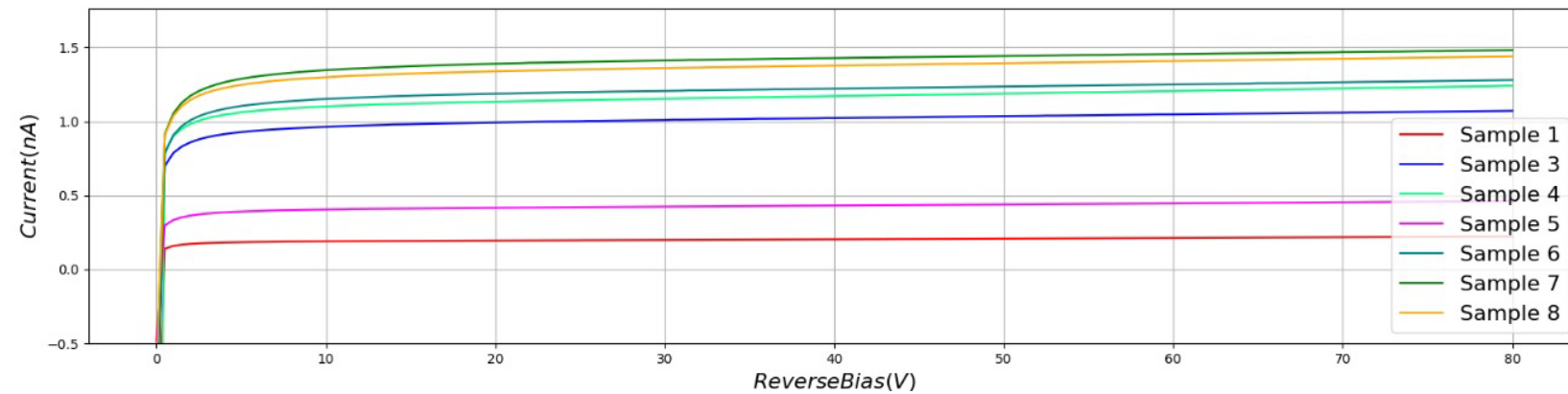
"Stacked" 5D sensor – Proof of concept lab tests



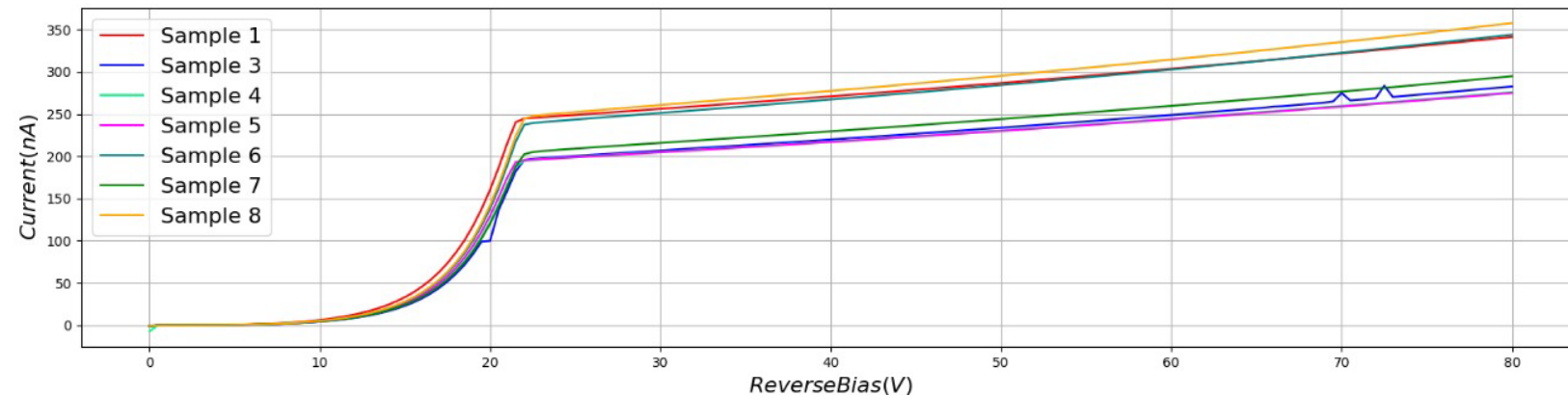
We tested:

- 7 samples (sample 2 was damaged)
- IV: 0.5 – 1.5 nA (PIN), 250 – 350 nA (LGAD)

"No Gain"/PIN



"Gain"/LGAD



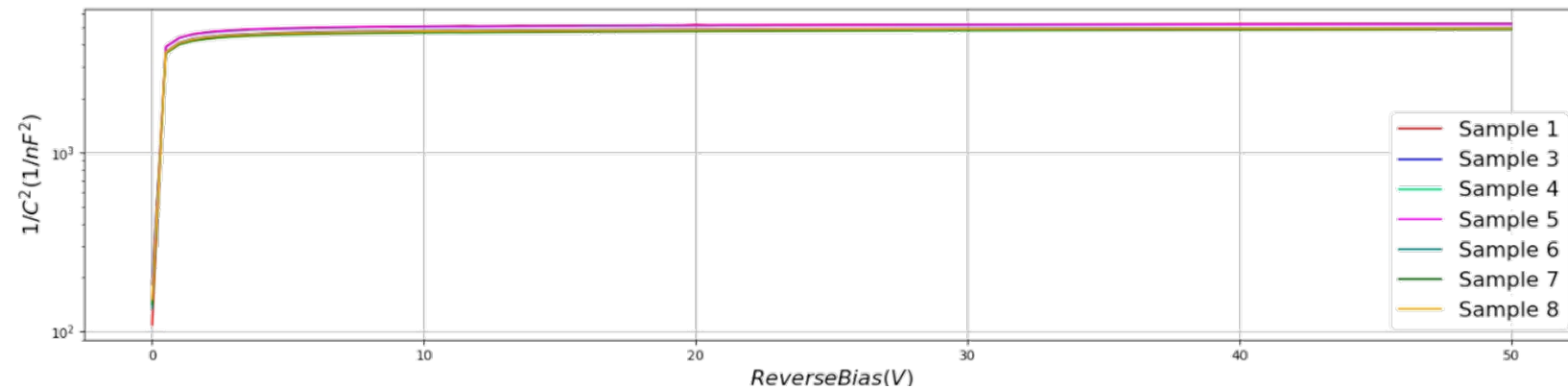
"Stacked" 5D sensor – Proof of concept lab tests



