

XPAD : an hybrid pixel detector for material sciences studies using X-ray synchrotron radiation.

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Detectors & material sciences scattering

Imaging : → X-ray microscopy, X-ray topography, X-ray radiography
Spectroscopy : chemical composition (XAS), short order range (EXAFS)
Scattering by beam → $I(Q) \propto F^2(\rho_s)$

Intensity range in scattering experiments			
1 → 10 ⁴	13b	mean structure	chemistry (biocrystallography)
1 → 10 ²	20b	ordering	correlation, incommensurate
1 → 10 ¹	30b	SAXS	μm objects interaction, polymers

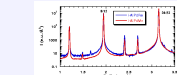
- Synchrotron → current flux on sample : 10¹¹ – 10¹⁴ p/s
- Spot size at sample or detector position : 1 × 5 – 0.05 × 0.10 mm²
- Counting rate : 10⁹ p/s within 10⁻² mm²
- Resolution : angular 10⁻³° → 100 μm at 0.5 m ≈ 0.01°

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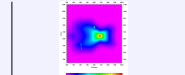
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On D2AM-CRG/ESRF beamline (BM2).

Very demanding experiments use slits and photomultipliers to reach the required quality.



In structural works, CCD cameras with indirect photon detection are commonly used.



Diffuse scattering in icosahedral quasi-crystals : 7 orders of magnitude are necessary to measure this signal. Dynamic extended by attenuators, time consuming mapping

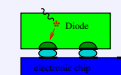
Complex shape of the diffusion around Bragg peak obtained by adding 10 (1000) frames.

Data from M. de Boissieu, see Phil. Mag. Lett. (2001) 81, 273-283 and (2003) 83, 1-29

D2AM-CRG/ESRF detector requirement

dynamic range	> 10 ⁶ count/pixel	⇒ 32 bits architecture
saturation rate	> 10 ⁷ s/pixel	⇒ noise < 0.1 v/s/pixel
energy range	5 – 25 keV	from beamline
pixel size	250 × 400 μm ²	mean spot size in 1995
exposure time	1ms – 1000 s	kinetics potentiality

High energy physics experiments lead to built detector like Delphi at CERN which uses the potentialities offered by microelectronics and direct photon conversion in silicon.



The silicon thickness 300 μm and the pixel sizes 330 × 330 μm² were convenient to our beamline requirements leading to the project of building a new X-ray detector taking benefit of the Delphi detector peoples knowledge.

The XPAD project (XPAD1).

- Absorbed photons
- electron clouds
- charge migration
- electron bunches
- pixel threshold
- pixel counters
- on-board memories
- ethernet data

Diodes :

- high resistivity Si

Chips :

- AMS CMOS 0.8 μm
- 24 × 25 pixel/chip

Boudet et al., NIM A510 (2003) 41-44. Béar et al., J. Appl. Cryst. 35 (2002) 471-476

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XPAD2 detector : 8 modules × 8chips

New diodes of 500 μm Si thick → efficiency 78 % @15keV, 21% @25keV

- Diode → 8 chips of 24 × 25 pixels
- PCB card : drivers and regulators.
- Modules → acquisition card Alterra Nios kit + ethernet
- Tiled as close as possible → reduce shading, dead zones.
- Metallic holder → few μm.
- Size : 200 × 192 pixels
- Surface ≈ 68 × 68 mm².
- Interface software : developed using LabWindows/CVI application software moves to Linux.
- XPAD prototype at SAXS station.

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Dead area in pixel detectors

The mechanical structure of such detector induces some dead area, it seems necessary to minimize it or at less to know it.

Within modules : No dead area

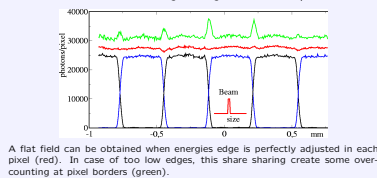
Pixels at the border of the chip are connected to pixel diode with an increased surface to avoid dead area associated with the packing of chips on the detector : mechanical border, guards ring...

Between modules : ≈ 1 pixel/column ⇒ 4% XPAD2 ⇒ 1% XPAD3

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Spatial resolution

As the diode is common to pixels belonging to the same chip, some charge sharing may occur between adjacent pixels. Measurements show that the charge sharing occurs on ≈ 60 μm.



