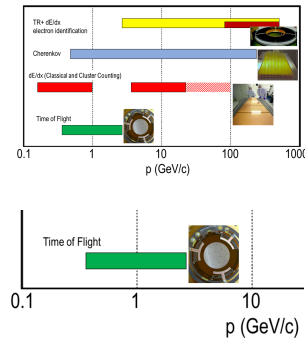


# Time of flight measurements



Michele Gallinaro

LIP Lisbon

February 16, 2021

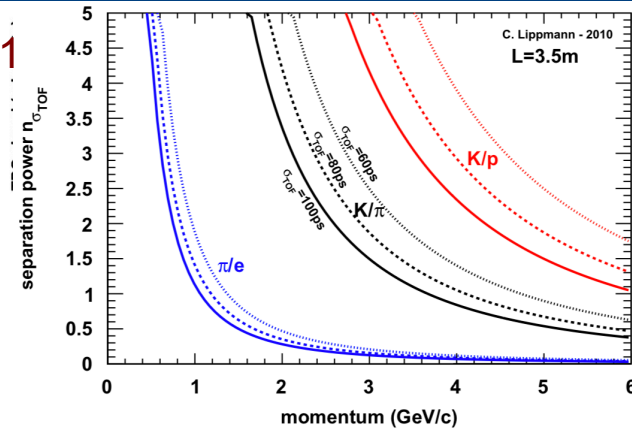
- ✓ Precision timing and performance
- ✓ Current and future experiments
- ✓ Challenges and prospects

# ToF for Particle ID: Why?

- Particle identification

$$m = \frac{p}{c\beta\gamma} \longrightarrow \left(\frac{dm}{m}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{dp}{p}\right)^2 + \left(\gamma^2 \frac{d\beta}{\beta}\right)^2$$

dominant for  $\gamma \gg 1$

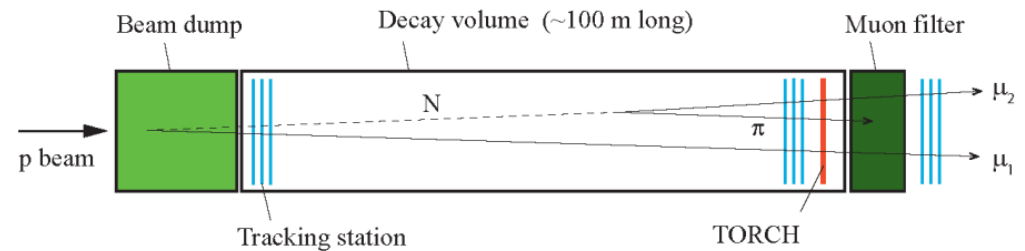


- Searches (e.g. long-lived-particles)

– e.g. heavy neutrino ( $\text{ToF} \sim 100\text{ps}$ ):  $D \rightarrow N\mu X$ ,  $N \rightarrow \mu\pi$

- Beam background

– Pileup rejection





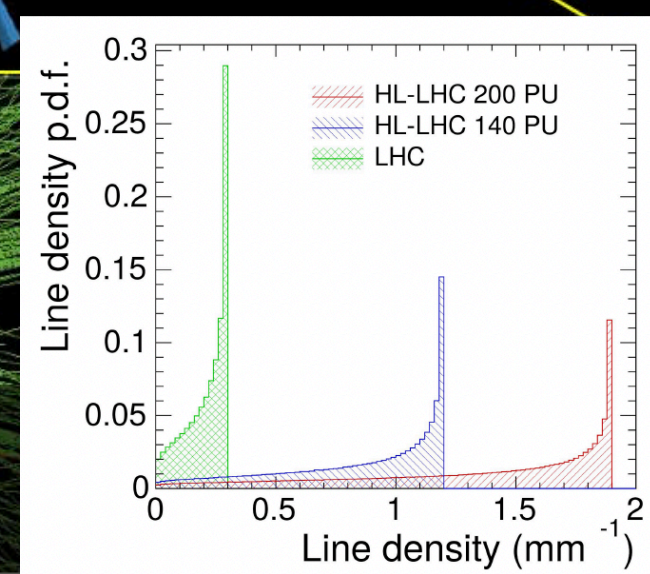
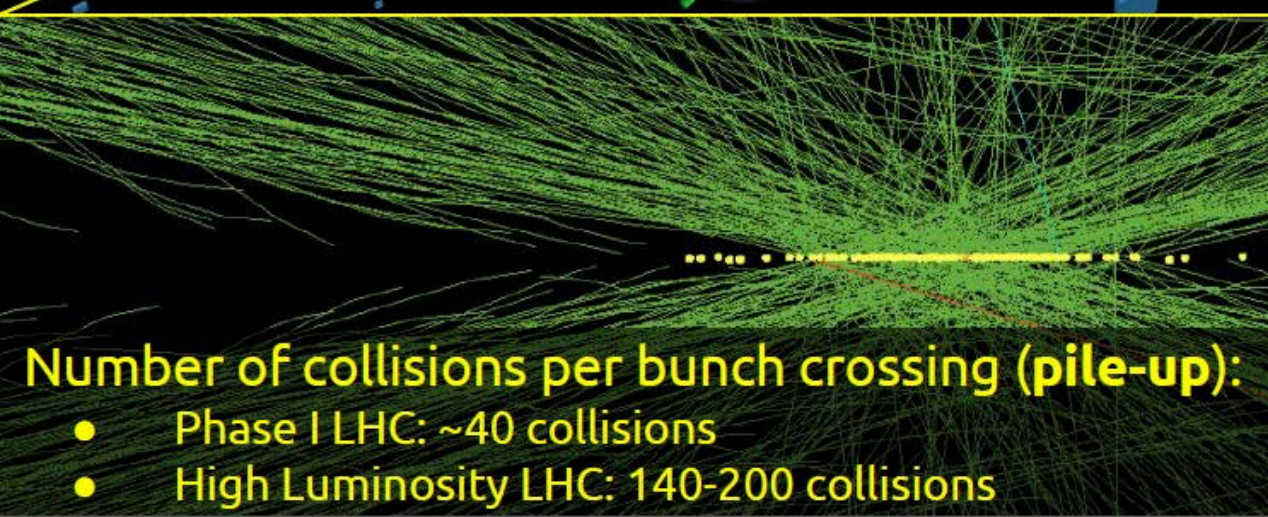
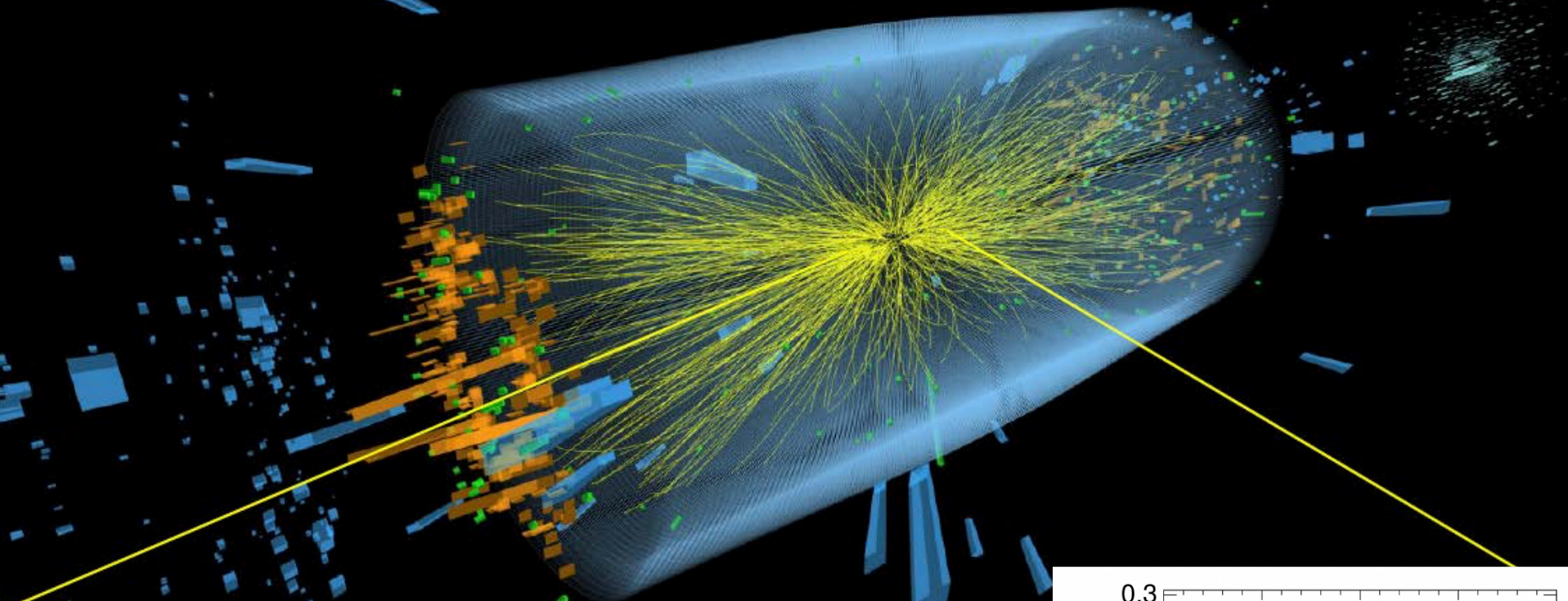


CMS Experiment at the LHC, CERN

Data recorded: 2018-Apr-17 11:26:32.973824 GMT

Run / Event / LS: 314475 / 10482774 / 11

CMS event display



# Challenges and technologies

- **Technologies:**
  - Silicon, diamond, photodetectors, and gaseous detectors
- **Challenges:**
  - Large vs small systems
  - Aging effects
  - Rate capabilities
- **Several contributions to time resolution**

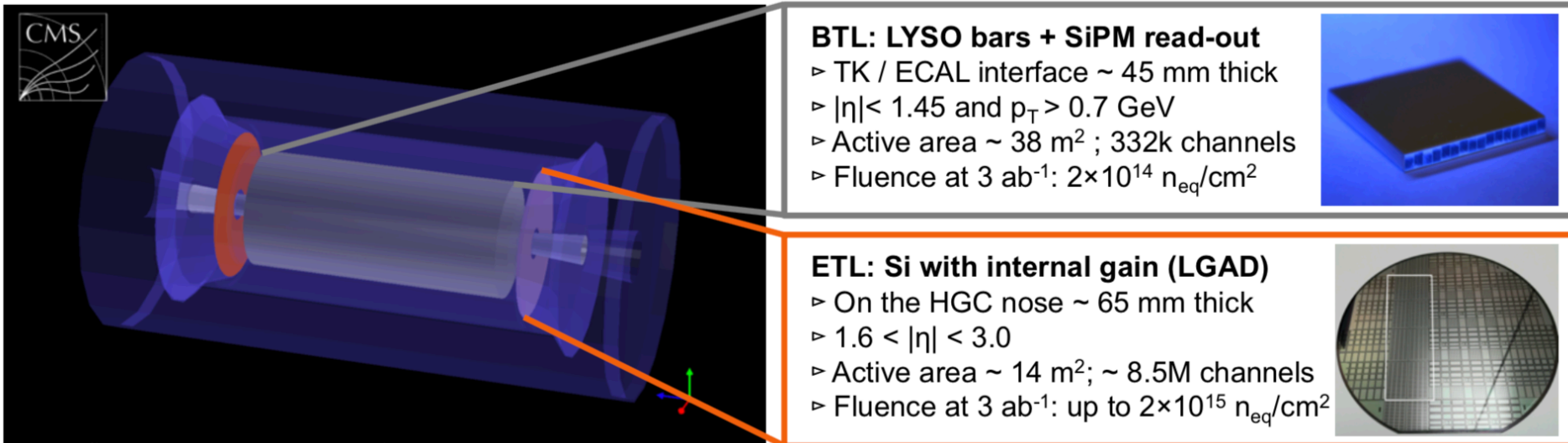
$$\sigma_{TOF}^2 = \sigma_{t_0}^2 + \sigma_{t_1}^2 = \sigma_{t_0}^2 + \sigma_{Intr}^2 + \sigma_{Elec}^2 + \sigma_{Clock}^2 + \sigma_{Cal}^2$$

intrinsic det.  
resolution

# MIP Timing Detector @CMS

CERN-LHCC-2019-003

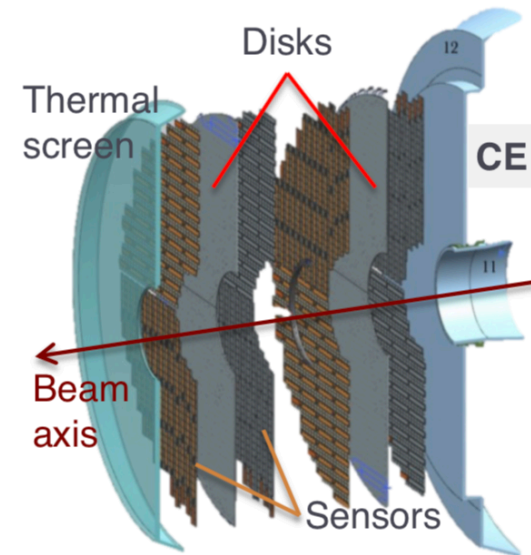
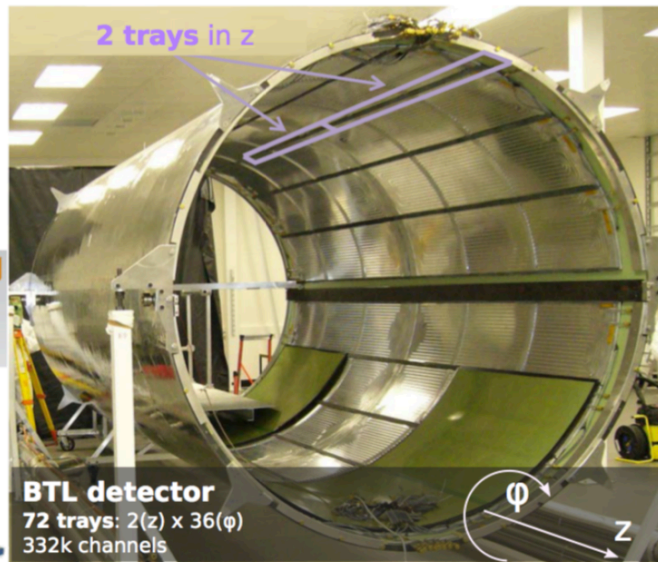
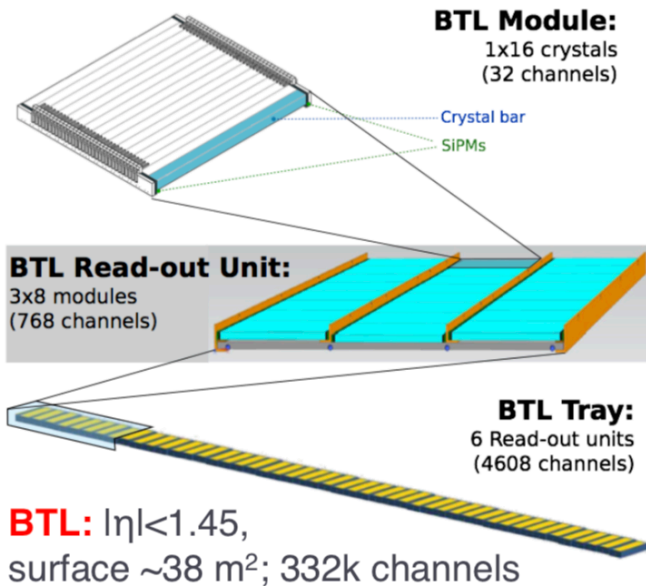
- High precision time measurement of MIPs
  - 30-40 ps at start, degrading to <60ps at 3000 fb<sup>-1</sup>
  - Provide track-vertex association
  - Improve sensitivity to slow particles, add particle ID capabilities, etc.





