

Silicon detectors in space: story of a success



OUTLINE



- *Why silicon?*
- *What for?*
- *A brief history of silicon in space*
- *The major silicon-based scientific payloads: from anti-matter to gamma-ray astrophysics*
- *A silicon-based detector for space: from the design to the final integration*
- *The future of silicon in space*

If you think silicon, you think →



- ✓ ***Optimum spatial resolution***
- ✓ ***Good energy resolution***
- ✓ ***Good timing capabilities***
- ✓ ***Reasonable density***
- ✓ ***No HV and gas***
- ✓ ***Optimum matching with VLSI electronics***



- × ***No primary charge amplification → low noise high cost amplifiers***
- × ***Expensive***
- × ***Sophisticated and dedicated assembly and test tools***
- × ***Delicate***

If you think space, you think →

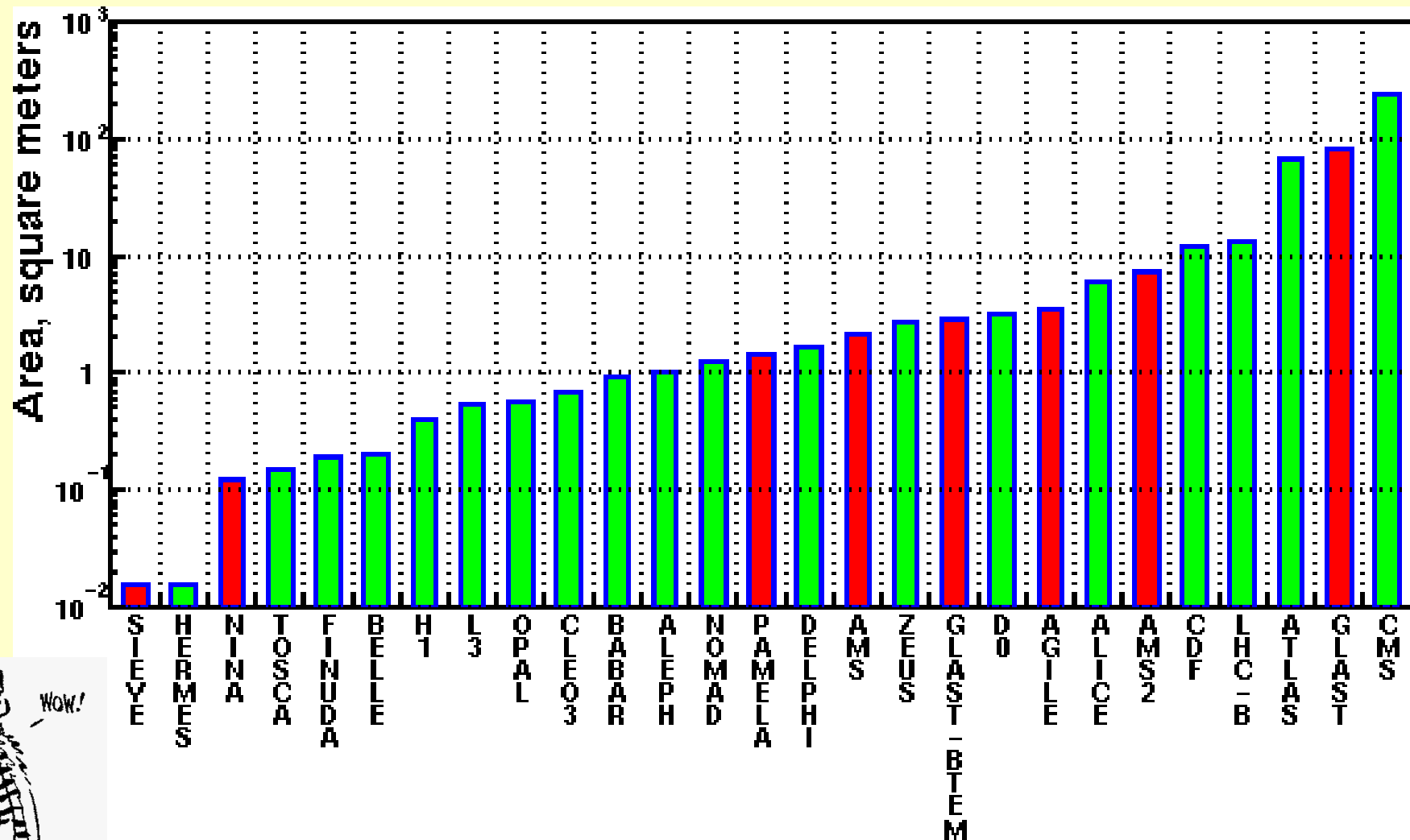


- ***Fail-proof technology***
- ***Long life***
- ***Resistance in a very hostile thermo-mechanical environment***
- ***Resistance in a hostile radiation environment***
- ***Integration (small weight + small volume → lower launcher cost!)***
- ***Limited power***
- ***Good spatial resolution***
- ***Good timing resolution (burst events!)***
- ***Low deadtime***

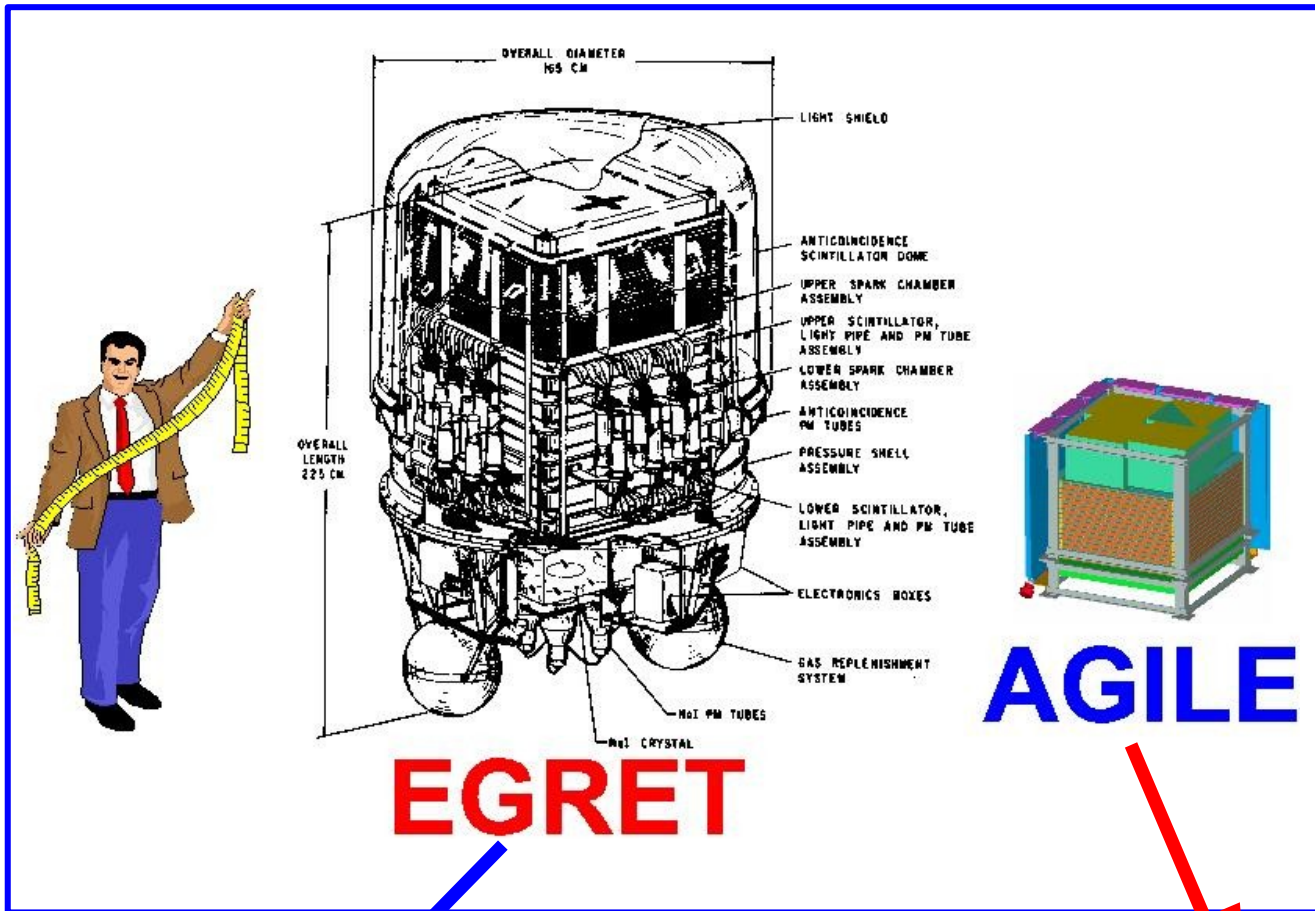
LOT OF MONEY



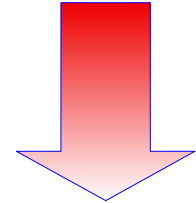
Silicon in space: past, present and near future



Silicon in space: why? Take an example



- No gas
- Lighter
- Integration
- Low deadtime
- Better performance



Why not?

- ✓ **Weight** 1830 kg
- ✓ **Energy range** 30 MeV - 30 GeV
- ✓ **Field of view** 0.5 sr
- ✓ **Angular res.** $\leq 1^\circ$
- ✓ **Deadtime** ≥ 100 ms

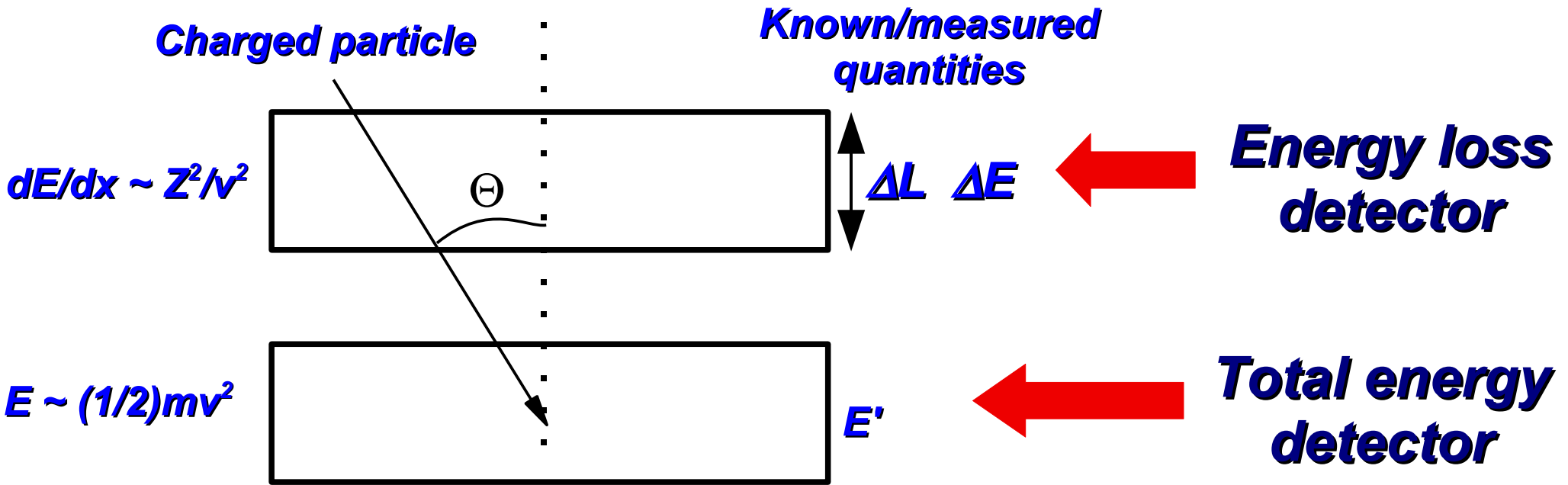
- ✓ **Weight** 100 kg
- ✓ **Energy range** 30 MeV - 50 GeV
- ✓ **Field of view** 3 sr
- ✓ **Angular res.** $\leq 0.5^\circ$
- ✓ **Deadtime** ≤ 0.1 ms

- AGILE

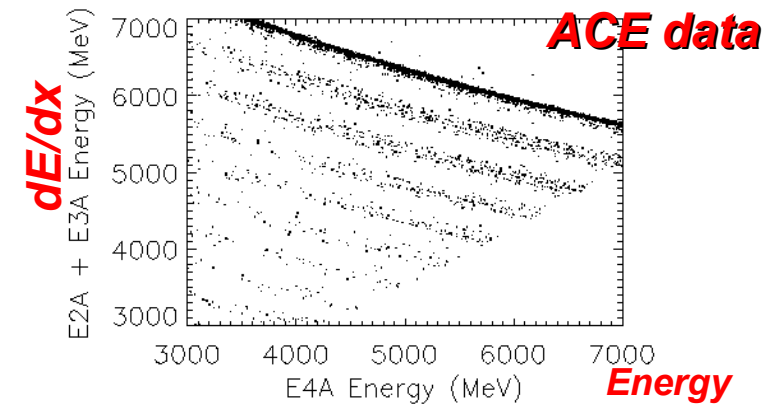
Silicon in space: what for?

- 
- ***Cosmic ray origin and composition***
 - ***Dosimetry***
 - ***Physiological studies of cosmic ray interaction***
 - ***Low energy X ray spectroscopy***
 - ***Visible, UV, IR light detection***
 - ***GAMMA RAY ASTROPHYSICS***

The Silicon Telescope: the "workhorse" for charged particle measurements in space

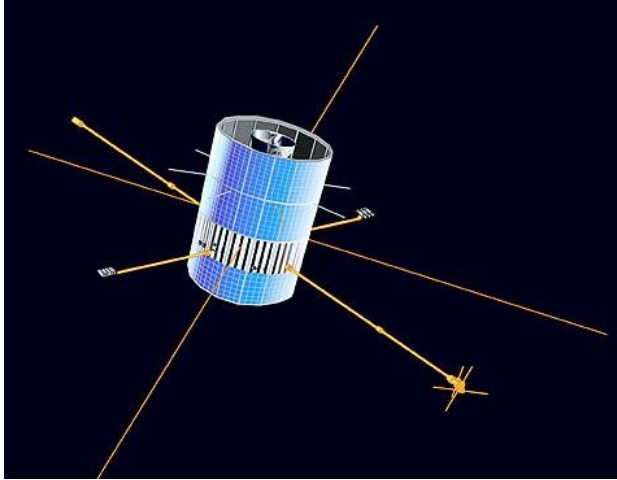


- $dE/dx \sim \Delta E/(\Delta L/\cos\theta)$
- $E \sim E'$
- $(dE/dx * E) \sim Z^2m/2 \rightarrow$ unique for every nucleus (fully ionized)



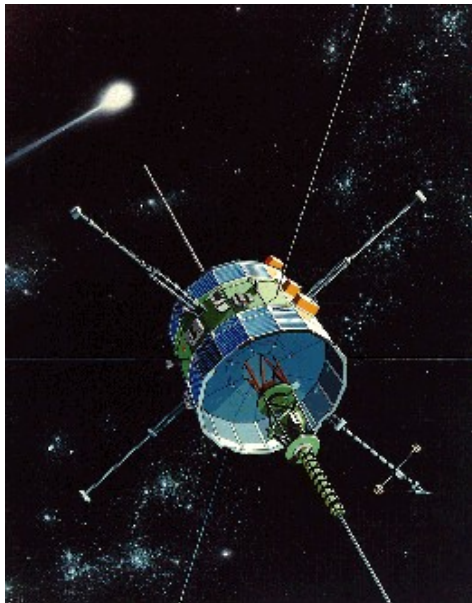
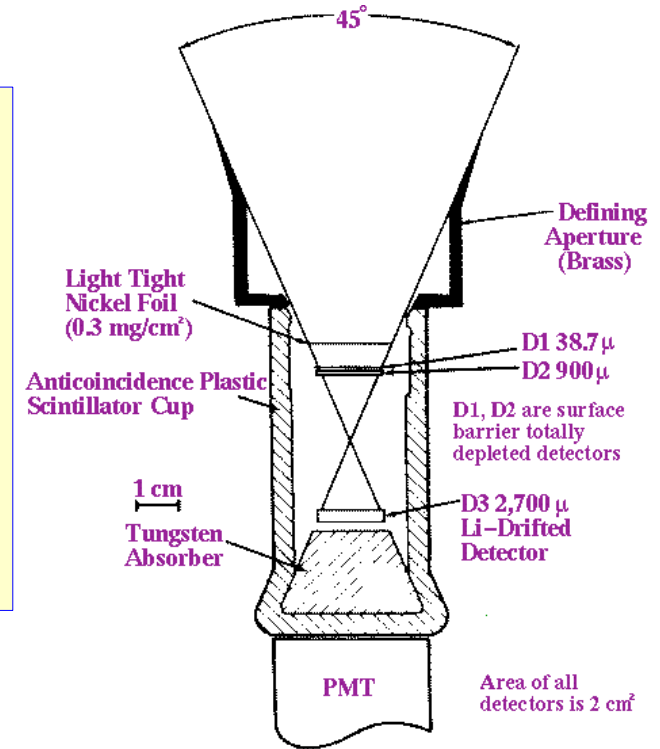
**Proposed in 1959 by J. Simpson (Chicago University),
deployed on Ranger-1, 1961 and IMP-1, 1963**

