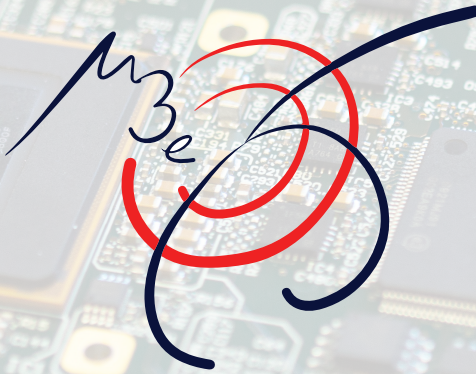


# The Data Acquisition of the Mu3e Experiment



Niklaus Berger

Institut für Kernphysik, Johannes-Gutenberg Universität Mainz  
for the Mu3e Collaboration

IEEE RealTime  
October 2020

# Overview



Searching for charged lepton flavour violation:

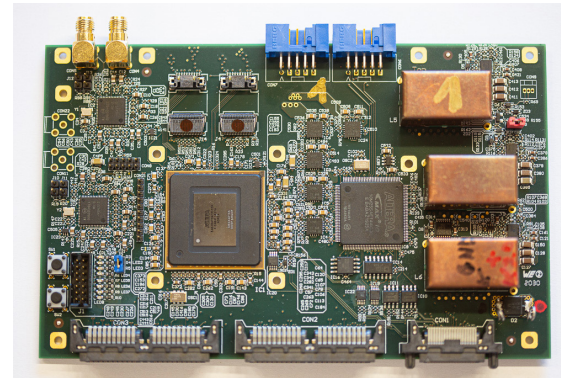
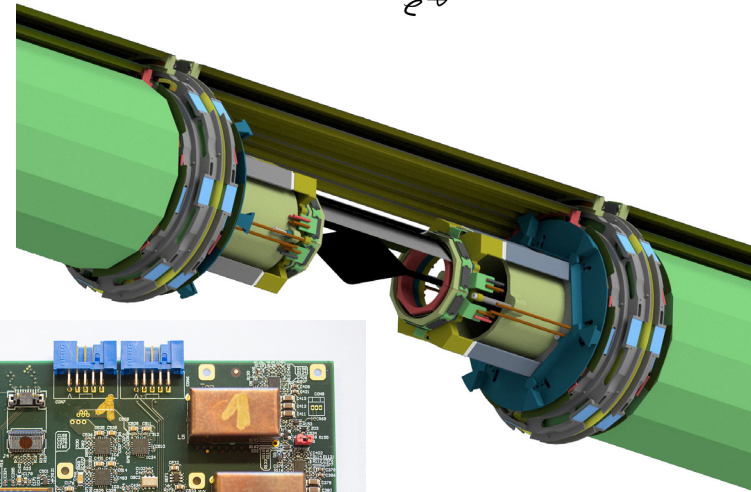
- The Mu3e experiment

100 Gbit/s streaming readout:

- The Mu3e data acquisition

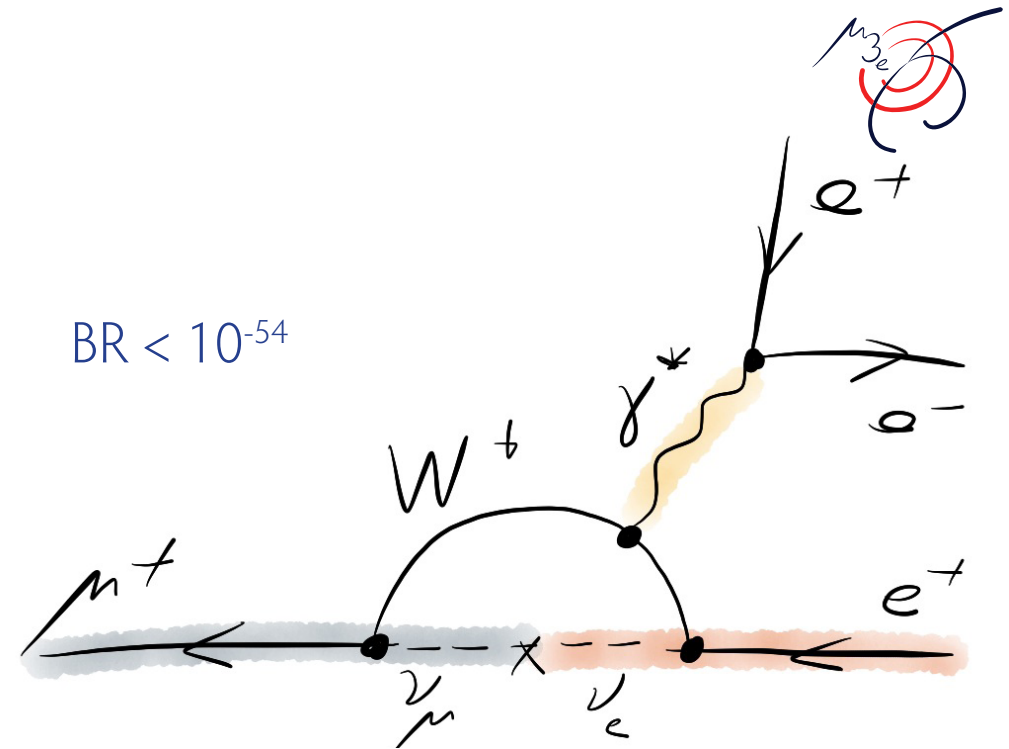
$> 10^9$  track fits/s on GPUs:

- The Mu3e filter farm



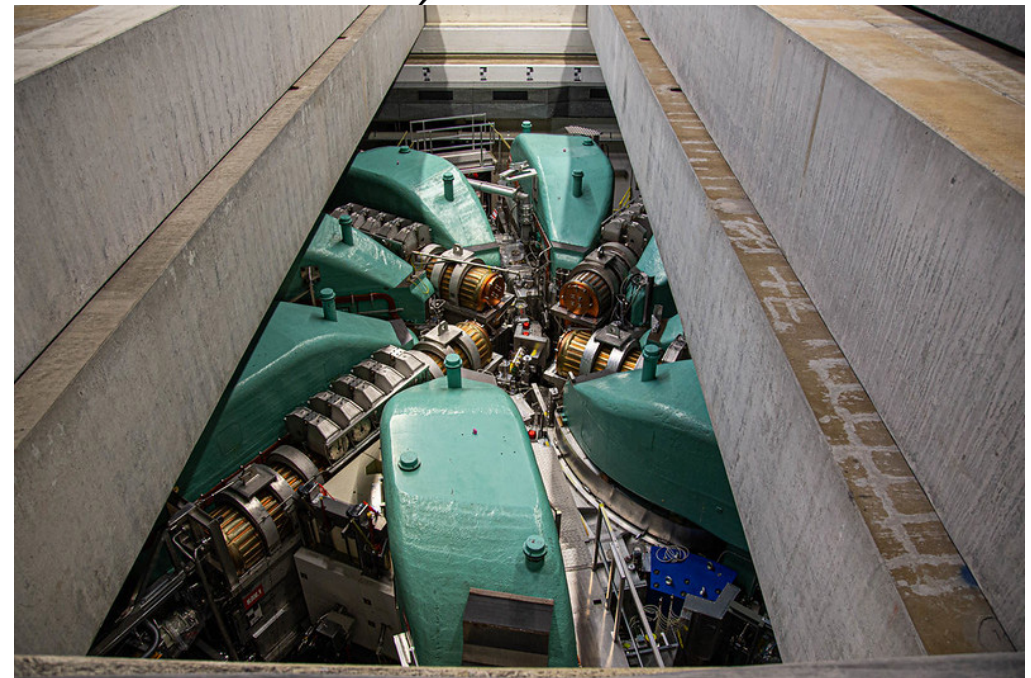
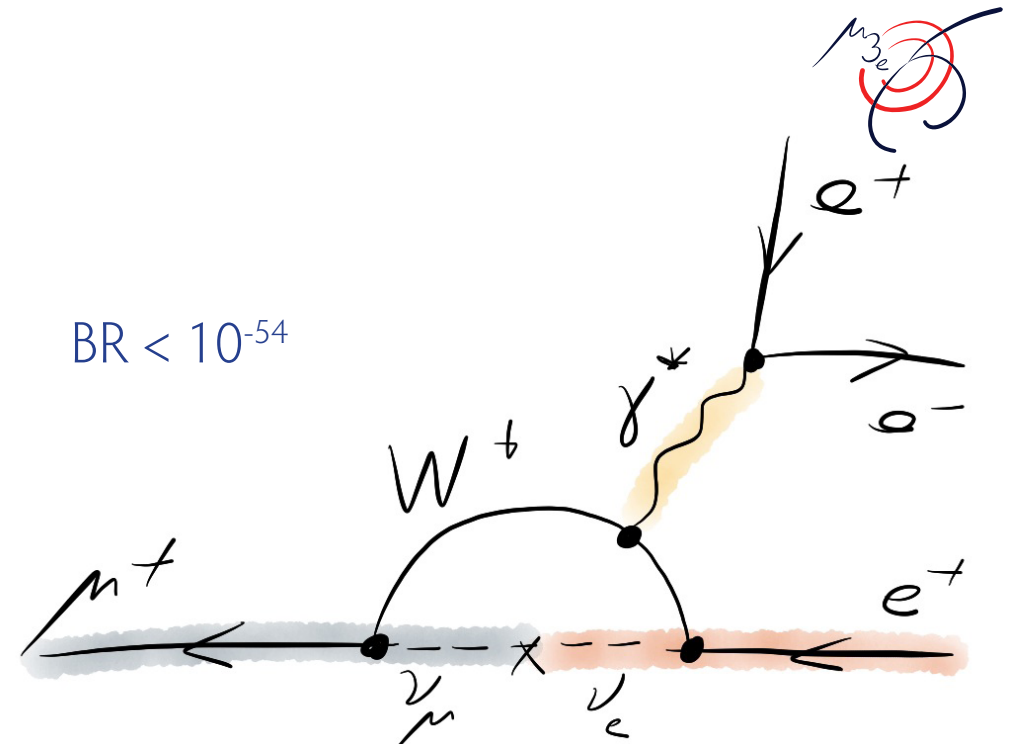
# Searching for $\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+e^-e^+$

- Lepton flavour violating muon decays
- Extremely low branching fractions in the Standard Model
- Excellent probes for new physics
- $\text{BR}(\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+e^-e^+) < 10^{-12}$  (SINDRUM, 1988)



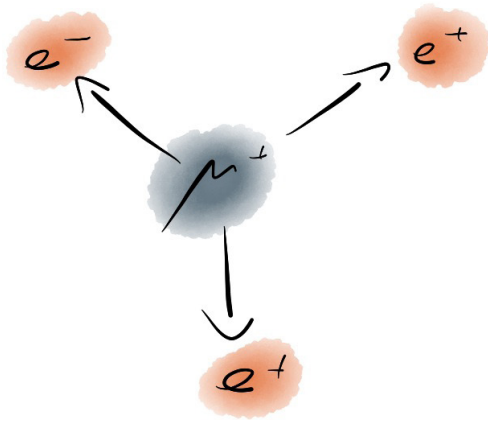
# Searching for $\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+e^-e^+$

- Lepton flavour violating muon decays
- Extremely low branching fractions in the Standard Model
- Excellent probes for new physics
- $\text{BR}(\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+e^-e^+) < 10^{-12}$  (SINDRUM, 1988)
- Mu3e aims for a sensitivity of 1 in  $10^{16}$
- Very intense muon beam: Paul Scherrer Institute (PSI), Villigen, Switzerland
- $2 \cdot 10^{15}$  in a first phase at an existing beam line with  $10^8$  muons/s - this talk
- Plans for new high-intensity muon beam line (HiMB) with  $> 10^9$  muons/s





# Signal and Background

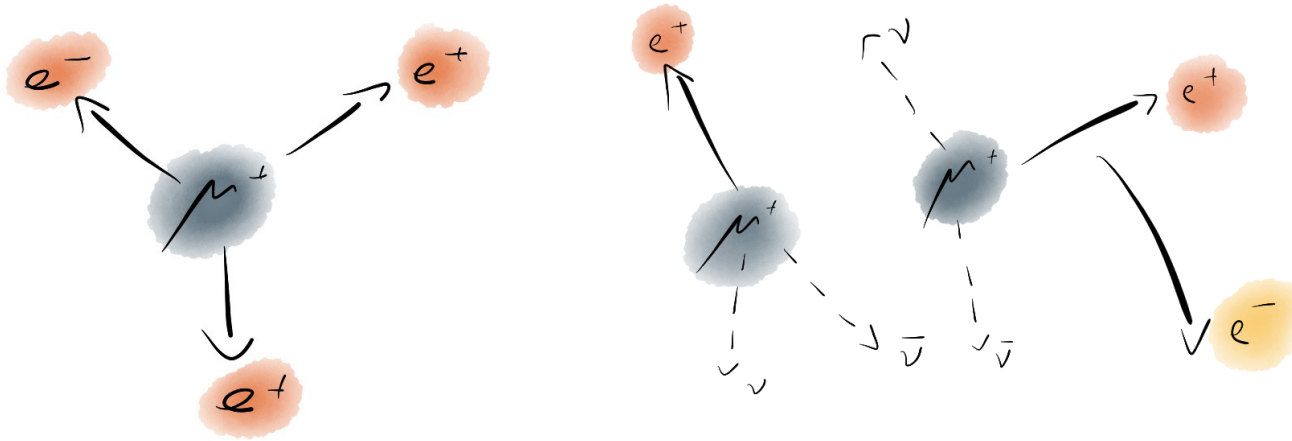


## Signal

- $\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+e^-e^+$  at rest
- Two positrons, one electron
- From same vertex
- Same time
- $\sum p_e = m_\mu$
- Maximum momentum:  
 $\frac{1}{2} m_\mu = 53 \text{ MeV}/c$



# Signal and Background



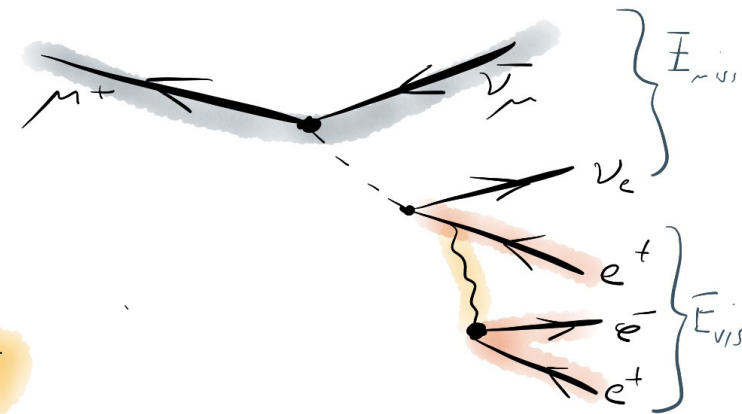
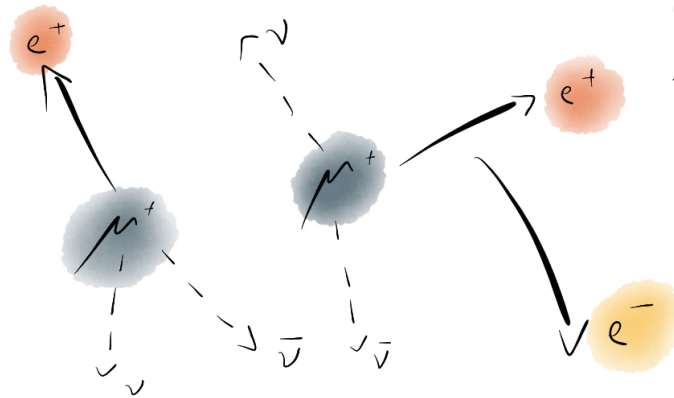
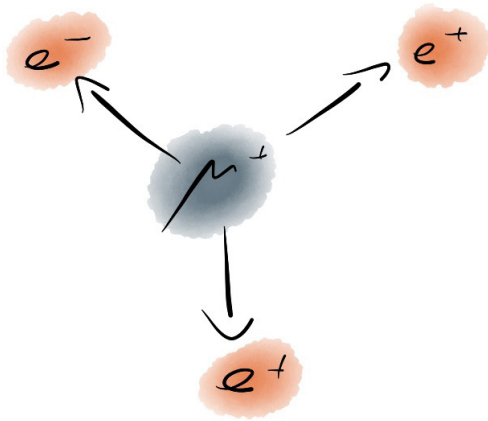
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## Accidental Background

