

# **New technologies for the vertex detectors at the NICA collider experiments**

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**Hardware meeting of SPD, JINR, 22 September 2022**

# Outline

- 1. Pixel sensors for the Vertex detectors**
- 2. Study of the pixel sensor characteristics at SPbSU**
- 3. Extra lightweight carbon support structures for a new generation of Vertex detectors**
- 4. Summary**

# Pixel sensors for the Vertex detectors

**90 Outer layer (OL)**

**Staves  
(1500mm)**

**54 Middle layer (ML)**

**Staves (900mm)**

**Example: ALICE Inner Tracking System**

## STAVES

**Total staves:**

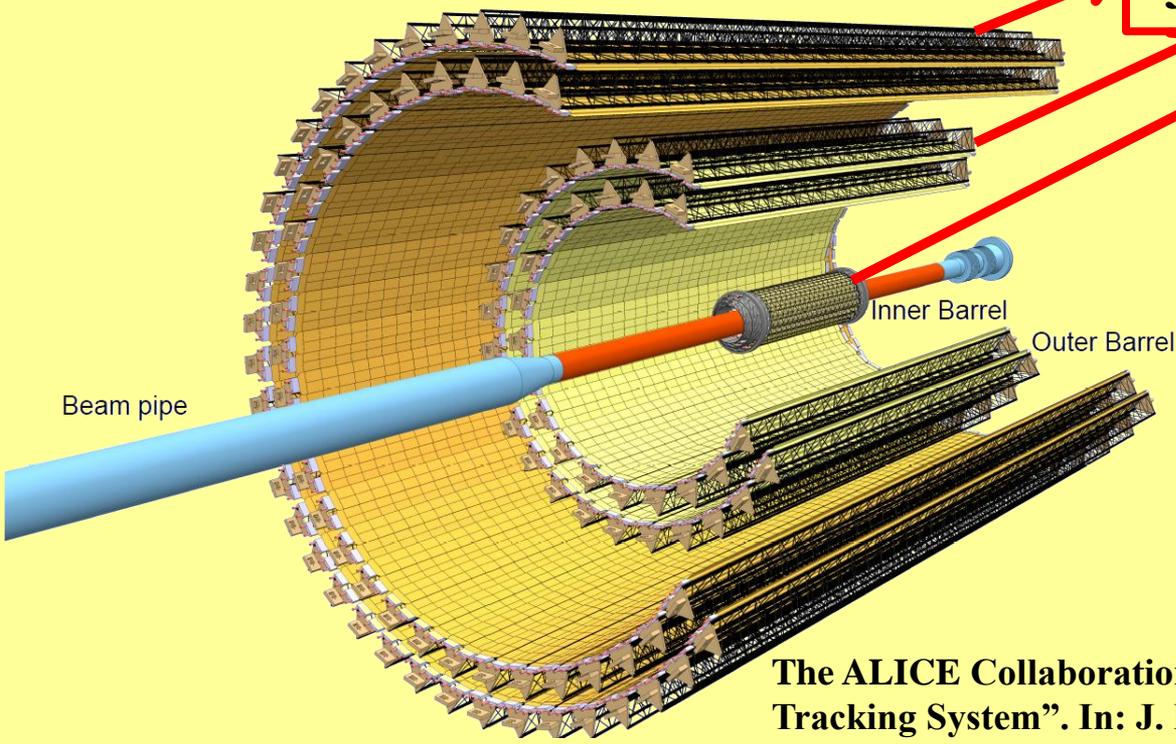
**48 (IL) – Inner Barrel**

**54(ML) and 90(OL) – Outer Barrel**

**Stave consists of :**

- 1. Hybrid Integrated Circuit (HIC)**
- 2. Cold plate**
- 3. Space frame**

**48 Inner layer (IL)  
Staves (290mm)**



**Barrel: 7 layers of Monolithic Active Pixel Sensors (MAPS)**

**New ITS:**

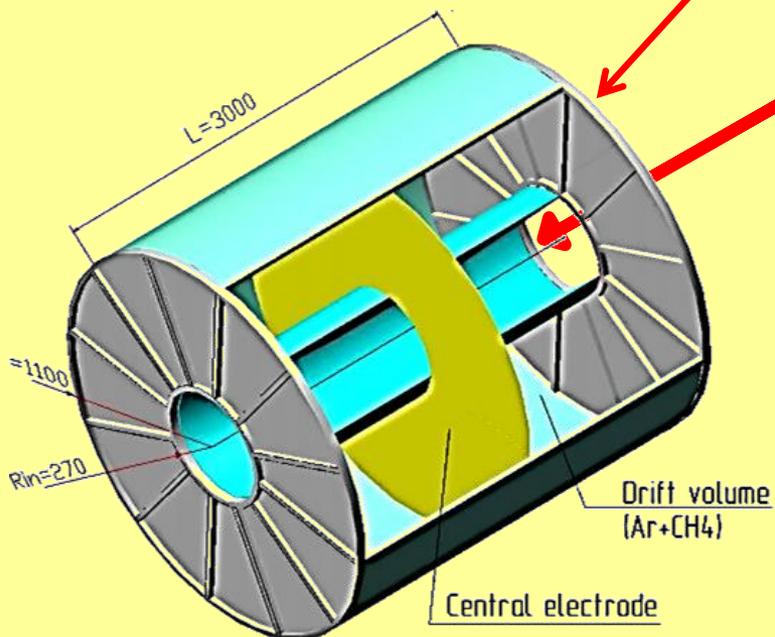
**12.5 G pixels**

**Pixel sensors for the Vertex detectors**

**MPD tracking system: TPC + ITS**

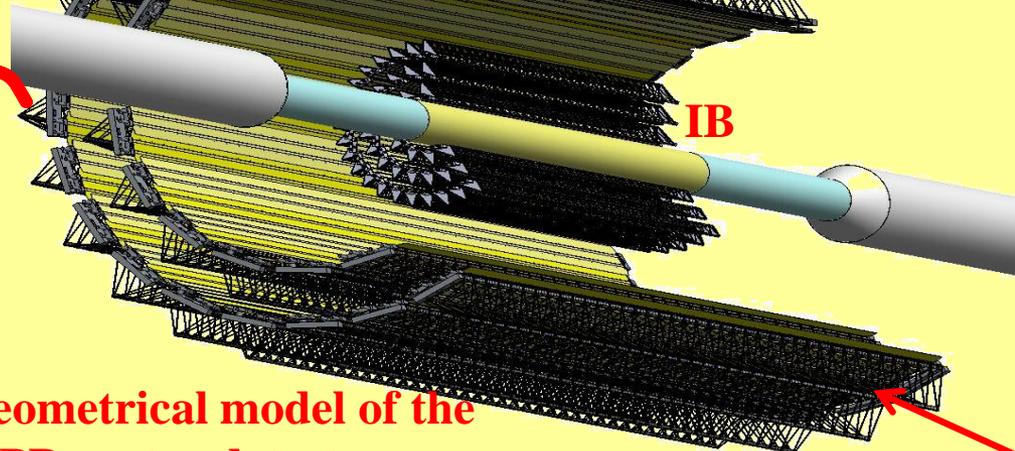
**II stage of the MPD experiment: TPC + ITS**

**I stage of the MPD experiment: TPC only**



<https://nica.jinr.ru/ru/projects/mpd.php>

**TPC** → accurate reconstruction of particle tracks and their momenta, + identification of charged particles by measuring their energy losses



**Geometrical model of the MPD vertex detector**

**ALICE technologies:**  
for **OB** – ALICE Outer layer staves (1526mm)

**New technologies for IB** – staves 750 mm

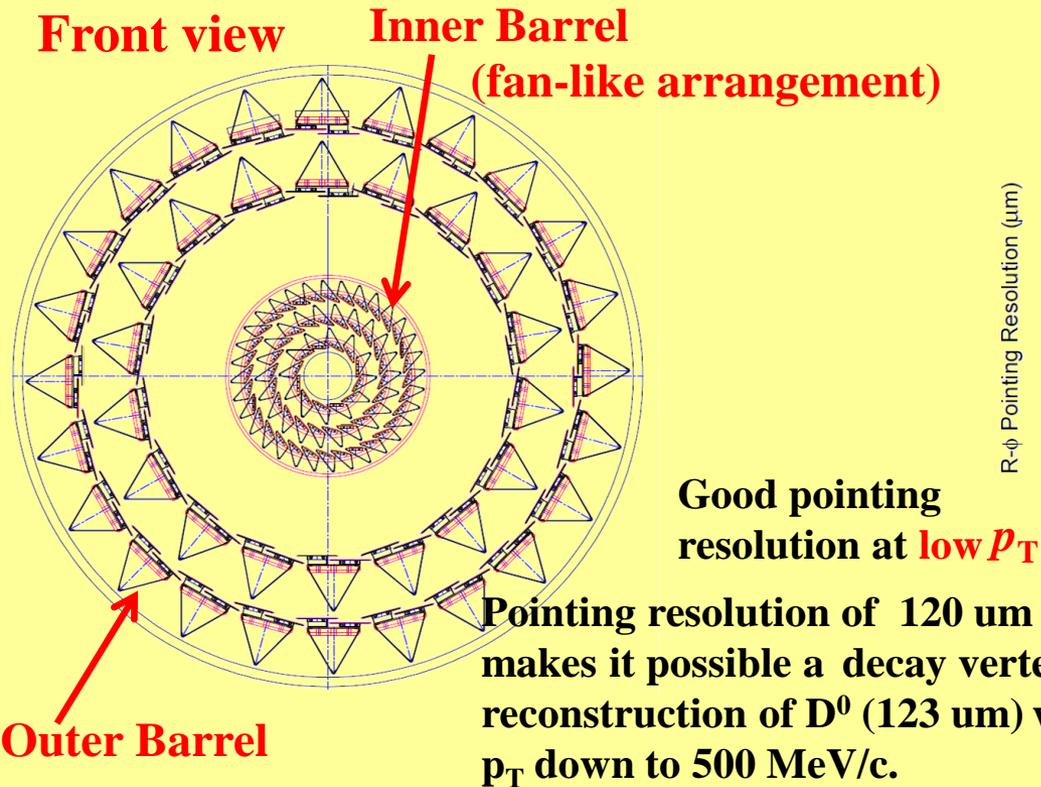
<b>STAVES</b>	
12	Inner Barrel
22	
32	
	IB
18	Outer Barrel
24	
	OB

Pixel Detectors  
Hybrid Integrated  
Circuit (HIC)

