

Timing detectors at LHC with BTL/MTD

Alessio Boletti (LIP, Lisbon)

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High-Luminosity LHC



The CMS detector will undergo many upgrades

New detector to measure the time of charged particles: **MIP Timing Detector (MTD)**

Upcoming High-Luminosity phase of LHC

- Instantaneous luminosity up to ~7.5 10³⁴ cm⁻² s⁻¹
- High density of vertices (x5 wrt LHC)
 - More challenging to associate tracks to correct vertex
- Large radiation damage



Integrated luminosity [fb⁻¹

4D tracking

Addition of the timing information to the track reconstruction

Distinguishing the collision vertices using one additional dimension:

- spatial dispersion ~ 5 cm
- time dispersion ~190 ps





This will allow to reduce by ~50% the number of tracks mistakenly assigned to the hard interaction vertex

This leads to improved analysis techniques: lepton isolation, missing energy estimation, etc.

Particle identification

New tool for CMS: time-of-flight particle identification

 π/K separation up to momenta of 2-3 GeV K/p separation up to 5 GeV

Useful tool for heavy-flavour analyses, both in **p-p and ion-ion collisions**, to explicitly reconstruct hadronic final states



CMS MIP Timing Detector

MTD detector

- Thin layer between tracker and calorimeters
- Almost hermetic ($|\eta|$ <3)

Different regions adopt different technologies, suited to the level of radiation dose:

- Barrel Timing Layer (BTL): arrays of LYSO crystal bars readout by SiPMs
- Endcap Timing Layer (ETL): Low Gain Avalanche Detector (LGAD) modules



BTL design

Sensor module

- 16 LYSO bar + 2 arrays of SiPM
- Double-ended readout: time average position-independent and allow gaining factor of $\sqrt{2}$ on time reso.

Readout unit

CCv



BTL sensors

LYSO:Ce scintillating crystals

- fast scintillation rise time (<100 ps)
- short decay time (~40 ns)
- bar-like geometry (3x3x55 mm³) [initial design]

SiPM

- fast timing
- magnetic field tolerant
- compact
- 15 µm cell size [initial design]

Sensor module

- array of 16 LYSO bars
- two SiPM arrays glued to the extremities
- Thermo-Electric Coolers (TECs) integrated on SiPM packaging

Sensors will be exposed to fluence of 2*10¹⁴ n_{eq}/cm^2





BTL front-end electronics

TOFHIR2 dedicated ASIC

- 32 channel
- Noise-cancellation module to deal with high DCR
- Three discriminators per channel (full corrent mode)
- 2 TDC and 1 QDC per channel

ALDO voltage regulator ASIC

Readout unit

- concentrator card to support communication of 12 front-end boards
- Two redundant optical links







BTL challenges

High Dark Count Rate (DCR)

- Mitigated with TOFHIR DLED module and integration of TECs
- ~ 10°C lower operating temperatures, down to -45°C
- higher temperatures for in-situ annealing (~60°C)
- SiPM operated at low bias (~1 V above breakdown) at end-of-life, to keep DCR under control
- LYSO yield ~50% of the one preliminarily estimated
 → fewer photoelectrons and slower rise time

Amount of photoelectrons optimized in several ways:

- Higher pre-amplificator gain in TOFHIR
- Larger cell-size SiPM
- Thicker LYSO bars

$$\sigma_{t}^{BTL} = \sigma_{t}^{clock} \oplus \sigma_{t}^{digi} \oplus \sigma_{t}^{ele} \oplus \sigma_{t}^{phot} \oplus \sigma_{t}^{DCR} \xrightarrow[at \ EoO]{} at \ EoO$$

Intense lab and test-beam studies led to optimal specifications and operating conditions





Test facilities

Laser test setups installed in Lisbon, Milano and CERN

- Colling and light tight test boxes
- Blue (405nm) and UV (370nm) laser systems
- DAQ system based on FEB/D board (PETsys Electronics)

TOFHIR2 Test Board

- Two TOFHIR2 and ALDO2 (LV/BV regulator)
- SiPM input connectors
- Access to probing pads in TOFHIR2
- Access to data with DAQ system

Picosecond laser

Blue LED emulating

DCR noise

- Blue light shinning directly on SiPMs
- UV light exciting scintillation in LYSO crystals



Integration test of Readout Unit:

 validate the full acquisition chain, assess the impact of the system noise, check the compatibility of the various components from the assembly point of view



Test beams at CERN

- CERN North Area H8 beam lines
- Detector modules with non-irradiated and irradiated (2e14 neq/cm2) SiPM arrays



SiPM optimization

SiPM cell size optimized to achieve best performance

- In unirradiated sensors, clear improvement obtained from • larger cell size, tested both in laser and test-beam measurements
- Larger-size irradiated sensors provide ~65 ps time resolution, compatible with TDR target





50

40

30

20

amplitude [µA]

Model of SiPM+TOFHIR 15 um 20 um 25 um 30 um 30 35 t [ns]

LYSO thickness optimization



Three thickness of crystal bars tested:

- Light output and number of photoelectrons increase with thickness
- Drawback: irradiated SiPM with larger active area consume more power because of DCR

Crucial test of irradiated modules with different thickness

Results show improved performances for thicker option (T1)



Conclusions

- Prototyping phase successful
 - Intensive tests in lab and test-beam
 - Characteristics and operating conditions of sensors and electronics have been optimized
 - TDR performances achieved (30 60 ps time resolution)
- Production and assembly phase started
 - TOFHIR production and sensor pre-production ongoing now
 - Assembly will start in Q2/2024 (4 assembly centers)
 - Installation on tracker support in Q3/2025