





Time is of the essence: Depleted Monolithic Silicon Sensors

NNV Annual Meeting 2022

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Particle Colliders

 The most prominent particle collider currently running is the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at CERN

- An upgrade for the collider to the High Luminosity Large Hadron Collider (HL-LHC) is planned
 - Significant increase in collisions after upgrade

 Proton clouds collide every 25 ns at each of the experiments



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Detector Development in High Energy Particle Physics

- New colliders set new requirements for the detectors
- Detectors were not designed to handle the new scenario and it would not even have been possible at the time
- What worked for the LHC will not be sufficient for the HL-LHC
- What works for HL-LHC will not be enough for whatever the next collider experiment will be
 - \rightarrow Rat race between detectors and colliders



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Tracking Detector Development

- Goal: Best possible track resolution
 - Improve spatial resolution



Fig.:Sundial



 Lowering material within particle trajectory



• Improve time resolution

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Fig.: Stopwatch

Spatial Resolution

- Search for new particles requires precise knowledge of particles produced in the collision.
- Particle lifetimes < 10⁻¹⁵ s
 - \rightarrow Impossible to detect directly
- Can reconstruct particles from decay products.
- Requires precise knowledge of momentum and vertex position
 - \rightarrow Increase pixel density as much as possible





Material Budget

- Material within the particles path induces coulomb scattering
 - Deviates the particle trajectory
 - Worsens track resolution
 - $\rightarrow\,$ Thinner, lighter sensors and reduce support structure





Time Resolution

- Only recently garnered greater attention
- Adding time as another component significantly reduces tracking complexity
 - \rightarrow Faster charge collection
 - $\rightarrow\,$ Faster digitization and charge sampling
- Allows Time-of-Flight based particle identification at O(10ps) time resolution



Fig.: Reconstructed primary vertices (left) with 2 ns time resolution (right) with 30 ps time resolution (© LHCb Collaboration)

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Silicon Detector Concepts

Hybrid: Silicon Sensor and readout electronics are on dedicated pieces of silicon which are then interconnected

- Independent development of readout and sensor
- ✓ Well understood
- Radiation hard to high levels
- * Thick total module O(300-800 um)
- Interconnection is expensive



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Monolithic: Readout electronics embedded in the same silicon as the sensor

- Fairly new in particle physics
- Radiation hardness an ongoing research topic
- Thin(-nable) sensors O(~30 um)
- No interconnection required



Fig.: Sketch of a monolithic detector (© Daniel Hynds)

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(Depleted) Monolithic Active Pixel Sensors

- MAPS: Unshielded sensitive electronics in silicon subtrate
 - No large reverse bias can be applied
 - Mostly low charge zones
 - Slow diffusion based charge readout
 - $\rightarrow\,$ Prone to signal loss as a result of radiation damage
 - \rightarrow Poor time resolution
- Depleted MAPS (DMAPS): Embed electronics in a deep N-doped well to shield from high voltage
 - Allows for application of $\sim O(100 \text{ V})$ reverse bias
 - Mainly high signal zones
 - Faster drift based charge collection
 - \rightarrow Less sensitive to trapping
 - → Improved time resolution

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Fig.: Sketch of a MAPS (© Daniel Hynds)



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The RD50 DMAPS sensors

 The RD50-CMOS collaboration works on realizing radiation hard DMAPS sensors for future particle physics experiments

RD50-MPW2:

- 8x8 pixel matrix
- 60 µm pitch
- Only analog circuitry embedded within pixel



RD50-MPW3:

- 64x64 pixel matrix
- 62 µm pitch
- Analog and digital circuitry embedded within pixel





The RD50-MPW3

- Newest chip iteration with full analog and digital circuitry embedded in the pixel
- Received this August
- Manufactured at LFoundry manufacturer, 150 nm feature size
- Recently tested at the CERN SPS test beam facility
- Analysis of data and further tests ongoing



Fig.: Setup at the CERN SPS test beam line

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The RD50-MPW2

- Previous chip iteration with only analog circuitry embedded within the pixel
- Manufactured by LFoundry, 150 nm feature size
- Shown to work well even after irradiation high radiation doses





Fig.: Laser test setup at NIKHEF

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Look at the time

- Measurement of the time resolution requires reference point in time
- Time resolution = Variation of time between input and output ∆t over many measurements
 - $\sigma_{t} = \sigma_{chip} \oplus \sigma_{osci} \oplus \sigma_{pulse} \oplus \sigma_{laser} \approx 424.7 \text{ ps}$





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Look at the time

- Overall almost every pixel has a time resolution O(300 ps)
- Still a significant spread of values of 150 ps is present
- Single outliers with significantly worse time resolution are present
- No clear pattern that would indicate any systematic errors with respect to the pixel location
- Needs to be further investigated also with a second chip
- Chip is known not to be optimized for timing

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Summary and outlook

- Future experiments set ever more stringent requirements to the detectors
- DMAPS are a promising approach to reach ultimate tracking performance in silicon
- Recently received RD50-MPW3 chip and tested at test beam with analysis ongoing
- Results of the RD50-MPW2 time resolution are promising O(~300 ps)
- Need to try and replicate time resolution with RD50-MPW3
- What would be required of a potential RD50-MPW4?





Backup slides

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New ASIC Generation



Chip operation

- Laser is pulsed for a couple of nanoseconds to induce a short laser signal
- Signal induces charge within the silicon
- Charge is read out via the electronics embedded in the pixel
- While the charge is above a set threshold a constant output is set to one (Compout)
- The length of this output is proportional to the charge
- This comparator output is the last output of the analog pixel matrix



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