

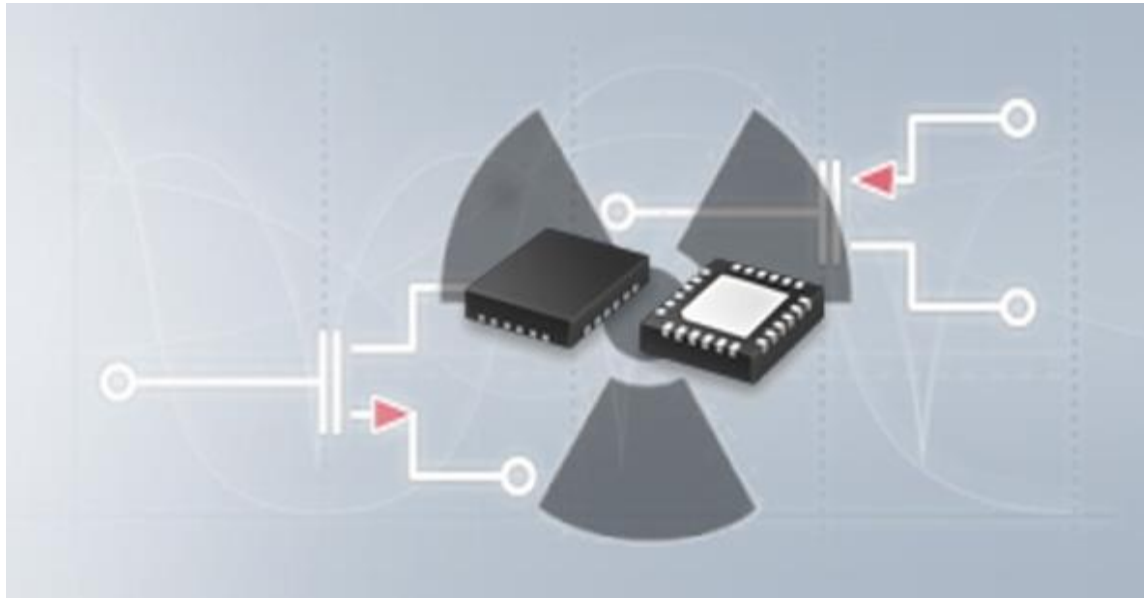


# FGDOS® : Floating Gate DOSimeter for Space applications. Introduction. Tests and results. Moon Flyby

Joan Cesari Bohigas  
Electronics Engineer

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Radiation tests in collaboration with:



Moon FlyBy thanks to:



## Who we are

- SME founded in 2002 as part of the iC-Haus network
- Current facilities: Alaró (Mallorca, Spain)
- Certified for ISO 9001 and ISO 166002



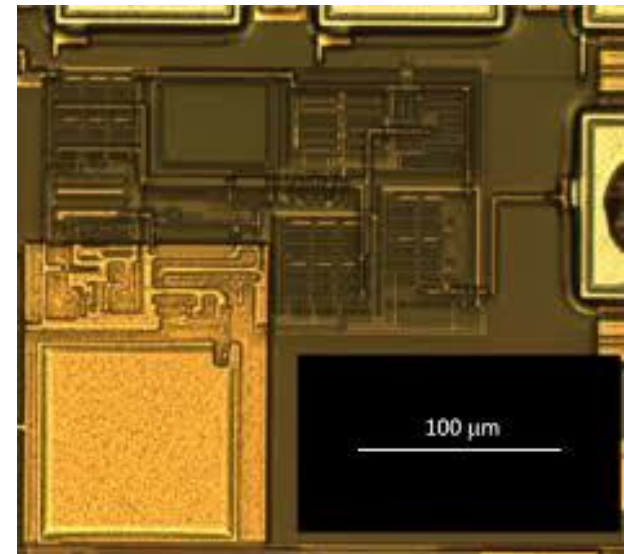
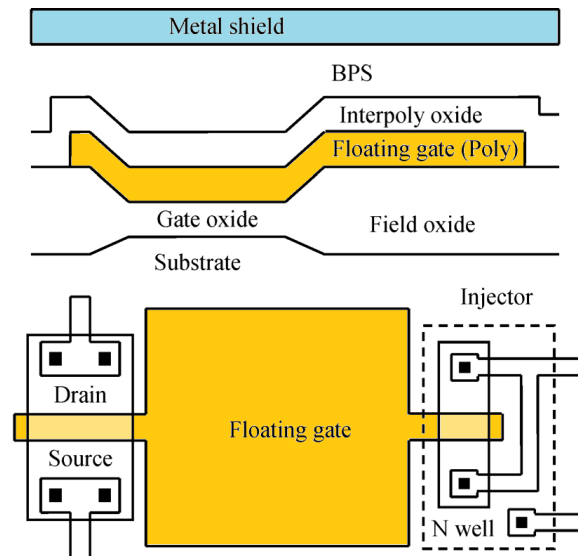
## What we do

