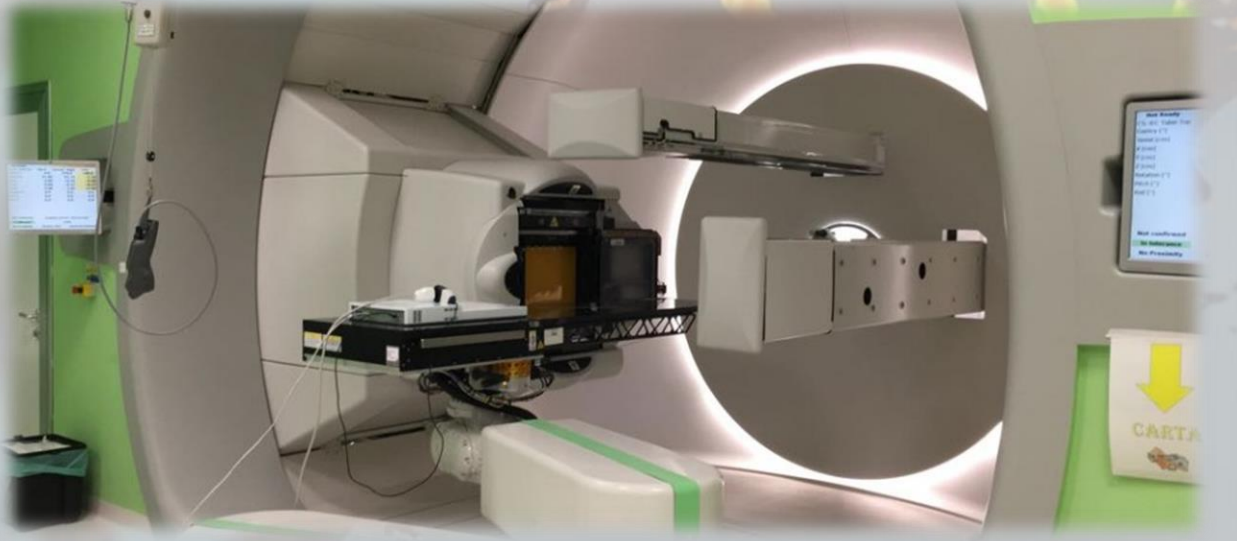


# Hybrid Detector for Microdosimetry (HDM)

E. Pierobon, M. Missiaggia, M. Castelluzzo, F. Tommasino, L. Ricci, E.  
Scifoni, V. Monaco, M. Boscardin, C. La Tessa

# Radiotherapy fundamentals

- Inactivate the tumour by depositing energy in the body
- Minimize the dose to the healthy tissue
- Treatment planning and delivery is based on the Treatment Planning System (TPS)



# Radiotherapy fundamentals

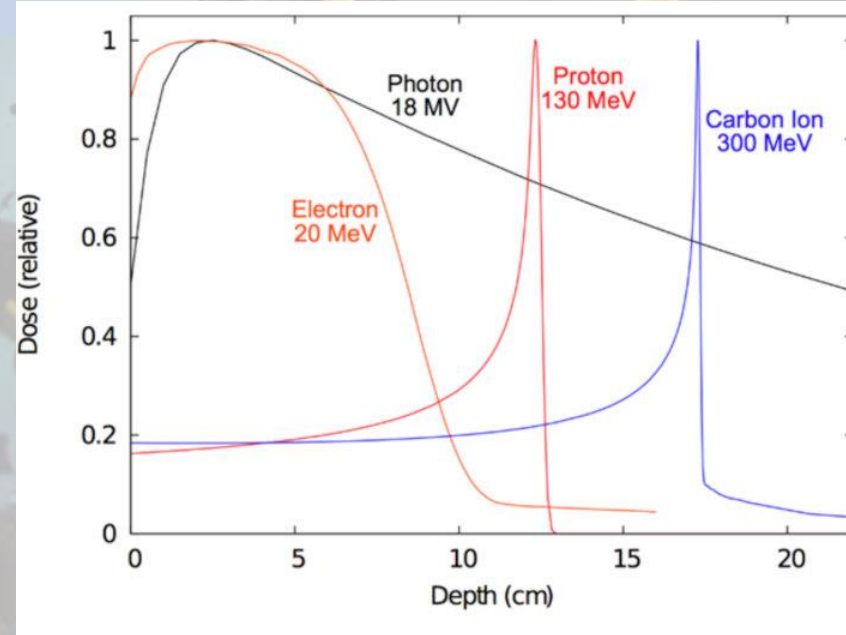
- TPS requires physical and biological quantities to describe the radiation interaction and effects
- The key ingredient is the dose

$$D = \frac{E}{m}$$

- It depends on
  - Energy
  - Particle species



Radiation quality



Kaiser, Adeel et. al 10.3791/58372.

