

PROCEEDINGS OF SPIE

Hard X-Ray, Gamma-Ray, and Neutron Detector Physics XXI

**Ralph B. James
Arnold Burger
Stephen A. Payne**
Editors

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Contents

| | |
|-----|----------------------|
| vii | Authors |
| xi | Conference Committee |
| xv | Introduction |

SESSION 1 SEMICONDUCTOR DETECTORS I

| | |
|----------|---|
| 11114 04 | VSIPMT: a new solution in photon detection [11114-3] |
|----------|---|

SESSION 2 SCINTILLATOR DETECTORS I

| | |
|----------|--|
| 11114 07 | Novel inorganic scintillators for future space-based solar gamma-ray and neutron research (Invited Paper) [11114-7] |
| 11114 09 | Recent advances in neutron detection with organic scintillators (Invited Paper) [11114-9] |

SESSION 3 APPLICATIONS I

| | |
|----------|---|
| 11114 0A | The innovative Cherenkov camera based on SiPM sensors of the ASTRI-Horn telescope: from the T/M and electrical design to the full assembly and testing in a harsh environment [11114-10] |
| 11114 0D | Characterization and assembly of near-ultraviolet SiPMs for the Schwarzschild-Couder medium-size telescope proposed for the CTA Observatory [11114-13] |

SESSION 4 APPLICATIONS II

| | |
|----------|--|
| 11114 0F | PROSPECT: a precision reactor oscillation and spectrum experiment (Invited Paper) [11114-16] |
| 11114 0G | Charge counting readout LSI for x-ray imaging and its applications (Invited Paper) [11114-18] |
| 11114 0H | Xenon gamma-ray spectrometers: development and applications (Invited Paper) [11114-19] |

SESSION 5 SEMICONDUCTOR DETECTORS II

11114 ON **4H-SiC epitaxial Schottky detectors: deep-level transient spectroscopy (DLTS) and pulse height spectroscopy (PHS) measurements (Invited Paper)** [11114-24]

SESSION 6 APPLICATIONS III

11114 OR **Silicon photomultipliers based neutron detector design: validation of Geant4 simulations** [11114-28]

SESSION 7 SEMICONDUCTOR DETECTORS III

11114 OT **Investigation on origin of Ru-induced deep-level defects in 4H-SiC epilayer based Schottky diodes by DLTS and theoretical calculations** [11114-30]

SESSION 8 SCINTILLATOR DETECTORS II

11114 OX **Consistent principles for particle identification by pulse shape discriminating systems (Invited Paper)** [11114-34]

11114 11 **Geant4-based multiphysics simulation toolkit for analysis of radiation detector performance** [11114-38]

SESSION 9 IMAGING DIAGNOSTICS

11114 12 **Three-dimensional characterization of the third line-of-site neutron imaging pinhole at NIF** [11114-39]

11114 13 **Time Resolved Near Field (TRNF) diagnostic four-frame nanosecond gated hybrid CMOS image sensor** [11114-40]

11114 14 **Spectral response measurement of the National Ignition Facility Kirkpatrick-Baez microscope** [11114-41]

11114 15 **Development of radiation tolerant monitor cameras used at the National Ignition Facility** [11114-43]

11114 16 **Evaluation of x-ray transmission photocathode detection issues in the energy range of 8-30 keV** [11114-44]

SESSION 10 DETECTORS FOR ICF APPLICATIONS

- 11114 17 **Design of a free-space image-relay optical time domain reflectometer to measure fiber-optic time delays at inertial confinement fusion relevant wavelengths** [11114-45]
- 11114 18 **Design techniques used to minimize impact of SEU's targeting Microsemi FPGA's at the NIF target chamber** [11114-46]

SESSION 11 APPLICATIONS IV

- 11114 1B **An associated particle imaging system for soil-carbon measurements** [11114-49]
- 11114 1D **Photon-counting x-ray computed tomography using a YAP(Ce)-PMT detector and beam hardening** [11114-51]
- 11114 1E **Intense nickel-K-photon irradiation from weakly-ionized linear plasma x-ray source with a reflector** [11114-52]
- 11114 1F **Reformatting data from common emergency radiation measurement systems into International Radiological Information Exchange (IRIX) for harmonization** [11114-53]

SESSION 12 COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHY

- 11114 1G **High-fidelity calibration and characterization of a spectral computed tomography system (Invited Paper)** [11114-54]
- 11114 1H **Investigation of low-dose energy-dispersive x-ray computed tomography utilizing beam hardening** [11114-55]

