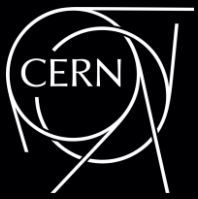


# **Applications of Timepix technology for Beam Instrumentation at CERN**

EP Detector Seminar, 29<sup>th</sup> April 2022

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**Experimental Areas, Electron Beams & Ionisation Profile Monitors (XEI) Section,  
Beam Instrumentation (BI) Group,  
Accelerator Systems (SY) Department, CERN.**



## Acknowledgements to BI colleagues:

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**Swann Levasseur**, Mark McLean, **Hampus Sandberg**, Gerhard Schneider,  
Leonard Thiele



# Outline

1. Overview of beam instrumentation at CERN
2. Realisation of a non-destructive beam size monitor based on Timepix3
  - Based on Timepix3 HPD's installed directly inside the accelerator beam pipe UHV
  - Providing interesting new beam diagnostic insights
3. Future applications of Timepix technology for beam instrumentation at CERN

# Beam Instrumentation & Diagnostics at CERN

# What is beam instrumentation?

Instruments used to measure beam observables – the “eyes” of the accelerator.

Example beam observables:

- Beam position;
- Beam intensity & current;
- Transverse & longitudinal beam size;
- Emittance;
- Luminosity;
- Particle identification...

# Beam instrumentation in a nutshell

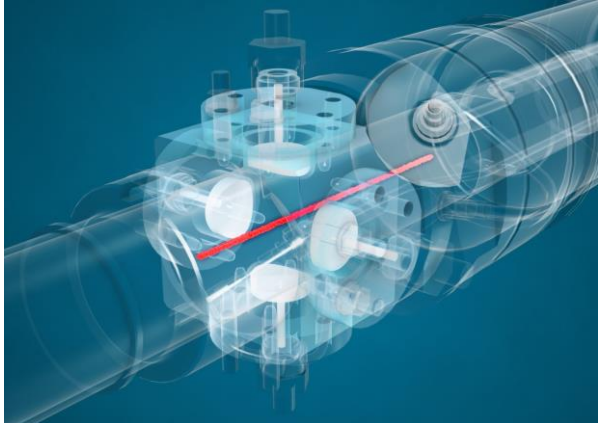
## How to measure the beam parameters?

- Interact with the **electromagnetic field** of the beam
  - Used for measurements of beam **position, intensity & current**
  - + (Almost) no effect on the beam & no effect on the monitor
  - Can't measure beam profile (size)

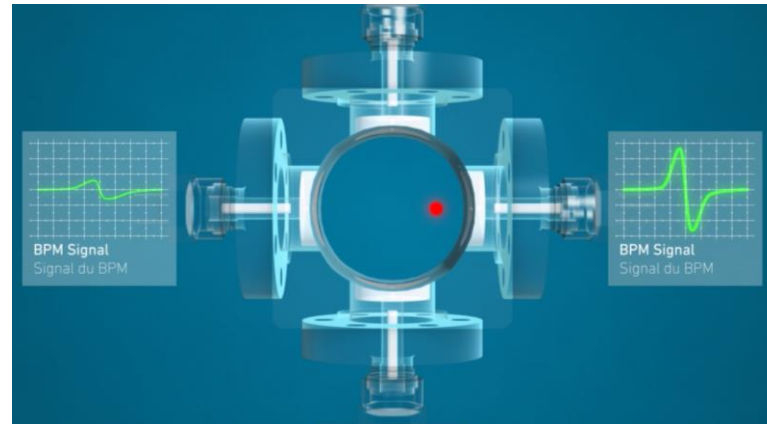


LHC electrostatic button electrode

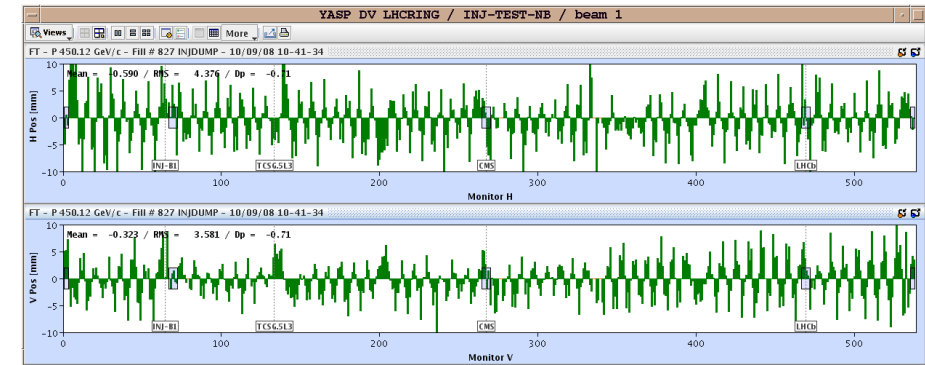
## Example – Beam position monitor (BPM)



- Electrostatic pickup consists of metallic (button) electrodes situated on opposite sides



- As beam passes electric charges induced on electrodes, with more induced on the side closer to the beam



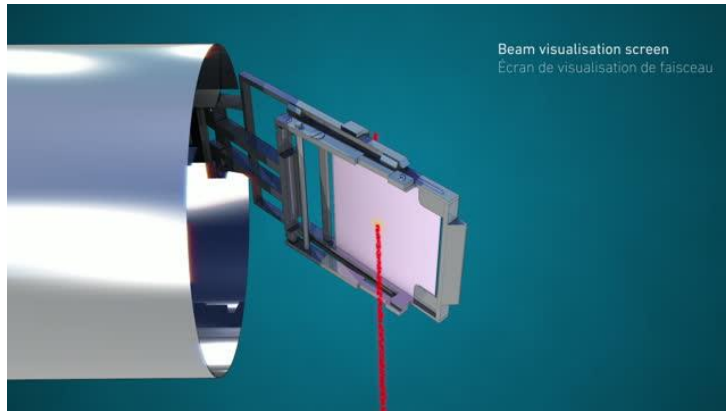
- Horizontal (top) and vertical (bot.) position vs. LHC BPM position

# Beam instrumentation in a nutshell

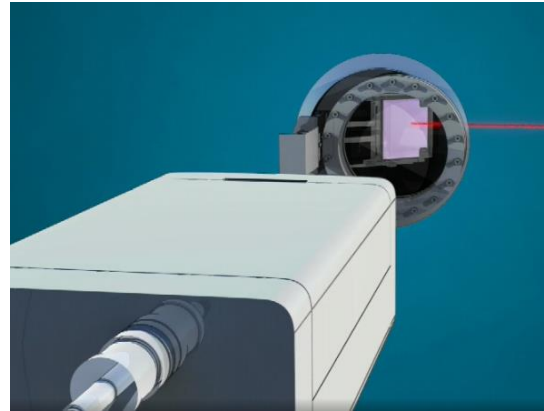
## How to measure the beam parameters?

- Interact with the **beam itself** (insert material into the beam path)
  - Used for measurements of **beam profile (size) & loss**
  - + Allows to measure beam profile (size)
  - Destructive to the beam & damaging to the instrument

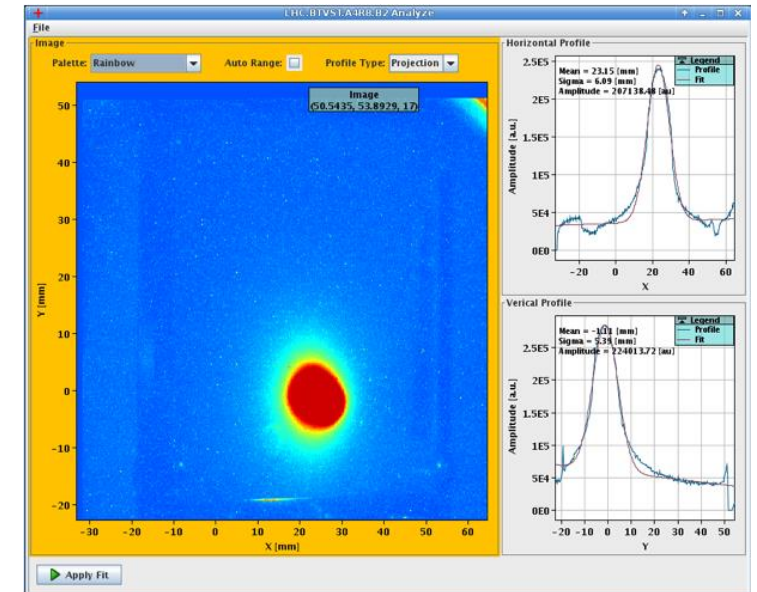
## Example – Beam observation TV (BTV)



- Beam interacts with phosphor screen inserted into beam path



- Emitted light passed through view port & detected by camera



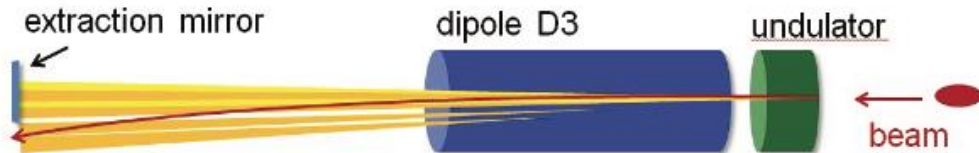
- Direct measurement of beam profiles in the transverse (x,y) planes

# Beam instrumentation in a nutshell

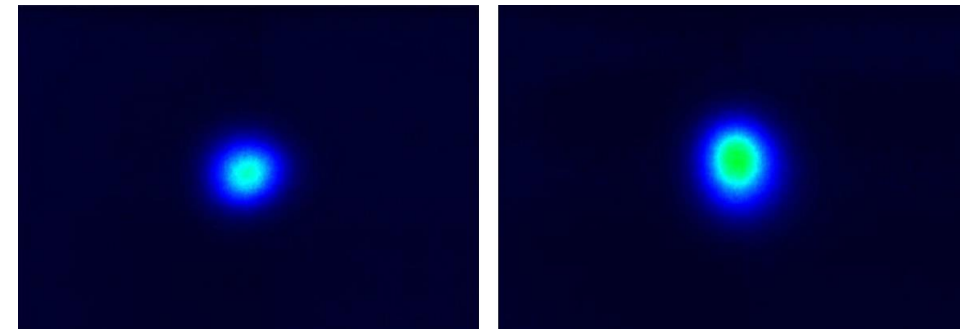
## How to measure the beam parameters?

3. Use the **synchrotron light** emitted by the beam
  - E.g. Transverse & longitudinal beam profile monitors
  - + **Completely non-destructive & continuous measurement**
  - - For proton accelerators can only be applied for energies above 100 GeV
  - - Spatial resolution limited by diffraction & depth of field effects

## Example – LHC synchrotron light monitor (BSRT)



1. Beam traverses superconducting undulator and dipole magnets – extract & detect visible range light produced by the undulator (450 GeV to 1.5 TeV) and dipole (>1.5 TeV)



2. LHC Beam 1 (left) and Beam 2 (right)



# What is meant by beam diagnostics?

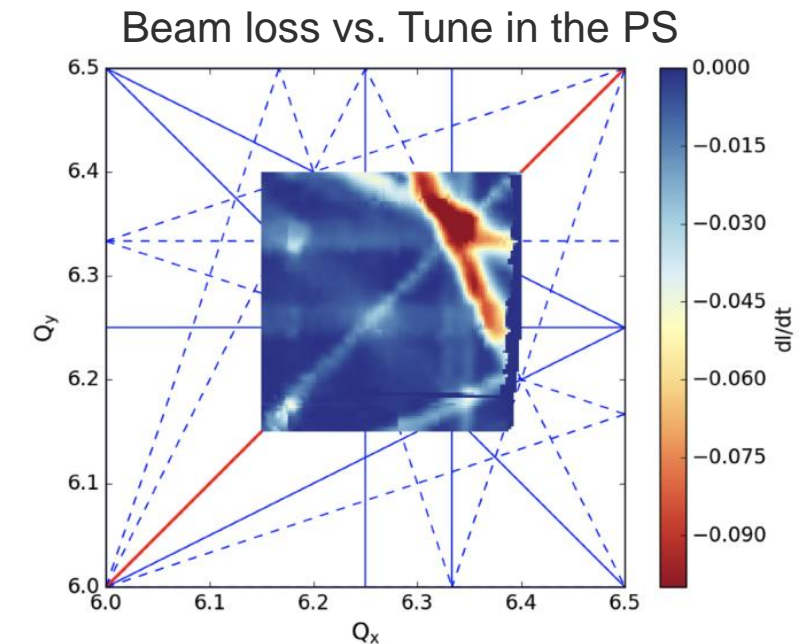
Using measurements of the beam parameters to:

## 1. Operate the accelerators i.e. using instruments to measure & control:

- Beam orbit;
- Tune
  - Need precise control (= measurement) of tune to avoid beam loss inducing resonances

## (b) Improve the performance of the accelerators to **optimise luminosity** (colliders) / brightness i.e. measuring & optimizing:

- (b) **Emittance growth**, beam intensity
- (c) Beam loss, instabilities
- (d) Equipment faults e.g. aperture restrictions



Focus of the instrumentation development detailed today

# Event Rate & Luminosity

Accelerator goal #1 = maximise collision energy

**Accelerator goal #2** = maximise number useful interactions (events) by maximising the **collider luminosity**

## Event rate ( $R$ )

$$R = \frac{dN_{ev}}{dt} = \mathcal{L}(t)\sigma_{ev} \qquad N_{ev} = \sigma_{ev} \int \mathcal{L}(t)dt$$

## Luminosity ( $\mathcal{L}$ )

revolution frequency

particles per bunch      number of bunches

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{N_1 N_2 f N_b}{4\pi\sigma_*^2} \cdot \underbrace{W \cdot e^{\frac{B^2}{A}} \cdot S}_{\text{reduction factors due to:}}$$

beam size at the IP

- crossing angle;
- offset between beam 1 & 2
- both of the above at the same time

# Improving LHC luminosity

1. Higher intensity

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{N_1 N_2 f N_b}{4\pi\sigma_*^2} \cdot W \cdot e^{\frac{B^2}{A}} \cdot S$$

2. Reduce beam size at IP

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{N_1 N_2 f N_b}{4\pi\sigma_*^2} \cdot W \cdot e^{\frac{B^2}{A}} \cdot S$$

How to reduce the beam size at the IP?

$$\sigma_* = \sqrt{\epsilon_g \beta^*}$$

Geometrical emittance      Beta-function

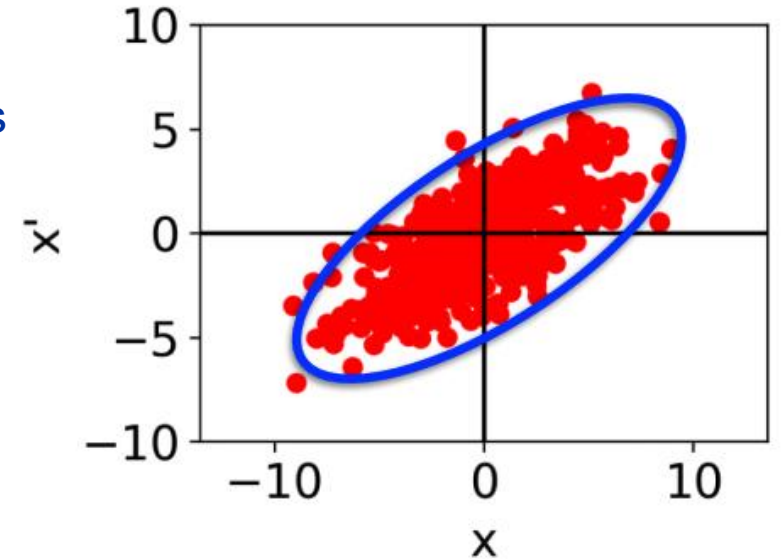
1. Smaller emittance & emittance preservation through the injector chain
2. Stronger focusing insertion magnets (inner-triplets)

# Emittance

**Geometrical emittance ( $\epsilon_g$ )** is the area of the ellipse in the  $x$  (particle position),  $x'$  (particle angle) plane occupied by (90%) of the beam particles

Geometrical emittance is only constant without acceleration, however, **normalised emittance ( $\epsilon_N$ )** is preserved with acceleration:

$$\epsilon_N = \beta_{rel} \gamma_{rel} \epsilon_g$$



**Emittance is a measure of the beam quality** (i.e. we want small dense beams)

Challenge is to form beams with the smallest possible emittance & to preserve this throughout the acceleration chain up to the point of collision at the LHC IP's

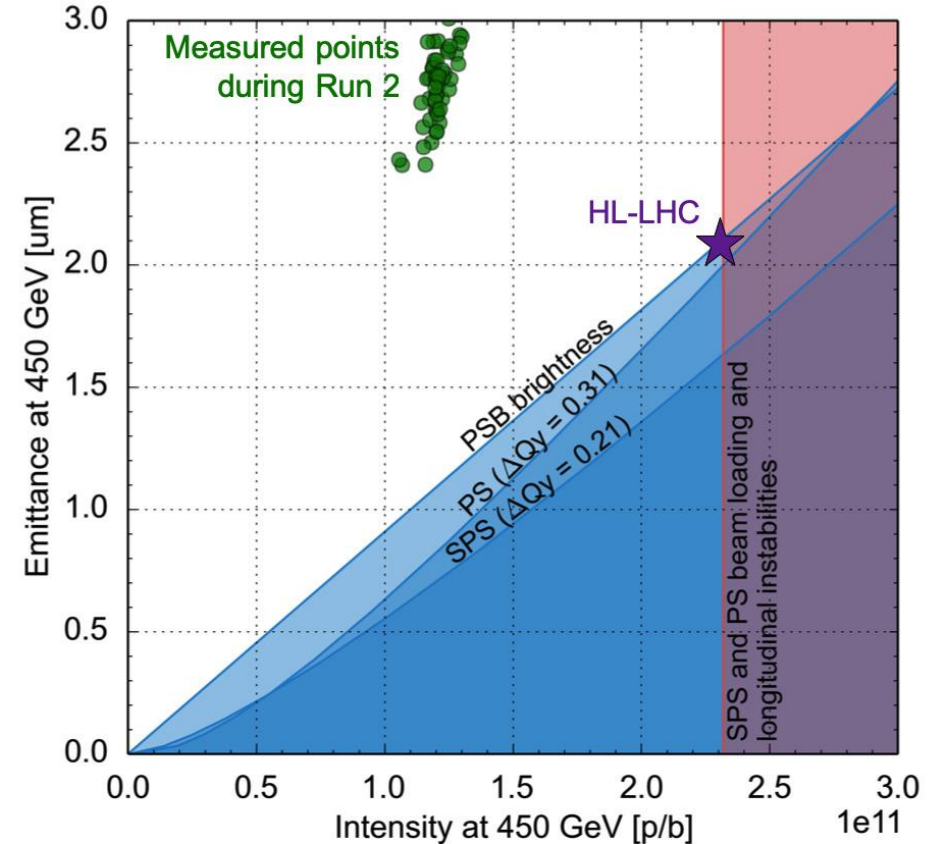
→ Require measurements of emittance throughout the injectors in order to identify, understand & possibly mitigate source(s) of emittance growth

# LHC Injector Upgrade (LIU)

Goal of the LIU project (2010-2022) is to improve the intensity & emittance in the injectors (Linac4, PSB, PS, SPS) to meet the HL-LHC requirements

## Highlights:

- Replacement of Linac2 with Linac4 → double brightness ( $\propto \text{intensity} / \text{emittance}^2$ ) of beams out of the PSB
- ...
- Upgrade of beam measurements monitors – including emittance monitors



Limitation diagram for LHC standard 25ns beam  
Ref. doi:10.18429/JACoW-IPAC2019-THXPLM1

# How to measure emittance in synchrotron or storage ring?

Need to measure at one location:

- **Transverse beam profile**
- Optical beta function (e.g. with BPM measurements)

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Transverse beam profile} \\ \text{Optical beta function (e.g. with BPM measurements)} \end{array} \right\} \rightarrow \epsilon_g = \frac{\sigma^2}{\beta(z)}$$

$\sigma^2$  ← beam halfwidth (measured)  
 $\beta(z)$  ← optical beta function (measured)

Complication:

- Need to locate profile monitor at a location with low dispersion (  $D(z)$  ):

$$\sigma(z) = \sqrt{\underbrace{\beta(z)\epsilon_g}_{\text{betatronic component}} + \underbrace{\left( D(z) \frac{\delta p}{p} \right)^2}_{\text{dispersive component}}}$$

$\frac{\delta p}{p}$  ← longitudinal momentum spread

# How to measure the beam profile of high power beams in a synchrotron?

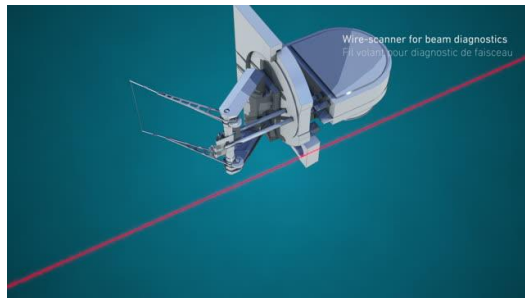
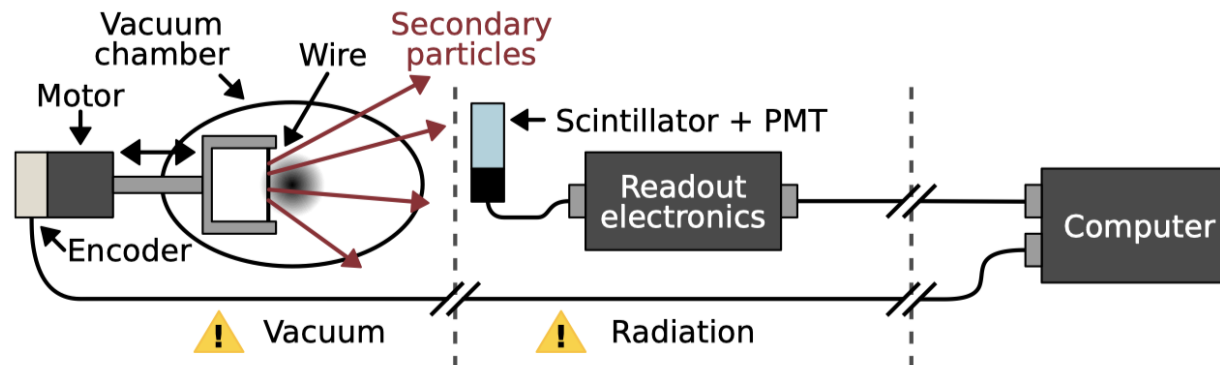
Measure beam profile by means of:

- ~~Electromagnetic field~~ ( can't measure beam profile )
- ~~Synchrotron light~~ ( only for proton beams  $> 100$  GeV )
- Interact with the beam itself:
  - ~~Phosphor screen~~ ( destroys the beam and/or the screen )
  - **With wires:**
    - **Secondary Emission Monitor (SEM)**
      - Beam profile from secondary electrons emitted from wire grid
      - **Destructive measurement**
    - **Beam Wire Scanner (BWS)**
      - Single wire moving through beam – correlate wire position with secondary shower
      - Work-horse at CERN – installed in all accelerators
      - **But has limitations...**

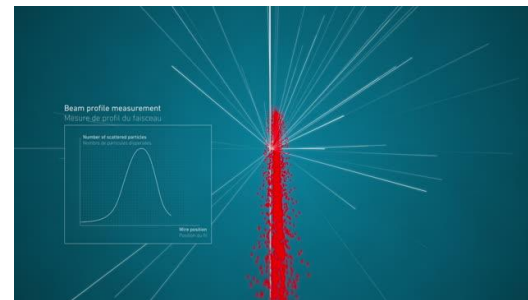


Secondary electron emission monitor

# Measuring the beam profile of high power beams: Beam Wire Scanner



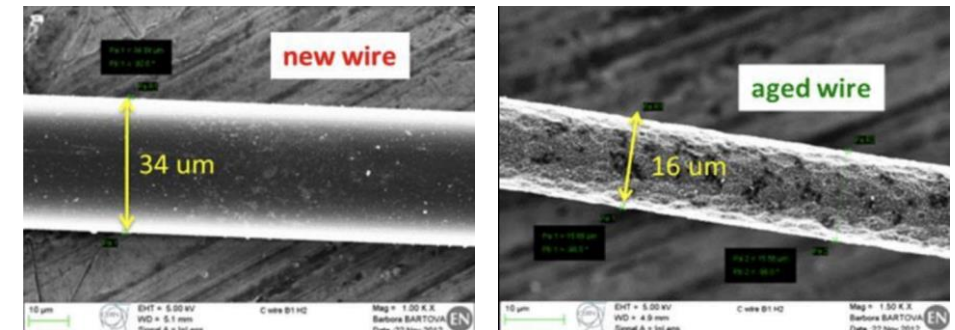
1. Thin carbon wire (34 $\mu\text{m}$ ) passes through the beam at up to 20m/s



