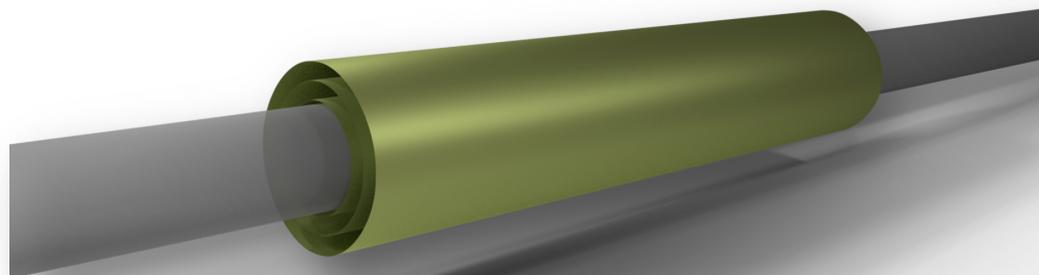


# Developments of Stitched Monolithic Pixel Sensors towards the application in the ALICE ITS3

Gianluca AGLIERI RINELLA

On behalf of the ALICE Collaboration



# Outline

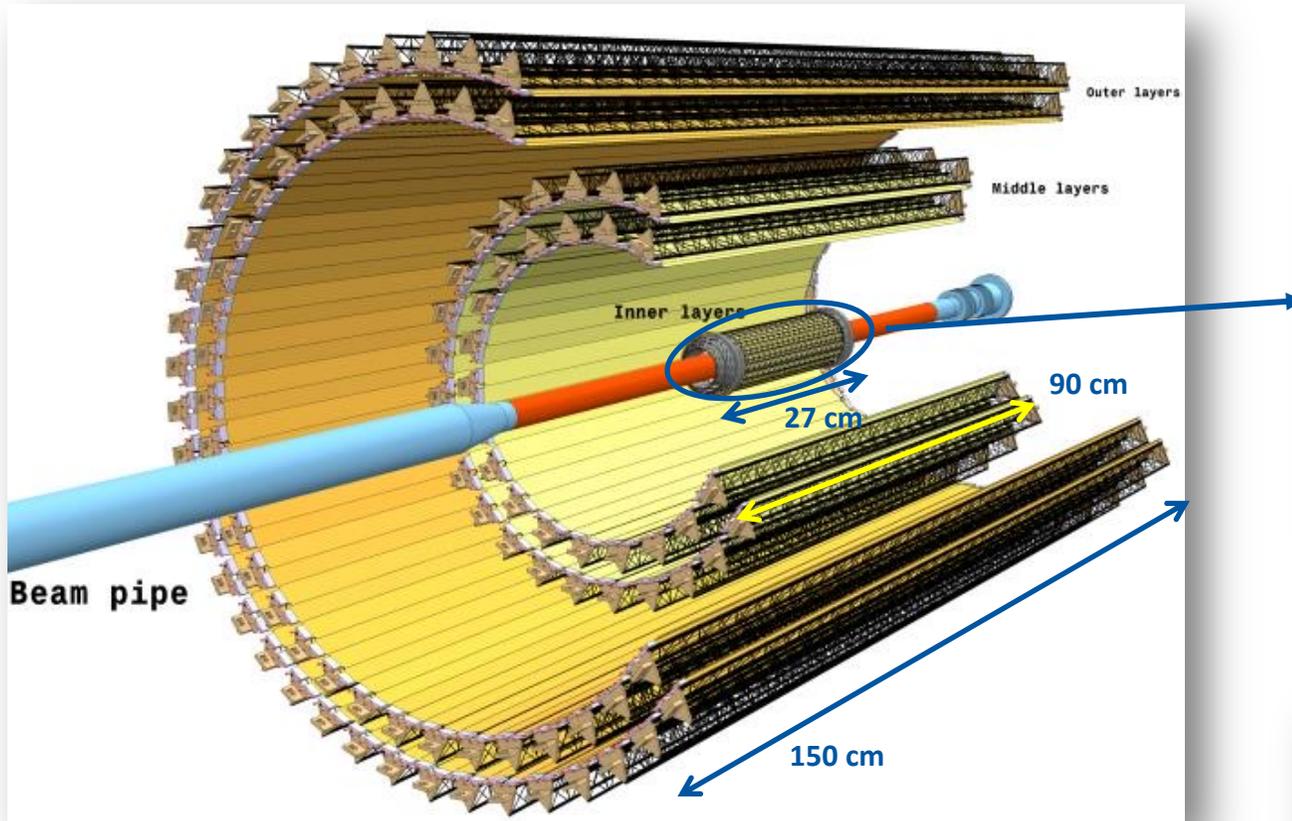


Introduction to ALICE ITS3

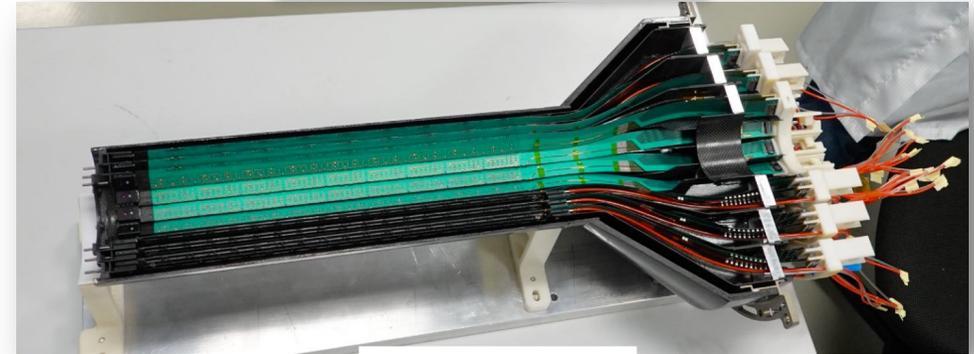
Sensor Developments

Monolithic Stitched Sensor Prototype (MOSS)

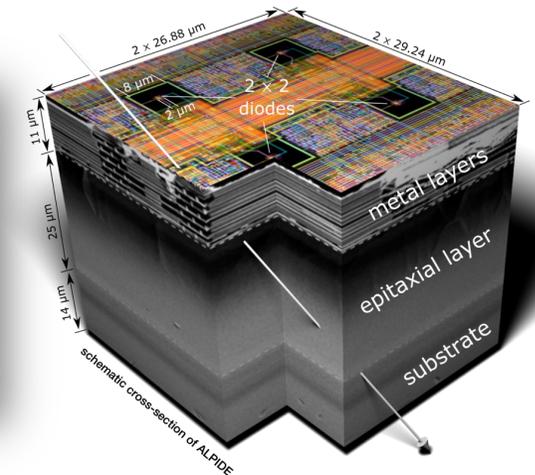
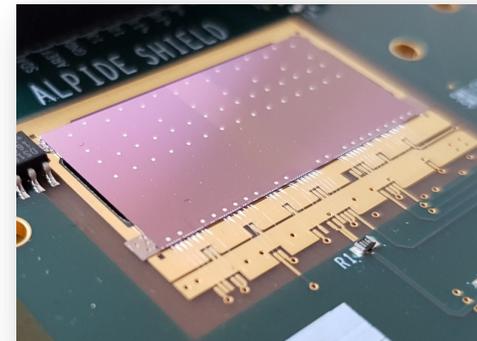
# ALICE ITS2 Inner Tracking System



ITS2 Half Inner Barrel

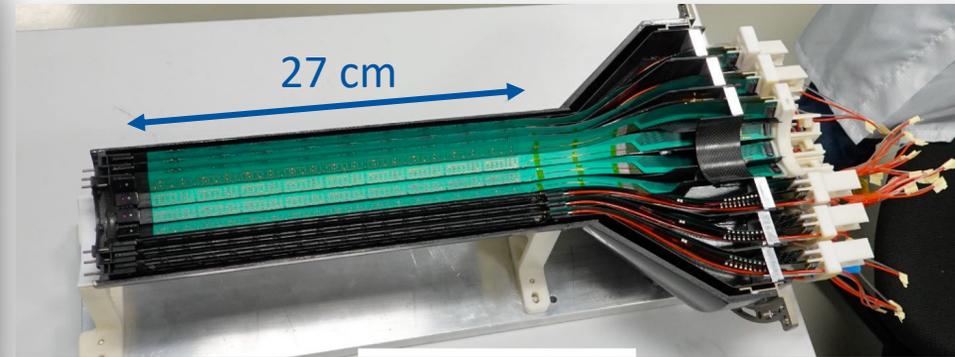
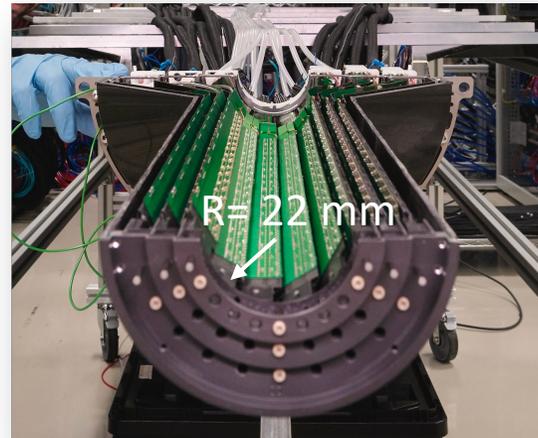


~12.5 Gpixels, 10 m<sup>2</sup> sensitive area  
24120 ALPIDE Pixel Sensors (CMOS 180 nm)



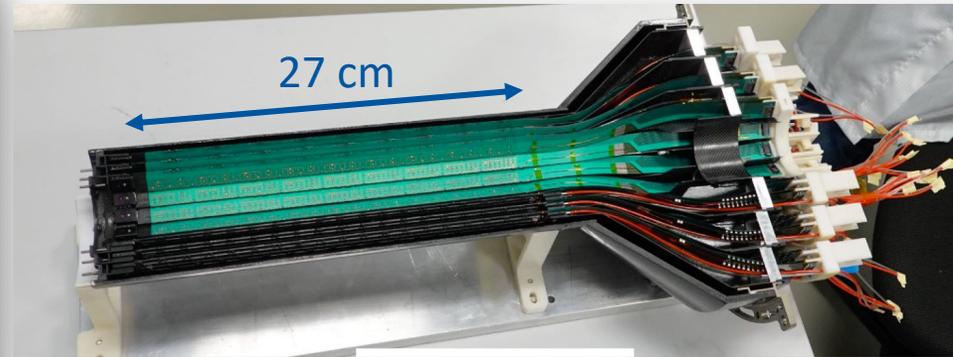
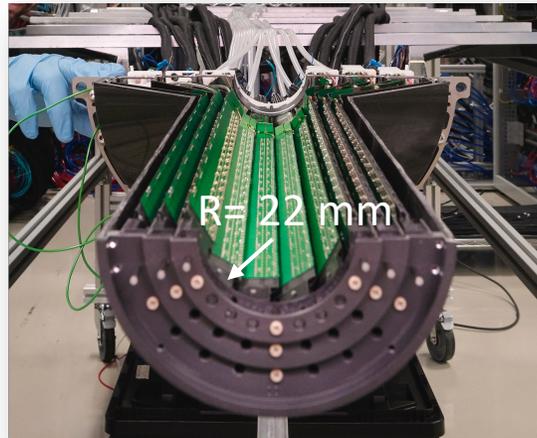
# ITS3 Concept

