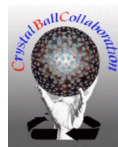


Study of Solid-state Photo-detector Properties at Cryogenic Temperatures

- Maik Biroth, Patrick Achenbach, Evie Downie, Andreas Thomas
Institut für Kernphysik, Mainz, Germany

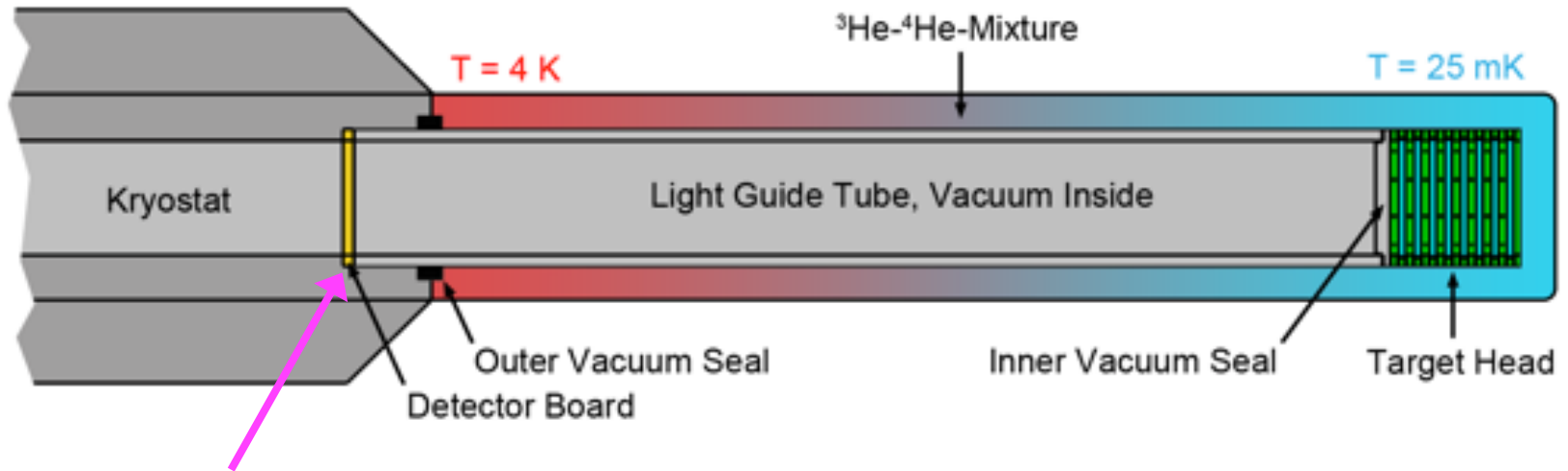
NDIP 2014 in Tours



Motivation for SiPM

@ Cryogenic Temperatures $T < -200^{\circ}\text{C}$

A fast optical detector operating at cryogenic temperatures is required for a nuclear physics scattering experiment



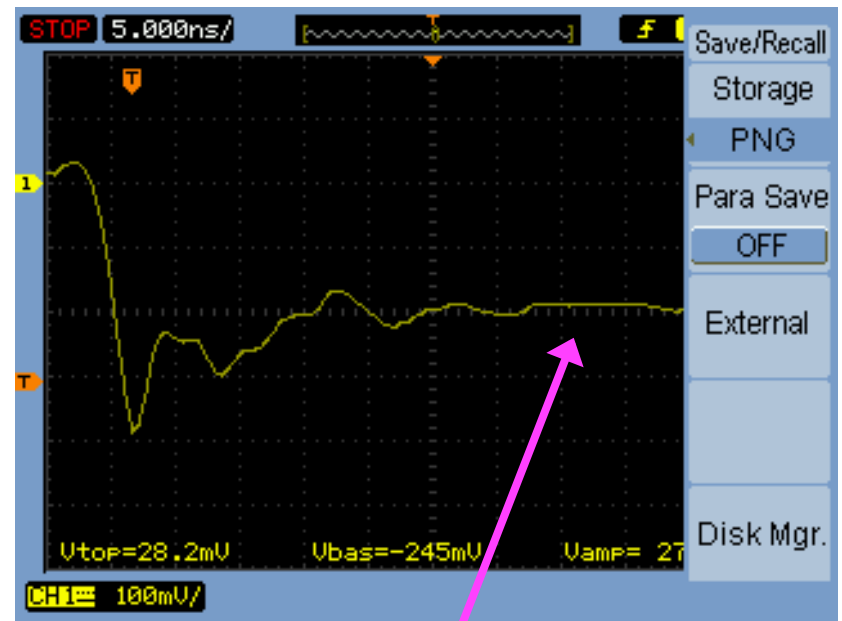
SiPMs @ $T = 4\text{ K}$

→ Cryogenic tests of SiPMs

SiPMs @ Cryogenic Temperatures

Charge carrier freeze-out below 100K

→ Increase of after-pulse probability because of trapping^[1]



[1] G. Collazuol et al. Studies of silicon photomultipliers at cryogenic temperatures. Nucl. Instrum. and Meth. A, 628:389–392, 2011

[2] MPPC S10362-11 Technical Datasheet. Hamamatsu Photonics, Solid State Division, Hamamatsu City, Japan, 2013

Passive quenching failed @ 77 K
→ Current flows for microseconds (Hamamatsu S10362-11^[2])

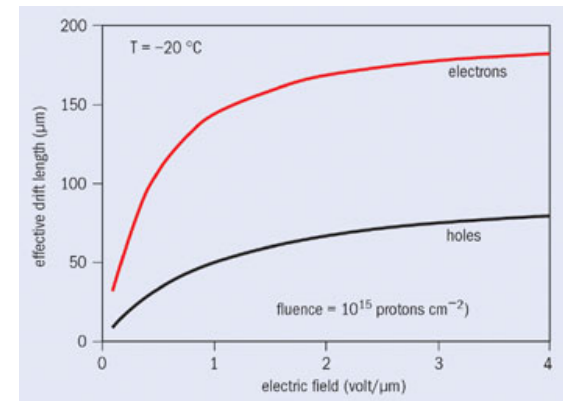
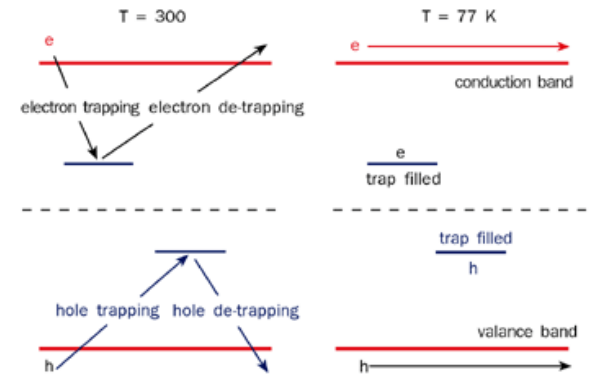
Why nevertheless try it?

