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Pushing the Limits of Kyoto's SOI Pixel Sensor for X-ray Astronomy with the Pinned Depleted Diode

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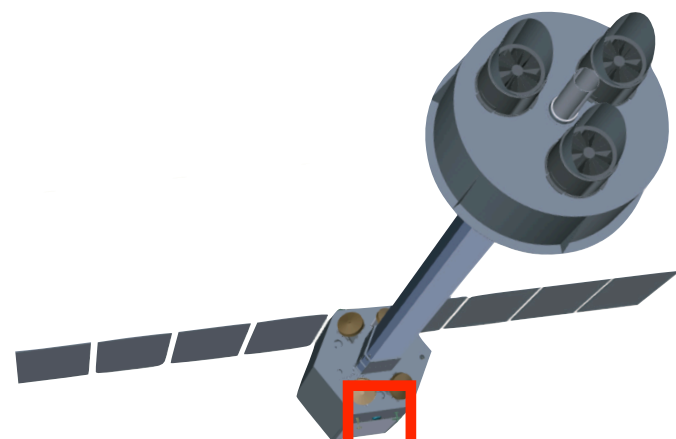
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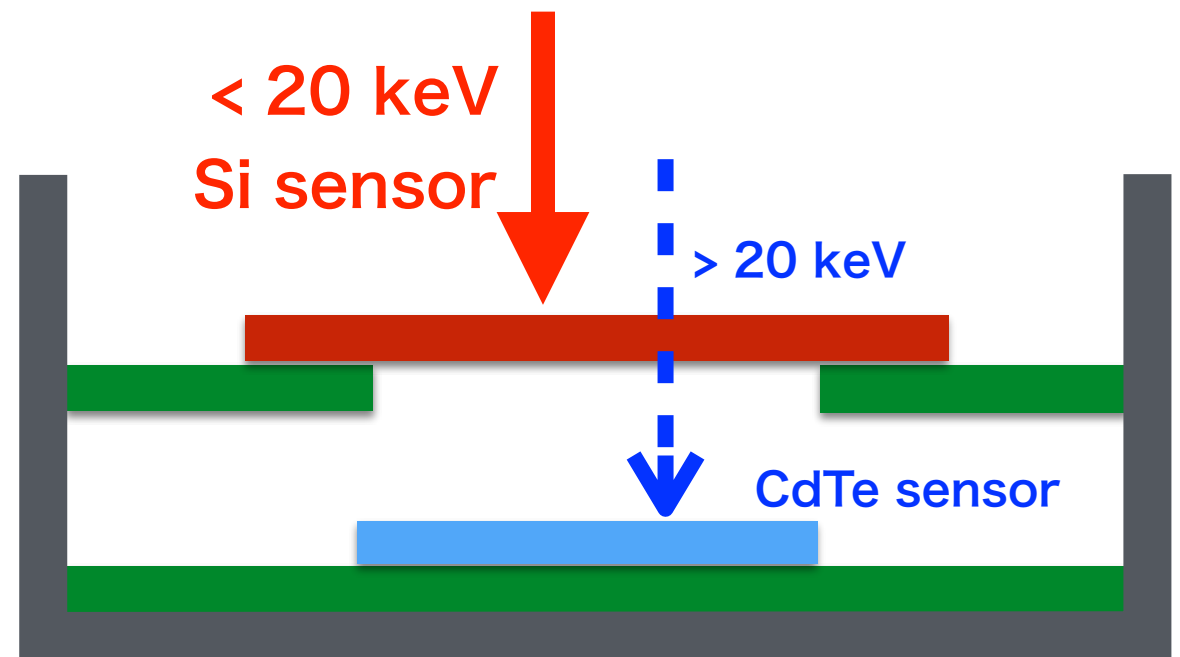
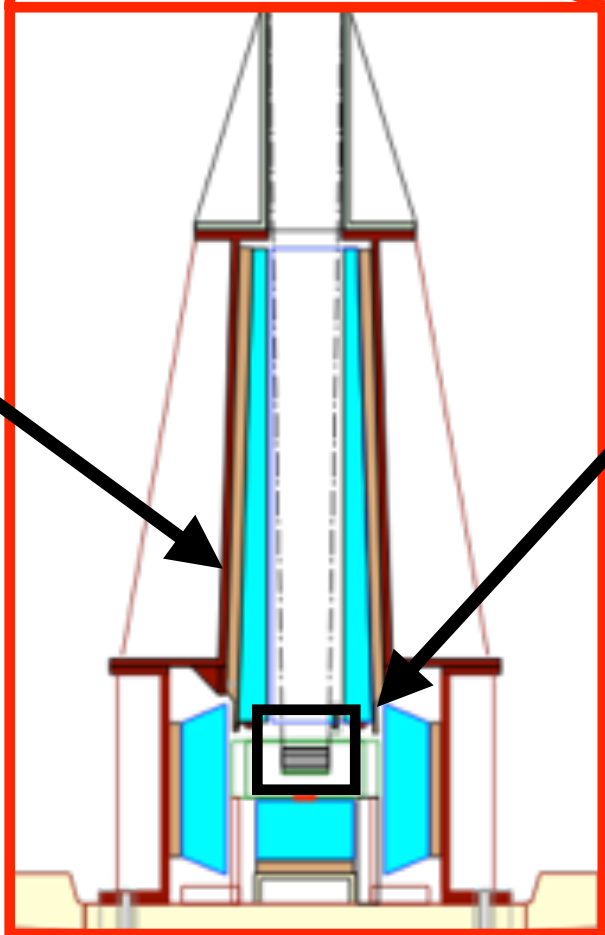
FORCE Satellite Mission

Focusing On Relativistic universe and Cosmic Evolution

Wideband Hybrid X-ray Imager



Scintillator
for Active Shield



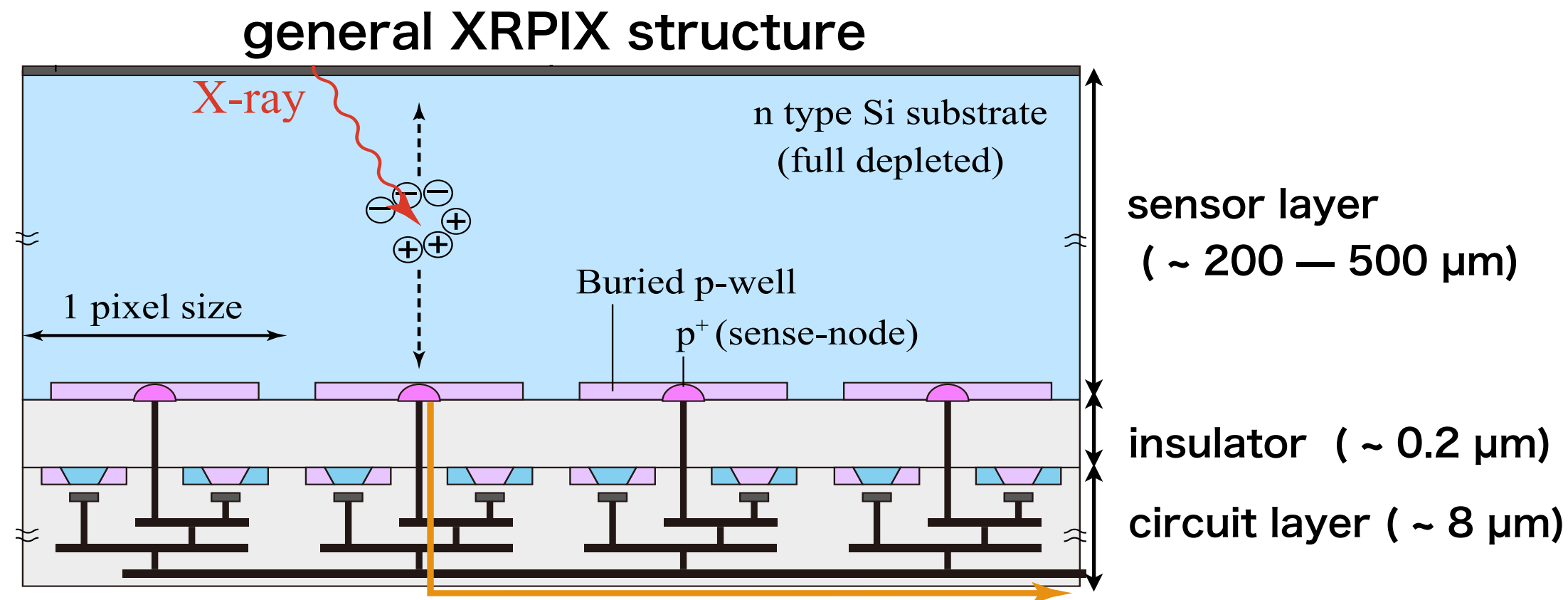
- ★ Wide energy range : 1 - 80 keV (Requirement)
- ★ Si + CdTe hybrid detector

Requirement of Si sensor

- ◉ Energy resolution of $< 300 \text{ eV (FWHM) @ 6 keV}$
- ◉ Time resolution of $< 10 \mu\text{s}$ for anti-coincidence

We have been developing X-ray Si sensor for FORCE mission.

