

### Introduction



Position sensitive silicon detectors are an indispensable ingredient of any collider experiment mostly as tracking detectors, but also for calorimetry (becoming the main user of silicon – CMS-HGCAL)

Physics requirements in terms of integrated luminosity and the resulting particle fluences are ever escalating

- for LHC  $10^{15}$  n<sub>eq</sub>/cm<sup>2</sup> considered extremely difficult
	- design was 730/fb @14TeV...
- **HL-LHC takes it to nx10<sup>16</sup> neq/cm<sup>2</sup> (vertex) or even 10<sup>17</sup> neq/cm<sup>2</sup> (FW calo)**  $~\sim$  x20
	- 4000/fb @14TeV
- **FCC is dreaming of towards 10<sup>18</sup> neq/cm<sup>2</sup> for the tracker** ~x600
	- 30/ab @100TeV



1 MeV neutron equivalent fluence

"Silicon strip detectors (near the beam pipe) appear to be limited to...  $\leq 10^{32}$ ...the  $10^{32}$ limit could be optimistic." (PSSC Summary Report pg. 130, 1984)

"Can silicon operate beyond  $10^{15}$ neutrons cm<sup>-2</sup>?" Nucl. Instr. & Meth. A 501 (2003), p 138

#### Apart from particle physics similar conditions in:

 $\triangleright$  Beam monitors (therapy beam monitoring, physics experiments)

#### ➢Instrumentation for ITER (fusion reactor) required radiation hardness comparable or even larger than that of HL-LHC

Luis F. Delgado-Aparicio, Burning-plasma diagnostics: photon & particle detector development needs, 31th RD50 Workshop

"Extreme" starts at fluences  $\sim$ 10<sup>16</sup> cm<sup>-2</sup>

# What should future sensors do?

➢We don't only require excellent position resolution and detection efficiency even at the harshest conditions, **but also excellent timing resolution (4D tracking) as well** *(see Nicolo's talk on Tuesday)*

- $\triangleright$  much better/simpler pattern recognition, ghost rate reduction
- $\triangleright$  better and faster tracks/physics reconstruction, better tracking algorithms
- ➢less CPU power ( improved cost and energy efficiency )
- $\triangleright$  effectively more luminosity
- $\blacktriangleright$ In addition we want:
	- ➢Very small material budget
	- ➢Low power consumption



Effective pile up – number of vertices compatible with reconstructed tracks Eff. pile-up = 1: Indication for unambiguous primary vertex identification



# Sensor design – a key to radiation hardness

Charge collection (highly geometry dependent) is given by:

$$
I = q\vec{v}\vec{E}_{w} \text{ s. Ramo, Proceedings of I.R.E. 27 (1939) 584.}
$$
\n
$$
Q(t_{int}) = \sum_{e-h \text{ pairs}} \int_{t=0}^{t_{int}} I_{e,h} dt = q_0 \sum_{e-h \text{ pairs}} \int_{t=0}^{t_{int}} \exp(-\frac{t}{\tau_{eff,e,h}}) \mu_{e,h} \vec{E} \cdot \vec{E}_{w} dt
$$
\n
$$
+ 4.
$$

Planar detectors:

 $\triangleright$  n<sup>+</sup>-p

3D detectors

- ➢ thin sensors
- ➢ defect engineered ([O],[C])
- ➢ **GAIN**

1. ) Choice of readout side – always where the field is high unless you can overdeplete!

2.) "collect" carriers with larger  $\mu$ <sup>*⋅</sup> τ<sub>eff</sub>*</sup> product – i.e. electrons, n<sup>+</sup> -p readout

3.) Optimize geometry for trapping dominated environment  $\tau_{\text{eff}}$  <<t<sub>drift</sub>

thin planar sensors perform better than thick at the same voltage

4.) Separate generation path from drift 3D detectors

5.) GAIN (LGADs, irradiated silicon)

**Optimize S/N not only S (charge)!**



### Radiation damage



# Radiation damage – good old LHC times

Radiation induces mostly negative space charge.



*T. Lari et al., Nucl. Instr. and Meth. A 518 (2004) 349. V. Cindro et al., Nucl. Instr. and Meth. A599 (2009) 65.*

 $\beta$ (-10°C, t=min Vfd)

 $110^{-16}$  cm<sup>2</sup>/ns1

**Electrons** 

**Holes** 

Huge effort invested in RD48 and RD50 to understand the damage on microscopic level.



