A 3D cutaway diagram of the ePIC detector, showing its complex internal structure. The detector is cylindrical and contains various layers of detectors, including a central calorimeter and outer tracking chambers. The text is overlaid on the diagram in a large, blue, italicized font.

*Exploring the QCD frontier with  
the ePIC (electron-Proton and Ion Collider) detector  
at the EIC (Electron Ion Collider)*

*S. Dalla Torre*

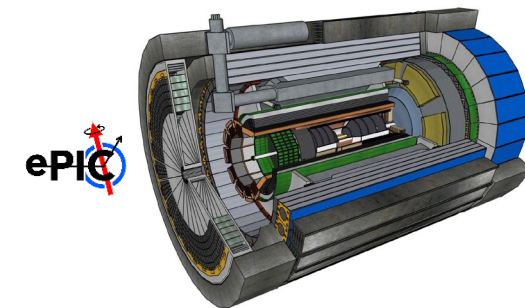
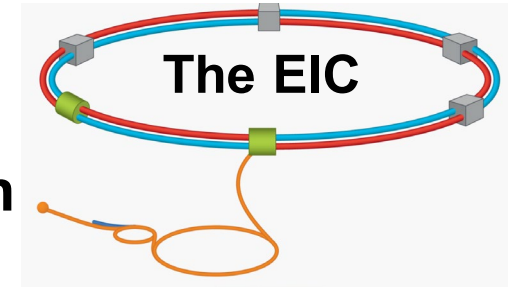
*INFN - TRIESTE*

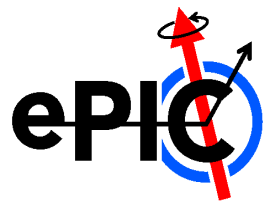


- **The ePIC context:  
the EIC project and its physics scope**
- **The ePIC detector**

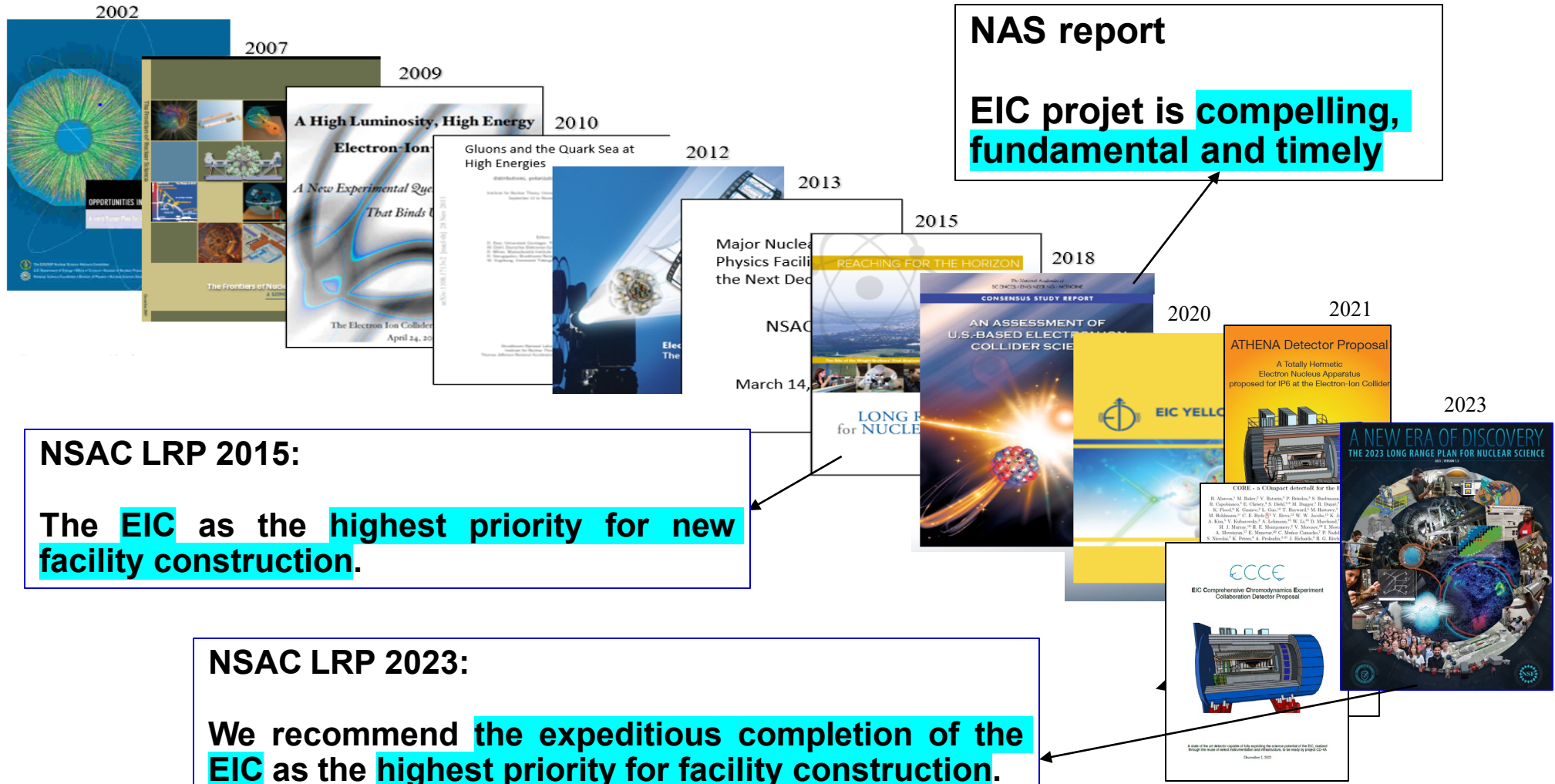
# The EIC Project in a nutshell

- Enable the ultimate QCD exploration
  - By a high-luminosity polarized electron-ion collider: **the EIC**
  - By a detector highly integrated with the collider and capable to cope with the overall EIC physics scope, **ePIC**
- Status : **approved project** progressing towards its realization at BNL
- Key ingredients : **the ample community supporting the EIC and the long dedicated effort path**





# THE PATH TO THE EIC PROJECT



**NSAC LRP 2015:**  
 The **EIC** as the **highest priority** for new facility construction.

**NSAC LRP 2023:**  
 We recommend the **expeditious completion** of the **EIC** as the **highest priority** for facility construction.

## Fresh news

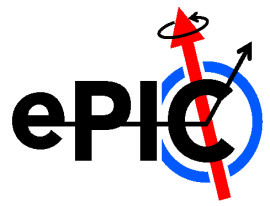
### *Major Nuclear Physics Facilities for the Next Decade*

*Report of the NSAC Facilities Subcommittee accepted on April 26, 2024, by NSAC*

“The EIC will be a new world-leading DOE facility at the forefront of scientific discovery. The Subcommittee ranks the EIC as **(a) absolutely central** in its potential to contribute to world-leading science in the next decade.”

“Concerning readiness of the facility for construction, we rank the EIC in category **(a) ready to initiate construction.**”

**DOE/NSF Nuclear Science Advisory Committee**



# The ePIC Collaboration

The community dedicated to the EIC science mission  
by the realization of the ePIC detector

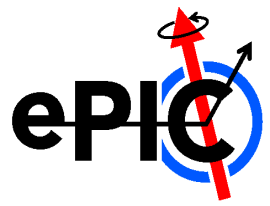
Warsaw, July 2023

JLab, Jan. 2023



ANL,  
Jan. 2024





# The ePIC Collaboration

ePIC Institutions  
177

ePIC countries  
26

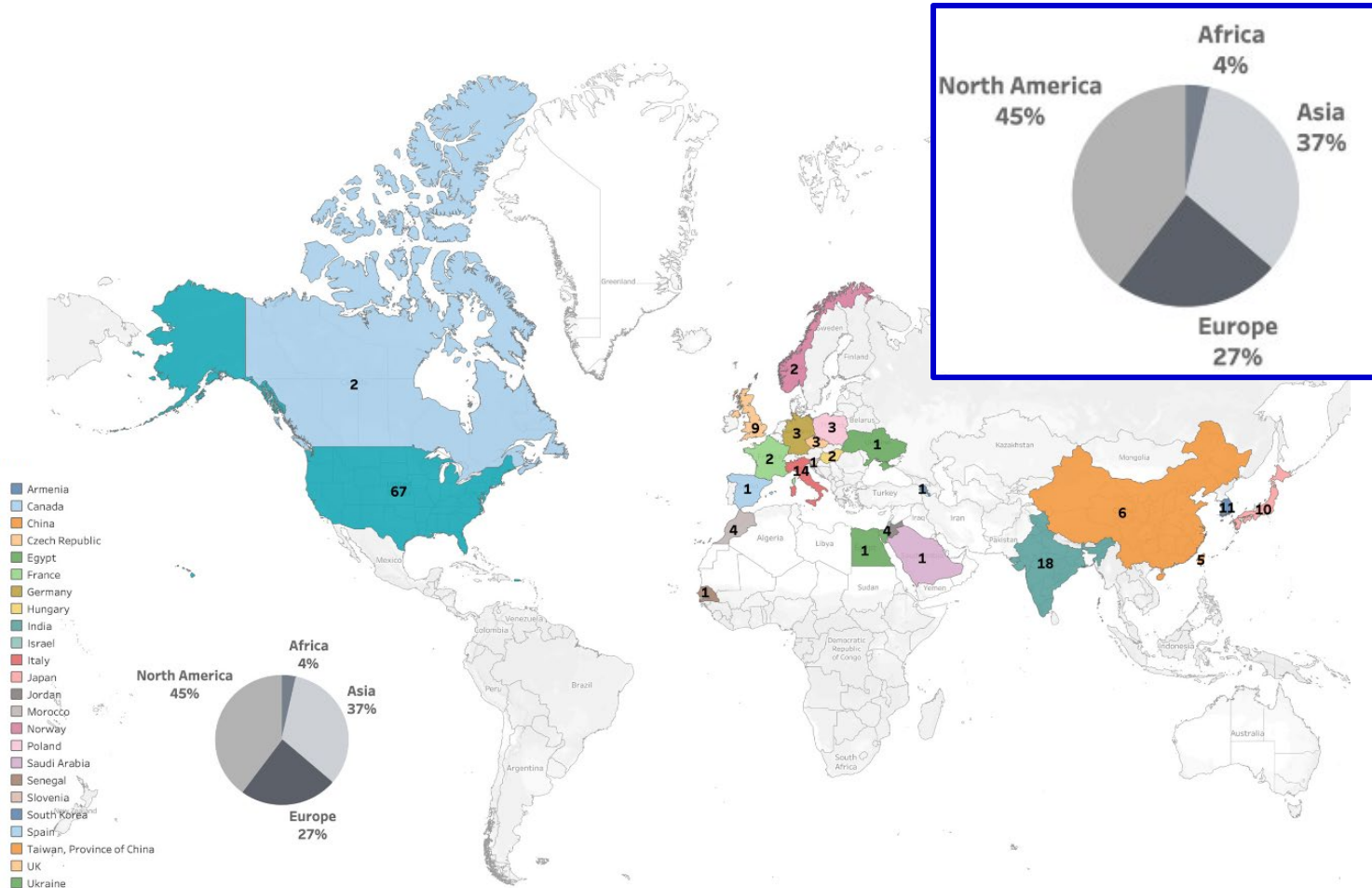
ePIC World Regions  
4



ePIC Initiated in  
July 2022

Currently:  
>850 collaborators  
(from 2024  
Institutional  
Survey)

>650 members  
active in ePIC  
activities



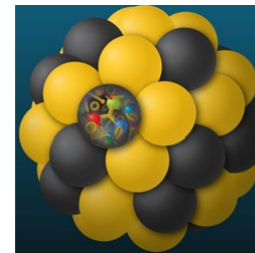
In short words:

*Investigate with precision the universal dynamics of gluons to understand the emergence of hadronic and nuclear matter and their properties*

In terms of major open questions:



How does the **spin** of the nucleon arise?



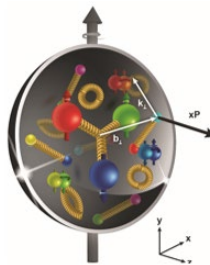
How do quarks and gluons **interact with a nuclear medium?**

How do the **confined hadronic states** emerge?

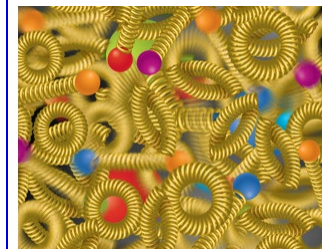
How do the quark-gluon interactions create **nuclear binding?**



How does the **mass** of the nucleon arise?



How are the **quarks and gluon distributed in space and momentum** inside the nucleon and nuclei?



