# PoGOLite and Simulation of Inverse Compton Scattering

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# Outline

- PoGOLite the Polarized Gamma-ray Observer
- The detector
- The Star Tracker System
- Polarimetry measurements
- Simulations of Inverse Compton Scattering

# PoGOLite (1)

- International Collaboration between USA, Sweden, Japan, France
- Balloon-borne experiment for measuring polarization of hard X-rays from different astronomical objects (25 – 100keV)
- Consists of 217 Phoswich Detector Cells (PDC's)
- Side and bottom anti-coincidence shielding with BGO crystals
- Effective detector area:  $243 \text{ cm}^2$ ; Field of view:  $5 \text{ deg}^2$
- Polarization measured through coincident detection of Compton Scattering and photoabsorption
- Detects 10% polarization from a 100 mCrab source in a 6 h flight

# PoGOLite (2)

Emission mechanisms for polarization:

- Synchrotron radiation:
  - Rotation powered neutron stars (Crab pulsar)
  - Pulsar nebulae (Crab nebula)
  - Jets in AGN's and micro-quasars (Mkn 501)
- Compton Scattering:
  - Accretion disks around BH's and neutron stars (Cygnus X-1)
- Magnetized neutron stars:
  - Surface of highly magnetized neutron stars (Her X-1)

Sensitive polarimeter necessary!

### PoGOLite (3)

#### Polar cap model

#### Slot-gap/caustic model

#### Outer gap model



# Detector Units (1)

Phoswich-Detector-Cell:

- Fast scintillator: Detection of photo-absorption and Compton Scattering
- Slow Scintillator: Rejection of cosmic-ray induced events
- **BGO bottom:** Rejection of background from the bottom
- **BGO shield:** Rejection of cosmic-ray induced events and shielding from background gamma-rays.



### Detector Units (2)



#### Detector units (3)

Pulse shape discrimination:

In the **fast** shaping amplifier the whole signal from the fast scintillator is integrated and therefore dominant. BGO and slow scintillator play a minor role

In the **slow** shaping amplifier the whole signal from all scintillators are integrated, but the total contribution from the fast scintillator is smaller



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#### Detector Unit (4)



#### Detector Unit (4)





Sketch of the detector array

### Detector Unit (5)



Light-yield measurement performed on the fast and the slow Scintillator.



#### Detector Unit (6)



Position dependency for the slow scintillator



Light-yield results for the fast scintillator

middle position

#### The Star Tracker System



# Star Tracker (1)

- Modelled after the HEFT Star Tracking system
- Used for position determination in addition to other attitude control devices on board
- Must provide absolut reference information for any random star field
- Reference information is very accurate and provides long-term attitude control
- Two trackers 1st on axis, 2nd offset by  $\sim 30^{\circ}$  scan the sky in search for star pattern

#### Star Tracker (2)



# Star Tracker (3)

- Tracker-components:
  - Very high sensitivity QImaging Retiga EXi Digital CCD-camera
  - Nikon Nikkor 200mm f/2 IF-ED photo lense
  - Stepping motors for adjusting aperture and focus





#### Star Tracker (4)







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#### Star pattern matching

- Matching code used for matching a random star-pattern with data from a starcatalogue (e.g. HST Guide Star catalogue)
- Code is able to match two patterns even if one is rotated, flipped or has a different scale



FIG. 1—Representation of triangles in *triangle space*. The lengths of the triangle sides are used to form the ratios b/a and c/a and these ratios define a two-dimensional space. Because of the ordering of the lengths the triangle coordinates will only occupy the indicated triangular region. Triangles from two images are matched when they are within a distance  $\epsilon$  of each other in the triangle space.



# Polarimetry measurements





#### Calibration



#### Data analysis



#### Data analysis

Total Energy vs Center Energy FAST cut

Total energy deposited Compton scattering in the central unit and photoabsorption in an outer unit 90 100 0∟ 0 ۱ŋ Energy deposited in central unit

#### Data analysis



# Inverse Compton Scattering

- The spectra detected by the detector
- The angle and degree of polarization



# Inverse Compton Scattering

• I. Moskalenko and A. Strong (2000)

- High electron energy approximation

- G. Brunetti (2000)
  - Exact formula for several special cases

## Inverse Compton Scattering

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$$\begin{split} j(\Omega_{SC},\epsilon_1) &= \int d\epsilon' d^2 \Omega'_{ph} d^2 \Omega_e d\gamma \frac{d^3 n'(\epsilon',\Omega'_{ph};\epsilon,\Omega_{ph})}{d\epsilon' d^2 \Omega'_{ph}} \\ &\quad \frac{d^2 \Omega'_{SC} d\epsilon'_1 dt'}{d^2 \Omega_{SC} d\epsilon_1 dt} \frac{d^3 \sigma}{d^2 \Omega'_{SC} d\epsilon'_1} \epsilon_1 N_e(\gamma,\Omega_e) \end{split}$$

$$j(\Omega_{SC},\epsilon_1) = \int d\epsilon d^2 \Omega_e \frac{r_0^2 n}{2\gamma^2} \frac{\epsilon_1}{L_1} \beta \gamma^3 J N_e(\gamma,\Omega_e) \left( \left(1 + \frac{\epsilon_1}{m} \frac{k_3 - 1}{\gamma L}\right)^{-1} + \left(1 + \frac{k_3 - 1}{\gamma^2 L L_1}^2 + \frac{\epsilon}{m} \frac{k_3 - 1}{\gamma L}\right) \right)$$

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$$j(\Omega_{SC},\epsilon_{1}) = \int d\epsilon d^{2}\Omega_{e} \frac{r_{0}^{2}n}{2\gamma^{2}} \frac{\epsilon_{1}}{L_{1}} \beta \gamma^{3} J N_{e}(\gamma,\Omega_{e}) \left( \left(1 + \frac{\epsilon_{1}}{m} \frac{k_{3} - 1}{\gamma L}\right)^{-1} + \left(1 + \frac{k_{3} - 1}{\gamma^{2} L L_{1}}^{2} + \frac{\epsilon}{m} \frac{k_{3} - 1}{\gamma L}\right) \right)$$
  
Monte-Carlo integrate

# Validating the result

Collision between a beam of electrons and a beam of photons.



Our result

The result from Brunettis paper

# Validating the result



# Validating the result

Collision between an electron beam and a photon beam. gamma between 900 and 1000



### Polarization

- Paper by D. Nagirner and J. Poutanen (1993)
- Calculates the matrix that transforms the Stokes vector due to inverse Compton scattering.

# Example



# The future

- Work on the star tracker will be continued in Stockholm
- A prototype including 19 phoswich detectors is planned to be build during 2007
- PoGO will (hopefully) be launched in 2009.