



A. Hahn, A. Dettlaff, D. Fink, D. Mazin, R. Mirzoyan, M. Teshima, Prototyping of Large-size Silicon Photomultiplier Based Detector Modules in IACTs

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5th International Workshop on New Photon-Detectors - PD18

28.11.2018







- Canary island of La Palma
- 2200 m above see level
- Two imaging atmospheric Cherenkov telescopes (IACTs)
- Each camera equipped with 1039 PMTs
- 169 clusters, each based on 7-pixels; 6 open slots at vertices of the hexagonal-shape camera







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Motivation





- SiPMs challenge PMTs in terms of detection efficiency
- No HV necessary
- No ageing
- Potentially SiPMs can be operated during moon time similar to MAGIC PMT cameras
- Drawbacks: temperature dependence, high background rate due to high sensitivity to LoNS at long-wavelengths
- **Goal:** Compare performance of PMT and SiPM based detectors during real telescope operation



Two Design Generations



Werner-Heisenberg-Institu

Excelitas

• Using Excelitas, Hamamatsu and SensL SiPMs

- Up to 9 SiPMs/pixel
- Single, summed output of all SiPMs on a pixel
- Common high voltage per cluster (7 pixels)
- Bias voltage adjustment for sub-groups of SiPM
- Optimized heat flow using Aluminium core PCBs

Sensor type	Breakdown voltage
Excelitas C30742-66	~ 95 V
Hamamatsu S13360-6075VS	~ 50 V
SensL MicroFJ-60035-TSV	~ 30 V

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F Freune

Sens





SiPM clusters in the MAGIC Imaging Camera



Installed in 2015 and 2017 • Hamamatsu 1 cluster Excelitas • 1 cluster Hamamatsu \bullet 1 cluster SensL • **Excelitas** SensL



SiPM clusters in the MAGIC Imaging Camera

Hamamatsu



- Installed in 2015 and 2017
- 1 cluster Excelitas
- 1 cluster Hamamatsu
- 1 cluster SensL
- Using the standard readout and data taking
- Operated in parasitic trigger mode on events triggering the shown inner camera region

Excelitas

SensL



Calibration



Two methods used

• Single-photoelectron spectrum



- F-Factor (= excess noise) $\overline{m_{\text{phe}}} = 8 \cdot \ln(2) \cdot F^2 \cdot \left(\frac{\overline{Q}}{\text{FWHM}}\right)^2$
- Using position and FWHM of charge distribution



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Expectation





- Calculate expected performance with reference to MAGIC PMTs (type R10408)
 - Light of Night Sky (LoNS)
 - Cherenkov light
 - With Hamamatsu SiPM
 - 9.6 times more LoNS
 - 1.9 times more Cherenkov light
 - \sqrt{LoNS} Contributes as noise

CTA uses newer PMTs (type R12992-100, QE 42.6 %)

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Performance



- Calibration laserlight pulses
- Illuminating camera
- Fixed frequency (25 Hz)
- Fixed wavelength (355 nm)
- Average light intensity constant
- Used for PMT calibration
- Used for comparing detection efficiencies of SiPMs and PMTs





Performance Gen. 1 Excelitas SiPM





- Calibrated using phe-spectrum
- Dead area of pixel, PDE(λ)
 ⇒ expect ~ 32 phe
- Number of phe is in
 expected range

 Hamamatsu and SensL clusters expected to perform as good as current MAGIC PMTs in terms of pixel PDE



Performance Gen. 2 Hamamatsu SiPM





- Calibrated using phe-spectrum
- Number of phe in expected range (dead area of pixel, PDE(λ))
- Number of phe is comparable with installed MAGIC PMTs
- One pixel higher than PMT (same gain as other pixels but lower cross-talk)
- Big spread is caused by differences in cross-talk
 → Under investigation

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Performance Gen. 2 SensL SiPM





- Calibrated using F-Factor
- Number of phe in expected range (dead area of pixel, PDE(λ))
- F-Factor calibration method gives plausible results
- Number of phe is comparable with installed MAGIC PMTs

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SiPMs in trigger region



- Comparison of Cherenkov light detection efficiencies
- Systematic uncertainties because of parasitic trigger mode
- Far less problems if SiPMs are installed in trigger region
- Ideally camera centre
- ⇒ Swapping Hamamatsu SiPM cluster with PMT cluster in centre 1st July 2018





Performance Cherenkov light







Performance Cherenkov light



- Compare pixel trigger rates of PMT and SiPM pixels
- Same threshold in phe
- \sqrt{LoNS} leads to ~ 3 times higher trigger rate
- Good agreement with expectation





Summary and Outlook



Goal: Make a fair SiPM-PMT comparative study for exploring the potential of SiPM for IACTs

Achievements

- Three prototypes of different SiPMs installed in MAGIC camera
- Used two calibration procedures
- Measurements of calibration pulses are in accordance with expectations
- Ongoing comparison of detection efficiencies and the signal to noise ratio for measuring Cherenkov light from air showers

Further tasks:

- Perform a rate scan to estimate energy threshold of SiPM based camera
- Cross-calibration using muon events
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Thank you for your attention

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References



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- Excelitas C30742-66 SiPM
- Three groups (2-3-2) of Excelitas 6x6 mm² SiPMs with same breakdown voltage
- Single, summed output of all SiPMs
- Only one high voltage per cluster
- One offset voltage per group used to disable the pixel (star in FOV), adjust gain
- One temperature sensor next to sensors
- Dedicated light guide design
- 31 % dead area







- 100 kEvents @ 300Hz with closed lids
 - \Rightarrow Pedestal / dark count events
- Selection of good events
- Fitting spectrum for gain
- Integrate or fit original data for cross-talk estimation





- Calibration via F-Factor method (like PMTs)
- Cross-talk (p) defines F-Factor of SiPMs

$$F = 1 + p + \frac{3}{2}p + O(p^3)$$

- Measured cross-talk in lab
- Read dark current during pedestal run ⇒ calculate F-Factor
- Higher order terms in SiPM F-Factor lead to a higher uncertainty in converted phe wrt. PMT conversion



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- Aluminium core PCBs
- Improved heat conductivity from pixel to cooling plate
- ➡ Reduced operational temperature
- ⇒ Reduced temperature variation due to changing background light condition

















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Calibration events



Laser pulses with constant intensity from the calibration box in the centre of the mirror dish

- Superimposed averaged calibration events of a SiPM and a PMT pixel
- Undershoots due to DRS4
 readout
- FWHM(PMT) ≈ 2 ns FWHM(SiPM) ≈ 5 ns

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Uniformity in illumination



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BACKUP





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