



# SiPMs in *Ground-based High Energy* **Astroparticle Physics**

from my perspective

Thomas Bretz  
(RWTH Aachen)

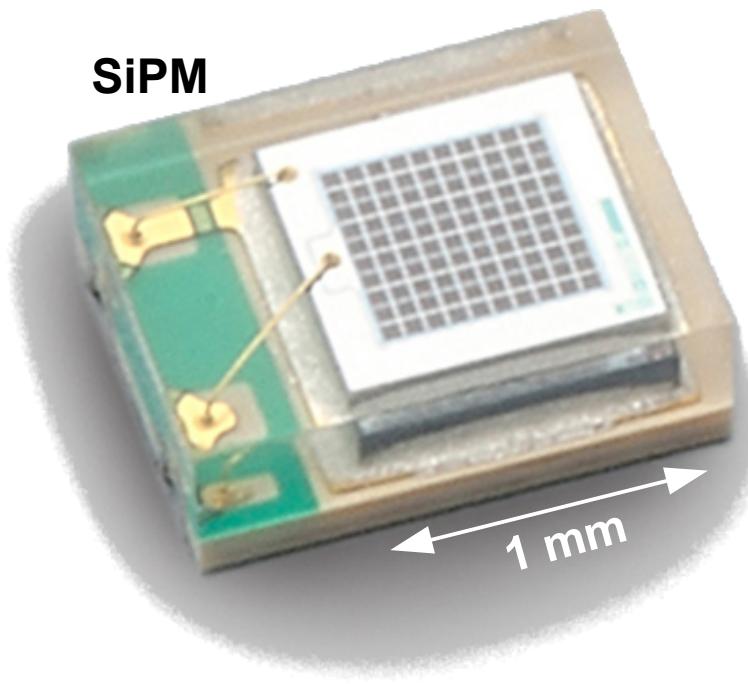


**Mass Product**  
→ high precision  
→ low cost product



# What is a SiPM?

Silicon based photo sensors



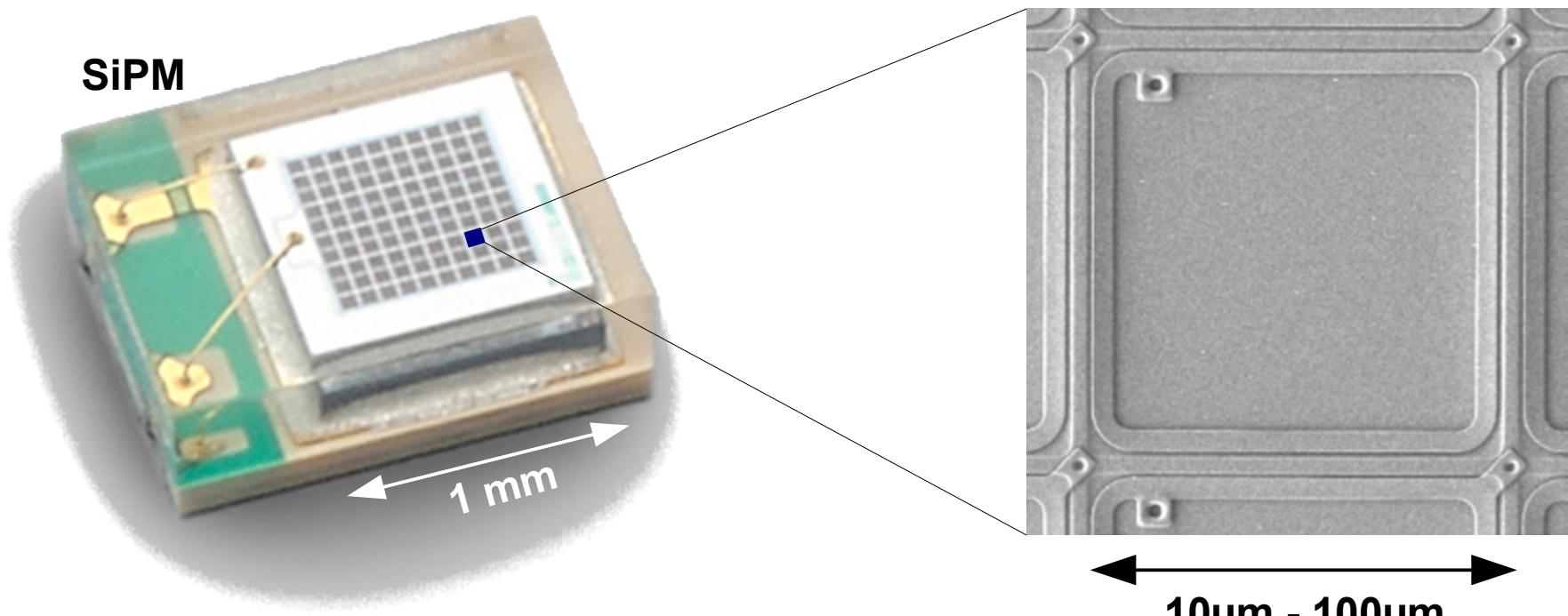
Example: Hamamatsu 1mm<sup>2</sup>

Credits: Hamamatsu

# What is a G-APD?

Silicon based photo sensors

Geiger-mode  
avalanche photo diode

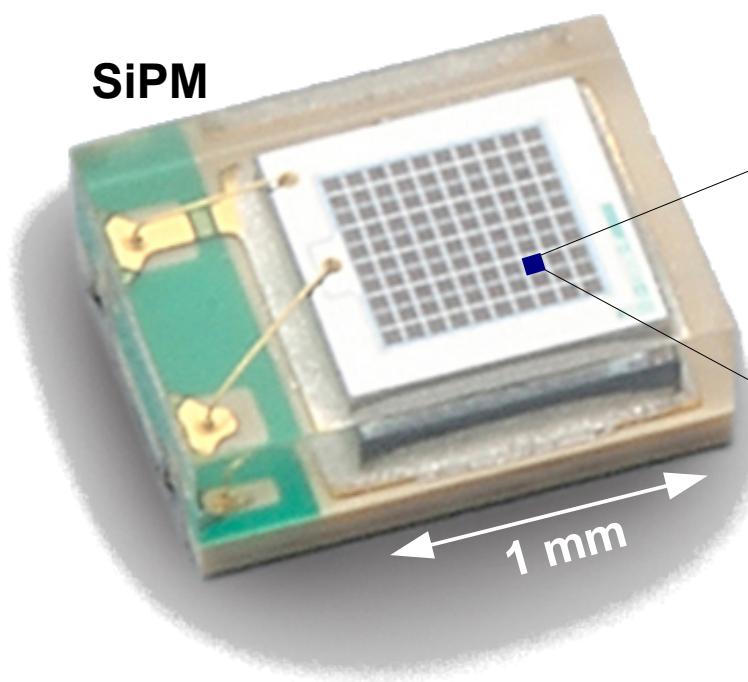


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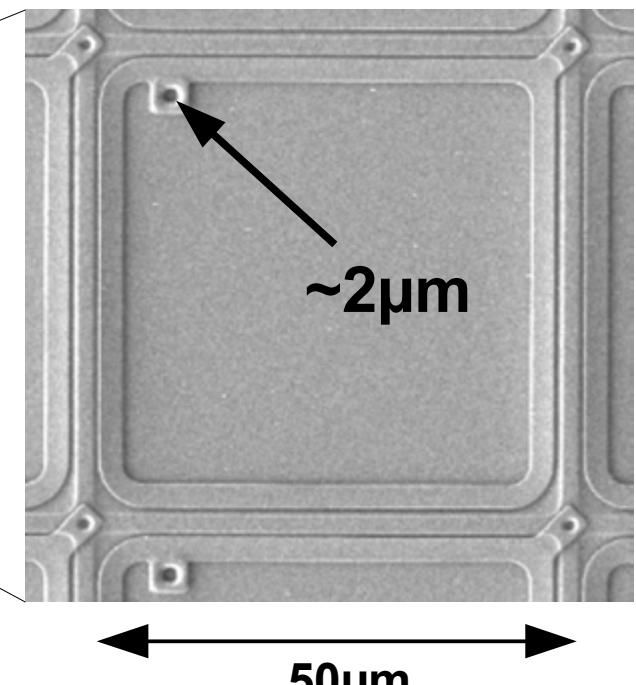
# What is a G-APD?

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Example: Hamamatsu 1mm<sup>2</sup>

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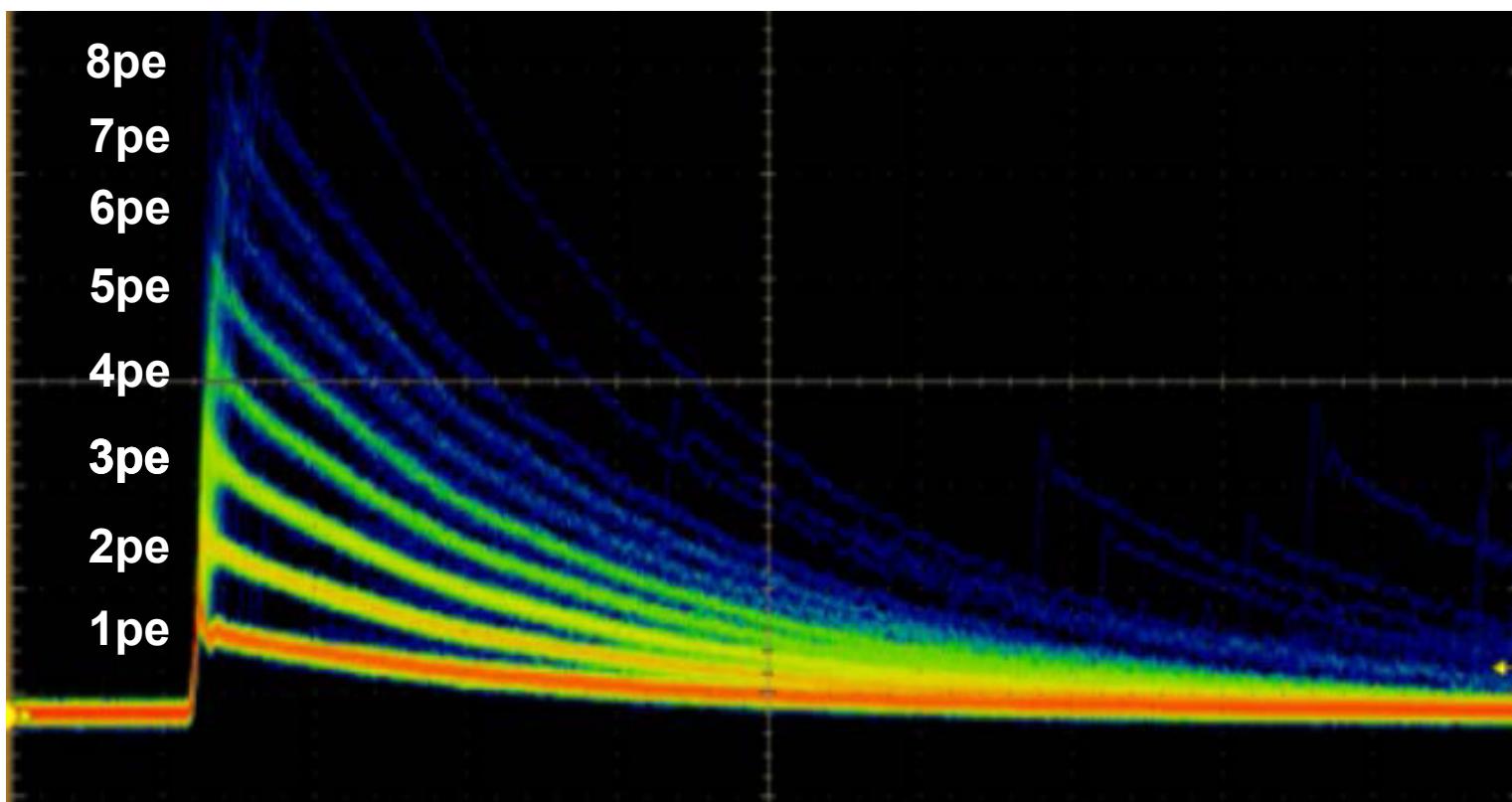


