### Big, Fast, and Cheap: Precision Timing in the Next Generation of Cherenkov Detectors RICH 2010



Matthew Wetstein - Enrico Fermi Institute, University of Chicago HEP Division, Argonne National Lab



# The Challenge in Designing Detectors for HEP Experiments:

Need to bridge the *huge* gap between what is possible





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### The Challenge in Designing Detectors for HEP Experiments:

...and what is feasible (scalable)



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### The Good News is: Sometimes it's worth the effort...

- If successful, we stand to greatly improve the quality of physics we can study in a given experiment.
- Because we are also forced to really understand that science behind the device, we end up
  - Making the device better
  - Enabling new possible spinoffs for other scientific or commercial applications
- In the R&D process, we are forced to imagine entirely new analysis techniques and new physics capabilities.



Georges Charpak





### The LAPPD Collaboration

#### Large Area Picsecond Photodetector Collaboration

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- Newly funded (end of August '09) by DOE and NSF
- 4 National Labs
- 5 Divisions at Argonne
- 3 small companies
- 5 Universities



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### LAPPD Collaboration: Pushing the Limits of the Timing Frontier

Microchannel Plates are an existing photo-multiplier technology known for:

- Picosecond-level time resolution
- Micron-level spatial resolution
- Excellent photon-counting capabilities
- Being expensive

What if we could exploit advances in material science and electronics to develop new methods for fabricating:

- Large area (8"x8"), flat panel MCP-PMTs (BIG)
- Preserving that excellent time resolution (FAST)
- At competitive costs for particle physics scales (CHEAP)



How could that change the next-generation particle Detectors?



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## **Possible Collider Applications**

#### Using TOF in collider experiments for better

- photon vertexing
- multiple-interaction separation
- flavor identification





Difference in time it takes two particles with the same momentum to travel 1.5m



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## **Possible Neutrino Applications**

As a successor to photomultiplier tubes in water-Cherenkov based neutrino experiments

- Provide better coverage
- Use timing information to improve tracking and vertex separation
- suppress largest reducible background neutral pion fakes an electron



Typical vertex resolutions in Super K O(10) cm

100 psec TOF for light in water corresponds to roughly 3 cm







## **Possible Neutrino Applications**

- Chromatic dispersion/scattering/absorption present a problem
- We probably won't need the same time resolution as collider applications
- Still, even at 50 meters, we can expect to do much better than 2 nanosecond resolution in water
- Typical PMT timing resolutions > 1ns





Resolution losses over large distances in water can be recovered with more coverage (photon statistics)



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## **Possible Neutrino Applications**

#### Finer spatial resolution = Ability to resolve $dN_v/d\Omega$ within a single module

- better particle ID (ability to resolve the sharpness of ring-edge)
- better able to reconstruct events close to the wall
- Could imagine new tank geometries (building walls closer together in direction orthogonal to beam?)





#### Other Possible Advantages:

- Better magnetic susceptibility (applied magnetic field?)
- Further cost reductions by
  - requiring less bulk mass for the same physics
  - cheaper excavation costs

#### Will require detailed simulation



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## Anatomy of an MCP-PMT



- 1. Photocathode
- 2. Multichannel Plates
- 3. Anode (stripline) structure
- 4. Vacuum Assembly
- 5. Front-End Electronics

Conversion of photons to electrons.





## Anatomy of an MCP-PMT



- 1. Photocathode
- 2. Microchannel Plates
- 3. Anode (stripline) structure
- 4. Vacuum Assembly
- 5. Front-End Electronics

Amplification of signal. Consists of two plates with tiny pores, held at high potential difference. Initial electron collides with porewalls producing an avalanche of secondary electrons. Key to our effort.





## Anatomy of an MCP-PMT



- 1. Photocathode
- 2. Microchannel Plates
- 3. Anode (stripline) structure
- 4. Vacuum Assembly
- 5. Front-End Electronics

Charge collection. Brings signal out of vacuum.





## Anatomy of an MCP-PMT



- 1. Photocathode
- 2. Microchannel Plates
- 3. Anode (stripline) structure
- 4. Vacuum Assembly
- 5. Front-End Electronics

Maintenance of vacuum. Provides mechanical structure and stability to the complete device.





## Anatomy of an MCP-PMT



- 1. Photocathode
- 2. Microchannel Plates
- 3. Anode (stripline) structure
- 4. Vacuum Assembly
- 5. Front-end electronics

Acquisition and digitization of the signal.





