

# Timing and low temperature behavior of SiPM

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## Overview

- Introduction
- Experimental methods (low T)
- Measurements and discussion (low T)
- Summary about Timing measurements
- Conclusions

# Introduction

Main contributions to SiPM characterization:

- (A) **intrinsic timing** – measurements since 2007 (VCI 2007 conference)  
Characterization of intrinsic timing resolution of different kind of SiPM devices with ultra-fast laser pulses and waveform analysis with optimum timing filtering
- (B) **cryogenic behavior** – very recent studies (VCI 2010 conference)  
Characterization of FBK SiPM in the range  $50\text{K} < T < 320\text{K}$
- 1) junction forward and reverse (breakdown) characteristics
  - 2) gain, dark current, after-pulses, cross-talk
  - 3) photon detection efficiency (PDE)

**Improved SiPM performances at low temperature (w/ respect to  $T_{\text{room}}$ )**

- 1) lower dark noise by orders of magnitude
- 2) lower after-pulsing probability (down to  $\sim 100\text{K}$ )
- 3) higher PDE (down to  $\sim 100\text{K}$ , depending on  $\lambda$ )
- 4) better timing resolution
- 5) better  $V_{\text{breakdown}}$  stability (w.r.t. to variations of T)

**→ SiPM is an excellent alternative to PMT at low T even more than at room temperature !!!**

**Vacuum vessel ( $P \sim 10^{-3}$  mbar)**

# Experimental Setup

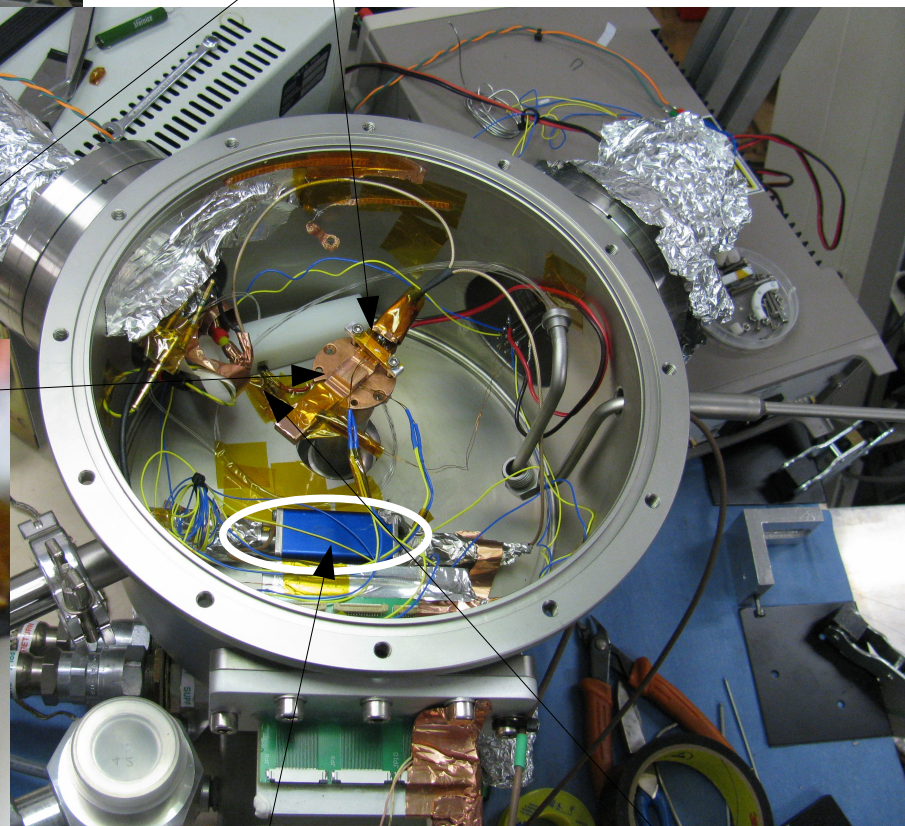
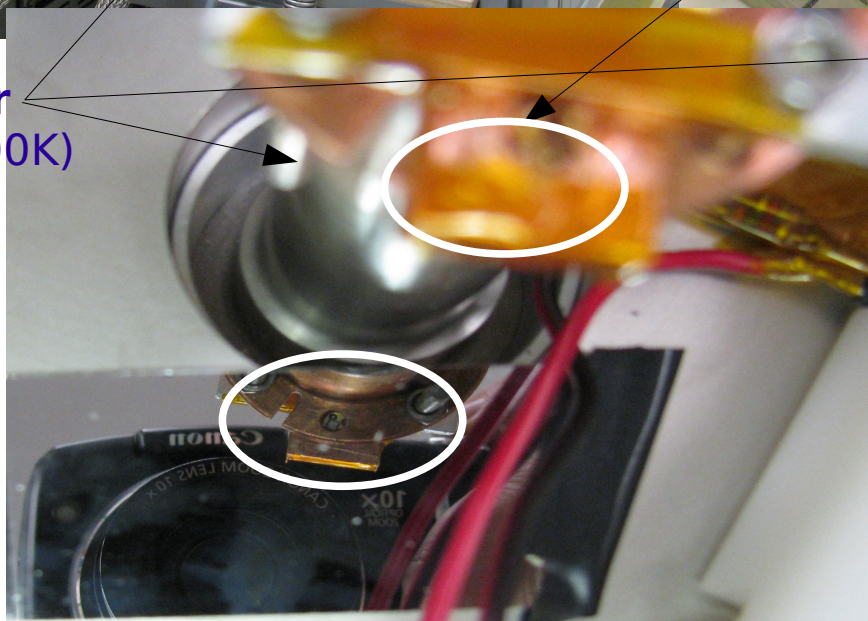


**Alogen Lamp**

**Monocromator (200-900nm)**

**Quartz filers to  
Calibrated Photodiode (outside)  
and to SiPM (inside vessel)**

**Cryocooler  
( $50K < T < 300K$ )**



**Amplifier**

**UV LED (380nm)  
+ fibers to SiPM**

# Experimental setup

## Temperature control/measurement

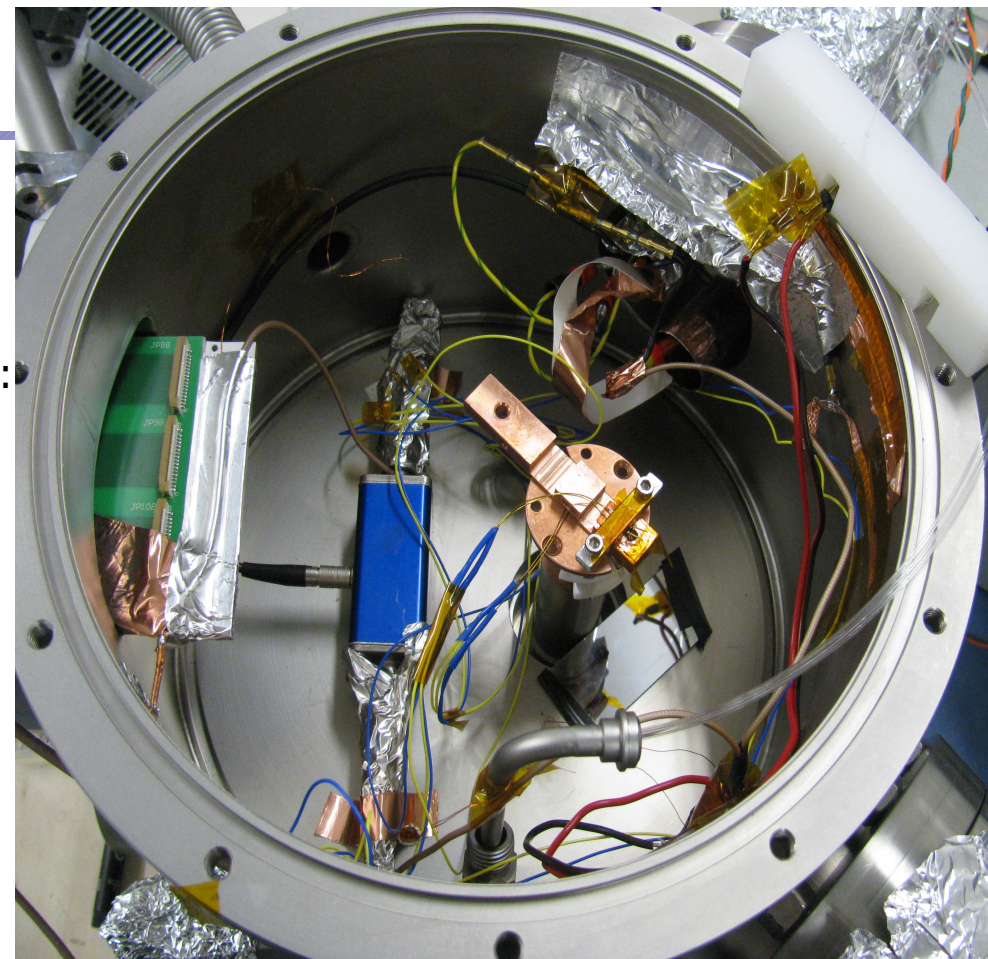
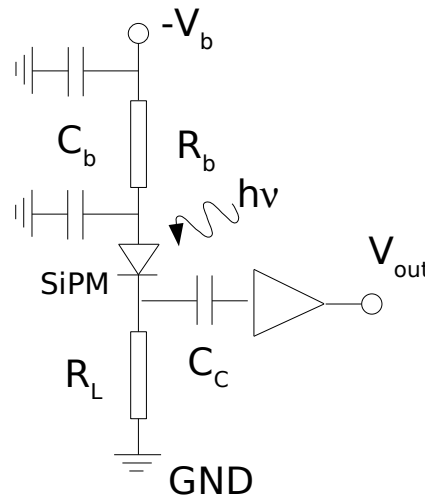
- Cryo-cooler + heating with low R resistor
- thermal contact (critical) with cryo-cooler head: SiPM within a copper rod
- T measurement with 3 pt100 probes
- Measurements on SiPM carried after thermalization (all probes at the same T)
- check junction T with forward characteristic

## Voltage/Current bias/measurement

- Keytley 2148 for Voltage/Current bias/readout

## Pulse measurement

- Care against HF noise  
→ feed-throughs !!!
- Amplifier Photonique/CPTA  
(gain~30, BW~300MHz)

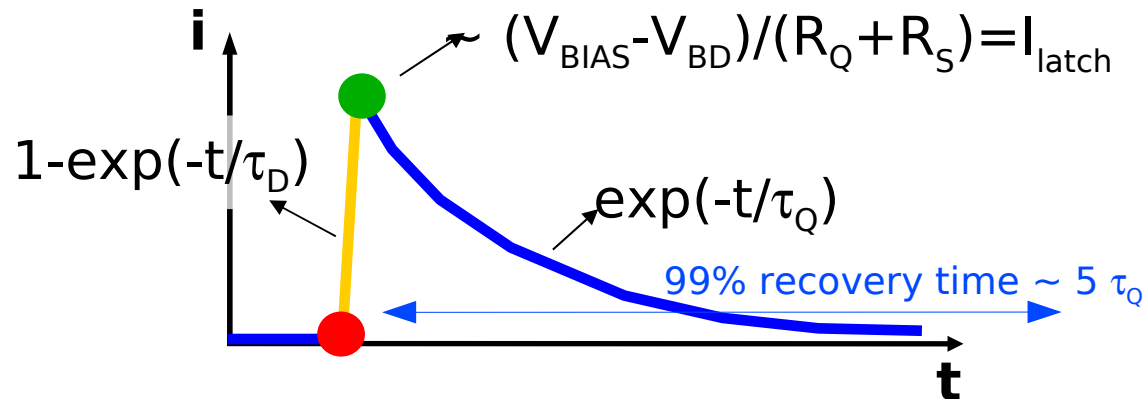


## SiPM samples

- FBK SiPM runII -  $1\text{mm}^2$   
( $V_{br} \sim 33\text{V}$ , fill factor  $\sim 20\%$ )

# Gain and pulse shape

If  $R_Q$  is high enough the internal current decreases at a level such that statistical fluctuations may quench the avalanche



The leading edge of the signal is much faster than trailing edge:

1.  $\tau_D = R_S C_D \ll R_Q C_D = \tau_Q$
2. turn-off mean time is very short  
(if  $R_Q$  is sufficiently high,  $I_{\text{latch}} \sim 10\mu\text{A}$ )

## Recovery time:

increases at low  $T$  due to polysilicon  $R_Q$  while  $C_D$  is independent of  $T$

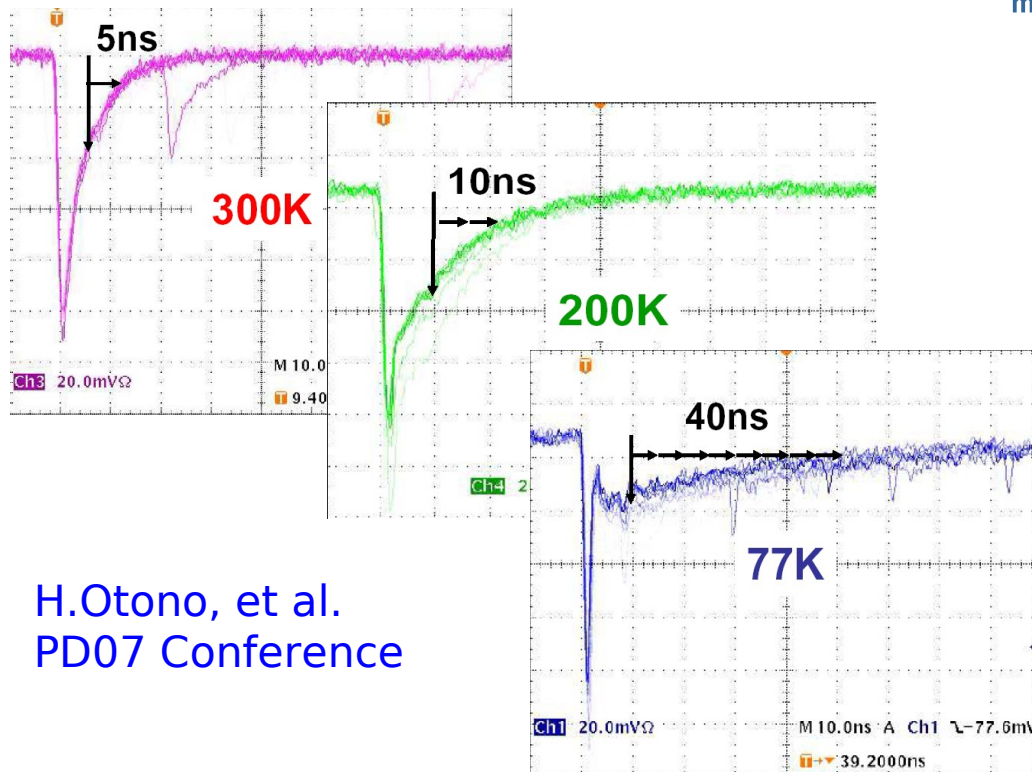
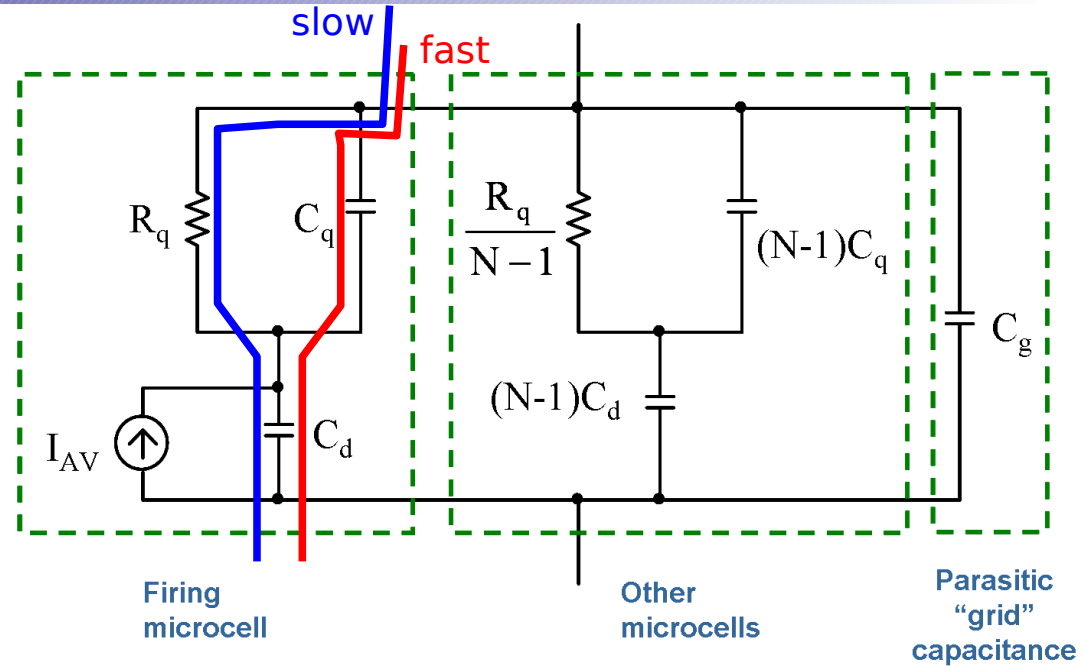
Gain  $\sim C_D \Delta V \rightarrow$  independent of  $T$   
**at fixed Over-Voltage ( $\Delta V$ )**

# Gain and pulse shape

The SiPM equivalent circuit has two time constants:

- $\tau_F = R_{Load} C_{TOT}$  (fast)
- $\tau_Q = R_Q (C_D + C_Q)$  (slow)

F. Corsi, et al. NIMA 572(2007)



H.Otono, et al.  
PD07 Conference

## Waveform:

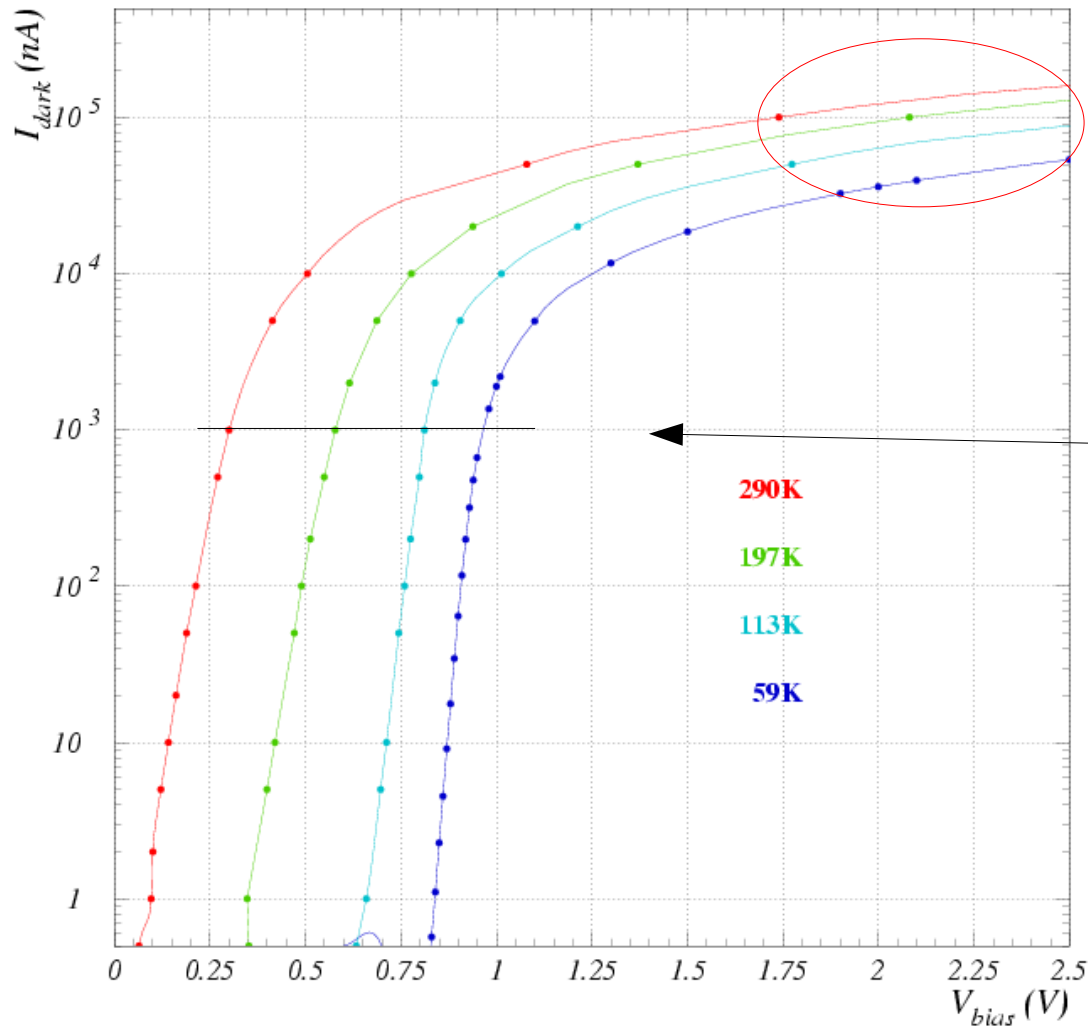
The two current components show different behavior with Temperature

(fast component is independent of T because stray  $C_Q$  couple with external  $R_{LOAD}$  independently of  $R_Q$ )

# I-V measurements: forward bias

① **Forward current**  $J_F \sim \exp\left(V_d \frac{q}{\eta k T}\right)$

Diffusion dominating:  $\eta \rightarrow 1$   
Recombination dominating:  $\eta \rightarrow 2$



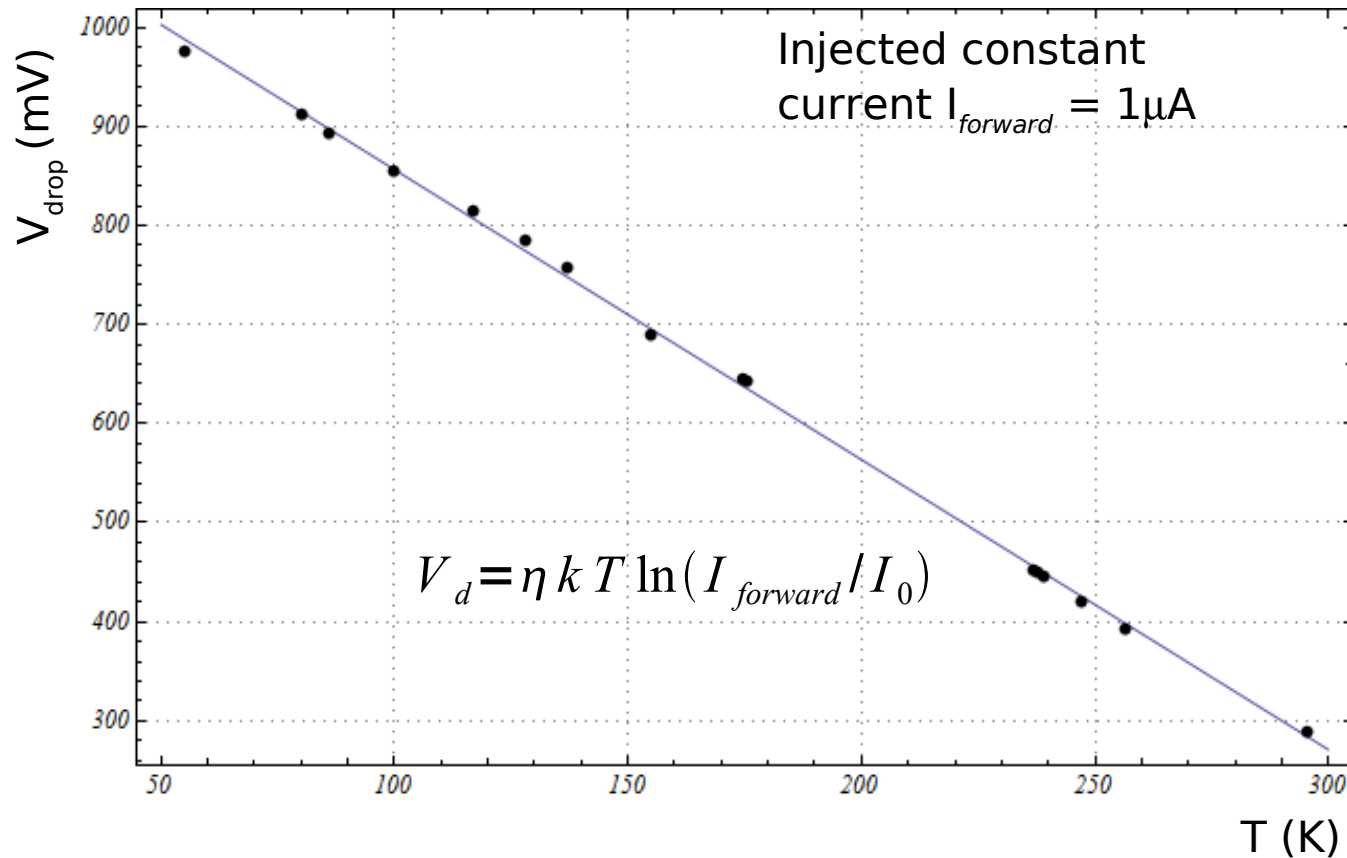
② **Ohmic behavior at high current**

Linear fit  $\rightarrow R_{\text{series}} \sim R_Q / N_{\text{cells}}$

③ **Voltage drop** ( $V_d$ ) increases with T decreasing (e.g. at  $1\mu\text{A}$ )

# I-V measurements: forward bias

Voltage drop at fixed forward current → precise **measurement of junction T**

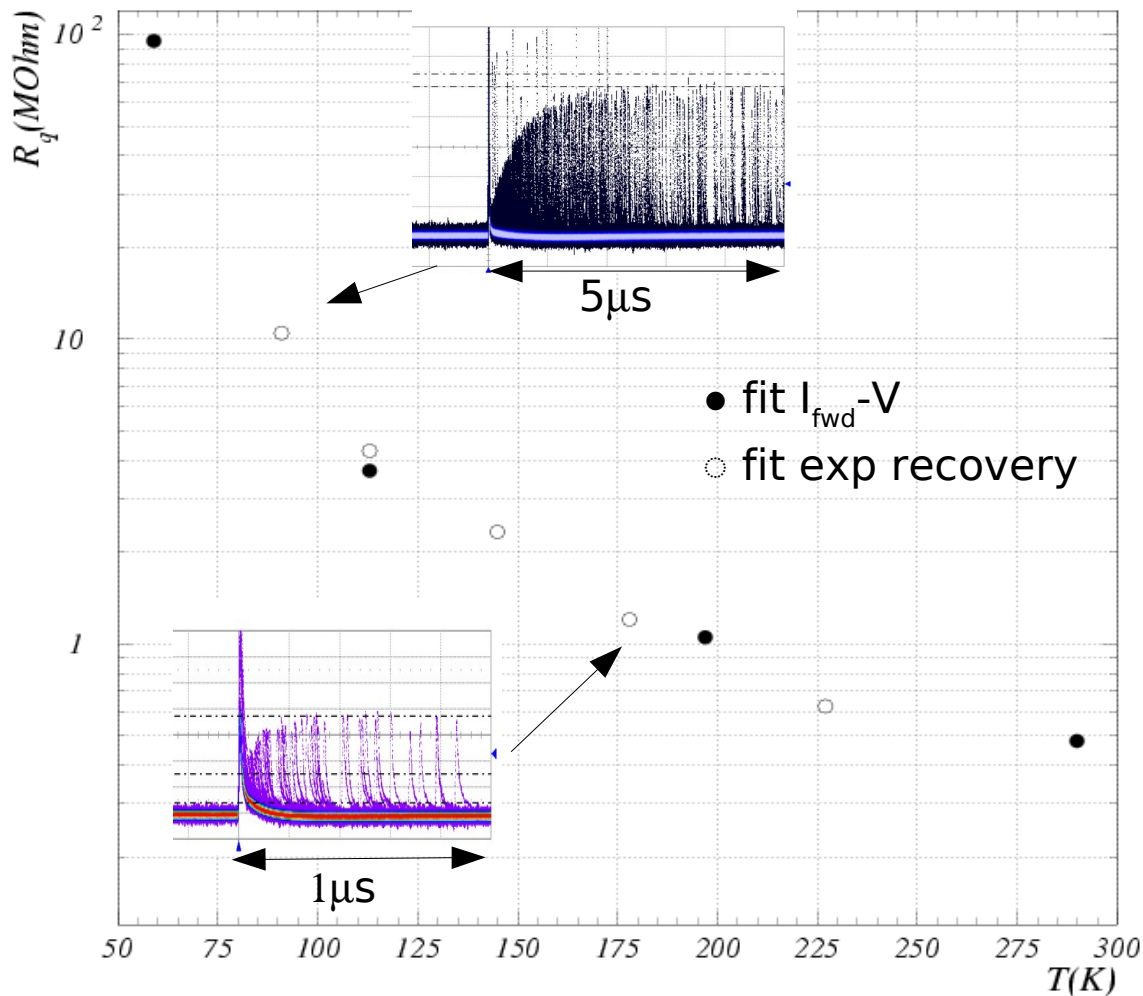


- linear dependence with slope  $dV_{\text{drop}}/dT|_{1\mu\text{A}} \sim 3\text{mV/K}$
- **precise calibration/probe for junction Temperature**



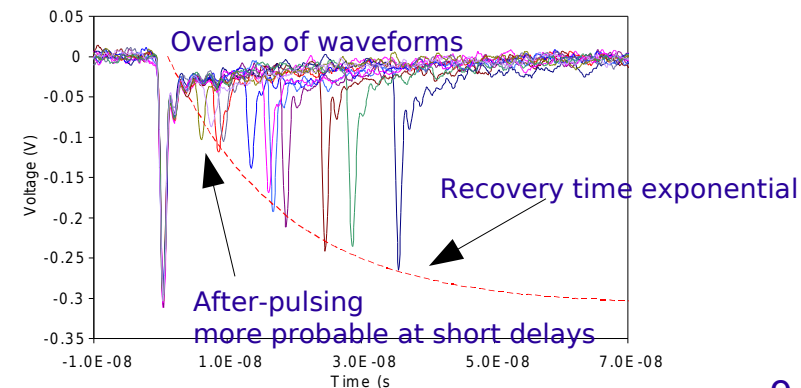
# Series Resistance vs T

- 1) Fit at high V of forward characteristic → **measurement of series resistance  $R_s$**
- 2) Exponential recovery time (afterpulses envelope) → **measurement of  $R_s$**

