



# Monolithic sensors for the Mu3e experiment

Luigi Vigani, on behalf of the Mu3e collaboration  
University of Heidelberg



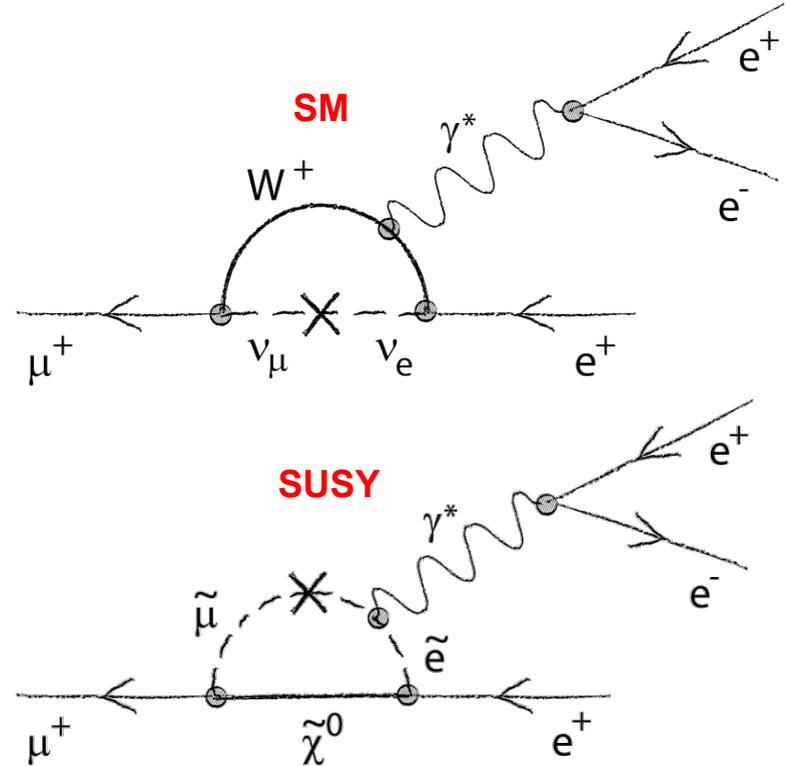
Vertex 2021  
29/09/2021



# Mu3e: Physics Motivation



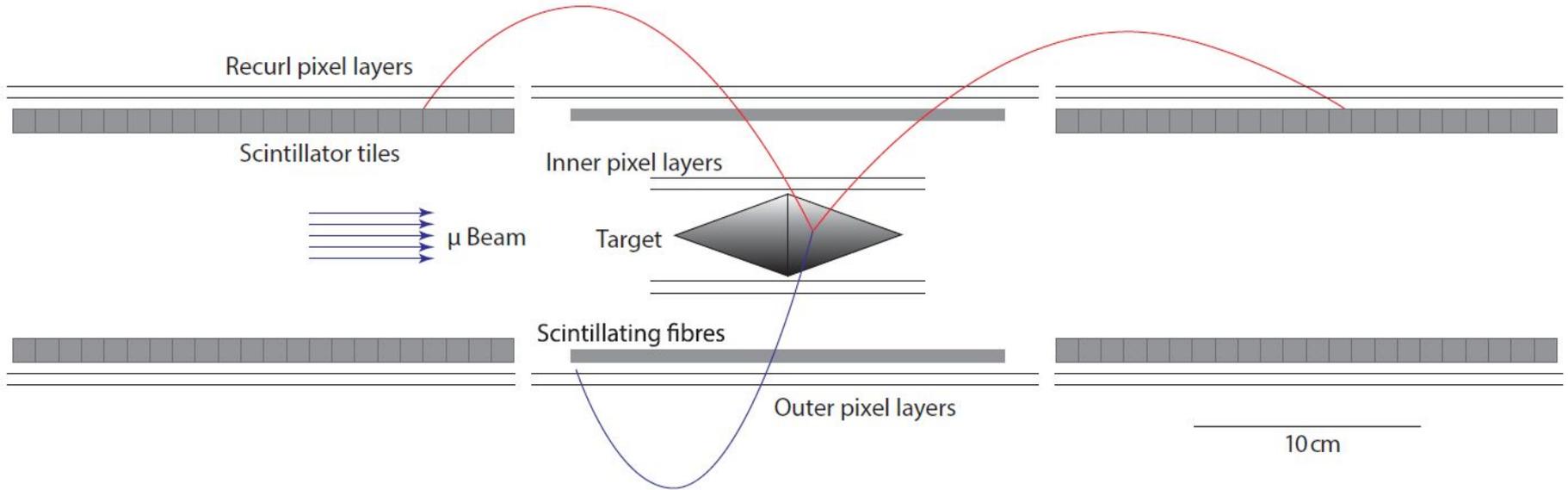
- Search for  $\mu \rightarrow eee$ 
  - Standard Model:  $\text{BR}(\mu \rightarrow eee) < 10^{-54}$
- New physics might enhance BR
- Current limit:
  - $\text{BR}(\mu \rightarrow eee) < 10^{-12}$  (SINDRUM, 1988)
- Aimed single-event sensitivity:
  - $\text{BR}(\mu \rightarrow eee) < 2 \cdot 10^{-15}$  (Phase 1)
  - $\text{BR}(\mu \rightarrow eee) < 10^{-16}$  (Phase 2)
- PSI High Intensity Muon Beamline
- Phase 1 construction starting by beginning of next year



# Experimental concept



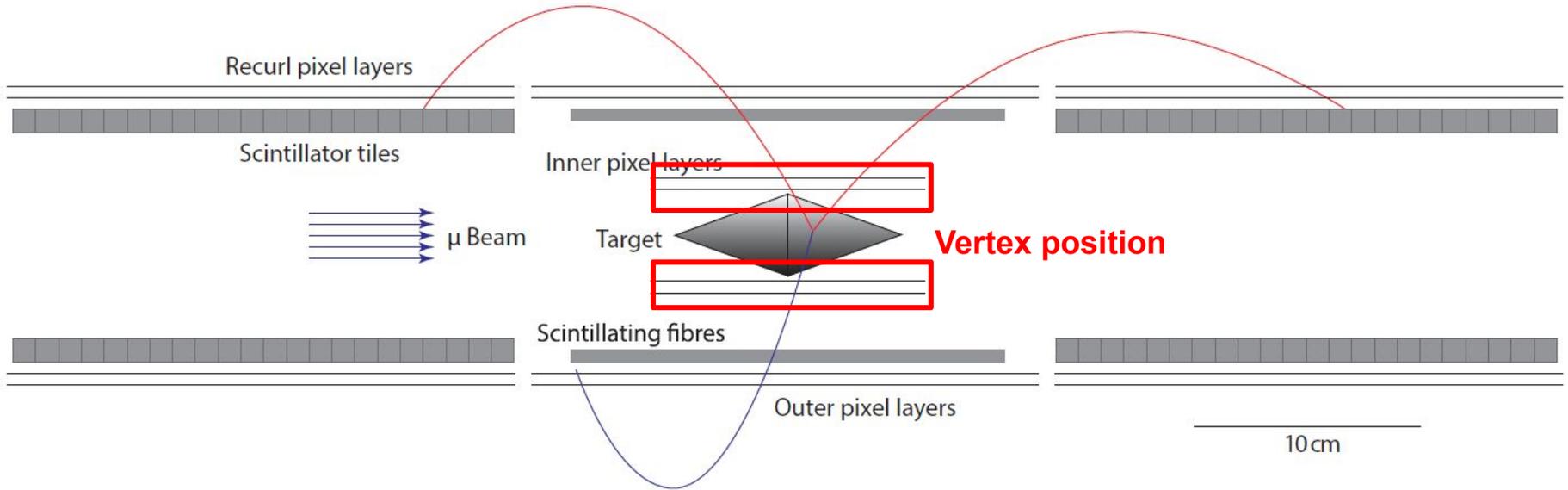
- Tracking electrons coming from muon decays ( $\sim 10^8$  Hz in Phase I)
- Magnetic field (1 T)



# Experimental concept



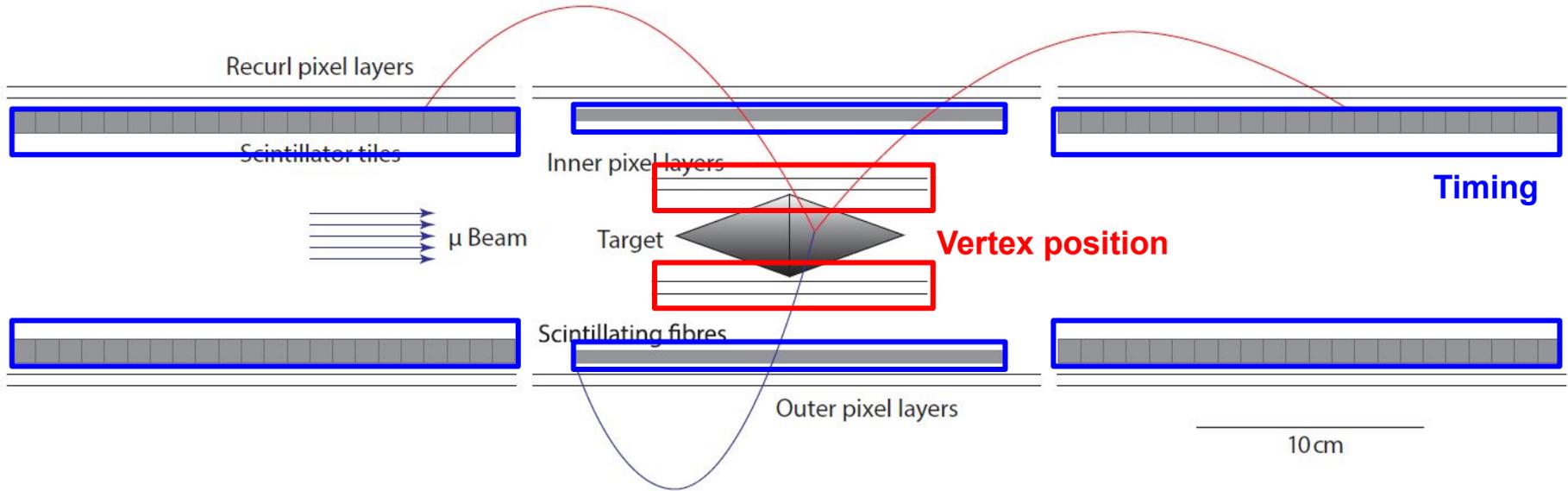
- Tracking electrons coming from muon decays ( $\sim 10^8$  Hz in Phase I)
- Magnetic field (1 T)



# Experimental concept



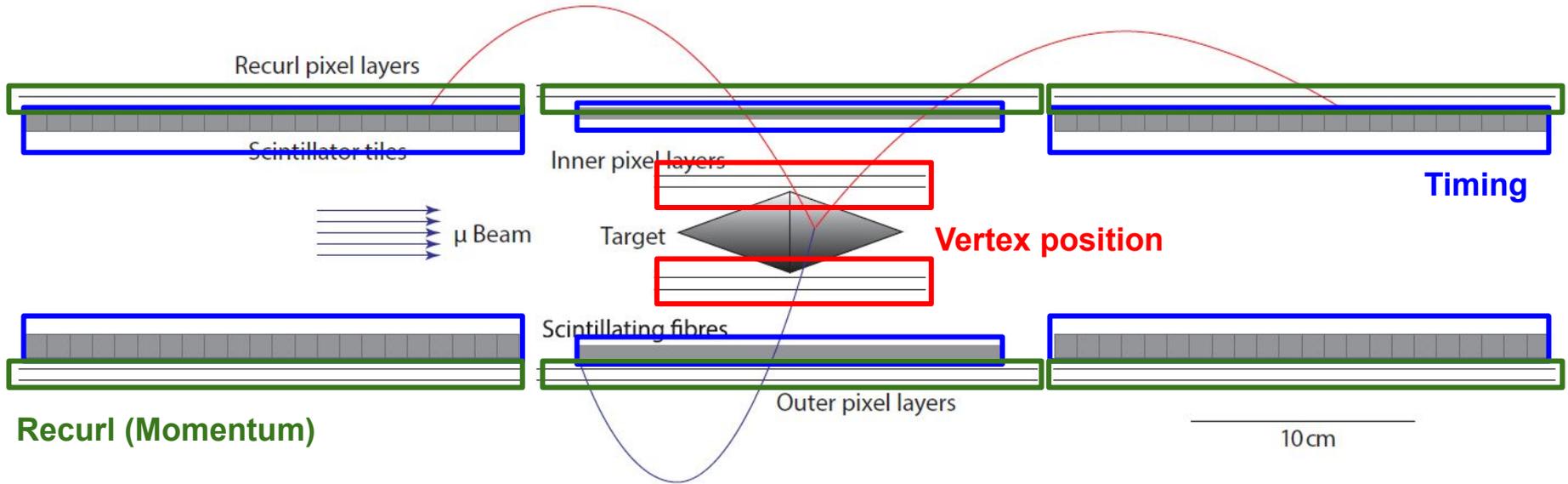
- Tracking electrons coming from muon decays ( $\sim 10^8$  Hz in Phase I)
- Magnetic field (1 T)



