



# DRD7: Status and Plans

## Electronics and On-Detector Processing

2025 European Edition of the International Workshop on the  
Circular Electron-Positron Collider (CEPC)

Barcelona, 17 June 2025

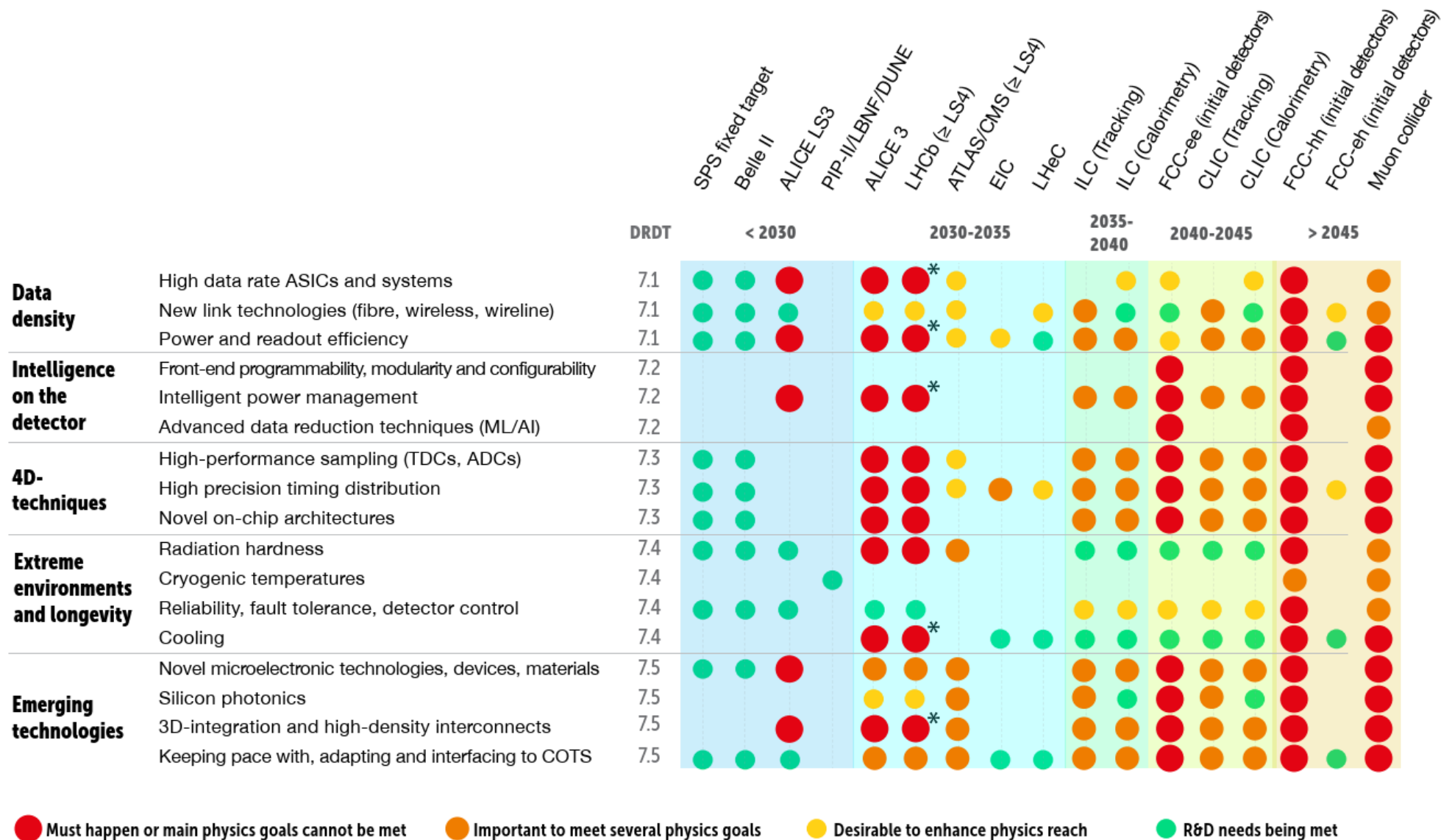
*David Gascon (ICCUB)*

***for the DRD7 Collaboration***

# ECFA Detector Roadmap

- Progresses in Particle Physics require to push the boundary of detector technologies beyond the state-of-art
- **Electronics** is vital to almost **all detector systems**, and modern technologies offer **tremendous opportunities**, for example:
  - Transmission speeds  $\geq 100$  Gbps
  - Extremely **high integration densities**
  - Very high performance **FPGAs**
  - Advanced **interconnection technologies**
- The exploitation of these technologies must face an increase of:
  - the **complexity** of the projects
  - the required **financial** and **human** resources
- Considerations at the base of the [ECFA Detector R&D Roadmap](#)