Silicon in space: some of the first



Interplanetary Monitoring Platform IMP-8:

- ✓ 26/10/1973
- ✓ 371 kg, at 35 Earth rays
- ✓ Still working
- ✓ Inter-planet cosmic ray studies
- ✓ SSB + Si-Li
- ✓ Identification with $dE/dx+E$



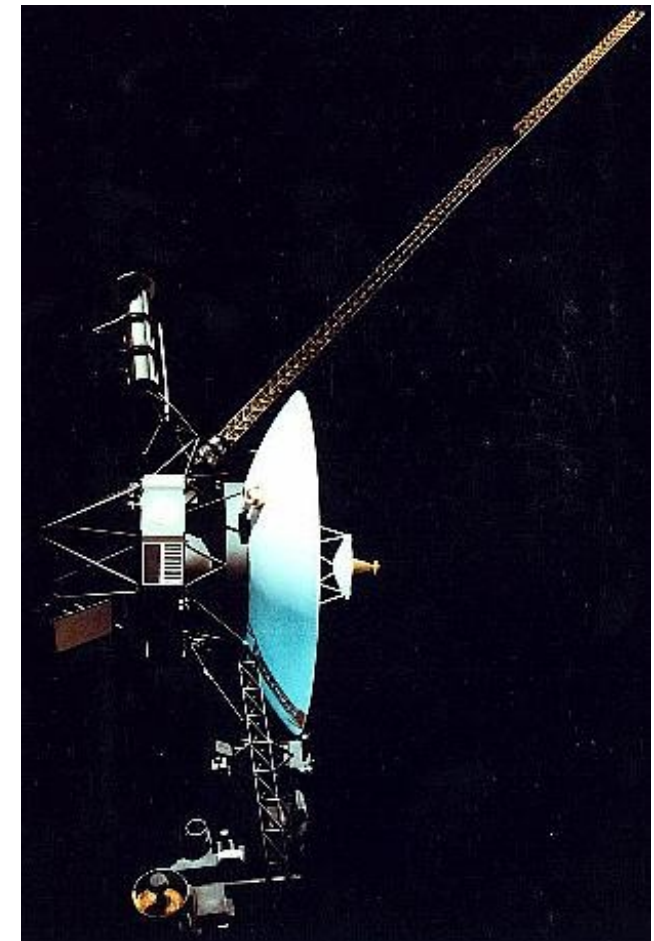
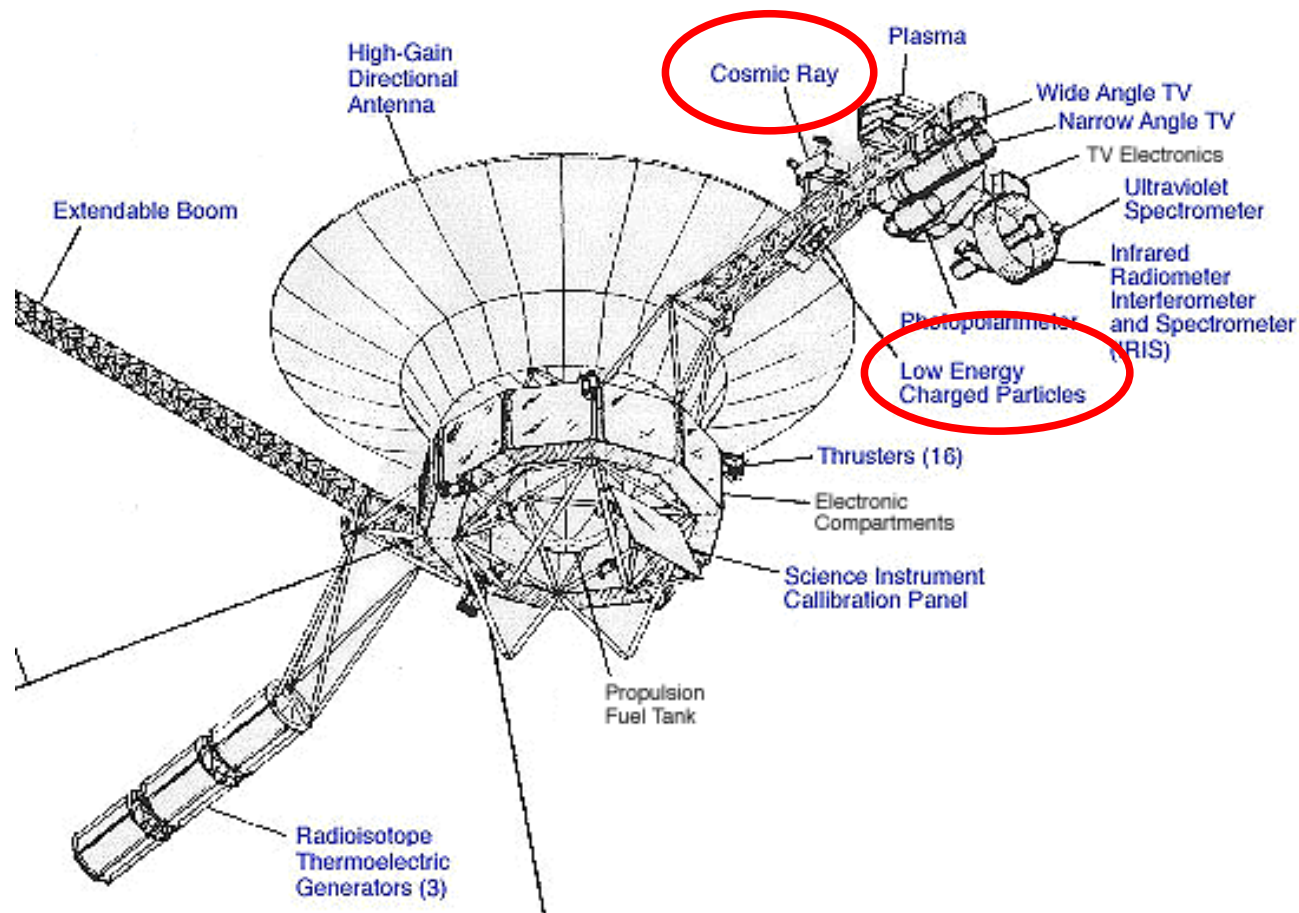
International Sun-Earth Explorer 3 (ISEE-3)

- ✓ launch: August 12, 1978
- ✓ Mass: 478 kg
- ✓ Goal: cosmic rays and emissions during solar flares
- ✓ Nov 20, 1978 - Halo Orbit - Earth-Sun L1 Libration Point
- ✓ Sep 11, 1985 - Comet Giacobini-Zinner Flyby
- ✓ Mar 28, 1986 - Comet Halley Distant Flyby
- ✓ 15 Instruments, 5 using Si Detectors (Silicon Surface Barrier & Si-Li)
- ✓ First High Purity Germanium detector used in space

Silicon detectors on human-made objects that left the solar-system

Voyager 1 and 2

- ✓ Launched August 20 and September 5, 1977
- ✓ 800 kg each
- ✓ Two independent cosmic-ray systems
- ✓ Identification with $dE/dx+E$
- ✓ Flyby Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune



Some other missions that used silicon detectors:

- ***GIOTTO, ESA Mission to Halley Comet, 1986***
- ***Ulysses, Explorer for the polar regions of the SUN, ESA/NASA, 1990***
- ***SAMPEX, Solar Anomalous Magnetospheric Particle Explorer, NASA, 1992***
- ***GEOTAIL, Geomagnetic Tail Laboratory, NASA, 1992***
- ***WIND, Interplanetary Physics Laboratory, NASA, 1994***
- ***SOHO, SOLar Heliosphere Observatory, ESA/NASA, 1995***
- ***POLAR, Polar Plasma Laboratory, NASA, 1996***
- ***CLUSTER2, 4 satellites for Earth Magnetosphere studies, ESA/NASA, 2000***
- ***And many others...***

***then came strip detectors
and HEP technology...***



Solar Isotope Spectrometer (SIS, onboard ACE, Advanced Composition Explorer): isotopic composition from He to Ni over the energy range 10-100 MeV/nucleon :

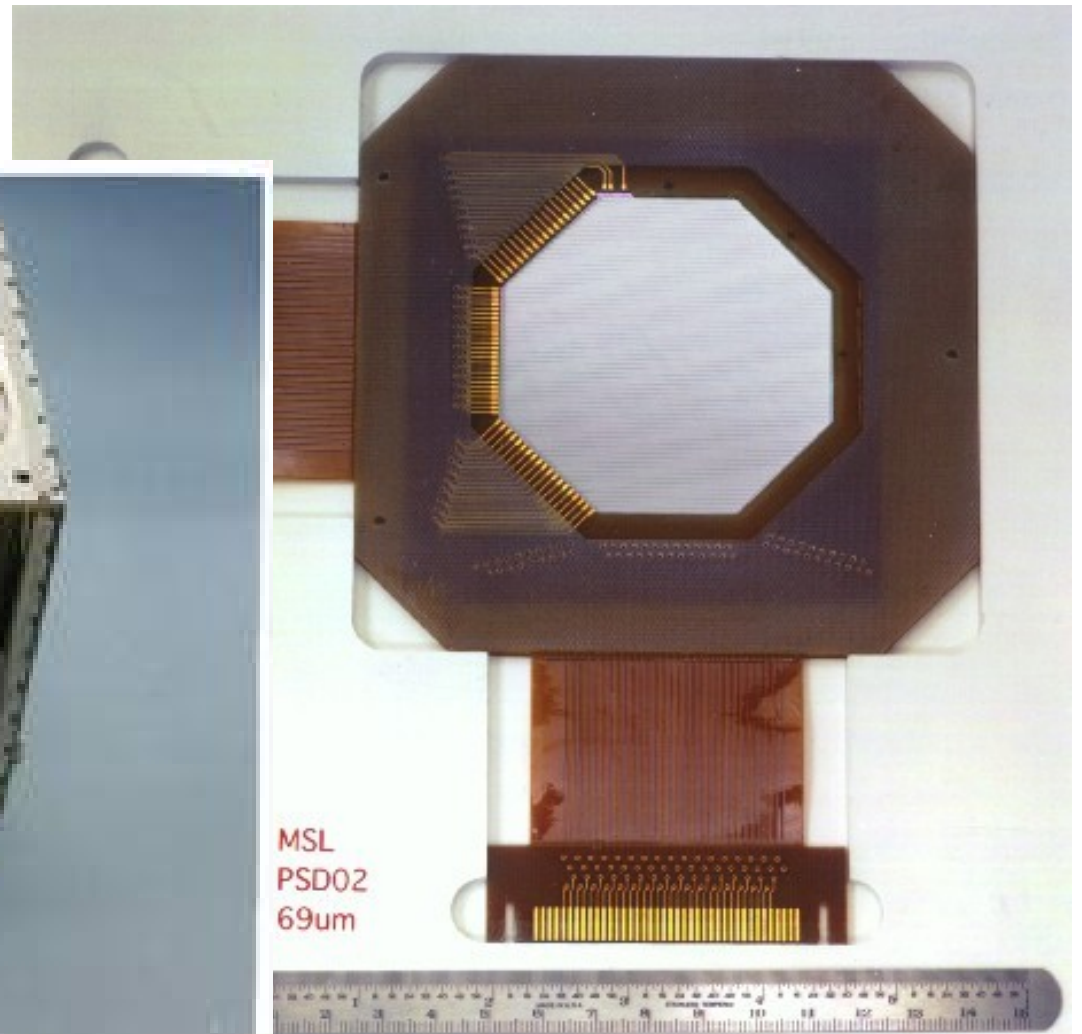
- Large solar events: isotopic composition of the solar corona
- Quiet solar times: isotopes of the Galactic cosmic rays

2 telescopes with 17 Si:

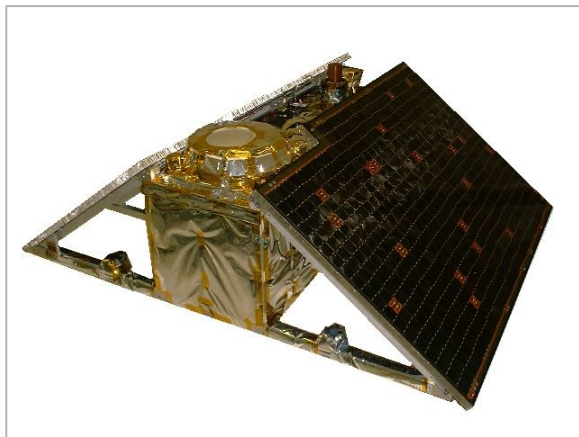
- 2 strip ones for track reconstruction (64 strips each, 1mm pitch)
- 15 for energy loss



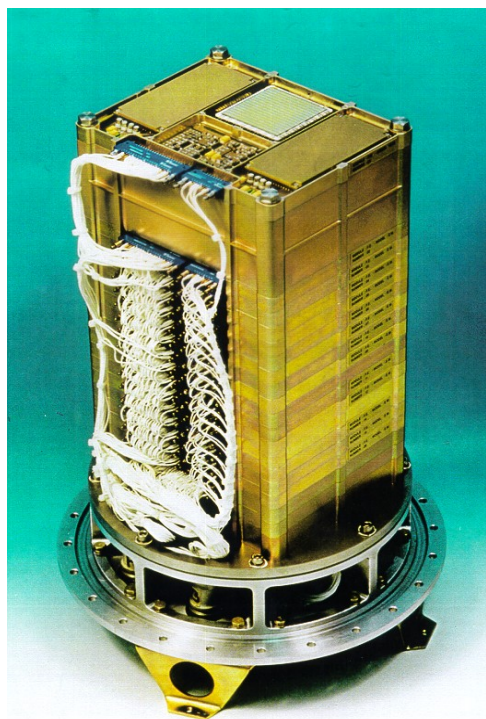
**Launch:
25/8/1997**



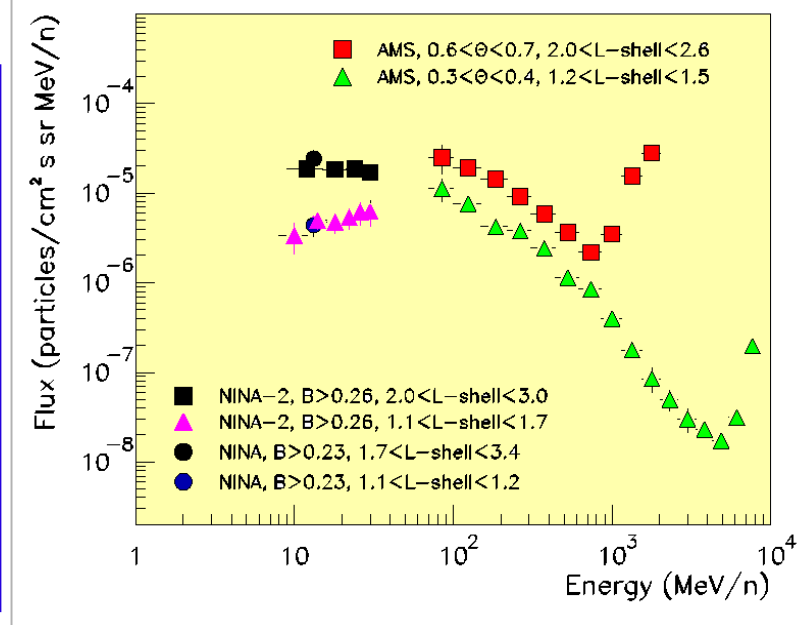
The NINA (New Instrument for Nuclear Analysis) mission



