



Development and Verification of the Response Function for the BGO Active Shields onboard ASTRO-H

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The ASTRO-H Mission



ASTRO-H is Japanese 6th series of X-ray observatory. It is scheduled to be launched in the end of JFY 2015 with an H-II A rocket.



Total length : 14 m Weight : 2.7 t Largest scale satellite for Japan Scientific instruments
Soft X-ray Spectrometer (SXS)
Soft X-ray telescope + X-ray calolimetor
Soft X-ray Imager (SXI)
Soft X-ray telescope + CCD
Hard X-ray Imager (HXI)
Hard X-ray telescope + hard X-ray imager
Soft Gamma-ray Detector (SGD)
Narrow field-of-view Compton camera





The most sensitive observation in high energy band 5-80 keV : Hard X-ray Imager (HXI) 50-600 keV : Soft Gamma-ray Detector (SGD)

Reducing background is one of important issue Large/thick $Bi_4Ge_3O_{12}$ crystal scintillators surround the main detectors of HXI/SGD \rightarrow BGO active shields



There are various complicated shape of BGO crystals ^{"Btm" Ax3} Readout each crystal independently by avalanche photo-diode





Large geometrical area + high photon stopping power of high-z material
 → BGO shield detectors can acts not only active shield but also powerful all-sky monitor for transient astronomical phenomena up to MeV energy band



Gamma-ray response as the all-sky monitor is also important for SGD





✤Fabrication of flight model has been completed. (~Dec. 2014)

- Ground calibration tests in operating temperature have been performed. (~Feb. 2015)
 HXI/SGD are installed on the satellite and satellite thermal-vacuum test has been passed. (~Jun. 2015)
- Vibration/acoustic test is ongoing before moving to the launch site (Tanegashima)



Now, fabrication/verification phase is almost finished, and we have to construct gamma-ray response of detectors considering the results obtained in the ground calibration tests.





→ multiple Compton scattering in complicate detector shape

Geant4-based Monte-Carlo approach is useful to calculate the gamma-ray response of BGO active shields

Gamma-ray response specific to the BGO active shield should be implemented

- Light correction efficiency depending on the photon interaction position.
- Temperature dependency of BGO light yield and APD gain.
- trigger efficiency around threshold due to noise jitter.

We have to develop the framework of the simulator and verify it using various calibration results.





Input parameter (1) light yield correction map



- Due to its trapezoidal structure, the light yield of "top" part of HXI BGO crystal shows strong position dependency.
- Although, lay-tracing of scintillation lights can reproduce a tendency of this property, we apply a simple empirical measured function to the input of the simulator.







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Input to the simulator as the 3-Dimensinal map as the same framework to semiconductor simulation in ComptonSoft but only has height (z)-axis dependency.





Input parameter

(2) Energy resolution, Gain curve, and Energy threshold



- These parameters are measured in the ground calibration test in the operational temperature (~-20°C), using flight model of HXI/SGD sensors
- Various kinds of radioisotopes (⁵⁷Co, ¹³⁷Cs, ²²Na) were irradiated, and obtain photo-peak channel and its energy resolution.
- Background data is used to determine the energy threshold.



15.8.27



Input parameter (2) Energy resolution and gain curve



Example of ¹³⁷Cs 662 keV spectra of SGD (25 BGO units) (Background-subtracted)







Input parameter (2) Energy resolution and gain curve



Example of various RI spectra of HXI (9 BGO units) (Background-included)





Input parameter (2) Energy resolution and gain curve



Example of various resulting gain curve and energy resolution for a unit of HXI

Gain curve







Using background measurement data, we can evaluate the energy threshold for all BGO units of HXI and SGD



These threshold value are also implemented to the simulator



Input parameter (3) trigger efficiency around threshold



- Trigger generation timing could be changed for the low-pulse height around the threshold due to noise "jitter".
- The anti-coincidence latch efficiency of the main detector decreases at a certain rate in such low-level signals.
- We have to consider this effect to reproduce the background rejection function more accurately.



We implement this effect as the probability function in the trigger generation module.



Angular response



SGD shield can be used as the all-sky monitor Gamma-ray response depending on the incident photon direction should be reproduced by our simulator

Measurement has been performed by irradiation of ²²Na at room temperature (we can only see 1275 keV photo-peak)





Move ²²Na RI source to various positions (15degree/step)

1275 keV photo-peak area count at each RI position is measured



- We can see simple angular response for almost incident position
- But there are some unexpected count increases (phi=150, phi=200).
- These angular response is also checked by our simulator



Verification of the simulator (simple case: SGD)

C2-201(CC1 -z)



B-203(CC2 +x)



G1-201(CC1 +z)



B-201(CC1 +x)

B-202(CC1 -x)

Simulation spectra well reproduce gain and energy resolution, but Compton scattering component is not enough obviously. Surrounding structures also should be included to verify our simulator.



Verification of the simulator (simple case: SGD)





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Verification of the simulator (simple case: SGD)





Experimental room, Thermal Chamber, Housing structure ..etc Added to the geometry



We have successfully reproduce the experimental spectra including Compton scattering component.

 \rightarrow our simulator works well for the simple case



We have successfully reproduce the experimental spectra including Compton scattering component.

 \rightarrow confirm that our simulator works well for the simple case



Verification of the simulator (angular response: SGD)





Overall structure including unexpected increase of counts around Phi=150, and phi=200 degree can be reproduced. Fine tuning of the geometry may be required for further comparison.







Again, our simulator works well for other than "top" part of crystals. For top crystals, "tail"-like structure can not be reproduced...







With L.Y. correction model, "tail"-like structure is also reproduced. However, fine tuning of parameter is still needed...



Conclusion



- We have developed Monte-Calro simulator for BGO active shield of HXI/SGD onboard ASTRO-H satellite
- ✤By implementing various parameters based on ground calibrations, our simulator reproduces experimental data well.
- Fine-tuning and/or verification with component model is still needed for light yield correction for HXI
- Remaining framework (energy threshold/trigger generation) will be implemented soon, and background simulation for the main detector is also verified.
- ✤For SGD, performance as the all-sky monitor is now under verification using this simulator.