# ECFA Detector Roadmap (2)



\* LHCb Velo

# DRD7 Collaboration

<https://cds.cern.ch/record/2901965/>

## DRD 7: Proposal for an R&D Collaboration on: Electronics and On-Detector Processing

### The DRD7 Collaboration

May 21, 2024

Jerome Baudot<sup>1</sup>, Marcus French<sup>2</sup>, Ruud Kluit<sup>3</sup>, Angelo Rivetti<sup>4</sup>, Frank Simon<sup>5,\*</sup>,  
Francois Vasey<sup>6,\*</sup>  
(DRD7 Steering Committee)

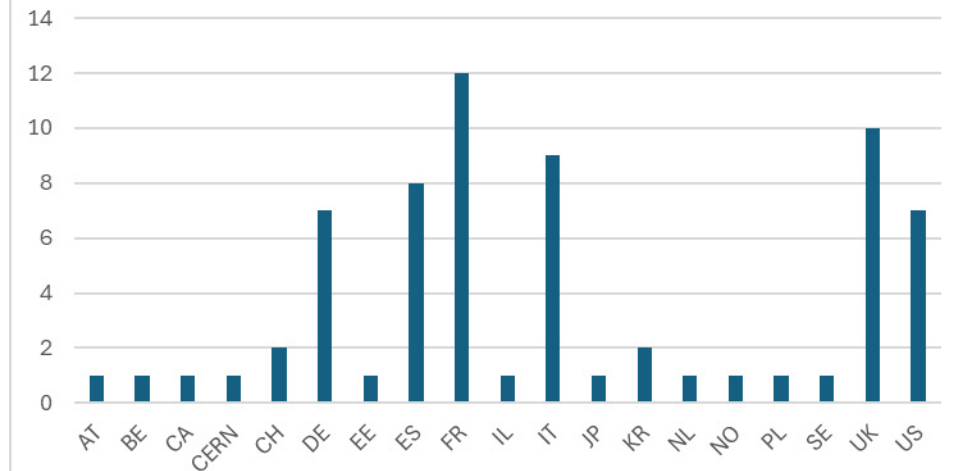
Marlon Barbero<sup>7</sup>, Sophie Baron<sup>6</sup>, Giulio Borghello<sup>6</sup>, Michele Caselle<sup>5</sup>, Davide Ceresa<sup>6</sup>,  
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(DRD7 Work Package Conveners)

Collaboration Proposal approved by DRDC on June 5<sup>th</sup> 2024

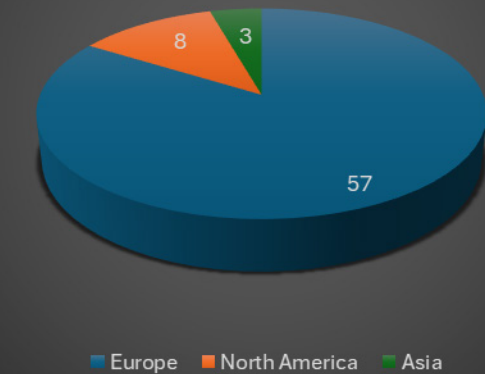
- **67 Institutes** from **19 countries**
- **6 Work Packages**, fitting with the ECFA Detector R&D Roadmap objectives
  - **15 Projects** (deliverables)
- 1 Transversal **Working Group** on *Tools and Technologies*

Since then, formal collaboration forming process has progressed.

