



NEW PIXEL DETECTORS FOR ALICE AT LHC AND FOR NICA EXPERIMENTS

V.I. Zherebchevsky, G.A. Feofilov, E.B. Krymov, T.V. Lazareva, N.A. Maltsev, D.G. Nesterov, N.A. Prokofiev, A.R. Rahmatullina on behalf of the ALICE collaboration

Saint-Petersburg State University

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- 1. ALICE Inner Tracking System: current status and upgrade strategy
- 2. New pixel sensors for ALICE experiment: ALICE Pixel detectors (ALPIDE family)
- **3. Study of the characteristics of ALICE ITS pixel detectors**
- **4. Pixel detectors for NICA experiments**
- **5.** Summary

ALICE Inner Tracking System: current status and upgrade strategy



ALICE Pixel Detector : SPD first two layers : tracking

ALICE Drift Detector: SDD two middle layers: tracking+ particle identification ALICE Strip Detector: SSD

two outer layers: tracking + particle identification



[1]

SSD SDD SPD



ALICE Inner Tracking System: current status and upgrade strategy





Advantages of the Pixel Detectors

Good position resolution: Smaller pixels, Higher integration

Small pixels - low capacitance - better S/N - lower analog power

More pixels – More logic per pixel – high integration work at higher rates and high radiation levels

June 2008, ALICE Silicon Pixel detector registered muon tracks produced in the injection beam line of the LHC near Point 2





ALICE Inner Tracking System: current status and upgrade strategy Limitations of current ITS:



- 1. Read-out capabilities limited at 1kHz for Pb-Pb collisions;
- 2. Pointing resolution of the present ITS restricts the range of measurements. It is adequate for the study of charm and beauty mesons at $p_T > 1$ GeV/c, but at lower p_T the statistical significance becomes insufficient for currently achievable data sets;
- 3. Vertices of charmed baryons are currently not feasible in Pb-Pb collisions. The mean proper decay length ~60 μ m, which is lower than the pointing resolution of the current ITS in the $p_{\rm T}$ range of most of the $\Lambda^+_{\rm c} \rightarrow p \ {\rm K}^- \pi^+$ daughter particles (<1GeV/c);
- 4. For the same reasons study of beauty mesons, beauty baryons, and of hadrons with more than one heavy quark is beyond reach of the current detector.

Motivations for upgrade:

- **1. Increase vertex resolution**
- 2. Improve tracking efficiency and p_T resolution at low p_T : allow improvement of the resolution of the track impact parameter by a factor of three or better (at $p_T = 1$ GeV/c) with respect to the present ITS
- 3. Increase readout rate capabilities: readout Pb-Pb interactions at > 100 kHz, readout pp interactions at >400 kHz

ALICE Inner Tracking System: current status and upgrade strategy Upgrade strategy (main points)

- **1. Improve impact parameter resolution by a factor of ~3**
- a) First detection layer closer to the beam line: 39 mm-> 22 mm
- b) Reduction of material budget: the radiation length per layer (<u>for inner layers</u>) X: from 1.14 to 0.3 %X0
- c) Reducing pixel size: 425 µm x 50 µm \rightarrow 30 µm x 30 µm
- Improve tracking efficiency and *p*_T resolution at low *p*_T
 Increase in granularity (smaller pixels), number of layers: 6 → 7, silicon drift and strips → pixels
- 3. Fast readout

readout Pb-Pb interactions at > 100 kHz (currently limited at 1kHz with full ITS)

Also:

a) lower power consumption and optimized scheme for the distribution of power and signals;

b) mechanics, cooling and other detector elements will be also improved: all services are connected on one side. This allows the extraction and reinsertion of the ITS, for maintenance purposes, during the yearly LHC shutdown.