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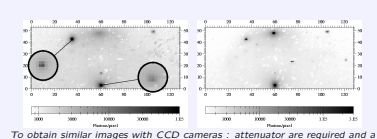
XPAD detectors.

	XPAD1 2001	XPAD2 2003	XPAD3 2006
pixel size	330 × 330 μm	130 × 130 μm	130 × 130 μm
foundry	AMS 0.8 μm CMOS	AMS 0.8 μm CMOS	IBM 0.25 μm
pixel / chips	24 × 25 pixels	24 × 25 pixels	80 × 120 pixels
internal counters	16 bits	16 bits	14 bits
overflow counters	16 bits	16 bits	16 bits
energy range	Si 300 μm (Delphi) 15 to 25 keV	Si 500 μm 7 to 25 keV	Si 500 μm 2.10 ⁴ p/s
counting rate	1.10 ⁹ p/s	2.10 ⁹ p/s	2.10 ⁹ p/s
time constant	500 ns with detector	208 ns with detector	10 to be measured
modules	5 × 2 chips	8 × 1 or 8 × 8 chips	8 × 7 chips
detector	1 module	up to 8 modules	back plugged
electronic connection	reduced parallel wires	ethernet 100Mb/s	ethernet 1000Mb/s

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Dynamical range (XPAD1 application)

Diffusion (left) of a CdYb icosahedral quasicrystal and associated rotation image (right) on which the highest peak is near counter saturation rate, it cross the Ewald sphere within a few part of the exposure!

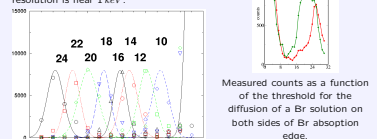


To obtain similar images with CCD cameras : attenuator are required and a few hundred images have to be summed.

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Energy resolution

The conversion of incoming photons in silicon leads to a charge proportional to the incoming energy. The XPAD chip energy resolution is near 1 keV.



Pixel threshold register : 4 bits (XPAD1) → 6 bits (XPAD2)

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XPAD2 calibration and dispersion (1)

- beam E_p : monochromatic flat scattering (amorphous), noisy, time expensive
- injection E_{inj} : simulate the beam, quick and easy but need calibration
- Each pixel is described by : $C, \alpha, \beta, E_{inj}(noise)$
- $E_p = CE_{inj} + \alpha(I_{inj}) + \beta(I_{inj})$
- $E_p(noise) = CE_{inj}(noise)$
- ≈ 4.10⁴ pixels ⇒ automatic configuration/calibration procedure.

Knowing then these characteristics : the setup of each chip at a given energy E can be defined as the value of the chip common threshold level I_{inj} for which most of the pixels can be fine tune, $I_{inj} \in [0, 63]$.

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XPAD2 calibration and dispersion (2)

- XPAD2 initial threshold dispersion 60 e⁻
- ⇒ pixels not tuned < 3%
- manufacturing problems : leakage in bumping process ⇒ new foundry using the same masks
- threshold dispersion increase strongly ⇒ 120 e⁻ on most chips ⇒ pixels not tuned < 15%

However, even if all the pixels are not perfectly set, the XPAD2 detector appears as a useful tool for recording new data in SAXS and diffraction on a synchrotron beamline in the range 15 – 25 keV.

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SAXS application (1)

Scattering of some samples recorded at BM2-SAXS camera using XPAD detector at 20 keV.

- Ag Behenate
 - Bee waxes
 - Polyurethane
 - Empty cell
 - Teflon
 - Water (5mm)
-

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SAXS application (2)

Data have been compared with FOB CCD⁺ ones using the same setting.

The low noise achieved with the XPAD detector allows to improve the measurement of weak scatterer like water : the signal observed without sample is really lower with XPAD than with the CCD (fluorescence, PSF tails...)

• PESCX-1300, Roper Scientific (EEG 1340h1300, 50 μm pixel size, dark corrected)

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Powder diffraction application (1)

Scintillator and slits → 2d-detector.

