

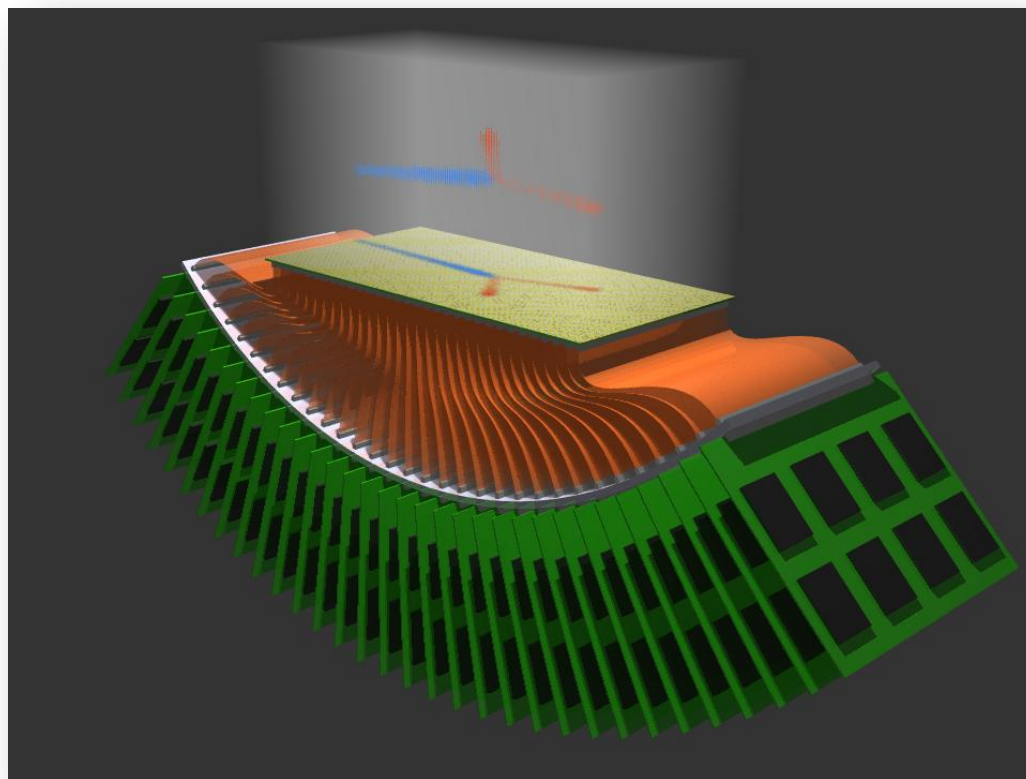


# *Status of developments for ACTAR TPC*

*J. Giovinazzo - CENBG  
and the ACTAR TPC collaboration*

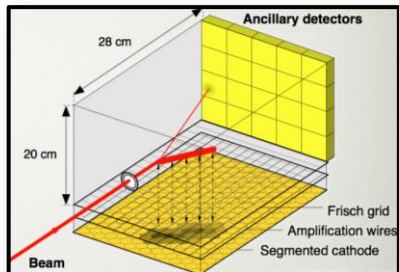


- ▷ what is ACTAR TPC
- ▷ GET electronics
- ▷ collection plane R&D
- ▷ tests results



# What is ACTAR TPC ?

time projection chambers for (fundamental) nuclear physics

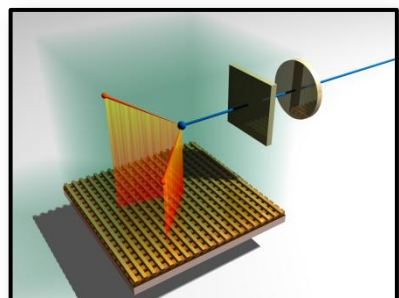


**MAYA**

(GANIL and coll.)

nuclear  
reactions

pads (hex): 2D proj.  
wires: drift time



**CENBG TPC**

ions stopping  
and decay

X-Y strips  
energy & time:  
2x 1D proj.

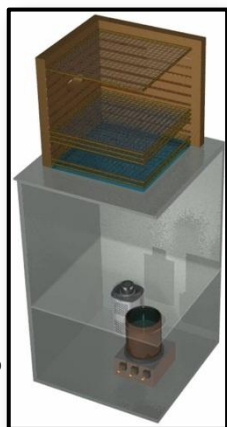


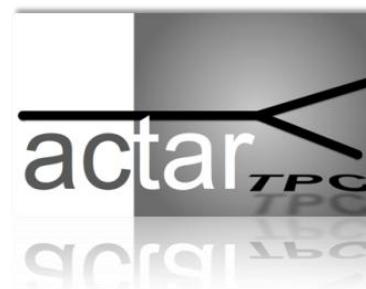
image Warsaw coll.

**Optical TPC**  
(Warsaw)

ions stopping  
and decay

CCD cam.: 2D proj.  
PM + sampling:  
global time dist.

development of a new TPC  
for a large (nuclear) physics case



GANIL, CENBG, IPNO (F)  
Leuven (B), Santiago de C. (S)

see also talk  
from E. Pollacco

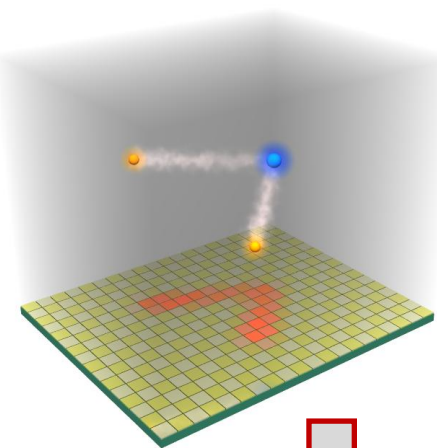
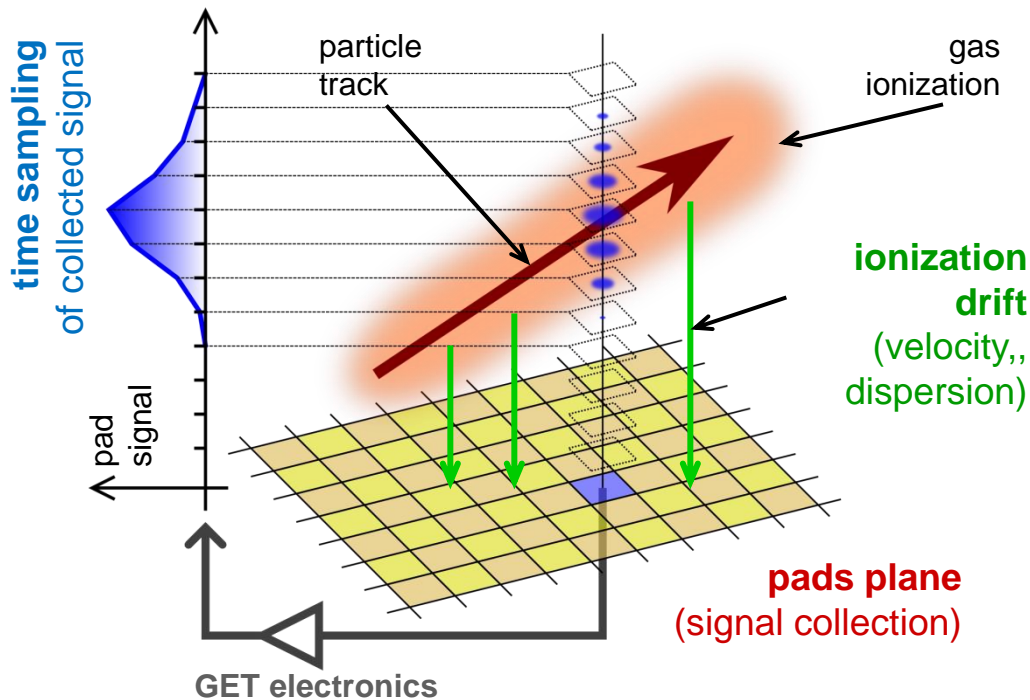
# ACTAR TPC principles: full 3D + energy

