



Nos creare scientia hodie ad cras

Next Generation Radiation Monitor NGRM

W. Hajdas (PSI), K. Egli (PSI), S. Scherrer (PSI), L. Desorgher (SpaceIT), P. Bohle (RUAG), F. Chastellain (RUAG), M. Opprecht (RUAG), R. Muff (RUAG), A. Menicucci (ESA), P. Nieminen (ESA)

Compact, light instrument for ESA missions and exploration of radiation environment

Mass < 1 kg; Volume < 1 dm³, Power < 1 W

Electron detector

Spectral range 100 keV – 7 MeV

peak flux 10⁹ e/cm²/s

Proton heavy ion detector

Spectral range 2 MeV – 200 MeV

peak flux 10⁸ p/cm²/s

Heavy ion detection

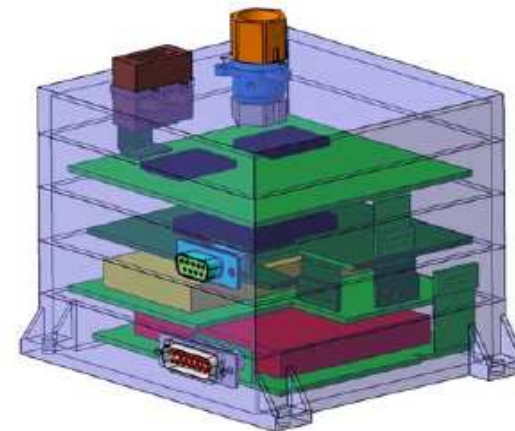
Let 0.1 – 10 MeV/cm²/mg

Radiation hard

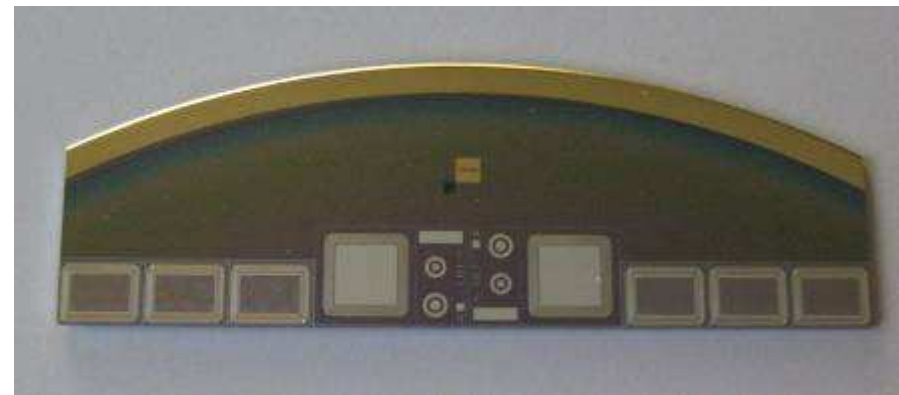
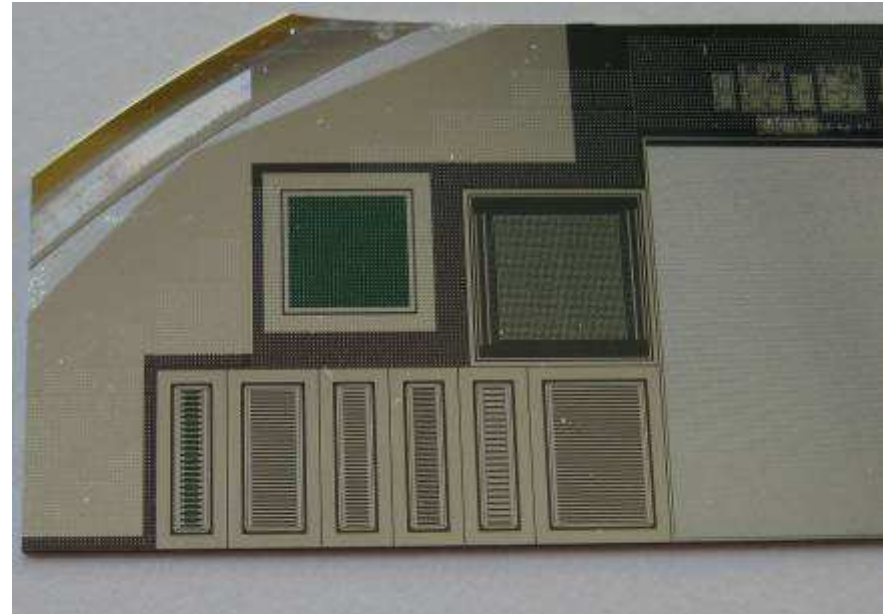
dose determination and alarm function

