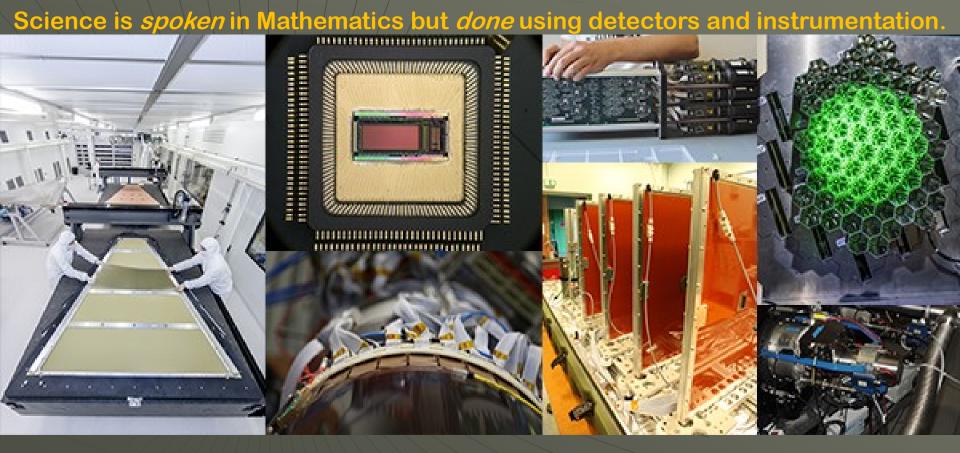
# Introduction to Detectors and Electronics Experiments



B.Satyanarayana, Department of High Energy Physics (INO) Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai (bsn@tifr.res.in)

#### List of hardware experiments **1. Basic Electronics (BE)** 2. Field Programmable Logic Array (FPGA) 3. A smart sensor and a Microcontroller (µC) 4. Resistive Plate Chamber (RPC) 5. Plastic scintillation detector (Scint) 6. Silicon Strip Detector (SSD) 7. Silicon Photomultiplier (SiPM) 8. Measurement of Muon life time (Muon) 9. High Purity Germanium Detector (HPGe)

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## **Experiments (I Group)**

Date	Expt	BE	FPGA	μC	RPC	Scint	SSD	SiPM	Muon	HPGe
&	Slot	C130	CG17	NewLab	C217	NewLab	D204	CG17	C135	LINAC
time	ld	(6hrs)	(4hrs)	(2hrs)	(6hrs)	(6hrs)	(2hrs)	(2hrs)	(2hrs)	(6hrs)
07 5:00	I-1	а	С	d	b	h	е			g
08 2:00	I-2	а	С		b	h		f	d	g
08 4:30	I-3	а	d	е	b	h	С			g
09 2:00	I-4	b	d		С	g		а	е	f
09 4:30	I-5	b	е	h	С	g	d		а	f
10 2:00	I-6	b	е		С	g	а	d	h	f
11 2:00	I-7	С	g	а	d	f	b	е		h
11 4:30	I-8	С	g		d	f			b	h
12 2:00	I-9	С	а	b	d	f	g			h
12 4:30	I-A	d	f	с	е	а				b
14 2:00	I-B	d	f		е	а		h	С	b
14 4:30	I-C	d	h	g	е	а	f	С		b
15 2:00	I-D	е	h		а	С		b	g	d
16 2:00	I-E	е	b	f	а	С	h	g		d
16 4:30	I-F	е	b		а	С			f	d

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## **Experiments (II Group)**

Date	Expt	BE	FPGA	μC	RPC	Scint	SSD	SiPM	Muon	HPGe
&	Slot	C130	CG17	NewLab	C217	NewLab	D204	CG17	C135	LINAC
time	ld	(6hrs)	(4hrs)	(2hrs)	(6hrs)	(6hrs)	(2hrs)	(2hrs)	(2hrs)	(6hrs)
17 2:00	II-1	а	С	d	b	h	е			g
18 2:00	II-2	а	С		b	h		f	d	g
18 4:30	<mark>  -3</mark>	а	d	е	b	h	С			g
19 2:00	II-4	b	d		С	g		а	е	f
19 4:30	II-5	b	е	h	С	g	d			f
21 2:00	II-6	b	е		С	g	а	d	h	f
21 4:30	II-7	С	g	а	d	f		b		h
22 2:00	<mark>  -8</mark>	С	g	b	d	f		е	а	h
22 4:30	II-9	С	а		d	f			b	h
23 2:00	II-A	d	f	С	е	а	g	h		b
23 4:30	II-B	d	f		е	а			С	b
24 2:00	II-C	d	h	g	е	а	f	С		b
25 2:00	II-D	е	h		а	с	b		g	d
25 4:30	II-E	е	b	f	а	с		g		d
26 2:00	II-F	е	b		а	С	h		f	d

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## A few general comments

- Most of the experiments are designed using the actual research work which is going on in the hosting groups.
   Most are also setup in their actual laboratories.
- So make the best use of your time in these laboratories. You could also look at what's main research happening in the laboratories, if time permits.
- Systematically performing the designed experiments including data analysis and results, and actively interacting with the instructors and your co-students are earnestly expected. At the end, you are supposed to answer some questions by your instructors, related to that experiment. This will help organisers gauge how much you understood and learnt from that experiment.
   Best nine batches will be invited to give seminars on the concluding day of the School <sup>(2)</sup>

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### Some dos and don'ts

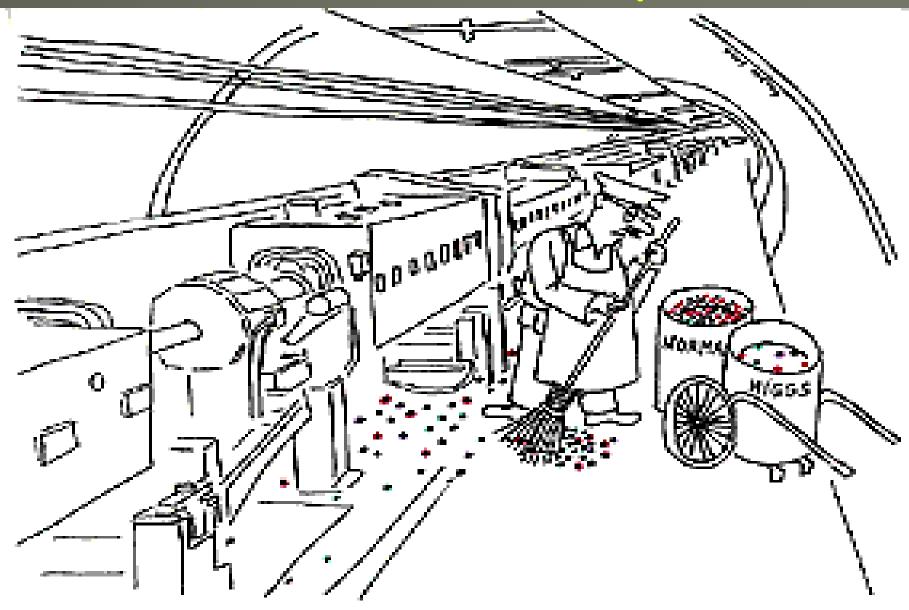
- Some experiments use high voltages, gases and radioactive sources, etc. But all the necessary precautions are already taken by the experiment designers for your safety. But it is advised that you strictly follow their instructions.
- Please also handle/operate the equipment gently/carefully while performing your experiments so that there is no damage caused to the apparatus.
- It will be great if you could switch your cell phone to off/silent mode while you are in lab.

 Most of your experiments are housed with in regular research labs/facilities. Please don't stray away into other areas or interact with other equipment without guidance of your instructors.

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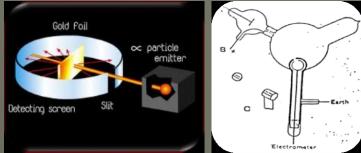
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#### Wish it is that simple!

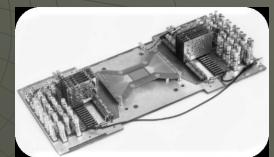


# **Detectors and major discoveries**

- Crookes Tubes: Sir William Crookes (1869-75)
- Cloud chamber: Charles Thomas Rees Wilson (1894), Nobel Prize (1927)
- Electron: J.J.Thomson (1897) using Crookes Tubes
- "Gold foil apparatus": Hans Geiger & Ernest Marsden (1909)
- Proton: E.Rutherford (1911) using "Gold foil apparatus"
- Photon: A.Compton (1923)
- Neutron: J.Chadwick (1932)
- Positron: C.Anderson (1932)
- Muon: C.Anderson & S.Neddermeyer (1937)
- Neutral Kaon: G.Rochester & C.Butler (1947) CC and GM
- Charged Pion: C.Powell (1947) photographic emulsions flown by balloons
- ✤ Lambda: (1947)
- Neutral Pion: R.Bjorkland (1949)
- Bubble chamber : D.Glaser (1952), Nobel Prize (1960)
- Synchrotron: (1952)
- Xi minus: R.Armenteros (1952)
- Sigma plus: G.Tomasini (1953) using emulsion technique
- Sigma minus: W.Fowler (1953)
- ✤ Antiproton: W.Segrè (1955)
- Antineutron: B.Cork (1956)
- MOS transistors: Kahng & Atalla (1960), electronic counters
- Multi-Wire Proportional Counter: G.Charpak (1968), Nobel Prize (1992)
- Time Projection Chamber: D.R.Nygren (1974)
- Charm quark: SLAC & BNL collaborations (1974)
- Super Proton Synchrotron: John Adams et al (1976)
- Stochastic cooling: Van der Meer, Nobel Prize (1984)
- Large area (20") PMT: Hamamatsu (1980)
- Resistive Plate Chamber: R.Santonico (1981)
- W & Z bosons: UA1 and UA2 collaborations (1983)
- Micro Strip Gas Chamber: A.Oed (1988)
- Top quark: D0 & CDF collaborations (1995)
- Gas Electron Multiplier: F.B.Sauli (1996)
- Neutrino oscillation: Super-Kamiokande Collaboration (1998)









# Wilson's Cloud Chamber (1894)

D BATTERY FOR

LEARING RESIDUAL

KATER EOR COOLING

World's largest multi-plate cloud chamber was operated in Ooty in mid 50's as part of an air shower array and significant results on the high energy nuclear interactions and cores of extensive air showers were obtained.

FOD CONNECTED TO VALVE FOR MAKING EXPANSIONS

#### Contributed to the discoveries of $e^+$ , $\mu$ and K.

ADJUSTMENT OF

TO MANOMETER

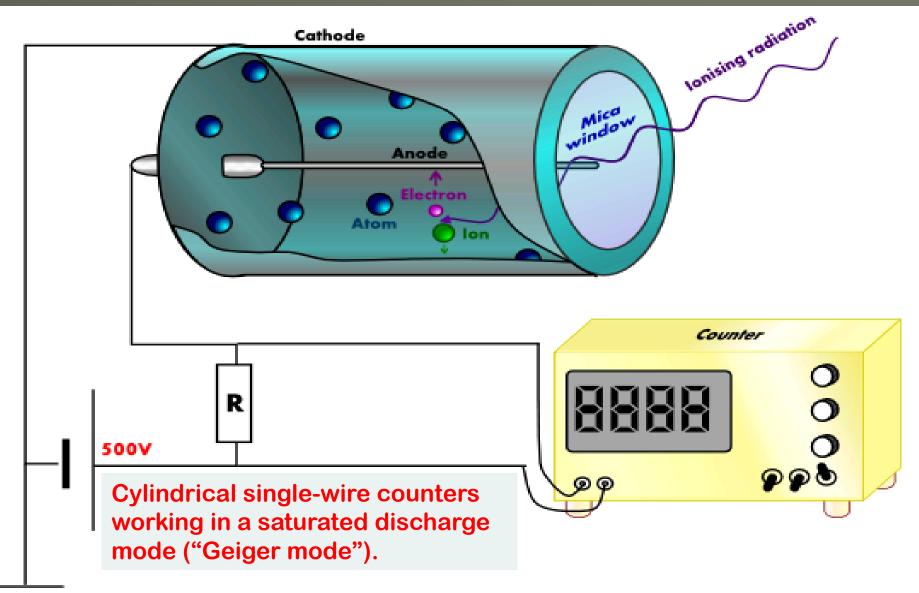
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AIR INLEY FOR RAISING

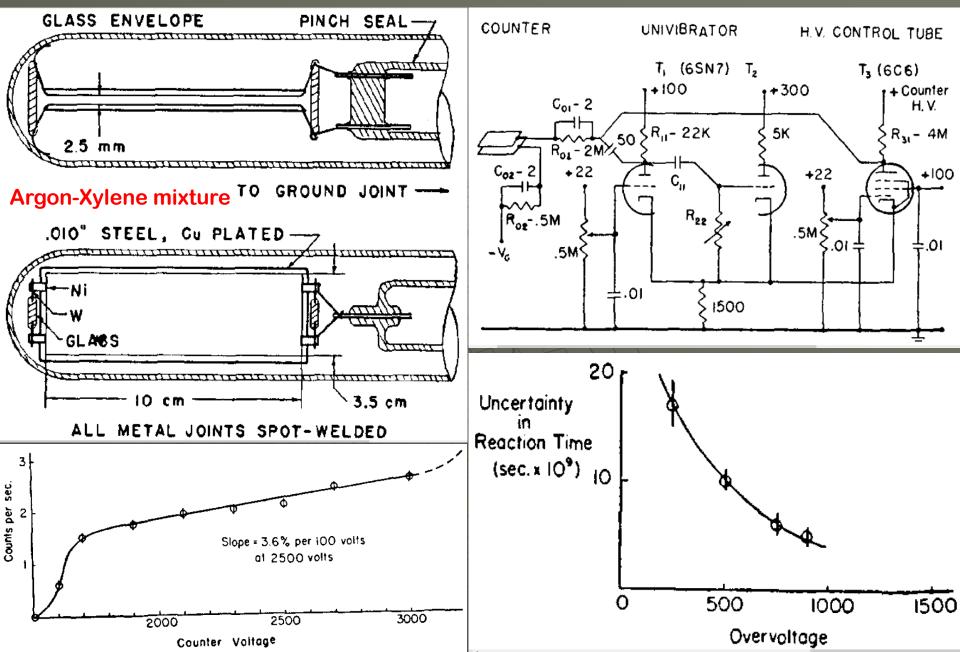
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TO PUMP

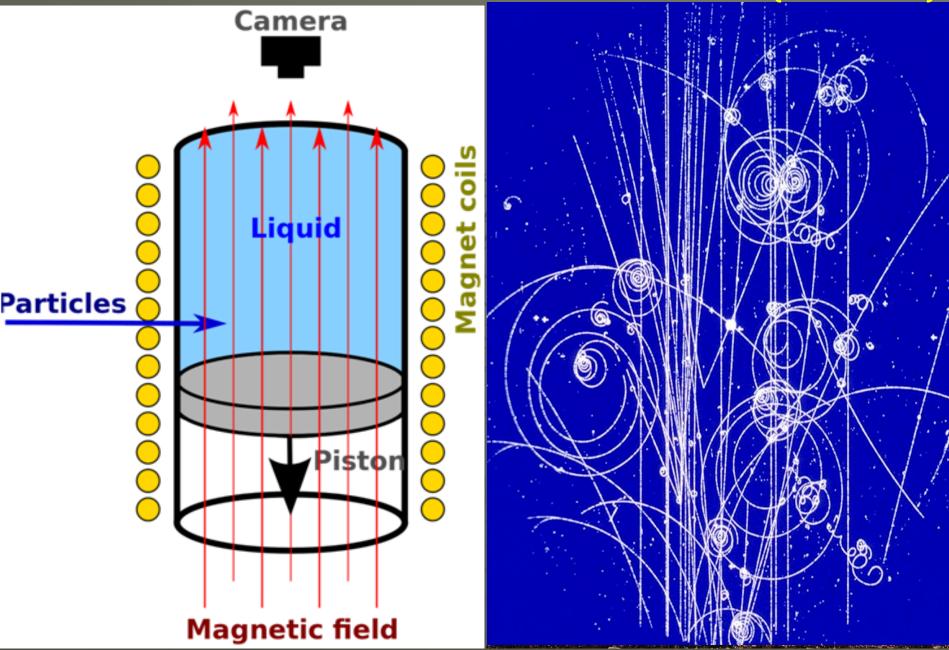
# Geiger-Müller tube (1928)



#### Keuffel's Parallel Plate Counters (1949)



## Glaser's Bubble Chamber (1952)



#### Georges Charpak's MWPC (1968)

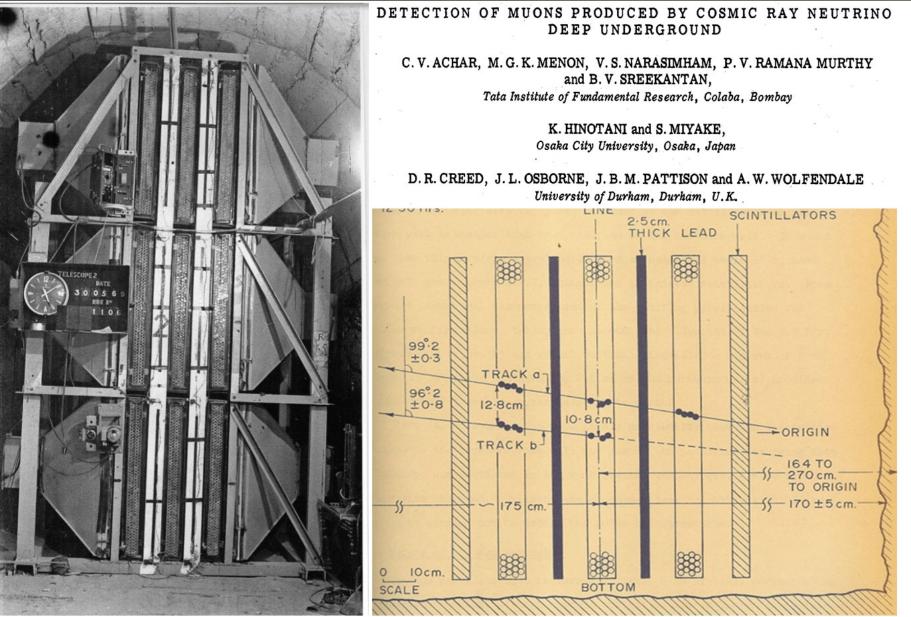
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#### The first modern electronically-readout gaseous detector. Contributed to the discoveries of W, Z, c and t.