What are the emergent properties of **dense system of gluons?**



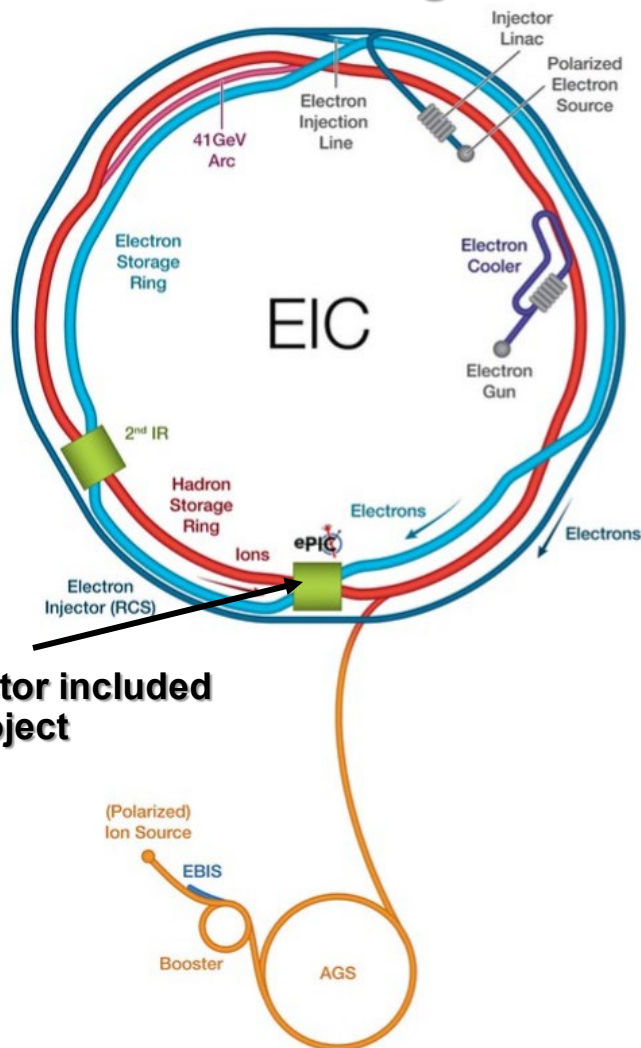
## REQUIREMENTS

- **Access to gluon dominated region and wide kinematic range in  $x$  and  $Q^2$**
- **Access to spin structure and 3D spatial and momentum structure**
- **Accessing the highest gluon densities ( $(Q_s^A)^2 \sim cQ_0^2 \left(\frac{A}{x}\right)^{1/3}$ )**
- **Studying observables as a function of  $x$ ,  $Q^2$ ,  $A$ , hadronic flavour, ...**

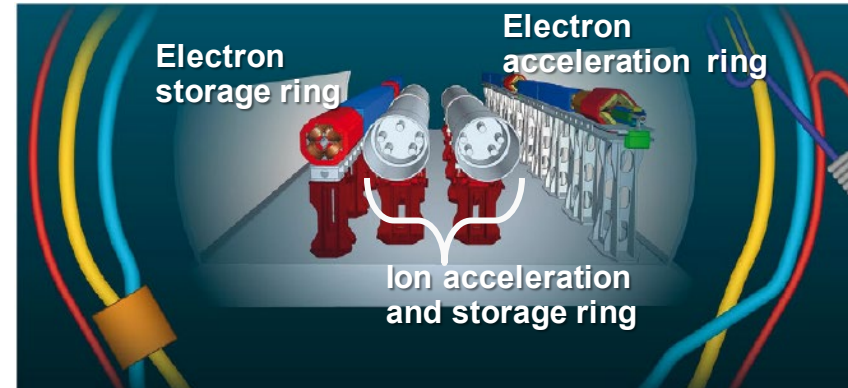
## THE EIC COLLIDER PROVIDES

- ***Large center-of-mass energy range:***  
 $\sqrt{s} = 21 - 140 \text{ GeV}$
- ***Polarized electron, proton and light nuclear beams  $\geq 70\%$***
- ***Nuclear beams, the heavier the better (from H to U)***
- ***High luminosity (100 x HERA):***  
 $10^{33-34} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$

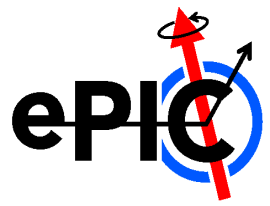
## Usage of RHIC tunnel and RHIC p/ion complex



**IP6 detector included in the project**



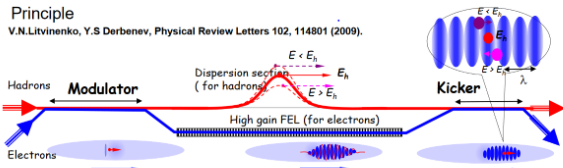
- spanning a wide kinematical range
  - **ECM: 20 – 141 GeV**
- High luminosity
  - up to  $10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$
- **highly polarized e (~ 70%) beams**
- **highly polarized light A (~70%) beams**
- wide variety of ions: from H to U
- **Number of interaction regions: up to 2**



# The EIC Collider

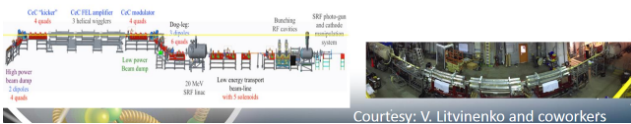
## 4 critical ingredients for HIGH LUMINOSITY

### Coherent Cooling with FEL amplifier



→ cooling of high energy Hadron beams with high band-width; BW: 1THz short cooling times to balance strong IBS

Proof of Principle Experiment at BNL, ongoing



Courtesy: V. Litvinenko and coworkers

### Bunches and beam crossing rates

Species	$p$	$e$	$p$	$e$	$p$	$e$	$p$	$e$	$p$	$e$
Beam energy [GeV]	275	18	275	10	100	10	100	5	41	5
$\sqrt{s}$ [GeV]	140.7		104.9		63.2		44.7		28.6	
No. of bunches	290		1160		1160		1160		1160	

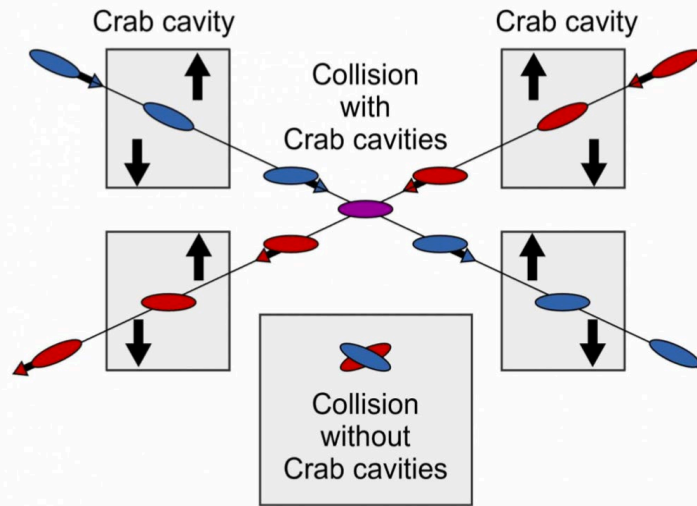
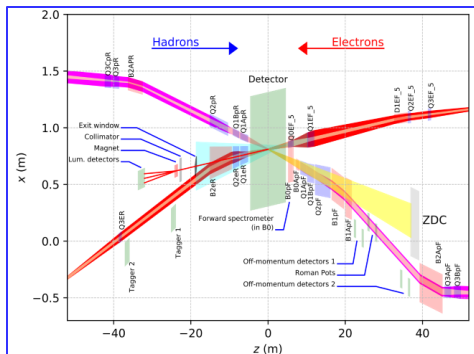
Species	Au	$e$	Au	$e$	Au	$e$	Au	$e$
Beam energy [GeV]	110	18	110	10	110	5	41	5
$\sqrt{s}$ [GeV]	89.0		66.3		46.9		28.6	
No. of bunches	290		1160		1160		1160	

Up to a beam crossing rate at the IR every 10ns  
a challenge for the collider and the experiment !

### Strong Hadron Cooling

- Work continues on Strong Hadron Cooling, both the Coherent electron Cooling (CeC) approach and a backup solution based on a ring cooler
- Both approaches were reviewed in summer, no show stoppers found in either one

**Small  $\beta_y^*$**   
→  
quads close to IP leaving ~10 m for the detector



**CRAB CROSSING ANGLE (25 mrad)**  
to restore head-on collisions

## MORE unique aspects

## BEAM POLARIZATION

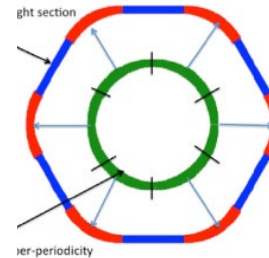
### ION SPECIES

The existing RHIC ion sources & ion acceleration chain provides already **today** all ions needed at EIC

Enormous versatility!  
is a unique capability!

Ion Pairs in the RHIC Complex	
Zr-Zr, Ru-Ru	(2018)
Au-Au	(2016)
d-Au	(2016)
p-Al	(2015)
h-Au	(2015)
p-Au	(2015)
Cu-Au	(2012)
U-U	(2012)
Cu-Cu	(2012)
D-Au	(2008)
Cu-Cu	(2005)

### ABOUT e POLARIZATION



→ resonance free acceleration up >18 GeV

on average, every bunch refilled in 2.2 min

### ABOUT p/ light ion POLARIZATION

presently

#### Measured RHIC Results:

- Proton Source Polarization 83 %
- Polarization at extraction from AGS 70%
- Polarization at RHIC collision energy 60%

empowerment

#### Planned near term improvements:

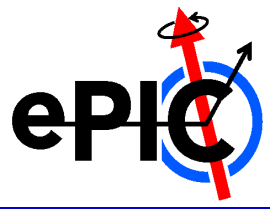
**AGS:** Stronger snake, skew quadrupoles, increased injection energy

→ expect 80% at extraction of AGS

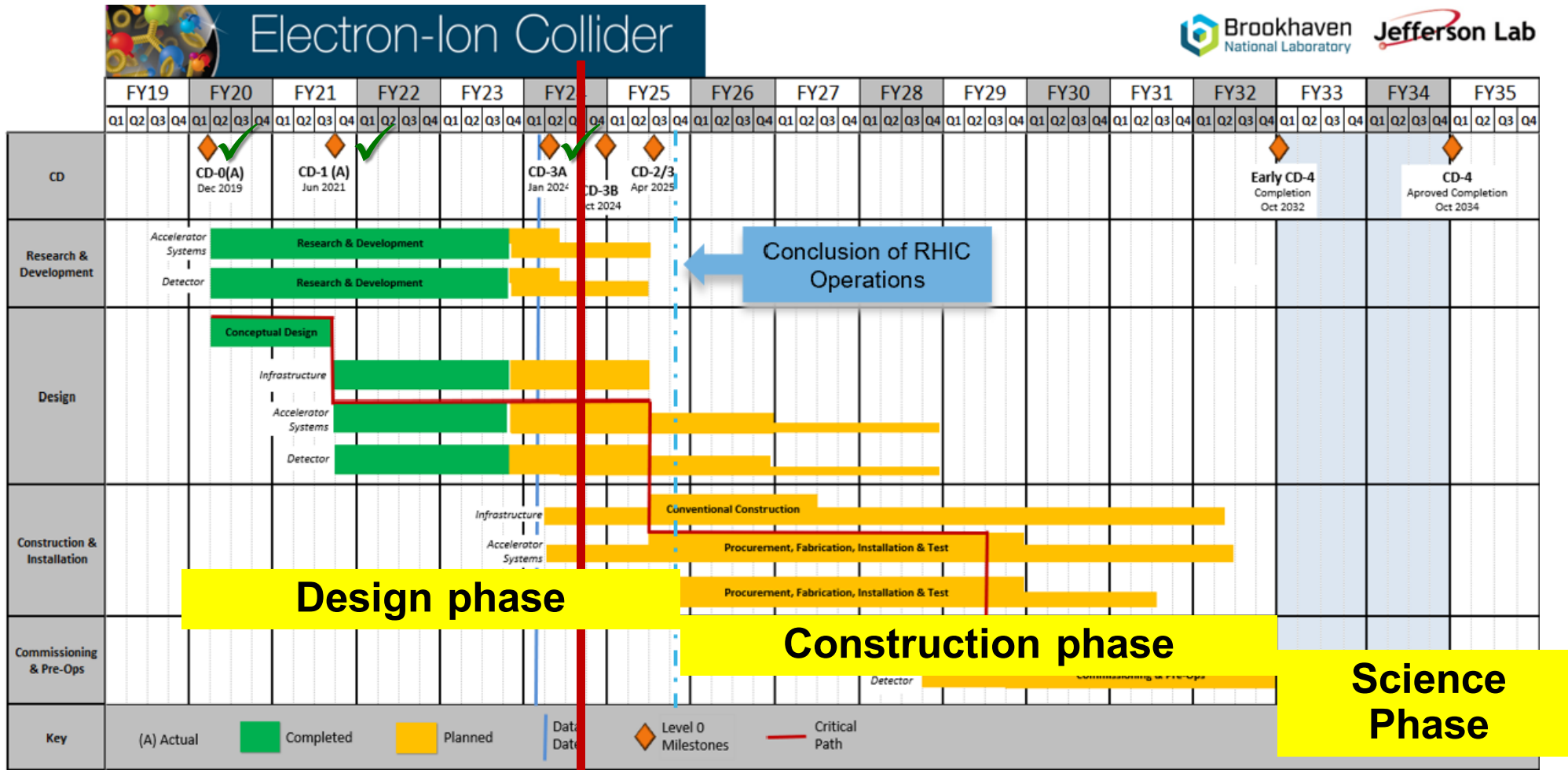
**RHIC:** Add 2 snakes to 4 existing no polarization loss

