

Development of a Wide-Band Gamma-Ray Camera Onboard a 50 kg-Class Small Satellite GRAPHIUM

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1. Research Background ¹

◆ MeV gamma-ray astronomy

- ・Satellite observation is essential
- ・Cannot be imaged with lenses or reflectors
- ・Background dominated(Albedo, CXB)
- ⇨ "Last Window" for space observation

◆ MeV all-sky survey

- ・Transients like GRB, solar flares, kilonova
- ・The origin of heavy element synthesis Au, $Pt ++$ (rare metals)

New science proved with MeV Gamma Ray Observations

2. MeV γ rays as nucleosynthesis probe ²

- Heavy elements than 26Fe are thought to be produced via NC by s-process, but origin of Pt, $Au + f$ (rare metals) remains mystery
- "Kilonova" is a candidate also emit line γ rays at 30 keV 3 MeV?

3. Observation of Solar flare ³

Ackermann et al. 2012

- ・Very bright and frequent: $\sqrt{5/day}$ for C-class flare $\sqrt{0.7/d}$ ay for M-class flare
- ・Various de-excitation lines along with non-thermal bremss: $e^-e^+(511keV),$ ⁵⁶Fe, ²⁴Mg(0.5-2MeV), $NC(2.2MeV),$ $^{12}C(4.4MeV)$ ++

4. Our strategy for MeV observation

◆ CGRO Satellite "COMPTEL"

- ・Compton camera for 1-30 MeV
- ・Developed by NASA, launched in 1991

 \triangle difficulties in terms of cost, manpower, development period, rocket etc… ⇨**30 years** of stagnation

◆ Our Motivation

- ・50 kg-class small satellite \Rightarrow Low cost (~ 2 M USD)
	- $+$ short development period (\sim 5 years) c.f., COSI : 400kg , ~90 M USD

New challenge for space science using small satellites

5. Wide-band imaging ⁵

- ・ "active pinhole" in the Scatter center:
- \sqrt{E} < 200 keV as a pinhole camera
- \sqrt{E} $>$ 200 keV as a conventional CC
- ・ Extend the energy range down to **30 keV**

Omata et al. 2020; 2022, Sci. Rep.

◆ Hybrid CC **◆ For Medical**

- ・Confirming radiopharmaceutical Accumulation Externally
- ・Simultaneous Imaging of different radionuclides
- ・Broadband imaging in small animal experiments

Pharmacokinetic Monitoring for Cancer Therapy

Deploying Compton Cameras for Space Applications!!

6. GRAPHIUM mission

7. INSPIRE : system configuration

7

- Simultaneous $X & y$ -ray imaging: Pinhole(30-200keV)+Compton(150-3,000keV) ・Energy resolution(FWHM)
	- GAGG:7%@662keV BGO:16%@662keV
- ・3D position sensitive Ce:GAGG array for absorber to improve resolution

8. Expected Performance -Geant4 Simulation-

9. Expected sensitivity -Geant4 Simulation-

Continuum Sensitivity

Takahashi et al. 2012 McEnery, J. et al. 2019

10. EM fabrication and testing ¹⁰

◆**CC-configration**

11. Imaging results of the EM ¹¹

◆**EM imging result(Compton mode)**

¹³⁷Cs imaging

12. Current status ¹²

Development aimed at a launch in 2027 and other tests are being planned.

◆**Various environmental tests**

- **・GAGG・BGO Temperature test -**40℃~85℃ **(**15cycle:95min**)**
- **・Electric Power Test** \sim 18W(steady-state) Reduction of Inrush Current

Vibration/thermal vacuum testing,

13. Summary ¹³

◆ MeV Compton camera onboard the GRAPHIUM satellite

✓Equip 50-kg class small satellite, the successor to the Hibari and Petrel satellites, with a CC-Box. **✓Box-CC**(Pinhole-mode / Compton-mode) ✓Energy range: **30keV to 3 MeV** ✓Conduct source imaging with the Engineering Model. $\sqrt{\Delta E} \sim 7\%$ @ 662keV (FWHM), $\Delta \theta \sim 8.0^{\circ}$ @ 662keV (FWHM) w/ EM

◆**Future Prospects**

- \vee Pinhole Imaging w/ EM
- ✓Conduct space environment resistance testing with the Engineering Model.

Thank you for listening!!

