The Development of Large-Area Picosecond Photo-Detectors and Fast Timing Implications for Neutrino-less Double-Beta Decay Searches

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Mitchell Institute Seminar, Texas A&M University 10/31/2013

Outline



- Motivation for Large-Area Picosecond Photo-Detectors
- LAPPD design concept
- LAPPD components, system integration and testing
- Neutrino-less double-beta decay
- Separation of Cherenkov and scintillation light using fast timing detectors
- Summary

LAPPD Collaboration







THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO





Fermilab

of HAWAIʻI® Mānoa

UNIVERSITY



Bright Ideas in Fiberoptics

Colliders



"A jet is a narrow cone of hadrons and other particles....'

- Can we be more specific about jets? - quark content of charged particles
 - 4-vectors





Photons arrive first, followed by pions, kaons, etc.

Colliders





- Tie the photons to the correct vertex for precise $H{\rightarrow}\gamma\gamma$ mass reconstruction
- Associate (often forward) jets with VBF Higgs or WW scattering

Neutrinos



Can we build an optical TPC? H. Nicholson Hermetic TOF Water anode **Cherenkov Detector** MCP photodetector photocathode wavefront cherenkov cone charged current interaction vertex V measurement of photon position and time

Reconstruct tracks from measurement of position and arrival time of the photons

Neutrinos





Rare Kaon Decays





Need: ~1ps

Medical Imaging





Photocathode
MCP Channel plates
Transmission Lines

Need: ~50ps



Transformational Change



- Large area
- Fast timing
- Inexpensive



Super Module





- <u>Thin</u> planar glass body detector
- Tiles share single delay line anode
- Fully integrated electronics



Glass Package (20x20cm²)



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- Anode is made by silk-screening
- Flat panel
- No pins, single HV cable
- Modular design
- High bandwidth 50 Ω object
 - designed for fast timing



Ceramic body packaging is a parallel (and collaborative) effort at Berkeley SSL

LAPPD Components





MCP Fundamentals





Conventional Pb-glass MCP



Incom Inc. glass substrate





Large-Area MCPs







MCP by Atomic Layer Deposition (ALD)



Beneq reactor for ALD @Argonne National Laboratory



ALD Process for MCP Coating Developed by A.Mane, J.Elam







Porous glass

- Resistive coating ~100nm (ALD)
- Emissive coating ~ 20nm (ALD)

Conductive coating (thermal evaporation or sputtering)



33mm ALD-MCP Performance





Measurements by J.McPhate and O.Seigmund



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Measurements by J.McPhate and O.Seigmund

8" MCP pair average gain map image X **Relative gain** 1631 Distance (pixels) Plot of 2300-200-1100-100 770×350 pixels: 8-bit: 263K Y **Relative gain** 1669 Distance (pixels)



8x8" ALD-MCP Gain Uniformity





Photocathodes



Summary of cathodes grown by Burle Equip





Photocathodes at ANL



K_2 CsSb





R.Wagner, J.Xie, et.al with K.Attenkofer @BNL











Photocathodes at SSL



Na₂KSb

J.McPhate, O.Seigmund



RF Strip Line Anode



H.Grabas, R.Obaid, E.Oberla, H.Frisch J.F.Genat

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Impedance (Real) 40 strip Impedance (Real) 30 Strip

10⁶

mpedance (Imaginary) 40 Strip

Impedance (Imaginary) 30 Strip

10

Frequency (Hz)

10⁸

10

Impedance (Ohms)

Impedance (Ohms)

150

100

50

10

40

20

n

NIMA 711, (2013) 124-131

10¹⁰

A.Axtell, P.Jaynes

- Silk-screened silver on inexpensive glass
- 50 Ω impedance
- 1.6-0.4GHz bandwidth









Scope-on-a-chip





Designed by Eric Oberla (UC grad student)

NIMA 735, (2014) 452-461 E.Oberla, J.-F. Genat, H. Frisch, K.Nishimura, G.Varner



Real digitized traces from anode 20 GS/scope 4-channels (142K\$) 17 GS/PSEC-4 chip 6-channels₄(\$130 ?!)

