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Recent advances in Ring Imaging Čerenkov counters

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Why particle identification? Ring Imaging CHerenkov counter – RICH Some history New concepts, photon detectors, radiators Summary



Particle identification is an important aspect of particle, nuclear and astroparticle physics experiments.

Some physical quantities in particle physics are only accessible with sophisticated particle identification (Bphysics, CP violation, rare decays, search for exotic hadronic states).

Nuclear physics: final state identification in quark-gluon plasma searches

Astrophysics/astroparticle physics: identification of cosmic rays – separation between nuclei (isotopes), charged particles and high energy photons



Introduction: Why particle ID?



Example 1: B factory

Particle identification reduces the fraction of wrong $K\pi$ combinations (combinatorial background) by ~6x

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Introduction: Why particle ID?



Example 2: HERA-B

K⁺K⁻ invariant mass.

The inclusive $\phi \rightarrow K^+K^$ decay only becomes visible after particle identification is taken into account.

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Particle identification at B factories (Belle and BaBar): was essential for the observation of CP violation in the B meson system.





Was it a B or anti-B?





Belle @ KEK-B in Tsukuba







Belle spectrometer







Particle identification systems in Belle





Particles are identified by their mass. Determination of mass: from the relation between momentum and velocity, $p=\gamma mv$.

- Momentum known (radius of curvature in magnetic field)
- Measure velocity:
 - time of flight ionisation losses dE/dx Čerenkov angle



Velocity of a bullet

Determine the velocity of a bullet





From the photograph: angle 52°, $v = c/cos\theta = 340m/s / cos52° = 552m/s$



Čerenkov radiation

A charged track with velocity $v=\beta c$ exceeding the speed of light c/n in a medium with refractive index n emits polarized light at a characteristic (Čerenkov) angle, $\cos\theta = c/nv = 1/\beta n$

ct

vt

Two cases:

- 1) $\beta < \beta_t = 1/n$: below threshold no Čerenkov light is emitted.
- 2) $\beta > \beta_t$: the number of Čerenkov photons emitted over unit photon energy $E=h_v$ in a radiator of length *L*:

$$\frac{dN}{dE} = \frac{\alpha}{\hbar c} L \sin^2 \theta = 370(cm)^{-1} (eV)^{-1} L \sin^2 \theta$$



Measuring Čerenkov angle





Measuring Čerenkov angle

From hits of individual photons \rightarrow measure the angle.

Few photons detected

→Important to have a low noise detector



Number of detected photons

- Example: in 1m of air (n=1.00027) a track with β =1 emits N=41 photons in the spectral range of visible light (Δ E ~ 2 eV).
- If Čerenkov photons were detected with an average detection efficiency of ε =0.1 over this interval, N=4 photons would be measured.
- In general: number of detected photons can be parametrized as $N = N_0 L \sin^2 \theta$

where N_0 is the figure of merit,

$$N_0 = \frac{\alpha}{\hbar c} \int Q(E) T(E) R(E) dE$$

and Q T R is the product of photon detection efficiency, transmission of the radiator and windows and reflectivity of mirrors (as a function of photon energy E).

Typically:
$$N_0 = 50 - 100/cm$$



Photon detection in RICH counters: fundamental requirements

- RICH counter: measure photon impact point on the photon detector surface
- \rightarrow detection of single photons with
- sufficient spatial resolution
- high efficiency and good signal-to-noise ratio
- over a large area (square meters)





Photon detection in RICH counters: special requirements

Special requirements depend on the specific features of individual RICH counter:

- Operation in (high) magnetic field
- High rate capability
- Very high spatial resolution
- Excellent timing (time-of-arrival information)



Resolution of a RICH counter

Determined by:

- Photon impact point resolution (~photon detector granularity)
- •Emission point uncertainty
- •Dispersion: $n=n(\lambda)$ in $1/\beta = n \cos\theta$
- •Errors of the optical system
- Uncertainty in track parameters





- 1934 Čerenkov characterizes the radiation
- 1938 Frank, Tamm give the theoretical explanation
- 50-ties 70-ties Čerenkov counters are developed and are being used in nuclear and particle physics experiments, as differential and threshold counters
- 1977 Ypsilantis, Seguinot introduce the idea of a RICH counter with a large area wire chamber based photon detector
- 1981-83 first use of a RICH counter in a particle physics experiment (E605)
- 1992→ first results from the DELPHI RICH, SLD CRID, OMEGA RICH



First generation of RICH counters

DELPHI, SLD, OMEGA RICH counters: all employed wire chamber based photon detectors (UV photon \rightarrow photoelectron \rightarrow detection of a single electron in a TPC)



Photosensitive component: TMAE added to the gas mixture





First generation of RICH counters

Inside the DELPHI RICH: segmented spherical mirror



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Fast RICH counters with wire chambers

Multiwire chamber with pad read-out: → short drift distances, fast detector

Photosensitive component:

•in the gas mixture (TEA)

•or a layer on one of the cathodes (CsI on the printed circuit pad cathode)





CLEOIII RICH

Photon detection in a wire chamber with a methane+TEA.





