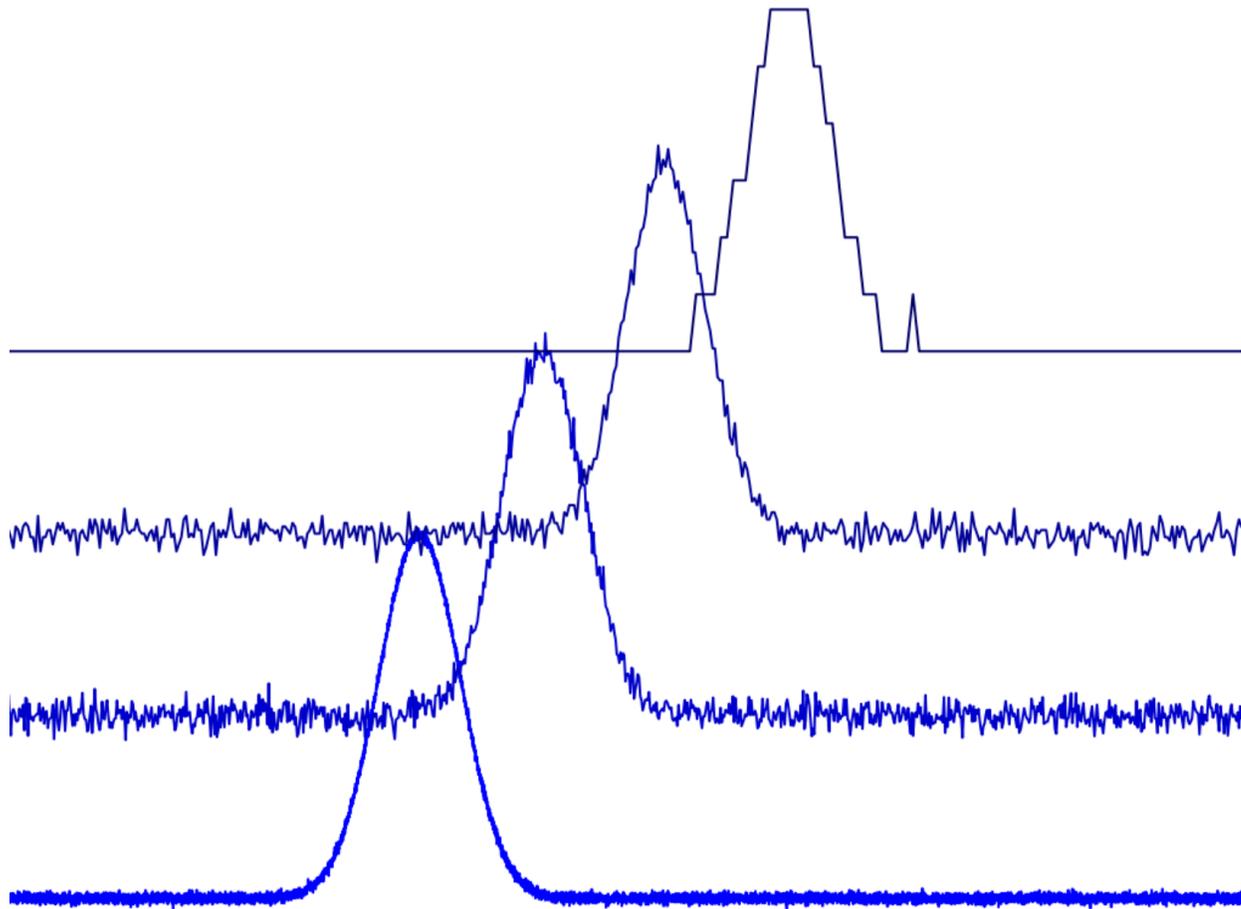


# Fast Digitizers for Particle Physics



Nicola Minafra



The University of Kansas

16<sup>th</sup> June 2021

# Outline



<b>Fast Digitizer for Particle Physics</b> <i>remote-only by Zoom</i>	<i>Nicola Minafra</i> 16:10 - 16:25
<b>Architecture of the SAMPIC digitizer</b> <i>remote-only by Zoom</i>	<i>Dominique Robert Breton</i> 16:25 - 16:40
<b>Fast timing electronics R&amp;D based on waveform digitization</b> <i>remote-only by Zoom</i>	<i>Jiajun Qin et al.</i> 16:40 - 16:55

## Digitization of the signal:

- why?
- how?
  - a bit of theory (only a bit!)
  - digitization using fast ADC
  - digitization using a Switched Capacitor Array

## Particle Physics examples:

- SAMPIC for the CMS PPS timing detector
- PSEC4 for PID in a cube sat
- Digital scope for beam profile characterization



# Digitization of the signal... Why ?

A sampled signal contains all the information needed for a precise measurement and to debug the system

Advantages of sampling:

- *Infinite* analysis possibilities
- Possible to improve performance off-line
- Digital elaboration (Moore's law)



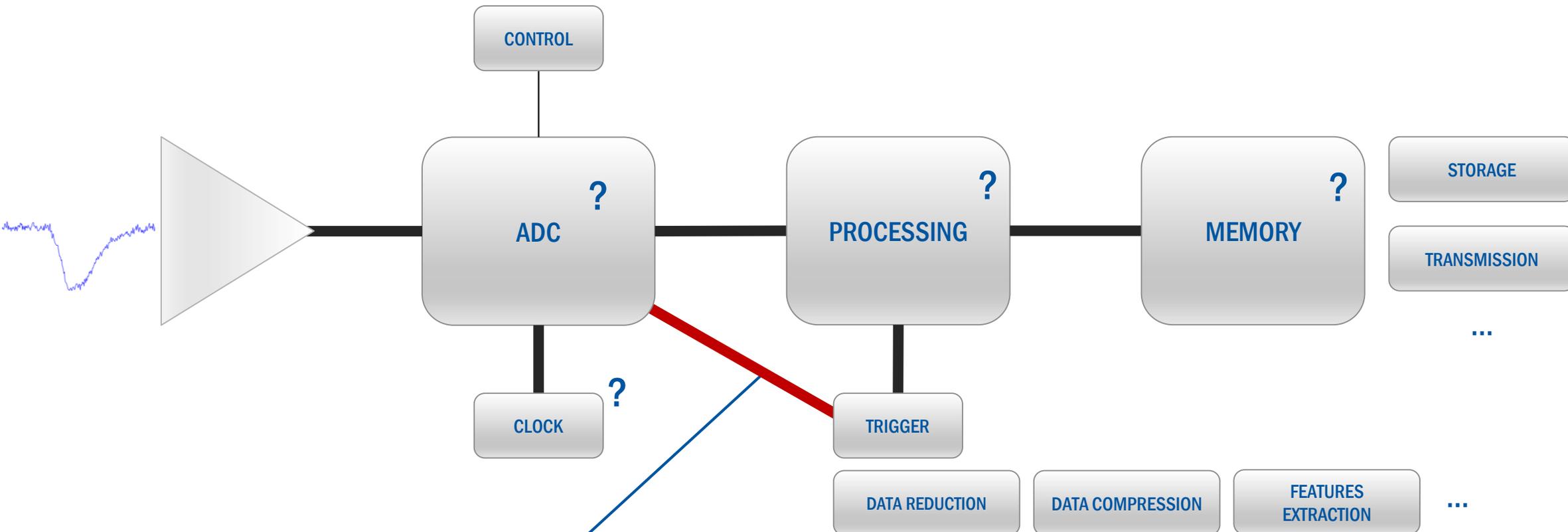
Cons

- High cost
- Requires computing power
- Usually slow and bulky devices



# Digitization of the signal... H o w ?

The analog signal is amplified and digitized using an Analog to Digital Converter (ADC)



