

**UNIVERSITÉ  
DE GENÈVE**



# Pixel detector hybridization and integration with anisotropic conductive adhesives

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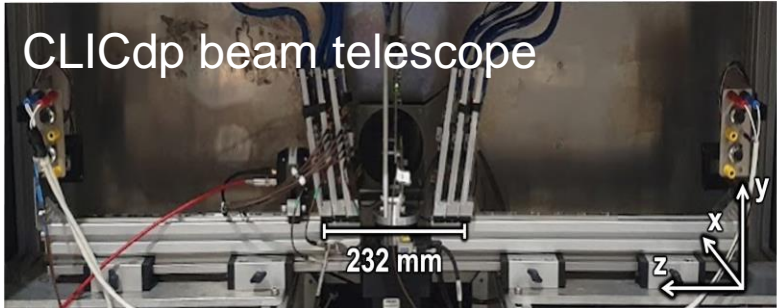
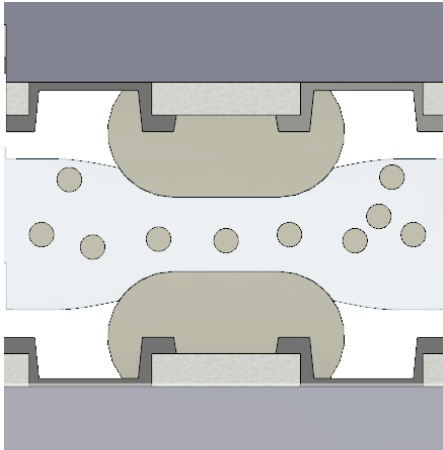
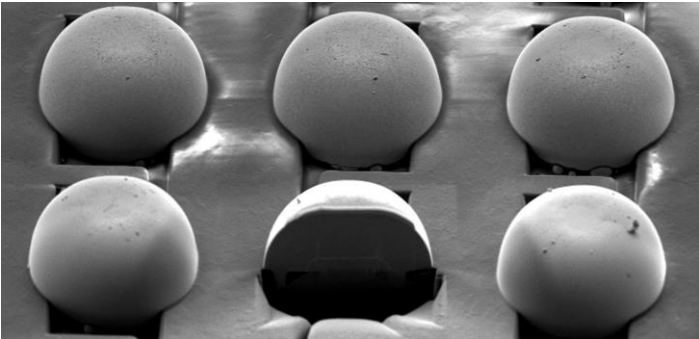
**29.09.2023**

(1) CERN (2) UniGe (3) ESRF (4) FBK (5) LPNHE

# Introduction

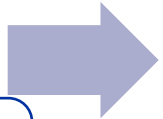
- **Hybridisation and module interconnect are needed for a wide range of devices**
- **Development of interconnect technologies**
  - Fast turnaround
  - Cost effective
  - In-house
  - Single die processing
  - Maskless
- **Activities are performed within the EP R&D programme (WP1.3) and AIDAInnova (WP6)**

# Process Overview



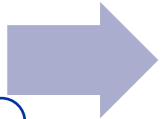
## Surface treatment

- Nickel growth
- Pad topology



## ACA

- Lamination
- Flip-chip bonding

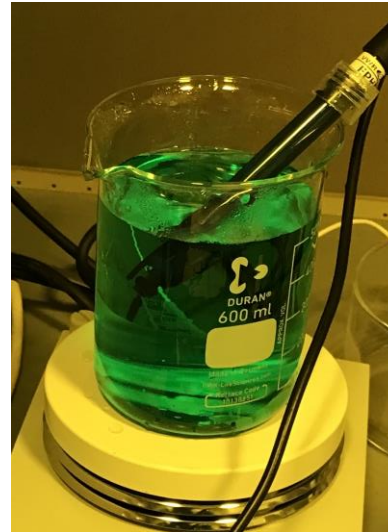


## Testing

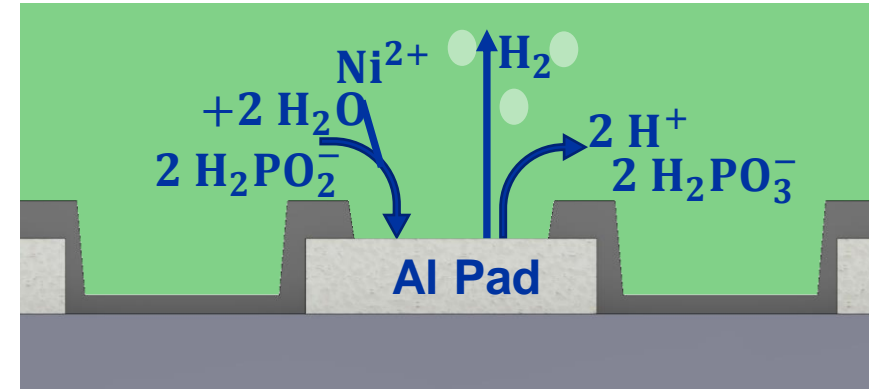
- Cross-section
- Source and Test-beam measurement

