

Lab Training Session: Solid State Detectors

Introduction to Silicon Detectors for the LHC *and Radiation Damage to Silicon Detectors*

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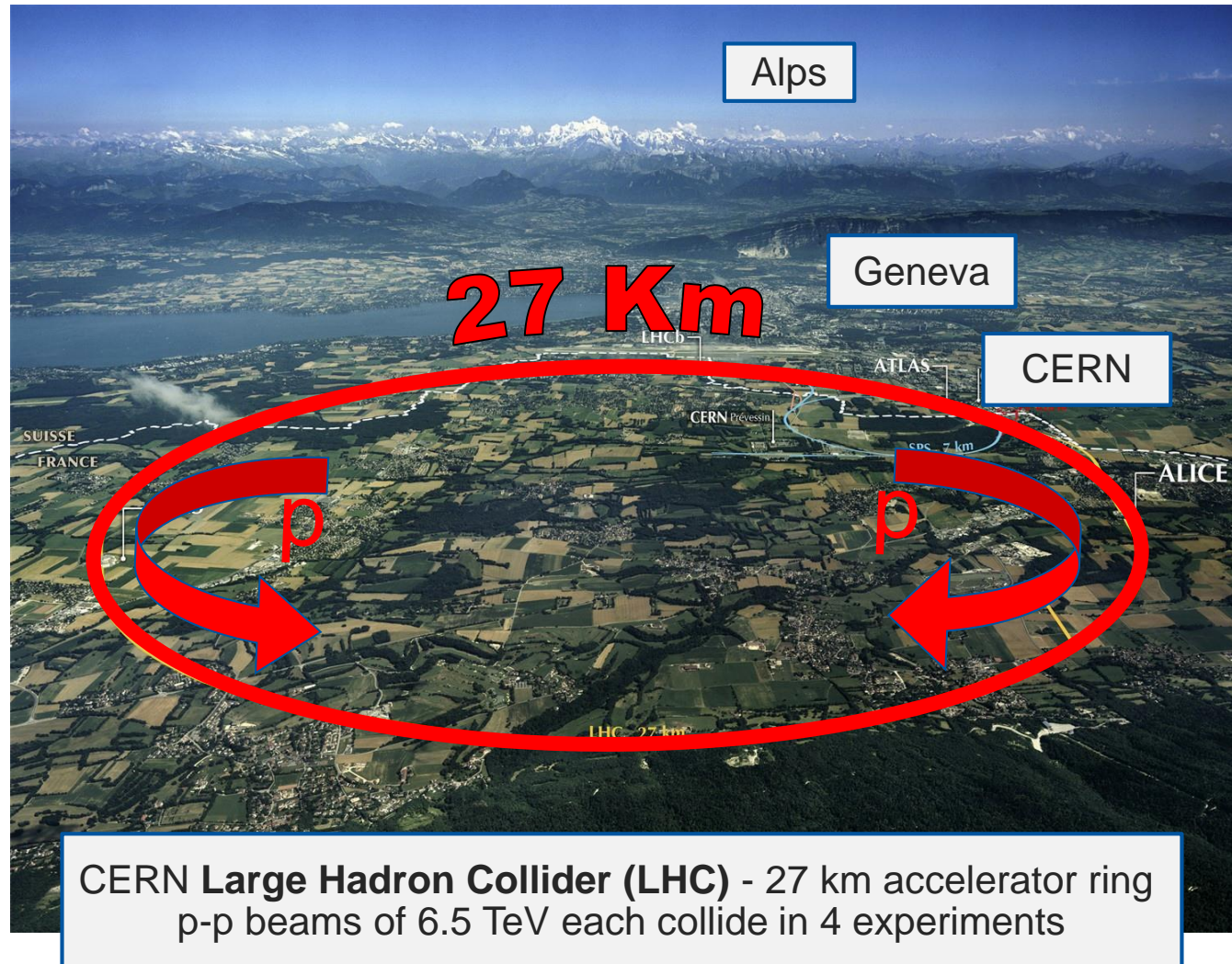
**Solid State Detectors (SSD) laboratory,
CERN EP-DT, Geneva, Switzerland**

- **The Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at CERN**
 - Where are the silicon detectors?
- **Silicon Detectors for High Energy Physics Applications**
 - The basic concept of Semiconductor Detectors: A reverse biased pn-junction
 - Strip and Pixel Detectors at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at CERN
 - *Some recent developments in Silicon Detectors*
- **Radiation Damage to Silicon Detectors**
 - Upgrade of the Large Hadron Collider (HL-LHC)
 - Radiation damage mechanisms
 - *Mitigation techniques: What can we do against radiation damage?*
- **Characterization techniques for silicon sensors**
 - **Current-Voltage (IV) and Capacitance-Voltage (CV) measurements**
 - **Laser based measurements: Transient Current Technique (TCT)**
- **Summary & Further reading**



Lab Training
Session





Also a program with Pb beams at 6.5 Z TeV

• CERN:

- 23 member states
- ~14000 scientists (Users)
- ~ 2600 personnel
- Budget ~1200 MCHF

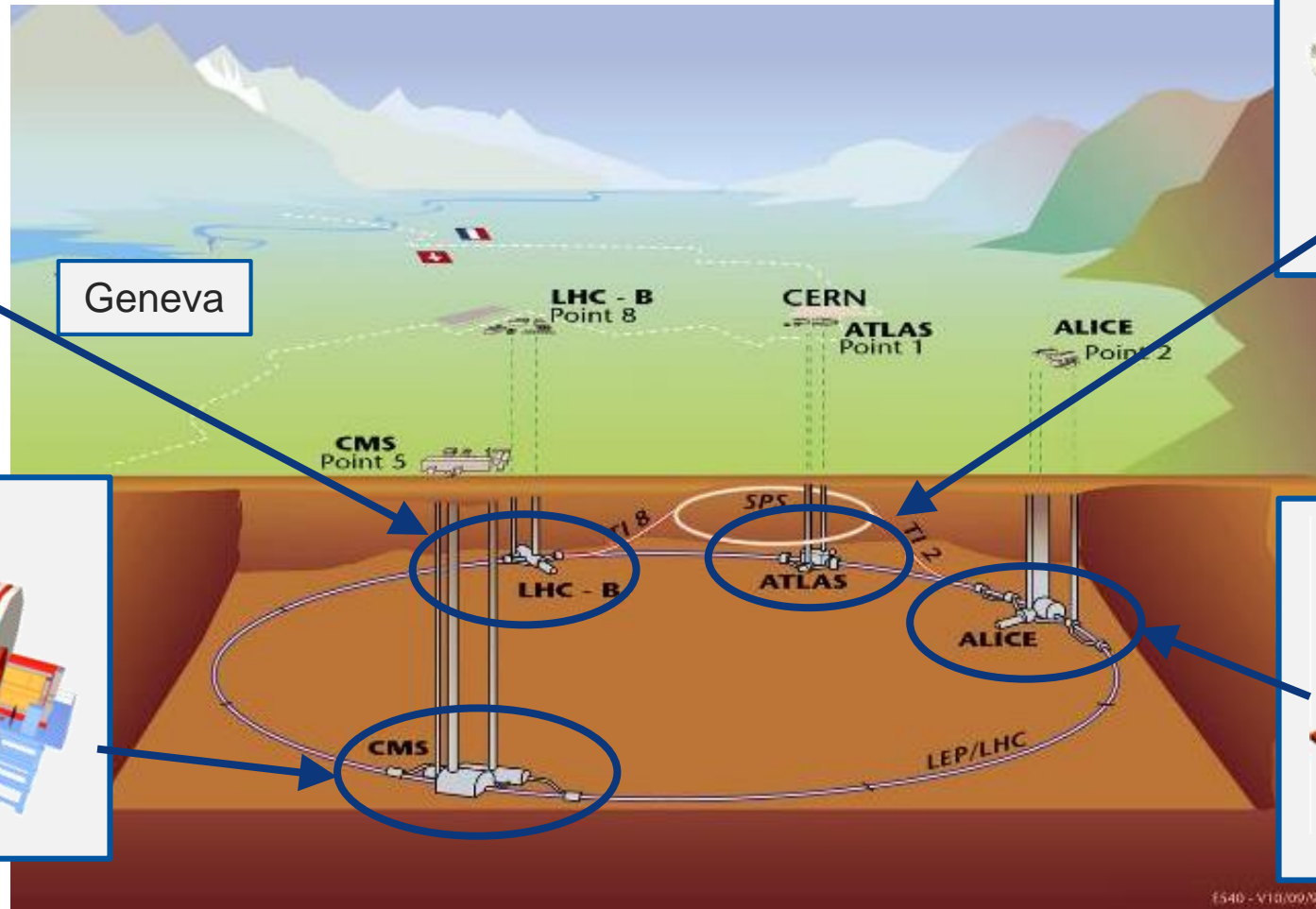
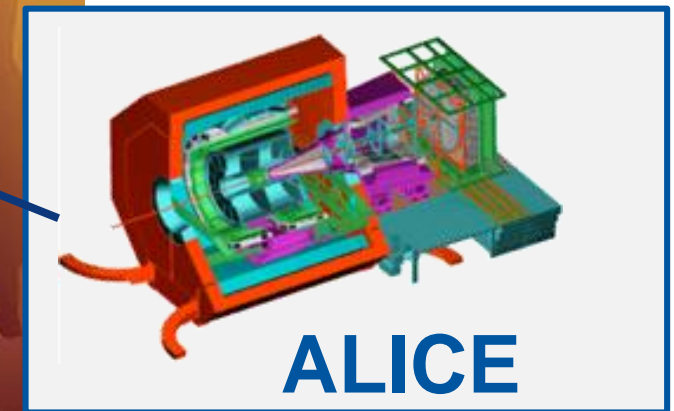
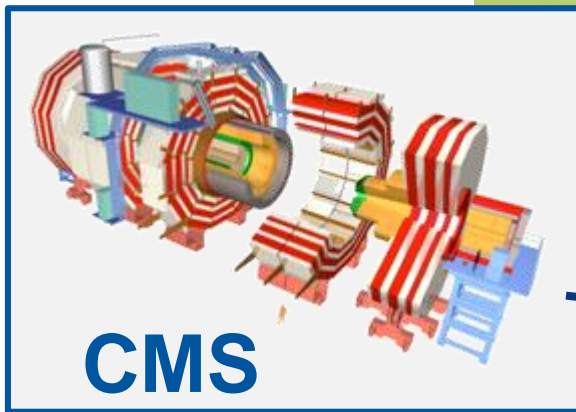
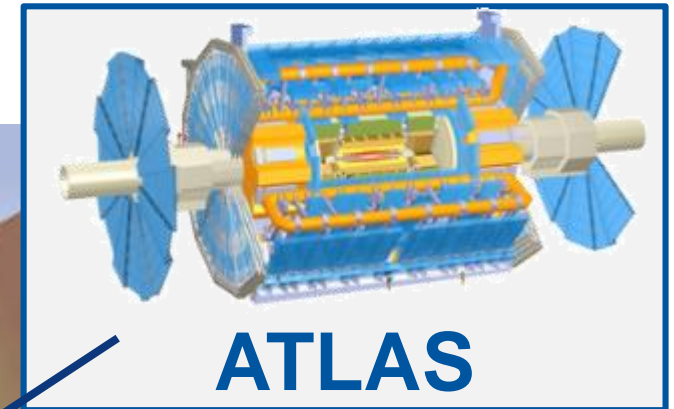
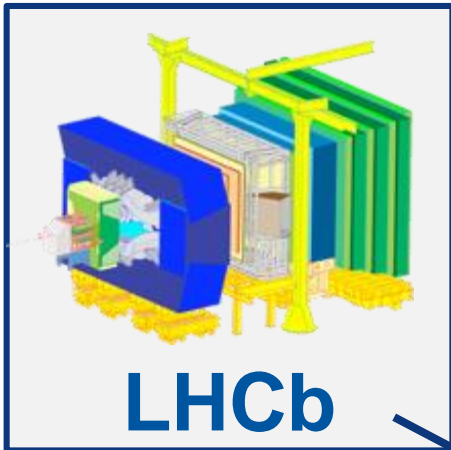
• LHC: 27 km tunnel

- ≈ 4000 MCHF (machine+experiments)
- 1232 dipoles $B=8.3T$
- Design: pp $\sqrt{s} = 14$ TeV
 $L_{\text{design}} = 10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$
 Heavy ions (e.g. Pb-Pb; 5TeV)

• Circulating beams:

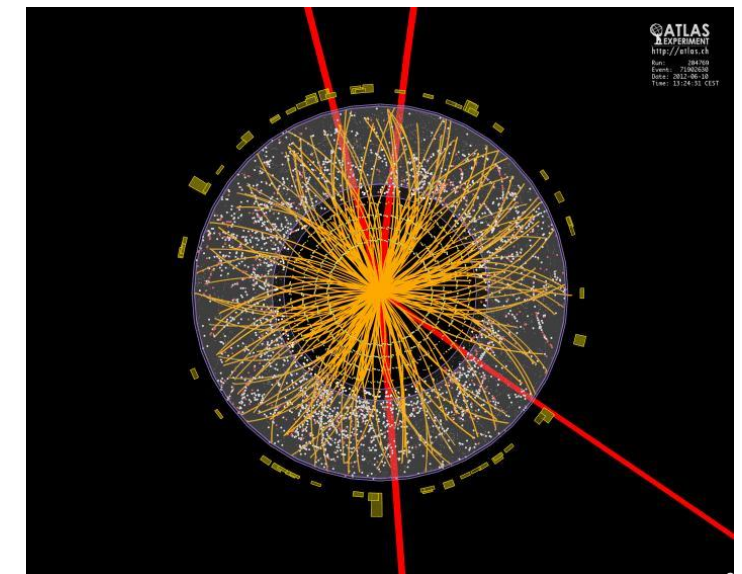
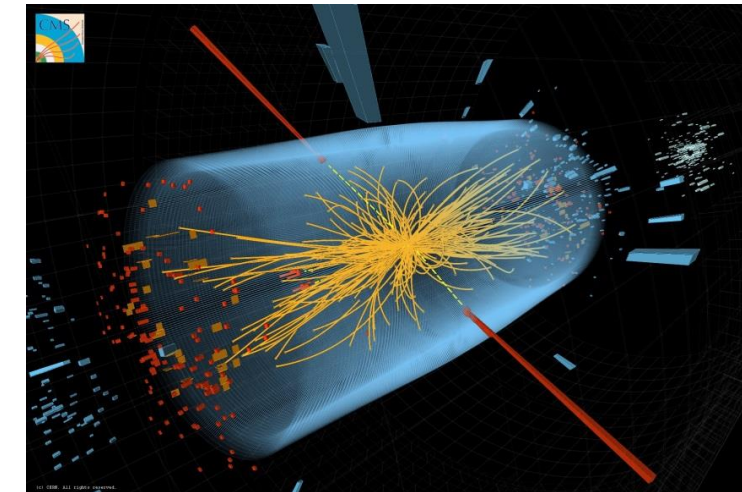
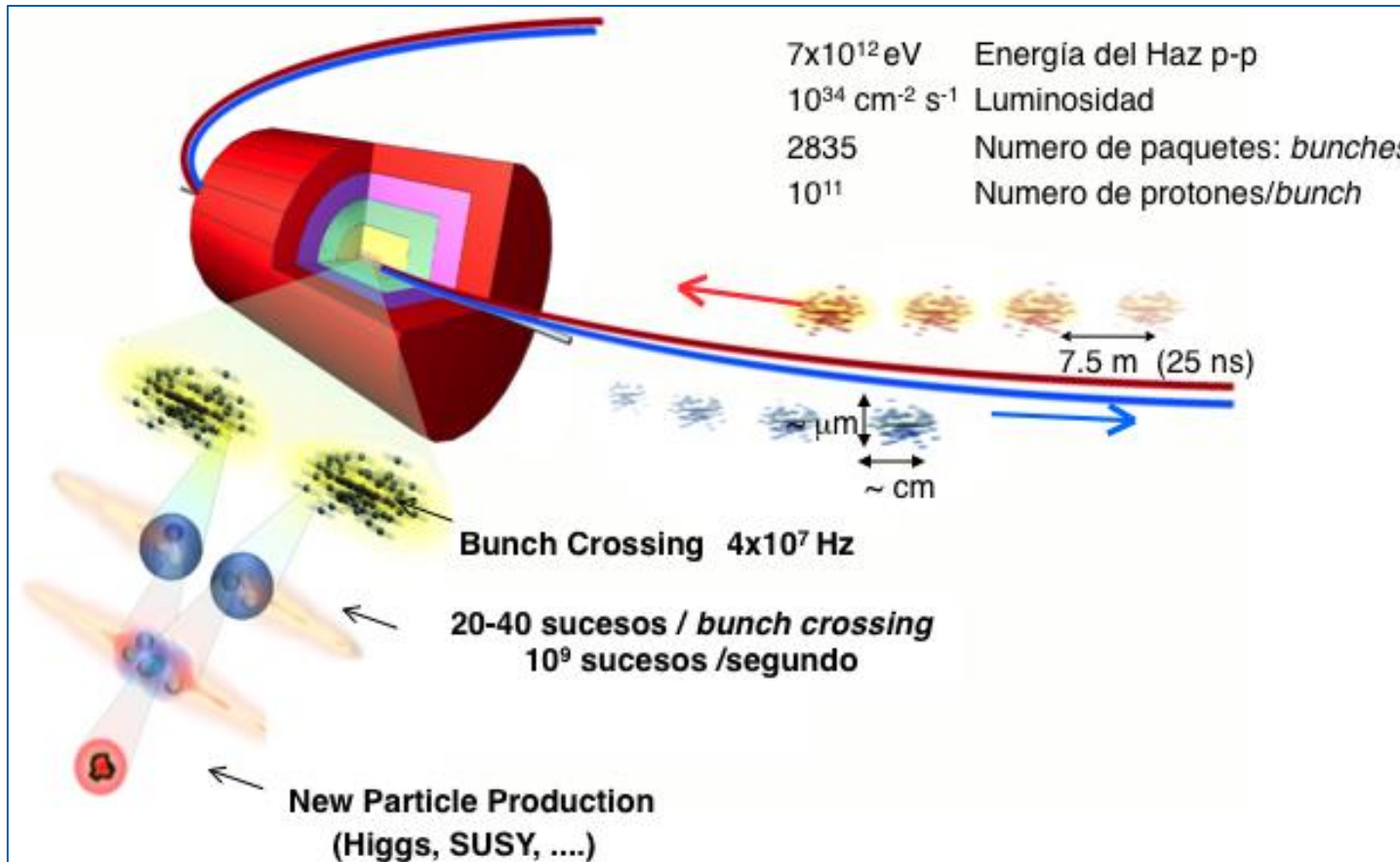
- 2008: first beam
- 2012: Run 1 at 2 x 4 TeV (Higgs boson)
- 2015: Run 2 at 2 x 6.5 TeV
- 2016: Reaching $10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$
- 2018: LS2; 2022: Run 3
- 2025: LS3; **2027: HL-LHC**