- Integrated circuit design for industry, automotive and medical applications
- ASiC/ASSP manufacturer (fabless)

- FGDOS® is an **smart dosimeter on-chip** and overcomes some drawbacks of traditional RadFETs.
- FGDOS® **100 to 500 times more resolution** than RadFETs.
- The FGDOS® is **being tested at CERN** to be used as radiation dosimeter in some LHC areas.
- Nowadays being **used as a detector in private space missions** to monitor the radiation.
- Other applications as:
  - Medical
  - Personal dosimetry



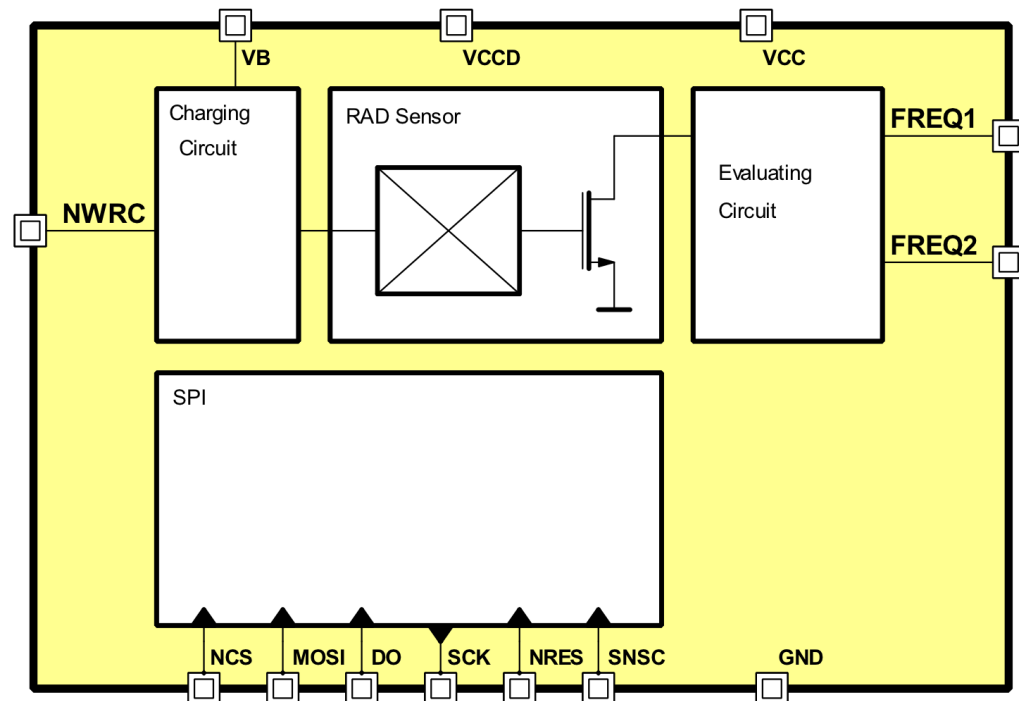
- Floating gate (FG) structure on **standard CMOS**.
- Permits to **detect ionizing radiation by injecting charge** on the FG capacitor.
- When irradiated the FG is **discharged**.





➤ As smart sensor on-chip includes:

- 1.- Charging circuitry
- 2.- FG sensor
- 3.- Evaluating circuitry
- 4.- SPI interface

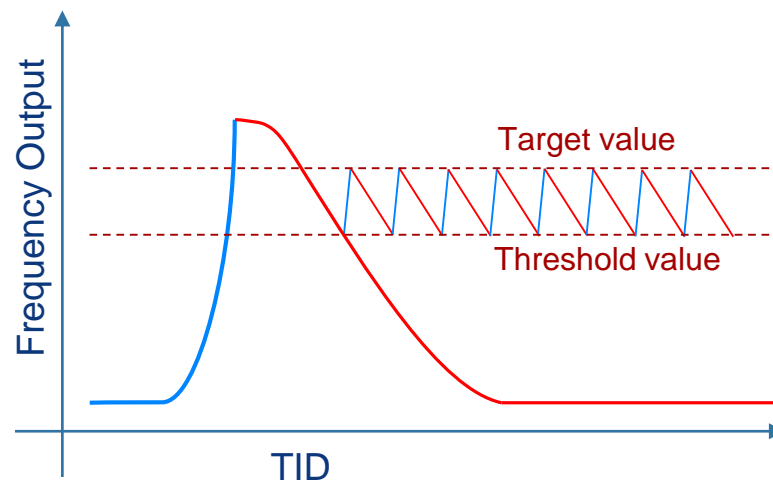


## ➤ FG dosimeter system **function principle**:

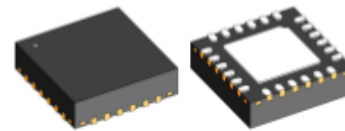
Step 1: recharge the FG up to **the target** value