20 chan/cm³ -> 2000 pixel/cm³







ALICE Inner Tracking System: current status and upgrade strategy



mmm



Inner Barrel Stave



Outer Barrel Stave



New pixel sensors for ALICE experiment: **ALICE Pixel detectors (ALPIDE family)**

MAPS using TowerJazz 180nm CMOS Imaging Process



Shields the other **nwells** different from the collection electrode, preventing these from collecting signal charge which then would be lost for

Omm

15mn

High resistivity(> $1k\Omega \cdot cm$) p-type epitaxial layer (25µm)

low-resistivity p-type substrate

Small n-well diode (2-3 μ m diameter), ~100 times smaller than pixel \rightarrow low capacitance

The gate oxide thickness of $3 \text{ nm} \rightarrow \text{robustness}$ to Total Ionizing Dose

Possibility to apply back bias to the substrate can be used to increase depletion zone around NWELL collection diode: S/N ratio increases, higher efficiency

New pixel sensors for ALICE experiment: ALICE Pixel detectors (ALPIDE family)

ALPIDE chip architecture



The zero suppression is performed within the matrix. Address-Encoder Reset-Decoder circuit is employed. It can either be controlled by an external trigger signal or operated in continuous acquisition mode.



In-pixel amplification In-pixel discrimination In-pixel (multi-) hit buffer



New pixel sensors for ALICE experiment: ALICE Pixel detectors (ALPIDE family)



Pixel detector general requirements (from ALICE TDR [3])

Parameter	Inner Barrel (IB)	Outer Barrel (OB)	ALPIDE Performance
Silicon thickness	50 µm	100 µm	
Chip dimension	15 mm x 30 mm	15 mm x 30 mm	
Spatial resolution	5 µm	10 µm	5 μm (IB), 5 μm (OB)
Power density	$< 300 \text{ mW/cm}^2$	< 100 mW/cm ²	40 mW/cm ² (IB), 30 mW/cm ² (OB)
Max. integration time	30 µs	30 µs	10 µs
Detection efficiency	>99%	>99%	>99% Upper limit!
Fake-hit rate	<10 ⁻⁵ (TDR),<10 ⁻⁶ * /even	t/pixel for IB and OB	<<<10 ⁻⁶ /event/pixel
Total Ionizing Dose	270 krad 2.7 Mrad*	10 krad, 100 krad*	Up to 500 krad
Non-Ionizing Energy Loss (1 MeV n _{eq} /cm ²)	1.7 x 10 ¹² (TDR), 1.7 x 10 ¹³ *	1.7 x 10 ¹¹ (TDR), 1.7 x 10 ¹² *	Up to 1.7 x 10 ¹³

radiation load integrated over the approved program (~ 6 years of operation) *revised numbers with respect to ALICE TDR (factor 10)



- 1. Two different chip types (telescope geometry) 2. Determination with own DAQ boards were installed. supp
- **3.** Dark box with electrical earthing inside. Temperature control inside the box.
- 5. The water cooling(heating) system was implemented.
- 6. Thermo-camera for detector heating investigations.



2. Detector Power supply(current control).



Experimental set-up: I



All generations of ALPIDE chip: pALPIDE-1,2,3 and final version were studied



Study of the characteristics of ALICE ITS pixel detectors Characterization and tests



- **1. Electrical tests:**
 - a) **On-chip Digital-Analogue Converter Test.** The output of the on-chip DACs is connected to monitoring pins of the detector and measured by ADCs on the DAQ board.
 - **b) Digital Scan.** Scan generates a digital pulse in a number of pixels and reads the hits out. The number of injections per pixel and the group of pixels can be set.
 - c) Analogue Scan. A programmable charge is injected into the preamplifier. The values of the injected charge, as well as the number of injections per pixel and the groups of pixels can be set.
 - d) Threshold Scan. Scan performs analogue injections, looping over the charge ranging from 7 to 350 electrons. The values of the threshold can be set.
- 2. Noise characteristics of the sensor and its temperature dependence were studied The scan gives a selectable number of random triggers and returns the number of hits. The values of threshold current (ITHR) and threshold voltage (VCASN) and also chip temperature can be set.
- 3. Studies with a variety of gamma and beta sources were carried out The scan gives the number of hits using the selectable number of random triggers. Radioactive source measurements are needed to study the uniformity of hit-maps and to evaluate cluster shape and size. The noise mask is prepared before the scan and can then be used in measurements.
 All results for pALPIDE-3 see in Back up slides
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Study of the characteristics of ALICE ITS pixel detectors The performance of irradiated sensors at different temperatures, including cryogenic temperatures



Detectors ALPIDE (final version)

Detectors were irradiated by: X-rays (from X-ray machine)

Chip W8R22 – 60 krad (low dose) Chip W7R12 – 300 krad (high dose)



Before irradiation Chip W7R12 was measured at lab.