Only possible if  
trigger arrives  
**before** the signal



# Digitization “without” loss of information

The system can be designed in a way the measurement is limited by the detector and not by the digitizer

## 1- Nyquist–Shannon sampling theorem

$$f_{SAMPLING} \geq 2 f_{SIGNAL}$$

(assuming sinc antialiasing)

Rule of thumb (conservative):

$$f_{SAMPLING} \sim 3f_{SIGNAL}$$

## 2- Quantization noise

$$SNR [dB] = (6.02 ENOB) + 1.76$$

quantization error is uniformly distributed between  $-1/2$  LSB and  $+1/2$  LSB **for a sine wave**

ENOB: effective number of bits

**ENOB 8 bits: SNR ~48 dB (256)**

Diamond SNR ~ 28 dB (25) -> quantization is degrading the SNR by ~0.5%

LGAD SNR ~ 40 dB (100) -> quantization is degrading the SNR by ~7%



# Digitization “without” loss of information

The system can be designed in a way the measurement is limited by the detector and not by the digitizer

## Technical Data

Bandwidth	1 GHz
Channels	4
Memory	62.5 M - 1 G points
Samplingrate	25 GS/s - 50 GS/s (2.5 TS/s interpolated)

Sample rate	Number of bits of vertical resolution
50 GS/s	8
25 GS/s	8
12.5 GS/s	12
6.25 GS/s	13
3.125 GS/s	14
1.25 GS/s	15
≤625 MS/s	16

Table 3: 50 GS/s, Sample Mode, RMS

V/div	1 mV/div	2 mV/div	5 mV/div
10 GHz	183 μV	188 μV	228
9 GHz	167 μV	172 μV	208
8 GHz	153 μV	156 μV	192
7 GHz	139 μV	141 μV	175
6 GHz	124 μV	127 μV	156

Why do we need 50 GS/s?!

## Effective bits (ENOB), typical

2 mV/div, High Res mode, 50 Ω, 10 MHz input with 90% full screen

Bandwidth	ENOB
5 GHz	5.7
4 GHz	5.9
3 GHz	6.1
2.5 GHz	6.2
2 GHz	6.35
1 GHz	6.8
500 MHz	7.25
350 MHz	7.5
250 MHz	7.65
200 MHz	7.85
20 MHz	9.25

Table 4: 25 GS/s, HiRes Mode, RMS

V/div	1 mV/div	2 mV/div	5 mV/div
5 GHz	111 μV	112 μV	1
4 GHz	97.4 μV	98.7 μV	1
3 GHz	83.8 μV	85 μV	1
2.5 GHz	75.6 μV	76.6 μV	9
2 GHz	68.9 μV	69.9 μV	8
1 GHz	51.1 μV	51.8 μV	5
500 MHz	37.5 μV	38 μV	4
350 MHz	31.9 μV	32.3 μV	3
250 MHz	28.1 μV	28.5 μV	3
200 MHz	24.2 μV	24.5 μV	2
20 MHz	8.68 μV	8.8 μV	1

OVERSAMPLING!

$$f_{OS} \sim 4^W f_S$$

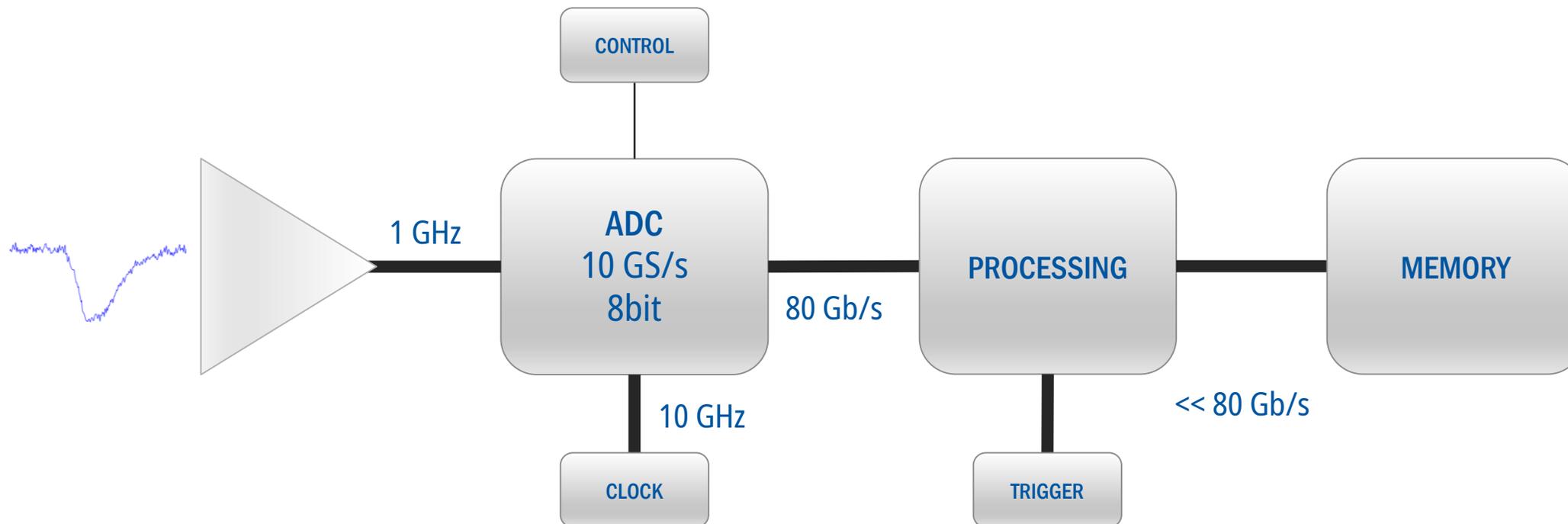
$$ENOB_{OS} \sim ENOB_S + W$$

resolution ≠ precision



# Digitization of the signal... H o w ?

The analog signal is amplified and digitized using an Analog to Digital Converter