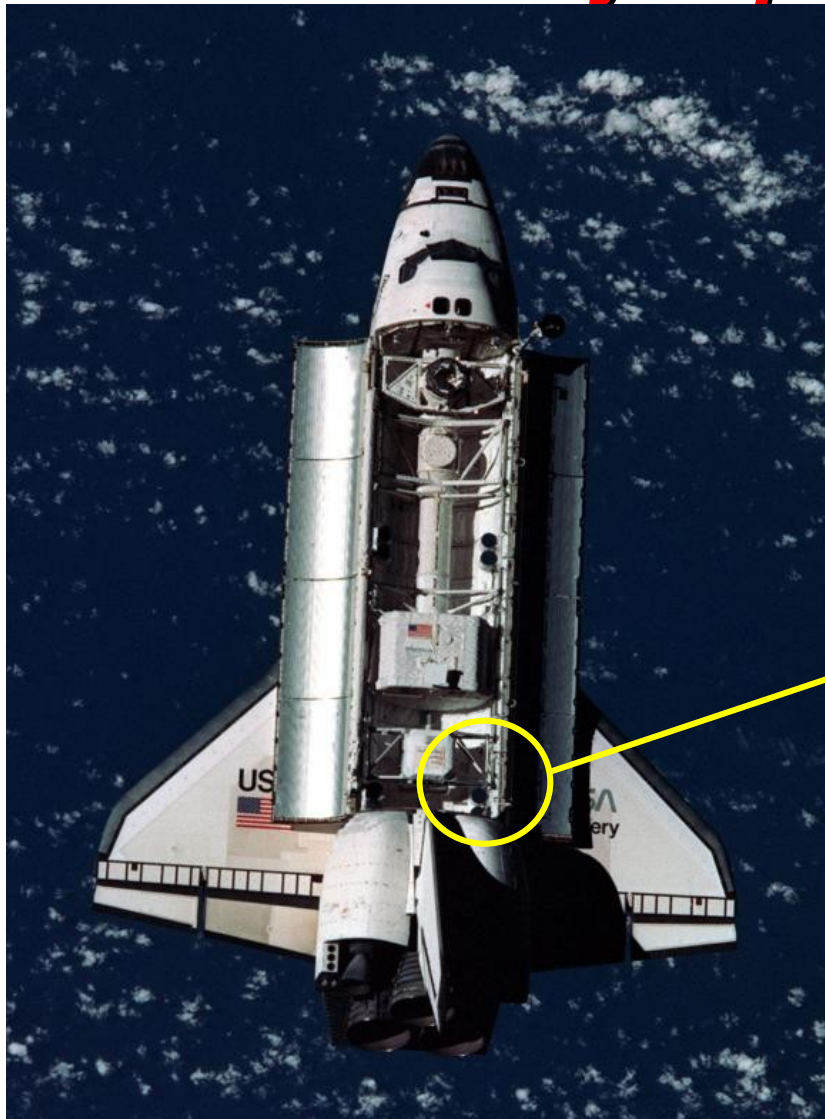
- ✓ **NINA1** : 31/8/1998 - 13/4/1999 (2×10^6 events)
- ✓ Orbit: 840 km, 98.7deg
- ✓ Mass = 2500 kg
- ✓ Satellite = RESURS-01 nr.4
- ✓ **NINA2** : 21/7/2000 - 15/8/2001 ($>10^7$ events)
- ✓ Orbit: 450 km, 87.3deg
- ✓ Mass = 200 kg
- ✓ Satellite = MITA



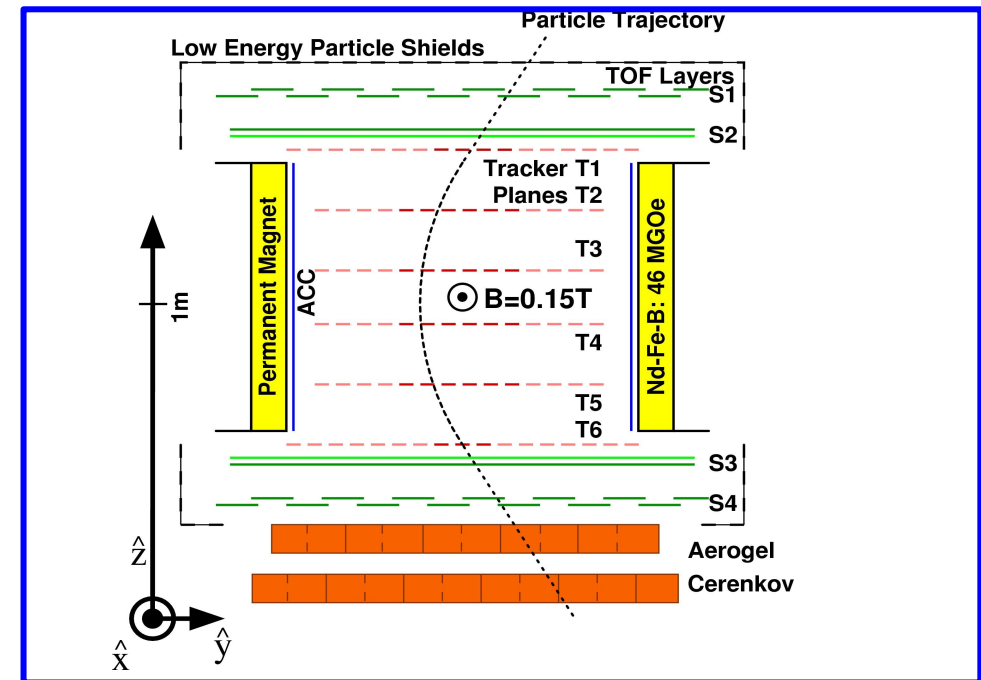
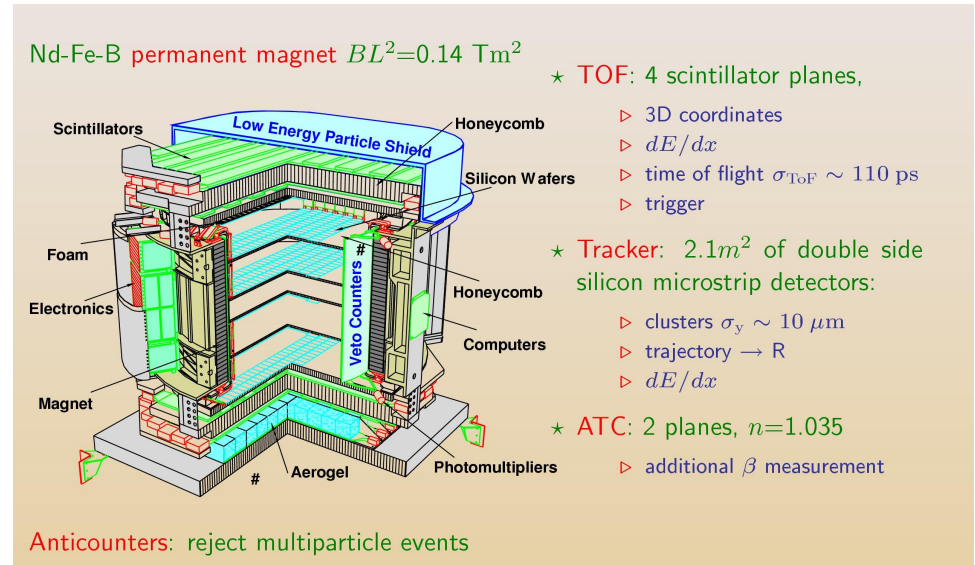
- Basic element:
 - Detector $6 \times 6 \text{ cm}^2$, $150 \mu\text{m}$ thick (2), $380 \mu\text{m}$ thick (14) with 16 strips (pitch = 3.6 mm)
 - Organized in a x-y mode
 - 32 wafers arranged in 16 planes, 1.4 cm apart
 - Total weight = 40 kg
 - Total power = 40 W



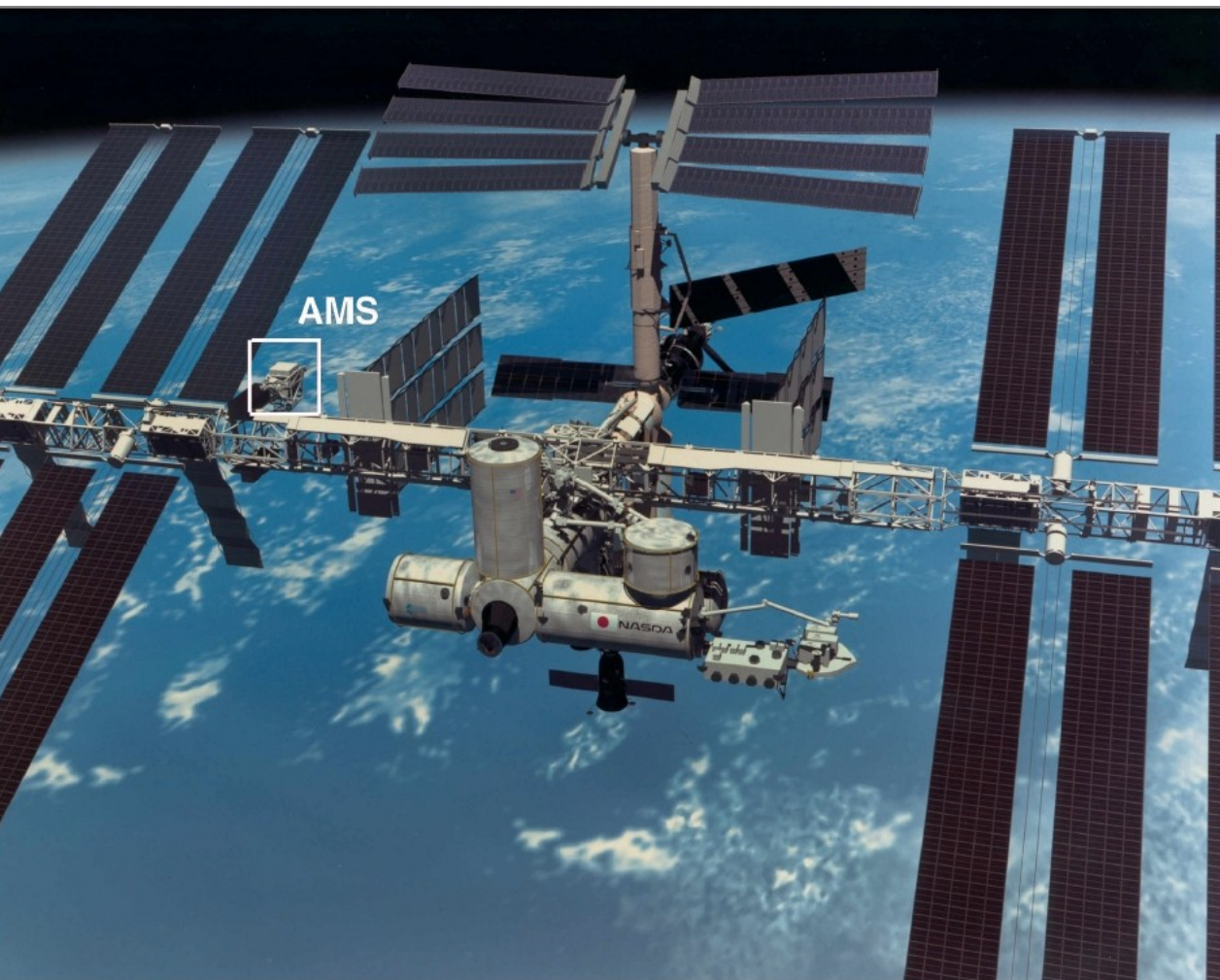
Silicon in space: the breakthrough in cosmic ray experiments → AMS01



1998



The near future: AMS02

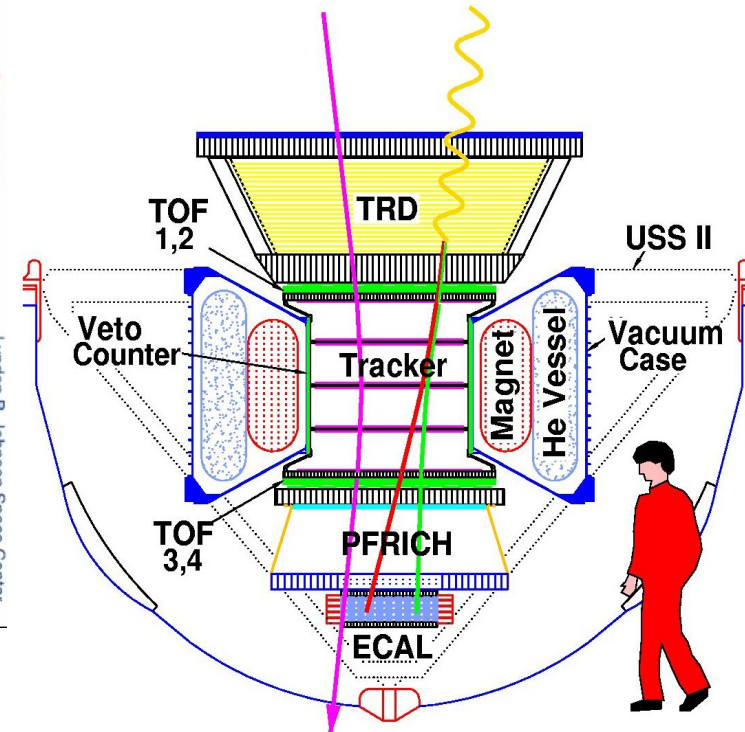


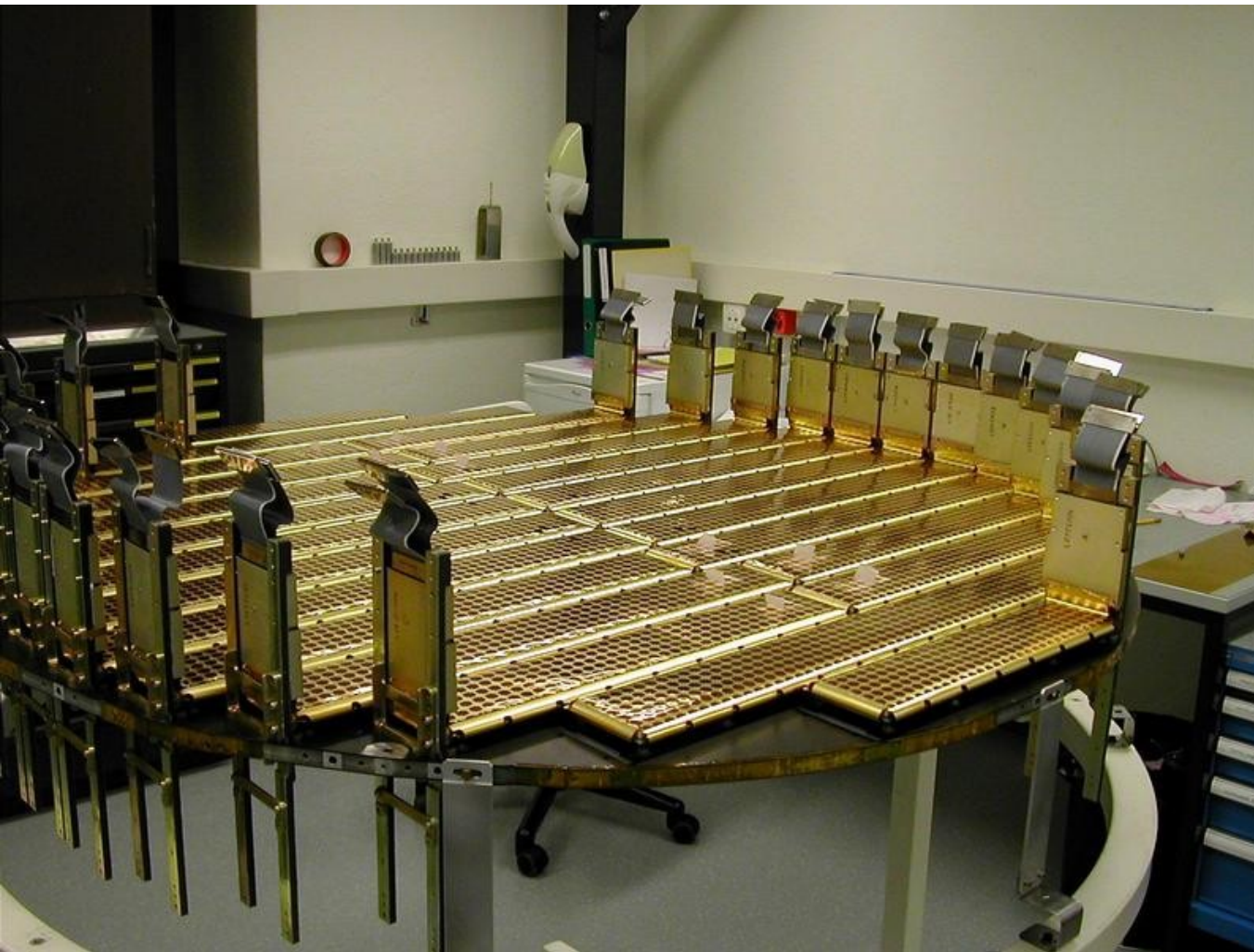
National Aeronautics and
Space Administration

