

# Development of innovative methods for fission trigger construction

**Brigitte PERTILLE RITTER**  
3rd year PhD thesis



## CONTENTS:

- **Motivation for an innovative fission trigger**
- **Fission annotations through dFGIC analysis**
- **Innovative methods based in AI**
  - ... for waveform analysis
- **Conclusion**



## CONTENTS:

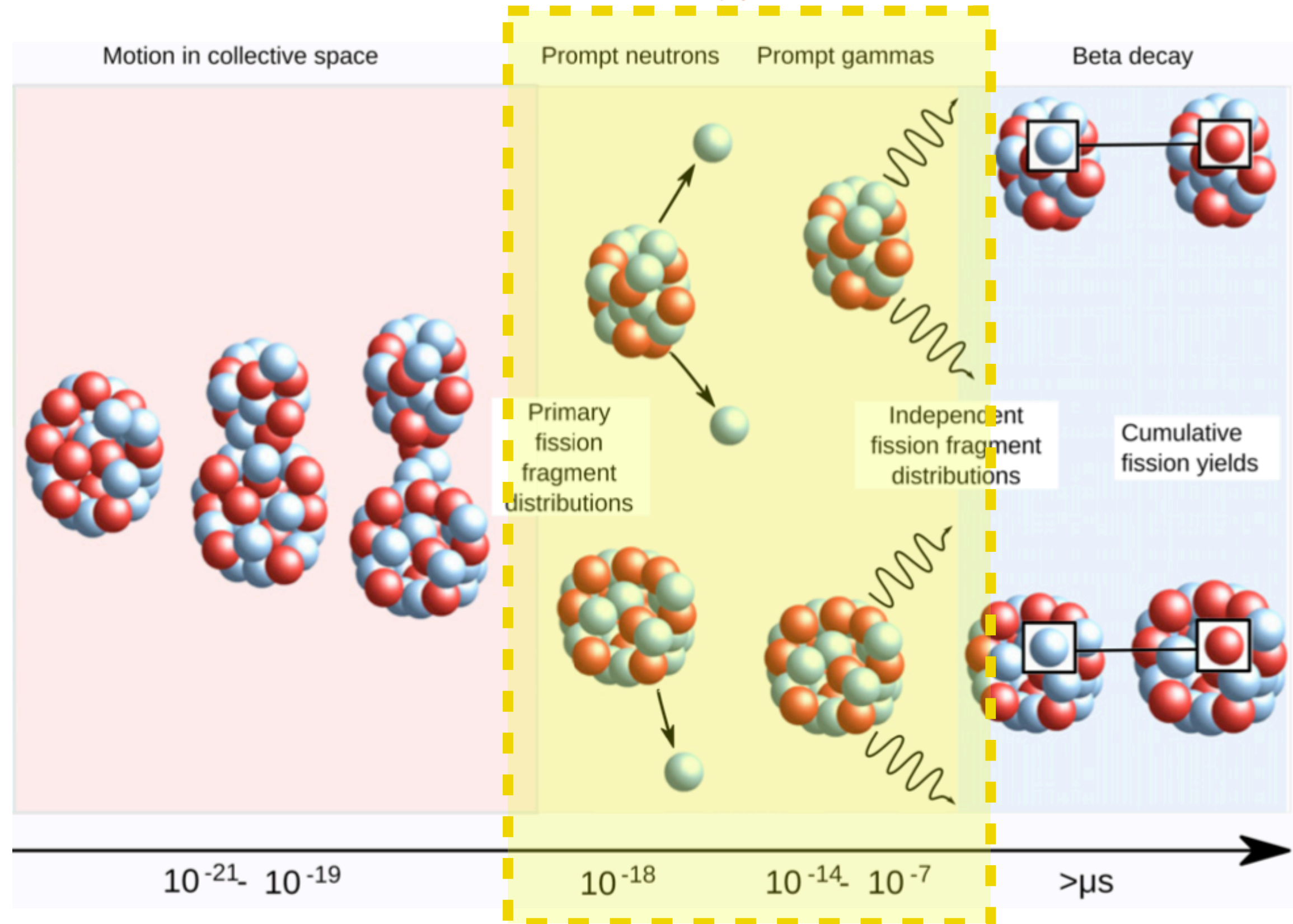
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  - ... for waveform analysis
- Conclusion



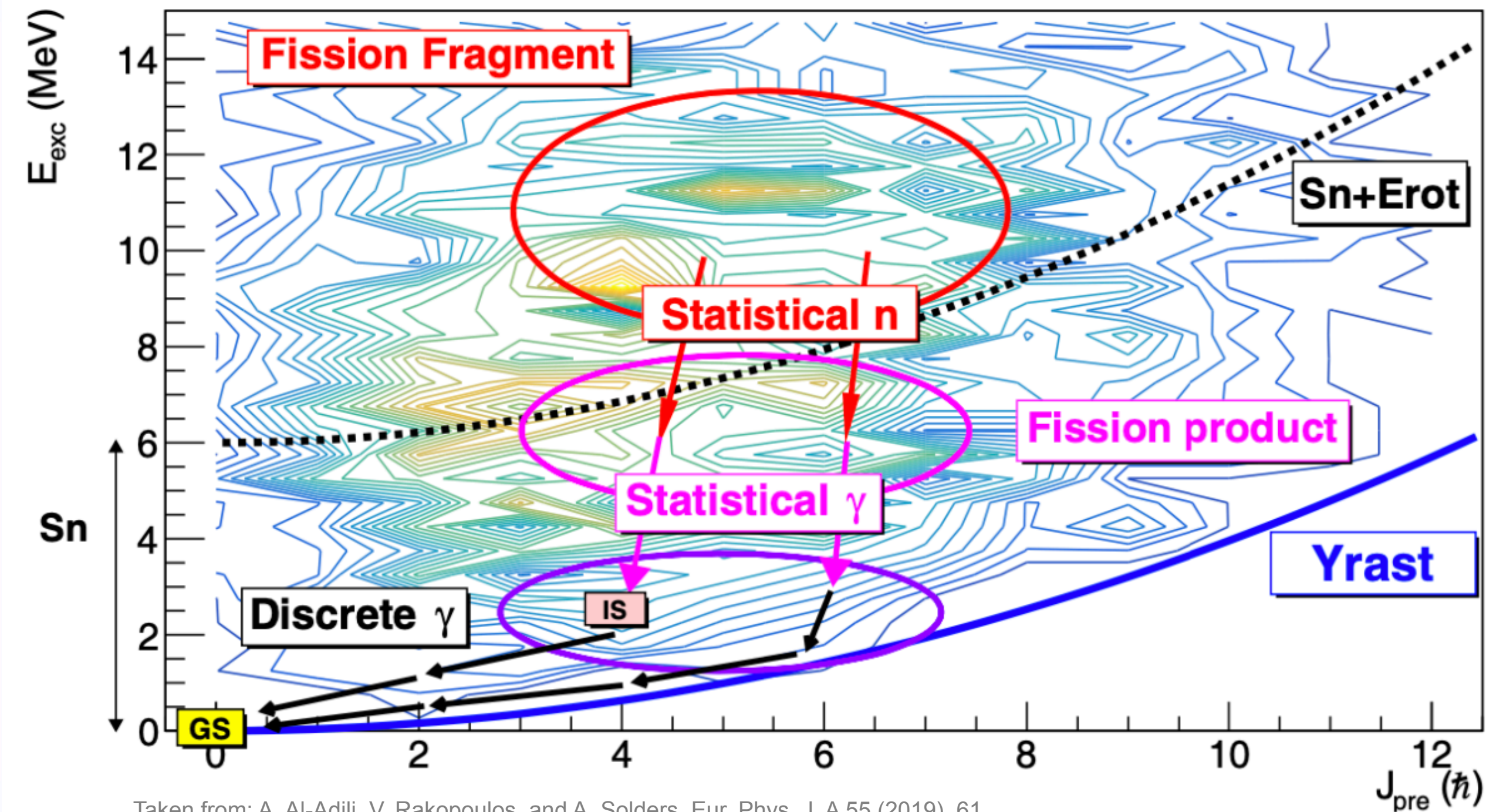


# Nuclear fission

## FROZEN



Adapted from: M. Bender, *et al.* Future of nuclear fission theory. Journal of Physics G: Nuclear and Particle Physics, 47(11):113002, oct 2020.



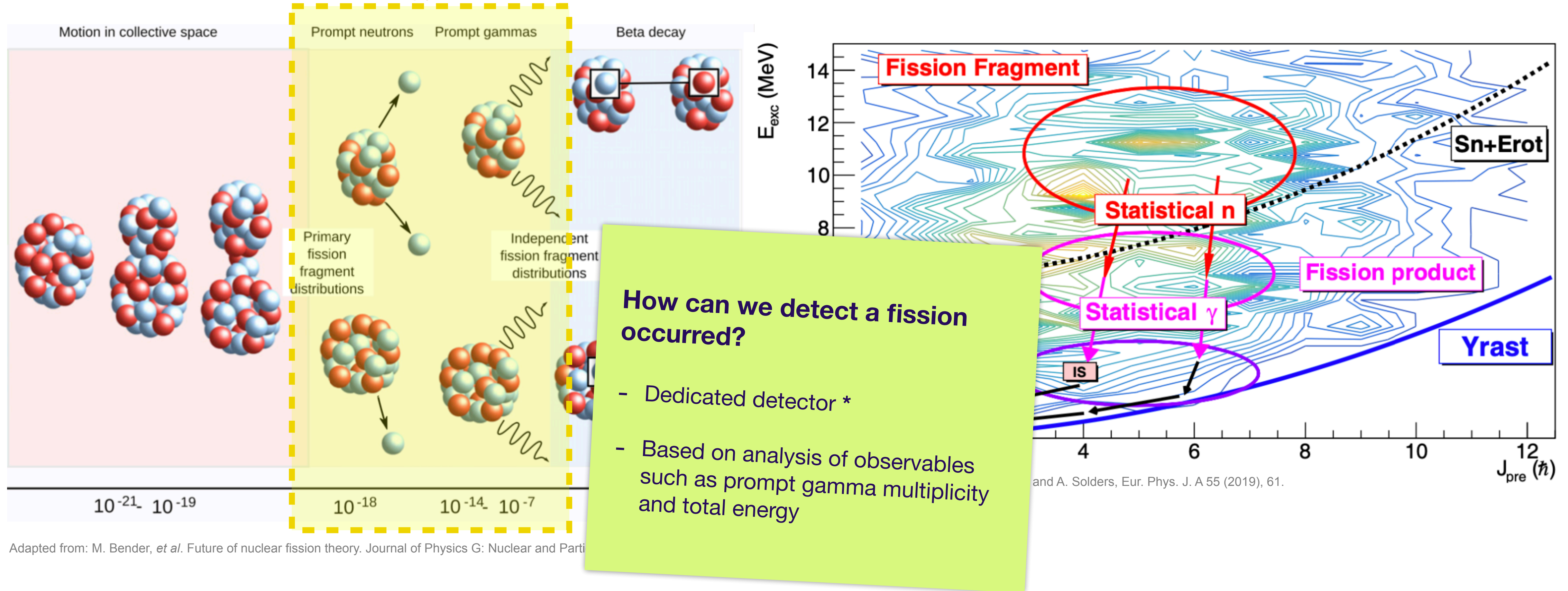
Taken from: A. Al-Adili, V. Rakopoulos, and A. Solders, Eur. Phys. J. A 55 (2019), 61.





# Nuclear fission

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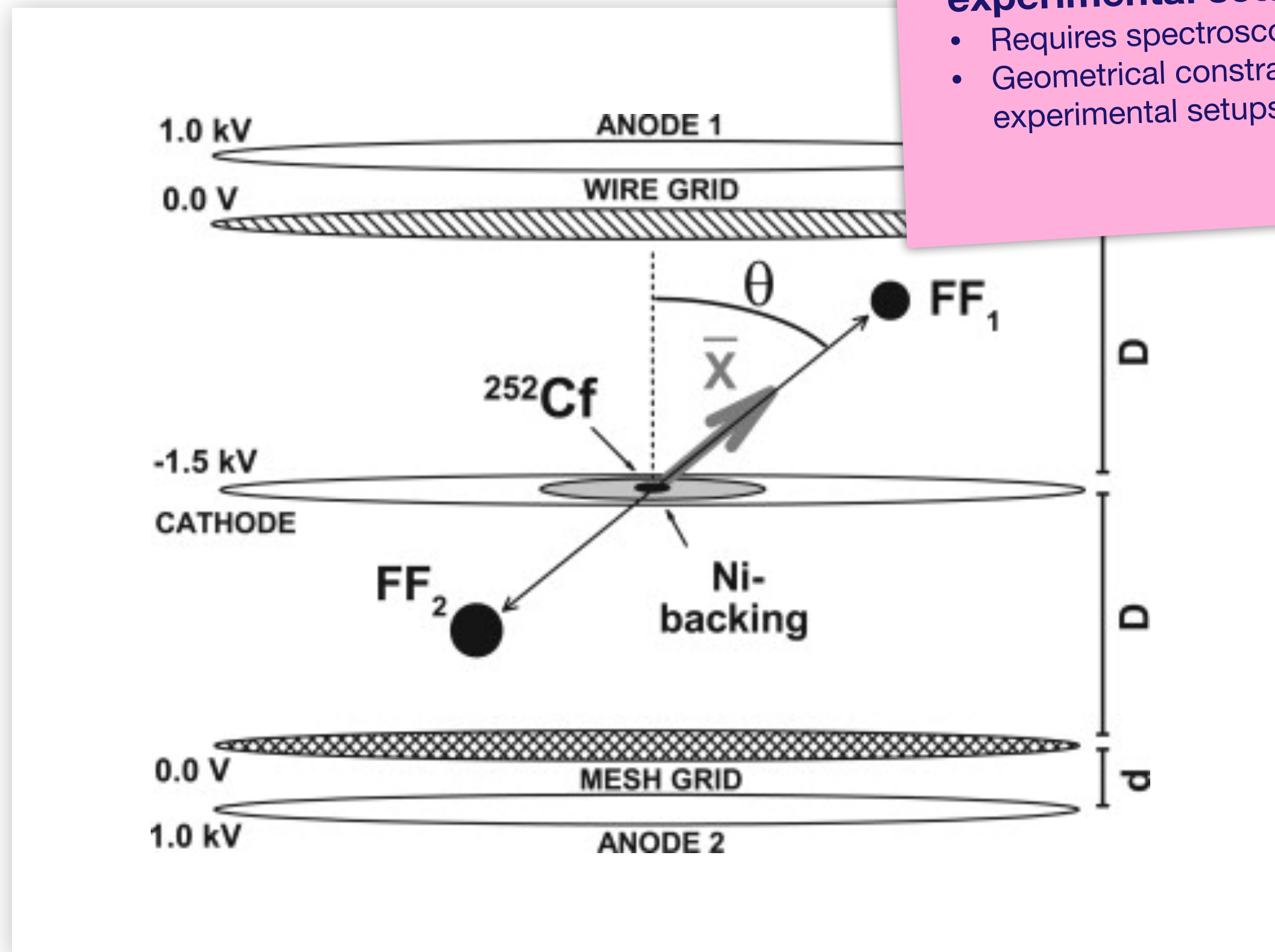






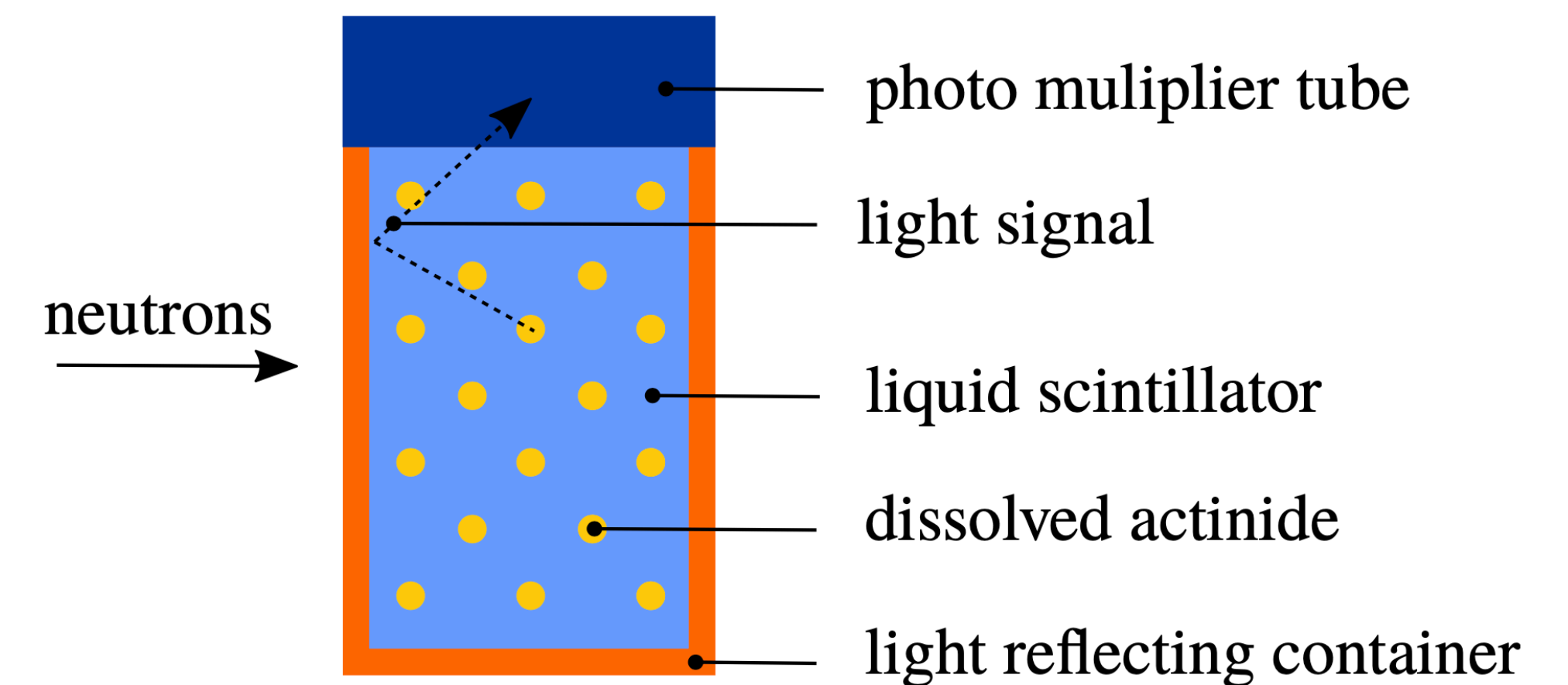
## Dedicated detector:

...such as an ionisation chamber



Taken from: L. Bardelli et al., Nucl. Instrum. Methods Phys. Res. A, vol. 654, pp. 272-278, 2011.

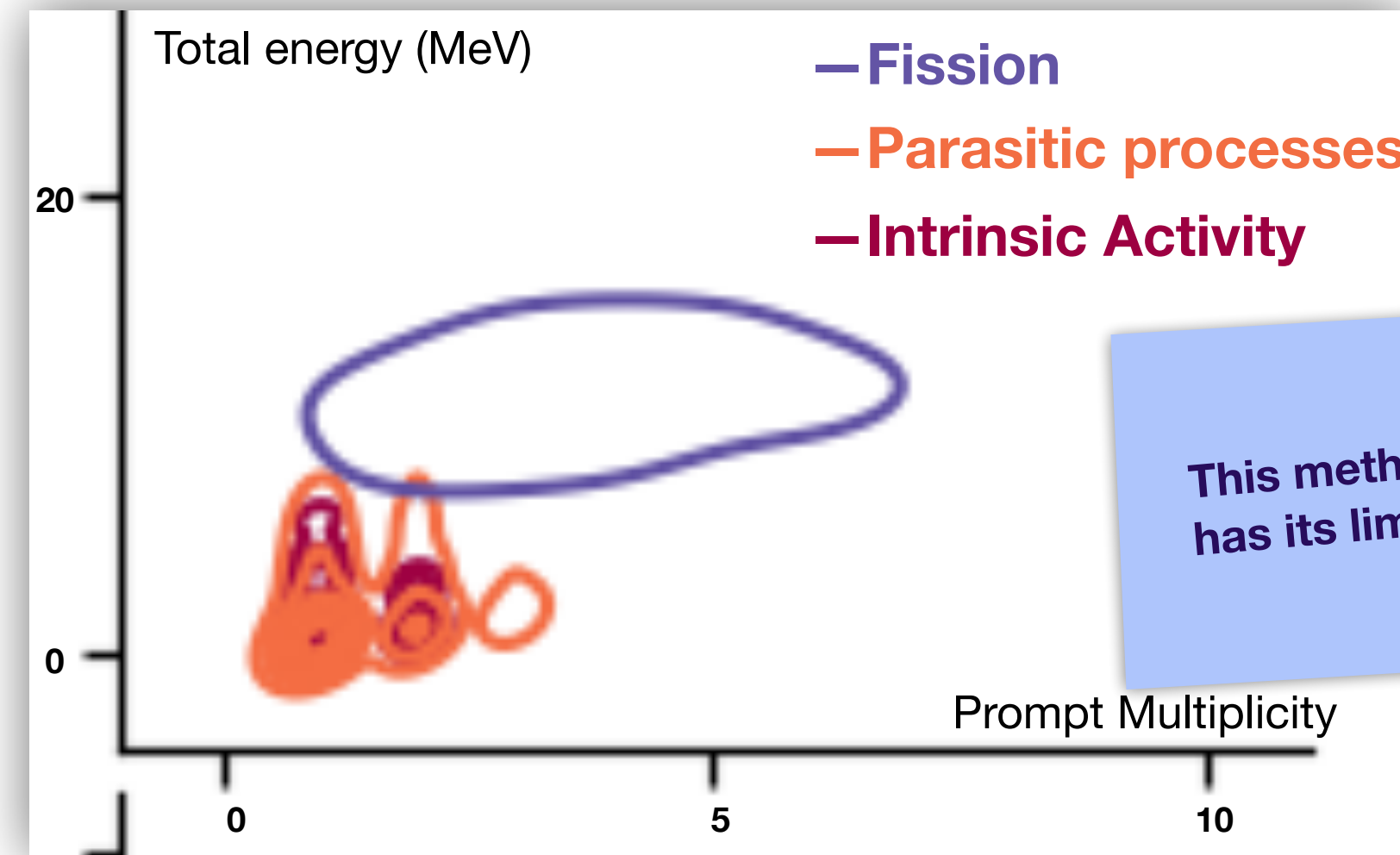
...such as an active target



PhD thesis: Dennis Wilmsen. Nuclear structure studies with neutron-induced reactions : fission fragments in the N=50-60 region, a fission tagger for FIPPS, and production of the isomer Pt-195m. Physics [physics]. Normandie Université, 2017. English. <NNT : 2017NORMC269>. <tel-01768580>



