



**42ND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON
HIGH ENERGY PHYSICS
18-24 July 2024**

**A large-area prototype SiPM readout plane
for the ePIC-dRICH detector at the EIC**

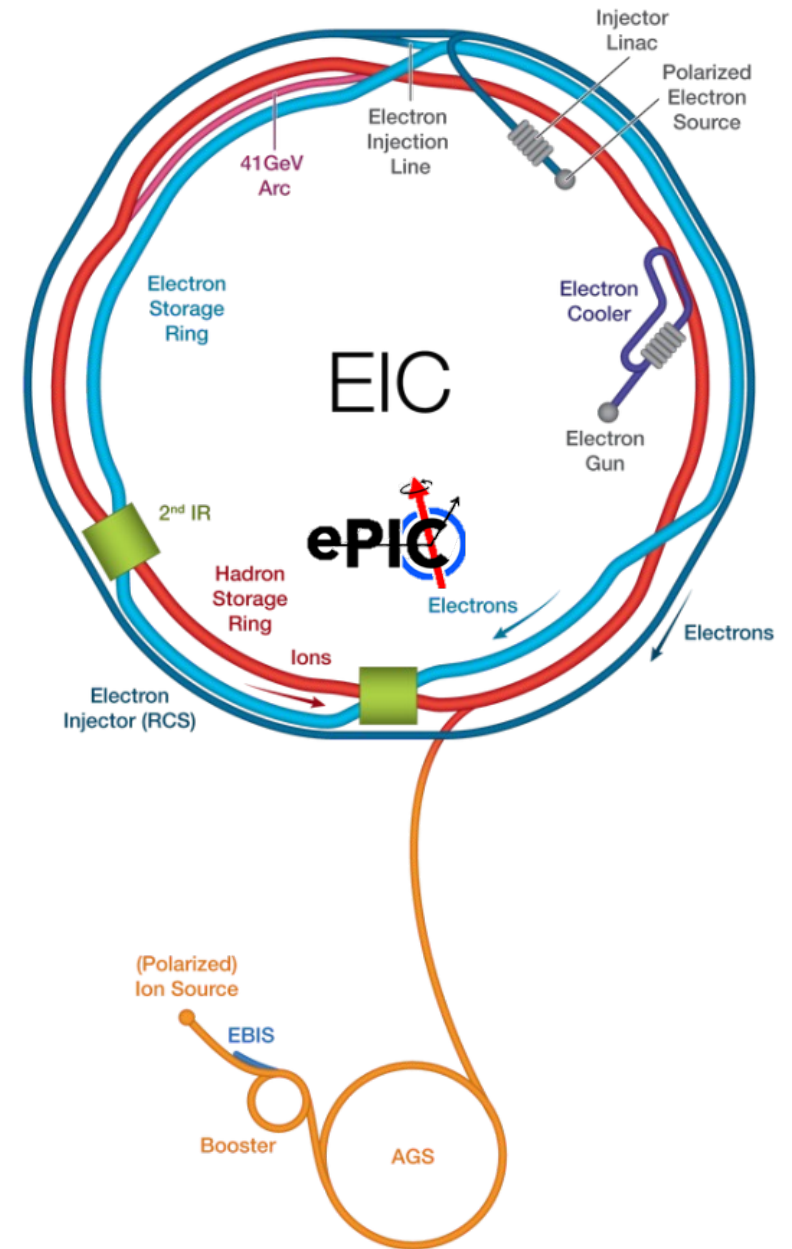


Luigi Rignanese on behalf of the **ePIC dRICH** collaboration



Outline:

- The **Electron-Ion Collider** and the **ePIC detector**
- **SiPMs** and **radiation damage**
- **Prototype**
- **Test beam** results



The Electron-Ion Collider

The major US project in the field of nuclear physics

- Operating in the early '30s

The world's first collider for

- Polarized electron-proton (and light ions)
- Electron-nucleus collisions

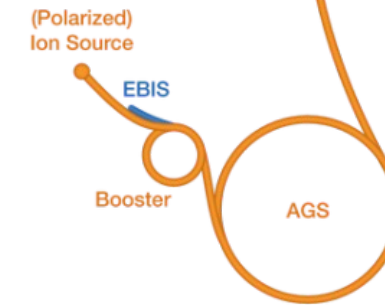
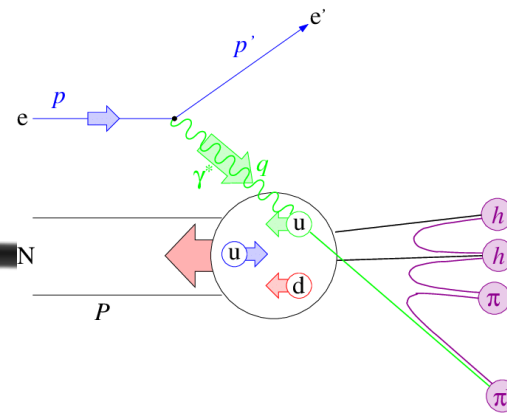
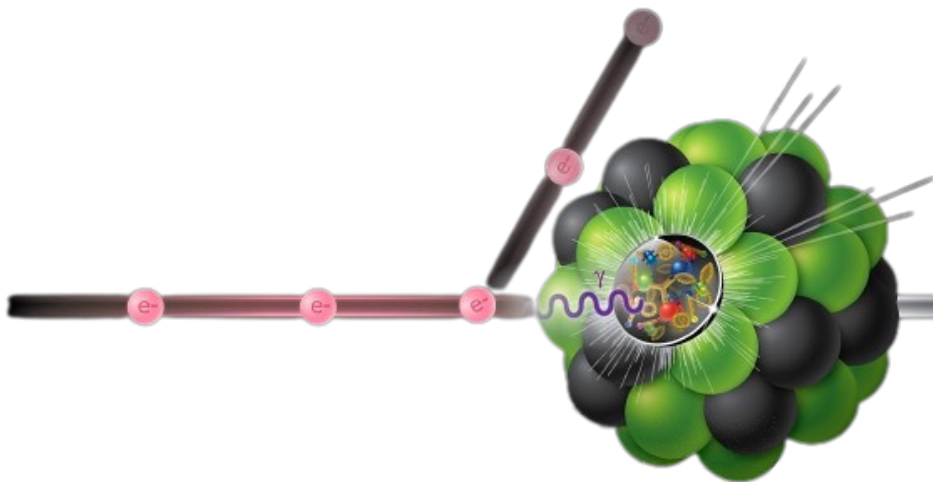
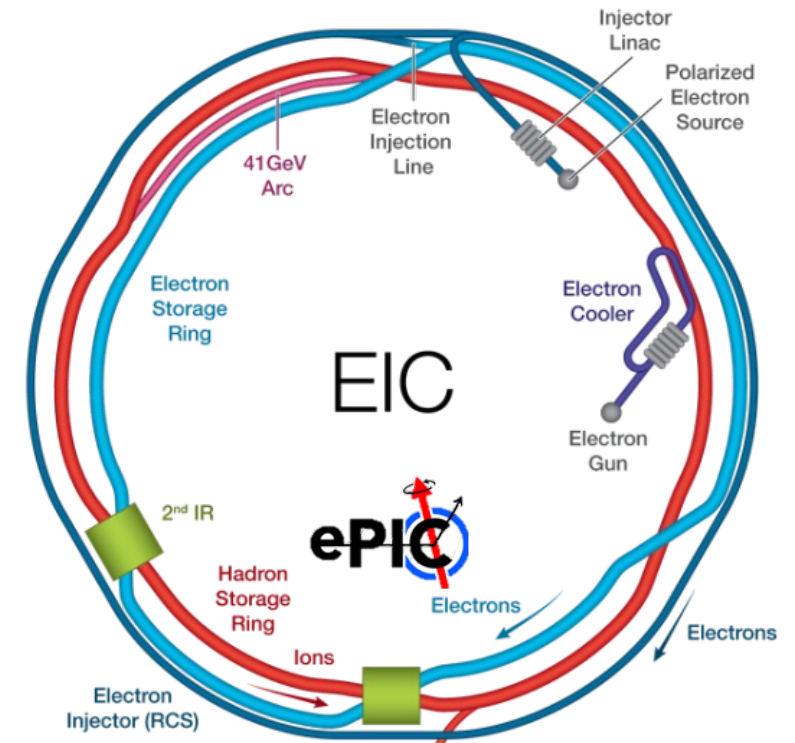
High Luminosity: $10^{34} \text{ cm}^2\text{s}^{-1}$

Wide energy span \rightarrow 20-140 GeV

Inclusive/semi-inclusive DIS

- understand origin of mass & spin of the nucleons

3D images of the nuclear structure (GPD)



protons and nuclei
RHIC infrastructure

polarized electrons
new accelerator
complex and storage
ring

ePIC

Magnet

- New 1.7 T SC solenoid, 2.8 m bore diameter

Tracking

- Si Vertex Tracker MAPS wafer-level stitched sensors (ALICE ITS3)
- Si Tracker MAPS barrel and disks
- Gaseous tracker: MPGDs (μ RWELL, MMG) cylindrical and planar

PID

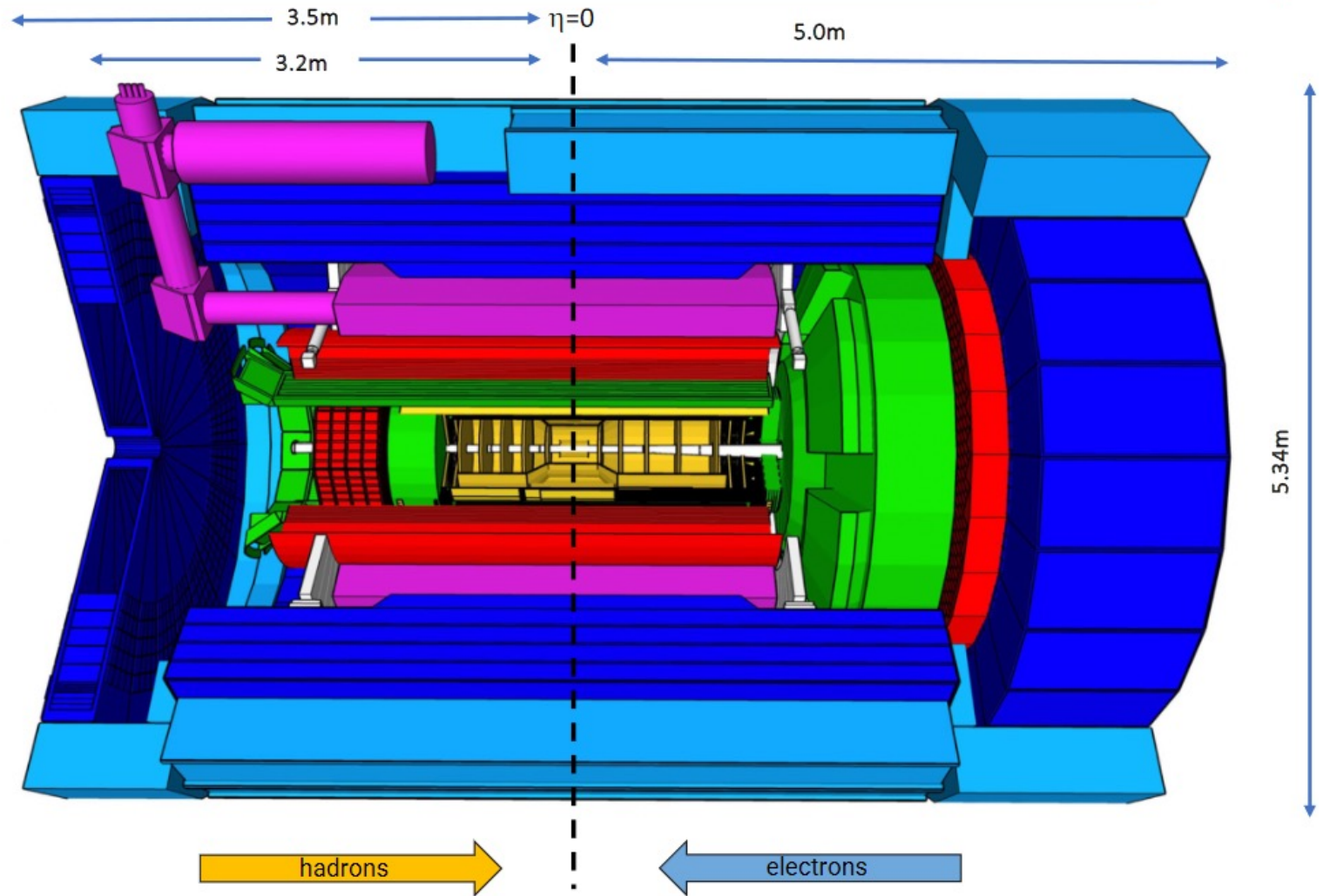
- high performance DIRC (hpDIRC)
- dual RICH (aerogel + gas) (forward)
- proximity focussing RICH (backward)
- ToF using AC-LGAD (barrel+forward)

EM Calorimetry

- imaging EMCal (barrel)
- W-powder/SciFi (forward)
- PbWO_4 crystals (backward)

Hadron calorimetry

- FeSc (barrel, re-used from sPHENIX)
- Steel/Scint – W/Scint (backward/forward)



Magnet

- New 1.7 T SC solenoid, 2.8 m bore diameter

Tracking

- Si Vertex Tracker MAPS wafer-level stitched sensors (ALICE ITS3)
- Si Tracker MAPS wafer-level stitched sensors (ALICE ITS3)
- Gaseous tracker MAPS wafer-level stitched sensors (ALICE ITS3)
- cylindrical anode

PID

- high performance
- dual RICH (aerogel + gas) (forward)
- proximity focussing
- ToF using AC-LGAD (barrel/forward)