Appendix

1. Nuclear gamma rays -Galactic plane-

 $^{26}_{13}$ Al → $^{26}_{12}$ Mg + e⁺ + v + 1.809 MeV (720000years)

 \checkmark ²⁶Al is produced in core-collapse supernovae (Core-collapse supernovae also produce ${}^{60}Fe$)

- \Rightarrow Determines the locations of element synthesis in the galaxy
- ⇒ Flux ratio of ⁶⁰Fe/²⁶Al
	- \rightarrow Constrains theoretical predictions of element synthesis in supernovae

◆ ⁴⁴Ti gamma ray lines (1.16MeV)

 44 Ti + $e^ \rightarrow$ 44 Sc + v + 67.8, 78.4 keV (60years) ⁴⁴Sc → ⁴⁴Ca + e^+ + 1.16 MeV (3.97 hours)

- \sim ⁴⁴Ti is produced in supernova remnants
- \Rightarrow Pinpoints the locations of SNRs over hundreds of years \Rightarrow Enables detailed studies of individual SNRs

◆ Annihilation Gamma Rays (511keV)

26Al decay… Positron source \Rightarrow Positron annihilation with electrons

but... The distribution of 26 Al is not fully traceable

 \Rightarrow Understanding the unknown origins of positrons

2. The origin of heavy elements

Big Bang (13.7 billion years ago)

Supernova explosion

Synthesis of light elements (Li, Be)

Synthesis of elements up to iron (Fe) through nuclear fusion

Rare metals like Au Pt

The origin is still unknown.

Gamma-ray observation is the key!

2. MeV γ rays as nucleosynthesis probe

- ・In the s-process, the slow neutron capture allows beta decay to occur immediately upon forming unstable isotopes, leading to stable nuclei.
- ・In the NC process that generates heavy elements, gamma rays are emitted during neutron capture. In the case of gold, it emits 412 keV gamma rays, and detecting this can serve as evidence.
- ・The r-process line reflects neutron capture, not the stable isotopes, which form later through beta decay.
- ・Gold production events like kilonovae are rare and often too distant to observe from Earth, making them highly challenging to study.

3. Observation of Solar flare

- \vee It is exceptionally bright, even in comparison to the Crab Nebula.
- \checkmark In addition to non-thermal bremsstrahlung, various de-excitation lines can be observed. e^-e^+ , ⁶⁰Fe, ²⁴Mg (0.5~2MeV) …
- \checkmark The launch period coincides with the peak phase.
	- C class flare \sim 5/day
	- M class flare \sim 0.7/day
- ✓The dashed lines represent the 100s and 1000s continuum sensitivity in INSPIRE's pinhole and Compton modes.
- ✓The effects of solar flares on the camera and the circuit board are currently under investigation.

Low-energy gamma rays (hundreds of keV to MeV) from bremsstrahlung and positron annihilation characterize the early stages of solar flares. Tracking these sources enables direct study of particle acceleration processes and energy release mechanisms

3A. Observation of Solar flare

◆ **Gamma-ray emission mechanisms due to solar flares**

- ① Occurrence of magnetic reconnection
	- \rightarrow Release of magnetic energy
- ② Plasma heating (thermal radiation)
	- + Particle acceleration
- ③ Accelerated particles travel along magnetic field lines to the chromosphere
- ④ Interaction with chromospheric plasma
	- \rightarrow Non-thermal radiation

These emissions characterizing the initial stages of solar flares.

How electrons are accelerated in solar flares remains a mystery ⇨ MeV exploration

4. COMPTEL

4. COMPTEL

Compared to COMPTEL

- ✓COMPTEL is a large detector, but its position resolution of about 2 cm. So, COMPTEL required a 1.7 m distance between the scatterer and absorber to achieve sufficient image resolution. The same applies to the ARM. As a result, this led to reduced detection efficiency and a loss in sensitivity.
- ✓INSPIRE, with millimeter-level position resolution, allows the scatterer and absorber to be placed just a few centimeters apart. This results in sensitivity, comparable to that of COMPTEL.
- \vee However, for high-energy gamma rays (E > 3 MeV), INSPIRE's smaller size limits absorption, making COMPTEL superior in this range.

4. COSI

Compared to COSI

✓Our camera can observe from 30 keV, lower than COSI's range.

- ✓While our camera's energy resolution is inferior to HPGe detectors, COSI's integrated scatterer-absorber design results in similar angular resolution.
- \vee It's also highly cost-efficient, at 1/100th the cost and 1/10th the weight of COSI, enabling easier future scaling up.
- ✓**Observing transient events like kilonova** requires quickly launching multiple satellites to maximize opportunities. Small satellites are ideal for this.

The detector of COSI adopts a structure that reads out germanium semiconductors using a cross-strip method.

4. Compared to other mission

- ◆Our main goal is to observe **transient events**, like kilonovae, GRB, rather than steady sources.
- ◆INSPIRE has wide field of view compared to COMPTEL(1.0str). ⇒With a wider field of view, the chances of observing transient events increase.
- \blacklozenge The merit of small satellite
	- ⇒For Increasing the probability observing these transient events, having multiple satellites increases the chances of detecting them.
		- Small satellites are well-suited for this purpose.
- ◆We also see INSPIRE as a testing ground for innovative science. If we succeed, it'll be easy to scale up this technology for larger satellites.

