



# ICOR – Compton Imaging in Radionuclide Therapy

Gabriela Llosá on behalf of the IRIS group and collaborators.

Instituto de Física Corpuscular IFIC (CSIC-UV), Valencia, Spain.

ASTROHEP-PPCC24. Zaragoza, 5-7 June 2024.



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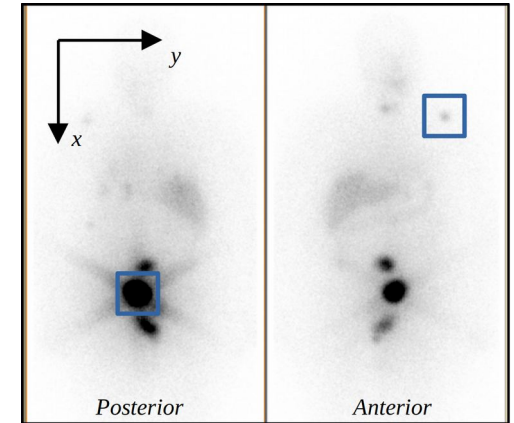
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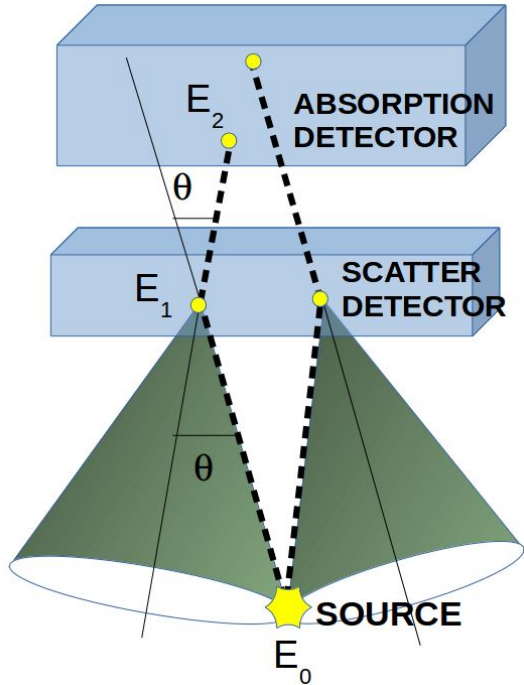
# Imaging in radiopharmaceutical therapy

- ▶ The interest on radiopharmaceutical therapy is rapidly increasing.
- ▶ Imaging can be used to visualize the distribution of radionuclides in the body and carry out dosimetry employing secondary gamma radiation.
- ▶ More challenging than diagnostic imaging since photon energies and activities are not optimized for gamma cameras, in particular for alpha emitters.
- ▶ Compton cameras can complement gamma cameras in this task.
  - Higher efficiency.
  - Better performance at high energies.
  - Better suited for multi-gamma imaging.

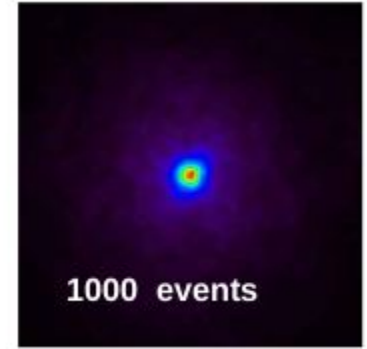
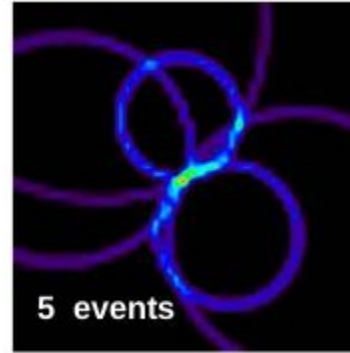


Gamma camera images of a patient treated with  $^{131}\text{I-NaI}$

# Compton camera



Backprojection:



+ Image reconstruction

List mode ML-EM

$$\cos \varphi = 1 - m_0 c^2 \left( \frac{1}{E_{\gamma'}} - \frac{1}{E_{\gamma}} \right)$$

$$E_{\gamma} = E_{e^-} + E_{\gamma'}$$

$$\lambda_j^{n+1} = \frac{\lambda_j^n}{s_j} \sum_{i=0}^N \frac{t_{ij}}{\sum_k t_{ik} \lambda_k^n}$$

## ICOR GOALS:

- Improvement of Compton camera performance with scintillators.
- Development of a Compton camera with a silicon scatterer.
- Tests in hospitals.

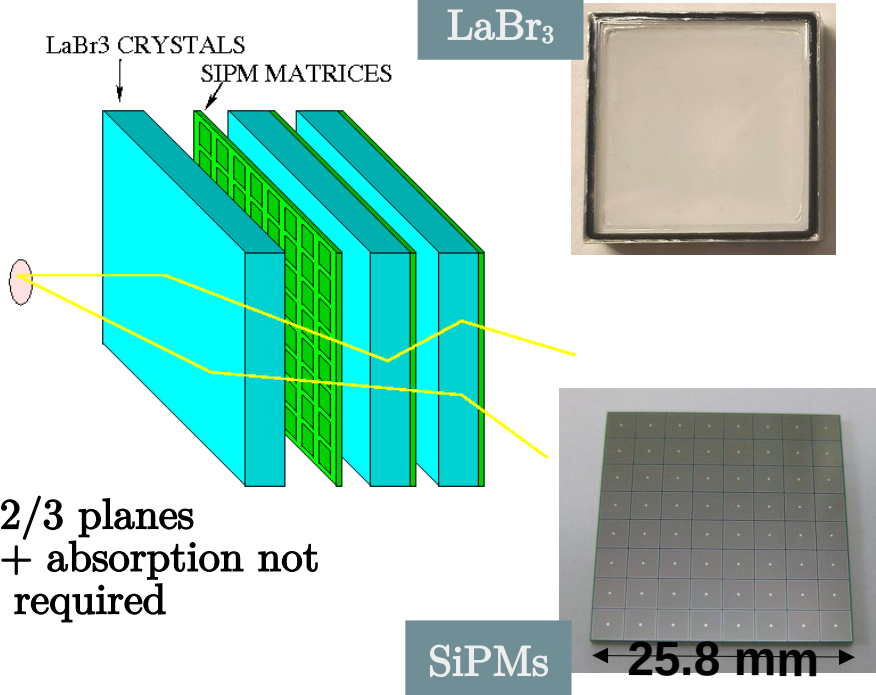
PI: G. Llosá (IFIC, Valencia)

Co-PI: Irene Torres-Espallardo (La Fe Hospital, Valencia)

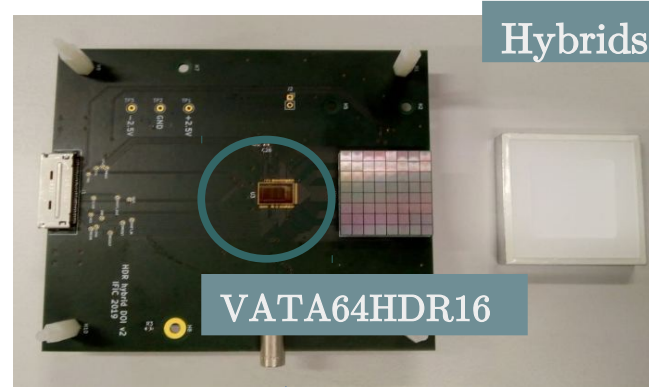


# MACACO III (Medical Applications CompAct COmpton camera)

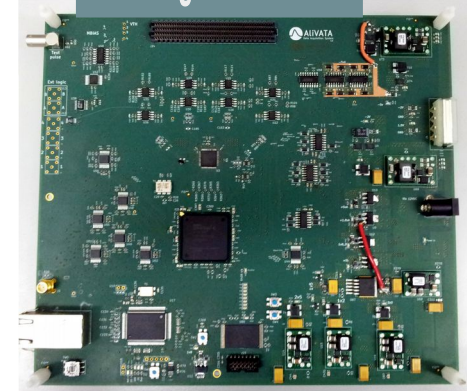
## Detectors



## Readout



## AliVATA DAQ board



Commercialized  
by Alibava  
Systems S. L.