# Electroless Nickel Immersion Gold (ENIG)

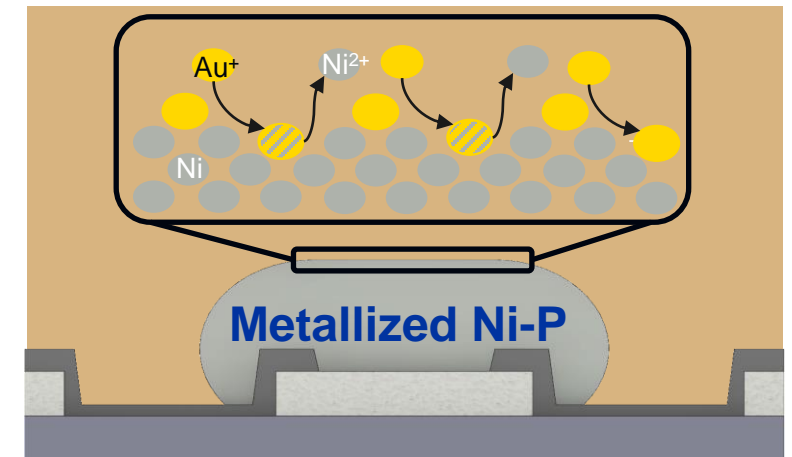
- **Electroless Nickel (Ni-P):**
  - Commonly used **UBM (Under Bump Metallurgy)** process (small plating heights)
  - Processing step to create pad topologies for further bonding
  - Self-catalytic reaction
    - Typically used on Copper and **Aluminum**
    - Creates mushroom like topologies
    - Plating height dependent of processing time
- **Immersion Gold:**
  - Ni-atoms at the surface are replaced with Au-atoms
  - $\leq 100\text{nm}$  thickness
  - Corrosion protection



Small scale Electroless Nickel bath on a hot plate. In house R&D at the Micro Pattern Technology labs at CERN



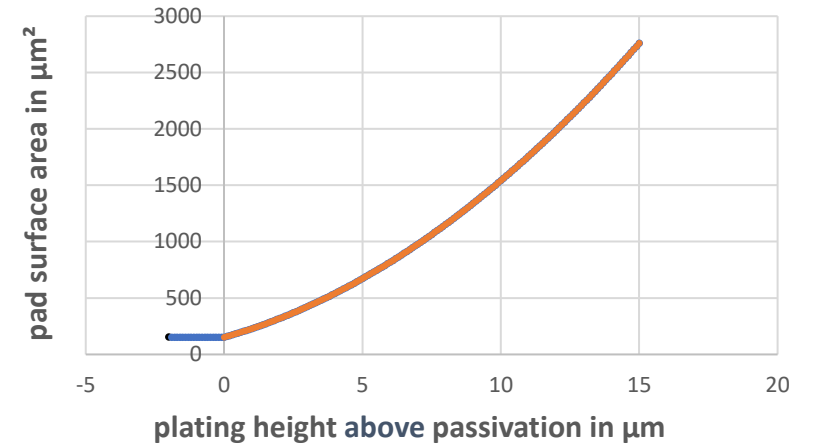
Chemical processes of Electroless Nickel plating



Chemical processes of Immersion Gold plating on previously metallized Ni-P

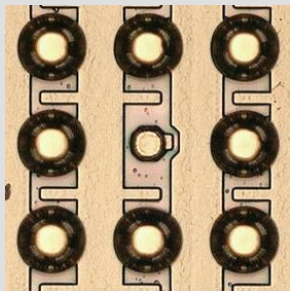
# ENIG Development

- Main focus is creating a stable and reliable process for plating adjusted for the specific device
  - Better temperature control
  - Controlled stirring (factoring in process changes)
  - Optimized sample holder
  - Stabilisier concentration adjustment
  - Clean room enviroment
  - Plating test devices



Device	Pad size Al top layer	Pixel pitch	ENIG height
Timepix3	12-14 μm	55 μm	6-12 μm
SPHIRD	15 μm	50 μm	7-9 μm
MALTA	88 μm	120 μm	3-10μm
ALTIROC2	92 μm	1300 μm	5-15 μm

## Plating challenges (example Timepix3 ASIC):



Skipped pad

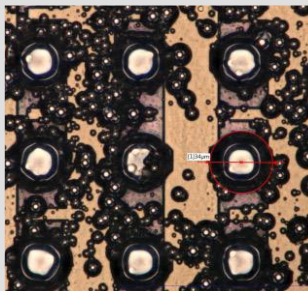
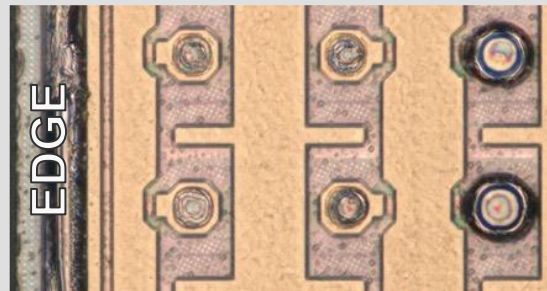
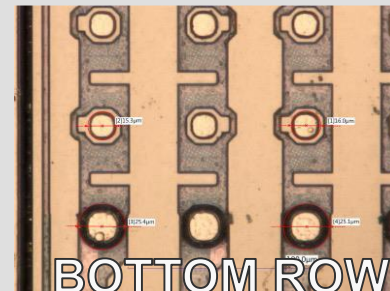