Particle separation

Data storage (1 month, 5 min cadence)



- Detector based on circular Si-diode with 16 readout rings (analogue to microstrip)
- Various concepts for production studied (1 or 2 metal layers, signal pads in vertical slice etc.)
- Energy separation with properly shaped mechanical degrader (no magnets)
- Energy determination through event position readout
- Further verification with amplitude analysis
- Low noise frontend ASIC in vicinity of the sensor



Degrader concepts elaborated and studied

Final version confirmed by MC simulations

Critical low energy part

PCB with detector sensor directly under degrader

Sufficient shielding for background suppression

Short distance to FE ASIC



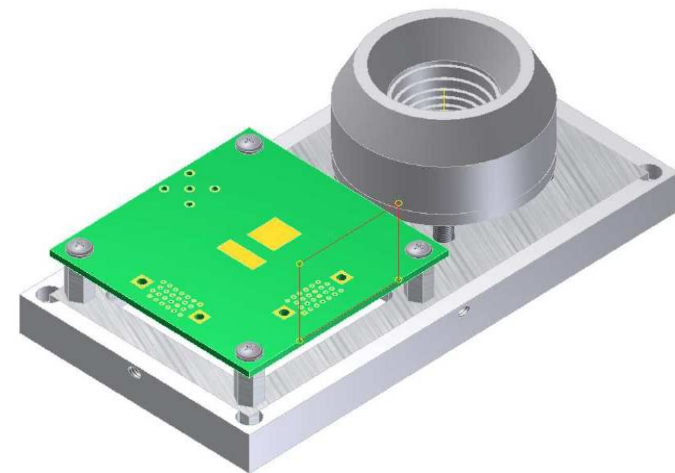
Extended Breadboard of NGRM constructed

Support for Frontend electronics manufactured

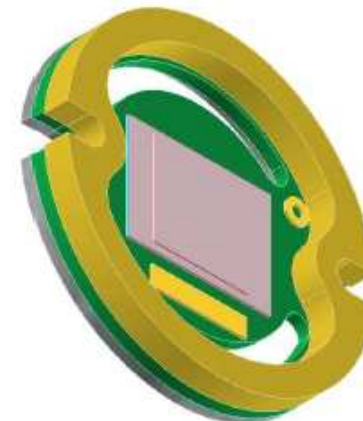
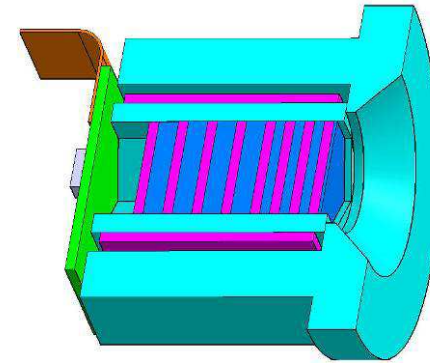
BB version based on milling of Aluminum layers as degrader under construction

PCB design for microstrips sent to manufacturer

readout electronics EGSE based on modified RADEM/HEP – ready to use



- Arranged as particle telescope (similar to HEP-RADEM)
- Fully depleted Si-diodes as sensors
- Range shifters (degraders) for energy threshold in bins
- Energy separation with properly shaped mechanical degrader and readout of hit pattern
- Further verification with amplitude analysis
- Low noise frontend ASIC in vicinity of the sensor



Arranged as particle telescope

Energy range 2 MeV – 200+ MeV

Energy resolution – 8 bins equally spaced on log-scale

Fully depleted Si-diodes as sensors

Range shifters (energy degraders) for energy threshold

Fast, low power, radiation hard readout ASIC (A/D)



