



A Single Photon Detector System Based on Micropattern Gaseous Electron Multiplier

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- Introduction
 - A little bit of my "world"
 - Particle identification: what it is
- Gaseous based detector: from MWPC to MPGD
- The single photon counter from small to large size
- What we learned and the tools to improve, a dedicated system to monitor and control the HV
- What you will see in the lab

Introduction: Particle Identification



Particle identification techniques are based on the interaction of particles with the matter The applicable methods depends on the range of momenta of the particle to identify







Based on the specific features of particle interactions, examples

- High energy muons, penetration
- Intermediate energy muons, range
- Low energy p, range
- e.m. particles vs hadrons: calorimetry (shower development)
- ••••

Measurement of the particle mass m

m from the equation

 $E^2 = (mc^2)^2 + (pc)^2$

2 measurements have to be combined

p (deflection in magnetic field)

E (range)

p (deflection in magnetic field) p

(deflection in magnetic field) p (deflection in magnetic field)

- Time of flight techniques
 - Measurements of the time between taken by a particle to travel between two different detectors at distance L

v (TOF, Cherenkov) v

(TOF)

- dE/dx (for instance in TPCs) E/m
- (transition radiation)
- E (range)



Resolution:

$$\left(\frac{dm}{m}\right)^2 = \left(\gamma^2 \frac{d\beta}{\beta}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dp}{p}\right)^2 \qquad \gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}$$

Assuming p is measured with fine resolution, the resolution in $\Delta m/m$ becomes a specific request concerning the resolution of the β measurement:









Analogous phenomena (mechanical waves):

Boat wake



Supersonic plane



Frank e Tamm, photon spectrum:

Photons are in the infrared, visible and

UV range Fixing the radiator length L: Integrating the spectrum: When $\beta = 1$, L = 1 and $\Delta E = 1$: Always:

N is a <u>mean value</u>:

- Poisson statistics \rightarrow v from a direct measurement of θ_{C} , not from N !!!
- A part when Z² ≠ 1



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250

Momentum [GeV/c]

300

200

50

100

150

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Single photon detection for Cherenkov imaging counters in HEP



The COMPASS Collaboration



Experiments with muon beam:

COMPASS - I (2002 - 2011)

Spin structure, Gluon polarizationPion polarizabilityFlavor decompositionDiffractive and Central productionTransversityLight meson spectroscopyTransverse Momentum-dependent PDFBaryon spectroscopyCOMPASS - II(2012 – 2021) ...DVCS and HEMPPion and Kaon polarizabilitiesUnpolarized SIDIS and TMDsDrell-Yan studies

Experiments with hadron beams:

I N F N

COMPASS physics and spectrometer

hadron spectroscopy (p, π , K)

- · light mesons, glue-balls, exotic mesons
- polarisability of pion and kaon

nucleon structure (μ)

- · longitudinal spin structure
- transverse momentum and transverse spin structure

COMPASS

Energy:100 - 200 GeVIntensity:up to 10^9 /spillLarge acceptance, PID detectorsSeveral particles in the final state



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~80k electronic channels to read

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50 m

Cherenkov light detection, MWPC with CsI photocathode: the nearly worldwide used architecture and its limitation

F





Reduced wire-cathode gap because of:

Fast RICH (fast ion collection) Reduced MIP signal Reduced cluster size Control photon feedback spread



0

oD

x

drift velocity of electrons in this region, it appears that the whole process of multiplication will take place in less tham 1 nsec: at that instant, electrons have been collected on the anode and the positive ion sheath will drift towards the cathode at decreasing velocity. The detected signal, negative on the anode and positive on the cathode, is the consequence of the change in energy of the system due to the movement of charges. Simple electrostatic considerations show that if a charge Q is moved by dr, in a system of total capacitance KC (& is the length of the counter), the induced signal is

Electrons

$$dv = \frac{Q}{RCV_0} \frac{dV}{dr} dr$$
. (33)