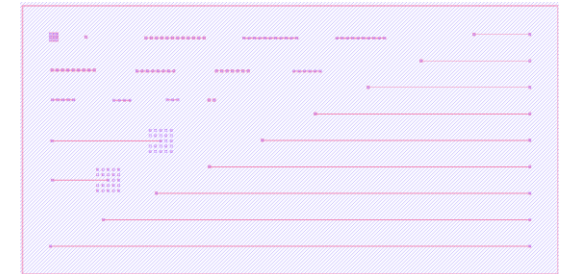
Plate out / overplating



Missing/less plating near edge of chip



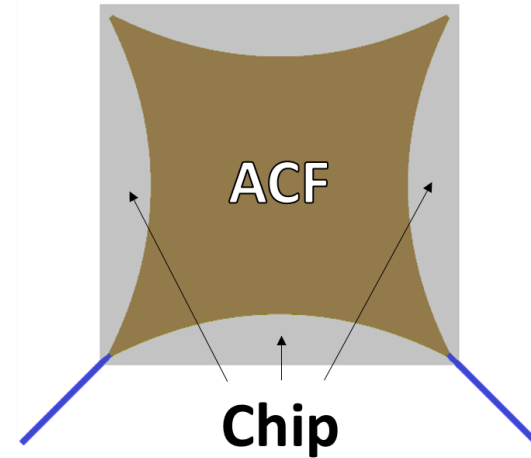
Shorted pads with different plating growth



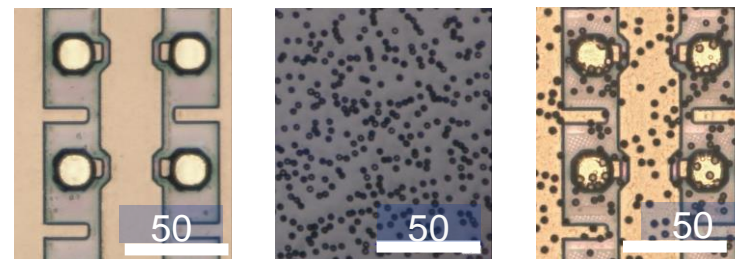
Test device for plating on layouts with different pad connections

# Anisotropic Conductive Adhesives (ACA)

- **Anisotropic conductive film (ACF):**
  - Conductive particles embedded in epoxy film
  - Commercially available (used in display interconnection)
  - Typically cures at temperatures  $>100^{\circ}\text{C}$
  - Can be shape optimized (lowering adhesive quantity)
- **Anisotropic conductive paste (ACP):**
  - Conductive particles embedded in Araldite 2011
  - Mixed in-house
  - Particles supplied by Conpart AS
- **Application specific choice for adhesive and particles**
  - Radiation hardness
  - Chip layout (pixel pad size and pitch)



ACF shape optimization for large area small pitch devices to reduce adhesive quantity



(left) Pixel pads of a Timepix3 ASIC (middle) ACF with particles visible (right) ACF laminated on the Timepix ASIC

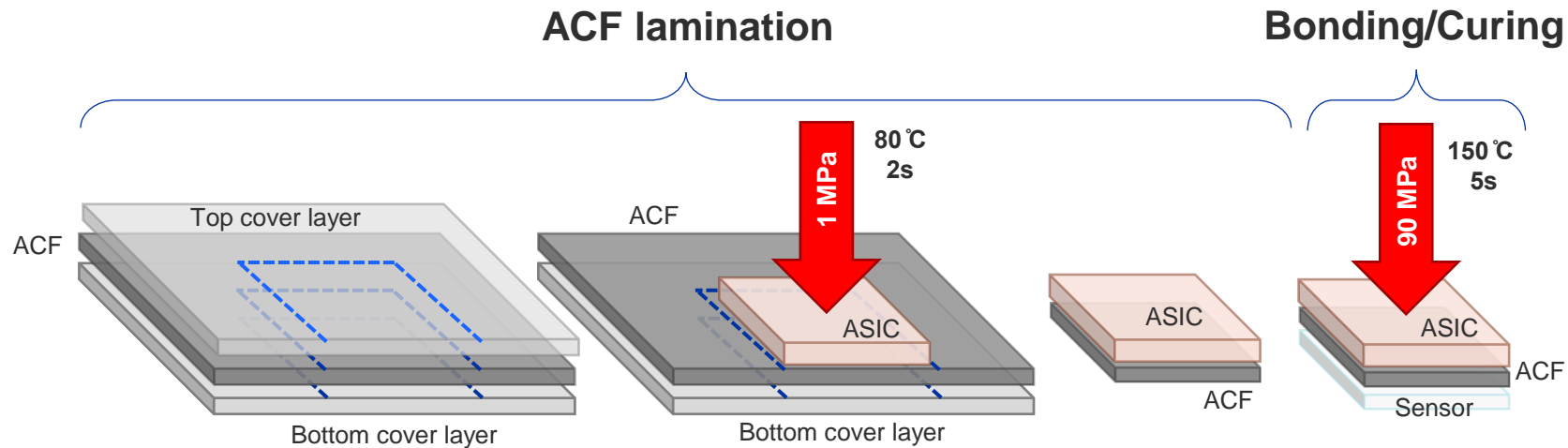
Table of ACF available in our lab:

ACF	1	2	3	4	5
Part. diameter [µm]	3	3	3.5	10	3.2
Thickness [µm]	18	14	16	50	18
Particle density [pcs/mm <sup>2</sup> ]	71k	60k	23k	-	28k
Pressure [MPa]	30-80	50-90	40-90	30-50	40-80
Aligned	no	no	same depth	no	grid
Sheet or reel	sheet	reel	sheet	reel	reel

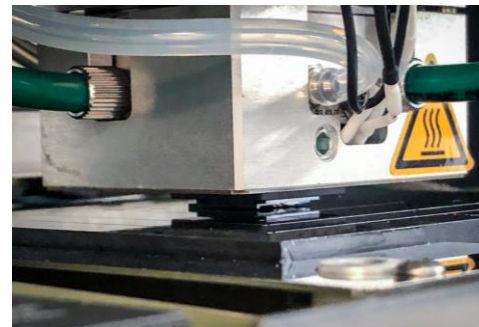
Table of conductive particles available:

Conductive particles (ACP)	1	2	3	4	5
Part. diameter [µm]	4	5	10	20	30
Conductive material (coating)	Ag	Au	Ag	Ag	Ag

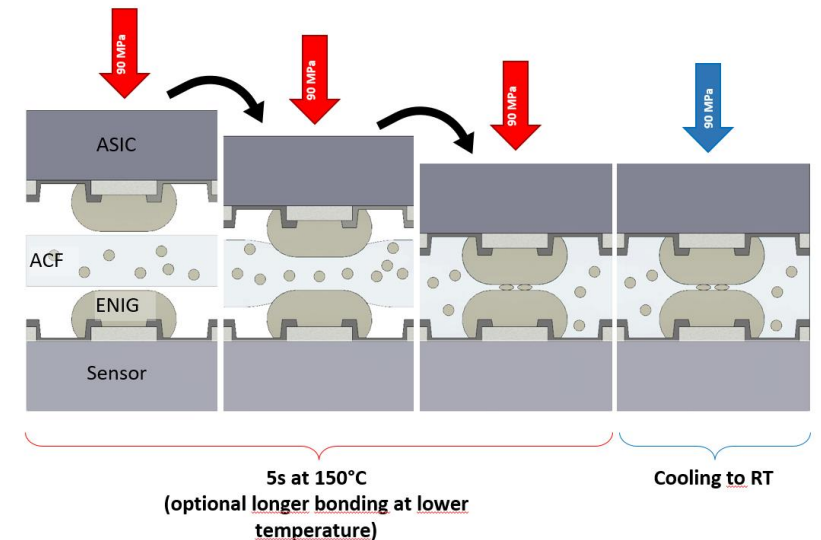
# Flip-chip Bonding



- **Quantity of adhesive important**
- **Bonding pressure**
  - Depends on pad/bump area
  - Fine pitch bonding uses higher bonding force for same chip size
  - Large chips with small pitch need forces exceeding 100kgf (maximum of our flip-chip bonder)



SET ACCuRA100 flip-chip bonder with integrated dispensing system



# Test devices

For general interconnection tests we use daisy chain devices in different layouts

