THCOBRA for Ion Back Flow Reduction in THGEM based photosensors

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Motivation – Gaseous Photomultipliers

- High Gain Devices
 - RICH
 - Visible range detection
- High Gain \Rightarrow Increase in number of Ions flowing back
- High Ion Back Flow (IBF)
 - Feedback pulses
 - Electric field distortions
 - Photocathode (PC) aging



ThickCOBRA



Hole diameter - 0,3 mm

Rim - 0,1 mm

Thickness - 0,4 mm



- THGEM-like structure
- Aditional electrode allows ion draining



Detector configuration

- Voltage between A and C to trap ions (Vac)
- Electron transparency is not a limited factor for total collection efficiency





The Detector





• 95% Ne / 5% CH₄



• First THGEM's with enough voltage to ensure electron collection efficiency (> 500V)



Towards THGEM UV-photon detectors for RICH: on single-photon detection efficiency in Ne/CH4 and Ne/CF4, C.D.R. Azevedo et al., JINST 5 P01002, 2010



- Variation of collection efficiency as a function of Vac in THCOBRA
- Pulse mode
 - Keeping a constant gain, difference in number of events must be from efficiency loss







- Variation of efficiency with transfer field
- Absence of variation with gain









IBF



• Limit of electron extration from CsI PC





IBF





IBF





Gain





Discussion / Conclusion

- THCOBRA integrated as the second stage in a triple structure configuration can provide:
 - IBF reduction up to 5 times, close to full detection efficiency
 - Additional gain increase up to 5 times
- Threshold value for efficiency increases with transfer field

» Future Work:

- Variation of detection efficiency for different gains of first stage is under study
- Study of other gas mixtures
- Investigation of effect of voltage in the last structure
- Continuation of the systematic studies



Thank you