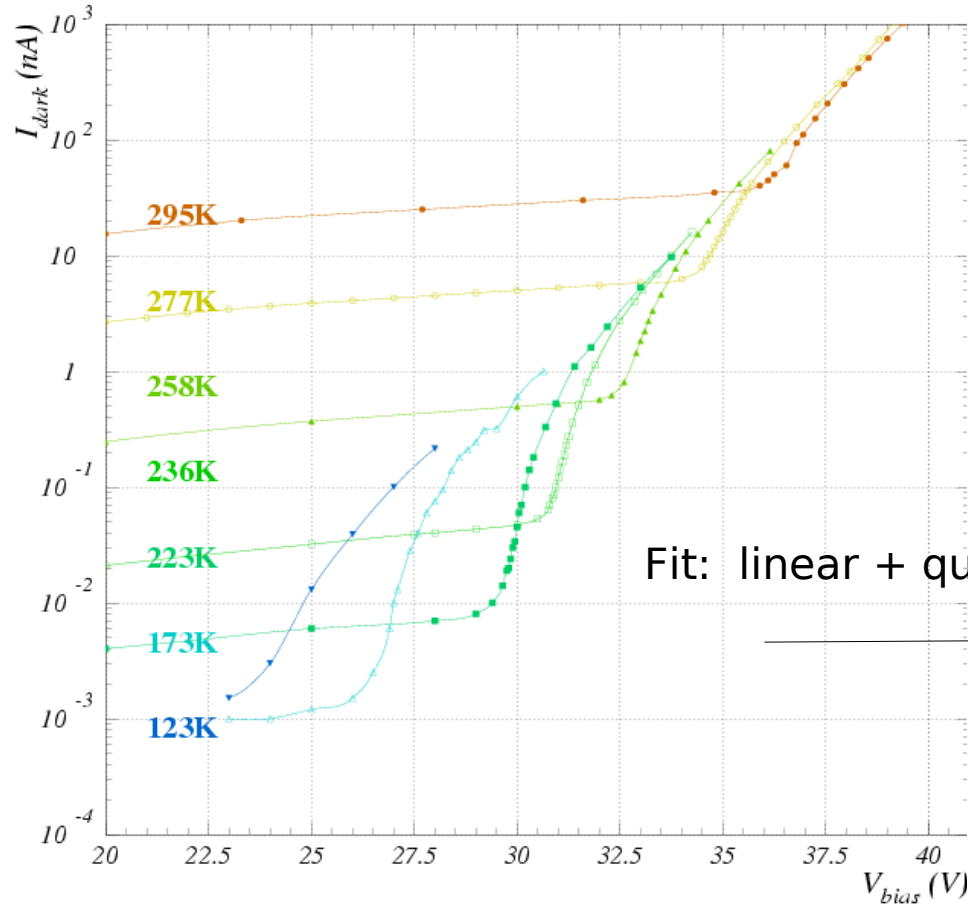


The two kinds of measurement are consistent  
 → **dominant effect from quenching resistor  $R_q$**

NOTE: afterpulses envelope

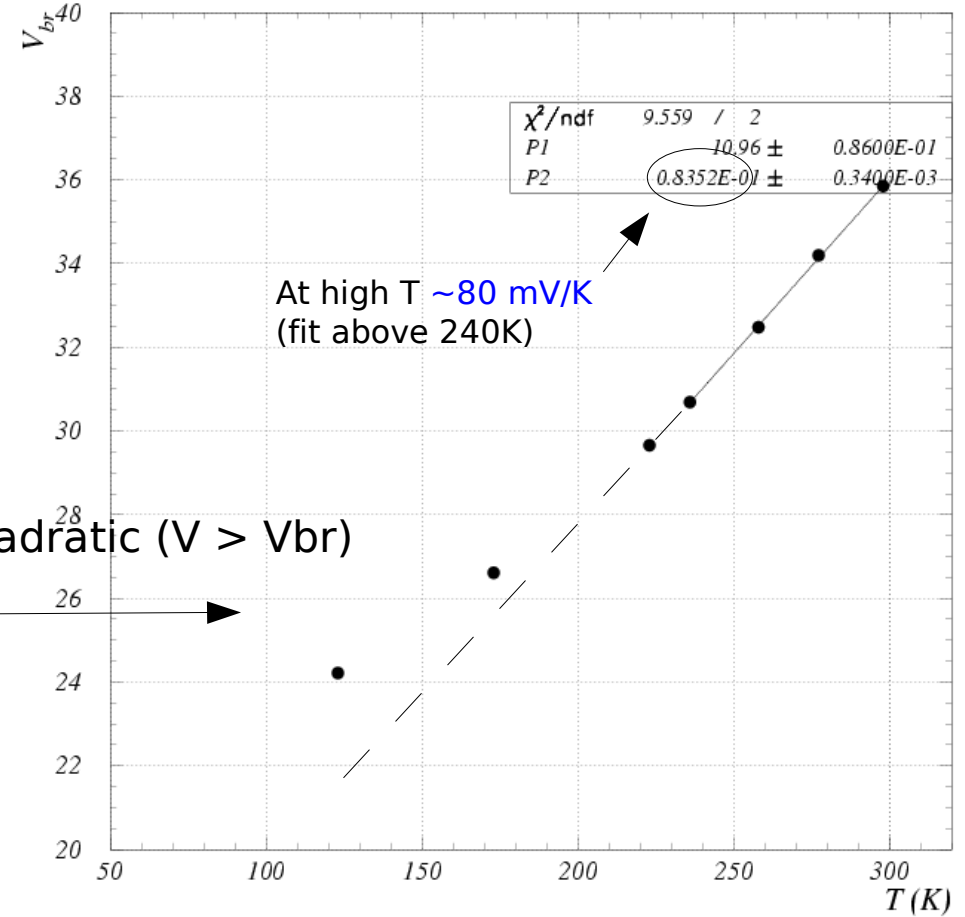


# I-V measurements: reverse bias



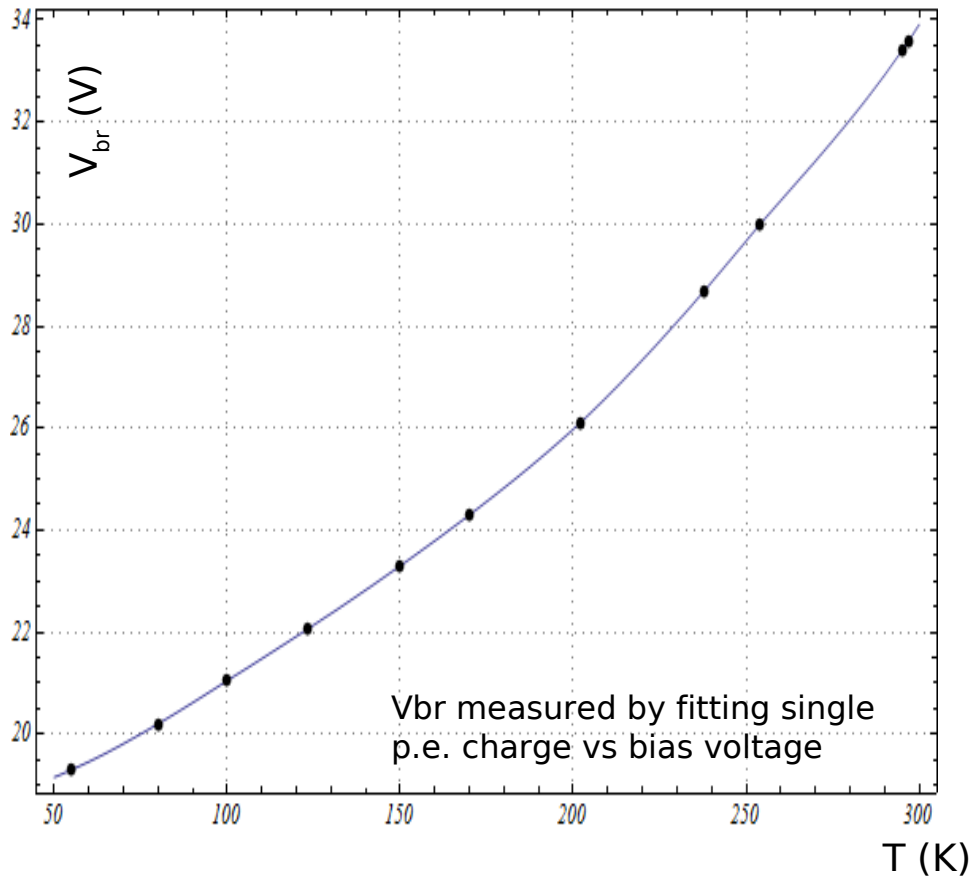
Fit: linear + quadratic ( $V > V_{br}$ )

## $V_{breakdown}$ vs T



Avalanche breakdown voltage decreases due to increased carriers mobility at low T

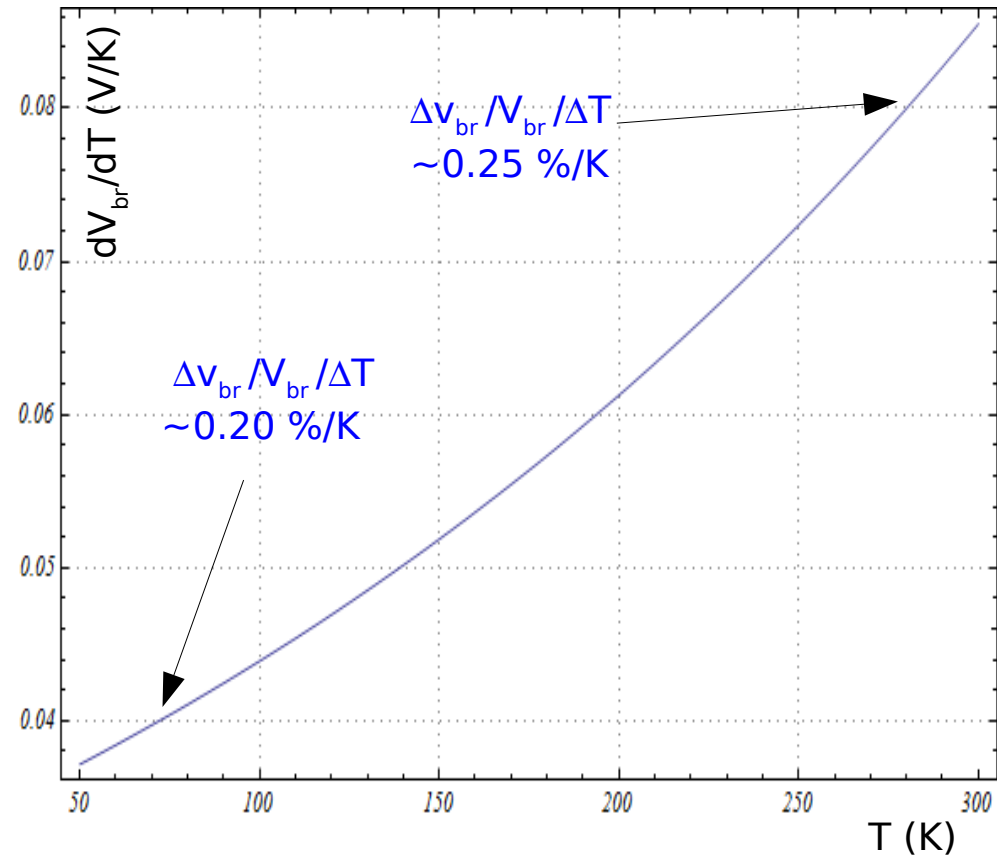
# V breakdown vs T



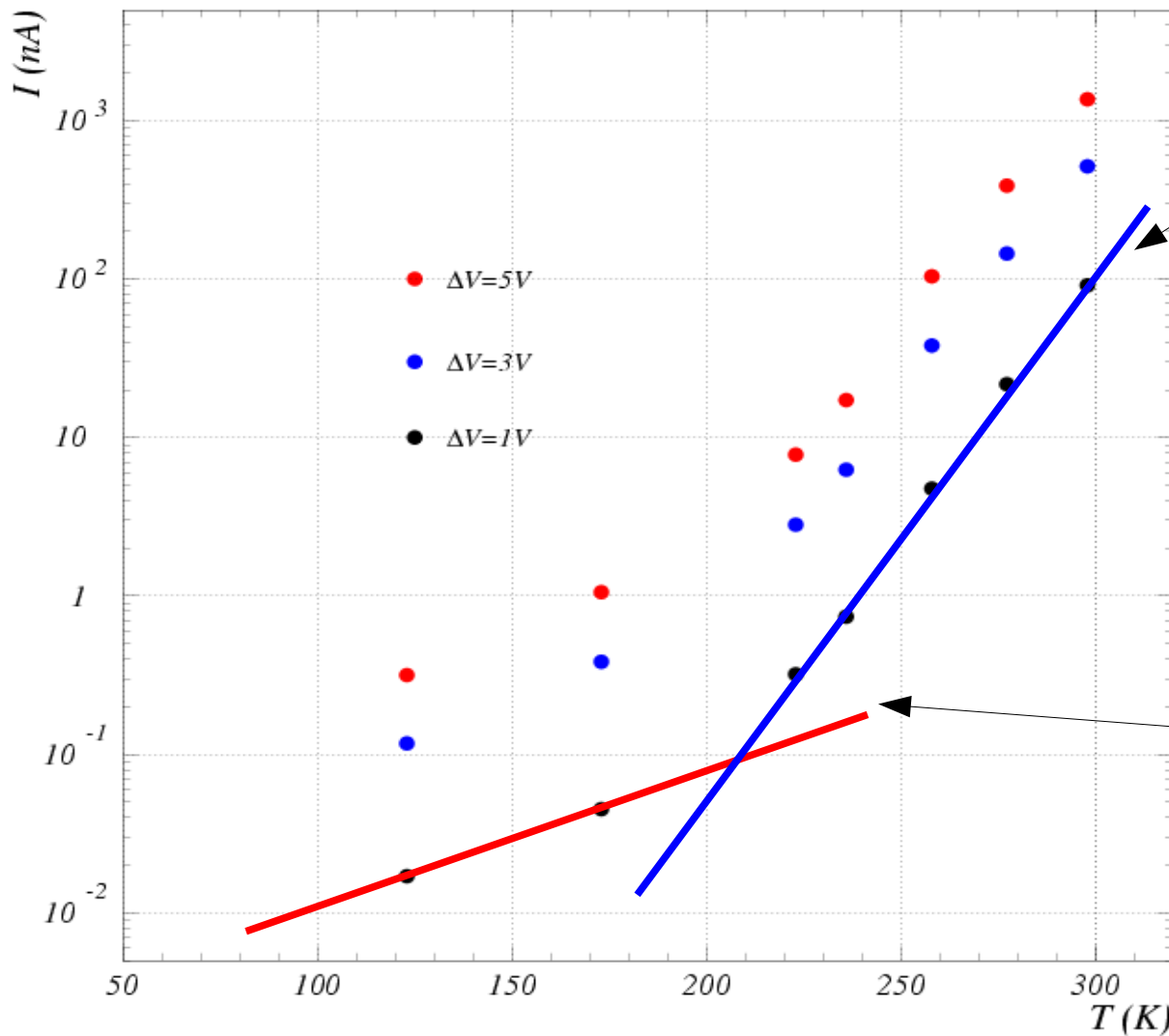
Improved stability  
at lower T

Consistent with Baraff model  
for doping profile of FKB SiPM

Temperature coefficient

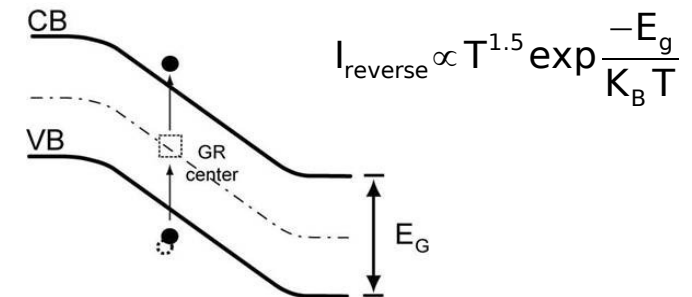


# Dark current vs T at constant gain (i.e. fixed $\Delta V$ )

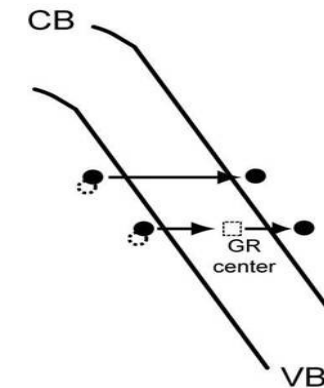


Main noise mechanisms:

1) Generation/Recombination noise (SHR field enhanced)

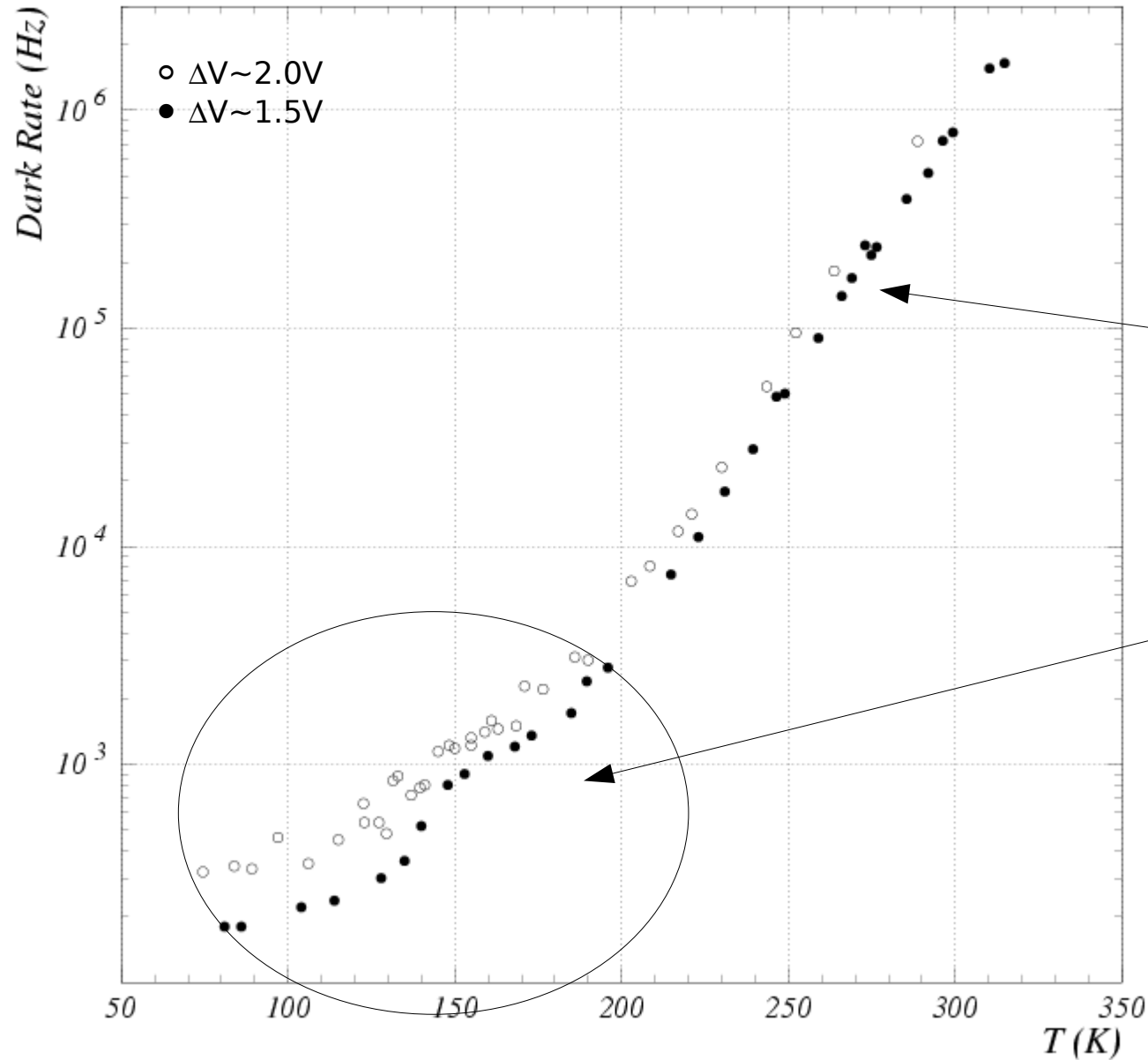


2) Band-to-band Tunnel noise (strong dependence on the Electric field profile)



Tunnel noise dominating for  $T < 200K$  (FBK devices)

# Dark counts rate vs T at constant gain (i.e. fixed $\Delta V$ )



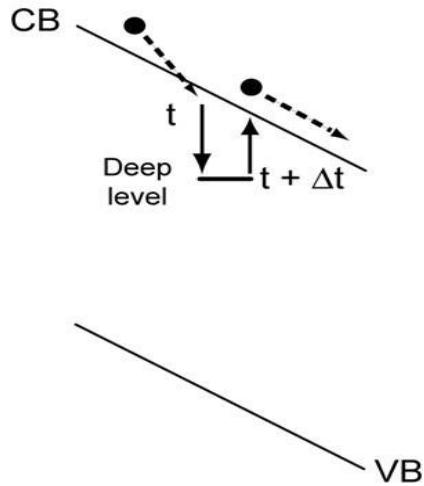
Measurement: **rate of  $\geq 1$ p.e.**  
at fixed gain (i.e.  $\sim$ fixed  $\Delta V$ )

Activation energy  
 $E_g \sim 0.358eV$

**Two tunneling mechanisms ?**  
to be understood

# After-pulsing

## Carrier trapping and delayed release



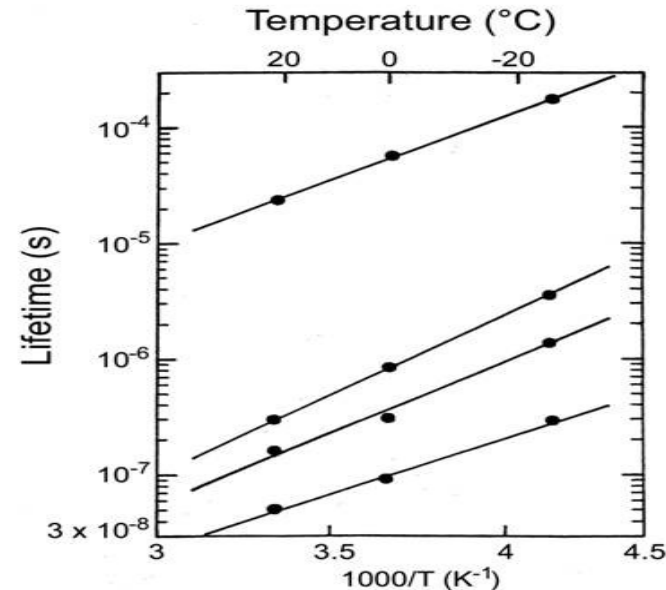
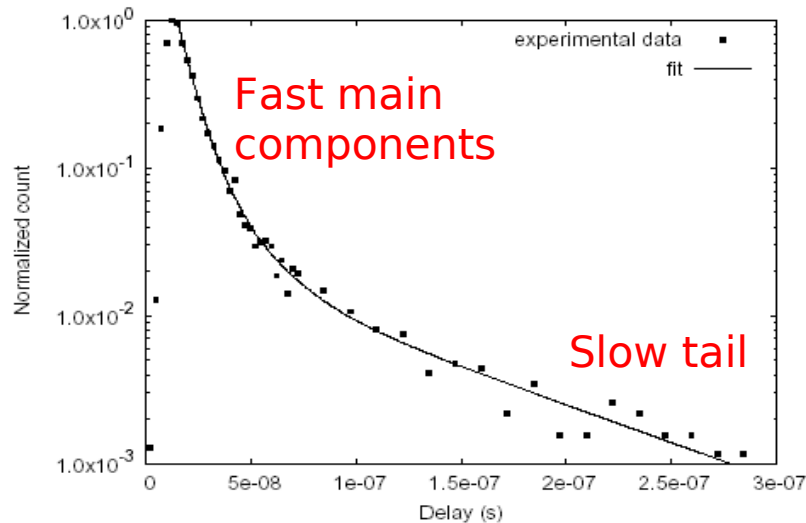
$$P_{\text{after-pulse}}(t) = P_c \cdot \frac{\exp(-t/\tau)}{\tau} \cdot P_{01} \propto \Delta V^2$$

$P_{01}$  : trigger probability  
 $\propto \Delta V(t)$  (over-voltage, recovery)

$\tau$  : trap lifetime  
 depends on trap level position

quadratic dependence on  $\Delta V$

$P_c$  : trap capture probability  
 $\propto$  carrier flux (current) during avalanche  $\propto \Delta V$  (over-voltage)  
 $\propto N$  traps

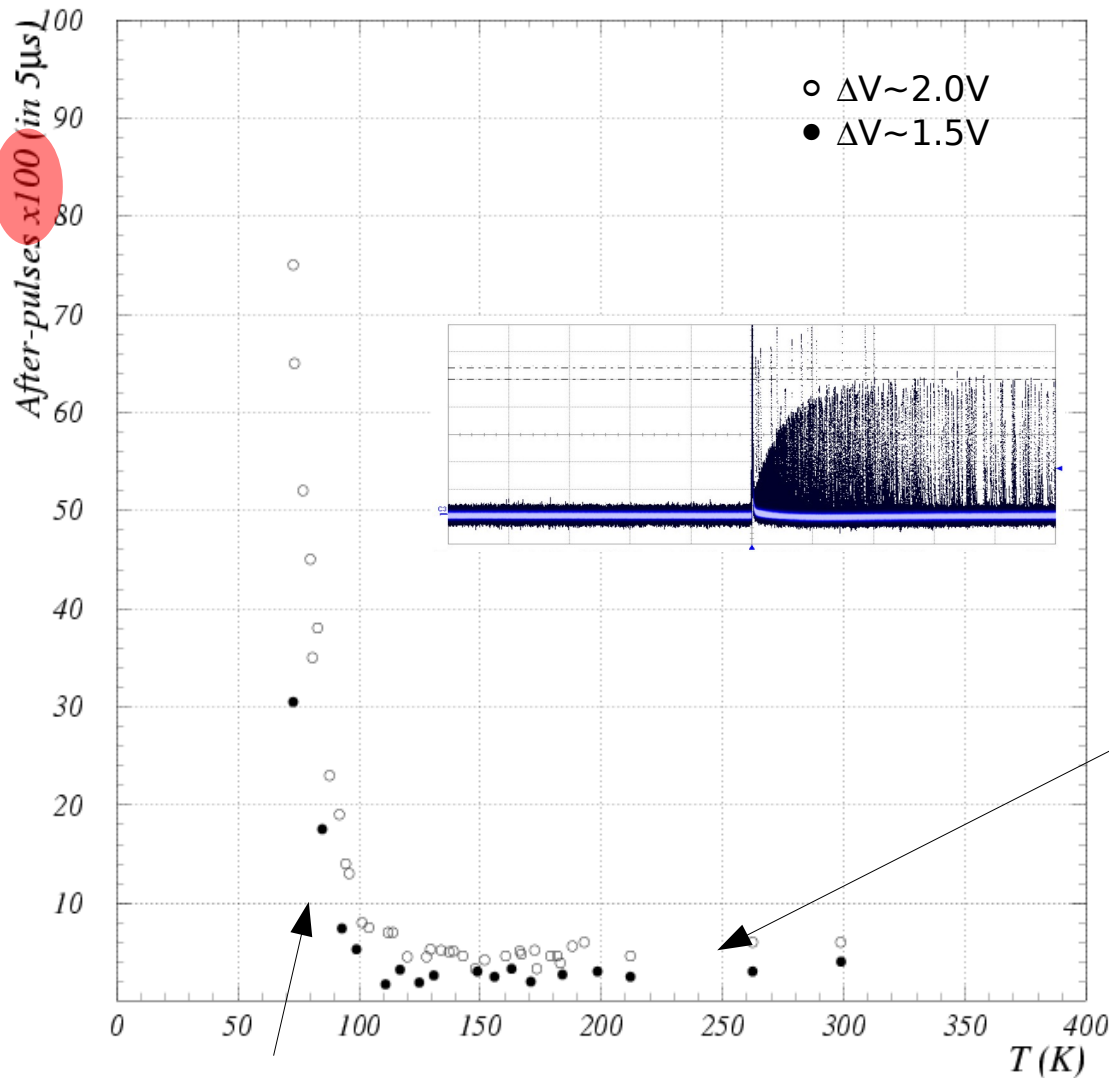


S.Cova, A.Lacaita,  
 G.Ripamonti, IEEE EDL (1991)

Fig. 10. Spectrum of the delay time from the primary pulse to the after-pulse.