Electrons in the avalanche are produced very close to the anode (half of them in the last mean free path); therefore their contribution to the total signal will be very small: positive ions, instead, drift across the counter and generate most of the signal. Assuming that all charges are produced at a distance λ from the wire, the electron and ion contributions to the signal on the anode will be, respectively,

$$\begin{split} v^{*} &= -\frac{Q}{2CV_{0}} \int\limits_{a}^{a+\lambda} \frac{dV}{dr} \, dr = -\frac{Q}{2\pi\epsilon_{0} \lambda} \ln \frac{a+\lambda}{a} \\ v^{*} &= \frac{Q}{2CV_{0}} \int\limits_{a+\lambda}^{b} \frac{dV}{dr} \, dr = -\frac{Q}{2\pi\epsilon_{0} \lambda} \ln \frac{b}{a+\lambda} \quad . \end{split}$$

The total maximum signal induced on the anode is seen to be

Ions

$$v = v^{+} + v^{-} = -\frac{Q}{2\pi\epsilon_0 \hat{z}} \ln \frac{b}{a} = -\frac{Q}{\hat{z}C}$$

and the ratio of the two contributions is

and

 $\frac{v}{v^+} = \frac{\ln (a + \lambda) - \ln a}{\ln b - \ln (a + \lambda)} .$

Typical values for a counter are a = 10 μ m, λ = 1 μ m, and b = 10 mm; substituting in the previous expression one finds that the electron contribution to the signal is about 1% of the total. It is therefore, in general, neglected for all practical purposes. The time development of the signal can easily be computed assuming that ions leaving the surface of

The present generation of large size single photon detectors:RD26

The RD-26 project

Launch of CERN/RD-26 project in 1992, by F. Piuz et al., : 'Development of large area advanced fast-RICH detector for particle identification at the LHC operated with heavy ions"

Gaseous based



Use of the CsI as photon converter: A revolution in the panorama of Cherenkov detectors

Anyhow this technology suffers from some limitations:

- Long recovery (1 day) time after a discharge occurs
- lons accumulation at the photocathode: limitation in the maximum gain < 10⁵
- Photon and ion feedback from the multiplication avalanche
- «Ageing» few mC / cm² reduction in the QE

Possible to overcome the limitations of this technology?



The keystone for the next generation of large single photon detectors: MicroPatternGaseousDetector (MPGD)

- Able to work and cope with high rate detection
- High gain achievable: gas gain
- Good time/space/E resolution
- Robust: ageing robustness
- Natural Ion Backflow/Photon feedback reduction CG
- Low cost large size detector production possible
- Intrinsically fast: signal is induced by electrons...!





Rate Capability Comparison for MWPC and MSGC



Micromegas

MHSP

Ingrid





The MPGD hybrid approach: THGEMs and MicroMegas





IBF reduction: approx. 3% Charge splitting processes → Larger Gas Gain

Hybrid detector concept

To simplify the construction requirements a modular architecture has been adopted where one "module" consists of:

One 300 mm x 600 mm Bulk Micromegas detector

Two layers of THGEMs (300 mm x 600 mm) in staggered configuration

Two modules are put side by side to build a 600 mm x 600 mm detector

Signal read out via capacitive coupling pad readout and APV25 F/E boards











8mmx8mm pad size 0.5 mm pad spacing THGEM 1

THGEM 2

THGEM based single photon detectors: appealing aspects of our choice

Use of the industrial technology to produce Printed Circuit Boards

- Electrical robustness: no damages induced by discharges
- Mechanical properties: robust and self supporting no stretching is needed
- Possible industrial production of large size @ low cost PCB
- Economic material

Compared to GEM

- Geometrical dimensions x 10
- *e* motion and multiplication properties do not scale
- Dipolar and external field strongly coupled



About PCB geometrical dimensions: Hole diameter : 0.2 - 1 mmPitch : 0.5 - 5 mmThickness : 0.2 - 3 mm







introduced in // by different groups:
L. Periale et al., NIM A478 (2002) 377.
P. Jeanneret, PhD thesis, Neuchatel U., 2001.
P.S. Barbeau et al, IEEE NS50 (2003) 1285
R. Chechik et al, .NIMA 535 (2004) 303

THGEMs are electron multipliers derived from the gem concept changing geometrical dimensions and production technology. (ELTOS Arezzo)





- Using X-ray sources
- Using UV light sources
- With Cherenkov light at the test beams
- Analogic read-out, single channel
- Digital read-out, 1 channel per anode pad
- Read-out of the current on the various electrodes





Electrostatic simulations



Ageing and IBF an alternative appealing way to reduce it

A Micromegas detector consists in an ionization stage + by a parallel plate avalanche chamber with a very narrow amplification gap (~100 μ m) defined by the anode plane and by a micromesh.