 $\triangleright$  annealing

24 GeV protons

200 MeV/c pions (average)

 $5.3 \pm 0.7$ 

 $6.6 \pm 0.8$ 

reactor neutrons

 $3.5 \pm 0.6$ 

 $4.7 \pm 1$ 

### Expectations LHC->HL-LHC

In general Hamburg models works fine at LHC – good agreement for leakage current, Neff and CCE, but



Linear extrapolation from low fluence data for standard float zone detectors (2·10<sup>16</sup> cm<sup>-2</sup>)

- Current: *I leak* = 0.8 A/cm<sup>3</sup> @20°C
	- $\degree$  0.4 mA/cm<sup>2</sup> for 300 µm thick detector @ -20 $\degree$ C
- Depletion:  $N_{\text{eff}}$  ≈ 4x10<sup>14</sup> cm<sup>-3</sup>
	- *FDV* ≈ 30 kV
- Trapping *τeff* ≈ 1/8 ns = 125 ps
	- *Q ≈ Q<sup>0</sup> /d vsatτeff* ≈ 80 e/μm 200 μm/ns 1/8 ns = 2000 e in very high electric field (>>1 V/μm)

Looks much like Mission Impossible, but …

# Silicon sensors performance at very high fluences



There are several reasons why the grim projections didn't materialize  $-$  the nature was kind to us:

➢**trapping probabilities saturate**

➢**the electric field is present in the entire device – "active bulk"**

➢**charge multiplication** 

it took us a decade to gain understanding about those effects and we are still learning …

# Trapping at high fluences

Trapping gets smaller than extrapolated – nothing is linear everywhere

- defect formation is not linear (2nd order processes?)
- high electric field in a device may influence (de)trapping times which become position dependent



```
\lambda = \lambda_e + \lambda_h = v_e \tau_e + v_h \tau_hl~250 mm for 
saturated drift 
velocities at 3e15 cm-2
```
At already 3e15 cm<sup>-2</sup> the trapping seems to be 3x smaller than projected from lower fluences. The main obstacle is a direct measurement on the trapping probability with TCT which works only up to few  $10^{14}$  cm<sup>-2</sup>.



### Active bulk

Edge-TCT allows for studies of velocity/charge collection profiles in heavily irradiated sensors

- generation current accumulates, increasing *p* and *n* in opposite directions through SCR – "double junction" – dynamic configuration dependent on temperature annealing time …
- *electron* and *hole* traps, contributing to space charge





Full depletion voltage doesn't determine active field region at high fluences.

- ➢ whole detector volume is active (velocity in the saddle 30% of *vsat*)
- $\triangleright$  the high field region penetrates deeper in the detector than predicted (saturation of  $g_c$ ?)





# Performance at FCC-hh levels ~10<sup>17</sup> cm-2



Decrease of mobility and saturation of the trapping:

 $\lambda$ = $\lambda_e$ + $\lambda_h$ =  $v_e$  $\tau_e$ + $v_h$  $\tau_h$   $\sim$  ( $\mu_e \beta_e$ + $\mu_h \beta_h$ )∙V/D∙ $\Phi_{eq}$ <sup>b</sup> l<<*D -> Q=* lr <sup>=</sup>*k∙Ф<sup>b</sup> ∙V*  $Q = k$ *⋅*Ф<sup>*b*</sup>⋅V



$$
Q_{\text{mean\_75um}} = k \cdot \Phi^{\text{b}} \cdot V
$$

 $k = 44$  el/V, b =  $-0.56$ , (*Ф* in 1e15 n/cm<sup>2</sup> , *V* in volts)

#### **Signals of several 1000 e!**

#### **Forward bias vs Reverse Bias**



- $\triangleright$  the difference in collected charge for forward and reverse bias voltage disappears at high fluences
- $\triangleright$  lower current in reverse bias  $\rightarrow$  can go to higher bias voltages and outperforms forward biased samples
- $\triangleright$  Annealing of detectors has no effect on operation -> the space charge region is very small

#### **In a certain sense the silicon is becoming easier to work with …. much less parameters to control.**

➢50 µm epitaxial LGAD – not LGAD anymore at extreme fluences (see <https://indico.cern.ch/event/719814/contributions/3022499> )



 $\triangleright$  Collected charge compatible with 75  $\mu$ m – devices (small difference in thickness)

*more on extreme fluences from Valentina*

 $\triangleright$ The sensors can stand the 1100 V (<22 V/µm>) and are operational – at lower fluences they break down much earlier! Clearly impact ionization heavily affected by high fluences -> **its understanding is one of the main goals for future R&D**

➢Does **Single Event Burnout** (destructive breakdown of thin sensors due to high energy deposits) affect the performance in the same way as at low fluences (*see G. Medin's talk in this session*)

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### Operation of 3D sensors at ~10<sup>17</sup> cm<sup>-2</sup>





## Mobility at extreme fluences

Edge-TCT measurements in forward bias allow extraction of mobility – actually sum of mobilities



Silicon becomes much "slower" at lower fields, but the saturation velocity is assumed to be the same:

- ➢ Larger bias voltages required (linear dependence of collected charge on bias voltage)
- $\triangleright$  Higher resistivity due to lower mobility



