



SPHIRD:

Small Pixel, High Rate Photon Counting Detector for Synchrotron Applications

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Motivation:

- Address the challenges of EBS and all the new 4th generation diffraction-limited synchrotron sources
- Optimal use of coherent scattering techniques

Goals and Approach:

- Develop a new detector overcoming the present photon-counting detection systems, pushing the limits of count-rate capabilities and spatial resolution
- Collaboration between ESRF and AGH University of Science and Technology
- First phase (R&D Study) → final design to be launched in 2023

Key target specifications:

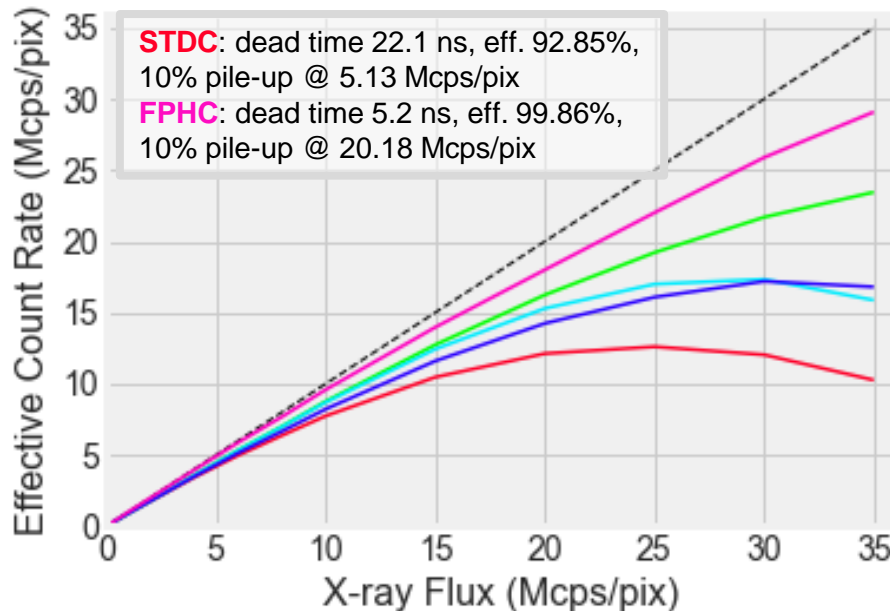
- High count rate capabilities: >15 Mcps per pixel (at 10% of pileup)
- Sensor pixel pitch ≤ 50 μm , desired target in the 30 to 40 μm range
- Optimized for 15 - 30 keV, usable in a wider range

Main technical choices:

- Readout electronics designed for electron collection, Silicon and High-Z sensors
- TSMC 40 nm CMOS technology
- Fast Charge Sensitive Amplifier with short output pulses (R. Kleczek *et al*, <http://10.1109/JSSC.2018.2851234>)
- Pile-up compensation schemes and/or sub-pixel relocation embedded in the pixel logic

SPECIAL METHODS: IN-PIXEL PILE-UP COMPENSATION

- Study and comparison of several pile-up compensation techniques
 - Amplitude based (pulse aggregation based on multiple discrimination)
 - Time based (fractional photon-counting, retriggering methods)
- Extract suitable figures of merit: dead time, detector efficiency, SNR
- Preliminary simulation results: (T. Johng-ay *et al.*, <http://10.1109/NSSMIC.2016.8069944>)



- STDC - Standard Photon Counting
- CSRT - Continuous Self-retriggering
- DSRT - Discrete Self-retriggering
- AGGT - Pulse Aggregation
- FPHC - Fractional Photon Counting

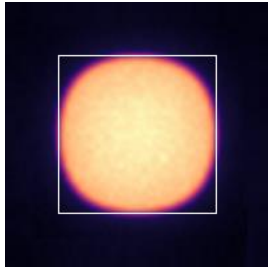
Simulation conditions:

Sensor: CdTe, 500 μm , bias -300 V
Pixel pitch: 50 μm
Source: 20 keV, size 3x3 pixels
AC Coupling time constant: 200 ns
Noise: 200 e⁻ rms
Shaper: Triangular pulses of 20 ns

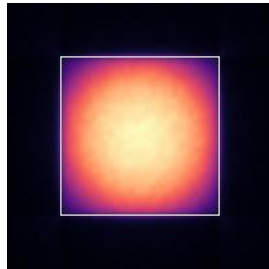
SPECIAL METHODS: PIXEL AND SUB-PIXEL RELOCATION

- Usage of the information from neighbors (charge-sharing) to relocate the hits:
 - Simple relocation using arbitration
 - 2x2 and 3x3 sub-pixel relocation (additional logic)
- Extract suitable figures of merit: PSF, effective size of the pixel (ESOP)
- Preliminary simulation results (30 μm pixel):

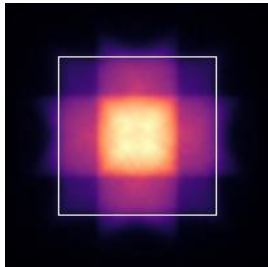
PSF Conventional
photon counting



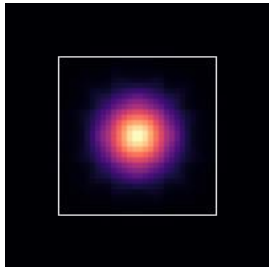
PSF Simple
Relocation



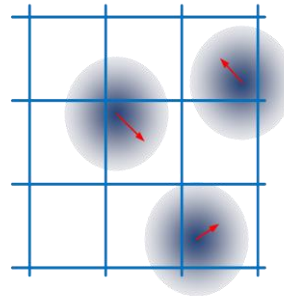
PSF 2x2 Relocation



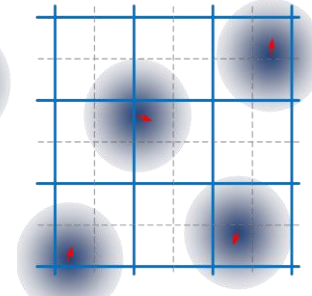
PSF 3x3 Relocation



Simple Relocation



2x2 Relocation



3x3 Relocation

