Front End Read-Out for Fast Photosensors

A. Casajus, <u>D. Gascon</u>, R. Graciani, S. Gomez, J. Mauricio, E. Picatoste, A. Sanuy, D. Sanchez, A. Sanmukh ICCUB//SiUB, University of Barcelona









- II. PACTA: High Dynamic range Preamp
- III. MUSIC: Multipurpose SiPM RO chip
- IV. FlexToT: linearized ToT RO chip
- V. New developments

• Plenty of readout ASICs for photosensor read-out...

Chip name	group	year	Technology	channels	Application
FLC_SiPM	OMEGA	2004	BiCMOS 0.8µm	18	ILC HCAL
NINO	CERN	2004	CMOS 0.25µm	8	ALICE TOF
MAROC2	OMEGA	2006	SiGe 0.35µm	64	ATLAS lumi
SPIROC	OMEGA	2007	SiGe 0.35µm	36	ILC HCAL
РЕТА	Heidelberg	2008	CMOS 0.18µm	40	PET
RAPSODI	Krakow	2008	CMOS 0.35µm	2	Snooper
BASIC	Bari	2009	CMOS 0.35µm	32	PET
SPIDER	Ideas	2009	CMOS 0.35µm	64	Spider rich
					W. Kucevisz (Kr

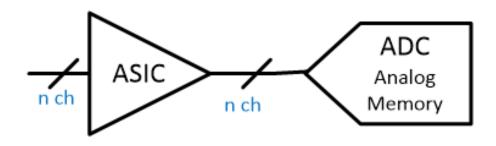
 New members: STiC, Petiroc, Citiroc, ToFPET, PACIFIC, etc

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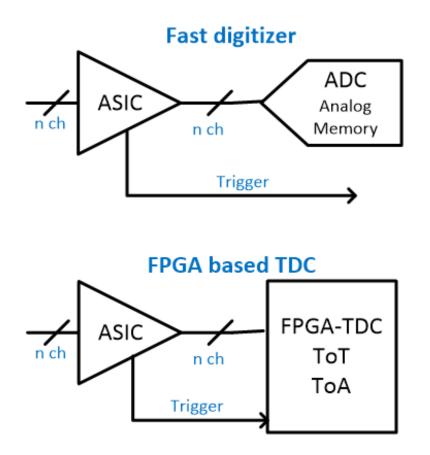
- Many of them are designed for specific applications
 - Of course... they are **ASI**Cs
 - However it means that the readout architecture constrains the use of the chip to particular systems
 - For instance many of them are designed for PET applications and it becomes difficult to use them elsewhere
- The goal of this talk is **not** to present one more ASIC
- But to discuss how to build different FE systems for different applications based on ASICs which provide
 - Flexibility
 - High performance

- Our approach combines:
 - An ASIC performing key analog functions
 - A digitizer that can be adapted and optimized for a given application

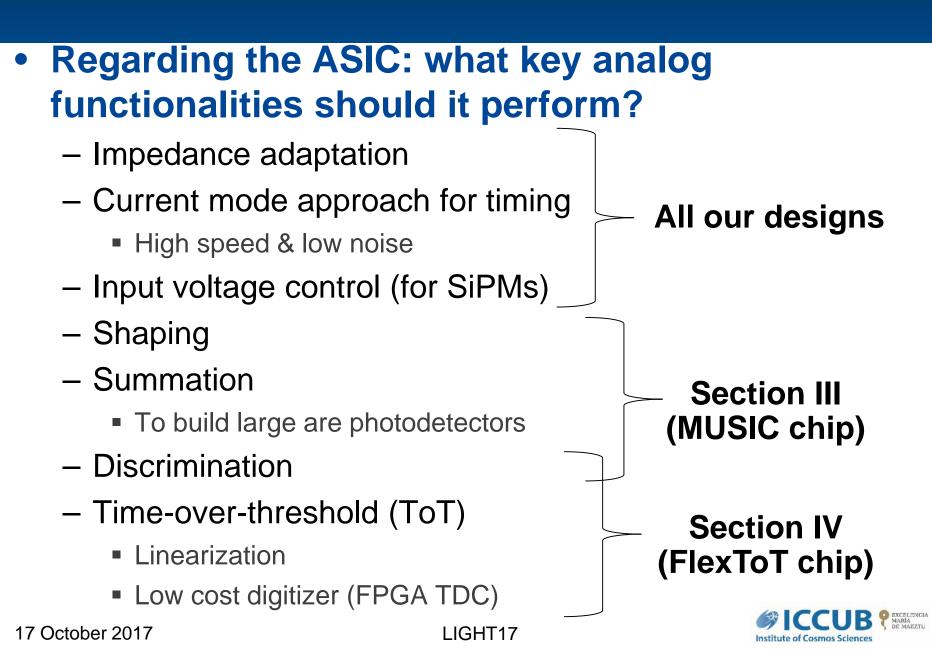


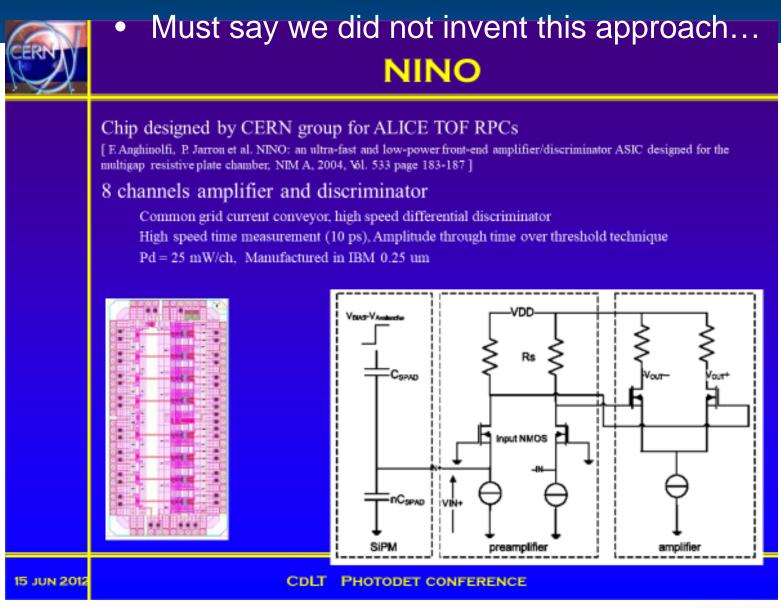


- This digitizer can range from:
 - A high performance waveform sampling system (SCA)
 - Many examples: DRS, NECTAr, SAM, etc
 - A TDC based on a low cost FPGA
 - 10 ps resolution is possible



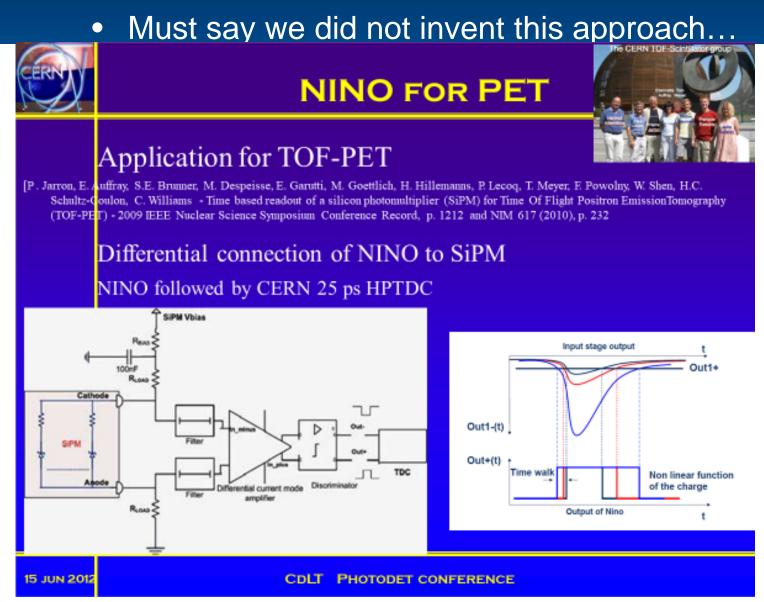






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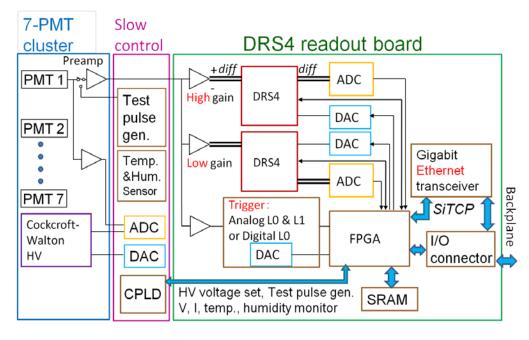


- II. PACTA: High Dynamic range Preamp
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• CTA LST and MST (NECTAr) cameras

- Based on PMT at low gain(40k)
 - Requires high dynamic range preamp
 - From single photon to > 1000 pe
 - High BW
 - Low noise
- Readout is based on a proven concept
 - Waveform sampling at > 1 GS/s
 - Analog/digital trigger



LST cluster





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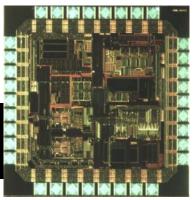
- Double transimpedance gain: 1.2kΩ (HG) and 80 Ω (LG)
- Dynamic range > 15 bits
- -3 dB bandwidth of 450 MHz
- Low input referred noise: 10 pA/√Hz
- Noise (ENC): 4700 electrons
 - 10 ns of integration time

