

Educational experience with the GRID mission

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on behalf of the GRID collaboration
Tsinghua University, Beijing, China

Monitoring the high-energy sky with small satellites

07 September 2022



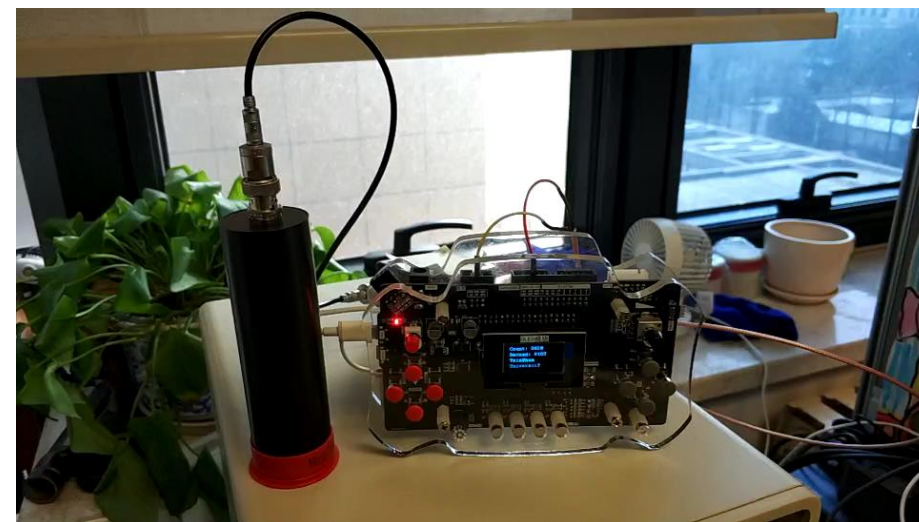
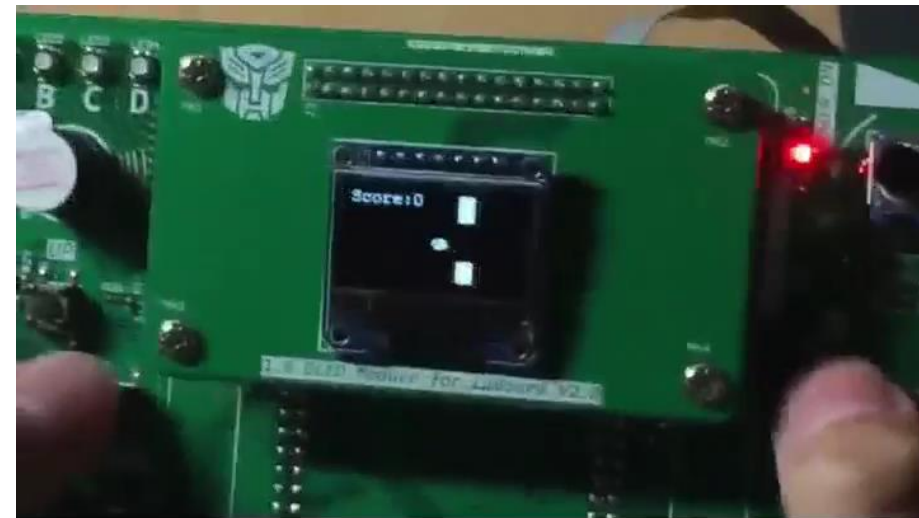
History of GRID since 2016



- The GRID concept was first proposed in October of 2016 by a group of undergraduate students, inspired by discussions with several professors.
- The first four detectors (GRID-01/02/03B/04) have been launched in Oct. 2018, Nov. 2020, and Feb. 2022, respectively.
- 25 universities and institutes in China have joined the GRID collaboration.

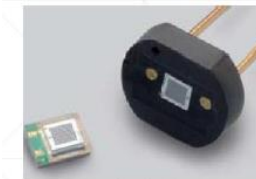
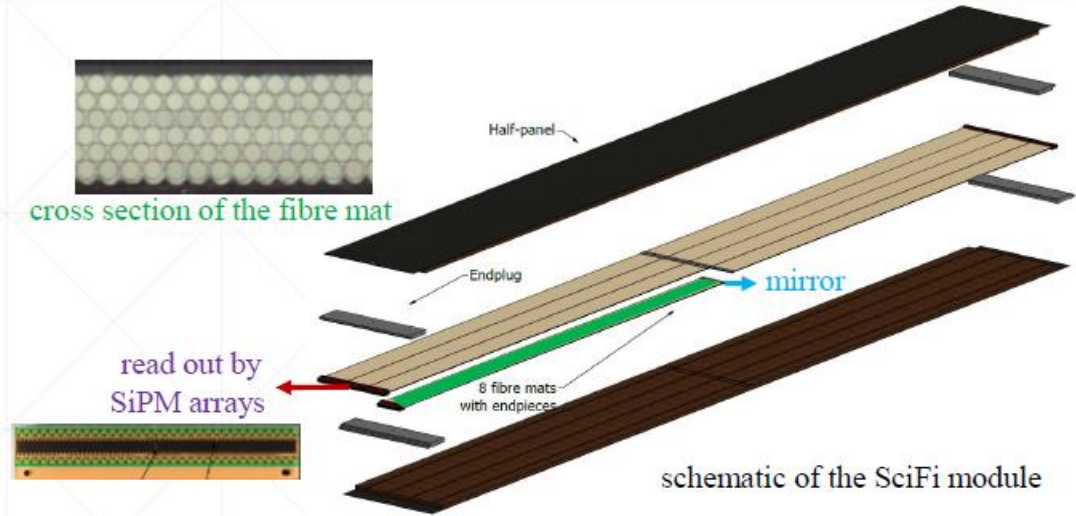
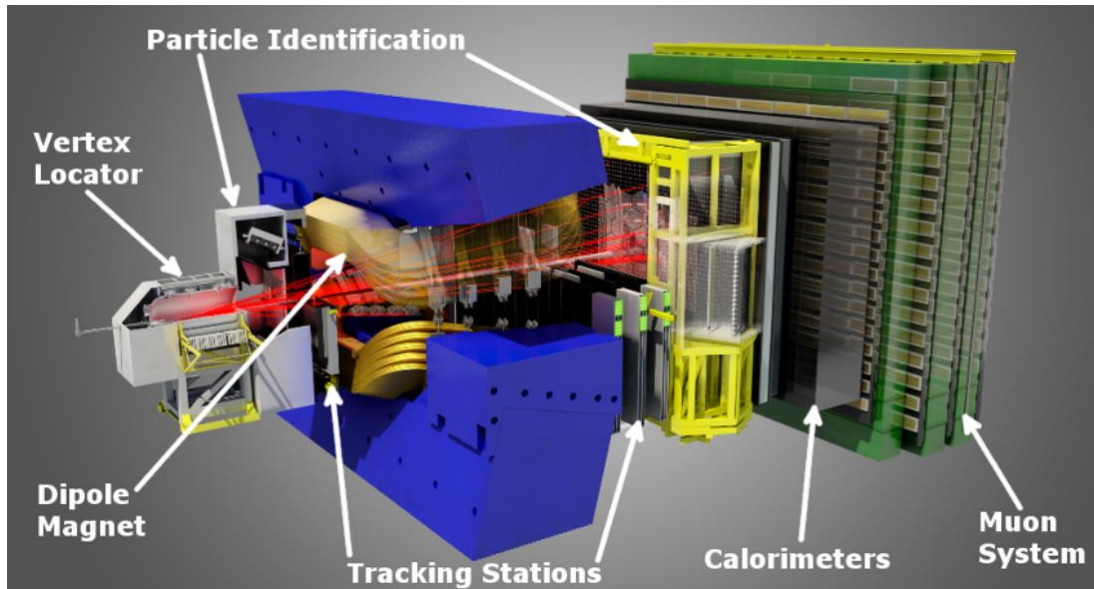
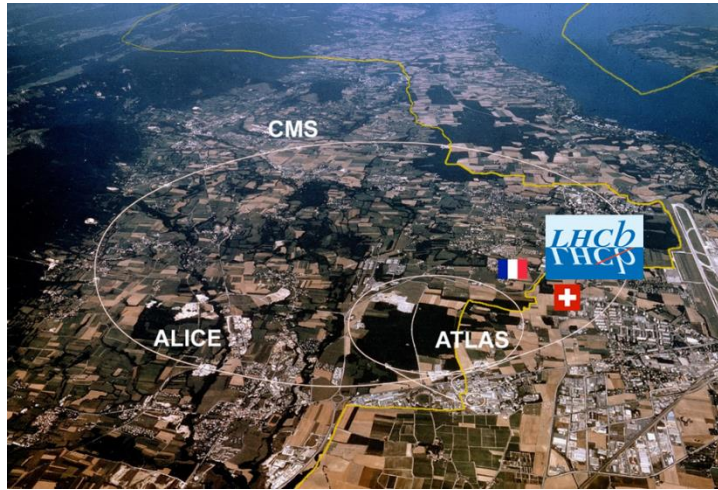


How to make it more attractive?