# Calorimetry for fission event recognition

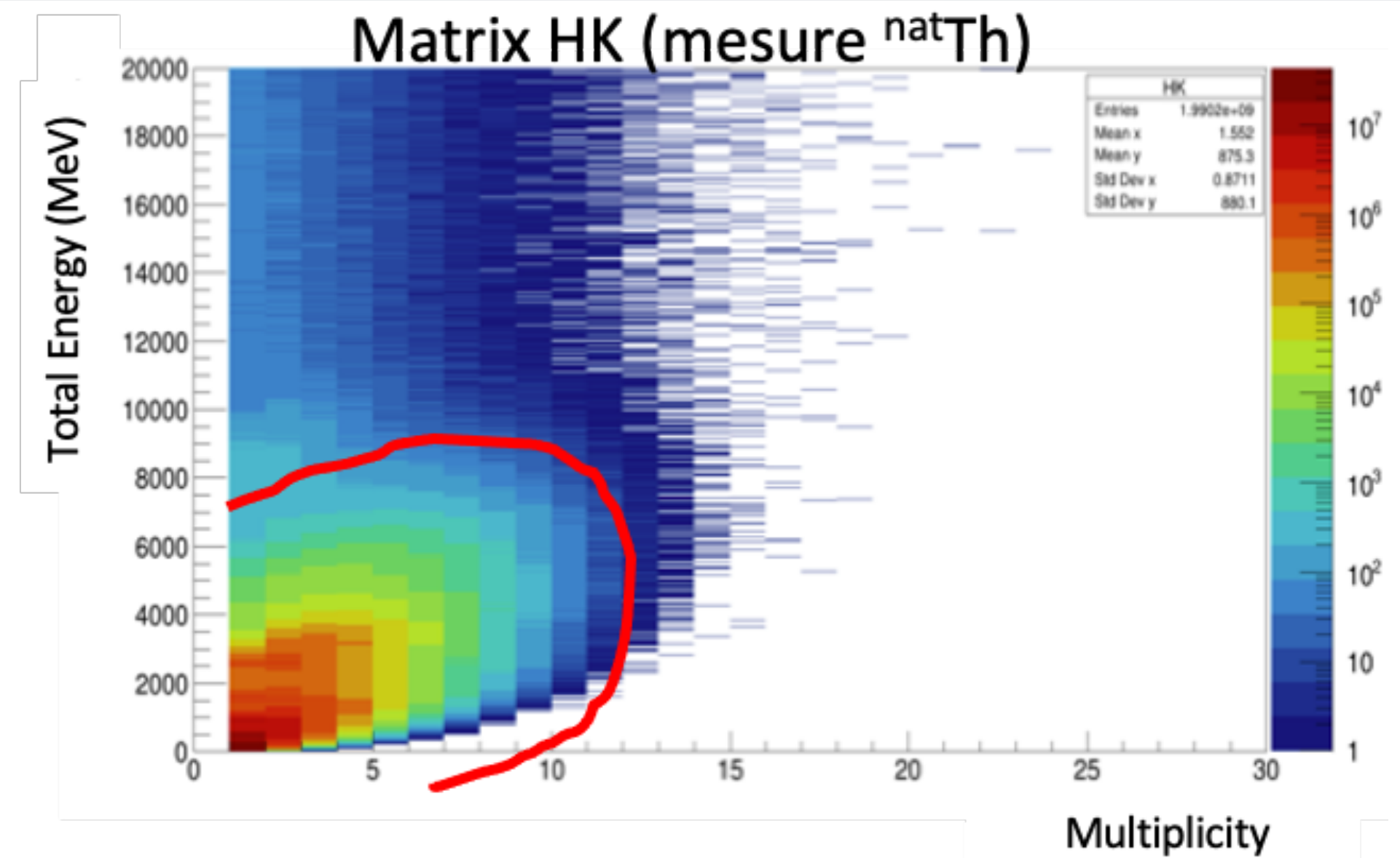
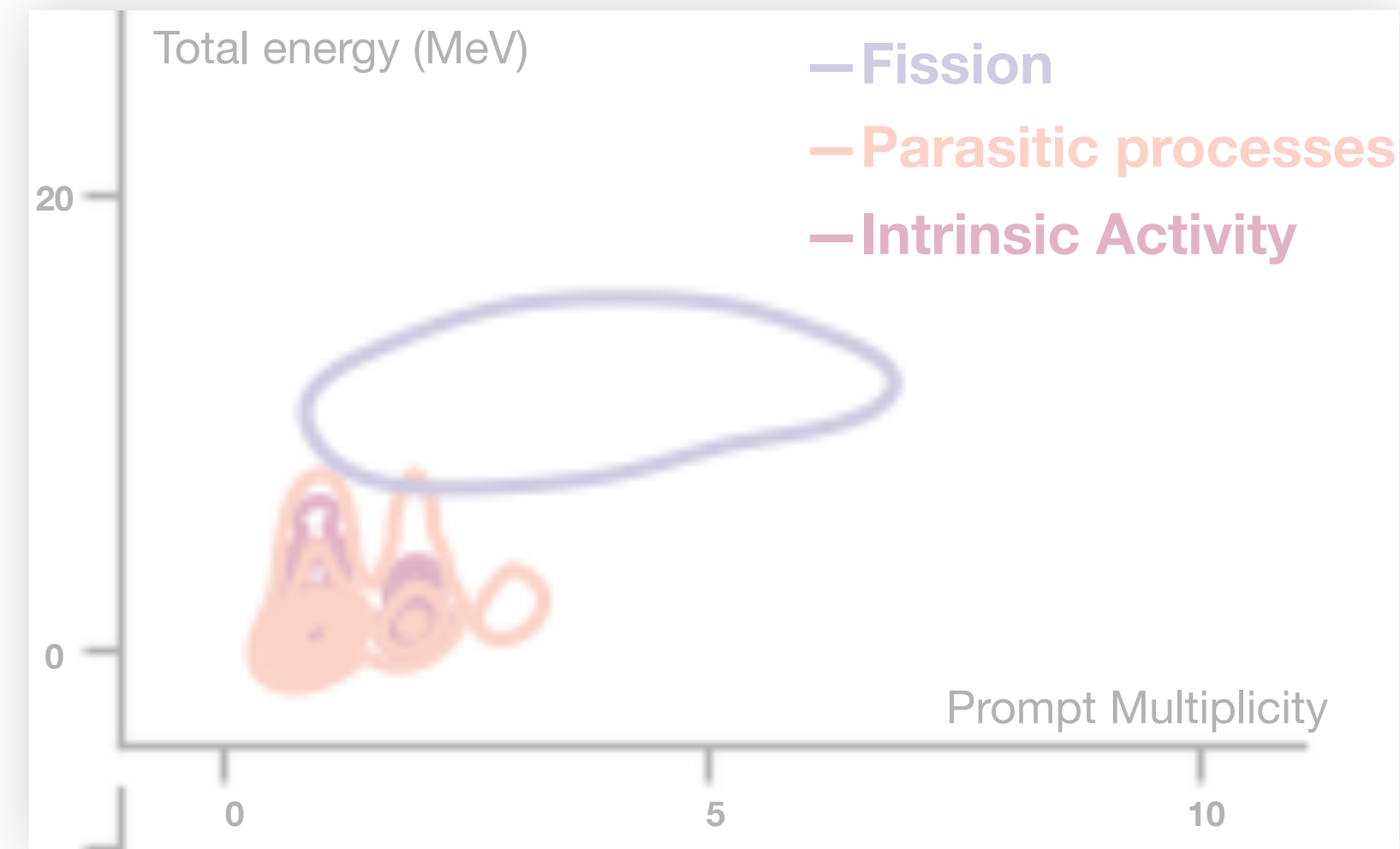


This method also  
has its limitations...





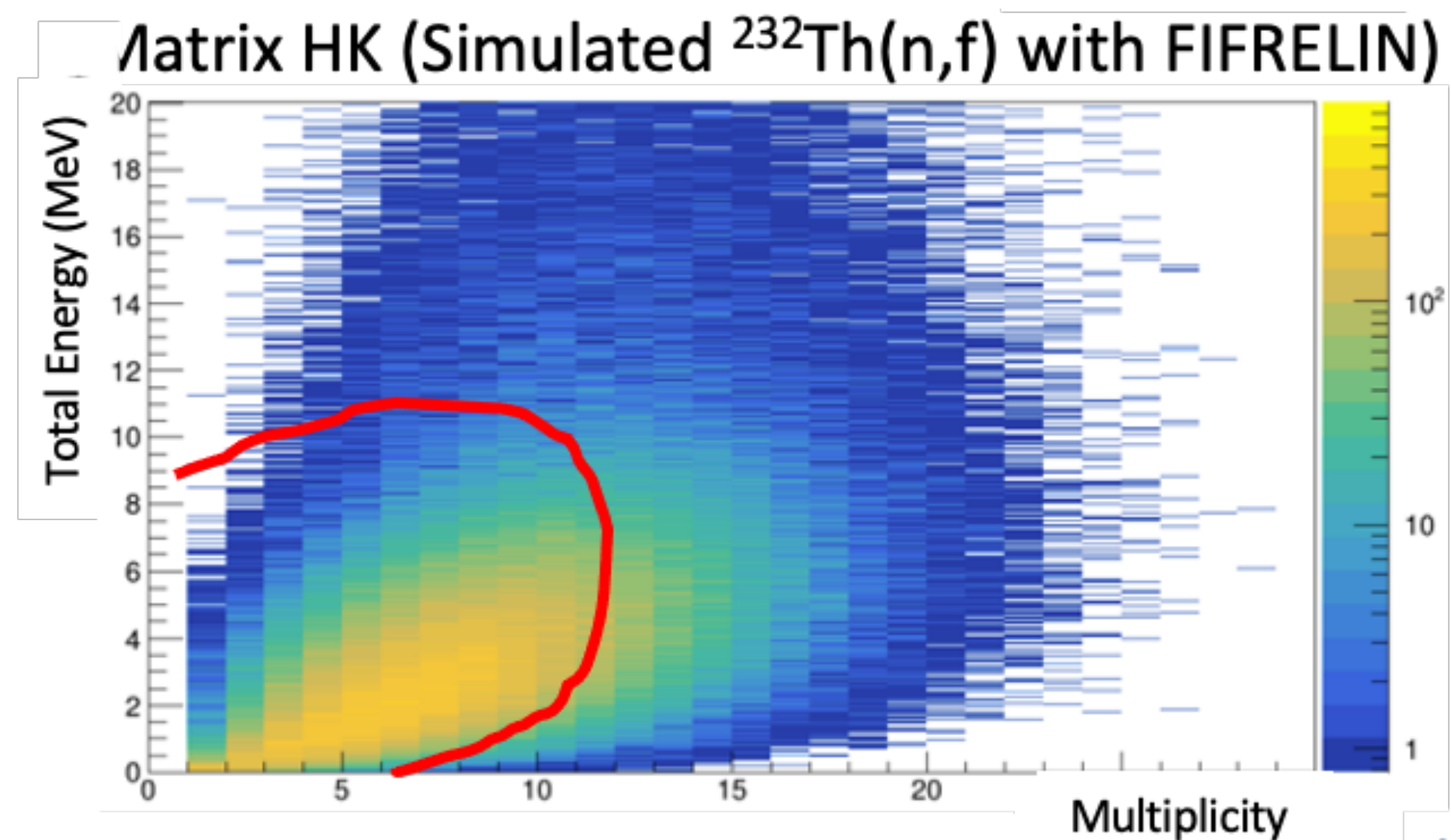
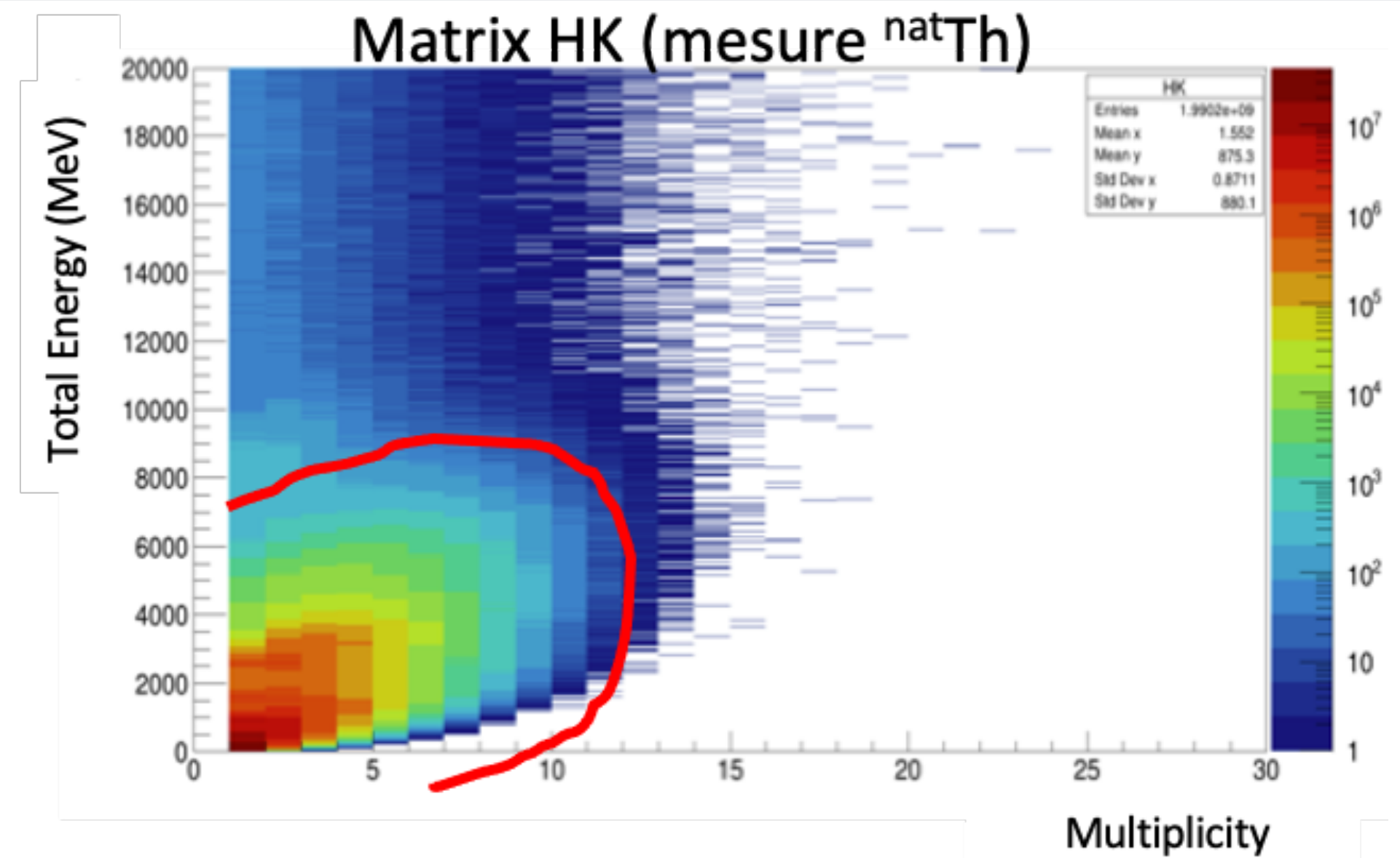
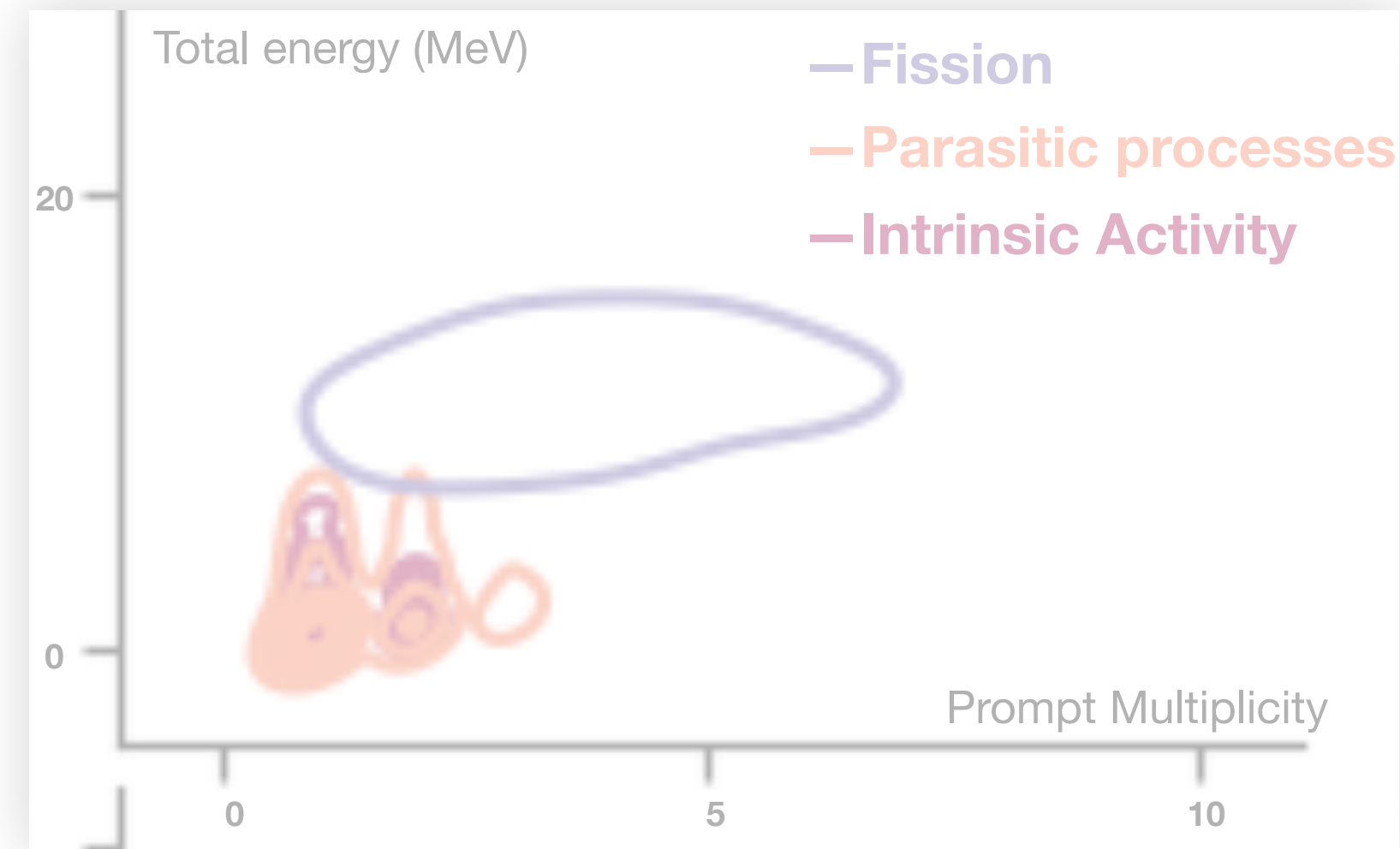
# Calorimetry for fission event recognition