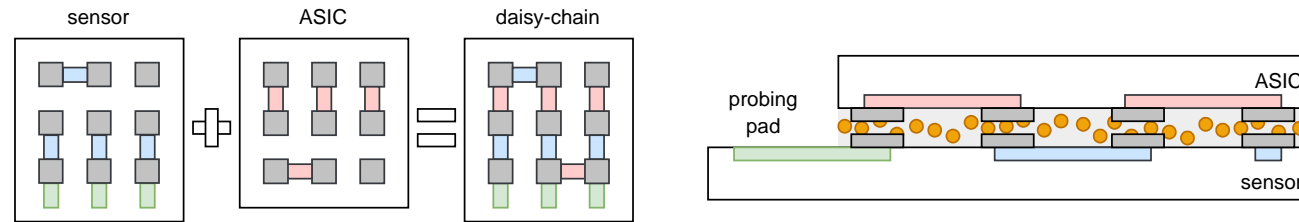
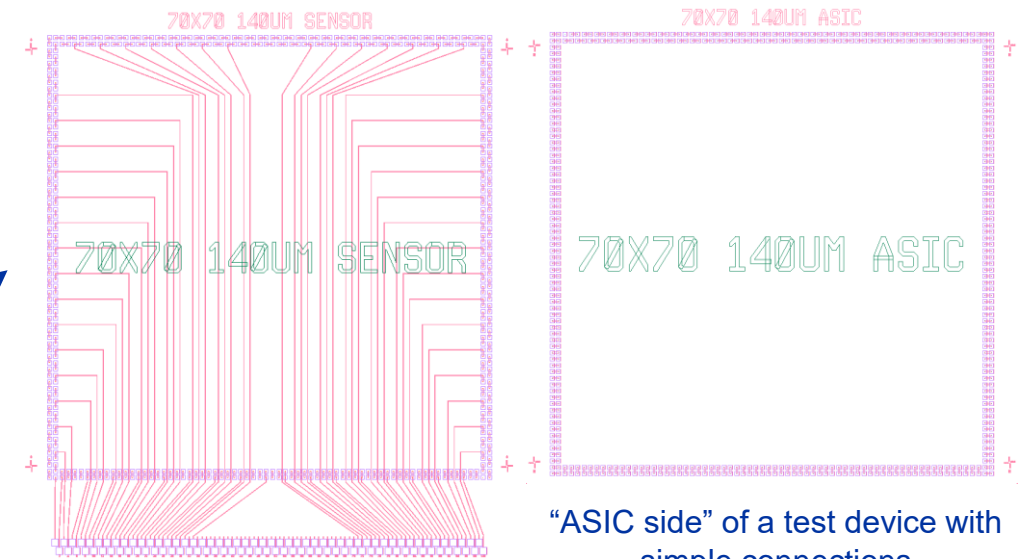


Table of all test devices designed and produced at **FBK**:

	pitch	size in mm	connections	per wafer	type	diceable
<b>160x160 20um</b>	20 um	3.2 x 3.2	25600	36	grid	no
<b>CLICpix2</b>	25 um	3.2 x 3.2	16384	34	grid	no
<b>400x400 25um</b>	25 um	20 x 20	640000	5	grid	yes
<b>Timepix3</b>	55 um	14 x 14	65536	4	grid	no
<b>Timepix3 islands</b>	55 um	14 x 14	65536	4	grid	no
<b>RD53</b>	50 um	20 x 20	160000	4	grid	no
<b>RD53 islands</b>	50 um	20 x 20	160000	2	grid	no
<b>70x70 140um</b>	140 um	20 x 20	2112	3	peripheral	yes
<b>10x10 1000um</b>	1000 um	20 x 20	400	3	grid	yes
<b>3x3 4500um</b>	4500 um	20 x 20	36	1	grid	yes



“Sensor side” of a test device with test pads at the bottom

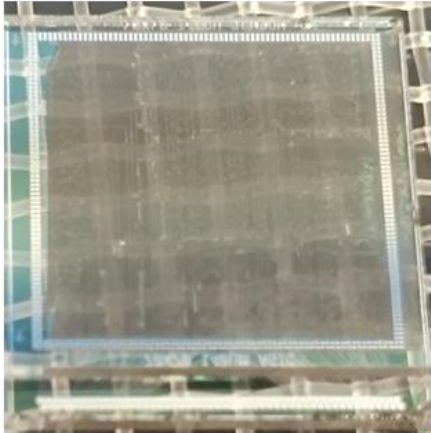
“ASIC side” of a test device with simple connections



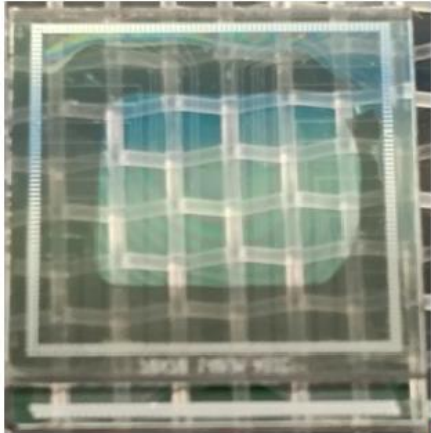
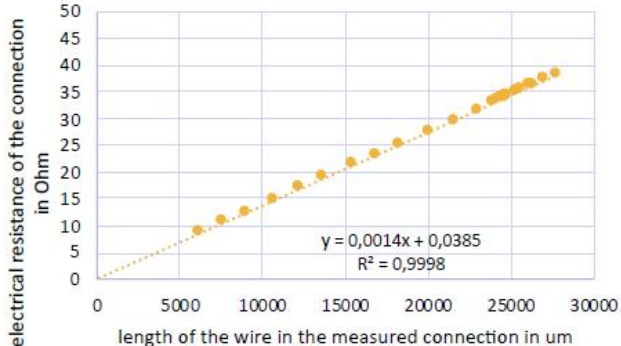
# Results from test devices (preliminary)

