



Future Perspectives on Solid State Detectors and DRD3 R&D Program

Gregor Kramberger

Jožef Stefan Institute, Slovenia





Motivation & Outline



Presentation of the DRD3 as a platform for collaborative R&D on semiconductor sensors for future experiments

A flash-review of where we are, what we do and where future R&D will likely go.

Outline:

- Semiconductor detectors in particle physics
- DRD3 Collaboration
- LGAD and 3D (WG2)
- CMOS (WG1)
- Simulations and defect characterization (WG3,4)
- WBG materials (WG6)
- Facilities and techniques (WG5)
- Interconnections (WG7)
- Conclusions



R&D Evolution

DRD3



(Detectors and Experiment Superconducting Super Col 491, Snowmass 1984	Luminosity					
Detector Element	10 ³⁰	10 ³¹	10 ³²	10 ³³		³⁰
Vertex Detection	Yes	Hard	Maybe	No]	25
Central Tracking	Yes	Yes	Yes	Hard		20
Forward Tracking	Yes	Yes	Yes	Hard		E)
Calorimetry	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		SNIC
Electron I.D.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Hard		RAI
Muon I.D.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Triggering	Yes	Yes	Yes	Hard		5 -
Data Acquisition	Yes	Yes	Yes	Hard		
Data Processing	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		, i
						i

Yes > Hard > Maybe > No

"Silicon strip detectors (near the beam pipe) appear to be limited to $\ldots \le 10^{32}$the 10^{32} limit could be optimistic." (PSSC Summary Report pg. 130, 1984)

1984



Fig. 1 Mininum component radii for radiation damage at luminosities of 10^{32} and 10^{33} cm⁻² sec⁻¹.

1992-2001

RD2/RD48 – proved silicon detectors as solution for LHC (defect and device engineering were born – Oxygenated Si)

2003-2023

RD50 (silicon) and RD42 (diamond) solutions for **for HL-LHC** (p-type, 3D detectors, Low Gain Avalanche detectors)

G. Kramberger, Future Perspectives on Solid State Detectors and DRD3 R&D Program, Gran Sasso 2025



Silicon detectors



Remarkable challenges were over come in the last decade for the LHC upgrade!

- Radiation hardness at levels not imagined decades ago (few 10^{16} n cm⁻², tens of MGy) 25x100, 50x50 μ m² cells
- Not only the position but precise timing (~30 ps) should be measured for the mip particles - Endcap Timing detectors for ATLAS and CMS (4D tracking)
- Superb spatial resolution at low mass (ALICE ITS)



Coming after the accelerator upgrade in **2030**



200 pp collisions - pileup







Semiconductor detectors ...



New Major Challenges for the future **beyond 2030....**

- FCC-ee/CEPC: Vertex detectors with low mass, high resolution (Target per layer spatial resolution of ≤ 3 µm and X/X₀≤ 0.05%)
- FCC-hh/SppC: low power and high radiation hardness (up to 8.10¹⁷ n_{eq}cm⁻²).
 Resolving many pp hits in a bunch by ultra-fast timing in O(10 ps)
- Full integration with electronics, mechanics, services
- Large area sensors at low cost for calorimetry



https://cds.cern.ch/record/2784893/files/ECFA%20Detector%20R&D%20Roadmap.pdf







Evolution of Si particle sensors

DRD3



Huge growth of semiconductor particle detectors in various fields **Detector area** increased by one order of magnitude each decade $(1 \text{ m}^2 \rightarrow 10 \text{ m}^2 \rightarrow 200 \text{ m}^2 \rightarrow 600 \text{ m}^2)$





The DRD3 collaboration



A large collaboration on semiconductor has been formed at CERN to guide and steer the developments of

semiconductor sensor developments in the next decades. 143 Institutes currently involved with 700+ people





Organizational structure

DRD3



Strategic/Targeted R&D projects

Work Package (WP) = strategic R&D activity and is linked to Tasks in the roadmap document. It should pursue the goals listed there.

o WPs gather a subset of DRD3 institutions, are resource loaded with clear milestones and deliverables and (at least partially) funded o WPs reviewed/approved by DRD3 and appended to MoU annex

o WPs will be shaped and optimized (synergies with similar projects, sharing runs...)



Objectives of the collaboration

DRD3

We want mass-less detector, with superb time and position resolution with high rate capability with no power consumption and it must be very cheap, of course.



The DRD3 collaboration has the dual purpose of pursuing the realization of the **strategic developments** outlined in the ECFA road map and **promoting blue-sky R&D** in the field of solid-state detectors including the synergies with other fields of science where charged particle detection is a key ingredient.