Participant Institutes by Country



Participant Institutes by  
Geographical Area



# DRD7 Collaboration

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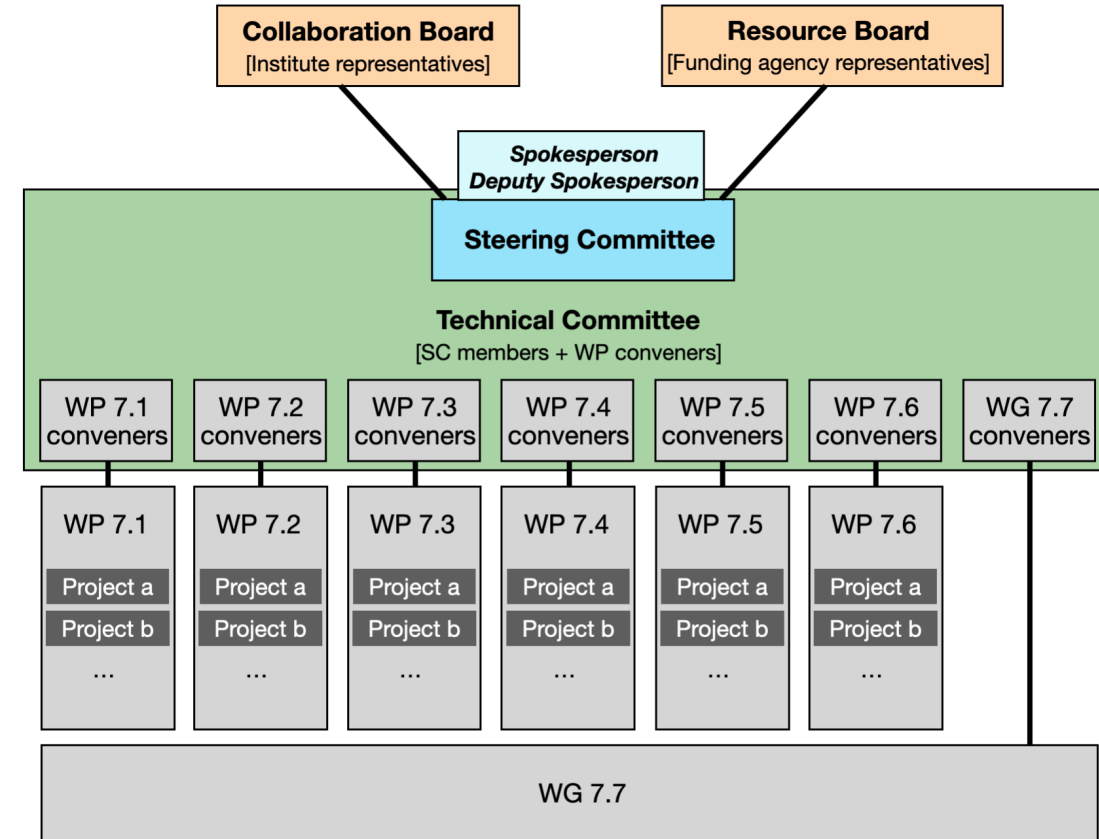
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# DRD7 Projects

<b>Data density</b>	High data rate ASICs and systems New link technologies (fibre, wireless, wireline) Power and readout efficiency
<b>Intelligence on the detector</b>	Front-end programmability, modularity and configurability Intelligent power management Advanced data reduction techniques (ML/AI)
<b>4D-techniques</b>	High-performance sampling (TDCs, ADCs) High precision timing distribution Novel on-chip architectures
<b>Extreme environments and longevity</b>	Radiation hardness Cryogenic temperatures Reliability, fault tolerance, detector control Cooling
<b>Emerging technologies</b>	Novel microelectronic technologies, devices, materials Silicon photonics 3D-integration and high-density interconnects Keeping pace with, adapting and interfacing to COTS



Must happen or main physics goals cannot be met



Important to meet

\* LHCb Velo

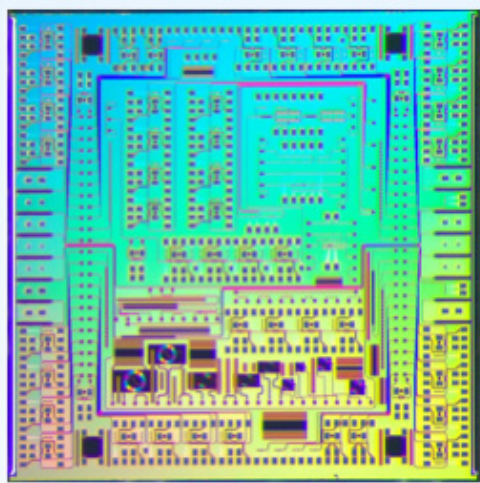
- **7.1 Data density and power efficiency**
- **7.2 Intelligence on detector**
- **7.3 4D and 5D techniques**
- **7.4 Extreme environments**
- **7.5 Back-end systems and COTS**
- **7.6 Complex imaging ASICs and technologies**
- **7.1a Silicon photonics transceivers**
- **7.1b Powering next generation detector systems**
- **7.1c Wireless allowing data and power transmission**
- **7.2a Virtual Electronic System Prototyping**
- **7.2b Radiation Tolerant RISC-V SoC**
- **7.3a High Performance ADCs and TDCs**
- **7.3b Characterizing and calibrating sources impacting time measurements**
- **7.3c Timing distribution techniques**
- **7.4a: Modelling and development of cryogenics PDKs and IPs**
- **7.4b Radiation resistance of advanced CMOS nodes**
- **7.4c Cooling and cooling plates**
- **7.5a: DAQOverflow**
- **7.5b: From front-end to back-end with 100 GbE**
- **7.6a: Common access to selected imaging technologies**
- **7.6b: Shared access to 3D integration**



# WP 7.1: Data density and power efficiency

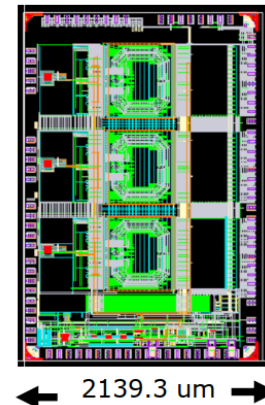
- **Novel link technologies** must be developed to cope with these higher data rates, including radiation-hard optical links, wireline, wireless, and free-space optics
- **Efficient power distribution**, power **converters** and **regulator devices**, and protection circuits are required to minimise detector mass and heating.
- Development of **low TRL** approaches that may have **disruptive** and **far-reaching** goals