Transistor in 2015:  $\sim 20\text{nm}(!)$

Credits: Hamamatsu

# Photon counting

High precision → every avalanche (cell) releases similar charge



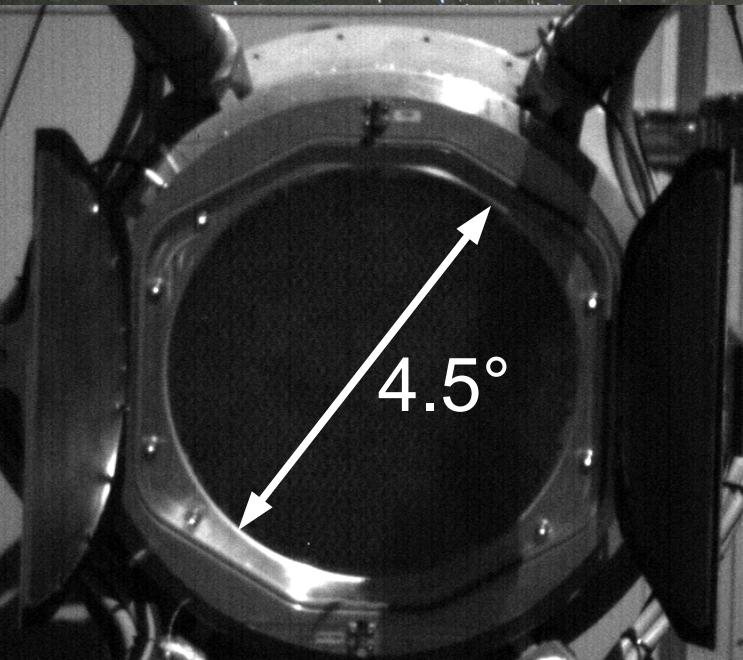
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# FACT

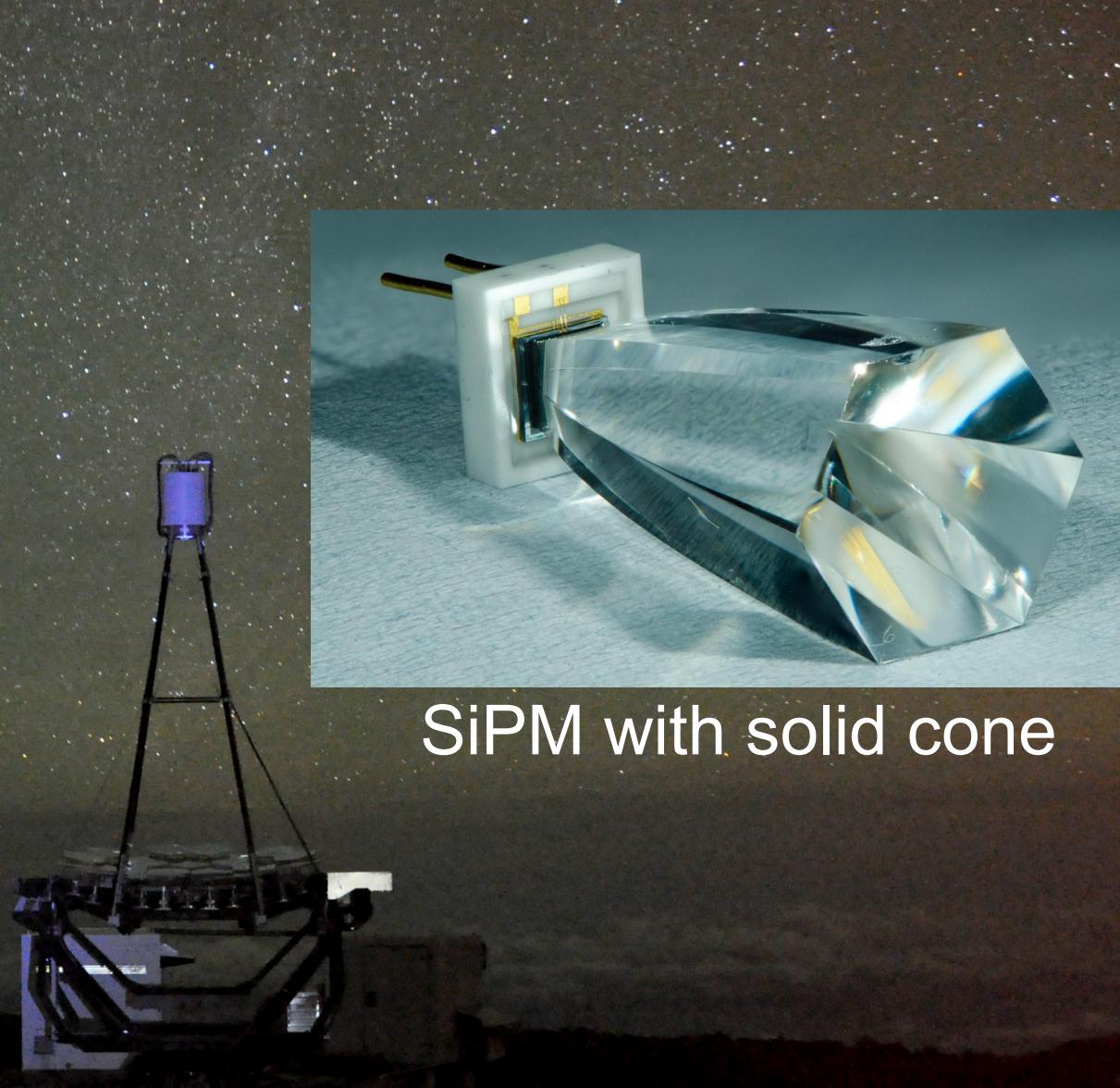
## First G-APD Cherenkov Telescope



Dedicated monitoring telescope  
with the possibility to observe during strong moon light



