



Advance Gamma Tracking Array AGATA

Dino Bazzacco INFN Padova

Part 1: Review of AGATA Part 2: Data Processing

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Requirements for the gamma detectors

- 1. Best possible energy resolution in the range 10 keV 10 MeV to disentangle complex spectra
 - Germanium detectors are the obvious choice
- 2. Good response function to maximize the number of good events
 - Large-volume Germanium detectors have at most 20%
 - Compton background suppression via BGO shields
- **3**. Best possible effective energy resolution
 - − Most experiments detect gammas emitted by nuclei moving at high speed ($\beta \sim 5 \div 10\% \Rightarrow 50\%$)
 - Energy resolution dominated by Doppler broadening if the velocity vector and the emission angle of the γ -ray are not well known
- 4. Good high solid angle coverage to maximize efficiency, ideally 4π
- 5. Good granularity to reduce multiple hits on the detectors in case of high γ -ray multiplicity events
- 6. The individual crystals should be as big as possible to avoid dead materials that could absorb radiation
- 7. High counting rate capability

2. Response function Escape-Suppressed Ge-detectors





How to improve our γ -detection systems → Idea of γ -ray tracking



large opening angle means poor energy resolution at high recoil velocity

too many detectors are needed to avoid summing effects

Combination of:

- segmented detectors
- digital electronics
- pulse processing
- •tracking the γ-rays

Gamma-Ray Tracking Paradigm



Aim of gamma-ray tracking

- From the deposited energies and the positions of all the interactions points of an event in the detector, reconstruct individual photon trajectories and write out photon energies, incident and scattering directions
- Discard events corresponding to incomplete energy release
 Doppler correction

Linear Polarization



Interaction of photons in germanium



Mean free path determines size of detectors:

λ (10 keV)	~ 55 μ m
λ (100 keV)	~ 0.3 cm
λ (200 keV)	~ 1.1 cm
λ (500 keV)	~ 2.3 cm
λ (1 MeV)	~ 3.3 cm
λ (2 MeV)	~ 4.5 cm
λ (5 MeV)	~ 5.9 cm
λ (10 MeV)	~ 5.9 cm

Tracking of Compton Scattered Events



Tracking of Compton Scattering Events

Find χ^2 for the N! permutations of the interaction points

Fit parameter is the permutation number

Accept the best permutation if its χ^2 is below a predefined value



Reconstruction of Pair-Production Events based on recognition of first hit



Reconstruction of single interaction events



- There is not much we can do
- Acceptance criterion is probabilistic:
 depth < k·λ(e₁)

Reconstruction of multi-gamma events



 Analysis of all partitions of measured hits is not feasible:

Huge computational problem

(~10²³ partitions for 30 points)

Figure of merit is ambiguous \rightarrow the total figure of merit of the "true" partition not necessarily the minimum

• Forward peaking of Compton scattering crosssection implies that the hits of one gamma tend to be localized along the emission direction

$$\frac{d\sigma_{KN}}{d\Omega} = Z \frac{r_0^2}{2} \left(\frac{E'}{E}\right)^2 \left[\frac{E'}{E} + \frac{E}{E'} - \sin^2 \theta\right]$$



• The most used algorithm (G.Schmid et al. NIMA 430 1999, GRETA) starts by identifying clusters of points which are then analyzed as individual candidates gammas, accepted as said before

Forward Tracking implemented in AGATA

- 1. Create cluster pool => for each cluster, $E_{\gamma 0} = \sum$ cluster depositions
- 2. Test the 3 mechanisms
 - 1. do the interaction points satisfy the **Compton** scattering rules ?

$$\chi^2 \approx \sum_{n=1}^{N-1} W_n \cdot \left(\frac{E_{\gamma} - E_{\gamma}^{Pos}}{E_{\gamma}}\right)_n^2$$

- 2. does the interaction satisfy photoelectric conditions (e₁,depth,distance to other points)?
- 3. do the interaction points correspond to a **pair production** event? $E_{1st} = E_{\gamma} - 2 m_e c^2$ and the other points can be grouped in two subsets with energy ~ 511 keV?
- 3. Select clusters based on χ^2



Performance of the Germanium Shell



Reconstruction by Cluster-Tracking **Packing Distance:** 5 mm **Position Resolution:** 5 mm (at 100 keV)

A high multiplicity event



Identification is not 100% sure

→ spectra will always contain background



Fundamental effects limiting the performance

 \clubsuit Interaction position \neq position of energy deposition

γ_{br}

♦ Rayleigh scattering
 → change incident
 direction (relevant at low energy & end of track)

Bremsstrahlung

♦ Momentum profile of electron → change scattering direction (relevant at low energy & end of track)

Fortunately (?) these effects are masked by the poor position resolution of practical Ge detectors

Practical Effects limiting the performance

- uncertainty in position of interaction: (position & energy dependent)
- ×

position resolution



- energy threshold
- energy resolution
- dead materials ...