Unlaminated pads or broken lines are not shown in the plot

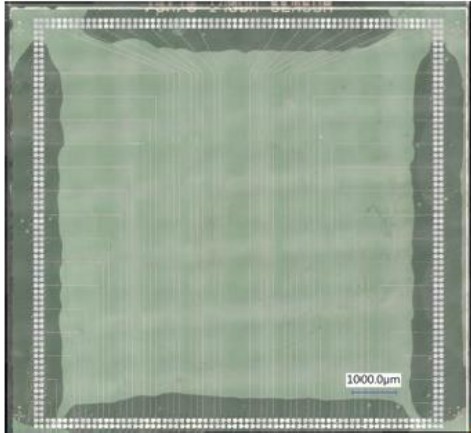
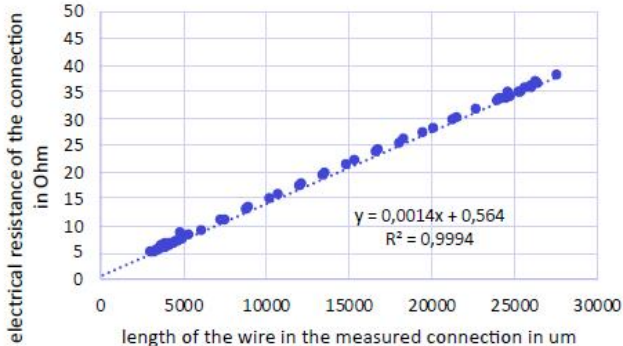
We get successful connections for all pads where the epoxy has spread to



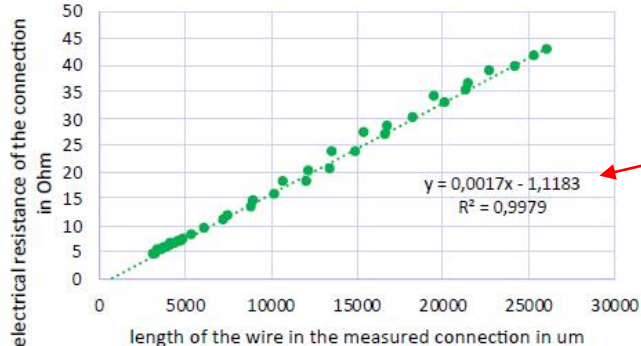
18 μm ACF – resistance measurement



14 μm ACF – resistance measurement



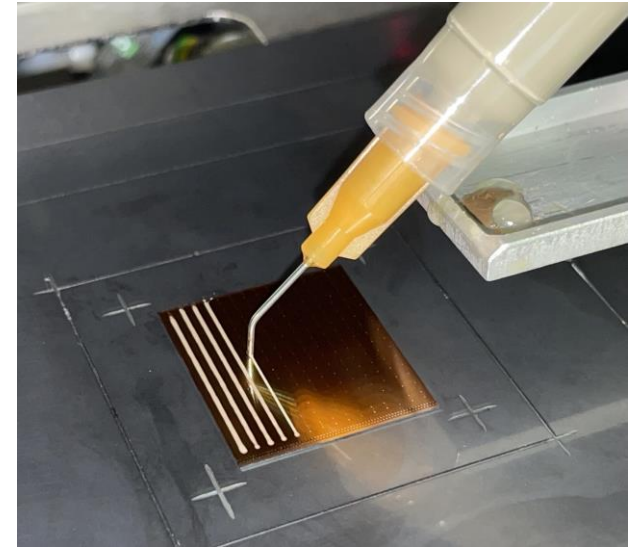
ACP – resistance measurement



# ALTIROC2 LGAD assembly

- 15 by 15 pixels with 1300  $\mu\text{m}$  pitch
- ACP bonded with 10  $\mu\text{m}$  diameter particles
- Plating height of 12  $\mu\text{m}$  (only ASIC side)
- First results show four pixels not connected out of 225 (98%+ connection yield)
- Further tests ongoing

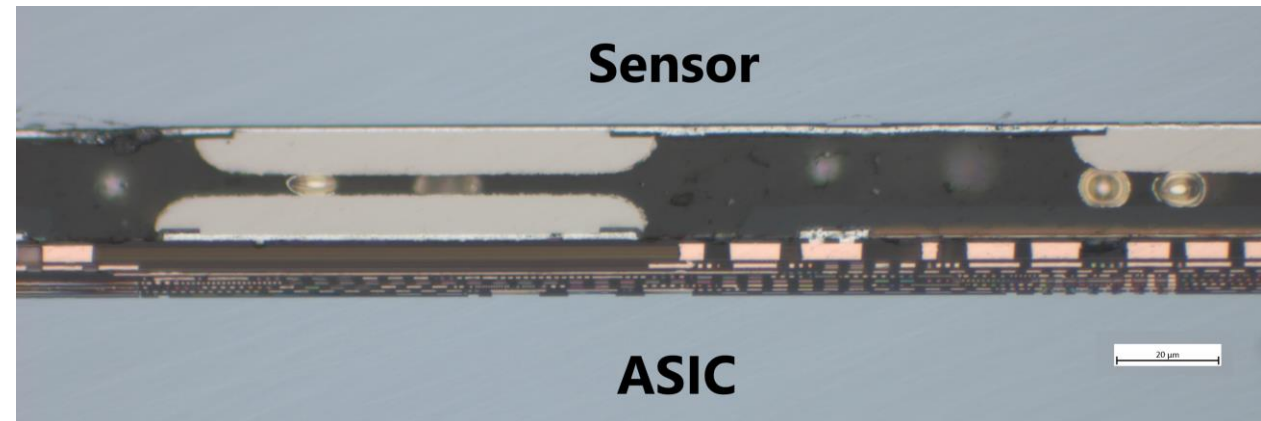
Also see talk  
by Xiao Yang  
on ATLAS  
LGAD (Wed)