→ expect 80% in Polarization in RHIC and eRHIC

High polarization <sup>3</sup>He and D beams also possible



# The EIC schedule



**We are here**

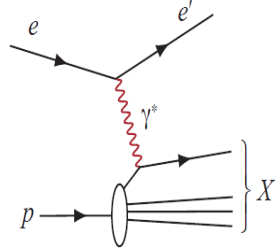
- **The ePIC context:  
the physics scope and the EIC project**
- **The ePIC detector**

## REQUIREMENTS

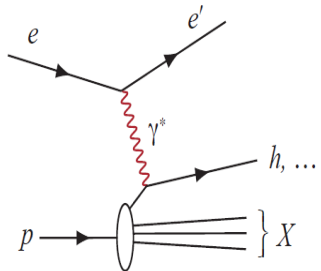


## ePIC detector

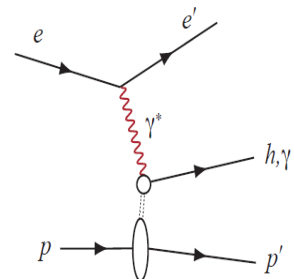
Measurement categories to address EIC physics:



- Inclusive DIS
  - ▶ fine multi-dimensional binning in  $x, Q^2$



- Semi-inclusive DIS
  - ▶ 5-dimensional binning in  $x, Q^2, z, p_T, \theta$



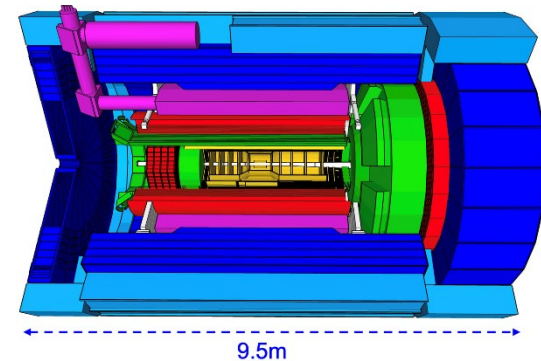
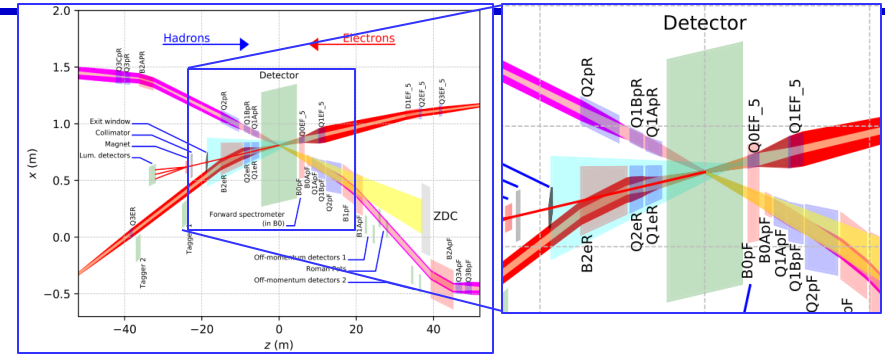
- Exclusive processes
  - ▶ 4-dimensional binning in  $x, Q^2, t, \theta$  to reach  $|t| > 1 \text{ GeV}^2$

- **Large coverage ( $-3.5 < \eta < 3.5$ ) for wide phase-space reach**
- **Excellent EM-calorimetry with PID support for  $e/\pi$  separation**
- **Fine resolution tracking by low mass detectors**

- **Fine  $p_T$  resolution**
- **Extended PID systems for hadron identification**
- **H-calorimetry to attempt TMD assessment with jets (new world-wide), as tail chatter, for  $\mu$  identification**

- **Extend acceptance at extremely small scattering angles**
- **Fine vertex resolution by tracking**

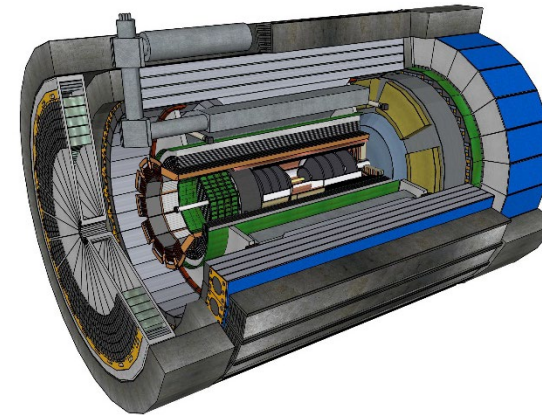
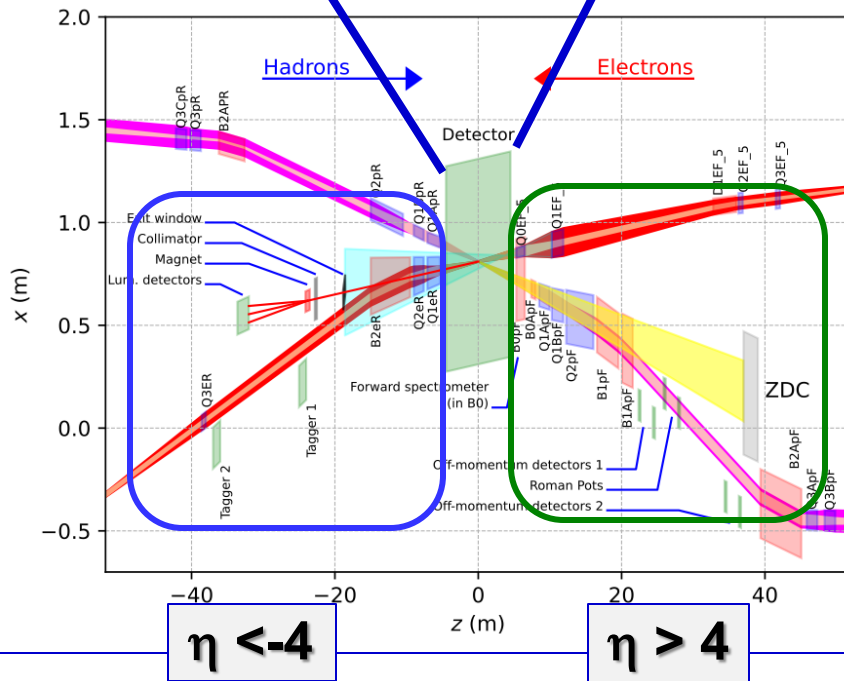
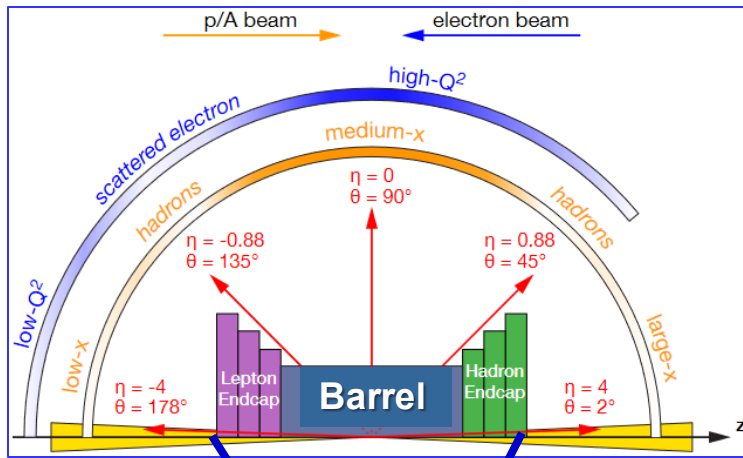
- **Small  $\beta^*$** 
  - quads near to IP
  - 9.5 m to host the central detector
- **Asymmetry beam energies**
  - Asymmetric detector design
- **Far detectors highly integrated with the storage rings**
- **Synchrotron radiation background**
  - solenoid axis aligned with e beam
  - p/ion beams follow a helical path in the CD solenoid
- **Other physical backgrounds**
  - beam-gas scattering
- **Crab crossing**
  - Vertex smearing to be removed with timing information
  - fast timing in the range  $\sim 30 - 40$  ps
- **Bunch crossing rate and crossing time**
  - Up to a bunch crossing every 10 ns
  - The whole bunch crossing takes  $\sim 3$  ns



rates in kHz	5x41 GeV	5x100 GeV	10x100 GeV	10x275 GeV	18x275 GeV	Vacuum
Total ep	12.5 kHz	129 kHz	184 kHz	500 kHz	83 kHz	
hadron beam gas	12.2kHz	22.0kHz	31.9kHz	32.6kHz	22.5kHz	10000Ahr
	131.1kHz	236.4kHz	342.8kHz	350.3kHz	241.8kHz	100Ahr
electron beam gas	2181.97 kHz	2826.38 kHz	3177.25 kHz	3177.25 kHz	316.94 kHz	10000Ahr
DIS eA	kHz	kHz	kHz	/	/	
hadron beam (Au) gas	7.36kHz	10.3kHz	10.3kHz	/	/	10000Ahr
	79.1kHz	110.7kHz	110.7kHz	/	/	100Ahr