Step 2: discharge the FG due to radiation down to **the threshold**

## ➤ The dosimeter keeps the sensor working inside the **Linear Dynamic Range**.



- 5 mm x 5 mm QFN package. **Redundancy.**
- 5V power supply
- Different sensing modes: **Active, semi-passive and passive modes.**
- Micro-controlled based application. **SPI interface.**
- **Ultra low power** applications (by using passive mode)
- **Digital output.** Sampling rate from 1 second up to 125 milliseconds.

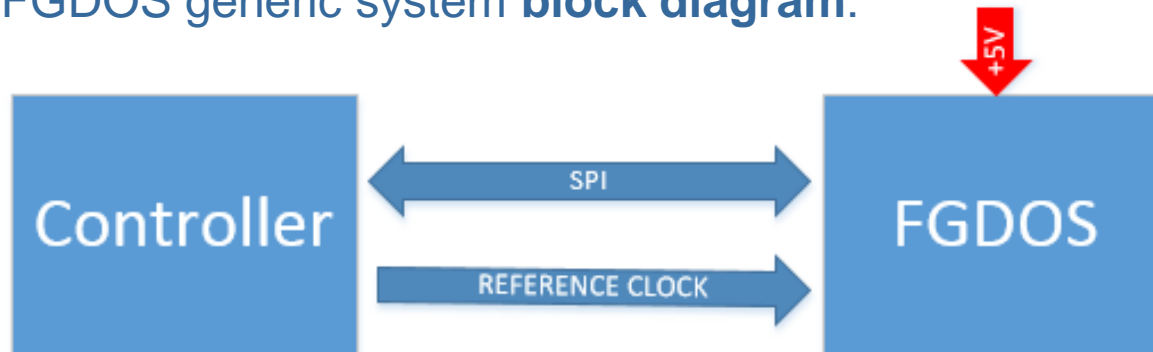


5 mm x 5 mm QFN package  
2 sensors, for redundancy

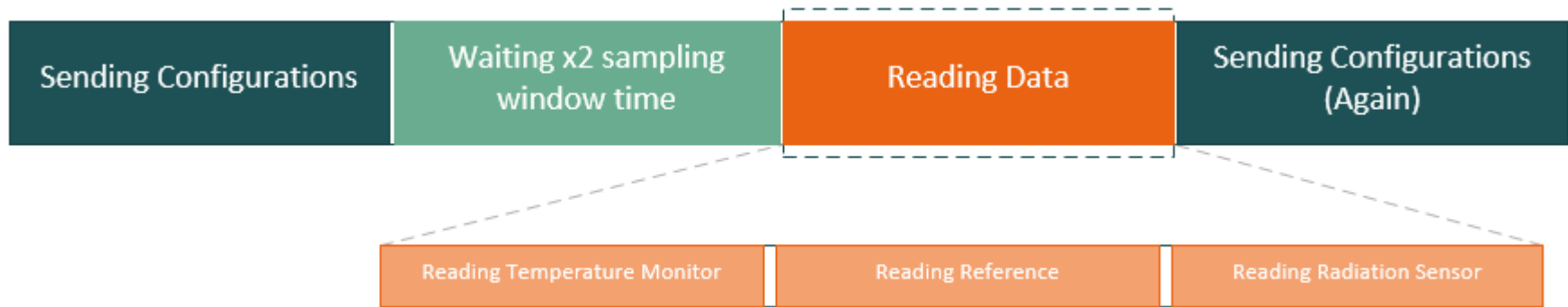


R. Ferraro *et al* “Design of a radiation tolerant system for total ionizing dose monitoring using floating gate and RadFET dosimeters”, *JINST* **12** C04007, April 2017

FGDOS generic system **block diagram**:

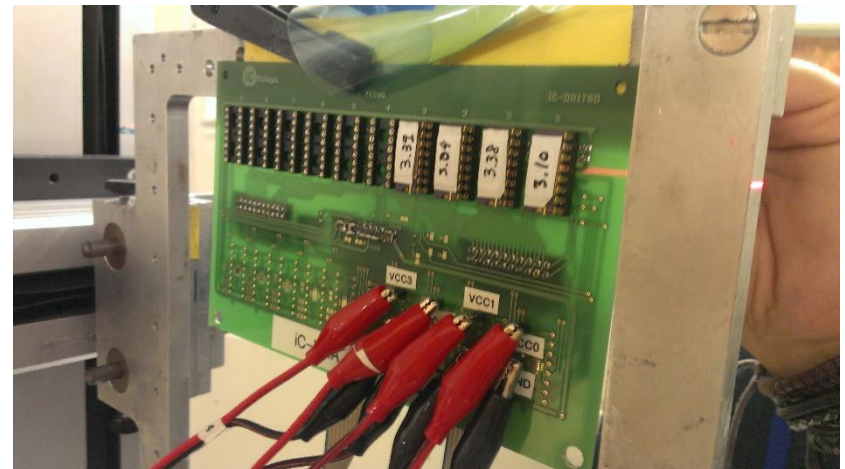
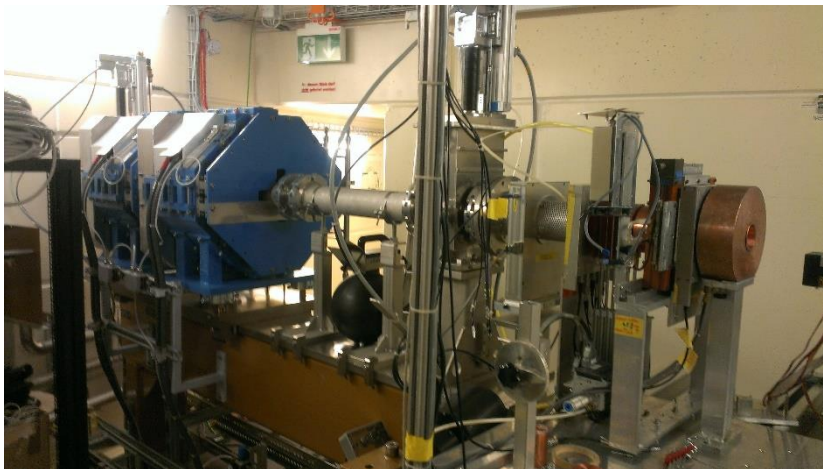


Example, FGDOS SPI **communication flow**:

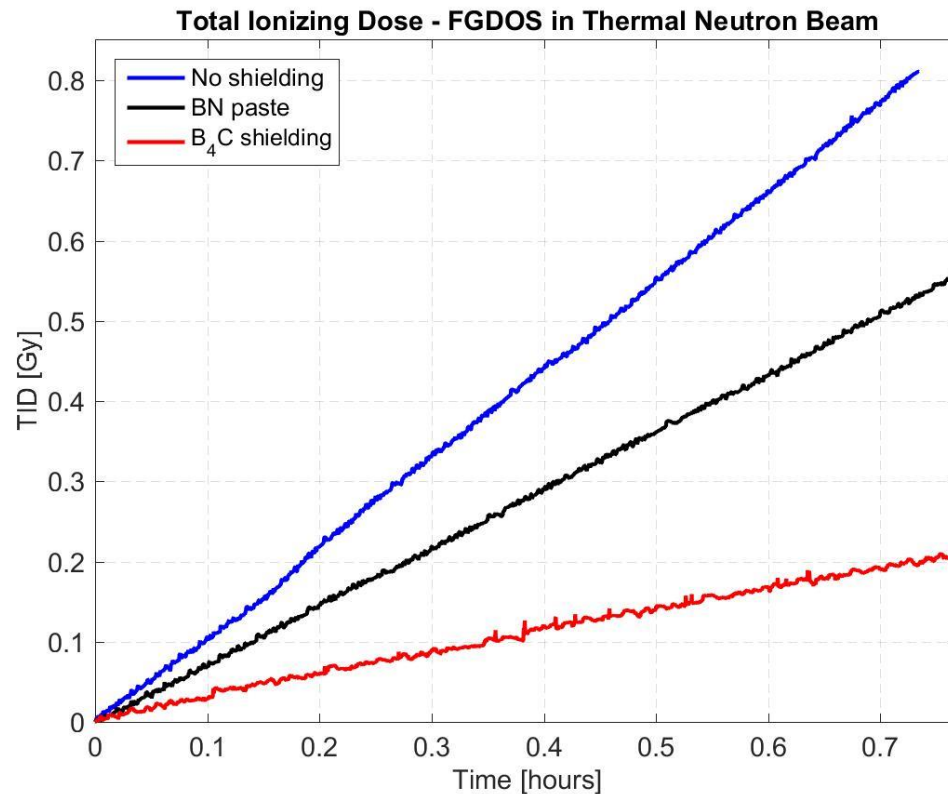


S. Danzeca, J. Cesari, M. Brugger, L. Dusseau, A. Masi, A. Pineda, and G. Spiezia, “Characterization and Modeling of a Floating Gate Dosimeter with Gamma and Protons at Various Energies,” *IEEE Trans. Nucl. Sci.*, vol. 61, no. 6, pp. 373–378 3451 - 3457, Dic. 2014.

