

IFAE 2024

Frontiera Energia
Frontiera Intensità
Cosmologia ed Astroparticelle
Nuove Tecnologie

Firenze, 3-5 Aprile 2024

Istituto degli Innocenti, Piazza SS Annunziata



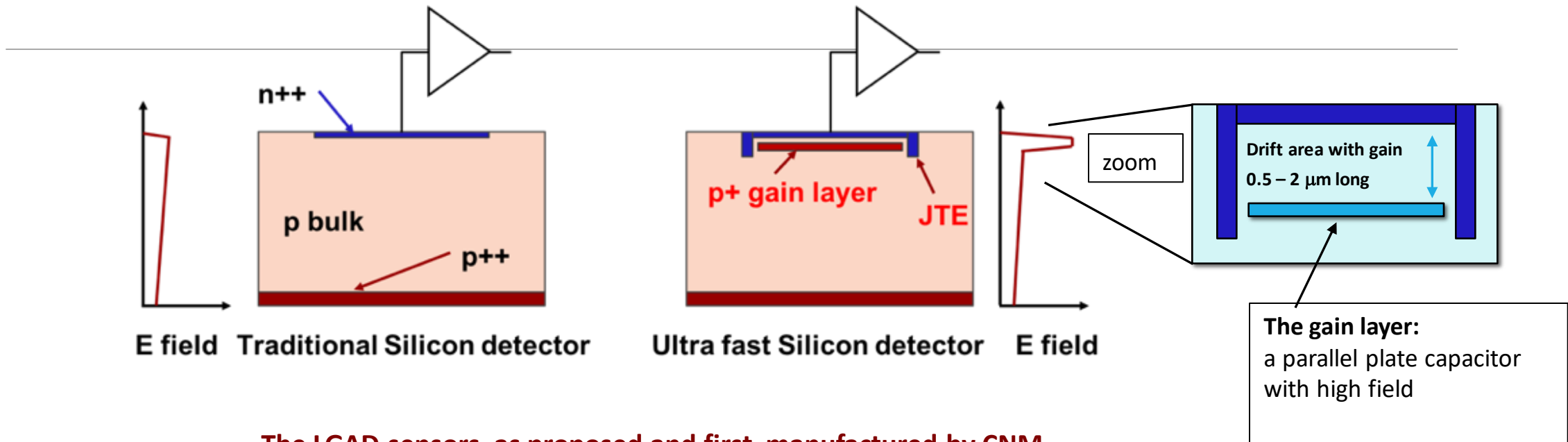
Sensori al silicio per l'alta intensità

F. Moscatelli, IOM-CNR e INFN di Perugia

V. Sola, G. Paternoster, A. Morozzi, L. Anderlini, R. Arcidiacono, M. Barozzi, G. Borghi, M. Boscardin, N. Cartiglia, M. Centis Vignali, M. Costa, T. Croci, M. Ferrero, F. Ficorella, A. Fondacci, S. Giordanengo, O. Hammad Ali, C. Hanna, L. Lanteri, L. Menzio, D. Passeri, N. Pastrone, F. Siviero, R.S. White



First design innovation: low gain avalanche diode (LGAD)



The LGAD sensors, as proposed and first manufactured by CNM

(National Center for Micro-electronics, Barcelona):

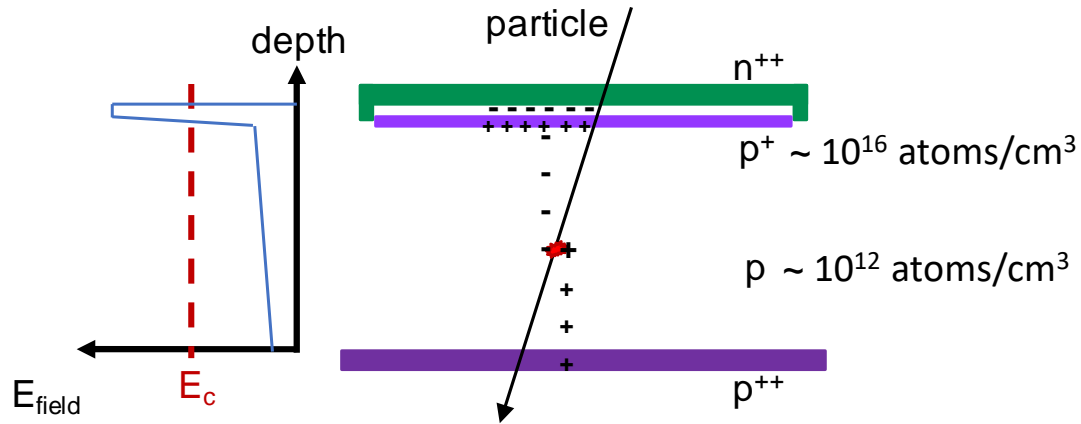
High field obtained by adding an extra doping layer

$E \sim 300$ kV/cm, closed to breakdown voltage

- The low-gain mechanism, obtained with a moderately doped p-implant, is the defining feature of the design.

Low gain is the key ingredient to good temporal resolution

Gain Removal Mechanism in LGADs



The acceptor removal mechanism deactivates the p^+ -doping of the **gain implant** with irradiation as

$$p^+(\Phi) = p^+(0) \cdot e^{-c_A \Phi}$$

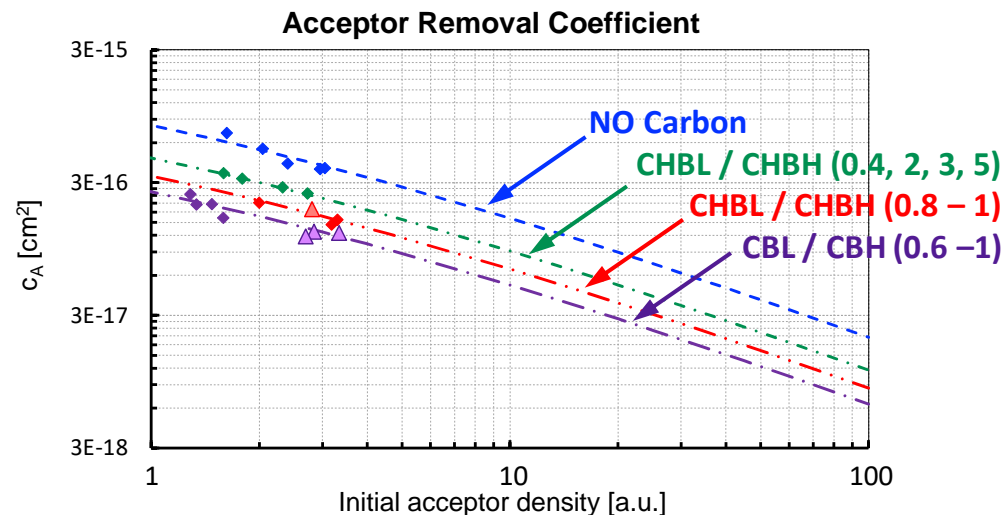
where c_A is the acceptor removal coefficient

c_A depends on the initial acceptor density, $p^+(0)$, and on the defect engineering of the gain layer atoms

$\Phi_0 = 1/c_A \sim$ the fluence at which multiplication power of the gain implant reaches unity

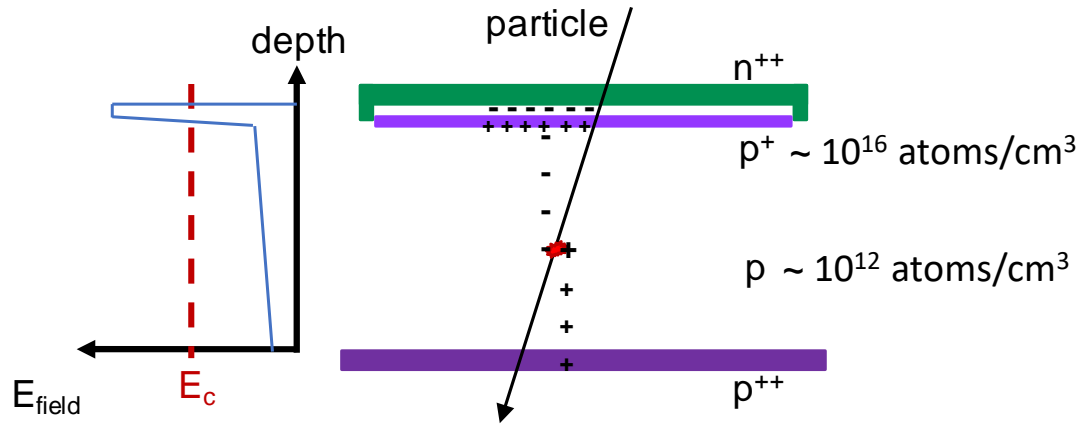
▲ thin sensors from the EXFLU1 batch

[R.S. White, 43rd RD50 Workshop (2023) CERN]



⇒ Is it possible to reduce c_A further?

Gain Removal Mechanism in LGADs



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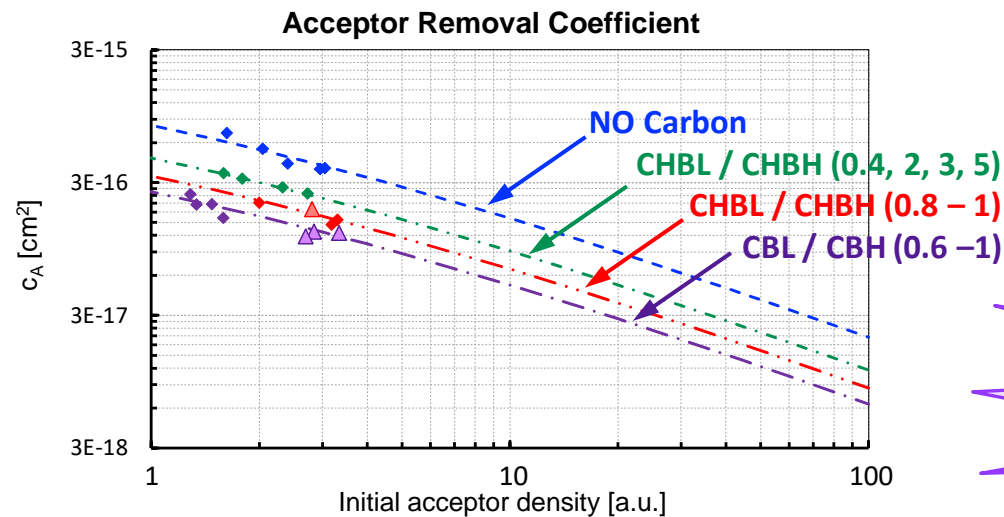
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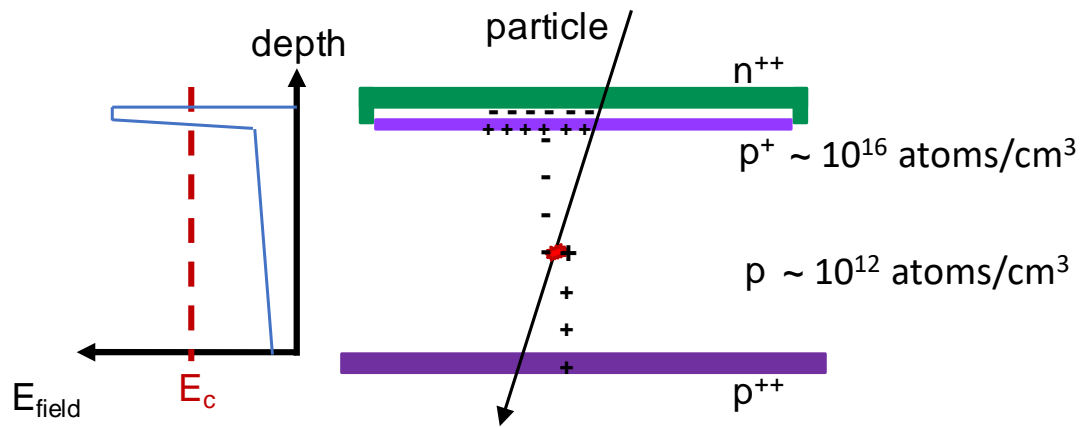
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[R.S. White, 43rd RD50 Workshop (2023) CERN]



⇒ Is it possible to reduce c_A further?

Towards a Radiation Resistant Design

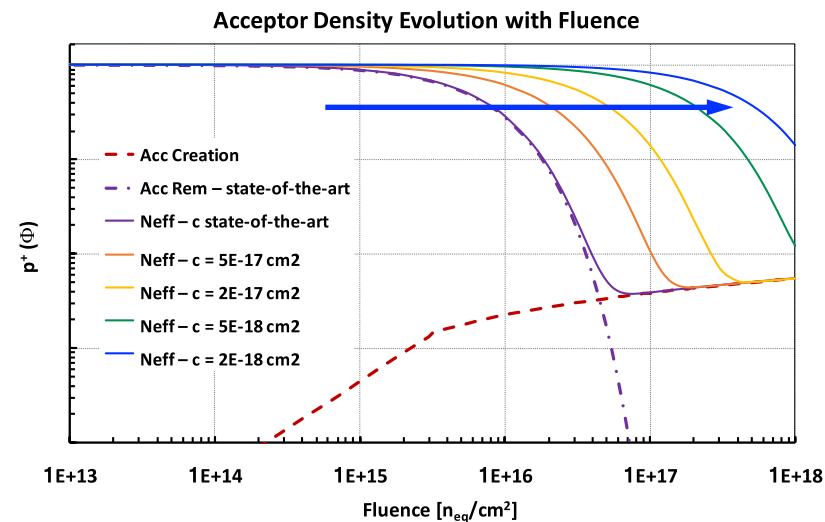
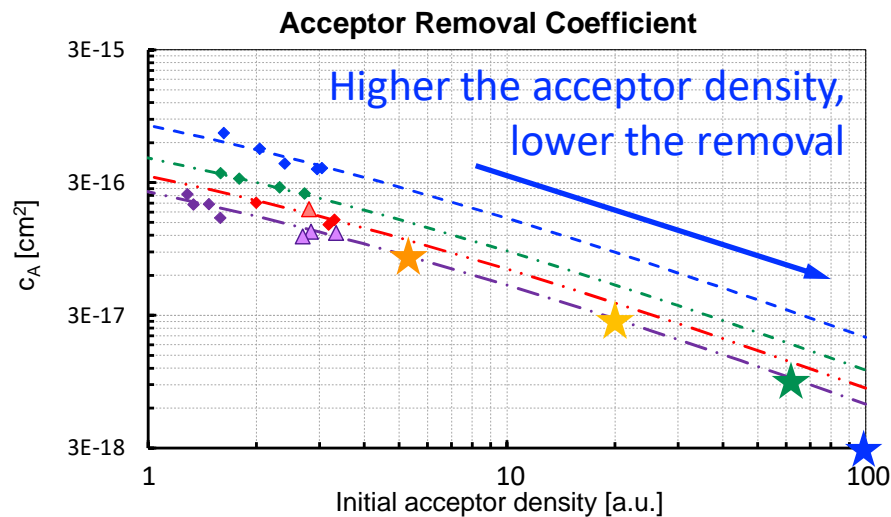


The acceptor removal mechanism deactivates the p^+ -doping of the **gain implant** with irradiation as

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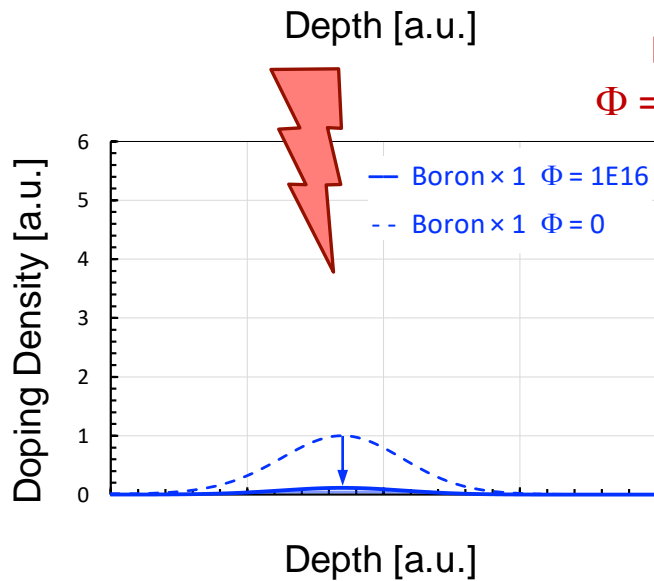
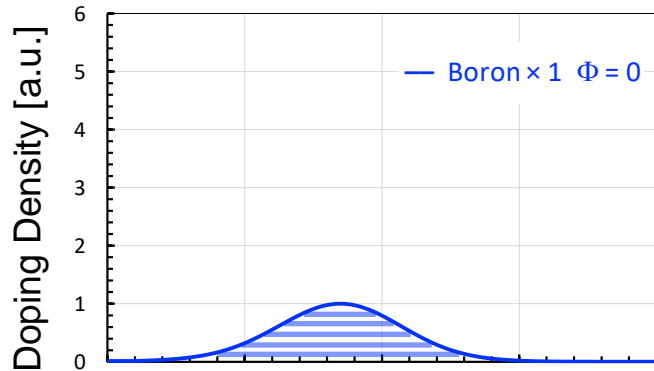
To substantially reduce c_A , it is necessary to increase $p^+(0)$, the initial acceptor density



Lowering c_A can extend the gain layer survival up to $\Phi \geq 10^{17} n_{\text{eq}}/\text{cm}^2$

A new Paradigm – Compensation

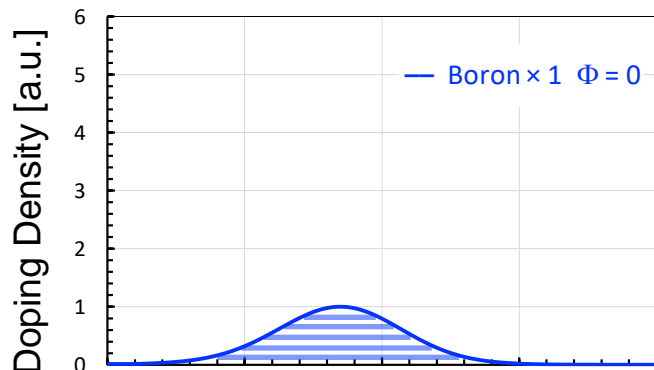
Doping Profile – Standard LGAD



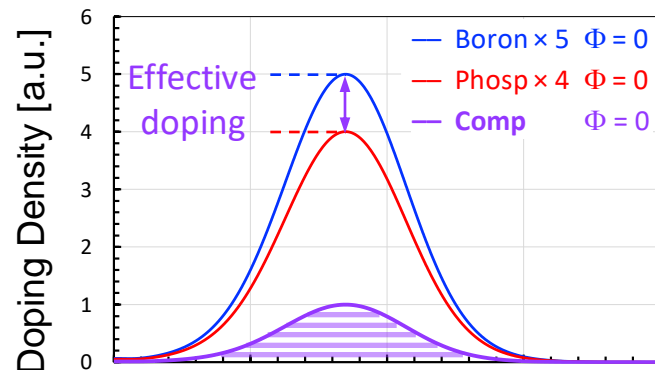
Irradiation
 $\Phi = 1 \times 10^{16} / \text{cm}^2$

A new Paradigm – Compensation

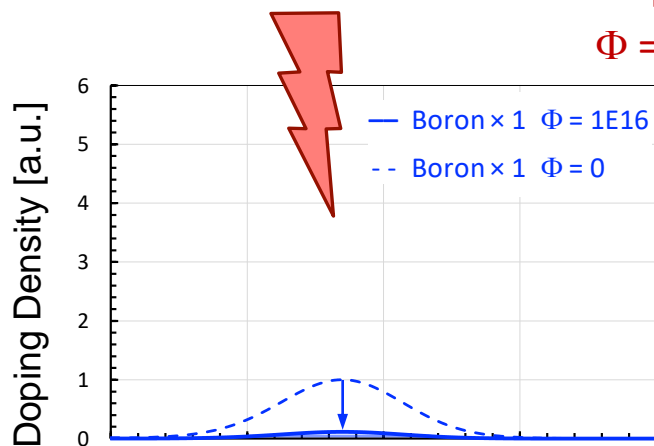
Doping Profile – Standard LGAD



Doping Profile – Compensated LGAD

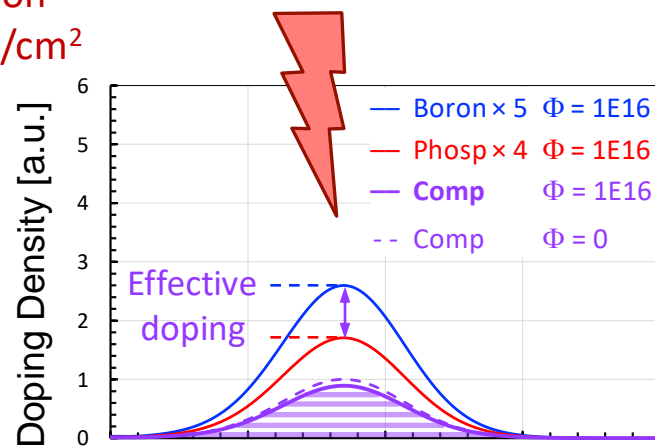


Doping Profile – Standard LGAD after Irradiation



Irradiation
 $\Phi = 1 \times 10^{16} / \text{cm}^2$

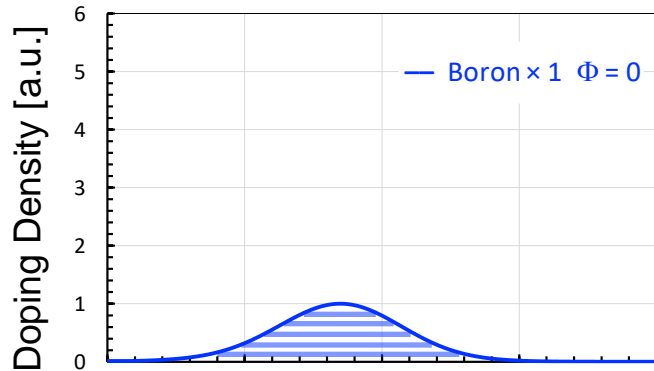
Doping Profile – Compensated LGAD after Irradiation



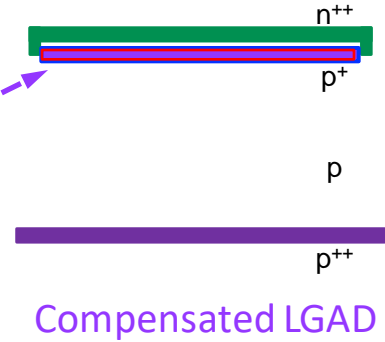
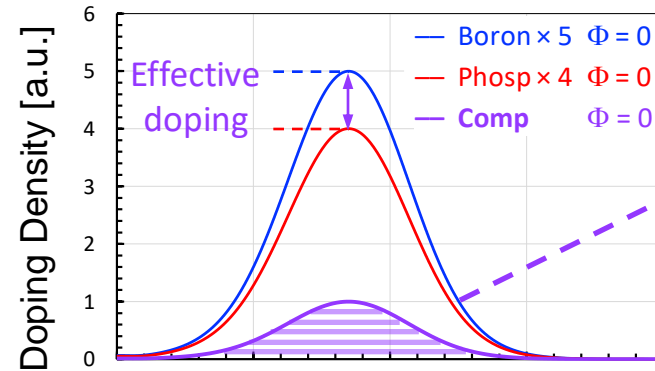
Depth [a.u.]