# MIP Timing Detector

- Barrel Timing Layer (BTL):
  - Arrays of LYSO crystal bars with dual-end SiPM readout
  - Two measurements per hit (improves resolution)
  - Mounted inside the Tracker Support Tube (independent cooling)
- Endcap Timing Layer (ETL):
  - LGAD modules bump-bonded to ASIC
  - Two layers (improves resolution and redundancy)



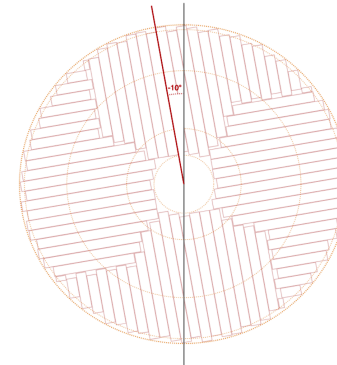
**ETL:**  $1.6 < |\eta| < 3.0$ ,  
surface  $\sim 14 \text{ m}^2$ ;  $\sim 8.5 \text{ M}$  channels

# Timing detector @ATLAS

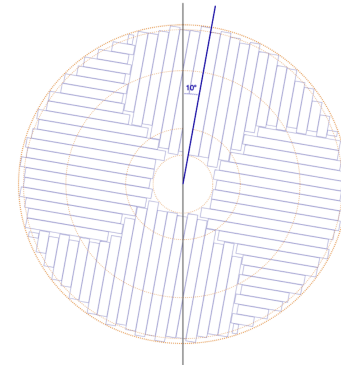
CERN-LHCC-2020-007

## High Granularity Timing Detector (HGTD)

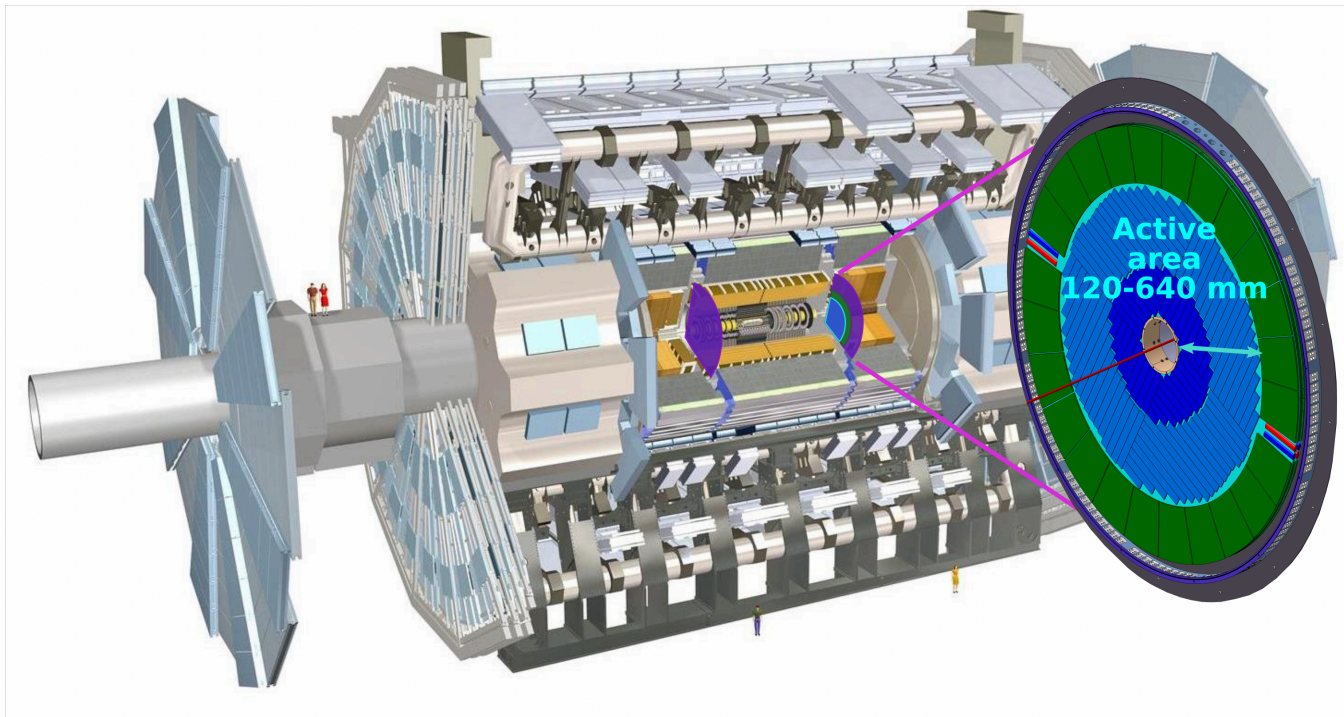
- Coverage:  $2.4 < |\eta| < 4.0$
- Active area  $6.3\text{m}^2$ , 3.6M ch
- Design based on  $1.3 \times 1.3\text{mm}^2$  Si pixels optimized for  $< 10\%$  occupancy
- Rad hard up to  $5 \times 10^{15} n_{\text{eq}}/\text{cm}^2$ , 4.7MGy



(a) First layer

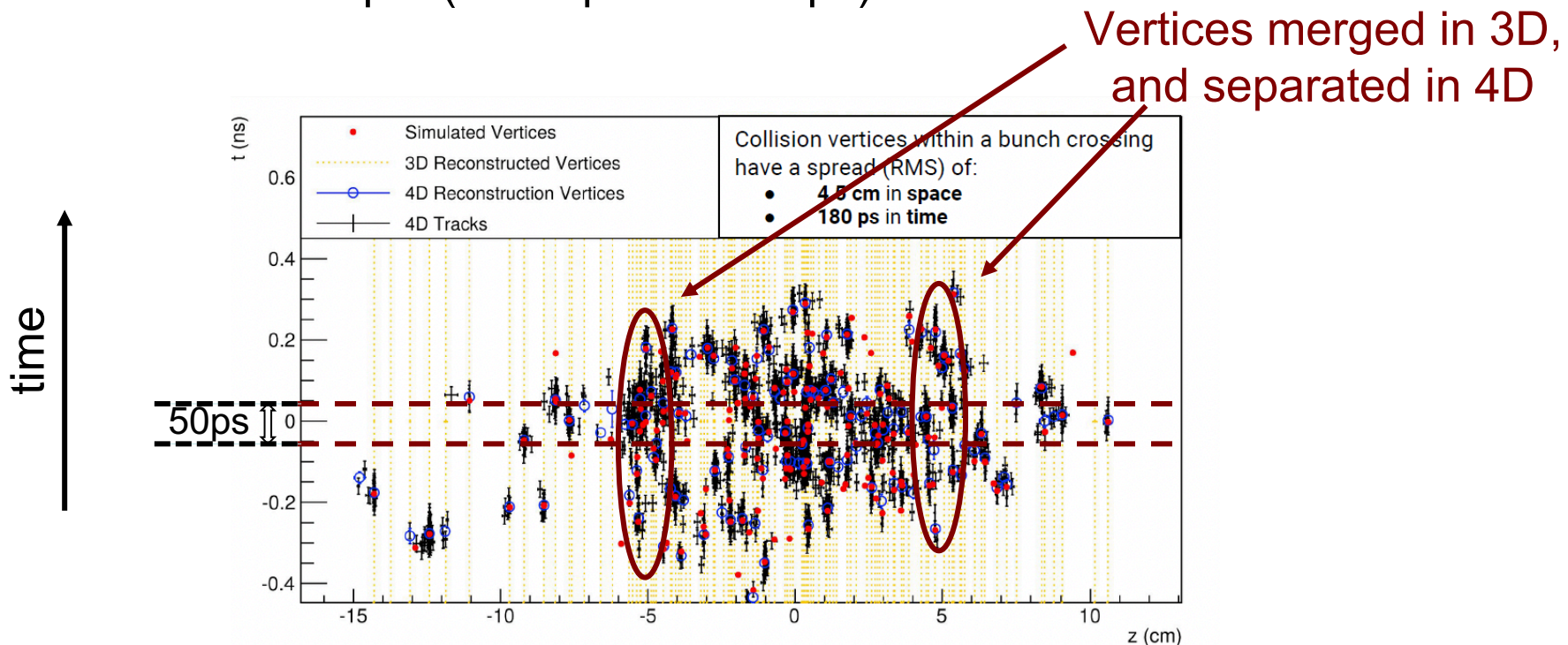


(b) Second layer



# PU mitigation with ToF

- Time-tagging tracks with a resolution of  $\sim 30\text{-}40$  ps
  - 4D vertex reconstruction
  - Track-vertex association
- Reduce effective PU to the LHC Run2 level
  - Slice beam spot (time spread 180 ps)





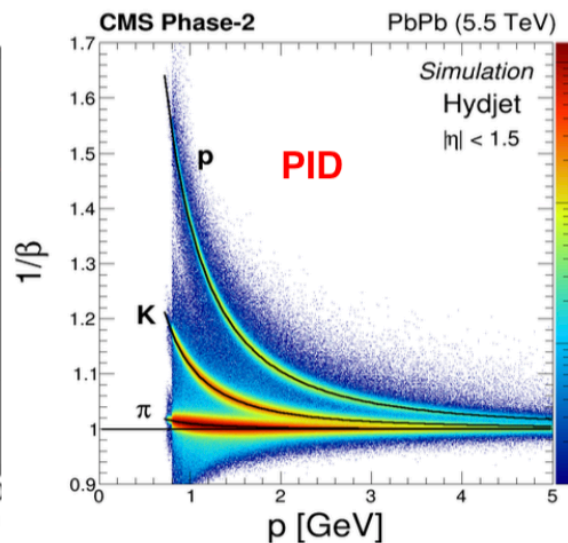
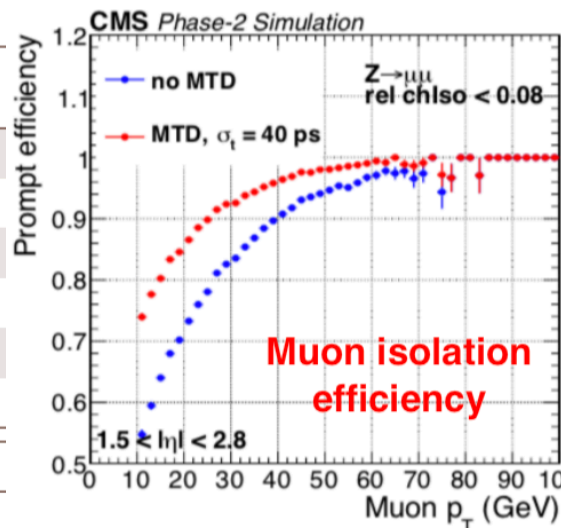
# Particle reconstruction

- Improve particle reconstruction/ID
  - Increase b-tagging efficiency
  - Increase photon and lepton Id, efficiency and isolation
  - Improve missing transverse momentum resolution
  - Reduce fake jet reconstruction
- 10%-20% gain in S/B in many Higgs decay channels

HH production sensitivity (sigmas) at 3 ab<sup>-1</sup>

Channel	No MTD	$\langle\sigma_{\tau}\rangle$ 35 ps	$\langle\sigma_{\tau}\rangle$ 50 ps
bbbb	0.89	0.95	0.94
bb $\tau\tau$	1.3	1.58	1.48
bb $\gamma\gamma$	1.7	1.85	1.83
bbWW	0.53	0.579	0.576
bbZZ	0.38	0.423	0.418
Combined	2.4	2.71	2.63
Luminosity gain	-	+26%	+20%

HL-LHC@140PU

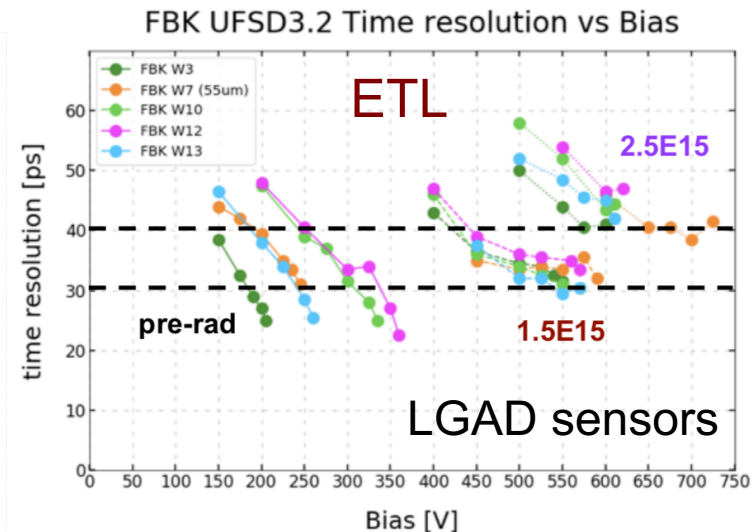
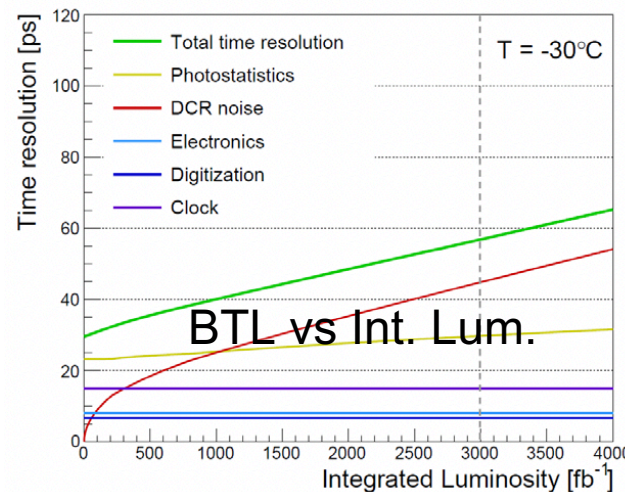
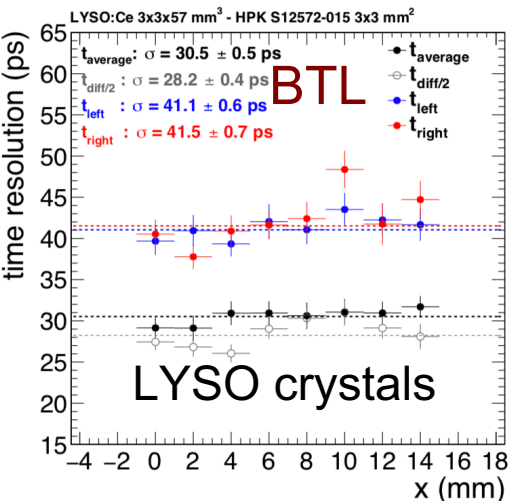
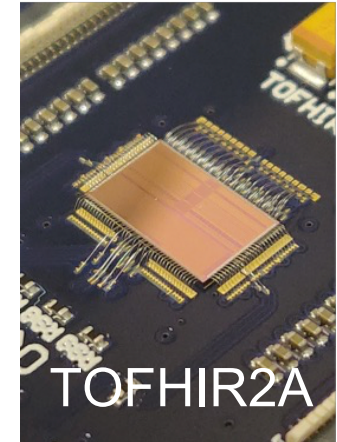
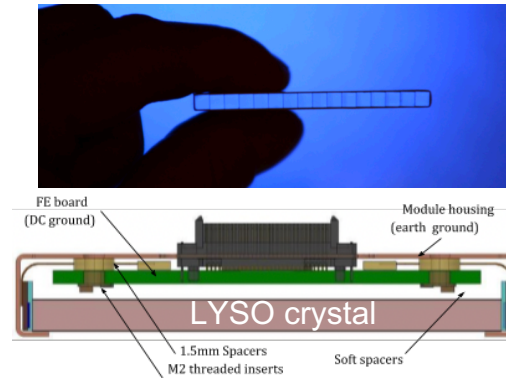


# MTD: Time resolution

- Time resolution:  $\sim 30\text{-}40\text{ps}$ @start
- Dedicated on-detector electronics (TOFHIR and ETROC)

## Different technologies in Barrel/Endcap:

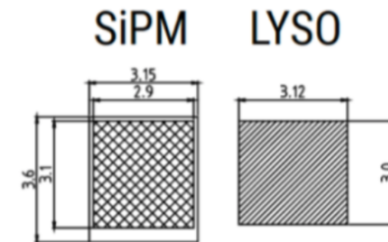
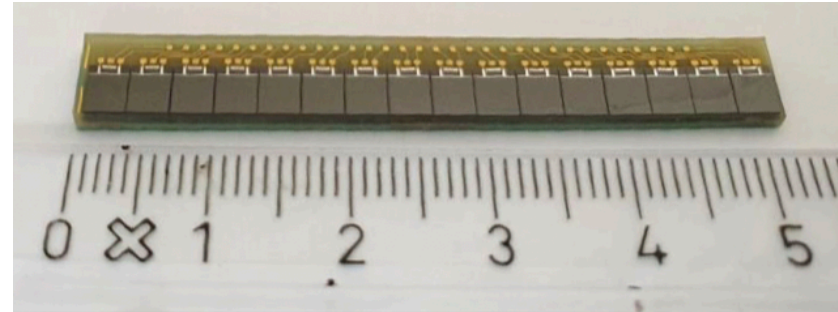
- **LYSO crystals (BTL):**
  - $3\times 3\times 57\text{mm}^3$  readout by two SiPMs
- **LGAD: Low Gain Avalanche Diodes (ETL)**
  - Si pixels  $1.3\times 1.3\text{mm}^2$ ,  $2\times 4\text{cm}^2$  module bonded to ASIC





# SiPMs

- SiPMs as photosensors
  - Compact, fast (single photon resolution  $\sim 100\text{ps}$ ), insensitive to magnetic fields
  - Optimal cell size  $15\mu\text{m}$  (balance btw radiation tolerance and photon detection efficiency)
  - PDE: 20-40% at 420nm
  - Gain:  $1.5\text{-}4 \times 10^5$



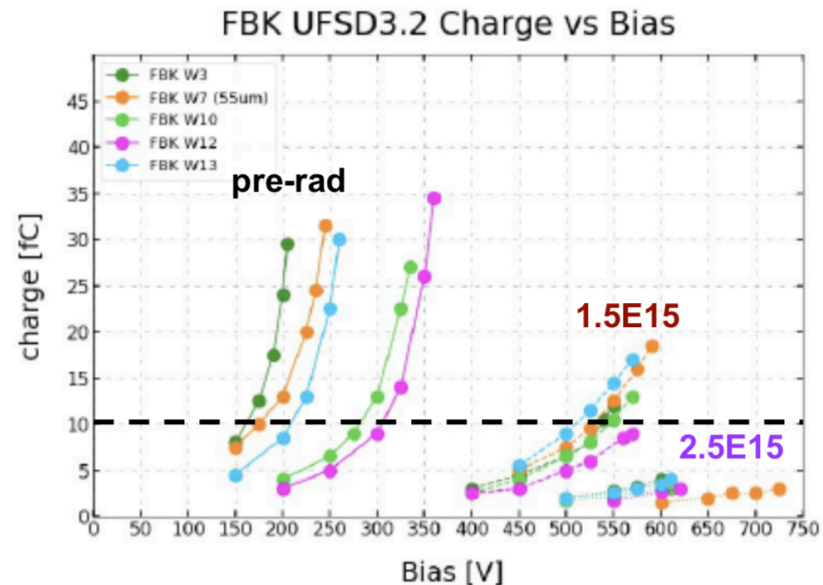
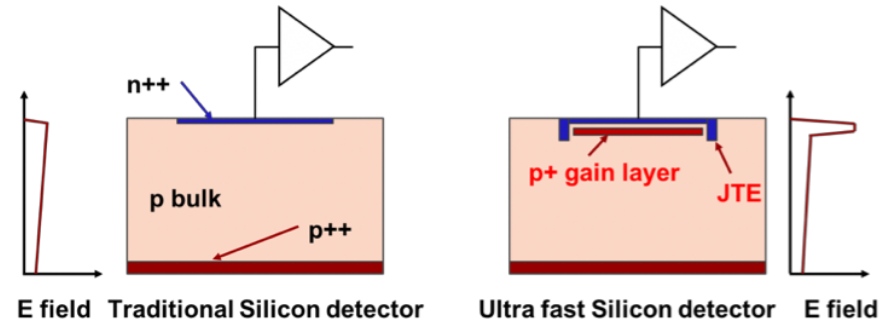
- **Drawback:** dark current noise due to radiation damage

end of operation

Integrated luminosity (fb <sup>-1</sup> )	Number of p.e.	SiPM gain	DCR (GHz)
0	9500	$3.8 \times 10^5$	0
500	9000	$2.9 \times 10^5$	20
1000	8000	$2.5 \times 10^5$	30
2000	7000	$1.9 \times 10^5$	45
3000	6000	$1.5 \times 10^5$	55

