



# Updates on the Sampa project and an overview on the ALICE3 TOF system



FAPESP collaboration meeting  
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# Summary:

## Introduction

- The new version of the software: wiki and configuration management

## New hardware

- The new hybrids
- The replicator board

## ALICE 3

- The TOF
- CMOS results
- Next beam test



- New configuration files input to migrate easier between experiments
- We are building a wiki (under construction):

## Home

geovanegrossi edited this page 3 weeks ago · 13 revisions

Welcome to the SampaSRS wiki! (under construction 🚧)

[The SampaSRS project](#)

[Acquisition](#)

[Processing data](#)

## The SAMPA ASIC

The SAMPA chip is an ASIC (Application Specific Integrated Circuit) developed at the Integrated Systems Laboratory (LSI) of the USP Polytechnic School (POLI) to serve the TPC and the Muon Chambers (MCH) of the ALICE experiment, operating at CERN.

## Data decoding for later reconstruction:

## SAMPA/FPGA configuration commands

### List of commands

The list of commands available until now can be found below. This commands can be added to a *config.txt* file. Several commands require arguments to work.

- `start/stop` (start or stop the data transmission by SAMPA)
- `reset_fec` (reset the Front-End Card)
- `reset_sampas` (default reset for the chips - clear all configs and set the same initial timestamp)
- `reset_sampasHigh` (reset with different logic level - used just for tests)
- `trigger_1hz` (1 Hz internal trigger)
- `trigger_2.5khz` (2.5 kHz internal trigger)

### Understanding the data structure

The data decoded is stored in a ROOT `TTree` file. Inside the directory `root_examples` you will find ways to access the data. Using it you can build your own algorithms to work with data.

```
TTreeReader reader("waveform", &file);

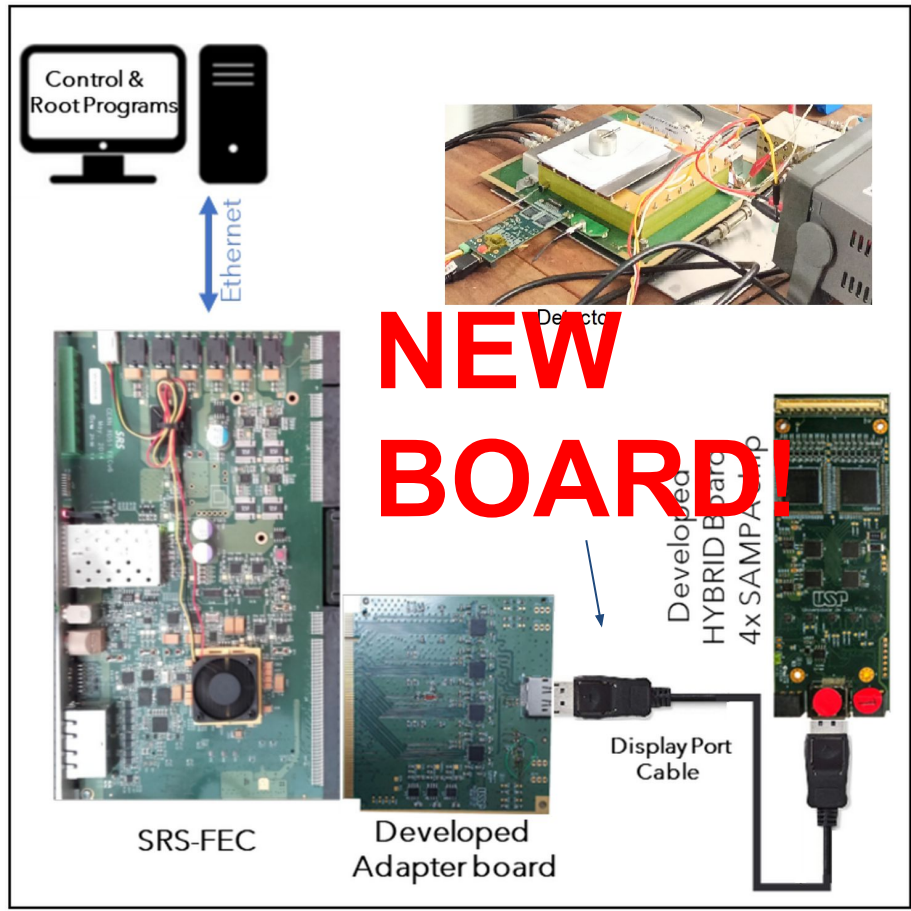
TTreeReaderArray<short> sampa(reader, "sampa"); //vector with the SAMPA ID
TTreeReaderArray<short> channel(reader, "channel"); //vector with the channel ID
TTreeReaderValue<std::vector<short>>> words(reader, "words"); // vector of vectors (with word i
TTreeReaderArray<double> x(reader, "x"); //vector with the geometry position of the channel

int event_id = 0;
while (reader.Next()) //read all events in file
{
    auto& event_words = *words;
    for (size_t i = 0; i < event_words.size(); ++i) //this loop over the active channels
    {
        gl_chn = 32*sampa[i]+channel[i];
        for (size_t j = 2; j < event_words[i].size(); ++j) //this loop over the waveform of a active channel
        {
            event_words[i][j];
        }
    }
}
```

