Assessment of the Imaging Performance of the CITIUS High-Resolution Detector for Heavy Charged Particles and Neutrons

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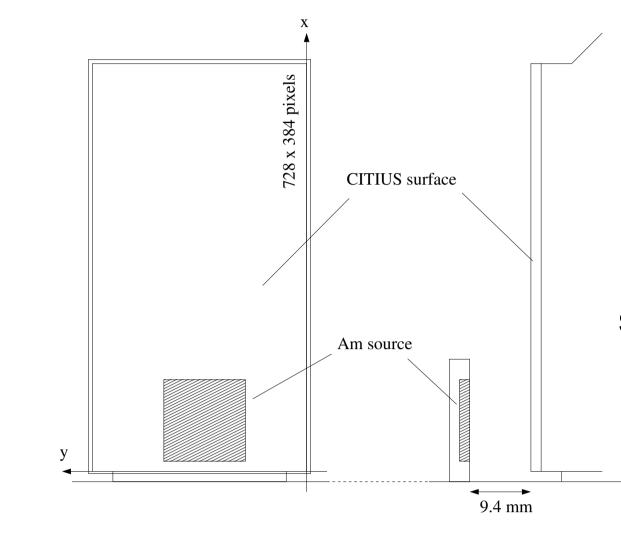
Abstract

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- + The response of the CITIUS high-speed, high-resolution detector to heavy charged particles was measured using alpha particles emitted from an 241Am source.
- + Based on the measurement results, the degree of charge diffusion in the sensor and the noise level were evaluated by template fitting.
- + Geant4 Monte Carlo simulation model with the evaluated parameters was developed and performed to assess the position resolution for both alpha particles and neutrons. +++ To model neutron sensitivity, the detector surface was assumed to be coated with a ¹⁰B layer.