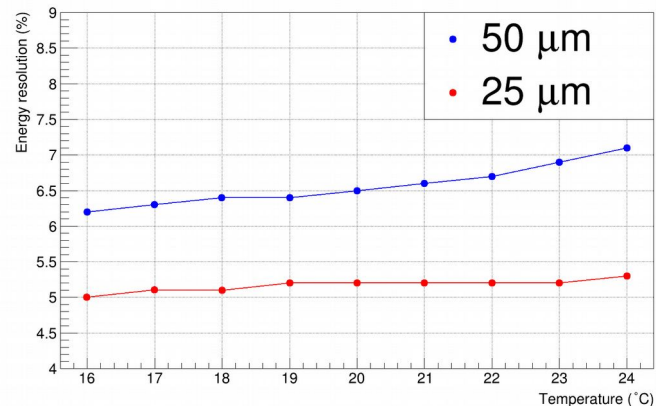
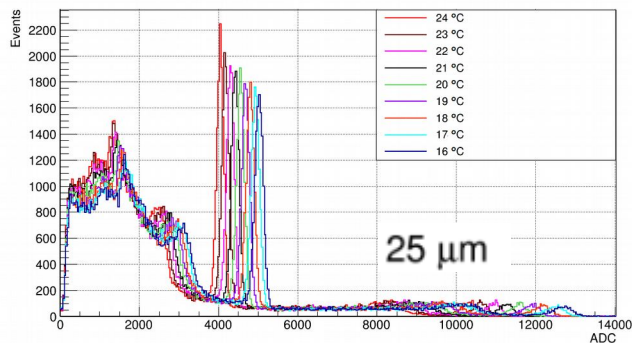
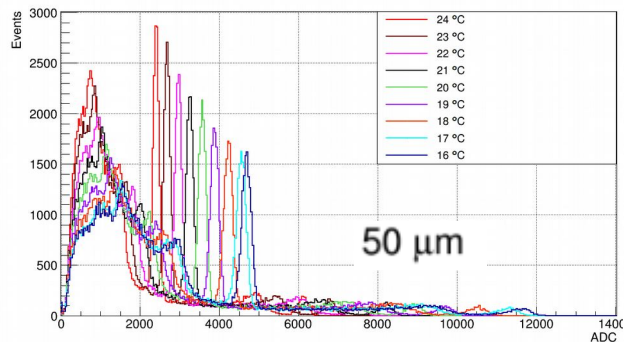
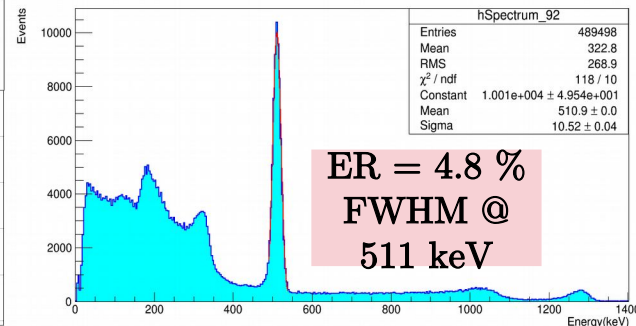
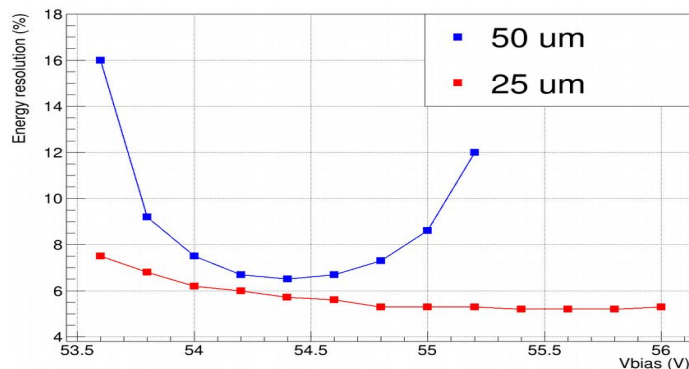
# MACACO III detectors

S13360-3025CS (25  $\mu\text{m}$ )

VS

S13361-3050AE-08 (50  $\mu\text{m}$ )

Now commercial product



L. Barrientos et al. Rad. Phys. Chem. 2023

ASTROHEP PPCC  
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The ASFAE's research projects acknowledge the financial support from the MCIU with funding from the European Union NextGenerationEU and Generalitat Valenciana.



# Image reconstruction: list-mode MLEM

Sensitivity model for 2- and 3- interaction events

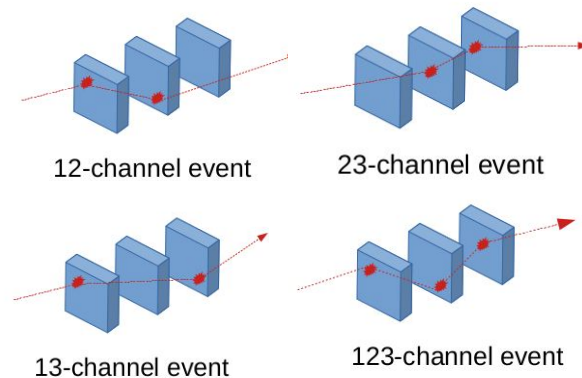
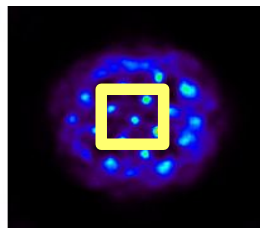
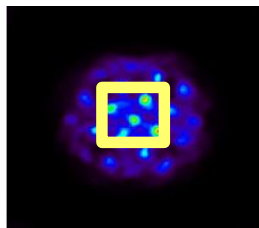
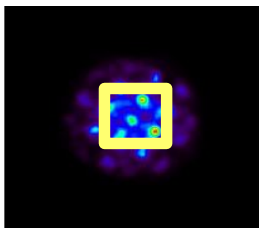
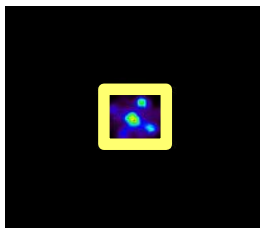
Joint reconstruction of all channels

No sensit.