- Tests carried out at Paul Scherrer Institut (PSI) with CERN.
- PSI proton accelerator. Proton energies from 60 to 230 MeV.
- No SEU registered up to a fluence of  $5.60 \times 10^{11}$  ions/cm<sup>2</sup> for 230 MeV.

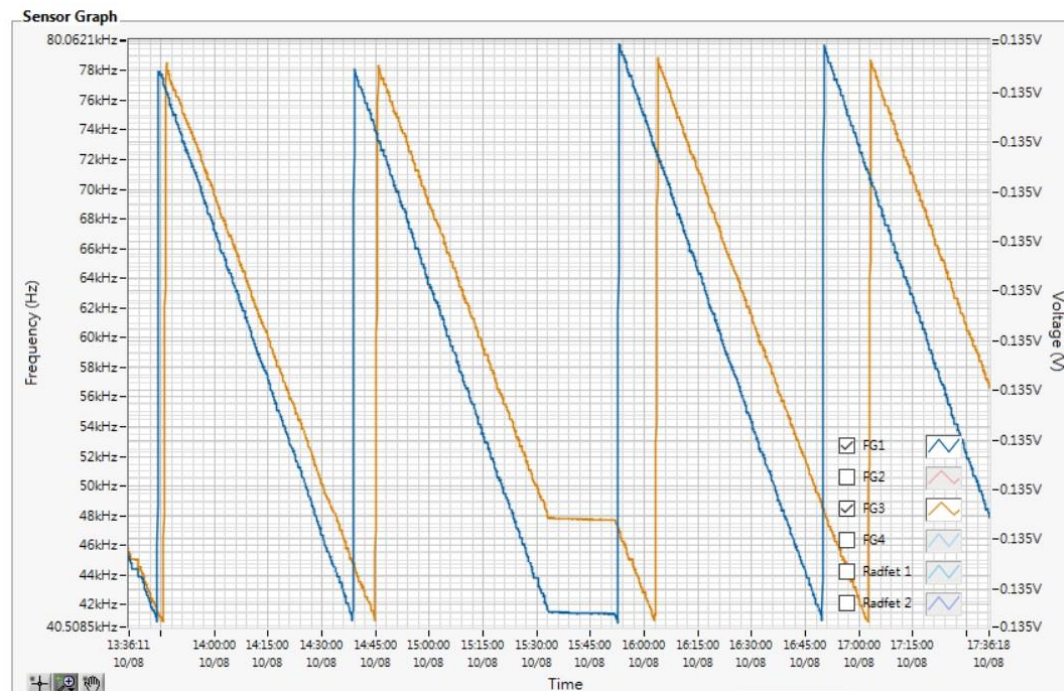


- Test carried out at ILL facility at Grenoble by CERN.
- No shielding, boron carbide and boron nitride coatings
- New publication in 2018, with more details on FGDOS<sup>®</sup> neutron response