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Argonne System Integration and Testing



B.Adams, A.E., E.Oberla, R.Obaid, A.Vostrikov, M.Wetstein



33mm Testing

8" Testing

Complete detector systems

- Operational experience
- Testing fundamental properties of MCPs
- Study wide variety of sample prototypes
- Demonstrate working 8" MCPs
- Test near complete detector systems with realistic anode
- Optimize and measure key resolutions

- Demonstrate complete sealed-tube detector
- Study characteristics of 80cm anode
- Test integrated front-end electronics in fully operational conditions



RSI Invited Article





8" MCP Testing Chamber





8" MCP in Action





∆T = 15ps

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►∆X = 1/2 ∆T 2/3c = 1.5mm

Differential Time Resolution





NIMA: http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.nima.2013.07.091

Time-of-Flight Resolution





System Integration: "Demountable"



Demountable 1.0 (May 2012)



Demountable 3.0 (Sep-Dec 2012)







Position Reconstruction





Position Reconstruction





Time-of-Flight Resolution



90-cm long anode!





NIMA: http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.nima.2013.07.091

Where do we go from here?



- Commercialization through industry partners
- Universities and Labs will guide optimization of the detectors design for specific applications
 - ALD development for MCP fabrication
 - Electronics
 - Photo-cathodes
- DOE has been very supportive to the LAPPD project
- DOE awarded Phase I of STTR (Small Tech Transer) grant to Incom Inc. to start work on making LAPPD detectors

Applications



- We hope to bring LAPPD detectors into the field relatively soon
- We invite people to think what fast timing and large area coverage will do for their experiments
- Some examples:
 - vertexing at CMS (A.Apresyan, M.Spiropulu, et al.)
 - optical tracking for ANNIE (M.Wetstein, et al.)
 - large water cherenkov detectors (M.Sanchez, et al.)


LAPPDs are digital photon counters

- measure position and time for each individual photon
- photons can be tested for their
 - vertex,
 - propagation history (e.g. scattered vs direct light), and
 - production mechanism (e.g. Cherenkov vs scintillation)

Can fast timing photo-detectors help us to search for neutrino-less double beta decay?

What is $0\nu\beta\beta$?





Nuclear Process

Compare to normal beta decay: $Z \rightarrow (Z+1), e^{-}, \overline{v}_{e}$

Why is it interesting?





Nuclear Process

If observed, neutrino is a Majorana particle, i.e. own antiparticle.

Signature: two electrons with well defined total kinetic energy (2-4 Me¥)

What are the challenges?





What are the challenges?



Tough backgrounds: need to get smarter



Ideas for 0νββ experiments



• Total energy in signal events is well defined.

- Use scintillation light for energy measurements
- Use event topology to suppress backgrounds
 signal is two, mostly, "back-to-back" electrons
- Electrons are ~1MeV \rightarrow above Cherenkov threshold



- all light can be used to constrain location of the vertex
- Cherenkov light arrives early because of longer wavelength and delay of the scintillation process



Simulation of ¹¹⁶Cd $0\nu\beta\beta$ event





Emission Spectra



Simulation of 5 MeV electrons in KamLAND scintillator

5 MeV is a little higher for $0\nu\beta\beta$ search but much lower than typical energies where cherenkov light is being considered.

Seems to be a reasonable choice to test separation between Cherenkov and scintillation light for low energy electrons



All photons below 360nm get absorbed

Cherenkov vs Scintillation



Simulation of 5 MeV electrons in KamLAND scintillator



Reconstruction: vertex

Step 1: find vertex (adapted from water-cherenkov)

- Assume all light is emitted from a single point (~3 cm track in a ~6 m detector)
- For light emission from a single point any 4 photons (quadruplets) would be sufficient to solve for vertex
- With all "real world" effects we use 400 randomly chosen quadruplets and select the one which fits the best to the full ensemble of all photon hits
- Goodness of the fit is based on the distribution of "point time residuals" (the difference between actual hit time and predicted time of flight from the vertex)

Reconstruction: direction

Step 2: find direction

- Cherenkov light is directional
- Timing cut enhances the purity of the Cherenkov light
- The centroid of all vectors pointing from the vertex is a good measure of the direction of the track

