



Silicon Detector R&D for the CSES missions and beyond

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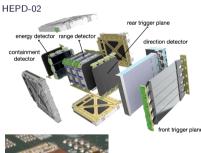
Particle Physics Seminar @ Uni Bonn, 23/10/2025

Outline

- 1. CSES-01 mission
 - Scientific objective
 - ► Main results of 7 years of operation
- 2. High Energy Particle Detector HEPD-02
 - Tracker based on MAPS
 - ► FM performance in testbeams
- 3. Next-generation astro-particle silicon detectors
 - Hybrid detector developments
 - ► ARCADIA project of INFN
 - CMOS LGADs
 - chip design for a gamma-ray telescope
- 4. Outlook







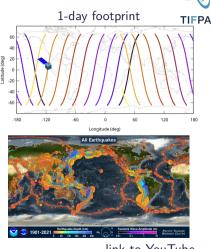
ARCADIA MD1

China Seismo Electromagnetic Satellite (CSES-01)



- CSES-01 launched 02/02/2018
- from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in the Gobi Desert (Inner Mongolia)
- sun-synchronous orbit
- ho \sim 500 km altitude
- ► Inclination 97°
- \sim 94 minutes period
- \sim 5 days return time
- ▶ Mission Life Span ≥5 years

main objective:
Detect Earthquakes from Space



link to YouTube

How can signal km below ground travel up to 500km?

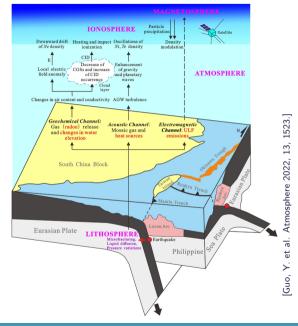
Lithosphere-Atmosphere-Ionosphere Coupling (LAIC)

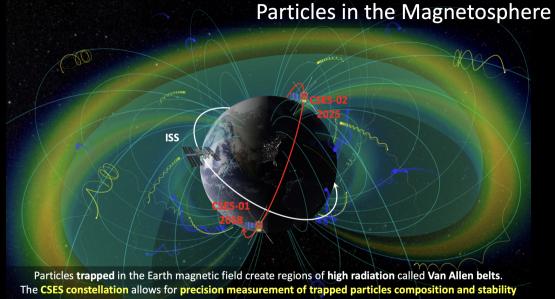
- air ionization from the alpha radioactivity of radon
- 2. EM waves from the cracks in the lithosphere
- 3. Acoustic Gravity waves (AGW)
- 4. chemical reactions or others...

single case evidence exists that atmospheric and ionospheric disturbances may precede some earthquakes

Proof via statistical study very complicated, because

- lithosphere / atmosphere highly irregular
- ionosphere very dynamic
- satellite observations non stationary



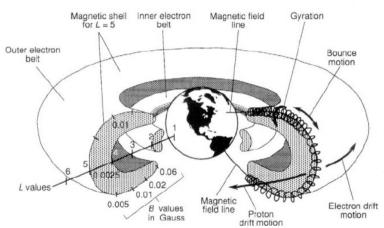


in the energy range from 100 KeV to 300 MeV complementing the current AMS-02 sensitivity > 500 MeV and the previous Pamela data > 50 MeV

Motion of charged particles in Earth magnetic field

originating from solar winds and cosmic rays





3 types of motion:

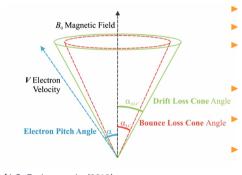
- Gyromotion along magnetic field lines
- Bouncing between mirror points
- 3. Longitudinal drift
 East-wards for negatively
 charged particles

Inner belt: $(1.5-2)R_E$ in L-shell, electrons < 1 MeV & protons > 100 MeV Outer belt: $(4-5)R_E$ in L-shell, electrons 100 keV - 10 MeV

 pitch angle (electron velocity vector and B field) at mirror point 90°

Pitch angle of trapped particles

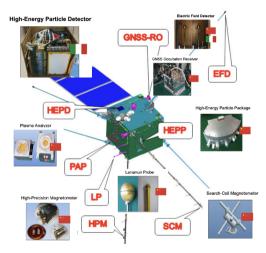




[J.C. Rodger et al., (2013) doi:10.1002/2013JA019439]