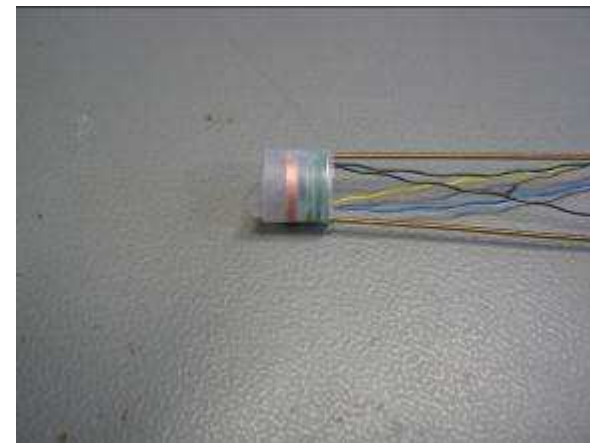
Extended Breadboard of NGRM constructed

Mechanical support for Frontend electronics manufactured

BB version based on Al+Cu degraders

Inner and outer cylinder of telescope ready

readout electronics EGSE based on modified RADEM/HEP – ready to use



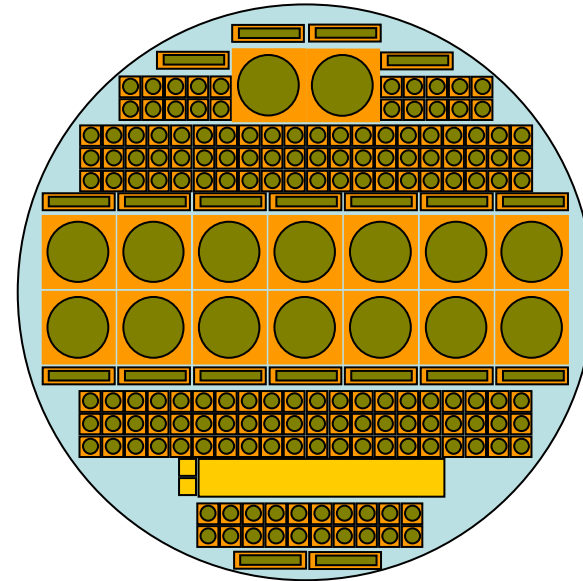
Dedicated set of detectors for whole NGRM batch

Team from PSI SLS Detector Technology group

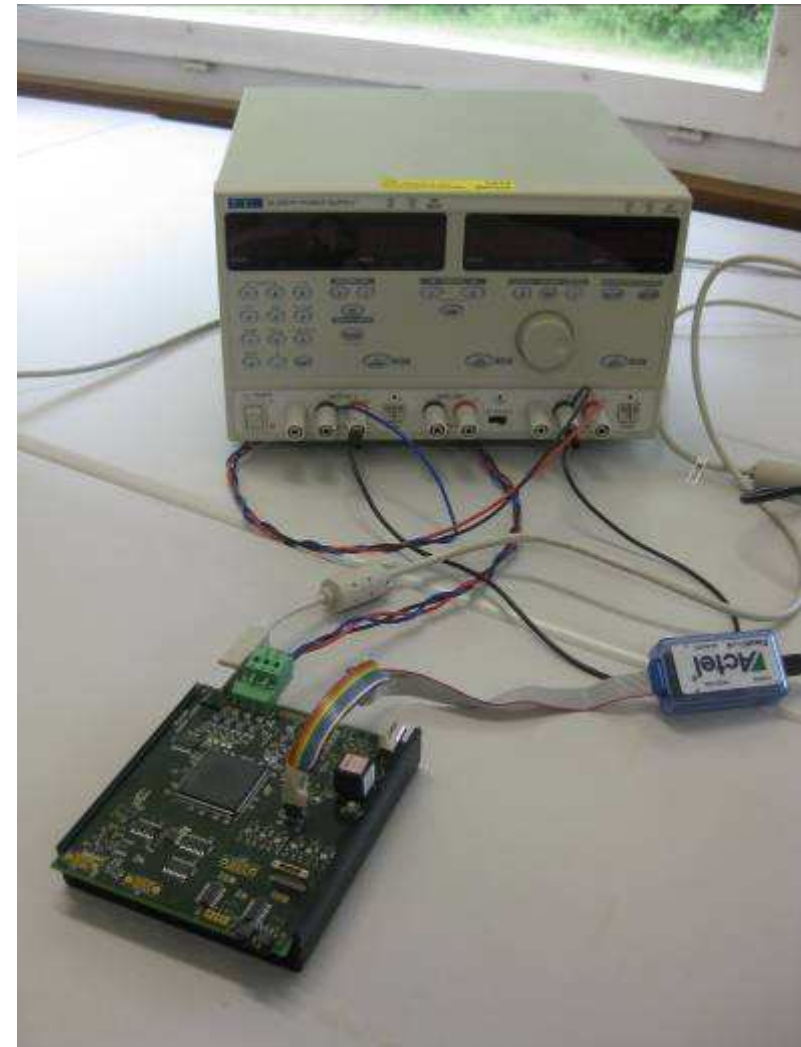
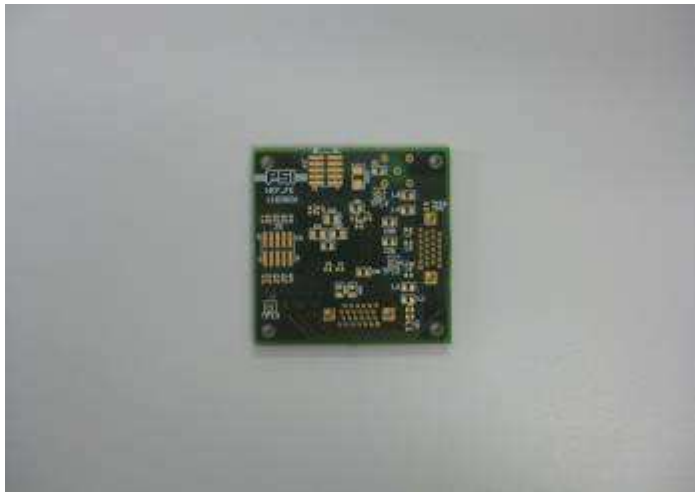
3 types of sensors under design:
 large area diodes
 microstrip
 circular ring detector

