

# Pixelated Resistive Micromegas for Tracking Systems in High Rate environment

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for the "Small-pad micromegas" R&D Collaboration

(INFN Italy and CERN)

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### **Introduction – Resistive Micromegas detectors**

### **Resistive Micromegas:**

Now a mature technology for HEP experiments also taking advantage of the intense phase of R&D for the ATLAS Experiment were resistive strips MM will be employed in the New Small Wheel upgrade of the Muon Spectrometer (see talks by Ivan Gnesi and P. Tzanis)

- Resistive anode strips  $\rightarrow$  suppress the intensity of discharge
- Large area: total surface of ~1200 m2 of gas volumes
- Operation at moderate hit rate up to ~15 kHz/cm<sup>2</sup> during the phase of High-Luminosity-LHC



# **Pixelated (Small Pad) Resistive micromegas**

### GOAL:

Development of Resistive Micromegas detectors, aimed at operation under very high rates 10's MHz/cm<sup>2</sup>

### **R&D BASIC STEPS:**

- $\circ~$  Optimisation of the spark protection resistive scheme
- o Implementation of Small pad readout (allows for low occupancy under high irradiation)
- From existing R&D (see acknowledgement) we aim at reducing the pad size from  $\sim 1$  cm<sup>2</sup> to < 3 mm<sup>2</sup>.
- Possible application: ATLAS very forward extension of muon tracking (Large eta Muon Tagger option for future upgrade), Muon Detectors and TPC at Future Accelerators, ...

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### **R&D BASIC STEPS:**

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- o Implementation of Small pad readout (allows for low occupancy under high irradiation)
- From existing F Keywords:
- Possible applic for future upgra
   • Rate capability (10's MHz/cm2)
  - Low occupancy  $\rightarrow$  high granularity (pad readout  $\mathcal{O}(mm^2)$ )
  - Spatial resolution (depending on applications)  $\sim 100 \ \mu m$
  - Robustness

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to < 3mm<sup>2</sup>.

agger – option

# Layout of the small size prototypes

- Matrix of 48x16 pads 768 channels
- Each pad: 0.8mm x 2.8mm pitch of 1 x 3 mm<sup>2</sup>
- Active surface of 48x48 mm<sup>2</sup>





# Two different implementations of the Resistive layer

Two series of small pad resistive micromegas prototypes built so far with **pad dimension 3 mm<sup>2</sup>**. Different implementation of the resistive protection system against discharges :



- Embedded resistors by Screen-Printing
- Resistive pads by paste filling of photoimaging created vessels
- each pad is totally separated from the others, for the anode, as well as for the resistive part



# **PROTOTYPES**

### PAD-P: Embedded resistor

- mean value of the embedded resistors  $\approx$  3-7  $M\Omega$ 

DLC20, DLC50: 'standard' DLC, sputtered on kapton

- surface resistivity 20 M $\Omega$ / $\Box$  (DLC20)
- surface resistivity 50-70 M $\Omega$ / $\Box$  (DLC50)
- two regions, with conductive vias every 6 and 12 mm

# SBU1, SBU2: Sequential Build Up of DLC foils copper cladded on both sides

- easier photolithographic construction process
- improving of the alignment of vias and centering of the pillars with the silver vias (every 6 mm)
- for both prototypes: 1<sup>st</sup> layer (nearest to the pads) resistivity 35 MΩ/□, 2<sup>nd</sup> layer 5 MΩ/□ (lower than requested)







DLC20/50 Case of uncovered vias → can cause sparks SBU Perfect alignment of vias

### **Characterization of the detectors**

### **Measurements with sources and X-rays**

Two radiation sources have been used:

- <sup>55</sup>Fe sources with 2 two different activities
  - "Low activity" (measured rate ~1 kHz)
  - "High activity" (measured rate ~100 kHz)
- 8 keV Xrays peak from a Cu target with different intensities varying the gun excitation current





### Gain measurement methods:

- Reading the detector current from the mesh (or from the readout pads) and counting signal rates from the mesh
- Signals amplitude (mesh) from a Multi Channel Analyser

At High Rates (with X-Rays):

