

RICH 2007 6th International Workshop on Ring Imaging Cherenkov Counters 15-20 October 2007 Trieste – Italy

Status and perspectives of vacuum-based photon detectors for single photon detection

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- Much more is taking place than what can be covered in 40 minutes!
- The selection criteria were a combination of:
 - the speaker's current activities and interests,
 - those developments coming from relatively new and near-future R&D and experiment projects,
 - topics which are generally covered in other oral or poster presentations during this Conference,
 - topics the illustrations of which were easily accessible, directly via authors, publications and web sites.



Broad range of requirements

Photon detection

- Total surface: ~1 mm² to ~1 m²
- Granularity: ~10 μ m to \ge 10 mm
- Active area coverage: ≥ 50 %
- Single-photon sensitivity over a broad spectral range (near UV to infrared)

Environment

- Magnetic field: 1 mT ≤ B ≤ 4 T (axial and/or transverse)
- Radiation dose: 100 kRad/year (charged particles) 5 10¹⁰ cm⁻² (neutrons)

Read-out

- Maximum occupancy: < 10 %
- Intrinsic speed: < ns</p>
- Signal jitter: ~10 ps to ~10 ns
- Signal rate: ~1 Hz to ~100 Mhz
- Read-out rate: ~1 Hz to ~1 MHz

Broad range of options

- This overview will mainly focus on position-sensitive single-photon detectors:
- Multi-anode Photon Multiplier Tubes
- Micro Channel Plate Photon Multiplier Tubes
- Hybrid Photon Detectors
- Electron-bombarded CCD's or alternatives
- Etc.

QE's of typical vacuum photo-cathodes



Bialkali: SbKCs, SbRbCs Multialkali: SbNa₂KCs (alkali metals have low work function) T. Gys - Vacuum photon detectors - RICH 2007 5



Multi-anode Photon Multiplier Tubes

Main features

- Construction
 - Metal channel dynodes
 - Up to 8×8 channels (2×2 mm² each);
 - Size: 28×28 mm²;
 - Active area 18.1×18.1 mm² (41%);¹
- Bi-alkali PC:
 - QE \cong typ. \ge 20% @ λ_{max} = 400 nm;
- Gain ≅ 3 × 10⁵
 - Fluctuation $\cong \sqrt{g_1} / g_1$ typ. 0.60;
 - Gain uniformity typ. 1 : 2.5;
 - Cross-talk typ. <1-2%</p>







MaPMT's (2)





MaPMT's (3)



MaPMT's (4)



MaPMT's (5)







Flat-panel PMT's

Main features

- 8×8 or 16×16 channels;
- Compactness;
- Excellent active area ratio (89%)
- Belle upgrade

See contribution of T. Iijima at this Conference



(T. Matsumoto et al., NIM A 521 (2004) 367)









MaPMT's amd flat-panel PMT's: R&D

Improved bialkali photo-cathodes

- **SBA**:
 - Metal package PMTs
 - 1"-3" glass bulb PMTs
- UBA:
 - Metal package PMTs

Improved gain uniformity of flat panel metal package PMTs

- ► **Тур.:** ■ 1:3 ⇒ 1:2
- Max.:
 1:5 ⇒ 1:4

(K. Kitamura et al., NIM A 571 (2007) 231)





MCP-PMT's (2)



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MCP-PMT's: R&D

Multi-anode MCP-PMT

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- Large surface coverage (64%)
- Linear position information (4×5.3mm×22mm)
- Fast rise time (400ps)
- Excellent TTS (30ps for single photons)









Hybrid Photon Detectors

Main features



- Hybrid technology: vacuum photon detector tube encapsulating a solid-state detector (+ possibly its readout electronics)
- Segmentation ranges from ~50µm to ~20mm
- Various possible e-optics designs based on image intensifier technology

• Gain \cong 1 to 5 \times 10³

- Small intrinsic fluctuations ≅ √F×G
 + back-scattering effects
- \Rightarrow overall noise dominated by electronics noise
- Gain uniformity typ. 1
- Cross-talk: see CMS HCAL



(C.P. Datema et al., NIM A **387** (1997) 100-103)

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(C.A. Johansen et al., NIM A 326 (1993) 295-298)



HPD's (2)

HPDs for LHCb RICH detectors

• Requirements

See contributions of S. Eisenhardt and S. Brisbane at this Conference

- Large area (3.3m²) with high overall active area fraction (~65%)
- Fast compared to the 25 ns bunch crossing time
- Have to operate in a small (1-3mT) magnetic field
- Granularity 2.5×2.5mm²

