Measurement of the Hybrid Photodiode Response - Fiber Optic Window

J. Freeman, D. Green and A. Ronzhin

Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory
P.O. Box 500, Batavia, Illinois 60510

P. de Barbaro
University of Rochester

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Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory
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INTRODUCTION

The hybrid photodiode (HPD [1]) will be used for the CMS HCAL readout [2]. A fiber-optic front window is used to reduce optical cross-talk between the pixels of the multi-pixel HPD’s. A mismatch of numerical aperture between optical fibers carrying light to the HPD window and the fibers composing the fiber-optic front window of the HPD could lead to light loss. The light loss would appear as a reduced effective quantum efficiency of the device. The goal of this set of measurements was to see if there was in fact a reduction in the effective quantum efficiency of the HPD’s.

SETUP

The setup is shown in fig.1. The scintillator plate (SCSN81, 240x160x4 mm³) with an embedded green fiber (Bicron, 0.93 mm diameter, polystyrene doped with Y11) was illuminated by a light emitting diode (LED, type NICHIA, Nichia Chemical Industries, NLPB 320 AS, emission maximum of 450 nm). A green fiber with a full length of about 750 mm was inserted into the “sigma shaped” scintillator groove. The green fiber was optically connected to a clear fiber of the same diameter and length 1 meter. This clear fiber was used to measure the photocurrent of the photodetector under study. The length of the fiber outside the scintillator was 1.5 meters.

The photodetectors were:
1. Single channel HPD DEP with 25 mm diameter photocathode (tube type PP0350B).
2. Photomultiplier (PMT) Hamamatsu R5686 and R4598-01. The R5686 has a 53 mm diameter bialkali photocathode with a borosilicate glass window.
3. Pin diode (Hamamatsu S1722-02, 5 mm photocathode diameter).

A negative voltage was applied between the photocathode and the silicon surface to measure the HPD’s photocurrent and between the photocathode and the first dynode for the PMT. In the latter case all electrodes of the photomultiplier (except for the photocathode) were connected together and shorted to ground through the Keithley multimeter (A, fig. 1). The pin diode was under reverse bias with the anode shorted through the ammeter.
MEASUREMENTS

The photocurrent dependence on voltage was measured first (figs. 2, 3, 4, 5). The LED light used was adjusted to produce about 1 nA of HPD photocurrent. The same amount of LED light was used later when working with the other photodetectors. A low photocurrent level was chosen in order to operate in a linear photocurrent range of the photodetectors. The illuminated fiber was installed on the photocathode perpendicular to it surface.

The noise current was measured without LED illumination and is also presented in figs. 2, 3, 4, 5.

An additional measurement was performed with the setup shown in fig. 6. The LED excited a plastic bar through a 1 mm diameter clear fiber of 1 meter length. The plastic bar was doped with Y11 light shifter. The size of the bar was 10x15x50 mm³. One of the 10x15 mm² surfaces was optically connected to the photocathodes. The fiber was inserted into the plastic bar from the side opposite to the photocathode. The Y11 bar was wrapped with several layers of white paper. The photocurrent was measured for the PMT and for the HPD with the same amount of light.

The photocathode nonuniformity over the Y11 area of illumination was less than 10%. The value was measured by scanning the PC’s with a 1 mm diameter fiber. The point of this measurement was to verify that the nonuniformity doesn’t contribute significantly to the result.

RESULTS

The measured net photocurrent was defined to be the difference between the output current under LED illumination and without it (figs. 2, 3, 4, 5). There is a long plateau as a function of the potential between the photocathode and the collecting electrodes starting at a value of a few volts. The measured values of the photocurrent under the same light illumination are in good agreement with the photodetectors’ quantum efficiency curves in the range of Y11 emission (fig. 7). The photocurrent of the PMT’s and HPD is almost the same, as are the quantum efficiencies, which are about 14-15% at 495 nm (maximum of the Y11 emission spectrum). The pin diode photocurrent is approximately 5 times higher than the HPD (or PMT) which is also consistent with the pin diode QE (fig. 7).

However the HPD’s measured photocurrent is about 2.3 times less than the PMT’s under the same light illumination level when the Y11 plastic bar is used (fig. 6).

DISCUSSION

No noticeable light losses were observed for the HPD with the fiber optic window when the light was transported to the photocathode by the optical fiber. Losses are thought to occur because of a mismatch between the incident angles of the light and the fiber optic numerical aperture. In other words, almost all the light coming
out of the fiber is captured by the fiber optic glass window. The behavior is well matched to the CMS HCAL application.

The situation is different for the Y11 plastic bar (fig.6). A simple illustration of the phenomena is shown in fig.8. Only part of the incident light is captured by the fiber optic glass window in this case, leading to a reduced effective quantum efficiency.

CONCLUSION

The measured response of the HPD with the fiber optic glass window does not show significant light losses when coupled with CMS HCAL scintillator/fiber optic readout.
BIBLIOGRAPHY
1. The Hybrid Photodiode tubes (HPD), Catalog of DEP DELFT INSTRUMENTS Co.
Figures.

1. Setup to measure photocurrent.
2,3,4,5. The photodetector's photocurrent and noise vs applied voltage, 2 - photomultiplier (PMT) R5686, 3 - PMT R4598-01, 4 - pin diode, 5 - HPD.
7. Quantum efficiencies of R5686, HPD, pin diode and emission spectrum of Y11.
8. Illustration of possible light losses for fiber optic faceplate.
Fig. 1

Fig. 2

Fig. 3

Fig. 4

Fig. 5