École Joliot-Curie 2015

"Instrumentation, detection and simulation in modern nuclear physics"

Nuclear Structure studies using Advanced-GAmma-Tracking techniques

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World-wide projects for γ-ray spectroscopy

Use highly segmented Ge detectors + digital electronics to reconstruct the path of γ rays in the detector medium GRETA

(Gamma-Ray Energy Tracking Array)



AGATA (Advanced-Gamma-Tracking Array)



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AGATA (Advanced-Gamma-Tracking Array)



Grand Accelerateur National d'Ions Lourdes (GANIL) France (2014 – at present)

GSI, Germany (2012-2014) @ fragment separator

Legnaro National Lab. (2009-2012) Demostrator phase



Outline

PART 1 (September 28th 2015)

General Introduction: Physics Motivation

- 1. Nuclear structure and γ -ray spectroscopy
- 2. Structure of neutron-rich fission fragments

γ -ray tracking: Motivation and Concept

- 1. In-beam γ-ray detection: requirements
- 2. From conventional germanium detector arrays to γ -ray tracking
- 3. γ-ray tracking ("philosophy", approximations, open questions)

Pulse Shape Analysis (PSA)

- 1. Principle
- 2. Position resolution and Compton imaging

(be aware ... personal @selection of topics!)

Outline

PART 2 (September 29th 2015)

Pulse Shape Analysis (PSA)

- 1. Signal bases calculation
- 2. Signal decomposition

Some results from Ge position sensitive mode operation and y-ray tracking

The AGATA array of segmented HPGe detectors

- 1. Implementation of Pulse Shape Analysis and Tracking concepts
- 2. The AGATA detectors and preamplifiers
- 3. The structure of electronics and data acquisition
- 4. Digital signal processing (at high counting rate)
- 5. (AGATA data processing)

AGATA+VAMOS (magnetic spectrometer) at GANIL

The Atomic Nucleus



Nuclear Excitations



Need to tune model parameters collecting nuclear experimental information

Collective Excitations

Nuclear Excitations



Need to tune model parameters collecting nuclear experimental information

Test of nucleon-nucleon interaction by comparing the experimental results to model prediction

What is the effective nucleon-nucleon interaction? What are the limits of existence for bound nuclei (*driplines*) ?

The Structure of the Nucleus



The Structure of the Nucleus



✓ nuclear moments (g-factors)

populate in excited state(s) and observe γ ray de-excitation radiation

<u>γ ray spectroscopy</u> is an approach for the study of nuclear structure

- systematics (e.g. shape transitions)
- benchmarks for nuclear models(e.g. Nuclear Shell Model)
 - Measuring γ-ray:
 - ✓ energy
 - ✓ angular distribution
 - ✓ linear polarization
 - ✓ energy Doppler shift (for example)
 - \checkmark angular distribution vs t

Level schemes vs Energy spectra

What we want ...



Level schemes vs Energy spectra

What we want ...





Analysis of complex spectra with many lines close in energy

Nuclear deformation in the A~100 region



γ-ray spectroscopy of neutron-rich isotopically-identified fission fragments

²³⁸U + ⁹Be



Gamma ray detector + mass spectrometer



²³⁸U beam (@ 6.2 MeV/A) on ⁹Be target





Collectivity in neutron-rich Zr nuclei



A. Navin et al., Phys. Lett. B **278**, 136 (2014)

Collectivity in neutron-rich Zr nuclei



A. Navin et al., Phys. Lett. B **278**, 136 (2014)

Energy resolution ($E_{\gamma} \sim 10 \text{ keV} - 10 \text{ MeV}$), in order to disentangle complex spectra \rightarrow germanium detectors

Peak to Total ratio (large continuous Compton background), in order to maximize "good events"

→ Compton background suppression



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Doppler correction capability,



energy resolution dominated by Doppler broadening if the velocity vector and the emission angle of the γ -ray are not well known ($\beta \sim 5-10\%$, up to 50%)

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Good solid angle coverage (ideally 4π), in order to maximize efficiency

Good granularity,

in order to reduce multiple hits on the detectors for high γ -ray multiplicity events

Avoid dead materials that could absorb radiation (\rightarrow preserve low energies)

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High counting rate capability (frequently background much stronger than channel of interest)

Time resolution (prompt events selection, lifetimes)

Energy resolution



Response function = differential spectrum obtained with a detector when hit by monochromatic radiation

60's \rightarrow Use of Ge(Li) detectors marks the beginning of high-resolution in-beam γ -ray spectroscopy

70's \rightarrow Only few detectors , operated in $\gamma - \gamma$ coincidence. Development of the HP-Ge detector.