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#### Simple detector, but a major discovery



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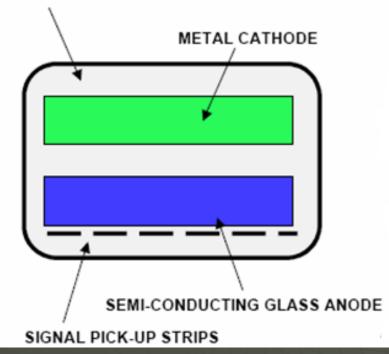
# **Resistive Plate Chamber (1981)**

#### Keuffel, J.W.; **Parallel-Plate Counters** Rev. Sci. Inst. 20 (1949) 202

#### THIN GAP (100 µm) AND HIGH PRESSURES (~10 bar) HIGH RESISTIVITY ELECTRODE (PESTOV GLASS, 10<sup>9</sup> Ω cm

#### Yu.N. Pestov & G.V. Fedotovich (1978)

#### HIGH-PRESSURE GAS VESSEL



#### DEVELOPMENT OF RESISTIVE PLATE COUNTERS

R. SANTONICO and R. CARDARELLI

Istituto di Fisica dell'Università di Roma, Roma, Italy; Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare, Sezione di Roma, Italy

Received 12 January 1981

#### Contributed to the discovery of H.

The detector presented in this paper, which will be called "Resistive Plate Counter" (RPC) is based on essentially the same principle as that recently developed by Pestov and Fedotovich [1]. Nevertheless the drastic simplifications introduced in its realization, such as the absence of high pressure gas, the low requirements of mechanical precision, and the use of plastic materials instead of glass, makes it of potential interest in a different and possibly wider range of applications. In particular it could replace with great economic advantages plastic scintillators, whenever large detecting areas are needed under not exceedingly high fluxes of particles.

suddenly switched off in a limited area around the point where the discharge occurred. Out of this area the sensitivity of the counter remains unaffected. On the other hand, due to the ultra-violet absorbing component of the gas, the photons produced by the discharge are not allowed to propagate in the gas, thus avoiding the possibility to originate secondary discharges in other points of the detector.

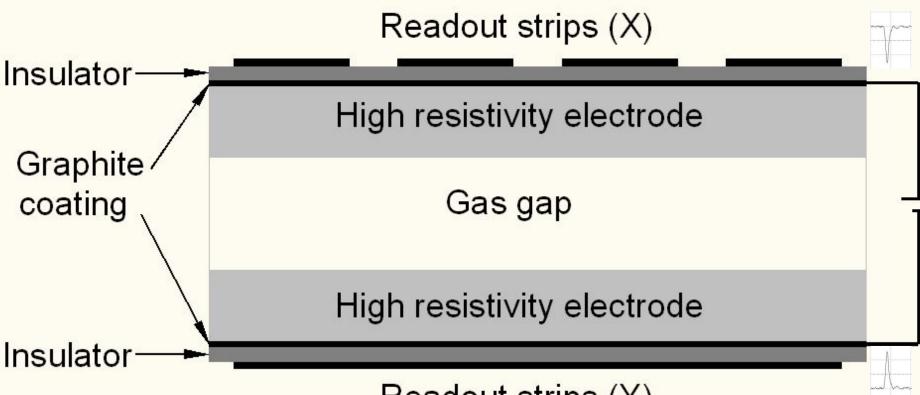
RPCs exhibit much better time resolution than

circulated. The ground connected electrode is a bakelite plate of dimensions  $103 \times 22 \times 0.2$  cm<sup>3</sup> on which a copper foil 50  $\mu$ m thick is glued on the side not facing the gas \*. The high voltage electrode is a

\* The cement used here and in the following is epoxy resin which has been proven to guarantee a sufficient electrical contact between copper and bakelite. Its conductivity can be increased, if needed, by adding a small amount of graphite.

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# **Schematic of a basic RPC**



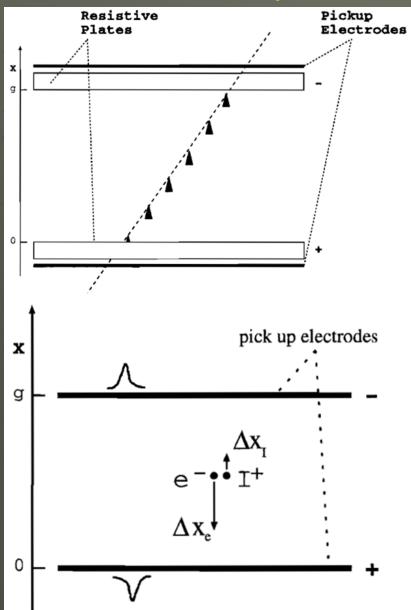
#### Readout strips (Y)

- \* Resistive materials like glass or bakelite for electrodes
- Special paint mixture (developed locally) for semi-resistive coating
- Plastic honey-comb laminations used as readout panel
- \* Special plastic films for insulating the readout panels from high voltages
- Two modes of operation: Avalanche (R134a:Isobutane:SF<sub>6</sub> ::95.5:4.2:0.3) and Streamer (R134a:Isobutane:Ar::56:7:37)

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# **Principle of RPC operation**

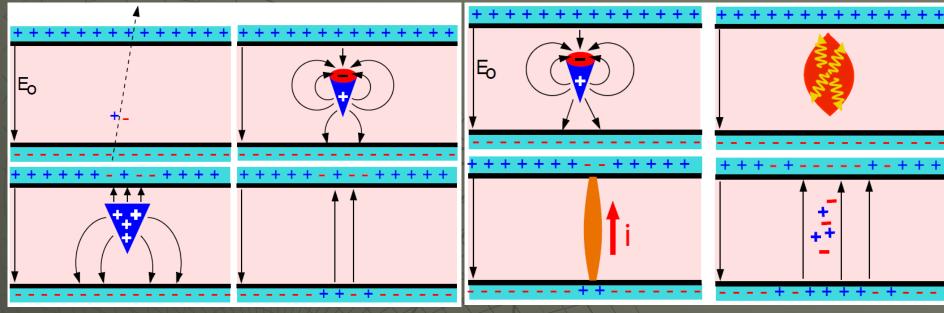


**Electron-ion pairs produced in the** ionisation process drift in the opposite directions. All primary electron clusters drift towards the anode plate with velocity v and simultaneously originate avalanches. A cluster is eliminated as soon as it reaches the anode plate. The charge induced on the pickup Į, strips is  $q = (-e\Delta x_e + e\Delta x_l)/g$ . The induced current due to a single pair is i = dq/dt = e(v + V)/g $\approx ev/g, V \ll v.$ Prompt charge in RPC is dominated by the electron drift.

# **Two modes of RPC operation**

#### Avalanche mode

Streamer mode



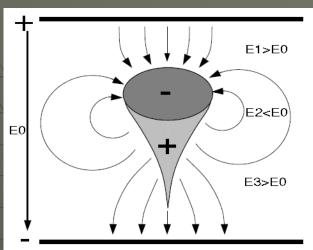
- Gain of the detector « 10<sup>8</sup>
- Charge developed ~1pC
- Needs a preamplifier
- Longer detector life
- Typical gas mixture R134a:iB:SF<sub>6</sub>::94.5:4:0.5
- Moderate purity of gases is fine!
- Higher counting rate capability

- Gain of the detector > 10<sup>8</sup>
- Charge developed ~100pC
- No need for a preamplier
- Relatively shorter detector life
- Typical gas mixture R134a:iB:Ar::62.8:30
- High purity of gases expected
- Low counting rate capability

## **Control of avalanche process**

#### Role of RPC gases in avalanche control

- R134a is the ionising gas (83 clusters/cm, compare with Argon's 30 clusters/cm used in the streamer mode).
- R134a also captures free electrons and localise avalanches.
  - $e^- + X \rightarrow X^- + hv$  (Electron attachment)
  - $X^+ + e^- \rightarrow X + h_V$  (Recombination)
- Isobutane to stop photon induced streamers.
- SF<sub>6</sub> for preventing streamer transitions.
- Growth of the avalanche is governed by dN/dx = αN.
- The space charge produced by the avalanche, shields (at about αx = 20) the applied field and avoids exponential divergence.



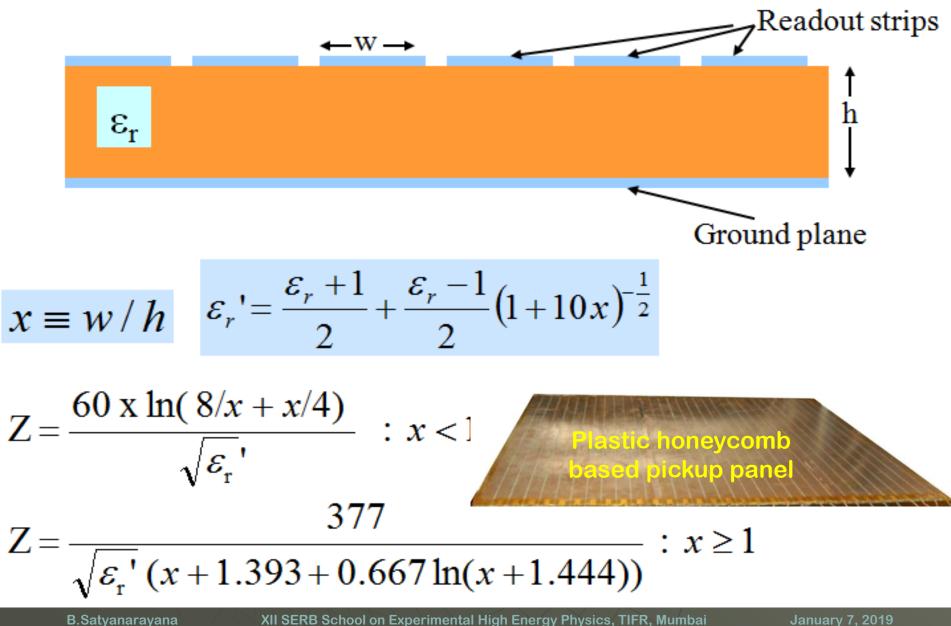
• Townsend equation should be  $dN/dx = \alpha(E)N$ .

#### **Typical expected parameters**

- No. of clusters in a distance g follows Poisson distribution with an average of  $\overline{n} = g/\lambda$
- Probability to have *n* clusters  $p(n) = \frac{1}{n!} \left(\frac{g}{\lambda}\right)^n e^{-\frac{g}{\lambda}}$
- Number of electrons reaching the anode  $n = n_0 e^{(\alpha \beta)x}$
- Intrinsic efficiency  $\in_{\max} = 1 e^{-\overline{n}}$
- So  $\varepsilon_{max}$  depends only on gas and gap
- Intrinsic time resolution  $\sigma_t = 1.28/(lpha eta)v_D$
- So  $\sigma_t$  doesn't depend on the threshold
- Area of signal pickup spot  $S = Qd \div \varepsilon V$  ( $\rightarrow$  counting rate capability)
  - \* Gas: 96.7/3/0.3 (R134a/iB/SF<sub>6</sub>)
  - Electrode thickness: 2mm
  - Gas gap: 2mm
  - HV: 10.0KV (E = 50KV/cm)
  - Relative permittivity (ε): 10
  - Mean free path ( $\lambda$ ): 0.104mm
  - \* Avg. no. of electrons/cluster: 2.8
  - Drift velocity (V<sub>D</sub>) = 130mm/ns

- Townsend coefficient (α): 13.3/mm
- Attachment coefficient (β): 3.5/mm
- Total charge (q<sub>tot</sub>): 200pC
- Induced charge (q<sub>ind</sub>): 6pC
- Charge threshold: 0.1pC
- Efficiency (ε<sub>max</sub>): 90%
- \* Time resolution( $\sigma_t$ ): 950pS
- Signal pickup spot (S) = 0.1mm<sup>2</sup>

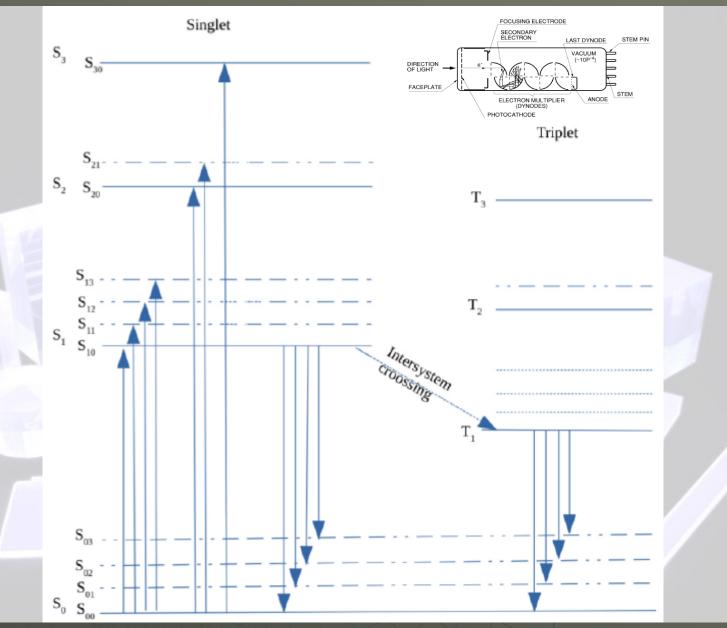
#### **Characteristic impedance of strips**



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#### **Plastic scintillators**



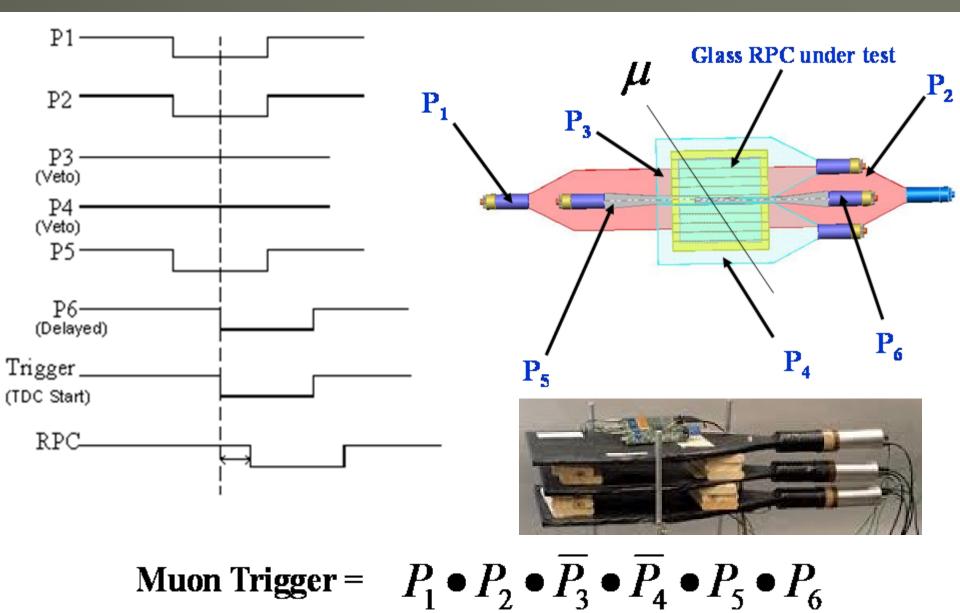
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#### Large scale deployment of scintillators