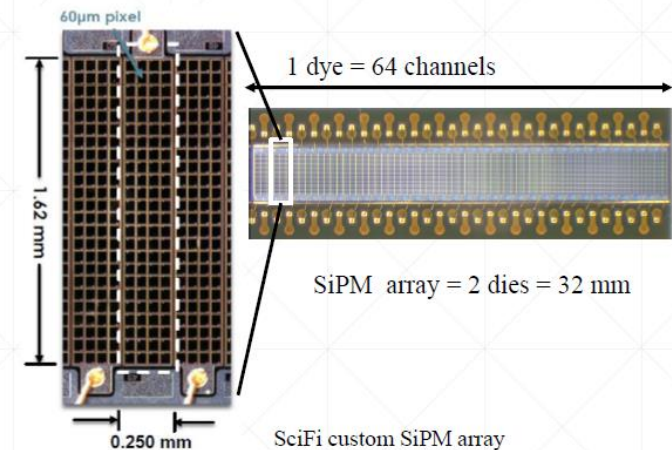


MOOCs

From courses to particle physics experiments

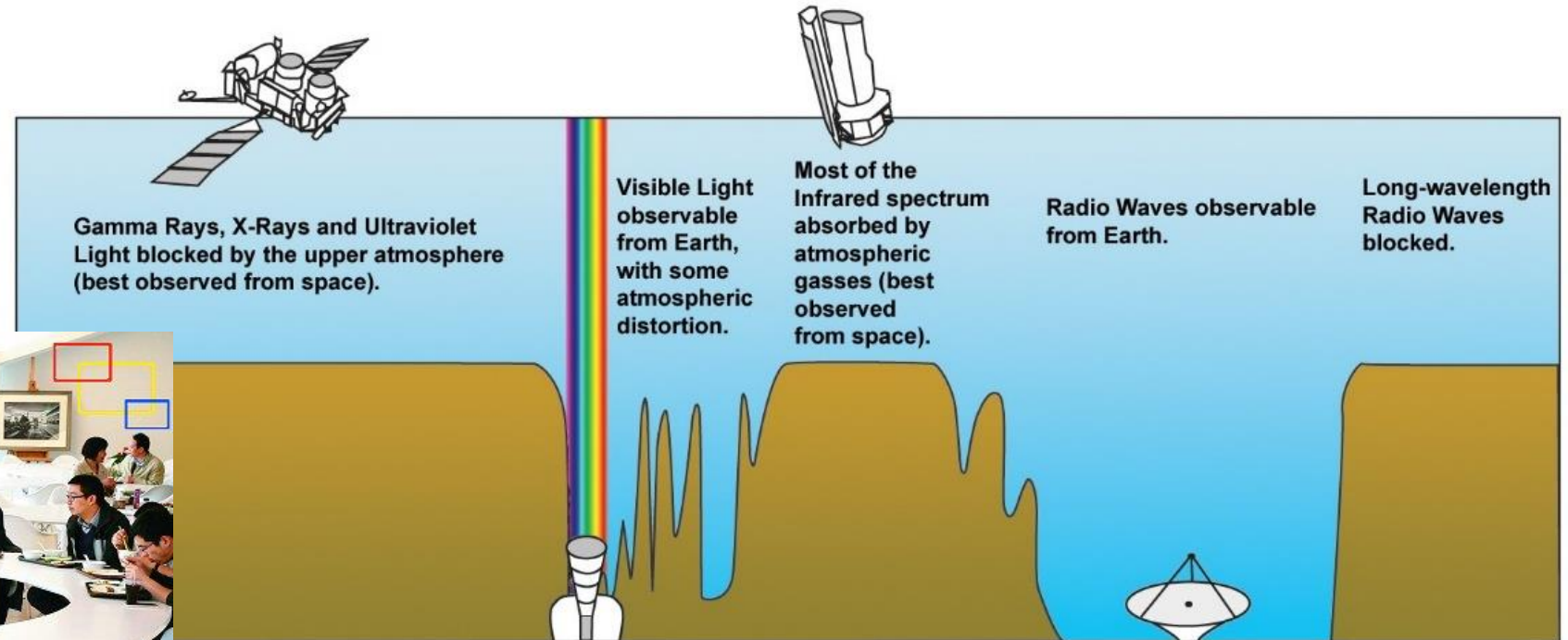
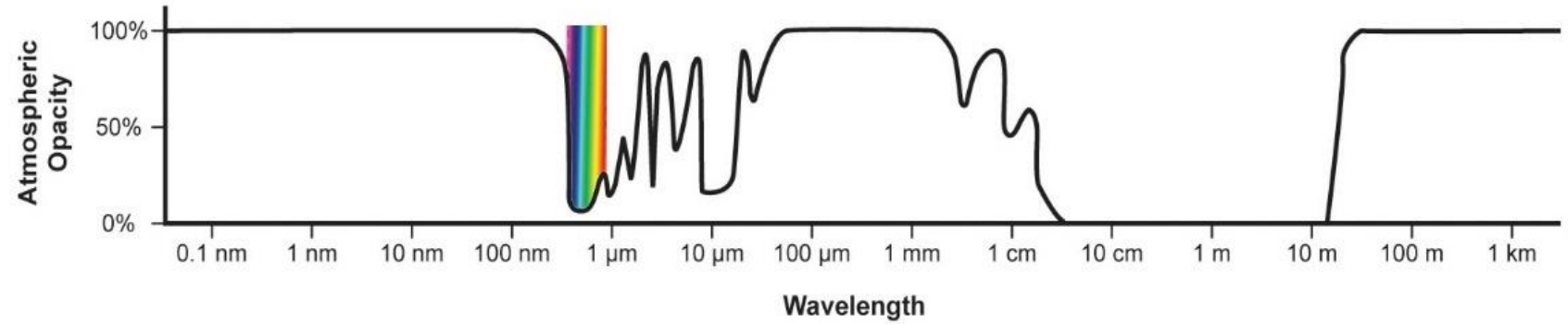


single channel SiPMs

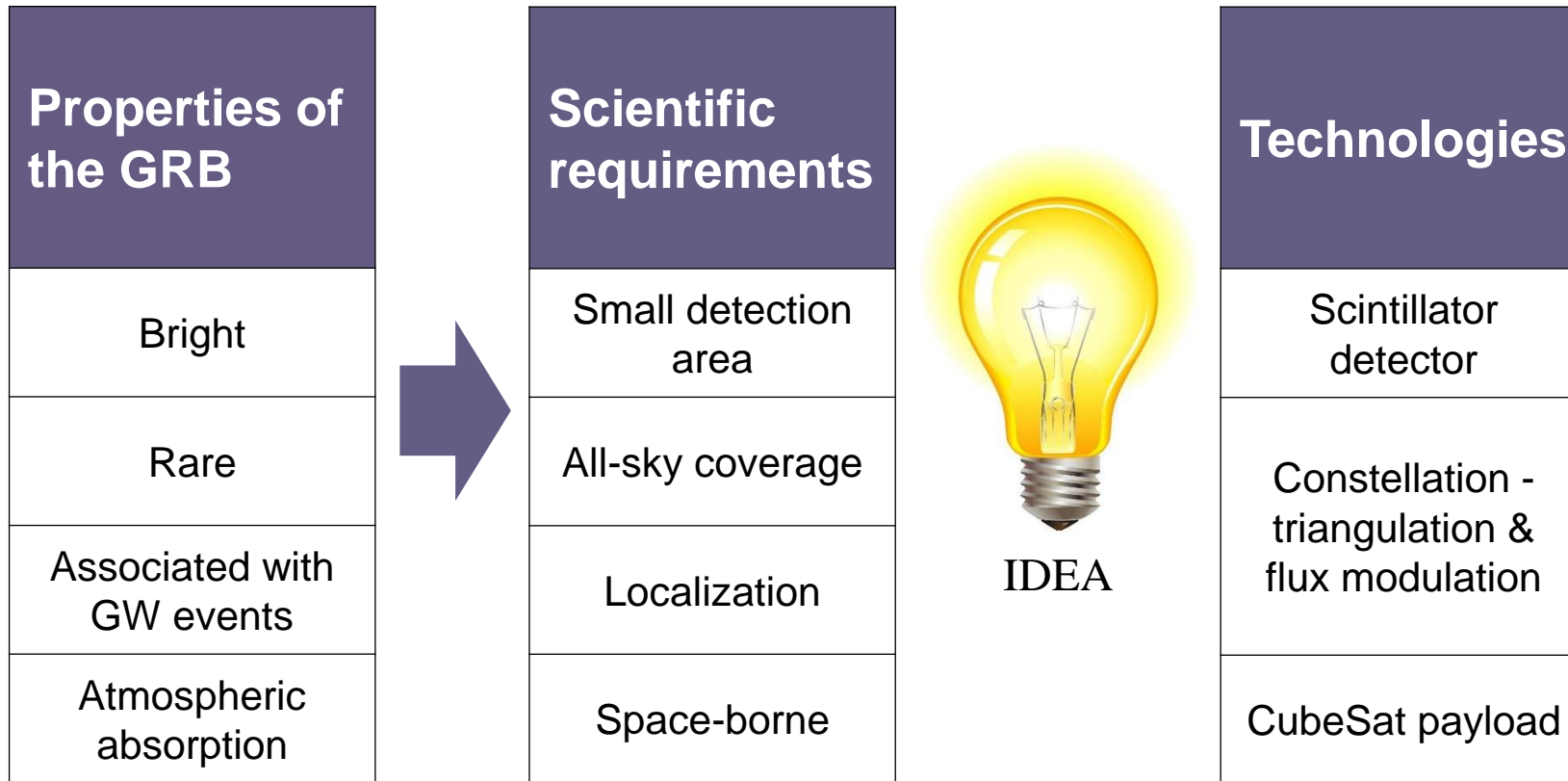


SciFi custom SiPM array

Comes from a discussion



Inspiration



- ✓ Radiation detector: course learned
- ✓ Embedded system and electronics: course learned
- ✓ CubeSat: commercial satellite platform, developing rapidly
- ✓ **Practicable for students** 😊

The student team



The 2016 student team



The 2020 student team

- The first generation of team members recruited by email, about 100 students, from 7 colleges. (Engineering Physics, Physics, Material, EE, Mechanical Engineering, Aerospace Engineering)
- Student team: System Group, Hardware Group, Calibration Group, Telemetry Group, Data Group, Science Group
- Graduated Student: Polarlight CubeSat, LZ dark matter, JUNA nuclear astrophysics, LHCb, EAST tokamak, Polar2 & GECAM

Seminars



Lectures in 2016 ~ 2017 given by:

Shaolin XIONG, IHEP, PI of GECAM mission

Chen ZHANG, NAOC, PI assistant of Einstein Probe mission

Binbin ZHANG, NJU, GRB science

Ming ZENG, THU, particle detector and electronics

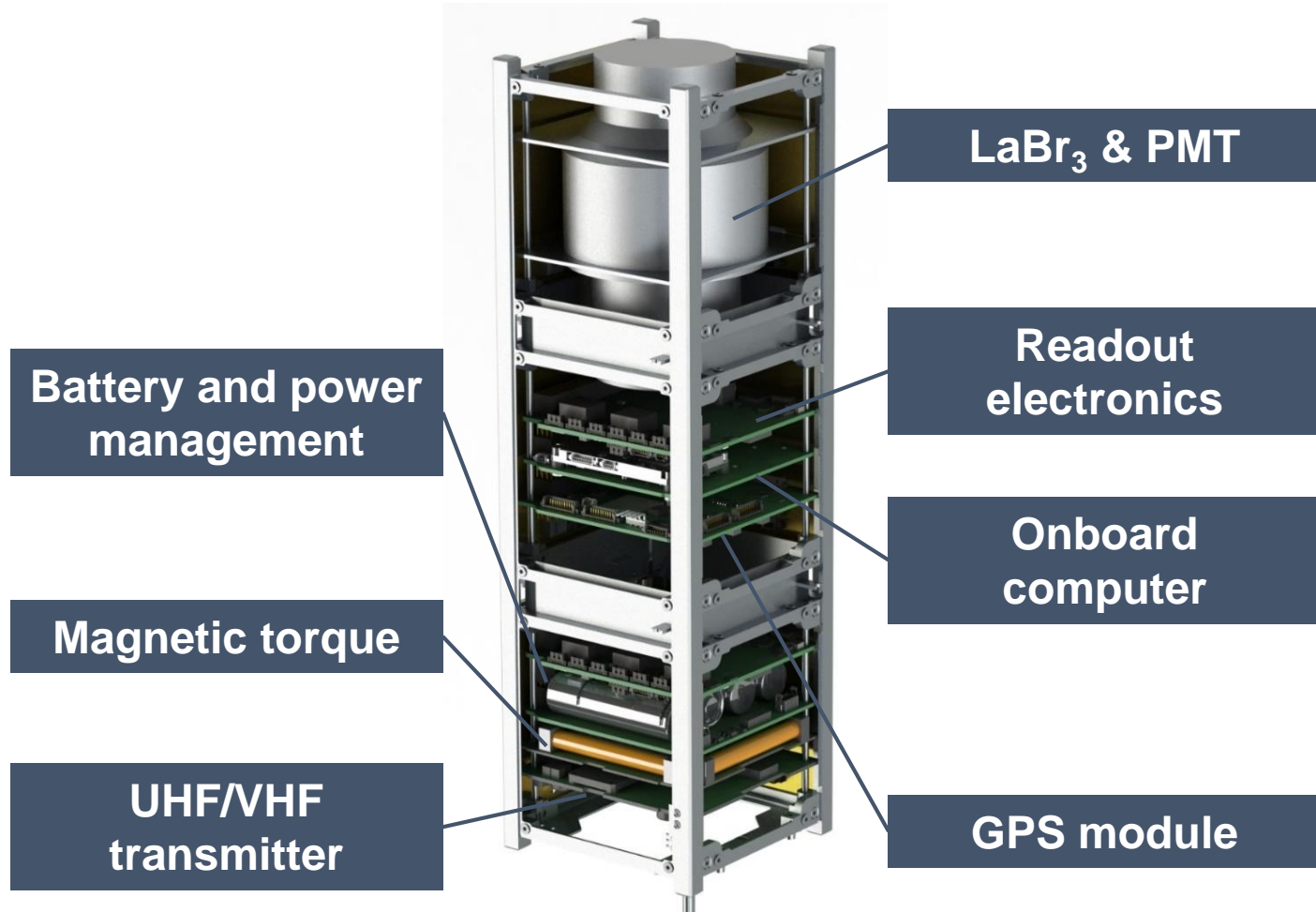


Discuss with Prof. Yanbei CHEN, Caltech
Gravitational wave detectors (e.g., LIGO)



Discuss with Prof. Enwei Liang, Guangxi University
GRB and Multi-messenger Astronomy