Healing of Silicon known as **Lazarus effect**:
Charge carrier freeze-out leads to **occupied traps** with **decreasing temperature**
increasing relaxation time (hours till years)^[7]

→ **Trapping probability decreases**

Increasing charge carrier mobility with **decreasing temperature** and **high electric fields** leads to **increasing effective drift length**^[8]

→ **Trapping probability decreases**

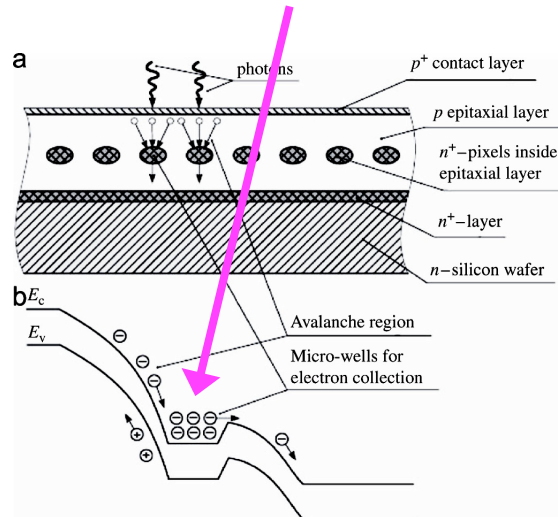


[7] Raising the dead detector, Cern Courier, 1999, Mar 28

[8] Radiation hard silicon detectors lead the way, Cern Courier, 2003, Jan 1

MAPD-3N @ T = 77K

New type of SiPM with high fill factor and quenching by potential walls^[4]

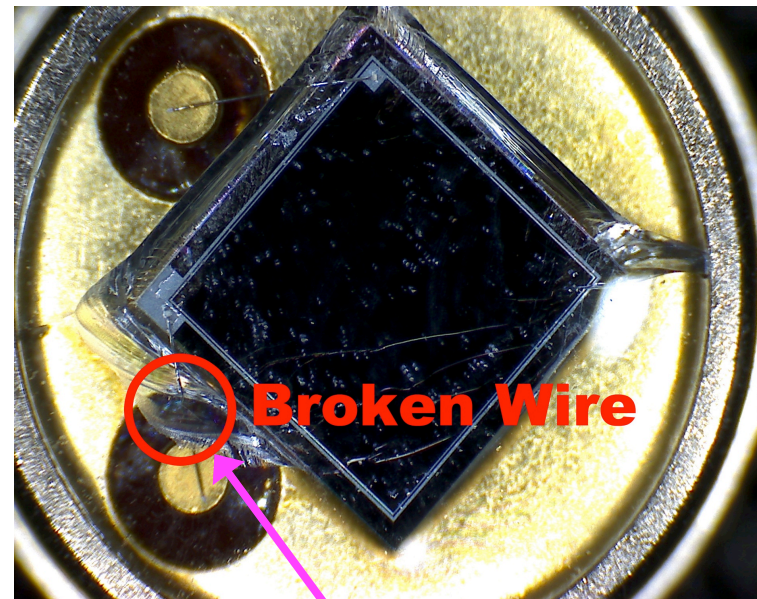


135000 pixels over $3 \times 3 \text{mm}^2$

[3] Zecotek MAPD White Paper
Zecotek Photonics, Richmond, Canada, 2011

[4] Z. Sadygov et al. Performance of new
Micro-pixel Avalanche Photodiodes from Zecotek.
Nucl. Instrum. and Meth. A, 610:381–383, 2009

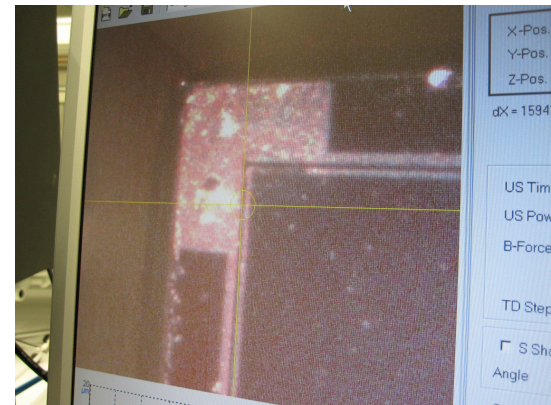
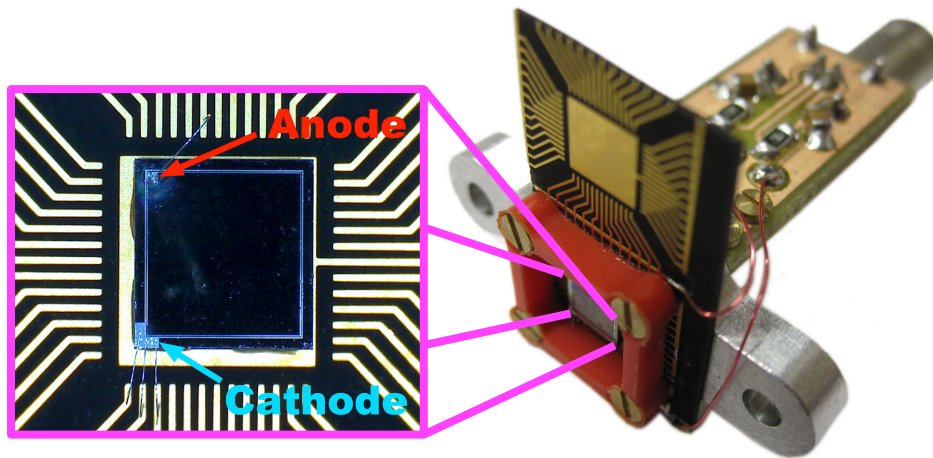
MAPD-3N^[3] by Zecotek operated at liquid nitrogen temperatures



