



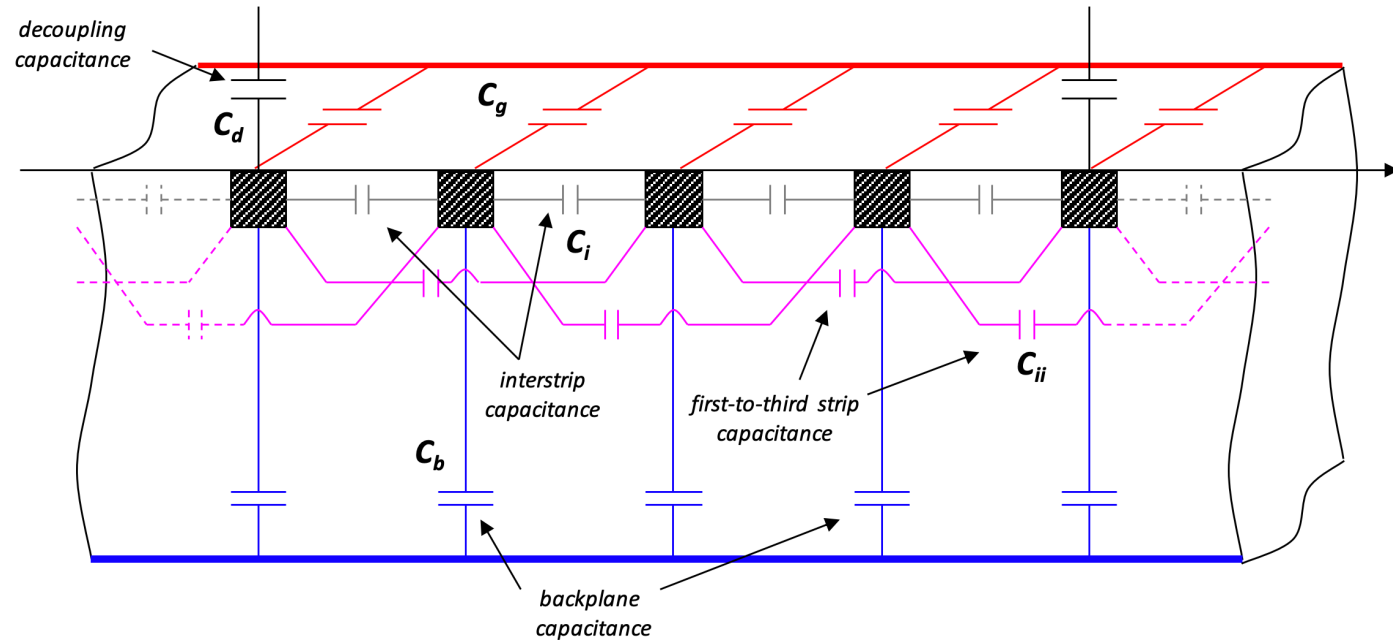
Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare

# Silicon Strip Detectors in Physics: From Nuclear Physics to Space Applications

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# The typical silicon strip detector



- Set of p-n junction diodes operated at reverse bias
- Charged particle crossing induces a current on the segmented electrodes (strips)
- Underlying capacitive coupling network influences the signal behaviour of the detector (charge sharing, backplane charge losses ...)

## Typical capacitance values

$$C_i = \text{interstrip capacitance} \approx 1 \text{ pF/cm}$$

$$C_b = \text{backplane capacitance} < C_i/5$$

$$C_g = \text{guardring capacitance} \approx C_i/20$$

$$C_{ii} = \text{first-to-third strip capacitance} \ll C_i$$

$$C_d = \text{decoupling capacitance} \approx 10 \text{ pF/cm} \gg C_i, C_b, C_g, C_{ii}$$

# One detector, many uses

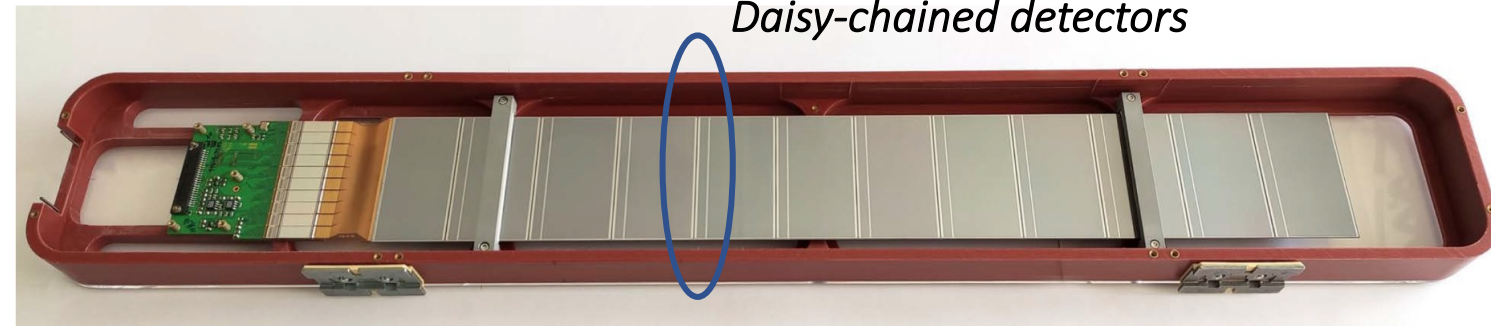
- Proven technology used since the 80s
- Still the natural choice for large area coverage
- Detector parameters can be tuned for the desired performance
- Wide range of applications, from low energy (hundreds of MeV/u) nuclear physics to space-borne experiments

*Some applications have very stringent constraints on some of the parameters, for example:*

Detector Parameter	Main effect	Constraints
Readout pitch	Spatial resolution	Area to cover, readout input lines footprint ...
Number of channels	Cost	Power consumption, data bandwidth needed ...
Thickness	Deposited charge, charge loss	Mechanical strength, fragmentation and MCS ...
Length	Strip capacitance	Noise levels, production capabilities ...

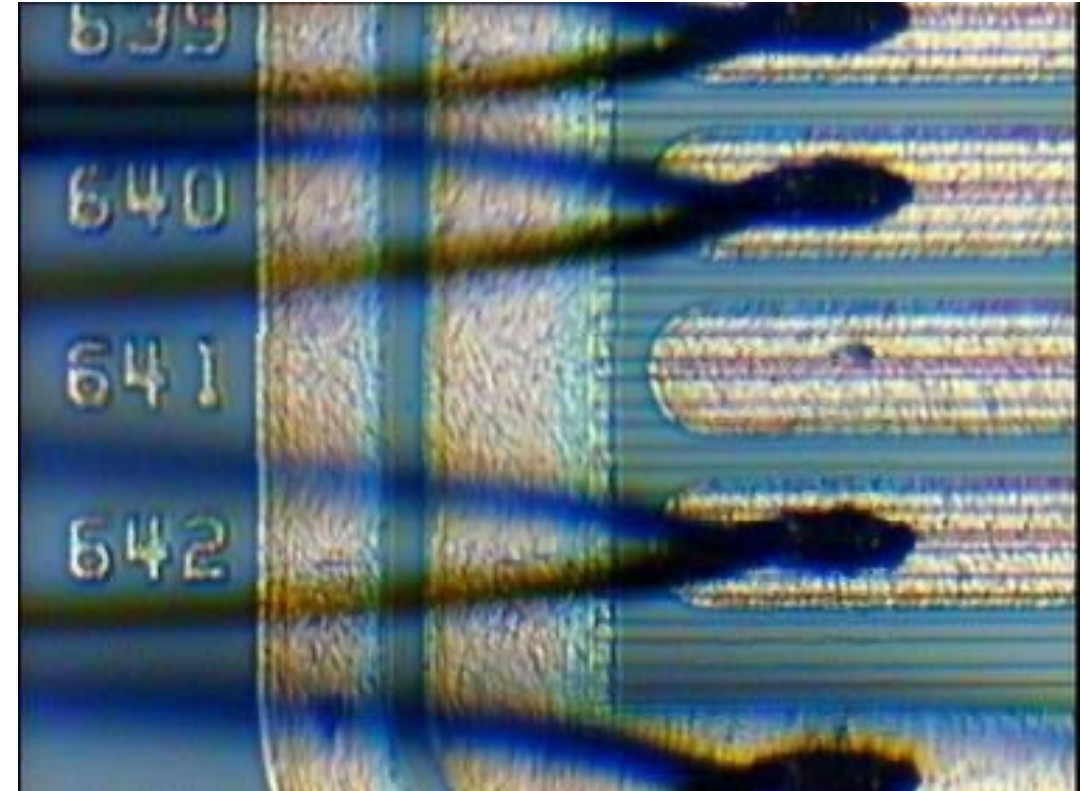
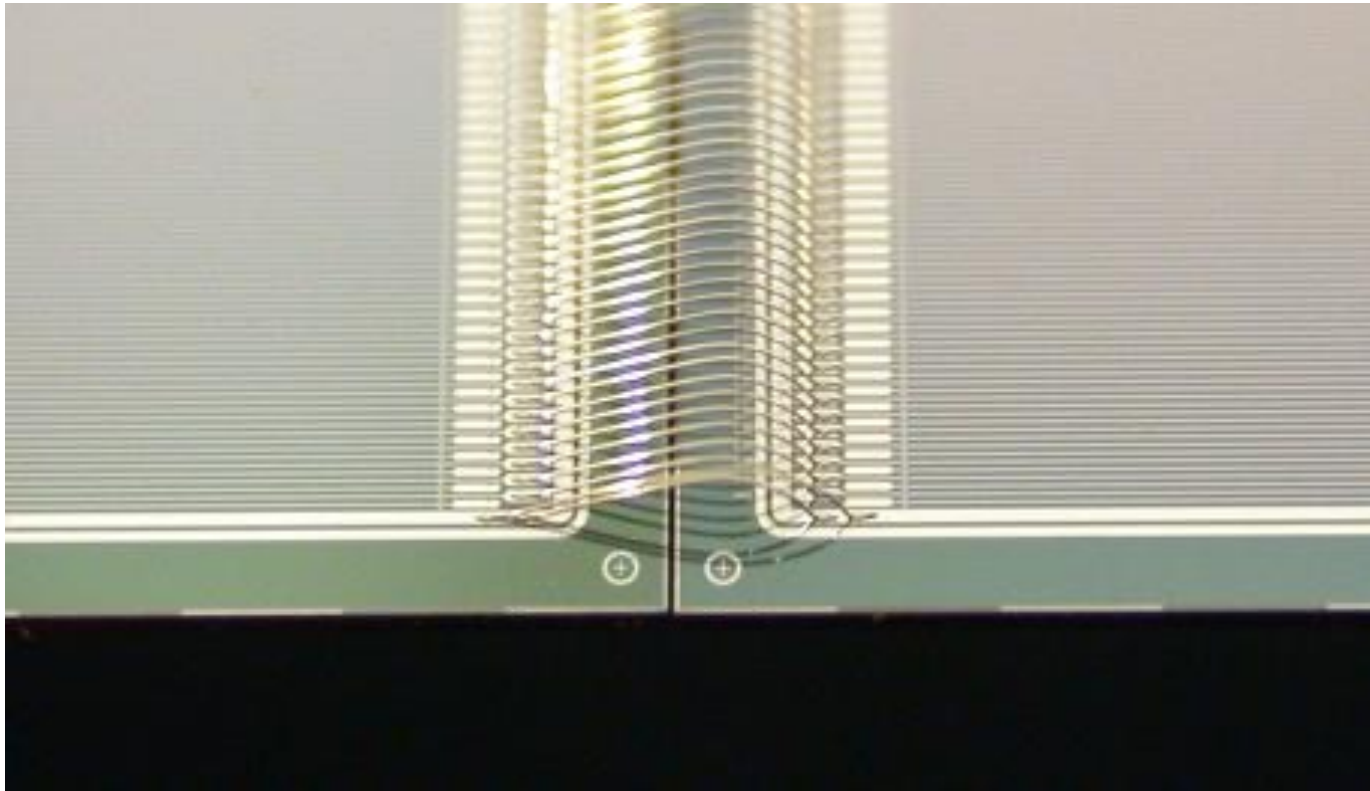
# Space application (present): AMS-02 tracker

