

31st International Seminar on Interaction of Neutrons with Nuclei(ISINN-31) Development Status of the neutron detectors for instruments at China Spallation Neutron Source

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on behalf of detector group

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Outline

I Introduction to the group

II Status of the detectors development

III R&D for CSNS Phase II

IV Summary

Introduction to the group



• Mission:

- Focusing on the requirements of the CSNS neutron Instruments
- Developing advanced neutron detection system



• Composition:

- Professors: 3, Senior Researchers: 11
- Total Number of Members: 40+
- Expertise: Detection Physics , Electronics, Data Acquisition, Mechanics, and Engineering Processes
- Average Age: ~36 years old



Roadmap



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Develop detectors "family" for neutron instruments at CSNS



Detector status of instruments



NO.	Instrument	Detector Type	Detection Area	Technical specifications	Installation	Status	
1	GPPD (BL18)	Scintillator	6 m ²	Eff. ≥40% @ 2Å, Res. ≤4mm×4mm	2017		
2	SANS (BL01)	³ He LPSD	1 m ²	Eff. ≥80% @ 2Å, Res. ≤8mm	2017)17	
3	MR (BL02)	³ He MWPC	0.2 m×0.2 m	Eff.≥60% @2Å, Res. ≤ 2mm×2mm	2017	Pupping	
4	MPI (BL16)	³ He LPSD	3 m ²	Eff.≥90% @ 2Å, Res. ≤ 10mm	2020	Kurining	
5	ERNI (BL13)	Scintillator	4 m ²	Eff. ≥40% @ 1Å, Res. ≤ 3mm×50mm, CCD 6.6µm-200µm	2023		
6	VSANS (BL14)	³ He LPSD	3.6 m ²	Eff. ≥80% @ 2Å, Res. ≤8mm	2023		
7	ANIS (BL11)	GEM, Ion. Chamber	0.1m×0.1mm	Eff. ~10 ⁻⁴ @1.0 MeV, Res. ≤ 5 mm	2022		
8	EMD (BL08)	Scintillator	3m ²	Eff. ≥40% @ 1Å, Res. ≤ 3mm×180mm	2022		
9	HD (BL05)	³ He LPSD	20 m ²		2022	Commissioning	
10	HPND (BL15)	³ He LPSD Scintillator	5.7 m ² 1.75m ²	³ He Tube: Eff. ≥80% @ 2Å, Res. ≤8mm Sci.: Eff. ≥40% @ 2Å, Res. ≤4mm×4mm	2024	g	
11	HRD (BL09)	³ He LPSD	8.77 m ²	Eff. ≥80% @ 2Å, Res. ≤8mm	2024		
12	NTDS (BL08A)	³ He LPSD	0.03m×0.3m	Eff. ≥80% @ 2Å, Res. ≤ 8mm	2025		
13	NPAI (BL12)	HPGe, Si	TBD	Energy Res. ≤0.5%	2026		
14	IMVS (BL06)	³ He LPSD	0.36 m ²	Eff. ≥80% @ 2Å, Res. ≤ 8mm	2026		
15	NUBS (BL10)	³ He LPSD	0.44 m ²	Eff. ≥85% @ 6.3Å, Res. ≤12 mm	2026		
16	EDS (BL17)	Scintillator	12m ²	Eff. ≥60% @ 2Å, Res. ≤ 3.5mm×7mm	2026		
17	CNIS (BL04)	³ He LPSD	15.2 m ²	Eff. ≥80% @ 2Å, Res. ≤25mm	2027	CSNS-II	
18	PACS (BL20)	³ He LPSD	12.2 m ²	Eff. ≥80% @ 2Å, Res. ≤25mm	2027		
19	SCND (BL19)	Scintillator	1.2 m ²	Eff. ≥40% @ 2Å, Res. ≤1mm×1mm	2027		
20	LNR (BL03)	GEM	0.6m×1m	Eff. ≥80% @ 2Å, Res. ≤ 2mm×2mm	2028		

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Detector requirements for instruments at CSNS





- The present engineering approach is based on the technology developed over the past 5-10 years.
- The ongoing research aims to provide the solution for the neutron instruments in the future.









Large-Area ³He Tube Array Detector - Standardization SNS

> A continuously optimized and Standardized Engineering Design

- Three technical solutions for atmosphere, high vacuum (~10⁻⁴Pa) and low vacuum(~10Pa)
- Solve vacuum discharge, electronics cooling, space limitation, system noise and channel consistency.



