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# WP 2 - Gaseous Detectors

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on behalf of EP R&D WP2

EP R&D Day - 22 May 2024

# **Content**

Introduction and synergies with DRD1

- New structures and large-area gaseous detector systems
- R&D framework and tools
- Novel technologies

**References** 



#### **New structures and large-area gaseous detector systems**

#### **Precise timing detectors**

Optimisation of scalable prototypes (modules of 100  $\text{cm}^2$  active area,  $\langle$ 20ps) towards applications in future experiments including usage of robust photocathodes on larger areas.

#### **Detectors with resistive elements**

Optimise resistive detector technologies driven by detailed simulations of signal induction in dedicated resistive MPGD prototypes.

Explore potential of sputtering machine in EP-DT MPT workshop for resistive detectors and photocathodes.

#### **Low material budget**

Lightweight support structures, potential of resistive materials as low-material budget electrodes.

#### **R&D framework and tools Novel technologies**

#### **Gas studies**

Mixtures for RPC and timing applications, scintillation gases and alternatives will be explored. Gas property measurements and simulations will assist evaluation and irradiation campaigns. Performances of new mixtures will be tested for stability and aging.

#### **Detector modelling**

Extension of modelling framework for gaseous detectors, application of signal induction simulation for resistive elements in other technologies (gaseous, silicon, SiPM).

#### **Electronics**

Support and continued integration of VMM3A ASIC, dedicated FE electronics for precise timing applications, input protection and auxiliary instrumentation.

#### **Primary ionisation**

Solid converters and photocathodes for precise timing applications.

#### **Pixelated readout**

High-resolution readout with novel pixel sensors (optical & electronic). Hybrid detectors combining MPGDs with pixel readout chips such as Timepix. Evaluation of optimal coupling between detector geometries and readout.

#### **Manufacturing**

In synergy with EP-DT MPT workshop, Thin Film & Glass (TFG) laboratory and external partners and facilities advances in novel materials for gaseous detectors will be explored. This may include coatings, additive manufacturing and nano materials such as graphene.

# EP R&D seminar and posters from WP2

#### **EP R&D Seminar (6 May 2024)**

Karl Jonathan Floethner, The RD51/DRD1 Beam-Telescope - A versatile trigger-less tracking system for MPGDs <https://indico.cern.ch/event/1411526/>

#### **PICOSEC Micromegas precise-timing gaseous detectors and studies on robust photocathodes** M. Lisowska



**Modelling signal induction for detectors with resistive elements** D. Janssens



**Mitigating Emissions in Gaseous Particle Physics Detectors: CO2 as an Eco-Friendly Alternative for RPC Detectors** S. A. Juks



# DRD1: Gaseous Detectors

Newly established DRD1 collaboration as result of ECFA Detector Roadmap Implementation

- Strong involvement in DRD1 management, organisation and activities in various roles:
	- Co-spokesperson (E. Oliveri)
	- WG coordinator (B. Mandelli)
	- WG convenors and WP leader (F. Brunbauer, B. Mandelli, H. Muller, E. Oliveri, R. Guida, R. Veenhof, R. de Oliveira)
- Exchange with collaborating groups in WGs and WPs and exploiting synergies for R&D activities

Events organised at CERN in 2024:

- Three DRD1 test beam periods in 2024 (H4 beamline)
- Three collaboration meetings [\(Jan](https://indico.cern.ch/event/1360282/) / [Jun](https://indico.cern.ch/event/1413681/) / Dec)
- Topical workshop on Electronics for Gaseous Detectors
- [DRD1 Gaseous Detector School](https://indico.cern.ch/event/1384298/) (Nov 27 Dec 6)

 $\bigcap$  ECFA

Participation in multiple WPs with activities of EP R&D program:

- WP1: Genuine trackers/hodoscopes
- WP4: Tracking TPCs
- WP6: Photon detectors
- WP7: Timing detectors
- WP8: Reaction/Decay TPCs

<https://drd1.web.cern.ch/>

# New structures and large-area gaseous detector systems

Precise timing detectors

Marta Lisowska

on behalf of EP R&D WP 2 Gaseous Detectors

## Detector concept

- **PICOSEC Micromegas collaboration:** gaseous detector aiming at achieving **a time resolution of tens of picoseconds** for MIPs
- **Objective:** robust tilable multi-channel detector modules suitable for large-area coverage with excellent timing precision
- **Developments:**
	- $\rightarrow$  optimisation: new detector designs, large-area prototypes, gas studies  $\rightarrow$  stability and robustness: resistive Micromegas, robust photocathodes  $\rightarrow$  scalable electronics: integrated preamplifiers, FastIC ASICs, SAMPIC
- **Intensive R&D activities**: from simulations and design, through production and assembly, to measurements and analysis
- **Beam campaign**: CERN SPS H4 beam line, 150 GeV/c muon beam
- **Experimental setup**: tracking/triggering/timing telescope