- Nine layers of double sided silicon detectors
- *10 um (30 um) spatial resolution in bending (non bending) plane*
- Momentum resolution  $\approx 10\%$  @10 GeV
- High dynamic range front end for charge measurement
- *Long (28-60cm) "ladders" with daisy-chained sensors*
- *Total covered area approx 7 m<sup>2</sup>*
- *Total of 200k channels for  $\approx 200$  watt*



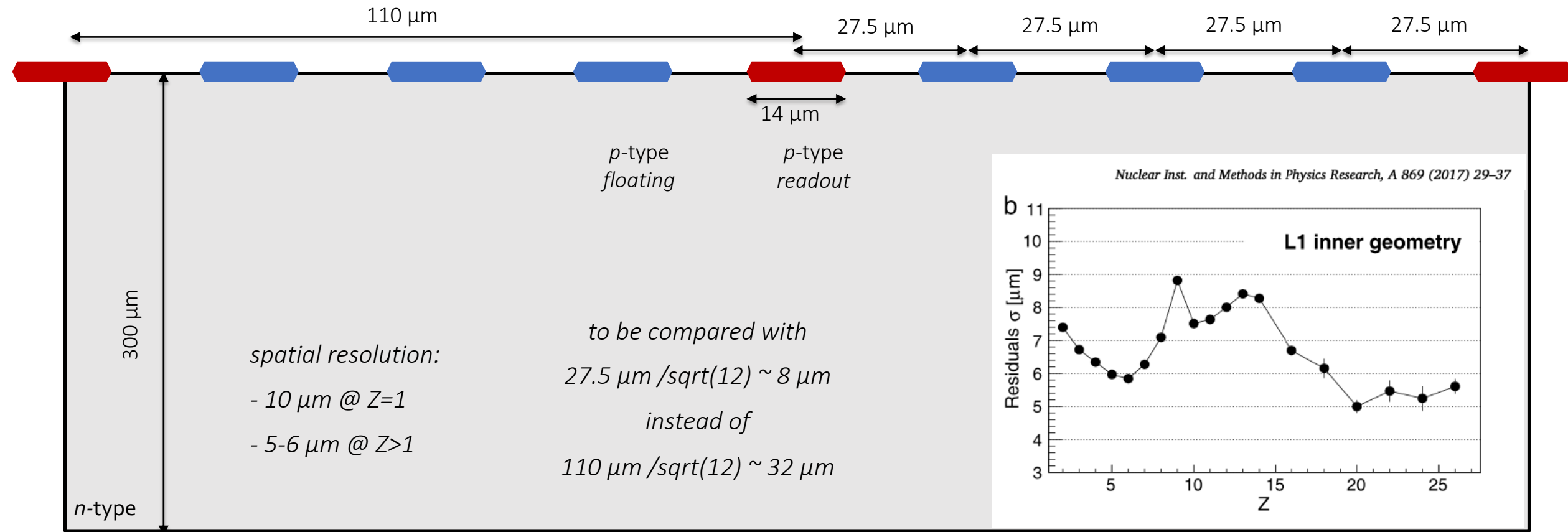
# AMS-02 tracker

To connect electrically all the sensors in a ladder, all the strips are daisy-chained with a 25  $\mu\text{m}$  Al wire through ultrasonic bondings



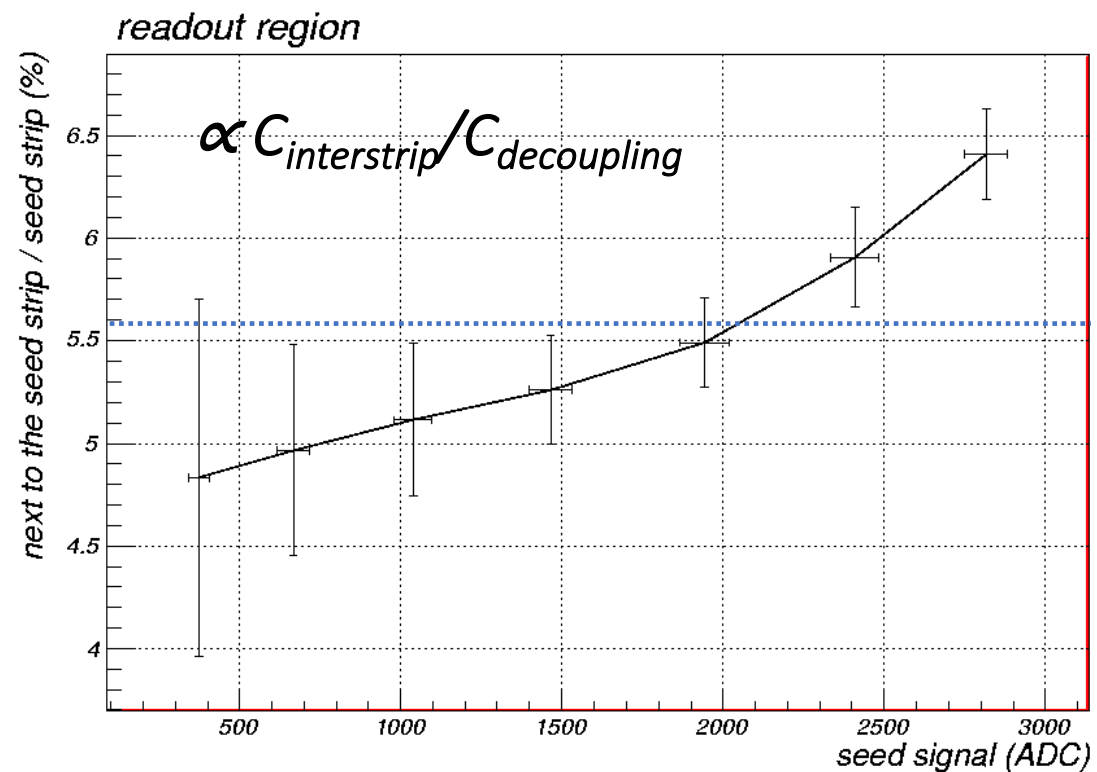
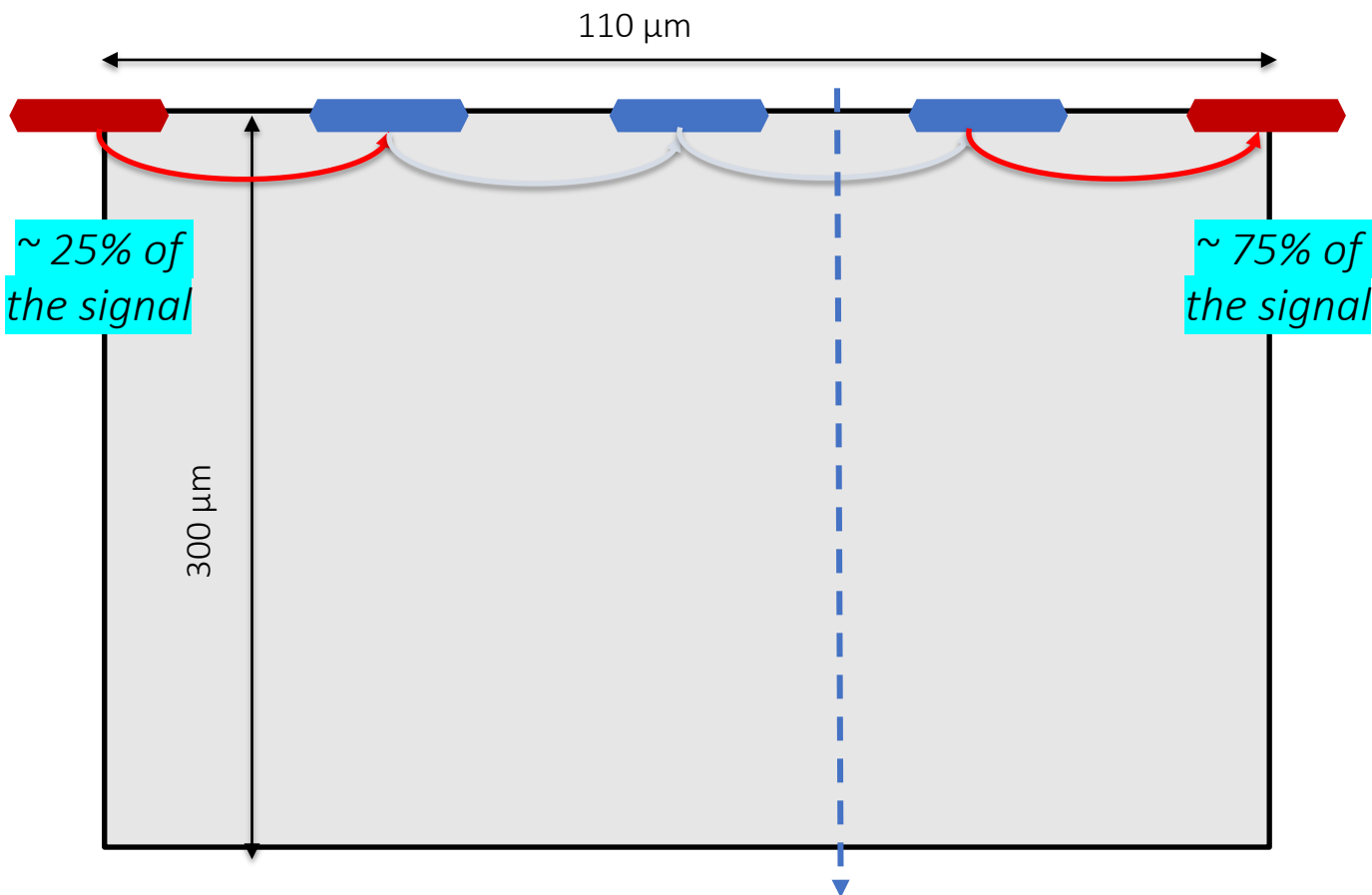
# AMS-02 tracker

Spatial resolutions of about 10  $\mu\text{m}$  can be achieved even with a 110  $\mu\text{m}$  readout pitch with the use of "floating" strips: intermediate electrodes implanted but not read-out



# AMS-02 tracker

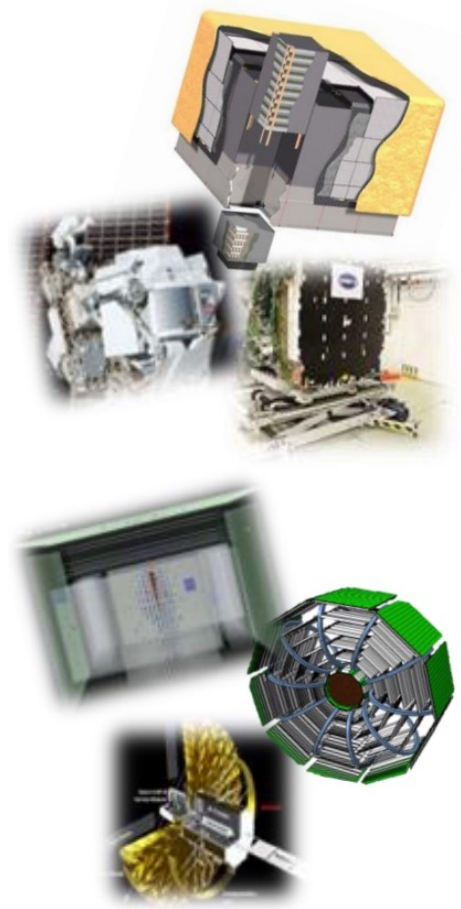
- From Ramo's theorem: only the closest electrode should have signal ("digital" readout)
  - Capacitive coupling of strips shares the signal
  - Impact point can be better evaluated
  - The floating (non-readout) strips helps this charge sharing
- Charge sharing improves spatial resolution and allows to correct for main strip electronic saturation effects



# Space application: present and future

Most of space detectors for charged cosmic ray and  $\gamma$ -ray measurements require solid state tracking systems based on Si- $\mu$ strip sensors.