- Has to be modified for 2 tracks
- Plenty of algorithms exist as long as Cherenkov light can be separated from scintillation

arxiv:1307.5813

Directionality of 5 MeV e⁻

Measuring Directionality in Double-Beta Decay and Neutrino Interactions with Kiloton-Scale Scintillation Detectors

C. Aberle,¹ A. Elagin,² H. J. Frisch,² M. Wetstein,² and L. Winslow¹

¹University of California Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA 90095, USA ²University of Chicago, Chicago, IL 60637, USA (Dated: July 23, 2013)

Large liquid-scintillator-based detectors have proven to be exceptionally effective for low energy neutrino measurements due to their good energy resolution and scalability to large volumes. The addition of directional information using Cherenkov light and fast timing would enhance the scientific reach of these detectors, especially for searches for neutrino-less double-beta decay. In this paper, we develop a technique for extracting particle direction using the difference in arrival times for Cherenkov and scintillation light, and evaluate several detector advances in timing, photodetector spectral response, and scintillator emission spectra that could be used to make direction reconstruction a reality in a kiloton-scale detector.

5 MeV electrons are very promising even with a very simple reconstruction

What about Lower Energies?

What about Lower Energies?

- With 100ps timing, the vertex is constrained within 4-6 cm and the directional information can be extracted even for ~1MeV electrons
- The next major step is to compare "back-to-back" 0vββ events with 2vββ background (work in progress⁸)

UCLA Candidate Isotopes for 0vββ

lsotope	Endpoint	Abundance
⁴⁸ Ca	4.271 MeV	0.0035%
¹⁵⁰ Nd	3.367 MeV	5.6%
⁹⁶ Zr	3.350 MeV	2.8%
¹⁰⁰ Mo	3.034 MeV	9.6%
⁸² Se	2.995 MeV	9.2%
TI6Cd	2.802 MeV	7.5%
¹³⁰ Te	2.533 MeV	34.5%
¹³⁶ Xe	2.479 MeV	8.9%
⁷⁶ Ge	2.039 MeV	7.8%
¹²⁸ Te	0.868 MeV	31.7%

Quantum dot doped scintillators

Common materials are CdS, CdSe, CdTe

Advantage of quantum dot doping:

- Narrow the scintillation spectrum
- Shift scintillation spectrum to shorter wavelength
- Dope with metals which can undergo $0\nu\beta\beta$

Work by UCLA group C.Aberle, J.J.Li, S.Weiss, and L.Winslow This a whole new topic for a separate seminar! 50

QDots Doped Scintillator

University

|齢齢|

of Chicago

- Pending proposal to build a ~1m radius tank filled with liquid scintillator to test low energy electron reconstruction using separation between Cherenkov and scintillation light
- Need to fully explore imaging capabilities of the LAPPDs
 - map large volume to relatively small number of photo-sensors
 - this is a key to large detector mass for a reasonable budget
- Working on a modular design for a kiloton scale detector

Summary

- Many applications can benefit from precise timing measurements and large area coverage
- LAPPDs are approaching picosecond domain
- Incom Inc. STTR Phase II program will produce several sealed tiles for testing in the field
- First LAPPD adopters are identified
- Experiments looking for neutrino-less double-beta decay can improve their sensitivity by reconstructing event topology using fast timing photo-detectors

Back Up

Event Topology

100 "signal-like" events (5MeV electrons back-to-back)

100 "bkg-like" events (5MeV electrons at 90 degree)

