R&D Efforts in Cherenkov Imaging Technologies for Particle Identification Systems in Future Experiments

Chandradoy Chatterjee INFN Trieste



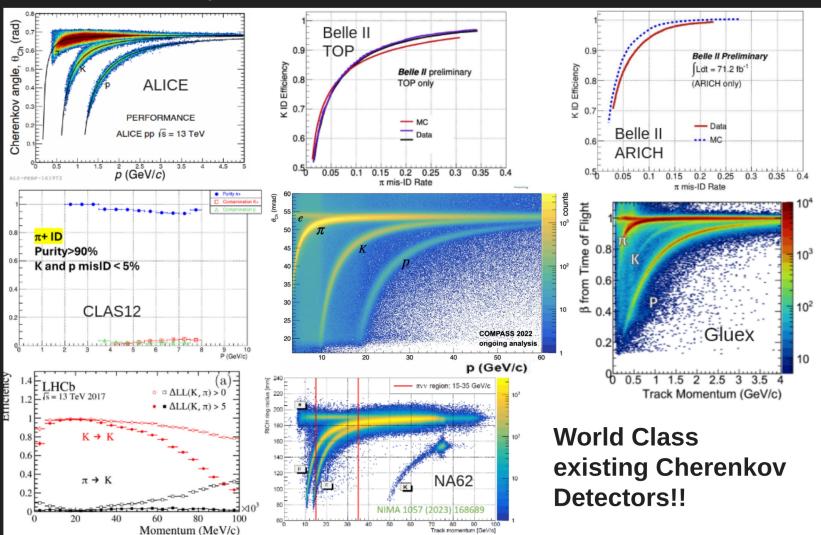
Outline:

- Introduction
- R&D for Future experiments
- Conclusion

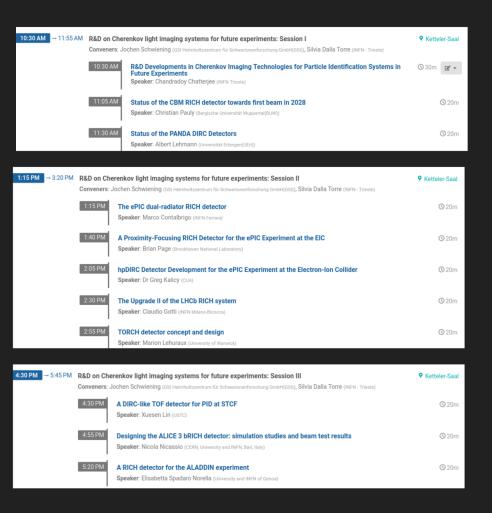


Introduction

See Review talk on Cherenkov detectors in current particle and nuclear physics experiments by Kodai Matsuoka



What about the future?



- 10 Talks in this session!
 Several talks from other sessions; PID algorithms, sensor technologies, technical aspects that are directly related to the future nuclear and particle physics experiments and upgrades of current experiments.
 Numerous posters!
 Common efforts in multiple sectors:

 MCP-PMT lifetime, SiPM dark count mitigation, Radiation hardness, Alternative for fluoro carbon radiators, electronics, software and many more → Common
- BUT THEY ARE NOT ALONE!!

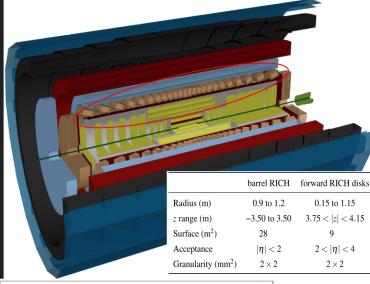
A **RICH** Legacy.

platform **DRD4** (see talk by Massimiliano Fiorini).

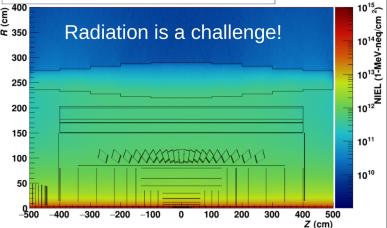
LHC-EIC experiments are major enterprises.

ALICE3 Upgrades

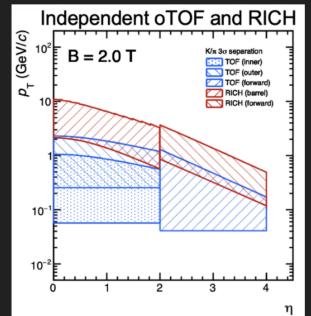
Physics goals		Subsystems and specifications	
Observable	Uniqueness	TOF	RICH
Multi-charm baryons	Observation of multi-charm baryons in AA collisions	Outer/Forward σ ~ 20 ps	Barrel Forward
D-Dbar correlations	Angular de-correlation of soft charm	Outer/Forward σ ~ 20 ps	Barrel Forward
Beauty mesons and baryons	Precision of 0.01 on elliptic flow	Outer σ ~ 20 ps	Barrel Forward
Quarkonia, χ _{c1} (3872)	Measurement at low p _⊤ and central rap.		
X c1,2	P-wave charmonia in AA collisions	Outer σ ~ 20 ps	Barrel
Di-leptons (T, flow, χ-symm)	Time-evolution of thermal radiation; chiral symm. at $\mu_{\rm B}$ =0	Inner/Outer σ ~ 20 ps	Barrel
Net-baryon fluctuations	6 th order net-proton cumulants	Outer/Forward σ ~ 20 ps	Forward
Photon-jet, full jets	High-precision low-p _T , large-R jet modification		
Hadronic physics (femtoscopy, nuclei)	Charm-charm hadronic inter.; observation of charm-nuclei; (hyper)nuclei with A = 5 and 6	Outer/Forward σ ~ 20 ps	Barrel Forward
Searches in $\gamma\gamma$ in UPCs	ALPs m>0.1GeV and low coupling	Inner/Outer/ Forward σ ~ 20 ps	Barrel/Forward
Ultrasoft	Validity and limits of Low theorem		



NIEL for PYTHIA8 + FLUKA simulation pp, √s=14 TeV, L_{int} 18000 pb⁻¹



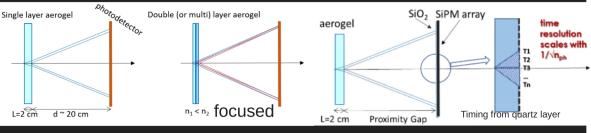
Talk by Nicola Nicassio



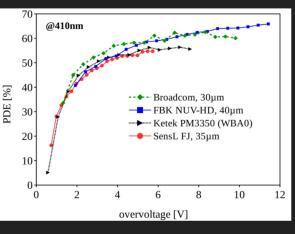
- 1. Majority of the ALICE3 physics programmes will require PID at endcap and barrel.
- 2. Proximity focusing RICH and Time of flight detectors are considered as baseline.
- 3. Novel ideas like merging TOF and RICH under exploration.
- Synergistic studies for aerogel, sensors within ALICE and other experiments are happening.