A draft of Scientific Reports and ... 2017



After GW170817

Reliability? Cost?
Scientific Value and Validity



Detector: 20 keV~2 MeV
Optimize performance

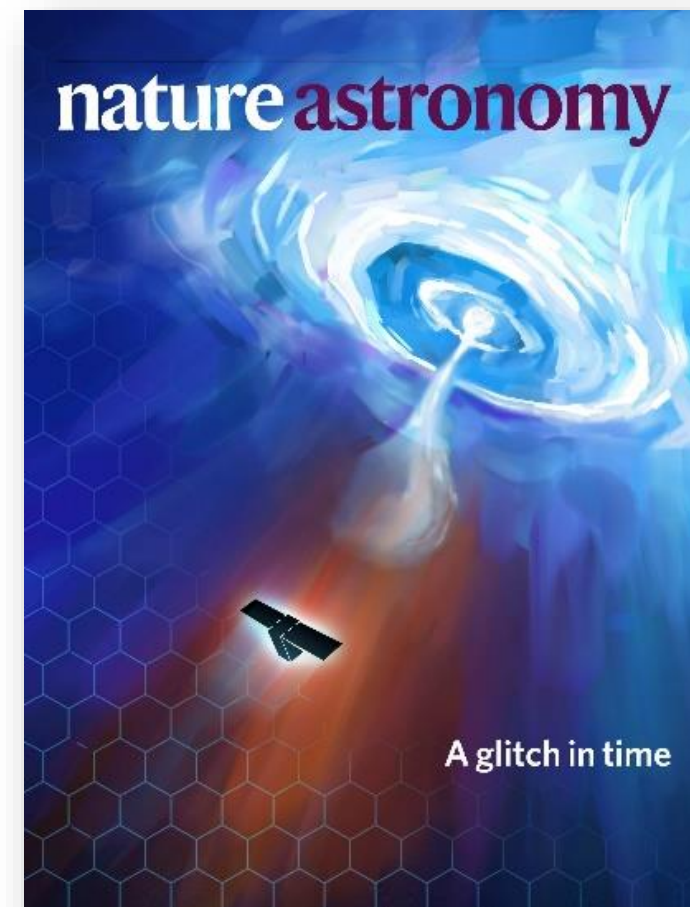
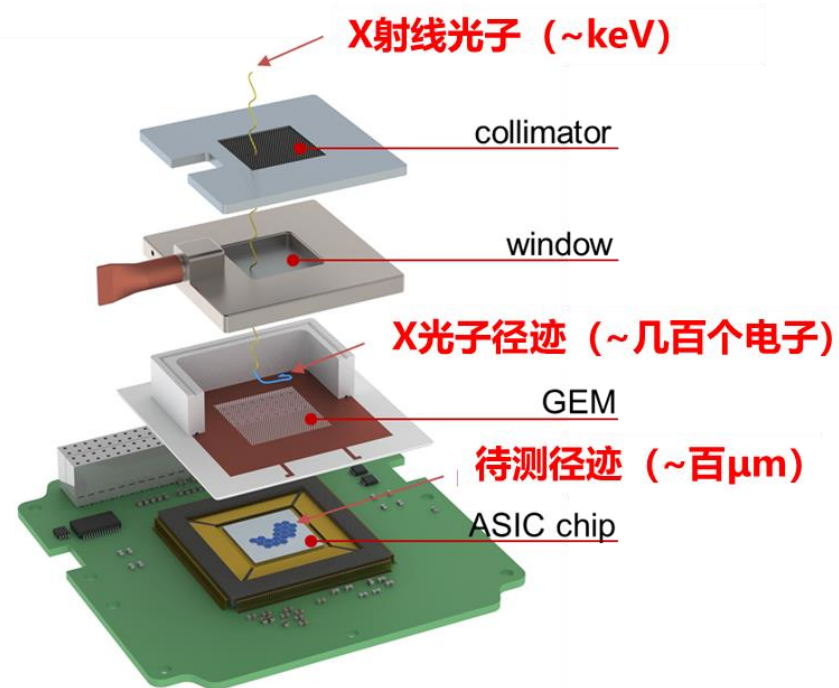
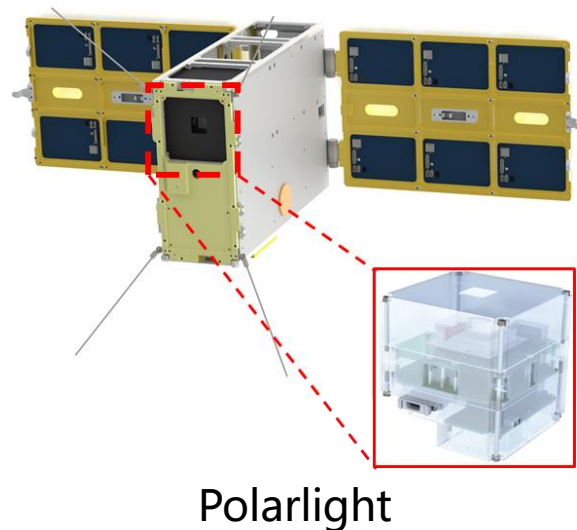


Electronics: reliable & integrated
Compress size

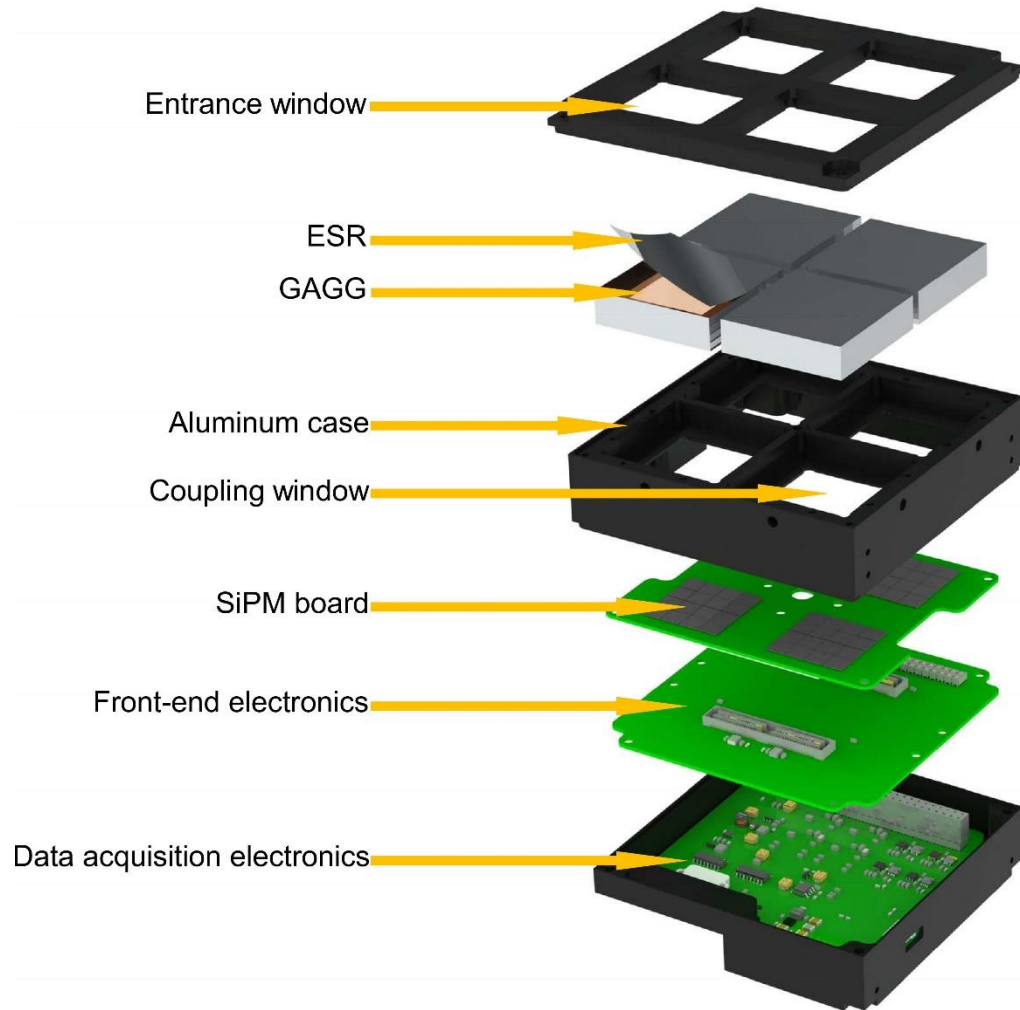


Volume: 0.5 U (10 cm×10 cm×5 cm)
palm-size

Polarlight - the X-ray polarimetry



The GRID detector



Specifications of GRID-02

Size	$< 0.5U$ ($9.4 \times 9.4 \times 5 \text{ cm}^3$)
Weight	$\sim 780 \text{ g}$
Power consumption	Typ. 2 W Max. 2.8 W
Geometric area	$\sim 58 \text{ cm}^2$
Field of view	2π
Energy range	Lower threshold $< 15 \text{ keV}$ Upper threshold $\sim 2 \text{ MeV}$
Dead time	$\sim 20 \text{ us}$
Background count rate	Norm. $\sim 2000 \text{ cps}$ SAA $> 8000 \text{ cps}$
Telemetry	$\sim 1 \text{ GB/day}$

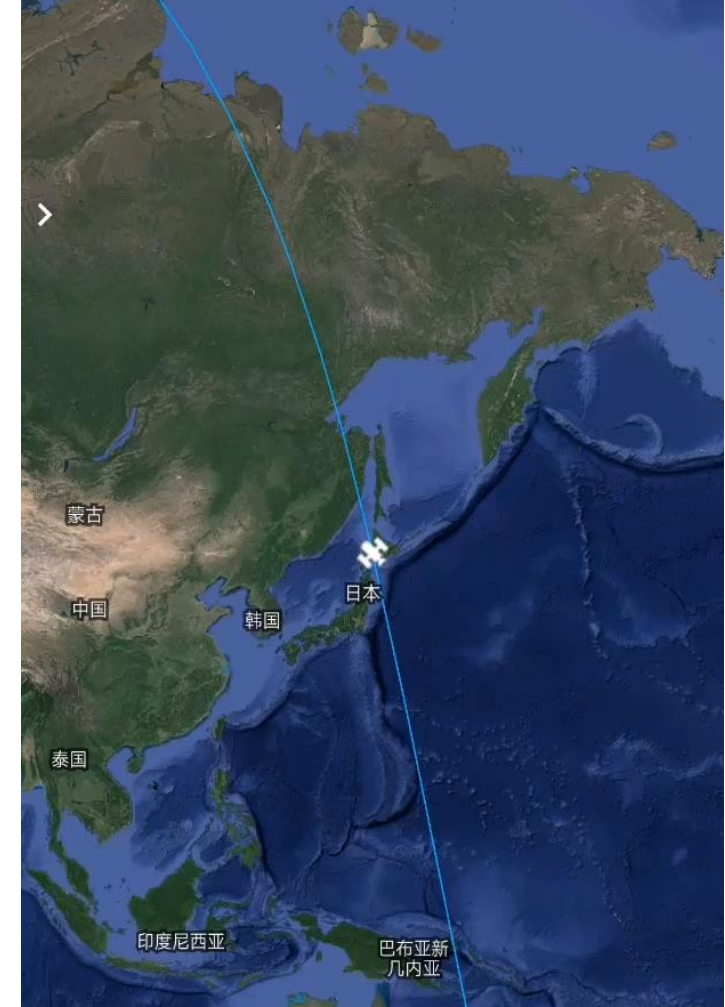
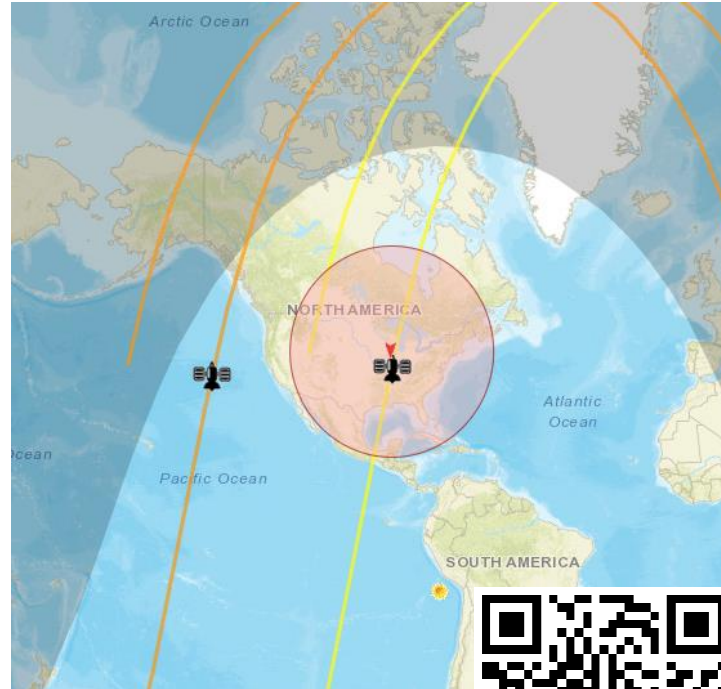
The GRID-01 & GRID-02