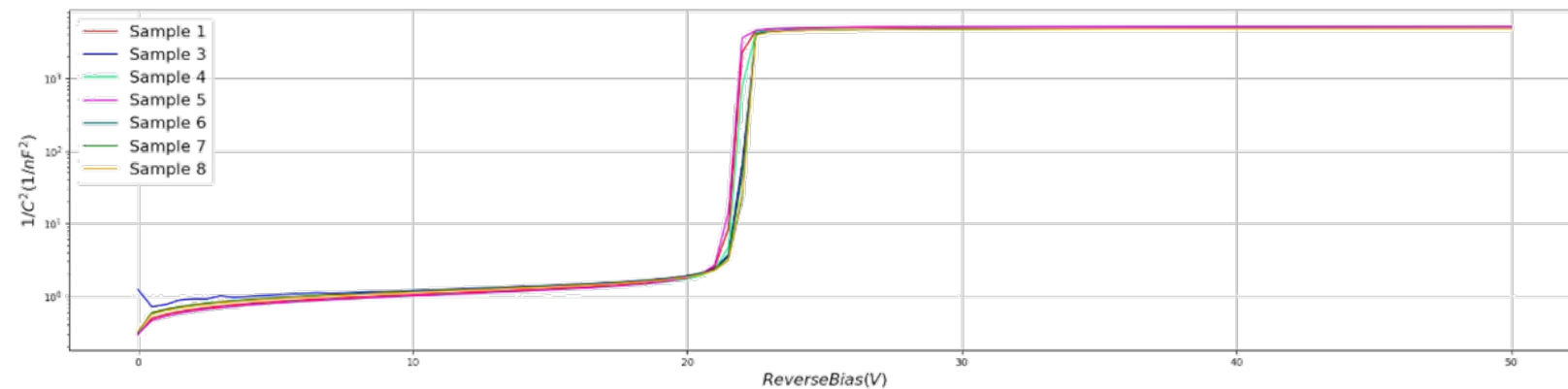
We tested:

- 7 samples (sample 2 was damaged)
- IV: 0.5 – 1.5 nA (PIN), 250 – 350 nA (LGAD)
- CV: 13.9 – 14.7 pF $\pm$ 0.2pF (PIN e LGAD)

"No Gain"/PIN



"Gain"/LGAD

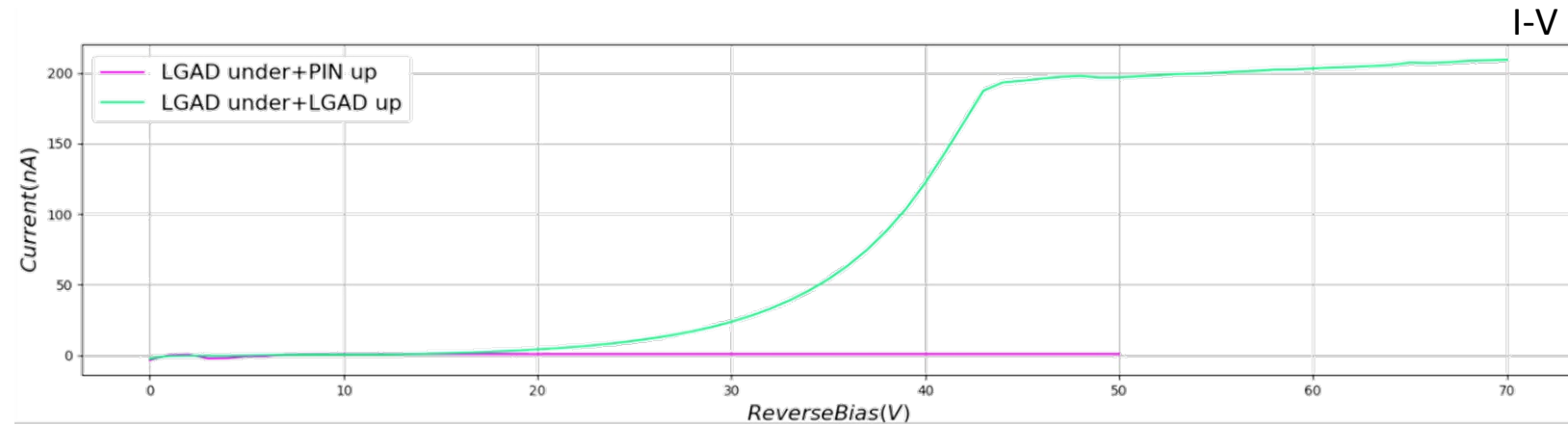


“Stacked” 5D sensor – Proof of concept lab tests



We tested:

- stacked device
- IV: 1.5 nA (LGAD-PIN), ~ 200 nA (LGAD-LGAD)