- Diffraction along cones
- Data redundancy with 2D detector
- 60° collected at high resolution
- angular aperture 4° at 1m

Raw images with Bragg lines, low and high angles.

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Powder diffraction application (2)

Reconstructed Debye-Scherrer film or powder pattern

Resulting counts 'i' on pixel p :

$$Y_p = N_p \sum_i I_i \delta_{i,p}$$

N_p counts on image i of pixel p , I_i flatfield of pixel q :

$$\text{Minimisation : } \sum_p (Y_p - N_p)^2 = \sum_p \sum_q I_q Y_p^2$$

Powder lines : $Y_{p,lines} = Y_{p,noise}$

$$\sum_{lines} (Y_{p,lines} - N_p)^2 = \sum_{lines} \sum_q I_q Y_p^2$$

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Powder diffraction application (3)

Reconstructed powder pattern flatfield extraction

As shown with log scale, high quality data are obtained at high angles. Last detector assembly exhibit a quite uniform flatfield at 20 keV, even if pixels have not been very accurately tuned.

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Kinetics potentiality of XPAD2

Whole electronic designed to allow kinetics studies (ms range)

- chips register 16bits + overflow
 - on-board memories 32 bits
 - exposure time : 1ms – 8300s
 - dead time for reading :
 - whole image 2ms
 - overflow 16μs each 10ms
 - on-board storage :
 - 423 images × 10ms
 - 233 images × 10ms
-

Images of 10 ms each taken of a 2s movies showing diffraction while the sample crosses the beam at D2AM SAXS camera.

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Kinetics of quench studied by diffraction

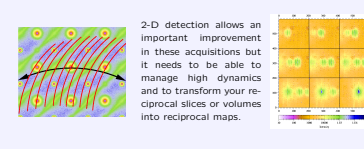
Data collection is limited by the cell aperture, which has been designed for linear detector, a few frames of 20ms around crystallisation shown at 10 frames/s.

The quench of $Al_2O_3-CeO_2$ ceramics can lead to vitreous or crystalline oxides. The transition between the liquid state and the crystalline one occurs in less than 20ms and may exhibit some transient phases.

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Multilayers

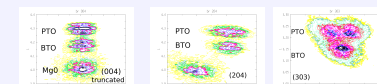
Epitaxially grown multilayer are now common samples to characterize : they need mapping of the reciprocal space which is time consuming. At the time such maps are recorded with slits and fixed (h, k, l) point of the reciprocal lattice, attenuators are often required near the substrate.



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Multilayers : Ferroelectric superlattice

27 (17 PbTiO₃, 10 BaTiO₃) superlattice / MgO : large lattice mismatch ⇒ in-plane polarization ⇒ tetragonal distortion. Physical behaviour of such compounds is primarily dependent on their epitaxial crystalline quality, their composition and their structural perfection.



Out of plane : structural / chemical. In plane : 2 PTO domains tetragonal distortion. The reciprocal maps are recorded scanning the XPAD detector and rebuilt from the collected reciprocal slices. Compared to standard data collection the time can be reduced by 100. Intensity on substrate peak can reach 10⁹ p/s !

F. Lemaire, E. Dooryhée and coll. IUCR (2005) Florence, Italy

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from XPAD2 to XPAD3

• Obsolescence of the AMS-CMOS 0.8 μm technology used for XPAD2

- A new XPAD3 using 0.25 μm technology with 25 μm bumps

	XPAD2	XPAD3	comments
polarization	both	CF	2 chips - Si, CdTe
pixel size	330 μm	130 μm	
chip size	8 × 10 mm ²	10 × 15 mm ²	→ reduce tiling ⇒ count/surface new analog chain
counting rate	2.10 ⁹ p/s	2.10 ⁹ p/s	
energy range	(5) 15 – 25 keV	7 – 25 keV	
pixels/chip	24 × 25 = 600	80 × 120 ≈ 1.10 ⁴	
pixels/module	8 × 600 ≈ 5.10 ³	≈ 1.10 ⁴	
pixels/detector	≈ 4.10 ⁵	≈ 5.10 ⁵	
geometries	8 × 8 or 2 × 5	7 × 8 and ?	

- Chip design has been carried out
- Prototype is expected for mid 2006.

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