

TITLE:

Fast, granular and ultra-light pixelated double-sided ladders based on CMOS sensors for an ILC vertex detector adapted to the ultimate collision energy

ABSTRACT :

The ILC is a major option for the future of High Energy Physics. Its precision, flexibility, and advantageous running conditions provide the tool to investigate in detail the origin of EW symmetry breaking and of the particle masses, as well as to unravel the physics beyond the Standard Model. An experimental set-up with unprecedented accuracy is however mandatory to exploit its physics potential. This applies in particular to flavour tagging, which relies on the achievement of a particularly granular and low mass vertex detector.

CMOS pixel sensors are considered since long as an option for a vertex detector of ILD, one of the two experimental concepts developed for the ILC. The required, non-trivial, trade-off between high granularity, fast enough read-out and low power is achieved by combining a sensor rolling shutter architecture with a double-sided ladder design.

The rolling shutter consists in reading the pixel matrix sequentially, single row after single row, and in transmitting the pixel analog signals to discriminators implemented at the sensor periphery, where they get digitised. In this way, the large amount of pixels consecutive to their small size (16-17 μm pitch) generates a moderate pixel matrix consumption, restricted to the row being read out. The read-out being sequential, it is nevertheless close to a problematic regime in the detector innermost layer if the beam related background happens to be higher than expected from Monte-Carlo simulations. This weakness is getting under control by equipping the detector ladders on each of their two faces, one with sensors providing the necessary spatial resolution and the other with another set of sensors, which are 5 times faster but twice less accurate.

This approach is followed in the ILD Detector Baseline Document (DBD), the step consecutive to the Letter of Intent submitted in 2008, to be handed over to the review committee IDAG by the end of 2012.

In its first part, the talk will expose the approach and show that recent progress achieved with the sensor architectures and with the double-sided ladder concept allow complying with the specifications of the vertex detector of the ILD detector concept running up to 500 GeV.

In its second part, the talk will address a faster sensor architecture, based on in-pixel discrimination and highly parallelised rolling-shutter read-out. Expected to accelerate the read-out by nearly an order of the magnitude, it exploits a newly addressed CMOS technology with 0.18 μm feature size (instead of the 0.35 μm process used previously). The talk will overview the perspectives and activities of this new step of the R&D, which is expected to allow for vertex detector based standalone tracking and to face the enhanced beam background foreseen at the highest energy operation of the ILC (> 1 TeV). It will in particular summarise beam test results obtained with the first sensor prototypes, focusing on the charged particle detection performances of the technology.