- pitch angle changes along the magnetic field line
- ightharpoonup locally trapped particle has a pitch angle of 90°
- trapped particles have a range of pitch angle at the geomagnetic equator from 90° down to the bounce loss cone angle, (α_{BLC})
 - pitch angles are generally referenced to the geomagnetic equator
 - particle whose pitch is smaller than α_{BLC} will mirror at altitudes below ${\sim}100\,{\rm km}$ \to lost through precipitation
- angular width of the BLC is dependent on the geomagnetic field strength
- particle with $\alpha_{BLC} < \alpha < \alpha_{DLC}$ drift around world (mirroring above atmosphere)

CSES-01 payloads



9 payloads onboard designed to target all possible propagation chains of LAIC

magn. field + EM waves

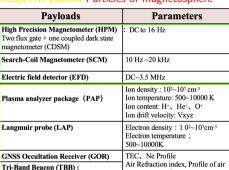
Three bands: 50/400/1066MHz

Italian Energetic particle detector

Energetic particle detector

(HEPP-H. L. X ray)

lonospheric plasma Particles of magnetosphere



temperature and pressure

Electron flux : ≥100keV Pitch angle : 5° HEPP-X : 0.9–35 keV

Proton flux: 30- 200 MeV

Electron: 3 - 100 Mev;

Ionospheric scintillation index

Proton flux: 1.5MeV ~ 200MeV

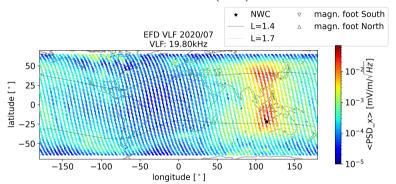
(HEPD)

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Terrestrial sources - radio transmitters -



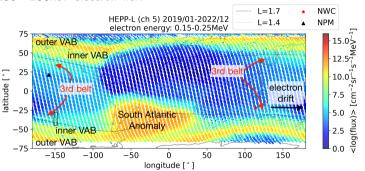
EM wave with Electric Field Detector (EFD)

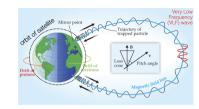


- Very Low Frequency (VLF) transmitter NWC (Australia) at 19.8kHz creates 3rd radiation belt
- Whistler waves in cyclotron resonance cause pitch angle and energy scattering of electrons → precipitate to lower L-shell → trapped and drift eastwards

Terrestrial sources – radio transmitters –

150 - 250keV electron flux

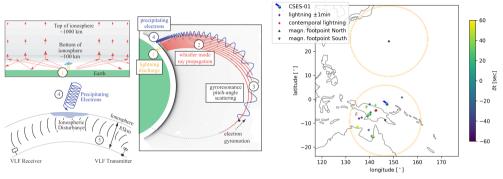




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Lighting-induced Electron Precipitation (LEP)



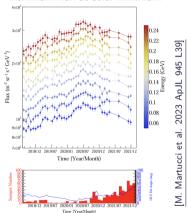


combination of wave and particle observations of CSES-01 \pm ground-based lightning database:

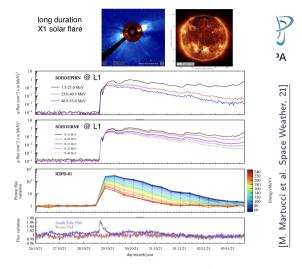
- 1. lightning strike
- 2. VLF wave $(1-10 \, \text{kHz})$ in 15° cone (possibly conjugate footpoint) in 0 to 200 ms
- 3. short electron burst within 0 to 9 seconds after
- → 2,311 LEP events in 4 years (publication in collaboration review)

Space Weather - proton flux -

Galactic cosmic ray proton modulation with Sun - maximum flux at solar minimum



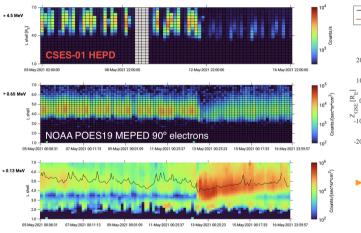
- selection galactic protons >50 MeV (L > 7)
- excluding high solar activity periods and solar energetic particle (SEP) events



- caused Ground Level Enhancement (showers detected by ground-based neutron monitors)
- ► HEPD-01 provides spectral information