S98-11010

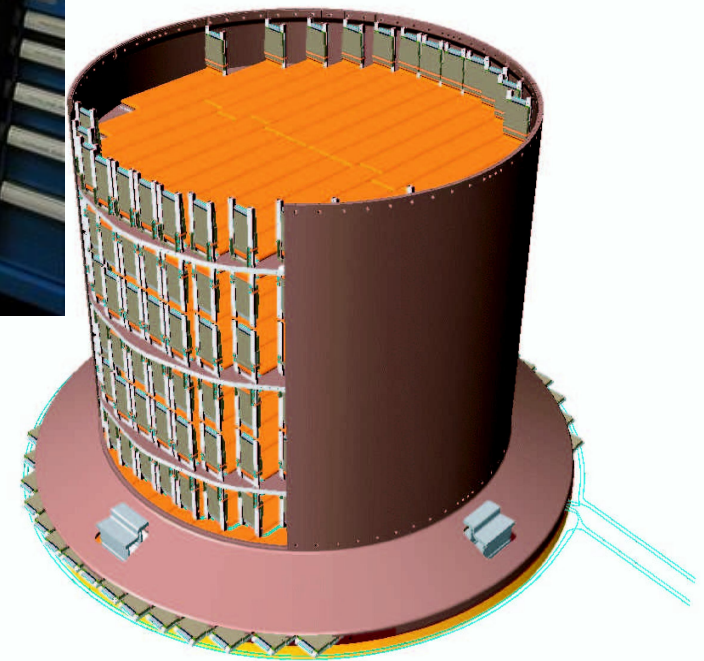
Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center
Houston Texas 77058

- ✓ Data taking on ISS
- ✓ Superconducting magnet
- ✓ Large acceptance
- ✓ Long term operation
- ✓ Cosmic ray elemental and isotopic fluxes
- ✓ Direct search for antimatter
- ✓ Indirect search for Dark Matter

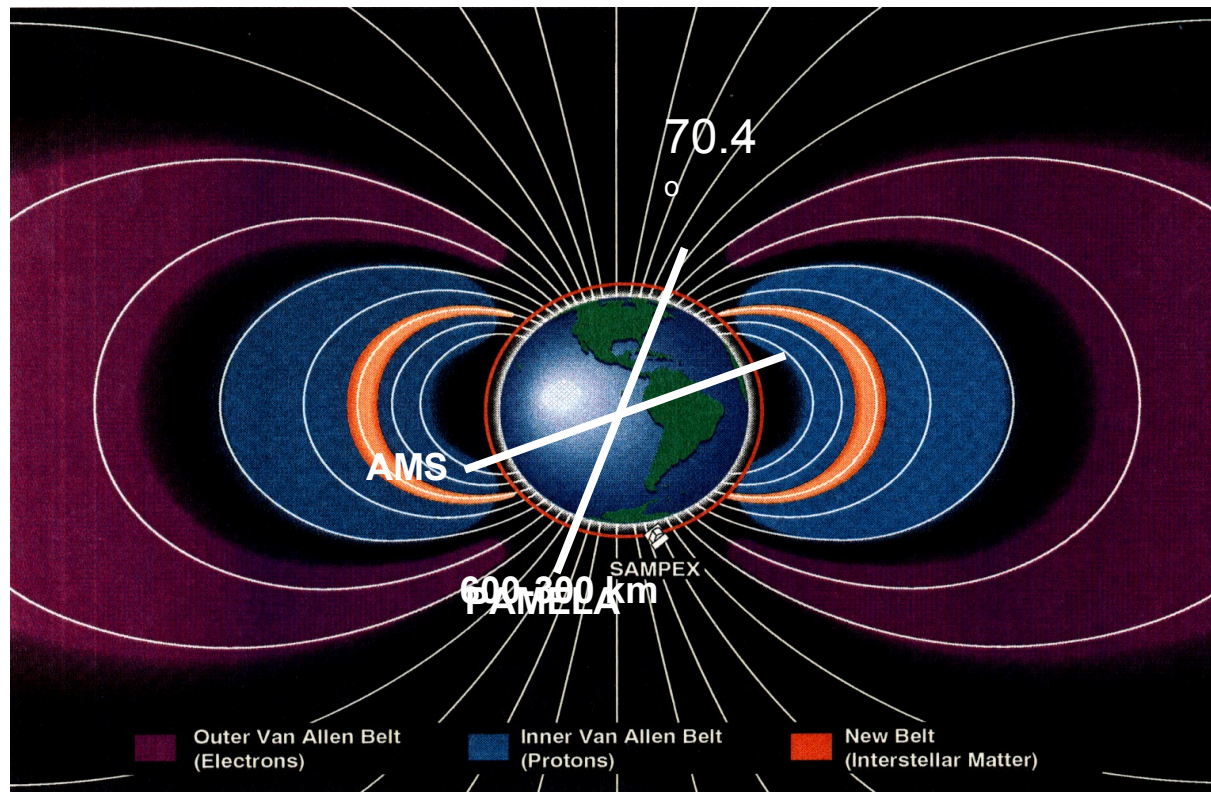




- × 8 planes of double side silicon detectors
- × Total area $\approx 6 \text{ m}^2$
- × Pitch in the bending plane = $110 \mu\text{m}$
- × Pitch in the non-bending plane = $208 \mu\text{m}$
- × dE/dx measurement
- × Readout: VA64HDR (IDEAS)



The present: PAMELA (Payload for Antimatter-Matter Exploration and Light nuclei Astrophysics)

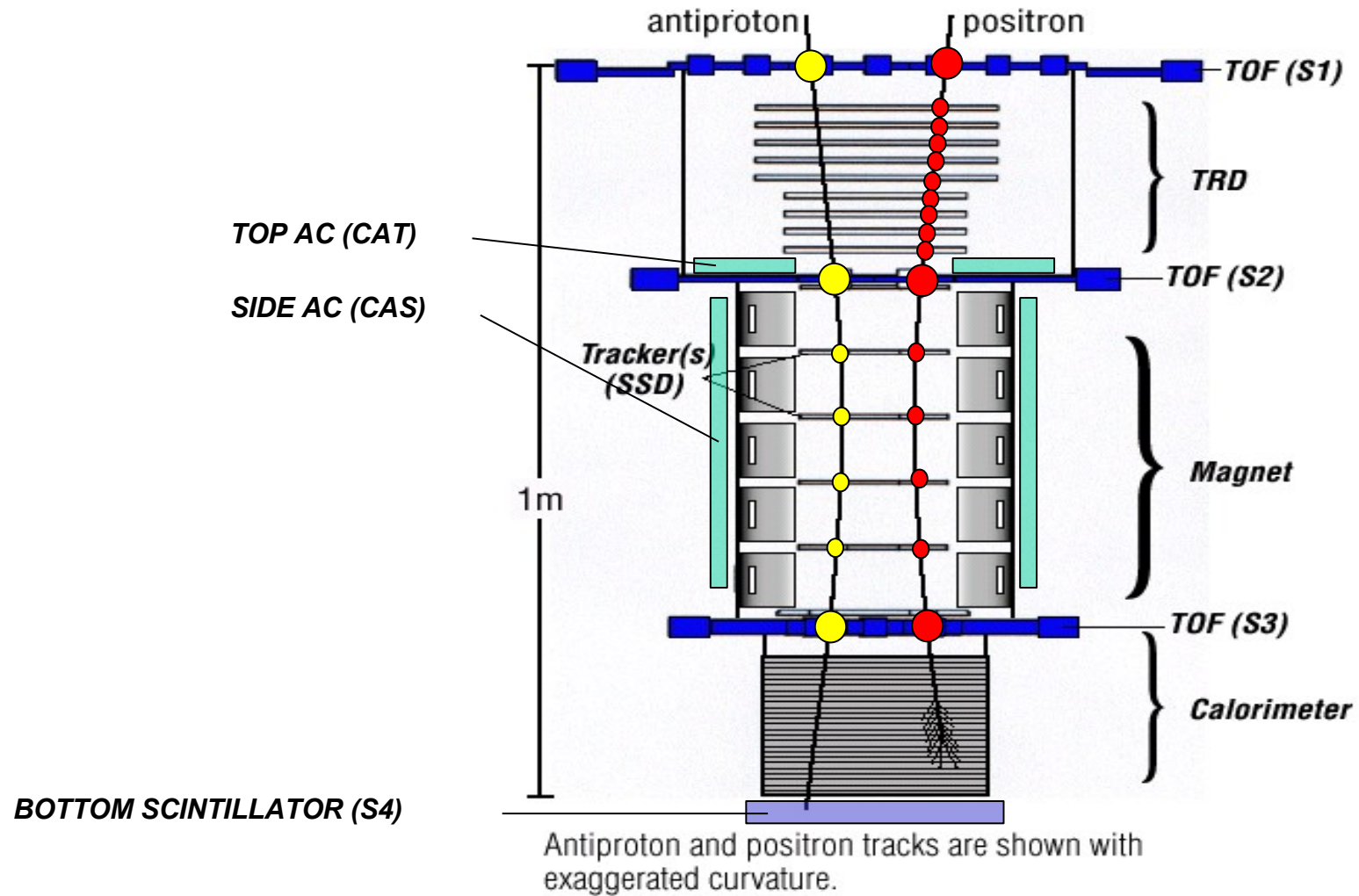


Goal: antiproton and positron fluxes in space:

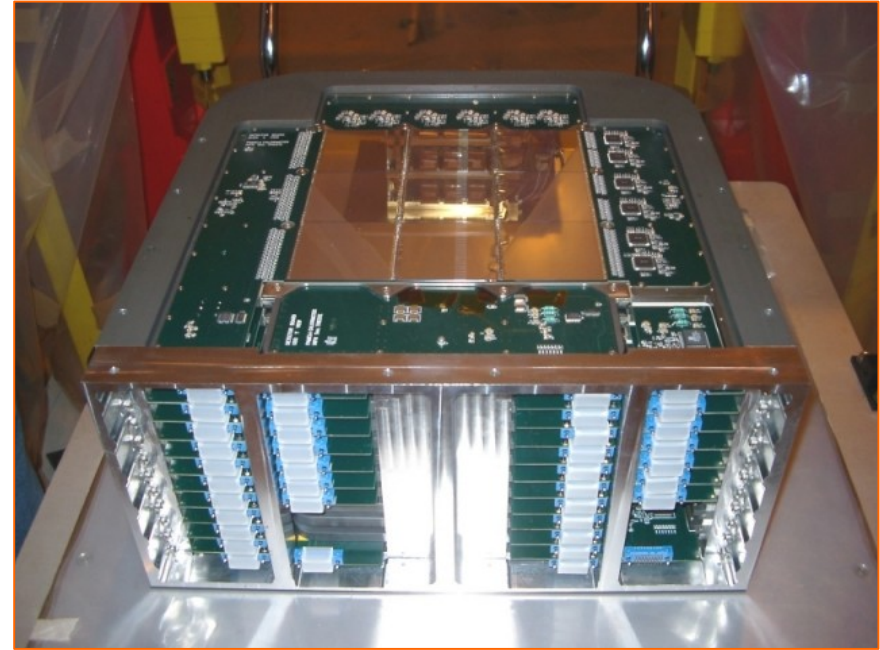
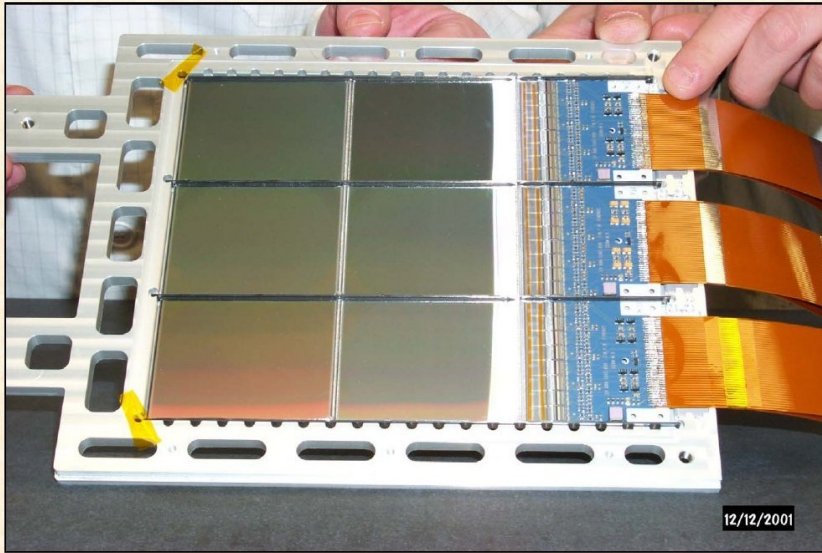
- ✓ **Wide energy range (80MeV-190GeV for antiproton; 50MeV-270GeV for positrons)**
- ✓ **High statistics: in 2 years, 20k antip and 200k positrons expected**

Goal: $H \rightarrow C$ energy spectrum and search for anti-He

Working principle



SILICON in PAMELA



Tracking:

- 6 layers of double side silicon detectors (HAMAMATSU)
- Readout pitch=50 μ m
- Thickness = 300 μ m

Calorimeter:

- 22 planes with one tungsten layer of 2.6mm and two layers of silicon detectors (380 μ m thick)
- Strip pitch = 2.4 mm
- 16 radiation lengths
- Total number of channels = 4224
- Dynamic range = 1-1000 mips