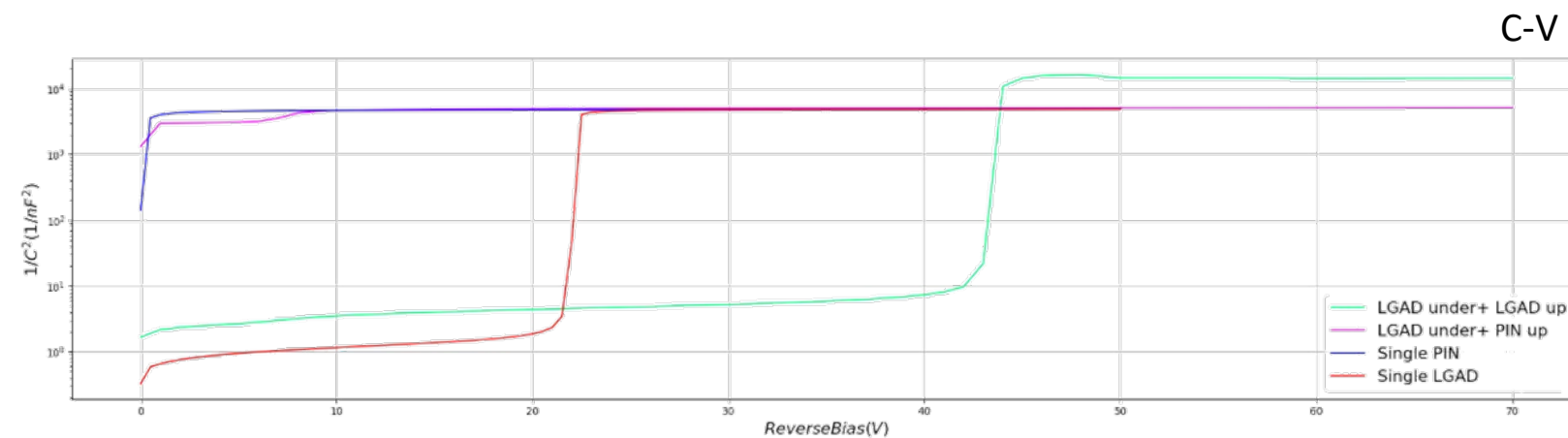
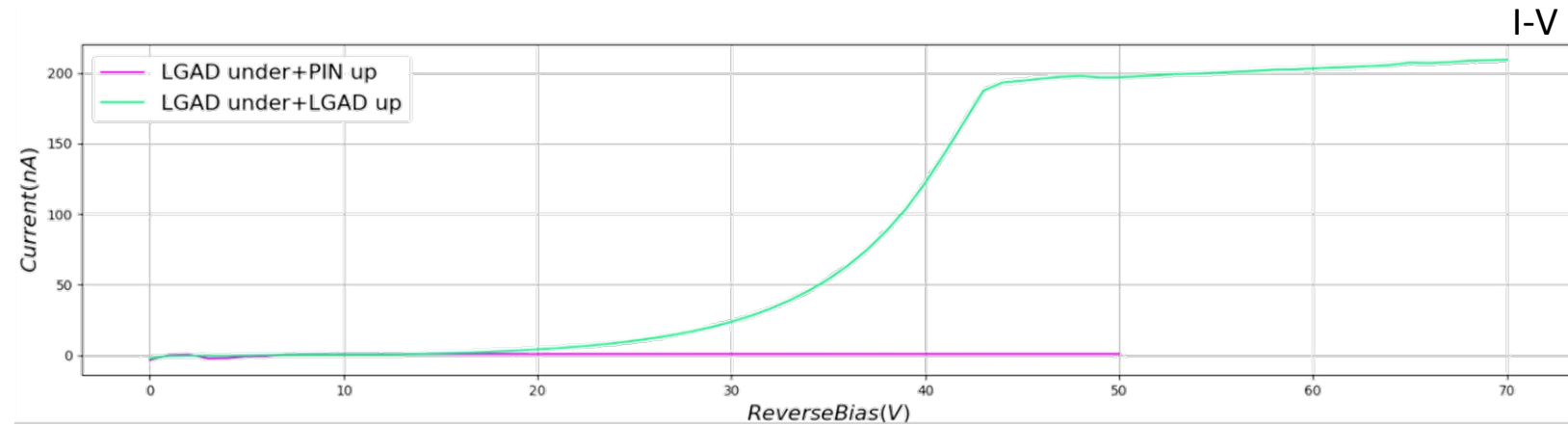
The current is dominated by the one with less leakage!

“Stacked” 5D sensor – Proof of concept lab tests



We tested:

- stacked device
- IV: 1.5 nA (LGAD-PIN), ~ 200 nA (LGAD-LGAD)
- CV: $13.9 \text{ pF} \pm 0.2 \text{ pF}$ (LGAD-PIN) ?? $8.3 \text{ pF} \pm 0.2 \text{ pF}$ (LGAD-LGAD)