<https://github.com/SampaSRS/SampaSRS>



# The complete setup



## Hybrid v3 board overview:

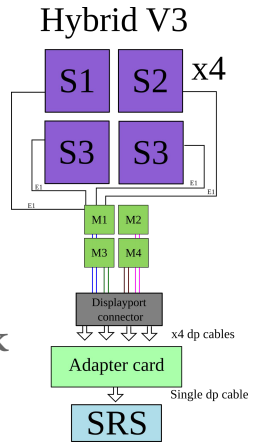
Each hybrid provides 128 channels  
 Number of active links can be changed using just one multiplexer

Reduced bandwidth but possibility to work with multiple hybrids

## Adapter board overview:

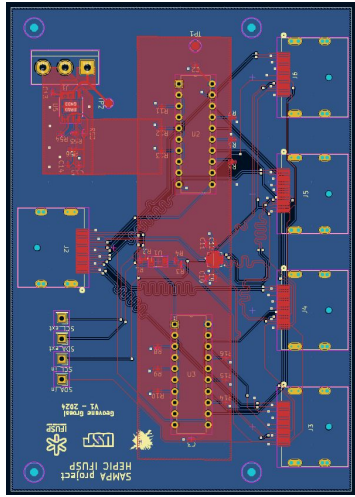
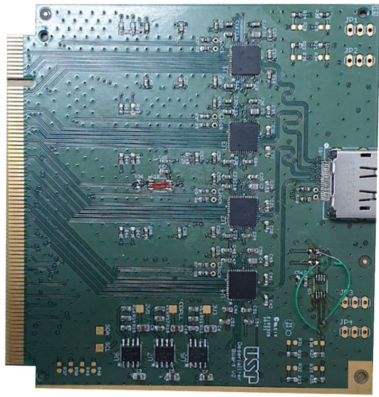
Each SAMPA chip is connected to one high speed serializer  
 A single Display-Port cable is used to connect the hybrid and the adapter board  
 The adapter board has four deserializers and a PCIx16 standard to connect a Front-End Card (FEC).

**FEC:**  
 Ethernet communication limit to 1Gbit/s

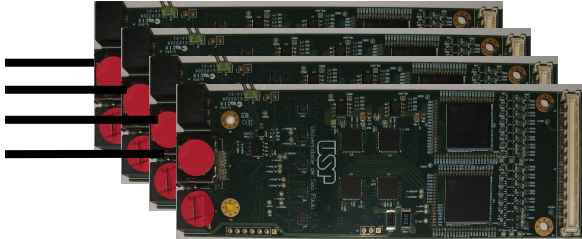




# Replicator V1:



Integrate all the components into a single board -  
Reading up to 512 channels with each application.



Wrong routing of the first differential pair

However, the replicator board works!

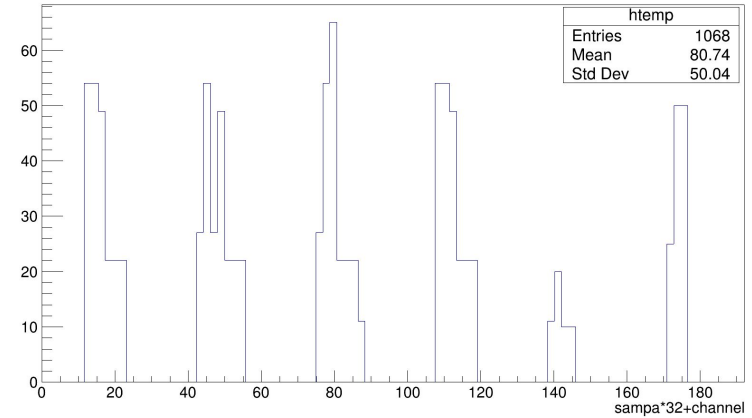
Routing all signals

Replicate clocks, RESET, I2C signals

The wires are crossed inside the displayport cable.

DisplayPort Standard Cable					
Source Side Plug		Cable Wiring	Sink Side Plug		
Signal Type	Pin#		Pin#	Signal Type	
Out	ML_Lane 0 (p)	1	1	ML_Lane 3 (n)	In
GND	GND	2	2	GND	GND
Out	ML_Lane 0 (n)	3	3	ML_Lane 3 (p)	In
Out	ML_Lane 1 (p)	4	4	ML_Lane 2 (n)	In
GND	GND	5	5	GND	GND
Out	ML_Lane 1 (n)	6	6	ML_Lane 2 (p)	In
Out	ML_Lane 2 (p)	7	7	ML_Lane 1 (n)	In
GND	GND	8	8	GND	GND
Out	ML_Lane 2 (n)	9	9	ML_Lane 1 (p)	In
Out	ML_Lane 3 (p)	10	10	ML_Lane 0 (n)	In
GND	GND	11	11	GND	GND
Out	ML_Lane 3 (n)	12	12	ML_Lane 0 (p)	In
CONFIG	CONFIG1	13	13	CONFIG1	CONFIG
CONFIG	CONFIG2	14	14	CONFIG2	CONFIG
IO	AUX_CH (p)	15	15	AUX_CH (p)	IO
GND	GND	16	16	GND	GND
IO	AUX_CH (n)	17	17	AUX_CH (n)	IO
In	Hot Plug Detect	18	18	Hot Plug Detect	Out
Retra DP_FWR	Retra DP_FWR	19	19	Retra DP_FWR	Retra DP_FWR
DP_Frank	DP_Frank	20	20	DP_Frank	DP_Frank