2400 chips for the first LST camera

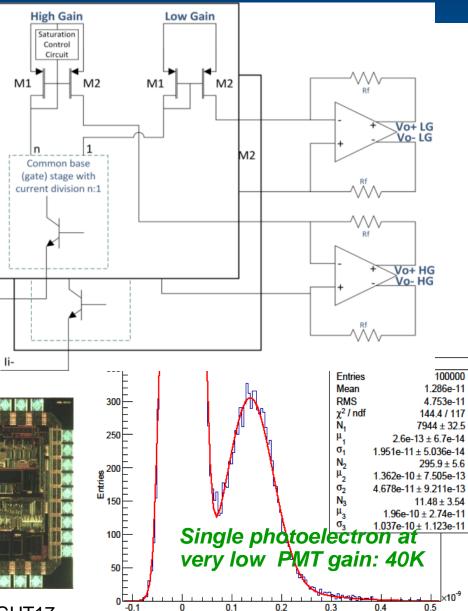
15000 chips being produced for next LSTs and MSTs cameras



PACTAv1.4 chip 2 mm² QFN32 package Back from foundry Oct. 2012

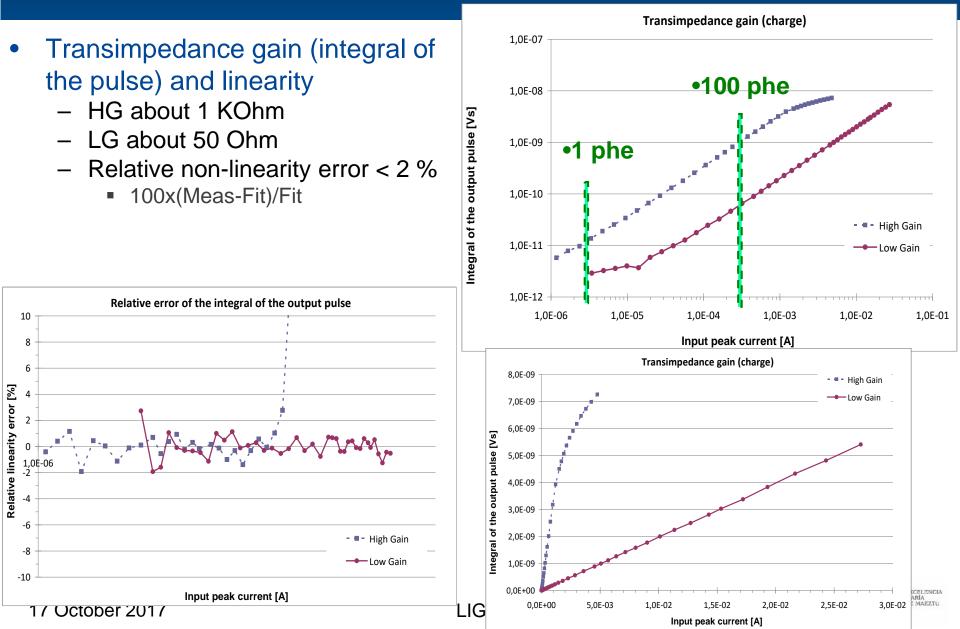


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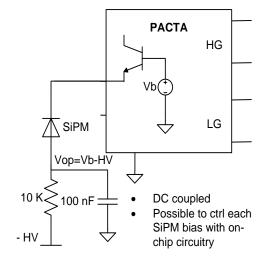


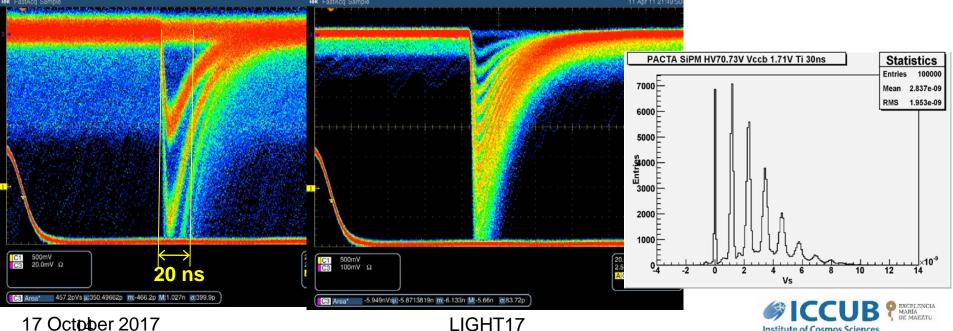




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- Tests with SiPM
 - Low Zin current mode circuit are well suited for SiPM readout
 - DC coupling without external components
 - We just took an available MPPC (S10931-050P)
 - 1 V overvoltage
 - Recovery time seems to be dominated by internal SiPM time constant

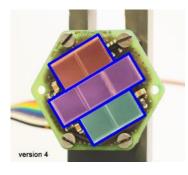






- II. PACTA: High Dynamic range Preamp
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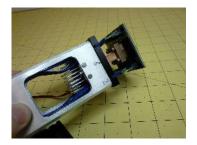
- SiPMs are replacing PMTs in many applications
 - Eg: IACTs



D. Fink et al. "SiPM Based Focal Plane Instrumentation Prototype for the MAGIC Telescopes", PD15, 2015



CTA-SCT (dual mirror) cta-us.physics.ucla.edu inspirehep.net/record/1306235





T. Montarulli et al. "The small size telescope projects for the Cherenkov Telescope Array", ICRC2015

- Dedicated FE electronics is needed to fully exploit SiPM performace
- We present a multipurpose chip integrating many of those functions:



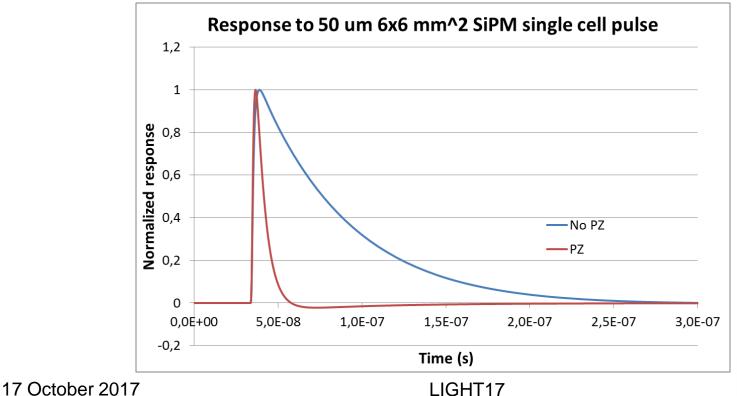


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• Front end electronics for SiPM is needed to:

- Shape the input signal

- Large SiPM recovery time constant may cause saturation or distortion because of pile up
- Pole-zero cancellation or high-pass filters are often used

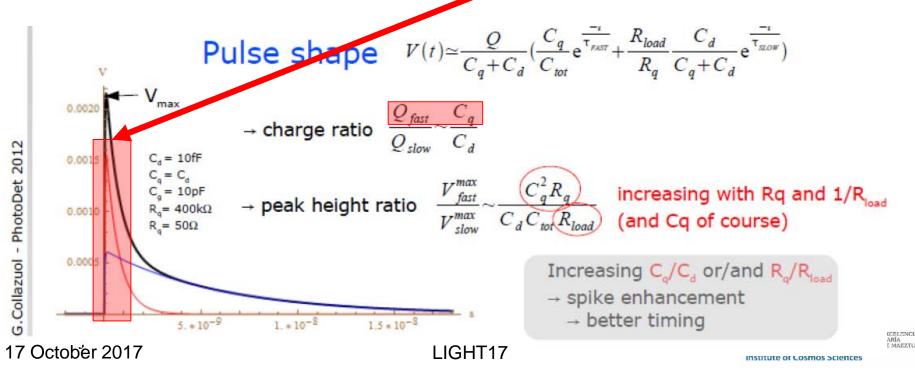




• Front end electronics for SiPM is needed to:

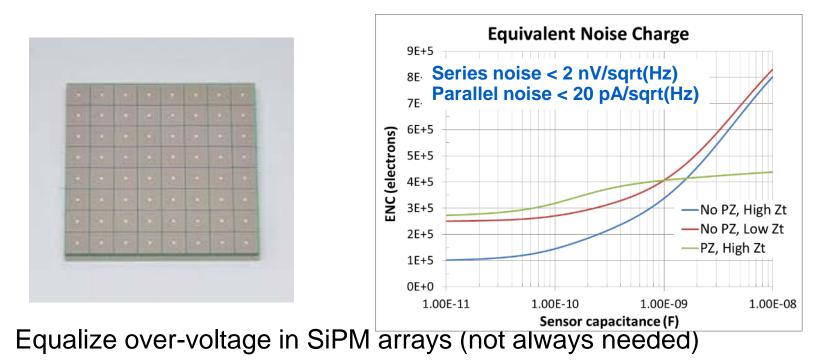
- Preamplify for SNR optimization

- Even if "nominal" gain is in the order of 10⁶ only a fraction of the charge is used for fast read-out systems
- The "effective" for a fast system can be between 2 and 10 times lower than the nominal gain



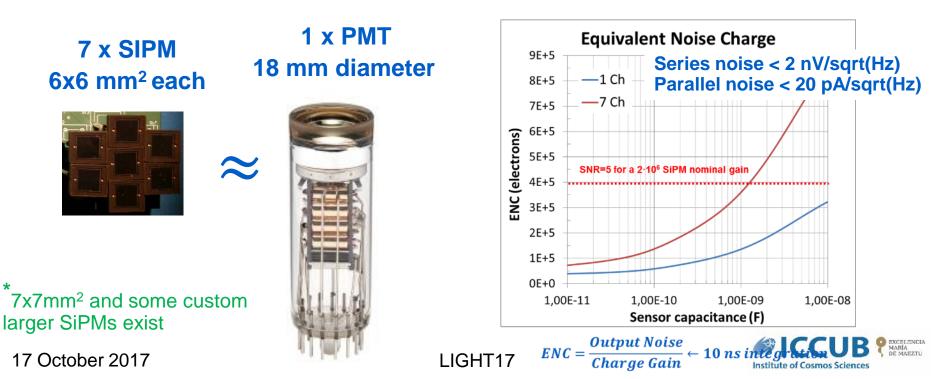
- Front end electronics for SiPM is needed to:
 - Impedance adaptation: low input impedance for fast systems
 - Low noise front end is required for large SiPMs

