

# MoEDAL

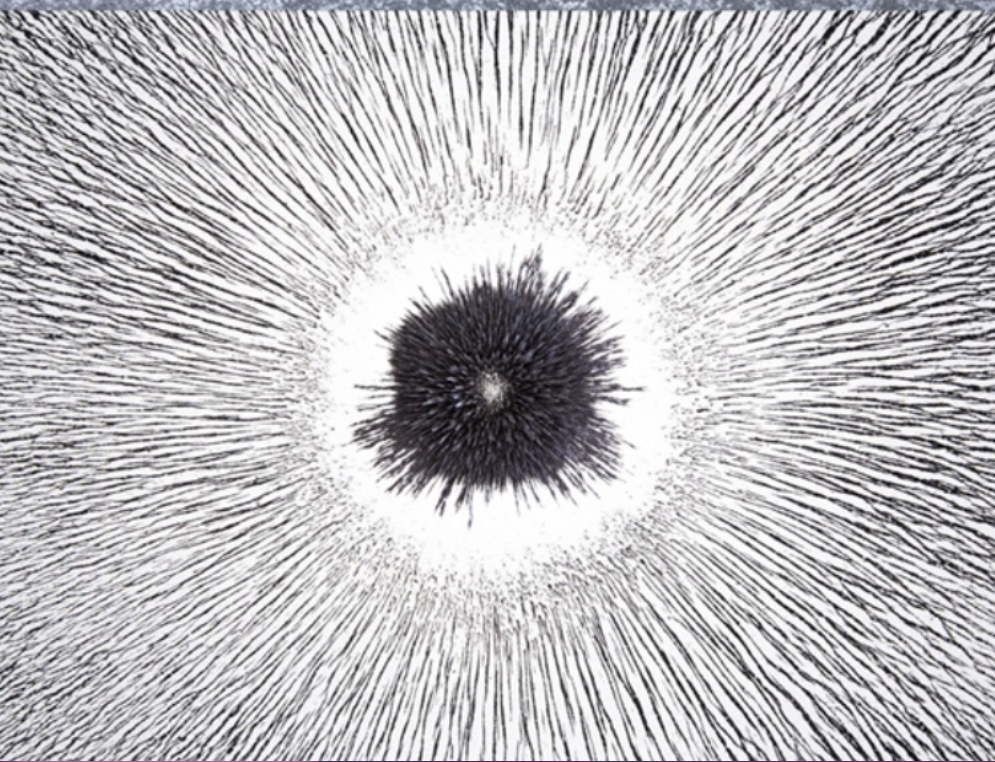
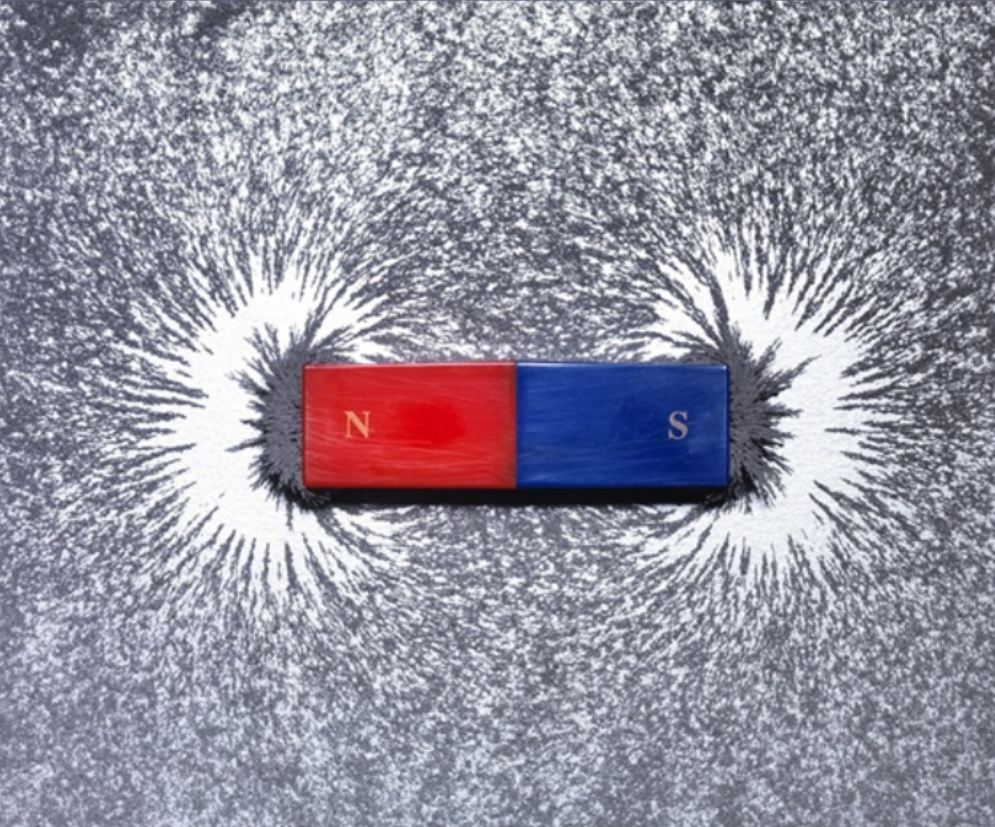
Monopole and Exotics  
Detector at the LHC



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- MoEDAL Physics
- MoEDAL Detector
- Machine learning for MoEDAL





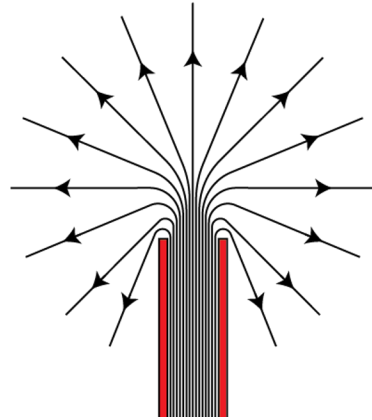
# Magnetic Monopoles



## Many different predictions;

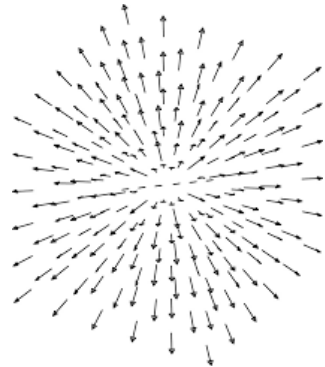
- Dirac monopole [1931]

pointlike singularity modelled as infinitely long solenoid 'dirac string'



- T'Hooft-Polyakov [1973] GUT

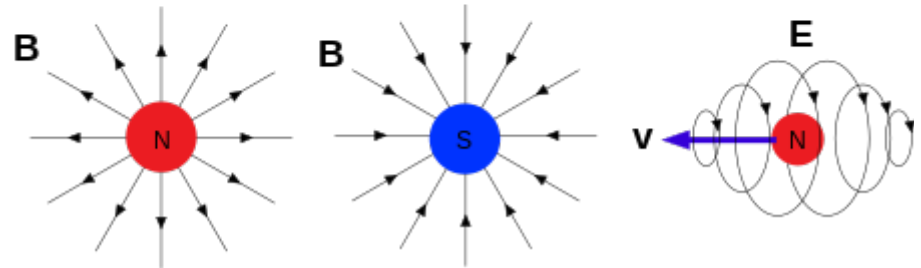
Topological soliton in fundamental gauge fields in theories with broken symmetries.