All measurements were done at back bias voltage Vbb = -3V

1. Cryo-box.

- 2. Irradiated ALPIDE chip + DAQ board.
- 3. Chip was mounted on cooled platform.
- 4. Three thermocouples (1 copper-constantan, 2 chromel-alumel) mounted on cooled platform. Each thermocouple has own controller and DAQ







- 5. Dewar vessel with heater system.
- 6. Source holder.
- 7. Analytical balance

Second Experimental Set-up with cryogenic module



Two different modes of the cooling process:

- Cooling and heating with the chiller (alcohol-containing mixture), range: from +65 °C to -20 °C. To protect a chip against frost the nitrogen was supplied in a cryo-box.
- 2. Cooling with liquid nitrogen through evaporation. The liquid nitrogen was heated by nichrome heater mounted inside the Dewar vessel. Cold gas is then flowing through platform (inside platform). We can regulate the nitrogen flow, by powering the nichrome heater (different currents up to 6 A).
 - We can also control the volume of the liquid nitrogen by weighing the Dewar vessel.

Temperature control:

- a) 3 thermocouples
- b) on-chip temperature sensor. This sensor works only up to -80 °C.

A temperature of -115 °C has been reached



Study of the characteristics of full-scale Pixel Detector prototypes







Before irradiation the threshold was ~ 85 e, after irradiation (300 krad) the threshold was ~ 45-50 e Before irradiation the noise was ~ 6 e, after irradiation (300 krad) the noise was ~ 14 e

The threshold goes up both with increasing temperature and with lowering temperature, but initial value (before irradiation) of the threshold is not reached.

Results for high dose irradiated chip

Noise Occupancy Scan





1. The number of pixels to be masked to achieve certain fake-hit rate increases with the lowering of temperature.

2. FHR also increases with temperature decreasing

3. For low dose irradiated chip and non irradiated chip fake-hit rate DID NOT change over the full temperature range: from -115 to +30 °C



Vbb = -3V







Gamma: 5.64 keV

Study of the characteristics of ALICE ITS pixel detectors **Source test + Cluster analysis** Chip W7R12



Vbb = -3V**Pixel hit Cluster hit** 500 400 500 400 Frequency Frequency 2.5 2.5 2 300 300 1.5 1.5 200F 200 100 100 0.5 0.5 0^L 0ò 0 200 400 600 800 1000 200 400 600 800 1000 Column Column **Clusters X-position Clusters Y-position** hCluX_copy hCluY _copy **Frequency** Frequency Entries 3403 Entries 3403 526.3 Mean Mean 251 291.5 Std Dev 145.5 Std Dev 1 300 600 800 100 200 400 500 200 1000 400 0 Column Row

Source: ¹⁴C, chip temperature: -100 °C beta: 156 keV

for another beta source Sr-Y see Back-up



Triggers – **2000000**

Masked







Chip W7R12 (high dose)





Pixel detectors for NICA experiments NICA MPD



High vertex resolution



Fast readout (for Au-Au collisions the luminosity will be 10²⁷ cm⁻²s⁻¹)

Low material budget

	Parameter	ALPIDE Performance	
	Silicon thickness	50 µm	
	Chip dimension	15 mm x 30 mm	
	Spatial resolution	5 µm	
	Power density	40 mW/cm^2	
	Max. integration time	10 µs	
r	Detection efficiency	>99%	
	Fake-hit rate	<<<10 ⁻⁶ /event/pixel	
	Total Ionizing Dose	Up to 500 krad	

and cooling structures developed for the upgrade of ALICE at the LHC

Pixel detectors for NICA experiments NICA MPD





ALICE Inner barrel carbon [5] support structure



Layering scheme



But for MPD Inner Tracker detailed simulations of the geometry and requirements to all detector modules <u>should be done!</u>

The same for NICA SPD experiment



Carbon-fiber fleece 20 μm (down and top);
 Carbon-fiber plate 18 mm wide, 70 μm;
 Round polyimide tubes, diameter 1.02 mm;
 Carbon paper, 30 μm.