A new Paradigm – Compensation

Doping Profile – Standard LGAD

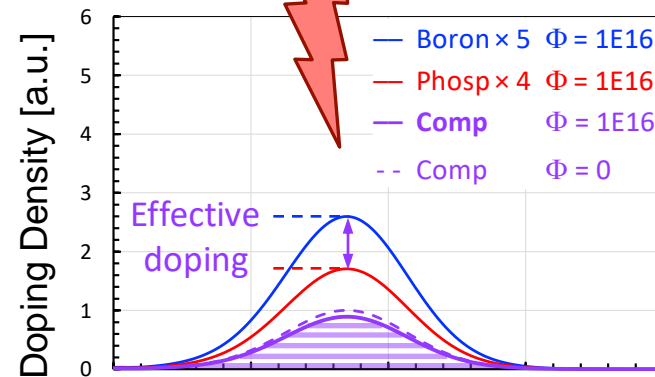
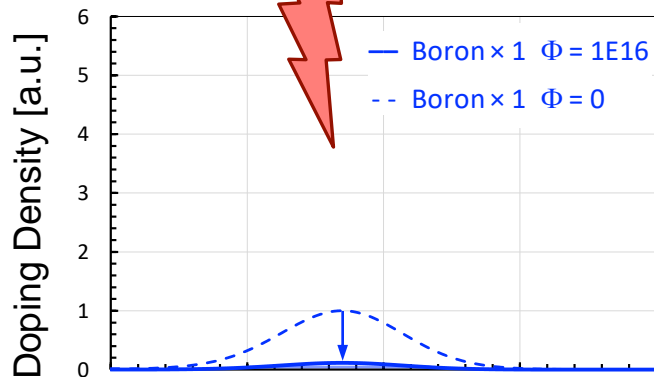


Doping Profile – Compensated LGAD



Use the interplay between acceptor and donor removal to keep a constant gain layer active doping density

Irradiation
 $\Phi = 1 \times 10^{16} / \text{cm}^2$

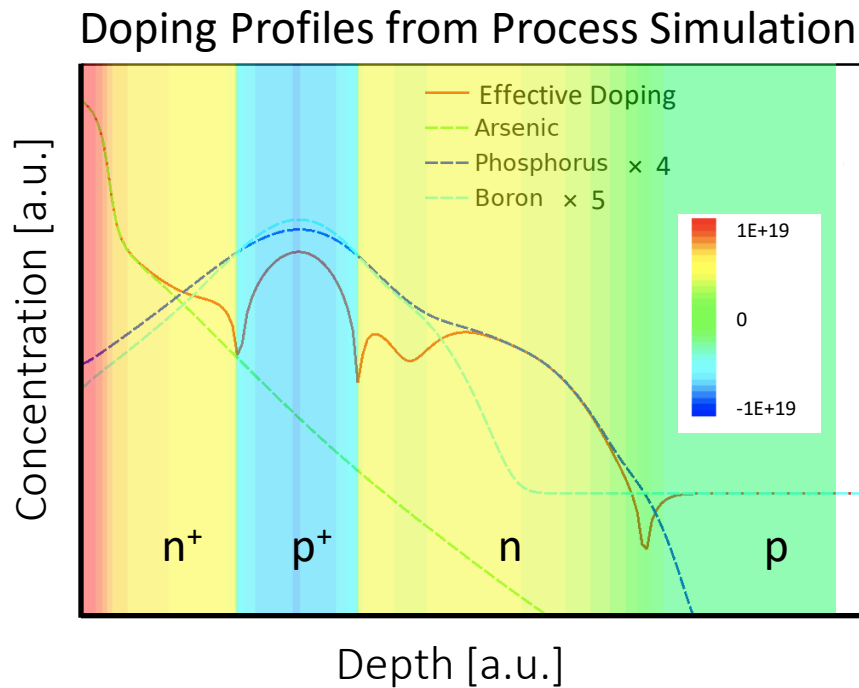


Many unknowns:

- ▷ donor removal coefficient, from $n^+(\Phi) = n^+(0) \cdot e^{-c_D \Phi}$
- ▷ interplay between donor and acceptor removal (c_D vs c_A)
- ▷ effects of substrate impurities on the removal coefficients

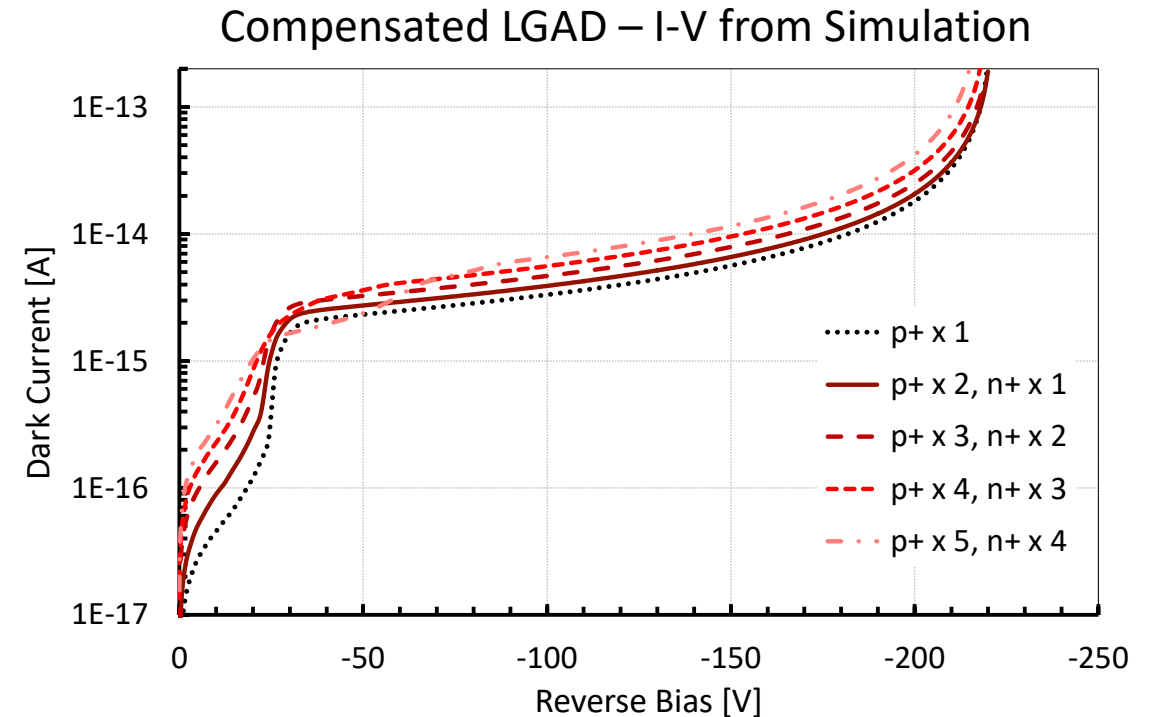
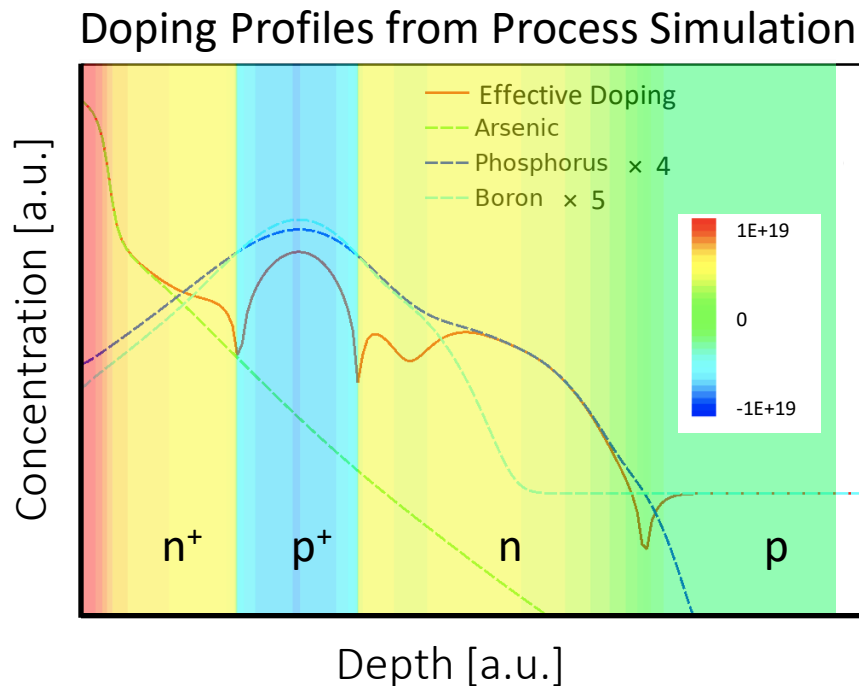
Compensation from Simulation

Process simulations of Boron (p^+) and Phosphorus (n^+) implantation and activation reveal the different shape of the two profiles



Compensation from Simulation

Process simulations of Boron (p^+) and Phosphorus (n^+) implantation and activation reveal the different shape of the two profiles



→ The simulation of the electrostatic behaviour shows that it is possible to reach similar multiplication for different initial concentrations of p^+ and n^+ dopants

First Compensated LGADs – EXFLU1



**First compensated LGAD sensors have been released by FBK
in the framework of the EXFLU1 batch**

Other R&D paths pursued by the EXFLU1 batch to extend the radiation tolerance of the LGAD sensors:

- ▷ new guard ring design
- ▷ decrease of the acceptor removal – carbon shield
- ▷ thin substrates (15–45 μm)

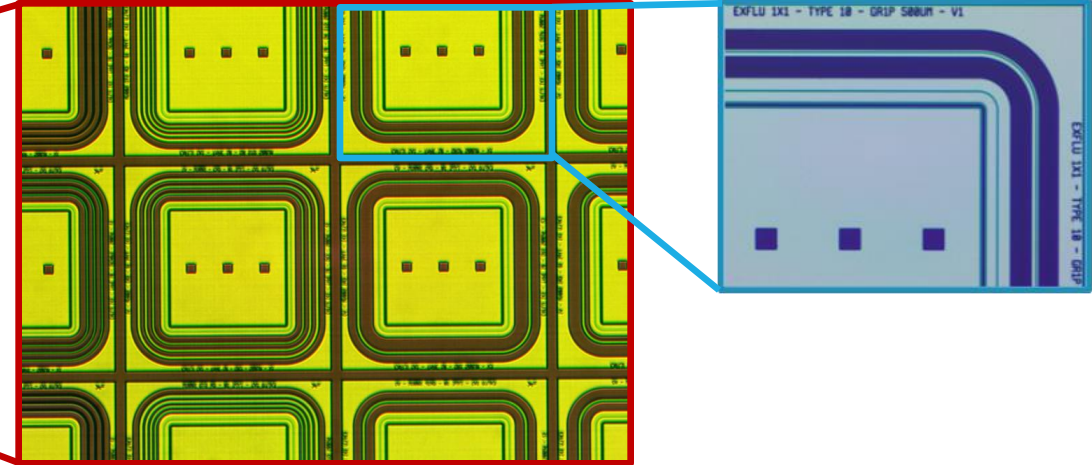
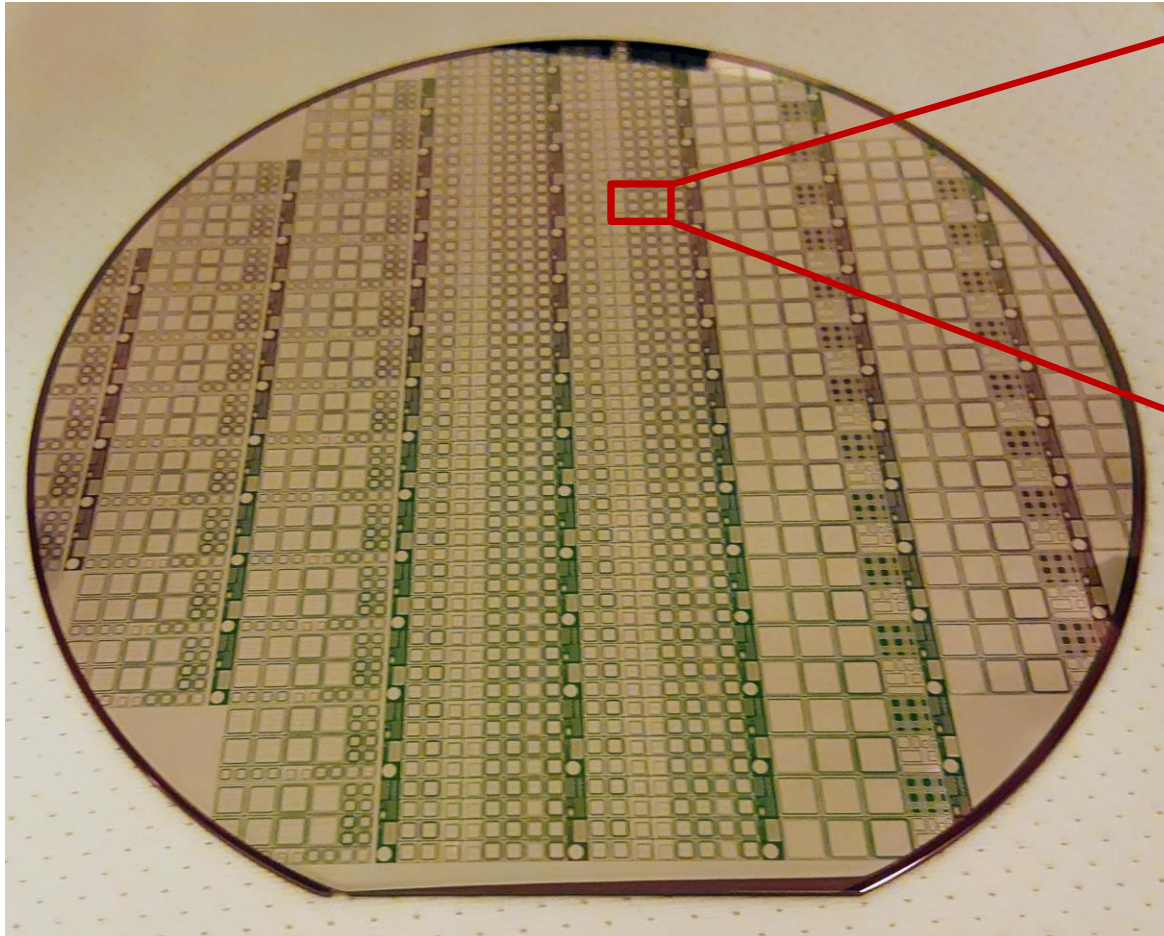
Design and preparatory studies have been performed in collaboration with the **Perugia group**

→ **The EXFLU1 wafers exited the FBK clean room at the end of 2022**

[[V. Sola, TREDI 2023, Trento](#)]

First Compensated LGADs – EXFLU1

6" Wafer



⇒ An extensive testing campaign on compensated LGADs started 1 year ago and is still ongoing

Compensated Gain Layer Design – Split Table

Active
thickness
30 μm

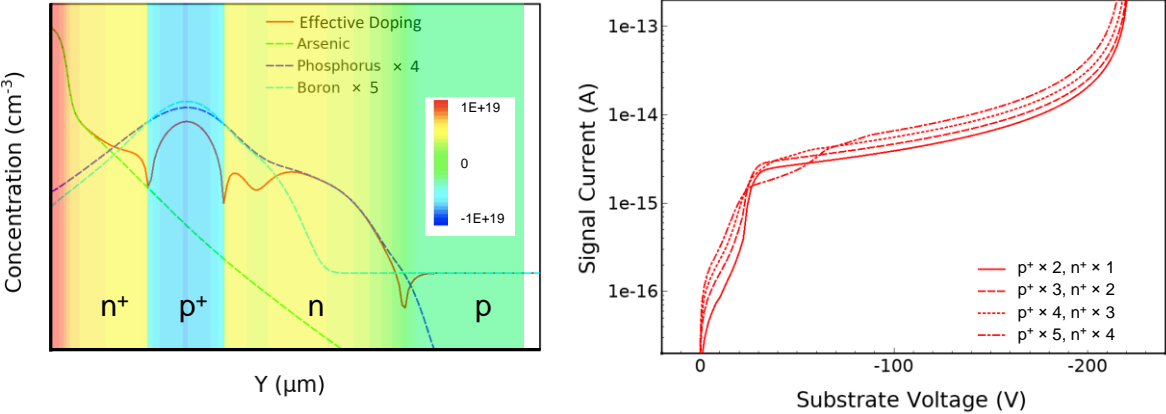
Wafer #	Thickness	p+ dose	n+ dose	C dose
6	30	2 a	1	
7	30	2 b	1	
8	30	2 b	1	
9	30	2 c	1	
10	30	3 a	2	
11	30	3 b	2	
12	30	3 b	2	
13	30	3 b	2	1.0
14	30	3 c	2	
15	30	5 a	4	

[a < b < c]