Effect of energy-threshold on tracking efficiency



Effect completely removed, if all hits in a crystal are assigned to the same gamma

Efficiency of Standard Ge Shell vs. Position Resolution and γ Multiplicity



If positions inside segments are not known, performance is "only" a factor 2 worse

<u>Standard shell</u>; E_{γ} = 1.33 MeV; Packing=Smearing; Energy independent smearing

Implementations of the concept

- Specs
- Configurations of 4π Arrays
- Monte Carlo
- The detectors
- Status

Requirements for a Gamma Tracking Array

efficiency, energy resolution, dynamic range, angular resolution, timing, counting rate, **modularity**, angular coverage, inner space

Quantity	Target Value	Specified for
Photo-peak efficiency (ɛ _{ph})	50 % 25 % 10 %	$E_{y} = 1 \text{ MeV}, M_{y} = 1, \beta < 0.5$ $E_{y} = 1 \text{ MeV}, M_{y} = 30, \beta < 0.5$ $E_{y} = 10 \text{ MeV}, M_{y} = 1$
Peak-to-total ratio (P/T)	60 - 70 % 40 - 50 %	$E_{y} = 1 \text{ MeV}, M_{y} = 1$ $E_{y} = 1 \text{ MeV}, M_{y} = 30$
Angular resolution ($\Delta \theta_{\gamma}$)	better than 1°	for $\Delta \text{E/E}$ < 1% at large β
Maximum event rates	3 MHz 300 kHz	$M_{y} = 1$ $M_{y} = 30$
Inner diameter	> 34 cm	for ancillary detectors

Building a Geodesic Ball (1)

Start with a platonic solid e.g. the icosahedron

On its faces, draw a regular pattern of triangles grouped as hexagons and pentagons. E.g. with 110 hexagons and (always) 12 pentagons



Project the faces on the enclosing sphere; flatten the hexagons.

Building a Geodesic Ball (2)



A radial projection of the spherical tiling generates the shapes of the detectors. Ball with 180 hexagons.

Space for encapsulation and canning obtained cutting the crystals. In the example, 3 crystals form a triple cluster

Al capsules 0.4 mm spacing 0.8 mm thick Al canning 2.0 mm spacing 1.0 mm thick



Add encapsulation and part of the cryostats for realistic MC simulations

Geodesic Tiling of Sphere using 60-240 hexagons and 12 pentagons



AGATA Monte Carlo Simulations

- Using the C++ package GEANT4, with extended geometry classes
- Geometry defined by an external program
- GEANT4 has good models of low energy interaction mechanisms of γ rays
- Simulations take into account dead materials and possible inner detectors
- Provides input to γ-ray tracking programs which performs further actions (packing and smearing) to make results as realistic as possible



Thickness of	mm
Capsule side	0.8
Cryostat side	1.5
front	3.0
back	30
Inner "ball"	10



Package written by Enrico Farnea, INFN Padova

Performance of the 2 Configurations



120 crystals



Configuration A120 A120F A120C4 A180 # of crystals / clusters 120 / 40 120 / 40 120/30 180 / 60 # of crystal / cluster shapes 2/26/22/13 / 1 Covered solid angle (%) 71.0 77.8 78.0 78.4 Germanium weight (kg) 232 225 230 374 Centre to crystal-face (cm) 19.7 18 18.5 23.5 **Electronics channels** 4440 4440 4440 6660 36.4 32.9 36.9 38.8 Efficiency at $M_{\gamma} = 1$ (%) Efficiency at $M_{\gamma} = 30$ (%) 20.5 22.0 22.1 25.1 P/T at $M_{\gamma} = 1$ (%) 52.9 53.0 51.8 53.2 P/T at $M_{\gamma} = 30$ (%) 44.9 43.7 43.4 46.1

GRETA → 120 crystals packed in 30 4-crystal modules
AGATA → 180 crystals packed in 60 3-crystal modules

180 crystals

AGATA Crystals



6x6 segmented cathode

Agata Triple Cluster



Courtesy P. Reiter



GRETINA Quadruple Cluster









Courtesy I-Yang Lee

First implementations of the γ -ray tracking array concept AGATA Demonstrator @ LNL