Cherenkov light only, no time cut, 100% light collection

Spherical Harmonics

Real-value basis: $Y_{\ell m} = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(Y_{\ell}^{m} + (-1)^{m} Y_{\ell}^{-m} \right) = \sqrt{2} N_{(\ell,m)} P_{\ell}^{m}(\cos\theta) \cos m\varphi & \text{if } m > 0 \\ Y_{\ell}^{0} & \text{if } m = 0 \\ \frac{1}{i\sqrt{2}} \left(Y_{\ell}^{-m} - (-1)^{m} Y_{\ell}^{m} \right) = \sqrt{2} N_{(\ell,|m|)} P_{\ell}^{|m|}(\cos\theta) \sin |m|\varphi & \text{if } m < 0. \end{cases}$ $f(\theta,\varphi) = \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-\ell}^{\ell} f_{\ell m} Y_{\ell m}(\theta,\varphi). \qquad N_{(\ell,m)} \equiv \sqrt{\frac{(2\ell+1)}{4\pi} \frac{(\ell-m)!}{(\ell+m)!}}.$ $f_{\ell}^{m} = \int_{\Omega} f(\theta, \varphi) Y_{\ell}^{m*}(\theta, \varphi) d\Omega = \int_{\Omega}^{2\pi} d\varphi \int_{\Omega}^{\pi} d\theta \sin \theta f(\theta, \varphi) Y_{\ell}^{m*}(\theta, \varphi).$ "Power" (rotation invariant) L2 norm $S_{ff}(\ell) = \sum_{m=-\ell}^{l} |f_{\ell m}|^2$ $\int_{\Omega} |f(\Omega)|^2 d\Omega = \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} S_{ff}(\ell)$ 56

Spherical Harmonics for back-to-back vs 90 degree topologies

- Look for the difference between black (back-to-back) and blue (90-degree) lines.
- Red line is for comparison with single electron events

Light=ALL, QE=100%, t<34ns

S_I as function of time cut

I like this strong dependence on time because

with fast photo-detectors we may be able to follow the time evolution of spherical harmonics and use this information in reconstruction

S_I as function of electron energy

Note Y axis range, the dependence isn't too strong

Next steps:

- Compare simulated $0\nu\beta\beta$ events with $2\nu\beta\beta$
- Consider events off center

Sub-picosecond Pulsed Laser @APS ANL

Background

Background, 20cm, 20µm pore ALD-MCP Pairs

- 20µm pore, 60:1 L/d ALD-MCP pair,
 0.7mm gap/200v.
- Background very low !! 0.068 cnts sec⁻¹ cm⁻² is a factor of 4 lower than normal glass MCPs.
- This is a consistent observation for all MCPs with this substrate material and relates to the low intrinsic radioactivity of the glass.
- Without lead content the cross section for high energy events is also lower than standard glasses.
- There are issues with hotspots on some substrates, however this can be addressed

20cm MCP pair background, 2000 sec, 0.068 cnts sec⁻¹ cm⁻². 2k x 2k pixel imaging.

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Timing Limits

SORMA WEST 2012

2012 IEEE Symposium on and Applications

MCP pulses and timing

Time resolution determinants:

- 1) Signal to noise
- 2) Analog Bandwidth
- 3) Sampling rate
- 4) Signal statistics

Timing analysis approach

- Fit rising edge
- Use constant fraction • descriminant

Questions

- **Time resolution**
- Position resolution

Hermetic Packaging

Frit Seal

J.Gregar, M.Minot

- 1) Attach pump out tube to 8.66x8.66" frame
- 2) Apply schott #G018-223 K3 frit paste to frame
- 3) Fire the frit (many trials to optimize parameters)
- 4) Prepare for anode plate frit sealing
- 5) Position anode on top of the frame

6) Add weight

- Tile bases are reliably reproducible
- Mechanical and vacuum properties have been tested

Top Seal

How to close frit sealed tile base at the top and stay at moderate temperatures? "Top Seal" problem

Use indium or indium alloys

- soft metal
- low melting point (157C for pure In, 72C for InBi)
- essentially zero vapor pressure
- indium-glass seals are successfully used by industry

Parallel efforts: "Hot Seal" and "Cold Seal" (or "Compression Seal")

Hot Seal

Step 1: apply melted indium onto the glass

Step 2: bring parts into contact and press

Step 3: pump from open side and leak check

Prerequisites for leak-tight seal

- Strong Indium-Glass bond
- Strong Indium-Indium bond

Phase I (in air)

A.E., Henry Frisch, Mary Heintz, Bob Metz, Richard Northrop, Razib Obaid

- Indium seal fundamentals
- interface (good adhesion of indium to the glass surface)
- oxide formation

Proof of principle using 1x1" test samples

- little oxidation (assembly is fast)
- many successful reproducible leak tight samples
- Several (>10) attempts to make 8x8" seal
- oxide formation becomes limiting factor (slow assembly)
- best result is a part with 10⁻⁶cc/s leak at a single pinpoint

...indium oxidizes quickly...