Wilderman

Maxim

Muñoz

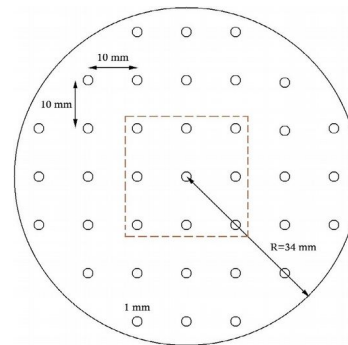
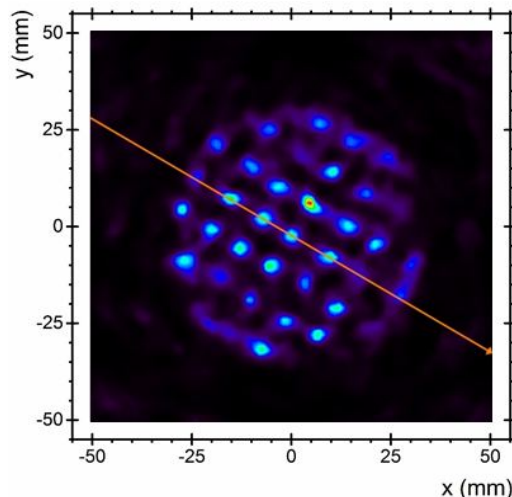


E. Muñoz et al. Phys. Med. Biol. 2018

E. Muñoz et al. Phys. Med. Biol. 2020

J. Roser et al. Phys. Med. Biol. 2020

J. Roser et al. Phys. Med. Biol. 2022



Array of 37 Na-22 point-like sources

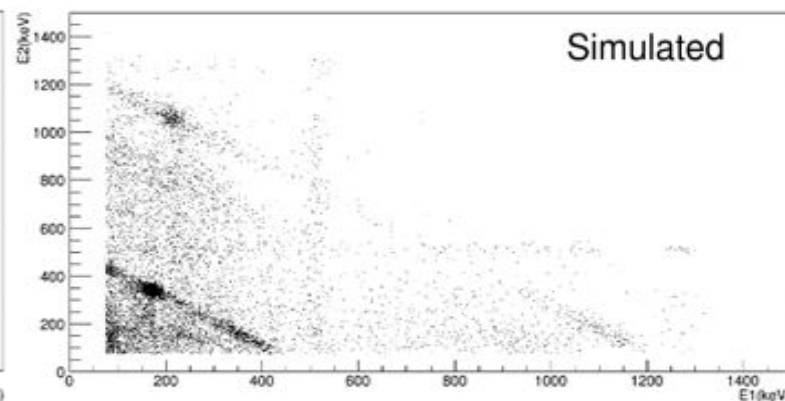
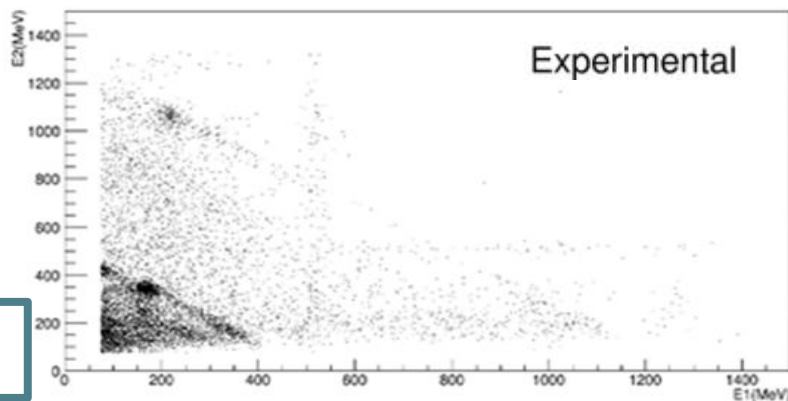
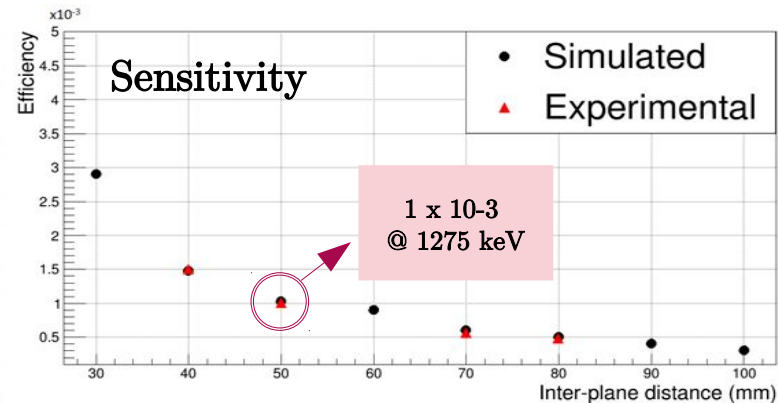
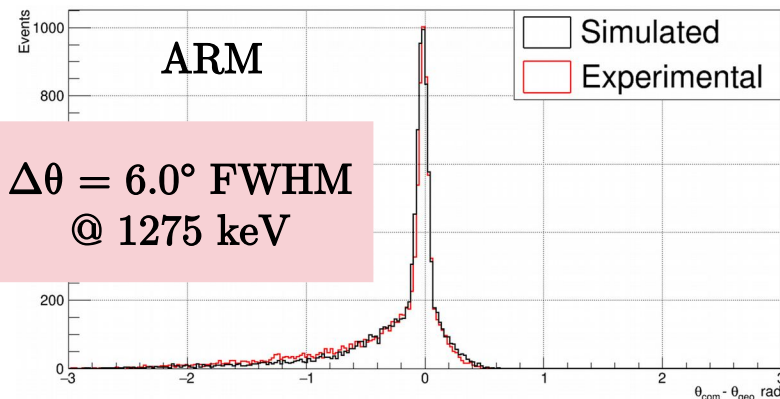
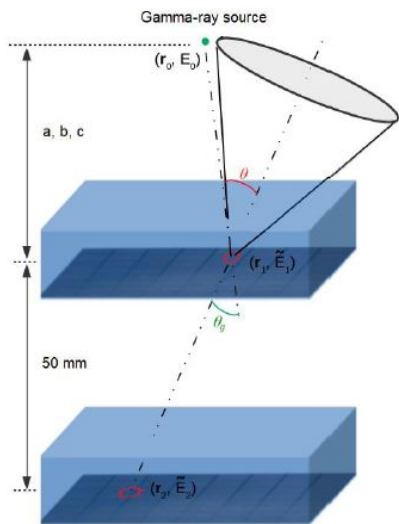
# Simulations validation



Excellent agreement between experimental results and GATE v8.2 simulations.

## Angular resolution

$$ARM = \theta_c - \theta_g$$



L. Barrientos et al.  
Rad. Phys. Chem. 2023

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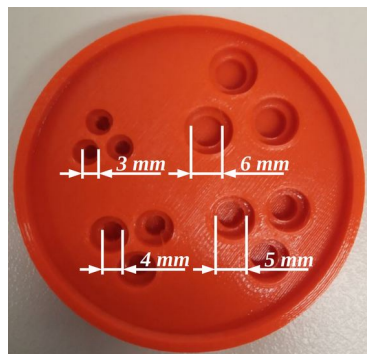
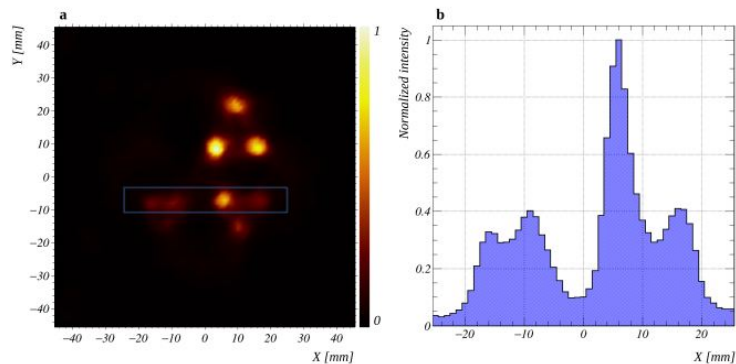