EM Calorimetry

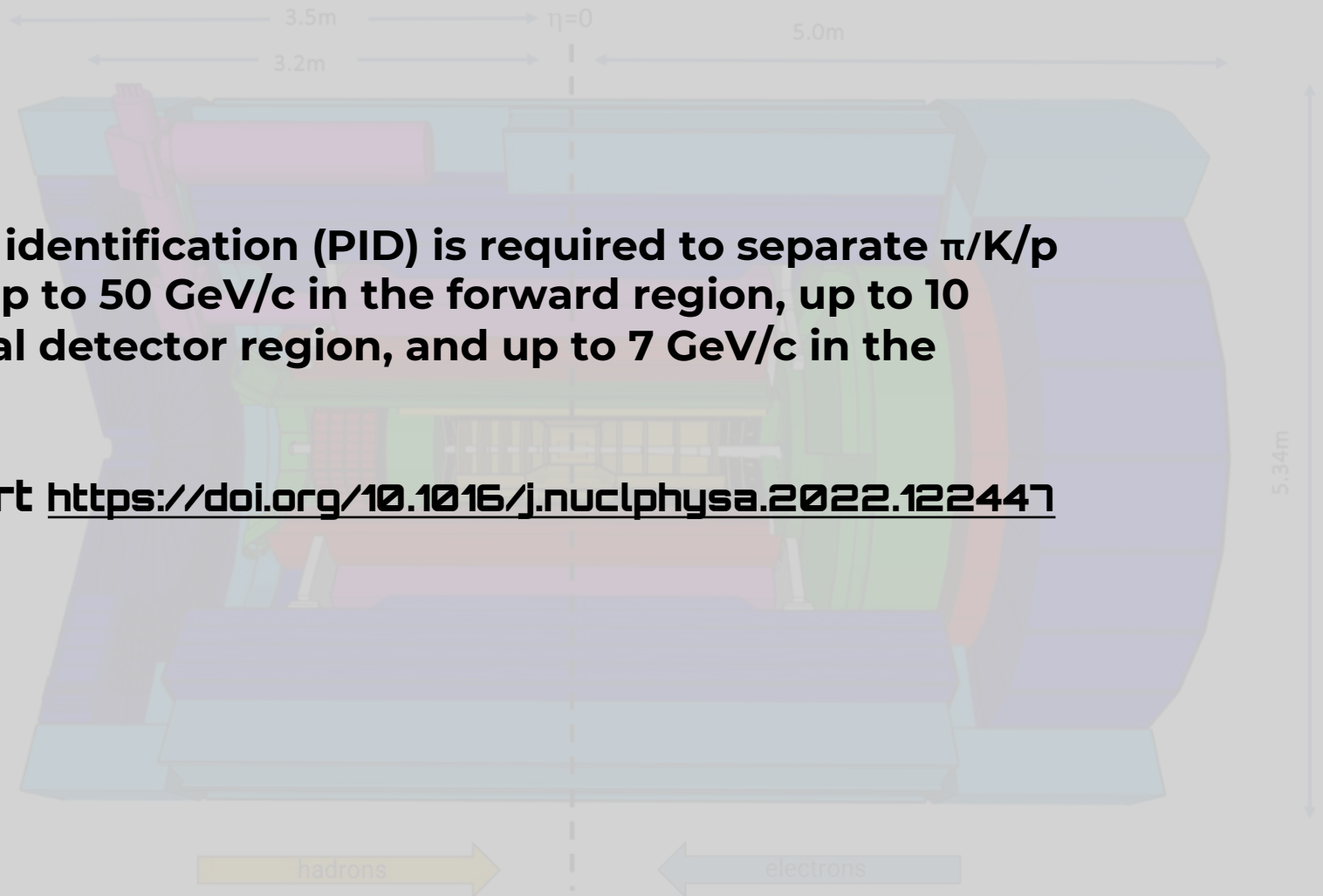
- imaging EMCal (barrel)
- W-powder/SciFi (forward)
- PbWO₂ crystals (backward)

Hadron calorimetry

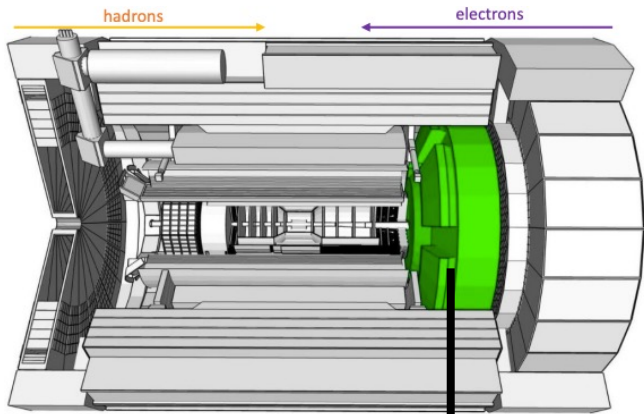
- FeSc (barrel, re-used from sPHENIX)
- Steel/Scint – W/Scint (backward/forward)

“Excellent particle identification (PID) is required to separate $\pi/K/p$ at the level of 3σ up to 50 GeV/c in the forward region, up to 10 GeV/c in the central detector region, and up to 7 GeV/c in the backward region”

EIC yellow report <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nuclphysa.2022.122447>



The dual-radiator (dRICH)



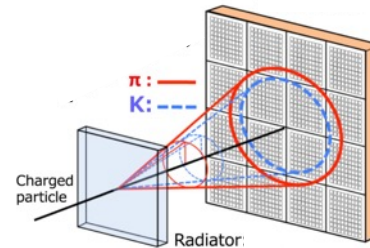
Compact and **cost-effective** solution for **broad momentum** (3-50 GeV/c) coverage at forward rapidity **π/K 3σ separation at 50 GeV/c** and **wide acceptance** (+- 300 mrad/ $1.5 < \eta < 3.5$)



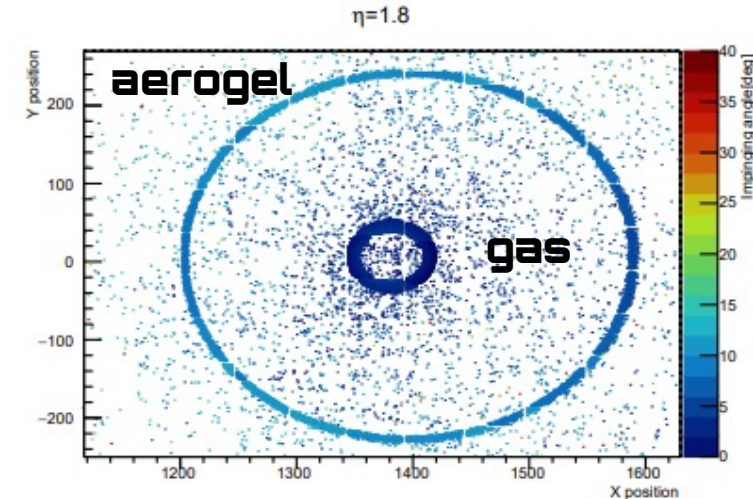
Gas volume 120 cm
C₂F₆ (n ~ 1.0008)

Aerogel (n ~ 1.02) **4 cm**
Radius = 110 cm

6 spherical mirrors
Backward-reflecting
Radius = 220 cm

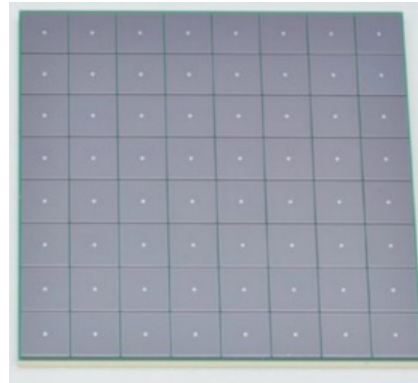


Photosensors 3x3 mm² pixels 0.5 m² per sector in 1 T magnetic field and radioactive environment for low light levels.



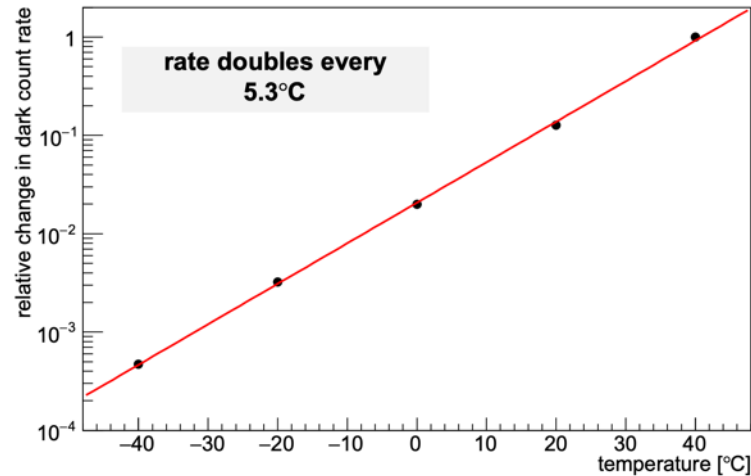
SiPMs are the best candidates

- **Small** and **cheap**
- **Insensitive** to **magnetic field**
- **High** photo-detection efficiency (**PDE**)
- High gain-**single photon** detection
- **Low voltage** operation
- Excellent **timing** performance

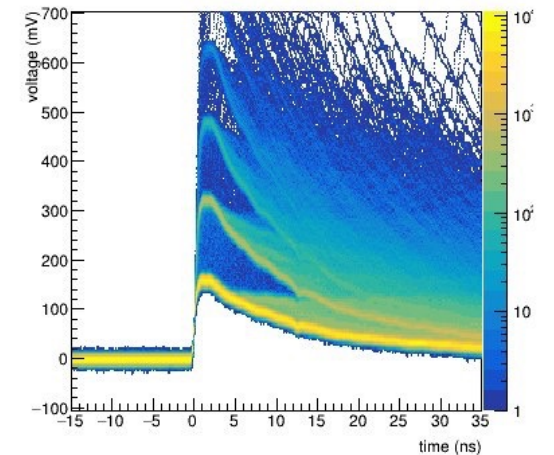


But:

- x **High DCR** @ room temperature
- x **Low radiation tolerance**
DCR increases with **dose**



A. N. Otte et al., [Nucl.Instrum.Meth.A 846 2016](#)





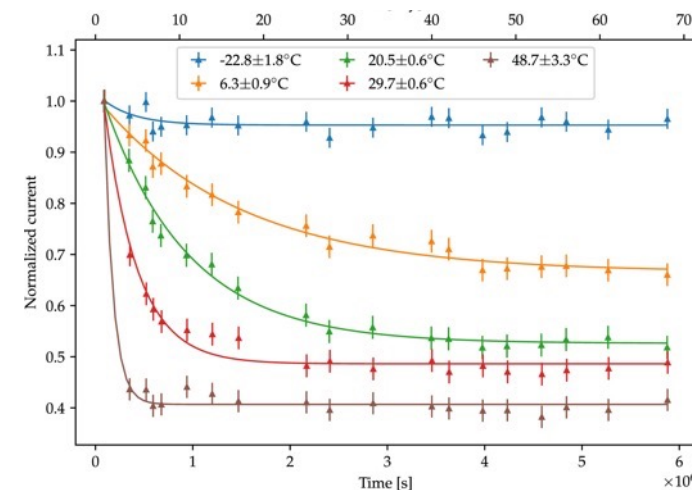
Sub ns time resolutions allow **coincidence** cuts that greatly reduces **DCR** contribution in the measurements



Annealing techniques (**high temperature process**) to recover **DCR** performance loss



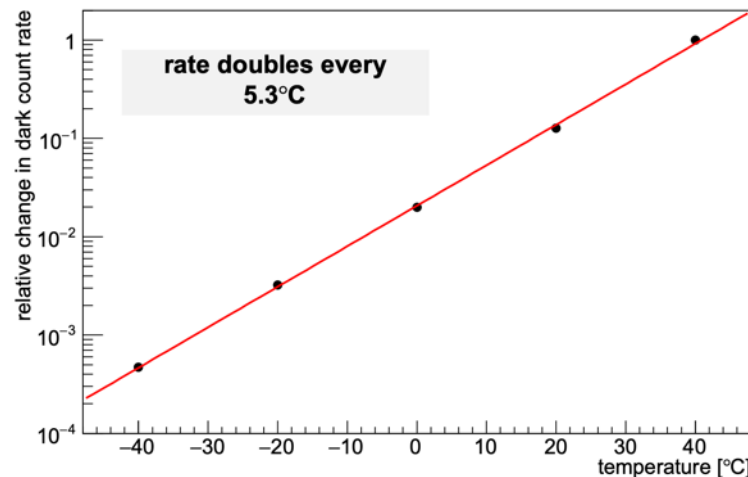
Cooling the sensors down to **-30° C** reduces the **DCR** by a factor **~ 100**



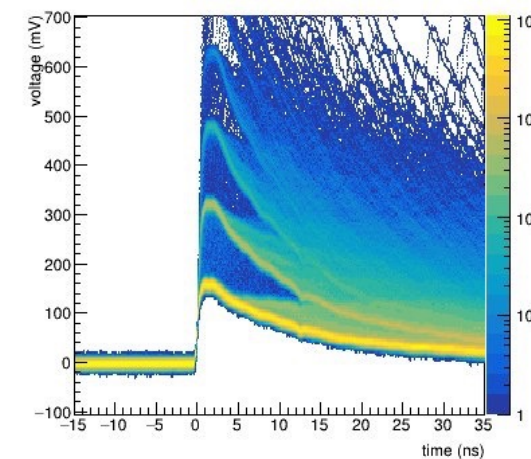
N. De Angelis et al., [Nucl.Instrum.Meth.A 1048 2023](#)

But:

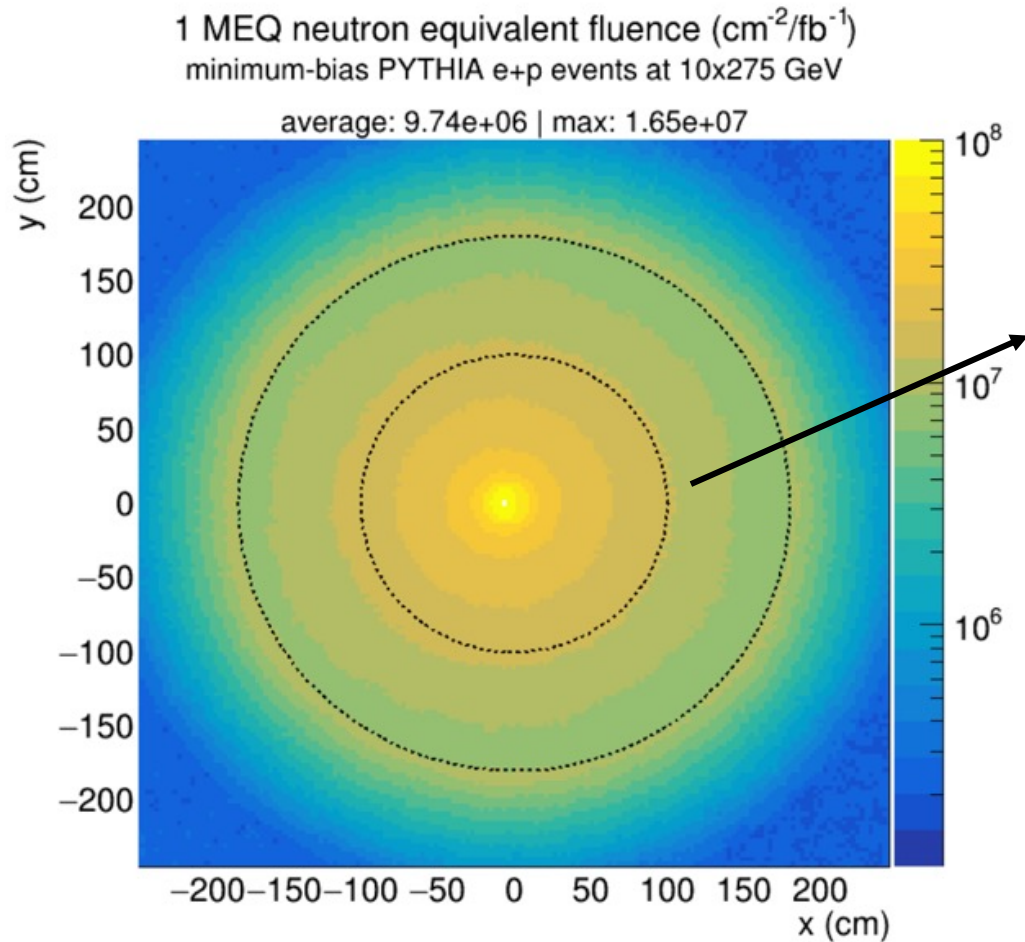
- x **High DCR** @ room temperature
- x **Low radiation tolerance**
- DCR** increases with **dose**



