# **ITS OB module telescope** for educational activities

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# **Scope: ITS2**



## ITS OB module

## Outer Barrel (OB)

2 Middle Layers: 30+24 Staves 2×4 Modules / Stave 2 Outer Layers: 42+48 Staves 2×7 Modules / Stave

2×7 sensors / Module (Middle and Outer Layers are equipped with the same Module



## 1880 Modules to be produced (including spares)



## **ITS2 OB module** some specifications



- 14 ALPIDEs
- Active area: ~57.7 cm<sup>2</sup>
- 7.3 Million channels



... just a bit fragile (low material budget!)

... not too user friendly (not mean to be used stand alone)





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## ^^ this we will target!





# **Background & Motivation**

- In the production of the ITS Outer Layers, a number (small in relative terms, sizeable in absolute terms) of non-working modules have accumulated
  - Many of them have single problematic chips (i.e. 1 out of 14)
  - Bad for the detector, but still very good for educational/outreach applications
- Modules need quite some infrastructure to be operated
  - mechanically and electrically
- If one can operate them, they are beautiful objects with bleeding edge technology
  - they would allow to study a lot of things: electronics, detector physics, reconstruction, ...



## Idea

- Interface the leftover ITS OB modules to a broad audience! - *electrically* (use standard connectors, voltage levels, pinouts) mechanically (give the fragile modules a rigid support and protection)

  - *intellectually* (provide support, examples, instructions, courses)



# **Possible activities**

- Cosmic data taking and analysis
- Development of readout soft- and firmware
  - supporting a variety of development boards is supported: microctroller-based (Arduino and alike)

    - microprocessor-based (Rasperrry Pi and alike)
    - FPGA-based (Lattice, Xilinx, Altera/Intel etc.)
    - SoC-based
- Study principles of data transmission
- Instrumentation of student experiments (e.g. beam line for schools)
- Likely more...



# **Target audiences**

- General public
  - e.g. international cosmics day, science fairs
- Highschools
  - classes, competitions
- University courses
  - lab courses
- PhD schools



## The module carrier PCB 1st prototype

## First (fully functional!) prototype of a module carrier

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## The module carrier PCB **Functionality**





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## All it needs to operate are:

- power (around 2.5-5V)
  - on-board post regulation
- clock (any frequency <=40MHz) and control by means of a standardised PMOD connector

- a large number of hobby and development boards work
- proof-of-concept using Rasperry Pi and bit banging







## The module carrier PCB **backside** + mechanics

## Mounted on a thick, rigid PCB

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## mounting holes for M6 (optics breadboard compatible)

## Opening in the centre to show off the ALPIDEs and to reduce material budget





## The module carrier PCB telescope stacking



- Planes can naturally be stacked
- This immediately makes them a large acceptance cosmic telescope



# Sr-90 irradiation as proof of principle

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FO 2:::

PLO AVDD

DVDD

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# **Sr-90 irradiation**

- Readout works
  - result is a nice beta-radiography
- This is the final proof of principle of this idea before building the full cosmic telescope
- NB: software is python, firmware verilog, compiled using a fully open source toolchain – i.e. could be done by anybody!











already this picture is actually quite educational!

Magnus Mager (CERN) | ITS OB module telescope | ALICE Outreach and educational activities forum | 19.04.2021 | 16







# **High-speed link**

- The high-sped links of the module are made available using standard SMA connectors
- Can directly be connected to a scope
- High-speed drivers of ALPIDE are configurable (strength, pre-emphasis, line-rate)
  - one can learn a lot about serial data transmission here







# Plans

- Launch production of slightly updated carrier PCBs
- Adding mechanical chip protections to the planes
- Adding a battery power supply
- Build and operate a telescope for cosmics!

Idea for top protection:

- Aluminium frame + transparent polymide film
- fixed to HIC board using the same columns that are used to fix the FPC wings to the board.
- very thin, slightly wider than the HIC
- minimum column height: 0.5cm
- Bottom Protection: polymide film glued to the board

This way each module is protected and can be assembled to others to form the telescope













# Summary

- We propose to make use of left-overs from the ITS2 production for educational/outreach purposes
  - focussing on partially working Outer Barrel Modules
- Our goal is to make the technology easily accessible to a wide audience
  - well as SMA connections for high-speed signals
- We have built a first demonstrator of a single plane it is fully functional and already took nice data
- The solution is relatively cheap (O(200 CHF) per plane excluding the module)
- We would like to continue by:
  - adding a mechanical support
  - producing more planes
  - writing demonstration/reference software/firmwares
- this work will serve this purpose, too

- relying on a de-facto standard "PMOD", allowing to interface many different development platforms as

Last but not least, ITS has an interest in understanding the failure modes of partially working modules, and