ADS54J60 2 ch 16 bit 1 GS/s 10x10 mm<sup>2</sup> 1.35 W/Ch

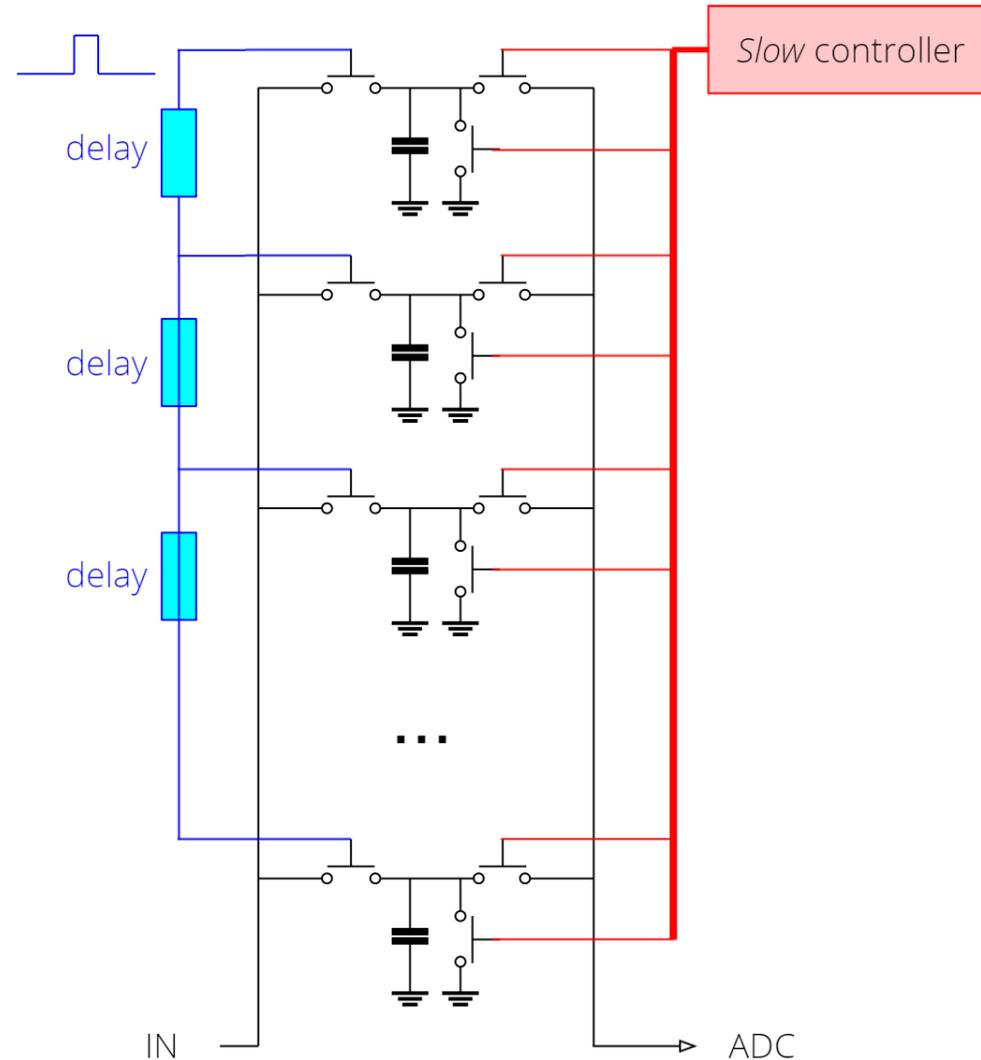
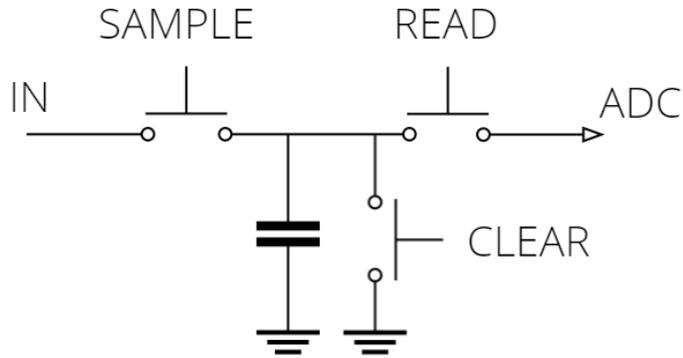
ADC12DL3200 2 ch 12 bit 3.2 GS/s (or 6.4 GS/s 1 ch) 17x17 mm<sup>2</sup> 3.15 W

ADC12DJ5200RF 2 ch 12 bit 5.2 GS/s (or 10.4 GS/s 1 ch) 10x10 mm<sup>2</sup> 4 W

# Can we decouple sampling and digitization?



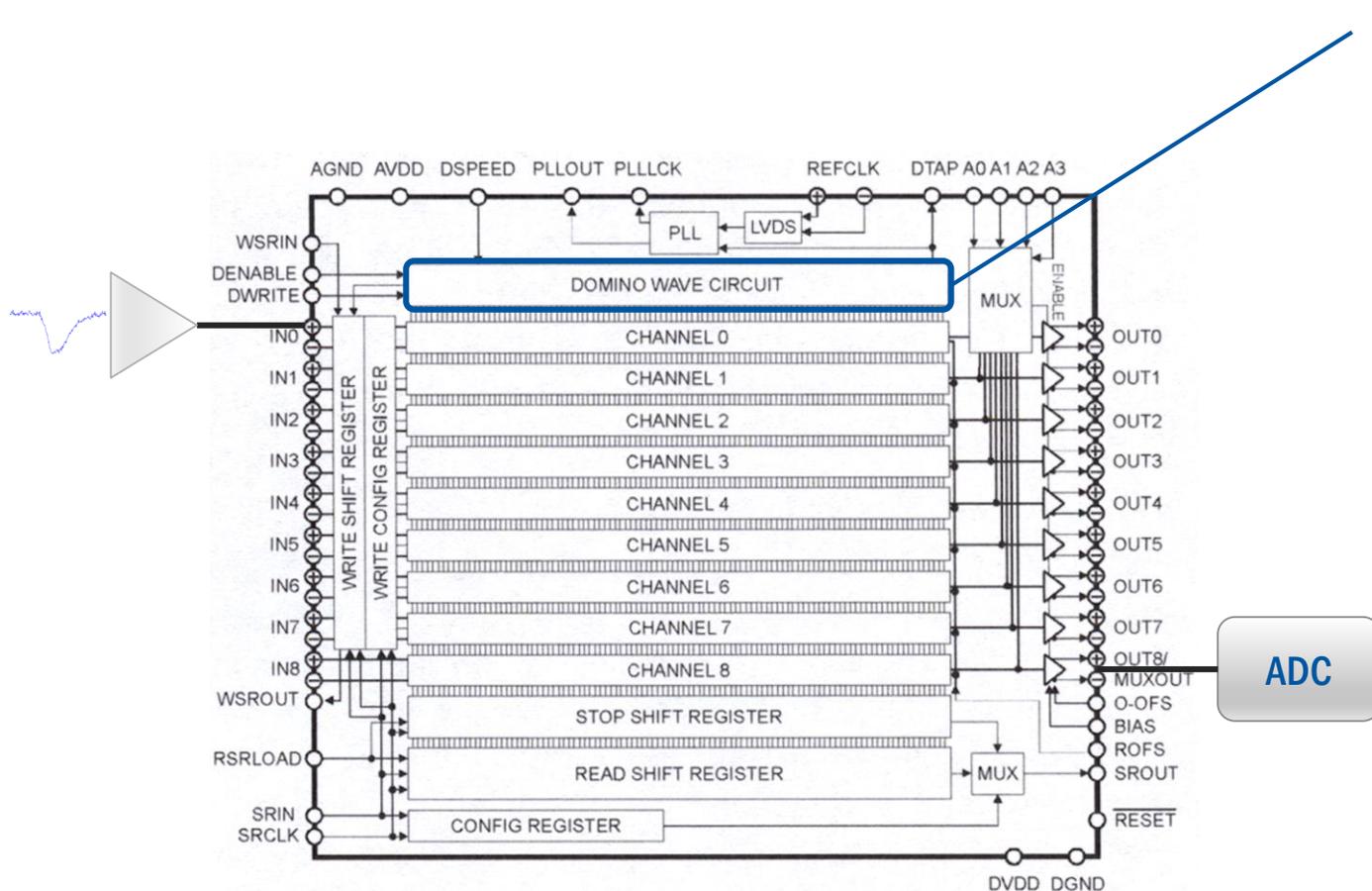
We can use a fast electronics to sample the signal and then a slower electronics to digitized the sampled signal