# Tests in La Fe hospital (Valencia)

3D printed Derenzo-like phantom

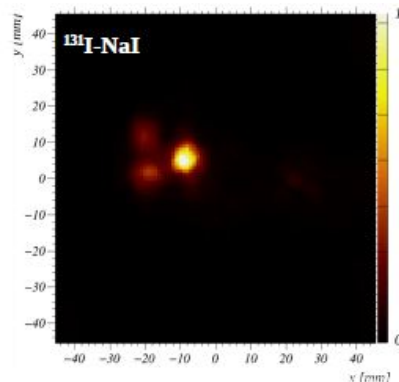
$^{18}\text{F}$ -FDG (511 keV)

Compton camera

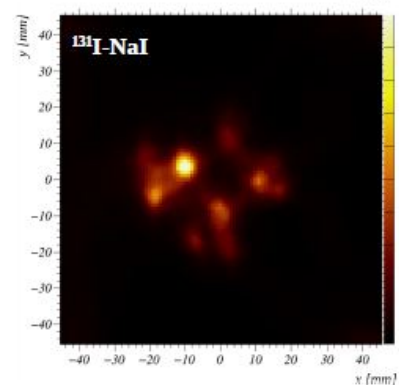
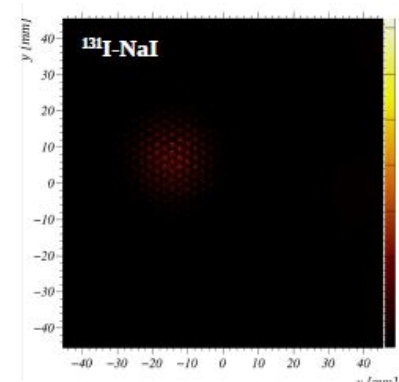


$^{131}\text{I}$ -NaI (364 keV)

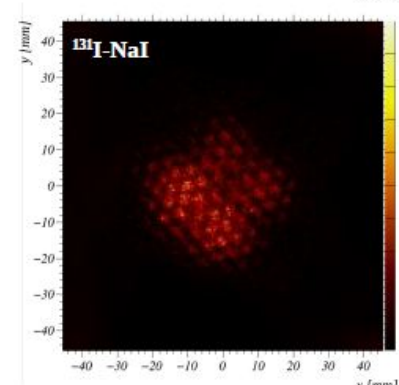
Compton camera



Gamma camera  
Bright View XCT (Philips)



All sectors

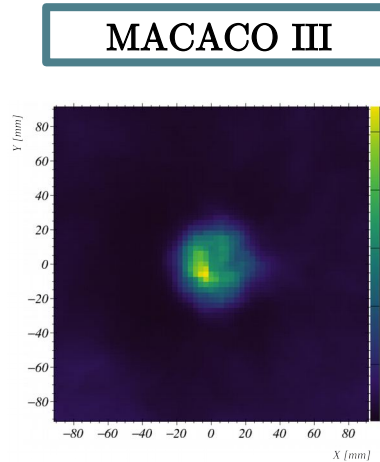


In collaboration with Irene Torres-Espallardo, José Manuel

Calatayud, Pilar Bello and Stefan Prado from La Fe.

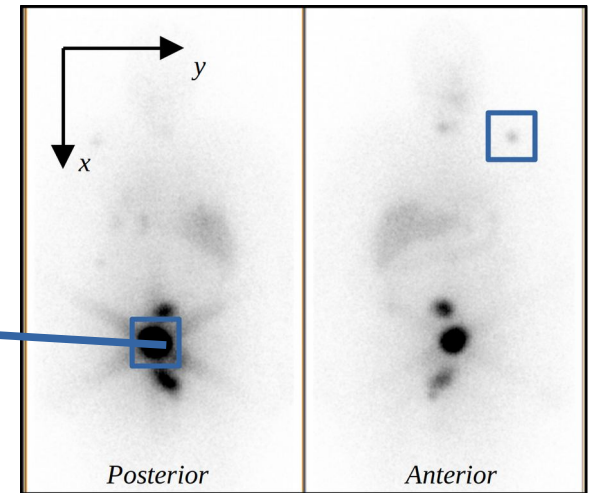
# Tests in La Fe hospital (Valencia)

- ▶ Metastatic lesions from patients treated with  $^{131}\text{I}$ -NaI after thyroid gland resection
- ▶ Initial activity (total): 150 mCi
- ▶ MACACO III @  $\sim 70$  mm.