*meeting, December 2023 Clean (wireless) setup (after disconnecting the cables*  $\mathcal{O}$ *)* 

## Resistive Micromegas

- **Advantages:**
	- + protecting detector from highly ionizing events
	- + ensuring stable operation under intense particle beams
	- + achieving better position reconstruction by signal sharing
- **Single-pad resistive MM of 20 MΩ/□** equipped with a CsI photocathode obtained equivalent precision to a non-resistive prototype, exhibiting **an excellent time resolution of σ ≈ 12 ps**
- Single-pad resistive MM assembled with **a preamplifier integrated on the outer PCB** showed comparable timing properties
- **Next step:** production of a high-rate 10×10 cm<sup>2</sup> MM with double-layer DLC for vertical charge evacuation and evaluation of rate capability





*Resistive single-pad prototype*

#### In collaboration with A. Utrobicic (now RBI, previously EP R&D Fell)



*Amplifier integrated on the outer PCB*



## Robust photocathodes

- First single-pad prototype: Cesium Iodide
	- + high QE ( $\approx$ 12 p.e./ $\mu$ ) in comparison to other materials − vulnerable to damage from ion backflow, discharges and humidity
- Alternative photocathodes: B<sub>4</sub>C, DLC, carbon-based nanostructures
- Measurements conducted with  $B_4C$  photocathodes exhibited the best time resolution of  $\sigma \approx 33$  ps for the 9 nm layer
- **First depositions of DLC photocathodes carried out at the CERN MPT workshop** using a pulsed DC magnetron vacuum deposition machine
- The best results for a single-pad detector achieved with a **1.5 nm DLC photocathode**, yielding **a time resolution of σ ≈ 31 ps**
- Next step: evaluation of a 10×10 cm<sup>2</sup> robust photocathode





*Pulsed DC magnetron vacuum deposition machine*



B<sub>4</sub>C and DLC photocathodes



*DLC photocathodes of different thicknesses*



# Precise timing with PICOSEC MM

## Stability and robustness

• First measurement **combining a single-pad resistive MM, a DLC photocathode and an integrated preamplifier** showcased **great performance and outstanding timing properties**

## Multipad: 100-channel module with scalable electronics

- **Multipad**: a 100-channel module with a uniform thickness (< 10 μm) of the drift gap
- Excellent timing performance of the single-pad proof-of-concept transferred to **a 100-channel detector**, exhibiting **a time resolution of σ ≈ 18 ps** for individual pads
- **Scalable electronics:** successful readout of multiple channels using a complete readout chain consisting of dedicated preamplifier cards and a SAMPIC digitiser
- **Next step:** combining a of a high-rate 100-channel MM with double-layer DLC, a  $10\times10$  cm<sup>2</sup> DLC photocathode and preamplifiers integrated on the outer PCB





## Other ongoing activities within the PICOSEC Collaboration

- **Stable resistive detectors:** double-layer DLC MM; prototypes with different resistivities; μRWELL
- **Improving the spatial resolution:** signal sharing with resistive PICOSEC MM
- **Robust photocathodes:** studies on B<sub>4</sub>C, DLC, Nanodiamonds
- **Alternative electronics:** integrated preamplifiers; FastIC ASICs; SAMPIC TDC
- **Operating gas**: exploring alternative gas mixtures
- **Material budget:** alternative ways to preserve detector's planarity; sealed detectors
- **Scaling up to larger area:** tiling 10x10 cm<sup>2</sup> modules, development of larger prototypes

## **Conclusions**

- Efforts dedicated to detector developments enhance the feasibility of the PICOSEC concept for experiments requiring precise timing
- **Detectors with sub-ns time resolution: Tileable multi-channel detector modules for large area coverage fulfilling the requirement of the robustness with "relaxed" timing properties**



R&D framework and tools

Gas studies

Gianluca Rigoletti

on behalf of EP R&D WP 2 Gaseous Detectors

# Greenhouse gases and particle detectors

## **Greenhouse gases are often required in gaseous detector**

- Mostly for performance reasons
- Mostly Fluorine-based

## **GHG are subjected to EU F- regulation**

- Usage restriction and market availability affected
- Price increase **Goal**

# *Reduce GHG emissions from particle detectors*

# **Gas recirculation**

- Large installations (e.g. LHC experiments)
- Facility and Laboratory size systems development