CsI based RICH counters: HADES, COMPASS, ALICE



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- The main motivation came from the planning of experiments to measure CP violation in the B meson system.
- Kaon identification: one of the essential features.
- Several proposals in Europe, US, Japan \rightarrow several RICH designs and R+D programs.
- Wire chamber based photon detectors were found to be unsuitable (problems in high rate operation, ageing, only UV photons, difficult handling)



Two important developments pioneered at DESY:

- Multianode PMTs as photon detectors (HERA-B)
- Aerogel as radiator (HERMES)





HERA-B RICH





Photon detector requirements:

- •High QE over ~3m²
- •Rates ~1MHz
- Long term stability







Originaly considered: wire chambers with either TMAE or CsI. Tests: very good performance in test beams, but serious problems in long term operation at very high rates.

Hamamatsu just came out with the metail foil multianode PMTs of the R5900 series: first multianode PMTs with very little cross-talk

Tested on the bench and in the beam: excellent performance \rightarrow easy decision

→ NIM A394 (1997) 27





Multianode PMTs



R5900-M16 (4x4 channels) R5900-M4 (2x2 channels)





Key features:

- •Excellent single photon pulse height spectrum
- Low noise (few Hz/ch)

•Low cross-talk (<1%)

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Light collection system (imaging!) to:

....

- -Eliminate dead areas
- -Adapt the pad size

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HERA-B RICH

← Little noise, ~30 photons per ring

Typical event \rightarrow

Worked very well!

LHCb RICHes: similar geometry

Need:

- •Granularity 2.5x2.5mm²
- •Large area (2.8m²) with high active area fraction
- •Fast compared to the 25ns bunch crossing time
- •Have to operate in a small magnetic field

R+D: study two types of hybrid photon detectors and MAPMT with a lens

LHCb RICHes

Final choice: hybrid PMT (R+D with DEP) with 5x demagnification (electrostatic focusing).

Hybrid PMT: accelerate photoelectrons in electric field (~10kV), detect it in a pixelated silicon detector.



DIRC - detector of internally reflected Cherenkov light

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DIRC performance





← Lots of photons!

Excellent π/K separation



NIM A553 (2005) 317

DIRC



BaBar DIRC: a Bhabha event e⁺ e⁻ --> e⁺ e⁻





No time cut on the hits With a +-4ns time cut

Timing information is essential for background reduction



Focusing DIRC



Upgrade: step further, remove the stand-off box -> focusing DIRC









Idea: measure two coordinates with good precision, use precise timing information to correct for the dispersion (group and phase velocity depend on the wavelength)

Photon detector requirements:

- •Pad size ~5mm
- •Time resolution ~50-100ps





Focusing DIRC photon detectors: time resolution





NIM A553 (2005) 96

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Belle Upgrade for Super-B







Present Belle: threshold Čerenkov counter ACC (aerogel Cherenkov counter)

K (below threshold) vs. π (above) by properly choosing n for a given kinematic region (more energetic particles fly in the 'forward region')

Detector unit: a block of aerogel and two fine-mesh PMTs





Fine-mesh PMT: works in high B fields

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Belle ACC : threshold Čerenkov counter

expected yield vs p



yield for 2GeV<p<3.5GeV: expected and measured number of hits





Belle upgrade – side view





Two new particle ID devices, both RICHes:

Barrel: TOP or focusing DIRC

Endcap: proximity focusing RICH

Endcap: Proximity focusing RICH



 \rightarrow 5 σ separation with N_{pe}~10

 K/π separation at 4 GeV/c:

 $\theta_{c}(\pi) \sim 308 \text{ mrad } (n = 1.05)$



Beam tests

pion beam (π 2) at KEK



Photon detector: array of 16 H8500 PMTs



Clear rings, little background



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Beam test: Cherenkov angle resolution and number of photons



NIM A521(2004)367; NIM A553(2005)58

Beam test results with 2cm thick aerogel tiles: >4 σ K/ π separation



 \rightarrow Number of photons has to be increased.