1440 channels à  $0.11^\circ$



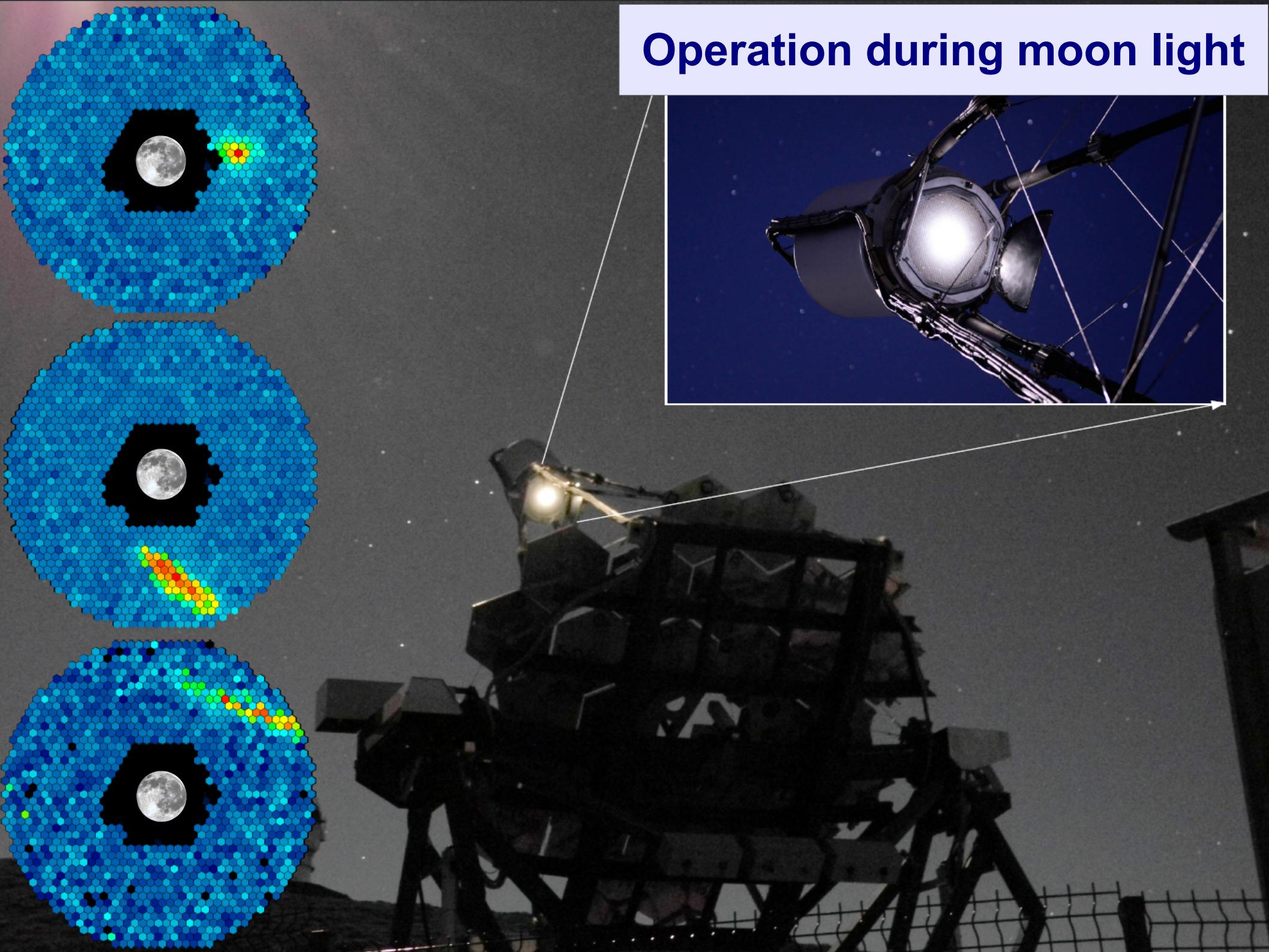
SiPM with solid cone

Construction 2009 – 2011



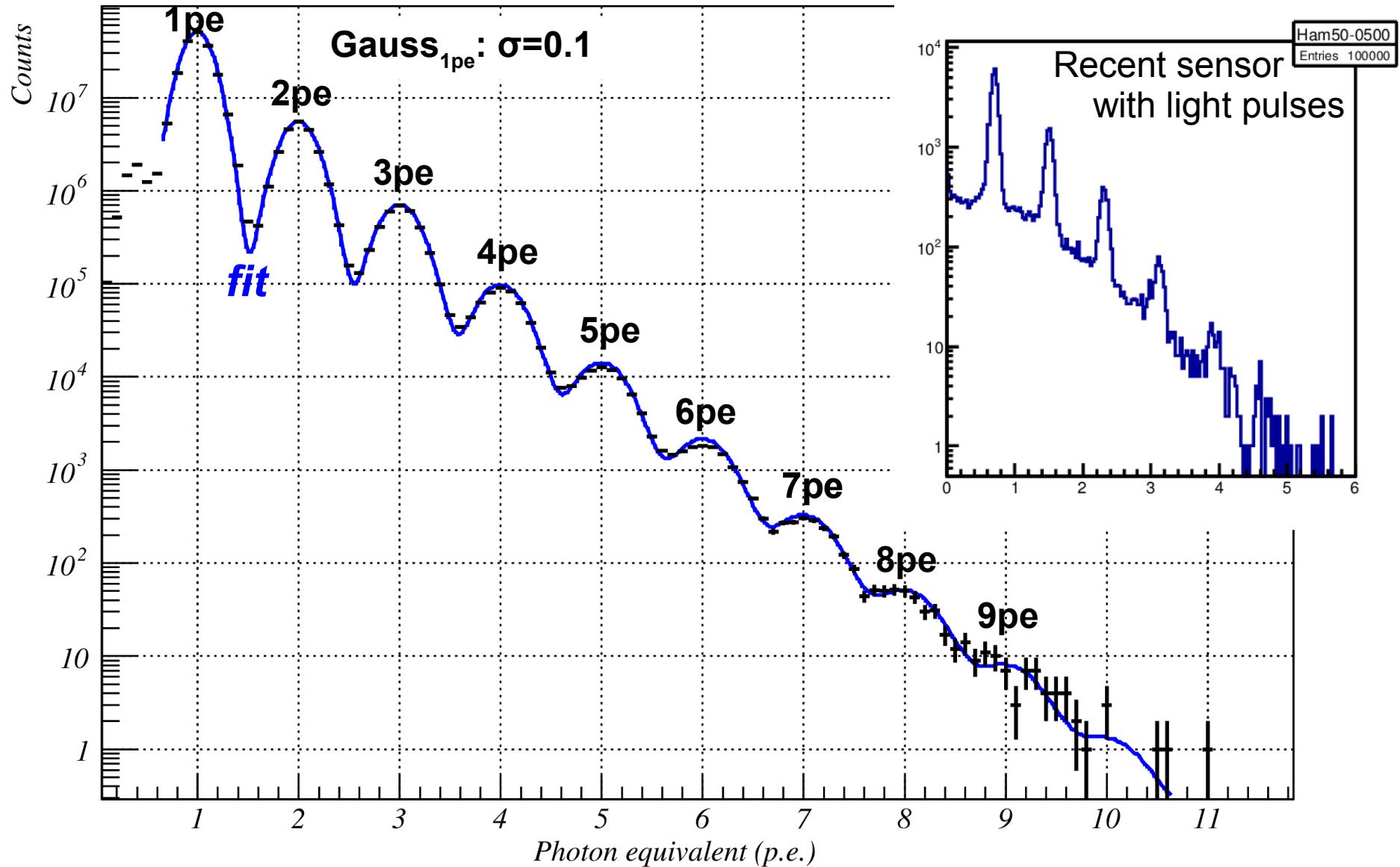
FACT – Selected events of the first nights of data-taking (11 Oct. 2011)