# LGADs

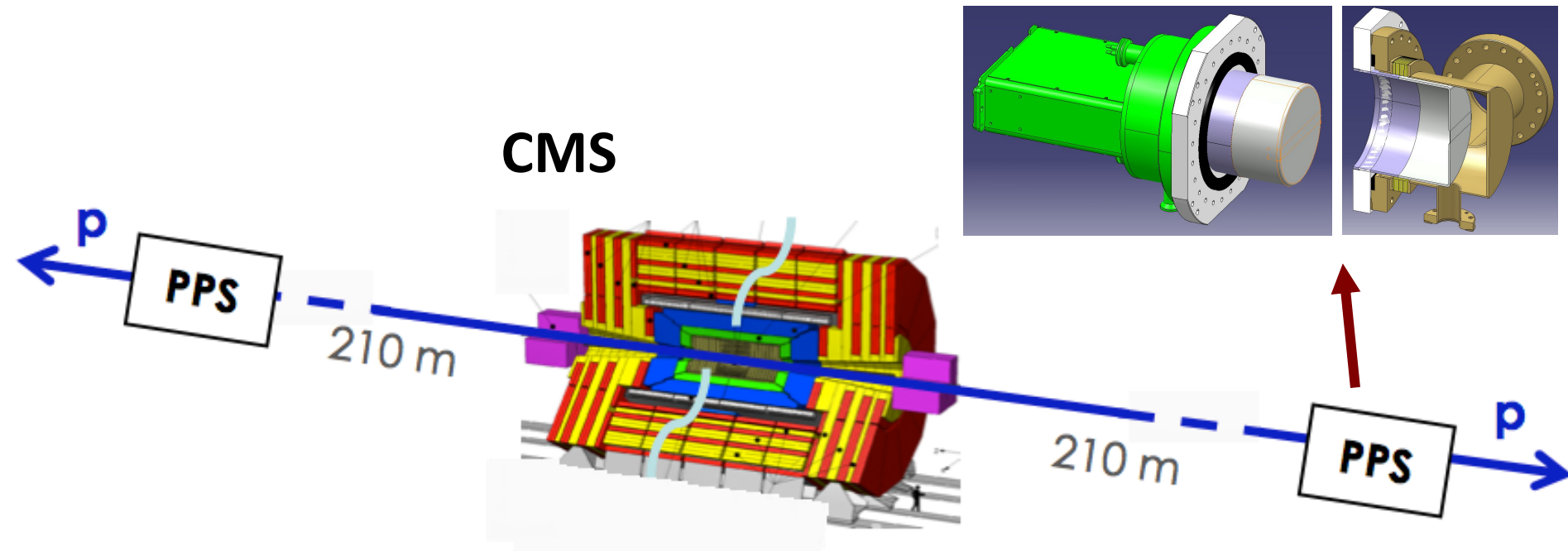
- **Gain** is key ingredient to good time resolution
- High field obtained by adding an extra doping layer
  - $E \sim 300 \text{ kV/cm}$ , close to breakdown voltage
  - Exploit Carbon implant to extend lifetime
- Signal yield  $> 10 \text{ fC}$  up to  $1.5 \times 10^{15} n_{\text{eq}}/\text{cm}^2$
- Damage due to radiation:
  - Electric field decrease  $\rightarrow$  compensate with higher bias
  - Increased leakage current
  - Doping creation/removal



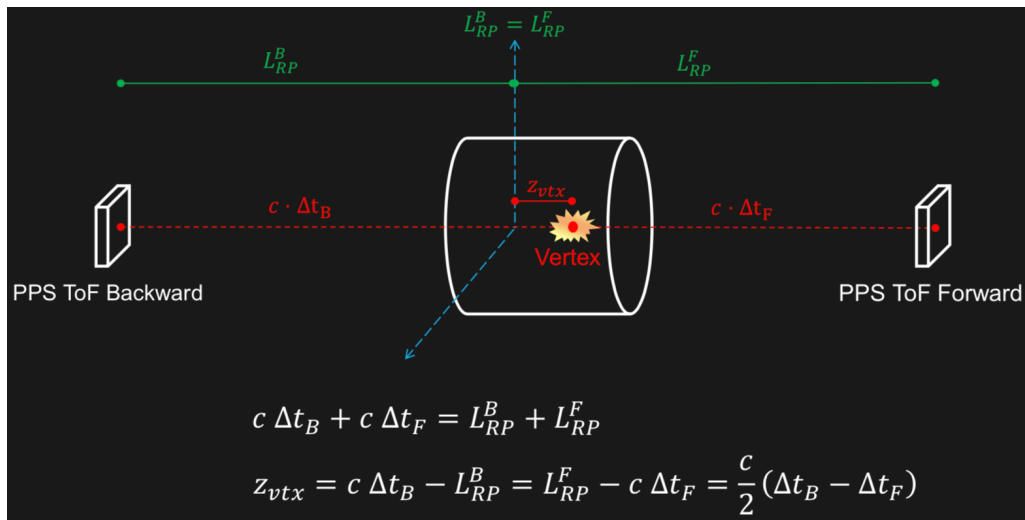
# Precision Proton Spectrometer

CERN-LHCC-2014-021

- Aims at measuring the surviving **scattered protons** on both sides of CMS in standard running conditions
- **Tracking** and **timing** detectors inside the beam pipe at  $\sim 210\text{m}$  from IP5
- Close ( $\sim 2\text{mm}$ ) approach to LHC beams inside movable “Roman Pot” vessels



# Time reconstruction

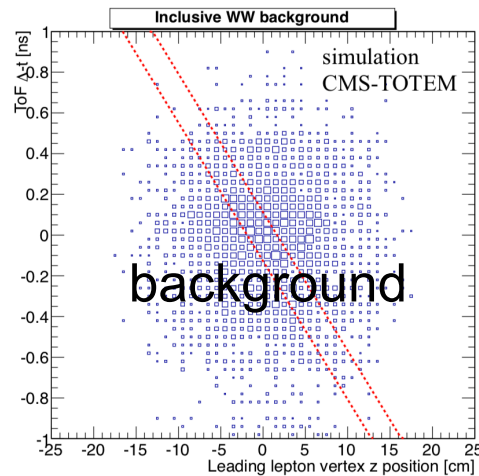
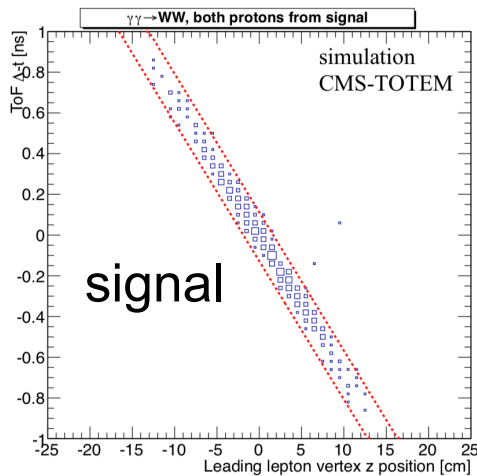


- A major background due to PU protons from other collisions in the same bunch crossing

– PU~40-50 at LHC Run2

- Can be mitigated by precisely measuring the proton arrival time

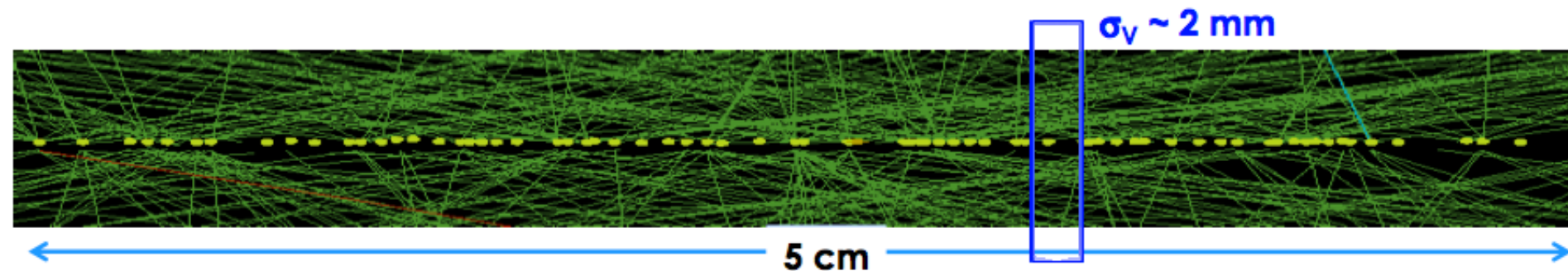
– For signal,  $\Delta t$  of the 2 protons is **correlated** with longitudinal vertex position measured in central detector



# Timing detectors

Time-of-flight measurement to reject background in the **high-pileup** of normal LHC running (uncorrelated proton tracks)

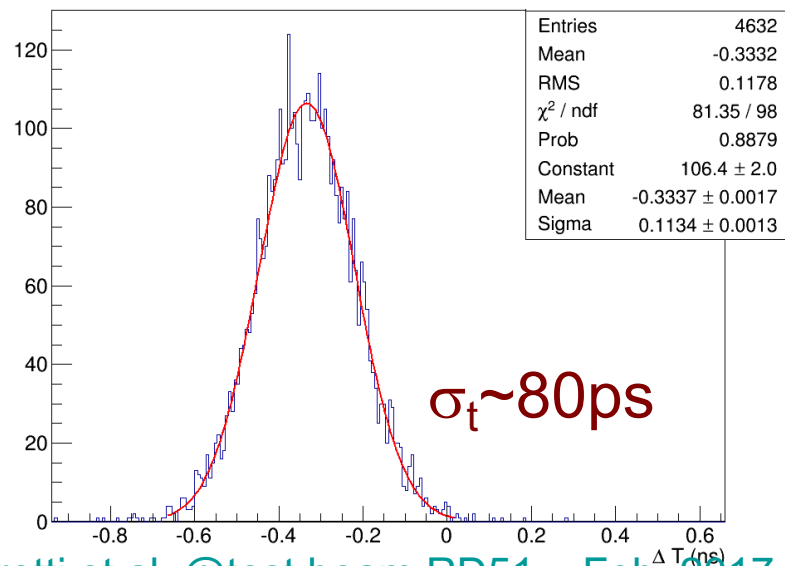
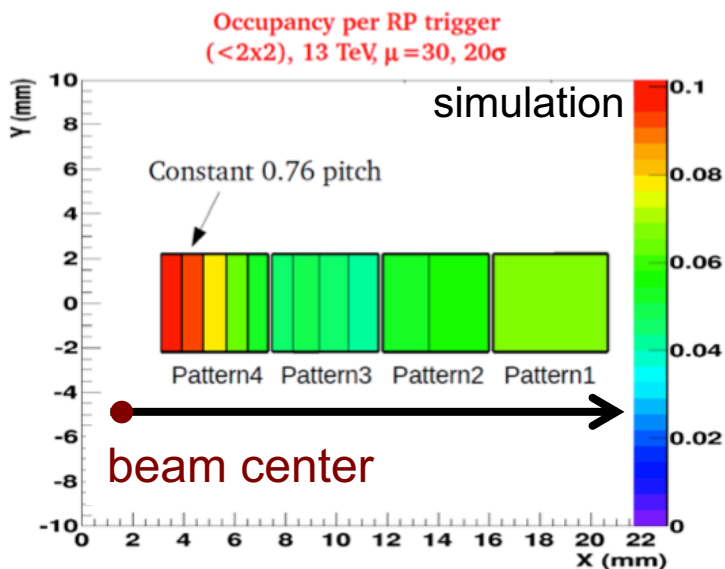
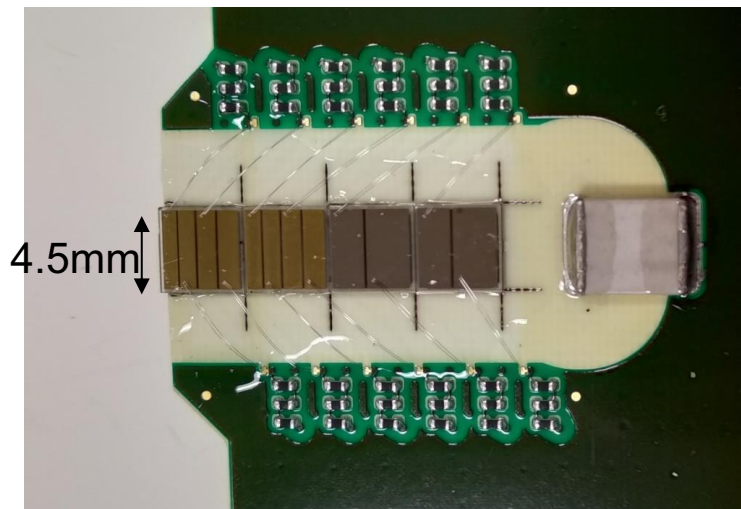
- Desired time resolution **20ps**  $\Rightarrow$  **4mm** (in  $z$ )
- Technology: **diamond** (rad-hard)
- Sustain **high radiation levels**
  - For 100/fb, proton flux up to  $5 \times 10^{15} \text{cm}^{-2}$



# Diamond detectors

JINST12(2017)P03007

- Diamond detectors
  - single crystal CVD diamonds
  - 4 planes per station
  - pixels of different sizes
  - segmentation through crystal metallization
- Single plane resolution  $\sim 80\text{ps}$
- Radiation hard



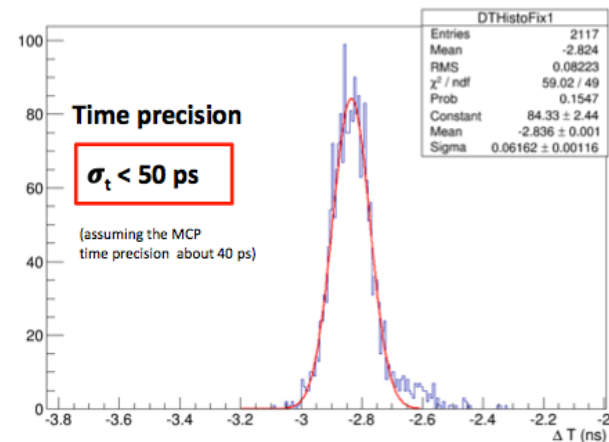
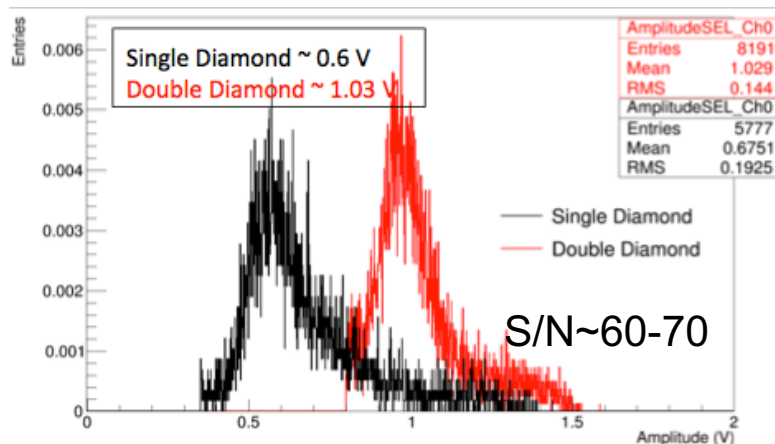
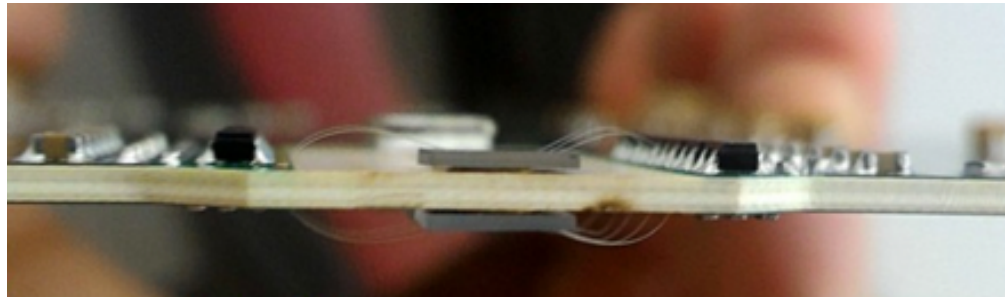
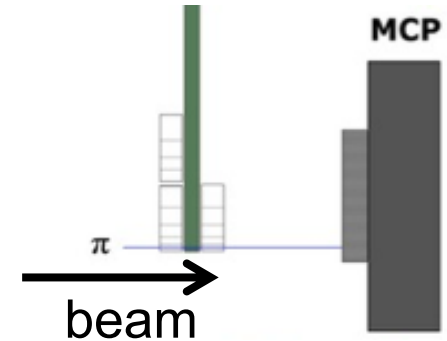
M. Berretti et al. @test beam RD51 – Feb. 2017



# Double diamond layer

JINST12(2017)P03026

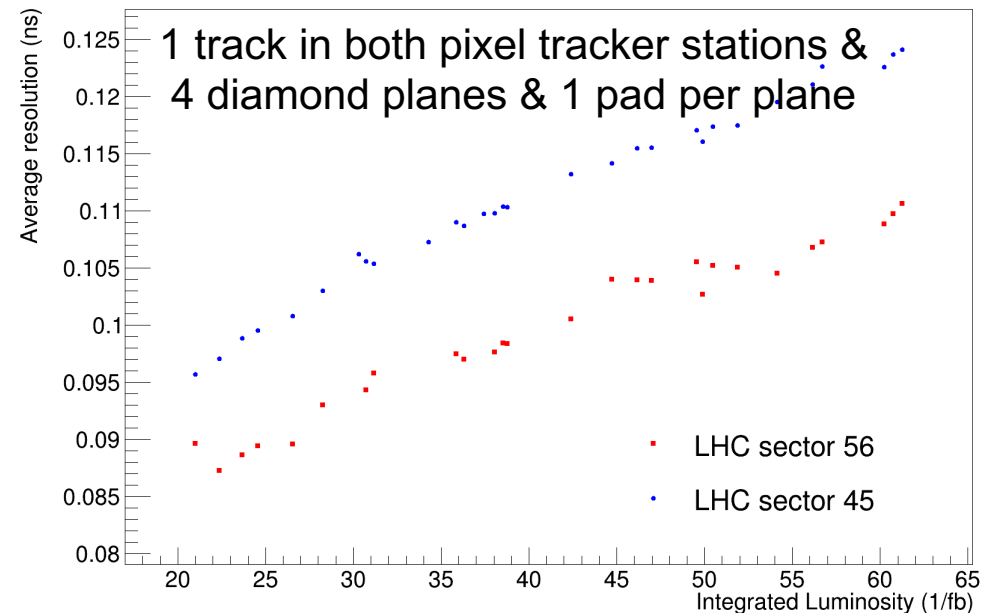
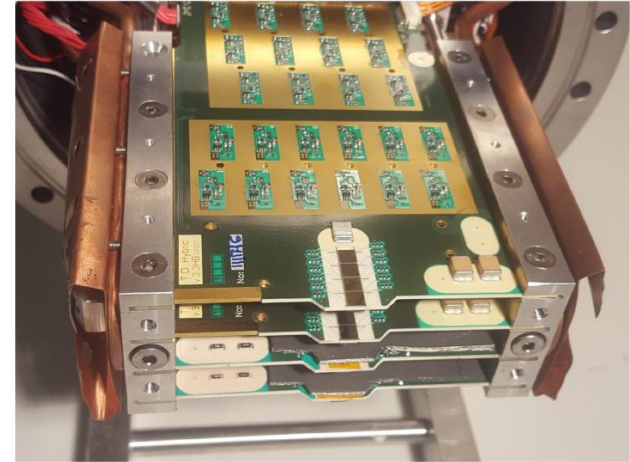
- Connected “sandwich” with two diamond sensors
- Beam tests in 2016/2017
- Performance improved (a factor of 1.7 wrt SD)
  - larger signal amplitude dominant over extra capacitance
- With 4 diamond sandwich-planes could reach 25 ps