ITS2 Half Inner Barrel  
3 Inner Layers



# ITS3 Concept

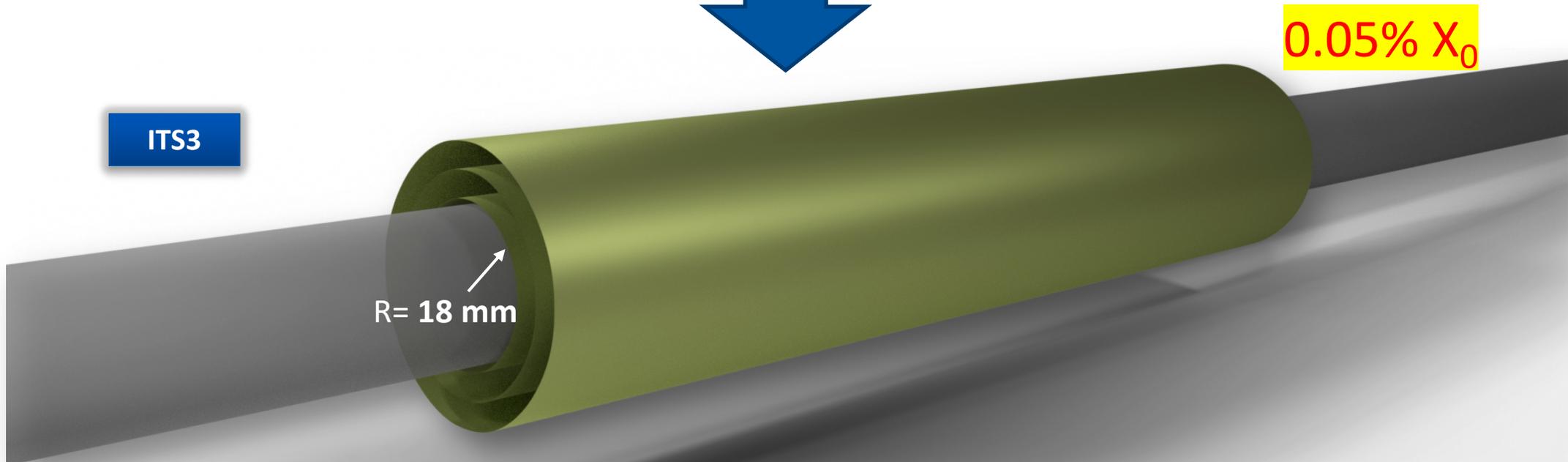
ITS2 Half Inner Barrel  
3 Inner Layers



0.35%  $X_0$

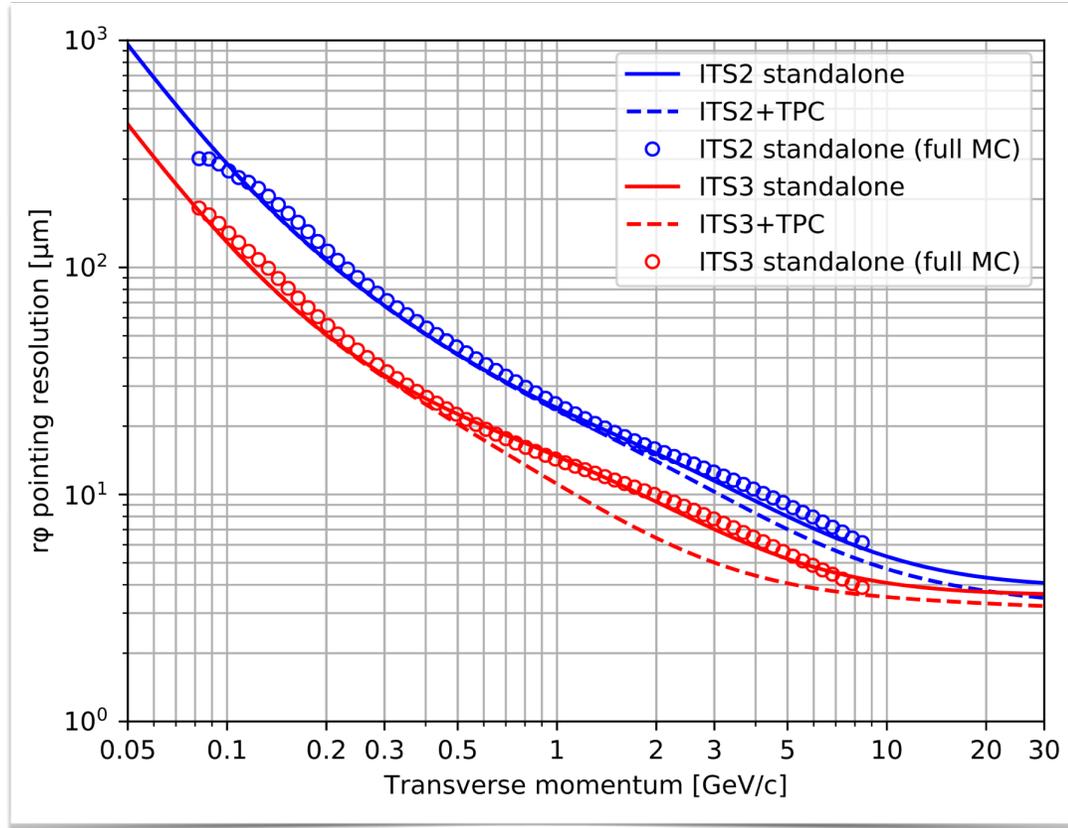


ITS3



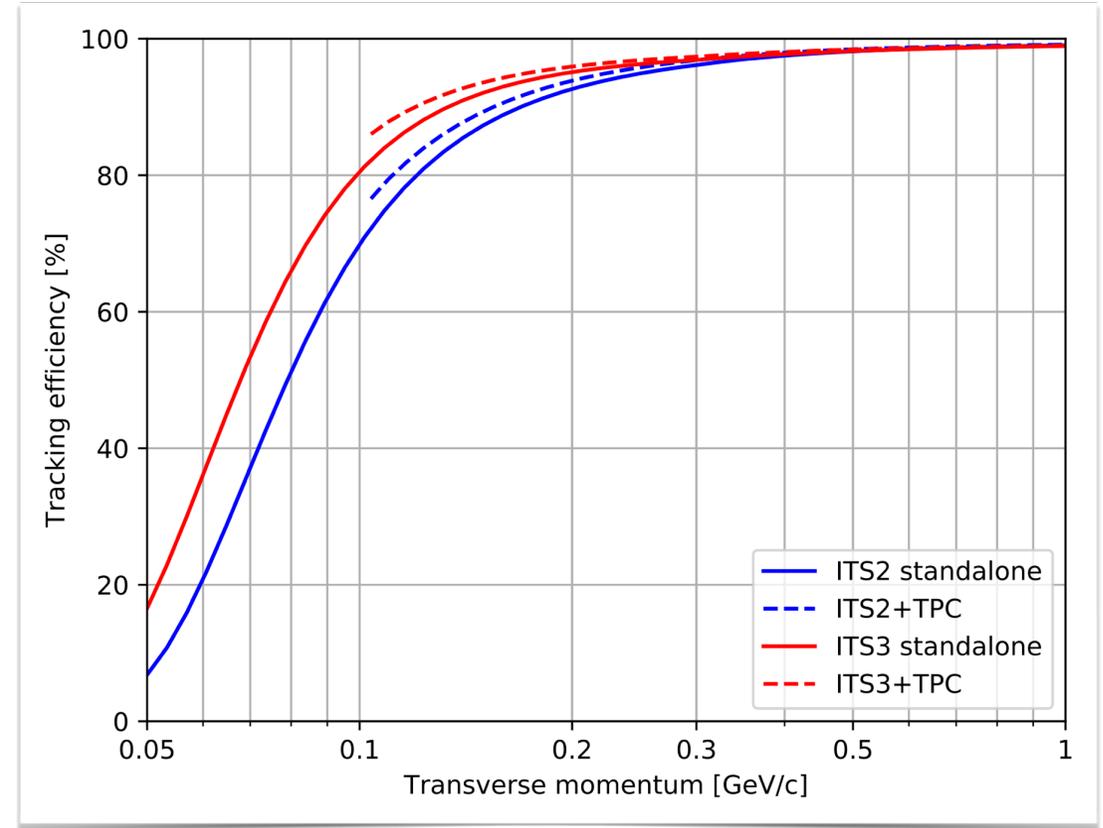
# Enhanced Tracking Performance

pointing resolution



improvement of factor 2 over all momenta

tracking efficiency



large improvement for low transverse momenta

# ITS3 Layout and Requirements

## 3 Cylindrical layers

Made with **6 curved wafer-scale single-die**  
Monolithic Active Pixel Sensors

Radii 18/24/30 mm, length **27 cm**

Thinned down to **<50  $\mu\text{m}$**

Position resolution  $\sim 5 \mu\text{m}$

-> Pixels  $\Theta(20 \mu\text{m})$

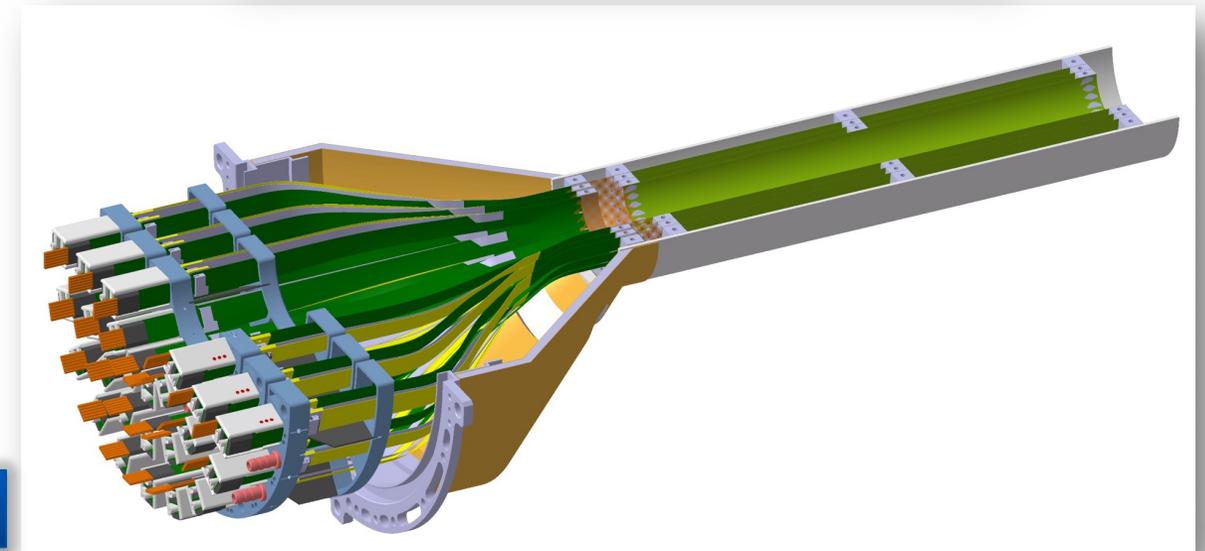
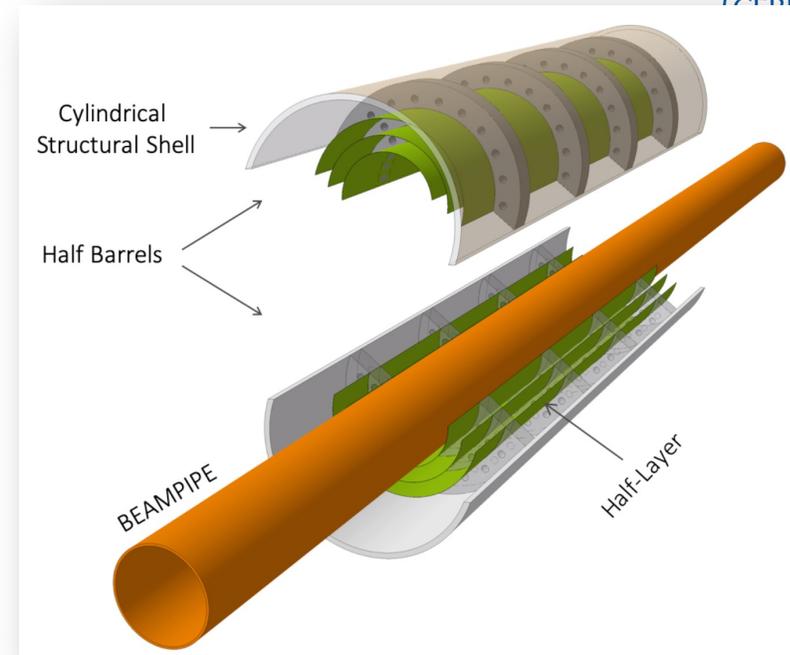
## Electro-mechanical integration