Mechanical problems after a few cycles of cooling down / heating up

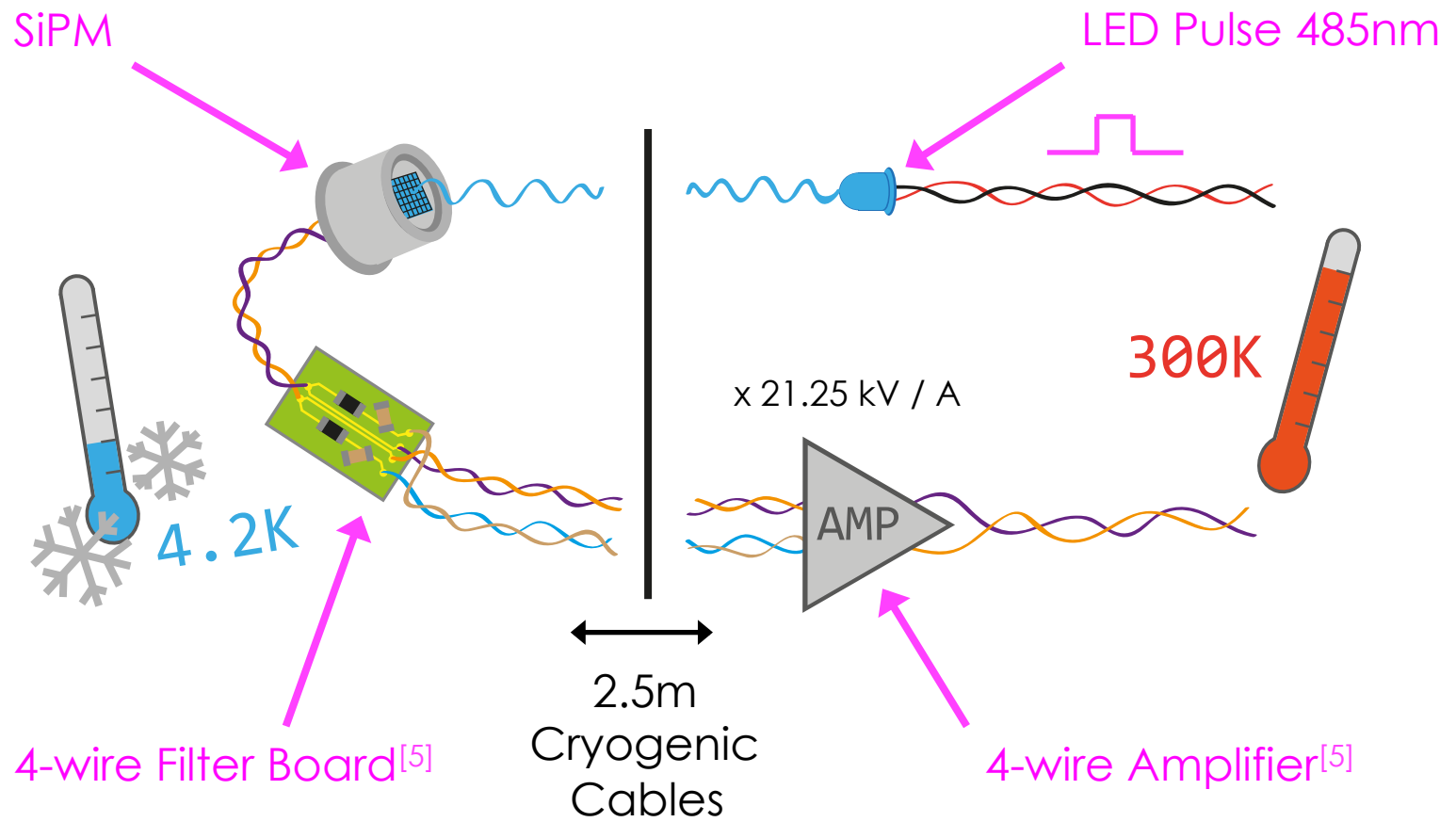
Modify a Custom MAPD-3N

- Epoxy cover was removed with acetone and chlorinated hydrocarbons
- New bonding wire connections were made



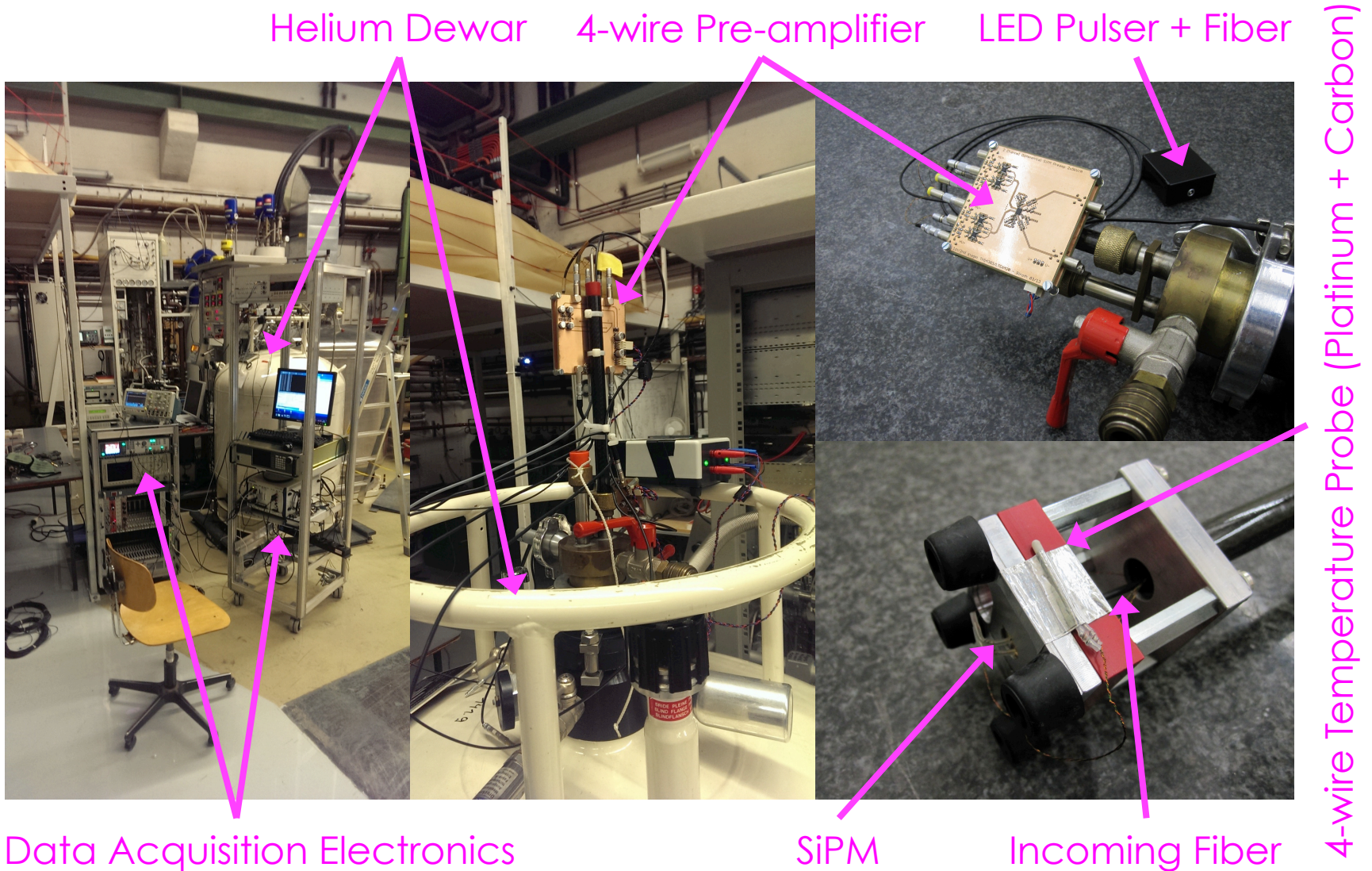
Thanks to Harald Deppe and the hole team of CSEE Electronics, GSI, Darmstadt, Germany