Space Weather - geomagnetic storm -

On May 12, 2021, a Coronal Mass Ejection (CME)







 primary impact of the storm: rapid loss of relativistic electrons from the outer radiation belt (magnetospheric shadowing)

 $X_{GSE}[R_E]$

Before the IPs

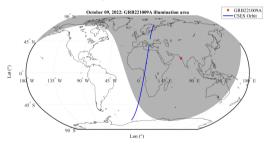
TS04 - Magnetospheric field line configuration

After the IPs

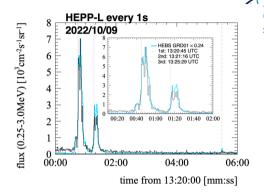
Brightest Of All Times (BOAT) Gamma Ray Burst (GRB)

October 9th 2022: GRB221009A

- a massive star undergoing a supernova
- photons with energies above 10 TeV
- ► HEPP-L measures electrons produced through photon absorption in surrounding passive materials → impressive agreement in time evolution



[Piersanti, M., et al. doi:10.1038/s41467-023-42551-5]

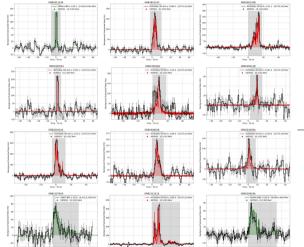


[R. Battiston et al. 2023 ApJL 946 L29]

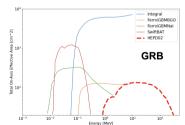
- PBs detected well above 3σ
- here example of lowest/highest energy bins

GRB detection with HEPD-01





- GRBs no target for CSES-01 mission TIFPA
- found 12 GRBs with HEPD rate meter (1st Scintillator trigger plane)
- ightharpoonup automated detection of GRBs above background modelled over \pm 16 days in 60s windows
- From 08/2018 to 06/2022
- ► HEPD-02 includes trigger configurations targeting GRBs



[F. Palma et al 2024 ApJ 960 21]

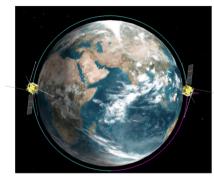
[S. Bartocci et al 2024 ApJ 976 239]

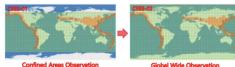
23/10/2025

CSES-02

TIFPA

- Launched June 14th. 2025
- Same DFH CAST-2000 platform of CSES-01 with some upgrades
- Earth oriented 3-axis stabilization system with orbit manoeuvre capability
- ➤ X-Band Data Transmission 120Mbps →150Mbps
- ightharpoonup Storage 160Gb ightarrow 512Gb
- ► Total Mass: 730kg → 900kg
- Peak Power Consumption: 900W
- Design Life-span: 5 years → 6 years
- Complementary Ground Track wrt CSES-01
- Identical Orbit Plane
- ► 180° Phase Difference
- ightharpoonup Track interval: $5^{\circ} \rightarrow 2.5^{\circ}$
- Return cycle: 5 days \rightarrow 2.5 days
- Operation mode: Full time operational

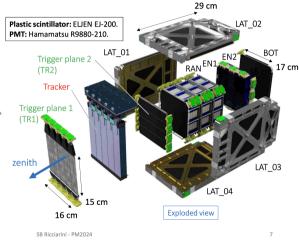




R. Iuppa @ CRIS-MAC13

The HFPD-02 instrument

- 1/5. Trigger detectors (TR1, TR2).
 - Plastic scintillators / PMTs: 2 planes,
 5+4 mutually orthogonal bars.
 - HEPD-01 had a single plane.
- · 2/5. Particle tracker.
 - Si Monolithic Active Pixel Sensors (MAPS): 3 planes in 5 adjacent "turrets".
 - <u>HEPD-01 had double-sided Si microstrips,</u>
 <u>2 planes.</u>
- TR1 and tracker tightly packed together, matching active area and segmentation.
 - Asymmetric wave-guide read-out on opposite ends of TR1 bar.
- TR1 thickness minimized to 2 mm (mechanically challenging).
 - This reduces multiple scattering before tracker and energy threshold for coincidence with TR2.

