

Performance tests of dual-phase CO₂ cooling for particle detectors

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Evaporative CO₂ cooling is a promising solution for the cooling of high-energy particle detectors, such as the new ATLAS Inner Tracker (ITk) for the high-luminosity upgrade of the LHC.

CO₂ offers a high latent heat transfer at reasonable flow parameters and is an environment friendly alternative to many other currently used coolants.

At the same time, the operation in the dual-phase regime comes with several parameters influencing the cooling performance compared to a monophasic coolant.

Some of these are experimentally studied using prototypes from the ITk strip detector end-cap. Here, the local support structure called petal core should allow a good heat transfer between the silicon strip modules glued on the surface and the embedded titanium cooling pipe.

Systematic investigations on the thermal performance using infrared thermography are used to study the influence of dual-phase CO₂ cooling parameters, such as heat load or mass flow rate, and are compared to simulation.

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