Use of Germanium detectors = breakthrough in nuclear structure

FWHM = 2 keV at 1.3 MeV

Doppler broadening: effective energy resolution



Doppler broadening: effective energy resolution



Photon interaction with matter



Cross Sections in Germanium



Compton Scattering (1)



Compton Scattering (2)

The angular distribution of the scattered photon is described by the Klein-Nishina formula:

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}\,\sigma}{\mathrm{d}\,\Omega} = z r_e^2 \left(\frac{1}{1+\alpha\left(1-\cos\ \theta\ \right)}\right)^2 \left(\frac{1+\cos\ ^2\theta}{2}\right) \left(1+\frac{\alpha\ ^2\left(1-\cos\ \theta\ \right)^2}{\left(1+\alpha\left(1-\cos\ \theta\ \right)\right]}\right)$$

 $\alpha = E_{\gamma}/m_e c^2$

and r_e is the classical electron radius

For E_{γ} > few 100 keVs the angular distribution is highly anisotropical and peaked to small <u>forward angles</u>. It strongly ``focuses'' with the increasing photon energy.



Eγ

Ee

Eγ'

θ

Continuum Compton

The spectrum of the scattered electrons can be deduced from the Klein-Nishina formula:

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}N}{\mathrm{d}E_{e}} \propto \left(\frac{1+f^{2}(E_{e})}{2}\right) \left[1+\frac{1}{1+f^{2}(E_{e})}\frac{E_{e}^{2}}{E_{\gamma}(E_{\gamma}-E_{e})}\right] \qquad f(E_{e}) = 1-\frac{m_{e}c^{2}}{E_{\gamma}}\frac{E_{e}}{E_{\gamma}-E_{e}}$$



Since <u>the actual energy deposition is</u> <u>performed by the electrons</u>, photons interacting via Compton scattering will produce a continuum.

Corrections are needed since electrons are not free, rather bound in materials, producing a smoothening of the actual spectrum

(Compton profile)

Shape of the γ spectrum for a typical size Ge detector



High probability that the incoming photons are only partially absorbed. Response function: full-energy peak, continuum generated by photons which underwent Compton scattering and, if the photon energy is larger than 1.022 MeV, peaks due to the missed detection of one or both the annihilation photons (single and double escape peaks).

Escape-suppressed Ge detectors (Compton suppression)



The cross section for Compton scattering in germanium implies quite a large continuous background in the resulting spectra

For large-volume Ge crystals the Anticompton shield (AC) improves the PeakToTotal ratio (P/T) from ~20% to ~60%

γ1 \ γ2	Ρ	В
Р	PP	PB
В	BP	BB

In a γ - γ measurement, the fraction of useful peak-peak coincidence events grows from 4 % to 36%

For high fold (F) coincidences the fraction of useful coincidences is P/T ^F

GASP @ Legnaro Nat. Lab.





- 40 HPGe + AC (config. II)
 - d_{target-det.} = 22 cm
 - ε_{ph}~ 5.8% @ 1332.5 keV
- Pb collimator (6 cm thick)
 - inner space R_{int} = 15 cm

Lifetime measurements with Doppler Shift Techniques 7 rings @ 35° , 60° , 72° , 90° , 108° , 120° , 145° 6 6 4 8 4 6 6

C. Rossi-Alvarez, Nucl. Phys. News Europe 2 (1993) 10



EUROBALL



up to 110 Compton-Suppressed Ge detectors



15 Clusters (7-Ge); 26 Clovers (4-Ge); 30 single Ge

71 CS-systems 239 Ge crystals

I.Y. Lee, NPA 520 (1990) 641

 Efficiency
 $\epsilon_p \sim 10 - 5 \%$

 Peak/Total
 PT ~ 55 - 40 %

 (M_{\gamma}=1 - M_{\gamma}=30)

Solid angle covered by Ge \rightarrow 40-50 %

Spectroscopic history of ¹⁵⁶Dy

The "spectroscopic history" of ¹⁵⁶Dy is a notable example of how the progress with the acceleration and detection techniques leads to better insight on the nuclear structure.