2. Correlate wire position with secondary shower

## Limitations:

1. Wire does not withstand energy deposition
  - Can't use with full LHC beam



2. Measurement at a single moment in the acceleration cycle i.e. not a continuous measurement that could reveal moment of emittance blowup



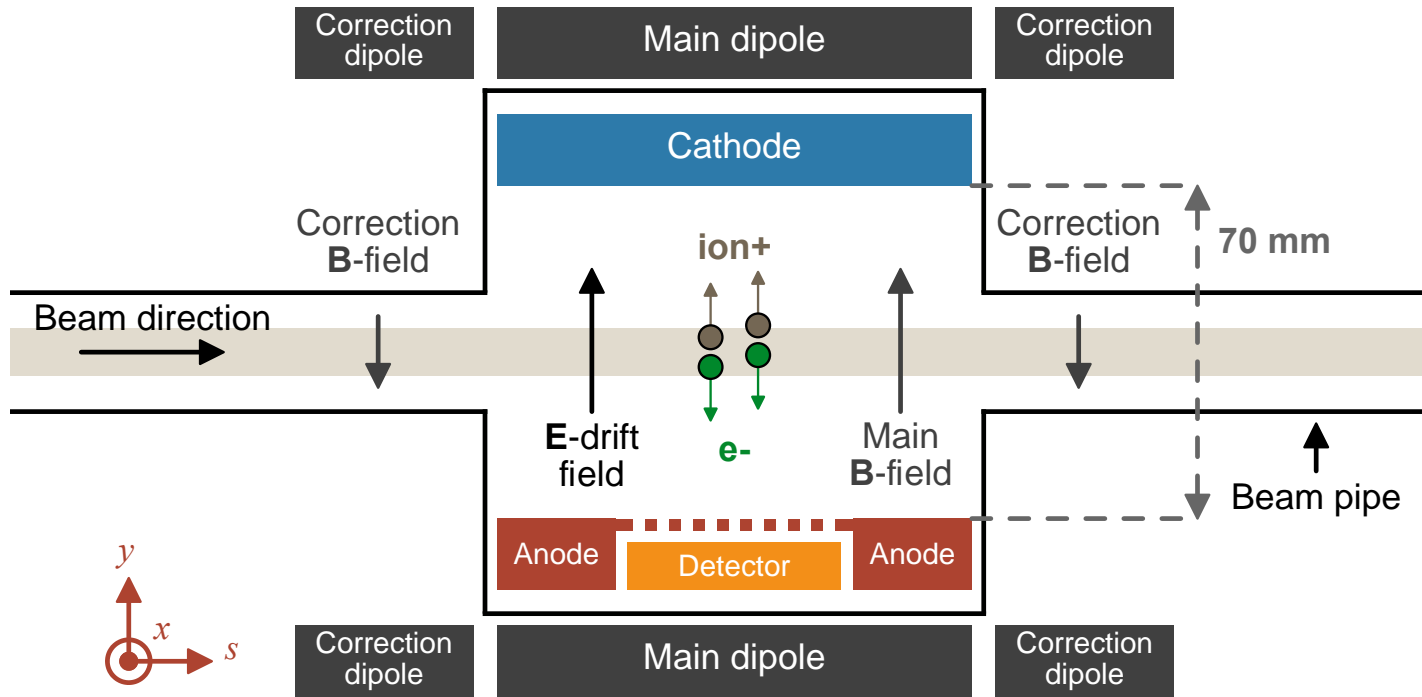
# Wishlist for an ideal beam profile monitor

1. Beam doesn't damage the instrument & the instrument doesn't perturb the beam
2. Continuous measurement throughout the acceleration cycle;
  - Ideally every revolution of the accelerator, e.g. PS = 2.3  $\mu$ s per turn.
3. Independent measurement with high accuracy & precision;
  - Beam size = 270  $\mu$ m in the LHC at 6.5 TeV.
4. Bunch-by-Bunch (BbB) and Turn-by-Turn (TbT) measurements
  - e.g. LHC beam made up of 2556 bunches separated by 25 ns.

**( Very promising ) solution:**

**Rest gas ionisation beam profile monitor based on Timepix3 hybrid pixel detectors.**

# Rest gas ionisation beam profile monitor



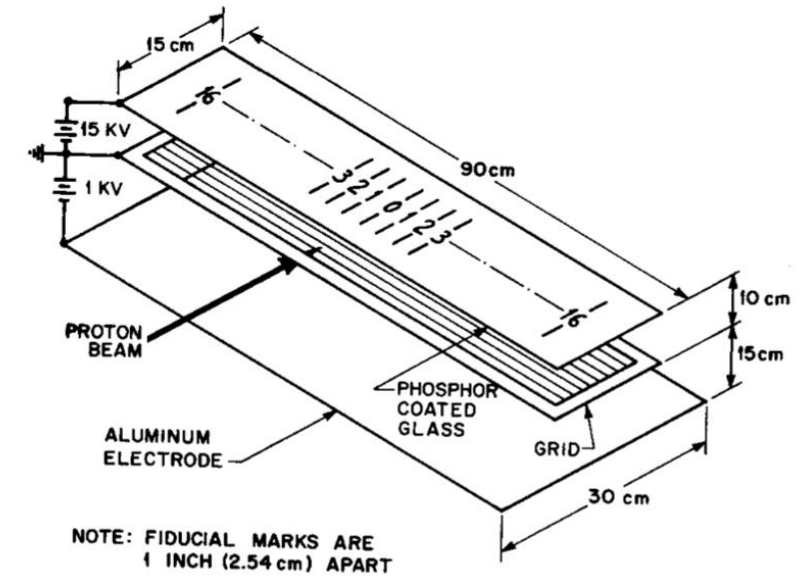
## Basic principle of operation:

1. Beam ionizes rest gas particles in the beam pipe vacuum
2. Transport ionization electrons with E-field and B-field
3. Image ionization electrons with a detector

NONDESTRUCTIVE BEAM PROFILE DETECTION SYSTEMS  
FOR THE ZERO GRADIENT SYNCHROTRON\*

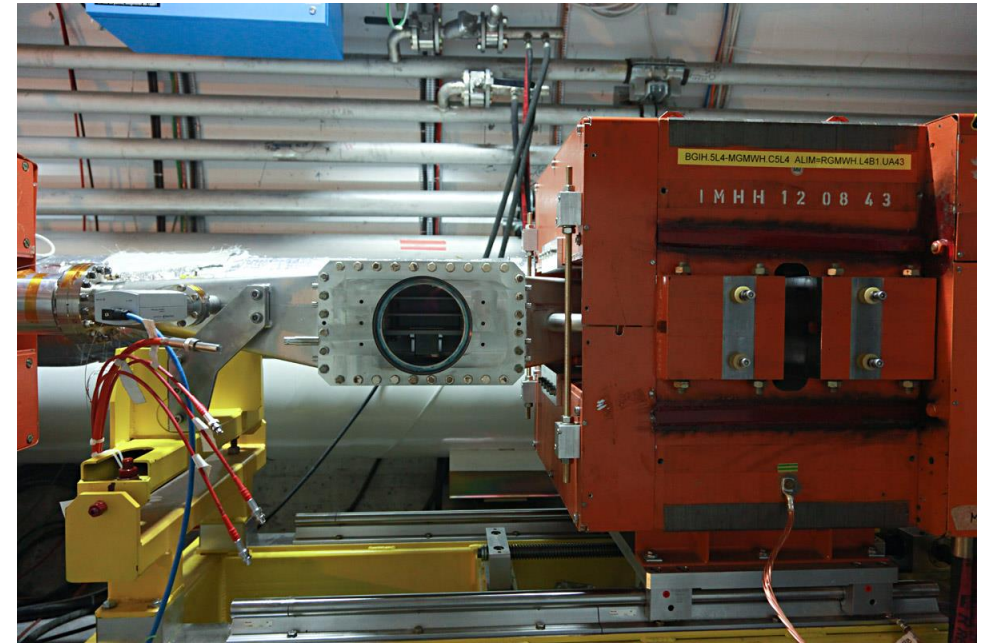
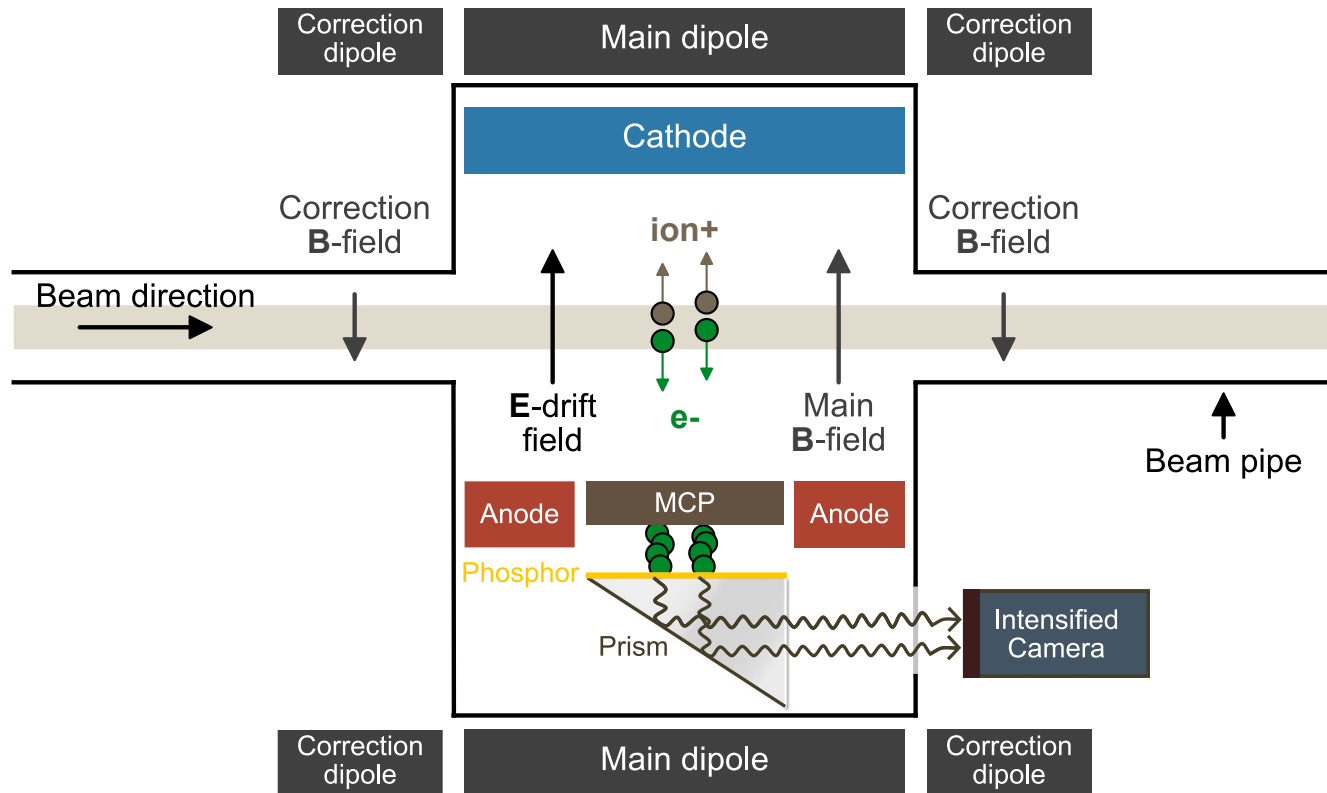
Fred Hornstra, Jr. and William H. DeLuca

Argonne National Laboratory  
Argonne, Illinois



Original proposal for nondestructive beam  
profile monitor (1967)

# MCP based BGI (IPM) for CERN SPS & LHC (2007-...)



LHC BGI installed at Pt.4

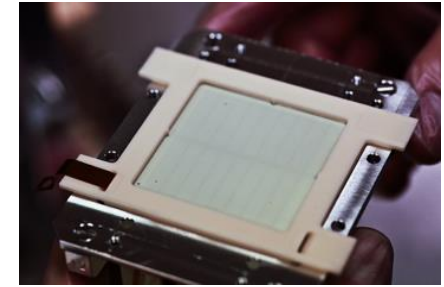
## Ionisation electron detection:

- Electron signal amplified by microchannel plate (gain =  $10^3 - 10^4$ )
- Electrons accelerated onto phosphor screen (P46) deposited on right angle prism
- Light from phosphor screen transferred through optical viewport onto intensified radiation hard camera (\$\$\$)

# MCP-based BGI vs. Wishlist

## 1. Beam doesn't damage the instrument & the instrument doesn't perturb the beam

- Inhomogeneous aging of MCP & phosphor screen
- Limits lifetime & distorts profile measurement



Aging of phosphor screen

## 2. Continuous measurement throughout the acceleration cycle

- Limited by analogue video output of rad. tol. intensified camera (~30 measurements / s)

## 3. Independent measurement with high accuracy & precision

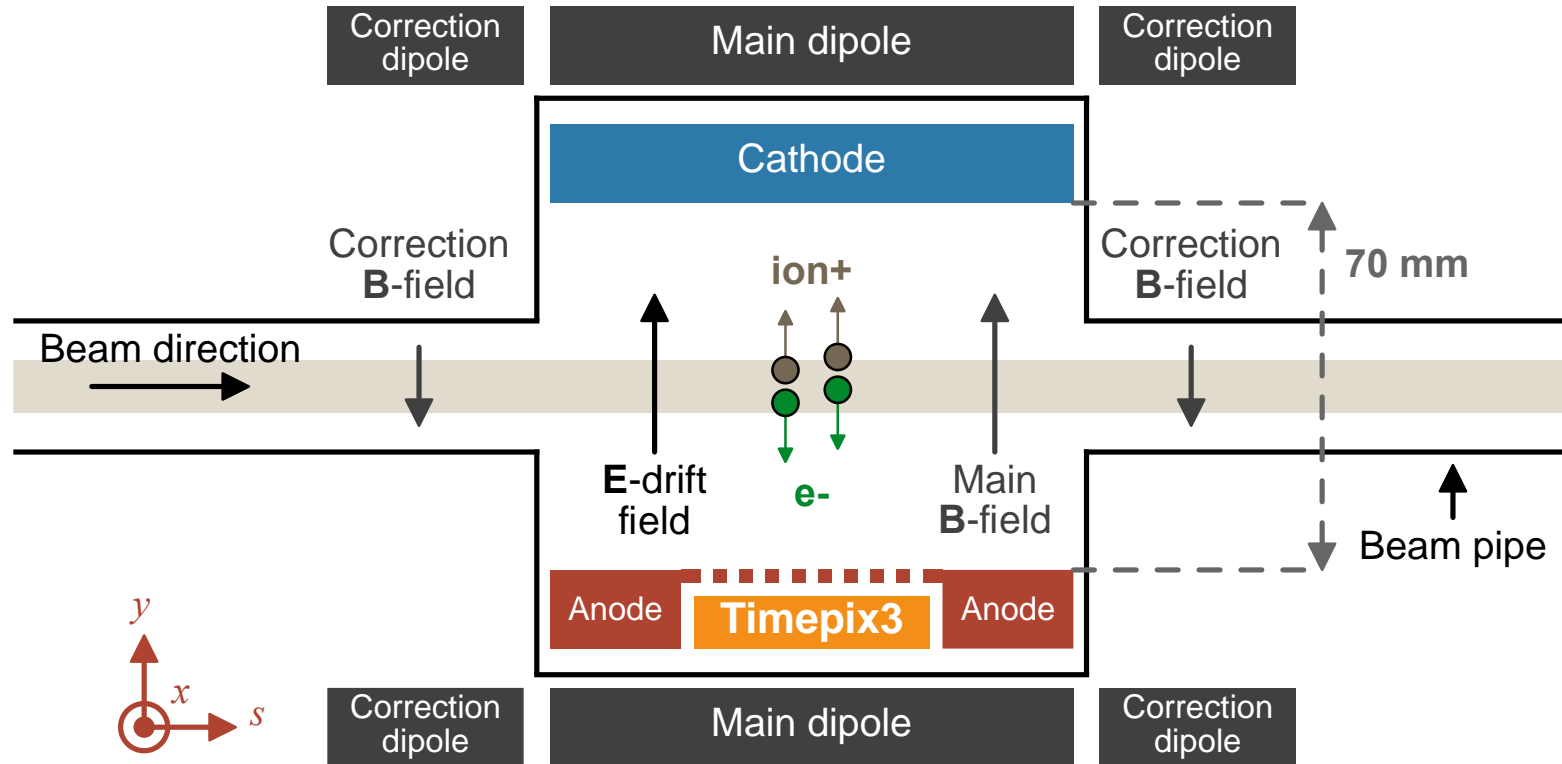
- MCP + imaging optics cause a smearing of the image
- Correction factor (optical point spread) determined by comparing BGI with BWS measurement
  - → Not an independent measurement

## 4. Bunch-by-Bunch and Turn-by-Turn measurements

- Gate intensified camera MCP to measure 1 bunch, but can't measure >1 bunch
- Need to integrate beam for >100 turns to yield sufficient signal
  - → Ionisation electron detection efficiency insufficient for TbT measurements

+ Additional technical problems e.g. EMI on analogue camera signal, radiation damage to electronics, ...

# Timepix3-based solution?



# (Potential) Timepix3-based BGI vs. Wishlist

1. Beam doesn't damage the instrument & the instrument doesn't perturb the beam
  - Removes MCP & phosphor screen
2. Continuous measurement throughout the acceleration cycle
  - Data driven readout of individual ionisation throughout the cycle tagged with position (pixel) & time (ToA)
3. Independent measurement with high accuracy & precision
  - Direct detection of ionisation electrons inside the beam pipe → no need to cross calibrate with another instrument
4. Bunch-by-Bunch and Turn-by-Turn measurements
  - Each electron tagged with a time resolution (1.6ns)  $\ll$  bunch spacing (25ns)
    - Bunch-by-bunch measurements
  - Electron detection efficiency  $\gg$  ( MCP + Phosphor + Optics + Camera ) efficiency
    - Turn-by-turn measurements possible

~~+ Additional technical problems e.g. EMI on analogue camera signal, radiation damage to electronics, ...~~

# Realisation of a non-destructive transverse beam profile (size) monitor based on Timepix3

# Beam Gas Ionisation (BGI) profile monitor for the CERN Proton Synchrotron (PS)

## Requirements:

- **Non-destructive;**
- **Continuous** ( 1000 profiles / s );
- **Bunch-by-Bunch & Turn-by-Turn;**
- Measure beam size with 1% accuracy.

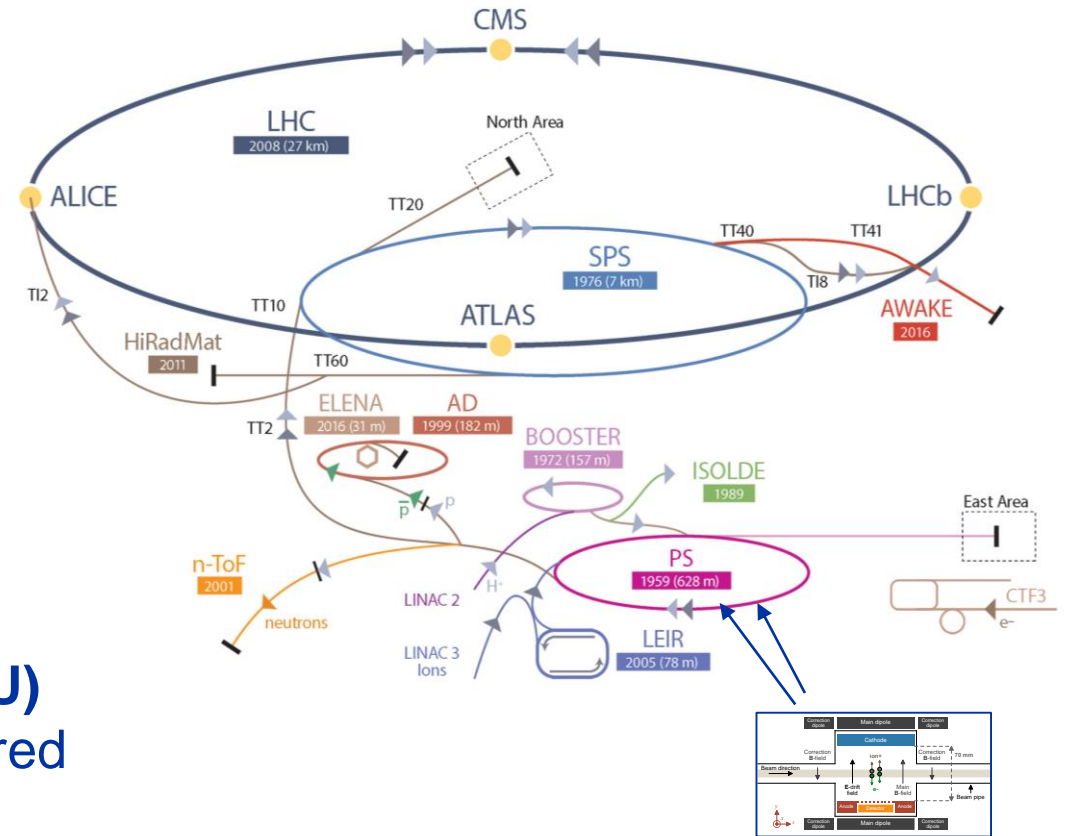
## Typical use case e.g. LHC type beam (BCMS)

Intensity =  $13 \times 10^{10}$  protons per bunch

Number of bunches at extraction = 48

Beam size =  $\sim 1$ mm

Development is part of the **LHC Injector Upgrade (LIU)** programme to deliver the high brightness beams required for the High Luminosity LHC.