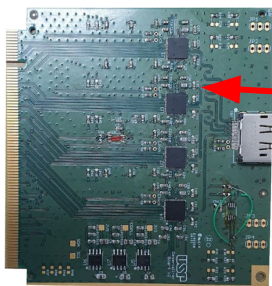
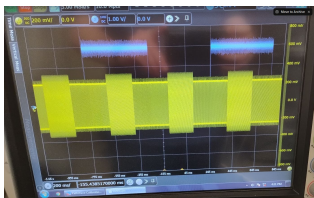
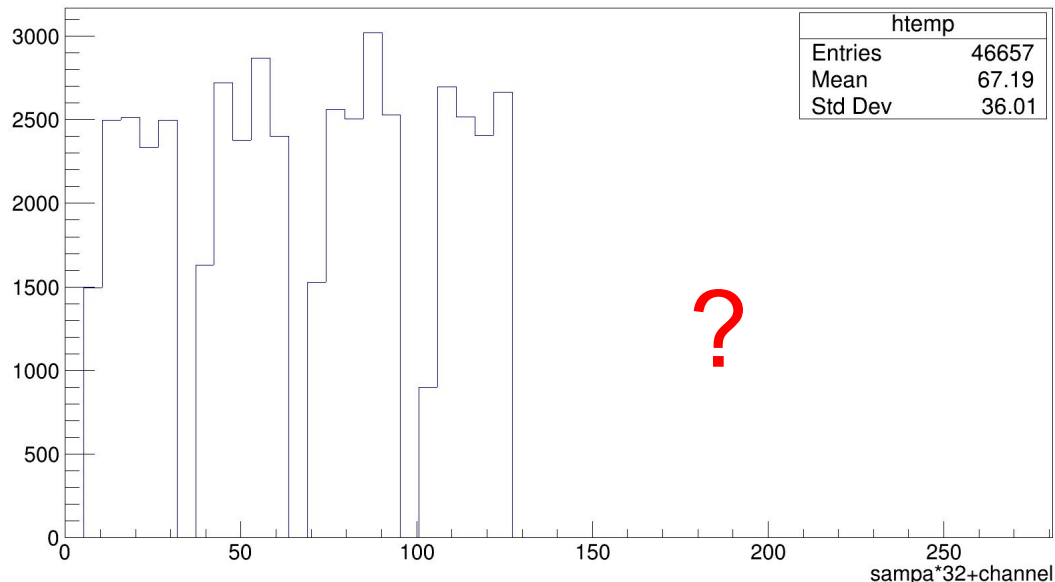
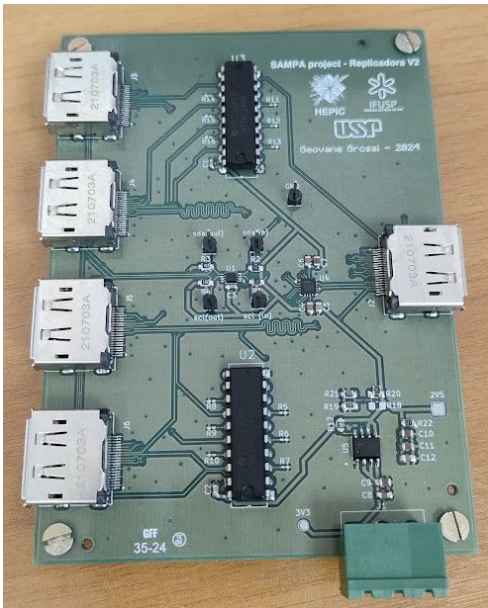
sampa\*32+channel





# Replicator V2:

sampa\*32+channel



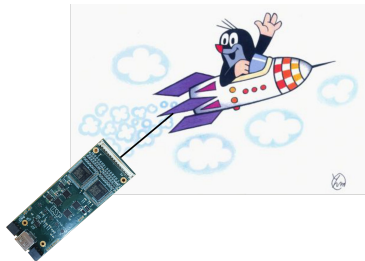
- The routing is correct
- I2C works properly but the board is unstable (demux clock issue?)
- We are planning the next step (go for a V3 - but we need this hardware working to continue to improve the software and start measurements)