# PPS: Time measurement in Run2

CERN-CMS-DP-2019-034

- Timing detectors installed in Run2 to measure proton ToF
  - Equipped with diamond detectors
  - One RP on each side, 4 planes in each RP (2DD+2SD)
- Reasonable efficiency maintained in 2018
- Expected 50ps/plane not yet reached
- Moderate loss of timing resolution from early to late 2018
  - Due to damage on the crystal and electronics (pre-amp, etc)



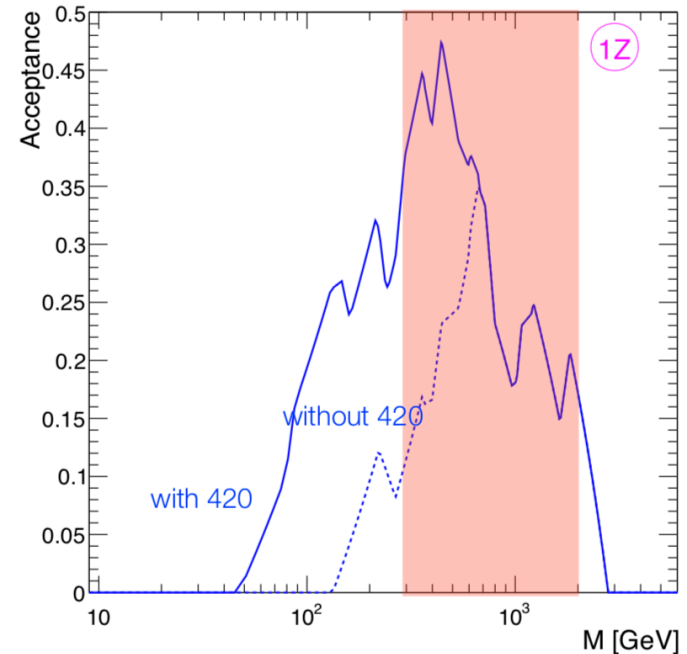
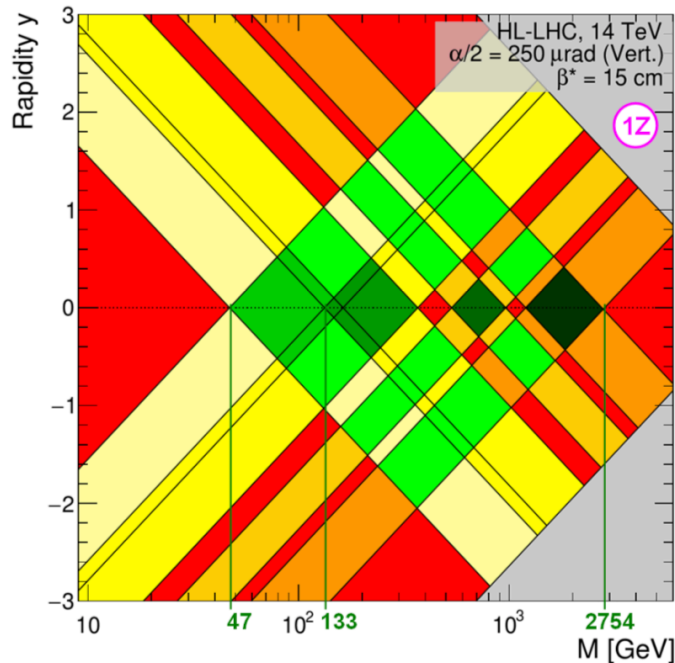


# PPS at HL-LHC

CERN-CMS-NOTE-2020-008

## Plan for an upgraded PPS detector at HL-LHC

- 4 possible locations in the HL-LHC tunnel
  - Roman Pots at 196, 220, 234m (+420m) from IP
- Fluence at  $\sim 1.5 \times 10^{16} \text{p cm}^{-2}$  ( $\sim 6 \times 10^{15} \text{n}_{\text{eq}} \text{cm}^{-2}$ )



Significantly larger acceptance than in Run2/3

# PPS at HL-LHC

- Synergies with central CMS upgrades
- PPS pixel tracking detectors already aligned with Phase-II tracker upgrade
- Several options for timing detectors: diamonds, LGAD (as in MTD-ETL)

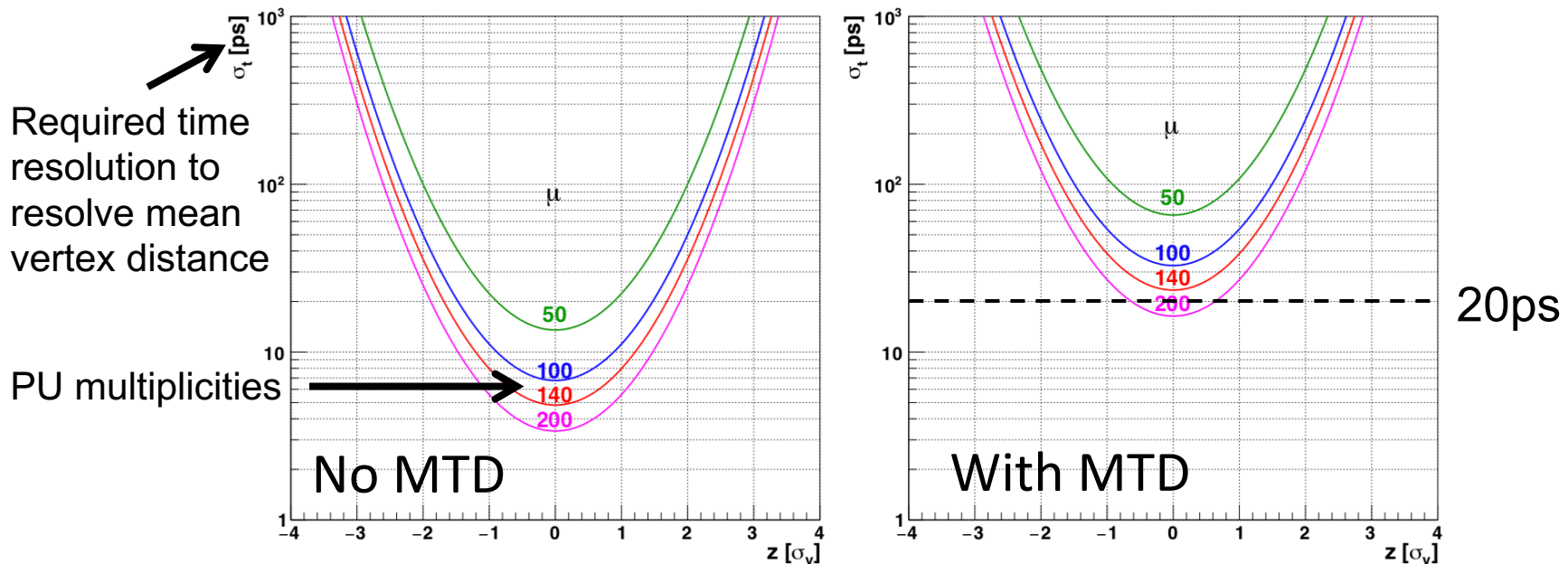


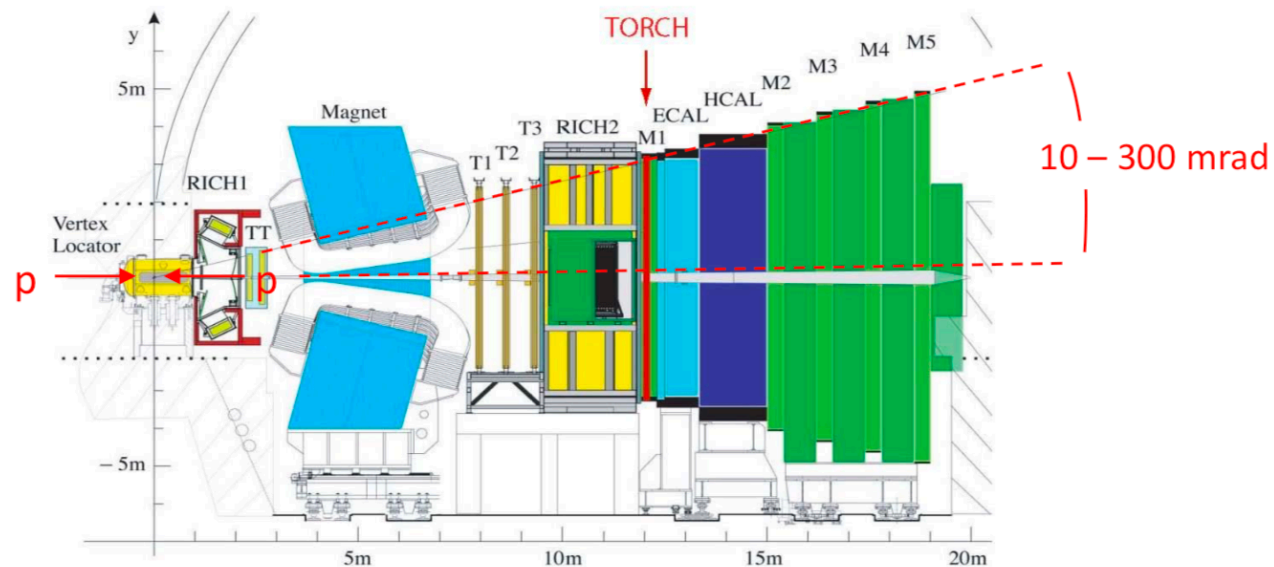
Figure 47: Time resolution required per spectrometer arm to resolve the mean vertex distance at a position  $z$  (in units of the longitudinal vertex width  $\sigma_v$ ) from the IP centre. Four different pileup multiplicities are shown:  $\mu = 50$  (LHC Run 2), 100, 140 (nominal HL-LHC performance), and 200 (ultimate HL-LHC performance). Left: for standalone PPS timing. Right: combining the PPS timing with the MTD system, selecting a time-slice of  $\pm 50$  ps around the central bunch crossing time.

# TORCH @ LHCb

- Precise ToF measurement over a large area ( $\sim 30\text{m}^2$ )
  - Time Of internally Reflected Cherenkov (TORCH) light
  - Exploit prompt Cherenkov light produced by charged particles
  - Single photon rates  $>10\text{MHz}/\text{cm}^2$ , integrated charge  $>5\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$
- Particle ID ( $K-\pi$  separation) up to a momentum of  $10\text{GeV}$

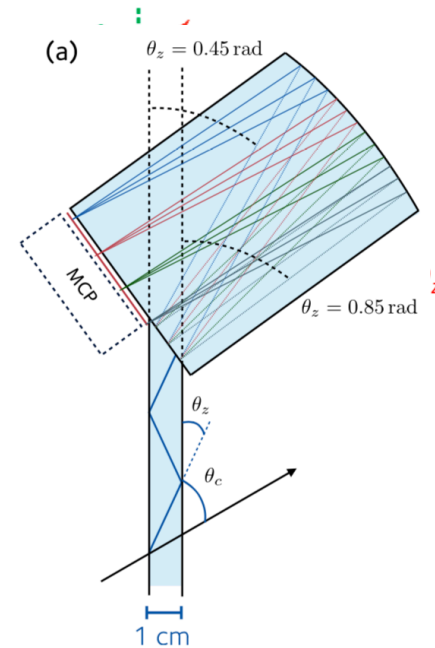
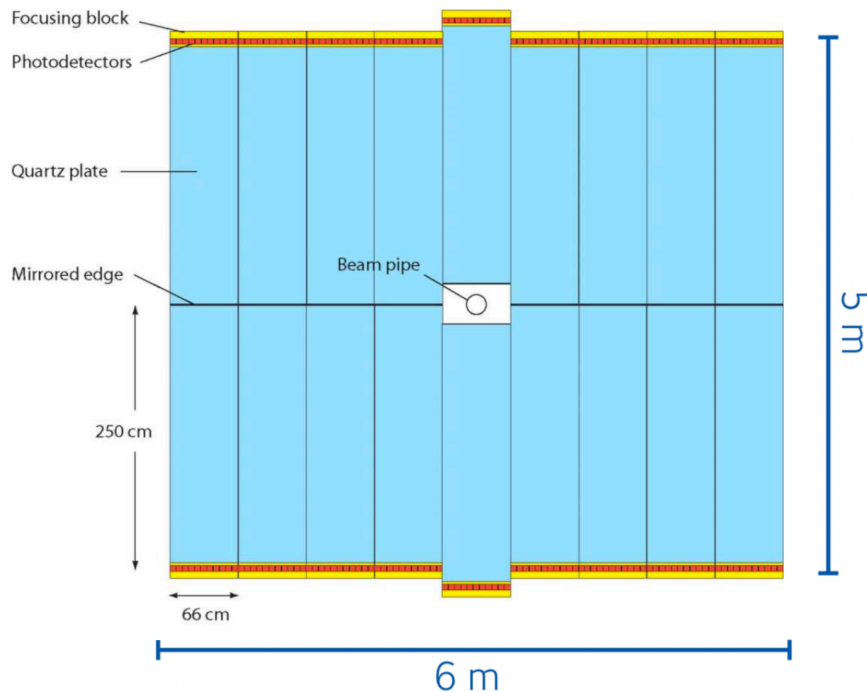
$\Delta\text{ToF}(K-\pi)\approx 40\text{ps}$  over  
10m at  $10\text{GeV}$

→ require  $\sigma_t\sim 10-15\text{ps}$



# TORCH design

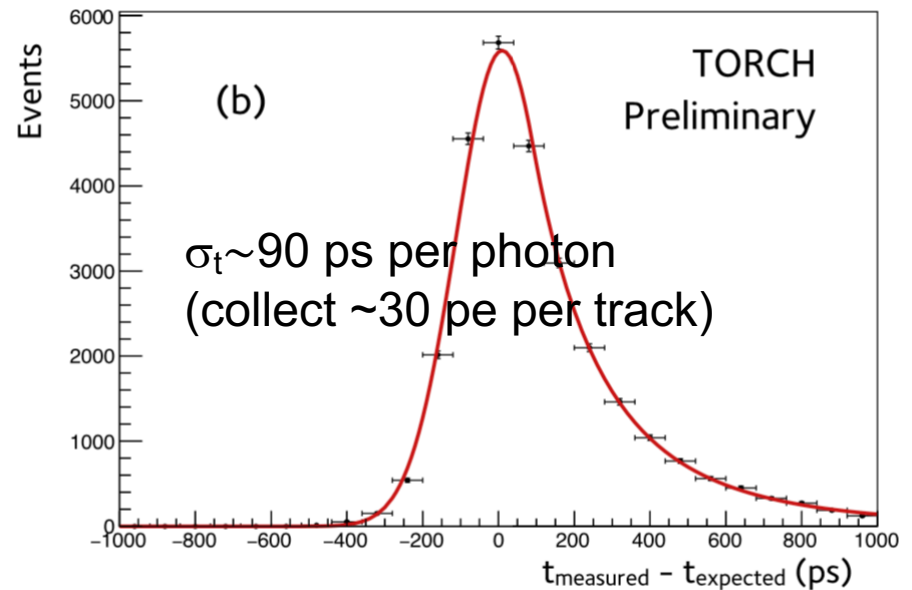
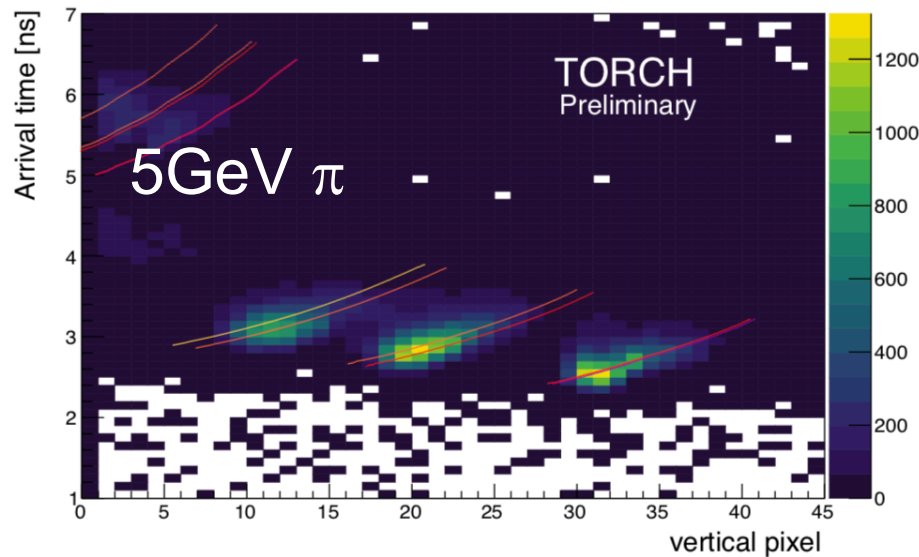
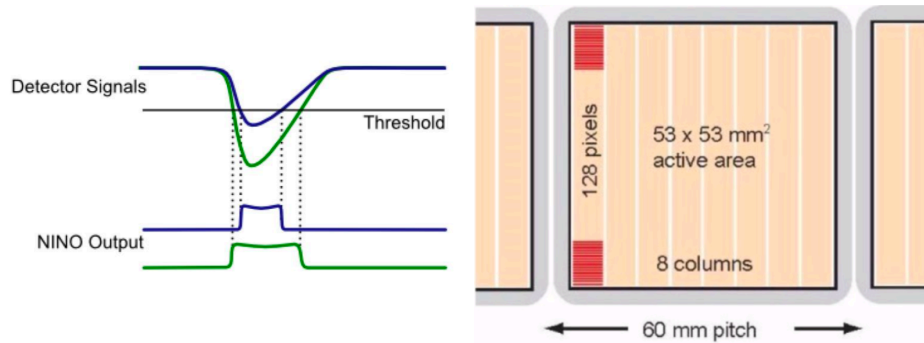
- How to achieve 10-15ps time resolution?
- Cherenkov light: use quartz as source of fast signal DIRC-style detector with photon detector near edge
- Quartz of 1cm thickness enough to produce  $\sim 30$  detected photons/track  
→ require 70ps resolution/photon
- Spread arrival time due to different paths → need fine segmentation