“Stacked” 5D sensor – Proof of concept lab tests

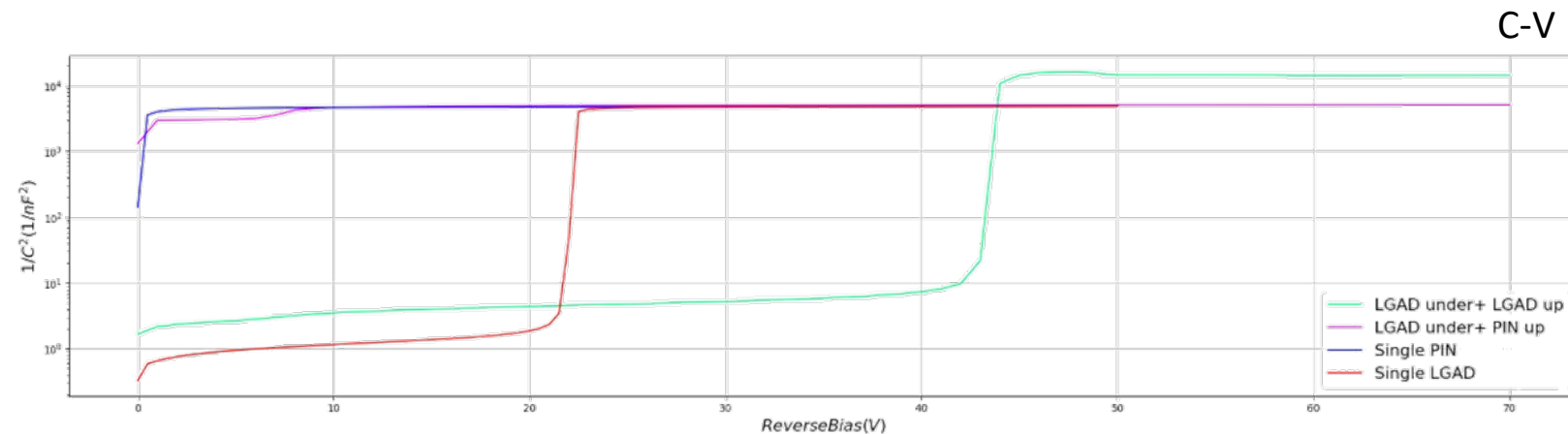


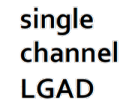
We tested:

- stacked device
- IV: 1.5 nA (LGAD-PIN), 250 – 350 nA (LGAD-LGAD)
- CV: **13.9 pF ± 0.2pF** (LGAD-PIN) ?? **8.3 pF ± 0.2pF** (LGAD-LGAD)
- the capacitance of the LGAD-LGAD stack is (almost...) half of the two single capacitances (14.3 pF and 13.9 pF → 7.1 pF). Why there's around 1 pF more?

$$C_{tot} = \left(\frac{1}{C_1} + \frac{1}{C_2} \right)^{-1}$$

- the capacitance of the PIN-LGAD stack is almost the same of the PIN alone. We know why...





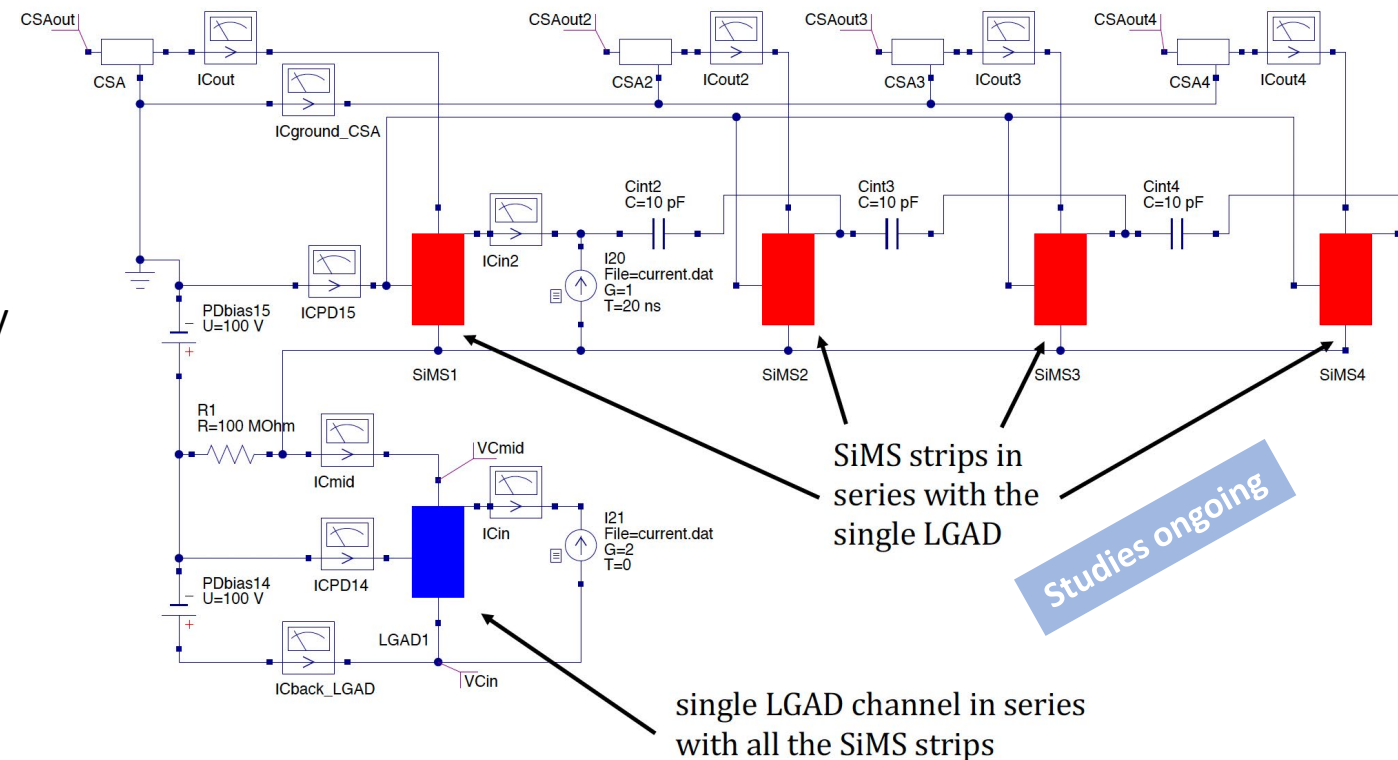
- ✓ ALL the readout channels see the LGAD signal (reduced by capacitance ratios)
- ✗ signal seen by the LGAD is reduced by the ratio of the SiMS/LGAD capacitances
- ✗ signal seen by left strip is PROVIDED by the neighbour strips (i.e. no charge couple but the other strips are current sources)