SiPM capacitances range from 10s pF to more than several nF

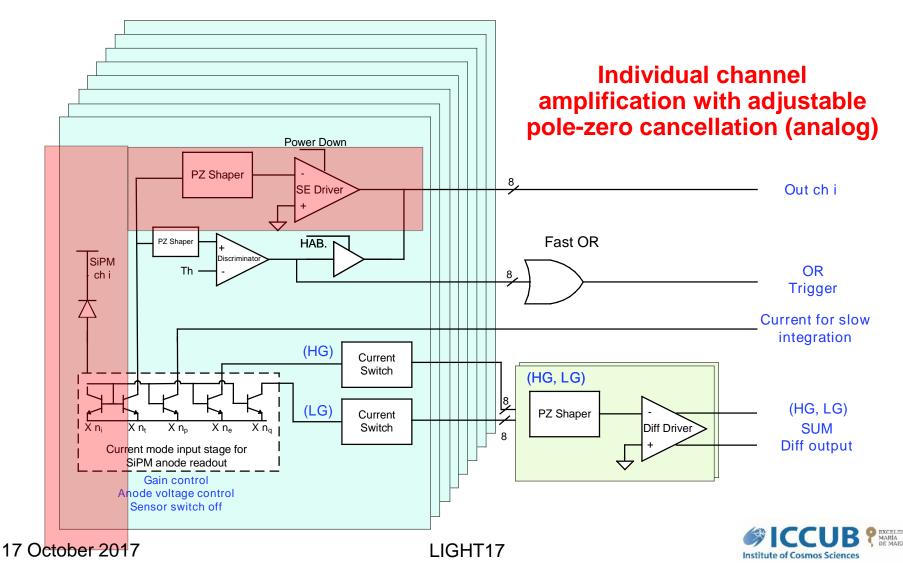




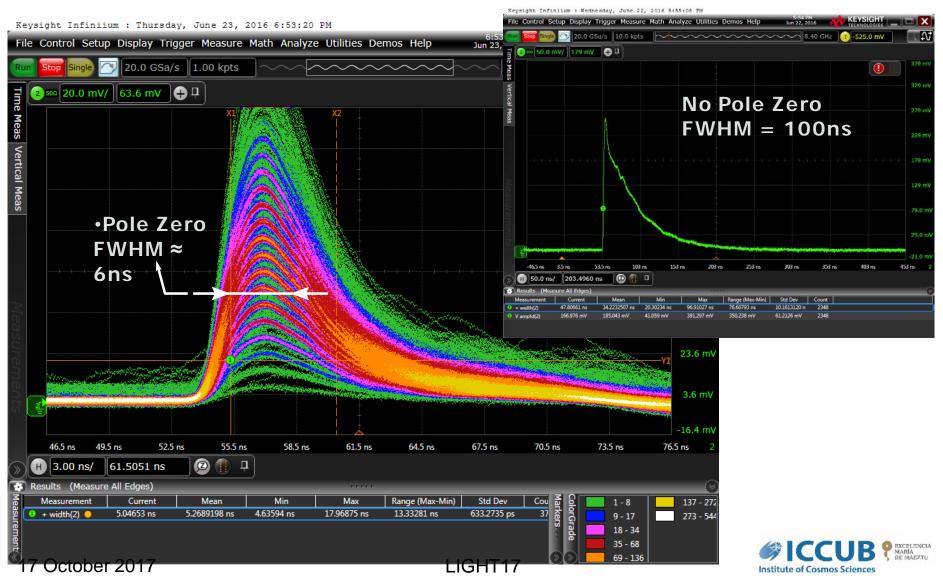
- Front end electronics for SiPM is needed to:
 - Combine (sum) the signal of several SiPMs
 - Typically SiPM size ranges from 1x1 to 6x6 mm^{2*}
 - To replace a PMT in some application SiPMs signals need to be added
 - Low noise FE electronics becomes mandatory !



• MUSIC 8 ch ASIC integrates all those functionalities

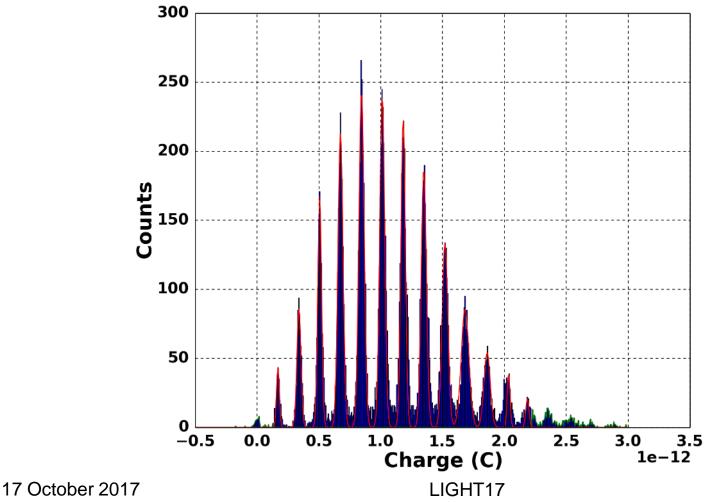


• Output for a LCT4 MPPC (3x3 mm²)



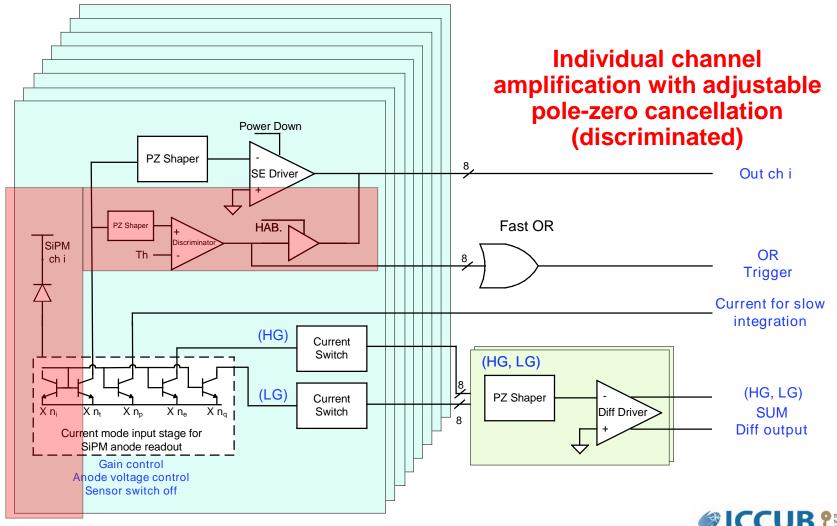
- Charge spectrum for a LCT4 MPPC (3x3 mm²)
- Pole-zero cancellation







• MUSIC 8 ch ASIC integrates all those functionalities



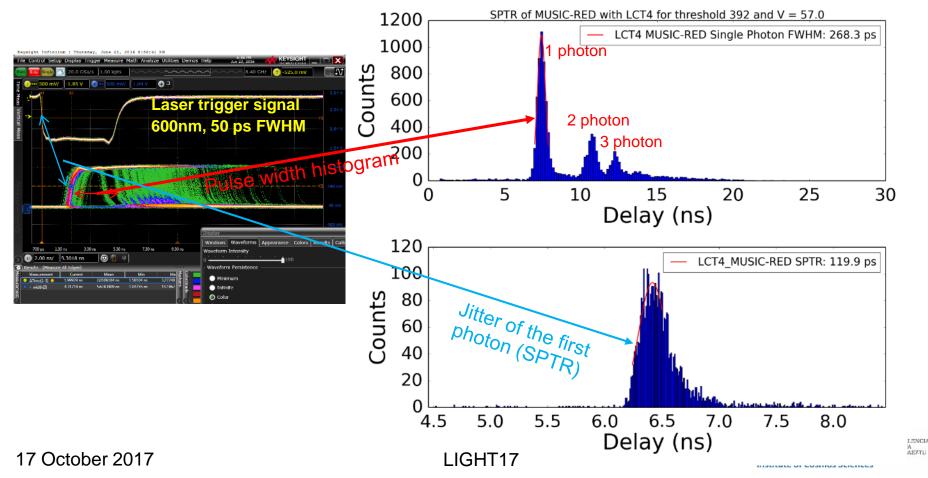
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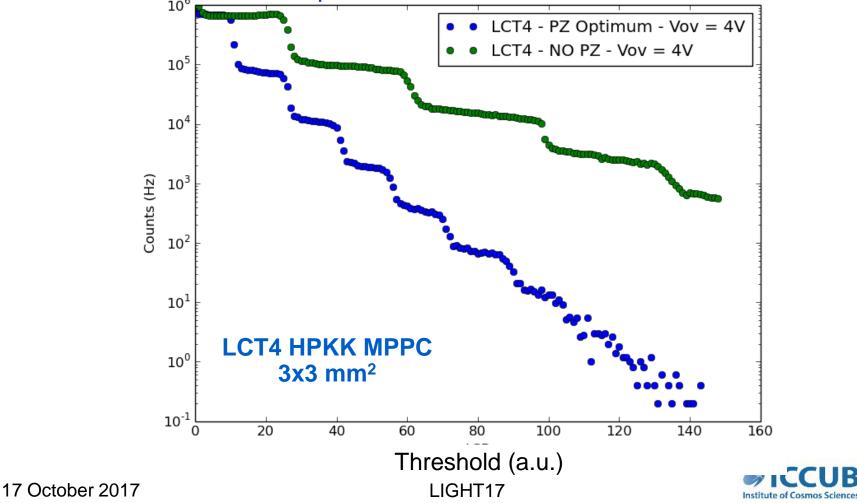
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• Output for a LCT4 HPKK MPPC (3x3 mm²)