3 different combinations of p⁺ – n⁺ doping: 2 – 1, 3 – 2, 5 – 4

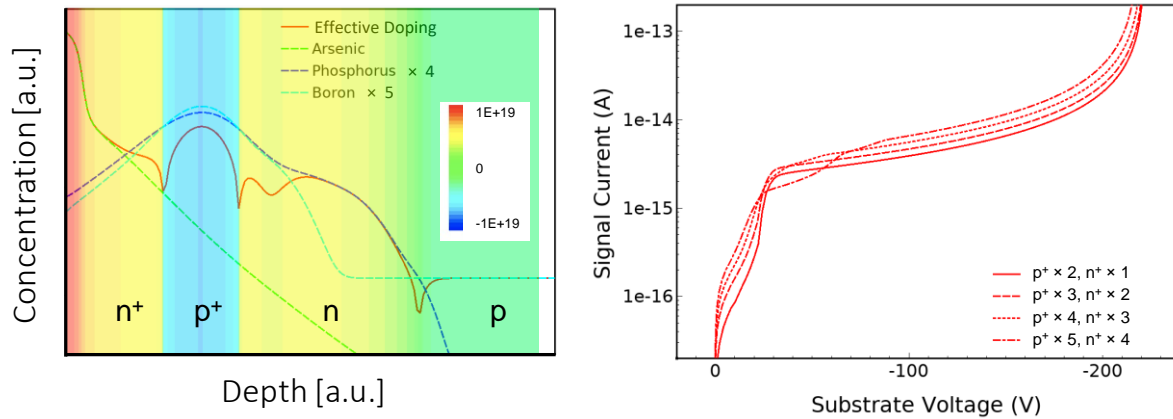
Compensated LGAD – I-V on wafer

Simulation

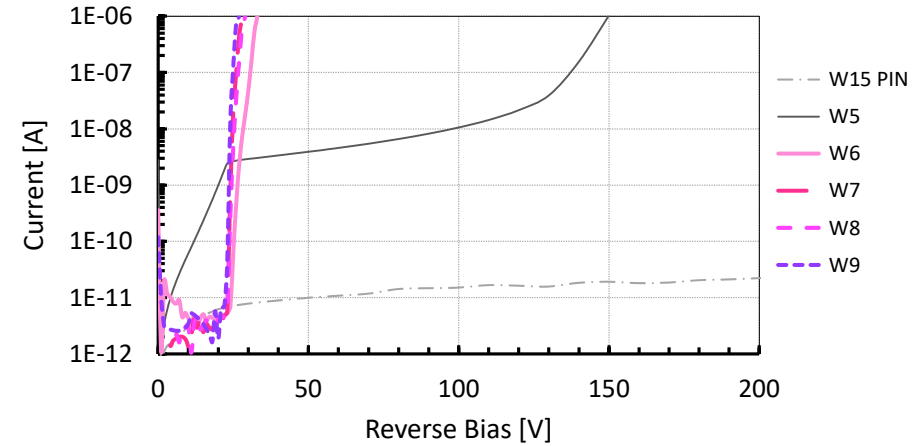


Compensated LGAD – I-V on wafer

Simulation

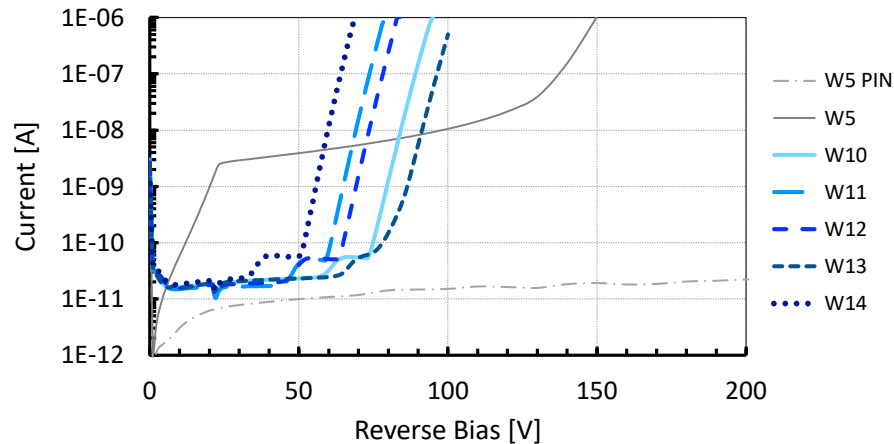


EXFLU1 – Compensated LGAD 2-1 – I-V



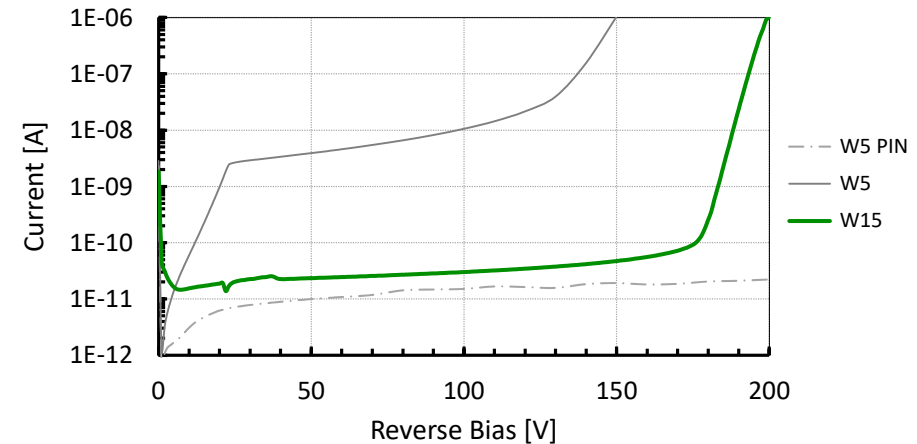
2-1

EXFLU1 – Compensated LGAD 3-2 – I-V



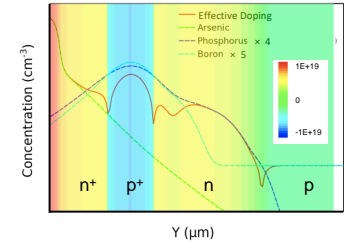
3-2

EXFLU1 – Compensated LGAD 5-4 – I-V



5-4

Compensated LGAD – I-V

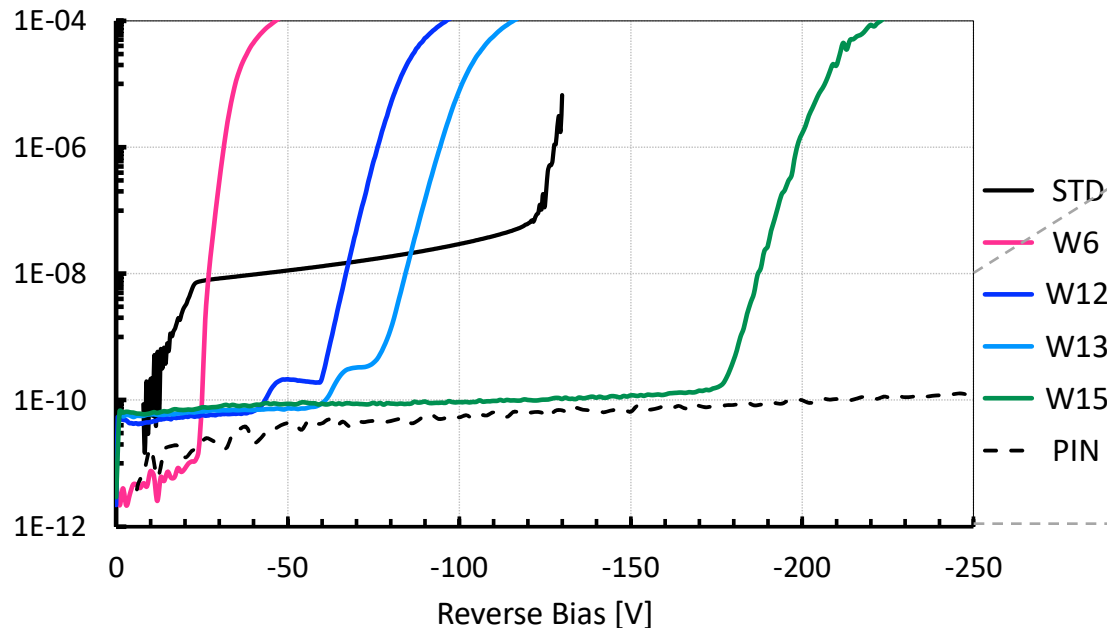


Wafer #	Thickness	p+ dose	n+ dose	C dose
6	30	2 a	1	
12	30	3 b	2	
13	30	3 b	2	1.0
15	30	5 a	4	

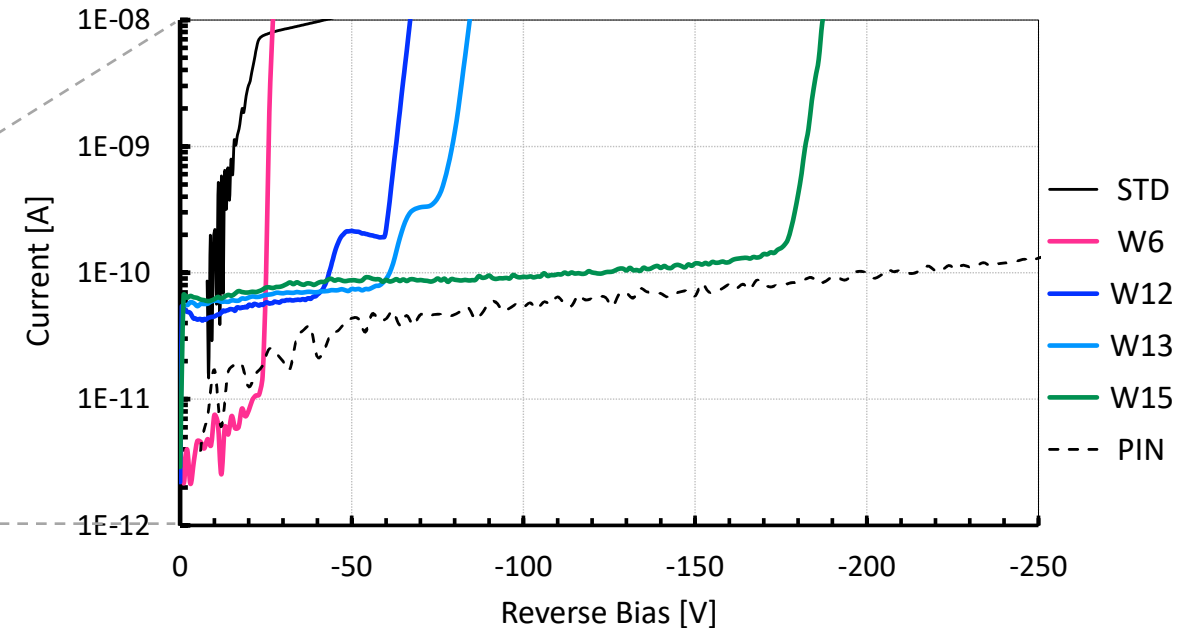
- 2 – 1 is more doped than standard LGAD
- 3 – 2 & 5 – 4 exhibit a flat behaviour followed by an abrupt increase of the current

JFAF_2024, F. Moscatelli

EXFLU1 – Compensated LGAD – I-V



EXFLU1 – Compensated LGAD – I-V – ZOOM



IR Laser Stimulus on Compensated LGAD 2-1

TCT Setup from Particulars

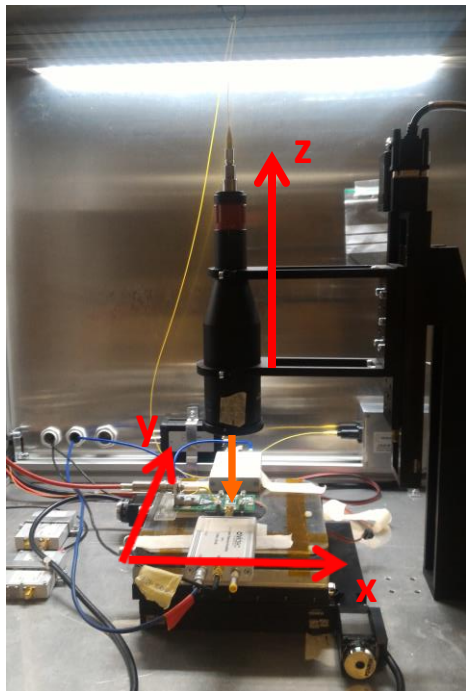
Pico-second IR laser at 1064 nm

Laser spot diameter ~ 10 μm

Cividec Broadband Amplifier (40dB)

Oscilloscope LeCroy 640Zi

Room temperature



$$\text{Gain} = \frac{Q_{\text{LGAD}}}{\langle Q_{\text{PiN}} \rangle}$$

Laser intensity

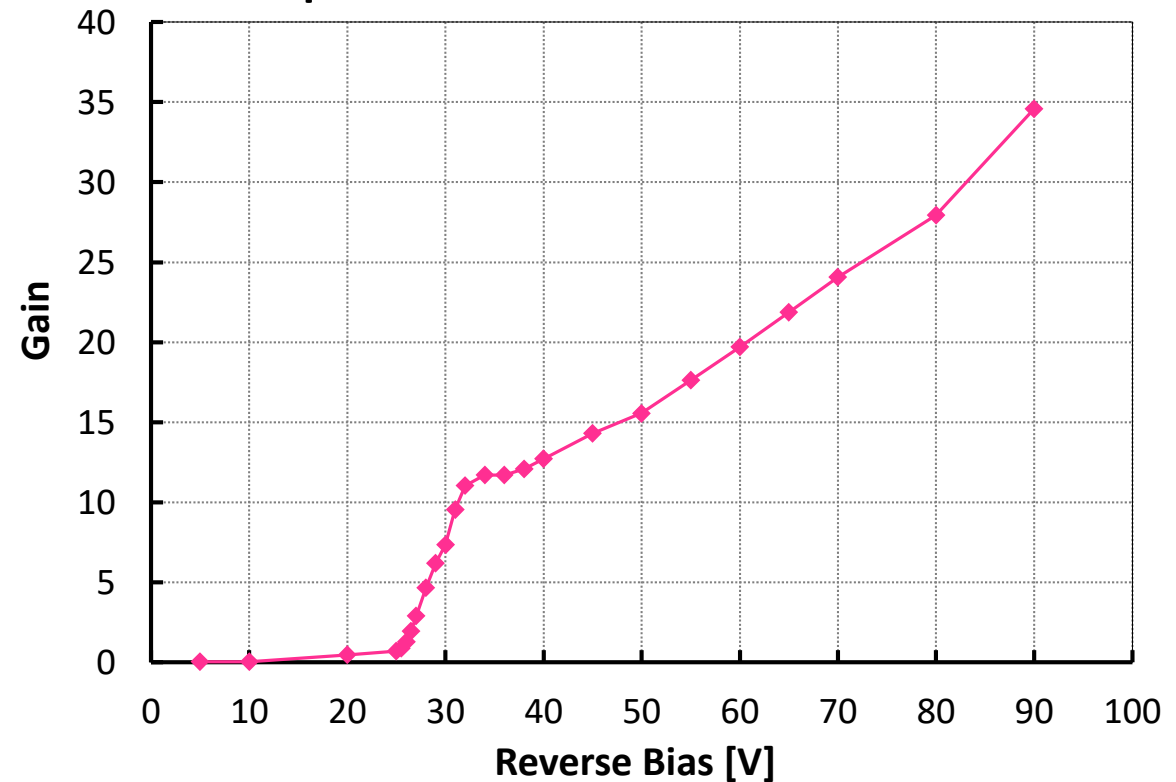
~ 10 MIPs

T = RT

$\Phi = 0$

Laser stimulus on a LGAD-PiN structure from W6 (2-1)

Compensated LGAD 2-1 Gain from TCT



→ Good transient behaviour of 2-1 compensated LGAD sensors

IR Laser Stimulus on Compensated LGAD 3-2 + C

TCT Setup from Particulars

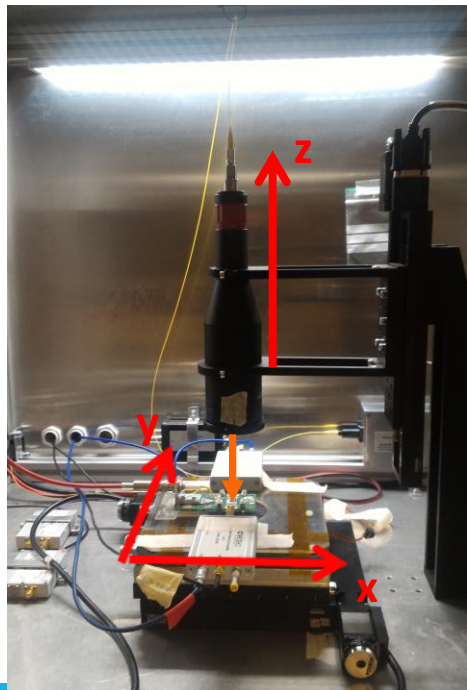
Pico-second IR laser at 1064 nm

Laser spot diameter $\sim 10 \mu\text{m}$

Cividec Broadband Amplifier (40dB)

Oscilloscope LeCroy 640Zi

$T = -20^\circ\text{C}$



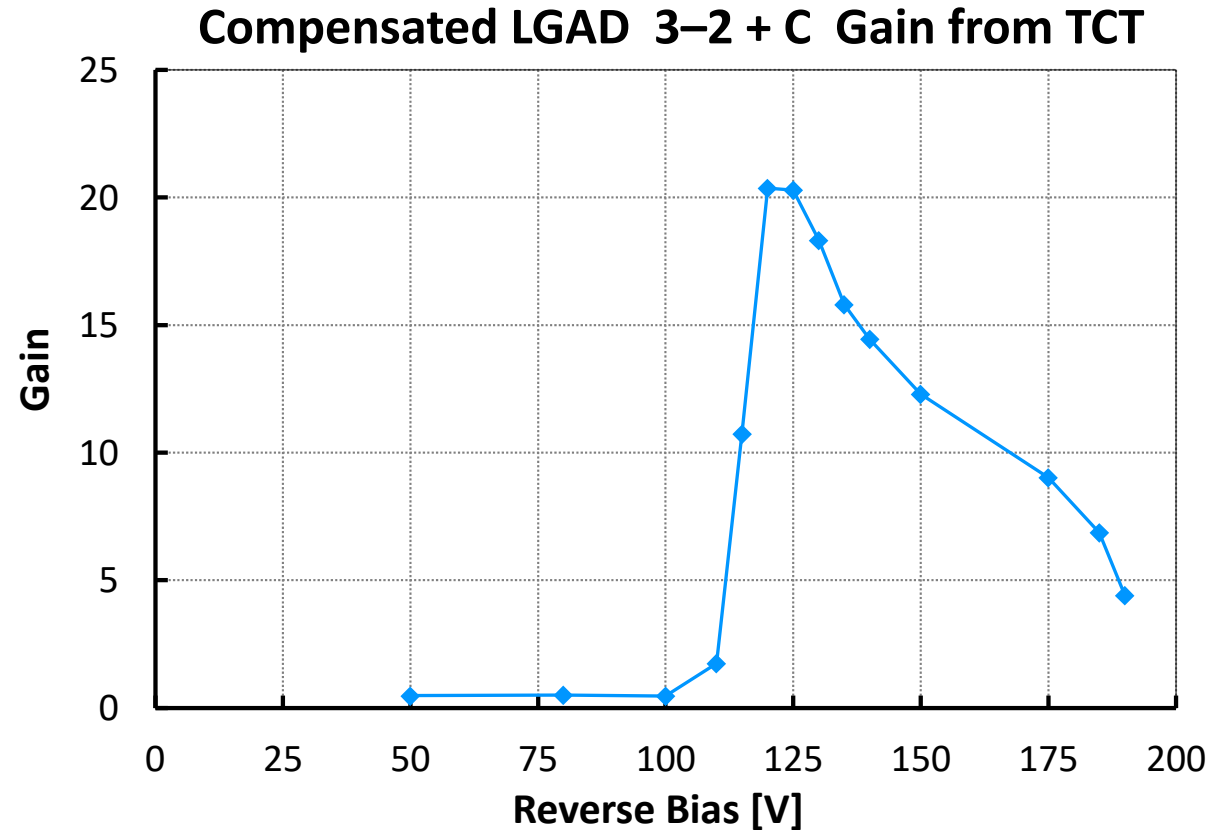
$$\text{Gain} = \frac{Q_{\text{LGAD}}}{\langle Q_{\text{PiN}} \rangle}$$

Laser intensity

$\sim 4 \text{ MIPs}$

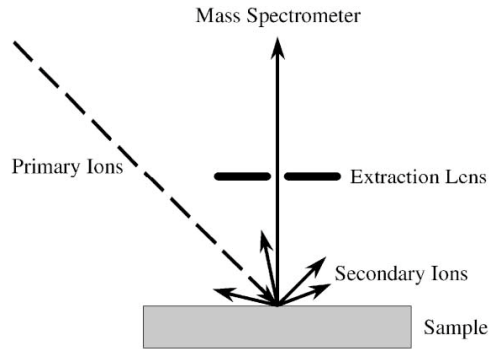
$\Phi = 0$

Laser stimulus on a LGAD-PiN structure from W13 (3 - 2 + C)

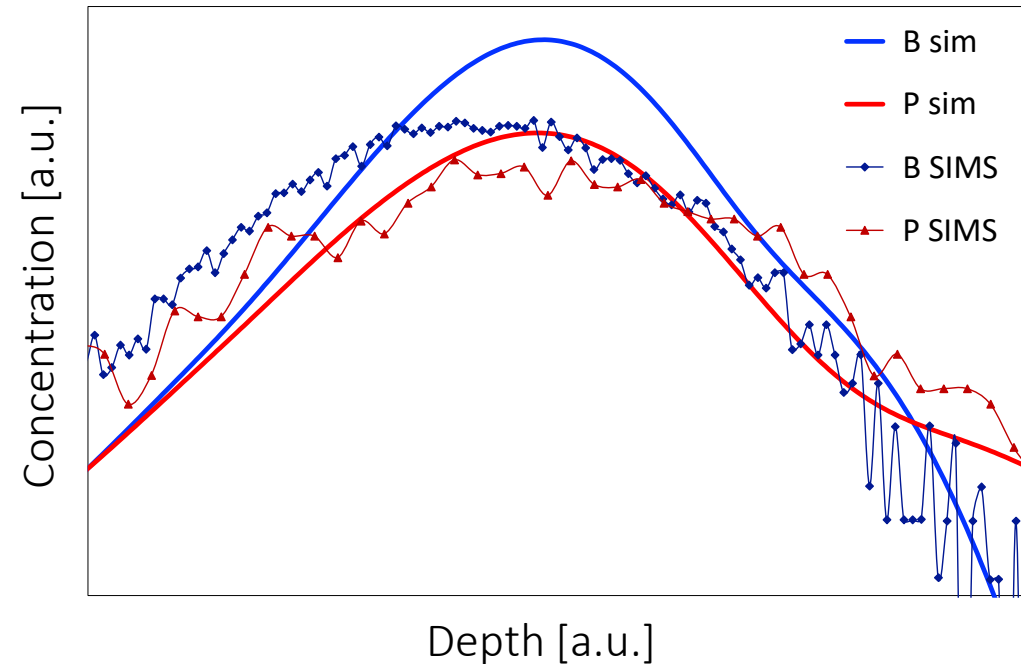


→ Difficult to operate 3 - 2 + C compensated LGAD sensors

Secondary Ion Mass Spectroscopy – W15



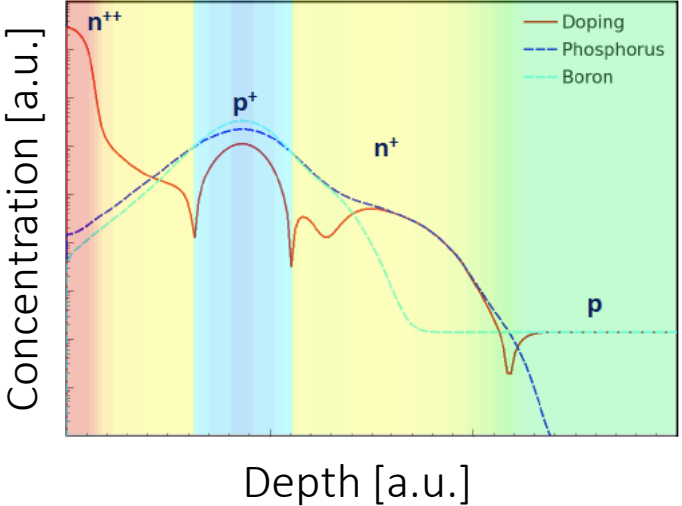
Compensated LGAD – W15 5-4
SIMS vs Process Simulation