# From Physics to Biology

- Radiation damage occurs at cellular level
- The most sensitive target to radiation is DNA
- Describing the energy deposition in a scale comparable to the cell nucleus improves the biological damage assessment



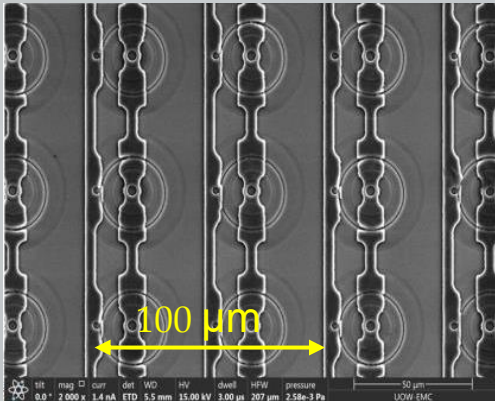
MICRODOSIMETRY



# Microdosimetry

Two detection strategies:

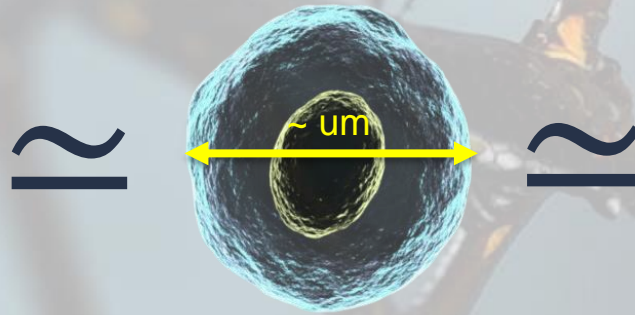
- Micro-sized



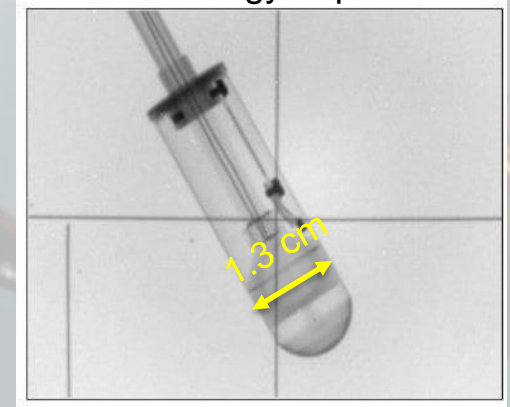
Silicon detectors

Better spatial resolution:

- dimensions of few micrometers



- Micro-equivalent in terms of energy deposition



Gas detectors

Tissue-equivalent:

- energy deposition is the same as micrometric tissue

# Detector (HDM) MCL

Basic quantity: lineal energy  $y$

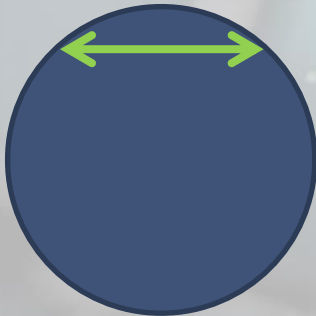
$$y = \frac{\text{Energy deposited}}{\text{MCL}}$$

Energy recorded in the detector

Mean Chord Length: most probable particle track length in isotropic and uniform radiation field

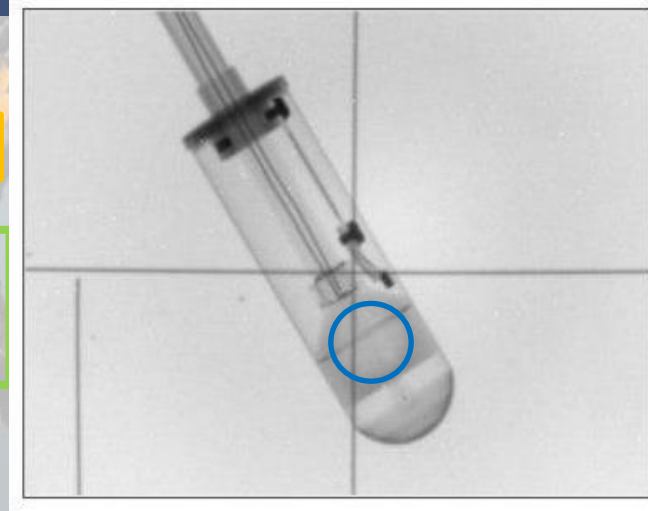
For a spherical geometry [our TEPC (*Tissue Equivalent Proportional Counter*) detector]

$$MCL = \frac{2}{3}d$$

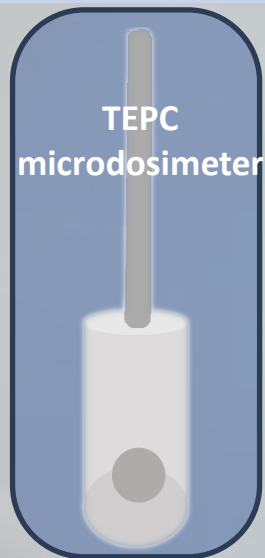


What if the real track length is used?

