



January 24<sup>th</sup>, ePIC @Frascati 2025

# Irradiation Studies with 3D-PDCs

---

Oskar Hartbrich

ORNL



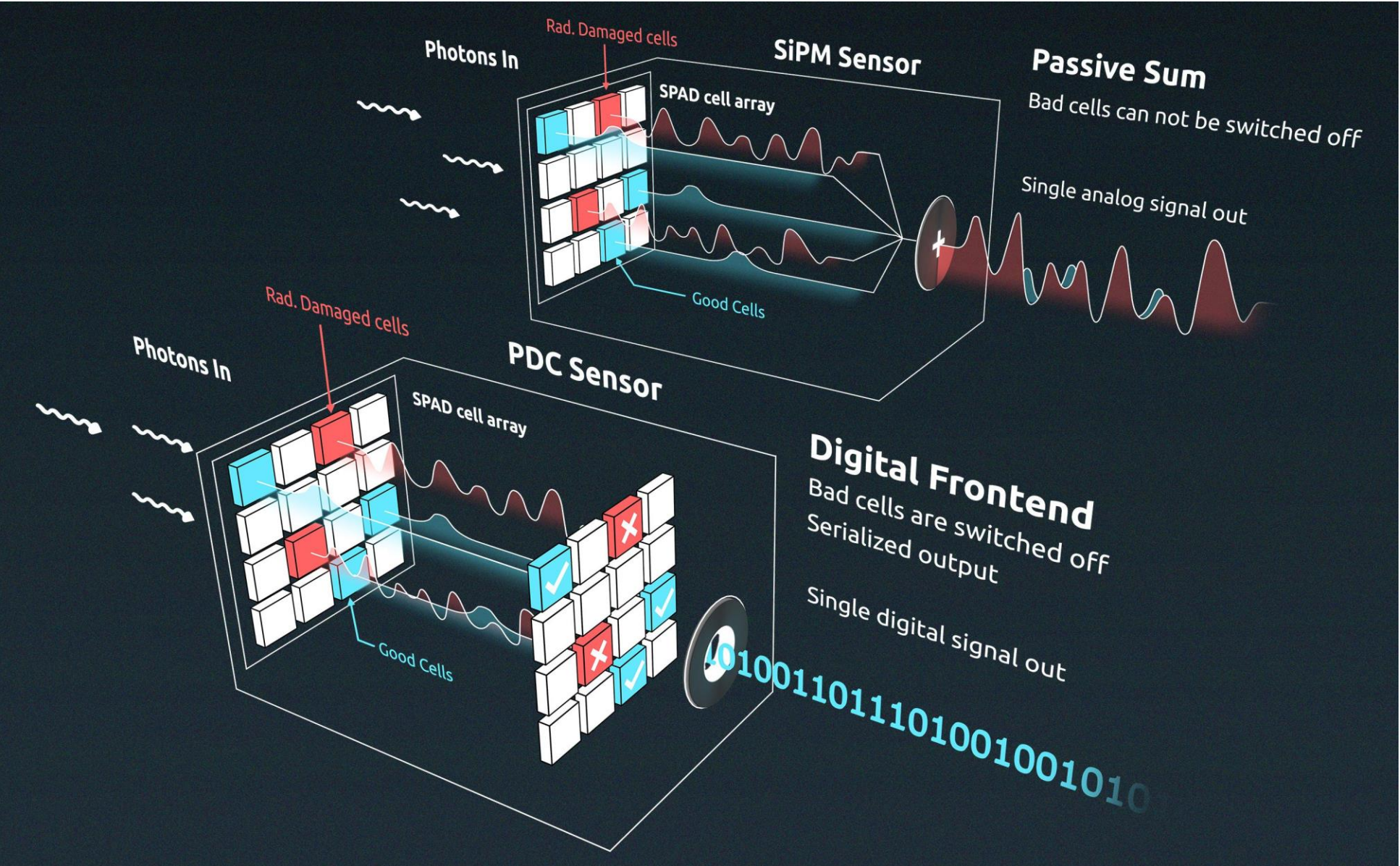
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

ORNL IS MANAGED BY UT-BATTELLE LLC  
FOR THE US DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY





# Photon-Digital Converters: Fully Digital SiPMs



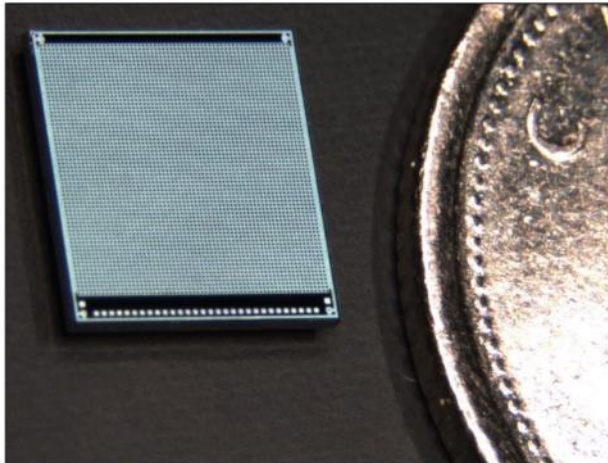
# ORNL + Uni Sherbrooke: 3D-integrated PDCs