# Instrument operating constraints

## 1. Operate **directly inside the ultra-high vacuum of the accelerator beam pipe**

- Vacuum pressure =  $10^{-9} - 10^{-10}$  mbar
- Degassing  $< 5 \times 10^{-6}$  mbar l s<sup>-1</sup>
- Criteria for the gas composition – concentration of:
  - Gas species 18 – 44u  $< ( 1 / 100^{\text{th}} )$  of water (un-baked vacuum system)
  - Gas species 44 – 100u  $< ( 1 / 1000^{\text{th}} )$  of water

## 2. Operate during the **acceleration cycle**

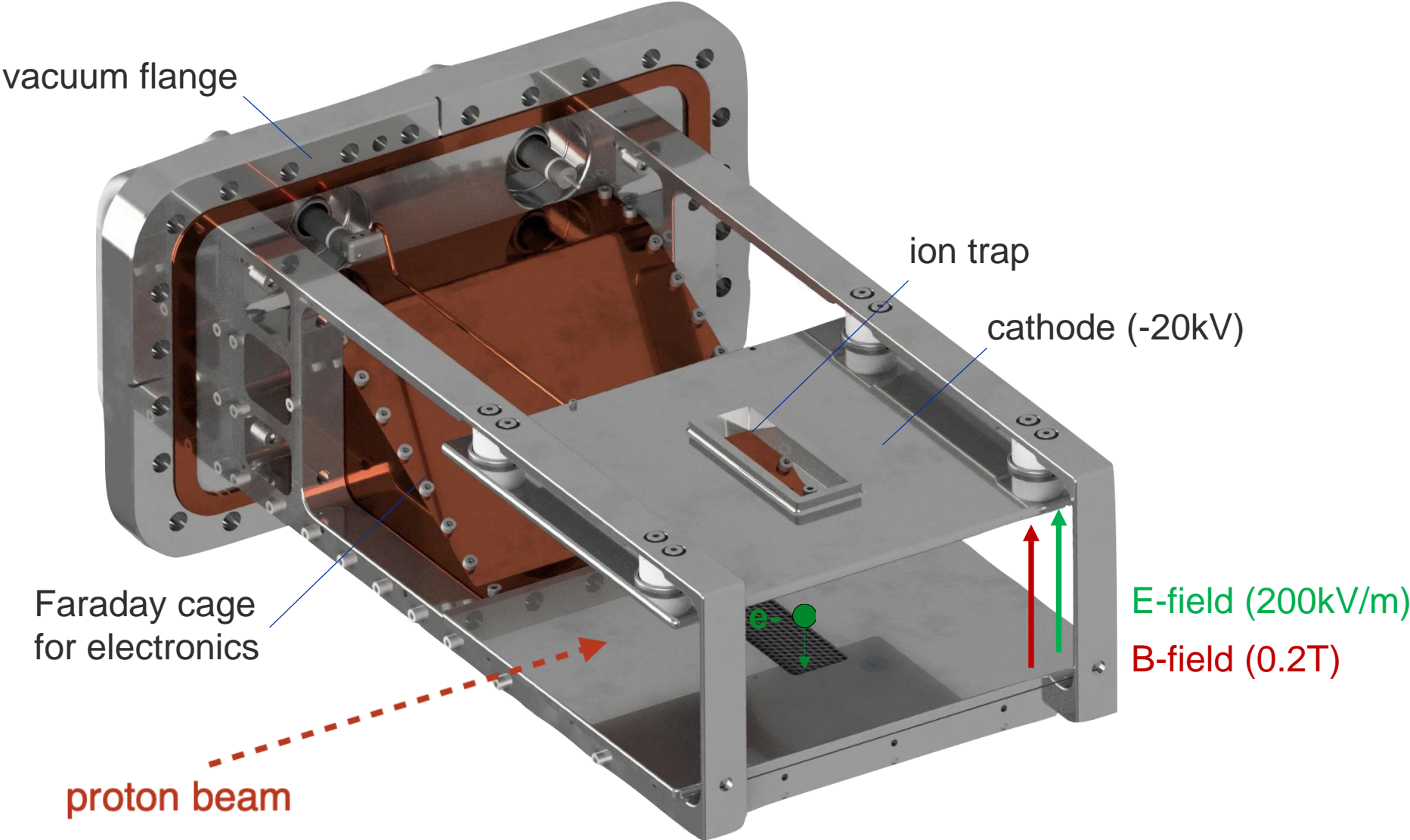
- EMI from the beam
- Beam impedance and beam induced heating

## 3. Operate in a **radiation environment**

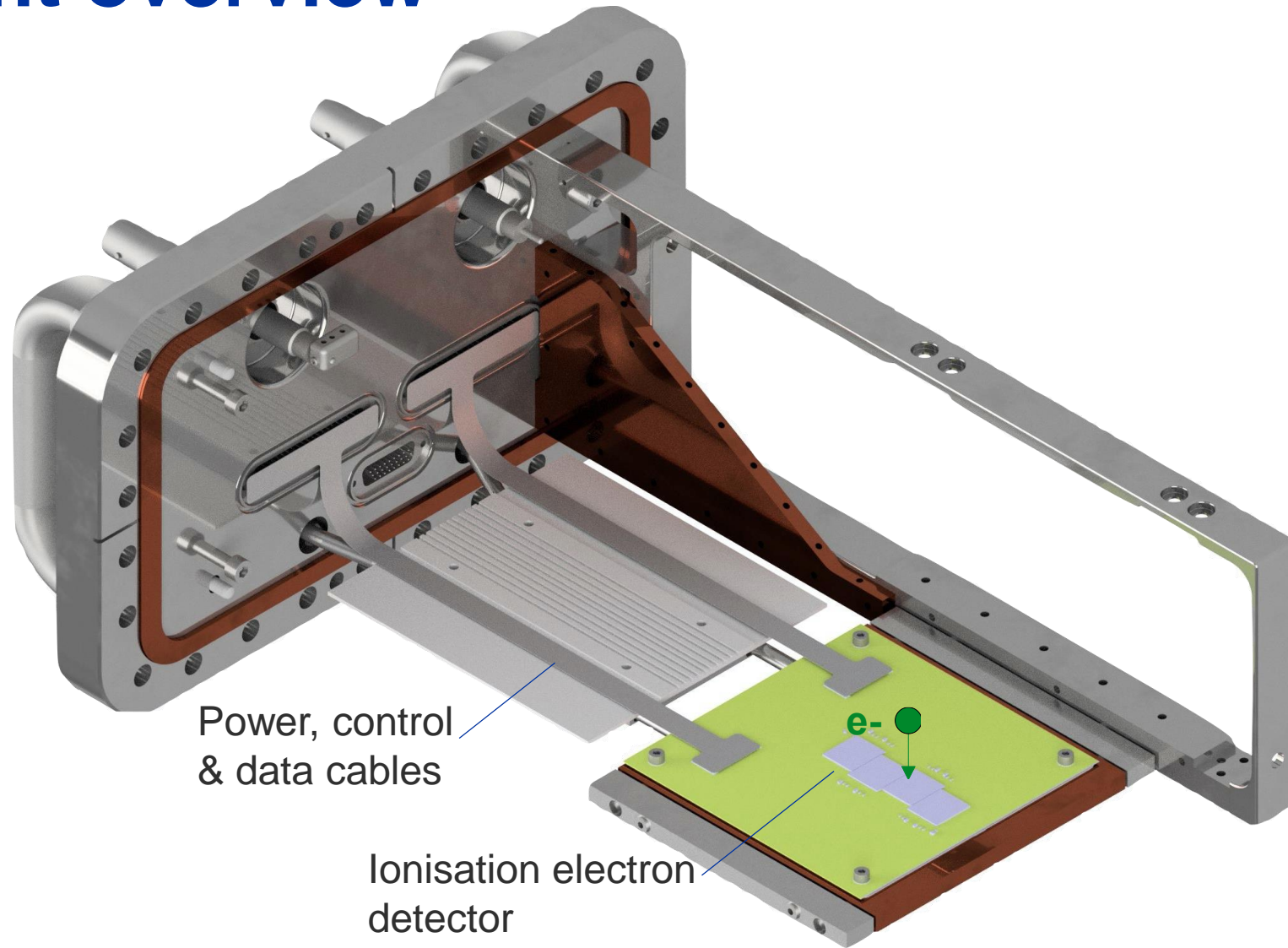
- 10 kGy/yr at beam pipe
- 1 kGy/yr at 40cm

# Instrument overview

Measures beam profile in horizontal plane (  $x, s$  ) – second instrument design for vertical plane measurement



# Instrument overview



# Ionisation electron signal

$$\text{ionisation electrons } n_e = L \cdot \sigma_{ion} \cdot N \cdot p \cdot \frac{1}{k.T}$$

detector length      protons(ions) per bunch      vacuum pressure

$$\text{ionisation electrons - detected } n_e^d = n_e \cdot \epsilon_{det}$$

electron detection efficiency

## Residual gas ionisation electron signal:

- Vacuum pressure =  $1 \times 10^{-9}$  mbar
- Intensity =  $60 \times 10^{10}$  protons / bunch
- → **10 ionisation electrons per bunch per turn**

## How many ionisation electrons are needed?

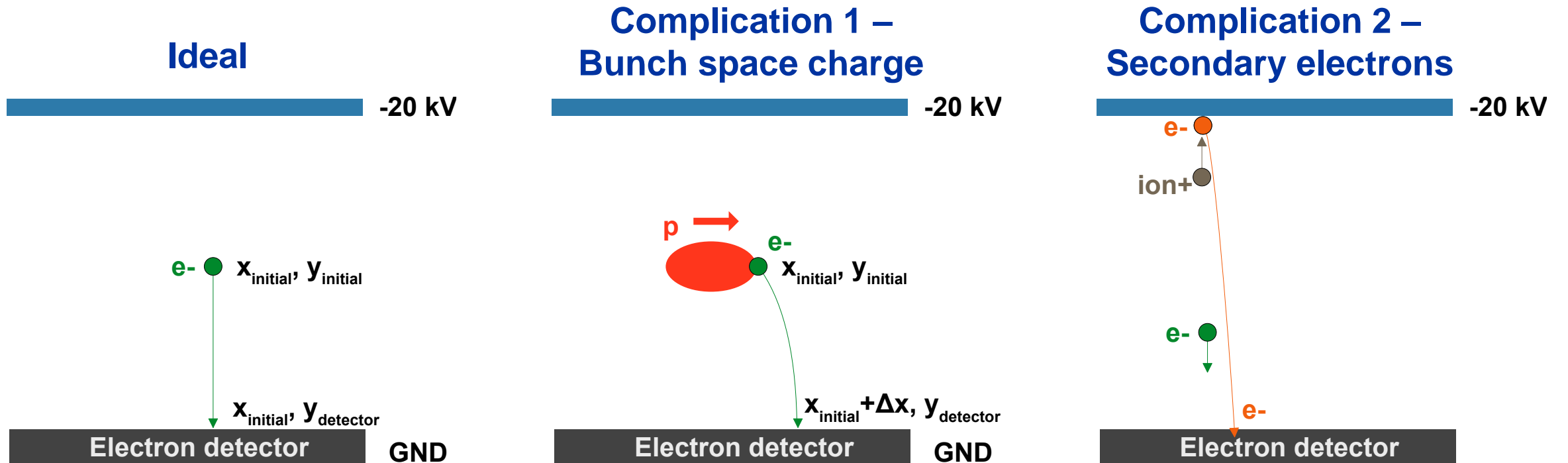
- 1000 electrons → 2% precision (stat. error) on the beam size of a Gaussian distribution
- Assume ~**1000 electrons** are needed for a meaningful beam profile
- Residual gas insufficient for turn-by-turn measurements

## How to do turn-by-turn measurements?

- Inject (very small) quantity of argon gas to locally bump pressure to  $2 \times 10^{-8}$  mbar
- Argon ionisation cross section =  $\sim 5 \times$  hydrogen (residual gas)
- → **1000 ionisation electrons per bunch per turn**

# Transport of ionisation electron

Field cage transports ionisation electron from the point of creation to the detection plane, while preserving the initial transverse position of the electron:

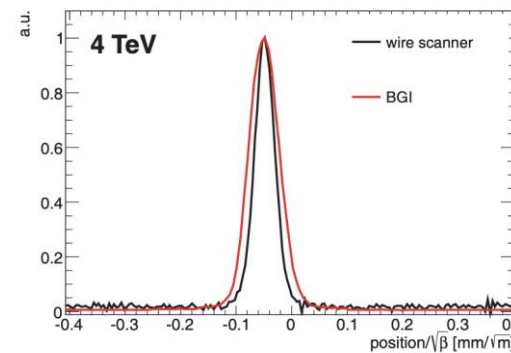
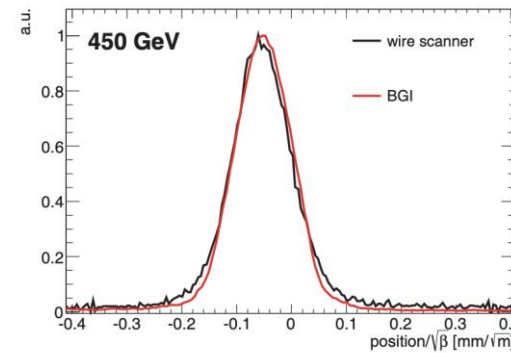
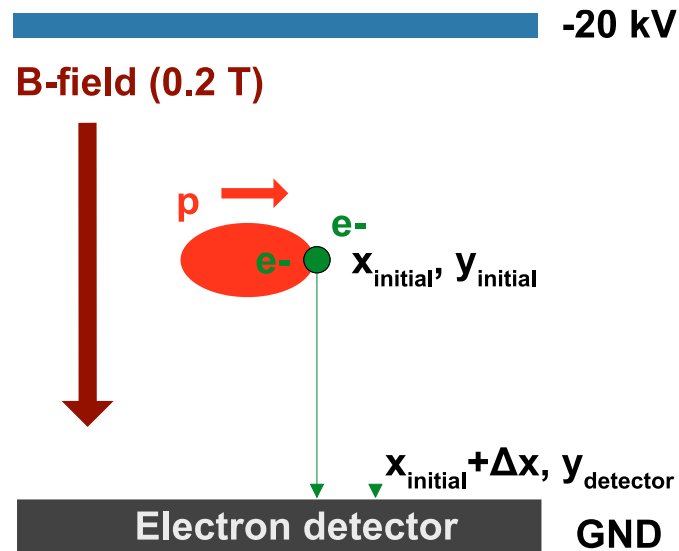


# Beam profile distortion due to bunch space charge

Solution = B-field parallel  
to the drift E-field

Strength of LHC BGI B-field  
(0.2T) insufficient for  $E > 4$  TeV

Simulation tool to aid  
instrument design



Common interest among several  
accelerator labs (GSI, J-PARC,  
CERN, ESS, FNAL) to develop a  
common IPM simulation tool

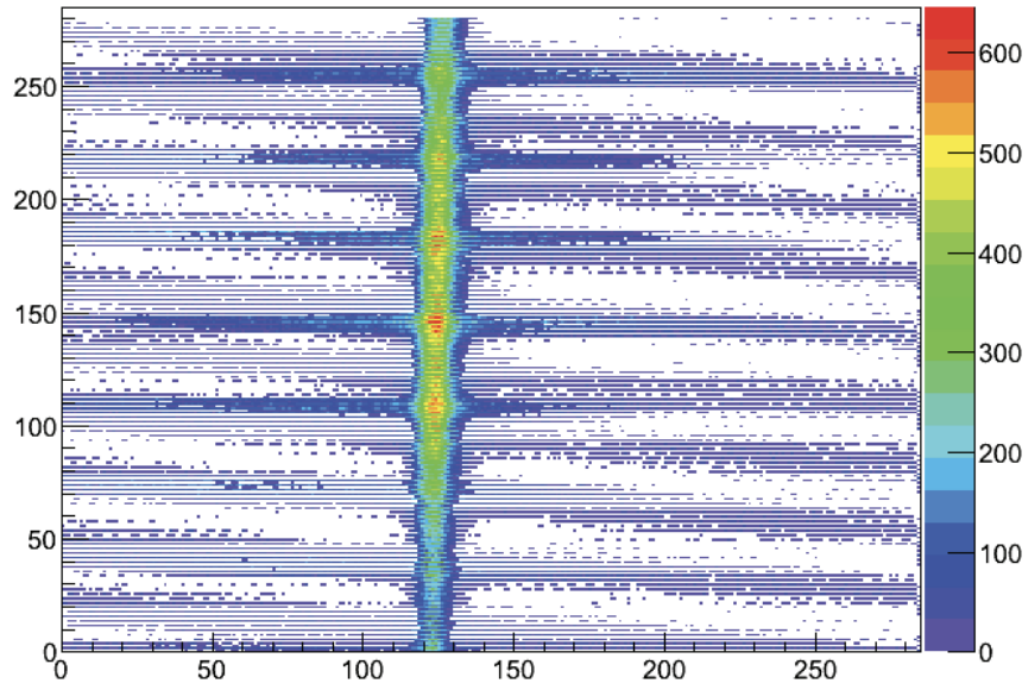
Virtual-IPM (D.Vilsmeierer GSI):

- Ionisation process
- Electron / ion tracking in the EM-fields due to:
  - Field cage
  - Dipole magnet
  - Bunch space charge
- [ipmsim.gitlab.io/Virtual-IPM](https://ipmsim.gitlab.io/Virtual-IPM)

Ref. Sapinski et al., IBIC2012, TUPB61

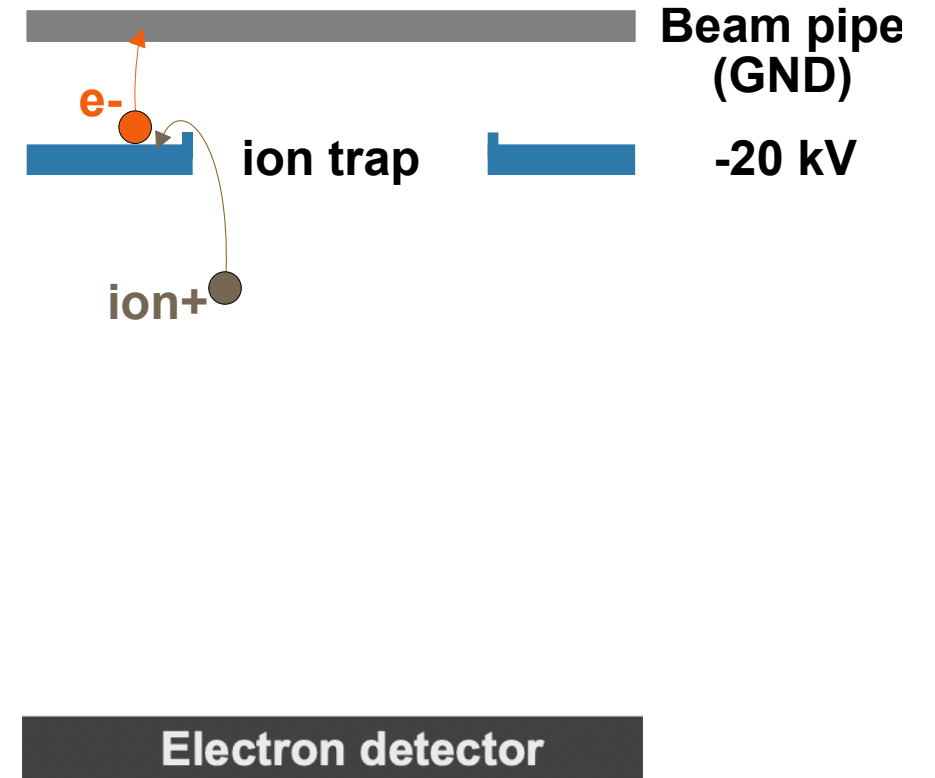
# Suppression of secondary electrons

## 1. Wire grid – LHC BGI (2007)



Secondary electrons repelled by wire grid, but secondary electrons generated by ions bombarding the wires

## 2. Ion trap – PS BGI



Ions directed through an opening on the cathode – no path for secondary electrons back to the detector ("ion trap")

# Ionisation electron detector based on Timepix3 HPD

## Ionisation electron detector requirements

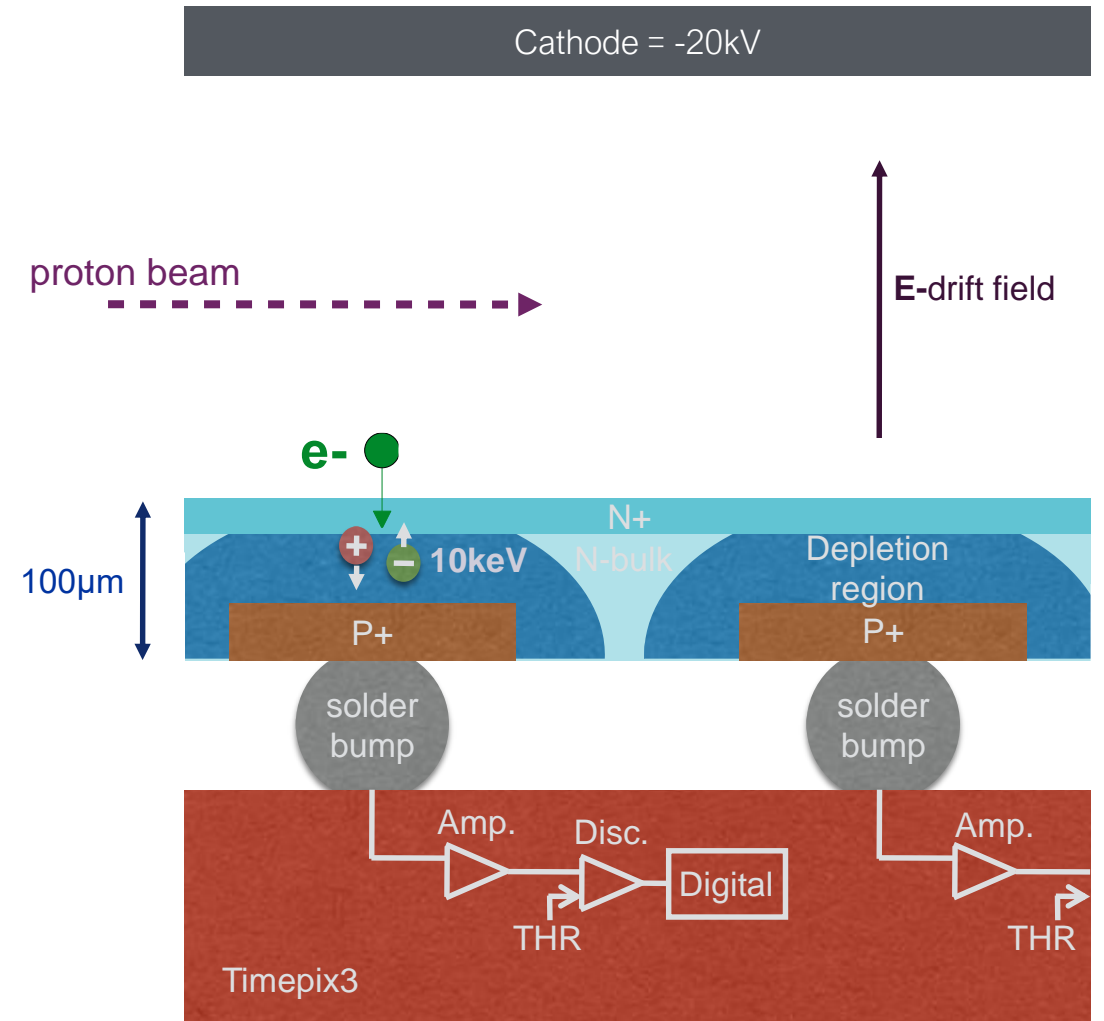
- Detect 10keV electrons (penetration depth in silicon = 1.5 $\mu\text{m}$ )
- Detect each electron with time resolution < 25ns & spatial resolution < 100 $\mu\text{m}$
- Meet outgassing requirements for installation in the UHV of the PS beam pipe
- Operate during the acceleration cycle

## Sensor

- **Non-metalized**, p-in-n, 100 $\mu\text{m}$  deep
- 256 x 256 array of PN-diodes
- Pixel size = 55 $\mu\text{m}$  x 55 $\mu\text{m}$
- Sensor area = 14mm x 14mm

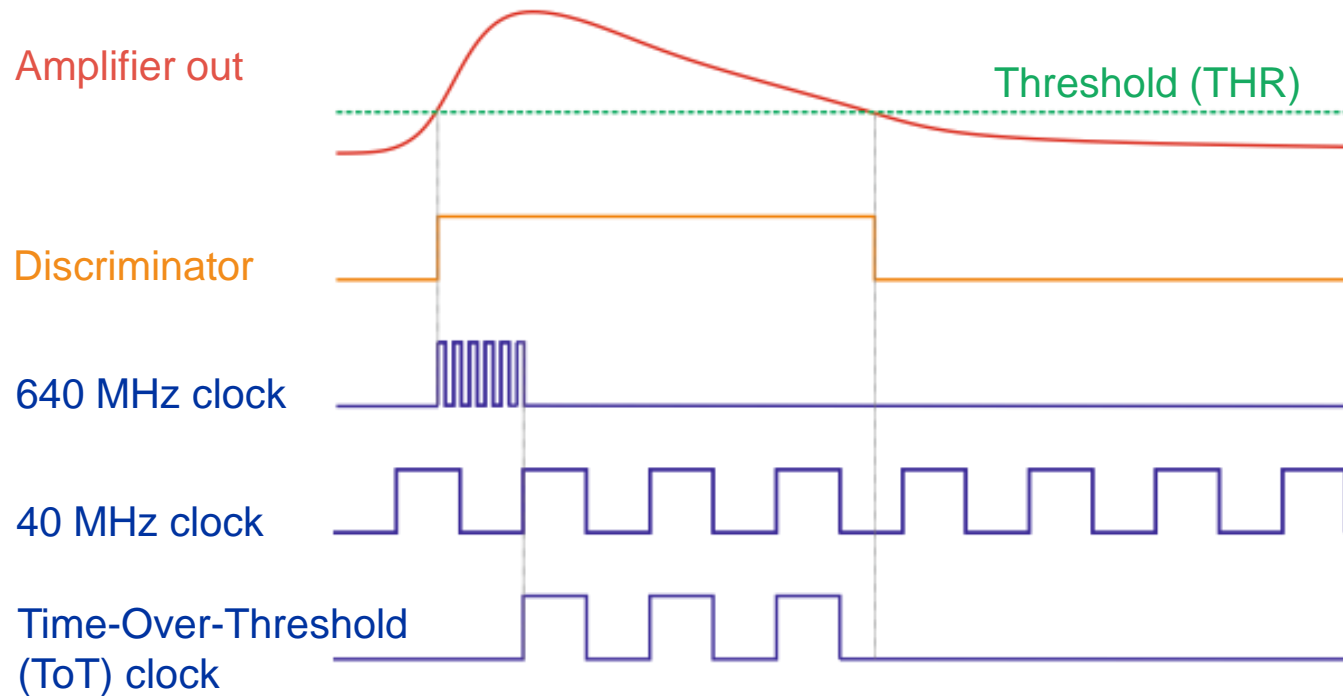
## Timepix3 readout chip

- Each sensor pixel is connected to an individual readout channel (pixel)





