



3D Pixel Sensors and Detectors

Guest Editors:

Dr. Giulio Pellegrini

Centro Nacional de
Microelectrónica (IMB-CNM,
CSIC), Instituto de
Microelectrónica de Barcelona,
08193 Barcelona, Spain

Dr. Ivan Vila

Instituto de Física de Cantabria
(IFCA), CSIC-Universidad de
Cantabria, 39005 Santander,
Spain

Dr. Gregor Kramberger

Department of Experimental
Particle Physics, Jožef Stefan
Institute and Department of
Physics, University of Ljubljana,
SI-1001 Ljubljana, Slovenia

Message from the Guest Editors

In order to increase the radiation hardness of silicon radiation detectors, sensors with a three-dimensional array of electrodes that penetrate into the detector bulk were proposed by S. Parker et al. in 1999. The advantage of this geometry is to set the maximum drift and depletion distance by the electrode spacing rather than by the detector thickness as in the more conventional planar technology. The advantage of this structure includes short collection distances, fast collection times, and low depletion voltages, depending on the electrode diameter and pitch chosen.

The success of this geometry obtained combining VLSI and MEMS (Micro Electro Mechanical Systems) technologies was clear when they were selected for the innermost layer of the ATLAS IBL experiment. The detectors were produced matching the pixel readout electronic geometry and have been in use since 2014 at CERN experiments.

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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Ai-Qun Liu

1. Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong, China
2. School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore 639798, Singapore

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Micromachines Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland

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