

Neutron Radiation induced Effects in 4H-SiC p-in-n Diodes

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4H Silicon Carbide (SiC)

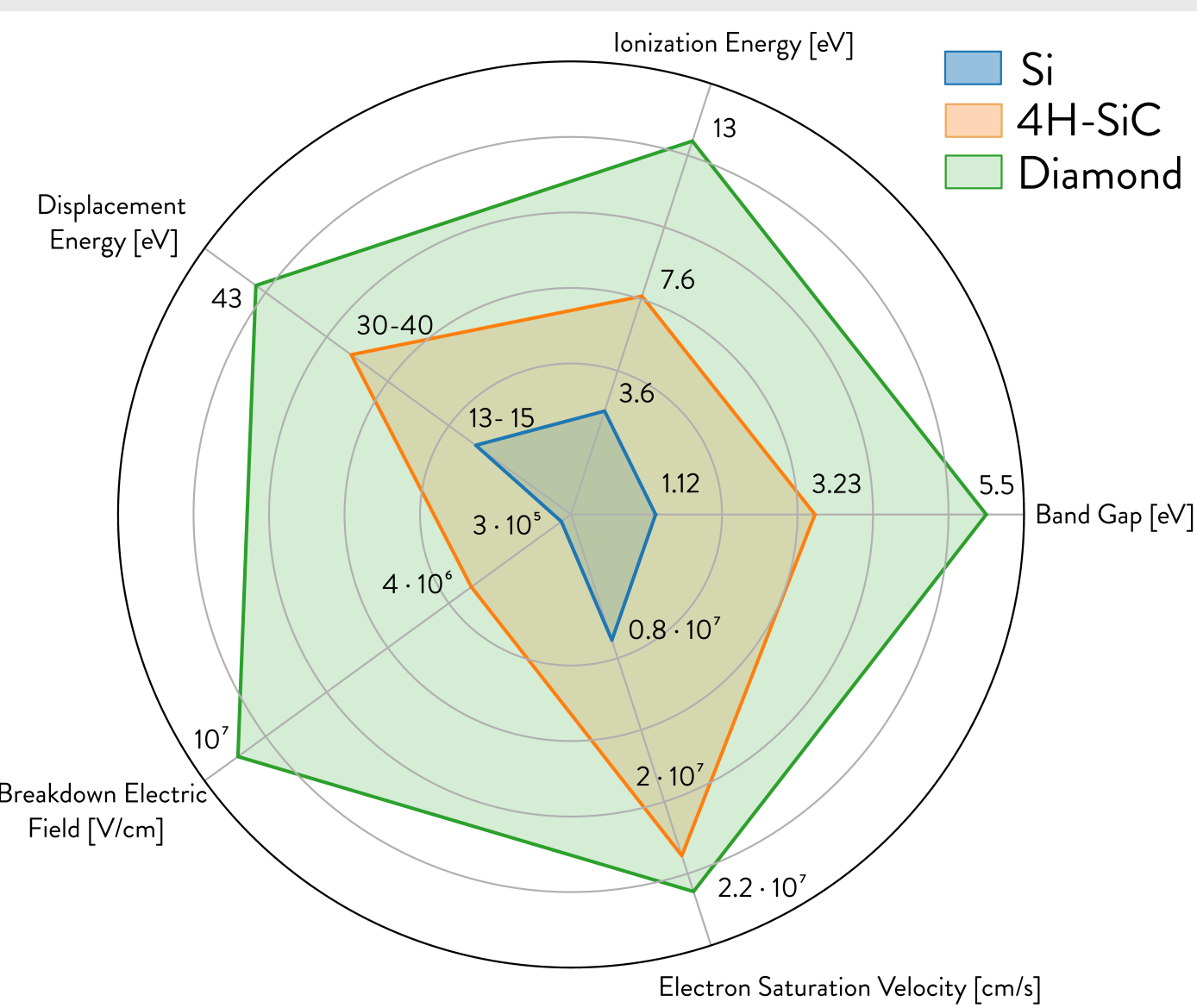
Extreme fluences at future colliders ($> 1 \cdot 10^{16} \text{ n}_{\text{eq}}/\text{cm}^2$) [1]

4H-SiC advantages [2]:

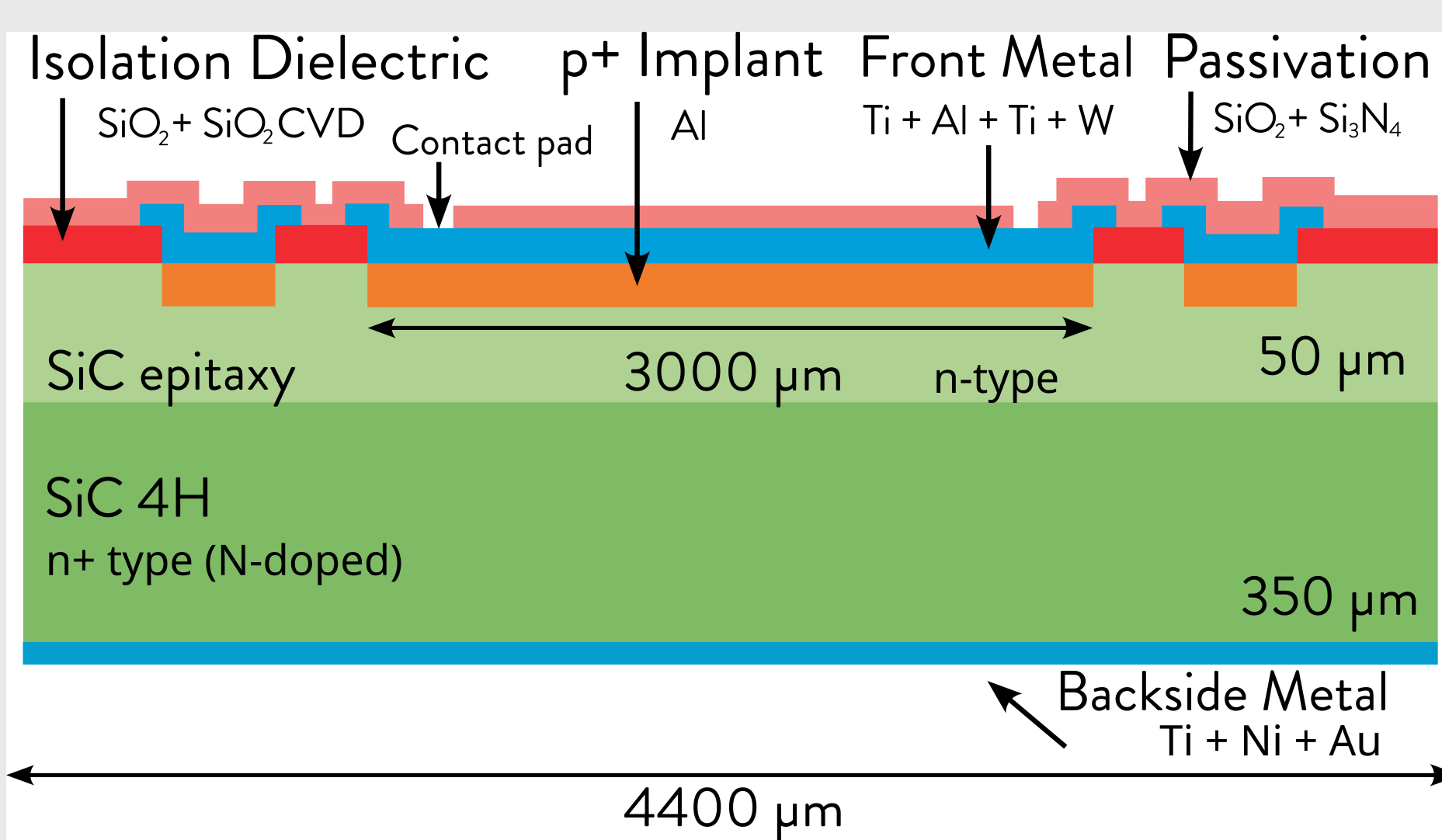
- Low leakage currents
- Fast signals
- Insensitive to light

Drawbacks:

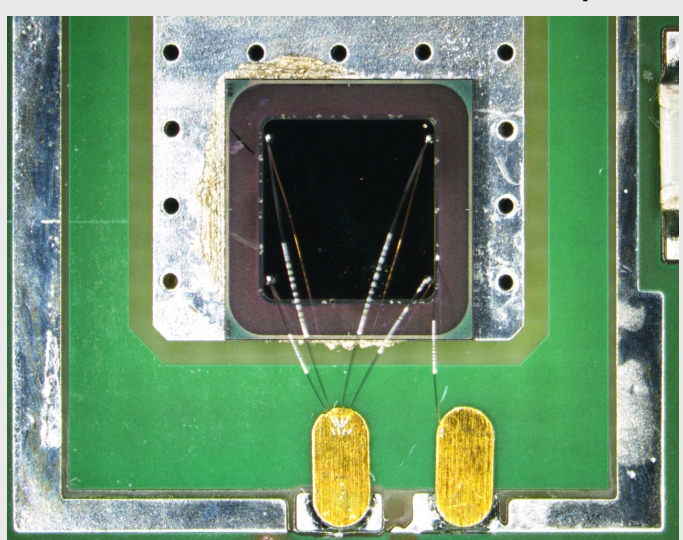
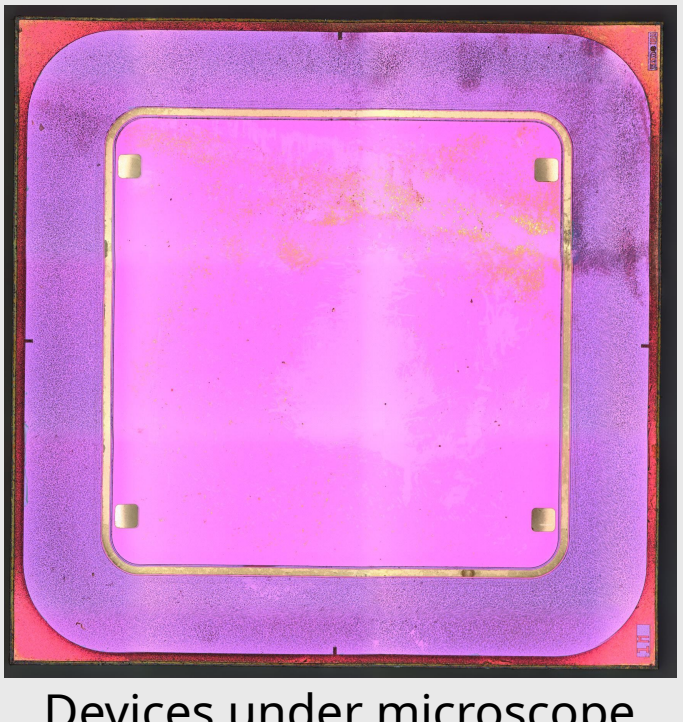
- Epi thickness / resistivity
- High ionization energy [3]