#### **Coincidence scheme of a muon telescope**



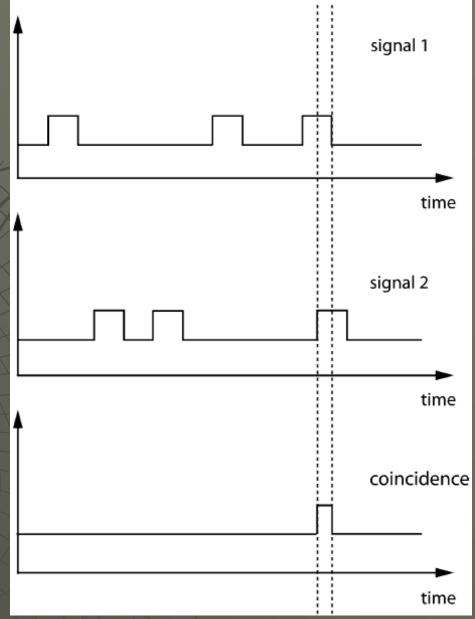
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### **Coincidence of signals**

- To see if an event occurred simultaneously with some other event, the electronics will look for the simultaneous presence of two logical signals within some time Window.
- In coincidence counting, one should be aware of the possibility to have random coincidences.
- These are occurrences of a coincidence caused by two unrelated events arriving by chance at the same time.
- The rate of random coincidences between two signals is proportional to the rate of each type of signal times the duration of the coincidence window:

$$\frac{dN_{random}}{dt} = \frac{dN_1}{dt} \times \frac{dN_2}{dt} \times \Delta t$$



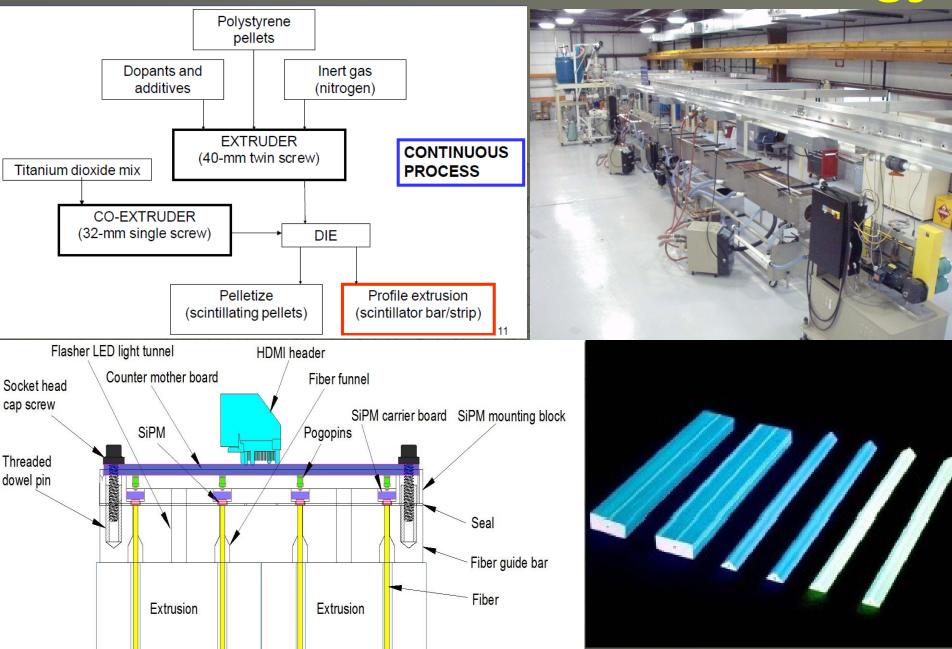
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# **FNAL-NICADD** extrusion Line

- Fermilab and Northern Illinois Center for Accelerator and Detector Development.
- For ALICE upgrade, the ILC calorimetry program, MINOS and MINERvA experiments.
- Simple, inexpensive and robust extrusion procedure.
- Co-extruded hole and TiO<sub>2</sub> coating or Tyvek.
- In some cases no alternative to the extrusion because of geometry requirements.
- Polystyrene pellets are used as the base material, along with % PPO (2.5-Diphenyloxazole) and 0.03% POPOP (1,4-bis(5-phenyloxazol-2-yl) benzene) dopants.
- This is a blue-emitting scintillator, absorption cut-off at 400nm and emission at 420nm.
- Light attenuation lengths of long and short components are 42cm & 30cm.
- Fiber hole diameter and number of fibres are some of the considerations.
- Readout by Solid State Photomultipliers (SSPM).
- New development: Co-extrude fibres with the scintillator profile.

# **Extrusion scintillator technology**



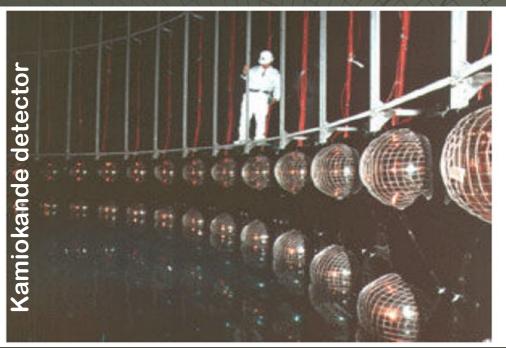
# New hybrid scintillators

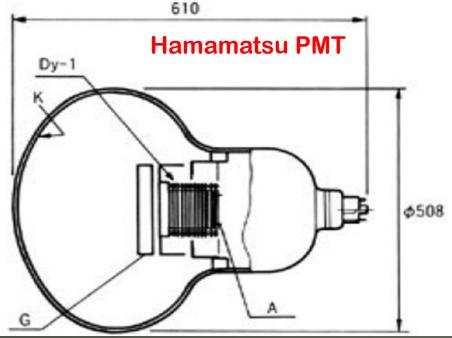
- New generation experiments require large volume, cheap scintillation materials with high light yields and short scintillation decay times.
- Extruded scintillators suffer from poorer optical quality, particulate matter and additives in polystyrene pellets.
- New single-component and multi-component polymer mixtures.
- Hybrid scintillators using luminescent salts as scintillation dyes.
- Introduction of fusible inorganic fillers found to alter optical transmission spectra and rapid shortening of the scintillation decay times of the hybrid scintillators.
- Polymer based hybrid glasses in which the components do not chemically react with each other during the manufacturing process.
- Conventional hybrid materials in which all or a part of the inorganic components participate in chemical reactions with organic components. For example, a reaction between the AICl<sub>3</sub> inorganic filler and the polystyrene matrix during the injection moulding process.

#### R1449 PMTs & neutrino astronomy

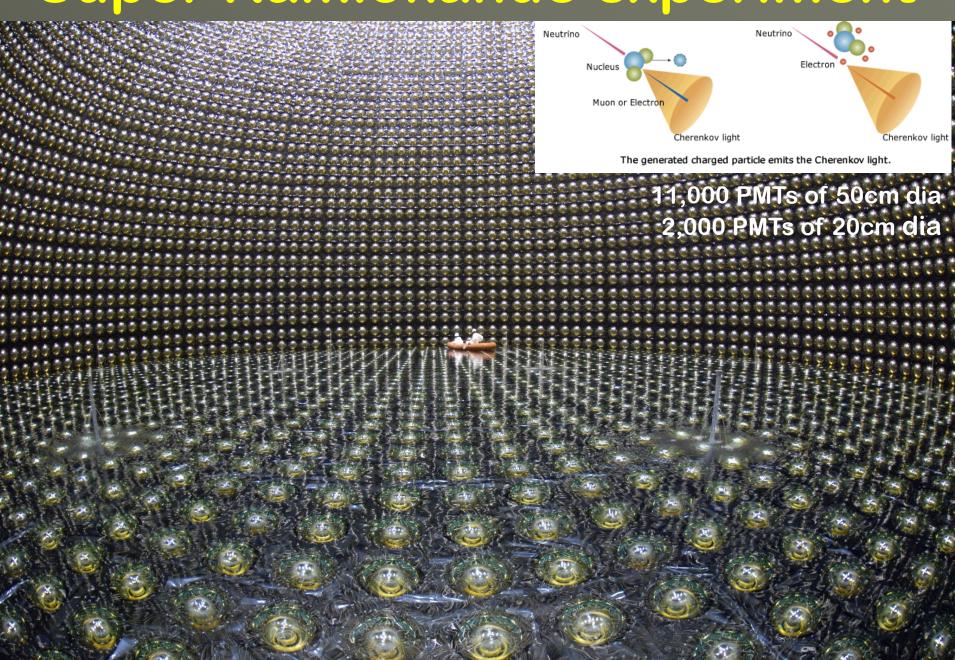
- In 1979, Masatoshi Koshiba came up with a challenging proposal to Hamamatsu's President Hiruma "Hey, could you make me a 25" PMT?"
- A number of previously acquired highly sophisticated technologies were collectively used to develop the 20" PMT.
- 50Kt water Čherenkov detector uses 11.2K PMTs.



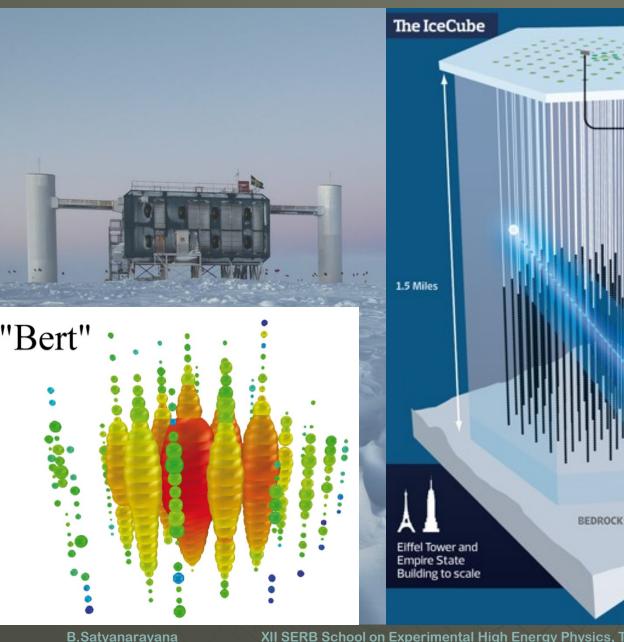




## Super Kamiokande experiment



#### **The IceCube detector**

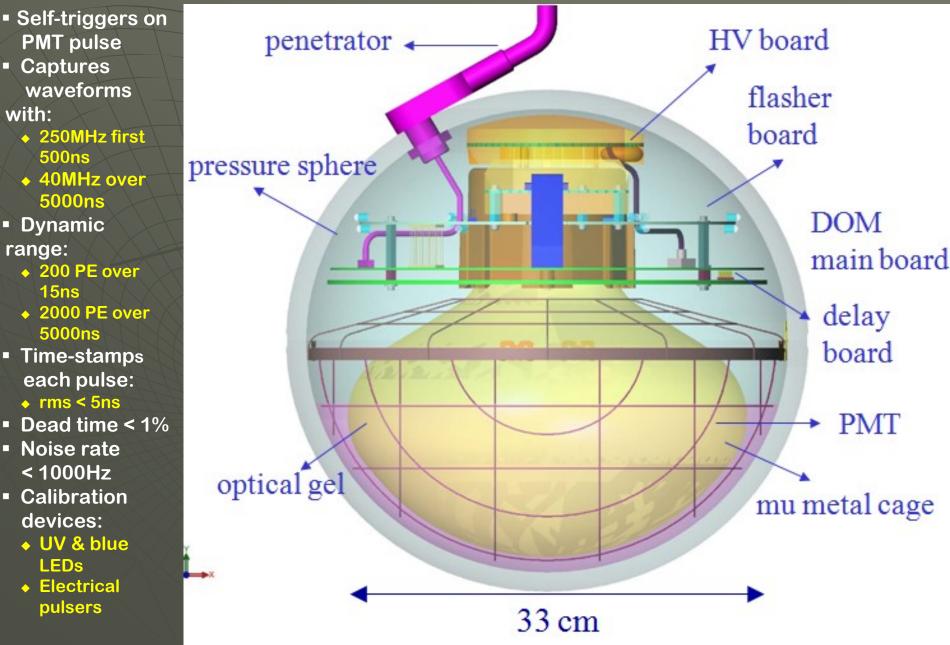


Stations on the surface will gather data from the digital optical modules, which is then collected at the IceCube lab for analysis

The IceCube comprises an array of 86 strings, containing 5,160 modules. This arrangement allows scientists to trace the paths of muons from their trail of light radiation as they pass through the massive structure

> The IceCube will be looking for particles travelling up through the planet - filtering out many of the less interesting locally produced cosmic rays that the Earth is constantly bombarded with

# **Digital Optical Module (DOM)**



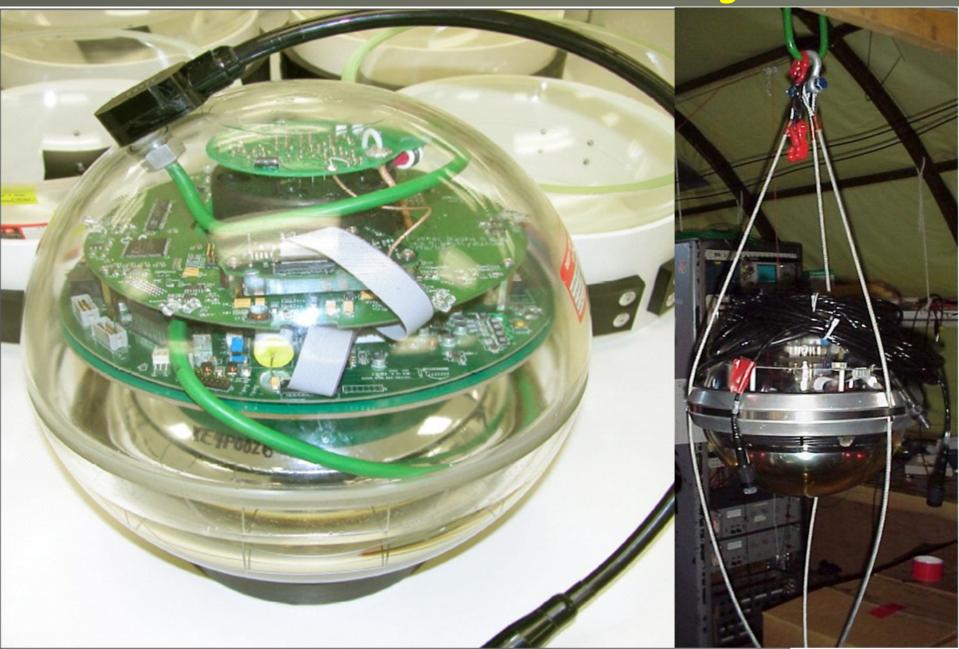
### **DOM Main board**



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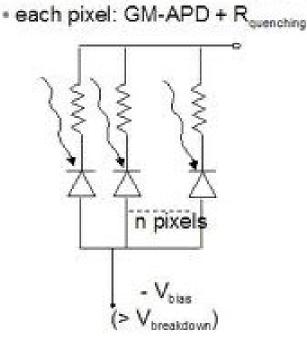
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# The DOM assembly

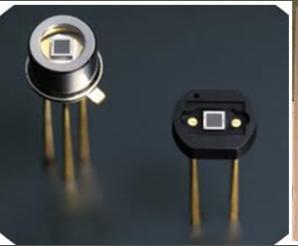


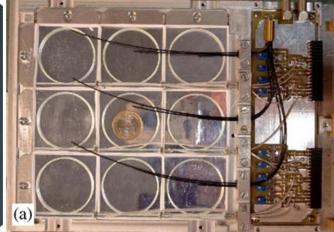
# **Silicon Photomultipliers**

- Very small (few mm<sup>2</sup>)
- Pixelated active surface structure
- Insensitive to magnetic fields
- Works at low bias voltage (<100V)</li>
- Relatively inexpensive
- Single photon counting capability
- Very fast time resolution (~200ps)
- Good linear response



matrix of n pixels (~1000) in parallel







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# A 1-minute tutorial on SiPM

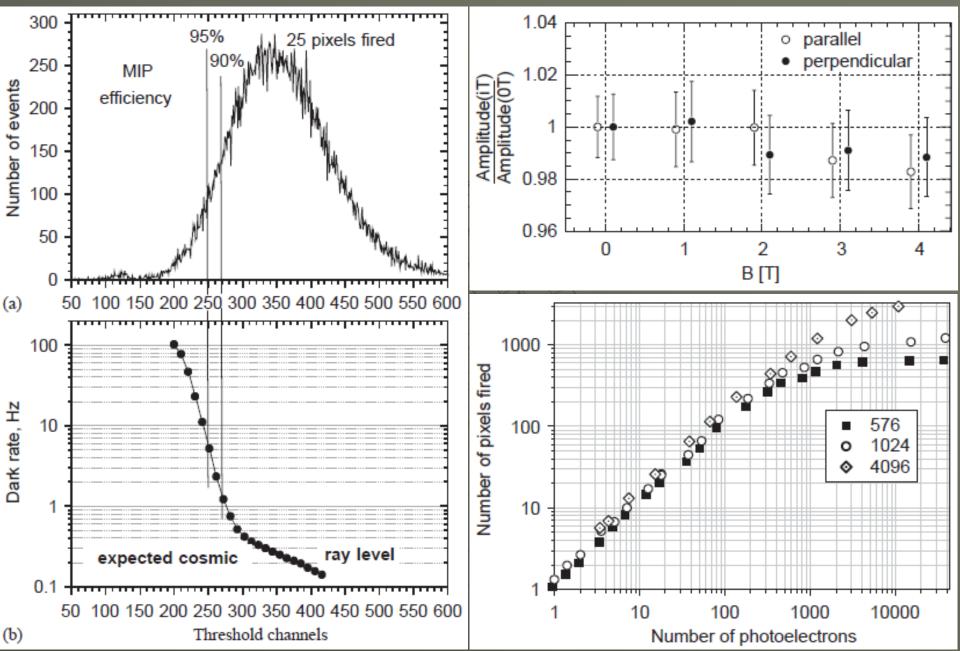
- SiPM is a pixelated avalanche photodiode operated in the limited Geiger mode.
- For example, a detector surface of 1×1mm<sup>2</sup> is divided into 1024 pixels.
- Operated with a reverse bias which is slightly above the breakdown voltage.
- Current flow in a pixel limited by an individual poly-silicon resistor ( $R_{pixel} = 400 k\Omega$ ).
- Signal from a pixel is determined by the charge accumulated in the pixel capacitance, Cpixel. That is,

 $Q_{pixel} = C_{pixel} \times \Delta V = C_{pixel} \times (V_{bias} - V_{breakdown})$ 

where,  $\Delta V$  is  $\approx$  a few volts, C<sub>pixel</sub> is ~50fF, yielding Q<sub>pixel</sub>  $\approx$  150fC or 10<sup>6</sup> electrons.