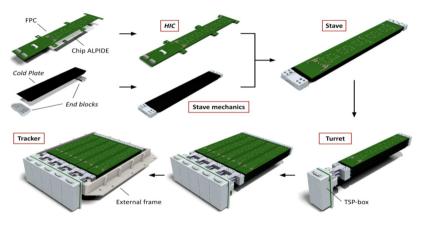


S. Bruno Ricciarini @ PISA2024

HEPD-02 tracker

a 80 megapixel CMOS camera for charged radiation





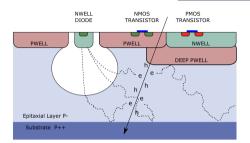
10 chips per stave \to 3 staves per turret \to total 5 turrets: 150 chips everything \times 2 for QM & FM

[R. luppa et al. PoS(ICRC2021)070]

ALTAI - updated ALICE ALPIDE chip

Monolithic Active Pixel Sensor (MAPS) [NIM A 824 (2016) 434-438]





- integrated readout electronics
- CMOS 180nm technology from Tower Jazz
- ightharpoonup non-depleted ightarrow charge collection by diffusion

Advantages

- reduces systematic uncertainties
- cheaper than standard microstrips
- extremely low material budget

Values	TIFPA
15 x 30	
1024 x 512	
26.9 x 29.2	
50	
5	
>99%	
<10-7	
~2	
<50	
	15 x 30 1024 x 512 26.9 x 29.2 50 5 >99% <10-7 ~2

70k chips produced and tested for 10m^2 active silicon area, 12.5×10^9 pixels at ALICE ITS

Space qualification MAPS



Challenges

- 1. limited power budget
- 2. heat dissipation
- **3.** rigidity to withstand launch acceleration and vibrations
- 4. digital readout: limited info on charge

TIFPA

Space qualification MAPS

Solutions

1. mitigating power consumption to target of \sim 13 W

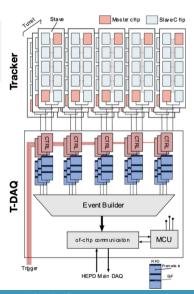
ALICE ITS OB Master-slave architecture (1 master out of 5 chips) with sequential slave

Permanent switch-off of fast data transmission unit (DTU) and read-out through serial slow-control line.

Acceptable increase of dead time, given the relatively low trigger rate (up to few kHz).

Clock gating: clock normally off, set on with trigger

- trigger: clock on (17 mW/cm2);
- wait for signal digitization:
- transmit data to control/read-out electronics:
- clock off (7 mW/cm2): wait for new trigger



Space qualification MAPS



Solutions

1. mitigating power consumption to target of \sim 13 W

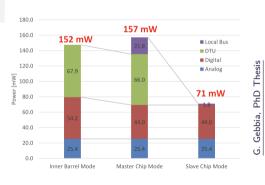
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Space qualification MAPS

0.4 mm

Solutions

Conditions:

vacuum of 6.65 10⁻³ Pa



0.515

needs to resist 10G



Mechanical support

2. heat dissipation and mechanical support

TARGET: stiffness and thermal drain

Cooling is granted by material thermal conductivity support has to be **stiff** enough to resist to 10G the **material budget** has to be minimized

the material budge

walendi budgei di STAVES					
STAVE element	material	thick [µm]	rad.length Xo [%]		
FPC board	capton	135	0.048		
FPC tracks	Cu	36	0.251		
glue	glue ARALDITE 2011		0.029		
ALTAI	Si	50	0.053		
cold plate Carbon fiber +		350	0.134		

2374 012049]

aluminum
end blocks

Material budget of 3
STAVE element

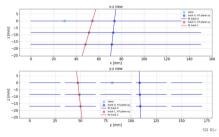
C-shaped carbon fiber (400 um thick)

Total:

Performance of HEPD-02 tracker - testbeams

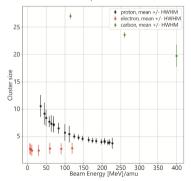


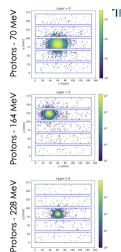
- ▶ noisy pixels of ~1 k over 80 M
- "non-noisy" hit pixels are clustered (DBSCAN) and track seeds are identified (Hough transform)
- residual noise clusters are easily identified by requiring 3-planes tracks