Samples + Readout



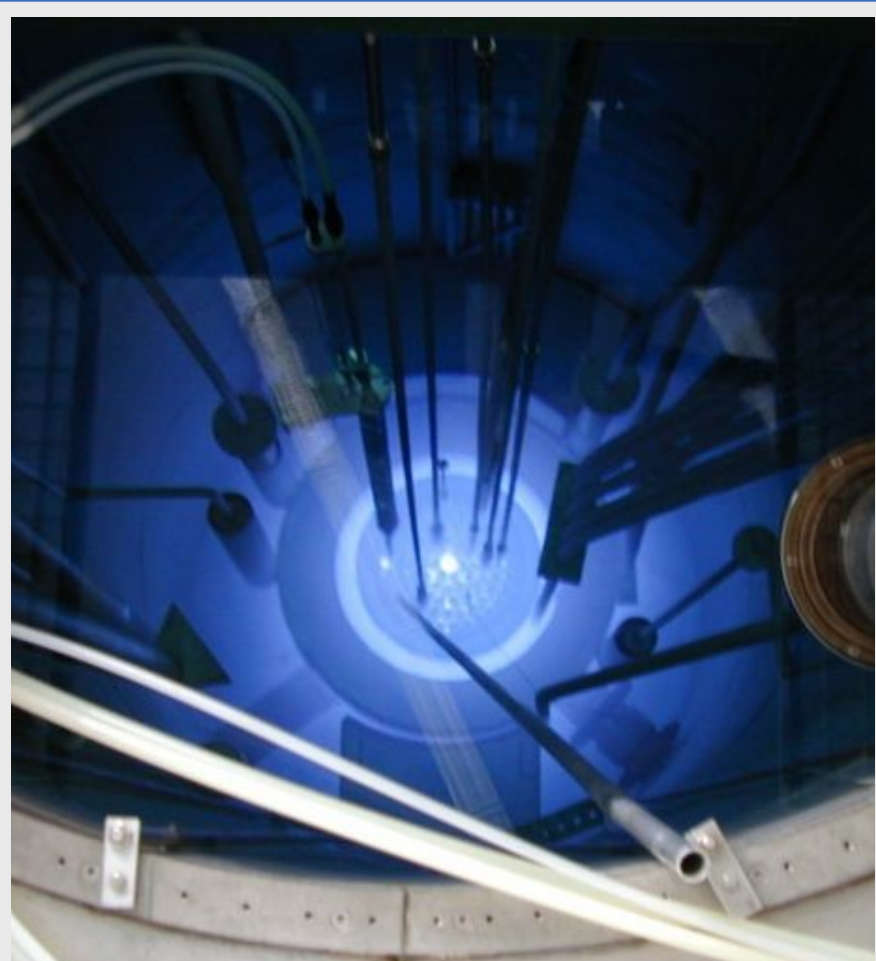
- Planar diode
- 50 μm epi
- 3 x 3 mm² area
- $1.5 \cdot 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-3} N_{\text{eff}}$
- $V_{\text{dep}} = 325\text{V}$



- Charge sensitive (CSA) : Civelec Cx-L
- Transimpedance amplifier (TIA) : UCSC LGAD Board [5]

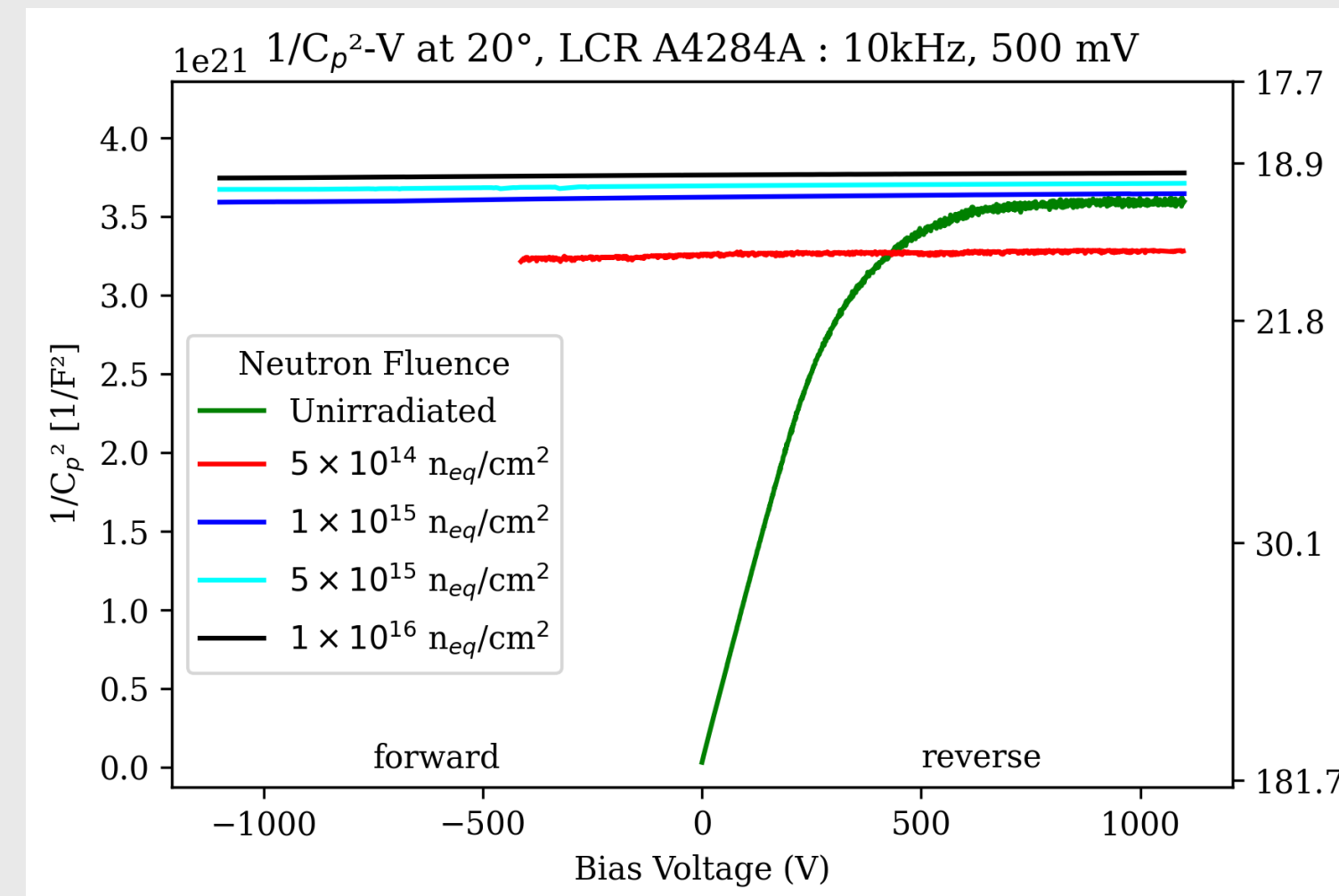
Run 13575 of IMB-CNM-CSIC Barcelona [4]