*D. Thisse, Paris-Saclay, PhD thesis (2021)*



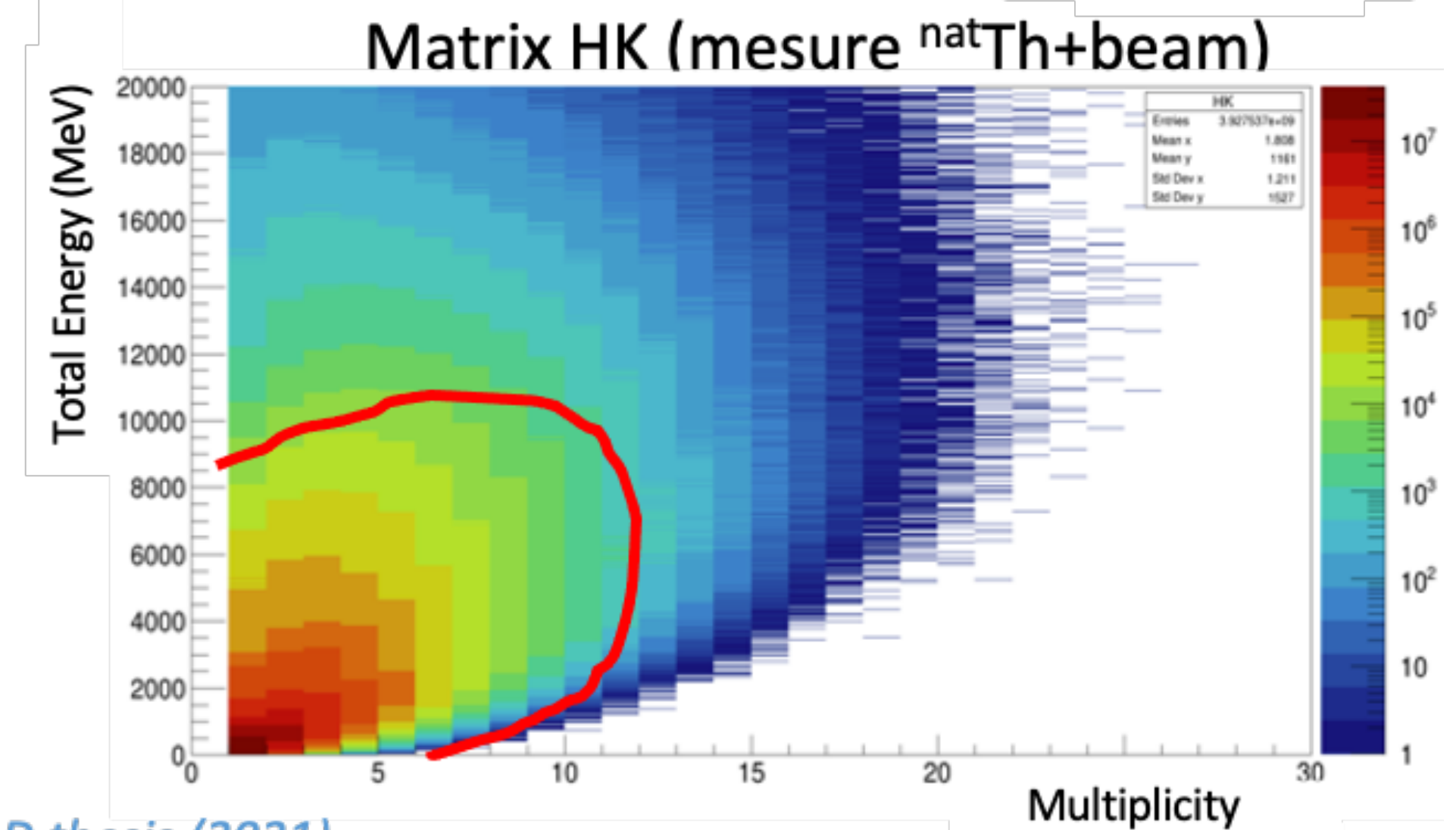
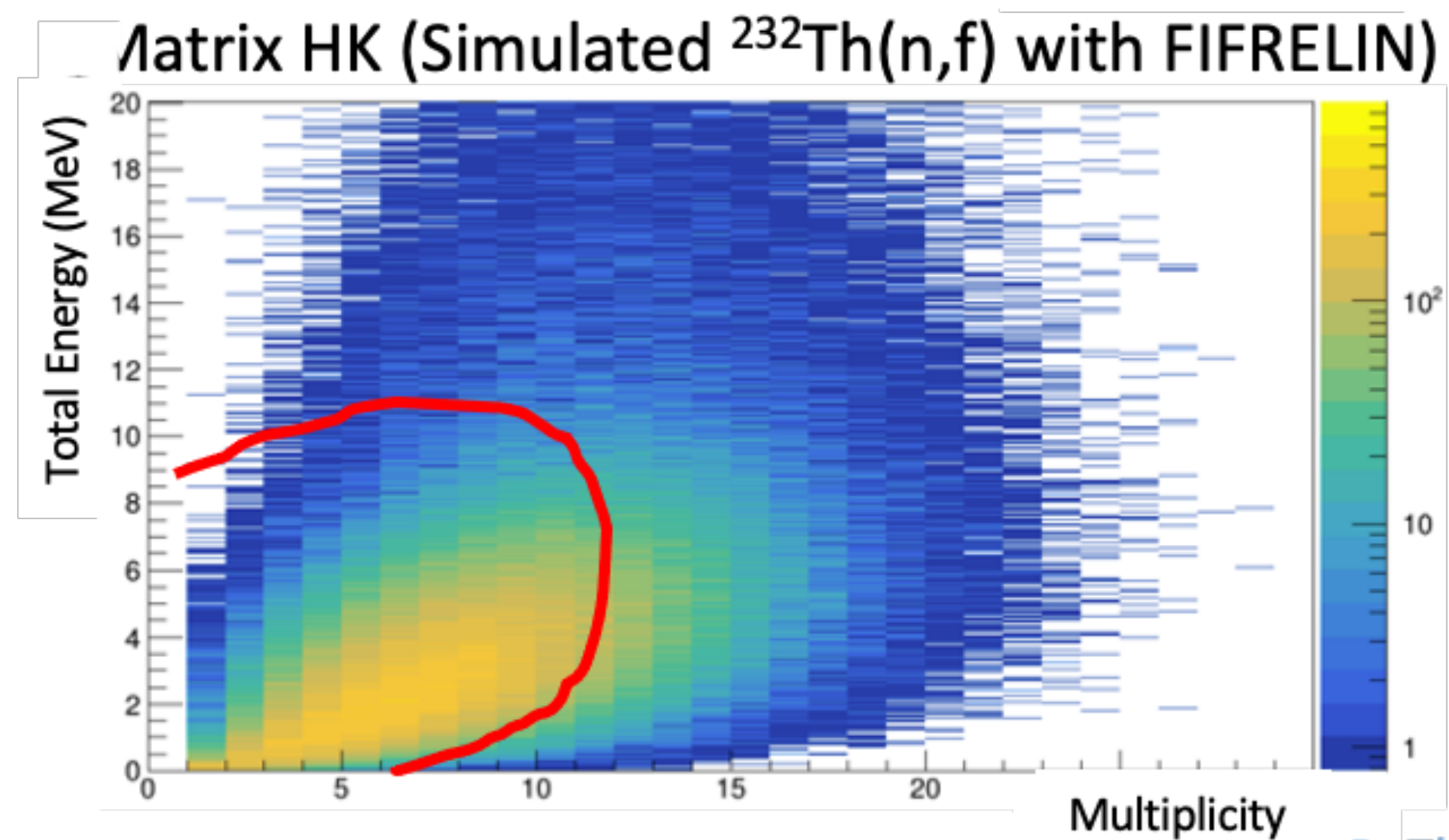
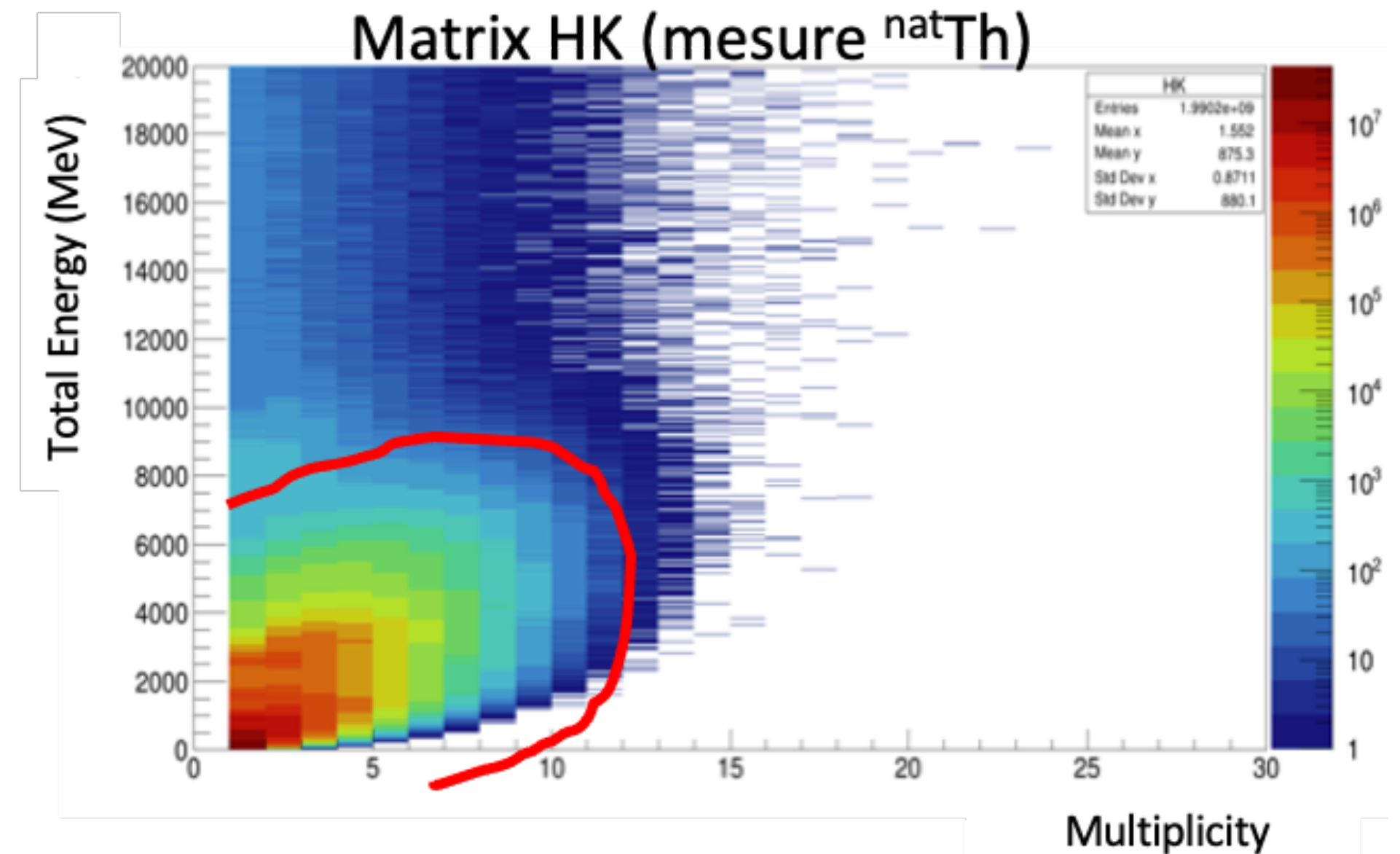
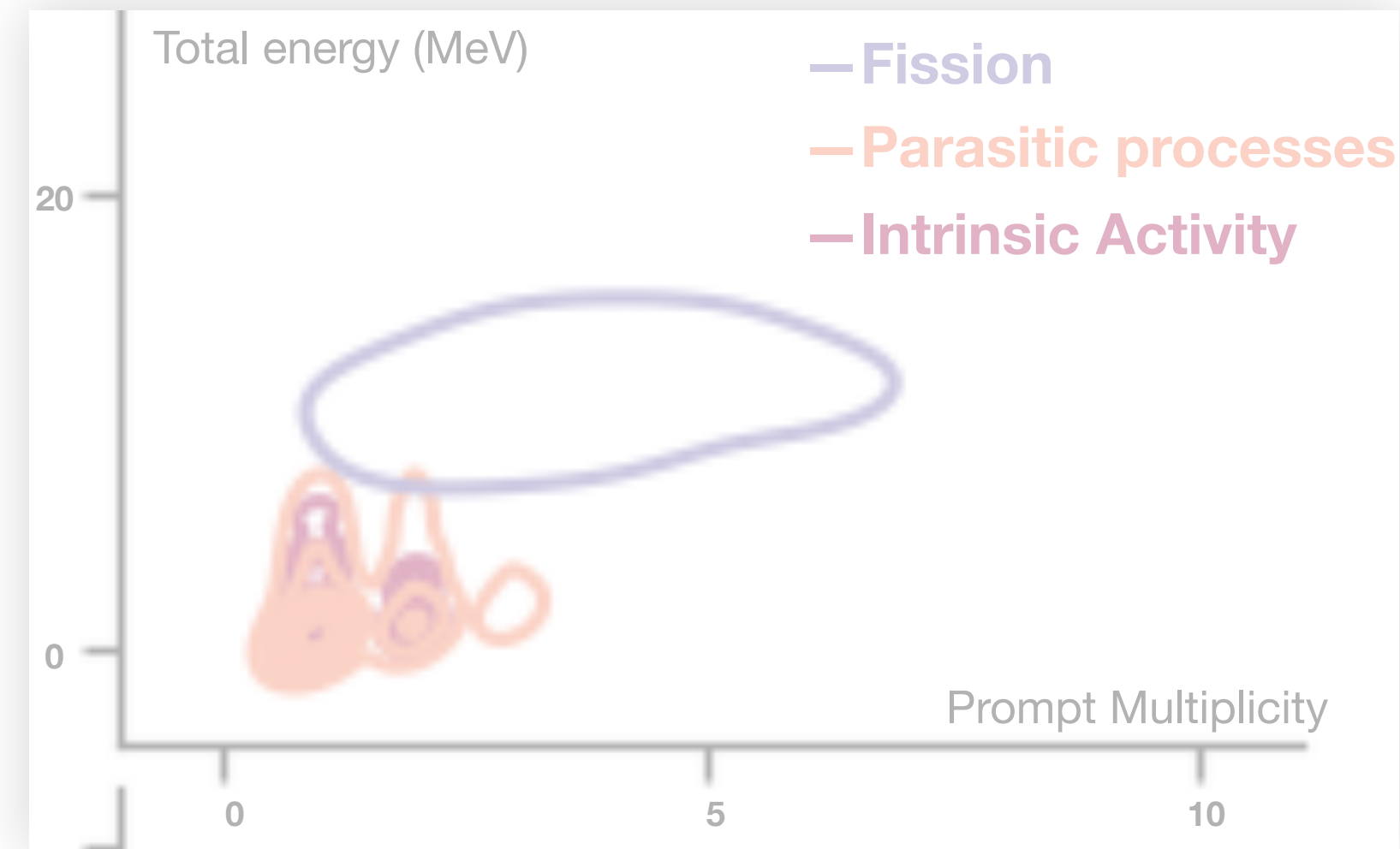
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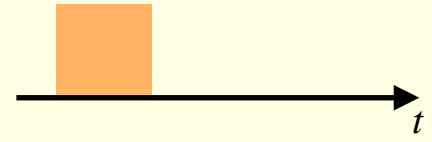




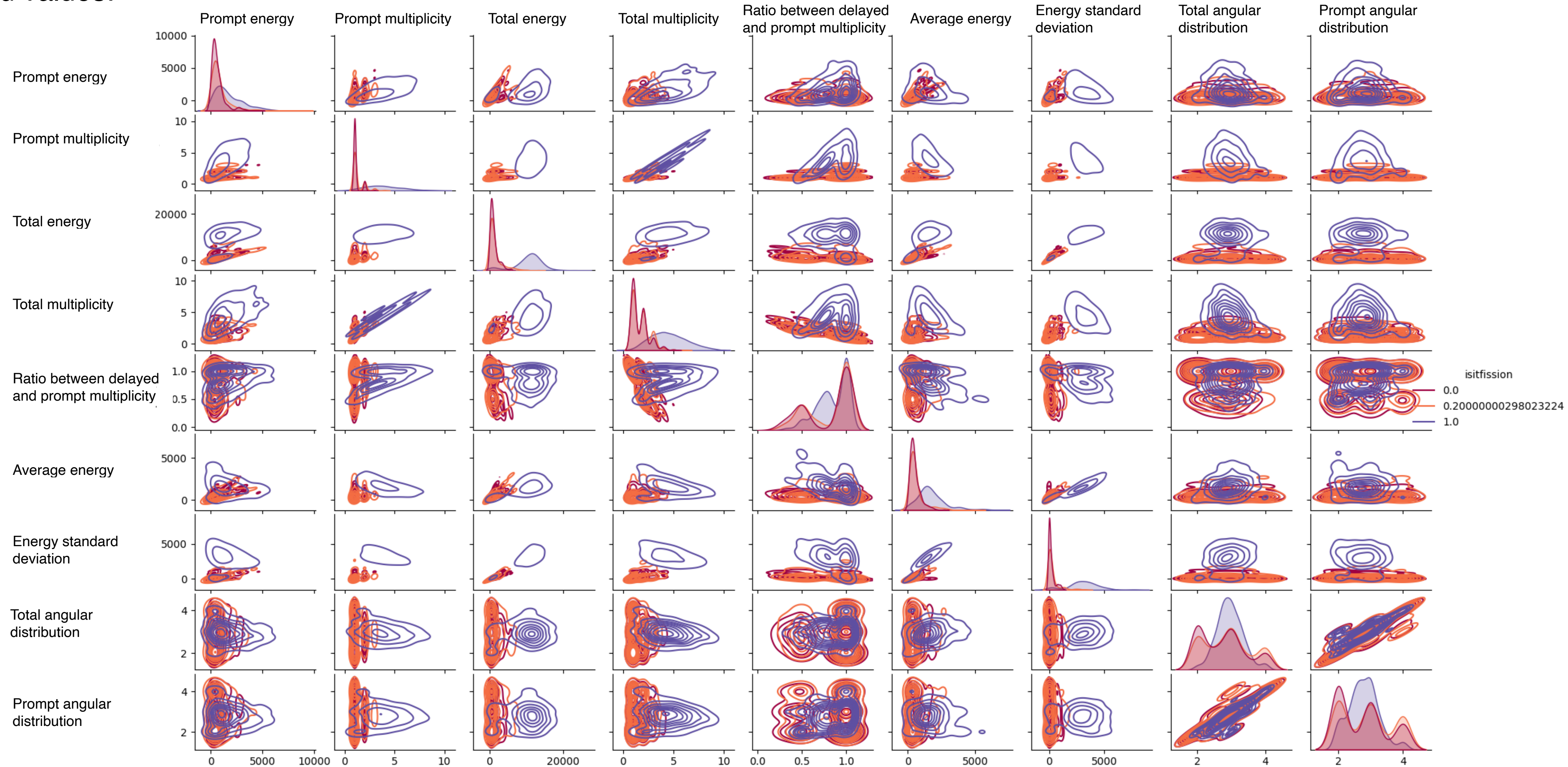
# Fission event recognition

Measured values:

Prompt  $\Delta t \approx 10 - 20$  ns



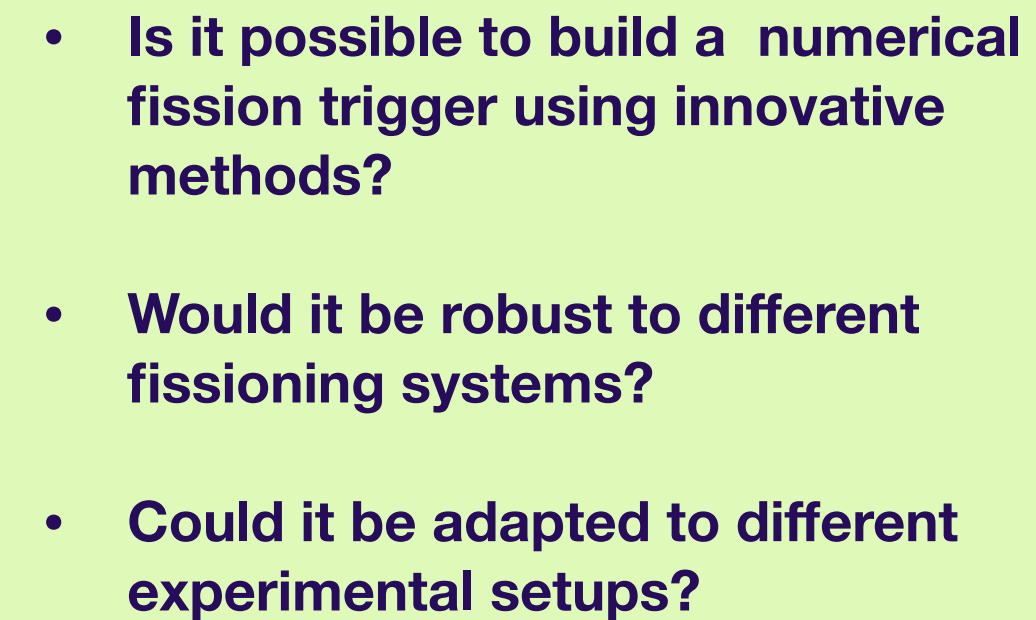
Delayed  $\Delta t \approx 400$  ns







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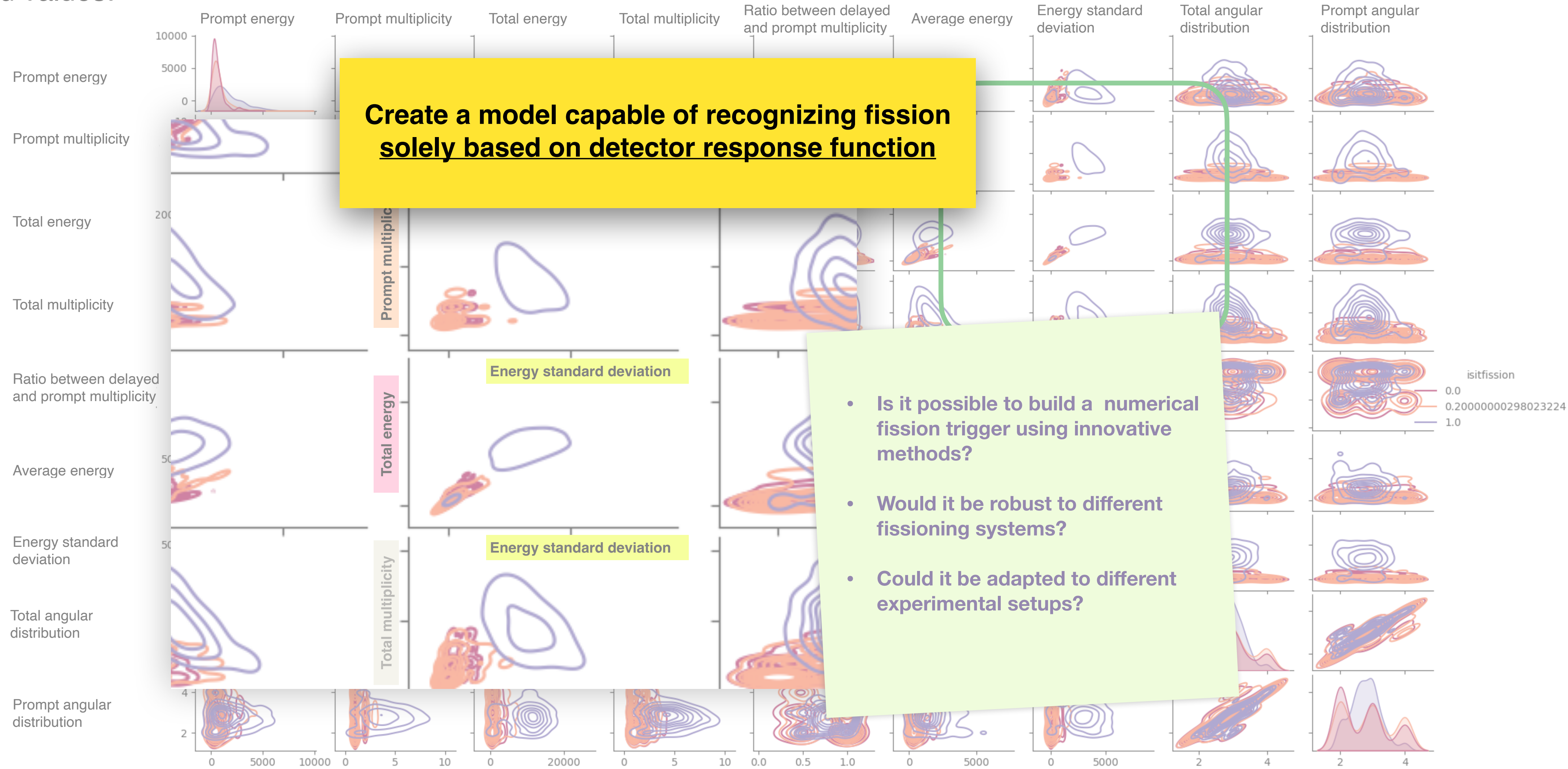