POSTER SESSION

- 11114 1L **Device "Nuclide" for the detection and identification of radioactive debris in near-Earth space** [11114-60]
- 11114 1M **Digital time-resolved spot diagnostic** [11114-61]
- 11114 1N **Growth and characterization of detector-grade CdZnTeSe by horizontal Bridgman technique** [11114-62]
- 11114 1P **High-temperature Hall-effect investigations of Cd_{0.85}Mn_{0.10}Zn_{0.05}Te crystals** [11114-64]
- 11114 1Q **Ab initio GGA+U investigations of the structural, electronic, and magnetic properties of Cd_{1-x}Mn_xTe alloy** [11114-65]

- 11114 1S **Effect of the thickness of CdTe crystals on electrical and detection properties of Cr/CdTe/Au Schottky-diode detectors** [11114-67]
- 11114 1T **Crystal growth, characterization, and fabrication of large-area Cd_{0.9}Zn_{0.1}Te pixelated detectors for high-energy gamma-ray detectors** [11114-68]
- 11114 1V **Mechanisms contributing to dark current across metal/CdMnTe/metal structures** [11114-70]
- 11114 1X **Design of a multi-hole collimator for 3D gamma ray imaging** [11114-73]

Authors

Numbers in the index correspond to the last two digits of the seven-digit citation identifier (CID) article numbering system used in Proceedings of SPIE. The first five digits reflect the volume number. Base 36 numbering is employed for the last two digits and indicates the order of articles within the volume. Numbers start with 00, 01, 02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08, 09, 0A, 0B...0Z, followed by 10-1Z, 20-2Z, etc.

Adams, C., 0D
Albinet, Franck, 1F
Ambrosi, G., 0D
Ambrosio, M., 0D
Aoki, Toru, 0G, 1S
Aramo, C., 0D
Araujo, Stephen, 1N
Ayers, J., 14
Ayllon Unzueta, Mauricio, 1B
Baciu, Florian, 1F
Baker, Stuart A., 11, 1M
Baldonado, Brandon, 1M
Barbarino, G., 04
Barbato, F. C. T., 04
Batha, S. H., 12
Beach, Mai S., 15, 16
Bell, P., 15
Benbow, W., 0D
Benson, Donald C., 16
Berninger, Michael, 1M
Bertucci, B., 0D
Biondo, Benedetto, 0A
Bissaldi, E., 0D
Bitossi, M., 0D
Boiano, A., 0D
Bolochnikov, A. E., 1P, 1Q, 1V
Bonanno, Giovanni, 0A
Bonavolontà, C., 0D
Bose, R., 0D
Bourne, M., 09
Bowden, N. S., 0F
Brill, A., 0D
Brodie, Eoin, 1B
Brown, Craig, 1B
Bruno, Pietro, 0A
Buckley, J. H., 0D
Buscho, J., 14
Canestrari, Rodolfo, 0A
Capalbi, Milvia, 0A
Caprai, M., 0D
Carpenter, Arthur C., 13, 15, 16
Castanha, Cristina, 1B
Catalano, Osvaldo, 0A
Chernysheva, Irina V., 0H, 1L
Cho, Gyuseong, 1X
Choi, Jongwoo, 1N
Clarke, S. D., 09
Claus, L., 13
Conforti, Vito, 0A
Cook, J., 15
Cordes, N. L., 12
Covault, C. E., 0D
Cover, R., 15
Dalton, Gabriella M., 1G
Dayton, Matthew S., 13, 15, 16, 18
Dean, Bruce, 18
de Asmundis, R., 04
De Rosa, G., 04
Di Nicola, JM., 13
Di Venere, L., 0D
Dmitrenko, Valery V., 0H, 1L
Do, A., 14
Droemer, Darryl, 1M
Durand, C. E., 13
Ehara, Shigeru, 1H
Engelhorn, Kyle C., 16
Enomoto, Toshiyuki, 1D, 1H
Fang, Xiaodong, 1S
Fatherley, V. E., 12
Fegenbush, Logan, 1M
Feng, Q., 0D
Fiandrini, E., 0D
Filkins, T., 17
Fitzpatrick, Zak, 1M
Fochuk, P. M., 1P, 1Q, 1V
Fukasawa, A., 04
Funsten, Brad, 18
Gallegos, Isabel O., 1G
Gargano, Carmelo, 0A
Garozzo, Salvatore, 0A
Gary, Charles, 1B
Gent, A., 0D
Geppert-Kleinrath, V., 12
Gianotti, Fulvio, 0A
Giarrusso, Salvatore, 0A
Giglietto, N., 0D
Giordano, F., 0D
Giro, Enrico, 0A
Gnatyuk, Volodymyr A., 1S
Goodwin, L. A., 12
Grachev, Viktor M., 0H, 1L
Green, J. Andrew, 11
Grillo, Alessandro, 0A
Grove, J. Eric, 07
Guckles, Amber L., 11
Hagiwara, Osahiko, 1D, 1H
Halliday, R., 0D
Hargrove, D., 15