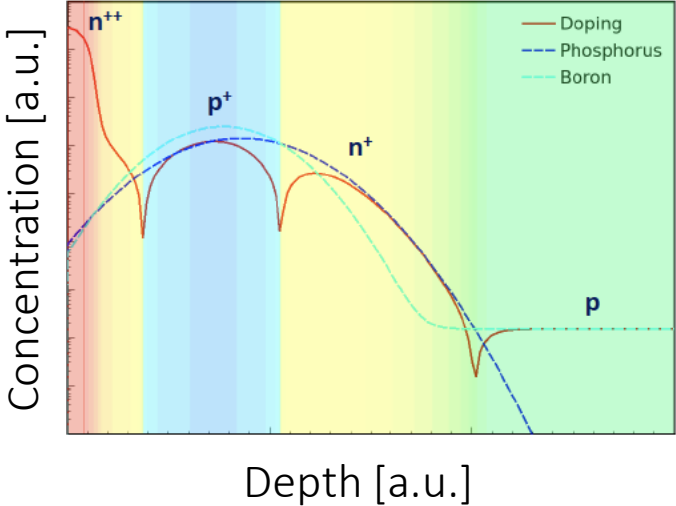
- ▷ Boron peak is shallower than phosphorus
- ▷ Boron peak is lower than predicted from simulation

SIMS Profile & I-V – 5–4

Doping Profiles
from Process Simulation



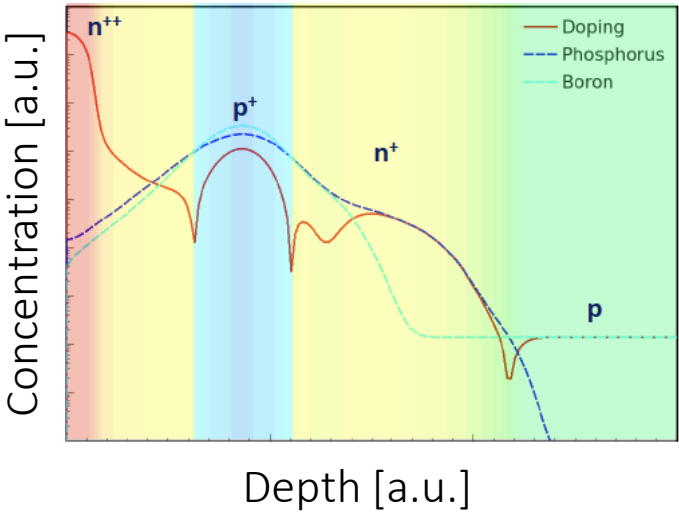
Doping Profiles
from SIMS



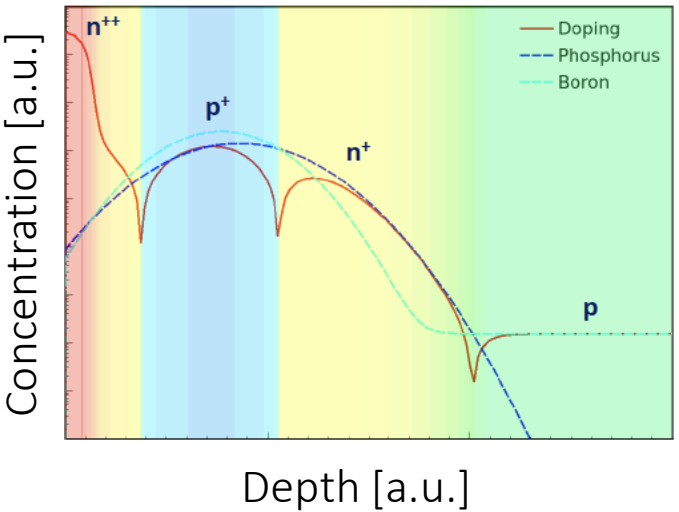
SIMS Profile & I-V – 5–4

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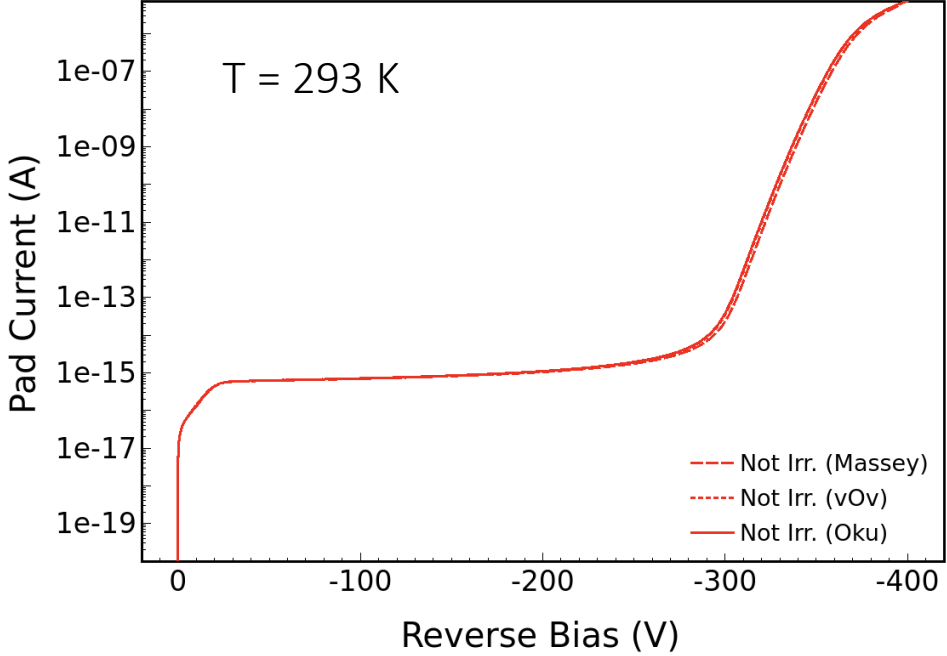
Doping Profiles from Process Simulation



Doping Profiles from SIMS

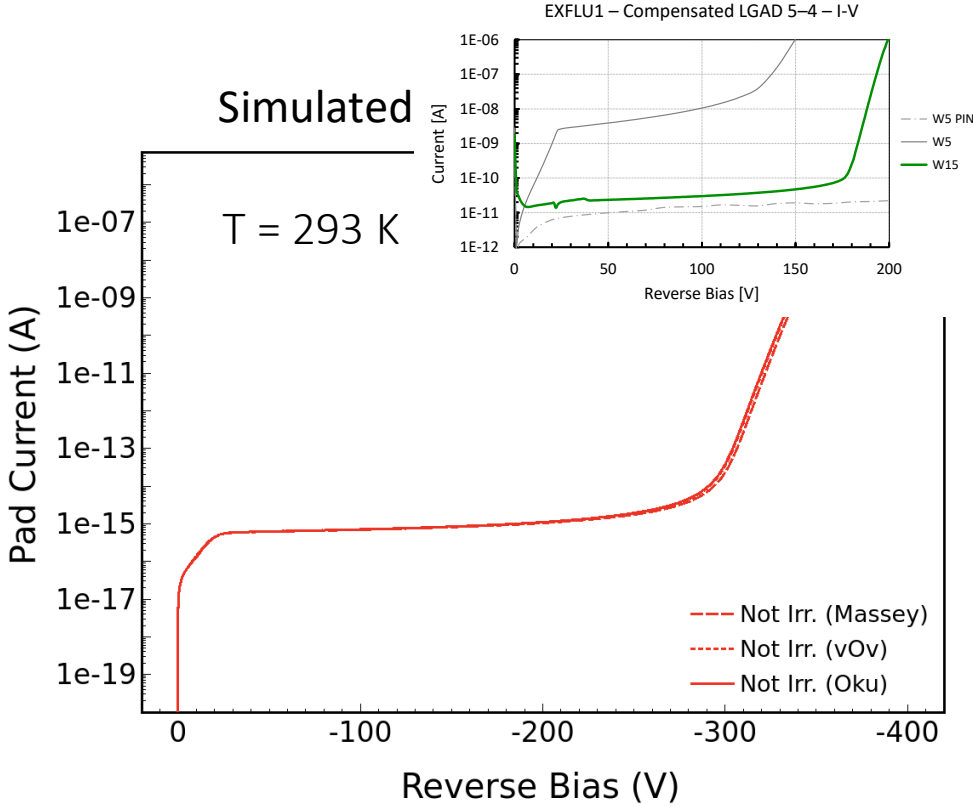
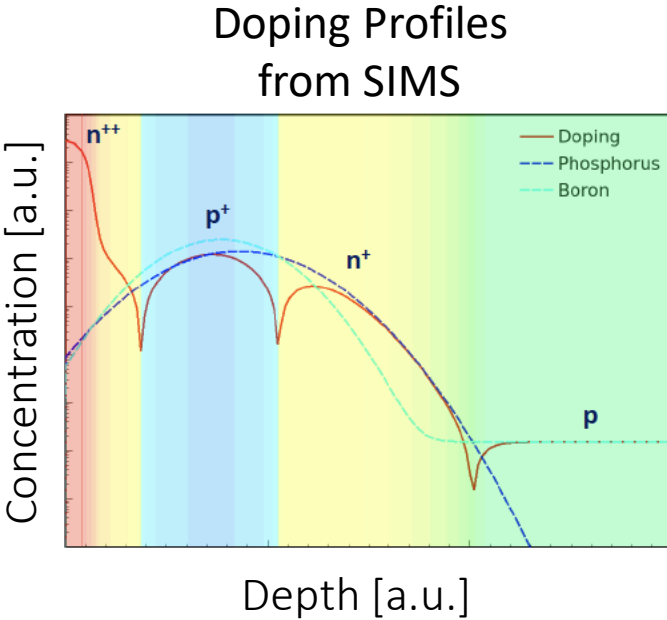
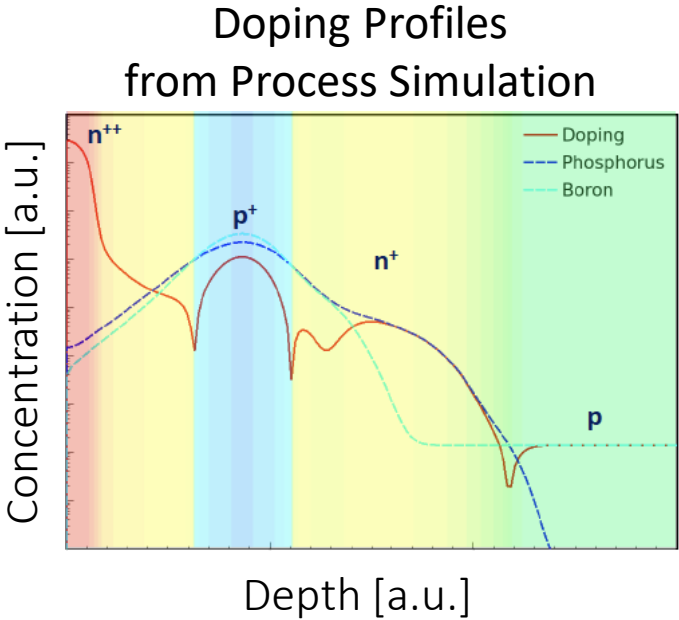


Simulated I-V from SIMS Profiles



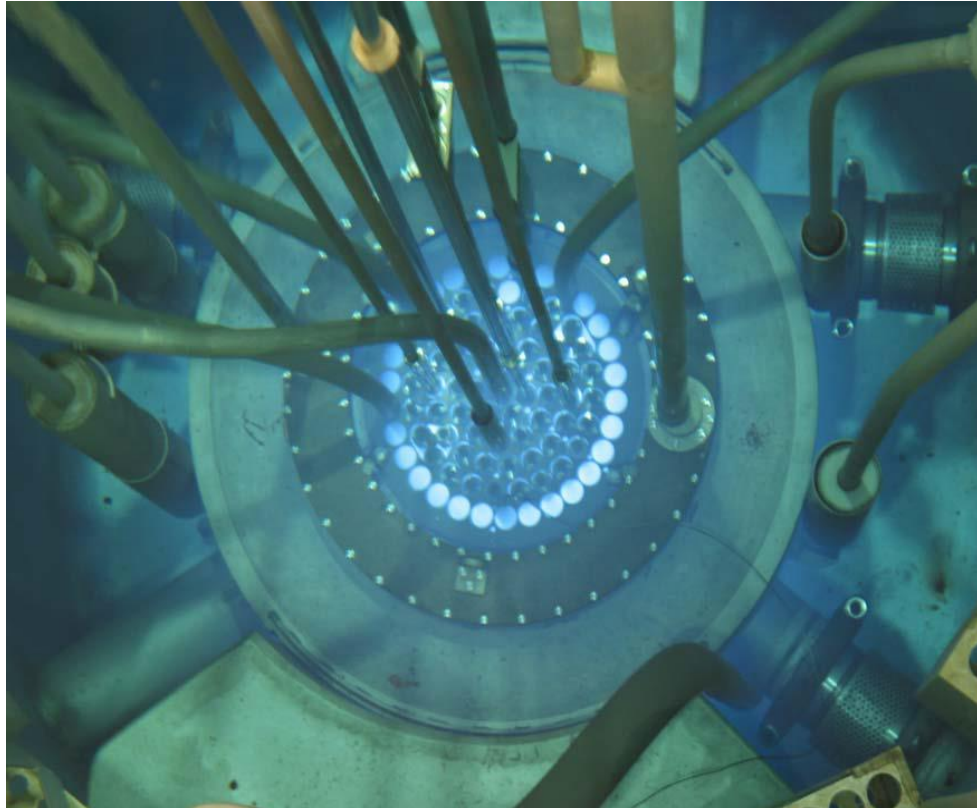
SIMS Profile & I-V – 5–4

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→ The simulated I-V reproduces the trend of the measured I-V from W15

Neutron Irradiation of Compensated LGADs



Compensated LGAD sensors have been irradiated with neutrons at the JSI TRIGA Reactor Irradiation Facility (Ljubljana)

**Irradiation fluences from
1E14 to 5E15 n_{eq}/cm²**

Fluence uncertainty $\pm 5\%$

I-V from Compensated LGAD – Irradiated

$$[\Phi] = n_{eq}/cm^2$$

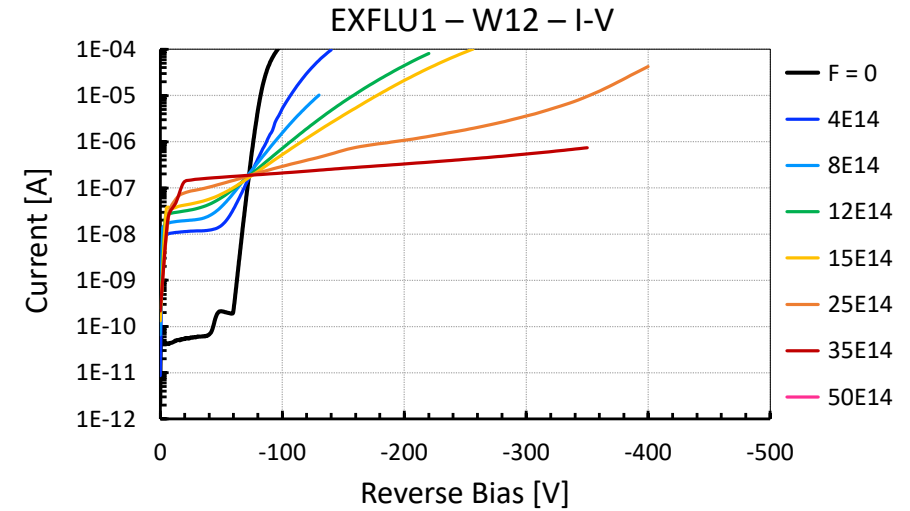
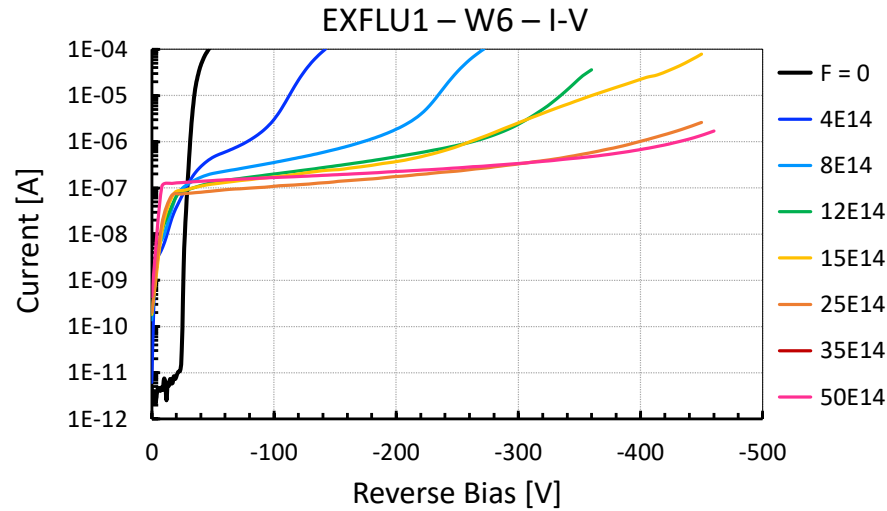
$$T_{F=0} = +20^\circ C$$

$$T_{IRR} = -20^\circ C$$

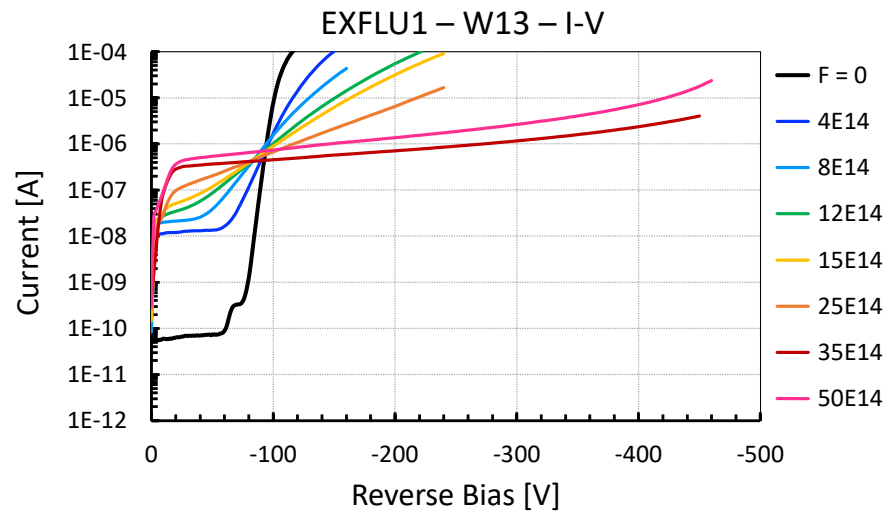
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W6
2-1

