Radiation hardness of scintillation detectors based on organic plastic scintillators and optic fibers

(review) Yu.N. Kharzheev Joint Institute for Nuclear Research Dzhelepov Laboratory of Nuclear Problems

Abstract

Scintillation detectors (SDs) based on organic plastic scintillators and optical fibers are among of the basic detectors at all modern accelerators and in astrophysics and neutrino experiments. In recent years, interest in SDs has increased significantly due to the forthcoming large-scale Updates of LHC, the construction of new accelerators NICA, FAIR, FCC, etc. At the same time, requirements for the stability and reliability of SD operation in the new conditions became stricter and their fullfilment largely depends on the radiation hardness of the scintillators, optical fibers and photodetectors.

The review presents the results of the radiation hardness investigations of various scintillators and optical fibers (scintillating, wave length shifting and clear), and optical glues used to increase the light collection from the scintillators by the fibers. The influence of various factors (dose, radiation dose rate, scintillator materials, fluors) on light output, light collection and light transmission of the irradiated materials and their recovery is considered.

1.Introduction

- 2. Light creation in organic scintillators and optical fibers, their destruction by irradiation and recovery
- 3. Irradiation of scintillators, optical fibers and glues on radioactive sources, accelerates and neutron reactors
- 3.1 Scintillators: Dopands, Base, Dependence on dose and dose rates, Investigations on neutrons beam
- 3.2 Optical fibers: Scintillating and clear fibers, Wave-shifting fibers, Scintillating fibers based on Nanostructured Organosilicon Luminophores
- 3.3 Optical glues
- 4. Conclusion

The report is based on my self-titled article, which will be published in the Journal Nuclei and Particles 50, issue 1 kharzheev@jinr.ru

Radiation hardness of scintillation detectors based on organic plastic scintillators and optic fibers

Yu.N. Kharzheev DLNP JINR

Organic plastic scintillators

Fields of applications Scintillation Detectors based on organic plastic scintillators (OPS):

Calorimeters, Veto-systems, TOF, Triggering, Tracking Compactness, Limited space occupied Simplicity in operation (calibration, monitoring)

Main properties of OPS:

Good optical and mechanical properties Reliable and stability characteristics Fast time response(a few ns); Easy manufacture of OS in almost any shape and sizes; Cheapness

Samples of strips and tiles of organic plastic scintillators



41x10mm



MINERvA, SciBar, T2K(POD)

25 000 m² strips for MINOS 0.41x1.0cm² with length up to 8 m.

26x10mm

Tile for TileCal ATLAS (200 -400) x (97x187)mm 500 000 ps

CDF-II preshower detector





Scheme of tile with deep groove (LHCb)



Luminosity of modern and planned accelerators

Accelerator	Luminosity	Particles	Energy	Refer.
LHC,	10 ³⁴ cm ⁻² s ⁻¹ (in present)	P+P	14 TeV	4
HL-LHC	5x10 ³⁴ cm ⁻² s ⁻¹ (2025)		14 Te∨	
FCC	5x10 ³⁴ cm ⁻² s ⁻¹ (2035.)	P+P	100 Te∨	5
FAIR (HESR)	$10^{32} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} (2025)$	antiP+ions	1-16 GeV	6
NICA	$10^{27} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} (2020)$	Ions Au ⁷⁹⁺	4-11 GeV	7
	10 000 0 (2020)	10110 110		<u> </u>





Absorption and emission spectra of some popular luminescent flours.

3HF, Y11 have the larger differences in the absorption and the emission peaks hence they have the smallest self-absorption and so they are the best candidates for the light shifting.

Item	Absorption	Emission	Difference,
	peak, nm	peak, nm	nm
b-PBD	305	360	55
BDB	360	405/425	45/65
Y7	437/460	490	63/30
3HF	350	530	180
Y11	400	476	76
рТР	290	360	70
РОРОР	385	420	35
K27	355	492	37
РРО	310	365	55
Naphthelen	310	325/340	15/30
е			
X25, X31	400	500	100



Scintillator's LY on dependence of the fluors

About 30 various fluors were investigated at D=2.3, 10, 14.3 Mrad

- 1. Primary flours pTP, PPO, PBD, bPBD showed good radiation resistance and do not differ much from each other
- 2. Secondary flours 3HF, M3HF, X25, X31 are most radiation resistance among the many examined secondaries.
- 3. Adding naphtaline (N) and increasing fluors concentration provide higher rad.resistance



1. PS with 3HF concentrations 1.0%, 0.10% and 0.05% shows 3%, 12% and 17% light loss respectively for 10Mrad. (Minimal light loss reaches at 1% 3HF).