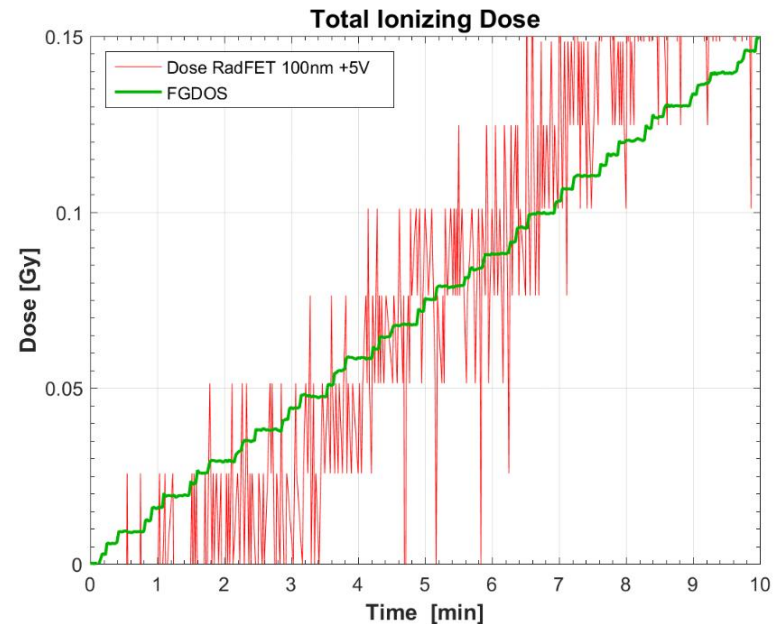
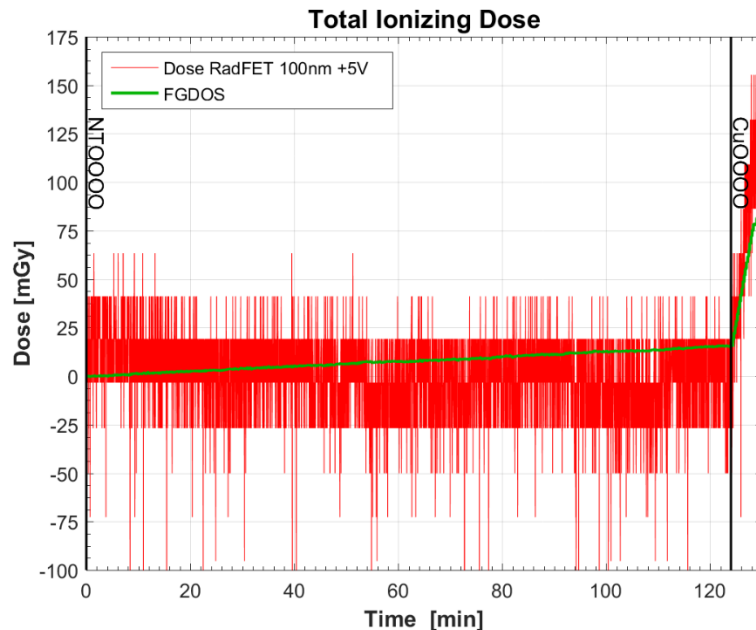
- M. Álvarez, C. Hernando, J. Cesari, A. Pineda, and E. Garcia-Moreno, “Total Ionizing Dose Characterization Prototype Floating Gate MOSFET Dosimeter for Space Applications,” *IEEE Trans. Nucl. Sci.*, vol. 60, no. 6, pp. 4281–4288, Dec. 2013.
- M. Brucoli, S. Danzeca, M. Brugger, A. Masi, A. Pineda, J. Cesari, and L. Dusseau, “Floating Gate Dosimeter Suitability for Accelerator-Like Environments”, *IEEE Trans. Nucl. Sci.*, vol. 64, no. 8, pp. 2054–2060, March 2017.

- Tests at CC60 at CERN, using a 60-Co gamma source
- Minimum detectable dose 200  $\mu\text{Gy}$  (20 mrad)
- Lifetime up to 300 Gy (30 Krad)
- Linearity up to 98%



J. Mekki, M. Brugger, R. G. Alia, A. Thornton, N. C. Dos Santos Mota, and S. Danzeca,  
“CHARM: A Mixed Field Facility at CERN for Radiation Tests in Ground, Atmospheric,  
Space and Accelerator Representative Environments”,

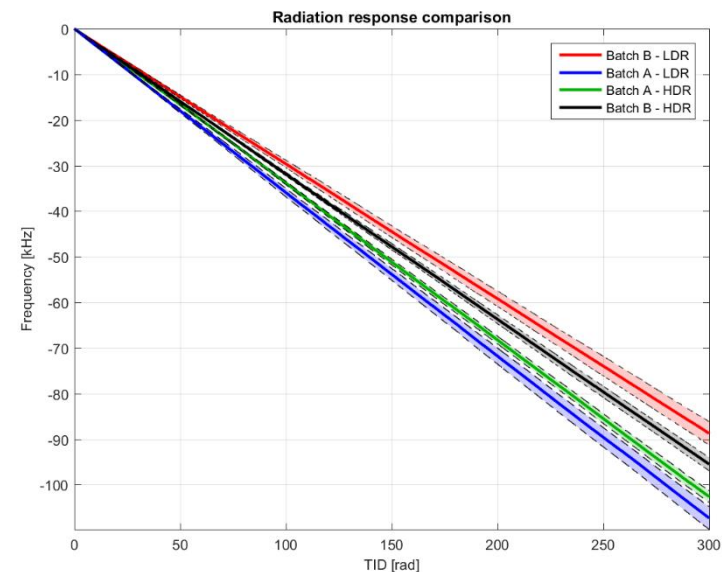
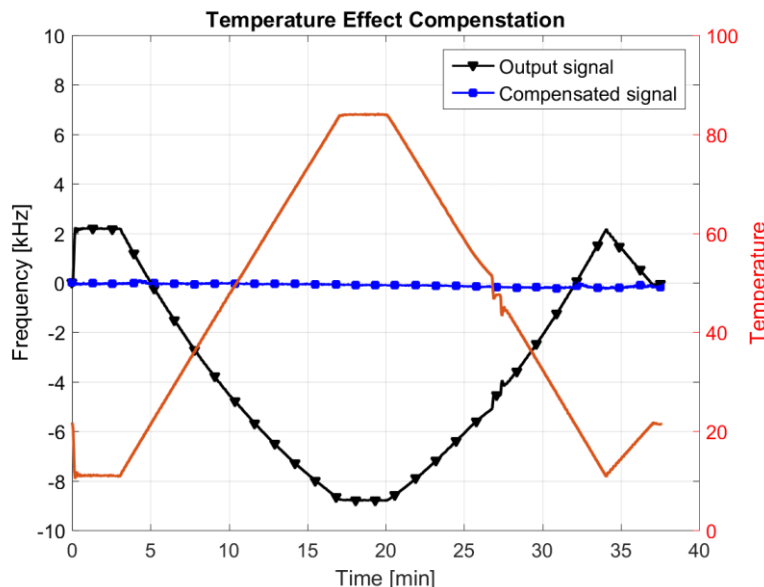
- Tests at CHARM facility at CERN, different spectra and particles cocktails (pions, muons, neutrons, protons, etc.).
- FGDOS® detects the **spill from the beam**.
- RadFETs comparison, more resolution, lower noise.
- FGDOS® **beam detection with no target**, and **beam detection with target**.