Herve, O., 0D
 Herzkamp, Matthias, 0R
 Hicks Pries, Caitlin, 1B
 Hua, M., 09
 Hughes, G., 0D
 Humensky, T. B., 0D
 Hurd, Emily R., 13, 16
 Impiombato, Domenico, 0A
 Ionica, M., 0D
 Izumi, Nobuhiko, 16
 James, R. B., 1P, 1Q, 1V
 Jimenez, Edward S., 1G
 Jin, W., 0D
 Johnston, M., 13
 Jorgenson, H. J., 12
 Kaaret, P., 0D
 Kanak, A., 1P
 Katz, J., 17
 Kaufman, Morris, 1M
 Kieda, D., 0D
 Kim, B., 0D
 Kim, Wooseub, 1X
 Kleppinger, Joshua W., 0N, 0T, 1T
 Ko, Eunbie, 1X
 Ko, Kilyoung, 1X
 Koike, Akifumi, 0G
 Kopach, O., 1P
 Kopach, V., 1P
 Koundinyan, Srivathsan P., 1G
 Kozioziemski, B., 14
 Krivova, Kira V., 0H
 Kumar, Shashank, 0R
 La Rosa, Giovanni, 0A
 Larsen, William, 1B
 Lavitola, L., 04
 Lee, Minju, 1X
 Licciulli, F., 0D
 Loporchio, S., 0D
 Ludewigt, Bernhard, 1B
 Macaraeg, Chris, 18
 Maccarone, Maria Concetta, 0A
 MacPhee, Andrew, 16
 Mandal, Krishna C., 0N, 0T, 1T
 Marano, Davide, 0A
 Martin, Matthew A., 11, 1M
 Martinez, J. I., 12
 Masone, V., 0D
 McCarville, T., 14
 Meures, T., 0D
 Mineo, Teresa, 0A
 Mirador, Jim, 1M
 Mode, B. A. W., 0D
 Mollo, C. M., 04
 Morii, Hisashi, 0G
 Moriyama, Hodaka, 1D, 1E, 1H
 Mormile, M., 04
 Mukherjee, R., 0D
 Mukhopadhyay, Sanjoy, 1F
 Murphy, Ronald J., 07
 Murphy, T. J., 12
 Nagel, Sabrina R., 16
 Novikov, Alexander S., 0H, 1L
 Oda, Yasuyuki, 1D, 1H
 Oertel, J. A., 12
 Okumura, A., 0D
 Olguin, Santiago, 1M
 Otte, N., 0D
 Pantaleo, F. R., 0D
 Paoletti, R., 0D
 Pareschi, Giovanni, 0A
 Persaud, Arun, 1B
 Pershin, Yuriy, 0T
 Petrashyk, A., 0D
 Philips, Bernard F., 07
 Pickworth, L. A., 14
 Powell, J., 0D
 Powell, K., 0D
 Pozzi, S. A., 09
 Rak, Zsolt, 0T
 Rarenko, A., 1V
 Ribeiro, D., 0D
 Romeo, Giuseppe, 0A
 Rosenstrom, Andrew, 1B
 Rouselle, J., 0D
 Rugliancich, A., 0D
 Russo, Francesco, 0A
 Sajjad, Mohsin, 0N, 1T
 Saluja, Gurdeep, 1F
 Sanchez, M., 13
 Sangiorgi, Pierluca, 0A
 Santander, M., 0D
 Sato, Eiichi, 1D, 1E, 1H
 Sato, Yuichi, 1E
 Schmidt, D. W., 12
 Scuderi, Salvatore, 0A
 Segarra, Jose, 1F
 Segreto, Alberto, 0A
 Shang, R., 0D
 Share, Gerald H., 07
 Shcherbak, L., 1P
 Shin, T. H., 09
 Shustov, Alexander E., 0H, 1L
 Sims, G., 15
 Sironi, Giorgia, 0A
 Sklyarchuk, Valery M., 1S, 1V
 Smalley, Duane D., 11, 1M
 Smith, David, 1N
 Smith, Sheridan, 1M
 Solodin, S., 1V
 Sottile, Giuseppe, 0A
 Springstead, M. P., 12
 Steinberger, W., 09
 Stevenson, B., 0D
 Stiacchini, L., 0D
 Stohn, Adriana M., 1G
 Takagi, Katsuyuki, 0G
 Takagi, Toshiyuki, 0G
 Tate, T., 13
 Taylor, L. P., 0D
 Terao, Tsuyoshi, 0G