Si- $\mu$ strip detectors, at the moment, are the only solution to instrument *large area detectors* with larger number of electronics channels coping with the *limitations on power consumption in space*



## Operating Missions

	Mission Start	Si-sensor area	Strip- length	Readout channels	Readout pitch	Spatial resolution
<b>Fermi-LAT</b>	2008	~ 74 m <sup>2</sup>	38 cm	~ 880 10 <sup>3</sup>	228 $\mu$ m	~ 66 $\mu$ m
<b>AMS-02</b>	2011	~ 7 m <sup>2</sup>	29-62 cm	~ 200 10 <sup>3</sup>	110 $\mu$ m	~ 7 $\mu$ m
<b>DAMPE</b>	2015	~ 7 m <sup>2</sup>	38 cm	~ 70 10 <sup>3</sup>	242 $\mu$ m	~ 40 $\mu$ m

## Future Missions

	Planned operations	Si-sensor area	Strip- length	Readout channels	Readout pitch	Spatial resolution
<b>HERD</b>	2030	~ 35 m <sup>2</sup>	48-67 cm	~ 350 10 <sup>3</sup>	~ 242 $\mu$ m	~ 40 $\mu$ m
<b>ALADInO</b>	2050	~ 80-100 m <sup>2</sup>	19-67 cm	~ 2.5 10 <sup>6</sup>	~ 100 $\mu$ m	~ 5 $\mu$ m
<b>AMS-100</b>	2050	~ 180-200 m <sup>2</sup>	~ 100 cm	~ 8 10 <sup>6</sup>	~ 100 $\mu$ m	~ 5 $\mu$ m

Duranti, M.; Vagelli, V.; Ambrosi, G.; Barbanera, M.; Bertucci, B.; Catanzani, E.; Donnini, F.; Faldi, F.; Formato, V.; Graziani, M.; Ionica, M.; Moriconi, L.; Oliva, A.; Serpolla, A.; Silvestre, G.; Tosti, L. Advantages and Requirements in Time Resolving Tracking for Astroparticle Experiments in Space. *Instruments* 2021, 5, 20.

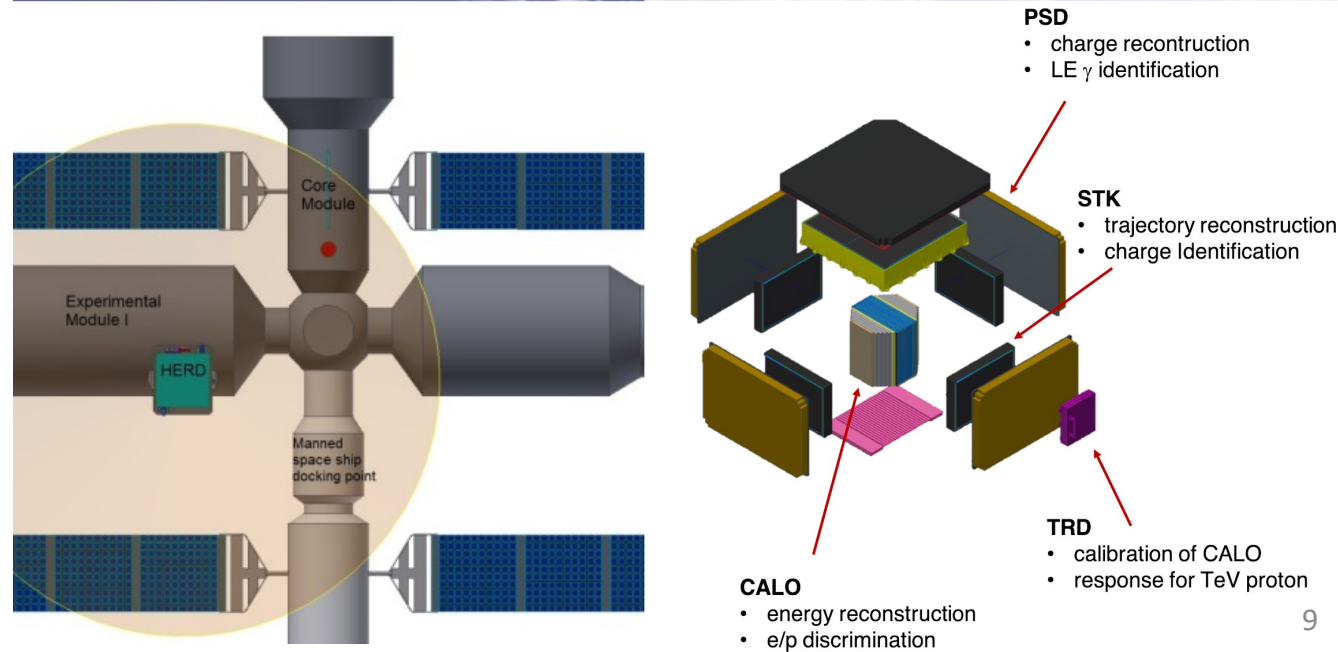
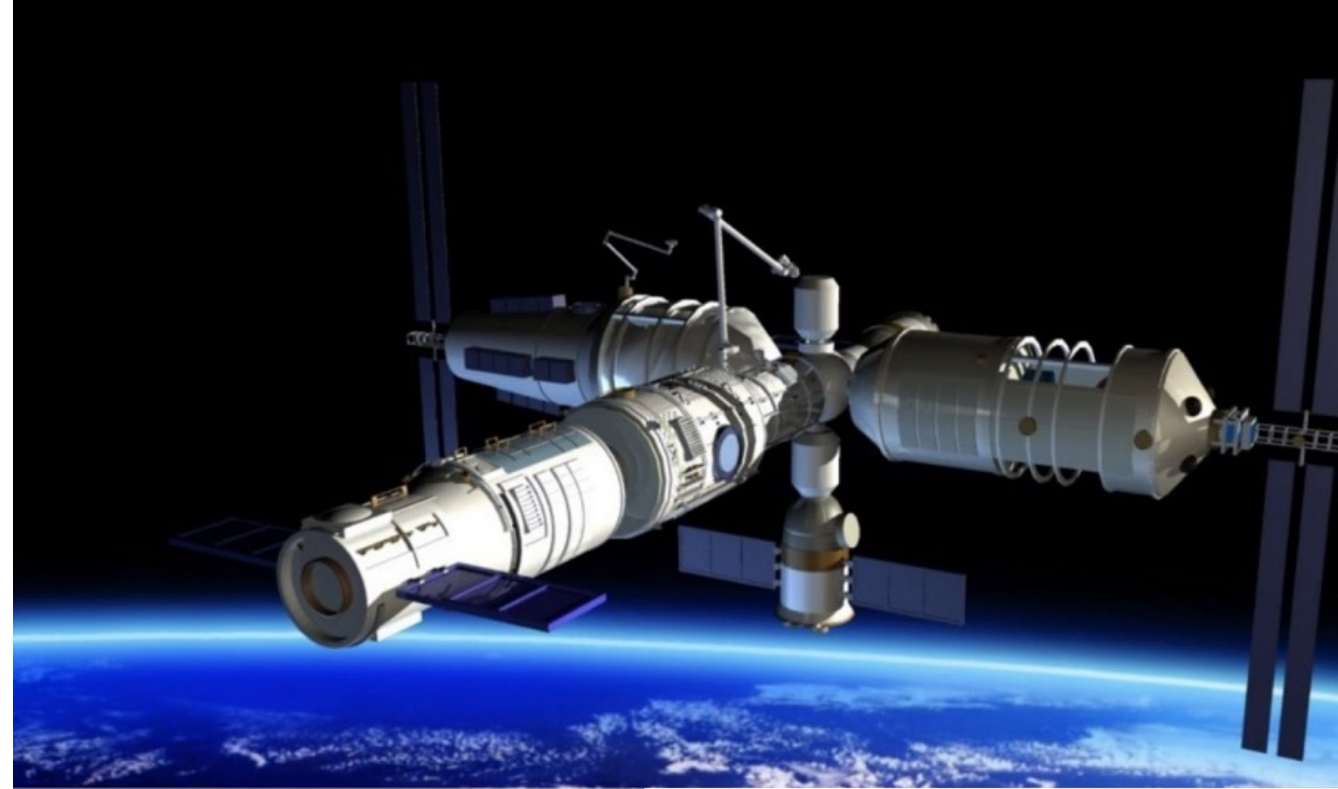
<https://doi.org/10.3390/instruments5020020>



# Space application (future): HERD

## High Energy Radiation Detector (HERD) on the Chinese Space Station (2026-2027)

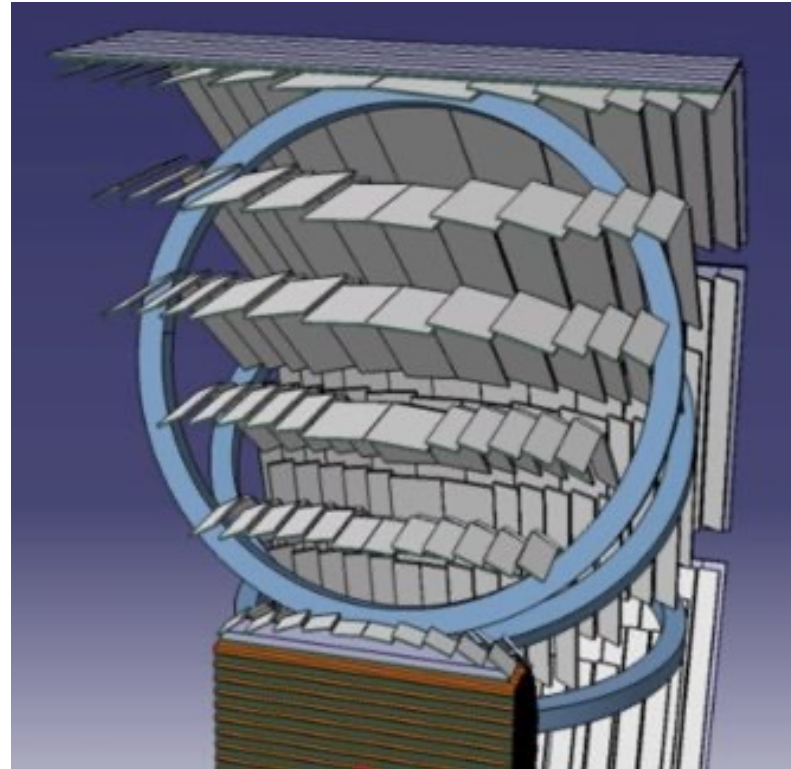
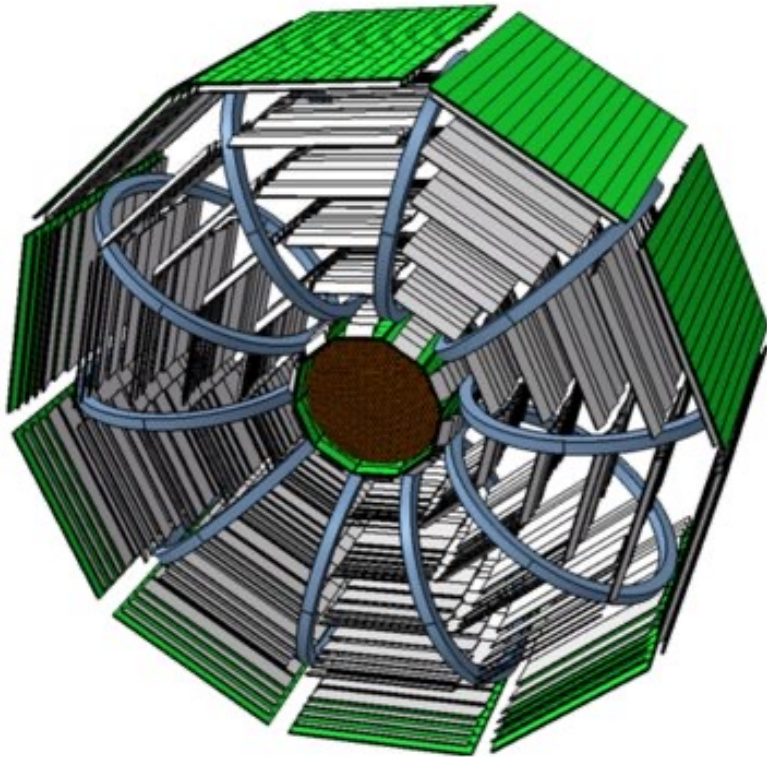
- LYSO calorimeter
- Small TRD for hadronic energy calibration
- 5 sides PSD
- *5 sides Tracker*
  - 60 m<sup>2</sup> area
  - 200-400k channels
  - ~ 100W for FE
  - ~ 200W for read-out