High-speed optical transceivers based on Silicon Photonics technology (up to 100 Gb/s)



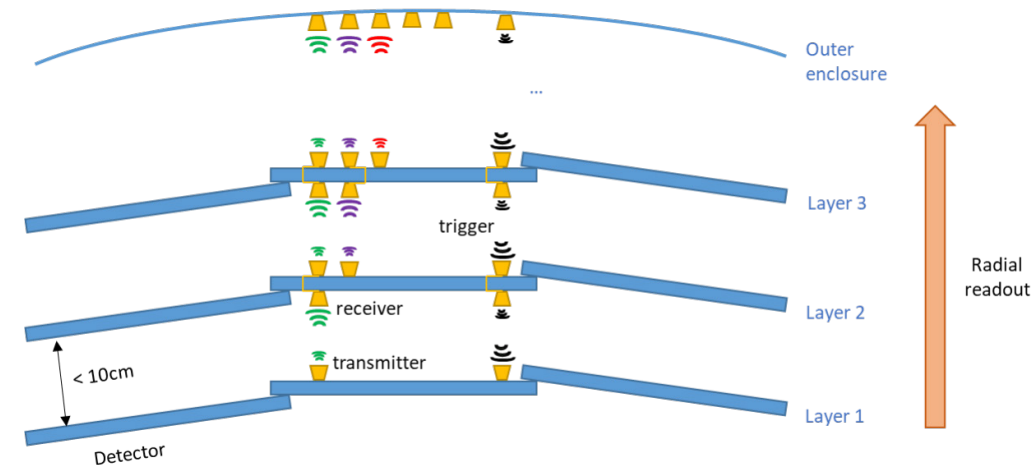
Power distribution schemes and their voltage/current regulators and converters

iPOL5V  
Resonant  
5V to 0.9V-1V



3179.34 um  
2139.3 um

Wireless technology based on a millimeter wave and Free Space Optics



- Conveners: *Szymon Kulis* [CERN], *Jeffrey Prinzie* [KU Leuven], *Jan Troska* [CERN]

# WP 7.2: Intelligence on detector

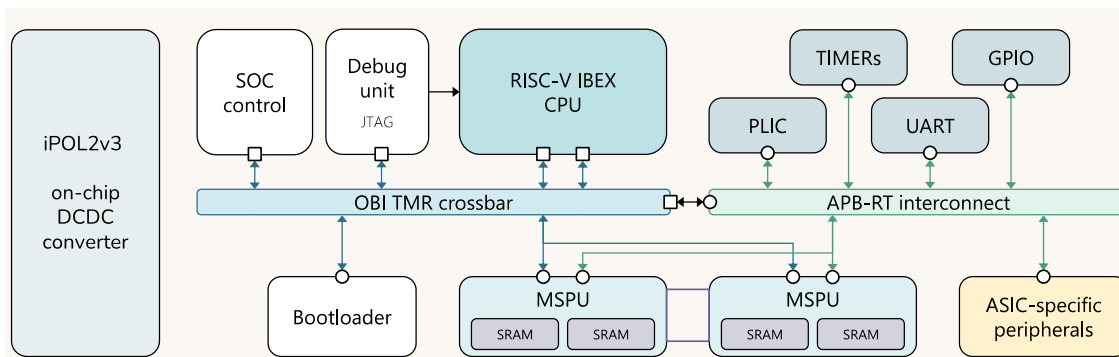
Front-end **programmability, modularity and configurability** must be vastly enhanced in order to allow fewer, more versatile front-end electronics to be developed.

- Manage **complexity** by increasing **flexibility** and **re-usability**
- Radiation-tolerant **processors** and **programmable logic** elements with **common interfaces** and **protocols** will allow re-use of shared developments.

High level system modelling will provide a robust specification and verification framework for the design phase

- **Reduce risks** and **optimize performance** exploiting **simulation** tools and computing power

Radiation-hardened SoC based  
on the RISC-V ISA standard



Frameworks for signal generation in detector elements, digitization and signal processing, data readout architecture, operating as a complete toolchains

From the particle  
interaction  
with the sensor...