(B) Alpha-particle Irradiation Test

= Experimental Setup =

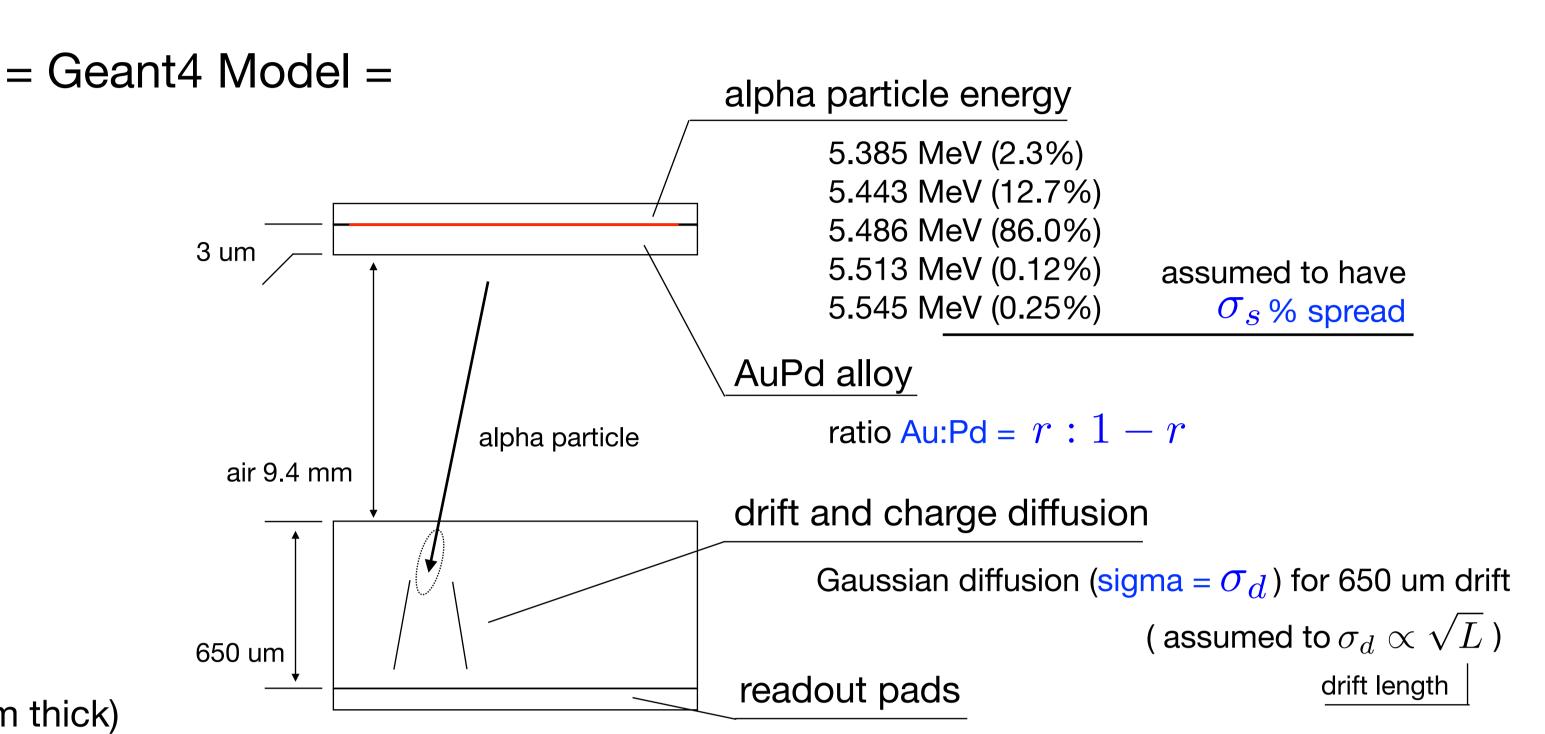


CITIUS detector

- + pixel area: 72.6 x 72.6 um²
- + number of pixels: 728 x 384 pixel²
- + frame rate: 17.4 kframes/s
- + back bias V_b : 400V, 300V, 200V, 170V
- + operation mode: mid-gain

setup

- + radiation source: ²⁴¹Am
- + active area: 8 x 8 mm²
- + air gap to detector surface: 9.4 mm
- + active material is deposited on Au matrix (1 um thick)
- + matrix sealed with AuPd alloy layer (3 um thick)