SOI Pixel Detector “XRPIX”



“XRPIX” = **series of SOI pixel sensors** for X-ray detection

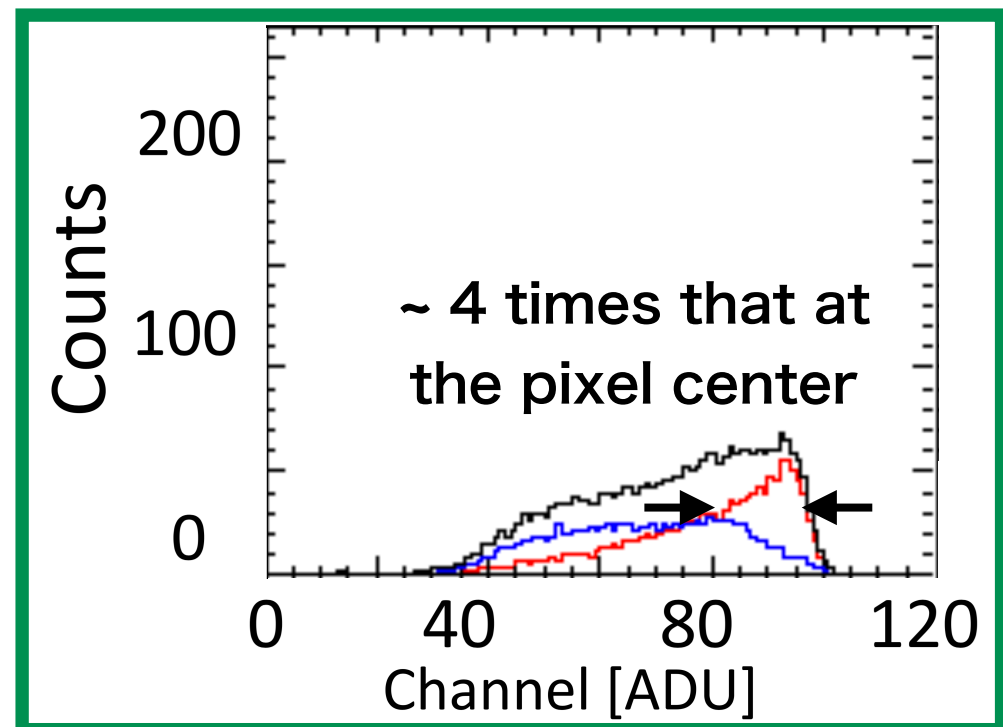
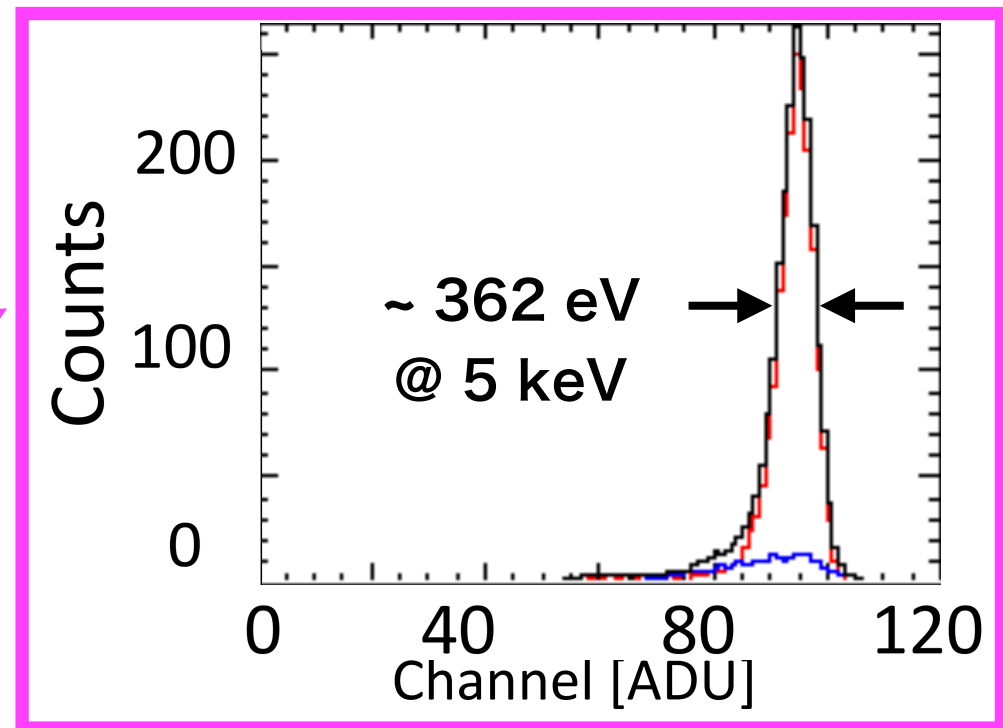
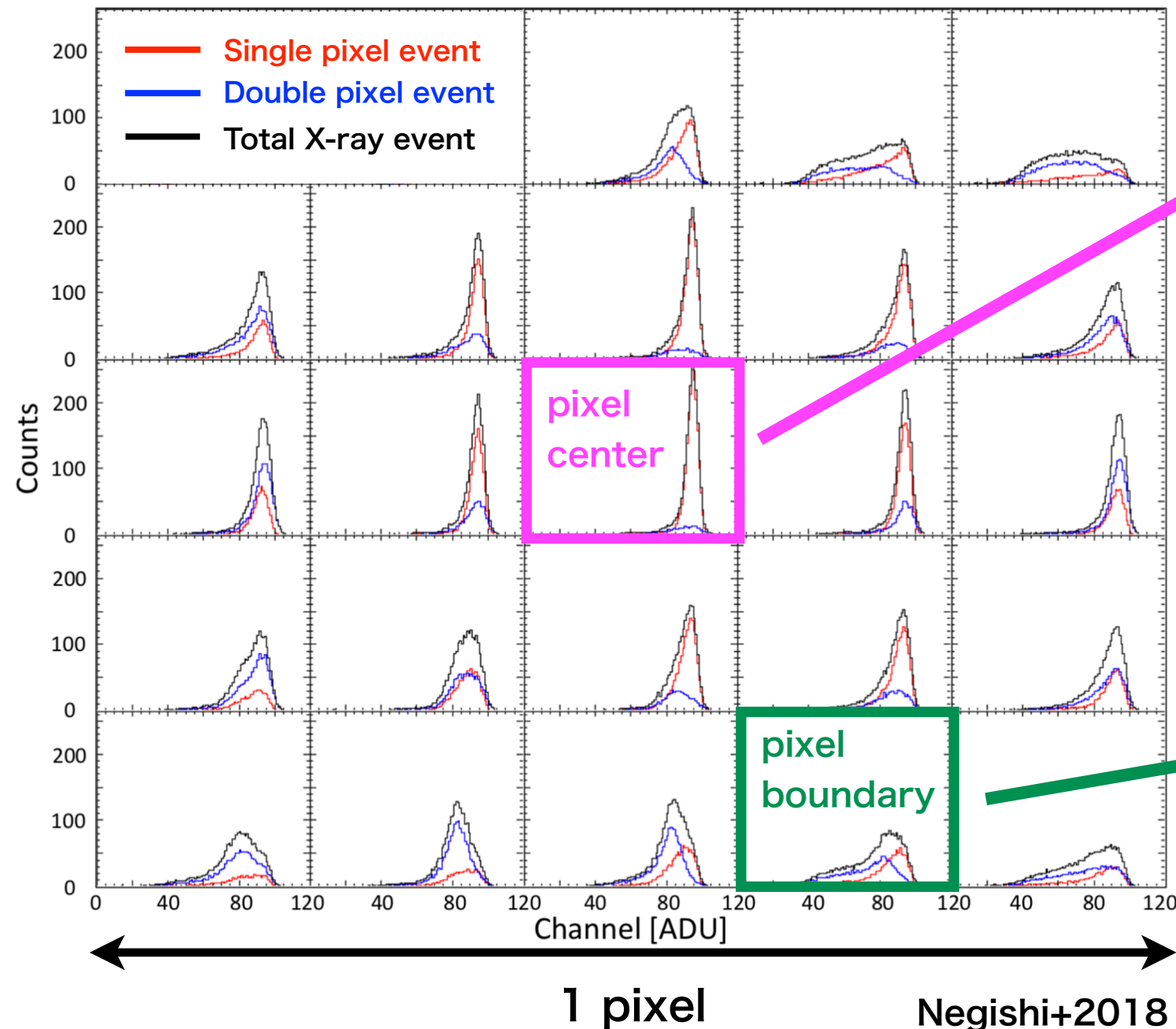
XRPIX Advantages

- * **No mechanical bump bonding**
 - High Density, Low Parasitic Capacitance, High Sensitivity
- * **Standard CMOS circuit can be built**
 - Trigger output function for good time resolution
- * **Based on industrial standard technology**

Previous devices have two known problems related to charge collection efficiency.