**pads plane**  
(signal collection)  
2D digitization

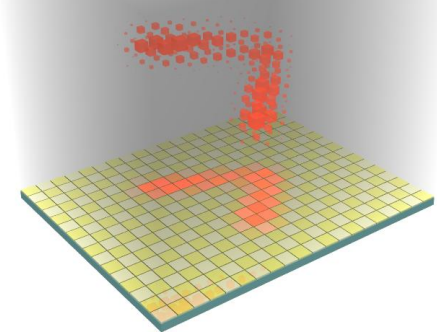
**TPC principle**  
 $z \leftrightarrow t$

**time sampling**  
**of signal**  
3D digitization

$$\Delta E(x,y,z) \iff \Delta E[x_i,y_j](z) \iff \Delta E[x_i,y_j](t) \iff \Delta E[x_i,y_j,t_k]$$



**3D reconstruction of ionizations charges along the particles trajectories**

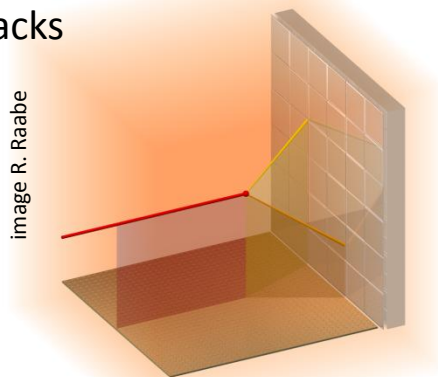


J. Giovinazzo (2013)

# ACTAR TPC: 1 development, 2 detectors

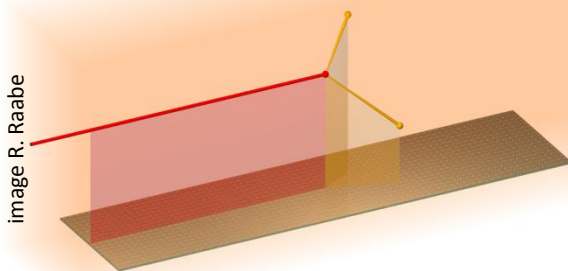
## “reaction” chamber

128x128 pads collection plane  
large transverse tracks



## “decay” chamber

256x64 pads collection plane  
short transverse tracks, larger implantation depth



## shared design and technology

16384 pads,  $2 \times 2 \text{ mm}^2$   
2 geometries

→ main funding: ERC  
(J.G. Grinyer, GANIL)



→ decay chamber: Region  
pad plane R&D  
(J. Giovinazzo, CENBG)



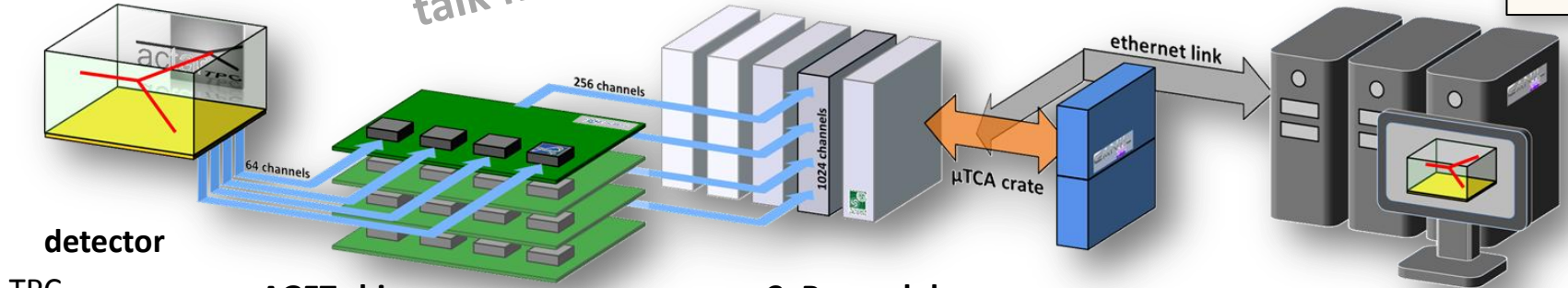
## GET electronics

technical solution  
for channels readout





talk from E. Pollacco...



**detector**  
TPC  
16384 pads

**AGET chip**  
64 channels  
signal processing  
(CSA + shaper),  
analog memory,  
discriminator



**AsAd board**  
4 chips  
(+ config.)  
signal & mult.  
coding (ADC)



**CoBo module**  
4 AsAd boards  
digital data  
management

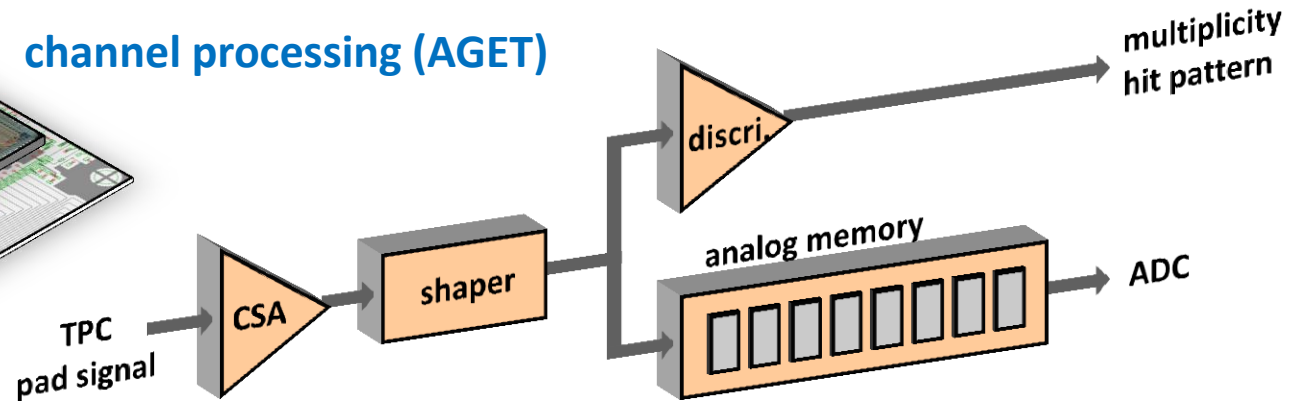
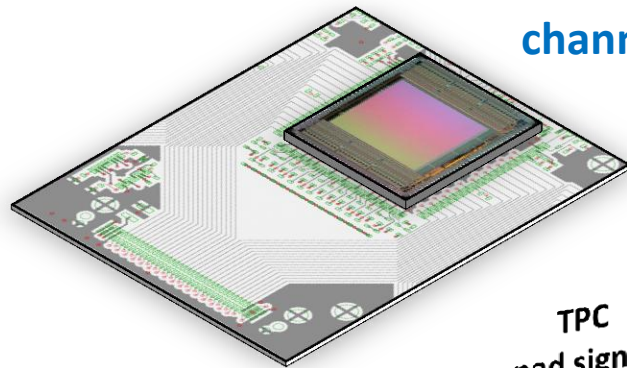


**MuTANt**  
clock distrib.,  
trigger management  
(3 levels)



**control / acquisition**

## channel processing (AGET)





# collection pad plane: 2 demonstrators prototypes

signal amplification: “*micromegas*”

various constraints

→ **pads density**

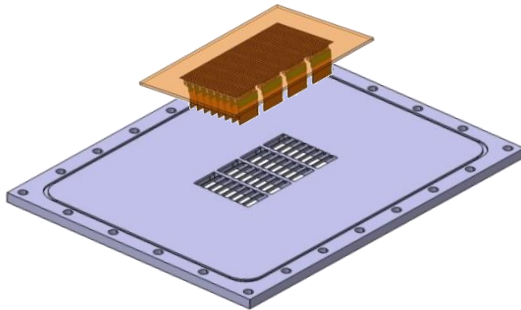
signal extraction through the plane

→ **mechanical**

sealing, deformation

“**standard**” option (GANIL / IPNO)