## Space application (future): ALADInO

### Antimatter Large Acceptance Detector In Orbit (ALADInO)

- Orbiting on L2
- LYSO calorimeter
- $2\pi$  PSD and ToF
- 3T (0.8T average) B-field by "hot" super-conducting magnet MgB<sub>2</sub>

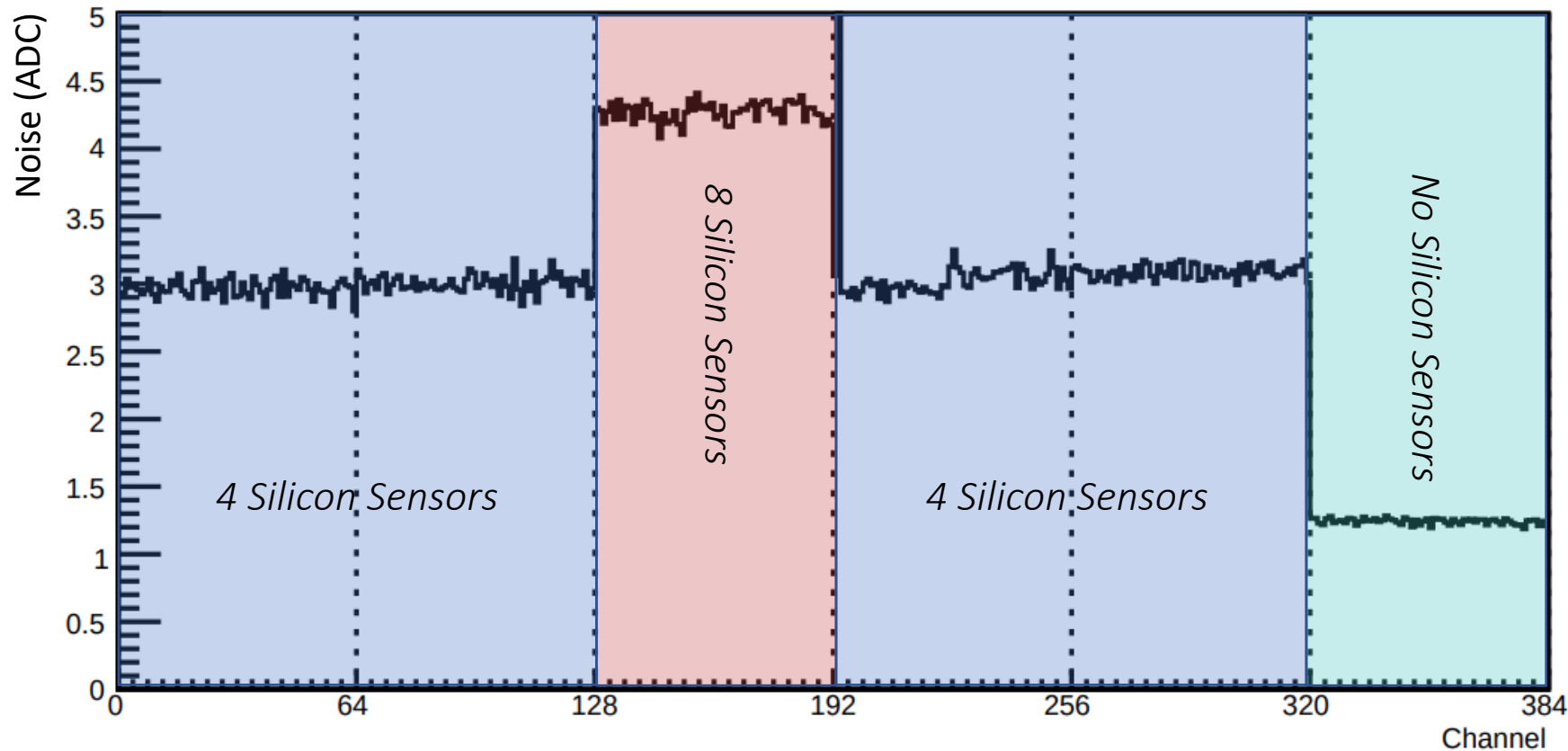


### *2π Tracker*

- *80 m<sup>2</sup> area*
- *1.5M channels*
- *~1kW available*

# Space application: need for large area coverage

- Daisy-chain of silicon sensors allows for a large area without using any additional electronics
- Increase in noise can be kept under control even for long ( $\approx 1\text{m}$ ) detectors
- Large area can be covered keeping number of channels (and power) under control

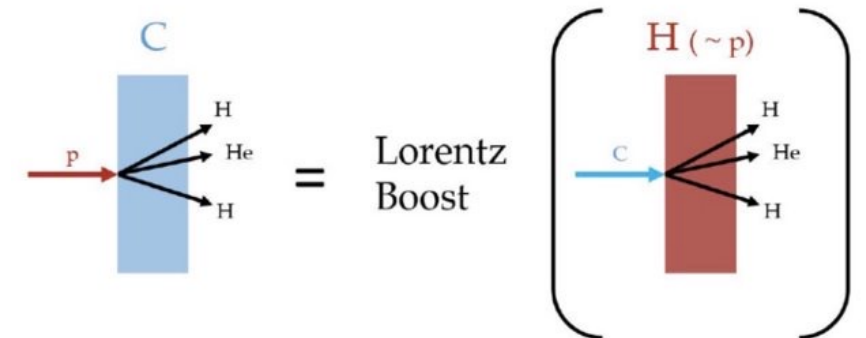
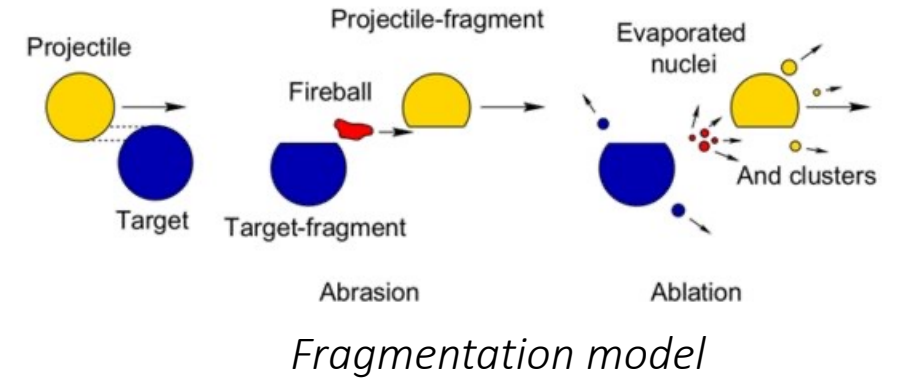
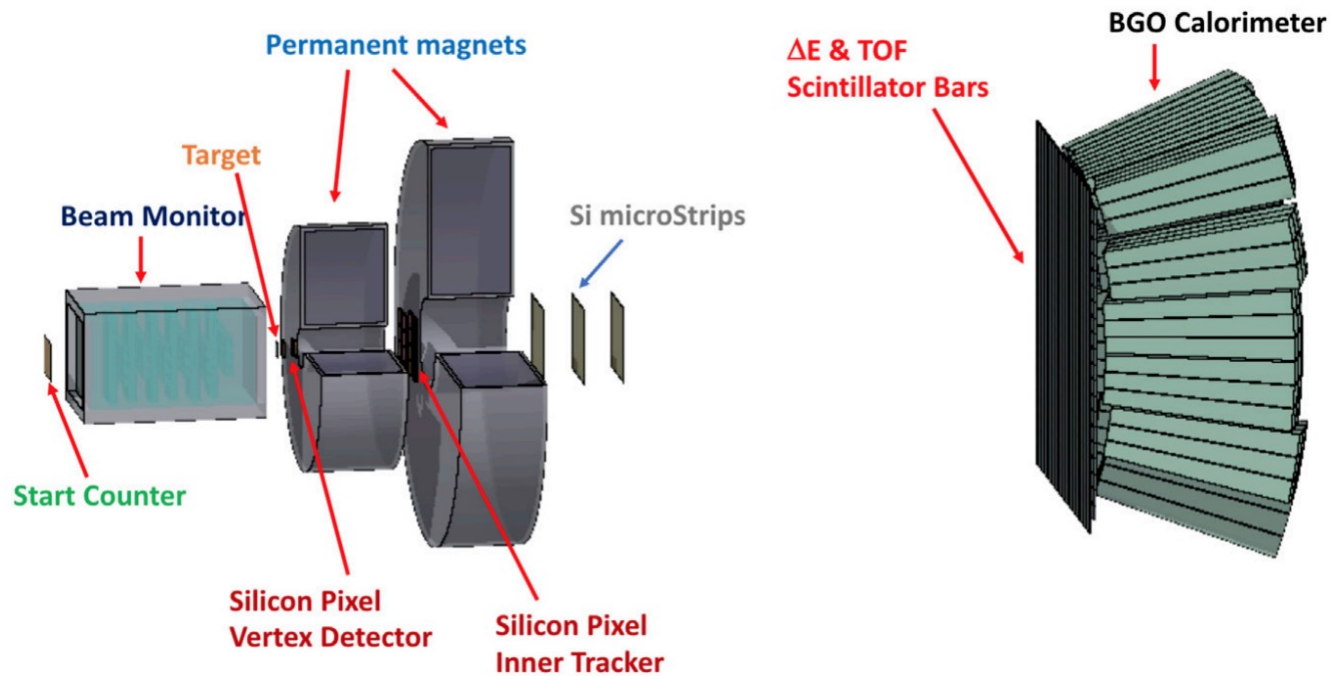