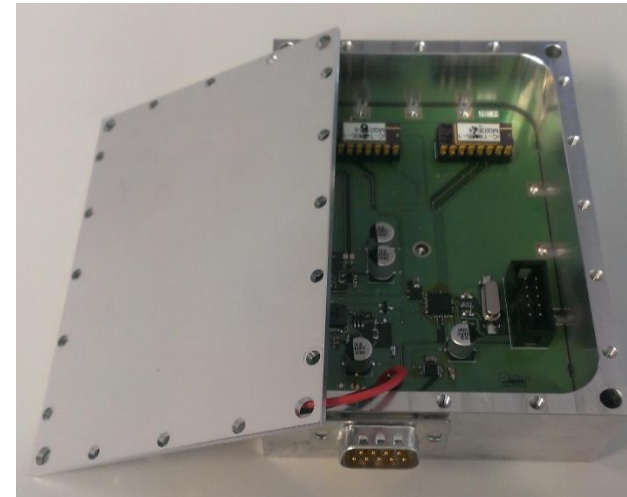
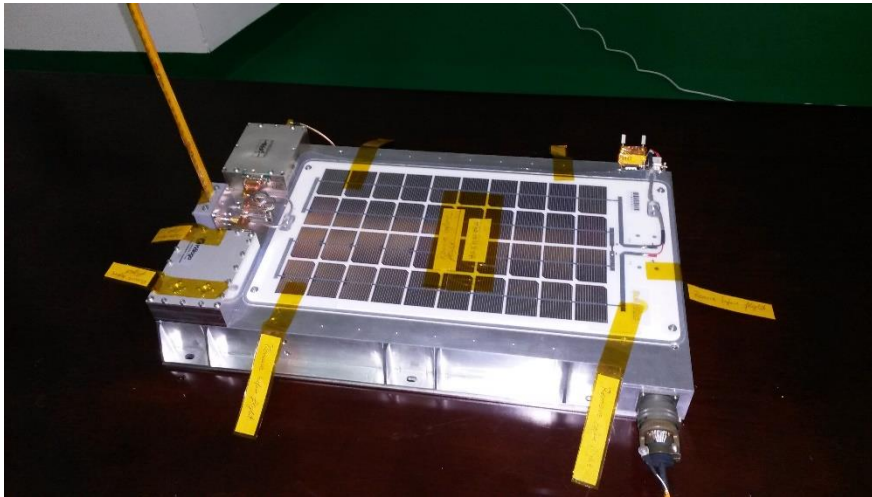
M. Brucoli, S. Danzeca, J. Cesari, M. Brugger, A. Masi, S. Gilardoni, A. Pineda, L. Dusseau and F. Wrobel, "Investigation on the Sensitivity Degradation of Dosimeters based on Floating Gate Structure", submitted to IEEE Trans. Nucl. Sci., Sep. 2017.

- Sensitivity Degradation during the dosimeter lifetime. ( $\approx 10\%$  @ 100 Gy).
- TID Lifetime ( $\approx 300$  Gy).
- Sample to sample variation. Due to fabrication process.
- Dose rate Dependence (30% less from 5 Gy(Si)/h to 300 Gy(Si)/h).
- Temperature Compensation needed via a reference embedded on-chip.