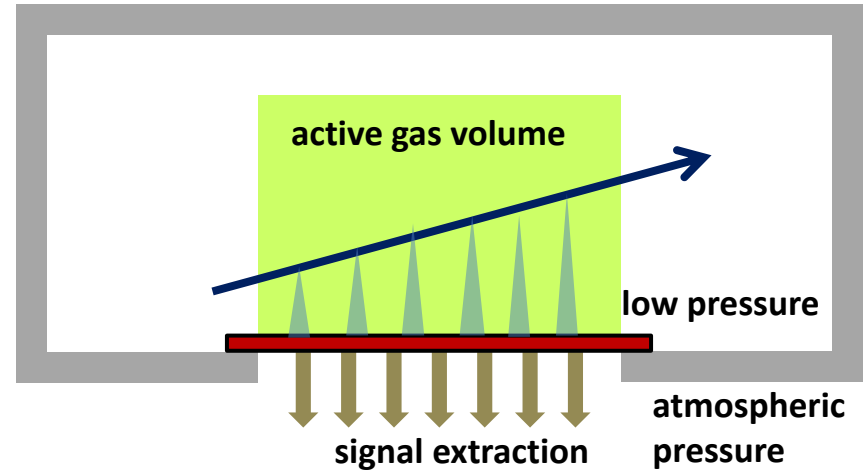
standard PCB, small connectors for signal extraction through flange holes



known technology

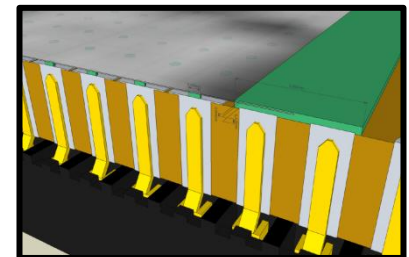


fragile (connectors), signal routing



“**CENBG**” option

**direct connection** through PCB  
**reinforced PCB** (metal core)



conceptually extremely simple



mechanical constraints

complex realization process

**feasibility and response to be tested**

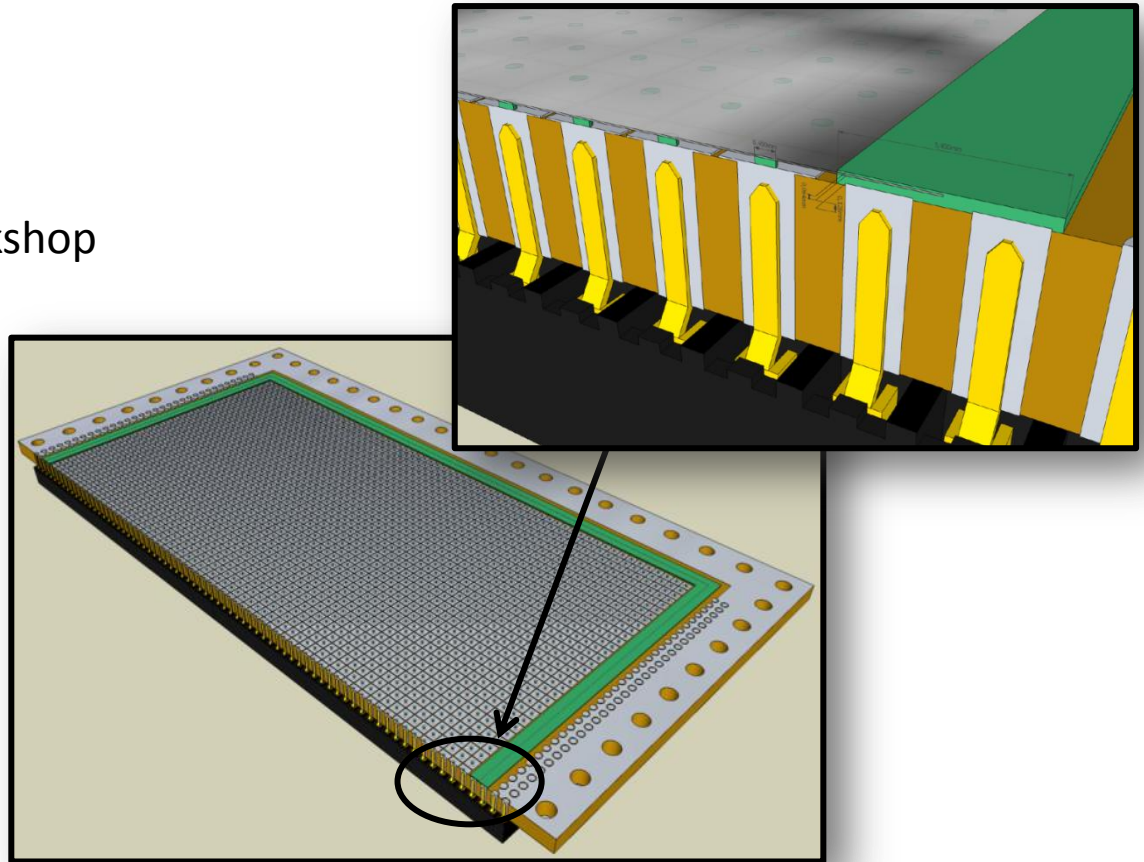
# “FAKIR” pad plane

original proposition:  
CENBG (J. Pibernat)

realization:  
collaboration CERN PCB workshop  
(R. de Oliveira)

principle:  
metal-core PCB (Alu-HR)

- metal plate drilling
- holes isolation (resin)
- PCB layers
- drilling & metallization
- connectors soldering
- micromegas



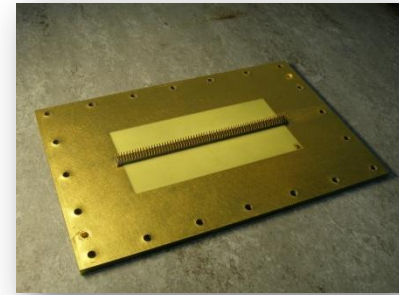
# “FAKIR” pad plane prototypes

**1<sup>st</sup> prototype:** feasibility test (limited pads number)

coll. CERN / R de Oliveira

*PCB realization issues*

*soldering issues*



**2<sup>nd</sup> prototype:** response characterization

coll. CERN / R de Oliveira

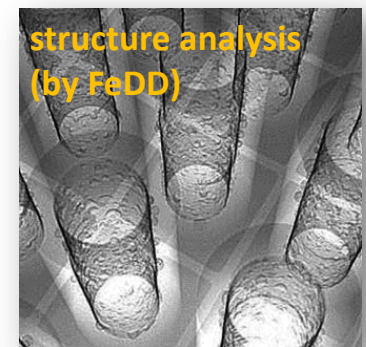
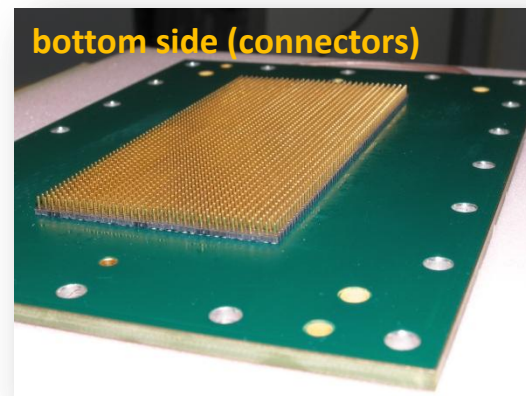
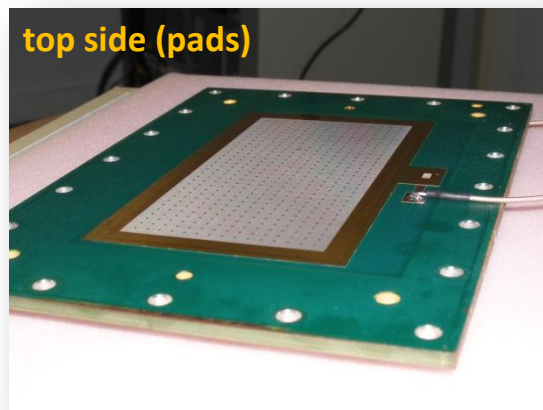
*problems with micromegas*