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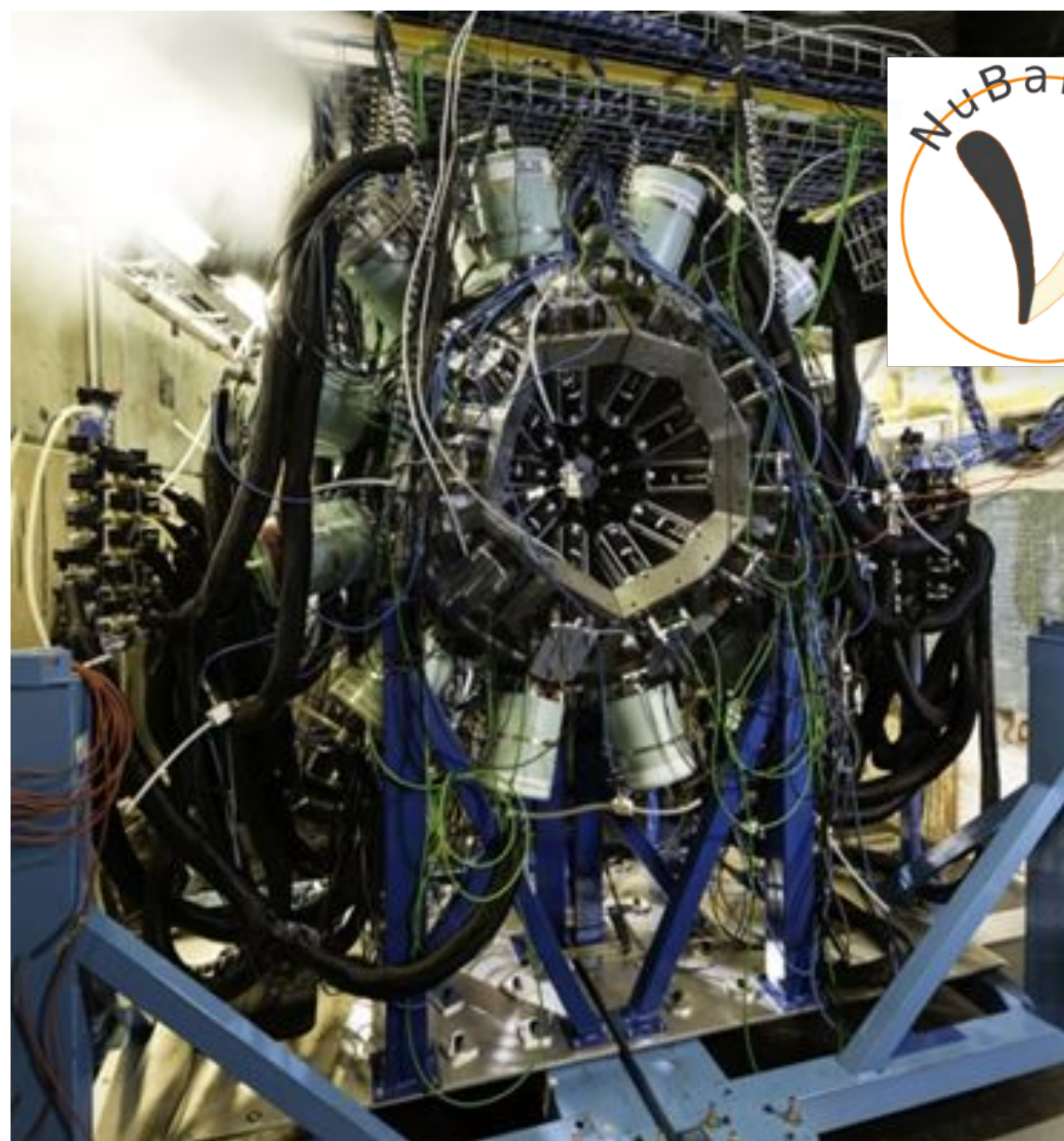
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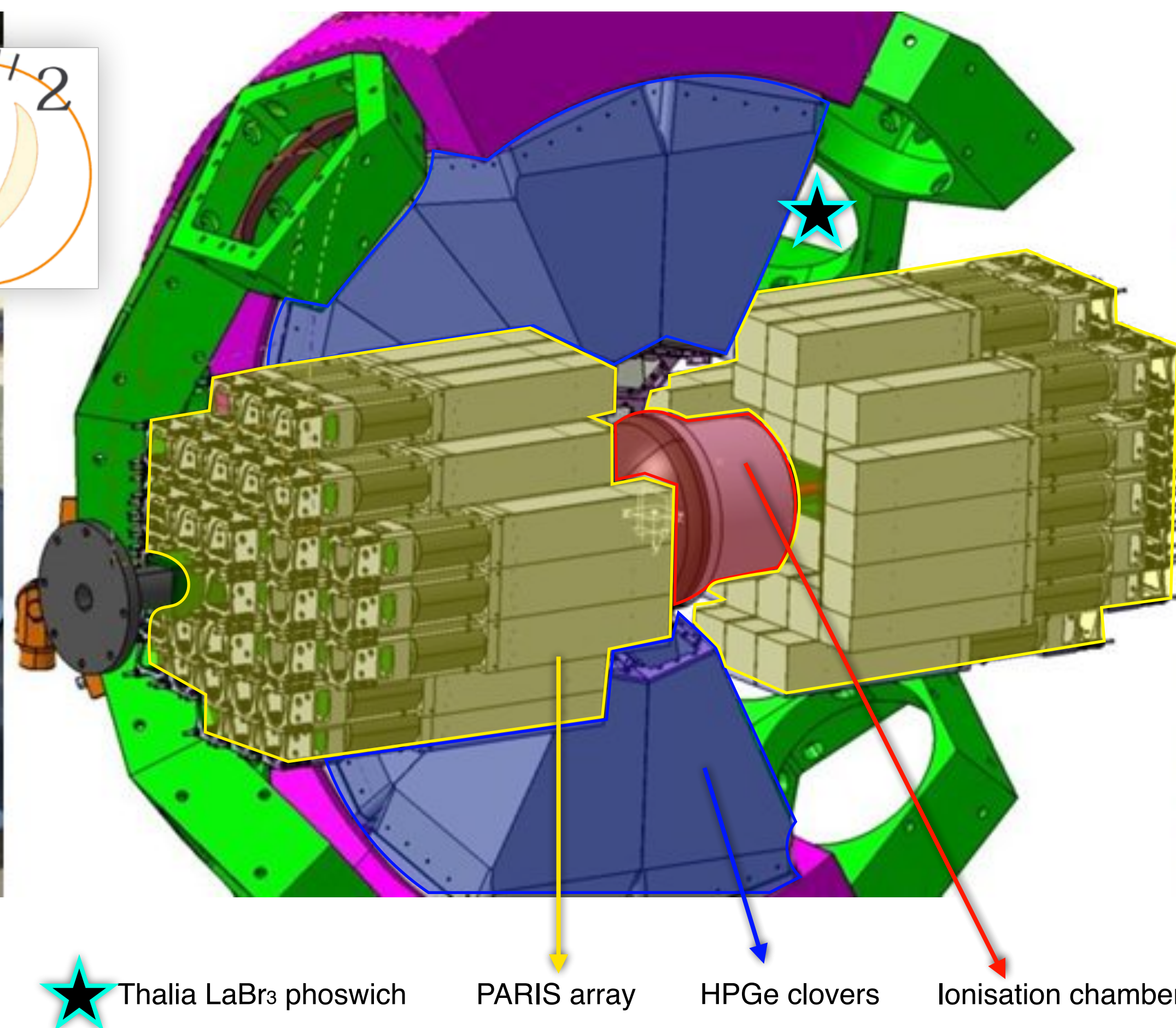
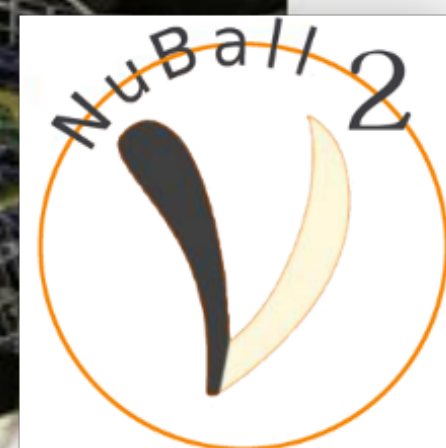




# The N-SI-125 experiment setup



Taken from: <https://alto.ijclab.in2p3.fr/en/nu-ball2-online-scientific-workshop-2/>



## Gamma detection energy and multiplicity

24 High-Purity Germanium clovers (HPGe)

PARIS array  
72 phoswiches  $\text{La}(\text{Ce})\text{Br}_3:\text{NaI}$

Thalia  $\text{LaBr}_3$

## Neutron detection energy and multiplicity

PARIS array

Thalia  $\text{LaBr}_3$

Exploratory

## Fission fragments detection

Ionisation chamber



Thalia  $\text{LaBr}_3$  phoswich

PARIS array

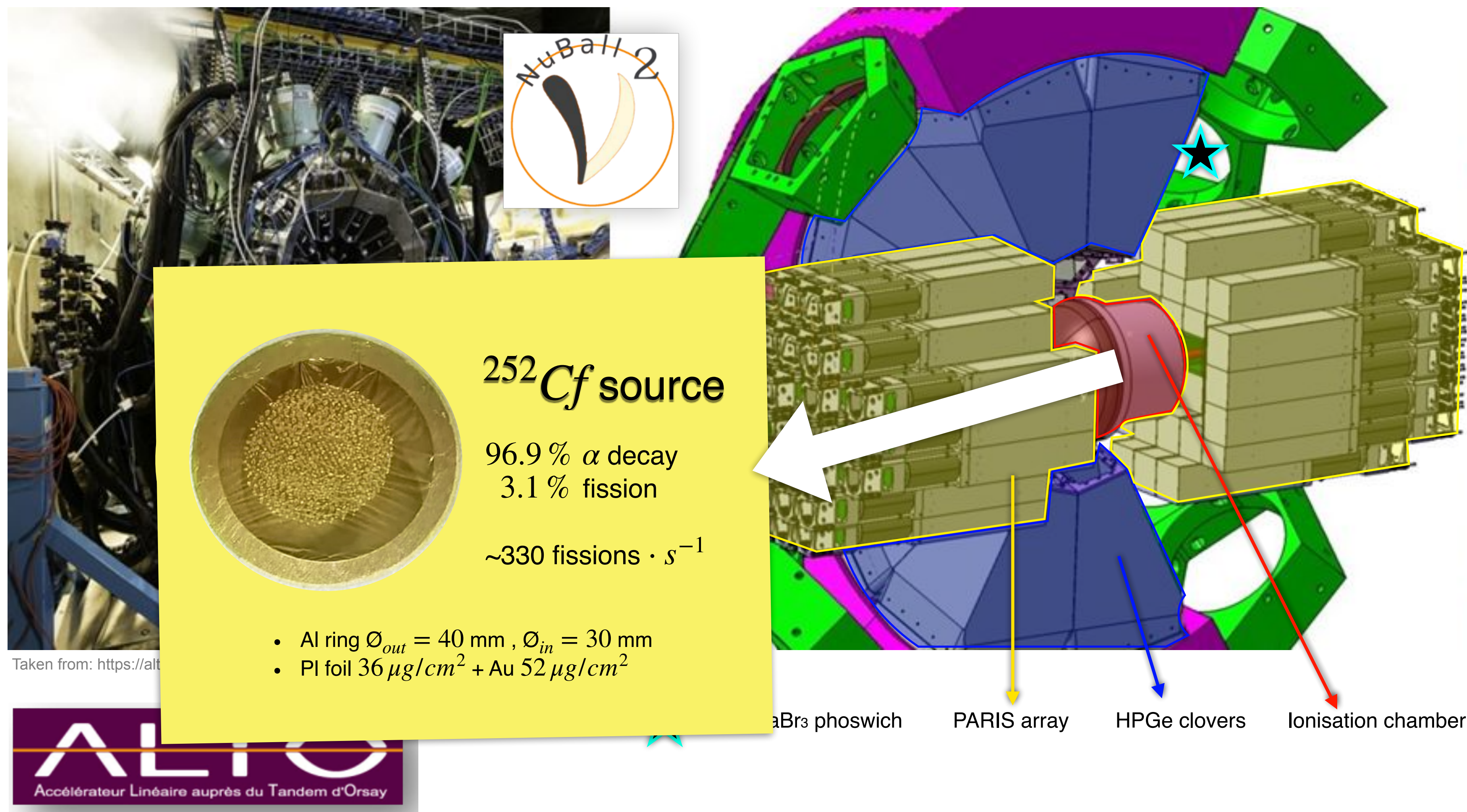
HPGe clovers

Ionisation chamber





# The N-SI-125 experiment setup



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Thalia LaBr<sub>3</sub>

Exploratory

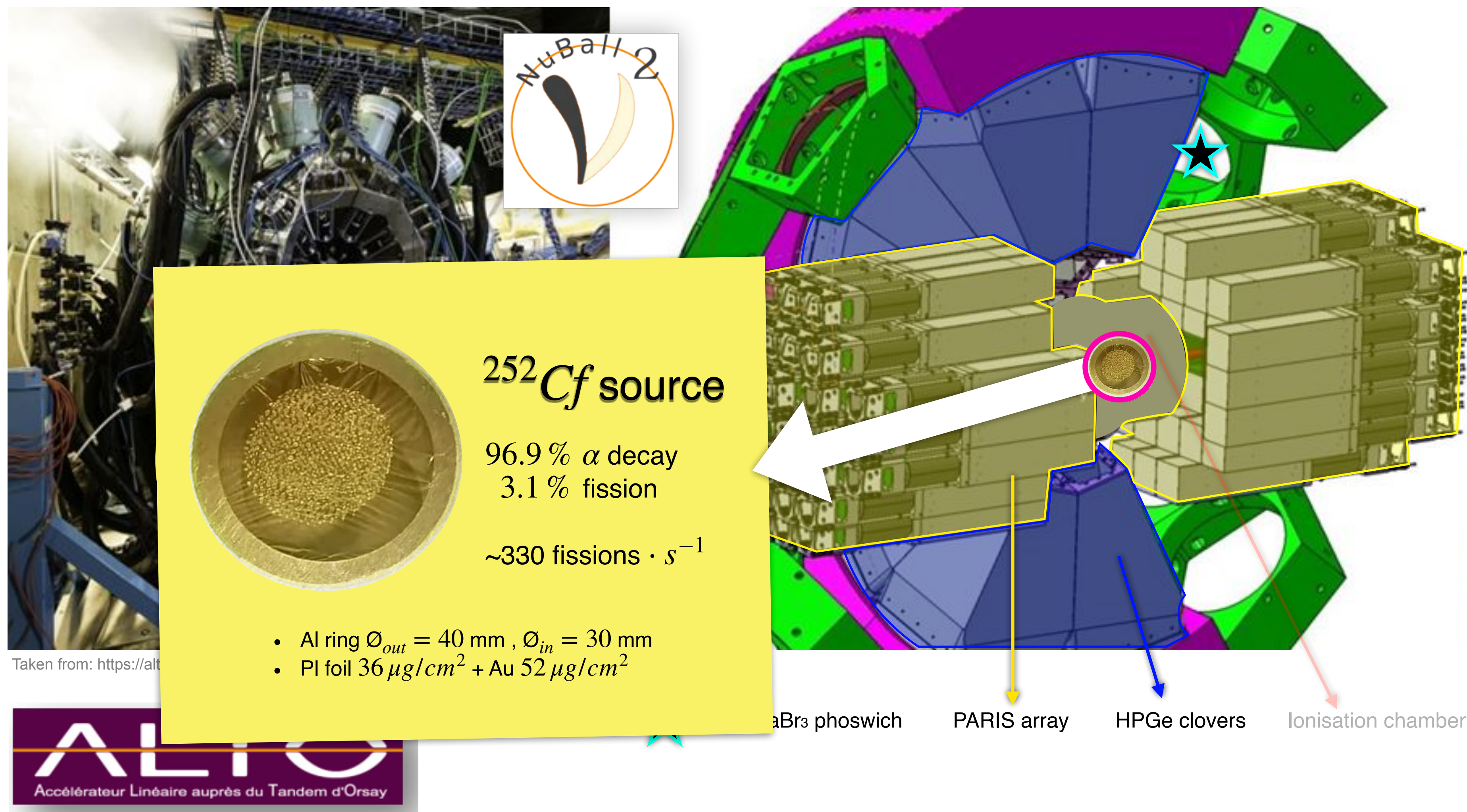
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# The N-SI-125 experiment setup



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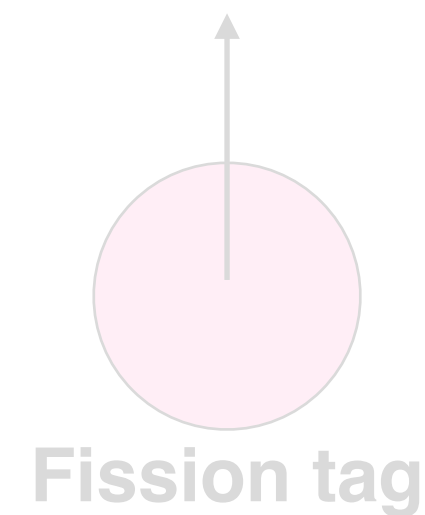
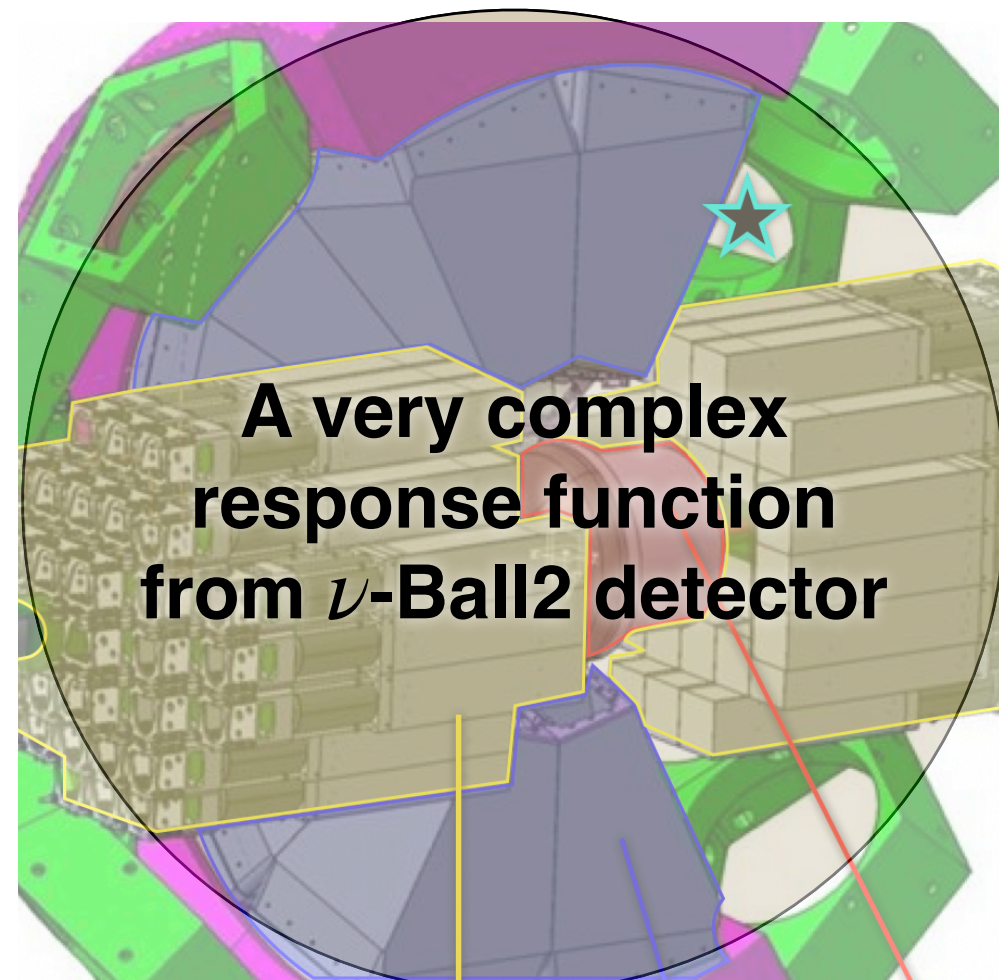
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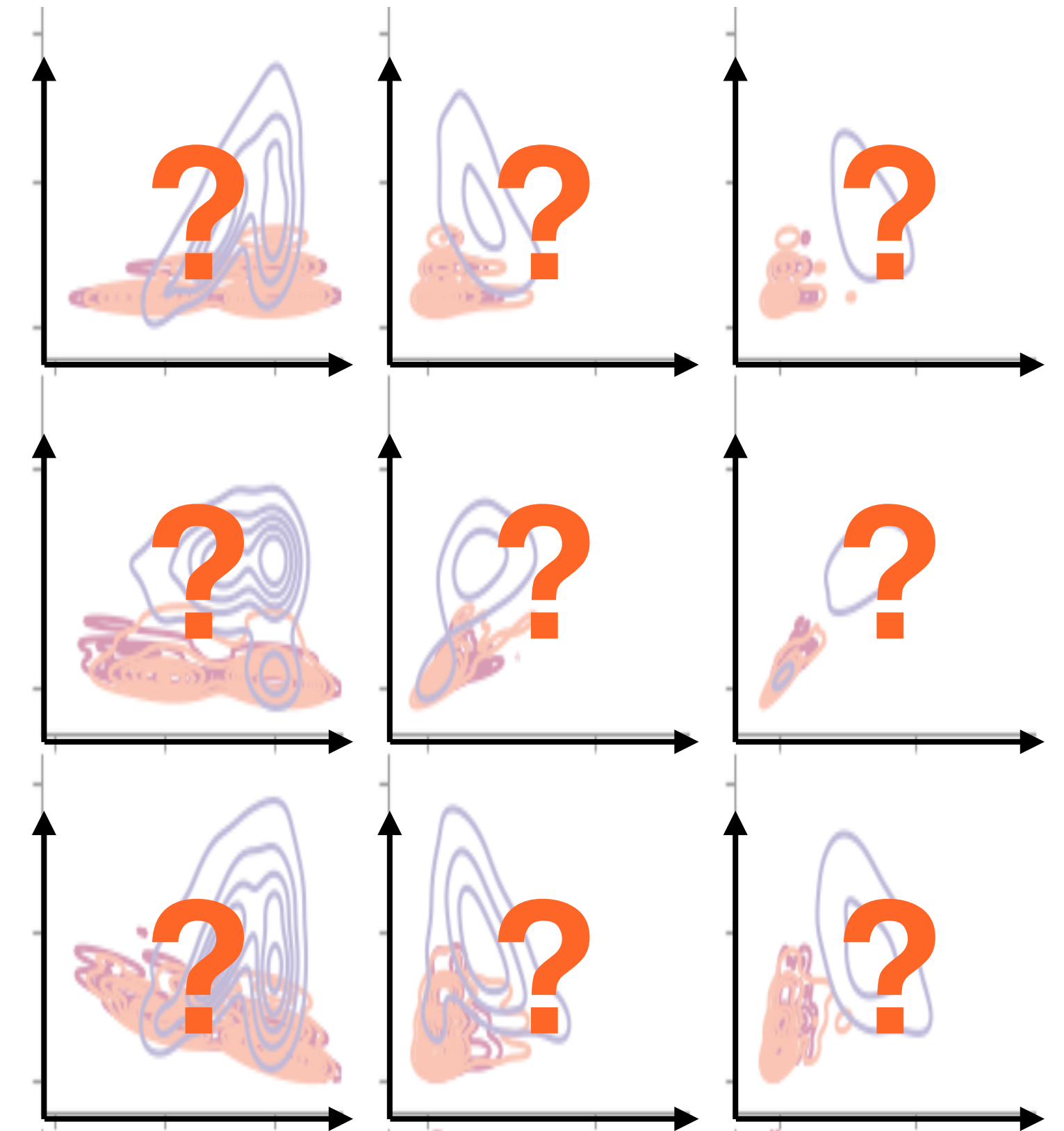
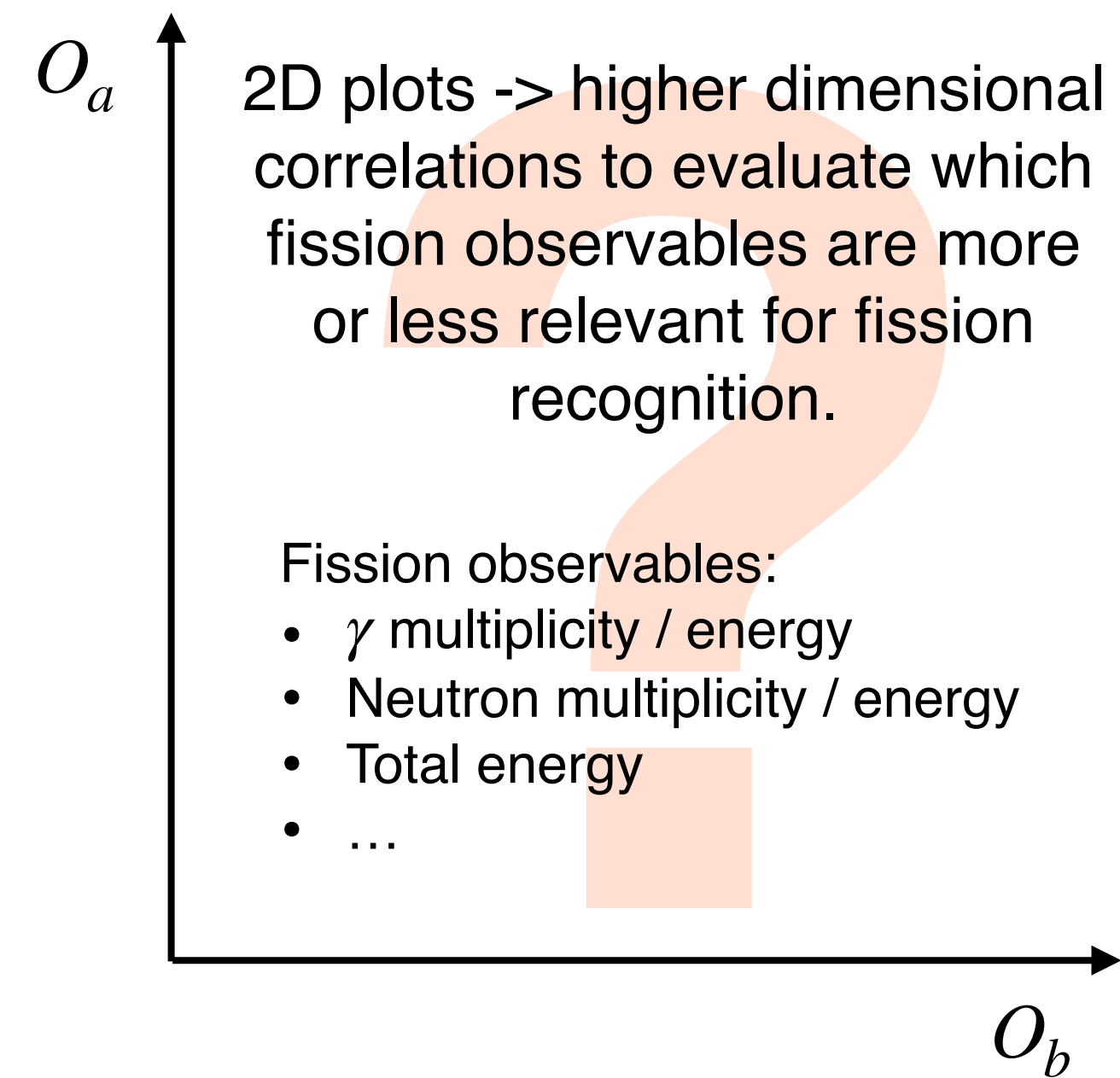