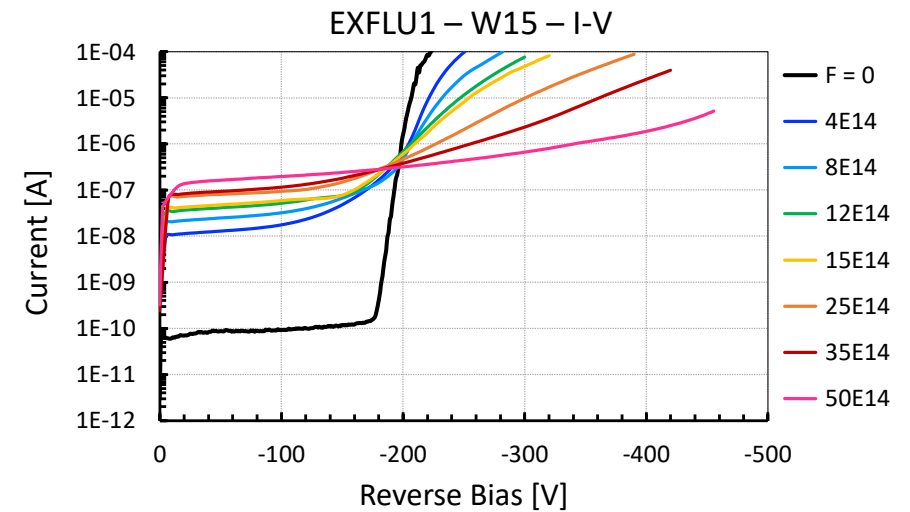
W13
3-2+C



W12
3-2



W15
5-4



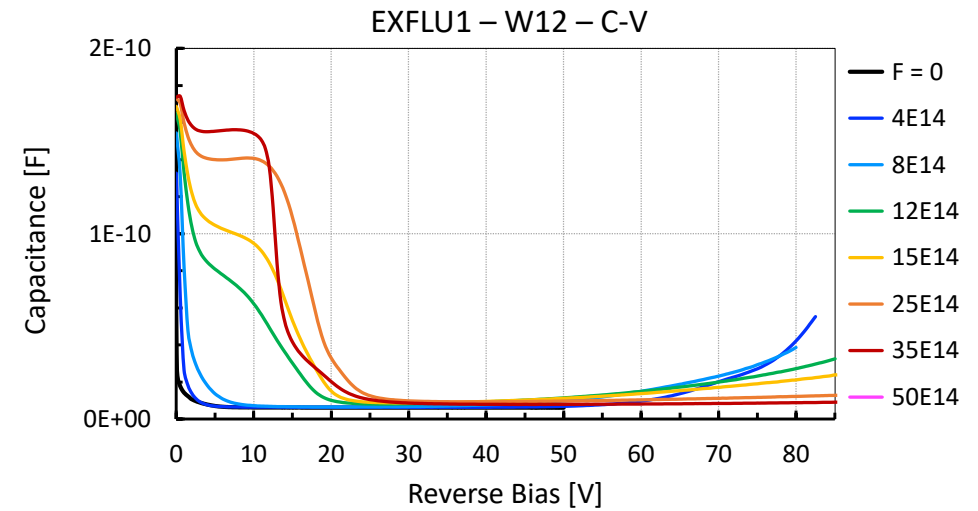
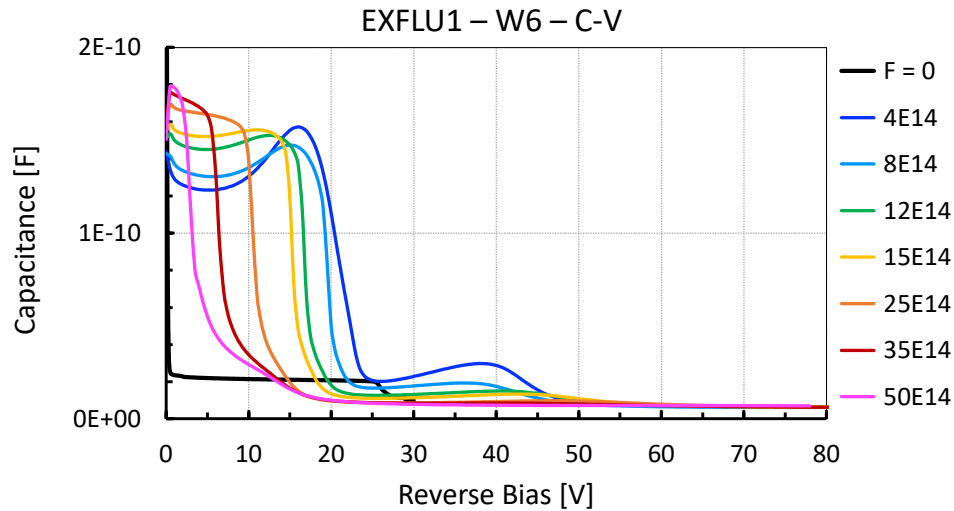
C-V from Compensated LGAD – Irradiated

$$[\Phi] = n_{eq}/cm^2$$

T = + 20°C

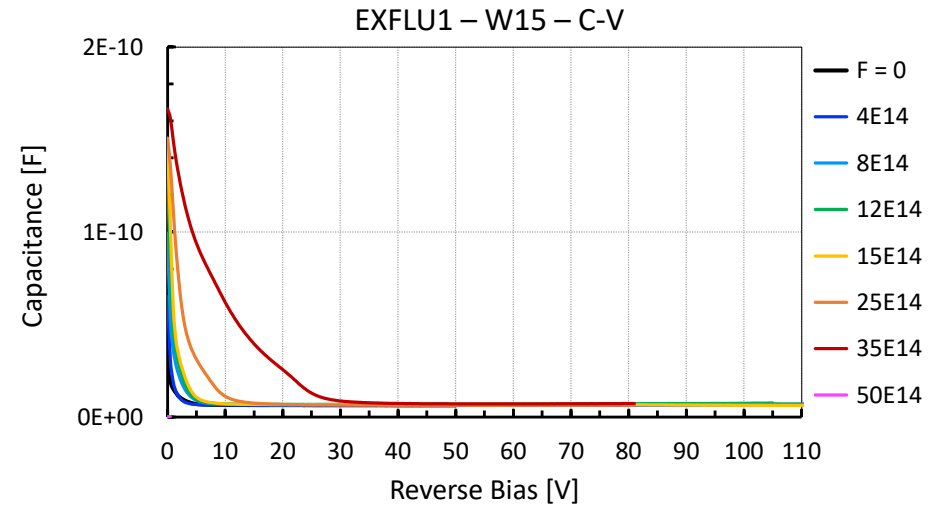
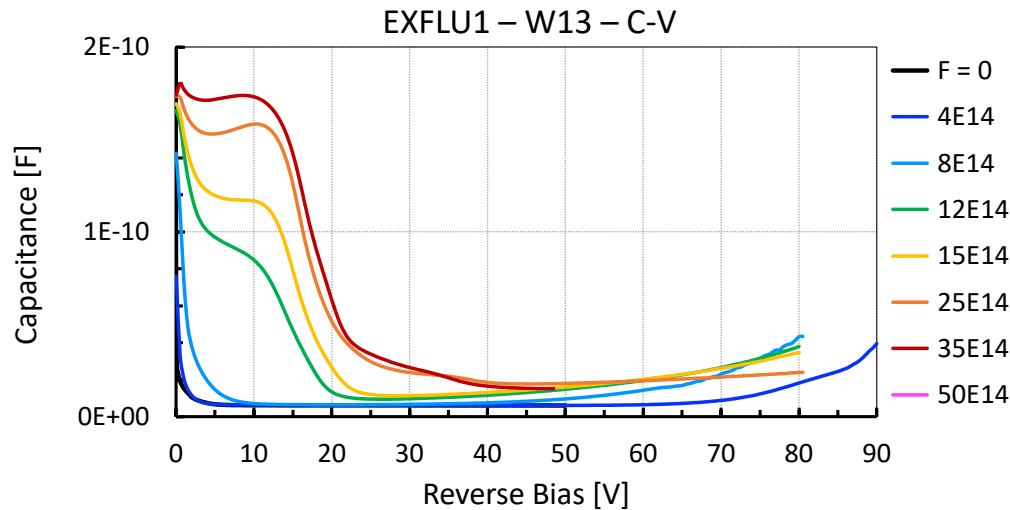
f = 2k Hz

W6
2 – 1



W12
3 – 2

W13
3 – 2 + C



W15
5 – 4

IR Laser Stimulus on Compensated LGAD

TCT Setup from Particulars

Pico-second IR laser at 1064 nm

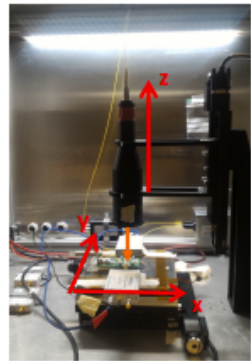
Laser spot diameter ~ 10 μm

Cividec Broadband Amplifier (40dB)

Oscilloscope LeCroy 640Zi

Laser intensity ~ 4 MIPs

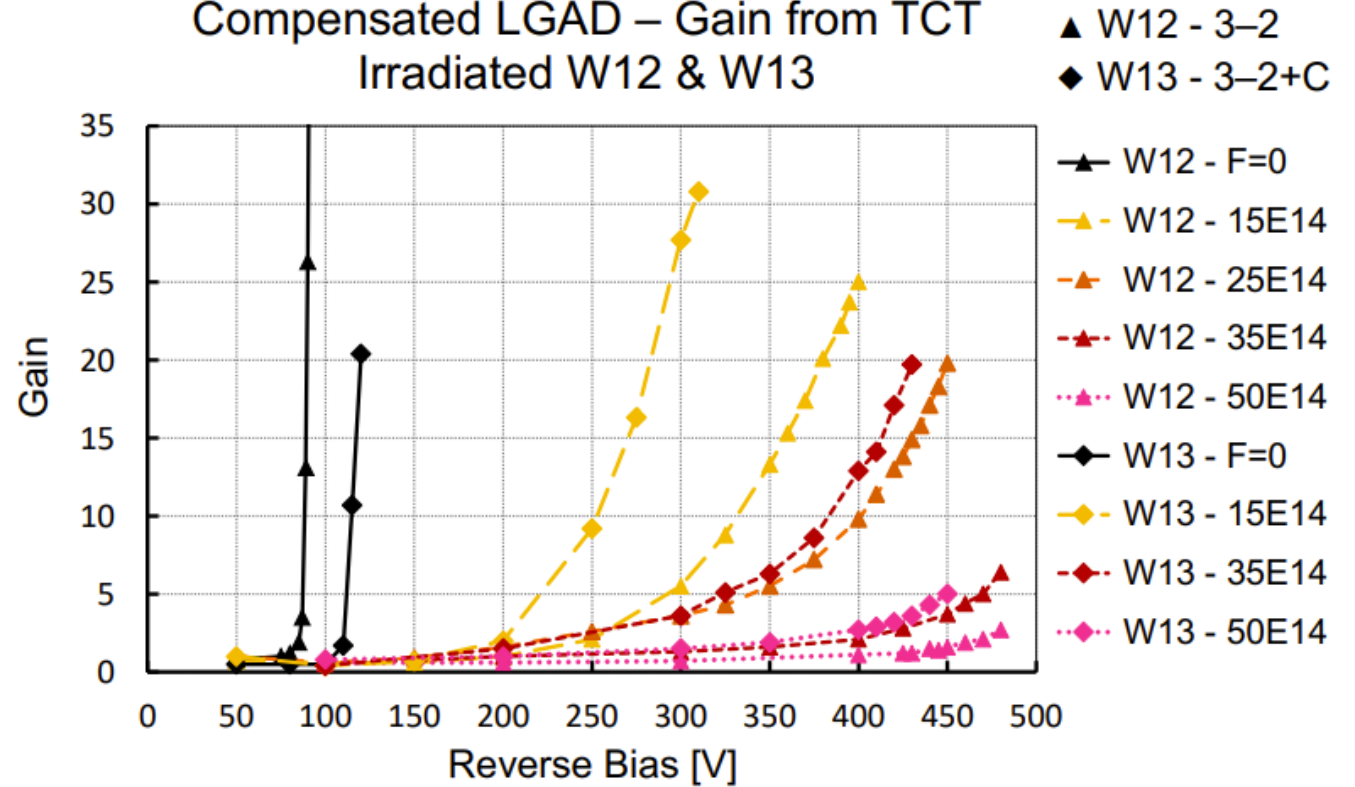
T = -20°C



Laser stimulus on a LGAD-PiN structures before and after irradiation

$$\text{Gain} = \frac{Q_{\text{LGAD}}}{\langle Q_{\text{PiN}}^{\text{No Gain}} \rangle}$$

Compensated LGAD – Gain from TCT
Irradiated W12 & W13



→ Good gain behaviour of the compensated LGAD sensors after irradiation

→ Even in compensated LGADs, the usage of carbon mitigates the acceptor removal

β Particles on Compensated LGAD

β Setup

Oscilloscope: LeCroy 9254M (2.5GHz - 40Gs/s)

HV Power supply: CAEN DT1471ET

UCSC Board + Cividec Broadband Amplifier (20dB)

Time reference: Photonis MCP-PMT – $\sigma_t \sim 15$ ps

β source: Sr90 – activity ~ 37 kBq

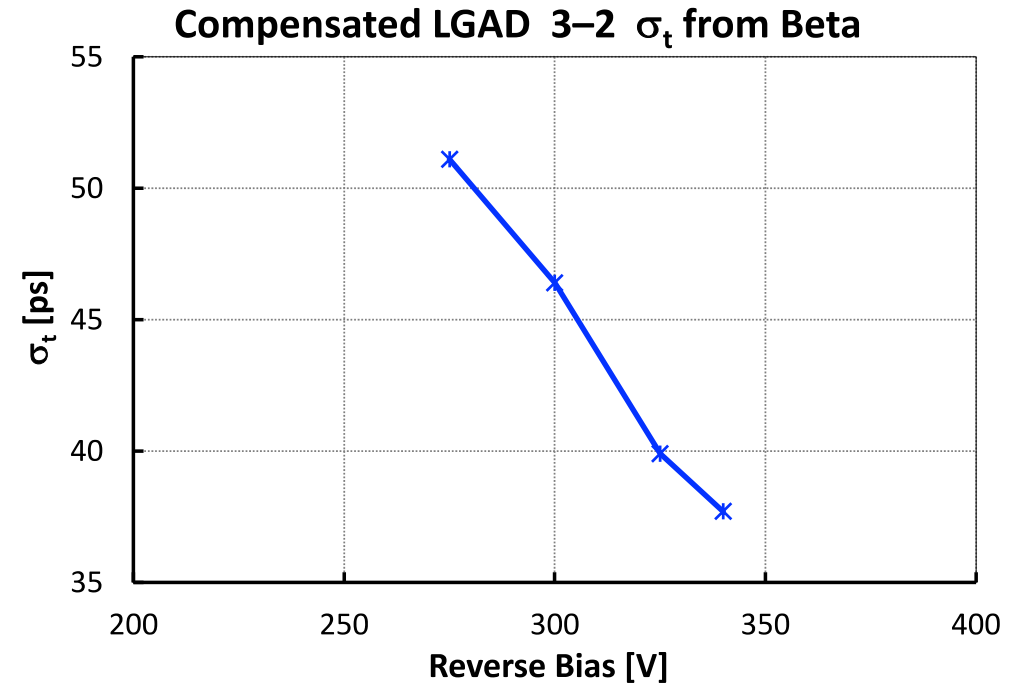
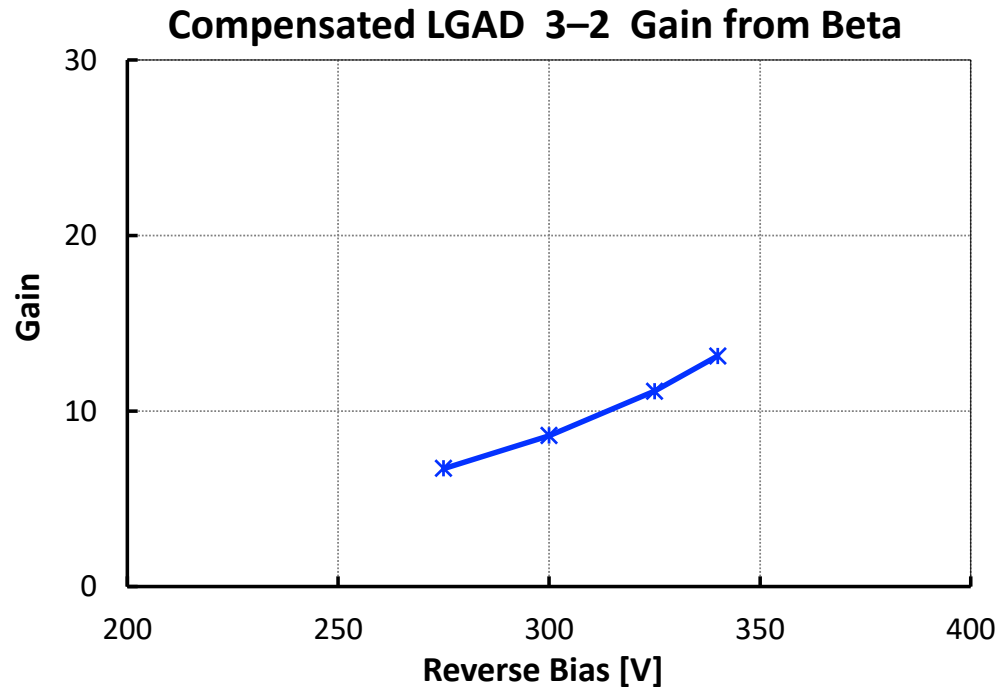
T = -25°C

3–2 compensated LGAD from W12 irradiated to $2.5 \cdot 10^{15} n_{eq}/cm^2$ has been tested with beta particles

→ **Good timing performances of compensated LGAD sensors irradiated to $2.5 \cdot 10^{15} n_{eq}/cm^2$**

IFAE_2024, F. Moscatelli

W12
3–2
 $\Phi = 2.5E15$



Summary & Outlook

- **Compensated LGADs represent the sensor technology for the extreme fluences**
- **First compensated LGAD batch has been released 1 year ago**
- **Good performances of compensated LGAD sensors after irradiation**
- **An ERC Consolidator Grant is funded to develop compensated LGAD sensors**

**Doping Compensation in Thin Silicon Sensors:
the pathway to Extreme Radiation Environments
Complex**





We acknowledge the following funding agencies and collaborations:

- ▷ INFN CSN5
- ▷ RD50, CERN
- ▷ AIDAInnova, WP13
- ▷ Compagnia di San Paolo
- ▷ Ministero della Ricerca, Italia, PRIN 2022, progetto 2022RK39RF – ComonSens

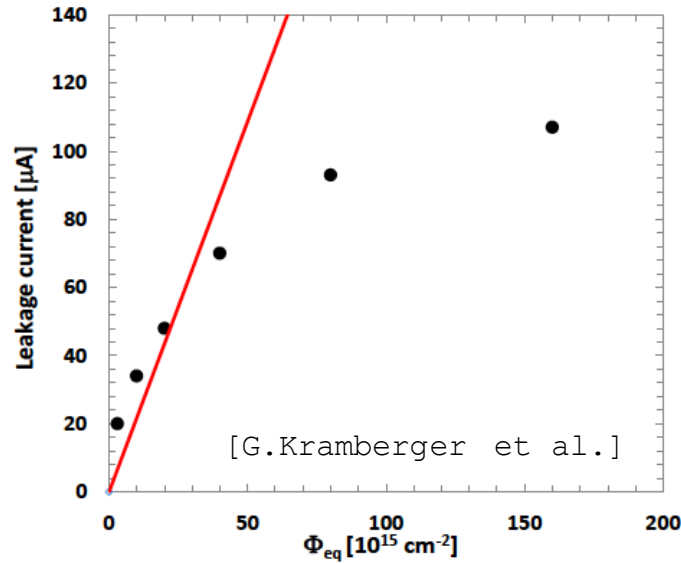
This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation programme under Grant Agreement No.101004761 and No 101057511 (EURO-LABS)

*Thank
you*

Backup

Saturation

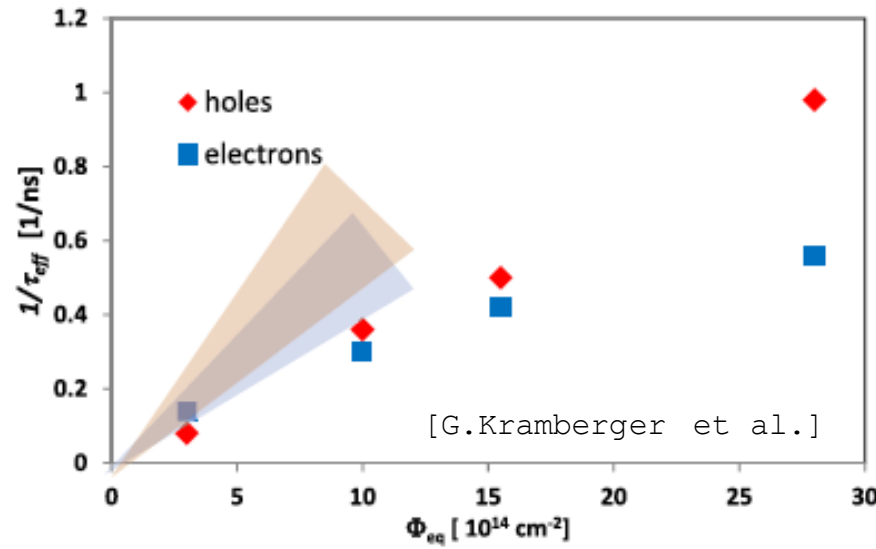
At fluences above $5 \cdot 10^{15} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ → **Saturation of radiation effects observed**



Leakage current saturation

$$I = \alpha V \Phi$$

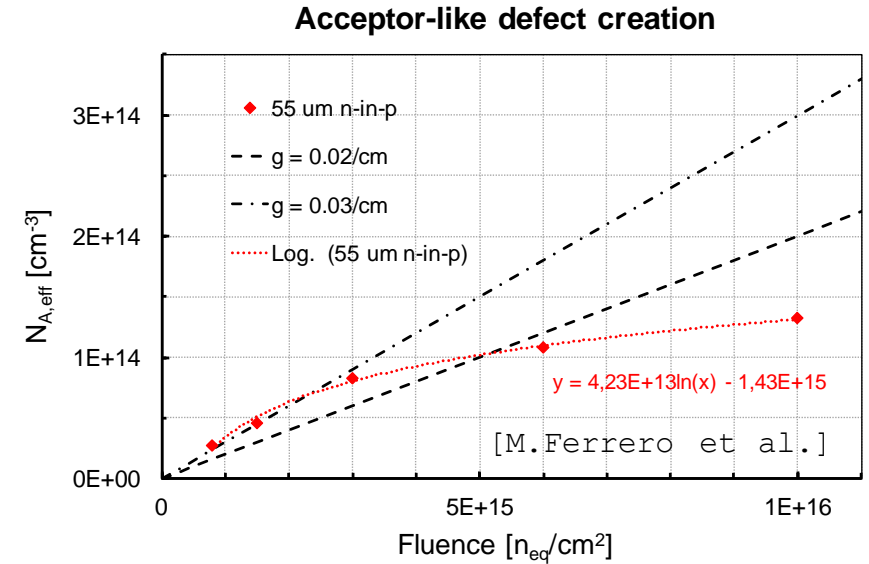
α from linear to logarithmic



Trapping probability saturation

$$1/\tau_{\text{eff}} = \beta \Phi$$

β from linear to logarithmic



Acceptor creation saturation

$$N_{\text{A,eff}} = g_c \Phi$$

g_c from linear to logarithmic

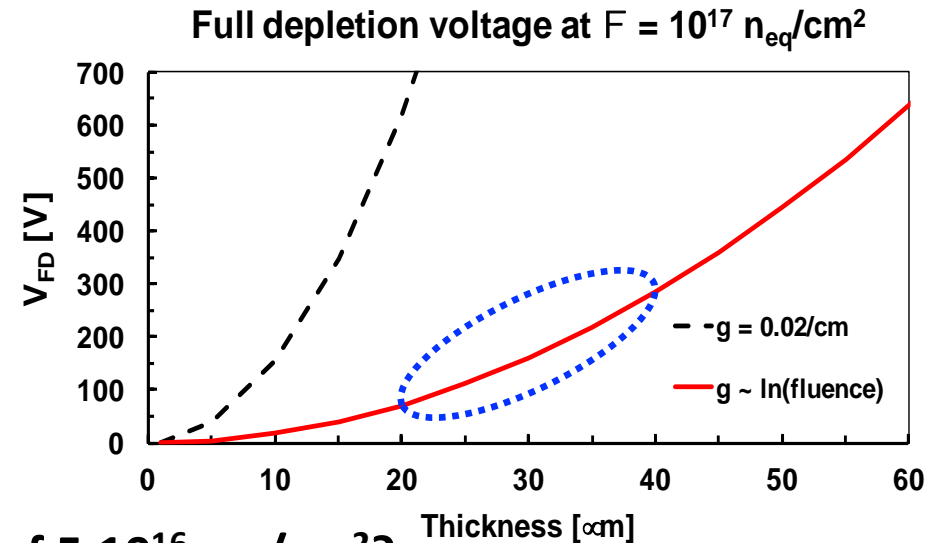
Silicon detectors irradiated at fluences $10^{16} - 10^{17} n_{\text{eq}}/\text{cm}^2$ do not behave as expected → **They behave better**

Thin Substrates

$$V_{FD} = e |N_{eff}| d^2 / 2\epsilon$$

Saturation **Reduce thickness**

**At high fluences, only thin substrates
can be fully depleted**



What does it happen to a **25 μ m sensor** after a fluence of **$5 \cdot 10^{16} n_{eq}/cm^2$** ?