Continuously upgrade solutions

- Module design with 8 or 16 tubes
- Key component from multiple supply, avoiding single source dependency.
- FEE close to detector to reduce noise
- Optical fiber connections between devices to prevent electromagnetic interference.
- Improve stability and real-time monitoring

Large-Area ³He Tube Array Detector



Totally 7 instruments with 3300 tubes

SANS(~10Pa) @ 2018



VSANS (~10Pa) @ 2023

HD (~10⁻⁴Pa) @ 2023



HP (air) @ 2024









HRD (air) @ 2024



Large-Area Scintillator Detector



Module design: front-end digital for fast readout, highly integration and easy assembly

2010~2018

First-generation

- 0->1 Breakthrough
- laboratory-level to engineering-level products



• Engineering application: GPPD spectrometer 6m² space coverage

2018~2023

Second -generation

- Performance further improved
- implementation of batch production

2023~2029

Third -generation

• More compact



- High spatial resolution: <1mm
- Can work in vacuum environment
- Domestic Key Components
- Engineering application: CSNS II



- High integration, low power consumption
- Engineering application: EMD, ERNI and other spectrometers 8m² area coverage

Large-Area Scintillator Detector – 1st generation

Flat Panel Scintillation Neutron Detector for GPPD

- Detection area 6m², ⁶LiF/ZnS(Ag)+WLSF+MA-PMT
- Start operation from August 2018 and run stably for 6 years.

Detector module design





Detector array design







Sample experiments

Bank1 and Bank2

Bank3 and Bank4



Large-Area Scintillator Detector – 2nd generation



Oblique Incidence Scintillation Detector Based on SiPM

Including scintillator, WLSF, electronics, SoC, power supply, temperature monitoring, ۲ temperature compensation modules.



Solve problems of SIPM for large -scale engineering application

Large-Area Scintillator Detector

RUN01074 Cell 16 POS 20

(311)

(400)

sample



Applicated to Engineering Material Diffractometer (EMD) (100 units)

RUN01046_Cell_16_POS_203

Batch calibration and optimization of the detector with neutron beam

Beam Test



5000 E

4000

3000

2000





On-site installation and commissioning



Large-Area Scintillator Detector



- Applicated to Energy-Resolved Neutron Imaging instrument (ERNI) (400 units)
 - Detection area: ~ 3m², 25,000 channels of electronics, solved the problem of power consumption and heat dissipation. Operating stably for 1 year.



Ceramic GEM Neutron Detector



In 2013 the ceramic GEM was invented to reduce hydrogen containing materials with low neutron scattering, high radiation resistance and high temperature resistance

Aiming at engineering applications, ceramic GEM based detector design and key technology development



Ceramic GEM - Beam Monitor



High flux 2D position sensitive neutron beam monitor

6 monitors were installed in CSNS I, operating stably for 6 years. 21 monitors totally used for instruments

wonitor design parameters		so monitors have been mass-produced wonitor Operation Test Results
Indicators	Specifications	3D Imaging@SANS M1 0.007
Conversion layer	B_4C , C_2H_4 , U	
Effective area	50mm*50mm, 100mm*100mm, 200mm*200mm	
Detection Efficiency @1.8Å	10 ⁻⁴ ~10 ⁻²	
Counting rate	1 MHz	$\begin{array}{c} 40 \\ \mu^{30} \\ 20 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 30 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 40 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 $
Neutron flux	10 ¹⁰ n/s	$\begin{array}{c} & & & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\$
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Ceramic GEM - Imaging Detector



Large FOV GEM neutron detector for ERNI

Al/Ti film is used as a stop layer. Spatial resolution is improved to 0.8mm, and it has been installed at ERNI for bragg-edge imaging experiment.



Ceramic GEM - High Resolution Detector



High Resolution Detector for VSANS

Multi-layer BGEM structure is used to improve the detection efficiency, and it has been installed at VSANS for very small angle neutron scattering experiment.