# The SAMPA in the Czech Technical University in Prague - Work developed by Hugo N. Luz



IEAP CTU in Prague

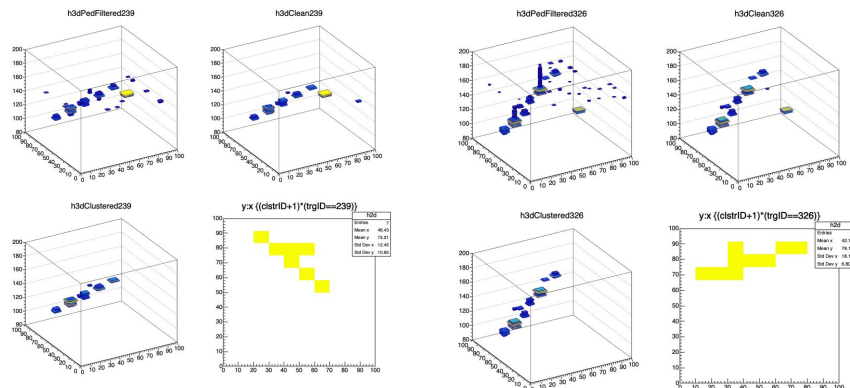
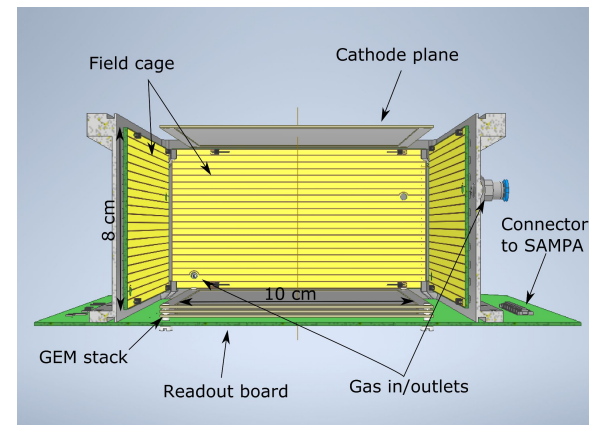
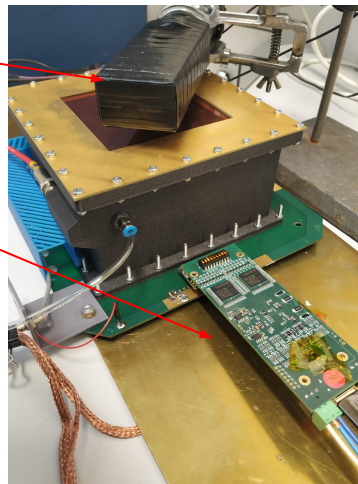


Scintillator+PMTs

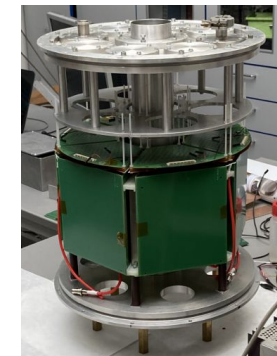
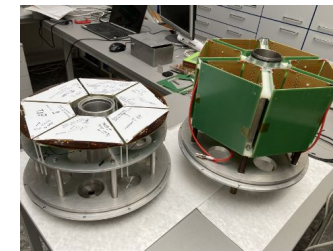
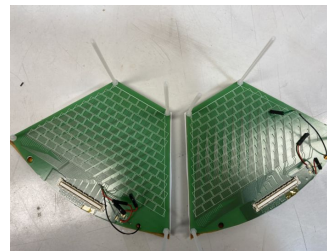
SAMPA hybrid

First TPC tracks ever with a small TPC  
Achieved in Prague during my period there in 2021

Matěj Gajdoš is working on track reconstruction using NN - Poster presentation MPGD2024 - Hefei