## Need of a tracker



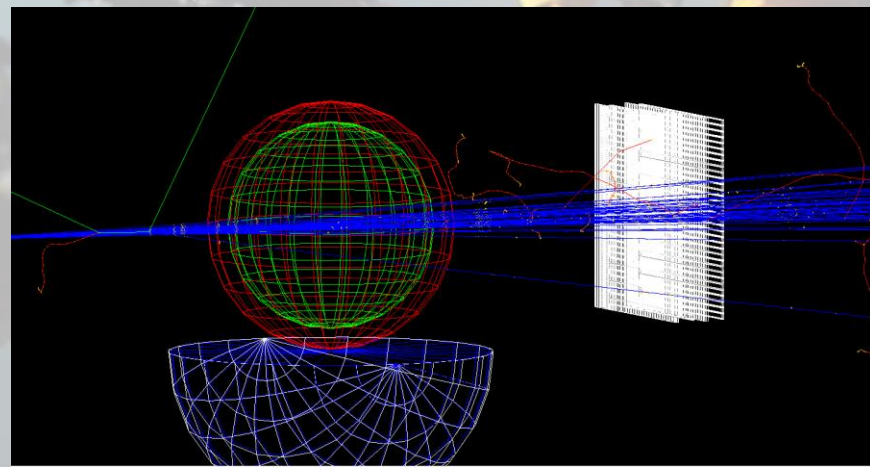
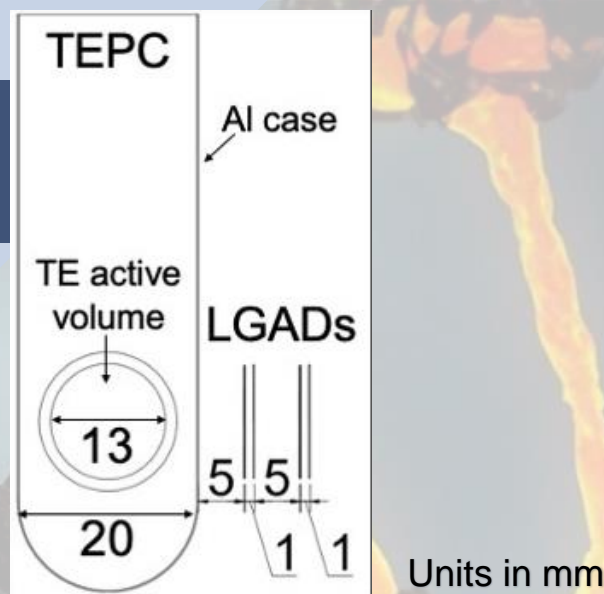
# Detector(s) (HDM)



Records energy deposition in tissue equivalent material



Reconstruct particle track

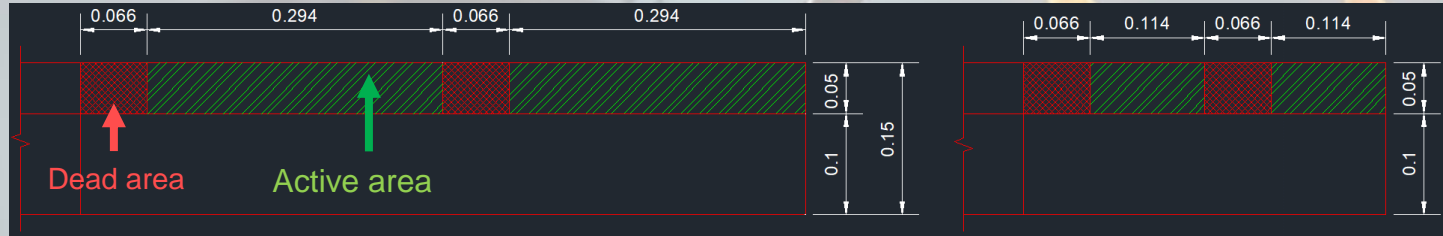
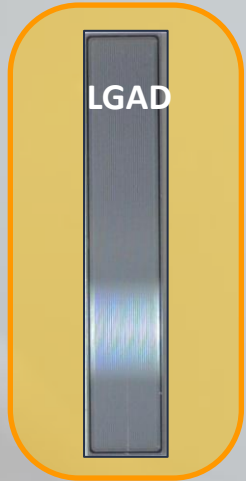


# Detector (HDM): LGADs

Two LGAD geometries produced at FBK

34 strips per sensor

71 strips per sensor



Units in mm

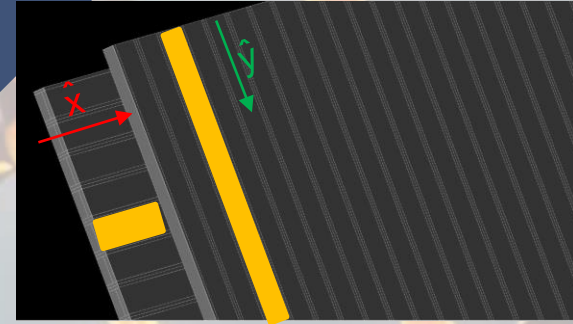
- pitch 360  $\mu\text{m}$
- better fill factor
- less channels to read