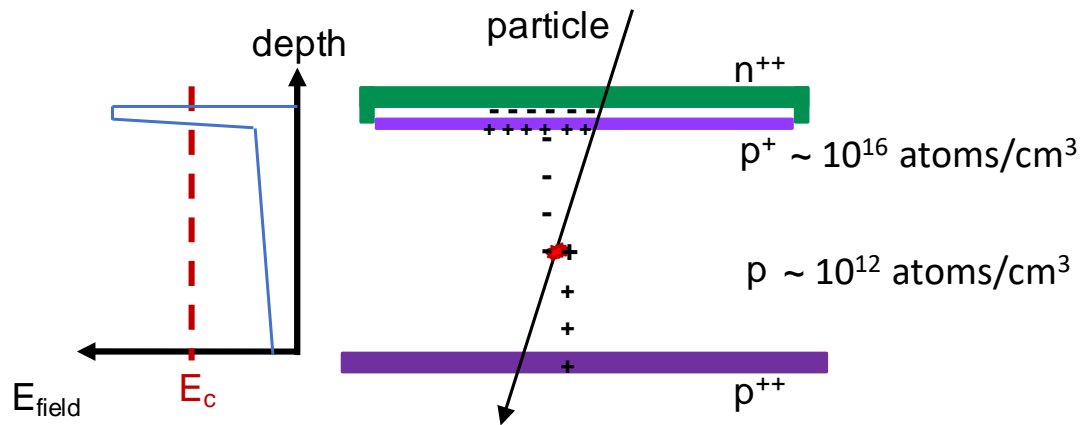
- ▶ It can still be depleted
- ▶ Trapping is limited (small drift length)
- ▶ Dark current is low (small volume)

However: charge deposited by a MIP ~ 0.25 fC

- This charge is lower than the minimum charge requested by the electronics (~ 1 fC for tracking, $\gtrsim 5$ fC for timing)
- **Need a gain of at least ~ 5** in order to efficiently record a hit

**Optimal candidate:
LGAD sensors**

Thin LGAD for the Extreme Fluences



The idea: use thin sensors (15 – 45 μm) with internal gain

→ **Low-Gain Avalanche Diodes (LGADs)** provide a controlled internal multiplication of signal

Minimum charge requested by the electronics

→ **~ 1 fC** for tracking

→ **$\gtrsim 5$ fC** for timing

Charge from a MIP crossing thin sensors

→ **~ 0.1 fC every $10 \mu\text{m}$**

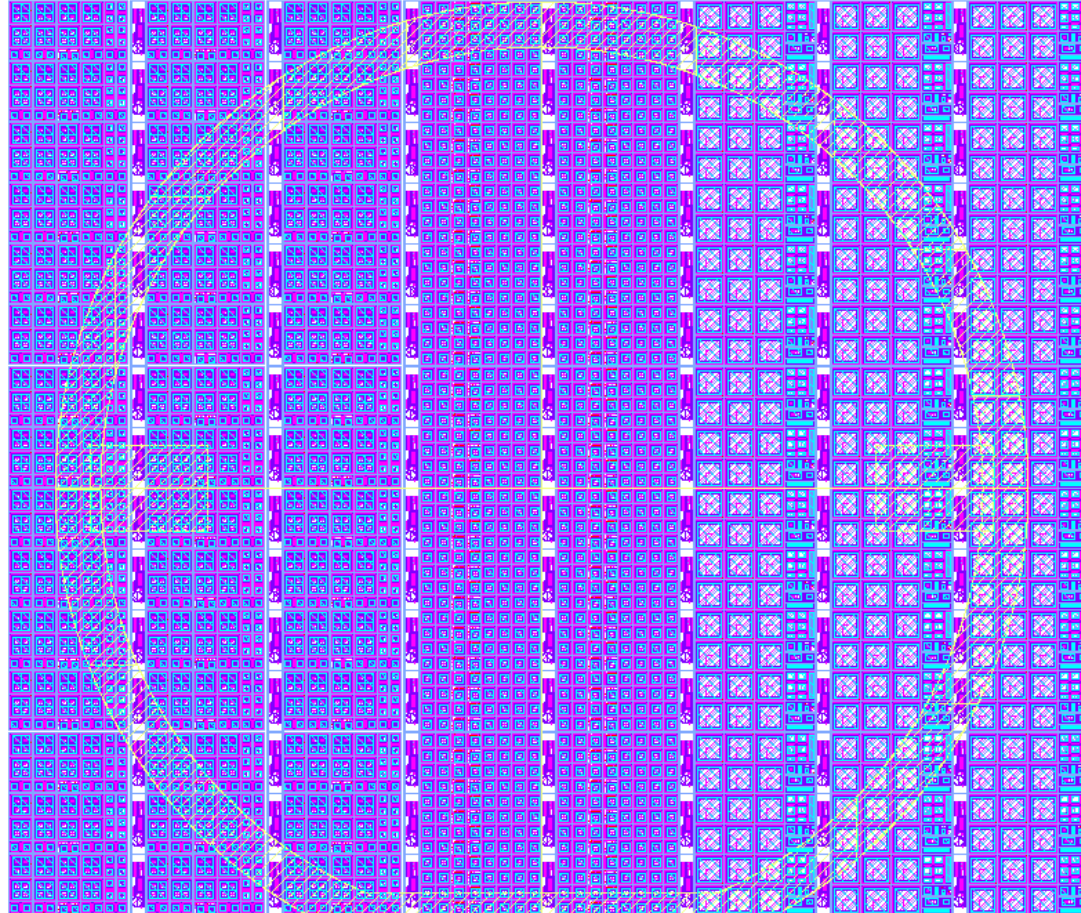
[S. Meroli et al., [doi:10.1088/1748-0221/6/06/P06013](https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-0221/6/06/P06013)]

⇒ **Need a gain of at least 5 – 10**

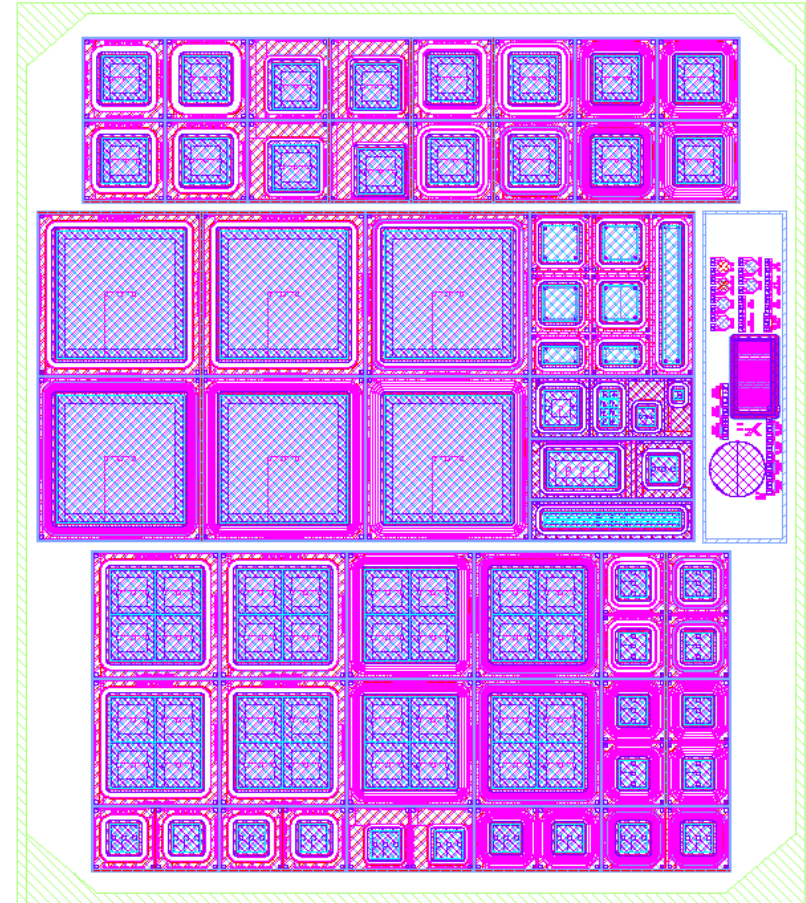
up to $\Phi = 10^{17} n_{\text{eq}}/\text{cm}^2$ to efficiently record a hit

The EXFLU1 Layout

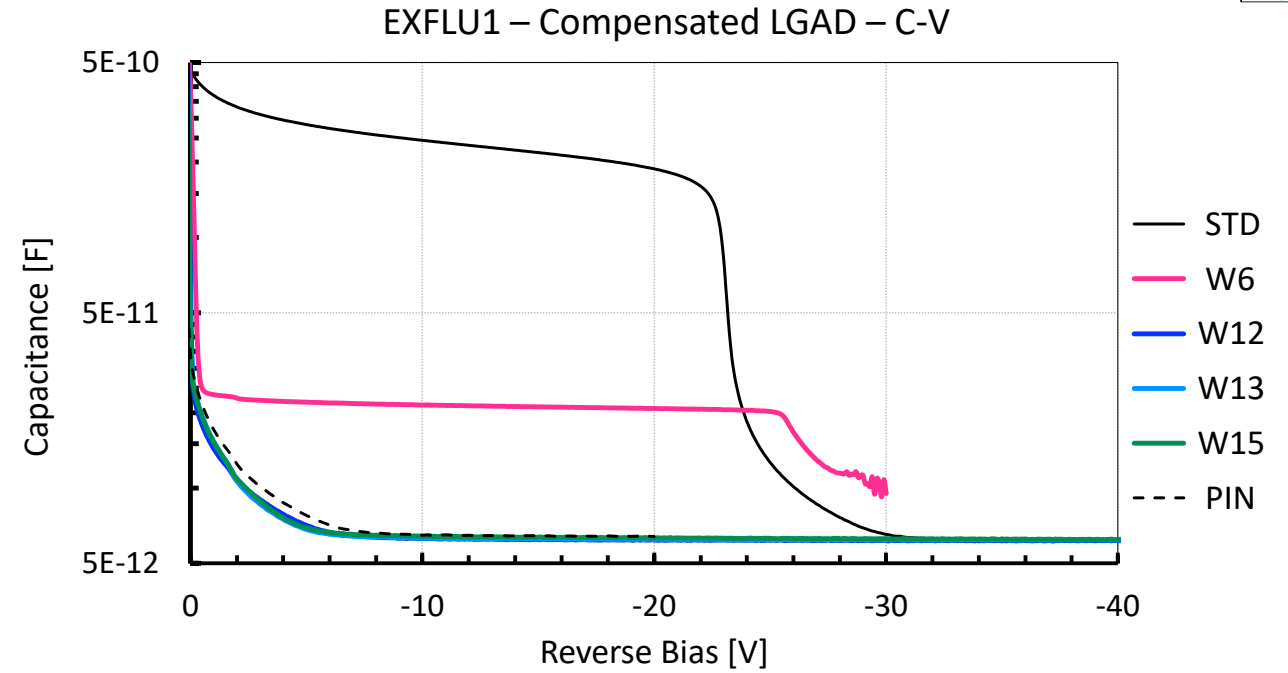
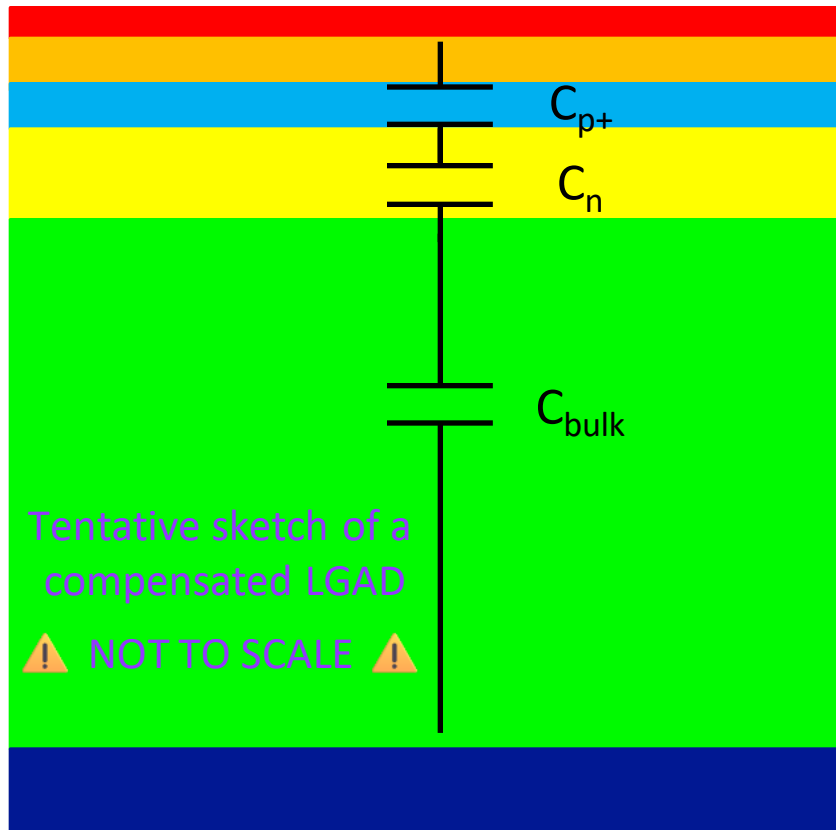
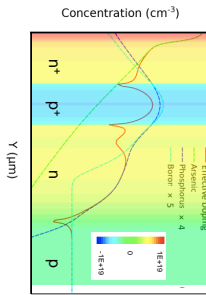
6" Wafer Layout



Reticle Layout

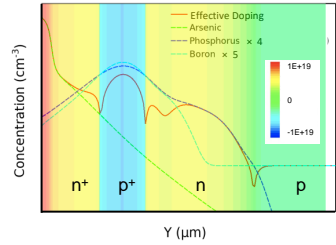


Compensated LGAD – C-V



→ 3–2 & 5–4 C-V measurements have shapes similar to the one from the PIN diode, measuring a slightly bigger thickness at bias values between 0 and -10 V

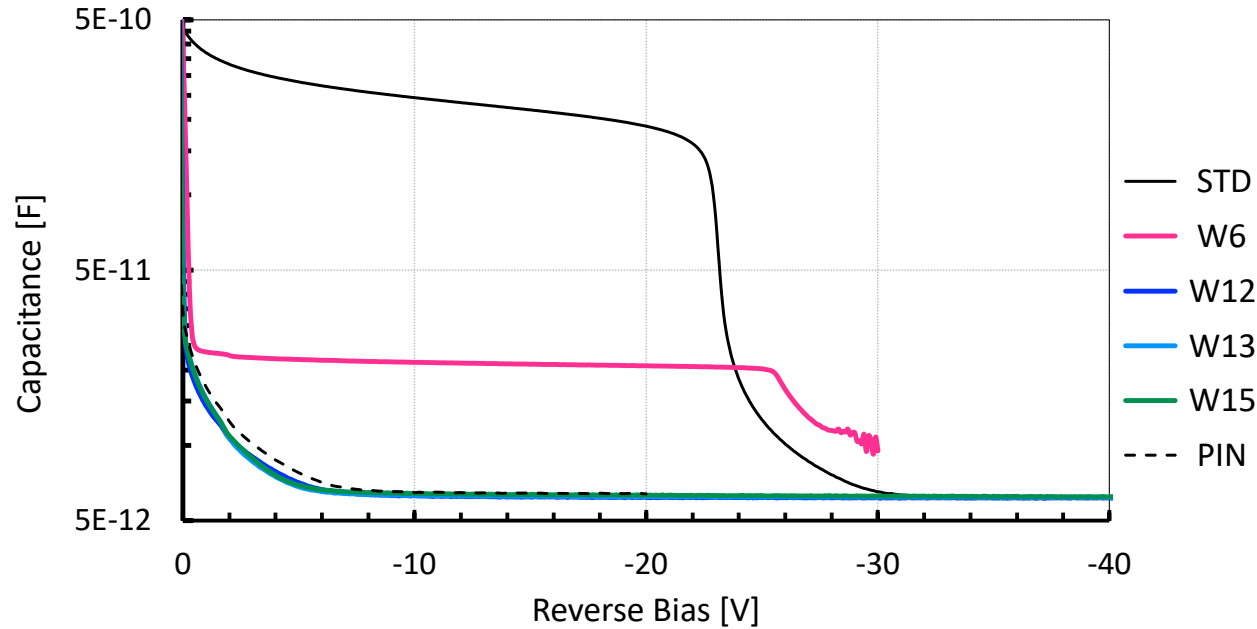
Compensated LGAD – C-V



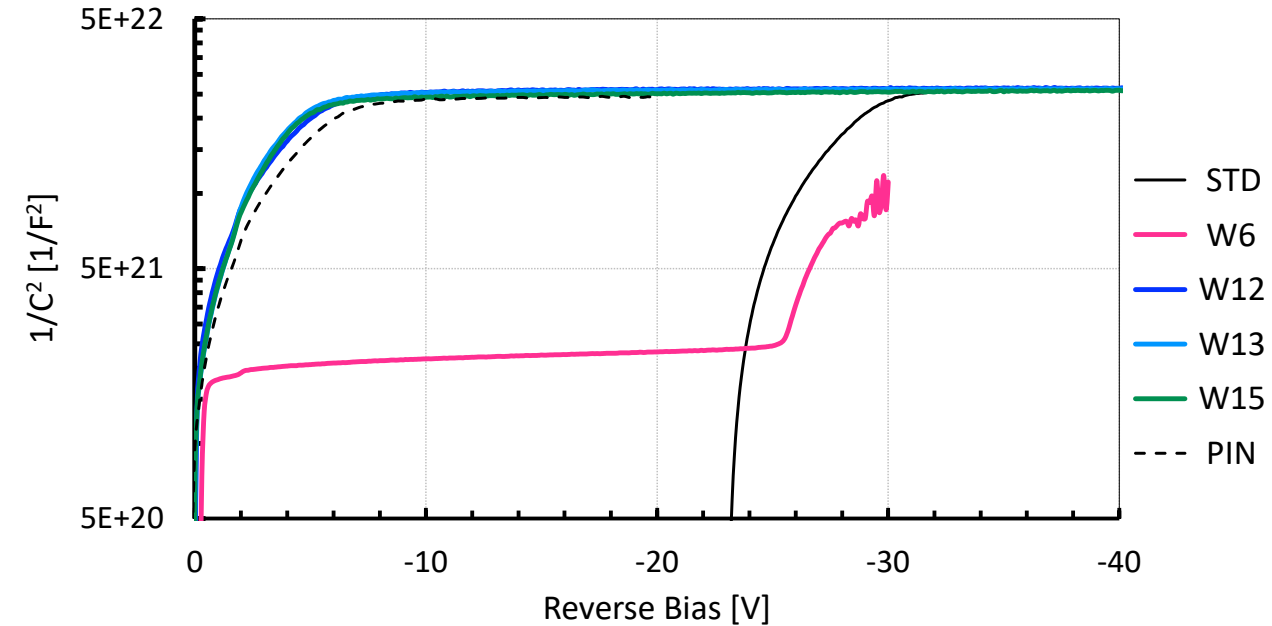
Wafer #	Thickness	p+ dose	n+ dose	C dose
6	30	2 a	1	
12	30	3 b	2	
13	30	3 b	2	1.0
15	30	5 a	4	

- 2 – 1 is more doped than standard LGAD
- 3–2 & 5–4 exhibit a lower capacitance than PIN