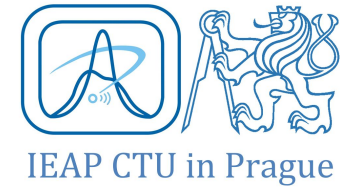
## Towards a spectrometer with 6 TPC



6 SAMPA hybrids will be mounted  
(24 chips, 768 channels)

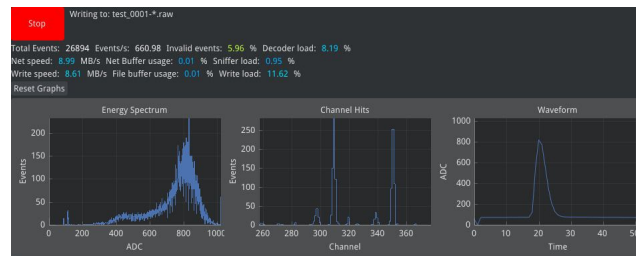
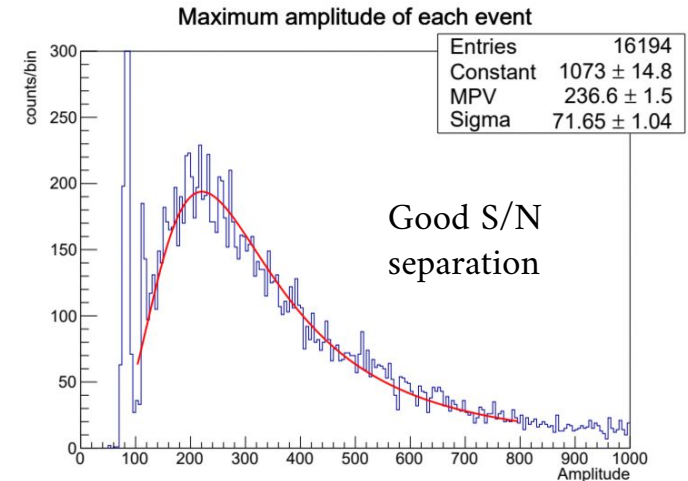
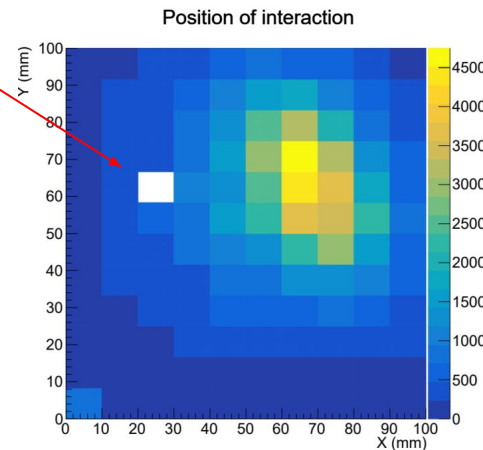
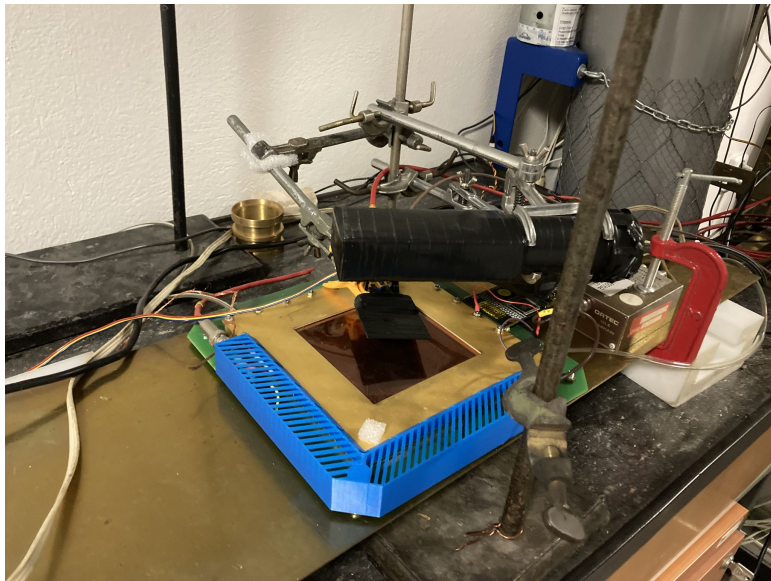


# The SAMPA in the Czech Technical University in Prague - Work developed by Hugo N. Luz



## Most recent tests:

- 7 consecutive days under cosmics with completely stable operation in triple GEM detector (without field cage). 2 evts/min
- Problematic channel under investigation
- Event reconstruction on-going.

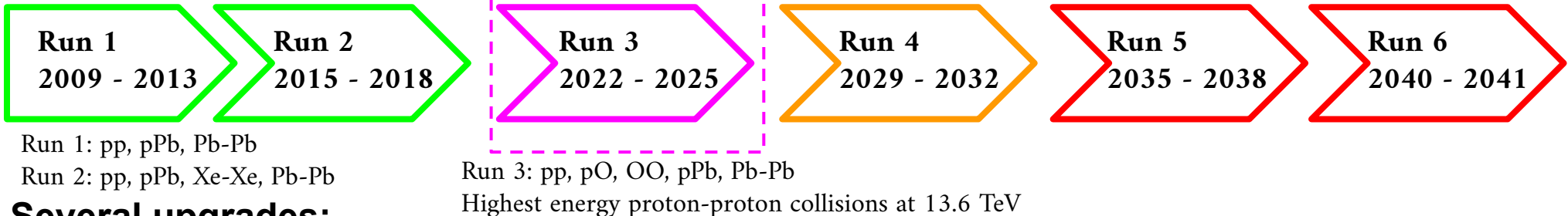


SampaSRS installed in the central computing facility and working

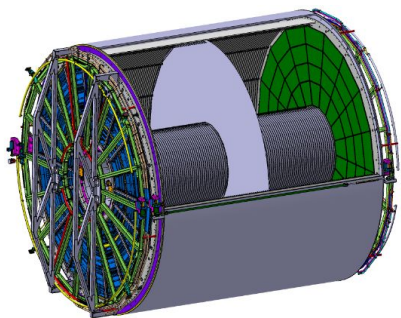




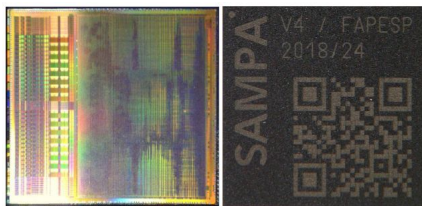
# ALICE upgrades



## Several upgrades:



- Multi-wires to GEMs
- SAMPA for the TP and MCH - continuous readout



3kHz limit for Pb-Pb (active ion gating grid) to 50 kHz with GEMs



- New ITS (7 layers - 10m<sup>2</sup> surface area - CMOS technology)
- New Muon Forward Tracker (MFT) - CMOS technology
- Upgrades on the readout, trigger and beam pipe and others