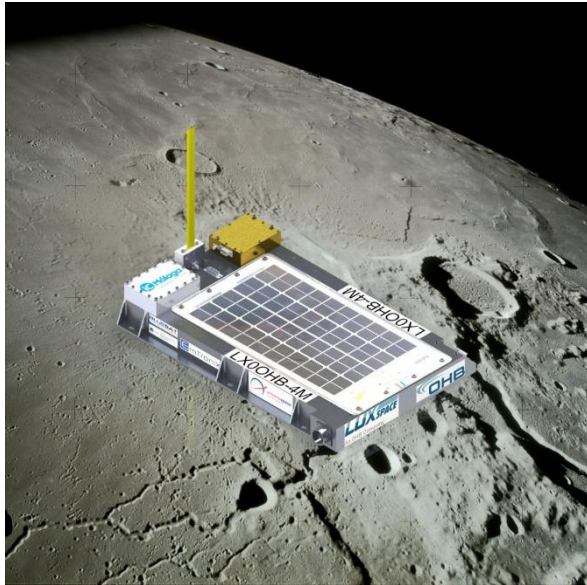




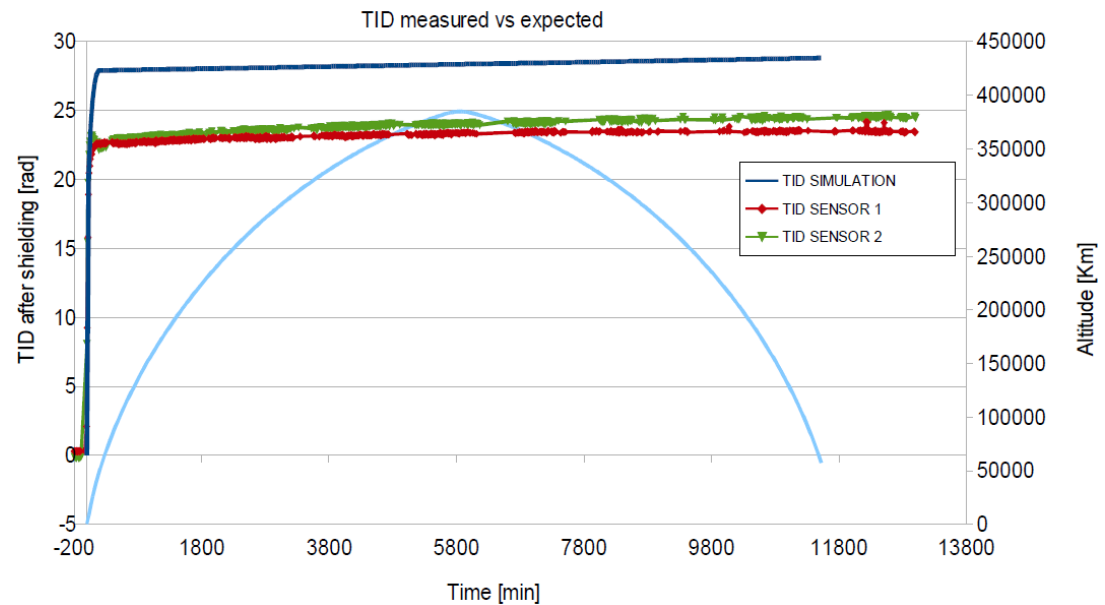
J. Cesari, A. Barbancho, A. Pineda, G. Ruy and H. Moser "Floating Gate Dosimeter Measurements at 4M Lunar Flyby Mission", The Nuclear and Space Radiation Effects Conference (NSREC) Radiation Effects Data Workshop (REDW), Boston, July 2015.



- 4M (Manfred Memorial Moon Mission) mission, first commercial mission to the Moon.
- Carried on the Chinese Chang'e 5-T1 test spacecraft.
- Launched on October 23th 2014.
- Payload attached to the third stage of Long March 3C/G2 rocket.
- Luxspace srl invited iC-Málaga to include its sensor as radiation experiment.
- Preparations from first conversations until launch, less than 5 months.



- Data from two FGDOS® v1 retrieved
- More than 8 days receiving data from the experiment
- The radiation experiment was measuring every 5 minutes.
- The effect of the Van Allen Belts was measured
- FGDOS® measures compared with simulation results



## NEW APPLICATION FIELDS:

- Personal dosimetry (ring dosimeter, badge,...)
- Medical Applications (In vivo,...)
- Spot camera, pixel array sensors (100  $\mu\text{m}$  x 100  $\mu\text{m}$ )

## NEW RESEARCH AREAS:

- Energy discrimination sensor
- Activimeter detector



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