Spectrum Resolution Difference at Sub-Pixel

Energy spectrum folded in one pixel at 5 keV.



- Tail structure near pixel boundaries.
- The energy resolutions at pixel boundaries are ~ 4 times larger than that at the pixel center.

Spectrum Shape is Related To T_{STORE}

We define T_{STORE} as exposure time after the trigger comes out

$T_{\text{STORE}} \sim 320 \text{ ns}$

$T_{\text{STORE}} \sim 1.2 \text{ } \mu\text{s}$

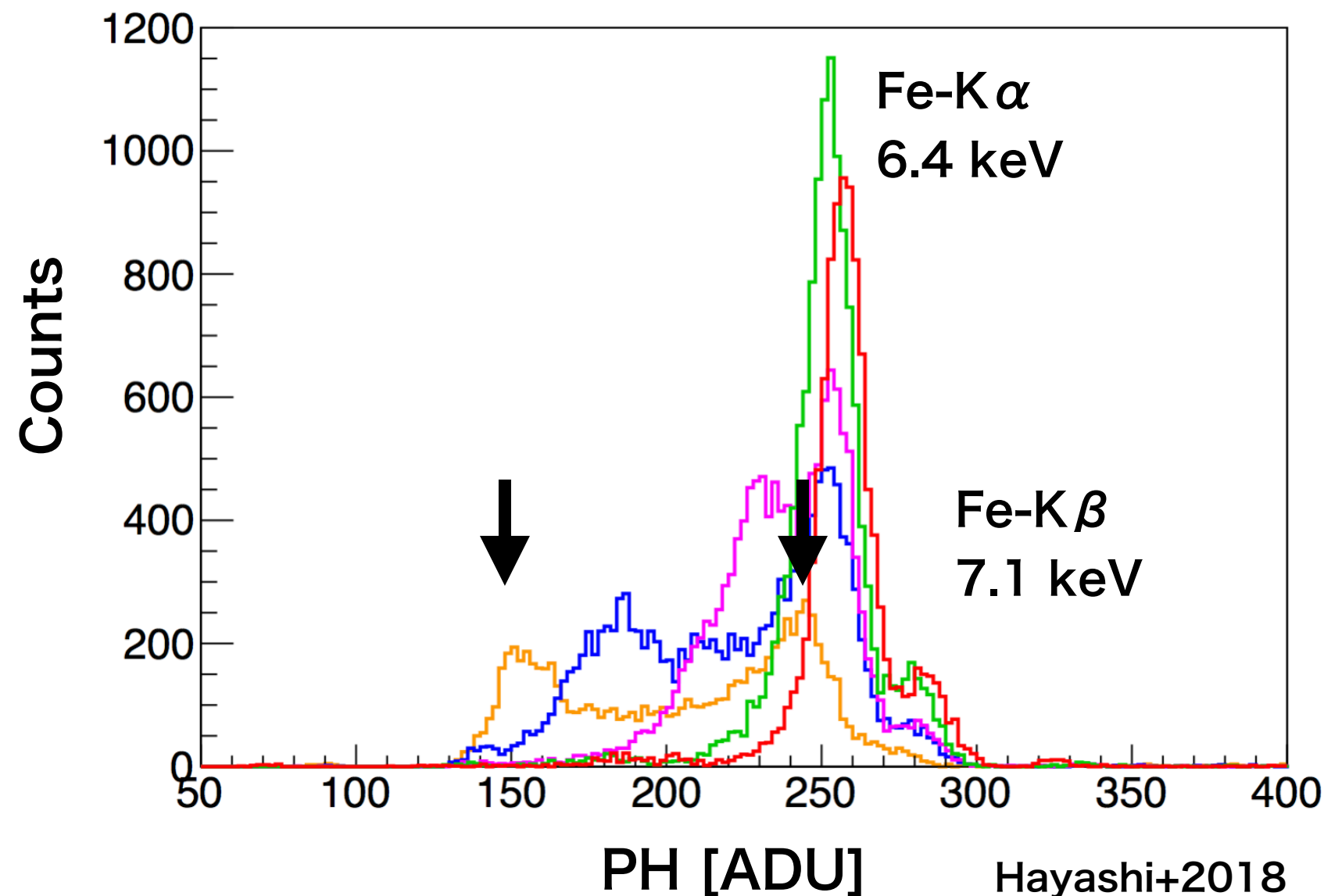
$T_{\text{STORE}} \sim 10 \text{ } \mu\text{s}$

$T_{\text{STORE}} \sim 100 \text{ } \mu\text{s}$

$T_{\text{STORE}} \sim 1 \text{ ms}$

FORCE mission require

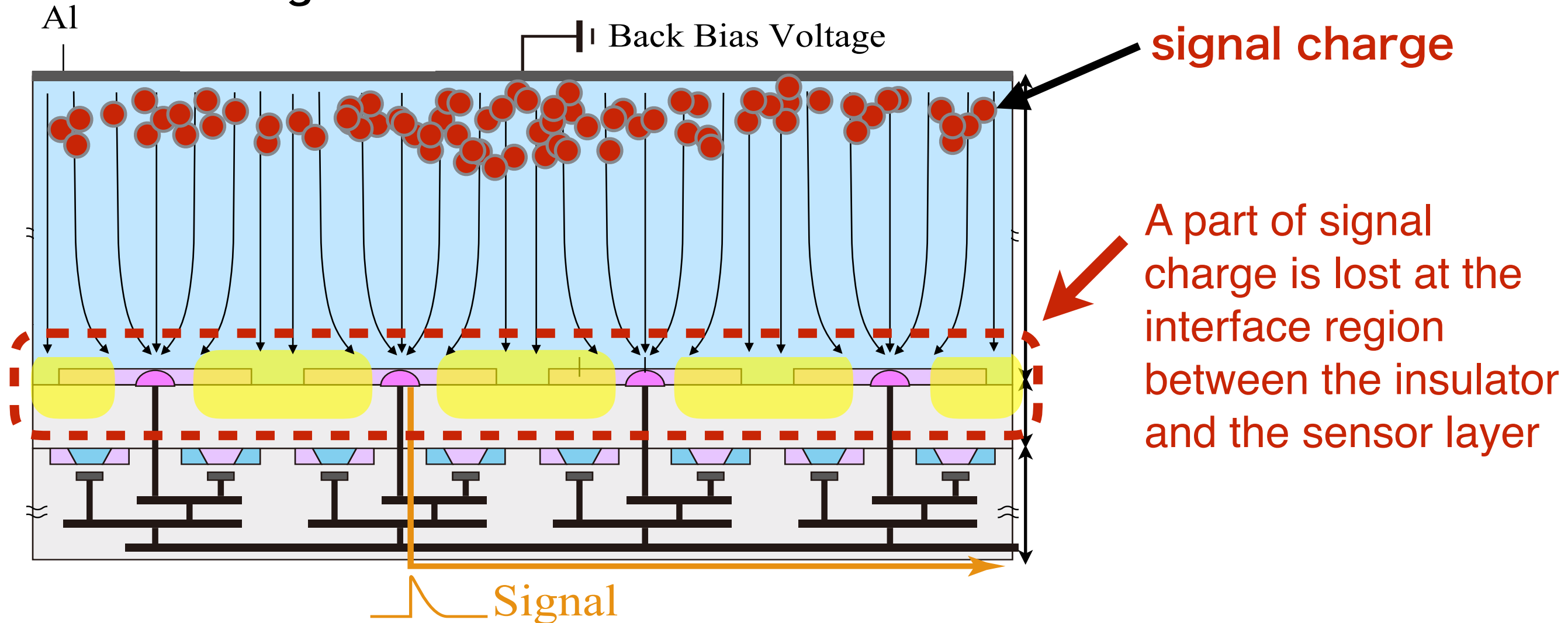
$T_{\text{STORE}} < \sim \mu\text{s}$



- * Fake peak appears when the T_{STORE} is short.
- * We speculate that the charge collection efficiency is different at X-ray incident position in the same pixel.