Pixel detectors for NICA experiments

NICA MPD











Experimental set-up for the ALPIDE MAPS characterization for the NICA MPD Inner Tracker: VT-1



Summary



- 1. The overview of ALICE ITS upgrade in detector context. New MAPS detectors.
- 2. Two test stations (based on the chip, DAQ board and software, cryogenic module) were constructed within the ITS upgrade project for the characterization and tests of the ALPIDE detectors.
- **3.** To investigate the main characteristics of the pixels, electrical tests and comprehensive studies with a variety of gamma and beta sources were carried out.
- 4. The studies of irradiated sensors at different temperatures, including cryogenic temperatures, were also carried out.
- 5. Ideas of how the ALICE technology could be applied for MPD or SPD experiments

Experimental set-up for the future characterization of ALPIDE MAPS for the NICA MPD Inner Tracker: VT-1 has been developed, constructed and tested.

Next plans

- **1. Modernization of VT-1 for the beam measurements.**
- 2. Studies of the ALPIDE characteristics using electron beams and NUCLOTRON beams in JINR
- **3.** Investigation of characteristics of ALPIDE (Final Version of the detector) and Hybrid Integrated Circuit (with 9 ALPIDE chips).

Literature



- 1. ALICE: http://cdsweb.cern.ch/collection/ALICE%20Photos?ln=ru
- 2. L.Musa, ECFA High Luminosity LHC Experiments Workshop, Aix-Les Bains, 3-6 October 2016 and F. Reidt, PIXEL2016, 05.09.2016 09.09.2016.
- 3. The ALICE Collaboration. "Technical Design Report for the Upgrade of the ALICE Inner Tracking System". In: J. Phys. G41 (2014), p. 087002.
- 4. V.D. Kekelidze, on behalf of the NICA Collaboration, JINST 12 C06012, 2017.
- 5. V.I. Zherebchevsky, I.G. Altsybeev, G.A. Feofilov, A. Francescon, C. Gargiulo, S.N. Igolkin et al., JINST 13 T08003, 2018.





BACK-UP SLIDES



Current ALICE set-up with its main detectors [1]

ALICE Inner Tracking System: current status and upgrade strategy



Physics

Heavy- flavour measurements with largely improved tracking and read-out rate capabilities

Two main open questions concerning heavy-flavour interactions with the QGP medium are:

1. Thermalisation and hadronisation of heavy quarks in the medium. Measuring the heavy-flavour baryon/meson ratio, the strange/non-strange ratio for charm, the azimuthal anisotropy for charm and beauty mesons, and the possible in-medium thermal production of charm quarks

2. Heavy-quark in-medium energy loss and its mass dependence.

Also detailed measurement of low-mass dielectrons (low material budget and the improved tracking precision and efficiency of the new ITS):

Thermal radiation from the QGP, via real and virtual photons detected as dielectrons

Also production measurement of hypernuclear states

ALICE Inner Tracking System: current status and upgrade strategy



Physics

Improve primary vertex reconstruction, momentum and impact parameter Resolution

Reconstruction of secondary vertices from c and b decays with high resolution

Particle	Decay Channel	c ·τ (μm)
Λ_{c}^{+}	рК-π+	60



Current ITS Impact Parameter Resolution ~ 70 μ m at $p_t=1GeV/c$

V. Manzari, LXV International Conference Primary vertex on Nuclear Physics June 29 – July 3, 2015, St.-Petersburg New pixel sensors for ALICE experiment: ALICE Pixel detectors (ALPIDE family)





Buffering and Interface

The zerosuppression is performed within —> the matrix. Address-Encoder Reset-Decoder circuit is employed. It can either be controlled by an external trigger signal or operated in continuous acquisition mode.