The LHC Experiments

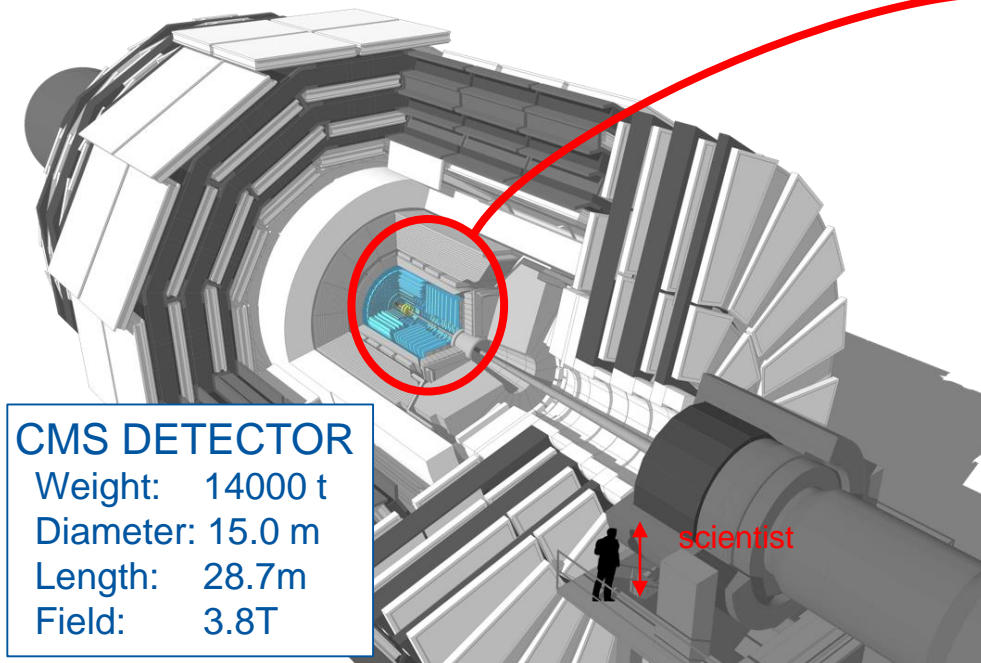


E540 - V18/09/97

Collisions in the LHC

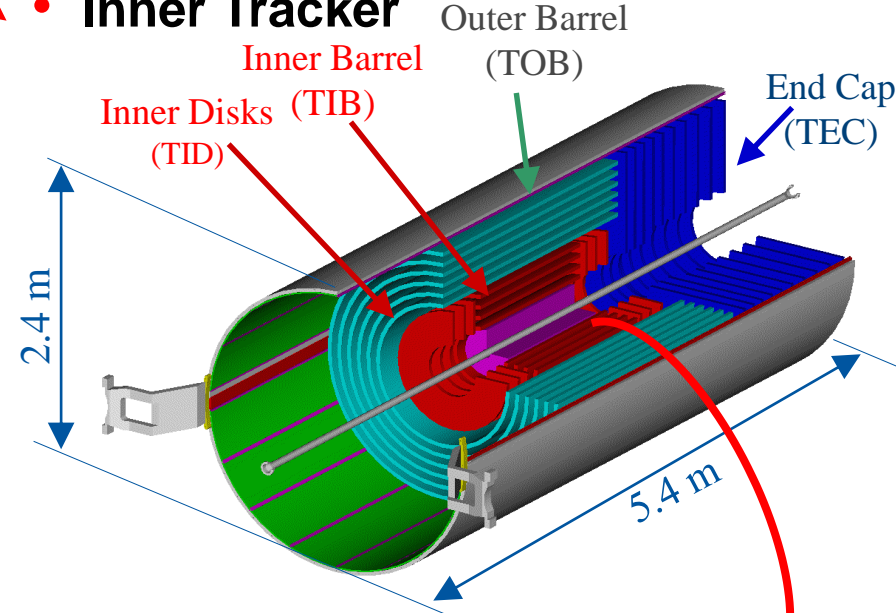


- LHC example: The CMS DETECTOR



CMS DETECTOR
 Weight: 14000 t
 Diameter: 15.0 m
 Length: 28.7m
 Field: 3.8T

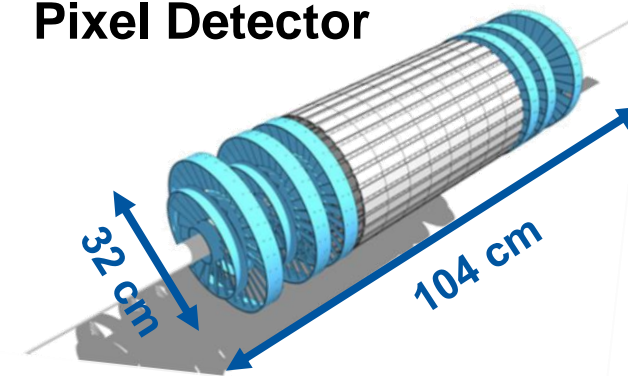
- Inner Tracker



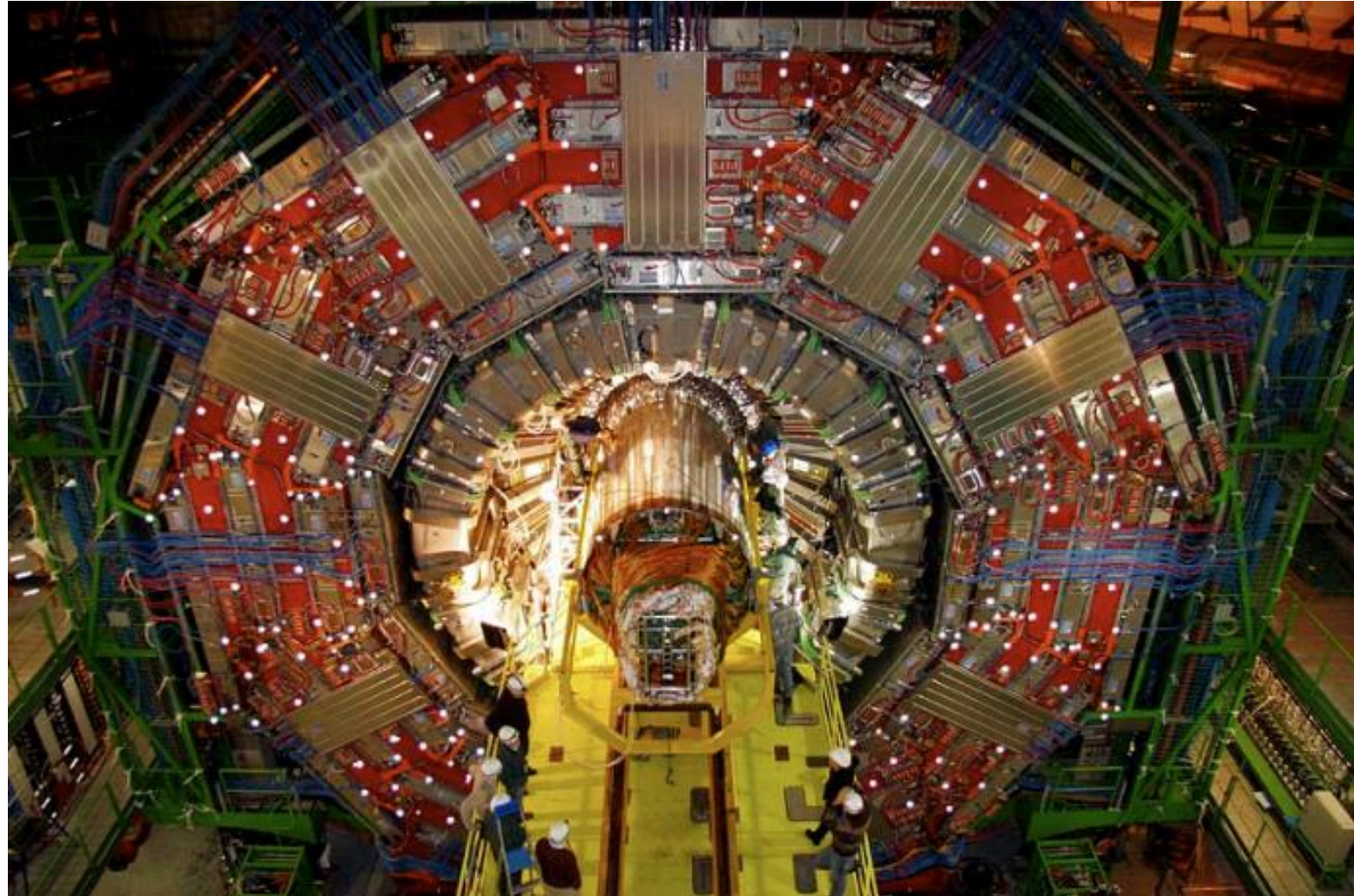
- CMS – Inner Tracker & Pixel Detector

- **Micro Strip:**
 - ~ 214 m² of silicon strip sensors, 11.4 million strips
- **Pixel:**
 - 4 layers & 2 x 3 disks: silicon pixels (~ 1m²)
 - 124 million pixels (100x150μm²)
 - Resolution: $\sigma(r\phi) \sim 10 \mu\text{m}$, $\sigma(z) \sim 25\mu\text{m}$

- Pixel Detector



Present LHC Tracking Sensors



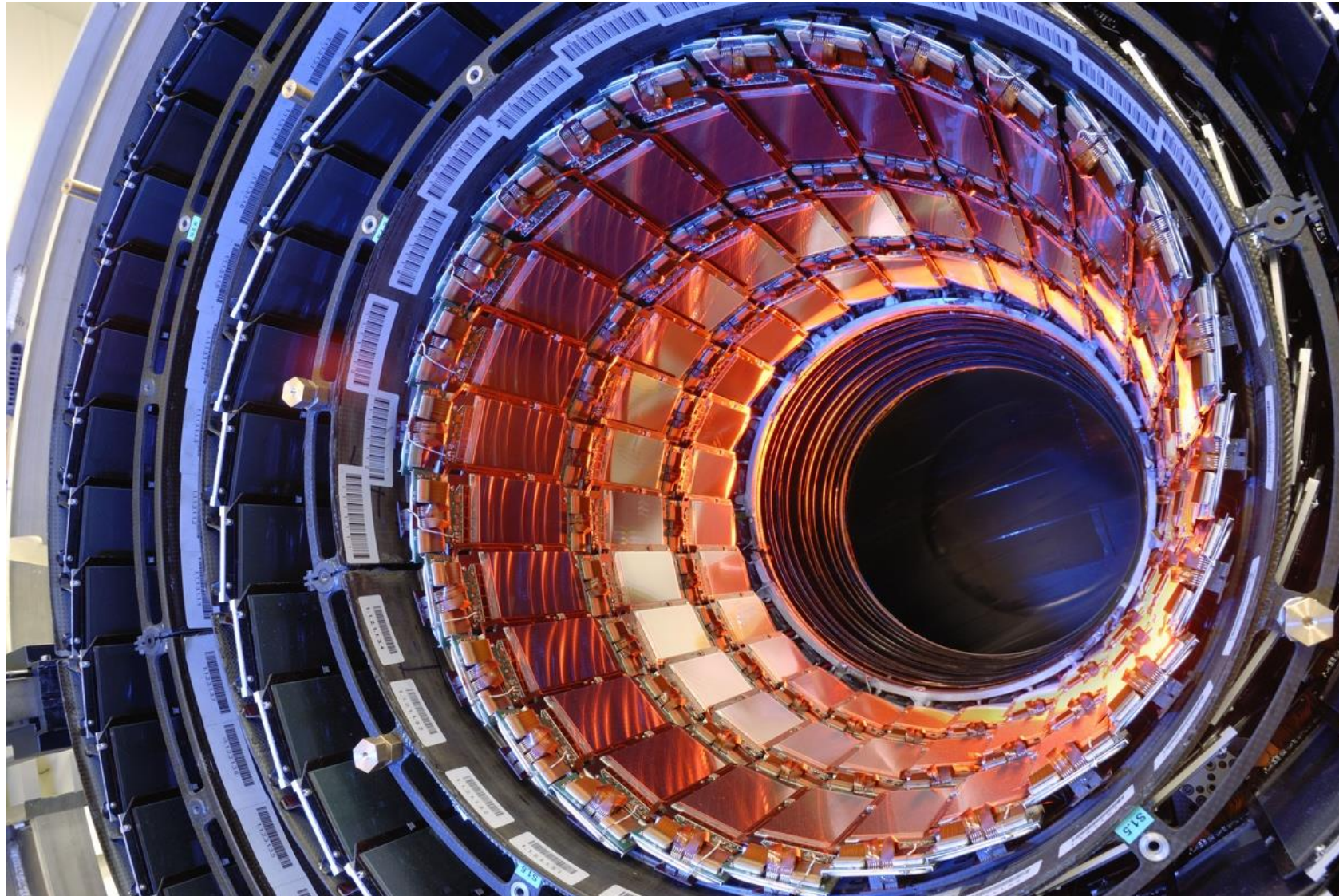
CMS Tracker insertion

December 2007

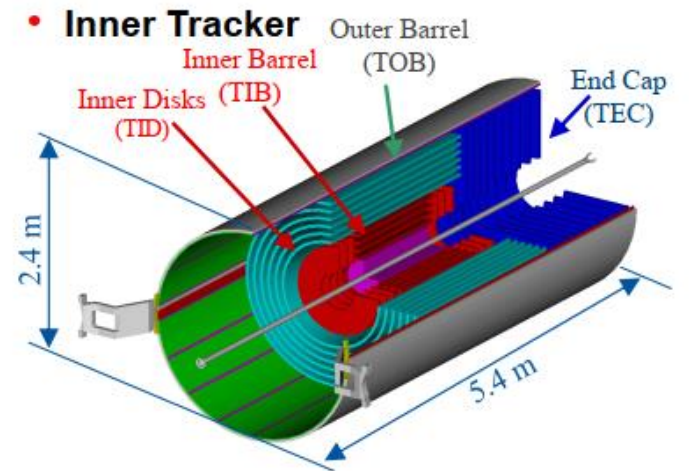
January/February 2022



Present LHC Tracking Sensors

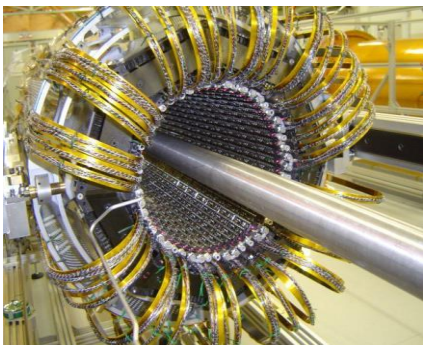


CMS Tracker



Silicon Tracking Detectors

Silicon tracking detectors are used in almost all HEP experiments:
Different sensor technologies, designs, operating conditions,....