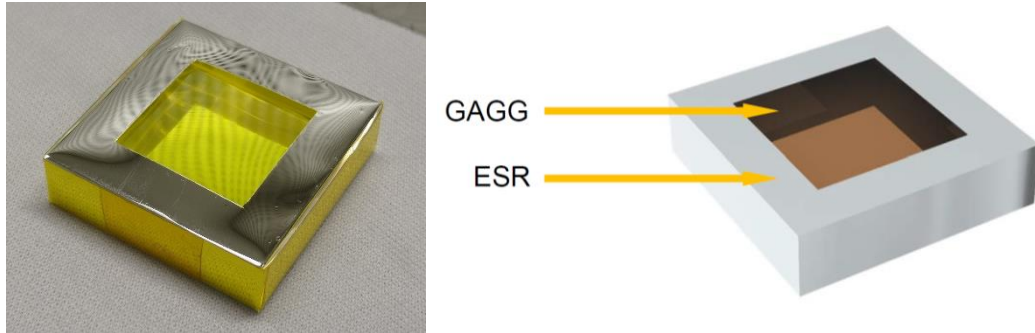
NORAD ID: 43663
Int'l Code: 2018-083B
Perigee: 511.9 km
Apogee: 528.7 km
Inclination: 97.5 °
Period: 94.9 minutes
Semi major axis: 6891 km
RCS: Unknown
Launch date: October 29, 2018
Source: People's Republic of China (PRC)
Launch site: Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center, China (JSC)



NORAD ID: 46838
Int'l Code: 2020-079M
Perigee: 471.1 km
Apogee: 481.2 km
Inclination: 97.3 °
Period: 94.0 minutes
Semi major axis: 6847 km
RCS: Unknown
Launch date: November 6, 2020
Source: People's Republic of China (PRC)
Launch site: Taiyaun Space Center, China (TSC)



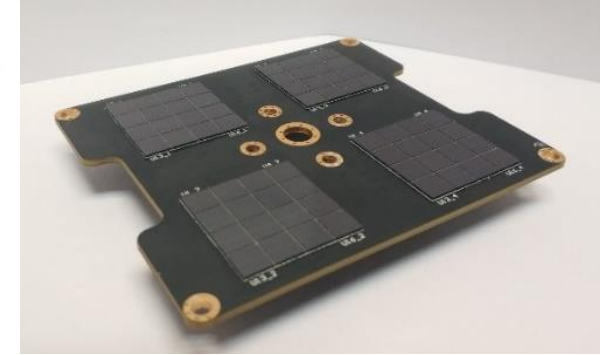
GAGG + SiPM



Bottom view of a GAGG:Ce scintillator
with the ESR package

Crystal size	$38 \times 38 \times 10 \text{ mm}^3$
Light yield	46000 ph/MeV
Density	6.63 g/cm^3
Effective Z	54
Energy resolution	6% @662 keV
Hygroscopic	No

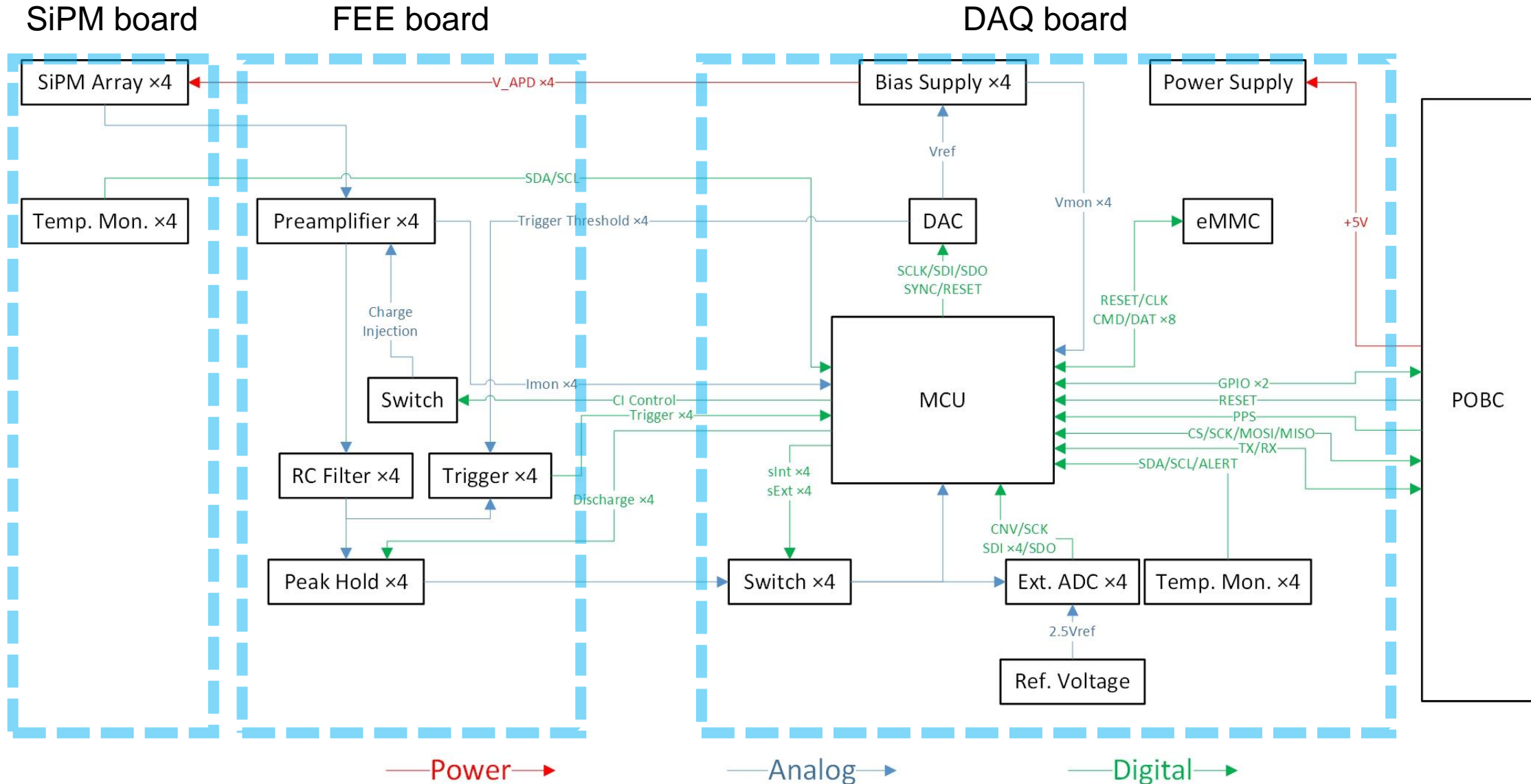
Values from C&A Corporation



SensL MicroFJ-60035 SiPM chip (left)
and the GRID SiPM array board (right)

Operation voltage (No H.V. needed)	$\sim 30 \text{ V}$
Photon detection efficiency	$> 25\%$
Dark count rate	$\sim 150 \text{ kHz/mm}^2$
Temperature dependence of V_{br}	$21.5 \text{ mV/}^\circ\text{C}$

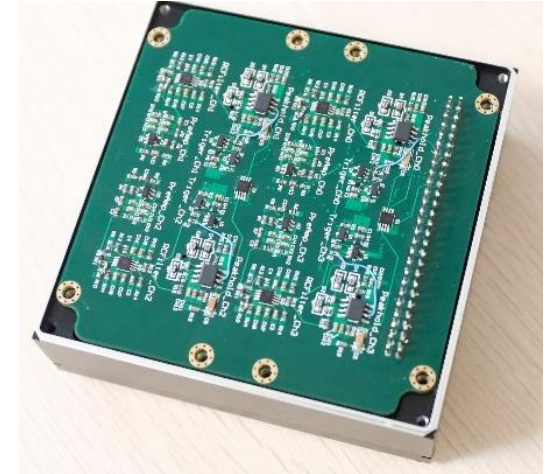
Functional block diagram of DAQ



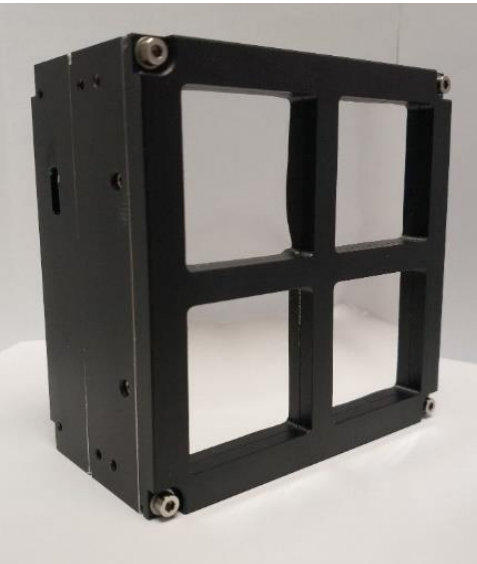
The electronics



SiPM Array

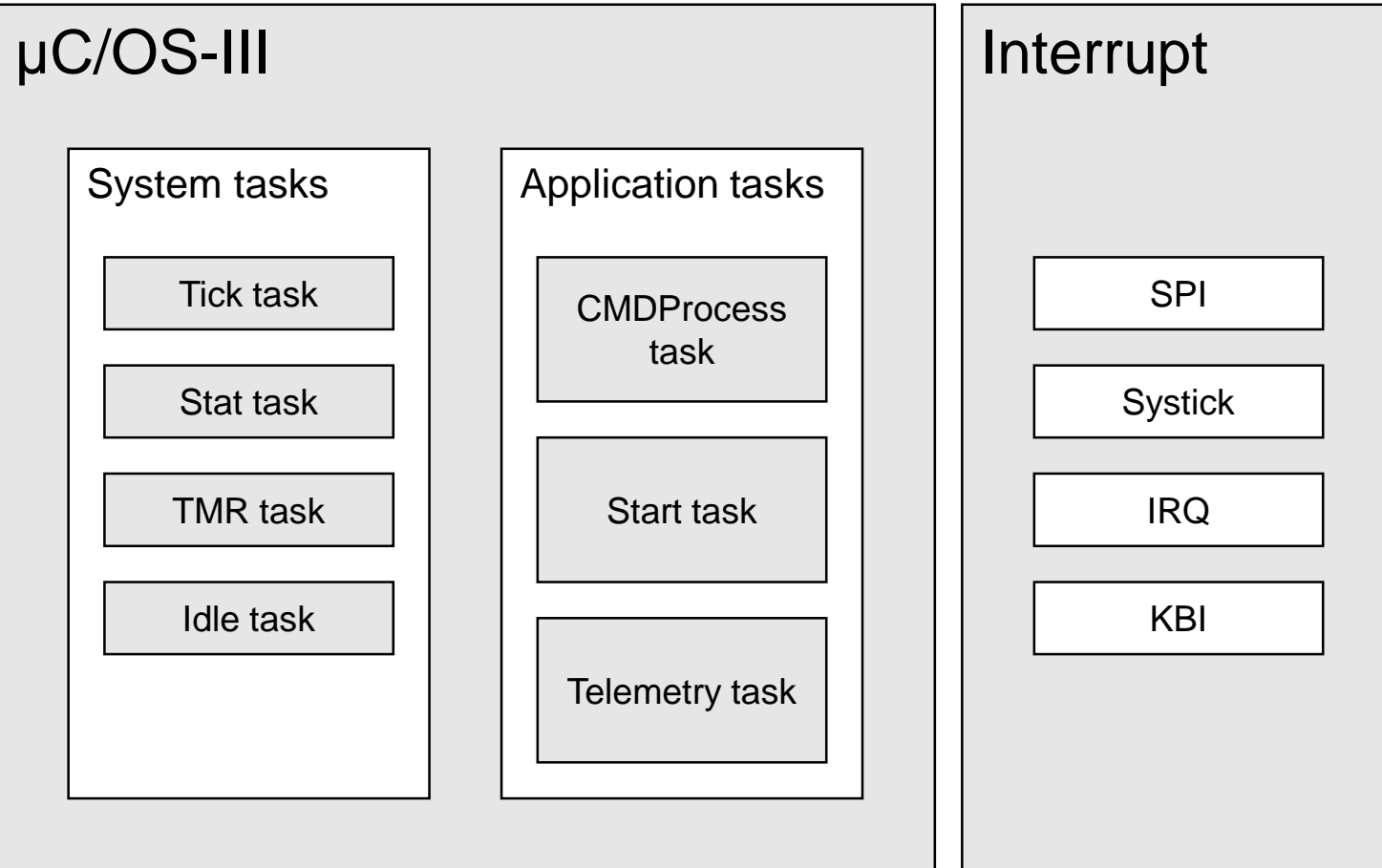


Front-end electronics (FEE)