- pitch 180  $\mu\text{m}$
- better spatial resolution

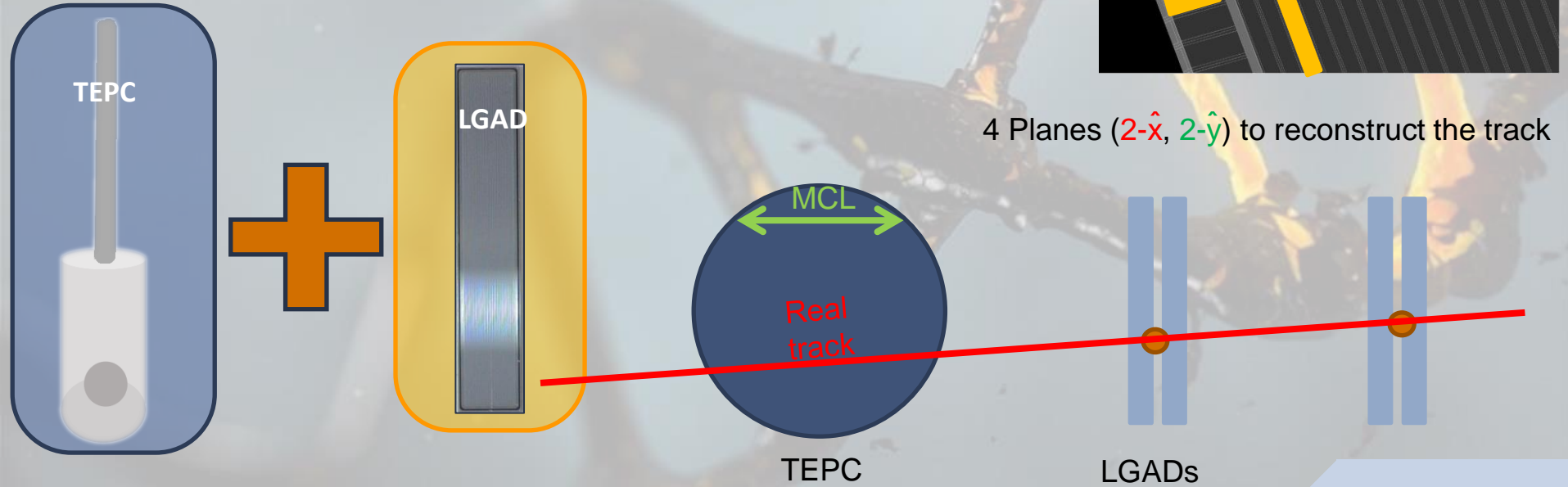


# Hybrid (HDM): tracking

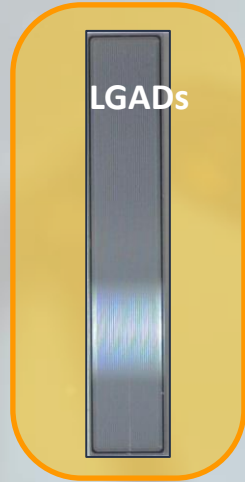
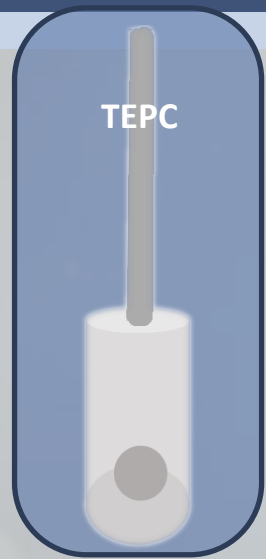
Strip is activated



4 Planes ( $2-\hat{x}$ ,  $2-\hat{y}$ ) to reconstruct the track



# HDM: tracking



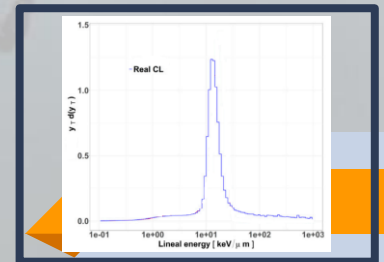
**RF MODULE 1:**  
Missing values fill



**RF MODULE 2:**  
Tracking algorithm



**OUTPUT:**  
microdosimetric spectra



- Low Tracking efficiency:

	Not detected by at least 1 layer	Not detected by any layer
$^1\text{H}$	97%	85%
$^{12}\text{C}$	85%	25%