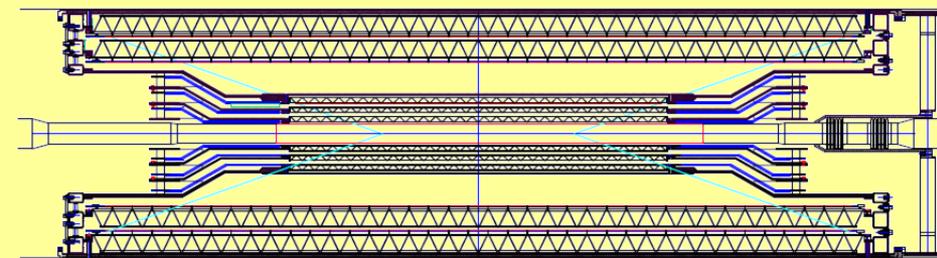
+ Cold plate + Space frame

**V.I. Zherebchevsky, V.P. Kondratiev, V.V. Vechernin, S.N. Igolkin, The concept of the MPD vertex detector for the detection of rare events in Au+Au collisions at the NICA collider. Nuclear Inst. and Methods, A 985 (2021), 164668.**

# Vertex detectors at the NICA collider experiments

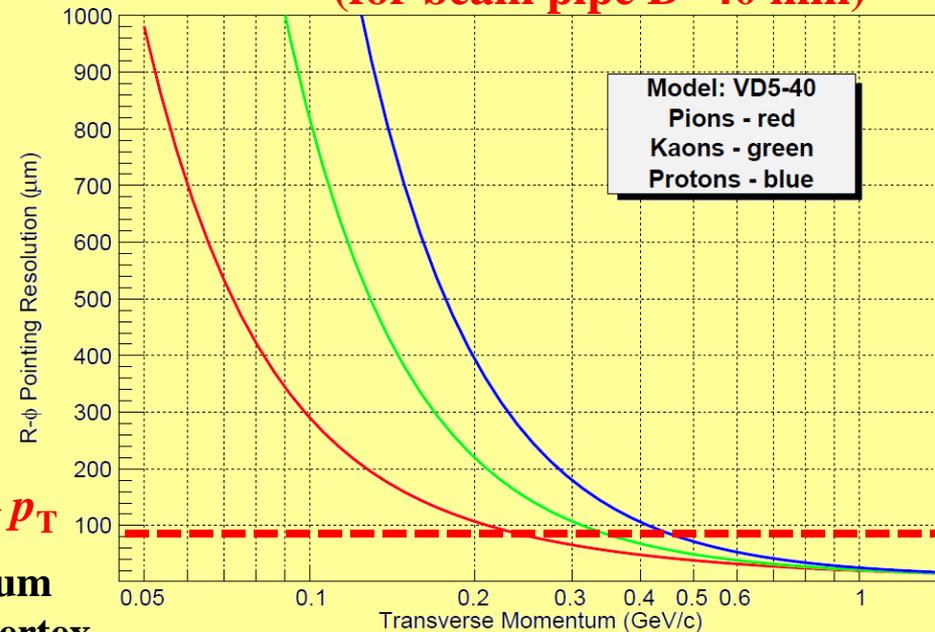


**longitudinal view**



**V.I. Zherebchevsky, V.P. Kondratiev, V.V. Vechernin, S.N. Igolkin Nuclear Inst. and Methods, A 985 (2021), 164668.**

**Five detector layers**  
(for beam pipe  $D=40$  mm)



**For estimations:**

**5 layers of Pixel Detectors, central collisions, month of collider work, efficiency of D-mesons registration by the MPD tracking system, the multiplicity of D mesons in Au + Au collisions at NICA energies (in the framework of the hadron string dynamic model) =  $10^{-2}$**

**for  $D^+ \rightarrow 2\pi^+K^-$  (9.2%):  $\approx 38\ 000$  mesons**

**for  $D^0 \rightarrow \pi^+K^-$  (3.9%):  $\approx 16\ 000$  mesons**

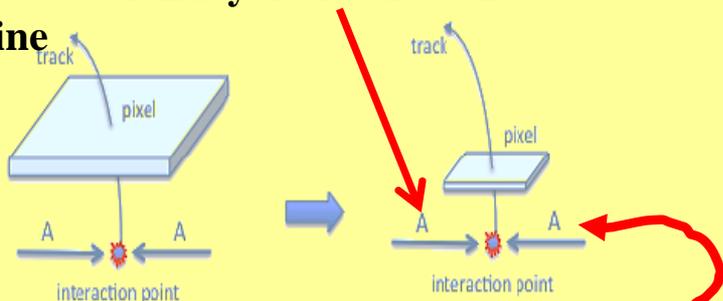
# Pixel sensors for the Vertex detectors

**Main motivation** → Improve tracking efficiency and  $p_T$  resolution at low  $p_T$

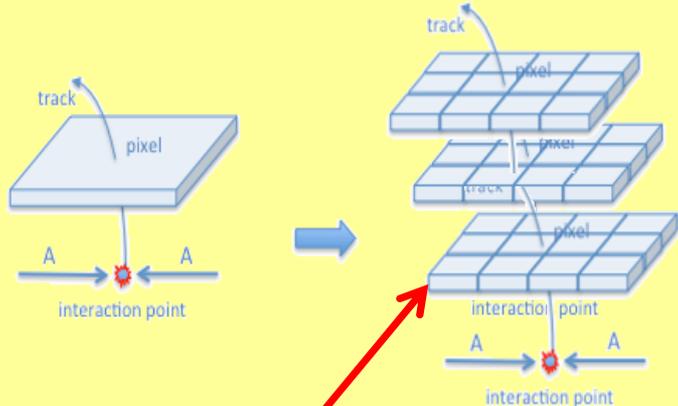
## Requirements for the optimal tracking system

### 1. Good impact parameter resolution

a) First detection layer closer to the beam line



b) Reduction of material budget:  
min. radiation length per layer

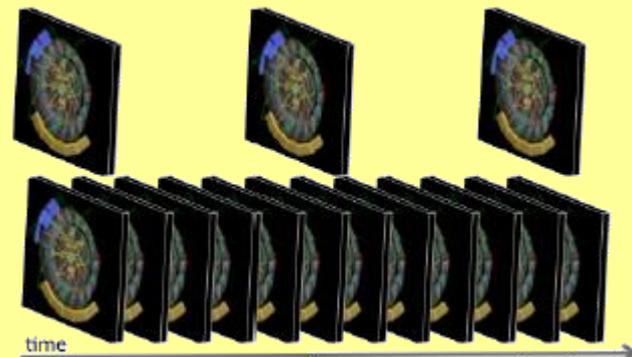


c) Increase in granularity (smaller pixels)

d) more layers

### 2. Fast readout

readout Au-Au interactions at 8 kHz  
(for the NICA luminosity of  $10^{27} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ c}^{-1}$  in the most central Au + Au collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 11 \text{ GeV}$ )



L.Musa, ECFA High Luminosity LHC Experiments Workshop, 3-6.10. 2016 and F. Reidt, PIXEL2016

### 3) Lower power consumption

and optimized scheme for the distribution of Power and signals



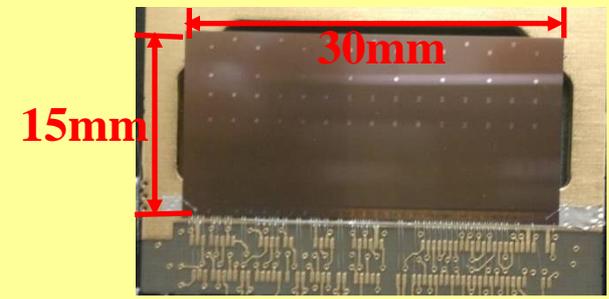
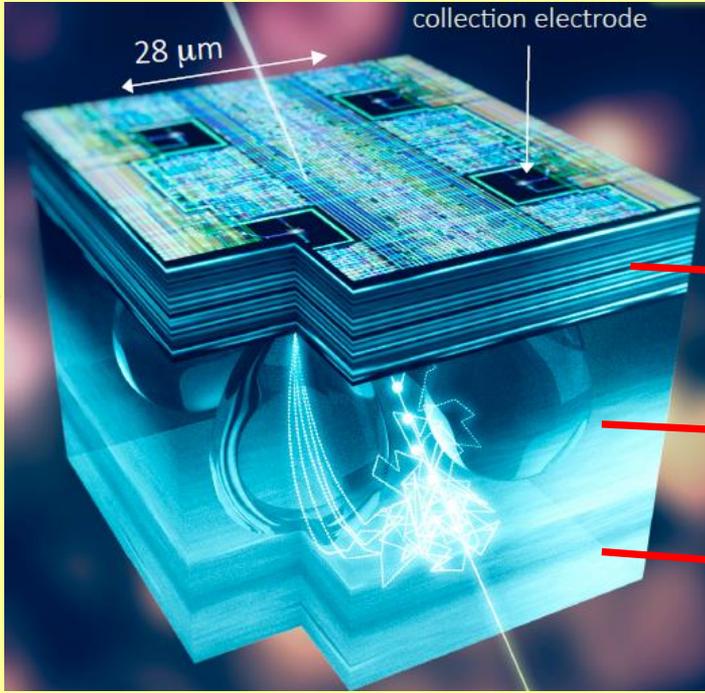
### 4) Radiation hardness

# Pixel sensors for the Vertex detectors

**MAPS: TowerJazz**  
**180nm CMOS**  
**Imaging Process**

V. Manzari,  
 EICUG2019, Paris

## How pixel detector works?



**512 × 1024 sensitive pixels**

**Metal layers (11 μm)**

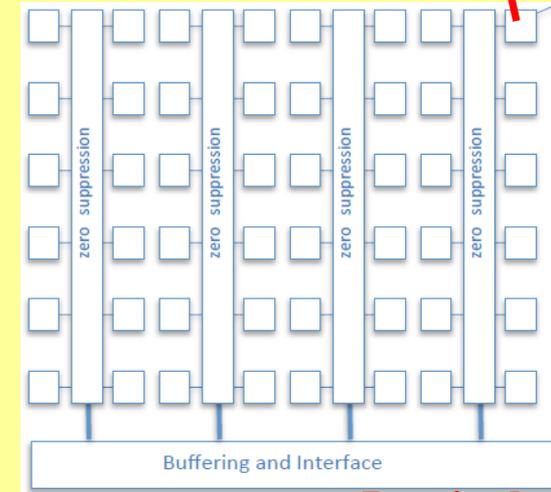
**High resistivity (> 1kΩ · cm) p-type epitaxial layer (25μm)**