It can be reduced to % in a wide  $\Delta V$  range... at 300K

# After-pulses vs T (constant gain, ie $\Delta V$ )



Measurement:  
of **average number of after-pulses**  
counted in the **5µs time window**  
following the trigger (1 p.e.)  
at fixed gain (i.e.  $\sim$ fixed  $\Delta V$ )  
(dark noise subtracted)

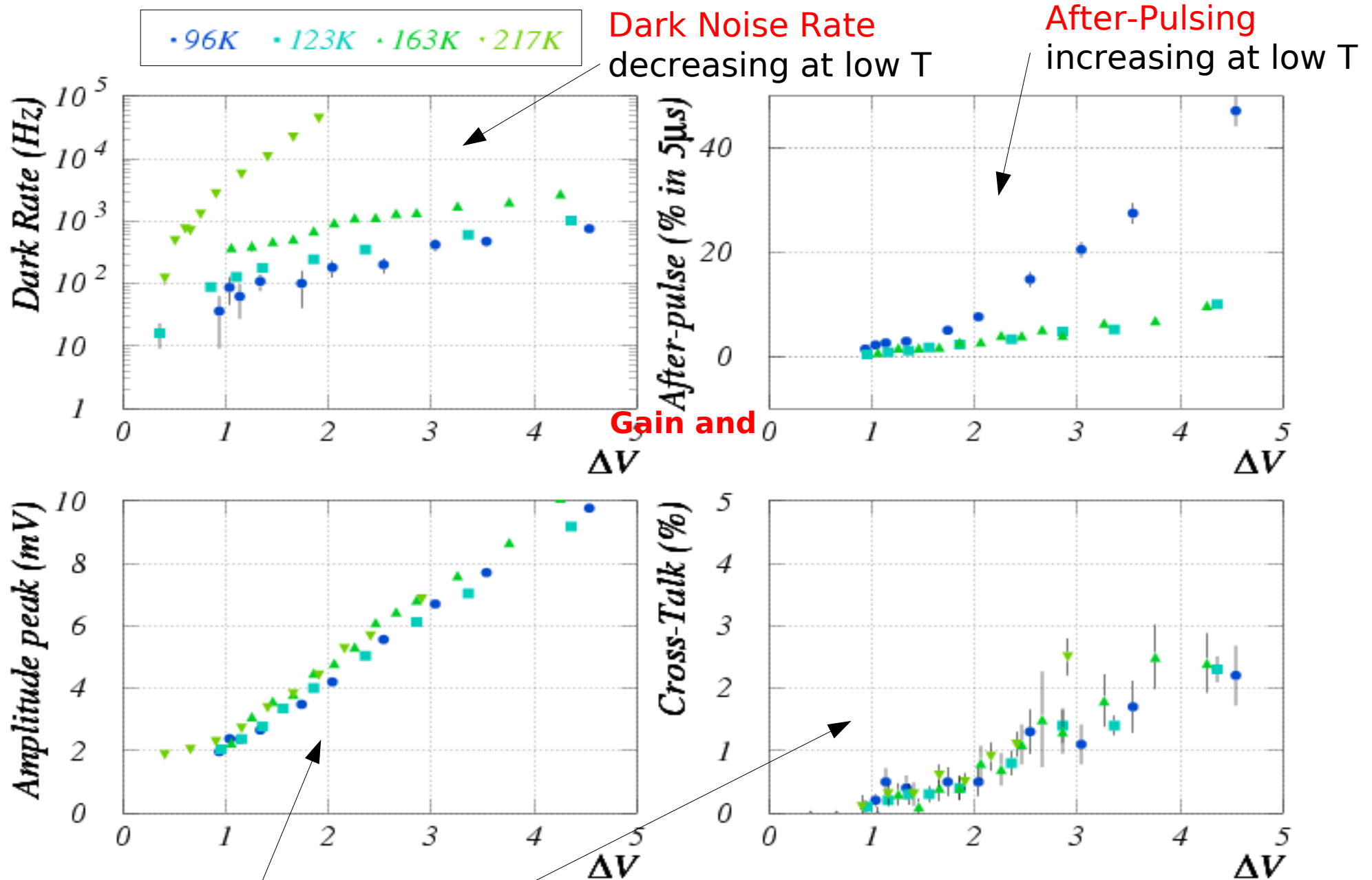
- Few % at room T
- quite constant down to  $\sim 120K$

T decreasing: increase of  
characteristic time constants of  
traps ( $\tau_{traps}$ ) is compensated by  
increasing cell recovery time ( $R_Q$ )

• Several % below 100K

T < 100K: new trapping centers active  
(to be studied in more detail)

# $\Delta V$ scan (fixed T) - DR, AP, Gain, X-TALK

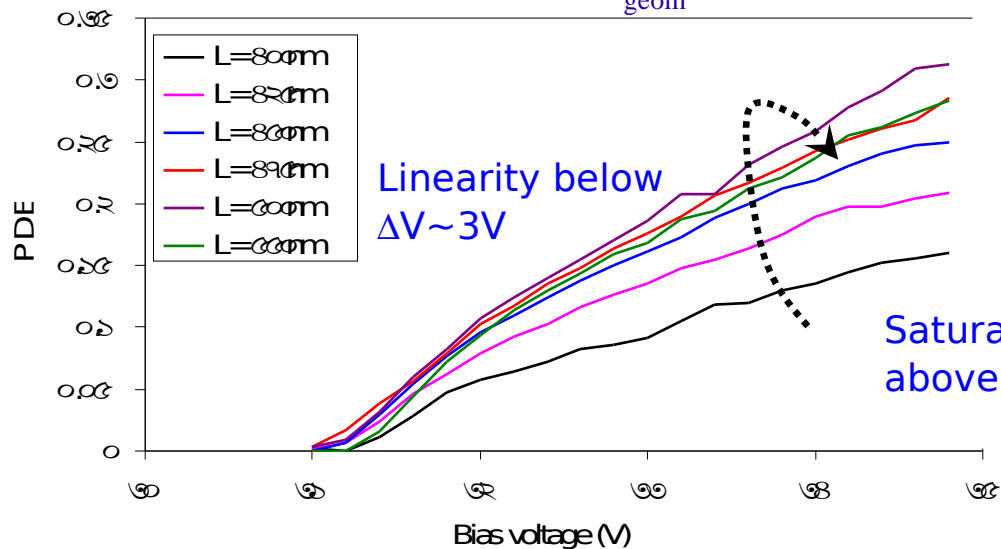


Gain and Cross-Talk independent of Temperature



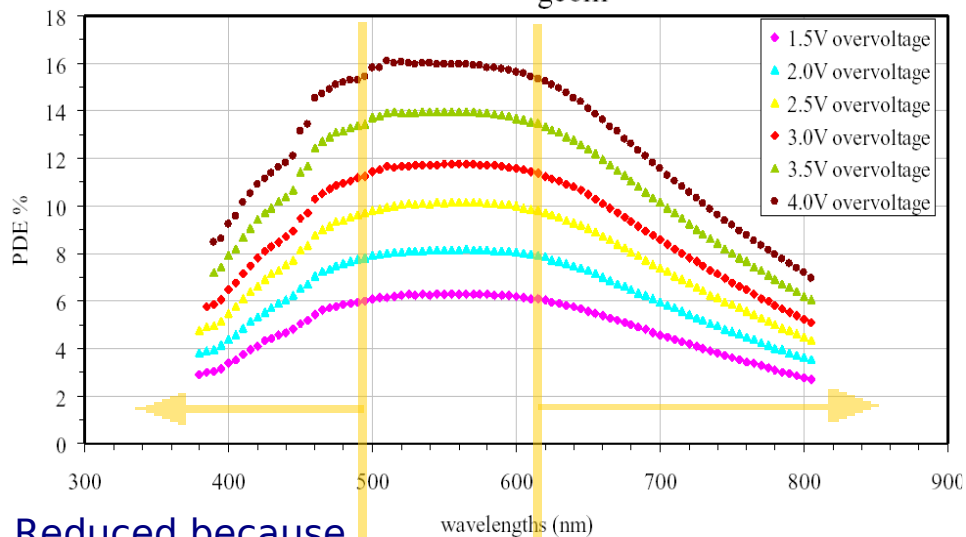
# PDE vs $\Delta V$ and $\lambda$ (room T)

device with  $\epsilon_{\text{geom}} \sim 50\%$



PDE dependence on  $\Delta V$   
(at different  $\lambda$ )

device with  $\epsilon_{\text{geom}} \sim 22\%$



PDE dependence on  $\lambda$   
(at different  $\Delta V$ )

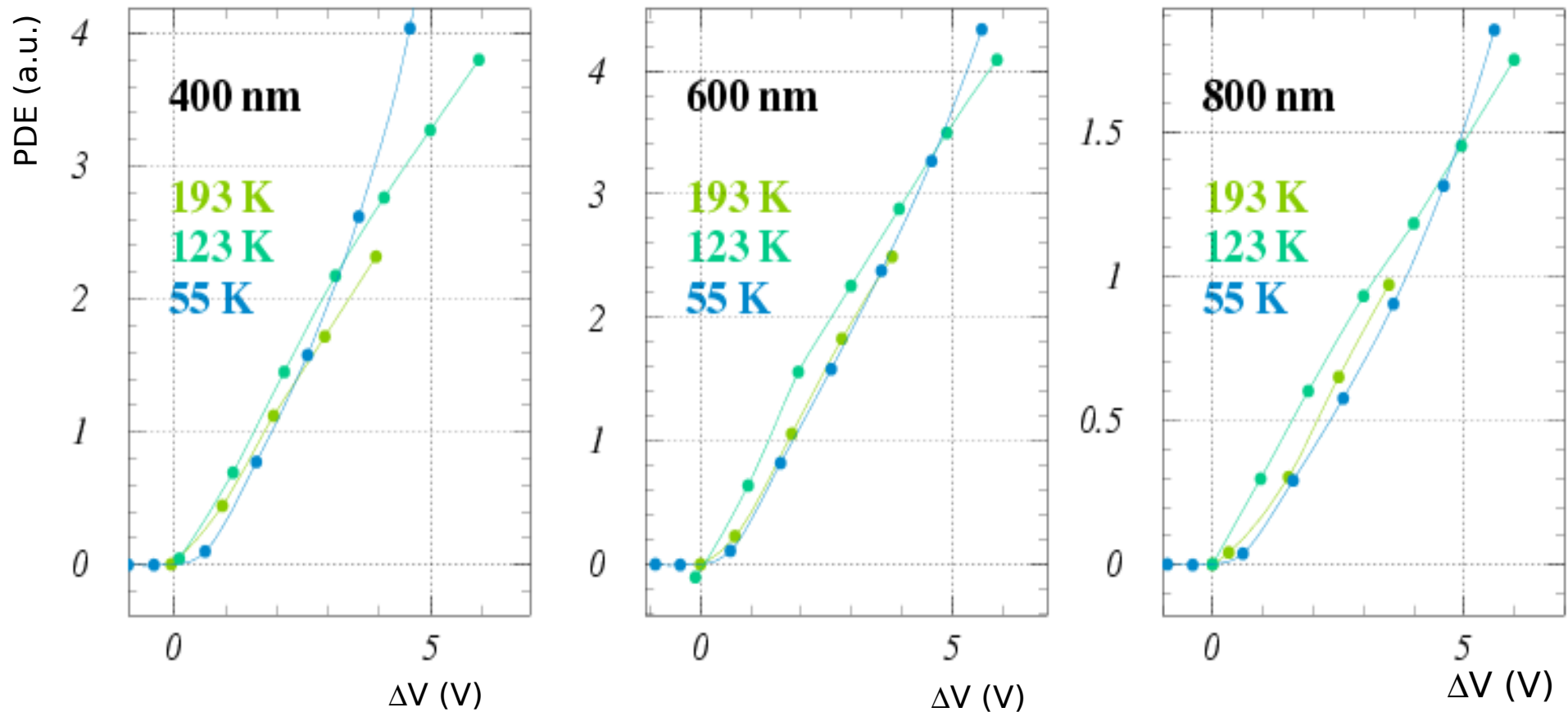
Reduced because  
avalanche triggered  
by holes (and ARC)

Reduced because  
low QE

# PDE at various $\lambda$ - $\Delta V$ scan (at constant T)

PDE vs  $\Delta V$  measured as Current/Gain  $\rightarrow$  PDE (a.u.)  $\equiv I_{\text{SiPM}} / I_{\text{calib}} / \Delta V$

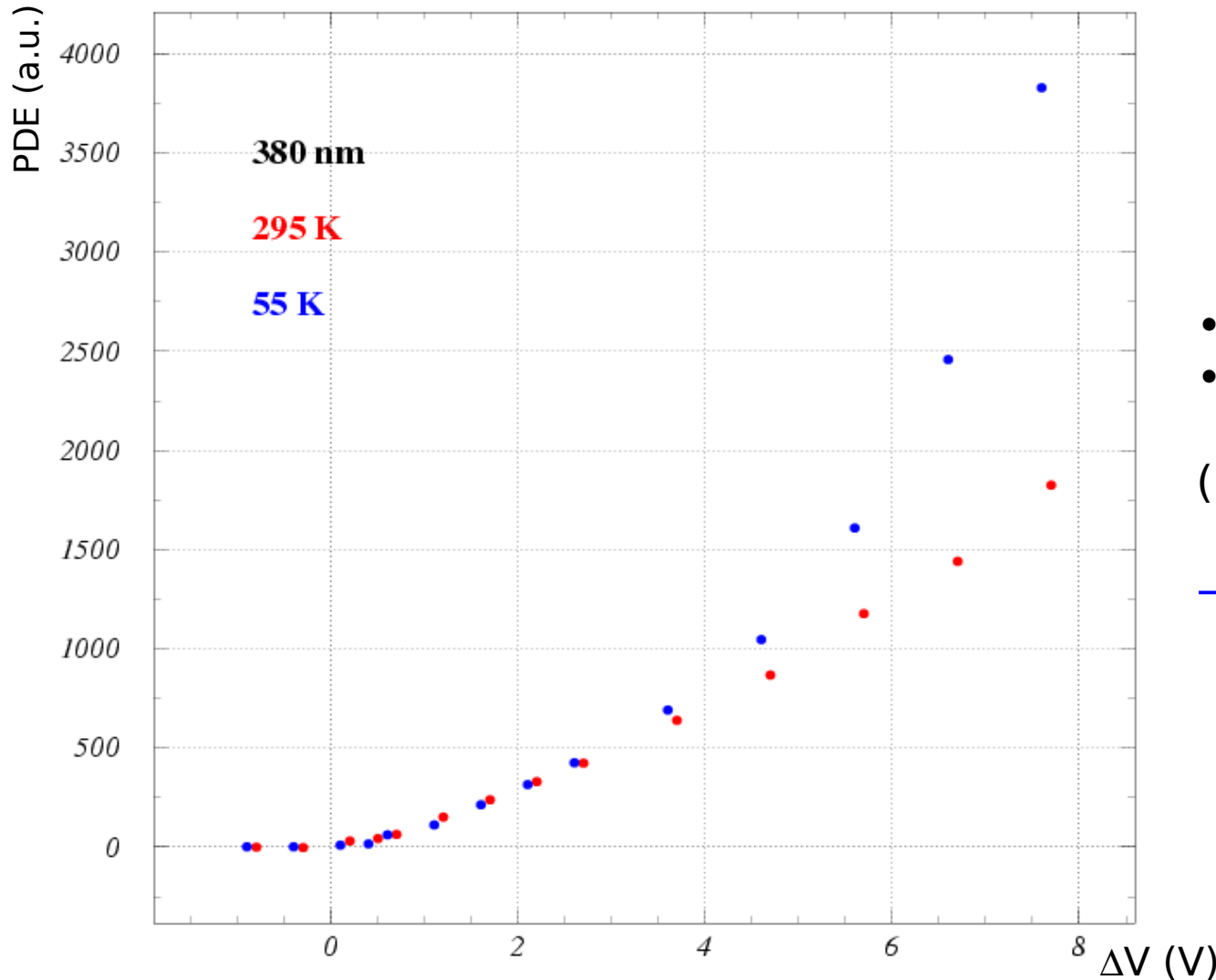
Normalization to calibrated photo-diode current (not absolute # of photons)



- 193K and 123K measurements not affected by after-pulses  $\rightarrow$  saturation visible
- 55K affected by after-pulses (not corrected; cross-talk is not subtracted too)

(Dark rate subtracted - small effect)

# PDE with LED (380nm) - $\Delta V$ scan (const. T)



$$\text{PDE (a.u.)} \equiv I_{\text{SiPM}} / I_{\text{LED}} / \Delta V$$

- 55K affected by After-Pulses
- 295K less affected by A-P

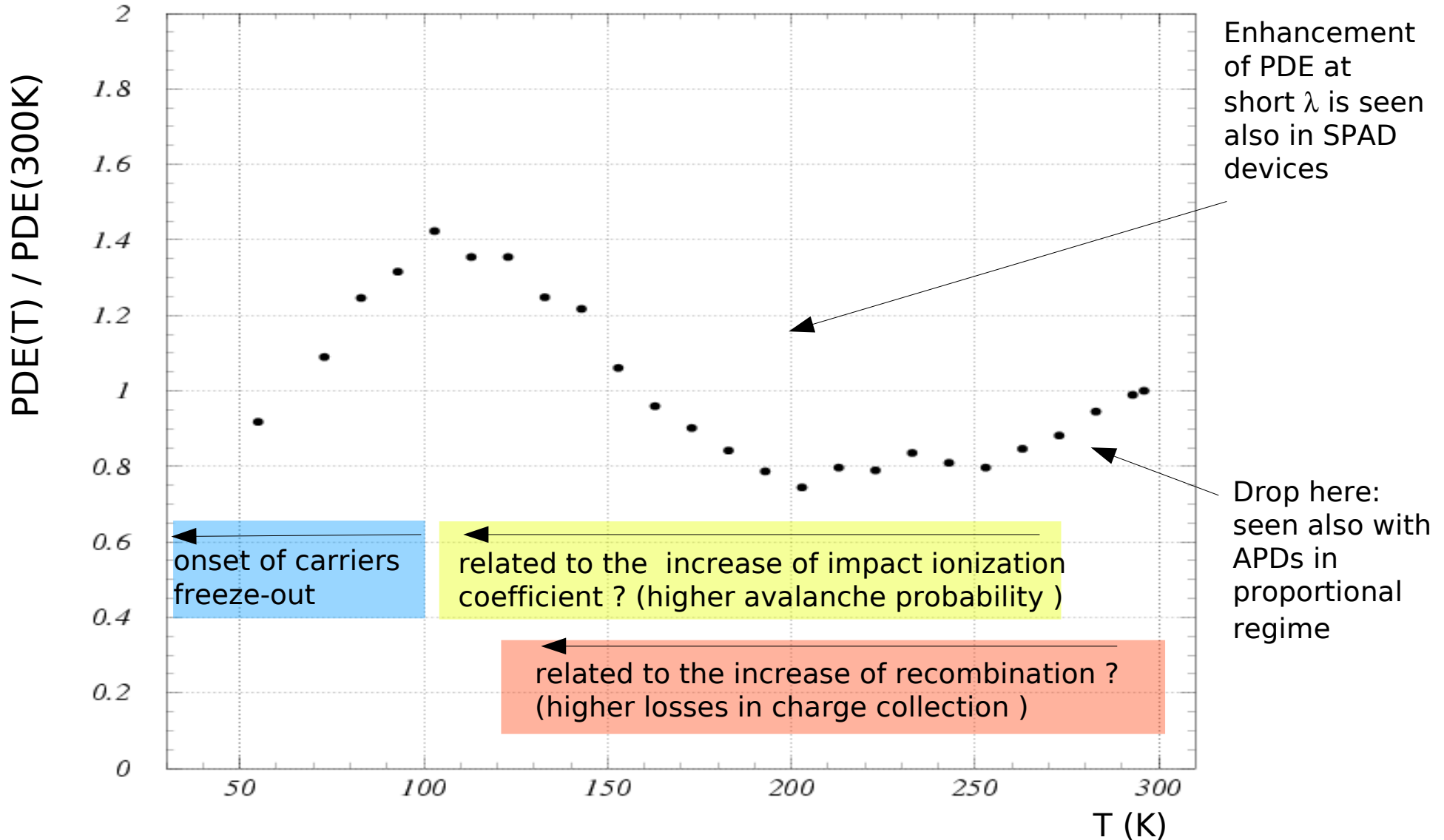
(Dark rate subtracted)

→ Slope PDE/ $\Delta V$  (at small  $\Delta V$ ) independent of T

# PDE with LED (380nm) - T scan ( $\Delta V=2V$ )

PDE dependence on T at fixed gain. Normalization with PDE at T=300K

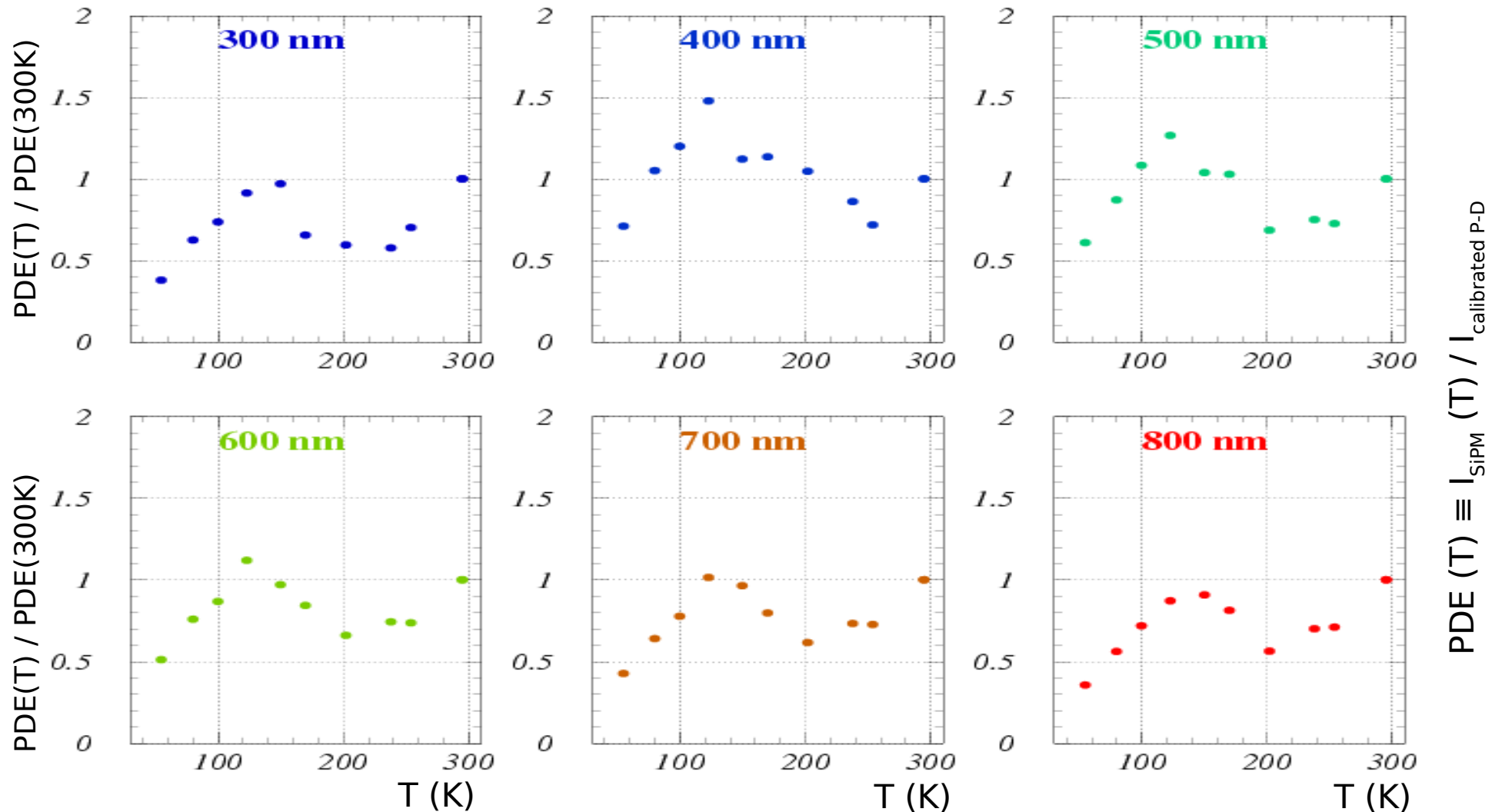
$$\text{PDE}(T) \equiv I_{\text{SiPM}}(T) / I_{\text{LED}}$$



Studies ongoing for better understanding this shape

# PDE at various $\lambda$ - T scan ( $\Delta V = 2V$ )

PDE dependence on T at fixed gain. Normalization with calibrated photo-diode current and with PDE at T=300K (double ratio)



- **shape** similar at different  $\lambda$  → **related to properties of multiplication /recombination**
- lower efficiency at low T for longer  $\lambda$  → **due to absorption length  $\sim 1/T$  (with constant depletion width)**



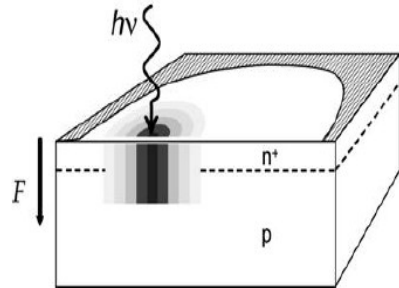
# SiPM Timing - overview

# GM-APD timing: fast and slow components

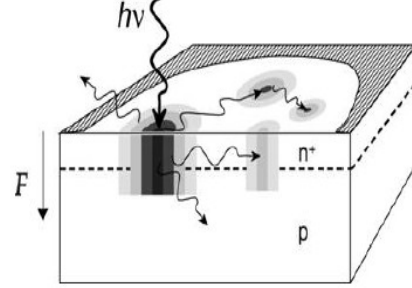
## 1) Fast component: gaussian with time scale $O(10\text{ps})$

Statistical fluctuations in the avalanche:

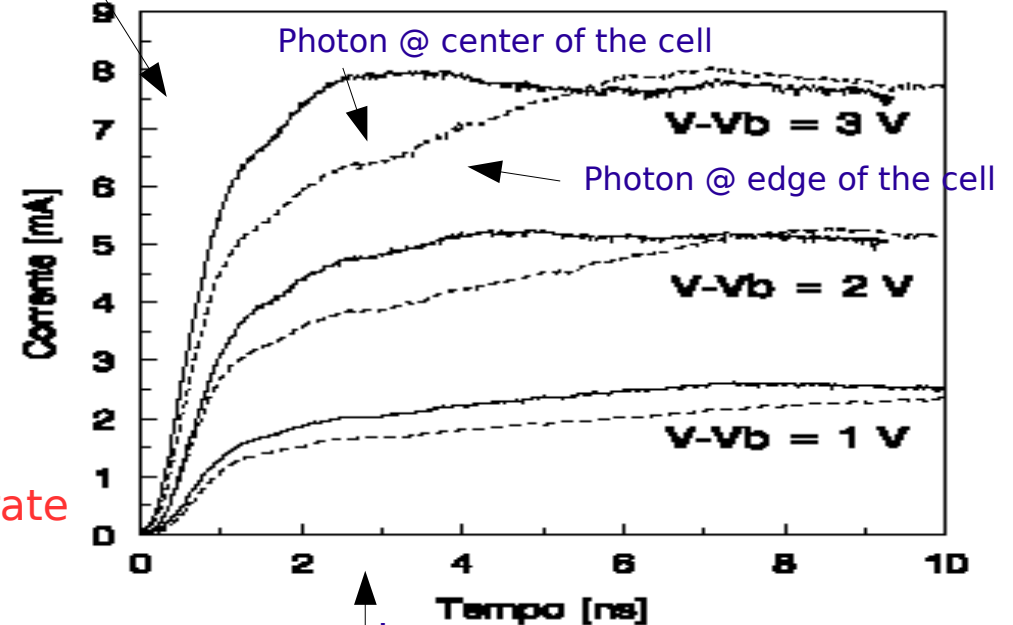
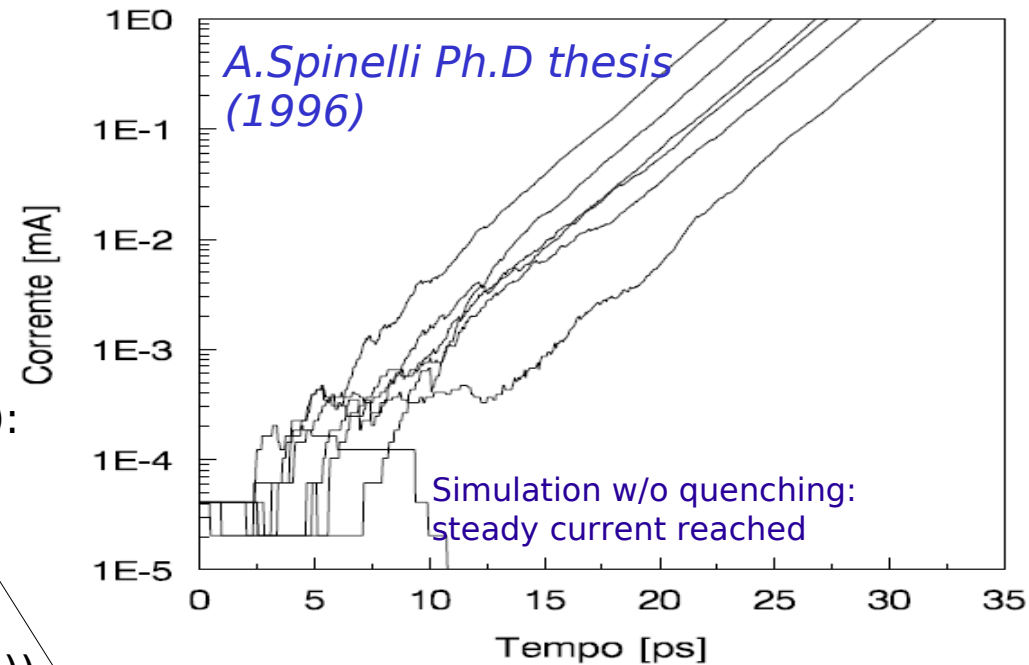
- Longitudinal build-up (minor contribution)
- Transversal propagation (main contribution):
  - via Multiplication assisted diffusion (dominating in few  $\mu\text{m}$  thin devices)  
A.Lacaita et al. APL and El.Lett. 1990
  - via Photon assisted propagation (dominating in thick devices -  $O(100\mu\text{m})$ )  
PP.Webb, R.J. McIntyre RCA Eng. 1982  
A.Lacaita et al. APL 1992



Multiplication assisted diffusion



Photon assisted propagation



➔ Dependence of avalanche build-up rate on the impact position ( $\rightarrow$  cell size)

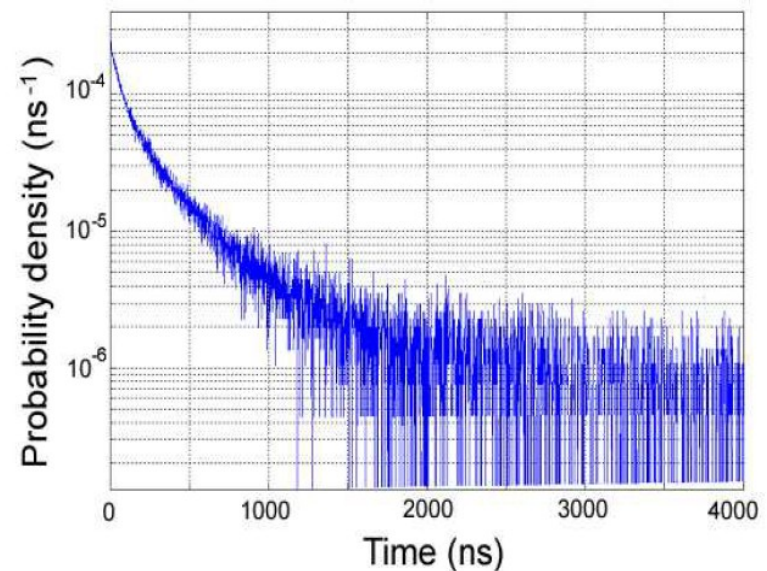
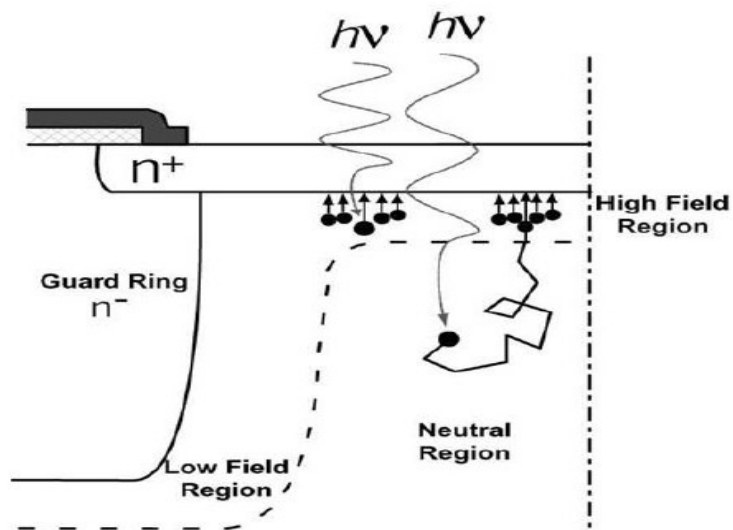
Higher overvoltage  $\rightarrow$  improved time resolution  $t_1$