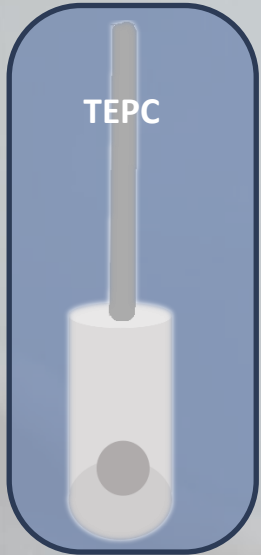
71 strips configuration

Machine learning techniques to improve tracking efficiency

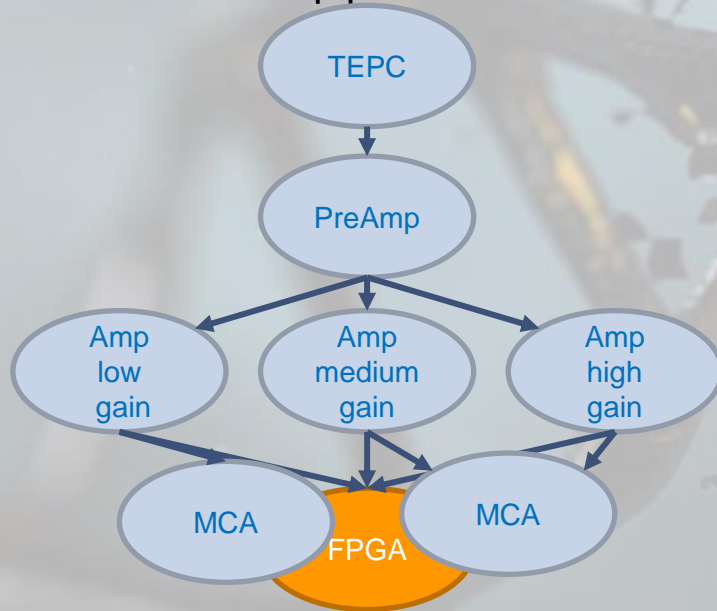


# TEPC readout

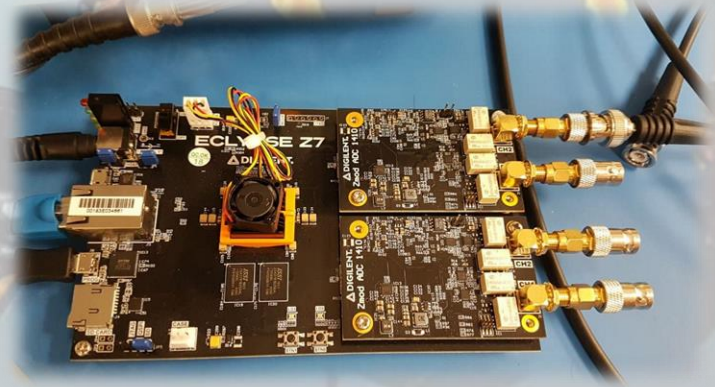
Information on the energy deposition



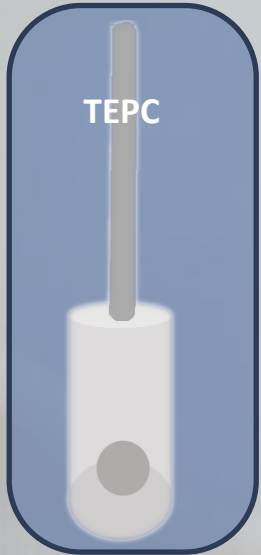
Current acquisition chain



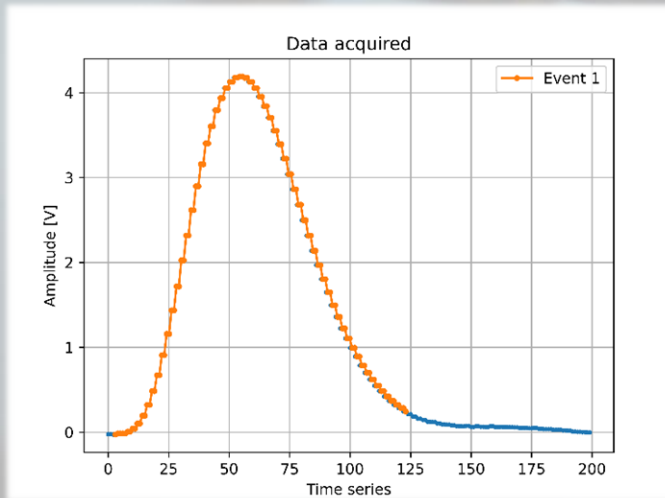
Eclipse Z7: Zynq-7000



# TEPC readout



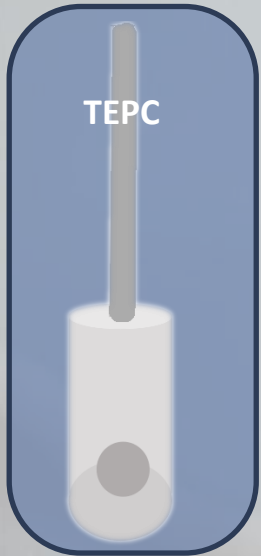
First experimental data acquired with new readout at the 25 MeV proton cyclotron CYRCé (Strasbourg, IPHC)