$$C_{eff} = A + B C_{strip} L$$

# of silicon sensors	Mean noise value (ADC)
0	$\approx 1.2$
4	$\approx 3.0$
8	$\approx 4.2$

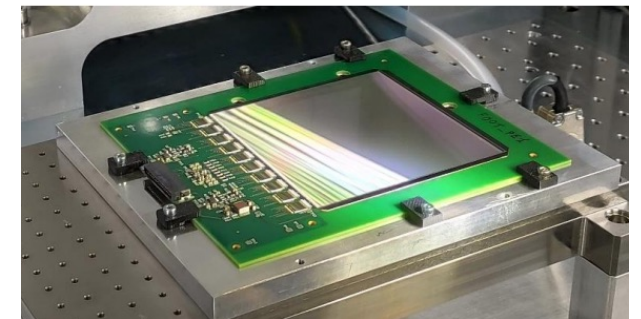
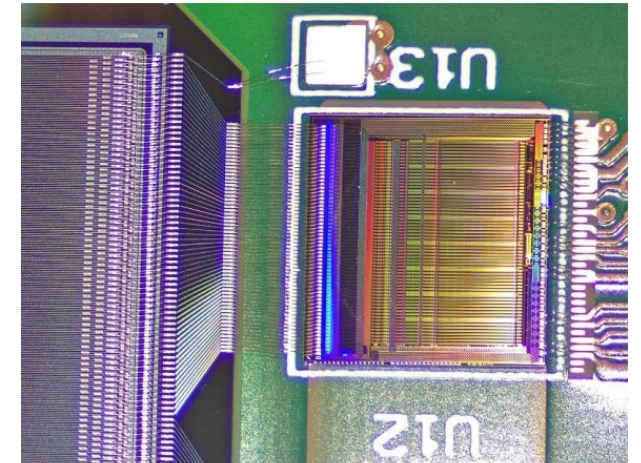
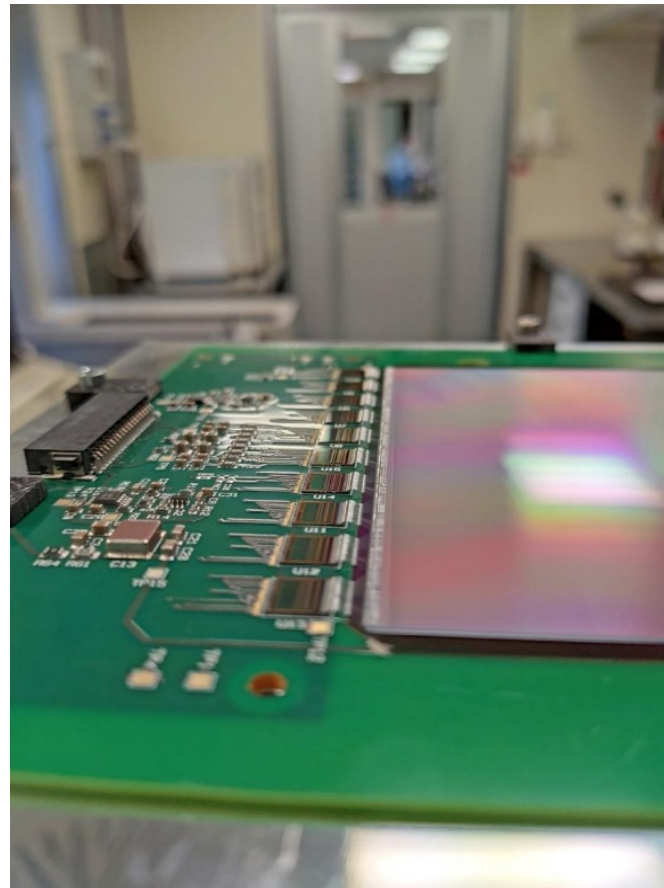
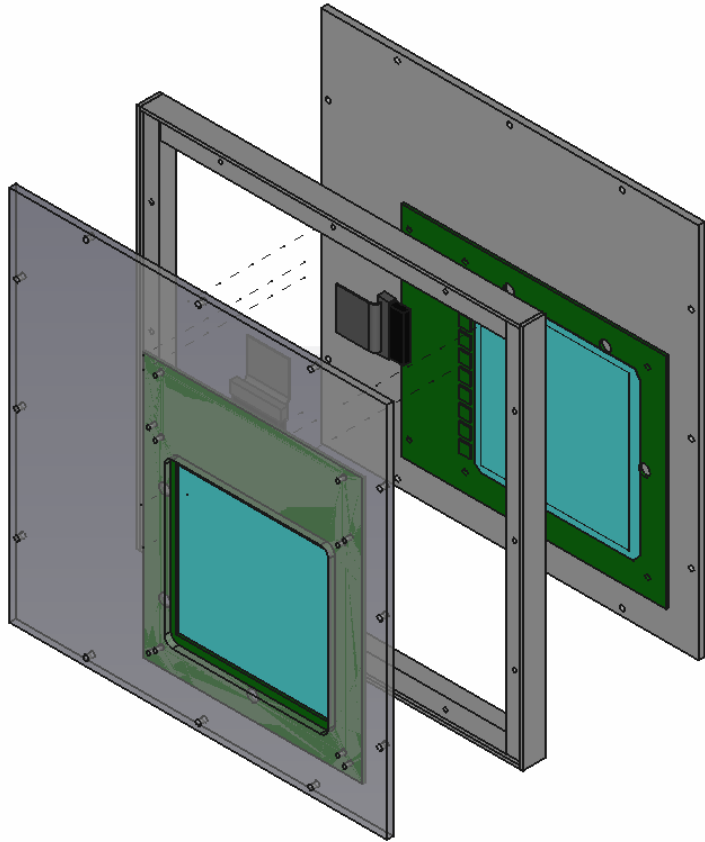
# Low energy nuclear physics: the FragmentatiOn Of Target experiment

- Hadrontherapy energies (several hundreds of MeV per nucleon)
  - Target (tissue) fragmentation
  - Beam fragmentation
- Contribution of very short range secondary fragments (some  $\mu\text{m}$ )
  - Non negligible dose deposited in the first part of the particle path
- FOOT will use the inverse kinematics approach



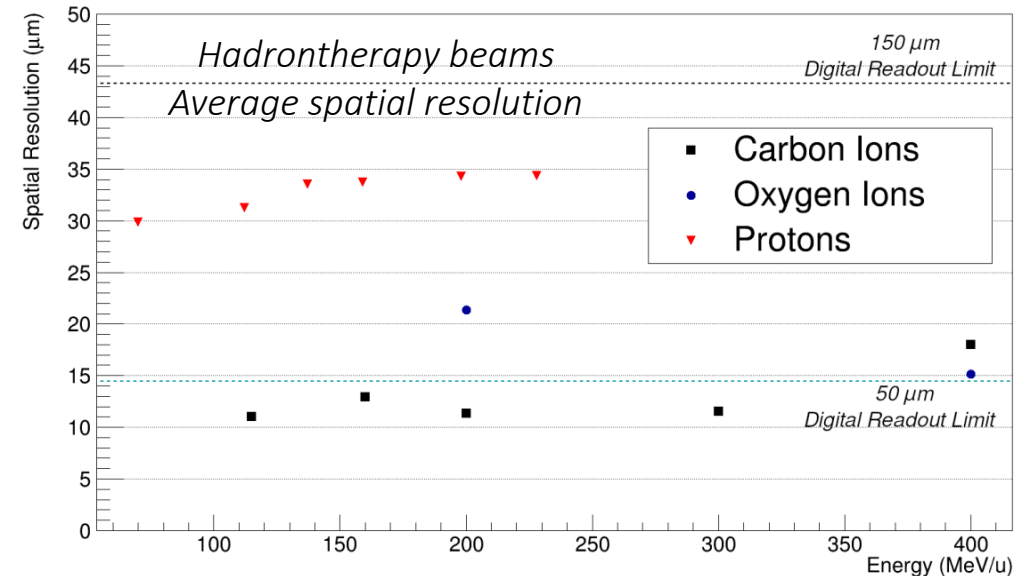
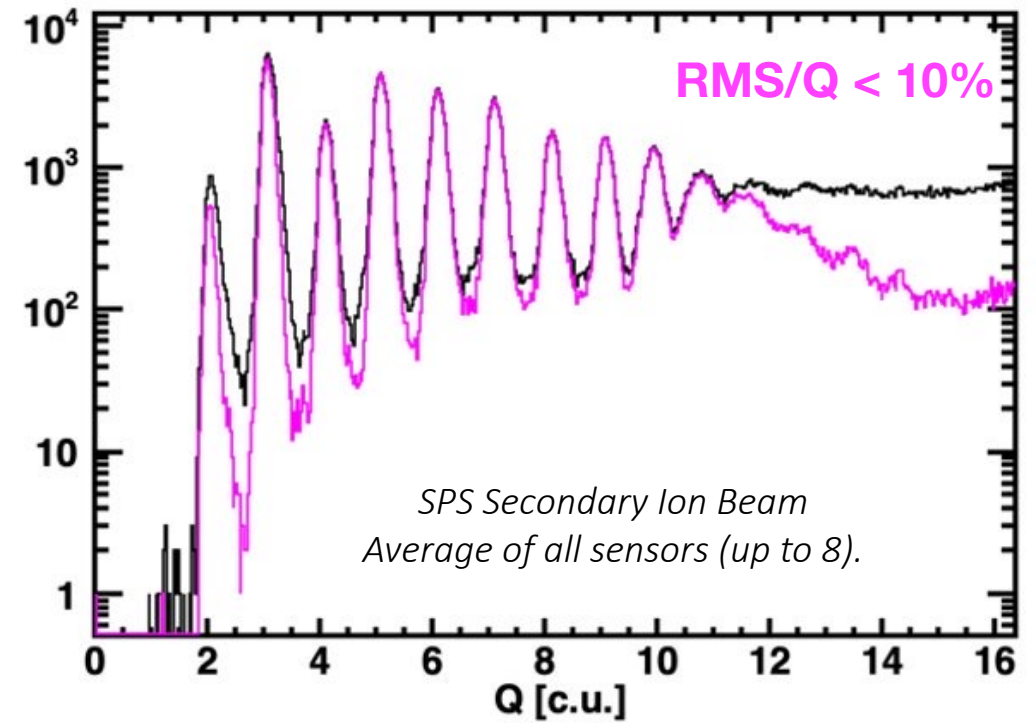
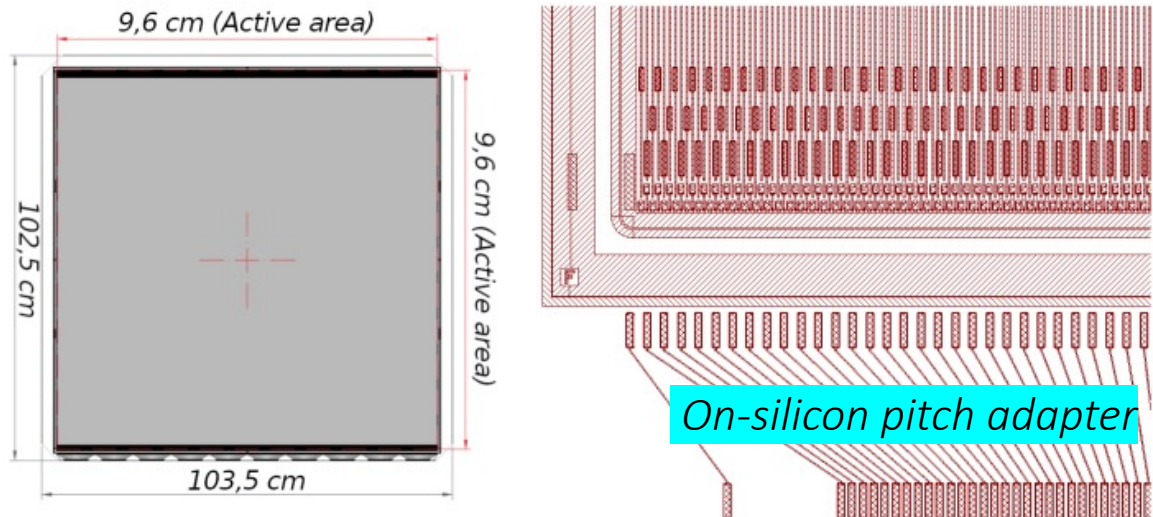
# The FOOT silicon strip detector

- Measurement of cross-section of interest for hadrontherapy
- Strip detectors to track the fragments and estimate their charge
- *Table-top* experiment: data takings in different facilities (CNAO in Pavia, HIT in Heidelberg ...)
- Constraints on detector footprint, power consumption and data bandwidth



# The FOOT silicon strip detector

- Silicon sensors made by Hamamatsu Photonics, 150 $\mu$ m thick
- 96 mm  $\times$  96 mm active area segmented in 1920 strips with a 50  $\mu$ m implantation pitch
- "Floating strip" approach: readout pitch of 150  $\mu$ m, with two strips connected to readout every three
- Spatial resolution up to  $\approx$  10  $\mu$ m with good charge resolution