**No flexible circuits** in the active area

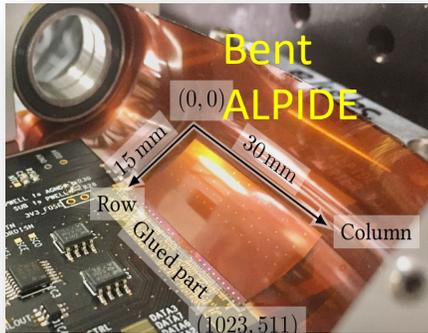
-> Distribute supply and transfer data on chip to the  
short edge

**Cooling by air flow**

-> Dissipate less than  $20 \text{ mW}/\text{cm}^2$



# Can Bent Sensors Actually Work?



Nuclear Instruments and Methods  
in Physics Research Section A:  
Accelerators, Spectrometers,  
Detectors and Associated  
Equipment

doi:10.1016/j.nima.2021.166280

Available online 10 January 2022, 166280  
In Press, Journal Pre-proof

First demonstration of in-beam  
performance of bent Monolithic  
Active Pixel Sensors

ALICE ITS project<sup>1</sup>

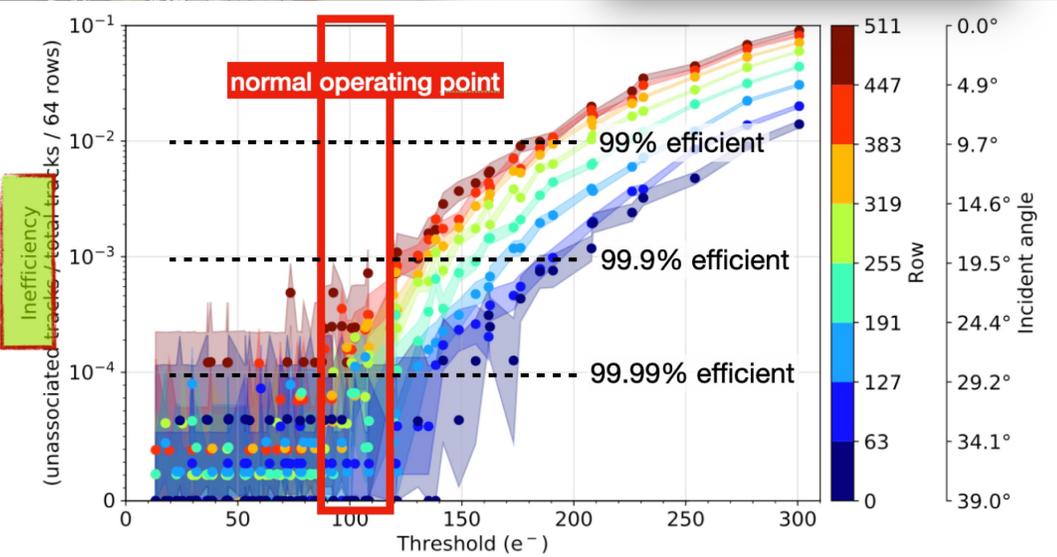
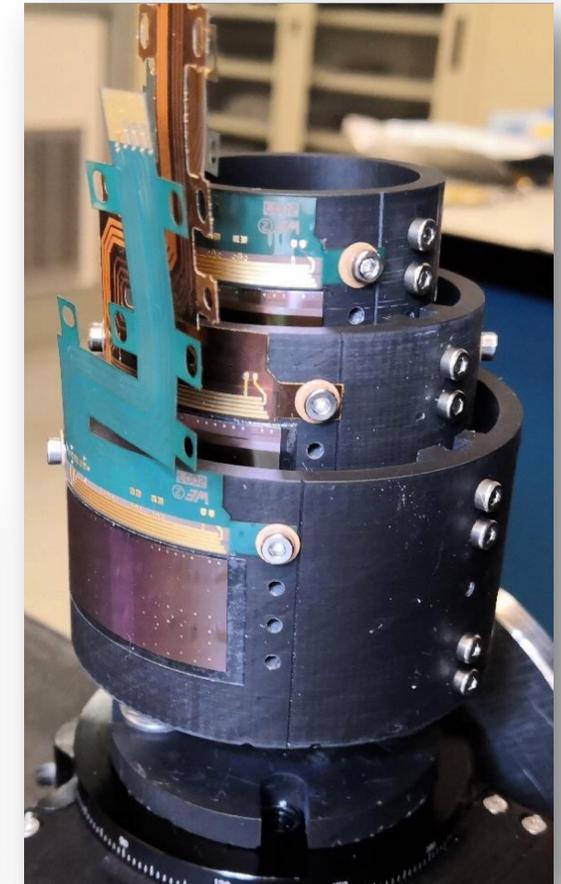
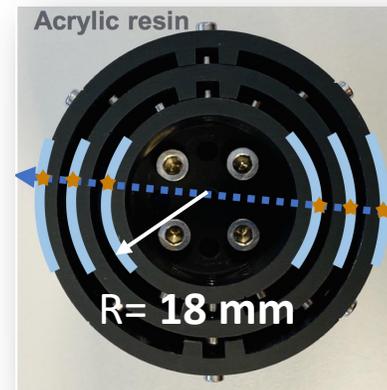


Fig. 10: Inefficiency as a function of threshold for different rows and incident angles with partially logarithmic scale ( $10^{-1}$  to  $10^{-5}$ ) to show fully efficient rows. Each data point corresponds to at least 8k tracks.

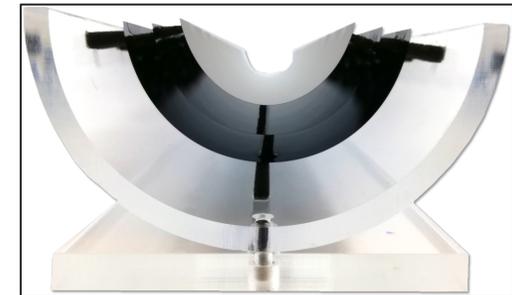
Series of beam tests  
with bent ALPIDE chips



Working of bent sensors demonstrated with ALPIDE

# Bending and Integrating large-thin silicon dies

3 dummy Si-layers integrated  
(40-50  $\mu\text{m}$  thickness)



## Sensor Development

Turn *these dummy* silicon chips into *true* single die monolithic pixel sensors

# Sensor Development Roadmap



## Technology

TPSCo ISC 65 nm CMOS Imaging  
300 mm wafers + Stitching

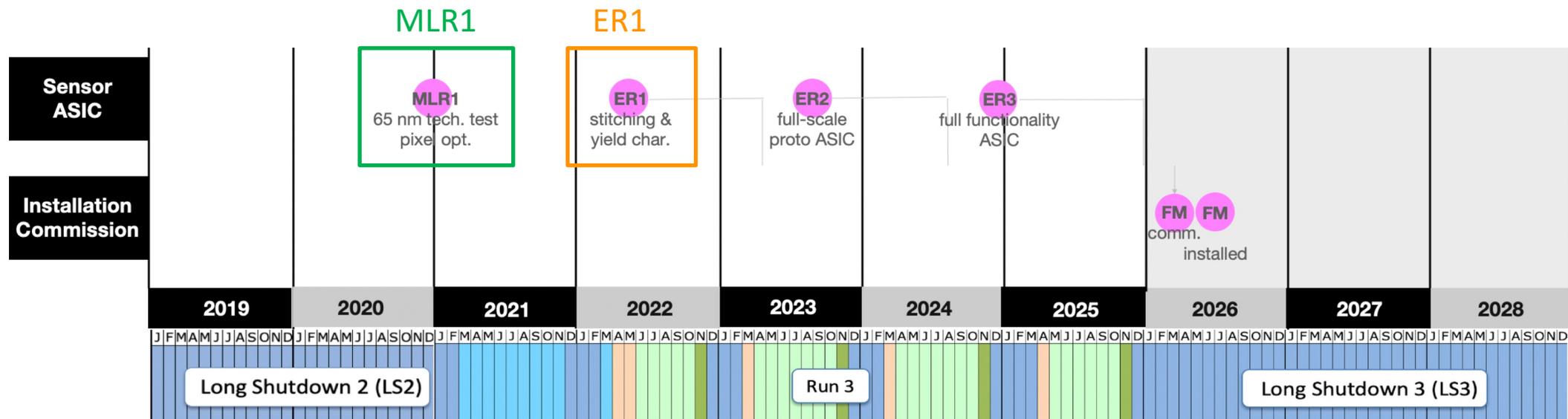
## Silicon submissions

**MLR1** (Q4 2020)

**ER1** (Q2 2022)

## Design activities framed within CERN EP RnD WP1.2

Share and coordinate development and design efforts by several teams and institutes inside and outside ALICE