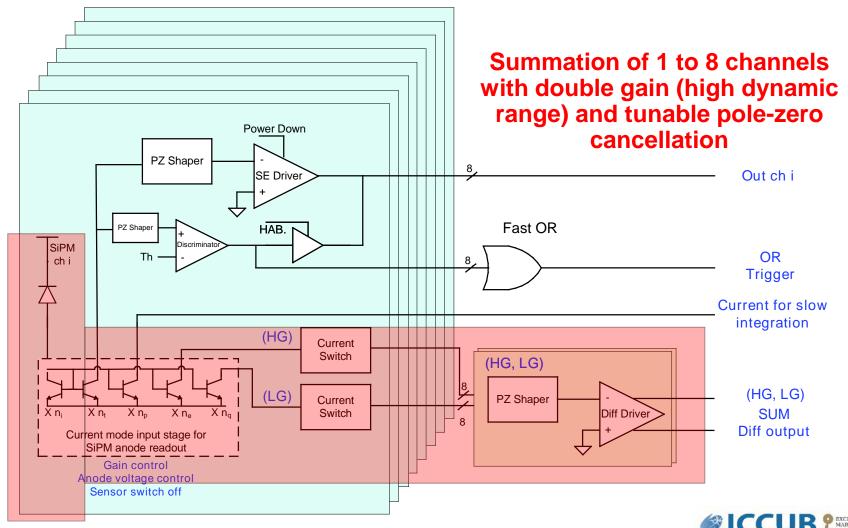
- Picosecond laser
- Pole-zero cancellation
- Single Photon Time Resolution about 100 ps (@ 5V OV)



- Dark count rate staircase plot (no laser signal):
 - Scan the rate of the SiPM signals that are over a certain threshold
- With and without pole-zero cancellation

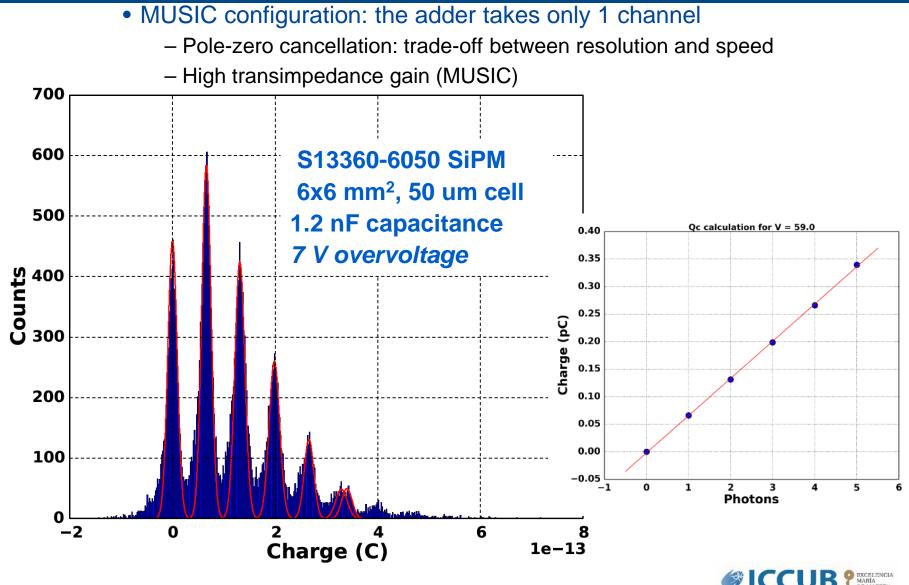


• MUSIC 8 ch ASIC integrates all those functionalities



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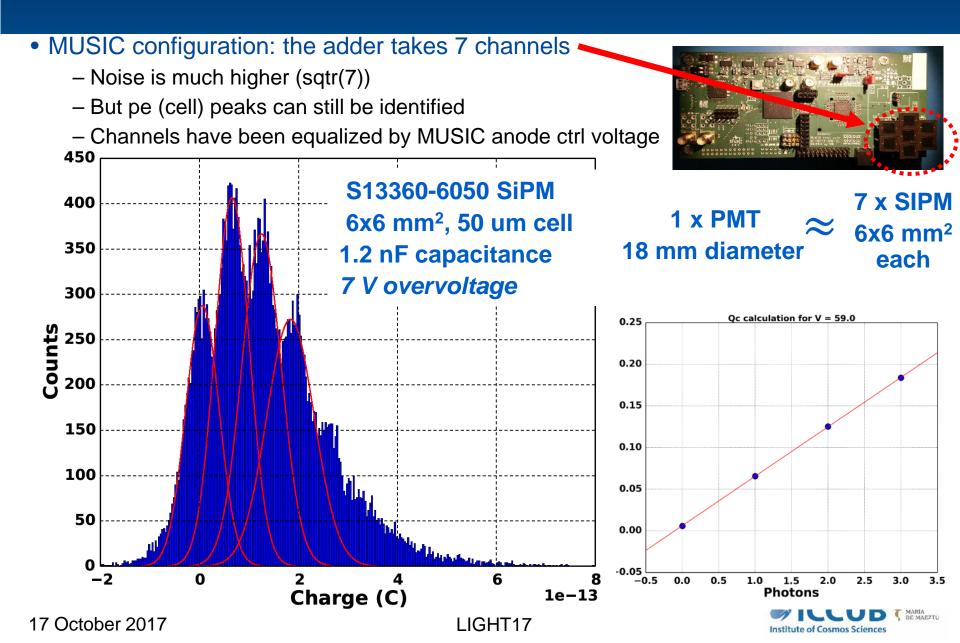
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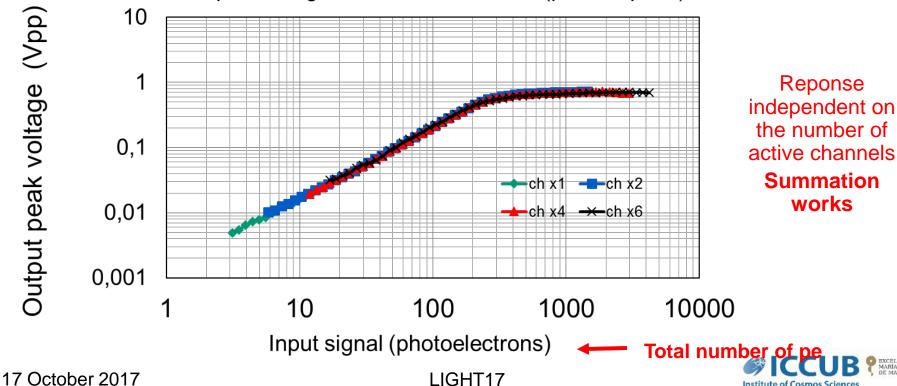
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- Dynamic range for S13360-6050@6V overvoltage
- Optmized pole-zero cancellation
- High gain path output
- Response for n input channels (signal injected in n channels)



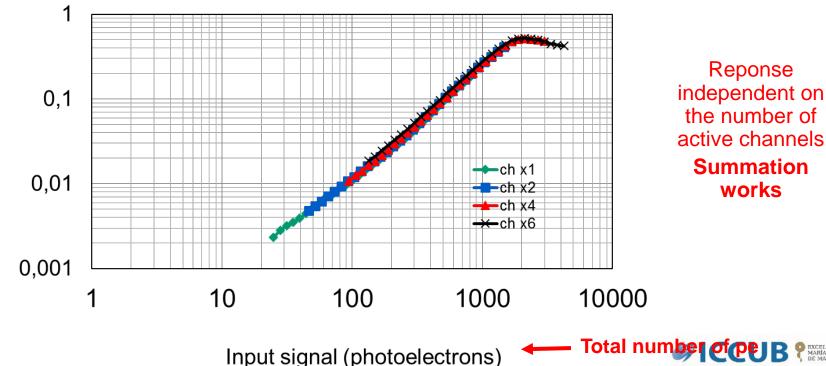
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Transimpedance gain W/O normalization (peak to peak)

- Dynamic range for S13360-6050@6V overvoltage:
 - Optmized pole-zero cancellation
 - Low gain path output

Output peak voltage (Vpp)

- Response for n input channels (signal injected in n channels)
- The bi-gain system allows to achieve a dynamic range of > 1000 pe
 - Dynamic range limited by signal injection circuit



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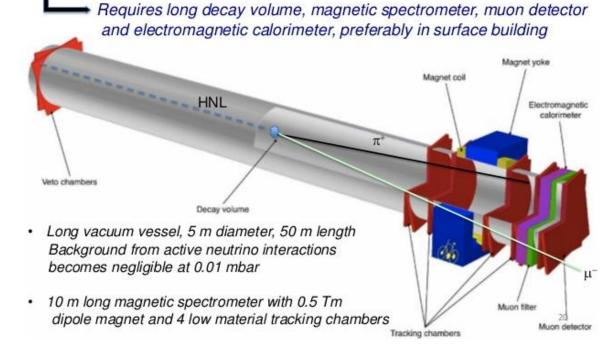
Transimpedance gain W/O normalization (peak to peak)

- SHIP experiment is a new general-purpose beam dump facility at the SPS (CERN) to search for hidden particles
 - Predicted by a very large number of recently elaborated models of Hidden
 - Dark matter, neutrino oscillations, and the origin of the full baryon asymmetry