Schematic Test Equipment

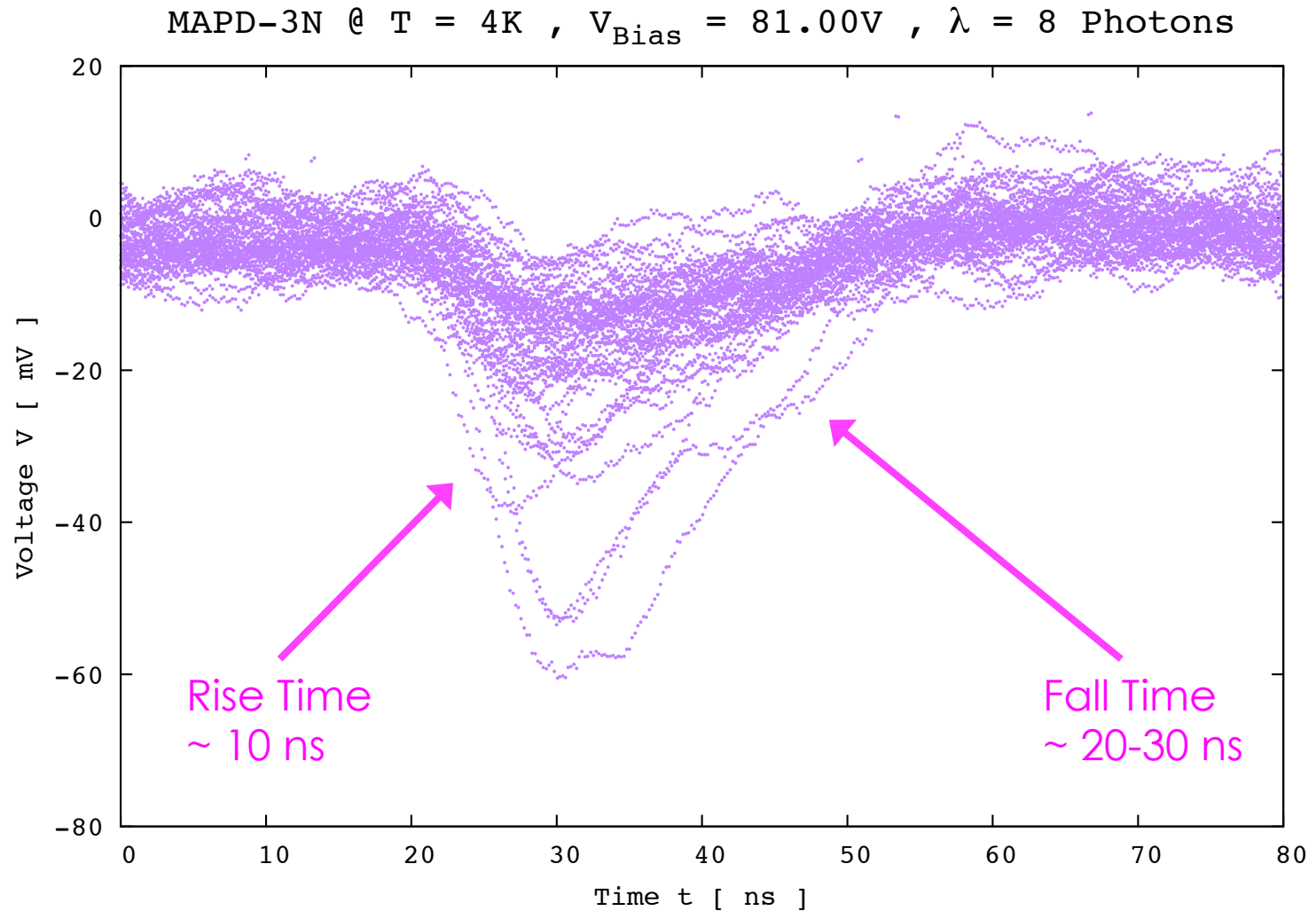


[5] Poster ID 85, A Low-noise Fast Pre-amplifier and Readout System for SiPMs

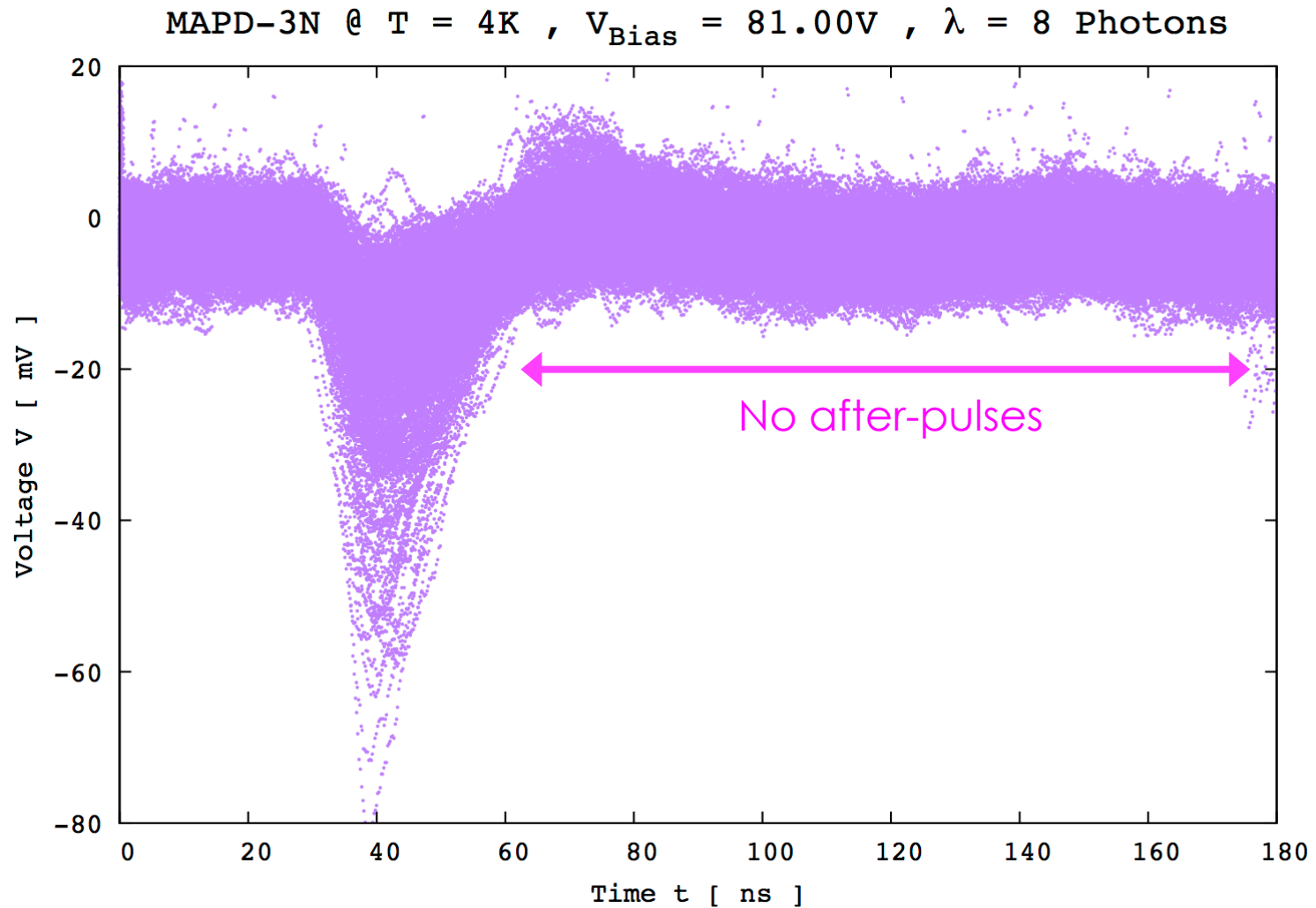
Photos of the Test Equipment



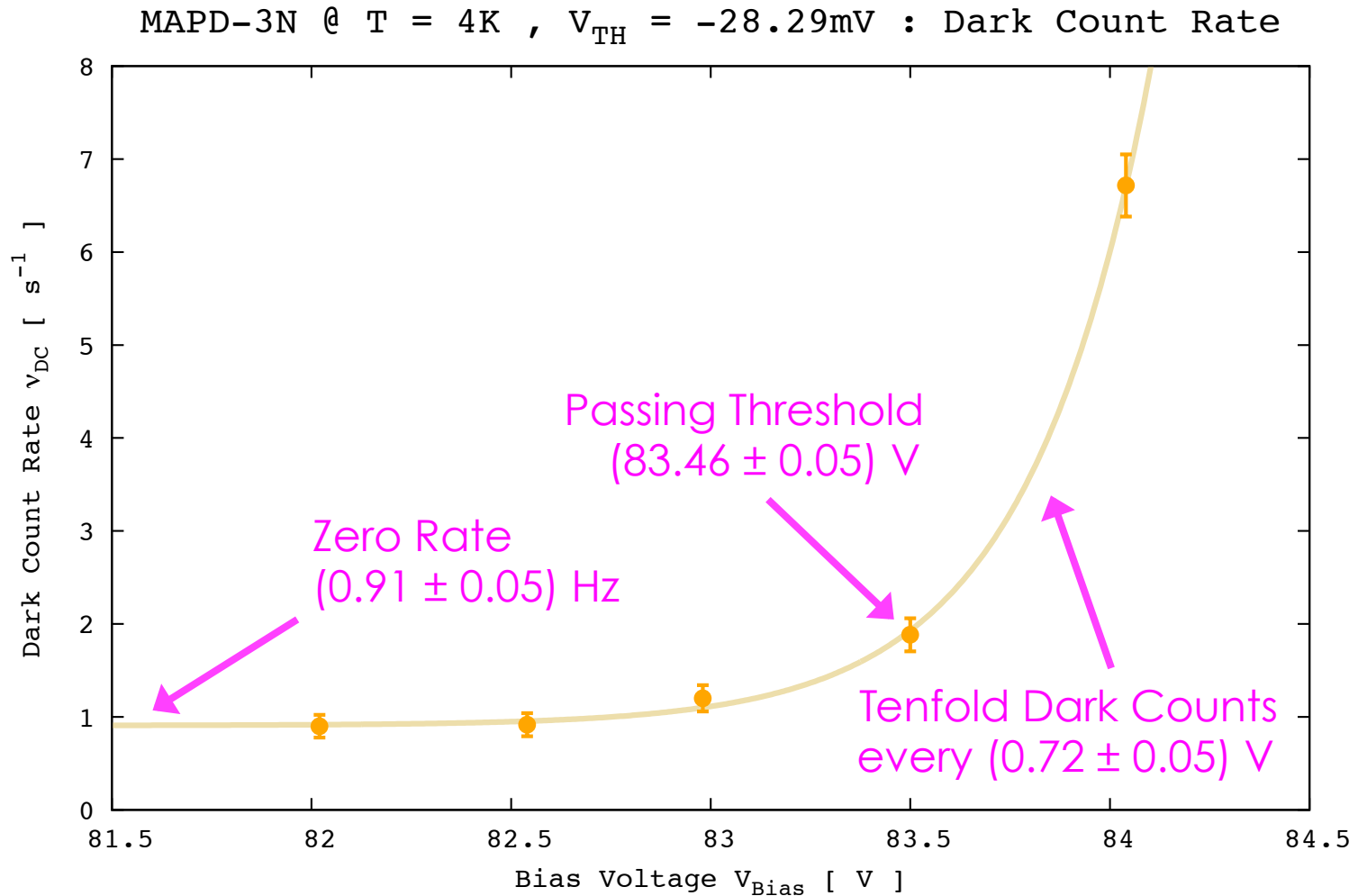
Good Signal Pulse Shape @ T = 4K



No After-pulses @ $T = 4\text{K}$



Few Dark Counts @ $V_{TH} = -28.3V$, $T = 4K$



SiPM Spectrum Function of Charge Q

$$P(Q, \lambda) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (1-q) \cdot q^{n-1} \cdot \left[(1-\varphi) + \frac{\varphi \cdot q}{e^\lambda - 1} \cdot \left(\frac{\Gamma(n+1, \lambda/q)}{\Gamma(n+1)} \cdot e^{\frac{\lambda}{q}} - 1 \right) \right] \cdot \frac{e^{-\frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{(Q-Q_0-nG)^2}{\sigma_0^2 + n \cdot \sigma_j^2} \right]}}{\sqrt{2\pi \cdot (\sigma_0^2 + n \cdot \sigma_j^2)}}$$

Geometrically Distributed Crosstalk

Dark Count

Light Events

Gaussian Peaks

λ Average Number of Photons
× Quantum Efficiency

q Crosstalk Probability

G Single Pixel Gain

σ_{sv} Single Pixel Variation

n Number of Fired Pixels

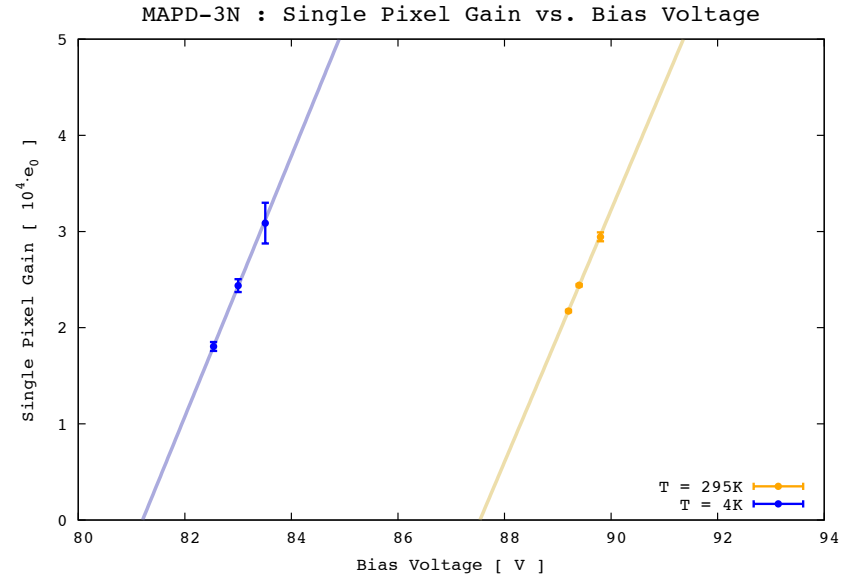
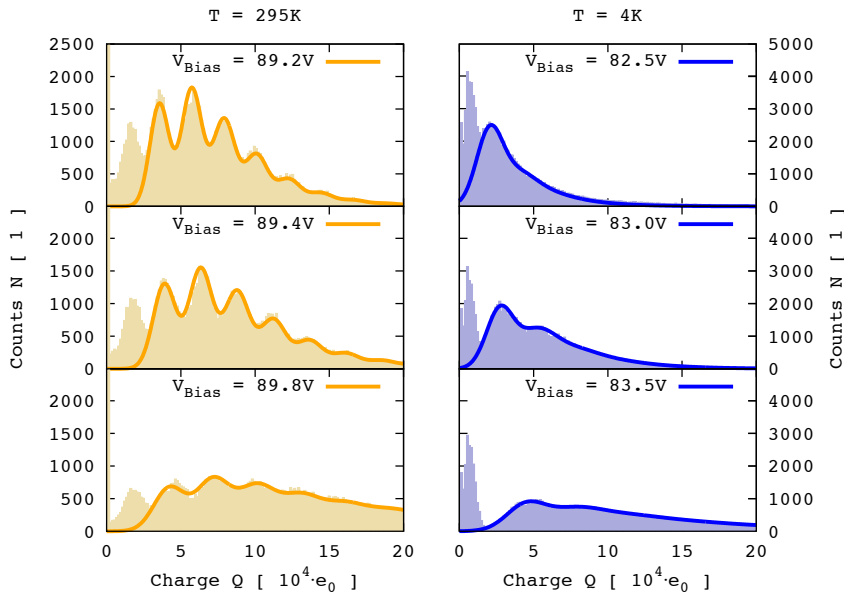
φ Ratio of Light Events