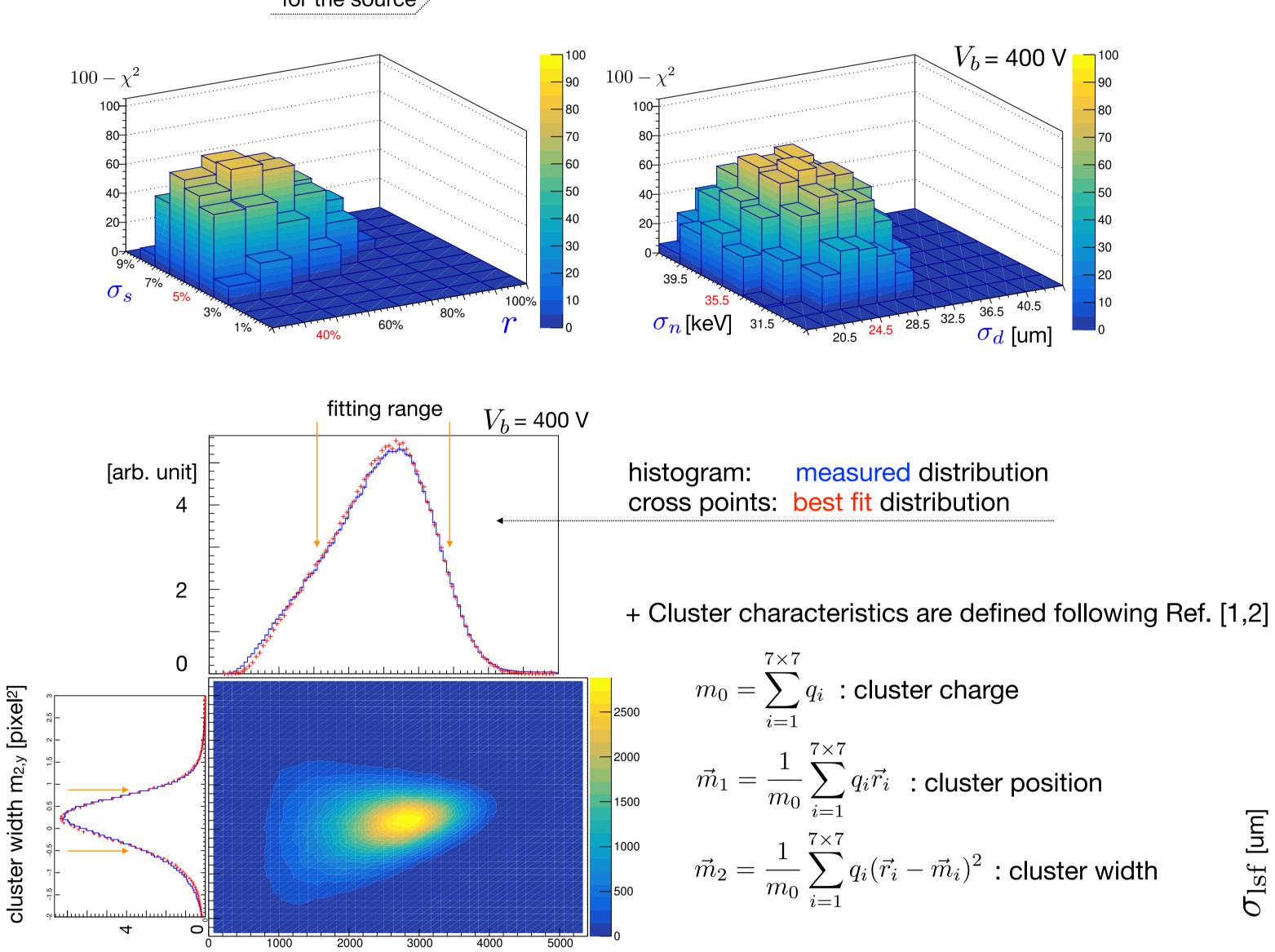


 σ_n : noise per pixel for 72.6 um pixel size (assumed to $\sigma_n \propto l$)