# Timepix3 response to charge



minimum  
threshold = 500 e<sup>-</sup>  
(1.8 keV)

time  
resolution =  
1.5625 ns

Amplifier out > threshold

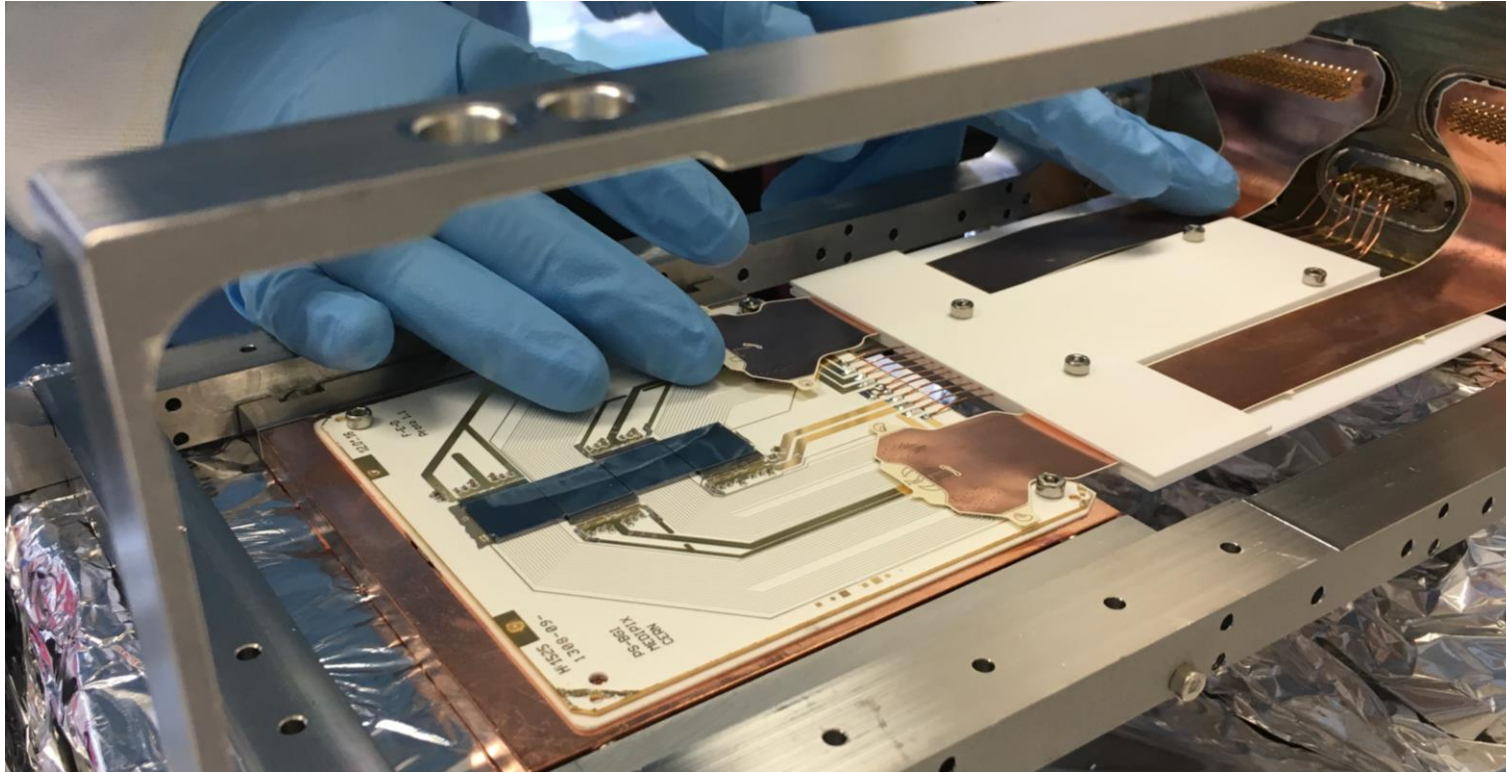
→ **Event**

Each **event** consist of:

- Pixel position → **Where**
- Time of Arrival (ToA) → **When**
- Time-Over-Threshold (ToT) → **Energy**

**Max.**  
**80M events / s**

# Ionisation electron detector – Prototype



## Ceramic carrier board

- 2 metal layers,  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  substrate
- 4 x Timepix3 HPD's attached with Staystick 672 and wire bonded
- Sensor bias wire glued (Mk.1) / wire bonded to Al pad (Mk.2)

## Flexible cables

- Connects ceramic board to electrical feedthroughs on vacuum flange
- Two metals layers with a Liquid Crystal Polymer (LCP) substrate

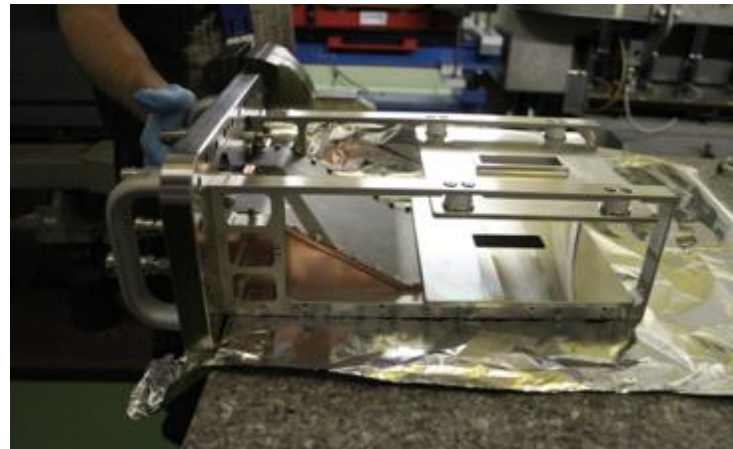
**Qualified for installation in the PS accelerator beam pipe**

# Installation in the CERN PS

0.2T self-compensating triplet dipole magnet (Dominique Bodart TE-MS-C) & instrument vacuum chamber



Instrument prior to installation



Installation at PS SS82



Vacuum pump down:

- $1 \times 10^{-8}$  mbar after 24 hours
- **$2 \times 10^{-10}$  mbar steady state**

# Radiation tolerant readout of Timepix3 - BIPXL

## Front-end (in the tunnel) based on:

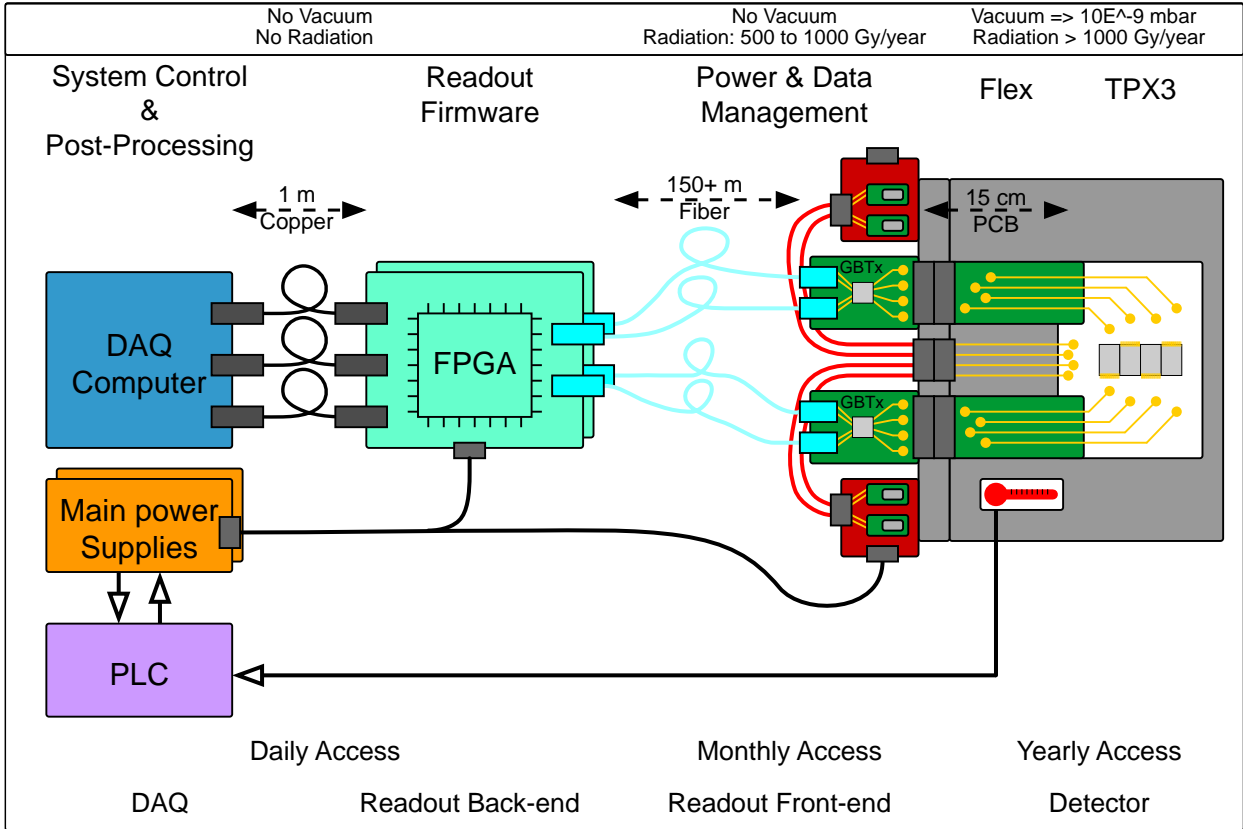
- Microsemi ProASIC3 & Xilinx Kintex-7 (EDA-03830 + EDA-03812), and
- EP-ESE radiation tolerant optoelectronic components (GBTx, VTRx) & FEAST DC/DC
- New architecture in development to improve radiation hardness & simplicity based on direct connection between GBTx transceivers and the Timepix3

## Back-end (no radiation) based on:

- Xilinx Virtex 7 development board
- New back-end in development based on Xilinx Zynq SoC for improved performance

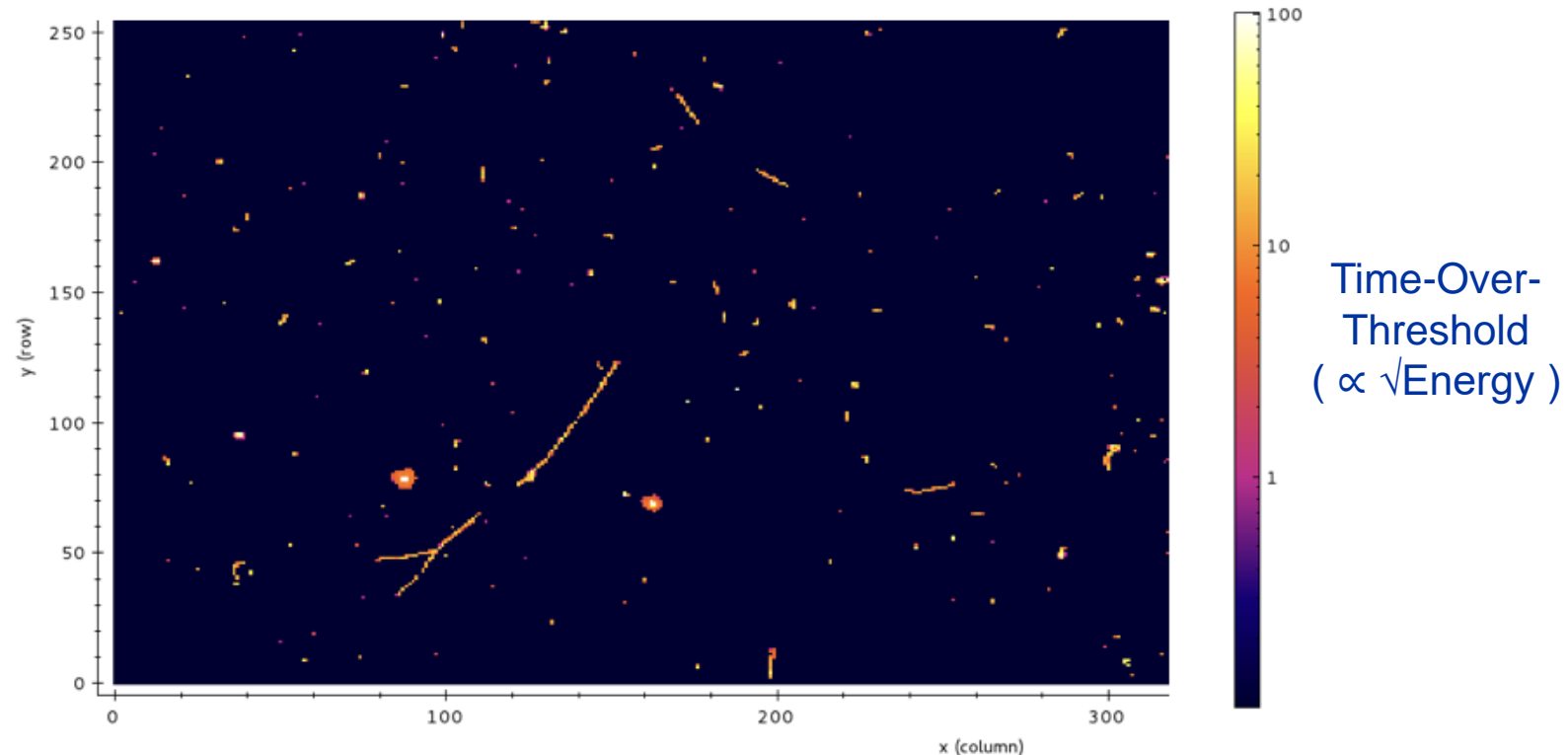
Interface to the instrument via Front-End Software Architecture (FESA) framework ( generic model for real-time programming in the domain of accelerator control )

Generic readout system (BIPXL) for the operation of Timepix3 in radiation environments



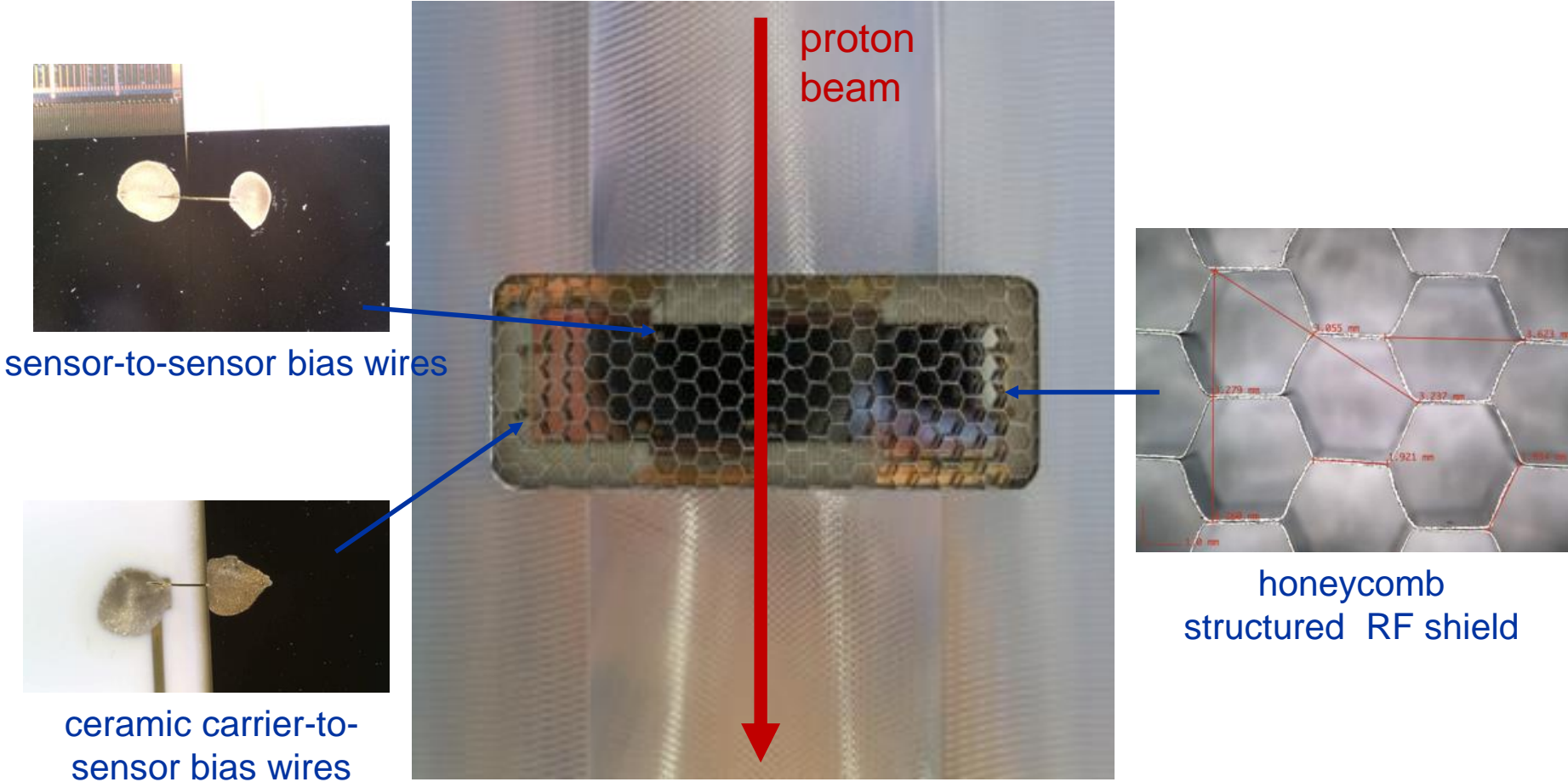
# Operation of the Timepix3 inside the beam pipe during the acceleration cycle

Acquisition for 100 ms during acceleration cycle with **high voltage off (no ionisation electrons)**



Timepix3 successfully operated inside the beam pipe during the acceleration cycle.

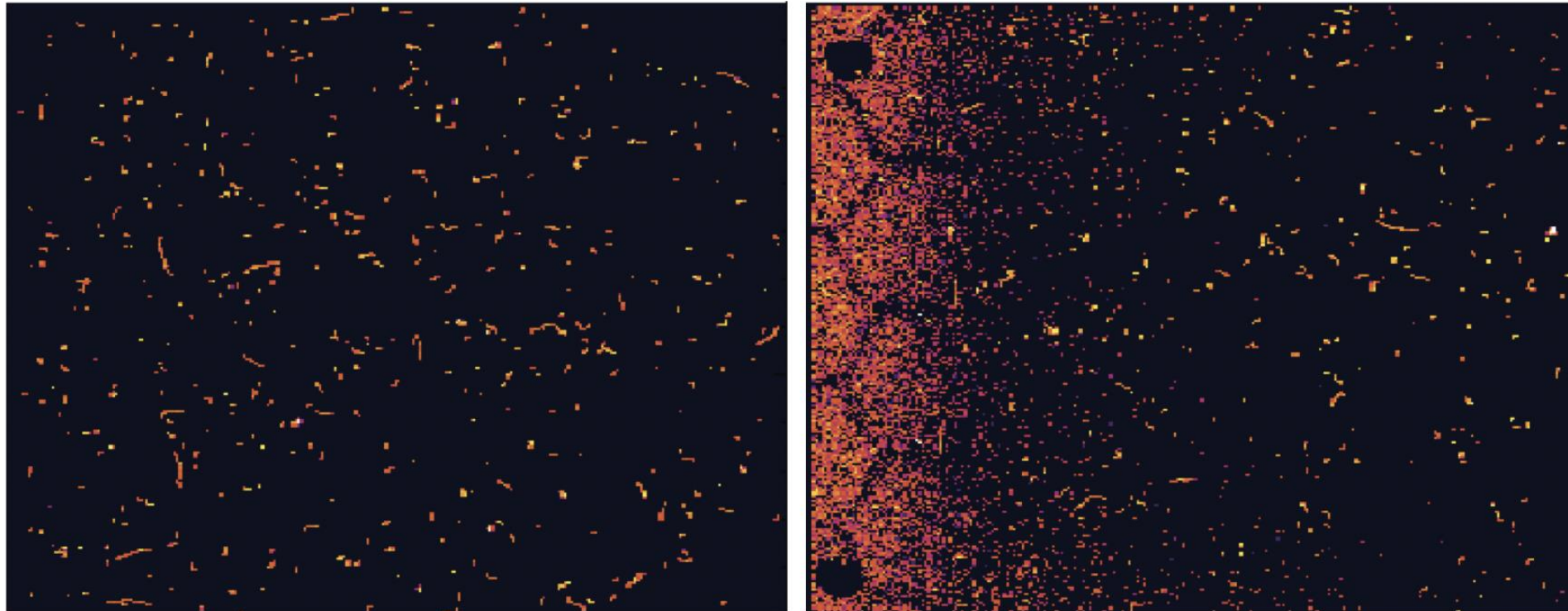
# Detection of rest gas ionisation electrons



# Detection of rest gas ionisation electrons

HV off

HV on



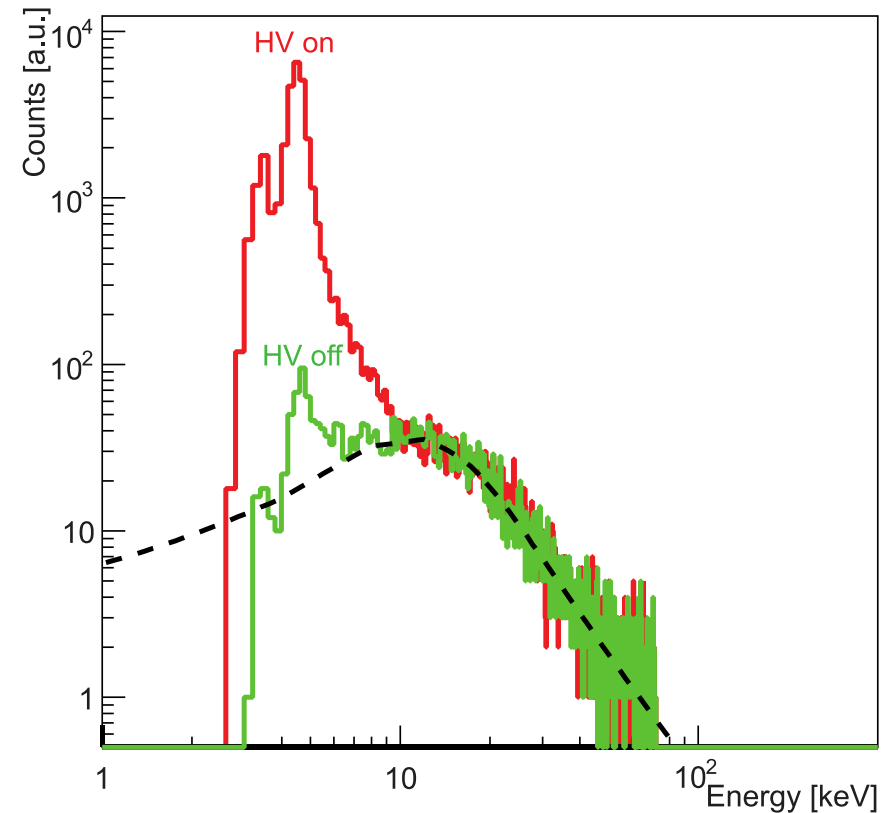
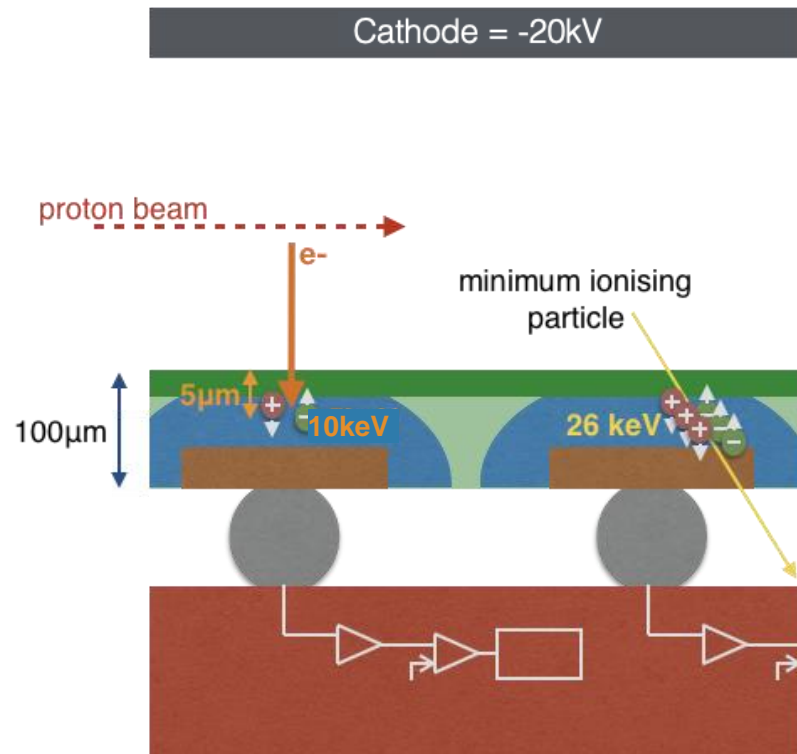
1