- Cho, Maison [1996] EW modifications to  $SU(2) \times U(1)$  electro-weak theory possibly allows TeV monopoles hybrid of Dirac / T'Hooft
- Dyons, magnetic and electric

## Common properties;

- Acts like particle with magnetic charge. EM interaction with much stronger coupling!  $g_D \sim 68.5e$



- Mass  $\sim$  varies by theory, uncertain Unconstrained for Dirac monopoles EW 4~10TeV, Tevatron  $> 600\text{GeV}$
- Explains charge Quantisation, possibly baryon asymmetry, early cosmos
- Stable if topological solitons

= Heavy, Stable, Highly Ionising



## Monopole signal = Heavy, Stable, Highly Ionising Similar exotics;

- Stable Massive particles  
SUSY; stops, staus, gluinos  
(esp. if parity conserved)
- Multi-Charged particles  
eg, double charged Higgs  
Bilepton
- High momentum + low velocity,  
high ionisation, indicates  
heavy charged BSM object

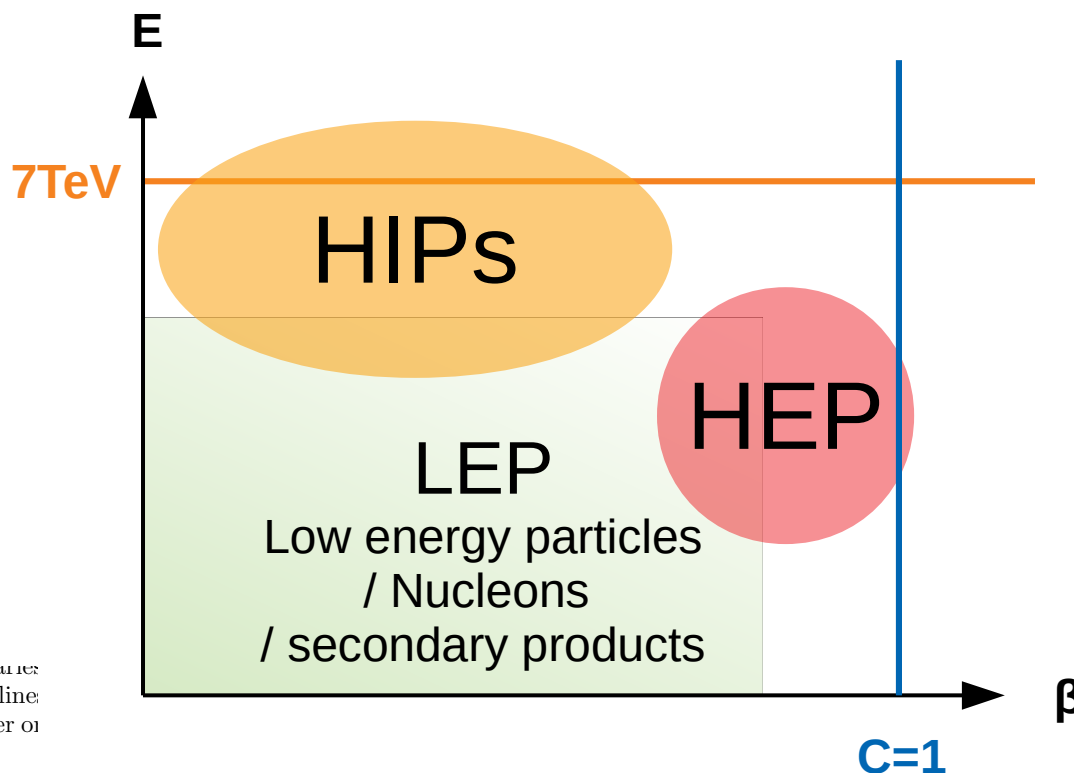
at higher energies are from ref. 9. vertical bands indicate boundaries different approximations discussed in the text. The short dotted line “ $\mu^-$ ” illustrate the “Barkas effect,” the dependence of stopping power on charge at very low energies [6].

### 27.2.2. Stopping power at intermediate energies :

The mean rate of energy loss by moderately relativistic charged heavy  $M_1/\delta x$ , is well-described by the “Bethe-Bloch” equation,

$$\text{Lep} \left\langle \frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle \approx \text{Hep} \frac{Z}{A} \frac{1}{\beta^2} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{2m_e c^2 \beta^2 \gamma^2 T_{\max}}{I^2} - \beta^2 - \frac{\delta(\beta\gamma)}{2} \right].$$

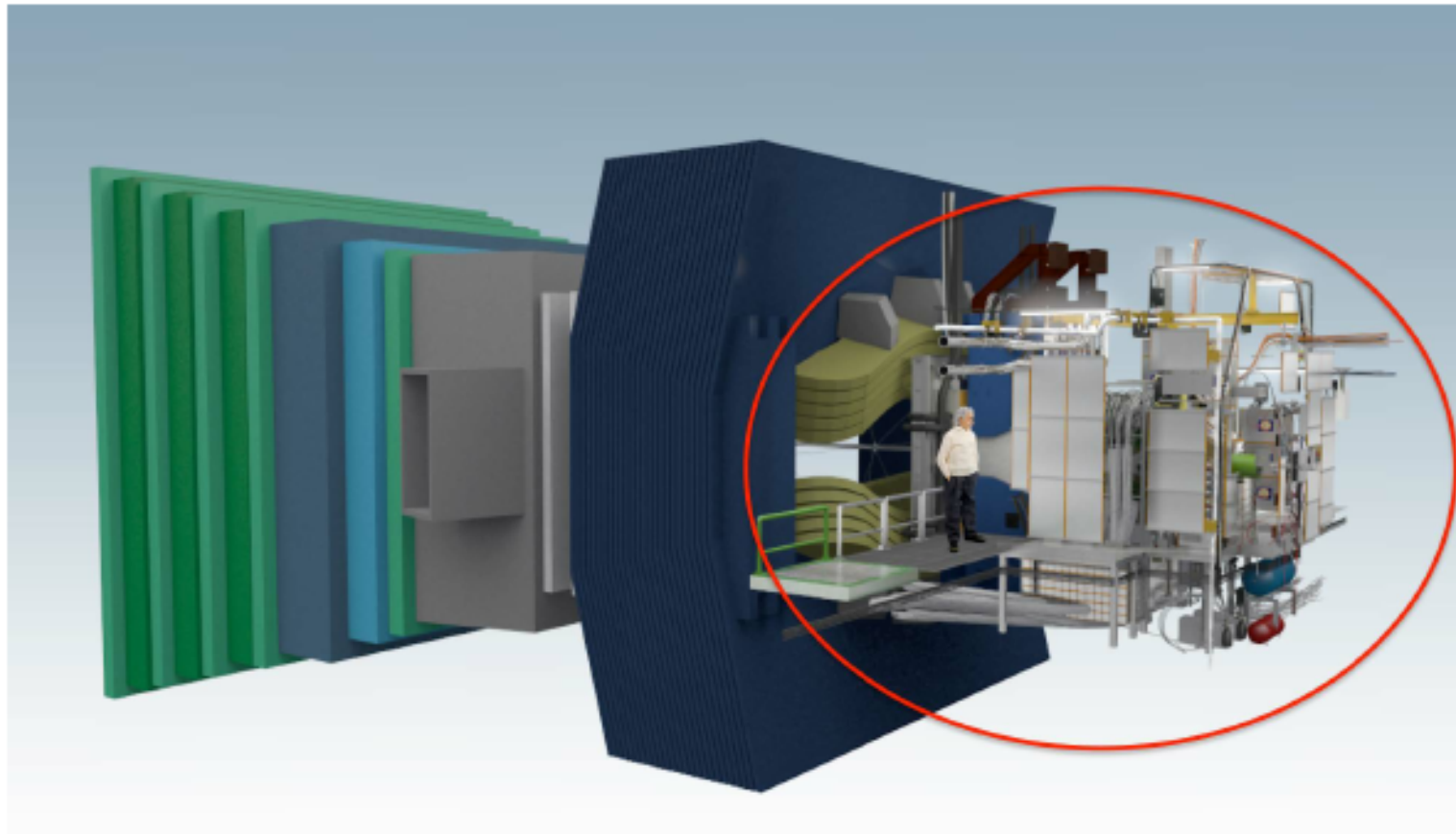
It describes the mean rate of energy loss in the region  $0.1 \lesssim \beta\gamma \lesssim$  intermediate- $Z$  materials with an accuracy of a few %. At the lower projectile velocity becomes comparable to atomic electron “velocities” (S