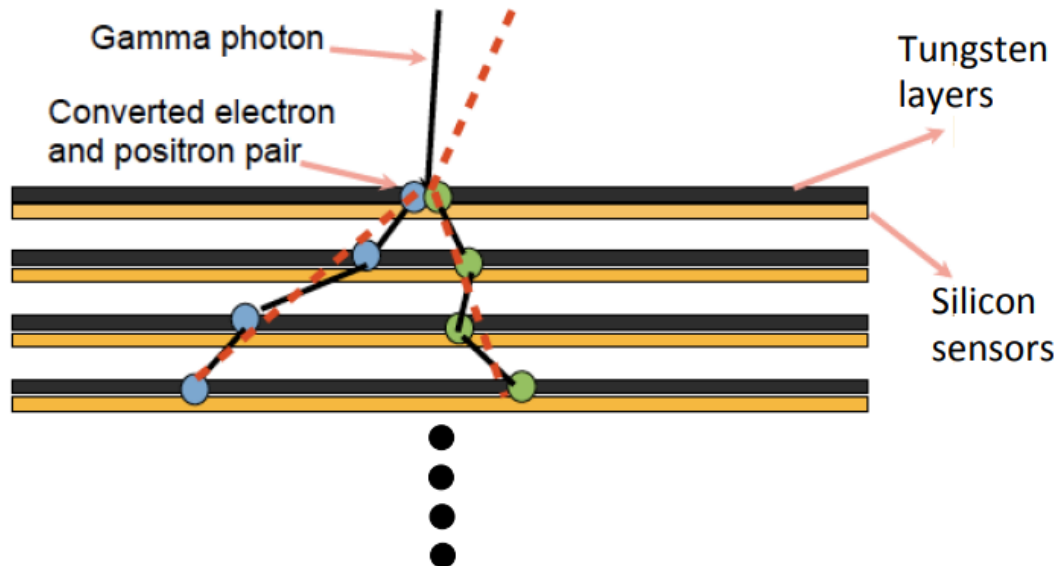


# Space application (future): PANGU

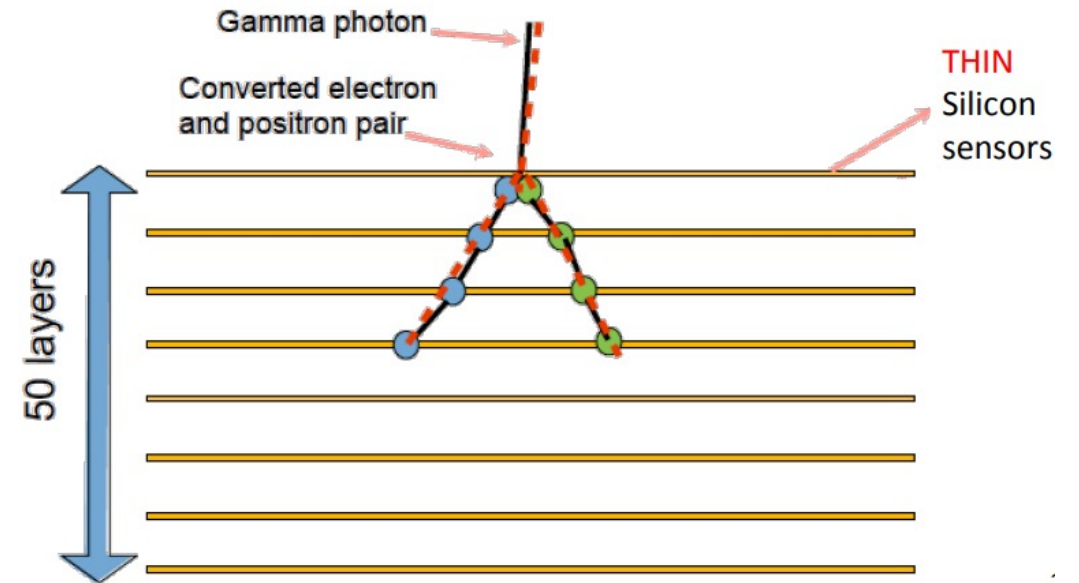
## PAir-productionN Gamma-ray Unit (PANGU)

- Sub-Gev  $\gamma$ -ray telescope
- Avoid MCS degradation with less material "Target" (e.g. tungsten for FERMI-LAT)
- Thin silicon sensors act as photon converters and tracker

### Detection principle: Fermi-LAT



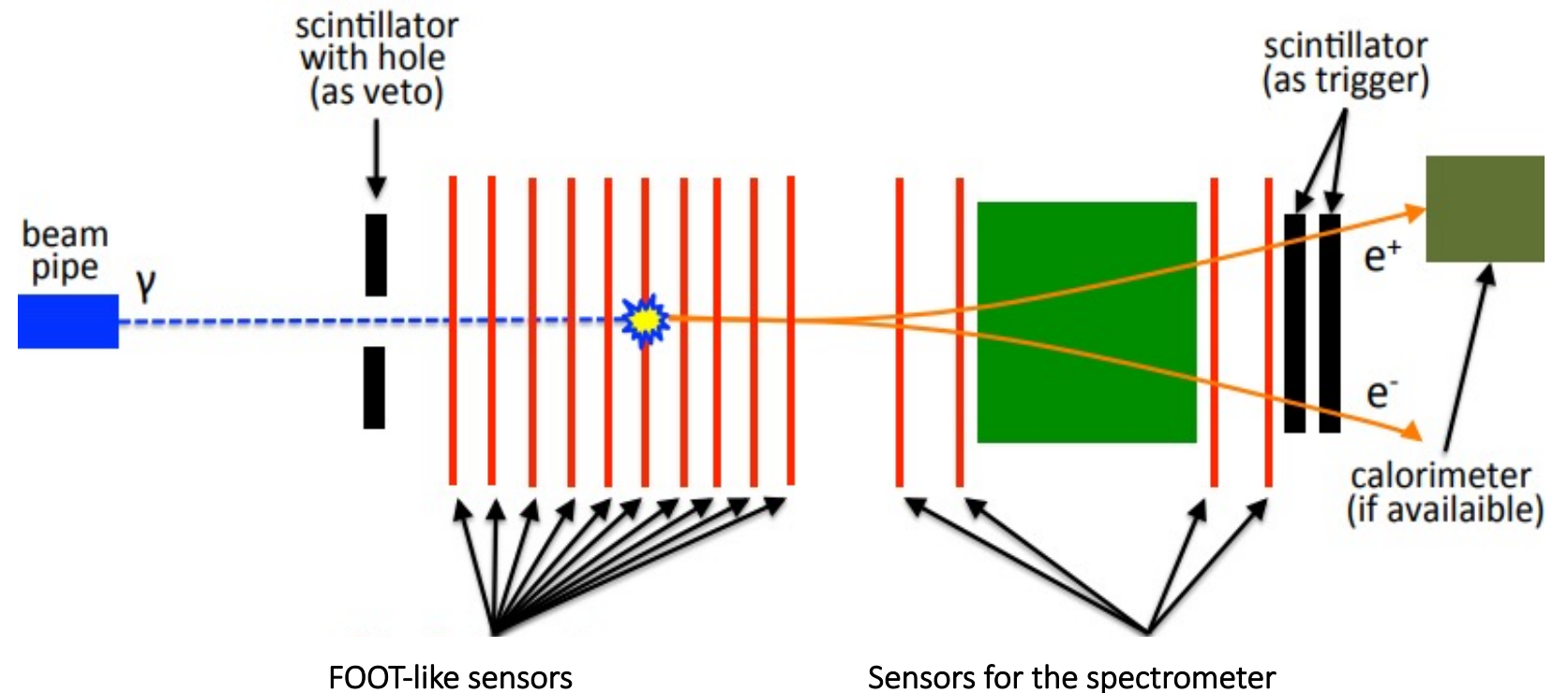
### Detection principle: PANGU!



# Space application (future): POX

- Synergic development with the FOOT experiment
- Same silicon sensor and DAQ chain can be used
- Experimental verification of a PANGU approach
  - PANGU-like demonstrator (on ground) to validate the experiment (in space)
  - Reduced R&D cost (shared requirements with the FOOT experiment on the detectors)
  - Validation of the expected performance

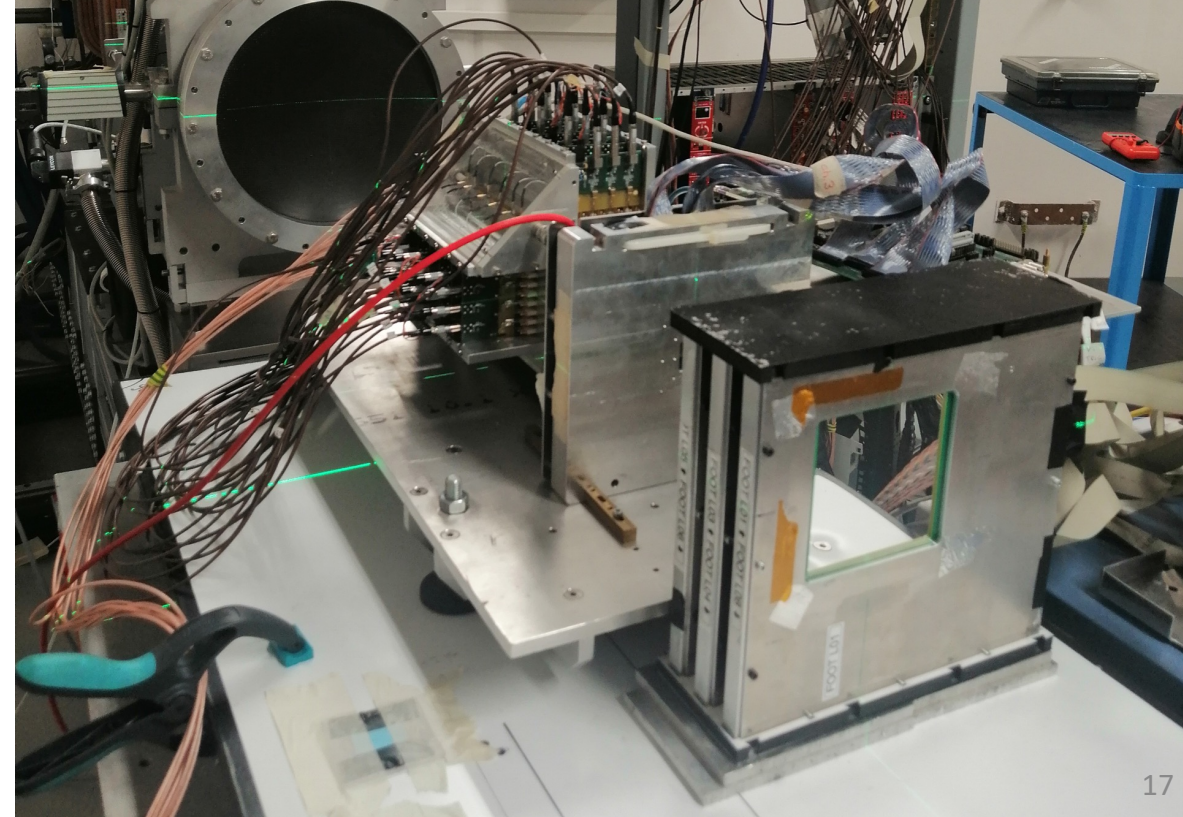
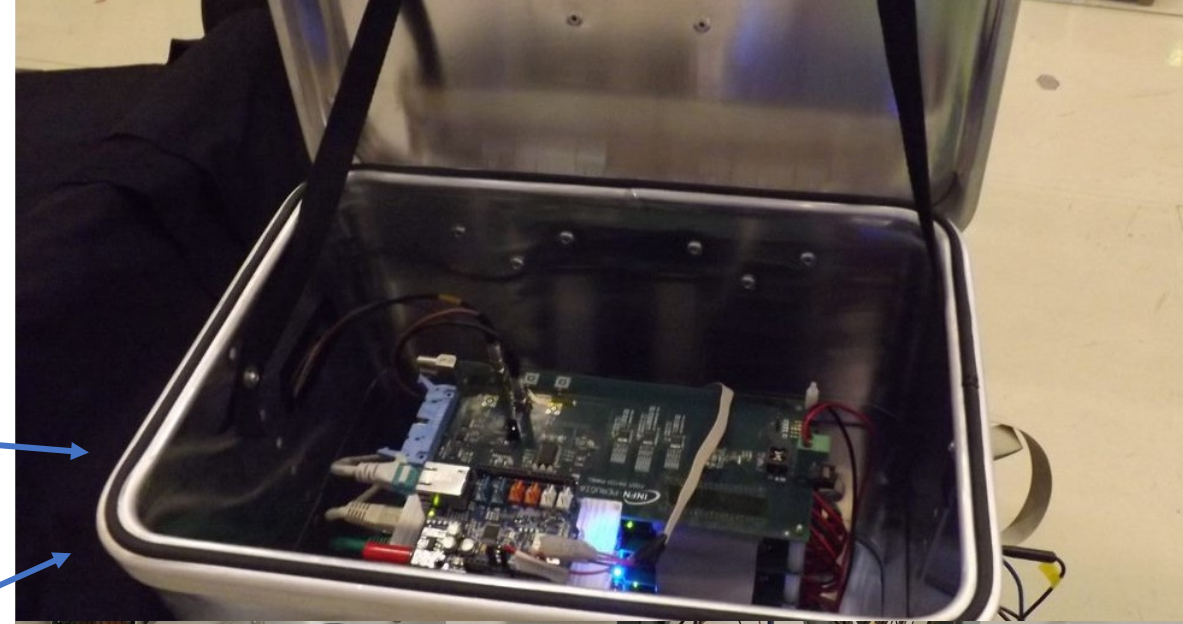
*PANGU Optimization  
and eXperimental  
verification (POX)  
setup*