# GM-APD timing: fast and slow components

## 2) Slow component: minor non gaussian tails with time scale $O(\text{ns})$

Carriers photogenerated in the neutral regions beneath the junction and reaching the electric field region by diffusion

G.Ripamonti, S.Cova Sol.State Electronics (1985)



tail lifetime:  $\tau \sim L^2 / \pi^2 D$

L = effective neutral layer thickness

D = diffusion coefficient

S.Cova et al. NIST Workshop on SPD (2003)

Shorter wavelengths  $\rightarrow$  higher resolution (reduced tails)



# Waveform analysis: method

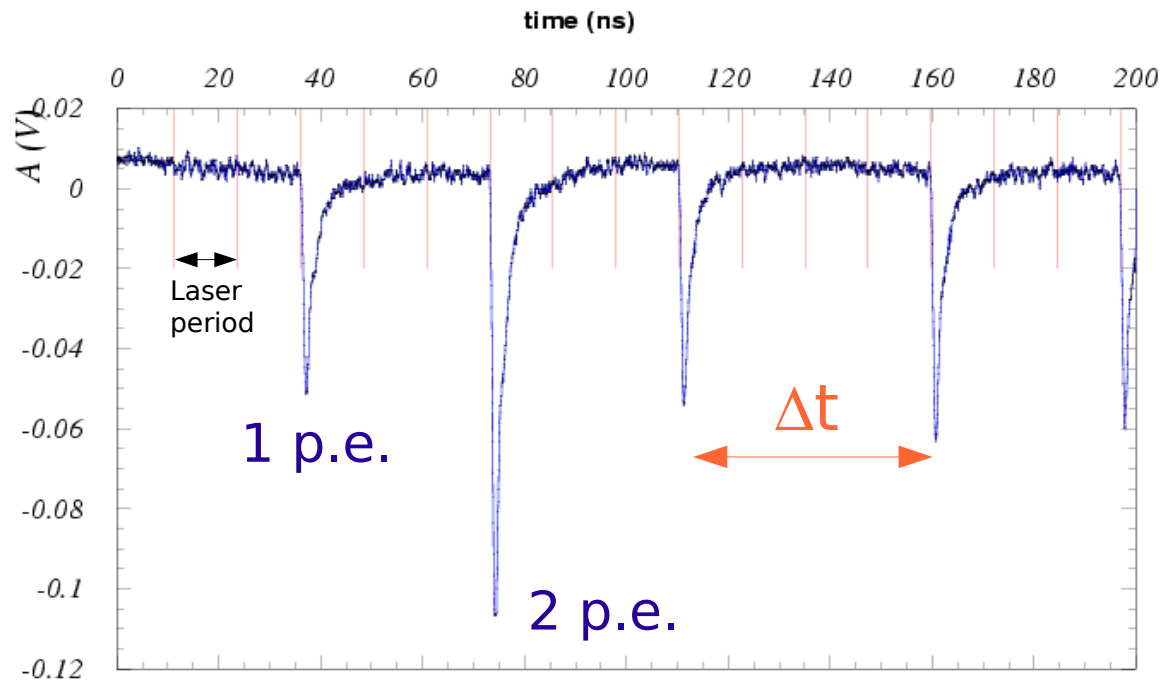
## (1) Selection of candidate peaks:

- single photon peaks
- proper signal shape
- **low instantaneous intensity**  
(no activity before/after within 50ns)
- **low noise** during the previous 10 ns  
(typical noise  $\sim 1\text{mV rms}$ )

## (2) Peak reconstruction

- **optimum time reconstruction**
- amplitude and width (baseline shift correction)

## (3) Time difference $\Delta t$ between consecutive peaks

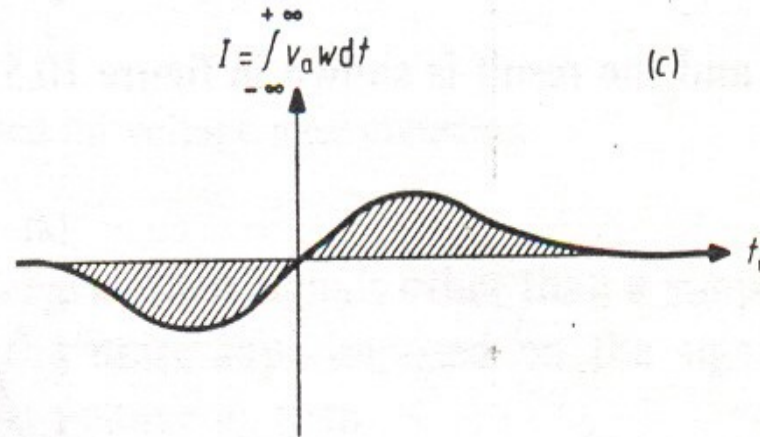
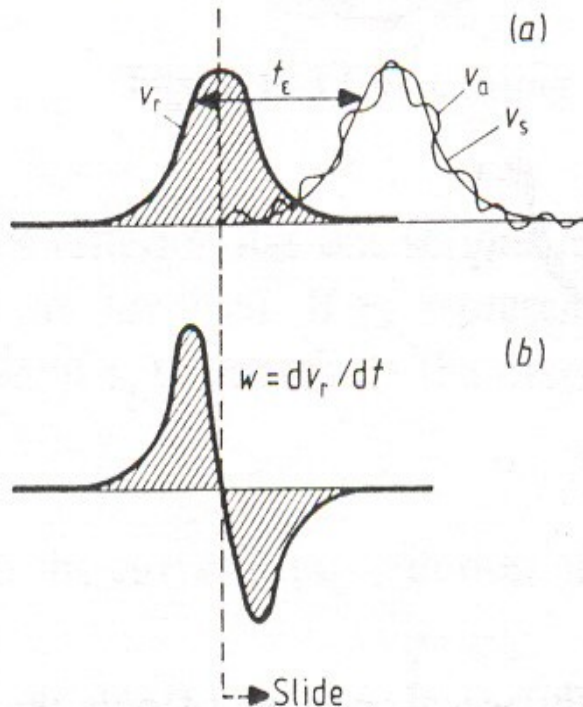


NOTE: working fine at 20MHz counting rate

# Waveform analysis: optimum timing filter

Different methods to reconstruct the time of a peak:

- ✗ parabolic fit to find the peak maximum
- ✗ average of time samples weighted by the waveform derivative
- ✓ digital filter: weighting by the derivative of a reference signal  
→ best against noise (signal shape known)



Digital filter method to minimize N/S for timing measurements:  
solve the following equation on  $t_0$ :

$$\int V_a(t) \frac{\partial V_r(t-t_0)}{\partial t} dt = 0$$

$V_a$  = measured signal  
(includes noise)  
 $V_r$  = reference signal  
 $t_0$  = reference time

# Single Photon Timing Resolution (SPTR)

Analysis of the distributions of the  $t$  difference between successive peaks (modulo the laser period  $T_{\text{laser}} = 12.367\text{ns}$ )

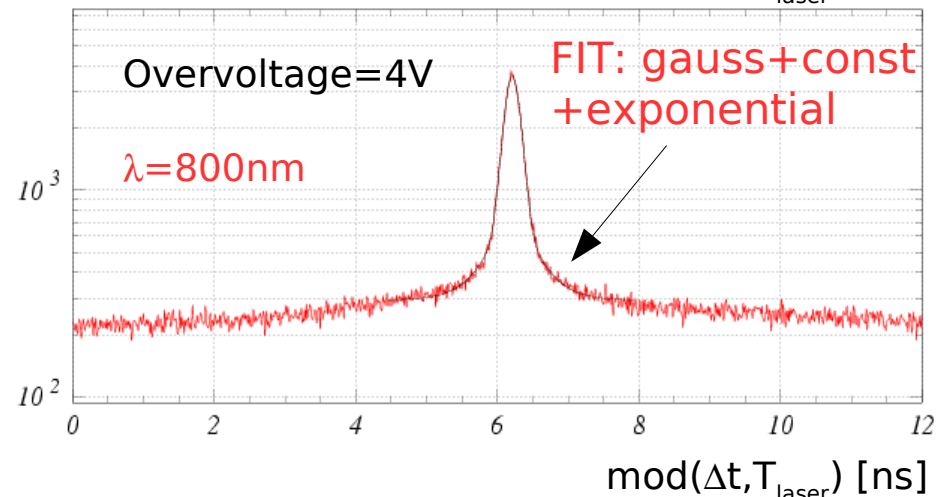
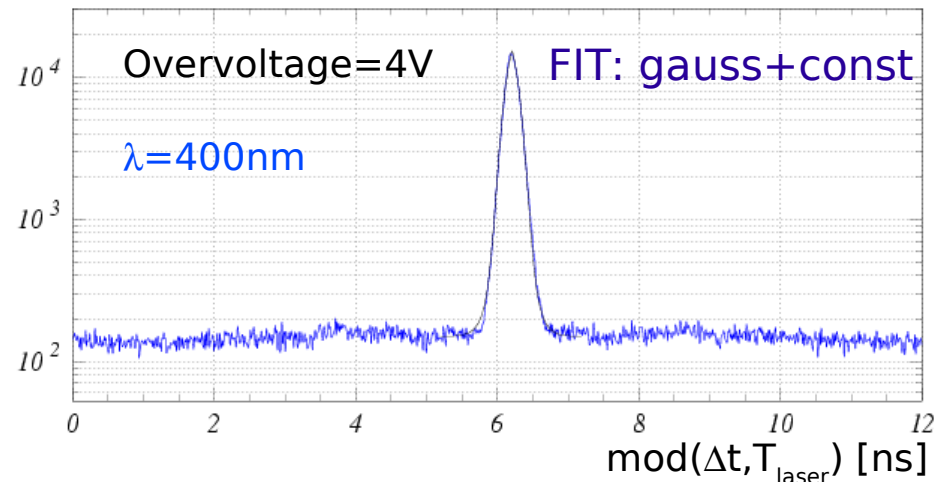
**Gaussian** + **Tails (long  $\lambda$ )**  
rms  $\sim 50\text{-}100\text{ ps}$   $\sim \exp(-t / O(\text{ns}))$   
contrib. several % for long wavelengths

Data at  $\lambda = 400\text{nm}$   
fit gives reasonable  $\chi^2$  with gaussian ( $\sigma_t^{\text{fit}}$ ) + constant term (dark noise contribution)

The detector resolution is obtained by  $\sigma_t^{\text{fit}}/\sqrt{2}$

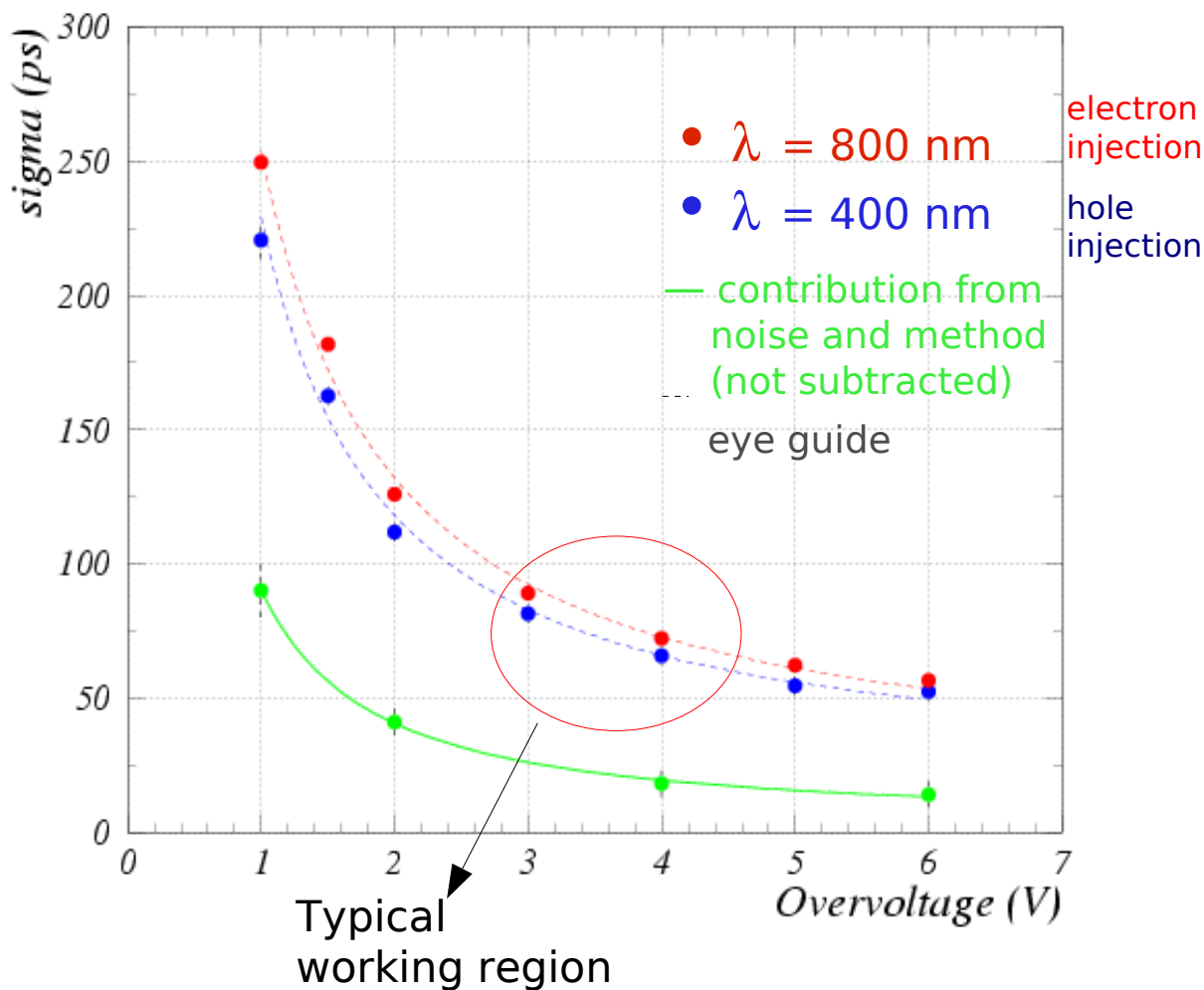
Data at  $\lambda = 800\text{nm}$   
fit gives reasonable  $\chi^2$  with an additional **exponential term**  $\exp(-\Delta t/\tau)$

- $\tau \sim 0.2 \div 0.8\text{ns}$  in rough agreement with diffusion tail lifetime:  $\tau \sim L^2 / \pi^2 D$  if  $L$  is taken to be the diffusion length
- Contribution from the tails  $\sim 10 \div 30\%$  of the resolution function area

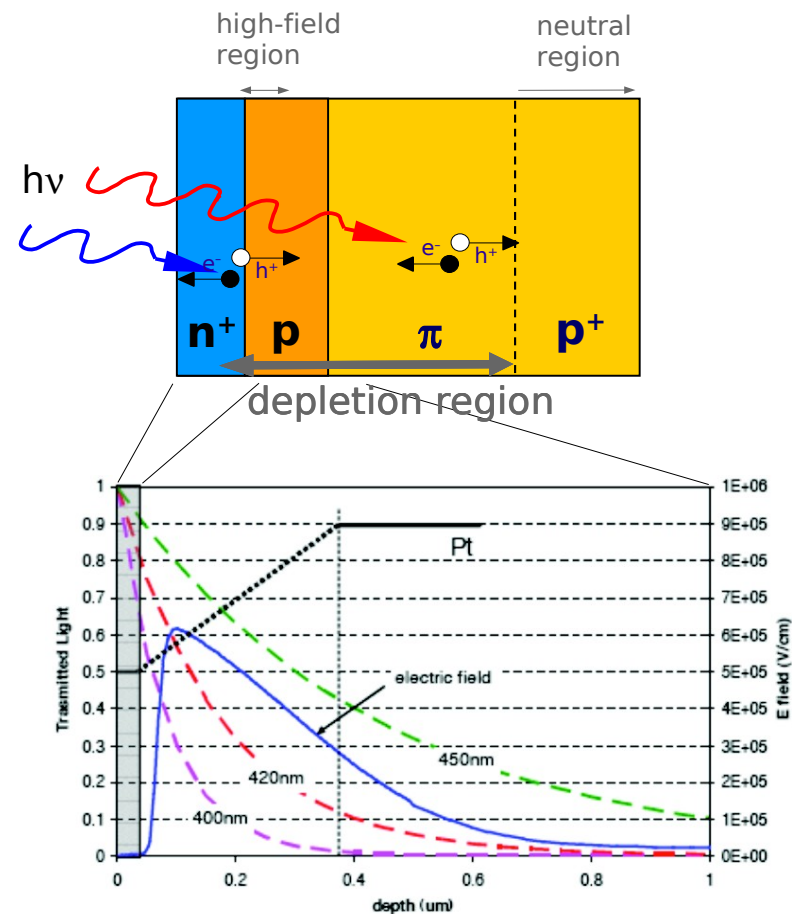


Distributions of the difference in time between successive peaks (modulo the measured laser period  $T_{\text{laser}} = 12.367\text{ns}$ )

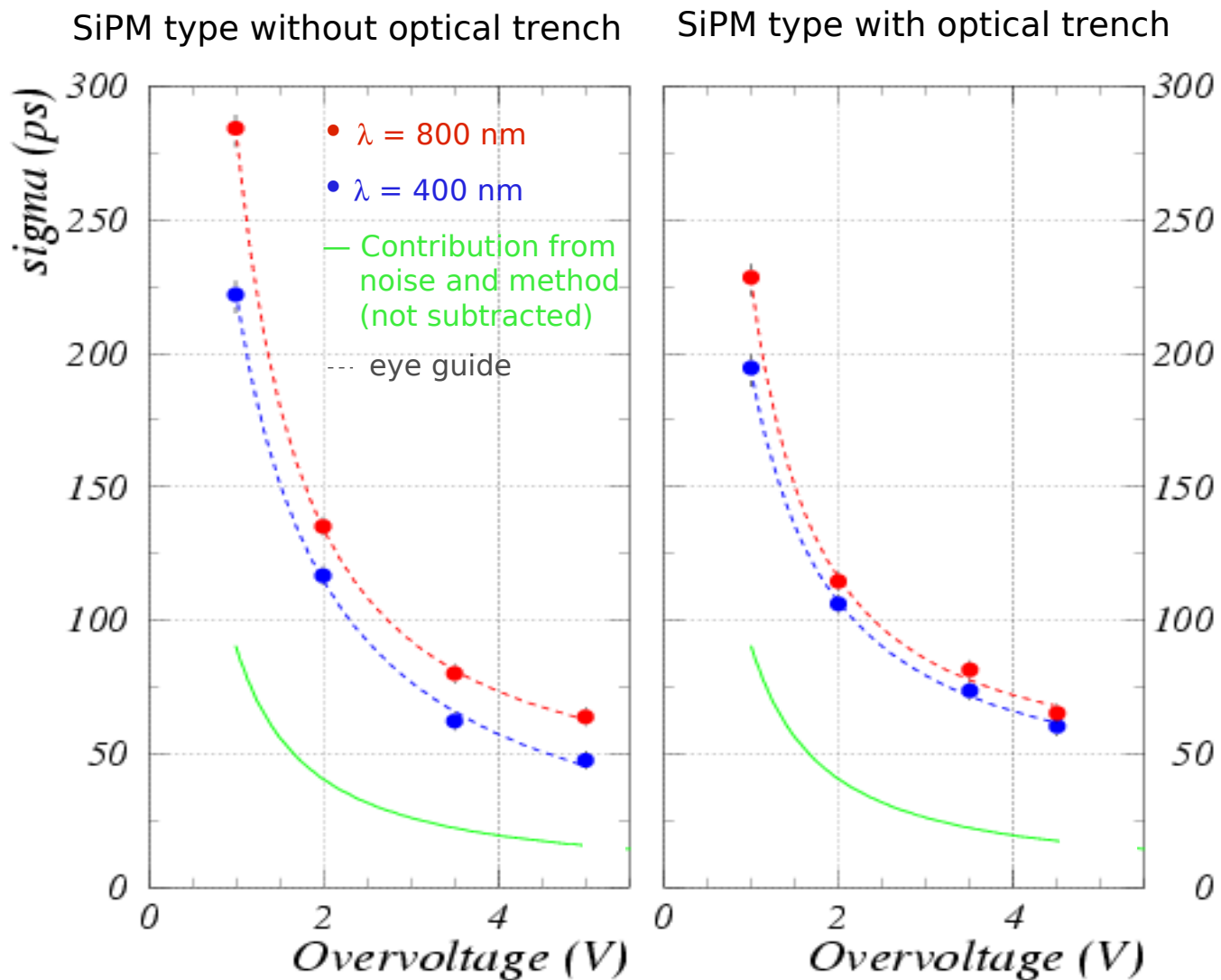
# IRST - single photon timing res. (SPTR)



Better resolution for short wavelengths: carriers generated next to the high E field region

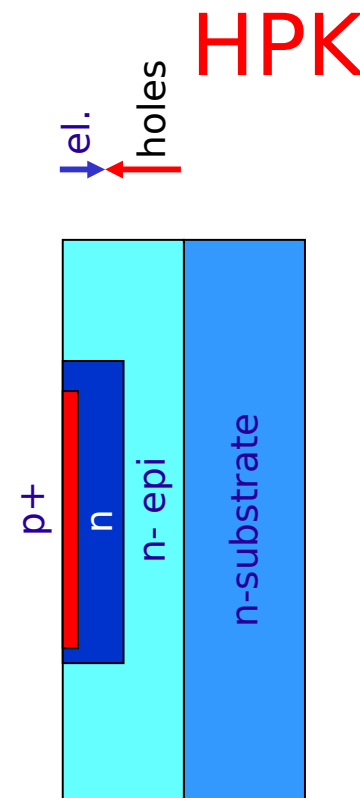
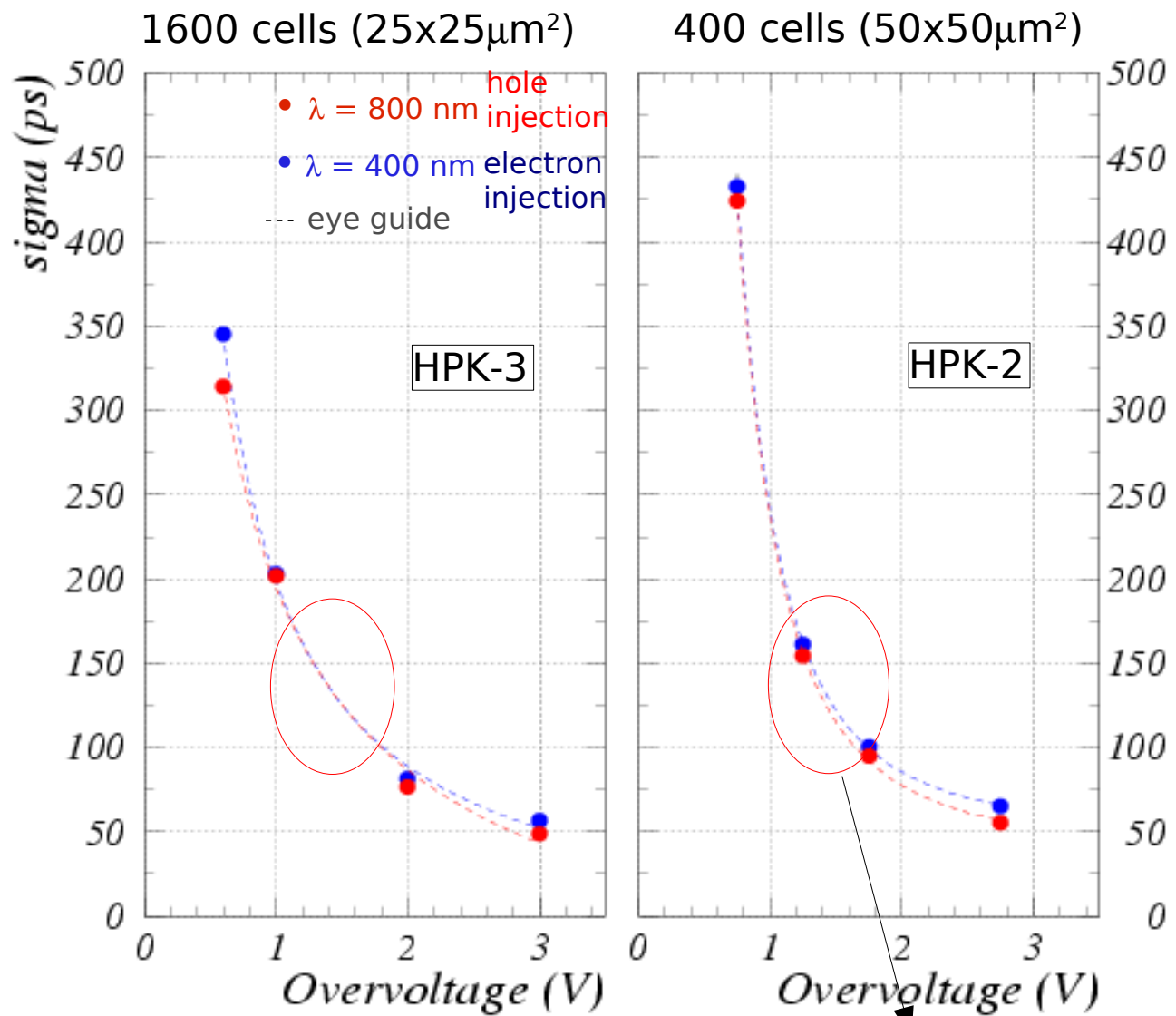


# IRST devices (different types)



Results in fair agreement for devices with the same structure

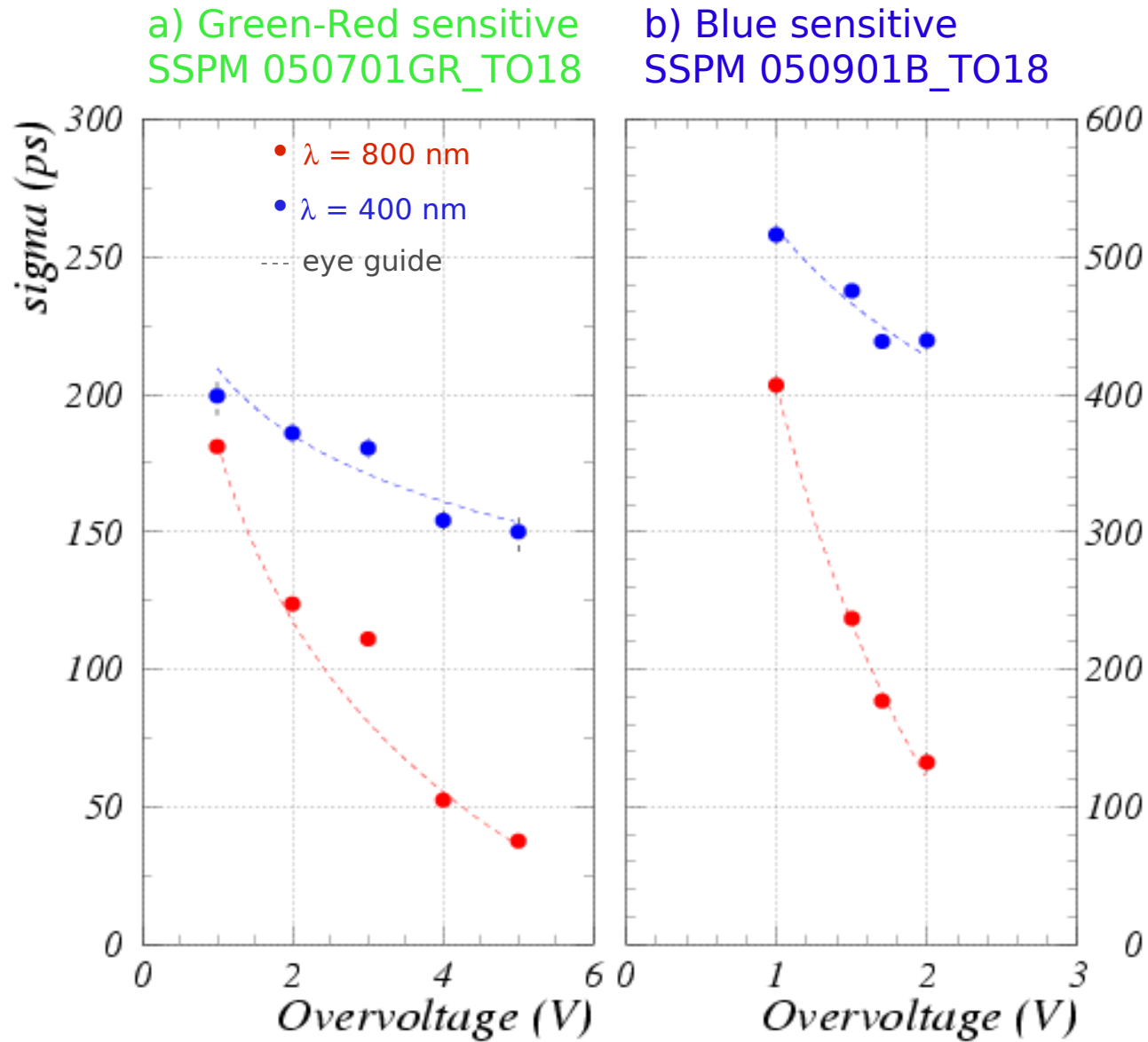
# Hamamatsu - single photon timing res.