10

100

Integrated Time-Over-Threshold

# Detection of rest gas ionisation electrons



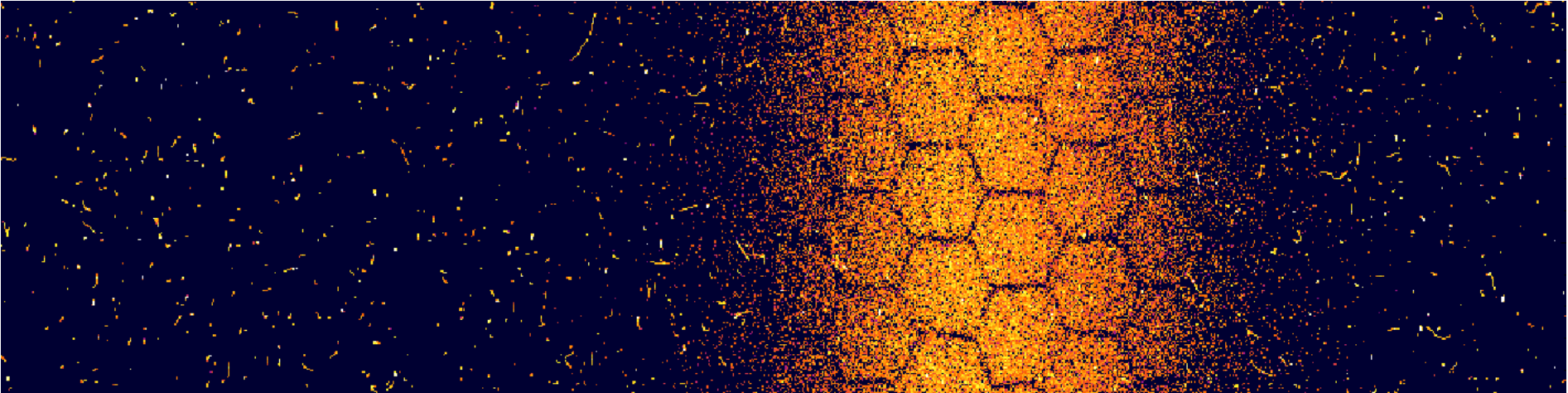
Successful detection of rest-gas ionisation electrons!



# Example beam images

Beam direction  
↓

Example 1



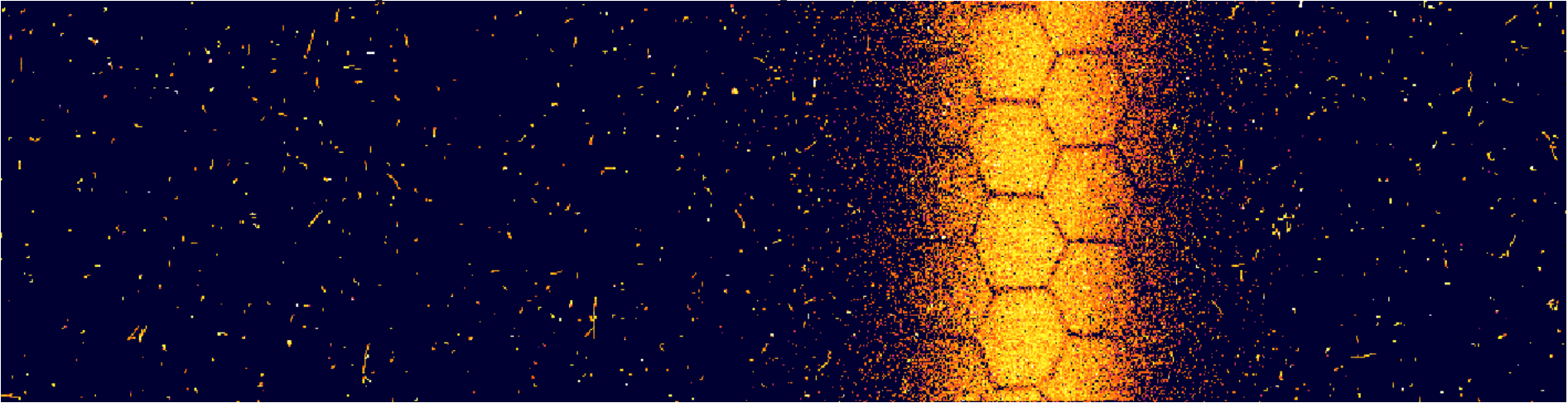
TPX3 HPD #1

TPX3 HPD #2

TPX3 HPD #3

TPX3 HPD #4

Example 2



# Selecting ionisation electrons

## Signal – ionisation electrons:

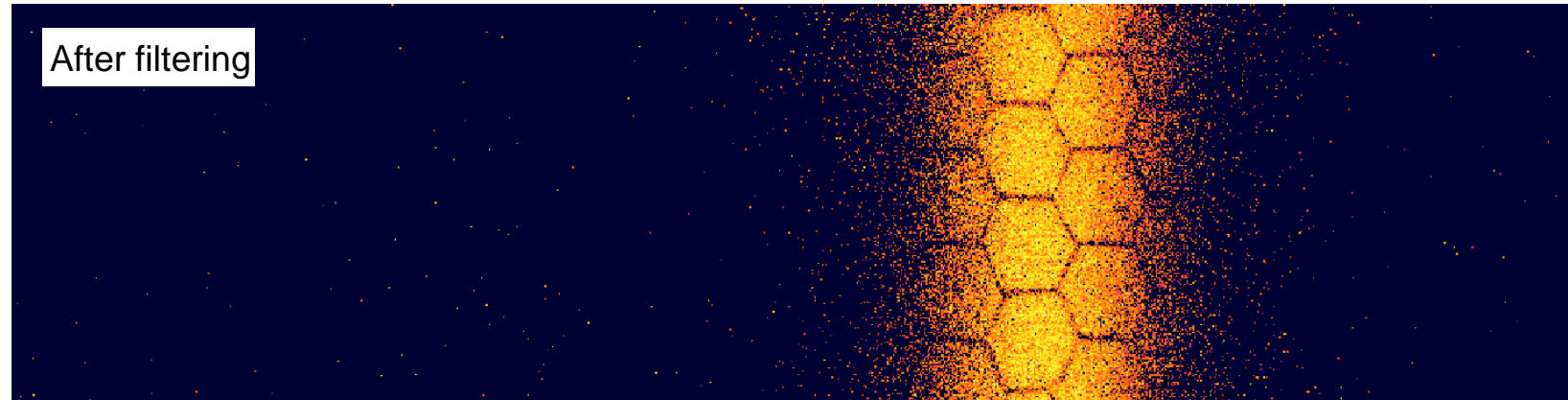
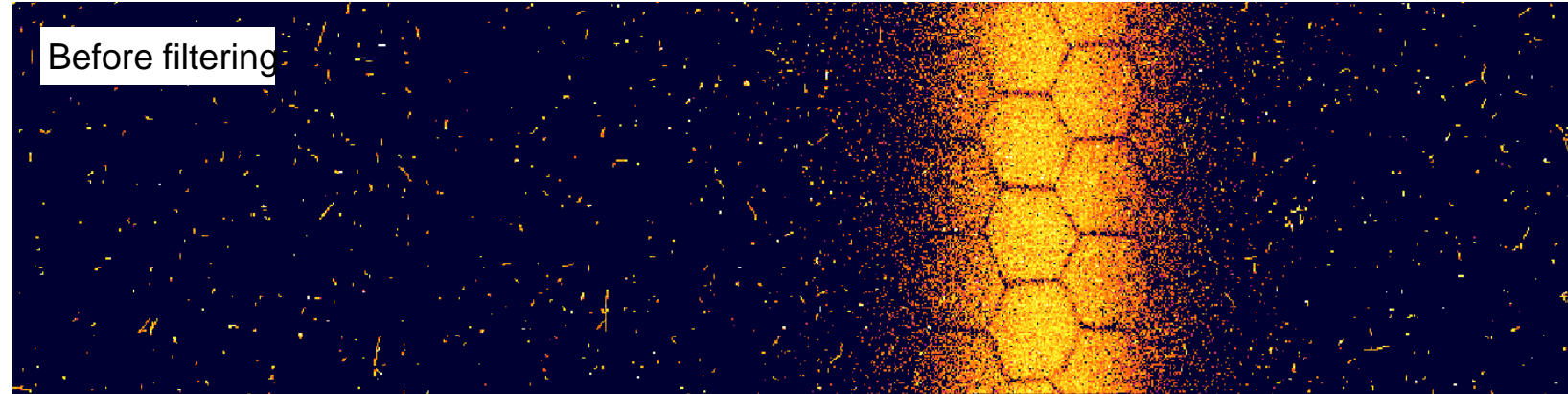
- Mostly single pixel events
- Energy < 10keV

## Background – shower of secondary particles due to beam loss:

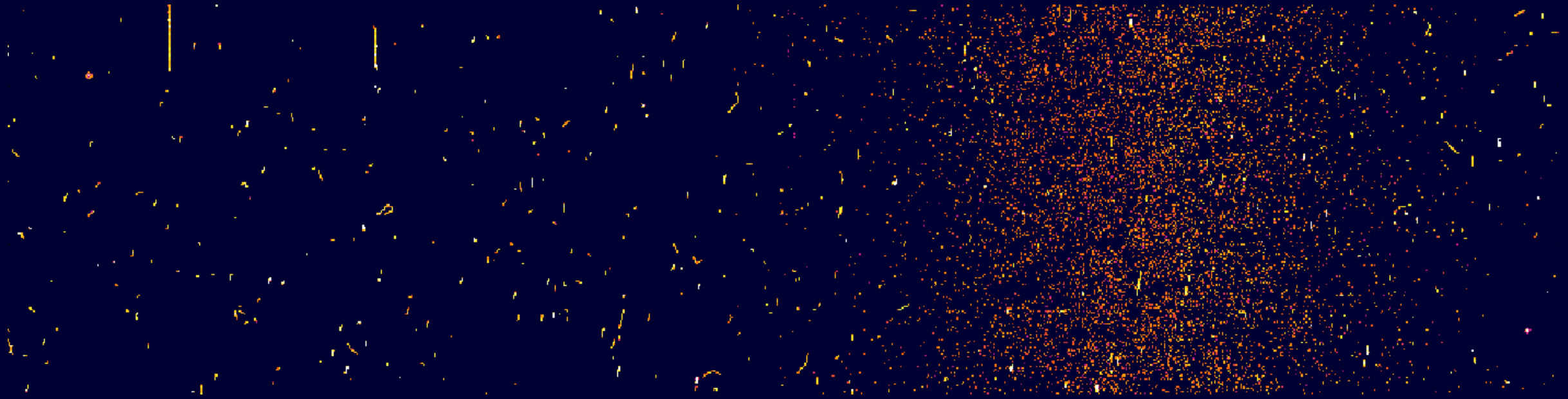
- Multi-pixel events
- Energy > 26keV

## Signal selection:

- Cluster finding to identify particle events
- Size & energy criteria to select ionisation electrons



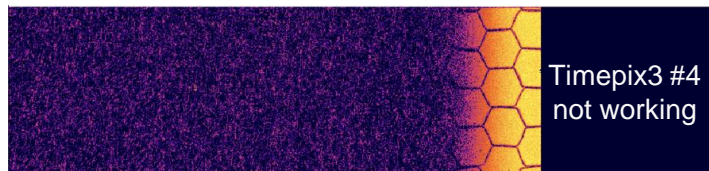
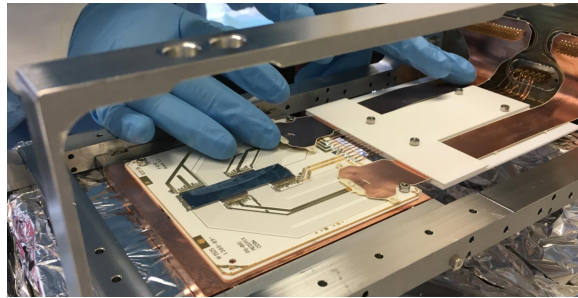
# Preparation of LHC beam in the PS



- Timepix3 data-driven readout enables "live" display of the beam throughout the cycle
- 1.5 seconds in real time: slowed down here for viewing purpose
- Each frame is 10 ms of data
- Not filtered: *background particles are interesting to look at!*
- LHC type beam, single bunch (  $I = 20 \times 10^{10}$  p )

# Ionisation electron detector – Limitations of the prototype design

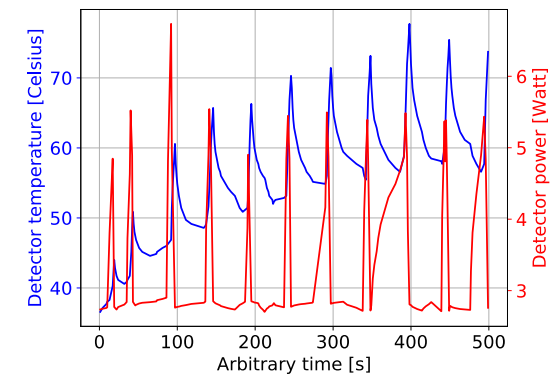
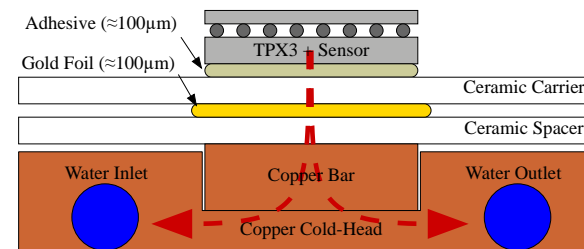
## Low production yield



### Problem:

- None of the assembled detectors fully functional

## Limited detector cooling

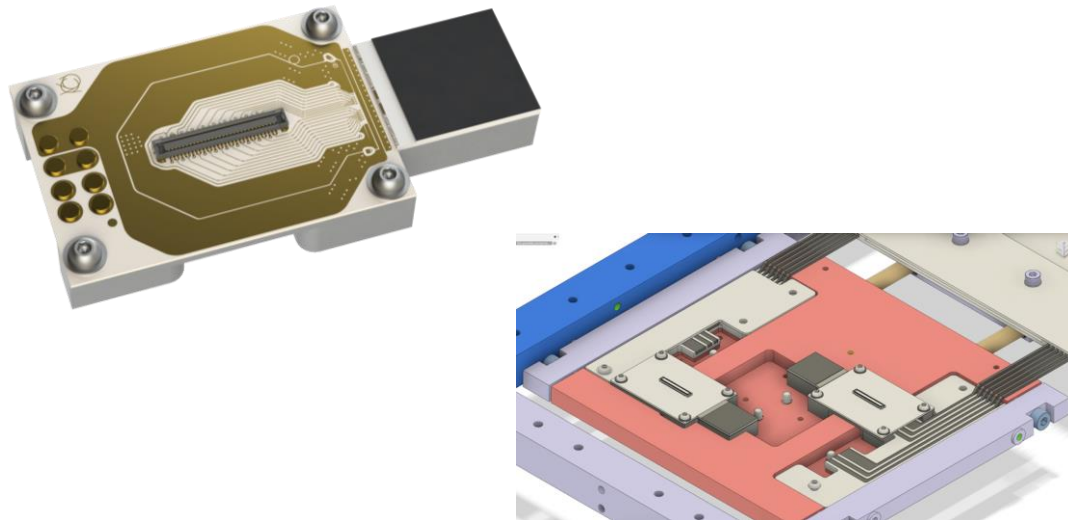


### Problem:

- Long term reliability

# Ionisation electron detector – Modular design

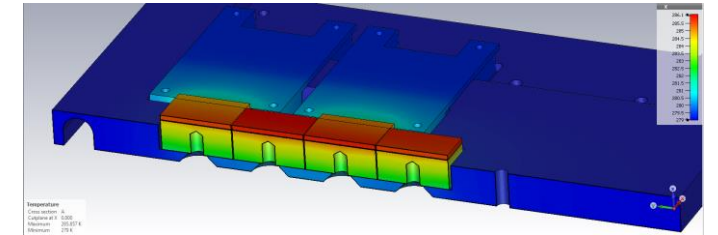
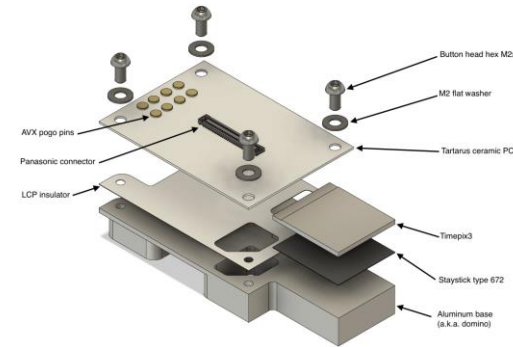
## Low production yield



Solution:

- Modular single chip design

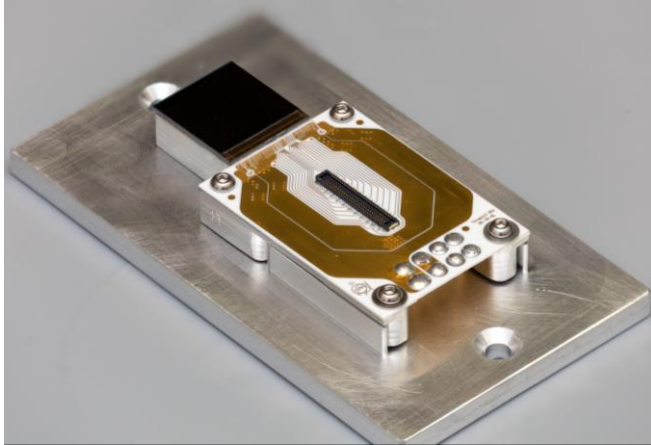
## Limited detector cooling



Solution:

- Fewer thermal interfaces → significantly improves thermal performance

# BGI based on Timepix3 UHV modules



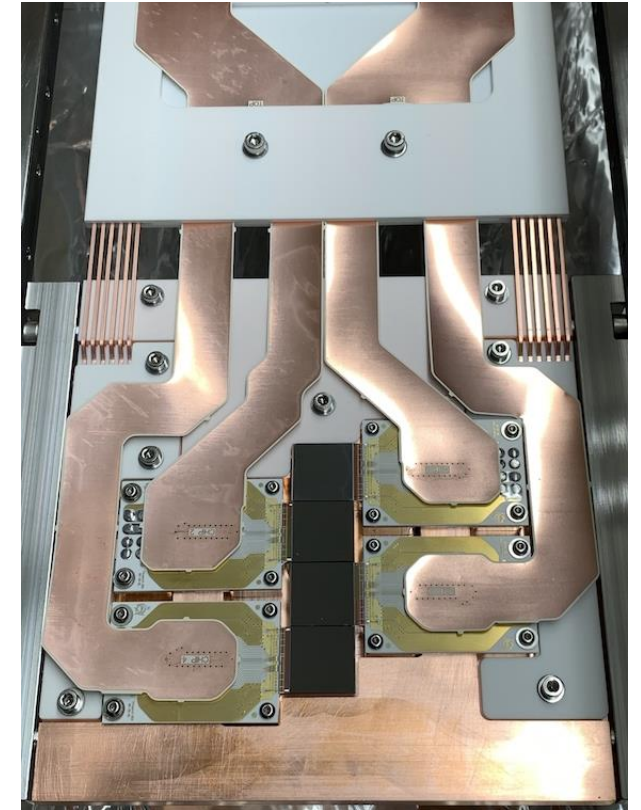
## Timepix3 UHV modules:

- Timepix3 attached to aluminum base with Staystick (672)
- Ceramic thin-film PCB to fan out TPX3 control & data signals to Panasonic narrow pitch connectors (A4S)
- Connect to DC power (mini-Cu bus bars) via pogo-pins



## Timepix3 DC power:

- FEAST DC/DC on air side of vacuum flange ( can't place in UHV )
- Network of mini-Cu bus bars, embedded in ceramic, to minimise voltage drop



*Final assembly*

# From prototype to operational instruments

BGI-Horizontal prototype  
2017-2018



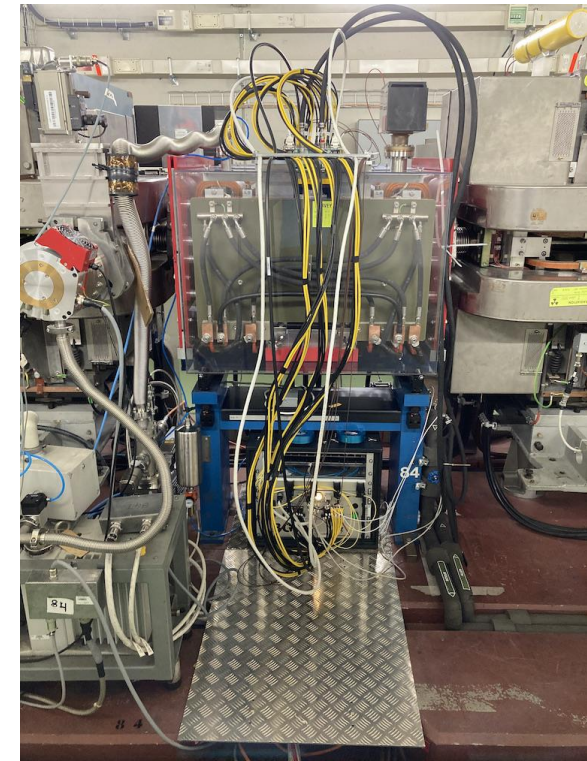
- Proved feasibility to operate TPX3 in the beam pipe