Dispensing lines of ACP on the ALTIROC2 ASIC for bonding with LGAD sensor

## Replacement of bump bonding possible

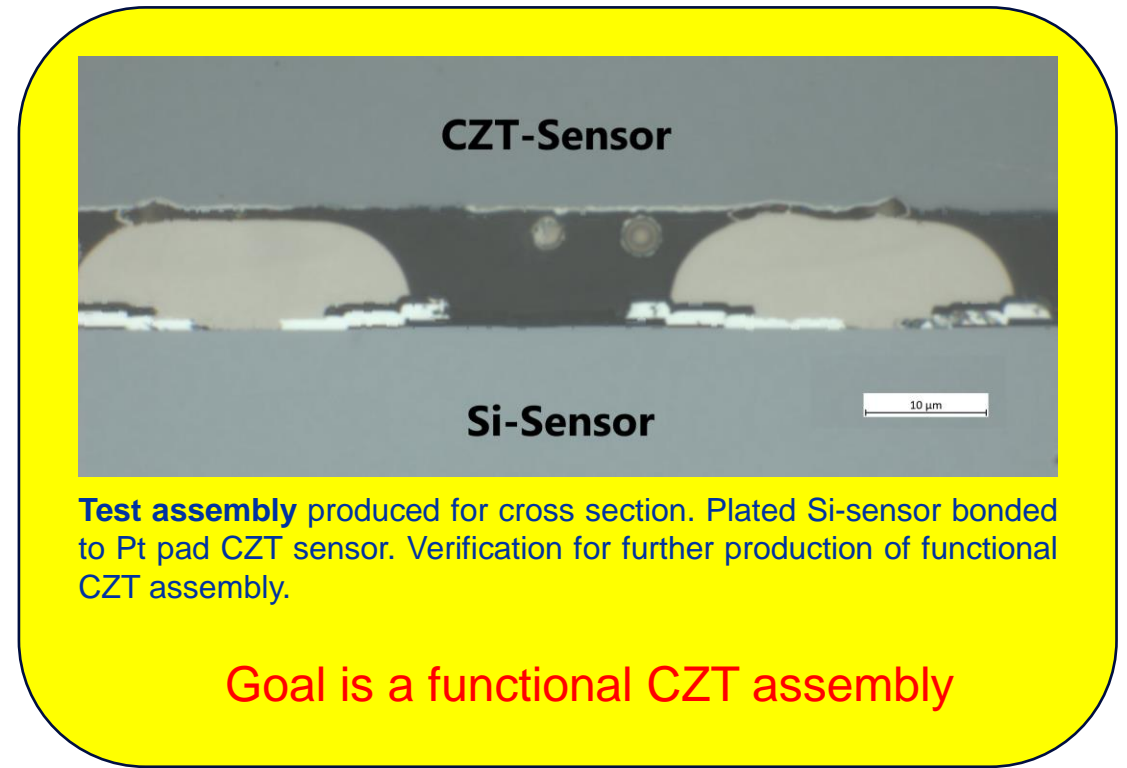
- ACA is expected to result in higher mechanical stability compared to low-density bump bonds
- Further test with larger particles and possibly higher ENIG plating



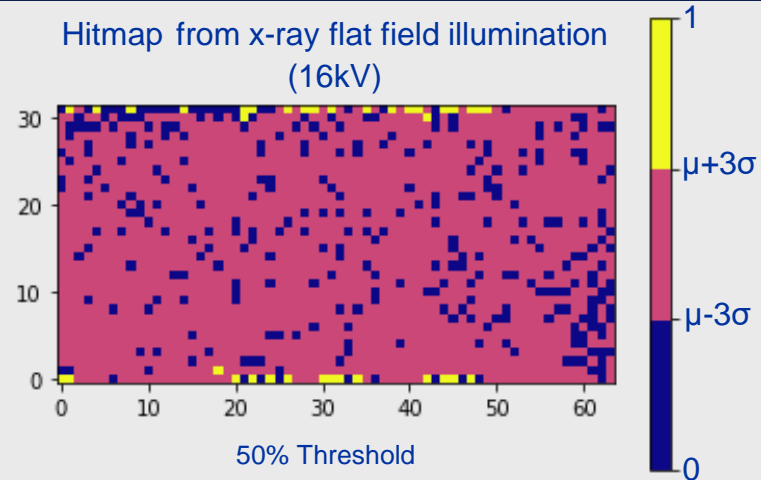
Cross section of an ALTIROC2 ASIC and LGAD sensor assembly for visual verification of electrical connection. Particles used are 10  $\mu\text{m}$  in diameter.