G.Collazuol et al (unpublished)

Suggested  
Operating range

# CPTA/Photonique - single photon timing res.



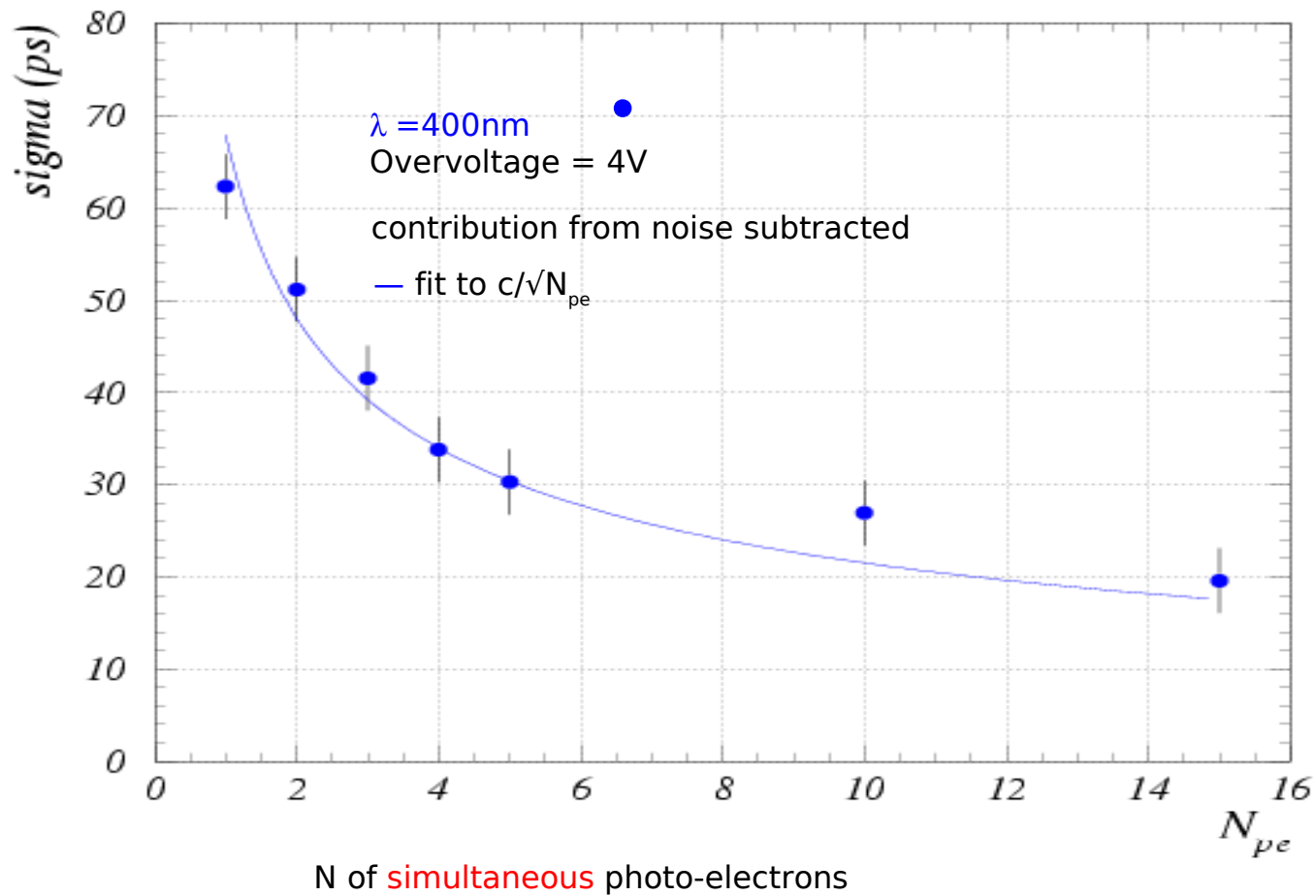
Two different structures:  
a) thick n<sup>+</sup>/p  
b) p<sup>+</sup>/n deep junction

G.Collazuol et al (unpublished)

# Timing studies

Dependence of SiPM timing on the  
number of simultaneous photons

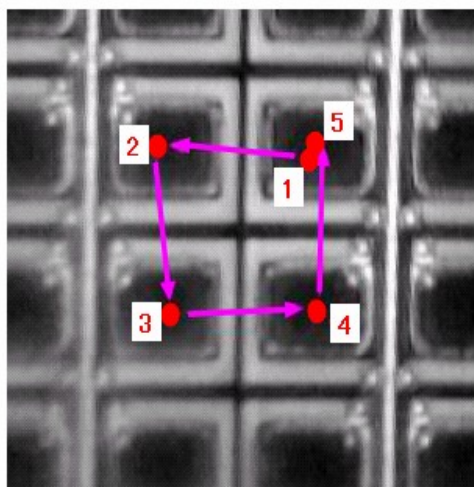
Poisson statistics:  $\sigma_t \propto 1/\sqrt{N_{pe}}$



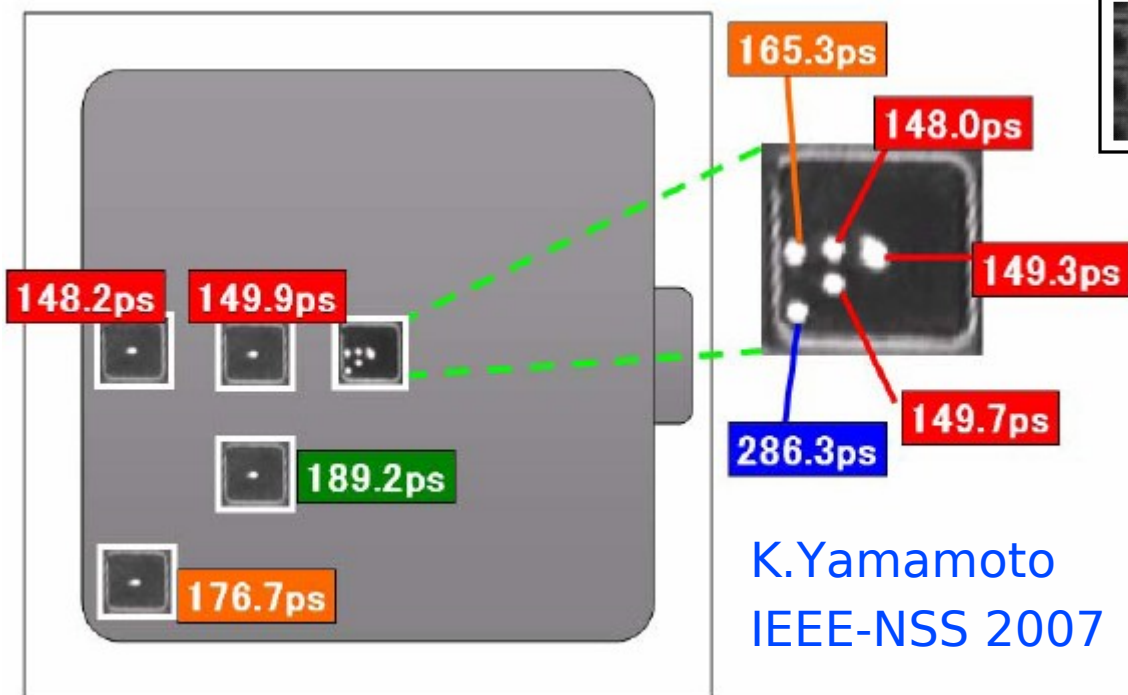
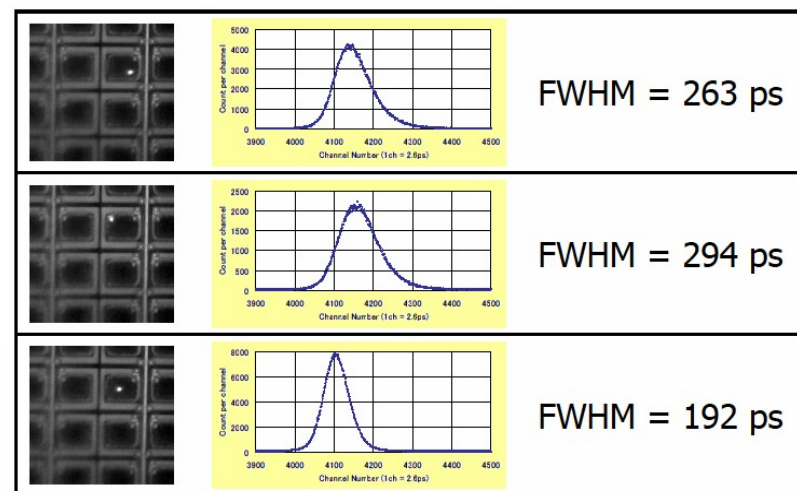


# SPTR: position dependence

Yamamoto et al  
(Hamamatsu)



	FWHM (ps)	FWTM (ps)
1	199	393
2	197	389
3	209	409
4	201	393
5	195	383



K.Yamamoto PD07

Lower jitter if  
photoproduction at the  
center of the cell

Data include the system jitter  
(common offset, not subtracted)

NOTE: when laser is impinging only on one cell it is not easy to be sure that only one photons is in the cell: while the amplitude is invariant (many photons = one photon), timing is much affected by the number of photons (A.Ronzhin)

# Conclusions

SiPM behave very well at low T, even better than at room T

**In the range  $100\text{K} < T < 200\text{K}$  SiPM perform optimally;**

→ excellent alternatives to PMTs in cryogenic applications (eg Noble liquids)

- **Breakdown V** decreases non linearly with T  
→ stability of devices wrt T is even better at low T
- **Dark rate** reduced by orders of magnitude  
→ different (tunneling) mechanism(s) below  $\sim 200\text{K}$
- **After-pulsing** increases swiftly below  $100\text{K}$
- **Cross-talk and Gain** (detector capacity) are independent of T (at fixed Over-V.)
- **PDE** higher than at T room at low T for short  $\lambda$

I just carried on **additional measurements at low T** with short laser pulses for:

- accurately measuring of after-pulsing characteristic time constant(s) vs T
- cross-checking PDE (pulsed vs current method)
- measuring timing resolution vs Temperature (expected to improve at low T)
- checking Gain resolution at low T

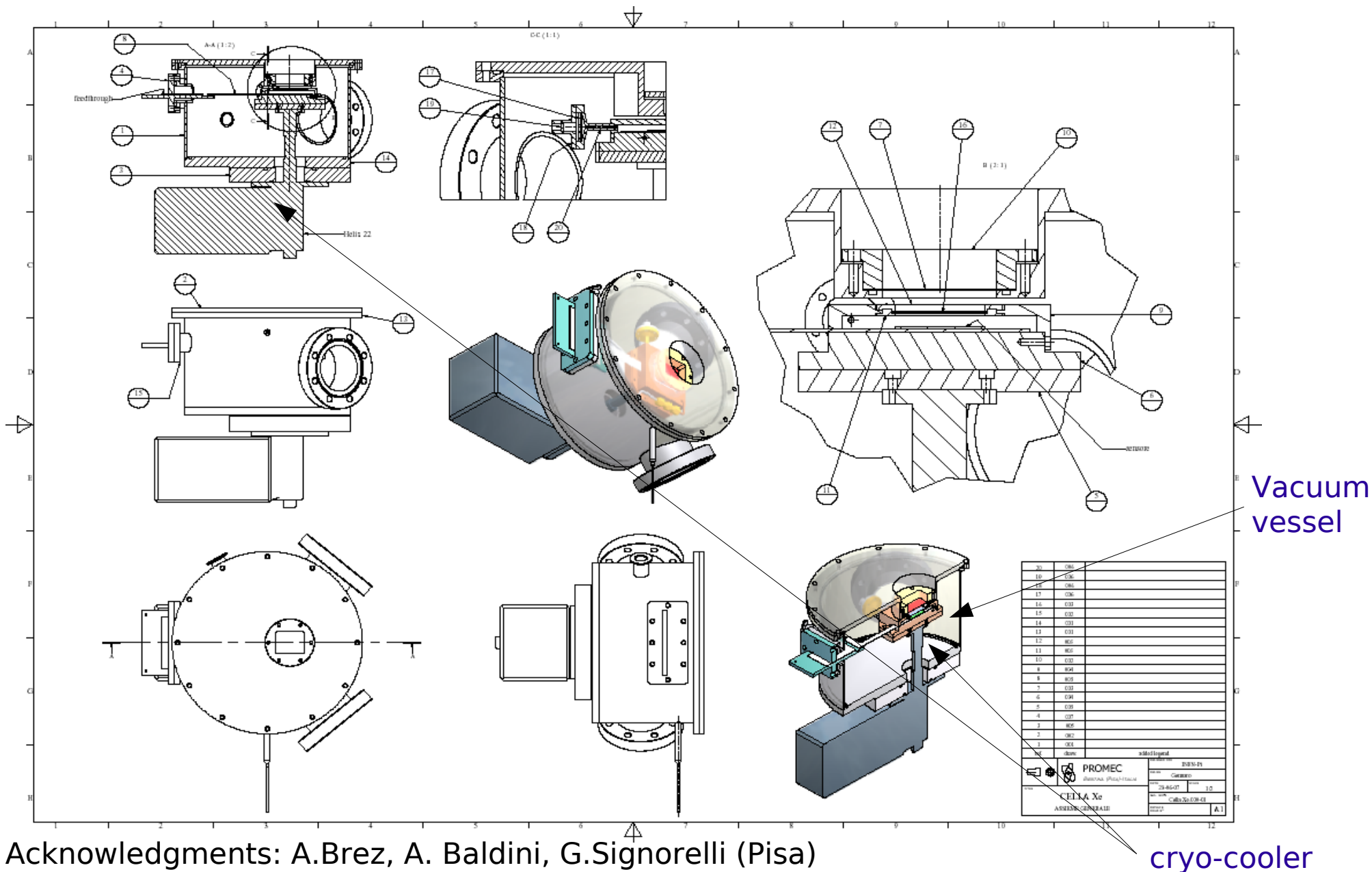
**Simulations and modeling going on** to understand better After-Pulsing and PDE features at low T

We measured also the **excellent SiPM intrinsic timing resolution ( $< 100\text{ps}$  for  $1\text{p.e.}$ )**  
Recent additional measurements to be analyzed (time to avalanche, different devices, ...)  
Simulations and modeling work going on to understand timing data in more detail



# Additional material

# Setup: vacuum vessel + cryo-cooler

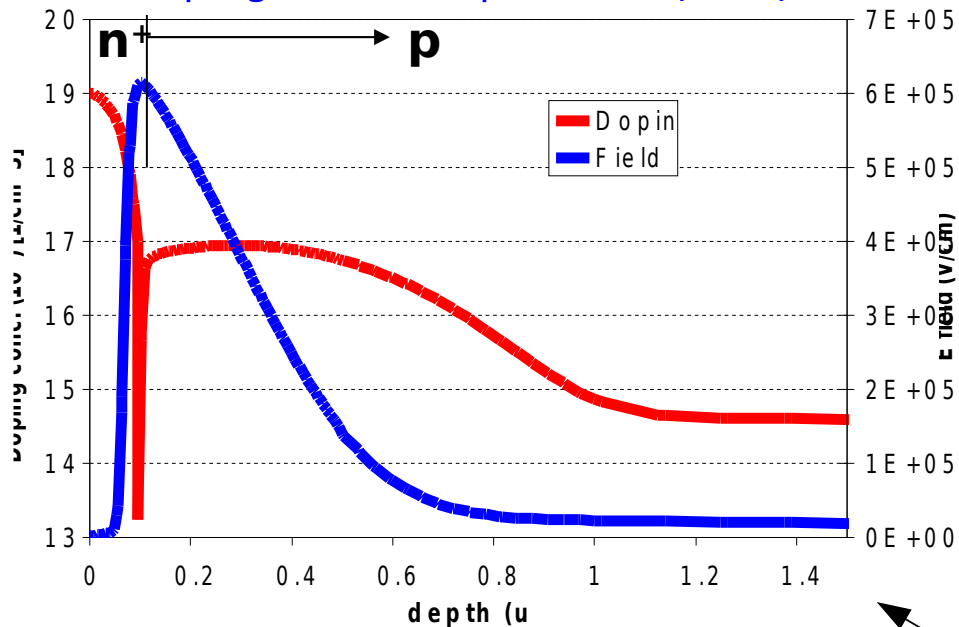


Acknowledgments: A.Brez, A. Baldini, G.Signorelli (Pisa)

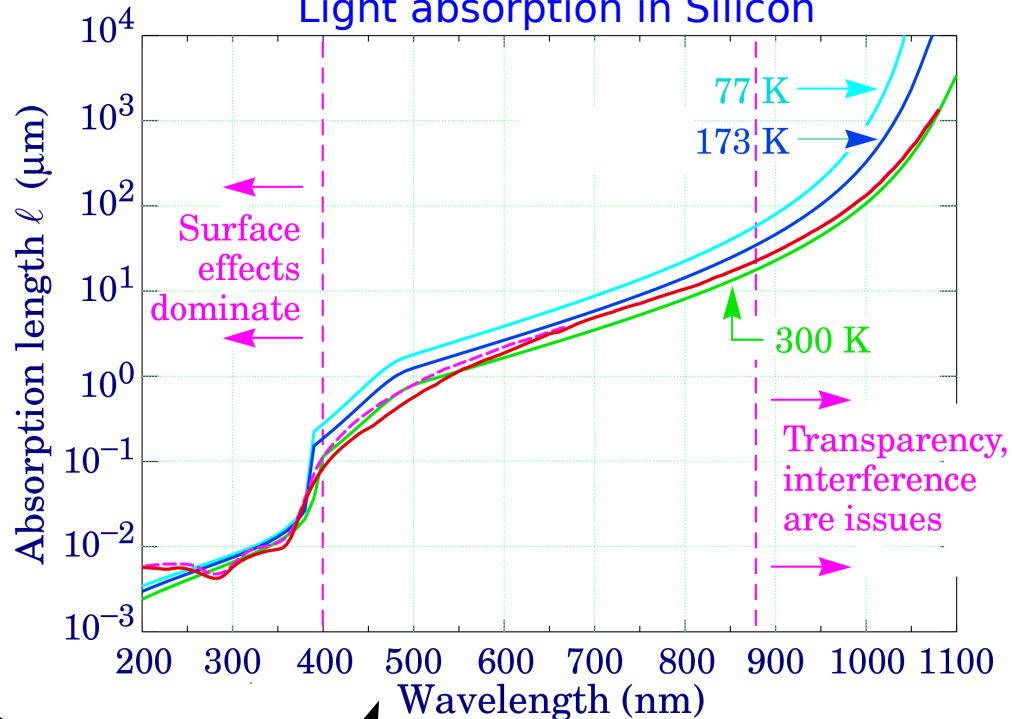
SiPM's are in thermal contact with a cooled Cu rod

# Close up of a cell

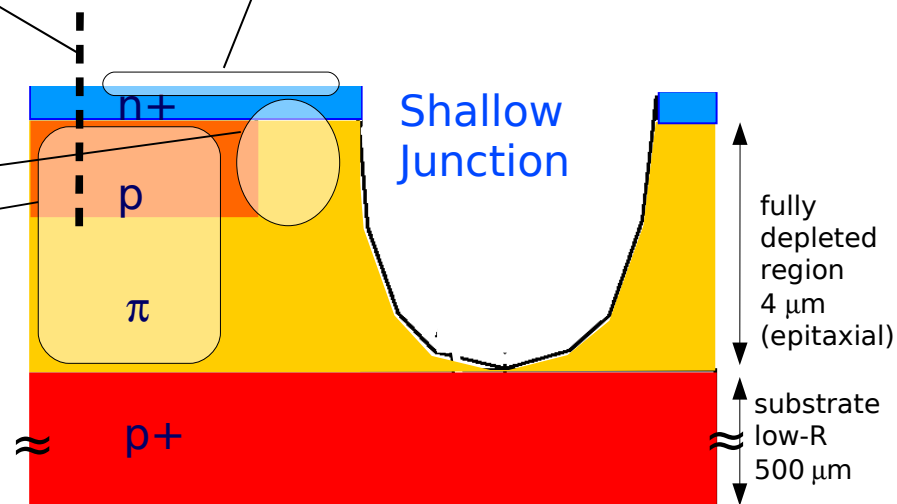
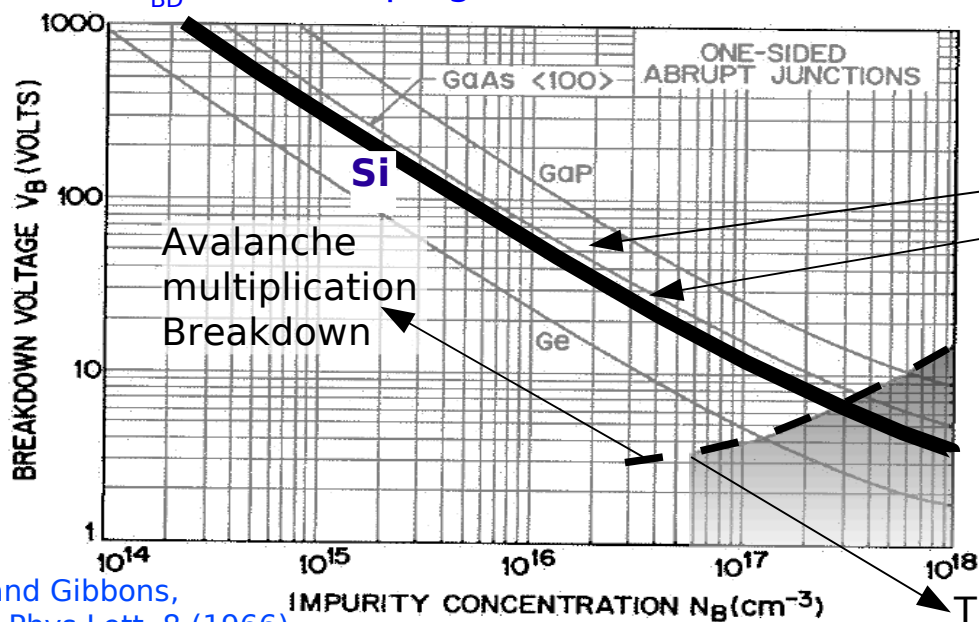
Doping and Field profiles (IRST)



Light absorption in Silicon



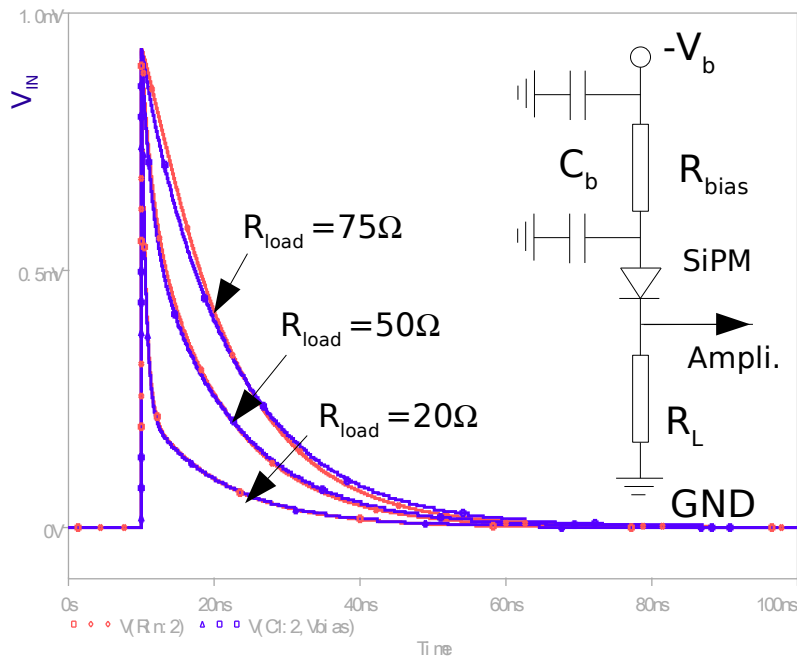
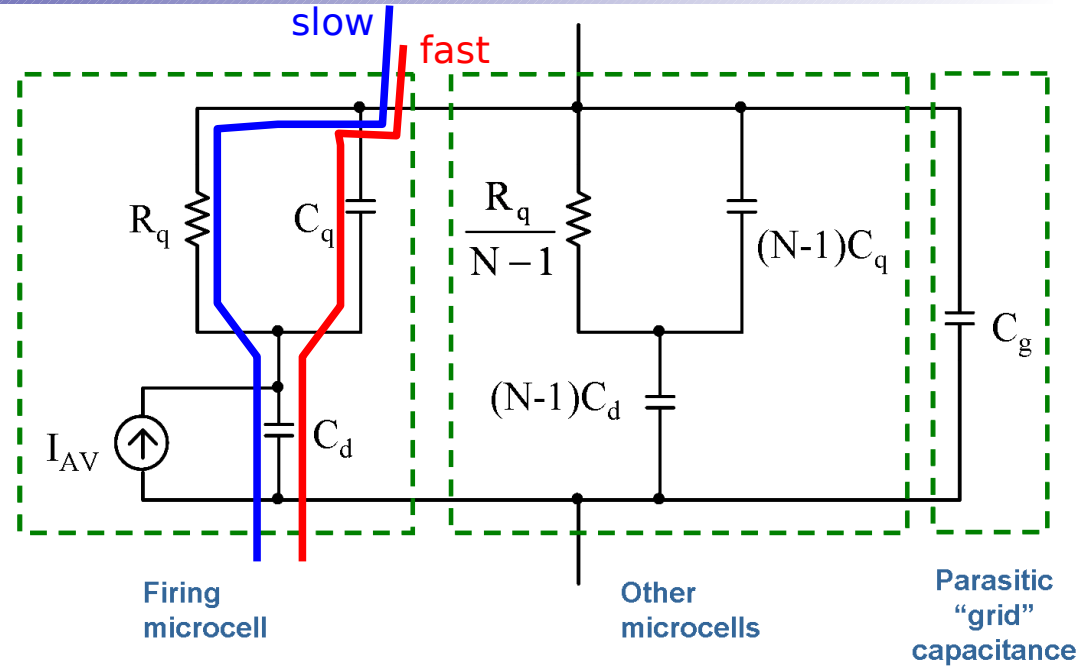
$V_{BD}$  versus doping concentration



Tunneling effect Breakdown

# Electrical model of a SiPM

- $R_q$ : quenching resistor (hundreds of  $k\Omega$ )
- $C_d$ : junction capacitance (few tens of fF)
- $C_q$ : parasitic capacitance in parallel to  $R_q$  (few tens of fF,  $C_q < C_d$ )
- $I_{AV}$ : SiPM ~ ideal current source current source modeling the total charge delivered by a cell during the avalanche  $Q = \Delta V(C_d + C_q)$
- $C_g$ : parasitic capacitance due to the routing of  $V_{bias}$  to the cells (metal grid, few tens of pF)



1) the peak of  $V_{IN}$  is independent of  $R_s$

A constant fraction  $Q_{IN}$  of the charge  $Q$  delivered during the avalanche is instantly collected on  $C_{tot} = C_g + C_{eq}$ .

2) The circuit has two time constants:

- $\tau_{IN} = R_L C_{tot}$  (fast)
- $\tau_r = R_q (C_d + C_q)$  (slow)

Decreasing  $R_s$ , the time constant  $\tau_{IN}$  decreases, the current on  $R_s$  increases and the collection of  $Q$  is faster

# Silicon properties at low T: higher mobility

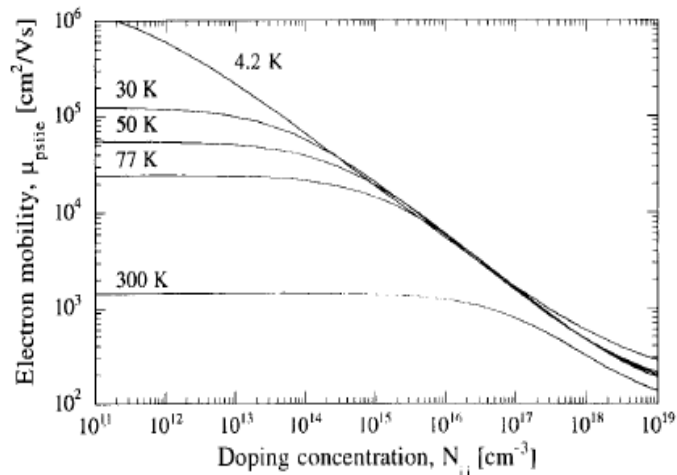


FIGURE 1.16. Calculated electron mobility due to phonon and ionized impurity scattering mechanisms. The five plots correspond to  $T = 300, 77, 50, 30,$  and  $4.2$  K.

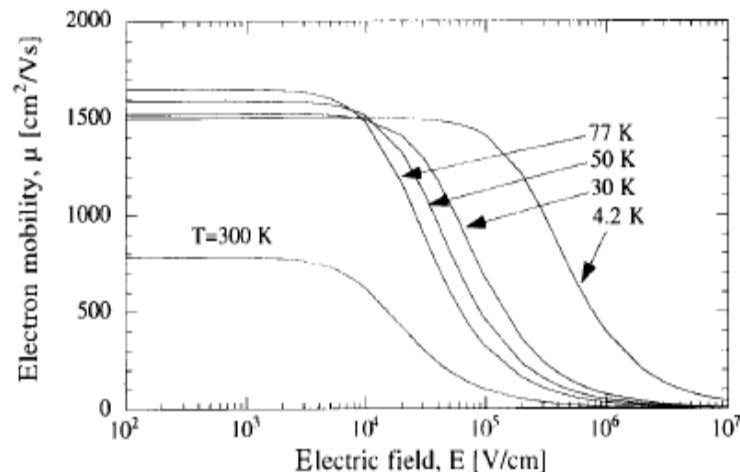


FIGURE 1.17. Calculated electron mobility, due to phonon, ionized impurities, and velocity saturation effects, as a function of the electric field for five temperatures;  $N_{ii} = 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ .

# Silicon prop't's at low T: carriers freeze-out

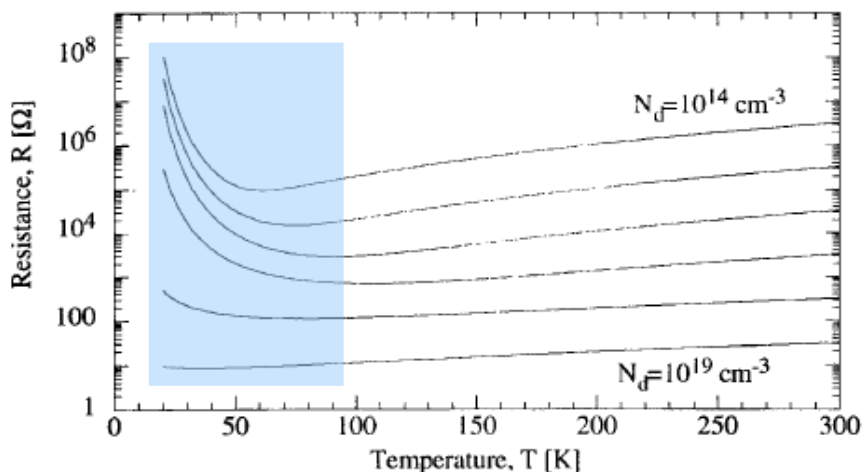


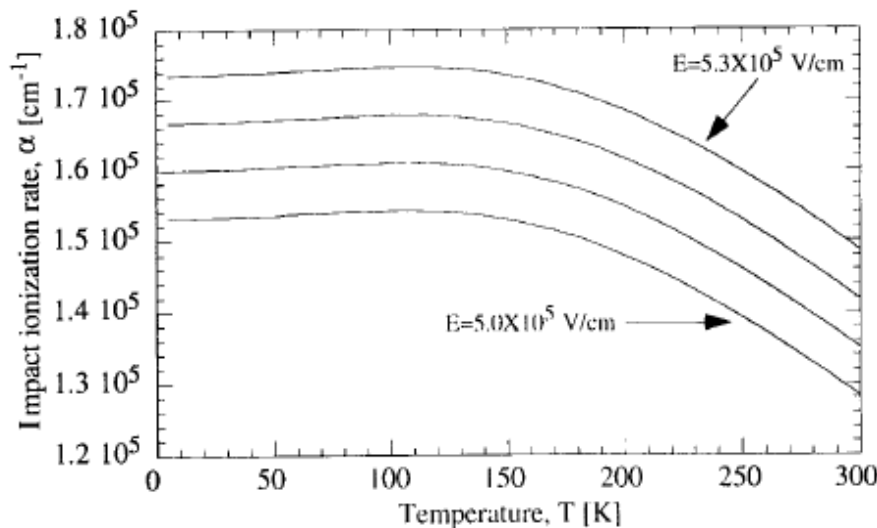
FIGURE 1.14. Calculated electrical resistance of a silicon slab of  $(W/L) = 20/50 \mu\text{m}$  and depth of  $1 \mu\text{m}$  for different doping concentration levels.

