CPAD Instrumentation Frontier Workshop 2021



Contribution ID: 165

Type: not specified

Contact-free readout concept and recent progress toward single-electron resolution large-mass semiconductor detectors

Thursday, 18 March 2021 12:20 (20 minutes)

Semiconductor detectors, particularity those using CCD or Neganov-Trofimov-Luke (NTL) assisted phononmediated techniques are the technologies of choice for the experiments seeking rare and very low energy interactions such as low mass dark matter or coherent elastic neutrino nucleus scattering (CE ν NS). The ultimate sensitivity reach of the current detector design is hindered by a stochastic carrier leakage that seems to be primarily due to the particular detector contact architecture at use. We will present a new semiconductor bias and readout design wherein the bias electrodes do not have a physical contact with the substrate. We will present recent progress toward single-carrier excitation in large mass Si or Ge of ~100 g using this novel design. We will also present the application of this novel technique for fast and non-pervasive prescreening of semiconductor crystals for defect and impurity concentration evaluation.

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Track Classification: Low background / Low threshold detectors