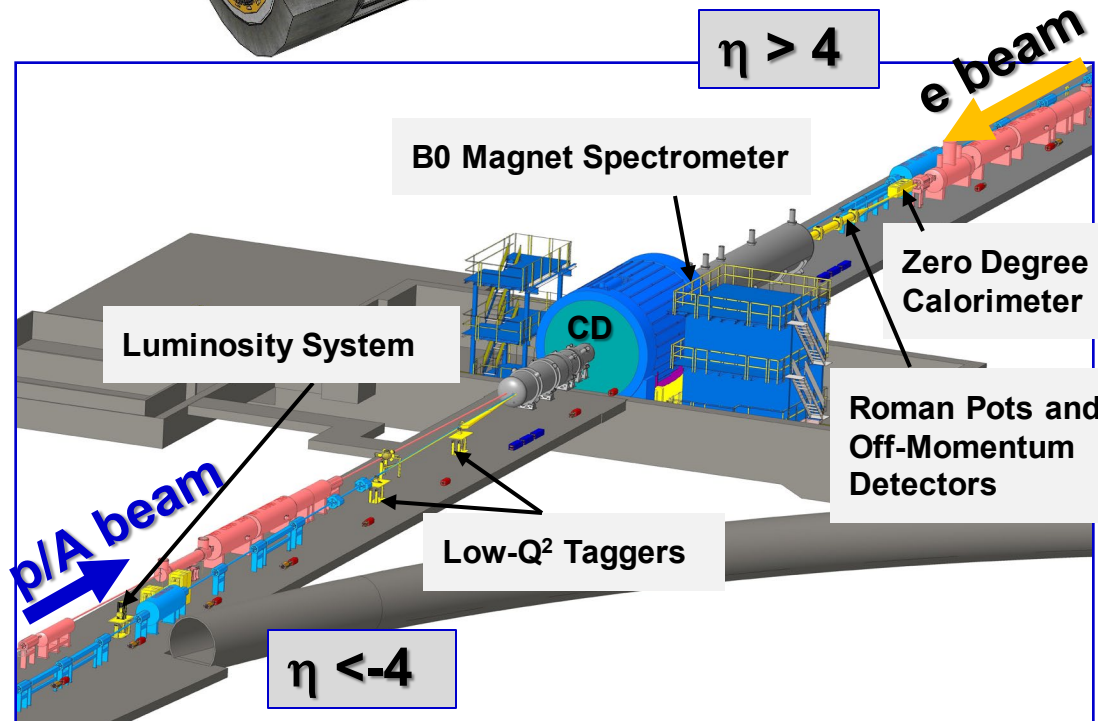


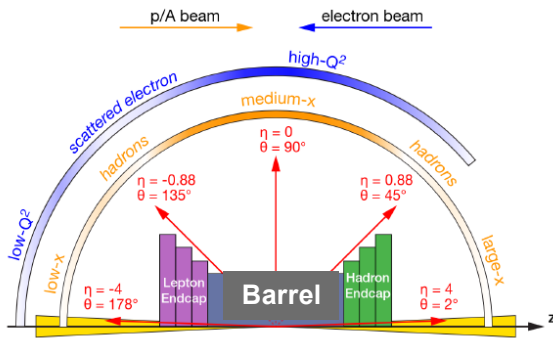
# THE COMPLETE ePIC DETECTOR



**Central Detector (CD)**

$$-4 < \eta < +4$$

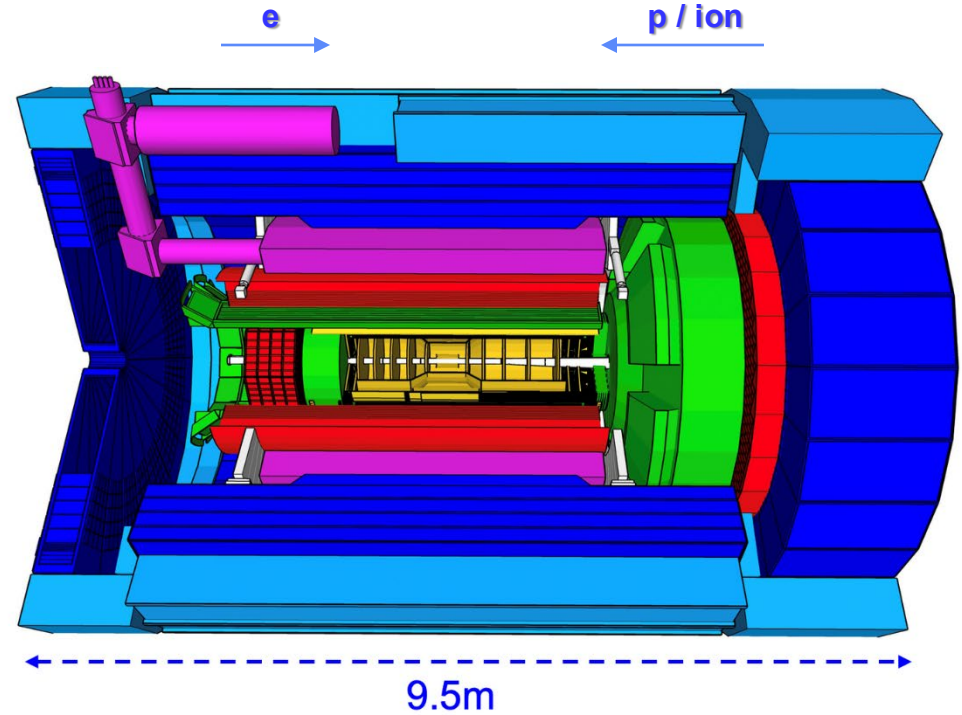




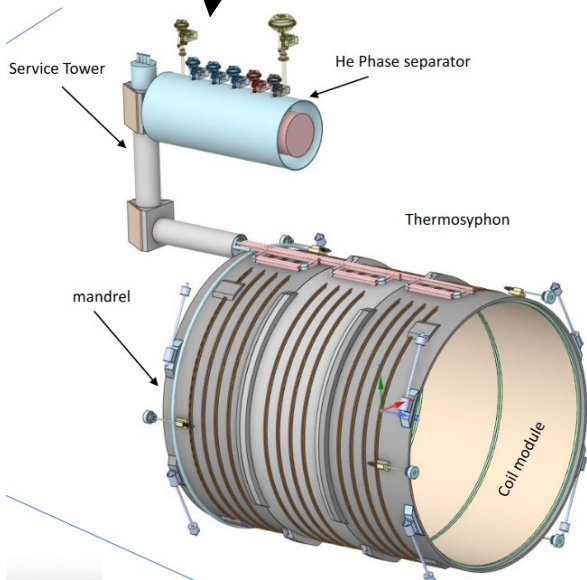
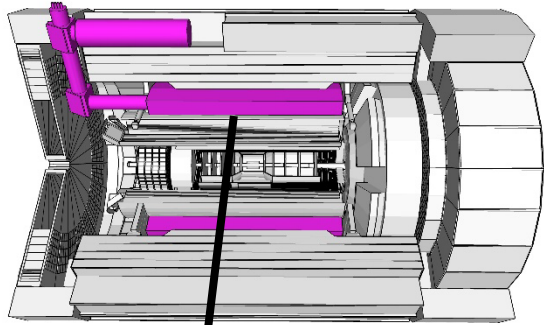
Very naturally organized in:

- Backward endcap
  - Barrel
  - Forward endcap
- subsystems

- hadronic calorimeters
- Solenoidal Magnet
- e/m calorimeters (ECal)
- Time of Flight, DIRC, RICH detectors
- MPGD trackers
- MAPS tracker



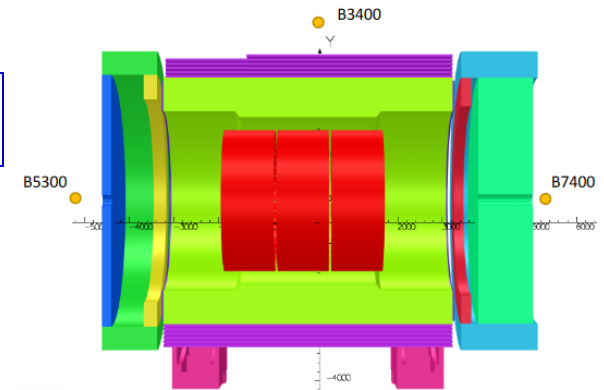
# The ePIC solenoid



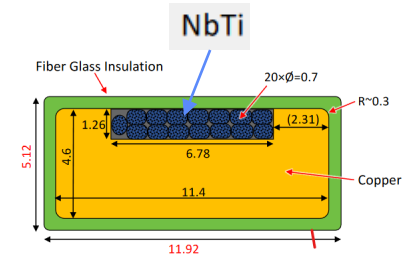
Parameter	Value
Coil length	3512 mm
Warm bore diameter	2840 mm
Cryostat length	< 3850 mm
Cryostat outer diameter	< 3540 mm

Parameter	Value	Comment
Central Field $B_0$	2.0 T	Reference field value: 1.7 T
Lowest operating field	0.5 T	
Field Uniformity in FFA	12.5 %	Magnetic Field Properties
	$\pm 100$ cm around center 80 cm radius	
Projectivity in RICH Area	< 0.1 (mrad@30GeV/c) < 10 T/A/mm <sup>2</sup> From Z = 180 cm to 280 cm	

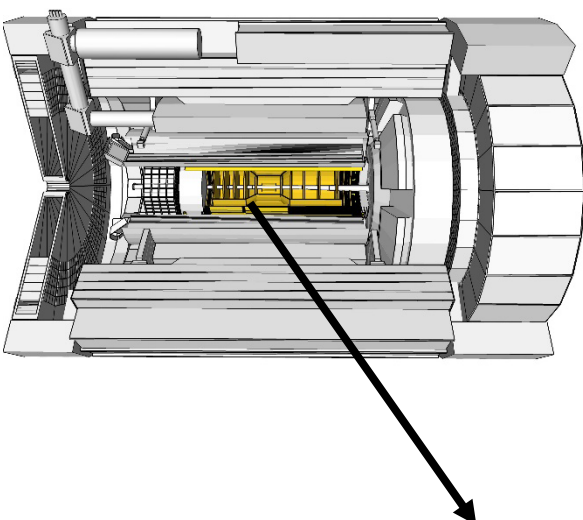
Parameter	Value	Comment
B5300 (B @ Z= -5300 mm)	< 10 G	Stray field requirement is based on IR magnet location
B7400 (B @ Z= 7400 mm)	< 10 G	
B3400 (B @ R= 3400 mm)	< 10 G	



## Conductor Design



# TRACKING IN ePIC CD



## Complementary tracking technologies characterized by light materials

### SVT: Si trackers based on ALICE ITS3 65 nm MAPS sensors

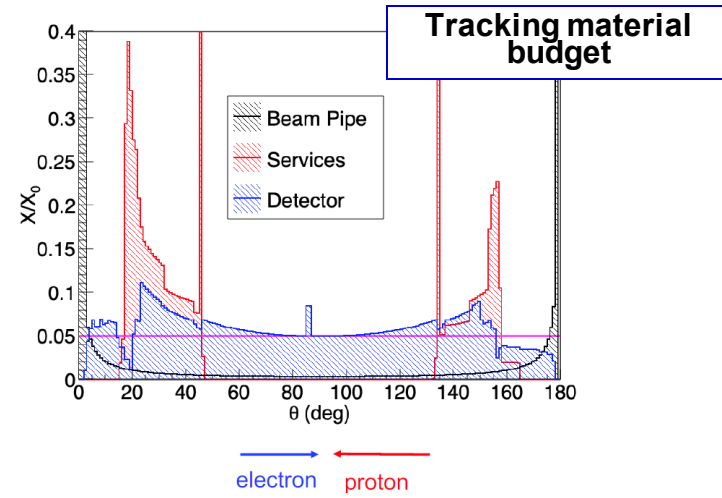
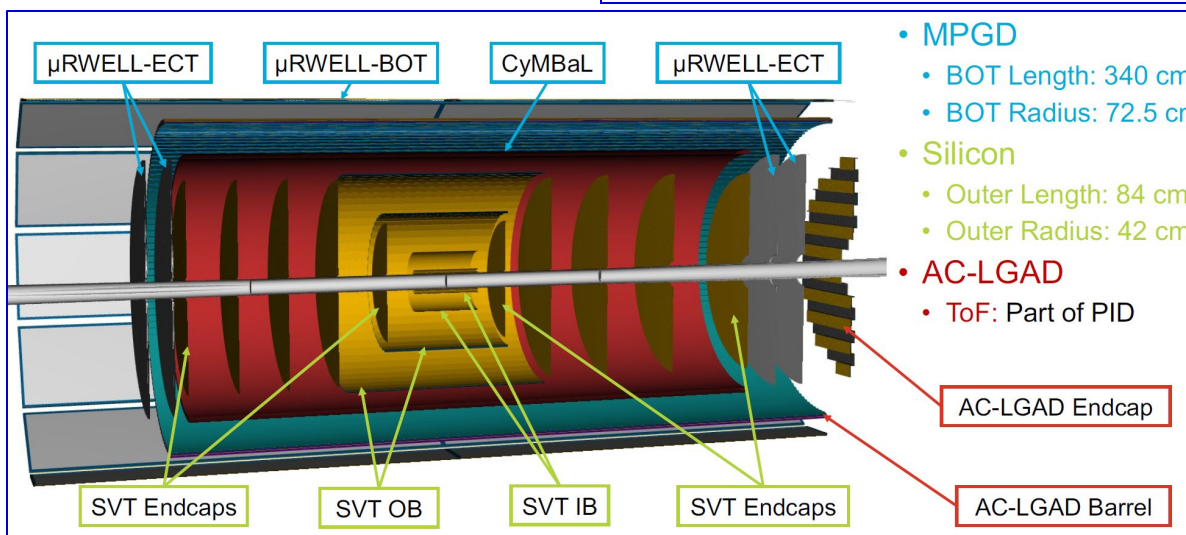
- Fine space resolution  $\sim 6 \mu\text{m}$
- Five cylindrical layers in the barrel and five disks in each endcap

### MPGD trackers

- Good time resolution  $\mathcal{O}(10 \text{ ns})$
- Cylindrical **MICROME GAS**
- Planar  $\mu\text{R-WELL}$  with **GEM** pre-amplification

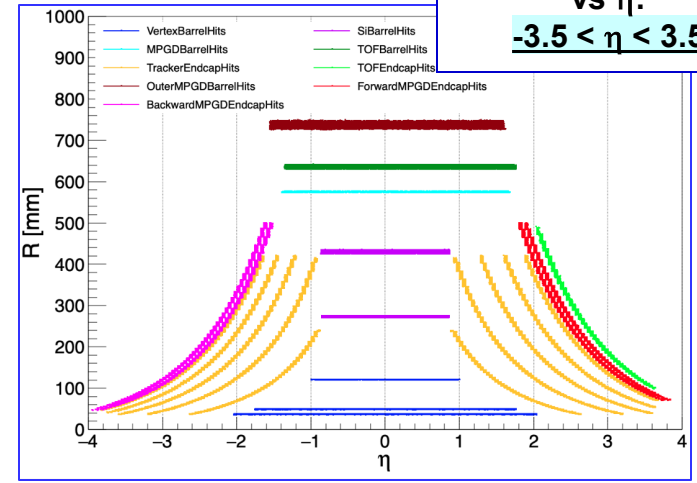
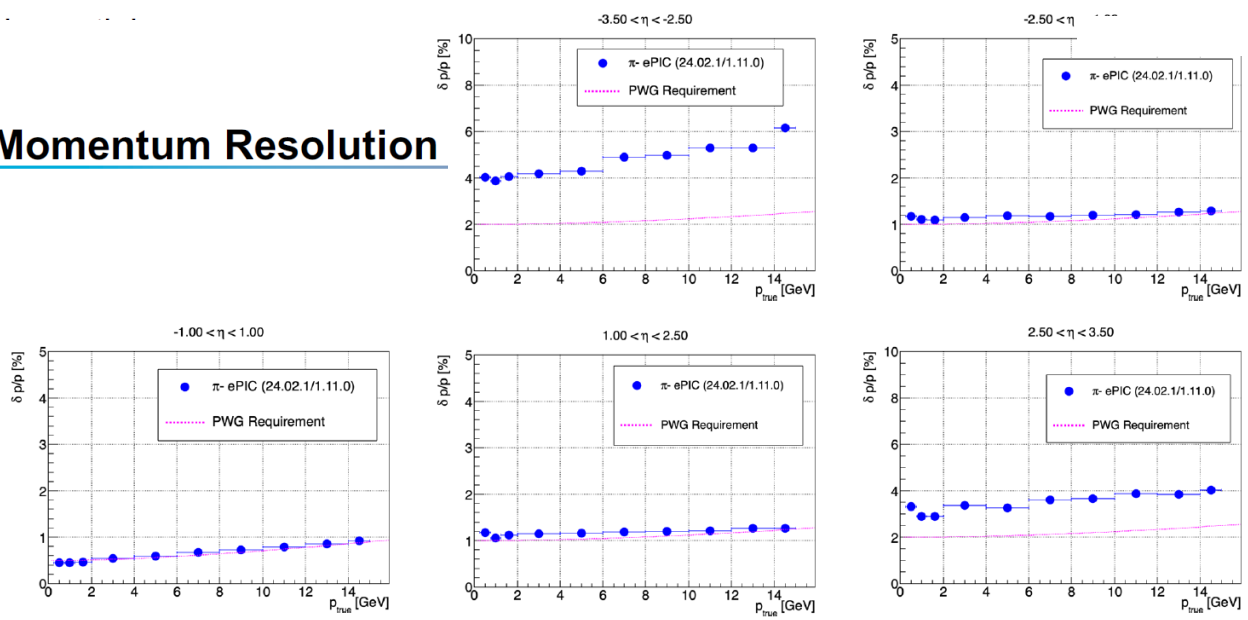
### Additional information