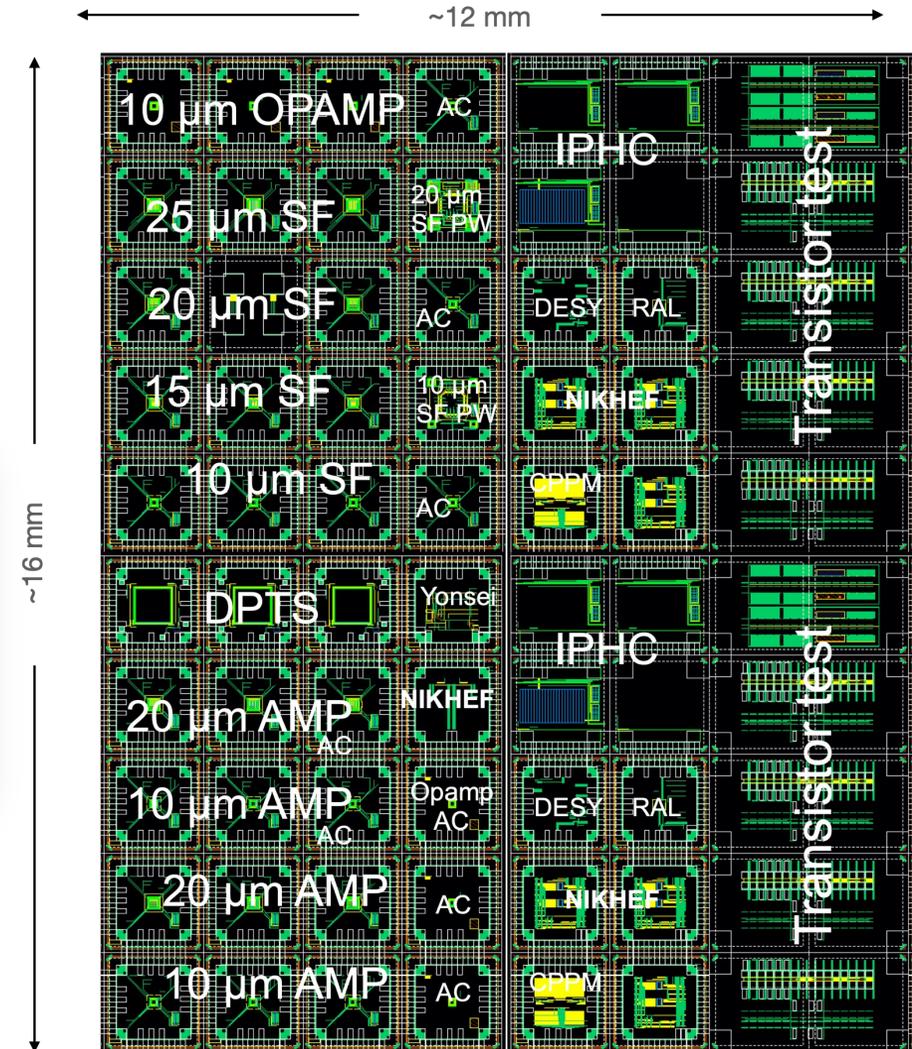
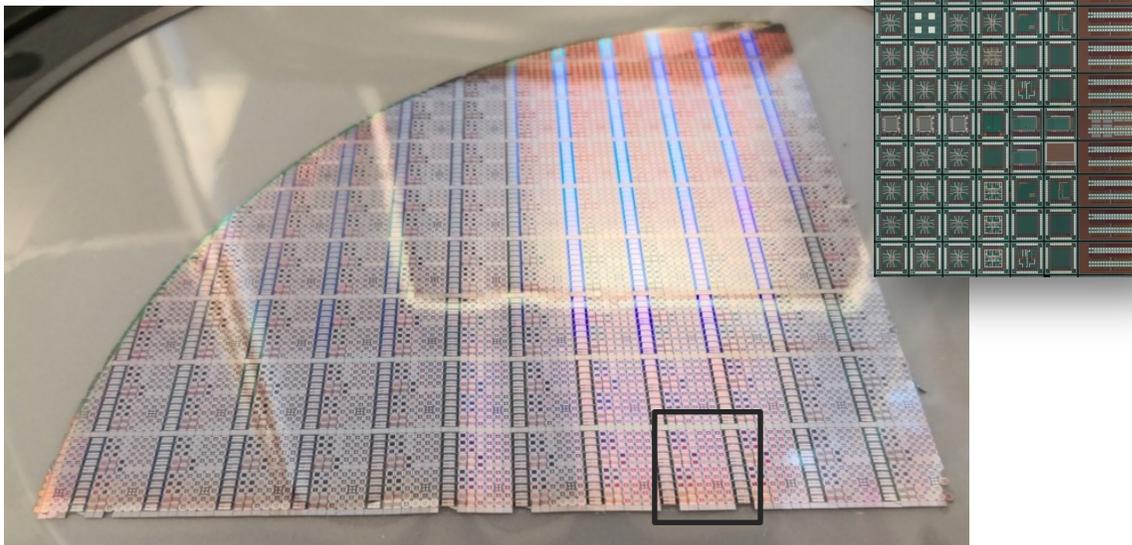
# MLR1 Submission – December 2020

## First submission in 65 nm CMOS Imaging

- Learn technology features
- Characterize devices

## Prototype circuits, blocks and pixel structures

1.5 × 1.5 mm<sup>2</sup> test chips



# MLR1 Learnings

## Transistors Tests Structures

Working as expected and similar to other 65 nm technology characterized for HEP

## Building blocks proven in silicon

Bandgap, DACs, Temperature sensor, VCO

## Pixel Prototypes

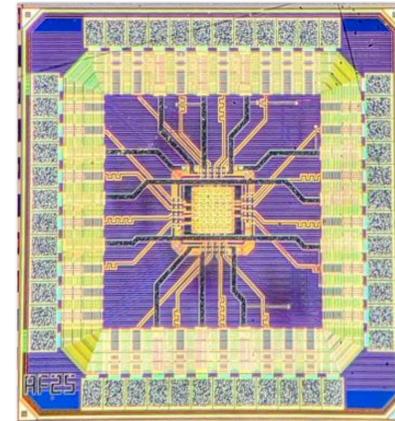
APTS, DPTS, CE65

Detailed characterisation ongoing

## Process Optimisation

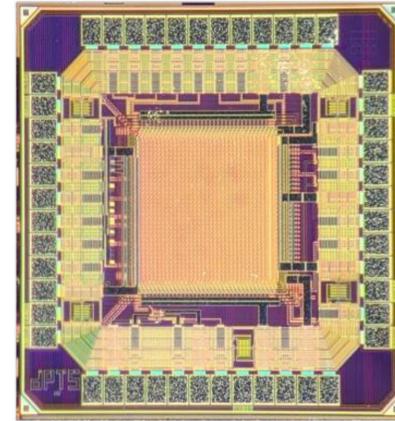
Increase margins on sensing performance

1.5 mm



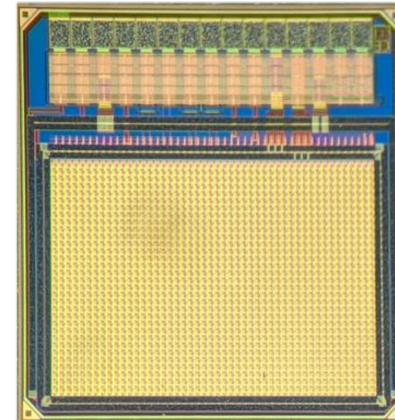
### APTS

4x4 pixel matrix  
10, 15, 20, 25  $\mu\text{m}$  pitches  
Pixel variants  
Direct analogue readout



### DPTS

32  $\times$  32 pixels  
15  $\mu\text{m}$  pitch  
Asynchronous digital readout  
ToT information



### CE65

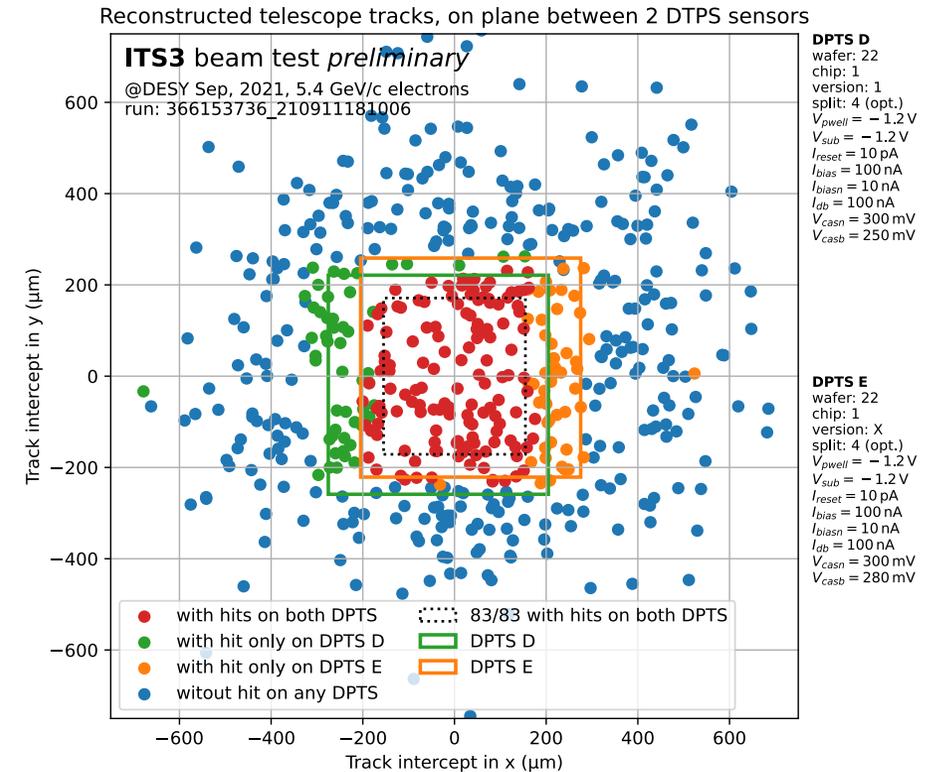
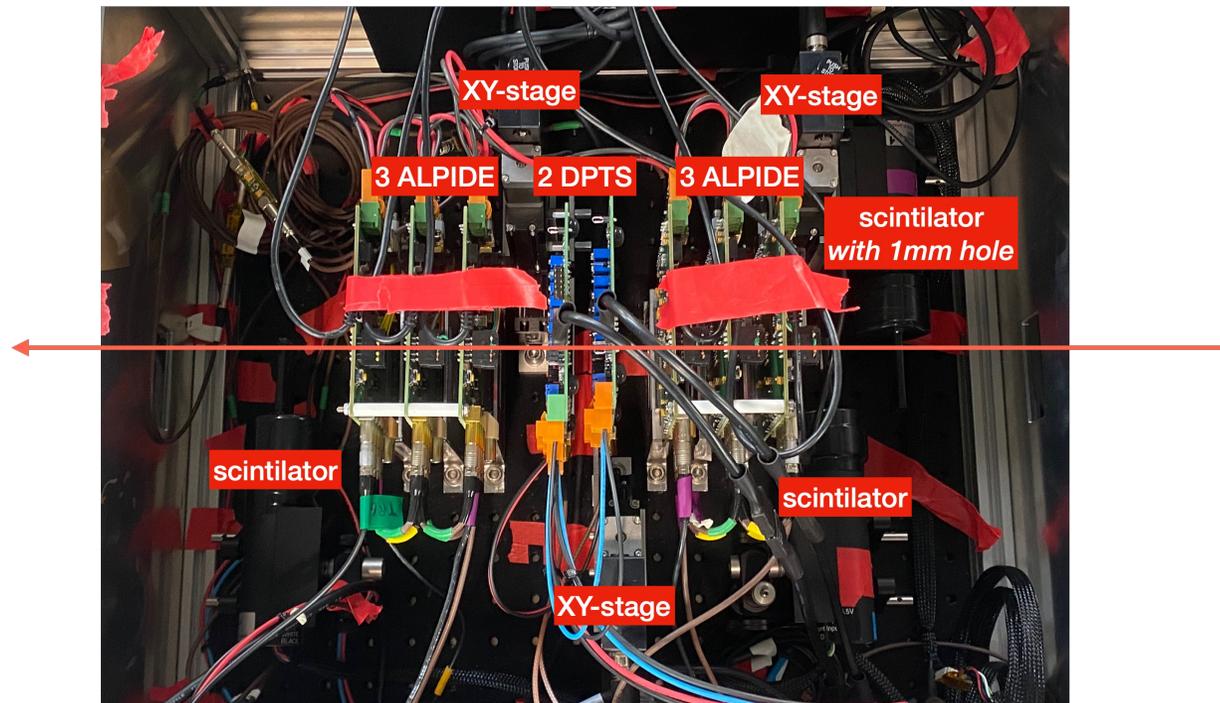
64  $\times$  32 pixels  
15  $\mu\text{m}$  pitch  
Rolling shutter analog readout  
3 pixel architectures