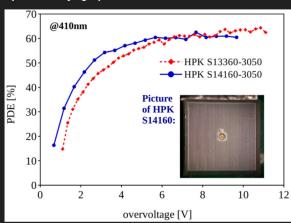
ALICE3 Upgrades

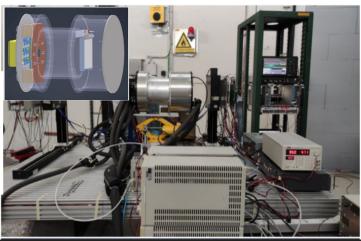
CERN-LHCC-2025-002



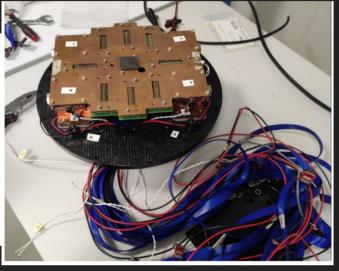
- ☐ Hydrophobic aerogel (n=1.03) synergistic to ePIC (EIC)
- Fill proximity gap with $C_5F_{10}O/N_2$ (20/80%) (n ~ 1.0006) extend electron identification.
- ☐ Low refractive index forces larger proximity gap







Talk by Nicola Nicassio



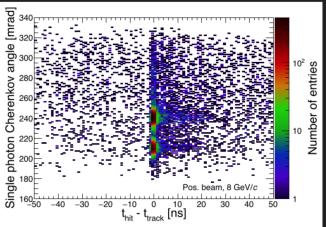
Different SiPM options and R&D ongoing! HRPPD is considered for Endcap RICH (limit to SiPM performance due to high radiation level)

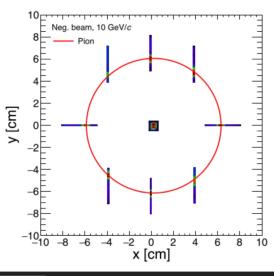
ALICE3 Upgrades

HPK S13361-3075AE-08 64 channel SiPM array used to detect photons from 1 mm thick fused silica window, acting as a second Cherenkov radiator.

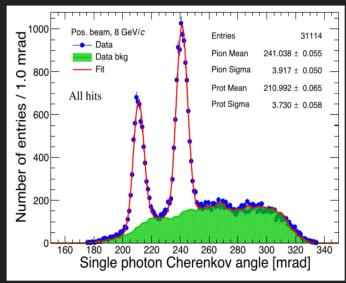
SiPM HPK S13552 128-channel linear arrays to detect Cherenkov photons from aerogel

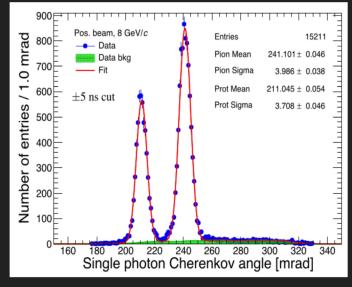
Talk by Nicola Nicassio





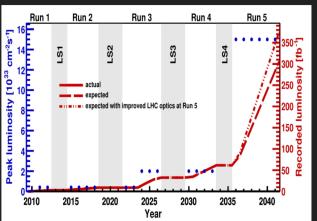
- Successful beam test compatible to Simulation studies. Matching SPE resolution and angle.
 PETIROC 2A ASIC had been used. Will be updated in future.
 - Measurements with irradiated array and operated at -40°C will be tested as well.

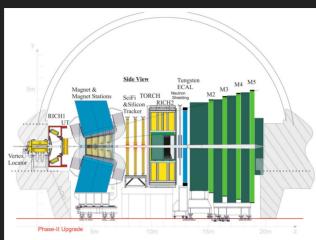




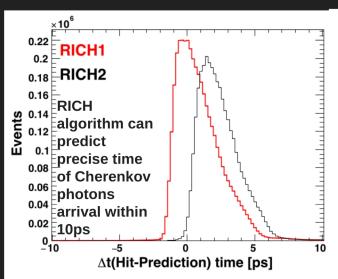
LHCb Upgrade II

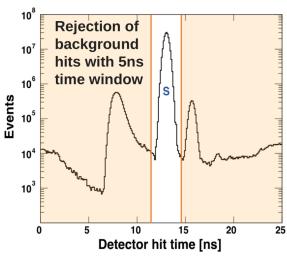
- LHCb upgrade II will allow key flavor physics measurements with unchallenged precision over a considerable time.
- within LHCb acceptance O(10¹⁴) b hadrons will be produced(3x10¹¹ b hadrons per fb⁻¹).
- ☐ RICH-1 and RICH-2 have to be adequately upgraded to cope with the new challenges.
- Insertion of new TORCH detector to enhance PID capabilities.





Dedicated LHCb upgrade talk by Claudio Gotti





Increasing luminosity essential to perform key flavor physics measurements.

Imposes severe challenges.

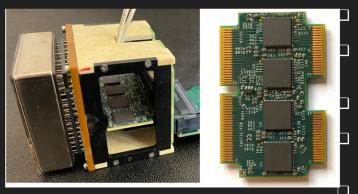
- → Requires exploitation of timing.
- → Minimize sources of SPE resolution error to retain similar RICH performance.

Photo-sensor Timelines:

- 2010-2018: HPDs with embedded readout
- 2022-2026: Ultra bialkali MaPMTs with Claro ASIC
- ☐ 2030-2033: Fast ASIC FastRICH with MaPMTs
- 2036-2044: New photon detectors with

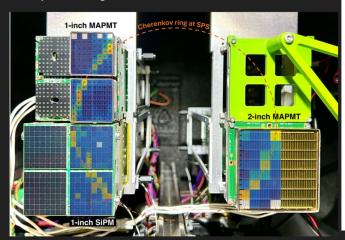
FastRICH

LHCb Upgrade II



See Poster by Floris Keizer

https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-0221/20/03/P03034



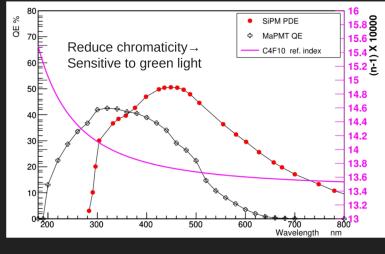
SiPM dedicated poster by Marco Guarise Beam test poster by Vlad-Mihai Placinta Compatibility to IpGBT and versatile link Plus.

