

Development of an RPC-based photo-detector with picosecond resolution

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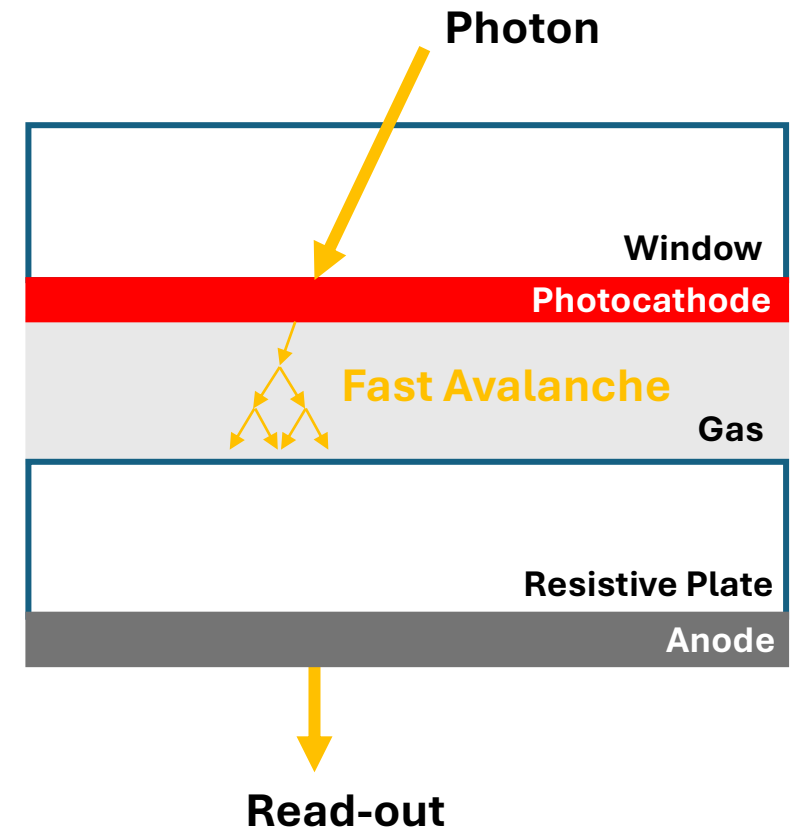
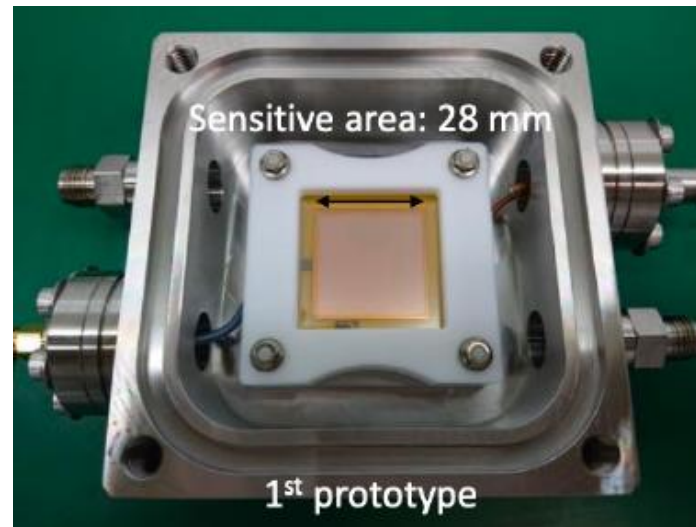
University of Bologna