- **AC-LGADs** for ToF (PID) - very fine time resolution: 20/30 ps
- First layer of the barrel **imaging EM calorimeter** – fine space resolution ( $150 \mu\text{m}$ ), good time resolution ( $\sim 2 \text{ ns}$ )

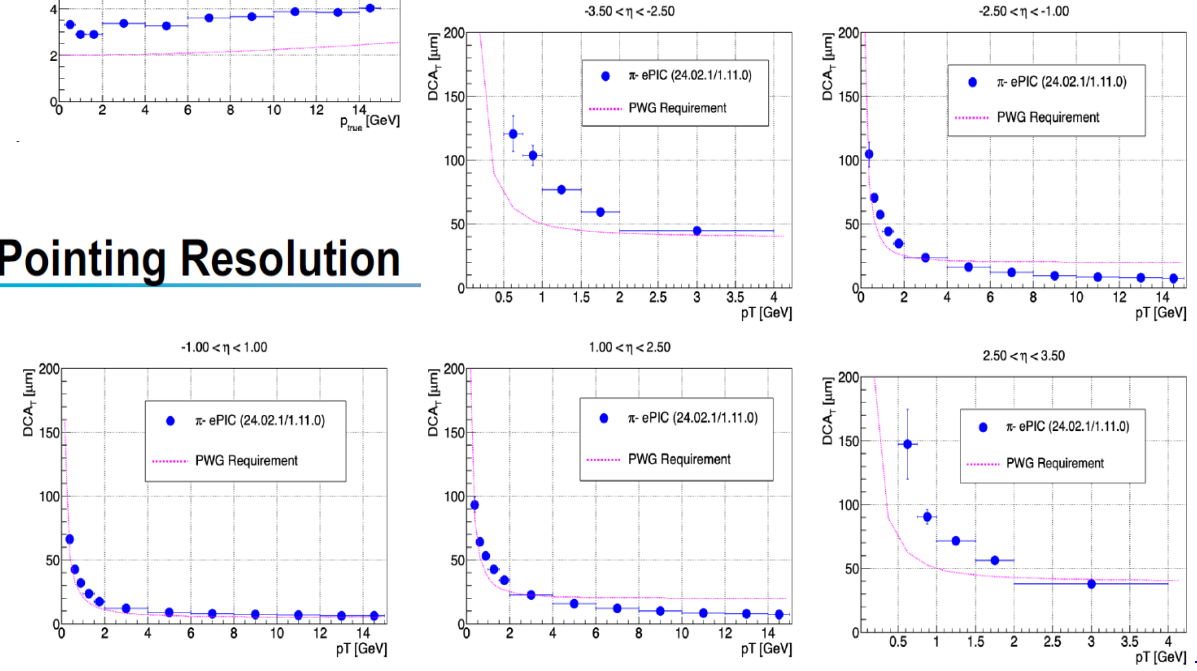


Tracking coverage  
vs  $\eta$ :  
**-3.5 <  $\eta$  < 3.5**

## Momentum Resolution



## Pointing Resolution



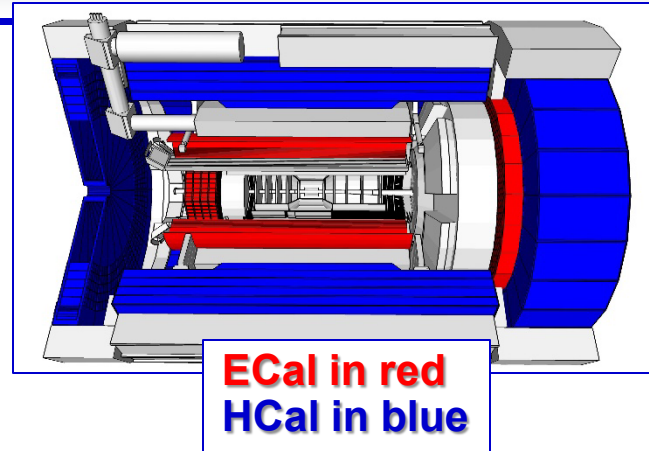
- Single particle
  - Includes AC-LGAD layers
  - Extreme  $\eta$  regions will require use of other ePIC sub detector information
  - Follows requirements elsewhere

## SiPM sensors for all Calorimeters in ePIC

- SiPMs recently introduced in calorimetry
- direct experience is coming from the applications in GlueX, STAR and sPHENIX
- these colleagues now at work for ePIC calorimetry

## Relevant SiPM features for ePIC calorimetry

- **Cost-effective** technology
- Operation in **magnetic field**
- Wide **dynamic range** with tuned parameters for the different calorimeters
- Low **noise** with appropriate thresholding
- Effect of the radiation
  - Not new, already addressed for STAR and sPHENIX
  - Further irradiation campaigns on-going

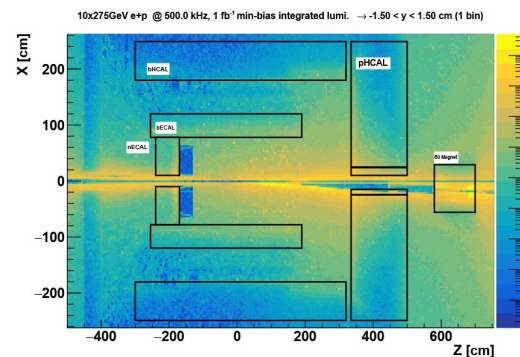


## SiPM requirements for HCals

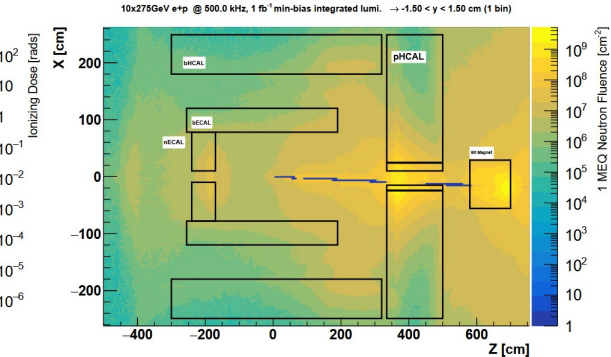
Parameter	Value
Size	1.3mm x 1.3mm
Pixel size	15 $\mu\text{m}$
Photon Detection Efficiency (PDE)	>25%
Dark Count Rate (DCR)	<400 kHz
Gain	> $5 \cdot 10^5$
Fill factor	>40%
Peak sensitivity	$\sim 450 \text{ nm}$

## Rad Dose and Neutron Flux

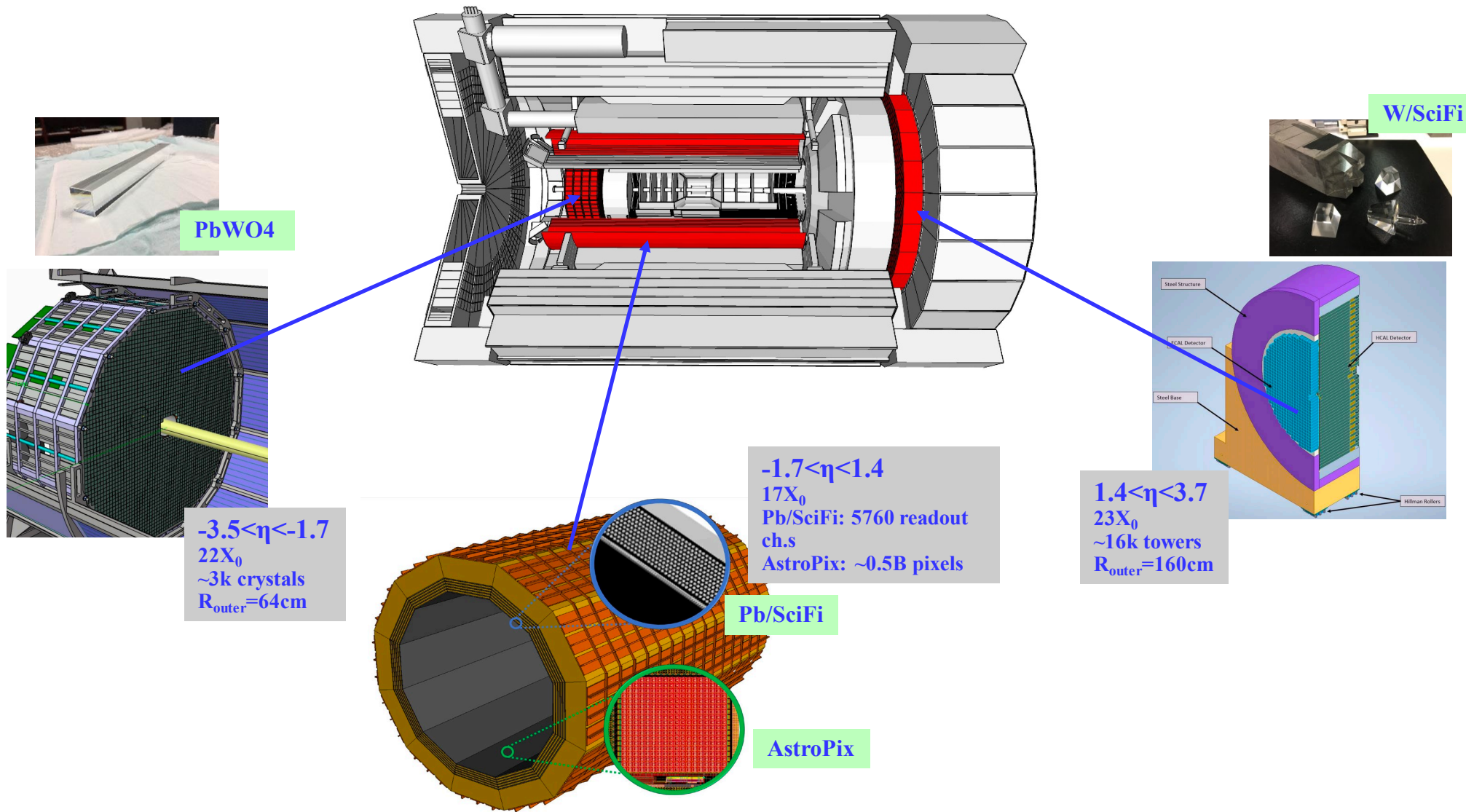
10x275GeV e+p @ 500.0 kHz, 1 fb<sup>-1</sup> min-bias integrated lumi.

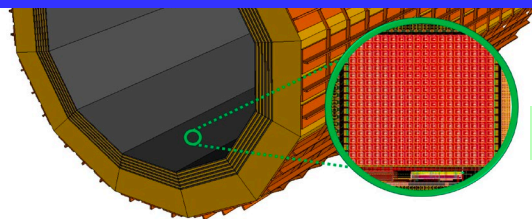
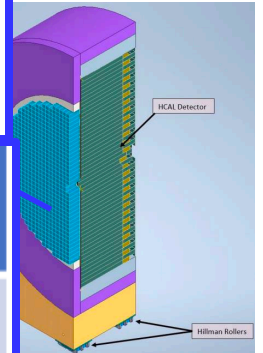
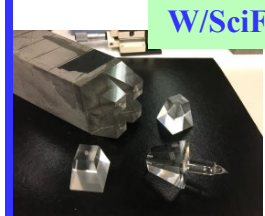
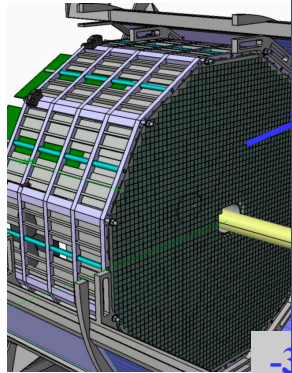
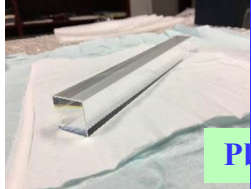
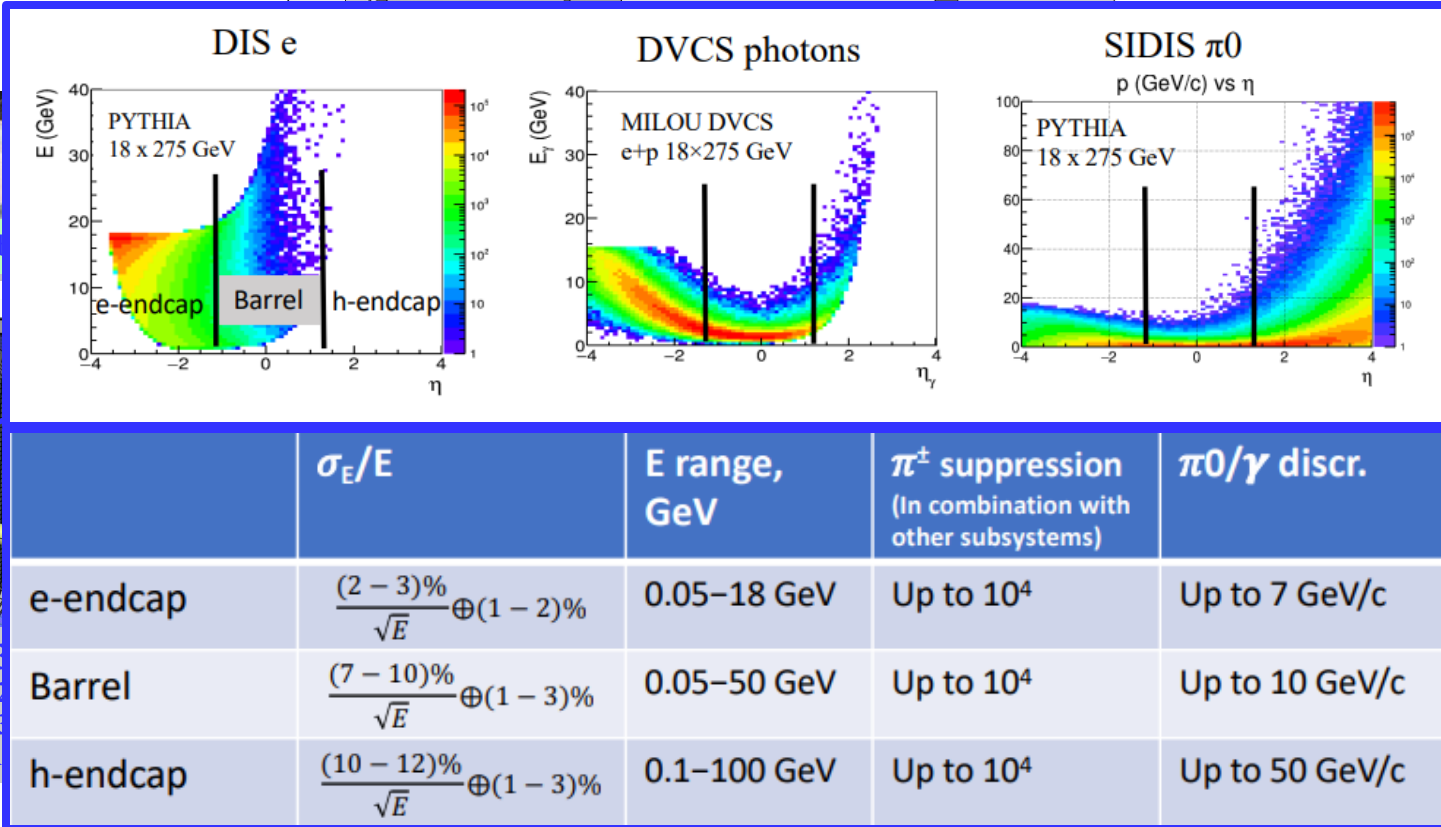