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Radiation levels on the dRICH



n_{eq} = 1-MeV neutron equivalent (NIEL model)

dRICH photosensors location:

mean $\approx 9.7 \cdot 10^6 n_{\text{eq}}/\text{cm}^2$ per fb^{-1}

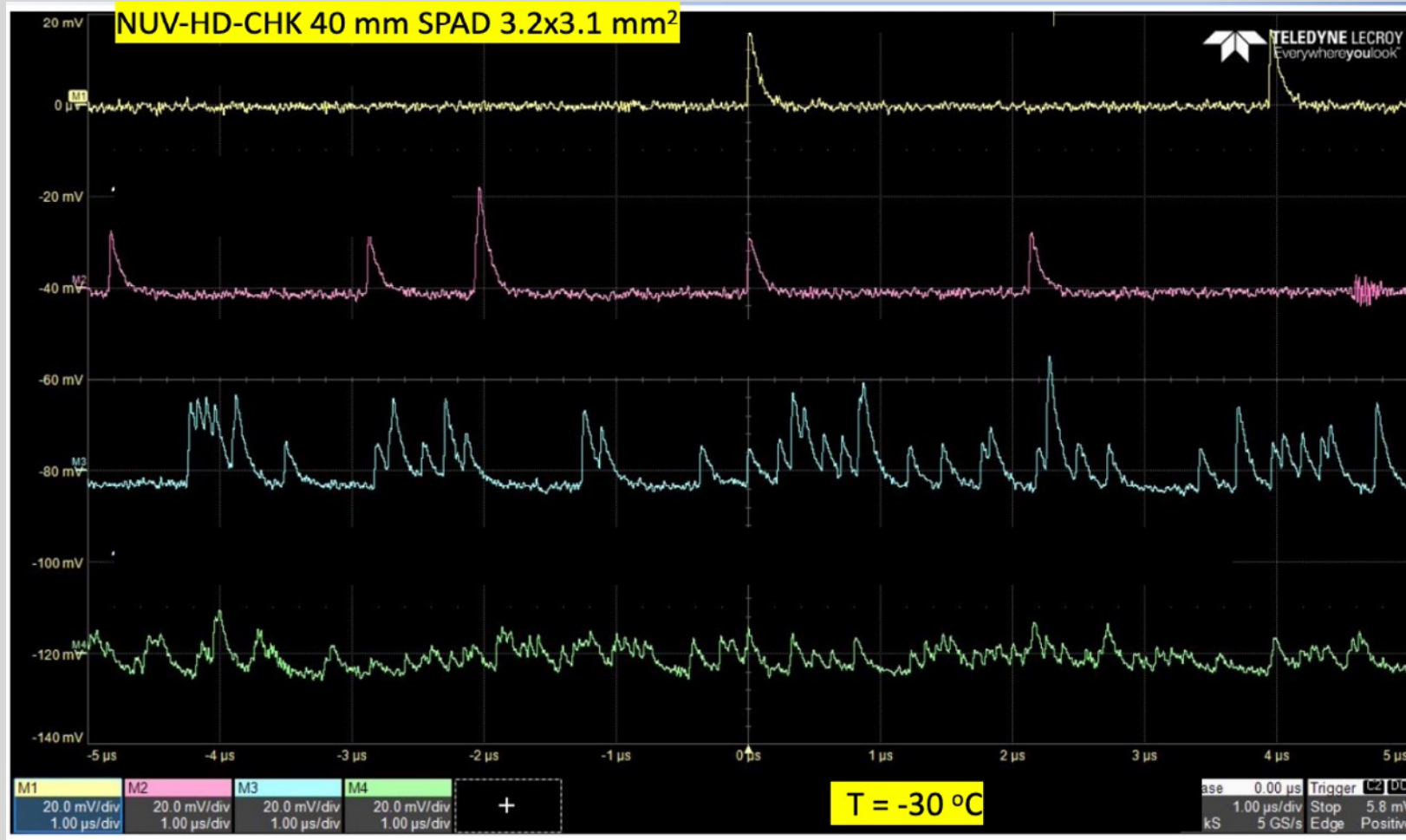
max $\approx 1.7 \cdot 10^7 n_{\text{eq}}/\text{cm}^2$ per fb^{-1}
(including bkg)

Integrated luminosity and radiation levels

- 10 fb^{-1} for **most** of the **physics topics** $< 10^9 n_{\text{eq}}/\text{cm}^2$
- 10^2 fb^{-1} **GPD** and statistically eager topics $< 10^{10} n_{\text{eq}}/\text{cm}^2$
- 10^3 fb^{-1} may **never** be reached $< 10^{11} n_{\text{eq}}/\text{cm}^2$



Radiation levels on the dRICH



equivalent (NIEL model)

new

location:

$10^9 n_{eq}/cm^2$

$10^{10} n_{eq}/cm^2$
(SP affected)

$10^{11} n_{eq}/cm^2$
(baseline affected)

radiation levels

physics topics

$<10^9 n_{eq}/cm^2$

locally eager topics

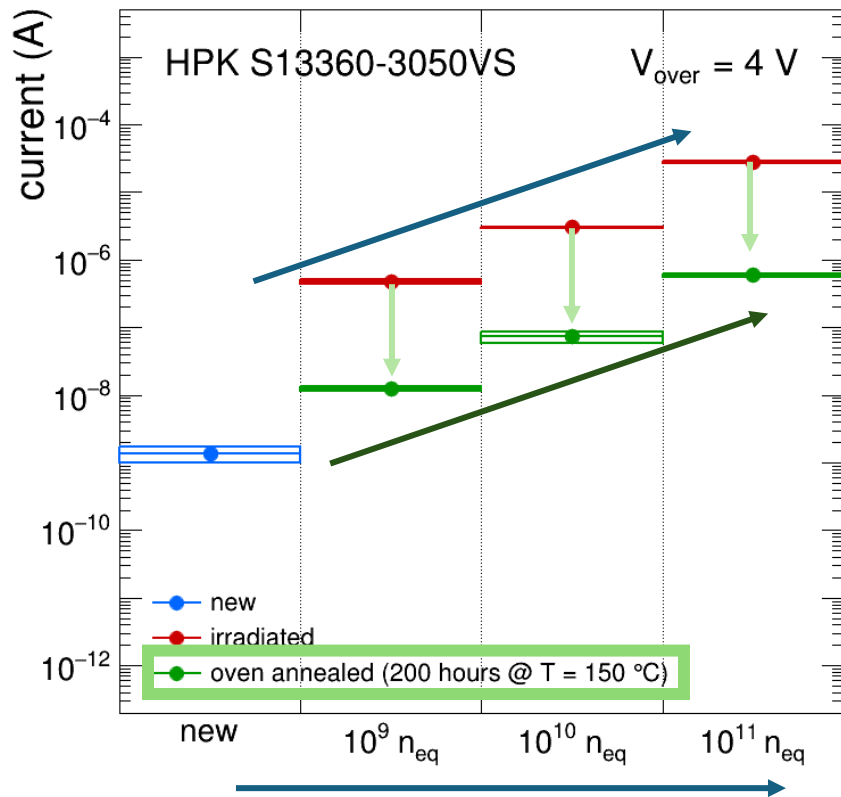
$<10^{10} n_{eq}/cm^2$

$10^{11} n_{eq}/cm^2$



SiPMs radiation damage studies and annealing (2021)

Irradiation campaigns with protons at TIFPA (TN)

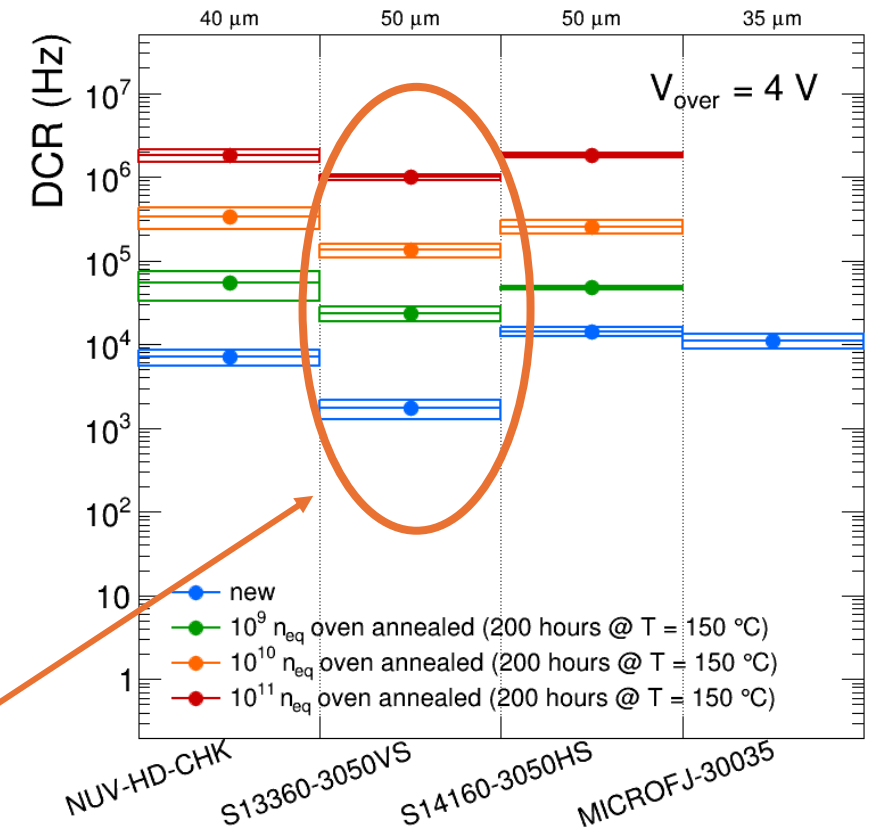


Linear **increase** of dark current/**DCR** with the dose

~**50x reduction** of dark current/**DCR** with **150° C** oven **annealing**

Residual increase in **DCR** is **proportional** to the dose

All sensors behave similarly but **HAMATSU s13360-3050** shows the **lowest DCR** and **best PDE**

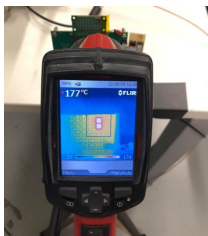
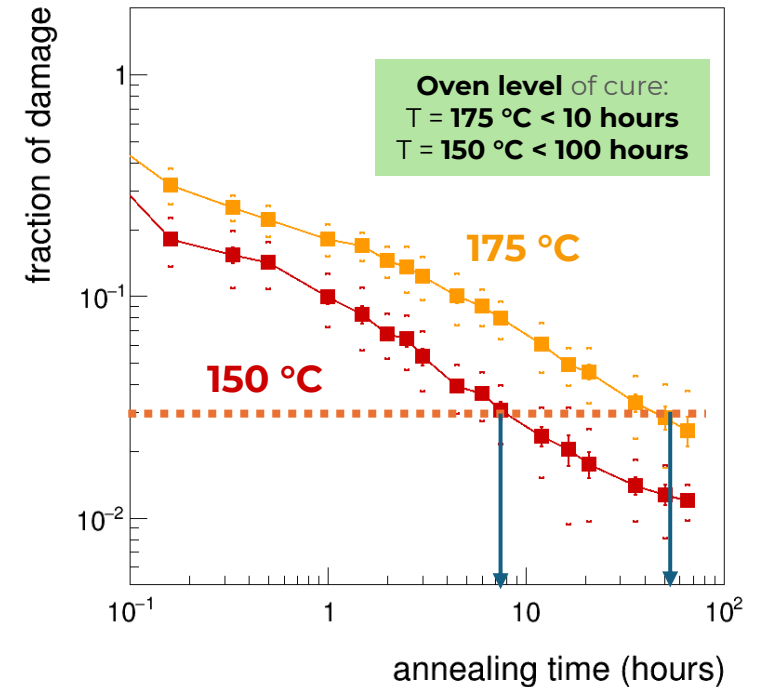
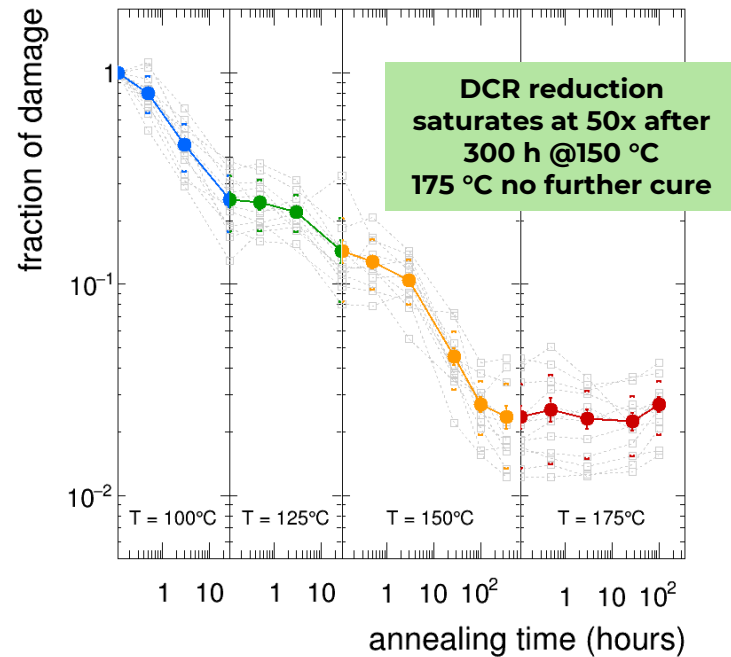
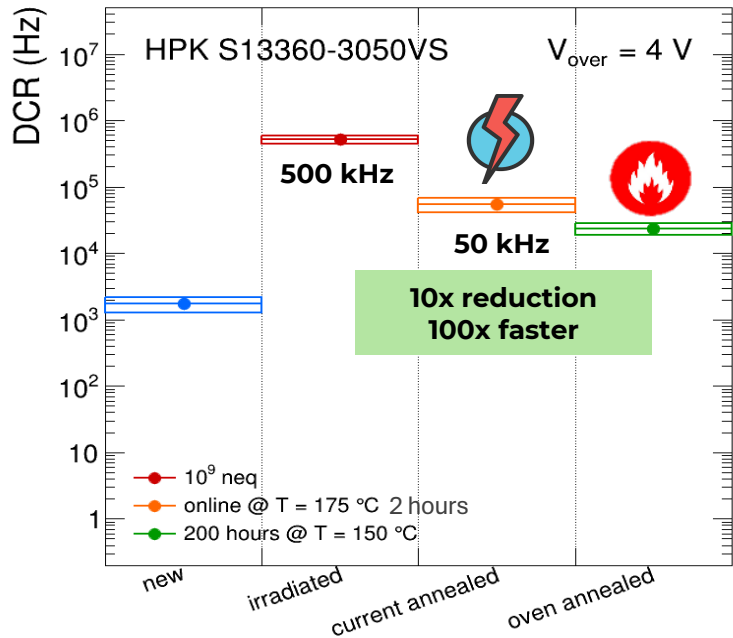


R. Preghenella et al., [Nucl.Instrum.Meth.A 1056 2023](#)

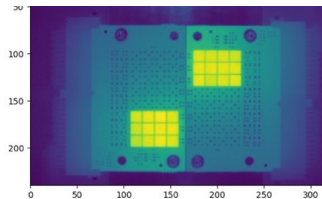
Measurements taken @ -30° C

SiPMs current annealing

Annealing by heating up the sensors. Direct polarized “high” current flowing into the SiPM. 175° C with 10 V and ~100 mA (~ **1 W**) per sensor.