- SiPM pixel signal doesn't depend on the number of primary carriers (Geiger mode).
- Each pixel detects the carriers created by a photon, ionization of a charged particle, or thermal noise with the same response signal of 10<sup>6</sup> electrons.
- Analog information obtained by adding response of all fired pixels.
- The dynamic range is determined by the finite number of pixels, presently 10<sup>3</sup>.
- The SiPM photon-detection efficiency is comparable to the QE of PMTs for blue light and larger for green light, which is important for the usage of WLS fibres.
- For stable operations, the sensitivity of the SiPM gain and efficiency to temperature and bias voltage are important issues.
- The total temperature and bias voltage dependence of the SiPM gain at room temperature is measured to be 4.5%/°C and 7%/0.1V.

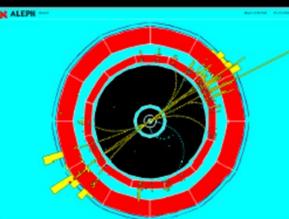
### Some of the basic characteristics



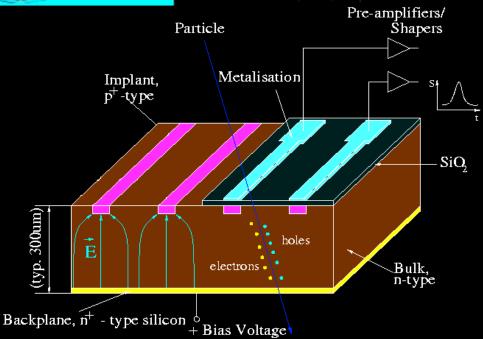
## Silicon strip detectors

### Silicon detectors are transforming the way we look at particles





- Essentially diode with reverse bias.
- Depleted of free charge carriers.
- High resistance, only small leakage current.
- Charge deposition by ionising particle causes current.
- Use segmented electrodes (strips or pixels).
- Can localise charge deposition.
- Much better resolution than strip pitch if taking charge sharing into account.
- Only few eV per ionisation (gases: factor 10 more). HPGe experiment.
- Good amplitude signal.

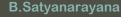


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## Silicon strip detectors

- Reading out strips is comparatively easy - just attach chips to the end.
- Readout of strip sensor, power distribution and control → hybrids.
- Custom readout chips wire bonded to electrodes on the sensor.
- Chips have amplifiers, ADCs, zero suppression, cluster finder, storage, digital communication with outside world.
- Some drawbacks
- Strip detectors would often exceed useful occupancy in many modern systems.
- Strip information can make hit reconstruction ambiguous.



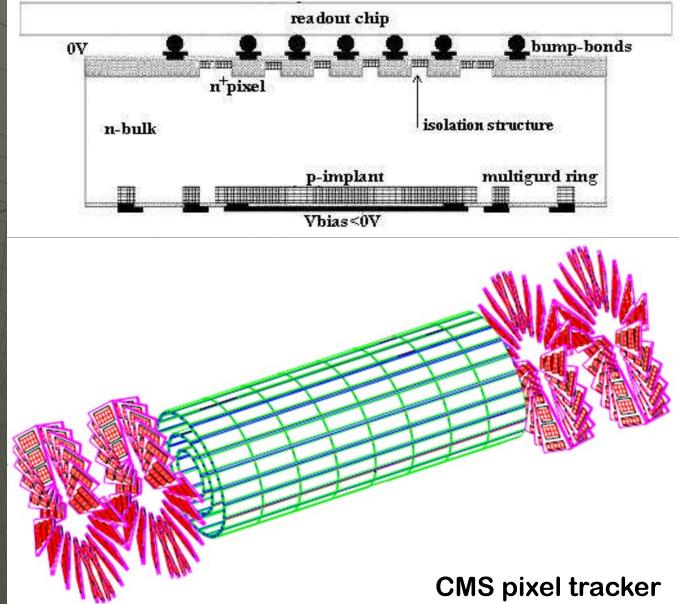
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## Silicon pixel detectors

- Silicon pixel detectors do much better on the hit reconstruction problems.
- However, reading pixel detectors is nontrivial.
- Options for pixel detector readout:
- Place readout chips all over the sensors (more material budget).
- Integrate readout electronics into sensor (larger pixels).
- Sequentially clock signals through to end of sensor (slower readout).



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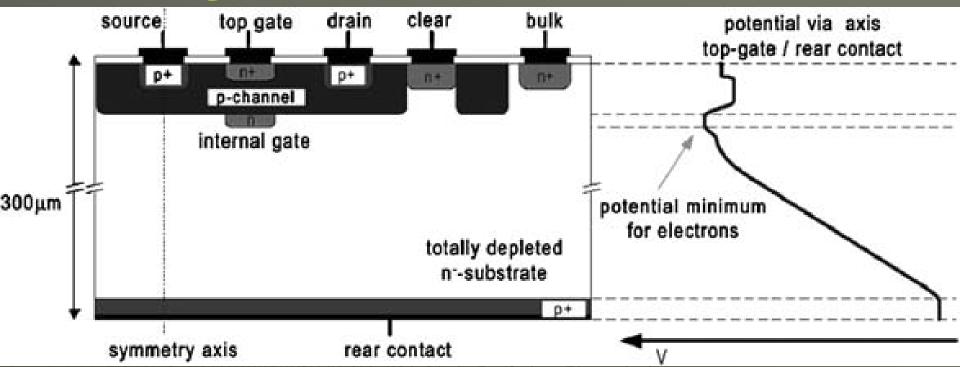
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## Integration of detectors & readout

- Compatible integration of detectors and readout electronics on the same silicon substrate is of growing interest.
- As the methods of microelectronics technology have already been adapted for detector fabrication, a common technology basis for detectors and readout electronics is available.
- CMOS technology exhibits most attractive features for the compatible realisation of readout electronics where advanced LSI processing steps are combined with detector requirements.
- The essential requirements for compatible integration are the:
  - availability of high resistivity oriented single crystalline silicon substrate
  - formation of suitably doped areas for MOS circuits
  - isolation of the low voltage circuits from the detector, which is operated at much higher supply voltage.
- Junction isolation as a first approach based on present production technology and dielectric isolation based on an advanced SOI-LSI technology are the most promising solutions for present and future applications, respectively.
- Some examples: MAPS (Monolithic Active Pixels), DEPFET, WIPS, SOI sensors.

## Integrated silicon detectors



- DEPFET was developed for X-ray applications
  - Consists of high-resistivity silicon substrate fully depleted through an n+ contact at the side of the sensor.
  - The first amplifying transistors are integrated directly into the substrate and form the pixel structure.
  - Electrons from ionizing particles are collected in this internal gate and modify the transistor current yielding a signal.
  - A matrix containing 64×64 square pixels of  $50\mu m$  size achieved a resolution of  $9.5\mu m$  and 40e- noise.
- MAPS integrate sensors and readout electronics on the same substrate using a technology similar to the one used in visible light CMOS cameras

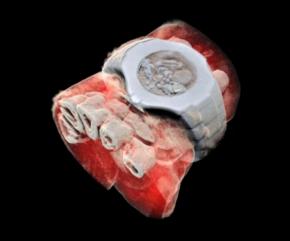
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## **Pixel sensors for medical imaging**

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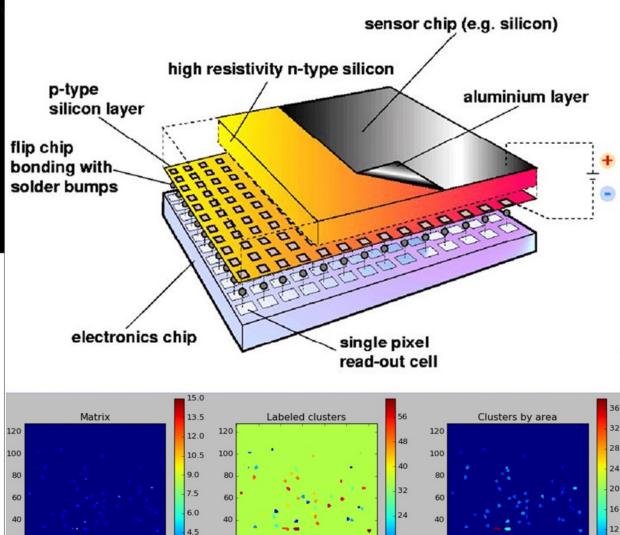


### World's first ever colour X-ray performed on human body

Scientists from New Zealand have performed the first-ever 3-D, colour X-ray on a human body, using the imaging technology developed for the Large Hadron Collider at the CERN physics lab. Scientists claim that this new imaging technology will help in providing more information about the tissues and mass surrounding the bones, something that was not possible with traditional X-ray imaging.

## **Ehe New York Eimes**

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100

20

3.0

1.5

0.0

20

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100

16

100 120

80

20

### **Challenges facing Si detectors** Main issue is radiation damage. Silicon detectors are invariably located in the high dose region (mostly used in trackers). Surface damage: charge build-up, noise Bulk damage: displacements in crystal lattice reduced charge collection efficiency (charge lost in traps).

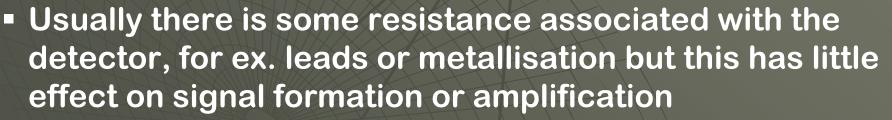
- changes dopant levels and distribution (affects bias voltage).
- increased leakage current (noise).
- increase in the voltage required for full depletion.
- increase in capacitance between the detecting elements.

### **Electronic requirements for detectors**

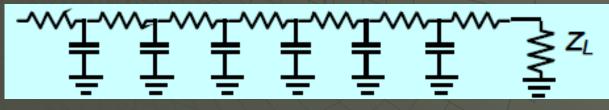
Detector	Physics	Technical
Tracking	High spatial precision Large channel count Limited energy precision Limited dynamic range	Low power ~mW/channel High radiation levels ~10Mrad
Calorimeter (EM & Hadron)	High energy resolution Large energy range Excellent linearity Very stable over time	Intermediate radiation levels ~0.5Mrad Power constraints
Muon	Very large area Moderate spatial resolution Accurate alignment & stability	Low radiation levels
Time of Flight	Discriminates between a lighter and a heavier particle of the same momentum	Time of flight between two detector planes
Neutrinos	Detected through inferred momentum conservation.	Good spatial and time resolutions
Dark matter	Principle of nuclear recoil by candidate particles	Low counting and high precision experiment
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## **Detector equivalent circuits**

- Many of the detectors can be modelled as current source associated with large internal resistance and a small capacitance.
- Capacitance of various detectors:
  - 100fF for semiconductor pixel
  - 10-20pF for gas or Si microstrip, PMT anode
  - 100pF for large area diode
  - μF for wire chamber



- Notable exceptions: microstrips gas or silicon
  - The capacitance is distributed, along with the strip resistance
  - Forms a dissipative transmission line:



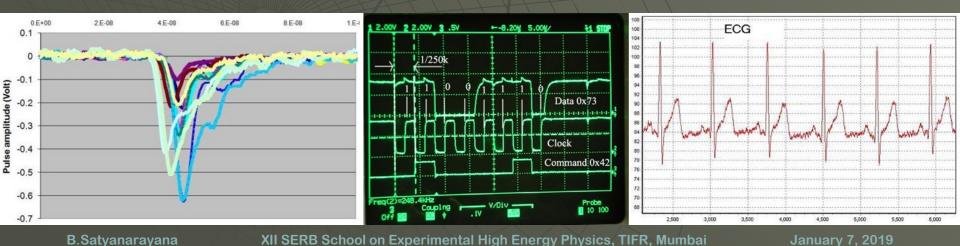
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# **Types of Signals**

- Wide range of signal types are possible
  - Depends on sensors or detectors
  - Depends on any further transformation for example light to electrical (PMT, SiPM etc.)
- Most common types of signals
  - Short, random pulses usually of current. Pulse shape, amplitude, rise time, area etc. carry useful information - typical of radiation detectors
  - Trains of pulses, often current, usually binary typical of communication systems
  - Continuous, usually of slowly varying quantity for example current or voltage



## **Issues on signal production**

#### Duration

- Radiation: depends on transit time through detector and details of charge induction process in external circuit.
- Linearity
  - Most radiation detectors are characterised or chosen for linearity.
  - Commercial components can expect non-linearity, offset and possible saturation.
- Reproducibility
  - Many signals are temperature dependent in magnitude mobility of charges, other effects easily possible as well.
- Ageing
  - Detector signals can change with time for many reasons.
  - Natural degradation of detector, variation in operating conditions, radiation damage, etc.
- All these issues mean that one should always be checking or calibrating measurements intended for accuracy, as best one can.

# **Dynamic range of signals**

- In most systems, there will be a smallest <u>measurable</u> signal,
  - If there is noise present, it is most likely to be related to the smallest signal distinguishable from noise.
- In the absence of any ionising radiation there is a small current, which is called the dark current or leakage current.
   and a largest measurable signal.
  - Most likely set by apparatus or instrument, eg. saturation
- Dynamic range = ratio of largest to smallest signal often expressed in dB or bits
  - For example, 8 bits = dynamic range is 256<sub>10</sub>
     = 48dB (if the signal is voltage)
- Decibels (dB)
  - Signal magnitudes cover wide range, so frequently logarithmic scale is preferred.
  - Number of dB =  $10\log_{10}(P_2/P_1)$ , if power is used.
  - Often voltages are measured, then dB =  $20\log_{10}(V_2/V_1)$



# Signal processing

 Measurement of physical parameters using sensors or detectors in the end nearly always comes down to handling some small <u>electrical</u> signals.

 Dealing with such small signals is one of the main challenges in designing reliable instruments or systems.

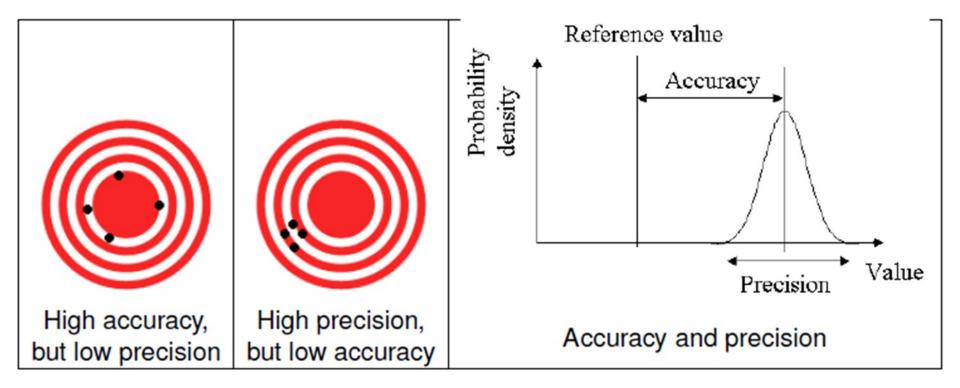
 Electronic processing of signals is done in some fashion to extract some useful information from them, usually leading to measurement of a physical parameter.

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## **Precision and accuracy**

Accuracy is the degree of conformity of a measured or calculated quantity to its actual (true) value. *Precision* is the degree to which further measurements or calculations will show the same or similar results. The results of calculations or a measurement can be accurate but not precise; precise but not accurate; neither; or both. A result is called *valid* if it is both accurate and precise.