ATLAS Pixel Detector



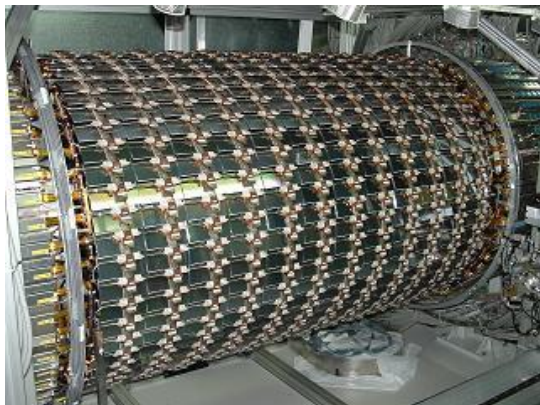
CMS Pixel Detector



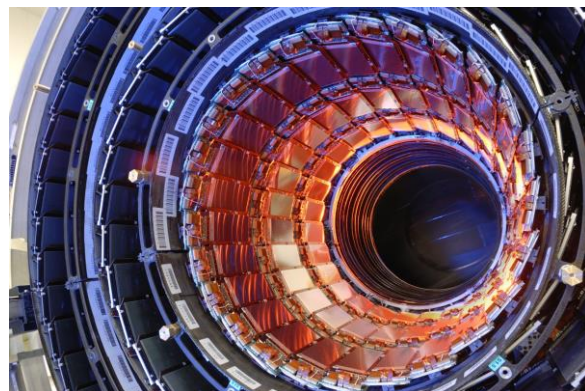
LHCb VELO (New Velo for Run3:2022)



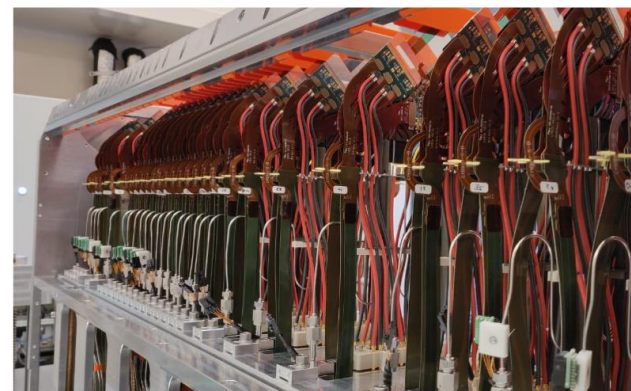
**ALICE ITS Barrel
New ITS for Run3:2022)**



ATLAS SCT Barrel



CMS Strip Tracker IB



LHCb VELO (New Velo for Run3:2022)



**ALICE ITS Outer Barrel
(Insertion Test 2021)**



Silicon Sensors

Solid State Detectors – Why Silicon?

• Some characteristics of Silicon crystals

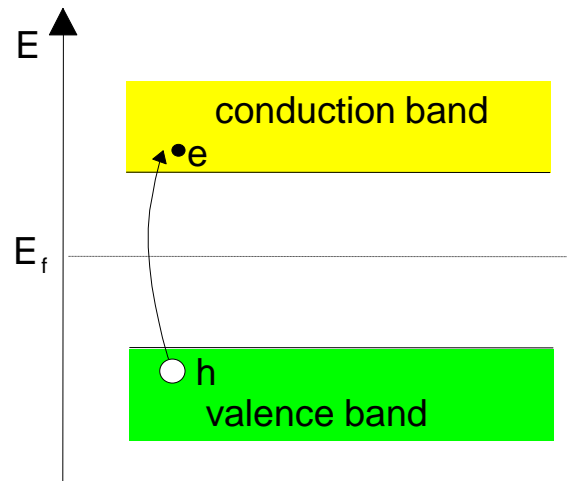
- **Small band gap** $E_g = 1.12 \text{ eV} \Rightarrow E(\text{e-h pair}) = 3.6 \text{ eV}$ ($\approx 30 \text{ eV}$ for gas detectors)
- **High specific density** 2.33 g/cm^3 ; dE/dx (M.I.P.) $\approx 3.8 \text{ MeV/cm} \approx 106 \text{ e-h}/\mu\text{m}$ (average)
- **High carrier mobility** $\mu_e = 1450 \text{ cm}^2/\text{Vs}$, $\mu_h = 450 \text{ cm}^2/\text{Vs}$ \Rightarrow fast charge collection ($< 10 \text{ ns}$)
- **Very pure** $< 1 \text{ ppm}$ impurities and $< 0.1 \text{ ppb}$ electrical active impurities
- **Rigidity** of silicon allows thin self supporting structures
- **Detector production by microelectronic techniques**
 \Rightarrow well known industrial technology, relatively low price, small structures easily possible

• Alternative semiconductors

- **Diamond**
- Gallium arsenide (GaAs)
- Gallium nitride (GaN)
- **Silicon Carbide (SiC)**
- Germanium (Ge)

	Diamond	SiC (4H)	GaAs	Si	Ge
Atomic number Z	6	14/6	31/33	14	32
Bandgap E_g [eV]	5.5	3.3	1.42	1.12	0.66
$E(\text{e-h pair})$ [eV]	13	7.6-8.4	4.3	3.6	2.9
density [g/cm^3]	3.52	3.22	5.32	2.33	5.32
e-mobility μ_e [cm^2/Vs]	1800	800	8500	1450	3900
h-mobility μ_h [cm^2/Vs]	1200	115	400	450	1900

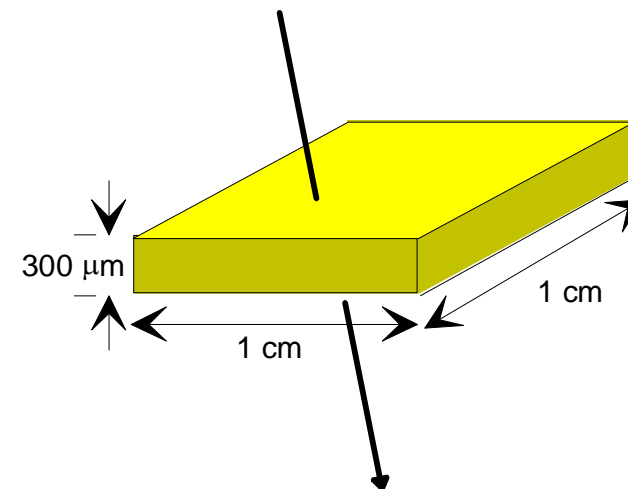
How to obtain the signal?



In a pure intrinsic (undoped) semiconductor the electron density n and hole density p are equal.

$$n = p = n_i \quad \text{For Silicon: } n_i \approx 1.45 \cdot 10^{10} \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

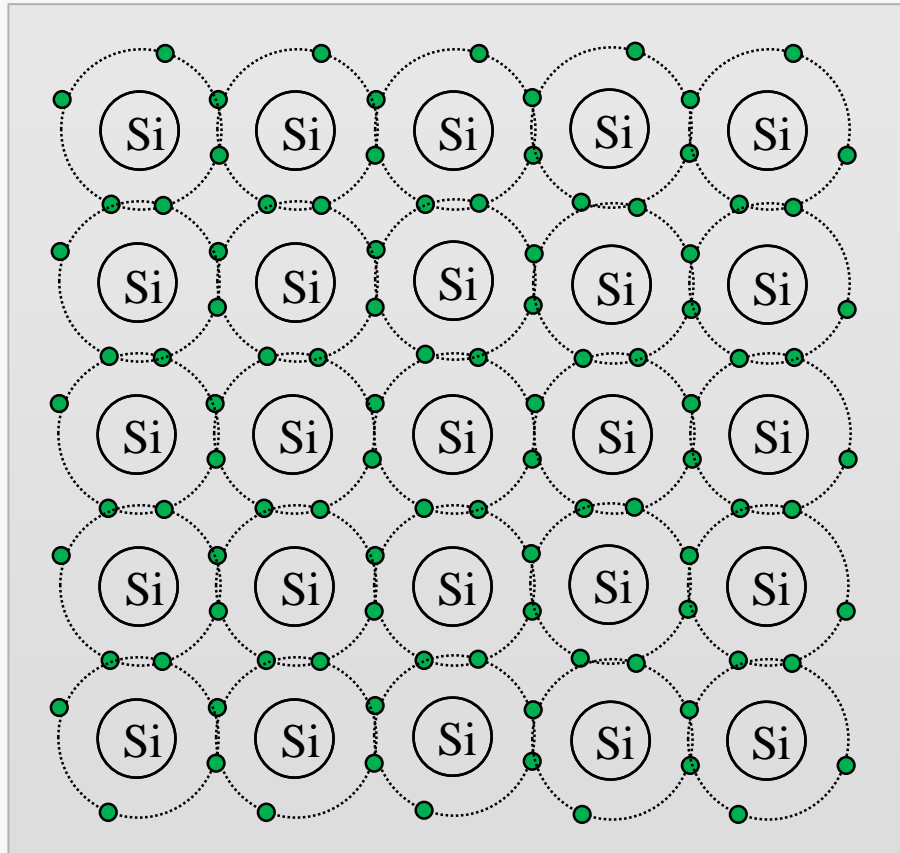
$4.5 \cdot 10^8$ free charge carriers in this volume,
but only ~ 32000 e-h pairs produced by a M.I.P.



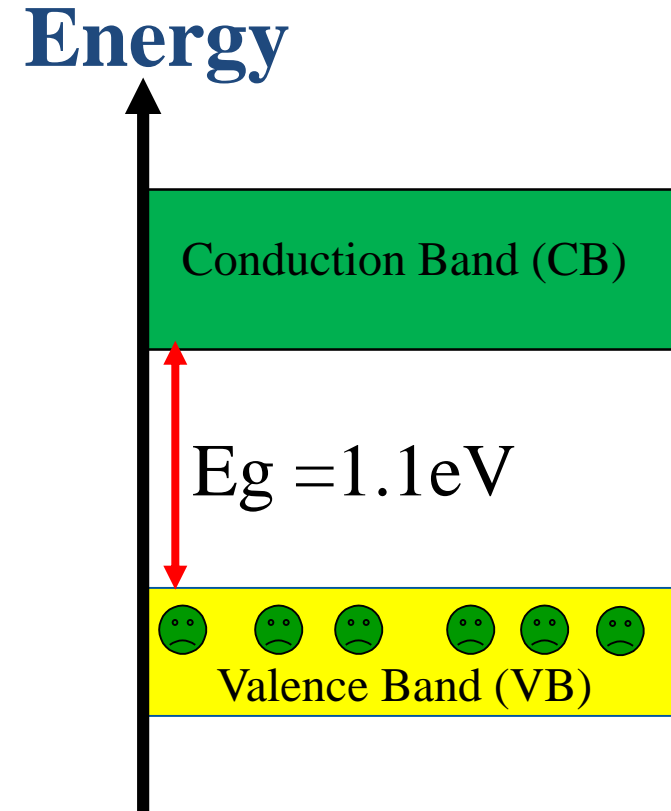
⇒ Reduce number of free charge carriers, i.e. **deplete** the detector

⇒ **Most detectors make use of reverse biased p-n junctions**

Covalent Bonding of Pure Silicon



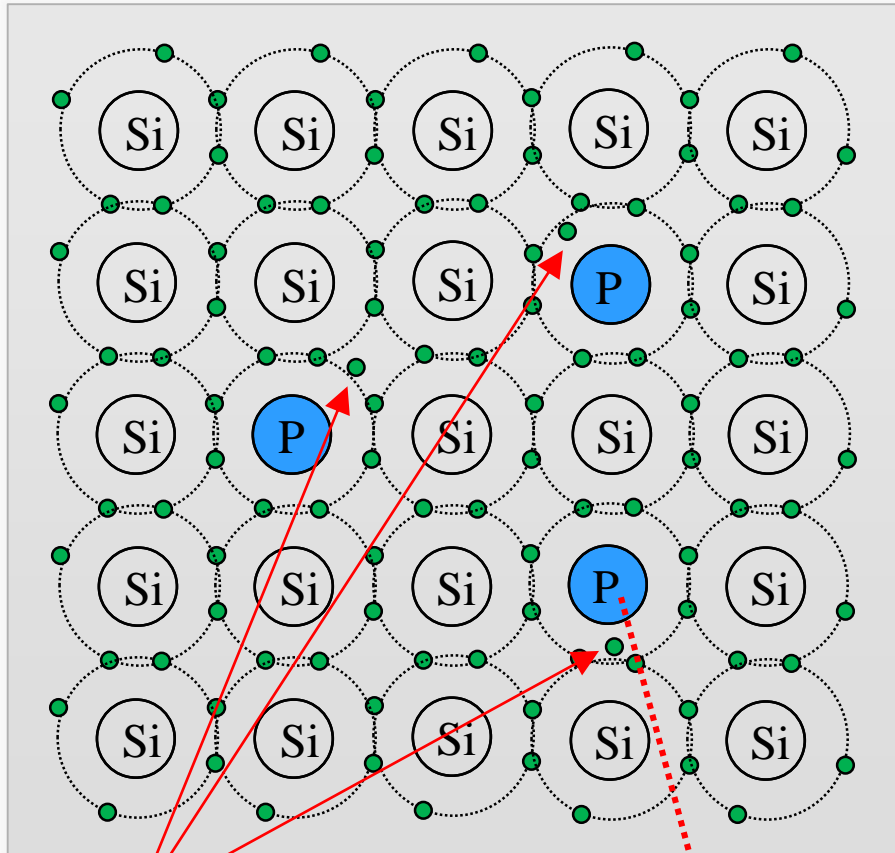
Silicon atoms share valence electrons to form insulator-like bonds.



Thermal energy at RT: $\frac{3}{2} k_B T \sim 40\text{ meV}$

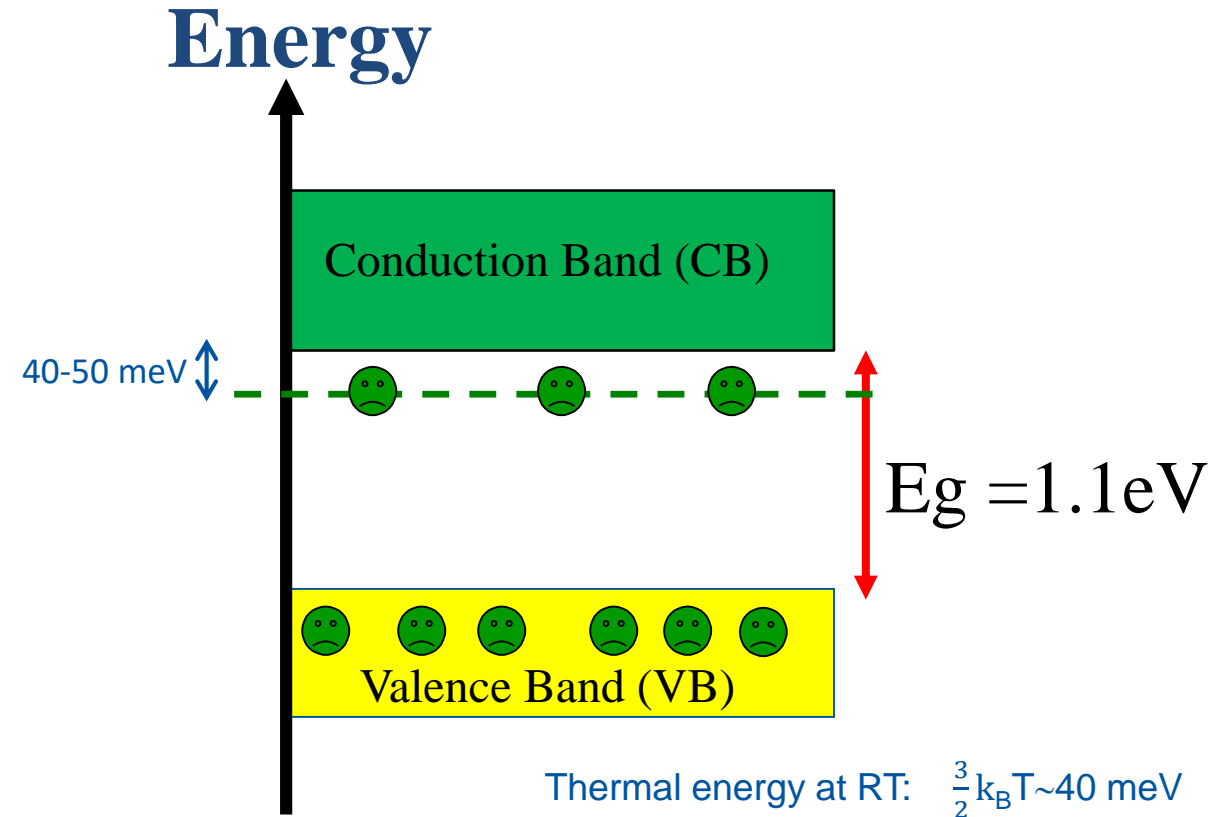
Electrons in n-type silicon with phosphorus dopant

Donor atoms provide excess electrons
to form n-type silicon



Excess electron (-)