Preliminary studies in 2022 demonstrated the feasibility

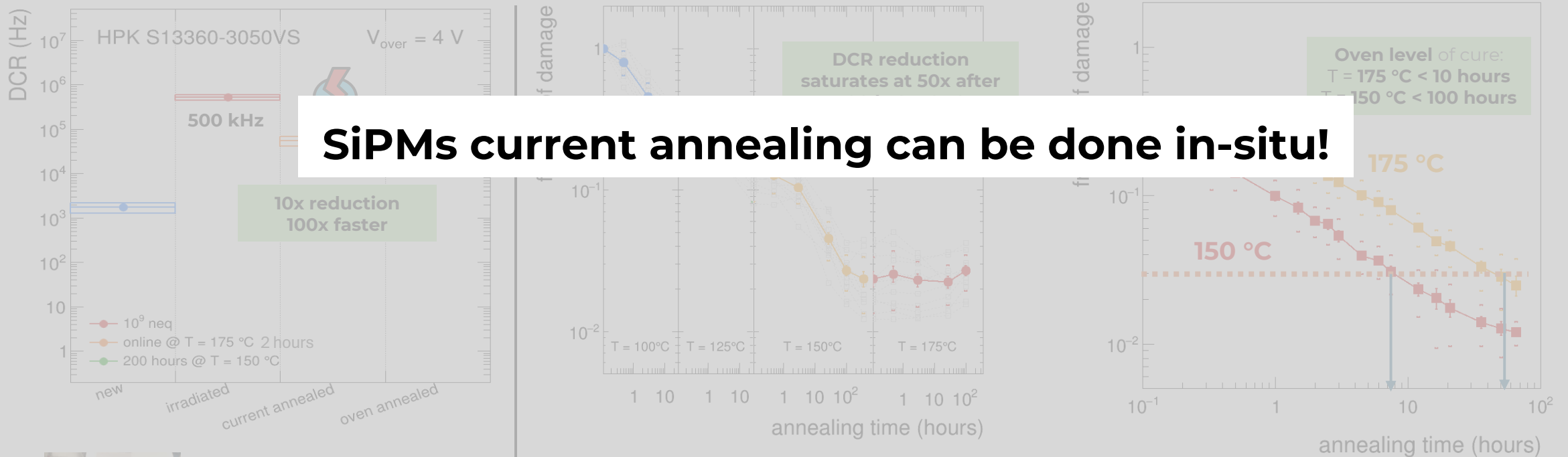


2023/24 test on a large number SiPM. Automated test at different temperatures and time intervals

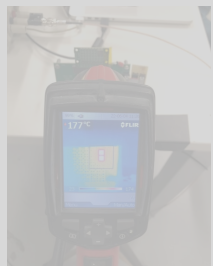
R. Preghenella et al., [Nucl.Instrum.Meth.A 1056 2023](#)

SiPMs current annealing

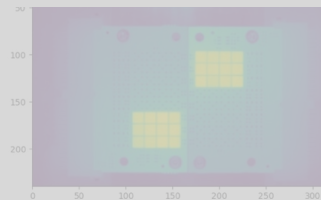
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SiPMs current annealing can be done in-situ!



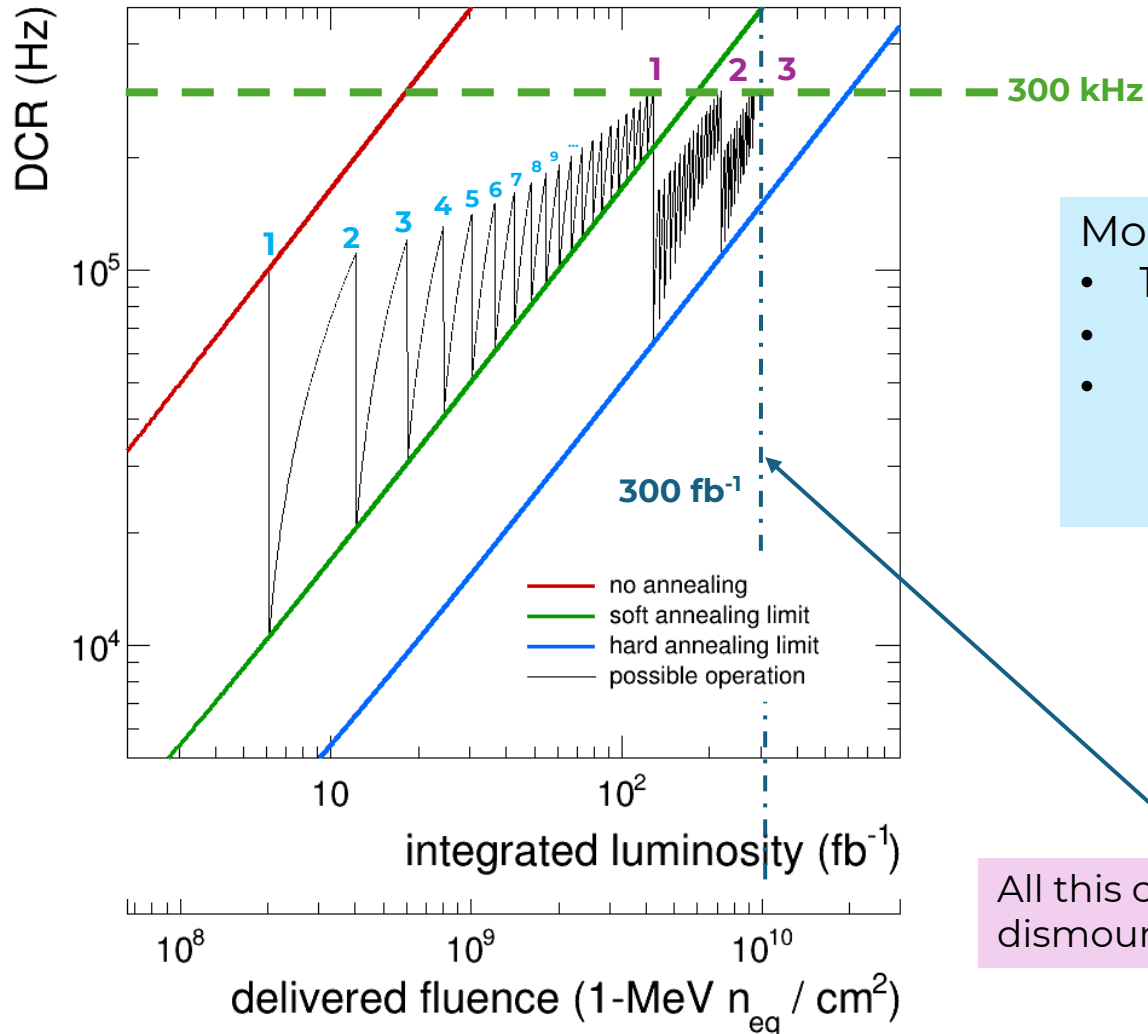
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2023/24 test on a large number SiPM. Automated test at different temperatures and time intervals

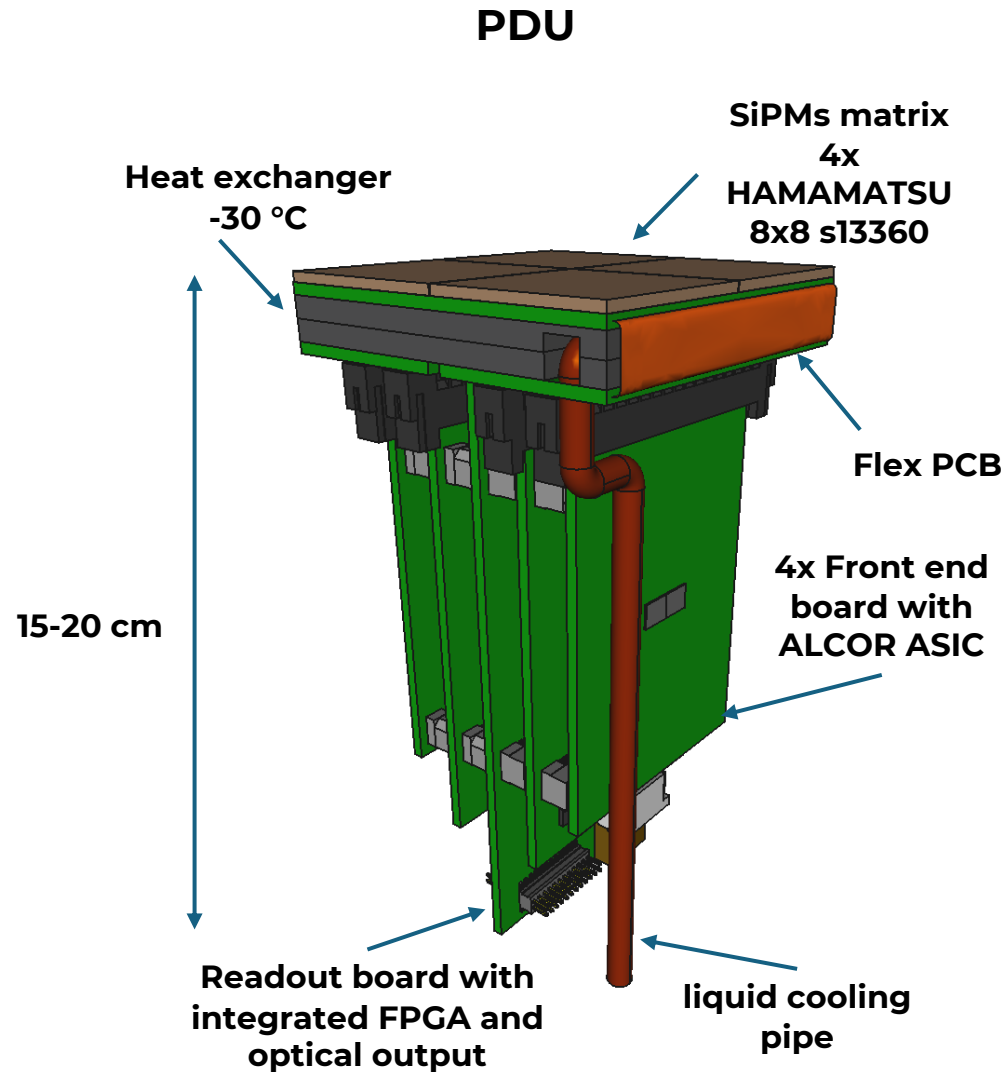
SiPMs ageing model

Hamamatsu S13360-3050 @ $V_{over} = 4 \text{ V}$, $T = -30 \text{ C}$

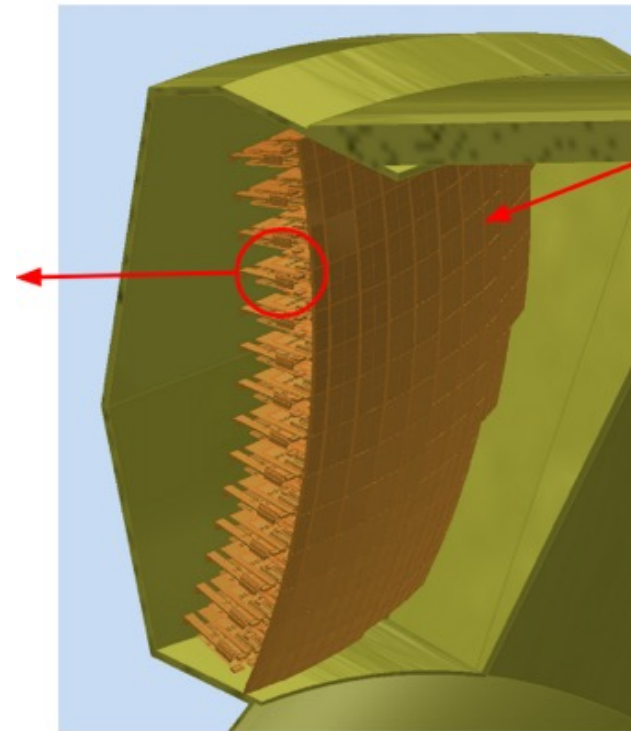


All this can be done **in-situ**. From here we we'll need to dismount the detector (**10 yr** operation)