# Amplifiers

Inescapable in electronic instruments

- amplifiers are needed for most of the detectors
- even if not used to boost signals, amplifiers are the basis of most important functional blocks
- In many circumstances amplification, in the sense of "boosting" signals, is vital
  - signals to be measured or observed are often small
  - defined by source or object being observed
  - and detector it is not usually easy to get large signals
  - data have to be transferred over long distances without errors
  - safest with "large" signals ©

## **Amplifiers in systems**

### Amplification

- role of a preamplifier
- single gain stage rarely sufficient
- add gain to avoid external noise, for ex. to transfer signals from detector
- practical designs depend on detailed requirements
- constraints on power, space,... cost in large systems
- ex. ICs use limited supply voltage which may constrain dynamic range
- Noise will be an important issue in many situations
  - most noise originates at input as first stage of amplifier dominates
  - often refer to Preamplifier = input amplifier
  - may be closest to detector, subsequently transfer signal further away
- In principle, several possible choices
  - I sensitive (Used with low impedance detectors)
  - V sensitive (Conventional, most common)
  - Q sensitive (Used with semiconductor detectors)

## **Current sensitive amplifier**

Common configuration, eg for photodiode signals

$$v_{out} = -Av_{in}$$
  
 $v_{in} - v_{out} = i_{in}R_{f}$   
 $v_{out} = -[A/(A+1)].i_{in}R_{f} \approx -i_{in}R_{f}$ 

Input impedance

 $v_{in} = i_{in}R_f/(A+1)$   $Z_{in} = R_f/(A+1)$ 

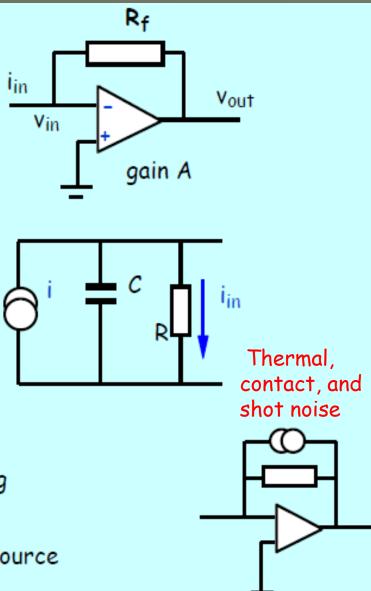
•Effect of C & R<sub>in</sub> - consider in frequency domain  $v_0 = i(1/j\omega C||R_{in})$ 

input signal convoluted with falling exponential increasing  $R_f$  to gain sensitivity will increase  $\tau$  fast pulses will follow input with some broadening

Noise

feedback resistor is a noise source

contributes current fluctuations at input ~  $1/R_{\rm f}$ 



# Voltage sensitive amplifier

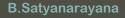
- Most commonly used, simple to implement
- Many times, input signal is first manipulated, followed by a voltage amplifier
- •As we have seen many sensors produce current signals but some examples produce voltages thermistor, thermocouple,...

op-amp voltage amplifier ideal for these especially slowly varying signals - few kHz or less

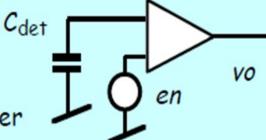
 For sensors with current signals voltage amplifier usually used for secondary stages of amplification

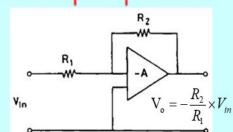
•Signal  $V_{out} = Q_{sig}/C_{tot}$   $C_{tot} = total input capacitance$   $C_{tot}$  will also include contributions from wiring and amplifier  $V_{out}$  depends on  $C_{tot}$ not desirable if  $C_{det}$  is likely to vary eq with time, between similar sensors, or depending on con

eg with time, between similar sensors, or depending on conditions



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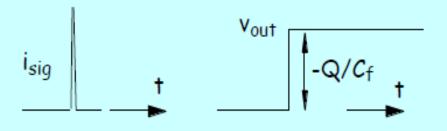
# **Charge sensitive amplifier**

•Ideally, simple integrator with  $C_{\rm f}$ 

but need means to discharge capacitor - large R<sub>f</sub>

- •Assume amplifier has Z<sub>in</sub> very high (usual case)
  - $v_{out} = -Av_{in}$   $v_{out} v_{in} = i_{in}/j\omega C_{f}$   $v_{out} = -[A/(A+1)].i_{in}/j\omega C_{f} \approx i_{in}/j\omega C_{f}$   $= -Q/C_{f}$

i<sub>in</sub> Cf Vout

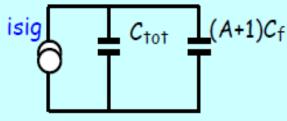


•Input impedance

 $v_{in} = i_{in}/(A+1)j\omega C_f$   $C=(A+1)C_f$  at low f

so amplifier looks like large capacitor to signal source low impedance but some charge lost

e.g. 
$$A = 10^3$$
  $C_f = 1 \text{pF}$ 

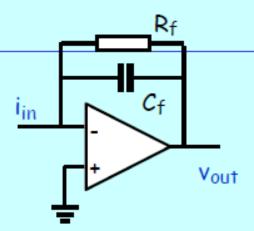


 $Q_{A} = Q/[1 + C_{tot}/(A+1)C_{f}]$ 

### Feedback resistance

Must have means to discharge capacitor so add R<sub>f</sub>

- $Z_f = R_f || 1/j \omega C_f$
- $v_{out} = -[A/(A+1)].i_{in}Z_{f}$ 
  - =  $i(\omega)R_f/(1 + j\omega\tau_f)$   $\tau_f = R_fC_f$



step replaced by decay with ~ exp(-t/R<sub>f</sub>C<sub>f</sub>)  $\tau$  is long because R<sub>f</sub> is large (noise) easiest way to limit pulse pileup - differentiate ie add high pass filter

#### Pole-zero cancellation

exponential decay + differentiation => unwanted baseline undershoot

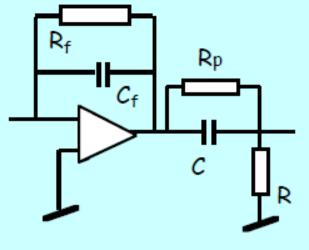
introduce canceling network

$$v_0 = 1/(1 + j\omega\tau_f)$$
  
 $v_1 = 1/(1 + j\omega\tau_f)(1 + j\omega\tau_1)$   
 $\tau_1 = RC < \tau_f$ 

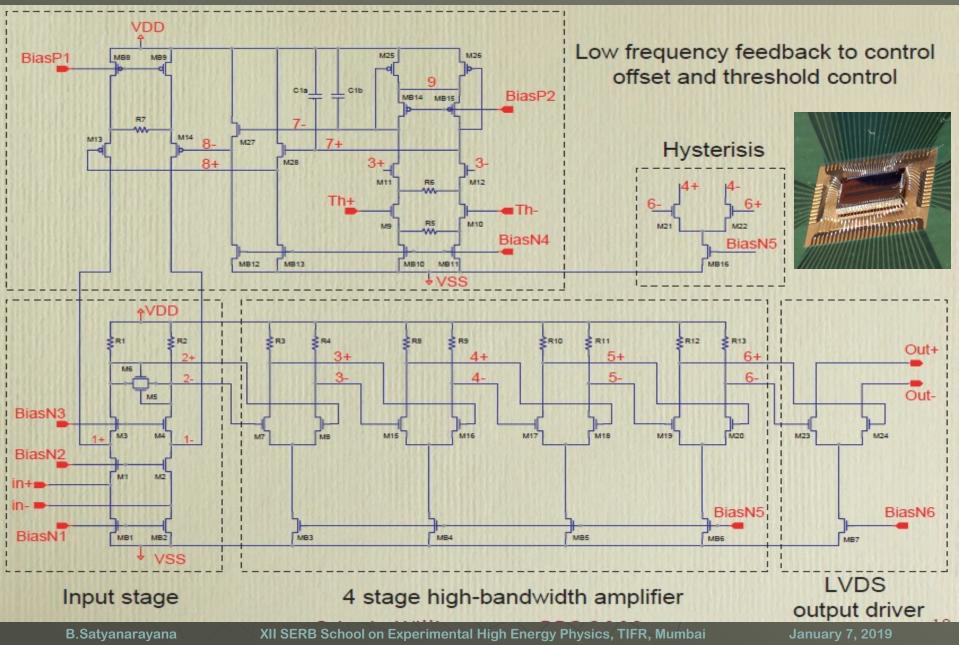
add resistor  $R_p so R_p C = \tau_f$ 

then

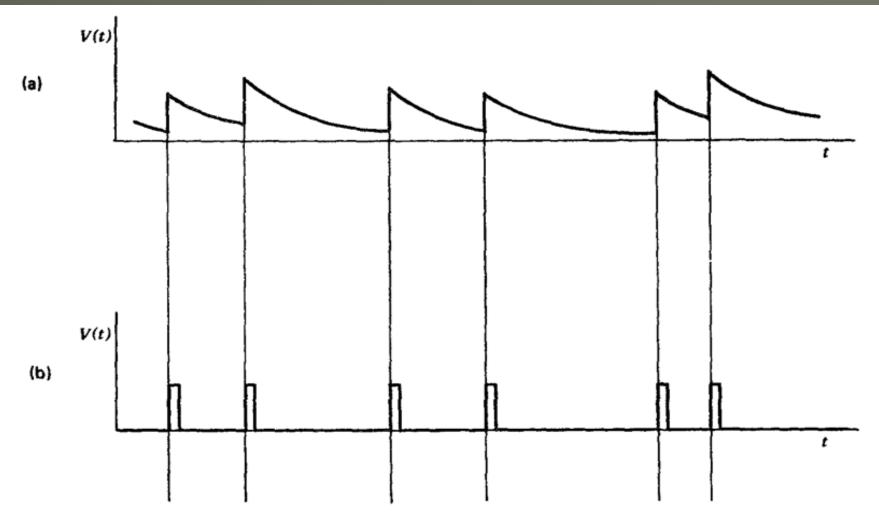
$$v_1' = 1/(1 + j\omega\tau_3)$$
 with  $\tau_3 = (R||R_p)C < \tau_f$ 



# **Typical modern amplifier ASIC**



## Need for pulse shaping



The pulses with long tails shown in part (a) illustrate the apparent variation in amplitude due to pulse pile-up. These effects can greatly be reduced by shaping the pulses as in part (b).

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# **Pulse shaping**

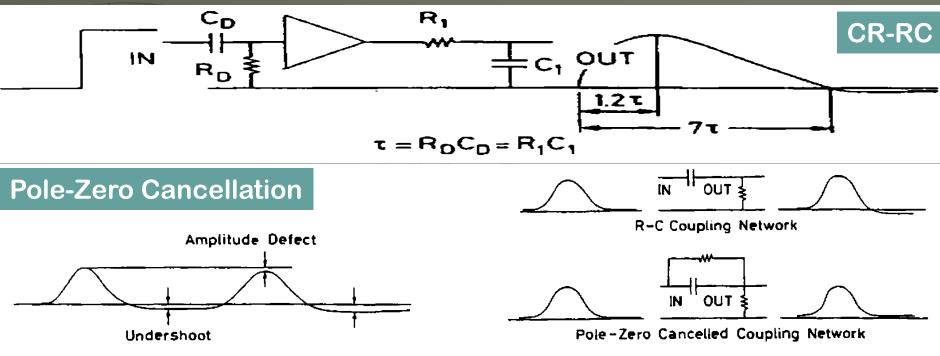
- Amplifiers must preserve the information of interest
  - If timing is required: fast response
  - If pulse height is required: strict proportionality, limit bandwidth
- Preamplifier pulse
  - Exponential with long tail
  - Pulse pileup: Reduce counting rate or reshape
- Optimization of signal-to-noise ratio
  - For a given noise spectrum, there exists an optimum pulse shape to improve the signal-to-noise ratio
  - For ex: Tail pulses in presence of typical noise spectra are not ideal
  - Triangular or Gaussian symmetric pulse shapes are ideal
- Fast amplifiers: No or very little shaping
- What to do in case you need good timing and pulse height information?

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## **CR-RC** pulse shapers



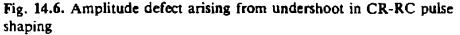
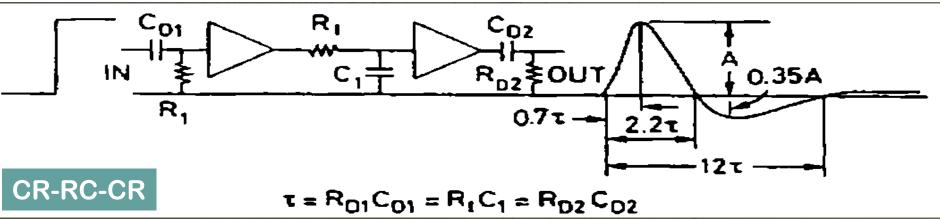


Fig. 14.7. Pole-zero cancellation circuit (from Ortec catalog [14.1])



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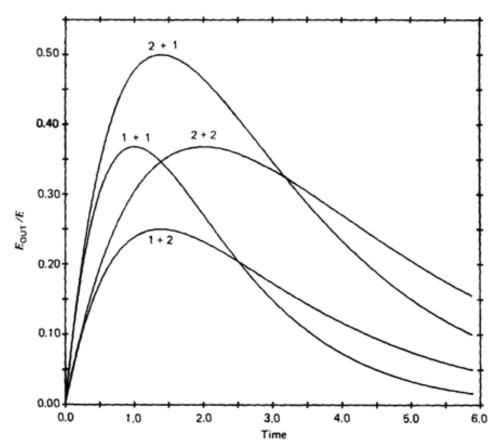
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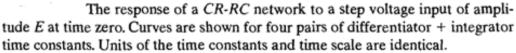
$$E_{\text{out}} = \frac{E\tau_1}{\tau_1 - \tau_2} \left( e^{-t/\tau_1} - e^{-t/\tau_2} \right)$$

where  $\tau_1$  and  $\tau_2$  are time constants of the differentiating and integrating networks, respectively. Plots of this response for several different combinations of  $\tau_1$  and  $\tau_2$  are shown in Fig. 16.12.

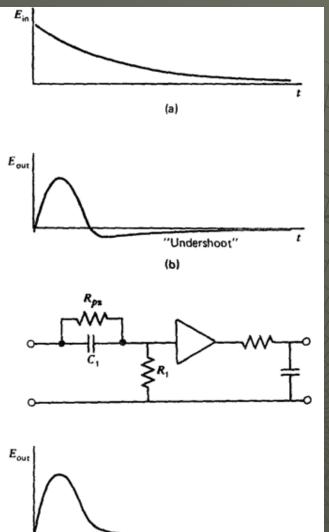
In nuclear pulse amplifiers, CR-RC shaping is most often carried out using equal differentiation and integration time constants. In that event, Eq. (16.22) becomes indeterminant, and a particular solution for this case is

$$E_{\rm out} = E \frac{t}{\tau} e^{-t/\tau}$$





## **Pole-zero cancellation**



Poles and Zeros of a transfer function are the frequencies for which the value of the denominator and numerator of transfer function becomes zero respectively. The values of the poles and the zeros of a system determine whether the system is stable, and how well the system performs. Physically realizable control systems must have a number of poles greater than or equal to the number of zeros.

Application of pole-zero cancellation to eliminate the undershoot (b) normally generated by a CR-RC shaping network for an input step with finite decay time. By adding an appropriate resistance  $R_{pz}$  to the differentiator stage, a waveform without undershoot (c) can be obtained.