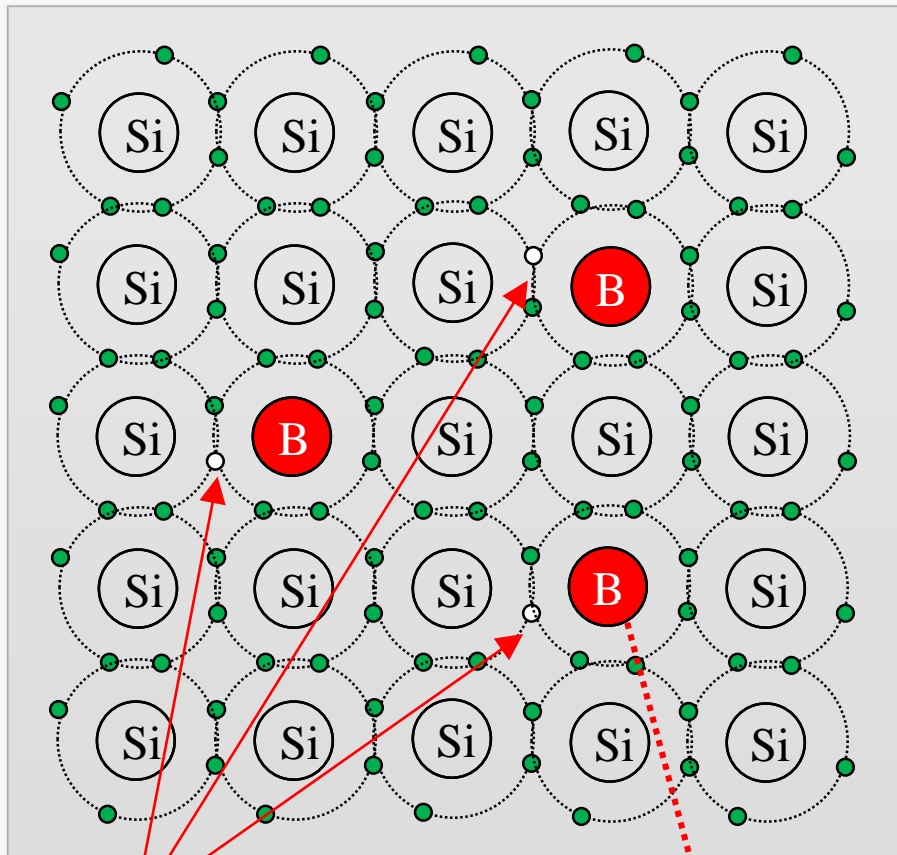
Phosphorus atom serves
as n-type dopant



electrons are the majority
carriers in n-type silicon

Holes in p-type silicon with boron dopant

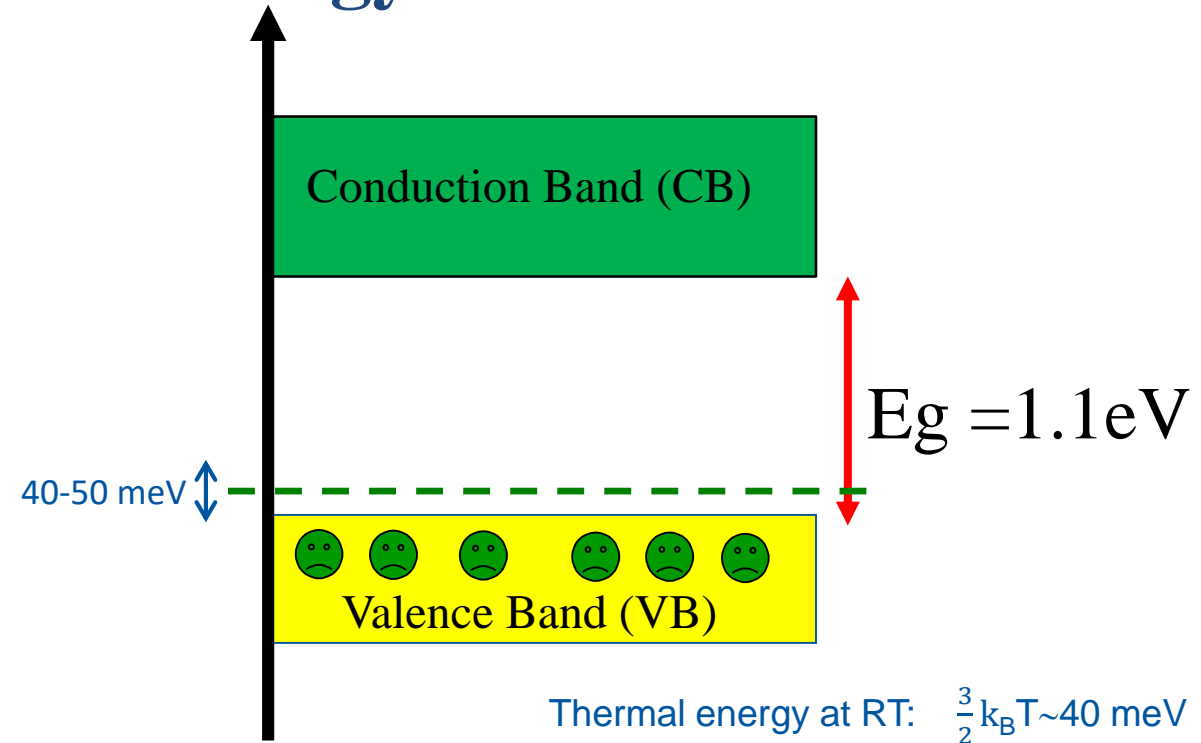
Acceptor atoms provide holes
to form p-type silicon



holes(+)

boron atom serves as
p-type dopant

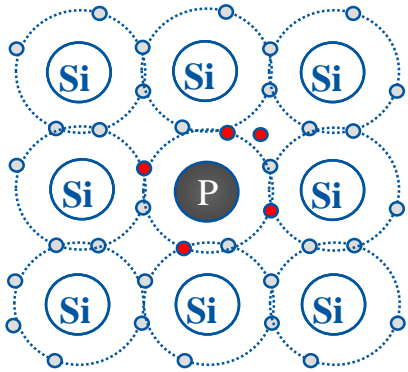
Energy



holes are the majority
carriers in p-type silicon

Doping, resistivity and p-n junction

e.g. Phosphorus



- resistivity ρ**

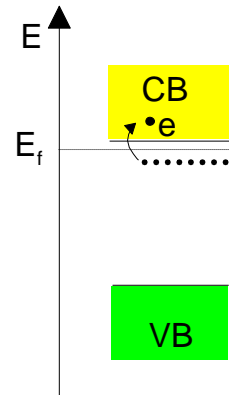
- carrier concentration n, p
- carrier mobility μ_n, μ_p

$$\rho = \frac{1}{q_0(\mu_n n + \mu_p p)}$$

	detector grade	electronics grade
doping	$\approx 10^{12} \text{ cm}^{-3}$	$\approx 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3}$
resistivity ρ	$\approx 5 \text{ k}\Omega\cdot\text{cm}$	$\approx 1 \text{ }\Omega\cdot\text{cm}$

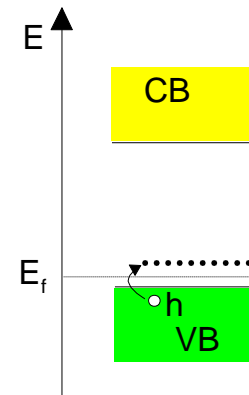
- Doping: n-type silicon**

- add elements from Vth group \Rightarrow **donors** (P, As,..)
- electrons are majority carriers



- Doping: p-type silicon**

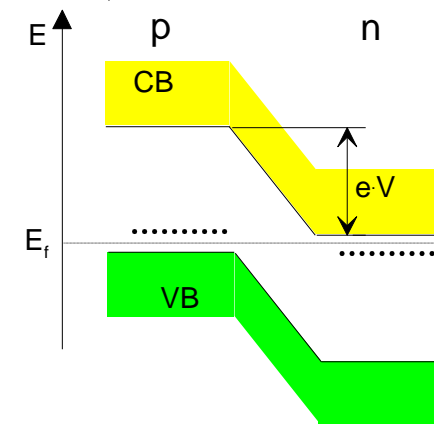
- add elements from IIIrd group \Rightarrow **acceptors** (B,..)
- holes are majority carriers



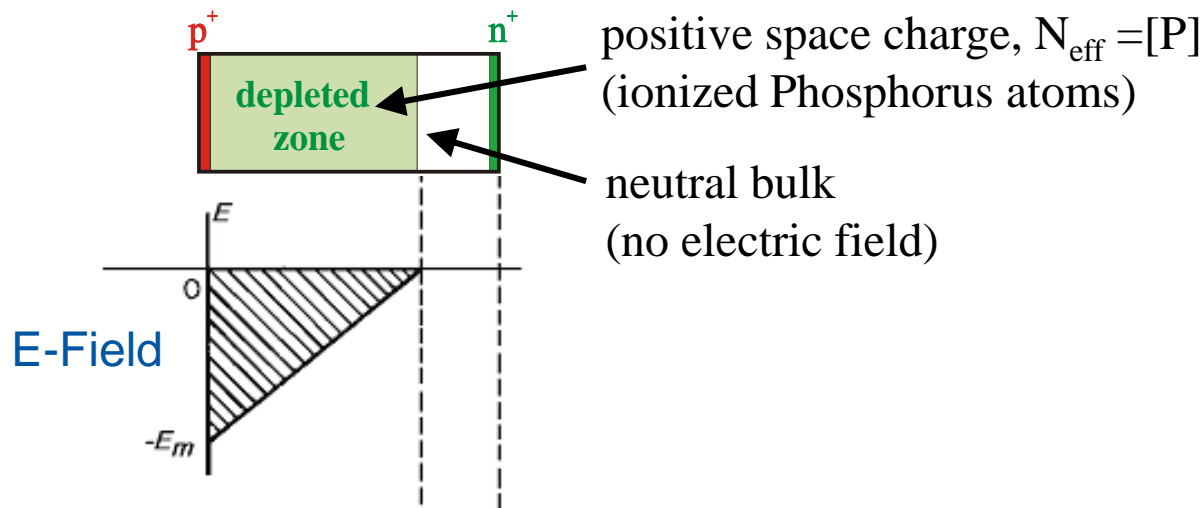
- p-n junction**

There must be a single Fermi level!

- \Rightarrow band structure deformation
- \Rightarrow potential difference
- \Rightarrow depleted zone



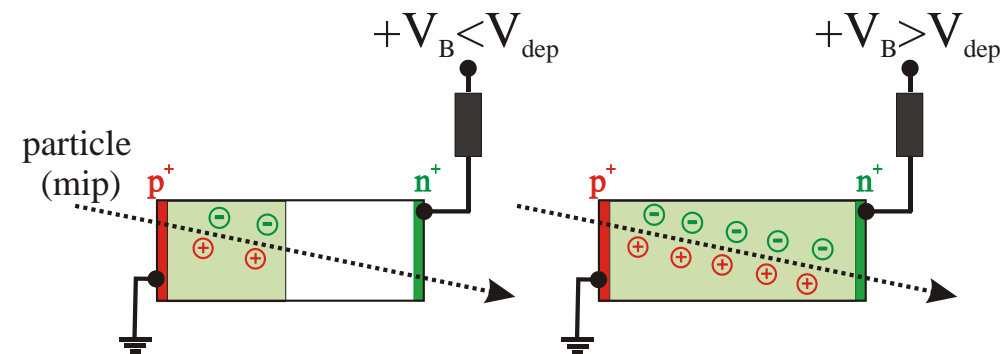
- Below depletion



- Depletion Voltage V_{dep}

- sensor depleted of free charge carriers
- electric field throughout complete device
- complete sensor volume sensitive (active)
- Example:
 - $d = 300 \mu\text{m}$ and $N_{eff} = [P] = 1.5 \times 10^{12} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ ($\rho \approx 3 \text{ k}\Omega\text{cm}$)
 - Depletion Voltage: $V_{dep} \approx 100\text{V}$

- Depleted zone growth with increasing voltage ($w \propto \sqrt{V_B}$)



- Full charge collection only for fully depleted detector ($V_B > V_{dep}$)

depletion voltage V_{dep} *detector thickness d*

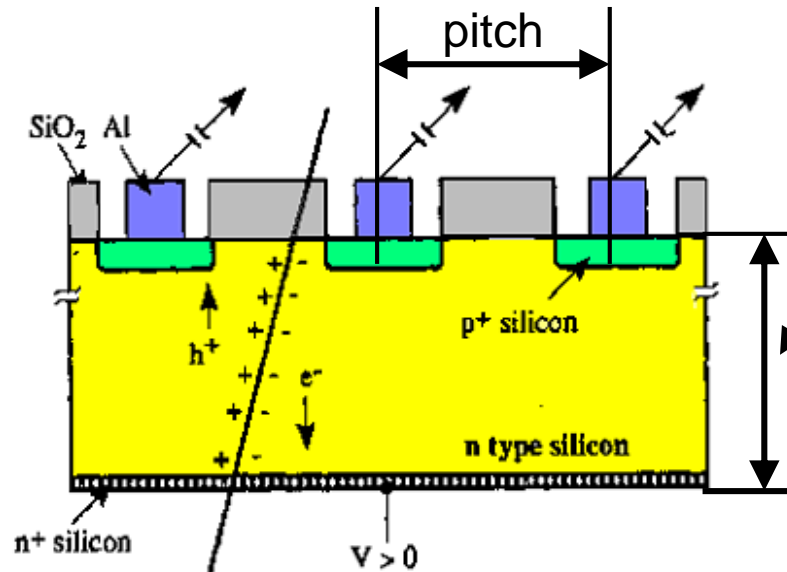
$$V_{dep} = \frac{q_0}{\epsilon \epsilon_0} \cdot |N_{eff}| \cdot d^2$$

effective space charge density N_{eff}



Single Sided Strip Detector

- Segmentation of the p⁺ layer into strips (Diode Strip Detector) and connection of strips to individual read-out channels gives spatial information



typical thickness: 300μm (150μm-500μm used)

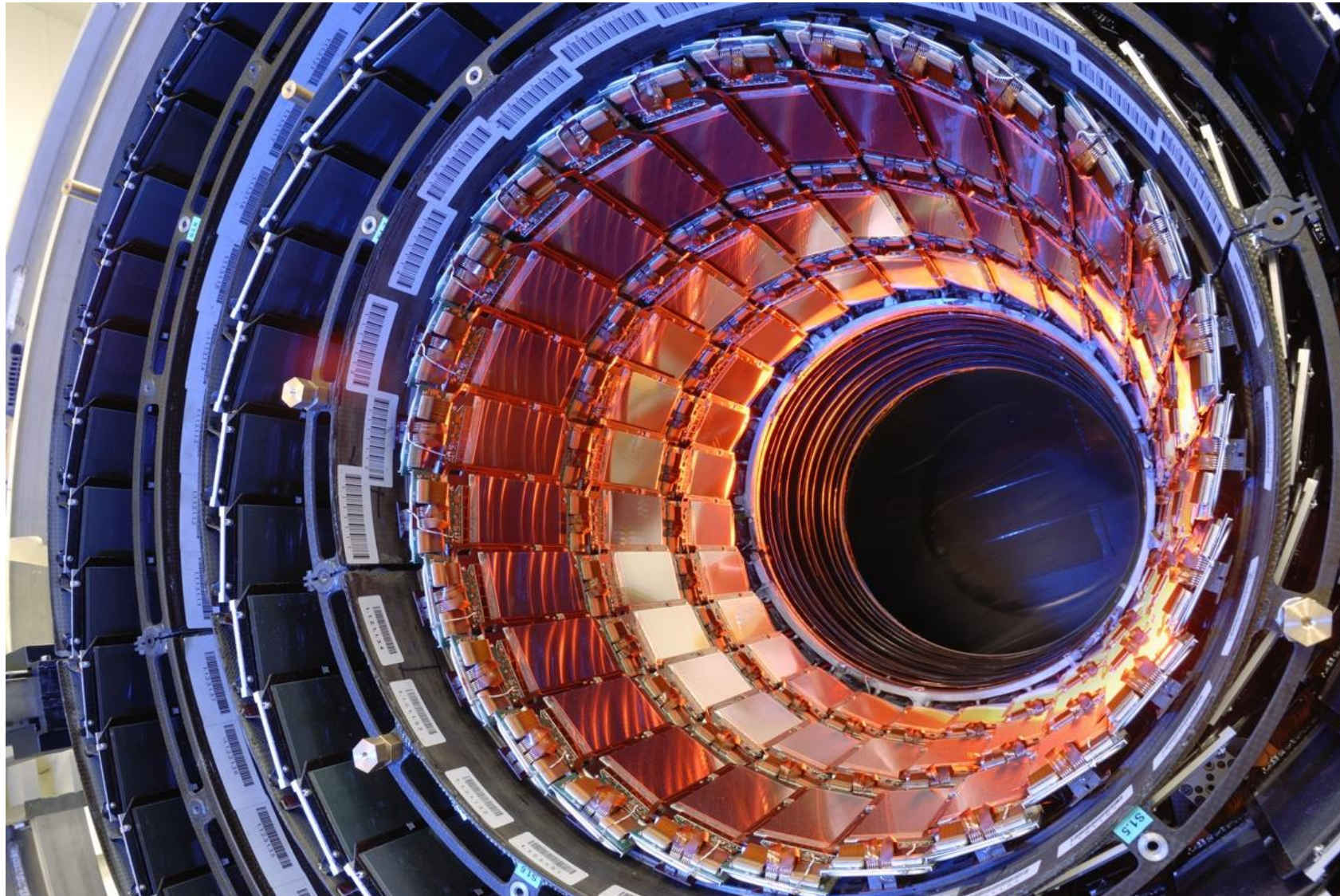
- using n-type silicon with a resistivity of $\rho = 2 \text{ K}\Omega\text{cm}$ ($N_D \sim 2.2 \cdot 10^{12} \text{ cm}^{-3}$) results in a depletion voltage $\sim 150 \text{ V}$

- Resolution σ depends on the pitch p (distance from strip to strip)
 - e.g. detection of charge in binary way (threshold discrimination) and using center of strip as measured coordinate results in

$$\sigma = \frac{p}{\sqrt{12}}$$

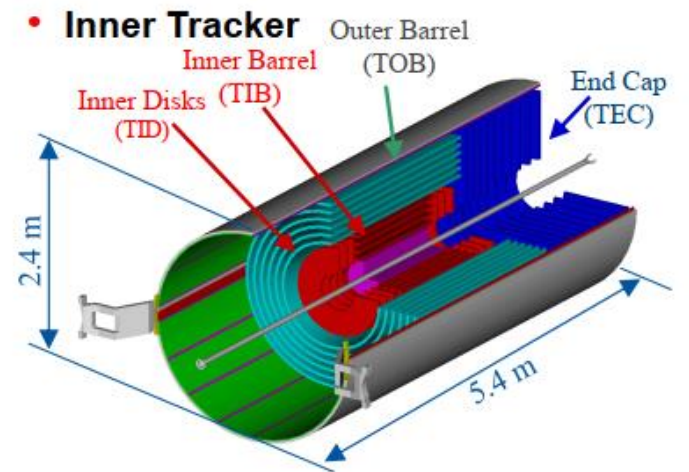
typical pitch values are 20 μm– 150 μm \Rightarrow 50 μm pitch results in 14.4 μm resolution