10x275GeV e+p @ 500.0 kHz, 1 fb<sup>-1</sup> min-bias integrated lumi.



Doses and fluxes  $\sim 10^{-3}$  compared to HL-LHC





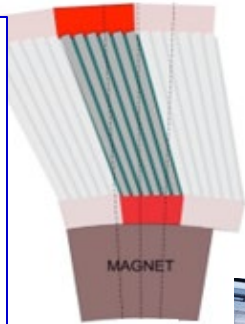
AstroPix



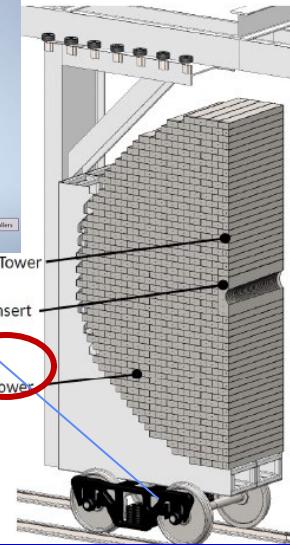
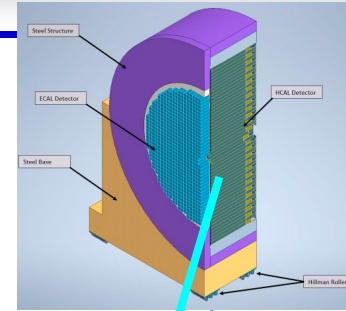
## Backward and barrel:

Steel/scintillator sampling calorimetry - CONSOLIDATED TECHNOLOGY

- Identification of neutral hadron jets, especially at low  $x$
- Tail catcher for e/m calorimeter
- $\mu$  identification

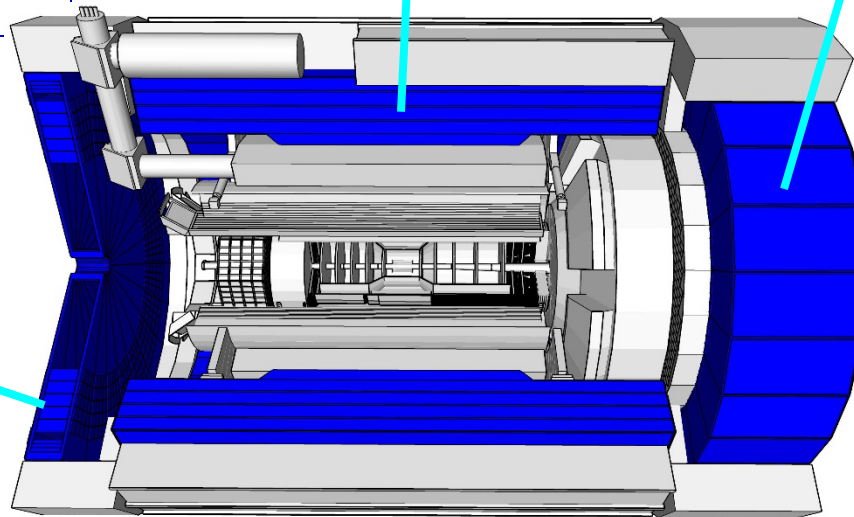
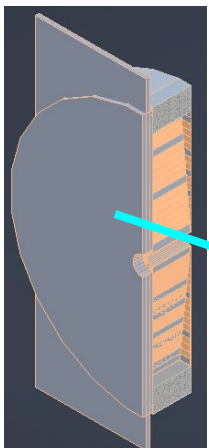


Barrel Hcal  
(re-use from sPHENIX)

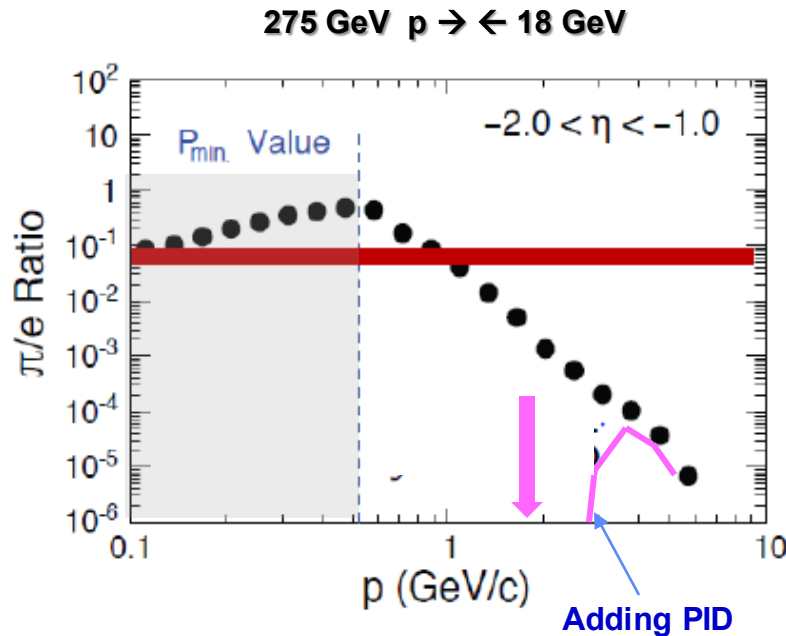


## Forward endcap

- Original design inspired by CALICE development:
- **“SiPM on TILE”**
- High granularity insert at high  $\eta$
- Jet energy measurement
- DIS kinematics reconstruction “Hadronic method”
- muon ID



**Support electron identification**, which cannot be provided by ECals only in DIS experiments with electron beams (see HERMES, JLab)

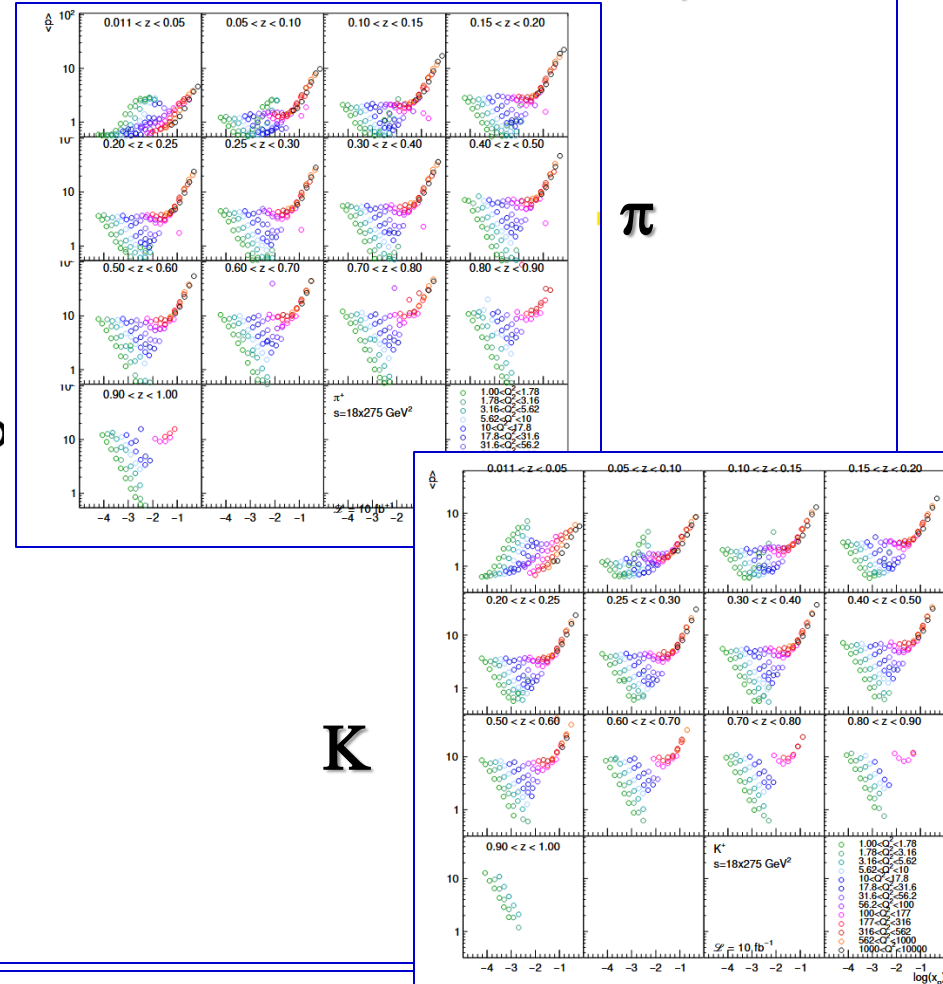


The different physics channels require  $\pi$  contamination in the electron sample down to  $10^{-4}$

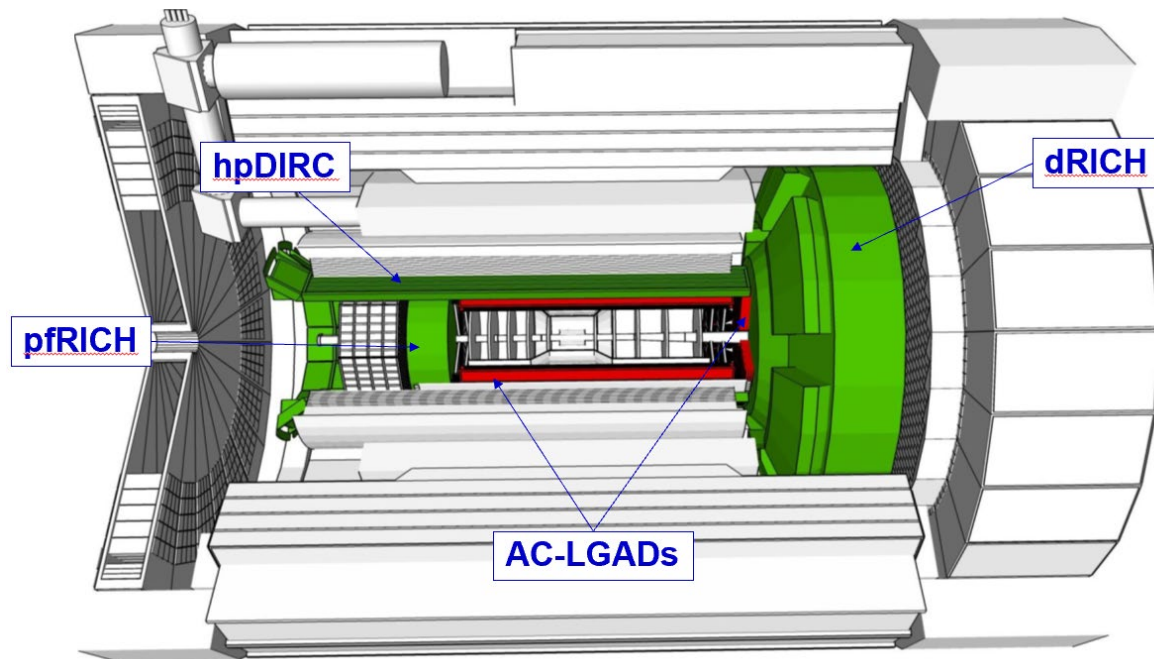
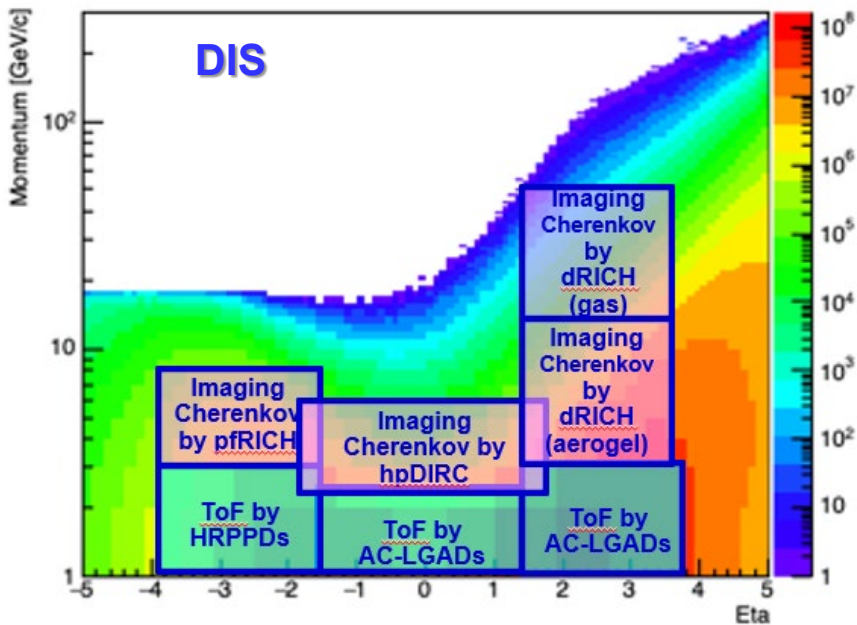
**Hadron identification**, a key ingredient for TMDs address by SIDIS and with the novel approach of jet reconstruction