**3<sup>rd</sup> prototype:** ACTAR TPCdemonstrator equipment

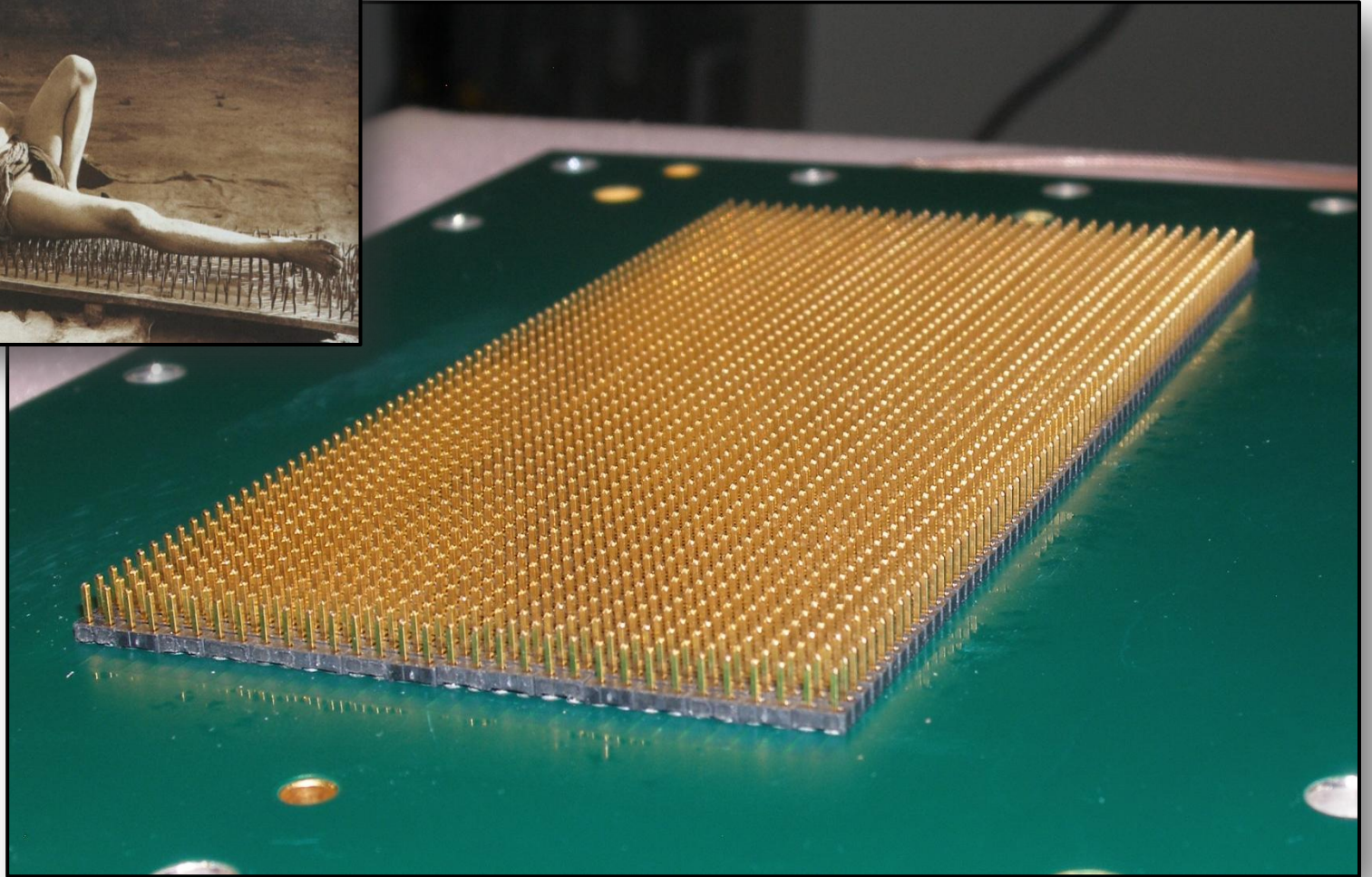
coll. CERN / R de Oliveira (PCB + micromegas)

& FeDD company (connectors soldering)





# why "FAKIR" ?

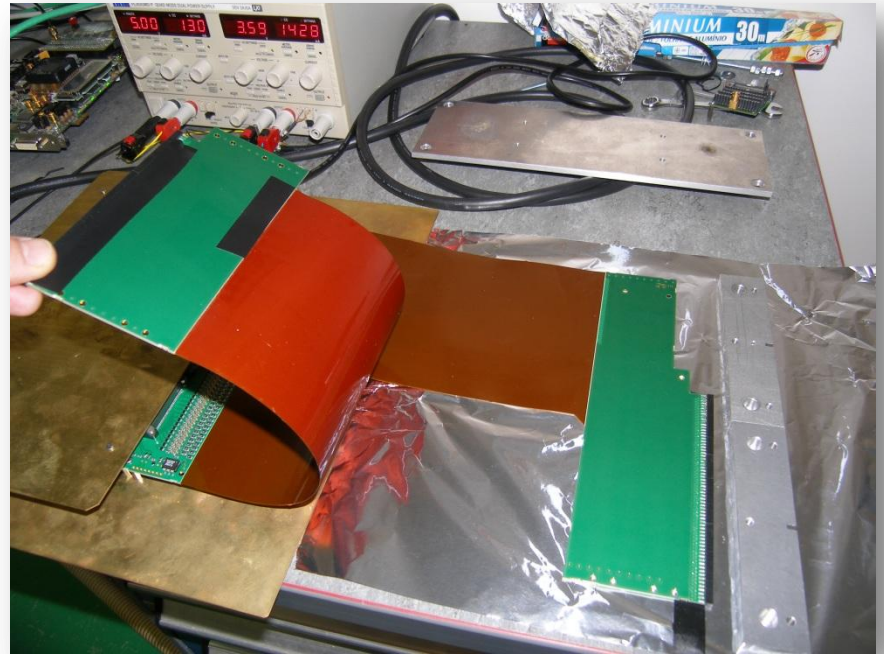


# ZAP connectors: flex design

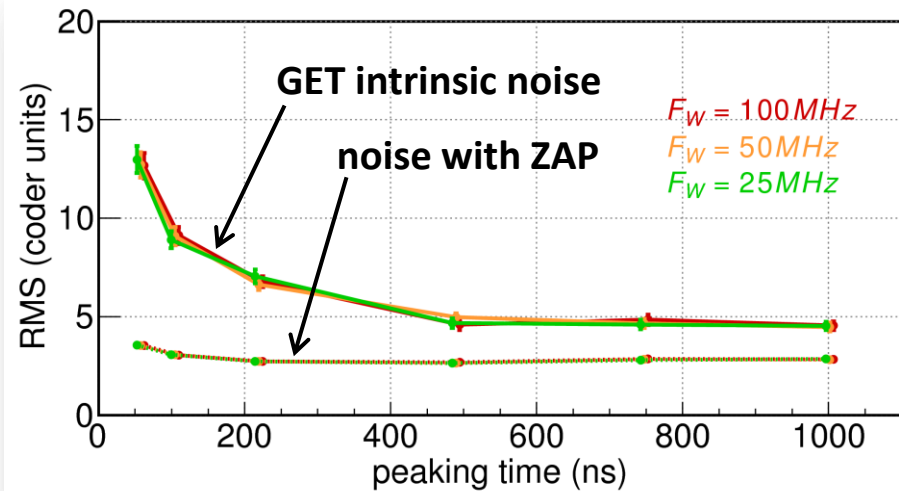
## signal readout

- limited noise (capacitor)
- shielding

## electronics channels protection



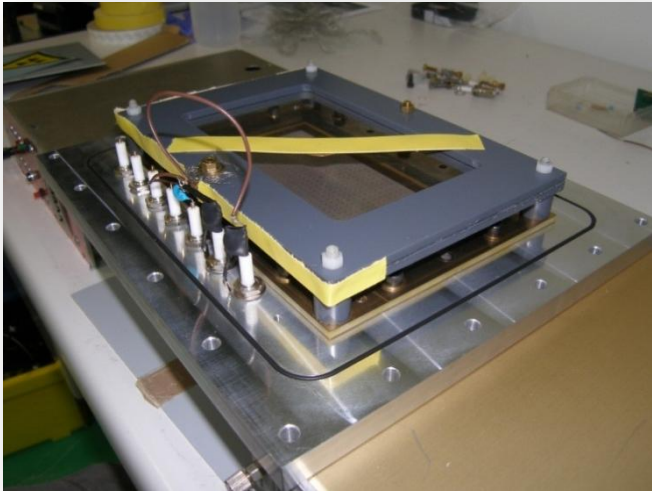
## noise from ZAP



## design for both final chambers

- 1 x 64 AsAd boards (decay)
- 2 x 32 AsAd boards (reaction)