P Must happen or main physics goals cannot be met 🥮 Important to meet several physics goals 😑 Desirable to enhance physics reach 🏮 R&D needs being met





DR

 $\mathbf{D}\mathbf{3}$



Paths of present R&D





G. Kramberger, Future Perspectives on Solid State Detectors and DRD3 R&D Program, Gran Sasso 2025



Hybrid silicon technologies and 4D tracking (WG2)



By "4D tracking" we mean the process of assigning a space and a time coordinate to a hit - ~10-30 μ m position **and ~10-30** ps time resolution – simultaneously (many benefits in dense particle environment for tracking and PID)

Track timing (separate points for position and for time – in making at ATLAS/CMS)



Real 4D timing – goal for the futute (each point with 4D)

much better/simpler pattern
 recognition, ghost rate reduction
 better and faster tracks/physics
 reconstruction, better tracking
 algorithms

less CPU power (improved cost and energy efficiency)

>effectively more luminosity







LGAD – silicon detectors with gain



DRD3



LGAD - Fill factor



Conventional LGADs – limited by the fill factor to ~1 mm² pixels







Radiation hardness of LGADs



- C-enrichment of the gain layer (prevention of Boron removal and by that the reduction of the field) – FBK and IME have mastered the process– is there still room for improvement?
- Compensated LGADs use of compensated p+ silicon in gain layer which if carefully tuned would not suffer from reduction of negative space charge with irradiation (both P and B are removed)
- Introduction of different dopants (Ga 1st attempt not successful)
- Thermal treatment >200°C re-activation of space charge

Reduction of the doping concentration of gain layer due to irradiation reduces the gain.



huge improvement for the C-enriched GL

D3

DR



LGADs and fill factor



Several technologies were proposed and are investigated to overcome fill factor problem:

iLGAD – segment the side without multiplication no p-stop, JTE at the bottom (complex processing, radiation hardness, hole collection, ideal for high rate)

TI-LGAD – use SiO_2 trenches to isolate the pads, reducing the gap by an order of magnitude (Cenriched produced)

DC-RSD/AC-RSD (AC-LGAD) use

AC coupling – bipolar signals:

 superb spatial and time resolution (up to ~5% of the pitch)

 rate limited, radiation hardness
 Very promising DC-RSD with Trench isolation – restriction of charge flow
 DJ-LGAD



Ohmic contact

LGADs are the only planar technology good enough for precise timing (<50ps), but excellent electronics is needed. (marriage of LGAD + CMOS looks promising – DJ-LGAD, MONOLITH)

Ground plane

20-50 µm



G. Kramberger, Future Perspectives on Solid State Detectors and DRD3 R&D Program, Gran Sasso 2025

3D detectors



3D technology as timing detectors:

- They have fill factor ~100% (inclined tracks)
- They are fast (small distance) and can be thick (LF less important)
- The radiation tolerance of small cell size devices is large (for signal) and allows operation at higher bias voltages – shown up to ~1e17 cm⁻²
- Technology is already mature-latest 3D detectors are done in single sided processing!





G. Kramberger, Future Perspectives on Solid State Detectors and DRD3 R&D Program, Gran Sasso 2025

3D detectors - recent

Challenges:

- the capacitance will be much larger (hence noise and the jitter) particularly for thick sensors with large signals (very narrow columns/trenches -> 100:1 at IME) – noise and jitter
- ➤ scalability of the processing -> 8"
- clustering issues for small cells
- Both column and trench perform well as prototypes!

Front. Phys. , 22 April 2024 Sec. Radiation Detectors and Imaging Volume 12 - 2024 | https://doi.org/10.3389/fphy.2024.1393019

Not irradiated

solutio

e 35

20

1.0 10¹⁶ 1 MeV n_{en} cm⁻²

- 2.5 10¹⁶ 1 MeV n_{eg} cm⁻²

Trench 55x55 μ m²

3D with gain – future?

First observation of possible gain at high bias voltages in **FBK** 25x25 μ m², with 4 μ m wide columns

Devices with gain are possible with narrow columns allows use of small cell sizes and thin devices with much less capacitance and dead area. With being thin cluster reconstruction is simpler.

DRD3

IDEAL DEVICES FOR TIMING

IMECAS - 8" CMOS process with aspect ratio of >70

Monolithic silicon sensors (WG1) **DRD3**

<u>Aim</u> is to advance the performance of monolithic CMOS, combining sensing and readout elements, for future

tracking applications, tackling the challenges of:

- very high spatial resolution;
- high data rate;
- high radiation tolerance;
- low mass;
- covering large areas;
- reducing power;
- keeping an affordable cost;
- and ultimately combining these

requirements in one single sensor device.