- Several muon decays
- Plus an electron
- Need good vertexing
- Need good timing

# Signal and Background



## Signal

- $\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+e^-e^+$  at rest
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- From same vertex
- Same time
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- Maximum momentum:  
 $\frac{1}{2} m_\mu = 53 \text{ MeV}/c$

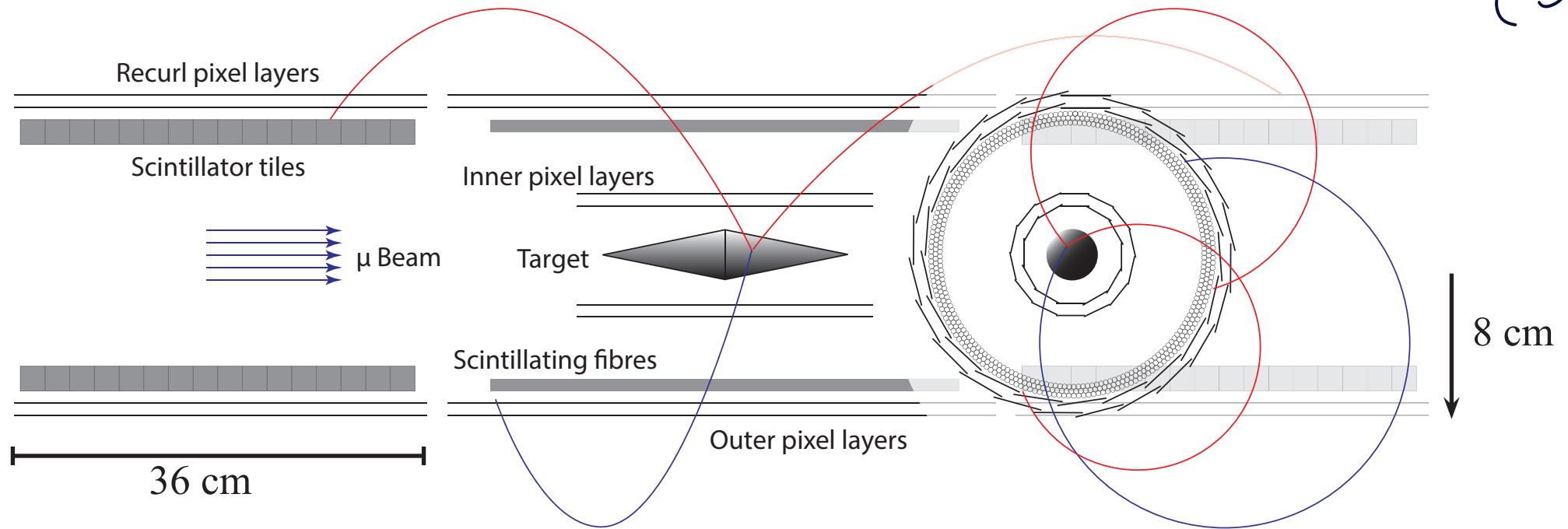
## Accidental Background

- Several muon decays
- Plus an electron
- Need good vertexing
- Need good timing

## Internal conversion decay

- Allowed rare decay
- $\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+e^-e^+\nu\bar{\nu}$
- Detect missing energy carried by neutrinos
- Need excellent momentum reconstruction

# The Mu3e Detector



- 1 T solenoid field
- Helium atmosphere to reduce scattering and for cooling
- Minimize material to minimize scattering
- Ultra-thin layers of high-voltage monolithic active pixel sensors (HV-MAPS)
- Scintillating fibres and tiles for improved timing measurements
- Long lever arm of recurling tracks gives precise momentum measurement

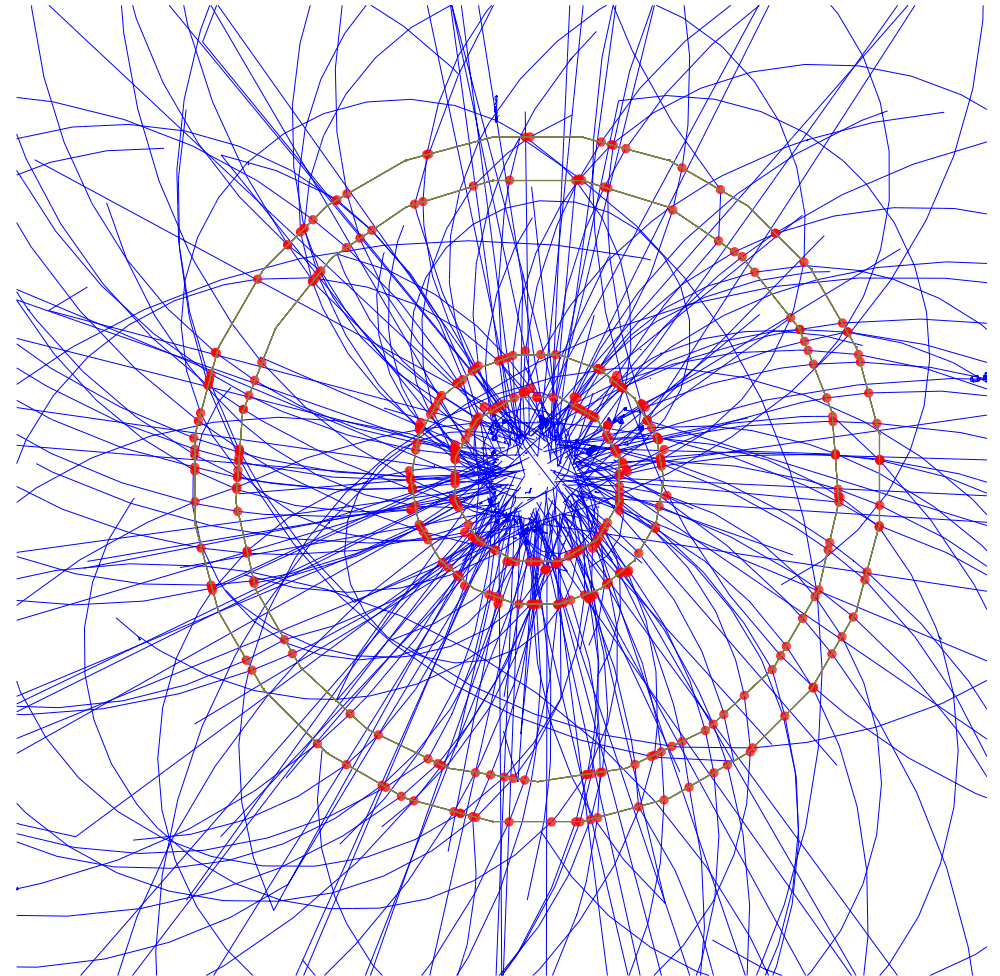




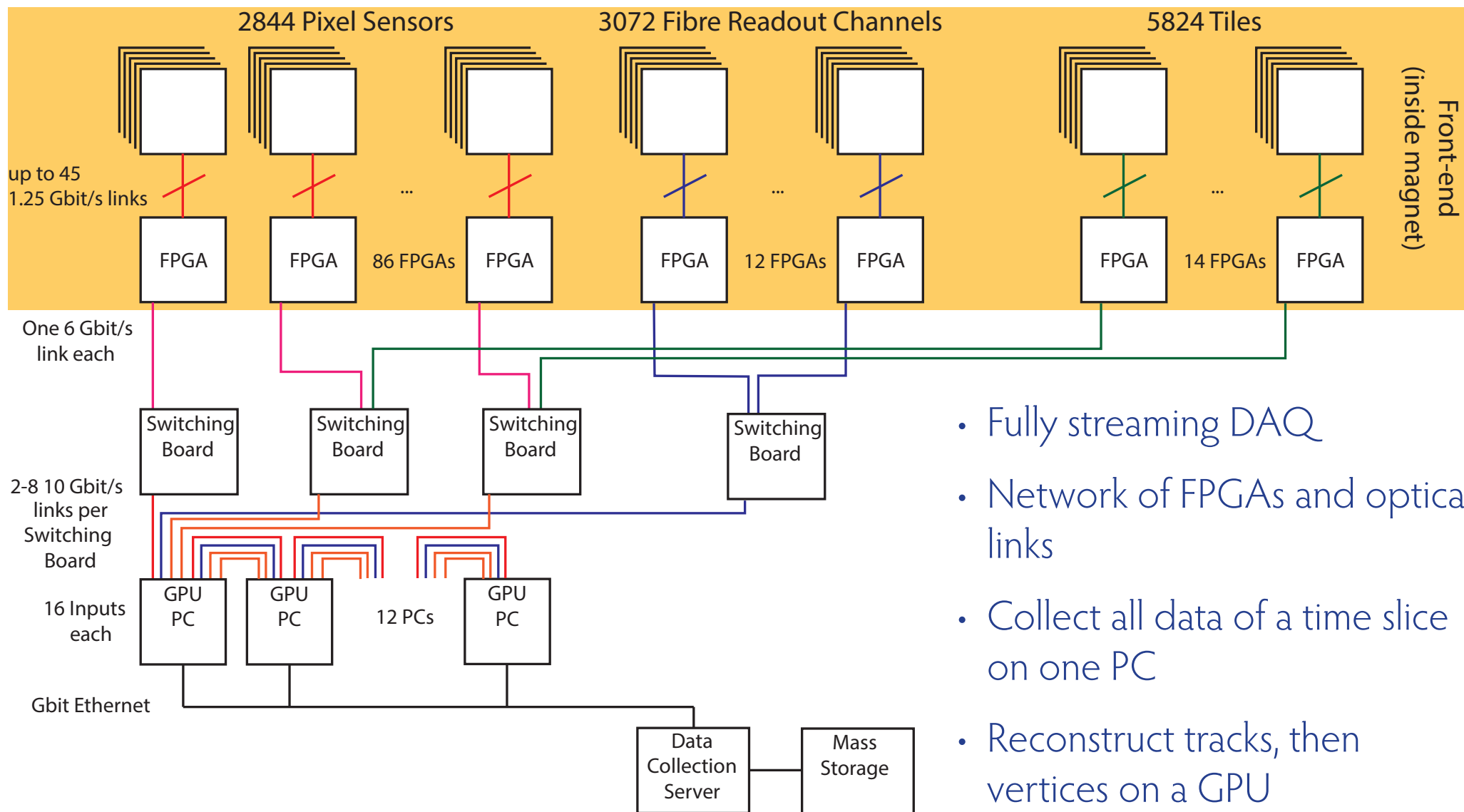
# Requirements for the data acquisition



- Up to  $10^8$  muon decays/s
- 2844 MuPix sensors with 182 million pixels
- 8896 SiPM readout channels - 278 MuTrig TDC ASICs
- $\sim 100$  Gbit/s data after zero suppression on ASICs
- Highly non-local signal signature
- Can write about 100 MB/s to mass storage



# DAQ Design

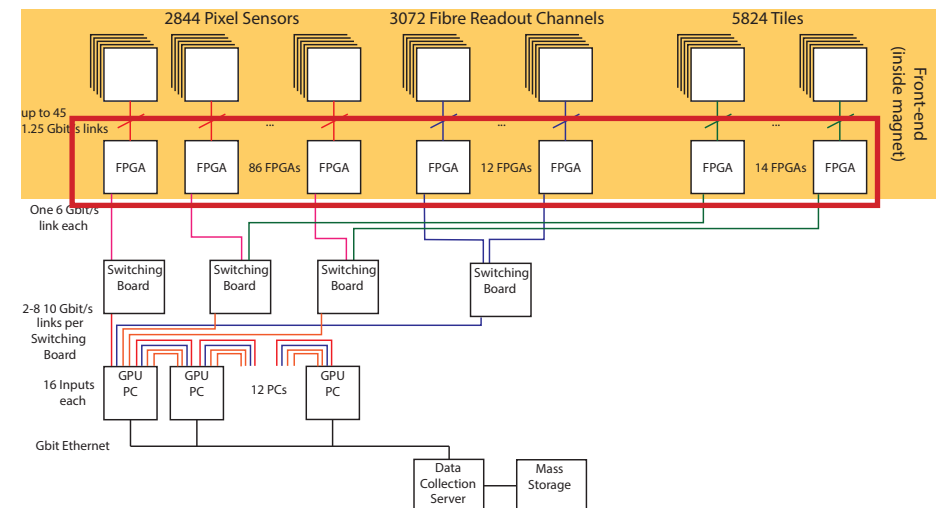
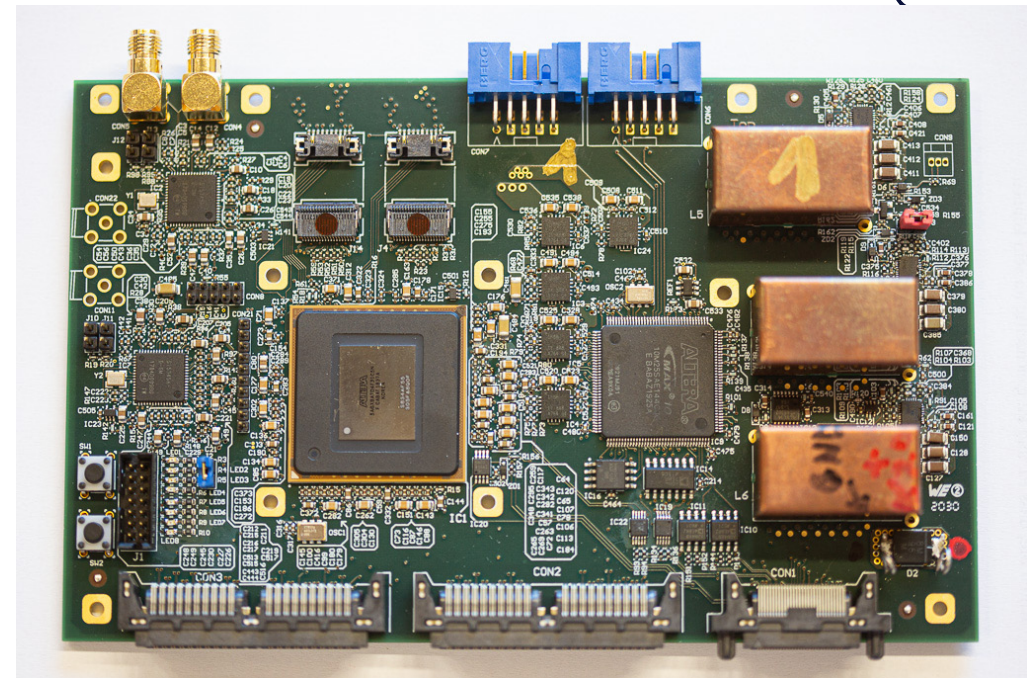


- Fully streaming DAQ
- Network of FPGAs and optical links
- Collect all data of a time slice on one PC
- Reconstruct tracks, then vertices on a GPU
- Write interesting events to disk