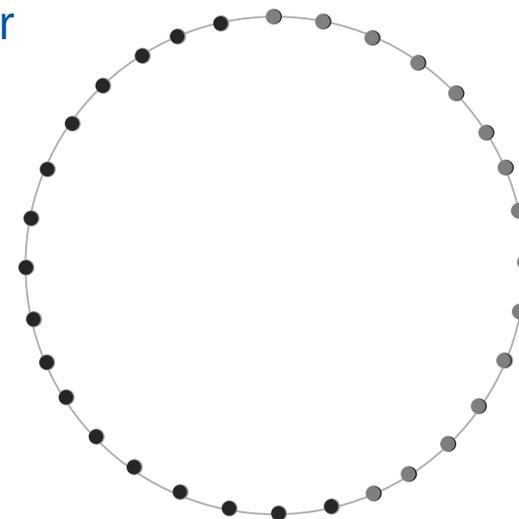


# DRS4: Domino Ring Sampler

9 ch, up to 5 GS/s, 950 MHz BW, 1024 sampling cells, 140 mW



Ring buffer



The trigger stops the sampling

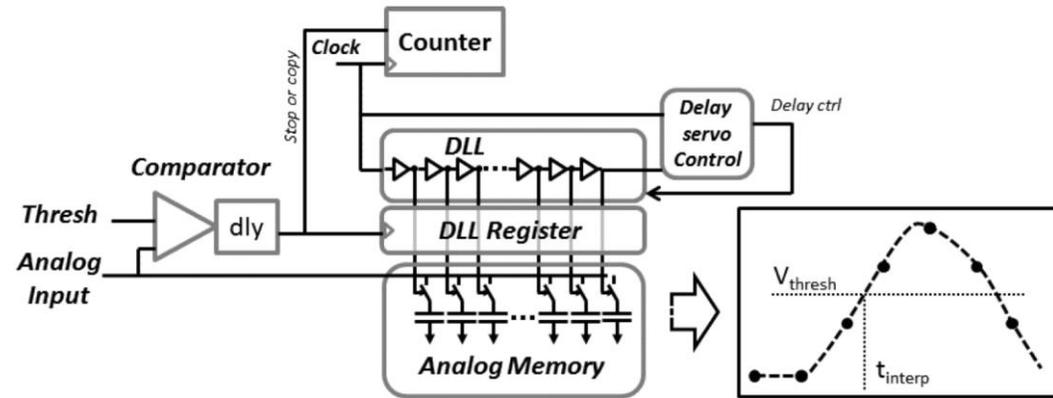
Digitization starts (sampler is stopped)

Sampling starts again



# Wavecatcher & friends...

All samples of one channel can be digitized at once: lower dead time



Wavecatcher (SAMLONG chip)

2 ch, up to 3.2 GS/s, 500 MHz BW, 12 bits, 1024 sampling cells, conversion time <66 us, 400 mW

SAMPIC [see D. Breton's talk](#)

16 ch, up to 10 GS/s, >1 GHz BW, 11 bits, 64 sampling cells, conversion time 0.1 – 1.6 us, 180 mW

PSEC4

6 ch, up to 15 GS/s, 1.5 GHz BW, 11 bits, 256 sampling cells, conversion time 4 us, 100 mW

SCASIC [see J. Qin's talk](#)

8 ch, >5 GS/s, 1 GHz BW, 12 bits, 128 sampling cells, conversion time 4 us



# Outline



## Digitization of the signal:

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## Particle Physics examples :

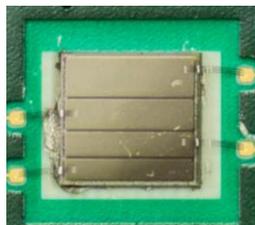
- **SAMPIC** for the CMS PPS timing detector
- **PSEC4** for PID in a cube sat
- **Digital scope** for beam profile characterization

# CMS & TOTEM Timing detectors

Timing detectors with  $<100$  ps precision hosted in Roman Pots at 220m on both sides of the CMS interaction point

## CMS PPS detectors:

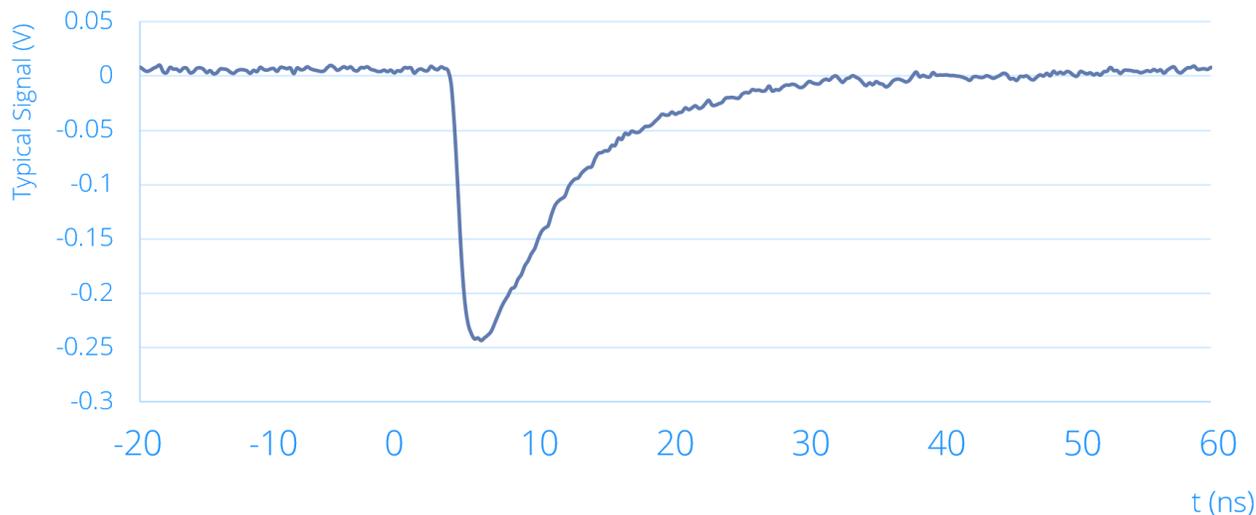
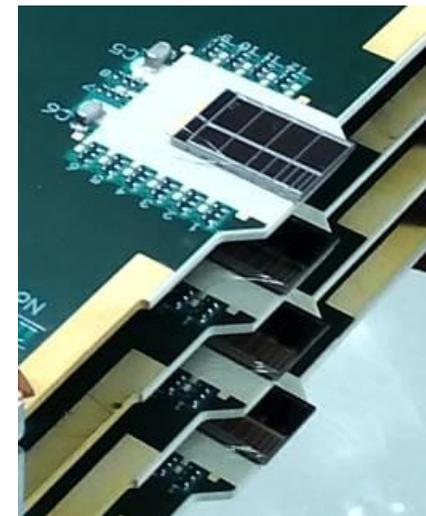
- High radiation tolerance
- High trigger rate capabilities