Present LHC Tracking Sensors

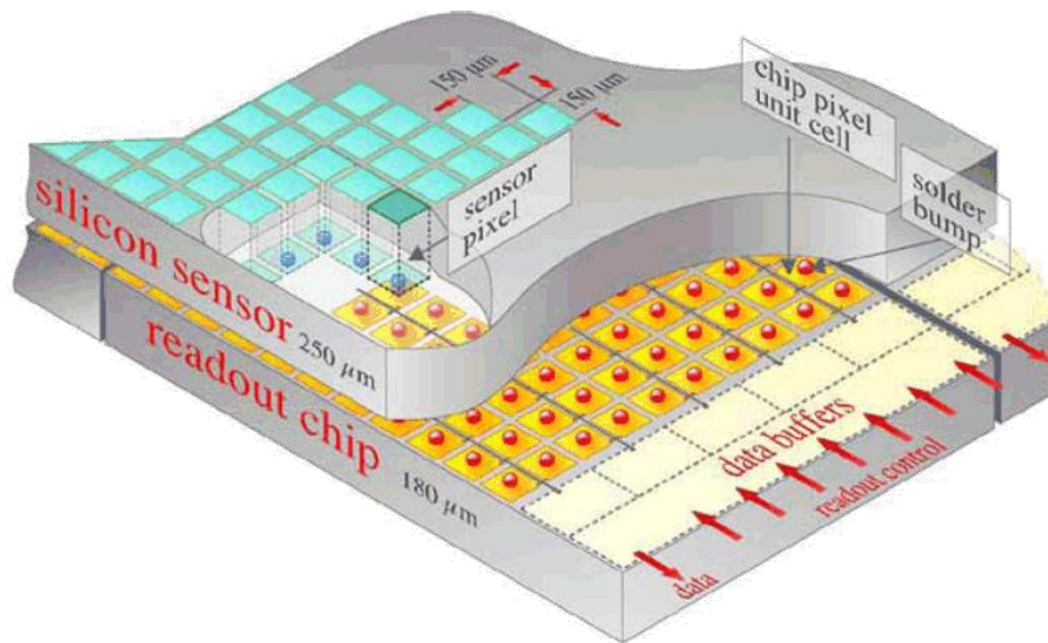


CMS Tracker

... 11.4 million strips

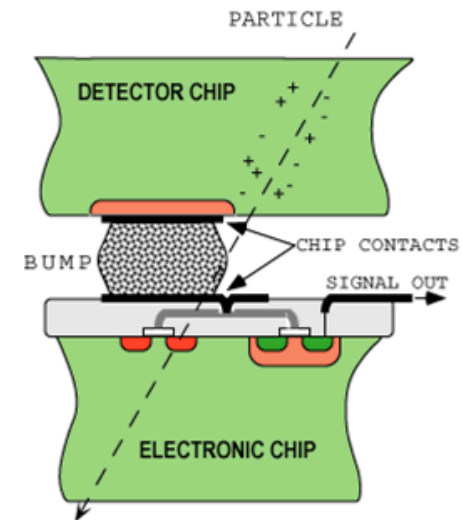
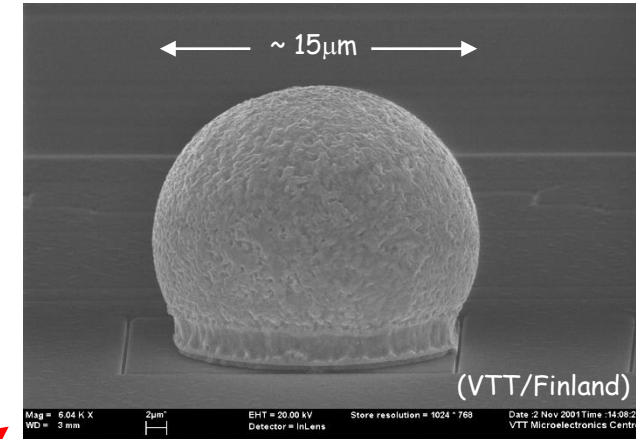


- HAPS – Hybrid Active Pixel Sensors
 - segment silicon to diode matrix with high granularity (⇒ true 2D, no reconstruction ambiguity)
 - readout electronic with same geometry (every cell connected to its own processing electronics)
 - connection by “bump bonding”
 - requires sophisticated readout architecture
 - Hybrid pixel detectors are used in LHC experiments: ATLAS, ALICE (from Run3 monolithic), CMS and LHCb



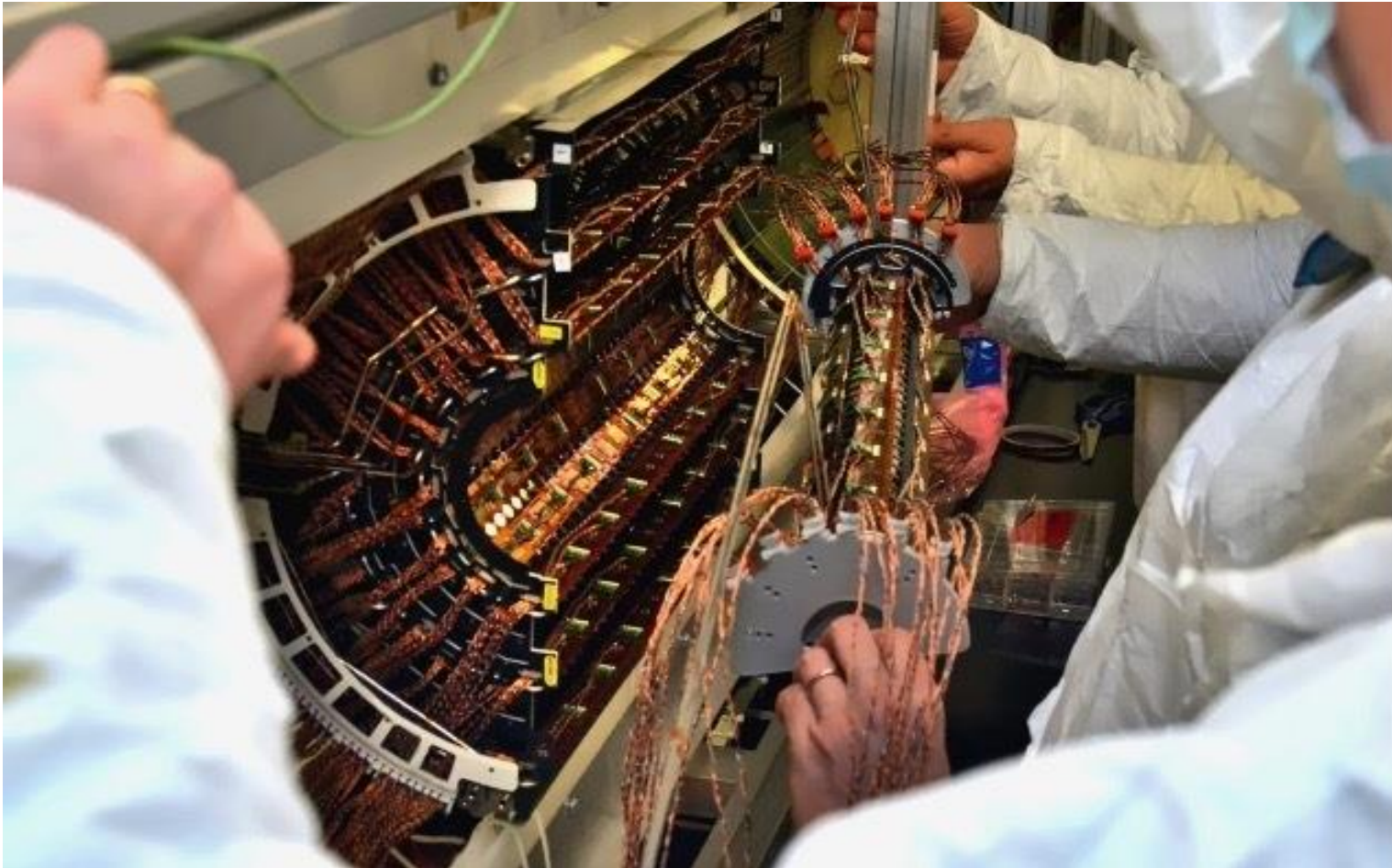
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Solder Bump: Pb-Sn

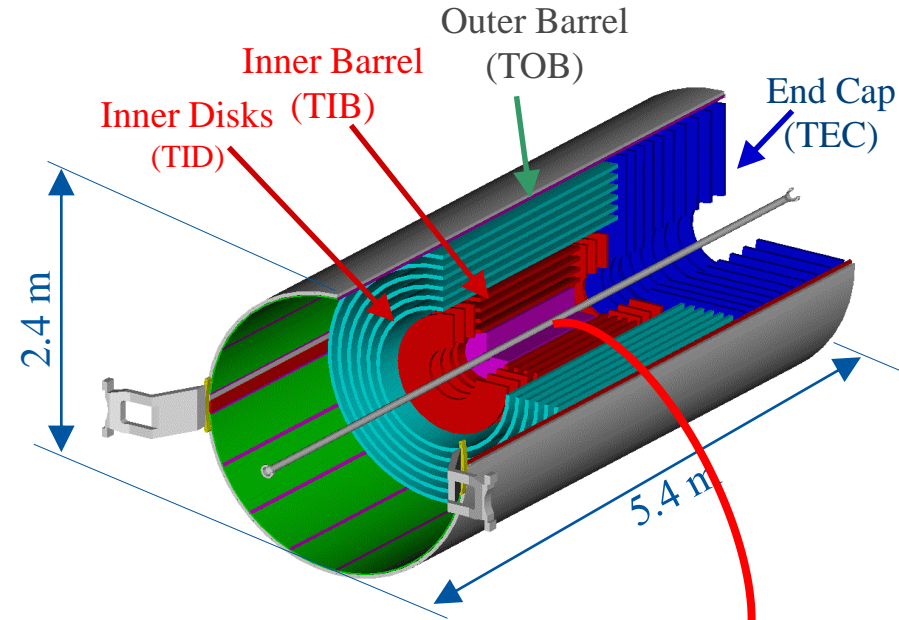


Flip-chip technique

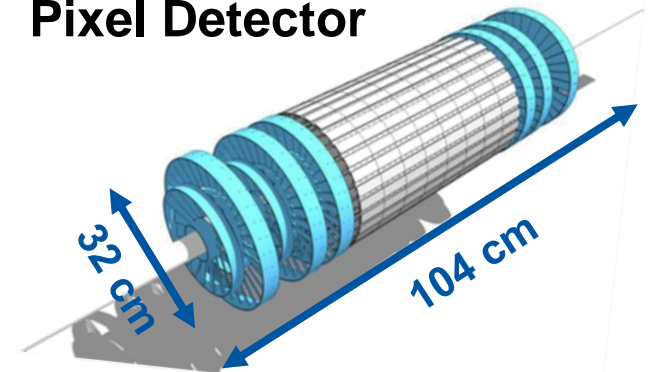
Present LHC Tracking Sensors

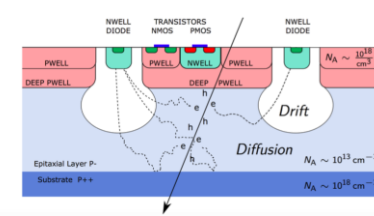


CMS Pixel (Installation after maintenance in 2021)

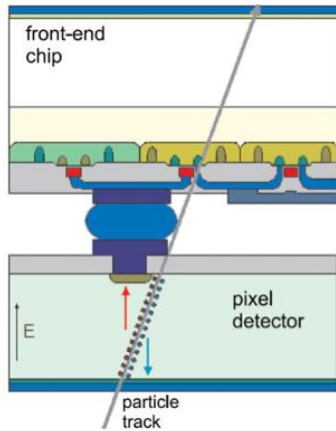


- **Pixel Detector**



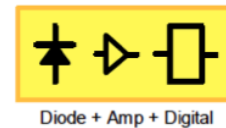
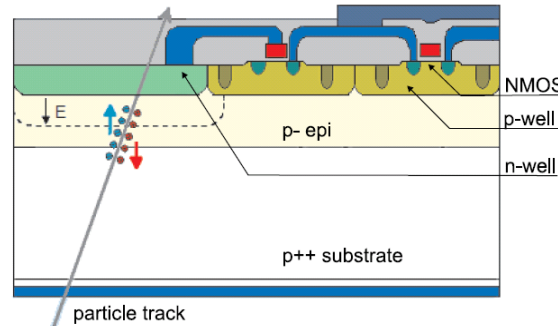


Hybrid Pixel



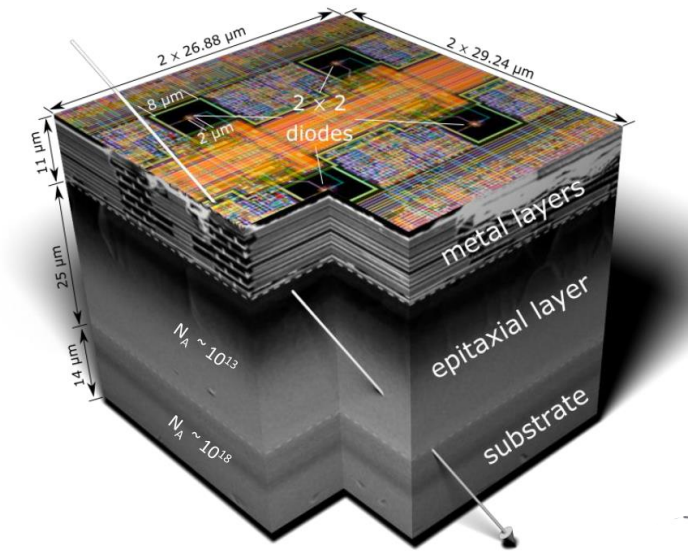
- Separately optimize sensor and FE-chip for very high radiation environment
- Fine pitch bump bonding to connect sensor and readout chip

Monolithic Pixel



- Charge generation volume integrated into the ASIC, but many different variants!
- Thin monolithic CMOS sensor, on-chip digital readout architecture

- Example: ALICE – Alpid Chip
 - TowerJazz 0.18μm CMOS imaging process
 - N-well collection electrode in high resistivity epitaxial layer
 - State-of-art: based on **quadruple well** allows full CMOS
 - **High resistivity (> 1kΩ cm) epi-layer** (p-type, 20-40 μm thick) on p-substrate
 - **Moderate reverse bias => increase depletion region** around N-well collection diode to collect more charges by drift



- Collected charge for a Minimum Ionizing Particle (MIP)

- **Mean energy loss**

dE/dx (Si) = 3.88 MeV/cm

⇒ 116 keV for 300μm thickness

- **Most probable energy loss**

≈ 0.7 × mean

⇒ 81 keV

- **3.6 eV to create an e-h pair**

⇒ 108 e-h / μm (mean)

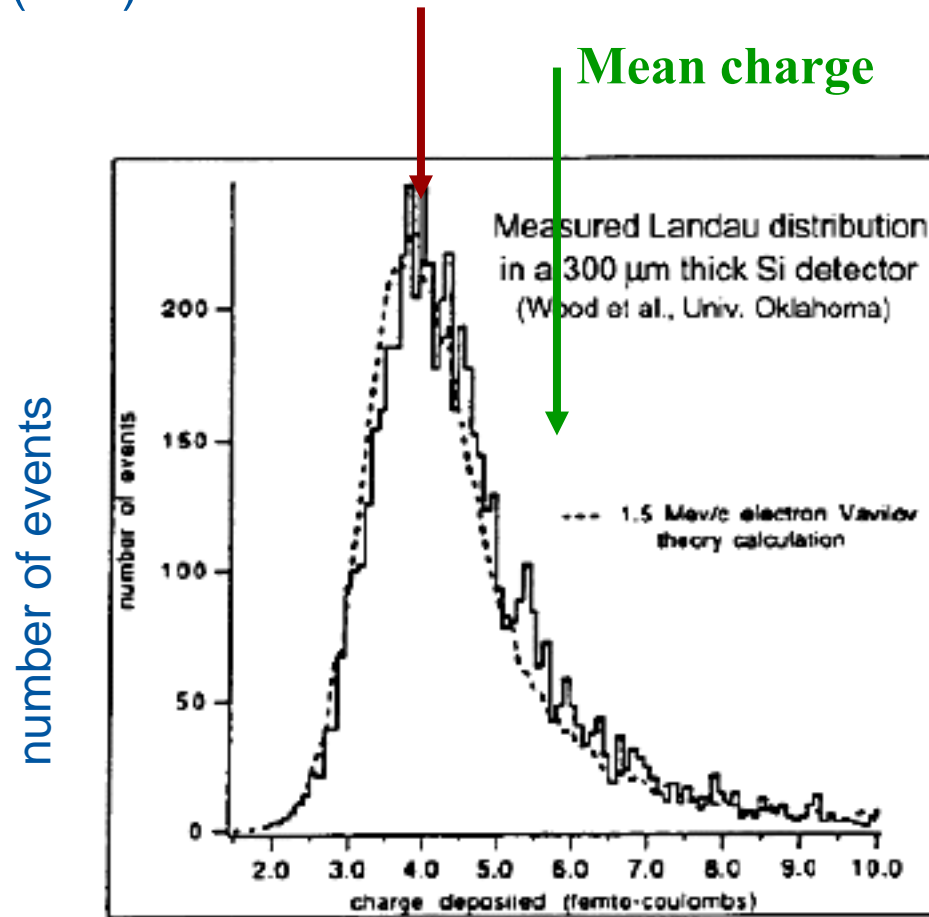
⇒ 72 e-h / μm (most probable)