## Trapping times at extreme fluences

Trapping time estimated from fit of Charge vs. fluence

- forward bias, use approximation: *E = V/D*
- fluence dependent mobility  $\mu_0 = \mu_0(\Phi)$





Extrapolation: τ[ps] = 200∙Ф**-1** This work: τ[ps] = 540∙Ф**-0.62** (Ф in [1e16 n/cm**<sup>2</sup>** ]) **value close to the one obtained under reverse bias from charge collection dependence on bias voltage**

### but our life is more complicating in 4D

The problem at any silicon detector is that the signal is small, but our requirements are even more demanding – we want to measure the precise timing with them, < 30 ps





### Planar sensors at extreme fluences

In order for the planar sensors to fulfil the requirement high gain in very thin sensors would be required!

*(see V. Sola's talk)*



 $t_{\text{collection}}$ ~dominated by trapping ~0.5 ns

We need gain or/and extremely low noise - very difficult to see how now! (speed requires power and that is hardly not a option)



*\*NA62, NIM A958 (2020) 162127*

*\*\*ATLAS HGTD TDR*



#### $\triangleright$  Acceptor removal is a problem for LGADs – reduction of gain

- ➢ can we introduce/find mechanism to suppress the acceptor removal so that increase of required bias would used to compensate impact ionization
- $\triangleright$  C-infusion in GL improves the situation, but the use is still limited to 3e15 cm<sup>-2</sup>
- ➢ Can we replace B with something else that is much more resilient (RD50 projects Al, In…) we know Ga is not any better.

➢Can we rely on deep levels that will give rise to the gain (see V. Sola's talk) after the gain layer doping is lost at extreme fluences

- $\triangleright$  lots of unknowns simply because all the silicon parameters is difficult to measure
- $\triangleright$  The problem with deep defects is that their occupation is a strong function of free carrier concentration quenching of gain

higher resistivity

### 3D – detectors

There are two approaches taken so far:

➢Column 3D detectors (different patterns)

➢Trench 3D detectors *( web.infn.it/timespot/ )*

**Inclined tracks – cell size/thickness problem !**





### 3D – detectors

- $\cdot$  55x55  $\mu$ m<sup>2</sup> pixels
- 150 µm active thickness
- Collection electrode 135 µm deep





Important development of ASIC in 28 nm technology with simulated and theoretical limit of jitter around ~10 ps.



50x50  $\mu$ m<sup>2</sup> pixel  $285 \mu m$  thick CNM – 3D detector





Fluence (1Mev  $n_{eq} / \text{cm}^2$ )



## What about other materials?

➢For extreme fluences and tracking (4D) applications diamond and SiC are next to silicon regarding the required speed

➢SiC was tested in early days of RD50 and was shown not to outperform silicon, but progress has been made recently

 $\triangleright$ Radiation hardness of diamond is on par with silicon in  $\lambda(\Phi)$ :

- ➢Less generated charge by factor of three requires thicker material
- $\triangleright$  thicker material adversely affects the timing applications

➢Impact ionization is difficult to achieve (similar impact ionization for e and h) and requires extreme fields



 $\Phi$  [10<sup>14</sup> cm<sup>-2</sup>]



### Diamond sensors at extreme fluences





*F.Bachmair et al., Nucl. Instr. and Meth. A786 (2015) 97.*

3D diamond detectors are a very promising detectors considering lower capacitance, very narrow electrodes, no leakage current, but scalability, cost, availability …

### **Conclusions**

➢Silicon is far more resilient material than we imagined and will likely remain the material of choice

➢the damage exhibits saturation and is not as severe as projected from lower "LHC" fluences

- $\triangleright$  gain due to radiation induced space charge
- $\triangleright$  "active bulk"

➢Small cell size 3D devices were shown to work with ASICs up to ~3e16 cm-2 and planar pixel detectors up to 2e16 cm-2

 $\triangleright$  Measurements of charge show few 1000 e even as high as 3e17 cm<sup>-2</sup> although for timing applications the required performance will be extremely difficult to achieve – it is still early days … clearly matching electronics will be at least equal if not much bigger challenge

 $\triangleright$ It is crucial to understand all the fundamental properties of heavily irradiated silicon – main R&D for the future (mobilities, trapping, recombination, impact ionization ….)

 $\triangleright$ New ideas will be important and may become possible and/or mature over the years:

- ➢"Marriage" of LGADs and 3D (either by trench filling, careful substrate selection with small interelectrode distance allowing charge multiplication without special processing of gain layer)
- ➢"Marriage" of CMOS and 3D.

NOTHING IS **IMPOSSIBLE** THE WORD **ITSELF SAYS** "I'M POSSIBLE"! - AUDREY HEPBURN

**JSI bliana Slovenia**