Q_0 Pedestal

σ_o Noise Level

Single Pixel Gain vs. Bias Voltage

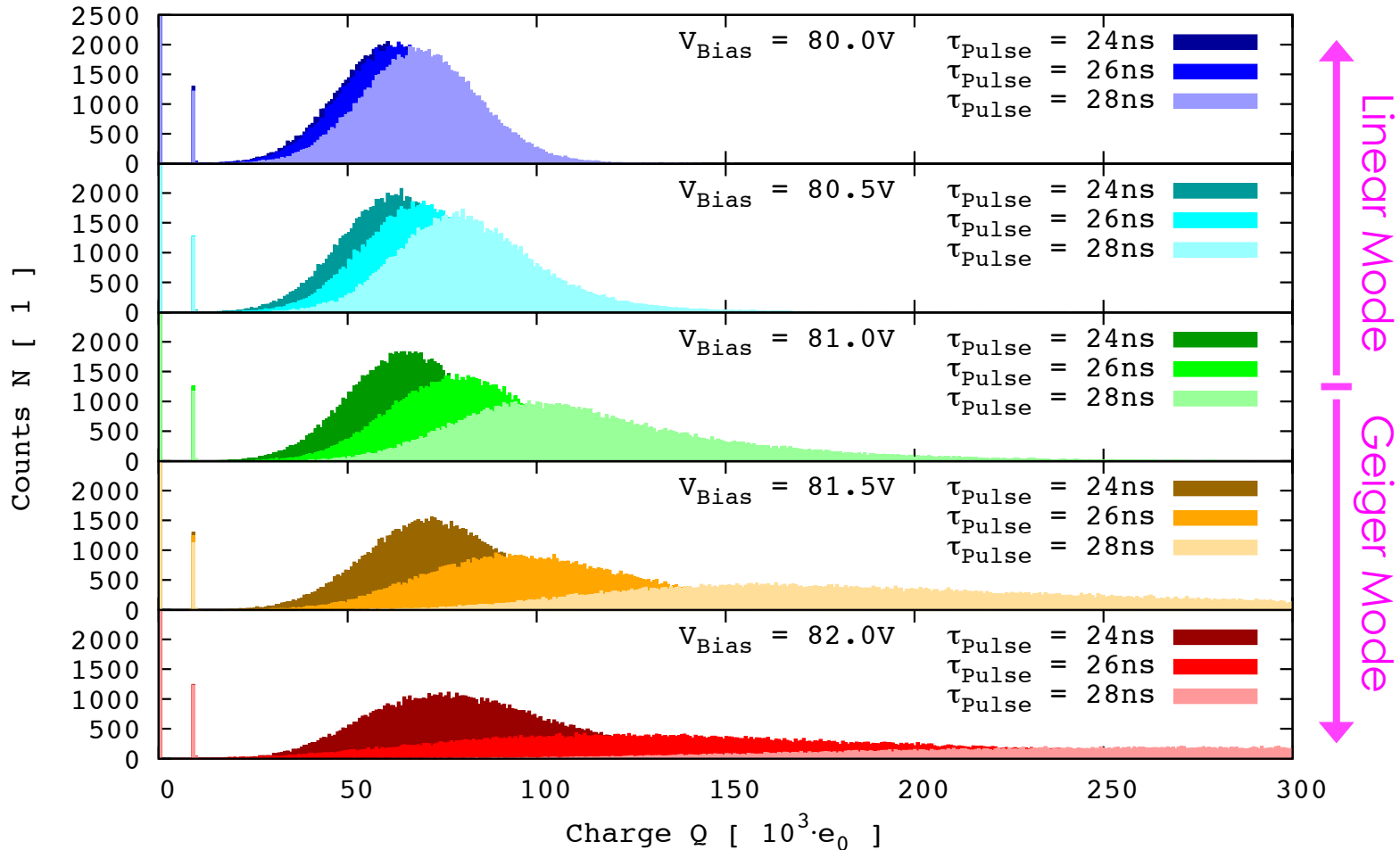
MAPD-3N : Fit of Single Pixel Gain



| Temperature T | 295 K | 4 K | |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| Break Down Voltage V_{BD} | (87.54 ± 0.04) V | (81.21 ± 0.03) V | \downarrow (21.9 ± 0.2) mV/K |
| Gain Gradient dG / dV_{Bias} | $(1.31 \pm 0.03) \times 10^4 e_0 V^{-1}$ | $(1.36 \pm 0.03) \times 10^4 e_0 V^{-1}$ | \checkmark |

Spectra around V_{BD} @ $T = 4K$

MAPD-3N @ $T = 4K$: Variation of Bias Voltage



LED Intensity with Square Pulses

Square pulses with width $\tau \rightarrow$ LED intensity is a linear function

$$\lambda(\tau) \Big|_{\tau \geq \tau_0} = \underbrace{\eta \cdot \frac{d\lambda}{d\tau}}_{=: \gamma} \cdot (\tau - \tau_0) = \gamma \cdot (\tau - \tau_0)$$