Simulation flow

... to the chip  
digital output

- Conveners: *Davide Ceresa* [CERN], *Francesco Crescioli* [LPNHE]



# WP 7.3: 4D and 5D techniques

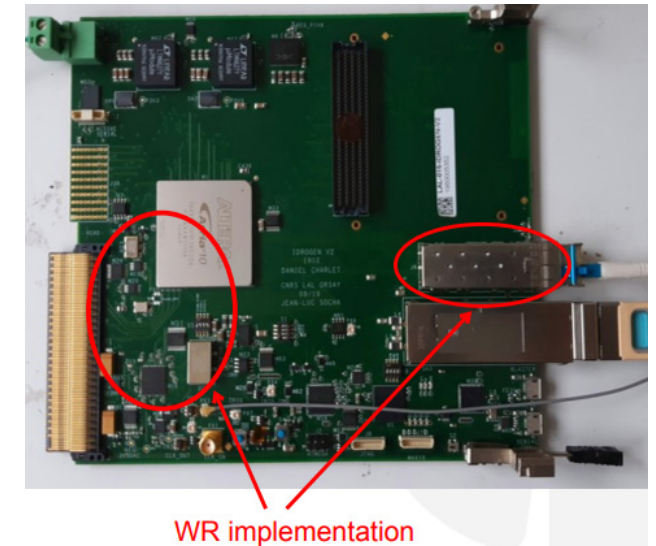
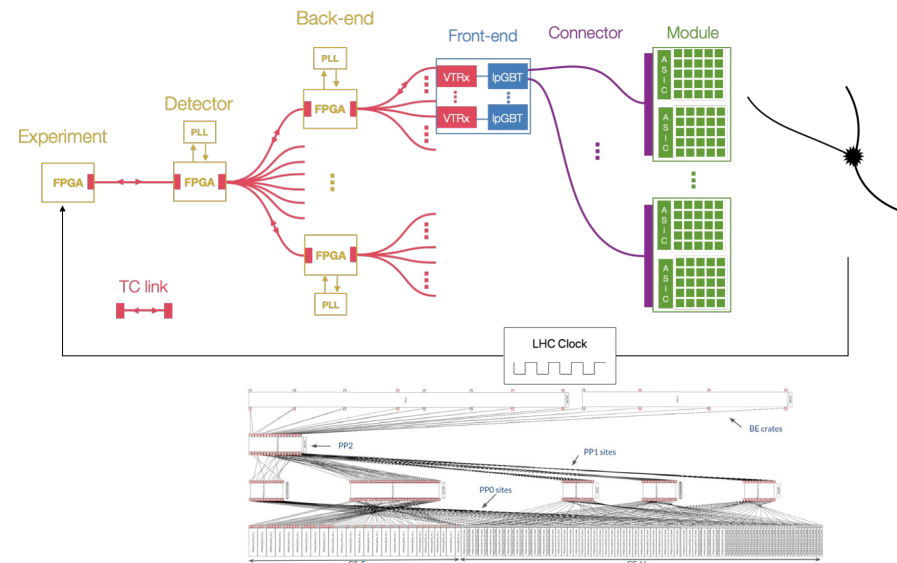
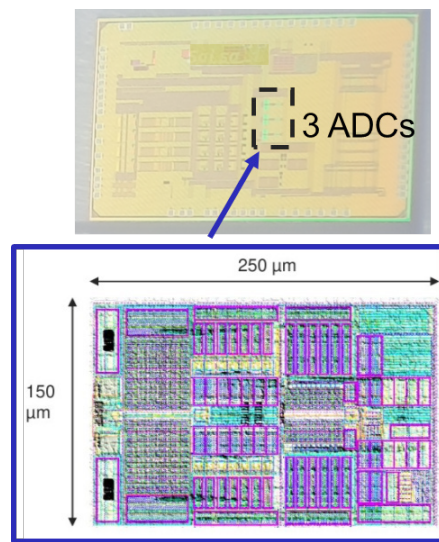
Combine **high spatial resolution** ( $\mu\text{m}$ -level) and **high timing resolution** (10s ps level) in a single 4D tracking device. Combine 4D with accurate measurements of the **energy deposited** in the sensor providing 5D-capability.

- Developing IP blocks to improve the noise-speed-resolution trade-offs in advanced technologies with **low supply voltage** and **high transistor density**.
- Unprecedented precision required for the distribution of frequency and time references.

Ultra-low power high performance TDC and ADC blocks for use in future particle physics experiments

Data-driven calibration strategies for the time measurements in detectors requiring high precision timing

Strategies to optimize and assess ultimate precision and determinism of timing distribution systems for future detectors



- Conveners: *Sophie Baron* [CERN], *Marek Idzik* [Krakow]

# WP 7.4: Extreme environments

Cryogenic detectors offer high **sensitivity** and **resolution** (for instance for future neutrino dark matter experiments) but are **challenging** for the design and operation of microelectronics.

- Foundries often lack **reliable characterization** and **modelling** of their ASIC technologies at low temperature

Future particle physics experiments, particularly at energy-frontier colliders, will face **extreme particle fluences**.