# SPHIRD

- X-ray detector developed at ESRF
- 32 by 16 pixels with 50  $\mu\text{m}$  pitch
- ACF bonded assembly
- Lab and test-beam measurements show 80-85% of pixels with normal response, 20% with very weak or no connection
- CZT and CdTe sensor bonding currently in preperation

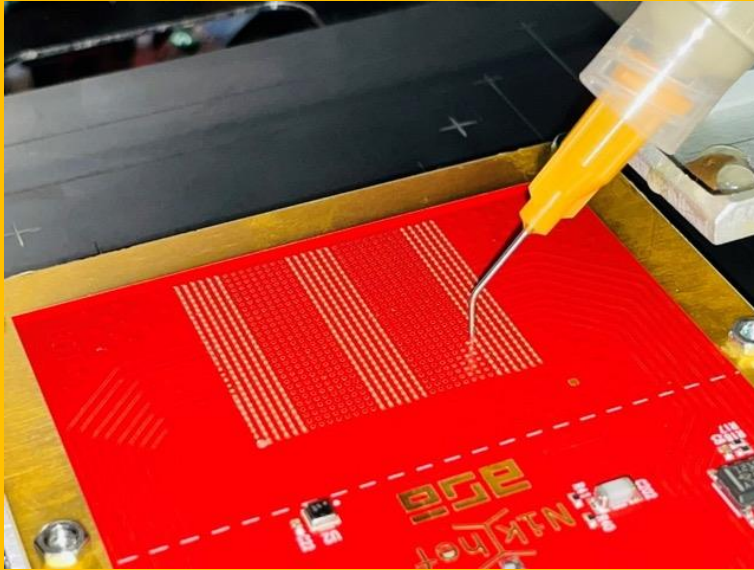


83.45% of the pixels behave in a **gaussian** way. This is the expected response. Of the non gaussian pixels there are two groups. One group with no response of about 10% and a second group which shows a very weak response.

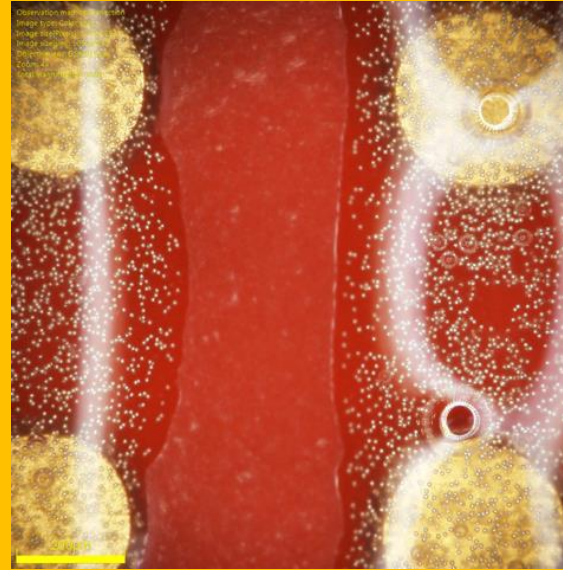


**FIRST functional Si-assembly results**

# Timepix4 TSV module integration



Dispensing of the ACP on the connection pads of the PCB



Close up of the pads covered by the ACP with particles visible



Bonded module connected for electrical testing

- ACP with 5 Vol% of 10  $\mu\text{m}$  diameter conductive particles bonded under 100 kgf
- Integration of Timepix4 TSV module (28.22 mm x 24.7 mm) with 540 connection pads (300  $\mu\text{m}$  diameter and 900  $\mu\text{m}$  pitch) successful!
- Electrical tests show behaviour identical to wire bonded module

# Conclusion/Outlook

- **Assemblies/Modules for different projects successfully produced**
  - ALTIROC/LGAD
  - SPHIRD Si
  - Timepix4TSV integration
  - Timepix3/Silicon sensor and Malta module integration (not shown today)
- **Further optimization on the developed processes**
  - ENIG challenges
  - Larger conductive particles
  - ACF shape
- **Further testing of produced assemblies**
- **Work on more challenging assemblies like Timepix3 (large area and small pitch)**
- **Studies into thermal and mechanical stability**

# Thank You

# Timepix3 assembly

- 256 by 256 pixels with 55  $\mu\text{m}$  pitch
- Testbeam and source measurements done
- Possibly adhesive quantity still too high
- Weak coupling in inefficient region
- Further optimization in plating height and ACF shape needed

Threshold increase by about 6000e-