# Operation during moon light



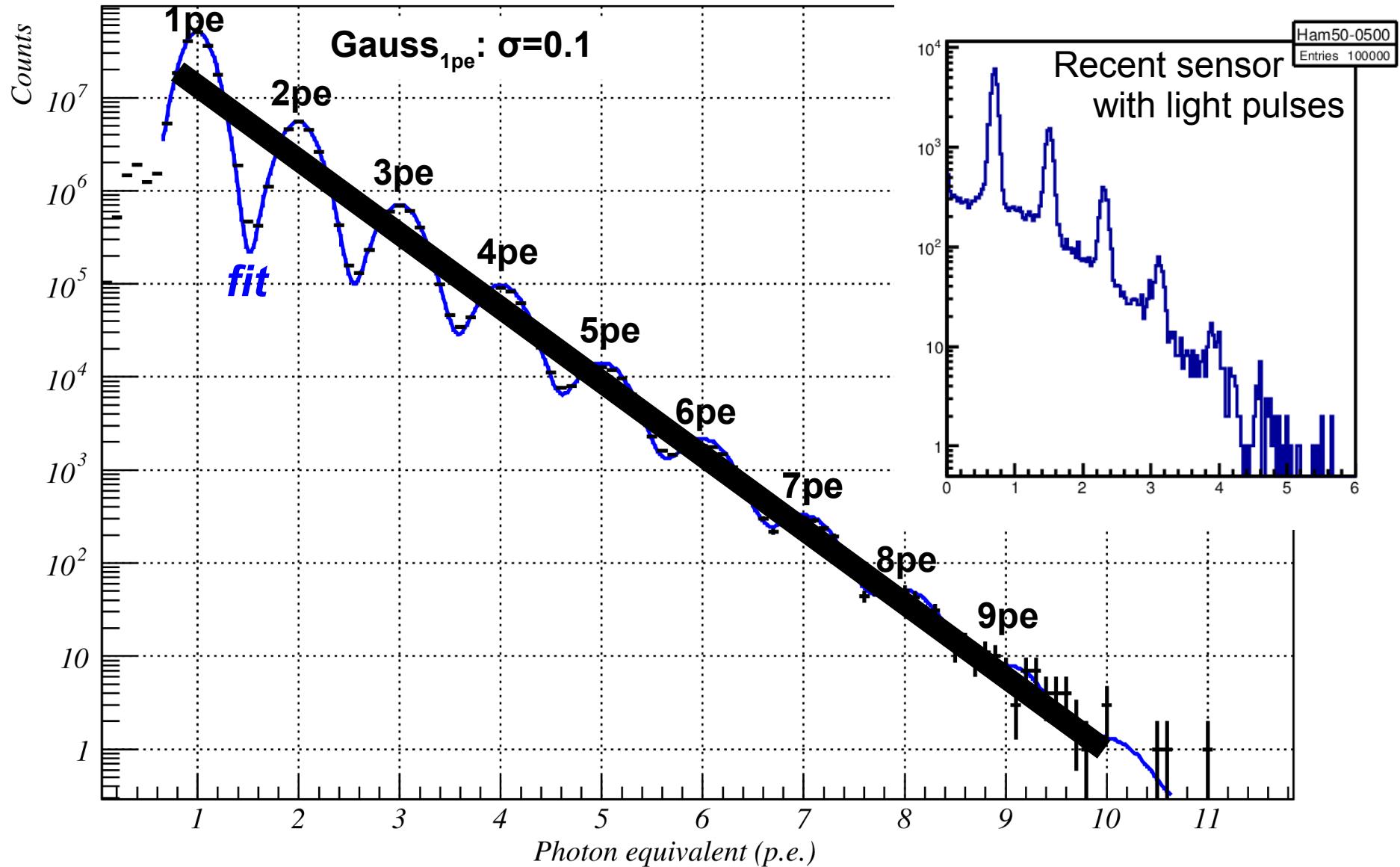
# Self calibrating / Stability

all pixels; one year; temp:  $\sim 0^\circ\text{C} - 25^\circ\text{C}$



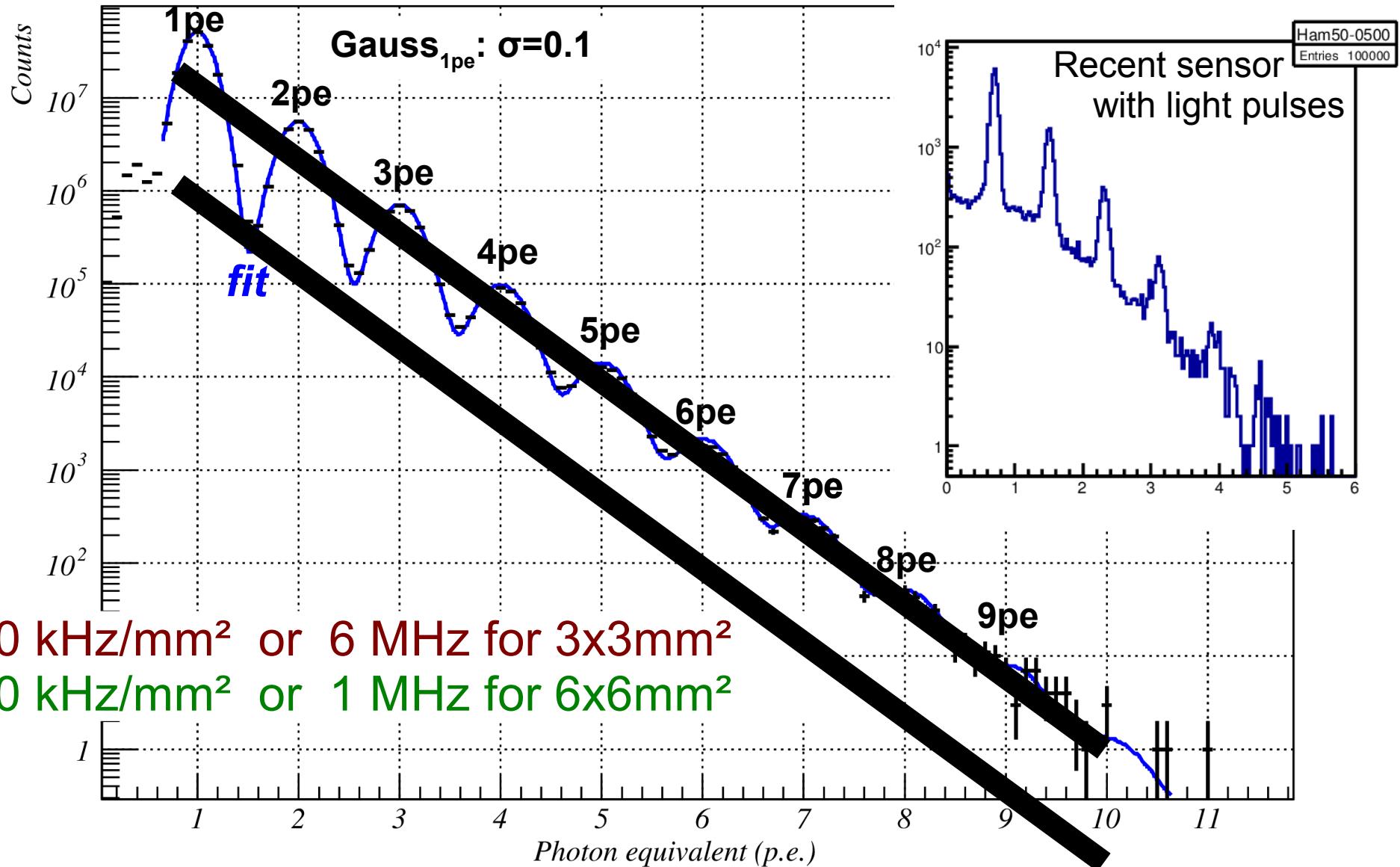
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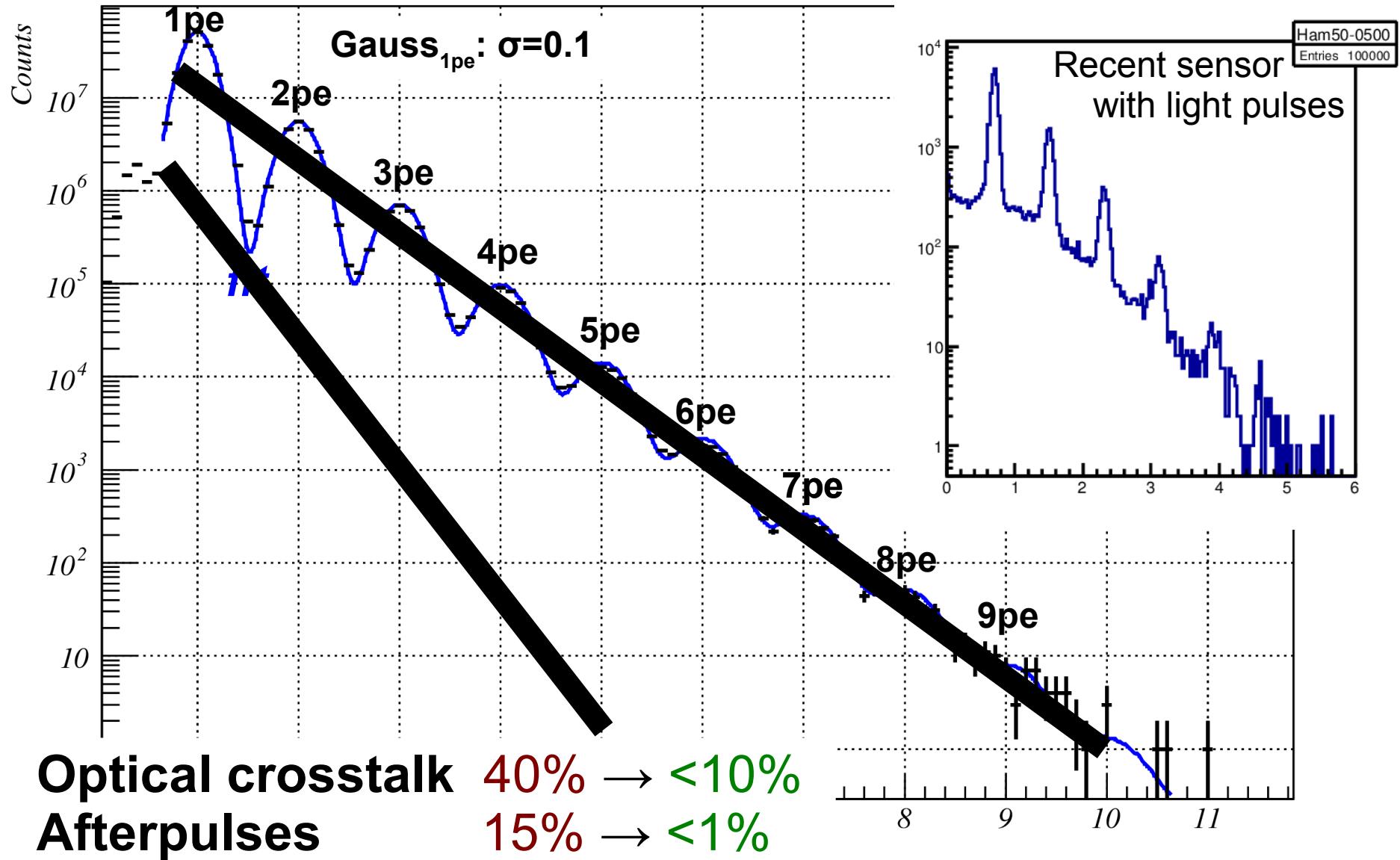
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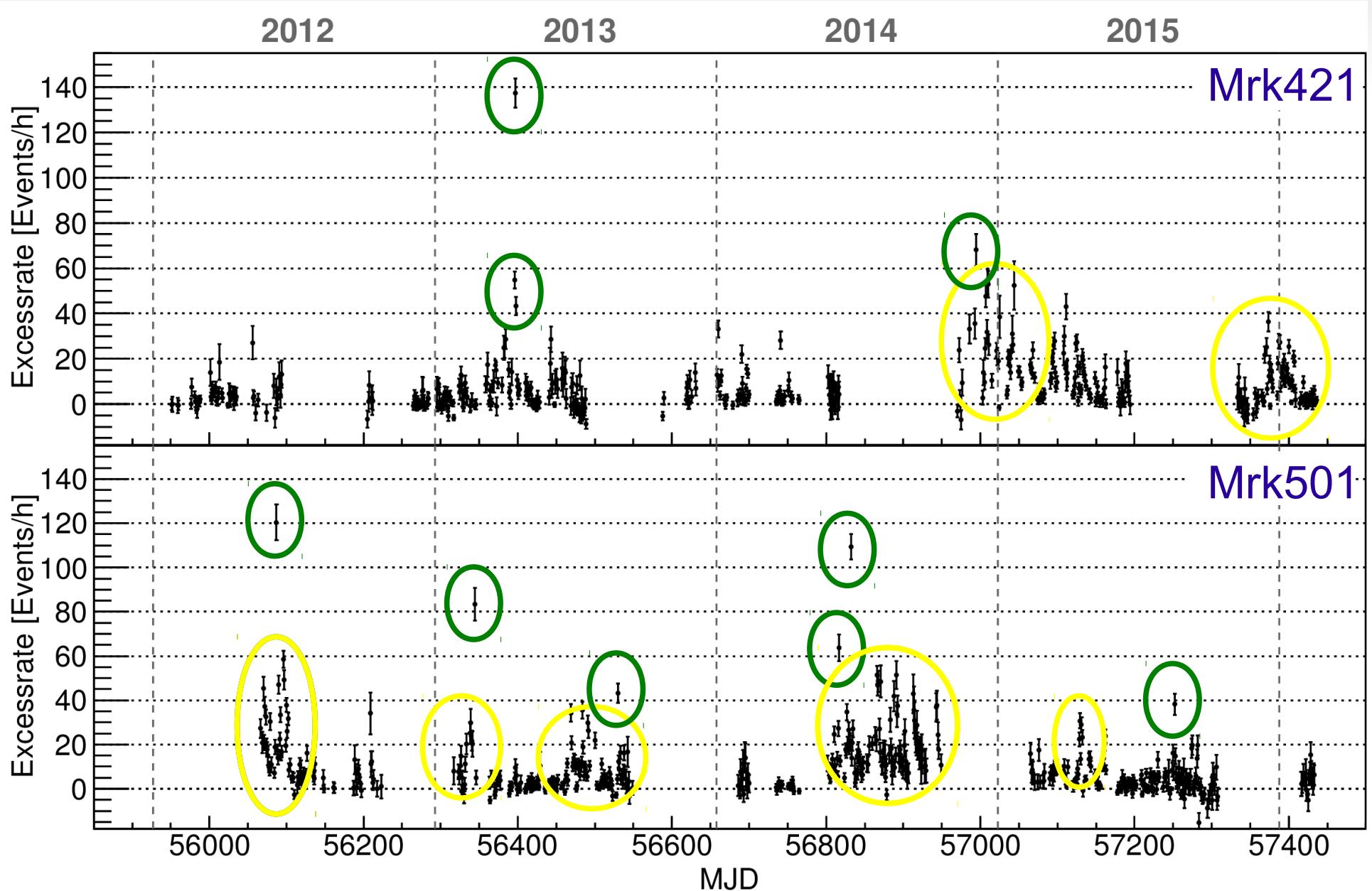