- Detectors optimised triggering on  $\sim$  light speed particles, minimally ionising / penetrating
- High bunch crossing rate, most events discarded
- Rare HIP signal, can look like v. common backgrounds



**LHC  
IP:8**



**LHCb**

**MoEDAL**

**MMTs**

**NTD array + VHCC**

**Timepix**

**MAPP**

Aluminium ferromagnetic  
monopole trappers

Ionisation detectors  
(rest of this talk)

Radiation environment  
monitoring

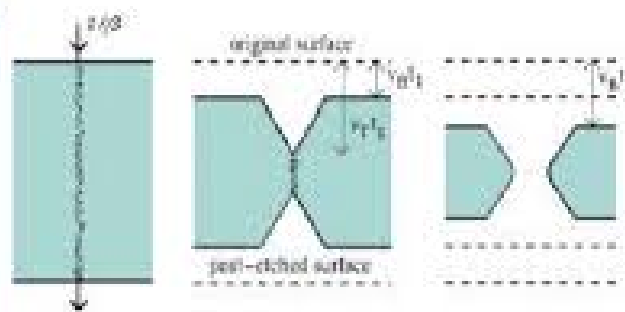
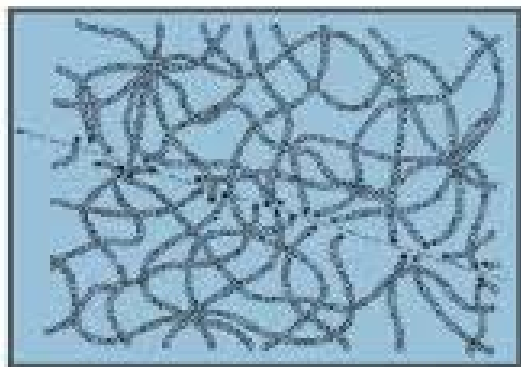
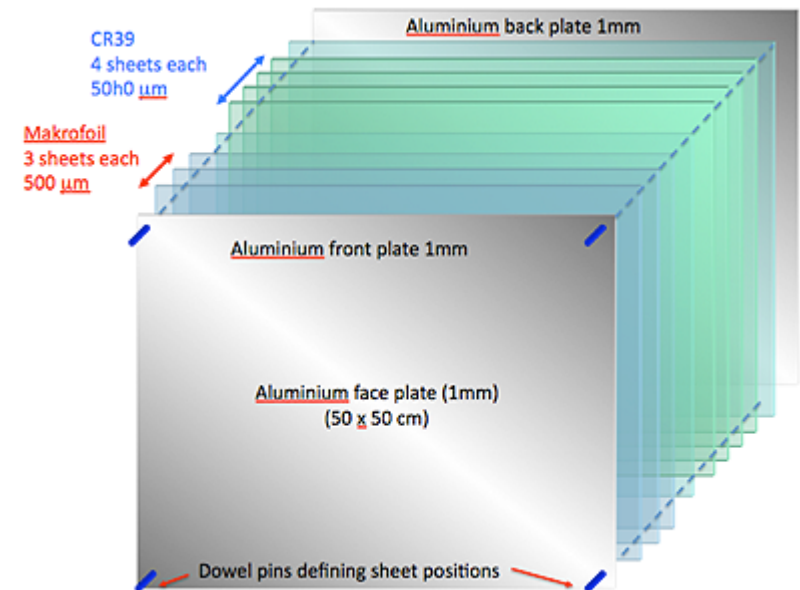
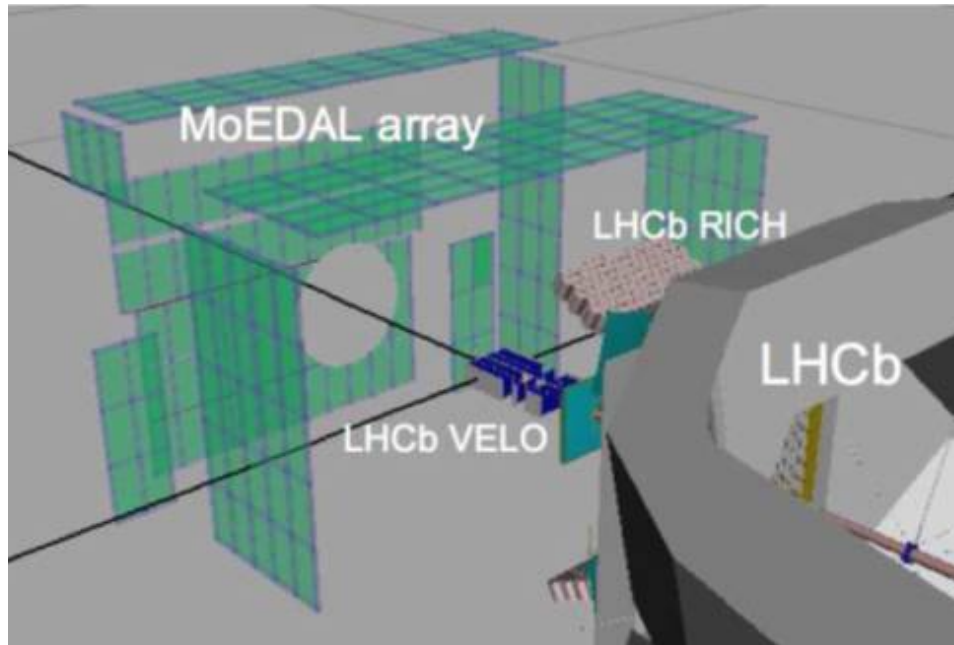
Millicharged  
particle detector



# Moedal: NTD arrays



Stacked Arrays of ionisation sensitive polymer solid state nuclear track detectors (NTDs)  
Sensitive to Heavily Ionising Particles, low sensitivity to standard model particles