## **Channel Plate Fabrication**



#### **Conventional MCP Fabrication**

- Pore structure formed by drawing and slicing lead-glass fiber bundles. The glass also serves as the resistive material
- Chemical etching and heating in hydrogen to improve secondary emissive properties.
- Expensive, requires long conditioning, and uses the same material for geometric, resistive, and secondary emissive properties. (Problems with thermal runaway).

#### What we want to do differently

- Use Atomic Layer Deposition (ALD), a cheap industrial batch method, to deposit materials in bulk, on low-cost substrates with the appropriate pore structure.
- Could mean significantly cheaper fabrication, require less conditioning, and enable independent control over geometry, resistivity, and secondary emission properties.



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## **Atomic Layer Deposition**

- A conformal, self-limiting process.
- Allows atomic level thickness control.
- Applicable for a large variety of materials.







## **Channel Plate Fabrication w/ ALD**





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## Channel Plate Fabrication w/ ALD



2. Apply a resistive coating (ALD)





## Channel Plate Fabrication w/ ALD





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## Channel Plate Fabrication w/ ALD





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## Early Achievements



B. Adams, M. Chollet (ANL/APS), M. Wetstein (UC, ANL/HEP)

Demonstrated enhanced amplification in commercial microchannel plates, coated with ALD layer.

- After characterizing the Photonis MCP, we coat the plates with 10 nm Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>.
- The "after-ALD" measurements have been taken without scrubbing.
- These measurements are ongoing.

Demonstrated process of MCP fabrication by atomic layer deposition on a 33mm glass filter.

•Able to control resistance of the plates for several different chemistries

Demonstrated >10<sup>5</sup> amplification on ALDfunctionalized glass plates.



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## Photocathode Fabrication

Two parallel efforts:

- Work at UC Berkeley (SSL) to scale conventional multi-alkali photocathodes to large-area, flat geometries.
- Work at Argonne to develop a fabrication and testing chamber
  - to complement Berkeley's multialkali work
  - further the fundamental understanding of photocathode materials
  - look into novel photocathode designs (advanced materials, nano-structures...)



K. Broughton, E. Indacochea (UIC), X. Li, R. Dowdy (UIUC), B. Adams, M. Chollet, Z. Insepov, S. Jokela, A. Mane, Q. Peng, T. Prolier, M. Wetstein, I. Veryovkin, Z. Yusof, A. Zinovov (ANL), O. Siegmund, J. McPhate, S. Jelensky, A. S. Tremsin, J. V. Vllerga (Berkeley, SSL), V. Ivonov (Muons Inc)



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  - nano-structures...)

Possible long-term photocathode center at ANL



K. Broughton, E. Indacochea (UIC), X. Li, R. Dowdy (UIUC), B. Adams, M. Chollet, Z. Insepov, S. Jokela, A. Mane, Q. Peng, T. Prolier, M. Wetstein, I. Veryovkin, Z. Yusof, A. Zinovov (ANL), O. Siegmund, J. McPhate, S. Jelensky, A. S. Tremsin, J. V. Vllerga (Berkeley, SSL), V. Ivonov (Muons Inc)



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## **Front End Electronics**

- Resolution depends on # photoelectrons, analog bandwidth, and signal-to-noise.
- Transmission Line: readout both ends → position and time
- Cover large areas with much reduced channel count.
- Simulations indicate that these transmission lines could be scalable to large detectors without severe degradation of resolution.



Differential time resolution between two ends of a strip line 25 Sampling rate: 40 GSs 20 Leading edge Multiple threshold Constant fraction Pulse sampling Picoseconds 10 20 40 100 120 60 80

Wave-form sampling is best, and can be implemented in low-power widely available CMOS processes at low cost per channel.

Currently testing first prototype chip. Next iteration soon to follow.



J-F. Genat, G. Varner, M. Bogdan, M. Baumer, M. Cooney, Z. Dai, H. Grabas, M. Heintz, J. Kennedy, S. Meehan, K. Nishimura, E. Oberla, L.Ruckman, F. Tang



Number of Photoelectrons



### **Device Assembly**

Device construction must maintain:

- a vacuum-tight seal
- mechanical integrity under high pressure and stress
- high bandwidth of the read-outs through vacuum seal
- low cost design goals

Pursuing two main directions:

- Ceramic assemblies, similar to those used in conventional MCP designs (Berkeley, SSL)
- Flat-panel sealed glass technologies (ANL, Chicago)



R. Northrop, H. Frisch, S. Asare (UC), M. Minot (Minotech Eng.), G. Sellberg (Fermilab), J. McPhate, O. Siegmund (SSL), A. Tremsin (SSL/Arradiance), R. Barwhani (UCB), D. Walters (NE/ANL), R. Wagner (HEP/ANL), J. Greggor (ANL)





### **Testing and Characterization**



HEP laser test stand

Berkeley SSL

Material

Science

Division,

ANL

Advanced Photon Source, ANL

#### **Component-Level**





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### Simulation

- Working to develop a first-principles models to predict MCP behavior, at device-level, based on microscopic parameters.
- Will use these models to understand and optimize our MCP designs.