# TORCH performance

NIMA 952(2020)161692

- MicroChannel Plate (MCP) photon detectors
  - spatial resolution 6mmx0.4mm
  - ALD extends lifetime  $>5C/cm^2$
- Approx 200k channels
- Readout NINO+HPTDC

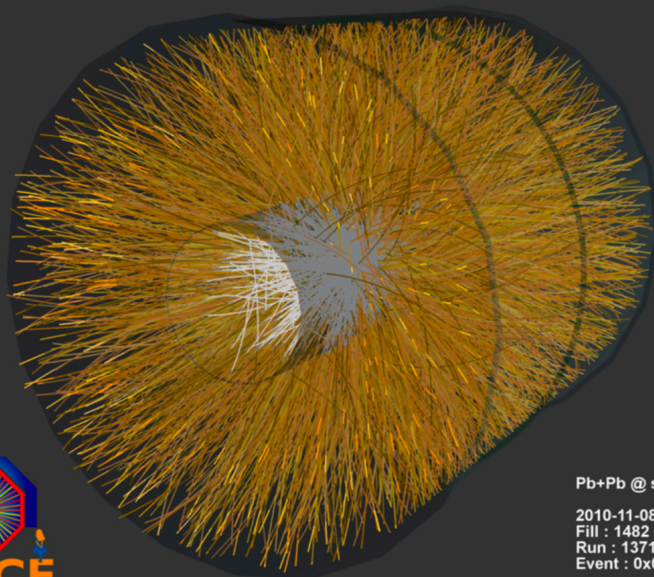


# Particle ID at ALICE

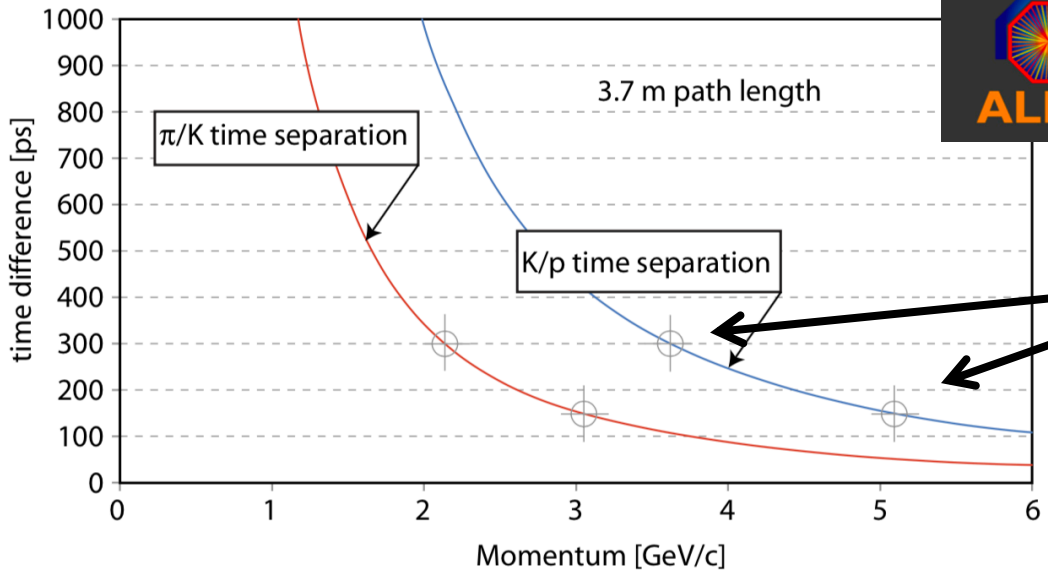
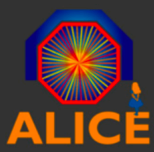
JINST 14(2019)C06023, J.Phys.G 39 (2012) 123001

- Measure velocity (ToF) and  $p$  (tracking)  $\rightarrow$  mass
- High multiplicities expected
  - highly segmented ToF array
  - operate in magnetic field
  - reasonable cost
  - low amount of material

[See presentation by R.Preghe](#)



Pb+Pb @  $\sqrt{s} = 2.76$  ATeV  
2010-11-08 11:30:46  
Fill : 1482  
Run : 137124  
Event : 0x00000000D3BBE693

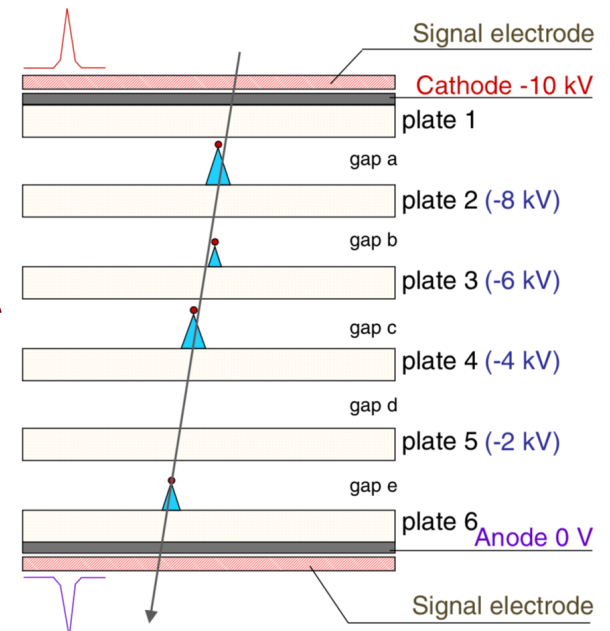
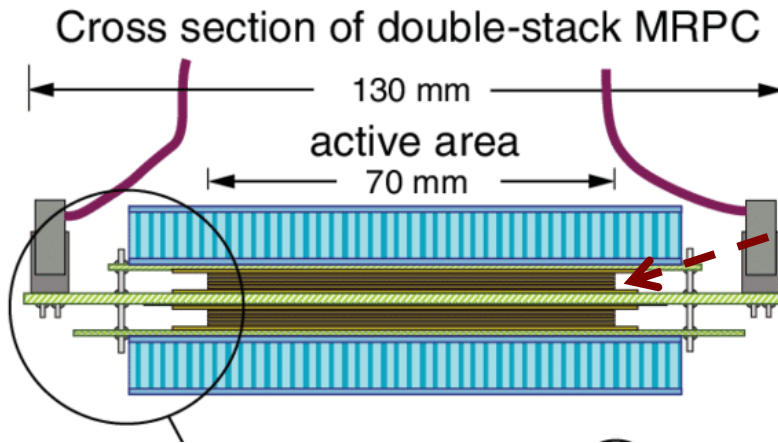
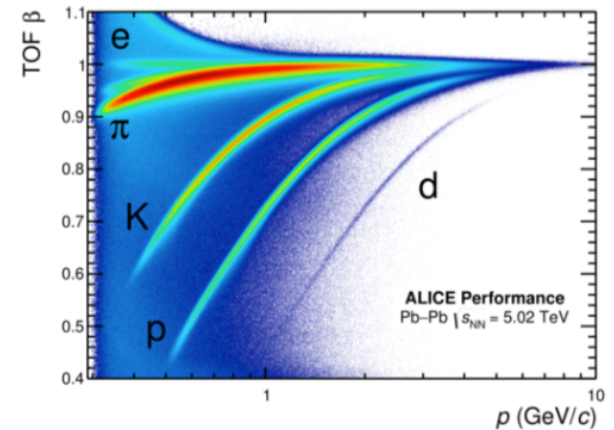


need time resolution of 100ps or 50ps



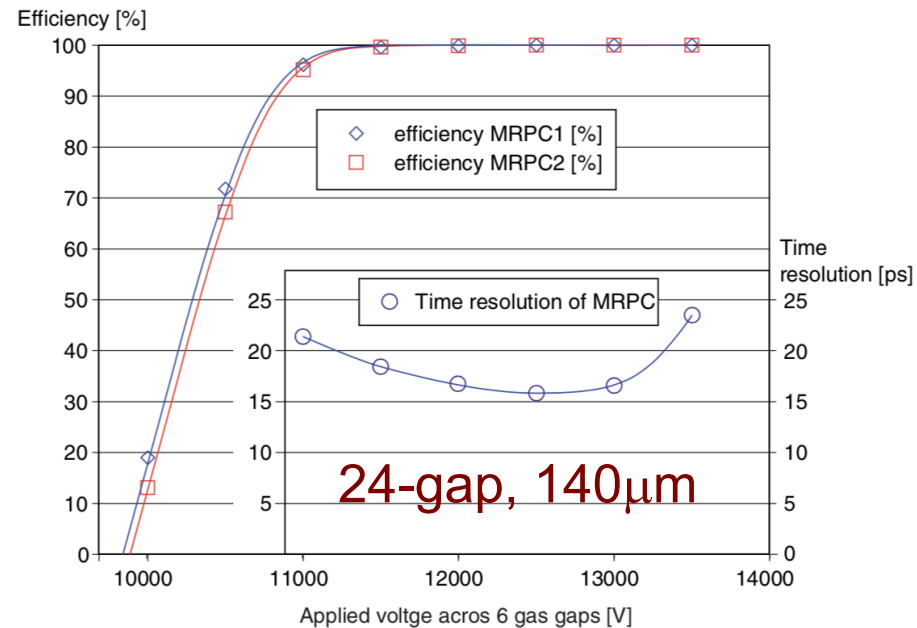
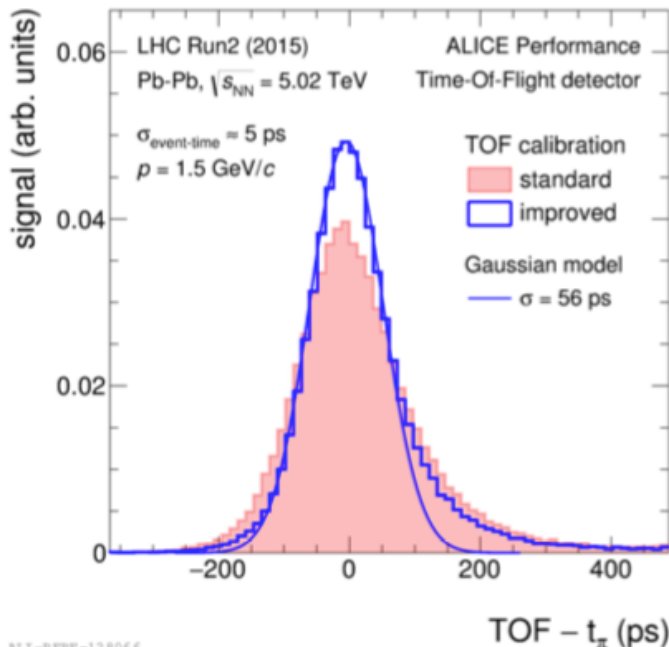
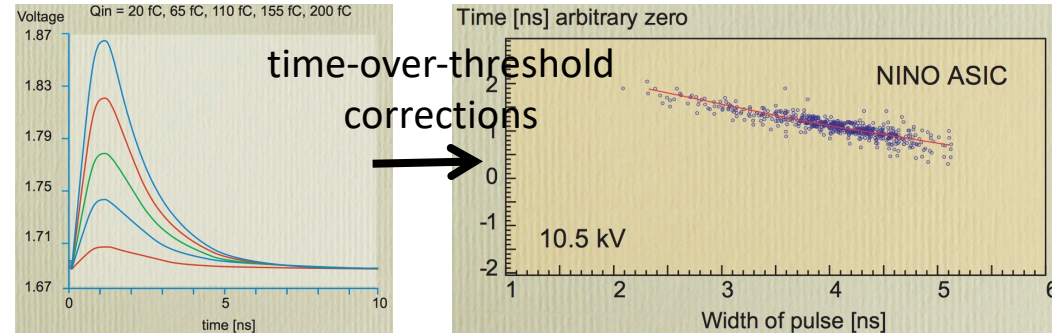
# ALICE ToF

- PID: combination of ToF and  $dE/dx$
- Multigap RPC (MRPC)
  - Many small gaps so that avalanches grow rapidly and detectable signals are generated
  - **small gaps (250 $\mu\text{m}$ ) give better timing**
  - space-charge effects inhibit the growth of avalanches
- Approx 150k channels



# ALICE ToF performance

- 10-gap MRPC
  - $\sigma_t \sim 60\text{ps}$  @  $500\text{Hz}/\text{cm}^2$
  - Efficiency  $\sim 100\%$
- For HL-LHC, 20-gap MRPC
  - Aim for  $\sim 20\text{ps}$  at  $50\text{kHz}/\text{cm}^2$





# ToF @ SHiP

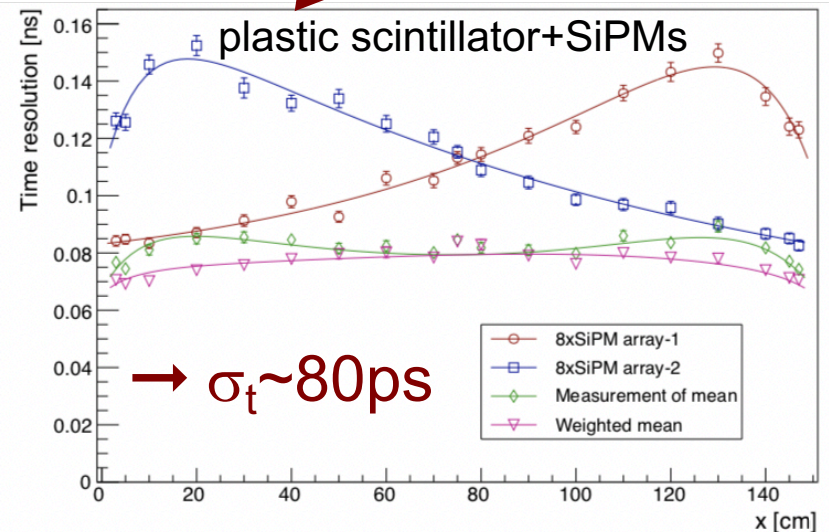
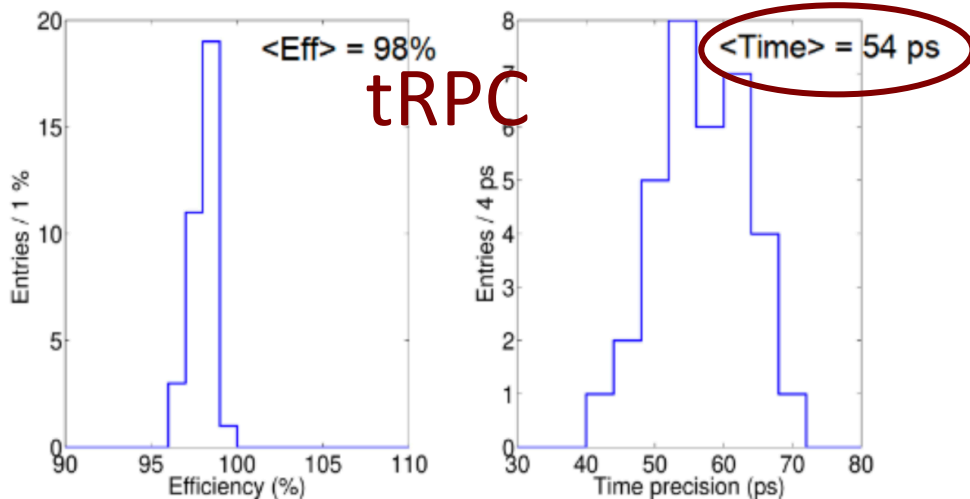
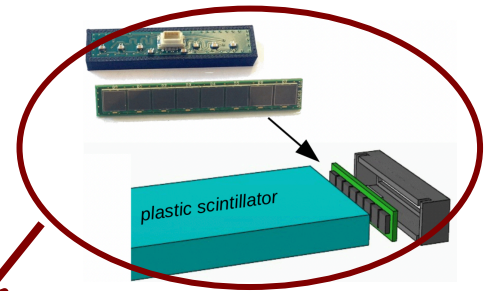
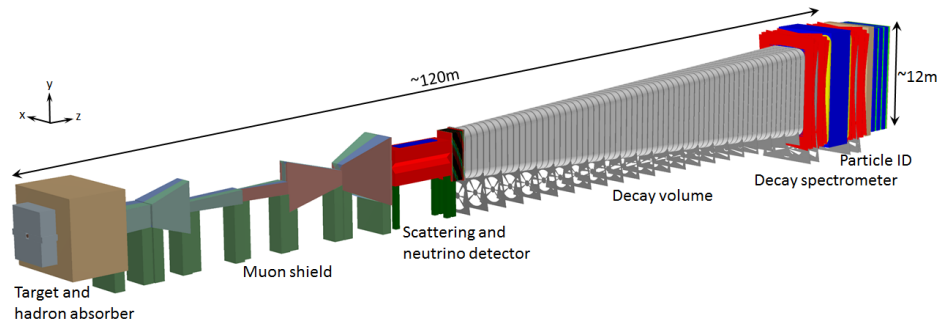
arXiv:1504.04956, CERN-SPSC-2019-010