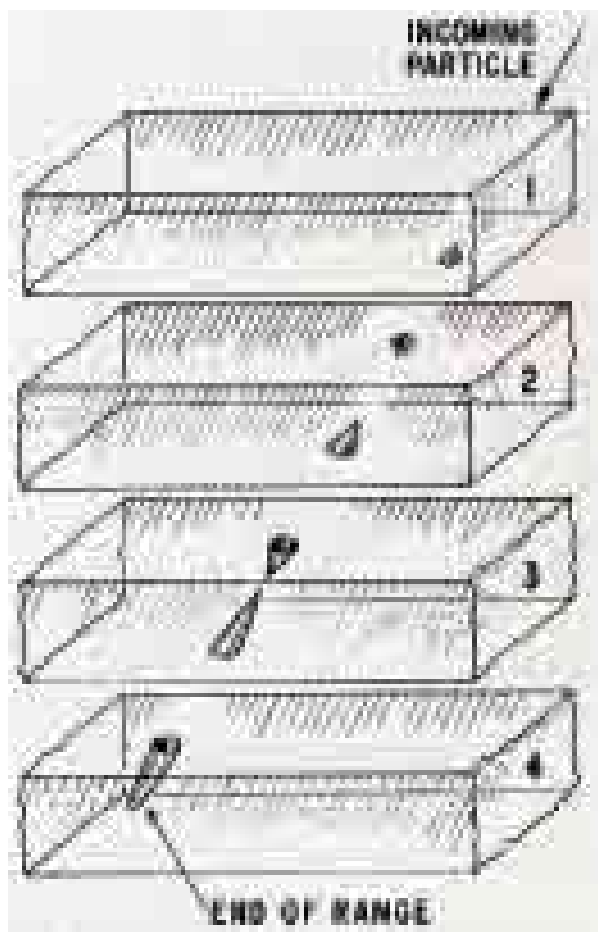


**NANOSCOPIC** → **MICROSCOPIC**

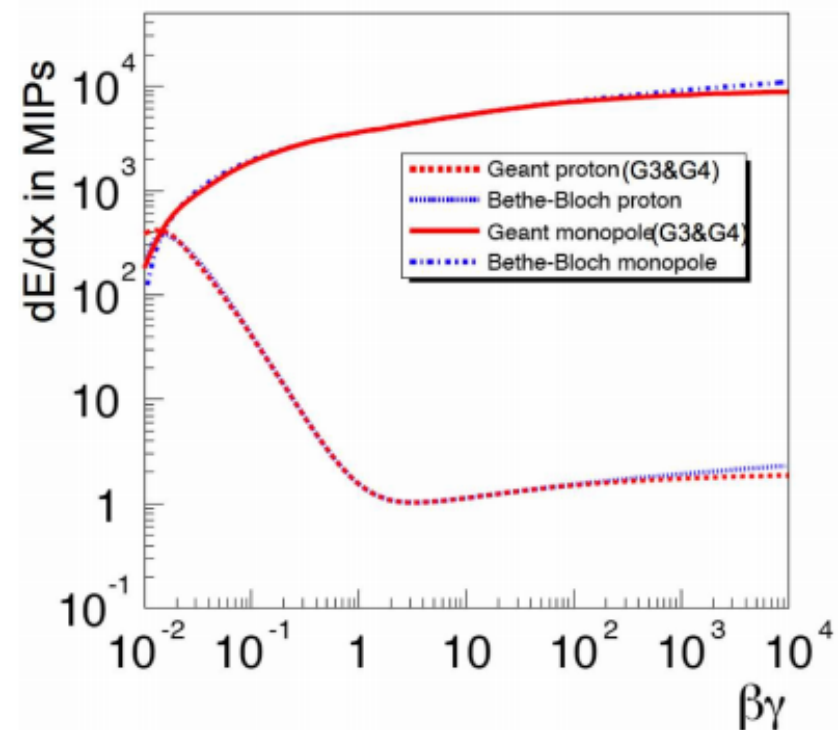
- Ionising particles break polymer chains in NTD foil in localised region
- Leaves latent 'ion track'
- Chemical etching process occurs faster along ion tracks than bulk medium
- Forms 'etch-pits' where ionising particles entered and exited the foil



## Standard Model Ionisation Behavior



1. Initial High energy causes minimal ionisation. Doesn't show up as etch pit
2. Particle loses energy, lower velocity, efficient 'electronic' ionisation. 'Ranging in'
3. Reaches peak energy loss larger etch-pits form at point of entry and exit
4. Energy loss, 'electronic' ionisation ceases, etch-pit formation stops. 'Ranging out'