	Sensor	1
	TCAD simulation DRL	TCAD simul
	Sensor design, optimization,	Architecture, de
	characterization	verification, te
Program shared between DRD3/7	Analog-on-Top designs	Digital-on-Top de
	Small scale prototypes in various technologies	Large scale demonstrate selected/qualified technol
	Case-by-case access	Negotiated access frame design flow, sug

WG1 research goals <2027			
	Description		
RG 1.1	Spatial resolution: $\leq 3 \mu m$ position resolution		
RG 2.2	Timing resolution: towards 20 ps timing precision		
RG 1.3	Readout architectures: towards 100 MHz/cm ² , 1 GHz/cm ² with 3D stacked monolithic sensors, and on-chip reconfigurability		
RG 1.4	Radiation tolerance: towards $10^{16} n_{eq}^{2}/cm^{2} NIEL$ and 500 MRad		
RG 1.5	Low-cost large-area CMOS sensors		
We will have several MPW and engineering runs in			
65-180 nm technologies (LF, Tower, AMS, TPSCo)			
Maurice Garcia-Sciveres and Norbert Wermes 2018 Rep. Prog. Phys. 81 066101 Peric I 2007 , Nucl. Instrum. Methods A 582 876–85			

ting

igns

WG1/WP1 – main challenges

- Large electrode: $C \approx 300 \, \mathrm{fF}$
- Strong drift field, short drift paths, large depletion depth
- Higher power, slower
- Threshold $\sim 2000 \, \mathrm{e^-}$

Timing: large jitter and small distortion component -~100 ps

- Small electrode: $C \approx 3 \, \text{fF}$
- Low analogue power
- Faster at given power
- Difficult lateral depletion, process modifications for radiation hardness
- Threshold $\sim 300 \, {\rm e}^-$

Timing: small jitter and large distortion/landau component ~ 1ns

Main challenges (from DRD3 point):

- availability of the active volume (60-80 e-h/μm)
 - epitaxial layer decreases with smaller node processes (350 nm->28 nm). Also, the lateral drift becomes even bigger problem for thin epitaxial layers.
 - few foundries are/will be open to use high resistivity substrate wafer
- costs increase rapidly with the smaller node (MPW runs may not be available)
- allocating the vendors that are open to our needs
 - minimum information about the process which allows for simulation of particle detection in the devices.
 - adaptation of the process
- accessibility to the processes licensing (process development kits - PDK)
 - requirements of additional processing (back side processing), back side metallization ...

An example of advances in the design MALTA (Tower Jazz 180 nm process)

W. Snoeys et al., Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A 871 (2017) 90. *H. Pernegger et al 2023 JINST 18 P09018*

- good efficiency over the pixels even after 3e15 cm⁻²
- ToA distribution shows differences in signal speed ~2 ns resolution

Future advances – CMOS with gain **DRD3**

- > CMOS sensor with gain can the process be modified in the way that you create an internal gain structure
 - faster rise time and better S/N better timing
 - better position resolution
 - less power consumption

> Examples of different approaches to reach gain layer multiplication (small electrode design seems more suitable)

Cassia (DRD3 WP1 project)

PicoAdd SiGe130 nm (Uni-Geneve)

SiGe bipolar amplifiers – fast (good timing)
 CMOS for digital electronics (monolithic)
 Gain-layer removed from the surface allowing very good spatial resolution without dead area

ARCADIA LF110 nm (DRD 3.1/7.6 – INFN-TO)

► Back side processing

➢ High-field grows from the back side − high drift field at the back.

First results Gain 7-13 – more soon!

Recent achievements

- CE-65v2 (TPSco 65 nm)
 - 15 µm pixel pitch
 - For ALICE ITS-3

Better efficiency for 10V than 4V

- H2M (Hybrid-to-monolithic) (TPSco 65 nm)
 - Efficiency 99.6% at a threshold of 144 e- (~5σ noise)
 - Spatial resolution 10.1 µm (expected from pitch)
 - Thinning down to 21 µm without performance loss

Modified with Gap Chip: CE-65v2 (ER1) Process: Modified with Gap Van = Vant = 0 T = 20 °C $l_{\rm tot}=3~{\rm mA},\,l_{\rm of}=200~{\rm pA},\,V_{\rm other}=1~V$ AC amp : Ipress = 100 pA 1 1 1 1 1 Target resolution + 22.5 µm 4V -+ 22.5 µm 10V 15 µm 4V -0- 15 µm 10V ALICE IT\$3-WP3 beam test preliminary IBCERN-SPS April 2024, 120 GeVic hadrons Plotted on 06 Nov 2024 100 150 200 250 300 350 Seed Threshold (e") < 3.5 µm and < 5.5 µm resolution for 15/22.5 µm pitch at efficiencies > 99%