Signal Charges are Trapped at the Interface

general XRPIX structure

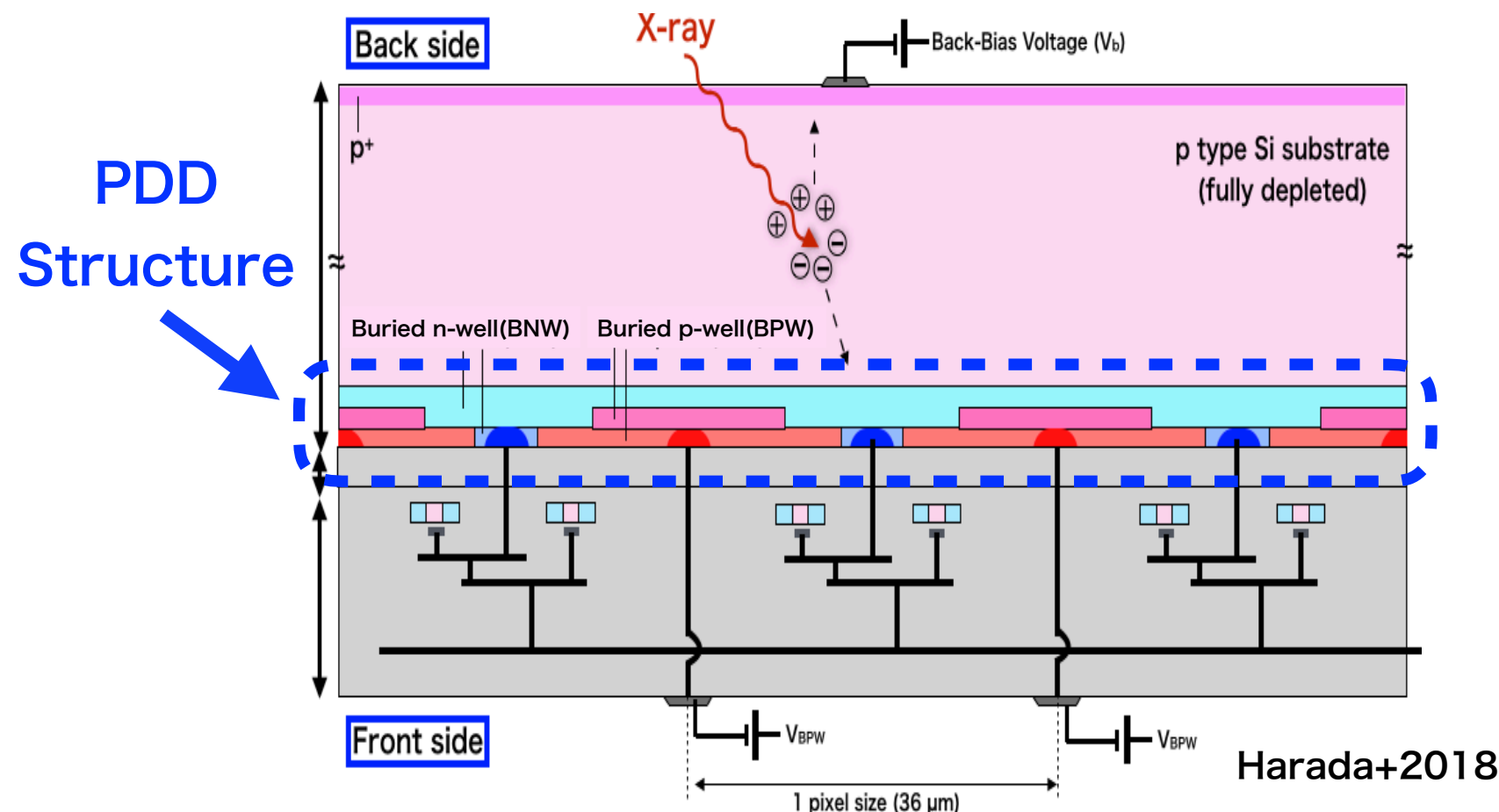


We speculate that both of those problems are due to the signal charges are trapped at the interface between the sensor layer and SiO_2 layer

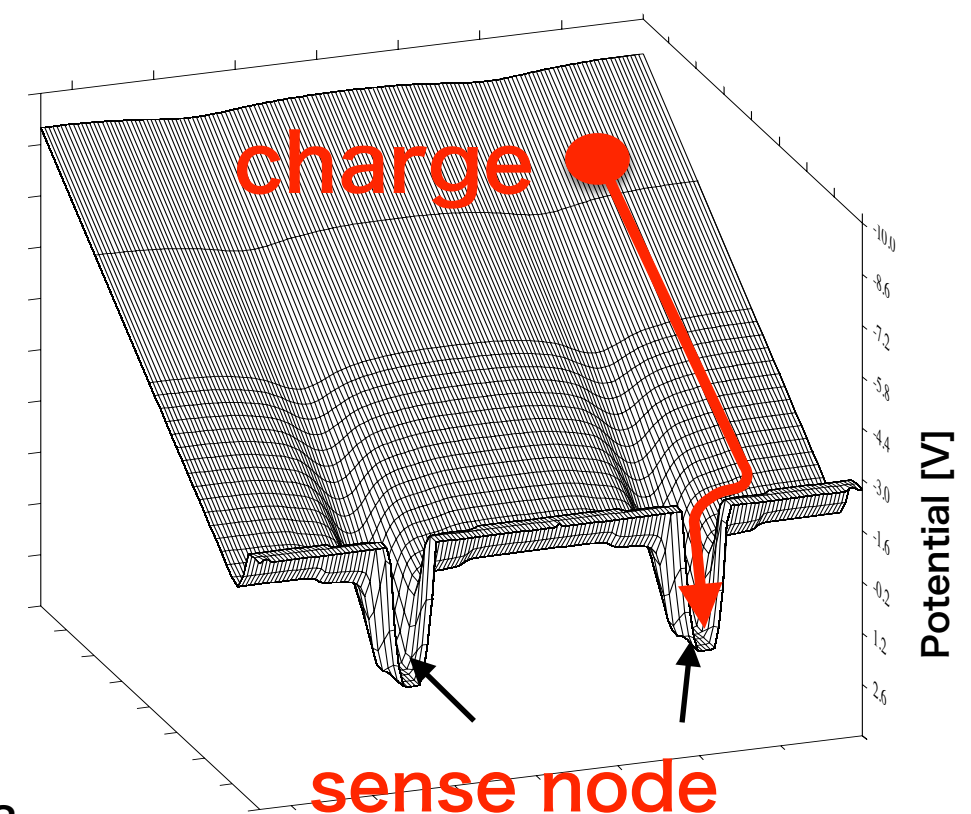
Pinned Depleted Diode Structure

Pinned Depleted Diode (PDD) Structure (Kamehama+2018) is employed to mitigate the issues in our previous devices