Outline

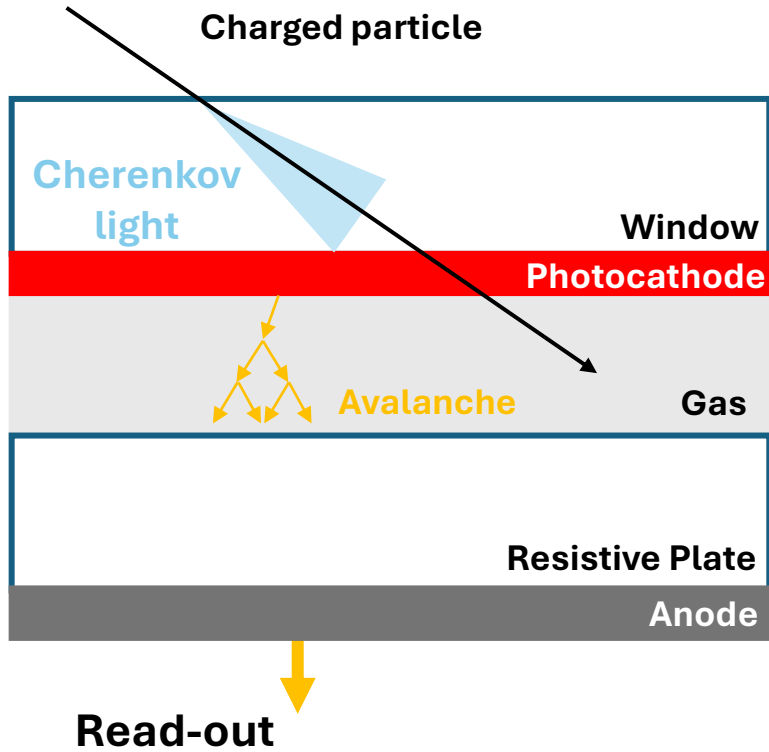
- GasPM
- Test beam
 - MPPC analysis
 - Photon feedback study
- LaB6 photocathode

Gaseous Photomultiplier (GasPM)

- **Belle II upgrade – veto beam background on ECL**
 - **Excellent time resolution, large photocoverage, low cost**
 - Fast avalanche multiplication process in gas
 - High electric field in the narrow gap without electric breakdown thanks to resistive plate
 - Cheap components
 - Assembled on a table
-
- Self-produced at KEK
 - Gas mixture:
90% R134a + 10% SF₆
 - $E_{\text{gap}} = 2.8 \text{ kV} / 150 \mu\text{m}$
 - CsI photocathode



Test beam

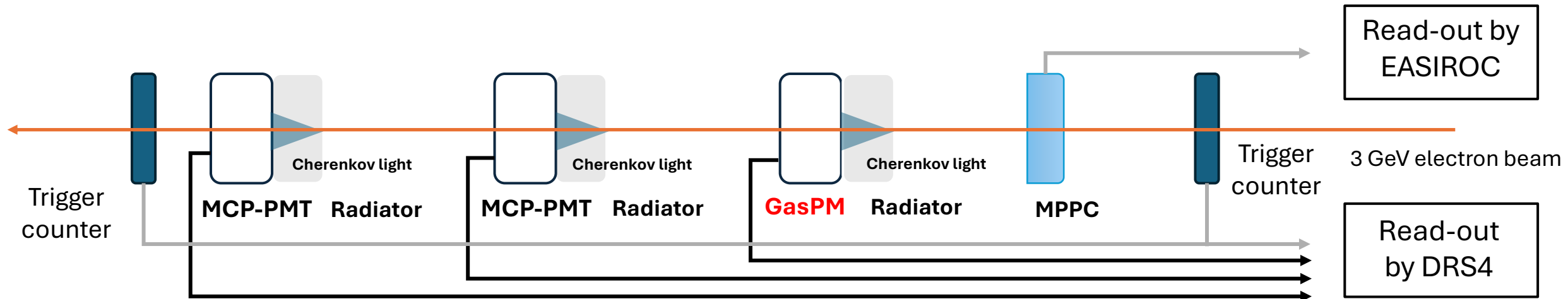


Goal

- Demonstrate the Cherenkov timing detection using GasPM
- Time resolution measurement of GasPM
- Improve time resolution obtained last test beam (~ 60 ps)