# Experimental concept



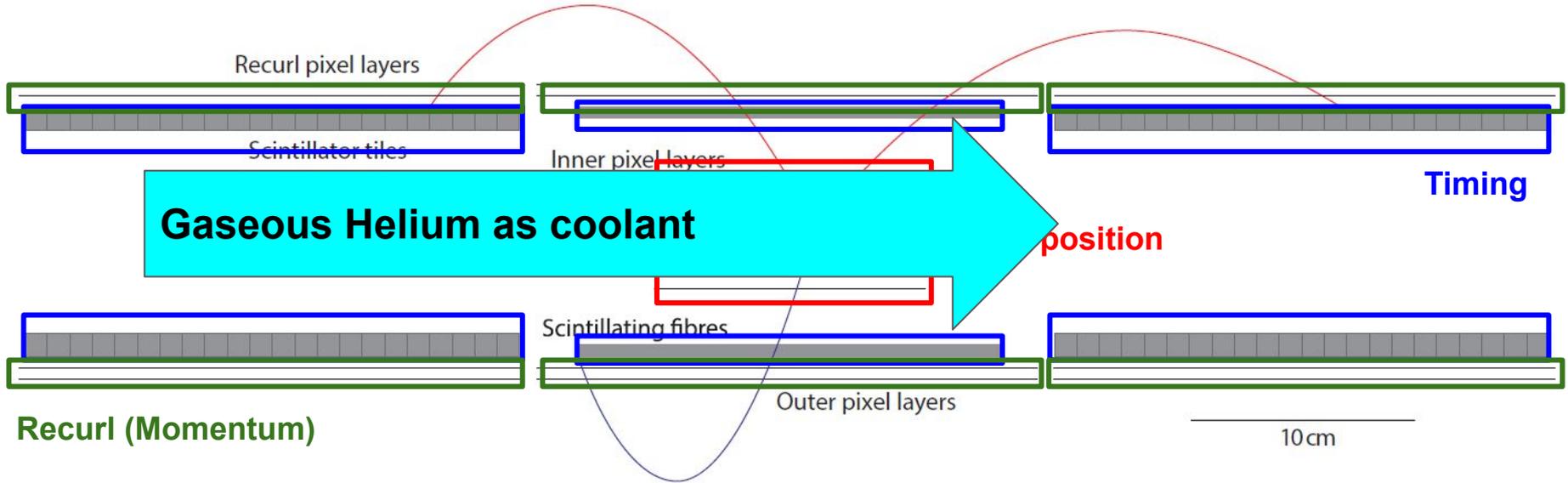
- Tracking electrons coming from muon decays ( $\sim 10^8$  Hz in Phase I)
- Magnetic field (1 T)



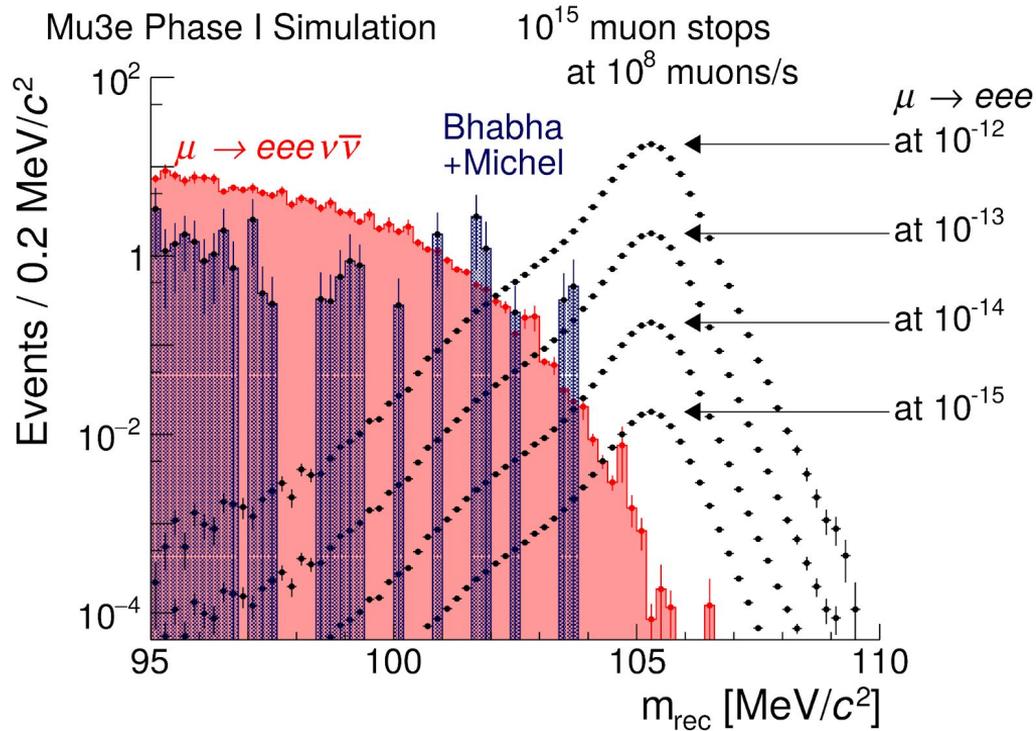
# Experimental concept



- Tracking electrons coming from muon decays ( $\sim 10^8$  Hz in Phase I)
- Magnetic field (1 T)



# Experimental concept



Momentum resolution crucial for detecting the peak at muon mass...

**Material budget is key factor!**

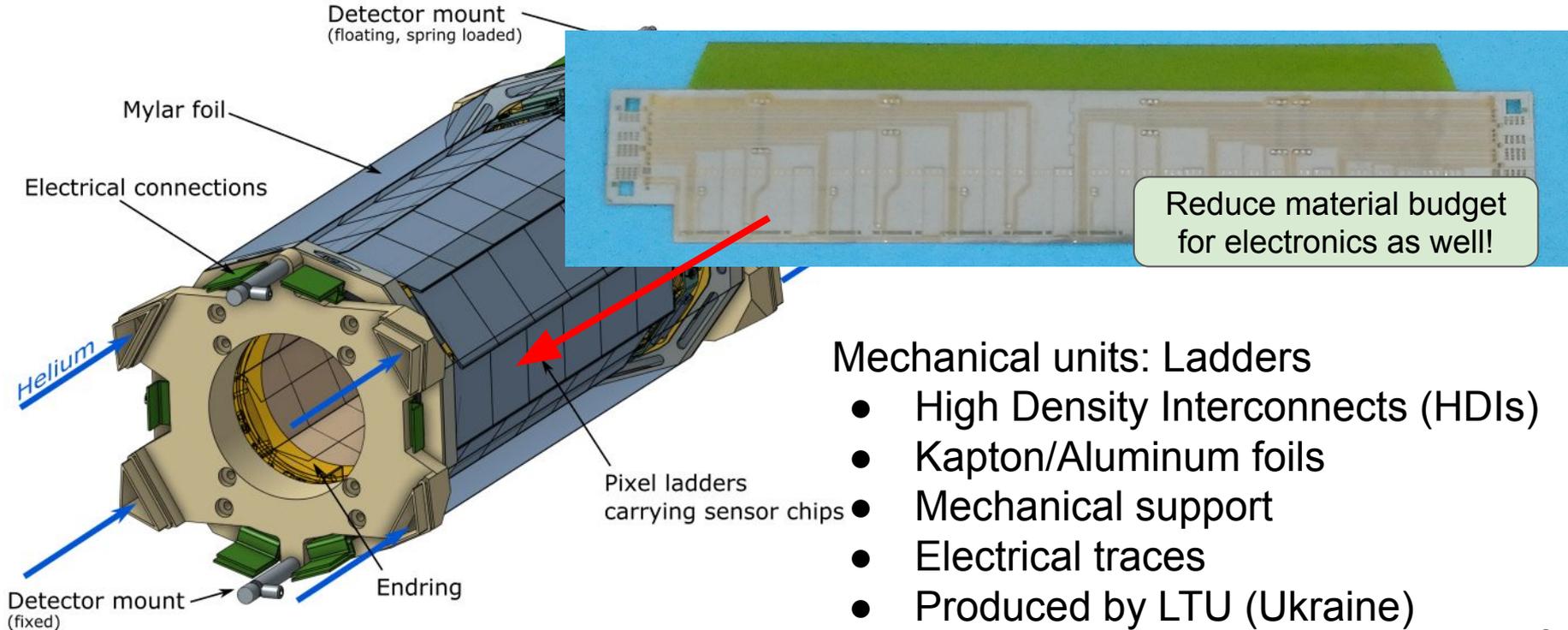
1 MeV resolution with 0.1%  $X/X_0$  per layer

Invariant mass of signal decay, radiative decay and accidental background (Bhabha+Michel) [\[Mu3e TDR\]](#)

# Tracking System



## Layer 1/2



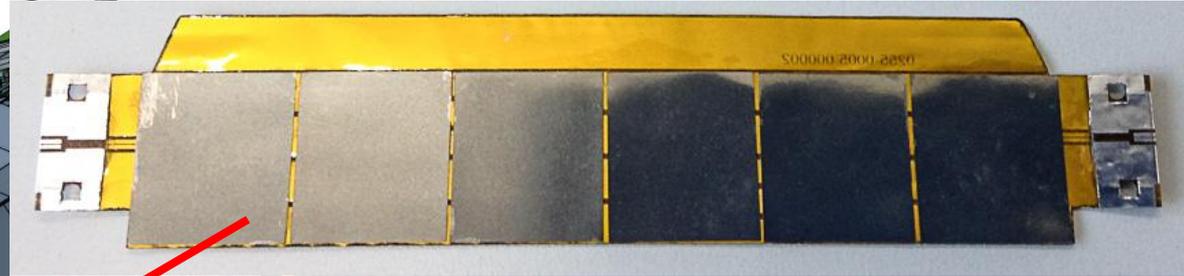
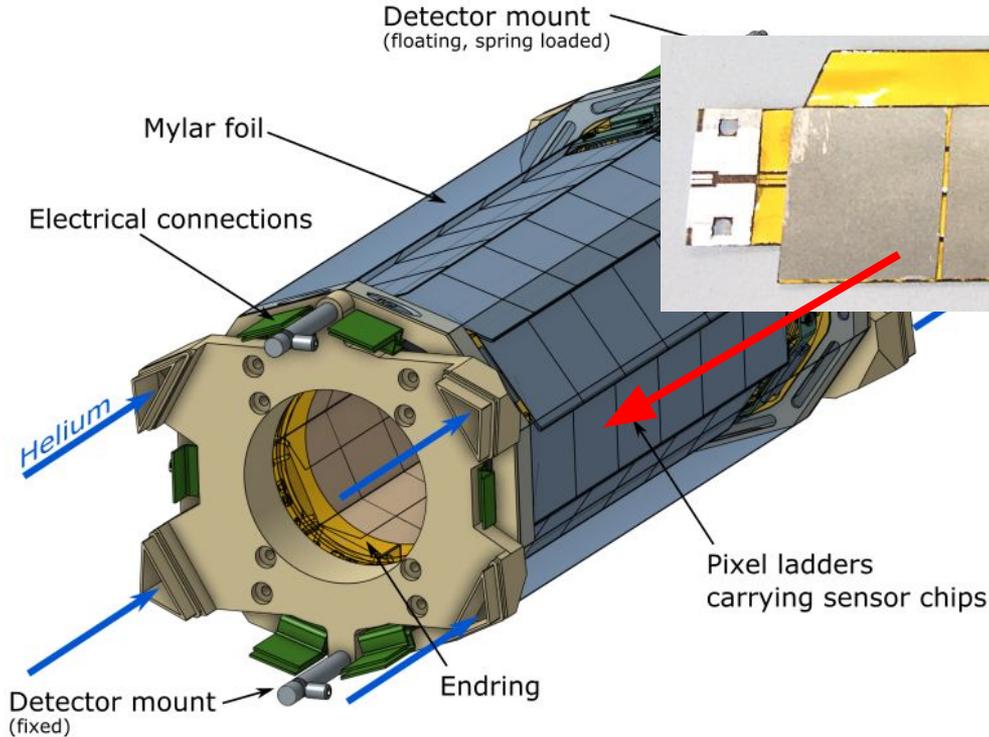
### Mechanical units: Ladders