Ceramic GEM - Fast Neutron Detector



Atmospheric Neutron Irradiation Spectrometer 2D position sensitive detector

Use aluminum as stop layer and spatial resolution of fast neutron improved from 5mm to 2.1mm, has been installed at ANIS for fast and thermal neutron beam monitoring







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Ceramic GEM – Frontier Exploration





NIMA, 2021,995:165129

- Developed high-temperature resistant (100°C) ceramic GEM to meet baking outgassing.
- Enhancing detector stability, suitable for vacuum environments, future direction.



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Ceramic GEM - International collaboration



Provided multiple batches of ceramic GEM detectors to several institutions abroad

Milano Uni. & INFN in Italy conducts research on the ceramic GEM and applications (NIMA, 2021, 988: 164907)

Ceramic GEM detector installed at ISIS VESUVIO instrument in UK (Jinst, 2021, 16: P06003)

R&D of high-efficiency detector with GSI, German







Neutron Imaging Detector



Aiming at the neutron imaging demands of CSNS and the frontiers, developing a variety of high spatial resolution and high timing resolution imaging detectors







Latest beam test results: 122 µm@4.1LP/mm

NET, 2021, 53(6):1942-1946



Micrometer ultra-high resolution neutron imaging detector with ultra-thin GOS: Tb transparent ceramic scintillator



Latest beam test results: 6.6 µm @ 74 LP/mm

Optical Materials, 2020, 105: 10990 (cooperated with the Lijiang team of the Shanghai Institute of Ceramics)

Energy resolution neutron imaging detector



Energy resolution neutron imaging detectors can achieve high time resolution and high spatial resolution at the same time.



Latest beam test results: 20 μ m (25 LP/mm), $\Delta\lambda/\lambda$ = 0.29

NIMA, 2021, 1003: 165322

Neutron Imaging Detector - Large FOV



ERNI—Large FOV Imaging detector. Operating stably for 1 year.

Detector engineering design



Lens	Magnification	FOV	Distance	Spatial resolution
Nikon				
AFSVRMICR 060 2.8	0.15	200mmX200mm	484mm	200µm
	0.3	100mmX100mm	242mm	100µm
Nikon	0.3	100mmX100mm	500mm	100µm
AFSVRMICR 0105 2.8	0.5	60mmX60mm	423mm	60µm
0100_100	1	30mmX30mm	343mm	30µm



Large FOV Imaging detector



Neutron beam test @ ERNI



The maximum FOV is 220mm*210mm, and the best spatial resolution is 25 µm measured at ENRI





Neutron Imaging Detector-Energy Resolution (TOF)

> Energy resolved imaging detector. Operating stably for 1 year.





Lens	Magnification	FOV	Distance	Spatial resolution
Nikon	0.12	100mmX100mm	622mm	458µm
AFSVRMIC RO60 2.8	0.14	90mmX90mm	507mm	393µm
	0.3	42mmX42mm	302mm	183µm
Nikon	0.3	42mmX42mm	519mm	183µm
AFSVRMIC RO105_2.8	0.5	25mmX25mm	399mm	110µm
	1	12.7mmX12.7mm	299mm	55µm







Test and commissioning at the ERNI



Preliminary test results of ENRI





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Neutron Imaging Detector-Energy Resolution (TOF)

Development of neutron sensitive Micro Channel Plate (nMCP)

- Challenges: Low γ sensitivity and high boron-doped concentration in nMCP, reducing high Z materials.
- Achieved 20 mole% boron-doped nMCP, successfully applied in GPPD



Neutron Imaging Detector-Applications



Successfully carried out several applications in multi fields at CSNS

Bragg Edge Neutron Imaging Experiment (Chen Jie)





Energy Selective Neutron Imaging



Polarized Neutron Imaging (Wang Tianhao)



Polycapillary (Yi Tiancheng)



Outline

Introduction to the detector and electronics team

II Status of the detectors development





CPM and Requirements for CSNS-II Instruments





³He based GEM neutron detector



- Develop high count rate, high efficiency GEM detector to meet the requirements of liquid instrument
- Bottleneck: traditional detector based on wire chamber can't meet the high flux measurement
- ³He + GEM may potentially achieve high efficiency and enhance high count rate by two orders of magnitude