# Front-end board



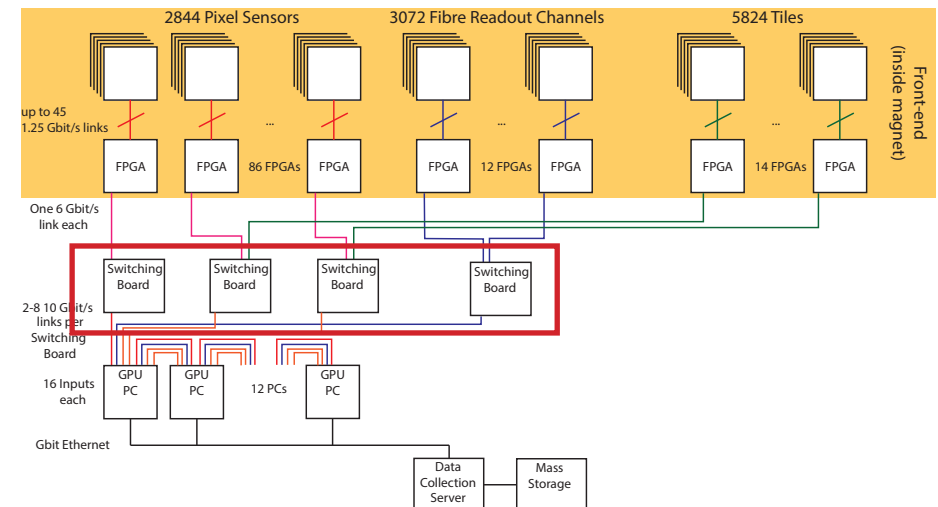
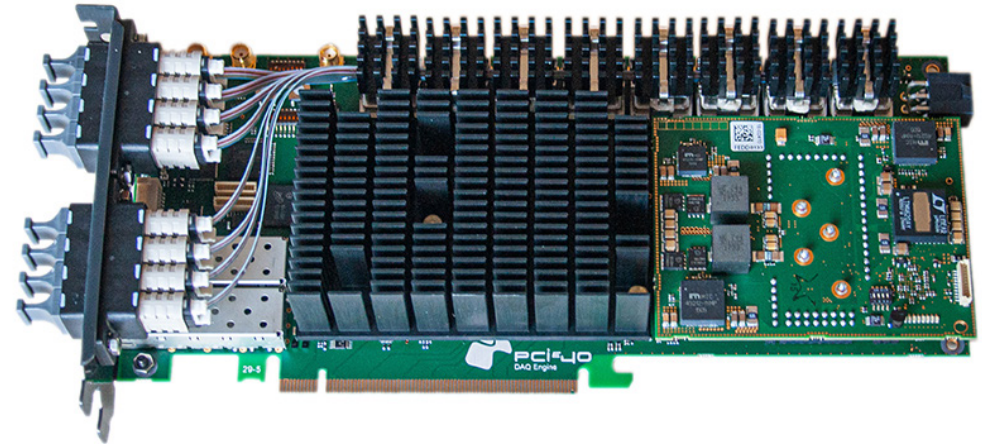
- Operates in magnet and helium atmosphere, space is tight
- Up to 45 1.25 Gbit/s LVDS inputs from detector ASICs
- Intel Arria V A7 FPGA for time-sorting and clustering of hits
- Output to a 6 Gbit/s optical link on a Samtec Firefly Transceiver
- Two SiLabs 5345 jitter cleaners and clock multipliers provide FPGA and detector clocks
- Intel MAX10 FPGA for configuration and monitoring
- Air-coil DC/DC converters for powering



# Switching board



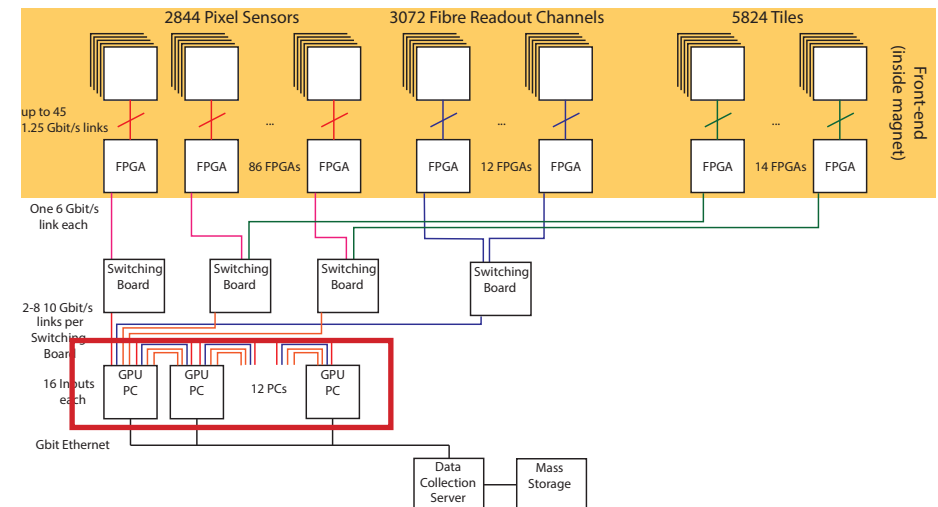
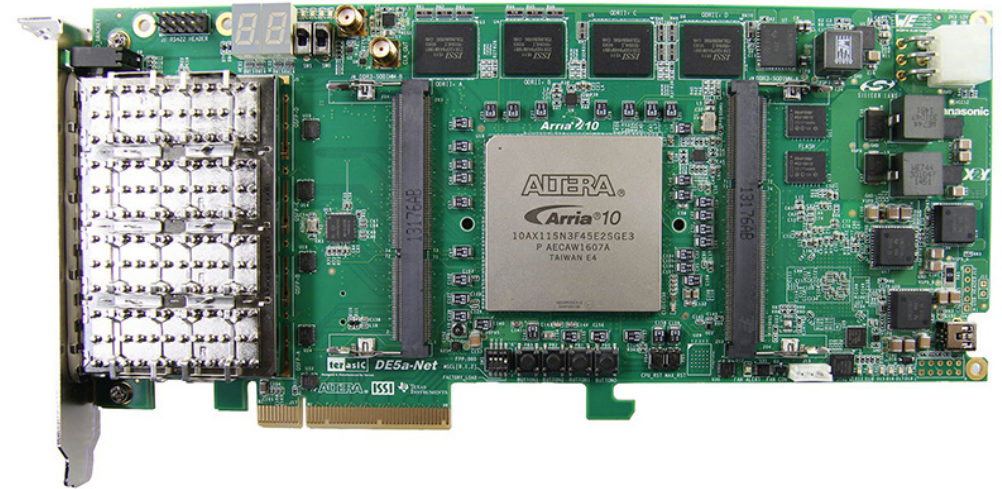
- Operates in a PC case
- Up to 37 front-end board inputs (and control lines)
- Up to eight 10 Gbit/s outputs to filter farm
- Use PCIe40 board developed in Marseilles for LHCb and ALICE upgrades
- Intel Arria 10 - 115 FPGA
- Avago MiniPod Transmitters and Receivers
- Two 8-lane PCIe 3.0 interfaces (used for control and monitoring data)



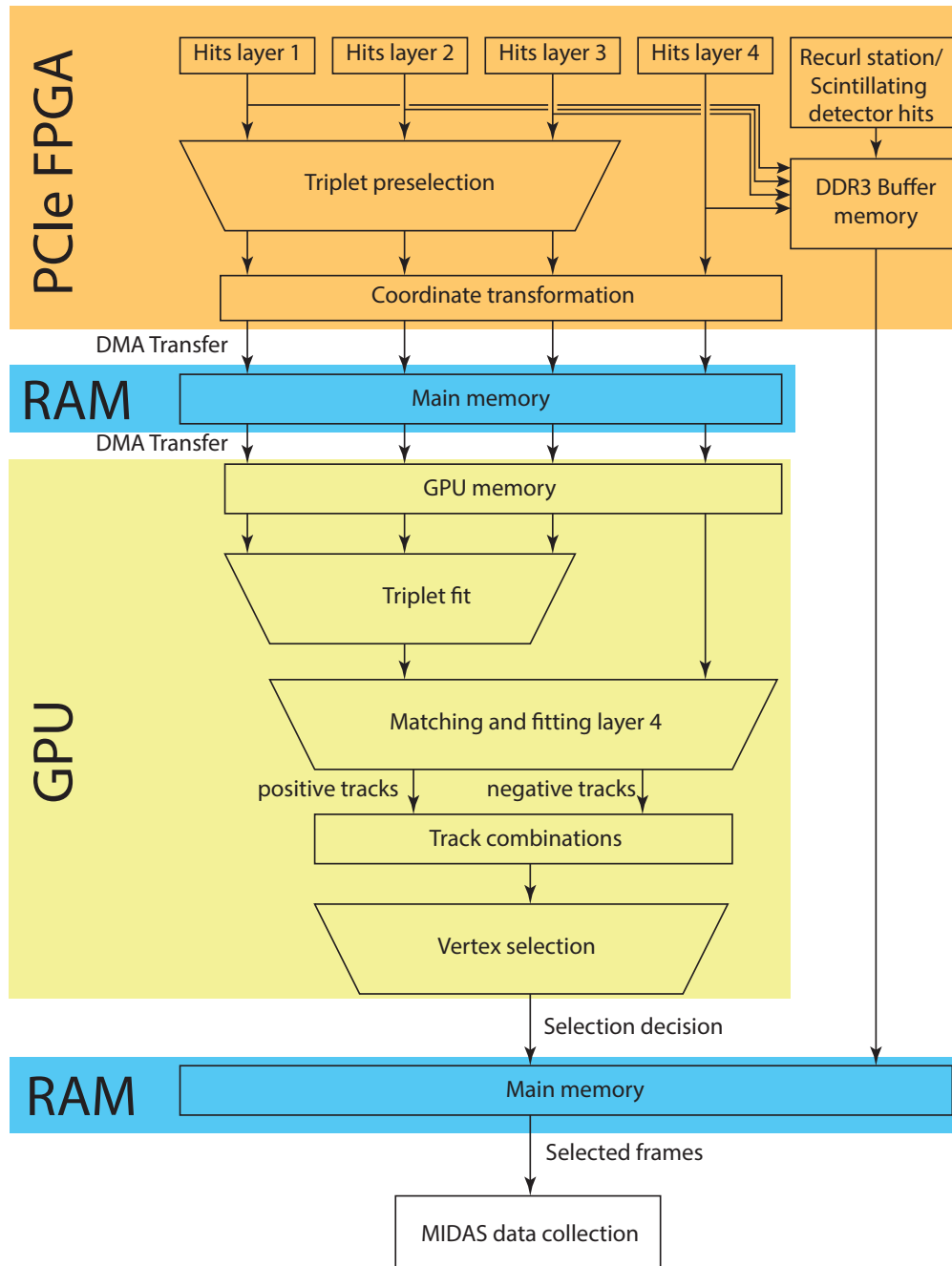
# Receiving board



- Operates in a PC case, together with a GPU
- 16 10 Gbit/s inputs and outputs (daisy chain)
- Use commercial DE5A NET board from Terasic Inc.
- Intel Arria 10 - 115 FPGA
- DDR 3/4 memory for buffering
- QSFP Transmitters and Receivers
- 8-lane PCIe 3.0 interface



# Farm data flow



- Buffer all incoming data in DDR memory
- Use subset from central detector for track and vertex finding on a GPU
- If interesting: Get full data from buffer, send to PC
- Up to 38 Gbit/s PCIe DMA transfers using custom firmware and driver
- After full reconstruction: Send off to mass storage
- Use the MIDAS software for data collection, detector control and monitoring etc. (see talk by Stefan Ritt)

# GPU reconstruction



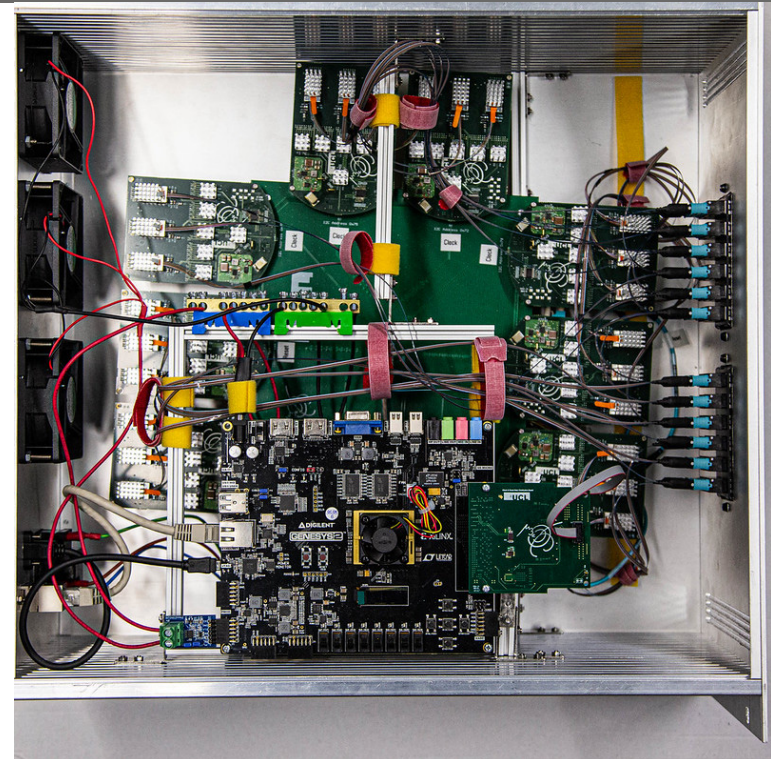
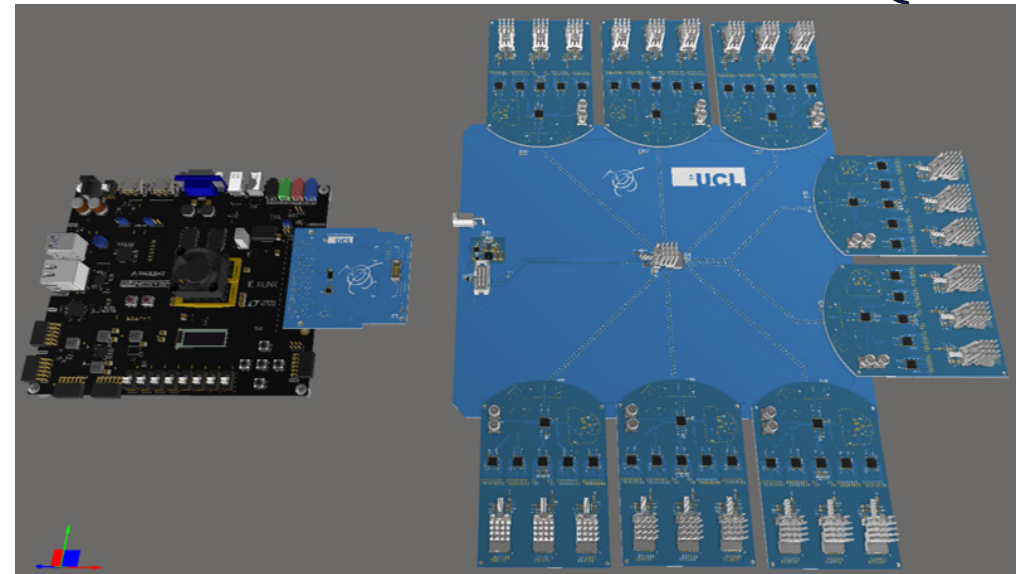
- GPU reconstruction on gaming cards
- Have achieved  $> 10^9$  track fits/s per GPUs (Nvidia GTX 980)
- Twelve GTX 1080Ti are sufficient for dealing with  $10^8$  muon decays/s
- Excited about the possibilities with the latest cards...