scCVD Diamond sensors, HPTDC

## TOTEM detectors:

- For dedicated low luminosity runs: possibility of using LGADs and samplers



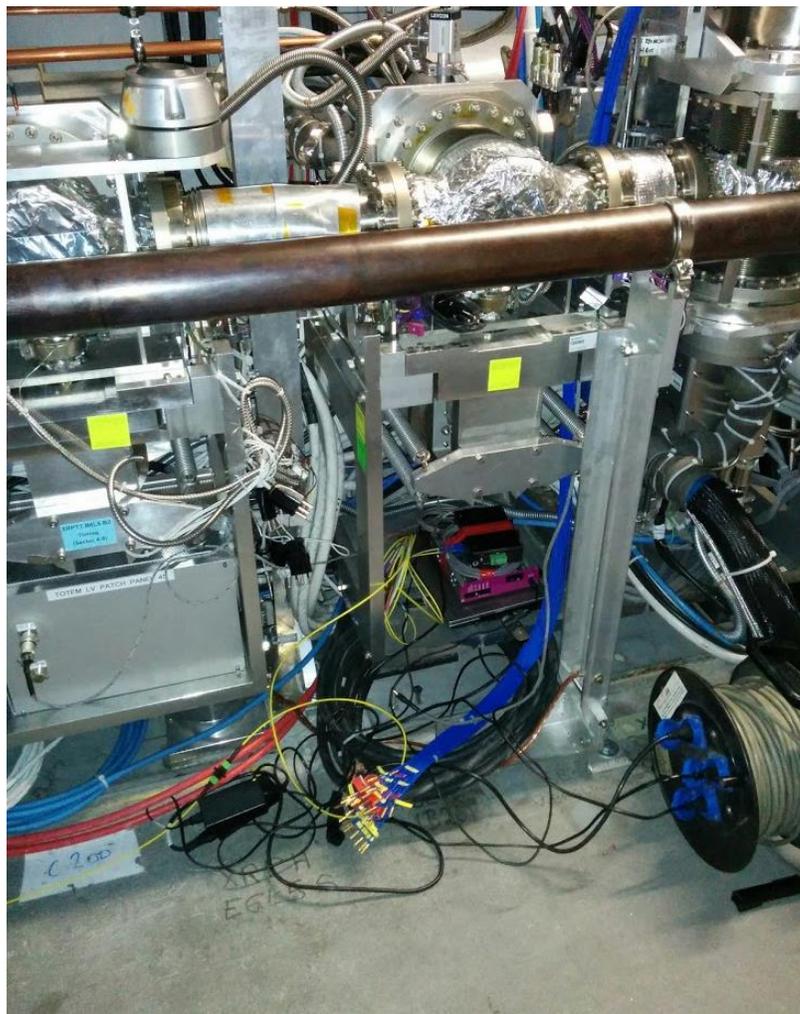
- $\sim 1$  ns rise time:  $>350$  MHz
- $\sim 50$  SNR:  $>8$  bits
- Interested only in the first edge:  $\sim 10$  ns
- 12x4 channels
- Acceptable dead time  $\sim 5$   $\mu$ s

**SAMPIC!**

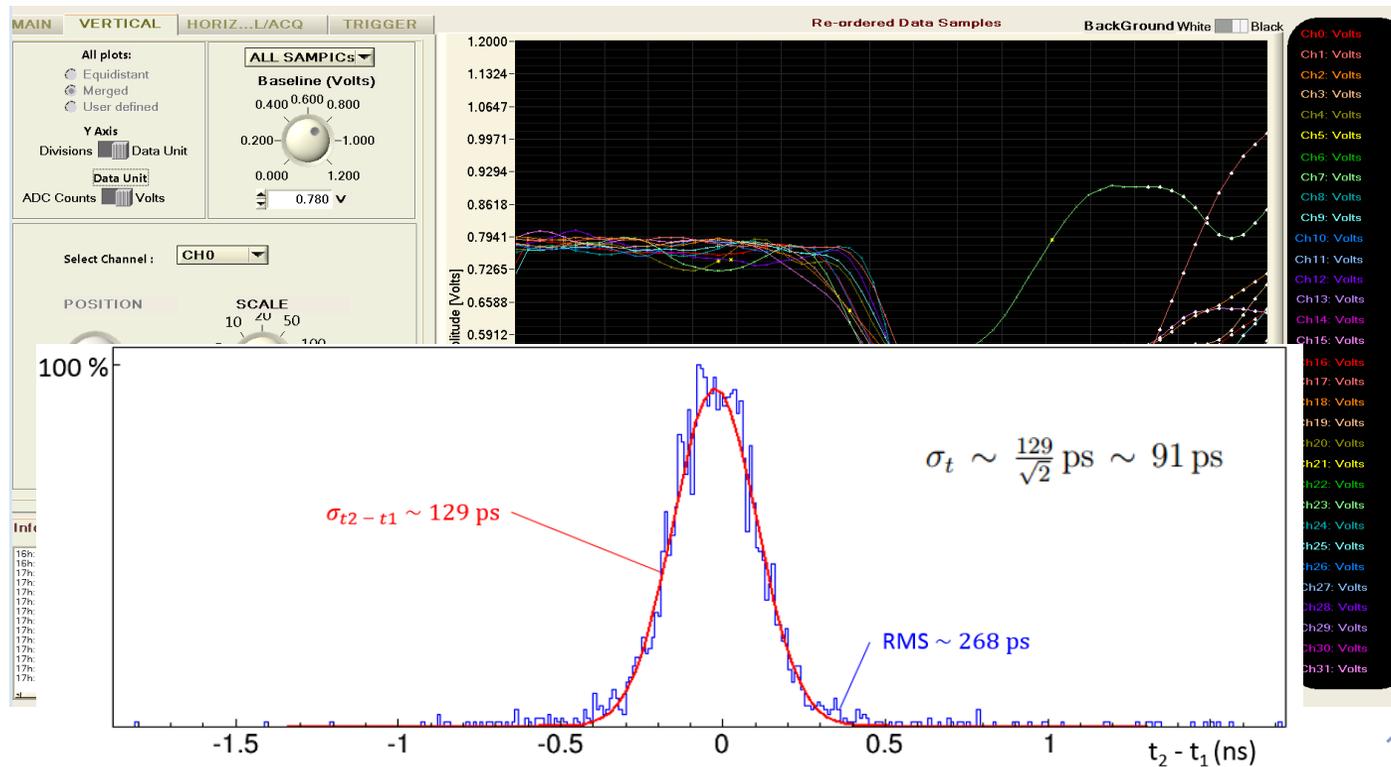
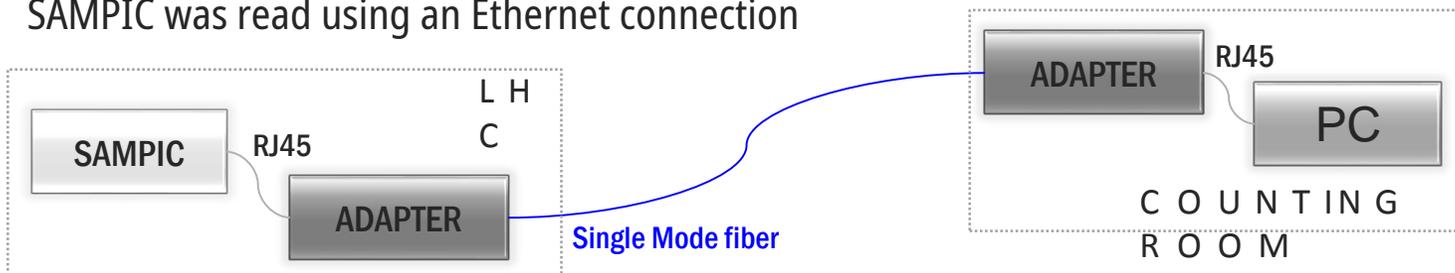
see E. Bossini's talk

# CMS PPS Timing Detectors: LHC proof of concept

A preliminary installation in the LHC proved the feasibility of a diamond timing detector with a precision of ~100 ps per plane, installed in a Roman Pot