For  $T < 100$  K, the ionized impurities act as shallow traps (provided the impurity doping concentration below of  $10^{18} \text{ atoms/cm}^2$ ) and carriers begin to occupy these shallow levels.

For  $T < 30$  K, practically no carriers remain in the bands

Plots from Guterrez, Dean, Claeys - "Low Temperature Electronics: Physics, Devices, Circuits and Applications", Academic Press 2001

# Silicon propt's at low T: impact ionization



For  $T < 77\text{K}$  no data are available  $\rightarrow$  modeling is quite difficult...

FIGURE 1.43. The impact ionization rate  $\alpha$  as a function of temperature  $T_A$  with the electric field  $E$  as a parameter calculated from Okuto and Crowell's (85) model.

# Silicon propt's at low T: absorption length

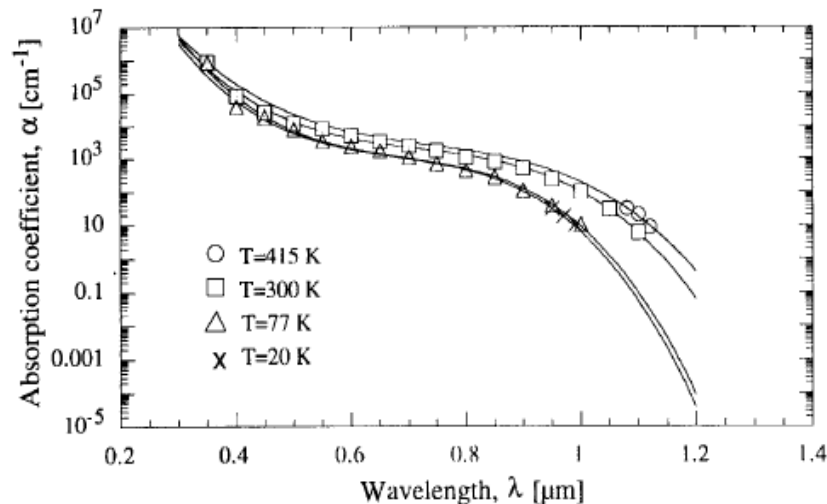


FIGURE 1.53. Experimental (symbols) and fitted (lines) absorption coefficient  $\alpha$  of silicon at  $T = 415, 300, 77,$  and  $20\text{ K}$  [replotted from Rajkanan *et al.* (109)].

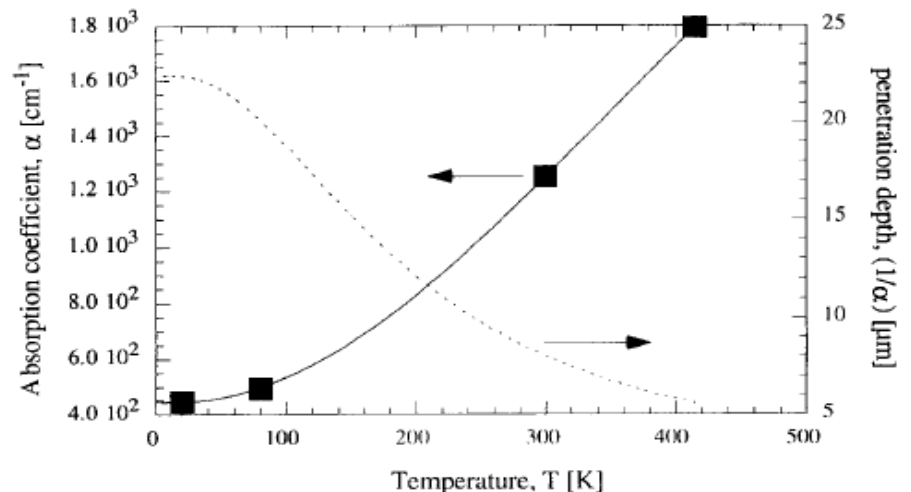


FIGURE 1.54. Measured absorption coefficient  $\alpha$  (■) (101) and fitted  $\alpha$  (solid line) versus temperature  $T$ . On the right axis the fitted penetration depth ( $1/\alpha$ ) is also shown.



# Avalanche breakdown vs T

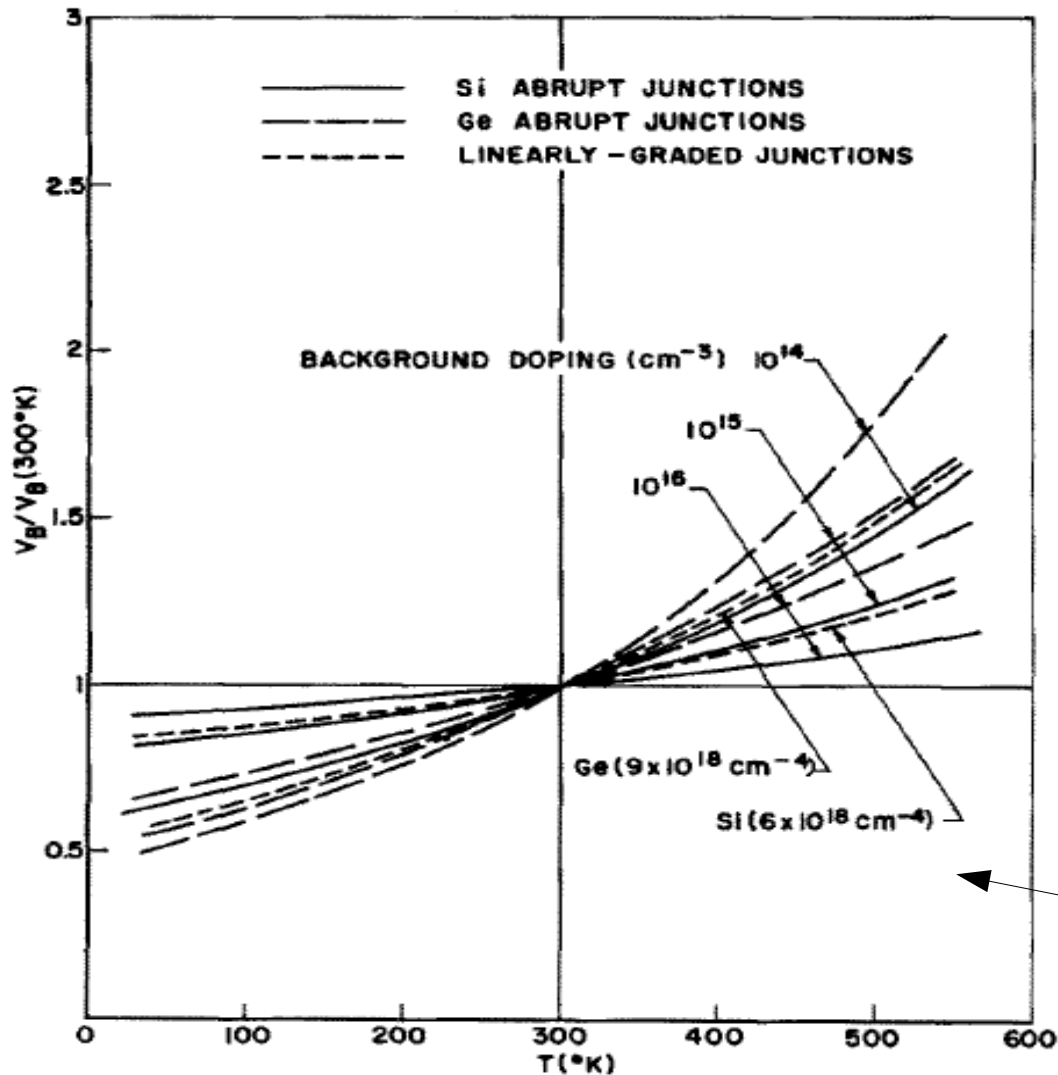


Fig. 4. Breakdown voltage vs temperature for Si and Ge  $p$ - $n$  junctions.  $V_B(300^\circ\text{K})$  is 2000, 330, and 60 V for Si and 950, 150, and 25 V for Ge for dopings of  $10^{14}$ ,  $10^{15}$ , and  $10^{16}$   $\text{cm}^{-3}$  respectively. The linear-graded junctions have  $V_B(300^\circ\text{K})$  the same as those for doping of  $10^{15}$   $\text{cm}^{-3}$ .

Avalanche breakdown  $V$  is expected to show a **non linear dependence on T** (depending of the junction type and doping concentration)

Breakdown  $V$  decreasing with  $T$  due to increasing mobility

NOTE: in freeze-out regime Zener (tunnel) breakdown could be relevant.  $\rightarrow$  negative Temperature coefficient (increasing with decreasing  $T$ )

Crowell and Sze

More recent model by Crowell and Okuto after Shockley, Wolff, Baraff, Sze and Ridley.

# p-n junction characteristics: forward bias

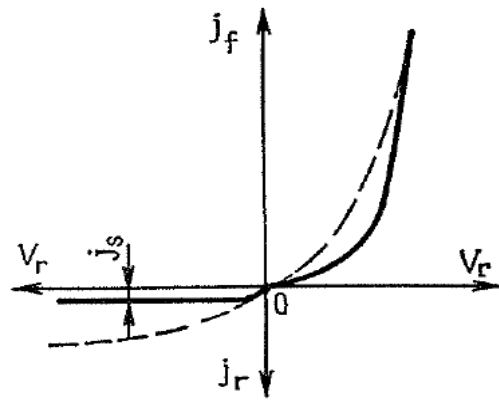
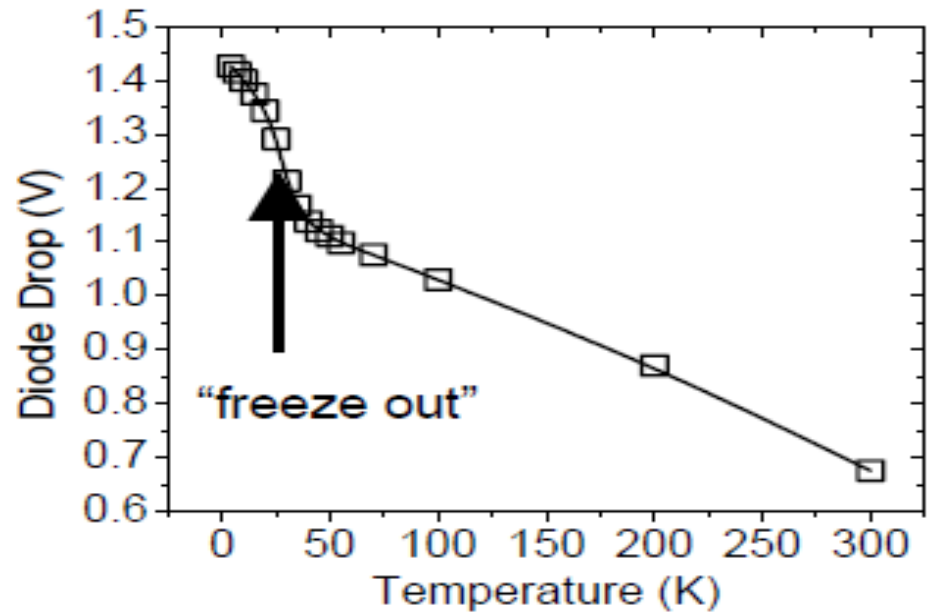
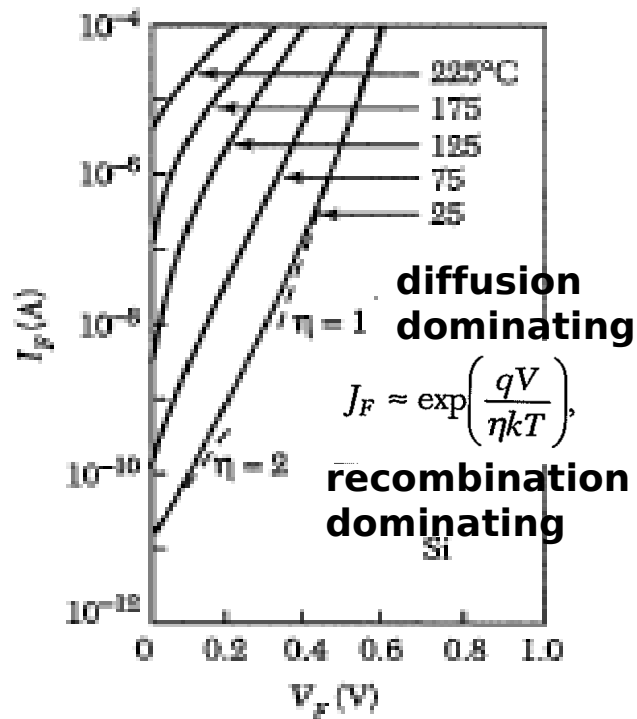
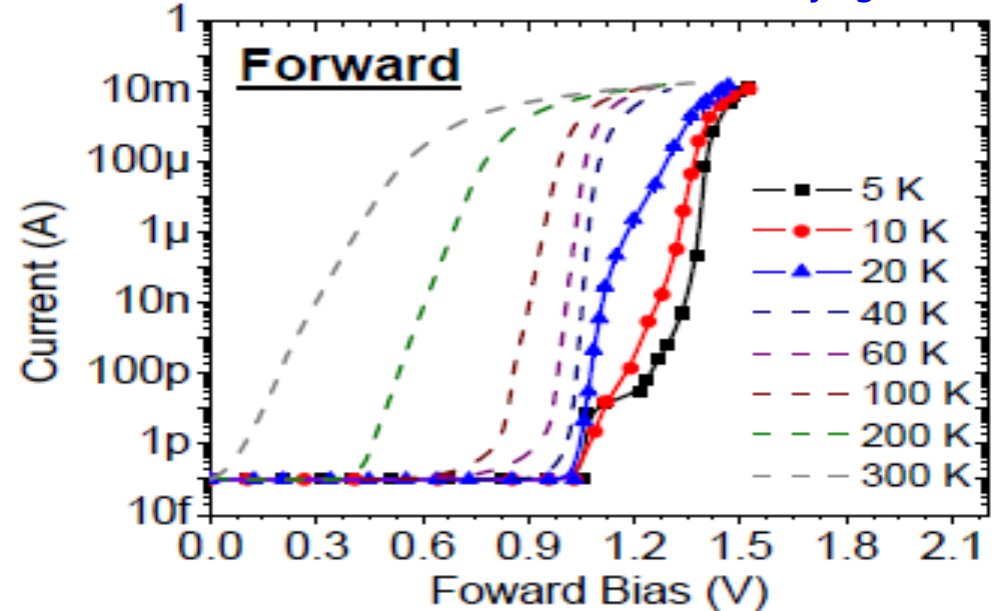


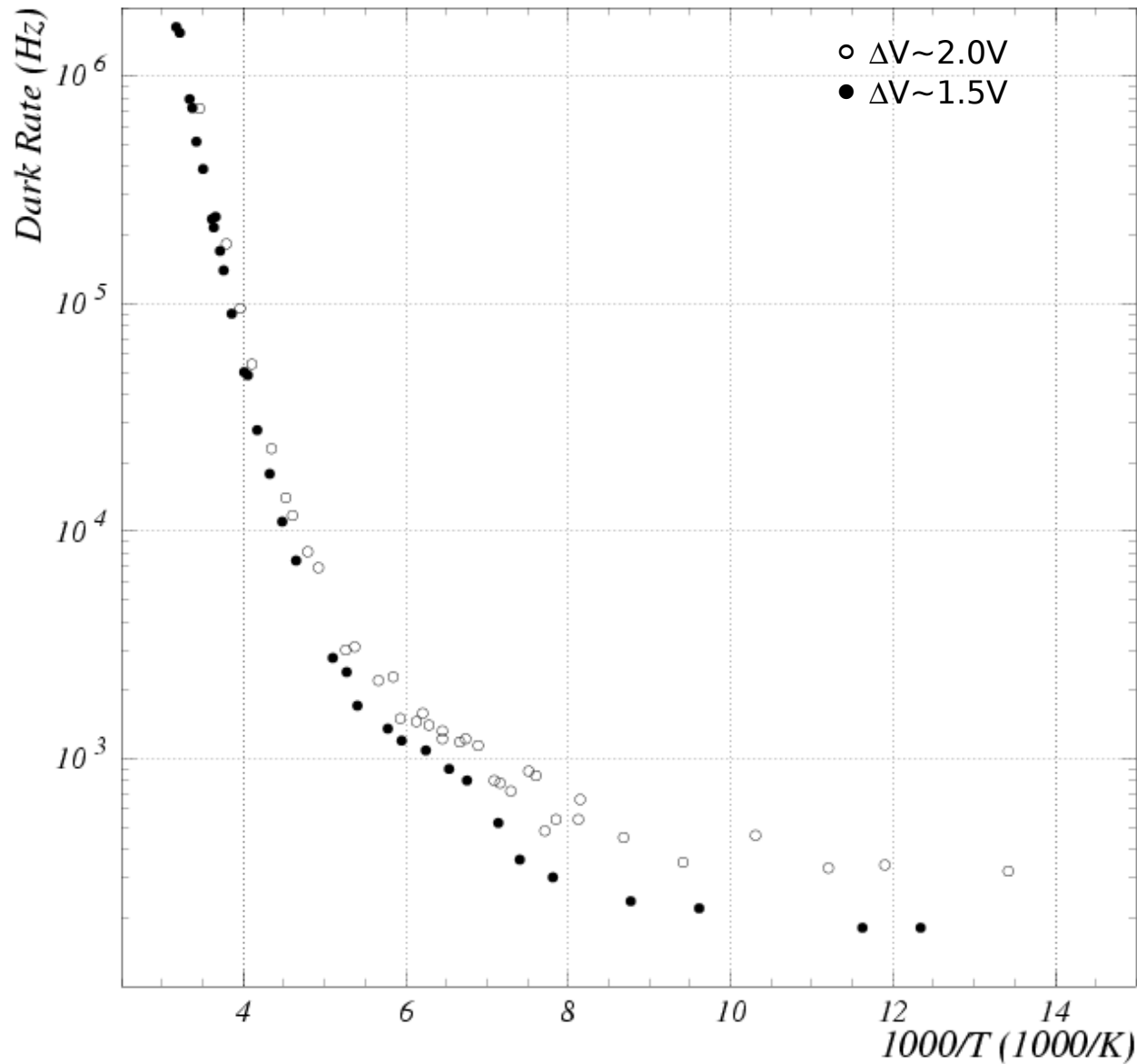
Fig. 8.16. The current-voltage characteristic of a *pn* junction

E.Johnson (RMD) at IEEE 2009  
 "Characterization of CMOS APD at cryogenic T"



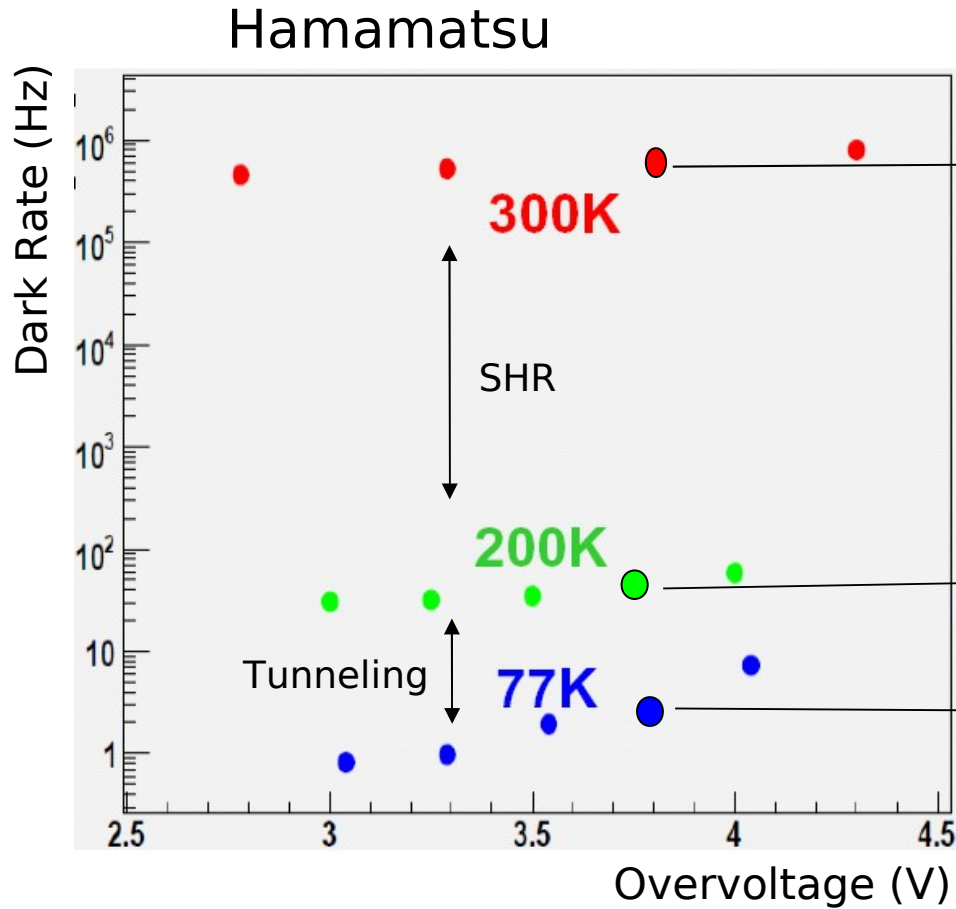
Sze - "Semiconductor devices"

# Dark count rate vs T (at fixed gain)

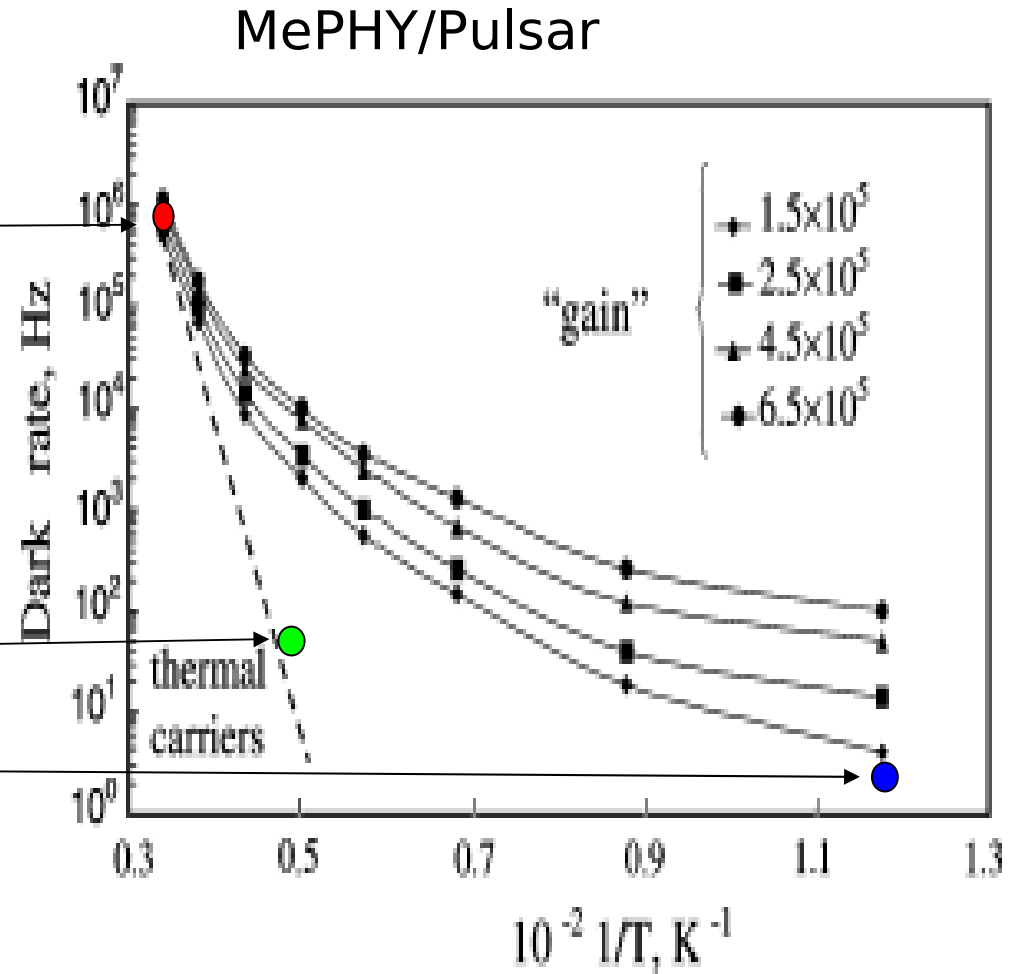


Measurement: **rate of  $\geq 1$ p.e.**  
at fixed gain (i.e.  $\sim$ fixed  $\Delta V$ )

# T dependence: Dark Rate



H.Otono - PD07



Dolgoshein et al, NIM A 442 (2000)

Electric field engineering and silicon quality make huge differences in dark noise as a function of T

# T dependence: PDE (SPAD/APD devices)

## PDE dependence on T

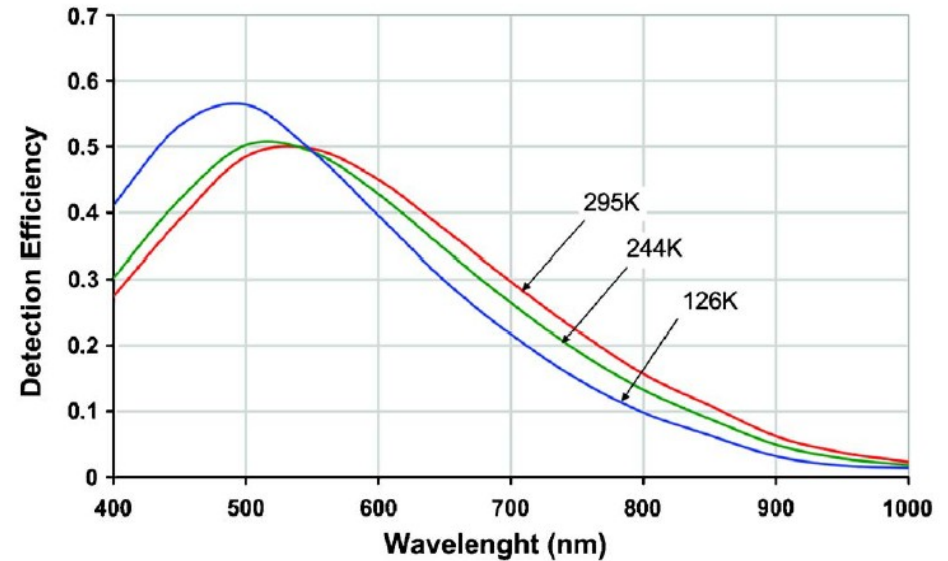
(Over-voltage fixed)

Combination of various effects:

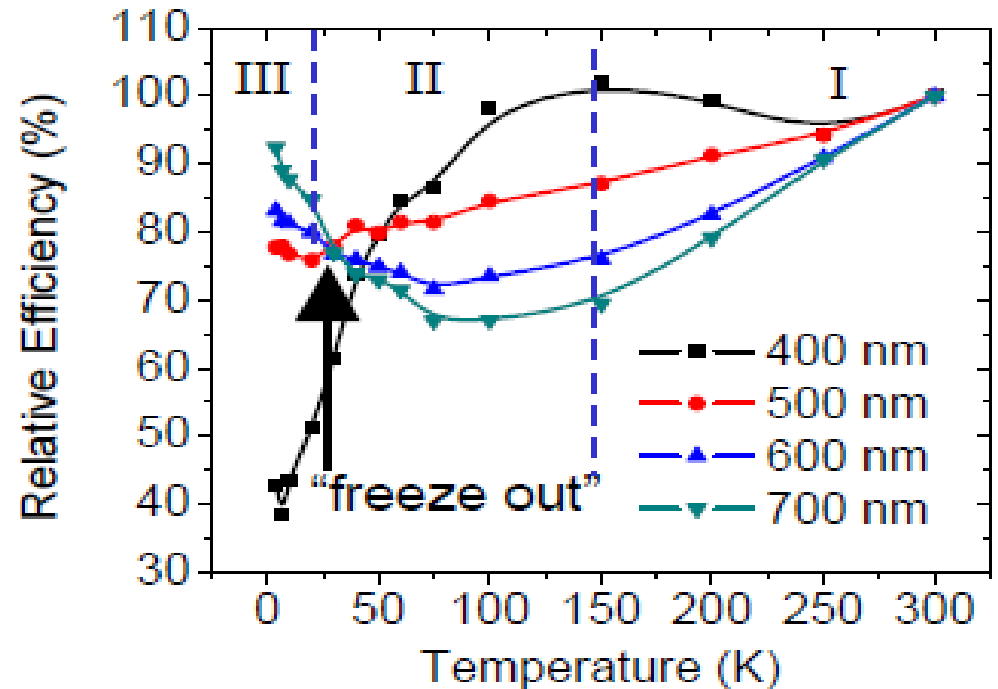
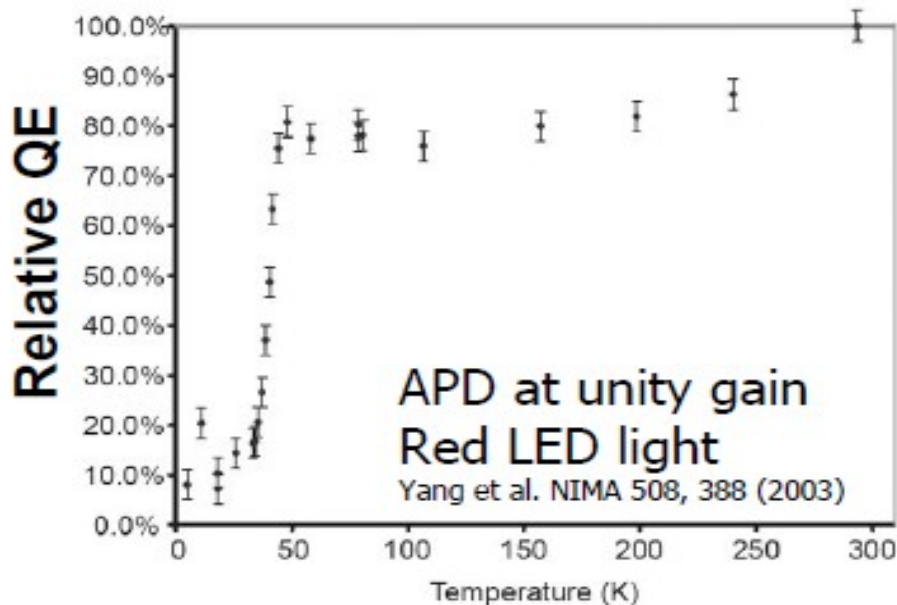
- $P_{01}$  increases at low T because of increased impact ionization
- Optical attenuation length increased (Energy gap increases) at low T
- Depletion region widening in APDs, but not in SiPM which are fully depleted