# test setup (collection plane): $^{55}\text{Fe}$ X ray source

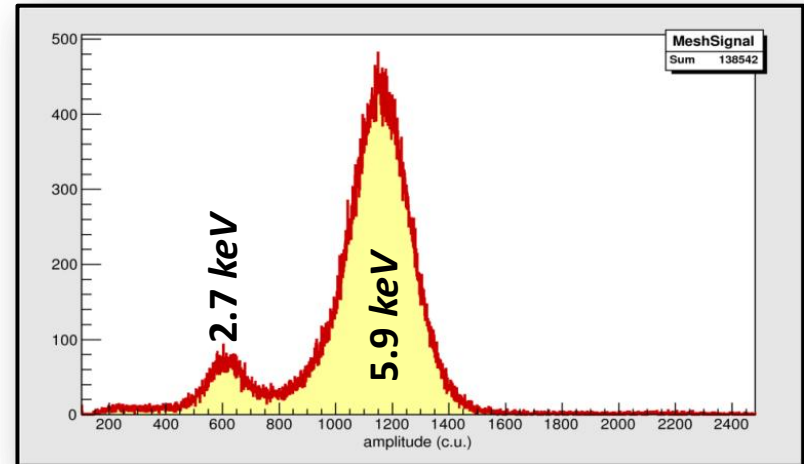
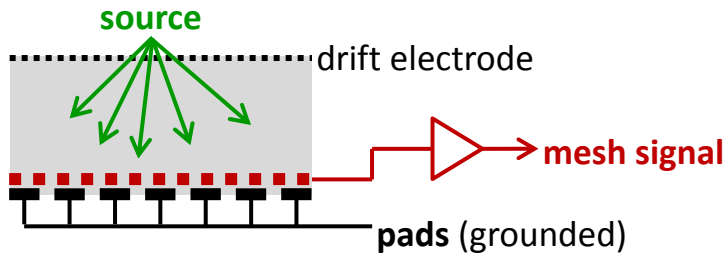


drift volume thickness: **2.5 cm**

$$HV_{\text{mesh}} = -570 \text{ V}$$

$$HV_{\text{drift}} = -1000 \text{ V}$$

P10 gas ( $\text{Ar-CH}_4$ ), 1 atm



pad plane resolution (FWHM)  
@ 6 keV: ~22 %

non collimated source → includes the pads collection variations



# test setup (collection plane): 3-alpha source

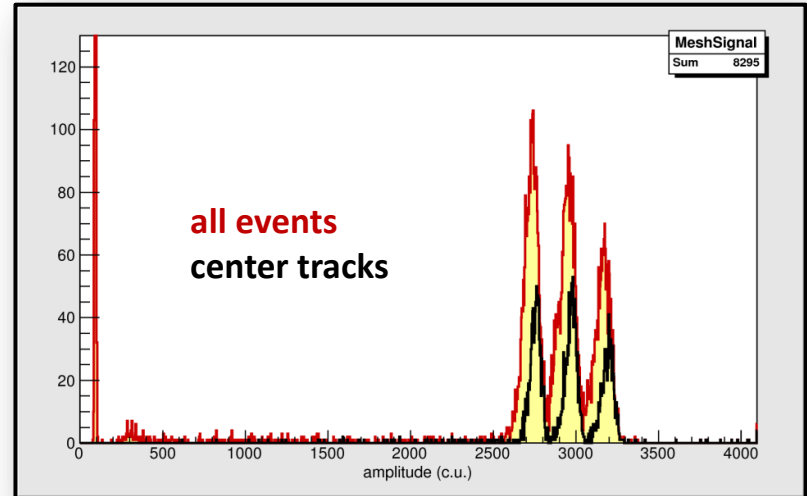
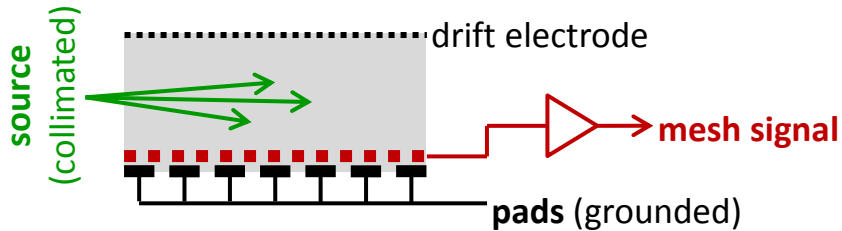