- High Density Interconnects (HDIs)
- Kapton/Aluminum foils
- Mechanical support
- Electrical traces
- Produced by LTU (Ukraine)
- No extra components

# Tracking System



## Layer 1/2



(Aluminum mockup)

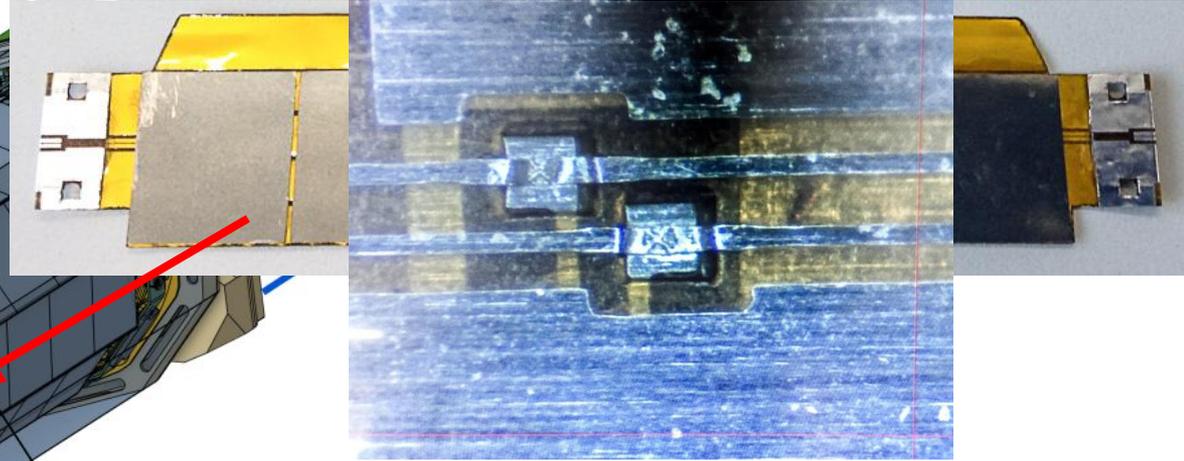
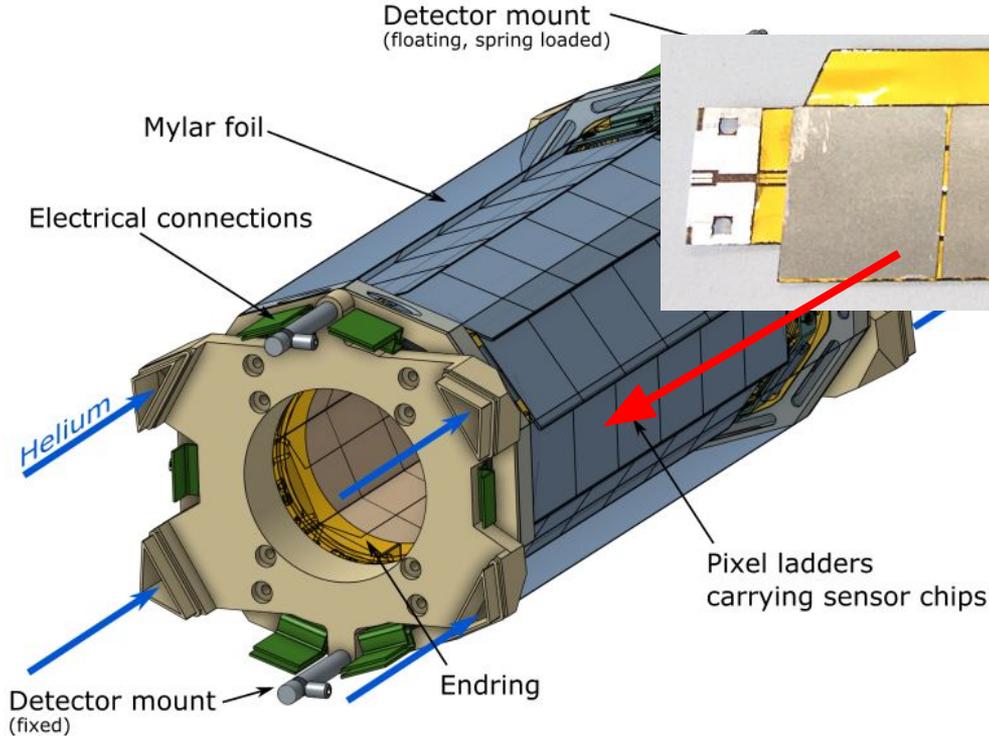
Chips glued on top

- 6 for layer 1 and 2
- 17/18 for layer 3/4

# Tracking System



## Layer 1/2

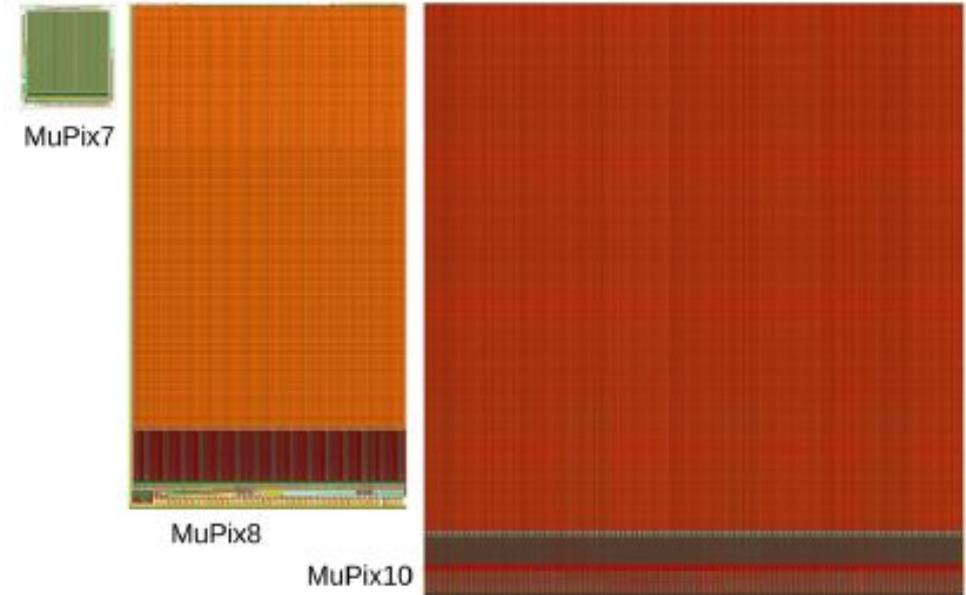


Electrical connections with  
Single Point Tape Automated  
Bonding (SpTAB)

# MuPix sensors

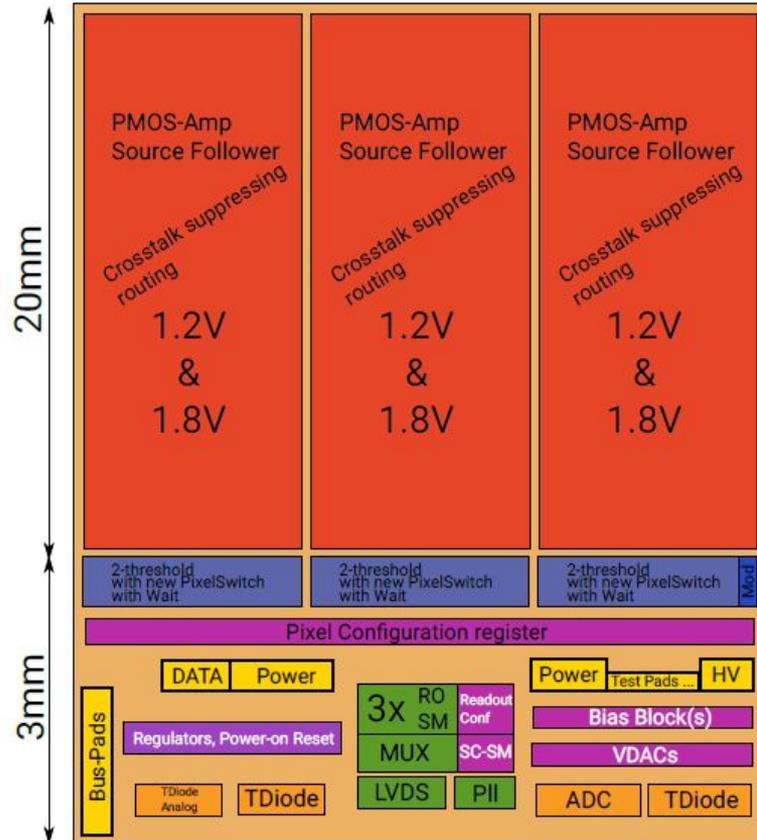


- Monolithic HV-CMOS
  - Super thin with high performance
- 180 nm H18 technology derived from IBM
  - AMS until 2018
  - TSI afterwards
- Long R&D campaign
  - Mupix7 first fully monolithic
  - Mupix8 larger
  - Mupix9 implemented slow control
  - Mupix10 with final size
  - Expected Mupix11 soon