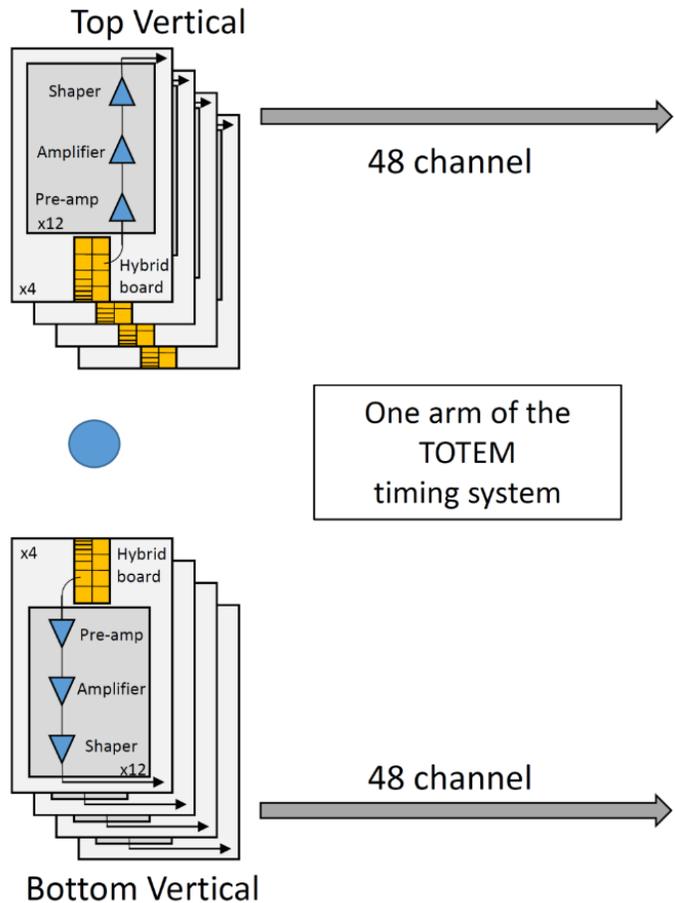
SAMPIC was read using an Ethernet connection



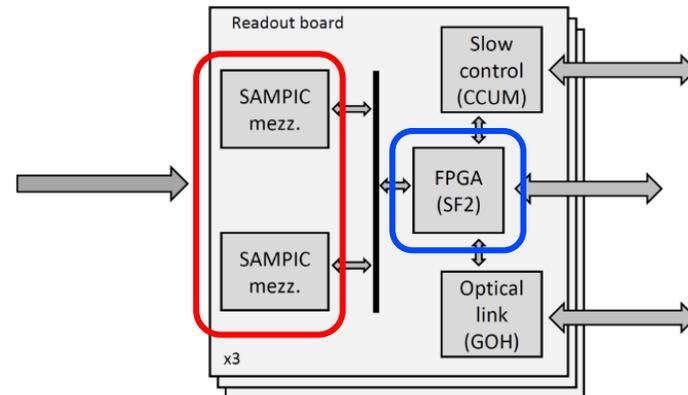
see E. Bossini's talk

# CMS-TOTEM Timing detectors

Different sensors are read-out by a trans-impedance preamplifier, then the signal can be digitized using SAMPIC or discriminated and digitized using HPTDC