drift volume thickness: **5.0 cm**

$$HV_{mesh} = -370 \text{ V}$$

$$HV_{drift} = -1500 \text{ V}$$

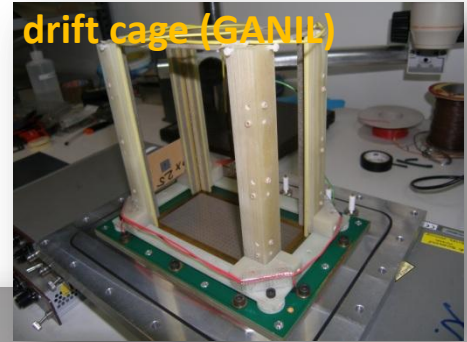
P10 gas (Ar-CH<sub>4</sub>), 1 atm



includes the pads gain inhomogeneity

# ACTAR TPC demonstrator (CENBG version)

full electronics (march 2016) → 2048 pads signal



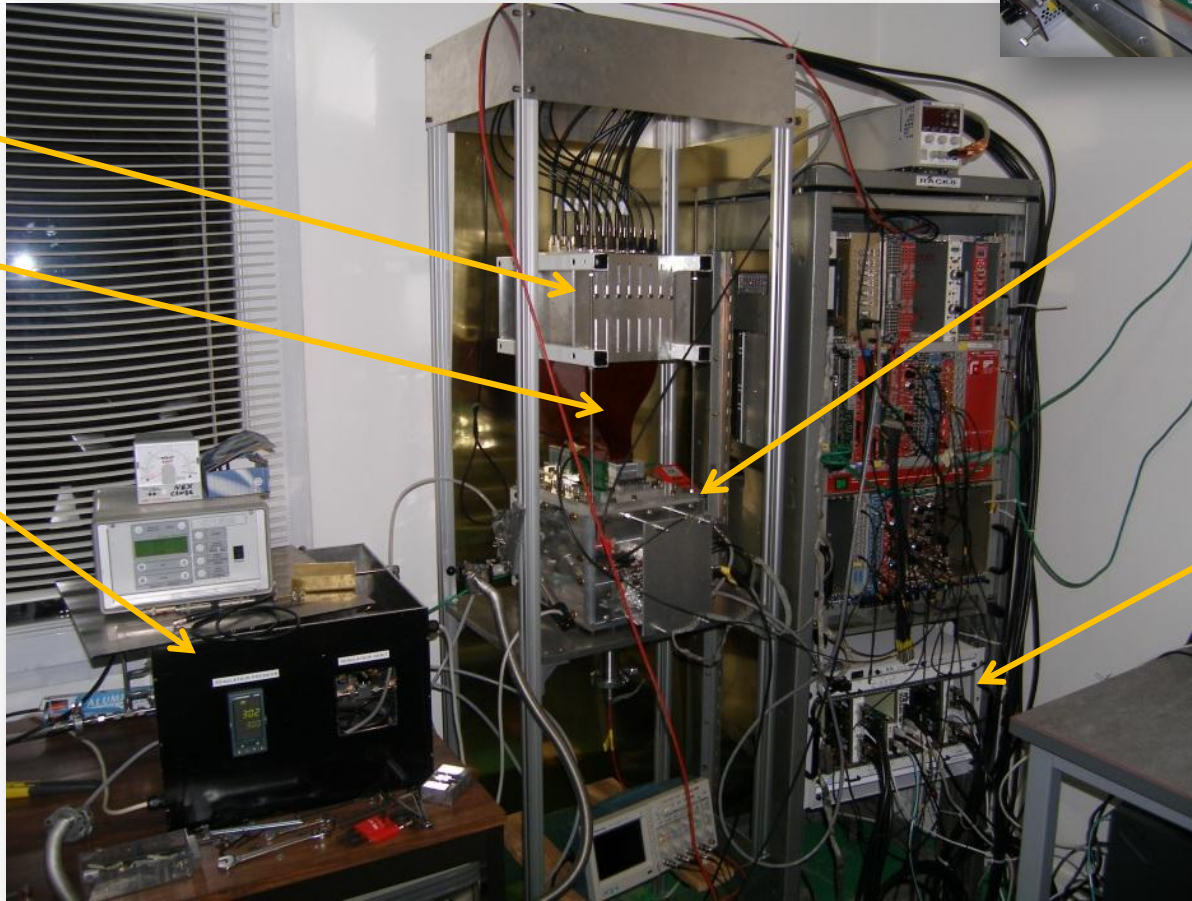
8 AsAd boards

ZAP

gas control

demonstrator chamber

$\mu$ TCA crate  
CoBo modules

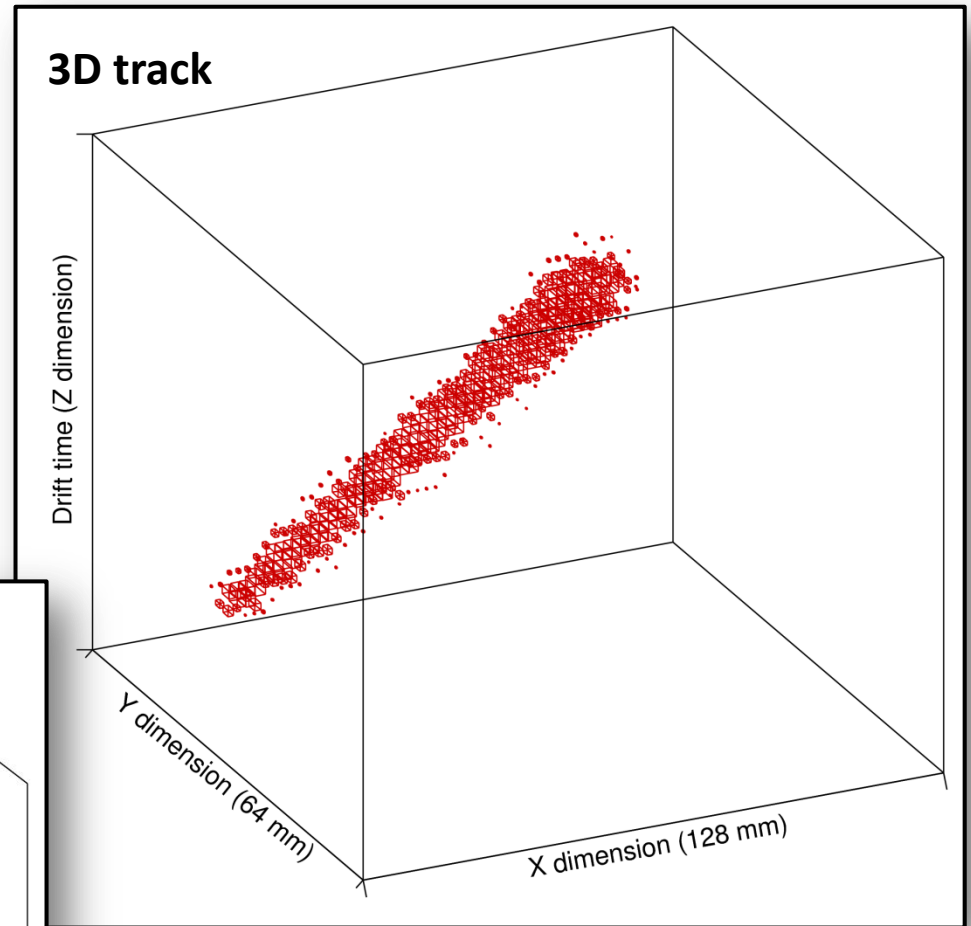
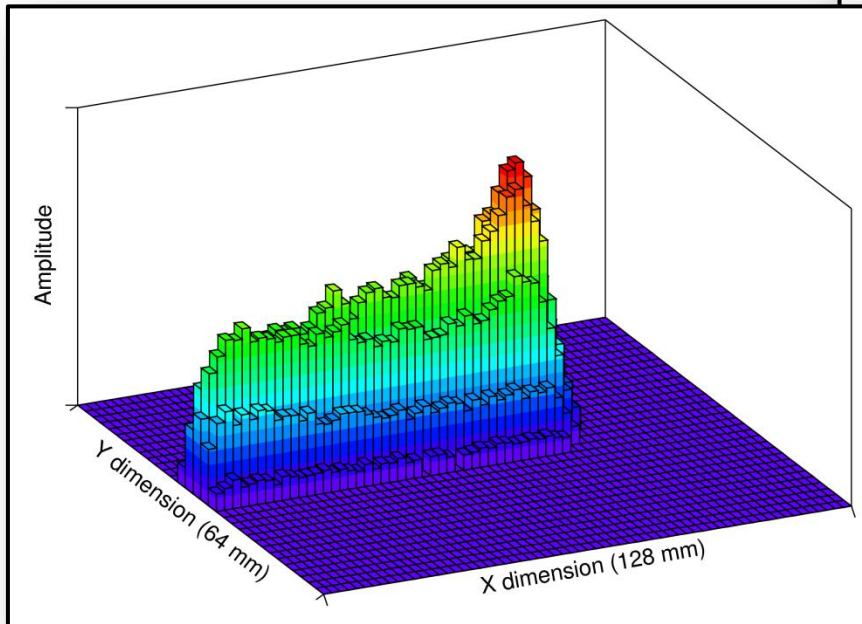