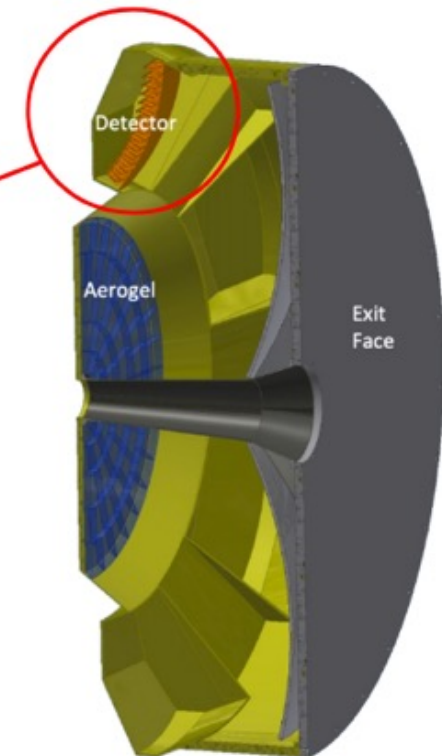
Photodetector design and layout



**Curved SiPM readout plane
(sector)**



dRICH

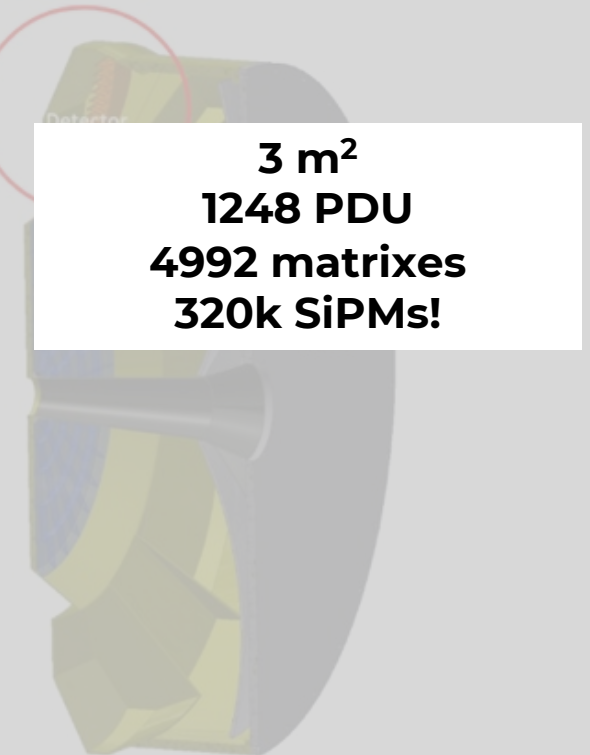
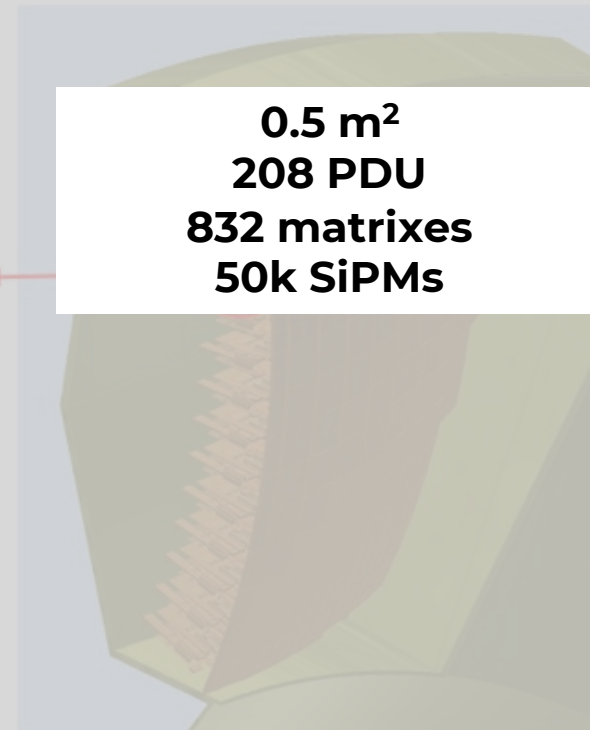
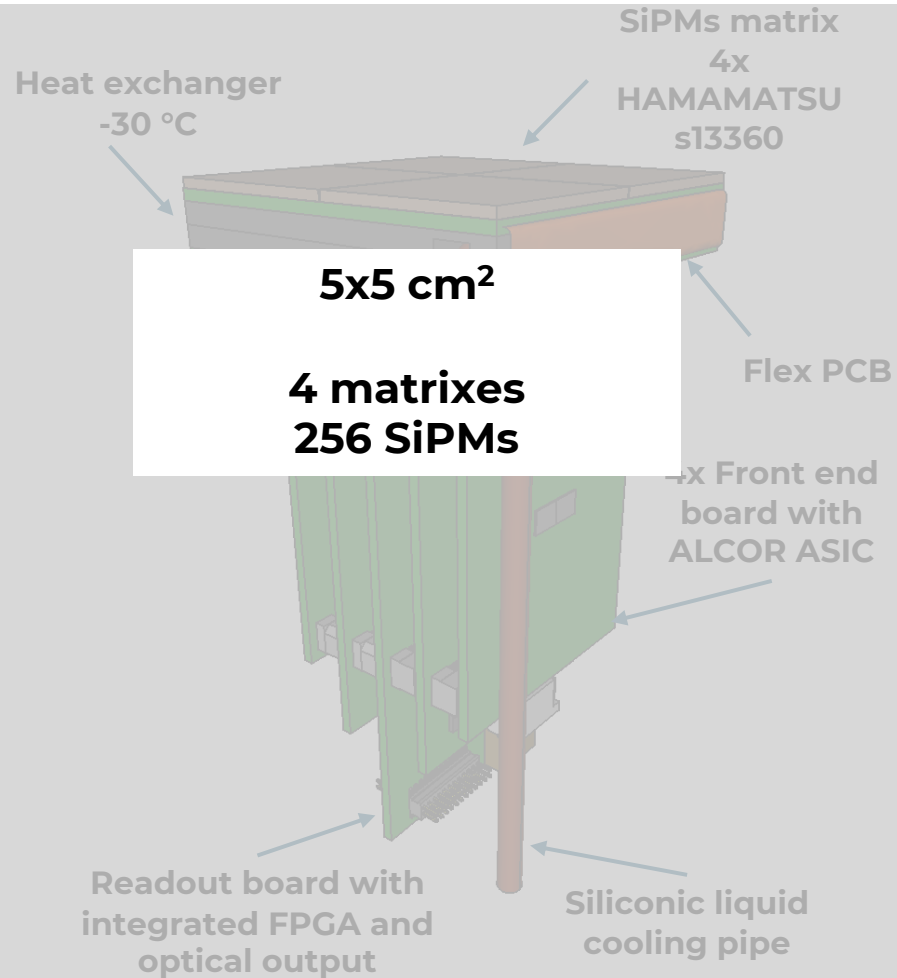


Photodetector design and layout

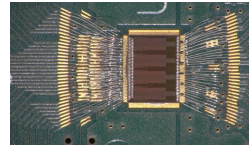
PDU

Curved SiPM readout plane
(sector)

dRICH



ALCOR ASIC by INFN-To



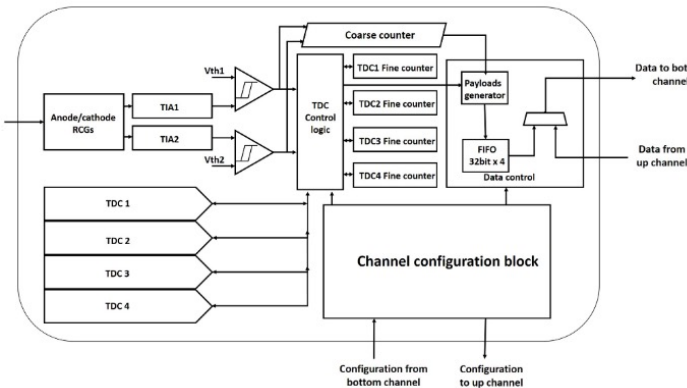
32-pixel matrix mixed signal **ASIC** initially foreseen for **SiPMs** in **cryogenics**

The chip performs **amplification, signal conditioning** and **event digitization** with a fully **digital I/O**

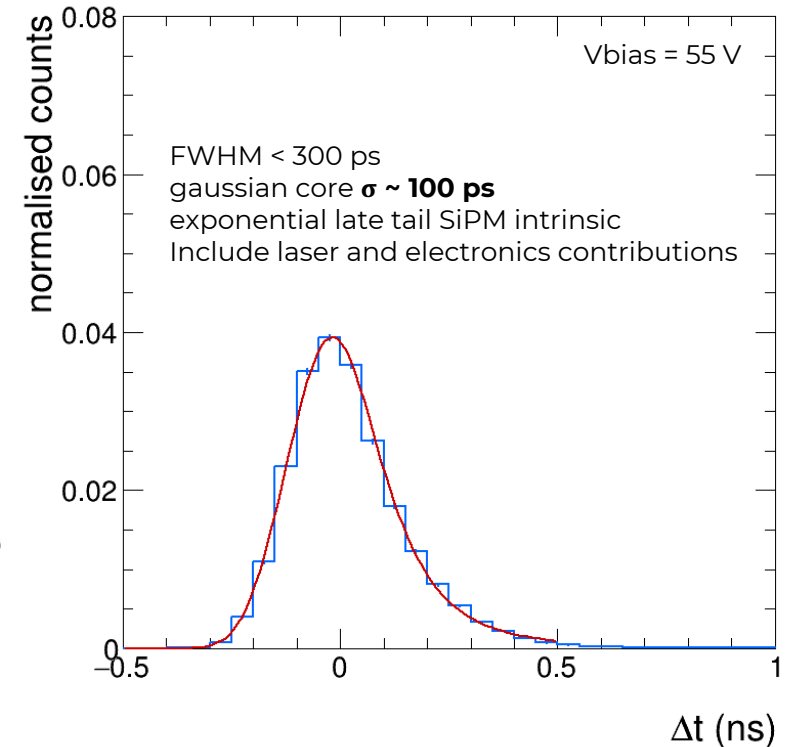
Each **pixel** features

- Regulated common gate **amplifier** (10 Ω impedance)
- Post amp TIA for **4 gain settings**
- **2 leading-edge discriminators** with independent **threshold** settings
- **4 TDCs** based on analogue interpolation with **50 ps LSB** (@ 320 MHz)
- **3 triggerless operation** modes:
 - **LET** leading edge threshold measurement, high-rate time-stamp
 - **ToT** Time-over-Threshold
 - **Slew rate**

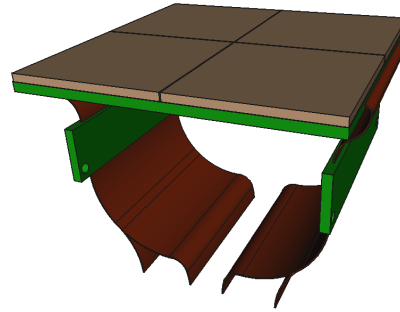
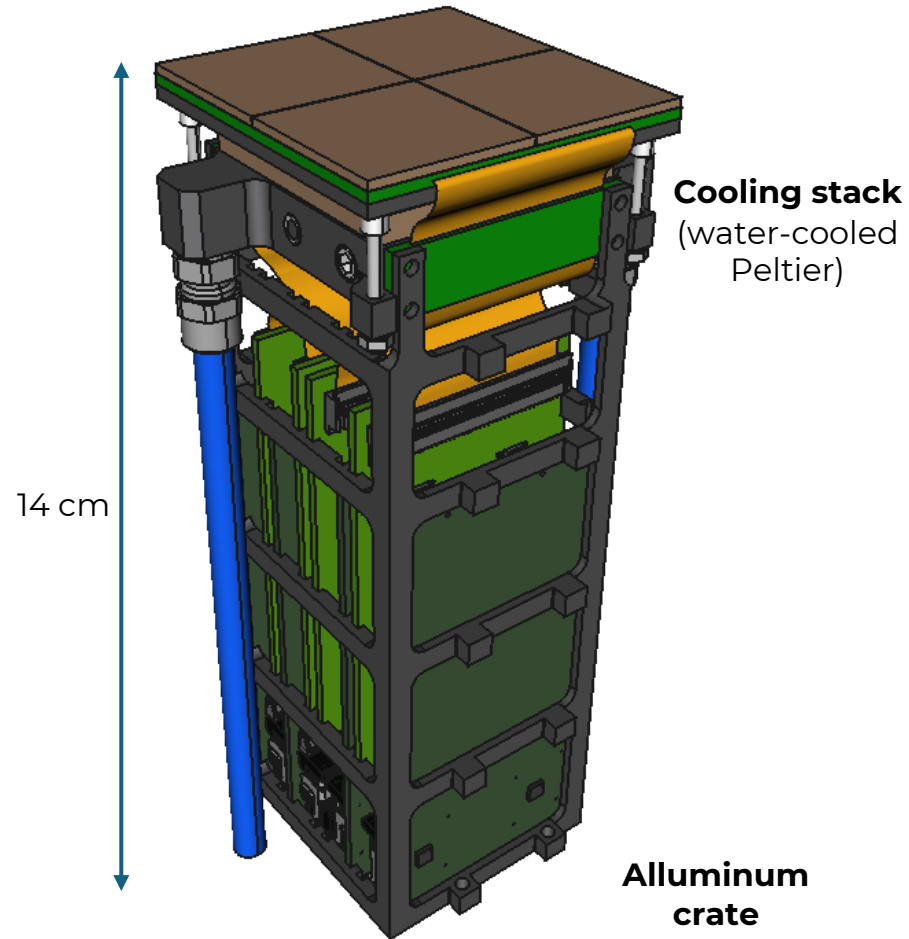
Fully **digital output** on **4 LVDS TX** data links
SPI-based chip configuration
64-bit event and **status** data



SPTR ALCOR +Hamamatsu s13360-3075

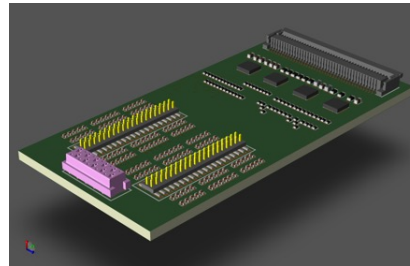


PDU prototype



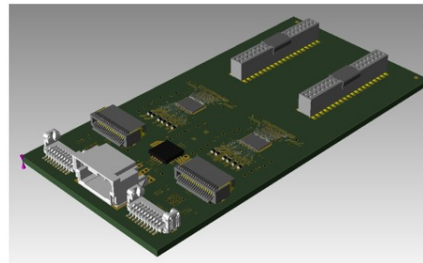
carrier board

4 matrixes of **8x8**
Hamamatsu S13650 **SiPMs**
(256) on rigid-flex pcb
4 **ntc** sensors on the back