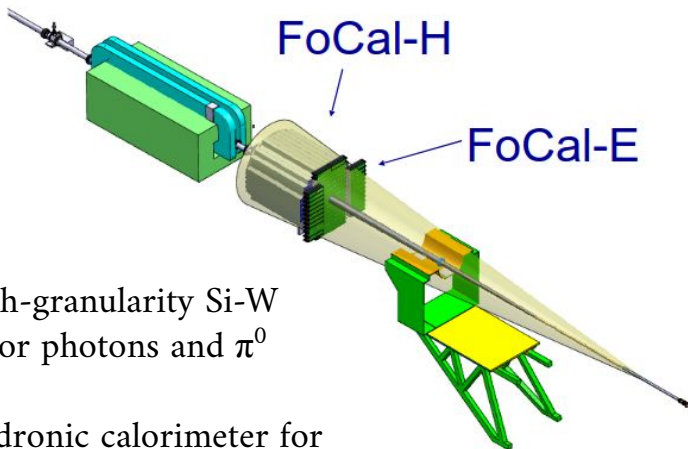


# ALICE upgrades



Run 4: pp, pPb, Pb-Pb

## Forward Calorimeter



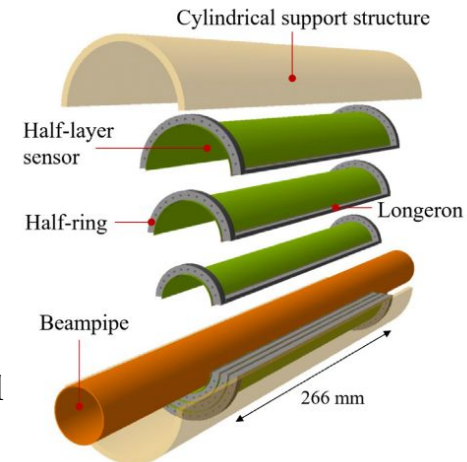
$3.2 < \eta < 5.8$

**FoCal-E:** high-granularity Si-W calorimeter for photons and  $\pi^0$

**FoCal-H:** hadronic calorimeter for photon isolation and jets

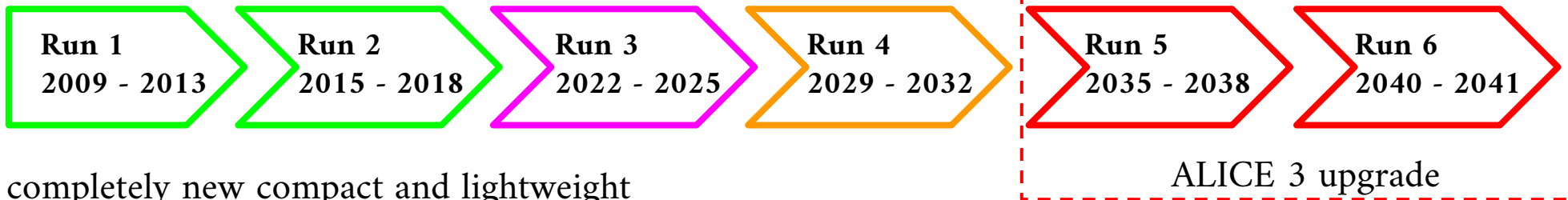
ITS3 (stitched wafer-scale monolithic sensors  
65 nm CMOS technology.

- Replacement of 3 innermost layers of ITS2
- Curved wafer-scale ultra-thin silicon sensors:
  - low power / air cooling / less material
  - material budget: 0.05% X0 per layer
- High-precision, efficient low-pT tracking



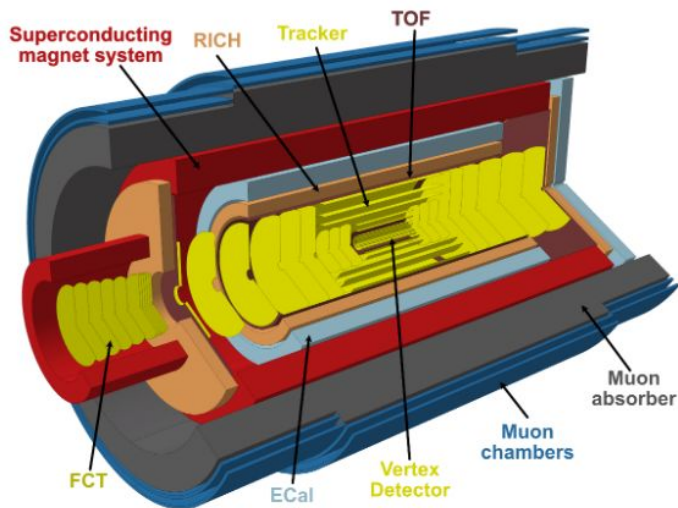


# ALICE upgrades



A completely new compact and lightweight silicon based tracker

Run 5 and Run6 : pp, pA, AA (?)