In-pixel amplification In-pixel discrimination In-pixel (multi-) hit buffer

Advantages

1. Analog signal is no longer driven over the column lines \rightarrow reduce power consumption and increase readout speed.

2. The realization of in-pixel discriminators: opportunity of readout, in which the digital outputs of the pixels are scanned by an encoder circuit that directly produces the address of hit pixels as output.

3. The circuit works in a way that the pixel hit register is reset after the read operation and the circuit will move on to the next hit pixel to encode its address. The procedure is iterated until the full pixel matrix is read out.





A general block diagram of pALPIDE-1,2

All the analogue signals required by the frontends are generated by a set of 11 (for pALPIDE-1,2) and 14 (pALPIDE-3) on-chip digital-to-analog converters (DACs).

The region readout units contain multi-event storage SRAM memories.

Hit data from the 32 region readout blocks are combined and transmitted on a parallel 8-bit output data port.

A top-level Control block provides full access to the control and status registers of the chip.



Pixel matrix of pALPIDE-1,2



The pixel matrix is divided into 32 regions arranged in sectors. Each sector includes 8 double columns (0, 1, 2..). In the space between each pair of double columns is a priority encoder circuit (Address-Encoder **Reset-Decoder**) that performs the asynchronous reading of a signal from the pixels in these columns.

New pixel sensors for ALICE experiment: ALICE Pixel detectors (ALPIDE family)



A comprehensive scheme for the pixel front-end circuit **Including all possible variations**



New pixel sensors for ALICE experiment: ALICE Pixel detectors (ALPIDE family) Each sector implements a different front-end electronics

ALICE

pALPIDE-1

pALPIDE-2





All next experimental results are presented for pALPIDE-3 chip



Good linearity of voltage and current settings has been observed. The linear fit demonstrates the same slopes for all parameters for the present chip at different temperatures.



Digital and Analogue scans. Scans generate digital or analog pulses in a number of pixels and read the hits out

For both tests common parameters: 10 (number of injections per pixel) and test 100 % of the pixels

For analogue test an additional parameter the charge equal 350 e⁻ was used.

Digital Scan Analogue Scan pALPIDEfs generic plot pALPIDEfs generic plot row row Column

Good homogeneity of the pixel maps for both scans has been observed.

Threshold Scan



ALTCF

Threshold Scan



1. Investigations of threshold and noise, depending on the magnitude of the I_{THR} current fed to the control transistor of a sensor at a fixed VCASN value



The linear dependence of the threshold values vs. Ithr has been observed for all sectors. The threshold noise distributions are constant in the Ithr region: 40 - 60 DAC. The thresholds in sectors 6-7 are bigger than in other sectors.

Threshold Scan





The threshold goes down slowly with the increasing of **Temperature** for all sectors. The threshold noise distributions are constant within the entire temperature range.

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Noise characteristics of the sensor

Noise occupancy strongly depends on the main detector settings I_{TH} and V_{CASN} The values of these parameters which does not exceed the acceptable level of Fake hits per pixel per event (upgrade requirements) have been found.



Noise characteristics of the sensor and its temperature dependence



Temperature limit has been reached: 56 °C

Noise occupancy strongly depends on temperature After applying Vbb the acceptable level of Fake hits per pixel per event (upgrade requirements) has been reached.



Studies with gamma and beta sources. Cluster analysis

Gamma sources: 241Am (13.9 keV), 133Ba (5.64 keV), 152 Eu (4.29), 55Fe (5.9 keV) Beta sources: 14C, 90Sr-Y

A cluster is considered to be an area of a pixel matrix with a certain number of neighboring fired pixels. The number of pixels determines the cluster size.

The clusters with cluster multiplicity = 1 have been included. Because in source test the noise mask (excluded hot pixels) has been applied.



Pixel and cluster hits for 152Eu



Cluster multiplicity in different sectors for 55Fe



No large clusters. Average cluster multiplicity no more 1.35



Triggers – **2000000**

Vbb = -3V

Source test + Cluster analysis

Results for high dose irradiated chip



Chip W7R12

Source: Sr-Y, chip temperature -100 °C