# System synchronization



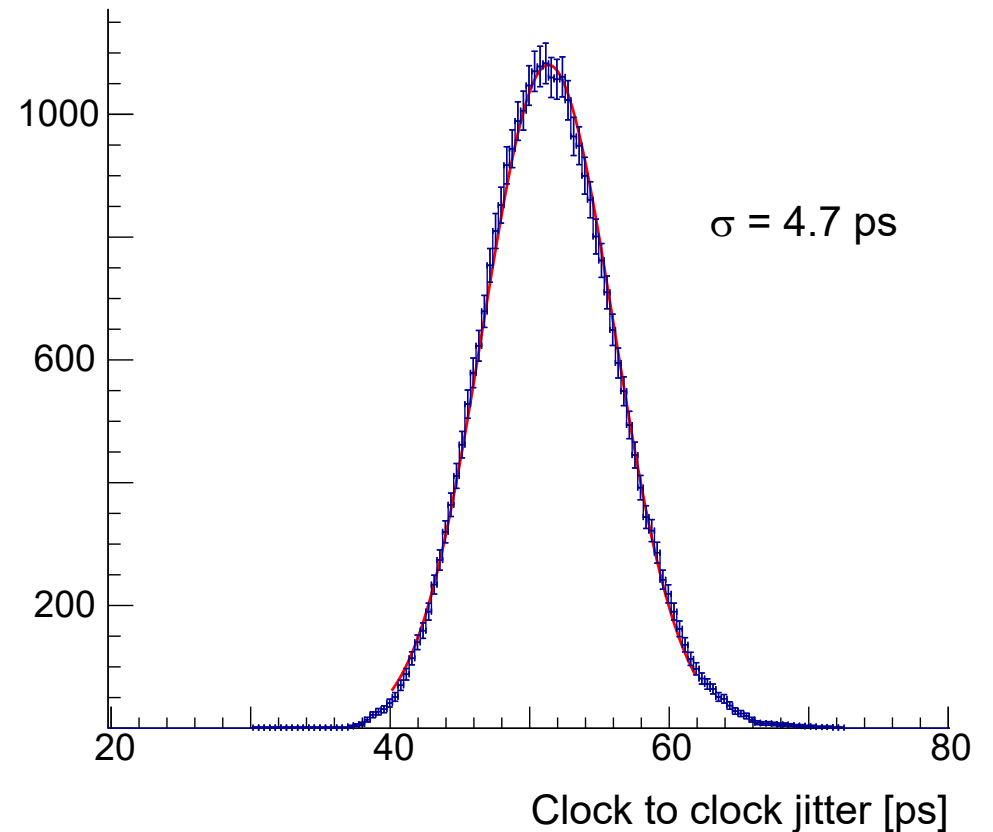
- Produce 144 copies of the 125 MHz system clock
- Produce 144 copies of the 1.25 Gbit/s, 8bit/10bit encoded reset and state transition signal
- Digilent Genesys FPGA board
- Samtec Firefly optical transmitters



# System synchronization



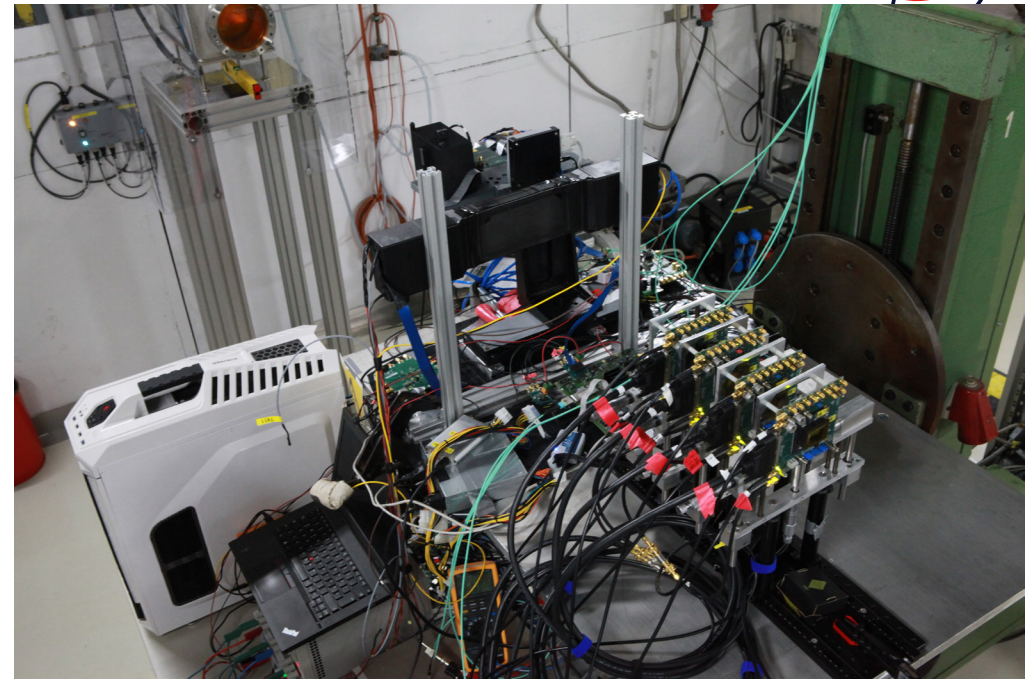
- Produce 144 copies of the 125 MHz system clock
- Produce 144 copies of the 1.25 Gbit/s, 8bit/10bit encoded reset and state transition signal
- Digilent Genesys FPGA board
- Samtec Firefly optical transmitters
- Less than 10 ps clock-to-clock jitter



# Current status



- All commercial components available and tested
- All detectors have been read out via a prototype front-end board (see poster by Marius Köppel)
- Detector integration run inside magnet in December
- Full production of front-end boards and commissioning next year:  
Mu3e DAQ ready end of 2021
- Full detector ready end of 2022



# Summary

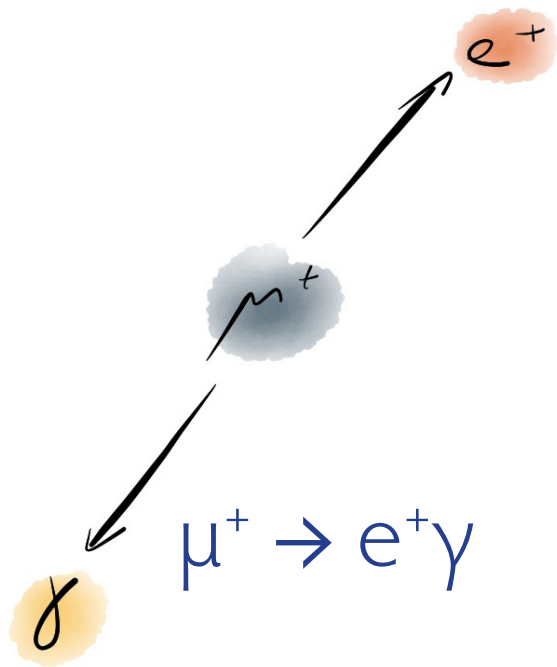


- Mu3e is searching for charged lepton flavour violation:  
Aiming for a sensitivity for  $\mu \rightarrow eee$  of one decay in  $10^{16}$
- Mu3e Phase I:  
Search for  $\mu \rightarrow eee$  with a sensitivity of  $2 \cdot 10^{-15}$   
-  $10^8$  muons/s and 100 Gbit/s data
- Mu3e DAQ:  
Optical links and FPGAs for transporting and sorting data
- Mu3e filter farm:  
>  $10^9$  tracks/s reconstructed on just a dozen GPUs
- For more:  
Just put out our TDR: [arXiv:2009.11690](https://arxiv.org/abs/2009.11690)

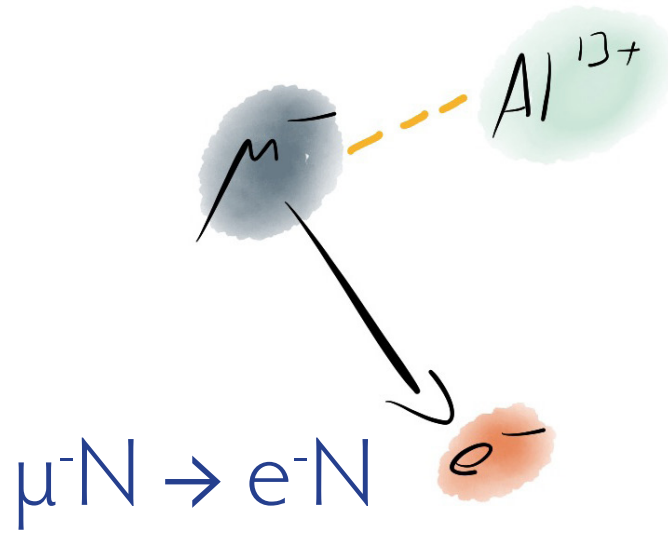


# Backup

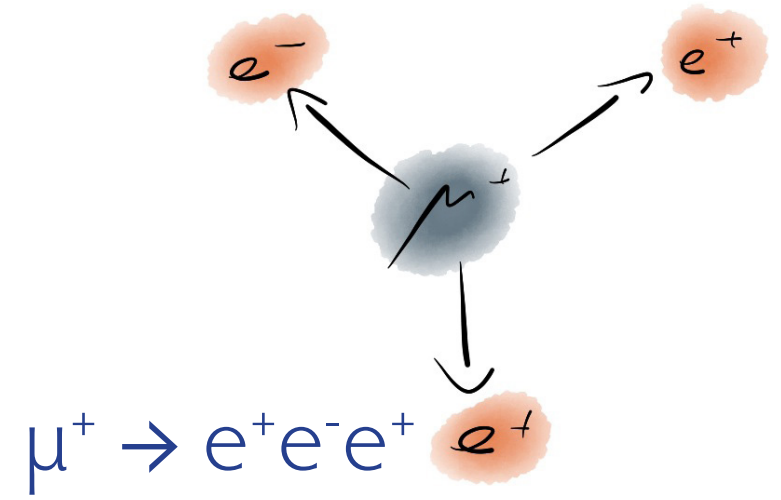
# LFV Muon Decays



$$\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \gamma$$

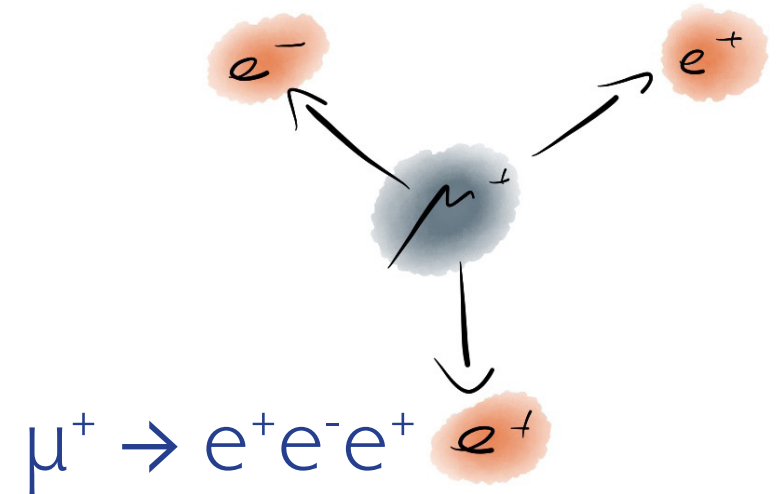
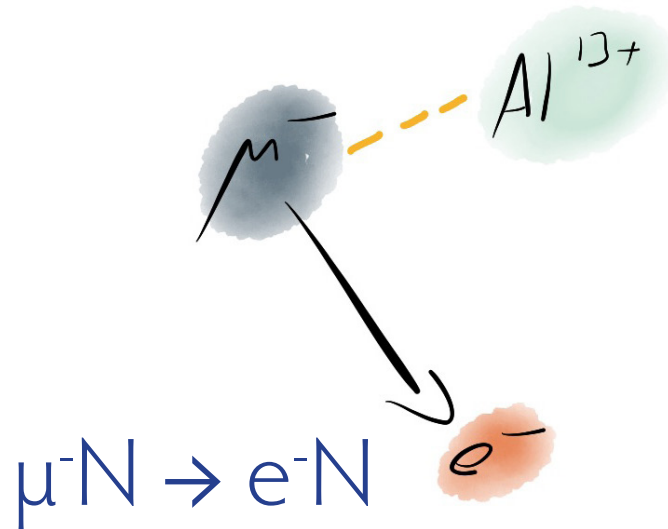
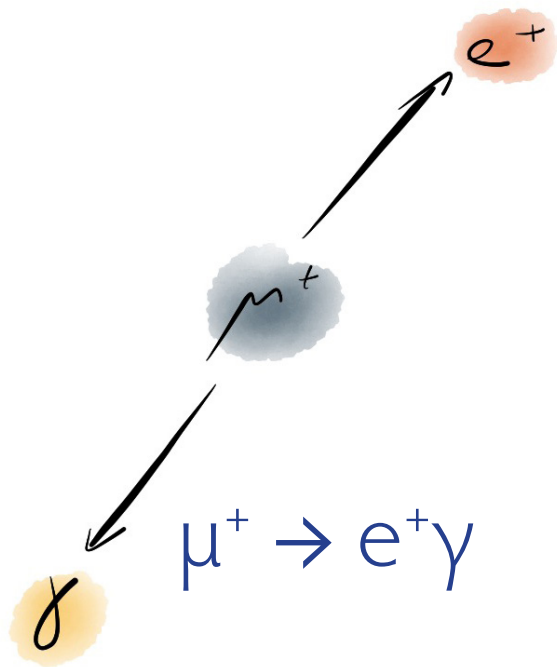


$$\mu^- N \rightarrow e^- N$$



$$\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ e^- e^+$$

# LFV Muon Decays: Experimental Situation



MEG (PSI)

$$B(\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \gamma) < 4.2 \cdot 10^{-13}$$

(2016)

SINDRUM II (PSI)

$$B(\mu^- \text{Au} \rightarrow e^- \text{Au}) < 7 \cdot 10^{-13}$$

(2006)

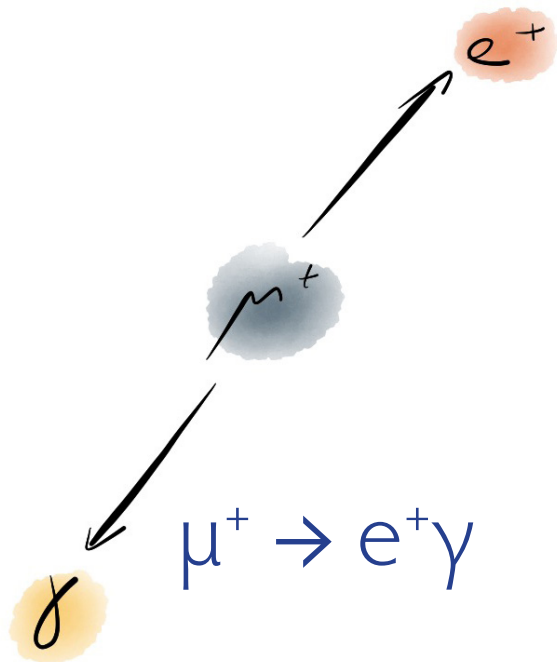
relative to nuclear capture

SINDRUM (PSI)