Back-end electronics (BEE) & Control electronics (CE) ¹⁶

Firmware based on uC/OS-III

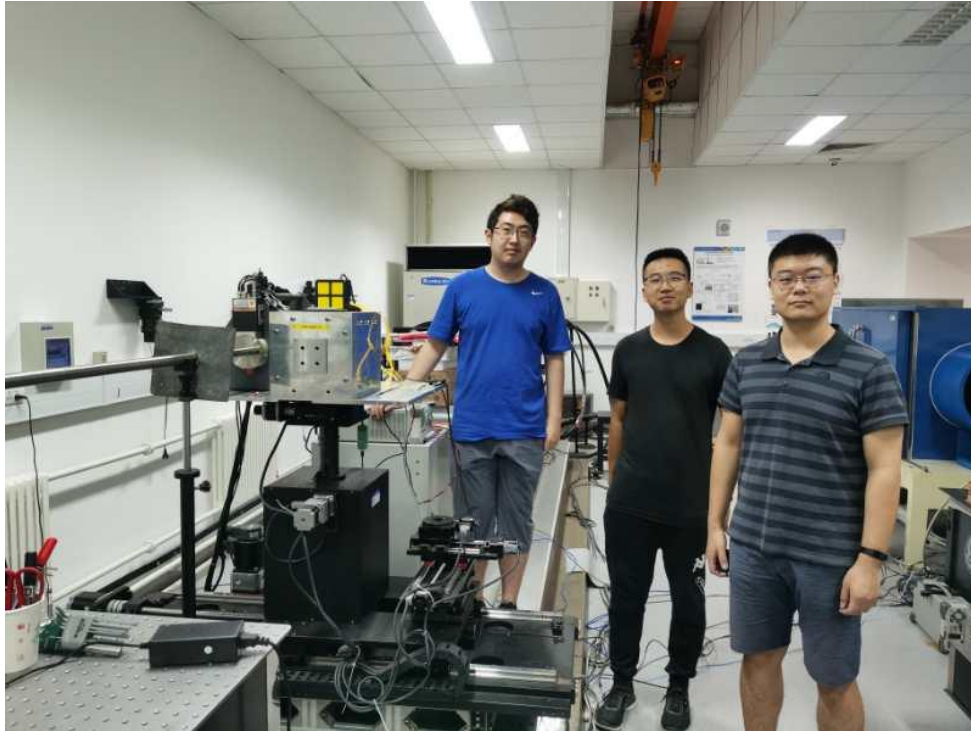


μC/OS™
RTOS and Stacks

Real-Time Kernels: μC/OS-II and μC/OS-III

μC/OS-II and μC/OS-III are preemptive, highly portable, and scalable real-time kernels. Designed for ease of use on a huge number of CPU architectures, these kernels are a key component of the μC/OS real-time operating system.

Calibration

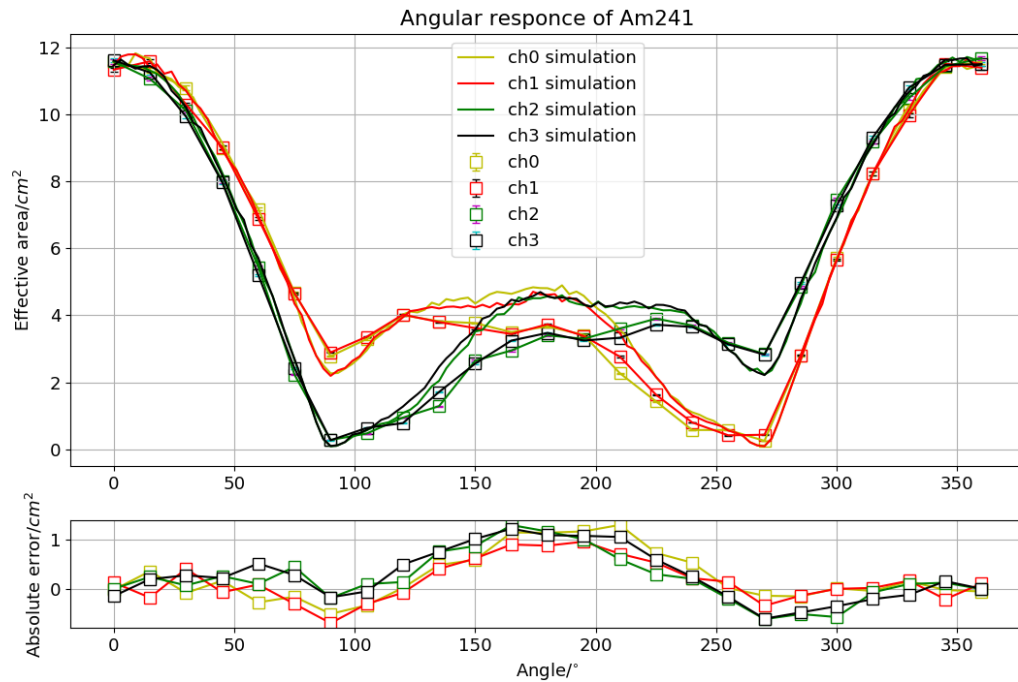


X-ray beam test

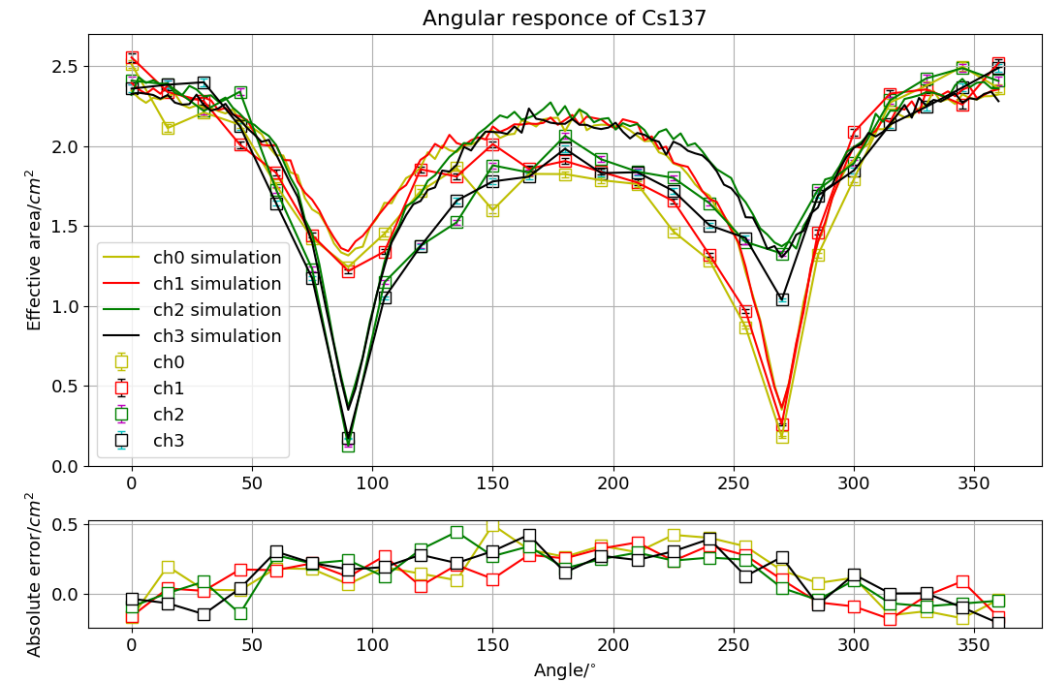


Angular response experiment

Calibration



Angular response - Am-241

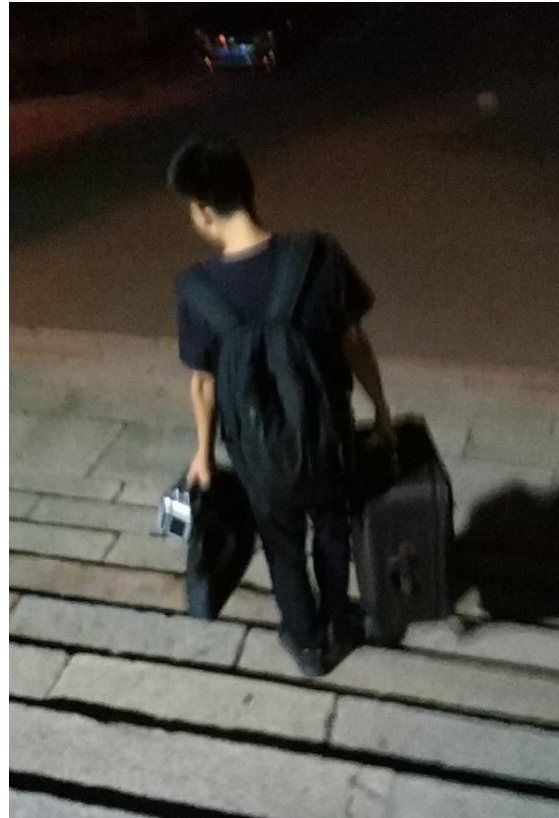


Angular response - Cs-137

Development

- GRID_DAQBoard
- GRID_DAQBoard_20180225
- GRID_DAQBoard_20180324
- GRID_DAQBoard_20180524
- GRID_DAQBoard_20180717
- 多道
- 立方星2号电路板
- 立方星2号电路板-5四通道-ADC、PD
- 立方星2号电路板-20170826
- 立方星2号电路板-20170830
- 立方星2号电路板-20170831
- 立方星2号电路板-20170903
- 立方星2号电路板-20170908
- 立方星MCA板（地面调试版） - 副本
- 立方星MCA板（地面调试版）无盲孔