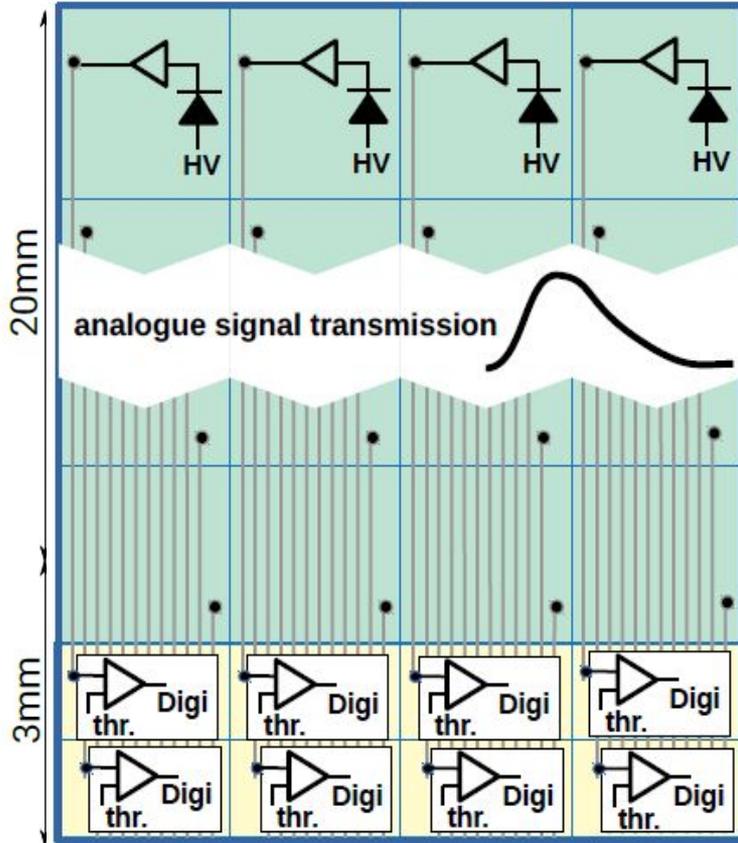


# MuPix sensors: MuPix10



- ~2x2 cm<sup>2</sup> active area
- Chip periphery on bottom

# MuPix sensors: MuPix10

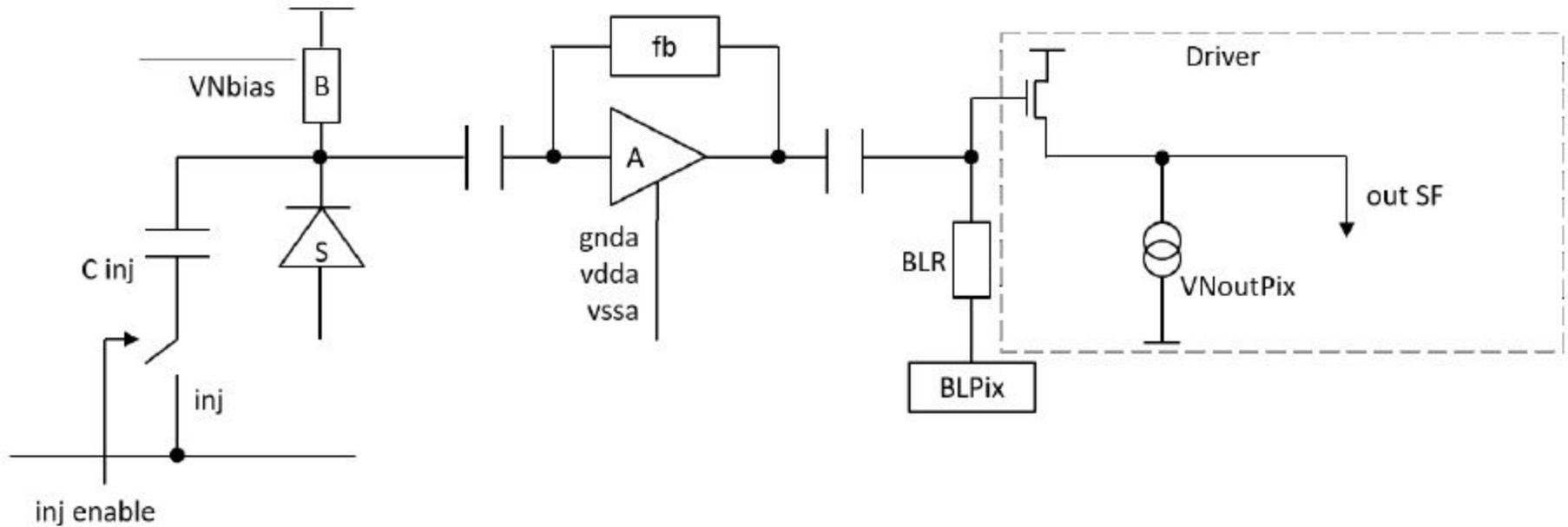


- ~2x2 cm<sup>2</sup> active area
- Chip periphery on bottom
- Signal collected and amplified by pixels
- Analogue signal driven to periphery
- Each pixel mirrored in periphery
  - Analogue signal digitized
- State machine collects hits from double column
- Continuous read-out!
- 4 LVDS link
  - 3 per matrix (inner trackers)
  - 1 multiplexed (outer layers)

# MuPix sensors: MuPix10



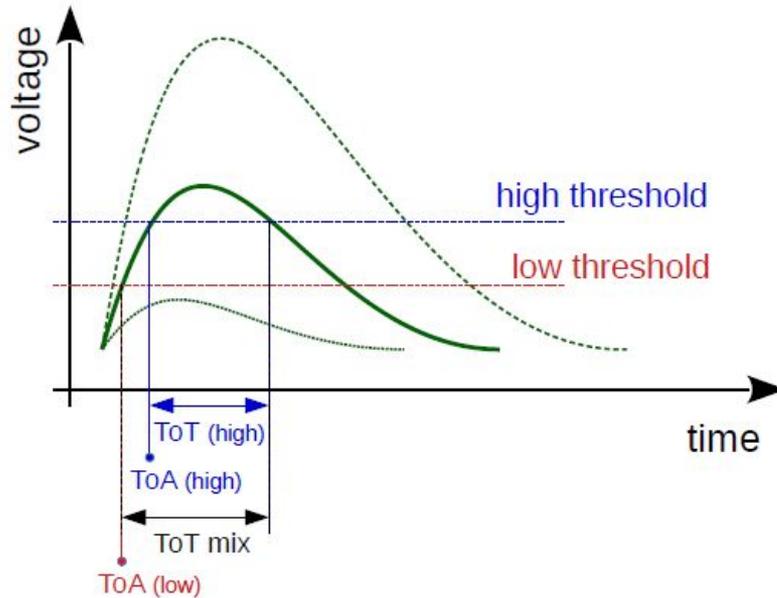
Single pixel read-out: in-cell



# MuPix sensors: MuPix10



## Single pixel read-out: periphery



Comparator in digital cell

Records Time-of-Arrival (ToA)

Records time of falling edge

Time-over-Threshold (ToT) computed

2 threshold mode:

- hit flag raised with high threshold
- ToA recorded with low threshold
- Falling edge on high threshold

Decreases time-walk

# MuPix sensors: requirements

---



pixel size [ $\mu\text{m}^2$ ]	$80 \times 80$
sensor size [ $\text{mm}^2$ ]	$20 \times 23$
active area [ $\text{mm}^2$ ]	$20 \times 20$
active area [ $\text{mm}^2$ ]	400
sensor thinned to thickness [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	50
LVDS links	$3 + 1$
maximum bandwidth <sup>§</sup> [Gbit/s]	$3 \times 1.6$
timestamp clock [MHz]	$\geq 50$
<hr/>	
RMS of spatial resolution [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	$\leq 30$
power consumption [ $\text{mW}/\text{cm}^2$ ]	$\leq 350$
time resolution per pixel [ns]	$\leq 20$
efficiency at 20 Hz/pix noise [%]	$\geq 99$
noise rate at 99 % efficiency [Hz/pix]	$\leq 20$

# MuPix sensors: special features

---

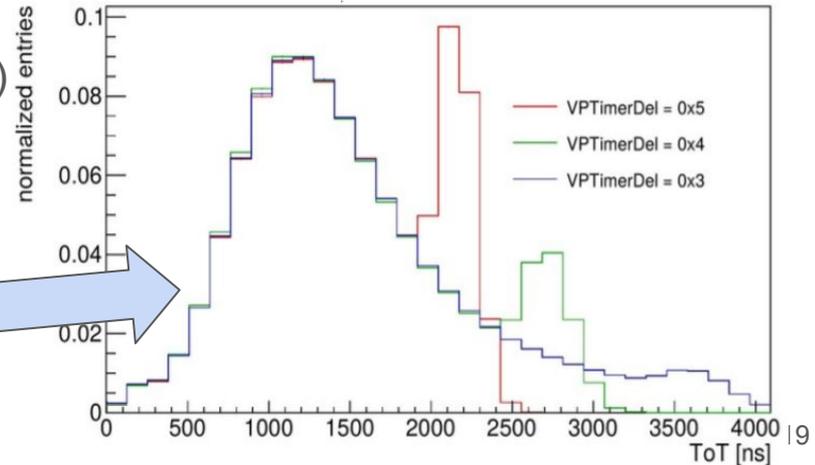


- 3 LVDS input lines
  - Clock
  - Sync reset
  - Serial input
- Slow control
  - ADC to read internal voltages and temperature
  - Readings sent out via data links
  - Extra temperature diode (analogue output)
- Hit-delay circuit
  - Hit recorded after a fixed delay from ToA
  - Easier time sorting procedure
  - Incidental max value on ToT

# MuPix sensors: special features



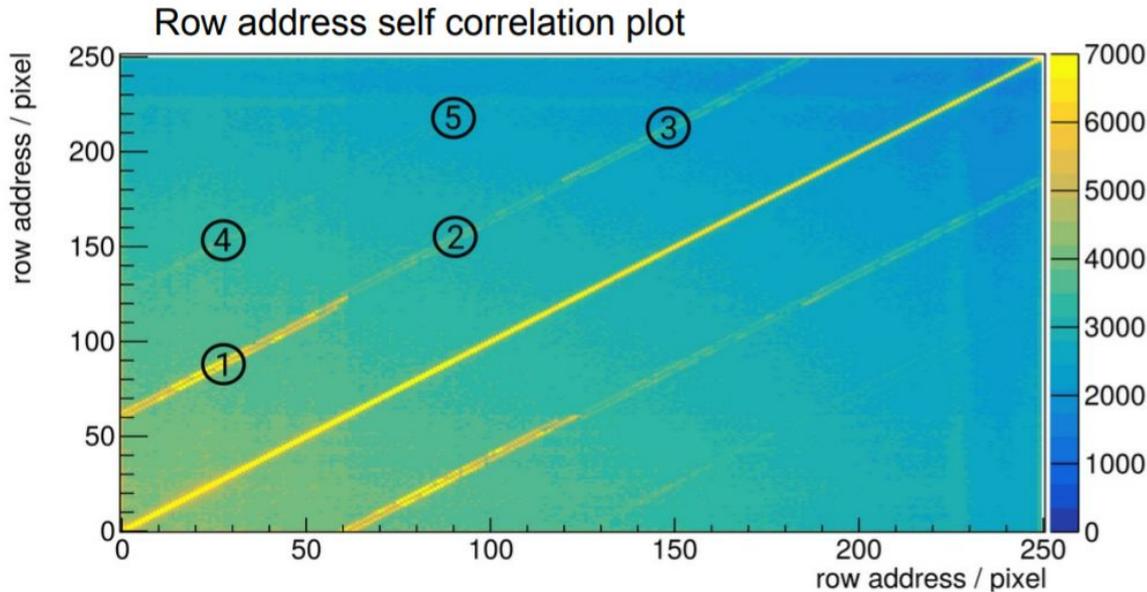
- 3 LVDS input lines
  - Clock
  - Sync reset
  - Serial input
- Slow control
  - ADC to read internal voltages and temperature
  - Readings sent out via data links
  - Extra temperature diode (analogue output)
- Hit-delay circuit
  - Hit recorded after a fixed delay from ToA
  - Easier time sorting procedure
  - Incidental max value on ToT



# MuPix10: results



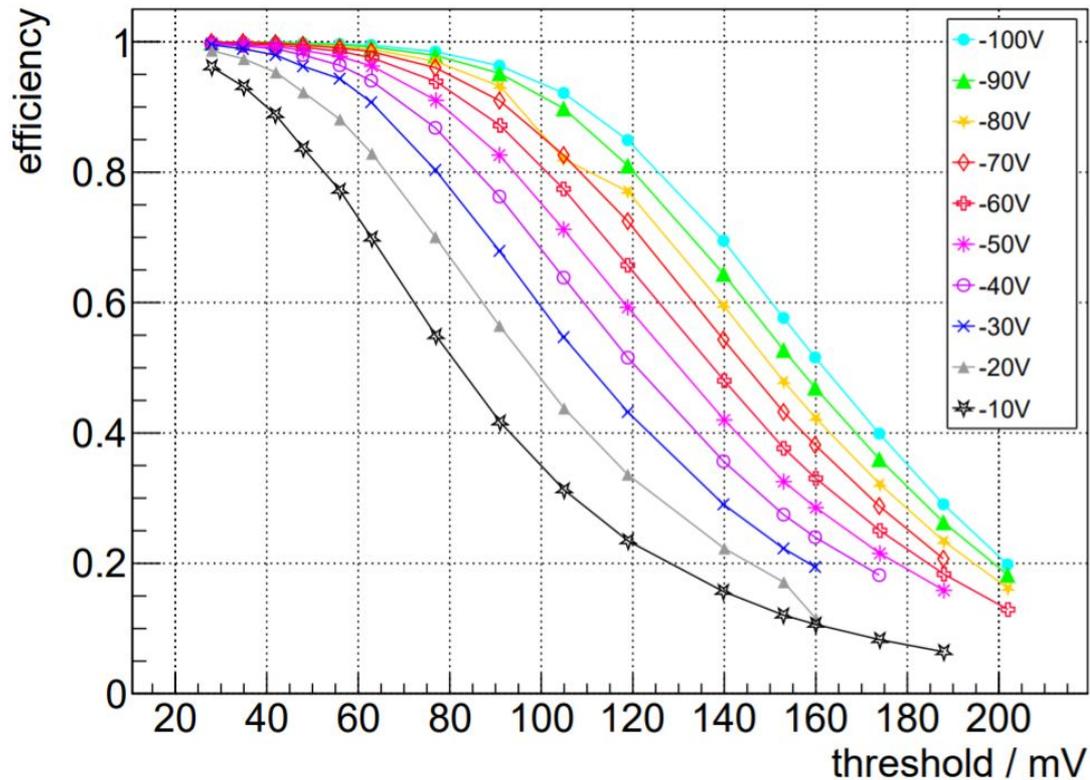
## Cross-talk



Multiple metal layers (TSI specific) used to minimize inter-line capacitances.  
Cross-talk probability < 1.5%