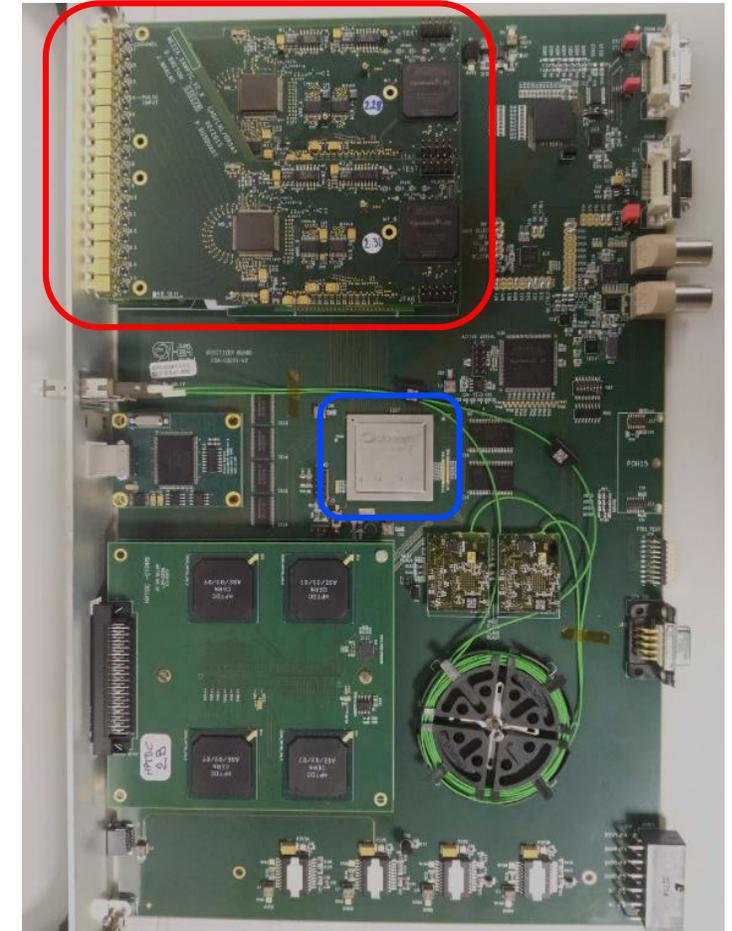
One arm of the TOTEM timing system



## SAMPIC

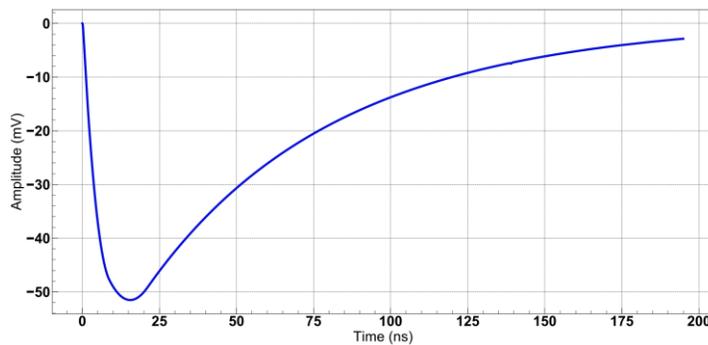
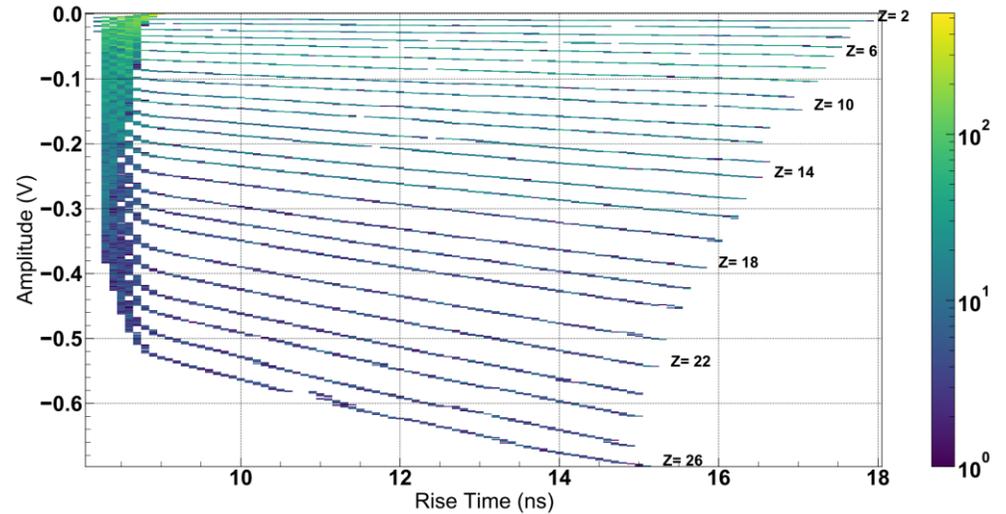
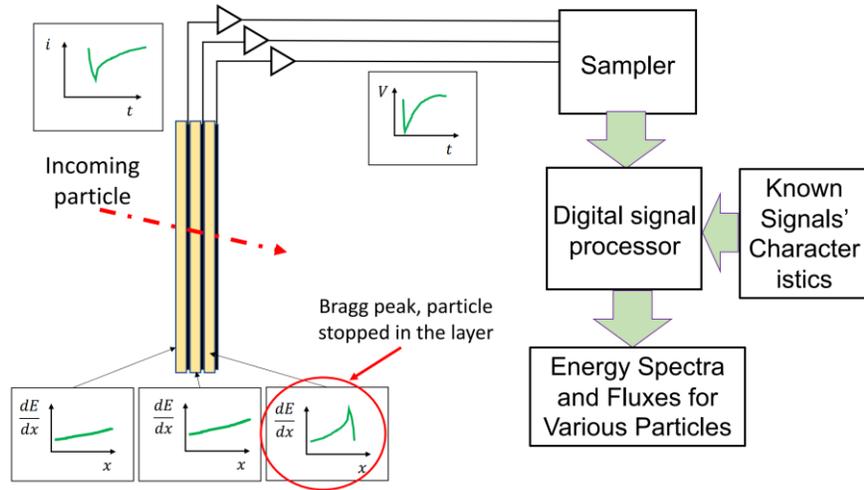
- 16 channels/chip
- Up to 64 samples/hit @ 10 GSa/s
- 1.5 GHz bandwidth
- 8-11 bit resolution
- 0.2-1.6  $\mu$ s channel dead time

Trigger matching and frame building done in the Digitizer Board



# AGILE: Particle Identification with pulse shape analysis

Advanced enerGetic Ion eLEctron tElescope: development of a compact low-cost instrument to detect and identify charged particles in space

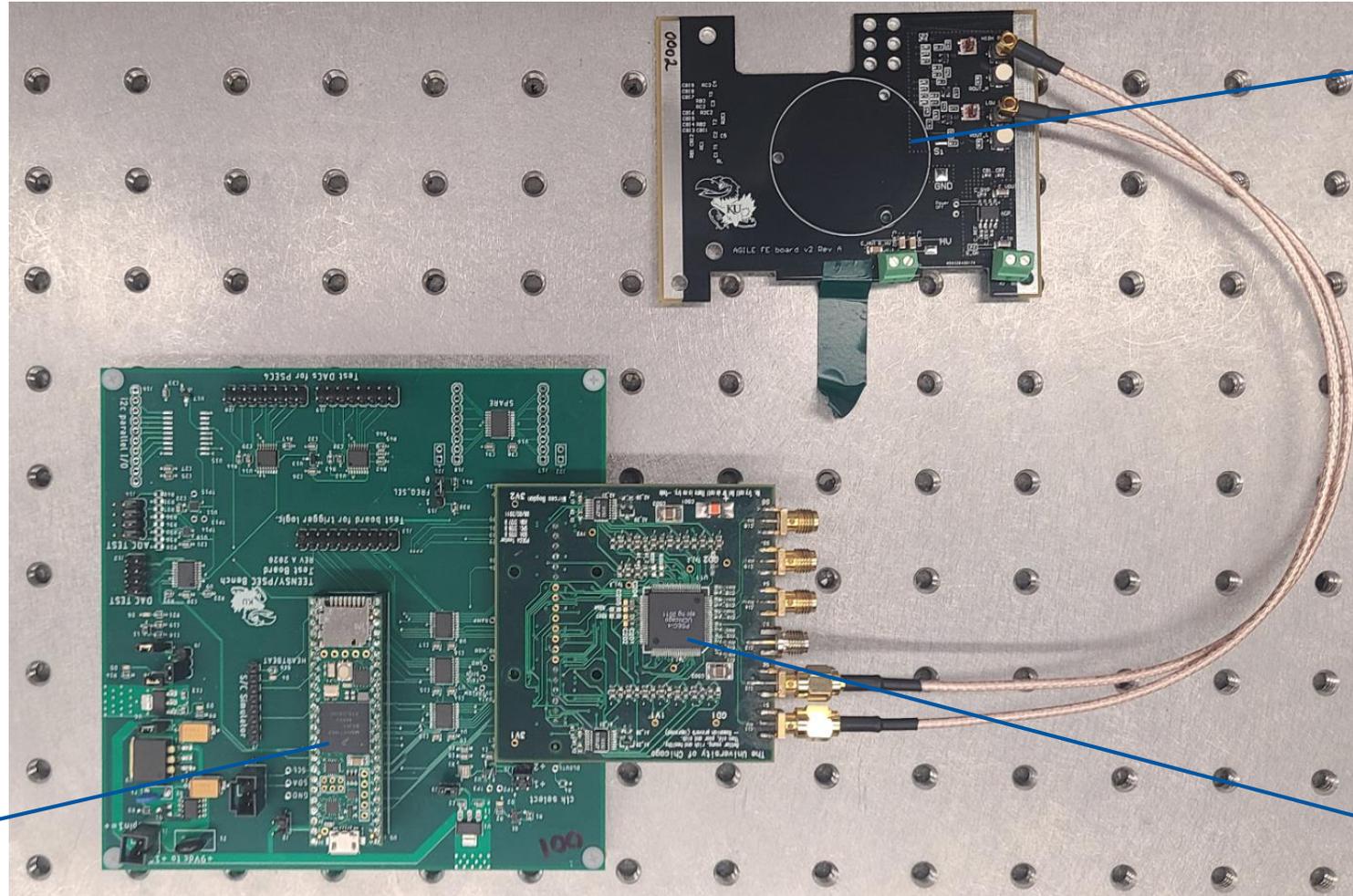


- >2 ns rise time: >150 MHz
- ~10-100 SNR: >8 bits
- Interested in the full signal: >50 ns
- 3x2 channels
- Low power and small size

**PSEC4!**

# AGILE: Particle Identification with pulse shape analysis

Advanced enerGetic Ion eLEctron tElescope: development of a compact low-cost instrument to detect and identify charged particles in space