4x adapters

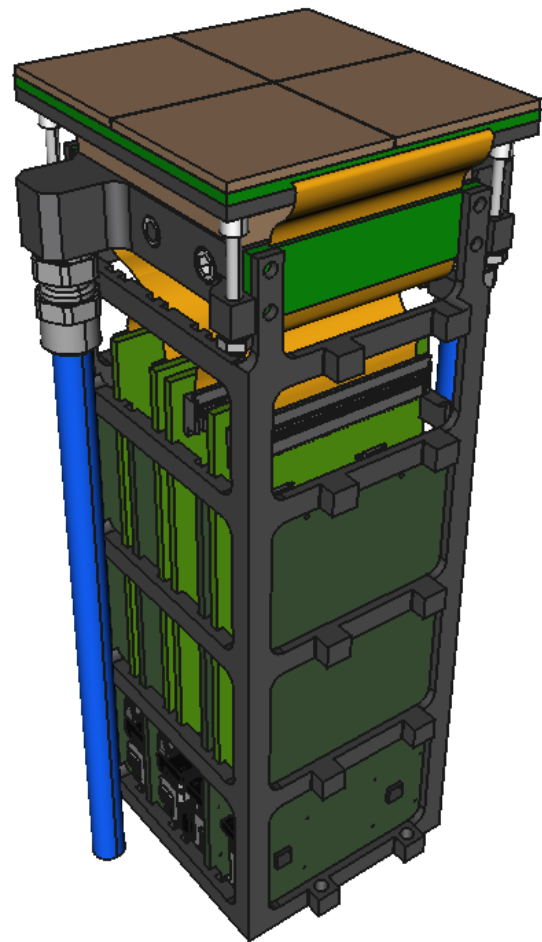
HV regulation
AC coupling to ALCOR



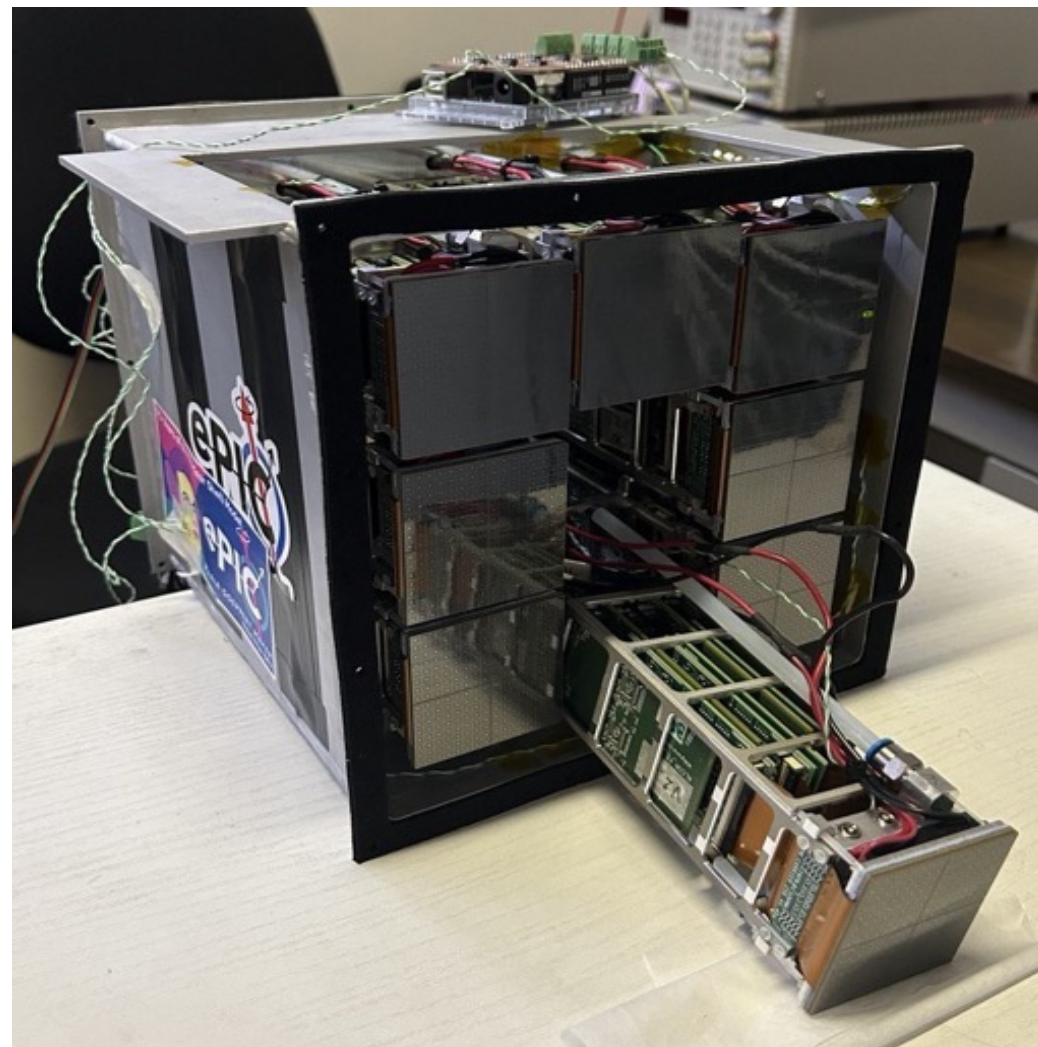
4x FE boards

2x ALCOR-v2 (8 total)
2x Firefly connectors

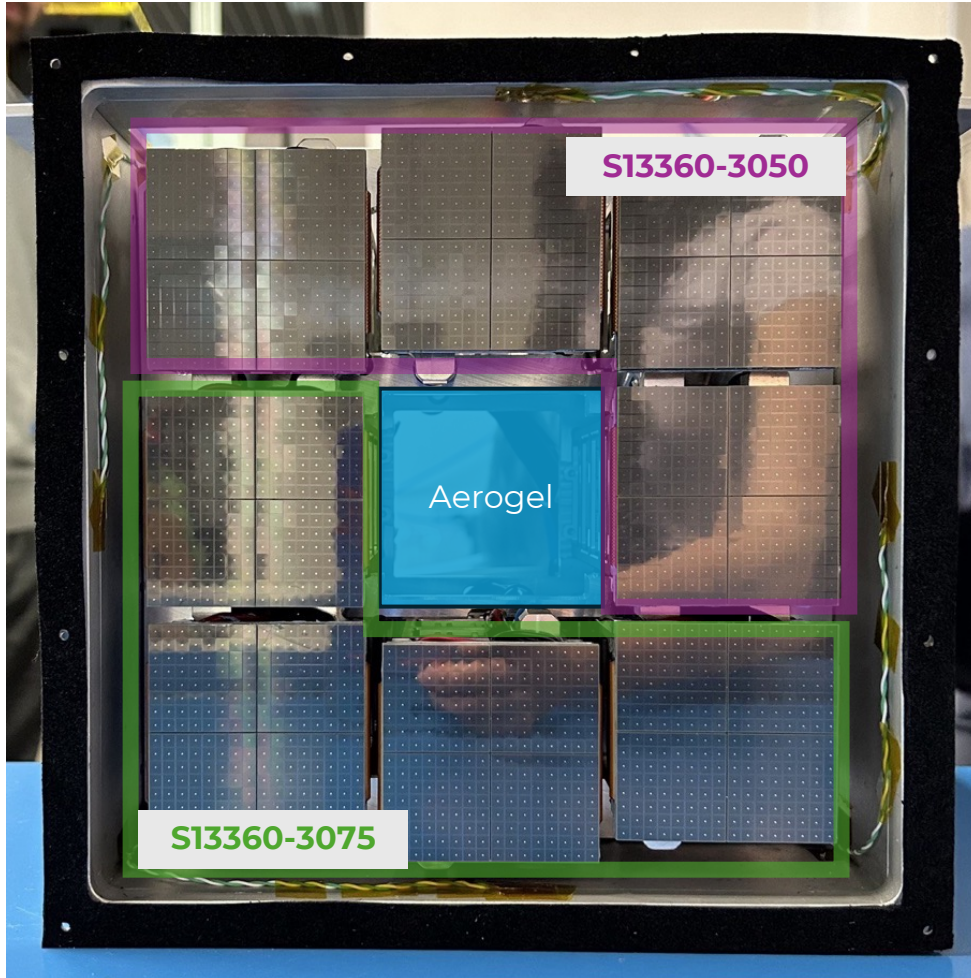
Detector box prototype



8x



Detector box prototype



20x20x20 cm³

≈**400** cm² optical surface (1/10 of a dRICH sector)

2048-Hamamatsu S13360 SiPMs

2 different SPAD sizes (**50** and **75** um)

2 mm dead layer between PDUs

64 ALCOR v2 ASICS

2048 TDC channels electronics

800 Mb/s data rate

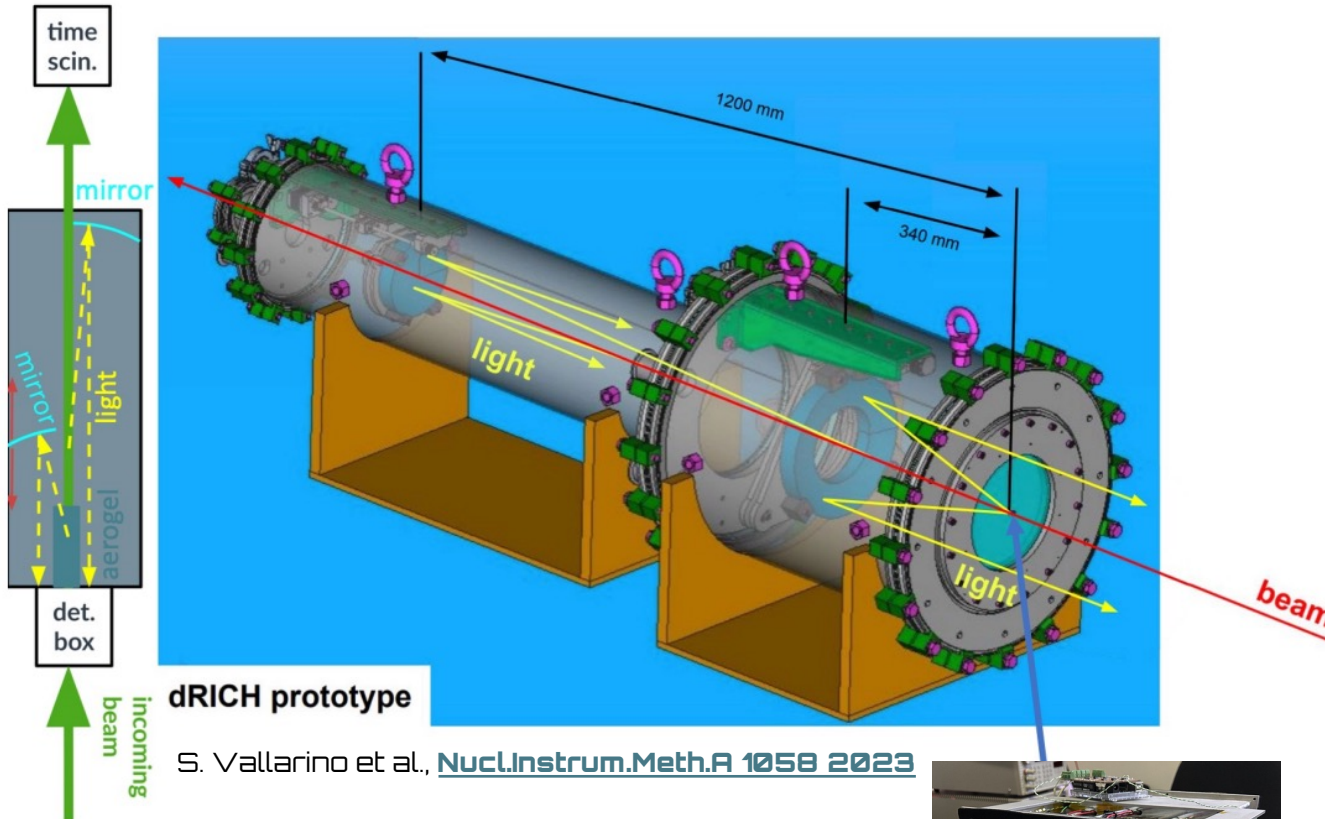
TEC active cooling (≈400 W)

Automatically controlled temp down to **-40 °C**

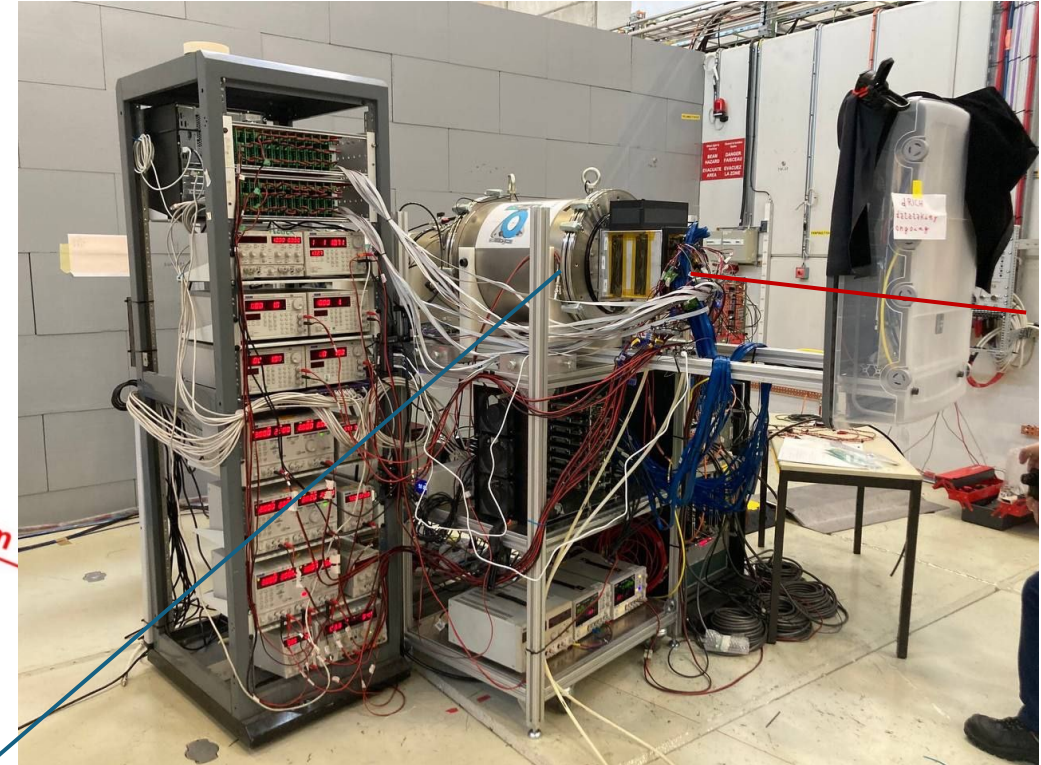
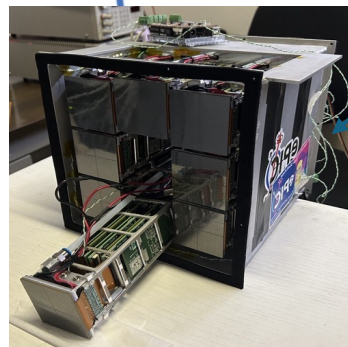
10 °C water cooling

mean		mean		mean		mean	
-40 °C		-39.4 °C		-39.9 °C		-39.8 °C	
NTC 1	NTC 2	NTC 1	NTC 2	NTC 1	NTC 2	NTC 1	NTC 2
-39.8 °C	-40 °C	-39.4 °C	-39.8 °C	-39.9 °C	-40.1 °C	-39.8 °C	-40.1 °C
NTC 3	NTC 4	NTC 3	NTC 4	NTC 3	NTC 4	NTC 3	NTC 4
-39.9 °C	-40.4 °C	-39.3 °C	-39.7 °C	-39.9 °C	-40.2 °C	-39.8 °C	-40.4 °C

2024 test beam at CERN PS (ended 5 June)