Charge Avalanche, 5 Readout Pad

MICROMEGAS Thin (50-100 μm) multiplication gap:



Natural suppression of the Ion Back Flow: Fraction of the ions flowing back from the multiplication volume !!!



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THGEM as single photon detector: test beam campaign



THGEM as single photon detector, test beam

PS T10 beam line 5/11/2012 – 25/11/2012 <u>Triple THGEM 300x300 (</u>576 pads); 2 Triple 30x30, 1 MAPMT trigger system, Č radiators, Analog & Digital r/o, COMPASS-like





THGEM as single photon detector, test beam

For small prototypes Ar/CH4 60-40%

Gain achieved in laboratory with triple THGEM structures (stable condition) and UV light 0.9 10⁶ Gain achieved in test beams with triple THGEM structures (stable condition) and Cherenkov light from quartz radiator 1 10⁵





 300
 Entries
 3787

 250
 χ² / ndf
 232 / 29

 Prob
 1.549e-033
 Constant
 292 - 10.3

 200
 Mean
 -733.8 - 0.3
 Sigma
 7.624 - 0.174

 150

 150

 150

 150
 <

THGEM as single photon detector: large size prototype performance with Cherenkov light from conical radiator



THGEM as single photon detector: large size prototype performance

For larger size prototypes (300x300mm²) Ar/CH4 60-40%: Gain achieved in test beams with triple THGEM structures Cherenkov light from quartz radiator 2 10⁴



THGEM as single photon detector: large size production Uniformity and Gain

The thickness uniformity plays an essential role in defining the gain achievable

the maximum gain is limited by the thinner area, standard PCB variation 30%, our requirements <2%. We have implemented a pre selection chain for PCB thickness → tolerances reduced, but material selection is not trivial



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The standard procedure of PCB production has been refined \rightarrow better smoothened hole edges improve the detector maximum gain achievable, (*developed in Tieste Lab*) Large number of holes/layers \rightarrow challenging

Based on fine pumice grain polishing, high pressure washing and ultrasonic bath in mild commercial etching solution



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Measurement of the raw material thickness before the THGEM production, accepted: \pm 15 µm \leftrightarrow gain uniformity σ < 7%





gain uniformity (<7%) and spark behaviour



						1
220	207	206	198	185	202	188
230	207	199	198	196	207	196
220	204	204	198	193		192
220	205	202	199	188		192
210		195	195	191	199	199
210	199	195	205	199	196	199
200	194	195	197	194	190	192
200	199	195	209	195	190	198
100	201	197	208	195	199	198
130	199	200	199	195	199	198
100	199	190	199	185	186	190

THGEM polishing with an "ad hoc" protocol setup by us *including backing*: >90% break-down limit obtained



MICROMEGAS



X-ray MM test to access integrity and gain uniformity (<5%)





The Hybrid scheme MicroMegas detector and THGEM, performance, large prototype



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The Hybrid scheme MicroMegas detector and THGEM, performance, large prototype



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The Hybrid scheme MicroMegas detector and THGEM, medium size performance

ΔV Scan of Sectors of a 300X 300 mm2 THGEM. VMESH = 640V. Gas used Ar:CH4 30:70.



Micromegas: characterization and studies, the discrete element approach



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AB

Finale detector: the mounting phase







Glueing the support pillars











THGEM: CsI coating at CERN





Final mounting on the RICH-1 detector



The High Voltage Control System





In total 136 HV channels with correlated values

Hardware, commercial by CAEN Custom HV control system



- Gain stability vs P, T:
 - G = G(V, T/P)

- Enhanced in a multistage detector
- $\Delta T = 1 \circ C \rightarrow \Delta G \approx 12\%$
- $\Delta P = 5 \text{ mbar} \rightarrow \Delta G \approx 18 \%$

THE WAY OUT:

 Compensate T/P variations by V Gain stability better than 10%



- <u>Custom-made</u> (C++, wxWidgets)
- Compliant with COMPASS DCS (slow control)
- "OwnScale" to fine-tune for gain uniformity
- V, I measured and logged at 1 Hz
- Autodecrease HV if needed (too high spark-rate)
- User interaction via GUI
- Correction wrt P/T to preserve gain stability



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THGEMs, lessons

- <u>Full</u> vertical <u>correlation</u> of current sparks THGEM1 & THGEM2
- Recovery time <10 s (our HV arrangement)
- Sparke rates: ~ no dependence on beam intensity and even beam on-off
- <u>Discharge correlation</u> within a THGEM (also non adjacent segments) and among different THGEMs (cosmics ?)
- → Total spark rates (4 detectors): ~10/h



MICROMEGAS, lessons

- MM sparks only when a THGEM spark is observed (not vice versa)
- Recovery time ~1s (our HV arrangement)

The only real issue: dying channels (pads)

Local shorts, larger current, no noise issue 2.5 ‰ developed in 12 months Dirty gas / dust from molecular sieves & catalyst? Finer mechanical filters added: 7 µm pore



The Cherenkov photon signal detection

Clusterization to separate charged particle tracks



Selecting good hit candidates (A0<5 ADC units, 0.2<A1/A2<0.8)



Hybrid MPGD (novel detector)



reversed bias



MWPC (old detector)







Is he sure he is at the right place ?



Where is my VHDL ???

I was supposed to hear something about FPGAs...?

MPGD-dedicated HV system *Goal of the Project*

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Main goal is to match the HV requirements not commercially available for the MPGD needs

- true real-time monitoring of the main parameters (voltage, current)
- the fast control of the HV channels (related to the next point)
- the use of local intelligence for the application of feedback protocols when pre-breakdown conditions are detected, useful for systems where the large number of HV channels increases the monitor and control complexity of the system
- HV generated at the detector level: HV cabling, connectors, space constrains, cost, accumulated charge issues
- Modularity of the system: large size projects employing MPGDs may use a large number of channels (M/S architecture)







By combining commercially available devices as well as custom made the foreseen performance figures to achieve:

- Time stamp resolution for current and voltage monitoring in the order of 10 ns or better
- High resolution voltage monitoring better than 0.5 Volt on several kVolt scale at sampling rate > 100 kHz
- Precise current monitoring at the level of 10 pA at sampling rate > 100 kHz
- On board logic for decisional operation on predefined scheme as well as warning on "interesting" events to the user: two mode systems 1) normal monitoring with *relaxed* separation between consecutive time stamps 2) very fine monitoring info in case of non standard events

The main innovative features are:

- 1. true real-time monitoring
- 2. A tool to perform MPGD R&D: by the detailed time-stamped information, understand the precise evolution of the break-down events
- 3. HV generated at the detector level
- **4. Reduced size**: each HV unit ~ 30 cm x 20 cm x 5 cm

Applications:

MPGD characterization studies Powering of large-size MPGD systems



Zed Board based on hybrid Xilinx Zynq

commercial carrier including high throughput low-pin-count FMC

Fully Programmable System-on-Chip (SoC) device combining a 'hard' dual core ARM processor with an FPGA fabric **dual-core ARM Cortex-A9** processor, Programmable Logic: **FPGA Artix-7 fabric**

8 bit ADC read at maximum speed of 500 MSPS







FPGA: we moved from the commercially demo board to the open hardware FMC carrier based on a Zynq-7030. The CIAA ACC board selected has been developed by the Center of Micro and Nanoelectronics of the Bicentenary (CMNB) of the National Institute of Industrial Technology (INTI). (Collaborators of the ICTP MLAB)

- \rightarrow Open HW, SW programming under VIVADO Package
- → More compact design well suited for our application: avoids to engineer a new FPGA board
- ightarrow PCIe allows for stackable operations



PCB of 12 layers and a size of 90 x 96 mm.

- Main device: Xilinx Zynq-7000 (XC7Z030-2FBG676I, also compatible with a XC7Z045).
- Memories: DDR3 (1GB), QSPI (128MB).
- Peripherals: SD/SDIO, GEth, USB OTG, 2 x

I2Cs, SPI, 3 x UARTs (one RS-485), CAN, Real Time Clock, HDMI.