Thompson, Kyle R., 1G
Tosti, L., 0D
Trosseille, Clément A., 16
Ulin, Sergey E., 0H, 1L
Uteshev, Ziyaetdin M., 0H, 1L
Vagelli, V., 0D
Valentino, M., 0D
Vandenbroucke, J., 0D
van Waasen, S., 0R
Vassiliev, V., 0D
Vivolo, D., 04
Vlasik, Konstantin F., 0H, 1L
Volegov, P. L., 12
Watanabe, Manabu, 1D, 1E, 1H
Wilcox, P., 0D
Wilde, C. A., 12
Williams, D. A., 0D
Woolf, Richard S., 07
Wurtz, Ronald E., 0X
Yakimov, Aharon, 1N
Yoshida, Sohei, 1D, 1E, 1H
Yoshioka, Kunihiro, 1D, 1E, 1H
Yuriychuk, I. M., 1Q
Zakharuk, Z., 1V
Zier, Jacob, 1M

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- 1 Semiconductor Detectors I
Aleksey E. Bolotnikov, Brookhaven National Laboratory
(United States)
- 2 Scintillator Detectors I
Stephen A. Payne, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory
(United States)
- 3 Applications I
Shaun Clarke, University of Michigan (United States)
- 4 Applications II
Kai Vetter, University of California, Berkeley (United States) and
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (United States)
- 5 Semiconductor Detectors II
Gerard Ariño-Estrada, University of California, Davis (United States)
- 6 Applications III
Krishna C. Mandal, University of South Carolina (United States)
- 7 Semiconductor Detectors III
Kihyun Kim, Korea University (Korea, Republic of)
- 8 Scintillator Detectors II
Nerine J. Cherepy, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory
(United States)

- 9 Imaging Diagnostics
Larry Franks, Consultant (United States)

- 10 Detectors for ICF Applications
Eric C. Dutra, National Security Technologies, LLC (United States)

- 11 Applications IV
Lars R. Furenlid, The University of Arizona (United States)

- 12 Computed Tomography
H. Bradford Barber, The University of Arizona (United States)

Introduction

This volume includes the proceedings of the SPIE conference on Hard X-Ray, Gamma-Ray and Neutron Detector Physics XXI (OP319). The conference was held 12-14 August 2019 in San Diego, California (United States). The conference was organized into multiple technical sessions on semiconductor detectors, scintillator detectors, and applications and also included a poster session.

The purpose of the conference was to provide a forum for scientists and engineers from the detector development and user communities to present and evaluate the most recent results on x-ray, gamma-ray, and neutron detectors and to discuss the requirements for a variety of radiation-sensing and imaging applications. The primary theme of the conference was development of improved semiconductor and scintillator radiation detectors and imaging arrays which combine the advantages of room-temperature operation with the ability to spectrally resolve the energies of emitted x- and gamma-rays, and on applications of the technology. By eliminating the cryogen, new radiation-sensing instruments, such as spectrometers, gamma cameras, and radiographic systems, can be manufactured that are portable, lightweight, easy to operate, and relatively maintenance-free. Recent research and development on detectors has resulted in measurable progress in the availability of single detectors and imaging arrays. In addition, recent reports of the properties limiting the performance of semiconductor and scintillator detectors have provided new insights and directions to address deficiencies in the crystals and devices.

Despite the limitations on efficiency and cost of current room-temperature semiconductor and scintillator detectors, they have been increasingly deployed in systems useful for medical diagnostics, space applications, science applications, safeguarding of nuclear materials, material identification, baggage scanning, position sensing, computed tomography, and gamma-ray spectroscopy. Although significant progress has occurred over recent years, there is still a pressing need to lower the cost of the detectors and to increase the efficiency of the detectors while improving their spectral performance.

The technical program featured 56 presentations, including 14 posters. This volume provides detailed documentation describing a significant portion of the presentations. The editors hope that it will serve as an important record of the meeting, provide an update on the status of x-ray, gamma-ray, and neutron detector technology, and serve as a useful resource for those working in the field.

The conference chairs would like to thank the session chairs and members of the Conference Program Committee, who offered their time to enlist the involvement of many researchers working in the field. We also express our indebtedness to all authors who contributed to the proceedings, and to the SPIE staff for their excellent

cooperation and continuous support during the conference call, organization, and proceedings processes.

**Ralph B. James
Arnold Burger
Steve Payne**