<sup>55</sup>Fe source

- Rates measured at low currents of the X-Ray gun
- Extrapolating Rate Vs X-Ray-current when rates not measurable reliably anymore



# **PAD-P vs DLC – Charging-up**



Current measurement Vs Time during cycles of X-Rays irradiation

- PAD-P response compatible with dielectric charging-up of exposed Kapton surroundings the resistive pads
- DLC detectors do show any sizable charging-up effects (expected from the uniformity of the resistive – no exposed dielectric, with the exception of the pillars)

### **PAD-P vs DLC – Energy Resolution**



DLC prototypes have better energy resolution

- more uniform electric field
- no pad border effects

# Gain Vs rates up to 30 MHz/cm<sup>2</sup>

X-rays Exposure area 0.79 cm<sup>2</sup> (shielding with 1cm diameter hole)



#### PAD-P:

- Significant gain drop at "low" rates dominated by charging-up effects
- Relative drop~20% at 20 MHz/cm2 at 530 V
- Negligible ohmic voltage drop for the individual pads for rates > few MHz/cm<sup>2</sup>



#### DLC20:

- Significant ohmic voltage drop for rates > few MHz/cm<sup>2</sup> (relative drop ~20% at 20 MHz/cm<sup>2</sup> at 510 V)
- Gain DLC20 > PAD-P. Same gain if HV PAD-P = HV\_DLC + (20-30) V

### High irradiation with X-rays – Rate Capability

COMPARISON done at a gain of ~6500

X-rays Exposure area 0.79 cm<sup>2</sup> (shielding with 1cm diameter hole)

#### The rate region < 10 MHz/cm<sup>2</sup>



DLC20 and SBU show a significantly better behaviour than DLC50 (expected from the low resistivity) PAD-P below DLC for rates < 10 MHz/cm<sup>2</sup> (charging-up+Ohmic drop)

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#### Extended rate region up to ~100 MHz/cm<sup>2</sup>

![](_page_12_Figure_7.jpeg)

PAD-P, DLC20, SBU have a comparable behaviour in the explored region (up to ~100 MHz/cm<sup>2</sup>) As expected DLC20 better than DLC50 (due to lower resistivity)

### **Dependence on the grounding vias pitch**

COMPARISON done at a gain of ~6500

X-rays Exposure area 0.79 cm<sup>2</sup> (shielding with 1cm diameter hole)

![](_page_13_Figure_3.jpeg)

### DLC-50:

- Onset of ohmic voltage drop due to high current/high resistance.
- Clear difference between the regions with 6mm and 12 mm grounding vias pitch

![](_page_13_Figure_7.jpeg)

### **Dependence on the exposed area**

![](_page_14_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_14_Figure_2.jpeg)

### PAD-P:

• Thanks to independent pads there is no dependence on the exposed area

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![](_page_14_Figure_6.jpeg)

- Dependence of gain on the irradiated area above ~5 MHz/cm<sup>2</sup>
- The gain drop do not scale for areas > 3.7 cm<sup>2</sup> - i.e. when the exposed area is >> cell dimension of grounding vias (0.36 cm<sup>2</sup>)

![](_page_14_Figure_9.jpeg)

# **Test Beams at CERN and at PSI**

2016/17	2018	2019
SPS H4@CERN μ, π at 150 GeV/c low/high rate	SPS H4@CERN μ, π at 150 GeV/c π at 80 GeV/c	πM1@PSI π at 300 MeV/c p contamination ~7%
PAD-P, DLC50	DLC50, DLC20	PAD-P, DLC20, SBU1&2

![](_page_15_Picture_2.jpeg)

### Typical Test Setup:

- Two small scintillators for triggering
- Two double coordinate (xy) bulk strips micromegas (10 x 10 cm<sup>2</sup>) for tracking
- Small-pads MM in between
- gas mixture: Ar/CO<sub>2</sub>=93/7 pre-mixed
- DAQ: SRS+APV25

![](_page_15_Picture_9.jpeg)

![](_page_15_Figure_10.jpeg)

# Spatial Resolution and cluster-size (TB CERN)

(see M.Alviggi, et al. JINST 13 (2018) no.11, P11019)

#### Position resolution:

Cluster residual wrt extrapolated position from external tracking chambers.