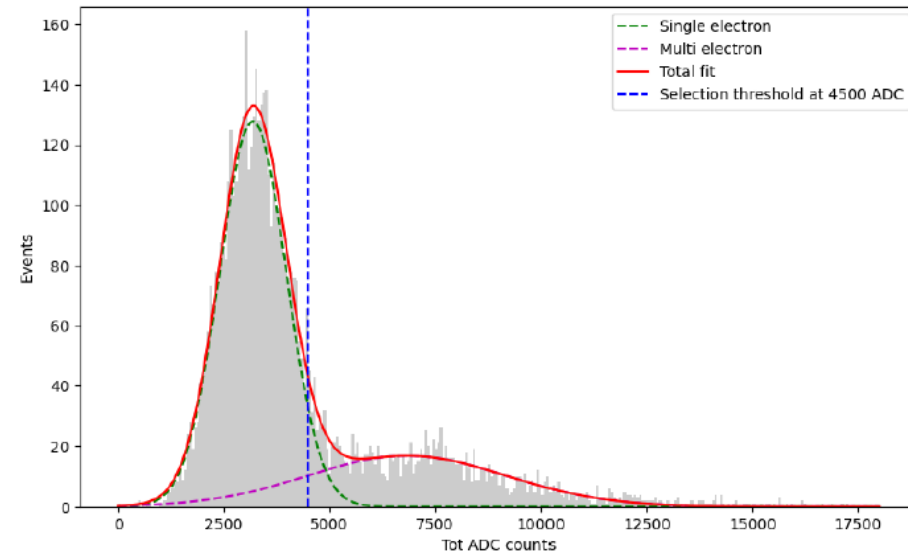
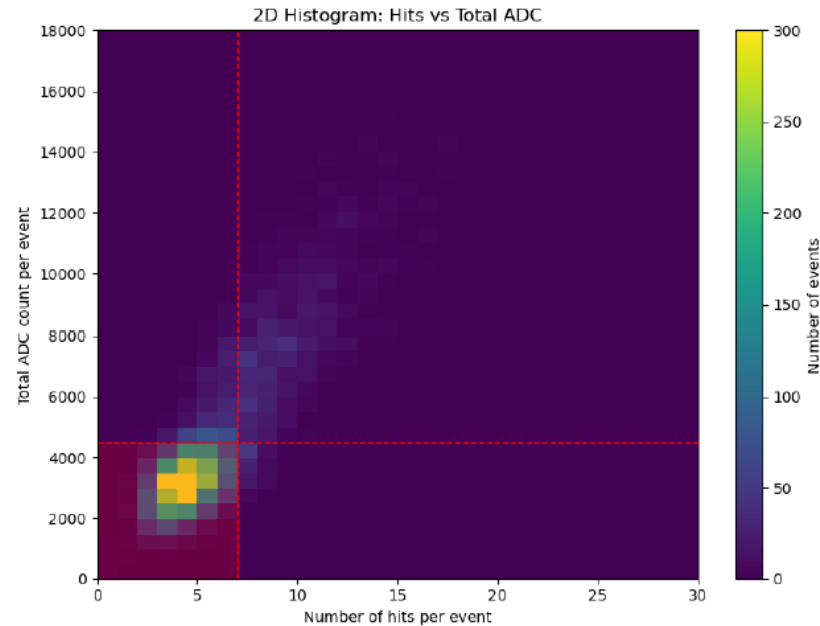
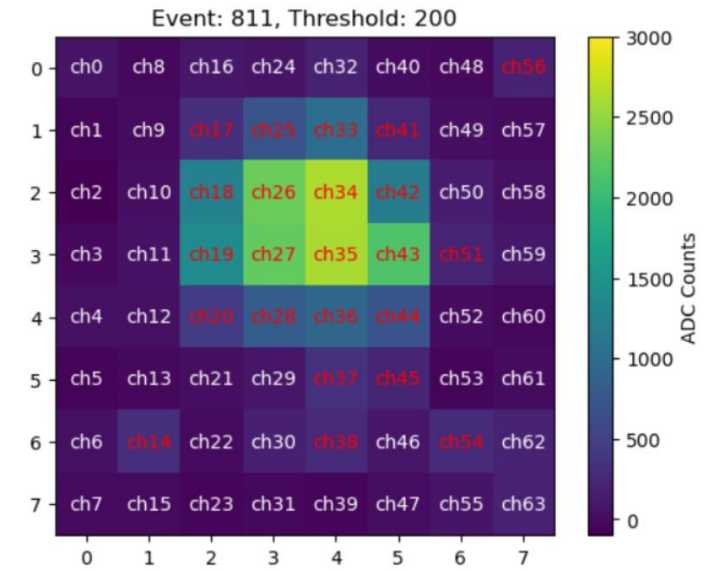
How