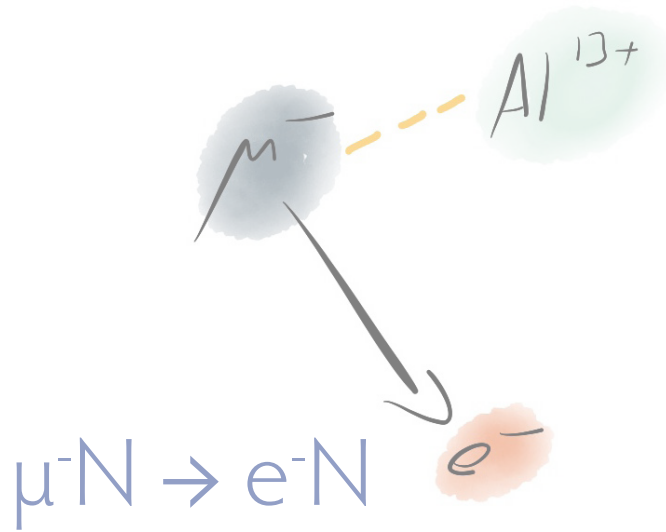
$$B(\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ e^- e^+) < 1.0 \cdot 10^{-12}$$

(1988)

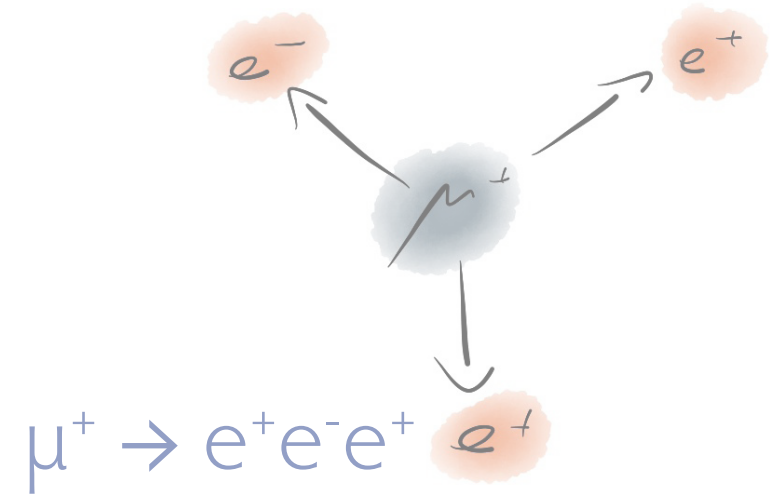
# LFV Muon Decays: Experimental signatures



$$\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \gamma$$



$$\mu^- N \rightarrow e^- N$$



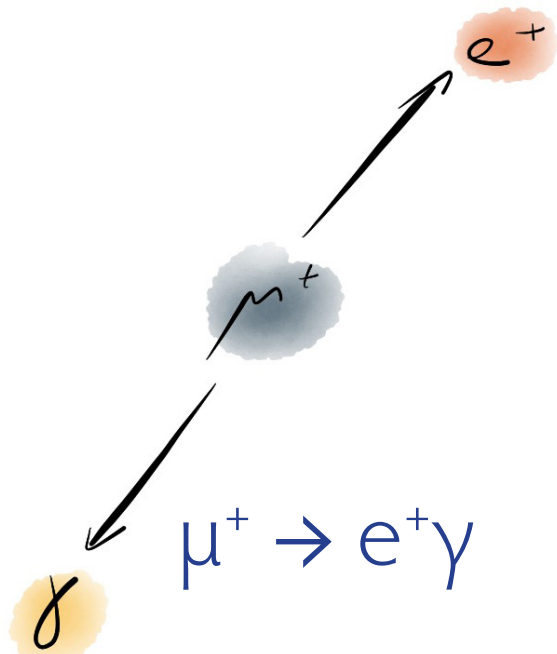
$$\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ e^- e^+$$

## Kinematics

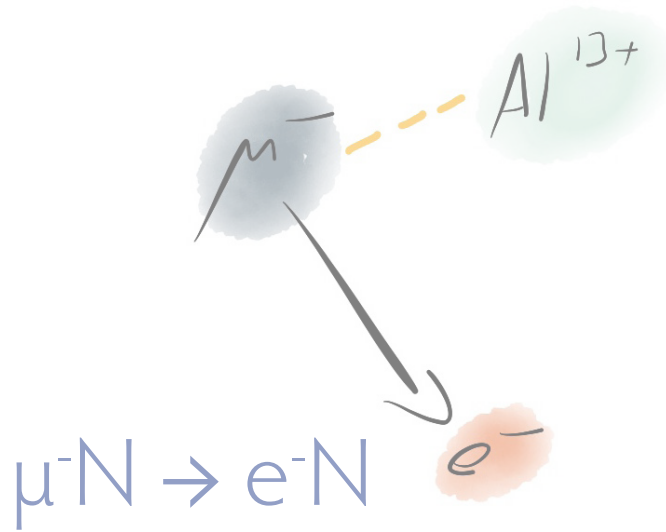
- 2-body decay
- Monoenergetic  $e^+$ ,  $\gamma$
- Back-to-back



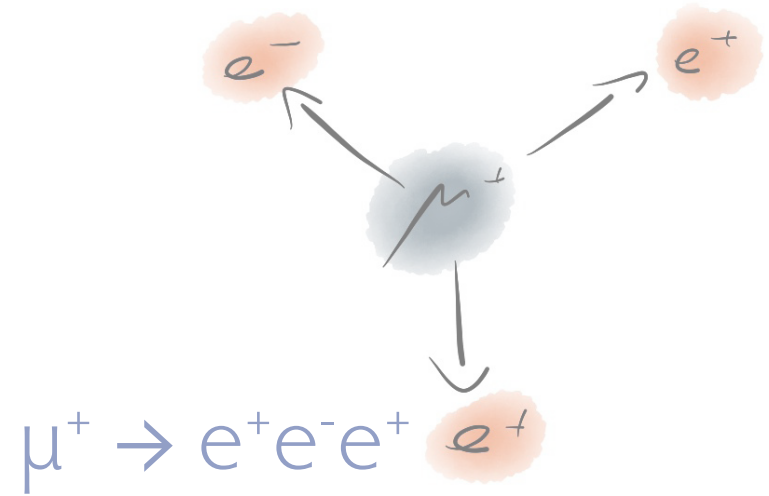
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$$\mu^- N \rightarrow e^- N$$



$$\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ e^- e^+$$

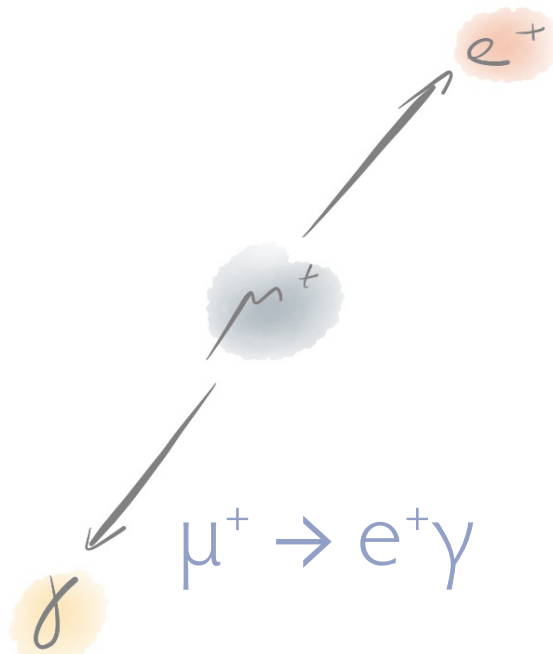
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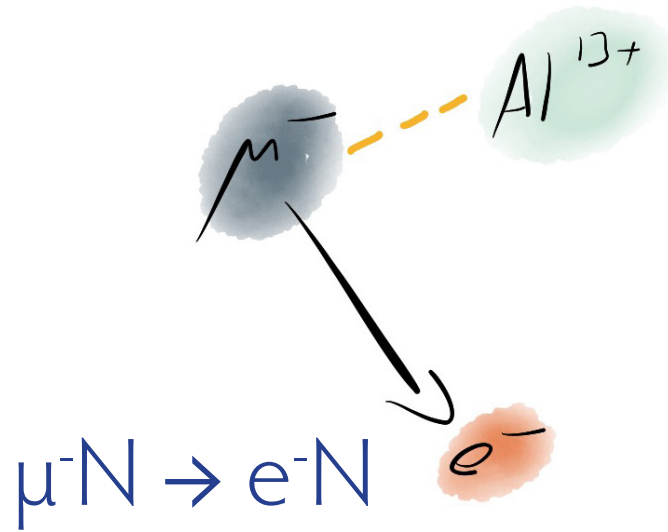
## Background

- Accidental background
- Radiative decay

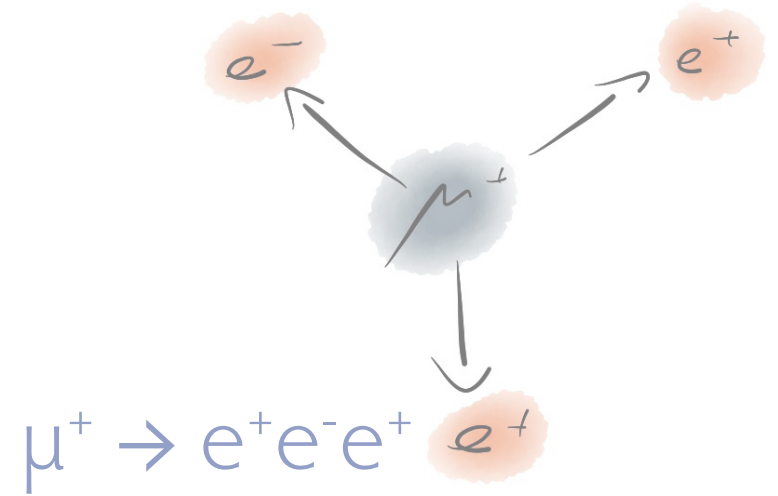
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$$\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \gamma$$



$$\mu^- N \rightarrow e^- N$$



$$\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ e^- e^+$$

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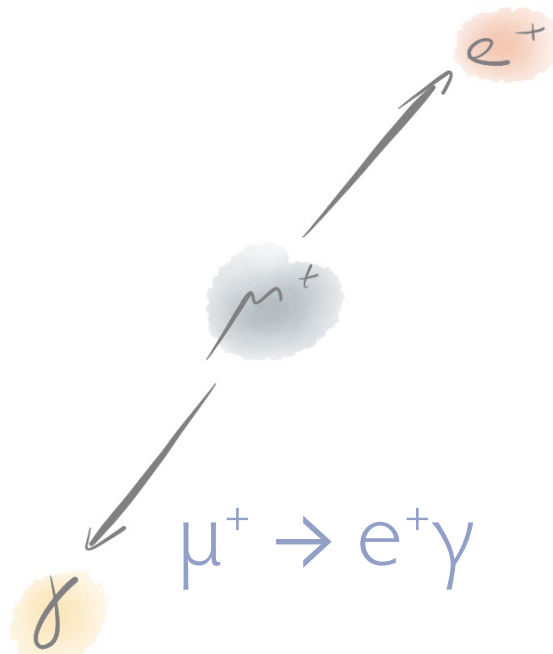
## Kinematics

- Quasi 2-body decay
- Monoenergetic  $e^-$
- Single particle detected

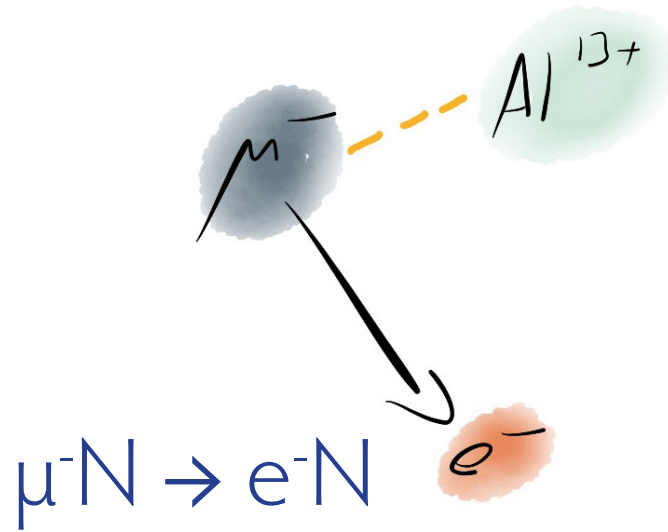
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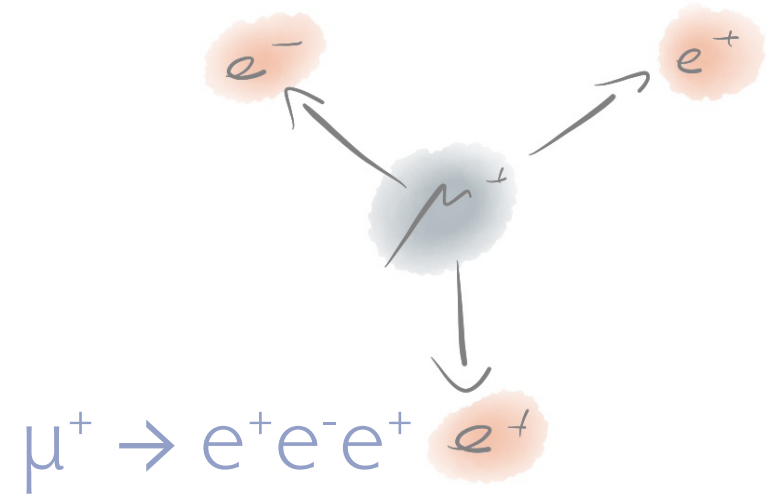
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$$\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ e^- e^+$$

## Kinematics

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## Background

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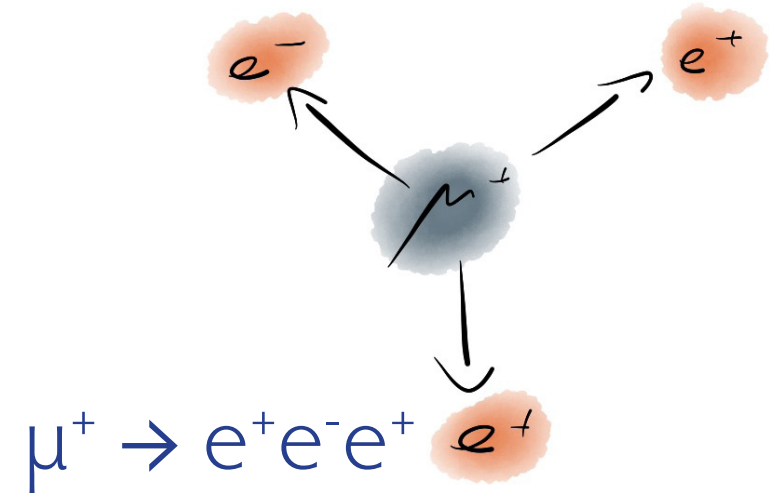
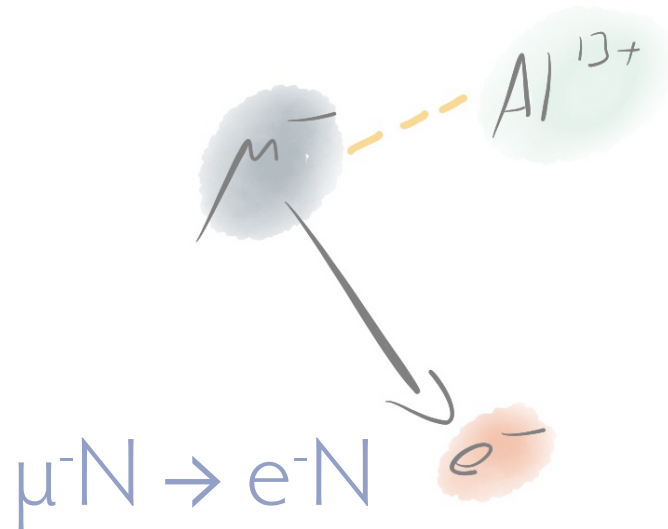
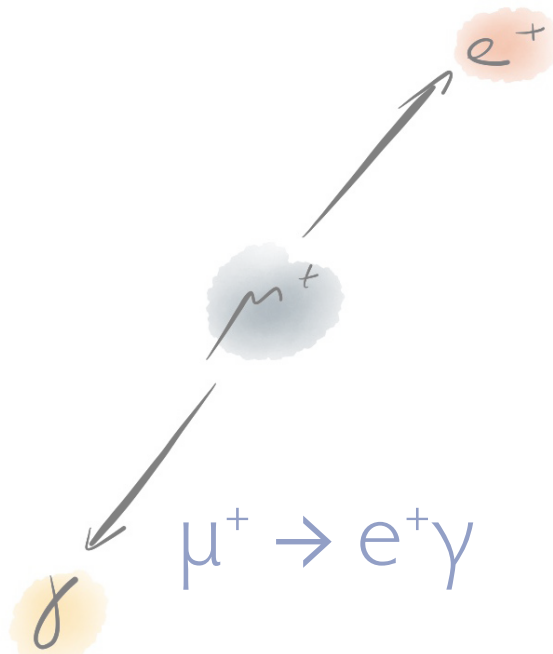
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- Single particle detected

