Characterization of APTS

An analog MAPS test structure fabricated in 65 nm CMOS technology





3. High-D Consortium Meeting

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ALICE ITS Upgrade

- New ALICE Inner Tracking System (ITS2) installed and running
- Consists of 7 layers of ALPIDE Monolithic Active Pixel Sensors (MAPS)
- ITS3 Upgrade: Three innermost layers will be replaced with new ultra-light, truly cylindrical layers
 - Improvement of vertexing performance and efficiency at low p_T
 - Improving pointing resolution by factor 2
 - Reduction of material budget



ALICE ITS Upgrade

- Thinned down sensors to 20-40 µm to bent silicon to target radii
 - Bent sensors held in place by carbon foam
 - Closer distance to interaction point (from 23 to 18 mm)
- Reducing material budget from 0.35% to 0.05% $X\!/X_0$
 - Negligible systematic error from material distribution due to homogeneity
- Stitched, wafer-size sensors
 - ALPIDE is 30x15 mm, ITS3 target is up to 280x94 mm
- Requires new dedicated sensor design



Sensor Design

- First submission fabricated in <u>65 nm</u> CMOS technology (designed within CERN EP R&D)
- Smaller feature (transistor) size:
 - Possibility to create smaller pixels with same amount of in-pixel logic
 - Larger commercially available wafer sizes (required for ITS3 design)
- Several variants of sensors:
 - Different implant geometries (standard, modified, modified with gap)
 - Different pixel pitches (10 25 μm)
 - Different doping concentrations



Pixel Test Structures



- Intensive campaign of characterization performed in the laboratory and in beam tests
- Verification of the technology in terms of charge collection efficiency, detection efficiency and radiation hardness

The Analog Pixel Test Structure (APTS)



APTS: Pulsing

- Many variants. Here: DC source follower (amplifier type), modified process with gap, 15 μm pixel pitch
- Goal: Characterization of charge collection properties and radiation hardness
- Generate analog pulse by traversing ionizing particles or charge injection
 - Collected charge leads to voltage drop
 - Driven back to baseline by reset current proportional to $I_{\rm reset}$
- · Extracting full waveform to analyze characteristics



Frame = 0.25µs

APTS: Temperature Dependence

- Inject pulse 1000 times and take the average (for one pixel)
- Investigating temperature dependence.
 - No significant dependence for non-irradiated sensor
 - For irradiated sensor significantly extended recovery time to baseline for increasing temperatures
 - Fails to operate at even higher temperatures without adjustment of parameters
- Possible reason: Increasing leakage current



Voltage pulse at Ireset= 100pA.

APTS: Leakage Current Investigation

- Determine Leakage Current
 - Assumption: $I_{\rm effective} = m \cdot I_{\rm reset} I_{\rm leakage}$
 - Find physically motivated fit function with $I_{\rm effective}$ as fit parameter, describing the pulse
- Signal dependent current through reset transistor

$$\begin{array}{l} - \ I(t) = I_{\rm eff} \cdot \left(1 - \exp\left(\frac{-V(t)}{V_{\rm th}}\right)\right) \\ - \ V_{\rm th} = n \, k_{\rm B} T/q \end{array} \end{array}$$

• Solving for dV = I/C dt:

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$$V(t) = -V_{th} \cdot \ln\left(\exp\left(-\frac{\mathbf{I_{eff}} \cdot (t-t_0)}{V_{th} \cdot C}\right) + 1\right)$$



APTS: Reset Current Variation

- Find dependence of $I_{\rm effective}$ to $I_{\rm reset}$ by varying parameter
- Determine leakage current by linear fit

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$$I_{effective} = m \cdot I_{reset} + b$$

$$I_{leakage} = -b$$

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Irradiated sensor

APTS: Leakage Current Results



Summary and Outlook

Summary:

- Developed method for leakage current determination
 - → Useful tool to study the performance of irradiated sensors

Outlook:

 Leakage Current Measurements for different irradiation levels and parameters



Thank you for your attention :)

Backup: APTS Current dependence on different parameters