# Selected Example: Beam Tests with DPTS chips

Detection efficiency >99.5%

Multiple beam tests

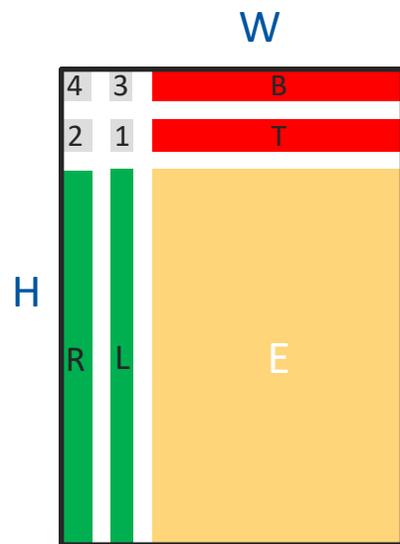
Detailed analysis ongoing, including irradiated samples



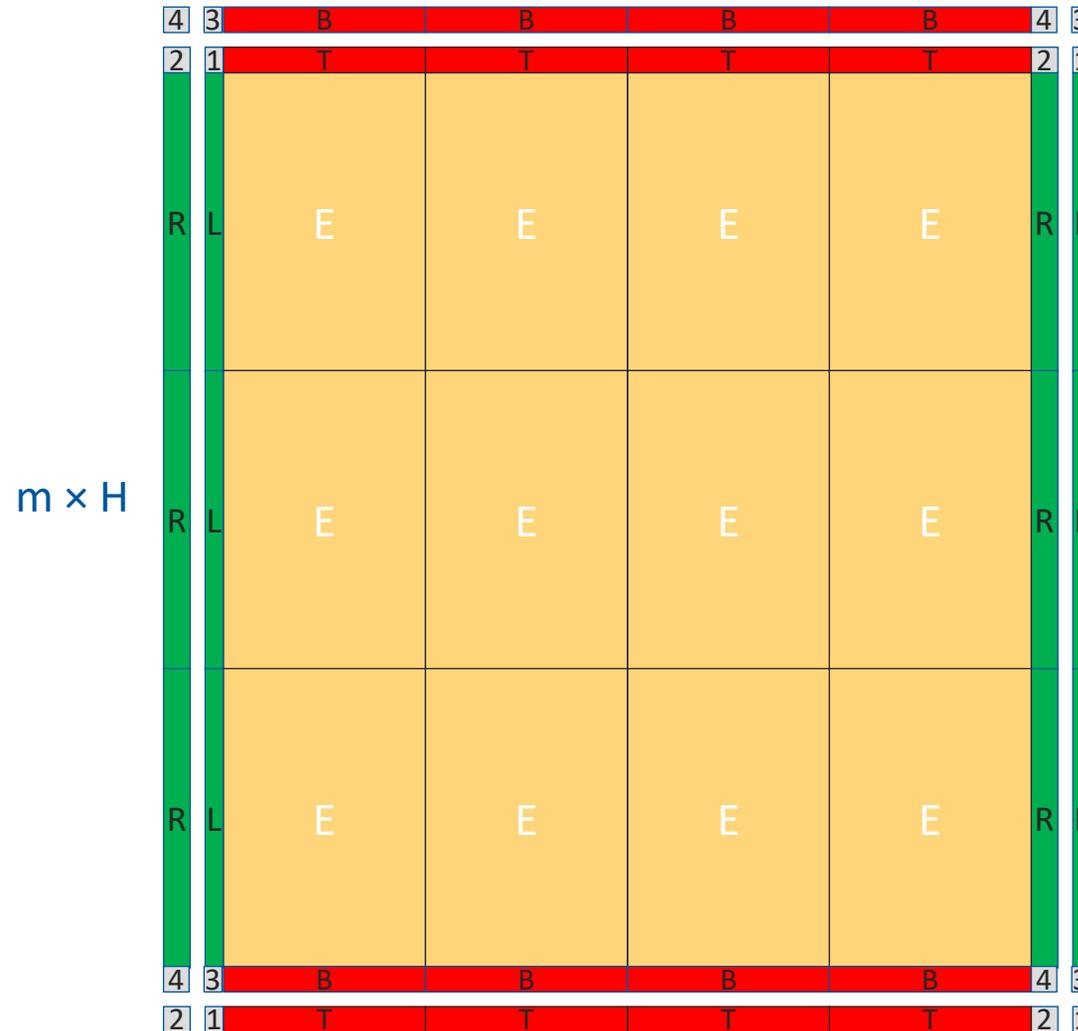
CERN EP Detector Seminar 24/09/2021

# Stitching

Design Reticle (typ. 2×3 cm)



Circuits on wafer  
 $n \times W$



# ER1 Submission

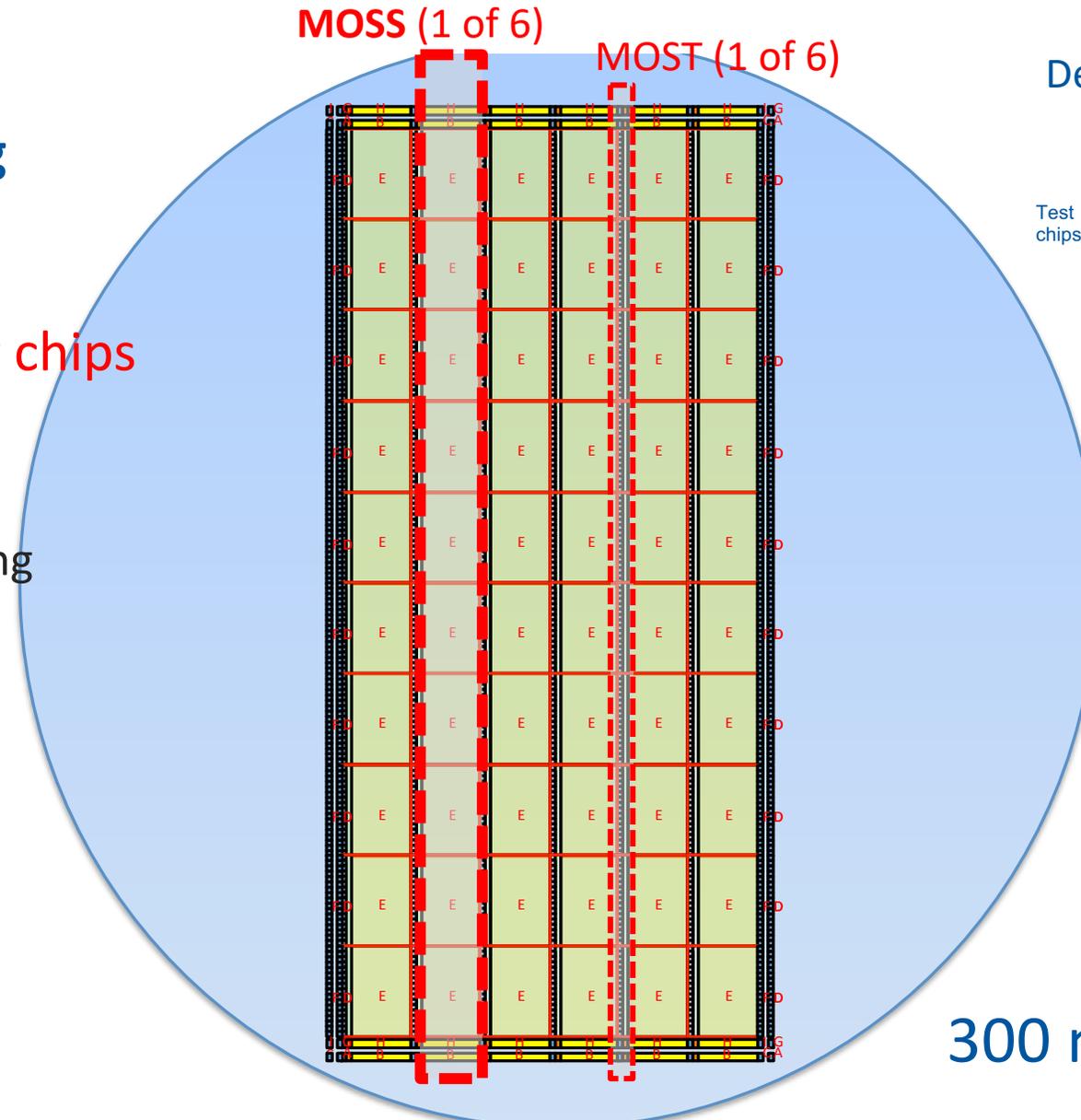
Learn and prove **stitching**

Two large *stitched* sensor chips  
(MOSS, MOST)

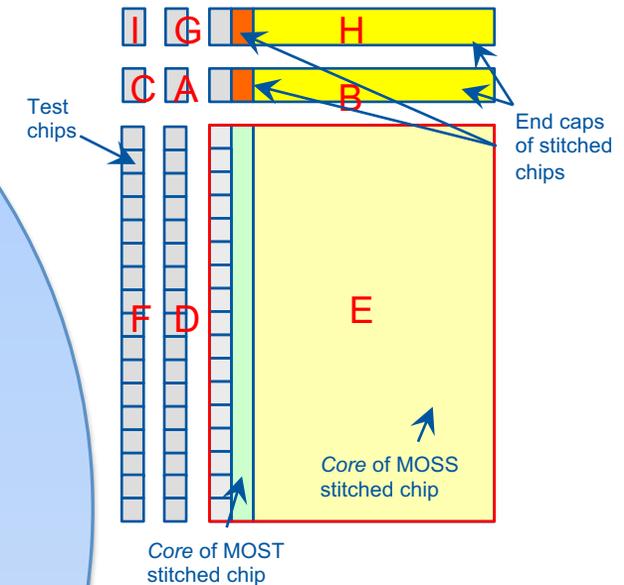
Different approaches for  
resilience to manufacturing  
faults