So, this mission is really an important first step—a proof of concept.

4. Compared to other mission

4. Success Criteria

7. Our strategy for MeV observation

- ✓This shows the CXB and Albedo removal rates for BGO, respectively. For albedo, BGO can eliminate 53% of albedo at 1 MeV.
- ✓Due to the small satellite size, it is difficult to equip a thicker BGO shield.
- ✓BGO is also planned to be used as a gamma-ray burst monitor.

7. BGO active shield

 \sqrt{T} he role of the BGO shield is two.

One is to detect and remove backgrounds such as albedo and CXB. The other is to eliminate escape events, which occur when particles are not fully absorbed within the Compton camera and escape.

7. INSPIRE : system configuration

7. INSPIRE : system configuration

Scatter:**GAGG array + MPPC array**

Pixel size: $1 \times 1 \times 15$ mm³ Hole: 5.5×5.5 mm² Pixel number: 45×45 pixel \times 4 array

Side:**GAGG array + MPPC array**

Pixel size: $1 \times 1 \times 15$ mm³ Pixel number: 45×45 pixel

Absorber:**GAGG array (DOI) + MPPC array**

Pixel size: $2 \times 2 \times 15$ mm³ Pixel number: 23×23 pixel \times 4 layer \times 4 array

Shield:**BGO + MPPC**

BGO Side, Bottome: t7mm, t10mm \Rightarrow Background, Fake Event Remove

7. Count rate against background

Detection rate in a background environment (CXB + Albedo)

✓The DAQ board can accurately acquire data at a rate of up to approximately 20 kHz. When simulating CXB and Albedo, the background rate is estimated to be around 2.4 kHz, which is well within the manageable range.

7. Depth of Interaction

7. Scintillater properties

✓GAGG was selected for its high density, light yield, non-hygroscopic properties, ease of processing, and resistance to cosmic radiation activation.

✓BGO is a high-density crystal that efficiently detects external background, making it commonly used as an active shield.

7. - PMT vs MPPC -

$PMT \cdot MPPC \Rightarrow A$ detector capable of capturing faint light.

7. - MPPC -

By applying centroid calculations to the signals read out from the four edges of the MPPC, the reaction position on a two-dimensional plane can be determined.

Table 3.2 Structure and Characteristics of S14161-1685 $(Ta = 25^{\circ} \text{ C}, Vs = \pm 5V, \lambda = 700 \text{ nm})$

8. Performance – angular resolution-

 \vee In pinhole mode, the FWHM of the 1D projection of the image is used as the angular resolution. \vee In Compton mode, for a point source with a known position, the angle θ is defined as the angle between the source position and the scattering axis of the Compton event, while the scattering angle Φ is calculated from the energy information. The FWHM of the histogram of the differences between θ and Φ is used as the angular resolution.

8. Field of View

 \sim 1 sr

◆ Pinhole mode

 \Rightarrow The field of view is limited by the detector geometry.

◆ **Compton mode**

 \Rightarrow Derived from the angular dependence of the intrinsic efficiency. \sim 3 sr $.10^{-}$ 1MeV $10⁻¹$ Efficiency \bullet ALL $-$ REAR \div SIDE $\overline{10}$ $\overline{20}$ 30 40 50 60 70 $\Delta \theta$ $\theta = 60$ 度

✓The FOV in pinhole mode is geometrically determined.

✓On the other hand, the FOV in Compton mode is defined by the angular dependence of the detection efficiency. The angular dependence of the intrinsic efficiency when $10⁷$ photons are irradiated at 1 MeV is presented.

8. Performance evaluation **- Detection sensitivity for point sources -**

◆ Evaluation of the intrinsic efficiency in compton mode**(Geant4 Simulation)**

- Reproduction of GAGG, MPPC, and BGO shield in Geant4.
- 2. Irradiation of $10²$ gamma photons of each energy from the front.

Count events as pinhole events where the photon "pass through the hole and reacts only with the absorber."

Intrinsic efficiency = pinhole evevt / Number of irradiated gamma photons.

8. Performance evaluation **- Detection sensitivity for point sources -**

◆ Evaluation of the intrinsic efficiency in compton mode**(Geant4 Simulation)**

- Reproduction of GAGG, MPPC, and BGO shield in Geant4.
- 2. Irradiation of $10²$ gamma photons of each energy from the front.

Intrinsic efficiency $=$ compton evevt / Number of irradiated gamma photons.

8. Efficiency

- \vee It is observed that the efficiency decreases for lower energies below 100 keV.
	- ⇒due to the MPPCs located directly behind the hole or in the absorber interacting with low-energy gamma rays.
- \vee On the other hand, above 100 keV, the sensitivity is expected to decrease at higher energies, as events involving Compton scattering in the absorber increase.