Irradiation + Electrical Characterization



Neutron Irradiation at ATI Vienna, fluences up to $1 \cdot 10^{16} \text{ n}_{\text{eq}}/\text{cm}^2$ [6]

- Electric rectification characteristics lost [7]
- $I_{\text{leak}} < 10 \text{ pA}$ up to 1.2 kV
- Flat $1/C^2$ curve
- Further studies needed to identify and model defects

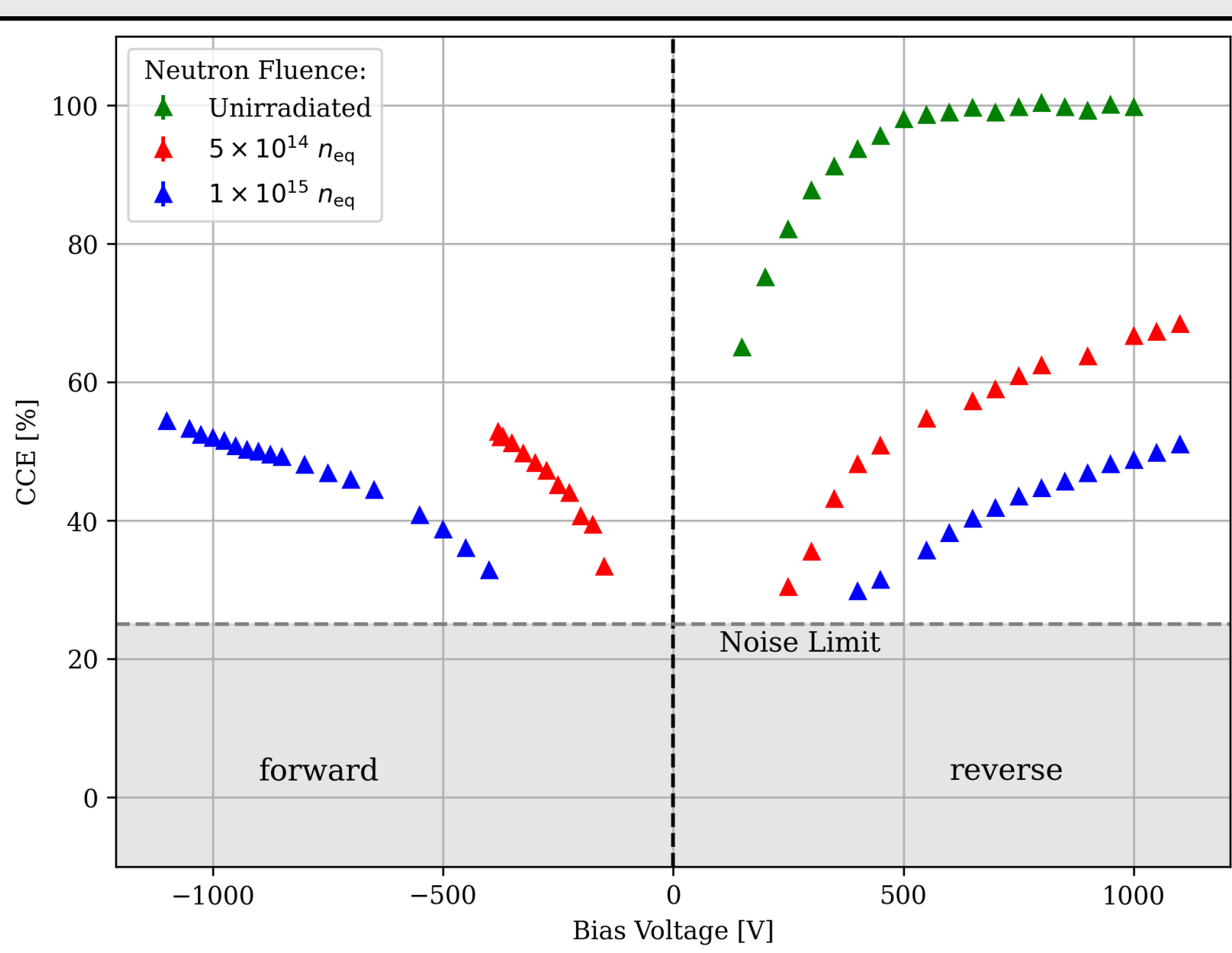


TCAD + Simulations



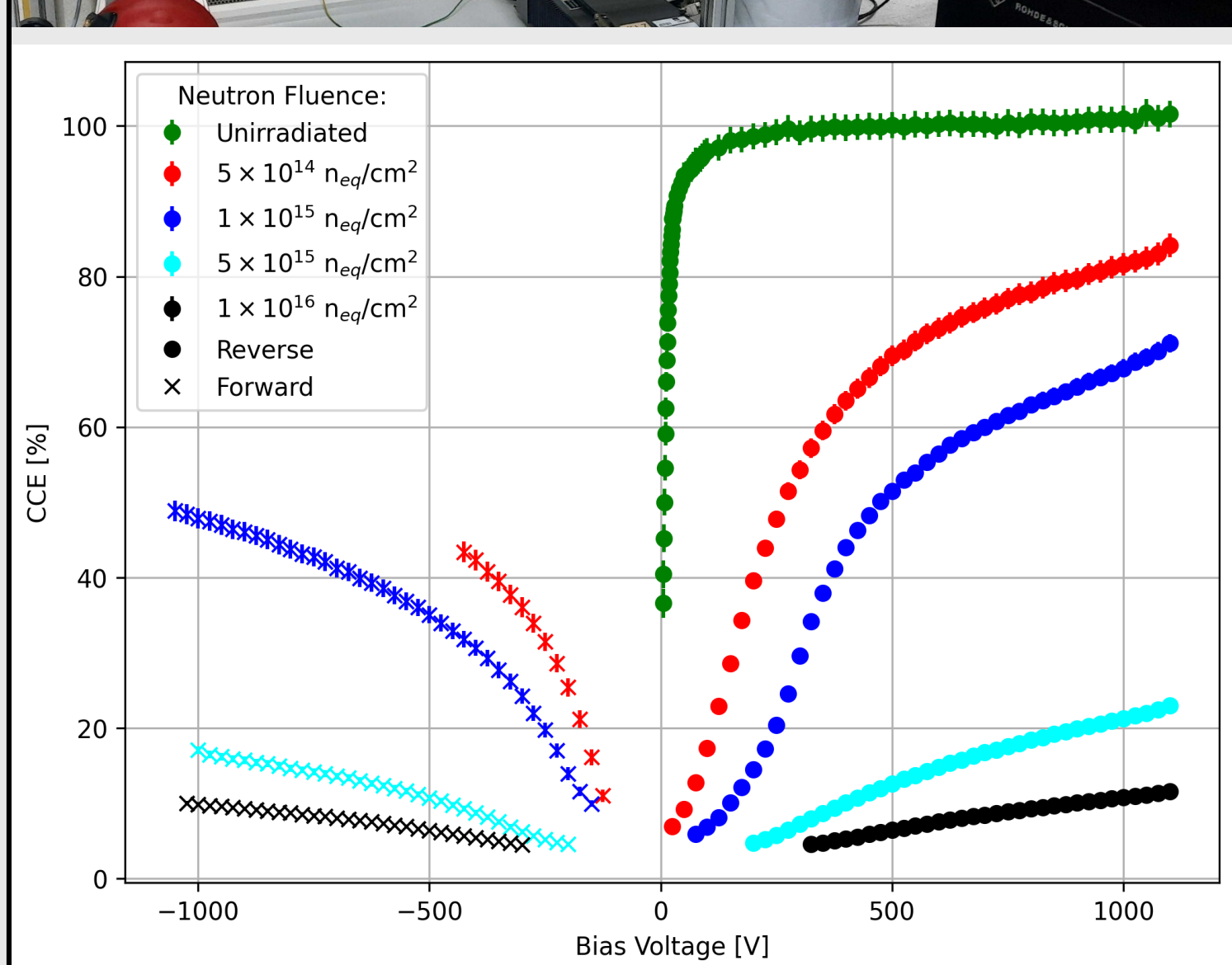
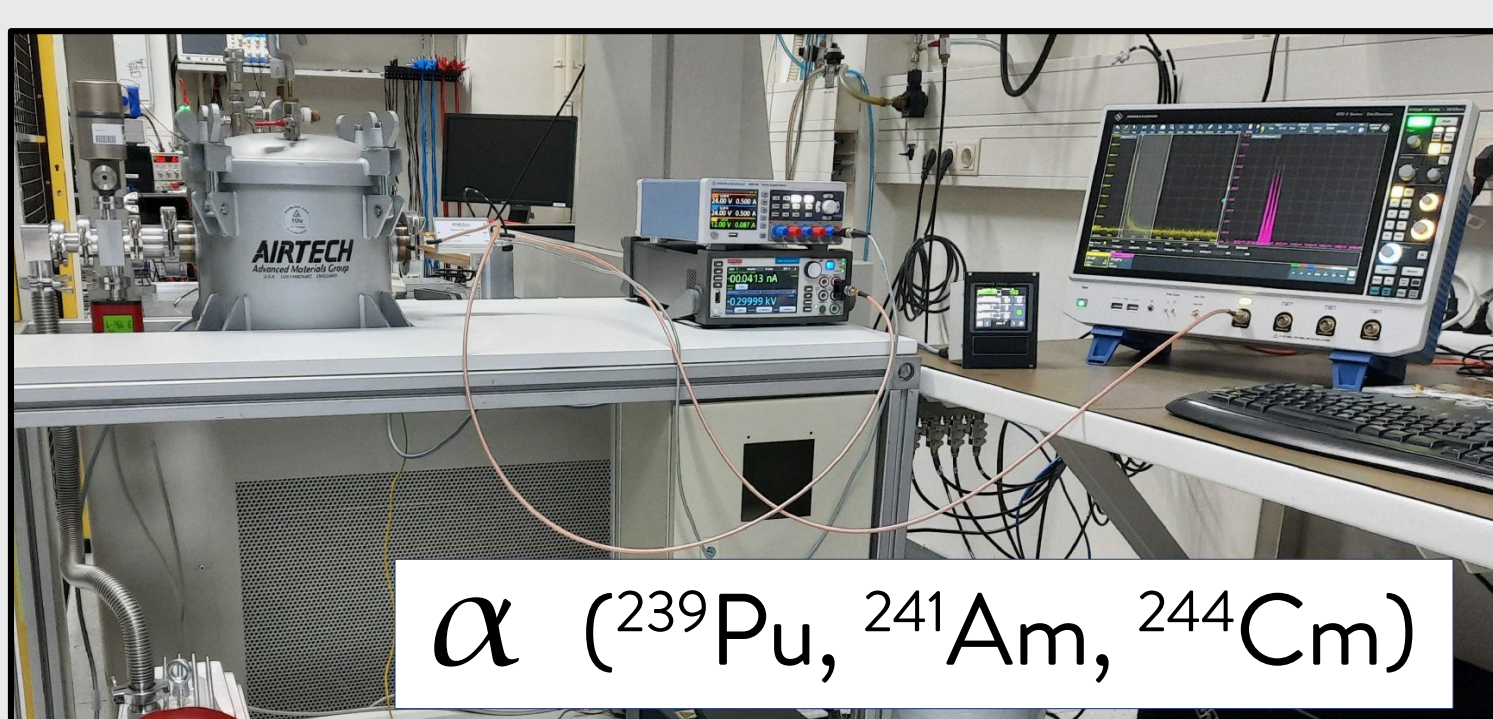