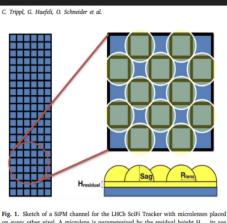
ASIC need to stand 2×10^{13} neq / cm² and 12 kGy at the RICH1.

TOA $\pm 2\sigma$ sensor symmetric time gate.

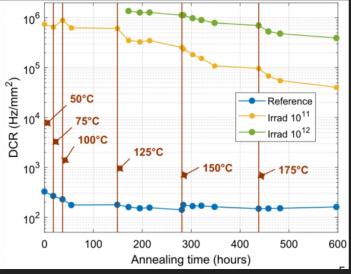
Additional timing and digital functionality compared to CLARO.

Power budget has to remain similar to CLARO.





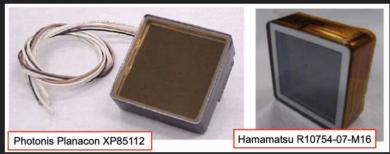




LHCb Upgrade II

Poster by Daniel Foulds-Holt on LAPPD beam test





https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-0221/13/12/C12005

Low gain MCPs are also under investigation and ongoing R&D

- ☐ Extremely good time resolution < 40 ps.
- \square Custom pixelisation tailored for individual applications.
- Concerns related to lifetime and rate capability: R&D ongoing

Photo-electron Microehannel plate stack Electrons cloud Pixelated anode

See Talk by Silvia Gambetta ICHEP 2024,

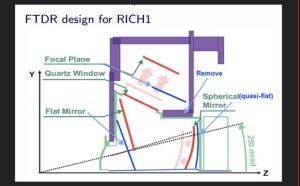
No preferred sensor choice at this moment, thorough R&D and upcoming beam tests will determine the choice!

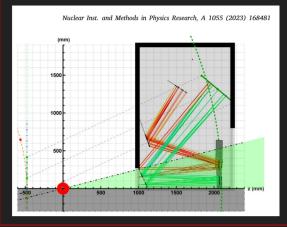
- \Box C₄F₁₀ (GWP 8500 CO₂) and CF₄ (GWP 7000 CO₂).
- Fluoro-Ketones can become an alternative.
- \square Extensive R&D is foreseen on alternative radiator gas.
- Optimized sensor choice and radiator gas should go hand in hand.

(talk by Greg Hallewell)

- Move flat mirrors into acceptance →
 Improves emission
 uncertainty → Requires R&D
- ☐ Increase spherical mirror curvature

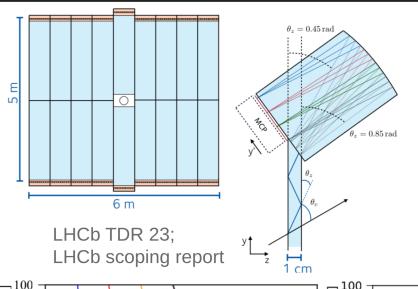
 → Reduce occupancy and pixel error.



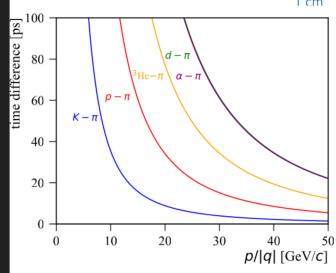


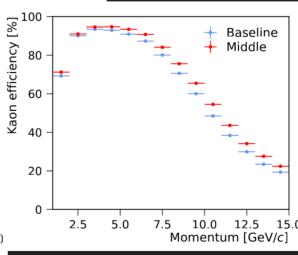
See Poster by Elisabetta Norella Talk by Silvia Gambetta ICHEP 2024

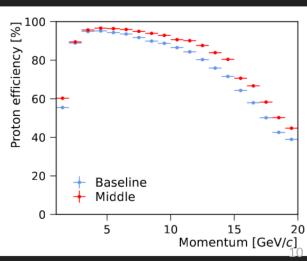
LHCb Upgrade II (TORCH)



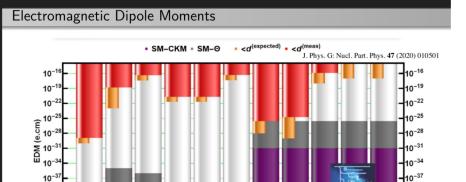
- ☐ Charged particles with momentum below 10 GeV/c can separate kaons and protons.
- Pions can be vetoed with number of detected photons. Challenging for high multiplicities events.
- TORCH-> General purpose timing detector. Per particle timing at 15 ps (30 detected photons) level for excellent low momentum pi/K/P separation. Similar requirement for HIKE.
- ☐ MPC-PMT as baseline. Improved life time and rate capabilities are of interest. Common goal of DRD4.
- ☐ SiPM are also considered. Concern related to radiation and large dark current.
- ☐ Synergistic to LHCb RICH upgrade II. SiPM cooling → common concern for SciFi and RICH
- \square FastRICH baseline ASIC \rightarrow synergistic to RICH upgrade

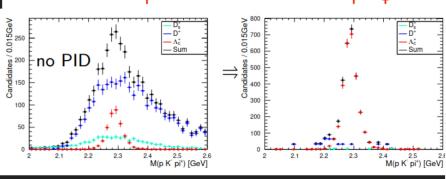






ALADDIN



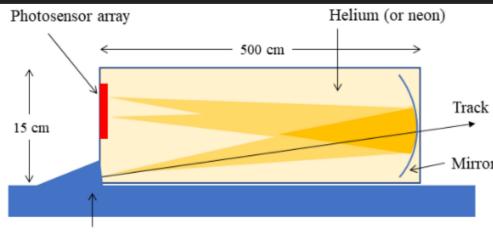


PID

CERN-LHCC-2024-011,

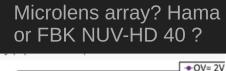
Planned to be installation during LS3. Not in far future. Exisiting photo-sensor options are considered beside R&D.

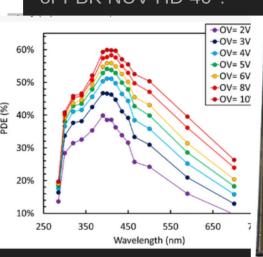
Talk by Elisabetta Norella



Beam-pipe with exit window

10-40





He & MCP-PMT incompatible combination! Neon in reduced pressure? Can provide __

enough granularity?