Sacrum lesion

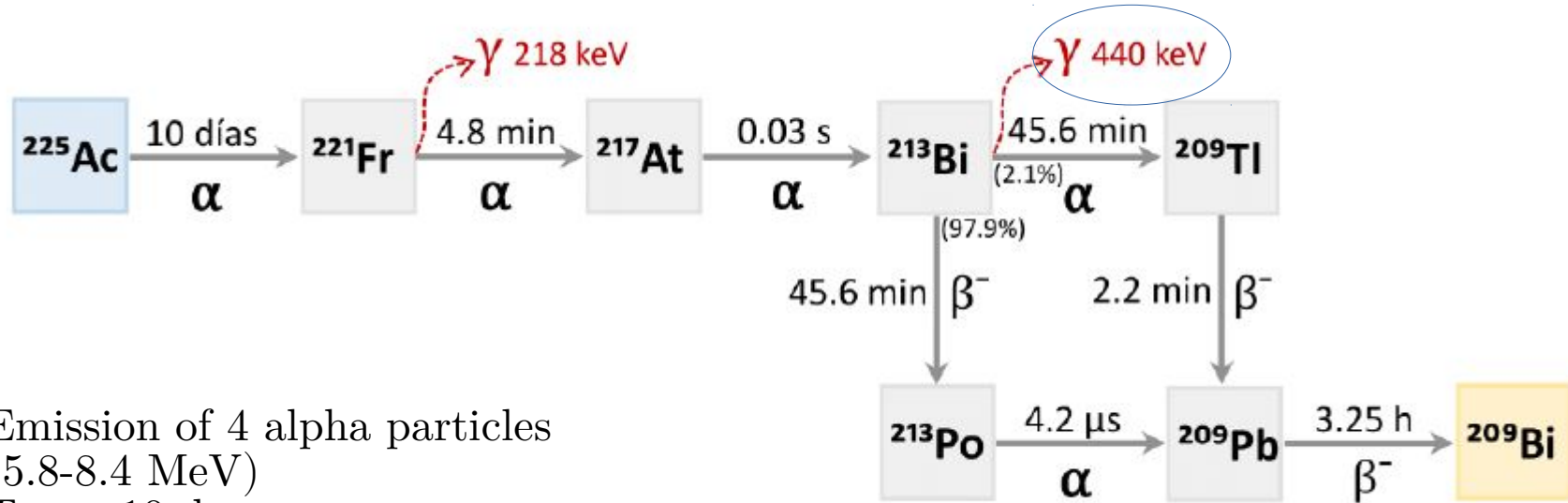
Gamma camera



J. Roser et al. In preparation.

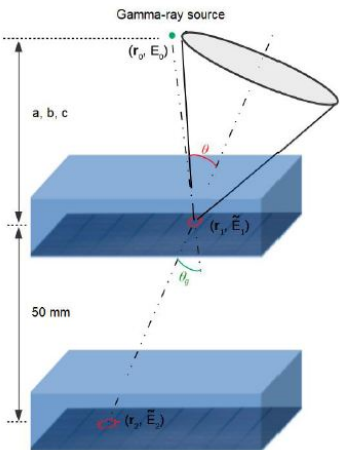


# Ac-225



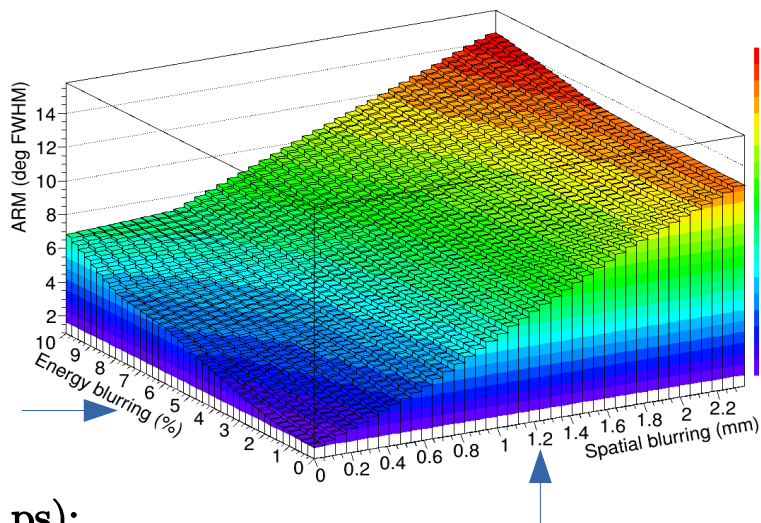
- Emission of 4 alpha particles (5.8-8.4 MeV)
- $T_{1/2} = 10$  days

# Performance estimation with GATE simulations



Angular resolution @440 keV

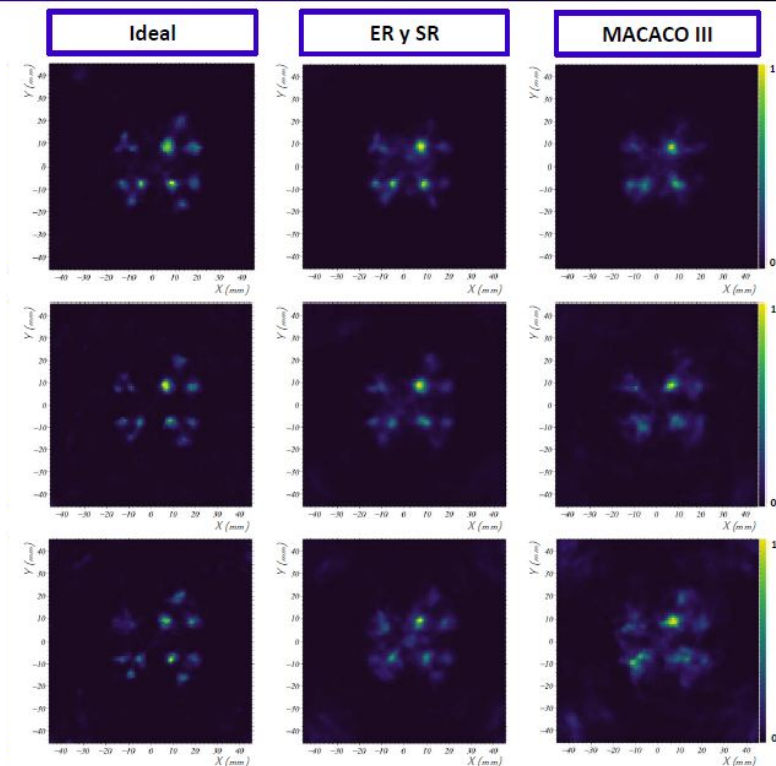
$$\text{ARM} = \theta_{\text{Compton}} - \theta_{\text{geometrical}}$$



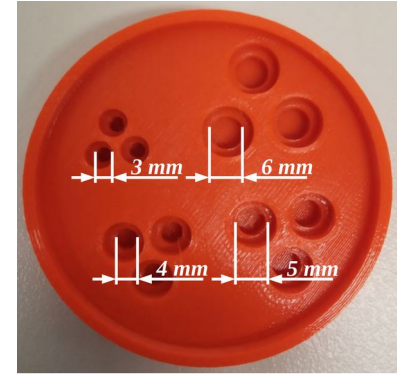
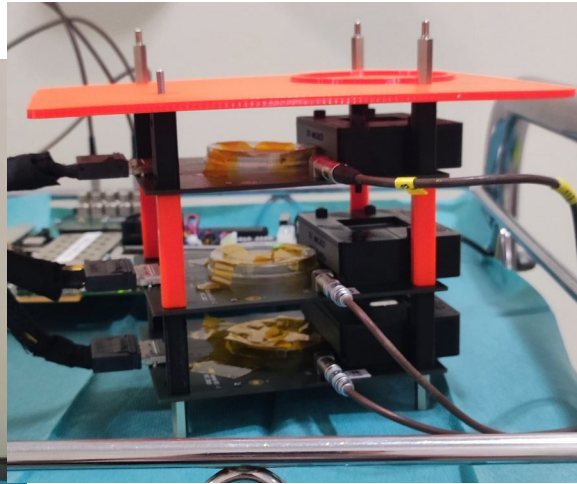
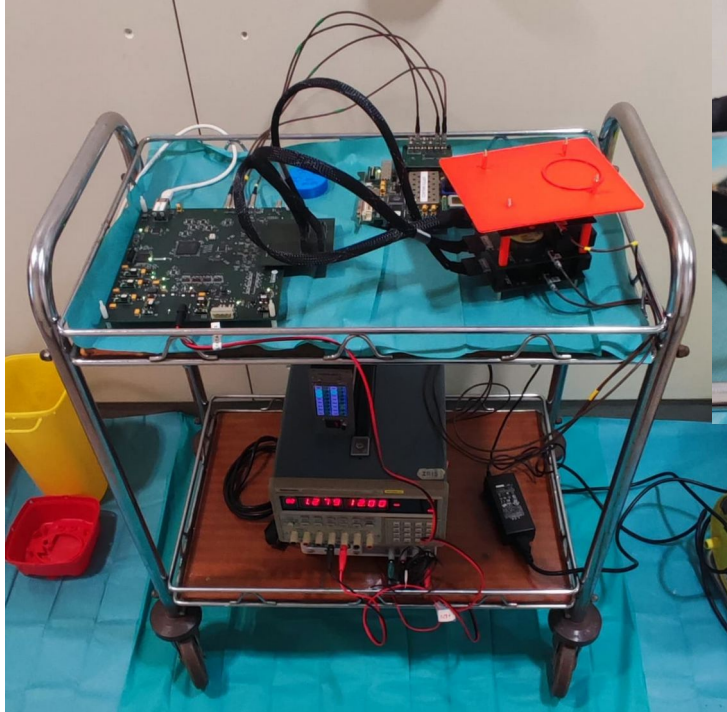
Fast timing (< 200 ps):

- Background reduction
- Determination of interaction sequence.