Variant approach

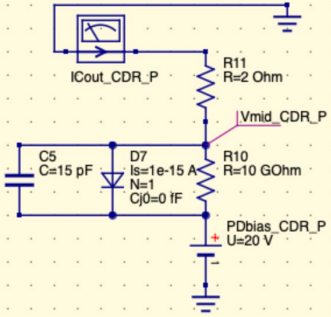
This config could reduce the assembly complexity:

- ✓ no bonding/kapton between LGAD and SiMS: only glue
- ✗ time information common to all channels (✓ that could mitigate the power need)

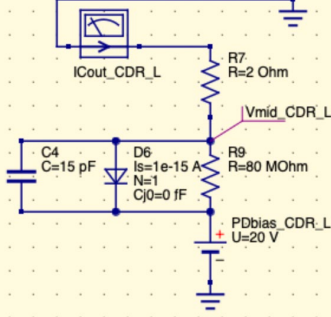
→ preliminary studies are encouraging



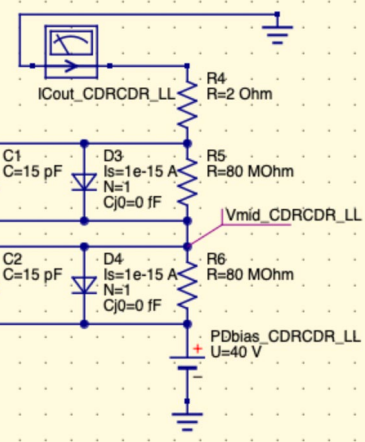
"Stacked" 5D sensor – Proof of concept lab tests



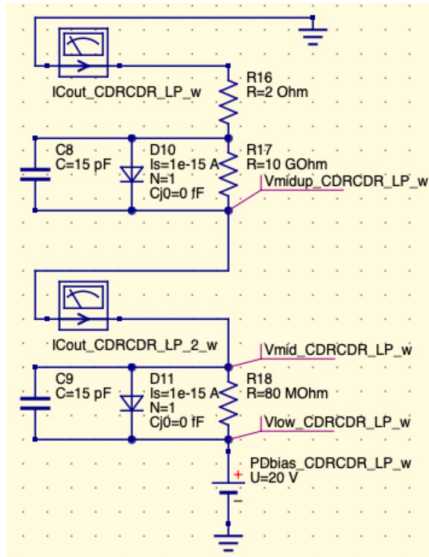
PIN: 10 GΩ
to simulate 2nA



LGAD: 80 MΩ
to simulate 250nA



LGAD-LGAD stack: same "resistance" → $V_{bias}/2$ in the center



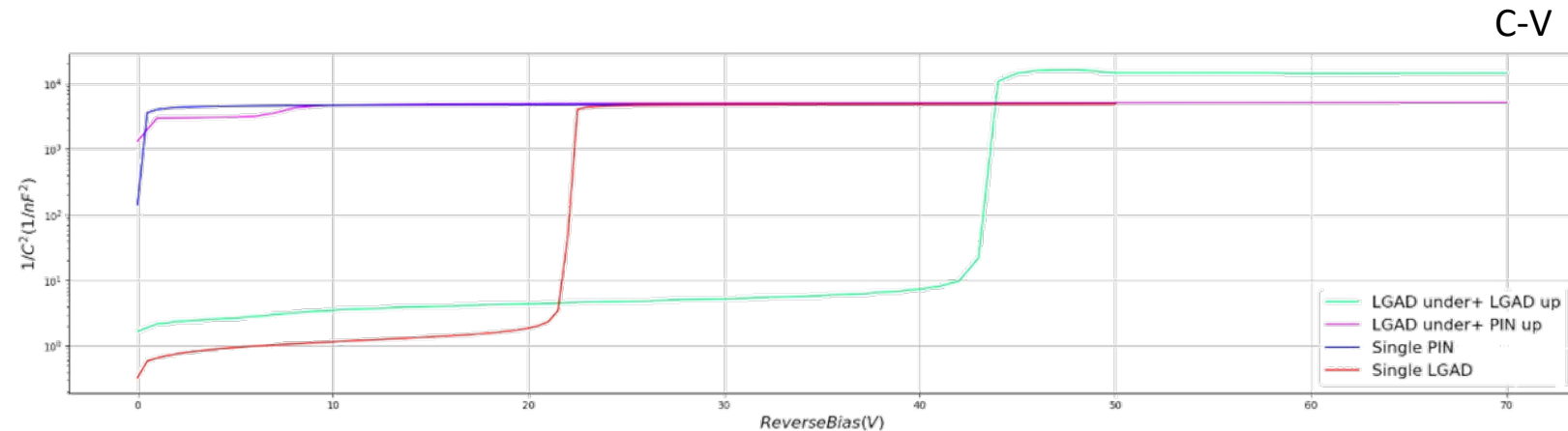
PIN-LGAD stack:
 $R_{LGAD} \ll R_{PIN} \rightarrow$ LGAD essentially not biased

We tested:

- stacked device
- IV: 1.5 nA (LGAD-PIN), 250 – 350 nA (LGAD-LGAD)
- CV: **13.9 pF ± 0.2pF** (LGAD-PIN) ?? **8.3 pF ± 0.2pF** (LGAD-LGAD)
- the capacitance of the LGAD-LGAD stack is (almost...) half of the two single capacitances (14.3 pF and 13.9 pF → 7.1 pF). Why there's almost 1 pF more?

$$C_{tot} = \left(\frac{1}{C_1} + \frac{1}{C_2} \right)^{-1}$$

- the capacitance of the PIN-LGAD stack is almost the same of the PIN alone. We know why...