2. Ternary scintillator PS +1%pTP with 0.01%3HF and 0.10% 3HF shows 17% and 6% light loss respectively for 10Mrad.

3. Transmittance losses remain small (~12%) even for 10cm thick 3HF scintillator for 3HF concentration 1% and 10 Mrad.

4. The main causes in the LY loss are destructions in the scintillator base but not in the 3HF

Upgrade for TileCal ATLAS





Transmission vs wavelength for EJ 208 for all doses

Transmission vs wavelength for EJ 208 on different days

Sample	Dose (MGy)	% Trans. loss	Sample	Dose (MGy)	% Trans. loss
EJ 200	80	42.9	Protvino	80	60.8
	25	28.6		25	34.8
	8	14		8	7.4
	0.8	3.9		0.8	3.3
EJ 208	80	29.1	Dubna	80	51.3
	25	14.9		25	35.1
	8	4.7		8	26.6
	0.8	2.5		0.8	5.5
EJ 260	80	44.8	Bicron	80	45.5
	25	15.5		25	39.5
	8	14.3		8	11.5
	0.8	6.6		0.8	8.7

1.EJ scintillators have better transmission than other grades.

Sample

EJ 200

EJ 208

EJ 260

EJ 200

EJ 208

EJ 260

EJ - 208 is the best one and beside it's the emission peak(435nm) well matches to the absorption peak of Y11(430nm) used in WLS fibers

Liao e.a. Plastic scintillators for TileCal ATLAS, Journal of Physics 2015;

Д=(0.8, 8, 25 и 80) MGy for 6 MeV protons

EJ200, EJ208, EJ260 (green), Bicron - BC 408

Dubna for MBTS UPS. Protvino for TileCal

Scintillaters (5x5x0.35MM)ELJEN, Protvino, Dubna, Bicron

%Trans. diff. (Day1 - 1 Week)

30.38

37.06

6.45%Trans. diff. (Day 1 - 4 Weeks)

15.05

5.92

2.22

NIM B 2017

(PVT).

(PS)

- 2. With increasing dose transmission spectra move to longer λ and loss in transmission increase.
- 3. Significant recovery occurs during 2-3 days

Dose

25 MGv

8 MGy

Jivan e.a.

- 4. For the lowest D=0.8 Mrad transmission losses of all scintillators are the same
- 5. For larger doses some structural changes in base and fluors were observed



Integrated charge per 25 ns time slice

CMS Collaboration, JINST 2018

Scintillaters 100x100x4 mm³ EJ-200. EJ-200 2X, EJ-200 2P, EJ-260 and SCSN-81 Beam µ-meson 150 Gev at H2 line SPS CERN

Investigation of light output, light collection and time characteristics show that over-doped concentration of primary flours and green-emitted scintillators are two ways for improving radiation tolerance.

Neutron irradiation of scintillators for TileCal at IBR2 Energy and fluence up to 10MeV and 9.4x10¹² /cm² resp.





6 No structural or optical changes observed

Mdhluli e.a. 2017

Tiras et.al 2016





PEN is more radiation hardness than PET (factor 2 for 1.4 Mrad, 3.8 for 14 Mrad). PEN has much shorter recovery time than PET

Recovery testing of PEN and lab-produced elastomer(ES) and EJ-260(EJN), EJ-260(EJ2P) under "blue" LED simulation for 100 kGy and 78 kGy

Wetzel et.al NIMA 2017

PEN Waveforms 7 Days After Irradiation



Tile	'a', Total recovery	'c', Permanent damage	'b', Recovery constant (days ⁻¹)
ES RGB	56.3 ± 2.4%	30.7 ± 1.6%	0.22 ± 0.03
ES dark box	45.7 ± 2.5%	44.1 ± 1.9%	0.18 ± 0.03
EJN RGB	24.0 ± 2.2%	6.92 ± 0.7%	0.64 ± 0.16
EJN dark box	21.1 ± 1.8%	15.9 ± 0.6%	0.50 ± 0.11
EJ2P RGB	26.9 ± 3.1%	15.2 ± 0.9%	0.75 ± 0.22
EJ2P dark box	26.5 ± 2.2%	13.7 ± 0.7%	0.62 ± 0.14

1.After 7 days PEN tile recovered by LED to 72%; in the dark box only to 40% The corresponding values for ES are 56% and 46%.