**low-resistivity p-type substrate (14 μm)**

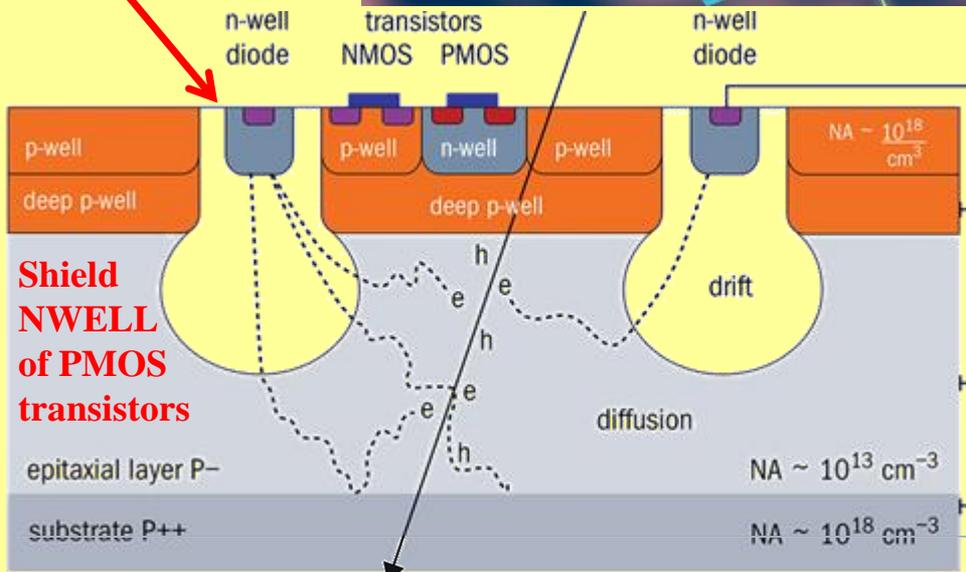
**Small n-well diode (2μm diameter), ~ 100 times smaller than pixel → low capacitance**



## Chip architecture



**Back bias S/N ratio increases, higher efficiency**



**Shield NWELL of PMOS transistors**

**In-pixel: amplification, discrimination, hit buffer**

## Pixel sensors for the Vertex detectors

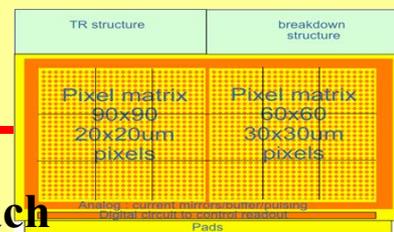
### Pixel detector general requirements and real detector properties (from ALICE ITS-2 TDR)

Parameter	Inner Barrel (IB)	Outer Barrel (OB)	ALPIDE Performance
Silicon thickness	50 $\mu\text{m}$	100 $\mu\text{m}$	
Chip dimension	15 mm x 30 mm	15 mm x 30 mm	
Spatial resolution	5 $\mu\text{m}$	10 $\mu\text{m}$	5 $\mu\text{m}$ (IB), 5 $\mu\text{m}$ (OB)
Power density	< 300 mW/cm <sup>2</sup>	< 100 mW/cm <sup>2</sup>	40 mW/cm <sup>2</sup> (IB), 30 mW/cm <sup>2</sup> (OB)
Max. integration time	30 $\mu\text{s}$	30 $\mu\text{s}$	10 $\mu\text{s}$
Detection efficiency	>99%	>99%	>99% <b>Upper limit!</b>
Fake-hit rate	<10 <sup>-5</sup> (TDR), <10 <sup>-6</sup> * /event/pixel for IB and OB		<<<10 <sup>-6</sup> /event/pixel
Total Ionizing Dose	270 krad 2.7 Mrad*	10 krad, 100 krad*	Up to 500 krad
Non-Ionizing Energy Loss (1 MeV n <sub>eq</sub> /cm <sup>2</sup> )	1.7 x 10 <sup>12</sup> (TDR), 1.7 x 10 <sup>13</sup> *	1.7 x 10 <sup>11</sup> (TDR), 1.7 x 10 <sup>12</sup> *	Up to 1.7 x 10 <sup>13</sup>

radiation load integrated over the approved program (~ 6 years of operation)

\*revised numbers with respect to ALICE TDR (factor 10)

# Pixel sensors for the Vertex detectors



2012

Explorer

**Explorer-1,2**

**Two submatrices: 90x90 array of 20 x 20µm pixels and 60x60 array of 30x30µm pixels. Each sub-matrix is divided into 9 sectors with one variant of collection electrode(analogue readout). Investigations: pixel geometry, starting material, sensitivity to radiation.**

2013

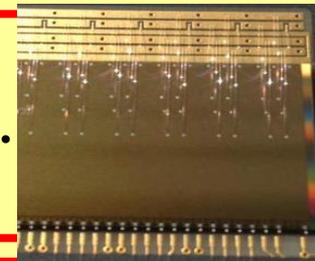
pALPIDEss

**Matrix with 64 columns x 512 rows of 22µm x 22µm pixels. (in-pixel discrimination and buffering). Study priority encoder and the front-end electronics**

May-2014

pALPIDE-1

**Full-scale prototype to study system effects: 1024 columns x 512 rows of 28µm x 28µm pixels. 4 sectors with different pixels.**



May-2015

pALPIDE-2

**4 sectors with different pixels. Optimization of several circuit blocks. Allows integration into ITS modules**

Oct-2015

pALPIDE-3

**8 sectors with different pixels. Final interfaces, more features including 1.2 Gbit/s output serial link.**

Jul - 2016

**ALPIDE – Final Version**



# Study of the pixel sensor characteristics at SPbSU

## Characterization, tests, studies of the non irradiated and irradiated sensors

### 1. Electrical tests:

- a) On-chip Digital-Analogue Converter Test.
- b) Digital Scan.
- c) Analogue Scan.
- d) Threshold Scan.

} Experimental set-up I

### 2. The noise characteristics of the sensors (also at different temperatures) were studied

} Experimental set-up I  
Experimental set-up II

### 4. The characteristics of irradiated sensors at different temperatures, including cryogenic temperatures were studied

} Experimental set-up II

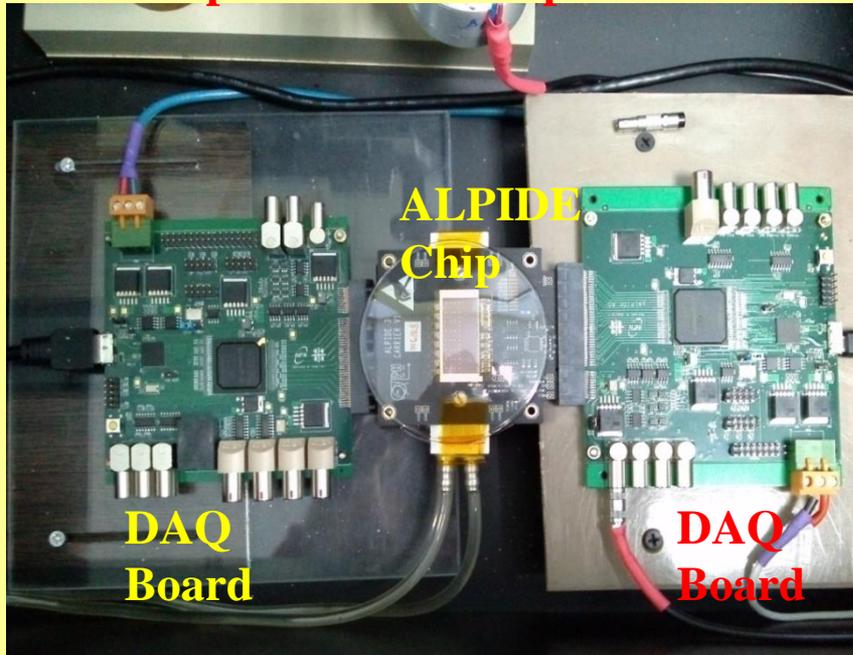
### 5. The possibilities for cooling of new generation ultra-thin pixel detectors including nitrogen cooling have been investigated

} Experimental set-up III  
Experimental set-up IV

For further information see also: V. I. Zhrebchevsky, N.A. Maltsev, S.N. Igolkin et.al Silicon Pixel Detectors for the Inner Tracking System of the MPD Experiment at the NICA Collider, Bulletin of the Russian Academy of Sciences: Physics, 2021, Vol. 85, No. 5, pp. 541–547

# Study of the pixel sensor characteristics

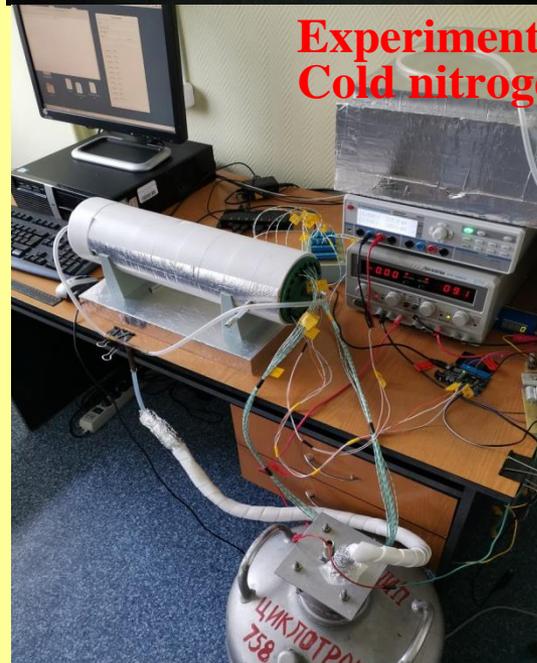
## Experimental set-up I



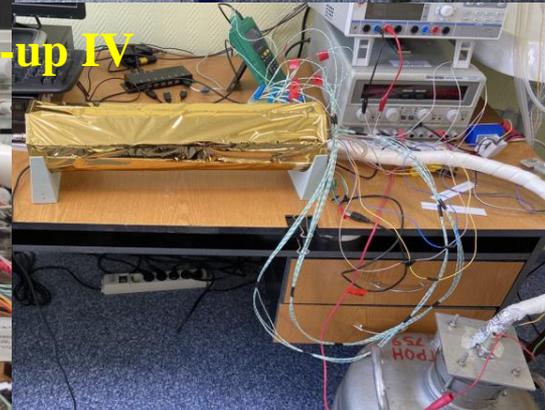
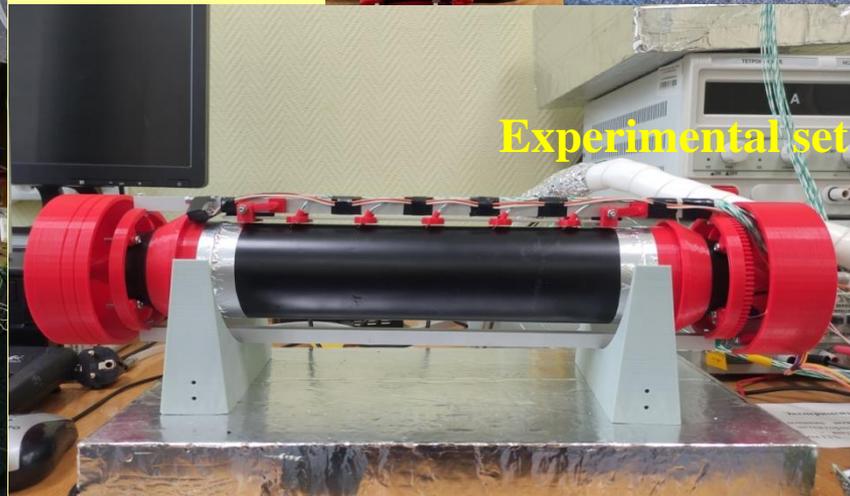
## Experimental set-up II with cryogenic module