HIKE-AMBER

3.1 Experimental layout

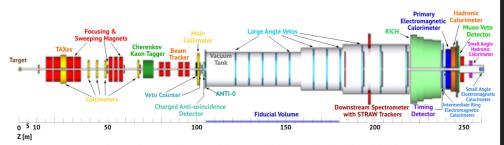
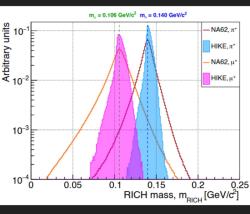
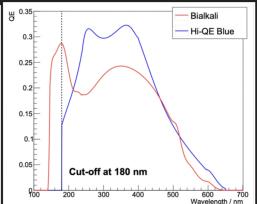


Figure 4: HIKE Phase 1 layout, with an aspect ratio of 1:10.

Talk by Angela Romano (at CERN Detector Seminar) Cristina Lazzeroni (at SPSC open session)





Hike LOI: arXiv:2211.16586v1 [hep-ex] 29 Nov 2022

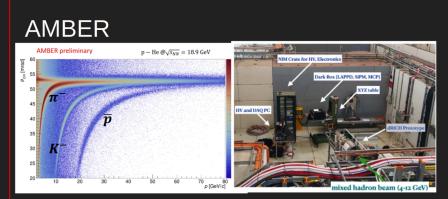
NA62 KTAG: Hamamatsu R7400-U03 and R9880-210. Peak QE 20-40%. Average rate varies from 3 5 MHz, area of 2.5 cm². SPE res 300 ps, 20 detected photon 70 ps.

HIKE Phase 1: KTAG expected to **provide time resolution of 15–20 ps** (similar requirement as LHCb TORCH)

200 MHZ beam \rightarrow 10 MHz/cm² detected photons.

SPE time res 50-70 ps.

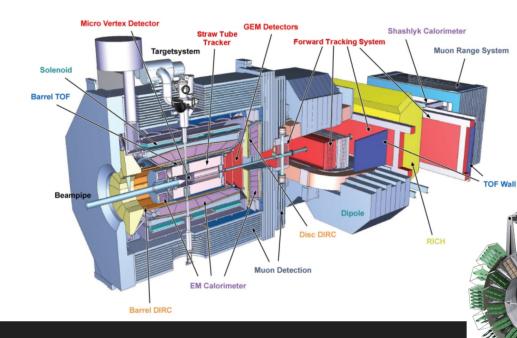
16 C/cm² accumulated charge with 10⁶ estimated gain 50% duty cycle. ALD coated MCP-PMTs.



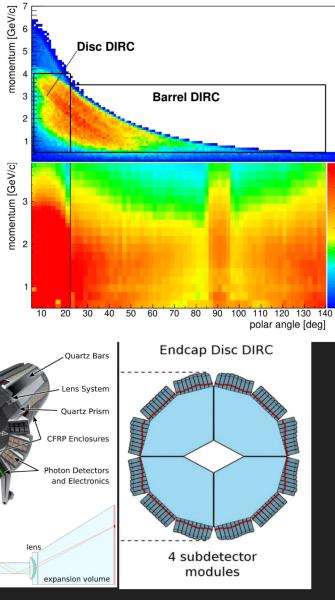
Identify poroton below 20 GeV/c, LAPPD/HRPPD is potential candidate for a proximity RICH-0. Synergistic to EIC. See talk by Jinky Agarwala on LAPPD beam and magnetic field test for EIC application and beyond

PANDA DIRCs

2.2 The $\overline{P}ANDA$ Detector



Panda barrel DIRC: J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys. 46 045001 Panda endcap DIRC: J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys. 49 120501

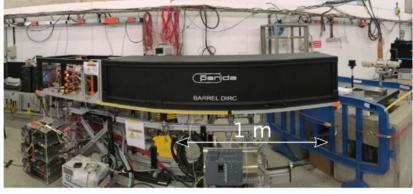


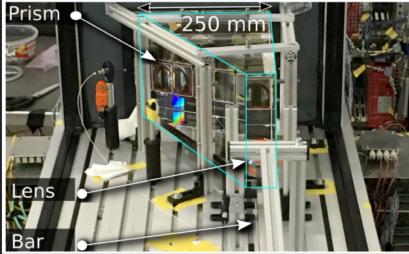
950 mm

radiator bar

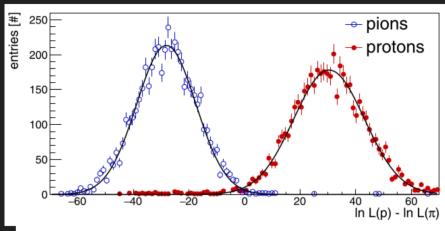
separation power [s.d.]

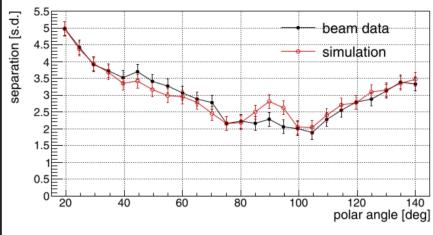
PANDA Barrel DIRC





Talk by A.Lehmann on Panda DIRC

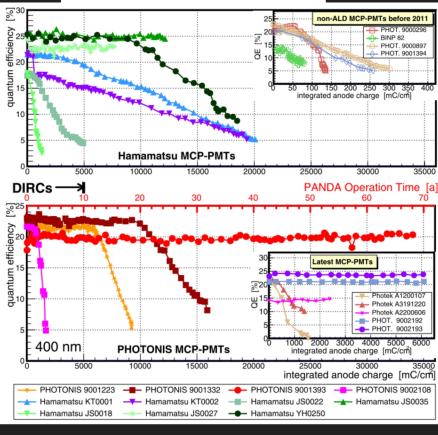


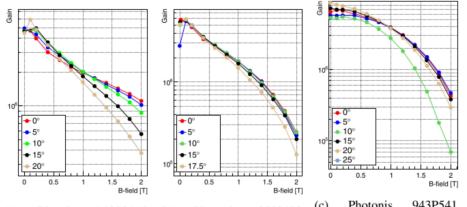


- lack Test beam studies demonstrated improved resolution with novel optics.
- Inspiration to future DIRC technologies (example: hpDIRC → ePIC see talk by G. Kalicy xpDIRC --> for future DIRC see Poster by Roman Dzhygadlo)

PANDA Barrel DIRC

Nuclear Inst. and Methods in Physics Research, A 1057 (2023) 168659



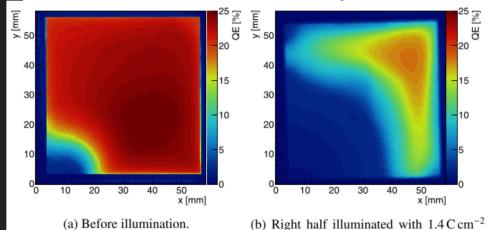


Photek A1200116, (b) 2760 V HV, 6 μm pore 2700 V HV, 10 μm pore diameter, 8x8 anode pixels. diameter, 8x8 anode pixels.