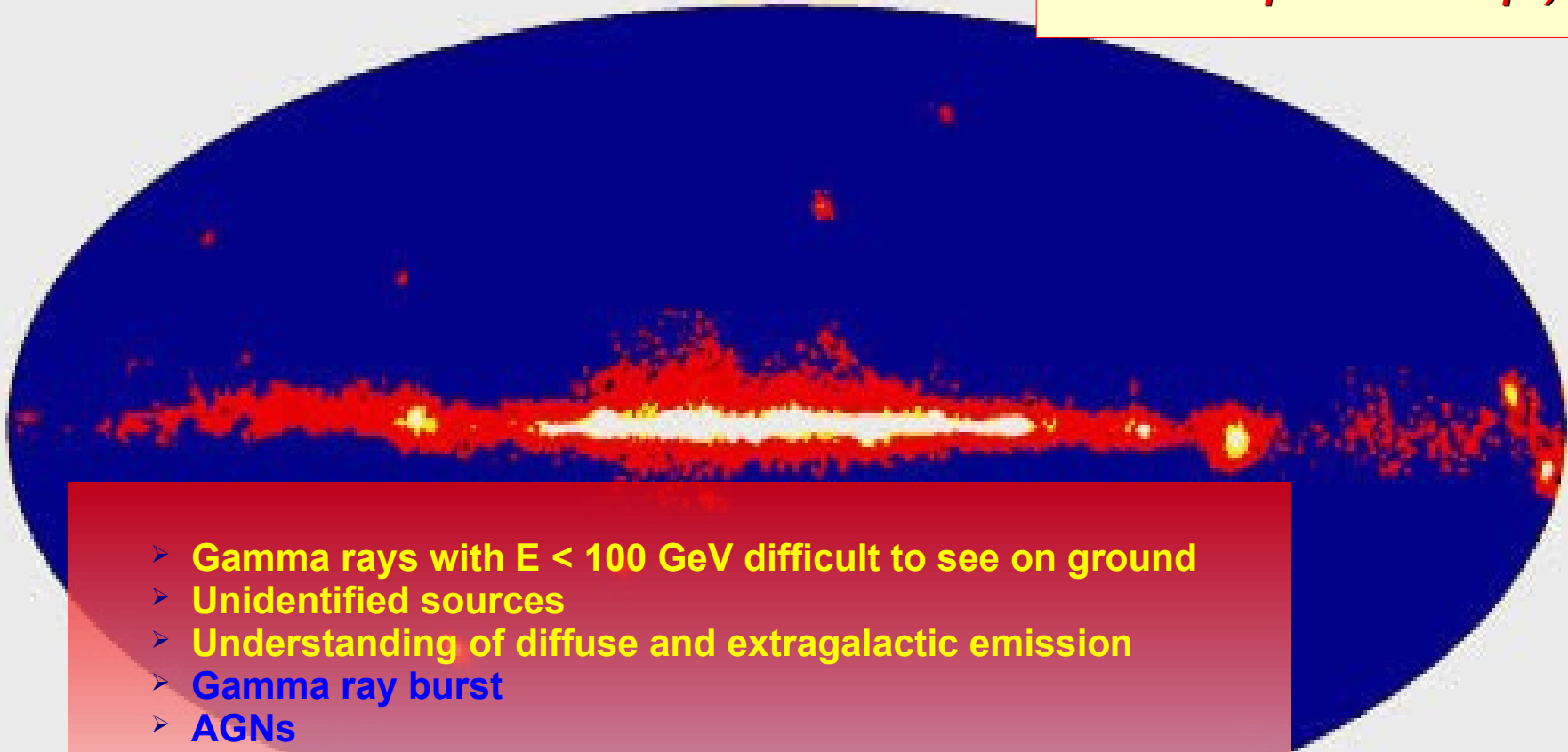
LAUNCH = 15/06/2006 from Baikonur

Silicon in space: gamma-ray astrophysics

The AGILE gamma-ray s

(above 100 MeV, July 2007 - March 20

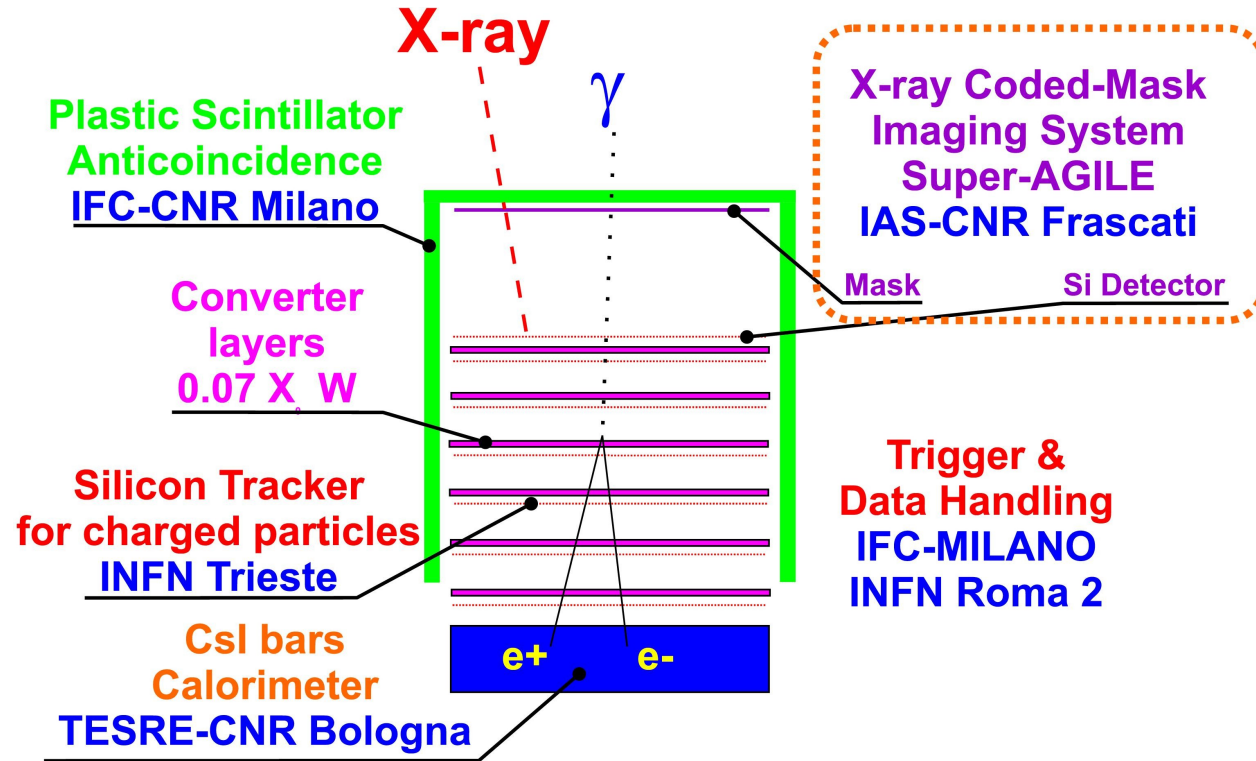
- **AGILE (Astrorivelatore Gamma a Immagini Leggero)**
- **GLAST (Gamma-ray Large Area Space Telescope)**



- **Gamma rays with $E < 100$ GeV difficult to see on ground**
- **Unidentified sources**
- **Understanding of diffuse and extragalactic emission**
- **Gamma ray burst**
- **AGNs**
- **Supernova remnants**
- **Pulsar**

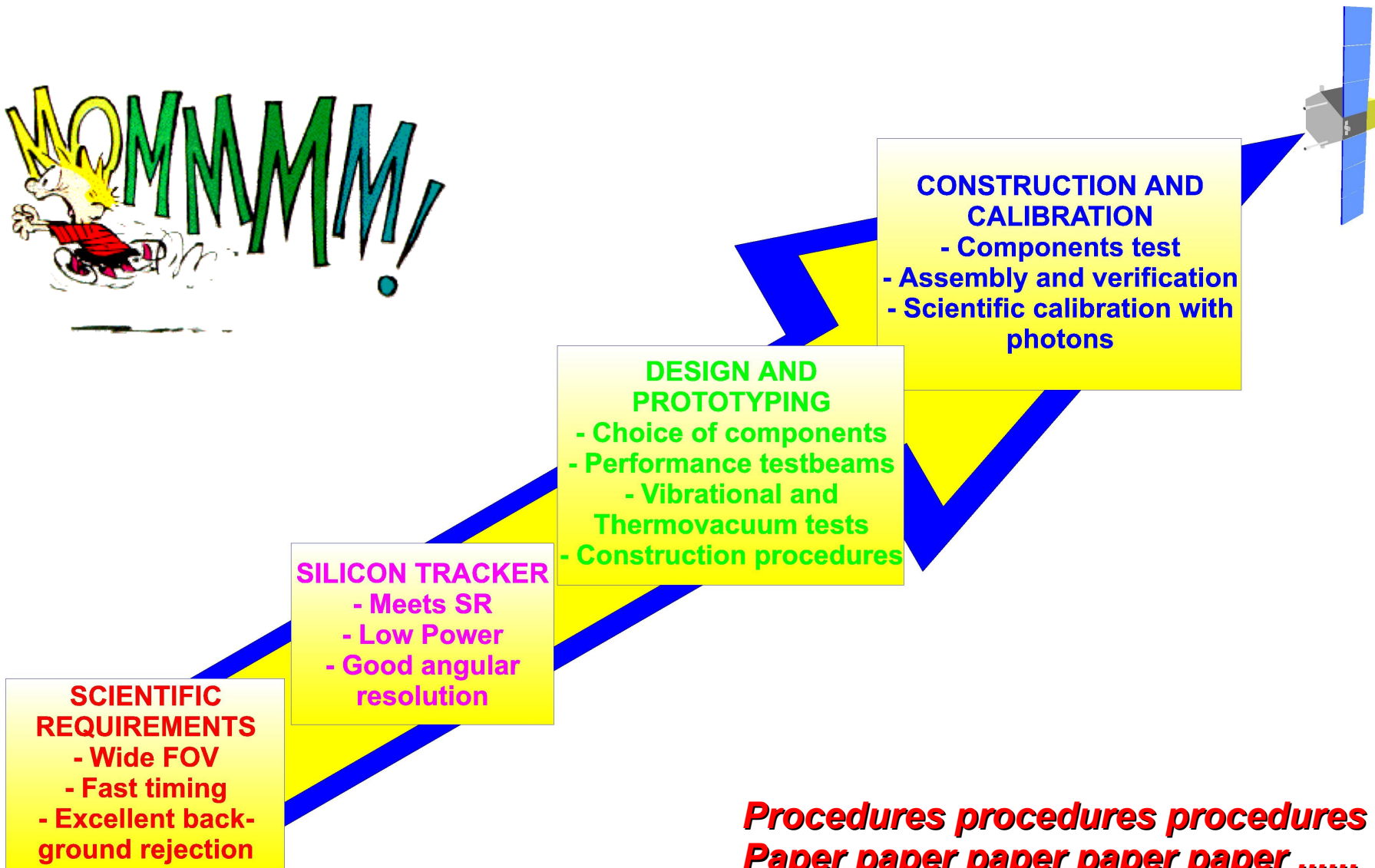
Working principle of AGILE and GLAST

- Pair conversion telescopes with a calorimeter to measure energy and a scintillator system to veto charged particles
- Charged particle background: 10^5 - 10^6 times larger than γ signal
- Trigger based on the silicon planes
- Low power electronics
- SuperAGILE: X-ray detector with a coded mask imaging system



Silicon in space: let's build an instrument

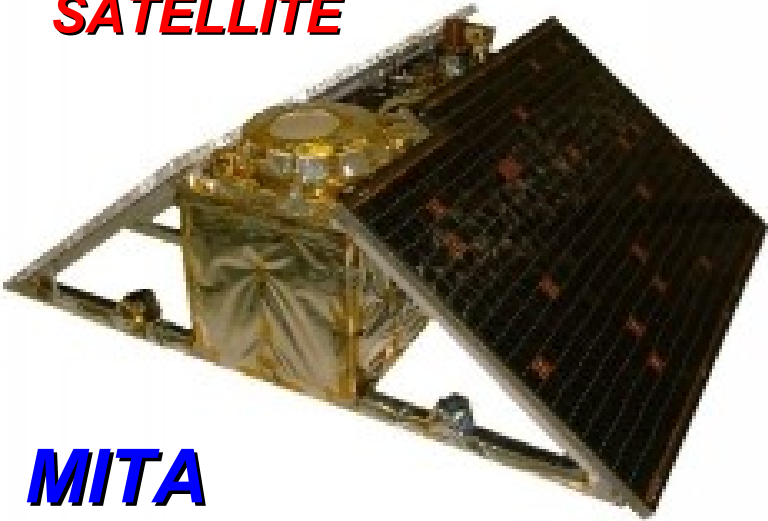
TO THE STARS



***Procedures procedures procedures
Paper paper paper paper paper***

A space mission components

SATELLITE

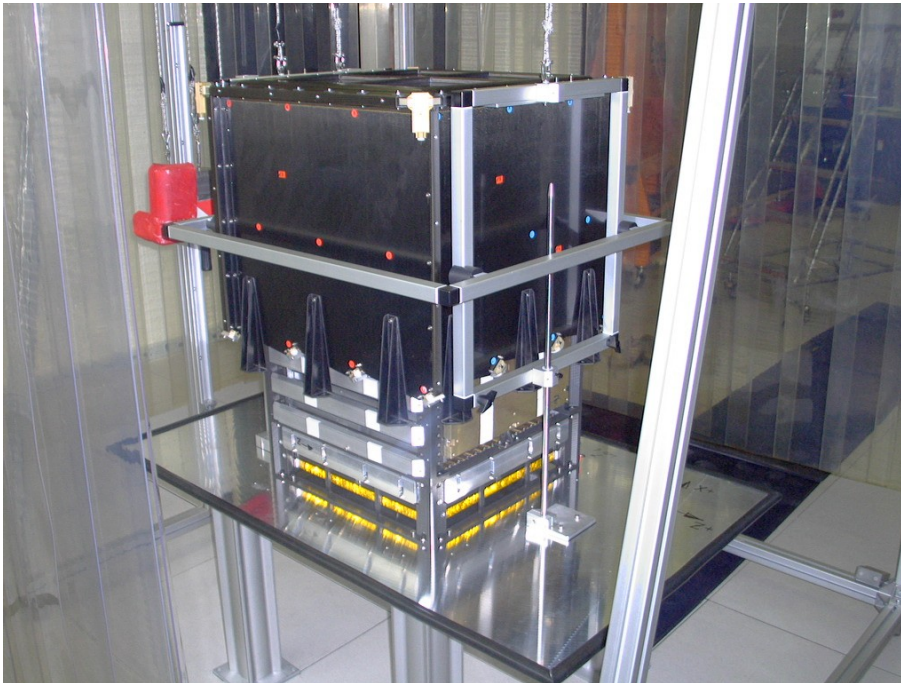


MITA

PSLV

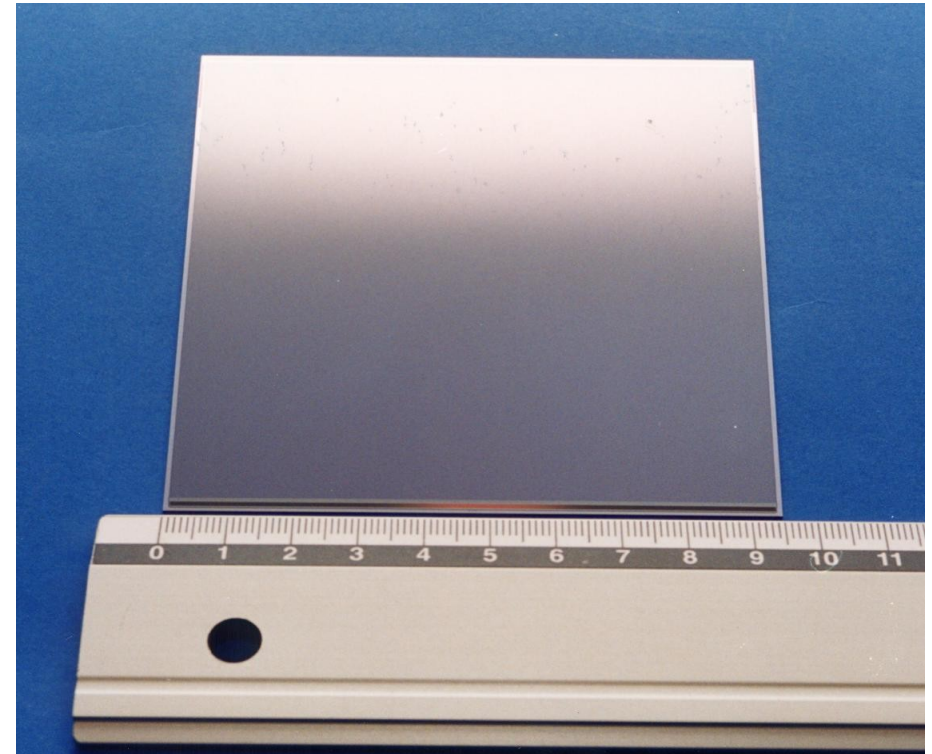
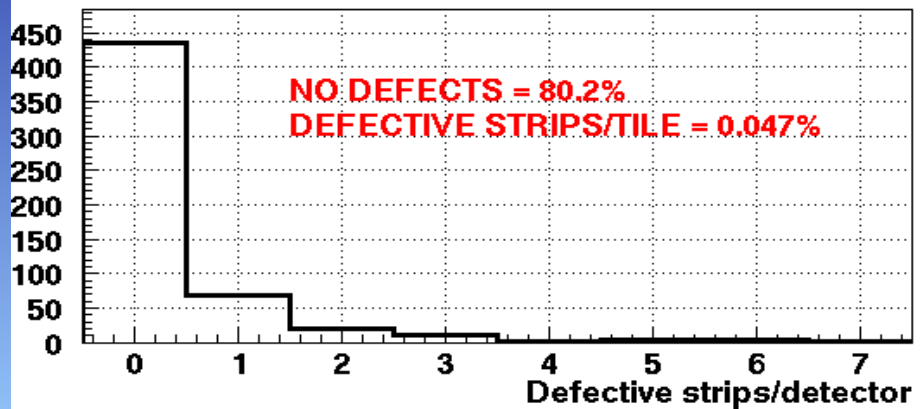
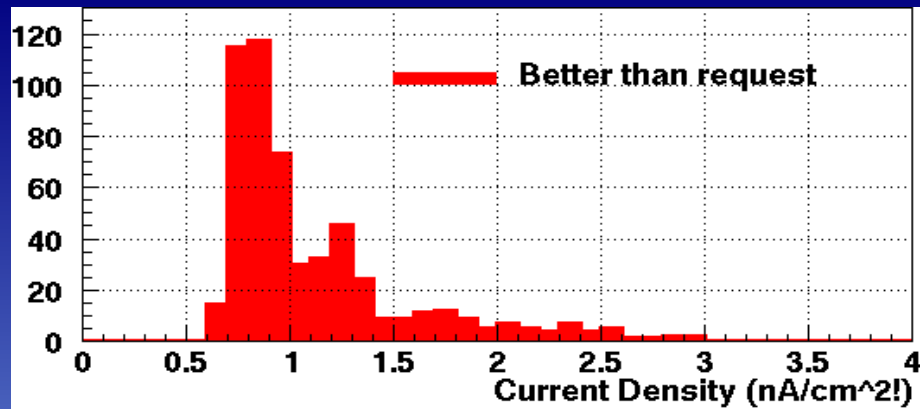