EXFLU1 – Compensated LGAD – C-V



EXFLU1 – Compensated LGAD – 1/C²-V



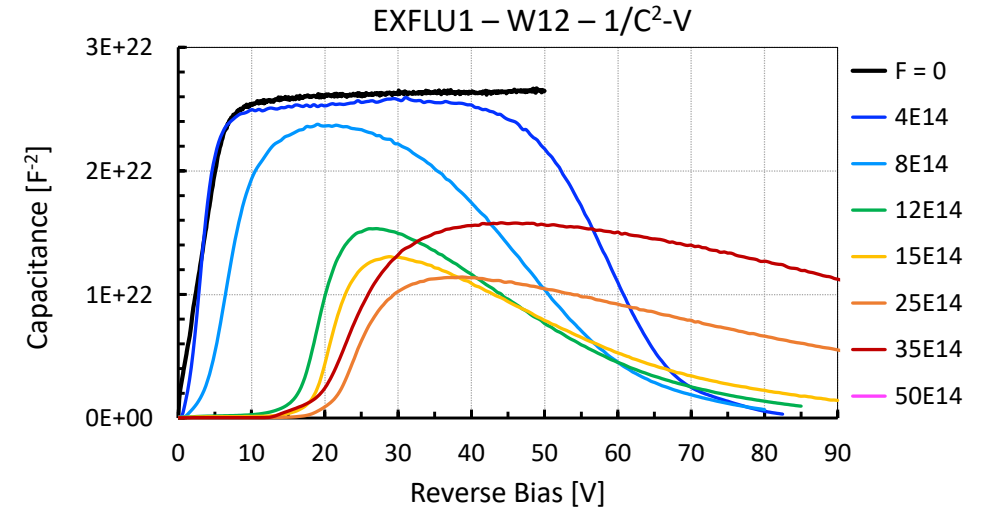
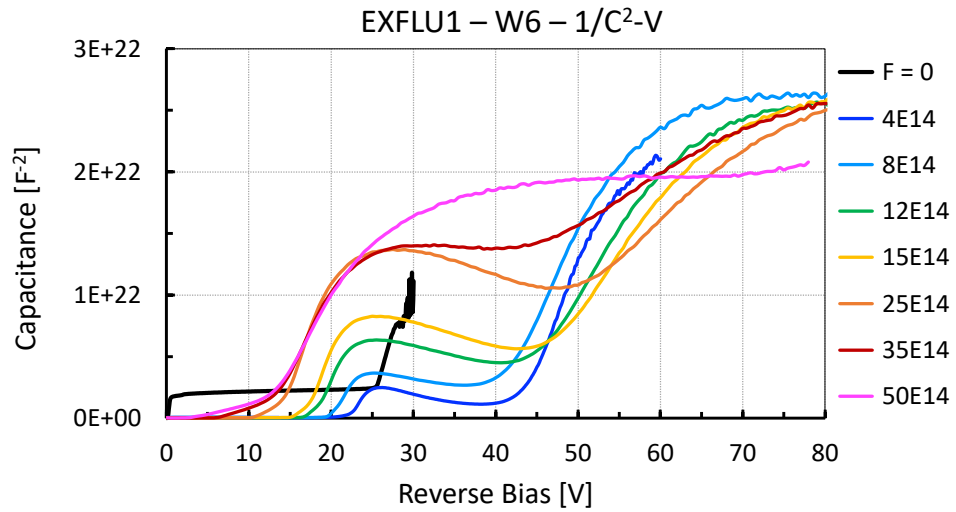
1/C²-V from Compensated LGAD – Irradiated

$[\Phi] = n_{eq}/cm^2$

T = + 20°C

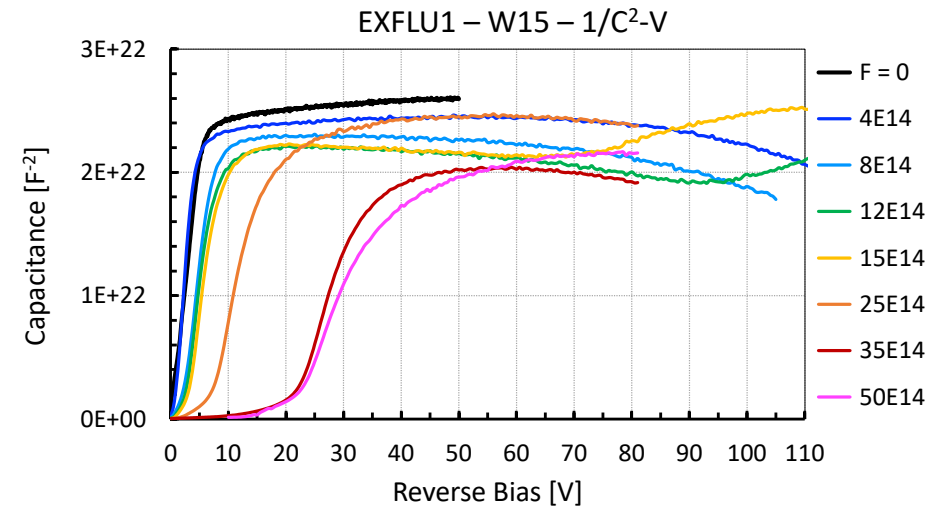
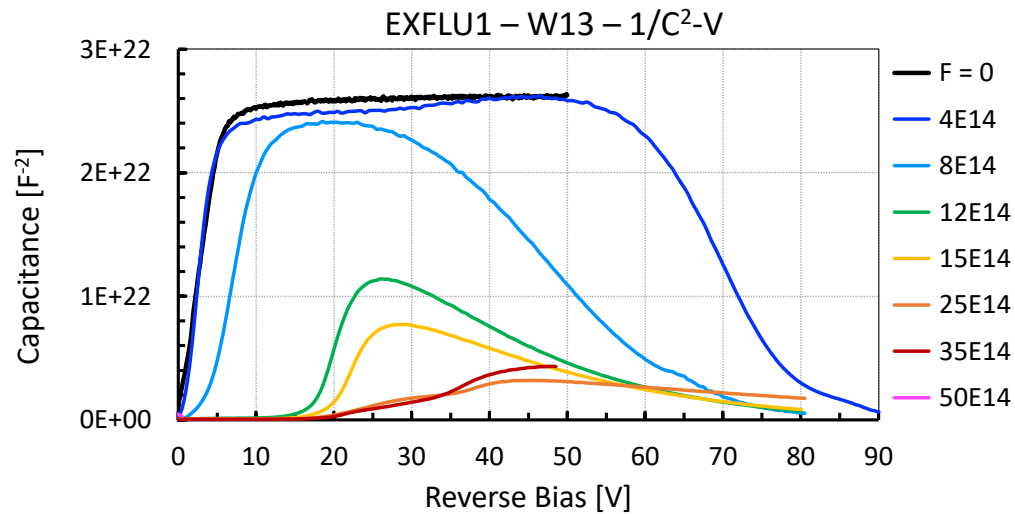
f = 2k Hz

W6
2 – 1



W12
3 – 2

W13
3 – 2 + C



W15
5 – 4

1/C²-V from Compensated LGAD – Irradiated

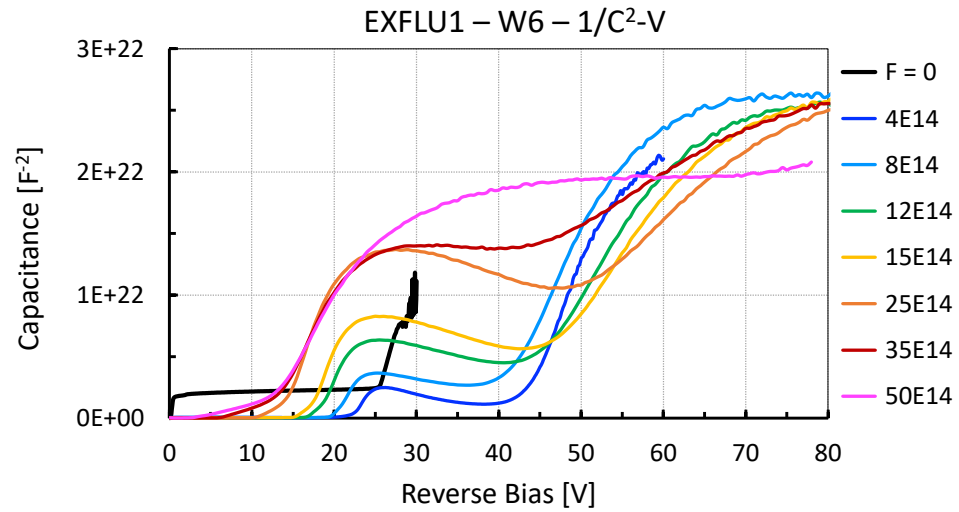
[Φ] = n_{eq}/cm²

T = + 20°C

f = 2k Hz

W6

2-1



Doping Profile of Compensated LGAD 2 – 1

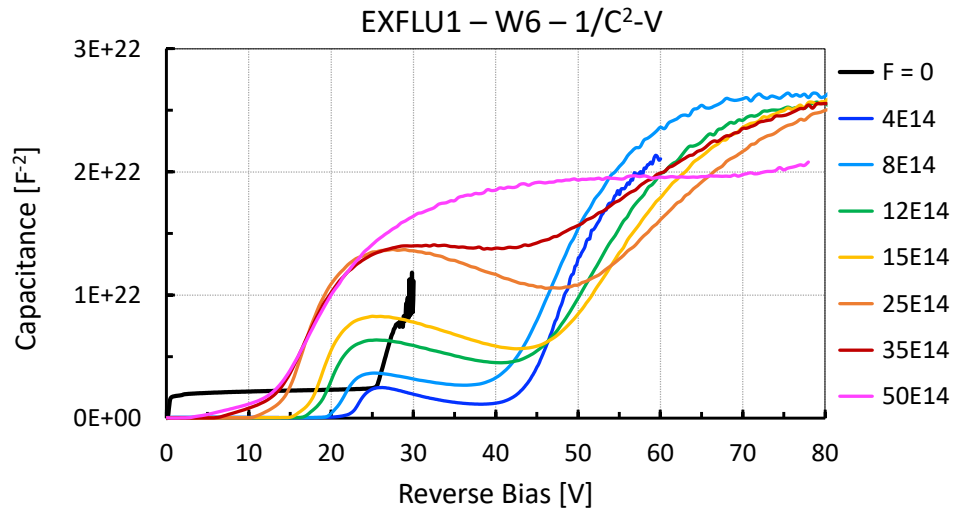
$$[\Phi] = n_{eq}/\text{cm}^2$$

T = + 20°C

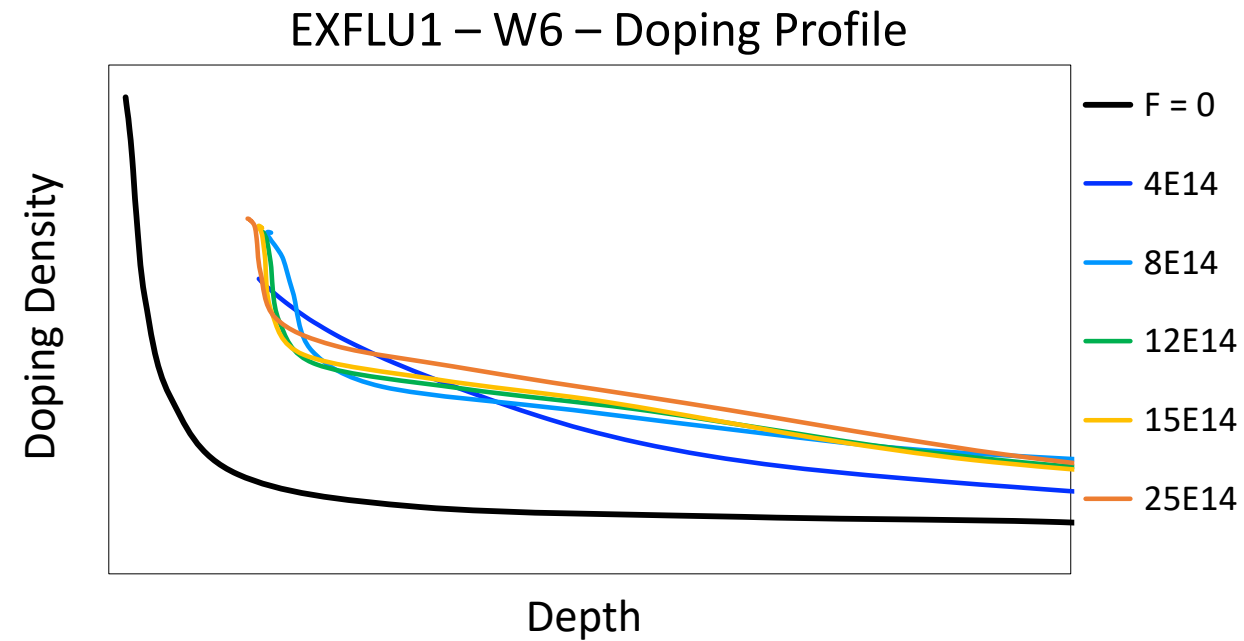
f = 2k Hz

W6

2 – 1



Doping density profiling as a function of depth is extracted from the 1/C²-V information



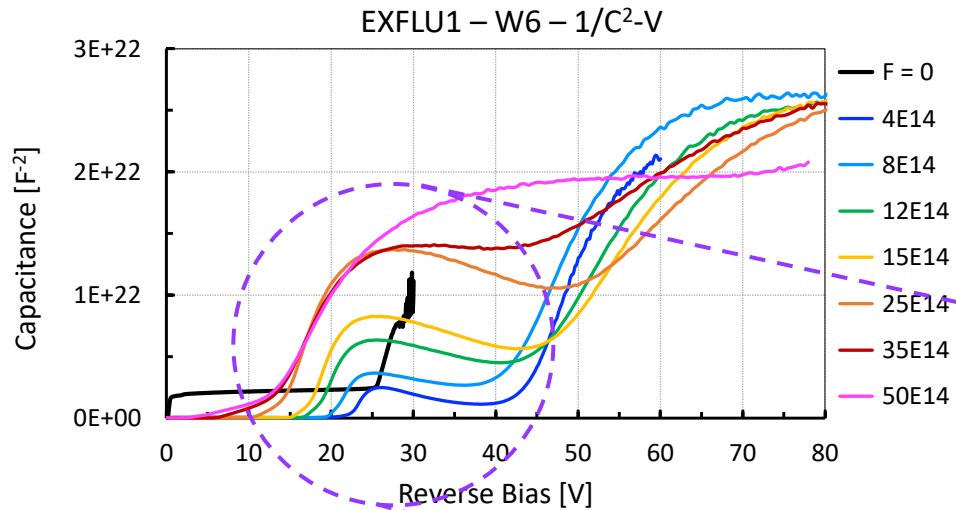
Doping Profile of W6

$$[\Phi] = n_{eq}/\text{cm}^2$$

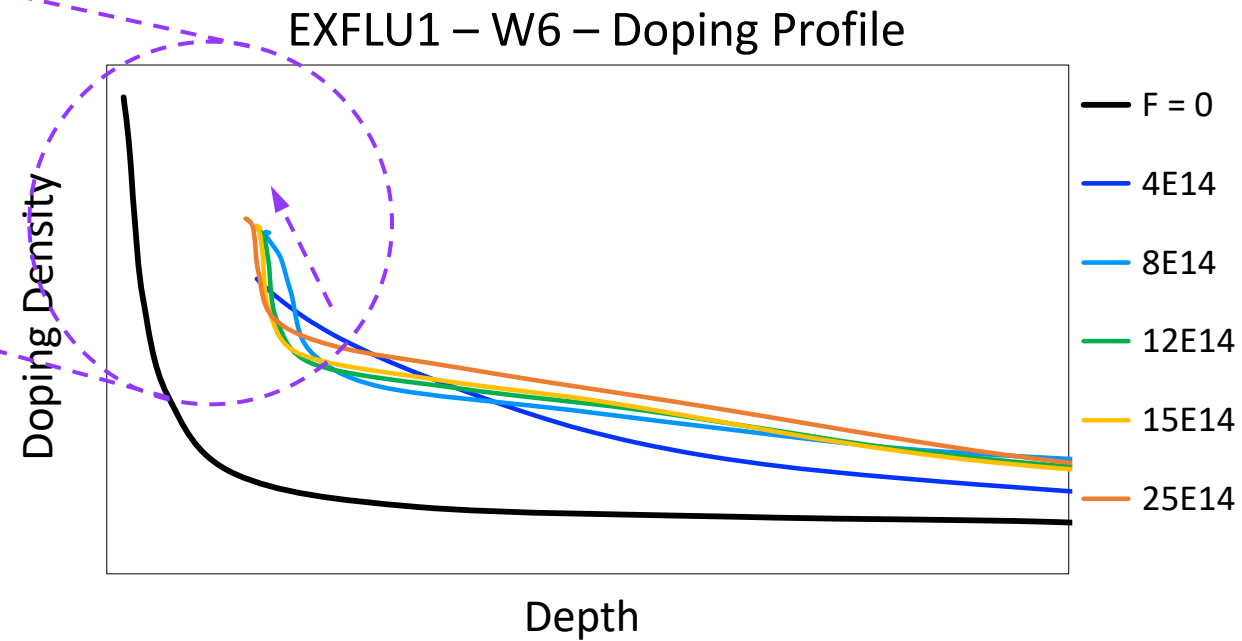
T = + 20°C

f = 2k Hz

W6
2-1



Doping density profiling as a function of depth is extracted from the 1/C²-V information



Gain implant profile appears more and more evident as the fluence increases

→ Is donor removal faster than acceptor removal?



IR Laser Stimulus on Compensated LGAD 3–2

TCT Setup from Particulars

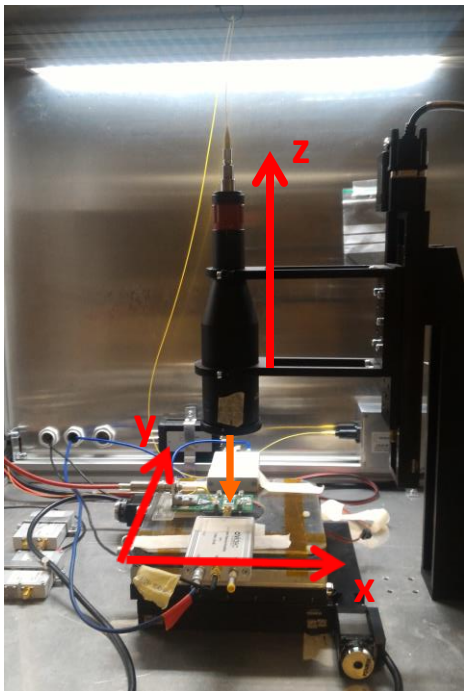
Pico-second IR laser at 1064 nm

Laser spot diameter ~ 10 μm

Cividec Broadband Amplifier (40dB)

Oscilloscope LeCroy 640Zi

$T = -20^\circ\text{C}$



$$\text{Gain} = \frac{Q_{\text{LGAD}}}{\langle Q_{\text{PiN}} \rangle}$$

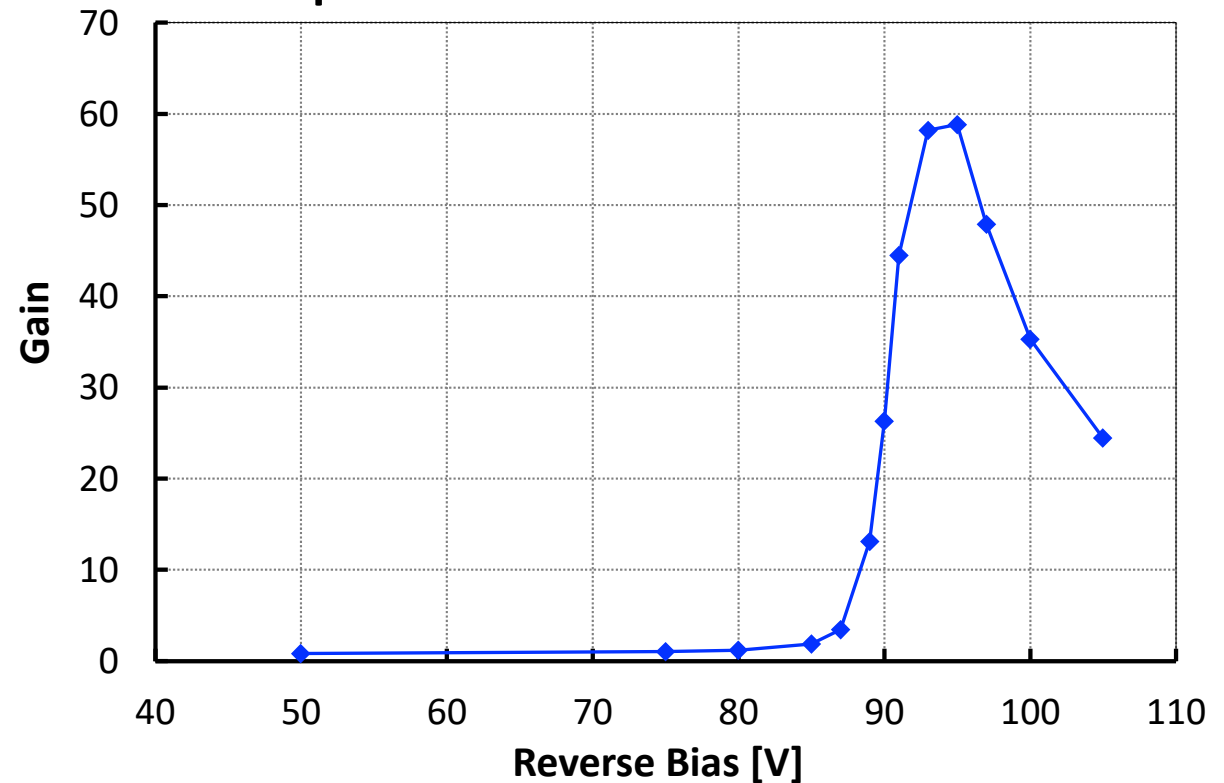
Laser intensity

~ 4 MIPs

$\Phi = 0$

Laser stimulus on a LGAD-PiN structure from [W12 \(3 – 2\)](#)

