

Development of an Electron-Tracking Compton Camera using CF₄ gas at high pressure for improved detection efficiency

Saturday 20 February 2010 12:50 (25 minutes)

In MeV gamma-ray astronomy, the only observation by a Compton camera, COMPTEL, succeeded. The sensitivity of COMPTEL is, however, worse than those of detectors in the X-ray and other gamma-ray regions for the large background. Therefore a Compton observatory with better sensitivity is required.

We have developed an Electron-Tracking Compton Camera (ETCC) consisting of a gaseous micro Time Projection Chamber (μ TPC) and a GSO(Ce) scintillation camera surrounding the μ TPC. The μ TPC, based on a GEM and a micro-pixel chamber (μ PIC) whose pitch is 400 μ m, measures the recoil electron, and the Compton scattered gamma-ray is measured by the scintillation camera. Thus, the ETCC is able to reconstruct the incident direction for a single photon. Several prototype ETCCs with a detection volume of about $10 \times 10 \times 10 \text{ cm}^3$ filled with an Ar/C₂H₆ (90:10) gas mixture at 760 Torr were developed and their performances were studied.

In order to achieve a sensitivity 10 times better than that of COMPTEL, we are developing an ETCC with μ TPC using CF₄ gas and at a higher pressure. We are developing the ETCC with μ TPC using an Ar/CF₄/iC₄H₁₀ (54:40:6) mixture at 1520 Torr which is expected to have a sensitivity over 3 times better than that of our prototypes.

In this presentation, we will report the basic characteristics such as gains, drift velocities, energy resolutions, and position resolutions measured with the μ TPC and angular resolutions and detection efficiencies measured with the ETCC.

Summary (Additional text describing your work. Can be pasted here or give an URL to a PDF document):

http://www-cr.scphys.kyoto-u.ac.jp/member/michiaki/pdf/VCI2010_Summary_takahashi.pdf

Primary author: Mr TAKAHASHI, Michiaki (Japan)

Presenter: Mr TAKAHASHI, Michiaki (Japan)

Session Classification: Applications 2