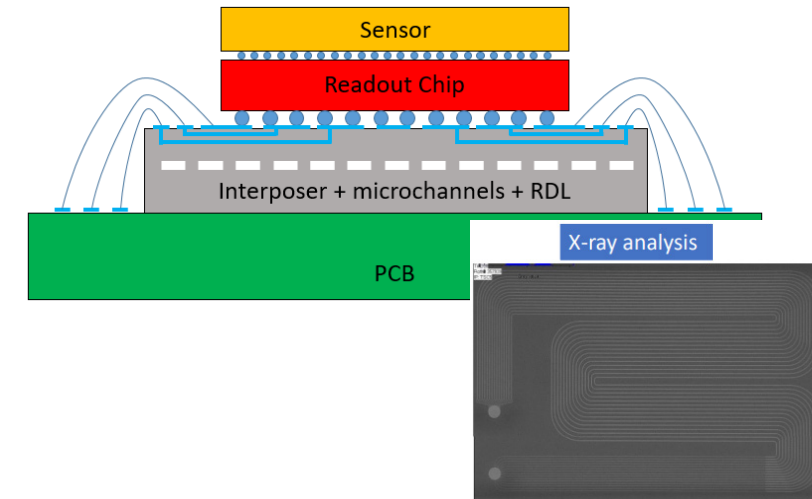
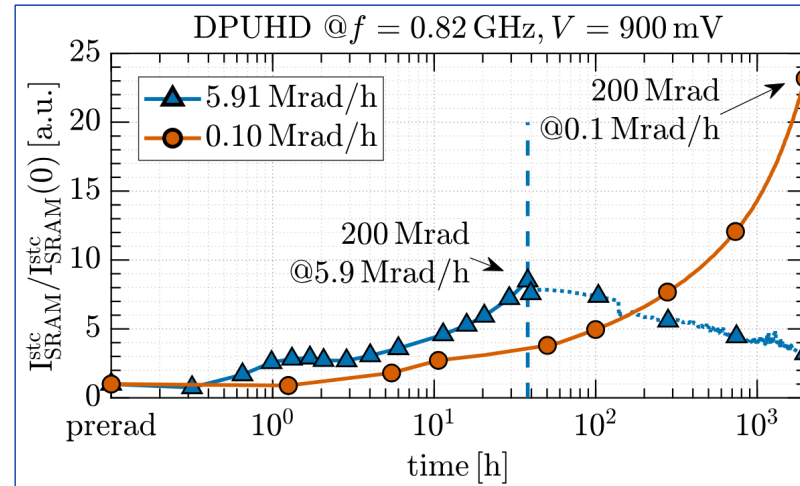
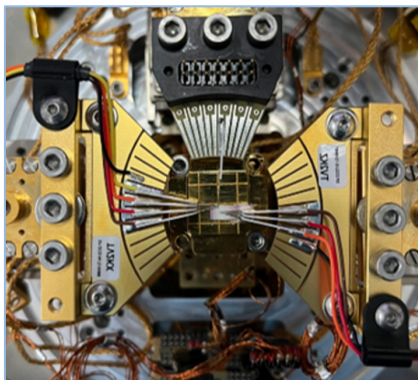
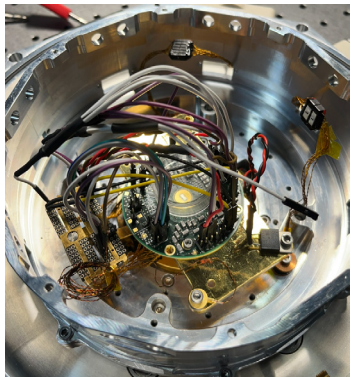
- Radiation **qualification** of new technologies is **critical** and **complex**

**Low temperature operation** requires novel techniques at the **interface** between **electronics** and **cooling** systems

Modelling and development of cryogenics PDKs and IPs design

Report on developments and progress in the study of radiation effects in advanced CMOS technologies for HEP applications

Next generation cooling plates for front-end electronics



- Conveners: *Giulio Borghello* [CERN], *Manuel Da Rocha Rolo* [INFN TO], *Oscar A. De Aguiar* [Manchester]

# WP 7.5: Back-end systems and COTS

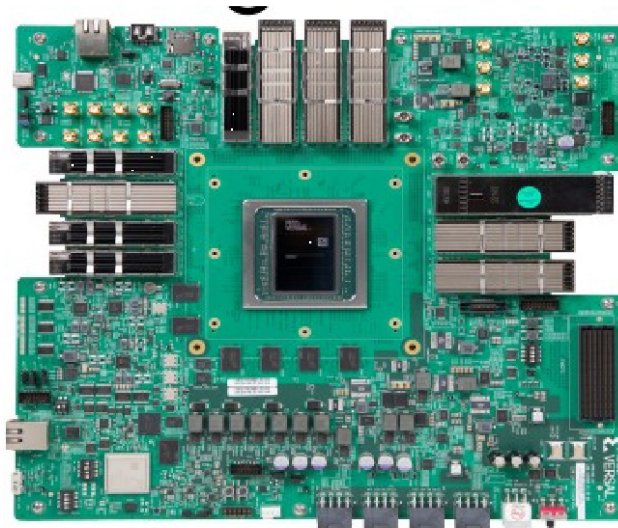
Commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) **components** for **computing** (CPUs, GPUs, FPGAs, AI- accelerators) and **networking** are evolving rapidly driven by Data Center applications