S. Vallarino et al., [Nucl.Instrum.Meth.A 1058 2023](#)

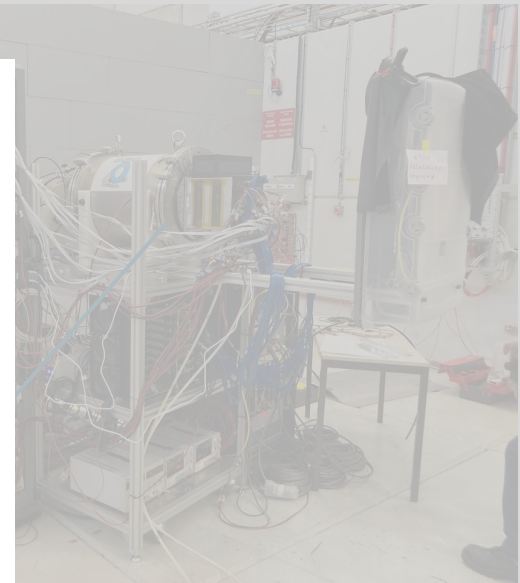
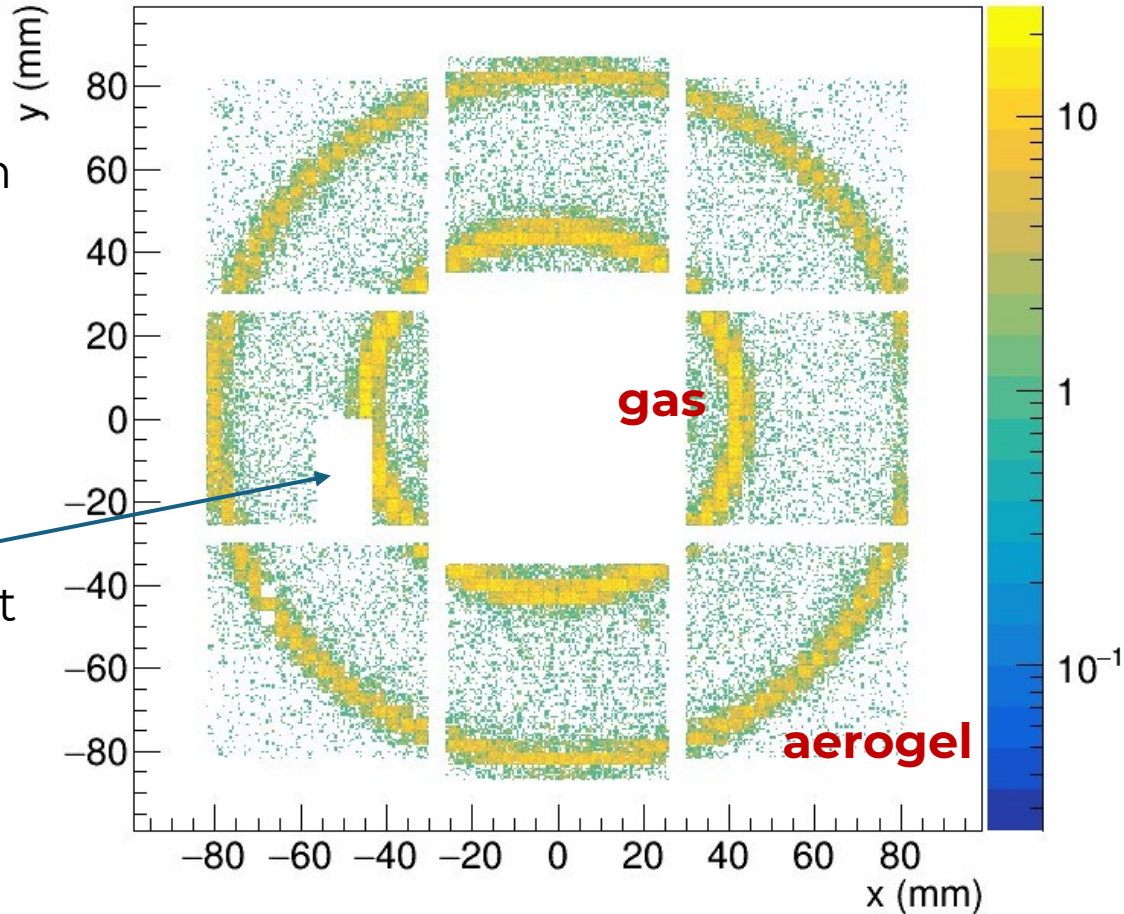


2024 test beam at CERN PS (ended 5 June)



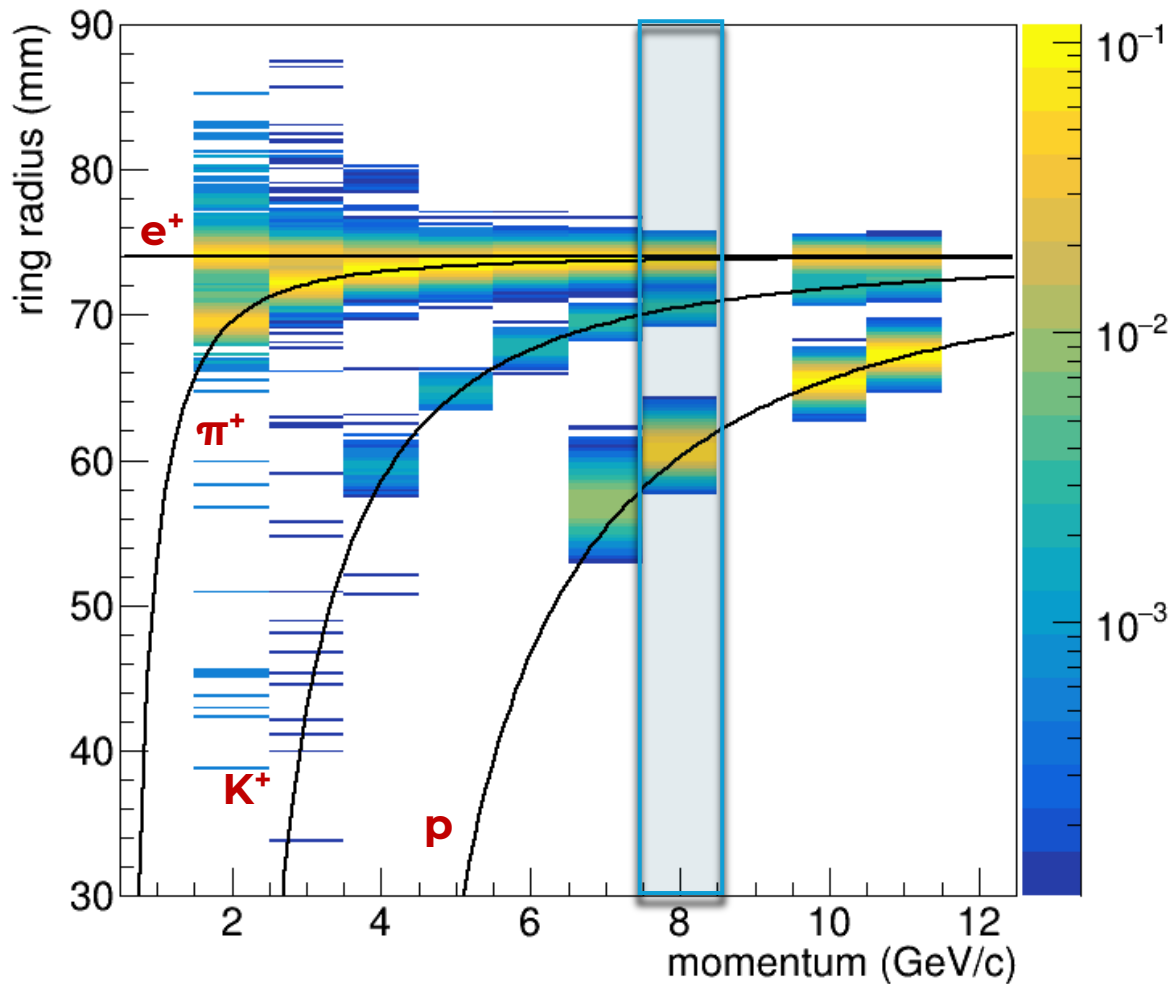
10 GeV/c
negative beam
e- only

1 ASIC FE fault

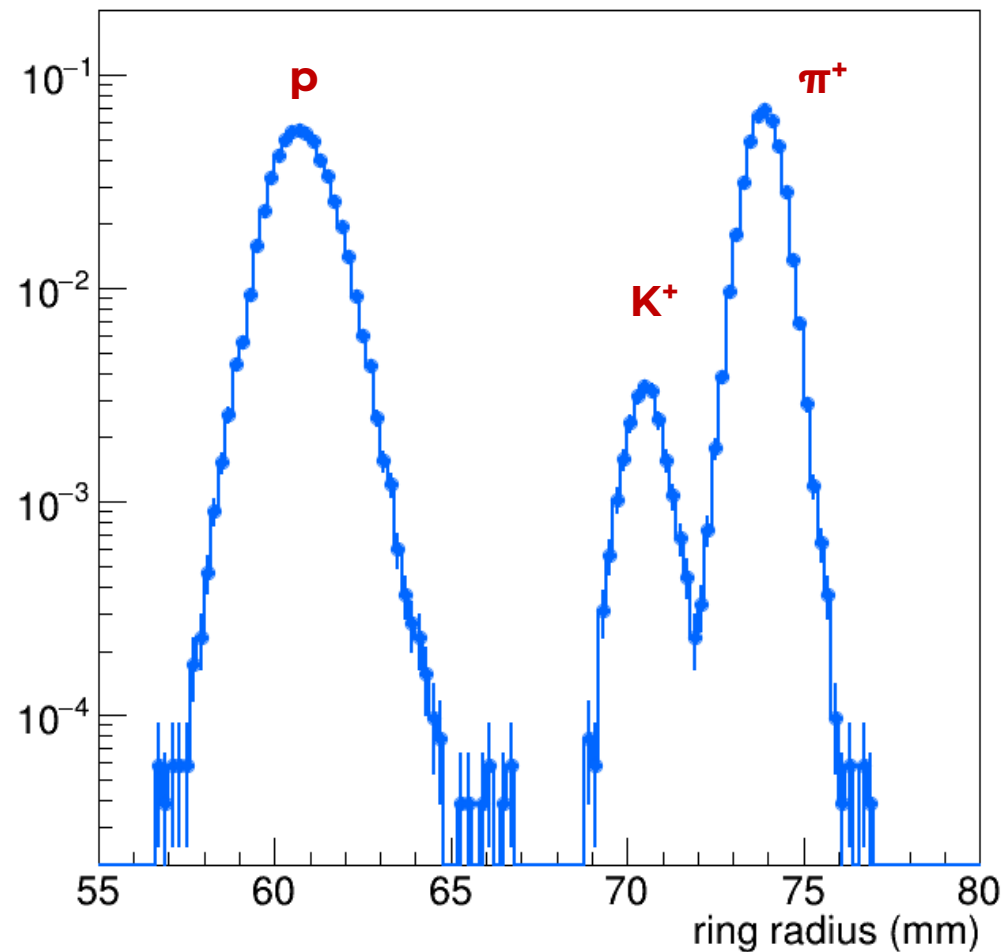


Positive beam momentum scan

Reconstructed radii vs. beam momentum

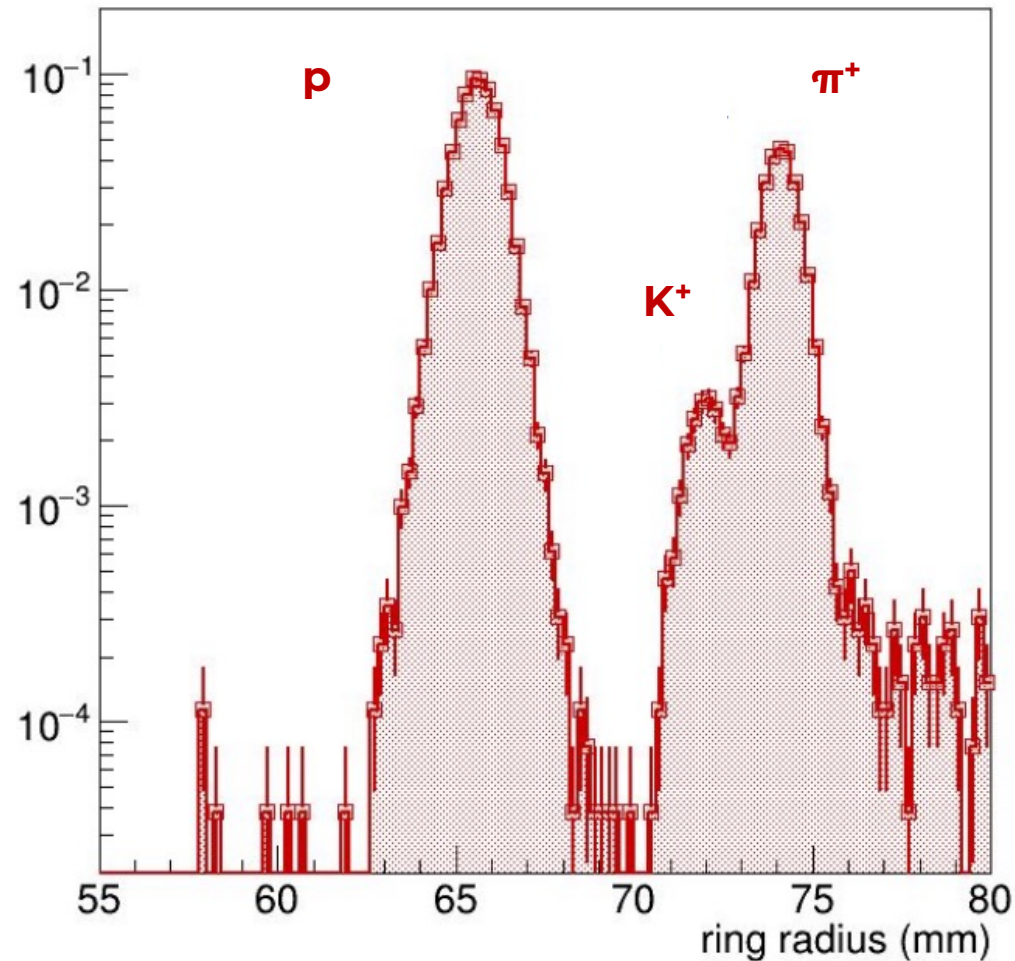
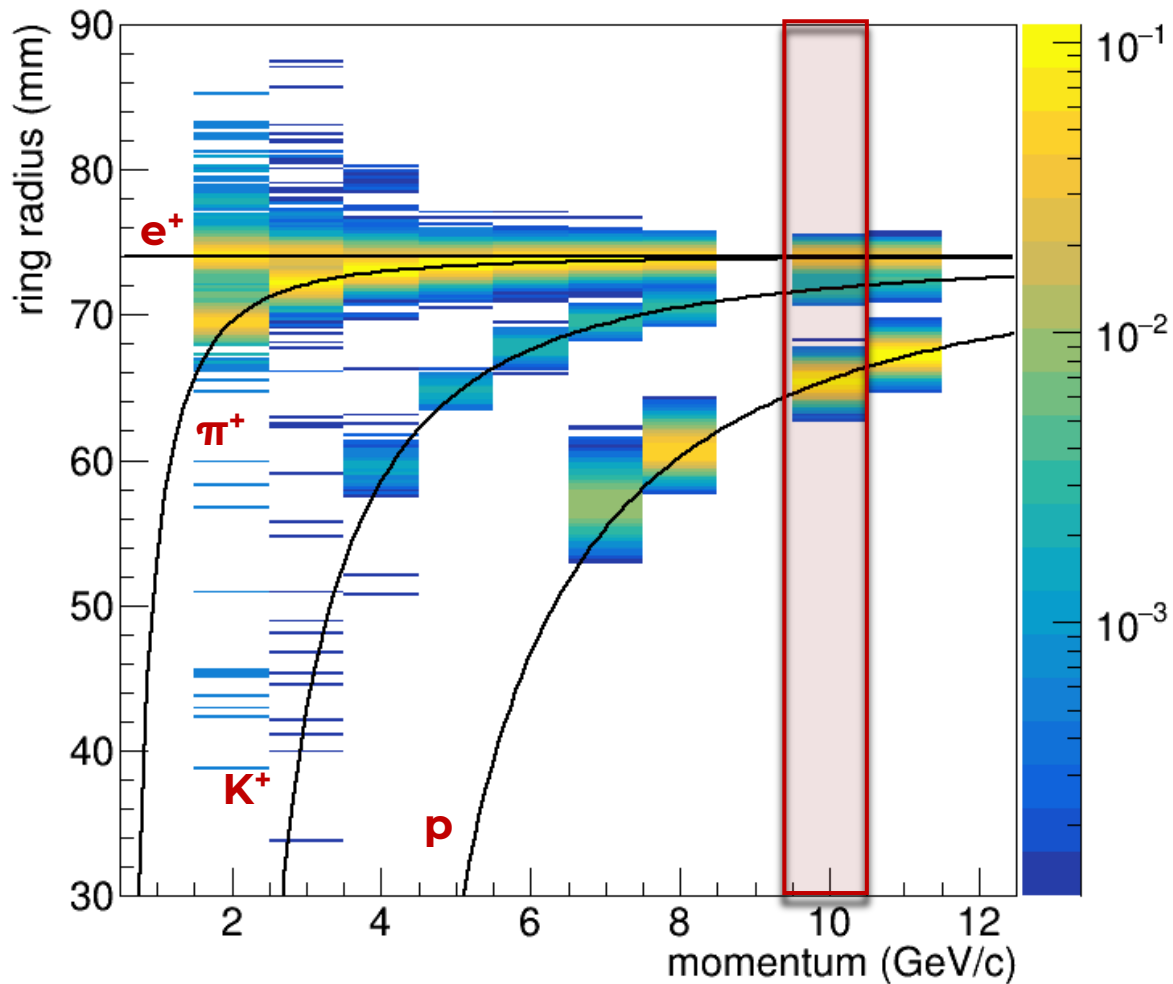