9002192 Photonis

Photonis 943P541 2950 V HV. pore anode diameter, pixels.

IAC, left half was permanently masked.



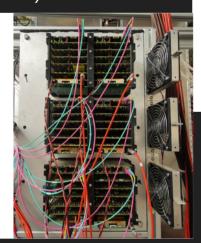
Talk by A.Lehmann on Panda DIRC

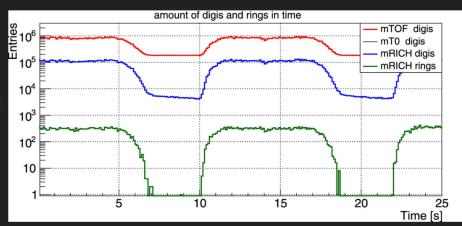
- Demonstrated MCP-PMTs coated ALD technique allows better lifetime.
- More MCP-PMT overview in the talk of Alexander Kiselev.

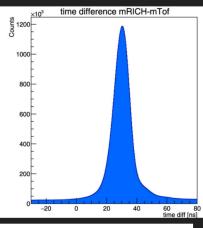
CBM RICH

- MaPMTs (H12700) and DiRICH commonly developed for HADES is chosen as the baseline.
- \Box Magnetic Shielding.
- \Box Novel DAQ concept.
- Test prototypes of all subdetectors → Mini CBM detector.
- ☐ Proximity RICH with same MultiAnode PMTs.
- ☐ Aerogel same as CLAS12.
 MiniRICH (mRICH)

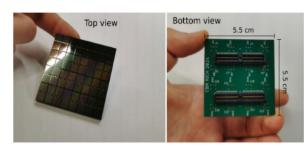




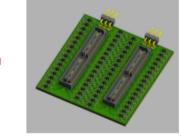




R&D: Silicon PMTs



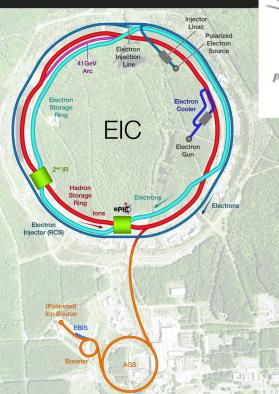




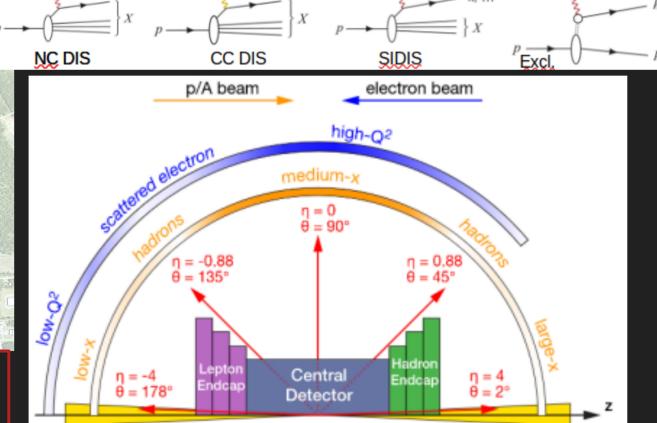
64 channel preamplifier for adaption to DIRICH readout

Upcoming beam! → Talk by Christian Pauly Posters by Martin Beyer, Sven Peter, Abhishek Deshmukh, Jesus Pena Rodriguez on several technical aspects

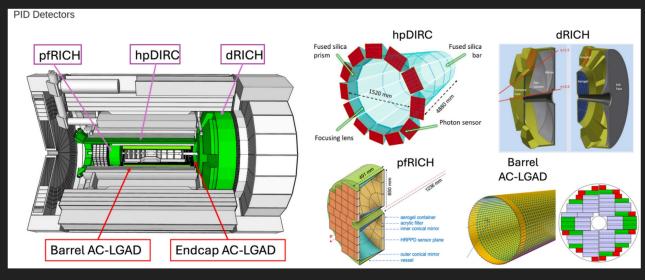




- Spanning over wide COM energy → 20 -141 GeV
- High luminosity → 10³⁴cm⁻²s⁻¹
- High polarization → (~70%)
 electron and light nuclei. Heavy
 nuclei up to Uranium
- Two possible interaction point.



ePIC detector and its PID



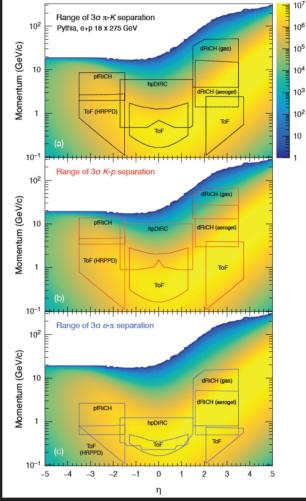
PID Requirements (3-sigma pion/kaon seperation)

Backward (-3.5 < η < -1.5)

- Up to 9 GeV/c
 Central (-1.5 < η < 1.5)
- Up to 6 GeV/cForward (1.5 < η < 3.5)
- Up to 50 GeV/c

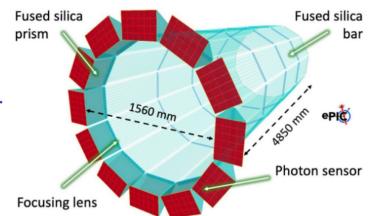
Wide phases-space for PID.

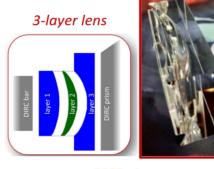
No single detector technology can deliver the full PID requirement.