- Increased electric field
- Identify photon feedback peaks
 - Higher acquisition frequency digitiser (10GHz)
- Select only single electron events
 - Multi-pixel photon-counter



Single-electron events selection

- 64-channel MPPC arranged in an 8×8 matrix
- Applied ADC threshold to identify photon hits
- Performed cuts on total ADC and number of hits per event
- Achieved 95% efficiency for single-electron detection
- Rejected 84% of multiple-electron events



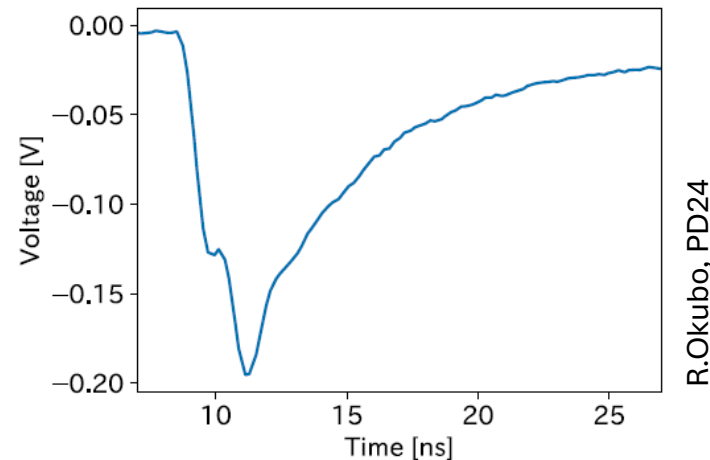
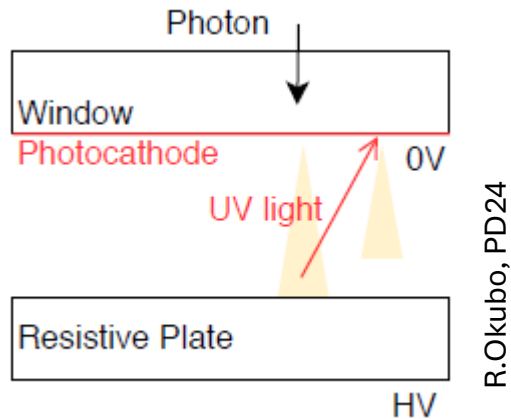
NALU digitiser

High frequency
acquisition of 10 GHz



allows to better discriminate
secondary peaks due to photon
feedback

PHOTON FEEDBACK: UV photons emitted
during gas excitation and de-excitation trigger
secondary electron avalanches in the gas gap.



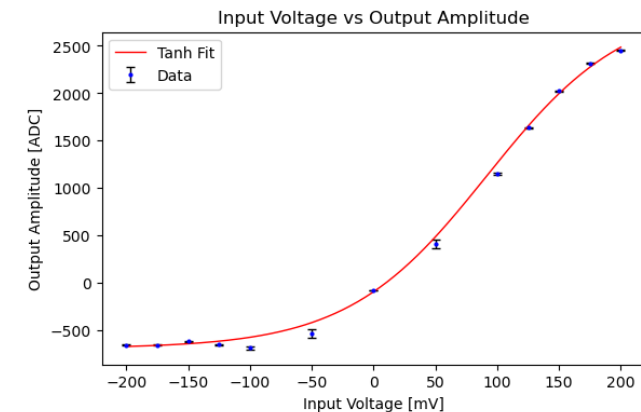
Test beam data are now under study



Digitiser calibration:

- Voltage calibration
- Time calibration

After calibration I obtained 7.23 ps
resolution



LaB₆ photocathode characterisation

Previous Issue

- CsI photocathode was highly sensitive to radiation damage
- **Ion feedback:** avalanche ions drift back and degrade the photocathode over time

Goal

- Measure quantum efficiency (QE) of the new photocathode
- Assess its resistance to ion-induced damage

Cosmic ray test is ongoing:

- Streamer discharges observed
- Actions taken:
 - Increased quenching gas ratio
 - Reduced electric field strength
- Current result: only **ionization signals** observed (RPC-like behaviour)