- keeping the pace for future DAQ systems is both important and challenging

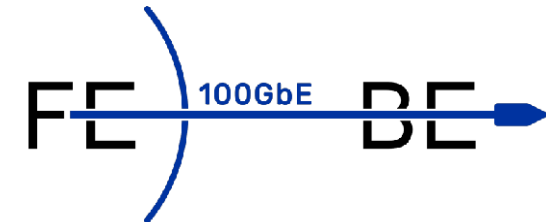
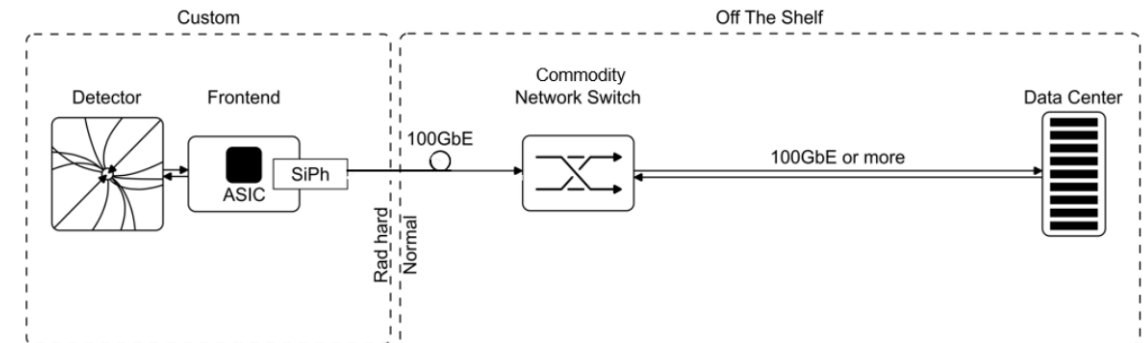
With more and more intelligence on detector, **direct connection** between the **front-end** and **COTS** component is an option to explore:

- different solutions explored for 100 GbE from front-end to back-end

DAQOverflow: Benchmarking of heterogeneous COTS architectures & tools and algorithms



Full 100Gb Ethernet-based solutions for Data Readout-links from Front-End to DAQ



- Conveners: *Conor Fitzpatrick* [Manchester], *Niko Neufeld* [CERN]



# WP 7.6: Complex imaging ASICs and technologies

Increase the **integration** level of **sensor** and **front-end** electronics

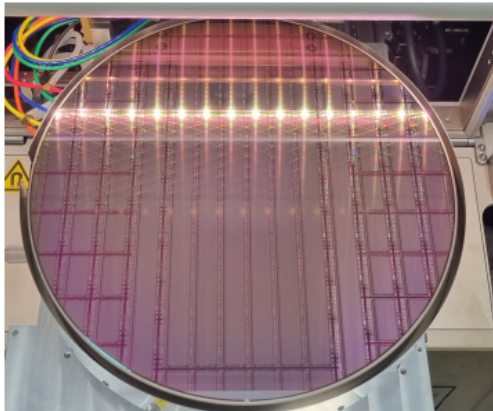
**CMOS Imaging Sensor (CIS)** platforms are suitable technologies for **monolithic active pixel sensors**

- Difficult to access CIS sensor technologies through standard MPWs

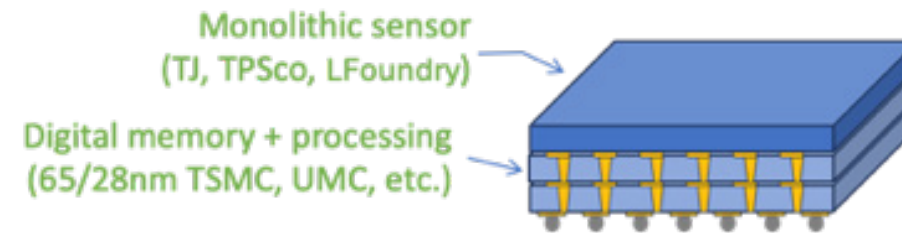
**3D integration** is powerful in expanding further the FE system capabilities,

- but challenging with **high initial barrier**

Organization of common submission to selected processes:  
TPSCo 65 nm, TowerJazz 180 nm,  
LFoundry 110 nm