## SHiP: Search for Hidden Particles

- Long-lived exotic particles, rare decays

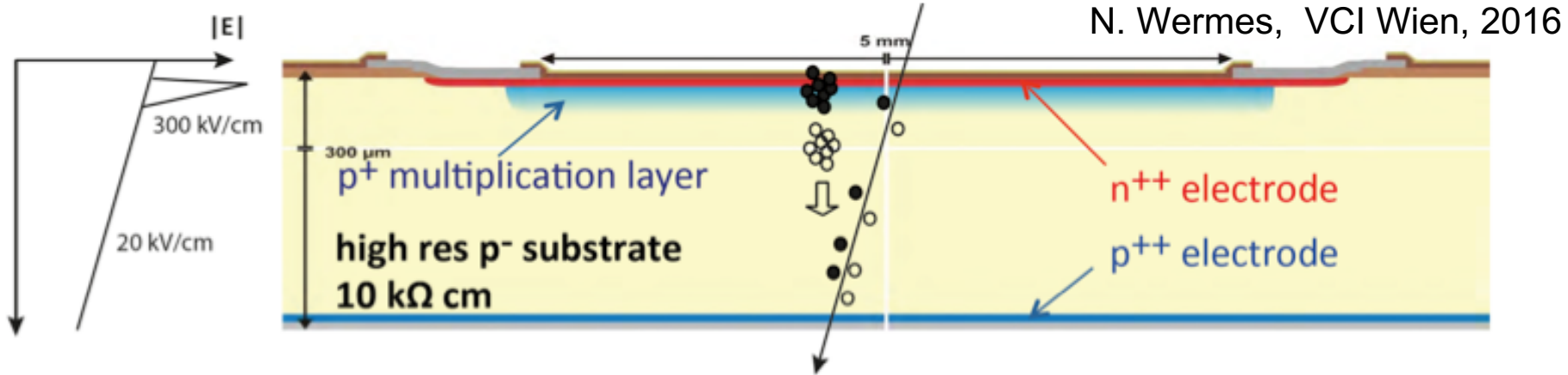
## Two ToF options (~50m<sup>2</sup>):

- **Scintillator bars read by SiPM arrays**
  - 1.7m bars, 6cmx1cm, 1.1k ch.
- **Alternative option: timing RPCs (tRPC)**
  - Sensitive module inside plastic box
  - Multi-gap RPC (12 gaps, 300 $\mu$ m)
  - Test beam shows high efficiency,  $\sigma_t \sim 54$ ps



# Fast timing with Si detectors

- How to reach “10ps range” with Si detectors
- Exploit “in-silicon” charge amplification
  - Geiger mode (as in gas RPC)
  - Linear mode (Low Gain Avalanche Detectors)

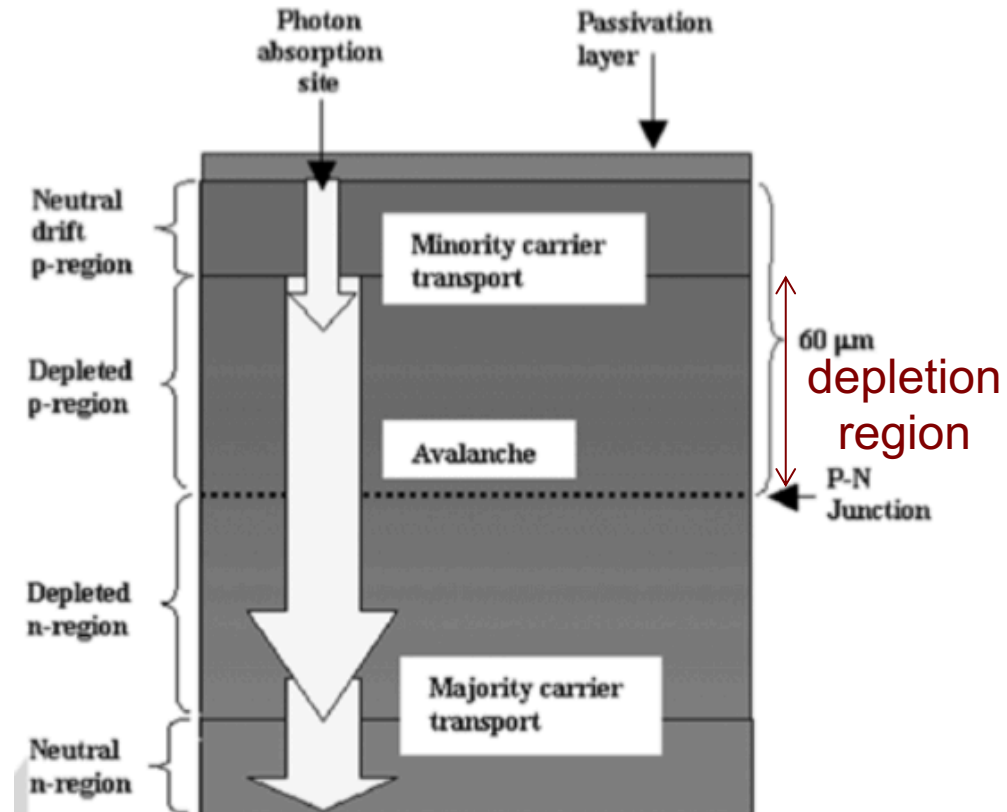


- Separate collection of charge from signal gain
- Fast drift, large signals, low noise
  - Collect electrons fast  $\Rightarrow$  thin
  - Large signals  $\Rightarrow$  amplified holes
  - Small C, small  $i_{\text{leak}}$ , low noise  $\Rightarrow$  small electrodes

# Low-gain vs high-gain

## Options for avalanche diodes

- Different amplification approaches
- “thin” layer: a few  $\mu\text{m}$  of depleted region
  - **Small gain** region near the surface (longer drift)
- “deep-depleted”: depletion region  $\sim 40\mu\text{m}$ 
  - **High-gain** region deeper
  - shorter drift



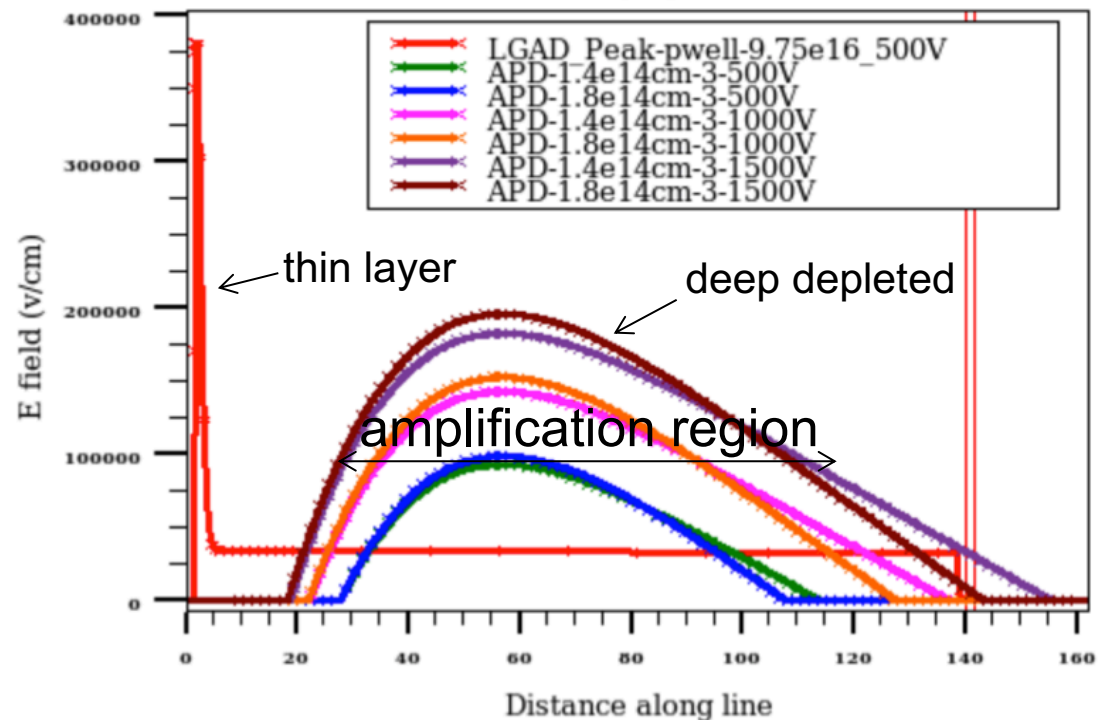
# Low-gain vs high-gain

## Options for avalanche diodes

- Different amplification approaches
- “thin” layer: a few  $\mu\text{m}$  of depleted region
  - **Small gain** region near the surface (longer drift)
- “deep-depleted”: depletion region  $\sim 40\mu\text{m}$ 
  - **High-gain** region deeper
  - shorter drift

## Electric field

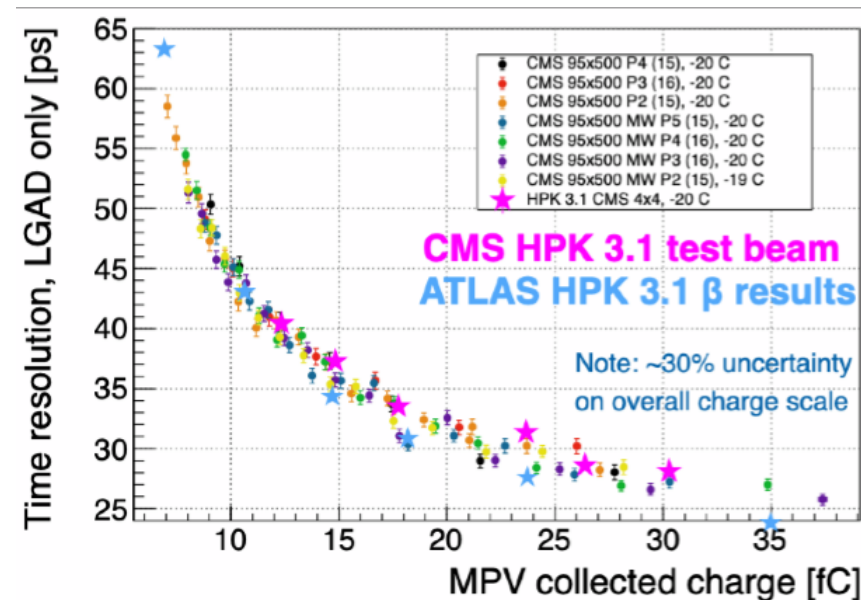
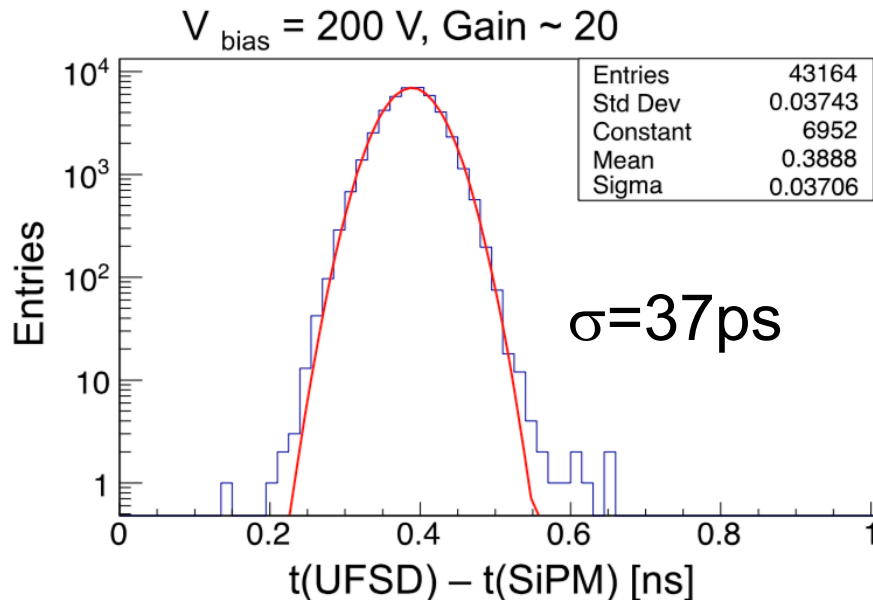
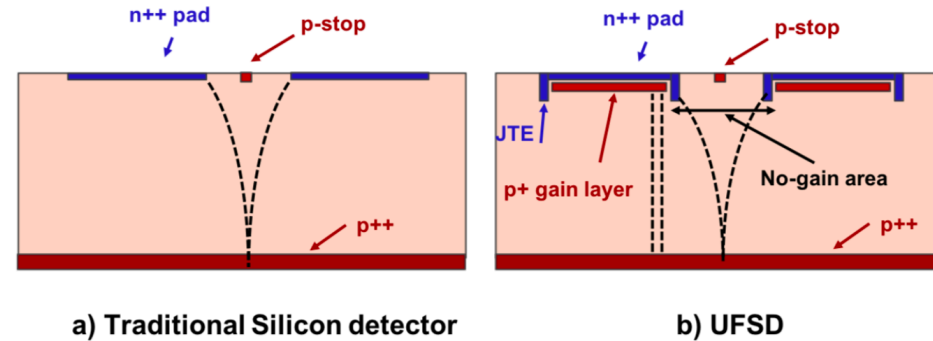
E field comparison for APD and LGAD (140 $\mu\text{m}$  thick)  
APD=200 $\mu\text{m}$  thick, bulk doping  $1.4 \times 10^{14}$  and  $1.8 \times 10^{14} \text{cm}^{-3}$ ,



# LGAD

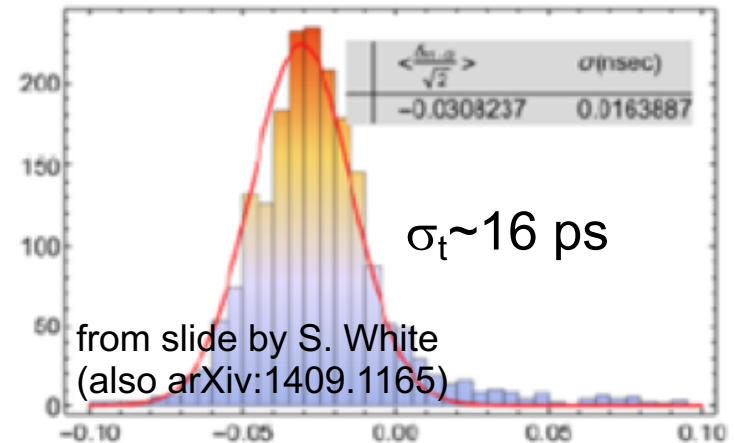
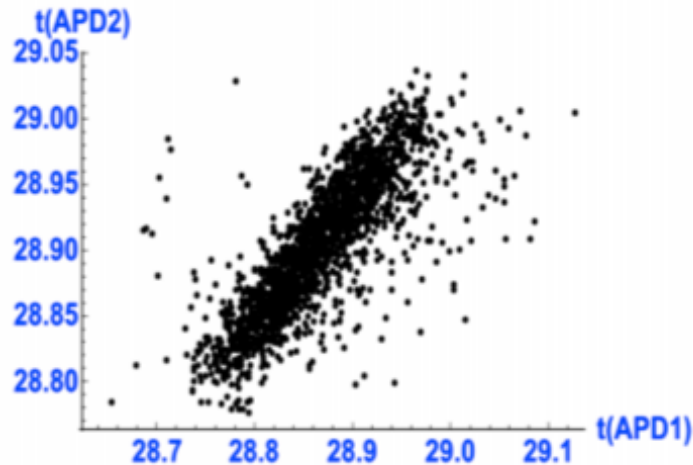
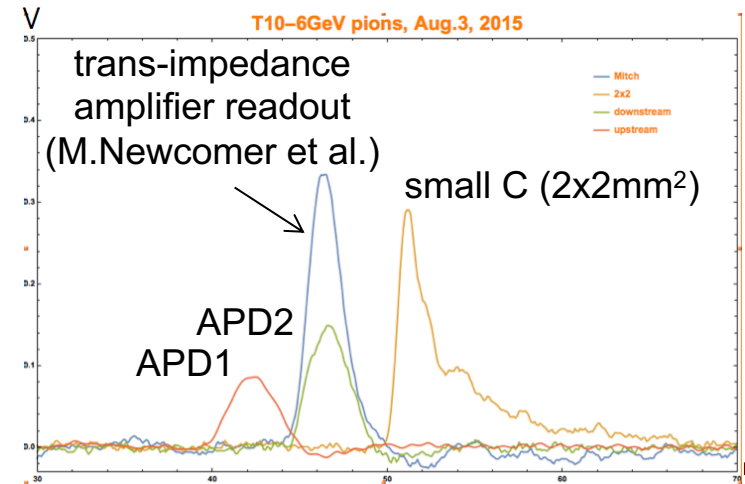
NIMA 850(2017)83

- MTD: two layers of Si sensors  $1.6 < |\eta| < 3.0$
- Fast timing from Si with thin depletion region,  $\sim 50\mu\text{m}$  to reduce drift time
  - fast signal  $\sim 0.5\text{ns}$
  - internal gain  $O(x10-30)$



