Development of imaging arrays for solar UV observations based on wide band-gap materials

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Outline of the talk

- 1. Introduction: Why new detectors?
- 2. Requirements for new detectors
- 3. Prospects towards new semiconductor devices
- 4. Prototype wide band-gab sensors: GaN, AlGaN devices
- 5. Efficiency measurements with new one-pixel devices



Conclusions of last years talk:

 SOHO UV instruments have been very stable due to the successful cleanliness program. but

SOHO UV detectors have been remarkably unstable.

Those were either channel plate devices, or (intensified) CCDs!



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Cross delay line anode + time to digital converter

Cross strip anode + charge ratio centroiding



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Anode design options

32mm x 32mm cross delay line



Wedge and strip anode
Cross Delay line anode
Cross strip anode
CCD

courtesy: O. Siegmund



Example: flatfield of SUMER XDL detector

- Distortion
- ADC nonlinearity
- Multifiber bundles (hexagonal)
 - Moire pattern (from 3 MCPs)

Unstable due to scrubbing!



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Intensified CCDs

MCP coupled to CCD via lens or fiber-optic taper



"Ultra Compact Design"









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Quest for high resolution









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Solar Orbiter mission

High-resolution mission to the Sun and Inner Heliosphere

Payload instrumentation: o EUV spectrograph o EUV imagers o UV coronograph







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What are our goals?

- large pixel array
- radiation hard
- smallest pixel size
- high count rate

- sensitive in a huge wavelength range
- solar blind
- stable calibration
- Iow dark noise



Imaging sensors with high sensitivity and resolution. Large pixel format but smallest pixel size!



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Wide band-gap materials





Advantages/disadvantages

Silicon Detectors	<u>Wide Bandgap Detectors</u>
Need cooling to -60 C or less (Dark current & radiations)	Room temperature operations (simpler & cost-effective)
Contaminants stick and polymerize (cold trap)	Low contamination risk, long-term stability
Degradation of the charge transfer efficiency by ionizing radiation	Rad-hardness Whole mission lifetime increased
Cosmic ray hits plague the signal (points & strikes)	Smaller cross-section => less artifacts
QE insufficient, inhomogeneous, and unstable	Higher QE. Stability and flat-field improved
MCP Intensifiers needed	VUV sensitive
Minimal pixel size ~10 microns	Potentially much smaller
Most sensitive in visible, filters needed	Visible-Blind

Visible-Blind Some filters can be removed Gain in effective area



(fragile, absorbing UV)

Al_xGa_{1-x}N Photodetector types



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Devices fabricated for tests



MSM GaN device



ISOM-UPM



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Schottky GaN device

1x 6 linear micro-array of MSM photodiodes fabricated on

AlGaN/Si(111) samples

Single-photodetectors

Metal-semiconductor-metal



Active areas: 500 x 500 µm²
 250 x 250 µm²
 50 x 50 µm²
 30 x 30 µm²

 Finger widths (Pt/Ti/Au or Ni/Au) and spacings: 2,4,7 and 10 µm

Schottky photodiodes



- Extended Ti/Al or Ti/Al/Ti/Au ohmic contact.
- Active areas: 1 mm, 600 μm, 400 μm and 200 μm diameter disks.
- Semitransparent 100 Å-thick Au.
- Ni (300 Å)/ Au (1000 Å) pad.
- Passivation: SiO₂ or SiN.



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Solar-blindness of present WBGS detectors





Micro-arrays



Vile.

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- Minimum pixel size: 30 x 30 µm².
- Finger widths: 2, 4 and 7 µm.
- Homogeneity studies.
- Pixel-to-pixel cross-talk analysis.
- Image persistence effects.



VUV efficiency of MSM GaN devices

Comparison of device structures





EUV efficiency of GaN Schottky device

• Absolute responsivity measured at the electron storage ring BESSY II

 Compared to a calibrated PtSi reference diode





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