CRILIN: Crystal Calorimeter with Longitudinal Information



In a future Muon Collider (MC), a major challenge for detector design and event reconstruction is represented by beam-induced background (BIB) due to muons decay and subsequent interactions, characterized by particles with low momentum (~ 1.8 MeV), displaced origin, and asynchronous time of arrival.

Crilin - a semi-homogeneous, longitudinally segmented electromagnetic calorimeter based on Cherenkov PbF₂ crystals with UV-extended SiPM readout - features fine granularity, excellent timing, good pileup capability and energy resolution, along with improved radiation resistance. Its modular architecture, featuring stackable and interchangeable sub-modules, allows crystals granularity, transversal and longitudinal dimensions scaling to maximize performance.

The Crilin ECAL barrel design for the MC with 5 layers of 10x10x40 mm³ crystals was evaluated in the International MC framework for the reconstruction of b-jets from Higgs decays (at $\sqrt{s} = 1.5 \text{ TeV}$) against the expected (300 γ/cm^2 per BX) BIB using particle-flow methods: good separation is achieved with O(5 GeV) energy deposit per crystal.

In its current design, the Crilin prototype (Proto-1) consists of two sub-modules, each composed of a 3-by-3 crystals matrix, housed in a light-tight case which allows their optical coupling to the SiPM boards. Each SiPM board houses a layer of 36 photo-sensors, so that each crystal in the matrix is equipped with two separate and independent readout channels, each consisting in a series of two 15 μ m pixel-size SMD, selected for their high-speed response, short pulse width and to better cope with the expected TNID.

SiPMs are connected via 50-ohm micro-coaxial transmission lines to a microprocessor-controlled Mezzanine Board, which provides signal amplification and shaping, along with all slow control functions - individual bias regulation, temperature and current monitoring - for a total of 18 readout channels. A 2-crystal prototype, Proto-0, was validated in 2020 at CERN-H2 with an e^- and γ test beam



A first prototype of the front-end electronics was tested by exposing two SiPMs to a picosecond UV laser source with variable intensity. SiPM signals were digitised at 40 Gsps. Timing was reconstructed by means of a log-normal fit applied to SiPM pulse rising edges and constant fraction technique.

The time resolution and its dependence on N_{pe} was evaluated. A resulting 13 ps constant term contribution to timing resolution was evaluated on fitted data. Using the 1 p.e. per deposited MeV light yield evaluated with the previous (Proto-0) test beam, a timing resolution better than 100 ps can be expected for energy deposits greater than 1 GeV.





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