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# ~5 Years of Monitoring





Monitoring @ TeV Energies

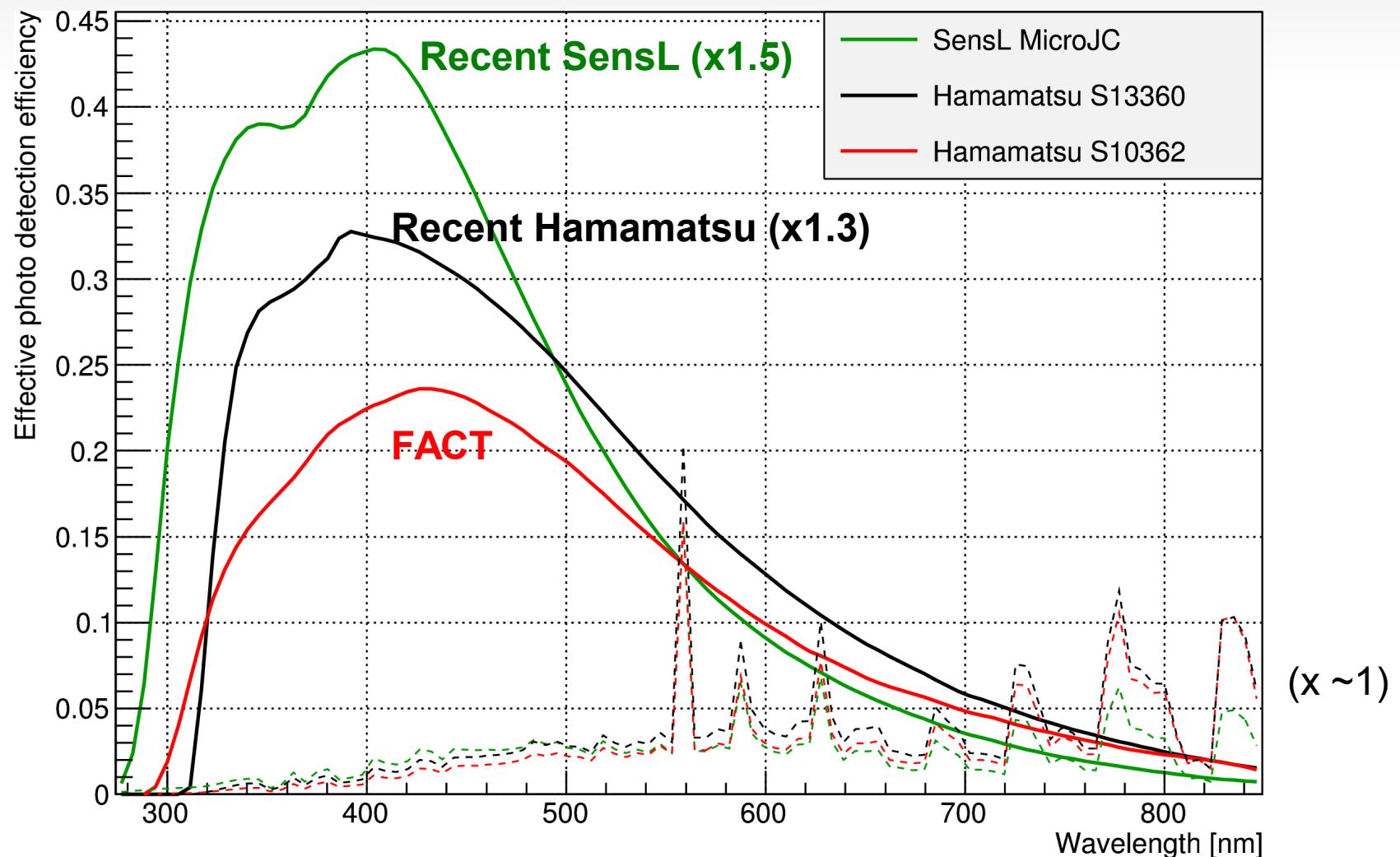


Two HEGRA mounts in Mexico

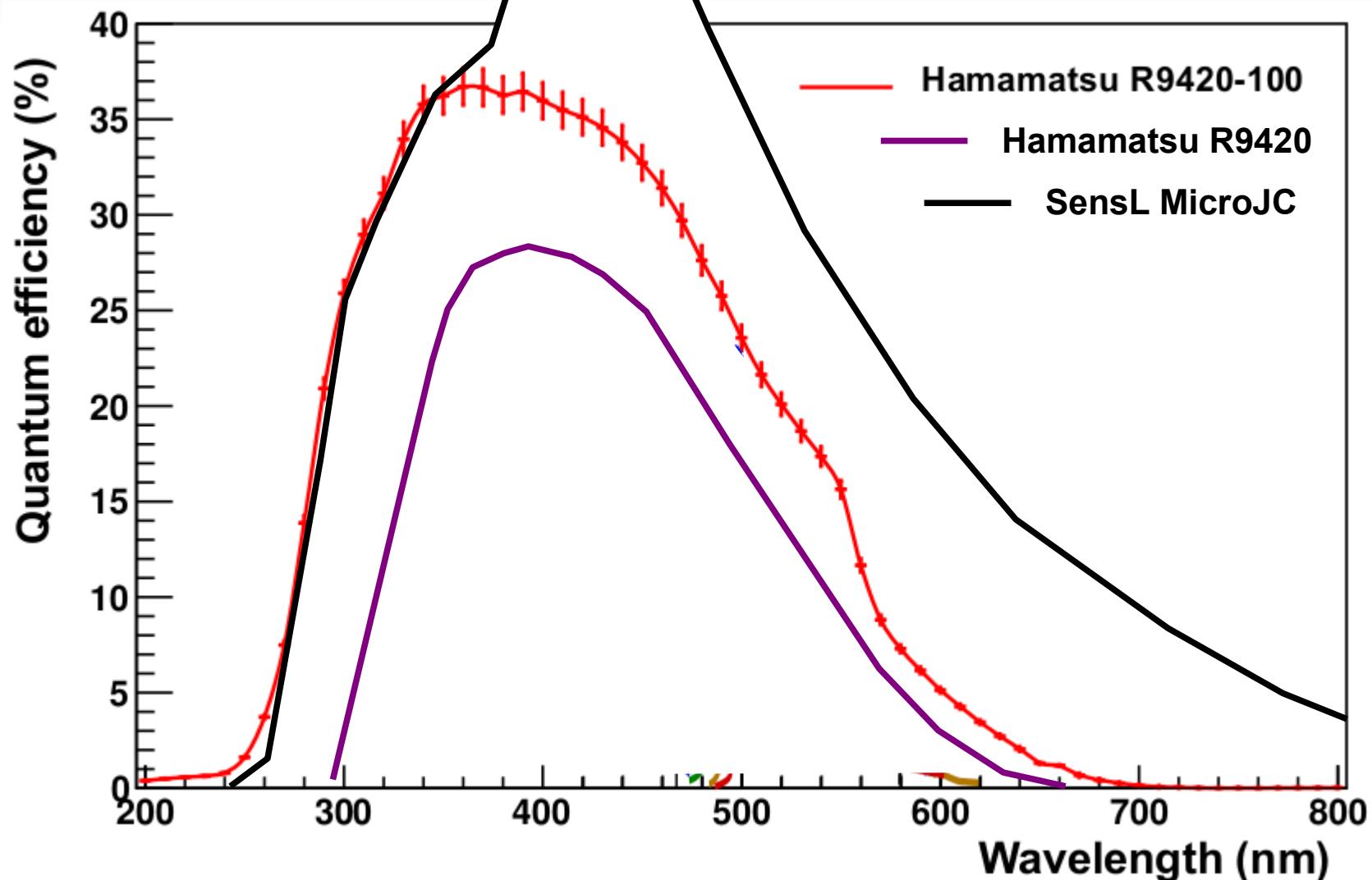


HAWC site, Mexico

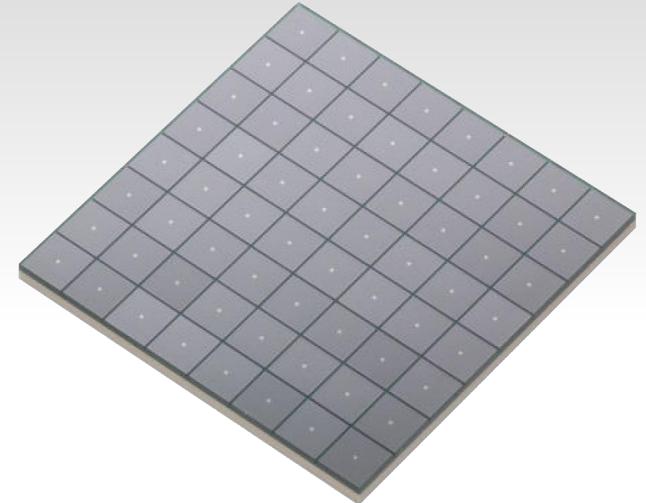
# Spectral response



# SensL @ 5V (MicroJC)



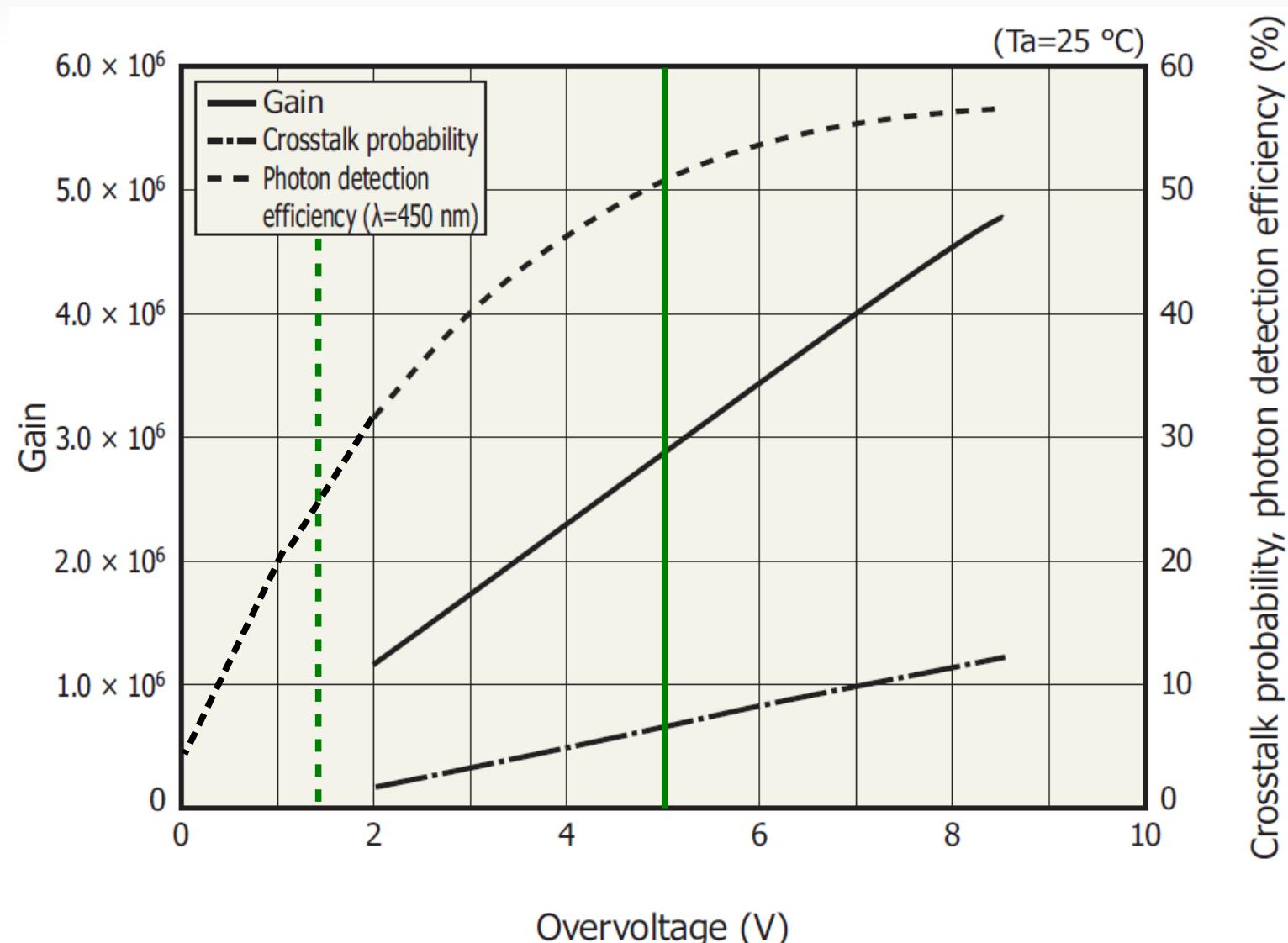
# Properties



- Small **effective area** ( $\leq 36\text{mm}^2$ )  
Max.  $3\times 3\text{mm}^2 \rightarrow 6\times 6\text{mm}^2$  TSV techn. (borderless, tillable)
- Very good **time resolution**  $O(50\text{ps})$  due to low time jitter  
Reach **dynamic range** comparable to PMTs ( $\sim 5 \cdot N_{\text{cells}}$ )  
 $\rightarrow$  e.g.  $> 200,000 \text{ pe}$  ( $6\times 6\text{mm}^2$ ,  $25\mu\text{m}$ ), but not linear
- **Price**  
 $20 \text{ €}/\text{mm}^2 \rightarrow 0.5 \text{ €}/\text{mm}^2$  ( $20\text{€} - 30\text{€} / \text{sensor}$ )