BGI-Horizontal operational  
2021



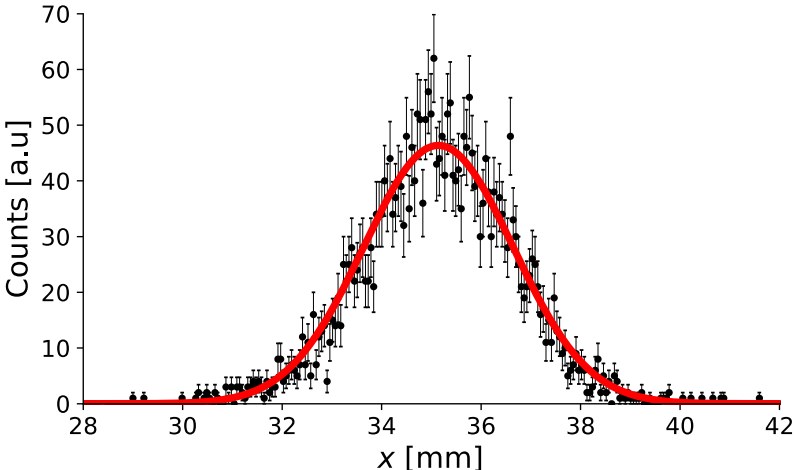
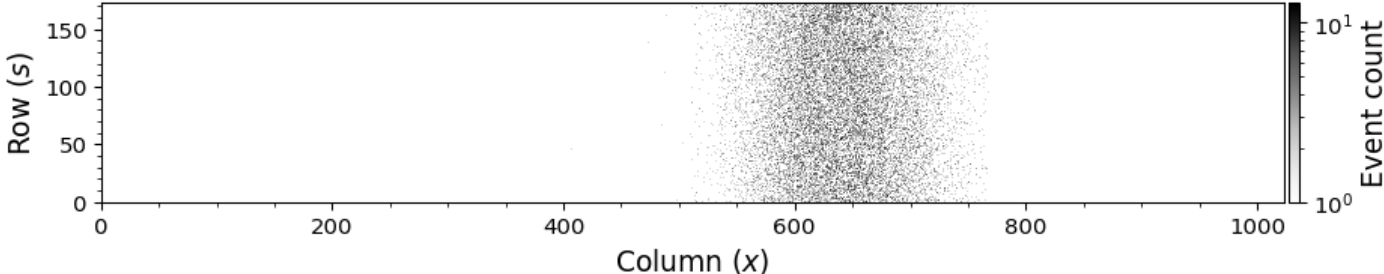
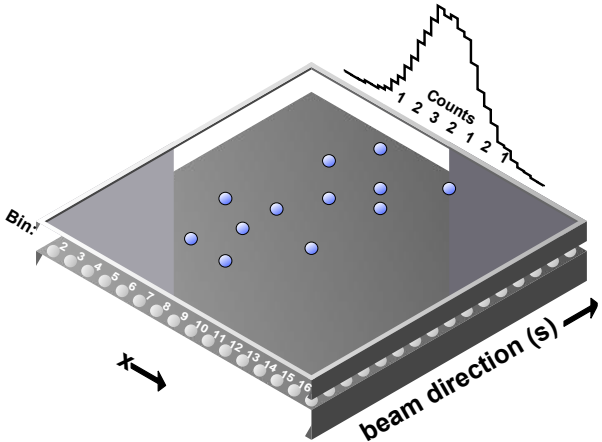
- New modular in-vacuum electronics to improve Timepix3 cooling & production yield

BGI-Vertical operational  
2021



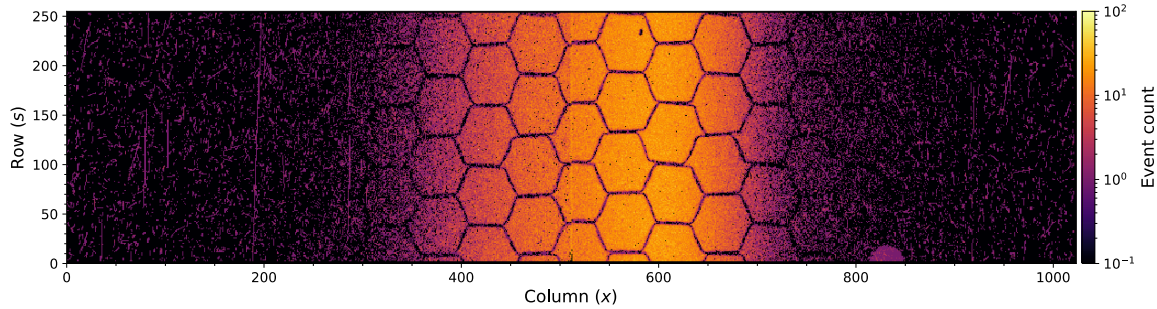
# Beam profile measurement

Compute beam profile by summing counts in each column

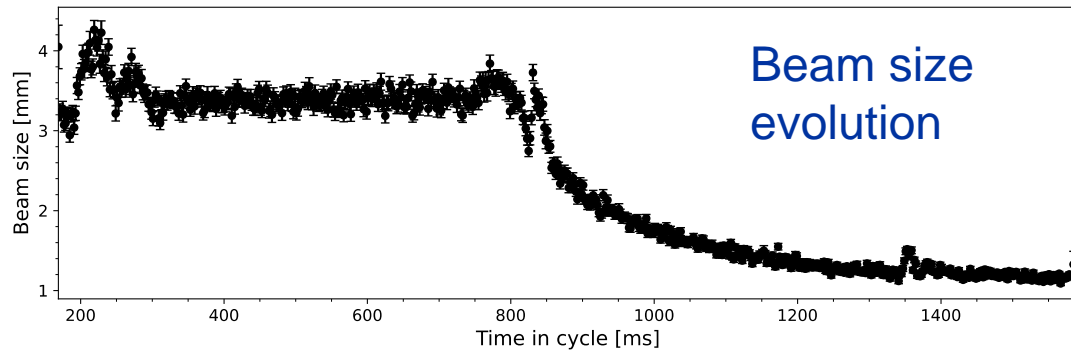




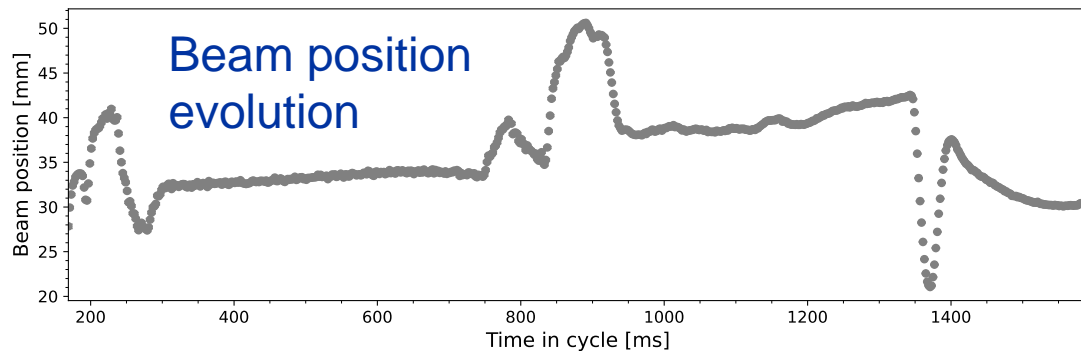
# Single bunch measurements



Single bunch in the PS at the start of beam commissioning



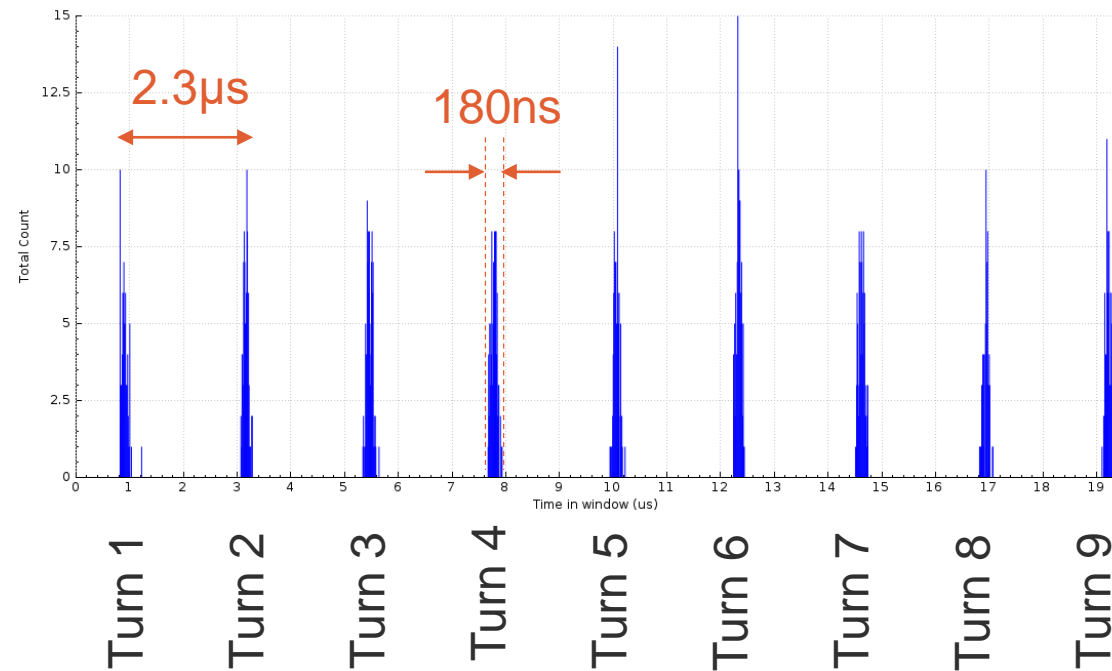
Continuous & non-destructive measurement of of beam size and position throughout the PS cycle (1.2s)



# Time structure of ionisation electrons

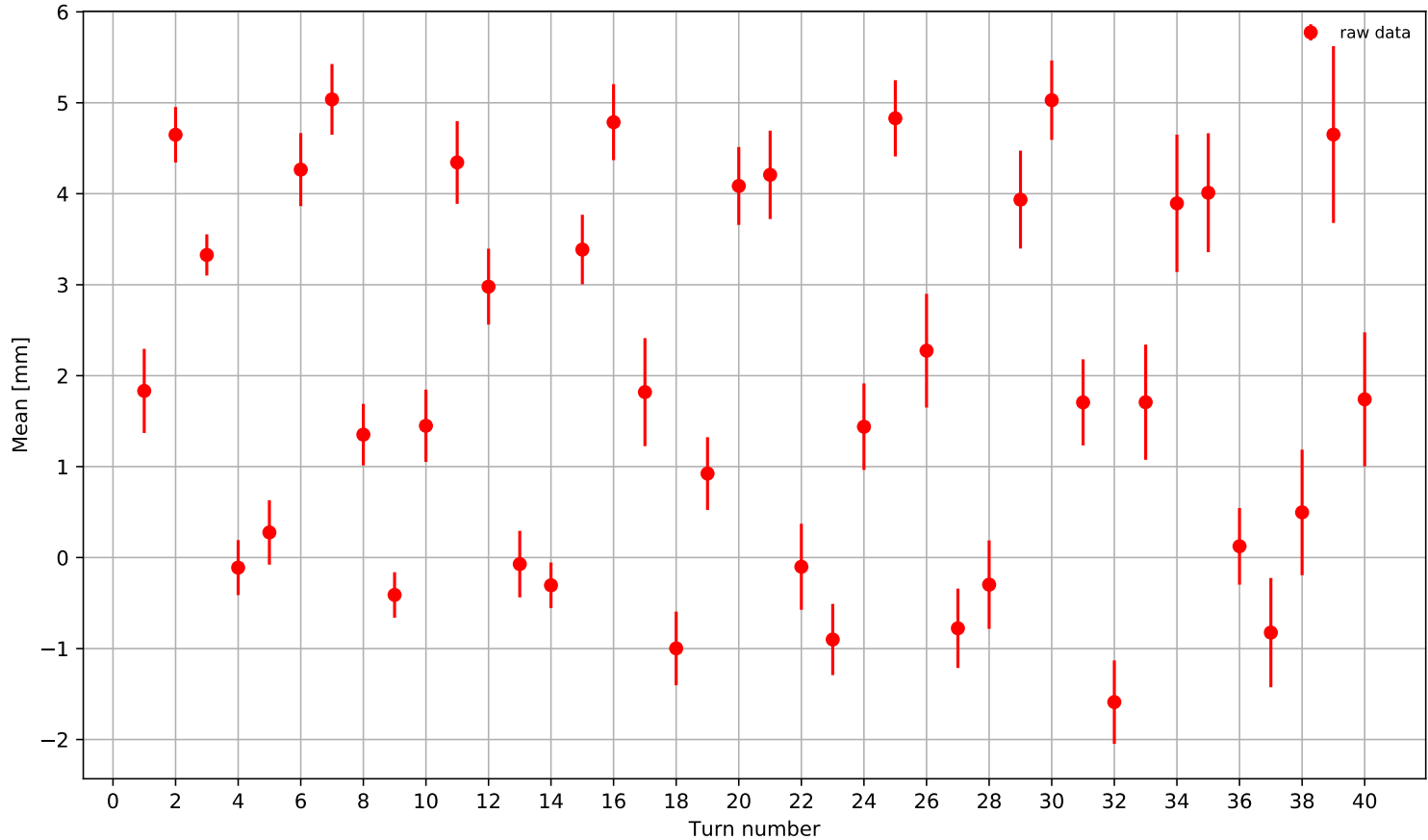
Time for 1 revolution (turn) of the PS = **2.3  $\mu\text{s}$** .

Ionisation counts from a single bunch circulating in the PS

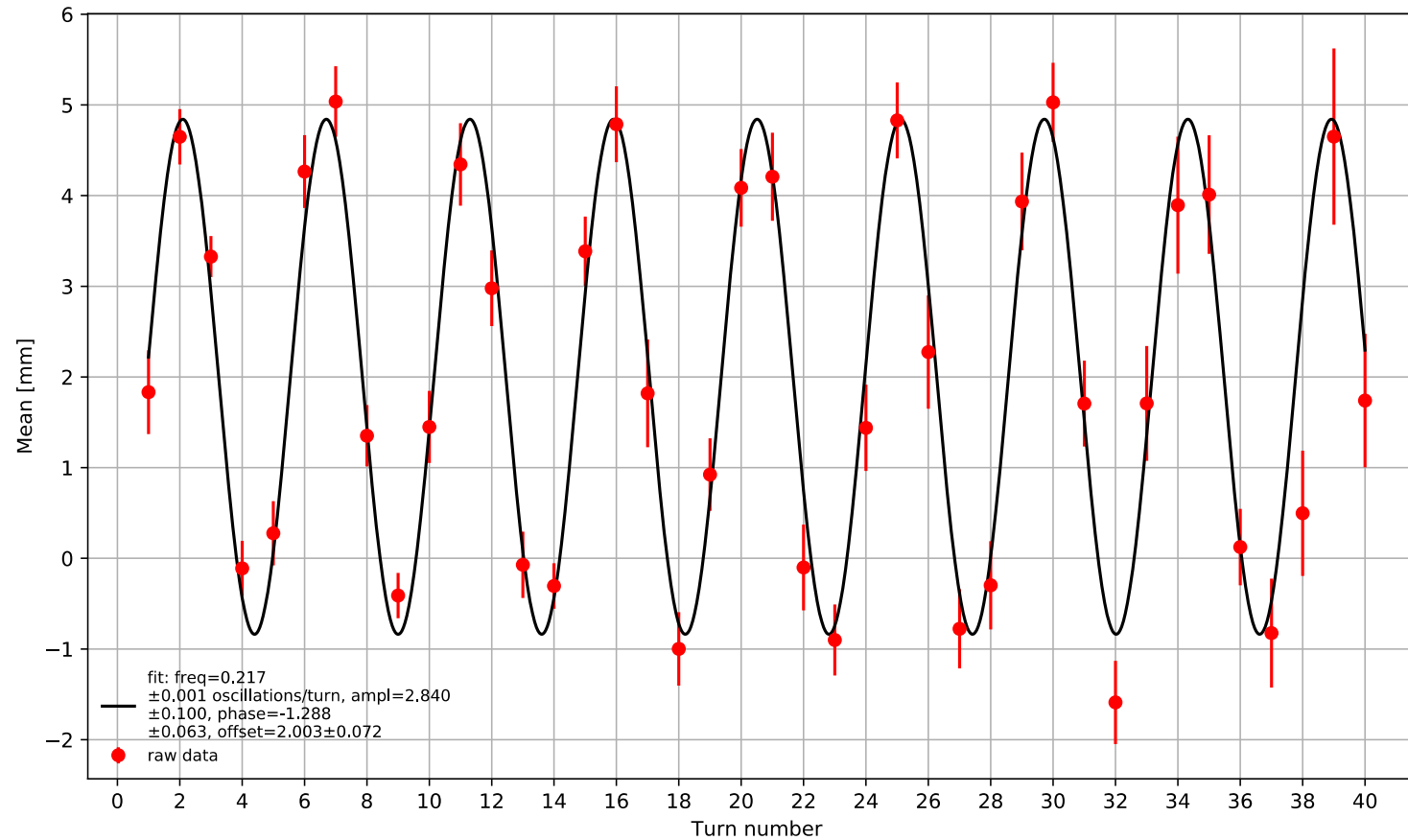


→ Longitudinal bunch length consistent with Wall Current Monitor (WCM).

# Beam position vs. turn number after injection

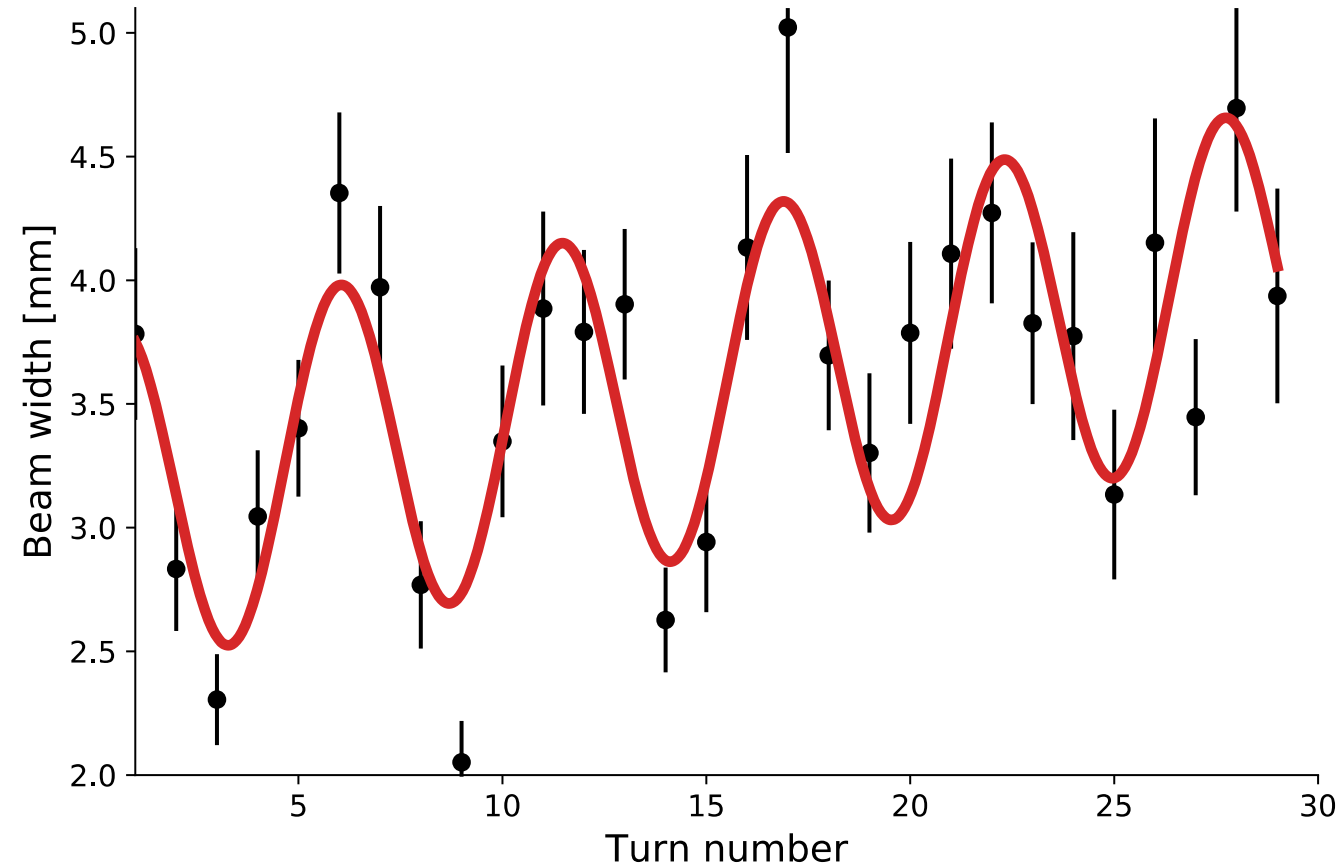


# Beam position vs. turn number after injection



Measure  $0.217 \pm 0.001$  oscillations/turn → Consistent with PS fractional tune!

# Beam size vs. turn number after injection



Beating of the beam size due to *injection mismatch* into the PS

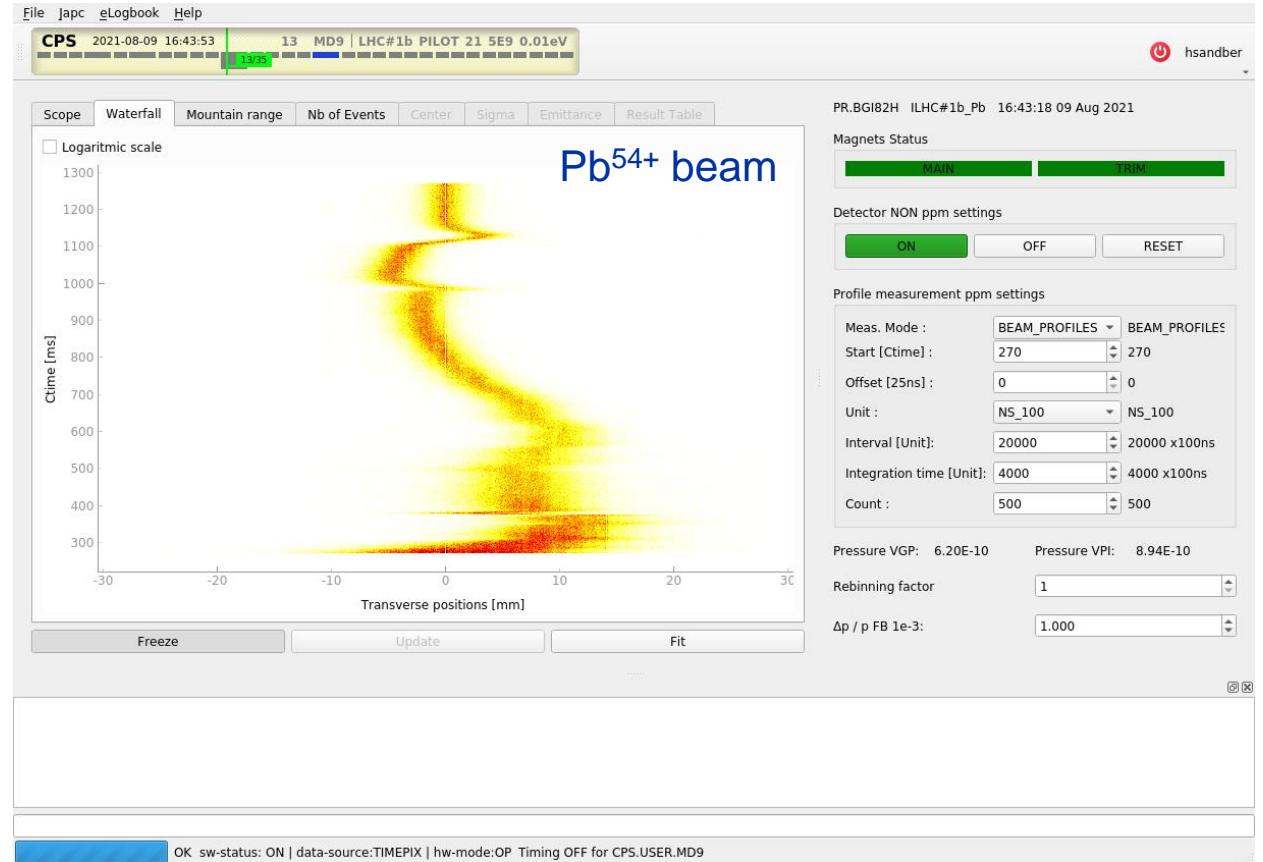
→ causes **irreversible beam size growth**, which ultimately limits the LHC luminosity.