Aerogel only



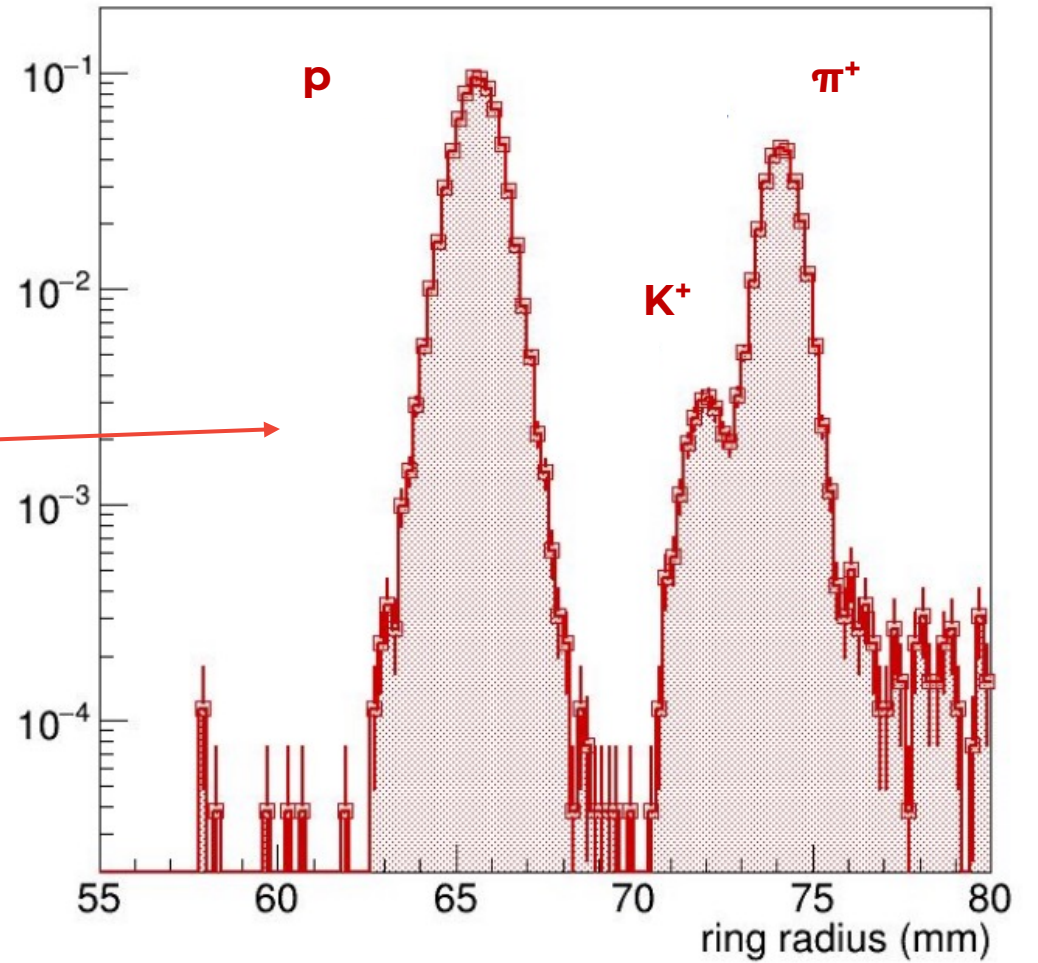
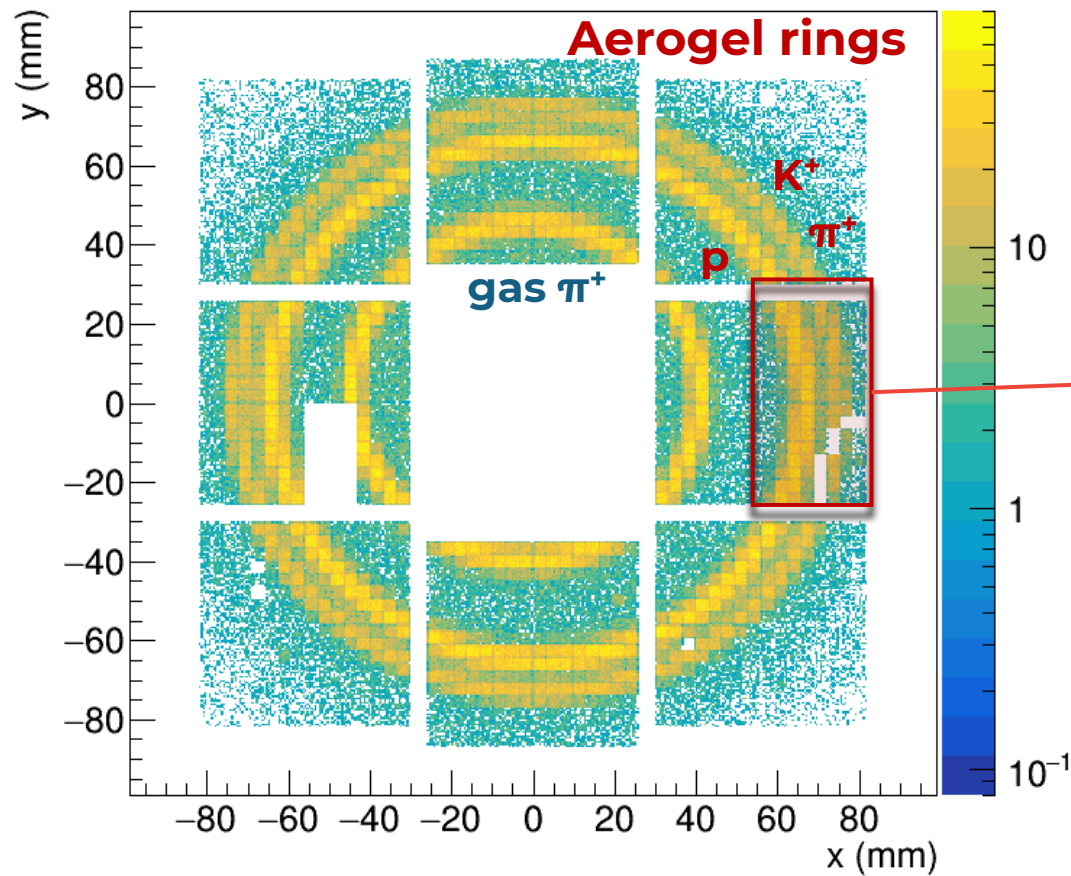
Positive beam momentum scan

Reconstructed radii vs. beam momentum



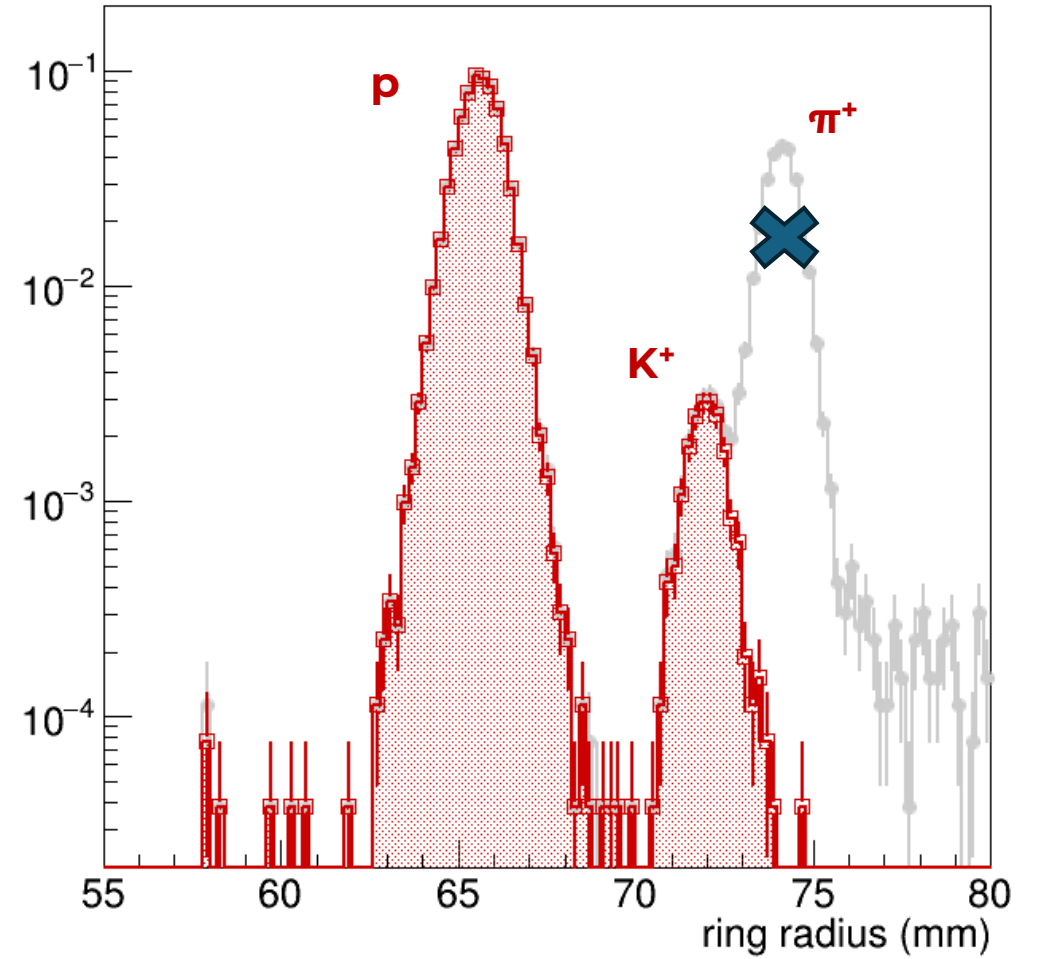
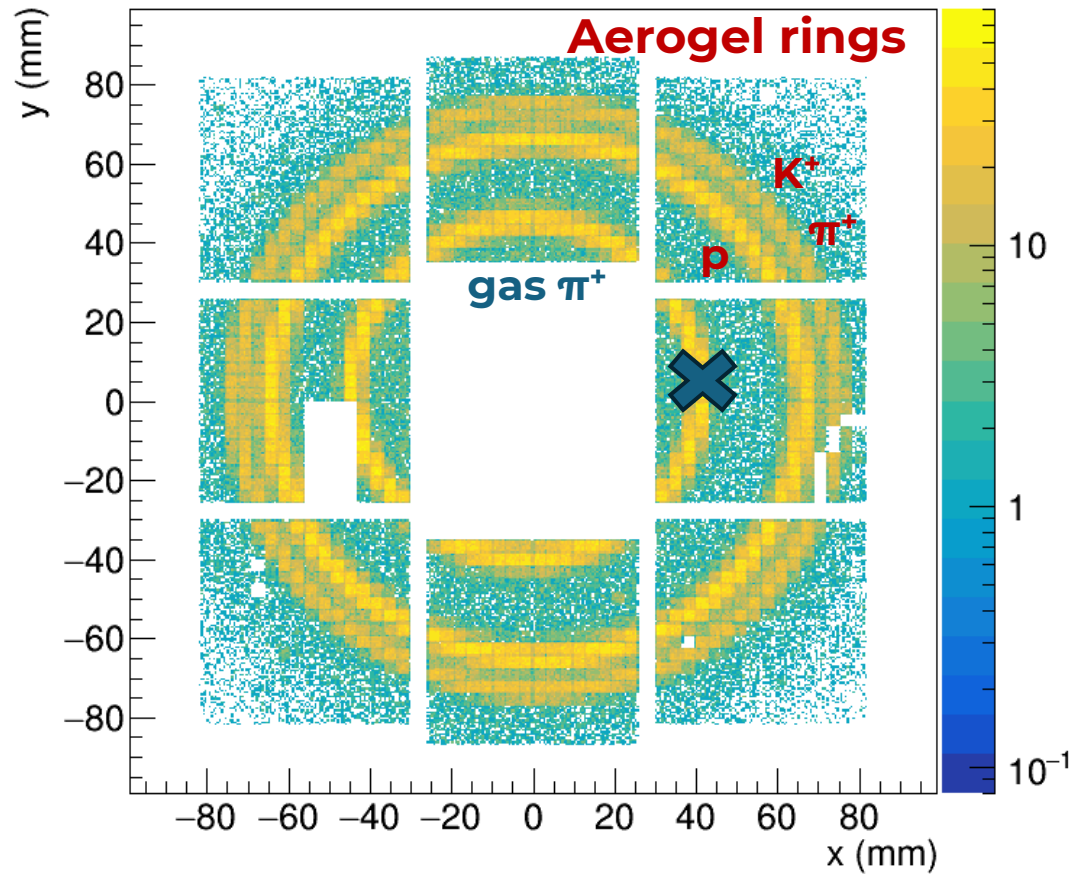
Positive beam momentum scan

10 GeV/c positive beam with no selection applied



Positive beam momentum scan

10 GeV/c positive beam with π in gas as veto



Summary

Successful **R&D** program to operate **SiPM** in mild **radiation** environment through **annealing**

400 cm² demonstrator with full **electronics** readout working with **dRICH prototype**

First SiPMs application for a RICH in HEP experiment

THANK YOU