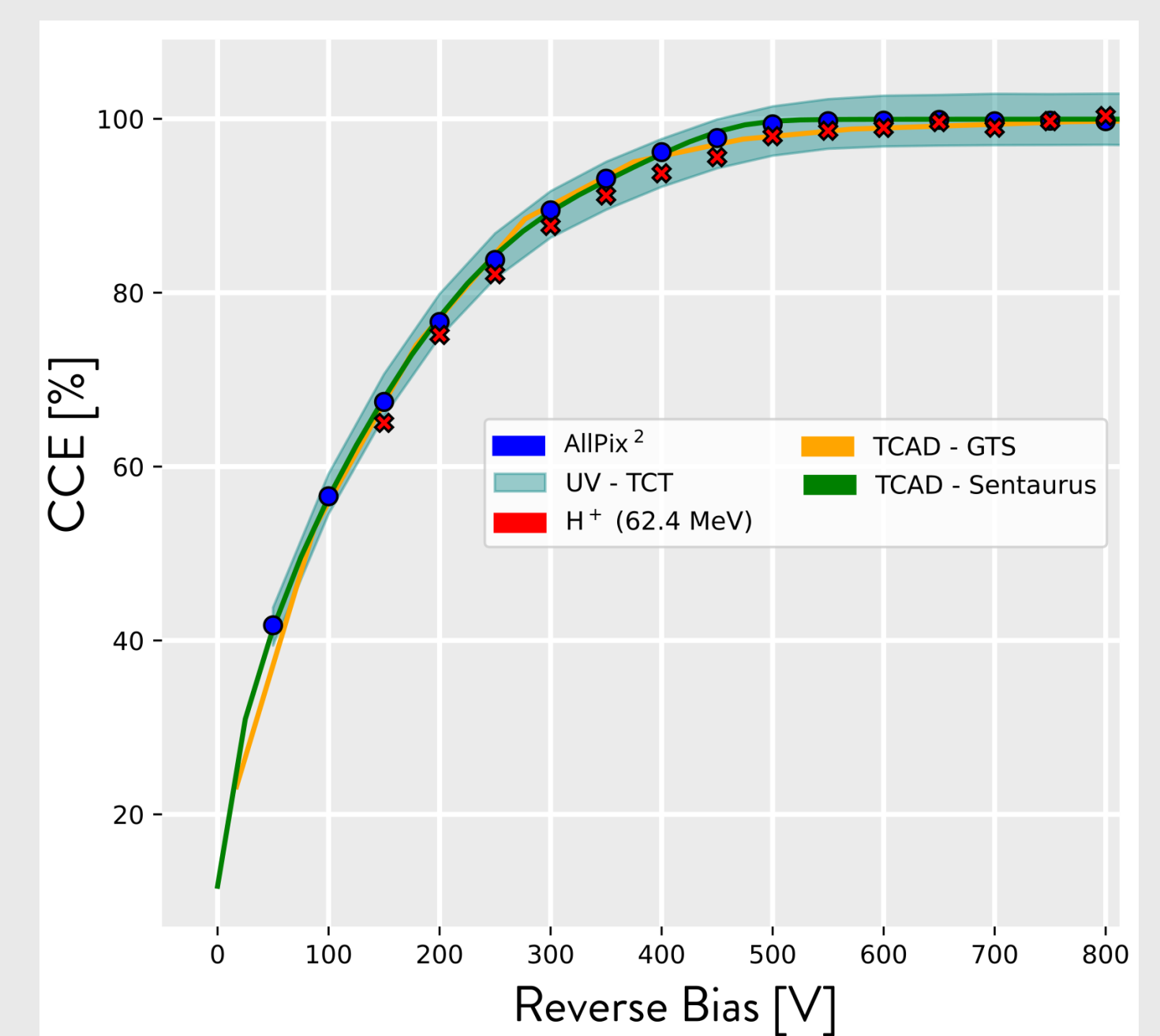
- Device simulation using TCAD, Synopsys Sentaurus and Global TCAD Solutions [8]
- GTS: Collaboration to implement 4H-SiC [9]
- Convergence and material parameters were studied
- Doping profile extracted from C-V measurements