LAUNCHER



SCIENTIFIC PAYLOAD

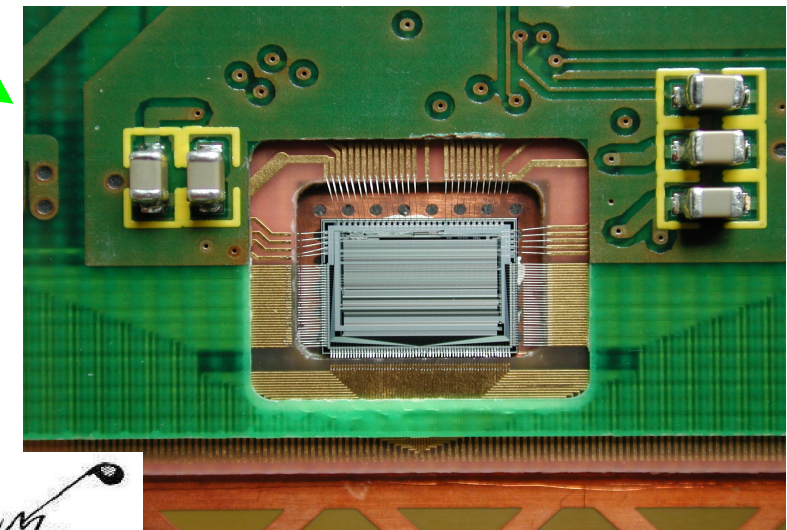
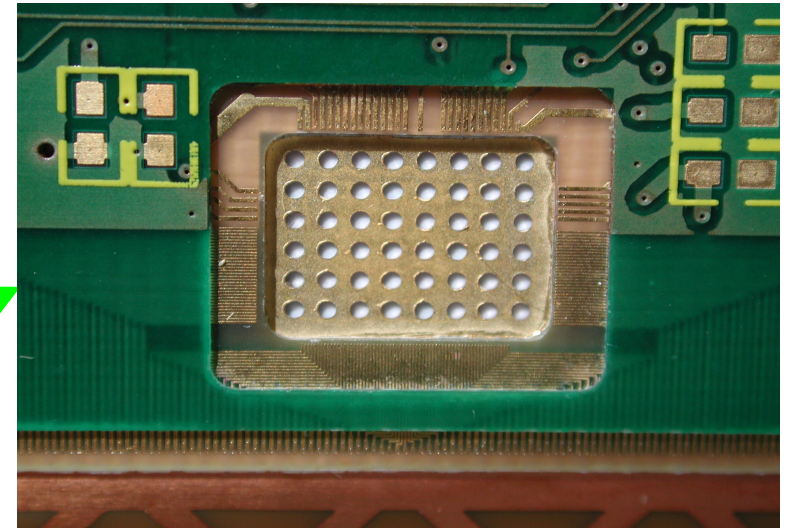
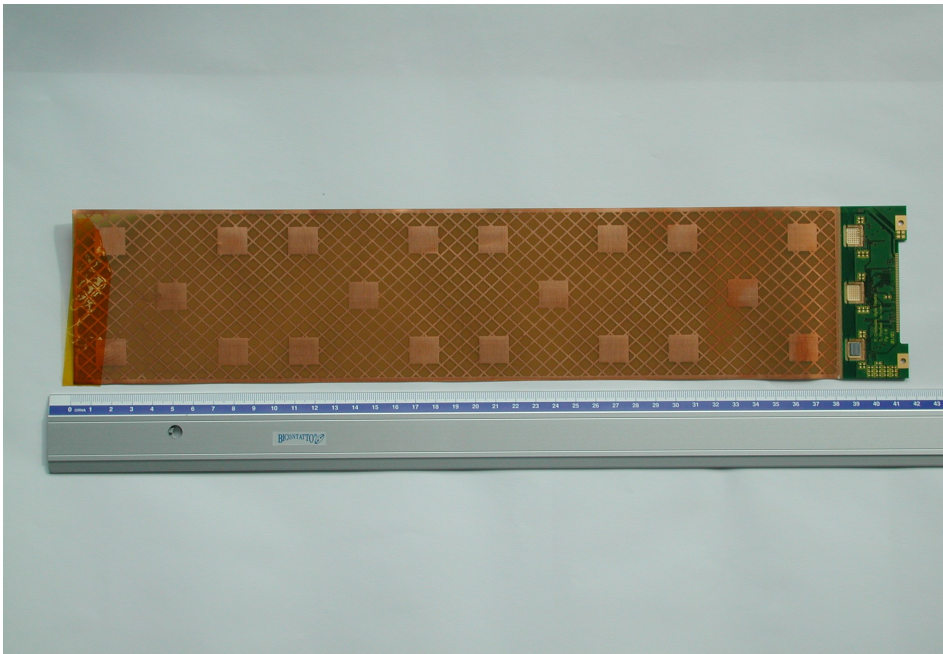
Step 1: design the detector and prove it works



- ✓ Dimension: 9.5 x 9.5 cm²
- ✓ HAMAMATSU with specifications from INFN-Ts
- ✓ Thickness = 410 μm, readout pitch = 242 μm
- ✓ 384 readout strips; 768 physical strips → strip FLOATING → spatial resolution with low power



Step 2: design/choose the electronics and prove it works

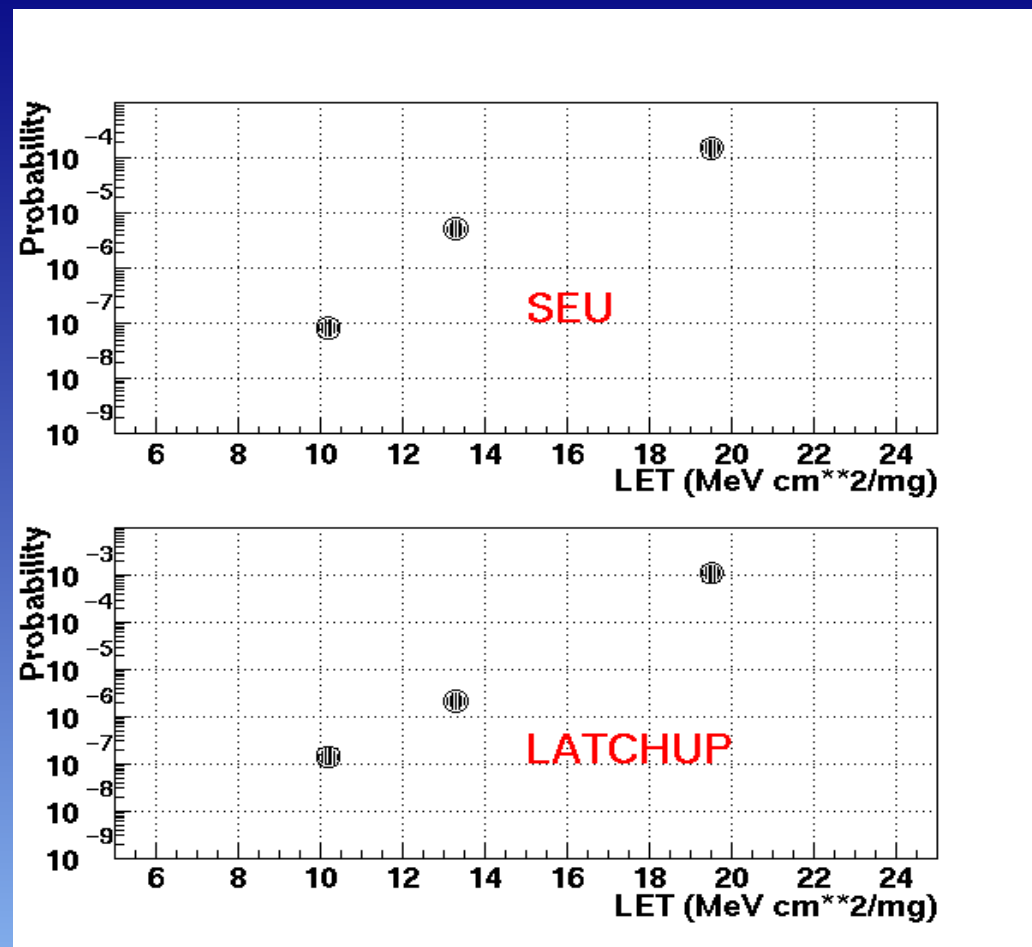


- *ILFA (Hannover), design by INFN-Ts*
- *Unique technology (FR4 based)*
- *ASIC (TAA1, IDE AS) inside the HDI*

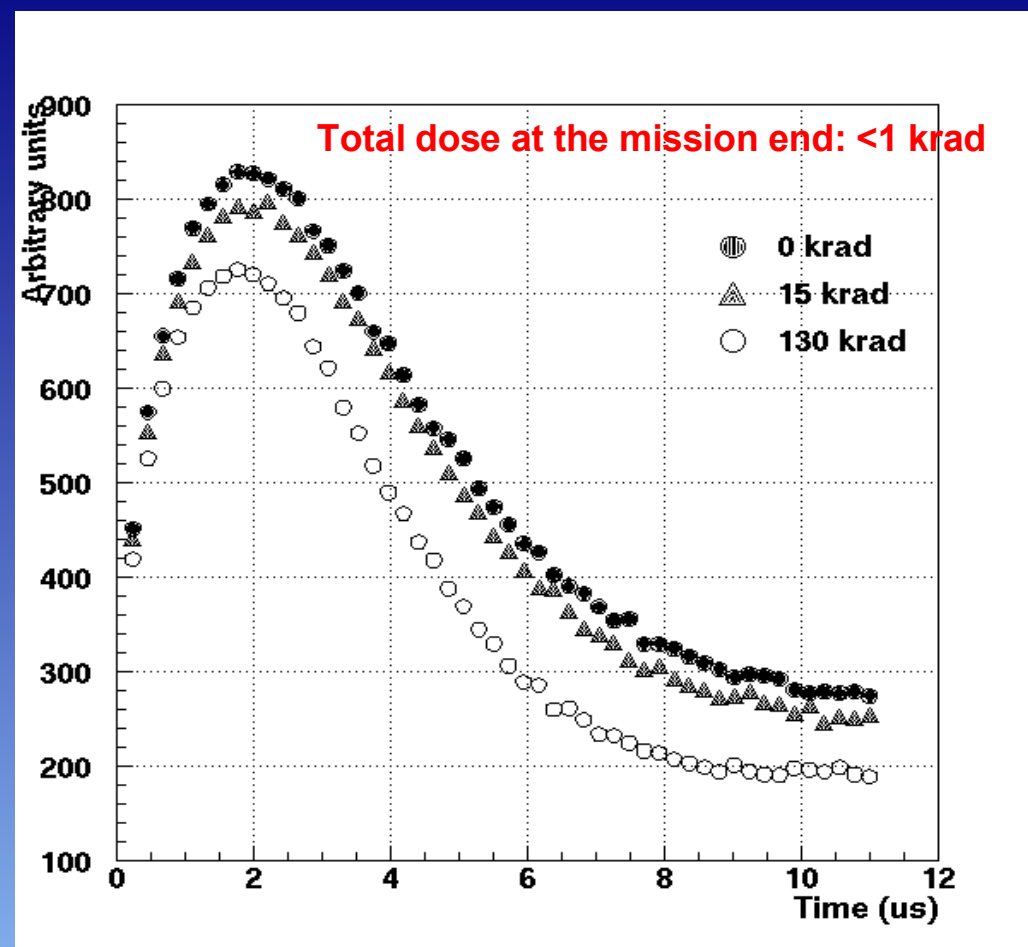


Step 3: demonstrate you will not be killed by radiation

Latchup/SEU of TAA1 (SIRAD facility, INFN Legnaro National Laboratory)