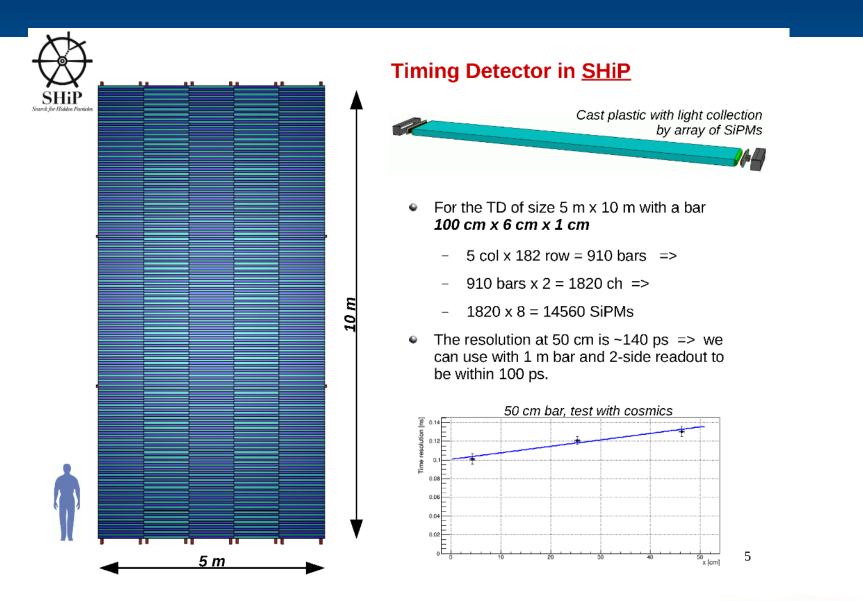


Reconstruction of the HNL decays in the final states: μ⁻π⁺, μ-ρ⁺ & e⁻π⁺





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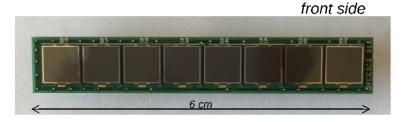


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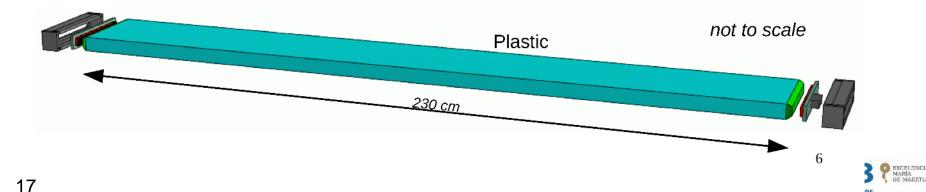
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Bar and sensors for ToF/ND280

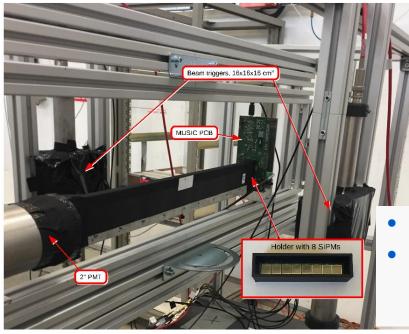
- Bar: 230 cm x 6 cm x 1 cm
- Plastic material:
 - EJ200 (BC408) or EJ208(BC412)
 - Attenuation length ~4 m
 - 1.42 kg/bar
- Readout from both ends
 - 8 sensors of 6 mm x 6 mm
 - Example: S13360-6050PE

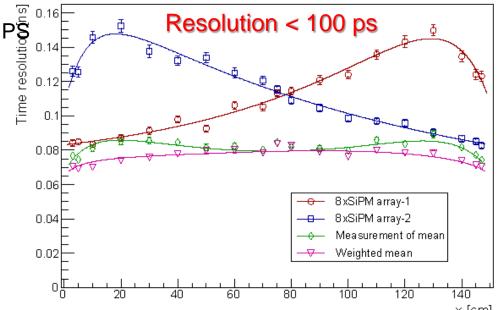


back side



- Timing sub-detector test beam with MUSIC chip
 - By Univ. Geneva & Univ. Zurich
 - MUSIC in summation mode (8 6x6 mm² SiPMs)
 - Bar read-out at both ends
 - Bar read-out at both ends
 2.5 GeV/c muon beam at the CERN PS
 Readout with Wavecatcher
 Fast analog memory (LAL & IRFU/CEA)





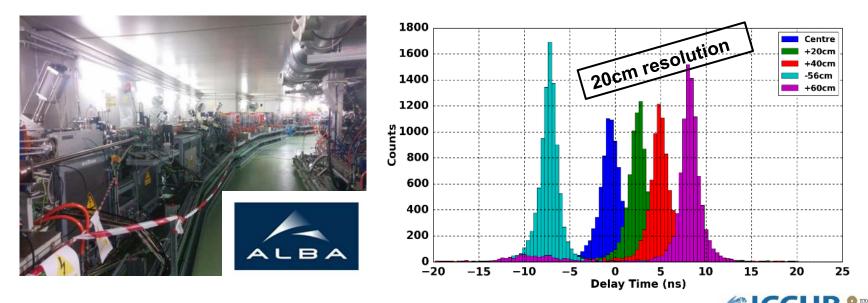
- Measurements with the 150 cm x 6 cm x 1 cm bar.
- Time resolution as measured by the SiPM arrays at both ends of the bar as a function of the interaction point along the bar.

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- Studying the possibility to develop a beam loss monitoring system based on scintillating fibers
 - Collaboration with Alba synchrotron General idea:
 - Fiber along the beam pipe or in selected regions
 - Losses are detected by a rate increase
 - With timing information, additional postion information
 - Preliminary results: 20 cm resolution for a 2 m fiber of 1 mm diameter



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Thanks to C. Joram (CERN) for providing SciFibers

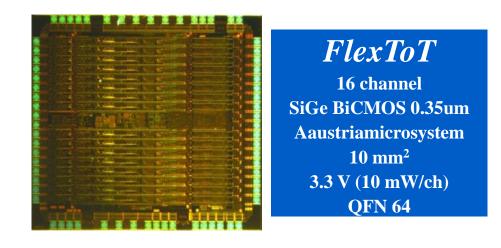
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- I. Introduction
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V. New developments

- Joint project with CIEMAT to develop a time-overthreshold ASIC for SiPM based PET
 - ICCUB: expertise on electronics and microelectronics design for detector FE
 - CIEMAT: expertise on PET and medical imaging instrumentation

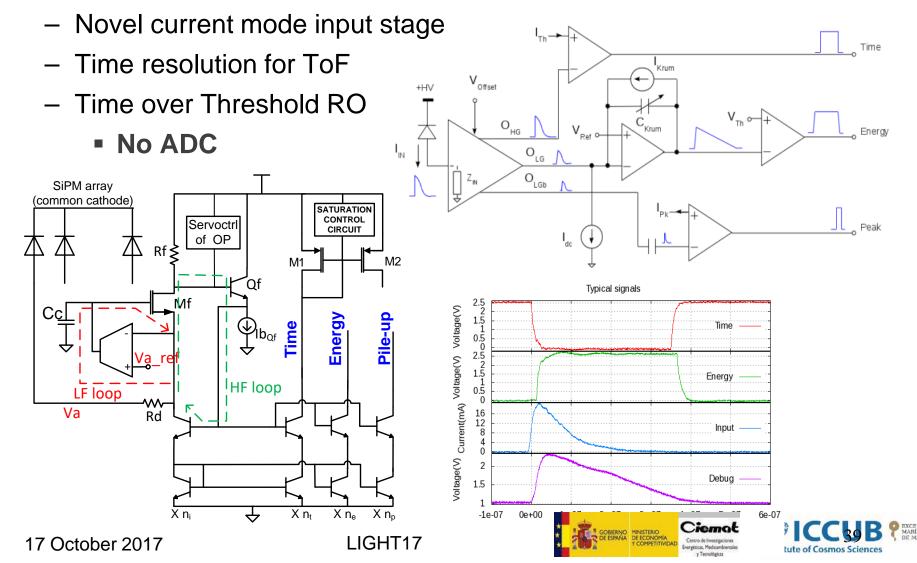




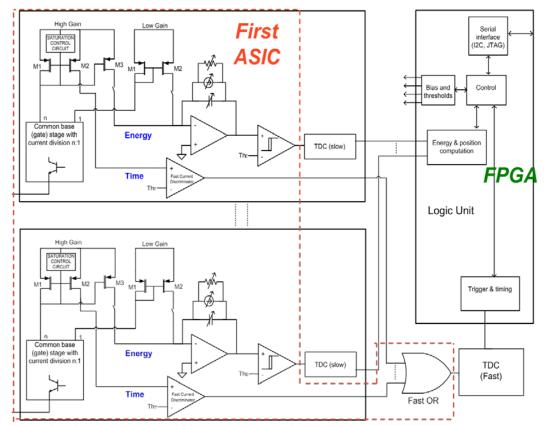


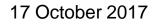
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A Flexible ASIC for SiPM RO (PET, SPECT, Compton)



- Why FlexToT is flexible?
 - Different scintillator time constants
 - Trading-off resolution versus rate
 - Accurate analog processing directly connected to FPGA
 - TDCs and signal processing are in FPGA: reconfigurable !