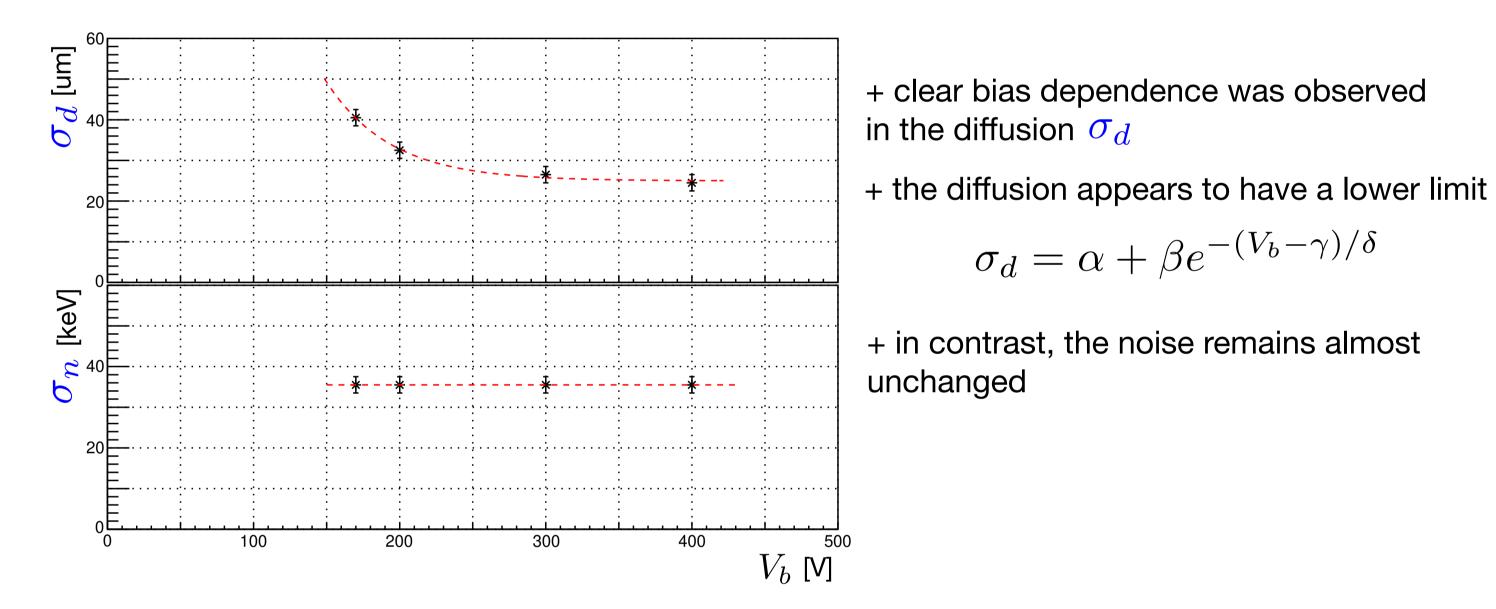
pixel size

Template Fitting

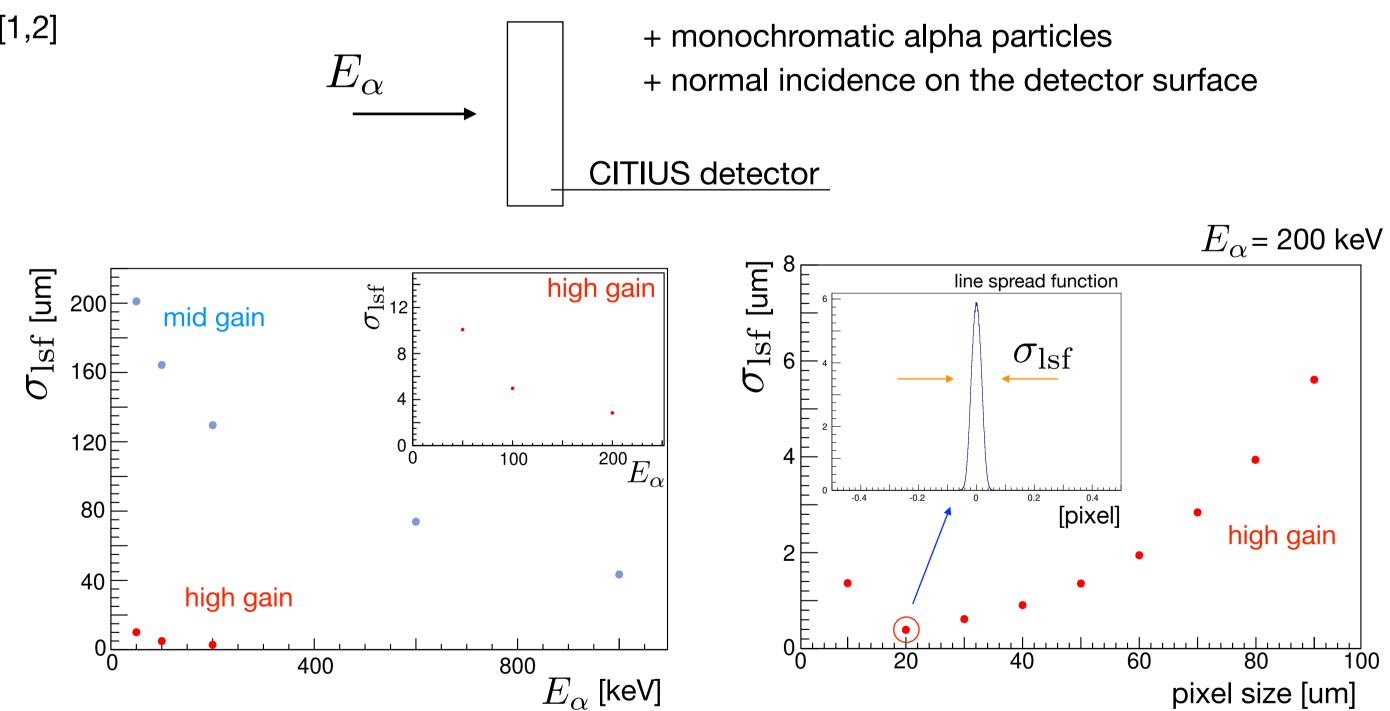
+ The four model parameters σ_s , r, σ_d , σ_n , were determined by template fitting for the detector for the source