GRETINA at LBNL



15 crystals in 5 TC Commissioned in 2009 (with 3 TC) Experiments since 2010 (mostly with 4 TC) Completed with the 5th TC, May 2011 32 crystals ordered, ~ 18 accepted

28 crystals (+2 spares) in 7 quads Engineering runs started April 2011 Now taking data at LBNL, coupled the BGS

The big challenge: operating the Ge detectors in position sensitive mode

Pulse shapes in segmented detectors (very schematic)



For a non-segmented "true" coax, the shape depends on initial radius

If cathode is segmented, "net" and "transient" shapes depend on the angular position of the interaction point

Characterization of Ge detectors to validate calculated signals



Pulse Shape Analysis concept



Complications for PSA

- Theoretical
 - No good theory for mobility of holes \rightarrow must be determined experimentally
 - Mobility of charge carriers depends on orientation of collection path with respect to the crystal lattice
 shape of signals depends on orientation of collection path with respect to the crystal lattice
 - Detectors for a 4π array have an irregular geometry, which complicates calculation of pulse shape basis
 - Effective segments are defined by electric field and follow geometrical segmentation only roughly
 - Position resolution/sensitivity is not uniform throughout the crystal
- Practical/Computational
 - A basis calculated on a 1 mm grid contains ~ 400000 points, each one composed by 37 signals each one with > 50 samples (for a 10 ns time step)
 - Direct comparison of the experimental event to such a basis takes too much time for real time operation at kHz rate
 - Events with more than one hit in a segment are common, often difficult to identify and difficult to analyze
 - Low energy releases can easily end-up far away from their actual position

Position sensitivity

- Position sensitivity is the minimum distance at which difference in pulse shapes become distinguishable over the noise.
- It depends on the segmentation geometry, the segments size, the location within each segment and the direction.
- An interaction at position *i* is distinguishable from one at *j* if the **overall difference** in signal shapes is greater than that caused by the random fluctuation (noise).

$$\chi_{ij}^{2} = \sum \sum \frac{\left(q_{i}(m,t) - q_{j}(m,t)\right)^{2}}{2\sigma^{2}}$$

- Noise level assumed to be 5 keV
- $\chi^2 \sim 1 \rightarrow$ signals not distinguishable
- $\chi^2 > 1 \rightarrow$ signals are distinguishable

Sensitivity inside crystals



- Demonstration of sensitivity: the position sensitivity peaks at the effective segment borders. At the front, the deviation from the segmentation pattern is large.
- Regions near the outer surface between segment borders have the poorest sensitivity



Pulse Shape Analysis algorithms



Adaptive Grid Search in action





Adaptive Grid Search in action



6 Final Result

Performance of PSA

- Depends on the signal decomposition algorithm but of equal or more importance are:
- The quality of the signal basis
 - Physics of the detector
 - Impurity profile
 - Application of the detector response function to the calculated signals
- The preparation of the data
 - Energy calibration
 - Cross-talk correction (applied to the signals or to the basis!)
 - Time aligment of traces
- A well working decomposition has additional benefits, e.g.
 - Correction of energy losses due to neutron damage

Crosstalk correction: Motivation

- Crosstalk is present in <u>any</u> segmented detector
- Creates strong energy shifts proportional to fold



Cross talk correction: Results



B. Bruyneel et al, Nucl. Instr. and Meth. A 608, (2009) 99

Cross talk in AGATA Triple Cluster



Radiation damage from fast neutrons Shape of the 1332 keV line





White: April 2010 → FWHM(core) ~ 2.3 keV FWHM(segments) ~2.0 keV Green: July 2010 → FWHM(core) ~2.4 keV FWHM(segments) ~2.8 keV Damage after 3 high-rate experiments (3 weeks of beam at 30-80 kHz singles)

Worsening seen in most of the detectors; more severe on the forward crystals; segments are the most affected, cores almost unchanged (as expected for n-type HPGe)



The 1332 keV peak as a function of crystall depth (z) for interactions



at r = 15mm

The charge loss due to neutron damage is proportional to the path length to the electrodes. The position is provided by the PSA, which is barely affected by the amplitude loss.

Knowing the path, the charge trapping can be modeled and corrected away (Bart Bruyneel, IKP Köln)

Some results

Doppler correction capabilities





Imaging of E_{γ} =1332 keV gamma rays

AGATA used as a big and exspensive Compton Camera



Francesco Recchia