Manufacturers offers requested

Cutting, bonding and qualification at PSI nanotech-labs



- BB is based on solution for HEP
- BB FE uses VA64TAP ASIC applied for both e/p sensors
- BB EGSE solution is adapted from RADEM. It is ready to use
- For DM/EQM the Readout and Frontend will use dedicated ASIC (under construction)



For fast detection the energy is determined via position of the event

In electron detector the particle identification uses energy loss analysis for various threshold settings.

Higher depositions belong to heavier particles (HLD)

In telescope the threshold settings cut-off electron events (LLD)

Pattern analysis and amplitude verification identifies proton events and their energy

Very high energy depositions together with hit pattern identify heavy ions HI. Energy (LET) possible via amplitude analysis.

Special ASIC inputs and readout channels are dedicated for HI

Full mass model constructed with GIANT and GRAS

Input based on Breadboard CAD drawings

Lab responses with protons and electrons computed

Results used for optimization of both detector units

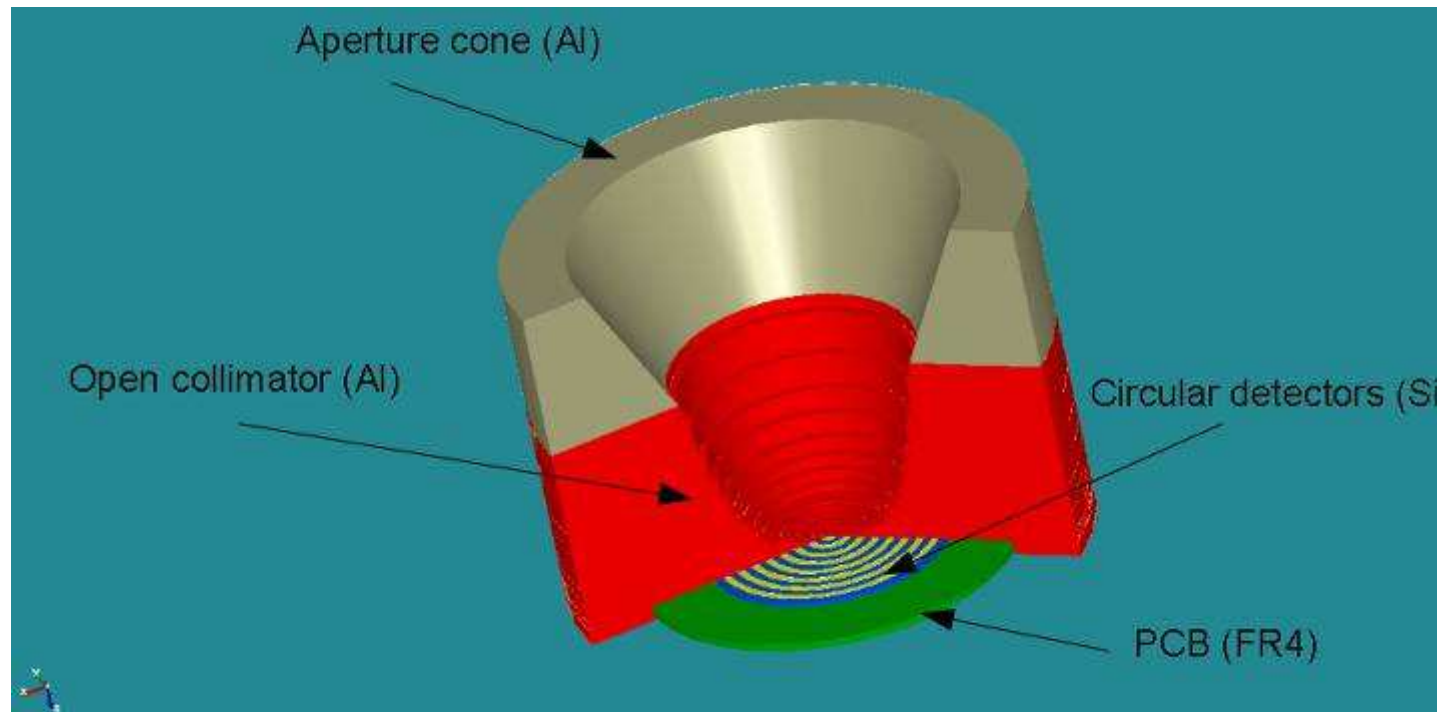
Mass models of HEP adapted for NGRM while electron detector is constructed anew