# APD: Silicon Detectors

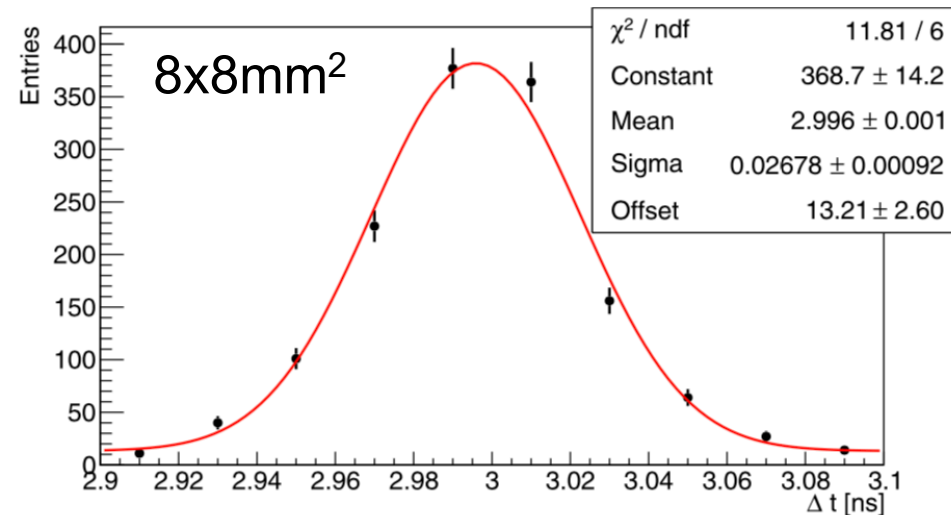
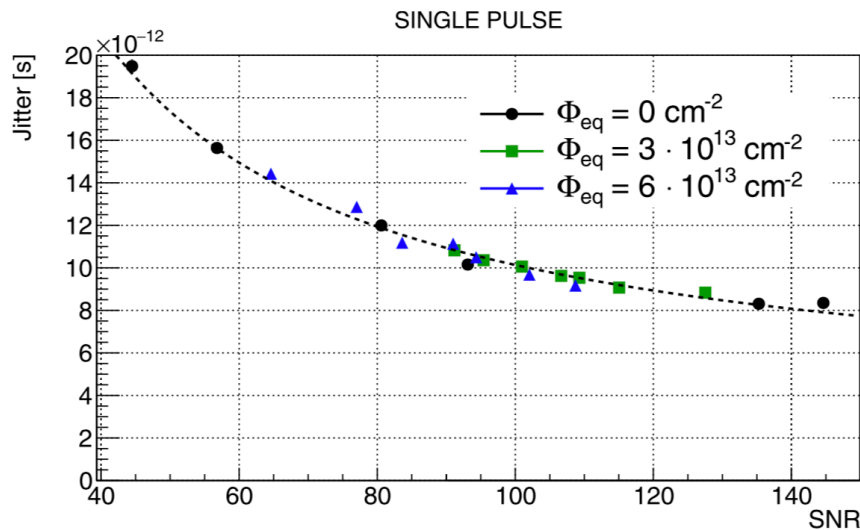
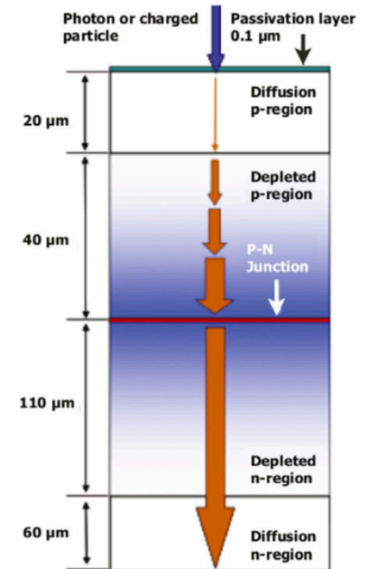
- Si sensors with amplification
  - Sensitivity to MIP in Si devices with internal amplification
- R&D on high gain APDs with field shaping to achieve fast timing
  - high gain devices ( $G \sim 500$ )
  - “deep-depleted” technology
- Large  $S/N \sim 100$



# APD: Silicon Detectors

NIMA 949(2020)162930

- Si sensors with amplification
  - Sensitivity to MIP in Si devices with internal amplification
- R&D on high gain APDs with field shaping to achieve fast timing
  - high gain devices ( $G \sim 500$ )
  - “deep-depleted” technology
- Large  $S/N \sim 100$

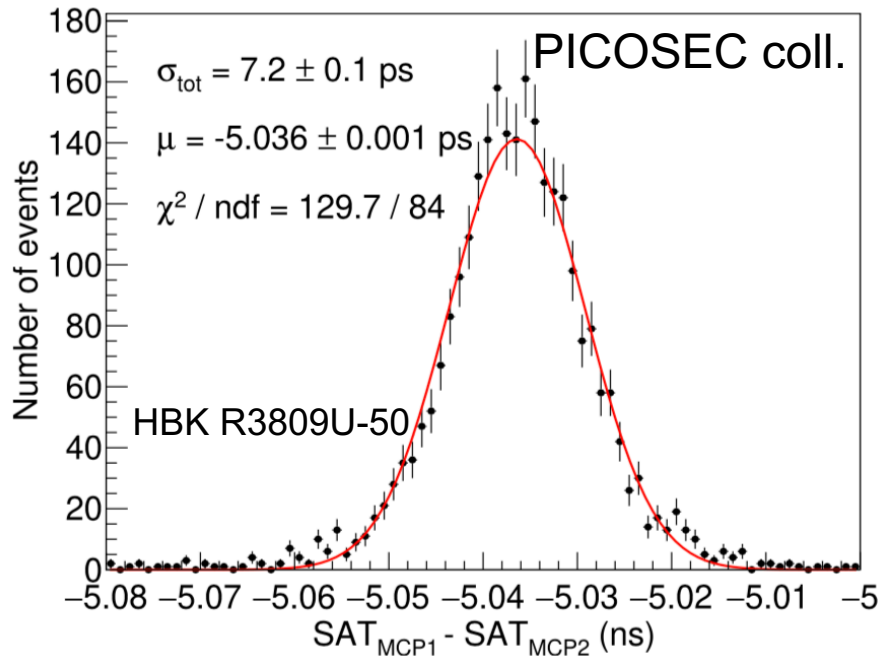




# MCP PMT

NIMA 960(2020)163592

- Microchannel Plates can achieve best time resolution
- Better than 10ps in test beam



$$\sigma_{\text{tot}} = \sqrt{\sigma_{\text{MCP1}}^2 + \sigma_{\text{MCP2}}^2 + \sigma_{\text{DAQ}}^2}$$

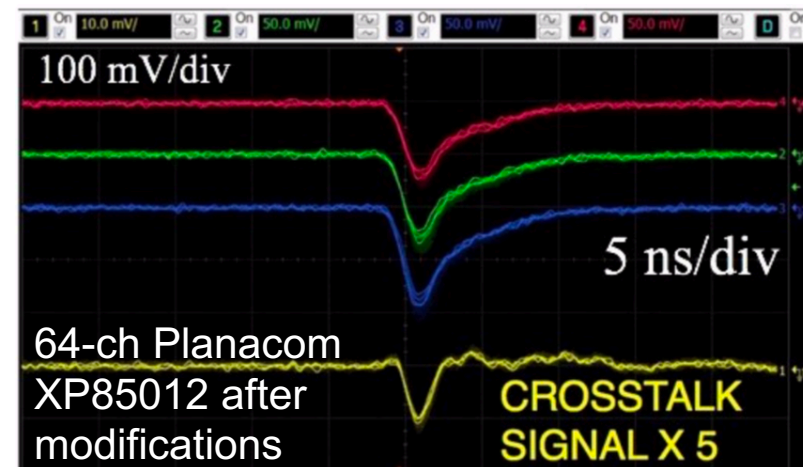
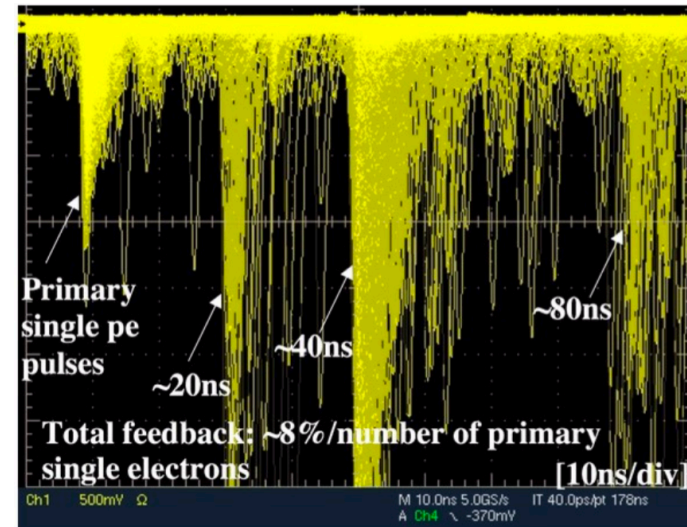
Gain	$N_{pe}$	total charge (electrons)	electronics resolution	final resolution	MCP type
$\sim 2 \times 10^6$	$\sim 70$	$1.4 \times 10^8$	4.1 ps	6.2 ps	HBK R3809U-59-11
$\sim 1 \times 10^6$	$\sim 80$	$8 \times 10^7$	2.0 ps	6.8 ps	PHOTEK 240
$\sim 8 \times 10^4$	$\sim 44$	$3 - 4 \times 10^6$	2.2 ps	$< 7.2 \text{ ps}$	HBK R3809U-50



# MCP: Challenges

JPhys 1498(2020)012013

- S/N ratio crucial to time resolution
- Large total charge may cause large after-pulsing rates (due to ion-feedback)
  - **After-pulses** get worse at higher gain
- Multi-channel MCPs
  - **Cross-talk** btw pixels, charge sharing, ringing effects
- Problems relevant for use in experiments operating at high rates



# PICOSEC Micromegas

NIMA 903(2018)317

- Cerenkov radiator+Micromegas

- photoelectrons emitted simultaneously by the photocathode
- CsI photocathode on a thick 3mm MgF<sub>2</sub> window

Cherenkov Radiator

1-5 mm

Photocathode

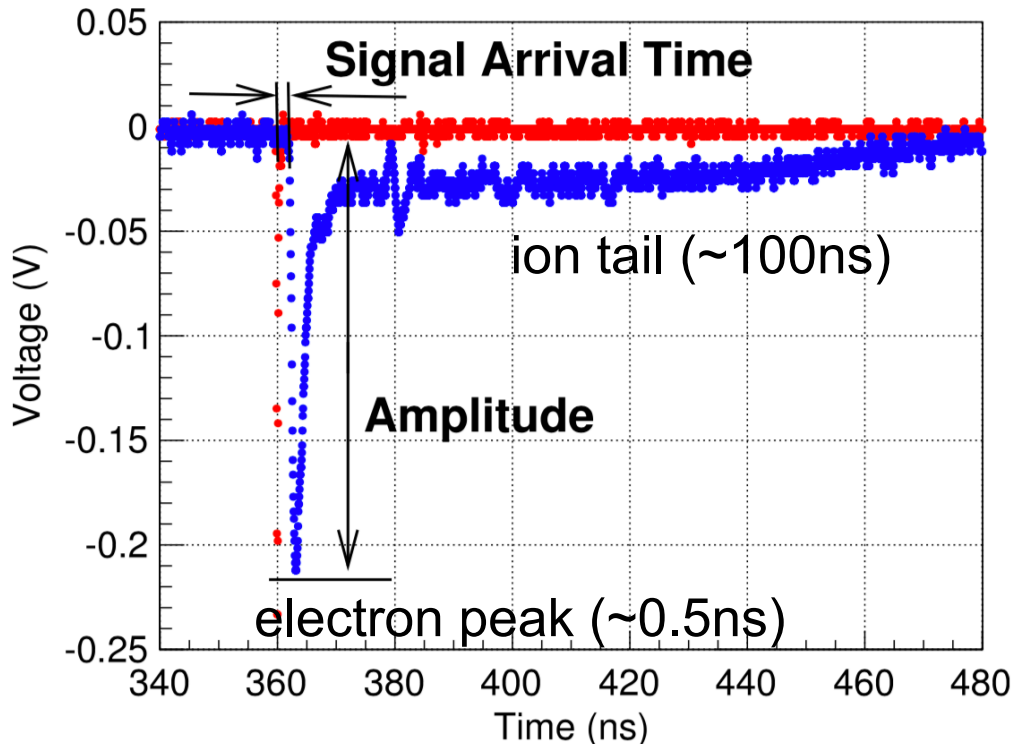
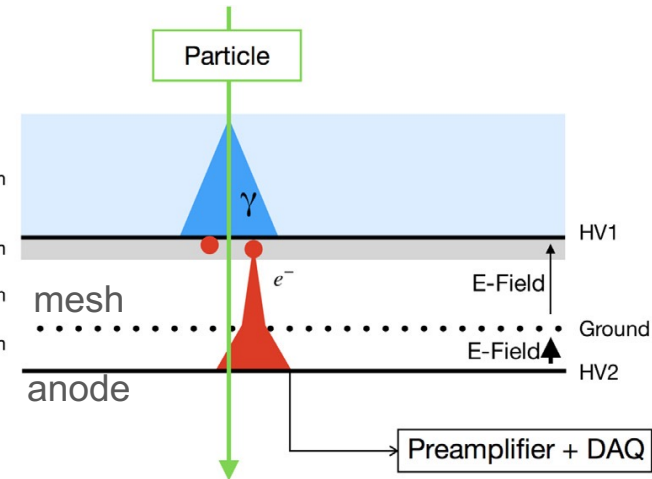
8-30 nm

Drift

100-300 μm

Amplification

50-150 μm



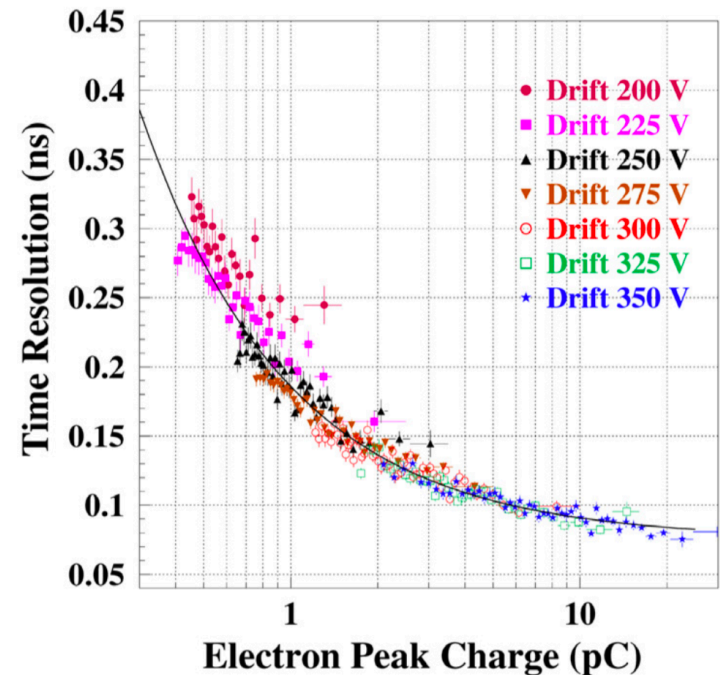
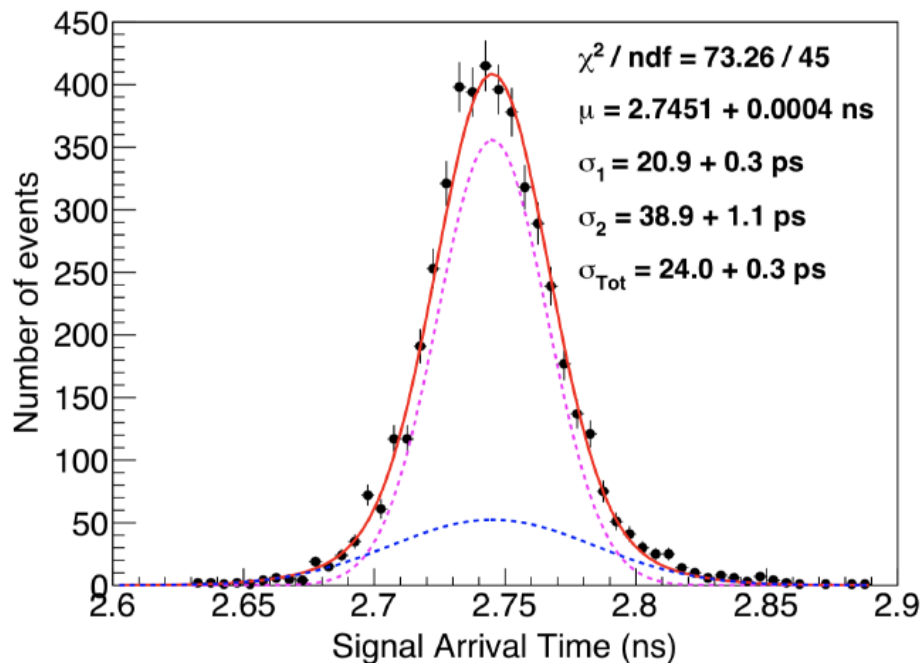
Two component signal: e-peak + ion-tail

- Cerenkov radiator to produce synchronous photons
- Short drift to reduce jitter

# PICOSEC Micromegas (cont.)

NIMA 903(2018)317

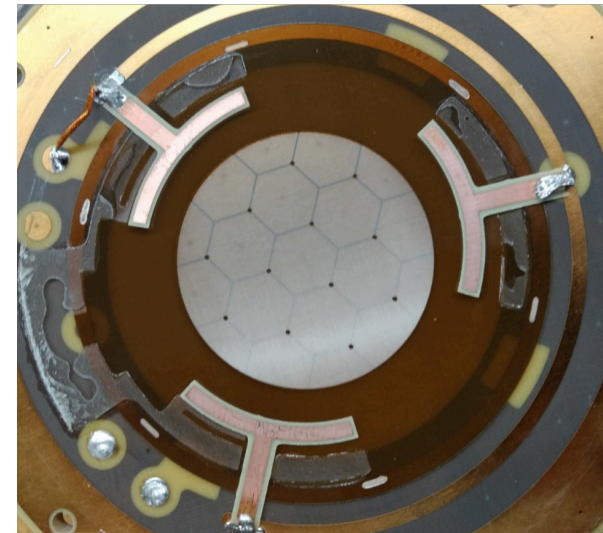
- Fast MCP used as  $t_0$  reference ( $<10\text{ps}$  resolution)
- $\sigma_t \sim 24\text{ps}$  with  $150\text{GeV}$  muons,  $76\text{ps}$  with single pe in laser tests ( $N_{pe} \sim 10$ )
- Time resolution **improves with higher drift field**



# Further developments

NIMA 903(2018)317

- **Resistive readout:** employ resistive strips to limit effect of discharges
- **Multipad readout:** achieved  $\sigma_t \sim 32\text{ps}$  for signal shared on 3 pads
- **Photocathode lifetime:** against discharges and ion feedback to increase photocathode lifetime. Different materials and protective layers under study

