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Development of a UV/X-ray imaging device based on large area gas photo-multiplier.

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A new type high spatial resolution radiation detector based on UV scintillators + gaseous imaging device is presented. In the last decades, gaseous photo-multipliers with ultraviolet sensitive CsI photocathodes have been tested. In addition, these days, large area micro pattern gaseous detectors, such as Micromegas, GEM, and μ PIC have been developed. These devices can provide a low cost large area UV photon detector with position sensitivity. The UV imaging detector itself can be applied to material analysis researches and to liquid Ar/Xe scintillators for astro-particle physics. Furthermore, if combined with UV scintillating crystals, it can be a hard X-ray imaging device which compensates the low detection efficiency of the gas detectors; thus we are developing both CsI based position sensitive gaseous photo-multipliers and Fluoride crystal UV scintillators.

The prototype UV detector consists of 10 cm x 10 cm size of μ PIC and GEM, and a transmissive/reflective CsI photocathode layer. 2GEMs and a μ PIC were used for the charge amplification, which allows to suppress the avalanche-induced photon and ion feedback and provide the high gain operation. The readouts are 400 μ m-pitch strips.

We have already reported the imaging properties of this prototype detector, such as in JINST 4 (2009) P11006. Recently, we have succeeded in developing a high luminosity UV scintillators and optimized the electric fields in photo-electron multiplication, so the detection efficiency of the device is much improved.

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