9. Compton Camera Principle

9. Event Selection

9. Event Selection

- E_0 : Photon energy
- ΔE : Energy resolution width
- E_{bs} : Back-scatter energy
- E_f : Energy deposited in the scatterer
- E_r : Energy deposited in the absorber
- E_s : Energy deposited in the side scatterer

9. Event Selection -compton event-

Rear Event selection Side Event selection

Energymap_rear_600keV

Energymap_side_600keV

9. Angle dependence of the Side Energy map

9. Side Energy cut

9. Imaging - Pinhole mode -

9. Imaging - Pinhole mode -

9. Imaging - Compton mode -

9. Imaging - Compton mode -

14A. Performance evaluation - Detection sensitivity for point sources -

◆ Sensitivity evaluation.

$$
S(E) = \frac{f}{\eta(E)} \sqrt{\frac{b(E)}{A \Delta E T}}
$$

- $S(E)$: Detection sensitivity [ph cm⁻² s⁻¹ keV-1]
	- f : Detection limit in terms of σ
- $\eta(E)$: Detection efficiency
- $b(E)$: Detector background [cnt cm⁻² s⁻¹ keV⁻¹]
	- : Detector area [cm²]
	- ΔE : Energy resolution
		- T : Observation time [s]

Assumptions:

 $A = 100 \text{ cm}^2$, $f = 3 \text{ (3 } \sigma \text{ detection)}$, $\Delta E = 0.5 E$ [keV], $T = 10^6$ [s]

Due to its high intensity and low outgassing properties, which help minimize light loss, **the two-part epoxy adhesive EPO-TEK301**, certified by NASA Lowoutgassing ASTM E595, was chosen.

Calibration Result

➤ **Energy Resolution Evaluation** Right figure: Spectrum (Energy) Left figure: Pixel map viewed in the range of 662 ± 50 keV

FRONT:[7.5%@662keV](mailto:7.9%25@662keV) SIDE1:[6.9%@662keV](mailto:6.9%25@662keV) SIDE2:[6.8%@662keV](mailto:6.8%25@662keV)

1 FRONT

SIDE1 SIDE2 Hmap Heng \times 10³ \times 10 3 Heng $1.0₁$ Hena $1.0₁$ 6.428371e+07 6.428371e+07 ntries 2_i 150⊦ $150¹$ Mean 342.7 338.7 196.9 Std Dev ad Dev 198.5 $\overline{2}$ 250 $0.5 0.5$ **FWHM: FWHM: 6.9%@662keV 6.8%@662keV** -0.0 $\Theta.0$ $15($ 100 $50¹$ 50 $-0.5⁺$ $-0.5⁺$ $-1.9\frac{1}{0}$ -1.9 -0.5 0.0 0.5 1.0 $\overline{0}$ 0.5 200 400 600 800 -0.5 0.0 1.0 200 400 600 800

 x

DOI (3d position map) ²

12. Radiation damage to MPPC

- \cdot In orbit : \sim 1krad/year
- Bulk damage and charge trapping due to ionization processes : Increase in dark current ⇒The low-energy range around ~50 keV may become indistinguishable from noise.

12. Power supply test

 $DC1 \rightarrow DC2 \rightarrow DC3$

12. DAQ Part

12. Radiation test

- \checkmark The ADC board experiences both hard and soft errors on a timescale of several months. \Rightarrow It has been confirmed that restarting the system restores normal operation.
- ✓ No critical errors have been observed on the USB board.
- ✓ Protons hitting circuit boards can cause Single Event Upsets (SEUs) or Single Event Latch-ups (SELs).

SEUs flip bits in memory or flip-flop circuits, while SELs cause excessive current in thyristor structures, risking permanent damage. Prompt overcurrent detection is essential to mitigate SELs.

galactic plane observation

Exposure Map (1year)

Orbit

Sun-synchronous orbit

(LST10/550km Altitude)

Merit

The angle between the satellite's orbital plane and the direction of the sun remains almost constant throughout the year

- ・Easy equipment placement in terms of field of view.
- The sun angle is almost constant, so it is easy to secure a constant power supply.

LST10

 30°

Observation method

Out-of-plane offset observation

equational coordinates equational longitude…anti-solar equational latitude…galactic plane →**Mapping the galactic plane in one year**

Merit

Facing anti-solar direction, which is advantageous for power generation

Restriction

No observation when the earth is in the Compton camera's field of view(60°)

How to calculate Observation time

In Galactic Plane, Direction $\pm 30^\circ$ is counted(pinhole FOV)

※Constant velocity at the equatorial plane \rightarrow Coarse and dense observation time