Small test chips

Pixel Prototypes  
Fast Serial Links

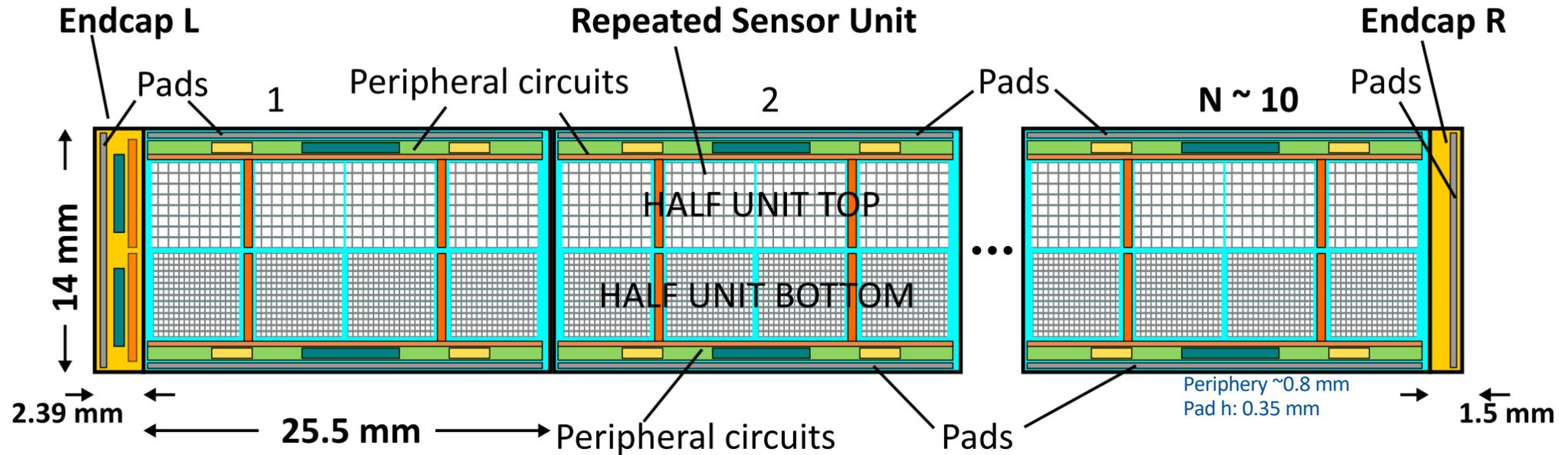


Design Reticle



300 mm wafer

# MOSS Monolithic Stitched Sensor Prototype



## Primary Goals

Learn **Stitching** technique to make a particle detector

**Interconnect** power and signals on wafer scale chip

Learn about **yield** and DFM

Study power, leakage, spread, noise, speed

## Repeated units abutting on short edges

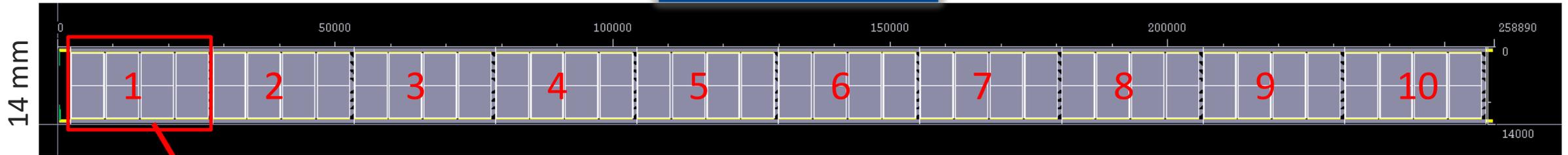
Repeated Sensor Unit, Endcap Left, Endcap Right

Functionally independent

Stitching used to connect metal traces for **power distribution** and **long range on-chip interconnect busses** for **control and data readout**

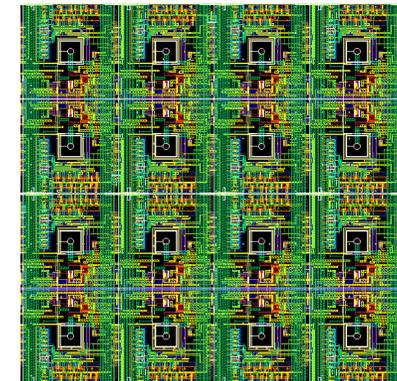
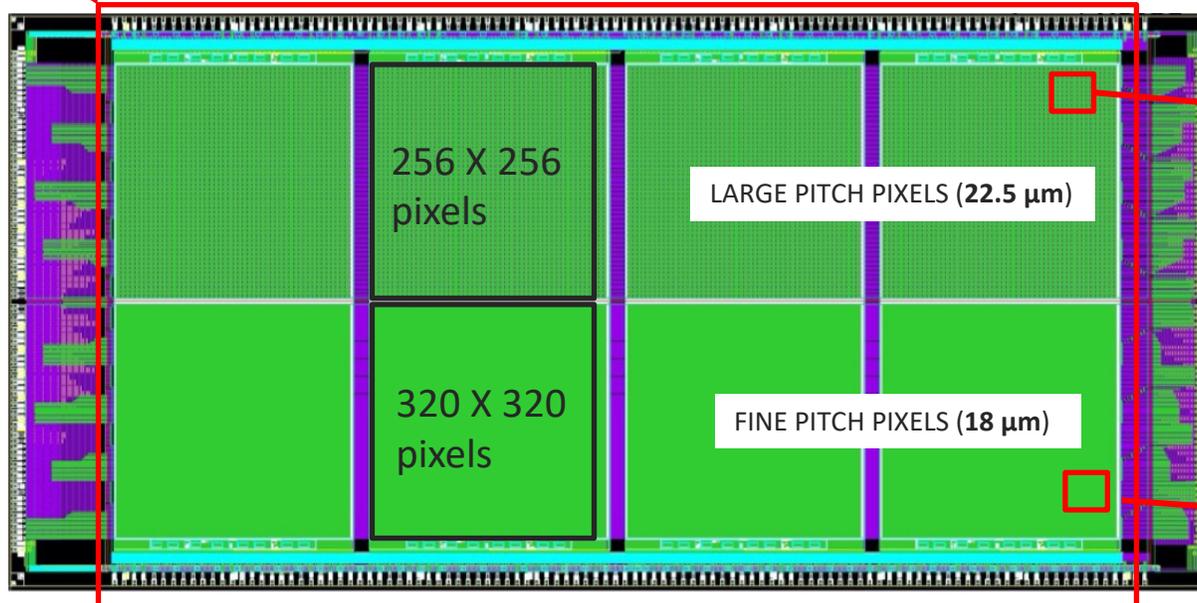
# MOSS Layout

6.72 Mpixels

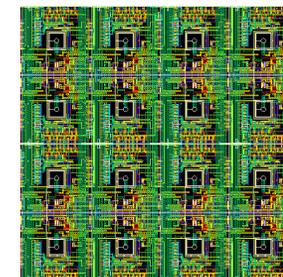


25.9 cm

1 of 10

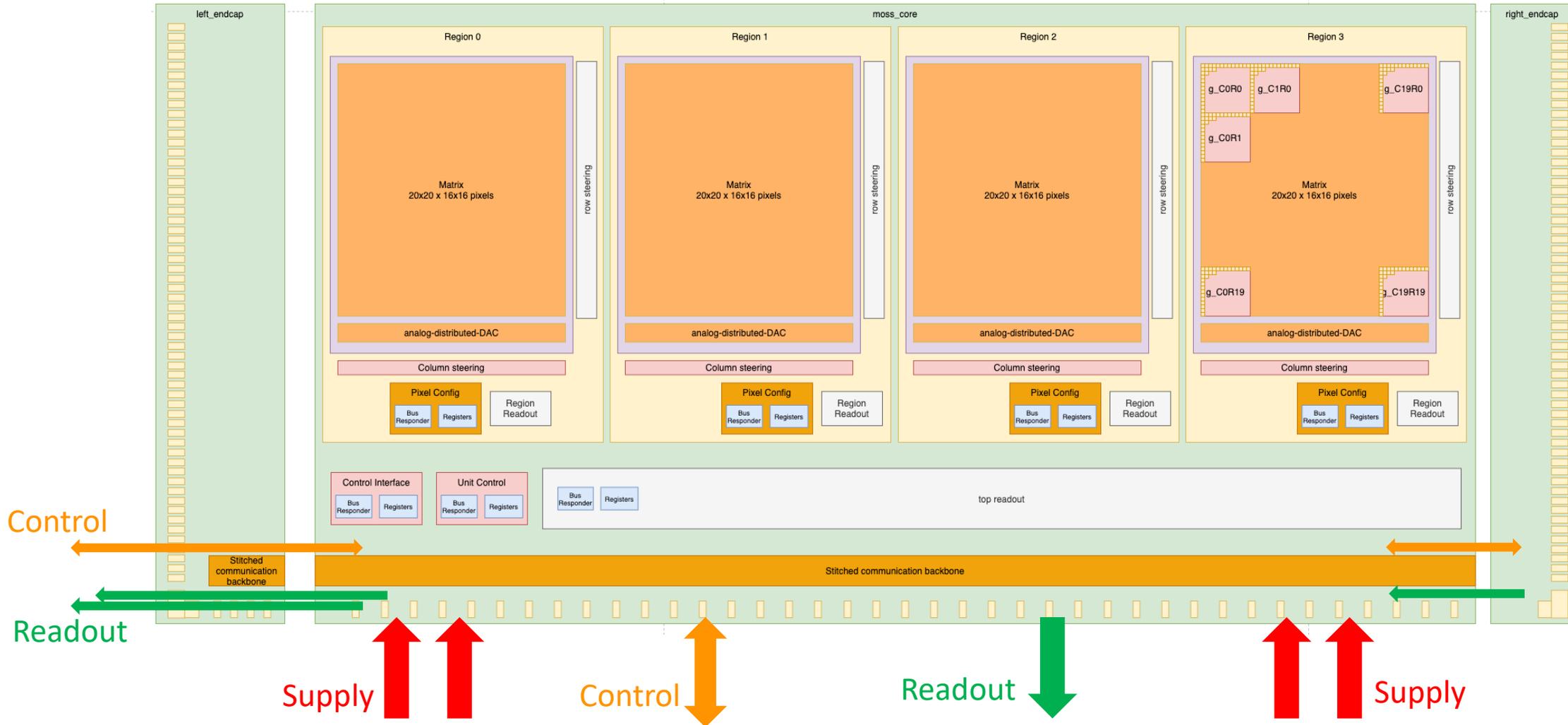
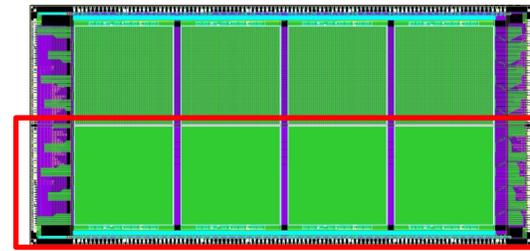