# Temperature dependence

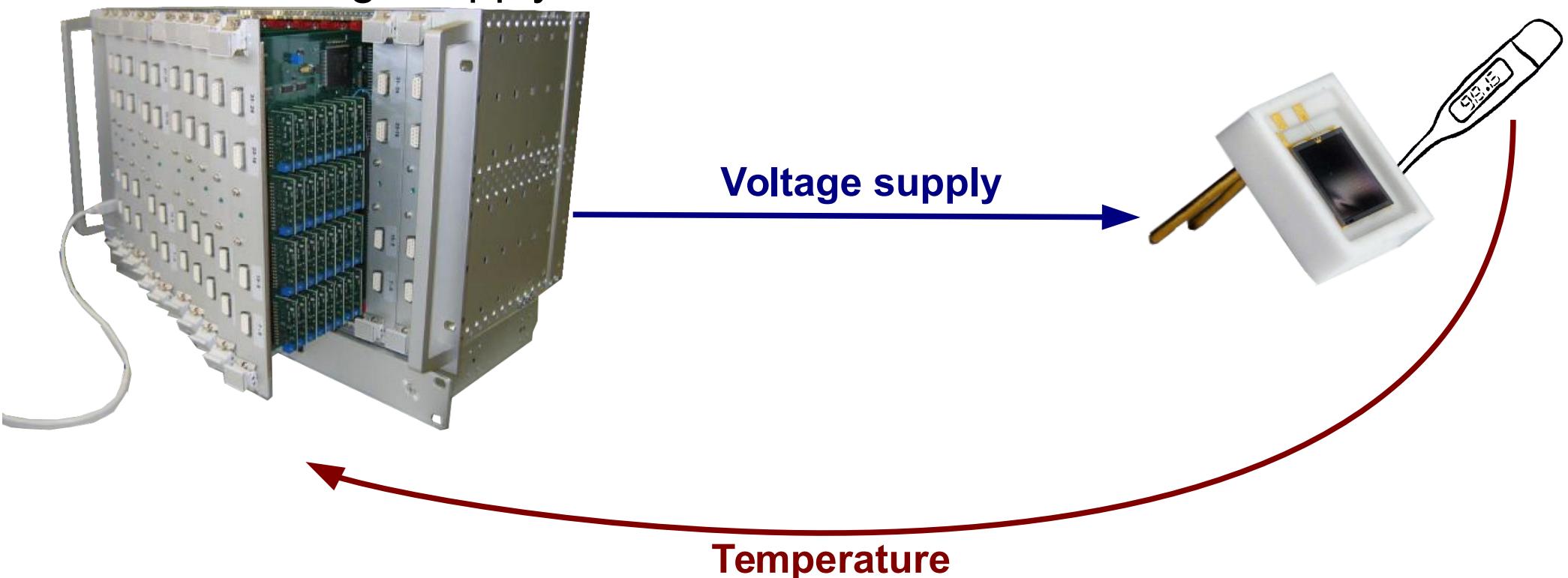
- $O(\text{ few \% / K})$



# Feedback system

simplified sketch

Bias voltage supply



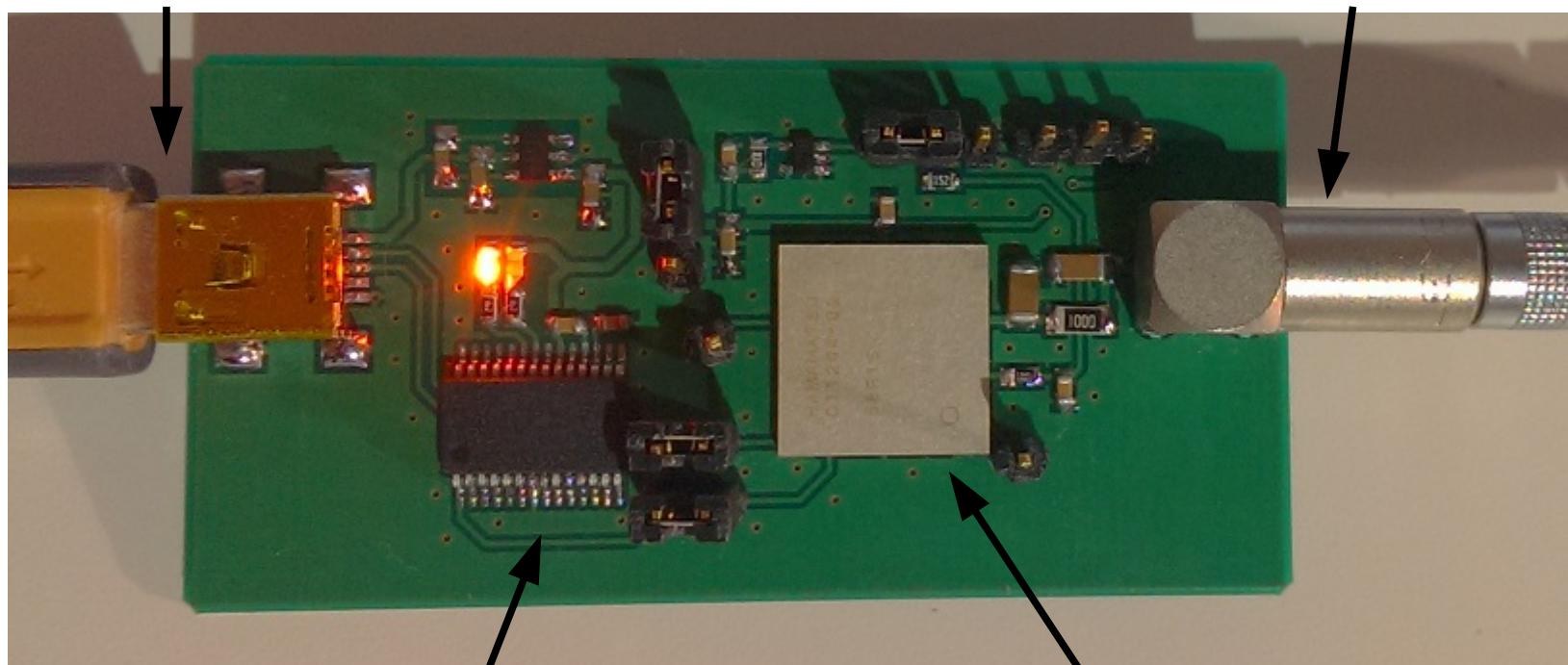
# Integrated circuits

**IN:**

USB for Communication and power

**OUT:**

Temp. compensated SiPM voltage



FTDI (USB driver)

Hamamatsu C11204-02

→ More example applications

# Fluorescence telescopes

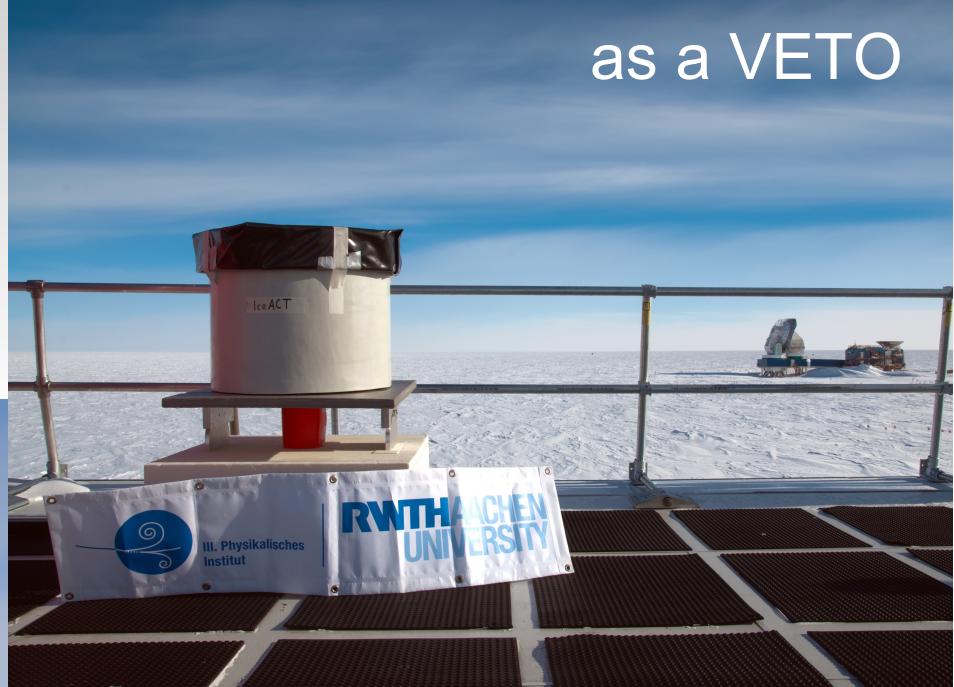


prototype → goal: installation at Auger site

as a VETO

# FAMOUS / IceAct

First SiPMs at South Pole!



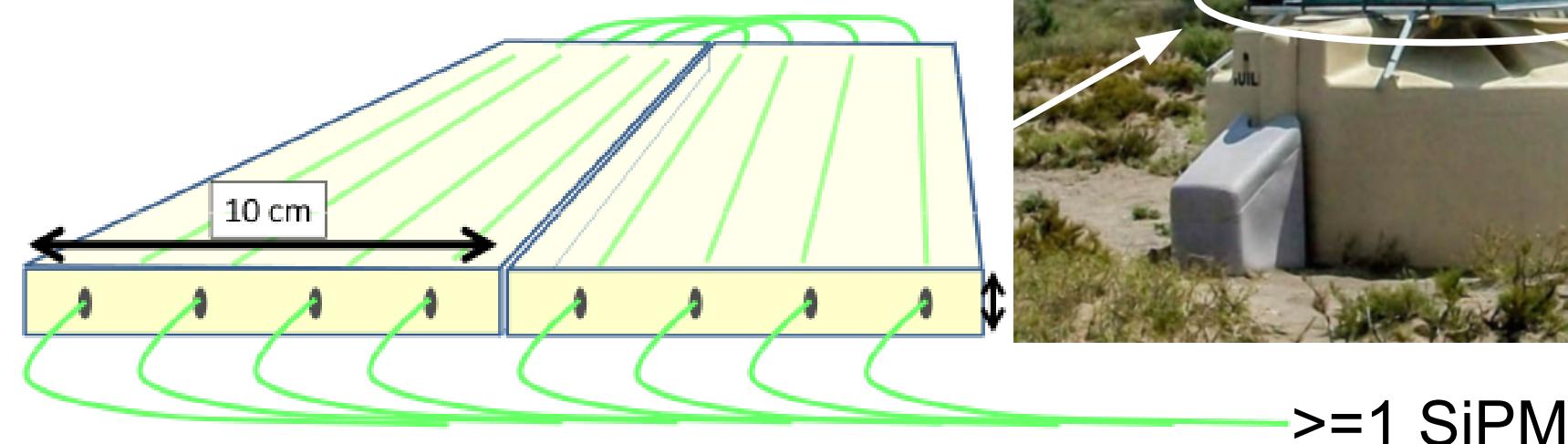
# Pampa Amarilla, Argentina

?