# 3D tracks + signal amplitude

single track:  
alpha particle, 45° angle

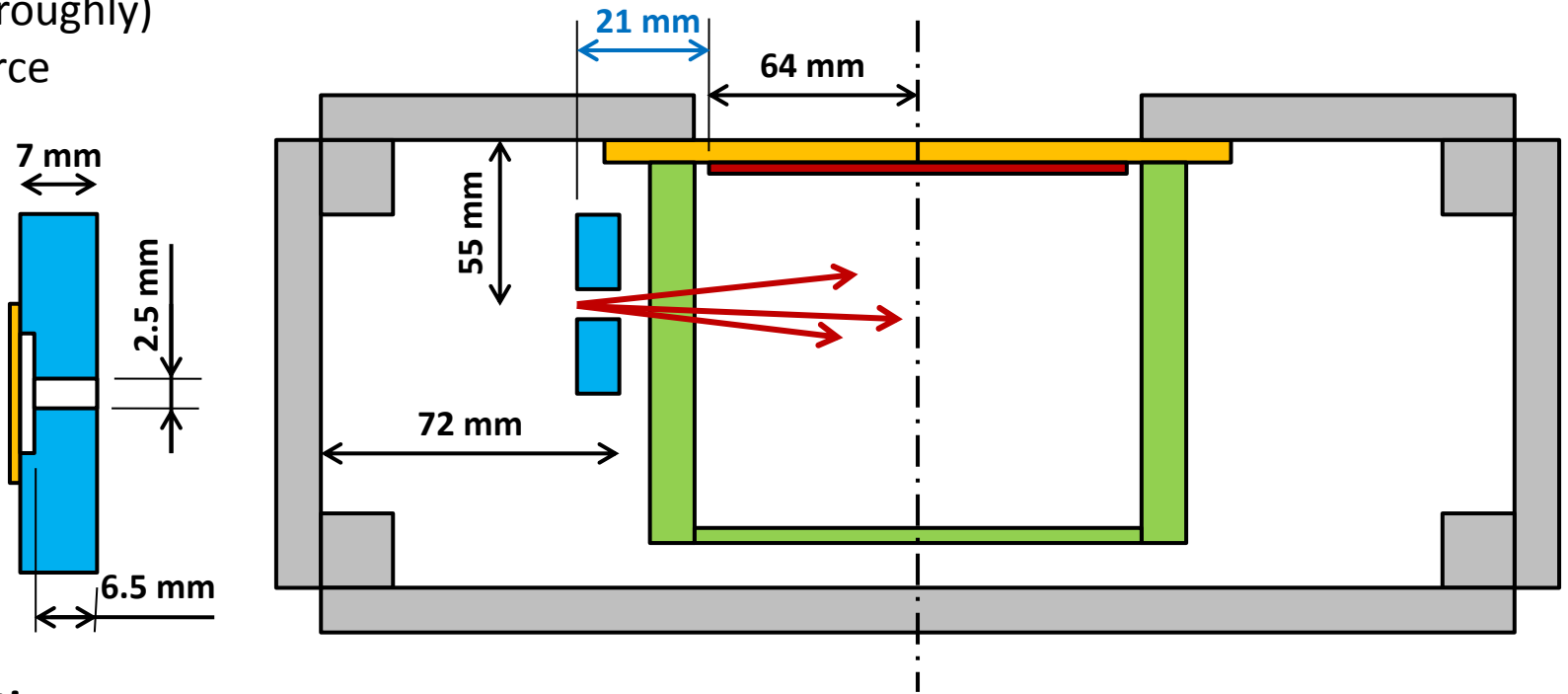
X-Y energy deposit: Bragg peak



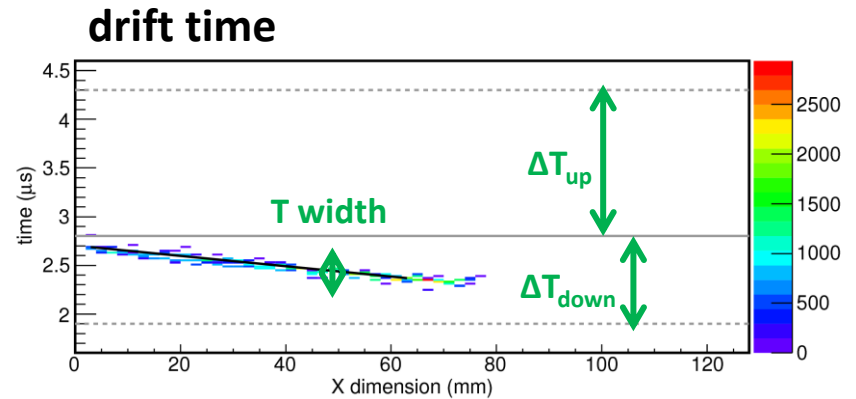
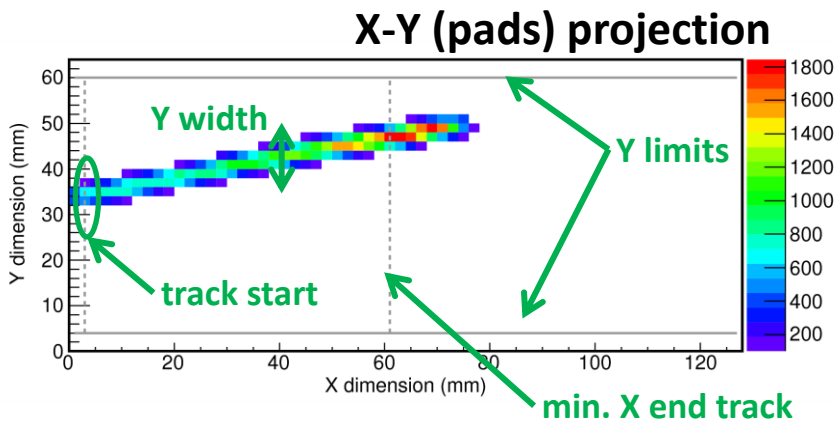
P10 gas (Ar-CH<sub>4</sub>), 400 mbar

# ACTAR TPC demonstrator tests (alpha source)

collimated (roughly)  
3-alpha source  
(5~6 MeV)

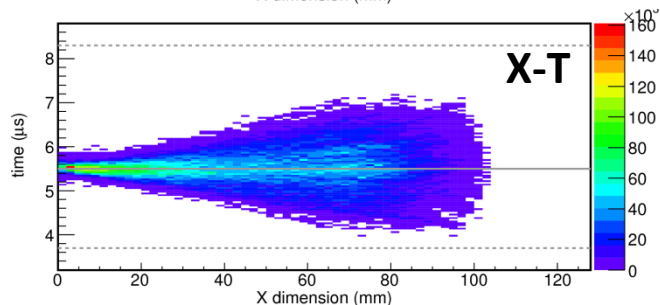
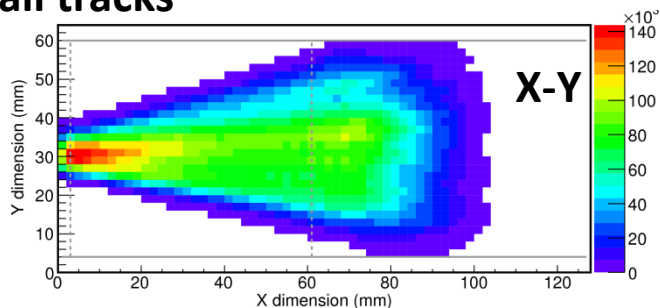


tracks selection



# first characterization: energy resolution

all tracks



Energy resolution @ 5-6 MeV

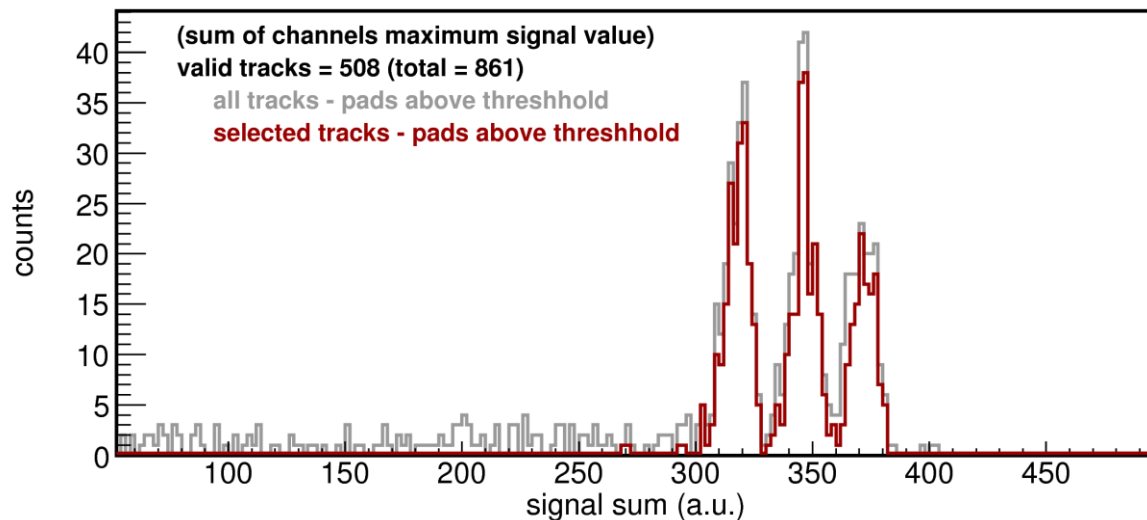
measured: **130 ~ 150 keV**

effective: **105 ~ 135 keV**

→ correction of intrinsic energy deposit before active volume  
(estimated from Geant4 simulations)

→ good resolution for a **gas detector**  
(silicon → 25 keV)

very preliminary  
analysis algorithms !!!