# Fission trigger based on $\nu$ -Ball2 response function

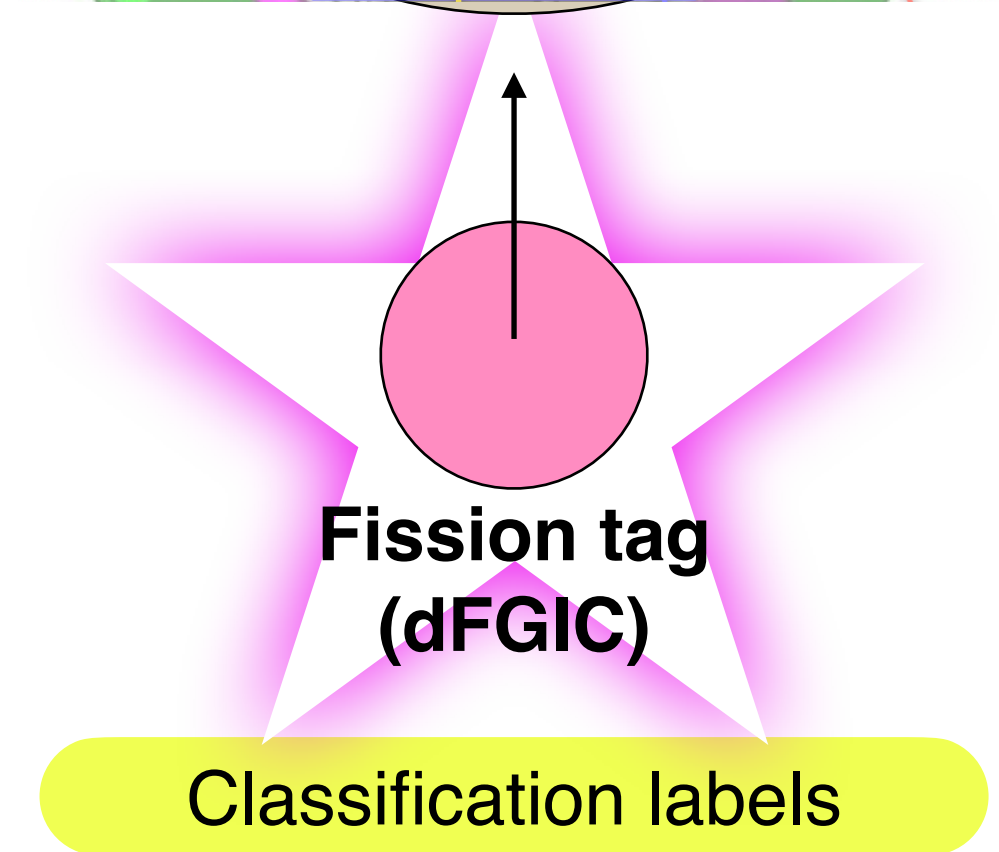
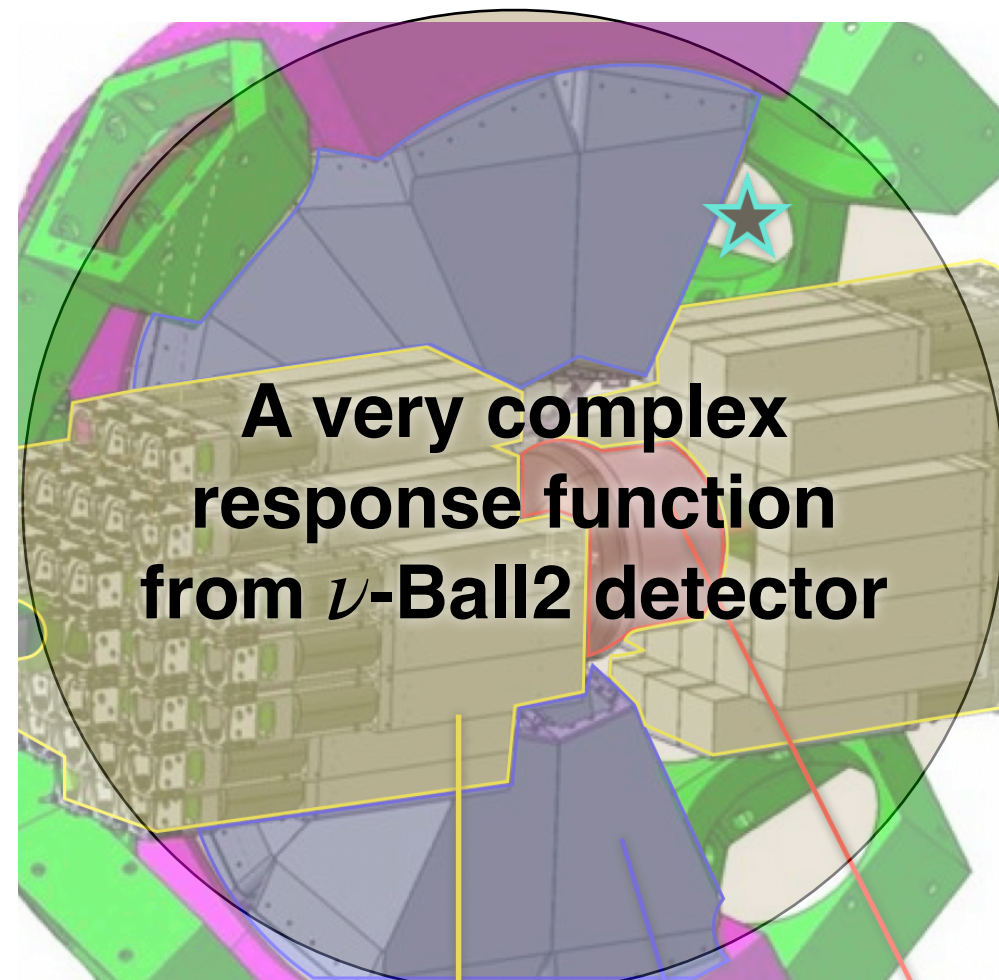


Create a model capable of recognizing fission solely based on detector response function

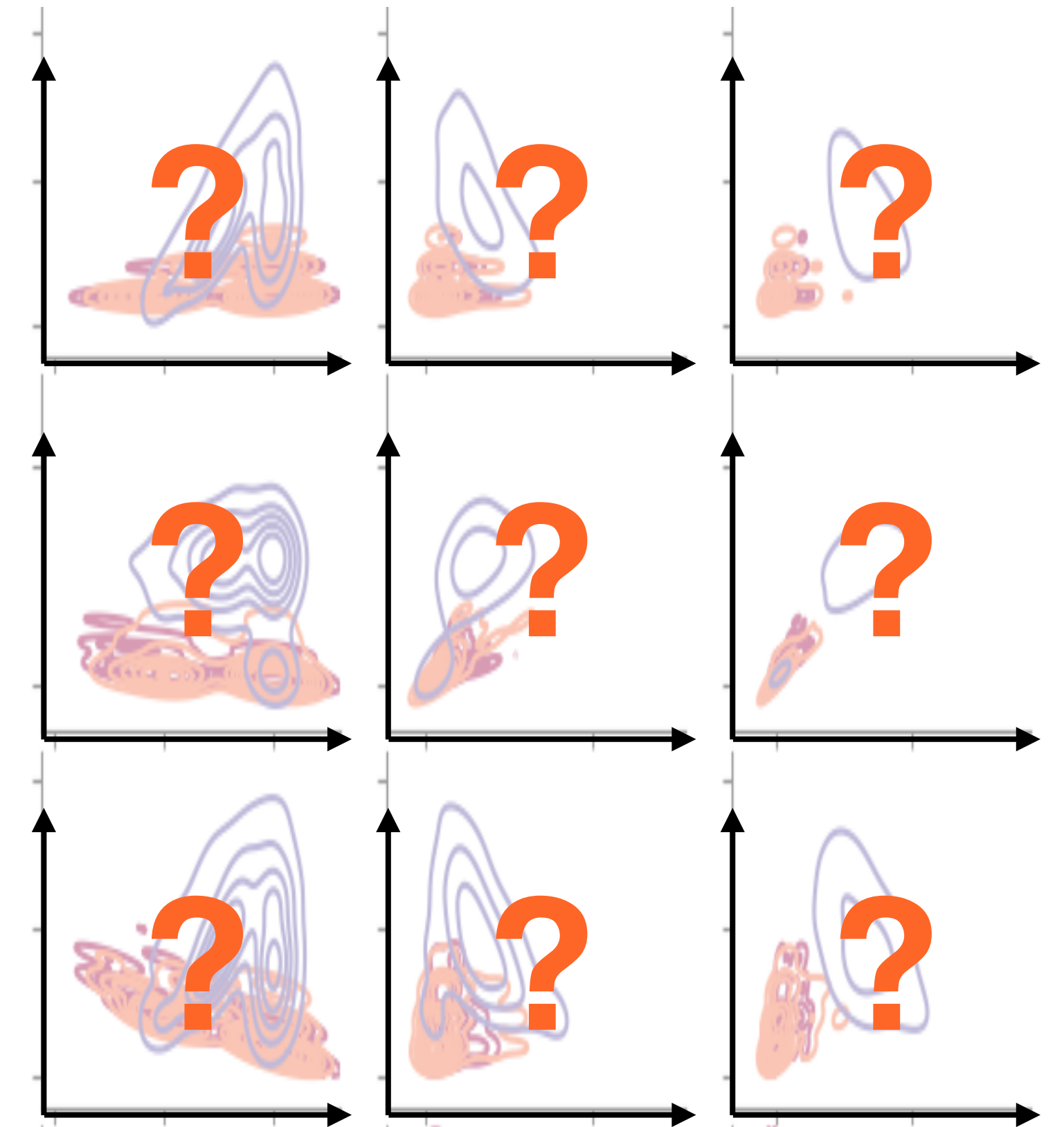
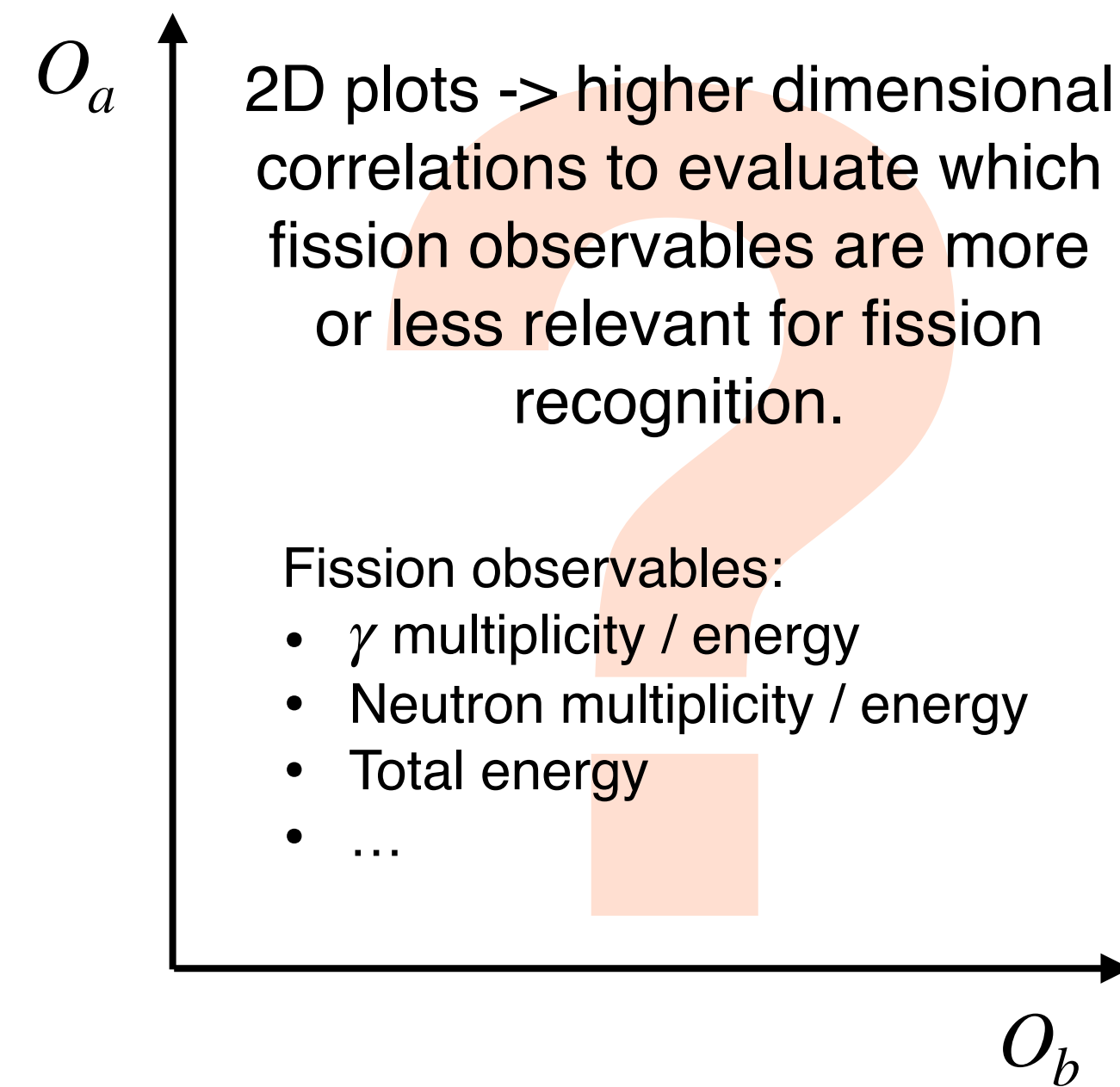




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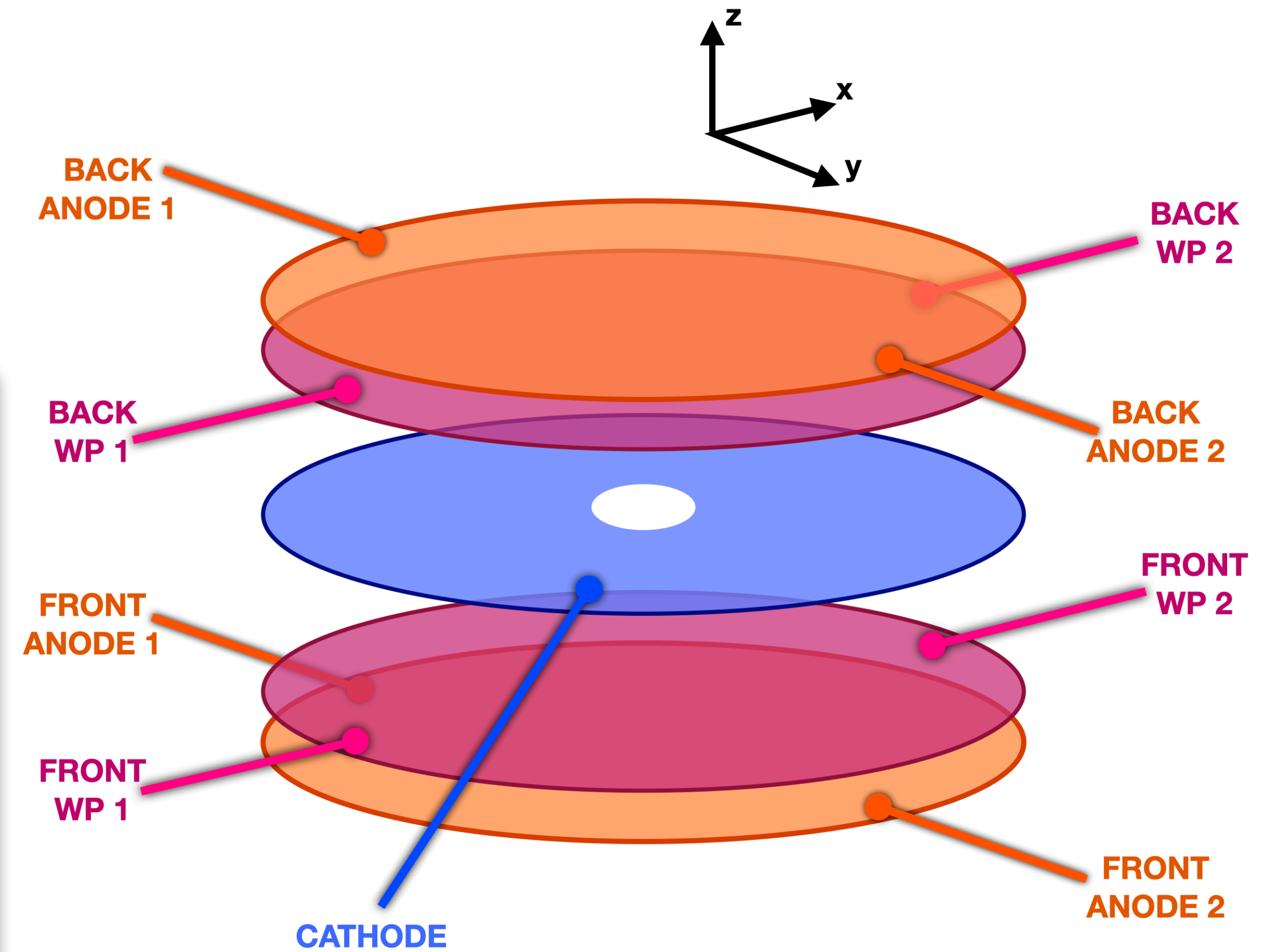
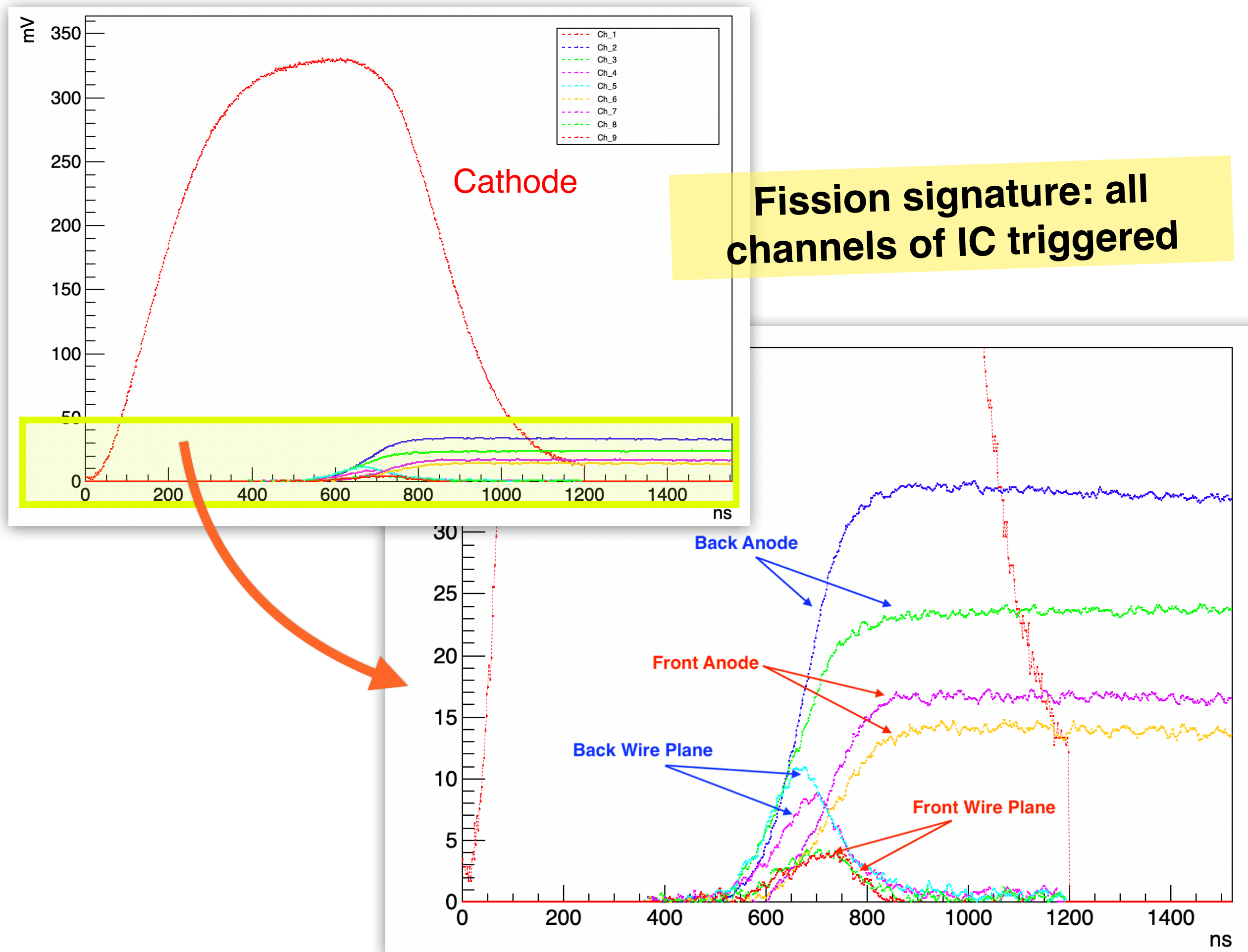
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# Double Frisch-Grid Ionisation Chamber (dFGIC)