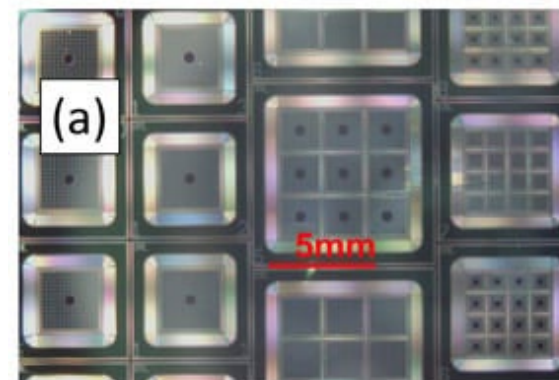


Technology first assessed by CNM (G. Pellegrini et al., NIM-A 765, 2014) and CERN-RD50

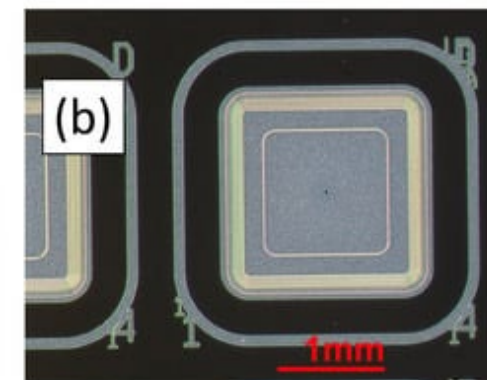
Several facilities involved today in LGAD sensor developments
CNM (ES), FBK (IT), BNL (USA), Hamamatsu (JP), IHEP-NDL (CN), Micron (UK), ...
and readout electronics

Univ. California Santa Cruz (USA), FNAL (USA), INFN (IT)

Typical sensor layouts: 20 μ m-100 μ m substrates, single sided, O(mm²) area



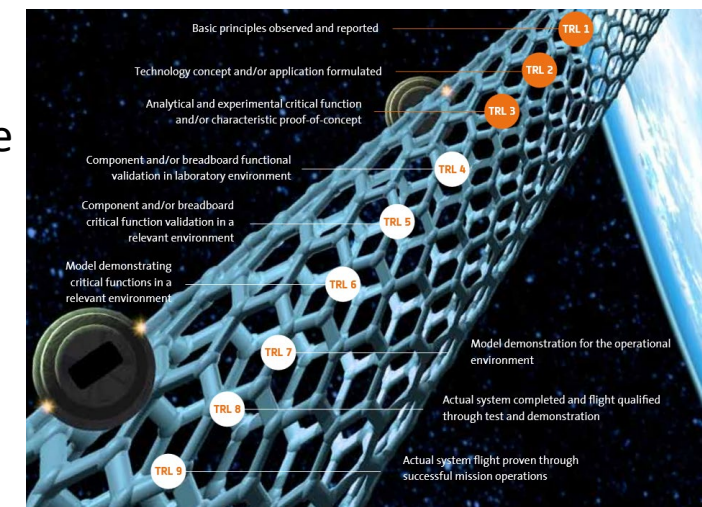
Early production of single channel devices and arrays at BNL



Recent production of 1.3 mm $\times$ 1.3 mm devices at BNL (match the pixel size of the CMS and ATLAS timing detectors)

Some considerations on large area 5D tracking in space:

- LGAD R&D driven by acceleration applications on pixel layout
 - Si- μ strip are consolidated technology largely employed for particle detection in space
 - μ strip LGAD detectors not optimized for space applications
 - Low Gain Avalanche Diode to be space qualified
 - Sensor dimensions will not probably go larger than few cm² (see K. Nakamura, TREDI 2024)
- R&D to mitigate capacitance noise and power consumptions in daisy-chained sensors



GOAL 1. (Technological)

Demonstrate the feasibility of constructing and operating thin LGAD Si- μ strip sensors in harsh space environment – TRL 9

GOAL 2. (Scientific)

Show that LGAD performances are adequate for next generation astroparticle experiments in space



Measurement of converting photons with $E > 20$ MeV in the LGAD Si- μ strip tracker with reconstruction of the e^+/e^- pair angle in the tracker
with improved vertex reconstruction by identification of backslash hits

Observation of photons with $E > 20$ MeV from the Crab Nebula
Verification of detector PSF and confirmation of conversion technique
Observation of photons from Crab in the 20 MeV – 50 MeV range
Comparison with previous experiments (e.g., CGRO/EGRET) above 50 MeV

Study of charged CRs using the 5D tracking (position, energy deposit and timing) enabled by the LGAD SiMS tracker

Data-driven characterization of ToF capabilities for LGAD SiMS detectors
Data-driven characterization of e/p separation capabilities for LGAD SiMS detectors
Monitor the time variation of charged CRs and SEP events

Through a **cooperative** and **parallel study activity** of the domain experts, ASI-CEF is able to define the feasibility of a space mission and its preliminary technical requirements