## Background

- Decay in orbit
- Antiprotons, pions, cosmics

# LFV Muon Decays: Experimental signatures



## Kinematics

- 2-body decay
- Monoenergetic  $e^+$ ,  $\gamma$
- Back-to-back

## Background

- Accidental background
- Radiative decay

## Kinematics

- Quasi 2-body decay
- Monoenergetic  $e^-$
- Single particle detected

## Background

- Decay in orbit
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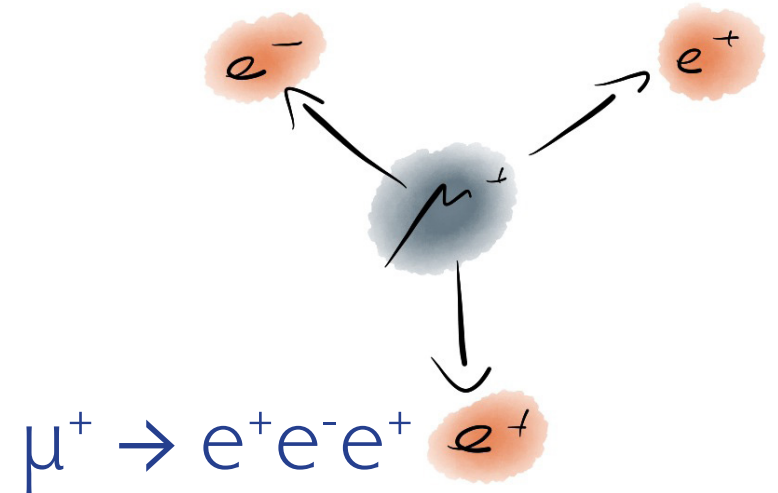
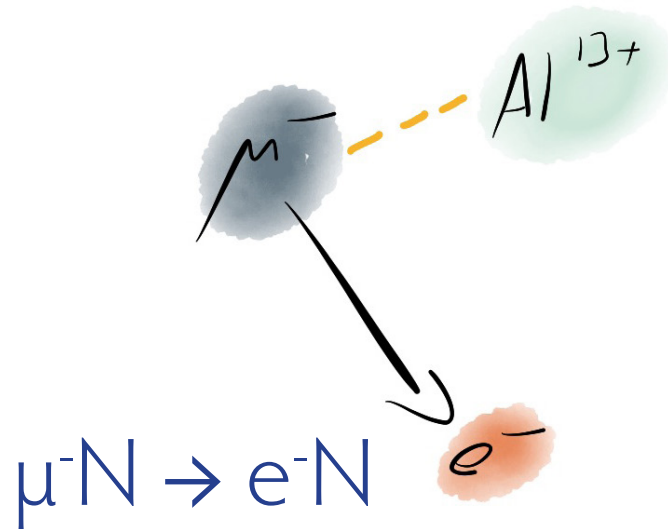
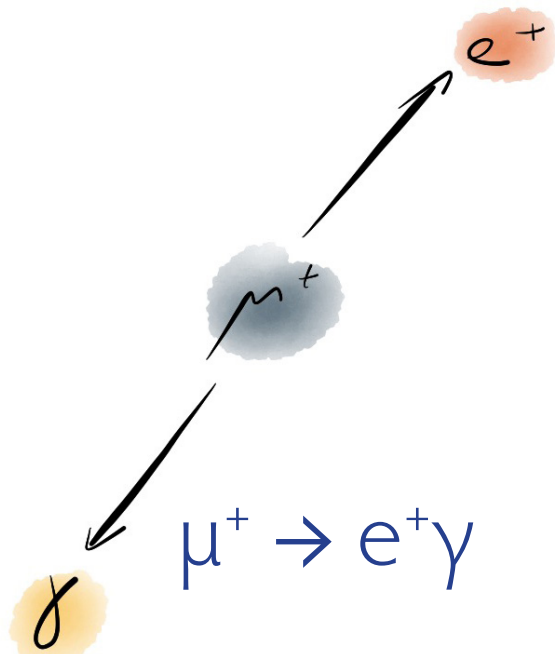
## Kinematics

- 3-body decay
- Invariant mass constraint
- $\sum p_i = 0$

## Background

- Internal conversion decay
- Accidental background

# LFV Muon Decays: Experimental signatures



## Kinematics

- 2-body decay
- Monoenergetic  $e^+$ ,  $\gamma$
- Back-to-back

## Background

- Accidental background
- Radiative decay

## Kinematics

- Quasi 2-body decay
- Monoenergetic  $e^-$
- Single particle detected

## Background

- Decay in orbit
- Antiprotons, pions, cosmics

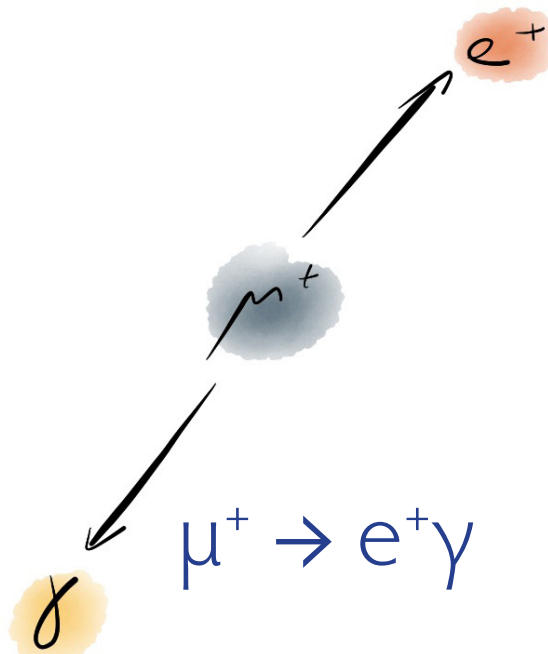
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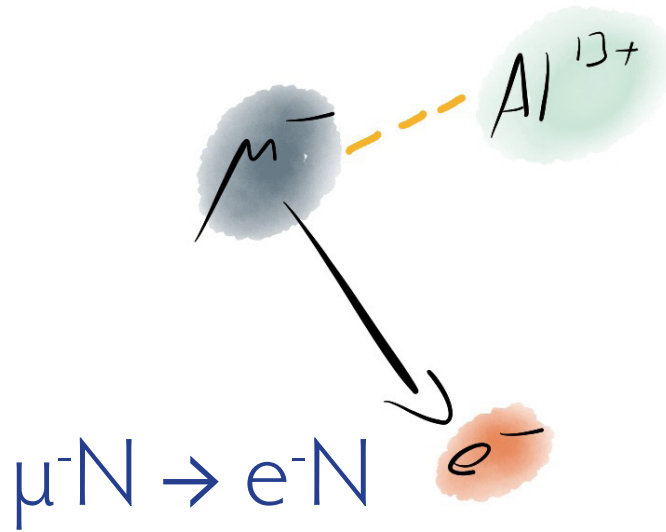
## Background

- Internal conversion decay
- Accidental background

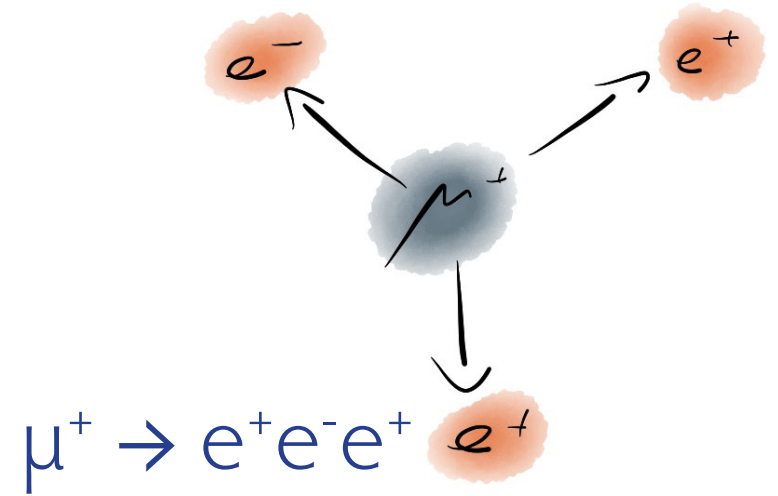
# LFV Muon Decays: Experimental signatures



$$\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \gamma$$



$$\mu^- N \rightarrow e^- N$$



$$\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ e^- e^+$$

## Kinematics

- 2-body decay
- Monoenergetic
- Back-to-back

## Background

- Atomic background

Continuous Beam

## Kinematics

- Quasi 2-body decay
- Monoenergetic
- Single particle detected

## Background

- $\Gamma$  orbit
- Atomic protons, pions

Pulsed Beam

## Kinematics

- 3-body decay
- Invariant mass constraint
- $\sum p_i = 0$

## Background

- Radiative decay
- Atomic background

Continuous Beam



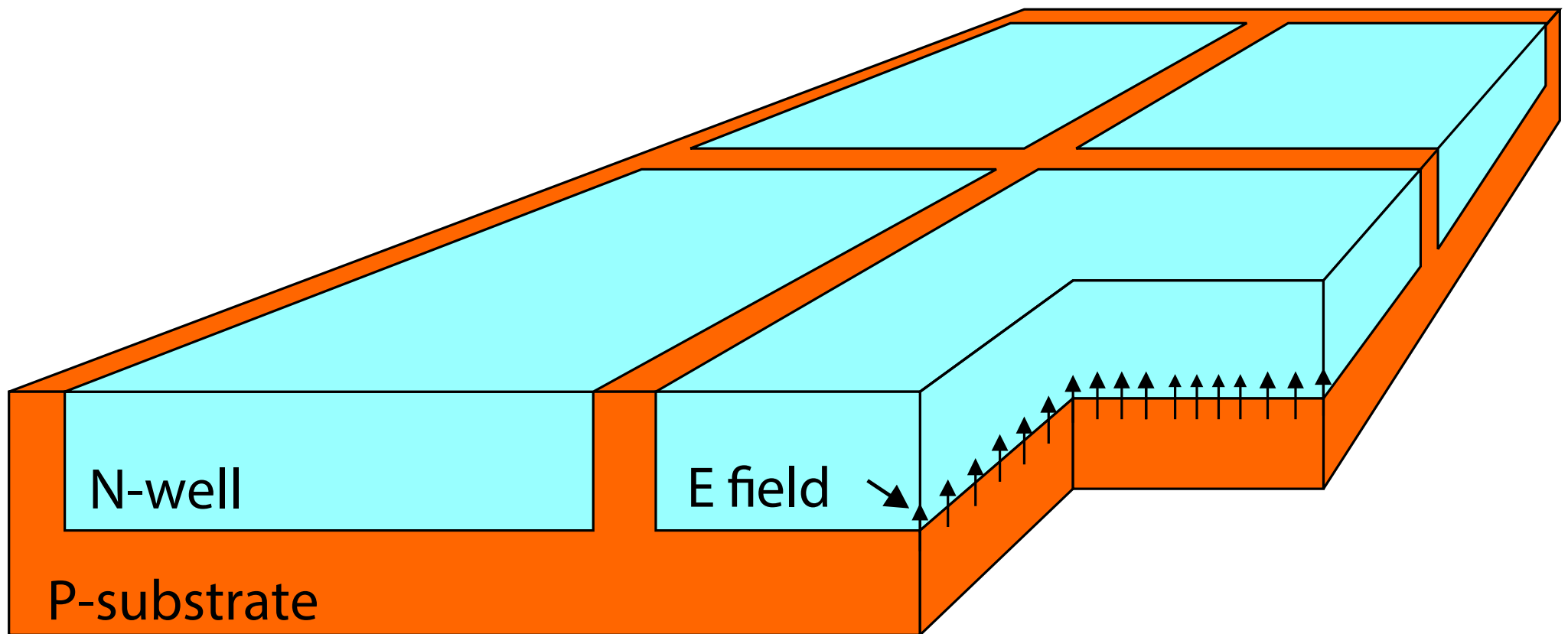
# Very thin and fast silicon pixel sensors: HV-MAPS

# Fast and thin sensors: HV-MAPS



High voltage monolithic active pixel sensors - Ivan Perić

- Use a high voltage commercial process (automotive industry)



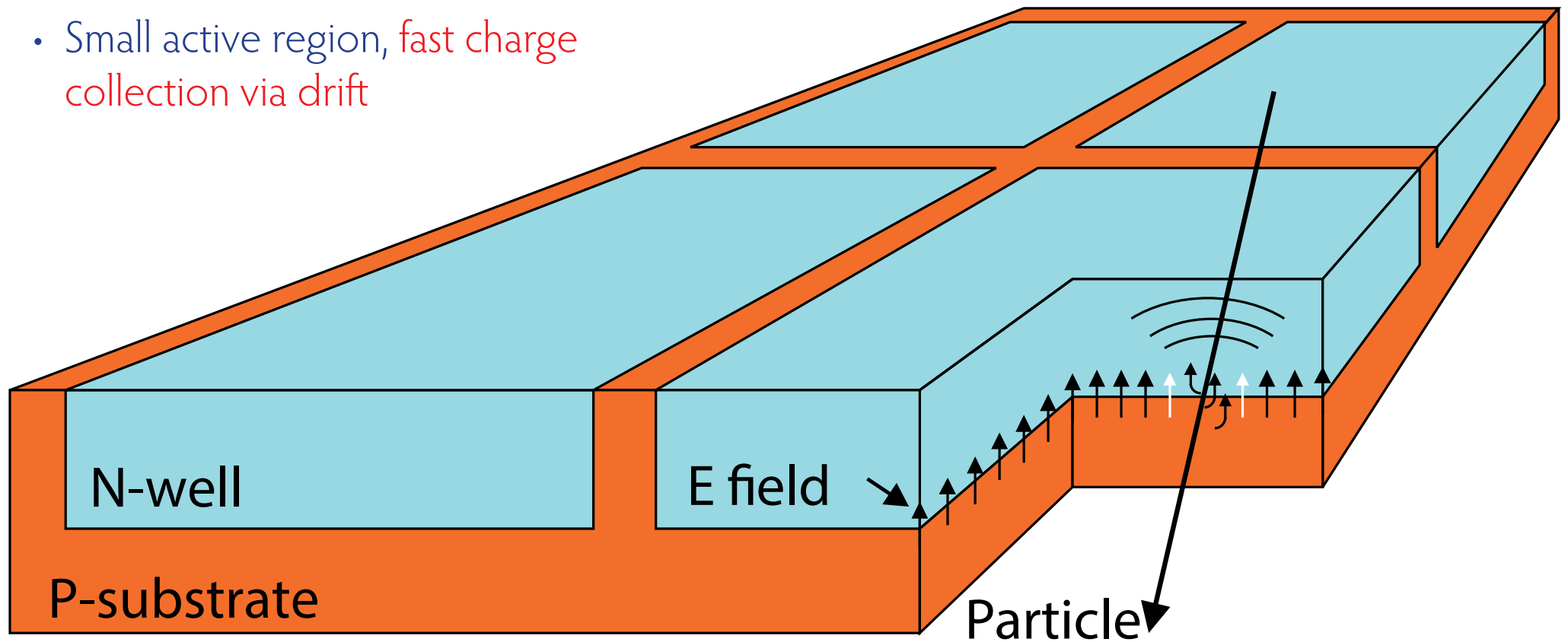


# Fast and thin sensors: HV-MAPS



High voltage monolithic active pixel sensors - Ivan Perić

- Use a high voltage commercial process (automotive industry)
- Small active region, fast charge collection via drift