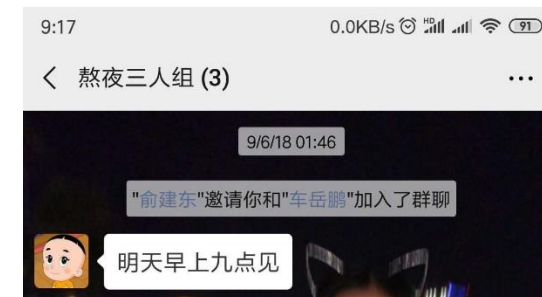
Tens of iterations



2018/9/13 1:05 a.m.
Outside the department hall

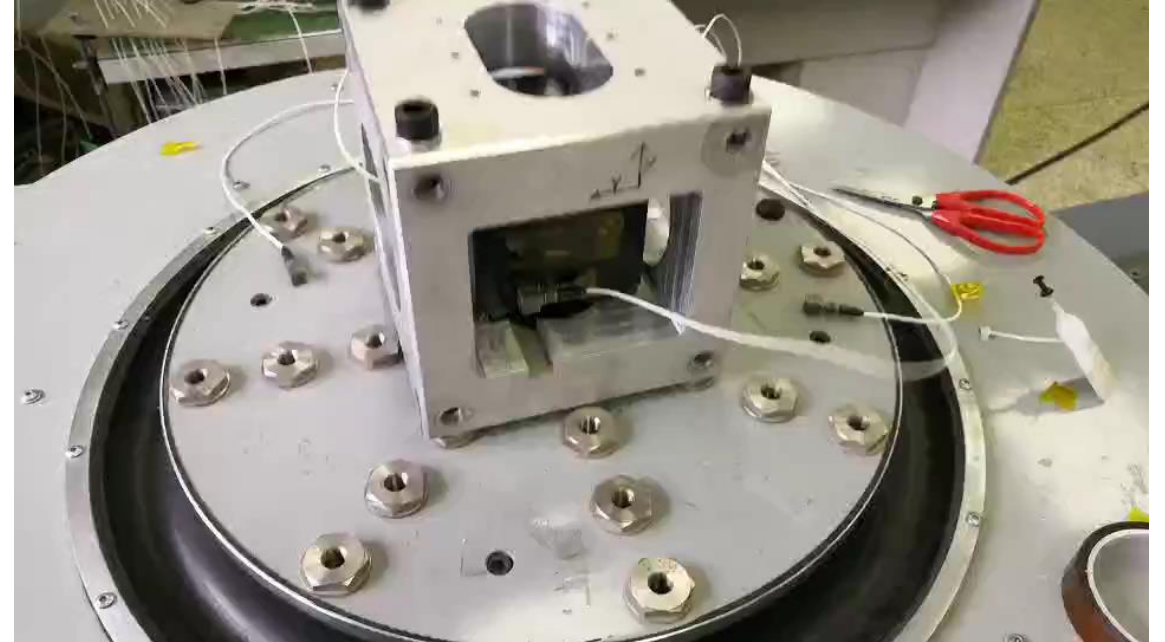


A weekend in 2017
Meeting in the corridor

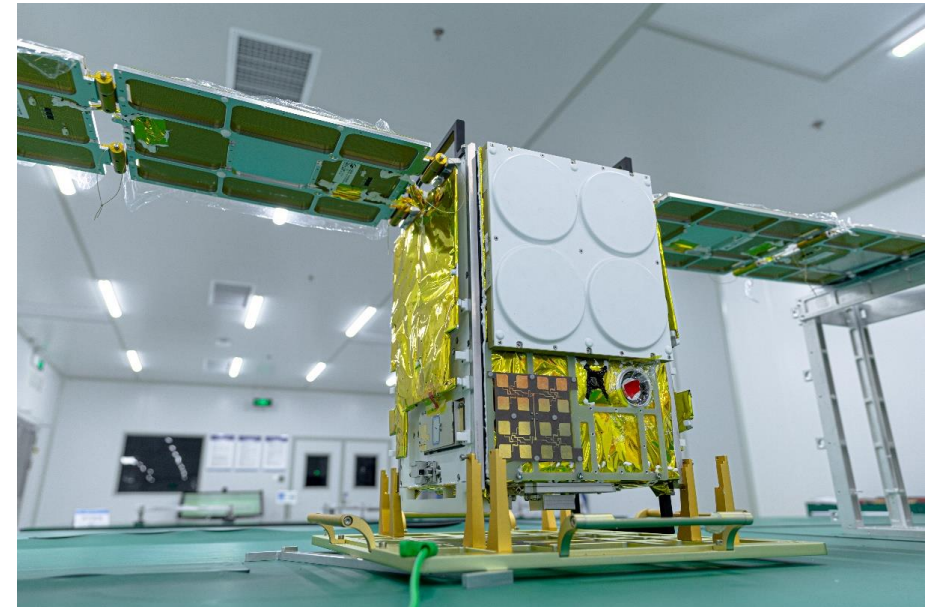
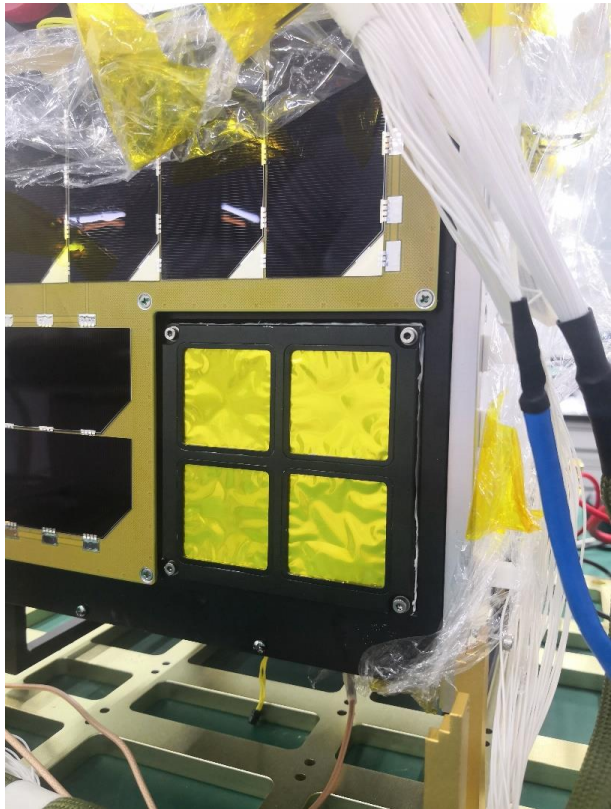


2018/9/6 1:46 a.m.

Shock test and Vibration test

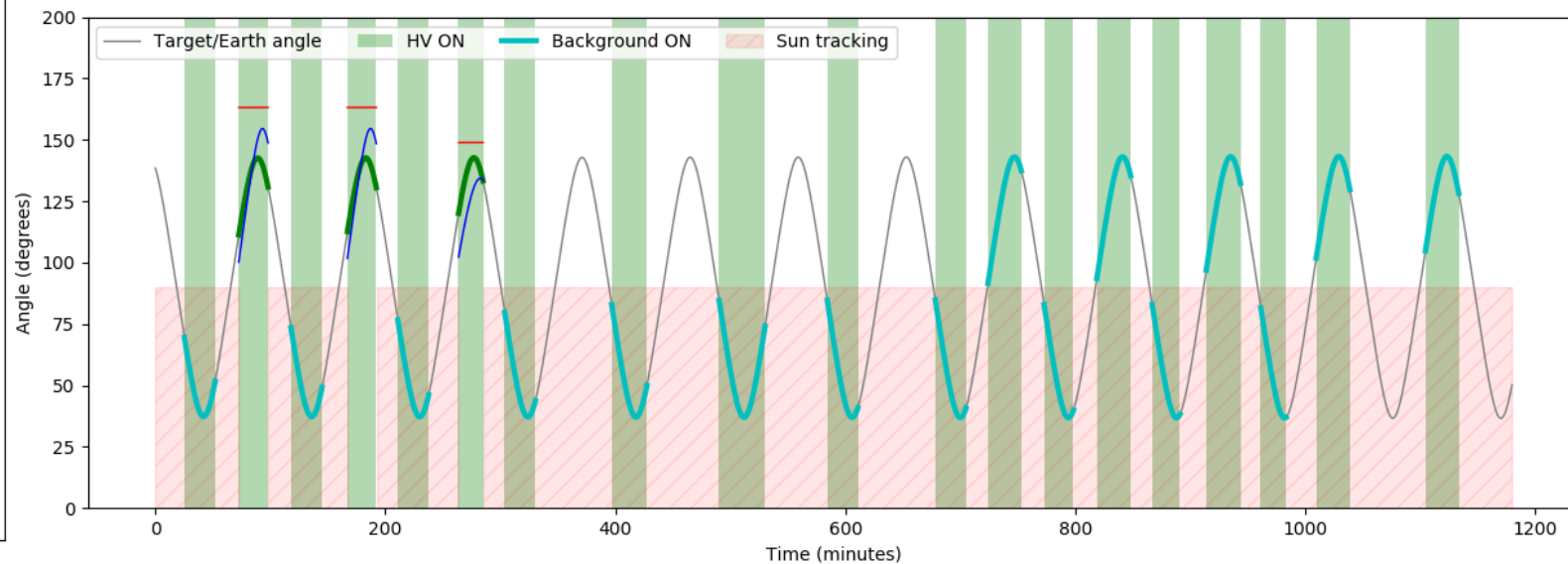
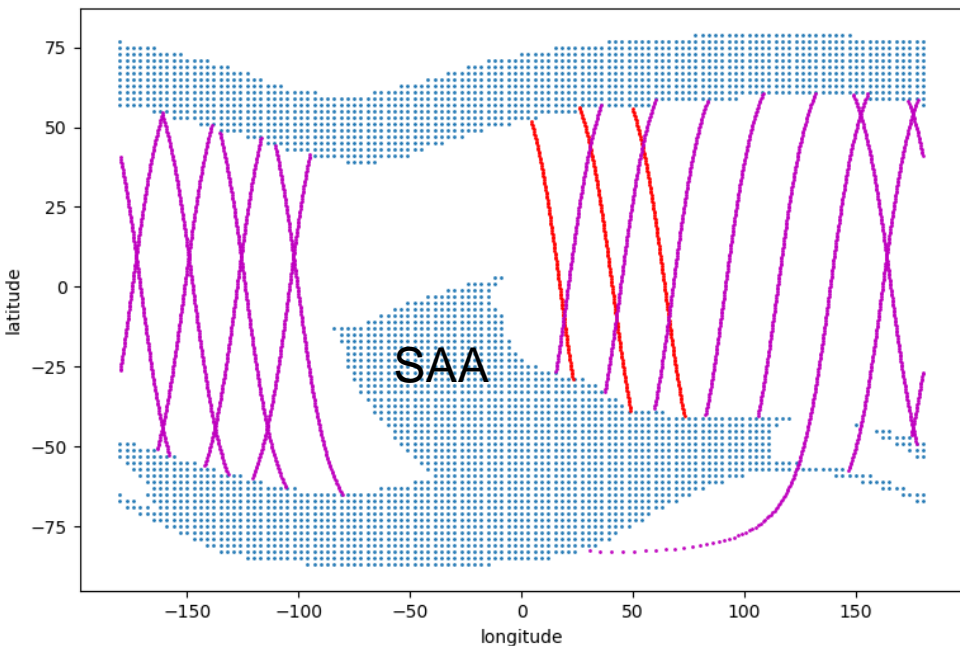