Ac-225 Simulations with MACACO III

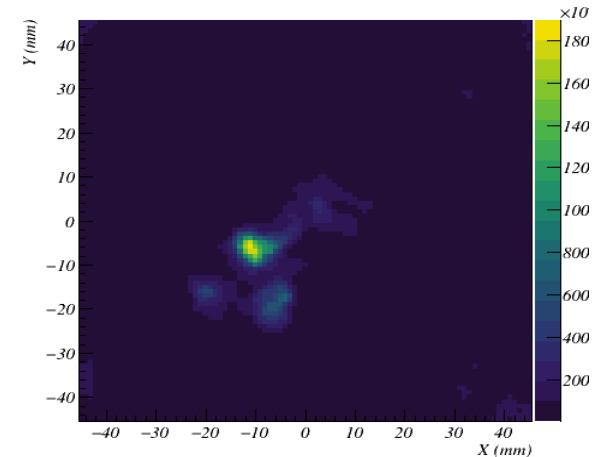


# Ac-225 Measurements at Léon Bérard hospital (Lyon)



6 mm diameter  
rods reconstructed

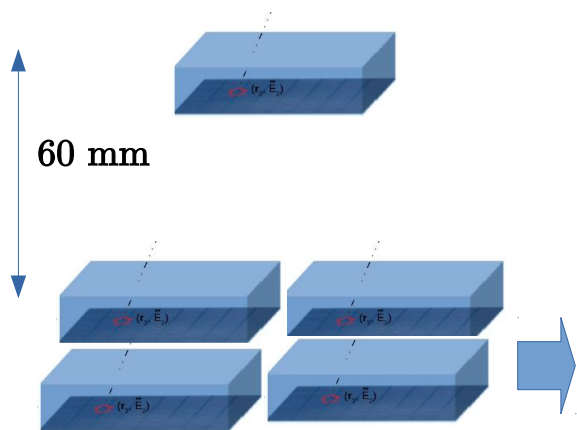
70 kBq /rod



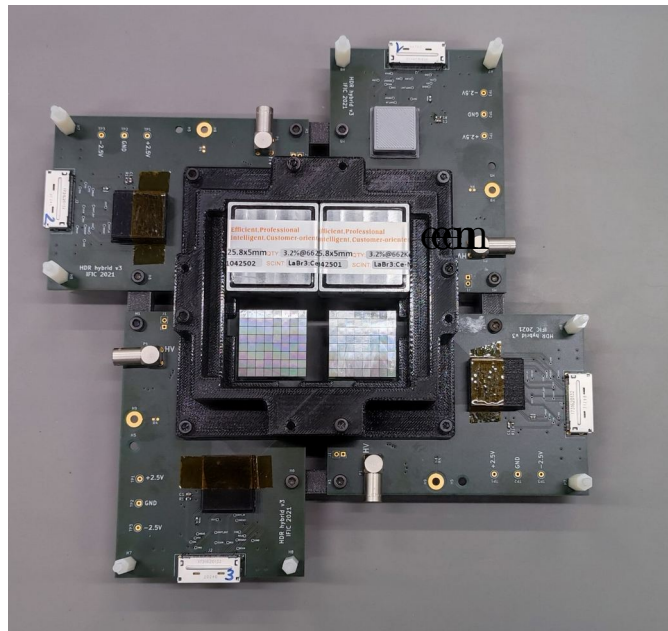
In collaboration with Ane Etxebeste, David Sarrut, Jean Noël Badel from Creatis and Léon Bérard hospital (Lyon).

# MACACO III+

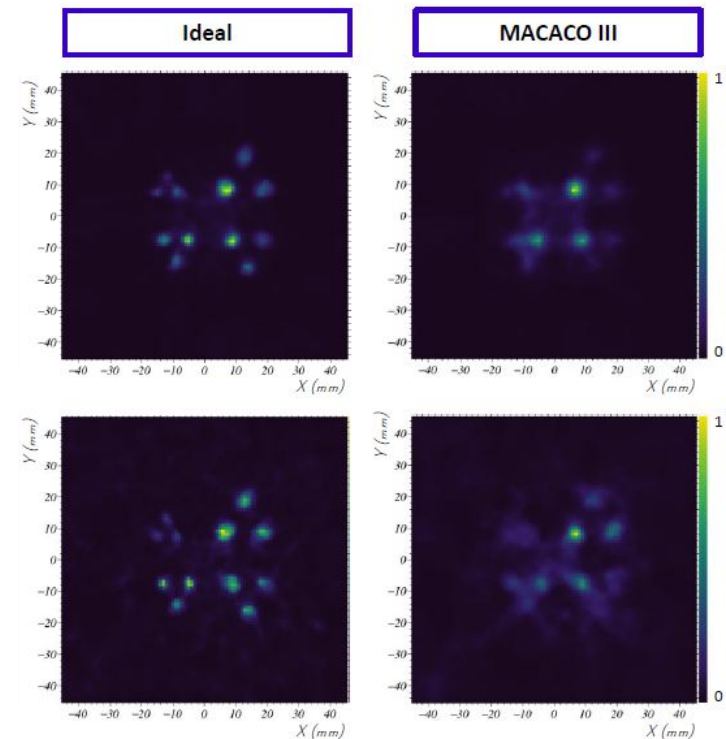
MACACO III+



4x larger 2<sup>nd</sup> plane  
to increase sensitivity



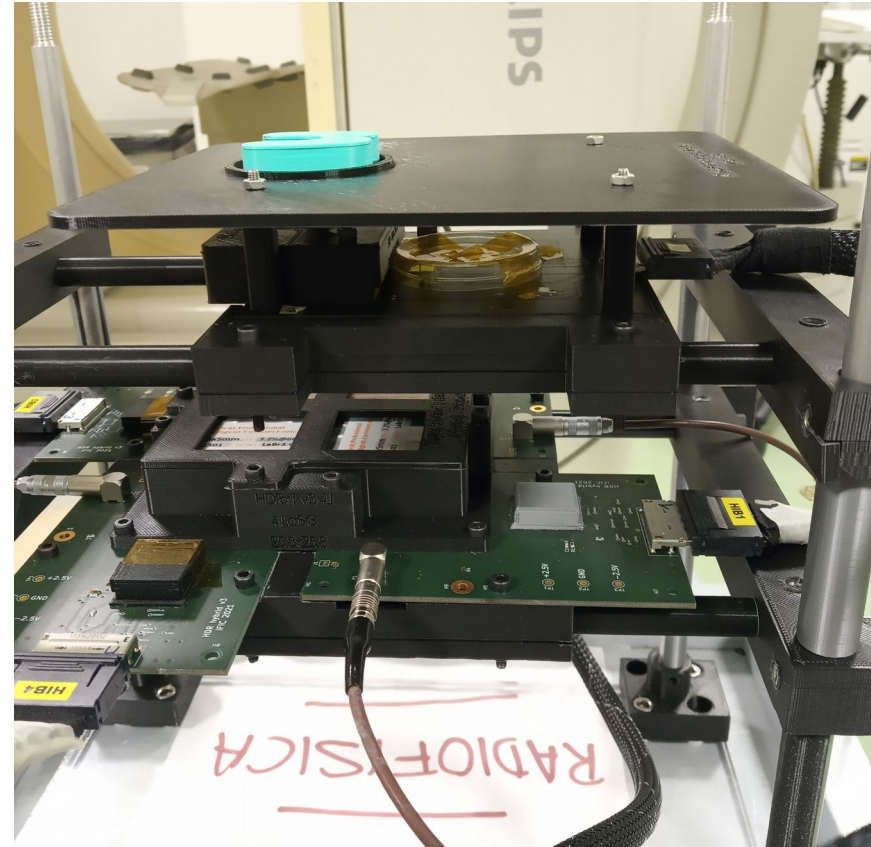
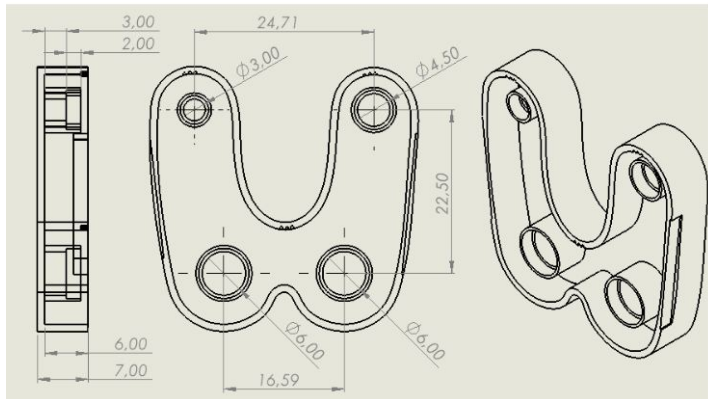
Ac-225 Simulations with MACACO III+