- Most probable charge (300 μm)

≈ 22500 e ≈ 3.6 fC

Most probable charge ≈ 0.7 × mean

Mean charge



- Collected Charge for a Minimum Ionizing Particle (MIP)

- Landau distribution has a low energy tail
 - becomes even lower by noise broadening

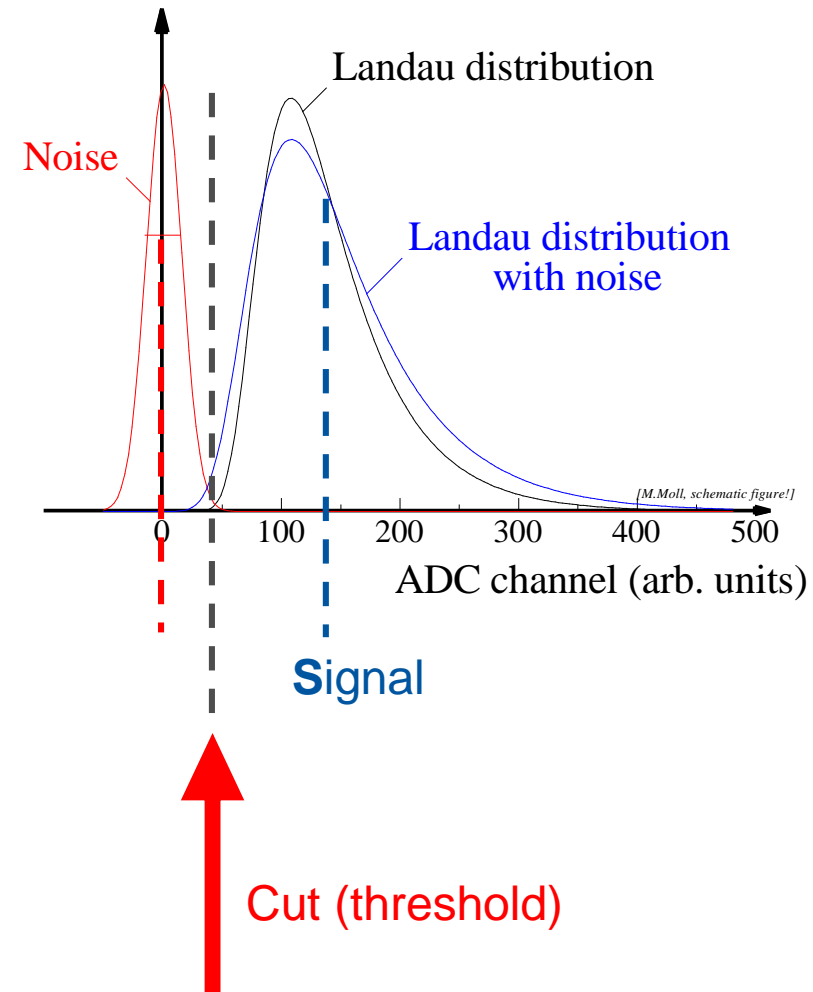
Noise sources: (ENC = Equivalent Noise Charge)

- Capacitance $ENC \propto C_d$

- Leakage Current $ENC \propto \sqrt{I}$

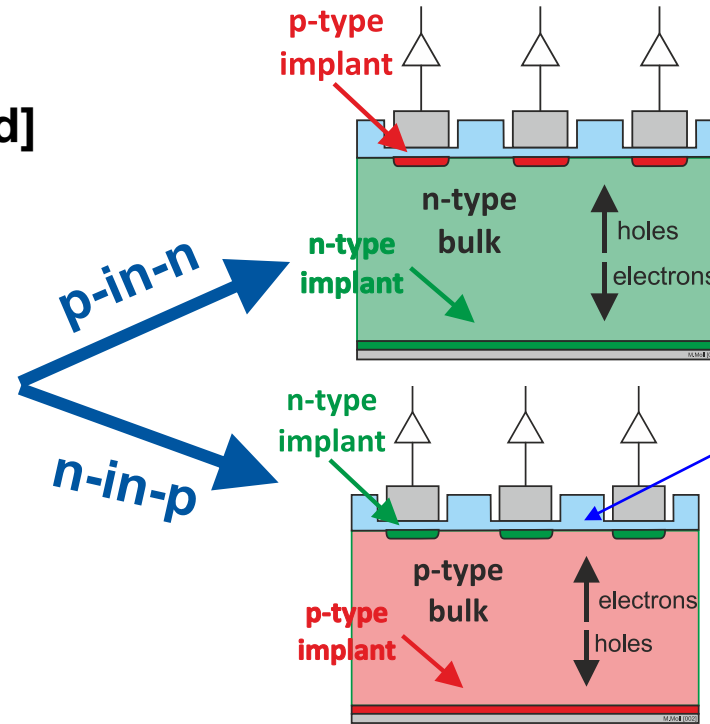
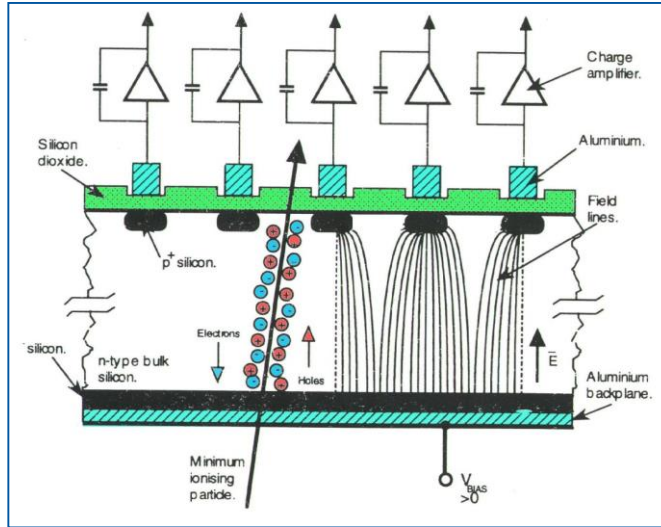
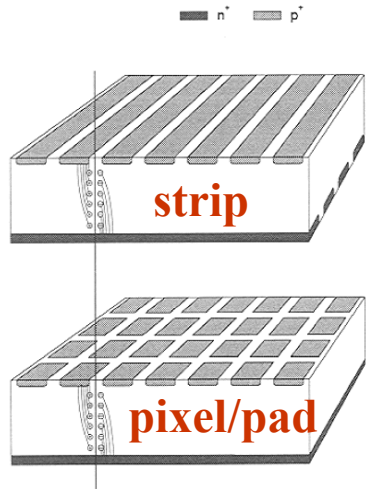
- Thermal Noise (bias resistor) $ENC \propto \sqrt{\frac{k_B T}{R}}$

- Good hits selected by requiring $N_{ADC} >$ noise tail
 - If cut too high \Rightarrow efficiency loss
 - If cut too low \Rightarrow noise occupancy
- Figure of Merit: Signal-to-Noise Ratio S/N
- Typical values $>10-15$, people get nervous below 10.
Radiation damage severely degrades the S/N.



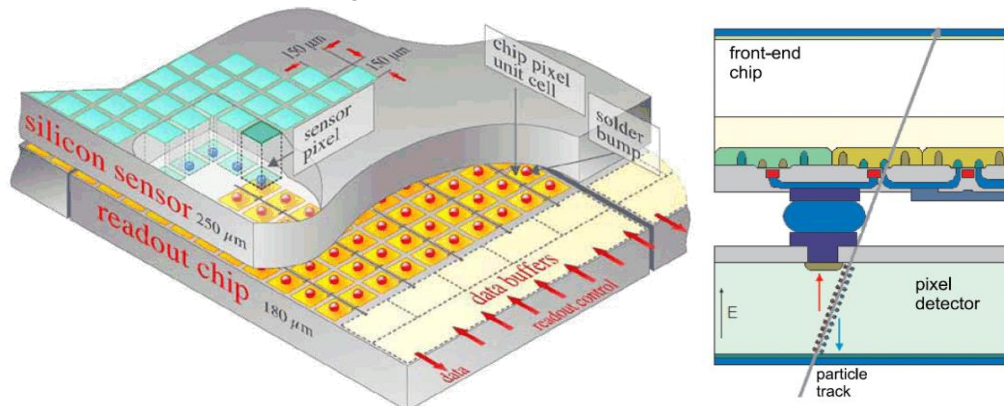
Main sensor concepts:

(Mini) Strip Detector [AC coupled]

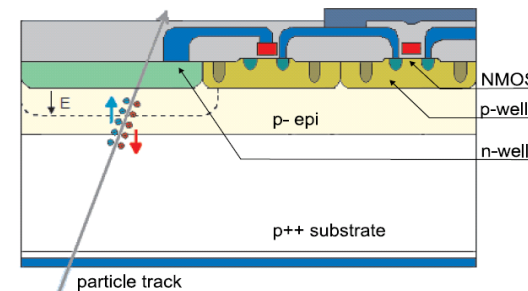


Need inter strip isolation!

Hybrid Pixel Detector



Monolithic CMOS Pixel Detector



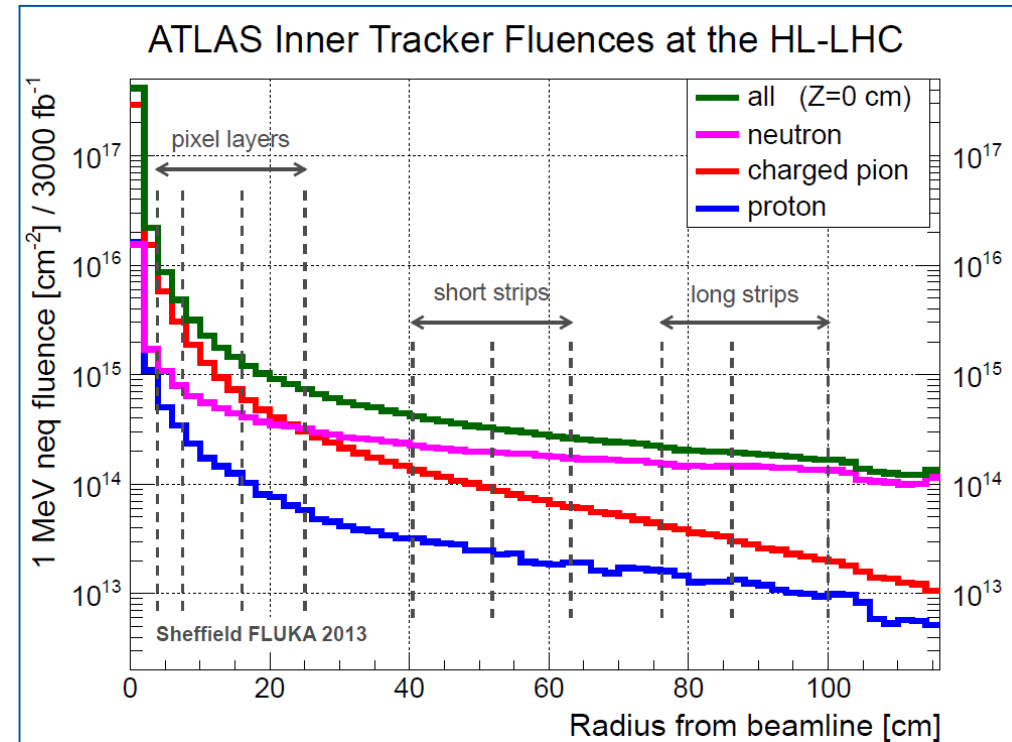
Radiation Damage

- Damage to dielectric layers and interfaces (not covered)
- Damage to the semiconductor bulk (introduction)

Silicon detectors upgrades and operation

- Radiation Hardness -

- **LHC operation**
- **HL-LHC (High Luminosity LHC)**
 - detector developments for HL-LHC
 - starting after LS3 (~2025-27);
 - expect 4000 fb^{-1} (nominal LHC was 300 fb^{-1})
- **HL-LHC operation & upgrades**
 - operation of HL-LHC
 - damage modelling, evaluation, mitigation
 - ATLAS Pixel replacement, LHCb upgrade, ...
- **FCC – Future Circular Collider**
 - ..also FCC-ee



[I. Dawson, P. S. Miyagawa, Sheffield University, Atlas]

• Increasing radiation levels

- Semiconductor detectors will face $>10^{16} \text{ n}_{\text{eq}}/\text{cm}^2$ (**HL-LHC**) and $>7 \times 10^{17} \text{ n}_{\text{eq}}/\text{cm}^2$ (**FCC-hh**)
→ detectors used at LHC cannot be operated after such irradiation

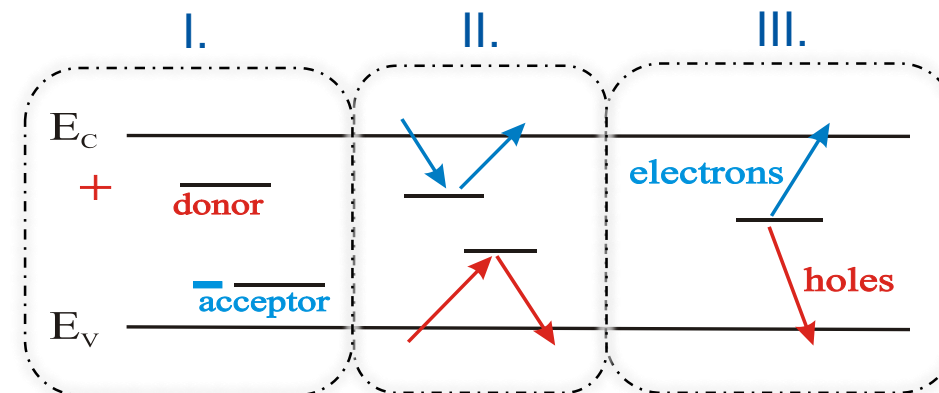
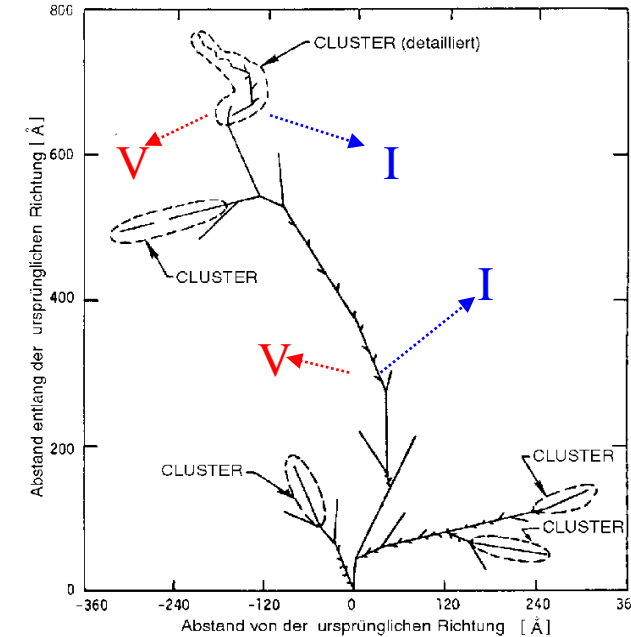
• New requirement and new detector technologies

- New requirements or opportunities lead to new technologies (e.g. HV-CMOS, LGAD,...)
which need to be evaluated and optimized in terms of **radiation hardness and/or 4D tracking capabilities**



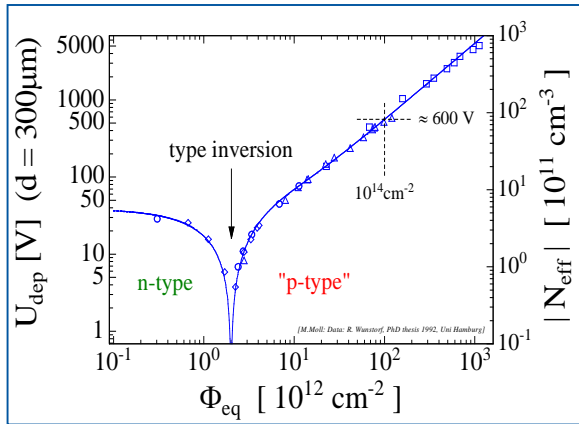
Main effects:

- **Ionizing Energy Loss (IEL)**
 - Surface effect: trapping charges in the oxide
 - Main effect for electronics (with SEUs)
- **Non Ionizing Energy Loss (NIEL)**
 - Bulk effect: Si atoms displaced from lattice position
 - Interstitials and Vacancies formed (Frenkel pairs) resulting in point and cluster defects
 - Creation of defect states in the band gap:
 - **I. Change of internal E-Field**
charged defects change depletion, leading to under depletion, loss of signal
 - **II. Charge trapping**
loss of signal charge
 - **III. Increase of leakage**
increase of power consumption
increase of noise