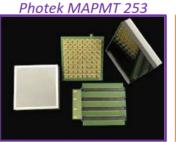


ePIC hpDIRC

- high-performance DIRC Concept: fast focusing DIRC, utilizing high-resolution 3D (x,y,t) reconstruction.
- Radiation-hard 3-layer spherical lens
 to reduce bar image size and shape imaging plane
- Lifetime-enhanced MCP-PMTs with fine anode segmentation to reduce pixel size
- Fast photon timing (Sensors + readout electronics)
 for chromatic dispersion mitigation and background rejection
- Narrow DIRC bars (refurbished BaBar DIRC bars)
- > Predicted performance for central rapidity range -1.5 ≤ η ≤ +1.5: $3\sigma \pi/K$ separation up to at least 6 GeV/c
- Simulation software validated with test beam data (synergy with PANDA BArrel DIRC)



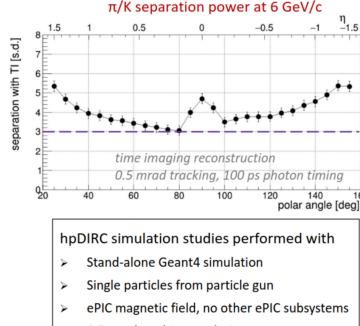






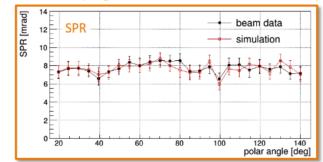
ePIC hpDIRC

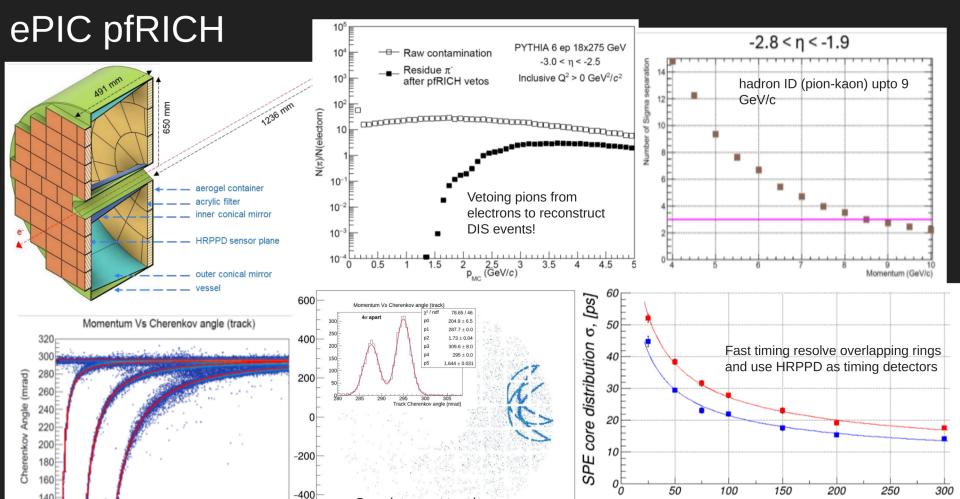
- high-performance DIRC Concept:
 fast focusing DIRC, utilizing high-resolution 3D (x,y,t) reconstruction.
- Radiation-hard 3-layer spherical lens
 to reduce bar image size and shape imaging plane
- Lifetime-enhanced MCP-PMTs with fine anode segmentation to reduce pixel size
- Fast photon timing (Sensors + readout electronics)
 for chromatic dispersion mitigation and background rejection
- Narrow DIRC bars (refurbished BaBar DIRC bars)
- Predicted performance for central rapidity range -1.5 ≤ η ≤ +1.5: $3\sigma \pi/K$ separation up to at least 6 GeV/c
- Simulation software validated with test beam data (synergy with PANDA BArrel DIRC)



> 0.5 mrad tracking resolution

Test beam campaign with PANDA Barrel DIRC Group





pfRICH Talk by Brian Page

Sensor plane X, [mm]

Photocathode voltage, [V]

Complex event topology

Timing information to

-200

resolve hits.

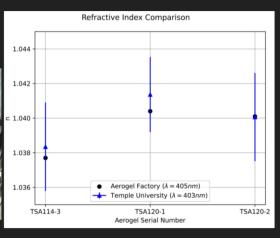
-400

momentum (GeV/c) -600

pfRICH R&D

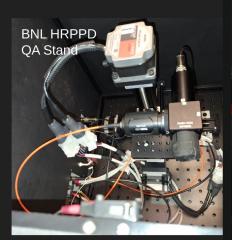
Aerogel Characterization



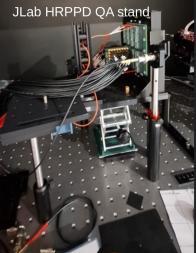




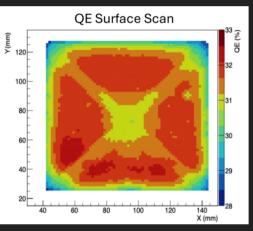




pfRICH Talk by Brian Page

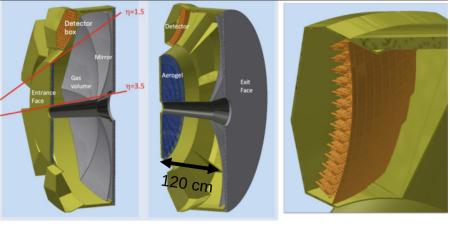


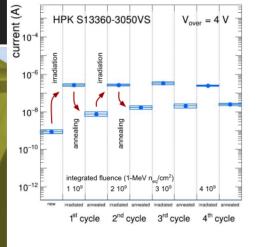
HRPPD at INFN Trieste

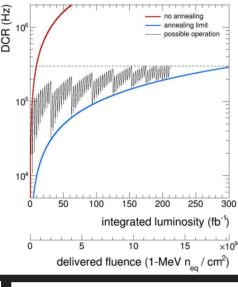


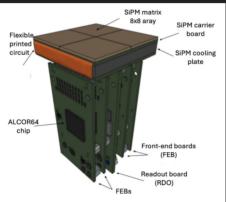
MCP-PMT review by Alexander Kiselev. LAPPD/HRPPD talk by Jinky Agarwala.

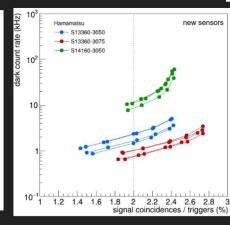
ePIC dual RICH

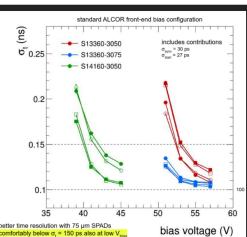


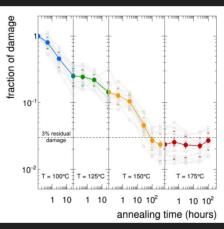












Extensive studies with SiPM sensors!