![](_page_16_Figure_4.jpeg)

#### Precision coordinate (pad pitch 1 mm)

Significant improvement of spatial resolution on the DLC prototypes (pad charge weighted centroid)

• More uniform charge distribution among pads in the clusters

![](_page_16_Figure_8.jpeg)

• Larger Cluster size for DLC due to uniform layer. Larger clusters for lower resistivity (DLC20 Vs DLC50)

# **Test-beam at PSI (analysis ongoing)**

- Main purpose was to test the stability under a high intensity particle flow
- Unfortunately our setup could only be placed far downstream → Max flow was few MHz on the full area (about 25 cm<sup>2</sup>) of our detectors

→ Preliminary studies on gain and stability; Analysis on tracking in progress

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Gain estimated from the detector current (mesh)

• The measurements with pions confirmed the previous results with 55Fe/X-rays on the difference of gains PAD-P Vs all DLC's 18

![](_page_17_Figure_7.jpeg)

(93:7)%Ar:CO<sub>2</sub>

# **Test-beam at PSI – Discharge studies**

![](_page_18_Figure_1.jpeg)

- A part of the test beam was dedicated to DLC and PAD-P spark studies
- Spark rates and probabilities evaluated as a function of HV settings and at constant rates of about 100 kHz/cm<sup>2</sup>

- PAD-P prototype confirm its very high stability
- DLC20 is the most robust among the DLC series, despite to the constructive improvement of SBUs
- Possibly due to the LOW resistivity of the TOP DLC layer (5 M $\Omega$ / $\Box$  instead of the required 20 M $\Omega$ / $\Box$ )

# Summary

PAD PATTERNED and DLC based resistive scheme have been compared in similar conditions:

Gas mixture (possibly not the best) chosen to be on the safe side for ageing: Ar/CO2 93/7

Comparison in similar conditions: GAIN ~ 6500 – 7000 (most of the measurements with X-rays  $\rightarrow$  ionisation >> MIP)

### PAD PATTERNED PROTOTYPE

- Quite significant charging-up that nevertheless saturate at  $O(1MHz/cm^2)$
- ~20% gain drop at 20 MHz/cm<sup>2</sup>
- No dependence on the irradiated area
- Very stable up to gains  $>> 10^4$
- Degraded performance on energy and spatial resolution compared to DLC
- A new prototype has been built and is currently being tested for further checks of the results

### DLC PROTOTYPES

- Best performance with the "low resistivity" DLC (~20 M $\Omega$ / $\Box$ ) and with fine network of grounding vias (~6 mm)
- Gain reduction with rates dominated by ohmic voltage drop
- gain reduction is ~20% at 20 MHz/cm2 when irradiated on a 1 cm spot (as for PADP); it increases to ~30% for larger areas.
- Excellent energy and spatial resolution
- Robustness not yet at the level of PAD-P → the DLC-SBU technique promising but not yet conclusive

![](_page_20_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### CERN RD51 Collaboration for the continuous support and the CERN GDD Lab for MPGD tests.

#### R. De Oliveira, B.Mehl, O.Pizzirusso and A.Teixeira (CERN EP-DT)

#### R&D based on previous developments of Pad micromegas for COMPASS and for sampling calorimetry:

- C. Adloff et al., "Construction and test of a 1x1 m<sup>2</sup> Micromegas chamber for sampling hadron calorimetry at future lepton colliders" NIMA 729 (2013) 90–101.
- M. Chefdeville et al. "Resistive Micromegas for sampling calorimetry, a study of charge-up effects", Nucl. Inst. Meth. A 824 (2016) 510.
- F. Thibaud at al., "Performance of large pixelised Micromegas detectors in the COMPASS environment", JINST 9 (2014) C02005.