• GPIOs: 2 x LEDs, 8 x GPIOs, 8 x optical isolated digital IOs (for industrial applications).

One VITA 57.1 FMC-HPC Connector.

• PCIe/104 connectors (to allow stackable applications).



The main purposes of the firmware implemented on the PL of the Zynq device are:

- a) Hardware control of the HV DC-DC converter (directly and by mean of DAC)
- b) Hardware control of the FMC ADC Board through a high data throughput FMC connector
- c) Hardware control of PMOD DAC and ADC Modules
- d) Communication Protocol with the PS through the Custom Communication Block
- e) Hardware histogram generation for probability distribution analysis using the RAM memory available in the Communication Block.
- f) Specific data processing blocks/IP: discharges detection, high-resolution time stamping, oversampling, high-resolution amplitude measurements, etc





The PS acts as a server TCP/IP for the exchanging of predefined data packets between the Zynq device and a PC. Basically, the PS awaits and fulfills requests from the PC.

- a) Reading data coming from PL (FIFO memory) through DMA configuration for data transmission from FIFO to an external DDR RAM memory
- b) Packing data from DDR RAM according to PC-Zynq TCP/IP communication protocol specifications
- c) Software for managing I2C temperature and pressure sensors.
- d) Creation of Protocol Data Unit (PDU) containing header and data for transmission to PC. Unpacking data and fulfill requests from PC according to the information provided by the header of PDUs coming from PC (Middleware)
- e) Read and Write into I/O peripheral interfaces via specific predefined ARM memory addresses
- f) Communication Protocol with the Zynq-PL through the Custom
 Communication Block







Temperature and pressure monitoring fully implemented via IIC ADT7420 and MS5611 sensors \rightarrow physically connected to the JA1 PMOD



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The PC resident software is being developed in PyQT (Python-QT) and QT designer is used to graphically generate the Graphical User Interface (GUI). Free SW



Widget of the 50 kHz sine signal digitized by the ADC at 300 MSPS.





Widget of the values of the temperature and pressure from the sensors

Widget of the histogram of the data received

Temnerature		420 (°C)										
0 10 20 27.09 °C	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100					
Temperature	: MS56	511 (°	'C)										
0 10 20 26.94 °C										Pres	ssure: 10	29.03 mb	ar







MPGD-dedicated HV system

Analog part and its integration







The PA board has been designed, realized, tested and interfaced









Full chain linearity tested over the range of 800 nA, sampling @ 2.6 kHz





Some remarks:

ADC works @ 500 MS/s @ 8 bit $\Delta_{\rm vin}$ =1.9V

With the scheme implemented the **maximum theoretical** current resolution achievable is 48 pA @ 100 kHz over a *i* range of 800 nA. We wanted to achieve 10pA in the original plan, but

Resolution can be increased by

- Oversampling at the cost of reducing the sampling frequency: to gain N bits to obtain a larger ENOB f_{samp} is scaled by 2^{2N}
- Changing the gain of the OPA in transconductance mode

Measurement performed by connecting a I current source, the PA and the Keitley 6485 calibrated Picoammeter





Discharge tagging and time stamping







The system underwent several thousand discharges to check it robustness, at the moment we have not damaged any device despite the large current, typical capacitance \sim nF \rightarrow Instantaneous currents \sim A

$$\cong i = \frac{Q}{t} \cong C \frac{\Delta V}{t}$$



Discharge tagging and time stamping

Very simple trigger on discharges by sampling @ 500 MS/s and taking the difference between two samples, if the different is above a threshold \rightarrow triggered event \rightarrow save both the timestamp with 2ns time resolution within the waveform.



The Absolute time stamp is given by the sum of the timing of a RT slow Clock and of a fast Clock @250 MHz

Communication via TCP/IP protocol with optical fiber to achieve HV insulation is fundamental With direct connection we bring the Ethernet port of the PC in an unstable state \rightarrow freeze the communication

MPGD-dedicated HV system in the LAB











MPGD-dedicated HV system in the LAB





• 16ch 12-bit 50-MHz ADC card



SRS + APV25

FECv3 with C-Card connects to APV25 hybrids









Thanks!