Pitch  
22.5  $\mu\text{m}$

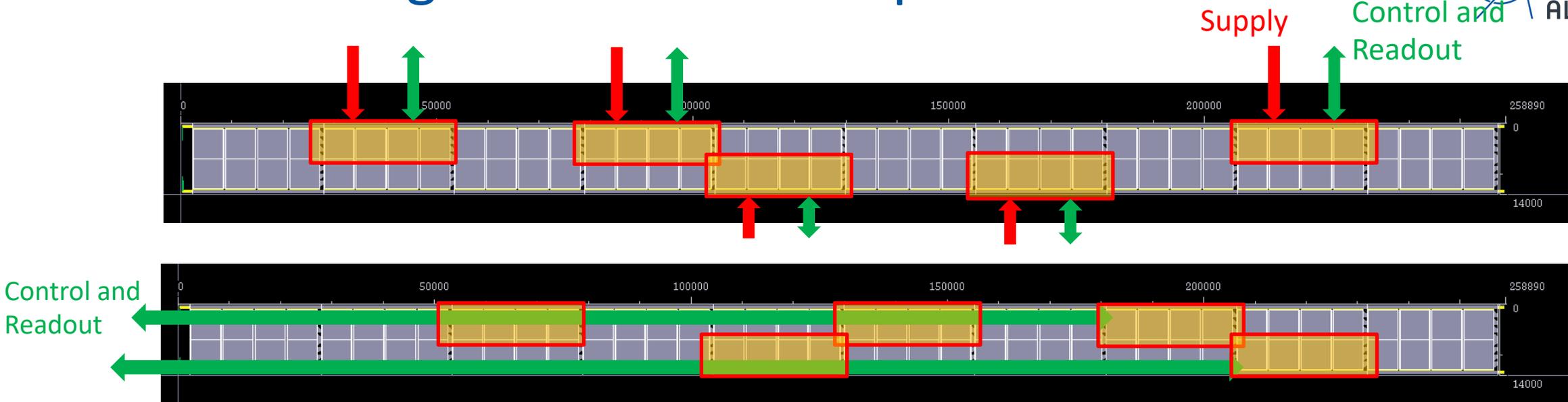


Pitch  
18  $\mu\text{m}$

# MOSS - Half Unit



# MOSS Testing Scenarios - Examples



Test the sub-units independently

Study manufacturing yield

Functional yield at half unit, block, column/row/pixel level granularity

Possible dependence on pixel pitch and layout density?

Study noise, threshold, position resolution vs pixel variants

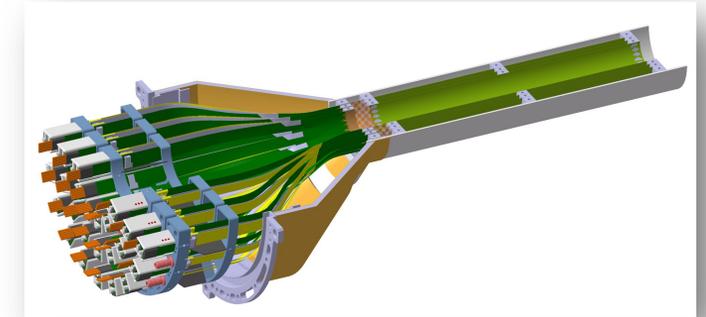
# Summary

## ALICE ITS3

Replace 3 Inner Layers of ITS2 with **wafer scale bent** monolithic pixel sensors

Proven operation of thinned sensors **bent at 18 mm** radius

Built full scale mechanical prototype



## Sensor Developments

TPSCo 65 nm technology validated for particle sensing

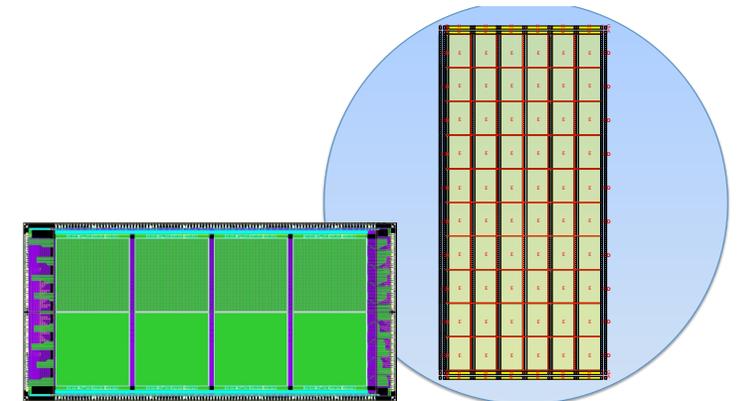
Detailed characterization of MLR1 prototypes ongoing

Next: learn stitching with ER1 submission

## MOSS chip prototype

14 mm × 25.9 cm stitched sensor chip

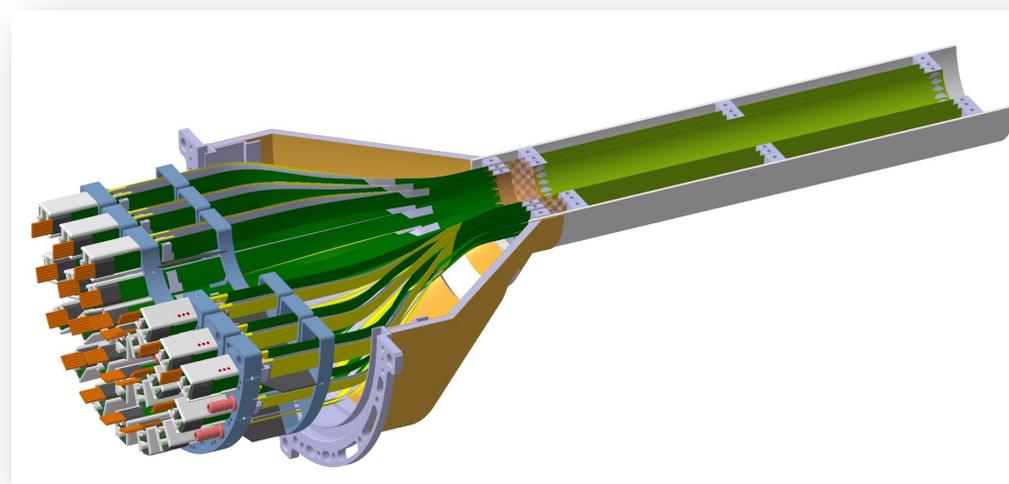
Study yield, power and signal distribution, large pixel arrays



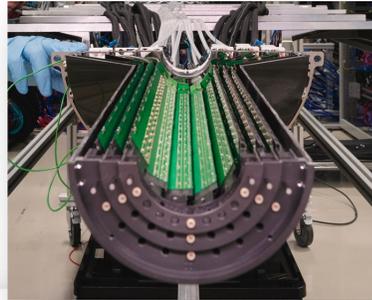
ALICE ITS3 is pioneering large area MAPS sensors and bending.  
This is sparking the interest of many groups for other experiments and applications.

# SPARE SLIDES

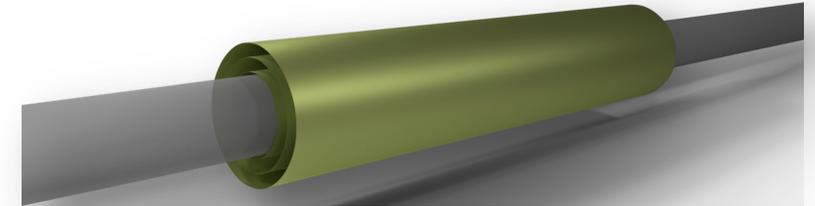
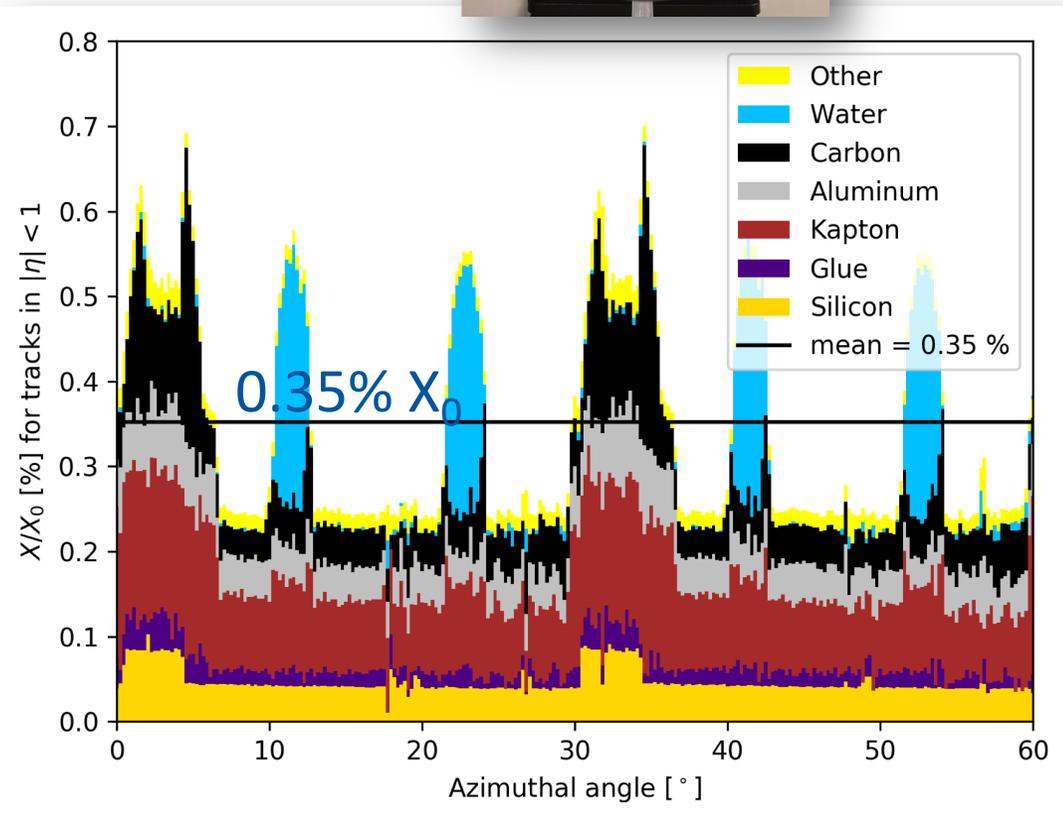
Pb-Pb Interaction Rate	50 kHz
Particle Flux	2.2 MHz/cm <sup>2</sup>
TID	<10 kGy
NIEL	$1 \times 10^{13}$ 1 MeV $n_{eq}$ cm <sup>-2</sup>