# first characterization: drift velocity & tracks length

tracks fitting    Bragg peak shape (simulation)  
                  + **energy & scale** parameters  
                  track **start & stop** + signal **dispersion**

from tracks fit:

$$L_{XY} = \sqrt{\Delta X^2 + \Delta Y^2}$$

$$\Delta Z = v_{drift} \cdot \Delta T$$

$$\text{total length: } L = \sqrt{\Delta X^2 + \Delta Y^2 + (v_{drift} \cdot \Delta T)^2}$$

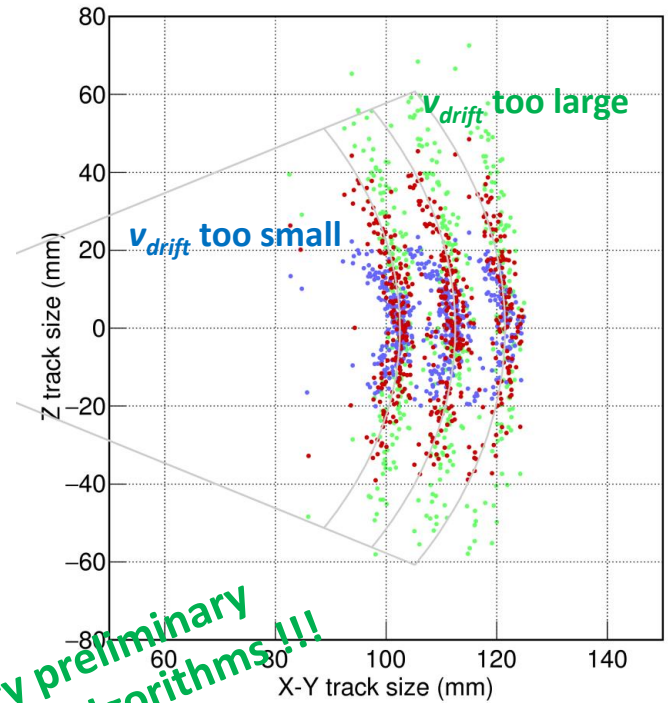
→ minimization of track length distribution **FWHM**  
for the 3 alpha components

## track length precision

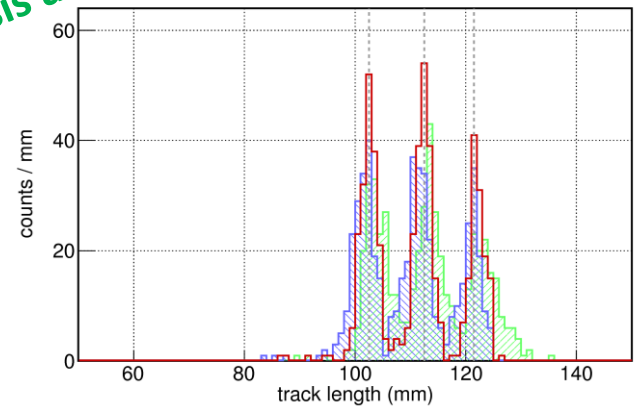
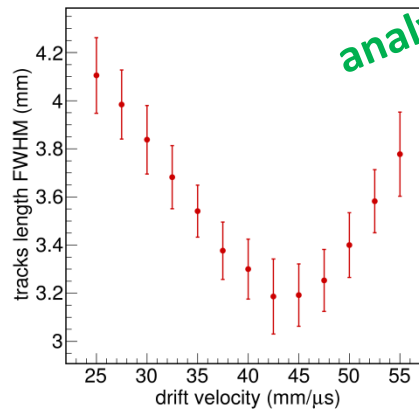
→ simple line trajectory

→  $\sigma_L \sim 3.2 \text{ mm}$  ( $\sigma_L / L \sim 3\%$ )

(to be compared with intrinsic  
distribution of alpha particles  
from simulations  $\sim 3.4 \text{ mm}$ )



very preliminary  
analysis algorithms!!!



# Summary

## collection pad plane

- **feasibility & robustness ok**  
(several connectors insertions and extractions)
- **resolution @ 6 keV ~ 22 %**
- **foreseen option for final detectors**
- some issues still to be addressed (induced cross-talk signals,...)

## ZAP connectors

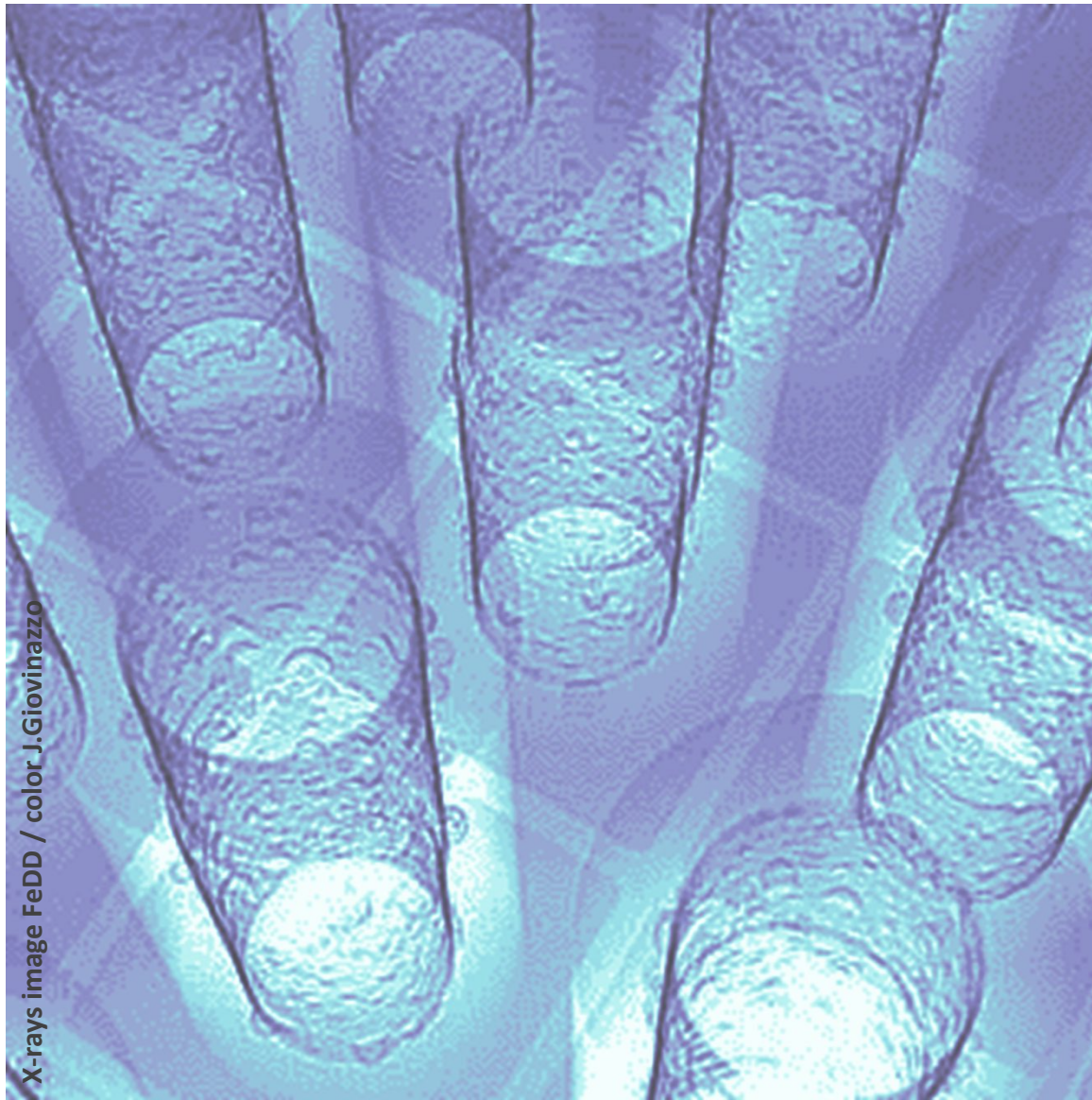
- **noise comparable to standard connectors options**
- **almost no additional noise from detector coupling**

## pads signals / full electronics

- **3-alpha test: resolution OK / tracking OK**
- analysis algorithms to be developed  
(signal processing, tracking)
- tests with  $^{55}\text{Fe}$  X-rays to be done (source not yet available)

**ACTAR TPC demonstrator proof of concept is done !**





X-rays image FeDD / color J. Giovinazzo

**thank you for your attention...**