PID capability on test beam data



From typical values (single photon resolution 15mrad and 6 detected photons) we can estimate the Cherenkov resolution per track: 5.3mrad;

 $\rightarrow \sim 4\sigma \pi/K$ separation at 4GeV/c.

Illustration of PID performance: Cherenkov angle distribution for pions at 4GeV/c and 'kaons' (pions at 1.1GeV/c with the same Cherenkov angle as kaons at 4GeV/c).

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Radiator with multiple refractive indices

How to increase the number of photons without degrading the resolution?

→ stack two tiles with different refractive indices: "focusing" configuration



Radiator with multiple refractive indices 2

Such a configuration is only possible with aerogel (a form of Si_xO_y) – material with a tunable refractive index between 1.01 and 1.07.







- measured resolution in good agreement with prediction
- a wide minimum allows for some tolerance in aerogel production



Multilayer extensions



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Photon detectors for the aerogel RICH requirements and candidates

Need: Operation in a high magnetic field (1.5 T) Pad size ~5-6mm

Candidates:

- MCP PMT (Burle 85011)
- large active area HAPD of the proximity focusing type



Problems: sealing the tube at the window-ceramic box interface, photocathode activation changes the properties of APD.



Photon detector candidate: MCP-PMT

BURLE 85011 microchannel plate (MCP) PMT: multi-anode PMT with two MCP steps



Anode

→good performance in beam and bench tests
→ very fast
→ R+D: ageing







TOF capability

With a fast photon detector, a proximity focusing RICH counter can be used also as a time-of-flight counter.

Time difference between π and K \rightarrow





Cherenkov photons from two sources can be used:

- photons emitted in the aerogel radiator
- photons emitted in thePMT window



Beam tests: study timing properties of such a counter.

Time resolution for Cherenkov photons from the aerogel radiator: 50ps →agrees well with the value from the bench tests

Resolution for full ring (~10 photons) would be around 20ps





TOF capability: window photons

Expected number of detected Cherenkov photons emitted in the PMT window (2mm) is ~15 Expected resolution ~35 ps





TOF test with pions and protons at 2 GeV/c. Distance between start counter and MCP-PMT is 65cm



Time-of-flight with photons from the PMT window

Benefits: Čerenkov threshold in glass (or quartz) is much lower than in aerogel.



Window: threshold for kaons (protons) is at ~0.5 GeV (~0.9 GeV): \rightarrow positive identification possible.



Belle upgrade – side view







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TOP: Beam tests

PMT HPK R5900-U-L16

Aun

Quartz bar spec.

Quartz : sprasil P20 (Synthetic fuzed silica, made by shin-etsu co.)

1000mm

size : $1000mm \times 200mm \times 20mm$ surface : 0.5nm(rms), figure $< 2\mu m$ squrness : < 0.3mrad, edge radius $< 5\mu m$ polished by Okamoto optics work,inc



TOP counter MC

Expected performance with: bi-alkali photocathode: <4σ π/K separation at 4GeV/c (← chromatic dispersion)





with GaAsP photocathode: > $4\sigma \pi/K$ separation at 4GeV/c





- Square-shape MCP-PMT with GaAsP photo-cathode
- First prototype
 - 2 MCP layers
 □ φ10µm holes
 - 4ch anodes
 - Slightly larger structure
 - Less active area





Enough gain to detect single photo-electron

•Good time resolution (TTS=42ps) for single p.e.

-Slightly worse than single anode MCP-PMT (TTS=32ps)

•Next: increase active area frac., study ageing



- RICH counters have evolved from the problem children ("RICH will come as the last component, if at all") to a standard and reliable tool in experimental particle physics.
- They will play an essential role in the next generation of B physics experiments at the LHC and SuperB factories.
- New concepts (focusing radiator, combination with time of flight) are being developed.

Working with them is real fun...








Focusing configuration – low momentum

Matching of indices: done for high momentum tracks (4GeV/c)
How is the overlapping of rings at lower momenta?



Good overlapping down to 0.6 GeV/c



Focusing configuration – momentum scan



Overlapp optimized at $4 \text{GeV/c} \rightarrow \text{OK}$ at low momenta as well





• BURLE MCP-PMT mounted together with an array of 12(6x2) Hamamatsu R5900-M16 PMTs at 30mm pitch (reference counter)