\Rightarrow 484 HPDs with 5× demagnification and custom anode





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Si pixel array



HPD's (3)



HPD's (4)

HPDs for LHCb RICHes (cont'd)

Thresholds and noise

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 The anode is a Si pixel detector with 8192 channels organized in 1024 super-pixels of 500 x 500 μm² size, bump-bonded to a custom binary readout chip (lhcbpix1)

⇒ excellent signal-to-noise ratio achieved by small pixels and optimal sensor-FE coupling

- Very low average threshold and noise
- Typical signal is 5000 e-(Si detector dead layer typ. 150nm) with intrinsically low fluctuations (typ. 25 e- rms)

 \Rightarrow ~85% photo-electron detection efficiency for 25ns strobe

 Residual inefficiency is dictated by photo-electron back-scattering (18% probability) and chargesharing effects





Mu-metal shield grounded

HPD's (5)

HPDs for LHCb RICHes (cont'd)

- Local magnetic shielding
 - To avoid image loss and minimize distortions, local shielding of HPD's required to reduce B field below 10G (1mT) inside HPD volume
 - With test pattern, reconstruct pixel hit - photon hit position correspondence for each HPD
 - Distortion correction must not degrade pixel size error







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(G. Aglieri

NIMA 553 (2005) 120)



Multi-pixel proximity-focussed HPD



Hybrid MCP for adaptive optics (AO)

Development of next-generation astronomical AO:

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- Alternative to replace more conventional high-speed CCD's;
- Aim for IR response, ultra-low noise and several kHz frame-rates;
- GaAs photo-cathode;
- Proximity-focussing electron optics;
- High-gain wide dynamic range MCP;
- Anode: Medipix2 photon-counting chip used both as direct electron detector (55µm pixels) and FE readout electronics;
- Tube development underway

(B. Mikulec et al., NIM A 567 (2006) 110) (Burle) (Burle) 34 mm



(J. Vallerga et al., NIM A 546 (2005) 263)



Images of USAF test pattern, 100µs (left) and 100s (right) exposures, 50k MCP gain, rear-field voltage 1500V

Hybrid Avalanche Photodiode Array: R&D

Aerogel RICH belle Upgrade

See contribution of S. Nishida at this Conference

Construction

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- 4 chips of 6×6 APD each 5×5mm²
- Immune to B-fields up to 1.5T
- Active area ratio 64%
- HV typ. 10kV, V typ. 300V
- Gain typ. 1000 × 10



(Hamamatsu)







GaAs Hybrid Single Avalanche Photodiode: R&D

MAGIC telescope upgrade

Construction

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- 1 hexagonal APD 28mm in size
- HV typ. 8kV, V typ. 450V
- Gain typ. 1500 × 50
- Avalanche gain T dependence 2%/°C ⇒ T compensation
- GaAs photo-cathode
- **QE typ. >50% @** λ=500nm
- QE improved in near UV with WLS coating;20% degradation after 10⁴h and 300MHz photon rate





(http://wwwmagic.mppmu.mpg.de/)

- HPD 131

- HPD 128

- HPD 125

- PMT

125 with WLS

HPD 129

(Hamamatsu)







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400 500 600 700 800

Wave Length [nm]

A specific example of photon detector choice

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A specific example of photon detector choice (2)

Disc DIRC detector for PANDA (cont'd)

Photon detector options:

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- position-sensitive PMT's
 - B-field immunity
 - gain uniformity
- APDs or similar (MPPC, SiPM, etc.)
 - dark noise vs high signal rate
 - radiation hardness
- channel plate phototubes
 - overall single pe- efficiency
- optical fibres and external phototubes
 - fibre connections and related losses
- HPDs with electro-magnetic imaging
 - alignment with B field
 - radiation hardness
- Readout electronics?





Conclusions

- A lot of innovative techniques are being used or developed!
 - There is room for improvement on many aspects, including supposedly routine aspects like quantum efficiency of photo-cathodes.
- Design aspects
 - Dictated by very specific application requirements
 - Trade-off between:
 - granularity
 - speed
 - active surface
 - ...
 - cost!

 \Rightarrow no fully optimal solution

• Design guidelines

- Survey of existing technologies
- Collaboration with industry ⇒ as much as possible, try to combine/match requirements with industrial standards
- Development of new photon detectors and their associated readout (front-end) electronics should be carried out in parallel but not independently