Qualification of pixel detectors for the upgrade of the ATLAS Inner Detector with beam tests

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Large Hadron Collider upgrade

- The LHC next upgrade is the High-Luminosity LHC (HL-LHC) planned to start operation in 2029.
- It is expected to provide up to 200 proton-proton interaction per bunch crossing delivering about 4000 fb⁻¹ of data over 10 years.
- An upgrade of the ATLAS detector is needed to cope with the harsher radiation levels and with a much higher number of tracks.



ATLAS ITk upgrade

The ATLAS Inner Detector will be completely replaced with an all-silicon Inner Tracker (ITk). The challenges for this new detector are related to:

- Large number of tracks
 - High pixel granularity (small pitch)
- High radiation levels
 - Improved radiation hardness





Left picture shows a schematic depiction of the ITk Layout,

- 5 layers
 - 3D pixel sensors for the innermost layer (L0)
 - n-in-p planar silicon sensors for the other layers

ATLAS ITk upgrade

Radiation expected during the full sensor operation life:

- Inner system: $1.7 \cdot 10^{16} n_{eq}/cm^2$
- Outer system: $5 \cdot 10^{15} n_{eq}/cm^2$

Performance of pre-production sensors irradiated at these fluences going to be presented.



Simulation of radiation expected for HL-LHC ATLAS detector

/ 4000fb⁻¹]

10¹⁷



The requirement for these sensors to qualify is to meet a detection efficiency:

- For 3D pixel sensor (L0 layer):
 - Higher than 96% at perpendicular configuration or 97% at tilted configuration (see slide 9) after being irradiated at $1.7 \cdot 10^{16} n_{eq}/cm^2$
- For planar sensors (L1-L4 layers):
 - Higher than 97% after being irradiated at $5 \cdot 10^{15} n_{eq}$ /cm²

It is expected that the ITk pixel Inner system will be replace after 5 years of operation because of the radiation damage.

ITk planar sensors – quad module



ITk pixel detector is composed by different layers:

- L1: Inner system
 - Staves and rings
 - 50x50 μm² pixel planar sensors 100 μm active thickness.
- L2-L4: Outer system
 - Stave and rings
 - 50x50 μm²pixel planar sensors 150 μm active thickness.



- Single side process with guardring and pixels on the top side
- Parylene protection
 - Reinforce bonds and avoid corrosion
 - Prevent discharge between sensor and front-end
- The centre of the quad sensor has larger pixels with different geometries to extend the coverage of the sensor into the inter-chip gap



Pixel size

- **50x50 μm²**
- 100x100 μm²
- 50x100 μ m² or 100x50 μ m²

ITk 3D pixel sensors – triplet module





- Sigle side process
- Single read-out electrode in the center (n+ column) and four bias electrodes (p+ columns) at the corners
- Two different configurations

ITk pixel detector is composed by different layers:

- L0: Inner most system
 - Staves: Linear triplets
 - 25x100 μm² 3D pixel sensors with 1 electrode and 150 μm active thickness.
 - Rings: Rings triplets
 - 50x50 μm² 3D pixel sensors with 1 electrode and 150 μm active thickness.
 - Very high radiation hardness









6

Testbeam setup at SPS-CERN

- EUDET telescope with 6 Mimosa26 planes and trigger scintillators
- FE-I4 (MMC3 readout) plane and single ITkPixV1.1 (FBK 3D sensor) for track matching.
- Results were obtained using ITkPixV1.1 chip.
- 120 GeV pions
- Cold box: 2 deep temperature chillers driving external cooling circuits with silicon oil / ethanol:
 - Liquid/air heat exchanger inside the box
 - Additional cooling circuit only for quads
 - Pre-colling nitrogen (for humidity control)



Testbeam setup at SPS-CERN

Quad module setup

- Challenging cooling system for quads.
 - Additional cooling circuit only for quads with ethanol or silicon oil.
 - no material is added along beam's track
- Achieved < -15 °C on powered quad modules





- A special frame was fabricated to support the quad in the center.
- Data adapter and power cards are located from the top and bottom connected to the module pcb by pigtails.
- The holder is directly cooled down by two Peltiers (above and below the module), each cooled down by a copper heat exchanger cooled with silicon oil/ethanol.
- No material is added along beam's track to achieve the cooling

