

Offline and online calibration algorithms for the RD53A ROC

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Introduction

- Comparison between calibration algorithms
- New feature of the RD53A chip: trickle configuration
- Development of an online tuning method (in software) following ideas of Timon Heim and Maurice Garcia-Sciveres from LBNL

Offline calibration

The threshold scan algorithm (TSA)

- Binary search for optimal TDAC mask
- At each step: N injections over charge range → S-curves are computed
- The mean threshold is calculated and the TDAC shifted for individual pixels to bring their threshold closer to the mean.

The occupancy scan algorithm (OSA)

- Similar structure as TSA but with occupancy scans
- Occupancy scans: N injections at a single charge (not over a range)
- Occupancy higher than $\frac{1}{2} \rightarrow$ threshold is increased (decreased otherwise).
- Much faster than TSA.

Results at high threshold

- OSA and TSA equivalent at high thresholds (> 1500 electrons): similar σ and tails.
- OSA is 4 times faster.

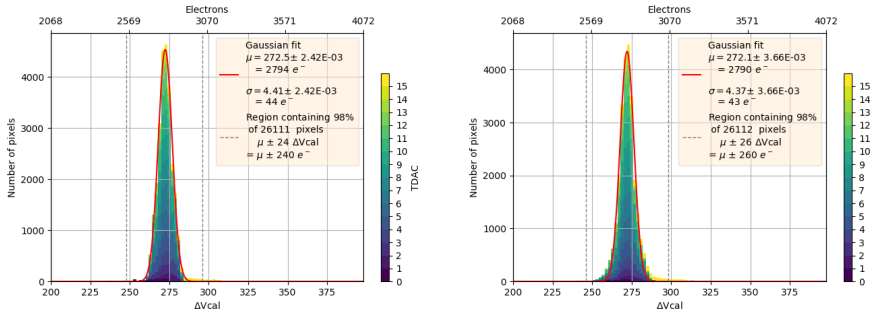


Figure: Threshold distribution for the TSA (left) and the OSA (right)

- TSA and OSA give gaussian distributions
- Difference of these distribution should be a gaussian of mean 0 and $\sigma_{diff} = \sqrt{2}\sigma$
- Figure shows good results from 1500 electrons.

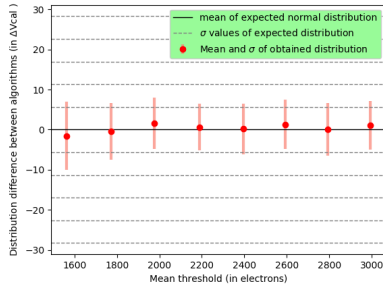


Figure: Mean and σ of the distribution of the pixel by pixel difference in threshold between TSA and OSA outcome as a function of the mean threshold.

- TDAC distribution is very similar for both algorithms
- Correlation plot of TDAC distributions → 77% of pixels have same TDAC values after either one.
- Only 0.4% get significantly different TDAC values (at a threshold of 2500).

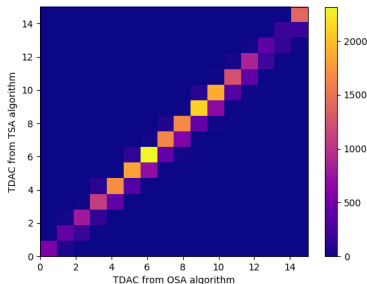


Figure: Scatter plot of individual pixels' TDAC after the TSA against their TDAC after the OSA.

Influence of noise

- Failing pixels → S-curve cannot be computed because of noise hits.
- Calibration before decreasing the mean threshold is needed.

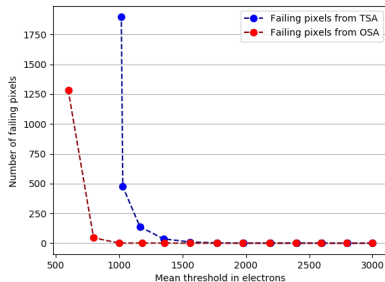


Figure: Number of failing pixels as a function of the final mean threshold for the TSA and OSA.

Online calibration

Software implementation based on the ideas of T. Heim's and M. Garcia-Sciveres paper ¹

¹T. Heim and M. Garcia-Sciveres. [Self-adjusting threshold mechanism for pixel detectors.](#)

Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research Section A: Accelerators, Spectrometers, Detectors and Associated Equipment, 867:209–214, 2017