# FOOT/POX uStrip Tracker

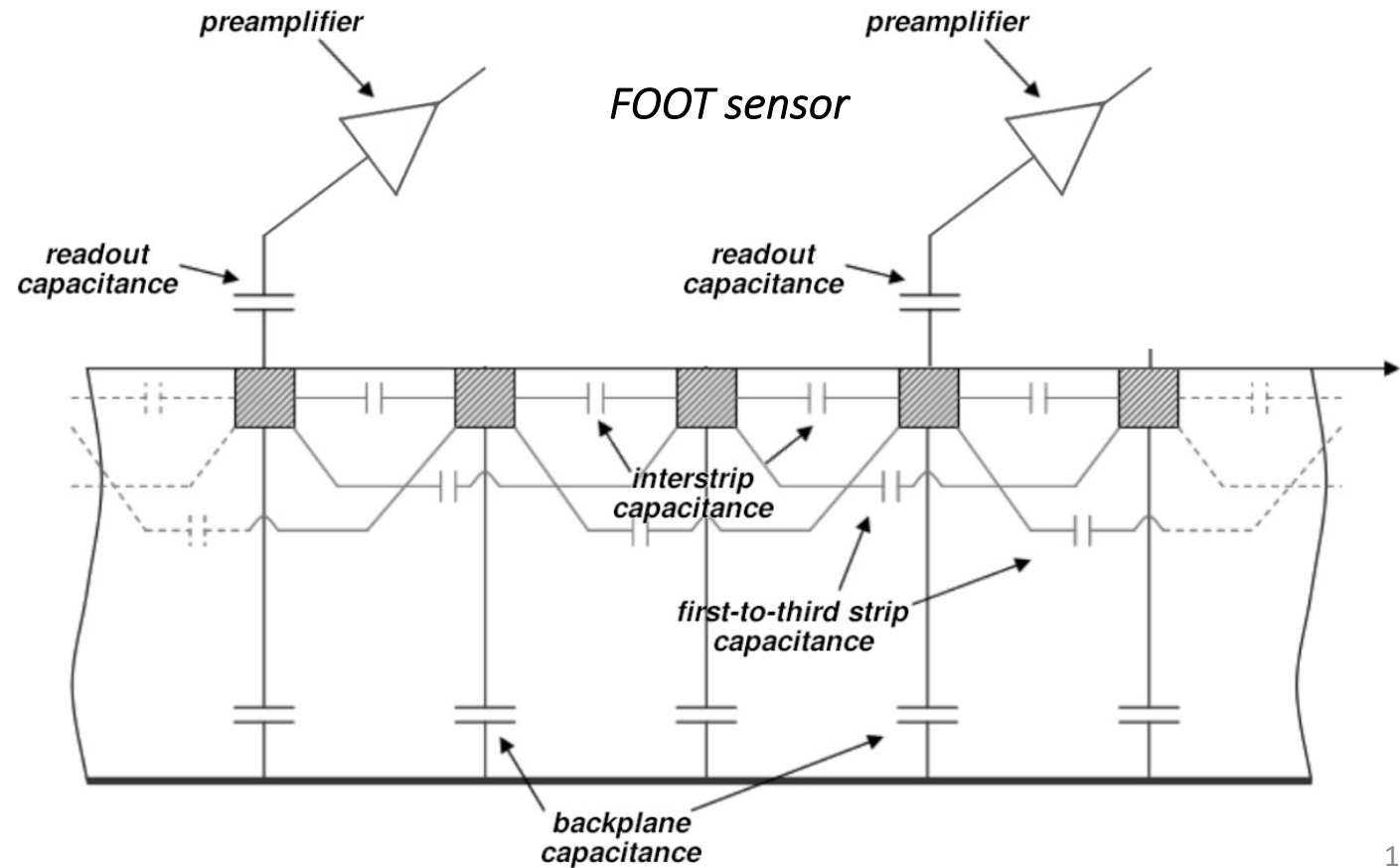
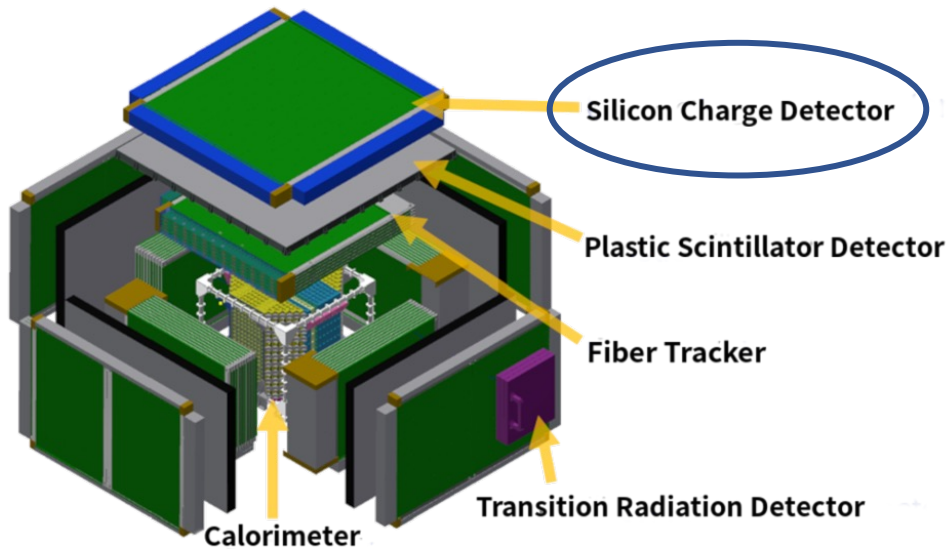
- Table-top setup
- Modular design
- Modular DAQ electronics



# Adapting existing sensors

- Readout parameters can be tuned for each experiment
  - Trade-off between spatial and charge resolution

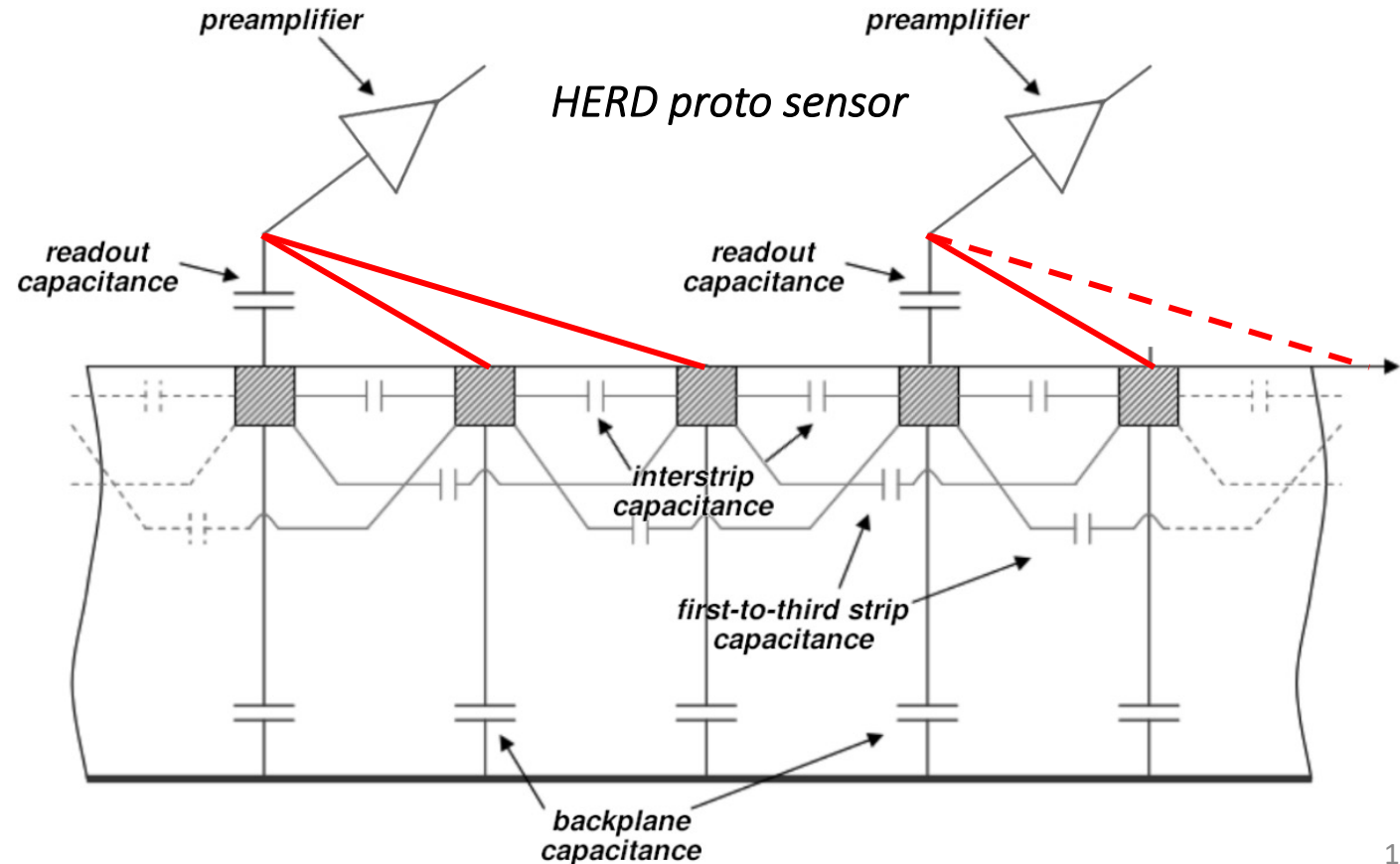
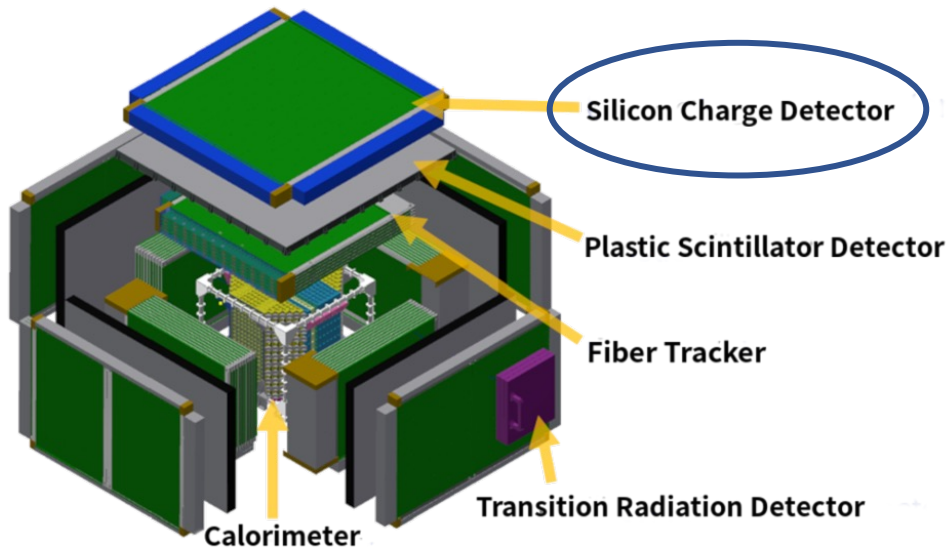
HERD SCD: charge detector with silicon strips



# Adapting existing sensors

- Readout parameters can be tuned for each experiment
  - Trade-off between spatial and charge resolution
- Example: better charge resolution from FOOT sensors for HERD Silicon Charge Detector prototyping
  - *No need for a new silicon design and/or production*