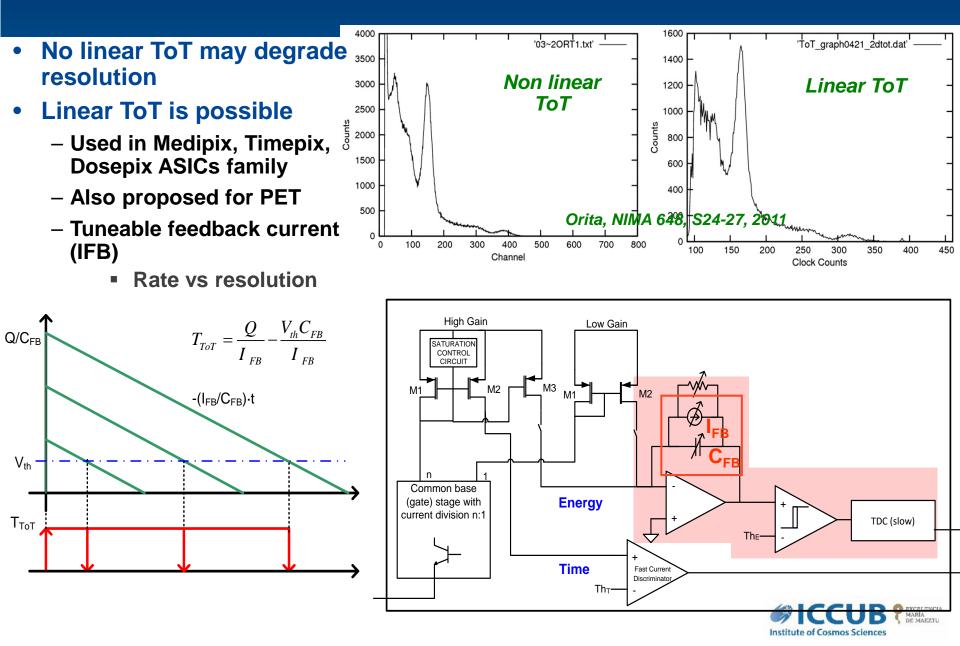






High Gain Low Gain SATURATION **Configurable ToT** CONTROL CIRCUIT - Non-linear vs linear M3 M2 M1 M1 M2 Tuneable feedback current Rate vs resolution n Common base (gate) stage with Energy current division n:1 TDC (slow) The-Time Fast Current Discriminator Th_T. AMPLITUDE 'ToT1.dat' 'ToT2.dat'ad ad Threshold Level = 1% 0.9 $\overline{2h}$ $\overline{2h}$ ToT3.dat' -- Classical ToT is non-linear ToT4.dat' 0.8 ToT5.dat 10% 0.7 TIME WIDTH (a.u.) - CSP+Shaper+Discriminator 0.6 0.5 40% 0.4 0.3 TIME $\frac{a}{2}$ 0 $\frac{a}{2}$ 0.2 80% 0.1 0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110 0 HEIGHT (a.u.) $a(1-\frac{d}{h})$

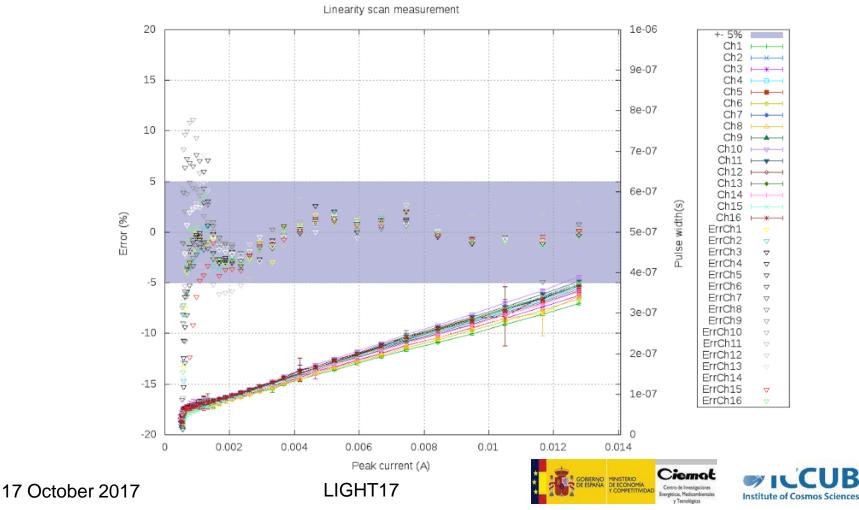
Orita, NIMA 648, S24-27, 2011 of Cosmos Sciences



Good linearity and uniformity

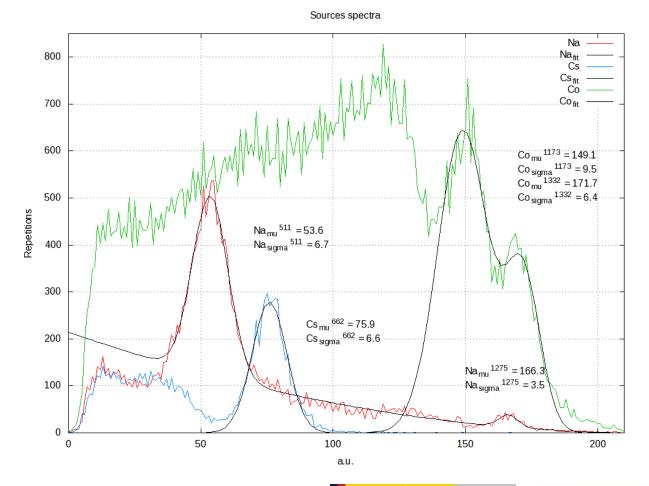
- With only comparator threshold offset equalization

Different operating ranges can be covered





Spectroscopy with linear ToT



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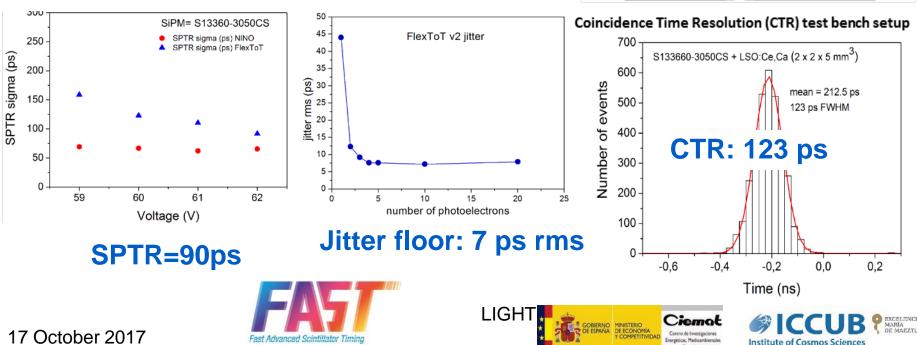


EXCELENCE

MARÍA

• Measured @ CERN:

- Single Photon Time resolution (SPTR)
- Coincidence Time Resolution (CTR)
- Supported by FAST COST ACTION
 - Many thanks to E. Auffray and S. Gundacker
- Similar results as for NINO but 3 times lower power consumption

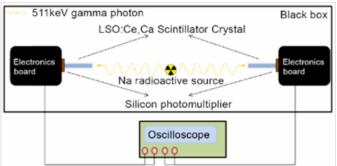


Coincidence Time Resolution (CTR): 128 ps FWHM

• 2x2x5 mm3 LSO:Ce,Ca crystals.

v Tecnológicas

- Measurements performed in a black-box at 15 ºC.
- Coincidences corresponding to 511 KeV photopeak (±3σ).

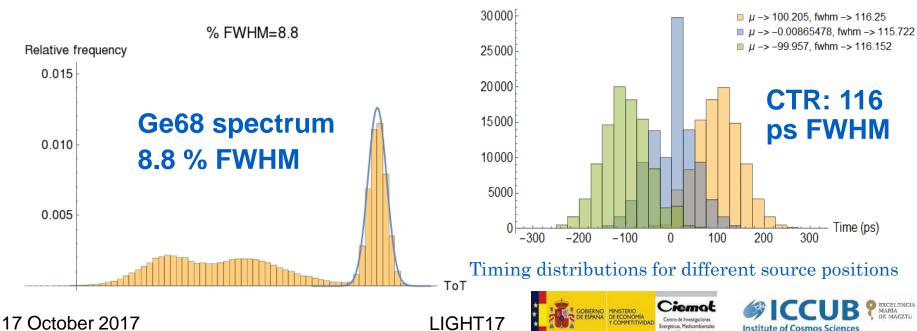


- Pisa University has developed a FPGA based TDC readout for FlexToT
 - Based on Arria 10 FPGA
 - TDC: 38 ps resolution
 - System CTR: 116 ps FWHM !
 - Energy resolution: 8 % FWHM @ 511 KeV
 - Dead time < 5ns



P. Catra, G. Sportelli

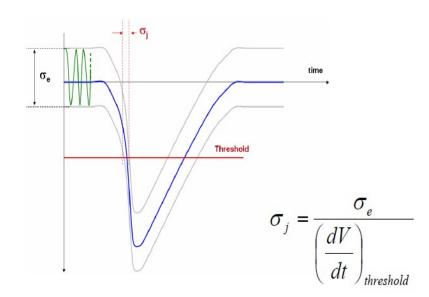
2 LYSO xtals 3x3x5 mm3 NUV-SiPM





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- FE electronics must have low jitter to achieve good timing
 - Low noise
 - High slew rate: dV/dt
 - Not only high BW !
- High BW and low noise are the key for low electronics jitter
- Differential readout can help in:
 - Increasing dV/dt (if coupled to a differential sensor)
 - Rejecting common mode noise
 - But intrinsic noise increases: problem for SE sensors



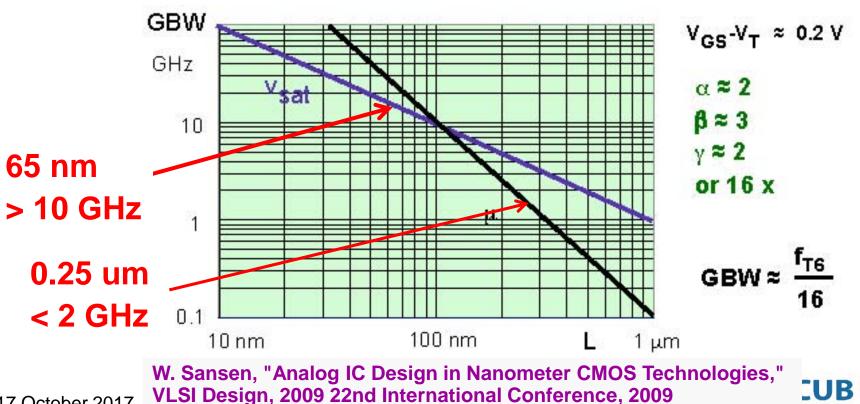






- NINO is a FE chip used in many applications
 - "Old design" in 250 nm
 - Could gain a lot in BW (dV/dt) and jitter by scaling down the design !