(D) Bias dependence of diffusion σ_d and noise σ_n

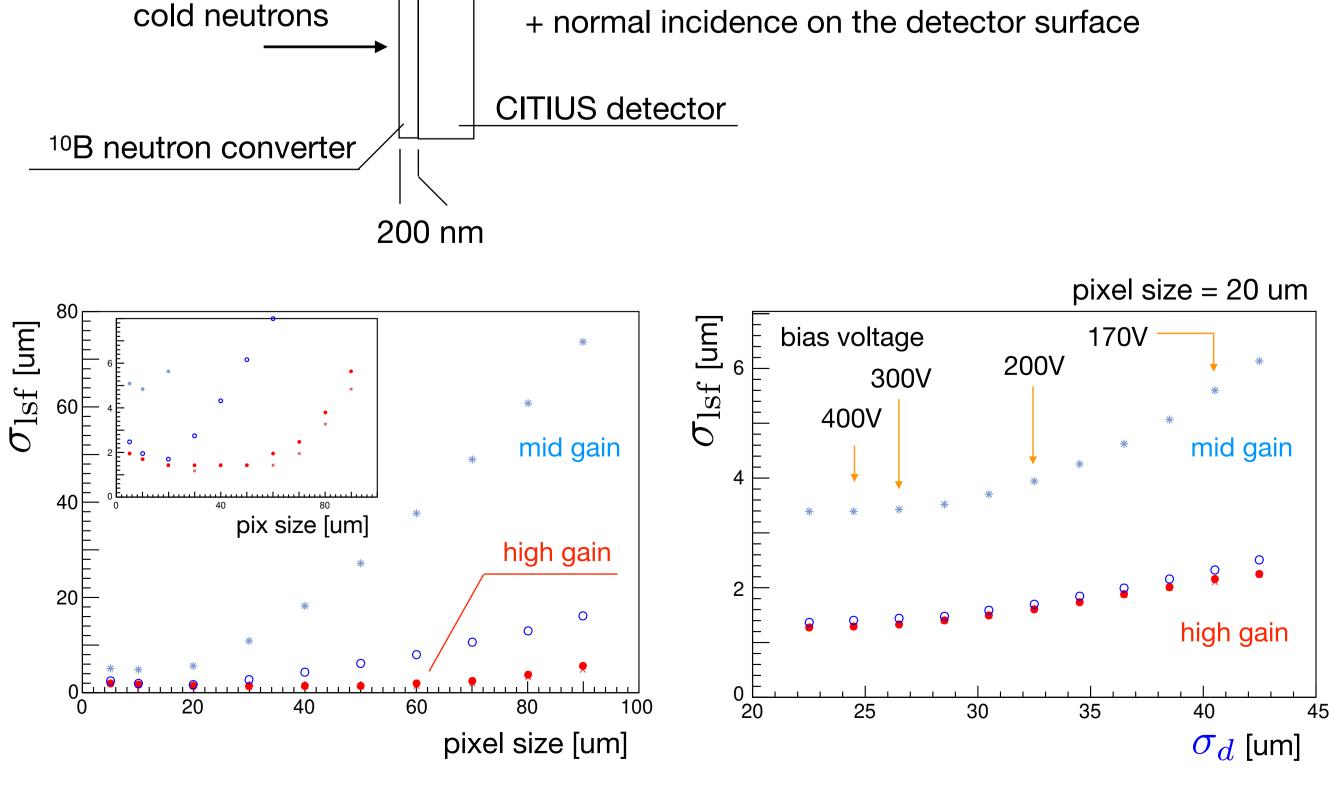


(E) Response for Alpha particles



Response for Cold Neutrons

cluster charge m₀ [keV]



+ monochromatic cold neutrons (2.53 meV)

References

[1] Y. Kamiya, R. Nishimura, S. Mitsui et al., NIMA 1064, 169390 (2024). [2] Y. Kamiya, T. Miyoshi, H. Iwase et al., NIMA 979, 164400 (2020).

Conclusion

- + From measurements using an alpha-particle source, we successfully quantified the charge diffusion and pixel-wise noise in the CITIUS detector at several bias voltages.
- + For alpha particles with energy below 200 keV within the detector's dynamic range in high-gain mode - a spatial resolution of approximately 3 um is expected.
- + By reducing the pixel size to about 20 um, a spatial resolution better than 1 um can be achieved.
- + For cold neutrons with a 200 nm 10B converter, the current system is expected to provide a spatial resolution of around 50 um.
- + Pixel-by-pixel noise is considered to be the main factor degrading the spatial resolution.
- + By suppressing the noise, a spatial resolution of roughly 1 um is expected when the pixel size is reduced to around 20 um, similar to the response evaluated for alpha particles.

Acknowledgements

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