The GRID-02 flight model



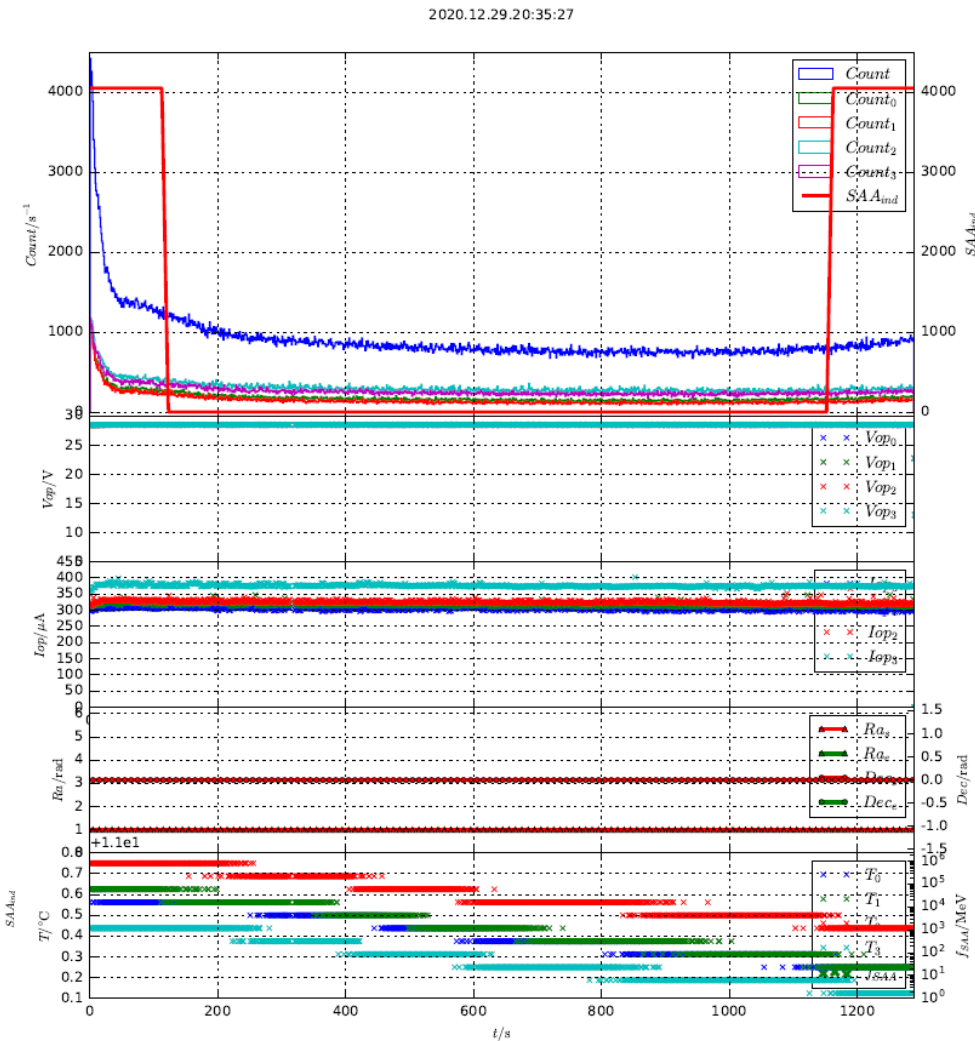
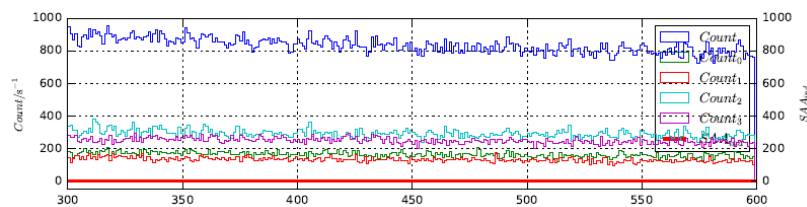
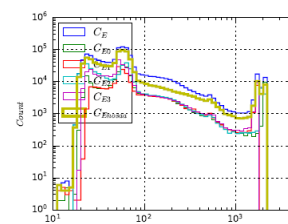
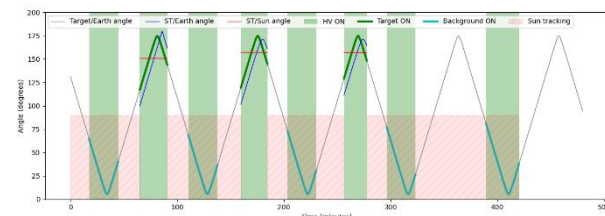
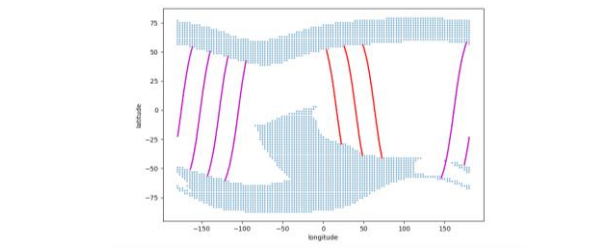
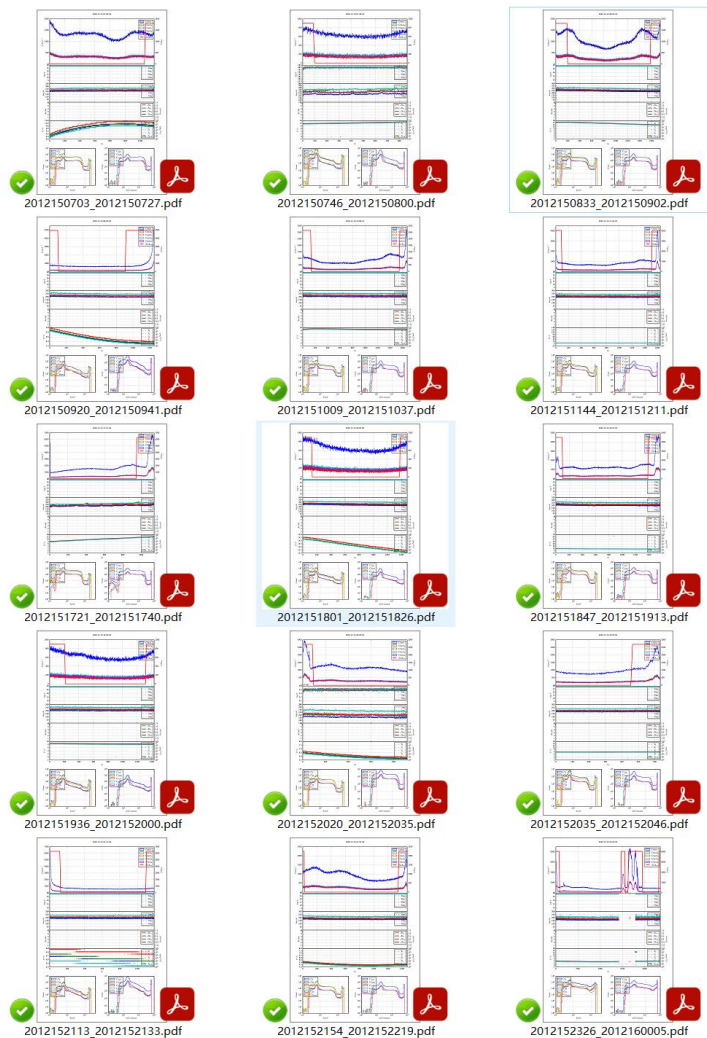
Scientific observation

- Undergraduate students on duty make observation plan every day
- 10 ~ 20 observations per day, 20 ~ 40 minutes each (depends on other payloads and CubeSat platform)
- Shutdown in South Atlantic Anomaly (SAA) and high-latitude region
- ✓ Targeting observation: point to Crab (Inertial pointing mode)
- ✓ Non-targeting observation: random orientation (Inertial or magnetic sun tracking mode)

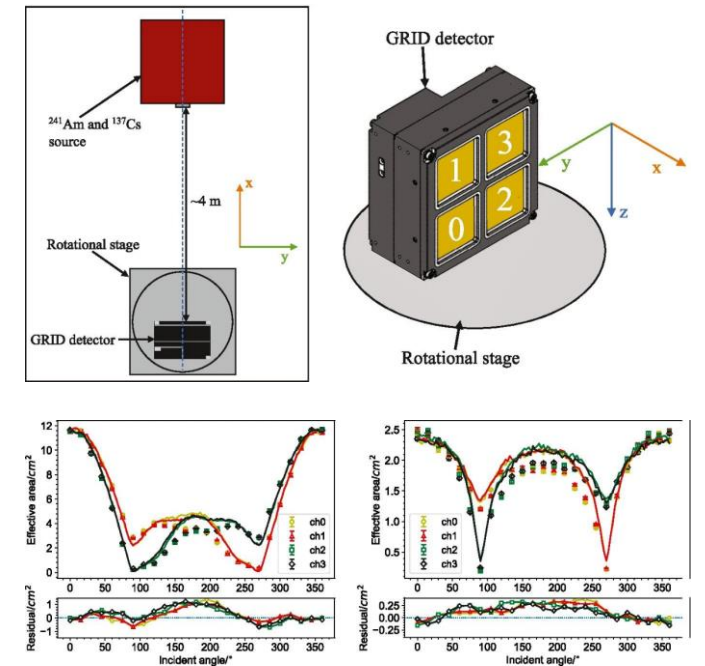
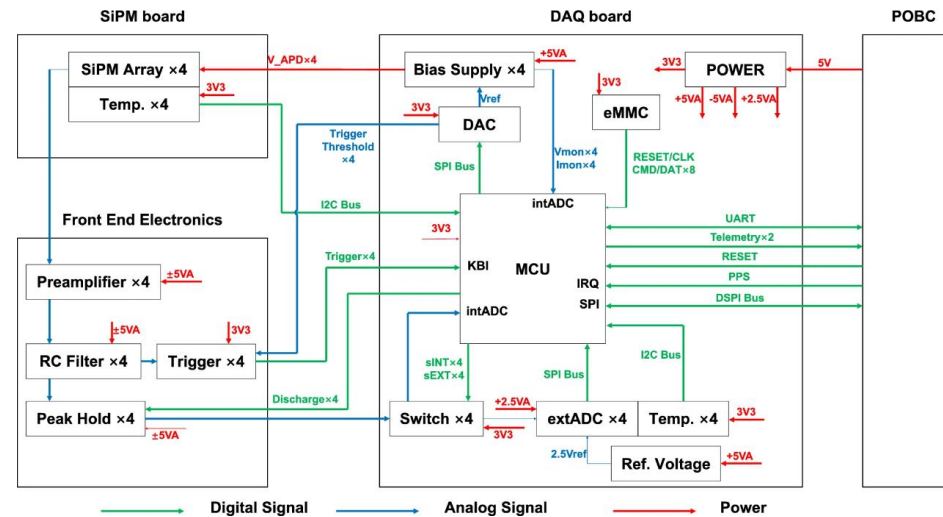


Example observation plan during Nov. 29 2020 17:00 ~ Nov. 30 2020 12:30 (UTC)

Scientific observation



Open hardware and data



The first paper published by students



arXiv.org > astro-ph > arXiv:1907.06842

Search...

Help | Advance

Astrophysics > Instrumentation and Methods for Astrophysics

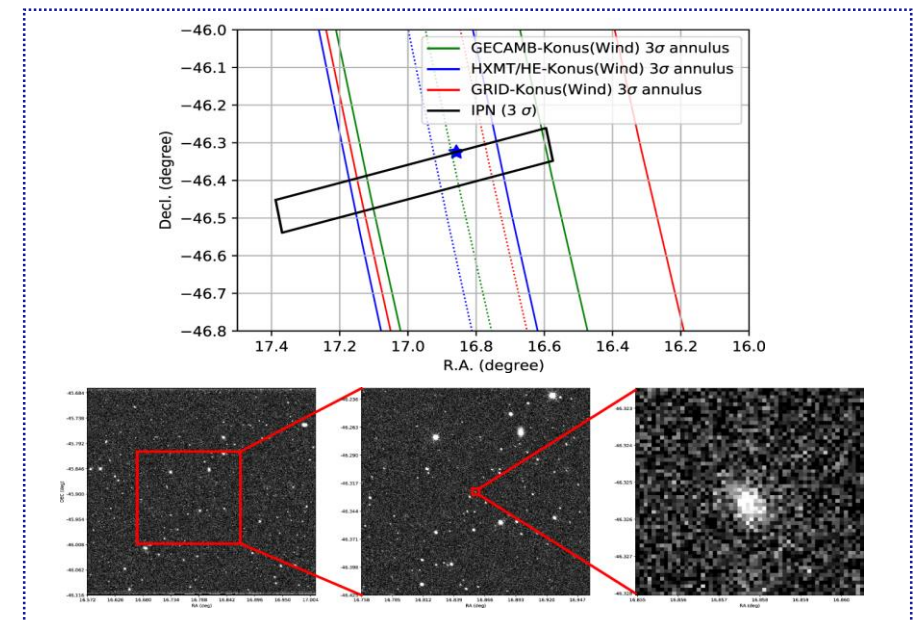
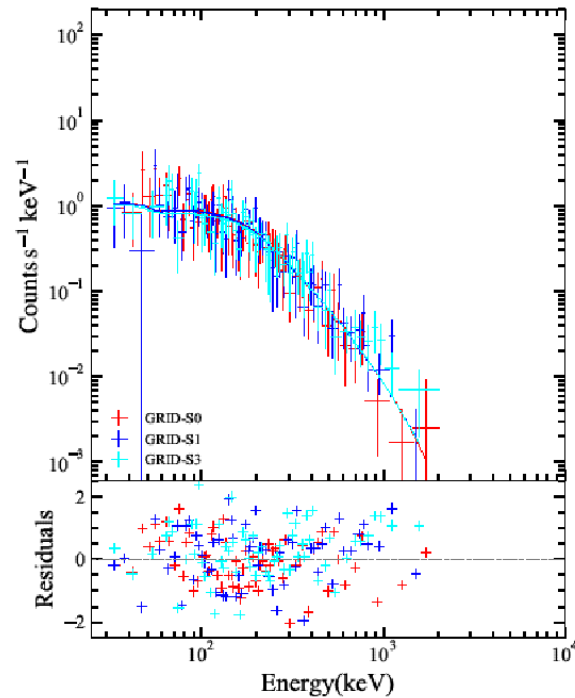
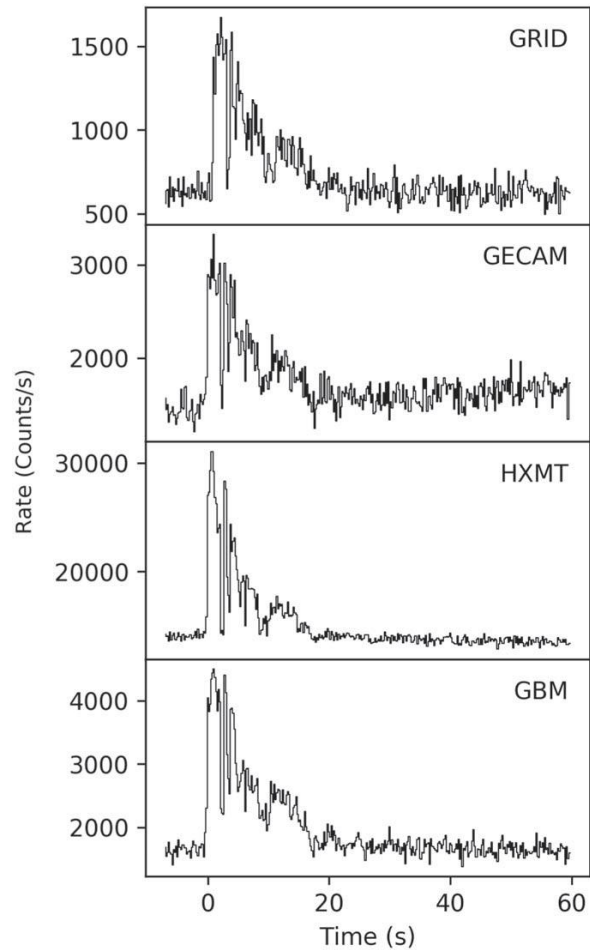
GRID: a Student Project to Monitor the Transient Gamma-Ray Sky in the Multi-Messenger Astronomy Era