XRPIX with PDD structure

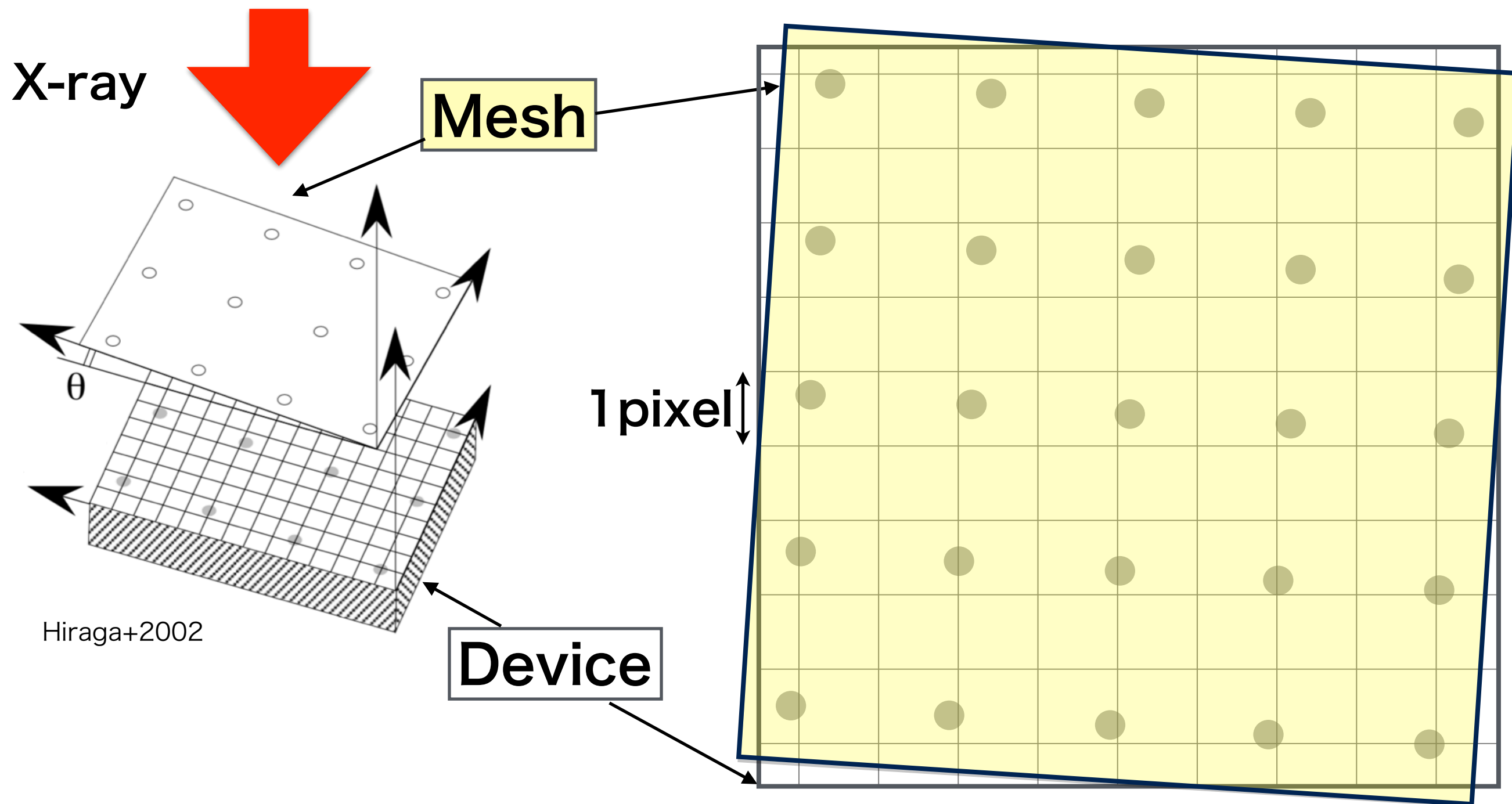


Electric field simulation

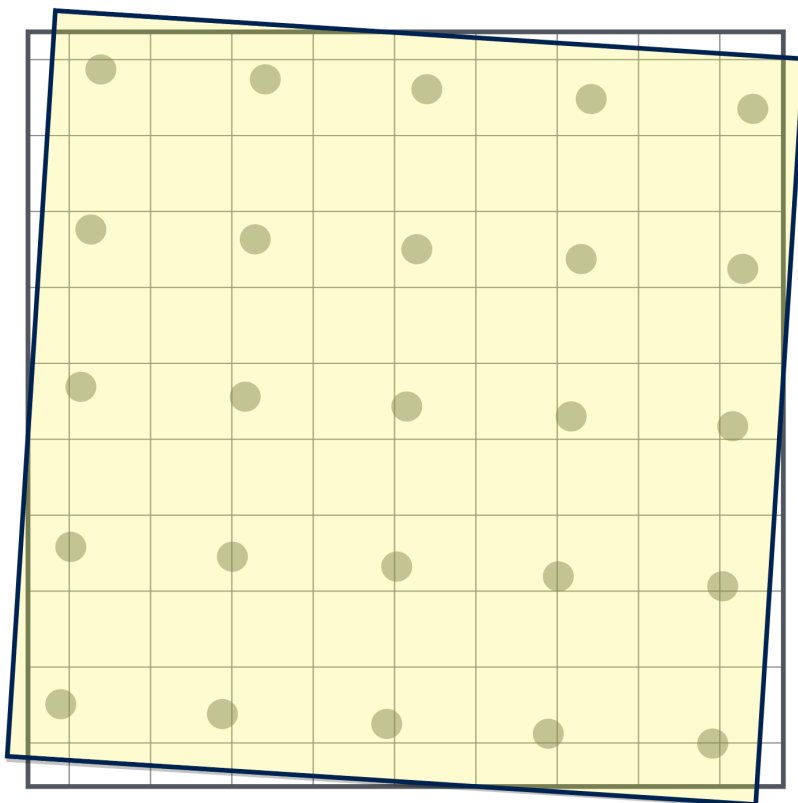


- * Highly doped buried p-well acts as shield layer to reduce noise.
- * Signal charges are transported through stepped buried n-well to the sense node **without touching the interface** between the sensor layer and SiO₂ layers

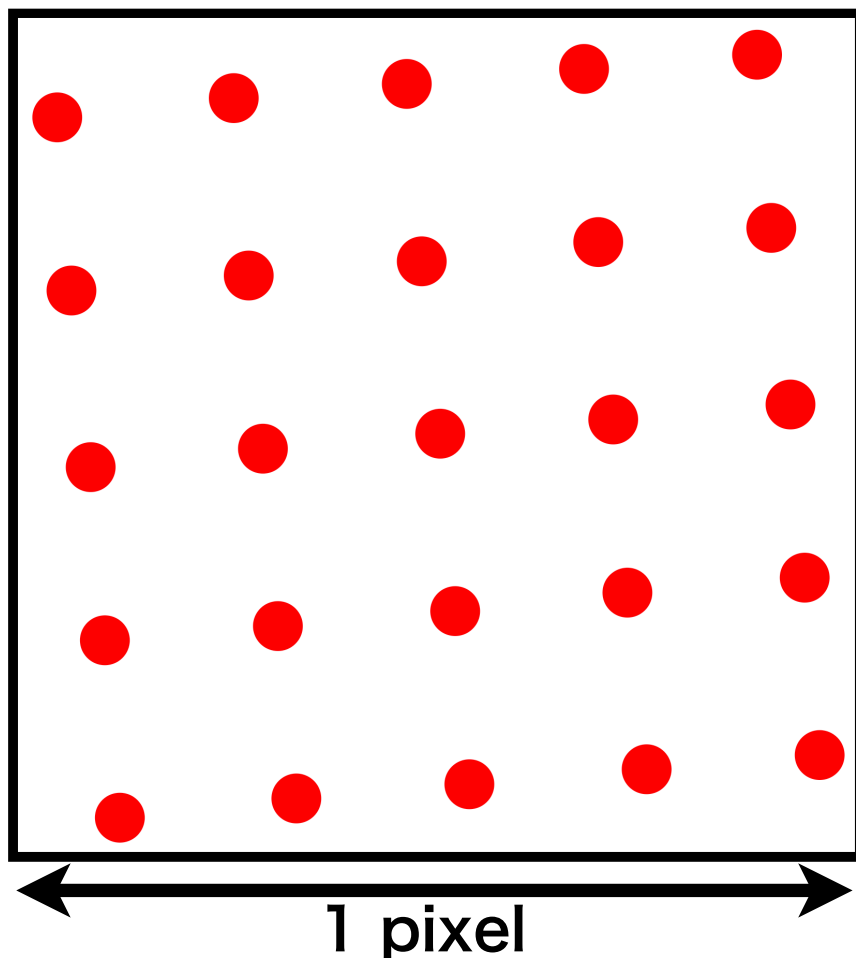
To solve those problems we have developed XRPIX6E with PDD structure



Placing a thin metal mesh with evenly spaced holes, the hole pitch is multiple to the detector pixel size, parallel to the detector surface and tilted by a small angle.
→ The hole shadows on the detector gradually shift positions from pixel to pixel



- * X-ray incident position on the detector is restricted by the mesh hole.
- * Large number of pixels represent an expanded one pixel structure.
- * We can easily determine the incident position on the pixel from the hole shadow on the detector.