Compensated LGAD 3–2 Gain from TCT



→ Not easy to operate 3 – 2 compensated LGAD sensors

IR Laser Stimulus on Compensated LGAD 3–2 + C

TCT Setup from Particulars

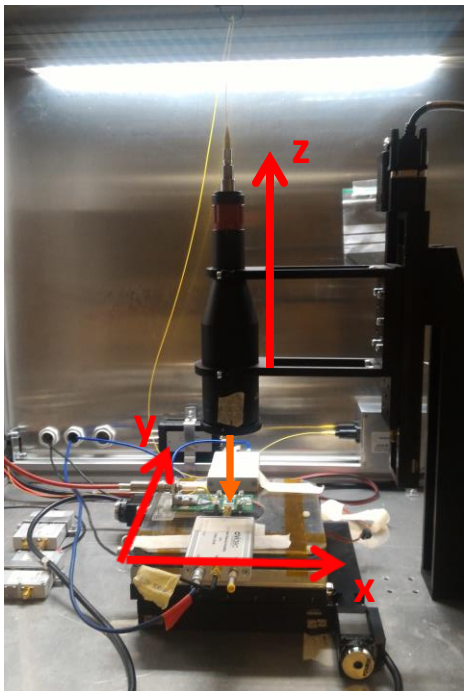
Pico-second IR laser at 1064 nm

Laser spot diameter ~ 10 μm

Cividec Broadband Amplifier (40dB)

Oscilloscope LeCroy 640Zi

Room temperature



$$\text{Gain} = \frac{Q_{\text{LGAD}}}{\langle Q_{\text{PiN}} \rangle}$$

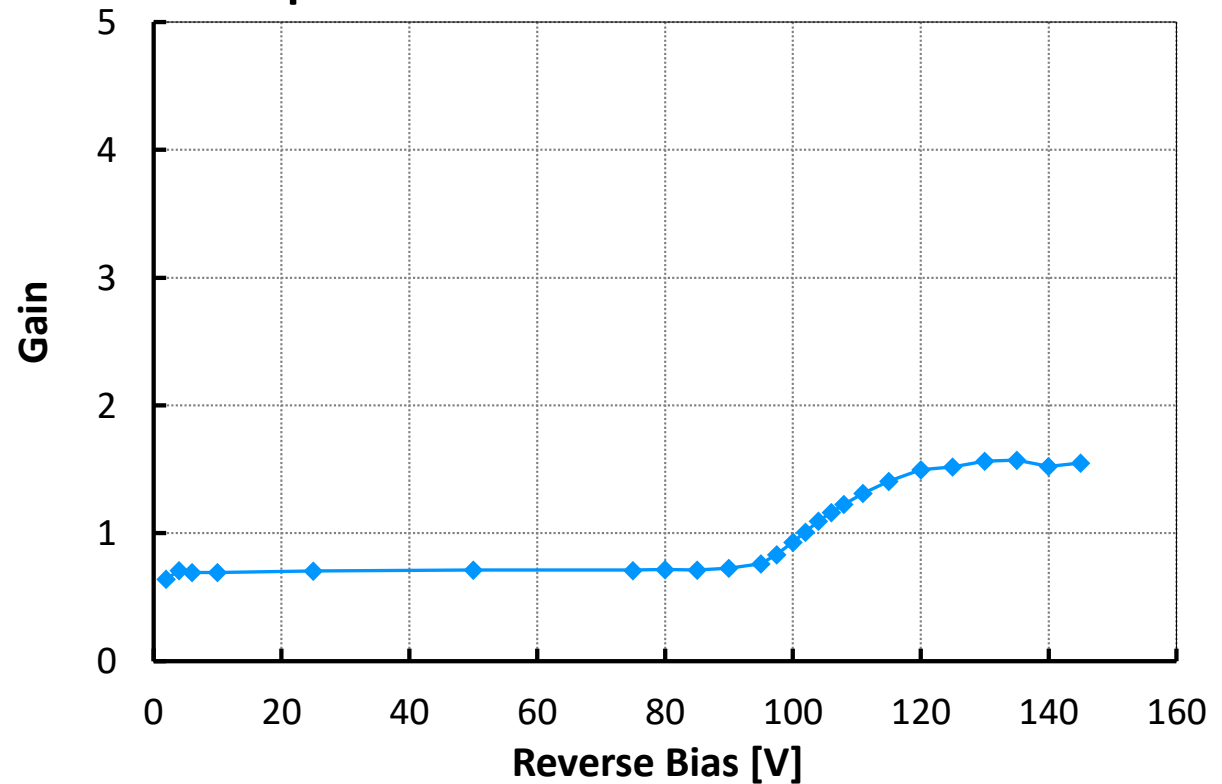
Laser intensity

~ 80 MIPs

$\Phi = 0$

Laser stimulus on a LGAD-PiN structure from W13 (3 – 2 + C)

Compensated LGAD 3–2 + C Gain from TCT



→ Very low gain from 3 – 2 compensated LGAD sensors

IR Laser Stimulus on Compensated LGAD 5–4

TCT Setup from Particulars

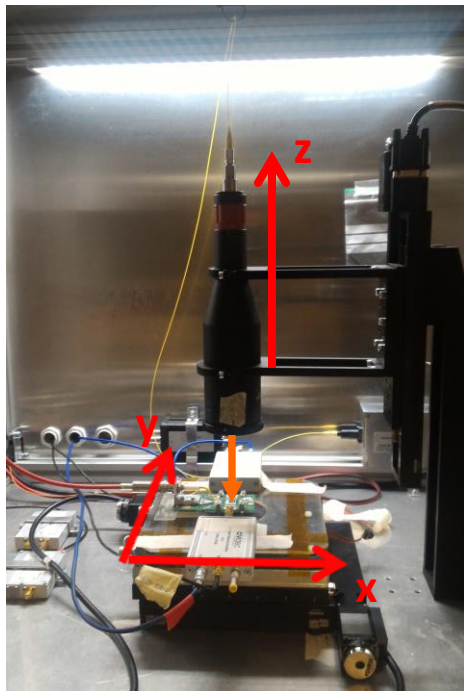
Pico-second IR laser at 1064 nm

Laser spot diameter ~ 10 μm

Cividec Broadband Amplifier (40dB)

Oscilloscope LeCroy 640Zi

Room temperature



$$\text{Gain} = \frac{Q_{\text{LGAD}}}{\langle Q_{\text{PiN}} \rangle}$$

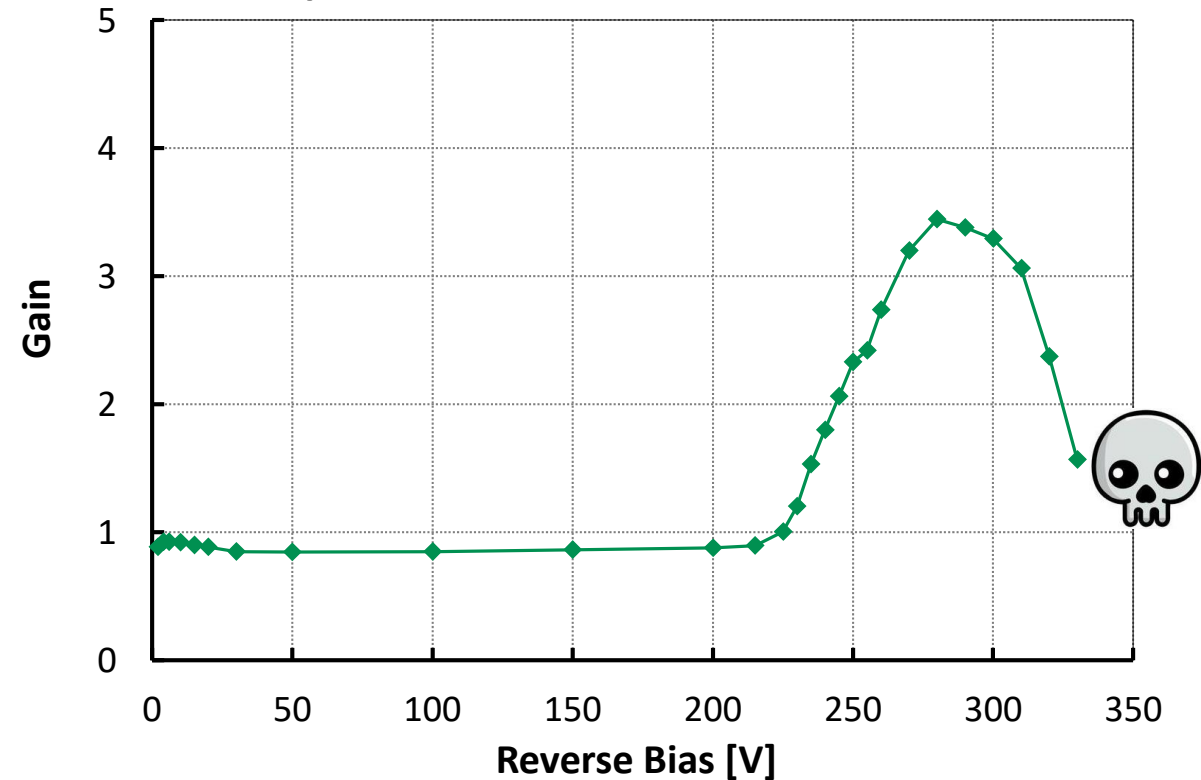
Laser intensity

~ 60 MIPs

$$\Phi = 0$$

Laser stimulus on a LGAD-PiN structure from W15 (5 – 4)

Compensated LGAD 5–4 Gain from TCT



→ Not easy to operate 5 – 4 compensated LGAD sensors

IR Laser Stimulus on Standard LGAD W5 EXFLU1

TCT Setup from Particulars

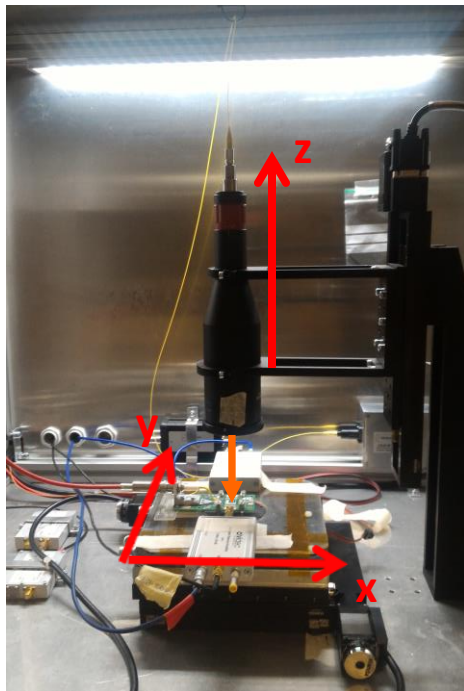
Pico-second IR laser at 1064 nm

Laser spot diameter ~ 10 μm

Cividec Broadband Amplifier (40dB)

Oscilloscope LeCroy 640Zi

$T = -20^\circ\text{C}$

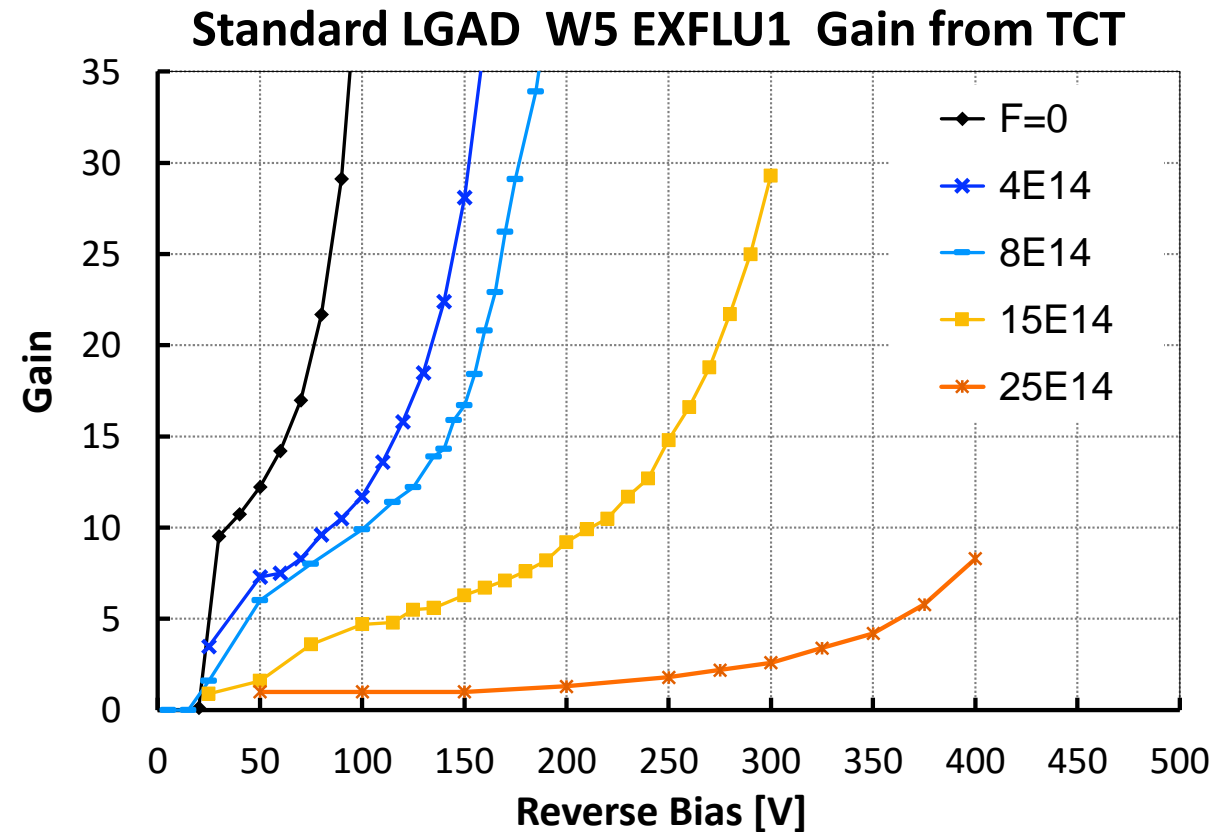


$$\text{Gain} = \frac{Q_{\text{LGAD}}}{\langle Q_{\text{PiN}}^{\text{No Gain}} \rangle}$$

Laser intensity
~ 4 MIPs

$\Phi = 0$

Laser stimulus on a LGAD-PiN structure from [W5 EXFLU1](#)



[[R.S. White, 43rd RD50 Workshop \(2023\) CERN](#)]

I-V Simulation Setup

Physical models

- ✓ **Standard drift-diffusion model**
 - => Fermi-Dirac statistics
- ✓ **Generation/Recombination rate**
 - => Shockley-Read-Hall (SRH)
 - => Band-To-Band Tunneling (BTBT)
 - => Auger
 - => Massey impact ionization model
- ✓ **Carriers mobility variation**
 - => doping and field dependent
- ✓ **Bandgap narrowing model**
 - => OldSlotboom
- ✓ **Physical parameters**
 - => $s_0 = 0$ cm/s (surface recomb. velocity)
 - => $\tau_n = \tau_p = 1E-3$ s (e-/h+ recomb. lifetime)

Pre-irradiation values

$$Q_{OX}(0) = 8.0 \times 10^{+10}$$
$$N_{IT_{acc}}(0) = 7.0 \times 10^{+09}$$
$$N_{IT_{don}}(0) = 9.0 \times 10^{+09}$$

IR Laser Stimulus on Compensated LGAD

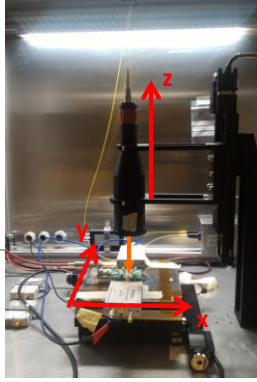
TCT Setup from Particulars

Laser intensity ~ 4 MIPs

T = -20°C

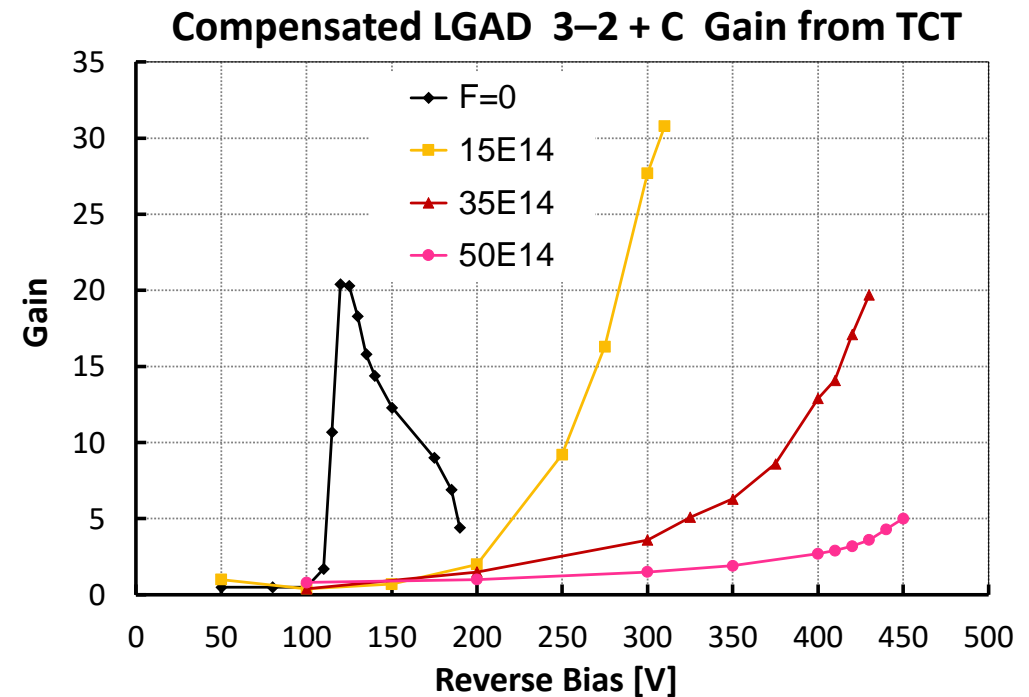
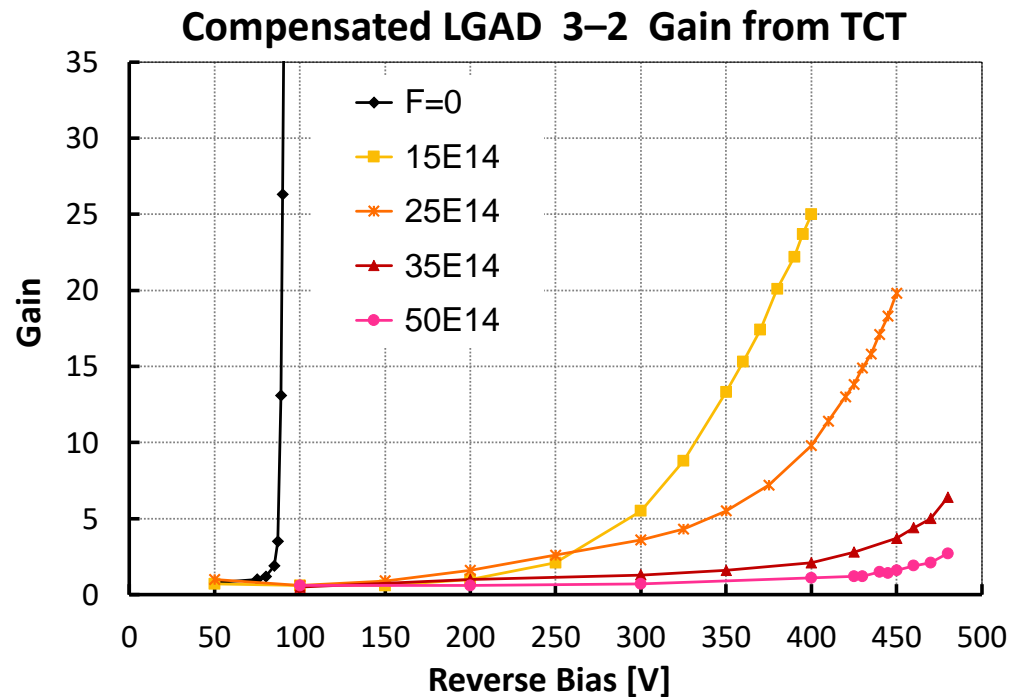
Laser stimulus on a LGAD-PiN structures
before and after irradiation

$$\text{Gain} = \frac{Q_{\text{LGAD}}}{\langle Q_{\text{PiN}}^{\text{No Gain}} \rangle}$$



IFAE_2024, F. Moscatelli

W12
3-2



W13
3-2 + C

→ Good gain behaviour of the compensated LGAD sensors after irradiation

→ Even in compensated LGADs, the usage of carbon mitigates the acceptor removal