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## A Fitting Model of the Pixel Response to Monochromatic X-Rays in Photon Counting Detectors

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## 6 Abstract

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We present a simple fitting model for the pixel response to monochromatic X-rays in single photon counting pixelated detectors that takes into account 8 the 2D effects of the charge sharing and of the electronic noise on the photon 9 counting process. It is based only on geometrical and physical parameters such 10 as the pixel size, the charge cloud size at the pixel depth and the total electronic 11 noise of the front-end circuitry. The equations describing the pixel point spread 12 function and the integral pulse height spectrum are derived preserving the gen-13 uine 2D nature of the charge collection process. The fitting performances of the 14 model has been assessed on a set of experimental integral pulse height spectra 15 measured with an IBEX photon counting ASIC bonded to a 450 µm thick Silicon 16 sensor with 75  $\mu$ m $\times$ 75  $\mu$ m pixel size, irradiated with monochromatic X-rays in 17 the energy range 6-12.4 keV, with excellent agreement between model and mea-18 surement. The actual contributions of the charge sharing and of the electronic 19 noise are identified and estimated. As a possible consequence, the model can be 20 used to predict precisely the behavior of photon counting detection systems as 21 a function of the design parameters. 22

Keywords: X-ray detectors, photon counting, pixel response model, spectrum
fitting.

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