Neighbouring pixels are routed on different lines:  
cross talk distinguishable from charge sharing

# MuPix10: results

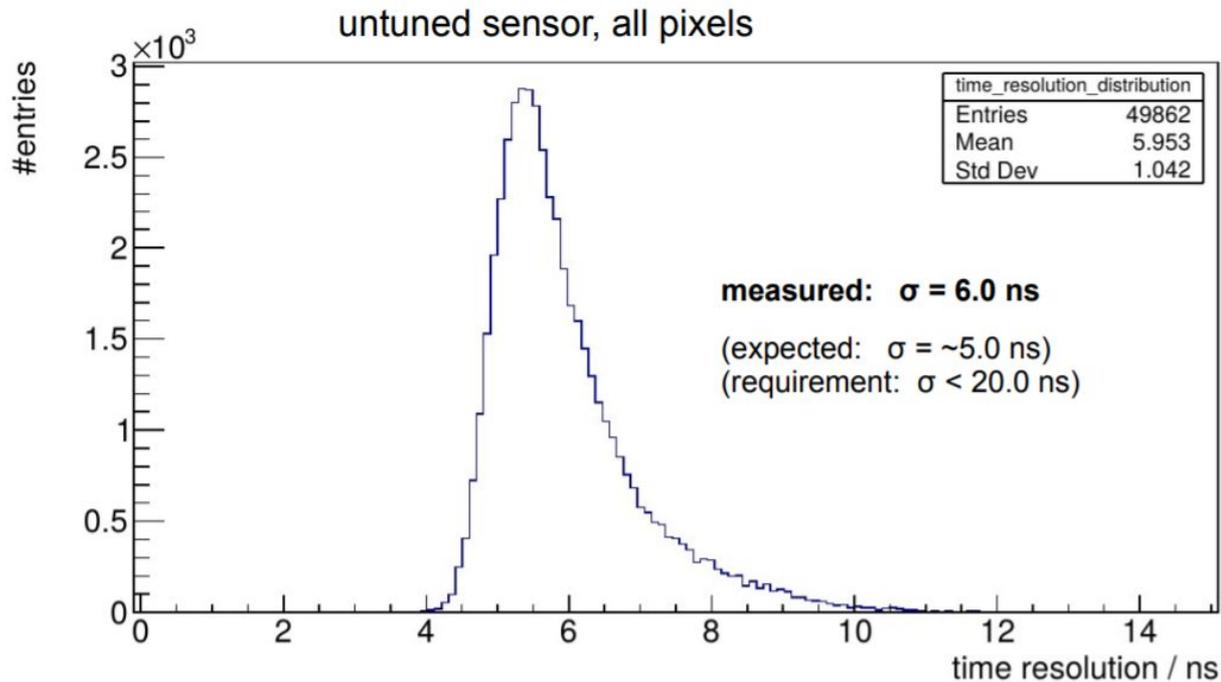


100  $\mu\text{m}$  thickness

110 V breakdown

Efficiency plateau well defined above 30V

# MuPix10: results

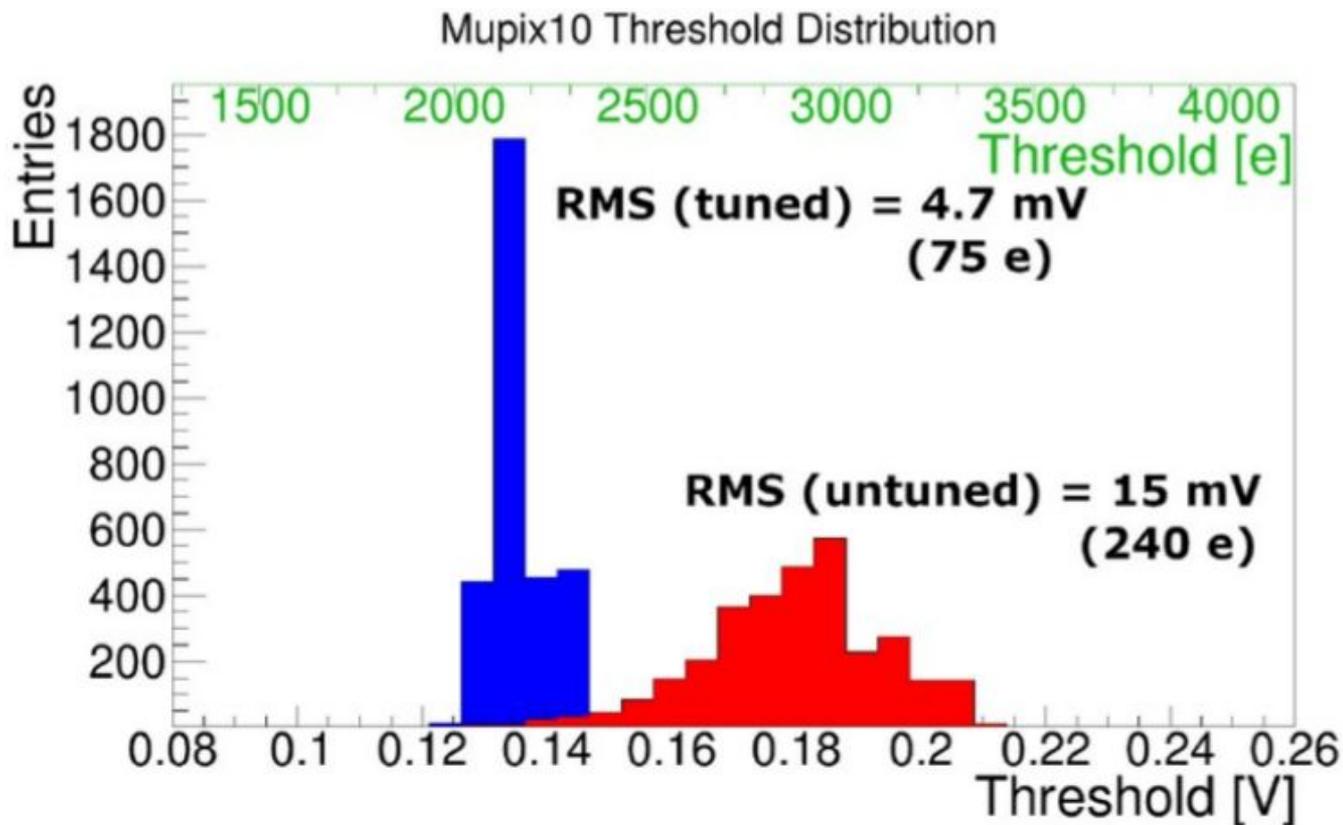


Time resolution well within specifications

$\sim 15$  ns without corrections

6 ns after row and time-walk corrections

# MuPix10: results



Threshold scans:

Low noise

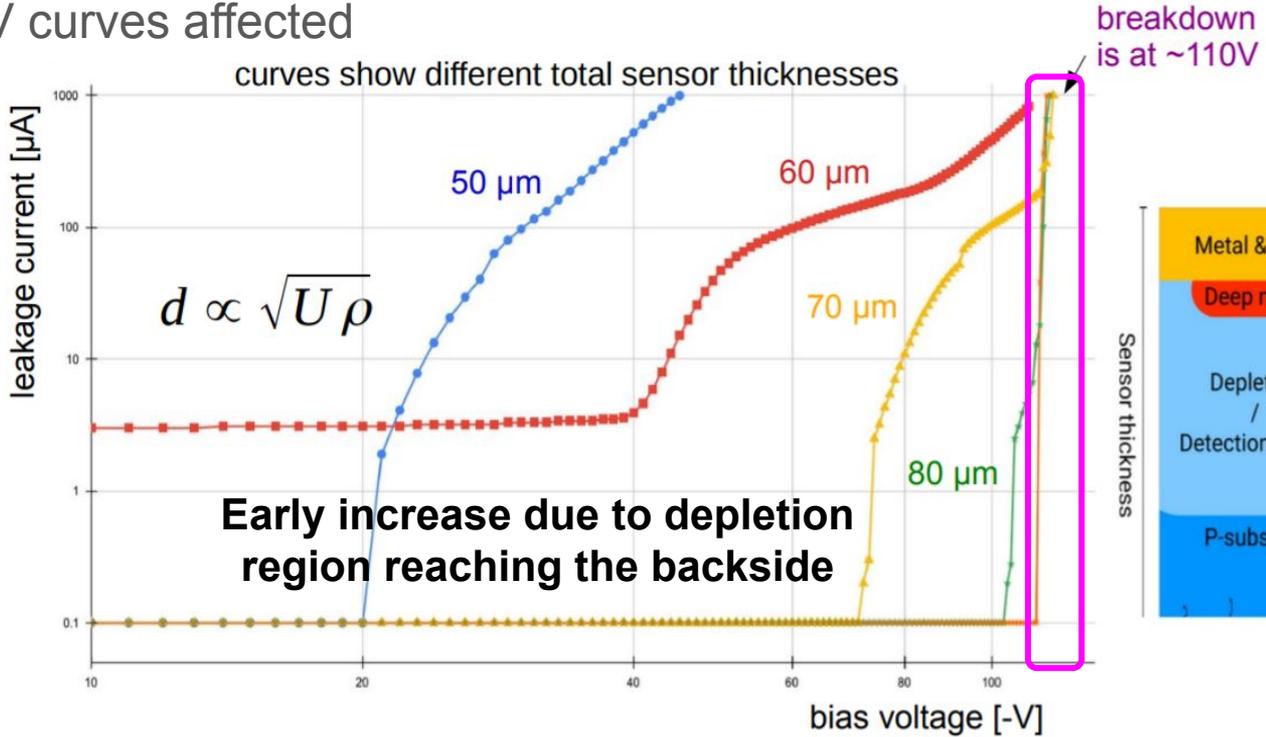
Tunable threshold



# Mupix10: thinning

MuPix10 devices thinned at different thicknesses (by mechanical grinding)

IV curves affected



Early current increase compatible with  $\sim 300 \Omega\text{cm}$  resistivity (nominal:  $200 \Omega\text{cm}$ )

# MuPix10: thinning

---



Severe impact on performance

- 50  $\mu\text{m}$  thin
- 200  $\Omega\text{cm}$  resistivity
- Only 25 V bias

Efficiency is low

# MuPix10: thinning



Severe impact on performance

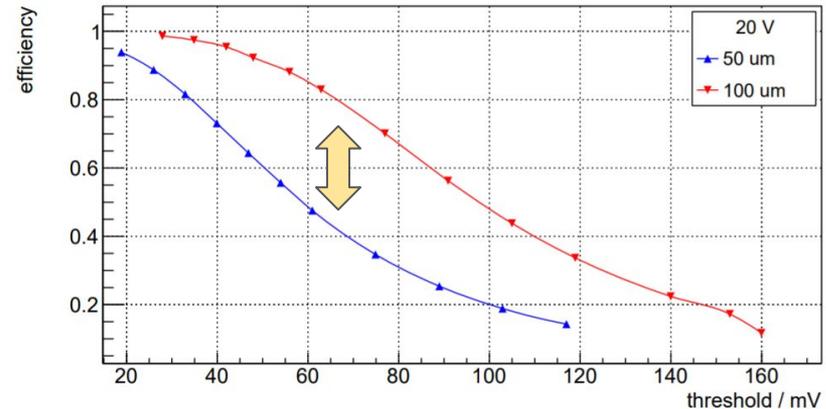
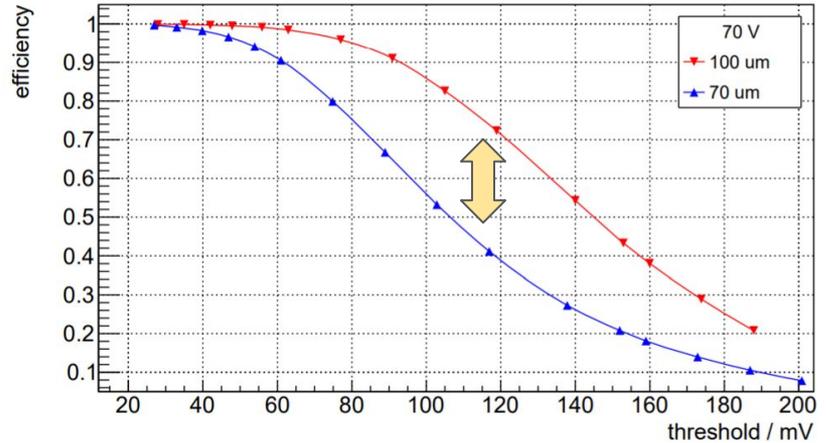
- 50  $\mu\text{m}$  thin
- 200  $\Omega\text{cm}$  resistivity
- Only 25 V bias

Efficiency is low

Observation: at same voltage, thicker is still better...