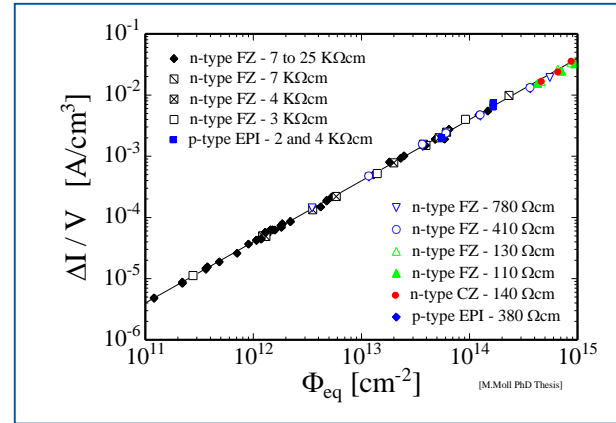


Radiation Damage Summary

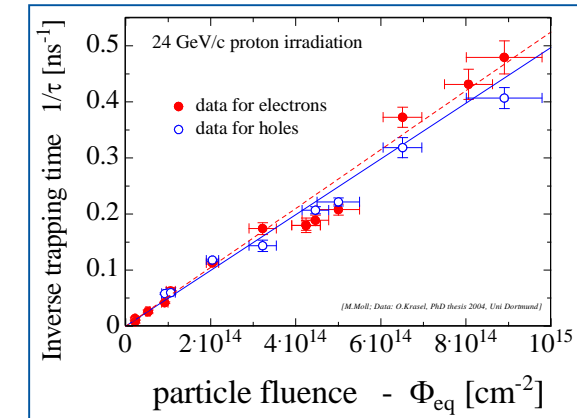
- Macroscopic bulk effects:



Depletion Voltage (N_{eff})

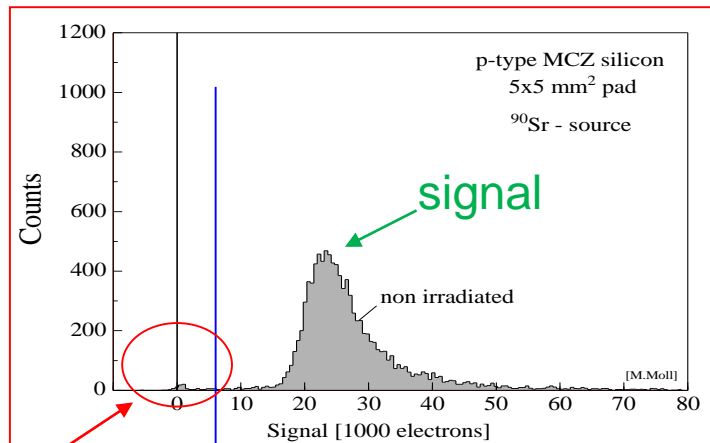


Leakage Current

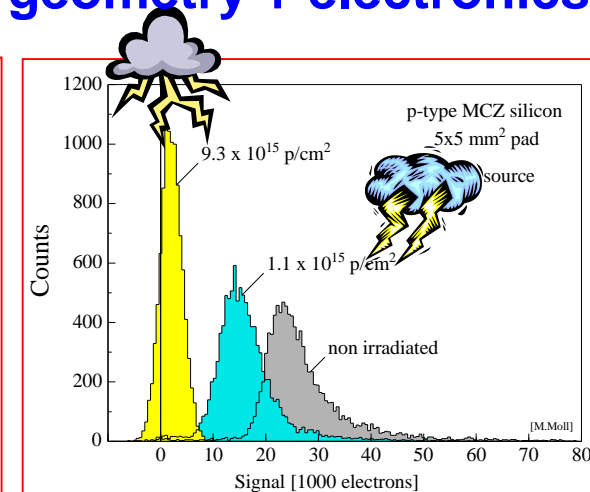
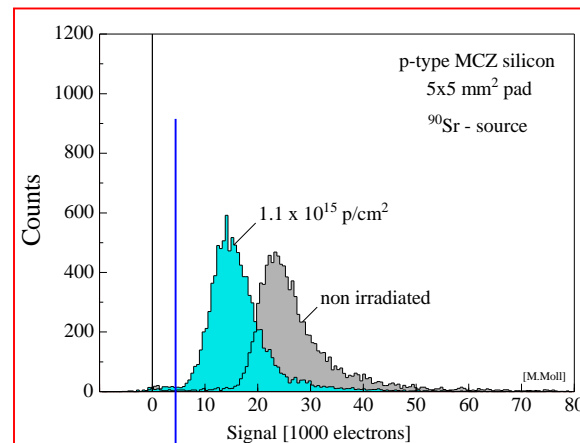


Charge Trapping

- Signal to Noise ratio is quantity to watch (material + geometry + electronics)



Cut (threshold)



noise



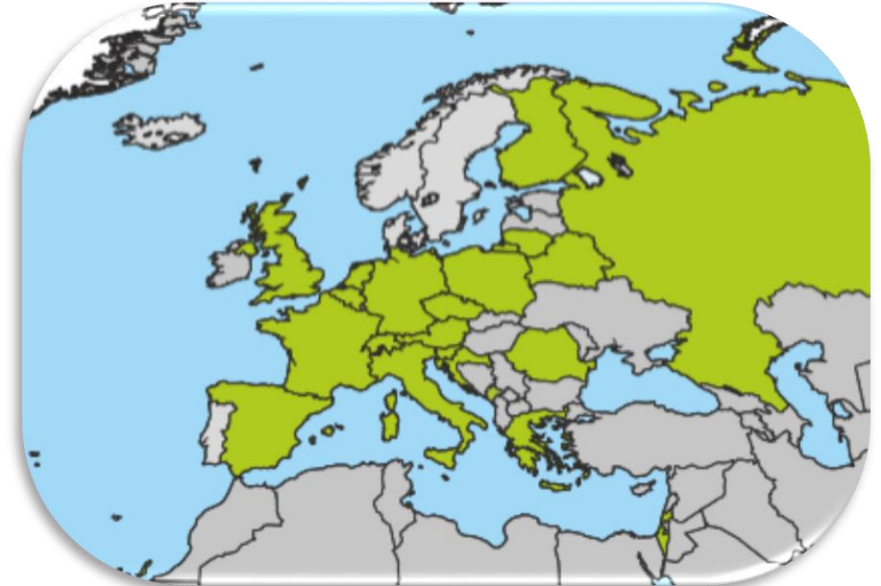
Radiation Hard Detectors

How to increase radiation hardness?

- RD50: 66 institutes and 420 members

51 European institutes

Austria (HEPHY), **Belarus** (Minsk), **Czech Republic** (Prague (3x)), **Finland** (Helsinki, Lappeenranta), **France** (Marseille, Paris, Orsay), **Germany** (Bonn, Dortmund, Freiburg, Göttingen, Hamburg (Uni & DESY), Karlsruhe, Munich (MPI & MPG HLL)), **Greece** (Demokritos), **Italy** (Bari, Perugia, Pisa, Trento, Torino), **Croatia** (Zagreb), **Lithuania** (Vilnius), **Montenegro** (Montenegro), **Netherlands** (NIKHEF), **Poland** (Krakow), **Romania** (Bucharest), **Russia** (Moscow, St.Petersburg), **Slovenia** (Ljubljana), **Spain** (Barcelona(3x), Santander, Sevilla (2x), Valencia), **Switzerland** (CERN, PSI, Zurich), **United Kingdom** (Birmingham, Glasgow, Lancaster, Liverpool, Oxford, Manchester, RAL)



8 North-American institutes

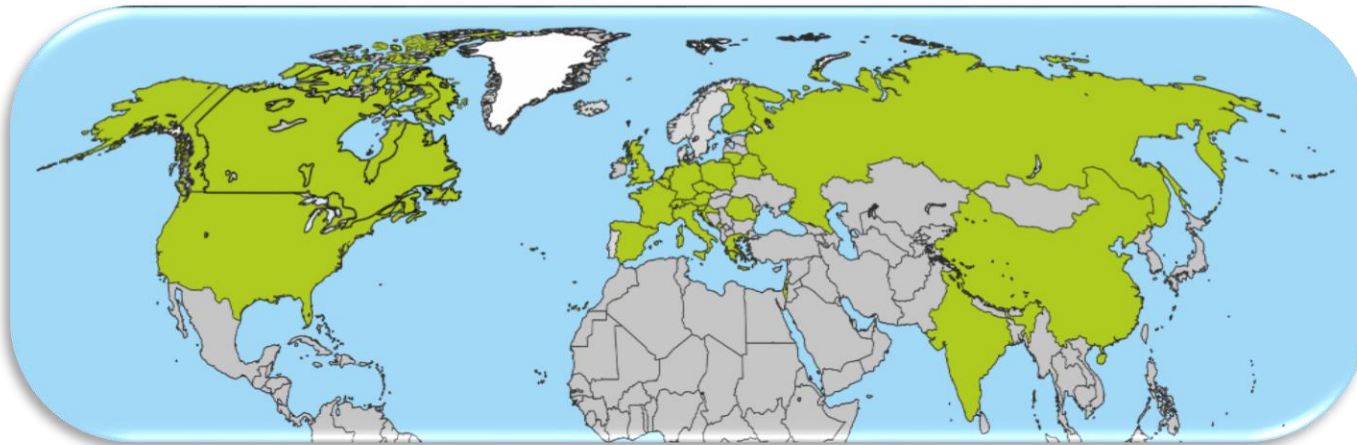
Canada (Ottawa), **USA** (BNL, Brown Uni, Fermilab, LBNL, New Mexico, Santa Cruz, Syracuse)

1 Middle East institute

Israel (Tel Aviv)

6 Asian institutes

China (Beijing-IHEP, Dalian, Hefei, Jilin, Shanghai),
India (Delhi)



Full member list: www.cern.ch/rd50



Scientific strategies:

- I. Material engineering
- II. Device engineering
- III. Change of detector operational conditions

• Defect Engineering of Silicon

Deliberate incorporation of impurities or defects into the silicon bulk to improve radiation tolerance of detectors

- **Needs:** Profound understanding of radiation damage
 - microscopic defects, macroscopic parameters
 - dependence on particle type and energy
 - defect formation kinetics and annealing
- **Examples:**
 - Oxygen rich Silicon (DOFZ, Cz, MCZ, EPI)
 - Oxygen dimer & hydrogen enriched Si
 - Pre-irradiated Si
 - Influence of processing technology

• New Materials

- Silicon Carbide (SiC), Gallium Nitride (GaN)
- Diamond (CERN RD42 Collaboration)
- Amorphous silicon, Gallium Arsenide

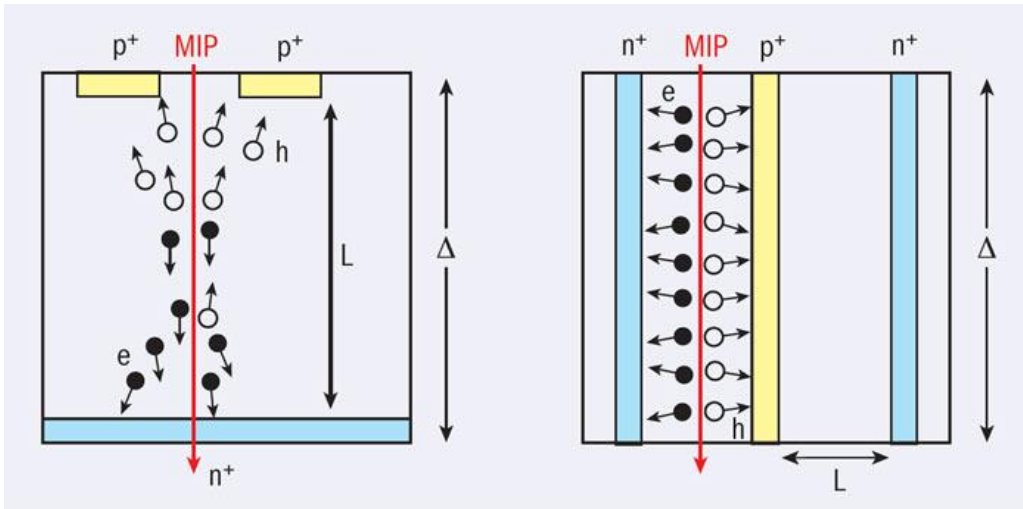
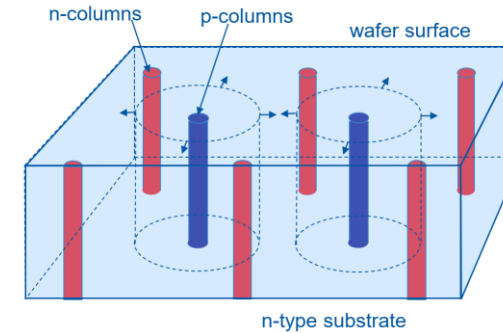
• Device Engineering (New Detector Designs)

- p-type silicon detectors (n-in-p)
- thin detectors, epitaxial detectors
- 3D detectors and LGAD - Low Gain Avalanche
- Cost effective detectors
- Monolithic devices – HV-CMOS

CERN-RD39 (closed, now part of RD50)
“Cryogenic Tracking Detectors”
operation at 100-200K to reduce charge loss



Device engineering example: 3D Hybrid Pixel Detectors

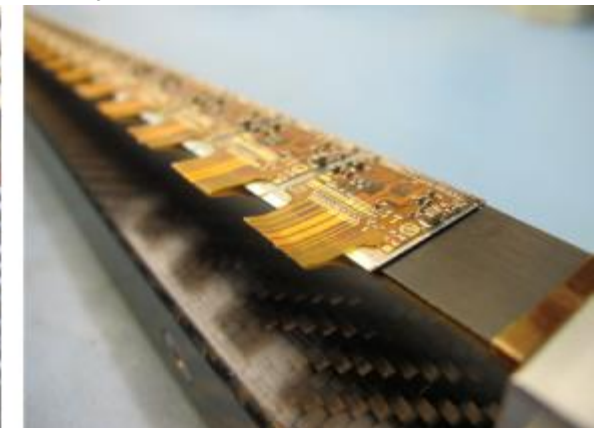


Array of narrow electrode columns ($\sim 5\text{-}10\mu\text{m}$) passing through the silicon thickness (micromaching):

- Depletion voltage prop. spacing²
 - Collection time prop. spacing
 - Reduced charge sharing
- More suited to high radiation environment

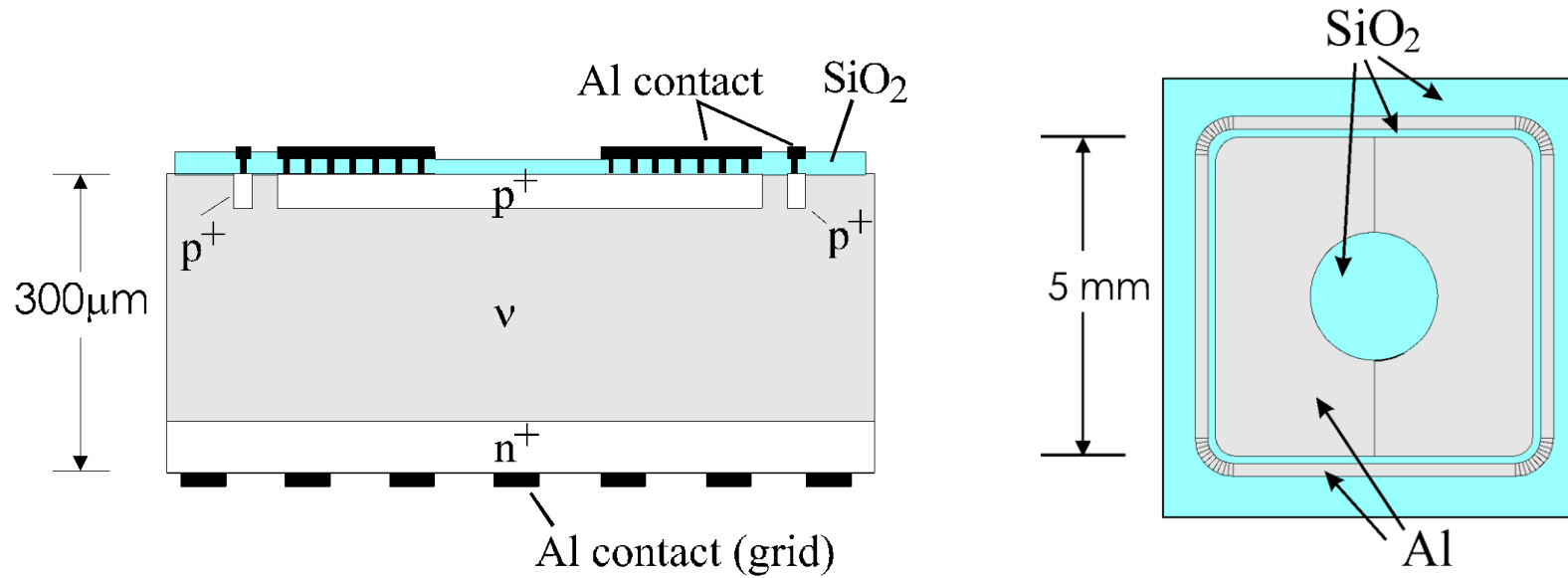
Connected to standard pixel ASIC – hybrid pixel detector

Installed 2014 in ATLAS IBL
(Inner b-layer)
&
Inner pixel layers
for LHC phase II (2028)



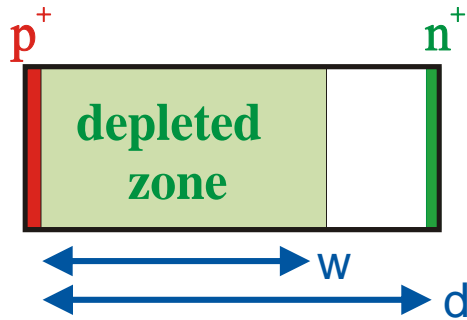
Characterization Techniques

What are we going to measure
in our “hands-on” workshop?