Future advances – scaling up

- Chip-Chip transmission and serial powering (Power&Space)
- Stacking up the wafers better electronics
- Large-scale reticle stitching of thinned foldable MAPS

- Large area strip sensors
 - Reduced material budget
 - Easier integration
 - Potentially low cost and availability

Monolithic CMOS Strip Sensors for large area detectors (Dortmund, Freiburg, DESY, Bonn) LFA150 nm - Resistivity of wafer: >2000 Ω·cm

Next step is implementation of the FEI4 like readout per strip

Simulations (WG4)

- Simulations are essential for planning, understanding the performance and designing of devices.
- Simulations WG will provide the tools that could be (easily) implemented to simulate any specific detector or measurement.

Radiation damage characterization and sensor operation at DRD3 extreme fluences (WG3)

- WG covers 3 main areas around radiation hardening (see below)
- WG closely related to all other WGs

WG4: Simulations

Need for simulations in all areas

- on the material level Geant4, TRIM, NIEL, DFT, KMC, ...
- on the device & system level TCAD, AP2, Signal & MC simulators, generic sensor parameter simulations (e.g. Hamburg model)
- extrapolation to extreme fluences do models still deliver reliable results?

WG5: Characterization techniques

Need for tools in all areas

- on the material level EPR, FTIR, PL, DLTS, TSC, ...
- on the device & system level TCT, CV, IV, IBIC, test-beams,
- extrapolation to extreme fluences which tools still deliver reliable results? radiation facilities,...

Radiation hardening of material

understand fundamental damage process, defect formation, impact of defects on device performance (also non-silicon!), material and defect engineering

Radiation hardening of devices and systems understand device operation with radiation damage, device engineering

Extreme fluences understand physics, possibilities for operation of detectors

WG6: Non-silicon based detectors

- Material & devices to be studied and understood as silicon in terms of radiation damage in all areas (simulations, material/sensor characterization, tool development)
- Developments for extreme fluence

WG1 & WG2: Silicon based detectors

- Radiation hardness evaluation of all sensors with exposure to radiation (existing and newly developed sensors/sensor concepts)
- Developments for extreme fluence

Synergies with other application areas in radiation fields

• Detectors for nuclear physics, space applications, fusion, medical applications, ...

Other materials – non silicon (WG6) **DRD3**

Operation voltage

signal

breakdown

threshold

e-h pairs/ um

by MIP

Leakage current

saturation

velocity

thermal

conductivity

speed

4H-SiC

diamond

Si

Material budget

bandgap

Property	Diamond	GaN	4H SiC	Si
E _g [eV]	5.5	3.39	3.26	1.12
E _{breakdown} [V/cm]	10^{7}	$4 \cdot 10^{6}$	$2.2 \cdot 10^{6}$	3.10^{5}
$\mu_{\rm e} [{\rm cm}^2/{\rm Vs}]$	1800	1000	800	1450
$\mu_h [cm^2/Vs]$	1200	30	115	450
v _{sat} [cm/s]	$2.2 \cdot 10^7$	-	$2 \cdot 10^{7}$	$0.8 \cdot 10^7$
Ζ	6	31/7	14/6	14
ε _r	5.7	9.6	9.7	11.9
e-h energy [eV]	13	8.9	7.6-8.4	3.6
Density [g/cm3]	3 515	615	3 22	2 33
Displacem. [eV]	43	20	25	13-20

Charge collection for SiC and diamond:

<u>ctions on Nuclear</u>

Other materials – non silicon

Other semiconductor materials are not more radiation hard in terms of charge **collection**. Due to band-gap, however, they have low leakage current.

Why are they still considered for high radiation environments?

- Device engineering 3D diamond sensors !
- Gain devices SiC LGAD with possibly lower dopant removal!

4H-SiC

diamond

Silicon Carbide LGADs

LBNL & NCSU

Quite different processing – but wafers are available

- not the same implant depth as for Si)
- Apart from JTE and **bevel-ed** edge termination
- Doping levels of gain layer an order of magnitude higher than for silicon

Note – impact ionization is larger for holes than for electrons in SiC (p⁺⁺-n⁺-n device)

SiC - irradiated sensors

-1000

-500

500

Bias Voltage [V]

1000

DRD3

Diamond – 3D detectors

DRD3

3D diamond detector connected to CMS pixel ASIC

3D electrodes made with laser (graphitization when focused light pulls through the diamond – slow)

Twisted structure would improve timing performance and reduce the impact of the pCVD grains.