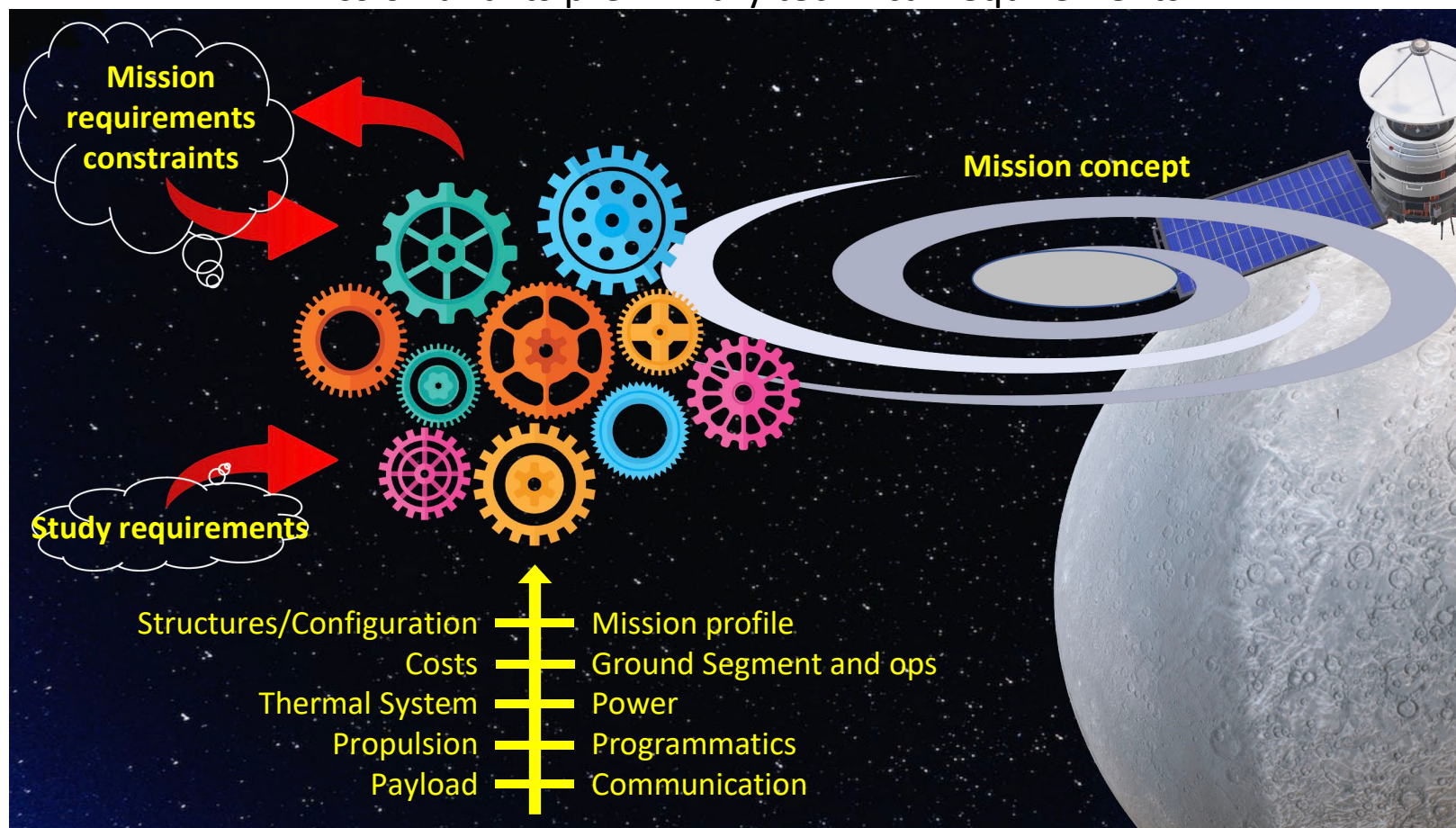


Phase 0 or pre-Phase-A mission concept studies, including, e.g.:

- new mission concept assessment
- new technology validation at system/mission level
- space system trade-offs and evaluation of opportunities
- payload instrument conceptual design
- mission/system scientific requirements definition and consolidation
- mass / power / data budget



Through a cooperative and parallel study activity of the domain experts, ASI-CEF is able to define the feasibility of a space mission and its preliminary technical requirements



<https://www.asi.it/tecnologia-ingegneria-micro-e-nanosatelliti/ingegneria/concurrent-engineering-facility/>
including an open call for opportunity (3 deadlines/year) to italian research centers to perform space mission studies @ ASI-CEF



ASI-CEF: **Cooperative** and **parallel study** of satellite domains to:

- Define the feasibility of a space mission
- Define preliminary technical requirements

Phase 0 or pre-Phase-A mission concept studies, including, e.g.:

- New mission concept assessment
- Payload instrument conceptual design
- New technology validation at system/mission level
- Space system trade-offs and evaluation of opportunities
- Mission/system scientific requirements definition and consolidation
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Si-microstrip LGAD detectors for cosmic-ray space-borne instruments

- **5D tracking in space** may open new diagnostics and approaches in cosmic-ray and gamma-ray next-generation instruments
 - LGADs are the candidate technology to achieve **<100 ps resolution in large area space trackers**
 - **R&D** and **spin-in / spin-off** from ground accelerator detectors is needed to increase the TRL

The **PTSD program** aims in verifying the proof-of concept and test a breadboard instrument to validate **TRL=5 for a timing Si-LGAD system for space applications**

- Activities just started with focus on design optimization through simulations – results are encouraging
 - details on readout board design and production in progress.
 - μ strip-LGAD sensor production to be planned

Wide interest in the community to operate LGAD-based detectors in space

(what follows is just a subset of italian programs to the best of my knowledge)

Spoke 4 -Next Generation Detectors of Ionizing Radiation and Fields for Remote Sensing



PM2024 - 16th Pisa Meeting on Advanced Detectors
Contribution ID: 343

Type: Poster

Analog Front-End for the Readout of LGAD Based Particle Detectors

Collaboration Poster by **Simone GIROLETTI**
ADA-5D Thu afternoon / Fri morning

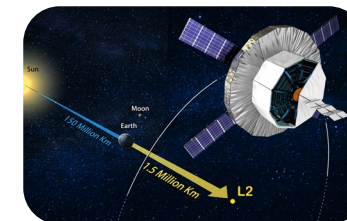


Large area ($3 \times 3 \text{ mm}^2$) pixels with timing and high dyn. range for $Z=40$