Charge Collection Efficiency (α , p⁺, UV-TCT)

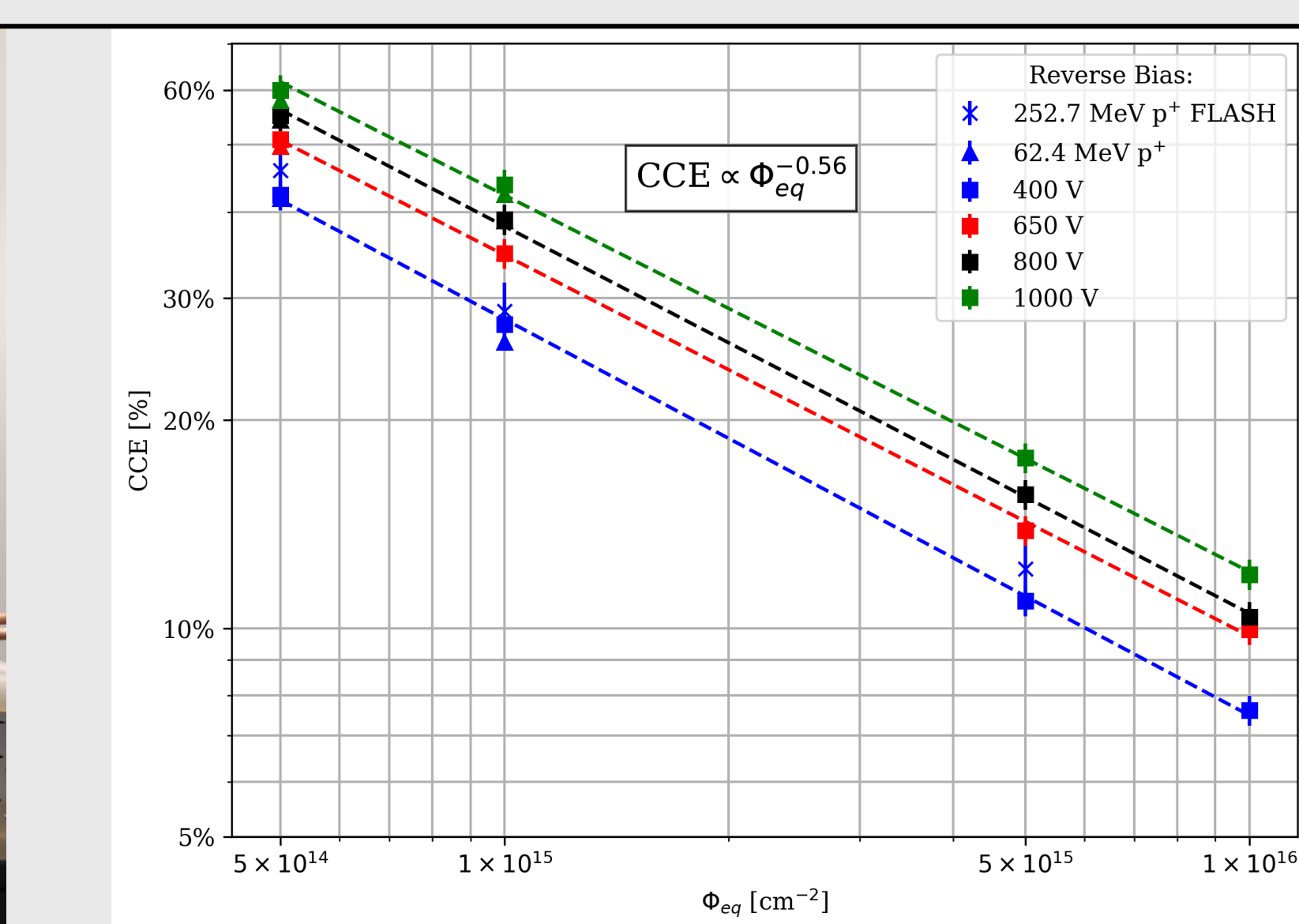
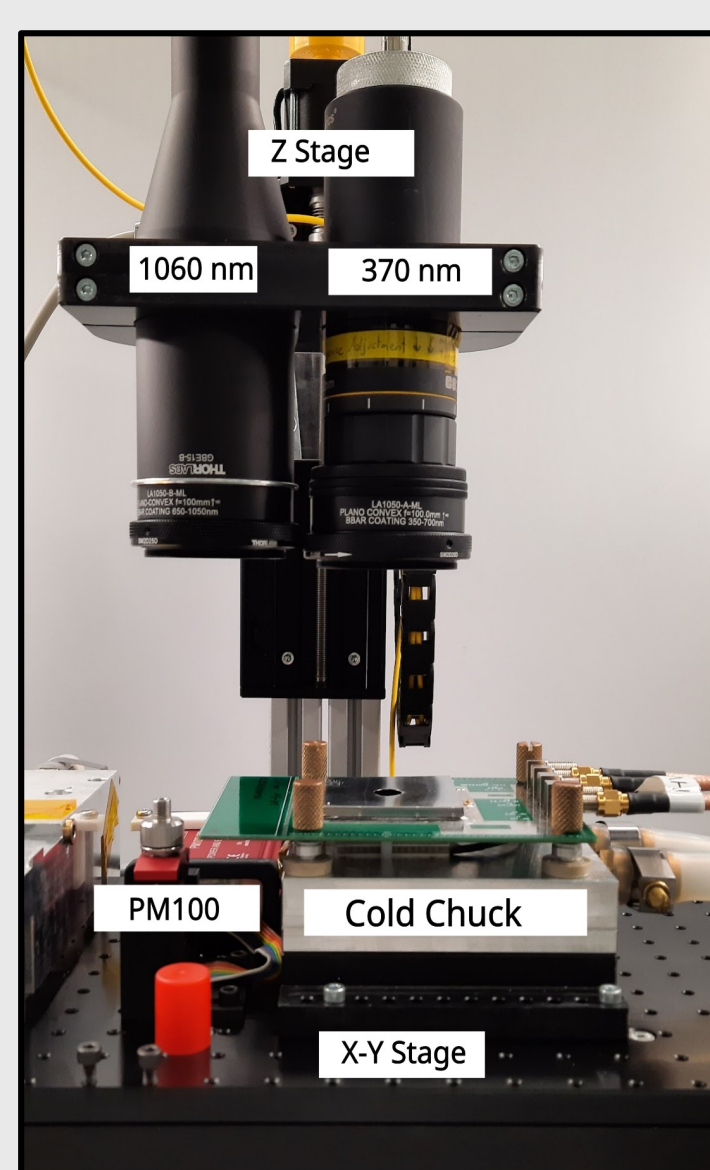