Maximum GBW versus channel length L



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nos Science

- Collaboration between CERN and ICCUB to develop a 65 nm FE chip optimized for timing applications
 - First user meeting was held recently: <u>https://indico.cern.ch/event/646451/</u>
 - Please let us know if you are interested
- Different types of fast photo-sensors:
 - PMTs and MCPs
 - SiPMs
 - New structures: Typsy, LAPPD, micromegas, etc
- Use previous concepts:
 - Current mode
 - Flexibility and configurability
 - Linearized ToT

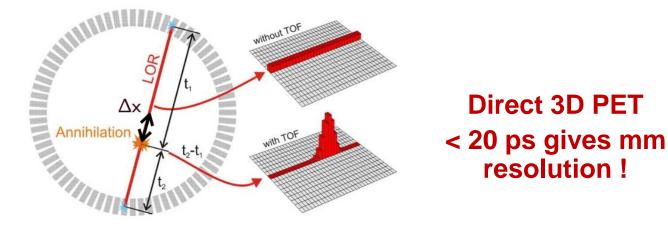


M. Campbell R. Ballabriga J. Fernandez



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Why do we need to improve time resolution?

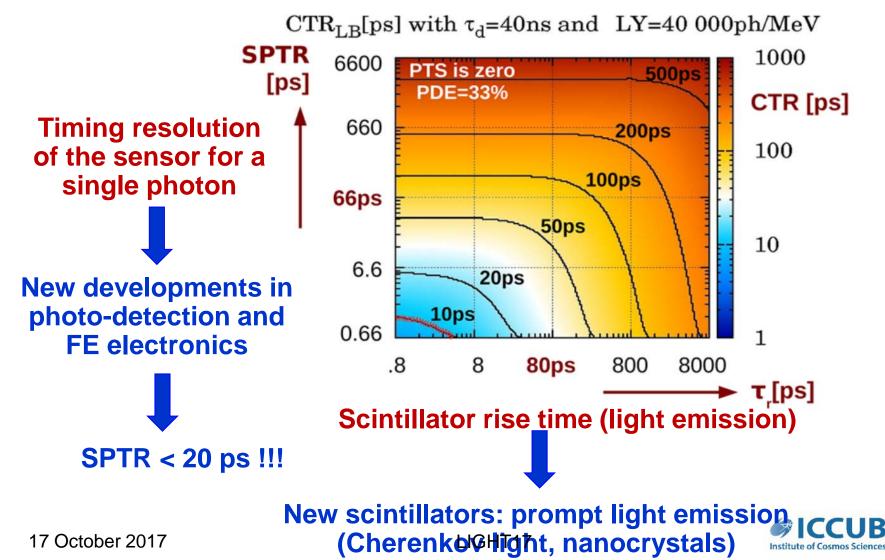


- Enabling direct 3D PET event localization eliminating the need for statistical image reconstruction.
 - Recent results: 100 ps time resolution barrier can be broken
 - A new technological breakthrough is required to achieve direct 3D event localization



• How to achieve it?

http://iopscience.iop.org/article/ 10.1088/0031-9155/61/7/2802/pdf



	PMT*	SPAD	aSiPM	dSiPM	МСР
PDE	35% (blue)	70% (green)	~45% (blue)	~25% (blue)	35%
SPTR	200ps	20ps	80ps (3x3mm2)	120ps	20ps
Gain	Excellent SPAD timing resolution is degraded				
DCR	by the current aSIPM and dSIPM architectures: interconnection, skew, etc				
ENF	1.1	1.0x	1.1	?	1.05
Radiation hardness	Good	lower	lower	lower	Good
Reliability/Life	Good	Good	Good	Good	moderate
magnetic field tolerance	bad	Good	Good	Good	moderate
Temperature sensitivit	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
<u>Fast Advanced Scintillator Timing</u>					
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- No detector is yet valid to reach a SPTR of 20 ps !!!
- The problem can not be solved only by FE optmization
- NEW SENSOR+FE system is required !!!



Research at TU Delft

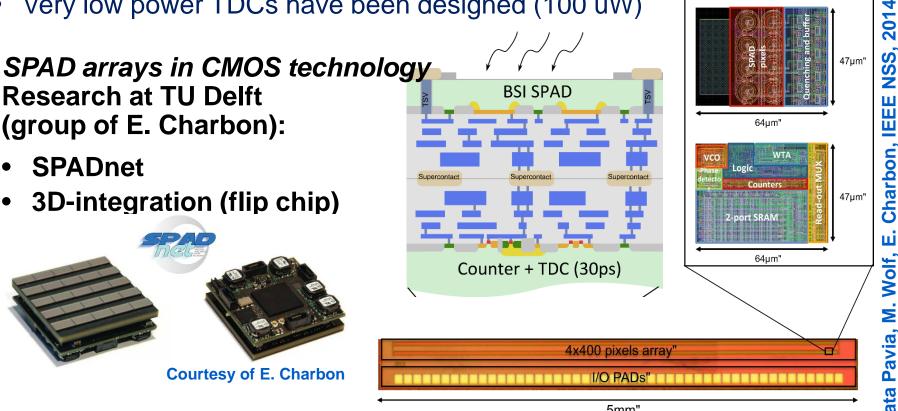
SPADnet

(group of E. Charbon):

3D-integration (flip chip)

Courtesy of E. Charbon

- 3D integration allows 1 TDC per SPAD: no interconnection problem
- Very low power TDCs have been designed (100 uW)



5mm" Anyway a typical SiPM has thousands cells

3600x100uW=360 mW (40 mW/mm²)

per cristal/SiPM not affordable !!!!

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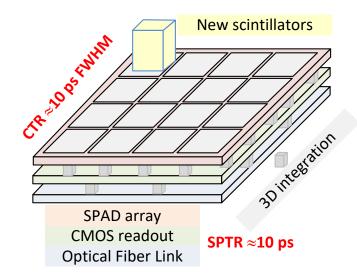
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- Two enemies to fight to:
 - 1) Capacitance: Slope (dV/dt) and noise !
 - 2) Interconnection and non-uniformities: TTS, delay, etc

R&D on new <u>hybrid</u> sensors

- SiPM microcells divided in subgroups
 - Each subgroup is readout by analog buffer and processed: sum, disc, TDC...
- Use best technology for sensor and for electronics
 - Similar as for pixel detectors in HEP: exploit vertical integration technology
 - Cooperation between sensor industry and FE developpers is required !





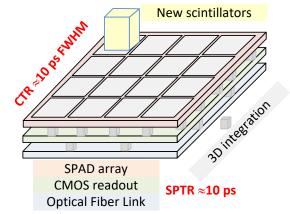
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- Two enemies to fight to:
 - 1) Capacitance: Slope (dV/dt) and noise !
 - 2) Interconnection and non-uniformities: TTS, delay, etc

HYBRID APPROACH

For SiPM/SPAD and <u>also</u> for other techs...



- SPTR should approach to the one of the SPAD
 - Sensor capacitance is much smaller
 - Interconnection can be equalized
- Other advantages: high PDE & "clean" technology



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Thanks a lot for your attention !!!

Questions?

dgascon@fqa.ub.edu





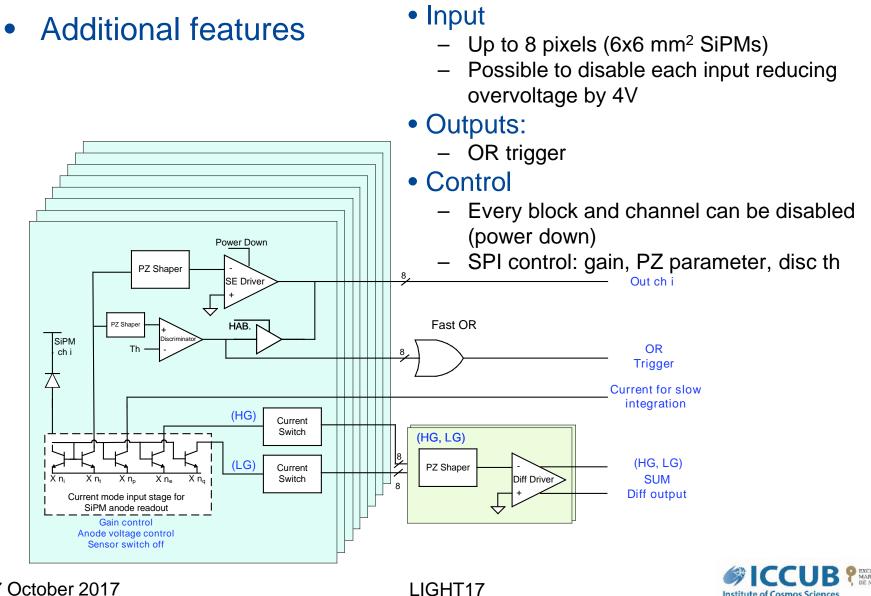




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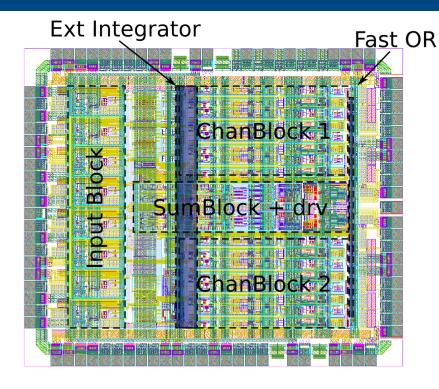
III. MUSIC: Multipurpose SiPM RO chip