Parameter	³ He MWPC	³ He GEM needed	GEM counting rate 10 MHz	³ HE gas advantage
Effective Area	200mm × 200mm	600mm × 1000mm	1.2 MWPC-MSGC Rates	100
Spatial resolution	≤ 2mm (FWHM)	≤ 2mm (FWHM)		80 4.0atm 6.0atm
Detect efficiency	≥ 80% @ 1.8Å	≥ 80% @ 1.8Å	0.8 MWPC 2	60 8.0atm 10.0atm 12.0atm
Counting rate	≤ 100kHz	≥ 1MHz	0.4 A=3x10 ⁹ e	5 40 40 3He (n,p) ³ H
n/γ discrimination	10 ⁻⁶	10 ⁻⁶	0.2 Rate (mm ² .s ⁻¹)	



Laser drilling for ceramic GEM

Laser preparation new technologies and methods
 Research ion feedback physics for new design
 Cover Solder Mask
 Laser window opening
 Chemical etch
 Clean
 Remove Solder Mask
 Laser drilling

Detector high-pressure chamber design

Neutron Wavelength [Å]



Large-Area Scintillator Detector – 3rd generation



➢ High-Resolution Scintillation Detector, spatial resolution: ≤1mm×1mm

Aiming at the urgent needs of high -performance neutron detector for CSNS II •

2D imaging



0.5mm position resolution

+0.686

+0.4266

easurements

inear Fit 15

6 mm

Neutron imaging detector with ultra high spatial resolution

Microsecond-level time resolution, and micron & even sub-micron level spatial resolution

- Researching neutron image intensifiers, integrating neutron conversion and intensifier into a single vacuum device to improve integration.
- Developing ultra-thin transparent ceramic scintillators and TimePix4 cameras.



Neutron imaging detector and the Timepix4 Camera

A prototype of neutron imaging detector based on Timepix4 Camera





CSNS officially joined the Medipix4 international collaboration group in 2022.



CSNS Timepix4 Camera

- 1 x Advafab 300um Si sensor with Al window
- CSNS Readout system (ZU15EG + 16 GWT)
- 10GbE/40GbE/64G custom link readout
- TEC cooler with PID controller
- Integrated HV generator and I/V monitor (being developed)

Neutron imaging detector and the Timepix4 Camera

Maximum event rate measured at BL20 was 35.5M hits/s without saturation



Environment Testing Platform



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Vacuum environment







Magnetic environment

Magnetic Field Mapping	magnetic field mapping; 10 ⁻⁶ T – 1T; 0Hz – 1MHz; Accuracy: 1mm
Strong Magnetic Field Testing	Ambient/Superconducting magnet testing (≤9T)
Fixed Magnetic Field Testing	 Electromagnet: 100G 3D magnetic field Electromagnet: 2T single-axis magnetic field Permanent Magnet: 500G unidirectional magnetic field.
Zero Magnetic Field Testing	Multi-layer magnetic field shielding; $\leq 10^{-6} \text{ T}$ (0.01G)

3D X-ray Tomographic Imaging Platform





- Developed independently by IHEP
- Main Functions:
 - 3D tomographic imaging of flat objects and small-sized samples like circuit boards, microdevices, fossils, etc.
- Technical Specifications:
 - Microfocus X-ray source, maximum voltage 160kV, maximum target power 50W, spatial resolution 2 microns.
 - Detection area 300mm x 300mm

应用案例



TSV Filling Quality



PCB Back Drilling

IGBT Welding Defect



Flat Fossil Imaging

3D Stacked Packaging

Device Welding Defect

Nanofabrication Lab for Detector Development



Research feilds:



Multi-threshold photon counting pixel array detector

Supporting Conditions:



Beam position stabilization system based on diamond detectors



Ultra-high energy resolution detector based on TES



Maximum substrate size: 6 inch

- Bonding accuracy: 3µm
- Bonding Wire Range: 56mm*90mm

High-Bandwidth Oscilloscope, Bandwidth: 36GHz



- Tightly around the requirements of neutron instruments, establish a neutron detectors family, promote engineering construction and exploration of new technologies.
- Based on engineering and R&D requirements, establish various functional testing and development platforms.
- Set up a micro-nano structure detector R&D platform.
- In the future, will focus on the demands of major scientific projects:
 - Solve engineering challenge, conducting engineering technical R&D (vacuum, magnetic field, electromagnetic interference, background suppression).
 - Exploring new technologies to enhance the performance of instruments

Acknowledge





















核探测与核电子学国家重点实验室 State Key Laboratory of Particle Detection and Electronics









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Thanks for your attention!