LGAD sensors in future CR space observatories

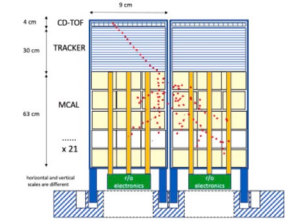
O.Adriani et al., *Instruments* 2022, 6(2), 19

P.S.. Marrocchesi, *Astrop. Phys.* 152 (2023) 102879



ALADiNO

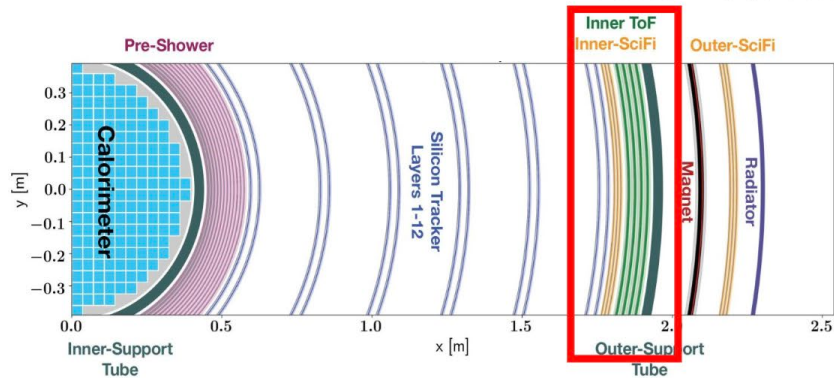
magnetic spectrometer Si-Tracker



MOONRAY

Charge Detector ToF

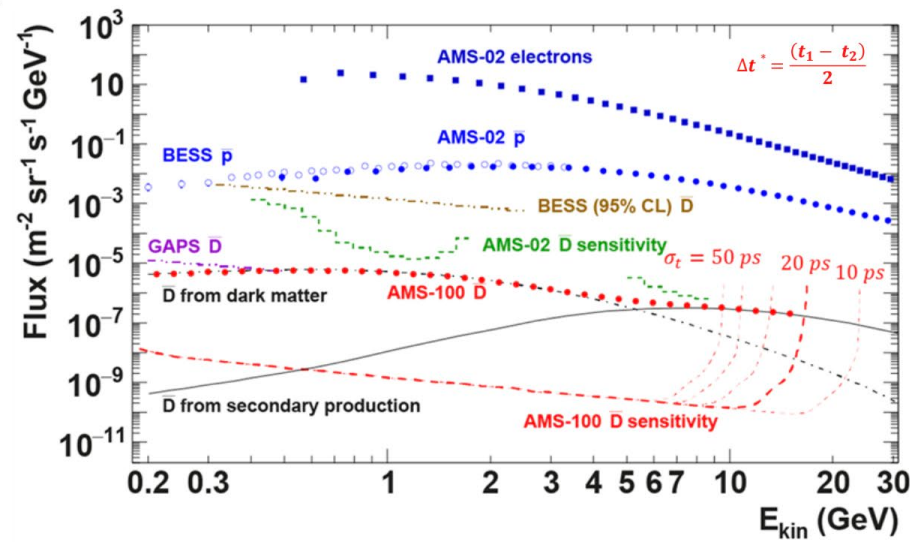
AMS-100: Time of Flight System



- Required ToF-Single Counter time resolution : 20 ps
- Z measurements from the signal height
- Provides the trigger and measures $\beta = v/c$

Anti-Deuterons are the most sensitive probe for New Physics in Cosmic Rays

AMS-100 would observe thousands of Anti-Deuterons in Cosmic Rays



Most space detectors for charged cosmic ray and γ -ray measurements require **solid state tracking systems based on Si- μ strip sensors**. Si- μ strip detectors are the preferred solution to instrument **large area detectors** with larger number of electronics channels coping with the **limitations on power consumption in space**



Operating Missions						
	Mission Start	Si-sensor area	Strip-length	Readout channels	Readout pitch	Spatial resolution
Fermi-LAT	2008	$\sim 74 \text{ m}^2$	38 cm	$\sim 880 \cdot 10^3$	228 μm	$\sim 66 \mu\text{m}$
AMS-02	2011	$\sim 7 \text{ m}^2$	29–62 cm	$\sim 200 \cdot 10^3$	110 μm	$\sim 7 \mu\text{m}$
DAMPE	2015	$\sim 7 \text{ m}^2$	38 cm	$\sim 70 \cdot 10^3$	242 μm	$\sim 40 \mu\text{m}$

Future Missions						
	Planned operations	Si-sensor area	Strip-length	Readout channels	Readout pitch	Spatial resolution
HERD	2030	$\sim 35 \text{ m}^2$	48–67 cm	$\sim 350 \cdot 10^3$	$\sim 242 \mu\text{m}$	$\sim 40 \mu\text{m}$
ALADInO	2050	$\sim 80\text{--}100 \text{ m}^2$	19–67 cm	$\sim 2.5 \cdot 10^6$	$\sim 100 \mu\text{m}$	$\sim 5 \mu\text{m}$
AMS-100	2050	$\sim 180\text{--}200 \text{ m}^2$	$\sim 100 \text{ cm}$	$\sim 8 \cdot 10^6$	$\sim 100 \mu\text{m}$	$\sim 5 \mu\text{m}$

[1] HERD Collaboration. *HERD Proposal*, 2018 <https://indico.ihep.ac.cn/event/8164/material/1/0.pdf>
[2] Battiston, R.; Bertucci, B.; et al. *High precision particle astrophysics as a new window on the universe with an Antimatter Large Acceptance Detector In Orbit (ALADInO)*. Experimental Astronomy 2021. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10686-021-09708-w>
[3] Schael, S.; et al. *AMS-100: The next generation magnetic spectrometer in space – An international science platform for physics and astrophysics at Lagrange point 2*. NIM-A 2019, 944, 162561. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nima.2019.162561>