S. Bruno Ricciarini @ Pisa Meeting 2024

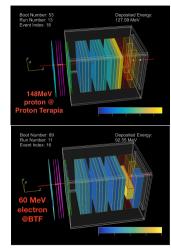
Electrons: 30-450MeV @ BTF, Frascati Electrons: $6\text{-}12\text{MeV}/\gamma$ @ Medical LINAC Protons: 20-230MeV @ Proton Terapia Carbon: 115-400MeV/amu @ CNAO, Pavia



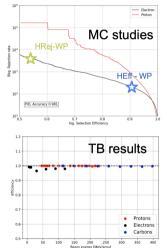


Performance of HEPD-02 - particle identification





Courtesy of F. M. Follega



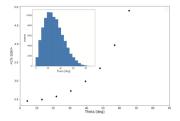
 PID results obtained using a DNN, combined inputs of cross-correlation between release in front (TR2) and inner (RAN) scintillator layers

 PID efficiency in TB tested to be > 95% for low energy electrons

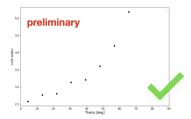
Performance of HEPD-02 tracker - cosmic muons



Cosmic rays data acquisition before integration in CSES-02 statistics: about 117,000 events



Cosmic rays data acquisition after integration in CSES-02 after vibrational tests statistics: about 7,000 events



U. Savino @ CRIS-MAC13

Launch of CSES-02 on 14/06/2025

from Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center, 1,600 km from Beijing





Play video from this website

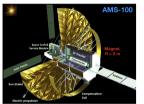


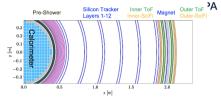
- ignition of HEPD-02 on 20/06/2025 07:50
- all detector sub-systems functional
- commissioning ongoing...

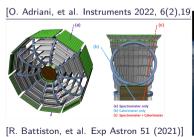
Next generation Astro-particle experiments

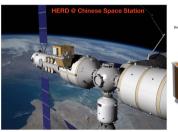


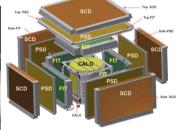












Requirements on tracking detectors

Operating Missions						
	Mission	Si-Sensor	Strip-	Readout	Readout	Spatial
	Start	Area	Length	Channels	Pitch	Resolution
Fermi-LAT	2008	$\begin{array}{l} \sim 74 \text{ m}^2 \\ \sim 7 \text{ m}^2 \\ \sim 7 \text{ m}^2 \end{array}$	38 cm	$\sim 880 \times 10^{3}$	228 μm	\sim 66 μ m
AMS-02	2011		29–62 cm	$\sim 200 \times 10^{3}$	110 μm	\sim 7 μ m
DAMPE	2015		38 cm	$\sim 70 \times 10^{3}$	242 μm	\sim 40 μ m



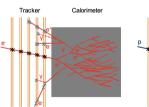
Future Missions

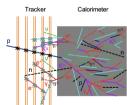
	Planned	Si-Sensor	Strip-	Readout	Readout	Spatial
	Operations	Area	Length	Channels	Pitch	Resolution
HERD	2030	$\sim 35 \text{ m}^2$	48–67 cm	$\sim 350 \times 10^{3}$	$\sim\!\!242\mu{ m m}$	~40 µm
ALADInO	2050	$\sim 80-100 \text{ m}^2$	19–67 cm	$\sim 2.5 \times 10^{6}$	$\sim\!\!100\mu{ m m}$	~5 µm
AMS-100	2050	$\sim 180-200 \text{ m}^2$	∼100 cm	$\sim 8 \times 10^{6}$	$\sim\!\!100\mu{ m m}$	~5 µm

- large area
- high number of readout channels
 → clever readout architectures for low power
- 5D tracking = position + charge + timing

hit time resolution of \sim 100 ps:

- \rightarrow improves track reconstruction (mitigate ghost hits
- $\&\ \mathsf{backscattered}\ \mathsf{particle}\ \mathsf{contamination})$
- \rightarrow provide Time of Flight (ToF) measurement
- \rightarrow improves e/p separation





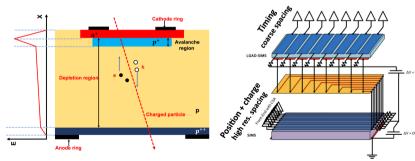
- affect tracking efficiency by tens % at 1~TeV
- [M. Duranti et al. Instruments 2021, 5, 20]