τ_0

LED Breakdown Gate Width

η

Quantum Efficiency

$d\lambda/d\tau$

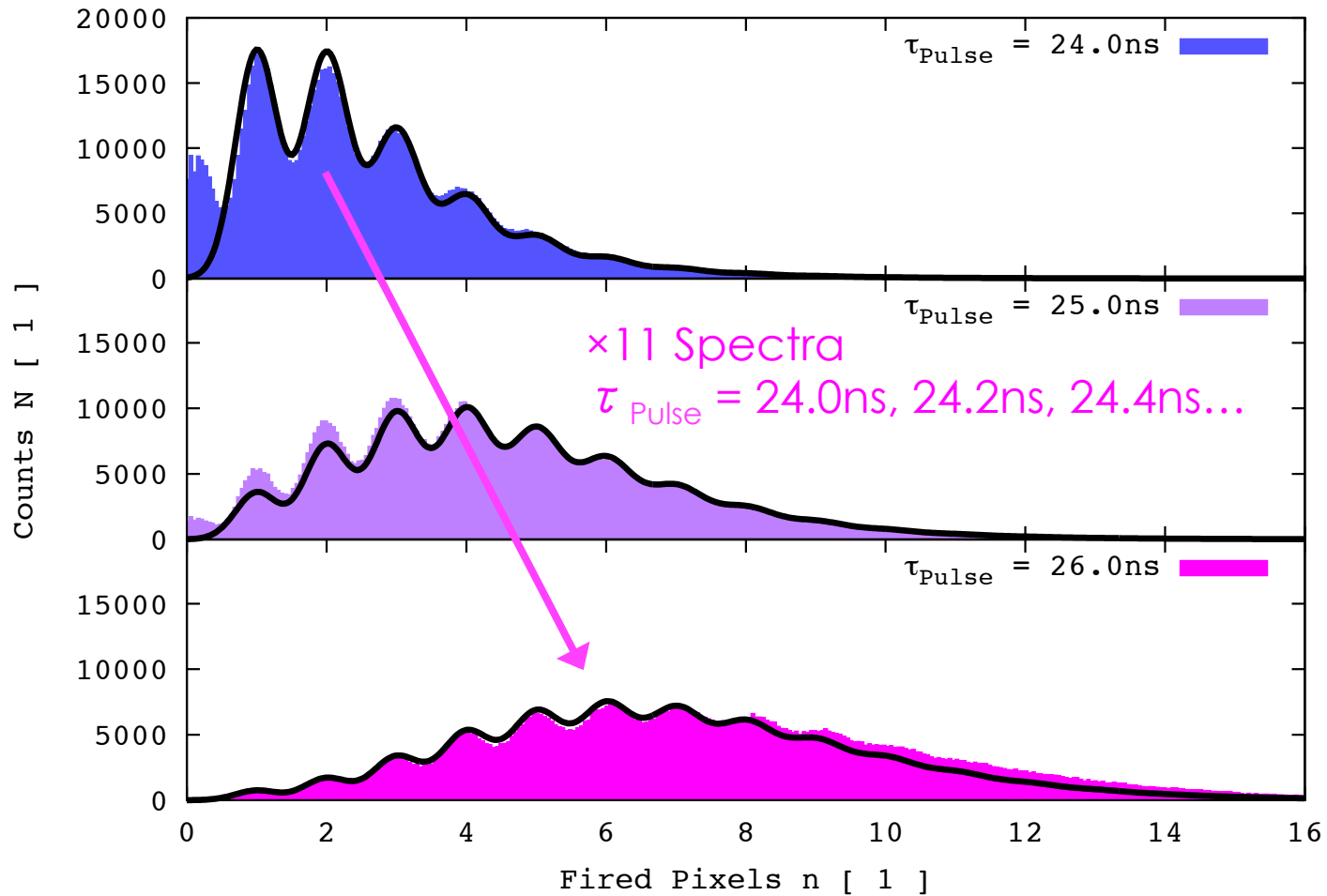
LED Light Gain

γ

Light Yield

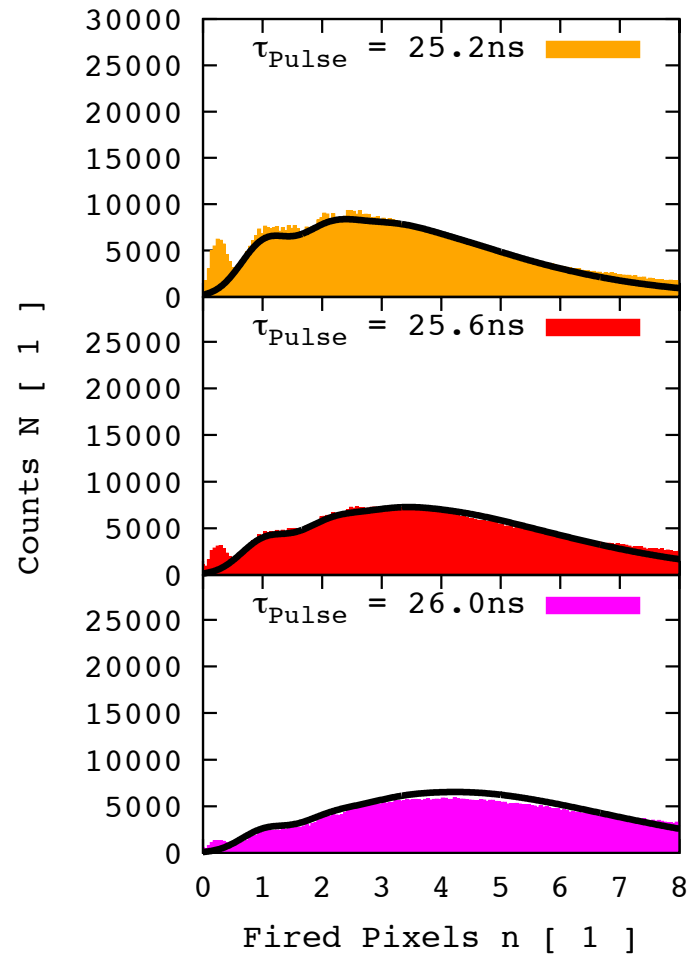
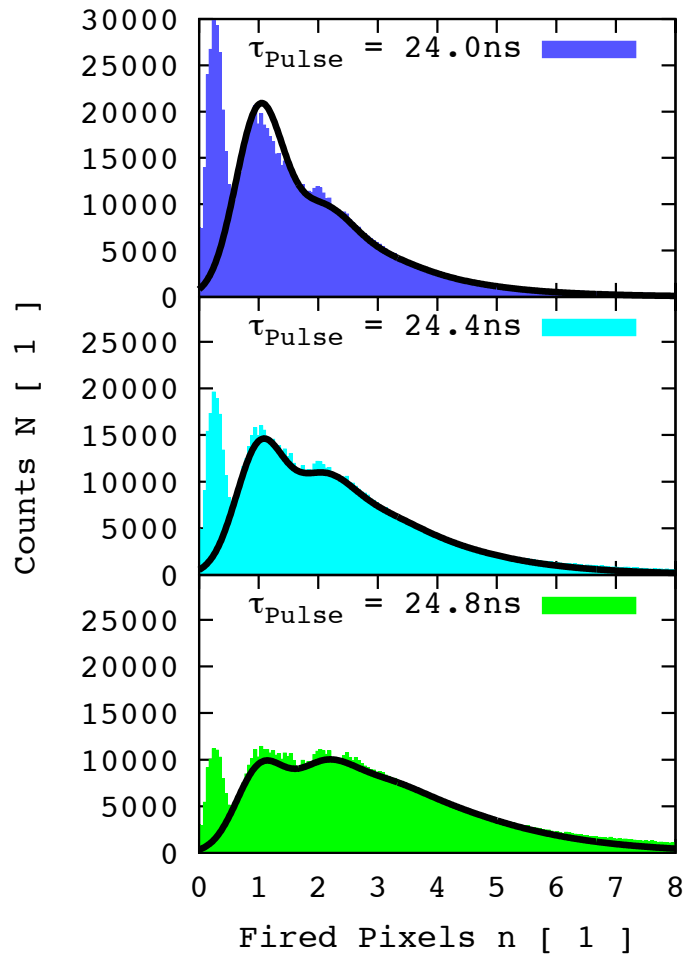
Intensity Calibration @ T = 295K

MAPD-3N @ T = 295K , $V_{\text{Bias}} = 89.98\text{V}$, $G/e_0 = 2.61 \cdot 10^4$