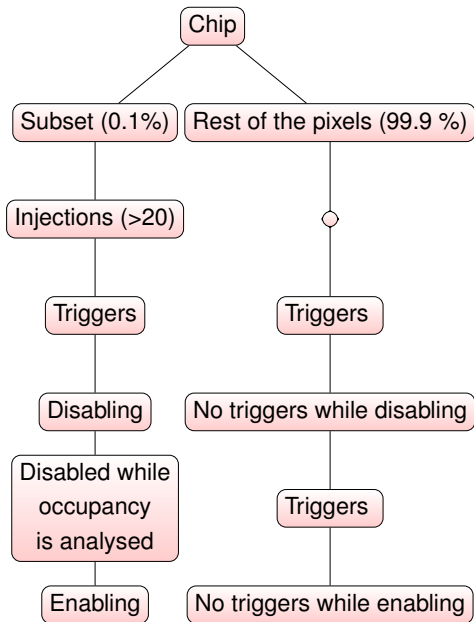
Motivation

- SEU negating the spatial calibration
- Trickle configuration: chip receives its settings regularly to mitigate SEU. New feature of RD53A.
- TID → threshold shift even with trickle configuration
- Solution: calibrate the chip during data taking (trickle tuning)

- Principle of the method: regularly inject a specific charge into a small subset of the pixels and update their TDAC according to their occupancy
- How can it work?
 - Occupancy calibration works
 - Low occupancy ($\approx 0.1\%$) for the pixels at CMS → low probability of physics hit while analysing occupancy

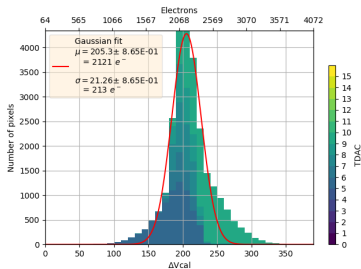
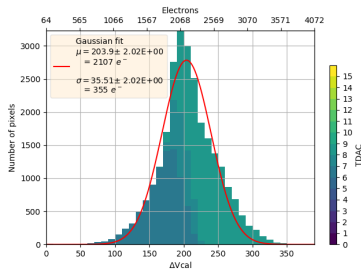
A BDAQ53 feature

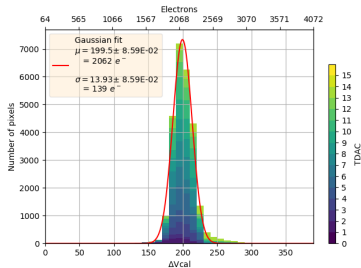
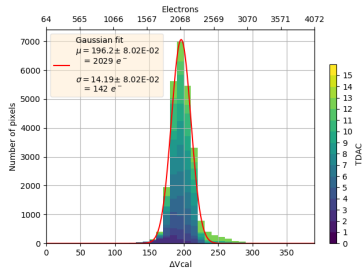
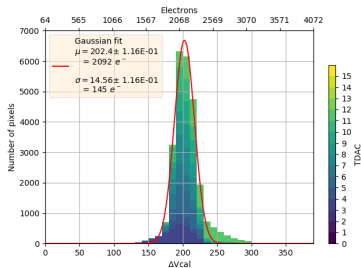
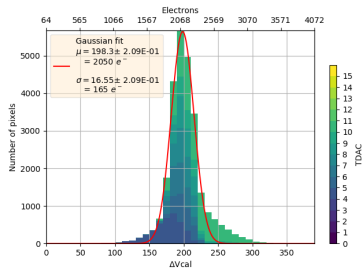
- Version 0.11 of BDAQ: functionality for quick online data retrieval.
- Threading process → adds raw data to a queue for occupancy histogramming.
- Can be called during data taking.



Calibration results

- Online method applied to the whole LFE.
- 0.25% of the 26112 pixels injected at each calibration step.
- 15 calibration steps. n -th calibration step corresponds to
 - n updates of the TDAC of each pixel
 - $400 \times 31000 \times n$ triggers sent to every pixel





→ Convergence in 7 whole matrix iterations and stable.

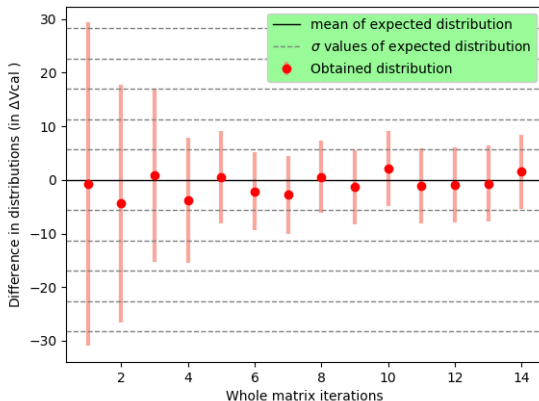


Figure: Mean and σ of the pixel by pixel difference in threshold between ideal and obtained distributions.