Possible realisations of 5D tracking detectors

timing layers within Si micro-strip detector: Low Gain Avalanche Diodes (LGADs)

TIFPA

- development of large area Low Gain Avalanch Diodes (LGADs) challenges:
 - ightharpoonup long strips/large channel size \rightarrow large capacitance: decreases S/N ratio
 - ightharpoonup signal propagation: delay (30ps \sim 1cm@c) & signal distortion
 - gain uniformity



[A. Bisht et al. Instruments 2024,8,27.]

M. Duranti @ TREDI25

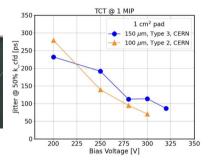
LGADs for Space @ FBK

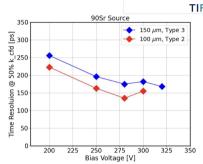
1 cm²

strategy: increase signal with thicker substrate and higher gain





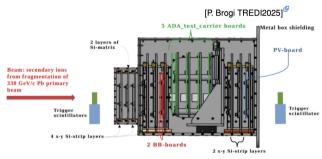




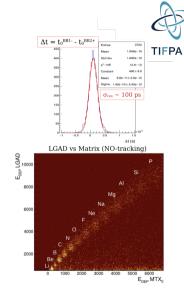
- Signal propagation and gain variation expected to account for 32 ps
- ullet Time resolution of 135 ps on 1 cm², 100 μ m thick sensor
- Expected improvement with different electronics
- Next batch for: gain tuning, signal propagation studies

M. Centis Vignali @ VCI25

Avalanche Diodes Array (ADA_5D)



- 5th dimension is charge
- Atomic number ID from charge deposit ⇒ thicker sensors
- Mixed ions beam
- Data analysis ongoing
- ullet Time res. 100 ps on 3×3 mm² channel, 150 μ m thick
- Charge correlation between LGAD and other sensors



Developments of MAPS for space

Spoke 4 -Next Generation Detectors of Ionizing Radiation and Fields for Remote Sensing







- Detector design and characterization
- Readout and Data Acquisition Electronics Prototype Integration
- Tests and TRL assessmenet
- L: GSSI, TL: UNINA, Others: FBK, INAF, TASI



Compact enabling space radiation

New time and frequency references for detector synchronization and deep space exploration

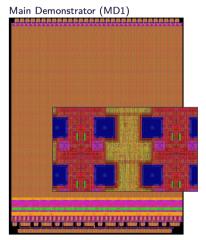
- - Analysis of requirements for microfabricated clock in space
 - · Analysis and design of critical components
 - Critical components procurement, fabrication and testing

 - L: INRIM, Others: TASI, GSSI, INFN

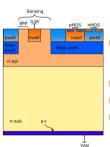
Embedded electronics, less components and connectors:

- no need for costly fine-pitched flip-chip assembly
- less (failing) connectors and lower material budget
- cost reduction for large productions

ARCADIA DMAPS R&D at INFN



M. Rolo, INFN Torino

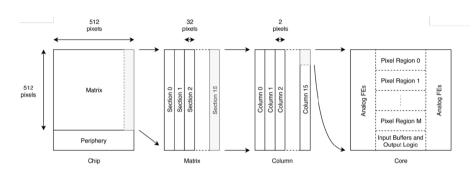




- fully depleted, charge collection by drift
- backside processing (diode+GR)
- low resistivity epi-layer for delayed on-set of punch-through currents
- matrix core 512×512 pixels of $25 \mu m$ pitch
- trigger-less and binary readout
- matrix and EoC architecture, data links and payload ID: scalable to 2048 × 2048 pixels
- \triangleright pixels are $\sim (50/50)\%$ analog/digital
- sensor diode about 20% of total area
- 'side-abuttable' to accommodate a 1024×512 silicon active area $(2.56 \times 1.28 \text{ cm}^2)$