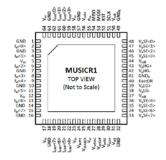
Institute of Cosmos Sciences

¹⁷ October 2017

III. MUSIC: Multipurpose SiPM RO chip



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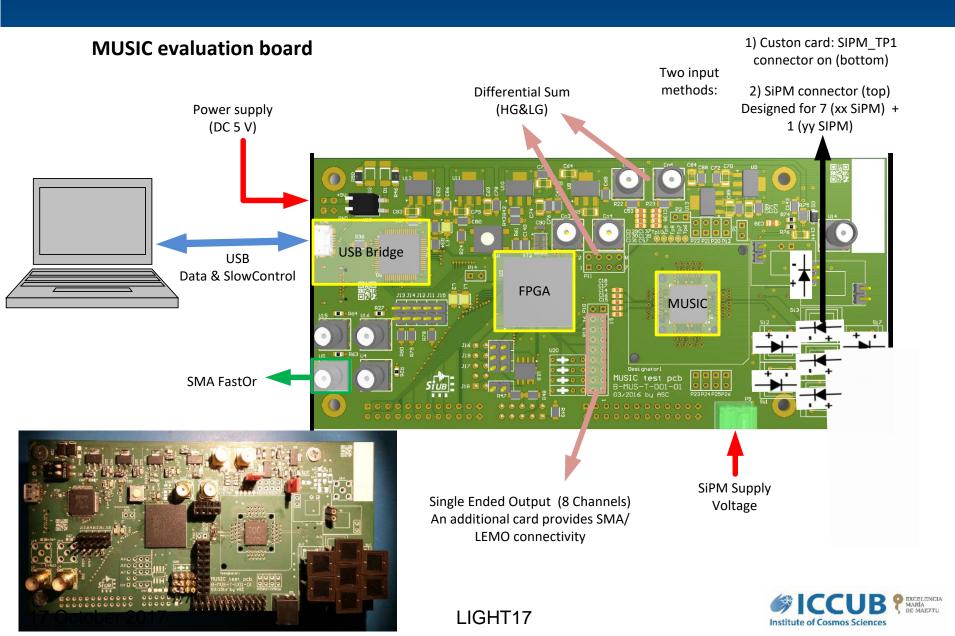
LIGHT17

- AMS SiGe 0.35um BiCMOS
- Area: 9 mm²
- 64-QFN 9x9mm package
- Power consumption between 15 and 30 mW/ch depending on the operation mode
- Received in Q2 2016

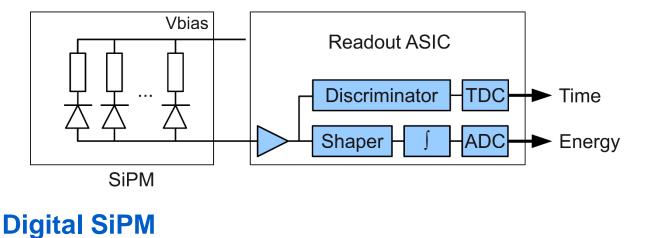


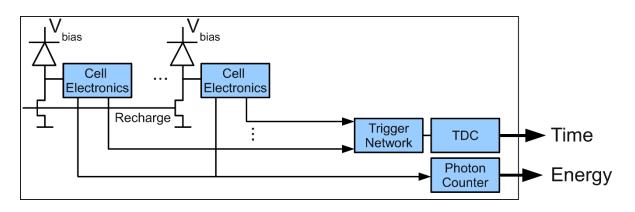
17 October 2017

III. MUSIC: Multipurpose SiPM RO chip



Analog SiPM





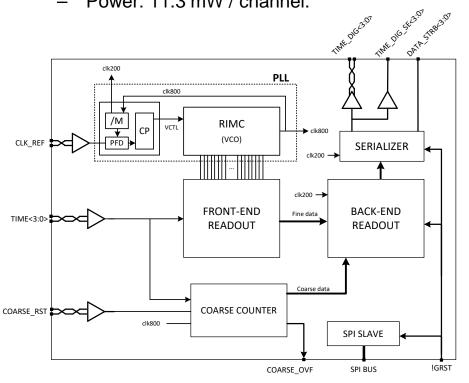
Courtesey of T. Frach & PDPC



II. MATRIX TDC

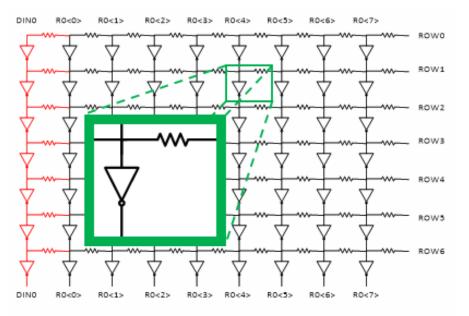
MATRIX IS a 4 ch 15 ps TDC

- 4 input channels.
- 15-ps nominal time bins.
- Jitter: 10 to 20 ps.
- Linearity: 4 ps.
- Power: 11.3 mW / channel.

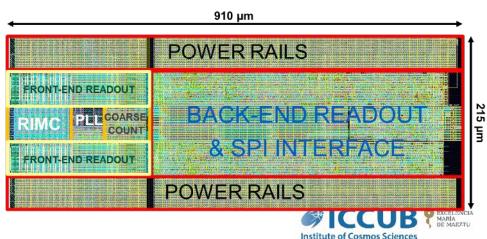


Technology: CMOS 180 nm

J. Mauricio et alt. "MATRIX: a 15 ps resistive interpolation TDC ASIC based on a novel regular structure", JINST 2016.

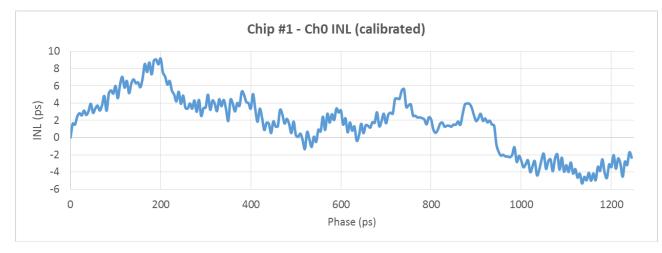


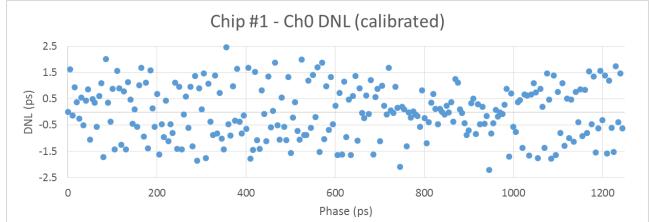
RIMC schematic: an array of Ring Oscillators



Measurement Results

• Linearity:





- INL = ± 10.2 ps
- RMS INL < 3.7 ps</p>

- DNL = ± 4.7 ps
- RMS DNL < 1.1 ps</p>



• Jitter (pulse generator + MATRIX TDC):

PLL M	TDC Jitter (ps)				
	Uncalibrated	Calibrated			
4	9.7	9.3			
8	13.4	12.9			
16	21.2	20.6			

- TDC jitter is dominated by PLL.

- M = 4 has a natural frequency (ω_n) 2X M = 8 and thus jitter improves.
- Improved by factor > 2 in MATRIXV2 TBC: just received

$$\omega_n = \sqrt{\frac{K_{VCO} \cdot I_{CP}}{M \cdot C_1}}$$

$$K_{VCO} = VCO \ gain \left[\frac{Hz}{V}\right]$$
$$I_{CP} = CP \ current \ [A]$$

 $M = fb \, divisor$

$$C_1 = large \ loop - filter \ cap [$$

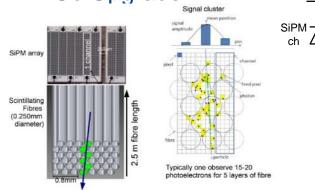
#Channels	4		
Resolution	15 ps (sub-delay), 10 ps (statistical)		
Linearity	< 4 ps RMS		
Jitter	< 10 ps (v1), < 5 ps (v2)		
Power consumption	45 mW		
Dynamic range	1280 ns		
Max. Input rate	10 MHz (sustained), 50 MHz (peak)		
Dead time	< 20 ns		
Reference clock	50 / 100 / 200 MHz		
Outputs	Individual Single Ended LVDS 		
Configurability	SPI		

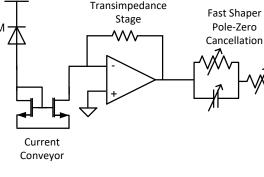


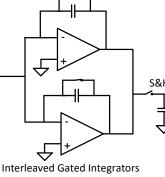
Other FE ASICs: PACIFIC

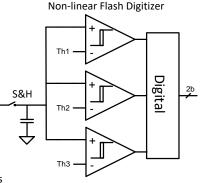
 PACIFIC: A 64 ch ASIC for Scintillating Fiber Tracking in LHCb Upgrade

Collaboration with Heidelberg, LPC-Clermont, IFIC-Valencia









• Similar input current conveyor as in FlexToT

Current conveyor with very low impedance input (≈ 30Ω)

- Adjustable gain / dynamic range
- Input voltage adjustment
- Fast tunable shaper
 - Pole-zero cancellation to cancel slow SIPM time constant
 - A FWHM of 5 ns is achieved for single-cell signal

• Dual interleaved 25ns gated integrator

- Almost no dead time
- Average photo-statistical fluctuations
- Maximize charge collection (25 ns integration)
- 2 bits 40MS/s flash non-linear ADC
- Power consumption < 8mW/channel @ 1.2 V

130 nm CMOS technology