2. Neither EJN nor EJ2P showed significant effect due to LED (24% and 26% for LED and dark box)

3. PEN and ES are "blue" scintillators whereas Eljien samples are "green".

PET



Neutron background at LHC ~10E15 n/cm²/year



Scintillating fibers(SciFi)

Fields of application

n Measurements of Luminosity(ALFA at LHC);

Tracker (D0, LHCb); Scintillating-fiber beam hodoscope (COMPASS, MUSE) e.a.



Development of New Class of Scintillating Fibres with Nanostructured Organosilicon Luminofores(NOL)



Scintillation light creation in conventional PS (left) and NOL(rigth) scintillators (Fig. from Joram e.a.)

NOL11	λ _{em} = 397, 421, 445nm a	ε=96%	т=0.98ns
NOL19	λ _{em} = 436, 466, 490nm a	ε=87%	т=0.93ns

Fibre type	λ_{peak} [nm]	Λ [cm]	LY [p.e./mm]	τ [ns]
BPF-11-1	430	263	23.2	1.34
GPF-19-1	470	· 294	14.2	1.18
SCSF-78	440	351	27.8	2.36
SCSF-3HF	530	330	23.6	6.18

Borshchev e.a. 2017JINST 12

Enikolopov institute of synthetic Polymer materials, Moscow



Absorption and luminescene spectra of NOL11 and NOL19 used in the production BPF-11 and GPF-19 fibers 250 μk in diameter

- LY of NOL11and NOL19 is ~3 times larger than that of POPOP
- 2. Radiation hardness of the GPS-19-1 and BPF-19-1 fibers after irradiation by X-rays at dose 1kGy and dose rate 23Gy/min is about the same as SCSF-3HF and SCSF-78
- 3. Decay time of the green GPS-19-1 is ~ 6 times shorter than that of SCSF-3HF and the blue BPF-19-1 fiber is ~2 times shorter than that of SCSF-78
- 4. NOL fibres may be atractive option for LHCb SciFi tracker

Comparisions of LY of three type WLS fibers BCF91A-MC(Bicron), Y11(200)MSJ (Kuraray) and S250-100(Pol.Hi.Tech.) Co⁶⁰ D=1.16 kGy and 6.93 kGy1mm WLS fibers

M.J.Varanda et.al.



Fiber type	R(140) R(30) for 1.16 kGy		$\frac{R(140)}{R(30)}$ for 6.93 kGy		kGy	
	0 days	1 day	10 days	0 days	1 day	10 days
BCF91A MC	0.83	0.86	0.85	0.54	0.56	0.56
Y11(200)MSJ	0.87	0.92	0.91	0.71	0.72	0.74
S250-100	0.60	0.70	0.81	0.52	0.55	0.64

- 1. Kuraray fibers have the best LY and Latt.
- 2. Immediate relative light losses are17 (46)%(BCF91A),13(29)% (Kuraray) and 40(48)% (Pol-Hi.Tech for D=1.16 (6.93) kGy
- 3. After 10 days recovery 15(44)%, 9(26)%, and 19(36)% respectively

Radiation hardness WLS BC9929 fiber and Scintillator BC404+WILS fiber ⁶⁰Co WLS for D=50 krad -1 Mrad, Dose rate 7 krad/min Scintillator + WLS fiber for D=200 krad, dose rate 4,4 krad/min

Alfaro et.al.



Investigation of radiation hardness of optical glues

Light collection by WLS fibers from the groove on the tile filled by the high transparency optical glues is improved up to 1.8 times against the "dry" case (MINOS, Protvino)



Cross secton UPS strip, L up to 5m



Mu2e dicounters with 2 holes for each counter, 4.5m long

It was demonstrated that using this filler provides increase in the light collection up to 1.5 -1.9 times

UPTO BATTLETON BTAR

The various glues on the epoxy base (EJ-500, Aqua E-300, BC-600 and Araldite Crystal) are often used as a filler in the groove of tiles. DLNP JINR group (Leader B.Glagolev) in the frame of research in Mu2e Collab. for CRV-system have been studied light yield of strip filled with synthetic high transparency (T>90% at λ>400hm) and viscosity (10-20Pa*s) resins SKTN(E,D) (SYREL, St Petersburg) . We developed and realize new technique to inject such highviscosity filler into small hole of the strip.