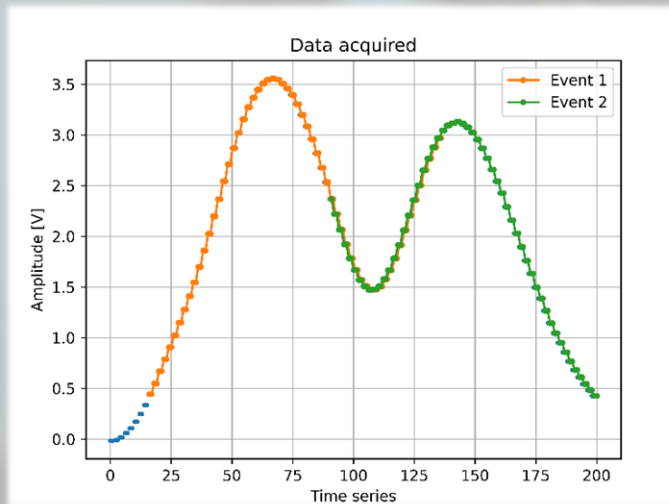
Whole temporal series is acquired

- + No information lost in MCA
- + Custom operation in real time
- + All experiment data is safely stored
- High data flow to manage (40Mbps)
- ± Data analysis to implement

# TEPC readout




Results are promising especially to deconvolve pile-up

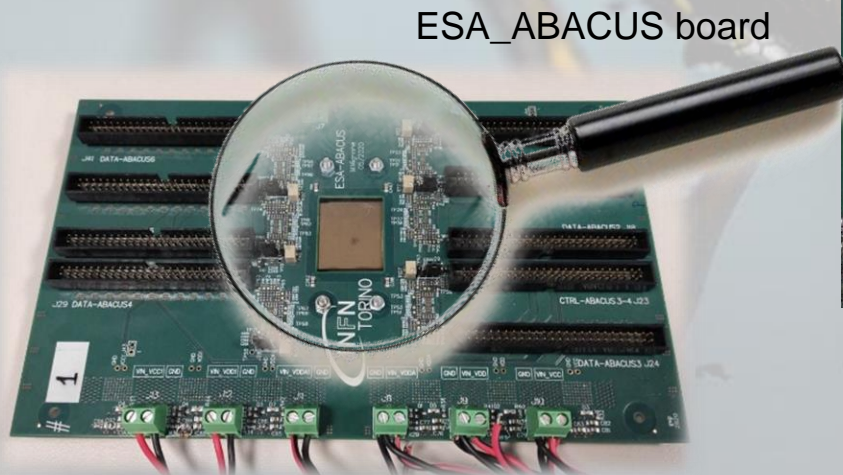
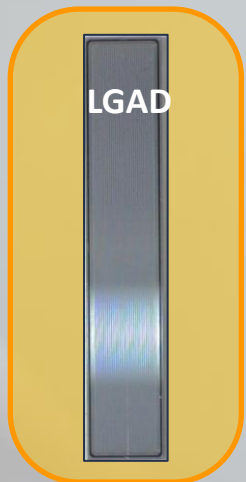


Data analysis must recognize pile-up condition

Another application of machine learning to extract all the information from the signals

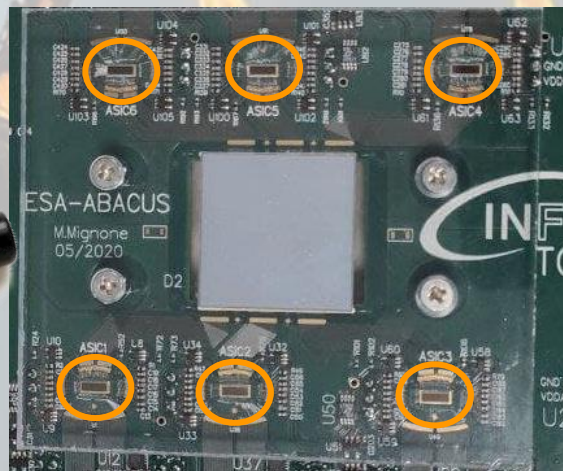
# LGADS readout

Readout based on ESA\_ABACUS  
and ABACUS chip developed by  
INFN-TO for 



ESA\_ABACUS board

ABACUS chips



Each chip read a maximum of 24  
LGADs

# LGADS readout

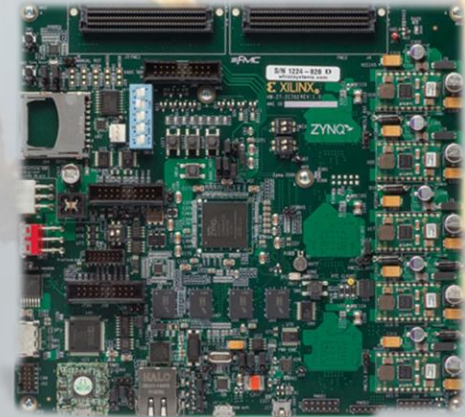


Direct interface with  
ESA\_ABACUS



Currently under debugging

Digital signal coming from  
ESA\_ABACUS is processed thanks  
to FPGA Xilinx model zc702