Further Ac-225 measurements foreseen with MACACO III+

# Measurements with $^{131}\text{I}$ with MACACO III+

3D printed thyroid-shaped phantom  
filled with  $^{131}\text{I}$ -mIBG



# Measurements with $^{131}\text{I}$ with MACACO III+



Background: ~3 ml

Rods:

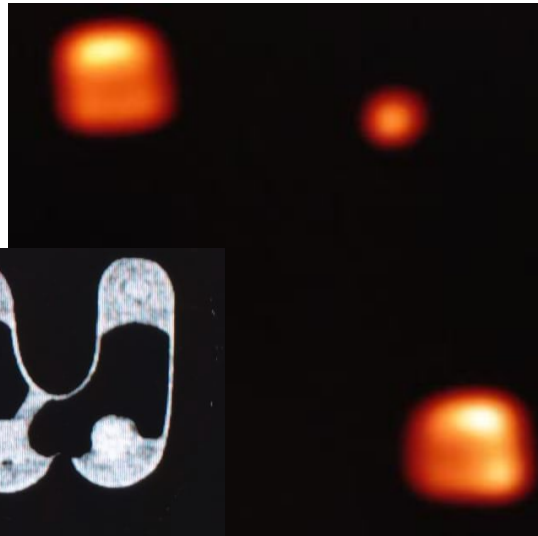
3: 0.021 ml

4: 0.047 ml

5: 0.084 ml

## Gamma camera images

3D printed thyroid-shaped phantom filled with  $^{131}\text{I}$ -mIBG

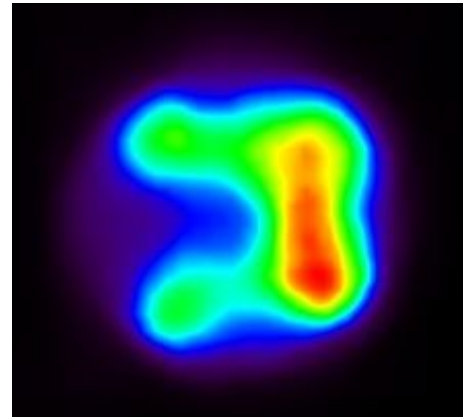


## CT images

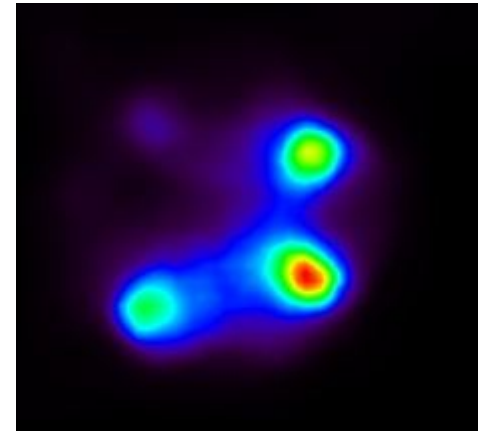


## Compton camera images

**PRELIMINARY**



'Uniform' filling.  
~ 0.5 MB/ml

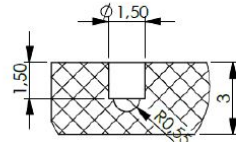
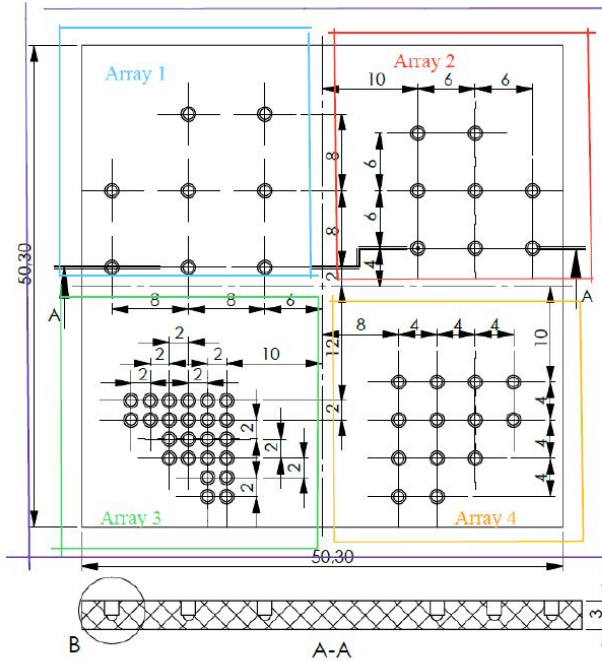


Background + hot rods at  
10:1 activity concentration  
(0.1 : 0.01 MBq/ml)



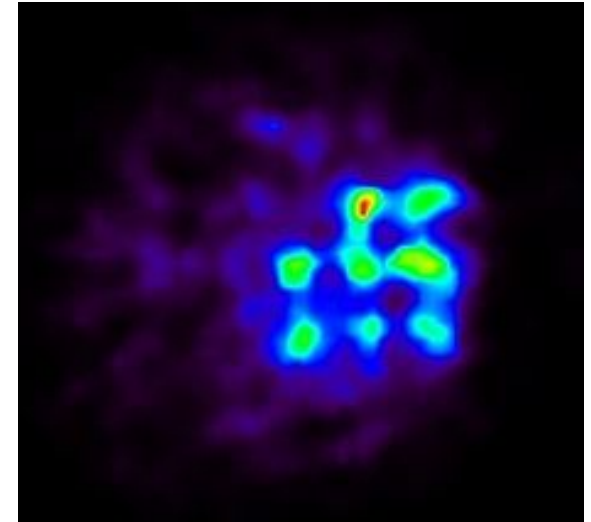
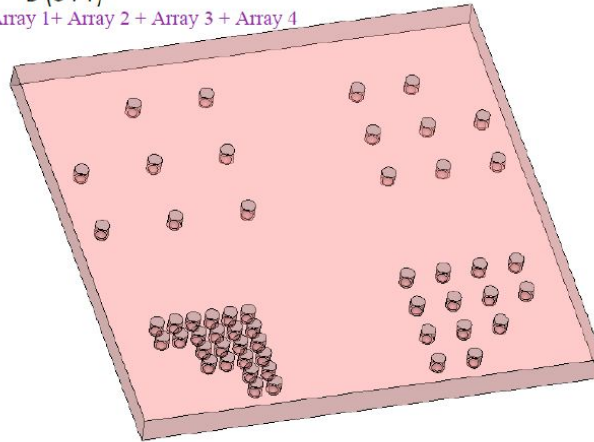