Simulations performed with electrons and protons

Response from front and all direction determined

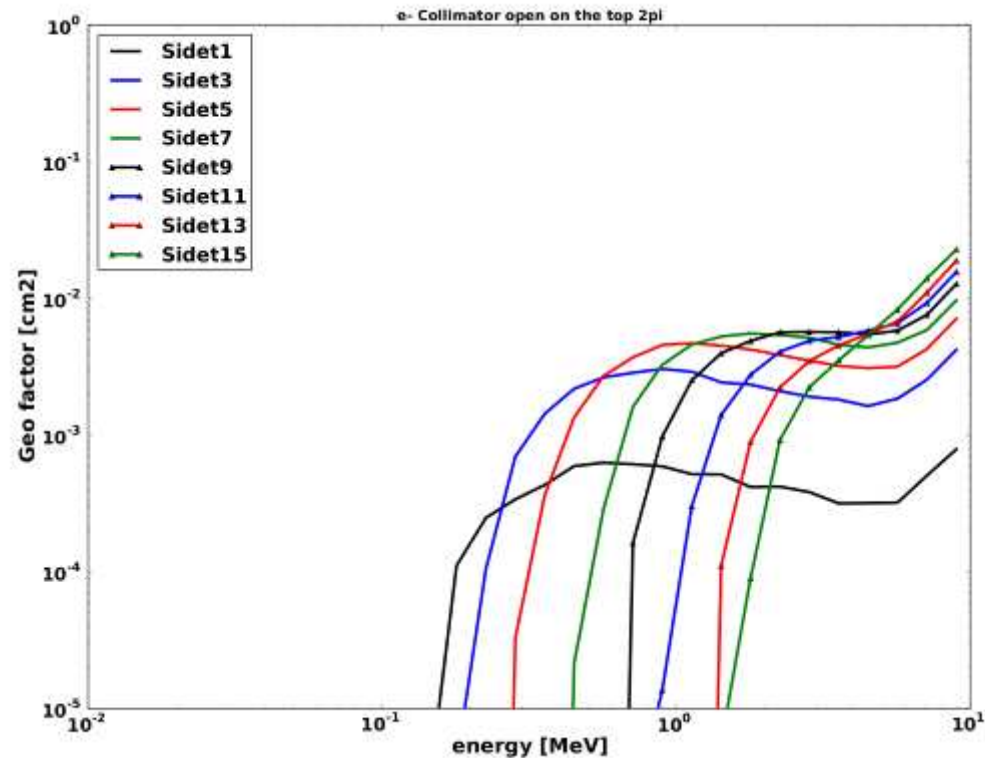
Specifications for electrons are kept

Side electron background needs extra shielding



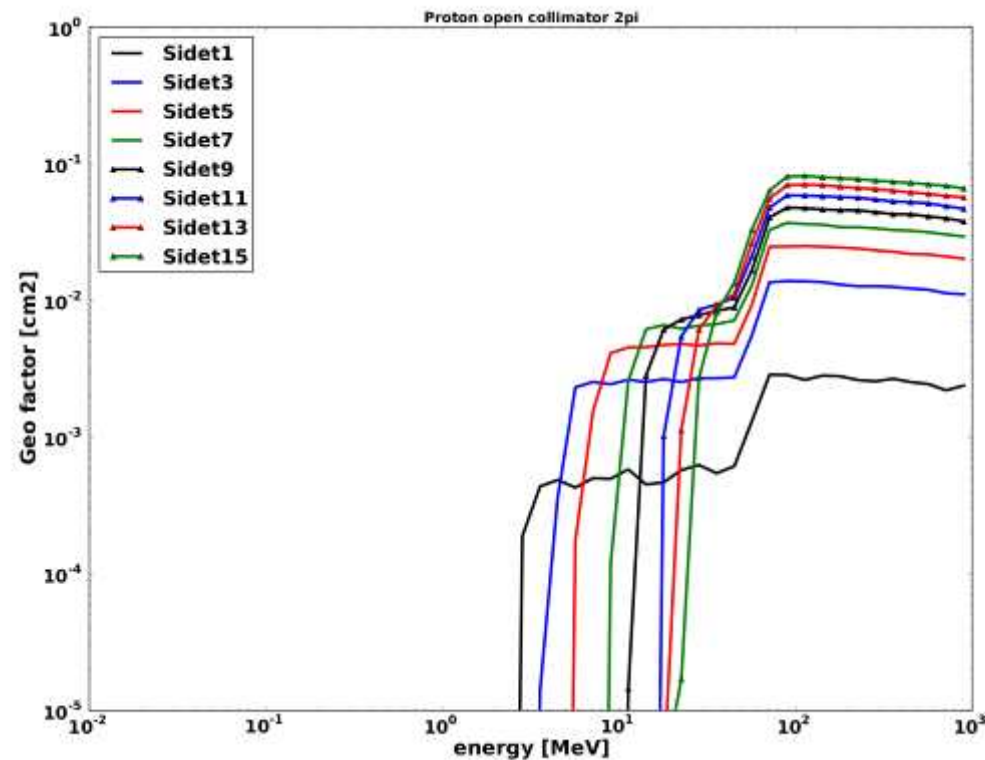
Response from front and all direction determined

Specifications for electrons are kept – design concept feasible