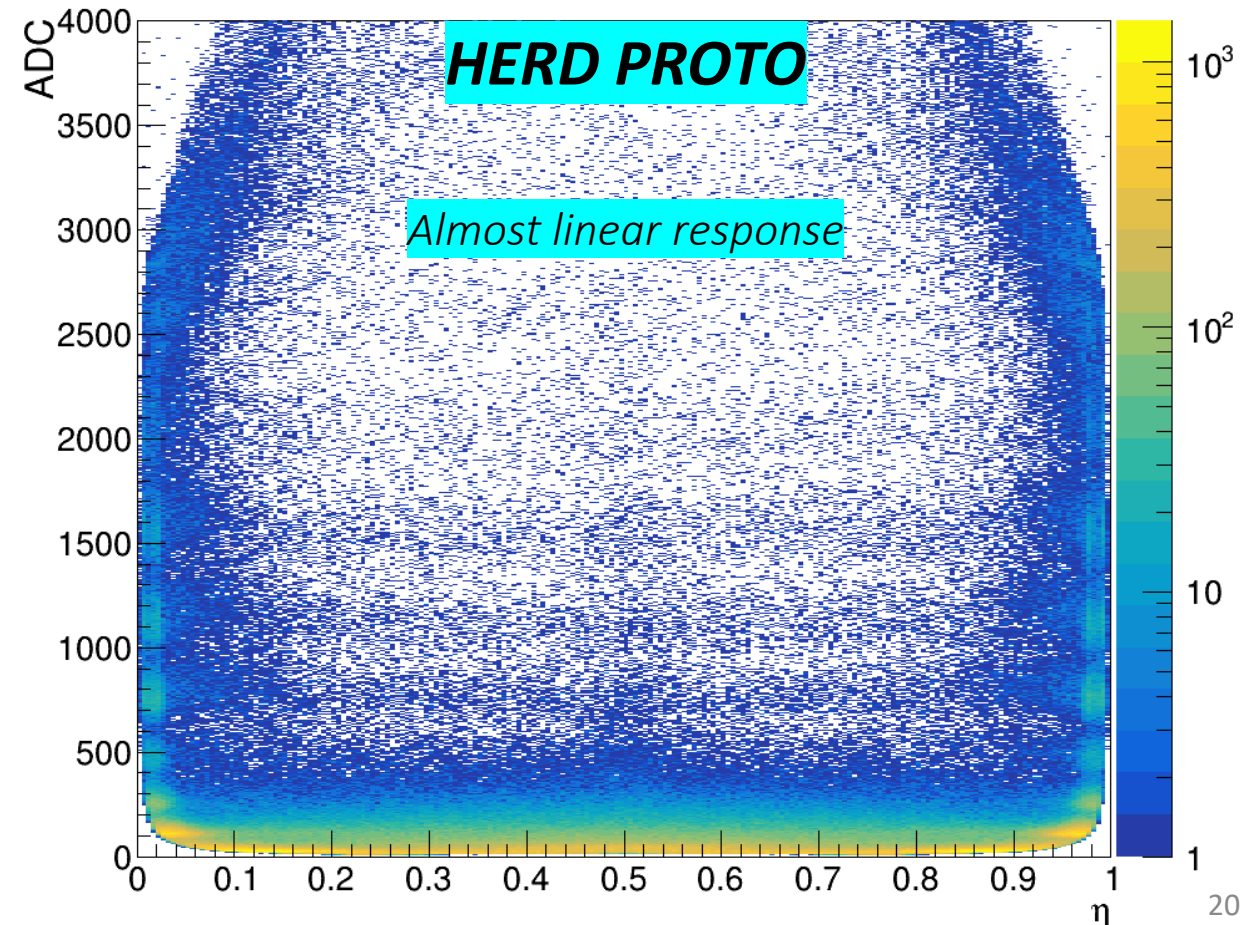
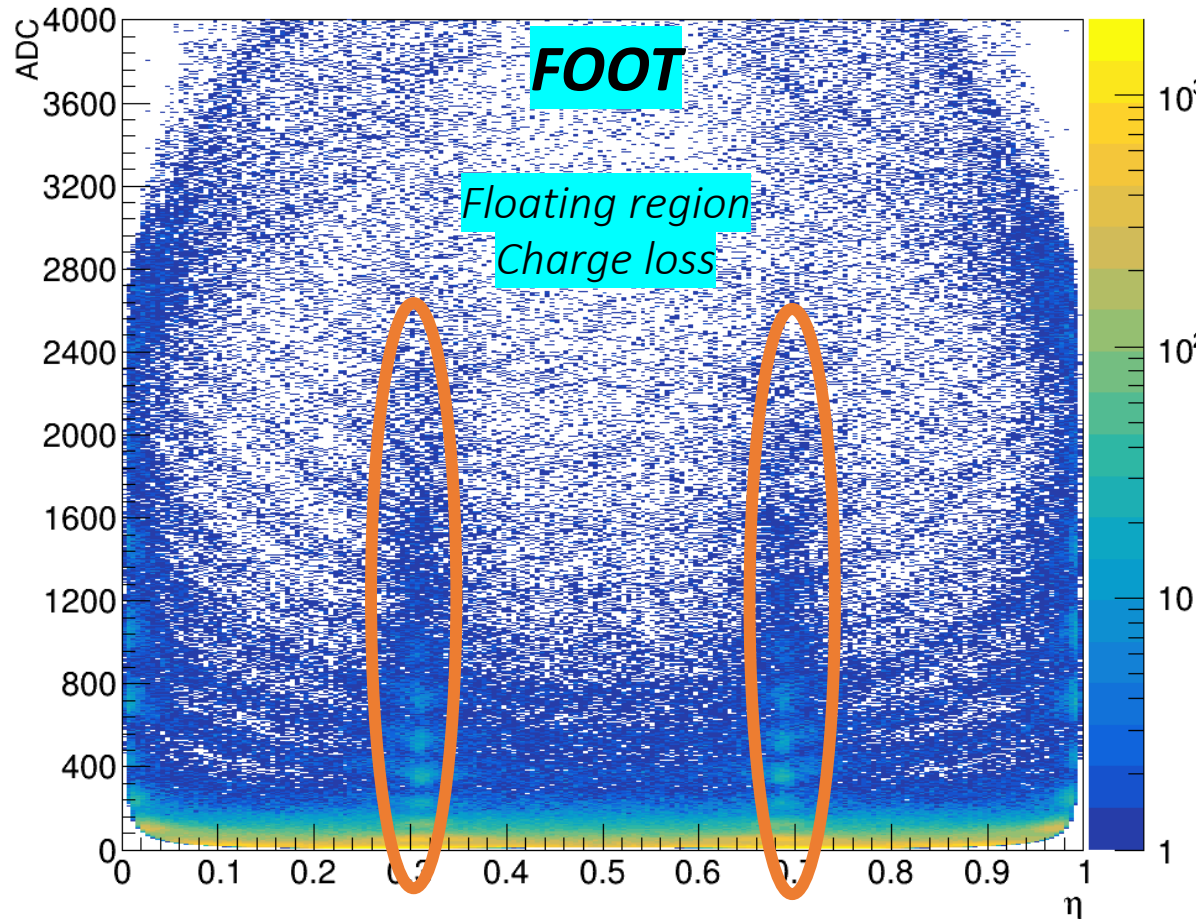
HERD SCD: charge detector with silicon strips



# Adapting existing sensors

- The different bonding scheme simulates a detector with same readout pitch, but different strip width
- Charge collection is improved
- Charge non-linearity between readout strips is reduced

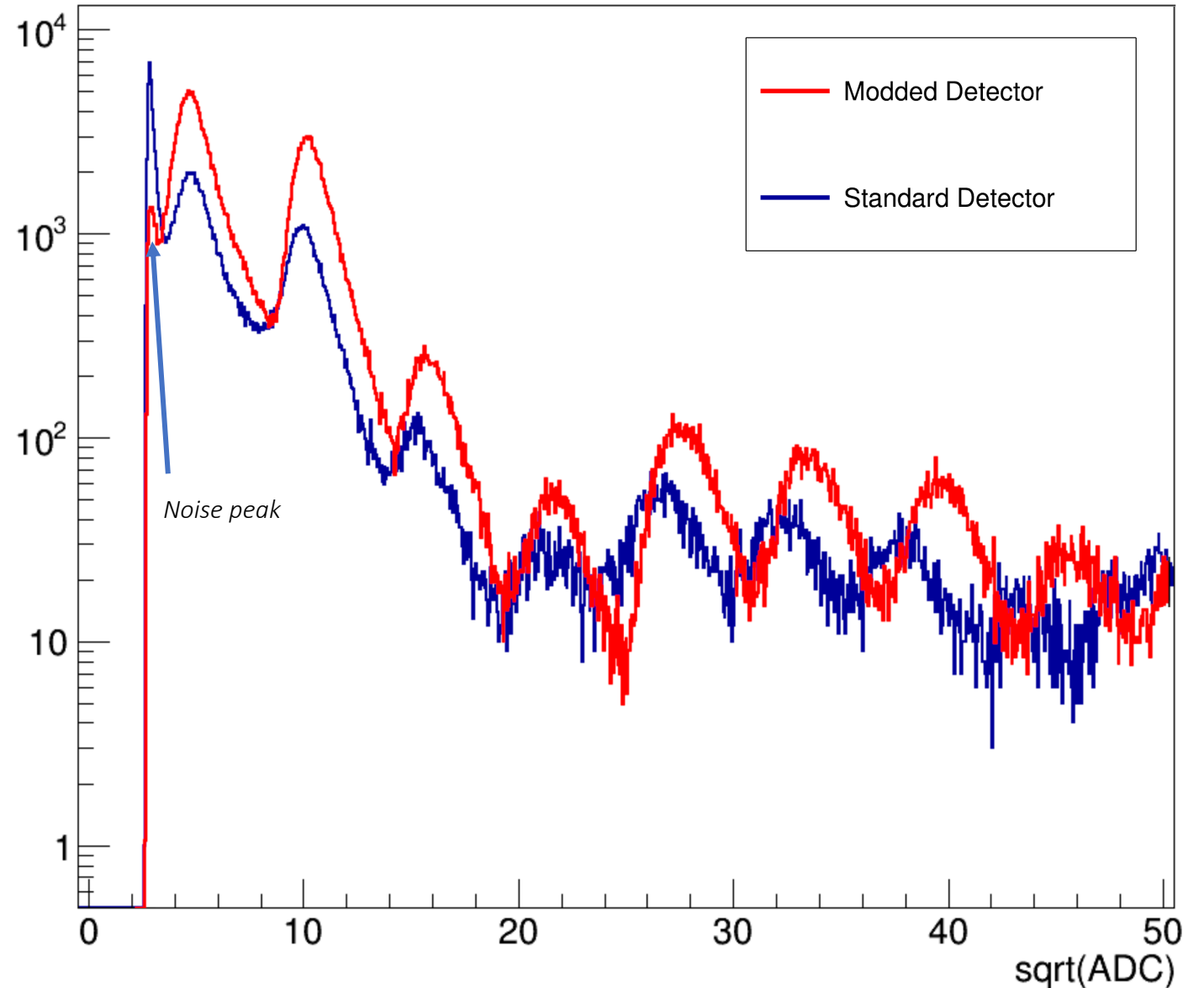
$$\eta = \frac{S_L}{S_L + S_R}$$



# Adapting existing sensors

- Charge discrimination improved
- Higher signal collected
- Improved reconstruction efficiency for lower Z
- Trade-off with spatial resolution and high Z dynamic range

*The same thin silicon sensor can be used for the detection of lower signal particles without the need of a new production*



# Conclusions

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- Silicon strip detectors are still the main choice when power consumption and area to cover are crucial
- Good spatial resolutions (less than 10 micrometers) can be obtained exploiting analog readout and charge sharing between strips
- Possibility to estimate the charge (e.g AMS02, HERD ...) or the energy (e.g. FOOT) of the particle
- Synergic development (e.g FOOT/POX) can reduce the costs needed
- Adapting existing sensors (e.g. different bonding scheme) allows for low cost prototyping for future experiments

