

Suppressing Optical Cross Talk in Silicon Photomultipliers

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- Observations of gamma rays in 20 GeV 300 TeV band
 - Cherenkov light from electromagnetic shower produced by interaction of gamma rays with atmosphere
- Large collection area by placing many telescopes

* ×10 better sensitivity than current instruments

- Wide energy band coverage by three different sizes of telescopes
 - Large-sized telescope (LST): Φ = 23 m, 20 GeV 1 TeV, 4 telescopes
 - Medium-sized telescope (MST): $\Phi = 10 12$ m, 0.1 10 TeV, ~20 telescopes
 - Small-sized telescope (SST): Φ = 4 m, 1 >300 TeV, 50 70 telescopes all SSTs are placed at south site







- ***** SST-1M (single mirror)
 - * Czech Republic, Ireland, Poland, Swiss
- ***** SST-2M (dual mirror)
 - * Astrofisica con Specchi a Tecnologia Replicante Italiana (ASTRI)
 - ✦ Italy, Brazil, South Africa
 - Gamma-ray Cherenkov Telescope (GCT)
 - ✦ Australia, France, Germany, Japan, Netherlands, UK
- Cost per pixel is more relevant than cost per area in SSTs





GCT









- Dual mirror design allowing use of compact camera
 - Schwarzschild-Couder (SC) optics
 - Short focal length to realize small plate scale (small camera, pixel)
 - Large field of view
 - Greater telescope spacing (larger collection area)
 - Technically challenging
 - Small pixel (6–7 mm) photon sensor to reduce camera cost
 - Multi-anode photomultiplier (MAPMT) or Silicon Photomultiplier (SiPM)
 - High density readout electronics (ASIC)



Comparison with Single-Mirror Camera





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cherenkov telescope array

Cta therenkov telescope array Requirements for Photon Sensors in CTA Institute for Space-Earth Environmental Researce Maria

- Properties of Cherenkov photons from gamma-ray air shower
 - ~500 photons/m² for 10 TeV gamma-ray shower
 - Several photons per pixel
 - Cherenkov photons peaks around ~350 nm
 - Blue to near UV sensitivity is important
 - Angular range for incident photon is 30–60°
 - Cherenkov photons arrives within a few to few tens of ns
 - ns-timing is important

* Night sky background (NSB) is the dominant background

- Rate is >25 MHz/pixel
 - Dark count rate is not very important
 - [NSB] x [Optical crosstalk (OCT)] can cause false triggers due to accidental coincidences
 - Low OCT rate is important
- NSB peaks above 550 nm
 - Low red sensitivity is preferred
- Pixel size < 0.25 deg is required to obtain good angular resolution of air showers
 Pixel size ~ 6 mm with 4-m telescope



Secondary

mirror

Primary

mirror

Camera





Silicon Photomultiplier is chosen as a photon sensor for SST

- Cost per channel
- Photon detection efficiency
- Tolerance against high rate environment (> 25 MHz per pixel)
- Reliability

Major drawback of SiPM

- Optical crosstalk (OCT)
 - High rate night sky background (NSB) + OCT can cause false triggers due to accidental coincidences



- * Gain dependence on the temperature
- High sensitivities for red light (NSB wavelength)
- Main objective of CTA SiPM development
 - Suppress OCT while retaining photon detection efficiency (PDE)







Thicker coating or no coating give lower crosstalk







- No coating (or very thin coating)
 - Reflected photons come back to the original cell
- Intermediate thickness
 - Photons reflected by the air interface may produce avalanches in other cells
- Very thick coating
 - Photons reflected by the air interface may get out of the device
 - Smaller device may have lower crosstalk rate
- How about the reflection at the backside?