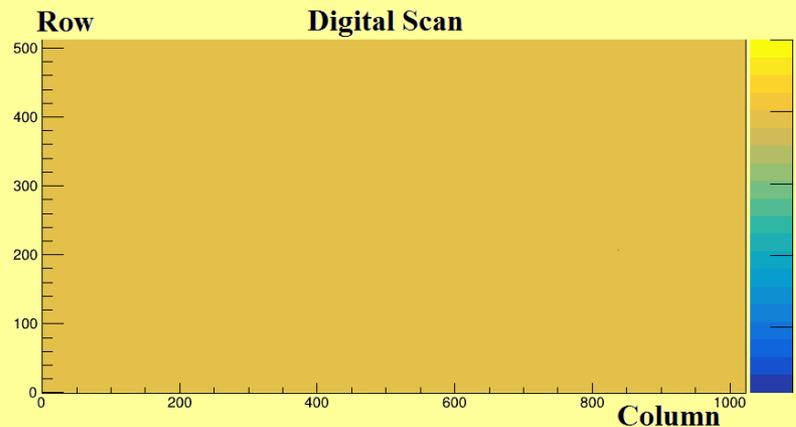
## Experimental set-up III Cold nitrogen flow



## Experimental set-up IV



# Study of the pixel sensor characteristics

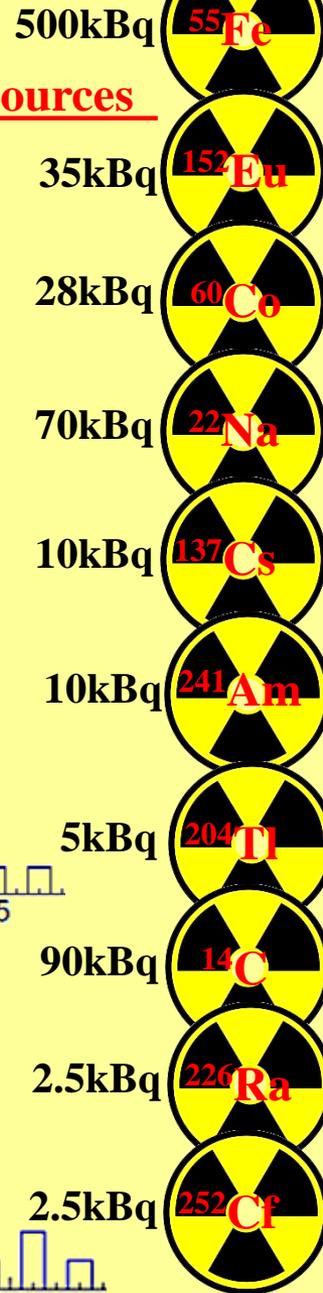
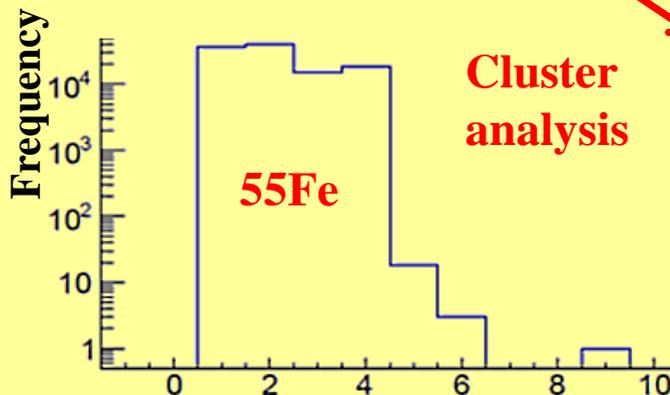


Not working pixels searching

# Characterization and tests

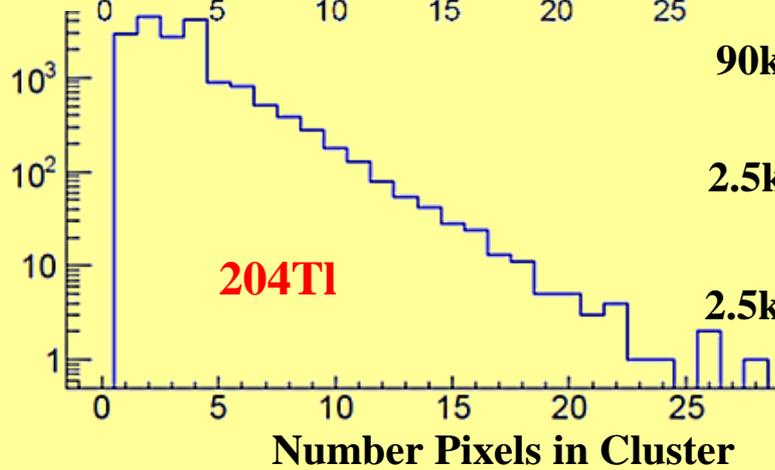
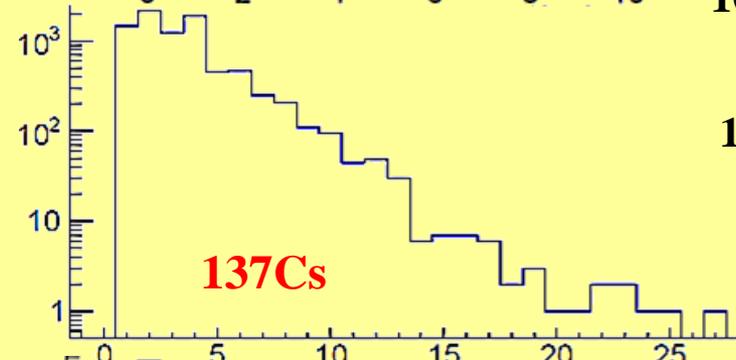
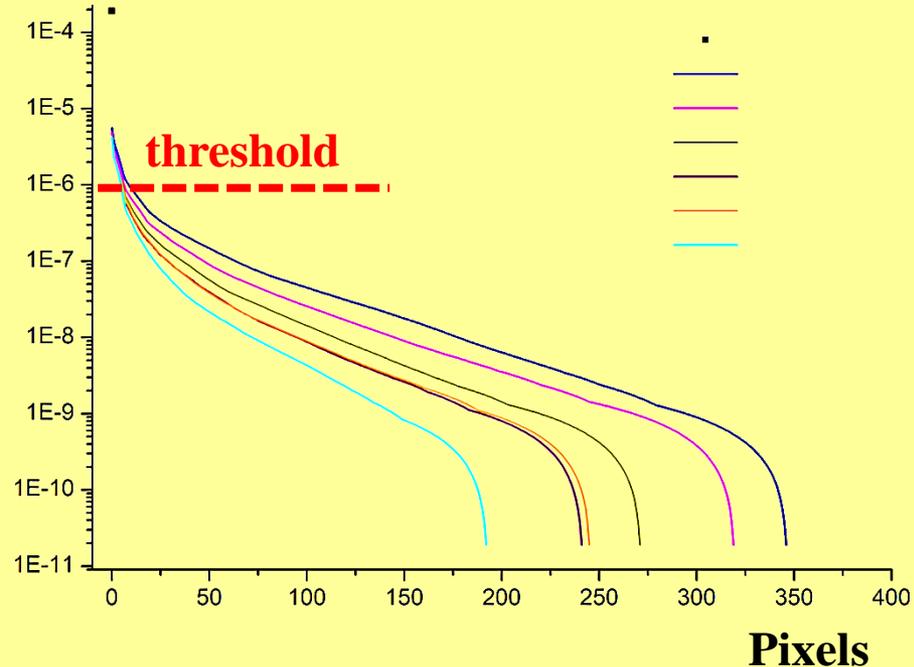
Investigations of pixel matrix

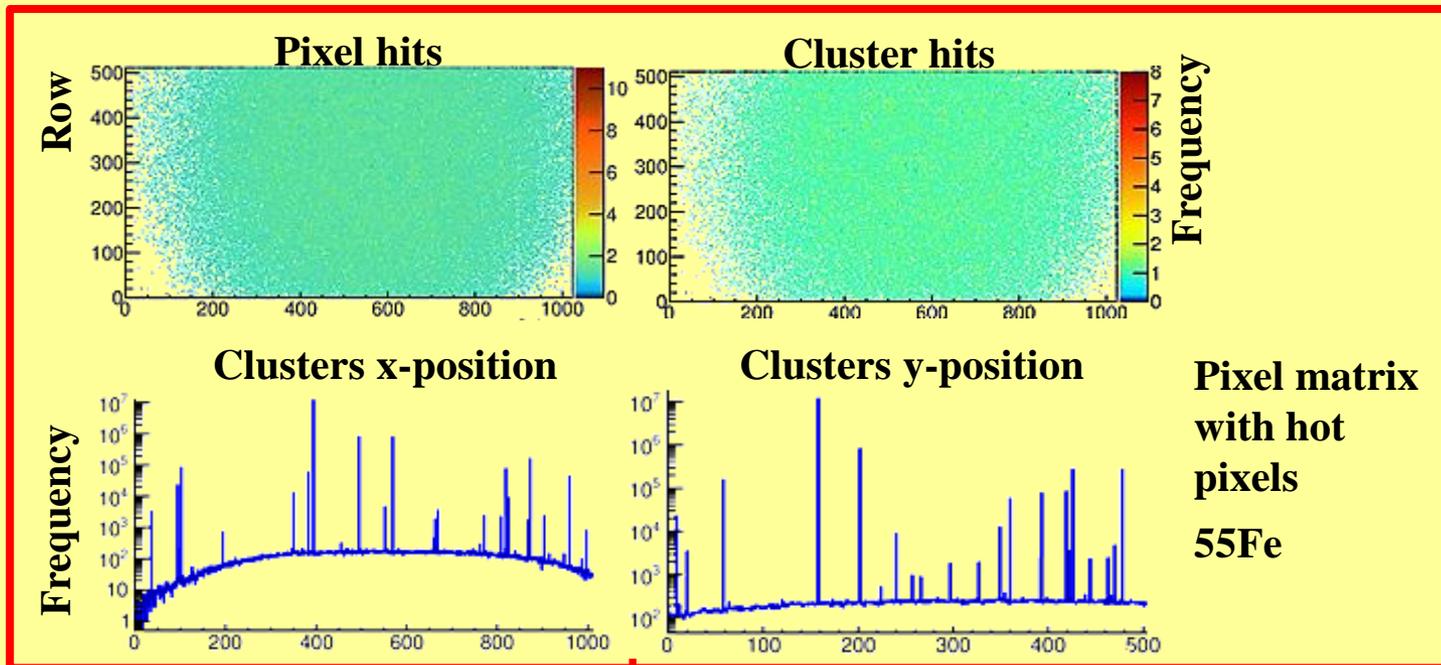
Properties with different radioactive sources