MD3 chip architechture



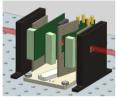


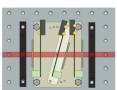
- * Pixel size 25 μm x 25 μm, Matrix core 512 x 512, 1.28 x 1.28 cm² silicon active area, side-abuttable
- * Trigger-less data-driven readout and low-power asynchronous architecture with clock-less pixel matrix
- Event rate up to 100 MHz/cm² (design post-layout simulations)
- ▶ High-rate operation (16 Tx): 17-30 mW/cm² depending on transceiver driving strength (measured)
- ▶ Low-power operation (1 Tx): 10 mW/cm² (all data conveyed in 1 transceiver, others turned-off)

MD3 at test beam

TIFPA

- Test beam at FNAL (120 GeV protons): very good results from data analysis ongoing
- mini-telescope with 3 ARCADIA-MD3 200 μm thick sensors
- Threshold, sensor HV and incidence angle parametrisation: study of cluster size, collection efficiency, spatial resolution



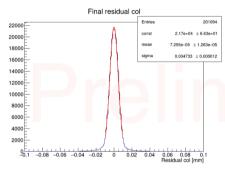


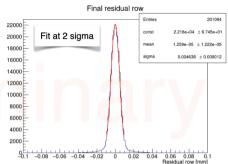




Courtesy of M. Role

Spatial resolution

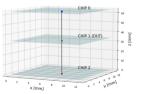




TIFPA

- Residuals plots @VCASN = 5 (~ 600 e⁻), still includes contributions from tracking planes
- · angle of tilt = 0°
- Data with 1 cluster per plane, excluding clusters with multiplicity above 20

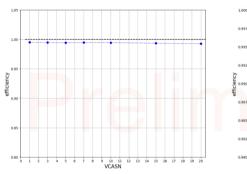
Single-point resolution $\sim 4.7 \,\mu m$

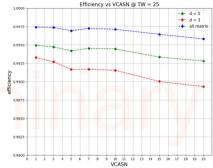


Courtesy of M. Role

Efficiency







- Efficiency plot vs. Threshold, scanned from 800 down 300 e⁻
- Time Window = 5 μs, Spatial cut = 5 [pixels]

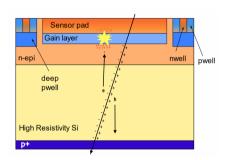
average efficiency 0.9941 +/- 0.0003

- d = spatial cut on DUT hits (pixel)
- $d = 5 \rightarrow 11x11$ matrix
- $d = 3 \rightarrow 7x7$ matrix

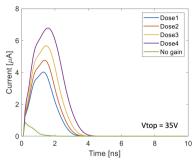
Current R&D: ARCADIA CMOS LGADs

passive and active pixel matrices included in 3rd ARCADIA run





- ▶ $250 \times 100 \, \mu\text{m}^2$ pixels in active (8×8) and passive (2×4) matrices
- gain layer biased from top, depleted from bottom
- expected gain 10-30



Courtesy of L. Pancheri

- highly doped p+ layer below the collection n-well results in high electric field that accelerates arriving electrons which creates a cascade of charge carriers
- 4 dose splittings with 3 wafers per dose

MadPix chip

Monolithic CMOS Avalanche Detector PIXelated Prototype

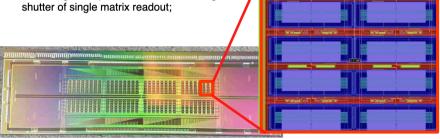


U. Follo, S. Durando,Gioachin, C. Ferre

- MadPix prototype with gain layer and integrated electronics
- first small-scale demonstrator 4 x 16 mm²;
- 8 matrices (64 pixel pads each) implementing different sensor and front-end flavours;

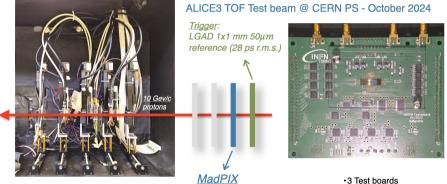
250 x 100 μm² pixel pads;

 64 analogue outputs on each side, rolling shutter of single matrix readout;