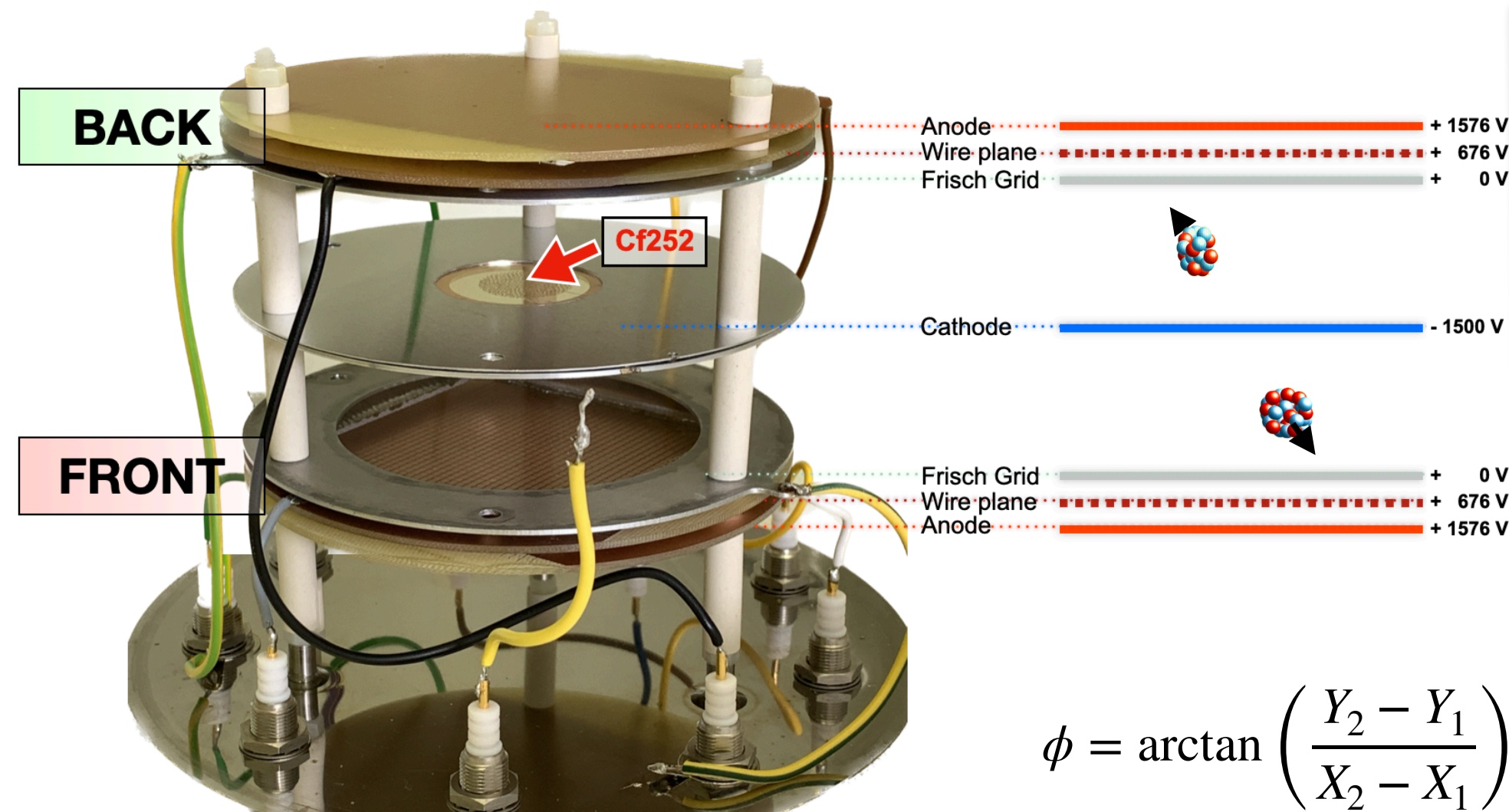
Ionisation chamber signals sampled every 2ns







# Event reconstruction (dFGIC)

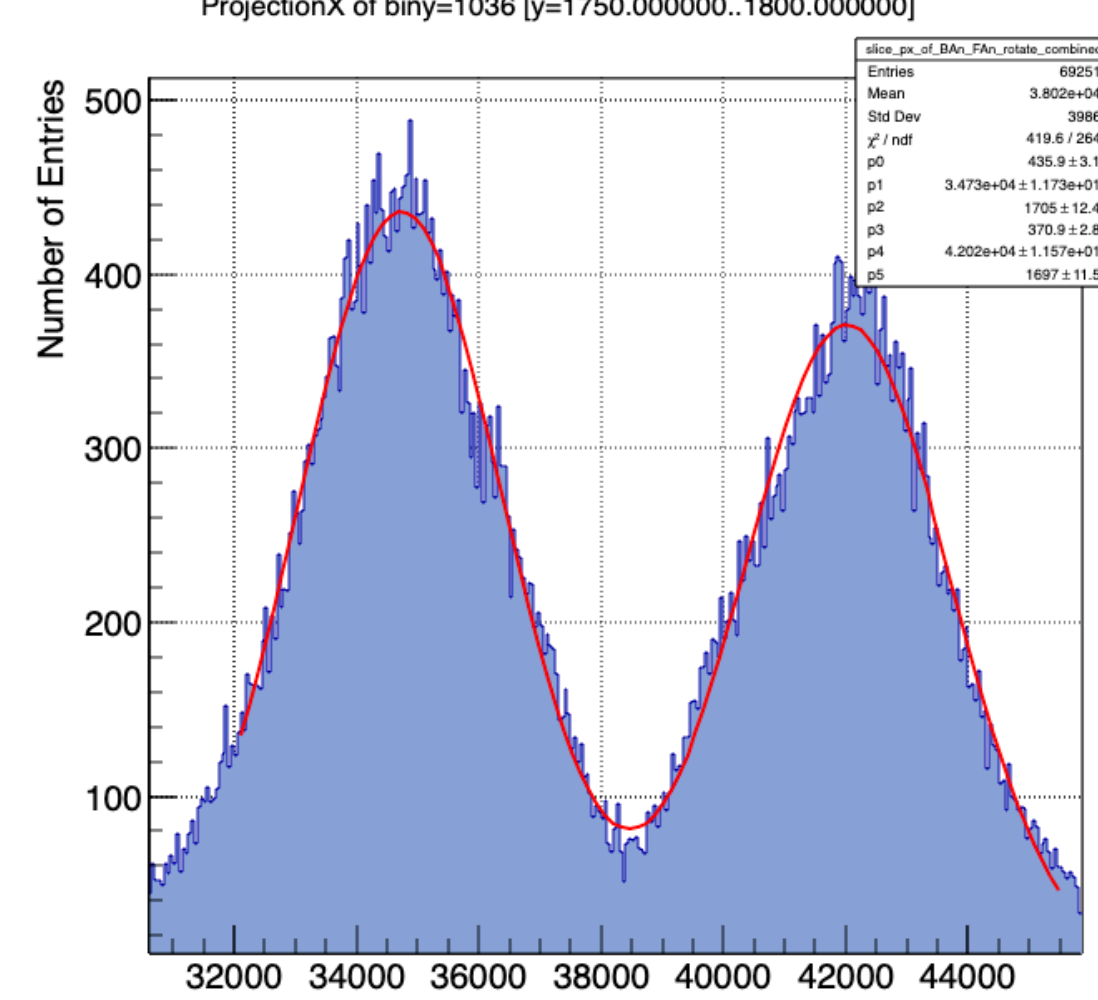
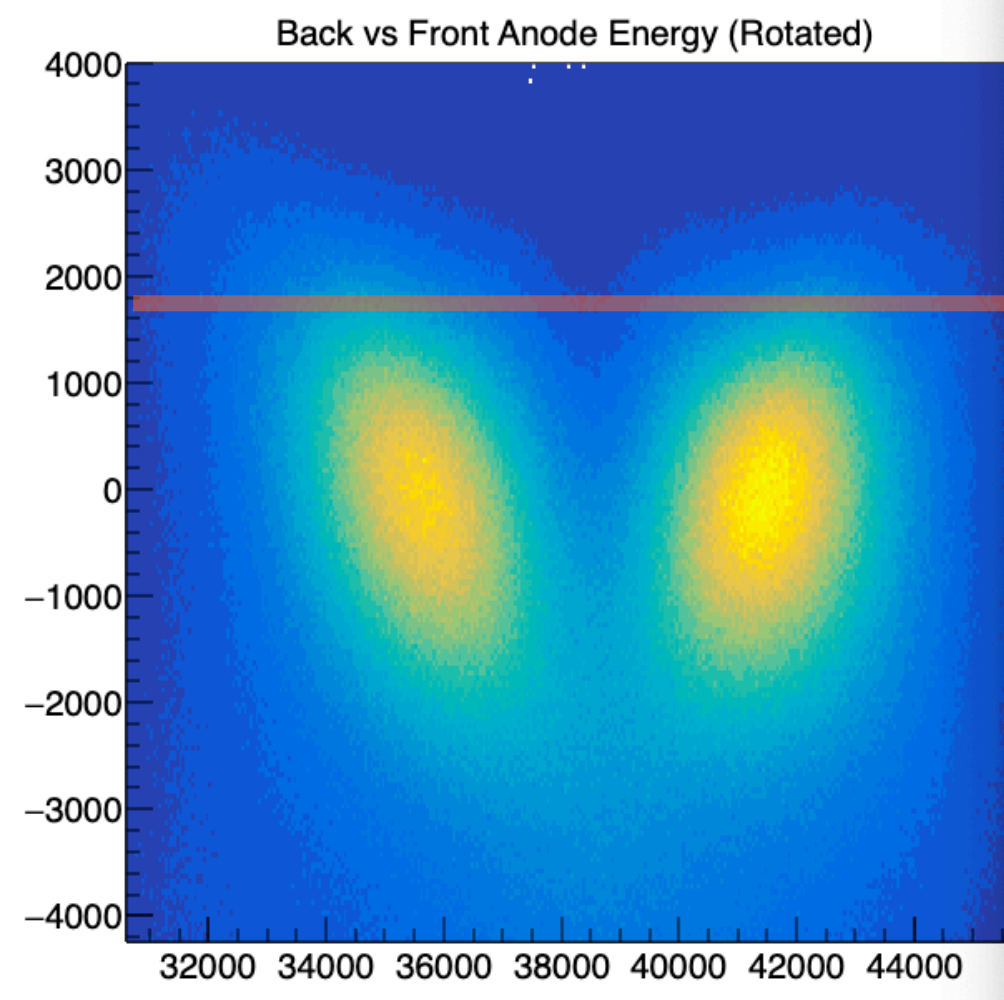
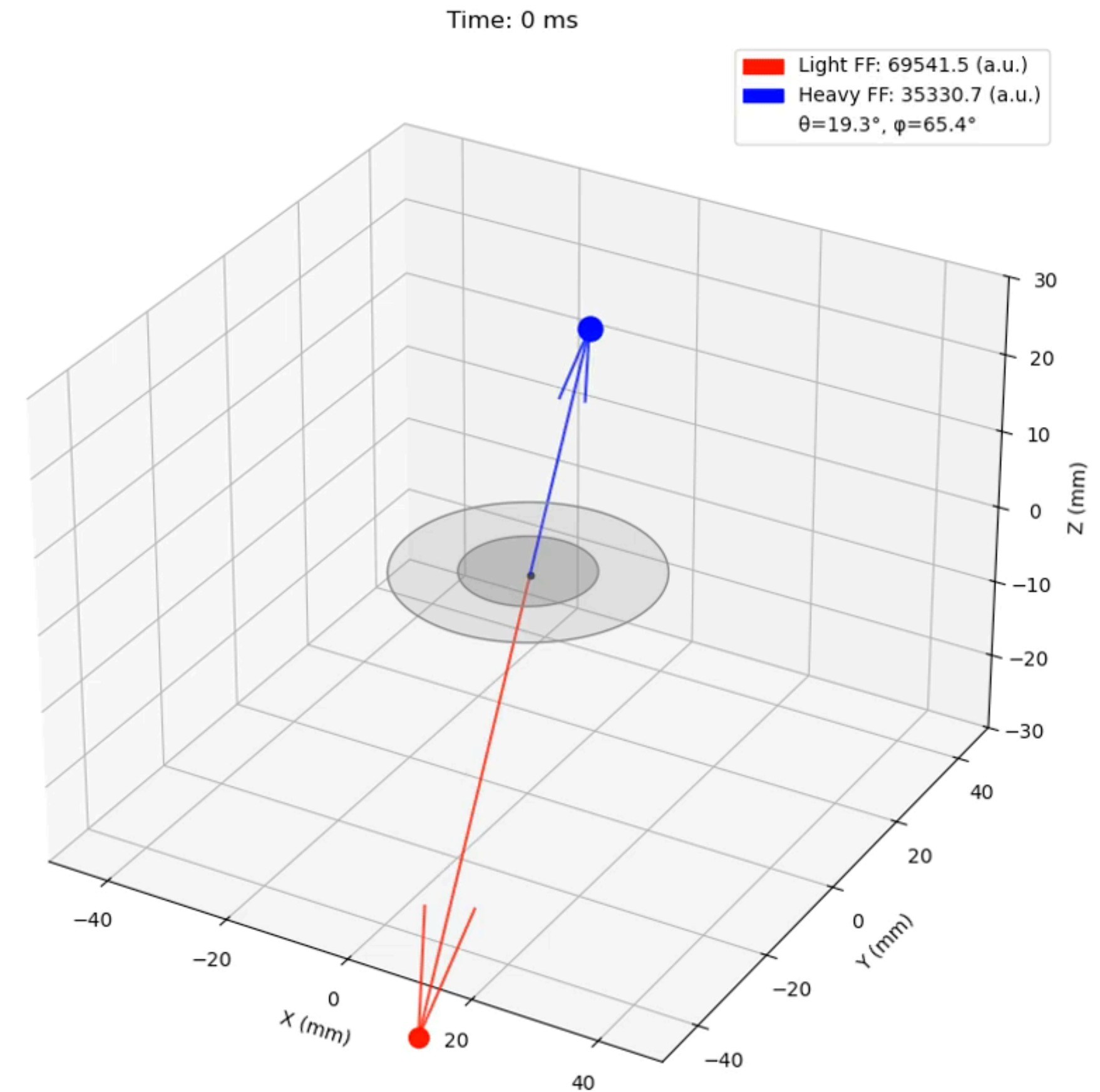


Fission event reconstruction:

Event  $i$  :  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{timestamp;} \\ \theta_1, \phi_1, PAn_1 \\ \theta_2, \phi_2, PAn_2 \end{array} \right.$

$$\phi = \arctan \left( \frac{Y_2 - Y_1}{X_2 - X_1} \right)$$

$$\cos \theta_{1,2} = \frac{\bar{z}_{1,2}}{\bar{r}_{1,2}} = \frac{\nu \left( \bar{t}_{\theta_{max}} - \bar{t}_{1,2} \right)}{\bar{r}_{1,2}}$$





## Waveform analysis through most frequently used methods

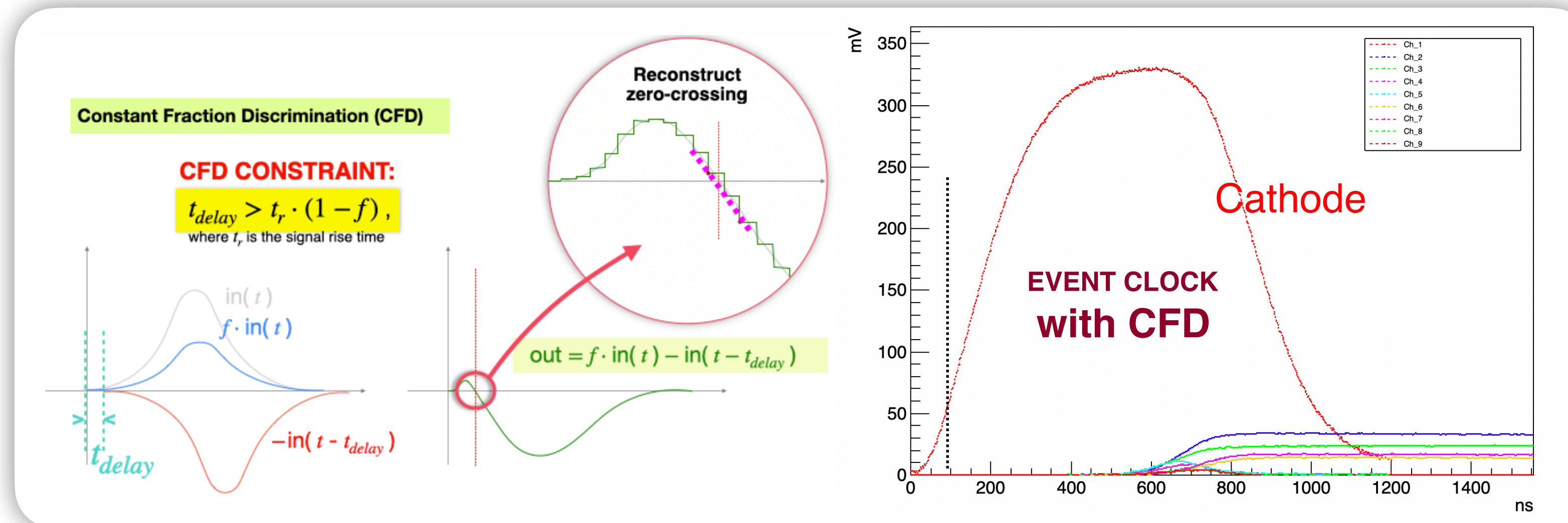
- Moving average algorithm;
  - RC filter;
  - Signal baseline correction;
  - CR-RC and CR-RC4 shaping filters;
  - Trapezoidal shaping filter;
  - Signal integration (deposited charge)
  - Constant Fraction Discrimination (CFD)
- BOTH TIME AND « ENERGY MEASUREMENTS**
- « ENERGY » MEASUREMENTS**
- TIME MEASUREMENTS**