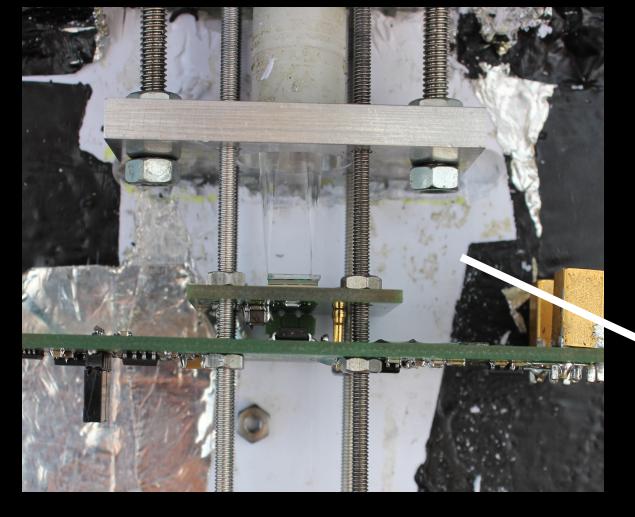
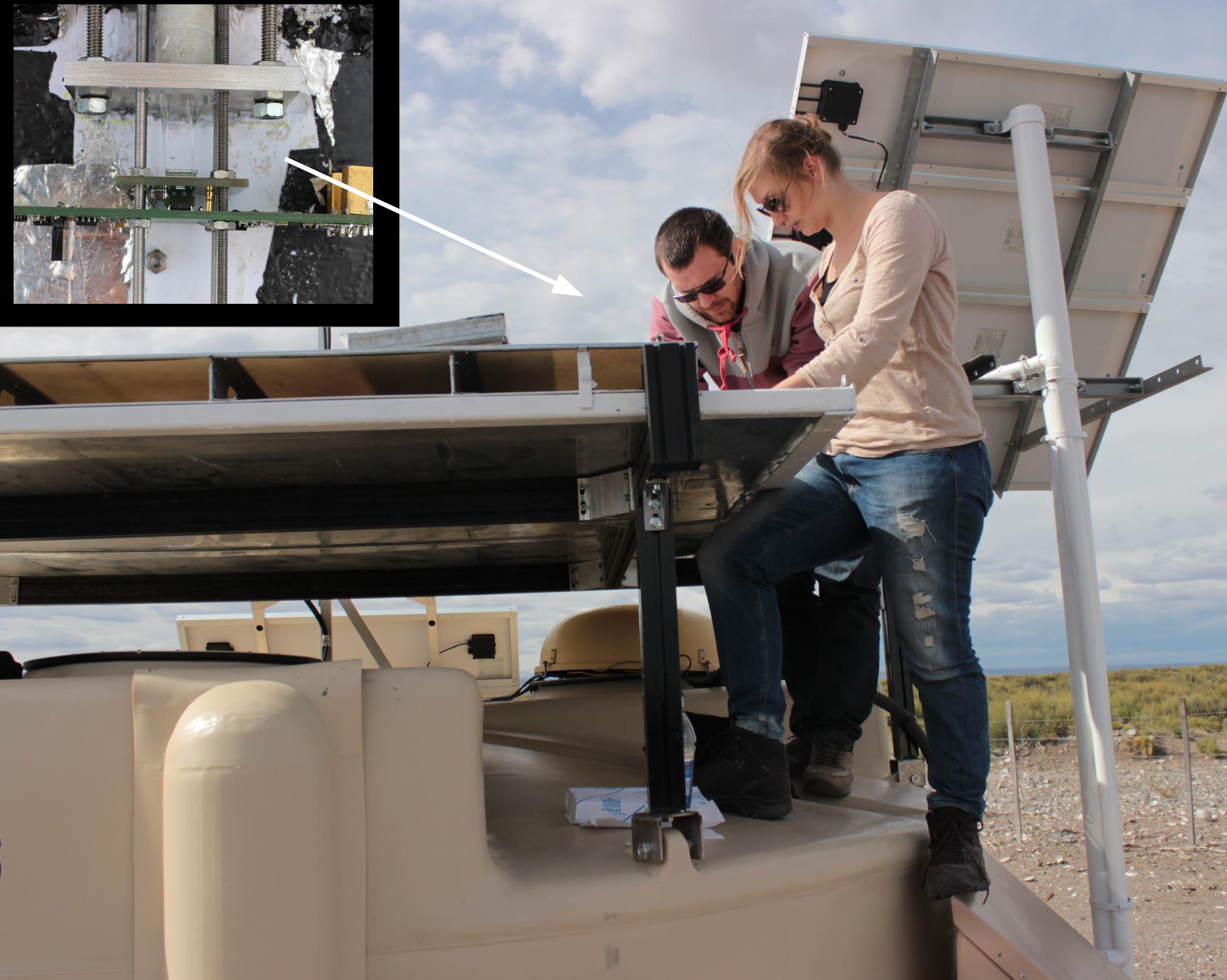
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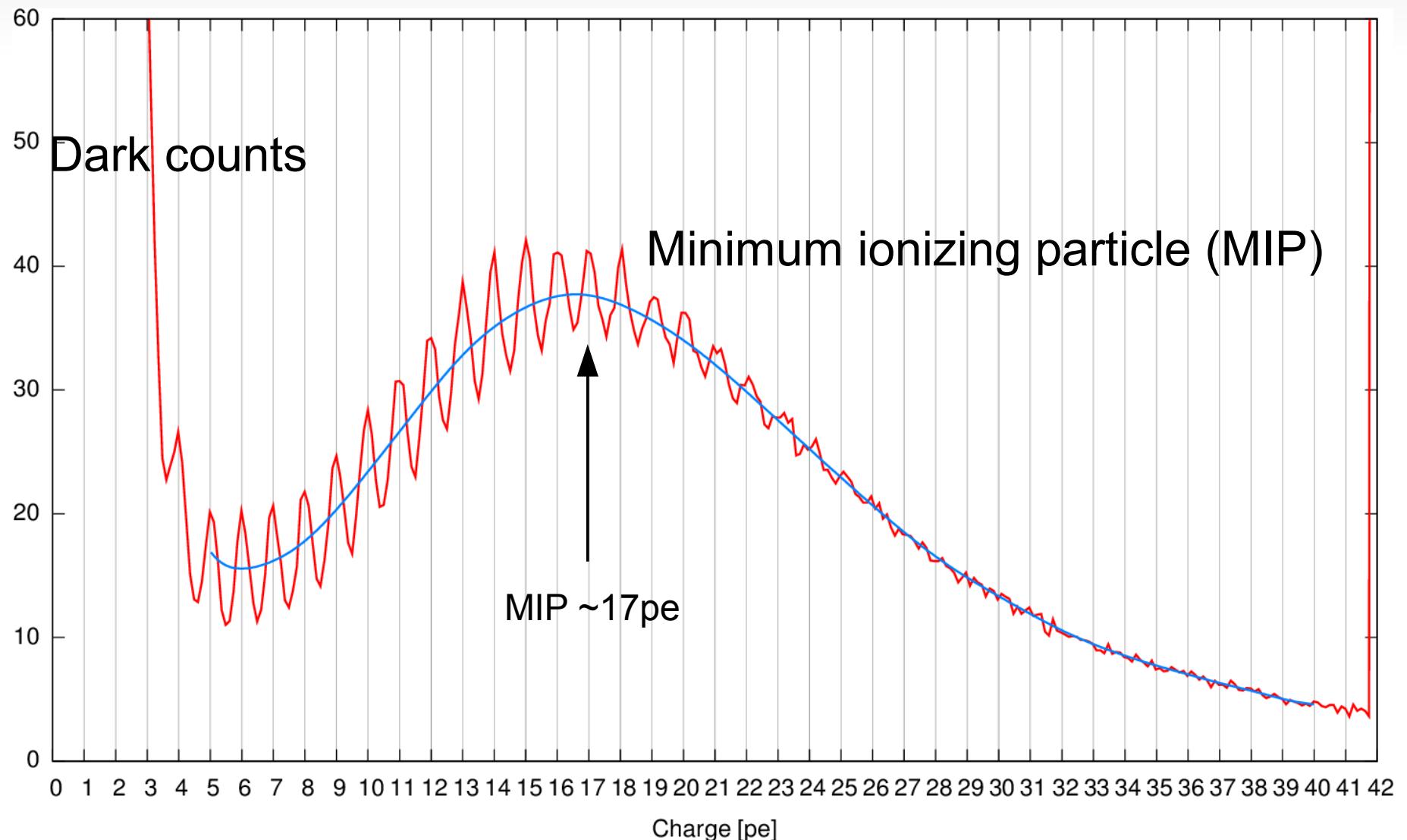
# The Upgrade – AugerPrime