4 ESA\_ABACUS boards

Mounting 3 ABACUS chip → 4 zc702 FPGAs  
each

71 strips of LGADs x 4 layers = 284 channel to read

# *HDM: to summarise*

- This work is part of the MICROBE\_IT project funded by INFN (CSN V)
- Detector feasibility study published
  - ✓ Missiaggia, M.; Pierobon, E.; et al. (2021). A novel hybrid microdosimeter for radiation field characterization based on TEPC detector and LGADs tracker: a feasibility study. *Frontiers in physics* .
- HDM is capable of:
  - ✓ Measure particle real track length in TEPC
  - ✓ Improve TEPC spatial resolution
  - ✓ Provide a superior radiation field characterization

HDM improved radiation quality description results in a more accurate dose calculation in TPS.



# HDM: to summarise

TEPC

FPGA new readout testing

Preliminary test at GSI with mimosa

LGAD

ABACUS chip and ESA\_ABACUS board debugging

Develop FPGA firmware to read ESA\_ABACUS

Communication between TEPC and LGADs readout

Data analysis


In progress

//TODO



*Thank you for your  
attention*



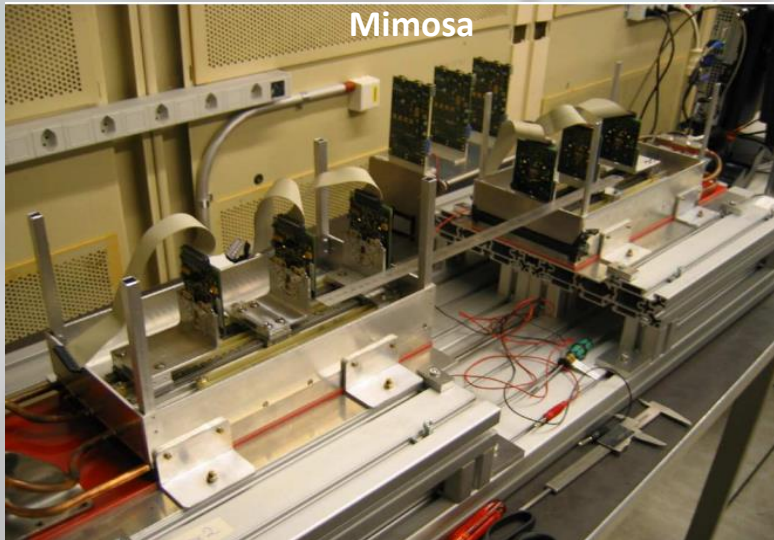


# *Backup slides*

# HDM: preliminary test

Preliminary test with an existing tracker (CMOS pixel)  
available at GSI

Mimosa



BNL, December 2010, Marc Winter

Experimental setup to be discussed  
in these days

GSI facility. 56-Fe beam?

Other ions?