Similar effect expected also for SiPM

SPAD: Cova et al, Rev.Sci.Instr. 7 (2007)



APD: Johnson et al (RMD) IEEE 2009



# Photo-detection efficiency (PDE)

$$\text{PDE} = N_{\text{pulses}} / N_{\text{photons}} = \text{QE} \cdot P_{01} \cdot \epsilon_{\text{geom}}$$

## Carrier Photo-generation

(QE = probability for a photon to generate a carrier that reaches the high field region)

\*

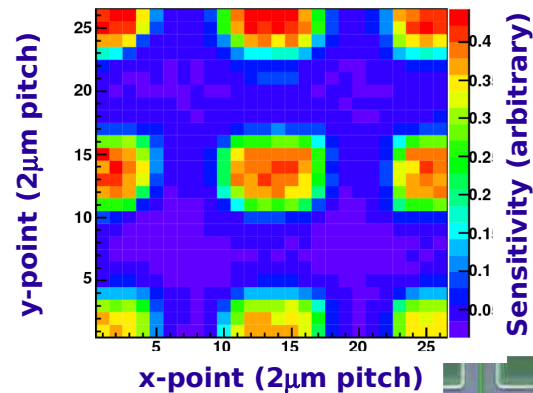
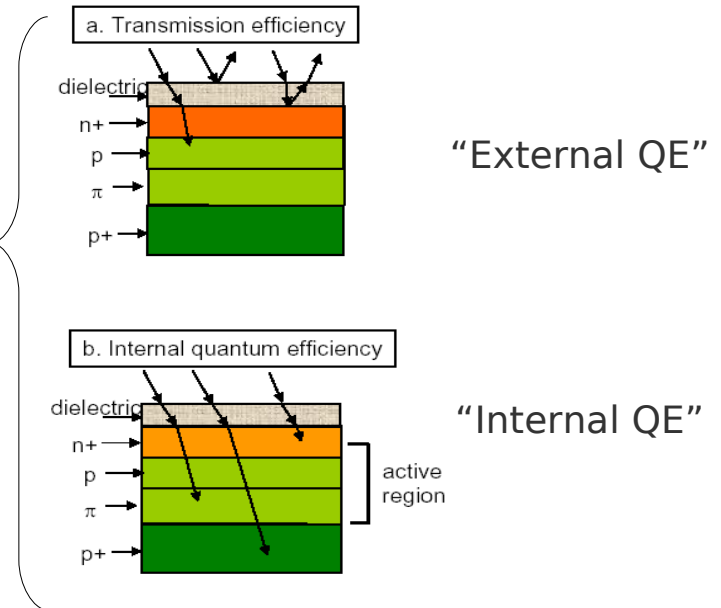
## Avalanche triggering

( $P_{01}$  = probability for a carrier traversing the high-field to generate the avalanche)

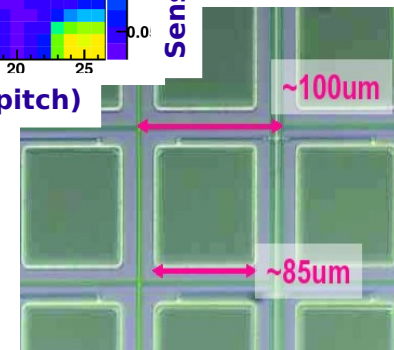
\*

## Geometrical fill factor

( $\epsilon$  = fraction of dead area due to structures between the cells, eg. guard rings, trenches)



Hamamatsu SiPM close up



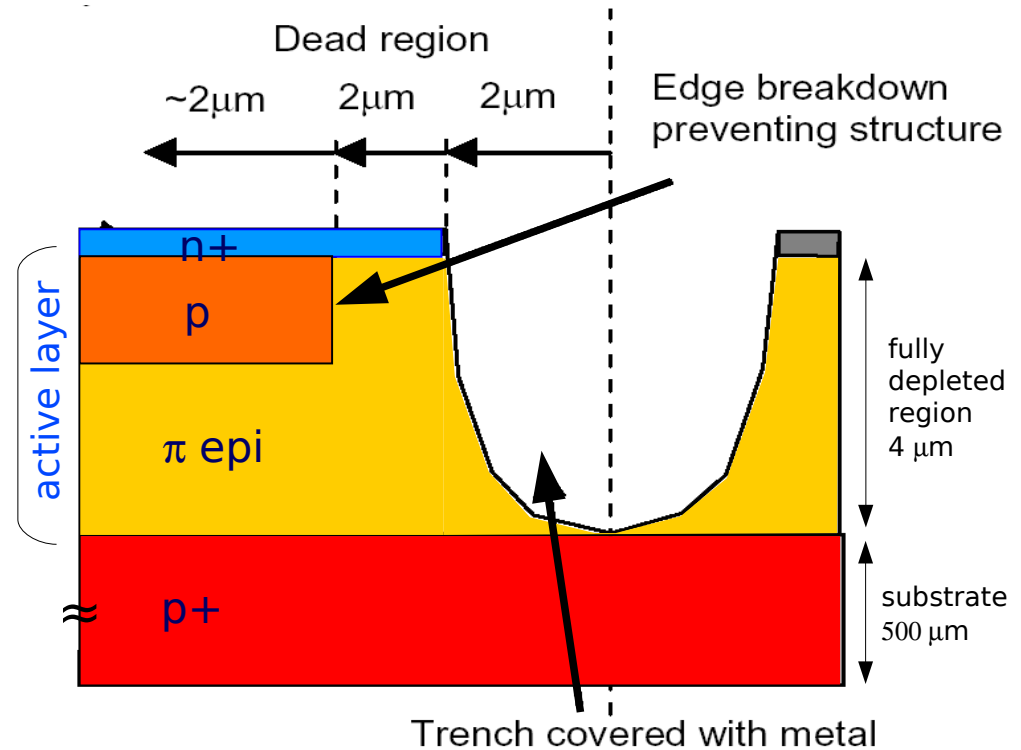
# QE: Efficiency of a single cell

Two factors in QE:

- (1) transmittance of the entrance window (dielectric on top of silicon surface)
- (2) probability of a photon inside to generate a e-h pair in the active layer (internal quantum efficiency)

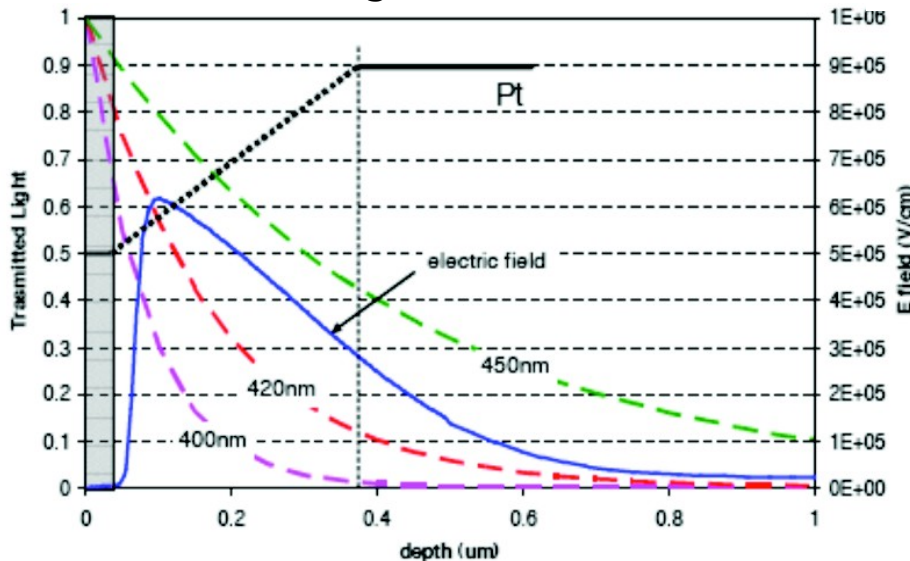
Only the depleted region is fully active to efficiently photo-generate because of high recombination probability in the un-depleted regions.

Only a small layer ( $\lambda_{\text{diffusion}} \sim \sqrt{D\tau_{\text{recomb}}}$ ) at the edge of un-depleted regions contributes to the photo-generation (critical for UV light)



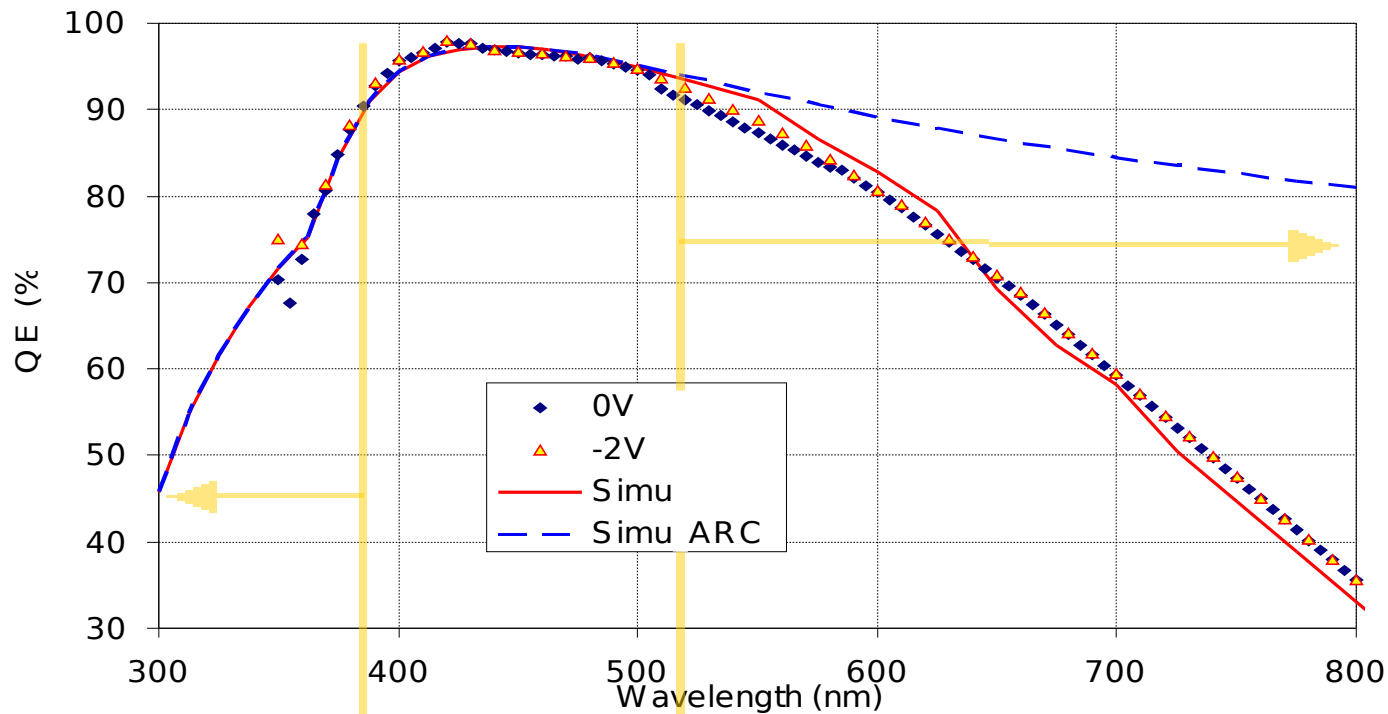
## QE optimization

- Anti-reflective coating (ARC)
- Shallow junctions for short  $\lambda$
- Thick epi layers for long  $\lambda$



# QE: Efficiency of a single cell

Direct access to **internal QE** and **transmittance through ARC** by measuring photo-voltaic regime ( $V_{\text{bias}} \sim 0 \text{ V}$ )  
the photon detection efficiency of a diode with the same  $n^+/p$  junction structure and same ARC



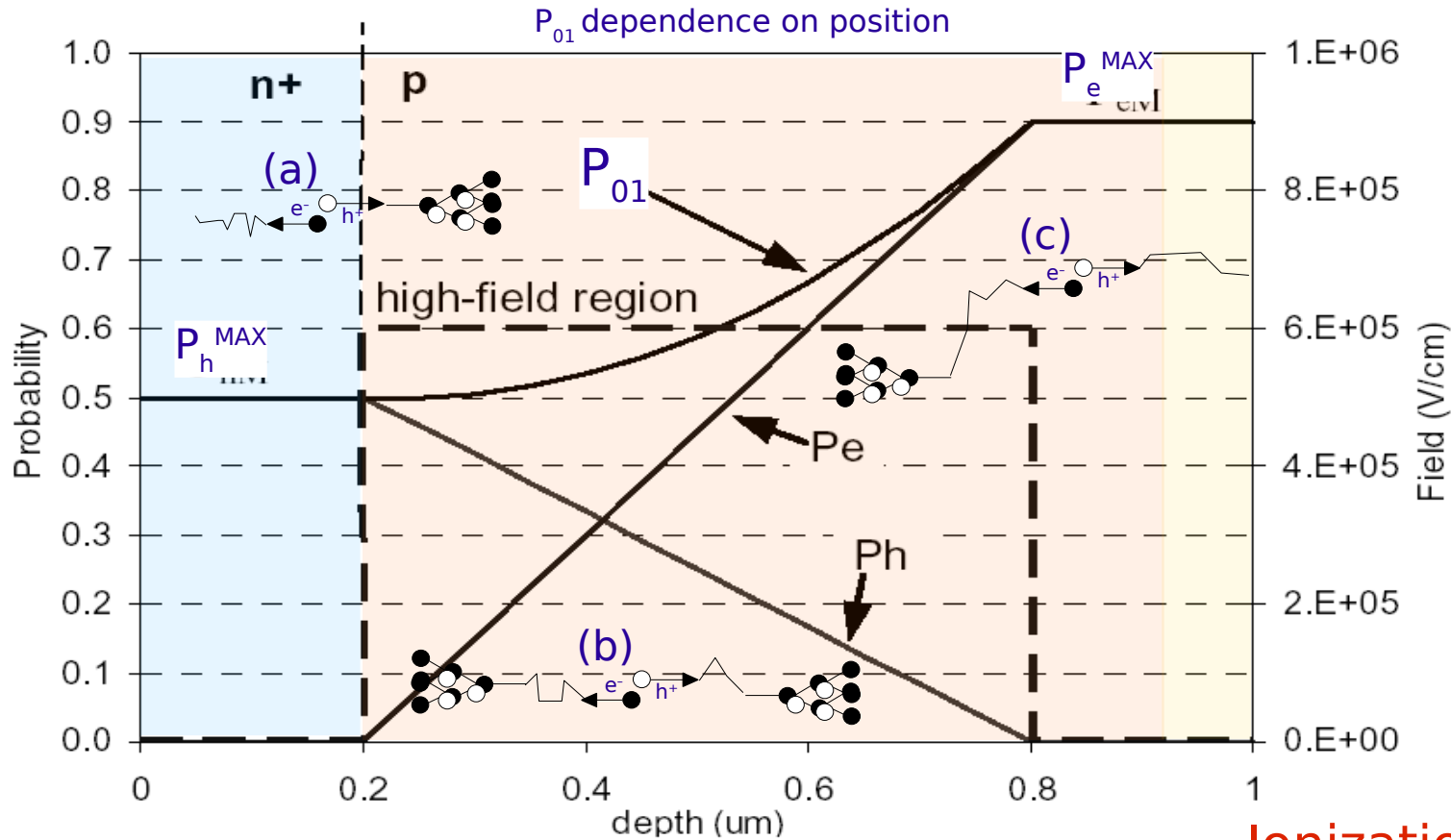
Reduced by  
ARC Transmittance

Reduced by the  
small  $\pi$  layer thickness



# Avalanche trigger probability ( $P_{01}$ )

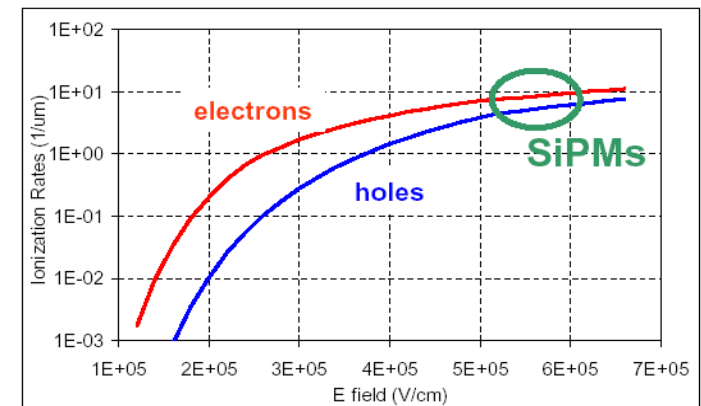
C.Piemonte  
NIM A 568  
(2006) 224



- Example with constant high-field:
- (a) only holes may trigger the avalanche
  - (b) both electrons and holes may trigger (but in a fraction of the high-field region)
  - (c) only electrons may trigger

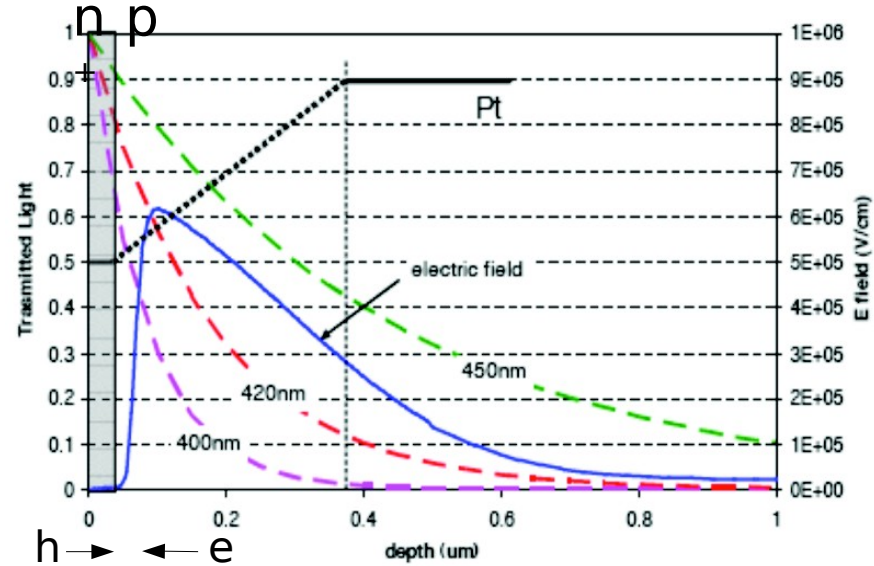
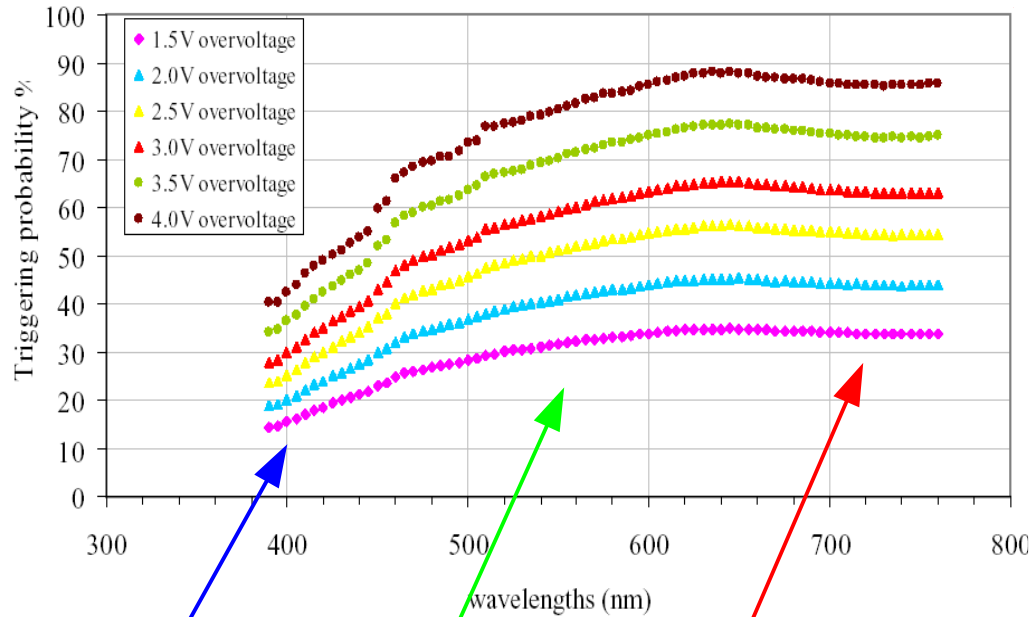
- high over-voltage
  - photo-generation in the p-side of the junction
- $P_{01}$  optimization ←

## Ionization rate in Silicon



# Avalanche trigger probability ( $P_{01}$ )

$$P_{01} = \text{PDE} / \text{QE} / \epsilon_{\text{geom.}}$$



Only  $e^-$  cross the high E field region and trigger the avalanche

Both  $h^+$  and  $e^-$  might trigger the avalanche (but cross only a fraction of high field region)

Only  $h^+$  cross the high E field trigger the avalanche

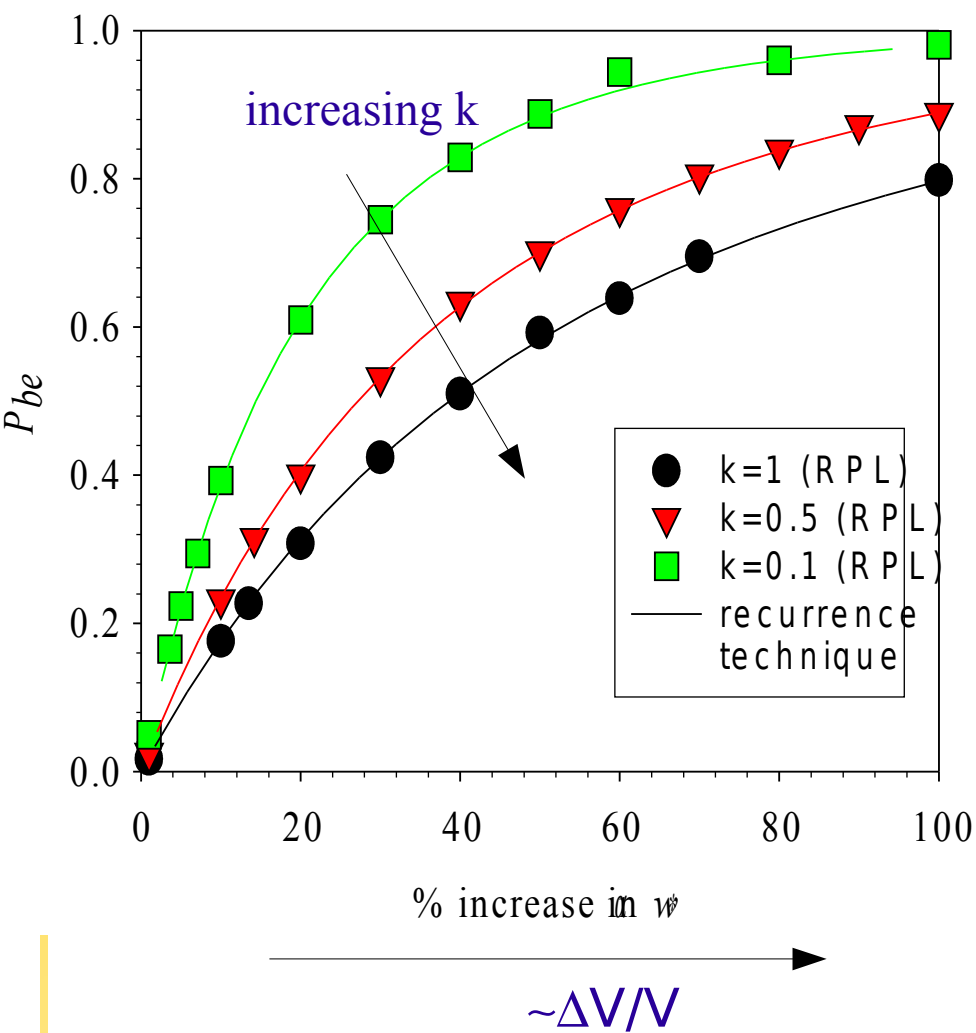
# PDE vs $\Delta V$

“Statistics of Avalanche Current Buildup Time in Single-Photon Avalanche diodes”

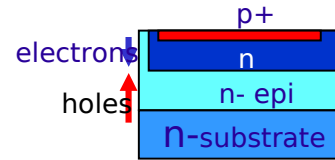
C.H.Tan, J.S.Ng, G.J.Rees, J.P.R.David (Sheffield U.)

IEEE J.Quantum Electronics 13 (4) (2007) 906

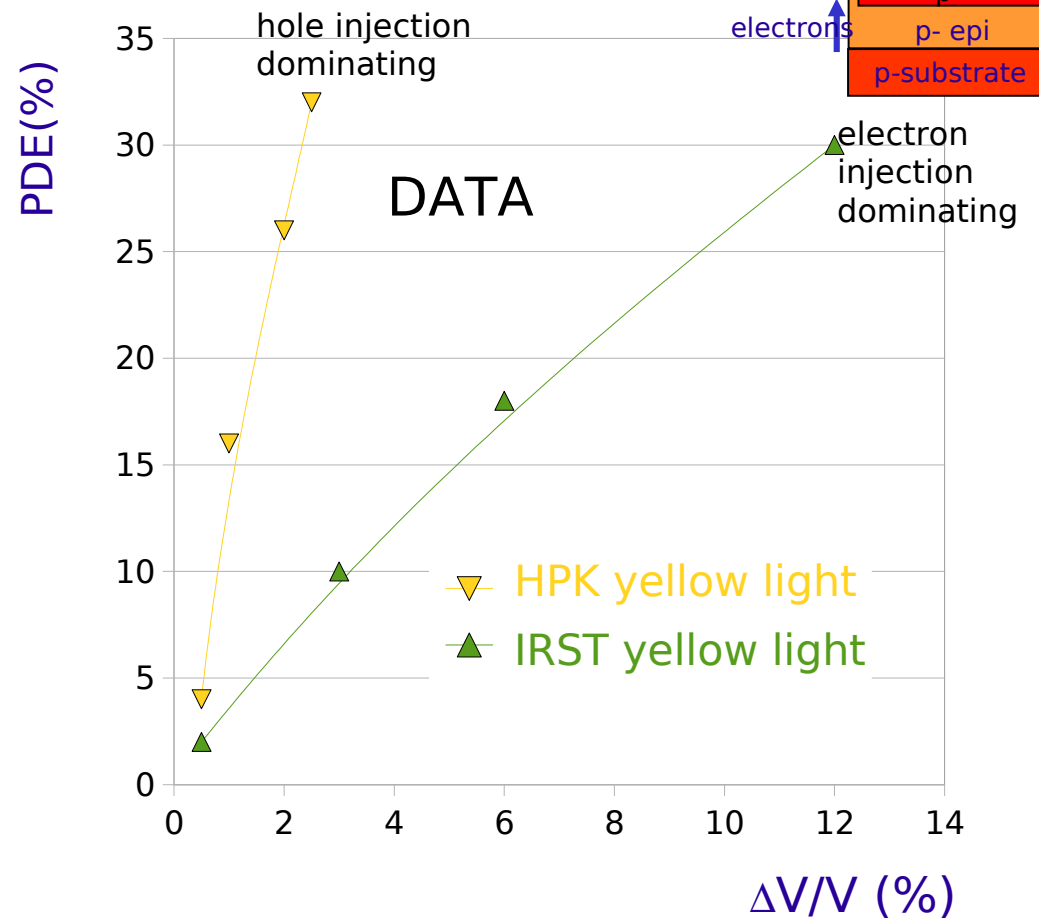
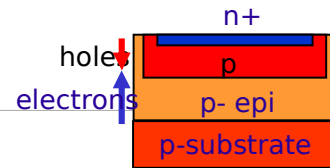
RPL model Courtesy of C.H.Tan



p-on-n structure



n-on-p structure



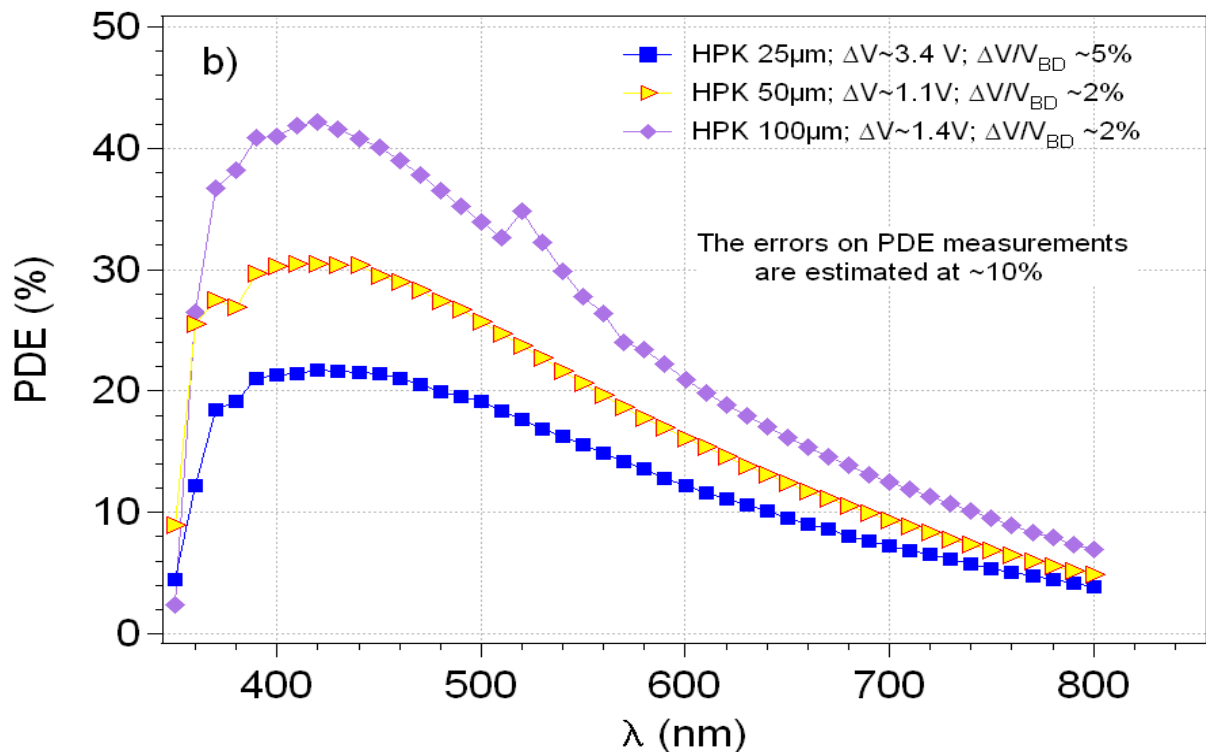
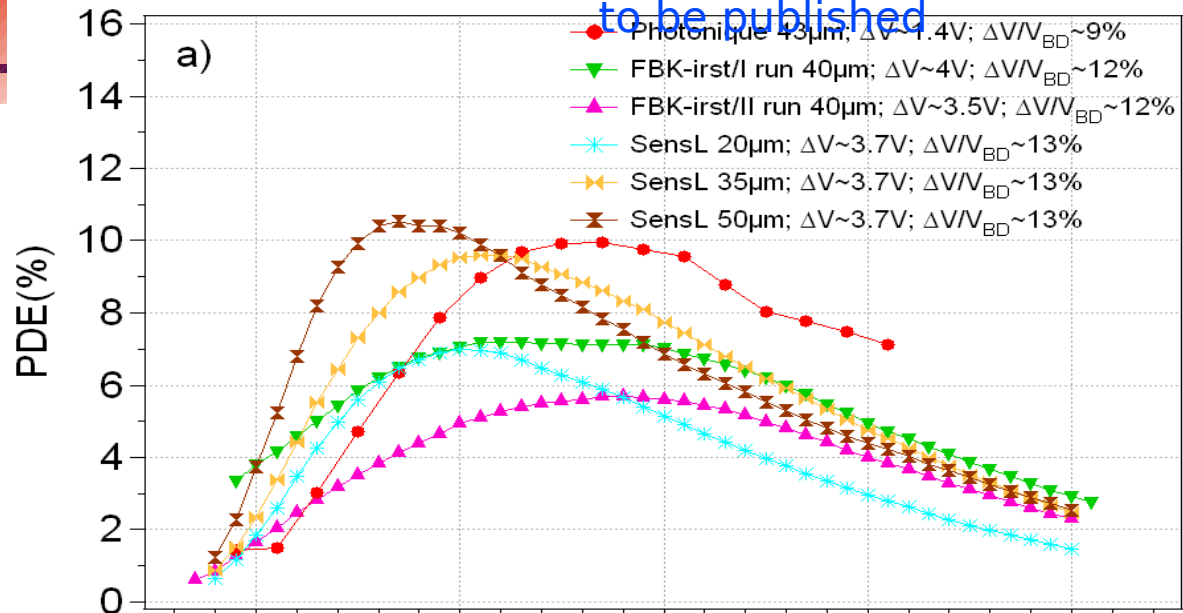
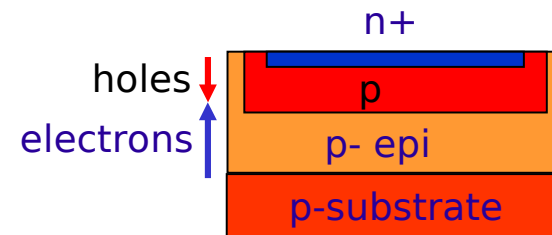
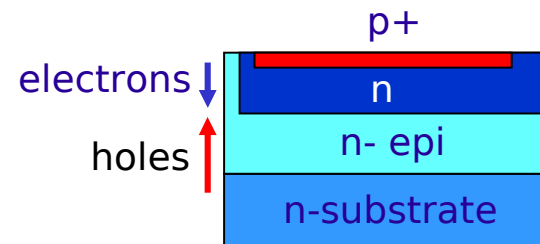