Intensity Calibration @ T = 4K

MAPD-3N @ T = 4K , $V_{\text{Bias}} = 82.87\text{V}$, $G/e_0 = 2.74 \cdot 10^4$



Change in Properties @ T = 4 K

| Temperature T | 295 K | 4 K | |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| Bias Voltage V_{Bias} | 89.98 V | 82.87 V | ✓ |
| Single Cell Gain G/e_0 | $(2.59 \pm 0.01) \times 10^4$ | $(2.74 \pm 0.10) \times 10^4$ | |
| Single Cell Variation σ_{SC}/G | $(11.1 \pm 0.7) \% \text{ p.e.}$ | $(38.6 \pm 3.7) \% \text{ p.e.}$ | |
| Crosstalk Probability q | $(55.9 \pm 1.0) \%$ | $(42.3 \pm 1.8) \%$ | |
| Light Events Rate φ | $(99.2 \pm 0.2) \%$ | $(97.1 \pm 0.5) \%$ | |
| LED Breakdown Gate Width τ_0 | $(23.63 \pm 0.02) \text{ ns}$ | $(23.80 \pm 0.04) \text{ ns}$ | |
| Light Yield γ | $(2.46 \pm 0.02) \text{ ns}^{-1}$ | $(1.94 \pm 0.05) \text{ ns}^{-1}$ | |

Change in Properties @ T = 4 K

| Temperature T | 295 K | 4 K | |
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| Bias Voltage V_{Bias} | 89.98 V | 82.87 V | ✓ |
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Single Cell Variation @ T = 4 K

Single Cell Variation caused by fluctuations in quenching

Quenching by a potential wall equals a diode in forward direction^[4]

→ Forward voltage equals height of potential wall

| | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| Temperature T | 295 K | 4 K |
| Forward Voltage V_{FW} @ 820 μ A | 0.579 V | 1.964 V |

$$\frac{V_{FW}(T = 4K)}{V_{FW}(T = 295K)} = 3.4 \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad \frac{\sigma_{SV}(T = 4K)}{\sigma_{SV}(T = 295K)} = 3.5 \pm 0.4$$

[4] Z. Sadygov et al. Performance of new
Micro-pixel Avalanche Photodiodes from Zecotek.
Nucl. Instrum. and Meth. A, 610:381–383, 2009

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| Crosstalk Probability q | $(55.9 \pm 1.0) \%$ | $(42.3 \pm 1.8) \%$ | ↘ - 24 % |
| Light Events Rate φ | $(99.2 \pm 0.2) \%$ | $(97.1 \pm 0.5) \%$ | |
| LED Breakdown Gate Width τ_0 | $(23.63 \pm 0.02) \text{ ns}$ | $(23.80 \pm 0.04) \text{ ns}$ | |
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| Light Events Rate φ | $(99.2 \pm 0.2) \%$ | $(97.1 \pm 0.5) \%$ | ✓ |
| LED Breakdown Gate Width τ_0 | $(23.63 \pm 0.02) \text{ ns}$ | $(23.80 \pm 0.04) \text{ ns}$ | ✓ |
| Light Yield γ | $(2.46 \pm 0.02) \text{ ns}^{-1}$ | $(1.94 \pm 0.05) \text{ ns}^{-1}$ | ↘ - 21 % |

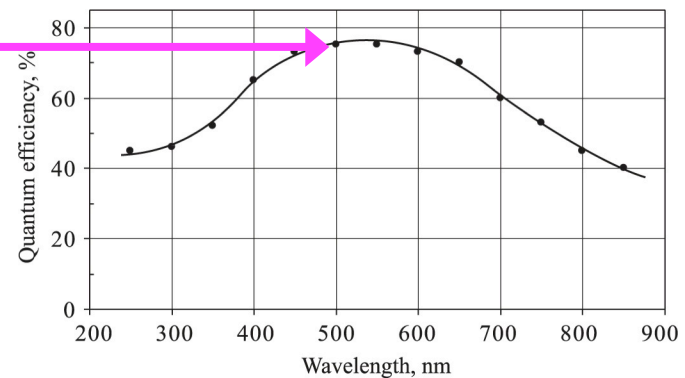
Quantum Efficiency η @ T = 4 K

$$\gamma(T) = \eta(T) \cdot \frac{d\lambda}{d\tau} \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad \frac{\eta(T = 4K)}{\eta(T = 295K)} \cong \frac{\gamma(T = 4K)}{\gamma(T = 295K)} = (79 \pm 2)\%$$

| Temperature T | 295 K | 4 K |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Quantum Efficiency η @ 475nm | 32 % ^[3] | (25.2 ± 0.8) % |

For the MAPD-3B quantum efficiency of 15% is given (400nm-600nm)^[3]

But without the epoxy cover
 $\rightarrow \eta$ increases over 70%^[4]



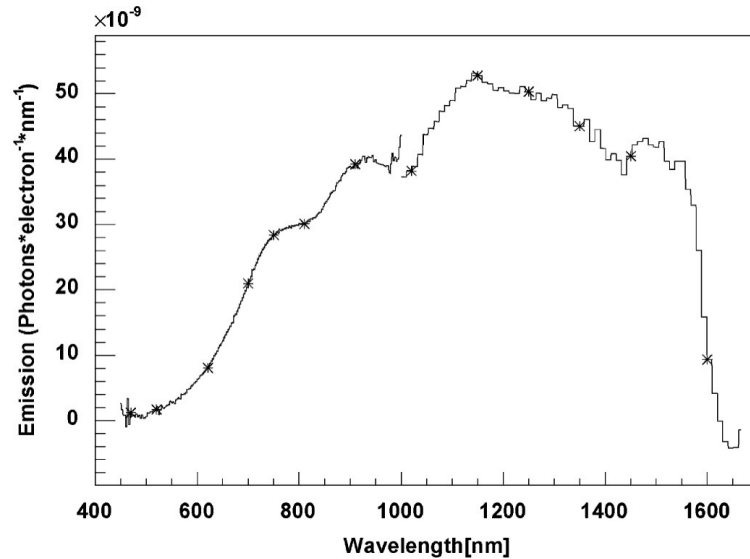
[3] Zecotek MAPD White Paper
 Zecotek Photonics, Richmond, Canada, 2011

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| Light Yield γ | $(2.46 \pm 0.02) \text{ ns}^{-1}$ | $(1.94 \pm 0.05) \text{ ns}^{-1}$ | ↘ - 21 % |

Crosstalk Probability q @ $T = 4\text{ K}$



Hot carrier emission spectrum in Si avalanches^[6]

Crosstalk is an optical emission and absorption process, so it is correlated to quantum efficiency

$$\frac{q(T = 4K)}{q(T = 295K)} = (76 \pm 3)\%$$



$$\frac{\eta(T = 4K)}{\eta(T = 295K)} = (79 \pm 2)\%$$

Lower crosstalk probability consistent with lower quantum efficiency

[3] Zecotek MAPD White Paper
Zecotek Photonics, Richmond, Canada, 2011

[6] R. Mirzoyan et al. Light Emission in Si avalanches
Nucl. Instrum. and Meth. A, 610 : 98 - 100, 2009

Conclusion

- Operating SiPMs at cryogenic temperatures is possible with one particular type from Zecotek
- At $T = 4\text{K}$ we observed:
 - ✓ No after-pulses
 - ✓ Extremely low dark count rate
 - ✓ Only small change in quantum efficiency

Thank you for your attention!