# **Comparators/Discriminators**

Frequently need to compare a signal with a reference

eg temperature control, light detection, DVM,... basis of analogue to digital conversion -> 1 bit

#### Comparator

high gain differential amplifier,

difference between inputs sends output to saturation (+ or -)<sup>R2</sup> could be op-amp - without feedback - or purpose designed IC Sometimes ICs designed with open-collector output so add pull-up R to supply

also available with latch (memory) function

#### •NB

no negative feedback so  $v_{-} \neq v_{+}$ 

saturation voltages may not reach supply voltages - check specs speed of transition

#### Potential problem

multiple transitions as signal changes near threshold

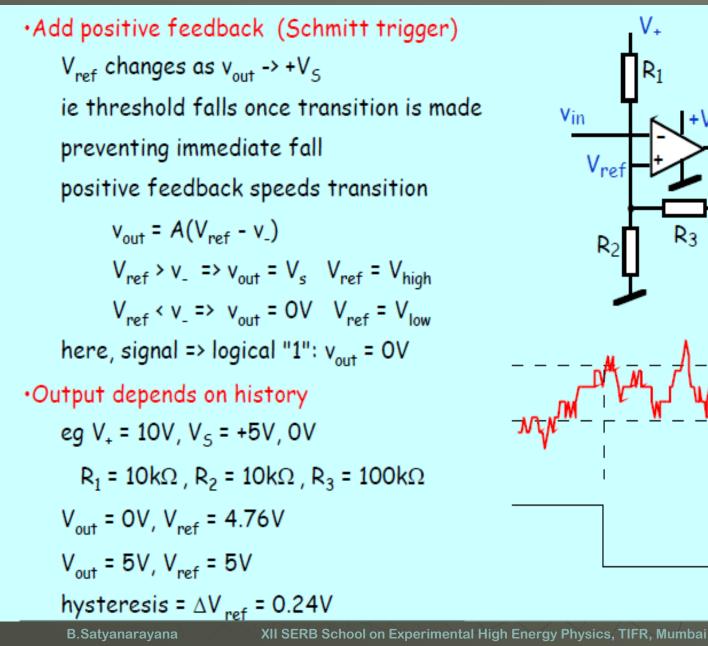
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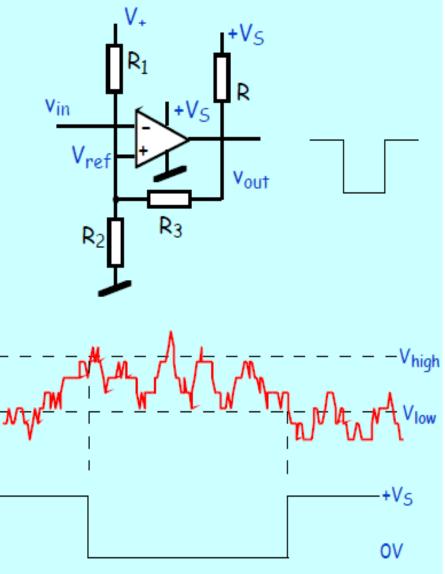
R<sub>1</sub>

۷in

+Vs

## Hysteresis





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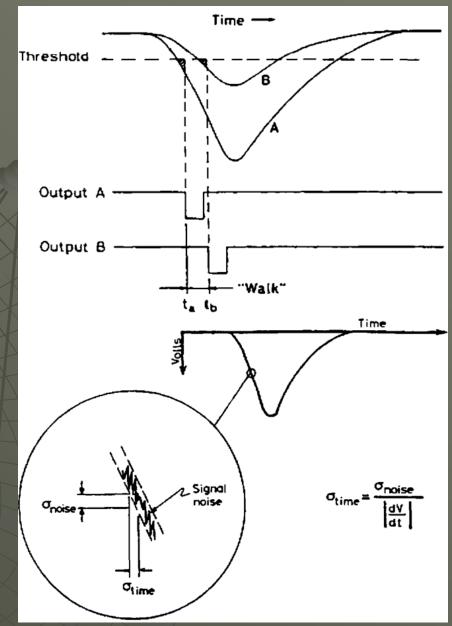
### **Considerations for discriminators**

### Two common problems

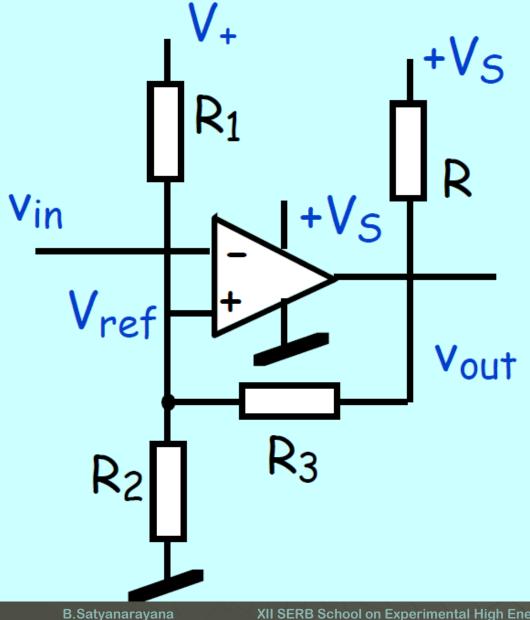
- Walk
- Jitter
- Time-Pickoff methods
  - Leading edge triggering
  - Fast zero-crossing triggering
  - Constant fraction triggering
  - Amplitude and risetime compensated triggering

## Two common problems

Walk (due to variations) in the amplitude and rise time, finite amount of charge required to trigger the discriminator) Jitter (due to intrinsic) detection process variations in the number of charges generated, their transit times and multiplication factor etc.)



## Leading edge discriminators



Fine with if input amplitudes restricted to small range.

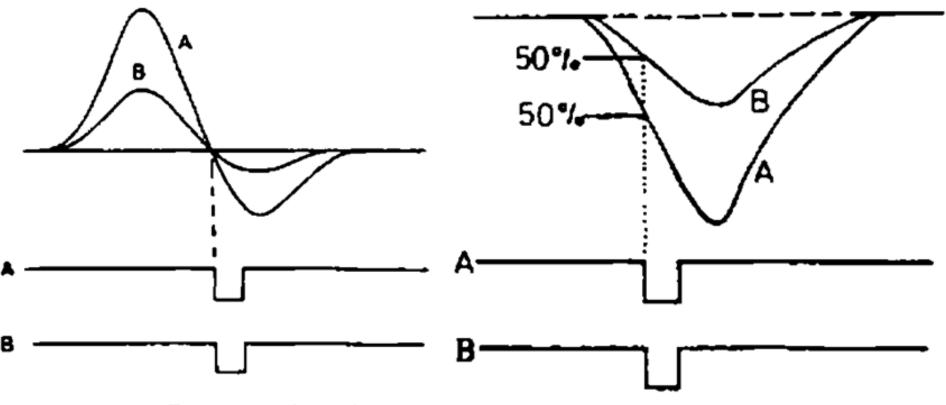
### For example:

- With 1 to 1.2 range, resolution is about 400ps.
- But at 1 to 10 range, the walk effect increases to ±10ns.
- That will need off-line corrections for timewalk using charge or time-over-threshold (TOT) measurements.

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## **Zero-crossing and Constant fraction**



Zero-crossing timing. Variations in the cross-over point Constant fraction disare known as zero-crossing walk crimination

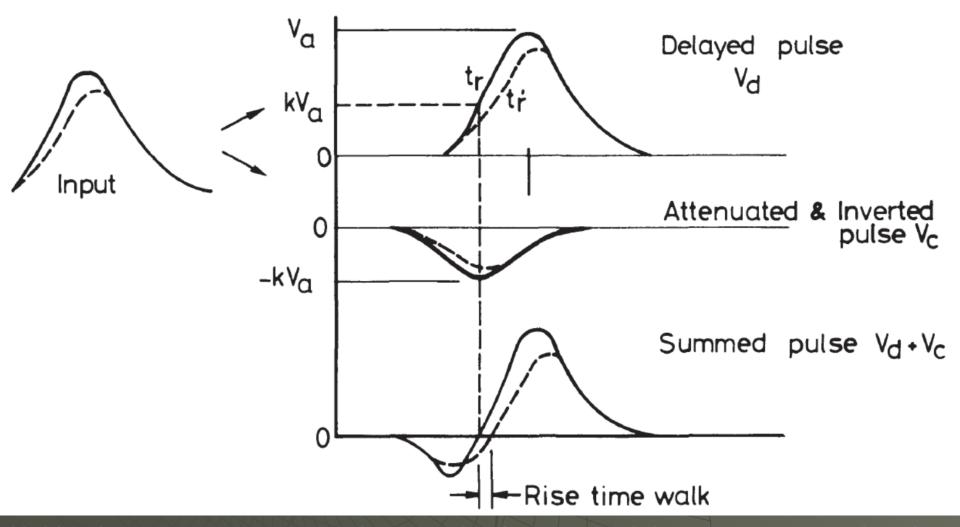
In case of Zero-crossing triggering, timing resolution improves to 400ps, if amplitude range is 1 to 1.2 and to 600ps, even if the amplitude range is 1 to 10.

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## **Constant fraction triggering**



Unlike the zero cross-over technique, the CFT method does not require a bipolar pulse at the input. The efficiency of this technique is, nevertheless, very high yielding walk as little as ±20ps over an amplitude range of 100 to 1.

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# **Analogue to Digital Conversion**

- Converts electrical input (voltage/charge) into numeric value
- Parameters and requirements
  - Resolution
    - the granularity of the digital values
  - Integral Non-Linearity
    - proportionality of output to input
  - Differential Non-Linearity
    - uniformity of digitisation increments
  - Conversion time
    - how much time to convert signal to digital value
  - Count-rate performance
    - how quickly a new conversion can begin after a previous event
  - Stability

### how much values change with time

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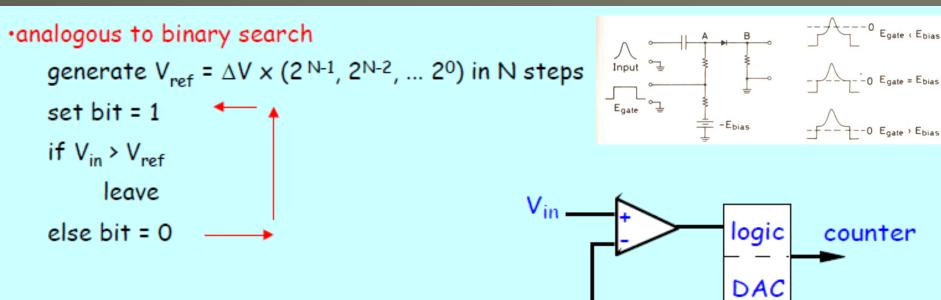
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### **Analog-to-Digital Converters (ADCs)** Peak-sensing Maximum of the voltage signal is digitised • Ex: Signal of the PMT in voltage mode (slow signals, already integrated) Charge sensitive Total integrated current digitised • Ex: Signal of the PMT in the current mode (fast signals) • Time of integration or the time period over which the ADC seeks a maximum is determined by the width of the gate signal

## **Types of ADCs**

Successive approximation Ramp or Wilkinson Sigma-delta ADC Flash or parallel Hybrid (Wilkinson + successive) approximation) Tracking ADC Parallel ripple ADC Variable threshold flash ADC

## **Successive approximation ADC**



#### •Pros

speed ~ *µ*sec

high resolution

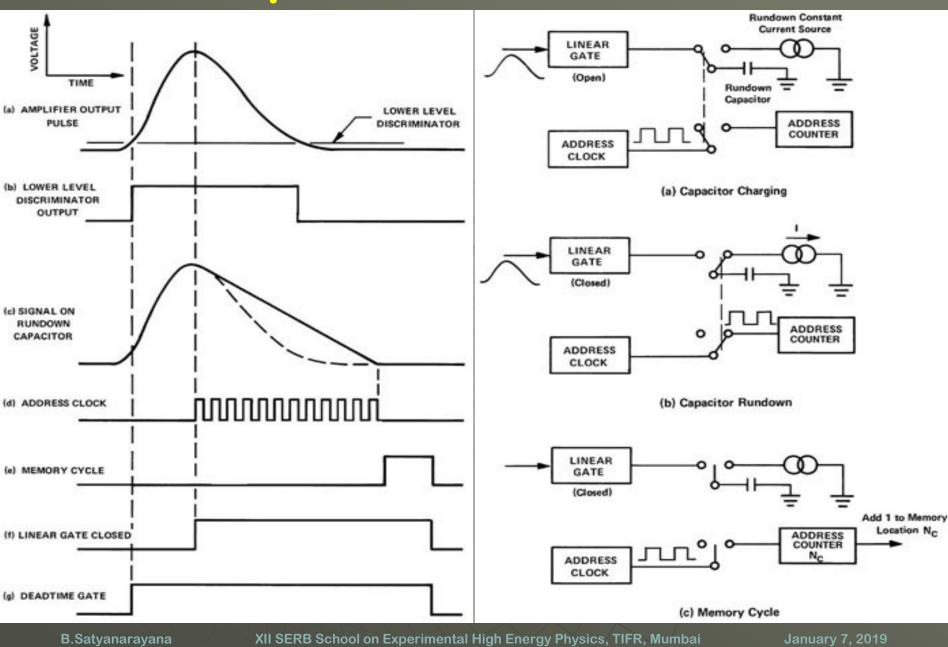
#### •Cons

DNL 10-20%

very precise resistors required with DAC for V<sub>ref</sub>

DAC = digital to analogue converter ie number -> voltage

## **Ramp or Wilkinson ADC**



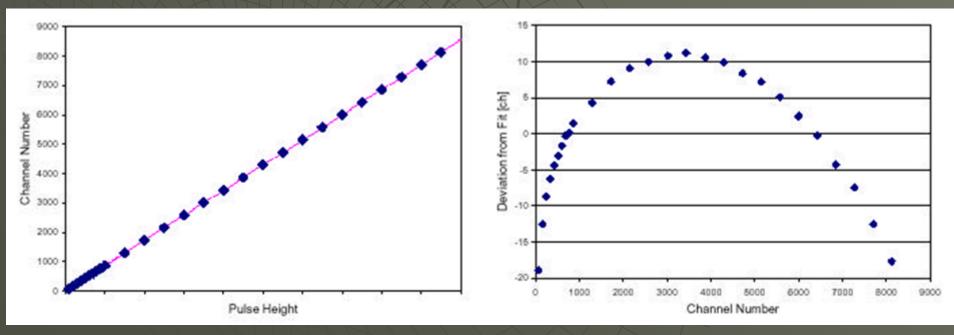
## Sigma-delta ADC

- •Digitise the signal with 1-bit resolution at a high sampling rate (MHz).
  - useful for high resolution conversion of low-frequency signals, to 20bits
    - low-distortion conversion of audio signals
    - good linearity and high accuracy.

#### the higher the input voltage, the more 1's at the serial digital output.

## **Integral non-linearity**

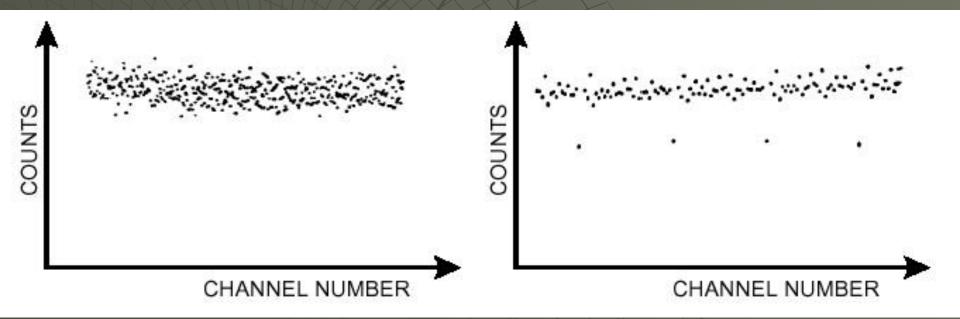
- Output value (D) should be linearly proportional to input voltage (V).
- Check with plot
- For more precise evaluation of INL fit the data to a straight line and plot only deviations.
   That is, plot D<sub>i</sub>-D<sub>fit</sub> vs nchan



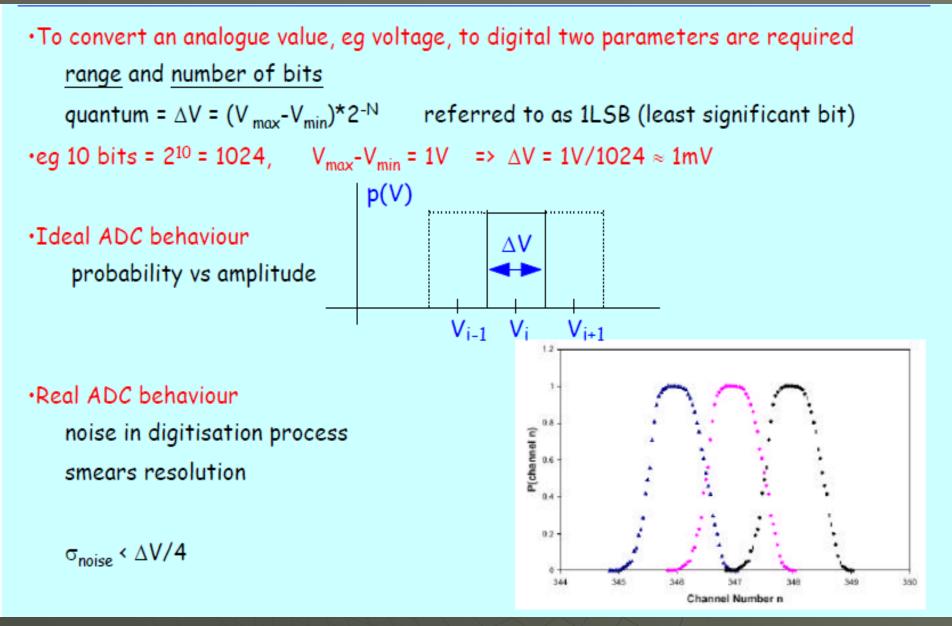
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## **Differential non-linearity**

- Measures non-uniformity in channel profiles over range
   DNL = DV /<DV> 1
  - DV<sub>i</sub> = width of channel i
  - OV> = average width
- RMS or worst case values may be quoted
  - DNL ~ 1% typical but 10<sup>-3</sup> can be achieved
  - can show up systematic effects, as well as random