Fig. 5a) The PDE vs.  $\lambda$  of the Photonique, FBK-irst and SensL devices and b) HPK

### n-on-p structures



### p-on-n structure



Note:

- 1) geometrical fill factor included
- 2) PDE in HPK catalog is 20%-30% more than the real PDE due to after-pulses and cross-talk

# Experimental Setup

## Pump Laser

Millenia V (Spectra-physics)  
solid state CW visible laser

pump laser

## Crystal for Second Harmonic Generation (SHG)

conversion  $800 \text{ nm} \rightarrow 400 \text{ nm}$   
efficiency at % level

Ti:sapphire laser

SHG

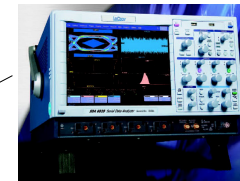
Filters

blue + neutral  
for rejecting IR light  
and tune intensity

Dark box

SiPM + amplifier

Low noise LV suppliers



## LeCroy SDA 6020

Analog bandwidth: 6GHz  
Sampling rate: 20GS/s  
Vertical resolution: 8 bits

(Acknowledgments:  
E.Marcon, LeCroy)

External trigger from  
Ti:sapphire laser  
signal

## Mode-locked Ti:sapphire Laser

Tsunami (Spectra-physics)  
femtosecond pulsed laser

wavelength: tuned at  $800 \pm 15 \text{ nm}$   
pulse width:  $\sim 60 \text{ fs}$  FWHM  
pulse period:  $\sim 12 \text{ ns}$   
pulse timing jitter  $< 100 \text{ fs}$

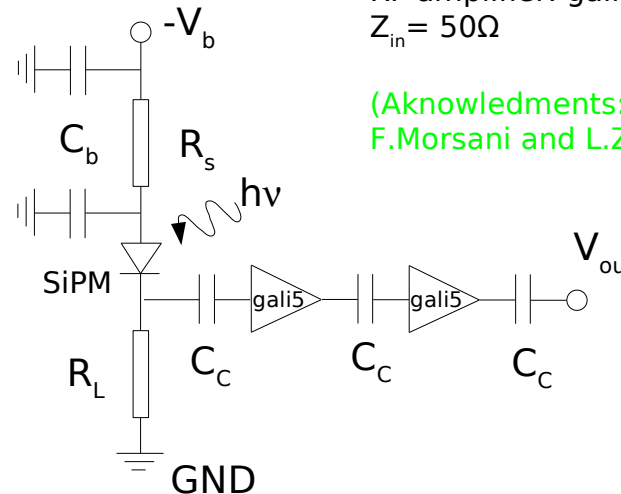
## Electronics

$I \rightarrow V$  conversion via  $R_L$  ( $500 \Omega$ )  
Two stage voltage amplification (= x50)  
based on high-bandwidth low-noise  
RF amplifier: gali-5 (MiniCircuit)  
 $Z_{in} = 50 \Omega$

(Acknowledgments:  
F.Morsani and L.Zaccarelli, INFN-Pisa)

## Data taking conditions:

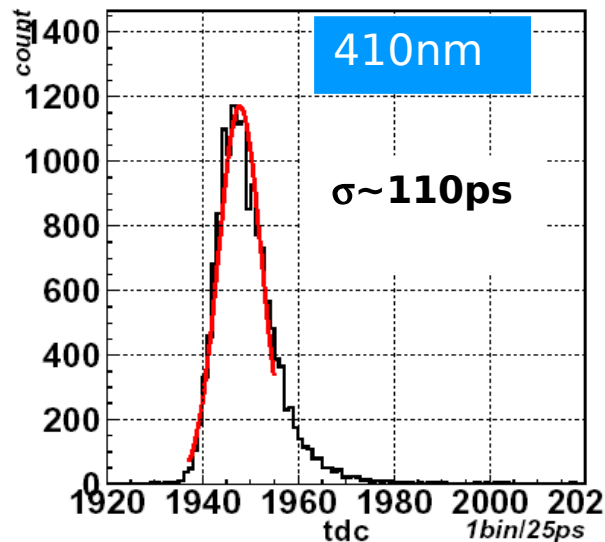
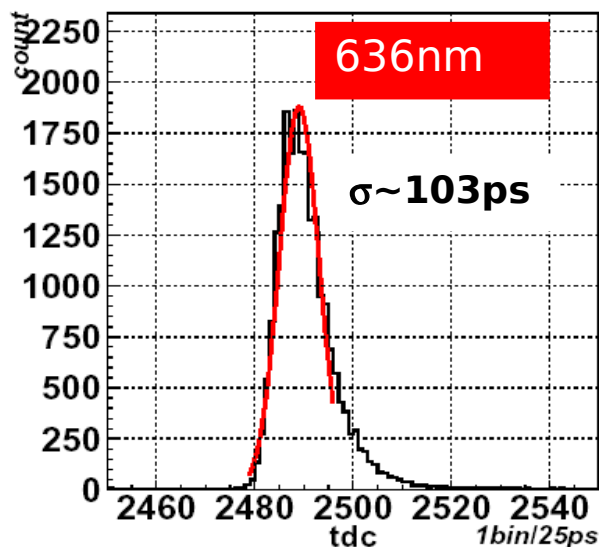
- different  $V_{bias}$
- both at  $800 \text{ nm}$  and  $400 \text{ nm}$
- with different light intensities  
(counting rates  
in the range  $10 \div 20 \text{ Mhz}$   
ie  $15 \div 30 \text{ KHz}$  per single cell)



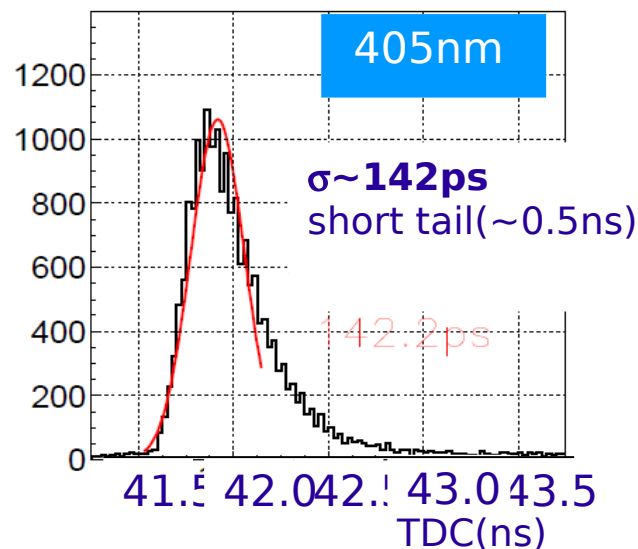
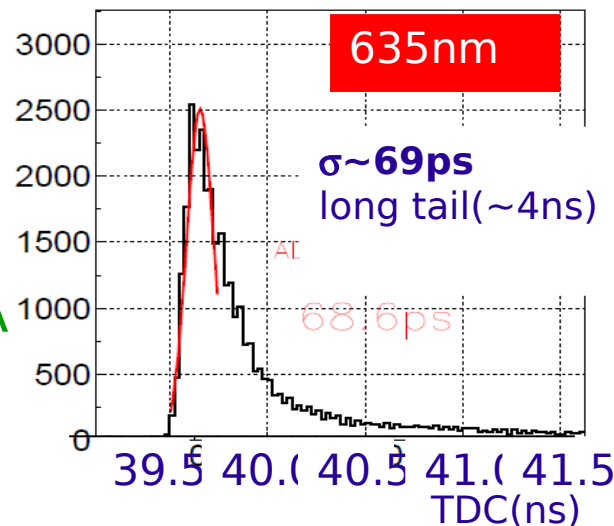
# SPTR: HPK/CPTA comparison

T.Iijima - PD07  
Nagoya and Lubiana groups

SiPM - HPK  
(MPPC)



SiPM - CPTA  
(MRS-APD)



Method: CFD + TDC + Time walk corrections

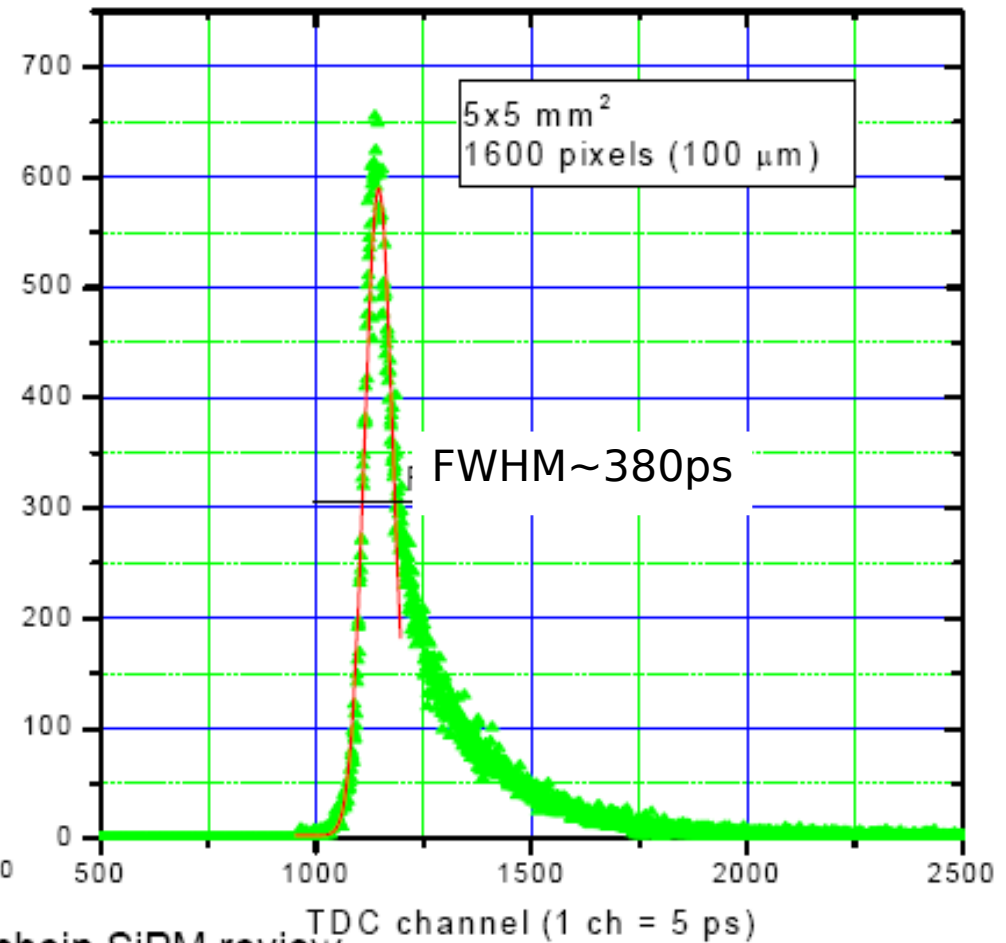
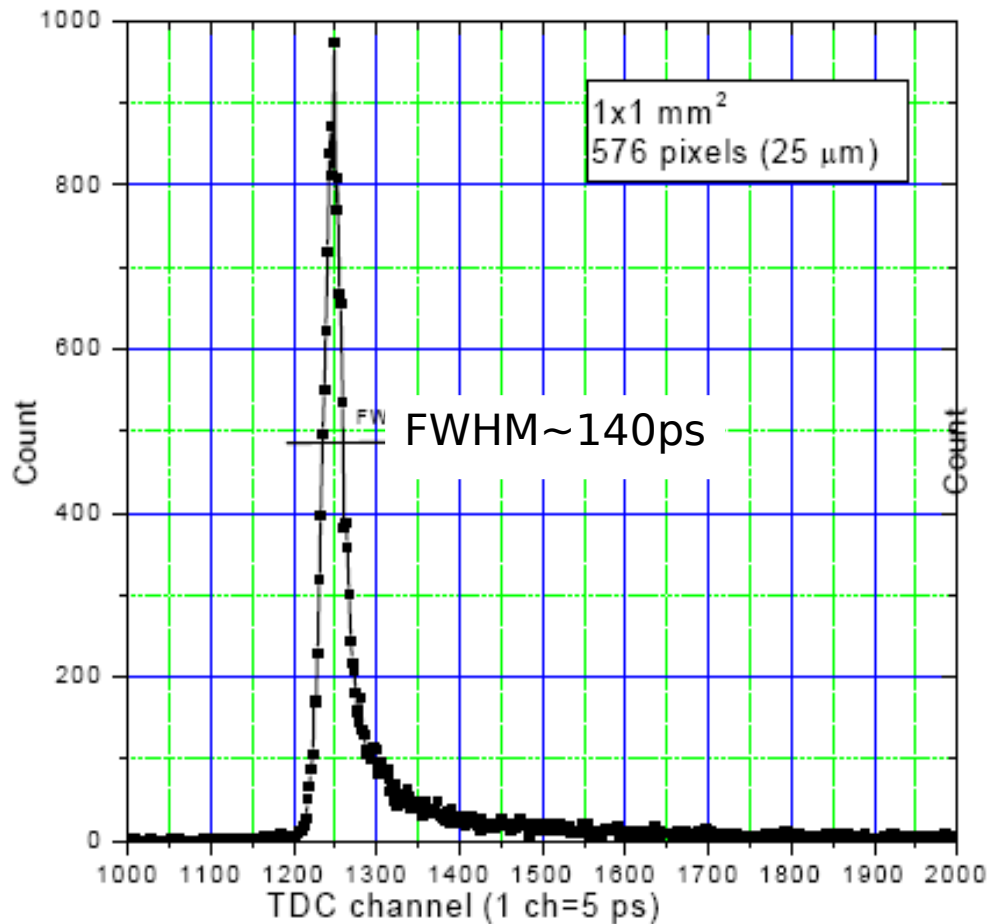
Compatible with DASIPM measurements

# SPTR: cell and sipm size dependence

B.Dolgoshein - LIGHT07

SiPM - MePhi/Pulsar:  
576 cells ( $25 \times 25 \mu\text{m}^2$ )  
Area =  $1 \times 1 \text{ mm}^2$

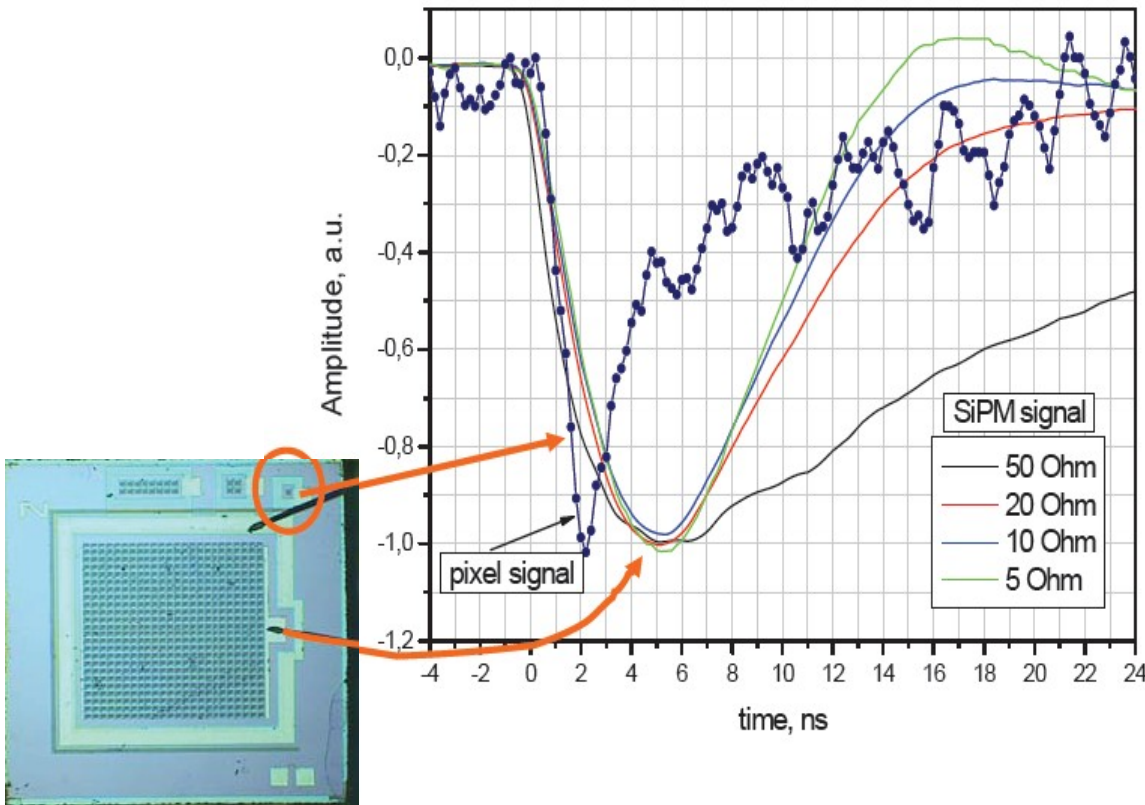
SiPM - MePhi/Pulsar:  
1600 cells ( $100 \times 100 \mu\text{m}^2$ )  
Area =  $5 \times 5 \text{ mm}^2$



B.Dolgoshein, SiPM review

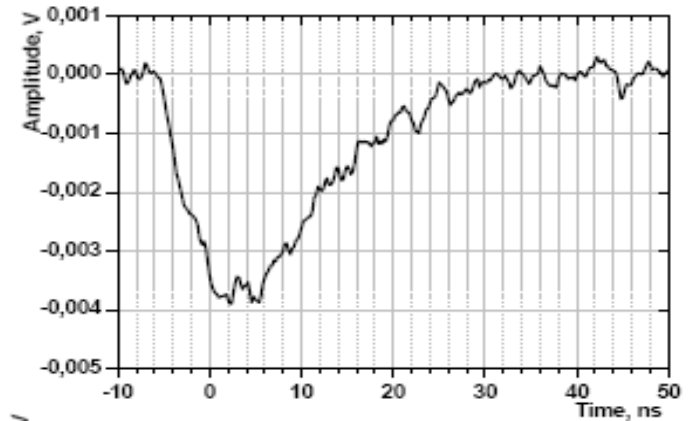
# SiPM signal: effect of $C_{tot}$ and $Z_{load}$

SiPM - MePhi/Pulsar:  
 1600 cells ( $100 \times 100 \mu\text{m}^2$ )  
 Area =  $5 \times 5 \text{ mm}^2$   
 $C_{tot} \sim 160 \text{ pF}$

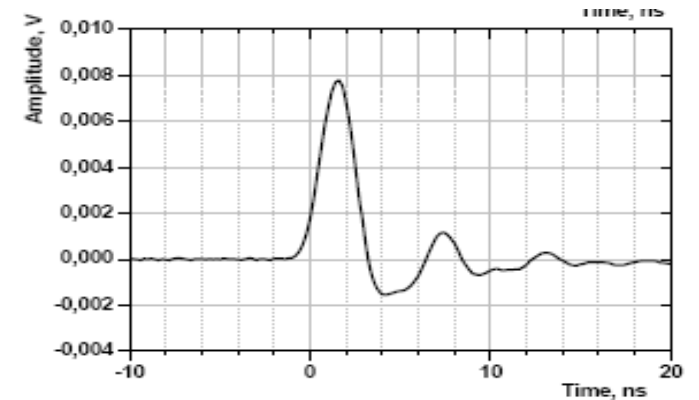


*B. Dolgoshein and E. Popova  
 LGF No. 7*

$Z_{in} \sim 50 \Omega$   
 $FWHM \sim 15 \text{ ns}$



$Z_{in} \sim 7 \Omega + \text{shaper}$   
 $FWHM \sim 2.5 \text{ ns}$



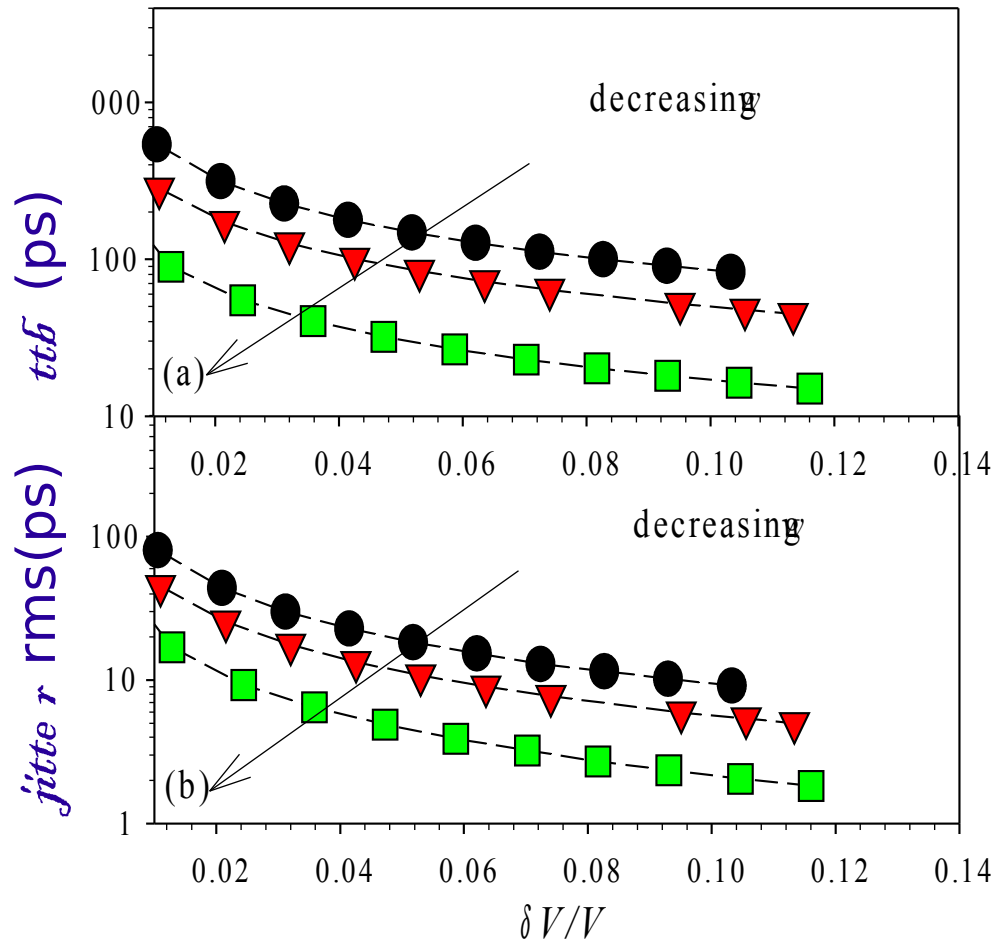
*Trans-impedance amplifier*



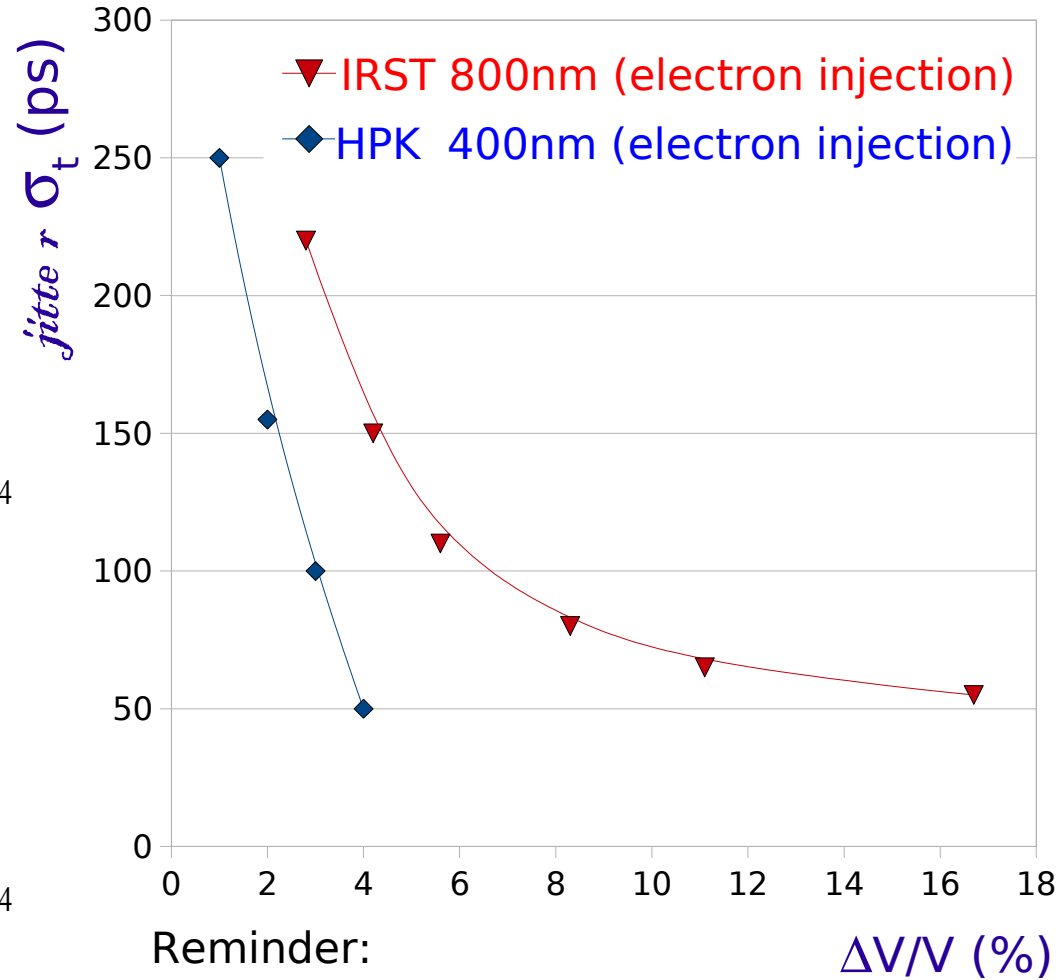
# RPL model vs data: comparison ... not yet

Example of RPL simulation of pure electron injection in Si SPAD

Courtesy of C.H.Tan



DATA  
(DASIPM)



Reminder:

IRST structure is n on p  
HPK structure is p on n

$\Delta V/V \text{ (\%)}$

# Timing vs T (SPAD devices)

## Timing: better at low T

Lower jitter at low T due to higher mobility

(Over-voltage fixed)