Design of electron detector also allows for proton measurements

Detector provides spectral determination potential with good energy resolution for front detection



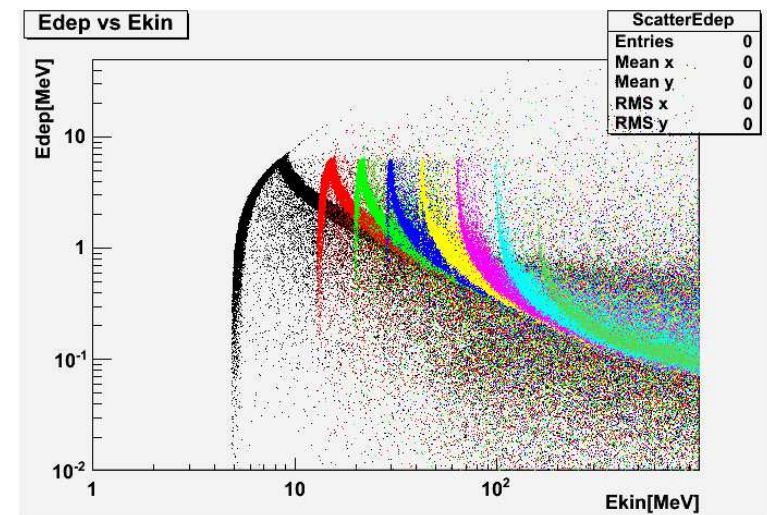
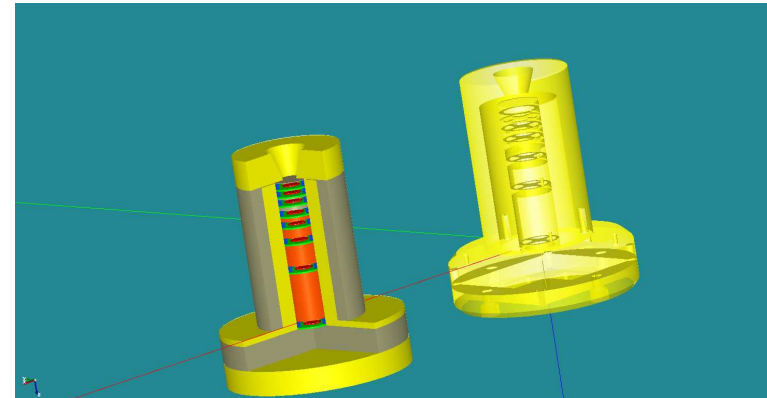
Results as for HEP in RADEM with modification of cylinders and absorbers