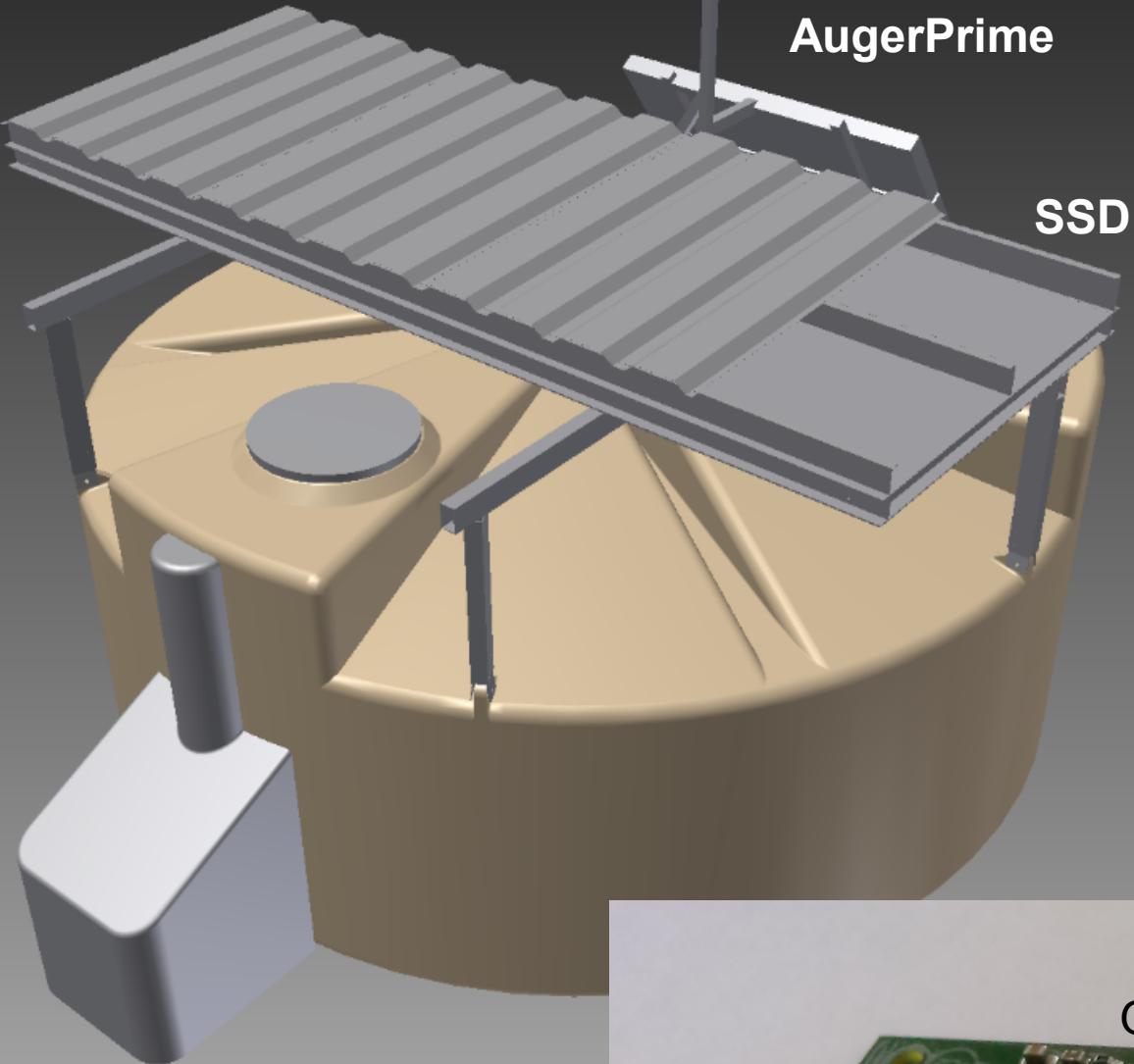


→ Replace PMT with SiPM



# Charge spectrum (calibrated)



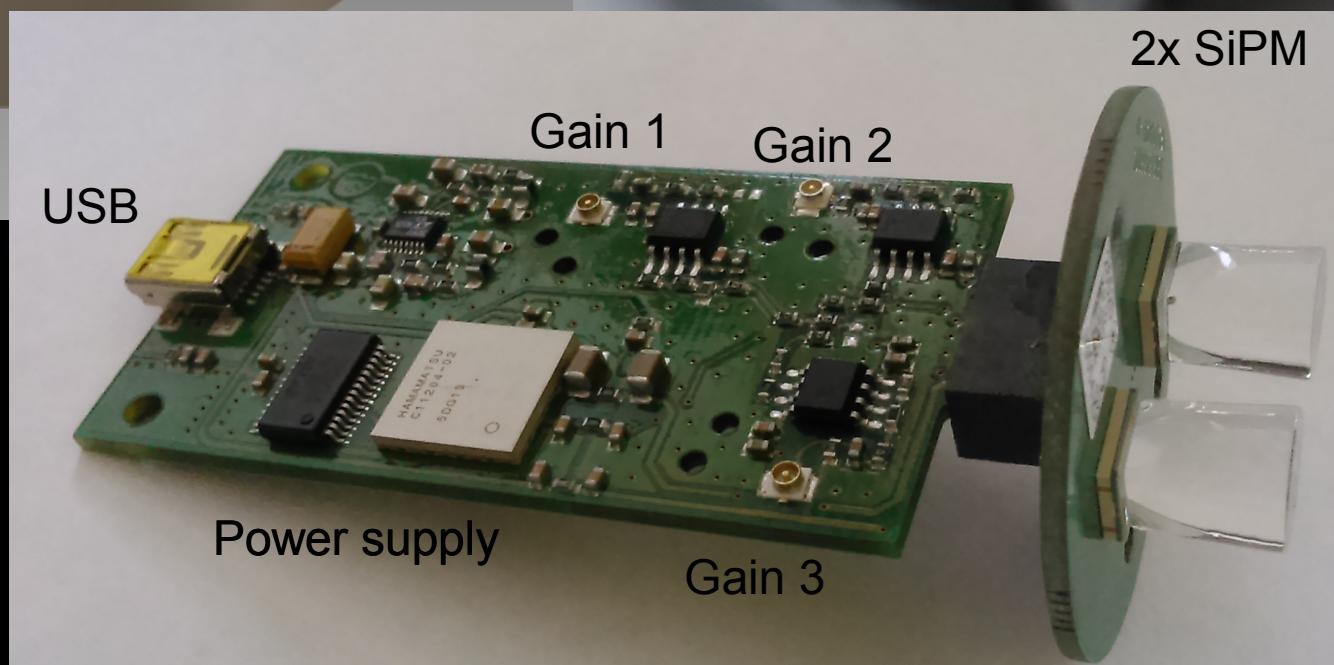


AugerPrime

SSD



2x 48 fibers



USB

Gain 1

Gain 2

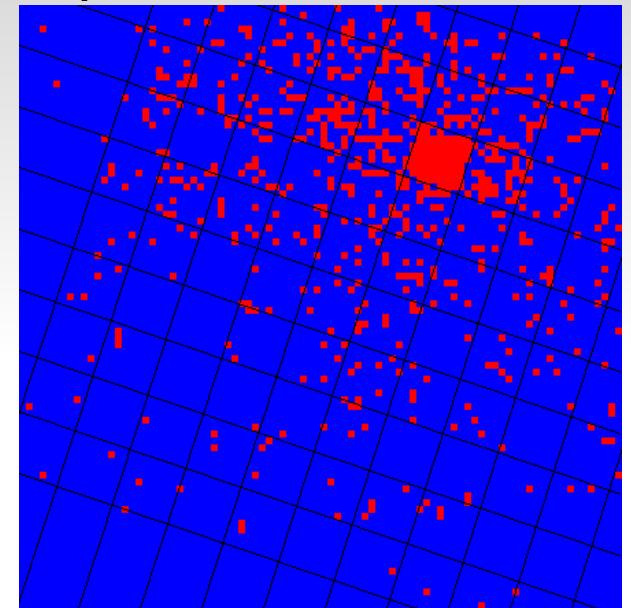
Gain 3

Installation  
→ this week

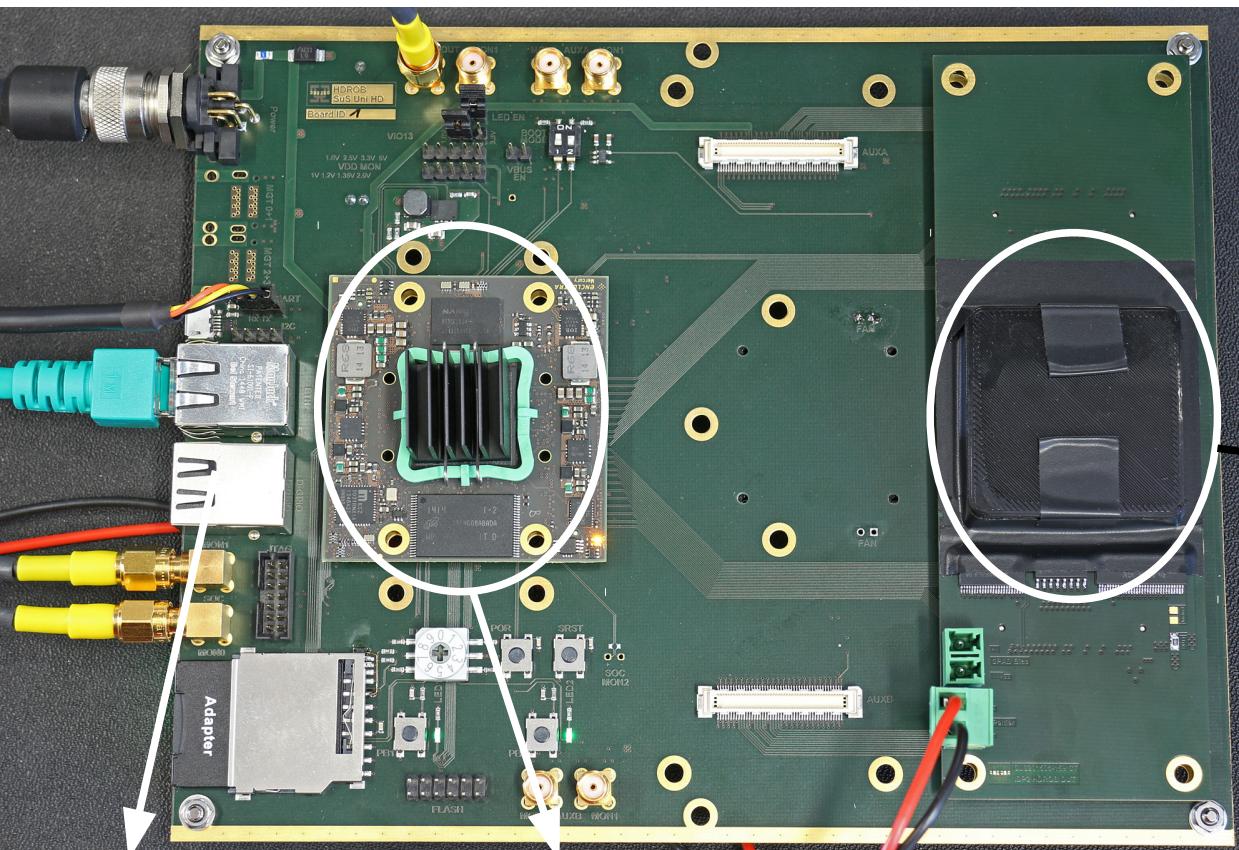
# Technology outlook

- No significant further improvement expected in the near future  
(but some are still in the queue)
- Dedicated integrated (low cost) circuits  
(power supply, daq)
- SiPM integrated data acquisition  
*(digital SiPM)*

Hit pattern on the SiPM



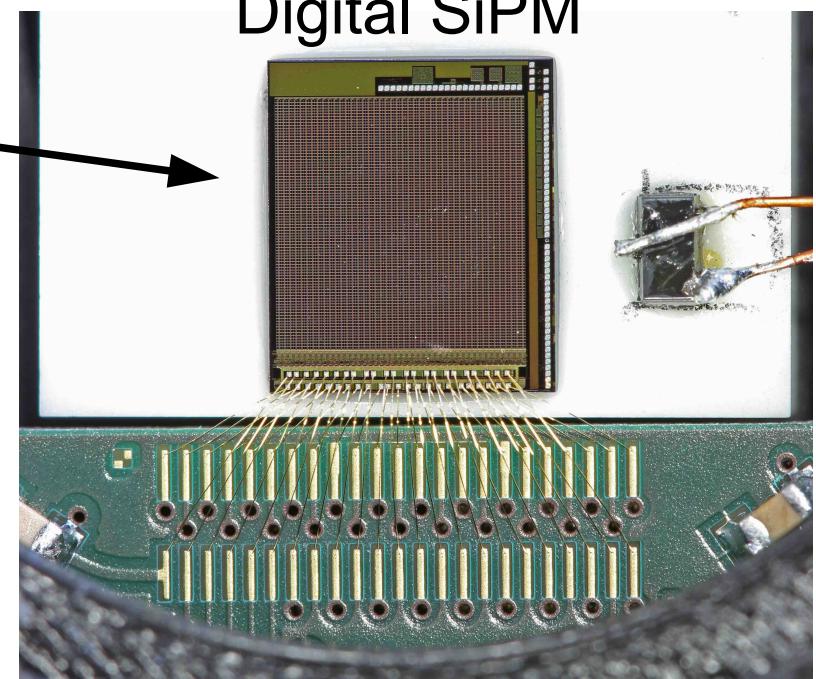
# Digital SiPM...



Ethernet

FPG for readout

Digital SiPM



Peter Fischer, Heidelberg University

# Conclusion

- SiPM will play a major role in Astroparticle physics
- Interesting new technology in the queue

