Characterization of SiPM Optical Crosstalk and its Resin Thickness Dependence

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Silicon Photomultipliers for Cherenkov Telescopes



- » Cherenkov telescopes typically use PMT
- » Silicon Photomultipliers (SiPMs) are chosen for small-sized telescopes in the Cherenkov Telescope Array (CTA)
 - » High photo detection efficiency
 - » Low cost per channel (~2000 SiPMs / camera)
 - >> Tolerance against high rate environment (can use under moon light)
 - » Optical crosstalk
 - » Temperature dependence of gain





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Optical Crosstalk (OCT)





- » Crosstalk caused by optical photons (not electrical crosstalk)
 - » Secondary photons are emitted from the fired cell during avalanche
 - » Neighboring cells detect these photons
- » Can not distinguish primary and OCT signals from waveforms
 - » Mistake the number of detected photoelectrons
 - » Makes charge resolution worse
 - » False trigger will be made by OCT
 - » Low OCT rate is important to suppress such effects

» Propagation paths of OCT photons depend on coating thickness

- » Escape to outside of the SiPM: thicker coating
- » Return to the original cell : very thin coating
- » OCT rate of single-pixel SiPM have the expected dependence
- » With coating is preferred for easy handling



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Thicker Coating



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Propagation of OCT photons in SiPM arrays



» SiPM array is used to the camera

» Photons can propagate to neighboring SiPMs

- » Amount of such OCT have never been evaluated
- » Makes Cherenkov image fuzzy
- » Can we choose "thicker coating" for Cherenkov telescopes?
- » We used glass plate to change the coating thickness
 - » We can use same SiPMs
 - » Easy to control the coating thickness



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SiPM Camera

Measurement technique



- » Recorded waveforms of 64-ch SiPM by dedicated ASICs
- » Used only dark count (no LED illumination)
- » Counted the number of coincidence events with the reference SiPM
 - » Neighboring-SiPM OCT

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Accidental dark count

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 - » Accidental dark count

Can not be distinguished from the waveforms

Extraction of OCT rate



» Distinguished OCT and dark count from Δt distribution

- » Subtracted dark count component (black distribution)
- » Black distribution shows events with no p.e. signal in Ref. SiPM (no OCT from Ref.)
- » Calculated OCT rate from integrate residual events between ±32 ns



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Coating Thickness Dependence



- » Changed the thickness by glass plate (pasted with optical grease)
- » Thicker coating decrease "Self OCT", but increase Neighboring SiPMs
- > Conserve Total OCT rate in $> \sim 100 \ \mu m$

Ray-tracing Simulation



- » To verify the thickness dependence by photon propagation
- » Emitted photons from Ref. SiPM
 - » Direction : isotropic
 - » Position : uniform in the Ref. SiPM
- » Propagation in silicon substrate was not taken into account

Simulation Result



» Reproduced the experiment well

- » Normalized with the best scale
- Self OCT of no coating SiPM coming through the Si substrate, added it to the simulation results as offset

» Very thin coating < 50 μ m (cell size) is preferred in order to suppress Total OCT rate

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Summary

- » Evaluated a thickness dependence of neighboring-SiPMs OCT rate
 - > Neighboring-SiPMs OCT is not negligible (self : neighbor ~ 2 : 1 at 300 μ m)
 - » Can be negligible w/o resin coating
 - > Total OCT rate conserve (t > \sim 100 μ m)
- » Simulation reproduces the measurement well

» Very thin coating SiPM is the best solution to suppress OCT for Cherenkov telescopes

* We apply thin film during assembly