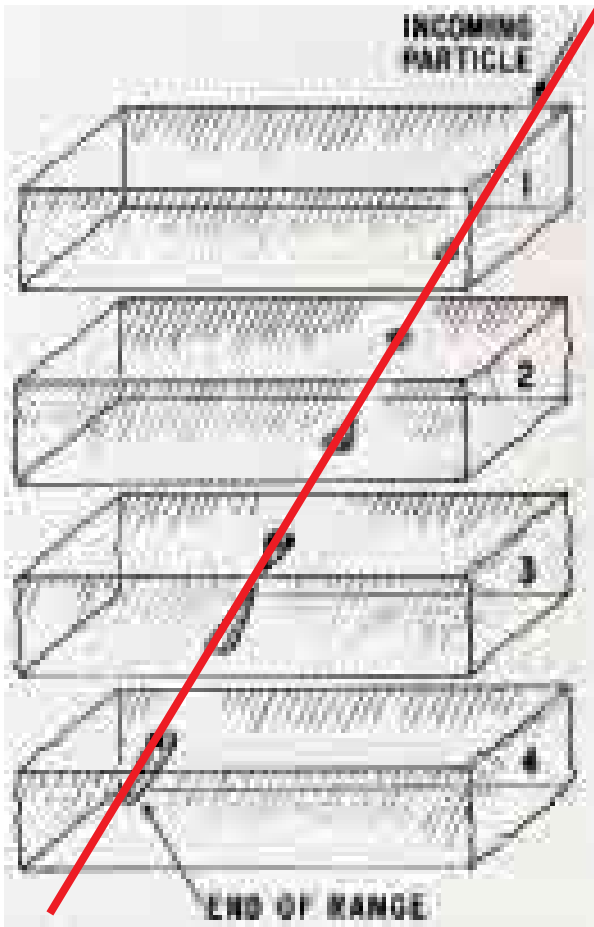
Courtesy INF Bologna





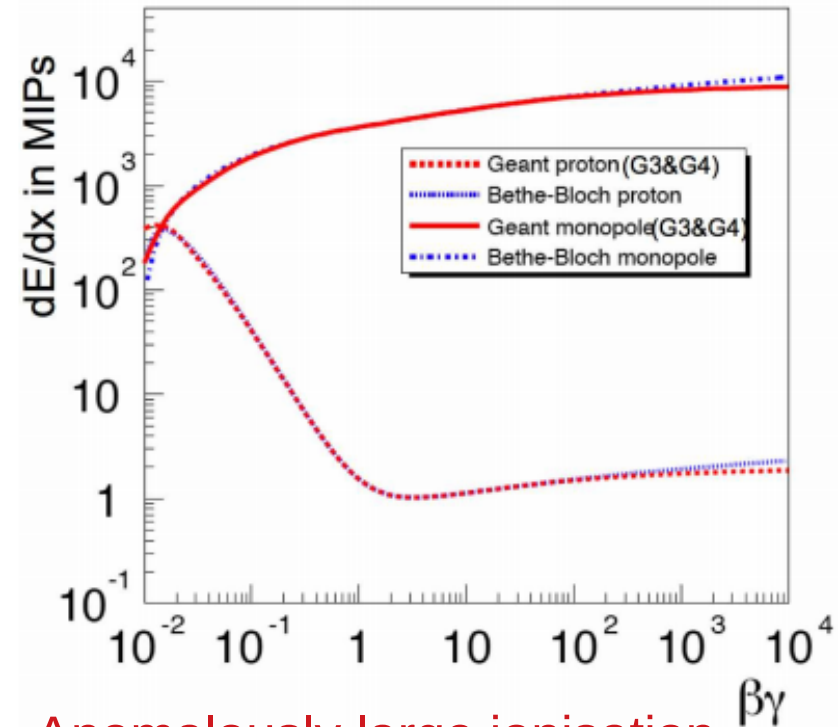
BEYOND

## ~~Standard Model~~ Ionisation Behavior



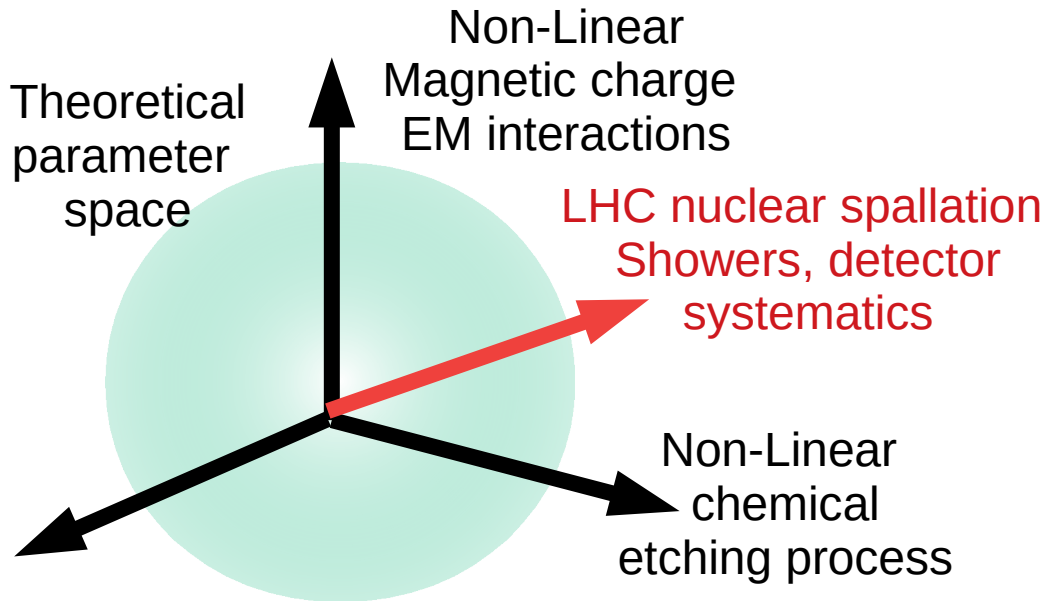
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Courtesy INF Bologna



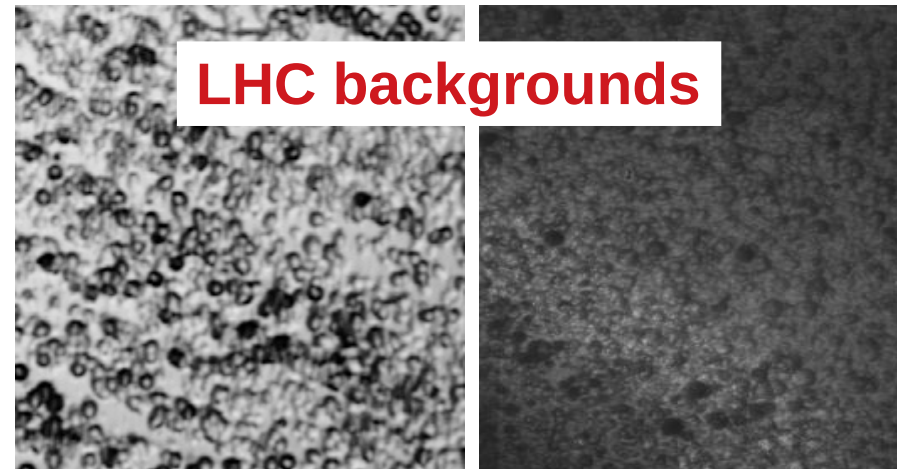
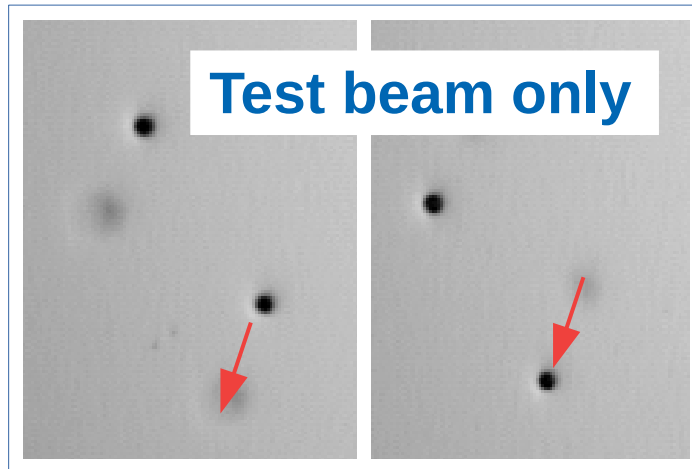
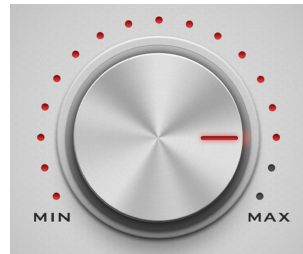
Anomalously large ionisation appears in all layers  
Approx no  $\beta$  dependence  
~ TeV Energy Momentum  
Primary vertex origin  
Direct search  
No SM background

# #1: Training / Modelling



- Large variability, huge uncertainties, many parameters. First principles modelling / Monte-Carlo impractical
- No 'real' magnetic monopole examples to train from
- Can simulate HIP signal in given foil layer with calibrated heavy ion beam
- Different ions for different parts of possible energy spectrum
- Realistic signal examples require presence of real background

multiple  $\beta$  dependant  
Particle – Polymer interactions  
HIP goes through all  $\beta$  regimes