- Proton beam at MedAustron
- 62.4 MeV p⁺ (5 MIP eqv.) detected up to fluences of $1 \cdot 10^{15} \text{ n}_{\text{eq}}/\text{cm}^2$, in reverse and forward bias
- CCE still improving at high voltages
- HV limited by readout electronics and detector passivation
- Highest fluences: limitations by sensor thickness and electronics

- Very good agreement for CCE curves
- Radiation damage models to be proposed and tested

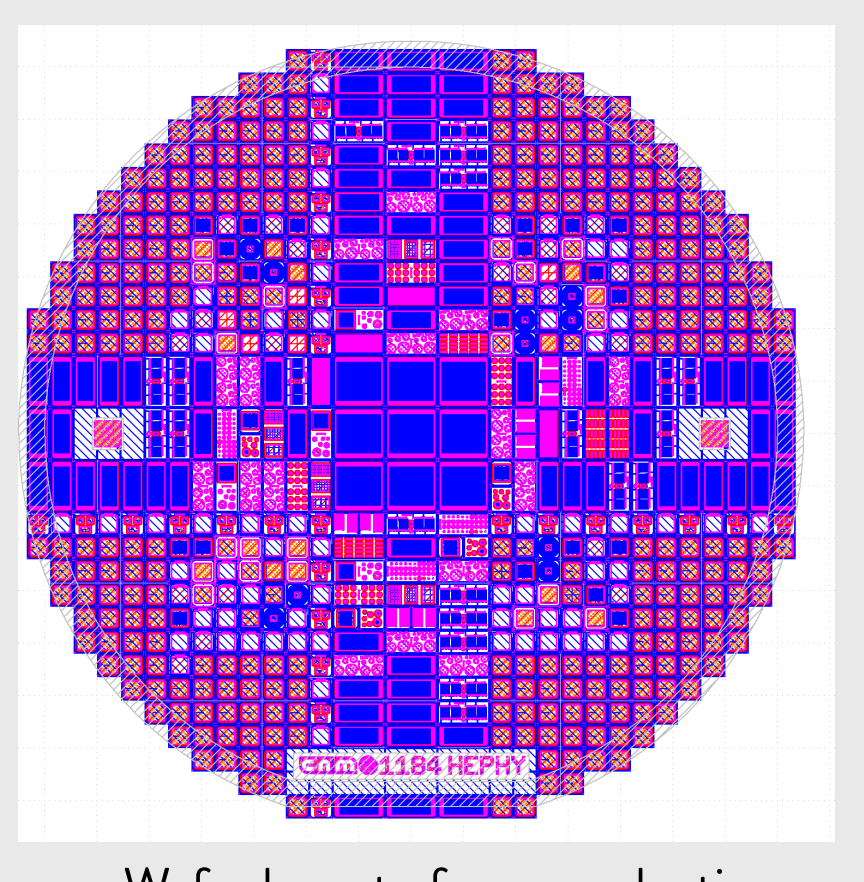


- Using α 's and TCT : Signals collected up to $1 \cdot 10^{16} \text{ n}_{\text{eq}}/\text{cm}^2$
- Setup improved over previous studies [7, 10, 11]
- Up to 10% CCE at $1 \cdot 10^{16} \text{ n}_{\text{eq}}/\text{cm}^2$
- CCE follows $\Phi_{\text{eq}}^{-0.56}$ dependency



Outlook

- SiC Low Gain Avalanche Diode (LGAD)
 - Highly doped gain layer → Impact Ionization
 - Large Signals
 - Better timing than Si possible [12]
- Medical Applications
 - Ion Imaging [13]
 - FLASH dosimetry / Microdosimetry [14]
- New Run upcoming! in preparation for LGADs [15]



References

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- [2] M. De Napoli., doi: 0.3389/fphy.2022.898833
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