## **Gas recuperation**

- Suitable for large installations
- Complex systems

## **Alternative gases**

- **Eco-friendly** gas research
- Short term and long term performance on detectors



# Gas Recirculating Systems

## **Large LHC gas systems**

- $-$  ~100-1000s chamber volumes  $\sim$  $m<sup>3</sup>$
- Reduce GHG emissions about 90%
- **Complex operation** and maintenance
- Price  $\sim$  O(10<sup>5</sup>) CHF



## **Small size gas systems**

- $-$  ~10s detector volumes ~ 10-100 liters
- **Compact** ⇒ different modules in one rack
- Simpler control/monitoring system
- Price  $\sim$  O(10<sup>4</sup>) CHF



# **"Micro" gas systems**

- Few detectors volume ~ few **liters**
- Should be **portable**
- Should be **easy** to build and use
- Price  $\sim$  O(10<sup>3</sup>) CHF

# µ loop gas system development

## **Main Features**

- Desk size system
- **Optional modules**: purifier, backup, analysers, flow reading
- Flow and pressure **monitoring**
- **Control** injection and recirculating fraction
- **Raspberry PI** based monitoring and control system

## **Prototype 0 - HPL RPC**



## **Prototype for EEE MRPC station at CERN**



## **Science Gateway**





# Setup for gas mixture studies

## **HPL RPC Setup upgrade**

- New distribution **EX** compliant built
- Distribution and humidifier modules added to allow parallel tests of several RPCs
- New multi-layer tray support

#### **RPC activities in laboratory**

- Characterization and conditioning of ~20 RPCs + 20 more expected
- Study on **new** and **old** alternative gases: low-GWP HFCs, HFOs, Cl-HFO, PFCs

#### **RPC activities @ GIF++**

- Irradiation chambers + reference chamber (outside irradiation)
- LHC-like gas components
- Muon beam tests
- Long term tests  $\Rightarrow$  aging studies





*Old lab. setup*

# Alternative gas mixtures - studies with CO2



Novel technologies

Pixelated readout

- Charge
- Optical

Lucian Scharenberg

# **High-granularity readout of gaseous detectors**

## **Possibilities offered by HG readout of gaseous detectors**

- Event-selection based on geometrical signature
- Low-material budget tracking with high spatial accuracy
- Sensitivity to low-energetic photon interactions ( $E_{\text{gamma}} < 2 \text{ keV}$ )

# **Example applications:**

- X-ray polarimetry (e.g. IXPE @ NASA)
- Nuclear recoil events (e.g. MIGDAL)
- Material science (e.g. MIXE @ PSI)
- Axion helioscopes (e.g. IAXO)

## **Charge and optical readout**

#### **Charge readout example:** X-ray polarimetry



https://ixpe.msfc.nasa.gov/for\_scientists/papers/2017spie\_0829\_sgro.pdf



https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-0221/18/07/C07013



# **High-granularity readout of gaseous detectors Charge readout**

## **Use bump-bond pads as charge-collection pads, with gas as sensor medium**

- First introduced ~20 years ago with Gas Pixel Detector (GPD) and Medipix2+MicroMegas
- Advancement in production technology and front-end capabilities

## **Most prominent examples based on Timepix1 and Timepix3: [GEM-TPC with Timepix,](https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-0221/4/11/P11015) [GridPix \(InGrid\)](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nima.2005.11.065) and [GEMPix](https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-0221/9/01/C01058)**



## **Goal of this R&D line:**

Embedding/integration of pixelated front-end ASIC and gas amplification stage into a flexible PCB using standard micro-pattern technologies



# **High-granularity readout of gaseous detectors R&D goal**

## **Embedding of front-end ASIC in flexible PCB, i.e. micro-pattern amplification structure**

- Possible with micro-resistive WELL (**µRWELL**) structure, **using standard PCB technologies**
- Presented at the [MPGD 2022](https://indico.cern.ch/event/1219224/contributions/5129799/) (Magnus Mager and Rui de Oliveira)