## Waveform analysis through most frequently used methods

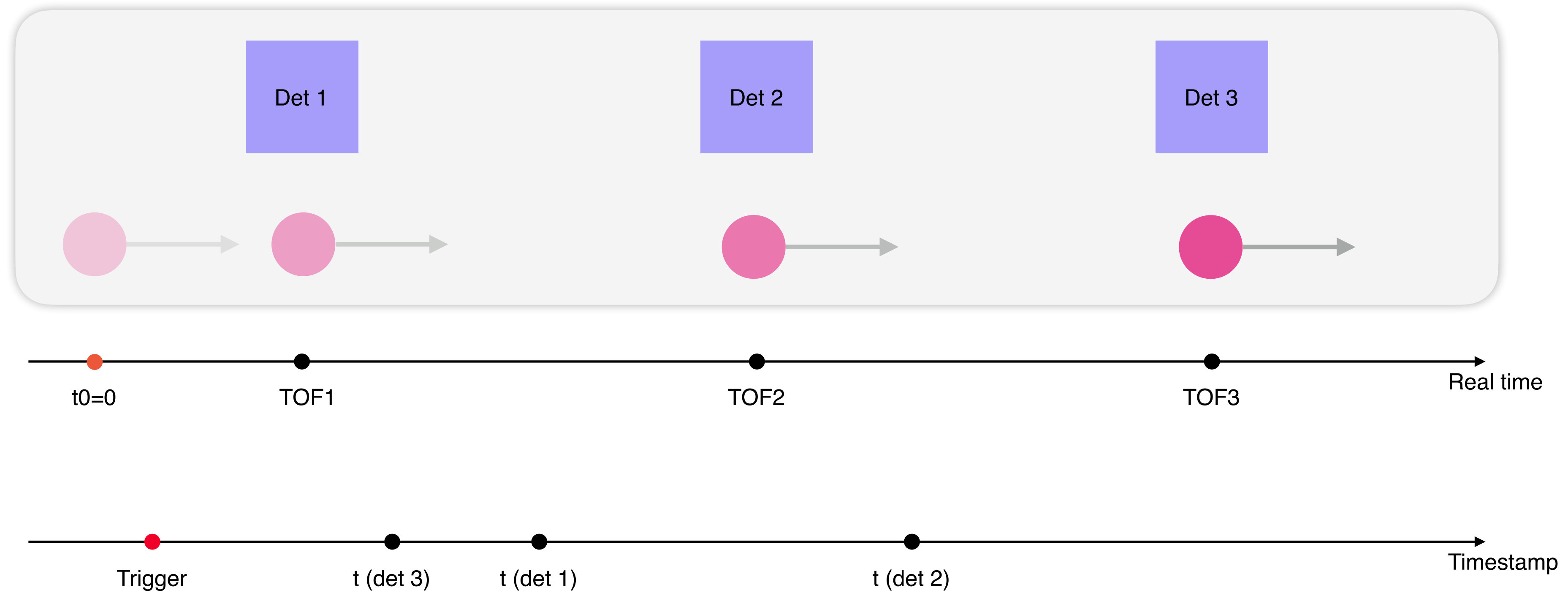
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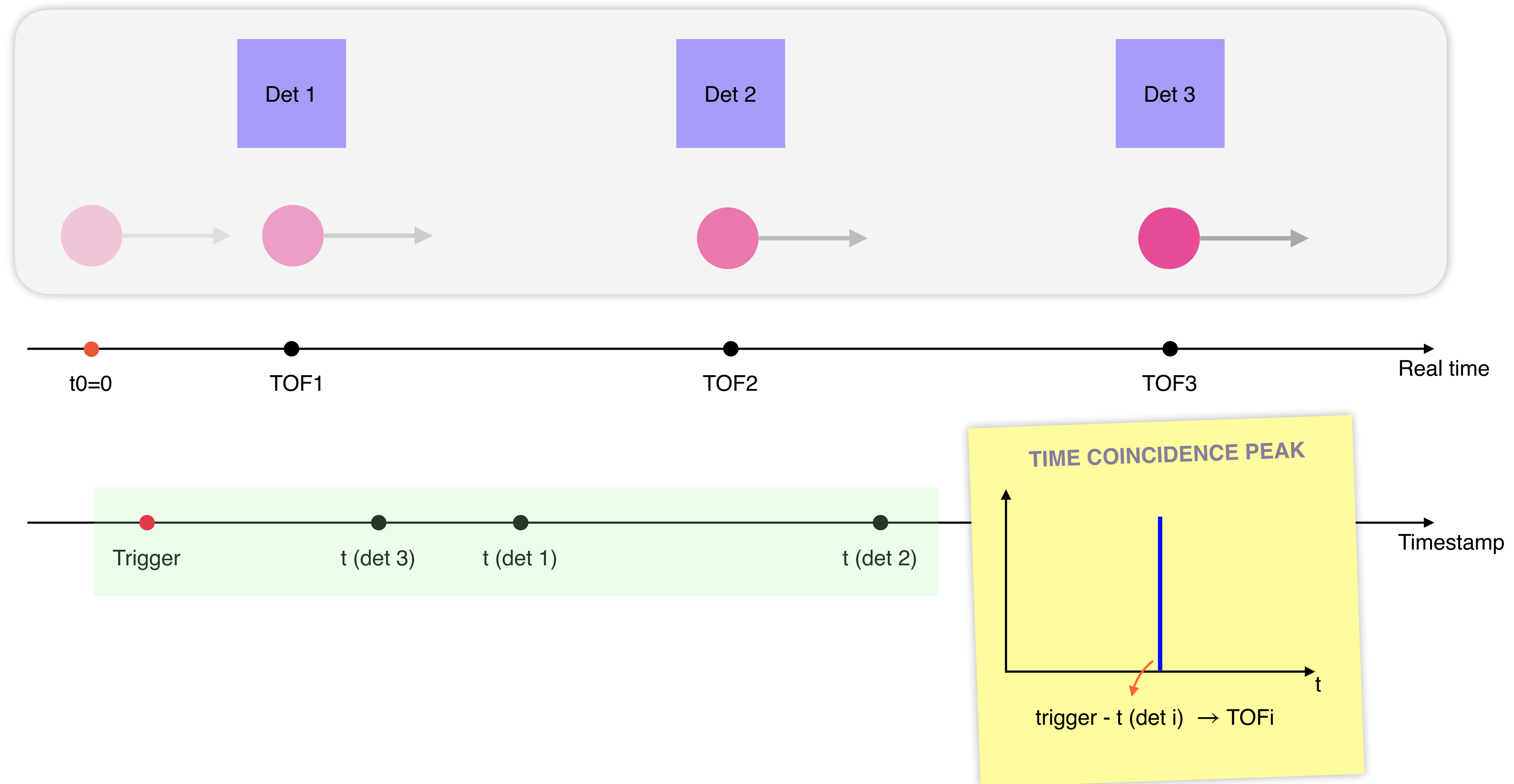
# Event time reconstruction







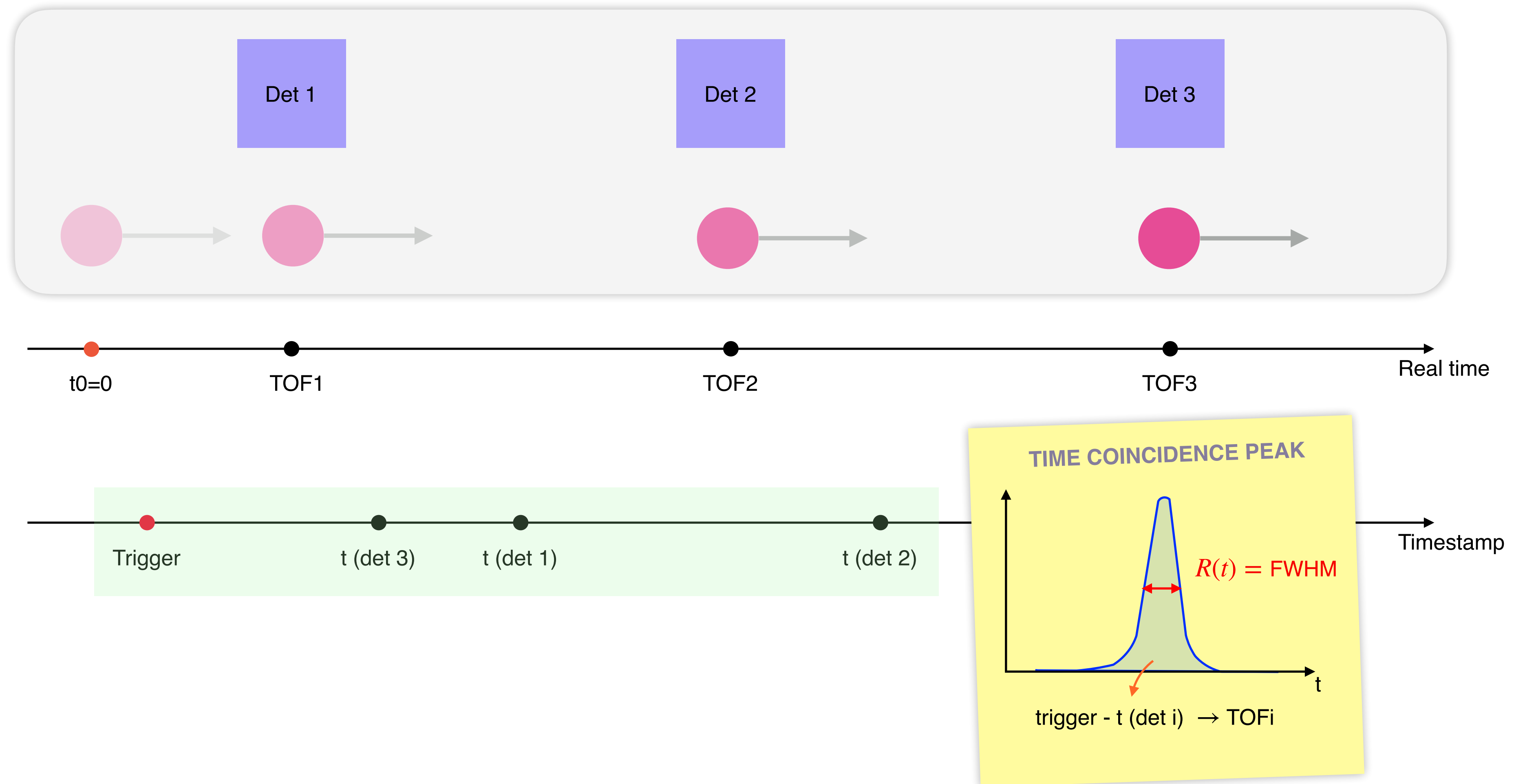
# Event time reconstruction







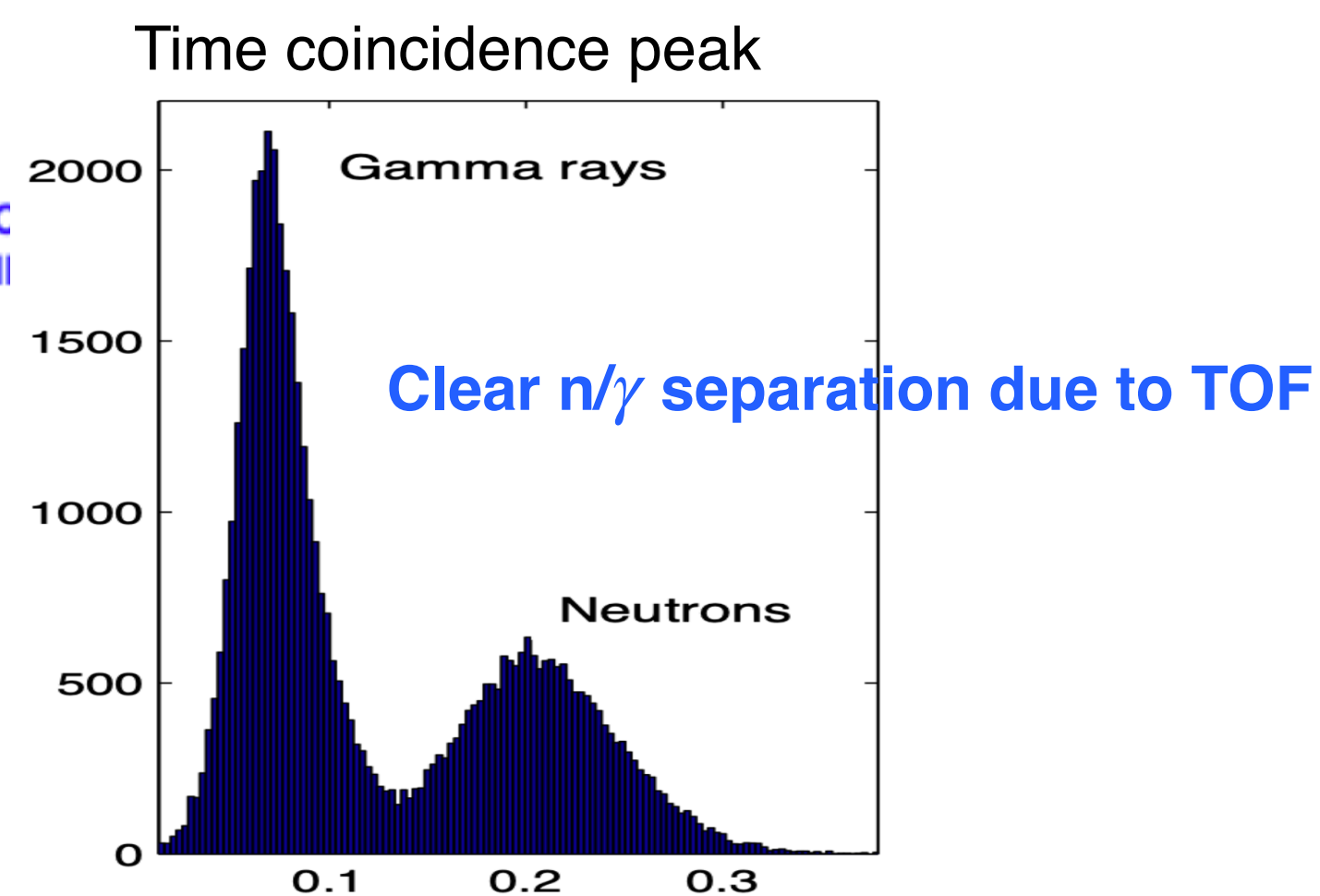
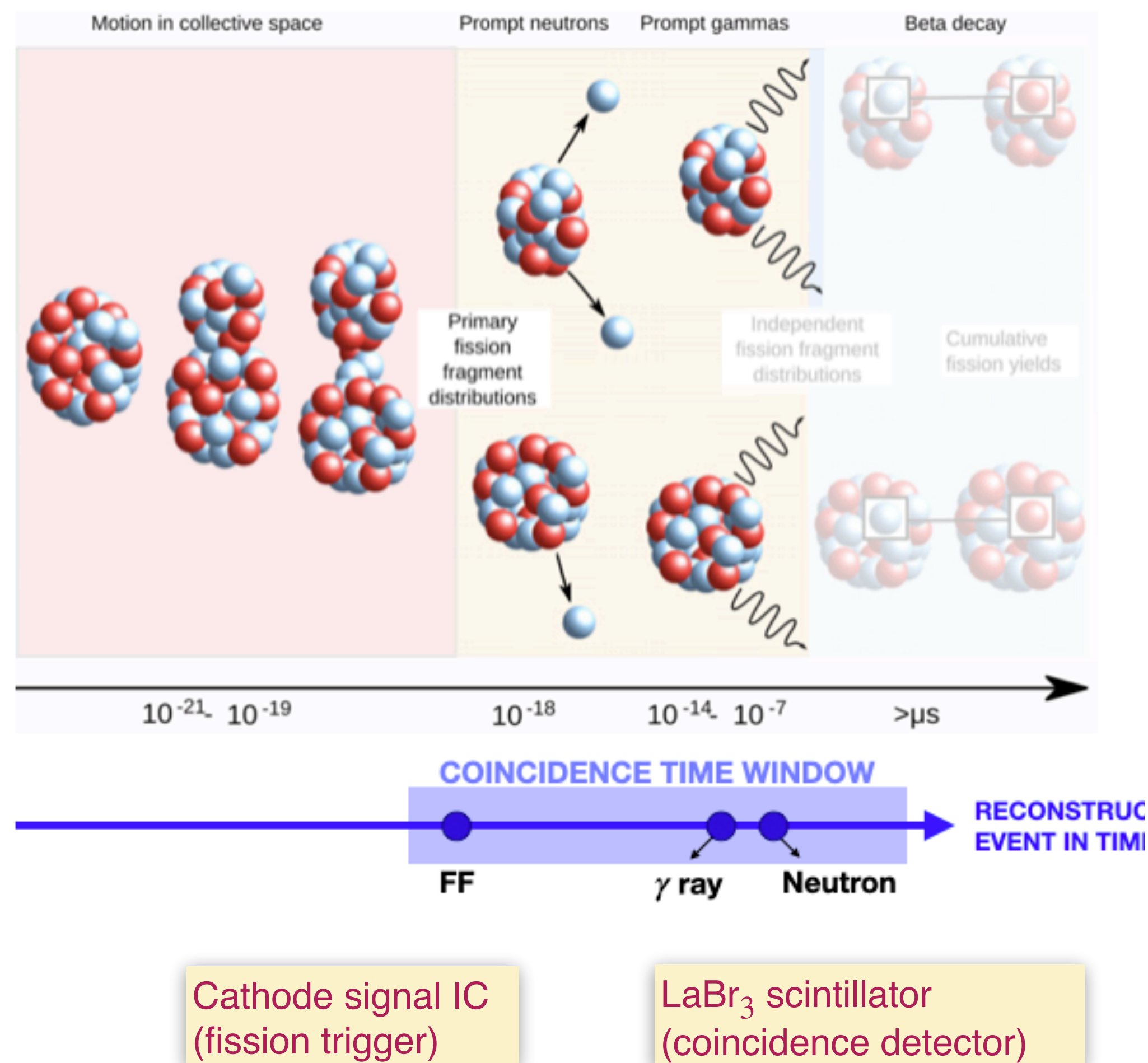
# Event time reconstruction





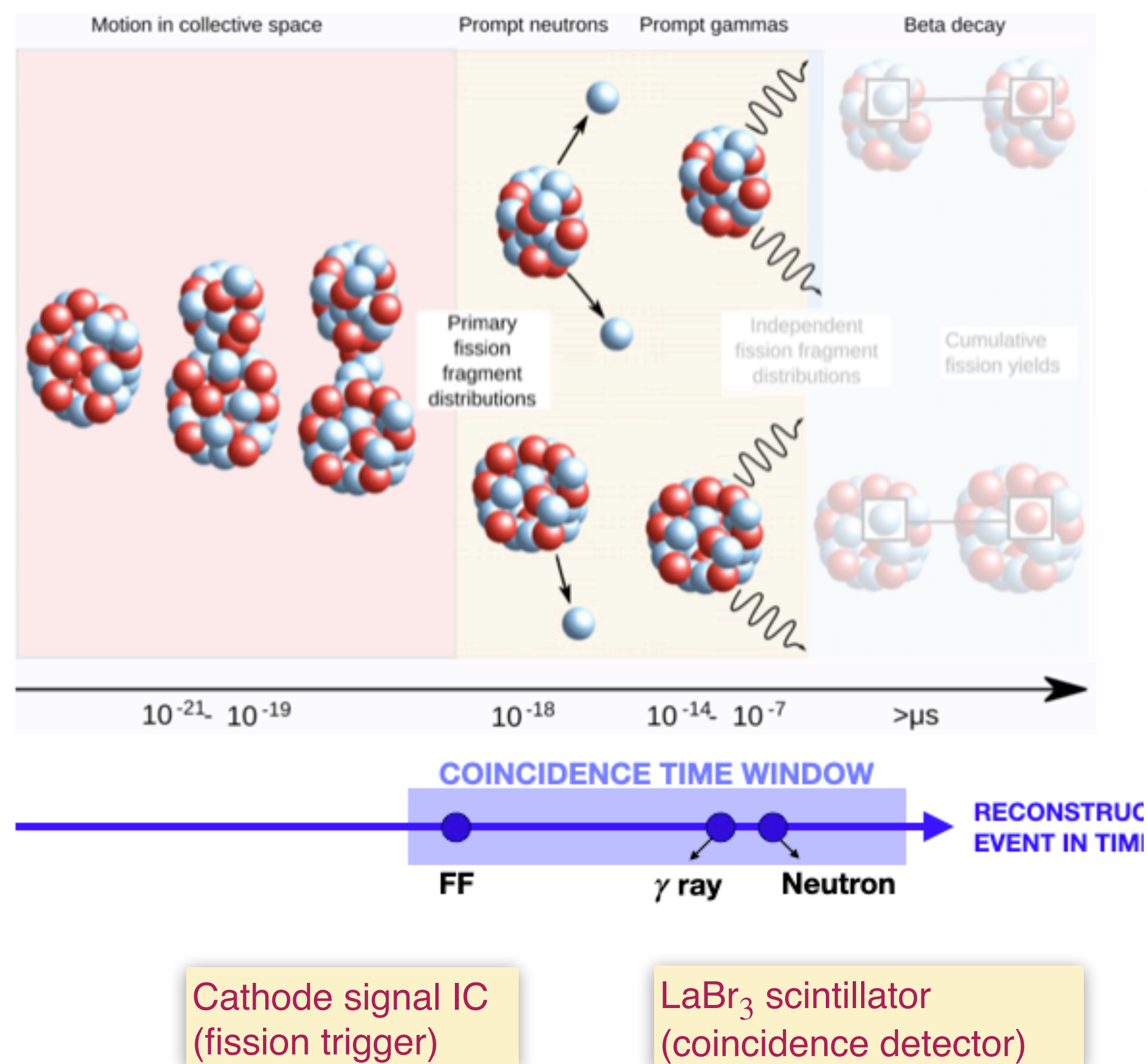


# Event reconstruction





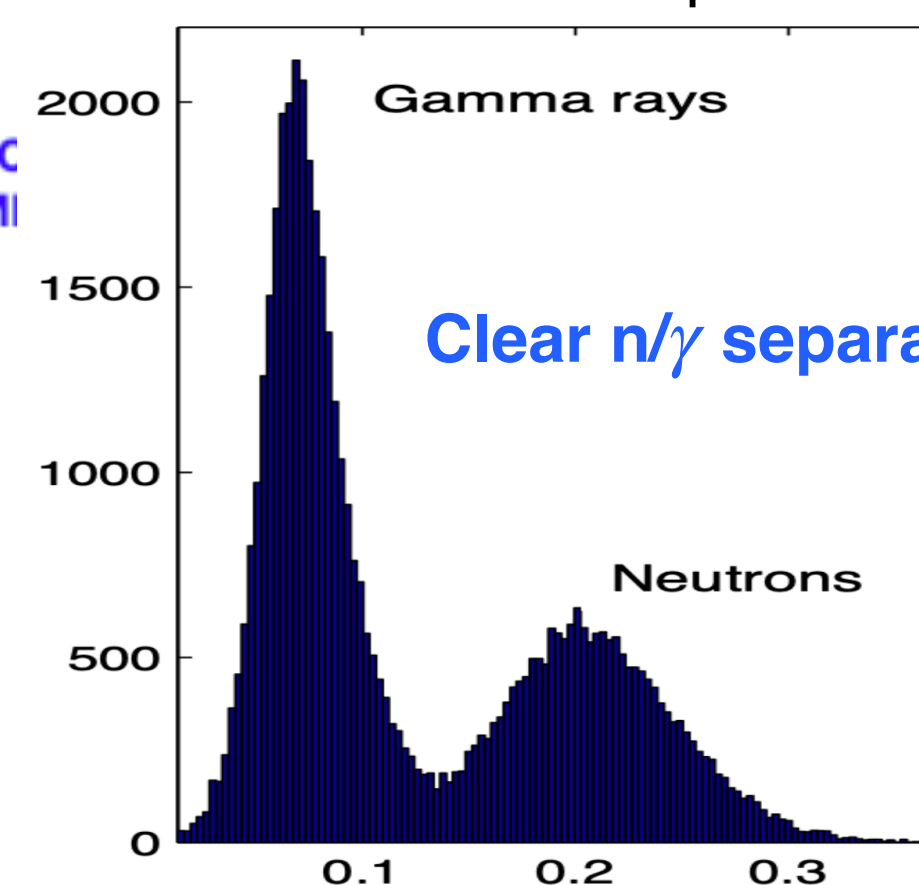
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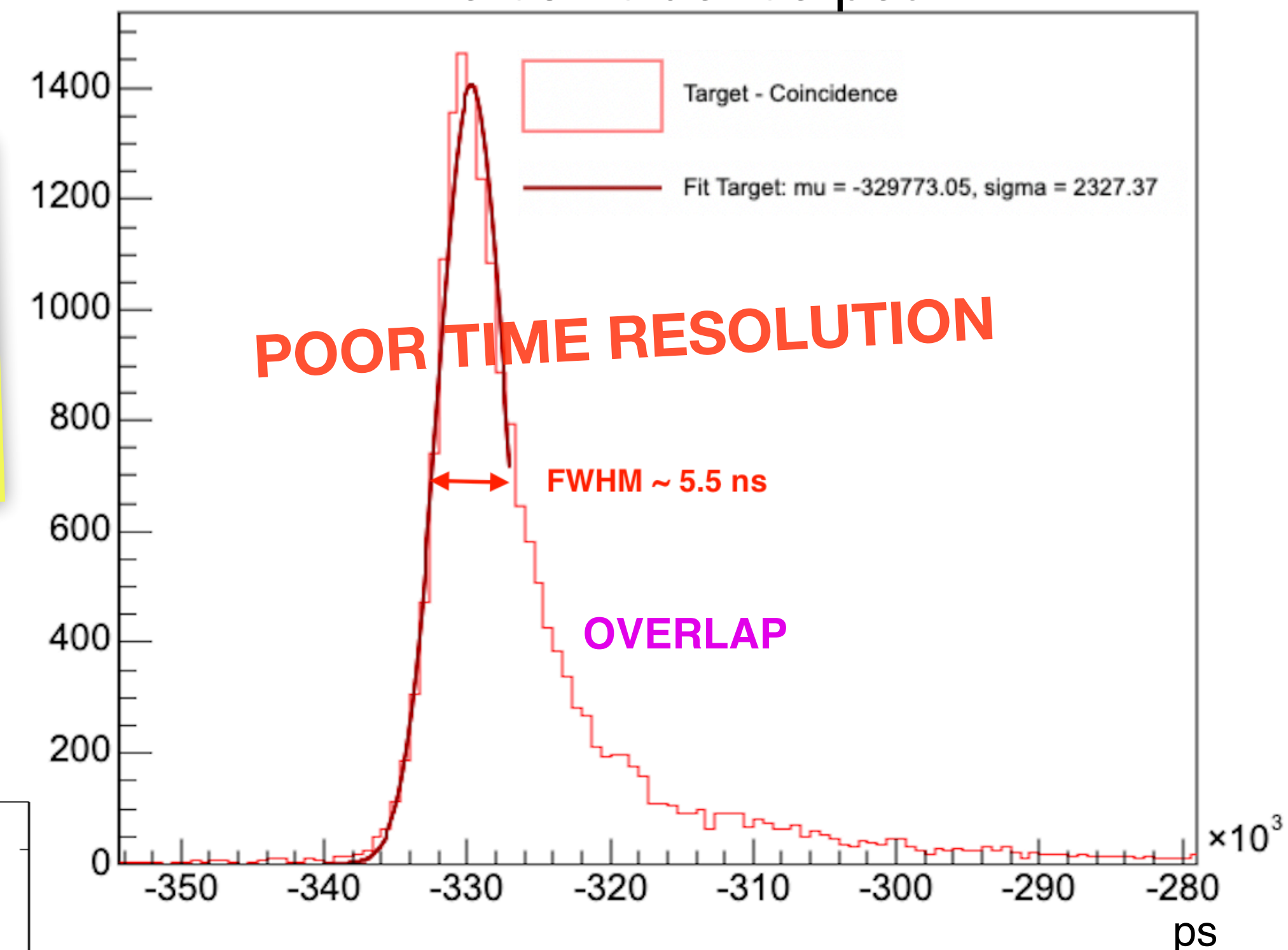
Triggering of signal can be optimised to 1-2% of signal rise time.