- WG lines of actions:
 - Development/improvement/diffusion of **methods and techniques for characterizing sensors** (those for defects spectroscopy DLTS,TSC, EPR.... as well those for characterization TCT, Beta-scope...)
 - Joint research activities for the **delivery of common infrastructures for sensor testing** (common sensor readers, jigs, test fixtures,...)
 - Promoting the use of unique characterization facilities.

Irradiation facilities (e.g. JSI reactor)

Test beam activities (CERN/DESY)

fs high intensity laser facilities (ELI Prague, SGIKER Bilbao...)

Interconnections (WG7)

<u>WG Scope</u>: Sensor mechanical and electrical integration to low-mass tracking + vertexing systems:

- Post-processing (plating/UBM)
- Sensor to frontend hybridisation
 - In-house single-die
 - · 3d integration (wafer-to-wafer)
- Iow-mass flex PCBs / module integration

In house bonding and wafer-wafer (WG7)

Nanowires on flex

Gold-stud on ALTIROCA

ALTIROCA + irradiated LGAD

In-house hybridization, module integration

- Exploring innovative **bonding** methods, adapted to the requirements of various projects
 - Conductive adhesives (ACF / ACP)
 → good results for <1cm² devices and >~50 µm pitch
 - Nano wires
 - → successful bonding of MALTA2 to flex
 - Gold studs + epoxy
 → successfully used for large (>100 µm) pitch
 - → developed low-temperature bonding process suitable for irradiated samples

Wafer-to-wafer bonding

- Target: ultra-thin hybrid detectors with TSV
- Pilot project U Bonn / IZM: passive CMOS sensors + Timepix3

Wafer-to-wafer bonding of daisy-chain test wafers with Cu pillars

DRD3

Conclusions

- DRD3 is a large collaboration under which umbrella future R&D on semiconductor particle detectors will take place.
 - The strategic funding of the activities (HEP detector R&D) should be supported by funding agencies that is yet to materialize
 - WP project proposals are being formed and shaped lots of interesting projects
 - The collaboration will have common fund from which many smaller R&D projects will be supported also for synergies with other fields and Blu-Sky R&D
 - More information can be found on drd3.web.cern.ch
- > CMOS is going to dominate the large scale applications in the future
 - CMOS with gain is likely to become the dominant field of research
 - A way to mitigate the distortion/weighting field component to time resolution will be critical to reach simultaneously superb position and timing resolution
 - One of the main obstacles will be availability of epitaxial (active) layer for small node processes
 - Large scale passive sensors are choice for large area strip & pad detectors

Conclusions

- > Hybrid detectors
 - Trench and Column 3D detectors remain the choice for superb time and position resolution for the most radiation harsh environments
 - LGADs are the choice for moderate fluences and increase of radiation hardness remains the task for the future
 - LGADs will dominate the conventional strip detectors
 - 3D sensors with gain may be the ultimate solution for superb position and time resolution
- WBS semiconductor detectors
 - SiC LGADs may be a solution for high radiation environments if the gain layer doesn't disappear inspite of large trapping of charge carriers
 - 3D diamond detector can be choice for niche applications in high radiation hard environments.
 New design with inclined electrodes can offer improved performance.
 - GaN is also progressing first runs are expected
- Interconnections and new characterization techniques

Backup/additional slides

G. Kramberger, Future Perspectives on Solid State Detectors and DRD3 R&D Program, Gran Sasso 2025

WG8- Dissemination and outreach activities DRD3

Disseminating knowledge on solid-state detectors:

Organize DRD3 schools for young post-doc and Ph.D. in:

- TCAD, FPGA, GEANT
- Laboratory measurements, TCT

Participation to instrumentation schools

- In specific locations (CERN, FNAL...)
- On specific topics (Allpix2, TCAD, setups..)

Share knowledge of measurement techniques

- Device characterizations, such as IV, CV
- Transient studies using TCT, beta telescopes
- Handling and measurements of irradiated sensors
- Intra-DRD3 groups training

Dissemination of the DRD3 activities:

Organize the DRD3 website (drd3.web.cern.ch)

- Point of entry to DRD3
- Link to results, meeting, etc
- Opportunities: conferences, stages
- Documentation (how to do XYZ...)

Present DRD3 work at conferences

- Opportunity for young researchers
- DRD3 activities documented in printed papers