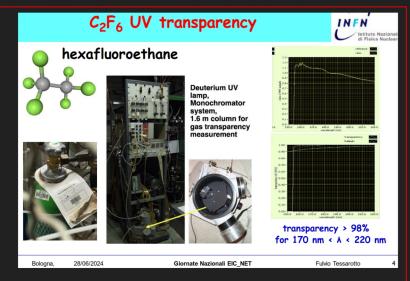
dRICH overview by Marco Contabrigo

Poster by Cristina Ripoli

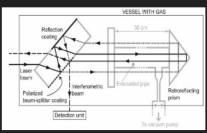
Online filters to handle large data flow are under study. Promising results!!

Talk by Cristian Rossi.

ePIC dRICH radiator







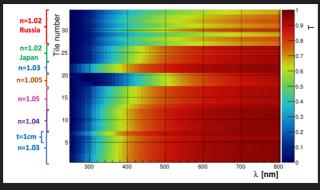
High GWP of $C_2F_{\underline{6}}$, alternatives are under study. Talk by Fulvio Tessarotto

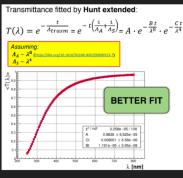




gure 2. Top view of the Spectrophotometer Agilent – Cary 4000 at INFN Bari laboratorie (left); Light spot on the aerogel tile (right).

Synergy with ALICE3 upgrade and pfRICH.

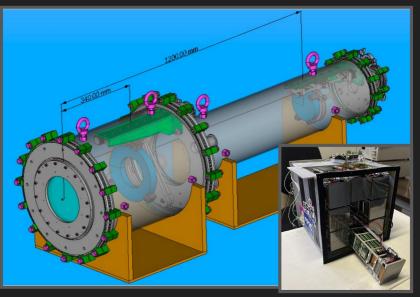


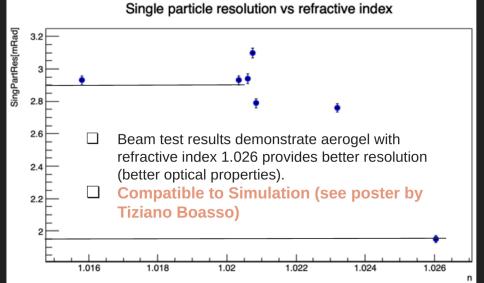


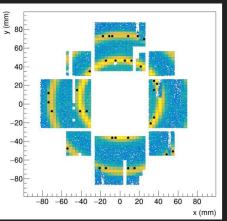
Poster by G. Volpe

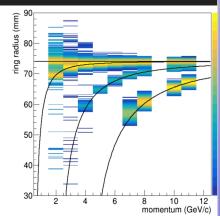
Potential synergies with pfRICH in software development, aerogel characterization, mirror coating and QA.

ePIC dRICH beam-test



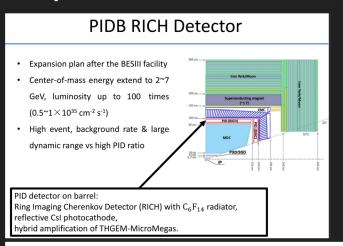


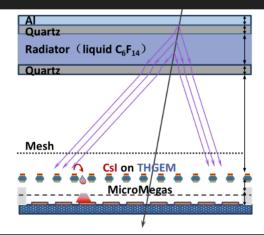


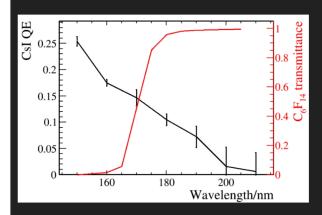


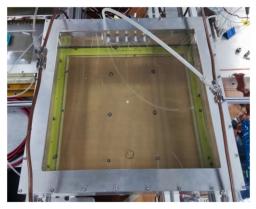
SiPM overview and beam-test results: Talk by Nicola Rubini.
ALCOR readout: Poster by Roberto Preghenella
Encouraging results from several beam test campaigns. Real-scale prototype to be tested.

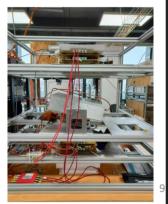
Super Tau Charm Facility (China)











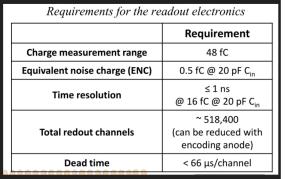


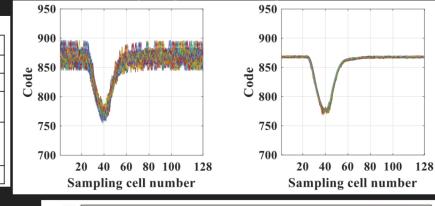


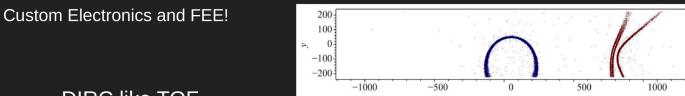
In house CsI coating.
Ongoing beam test

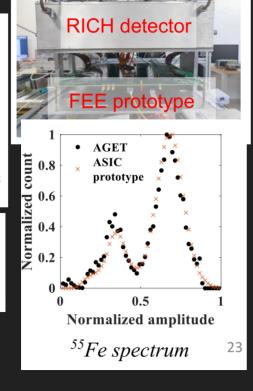
Possibility to use two layers of Micromegas to increase gain and reduce IBF.

Super Tau Charm Facility (China)

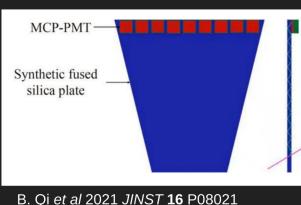


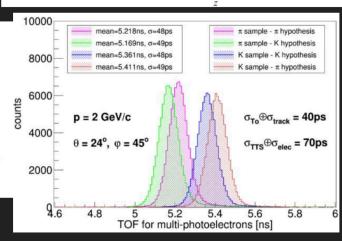








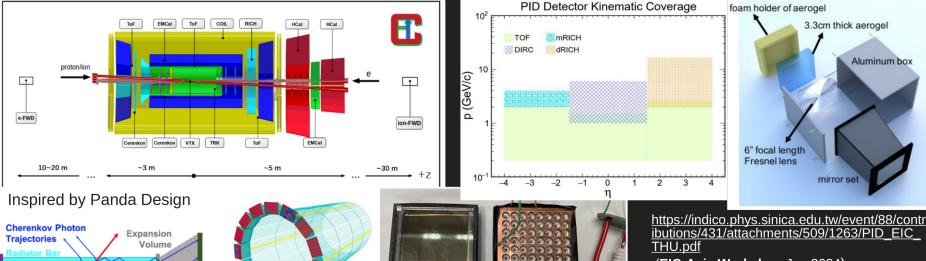




MCP-PMT from Chinese companies. 11C/cm² charge accumulation. Can be a challenge to MCP-PMT life time.