#### DLC double resistive layer configuration re-arranged from micro-Resistive Well R&D:

- G. Bencivenni et al., "The micro-Resistive WELL detector: a compact spark-protected single amplificationstage MPGD" 2015\_JINST\_10\_P02008
- M. Poli-Lener "The μ-RWELL detector for the the phase 2 upgrade of the LHCb Muon System Upgrade" ICHEP 2018 (PoS forthcoming publication)

### BACKUP

# Next Step: the prototype with Integrated Electronics

![](_page_23_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_23_Figure_3.jpeg)

APV FE Layout

- Prototype with integrated electronics on the back-end of the anode PCB built to solve the problem of the signal routing when scaling to larger surface
- APV FE Layout implemented

![](_page_23_Figure_7.jpeg)

First tests look promising:

- Nice Pedestals structure and signal response from APV using Fe55 source and random trigger for DAQ → BUT ONLY on some channels
- We know the reason (issue in the elx Layout)  $\rightarrow$  fixing it in the next proto !

# **Summary of PAD-P Results**

M. Alviggi, et al. *"Construction and test of a Small-Pads Resistive Micromegas prototype"*, JINST 13 (2018) no.11, P11019

![](_page_24_Figure_2.jpeg)

Reduction vs time of the detector current with High intensity <sup>55</sup>Fe source [CHARGING-UP]

![](_page_24_Figure_4.jpeg)

Xrays, HV 530V - 730V

Gain reduction ~30% up to 12 MHz/cm<sup>2</sup> [CHARGING-UP + Ohmic Voltage Drop] Gain drop increases as rate goes up. Still able to reach gain of 4x10<sup>3</sup> at a rate of 150 MHz/cm<sup>2</sup> of 8 keV photons

![](_page_24_Figure_8.jpeg)

# SCAN in Ampl. voltage @ Low rates < 0.3 MHz/cm2

Gain measurement in RD51 LAB: with <sup>55</sup>Fe and Xray(Cu target) sources and 0.79 cm<sup>2</sup> exposed area, (93:7)%Ar:CO<sub>2</sub>

• To set the working <u>amplification voltages</u> for which the detectors have the same gain at low rates

![](_page_25_Figure_3.jpeg)

The ohmic voltage drops on the resistive layers are negligible in this range while the charging-up effects are already visible in PAD-P prototype at high gain

PAD-P require an amplification voltage + (20-30) V respect to DLC20

![](_page_26_Figure_0.jpeg)

No significant differences among PAD-P and DLC50 below 10 MHz/cm2

• Onset of voltage drop due to high current/high resistance.

Clear difference between the regions with 6mm and 12 mm grounding vias pitch

# **Test Beam SPS H4 at CERN – SETUP**

### SPS H4 CERN 2016, 2017

Beam: muons/pions 150 GeV/c (low/high rates)

• Prototypes Tested:

PAD-P, DLC50

(see M.Alviggi, et al. JINST 13 (2018) no.11, P11019)

SPS H4 CERN OCTOBER 2018 Beam:

- 1<sup>st</sup> period: muons/pions 150 GeV/c
- 2<sup>nd</sup> period: pions 80 GeV/c
- Prototypes Tested: DLC20, DLC50

![](_page_27_Picture_10.jpeg)

OCTOBER 2018 SETUP: Chambers under test: DLC50 (50-70 MOhm/sq), DLC20 (20MOhm/sq), ExMe

- o Tracking system: 2 Tmm strips micromegas (x-y readout) for external tracking
- o Operating gas on DLC20, DLC50: Ar:CO2 93:7 Gas studies on ExMe: Ar:CO2 93:7 and 85:15 Ar:CO2:lso 88:10:2
- o Scintillators for triggering
- DAQ: SRS + APV25 with custom DAQ

### **TB Results - Efficiencies**

![](_page_28_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### Cluster Efficiency of DLC50 @ 500 V Vs extrapolated track impact position

- Inefficiencies are clearly seen in correspondence of pillars.
- These inefficiencies decrease
  with HV

#### "Cluster" and "software" efficiencies for DLC20 Vs HV

![](_page_28_Figure_6.jpeg)

# EFFICIENCY Comparison of all chambers (software-loose)

![](_page_28_Figure_8.jpeg)

Differences at the level of 1% still under investigation. Possible causes:

different gains, different charge spread and cluster-size, ...