Method and portable bench for tests of the laser optical calibration system components for the Baikal-GVD underwater neutrino Cherenkov telescope

Konrad A. Kopański

Wojciech Noga, Dariusz Góra, Apoorva Bhatt, Paweł Malecki, Jarosław Stasielak, Mateusz Wiśniewski

on behalf of the Baikal-GVD Collaboration

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Baikal Gigaton Volume Detector





LASER:

DPSS Q-switched YAG: ND3

wavelength: 532 nm

pulse duration: (FWHM: $\sim 1 \text{ ns}$)

pulse repetition: 10 Hz

pulse energy: 370 µJ



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Laser Calibration System – diffuser



Task description

- Optical diffusers tests, to propose modifications improving their parameters, including improving the illumination of distant optical modules without overexposing the nearest ones (in laser horizon).
- Digital testing data are the input for a dedicated simulation of photon propagation in water
- Testing of the laser sets under the BGVD Winter Expedition conditions ("on ice", without darkroom) on existing lasers, used in the experiment, to map the whole sets.
- The test bench, combined with the simulation, is a fully comprehensive solution that facilitates work both at the level of experiment planning (virtual modification) and at the level of the system operator (service data).



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- Beam Energy Meter (PM100USB + ES11C)



LABORATORY MEASUREMENTS



Near scan

DIFFERENTIAL SCANNING

- Study of the light emission directly from the diffuser surface in a very narrow angular range (almost collimated beam).
- Examination of the diffuser material (determining the optical parameters of the material), as well as determine the impact of minor imperfections of the structure for the final effect.



Far scan

INTEGRAL SCANNING

Effect of "observing" the whole diffuser from a distance along with taking into account the absorption and scattering of the medium in which the measurement is carried out.

Preliminary tests using simulations have shown, that having two types of measurements may give a quite complete set of data for accurate simulation.



Research objects

The presented measurements were made on a set of three diffusers.

- Two "gray" diffusers have differed in parameters.
- The "white" diffuser in its original configuration in telescope structure was equipped with a metal hood.



TEST RESULTS

Test bench measurement

The measurement consisted of placing the diffuser with a metal hood in a motorized holder, enabling rotation around its symmetry axis. The silicon detector was located on the arm, placed on the motorized stage allowing the detector to rotate around the diffuser (scanning). The light source was a DPSS laser with a wavelength of 532 nm.

- Medium: air
- Distance: 14 cm
- Detector "see" only the entire surface



Test bench measurement result



- The graph shows the results of the diffuser scan for many planes (blue envelope), the red curve shows the average result. Data was collected automatically every 1 deg (encoder readouts).
- In the presented test stand "0" represents the top of the diffuser. Such markings significantly simplified the positioning and calibration of the stand due to its universality.

White diffuser – near scan





White diffuser - near scan results



Azimuth 0 deg Elevation 0 deg



White diffuser – far scan



White diffuser with mirror - far scan result





Azimuth 0 deg Elevation 0 deg



Diffuser No. 6 – far scan





Diffuser No. 6 – far scan results





Azimuth 0 deg Elevation 0 deg



Diffuser No. 7 – far scan



- Diffuser No. 7 does not have a screw on a top.
- The cage system mounting bracket is visible at the bottom. The use of this system enables very fast replacement of a diffusers in the test stand

Diffuser No. 7 – far scan results





Azimuth 0 deg Elevation 0 deg







 Big difference in attenuation between "white" and "grey" diffusers materials





SIMULATION - PRETORIAN

Pretorian - hybrid method



Diffuser simulation



Input for simulation

LED test run



Conclusions

- An automated test bench has been built for studies of directional properties of laser diffusers
- Combined with simulations, it allows for quantitative assessment of new diffuser designs and their optimization for particular purposes (e.g. time calibration or in-situ water absorption and scattering measurements)
- The test bench allows the testing of new light distribution methods, such as cone emission, which may allow even more precise time calibration, in-situ water parameters measurements and positioning of the modules inside the clusters

Test bench application possibilities

- The test stand in the current configuration allows to perform the tests with the lasers used in BGVD (the stand is equipped with quartz rod mounting brackets).
- The use of the Si detector and the energy detector (together with the monitor) allows for accurate mapping of each laser - diffuser set.
- The stand is fully reconfigurable and software independent (in case of software failure allows to manual operation).
- Scans do not require darkroom! Tests can be performed even in a sunlight (thanks to the Q-switched laser).
- Output files are saved in TXT and JSON format
- Laser set scans, as a kind of "passports" can be used for later comparative tests (simulation vs data from laser test runs)

Thank you for your attention