Diamond Detector Technology: Status and Perspectives

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Here could be your abstract ;-)

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1. Introduction

The upgrade of the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) to the High Luminosity LHC (HL-LHC) from 2023 to 2025 [1] will push the luminosity limits even above the original design values of the LHC and will therefore hopefully give us even more insights in the fundamental nature of the universe. The in 2028 aspired instantaneous luminosity of $5 \times 10^{34} \, \mathrm{cm^{-2} \, s^{-1}}$ will be equivalent to a fluence of $2 \times 10^{16} \, \mathrm{n_{eq}/cm^2}$ [2] for the innermost tracking layer at a distance of $\sim 30 \, \mathrm{mm}$ from the interaction point. In this environment pixel hit rates of $3 \, \mathrm{GHz/cm^2}$ are expected. The current pixel detectors are designed to withstand $\sim 300 \, \mathrm{fb^{-1}}$ and thus the full detector would have to be replaced about every semester. This fact lead to research and development of various radiation hard detector designs and materials.

Its large displacement energy and the high band gap (5.5 eV at 305 K) make diamond an excellent candidate for such a radiation tolerant detector which is why the RD42 Collaboration is investigating single-crystal (sc) and poly-crystalline (p) Chemical Vapour Deposition (CVD) diamond as an alternative for precision tracking detectors for over two decades. In order to grow high quality detector grade diamonds RD42 collaborates with industrial companies. All shown results are acquired with scCVD diamonds produced by Element Six Technologies [9] and pCVD diamonds produced by II-VI Incorporated [11]. The two companies use propriety CVD processes to fabricate their products. Both diamond types are grown on homo-epitaxial substrates with the difference that for scCVD another scCVD diamond is used as substrate and thus its size is limited to ~0.25 cm². However for the pCVD a diamond powder can be used as a substrate by what in can be grown to wafers of diameters up to 6 inch [4]. In various studies it was found out that diamond is minimum three times more radiation hard [7], has at least a two times faster charge collection [12] and its thermal conductivity is four times higher [13] than corresponding silicon detectors.

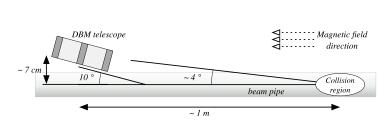
Due to the very high particle fluxes and radiation doses expected for the HL-LHC it is very important to understand the behaviour of future detectors in this environment. The RD42 Collaboration has studied CVD diamond detectors up to irradiation doses of $2.2 \times 10^{16} \, \text{p/cm}^2$. In order to build even more radiation hard detectors a new technology - 3D detectors [3] - is investigated. The clever design of these detectors allows to heavily reduce the drift distance of the created charge carriers without reducing the total number of the electron-hole pairs. Since the behaviour at high fluxes is uncertain, high rate studies are performed at Paul Scherrer Institut (PSI) with nearly minimum ionising particles (MIPs) and tunable particle fluxes from the order of $1 \, \text{kHz/cm}^2$ up to the order of $10 \, \text{MHz/cm}^2$ are performed.

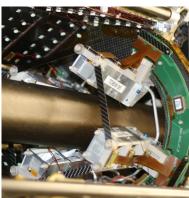
2. Diamond Detectors at CERN

It is essential for all modern collider experiments to have an online monitoring of the beam conditions. Since it is important to have these detectors as close as possible to the beam all of the four main experiments at the LHC are using detectors with diamond sensors. ATLAS [10], ALICE, CMS [5] and LHCb [8] all make use of various Beam Condition Monitors (BCMs) and/or Beam Loss Monitors (BLMs) based on both CVD type diamonds for live background estimations and luminosity measurements.

As an upgrade of the BCM during the long shutdown in 2014 ATLAS installed the Diamond Beam

Monitor (DBM). Its purpose is to measure an instantaneous (bunch-by-bunch) luminosity and the bunch-by-bunch position of the beam spot. With its eight telescopes à three detector planes it adds tracking capability to the existing precise time-of-flight (ToF) measurements of the eight pad detectors of the BCM. The usage of state of the art pixel detectors based on the FE-I4b readout chip strongly increases the spatial resolution of the monitor and due to its projective geometry pointing towards the interaction region it also can distinguish particles coming from collisions and background [6]. The telescopes whereof the sensors of two are made out silicon and the other six out of pCVD diamond are positioned symmetrically around the beam pipe on both sides of the interaction point and are shown in 1.





(a) positioning and alignment

(b) four mounted telescopes

Figure 1: DBM telescope

List of Acronyms

LHC Large Hadron Collider

HL-LHC High Luminosity LHC

PSI Paul Scherrer Institut

MIPs minimum ionising particles

CVD Chemical Vapour Deposition

sc single-crystal

p poly-crystalline

BCM Beam Condition Monitor

BLM Beam Loss Monitor

DBM Diamond Beam Monitor

ToF time-of-flight

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