Diffusion? Damage in silicon bulk?

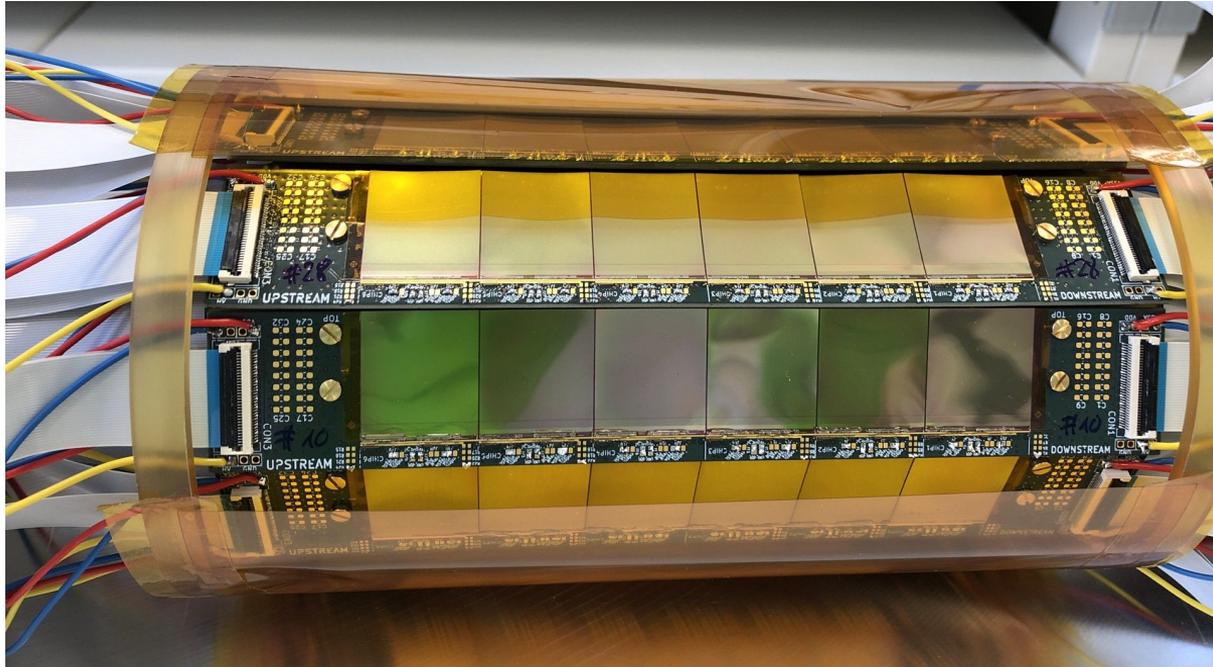
Studies ongoing (new thinning procedure, more complete data to analyze)



# Prototyping



## DAQ and experimental concept



## Prototype of vertex detector

Jun/Jul 2021

50  $\mu\text{m}$ -thin chips mounted on  
katpon foils

Connected to ladder-boards

Same shape as inner tracker,  
slightly larger

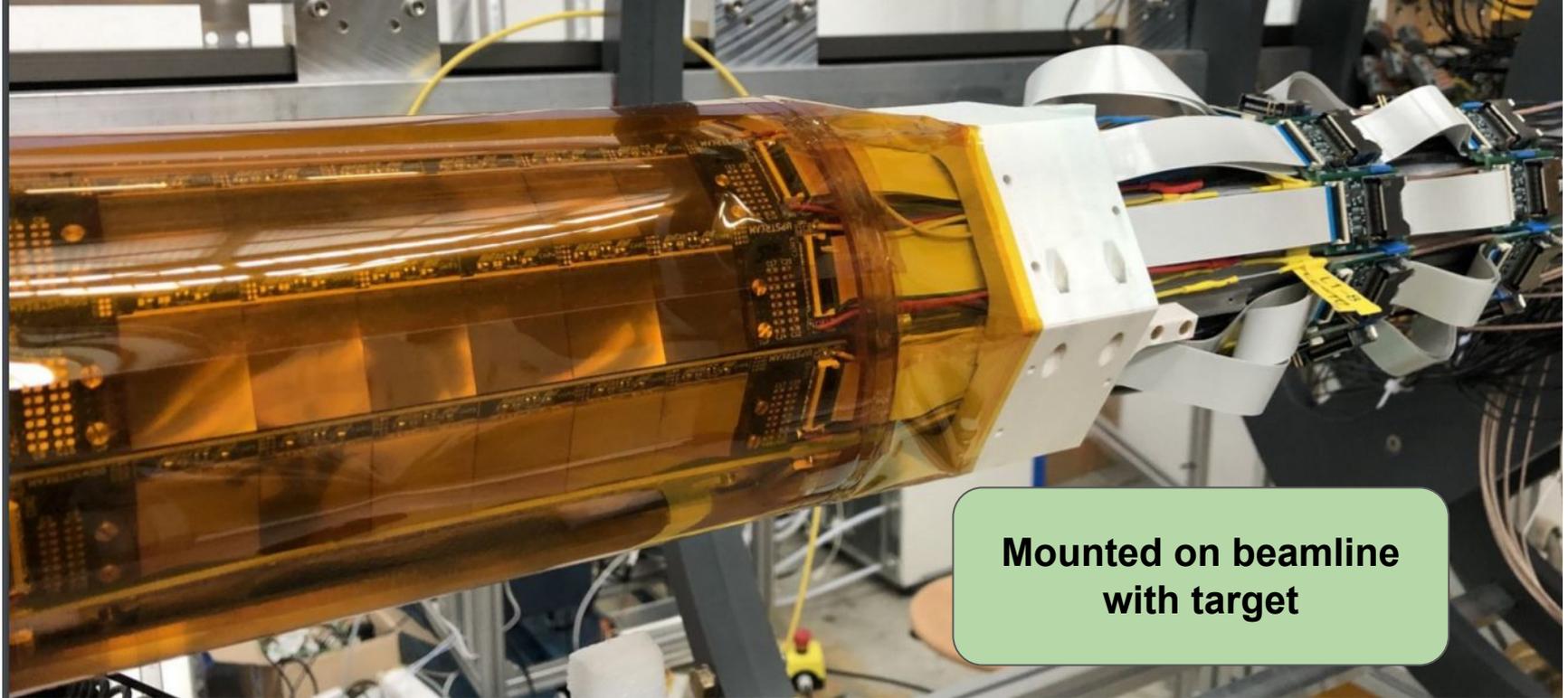
External connection with  
commercial cables