The nucleus is always full of surprises



Instrumentation advances \Leftrightarrow New Science
Advances in γ-ray spectroscopy: sensitivity vs year



Sensitivity = inverse of the weakest channel reaction cross-section that can be measured over total cross section

Advances in γ-ray spectroscopy: sensitivity vs year



AGATA (EU) and GRETA (US) will allow unprecedented gamma detection sensitivity, by using the germanium detectors in *position sensitive mode* (Pulse Shape Analysis and Tracking)

Sensitivity = inverse of the weakest channel reaction cross-section that can be measured over total cross section

The γ -ray spectroscopy dream

Cover the whole detection solid angle by germanium and track the path of the g rays inside the detector medium



- segmented detectors
- digital electronics
- timestamping of events
- analysis of pulse shapes
- tracking of γ-rays



4 time more efficient than standard arrays, also for high γ multiplicity (28 % M $_{\gamma}$ =30)

High count rate capabilities (100s KHz)

"continuous" angular distributions of the γ interaction points (θ~1°)

Study of nuclei in extreme conditions of angular momentum and neutron/proton asymmetry

"perfect" Doppler correction
 (6 keV @ 1 MeV, β=50%)
new accuracy and sensitivity for
 nuclear level lifetimes
 γ linear polarization

Position resolution used to limit Doppler broadening of gammas emitted in flight -- Benefits of the γ -ray tracking



Tracking of radiation

in High Energy Physics



"continuous tracks" from very energetic particles

huge detectors for "one" experiment

in Nuclear Spectroscopy



"many" low energy (0.01 -- 10 MeV) neutral transitions with low density of energy deposition

"general-purpose" detectors for a large variety of experiments

Physics - large number of incomplete events



Event by event: how many gammas, for each gamma: energy, first interaction point, path



Event by event: how many gammas, for each gamma: energy, first interaction point, path







Aim of gamma-ray tracking

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

$$\begin{split} &\mathsf{E}_{1}, (\theta, \phi)_{\mathsf{inc}, 1}, (\theta, \phi)_{\mathsf{sc}, 1} \dots \\ &\mathsf{E}_{2}, (\theta, \phi)_{\mathsf{inc}, 2}, (\theta, \phi)_{\mathsf{sc}, 2} \dots \\ & \\ & \mathsf{E}_{\mathsf{i}}, (\theta, \phi)_{\mathsf{inc}, \mathsf{i}}, (\theta, \phi)_{\mathsf{sc}, \mathsf{i}} \end{split}$$

discard events corresponding to incomplete energy release

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reconstruct individual photon trajectories and write out photon energies, incident and scattering directions

$$E_{1}, (\theta, \phi)_{inc,1}, (\theta, \phi)_{sc,1}, \dots$$
$$E_{2}, (\theta, \phi)_{inc,2}, (\theta, \phi)_{sc,2}, \dots$$
$$E_{i}, (\theta, \phi)_{inc,i}, (\theta, \phi)_{sc,i}$$

discard events corresponding to incomplete energy release

Linear Polarization

Doppler correction







From energy deposition + incident energy

From source + interaction positions

Track order = permutation with best χ^2

$$E_{\gamma}^{E} = \sum_{i=n}^{N-1} e_{i}$$

$$E_{\gamma}^{E} = \sum_{i=n+1}^{N-1} e_{i}$$

$$Cos \quad \theta^{P} = \frac{\overrightarrow{01} \cdot \overrightarrow{12}}{|\overrightarrow{01}| \cdot |\overrightarrow{12}|} \qquad \Rightarrow \qquad E_{\gamma}^{P} = \frac{E_{\gamma}^{E}}{1 + \frac{E_{\gamma}^{E}}{m_{0}c^{2}}(1 - \cos \theta^{P})}$$

$$\chi_{n}^{2} = \left(\frac{E_{\gamma}^{E} - E_{\gamma}^{P}}{\sigma}\right)^{2} \qquad \Rightarrow \qquad \chi^{2} \approx \sum_{n=1}^{N-1} \chi_{n}^{2}$$