Z. Yusov, S. Antipov, Z. Insepov (ANL),

V. Ivanov (Muons,Inc), A. Tremsin (SSL/Arradiance), N. Sullivan (Arradiance)



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### Conclusions

- Funding arrived in August and we're on a 3 year time table. Lots of work ahead. Preliminary achievements are encouraging.
- May make photo-detection significantly cheaper.
  - Reduce bottom-line manufacturing costs.
  - Economic impacts of new vendor/alternative in the market.
- If successful, this project presents potential opportunities for future Cherenkov Detectors.
  - New set of optimizations for analysis using better spatial and timing resolution.
  - Variations in overall detector design.
  - Direct analysis-driven feedback to guide photodetector design.
  - Will require detailed simulations.





- The organizers of RICH 2010
- LAPPD collaboration for their help and hard work.
- Ossy Siegmund, Jason McPhate, Mayly Sanchez, Henry Frisch, Bob Svoboda for their feedback and guidance.



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# Backup Slides



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31



## How Much Would These Cost? Too soon to tell...

### But, keeping cost down is a major objective:

- Made from inexpensive materials.
- Use industrial batch processes.
- Inexpensive electronics, trying to reduce number of necessary readout channels.

In addition to the bottom-line cost of the detectors are secondary effects.

- Market impact.
- Possible savings on civil construction. Detector can be built closer to walls.

Cost/unit area is not the only relevant factor. Physics gains could be worth a little more.





## **Photomultiplier Tubes**

Phototubes:

- ~2-3 nsec time resolution
- Spatial resolution cannot exceed tube radius
- Total coverage offered is typically less than 40%
- Typical photocathode efficiency ~25%



100 ns transit time, 2.2 ns time resolution







## Water Cherenkov Basics

Main Neutrino Interactions:





Neutral Current (bkgd)

70

 An shockwave of optical light is produced when a charged particle travels through a dielectric medium faster than the speed of

light in that medium: c/n

- This light propagates at an angle  $\theta_{\rm C}$  = 1/n $\beta$  with respect to the direction of the charged particle...
- Using photodetectors, we can measure the emitted light and reconstruct the track



PMT's mounted on wall or in column

Credit: Mark Messier



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Recoil( $\pi^0$ )

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34

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## **Ring Counting**



#### Hough transformation converts ring counting into peak counting









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## Tracking in Water Cherenkov







## Timing in Water Cherenkov

Aren't time and space information degenerate?

### Timing Information:

Can provide an extra lever arm for constraining time and space information, placing greater weight on detector hits that contain useful information (ie, those hits that haven't scattered)

> 160 170 180

deviation 5

53133 129.8

Entries





deviation 5



## Timing in Water Cherenkov

Timing Information:

Can help to disentangle early light of one track....







## Timing in Water Cherenkov

### Timing Information:

Can help to disentangle early light of one track....

From spatially overlapping late light of another track -0  $\sqrt{}$ 







40

## Timing in Water Cherenkov



time and space information (cut the Hough transform into

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¢ (degrees)

slices in time)...



## Timing in Water Cherenkov

#### TrackFit\_x

- Package for analytic track-fitting based on Cherenkov geometry
- Currently optimizing multiparameter fitting and smoothness of likelihood curve
- Soon to make pull plots for track fits to many toys, for different time resolutions
- Will also add PID and ring counting features.
- Goal:
  - to study identification of  $\pi^0$  backgrounds as a function of time resolution
  - To better understand analysis using largearea, picosecond photodetectors

M. Wetstein(ANL/UofC), M. Sanchez (Iowa State/ANL), B. Svoboda (UC Davis)



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## Other possible applications



Medicine: using timing information to improve resolution and reduce necessary radioactive doses in PET scans Homeland security: Large, flat panel photo-imaging for x-ray scanning all those shipping containers...







## close-up of glass filter



Distortion at boundaries of fiber bundles. We are working with the vendor to improve these...



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