This technique enables us to **evaluate the sub-pixel resonance.**

Experimental Setup

X-ray tube



X-ray irradiation
time: 45 minutes

Thermostatic
Chamber (-15°C)

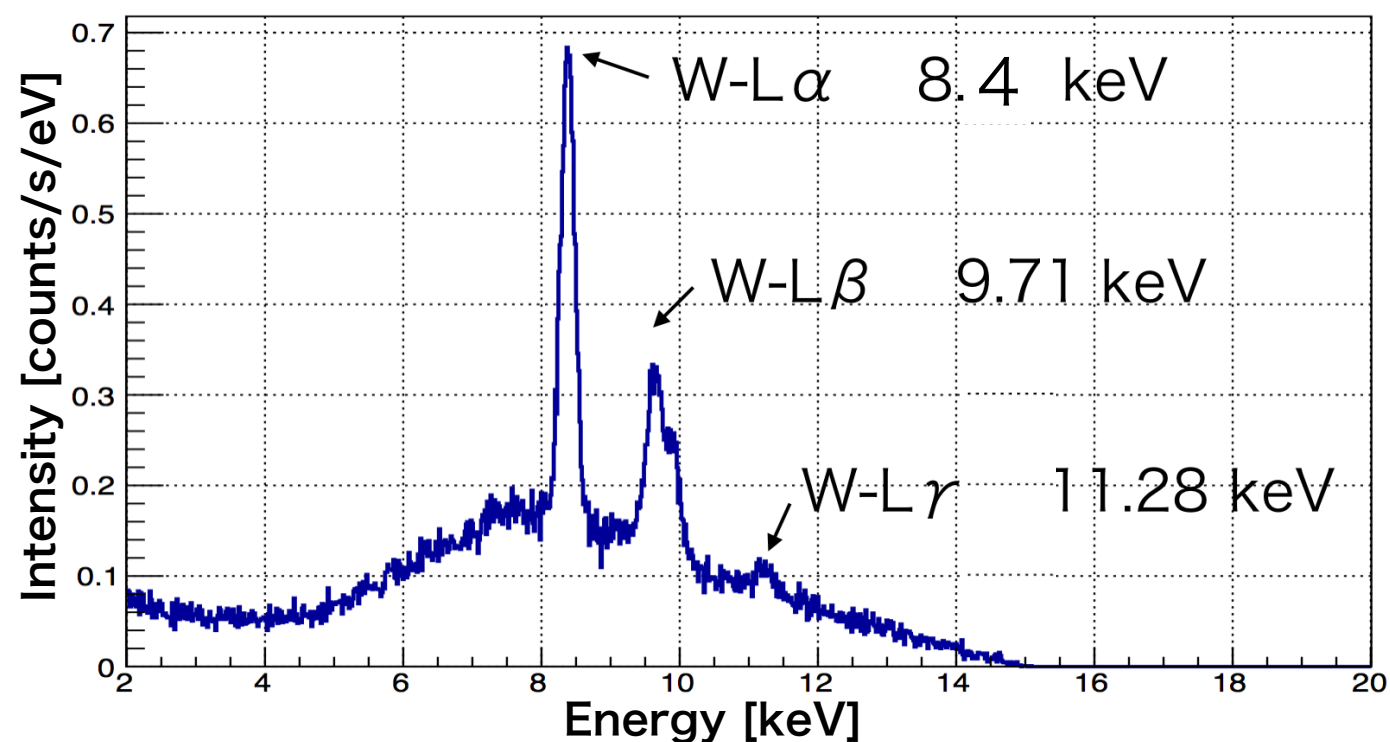
Readout
boards

XRPIX6E

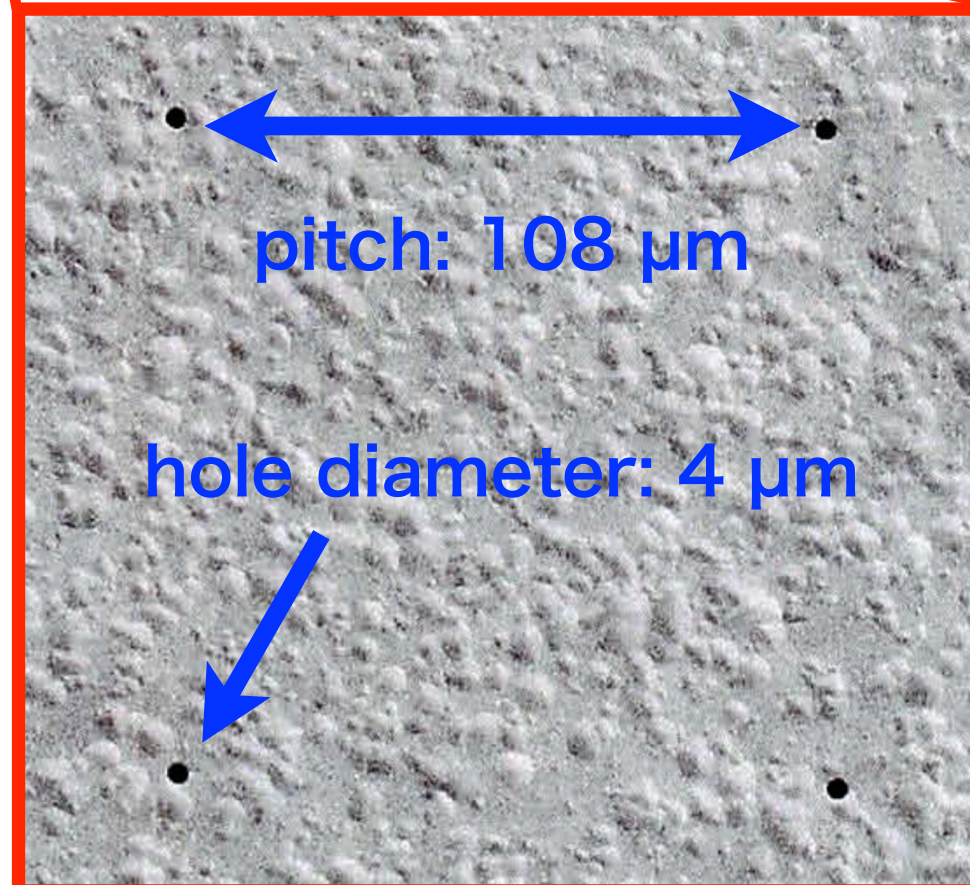
Pixel size
 $36\ \mu\text{m} \times 36\ \mu\text{m}$



Output spectrum from X-ray Tube taken by SDD

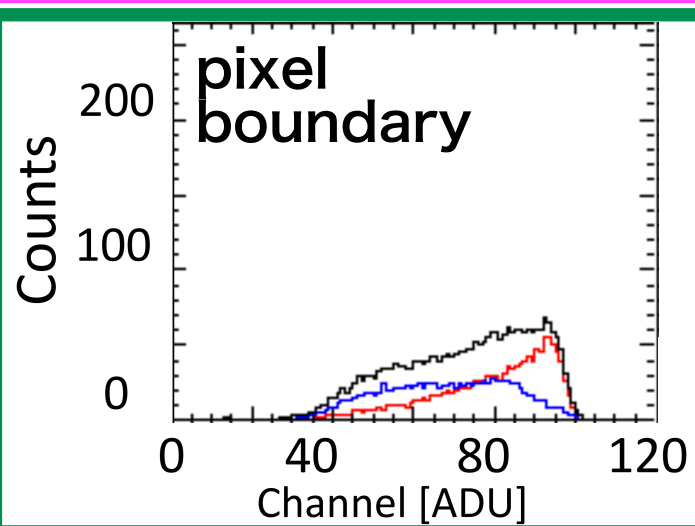
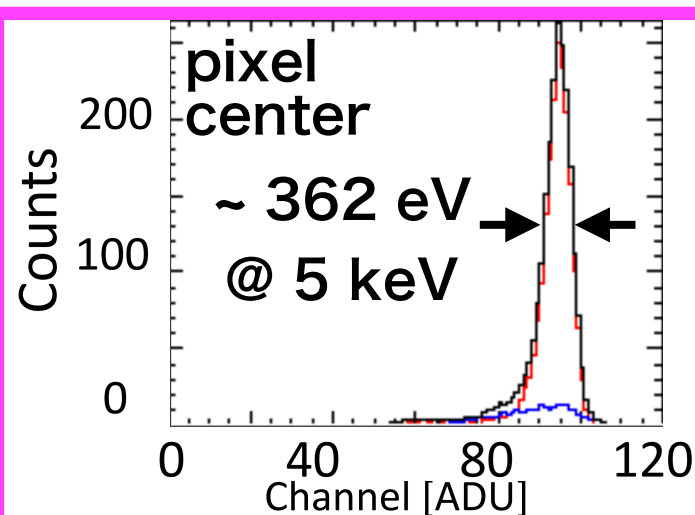