> Artikov e.a. JINST 2016; Artikov e.a. arXiv:1711.11393v1 2018 (to be published in NIMA D)



Mu2e detector 10¹¹ n/cm² /3y near CRV-TS

Location	Flux density n/cm^2c	Fluence n/cm^2	Background of γ Mrad
1	1.8×10^9	16×10^{14}	5.4 1.4
2	4.4×10^{8}	$3.8 imes 10^{14}$	0.47
3	1.35×10^{8}	1.2×10^{14}	0.37

Neutron flux, fluence and $\gamma\text{-dose}$ rate for the irradiated sample (E>1 MeV) at IBR-2 JINR

We have studied transmittance and light yield of SKTN(E,D) as well as BC-600 irradiated by neutron beam IBR-2 JINR at various fluencies



Transparency of BC-600 glue (in middle), BC-600 base(in left) (our data) and BC-600 (right) (Kirn 's e.a. data)





Photos of unirradiated and irradiated sheets and strips on dependence of the applied neutron fluencies (Clearly visible changes in transparency of the BC-600 samples but no in the SKTN samples)

Radiation influence on the LY were investigated on the short strips (15-cm-long) filled with the various fillers by the considered neutron beams.

Measured anode currents of irradiated strips decreased in accordance with increasing neutron fluencies. LY decreasing is mainly caused by destructions in the strip and fiber as T of SKTN filler did not change significantly (see photo irradiated strip also).

Conclusions

Part 1(on the base of the research old years for D~1 Mrad)

- 1. RD of OPS and fibers increases with decreasing dose rates at the same dose
- 2. RD introduced by neutrons is 5 times higher in PS than by γ but in PMMA vise versa
- 3. RD in OPS is mainly due to the destruction in their base but not in the flours. The position and shape of the emission peak remain unchanged.
- 4. Recovery of OPS occurs in O₂ much more rapidly than in inert gases while of PMMA is reverse.
- 5. The attenuation length of "clear" fibers with increasing parameter S (alignment of base molecular along the fiber axis) decreases
- 6. Recovery of fibers occurs much faster than scintillator + fiber system

Part 2 (on the base of research recent years)

- 1. At higher doses (>25 MGy) PVT scintillators (ELJEN) are more radiation hardness than BC (Bicron) and PS.
- 2. Radiation hardness of scintillators can be increased by using flours having emission spectrum shifted to the green region.
- 3. The fibers with new type of luminophores NOL11 and NOL 19 (Nanostructured Organosilicon Luminophores) have high photoluminescene quantum yield and very short decay time 1.34ns and 1.18ns respectively.
- 4. New scintillator PEN (Polyethelene Naphthalat) along good radiation hardness show very short recovery time.
- 5. Time and recovery level of PEN and elastomer scintillator (p-terphenil in epoxy) significantly improved by simulation by LED having wavelength corresponding to absorption and emission spectra of scintillators.
- 6. Segmentation of tiles in the "fingered" strips provides increasing in the LY and the radiation hardness
- Deterioration of the LY and T of the scintillator caused by irradiation can be compensated by synthetic low-molecular rubber SKTN-MED embedded between scintillator and fiber.
- 8. SKTN-MED along its good optical properties showed a high radiation hardness when irradiated by neutron beam with fluencies up to 1.6x10¹⁴ cm².

Thank you for attention

Recovery of PS and PMMA based light guides after immediate irradiations(a) and full annealing in O_2 and air (b) for 27 kGy





In dry air bleaching time of SCSN-38 is ~ 40 hours and of PMMA is >1 year and thickness of bleaching zone z behave as z^2 ~t. Such behavior is similar to diffusion O₂ into materials.

Radical concentration in PMMA is 60 times larger than in PS and diffusion coefficient of O_2 is about 10 times larger in PS.



Wick et.al.

Investigation of radiation hardness of optical glues

Light collection by WLS fibers from the groove on the tile surface filled by the high transparency optical glues is improved up to 1.8 times against the "dry" case (MINOS, Protvino)



The various glues on the epoxy base (EJ-500, Aqua E-300, BC-600 and Araldite Crystal) are often used as a filler in the groove of tiles. Transmittances (T) of their unradiated samples T> 90% for λ >400hm are showed on the left figure)

The optical synthetic high transparency and viscosity resins SKTN (SYREL St Petersburg) as filler in the hole of strip (up to 5m-long) have been tested. (T>90% for λ >400hm)

It was demonstrated that using this filler provides increase in the light collection up to 1.5 - 1.9 times (by our group in the frame of R&D Mu2e Collaboration).