# Measurements with MACACO III+ - new array



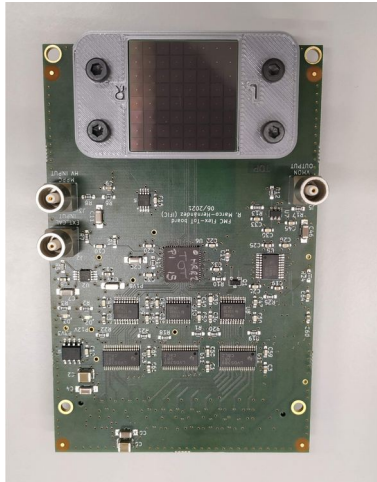
B (5 : 1)

Array 5= Array 1+ Array 2 + Array 3 + Array 4

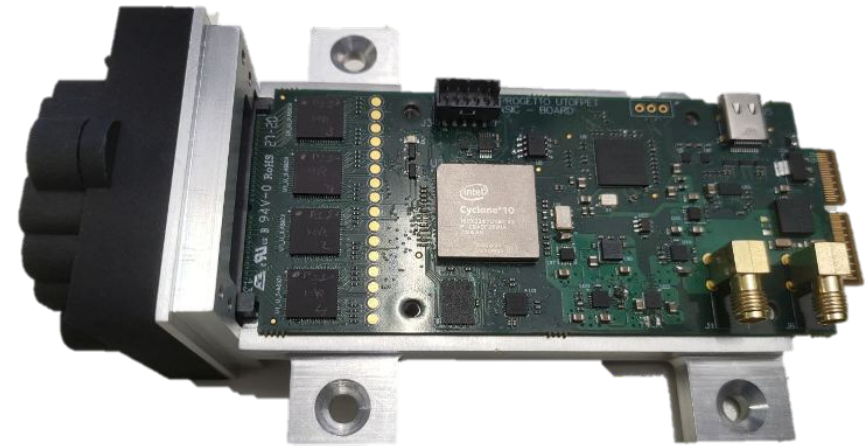
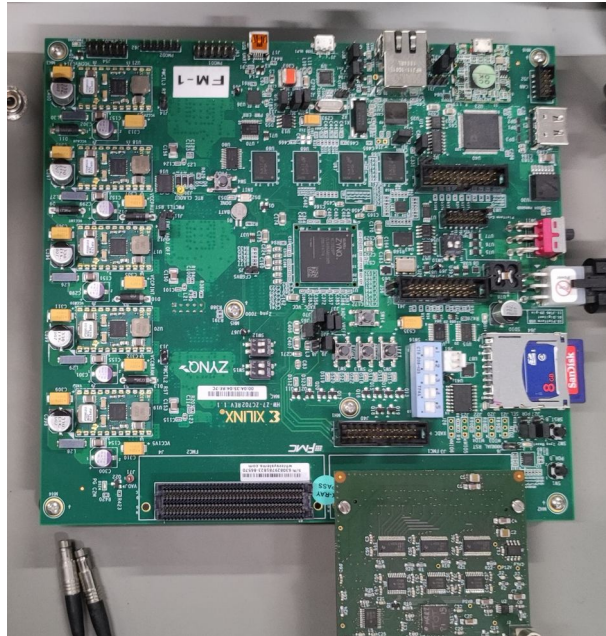


# Improvement with scintillators

- ▶ Contact with Luxium (Saint Gobain crystals) for improved crystal-photodetector coupling.
- ▶ Tests with alternative ASICs: HRFlexTOT (UB), GAMMA (Politecnico di Milano).



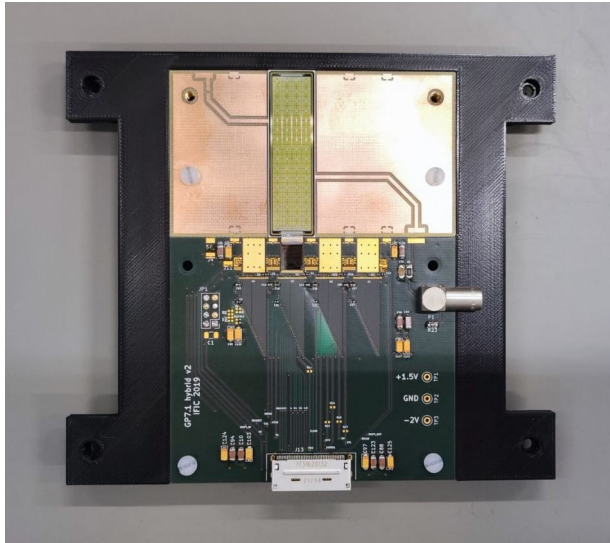
**HRFlexTOT Valencia  
(R. Marco)**



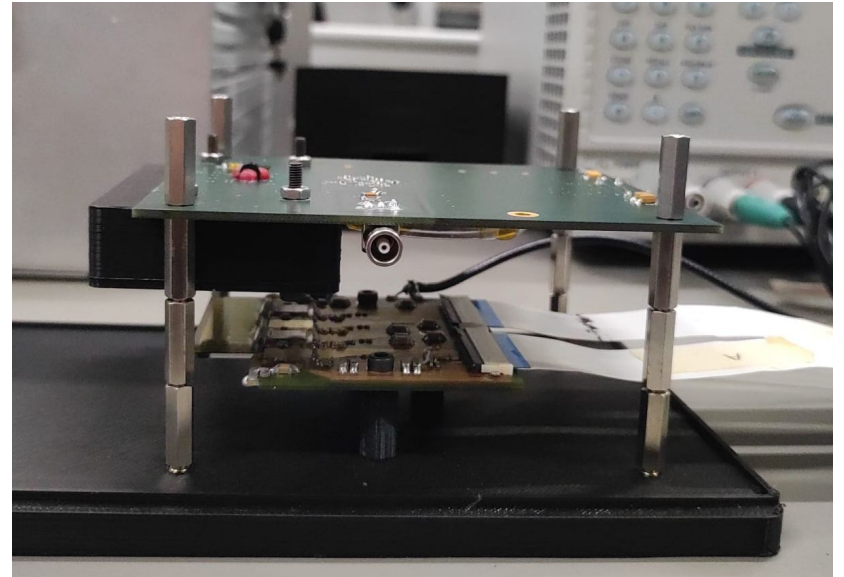
**HRFlexTOT Univ. Pisa**

# Tests with silicon detectors

- ▶ Silicon detectors as scatterers for improved energy resolution.
- ▶ Specific design of thick detectors with IMB-CNM.



**Silicon pad detectors, 0.5 and 1 mm thick.**



**CC setup. Data analysis ongoing.**

# Conclusions

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- ▶ The IRIS group has developed a Compton camera suitable for photon imaging in the range of 300 keV – 7 MeV.
- ▶ Initial results in collaboration with La Fe hospital in Valencia and Léon Bérard hospital in Lyon are very encouraging.
- ▶ Detector improvements are possible and can lead to better system performance.
- ▶ Further system performance improvements and test in clinical sites are ongoing.

Compton cameras show potential for this application





G. Llosá



A. Ros

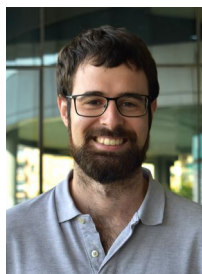


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K. Brzezinski

<http://ific.uv.es/iris>



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L. Barrientos



M. Borja-Lloret



R. Viegas



J. Pérez Curbelo



C. Senra



J. V. Casaña

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**ASTROHEP PPCC**  
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# Thank you

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