Simulations performed with protons and electrons

Response from front and all direction determined

Specifications for protons are kept

Electron background discrimination via threshold

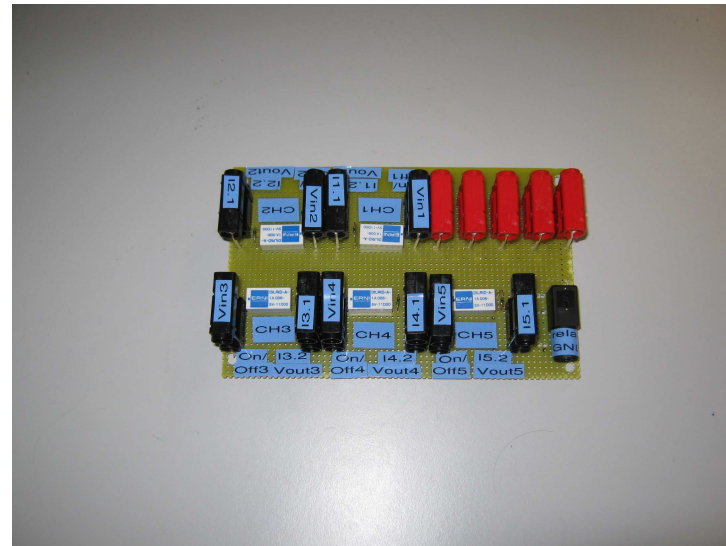
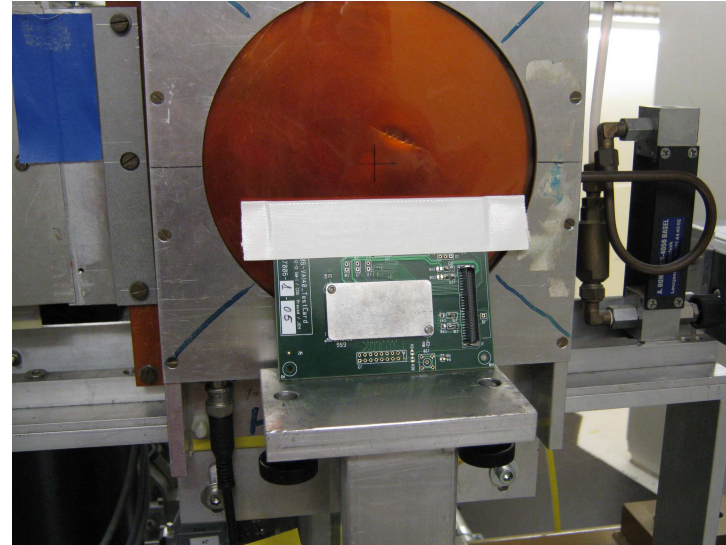


Both VA64TAP ASIC and technologically equivalent ASIC for EQM tested for SEL

Proton tests at PIF PSI revealed no latch-ups for 230 MeV and 60 MeV

Further tests with HI performed in HIF facility in Belgium on Tuesday night

(Setup equipment, HW and SW from PIF PSI)



Next Generation Radiation Monitor NGRM designed as standard instrument for measurement of e/p/HI onboard of spacecraft

Concept feasibility tested and optimized using simulations as well as physical and mechanical analysis

Electronics and detection sensor concepts elaborated for manufacturing of dedicated ASIC and detectors

Breadboard model construction about finished starting first laboratory and radiation tests

Thank You