Jiaxing Wen, Xiangyun Long, Xutao Zheng, Yu An, Zhengyang Cai, Jirong Cang, Yuepeng Che, Changyu Chen, Liangjun Chen, Qianjun Chen, Ziyun Chen, Yingjie Cheng, Litao Deng, Wei Deng, Wenqing Ding, Hangci Du, Lian Duan, Quan Gan, Tai Gao, Zhiying Gao, Wenbin Han, Yiyang Han, Xinbo He, Xinhao He, Long Hou, Fan Hu, Junling Hu, Bo Huang, Dongyang Huang, Xuefeng Huang, Shihai Jia, Yuchen Jiang, Yifei Jin, Ke Li, Siyao Li, Yurong Li, Jianwei Liang, Yuanyuan Liang, Wei Lin, Chang Liu, Gang Liu, Mengyuan Liu, Rui Liu, Tianyu Liu, Wanqiang Liu, Di'an Lu, Peiyibin Lu, Zhiyong Lu, Xiyu Luo, Sizheng Ma, Yuanhang Ma, Xiaoqing Mao, Yanshan Mo, Qiyuan Nie, Shuiyin Qu, Xiaolong Shan, Gengyuan Shi, Weiming Song, Zhigang Sun, Xuelin Tan, Songsong Tang, Mingrui Tao, Boqin Wang, Yue Wang, Zhiang Wang, Qiaoya Wu, Xuanyi Wu, Yuehan Xia, Hengyuan Xiao, Wenjin Xie, Dacheng Xu, Rui Xu, Weili Xu, Longbiao Yan, Shengyu Yan, Dongxin Yang, Hang Yang, Haoguang Yang, Yi-Si Yang, Yifan Yang, Lei Yao, Huan Yu, Yangyi Yu, Aiqiang Zhang, Bingtao Zhang, Lixuan Zhang, Maoxing Zhang, Shen Zhang, Tianliang Zhang, Yuchong Zhang, Qianru Zhao, Ruining Zhao, Shiyu Zheng, Xiaolong Zhou, Runyu Zhu, Yu Zou, Peng An, Yifu Cai, Hongbing Chen, Zigao Dai, Yizhong Fan, Changqing Feng, Hua Feng, He Gao, Liang Huang, Mingming Kang, Lixin Li, Zhuo Li, Enwei Liang, Lin Lin, Qianqian Lin, Congzhan Liu, Hongbang Liu, Xuewen Liu, Yinong Liu, Xiang Lu, Shude Mao, Rongfeng Shen, Jing Shu, Meng Su, Hui Sun, Pak-Hin Tam, Chi-Pui Tang, Yang Tian, Fayin Wang, Jianjun Wang, Wei Wang, Zhonghai Wang, Jianfeng Wu, Xuefeng Wu, Shaolin Xiong, Can Xu, Jiandong Yu, Wenfei Yu, Yunwei Yu, Ming Zeng, Zhi Zeng, Bin-Bin Zhang, Bing Zhang, Zongqing Zhao, Rong Zhou, Zonghong Zhu (collapse list)

(Submitted on 16 Jul 2019)

96 students from 12 universities, most undergraduates

GRB 210121A: GRID-02 detection



The joint localization of GRB 210121A

Light curves of the four missions

The GRID Collaboration



Mar. 2018

- Started since October 2016 at Tsinghua
- More than 150 Students from 17 universities have joined the GRID collaboration by now
- GRID Summer Camp since 2020
- Open Data access



Dec. 2019

The 1st and 2nd GRID collaboration meeting

Open source framework

- ✓ Fixed design
- ✓ Open hardware to member institutes
- ✓ Member institutes can build their own detector/ground station/satellite

The GRID Collaboration



Future Planning of GRID



- GRID-05B (Tsinghua Univ.)

Prof. Ming ZENG & Hua FENG



- GRID-06B (Nanjing Univ. & Sichuan Univ.)

Prof. Bin-bin ZHANG, Prof. Zhonghai WANG & Rong ZHOU



- GRID-07 (Beijing Normal Univ.)

Prof. Lin LIN, Yuanyuan LIU, Jianyong JIANG



- GRID-08B (Nanjing Univ. & Sichuan Univ.)

Prof. Bin-bin ZHANG, Prof. Zhonghai WANG & Rong ZHOU



Large scientific facilities



FAST



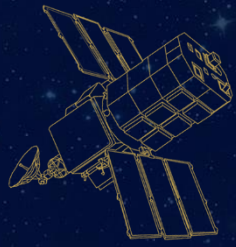
Insight-HXMT



eXTP

Conclusion

- GRID is a CubeSat mission proposed and developed by student team, with considerable contribution from undergraduate students.
- Besides GRID's scientific goals, we hope to attract excellent students from different disciplines into astrophysics and train them, not only how to develop instruments, but also how to lead and organize an multi-discipline collaboration.
- Multidisciplinary students with teamwork together has shown extraordinary enthusiasm and execution, and successfully get crossed the gap between course knowledge to practical application.
- The students experience a real scientific project and the pressure from a space mission. "hard core", Painful and happy, fruitful and worth remembering...
- GRID Collaboration with open hardware, open data and joint supervision.



Thank you !

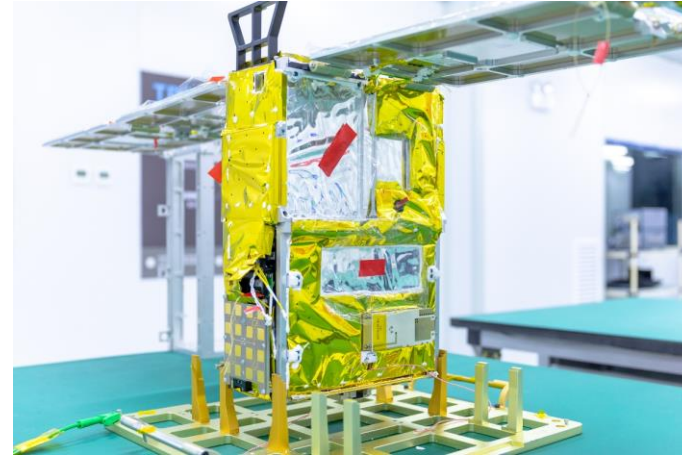
Welcome to join us. ☺



Update about the GRID-03B & GRID-04



Catalog number: 51830
Launched 02/27/2022

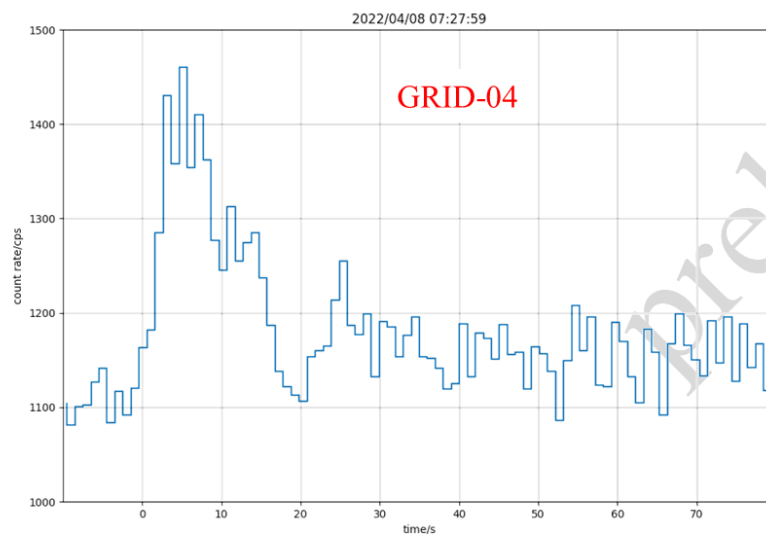
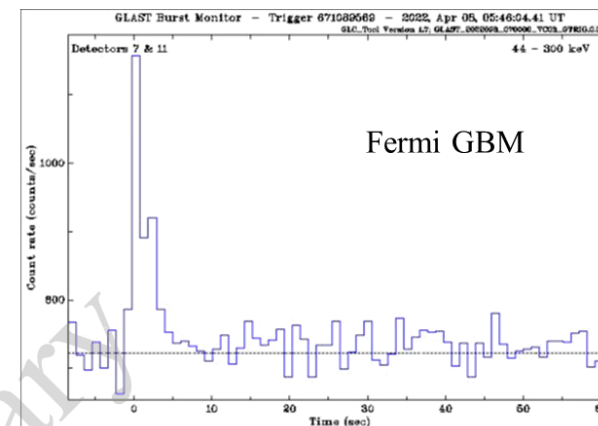
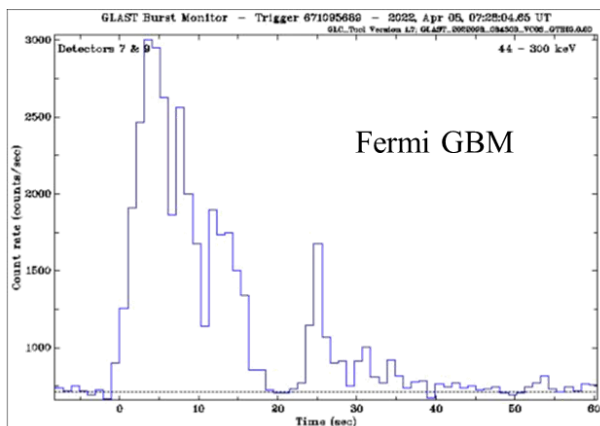


GRID-03B

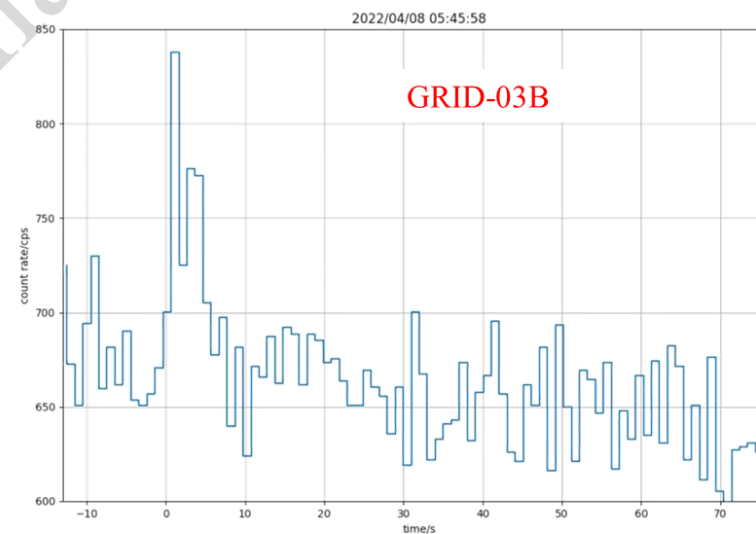


GRID-04

Preliminary Results from GRID-03B & GRID-04



GRB 220408B



GRB 220408A