# #2: Background density

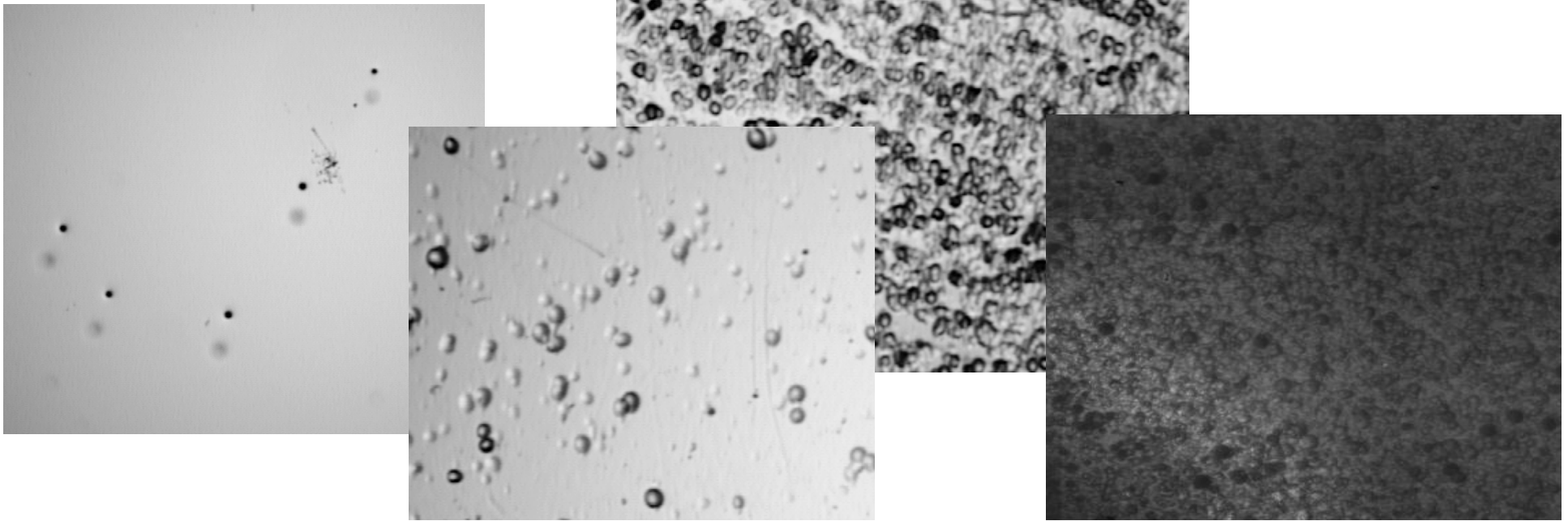


CR39, Heavy ion test beam

**LHC Exposure**

Makrofol, heavy ion test beam  
+ 8 months LHC background

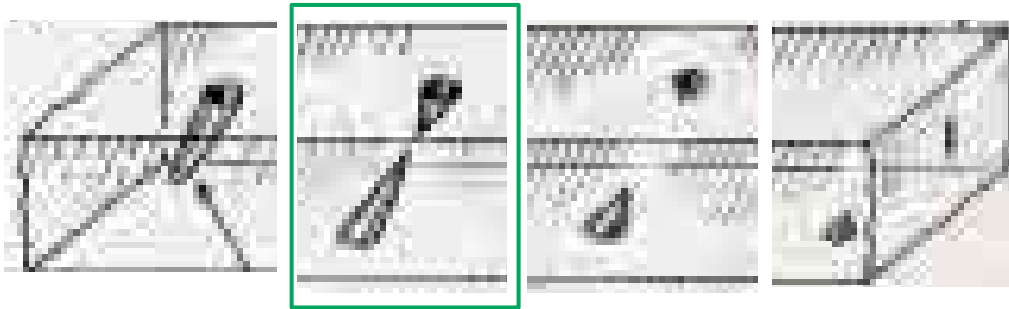
2yrs LHC background  
pile-up



- Problem changes as density increases,
- Images represent  $\sim \text{mm}^2$   
Millions of etch-pits in each  $\text{cm}^2$
- $O(100) \text{ m}^2$  macroscopic foil area  
Trillions of etch-pits total

- Foil structure altered by  $\gamma$  – rays  
changes detector response
- Etch-pit clusters merge under  
etching
- Foil thickness fluctuates

# #3: Accurate identification

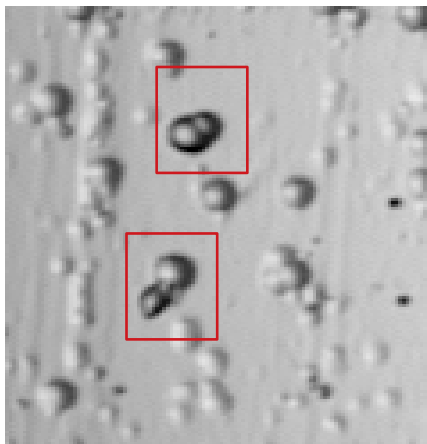


Want to find peak ionisation events

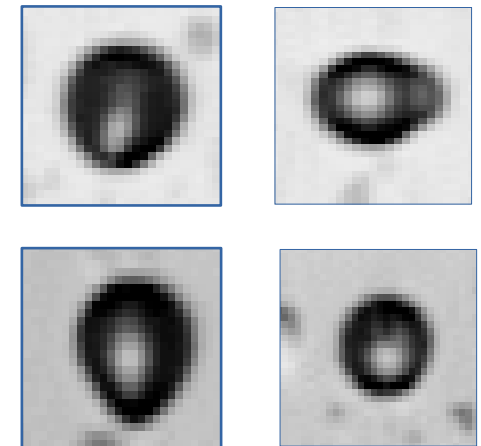
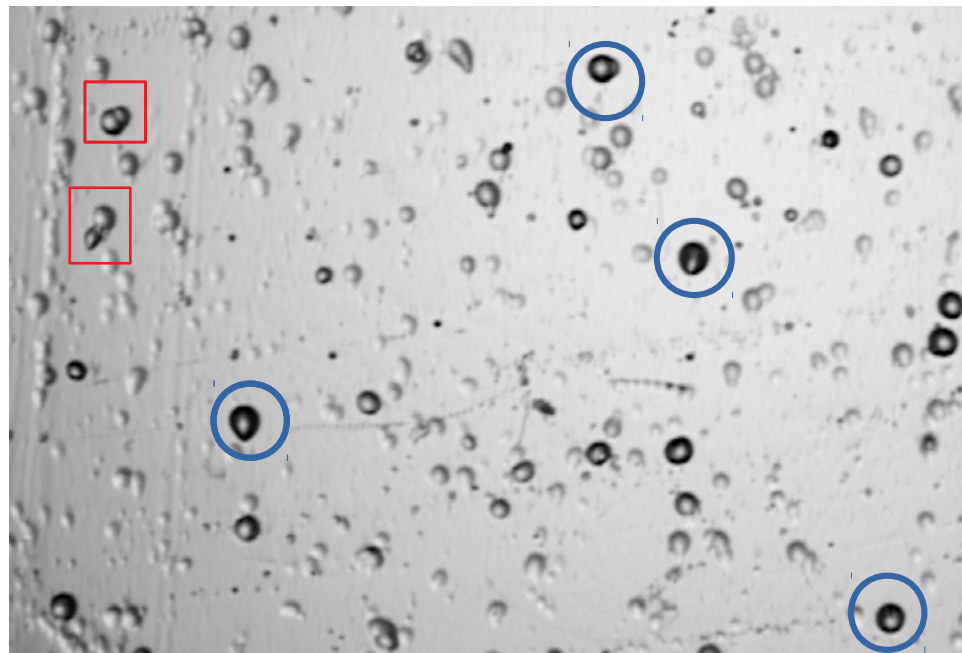
Need robust ~99% signal efficiency  
and ~99% background rejection

- LHC particle flux; all different SM ionisation behaviour happening
- Pits start to cluster and overlap
- Accurate ID requires detailed 3D inspection. Incompatible with rapid automated scanning
- Supervised learning requires accurate labelling. Have to locate

## Example



Entry Exit pair?  
Background cluster?