Testbeam setup at SPS-CERN

3D pixel setup

- 3D modules mounted on rigid PCB (single chip card, SCC) intended for testing individual bare module.
- Measurements were performed at different configuration angles:
 - 0° (perpendicular)
 - 15° (To avoid column effects)
- Reconstruction of the events with Corryvreckan
 - Introduce geometry of the experiment:
 - Position and inclination of the detectors
 - Pixel dimensions.
 - Default value was 50x50 μm^2
 - It was necessary to modify the program to adjust to 25x100 μm²
 - DUT clusters are also requested to match the expected position by tracks



beam

Modules tested during 2022/2023 testbeam

- Pre-production sensors were irradiated at:
 - KIT (23 MeV protons)
 - CERN IRRAD (24 GeV protons)
 - CYRIC (70 MeV protons)
 - Bonn (13 MeV protons)
- List of modules tested presented in this presentation:

Sensor	Manufacture place	Pixel dimension [µm ²]	Serial Number	Irradiation level [10 ¹⁶ n _{eq} /cm ²]	Place of irradiation
3D pixel	SINTEF	50x50	15	1	KIT
			4S	1.8 (not uniform)	KIT+IRRAD
	FBK	25x100	SCC29	1	КІТ
			SCC23	2.4 (not uniform)	IRRAD
			SCC24	2.3 (not uniform)	IRRAD
		50x50	SCC3	1.7 (not uniform)	IRRAD
Planar	НРК	50x50	KEKQ9	-	Not irradiated
			KEKQ16	0.43	CYRIC

Planar sensor from FBK and Micron (100 μ m and 150 μ m) were tested but analysis is still in process.

HPK Test beam results

HPK planar sensor

- 2 HPK 50x50 μ m² planar sensors were tested:
 - KEKQ9 (not irradiated)
 - KEKQ16 (irradiated up to $4.3 \cdot 10^{15} n_{eq}/cm^2$)
- KEKQ9 reaches the 98.5% hit efficiency at 20 V.
- While KEKQ16 reaches the 97% (requeriment for irradiated sensors) at 400 V.





SINTEF 3D pixel Sensors

- 2 SINTEF 3D 50x50 μm² pixel sensors were tested in different conditions:
 - Fluences
 - Unirradiated; $1 \cdot 10^{16} n_{eq}/cm^2$ and $1.8 \cdot 10^{16} n_{eq}/cm^2$
 - Angles
 - 0° (perpendicular) and 15°
- Hit efficiency specifications is reached at 1.8 $\cdot 10^{16}~n_{eq}~/cm^{2}$ on both angles.
 - 97% (15°) at 60 V
 - 96% (perpendicular) at 80 V
- Hit efficiency in the perpendicular configuration.
 - The hit efficiency is lower in the corners and the center of the pixel cell because of the columns



in-pixel x [µm]

FBK 3D pixel Sensors

Upper picture:

- Hit efficiency plot for SCC29 (25x100 μm²) and SCC3 (50x50 μm²) perpendicular and inclined configuration.
- At 1 ·10¹⁶n_{eq}/cm² fluence both reached the 97% hit efficiency required at 60 V.

Bottom picture:

- 3D FBK 50x50 μm² measured at target fluences in 2022 and 2023 Irradiated at IRRAD (not uniform irradiation)
- Efficiency reached 97% at 1.7 ·10¹⁶ n_{eq}/cm² with the 3% of disabled pixels at 130 V.



FBK 3D pixel Sensors

Upper picture:

- The irradiation fluency level in the SCC24 25x100 μm² to max.
 2.4 ·10¹⁶ n_{eq}/cm² (mean 1.7 ·10¹⁶ n_{eq}/cm²), similar results for SCC23.
- Picture shows the area where the testbeam experiment data was taken.

Bottom picture:

- Hit efficiency results
 - SCC23: Efficiency reaches 96% (normal incidence) even after irradiation at 2.5 ·10¹⁶ n_{eq}/cm² although with the 5% of disabled pixels at 160V that rapidly increasing at higher V_bias.
 - SCC24: Efficiency is close to 97% (inclined) in the area with mean fluence around 1.9 ·10¹⁶ n_{eq}/cm² with the 3% of disabled pixel at 150 V.

Further uniform irradiation of 25x100 3D pixel sensor is planner



Conclusion

- Verification of the detection efficiency performance of the pre-production sensors was presented.
 - SINTEF 3D pixel sensor 50x50
 - FBK 3D pixel sensor 50x50 and 25x100
 - HPK 50x50 planar sensor
- 3D pixel and planar sensors meet the specifications at the corresponding irradiation fluence.
- New test beam campaign in 2024 for more measurements to confirm results, to test remaining vendor/module type combinations, to test first modules with the final chip ITkPixV2.

Thank you for your attention