275 GeV  $p \rightarrow \leftarrow$  18 GeV

Momentum coverage of hadrons



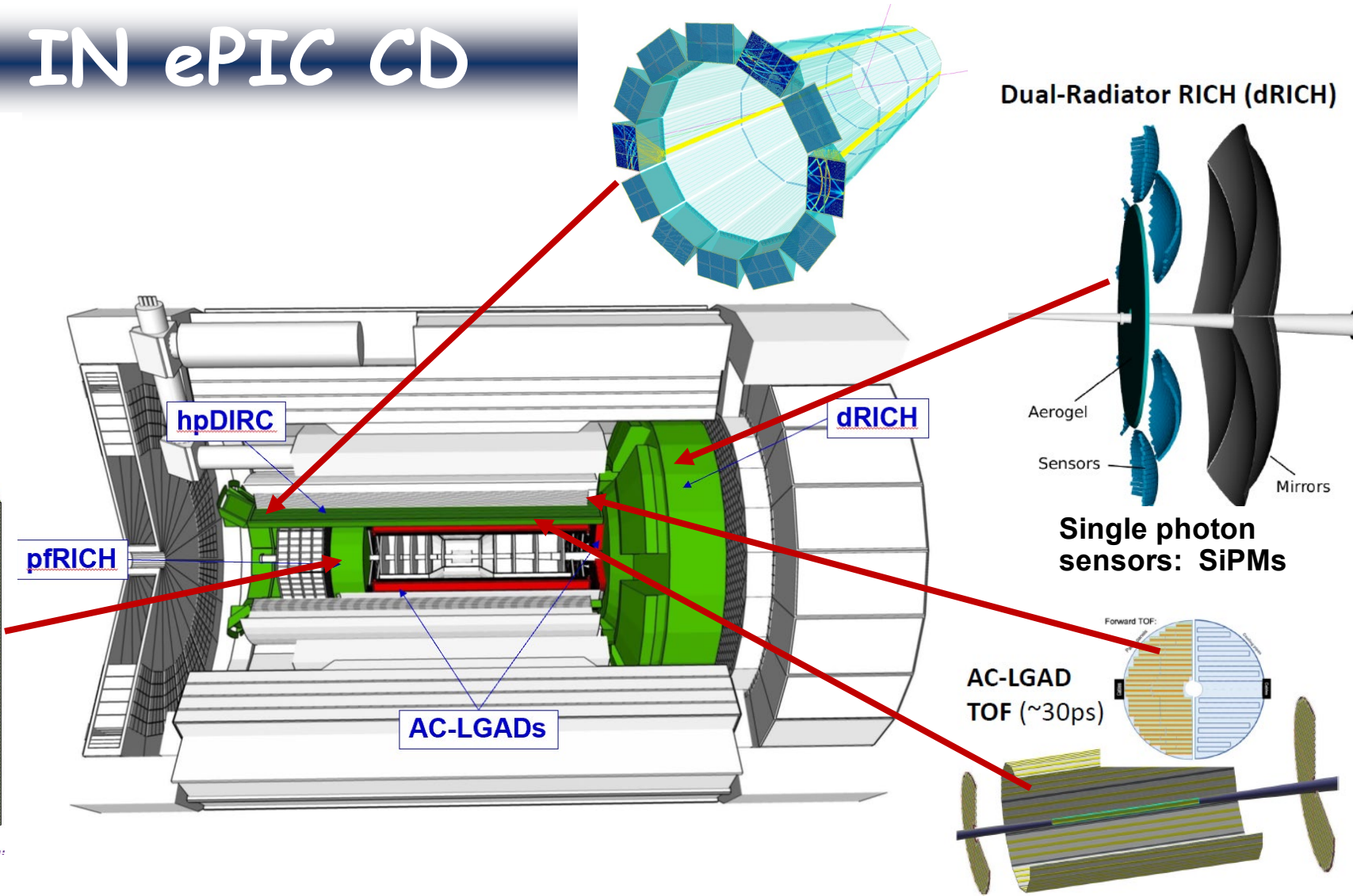
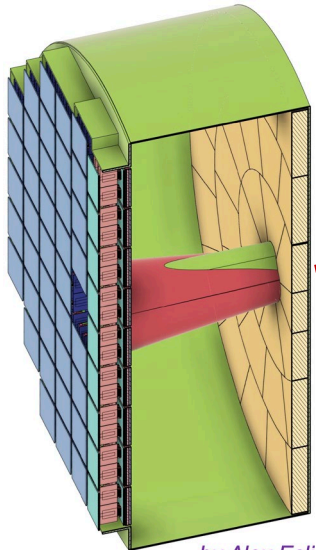
Here performance areas are with reference to  $3\sigma \pi/K$  separation



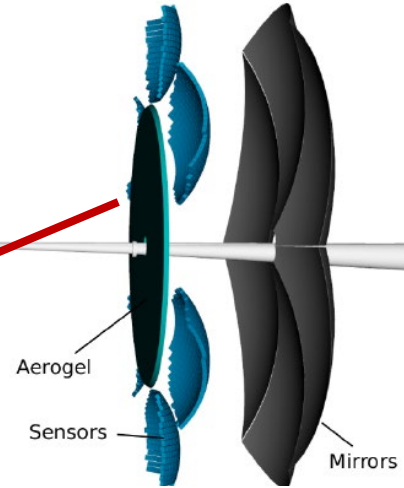
# PID IN ePIC CD

Single volume  
proximity  
focusing aerogel  
RICH with long  
proximity gap  
(~30-40 cm)

- Sensor:  
HRPPDs →  
include TOF

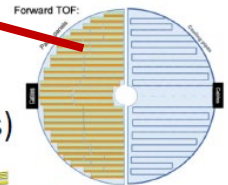


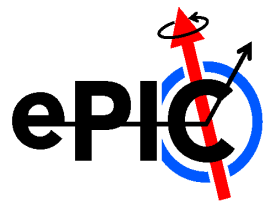
Dual-Radiator RICH (dRICH)



Single photon  
sensors: SiPMs

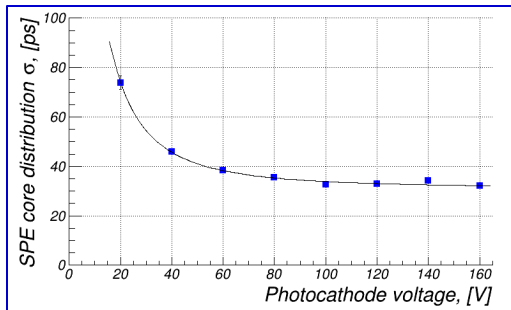
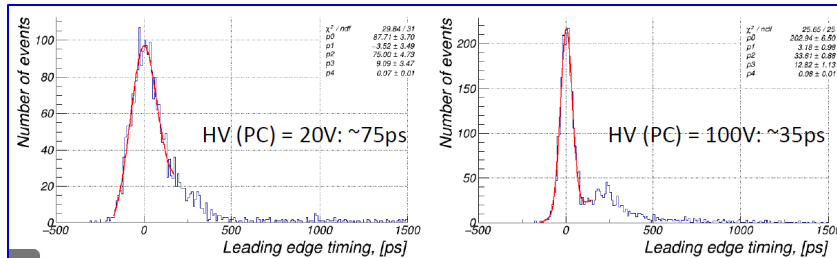
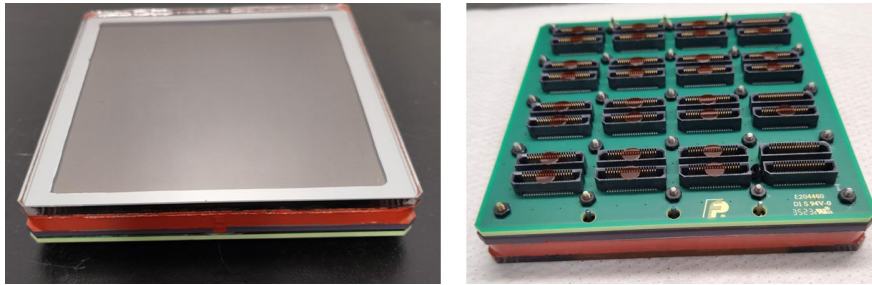
AC-LGAD  
TOF (~30ps)





# PHOTOSENSORS for CHERENKOV PID IN ePIC

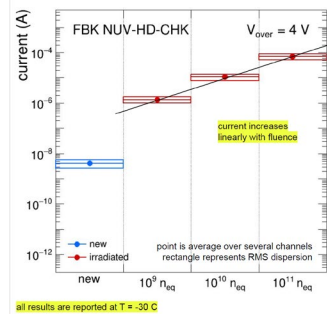
For pfRICH (option for hpDIRC) :  
**HRPPDs by INCOM**  
 → large-size (12 x 12 cm<sup>2</sup>) MCP-PMTs, pixelized