Strong Visual Symmetry  
between different physics  
objects / backgrounds



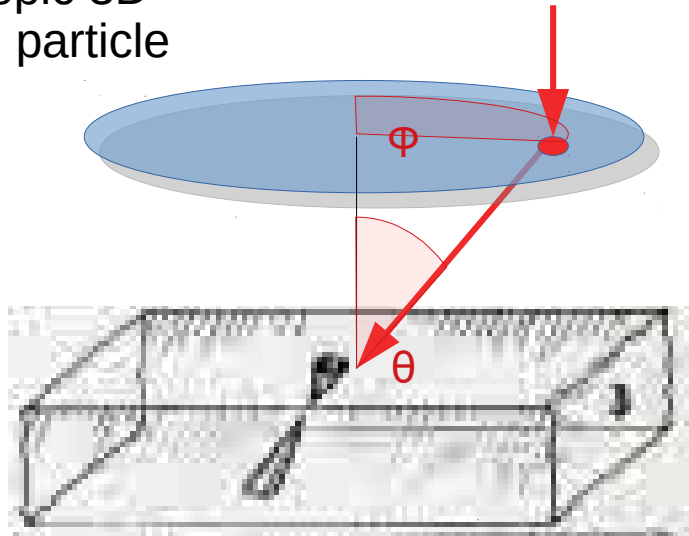
# 3D Dark-field imaging



- Want to probe microscopic 3D structure to understand particle event interpretation

VS

- Want to rapidly scan macroscopic area with minimal motion and large field of view



- CAN parametrise illumination angle
- LED grid, passing through Fresnell lens. Allows control of  $\theta$ ,  $\phi$
- Retain microscopic focal plain alignment over macroscopic area

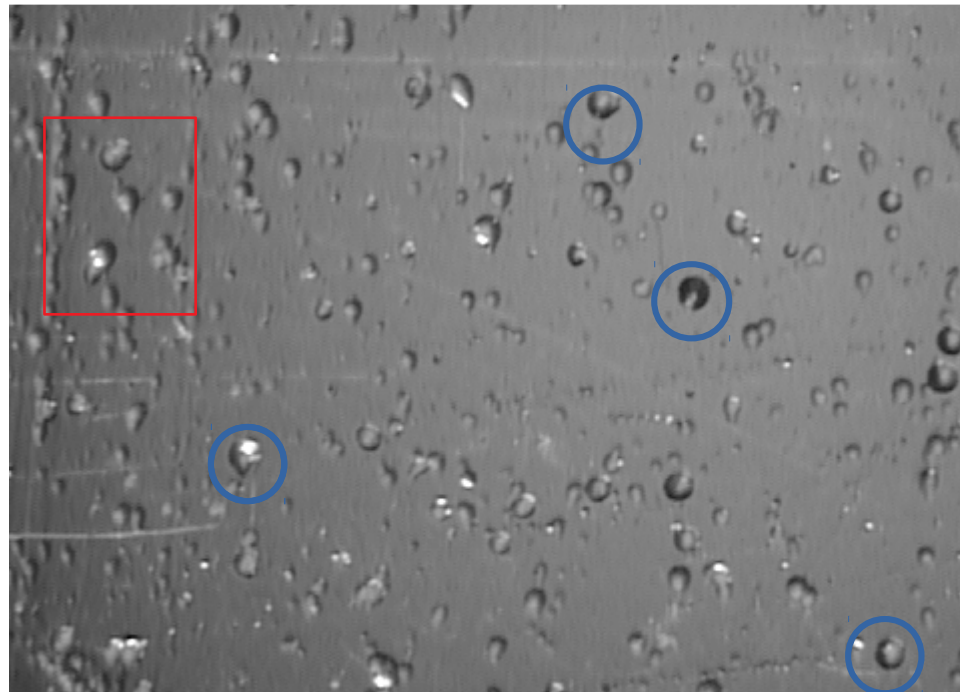
## Example

X, Y, Phi becomes  
3d data-space

Animation  
In-phase rotation  
common origin

Opposite phase  
possible entry exit

ML / CNN sees all  
angles at once



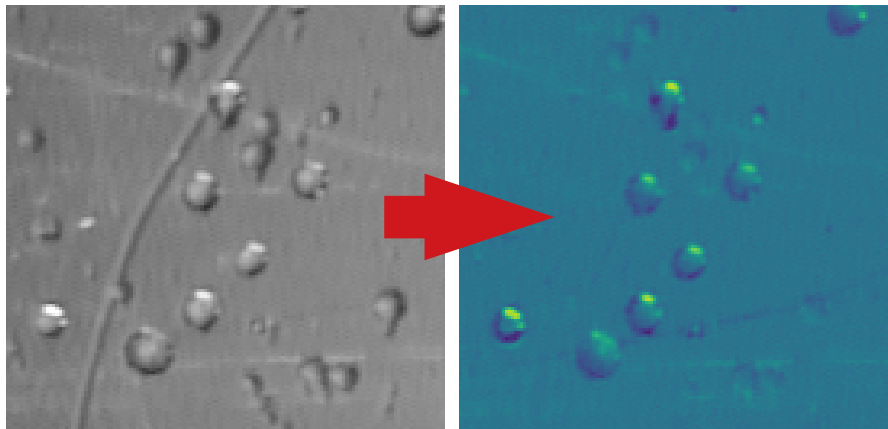
**Entry exit pairs  
look different to  
overlapping bkg**

**Resolve different  
3D structures**

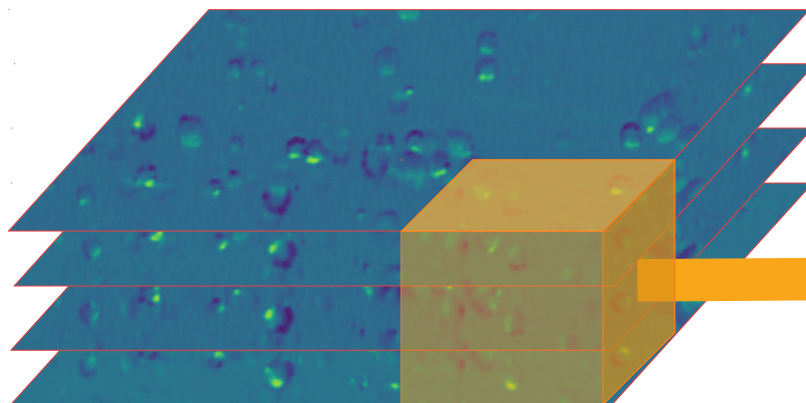
Spot anomalies eg;  
connected entry exit  
or heavy ionisations  
that etch all the way  
through