# Fast and thin sensors: HV-MAPS

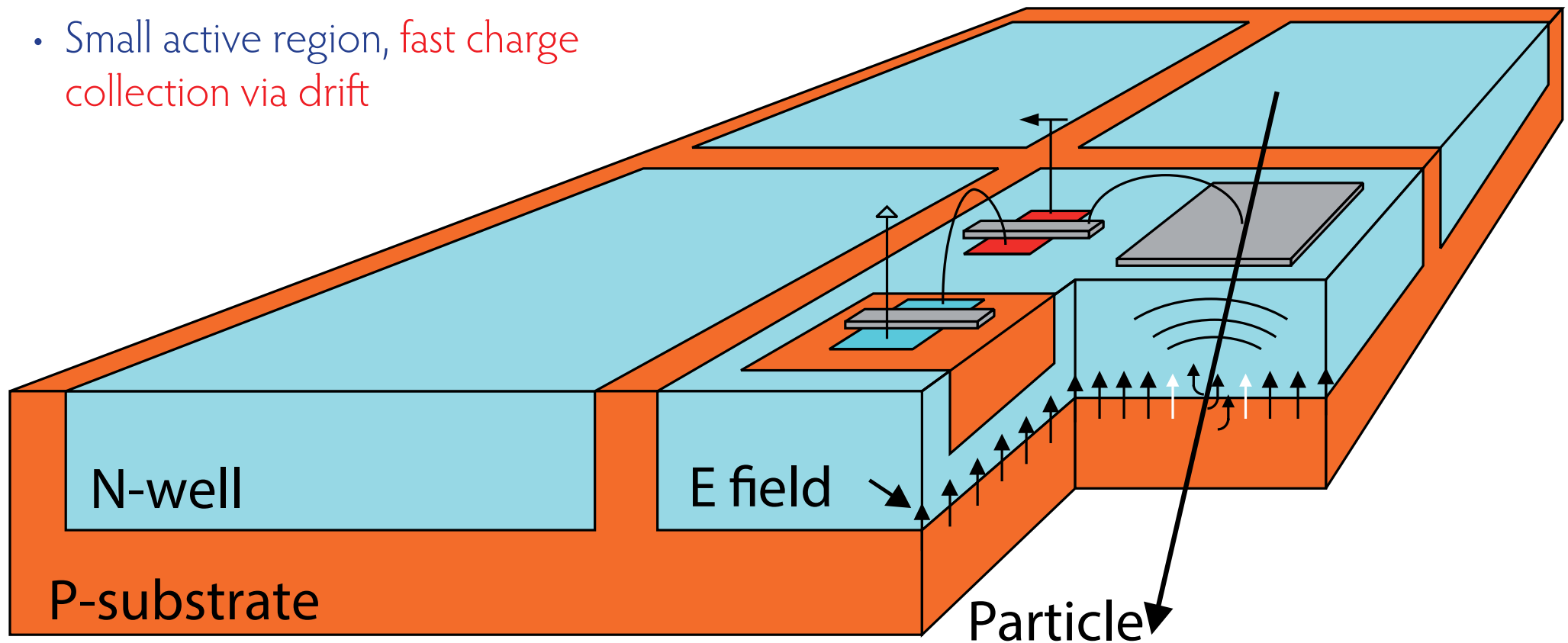


High voltage monolithic active pixel sensors - Ivan Perić

- Implement logic directly in N-well in the pixel - smart diode array
- Can be thinned down to  $< 50 \mu\text{m}$

(I.Perić, NIM A 582 (2007) 876)

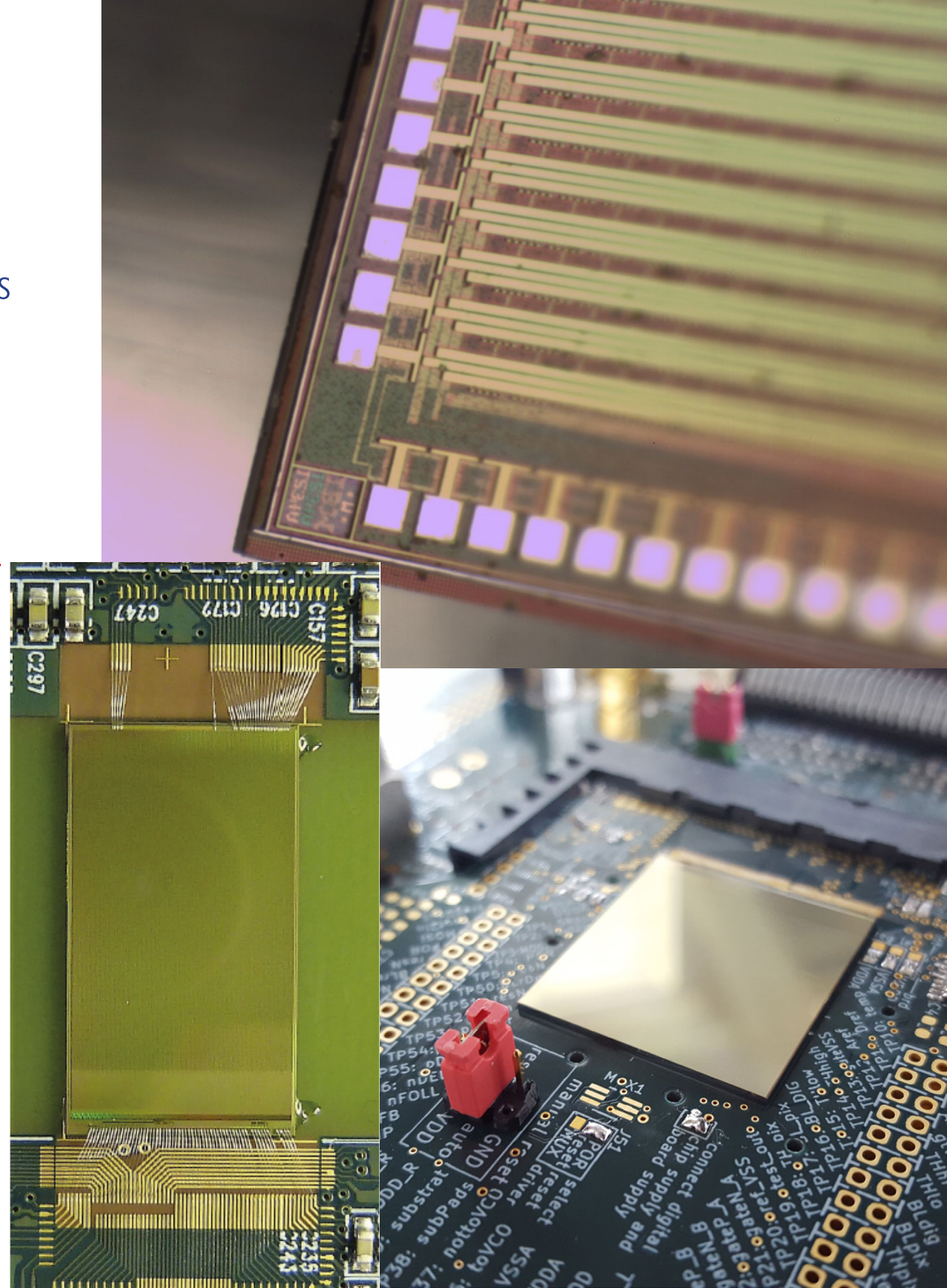
- Use a high voltage commercial process (automotive industry)
- Small active region, fast charge collection via drift



# The MuPix Prototypes

Developed a series of HV-MAPS prototypes

- Goal: Detection and signal processing with just 50  $\mu\text{m}$  silicon
- 6th chip, MuPix7, was the first **full system-on-a-chip**
- **Going "big"** 2 x 1  $\text{cm}^2$  MuPix8 with 80 by 80  $\mu\text{m}$  pixels also working nicely - some growing pains fixed
- Now: **MuPix10**, 2 x 2  $\text{cm}^2$ , integration ready - under test



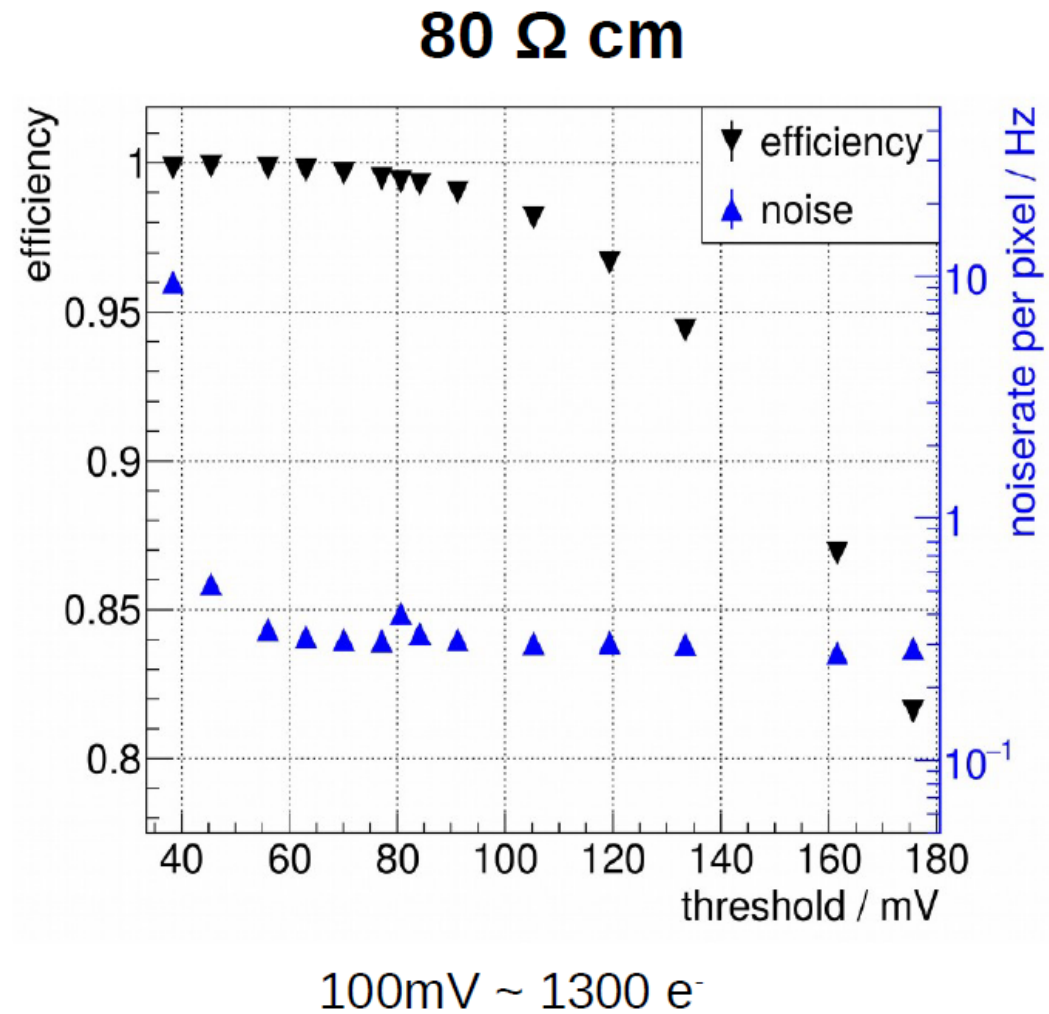
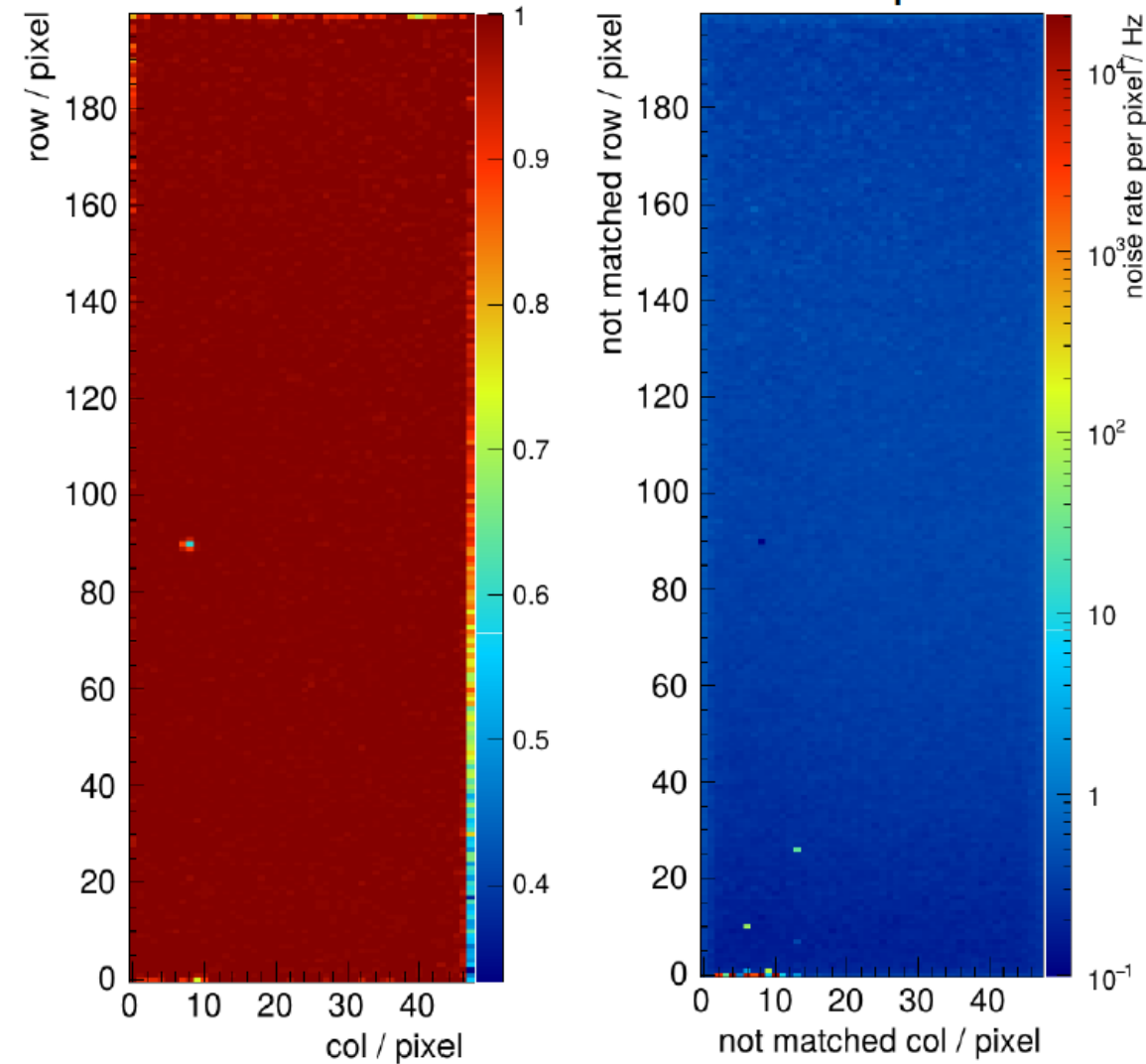
# MuPix8: Results