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



Identification is not 100% sure

→ spectra will always contain background



The acceptance value determines the quality (P/T ratio) of the spectrum

Often we use the **R** = Efficiency•PT to qualify the reconstructed spectra

Reconstruction of multi-gamma events



30

180

120

60

ophi⋅sin(theta)

120

180

- 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 cross-section implies that the hits of one gamma tend to be localized along the emission direction

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



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

Forward tracking implemented for AGATA

(D.Bazzacco, Padova - A. Lopez-Martens, Orsay [NIMA 533 (2004) 454])

1. Create cluster pool => for each cluster, $E_{\gamma 0} = \sum$ depositions in the cluster

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- 1. Create cluster pool => for each cluster, $E_{\gamma 0} = \sum$ depositions in the cluster
- 2. Find most probable sequence of interaction points, 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 ?

$$E_{1st} = E_{\gamma} - 2 m_e c^2$$



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3. Select clusters based on $\chi^{_2}$



Examples of tracked source spectra



Performance of the Germanium Shell

Idealized configuration to determine maximum attainable performance.



1.33 MeV	$M_{\gamma} = 1$	$M_{\gamma} = 30$
Շ _{ph} (%)	65	36
P/T(%)	85	60

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

A high multiplicity event



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



Energy independent smearing

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



Pulse Shape Analysis (PSA)



8 AGATA Triple Clusters (24 detectors) @ GANIL "captured" during an experiment

Reconstruction of the interaction points (hits)

Pulse shapes in a coaxial Ge detector

Reverse bias (-HV on p⁺ contact) depletes bulk and generates high electric filed Radiation → carriers in the bulk, swept out by electric field → signal



On "true" coaxial detectors, the shape depends on initial radius

Segmented detectors

- When one of the electrodes is (electrically) segmented, the motion of charges within one segment induces a transient signal also in the neighboring electrodes
- Contrary to the segment where the interaction takes place (the charge is released), the total collected charge in the neighboring electrodes is null
- The amplitude of the induced transient signals provides a convenient way to locate the interaction with sub-segment precision





Interaction occurred in segment 4 (net charge signal)



Interaction occurred in segment 4 (net charge signal)



Sub-segment precision ... but not enough to efficiently perform tracking! → Pulse Shape Analysis












Pulse Shape Analysis concept



Position resolution of AGATA

Method = Doppler correction capability in an in-beam experiment F. Recchia et al., NIMA 604 (2009) 555

P-A. Soederstroem et al., NIMA 638 (2011) 96



beam	⁴⁸ Ti	100 MeV
target	⁴⁸ Ti + ² H	220 µg/cm ²
Si detector	thickness	300 µm
	segmentation	32 rings, 64 sectors





Fig. 10. Width of the simulated 1382 keV peak as a function of the position smearing for the full triple cluster. Individual crystal energy resolution have been considered. All of the segment multiplicities are taken into account. The horizontal arrow indicates the experimental width.



P-A. Soederstroem et al., NIMA 638 (2011) 96

Imaging of E_{γ} =1332 keV gamma rays

AGATA used as a big and exspensive Compton Camera



Doppler correction capabilities

AGATA Demonstrator at LNL 16**6** 6129.9 Inelastic scattering ¹⁷O @ 20 MeV/u on ²⁰⁸Pb 0.0 No Dopp Corr **Crystal Centers** F **Segment Centers** 0 **PSA+Tracking** 160 1200 Ν 140 1000 120 С dE (MeV) 100 Counts (A.U.) 800 В 80 Be 600 60 40 400 20 50 100 150 200 250 300 α 200 TKE (MeV) 4500 5000 5500 6000 6500 Energy (keV) F.Crespi, Milano

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PART 2 (September 29th 2015)

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Some results from Ge position sensitive mode operation and y-ray tracking

The AGATA array of segmented HPGe detectors

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