Front-end board

PSEC4 mezzanine

Teasy 4.1:  
ARM Cortex-M7 @  
600 MHz

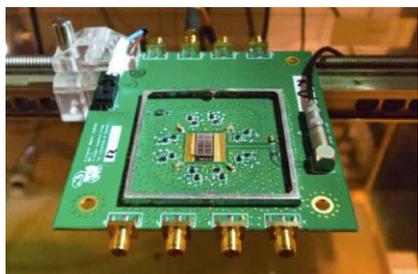


# LGAD for beam profile characterization

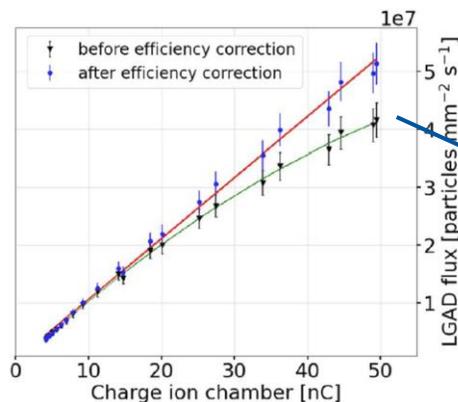
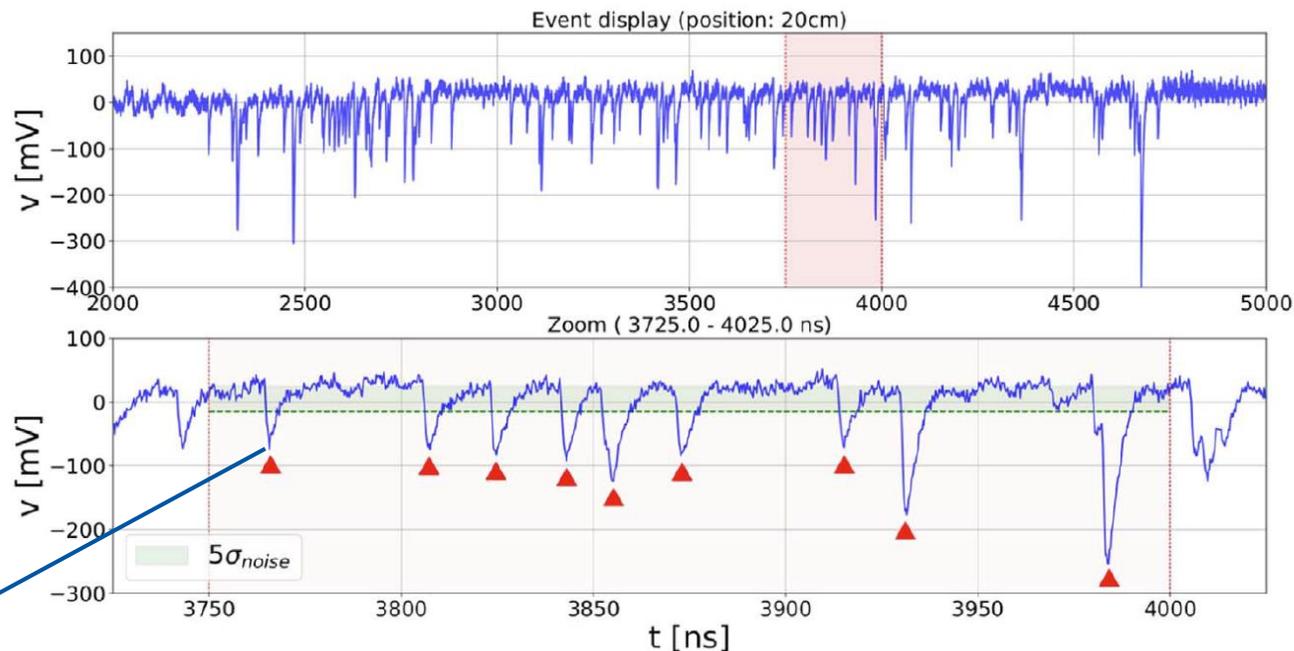
A **digital scope** is the ideal solution to digitize a long (~5  $\mu$ s) signal with high sampling rate (5 Gs/s) and with low trigger rate (~10 Hz)



Single peak identification

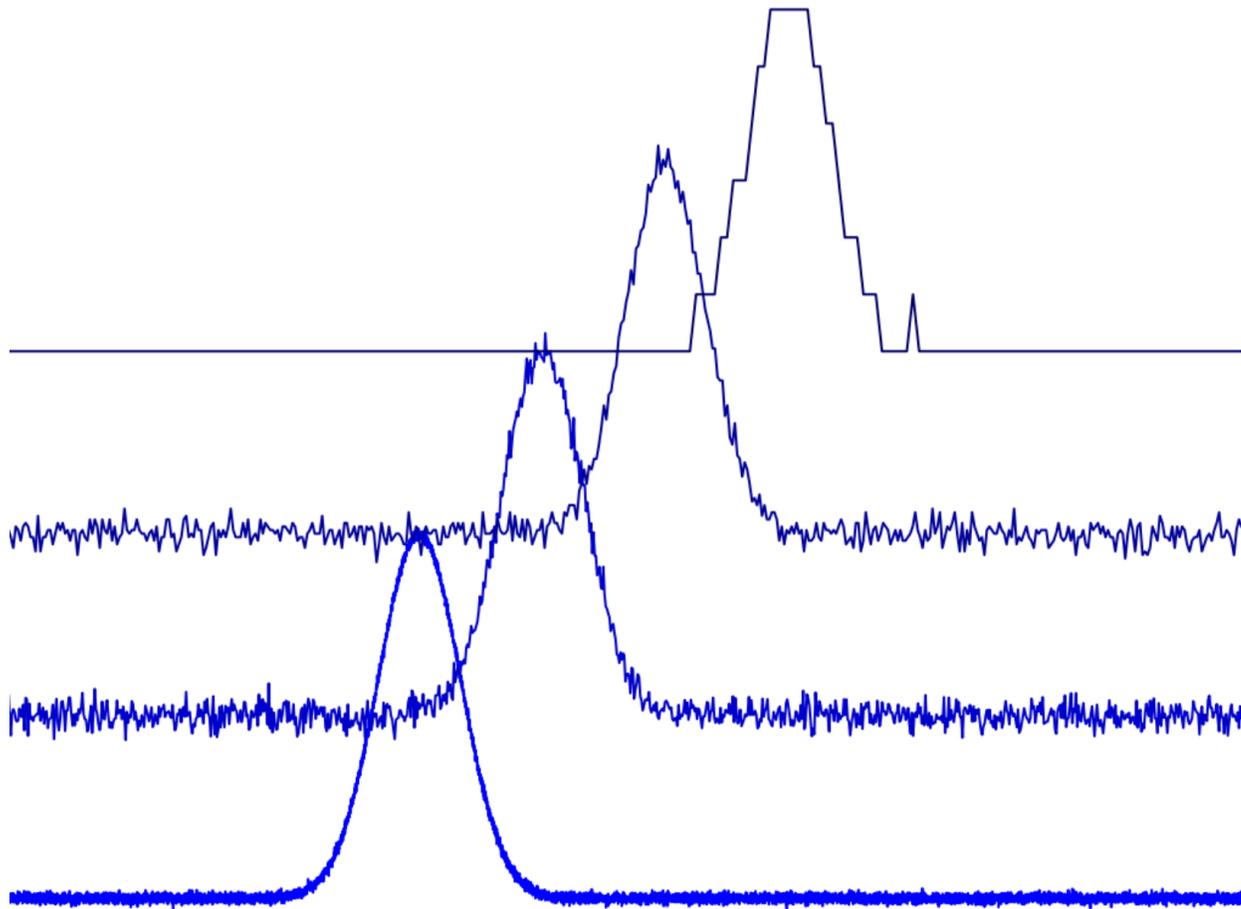


Particle Physics on the Plains (T. Isidori)  
Performance of a low gain avalanche detector in a medical linac and characterisation of the beam profile



Good agreement with industry standard (ion chamber)

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