Phase II (in inert atmosphere)

Phase IIa (in inert atmosphere)

Nitrogen filled glove box: O_2 and H_2O concentration ~5ppm

...indium doesn't stick to glass if no O_2 ...

Phase IIb (add NiCr-Cu layer)

Borrowed from SSL seal (200nm of NiCr+Cu)

Known facts:

- Indium wets copper surface
 - Alloy is formed at the interface over time
- NiCr interface to glass is essential
- NiCr is a good match to glass in terms of thermal coefficient
- Cu would not stick to bare glass but₆₉ does so on NiCr

Testing NiCr-Cu-In Interface

Total 8 small size seals made: 5 are leak tight

3 have leaks (oxidation of Cu surface or electroding peeling off the glass)

NiCr-Cu coating of 1" samples done by D. Walters (ANL) M. Kupfer (UIC) J. Williams (ANL-HEP) C. Liu (ANL-APS) Q. Guo (UChicago MRSEC)

Shear tests results

Leak tight samples:

Bare glass #1190 lbsBare glass #2278 lbsBare glass with groove268 lbsCu coated glass #3390 lbsCu coated glass #4345 lbs

Samples with a leak:

Bare glass #447 lbsCu coated glass #1213 lbsCu coated glass #2221 lbs

Sealing 8x8" parts

Testing NiCr-Cu-In Interface

Coating goes away if re-heated to 180C
Photos from Metallurgical Microscope (by H.L.Clausing)

Thin side

Thick side



Cu layer dissolves in indium

Solution





400cm² seal with 2.75 mm window









First leak tight 8x8" seal using LAPPD glass parts

Leak Test







Many tricks to avoid glass cracking when the pump starts

- Leak checker sensitivity 10^-8 cc/s of He
- Leak test lasted for 1 hour
- No leaks found!







Next Steps



- Test reproducibility of the "hot seal" recipe
- Move forward with tile assembly
- Try to make photo-cathode by In-Situ Photo-Cathode Synthesis (possible lunch topic)



"Cold Seal"



Hydraulic system

Spring compression





M.Kupfer, D.Walters, J.E.Indacochea







- 1. TOF in the LArIAT Beam
 - a) Why: Simplest set-up that has a large impact on HEP programs
 - b) Straight-forward interface to experiment
 - c) Local, have collaborators in place;
 - d) Drop in for scintillators and PMTs at higher cost and better performance
 - e) Spec: 4 stand-alone single tile stations, 10 psec time resolution, 50KHz (needs checking)
 - 2. Small (1-4 m³) water neutrino detector prototype
 - a) Why: Comparison to simulation; test of the optical TPC concept with track reconstruction
 - b) If successful, no competition
 - c) From 1 to 6 SuperModules;
 - d) Spec: Single pe resolution ~ 100psec, low rate
- 3. Pre-converter in KOTO
 - a) Why: Archetype for 3D localization and precise timing of high energy photons
 - b) Good access to management and technical expertise in the experiment
 - c) If successful, no competition
 - d) 1-4 SuperModules
 - e) Spec: Timing = 1 psec; Rate = 200 kHz; Position = several mm; Trigger latency = 5 μsec
 - f) HEP benefit: Increased physics reach

COST COMPARISONS DEPEND ON CAPABILITY Correlated time-space points can lower overall cost- for applications that don't need time-space resolution it's very unlikely MCP-PMTs will ever be as cheap as PMT's. However:



Track Reconstruction Using an "Isochron Transform"



Connect each hit to the vertex, through a two segment path, one segment representing the path of the charged particle, the other path representing the emitted light. There are two unknowns:

 s_1 and α

but there are two constraints:

 $s_1 + s_1 = d$ and $\Delta t_{measured} = s_1/c + s_2 n/c$



Track Reconstruction Using an "Isochron Transform"

Of course, there is a rotational ambiguity in the position of possible tracks.



But, multiple hits from the same track will intersect maximally around their common emission point, resolving the degeneracy





When integrated over all hits, these regions of dense intersection points form clusters around those tracks that share a common vertex. Here we demonstrate closure on a simple two-track toy with light no scattering or dispersion



The limits of thinking bigger