## **Evaluate approach, using high-granularity Timepix4**





Example of monolithic pixel detectors embedded in polyimide foil



# **High-granularity readout of gaseous detectors R&D goal**

## **Long-term goal: establish a manufacturing technique that can be applied to other ASICs**

- Most gaseous detector applications do not require 55 µm pixel pitch
- Use ASICs with larger pixel pitch, e.g. **ALTIROC** or **ETROC (both 1.3 mm pitch)**
- Could enable higher-granularity Picosec MicroMegas



https://indico.cern.ch/event/1323113/contributions/5823798/

# **On the road of exploring the embedding, test other detector technologies as well**

- Triple-GEM
- µRWELL without embedding, using electrostatics

# **Allows understanding of the signal coupling and optimisation of detector parameters**



# **High-granularity readout of gaseous detectors Current status: Timepix4**

# **Timepix4**

- **Large area ASIC (2.5 x 3.0 cm²)**, ideal for imaging applications
- Excellent performance in spatial resolution **(55 µm pixel pitch)** and time resolution **(200 ps time bins)**
- **TSVs**: can be tiled on four sides (large-area coverage without loss of area possible)
- **Embedding not possible with wire-bonds, requires back-side connection as provided by TSVs**

# **Read out with the SPIDR4 from Nikhef → two detector geometries**<br>• Small detector on Nikhef carrier board<br>• Larger detector for R&D purposes (future large-area coverage)<br>• Larger detector for R&D purposes (future large-ar

- Small detector on Nikhef carrier board
- Larger detector for R&D purposes (future large-area coverage)



# **High-granularity readout of gaseous detectors Current status: readout system**

**Readout system (SPIDR4) and control software (tpx4tools from Nikhef) ready and operational:** tested with Si sensor and wire-bonded Timepix4 using <sup>90</sup>Sr source

Thanks to Jerome Alozy, Xavi Llopart and Michael Campbell (CERN) and Kevin Heijhoff and Martin van Beuzekom (Nikhef)







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# **High-granularity readout of gaseous detectors Timepix4 and triple-GEM detector (Nikhef board)**

**First, set up expertise in our group with well-known technology (triple-GEM detector)**

## **Dedicated detector-module to fit existing readout hardware**

- COMPASS-like triple-GEM detector that can be screwed to PCB (fixed field configuration)
- Requires TSV/BGA-bonded chips, no wirebonding
- Special, smaller-area GEMs (2.5 x 3.0 cm<sup>2</sup> area) to fit geometry of Timepix4
- 3 mm drift region









# **High-granularity readout of gaseous detectors Triple-GEM detector**



Test dynamic range of the detector operation.



# **High-granularity readout of gaseous detectors Timepix4 and triple-GEM detector (custom board)**

**Single-chip prototype of what can be "easily" modified to house 2 x 2 or 3 x 3 Timepix4**

## **Enables tests with 5 x 5 cm² GEM foils and more flexibility in terms of detector configuration**

- Triple-GEM with adjustable fields
- µRWELL single-stage
- µRWELL with GEM preamplification
- Adjustable drift region, up to 15 mm



Thanks to William Billereau



#### High **spatial resolution**

**Integrated** pixelated imaging approach with **megapixel imaging sensors**

#### **Adjustable magnification** with lenses

Need of **CF<sup>4</sup>** -based gas mixtures or wavelength shifters









Beam monitoring X-ray imaging Muon tracks with δ-ray Hadronic shower







Track reconstruction High dynamic range

Extend versatility of optical readout for wide range of operating conditions (high/low pressure, pure gases) Minimise dependence on CF4 as scintillating gas by using solid wavelength shifters



- Achieve high gain in challenging operating conditions (low pressure, pure noble gases)
- Extend dynamic range with multi-layer gain stages minimising transfer losses

### **M-THGEMs for pure-noble gas operation Solid wavelength shifters to mitigate CF4**

- Conversion of UV light to visible light for imaging
- Quantify spatial resolution effect and efficiency



# High-granularity optical readout of MPGDs

Use scintillation light readout to characterise MPGD detectors: uniformity, gain, spatial resolution Detailed study of amplification structure response: visualisation of gain profile and locations of instabilities



- Visualise non-uniform resistive gain drop in low-rate µRWELL layout
- Inspect hole response and uniformity



## **Uniformity map of µRWELL detectors**

# WP2 Teams, laboratories and workshops

Gaseous Detector Development (GDD) team (EP-DT-DD), <https://gdd.web.cern.ch/>

Gas Group team (EP-DT-FS),<https://ep-dep-dt.web.cern.ch/gas-systems>

Micro Pattern Technology (MPT) Workshop (EP-DT-EF),<https://ep-dep-dt.web.cern.ch/micro-pattern-technologies>

Thin Film and Glass (TFG) Laboratory (EP-DT-EF),<https://ep-dep-dt.web.cern.ch/thin-film-glass-service>



**References** 

# **Synergies**

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**Federal Ministr** of Education and Research **Wolfgang Gentner Scholarships** 