High PID capabilities + low mass tracking system

Covering a much larger rapidity range than the current ALICE setup Barrel ( $|\eta| < 1.75$ ) Forward ( $1.75 < |\eta| < 4$ ).

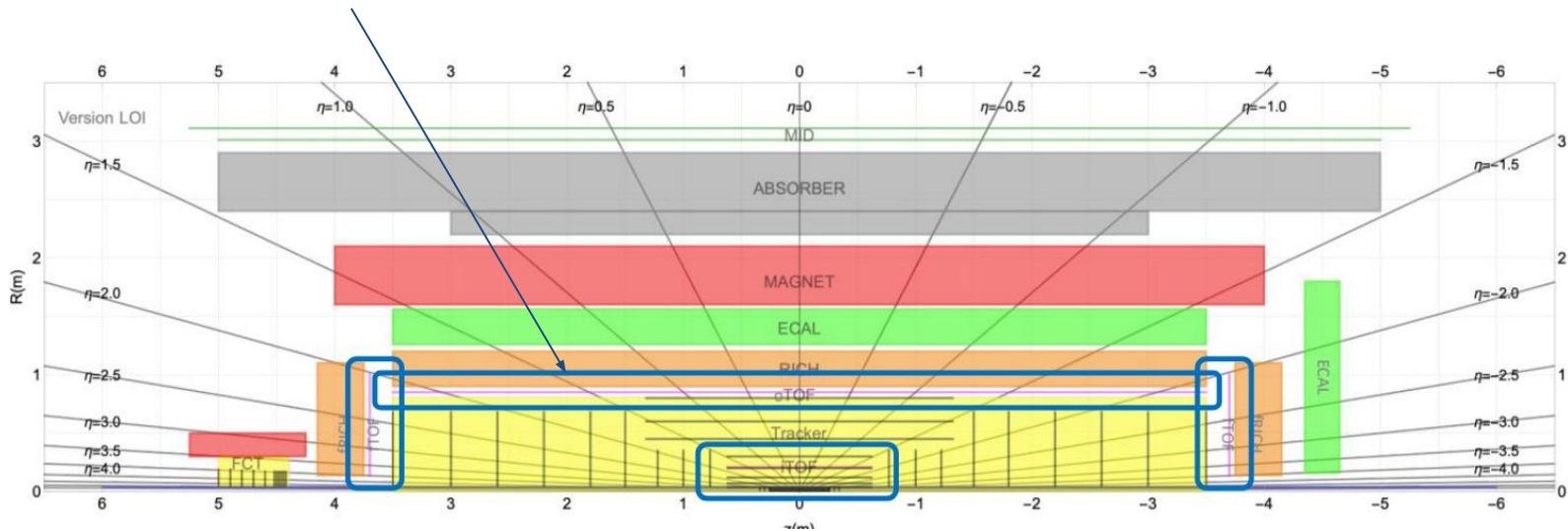
This provides an unique access to thermal dielectron production and heavy flavour probes of the quark–gluon plasma.



# The ALICE 3 ToF layers

Particle identification over the full acceptance ( $|\eta| < 4$ )  
2 barrel + 1 forward ToF layers:

- Two layers  $\rightarrow$  InnerTOF and OuterTOF located at 20 cm and 85 cm from the beam pipe (Barrel TOF  $|\eta| < 2$ )

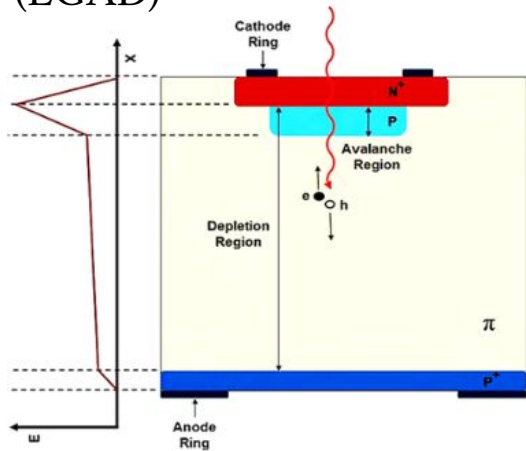


- Forward TOF located at 405 cm on either side of the interaction point (Forward TOF  $2 < |\eta| < 4$ )



