





High performance beam monitors

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EUROPEAN SPALLATION SOURCE











Do unicorns exist?



Space/time resolution, transmission...

Motivation

- Experience in Gas Electron Multiplier (GEM) detectors
- Used to build detectors for fast and thermal neutrons: nGEM, bGEM, BAND-GEM...
- FPGA-based data readout developed around new ASIC chip GEMINI
- Develop beam monitors based on the technology at hand?
- Choice of performance/cost





GEMINI CHIP

SoT

SDA

- Realized within a INFN-UNIMIB collaboration
- ASIC chip with Time Over Threshold information
- 16 channels
- First working version end of 2017
- Different hybrid cards
 - 16D 16 channels 1 chip
 - 32D 32 channels 2 chips
 - 64D 64 channels 4 chips
- The DAQ systems for all the different cards has been realized and successfully tested
- Currently used for neutron and X-Ray detection



STORAGE

REAL TIME OUTPUT

GEMINI 32D and 64D cards **64D**

32D

Parallel mount

1 FPGA for all

256 channels

Compact



Card



FPGA



Hortogonal mount



Each card has its FPGA



Expandable and fully customizable system. Possibility to readout a large number of channels

Mounted on board Fixed number of channels



Full system



Beam monitor: nTOF gamma flash

The GEM detector with his FPGA based acquisition is able to measure the flux of particle in time slice of 100 ns starting from the CERN-PS trigger.

After 700 ns the gamma flash appear





Beam Monitor: nTOF fast neutron map



Beam Monitor: nTOF beam spot vs E_n

The FPGA based program is able to create the pictures of the beam spot in the different energy ranges

Here the 9 energy slices ranging from 10 to 5 Mev

At the peak neutron flux the detector is not saturated



Coming up: Low mass thermal neutron beam monitor



1 μm natB4C deposited on 35 μm Al foil (as cathode)



Kapton Pads Readout by GEMINI 16D

To be tested in the coming months

A new technology: Al_2O_3 "Thick GEM"





- Industrial development for CNSN
- THGEM realized in Alumina with thickness of 200 μm



China Spallation Neutron Source

- Non Hygroscopic
- Low outgassing → realize sealed (without gas flow) detectors

Coming up: High performance Al₂O₃ monitor



High performance Al₂O₃ monitor - pads



- 256 channels 3x3 mm²
- 128 channels 6x6 mm²

A total of 384 channels will be read using six 64D GEMINI cards.

The anode is composed by a multi-layer board made of Al2O3 (1 mm thick).

To be tested before summer

Beam attenuation, efficiency

| | Cathode | Amplification | Anode | Efficiency (1.8 Å) | Attenuation (1.8 Å) |
|---|---|--|--|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Triple GEM + Kapton Pads | Al plate 25 μm thick + 0.1 μm B ₄ C Scatt. neutrons (Al) 0.01% | Triple GEM Scatt. Neutrons 0.3% | 50 μm of Kapton <i>Scatt. Neutrons 0.4%</i> | ≈0.06% | ≈0.8% |
| Triple GEM +Al ₂ O ₃ Pads (High Performance) | Al plate 25 μm thick + 0.1 μm B ₄ C Scatt. neutrons (Al) 0.01% | Triple GEM Scatt. Neutrons 0.3% | 1 mm of Al ₂ O ₃ Scatt. neutrons 0.3% | ≈0.06% | ≈0.65% |
| Single THGEM +Al ₂ O ₃ Pads (High Performance) | Al plate 25 μm thick + 0.1 μm B ₄ C Scatt. neutrons (Al) 0.01% | Al ₂ O ₃ 200 μm thick Scatt. Neutrons 0.05% | 1 mm of Al ₂ O ₃ Scatt. neutrons 0.3% | ≈0.06% | ≈0.4% |

Performance

- \checkmark Time resolution of about 1 ns can be reached both in TOF and TOT
- ✓ Spatial resolution depends on the number and size of pads e.g: 10x10 cm2 active area Max n of pads = 1024Size about 3 mm x 3 mm
- ✓ The spatial resolution can *be improved with respect* to pad dimension using TOT information

6×10^⁵

5×10⁵

4×10⁵

3×10^⁵

2×10⁵

1×10⁵

° ò

Counts

Ar Escape peak (2.9

20

keV), ToT=23







Profile reconstruction for different TOF slices



Summary

- Low mass neutron beam monitors: <0.5% attenuation
- Fast neutron low mass beam monitor successfully realized and tested
- Thermal neutron beam monitor built, will be tested soon
 - 64 channels, based on GEMINI 16D
- New beam monitors equipped with GEMINI (32D and 64D boards) electronics
 - Finer spatial resolution (TOT information) and/or larger area
- In progress: Realization of a sealable detector
 - Use low-outgassing materials as detector components (e.g Al₂O₃ instead of Kapton)