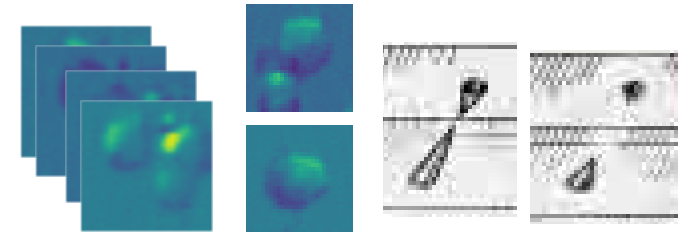
① “Normalisation” - Redefine relative to local zero, ‘clean’ up low ionisation pits / de-clutter. Remove systematic imaging biases + non-etch pit visual backgrounds



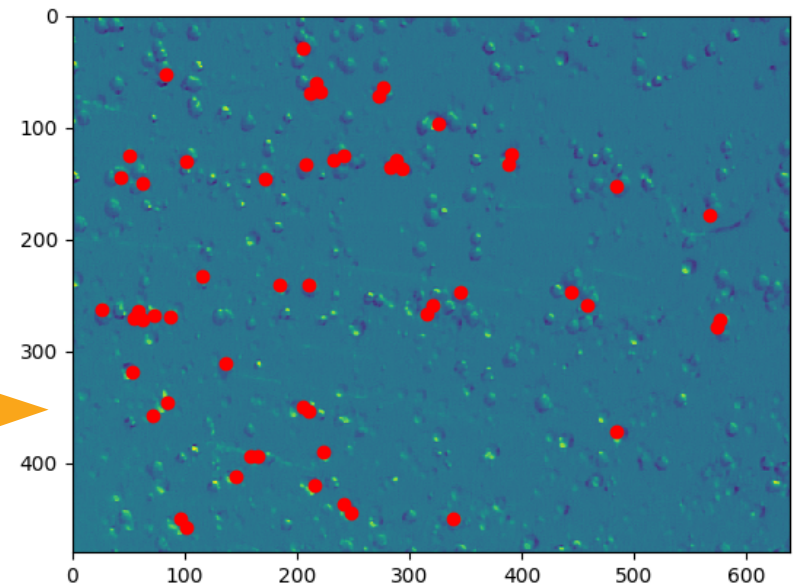
② Convolution kernel search for patterns of interest in 3D data space



④ Build supervised ML dataset from preselection. Train sub-classifiers, eg, entry exit asymmetry  $\sim dE/dx$   
can replace initial search with learnt models



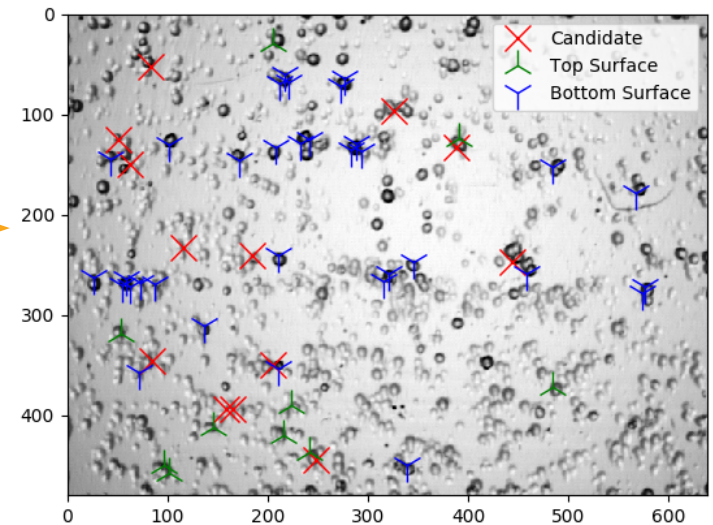
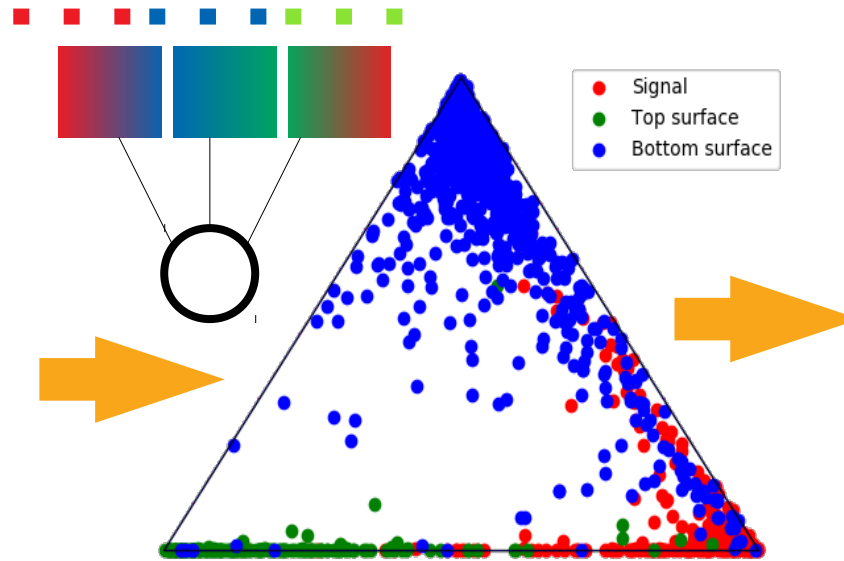
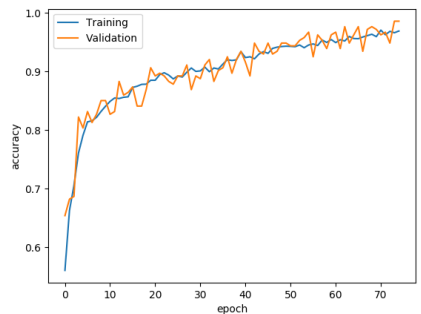
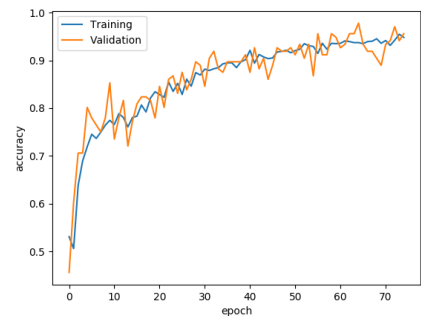
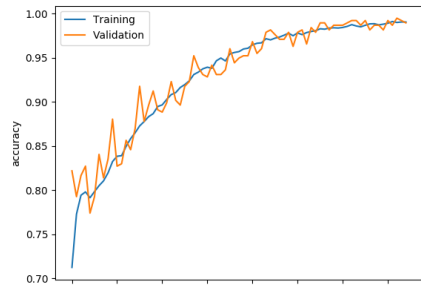
③ Pre-select etch-pits, reject trivial backgrounds, reduce labelling, storage, requirement  $\sim 1000$





- Train specialist experts to handle specific sub-classifications eg, B vs C

Eg, top / bottom surface biased ionisation indicating SM range in/out



- Combine in Ensemble
- Heterogeneous vs Homogeneous (classifiers trained on different tasks with different data)
- Geometric combination  
 $C' = C_1 * C_2$   
vs arithmetic  
 $C' = aC_1 + bC_2$

Can use in inference to label new areas of foil,

Can extend further and use a dense neural network to form the ensemble