Mesh



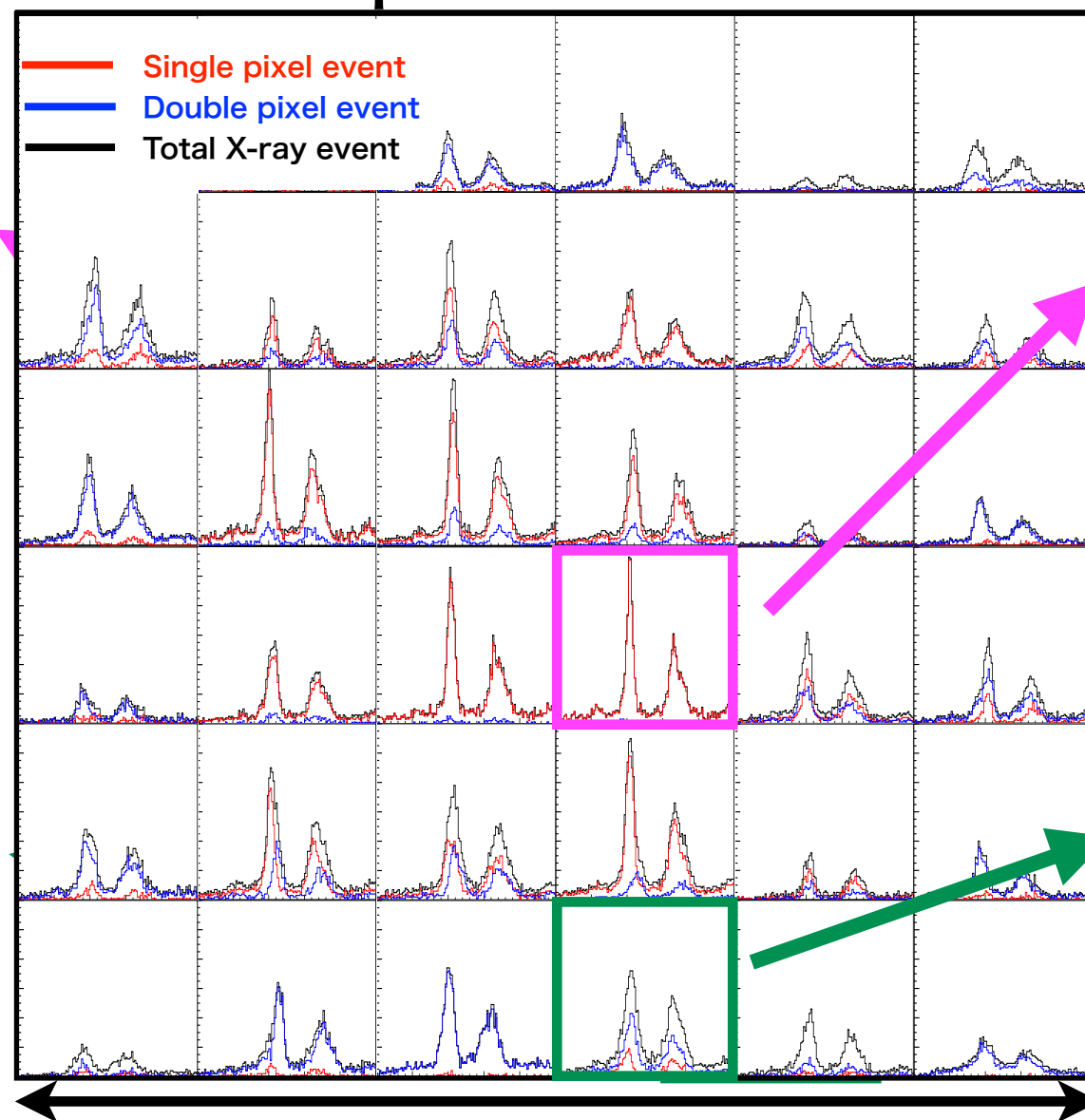
Spectrum Resolution as Sub-Pixel

previous device
(XRPIX3b)



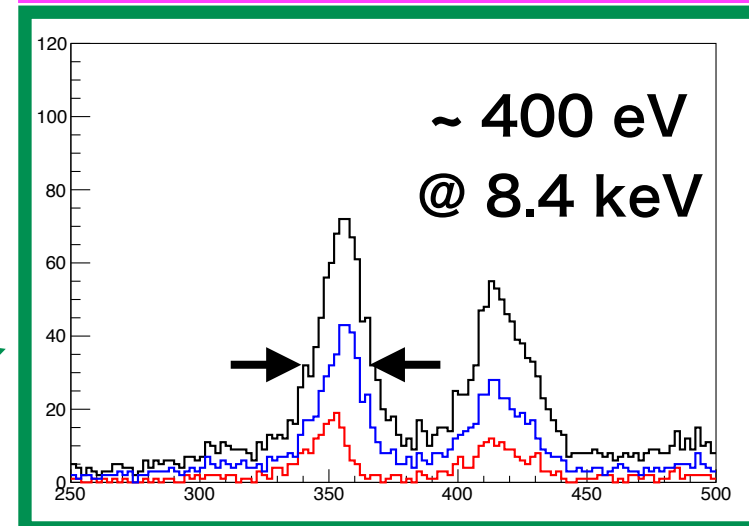
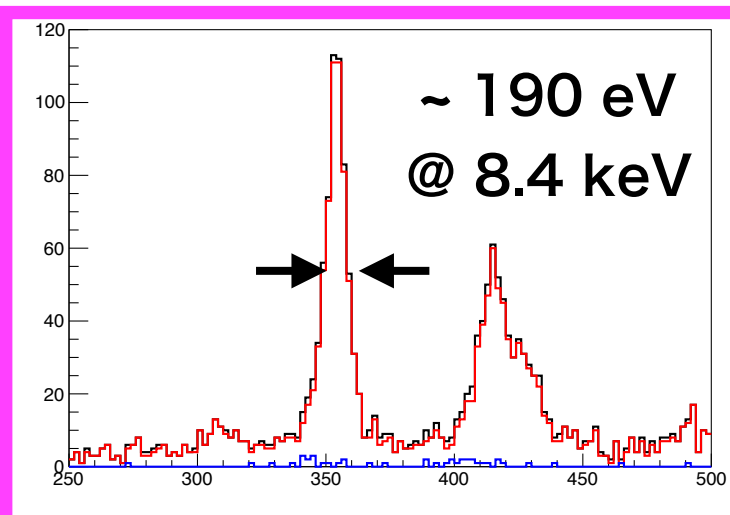
Negishi+2018

Energy spectrum folded in
one pixel at 8.4 keV.



1 pixel

XRPIX6E



- * No tail structure is seen near pixel boundaries of XRPIX6E
- * Energy resolutions near pixel boundaries are ~ 2 times larger than that at the pixel center.