## Resolution



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## **Other variables**

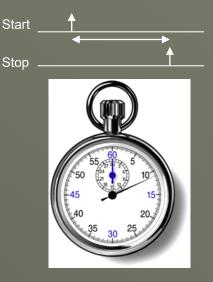
#### Conversion time

- finite time is required for conversion and storage of values
- may depend on signal amplitude
- gives rise to dead time in system
- i.e. system cannot handle another event during dead time
- may need accounting for, or risk bias in results
- Rate effects
  - results may depend on rate of arrival of signals
  - typically lead to spectral broadening
- Stability
  - temperature effects are a typical cause of variations

 A partial solution to most of these problems is regular calibration, preferably under real operating conditions, as well as control of variables

# **Time-to-Digital Converters**

- TDCs are used to measure time or intervals
- Start Stop measurement
  - Measurement of time interval between two events:
  - Start signal Stop signal
  - Used to measure relatively short time intervals with high precision
  - Like a stop watch used to measure sport competitions
- Time tagging
  - Measure time of occurrence of events with a given time reference
  - Time reference (Clock)
  - Events to be measured (Hits)
  - Used to measure relative occurrence of many events on a defined time scale
  - Such a time scale will have limited range; like 12/24 hour time scale on your watch



	Time scale (clock)					
	` ↑	↑↑	<b>↑</b>	<b>↑</b>		
Hits		↑ ↑↑	<b>↑</b> ↑	Ť		

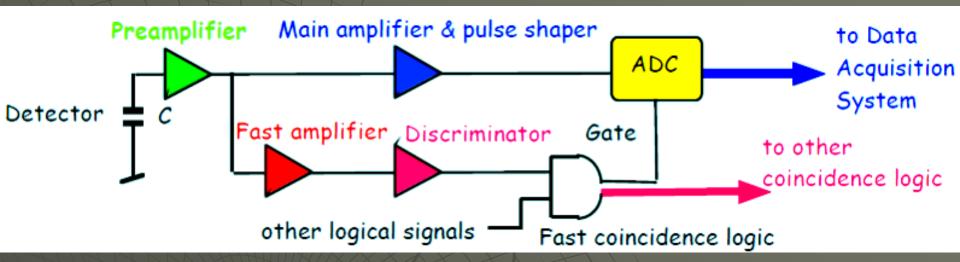


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## **Amplifier systems for spectroscopy**

 Typical application - precise measurements of x-ray or gamma-ray energies

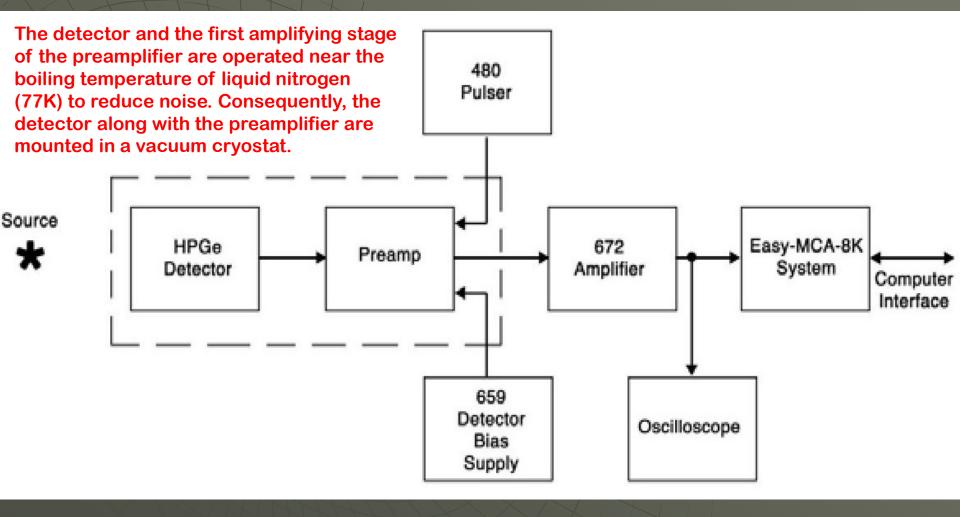


- Pre-amplifier first stage of amplification
- Main amplifier adds gain and provides bandwidth limiting
  - ADC analog to digital conversion signal amplitude to binary number
- Fast amplifier and logic
  - Start ADC ("gate") and flag interesting "events" to DAQ system
  - Most signals arrive randomly in time.
  - Other logic required to maximise chance of "good" event, ex. second detector

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## **Amplifier systems for spectroscopy**

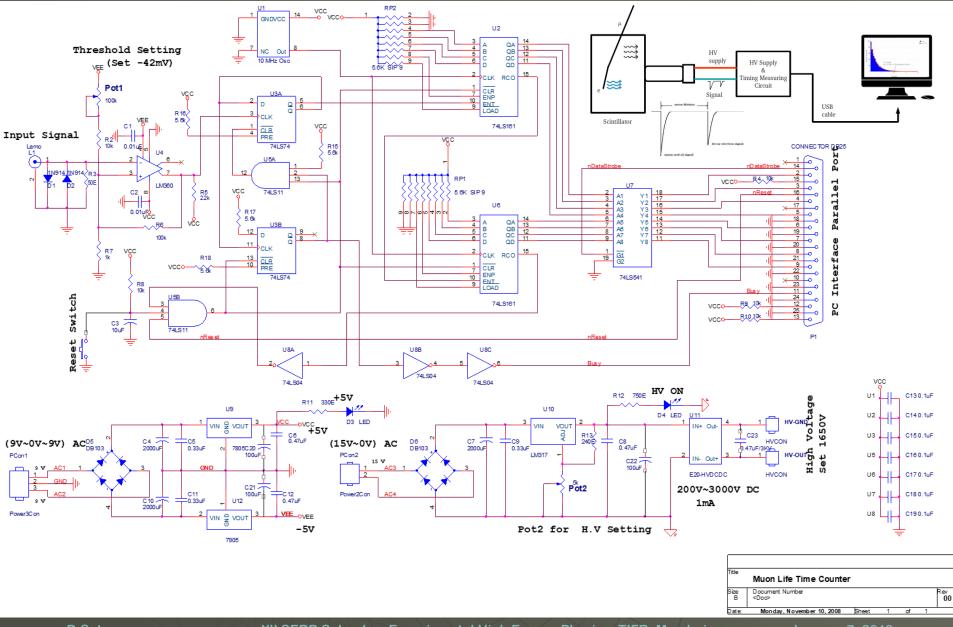
 Typical application - precise measurements of x-ray or gamma-ray energies



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#### A simple circuit for a useful experiment



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# **Basic digital logic**

- ·bits can be represented in several ways, almost invariably voltage
  - 0/1: Low/High (voltage level) ... or High/Low values and range depend on families, most common are...
- •TTL (bipolar) Transistor-Transistor Logic usually V<sub>S</sub> = 0 to +5V

 $V_T \sim 1.5V \quad \Delta V \sim 1V$ 

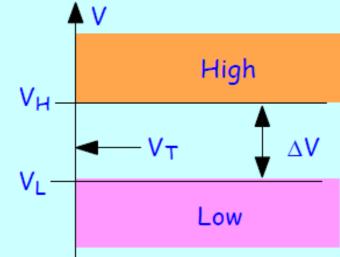
- outputs & inputs sink/source currents not identical levels
- CMOS now most common

$$V_{S} = 0$$
 to +5V but +12V, +3.5V and lower

 $V_T \sim V_S /2$   $\Delta V \sim 0.4 V_S$ 

outputs swing between supplies

 ECL Emitter Coupled Logic high speed, but power hungry



designs must tolerate variations component manufacture operating temperature supply voltage loading noise

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# **Integrated Circuits and VLSI**

 Integrated Circuits contain many transistors fabricated on a single chip.

- They are classified as
  - <100: SSI (1963)
  - 100-3000: MSI (1970)
  - 3000-30000: LSI (1975)
  - 30000-1000000: VLSI (1980)
  - >1000000: ULSI (1990)

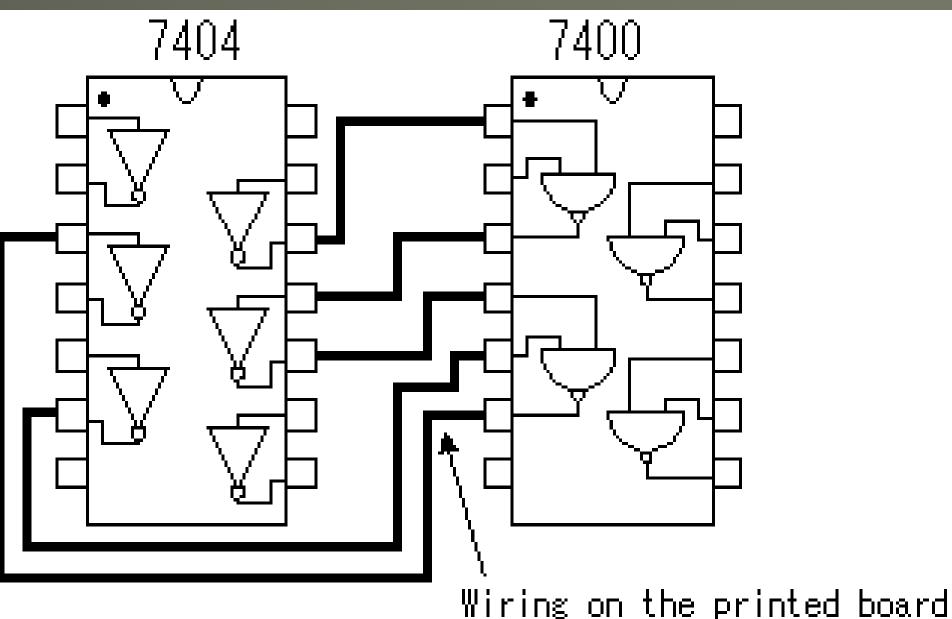


A VLSI (Very Large) **Scale Integration**) system integrates millions of "electronic components" in a small area (few mm<sup>2</sup> to few cm<sup>2</sup>). **Objectives:** design "efficient" VLSI systems that has: Circuit speed (high) Power consumption (low)

• Design area (low)

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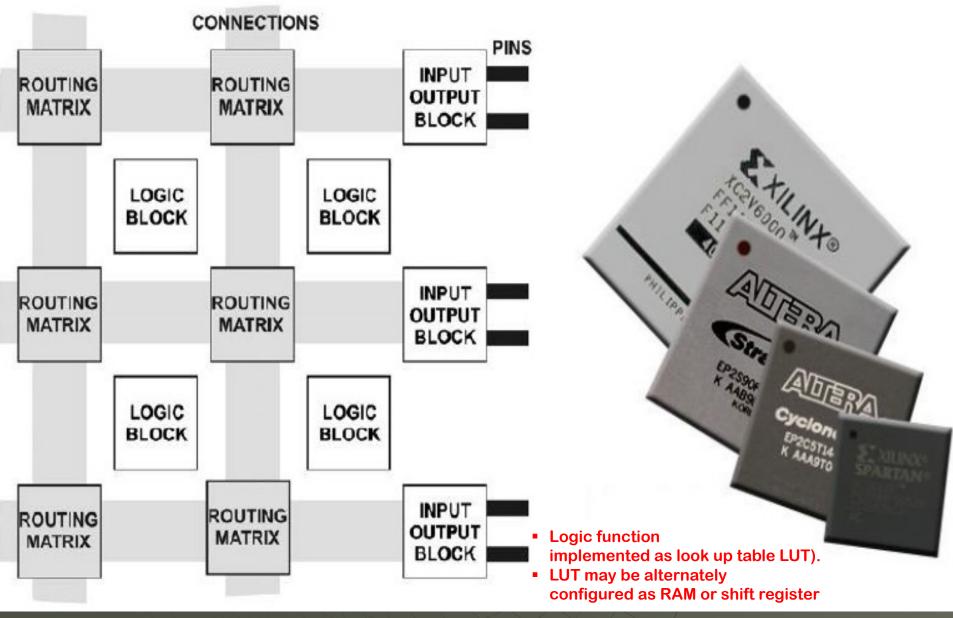
#### 'Old way' of building circuits using ICs



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#### Field Programmable Gate Array (FPGA)



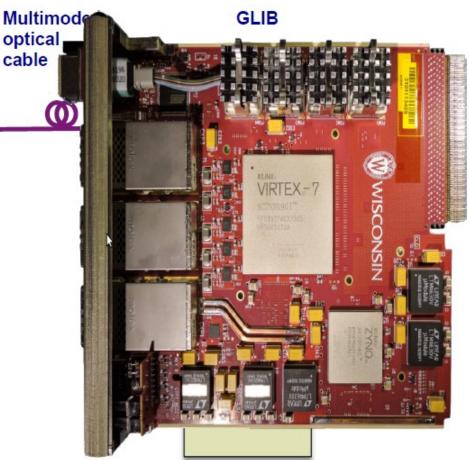
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## **Computation and communication**

- Artificial Intelligence on FPGAs: A breakthrough for data acquisition in HEP experiments
- Class separation and parameter estimation
- Energy reconstruction
- Particle identification
- Particle tracking
- Event selection
- Customised hardware
  - High-end FPGAs
  - GPUs and architectures
  - TPU ASICs





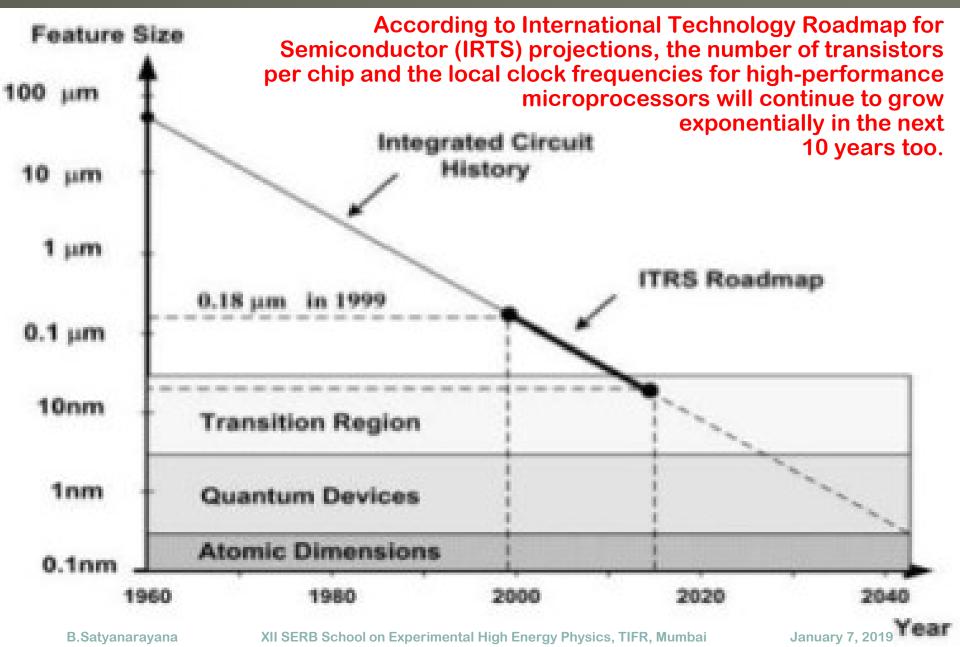
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## **FPGA versus ASIC**

Parameter	FPGA	ASIC	
Circuit Design	User programmable	Fully custom	
Design Flexibility	Reconfigurable	Rigid	
Logic Density	Lower	Higher	
Complexity	Limited	High	
Speed	Lower	Higher	
Power Consumption	Higher	Lower	
Area	Large	Small	
Development Cycle	Simpler and faster	Complicated and time- consuming	
Development Cost	Lower	Extremely high	
Production Cost	Effective for small-scale applications	Cheaper for large- volume designs	

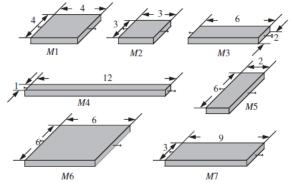
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## **Trends in feature size**



# **Challenges of technology scaling**

- Advances in optical lithography have allowed manufacturing of on-chip structures with increasingly higher resolution.
- The area, power, and speed characteristics of transistors with a planar structure, such as MOS devices, improve with the decrease (i.e. scaling) in the lateral dimensions of the devices. Therefore, these technologies are referred as scalable.
- Generally, scalable technology has three main goals:
  - Reduce gate delay by 30%, resulting in an increase in operating frequency of about 43%.
  - Double transistor density and
  - Reduce energy per transition by about 65%, saving 50% of power, at a 43% increase in frequency.