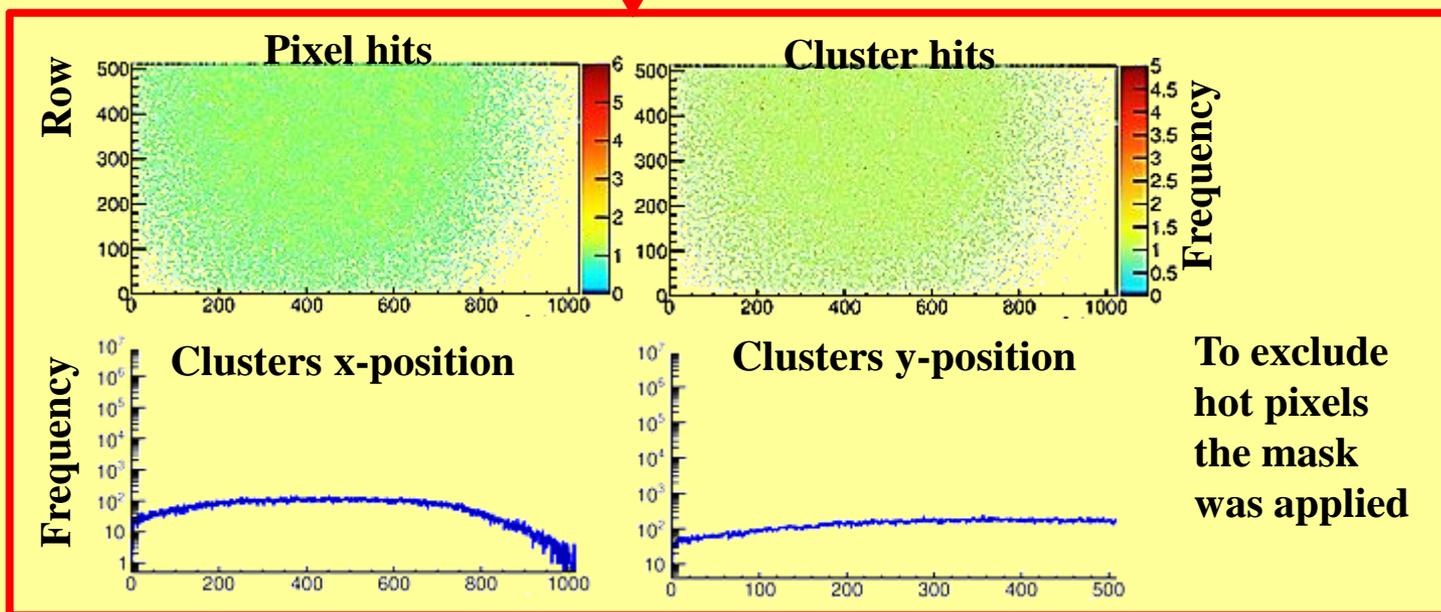
Fake Hit

Rate Noise characteristics of the sensors





**Development of an especial mask to exclude the noises pixels**



# Study of the pixel sensor characteristics

## Beam tests in JINR

The TERMINATOR - Experimental set-up for the NICA MPD Inner Tracker

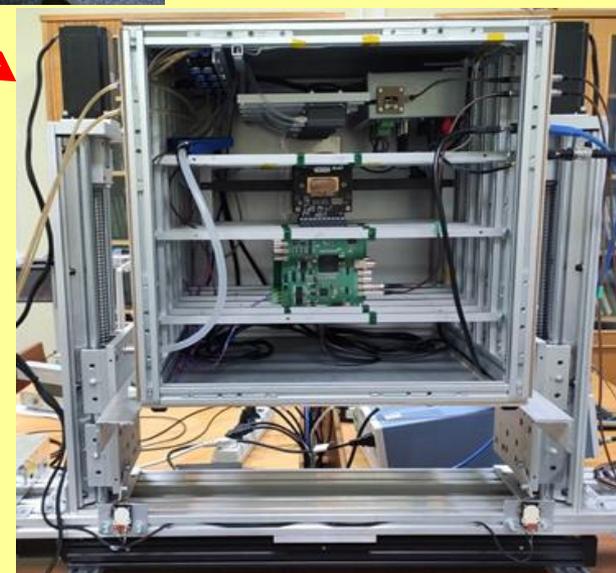
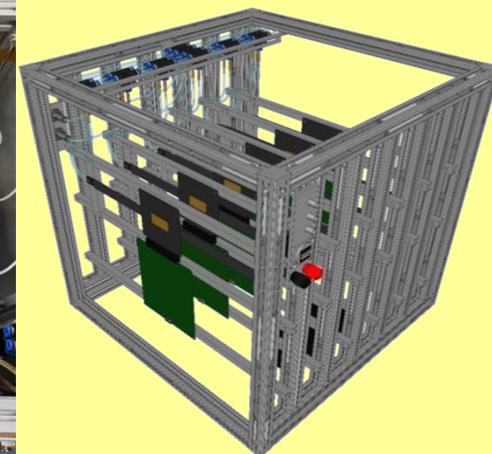
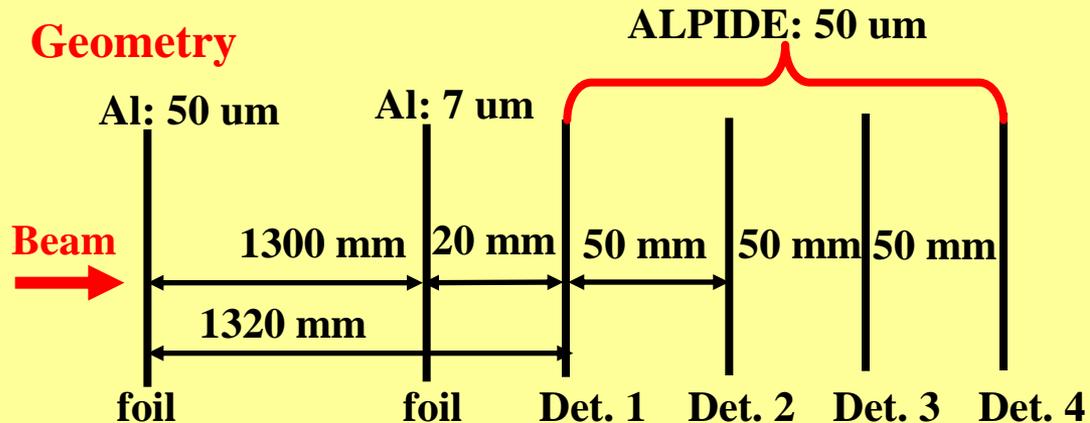
Run 1, Run 2

Accelerator: LINAC-200

Beam: electrons ~ 50-60 MeV

electrons ~ 150 MeV

### Geometry



GEANT 4 calculation of the doses on the detectors



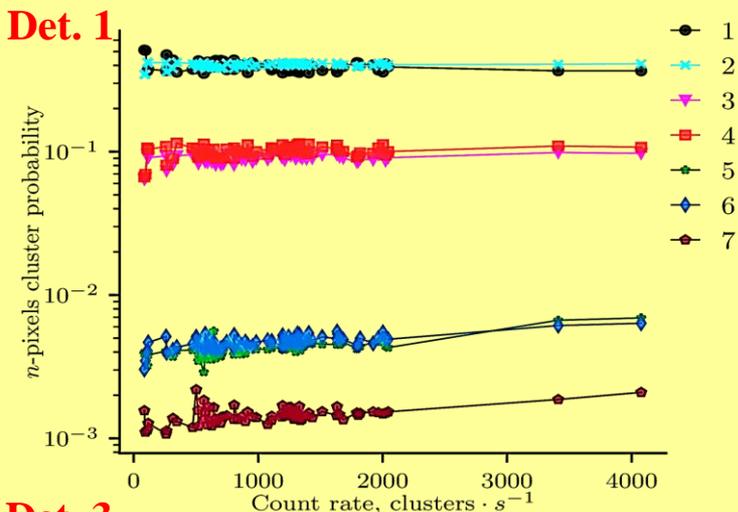
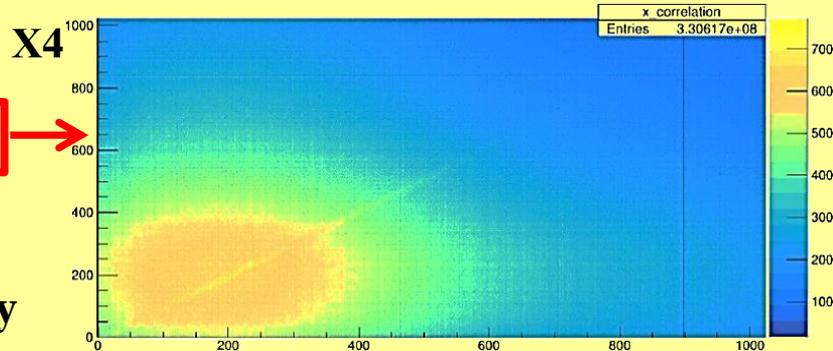
Cooling (water),  
Two scintillators for the trigger,  
Precise X-Y movement  
( 3 synchronized moving stage)

