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Development of ultra-fast diamond-sensor based systems for advanced accelerator diagnostics



Santa Cruz Institute for Particle Physics and the University of California, Santa Cruz Sponsor: US Dept of Energy





Talk Outline



The elements of this presentation include:

- The Advanced Accelerator Diagnostics (AAD) Collaboration
- Diamond as a sensor material
- Warm-up: 50 MHz position-sensitive pass-through diagnostic
- Towards high bandwidth
- Integrated multi-GHz detection system idea
- Readout studies (electronics only)
- Signal path studies (sensor and signal path only)
- Speculation about applications
- Summary and Prospects



The Advanced Accelerator Diagnostics Collaboration

- Consists of six University of California Campuses and National Labs
 - UC Santa Cruz (Santa Cruz Institute for Particle Physics), UC Davis, UC Santa Barbara
 - Lawrence Berkeley NL, Los Alamos NL, SLAC NL
- Funded by the University of California Office of the President and the US Department of Energy
- Developing diagnostic systems for XFEL, synchrotron and proton beams
- Also performing basic diamond sensor R&D (transport properties, radiation tolerance)
- Work in this talk driven by XFEL developments but applications likely broader

Diamonds Sensor Characteristics

Some aspects of diamond as a sensor material

- Large electron/hole pair creation energy (13.3 eV vs. 3.6 ev for Si)
- Fast transport (200 μm/nsec vs. 100 μm/nsec for Si)
- Highest thermal conductivity of any natural material
- Superior radiation tolerance
 - No appreciable leakage current to fluence > 5x10¹⁶ n_{eq}/cm²
 - Significant charge collection efficiency remains
- Low X-ray absorption (K-shell energy <300 eV)
- Commercially available "electronic grade" CVD diamond has essentially infinite carrier lifetime

Second (bolded) characteristic is most important for this talk.



Warmup: 50 MHz Quad Pass-Through Diagnostic



Cavity-Based XFEL (CBXFEL) Development (SLAC/ANL)

- Requires position/intensity measurement of recirculating beam
- > 20 MHz recirculation rate



→ Design multi-MHz quadrant diagnostic

AAD 50 MHz Quadrant Diagnostic







4.0 mm



Passive shaping network (x4)



Test at SLAC LCLS, April 2022 (1D beam sweep)

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50 MHz Quad Diagnostic Performance





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to be submitted to J. Synchrotron Radiation





3 μm resolution small fraction of observed pulse-by-pulse jitter



Question: How to do this at 5+ GHz?

Original motivation: intended high repetition-rate XFEL facilities; multi-GHz operation via pulse splitting and delay

- LCLS to 3 GHz [F.J. Decker et al., Proceedings of FEL2010]
- LANL to 10 GHz [R.W. Garnett, Proceedings of LINAC2016]
- Other applications conceivable (see end of talk for some)

Above 1-2 GHz, enter "RF regime" where inductance and electrodynamics starts to take hold

→ Compact, integrated approach

Entering second year of three-year US Dept of Energy-funded project to explore this question

Components of the High Bandwidth Problem





Problem factorized into 4 challenges, all significant in RF regime (>1-2 GHz)

Charge Collection

Seems fast and efficient to an instantaneous generation of 10¹⁶ charges/cm³ [J Bohon et al., J Synch Rad 29 292 (2022)]

Signal Path

- How fast the signal can return to ground without ringing
- Signal processing (amplification/buffering and digitization)
 - High speed electronics development

□ Interfacing of signal path with signal processing features

RF radiation and dielectric absorption during transport a concern

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Focus of this work

Compact Signal Path

- Make use of RF industry components to develop mmscale signal path
- Limit inductance, capacitance to push LC resonance above 10 GHz



Integrate with localized readout to eliminate signal transport degradation

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Simulation of Compact Signal Path (ANSYS HFSS)





- Simulate with models of industrial components as realistic as possible
- Fabrication techniques established and verified in the SCIPP laboratory

- Simulation suggests 10Ω optimal for signal shaping
- 10Ω resistor doubles as sensing element
- Signal FWHM of ~120 ps in response to 6 GHz excitation suggestion > 5 GHz signal path response





The compact signal path is integrated with the highbandwidth **FastPulse Precision Sample** (FPS) ASIC



- ASIC design: LBNL Integrated Circuit Group
- Integration & Characterization: SCIPP Laboratory

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The FastPulse Precision Sample ASIC



The FPS ASIC: Design Specifications

- High-bandwidth (~10 GHz) amplifier/buffer system
- Feeds an internal 45-element switched capacitor array
- Variable sampling rate, up to 40 Gs/s
- Four channels (quadrant sensor system)



Spec	Value	Unit
Bandwidth	11	GHz
Sample Rate	40	Gs/s
Capture Window	1-2	ns
Readout Rate	500	MHz
Resolution	10	Bits

How does this device perform?

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Readout of FPS Switched Capacitor Array



- Stored voltage levels clocked out at 2 MHz
- By sweeping pulser delay across full ns capture window, digitization period measure to be 28 ps



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FPS Electronic Noise



- Observed electronic noise for each of the 45 SCA elements ullet
- Variance of 1000 measurements of pedestal level •
- Mean σ_v = 550 μ V lacksquare



Measured Output Noise

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FPS Response / Bandwidth

- Compare input trace (fast pulser) to output trace
- For output trace, use measured 28 ps sampling increment
- Evaluate bandwidth using 20%-80% rise time τ_{20-80}



Bandwidth $\approx 0.23/\tau_{20-80}$

- Input rise time: $\tau_{20-80} = 47$ ps
- Output rise time: τ_{20-80} = 67 ps
- FPS contribution: $\tau_{20-80} = \sqrt{(67^2 47^2)} = 48 \text{ ps} \rightarrow 5 \text{ GHz}$ **IBIC 2024** 17 **Bruce Schumm**

FPS Linearity and Dynamic Range







Digression: FPS Timing Prospects

- There are many ways to degrade the timing resolution of a system
- One of the most fundamental is electronic noise
- Let's look at this one and ignore all others (i.e. take the following with a huge "grain of salt")

For constant-fraction discrimination,



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Next Steps: Signal Path



Next step is to add sensor/signal path and take to test beam



- Working on it (end of calendar year)
- But for now test signal path with independent system based on discrete 13 GHz amplifier

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Direct study of compact signal path





Caveat: this preliminary implementation is on standard FR4 PC board dieletric, which is known to degrade GHz signals

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Compact Signal Path Result



Excite with alpha particles (Americium source)



For diamond, 95 ps 10-90% rise time consistent with 3.8 GHz signal

We expect that switching PCB dielectric from FR4 to Rogers4350b will provide further improvement. New board in fabrication now.

Towards a Multi-GHz Position Sensing System







- Operating 50 MHz position-sensitive system being pushed into multi-GHz regime
- Approach is design of compact, integrated detection system
- First prototype of "FPS" ASIC performing at or above 5 GHz
- Compact signal path approach looks promising to achieve 5 GHz
- Awaiting full system test (for planar sensor) and independent high-bandwidth signal path results
- Design of quadrant (position sensitive) system underway
- Detection system hints at prospect for femtosecond timing
 - But far from proven
- Applications outside of Accelerator Physics may be offered
 - e.g. inertial confinement (ICF) burn width ~100 ps, commensurate with FWHM of 5 GHz signal

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