1<sup>st</sup> fabrication run  
completed

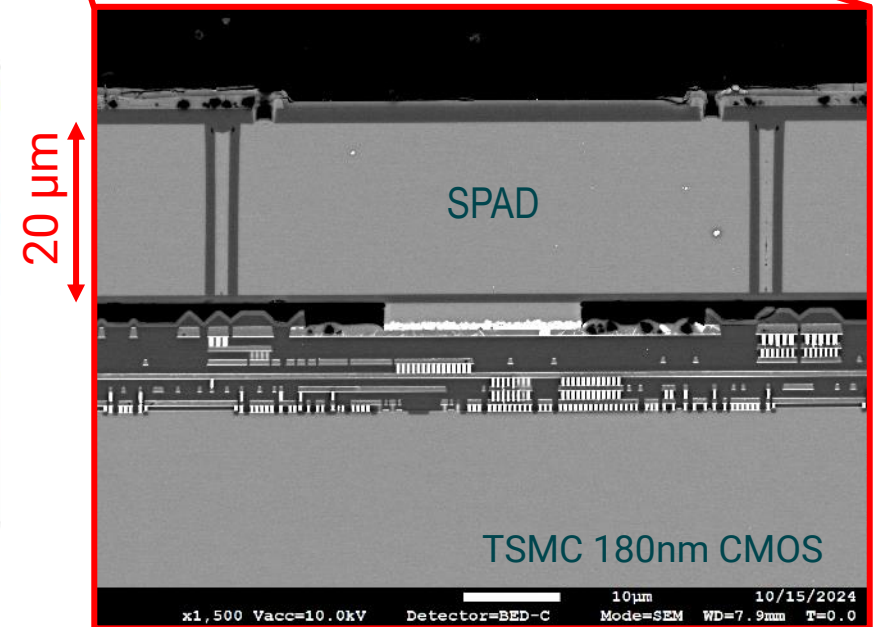
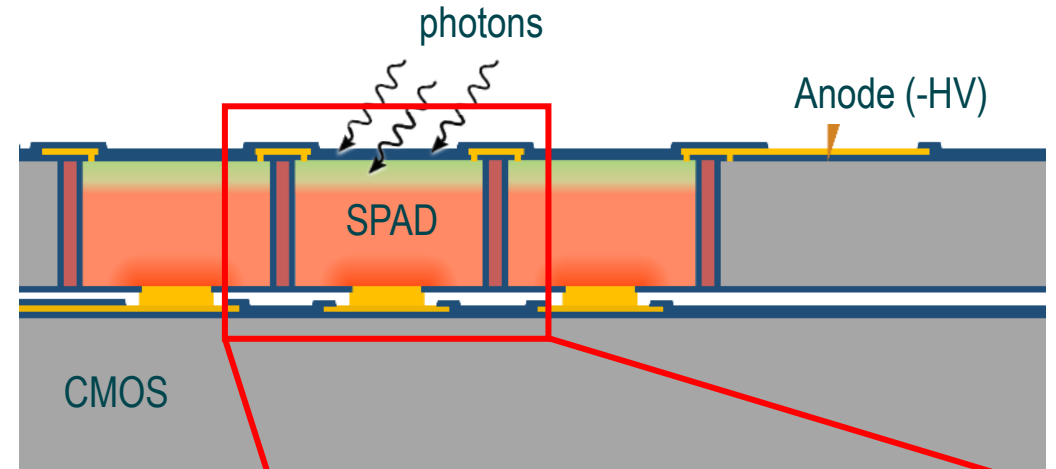
(October 2024)

Thin SPAD layer + CMOS readout

- p<sup>+</sup>n SPAD
- 64 × 64 SPAD Array
- 78 μm pitch
- Al-Ge eutectic bonding
- 5.85 × 5.25 mm<sup>2</sup> die