# Study of the pixel sensor characteristics

## Beam tests in JINR

### Correlations of pixel clusters between the detector planes

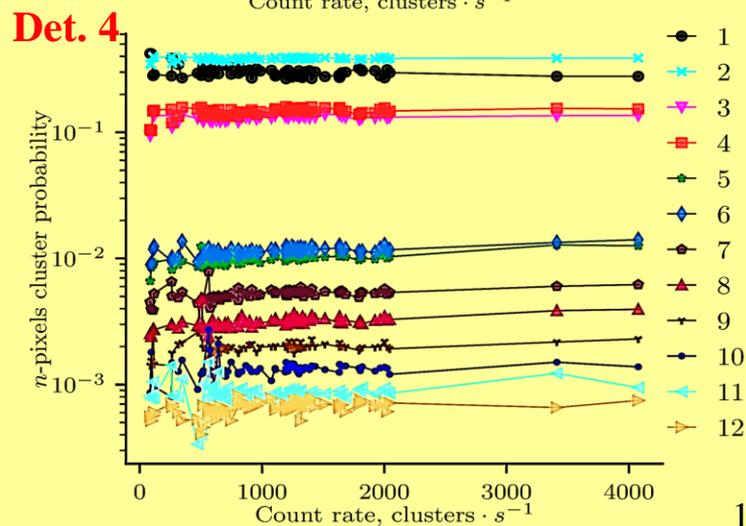
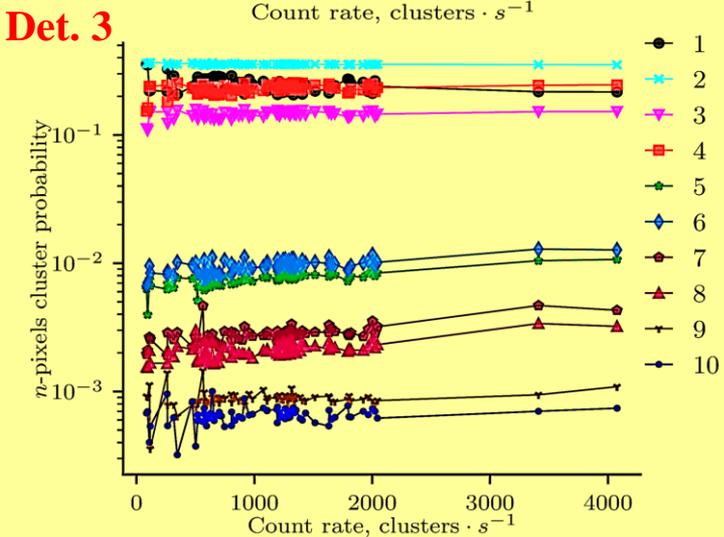
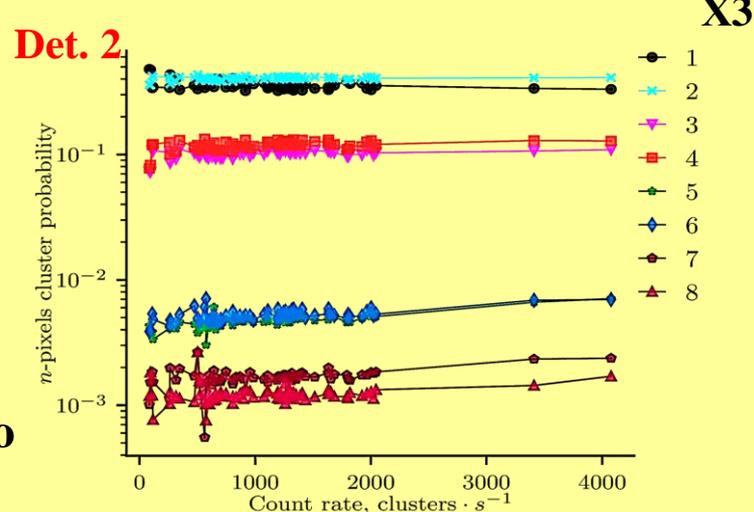
The probability of occurring the clusters with multiplicity  $n$  vs. electron beam (150 MeV) intensity



1)  $n \leq 4$  -95% clusters

2)  $n \leq 4$  – there is no dependency on the beam intensity

3) There is no big clusters ( $n$  only up to 12)



# Study of the pixel sensor characteristics

Run 1

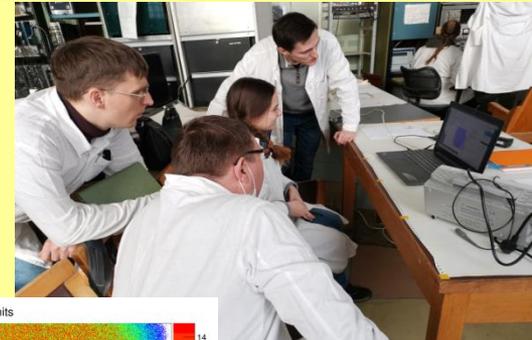
## Beam tests in PNPI

Synchrocyclotron- 1000

Beam: protons - 1 GeV

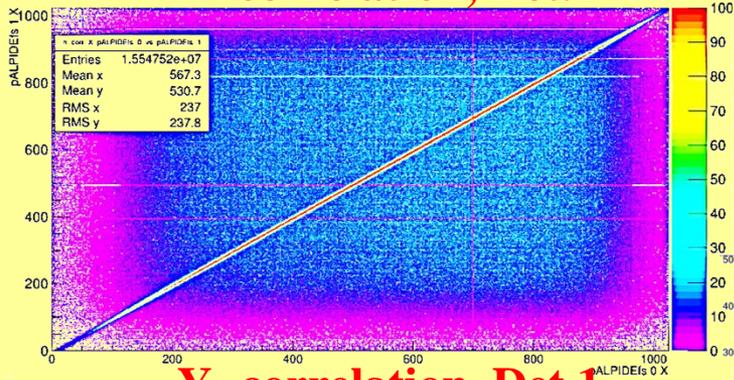


<http://www.pnpi.nrcki.ru/>



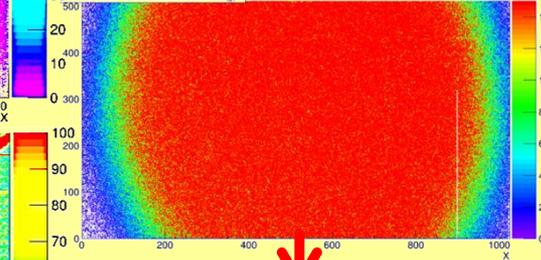
Excellent correlations of pixel clusters between all detector planes (X and Y)

### X- correlation, Det.1

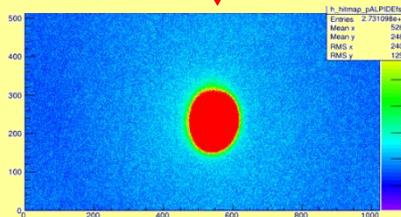
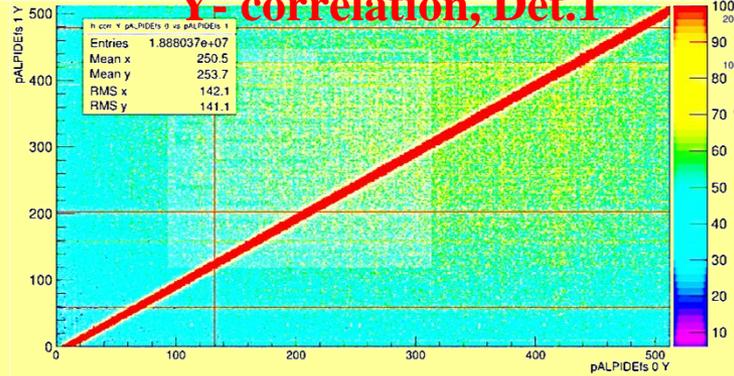


Good beam collimation

### Det.1 Row HitMap

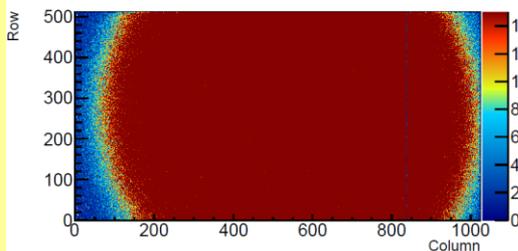


### Y- correlation, Det.1



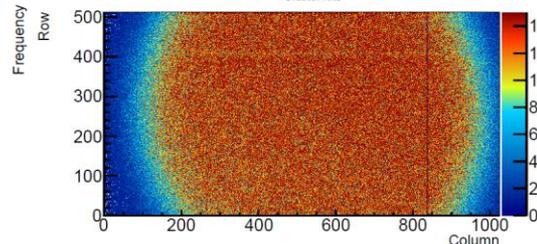
### Pixel hits

Pixel hits



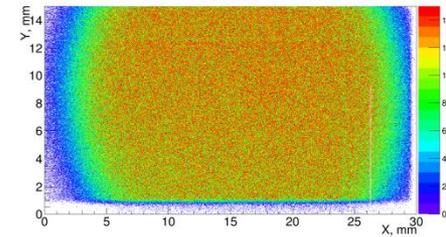
### Cluster hits

Cluster hits



### Tracks hits

Tracks hits



# Study of the pixel sensor characteristics

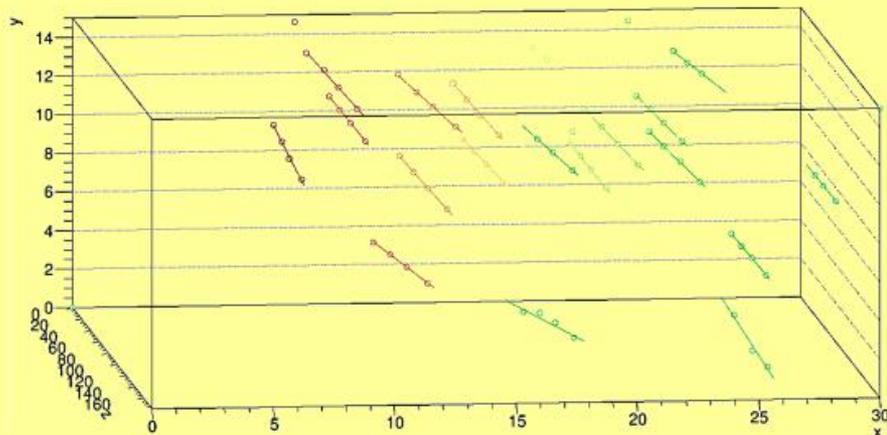
One can define the beam emittance by using tracking analysis