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cherenkov telescope array OCT Dependence on Device/Cell Sizes



 We have systematically investigated the OCT rate with varying device size, cell size, and with and without coating
 Find out propagation properties of crosstalk photons

Product ID	Device size	Cell size	Coating	Fill factor
S14520-3050VS	3 mm	50 <i>µ</i> m	300 <i>µ</i> m	74%
S14520-3050VN	3 mm	50 <i>µ</i> m	None	74%
S14520-3075VS	3 mm	75 <i>µ</i> m	300 <i>µ</i> m	82%
S14520-3075VN	3 mm	75 <i>µ</i> m	None	82%
S14520-6050VS	6 mm	50 <i>µ</i> m	300 <i>µ</i> m	74%
S14520-6050VN	6 mm	50 <i>µ</i> m	None	74%
S14520-6075VS	6 mm	75 <i>µ</i> m	300 <i>µ</i> m	82%
S14520-6075VN	6 mm	75 <i>µ</i> m	None	82%

SiPM Measurement Setup at Nagoya



Take waveform data by digital oscilloscope

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- We measure number of photons for short LED (or laser) pulses
 - Current measurement does not provide accurate PDE due to optical crosstalk, delayed cross talk and after pulse
- Number of photo electrons (p.e.) does not follow Poisson distribution due to optical crosstalk
 - Probability of 0 p.e. is used to obtain the averageto avoid effect of optical crosstalk
 - Effect of dark count still need to be taken into account

$$P(n) = e^{-\mu} \mu^n / n!$$
$$P(0) = e^{-\mu}$$
$$\mu = -\ln(P(0))$$
$$P_{\text{true}}(0) = P_{\text{ON}}(0) / P_{\text{OFF}}(0)$$







- PDEs were measured for 2 devices for each type
- PDEs were measured twice for one device
- Measured PDEs were very consistent even though monitor SiPM indicates varying light intensity





Assume 1 p.e. peak of dark signal is dominated by dark count
 2 p.e. peak consists of optical crosstalk from 1 p.e. and chance coincidence of dark counts within Δt_{PS} (~3 ns in our setup)



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6 mm

50 µm

75 µm

 $\circ \Box$ no coating

- Dark count pileup correction works well
- ◆ Factor out cell capacitance dependence of crosstalk rate by scaling it with cell area and depth (assuming cell depth ∝ break down voltage) — 3 mm
 - *** 3 mm device gives slightly lower OCT** than 6 mm device
 - OCT rate scales very well with cell capacitance with coating
 - Not so without coating
 - Differences among individual SiPMs are small







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Optical crosstalk rate should proportional to the charge produced in the avalanche and avalanche trigger probability



∝ cell capacitor

Avalanche probability

- ***** C_{OCT} is smaller for 75 μm cells (less efficient for crosstalk)
- **C**Otte is smaller without coating
 - Avalanche seed is produced in the region where it is harder to trigger avalanche

Product ID	Сост	Cotte
S14520-3050VS	0.1	5.5
S14520-6050VS	0.09	9
S14520-3075VS	0.06	17
S14520-6075VS	0.06	18
S14520-3050VN	0.4	0.3
S14520-6050VN	0.09	2
S14520-3075VN	0.03	5
S14520-6075VN	0.03	4







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- Optical crosstalk rate is significantly affected by protection coating
 - * Smaller device size and thicker coating reduce OCT rate
 - Larger cell size increase OCT rate, but not proportional to the cell area
 - * No coating significantly reduces OCT rate
 - OCT rate does not scale with the cell size
 - OCT seeds are produced in the region where avalanche trigger probability is low
- Prospects
 - Solution 6 mm device with 75 µm cell without coating may be the best choice for CTA for now
 - Further reduction of OCT by suppressing crosstalk due to photons reflected at the backside of SiPM





Supplemental Slides



cherenkov telescope array Optical Crosstalk to Nearby Devices Space



- Optical crosstalk can propagate into other devices in SiPM arrays with common protection layer
 - It can propagate beyond adjacent pixels
 - Crosstalk rate in other pixels increases with thicker protection
 - Total crosstalk rate (sum of self crosstalk and crosstalk to other pixel) is more or less constant above 100 µm thickness







Low pass filter to remove high frequency noise Pole zero cancellation to cut the exponential tail



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