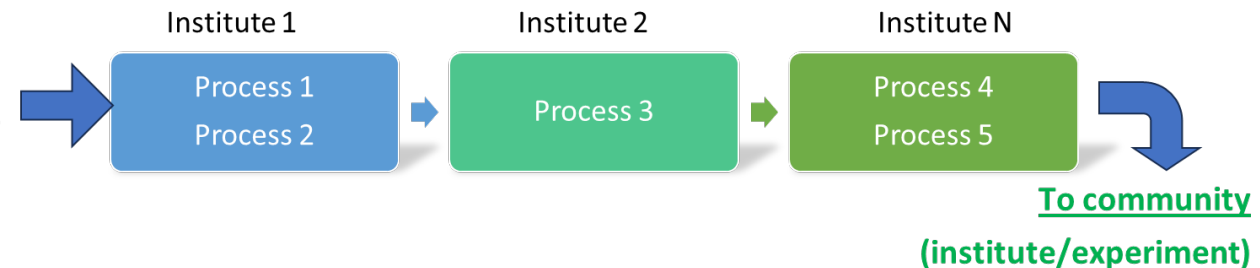
**Strong connections  
with DRD3 activities**



Common access to 2.5 and 3D integration: provide a distributed international laboratory operating as a hub-service for the community

## From community:

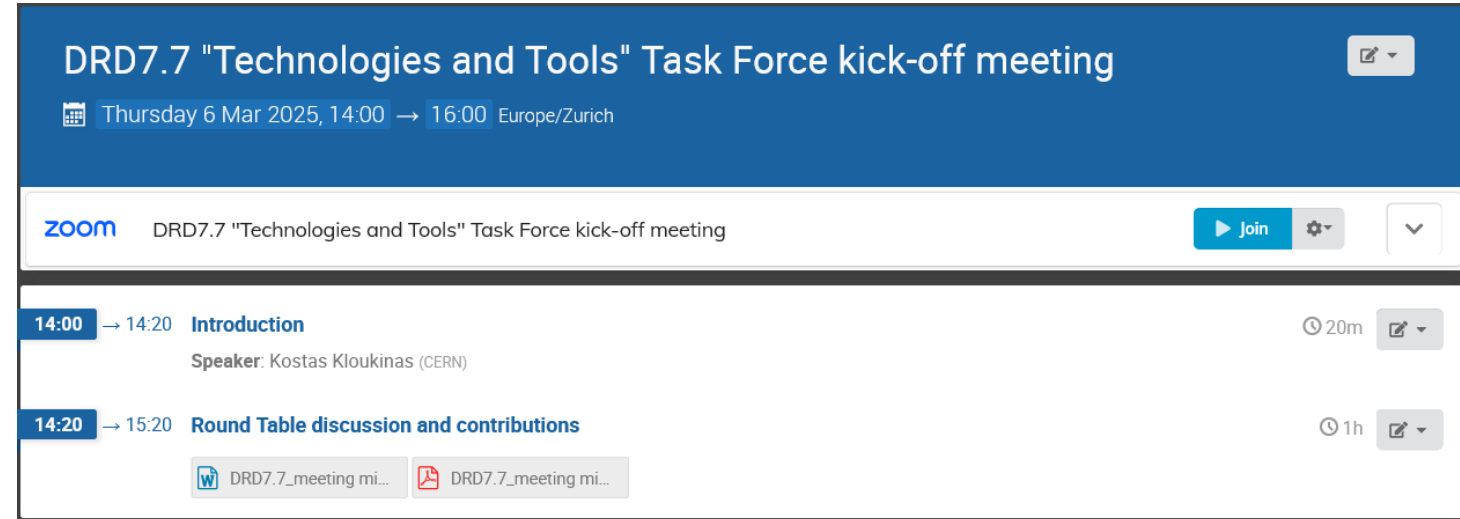
- Request of process/service
- Rapid prototyping of new detector
- Detector production (large scale)



- Conveners: *Marlon Barbero* [CPPM], *Michele Caselle* [KIT], *Ian Sedgwick* [STFC RAL], *Walter Snoeys* [CERN]

# WG 7.7: Tools and Technologies

- Effective support of technologies and tools to the HEP community is both essential and demanding
- Models adopted in the past might not allow to keep the pace
- A task force has been established to discuss new cooperative models
- Initial mandate: *To propose an implementation solution for a hub-based structure for ASICs developments.*
- [Kick-off meeting](#) on March 6, regular meetings ongoing



- Conveners: *Kostas Kloukinas* [CERN], *Xavi Llopart Cudie* [CERN], *Mark Willoughby* [STFC RAL]

# DRD7 next steps

- The **MoU annexes** related to the **existing projects** are under **finalization**
  - **received applications by new institutes** to join these projects: these will be circulated to the Collaboration and the Funding Agencies
  - together with the final version of the annexes **R&D projects** will anyhow continue to evolve and will be **regularly updated** with new contributions
- If you would like to know more:
  - Check the DRD7 website:  
<https://drd7.web.cern.ch/>
  - [CDS](#) and [Indico](#) material being populated

Annual DRD7 workshop: 22–26 Sept 2025 @ CERN  
<https://indico.cern.ch/event/1556239>



# Thanks for your attention

Thanks to the organizers for giving the DRD7 Collaboration the opportunity to advertise its activities

DRD7 COLLABORATION

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