Эксперименты в ПНПИ

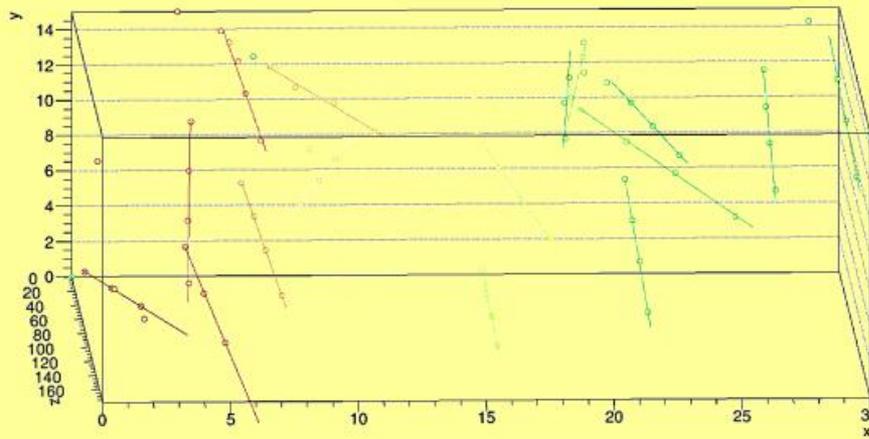
Идентификация и реконструкция треков

Synchrocyclotron- 1000

Протоны: 1 ГэВ, 200 МэВ

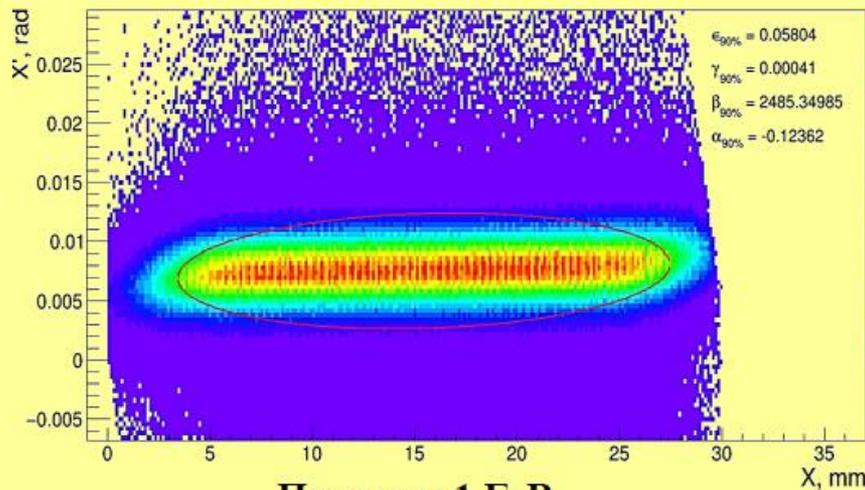


Протоны 1 ГэВ

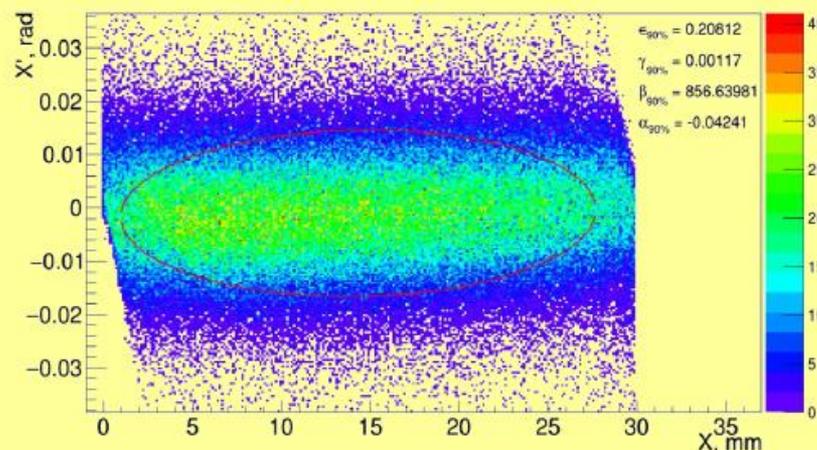


Протоны 200 МэВ

Определение эмиттанса



Протоны 1 ГэВ



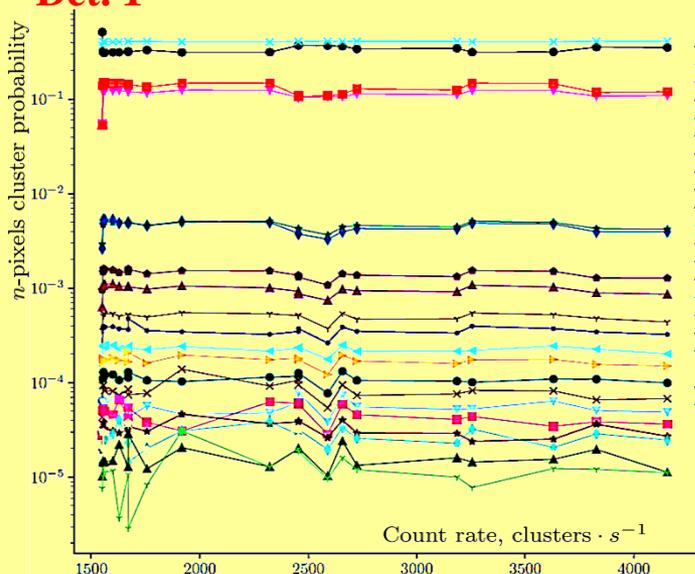
Протоны 200 МэВ

# Study of the pixel sensor characteristics

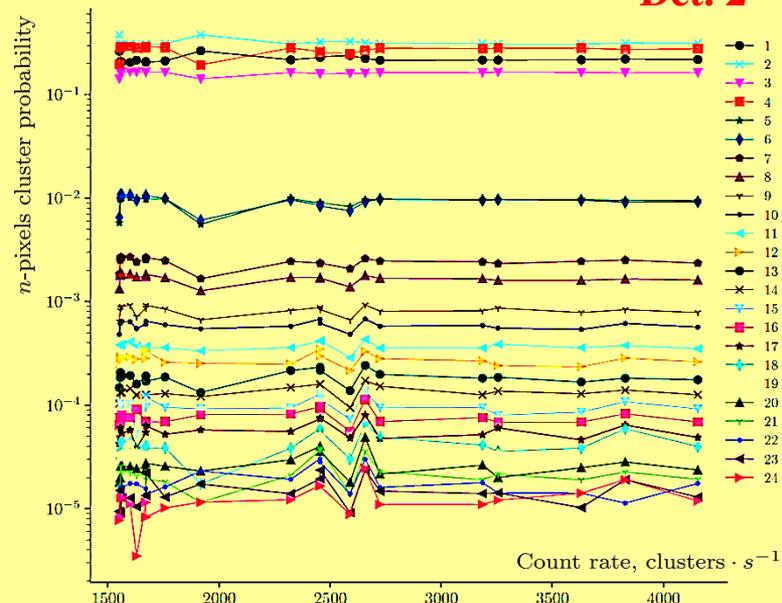
## Beam tests in PNPI

The probability of occurring the clusters with multiplicity  $n$  vs. proton beam (1 GeV) intensity

Det. 1



Det. 2

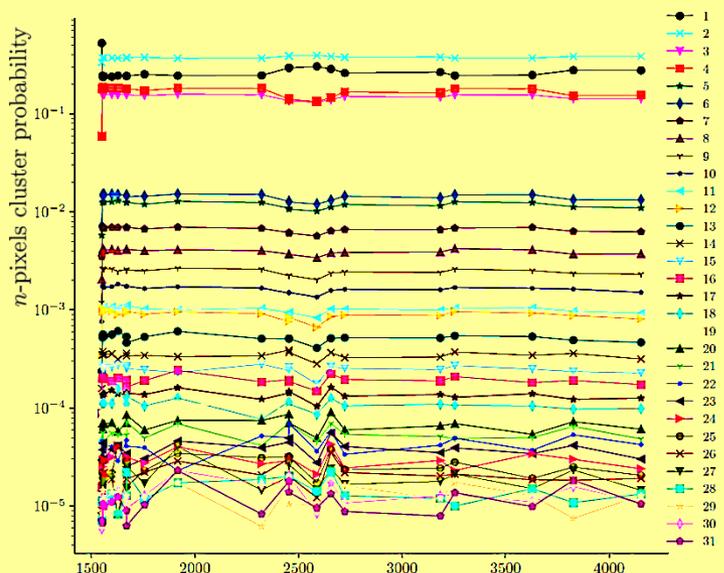


1)  $n \leq 4$  -95% clusters

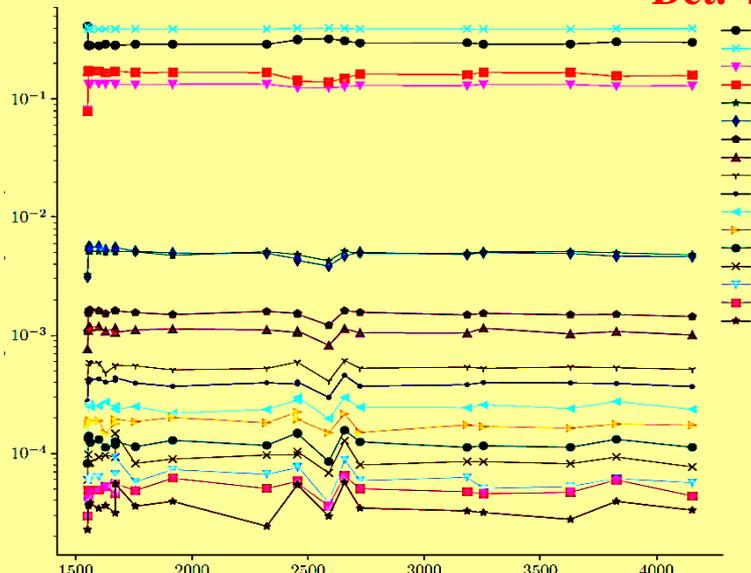
2) There is no dependency on the beam intensity for all clusters

3) The big clusters ( $n$  up to 31) can occur

Det. 3

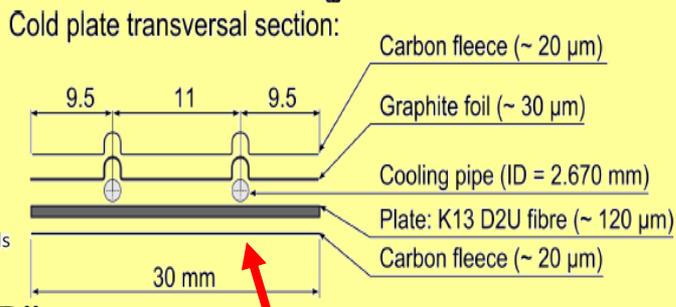
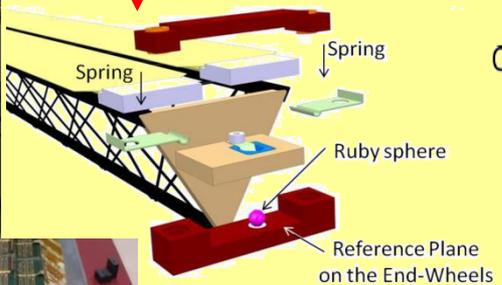
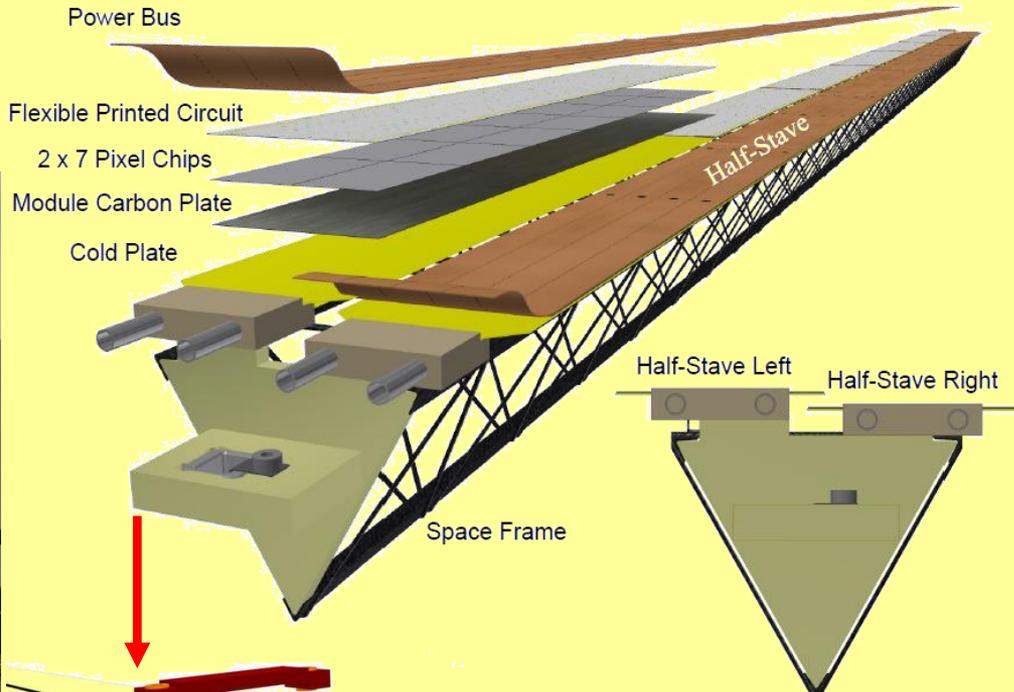