# Prototyping

---



DAQ and experimental concept



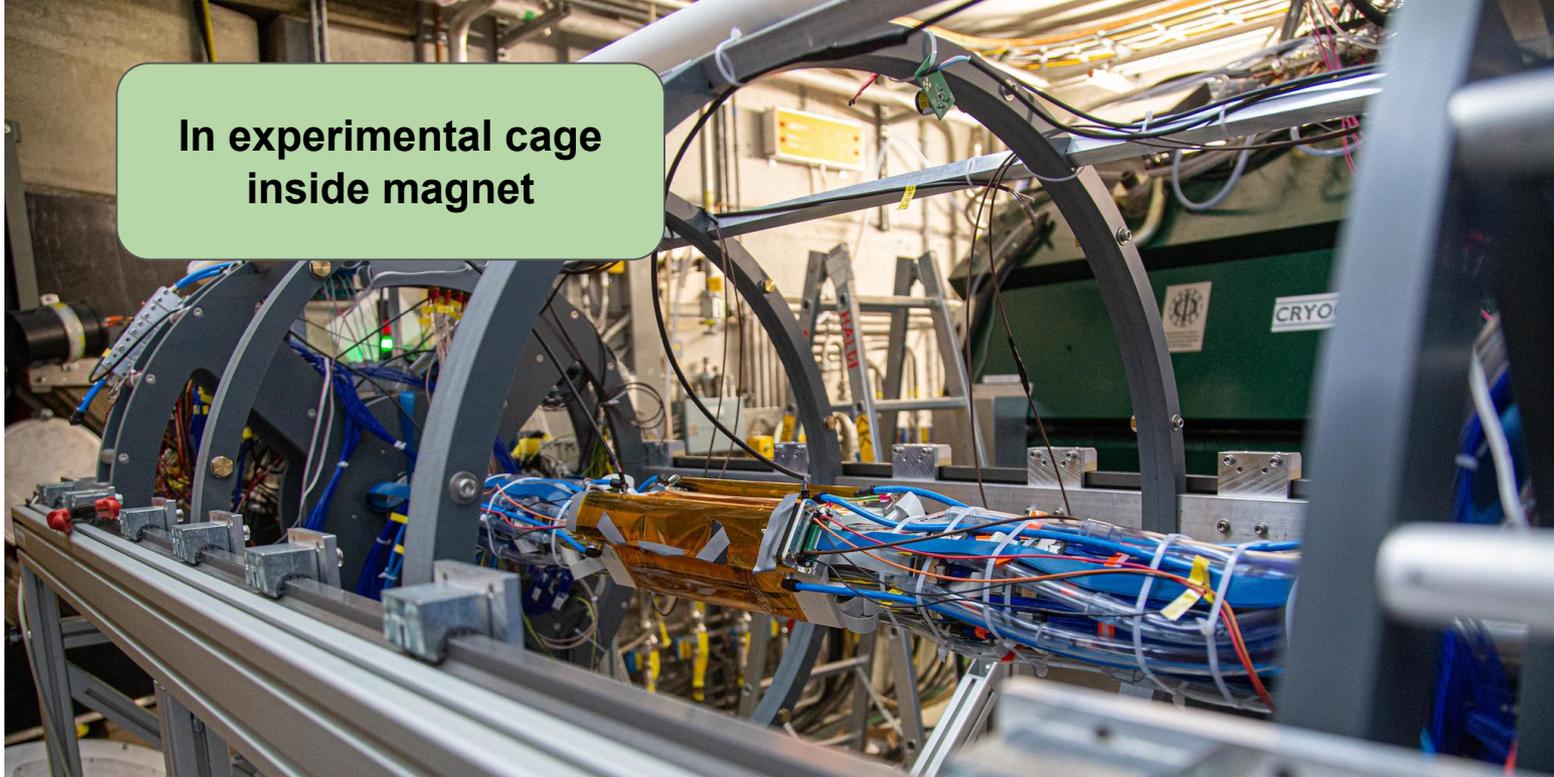
**Mounted on beamline  
with target**

# Prototyping

---



DAQ and experimental concept



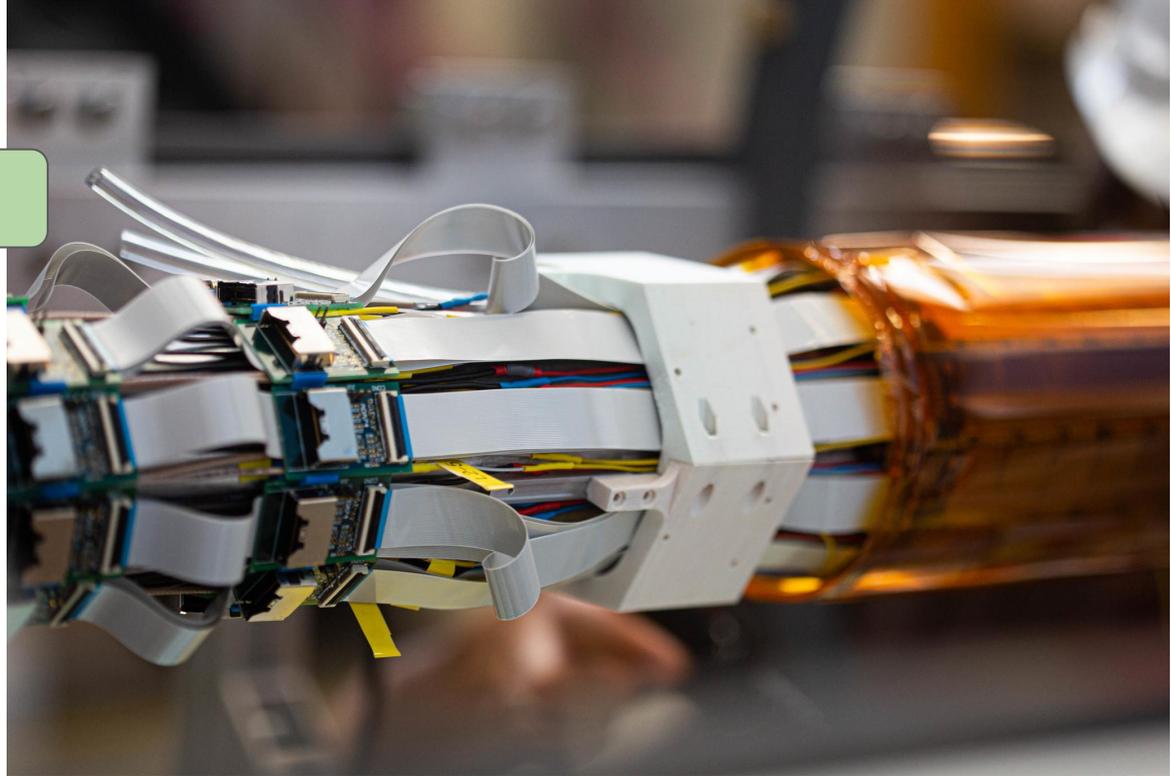
# Prototyping

---



DAQ and experimental concept

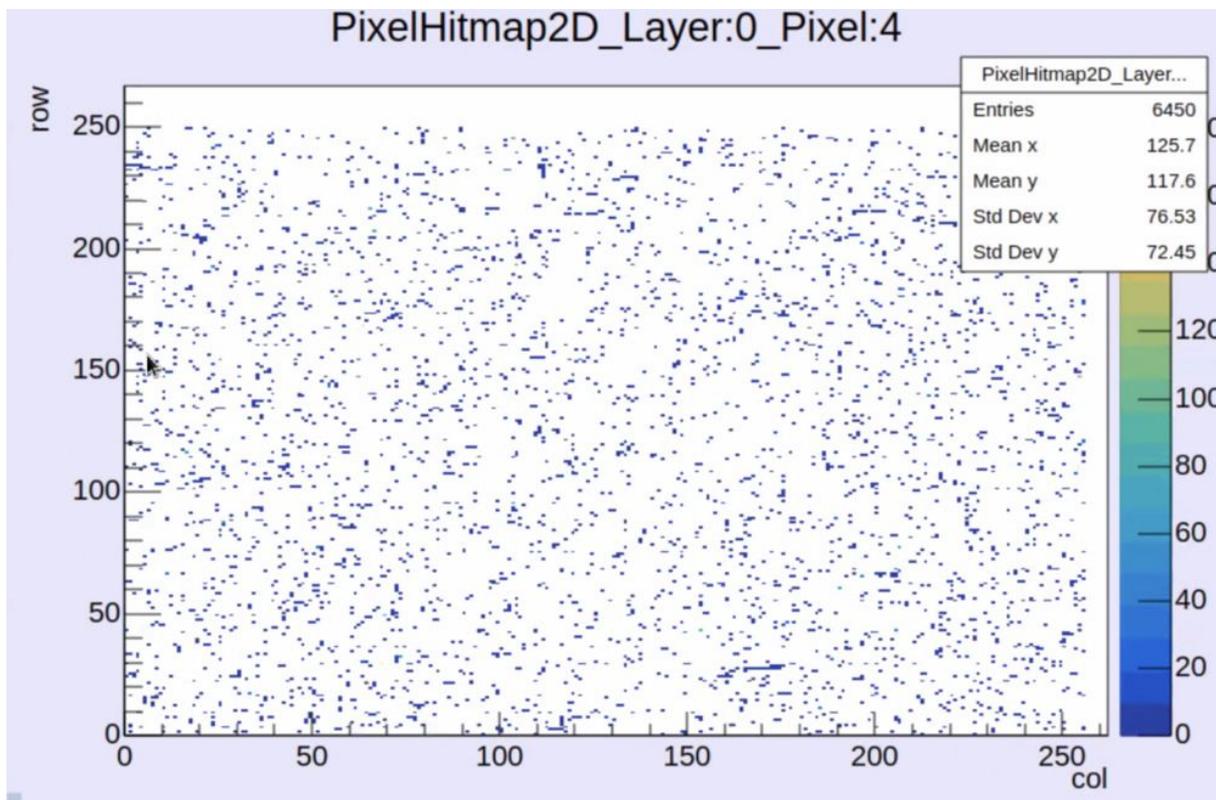
**Helium flow**



# Prototyping



## DAQ and experimental concept



Prototype of  
vertex detector

Worked!

First hitmap ever observed for  
the Mu3e experiment  
prototype

Analysis ongoing

# Conclusions

---



- Mu3e is a CLFV experiment which uses pixel sensors to track electrons from muon decays
  - High rates
  - Low energy
- Tight experimental constraints on pixels → HV-CMOS!
- MuPix development at the forefront of HV-CMOS R&D
- MuPix10 satisfies most of experimental requirements
- Prototype of vertex detector successful
- MuPix11 underway
- Production of Mu3e starting next year

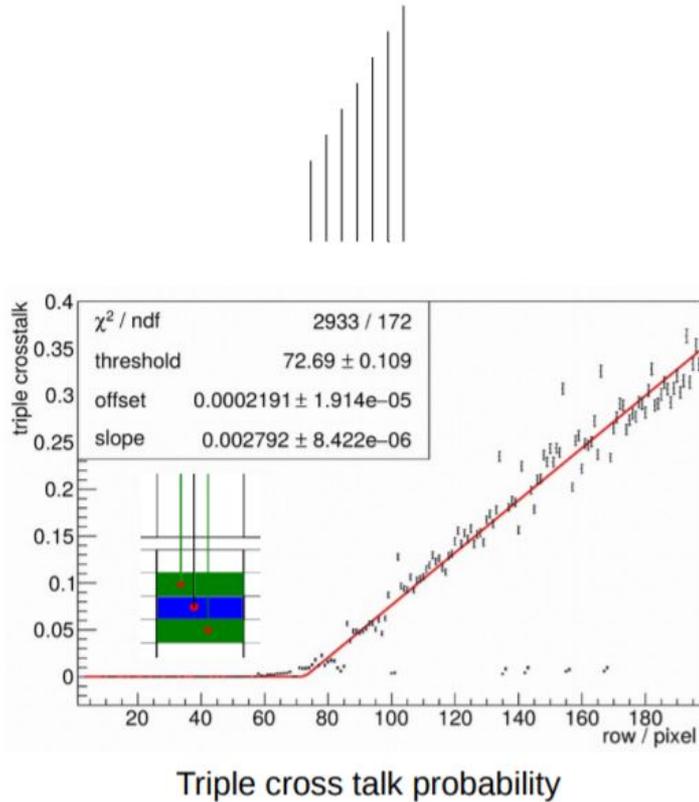


# Backup

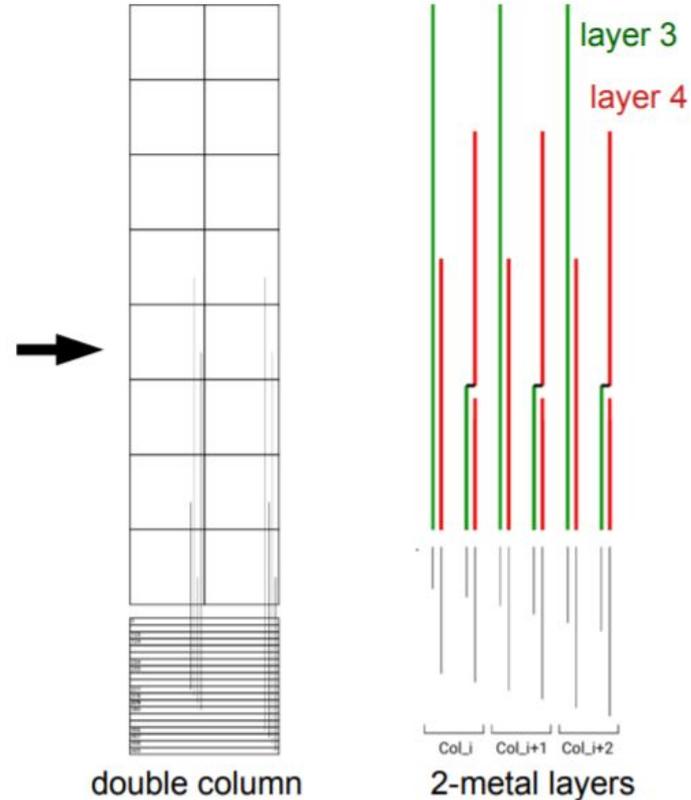
# Backup: crosstalk



## Mupix8 Layout



## New Mupix10 Layout

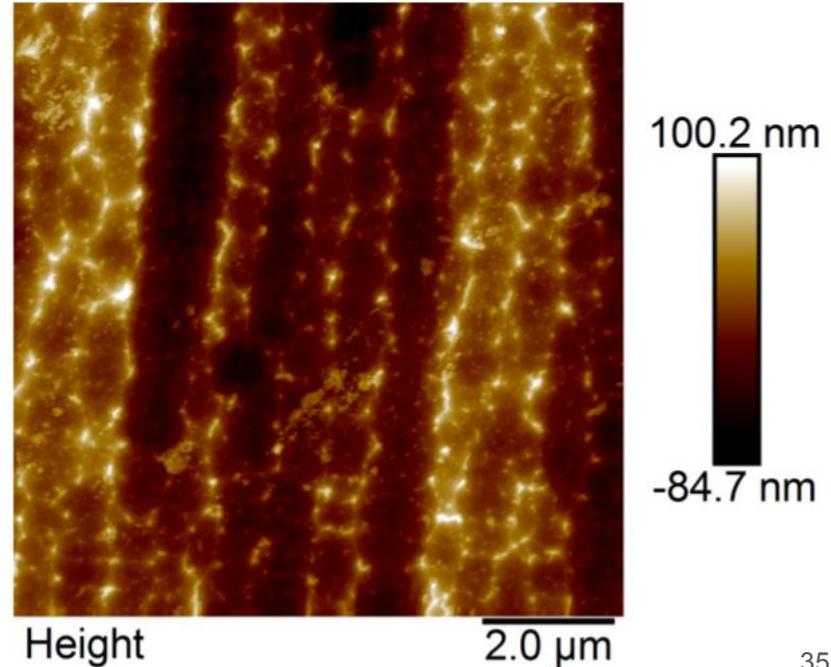
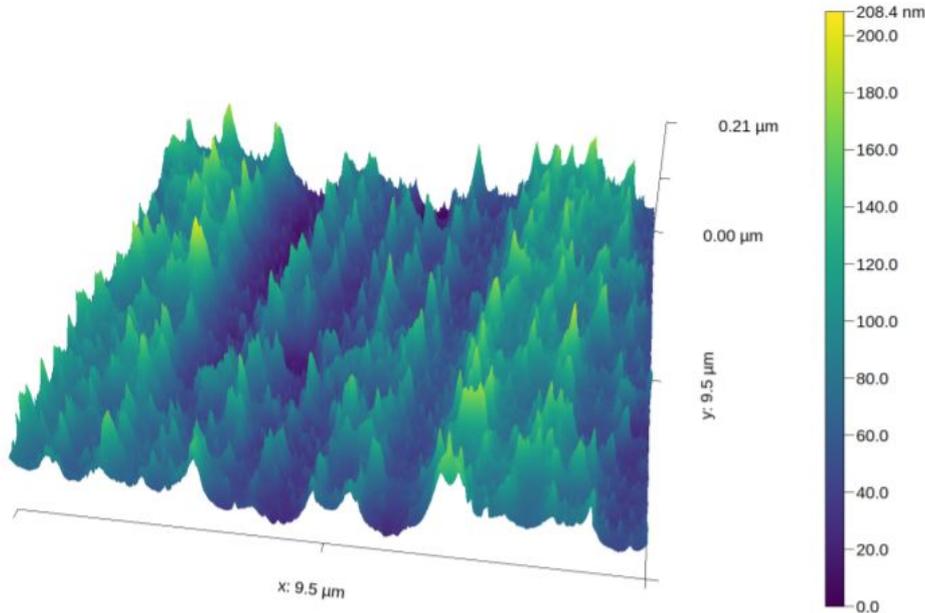