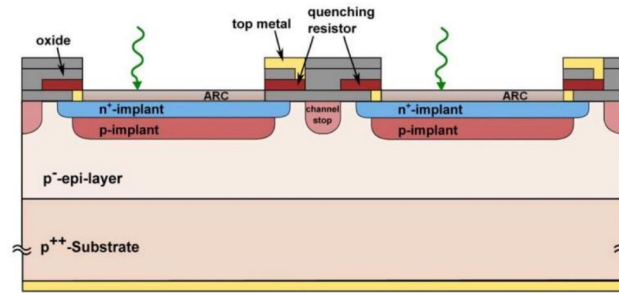
# R&D for the Time of Flight system

## Low Gain Avalanche Diode (LGAD)



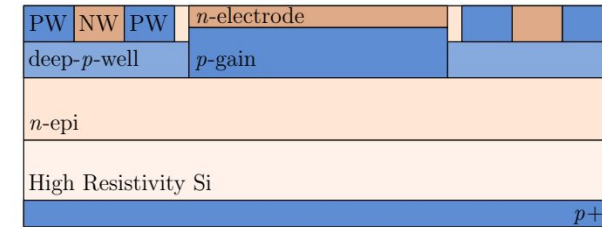
- Timing resolution of  $\sim 30$  ps ( $50 \mu\text{m}$  thickness)
- Thinner sensors can be produced
- The dedicated readout electronics can increase drastically the price

## Silicon Photomultiplier (SiPM)



- Timing resolution of  $\sim 40$  ps for single photons detection.
- Very promising results on MIP detection (Beam test July 2024)
- Issues: Dark count / radiation hardness

## CMOS Monolithic Active Pixel Sensor



- Low material budget
- Cheaper and easy assembly
- Low power consumption
- Investigation under progress (Beam test October 23/24)

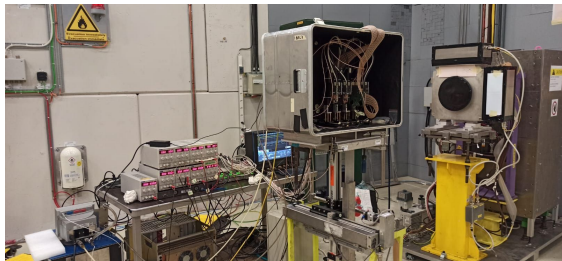
# HEPIC participation in ALICE3 TOF

## 3 Beam test at PS:

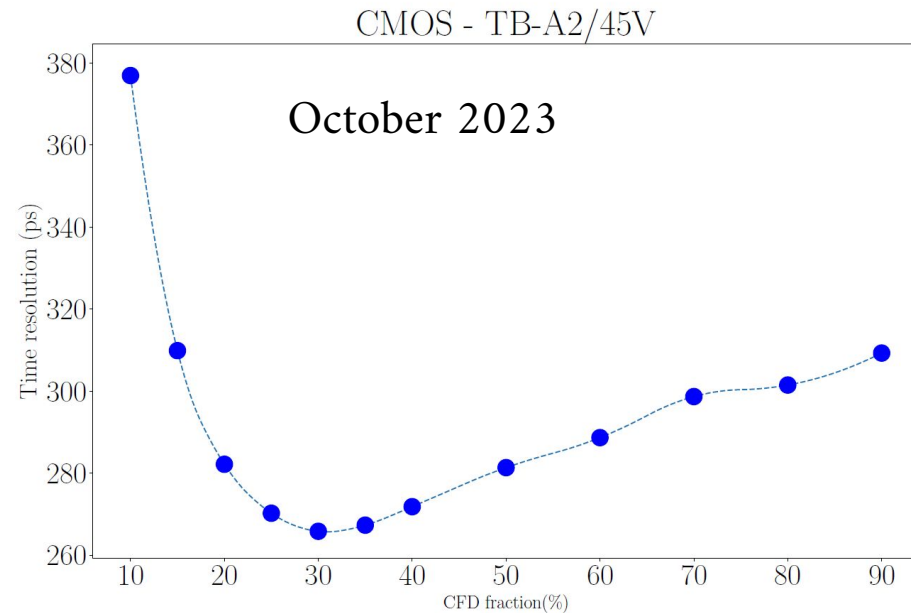
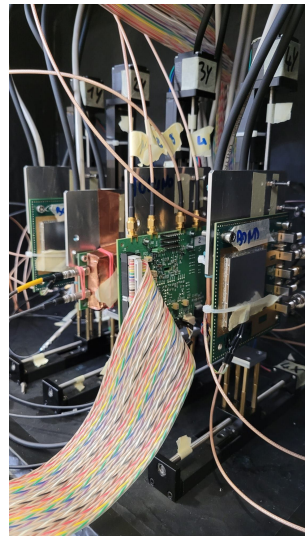
- October 2023 (focused mainly on the first CMOS design and on LGAD)
- July 2024 (focused in the PicoTDC electronics for readout - SiPM with different coating layers - CMOS)
- October 2024 (starting tomorrow - I will join on friday - CMOS with corrected gain)

## Participation in the data decoding for the PicoTDC / Analysis of the CMOS data

Article: <https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-0221/19/07/P07033>



Measurements of time resolution at CERN's PS (proton synchrotron) - 10 GeV/c





**Thank you!**  
**Questions?**



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