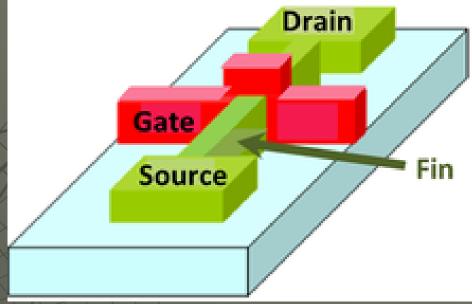


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# **FinFET technology**

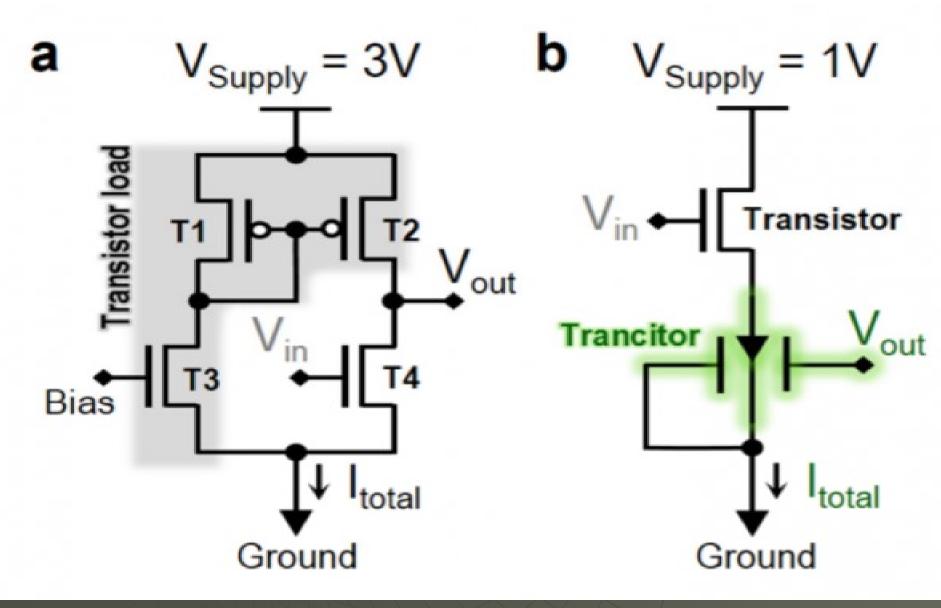
A Fin Field-effect transistor(FinFET) is a MOSFET double-gate transistor built on substrate where the gate is placed on two, three, or four sides of the channel or wrapped around the channel, forming a double gate structure. These devices have been given the generic name "FinFETs" because the source/drain region forms fins on the silicon surface. The FinFET devices have significantly faster switching times and higher current density than the mainstream CMOS technology.



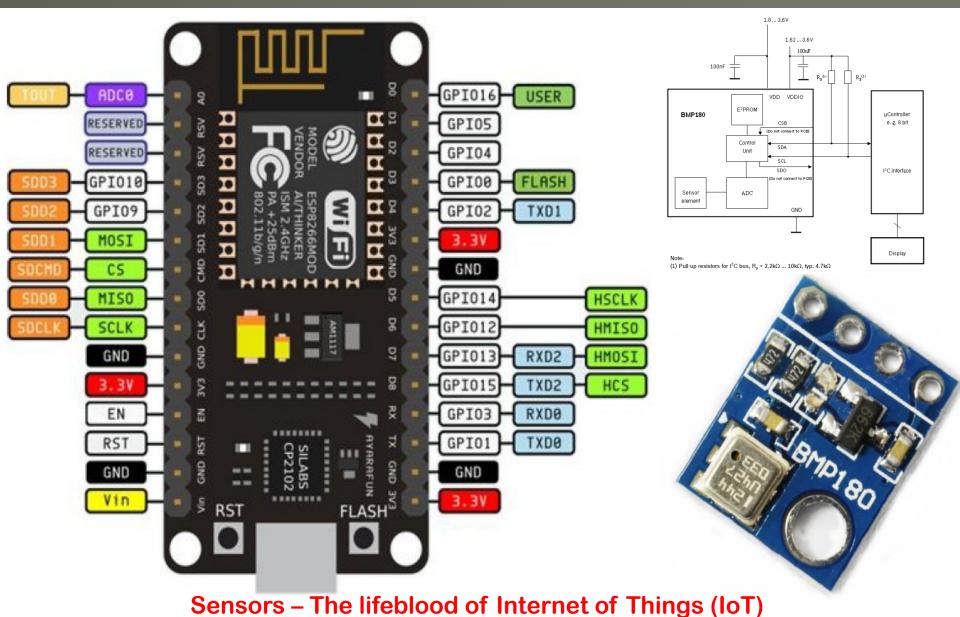
- The FinFET transistors can have gate thickness of 5nm and gate width under 50nm, are supposed to find application in sub-28nm chips. FinFET technology is being pursued by AMD, IBM, and Motorola and in academia.
- The industry's first 25nm transistor operating on just 0.7V was demonstrated in December 2002 by TSMC. The "Omega FinFET" design, named after the similarity between the Greek letter "Omega" and the shape in which the gate wraps around the source/drain structure, has a gate delay of just 0.39ps for the N-type transistor and 0.88ps for the P-type.

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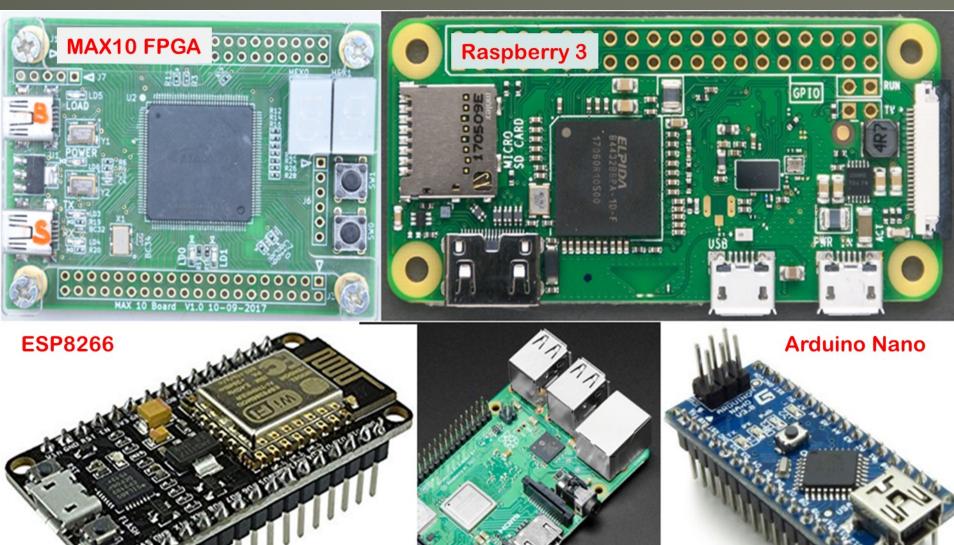
### A missing active device: Trancitor



## **Smart sensors and readout**



## Work horses for sensor readout



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Raspberry Pi Zero

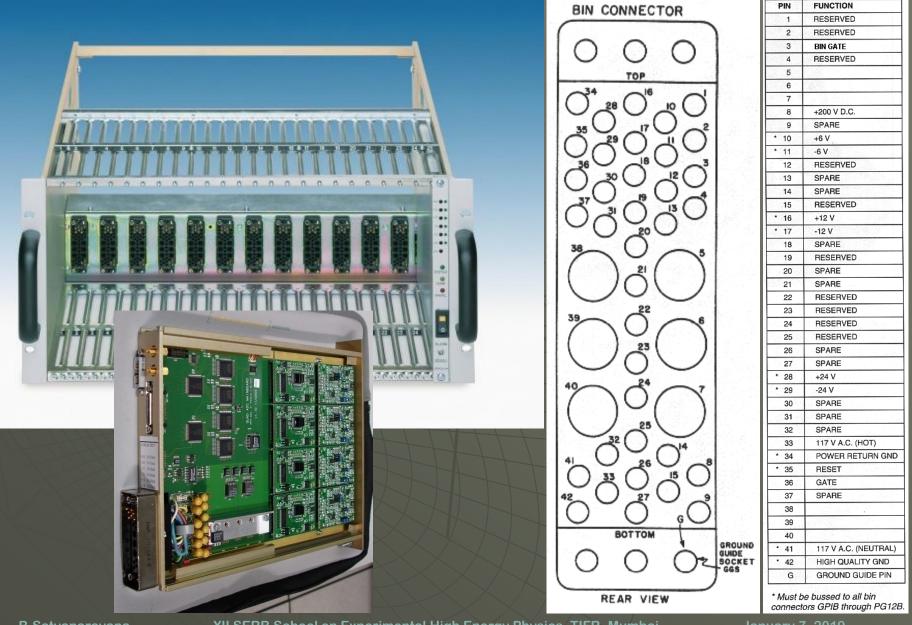
## Introduction to NIM

- The NIM (Nuclear Instrumentation Methods) standard established in 1964 for the nuclear and high energy physics communities. The goal of NIM was to promote a system that allows for interchangeability of modules.
- Standard NIM modules are required to have a height of 8.75", width in multiples of 1.35". Modules with a width of 1.35" are referred to as single width modules and modules with a width of 2.7" are double width modules, etc. The NIM crate, or NIM bin, is designed for mounting in EIA 19" racks, providing slots for 12 single-width modules. The power supply, which is in general, detachable from the NIM bin, is required to deliver voltages of ±6V, ±12V and ±24V.
- The NIM standard also specifies three sets of logic levels.
  - In fast-negative logic, usually referred to as NIM logic, logic levels are defined by current ranges. Since the standard also requires 50 ohm input/out impedances, these current ranges correspond to voltages of 0V and -0.8V for logic 0 and 1 respectively. Fast-negative logic circuitry can provide NIM signal with rise times of order 1 nsec.
  - Slow-positive logic, is rarely used in fast-pulse electronics due to the slow rise times involved.
  - Specifications for ECL (emitter-coupled logic) voltage levels and interconnections have been added to the NIM subsequently.

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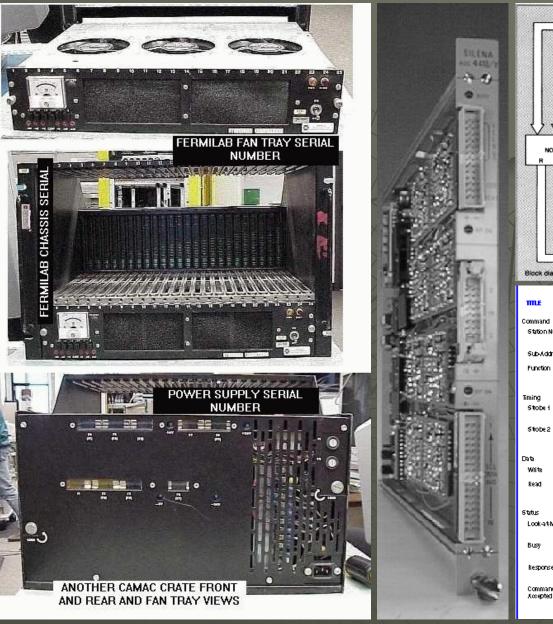
## NIM crate and power supplies

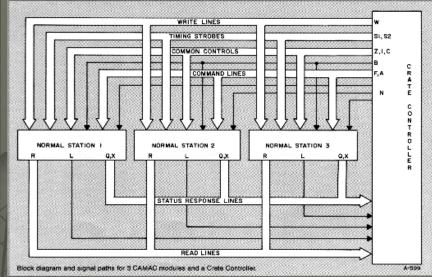


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## **CAMAC** hardware and signals





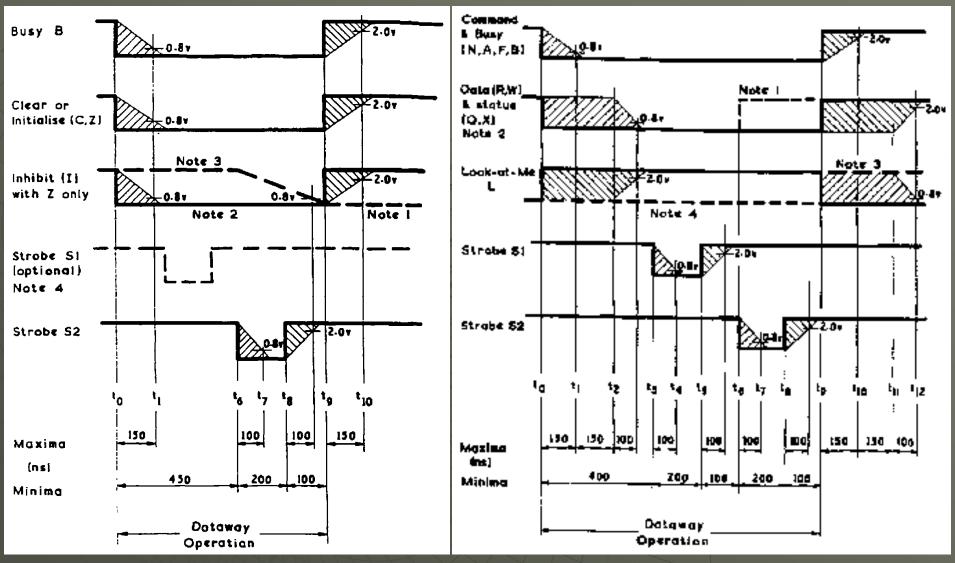
MLE	DESIGNATION	COR- TACTS	USE AT A MODULE	- 1111
Command Station Numl	ber N	1	Selects the module (individual line from control station).	Comm
Sub-Address	A1,2,4,8	4	Selects a section of the module.	hita
Function	F1,2,4,8,16	5	Defines the function to be perform ed in the module.	nhit
Timing				Clea
Strobe I	51	1	Controls first phase of operation. (Dataway signals may change.)	Non-S
Strobe 2	52	1	Controls second phase. (Dataway signals may change.)	NOFFS Free Patc
Data				r 40
Write	W1-W24	24	Bring information to them odule.	Manda
Read	R 1- R24	24	Take information from the module.	+24 +6 -6
Status				-24
Look-at-Me	L	1	indicates request for service (individual line to control station).	Additio
Busy	В	1	indicates that a Dataway operation is in progress.	+12
Response	۵	1	Indicates status of feature selected by command.	-12 Clea
Command Accepted	х	1	Indicates that module is able to perform action required by the command.	Reserv

MLE	DESIGNATION	COL- TACTS	USE AT A MODULE		
mmon Controls			Operate on all stations connected to them , no command required.		
hi 1alize	z	1	Sets module to a defined state. (accompanied by S2 and B).		
nhibit	I.	1	Disables teatures for duration of signal.		
Clear	c	ł	Clears registers (accompanied by 52 and B).		
n-Standard Connections					
Free bus-line	s P1, P2	2	For specified uses .		
Patch Contac	ts P3−P5	3	For unspecified interconnections. No Dataway lines .		
indatory Pow	er Lines				
424 V DC 46 V DC -6 V DC -24 V DC 0 V	124 16 -6 -24 0	1 1 1 2	Power return.		
ditional PowerLines					
+H2 V DC -H2 V DC Clean Earth Served VH, V	+12 -12 E 2 2	1	Lines are reserved for the following power supplies. Low current for indeators, etc. Reference for circuits requiring clean earth. Reserved for future allocation.		

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## **CAMAC** dataway timing charts

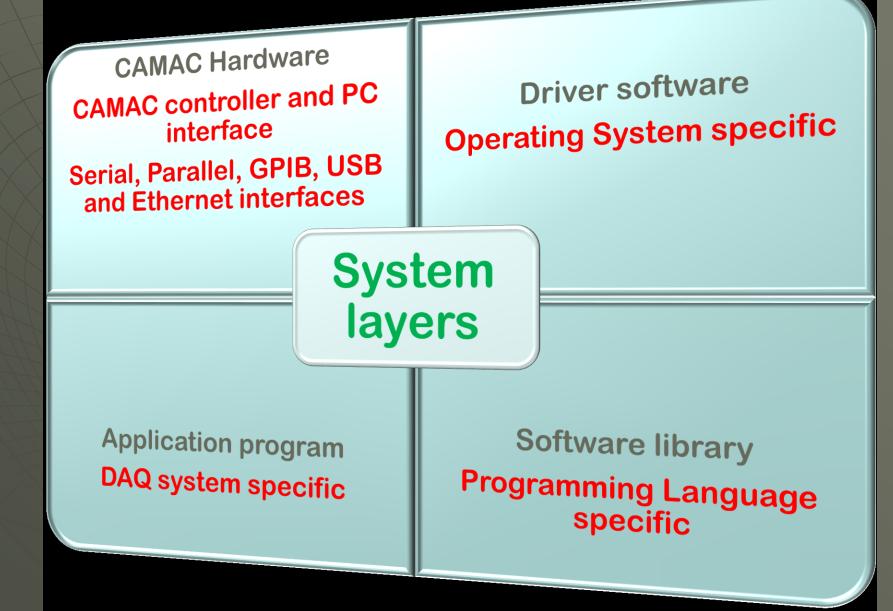


#### **Computer Automated Measurement and Control**

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## **CAMAC** system development



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## Thank you for your attention ③

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