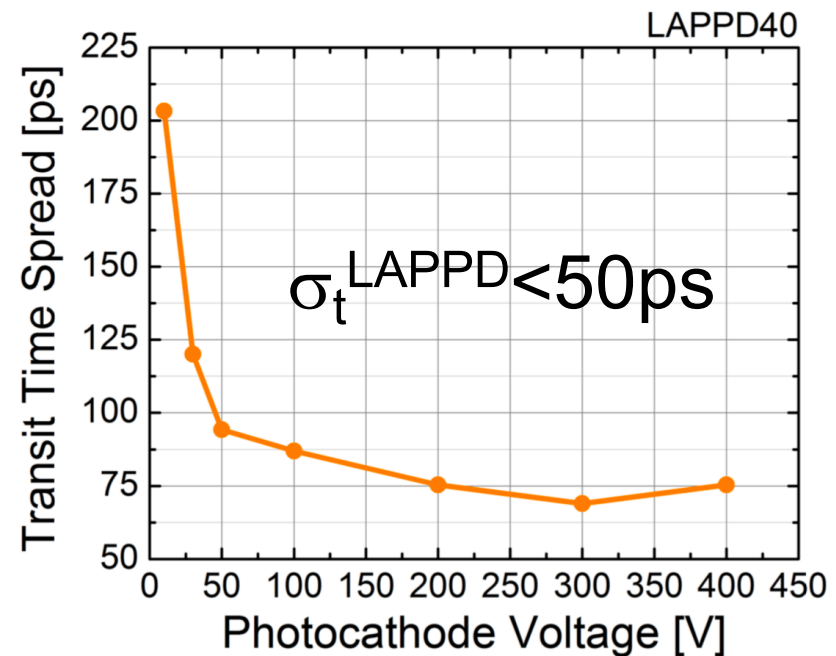
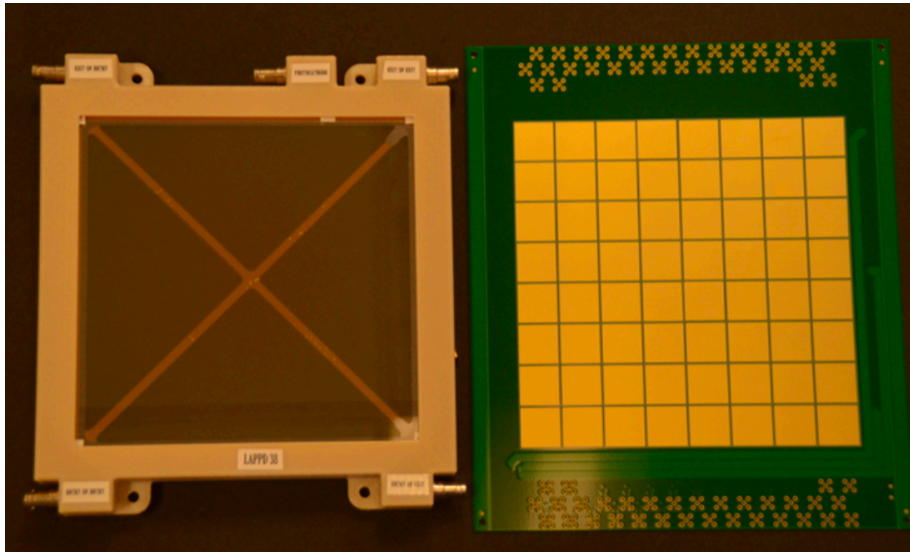


[See presentation by A. Utrobicic](#)

# LAPPD: Large areas

arXiv:1603.01843, arXiv:1909.10399

- Large Area Picosecond Photo Detectors
- MCP based on planar geometry photodetector
- Design of 20x20cm<sup>2</sup> modules, gain >10<sup>7</sup>, non-uniformity <15%, time resolution <50ps for single photons, spatial resolution 700μm





# Fast timing at 20-30ps

- Good progress in small single-pixel devices
- More difficult in larger systems

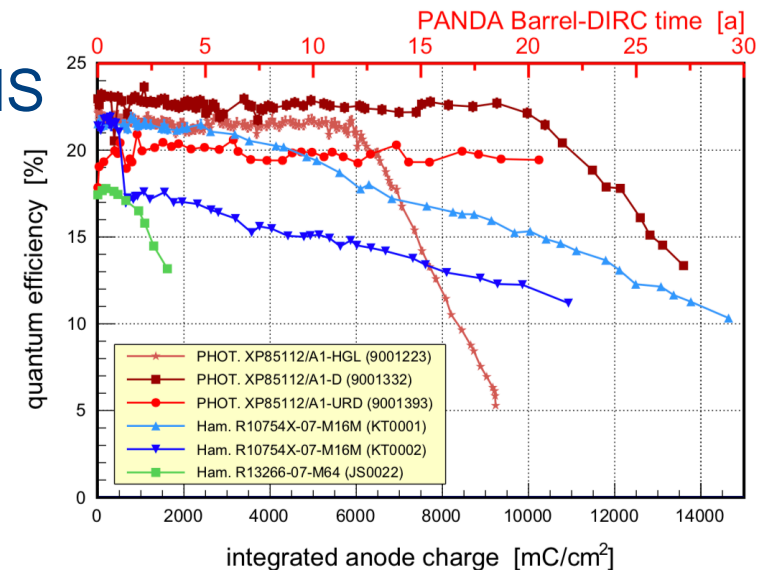
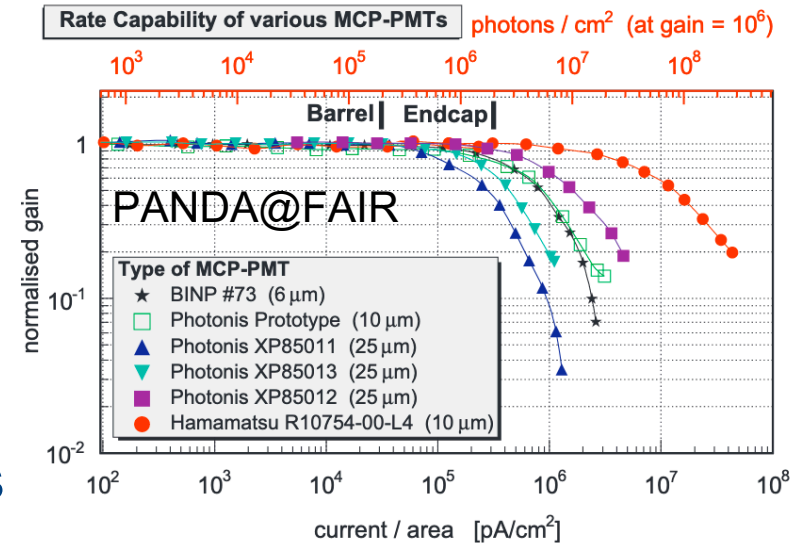
$$\sigma_{time} \sim t_{risetime} / (S/N)$$

- Possible to obtain a good time resolution with **large S/N ratio**
  - for  $t_{risetime} = 200\text{ps}$  → need  $S/N \sim 10$  to get to 20ps
  - for slower risetime  $\sim 2\text{ns}$ , need  $S/N \sim 100$
- Many other effects also contribute (electronics, chromatic effects, #of pe, transit time, reference  $t_0$ , stability of clock system, etc)

# Time resolution, rates, aging

NIMA 939(2011)144, NIMA 876(2017)42

- MCPs currently provide best time resolution
- Micromegas gas detectors can reach 24ps
- **High rates:** Stable operation with MCPs to 200-300kHz/cm<sup>2</sup>
- **Aging:** Expected radiation at ATLAS/CMS is challenging ( $\sim 4 \times 10^{15}$  n<sub>eq</sub>/cm<sup>2</sup> and  $\sim 4$ MGy=400MRads)
- **Large areas, complex systems:** current tests w/ few pixels, small, less complex



# Summary

- ToF measurements are key to particle ID
- Precise time determination
- Vast progress in many areas
  - Synchronous signal, high gain, thin drift, etc.
  - Across different technologies
- Several challenges (aging, rates, large areas, etc.)
- Average distance between vertices at  $z=0$ :
  - 1mm for HL-LHC (140 pileup)
  - 125 $\mu\text{m}$  for FCC-hh (1000 pileup)



# Thank you!

## Questions?

Many thanks to Eraldo Oliveri for  
useful discussions and various inputs

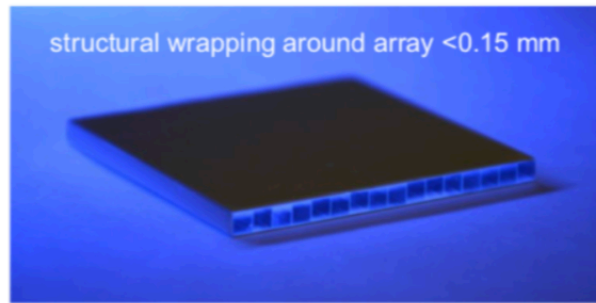
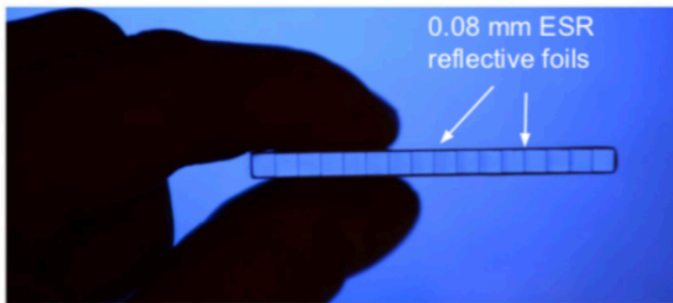
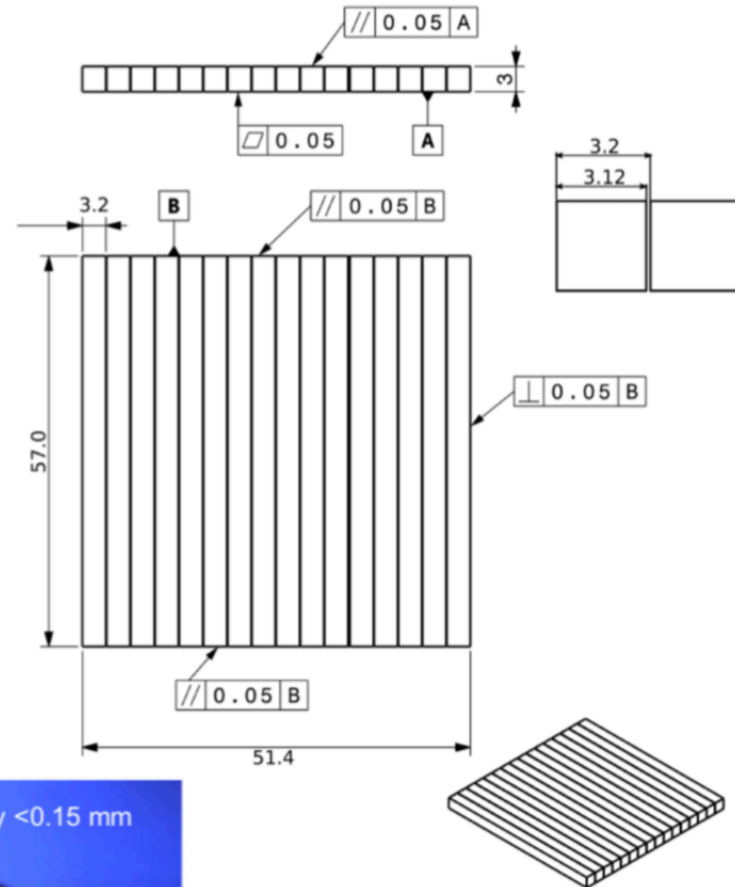
# backup



# LYSO crystals

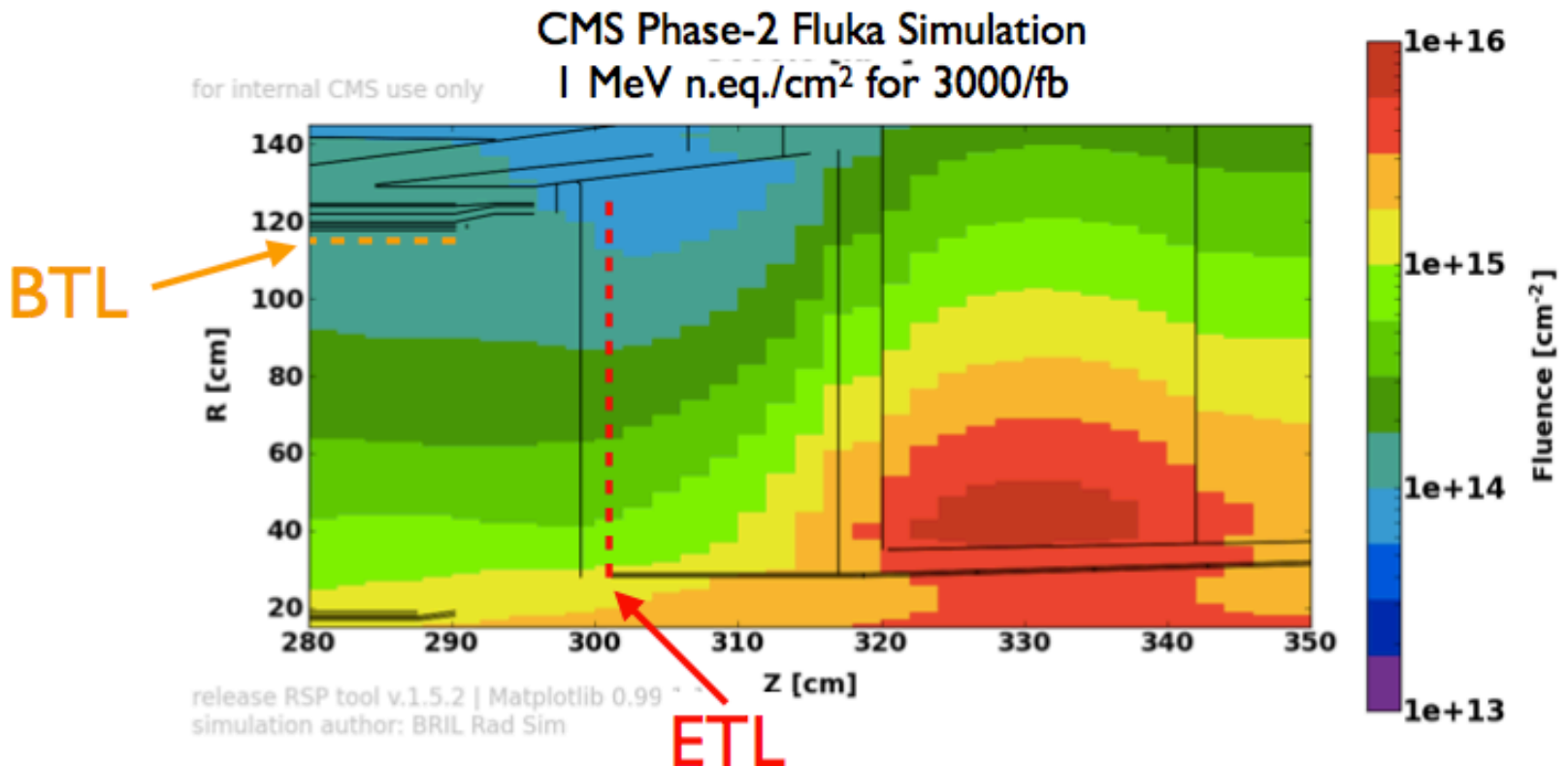
- **Lutetium-yttrium orthosilicate crystals activated with cerium (LYSO:Ce) as scintillator**

- Excellent radiation tolerance
- Dense ( $>7.1 \text{ g/cm}^3$ ): a MIP deposits  $\sim 4.2 \text{ MeV}$  including impact angle ( $0.86 \text{ MeV/mm}$ )
- Bright: light yield (LY)  $\sim 40\text{k photons/MeV}$ .
- fast rise time  $100 \text{ ps}$  and decay time  $\sim 40 \text{ ns}$



# Radiation at HL-LHC

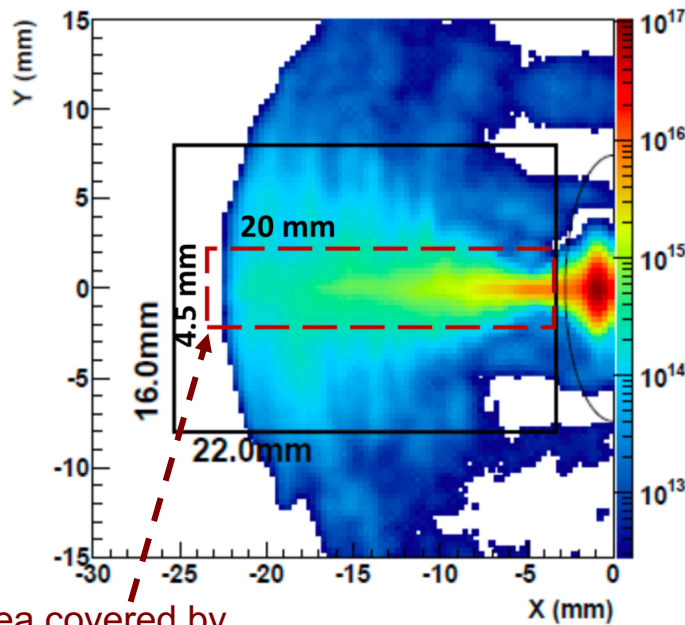
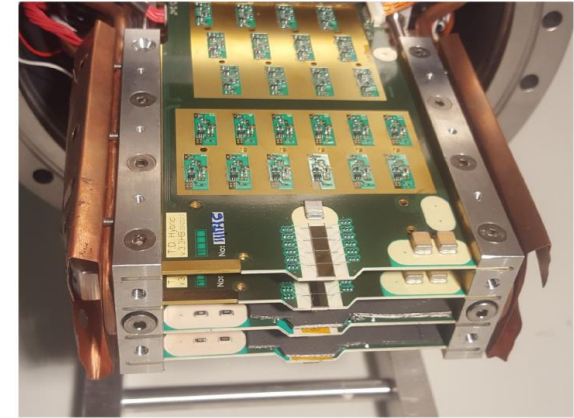
- Technology choices are driven by radiation and cost
  - BTL: LYSO + Silicon Photomultipliers (SiPM)
  - ETL: Low Gain Avalanche Detectors (LGAD)



# Diamonds@PPS: Test beam

CERN-CMS-NOTE-2020-007

- Single crystal scCVD diamond sensors operated during Run2
- Sensors exposed to highly non-uniform proton radiation, fluence  $\sim 5 \times 10^{15} \text{ p cm}^{-2}$  ( $\sim 2 \times 10^{15} \text{ n}_{\text{eq}} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ )
- Test beam in 2019



area covered by  
timing sensors