# Backup: thinning issue

---



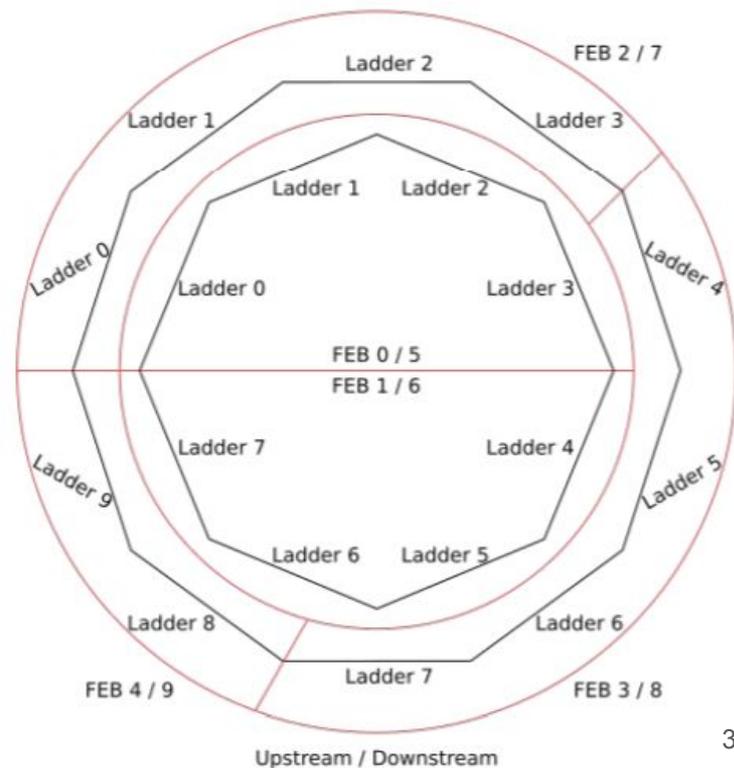
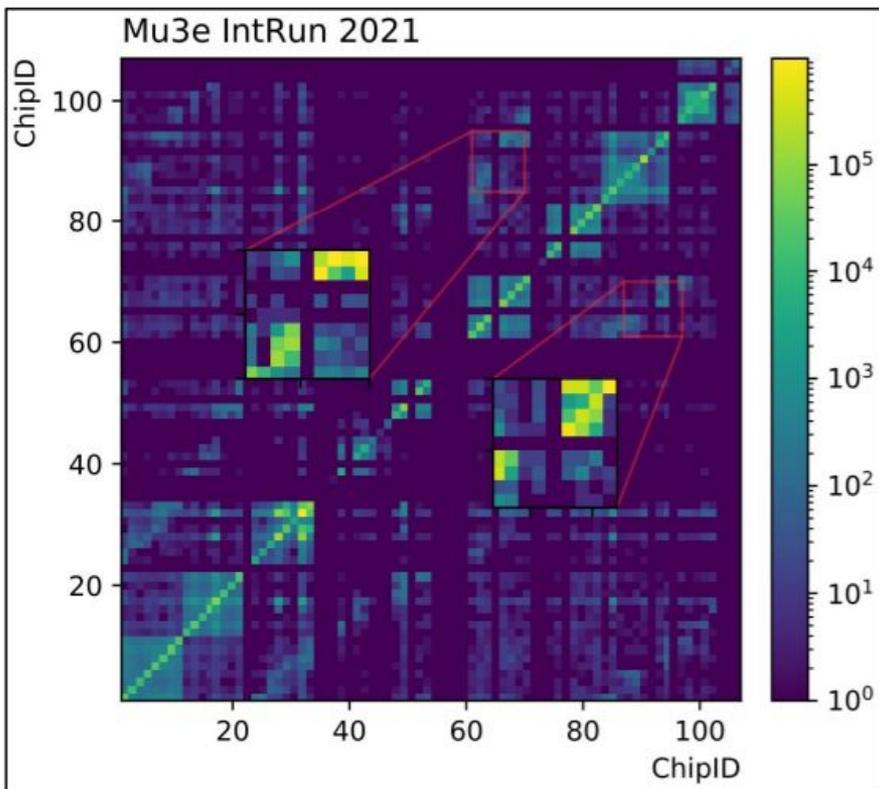
## Atomic force microscopy on backside



# Backup: prototype data analysis



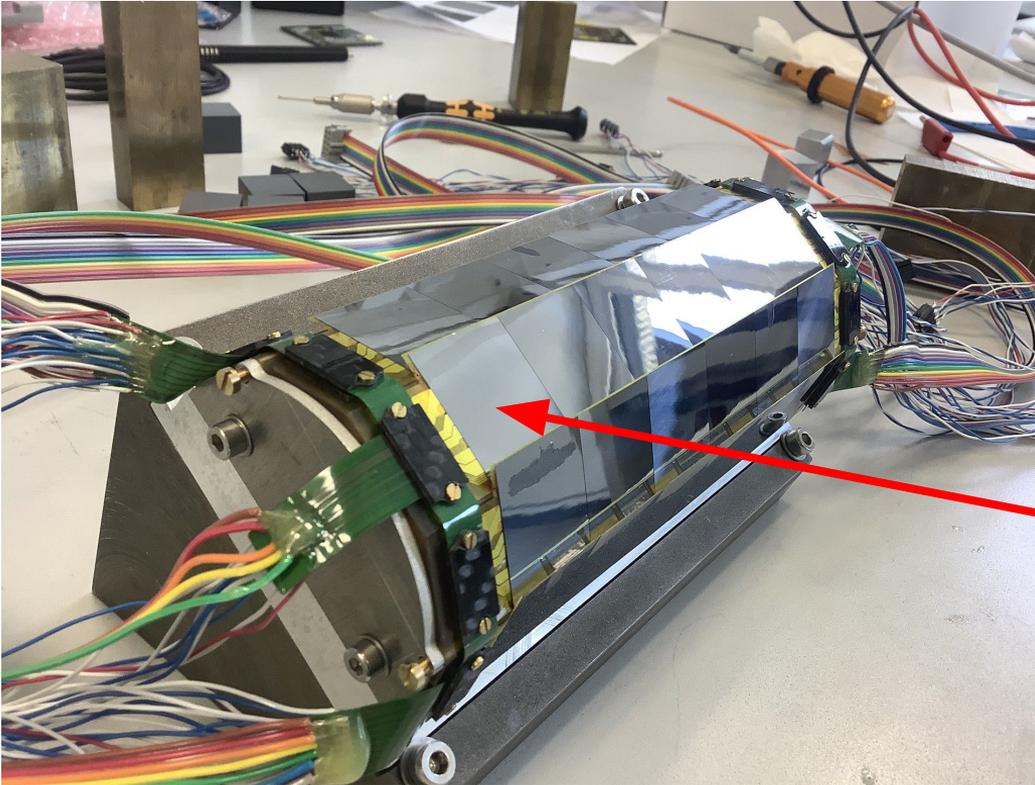
## Chip-to-chip correlations



# Backup: Prototyping



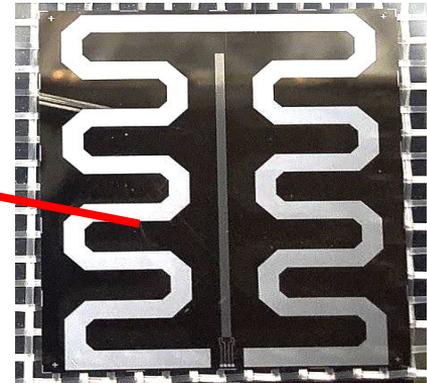
## Thermo-mechanical stability



Silicon heater prototype

Reproduction of inner tracker with same materials and connections

Chips are just passive silicon heaters



# Backup: Prototyping

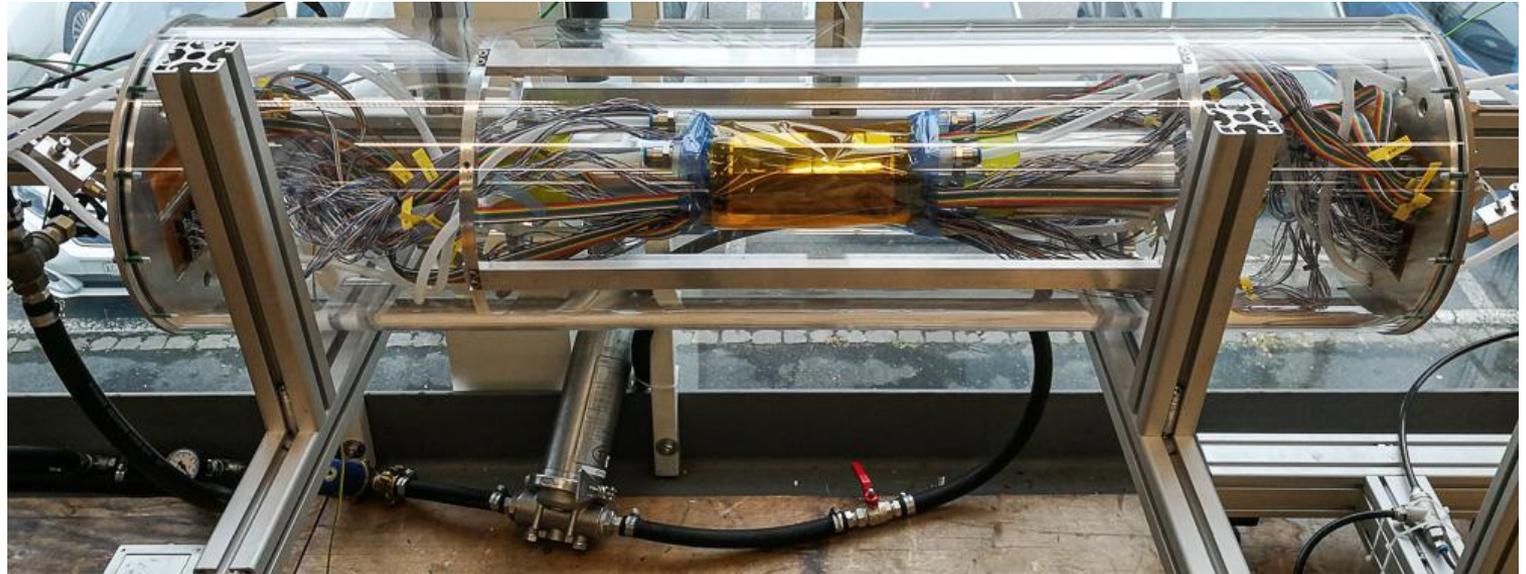
---



Thermo-mechanical stability

Silicon heater prototype

Test stand  
with Helium  
cooling  
system



# Backup: Prototyping



## Thermo-mechanical stability

- Measurement of temperature-to-power relation
- Temperature difference linearly depending on heat dissipation
- Expected  $\Delta T < 70$  K for  $400 \text{ mW/cm}^2$  (conservative limit)
- Cooling concept works 
- More detailed studies to come

## Silicon heater prototype

