

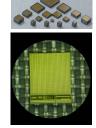
Development of a pixelated readout ASIC for CZT detectors for spectral X-ray photon-counting imaging applications

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Introduction

- Spectral X-ray Photon-counting imaging
 - Noise suppression
 - Image quality
 - · Material discrimination
- Cadmium Zinc Telluride(CdZnTe)
 - · High atomic number
 - Proper band-gap energy
 - Operational at room temperature
 - · Ideal for hard X-ray and gamma-ray detection
- Pixelated readout ASIC



Architecture and Specification

■ Overall architecture





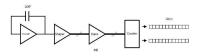
■ Main design specifications

design specification	value
pixel size	$100\mu m \times 100\mu m$
array	32 ×32
power consumption	$<100\mu W/pixel$
gain	70mV/fC
dynamic range	10fC
ENC	$<100e^{-}$ @ $C_{in} = 100fF$
pulse width	200ns
energy window	2
counter	12bit
readout frame rate	1kHz

- the pixel array makes the majority of the ASIC
- End-Of-Column(EOC) circuit is placed on the bottom

ASIC Design

- Pixel circuit
- Block diagram



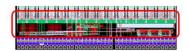
- One low-noise charge sensitive preamplifier
- One CR-RC shaper
- Two discriminators
- Two 12-bit counters
- Several registers
- EOC circuit
 - Bias generation
 - Slow control
 - Data readout control

Layout





- The analog part and the digital part are divided by slow control registers
- Mirror placement of two adjacent columns of pixels



Test Systems



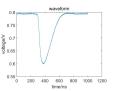


Contact Information

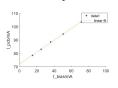
Xuezhi Wang, PhD student, wang-xz18@mails.tsinghua.eud.cn Wei Liu, PhD Candidate, lwphysics@163.com Zhi Deng , Associate Professor, dengz@mail.tsinghua.edu.cn

Test Results

■ Waveform

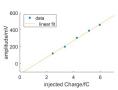


- Pulse width=200ns
- Power consumption



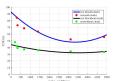
power consumption=38.9uW/pixel

■ Gain



(Estimated) gain =79.8mV/fC

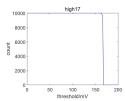
■ Noise



ENC < 100 electron

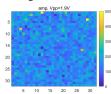
■ S-curve fit

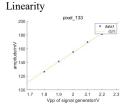
S-curve

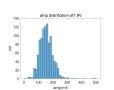


- Measured with different amount of charge injection
- Fitted with Gaussian cumulative distribution
- Sigma: spread of the signal amplitude
- mu: average value of the signal amplitude

Average value distribution

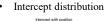


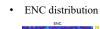


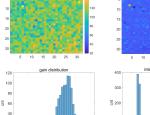


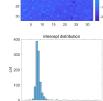
- Each pixel: average value versus the amount of charge injection
- Fitted with linear functions
- slope: charge-amplitude gain
- intercept: uniformity of baseline

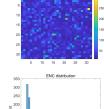


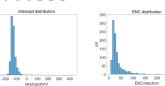












Summary & Future Plan

- A pixelated photon-counting ASIC was developed. The prototype chip was evaluated. The power consumption was measured to be 38.9uW per pixel. The gain of the analog frontend was approximately 79mV/fC and the ENC was less than 100 electrons for different shaping times and the input capacitance of about 100 fF. The results showed that our chip worked well and agreed with our design specifications.
- Test of the new version prototype chip with larger pixel array and more functions.
- Test of the prototype chip bump bonded with CdZnTe detector.