- $|\text{TDAC}_{\text{ideal}} - \text{TDAC}_{\text{obtained}}| > 0$ (orange) and
 $|\text{TDAC}_{\text{ideal}} - \text{TDAC}_{\text{obtained}}| > 1$ (blue)

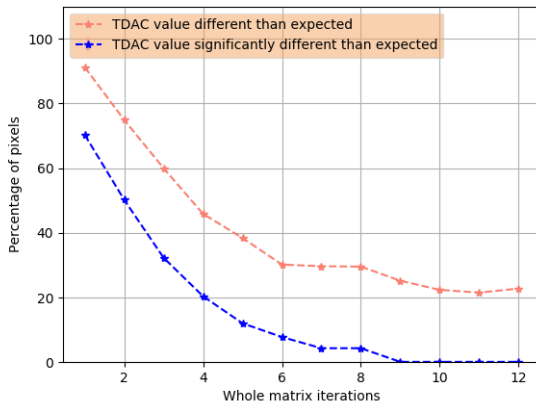


Figure: TDAC convergence w.r.t whole matrix iterations

Averaging

- After optimal calibration is reached, pixels in tails of threshold distribution still have high occupancies → continuously get shifted.
- To measure this: $N = 150$ updates of the TDAC of each pixel starting from a calibrated distribution.
- Plot of $u + d$ as a function of the distance to the mean threshold of the pixels (u (resp. d) = number of times the TDAC of a pixel has been shifted upward (resp. downward)).

- 90 % of the pixels satisfy $|u - d| \leq 1$, only those are considered.
- Clear increase with distance to mean threshold.

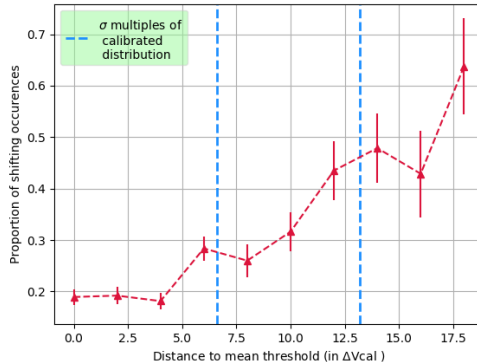
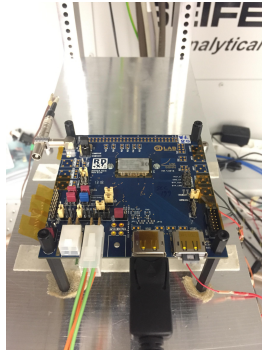
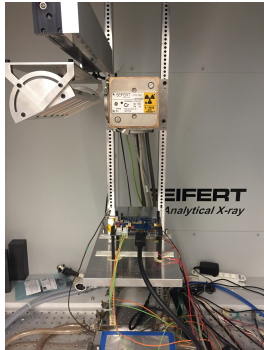


Figure: Mean of $\frac{u+d}{N}$ as a function of the distance to the mean threshold of the pixels

Testing in X-ray chamber

- X-ray tube with Cr anode operated at 10 kV and 18 mA: mean hit probability per trigger of a pixel $\approx 2 \times 10^{-4}$



- From a calibrated distribution: same measurement with and without trickle tuning.
- Same number of triggers: 62×10^6 over 2800 seconds, 0.4% of the pixels injected.

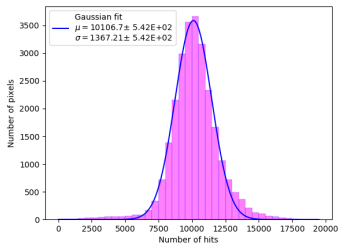
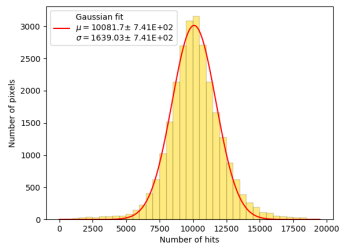


Figure: Detected hits for the regular scheme (left) and the online method (right)

- Consistent means (p-value of 14% to Student's test)
- Averaging phenomenon leads to a thinner effective distribution (Levene's and Bartlett's test for statistical decision)

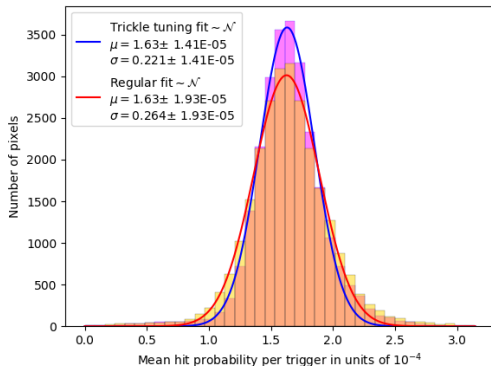


Figure: Hit probability per trigger with (purple) and without (orange) trickle tuning

Summary and conclusions

- Implementation of a new offline calibration algorithm:
 - Fast and efficient at high threshold (> 1500 electrons)
 - Slight modification to obtain usable TD at low threshold (< 1000 electrons)
- Software implementation of a method for trickle tuning:
 - Using occupancy analysis of chosen pixels
 - Quick convergence towards calibrated distribution
 - Stable over many iterations
 - Leads to averaging phenomenon
- Code available on this git: [▶ Link](#)
- Work in progress!!