Det. 4



# Extra lightweight carbon support structures for a new generation of Vertex detectors

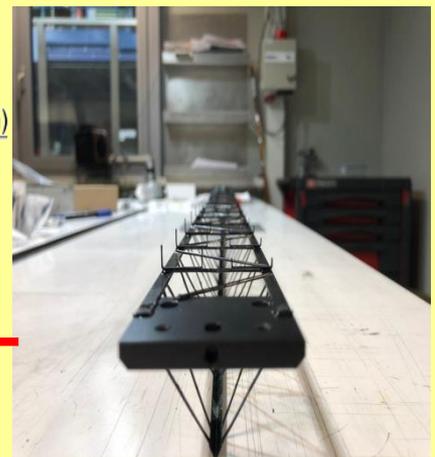
# ALICE Outer Barrel Stave



**The ALICE Collaboration: "TDR", J. Phys. G41 (2014)**



**Cold plate**



**Space Frame**

# Extra Lightweight Detector Support Structures for the Inner tracking System

## of the MPD experiment MPD Outer Barrel Stave

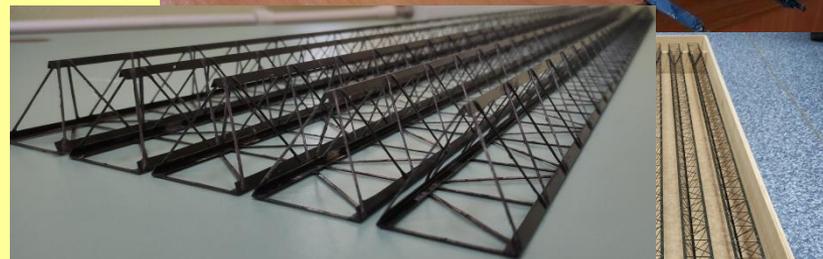
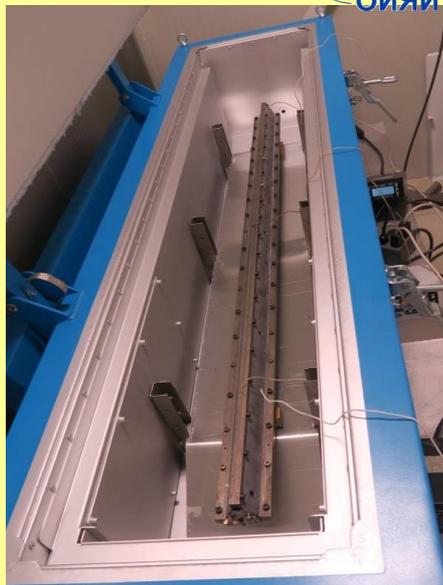


St. Petersburg  
University



1) The technology of production of Extra Lightweight Detector Support Structures was modified for Russian prepreg «НИИКАМ-PC/M55» (Research Institute of Space and Aviation Materials)

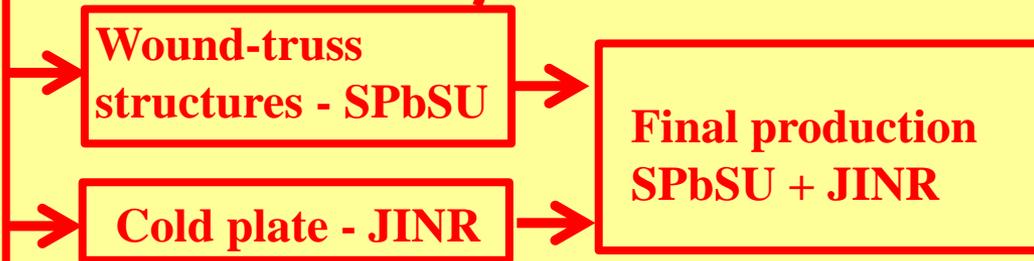
2) The studies of mechanical, space, deformation characteristics produced structures were done



30 Wound-truss structures were produced at SPbSU and shipped to JINR

S.N. Igolkin, G.A. Feofilov, [RF Patent no. 2396168](#) and [RF Patent no. 79268 U1 PФ.МИК B29C 53/56, 2008](#)

For the MPD ITS Extra Lightweight Detector Support Structures the new technology for cold plate, wound-truss structures have been developed at SPbSU



## Summary

- 1) The technologies for the vertex detectors at the NICA collider experiments together with new ultra-light radiation-transparent carbon fiber support structures as basic elements for these detectors and CMOS monolithic active pixel sensors are discussed
- 2) Experimental set-ups for the characterization of pixel sensors have been developed, constructed and tested.
- 3) The characteristics and properties of new pixel sensors were investigated in context of the NICA collider experiments tasks.
- 4) The Extra Lightweight Detector Support Structures were produced for the Inner Tracker of MPD NICA

For more read see: V.I. Zhrebchevsky, V.P. Kondratiev, V.V. Vechernin, S.N. Igolkin, Nuclear Inst. and Methods, A 985 (2021), 164668.

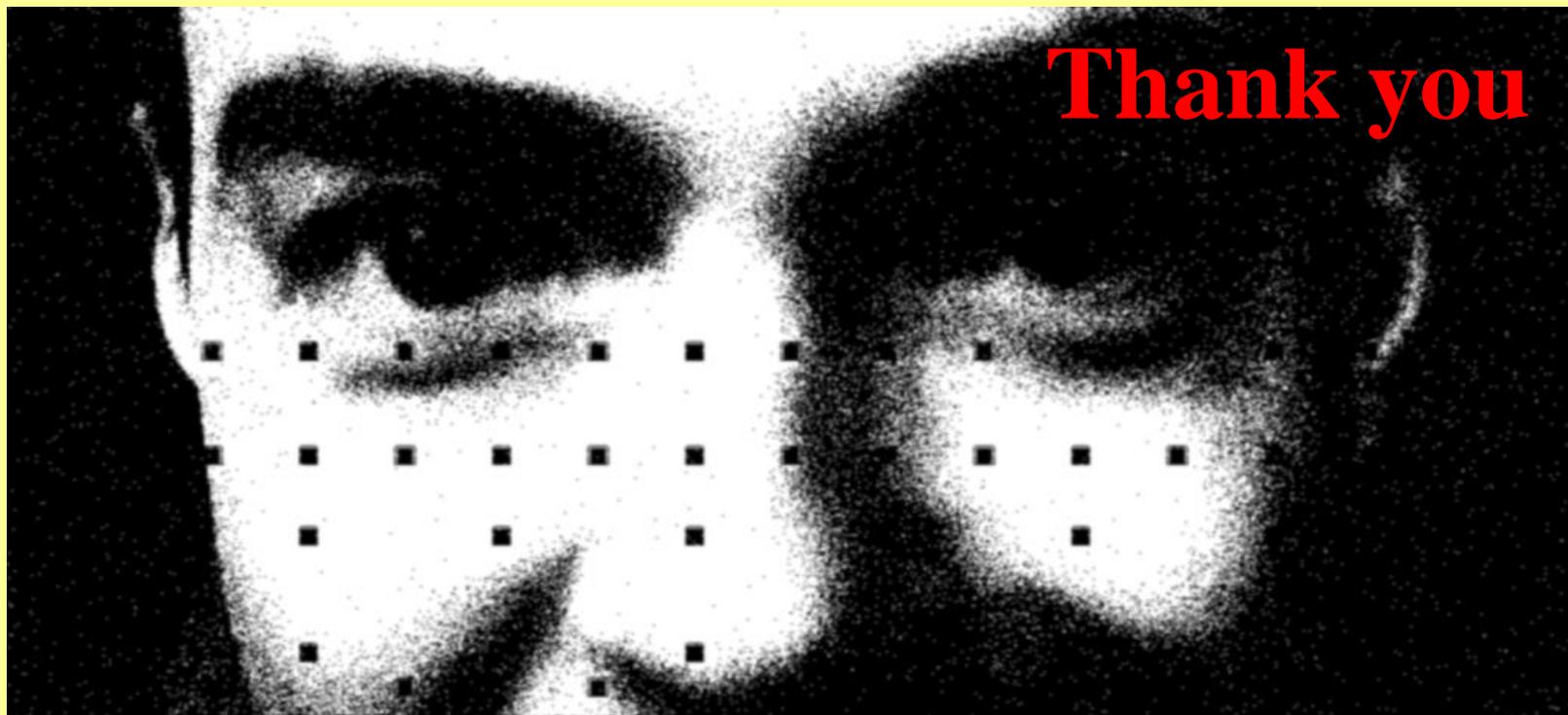
V. I. Zhrebchevsky, S. N. Igolkin, G.A. Feofilov et al., Bull. of the Russian Academy of Sciences: Physics, 2022, Vol. 86, No. 8, pp. 948–955

## Next plans

1. Modernization of Experimental set-up for new beam measurements at JINR, PNPI.
2. Studies of the pixel sensors characteristics using electron beams (LINAC-200) and NUCLOTRON beams in JINR.
3. Studies of the pixel sensors characteristics at Petersburg Nuclear Physics Institute (Gatchina) 1 GeV protons primary beam. Secondary pions 750 MeV/c
4. Studies of the pixel sensors characteristics at the Ioffe Physical-Technical Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences Cyclotron: heavy Ions up to 6 MeV/u, from  $^1\text{p}$  up to Ar

# Extra Lightweight Detector Support Structures at SPbSU





# BACK-UP SLIDES