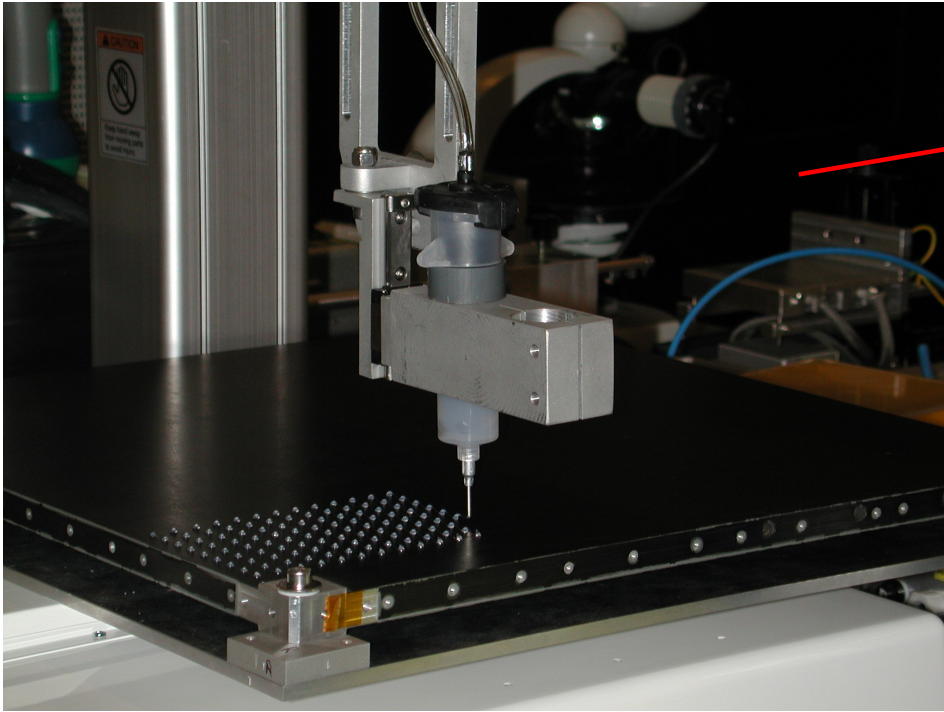
SEU and latchup probability on one ASIC



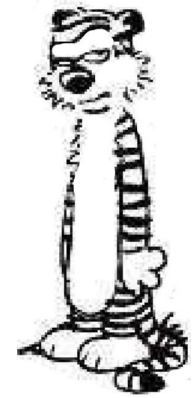
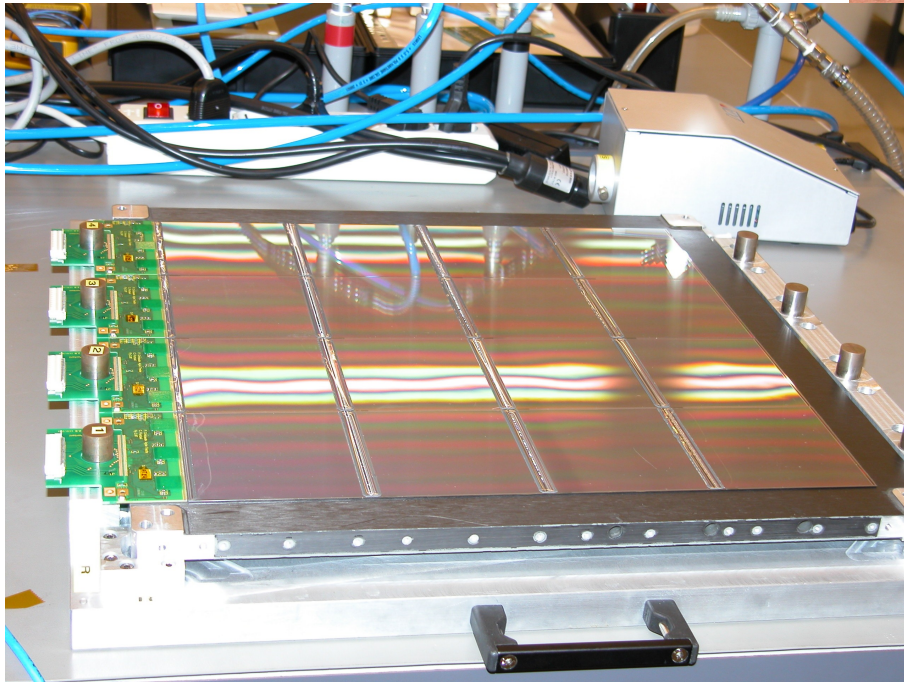
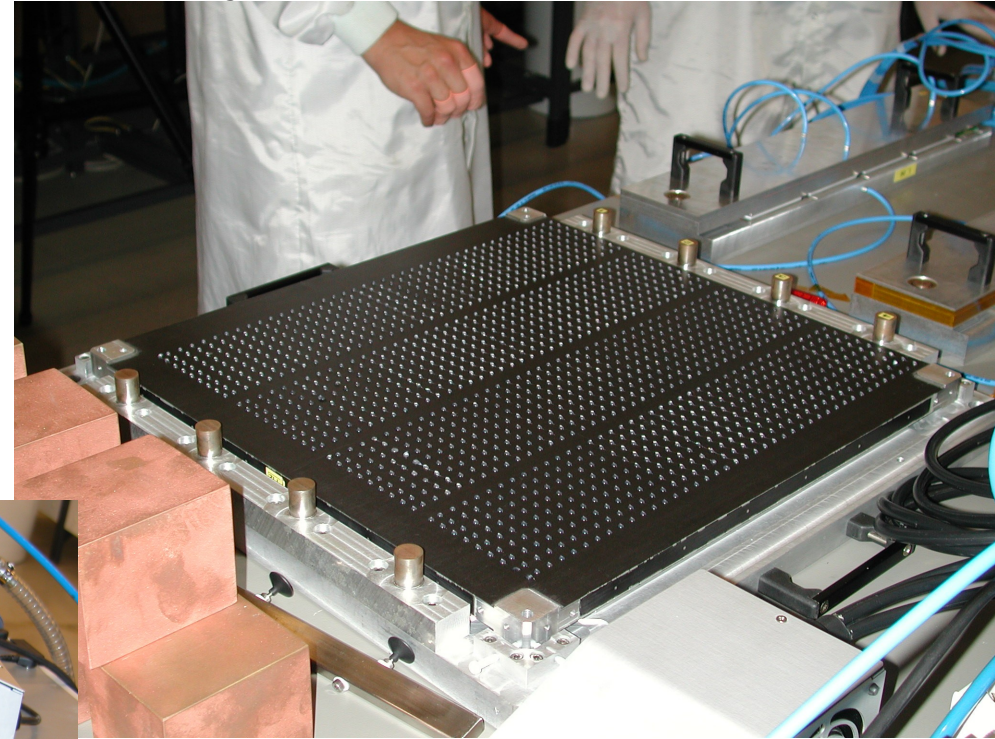
Dose effect on one TAA1 channel



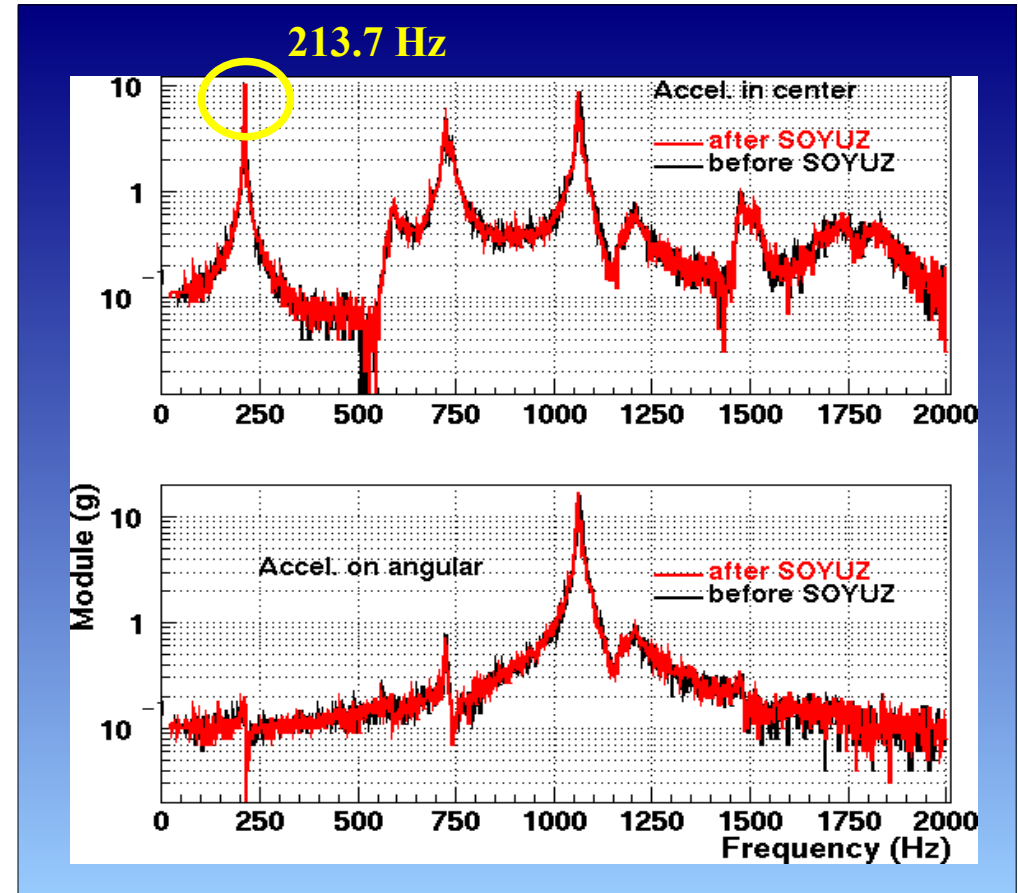
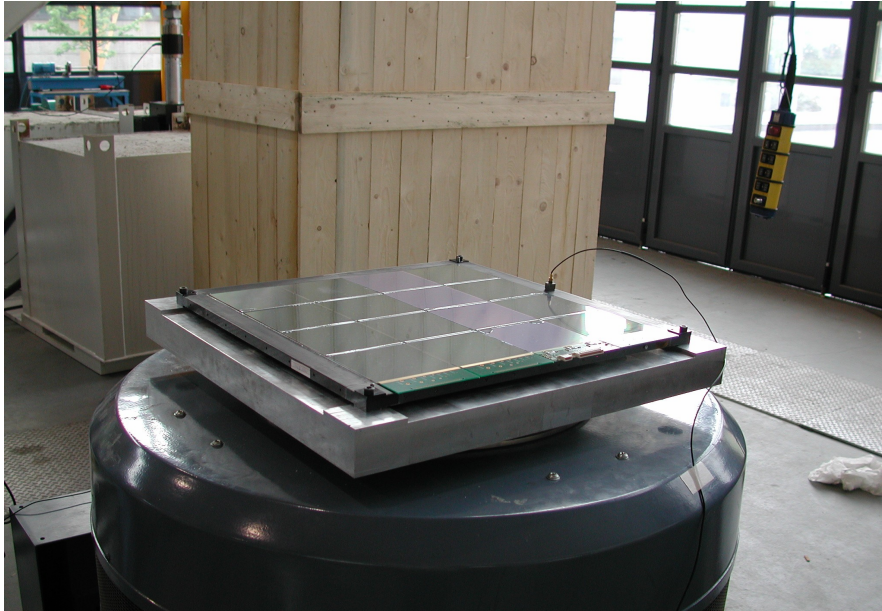
Step 4: build the first block of your tracker - develop tools and procedures



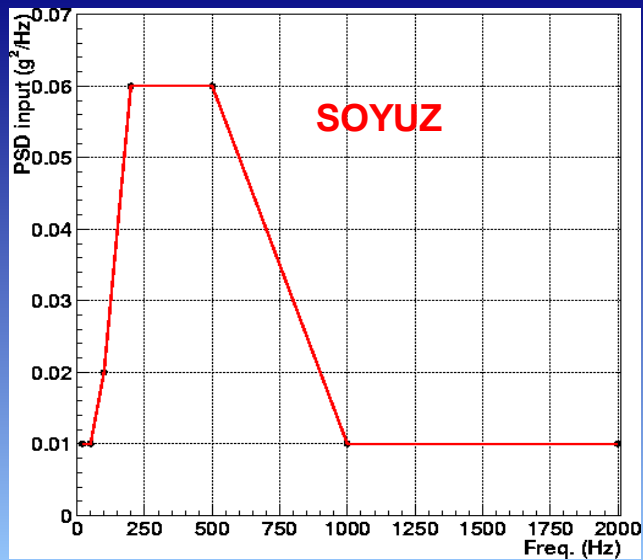
Automatic glue dispensing on a AGILE tracker tray



Step 5: "space" tests → thermo-vacuum and vibrations



Qualification = acceptance * 2.25



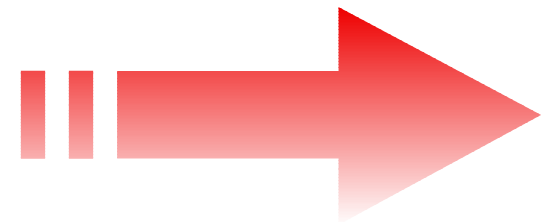
Sinusoidal sweep



Now put everything together

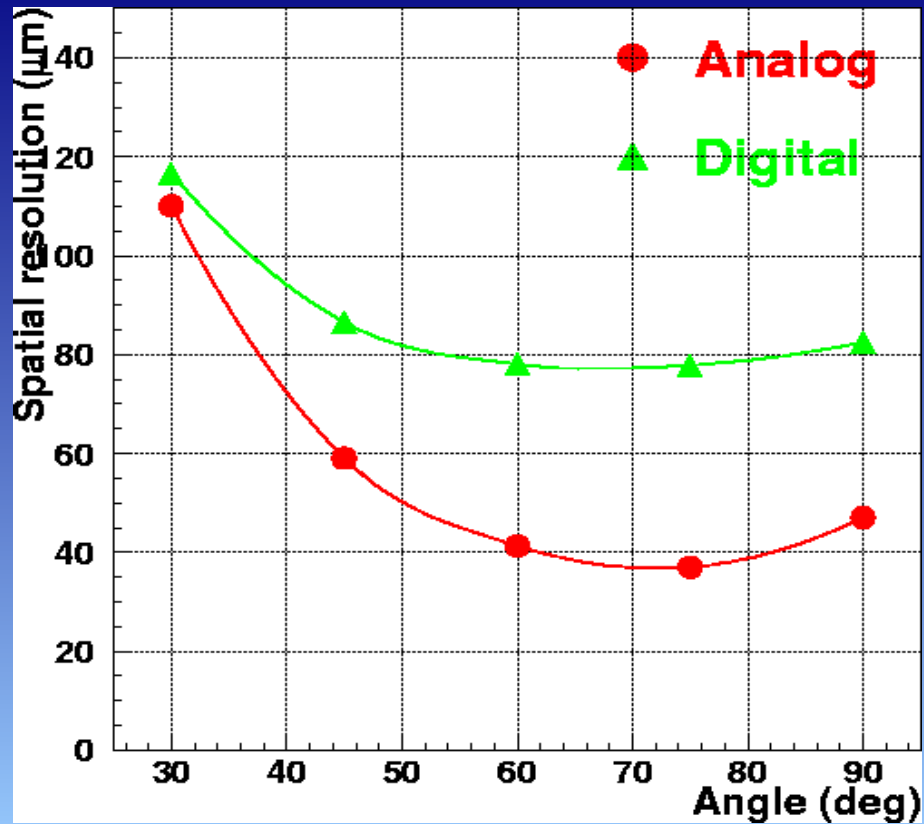


and try it!