TEPC

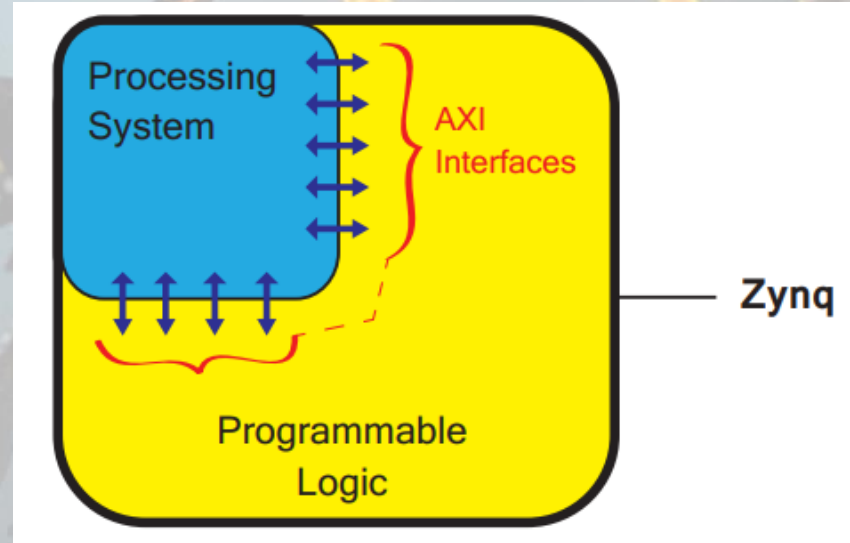


# FPGA

Zynq FPGA architecture

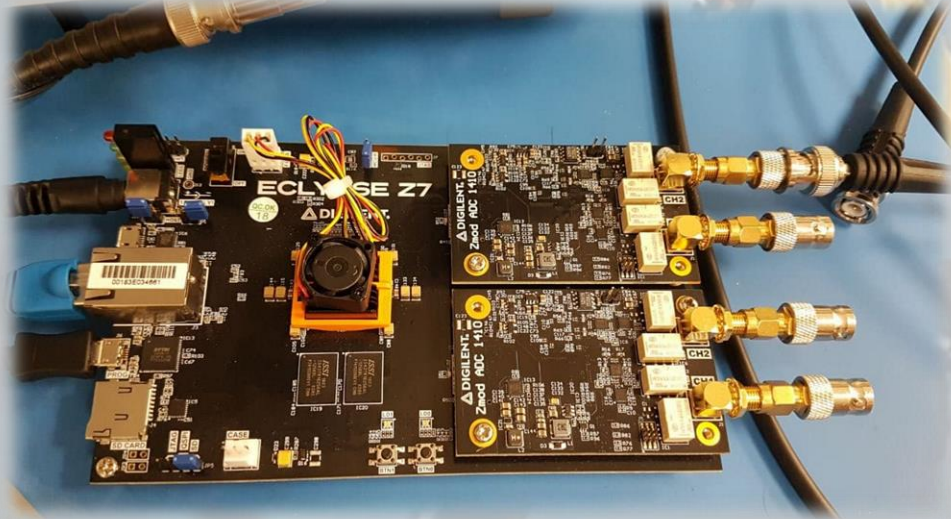
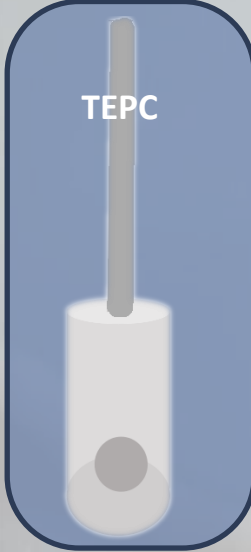


- ARM processor
- Programmable Logic



# THE HYBRID DETECTOR HDM: TEPC readout

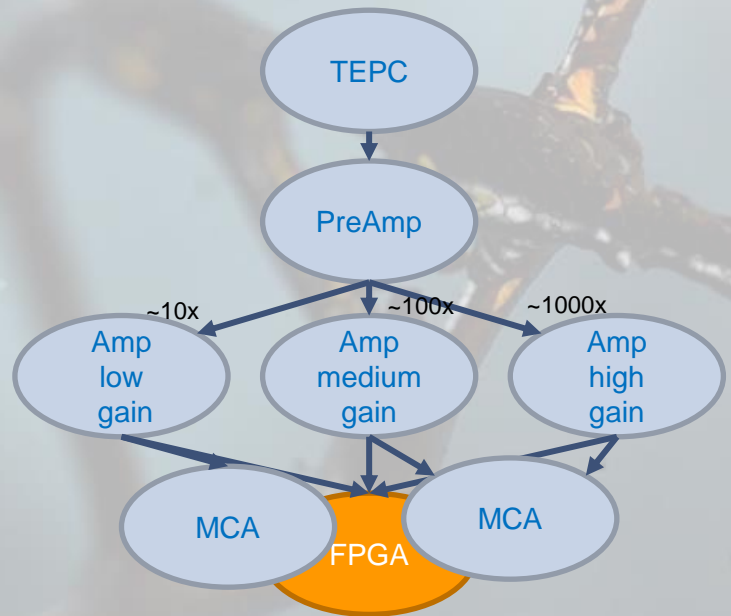
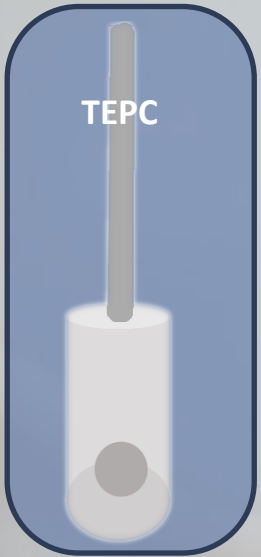
TEPC readout using Eclipse Z7: Zynq-7000 (FPGA)



Equipped with  
4 ADCs

# THE HYBRID DETECTOR HDM: TEPC readout

## New acquisition chain





# TEPC

Energy deposition is the same:

$$\Delta E_{TEPC\ gas} = \Delta E_{Tissue}$$

Mass stopping power

Diameter

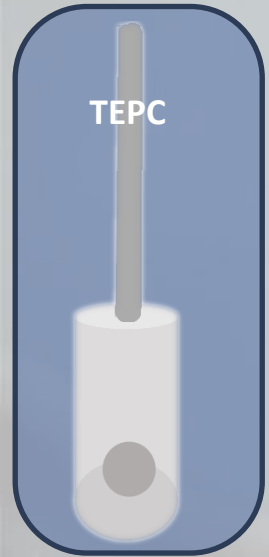
Density

$$\Delta E_{TEPC} = \left(\frac{S}{\rho}\right)_{TEPC} (D\rho)_{TEPC}$$

$$\Delta E_{Tissue} = \left(\frac{S}{\rho}\right)_{Tissue} (D\rho)_{Tissue}$$



# Hybrid (HDM)



Two readout systems to implement

Energy deposited

Tracking