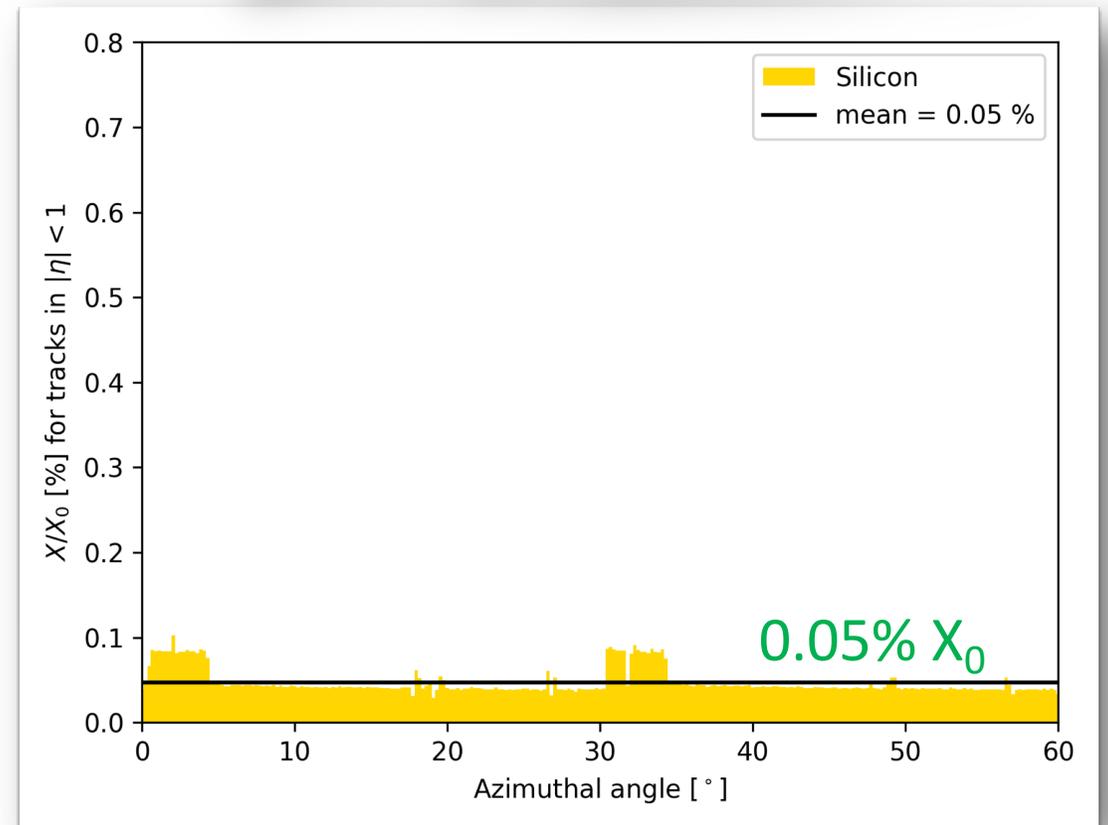
# Reduce Material Budget



## ITS2 Inner Barrel

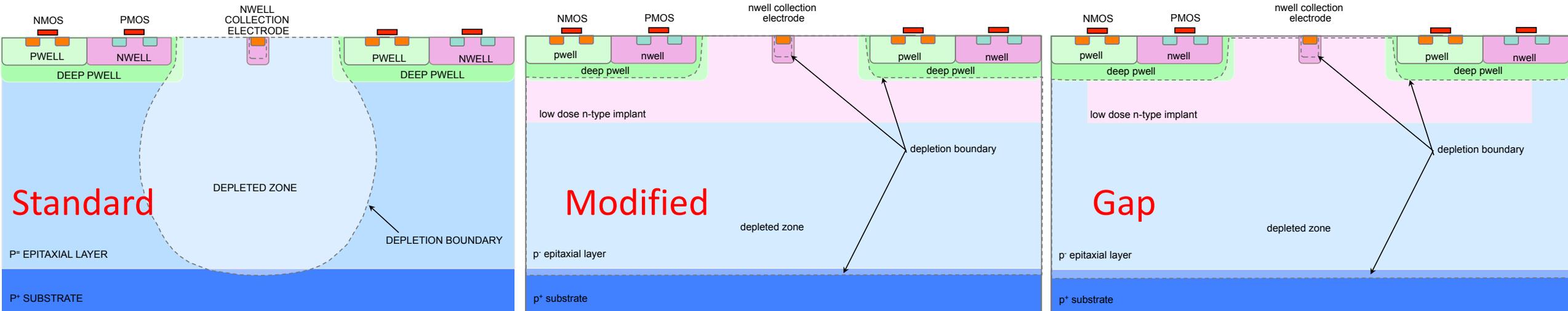


## ITS3



# Process modifications

Similar optimization as in 180nm, but **modifications needed even more in 65 nm** for good charge collection.



<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nima.2017.07.046>  
(180nm)

<https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1748-0221/14/05/C05013> (180nm)

Charge collection speed →

← Charge sharing

# MOSS Design Challenges

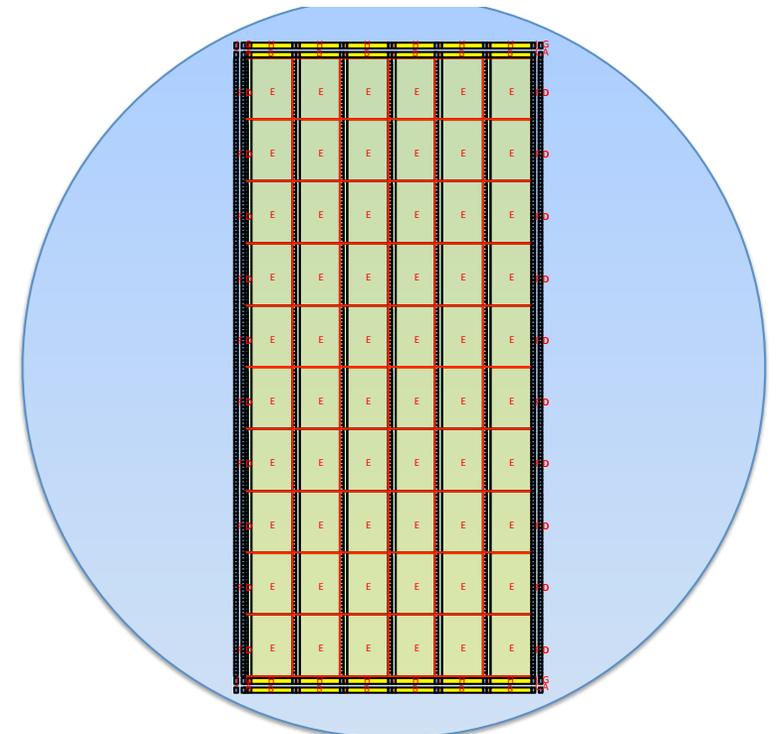
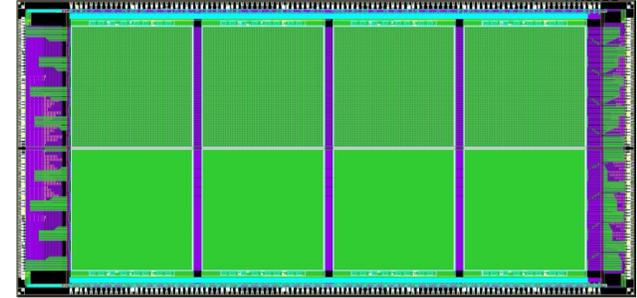
## Stitching

Significant reduction of circuit density

Long-range power distribution and signals transmission

Large number of independent power domains

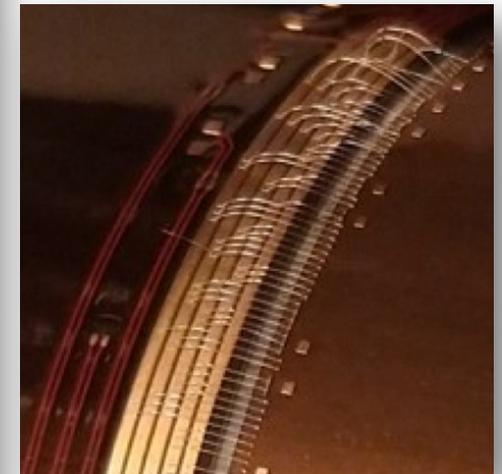
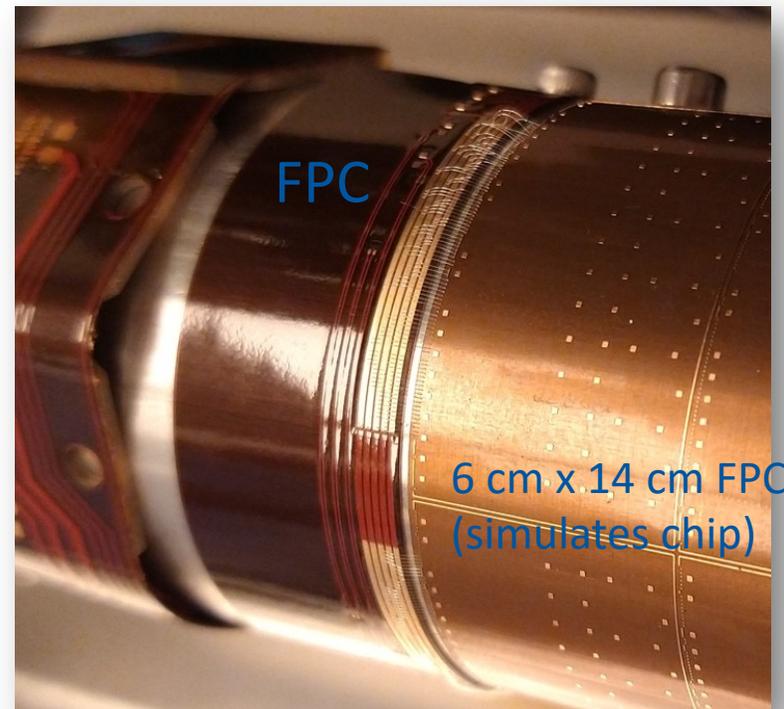
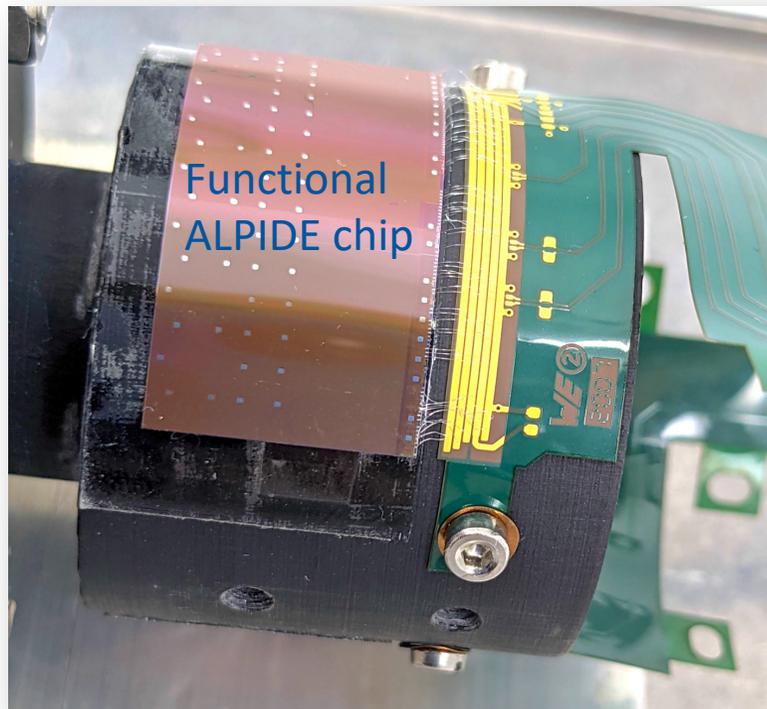
Leakage currents



# Development of Interconnects

## Bonding on curved chips and circuits

Procedures, jigs, mandrels, integration with bonding machine



# ITS2 Inner Barrel Stave