Spectrum Shape is Related to T_{STORE}

XRPIX6D

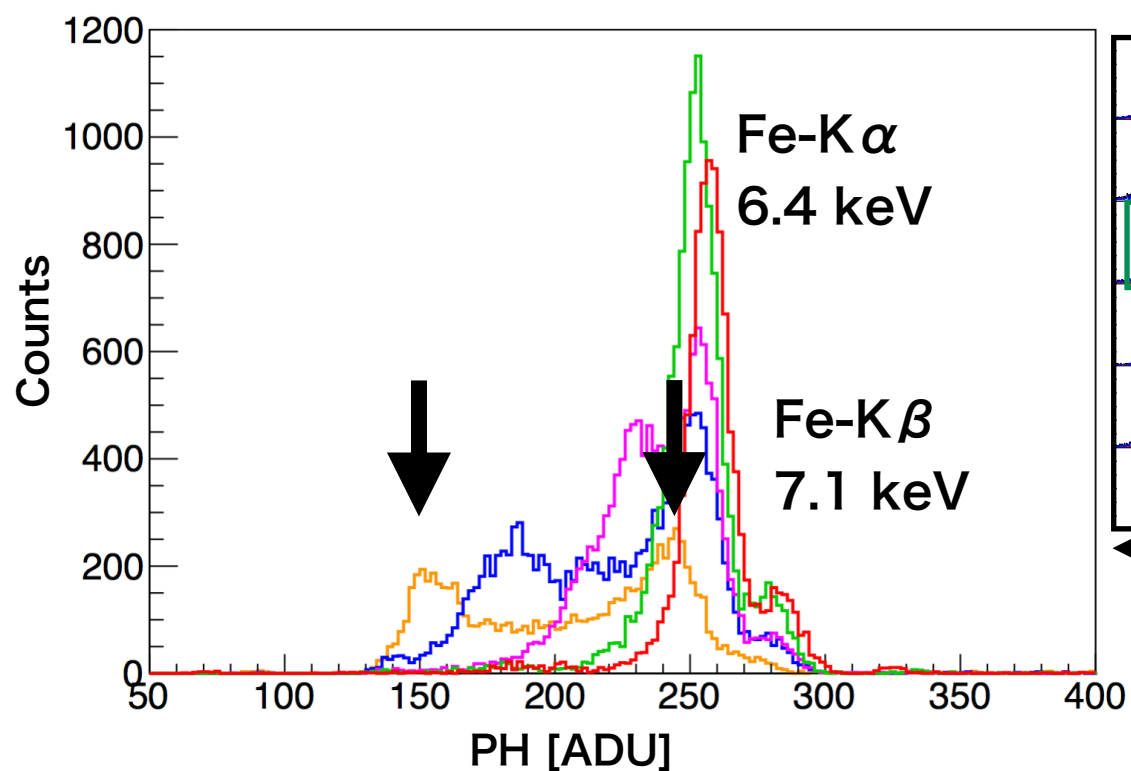
$T_{\text{STORE}} \sim 320 \text{ ns}$

$T_{\text{STORE}} \sim 1.2 \mu\text{s}$

$T_{\text{STORE}} \sim 10 \mu\text{s}$

$T_{\text{STORE}} \sim 100 \mu\text{s}$

$T_{\text{STORE}} \sim 1 \text{ ms}$



Hayashi+2018

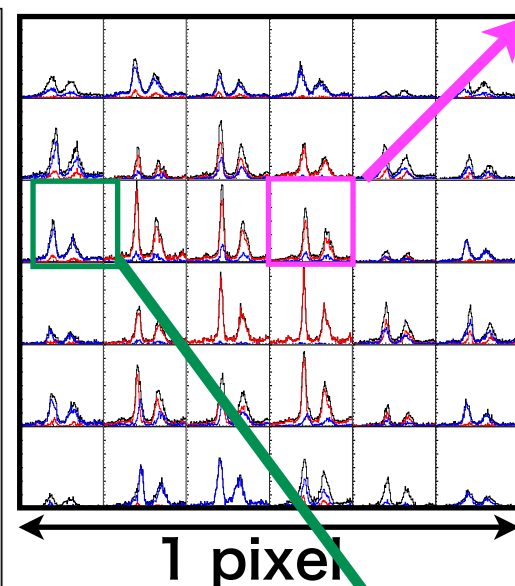
$T_{\text{STORE}} \sim 320 \text{ ns}$

$T_{\text{STORE}} \sim 500 \text{ ns}$

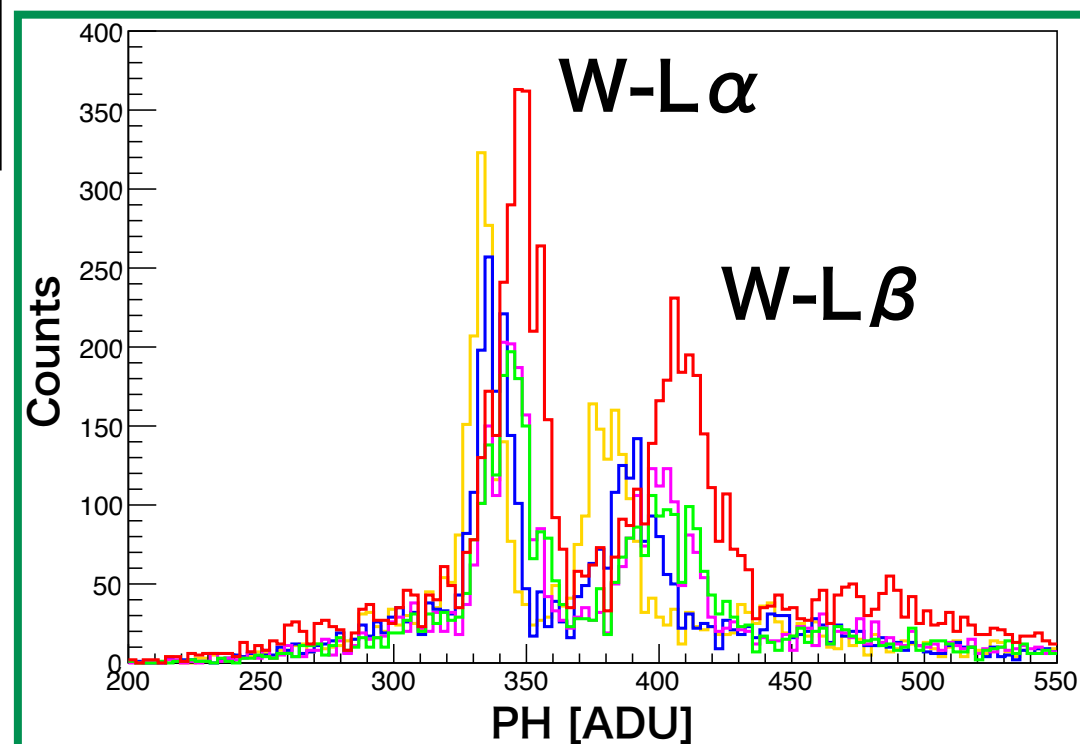
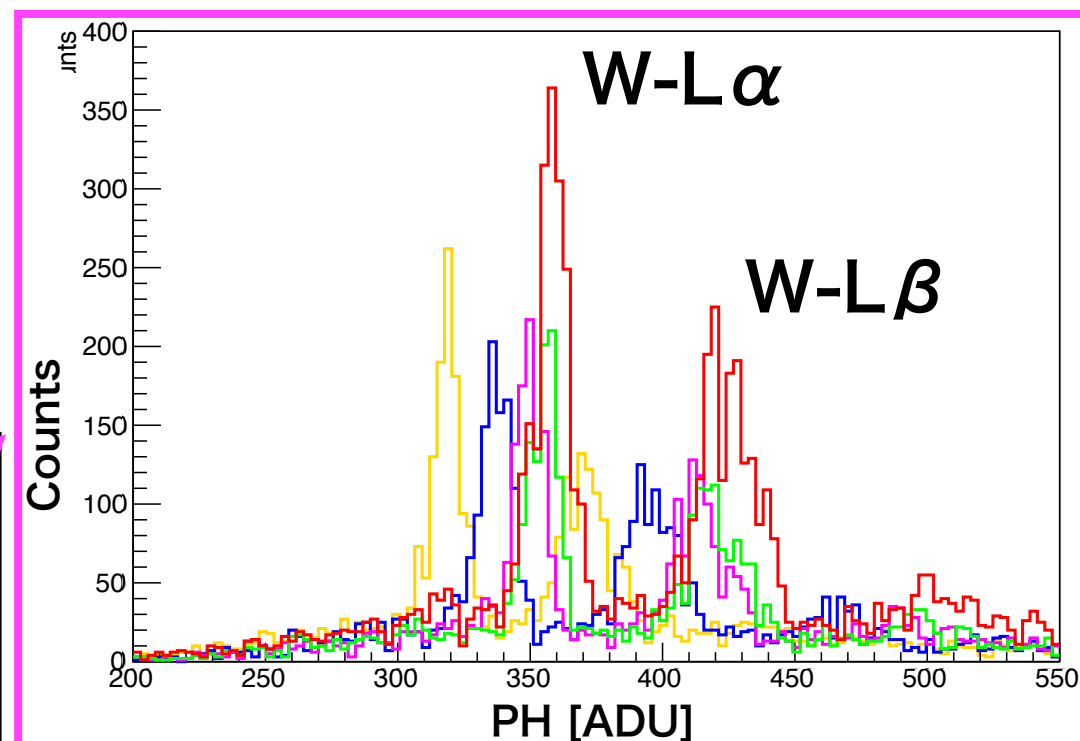
$T_{\text{STORE}} \sim 750 \text{ ns}$

$T_{\text{STORE}} \sim 1 \mu\text{s}$

$T_{\text{STORE}} \sim 10 \mu\text{s}$



XRPIX6E



Fake peak not appears at the pixel center and pixel boundaries when the T_{STORE} is short.

- * We performed the mesh experiment to evaluate the X-ray response at the sub-pixel level for XRPIX6E with the PDD structure.
- * No tail structure is seen near pixel boundaries of XRPIX6E.
- * Energy resolution at the pixel center is about 190 eV.
- * Energy resolutions near pixel boundaries are ~ 2 times larger than that at the pixel center.
- * Fake peak not appears at the pixel center and pixel boundaries.
- * These results indicate that charges are efficiently collected even near pixel boundaries. We thus conclude that the PDD structure of XRPIX6E solved the previously-known problems related to the charge collection efficiency.