# Examples of operational measurements

Following example measurements taken by PS operators & physicists in the CCC (\*)

Operator defines the time to "Start" the measurement in the cycle and the "Integration time" for each beam profile measurement, in units of seconds or turn revolutions

Up to 1024 profiles can be published per PS cycle (typically 1.2s)



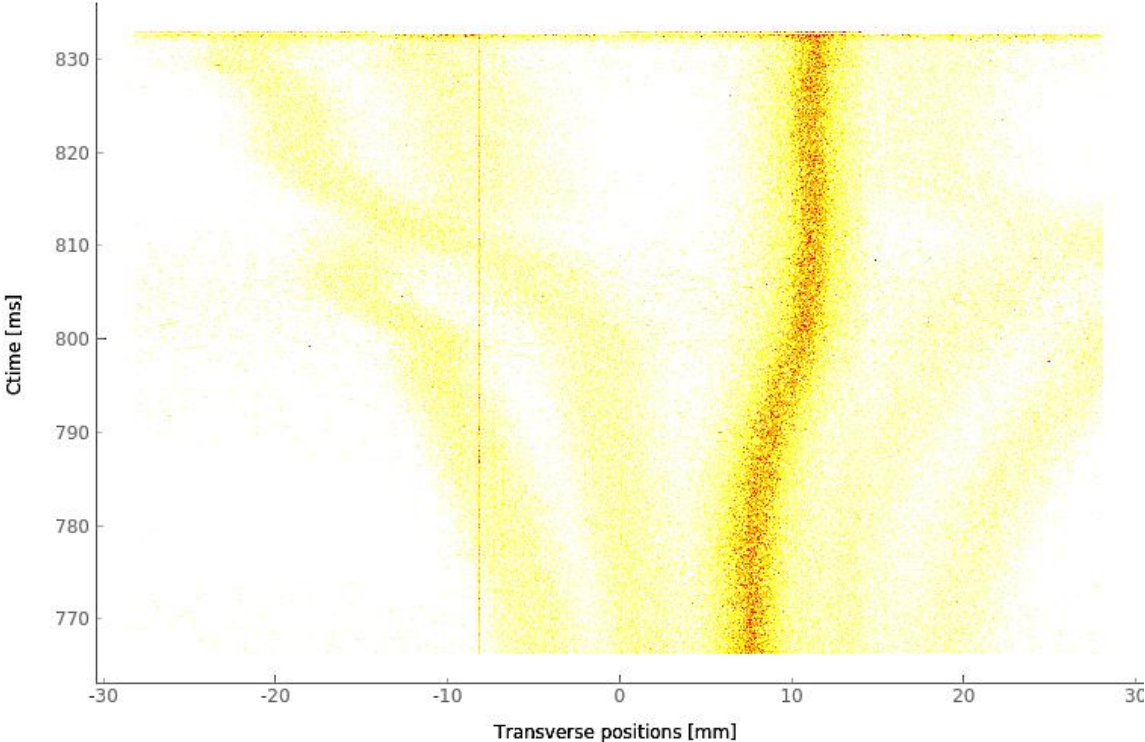
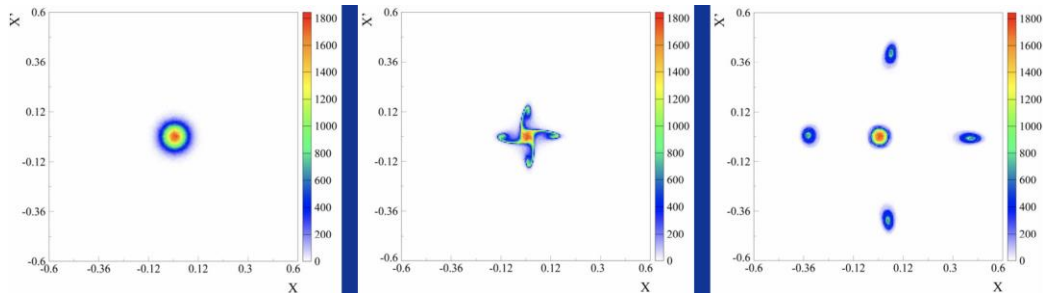
(\*) Thanks to Marcel Coly, Matt Fraser & Alexander Huschauer

# Example 1: Beamlets in Multi-Turn Extraction beam

Extraction method developed to minimise particle loss during extraction

Beam is split into several beamlets in the transverse phase space

Each beamlet is then extracted one by one



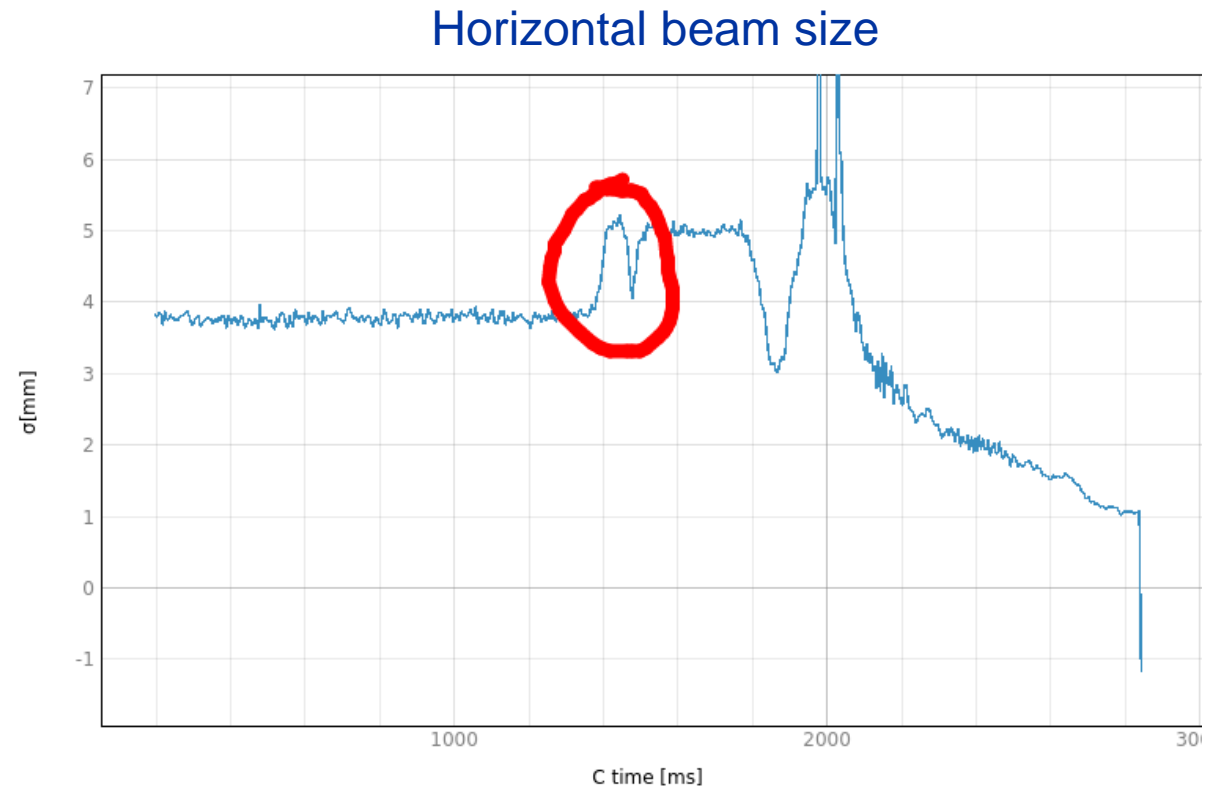
**First time that is possible to see the time evolution of the beamlets**

# Example 2: Unexpected “bumps”

Observe unexpected sudden change of the horizontal beam size at 1450ms

**Explanation:** sudden change of the beam’s **longitudinal momentum spread**, which couples to the horizontal plane through dispersion

New beam diagnostic insights.





# Example 3: Injection beam losses

Part of a cycle with a stable transverse beam size

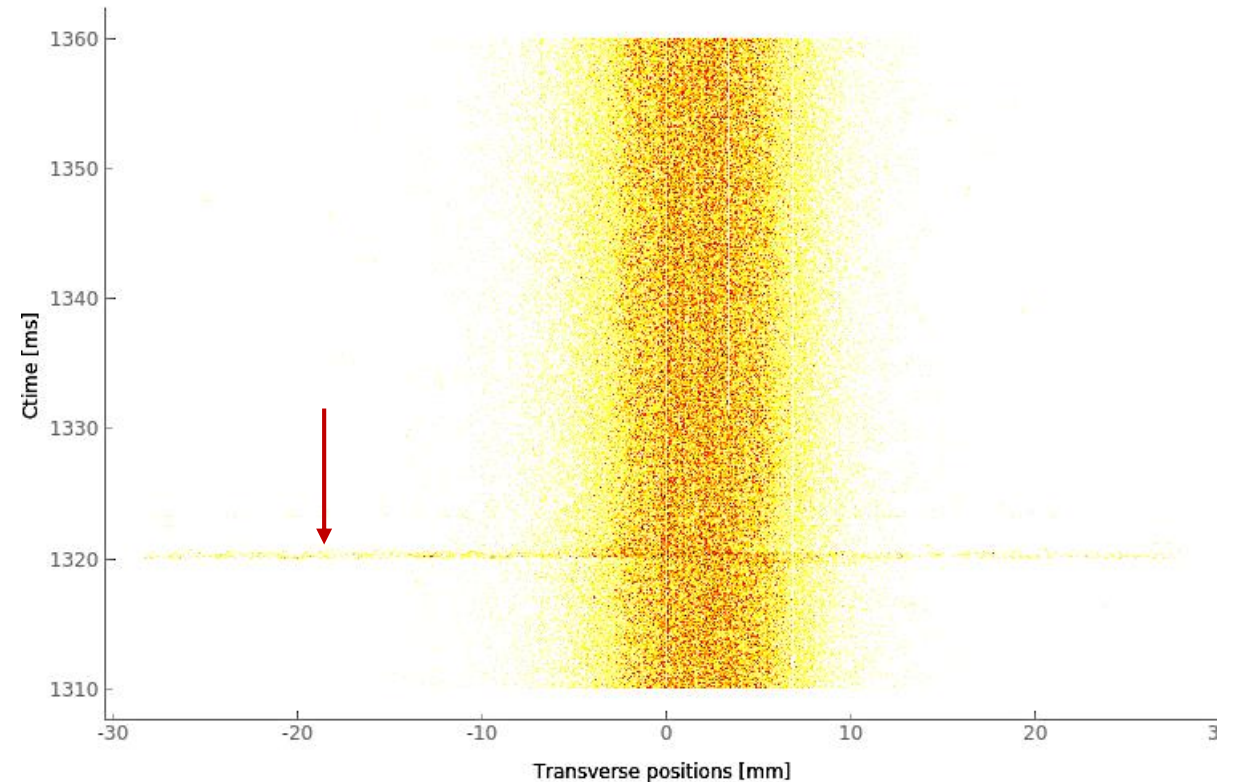
“Glitch” visible at 1320ms in the cycle

Can distinguish between ionisation electrons and charged particle interaction using ToT data

“Glitch” is actually beam loss, which was subsequently traced to an injection kicker magnet that was active ( but no beam was injected )

Losses were not visible on other nearby beam loss monitors

Very sensitive beam loss monitor.



# Future applications of Timepix technology for Beam Instrumentation at CERN

# Operational needs

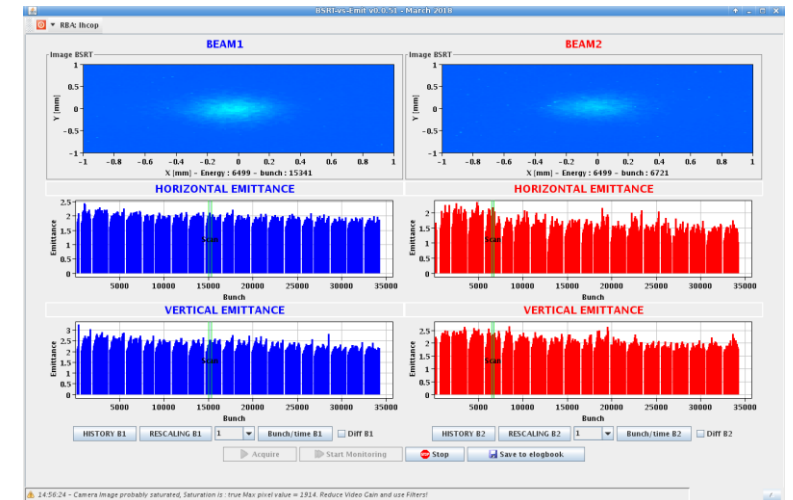
1. New non-destructive independent beam profile monitor for the LHC
  - a) Beam Gas Vertex (BGV) profile monitor
  - b) Beam Gas Ionisation (BGI) profile monitor
2. Beam halo monitoring for the LHC
3. Fast Beam Loss Monitor (BLM) for rapid deployment in the LHC

# New beam profile monitor for the LHC

Current beam profile measurements based upon:

- Beam Wire Scanner (BWS)
  - Limited to low intensity (pilot) beams
- Beam Synchrotron Radiation Telescope (BSRT)
  - **Work-horse for bunch-by-bunch emittance measurements in the LHC**
  - Complex light source ( undulator + dipole magnets ), which changes with energy:
    - Light intensity increases by 3 orders of magnitude
    - Wavelength shifts from visible to NUV
    - Longitudinal position of the source shifts by ~3m
  - **Requires cross-calibration with wire-scanner** ( links accuracy of measurement to the BWS ) & assumption that beam profile is Gaussian

Requirement – new instrument to provide independent bunch-by-bunch beam profile measurements of the physics beam along the whole cycle.



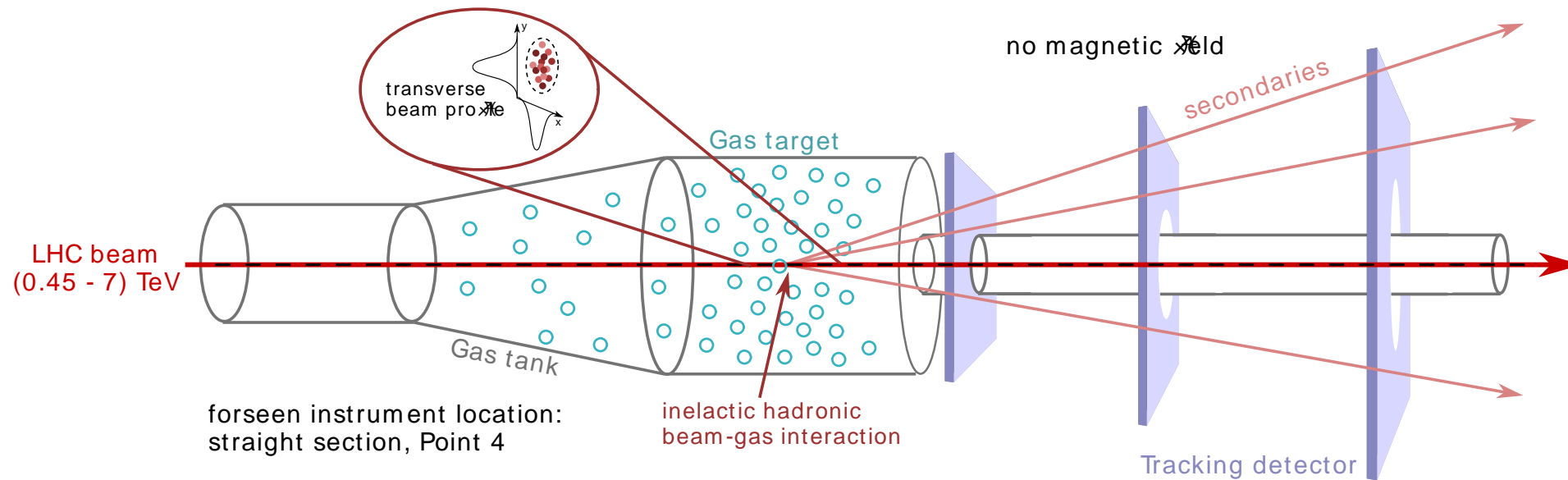
BSRT emittance measurements

– precision < 5% & accuracy ~10-20 %



BSRT light sources – undulator magnet (green) and dipole magnet (blue)

# Beam Gas Vertex (BGV) profile monitor for HL-LHC

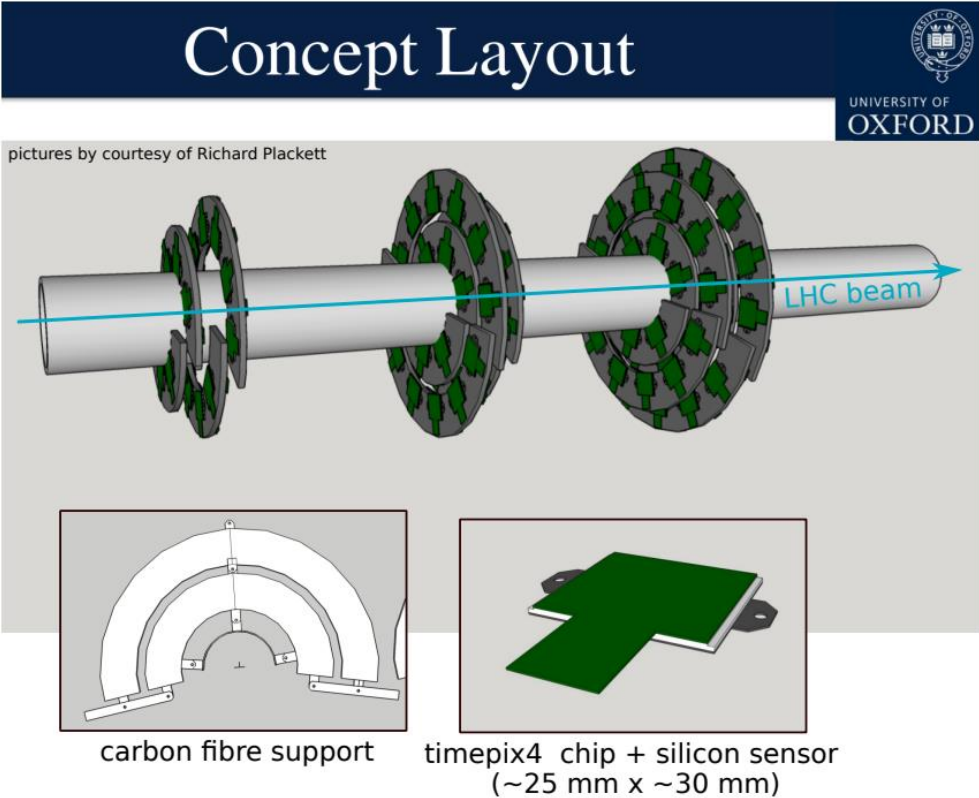


BGV consists of: 1) **Gas target** & 2) **Forward tracking detector**

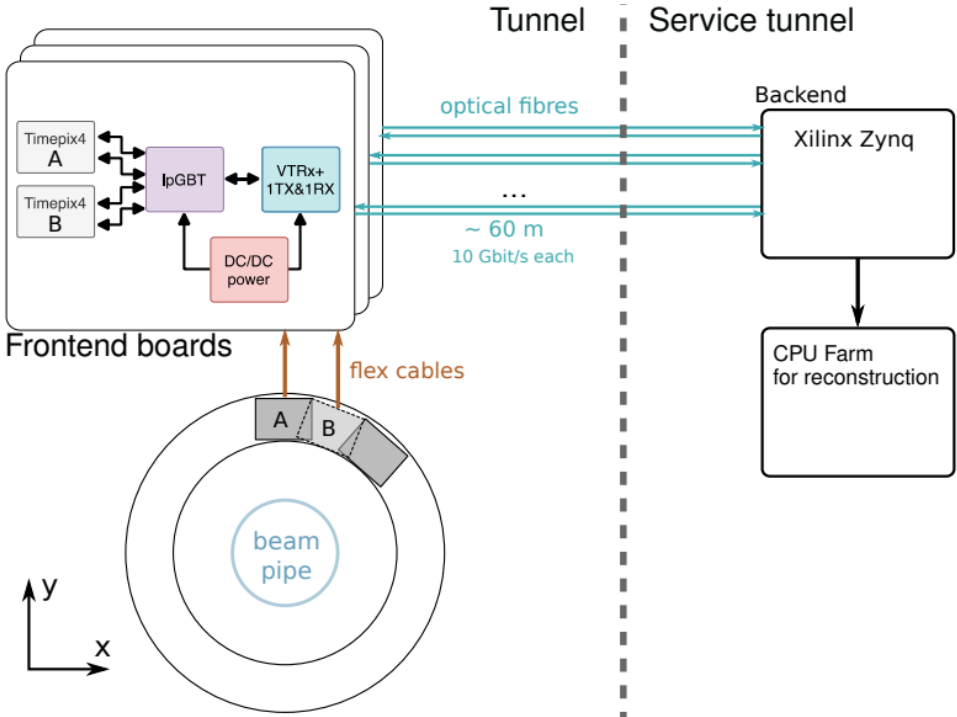
Beam profile inferred from density of the reconstructed primary vertices of the inelastic beam gas interactions.

# BGV - Tracking detector based on Timepix4 Hybrid Pixel Detectors

Tracking detector – modules + support  
( Collaboration with Oxford University )



Tracking detector – readout + processing  
( CERN )

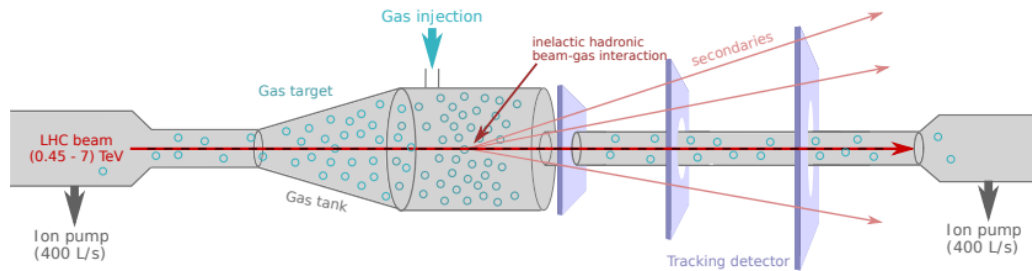


Architecture based on BIPXL readout developed for PS BGI

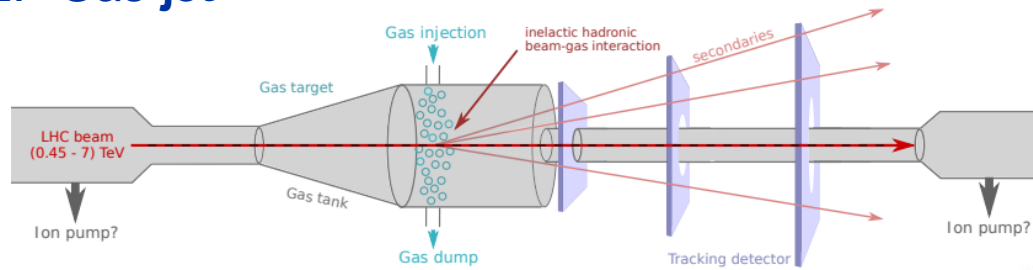
# BGV - Performance study of different gas targets

## Gas target options:

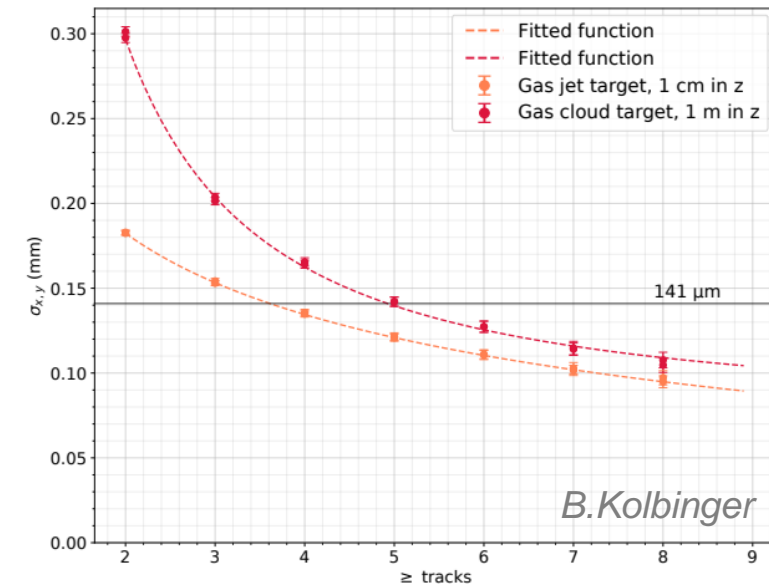
### 1. Gas cloud



### 2. Gas jet



## Vertex resolution vs. # tracks for gas cloud & gas jet targets



# Beam Gas Ionisation (BGI) profile monitor for LHC

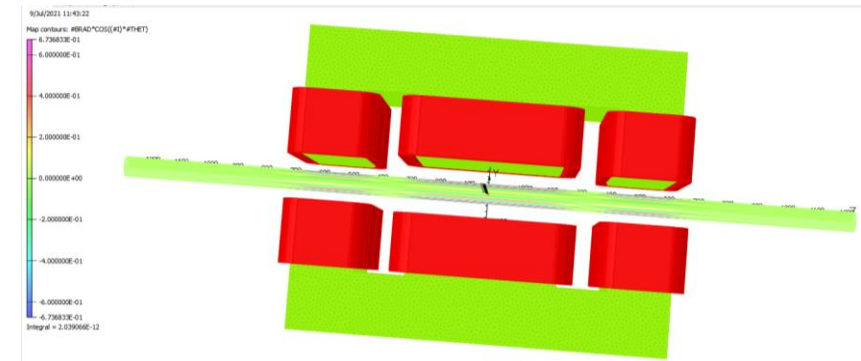
Problems with (former) LHC BGI:

- Beam profile **distortion** at  $E > 3\text{TeV}$  due to **bunch space charge**
- Instrument **damage** due to **beam induced heating**

Solution:

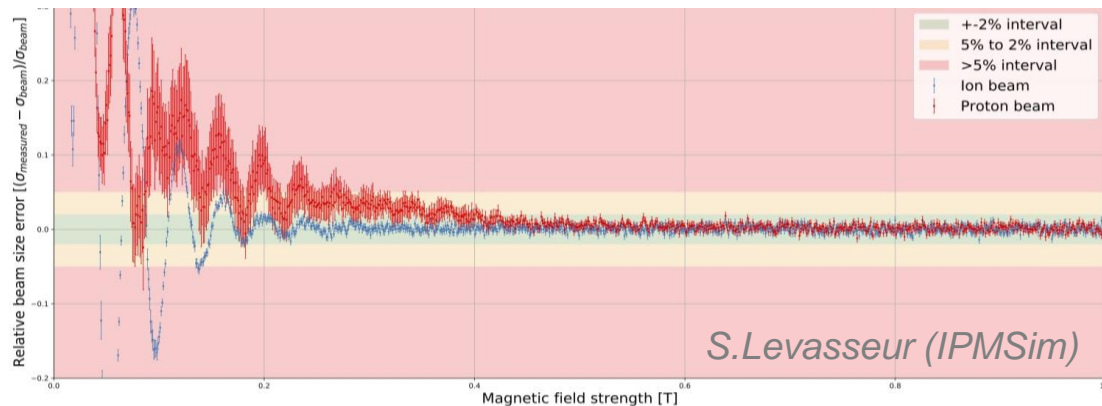
- **Compact** BGI based on Timepix3 with 0.6T dipole magnet

Preliminary design for 0.6T self-compensating dipole magnet

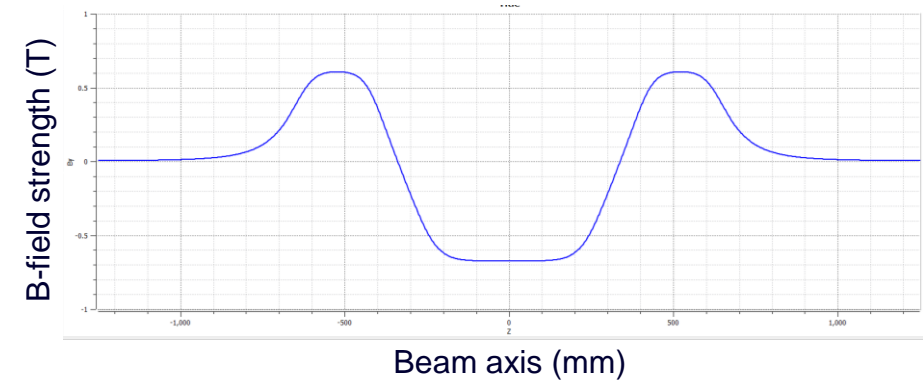


*D.Bodart (TE-MS)*

Beam size error vs. Magnetic field strength



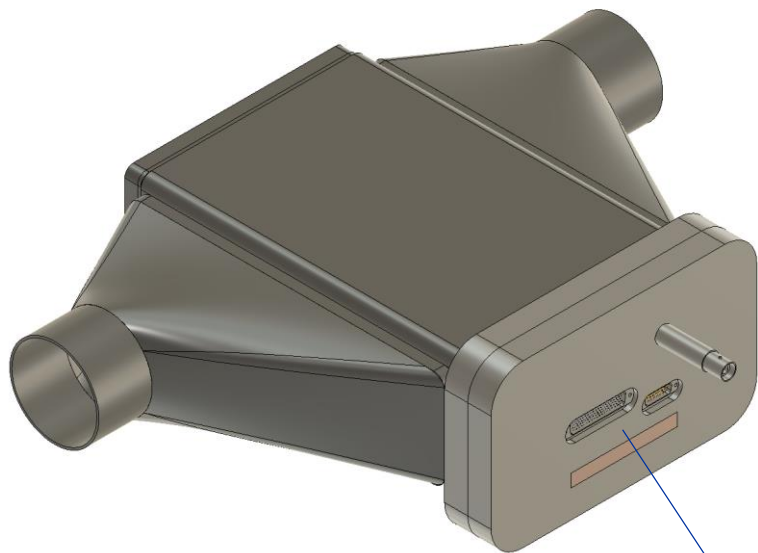
*S.Levasseur (IPMSim)*





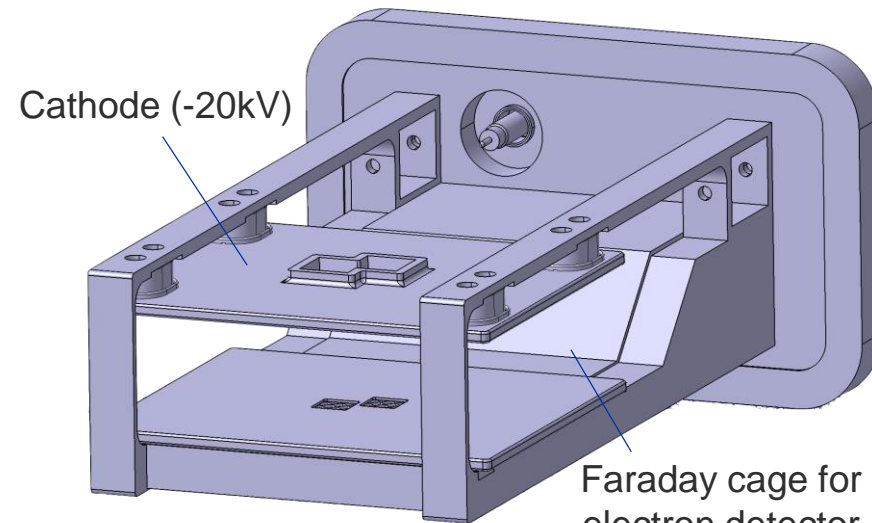
# LHC BGI – Preliminary design

## Vacuum chamber + instrumentation flange



High voltage &  
Timepix3 data &  
power connections

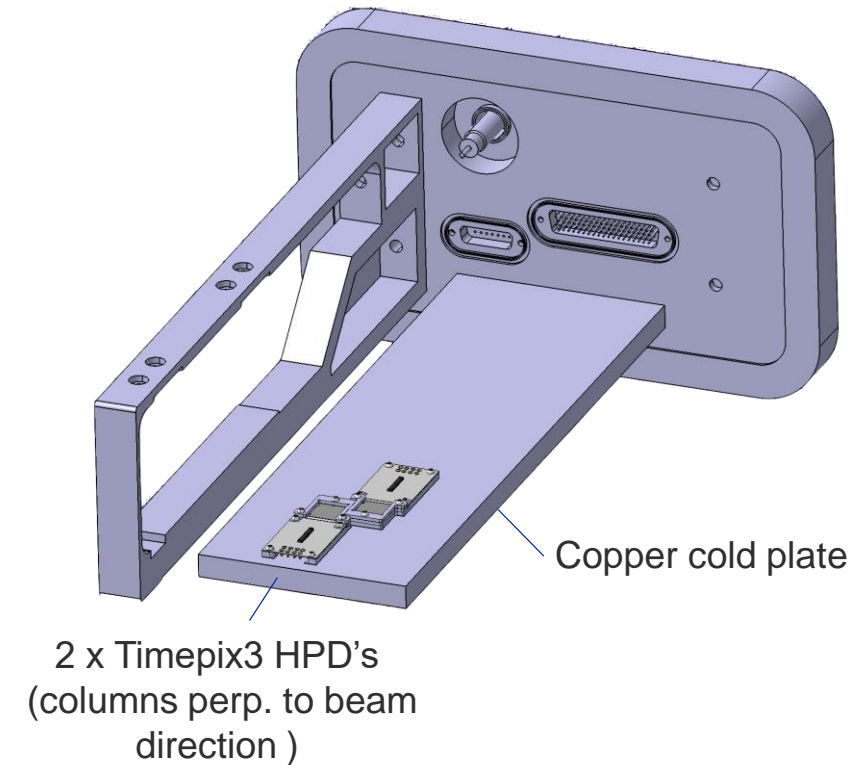
## Instrument



Cathode (-20kV)

Faraday cage for  
electron detector

## Ionisation electron detector



Copper cold plate

2 x Timepix3 HPD's  
(columns perp. to beam  
direction )

Swann Levasseur (CERN)

# LHC BGI – Timepix3 Baked UHV modules

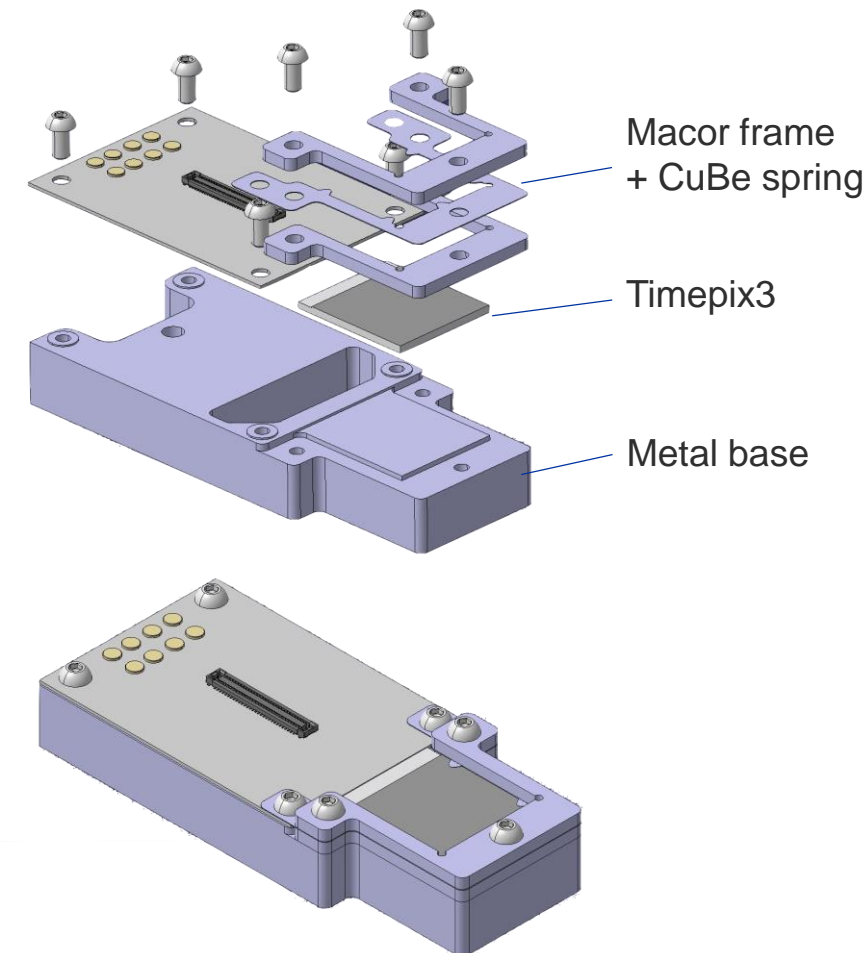
LHC vacuum – need to bake at (>) 120°C

## Problem:

- Not possible to use the Staystick (thermo-plastic) - used in PS BGI modules to attach Timepix3 chips and to provide thermal conductivity

## Solution(s) under development (R&D):

1. Mechanically hold Timepix3 chip to base with Macor frame & CuBe spring + indium sheeting providing thermal conductivity between the chip & base.
2. Braze chip directly to the base by:
  - I. Sputtering chromium / gold to the base of the chip
  - II. Sputtering gold to a tungsten base
  - III. Brazing together with Indium at 160 °C



Swann Levasseur (CERN)

# LHC BGI - Beam halo monitoring

Need to monitor particle population in the beam halo, which for HL-LHC beams can store up-to 30MJ of energy

Ionisation electron signal with gas injection:

- Gas pressure =  $1 \times 10^{-8}$  mbar Neon
- Ionisation electron rate of full LHC beam =  $10^{10}$  electrons / beam / s
  - $5 \times 10^3$  electrons / beam / s are outside 5 sigma = beam halo “signal”

Timepix3 readout limitation:

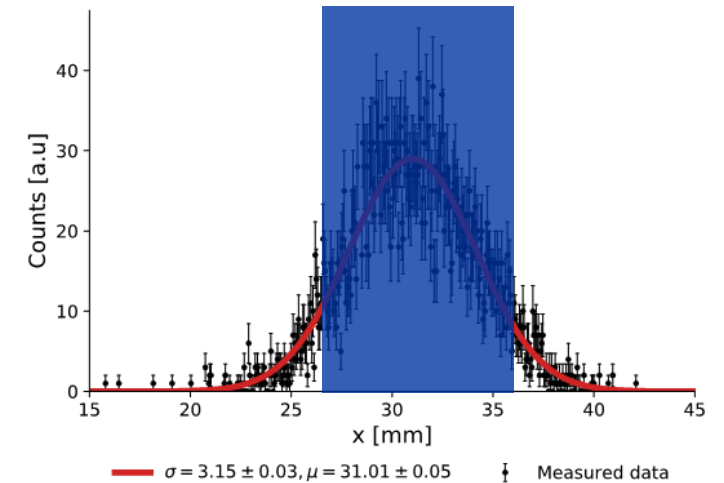
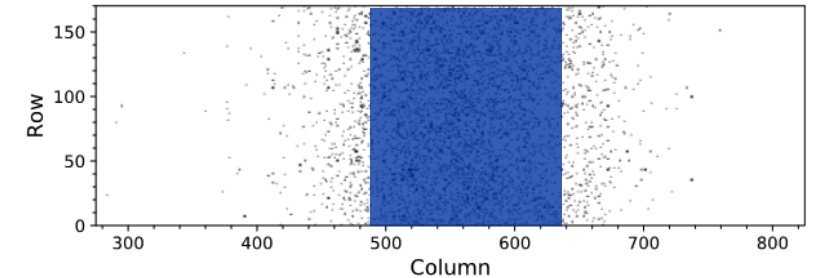
- Maximum detector readout of  $160 \times 10^6$  (\*) events / s,  $\ll 10^{10}$  electrons / s of the full signal

Possible solution:

- Significantly reduce data rate by **masking pixels** in the “core” of the signal ( “Digital-Coronagraph” )
- e.g. Mask all pixels within a  $3 \times$  sigma beam core window **reduces to data rate to  $2 \times 10^6$  electrons / beam / s**

(\*) detector consists of 2 x Timepix3 HPD's

Mask pixels beneath the beam core to focus readout bandwidth on the beam halo



# Backgrounds?

**Signal** = 5000 electrons / beam / s

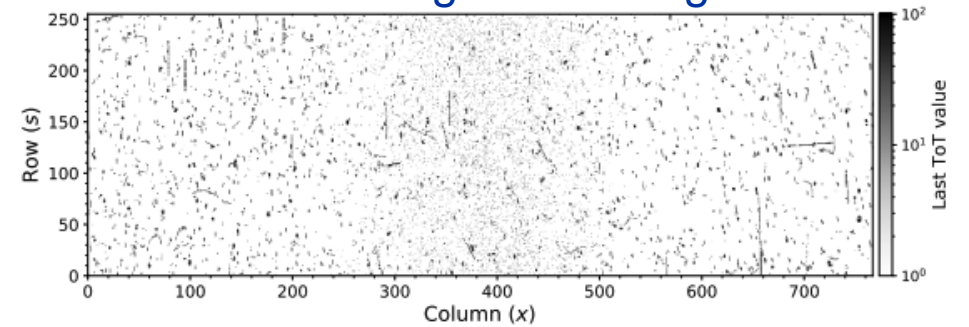
## Backgrounds:

- Secondary particles from inelastic beam gas interactions
- Secondary particles from beam loss
- Material activation, etc...

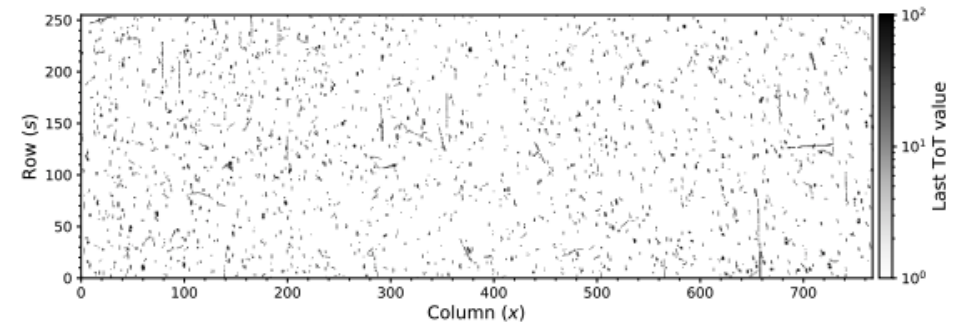
## Background suppression:

- Transform Timepix3 events to particle events with **cluster finding methods** (DBSCAN)
- Apply selection criteria (e.g. cluster size, energy ) to select only ionisation electron
- Method already demonstrated with the PS BGI to remove beam loss background from ionisation electron signal

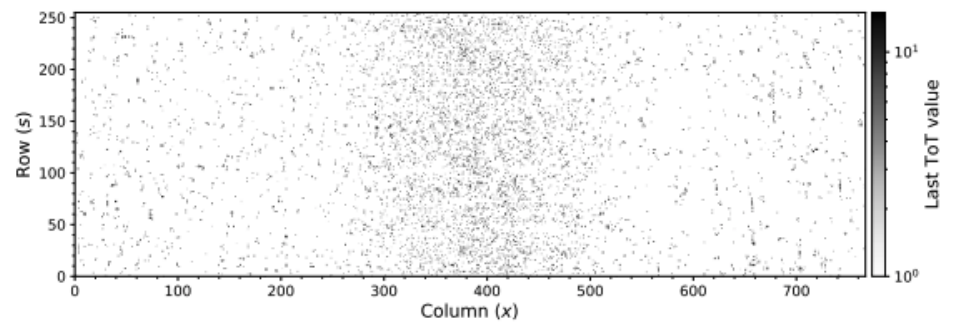
Raw data = Signal + Background



Clusters passing Background selection



Clusters passing Signal selection

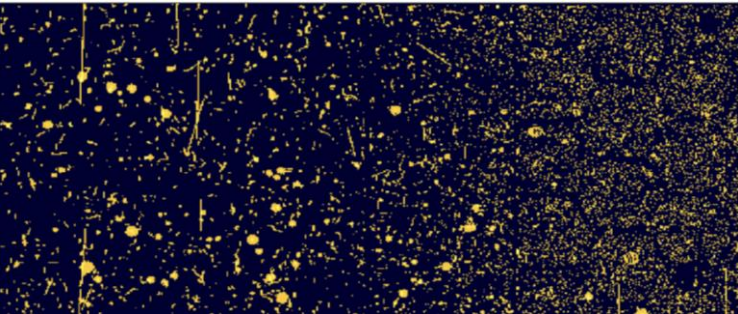


Hampus Sandberg (CERN)

# Fast Beam Loss Monitor (BLM) based on Timepix3

Operational need: Fast beam loss monitor for rapid deployment in the LHC

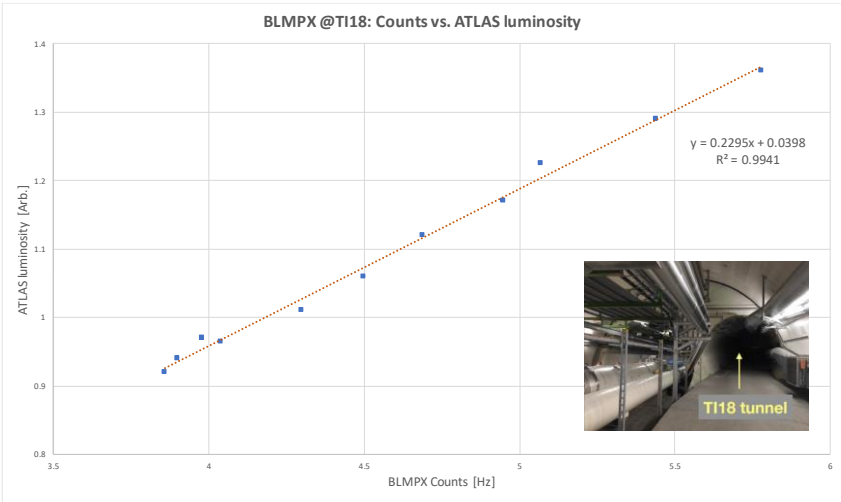
**Timepix3-BLM** = Timepix3 HPD + BIPXL readout systems ( minimal amount of development )



Beam loss in the PS at injection as seen by PS BGI



Radiation tolerant Fast BLM based on Timepix3 with BIPXL readout



Measurement for FASER at T118 – 2 hour installation

# Conclusion

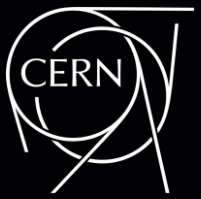
Timepix3(/4) technology

+ Direct operation in the accelerator beam pipe (UHV compatible electronics)

+ Common radiation tolerant readout (BIPXL)

+ Support of the Medipix community

= **Fantastic potential for beam instrumentation applications!**



Finally...

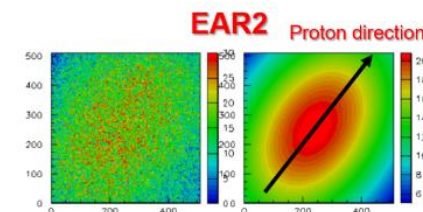
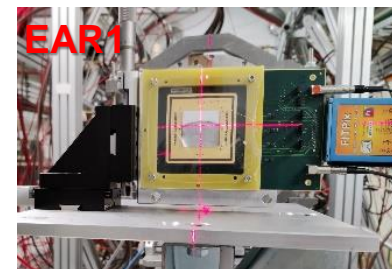
Special thanks to the EP-ESE Medipix team for the great support!

# Other use of Timepix technology for beam diagnostics @CERN (Slide from F.Murtas INFN/CERN)

- **nToF** : for the beam laser alignment in :

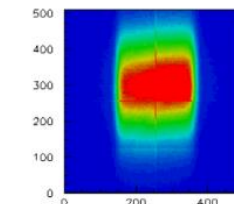
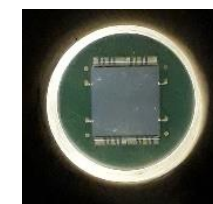
[EAR1: EDMS 2715844](#)

[EAR2: EDMS 2716039](#)



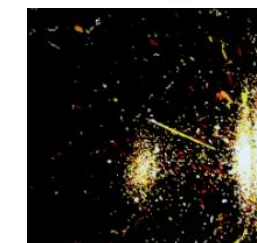
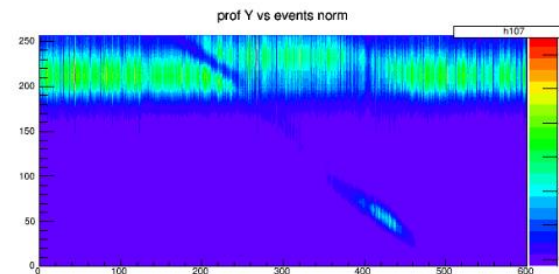
- **CERF** : for aligning the copper target to the beam

[EDMS 2646206](#)



- **UA9** : for Crystal characterization in SPS and double channeling studies

[NIMA 1015 \(2021\) 165747](#)



- **UA9** : new roman pot BHM (agreement KE4450/EN) and readout (Addendum 17 INFN - KN 5080/SY)

- One device already installed in **SPS**
- Other **4** in **production** at INFN Frascati