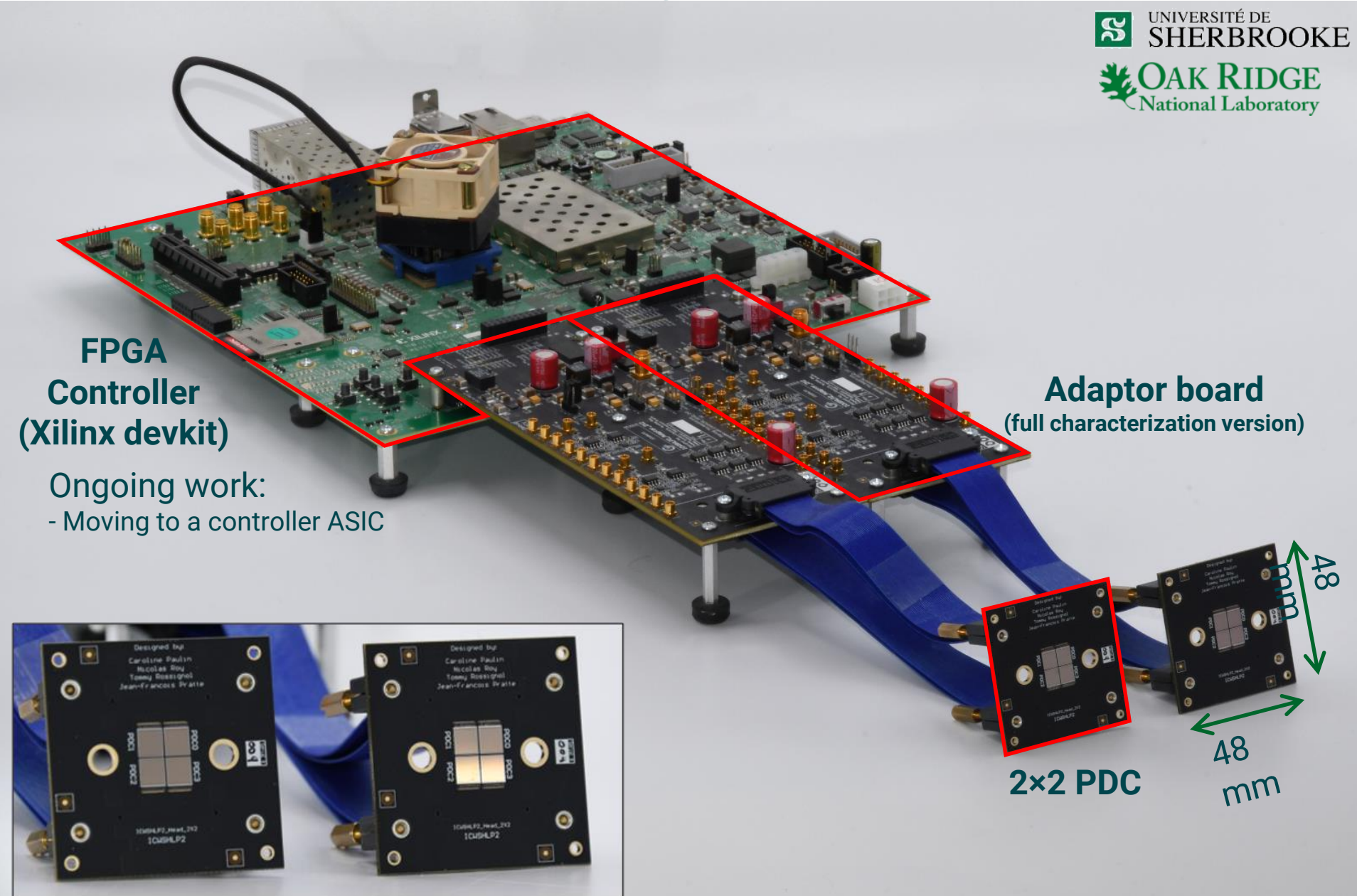
3D SPAD array  
(canadian 10¢ for reference)



SEM cross section image



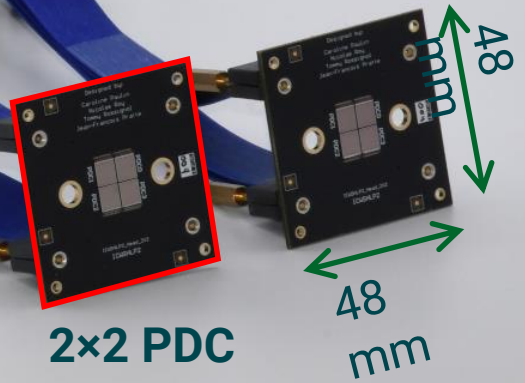
# ORNL + Uni Sherbrooke: 3D-integrated PDCs



**FPGA  
Controller  
(Xilinx devkit)**

Ongoing work:  
- Moving to a controller ASIC

**Adaptor board  
(full characterization version)**



**2x2 PDC**

48 mm  
48 mm

# ORNL + INFN: Irradiation Studies of 3D-PDCs

- 3D-PDCs not tested for radiation hardness
  - Can individual SPAD access effectively reduce dark noise after irradiation?
  - Individual SPAD access also yields completely new insight into radiation damage of SPADs
- Submitted EIC generic R&D proposal: Irradiation + annealing studies of 3D-PDCs
  - ORNL: M. Benoit, A. Steinhebel, L. Fabris, OH
  - INFN Trieste: S. Dalla Torre
  - INFN Bologna: R. Preghenella, P. Antonioli, L. Rignanese
  - Irradiation with protons (INFN) + neutrons (ORNL)
- Option for future RICH detectors at EIC? Upgrade/mitigation option for dRICH?
- Far future: bond 3D-PDC CMOS readout with commercial SPAD arrays