Artikov e.a. JINST 2016; Artikov e.a. arXiv:1711.11393v1 2018 (to be published in NIM D)

We have studied transmittance and light yield of SKTN as well as BC-600 (for comparision) irradiated by neutron beam IBR-2 JINR at various fluencies

Neutron flux, fluence and γ -dose rate for the irradiated sample (E>1 MeV) at IBR-2 JINR

Location	Flux density n/cm^2c	Fluence n/cm^2	Background of γ Mrad
1	1.8×10^{9}	16×10^{14}	5.4 1.4
2	$4.4 imes 10^8$	$3.8 imes 10^{14}$	0.47
3	1.35×10^8	1.2×10^{14}	0.37



Yields of Gas (7- or	eous Products from Irradiated Polymers ^a electron irrad, room temp)		The g values for d ring in PMMA au gaseous irradiation are given.	ifferent radiation induced p nd polystyrene. Only the products of PMMA (mol fr	rocesses occur most probable raction > 10%
Polymer	Products G (product)(molecules/100 eV)	Draduate and muchaes of		g values for	
High-density PE	H ₂ ~3; CH ₄ ~0.002	Products and g values of			
Polypropylene	Polypropylene H ₂ ~2.5; CH ₄ ~0.1 Polyisobutylene H ₂ ~1.5; CH ₄ ~0.5	irradiated polymers by	irradiated polymers by		polystyrene
Polyisobutylene			Radical production	2.4-2.5 [4.5]	0.2 [6]
Poly(vinyl chloride)	HCI ~2.7; H ₂ ~0.15; CH ₄ ~0.002	wood and Piknaev;	Gas evolution	1 18 [7]	0.026 [7]
Poly(vinyl acetate)	H ₂ ~0.6; CH ₄ ~0.3; CO ~0.28; CO ₂ ~0.06	Wick et al	Ous cronution	(30.5% CO 15.7% CO	(100% H)
Poly(methyl methacrylate)	CH ₄ ~ 0.6; CO ~0.5; CO ₂ ~0.4; H ₂ ~0.2			14.2% HCOOCH ₃ ,	$(100\% H_2)$
Polystyrene	H ₂ ~0.03; CH ₄ ~ 1x10 ⁵			13.1% CH ₄ , 11.7% H ₂ ,)
Poly-a-methyl styrene	H ₂ ~0.04; CH ₄ ~0.003		Degradation	[8]	0.000 [0]
* Woods and Pikaev (1	1994)		Cross-linking	0 [9]	0.034 [9]





Bross and Dalmau

Examples of transmission damage in undoped PS after high dose rate irradiation .

- (a) Immediate post-irradiation and
- (b) Residual damage after full annealing in air

Recovery of fast scintillators BC-408, BC-404 and EJ-200 $D=(0.57-1.4x10^4)$ Gy by ^{60}Co



1.Transmission of all samples is almost unchanged for up to D =600 Gy. Samples destroyed after D>1.4x10⁴Gy and dose rate 52,7Gy/min 2.No evidence of recovery observed for 100 hours after irradiation D=600Gy 3. Emission spectra (mechanism)of all samples remain unchanged for dose up to 600 Gy for all considered dose.

Scintillator's LY on dependence of the fluors

Britvich	e.a.1993
----------	----------

About 30 various fluors	were investigated at D=2.3, 10, 14.3 Mrad
-------------------------	---

Scintillator	L ₀ ,%	L/L ₀ ,% Dose(Mrad)	L/L ₀ ,% Dose(Mrad)	L/L ₀ ,% (Time)
PVT+2%PBD+0.01% POPOP	100	72(3.3)	37(14.3)	48(3 month)
PS +2%pTP + 0.025%POPOP	98	71(2.3)	23(10)	52(23 day
PS + 10%PPO+ 0.5%POPOP	98	73(2.3)	36(10)	67(23day)
PS+ 5% N+2% pTP+10% PPO+0.5% POPOP	71	93(2.3)	59(10)	69(23 day)
PS+2.0% pTP+0.025% X25	78	72(4)	53(10)	58(23 day).

1.	Primary fluors pTP, PPO, PBD, bPBD showed good radiation
	resistance and do not differ much from each other

2. Secondary fluors 3HF, M3HF, X25, X31 are most radiation resistance among the many examined secondaries.

3. Adding naphtaline (N) and increasing fluors concentration provide higher rad.resistance



1. PS with 3HF concentrations 1.0%, 0.10% and 0.05% showed 3%, 12% and 17% light loss respectively for for 10Mrad. (Minimal light loss reached at 1% 3HF).

2. Ternary scintillator PS +1%pTP with 0.01%3HF and 0.10% 3HF showed 17% and 6% light loss respectively for 10Mrad.

3. Transmittance losses remain small (~12%) even for 10cm thick 3HF scintillator for 3HF concentration 1% and 10 Mrad.

4. The main causes in the LY loss are destructions in the scintillator base but not in the 3HF