MadPix test beam

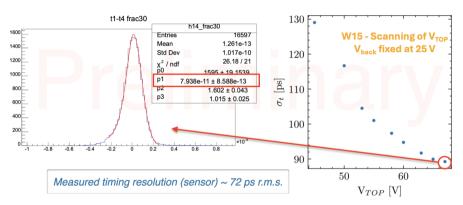




- •3 Test boards
- 2 Flavours
- -A1 and A2
- 4 Pixels -J3, J4, J5, J6

MadPix performance

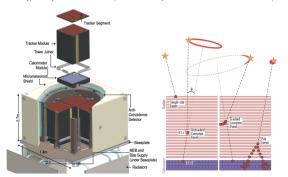




- Gain layer implemented (5-15) with very good matching with TCAD simulation framework
- MadPix test beam just concluded, timing resolution measured < 75 ps (very preliminary results)
- ϕ 48 μ m thick active layer on a p+ substrate, timing resolution is sensor limited (FEE jitter ~ 20 ps r.m.s.)
- <u>Up next</u>: new short-loop with ARCADIA mask set and thinner n-epi active layer, start full-chip IP design for ALICE3 TOF

CMOS and Sensor design for next generation Gamma-ray telescope: 2 ARCADIA runs with specialised chips

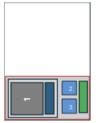
- Pilot run with thick (600 μ m) wafers scheduled for Q2, FZ substrates procured and delivered awaiting arrival
- demonstrator chip: 250 μ m pixels $+ \sim 1$ mW/cm² power + analog readout (peak) + ADC on pixel + asynchronous readout to periphery

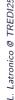












Conclusions Take home messages



- ► Space experiments at LEO like CSES need versatile set of detectors for identification of signal sources (terrestrial/solar/galactic)
- ► HEPD-01 has demonstrated capabilities of GRB detection → exploited further with CSES-02
- ► HEPD-02 detector is the first space experiment with MAPS tracker

Future space experiments...

- ▶ need large area, low power, 5D tracking detectors
- technologies to be ready in order to pass all qualification tests in time!
- profit from technology platforms like ARCADIA allow for parallel development for diverse applications

Conclusions Take home messages



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Thank you for your attention!

Acknowledgments & References



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Especially: Roberto Battiston, Roberto Iuppa, Matteo Martucci, Umberto Savino, Francesco Follega, Manuel Rolo, Matteo Duranti, Matteo Centis Vignali, Alessio Perinelli, Ester Ricci e Lucio Pancheri

Links to presentations:

[R. luppa @ CRIS-MAC13]

[E. Ricci @ TREDI18]

[S. Bruno Ricciarini @ Pisa Meeting 2024]

[U. Savino @ CRIS-MAC13]

[M. Duranti @ TREDI25]

[L. Cavazzini @ TREDI25]

[L. Latronico @ TREDI25]

[G. Gioachin @ IFD 2025 - INFN Workshop on Future Detectors]

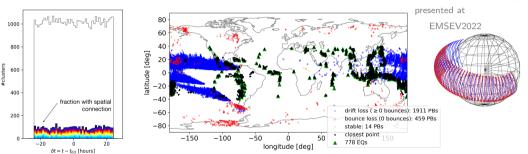
[M. Centis Vignali @ VCI25]

BACKUP

Correlation search for co-seismic signal

NOAA POES-19 PBs: electrons > 110keV, telescope 0°



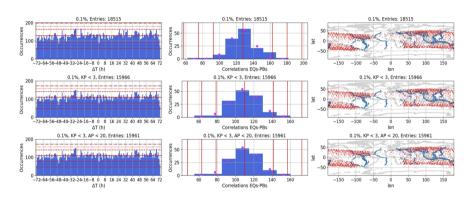


- ▶ tested: 913 EQ in three years (Magn. > 5.5, $\pm 40^{\circ} \lambda$, max. depth 100 km, isolated)
- ▶ followed approach of [R. Battiston, V. Vitale, doi:10.1016/j.nuclphysbps.2013.09.002.] with much less statistics
- ▶ classified PBs by possible EQ origin, evaluated with back-tracing algorithm
- ightharpoonup no significant excess in δt distribution found

Correlation search for precursor signal

HEPD-01 PBs: $3 \, \text{MeV} < \text{electron energies} < 15 \, \text{MeV}$





- ▶ tested: 8293EQ in four years (Magn. >4.5, max. depth 100 km, $L_{eq} \le 2$)
- ▶ following approach of [V. Sgrigna, et. al., doi:10.1016/j.jastp.2005.07.008]
- \blacktriangleright no significant excess in δ t distribution found