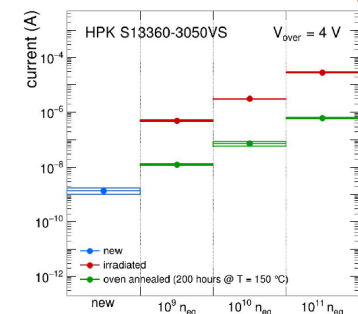
For dRICH : **SiPMs at -30°C**

→ Robust R&D for the validation

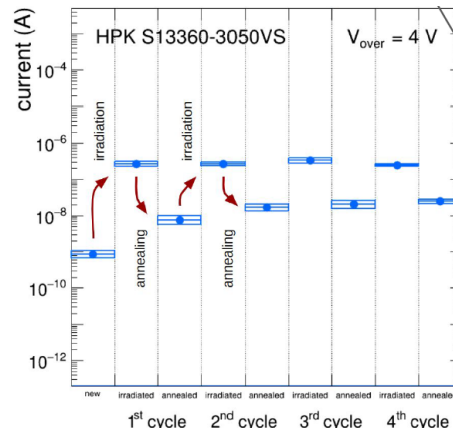
Studies of radiation damage on SiPM



High-temperature annealing recovery  
 "Online" self-induced annealing

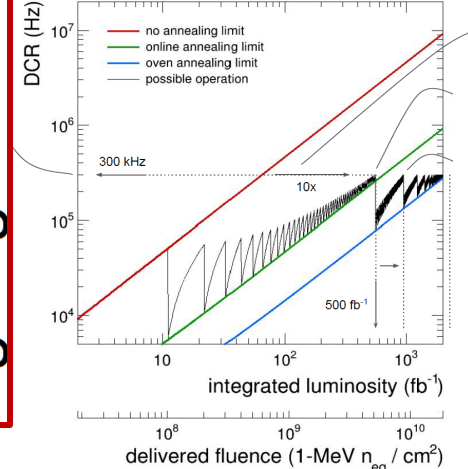


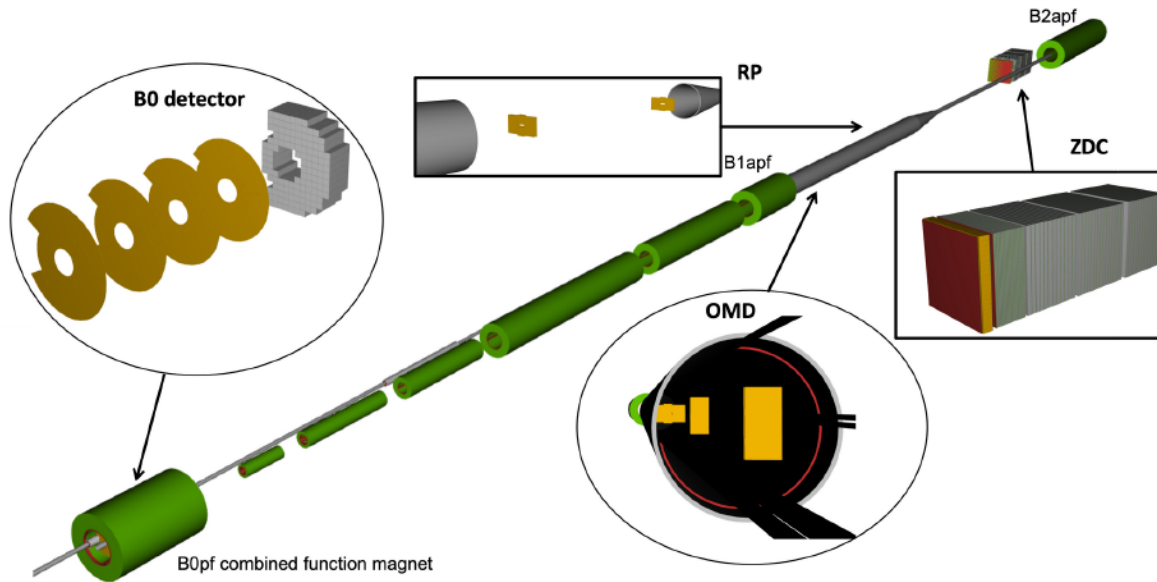
Repeated irradiation/ annealing cycles



Ageing model

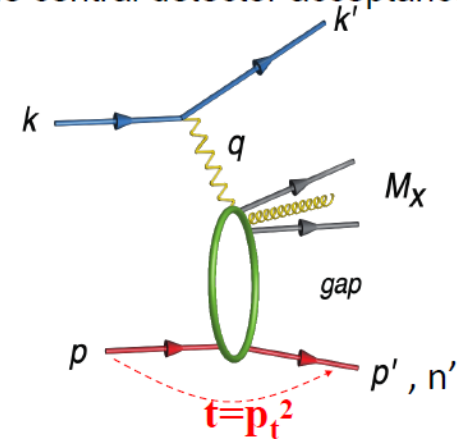
Hamamatsu S131360-3050 @  $V_{\text{over}} = 4 \text{ V}$ ,  $T = -30 \text{ °C}$





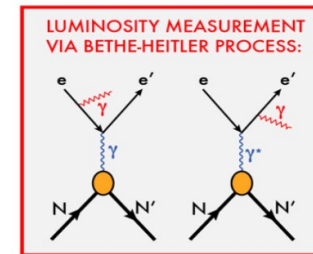
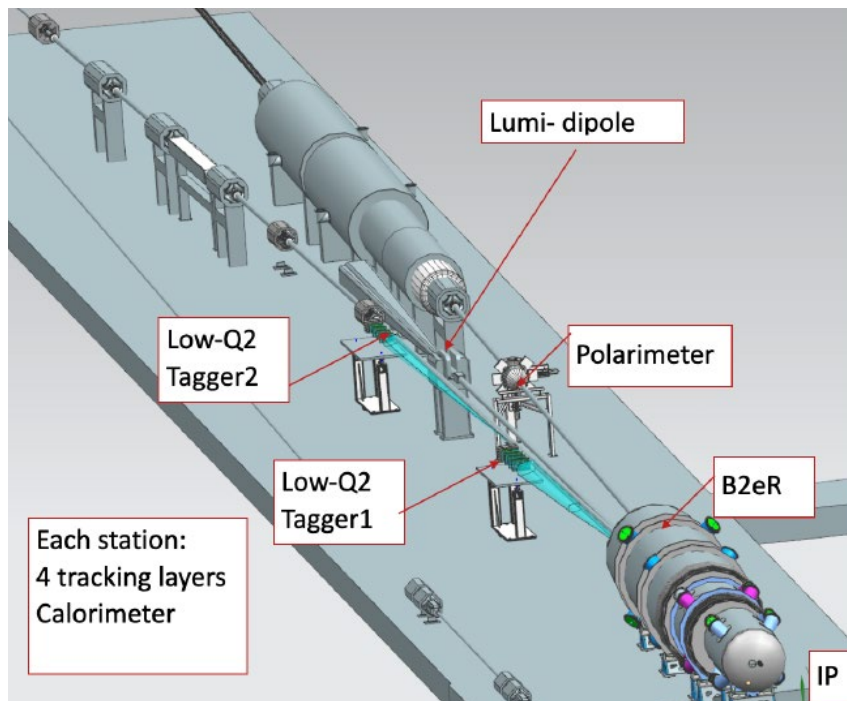
- ✓ protons at wide range of  $p_T^2$
- ✓ protons with different rigidity
- ✓ neutrons and photons

Exclusive / diffractive reactions driving the design of FF area -> reconstruction of particles outside of the central detector acceptance

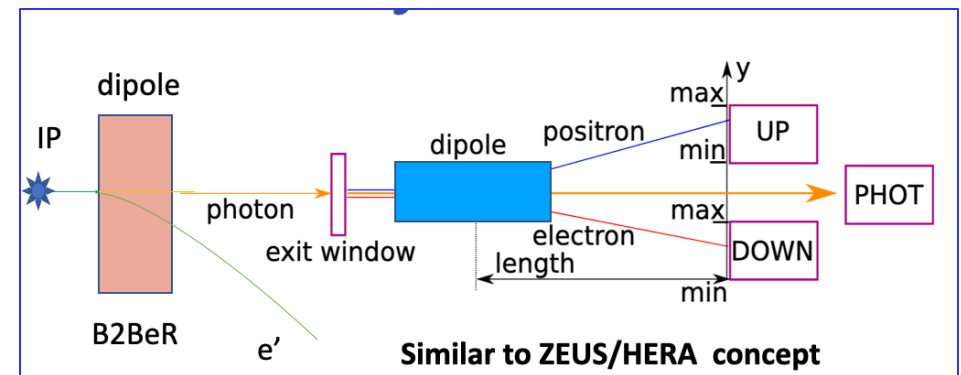


	Particles	Angle [mrad]		Distance from IP
B0-tracker	Charged particles Photons (tagged)	5.5 - 20		ca 6-7 m
Off-momentum	Charged particles	0-5.0	$0.4 < x_L < 0.65$	ca 23-25 m
Roman Pots	Protons Light nuclei		$0.6 < x_L < 0.95$	ca 27-30 m
ZDC	Neutrons Photons	$0^* - 5.0$		ca 35 m

- This area is designed to provide coverage for the low- $Q^2$  events (photoproduction,  $Q^2 < \sim 1 \text{ GeV}^2$ ). Need to measure a scattered electron position/angle and energy
- And luminosity detector ( $ep \rightarrow e'\gamma$  bremsstrahlung photons)



## Luminosity monitor



The EIC is a unique project, the word only one approved for the ultimate understanding of **QCD**

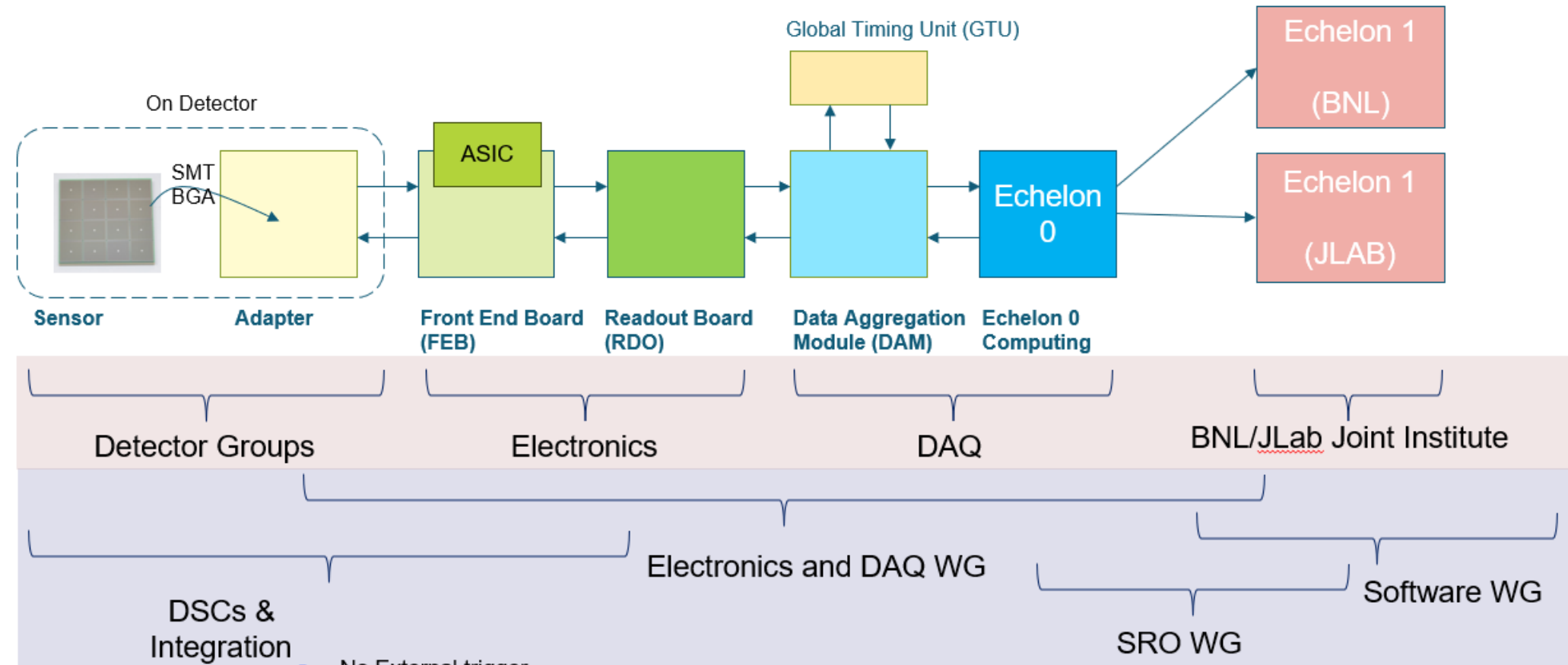
Most likely, the only novel high energy collider in the next 15-20 years

- The EIC project is approved and progressing according to schedule
- The ePIC Collaboration for the project detector ePIC is working and highly committed
  - The ePIC detector design is dictated by the physics scope
  - A number of established and novel technologies needed to match this scope
- *Exciting perspectives in front of us designing, building, operating ePIC and progressing in physics with our detector*



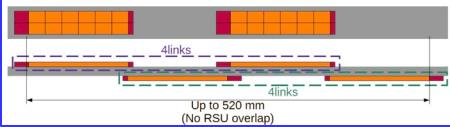
THANK YOU

SPARE

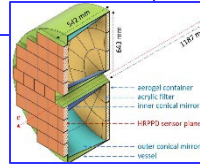


- No External trigger
- All collision data digitized but aggressively zero suppressed at FEB
- Low / zero deadtime
- Collision data flow is independent and unidirectional-> no global latency requirements
- Avoiding hardware trigger avoids complex custom hardware and firmware
- Data volume is reduced as much as possible at each stage ensuring that biases are controlled
- Integrate AI/ML as close as possible to subdetectors → cognizant Detector

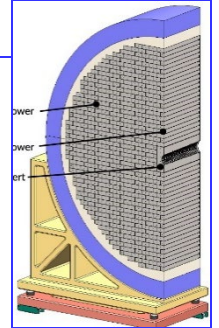
EIC Large Area Sensor (LAS), modification of ITS3 sensor with 5 or 6 RSU forming staves as the basic building elements for the Outer Barrel and the Tracking Disks



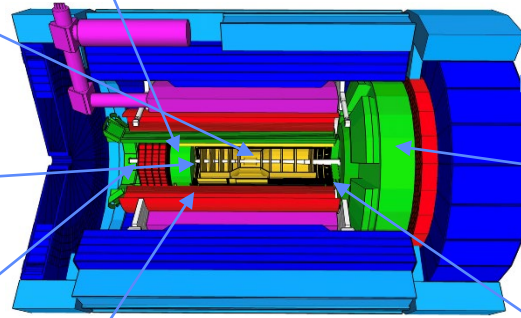
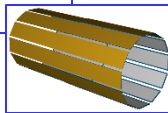
HRPPDs for Cherenkov imaging and Time-of-Flight for pfRICH



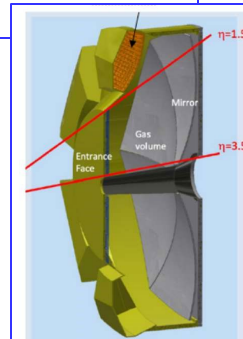
first-time full-size CALICE-like calorimeter in collider experiment in the forward HCal



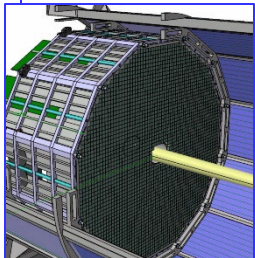
planar double amplification (GEM &  $\mu$ RWELL) modules & 2D-strip readout for the MPGD outer trackers and disks



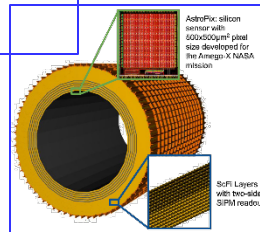
First use of SiPMs as Photosensors in a RICH for the dRICH



SiPM as Photosensors in crystal calorimetry for backward endcap ECal



Use of ASTROPIX in Calorimetry for the imaging barrel ECal



First time use of AC-LGAD in a collider detector for barrel and forward endcap ToF