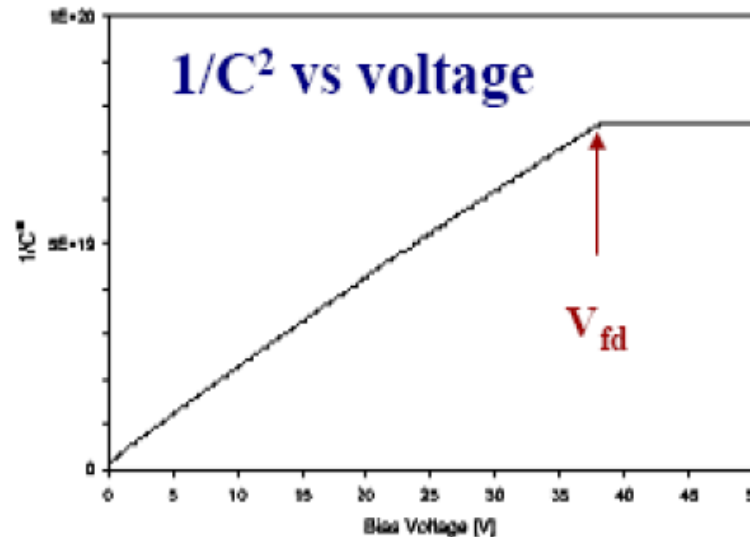
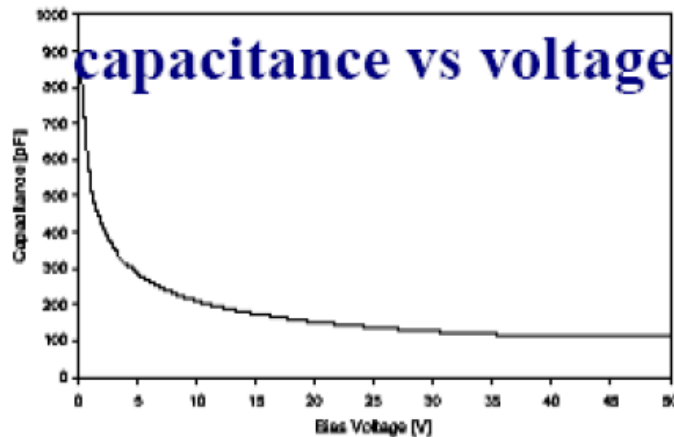
- Very simple structures in order to concentrate on the bulk features
 - Typical thickness: 300 μm
 - Typical active area: 0.5 × 0.5 cm²
- Openings in front and back contact
 - optical experiments with lasers or LED

- The depletion voltage can be determined by measuring the capacitance versus the applied reverse bias voltage. The capacitance is simply the parallel plate capacity of the depletion zone.



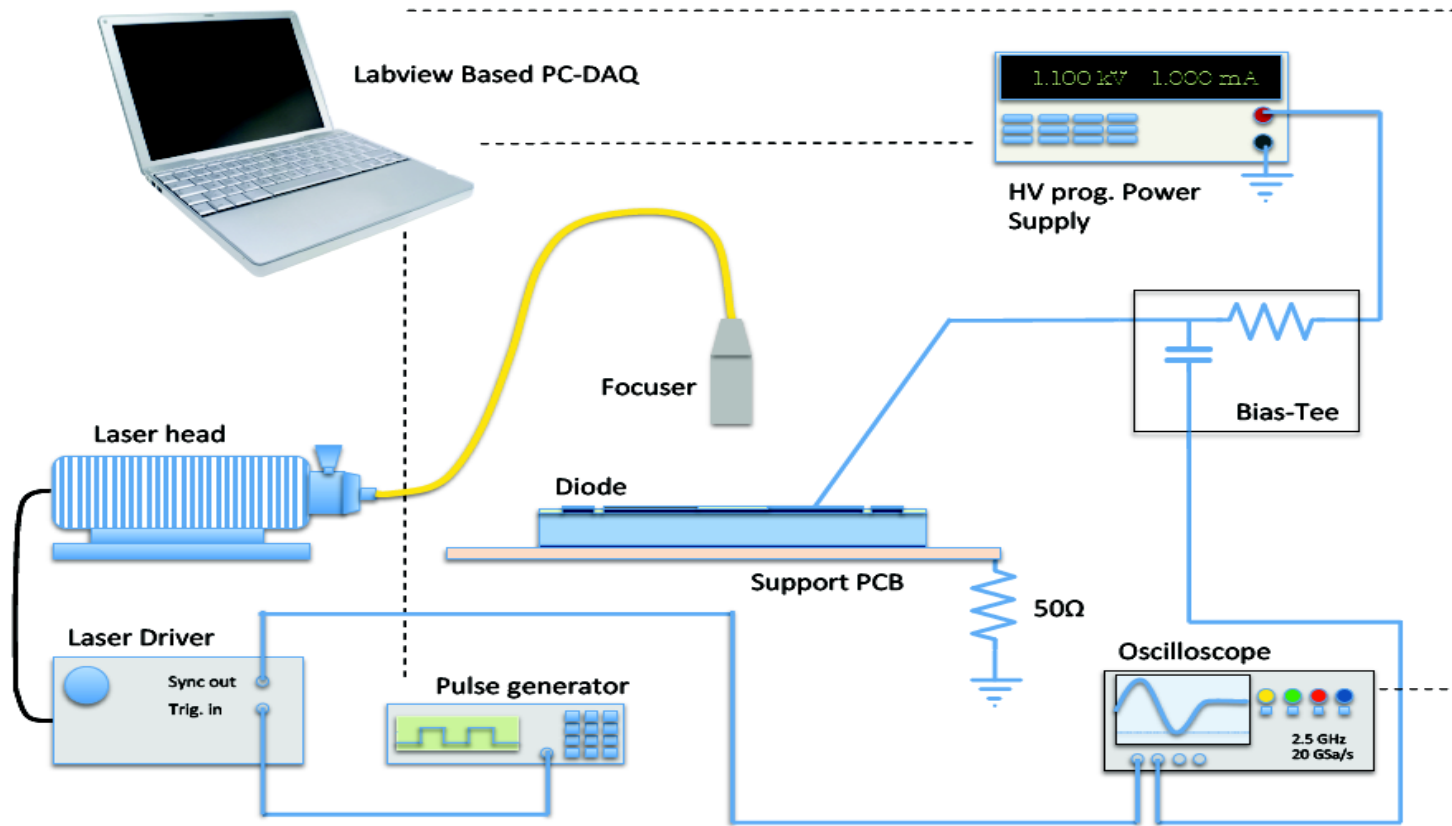
$$C(V) = \frac{\epsilon\epsilon_0 A}{w} = A \cdot \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon\epsilon_0 q_0 |N_{eff}|}{2 \cdot V}}$$

- ϵ, ϵ_0 dielectric constants
- A = area of sensor
- w = depletion width
- N_{eff} = effective doping concentration
- V = Voltage applied
- q_0 = elementary charge



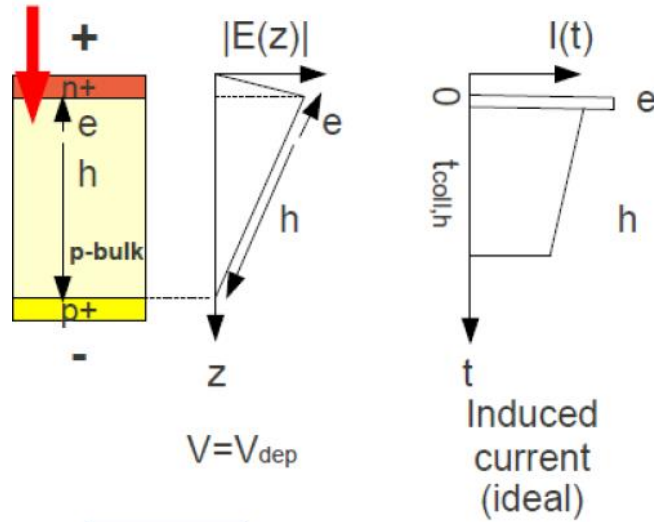
$$V_{dep} = \frac{q_0}{2\epsilon\epsilon_0} |N_{eff}| d^2$$

- Study of laser pulse induced current transients in silicon sensors
- Schematic view of the TCT setup

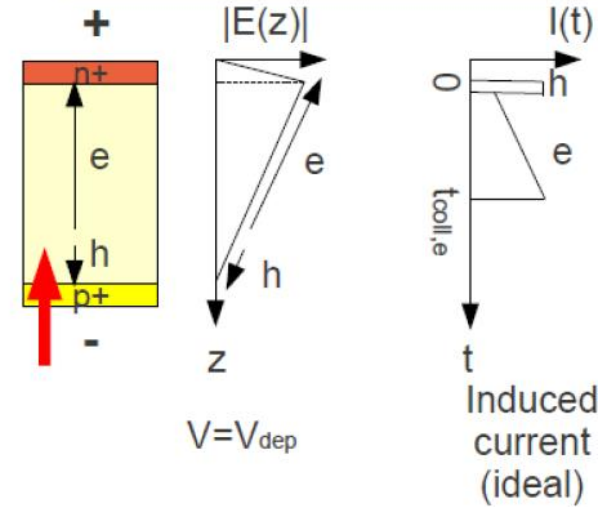


TCT explained

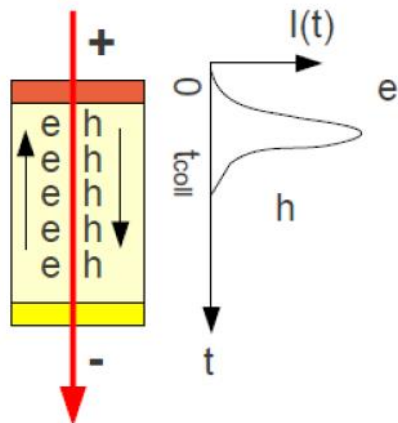
Top Red TCT (h injection)



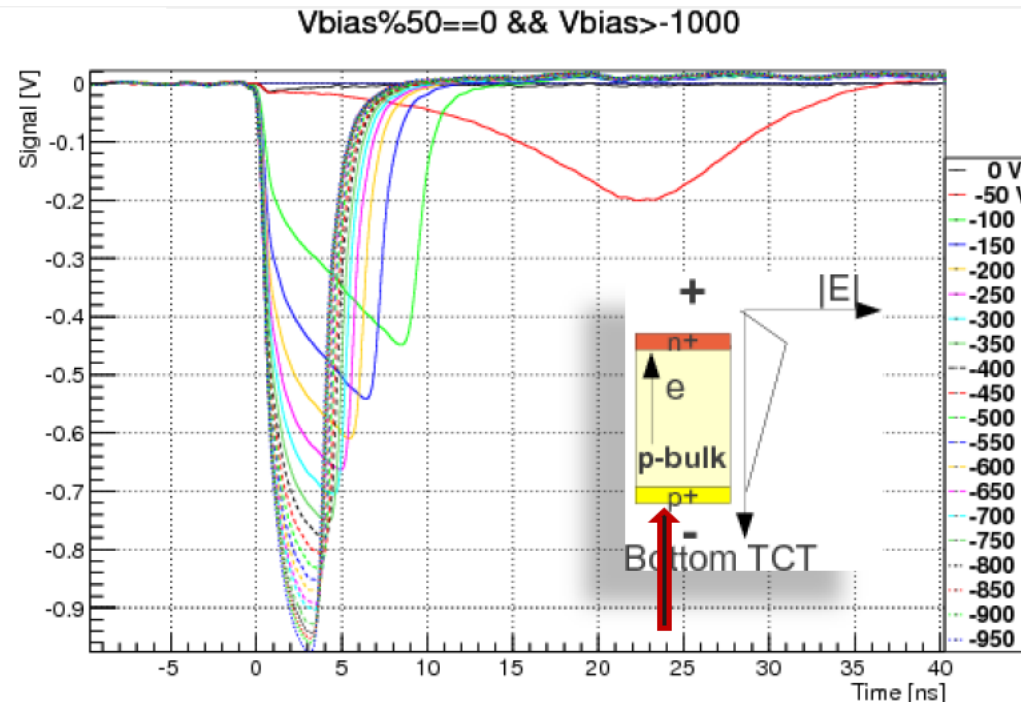
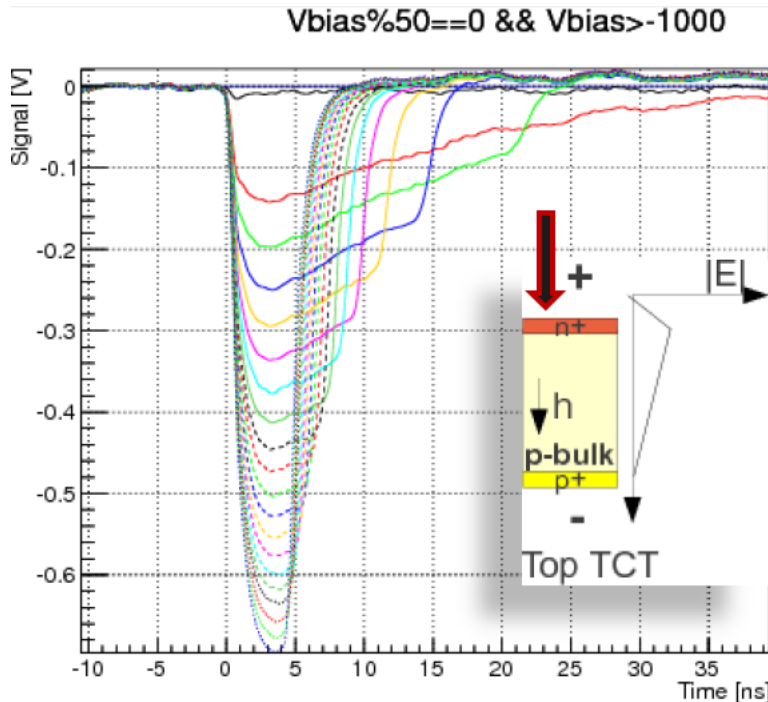
Bottom Red TCT (e injection)



IR TCT



- Red laser penetration depth $\sim 10 \mu\text{m}$ (1 mm for IR)
- Depletion voltage V_{dep} can be calculated from $Q=Q(V)$ plots. Either IR or red back illumination is needed. Due to the low absorption depth in red, all the charge in front illumination is collected before the detector is fully depleted.



- Top TCT, h-injection (p-bulk):

- Induced current maximum at front junction
- Longer collection time due to smaller drift velocity

- Bottom TCT, e injection:

- Drift velocity increase towards the front side
- Shorter collection time, and higher amplitude of pulses, both due to higher drift velocity



- **Silicon Sensors are based on reverse biased pn-junctions** (silicon sensors are reverse biased diodes)
- **Silicon Detectors at the LHC and upgrade of LHC**
 - Inner tracking at LHC and HL-LHC done by silicon detectors
 - Hybrid-pixel (planar and 3D) and strip sensors implemented in LHC experiments (ALICE upgraded to monolithic sensors)
 - Radiation Hard Monolithic sensors under development (competing beyond LS3 for HL-LHC upgrades)
- **Radiation Damage in Silicon Sensors**
 - Damage: displacement damage that is evidenced as defect levels in the band gap of the semiconductor (+ some impact of surface damage in segmented sensors)
 - **Modification of internal electric field** (space charge distribution, depletion voltage, “type inversion”, reverse annealing, loss of active volume, ...), defect engineering possible!
 - **Increase of Leakage Current** and **Charge Trapping** (same for all silicon materials)
 - **Signal to Noise ratio** is quantity to watch (material + geometry + electronics)
- **Radiation tolerant silicon sensors**
 - Several examples of successful Material and Device Engineering (mitigation strategies) oxygenation, 3D sensors, p-type (n-readout) sensors
- **Hands-on:**
 - **Current-Voltage and Capacitance Voltage measurements**
 - **Transient Current Technique (TCT) measurements**

- **Most references to particular works given on the slides**
 - RD50 workshop presentations: <http://www.cern.ch/rd50/>
 - Conferences: VERTEX, PIXEL, RESMDD, ...
- **Instrumentation Schools**
 - ICFA, EDIT, ESI, CERN & DESY Summer Student Lectures
- **Books about silicon tracking detectors (and radiation damage)**
 - Helmuth Spieler, “Semiconductor Detector Systems”, Oxford University Press 2005
 - C.Leroy, P-G.Rancoita, “Silicon Solid State Devices and Radiation Detection”, World Scientific 2012
 - Frank Hartmann, “Evolution of silicon sensor technology in particle physics”, Springer 2009 & 2017
 - L.Rossi, P.Fischer, T.Rohe, N.Wermes “Pixel Detectors”, Springer, 2006
 - Gerhard Lutz, “Semiconductor radiation detectors”, Springer 1999
- **Review Articles**
 - 2018: Garcia-Sciveres and Wermes, A review of advances in pixel detectors for experiments with high rate and radiation, <https://doi.org/10.1088/1361-6633/aab064>
 - 2018: M.Moll, Displacement Damage in Silicon Detectors for High Energy Physics <https://doi.org/10.1109/TNS.2018.2819506>
- **Research collaborations and web sites**
 - CERN RD50 collaboration (<http://www.cern.ch/rd50>) - Radiation Tolerant Silicon Sensors
 - CERN RD42 collaboration – Diamond detectors
 - Inter-Experiment Working Group on Radiation Damage in Silicon Detectors (CERN)
 - ATLAS IBL, ATLAS and CMS upgrade groups