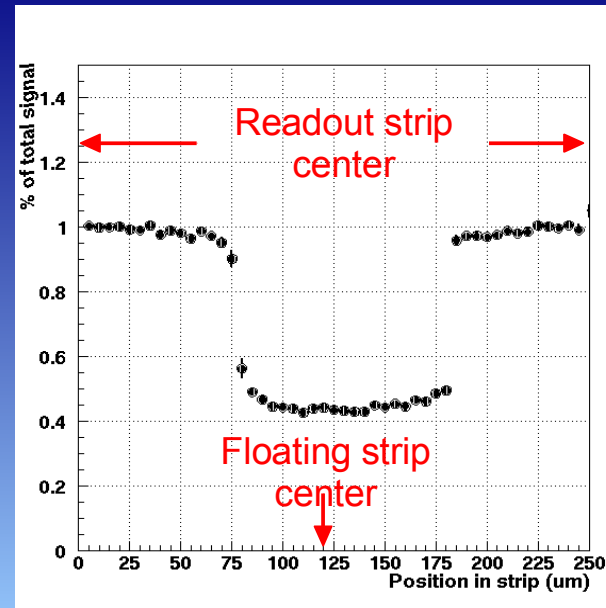


Silicon Detectors results

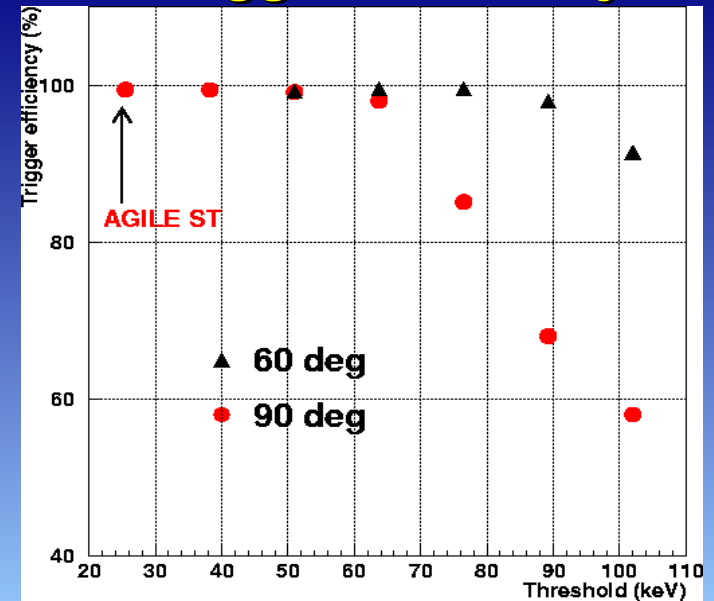
Position resolution



Charge sharing

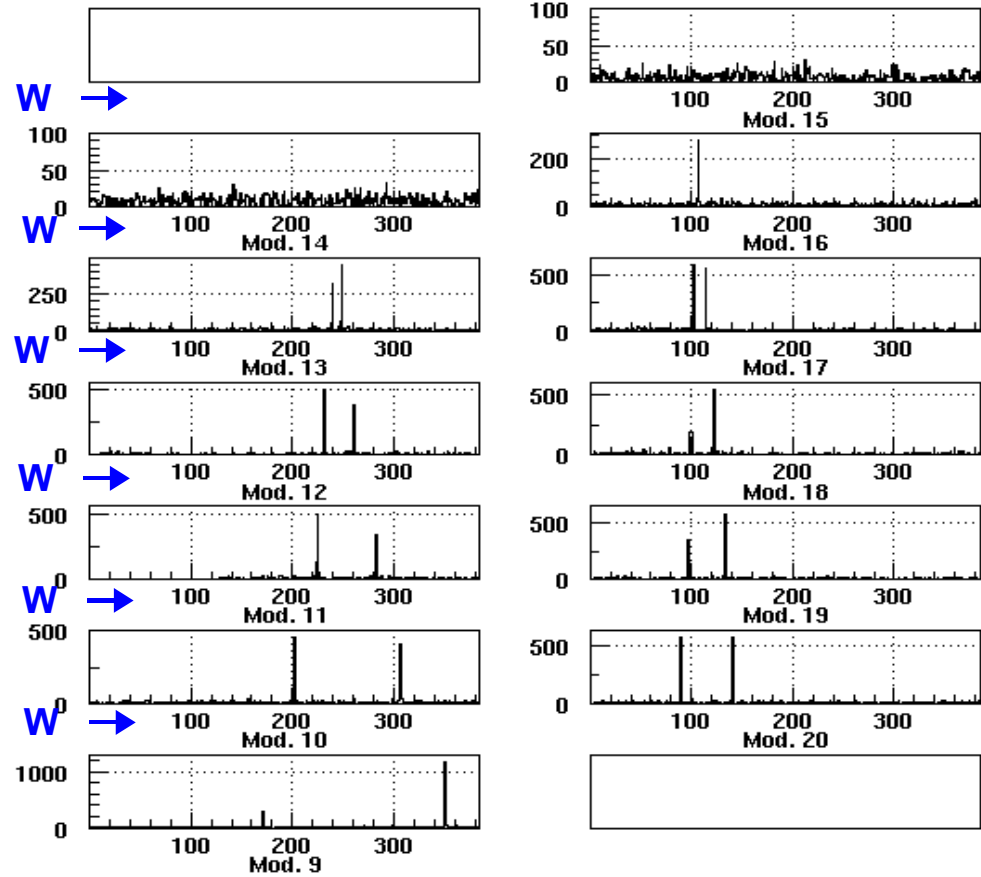
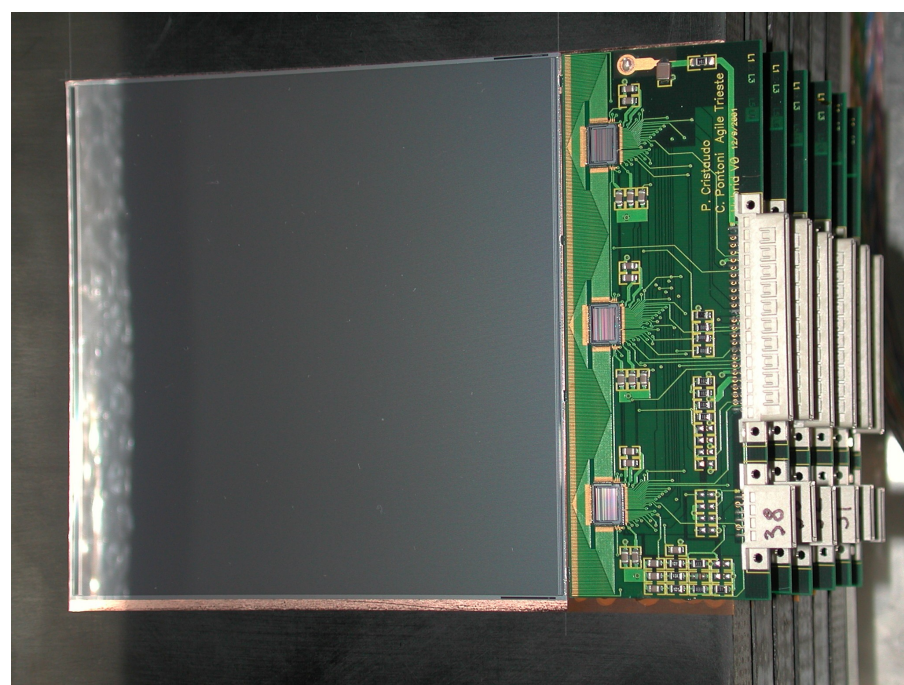
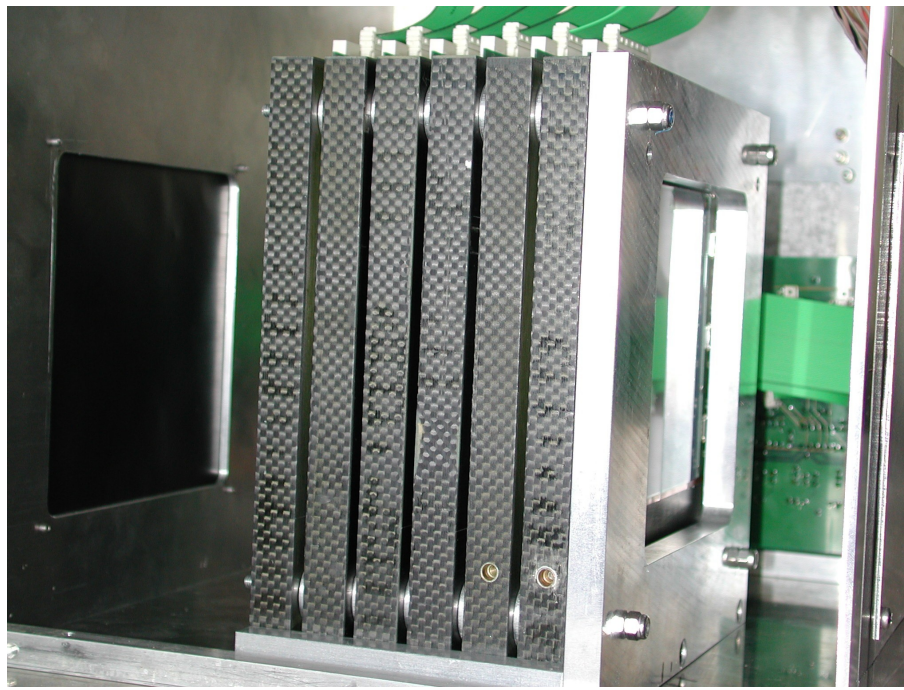


Trigger efficiency



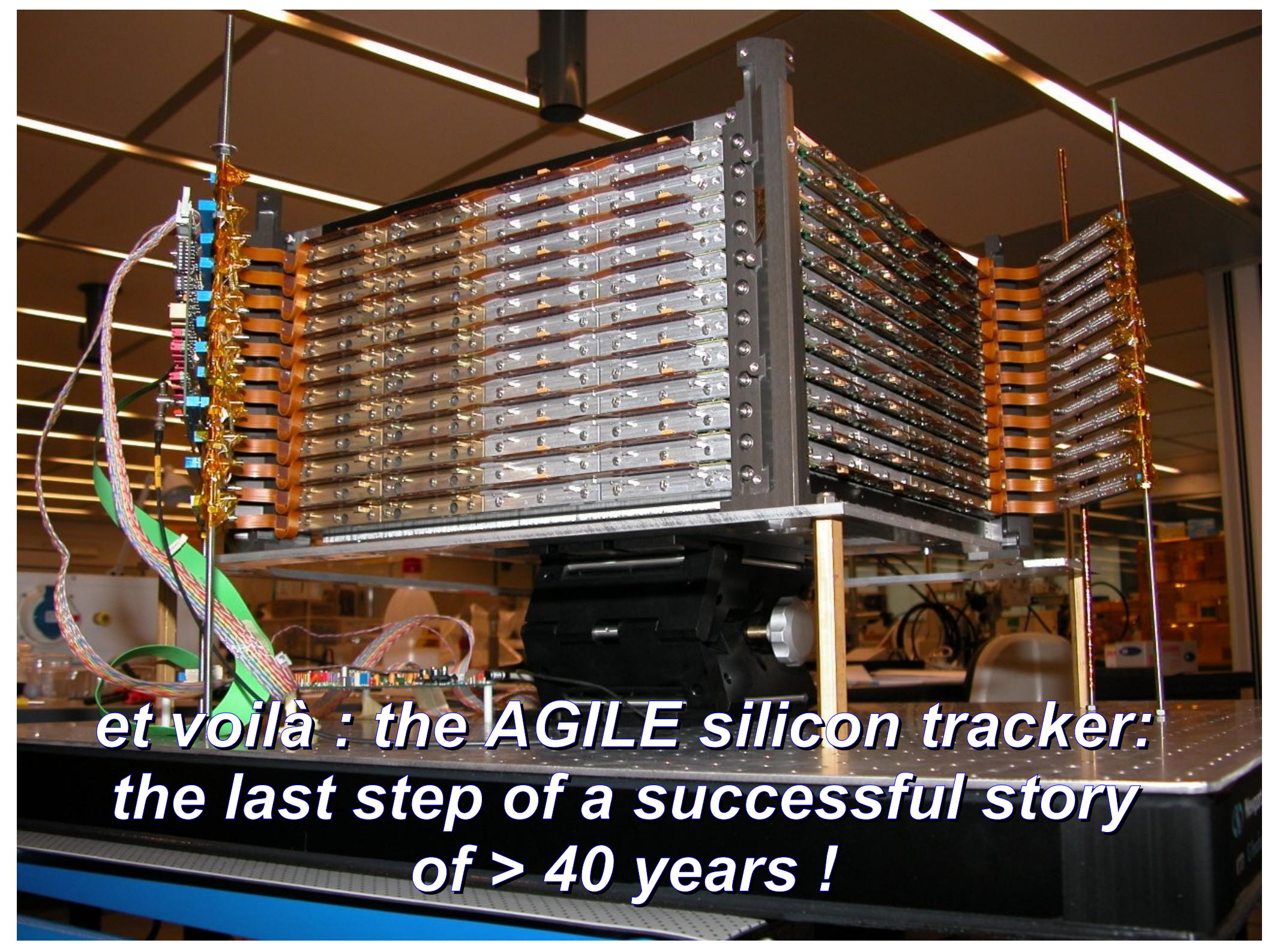
Small Scale prototype for testbeam

$E_\gamma = 107 \text{ MeV}$



The final touch: a little magic

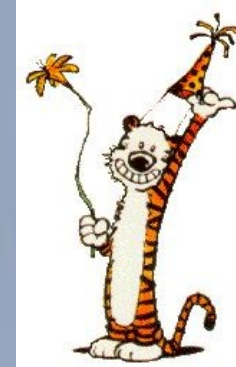


The image shows a large, complex assembly of silicon detectors and electronics, mounted on a metal frame. The assembly consists of multiple layers of silicon detectors, each connected to a central processing unit. The detectors are arranged in a grid pattern, and the central processing unit is a large, rectangular box. The entire assembly is supported by a metal frame with vertical posts. The background shows a laboratory setting with various equipment and a blue bench.

*et voilà : the AGILE silicon tracker:
the last step of a successful story
of > 40 years !*

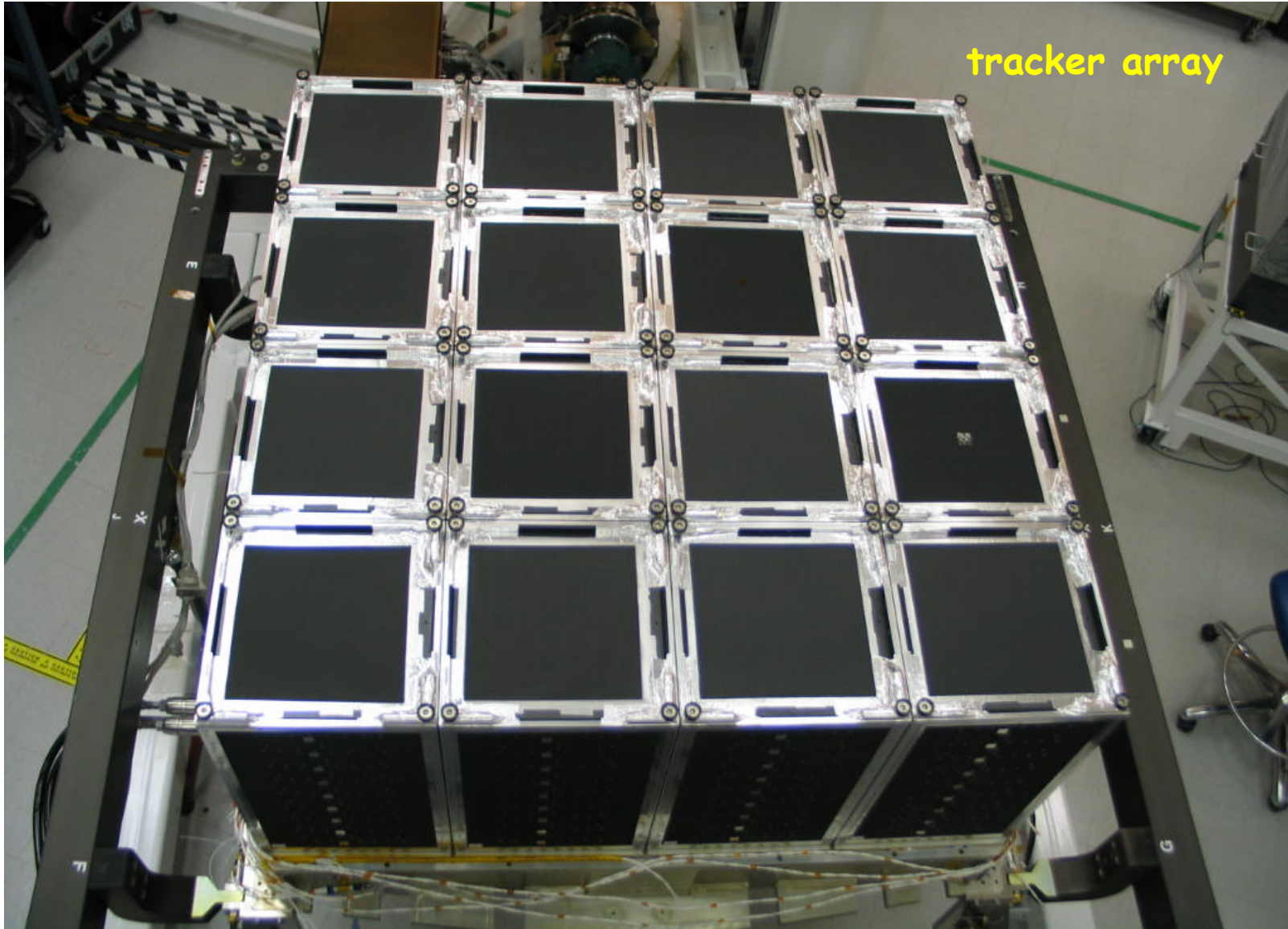


***Thanks for this
fantastic adventure!!!!!!***



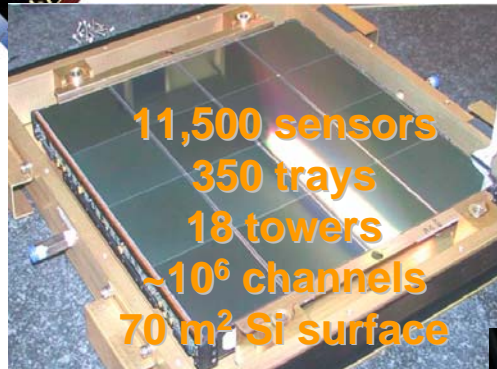


The Large Area Telescope





LAT Construction: An International Effort



11,500 sensors
350 trays
18 towers
~10⁶ channels
70 m² Si surface

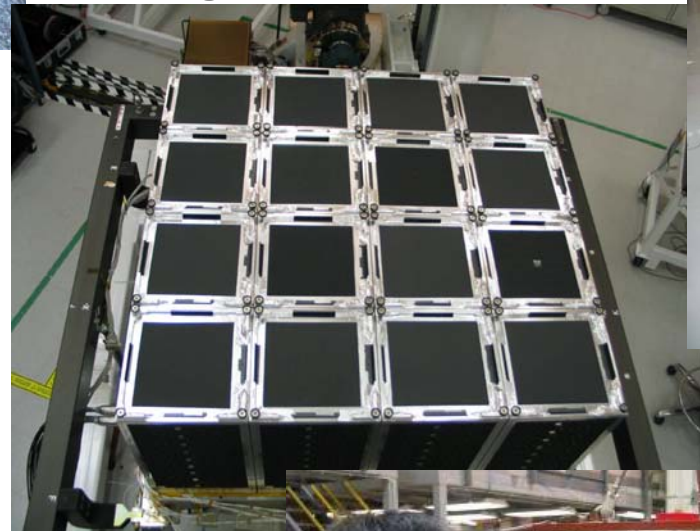
Integration & DAQ: US



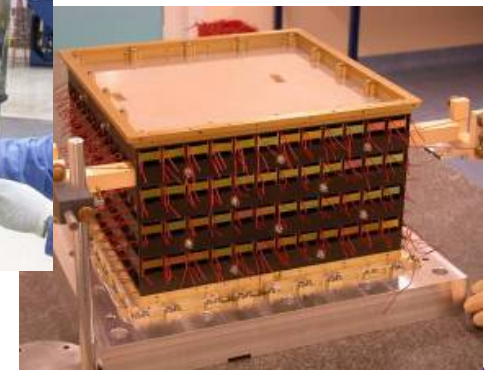
ACD: US



Tracker: US, Italy, Japan



Calorimeter: US, France, Sweden





***The near future: GLAST
in orbit!***