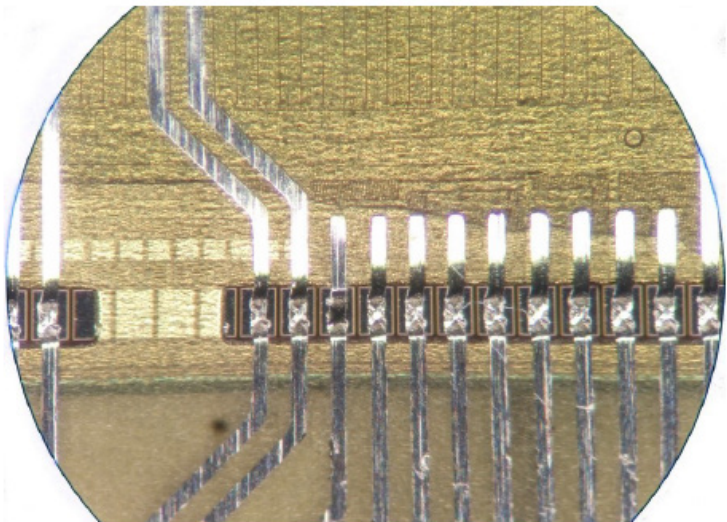
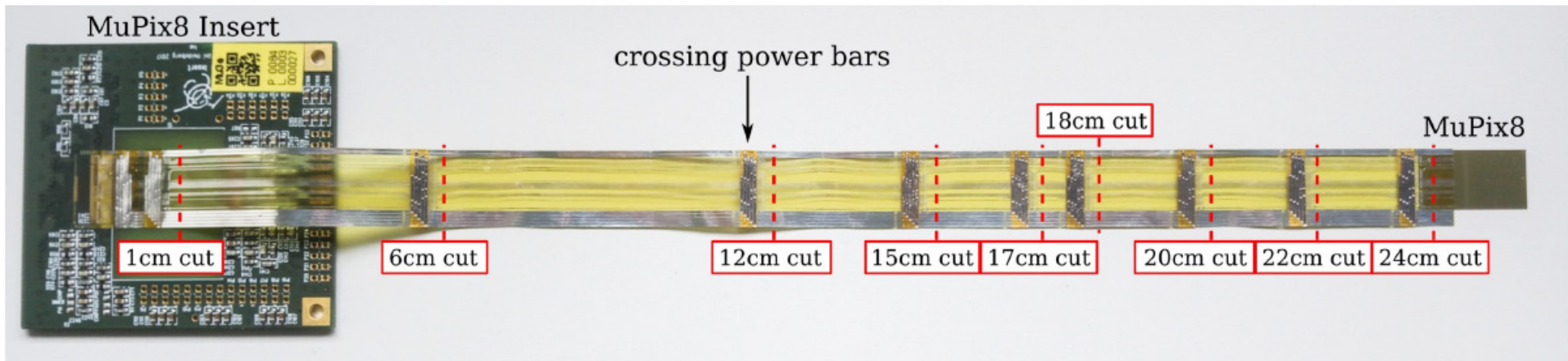
efficiency  
~99.9%

noise  
~1Hz/pixel

Time resolution of  $< 6 \text{ ns } \sigma$  reached



# Integration with Flexprint



Operate MuPix on an aluminium-kapton flexprint without decoupling capacitors

- Low noise
- No transmission errors
- Longer than needed for Mu3e



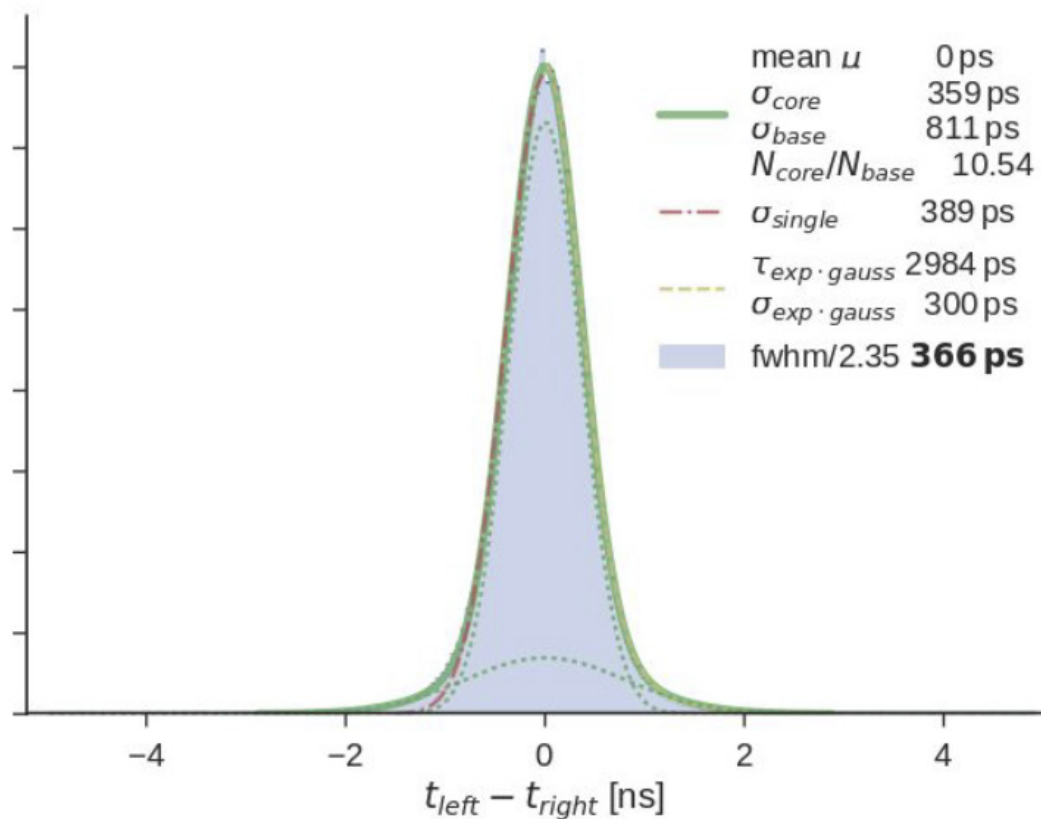
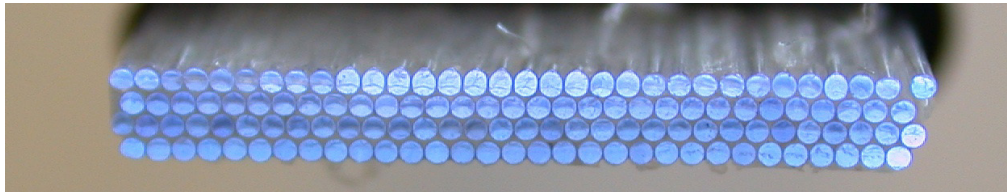


# Better timing: Scintillating fibres and tiles

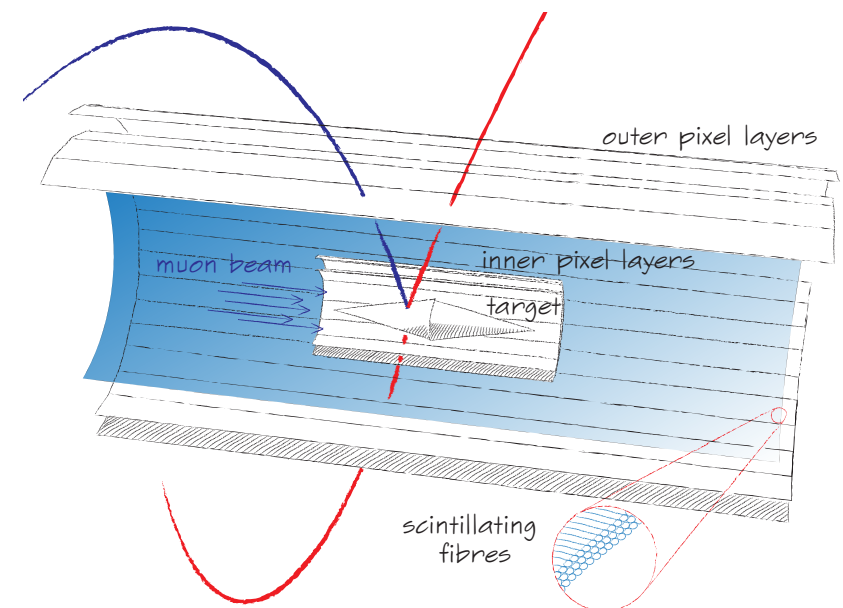
# Timing Detector: Scintillating Fibres



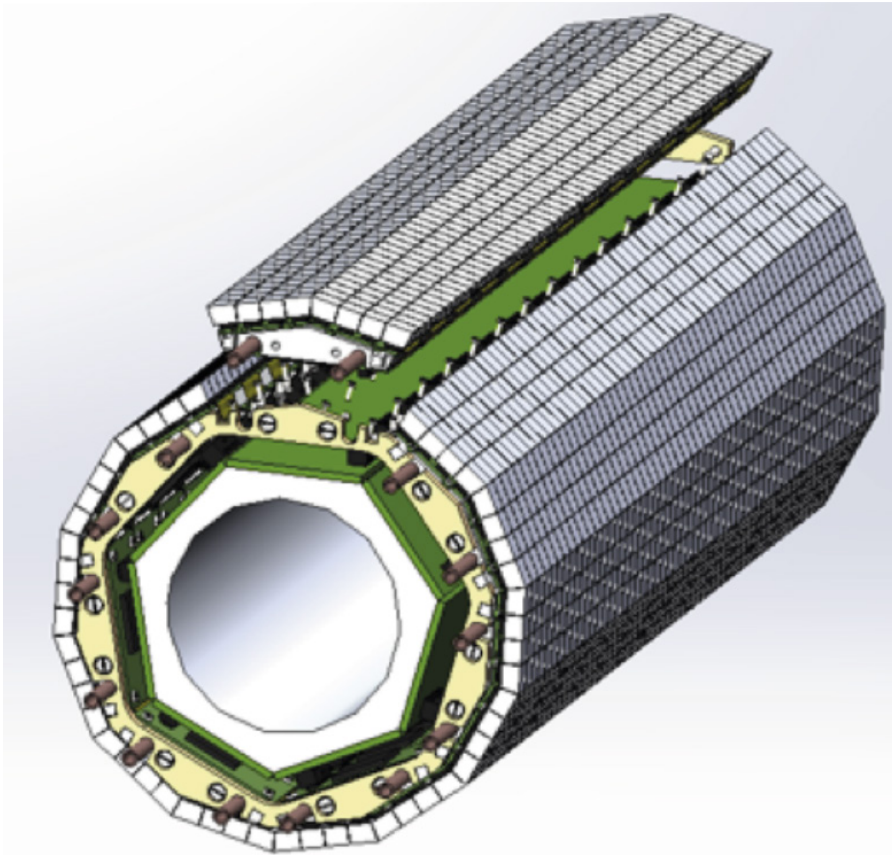
- 3 layers of 250  $\mu\text{m}$  scintillating fibres
- Read-out by silicon photomultipliers (SiPMs) and custom ASIC (MuTRiG)



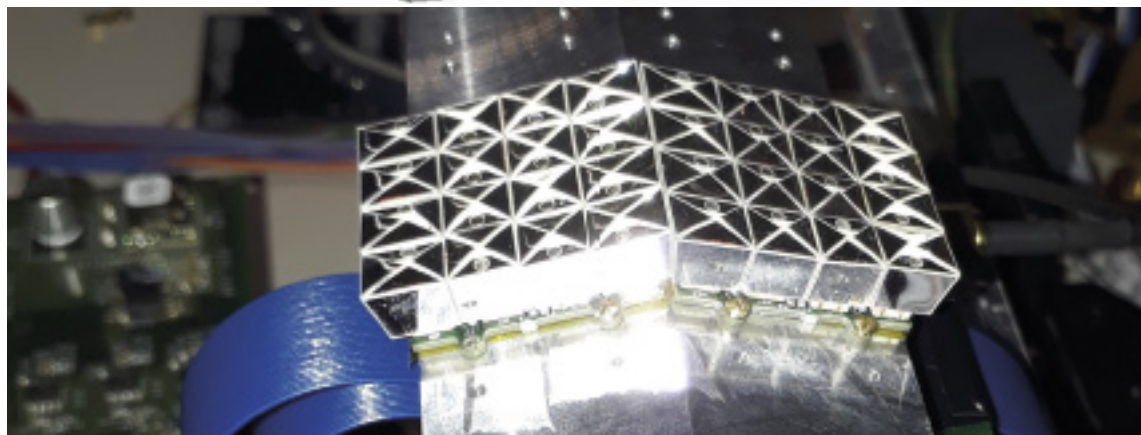
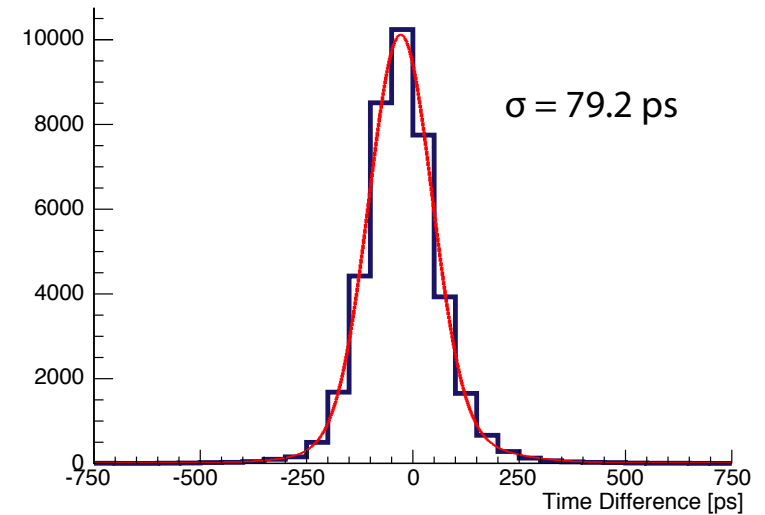
Timing resolution < 400 ps including ASIC



# Timing Detector: Scintillating tiles



- $\sim 0.5 \text{ cm}^3$  scintillating tiles
- Read-out by silicon photomultipliers (SiPMs) and custom ASIC (MuTRiG)



- Test beam with tiles, SiPMs and readout ASIC
- Timing resolution better 80 ps



# Front-end board

- Mounted in quarter-circular crates inside the 1 m diameter solenoid
- Backplane for control connections and connection to detector
- Adaptors on back of backplane for detector specific cabling
- Aluminium cooling plates connected to water-cooled crate with heat pipes
- ~ 1000 multi-mode optical fibres to the outside world

