In-chip neural networks implementation for charge-sharing effect compensation

ABSTRACT

I present a novel approach for radiation detection utilizing neural networks implemented on-chip in a pixelated readout hybrid X-ray detector (HPAD). In HPADs, when a photon hits a detector, a cloud of charge is generated in a sensor material and attracted to the electrode located at the input of the pixel. One of the problems that occurs in this type of detector is the so-called charge-sharing effect. The charge-sharing phenomenon happens when a photon hits the detector in the region in between the pixels, and a cloud of charge is split between them, causing loss or misinterpretation of information. The issue significantly affects especially detectors with small-size pixels, for which the effect is more visible.

In recent years, few groups have implemented artificial neural networks inside readout integrated circuits for embedded radiation signal processing, e.g. [1], [2]. At IEEE Nuclear Science Symposium 2023, our AGH-UST group presented the HPAD X-ray detector with an on-chip and in-pixel artificial neural network dedicated to precise photon energy measurement [3], [4].

Building upon the success of previous implementation of in-pixel artificial neural network, with this paper I continue the exploration of potential neural network applications in X-ray detectors toward the chargesharing effect and consequently an improvement of HPAD detectors'spatial resolution. I present the approach that utilizes two types of neural networks implemented inside the readout circuit: a spiking neural network followed by the implementation of the artificial neural network. I present the design of the proposed solution and its simulation results.

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Workshop topics

Detector systems

Author: KOZIOŁ, Anna (AGH University of Krakow) Presenter: KOZIOŁ, Anna (AGH University of Krakow)