



## Atomic Layer Deposition in HEP: Lessons and Opportunities

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presenting work of

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material borrowed heavily from Mike Pellin Argonne National Laboratory, Material Science Division

and on behalf of the Large Area Picosecond Photodector (LAPPD) Collaboration

Snowmass on the Mississippi Aug 2, 2013



Atomic Layer Deposition is a chemical vapor deposition technique based on the sequential application of two or more chemicals (precursors) that undergo self-limiting reactions with solid surfaces. This allows the application of materials, one atomic mono-layer at a time.



#### What is Atomic Layer Deposition (ALD)?



### What is Atomic Layer Deposition (ALD)?

# 

#### Scalable

Multiple

substrates

Conformal







#### Can produce hybrid, layered materials



#### Compatible with a large number of elements and compounds



#### ALD is very useful for HEP!

## Large Area Picosecond Photodetectors



#### **Transition Edge Sensors**







## Superconducting RF cavities

•Layered structures raise the critical magnetic field at which vortex losses form.



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Temperature [mK]

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## LAPPD Collaboration Reinventing the unit-cell of light-based neutrino detectors



- single pixel (poor spatial granularity)
- nanosecond time resolution
- bulky
- blown glass
- sensitive to magnetic fields

- millimeter-level spatial resolution
- <100 picosecond time resolution</p>
- compact
- standard sheet glass
- operable in a magnetic field

### What is an MCP-PMT?



#### Microchannel Plate (MCP):

- a thin plate with microscopic (typically <50 μm) pores</li>
- pores are optimized for secondary electron emission (SEE).
- Accelerating electrons accelerating across an electric potential strike the pore walls, initiating an avalanche of secondary electrons.

- An MCP-PMT is, sealed vacuum tube photodetector.
- Incoming light, incident on a photocathode can produce electrons by the photoelectric effect.
- Microchannel plates provide a gain stage, amplifying the electrical signal by a factor typically above 10<sup>6</sup>.
- Signal is collected on the anode



#### Key Elements of the LAPPD Detector

# Glass body, minimal feedthroughs

MCPs made using atomic layer deposition (ALD).

transmission line anode

fast and economical front-end electronics

large area, flat panel photocathodes



#### The Wonders of Pure Materials







Lifetime of latest generation Microchannel Plate PMT's



Figure 1: QE at 400 nm for old (open) and new generation (solid dots) MCP-PMTs as function of the anode charge.



#### Same Thing in New Ways

#### Moving From Capabilities to Cost





#### LAPPD detectors:

- •Thin-films on borosilicate glass
- Glass vacuum assembly
- •Simple, pure materials
- Scalable electronics
- •Designed to cover large areas

## **Conventional MCPs:**

- •Conditioning of leaded glass (MCPs)
- Ceramic body
- •Not designed for large area applications

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#### **Conventional MCP Fabrication**

- Pore structure formed by drawing and slicing lead-glass fiber bundles. The glass also serves as the resistive material
- Chemical etching and heating in hydrogen to improve secondary emissive properties.
- Expensive, requires long conditioning, and uses the same material for resistive and secondary emissive properties. (Problems with thermal run-away).





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When you separate structure from other chemical processes, interesting new ideas are possible.

#### Material Science as Science

Photocathodes are an example of a technology, often taken for granted, where there is a lot of room to understand the basic underlying physics.

Material scientists and HEP folks are making strides in understanding the basic materials and optimizing them for ultra-high QEs.



See, for example:

Second Workshop on Photocathodes – U Chicago

https://psec.uchicago.edu/workshops/2nd\_photocathode\_conference/





Tube with window hot indium seal completed



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### Importance of Cross-pollination



Reaching out to other communities can produce an unstoppable force.



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