**CERN Environmental Protection Steering board (CEPS)** 

**QUANTUM TECHNOLOGY** 



**Lucian Scharenberg**, Next Generation Electronics for the Read-Out of Micro-Pattern Gaseous Detectors, FELL

#### **Karl Jonathan Flöthner**,

R&D on GEM-based tracking system for future experiments, EP-R&D/Large Area, DOCT

AIDAinnova-**WP3**- Test beam and DAQ infrastructure Task 3.5.2 **SRS/VMM3 common readout** to support

AIDAinnova-**WP7**- Gaseous detectors Task 7.2 **Eco-friendly gas mixtures for RPCs**

gas detector R&D

R&D on **eco-gas, gas recirculating and recovery** (CF4, C4F10 e R134a)

**Giorgio Orlandini**  (DOCT), Graphenebased functional structures and nanostructures for novel gaseous detectors, EP-RD/Novel **Technologies** 

Full overlap with **scientific program** an large synergy in several **activities/topics**: PICOSEC, GEM, MM, μRWELL, photon readout, modelling and simulation, electronics, test beam

# WP2 References (EP-RD Internal Seminar)

Seminar 24 (Monday 6 May 2024) Karl Jonathan Floethner, The RD51/DRD1 Beam-Telescope - A versatile trigger-less tracking system for MPGDs <https://indico.cern.ch/event/1411526/>

> Seminar 17 (Monday 6 Mar 2023) Gianluca Rigoletti, Investigating Eco-Friendly Gas Mixtures for RPCs at the LHC (WP2) <https://indico.cern.ch/event/1243563/>

Seminar 12 (Monday 13 Jun 2022) Djunes Janssens, Signal formation in detectors with resistive elements <https://indico.cern.ch/event/1167590/>

Seminar 8 (Monday 7 Feb 2022) Antonija Utrobicic, Precise timing with large area Picosec Micromegas detector <https://indico.cern.ch/event/1110585/>

Seminar 2 (Monday 3 May 2021)

Florian Brunbauer, Precise timing with gaseous detectors: towards robust and tileable Picosec Micromegas detectors <https://indico.cern.ch/event/1016656/> 34

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*H. Muller, K. J. Flöthner; PBX, a small powerbox for 1kCHF. VMM frontends connected over long HDMI links, Presented at the RD51 Collaboration Meeting, 19–21 June 2023.<https://indi.to/JYnyM>*

*K. J. Flöthner, A new Triple-GEM Tracking Detector for COMPASS++/AMBER, Presented at TIPP, 24–28 May 2021.<https://indi.to/hH72W>*

*K. J. Flöthner; RD51 VMM3a Tracker and XYU detector, Presented at the RD51 Collaboration Meeting, 19–21 June 2023.<https://indi.to/r3tv9>*

*K. J. Flöthner; t0-less GEM-TPC, RD51 Collaboration Meeting, 4–8 December 2023.<https://indi.to/SLZNL>* 

*D. Janssens; Ion mobility in a MicroMegas detector: a puzzle between measurement and simulation, RD51 Collaboration Meeting, 19-21 June 2023.<https://indi.to/MRrGd>*

*D. Janssens et al.; Studying signals in particle detectors with resistive elements such as the 2D resistive strip bulk MicroMegas, JINST 18.08 (2023), p. C08010.*

# WP2 (Recent) References 2

*D. Janssens and W. Riegler; Noise in detectors containing distributed resistive elements,submitted to Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A, NIMA-D-23-01244.*

*D. Janssens; Resistive electrodes and particle detectors: Modelling and measurements of novel detector structures, Ph.D. thesis at the Vrije Universiteit Brusse, Presented 26 February 2024. <https://cds.cern.ch/record/2890572>*

*G. Orlandini et al.; Integration of CVD graphene in gaseous electron multipliers for high energy physics experiments, JINST 18 (2023) C06022.*

*L. Scharenberg, Evolution & applications of the RD51 VMM3a/SRS beam telescope, 11th Beam Telescopes and Test Beams Workshop, Hamburg 2023,<https://indi.to/JrHDN>*

*L. Scharenberg, Latest results and improvements of the RD51 VMM3a/SRS gaseous beam telescope, 12th Beam Telescopes and Test Beams Workshop, Edinburgh 2024, <https://indi.to/m7W9q>*

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*R. Guida, B. Mandelli, G. Rigoletti, "Measurements of fluoride production in Resistive Plate Chambers", Nucl.Instrum.Meth.A 1054 (2023) 168393, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nima.2023.168393>*

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# **PICOSEC Micromegas Collaboration**

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