Electron Ion Collider in China

Modular RICH in e-Endcap (MCP based)

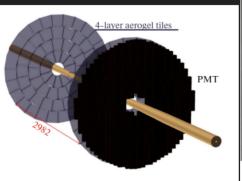


(EIC-Asia Workshop Jan 2024)

Poster by Xin Li

SPD

Mirror



Focussing

Optics

Particle

Track

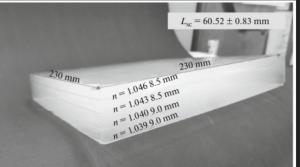
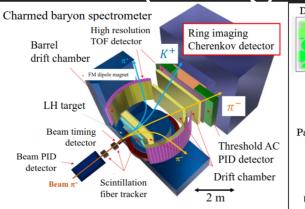


Fig. 3. The largest four-layer focusing aerogel Cherenkov radiator.

Commercial MCP-PMT produced by NNVT (North Night Vision Technology) China. Frontend developed by GSI (DiRICH); in house production is considered.

J-PARC (MARQ)

SiPM: Hamamatsu MPPC S13360-6075CS coupled to hollow conical concentrator. Increased light yield. Poster by Ken Suzuki



Detector segment C_4F_{10} n = 1.00137Detector plane Spherical mi Aerogel n = 1.04192 100 150 **Particles** 20° 100 192 Unit:cm

light yield 2025 JINST 20 C06070 direct 1 reflection 2 reflections reflectance 3 reflections photon incident position

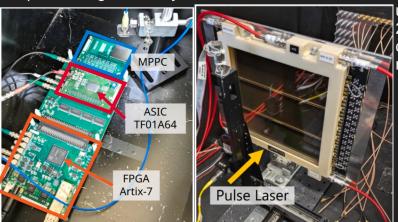


Aerogel (n=1.02) + SiPM based RICH for beam tag Poster by Taiga Toda

Below atmospheric pressure Novac gas C₅F₁₀O? Challenging mechanics

Belle II Upgrade

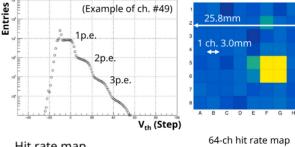
https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nima.2025.170695

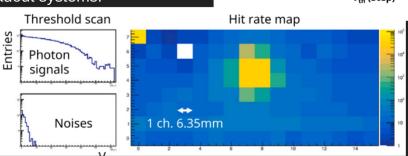


Poster by Shunsuke Kurokawa

1) Early 2030s discontinuation in HAPD production & need for updating ASIC.

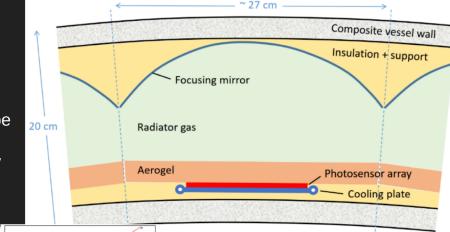
2) MPPC and LAPPD under consideration: developed two readout systems.





Dual Radiator RICH for FCC-ee

- A compact modular RICH for hadron ID at FCC-ee: ARC(Array of RICH Cells) Dual radiators (aerogel + unpressurised C₄F₁₀ gas)
- Momentum range of interest = 1–40 GeV/c
- Timescale: earliest implementation in mid-2040s (prototype in 3-4 years) CLD experiment concept for FCC-ee
- Target a radial depth of 20 cm, and material budget of few % X0



Radiator π /K separation - Xe C₄F₁₀ @ 1 bar N_{σ} vs Momentum for Different Datasets Xe 3.5 ban considering 0.5 mm imes 0.5 mm pixels

• Pressurized Xenon can be an alternative to C₄F₁₀ [Pezzulo24]

Max p [GeV/c] Radiator C4F10@1bar Xe @ 2 bar Xe @ 3.5 bar

Photon

Total error

[mrad]°

1.2

1.2 1.5

1.9

15/17

11

Limit from pixel error Photon yield Detected photons C_4F_{10} xenon CF₄

Pressure [bar]

Resolution

[mrad]

C4F10

xenon

- Highly compact. SiPM (FBK) Aerogel works as radiator as well as thermal isolation between SiPM and radiator gas.
- Alternative choice for radiator gas

Talk by Serena Pezzulo

Simulation of ARC alvaro.tolosa.delgado@cern.ch

Momentum (GeV/c)

Serena Pezzulo

Conclusions

- 1. Cherenkov imaging technology will be playing critical role in large number of particle and nuclear physics experiments in the future: essential for heavy ion physics, flavour physics, hadron physics, beyond SM and e+e- colliders. All-round applications.
- 2. SiPM and MCP-PMTs have emerged as the two main choices for photon detection. Only expectation is barrel RICH for Super Tau Charm Factory where CsI coated MPGDs technology has been chosen as default.
- 3. Extensive R&D program for Panda DIRC has demonstrated that MCP-PMTs coated with ALD have better lifetime. HRPPD/LAPPD (produced by INCOM) are considered as baseline sensor technology in ePIC and under consideration by LHCb upgrade II and ALICE 3 upgrade to meet their physics requirements R&D and testing are ongoing.
- 4. SiPM dark count mitigation, radiation hardness are common issues for many experiments and common efforts in R&D are ongoing. The ePIC dRICH collaboration has consistently played a major role in this sector.
- 5. Hydrophobic aerogels are default choice with varied refractive index. Default choice for ALICE 3, ePIC dRICH, pfRICH has been aerogel produced by Chiba University Japan. EIC China has also considered aerogel made by Tsinghua University. Required more R&D.
- 6. Conventional Radiator gas for high momentum PID faces challenge in the future due to high GWP. Currently, alternative choices are high pressure RICH or Fluoro-Ketone Novac gases. Apparently, not a small community is interested in Fluoro Carbon gases; ePIC, LHCb upgrade II are major collaborations but also EICc, CBM, J-PARC MARQ will use C_nF_{2n+2} gases. Requires systematic studies and multidisciplinary approach to address the progress. DRD4 collaboration is the ideal platform for such efforts.

Special thanks to Silvia Gambetta, Giacomo Volpe, Jianbei Liu, Brian Page, Greg Kalicy, Jochen Schwiening for the suggestions and materials.

Thank you for your attention