*Cathode rise time ~300 ns*

Time coincidence peak



Time coincidence peak



1. Time resolution is not sufficient to separate n/γ
2. Expect to obtain a resolution down to 3 ns





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# Waveform analysis with NN - motivation

## Waveform analysis through most frequently used methods

- Moving average algorithm;
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- Constant Fraction Discrimination (CFD)

**TIME CONSUMING**

**CFD on cathode signals requires ~15000 FLOP per signal**

Waveform analysis takes **~2s per 1k fission events**

3 weeks of data acquisition -> 600M events

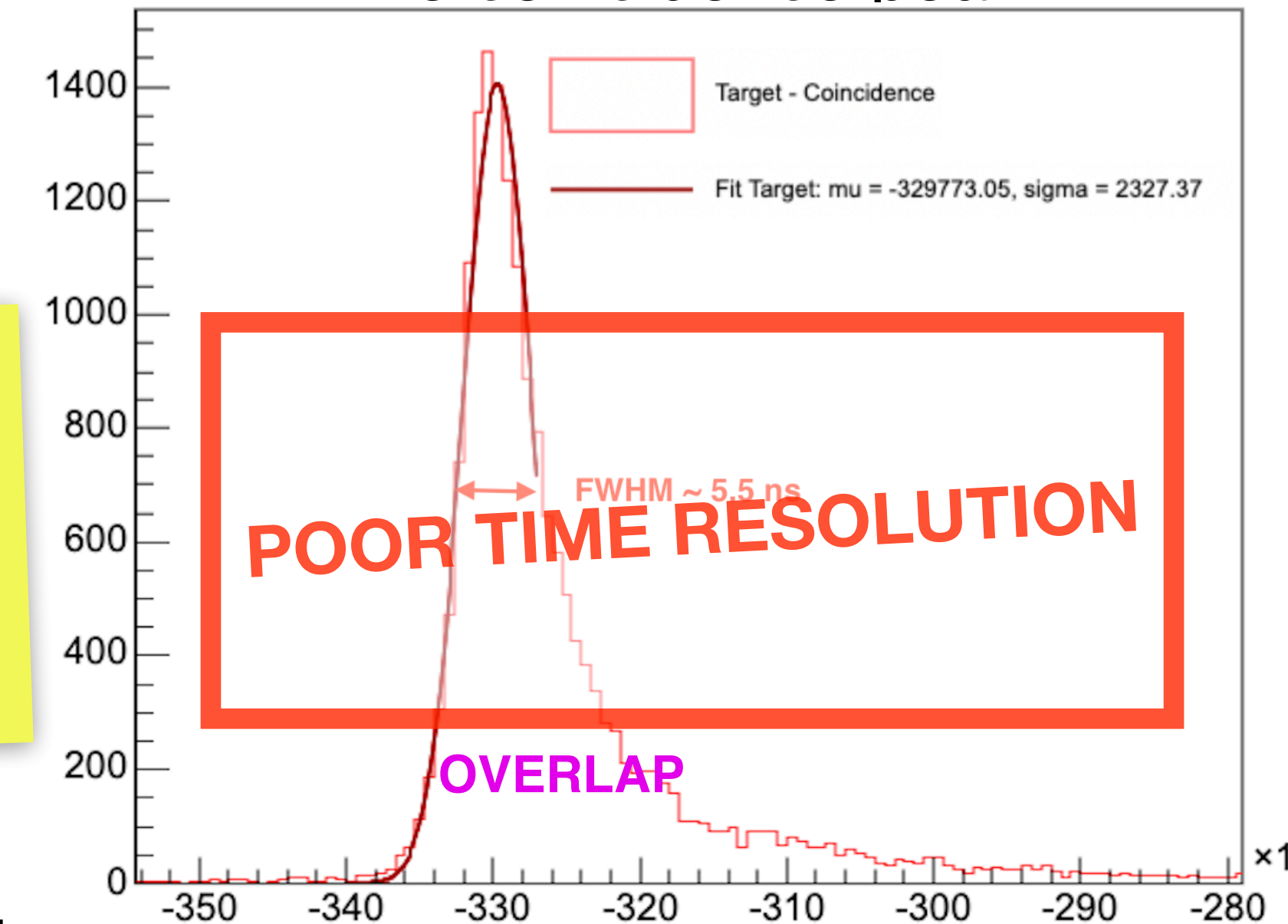
**300 h or 13 days to process the waveforms**

=> yes, we are working with an optimized multi-threading algorithm

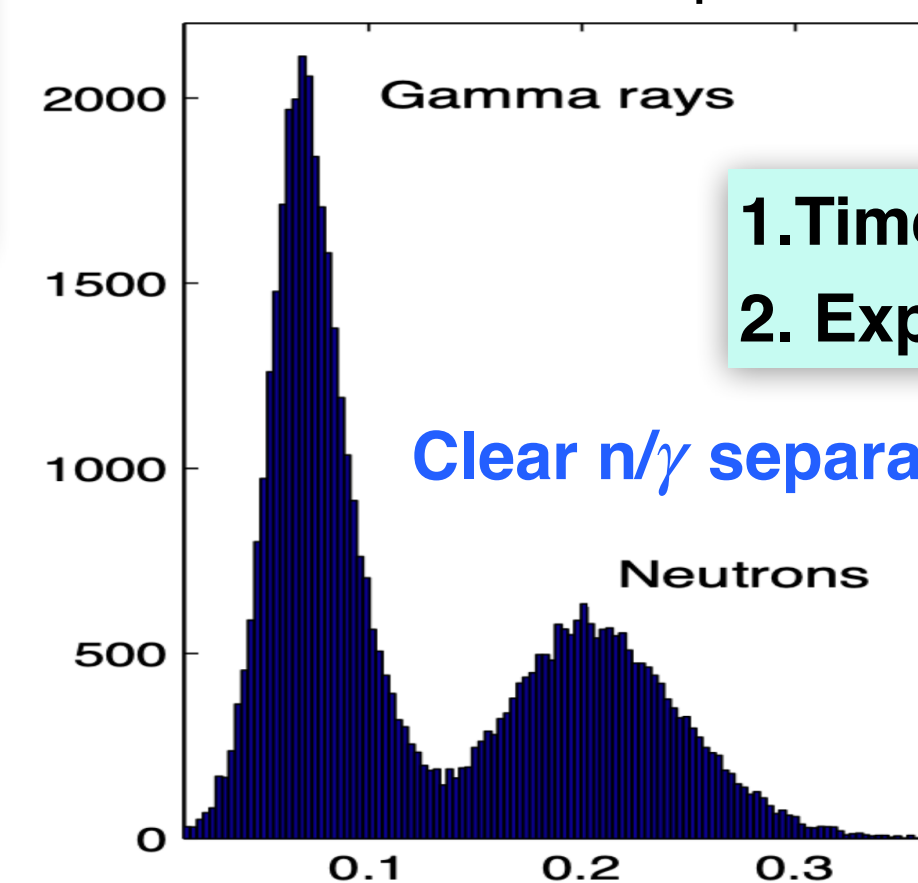
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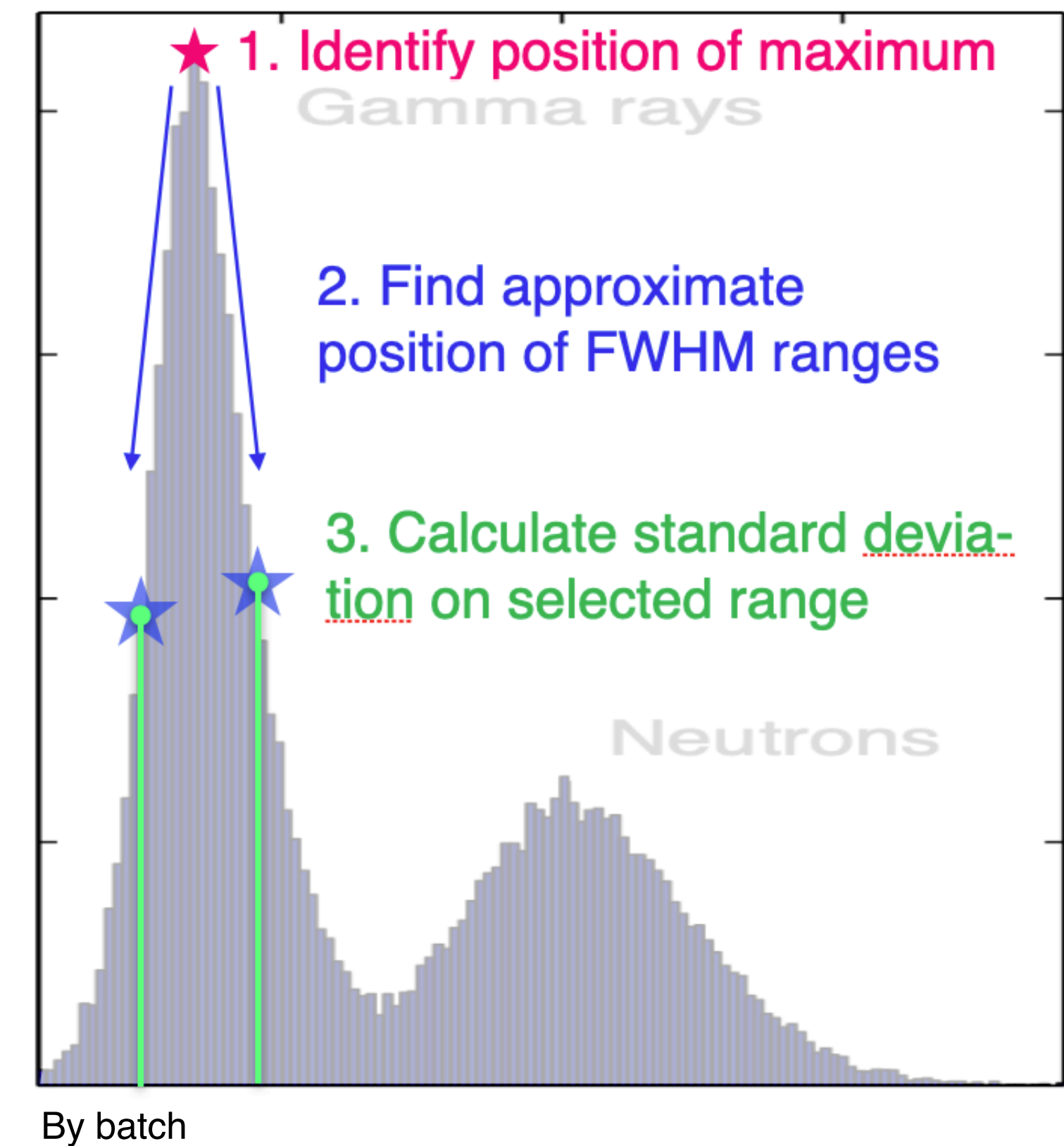
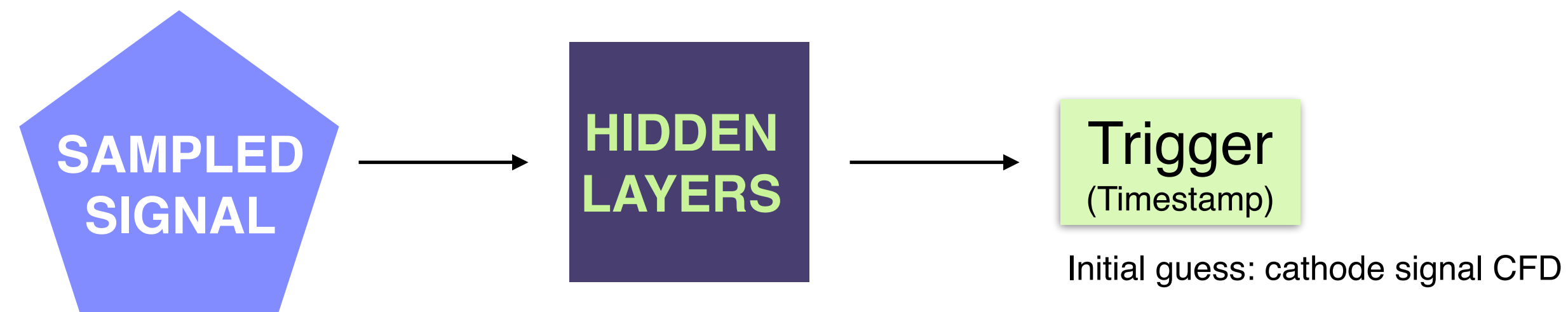


1. Time resolution is not sufficient to separate  $n/\gamma$
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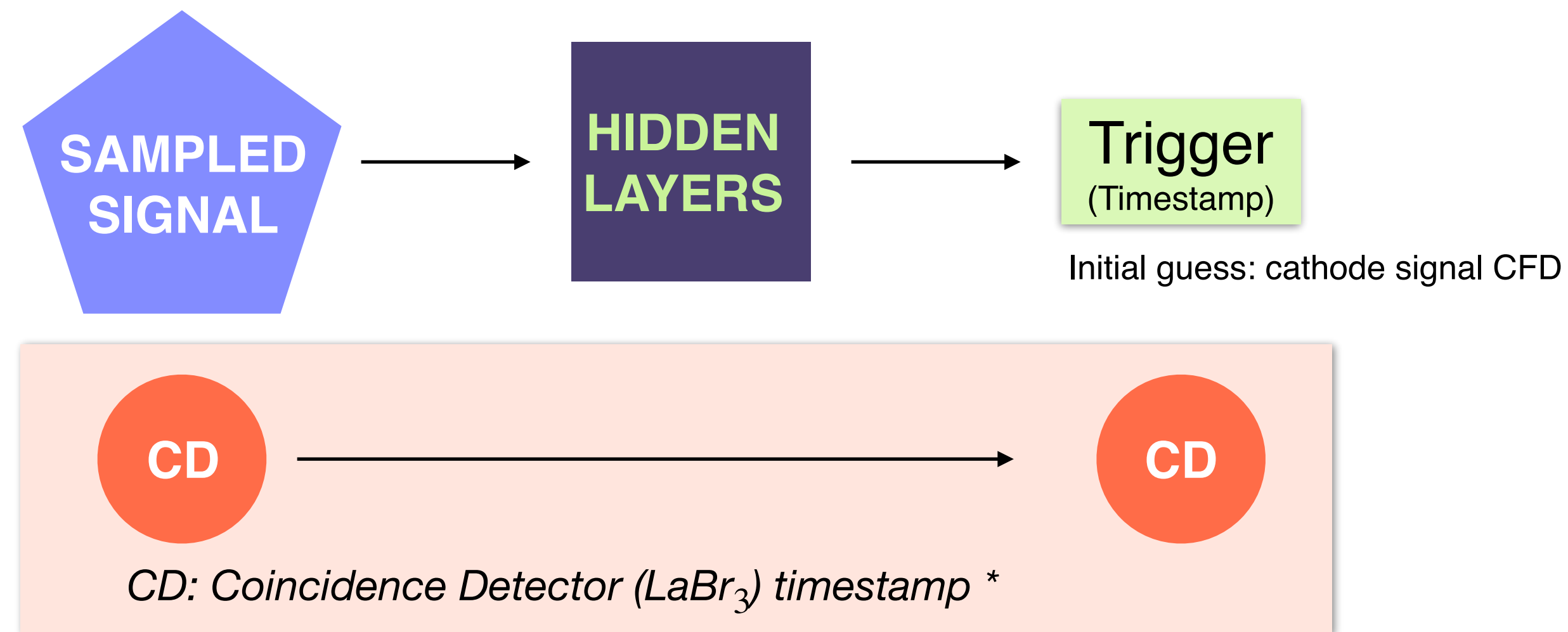


# Loss function for time resolution improvement

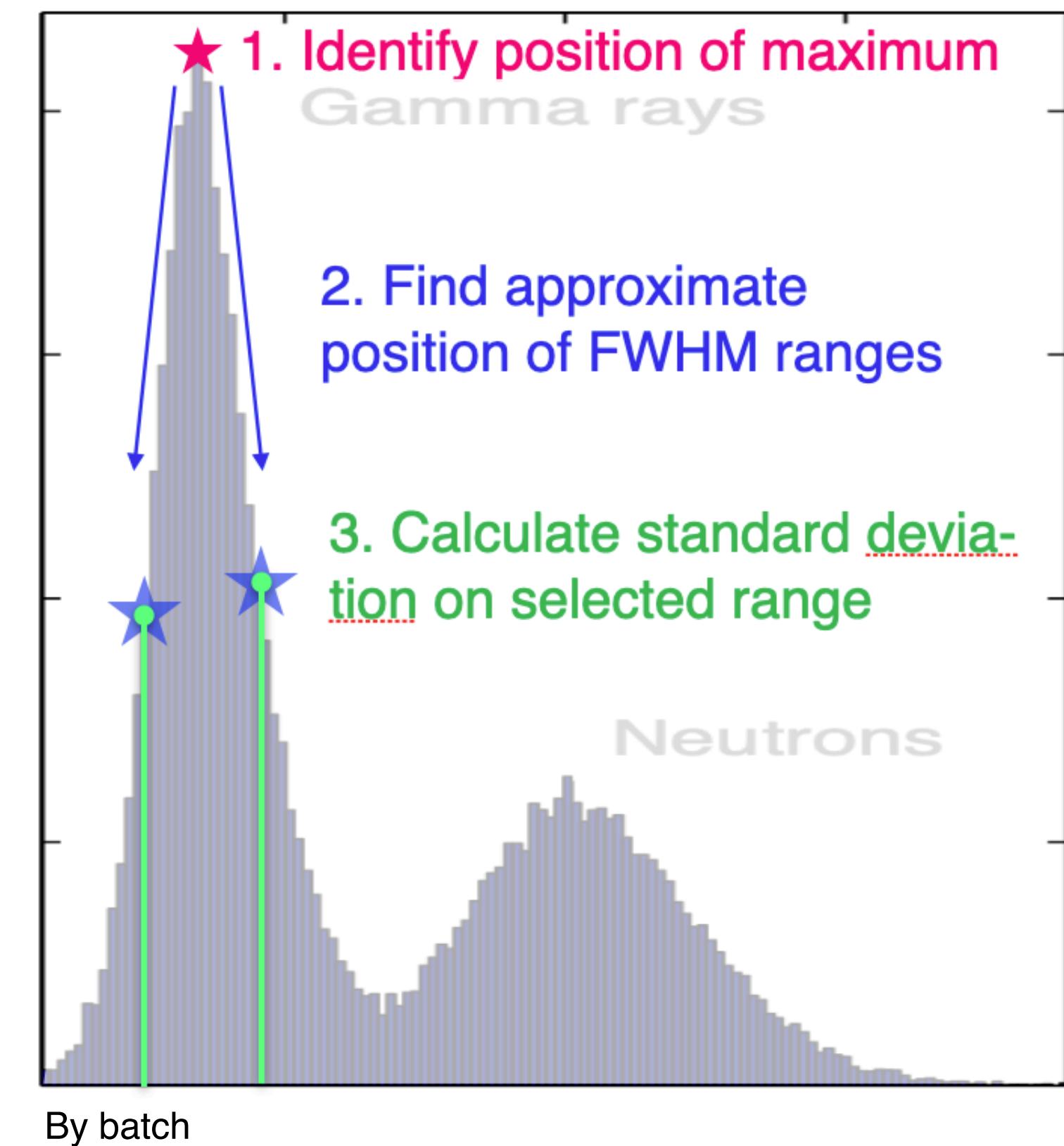




# Loss function for time resolution improvement



**NO CONNECTION BETWEEN CD NEURON AND ANY OTHER LAYER IN NN ARCHITECTURE.  
USED ONLY FOR LOSS ESTIMATION.**







# Layer complexity

CFD on cathode signals requires ~15000 FLOP per signal

## 3.1.1. Fully connected neural network (FCNN)

$$\text{FLOP}_{\text{FCNN}} = 2 \times L_{\text{in}} \times L_{\text{out}} + b \quad (1)$$

## 3.1.2. Convolutional neural network (CNN) - one dimension

$$\text{FLOP}_{\text{CNN}} = 2 \times L_{\text{in}} \times L_{\text{out}} \times F \times K + b \quad (2)$$

$$L_{\text{out}} = \left\lfloor \frac{L_{\text{in}} - K + 2P}{S} \right\rfloor + 1 \quad (3)$$

Where  $F$  is the number of filters and  $K$  is the kernel size,  $P$  is the padding option,  $S$  is the stride, and  $b$  is the bias term.

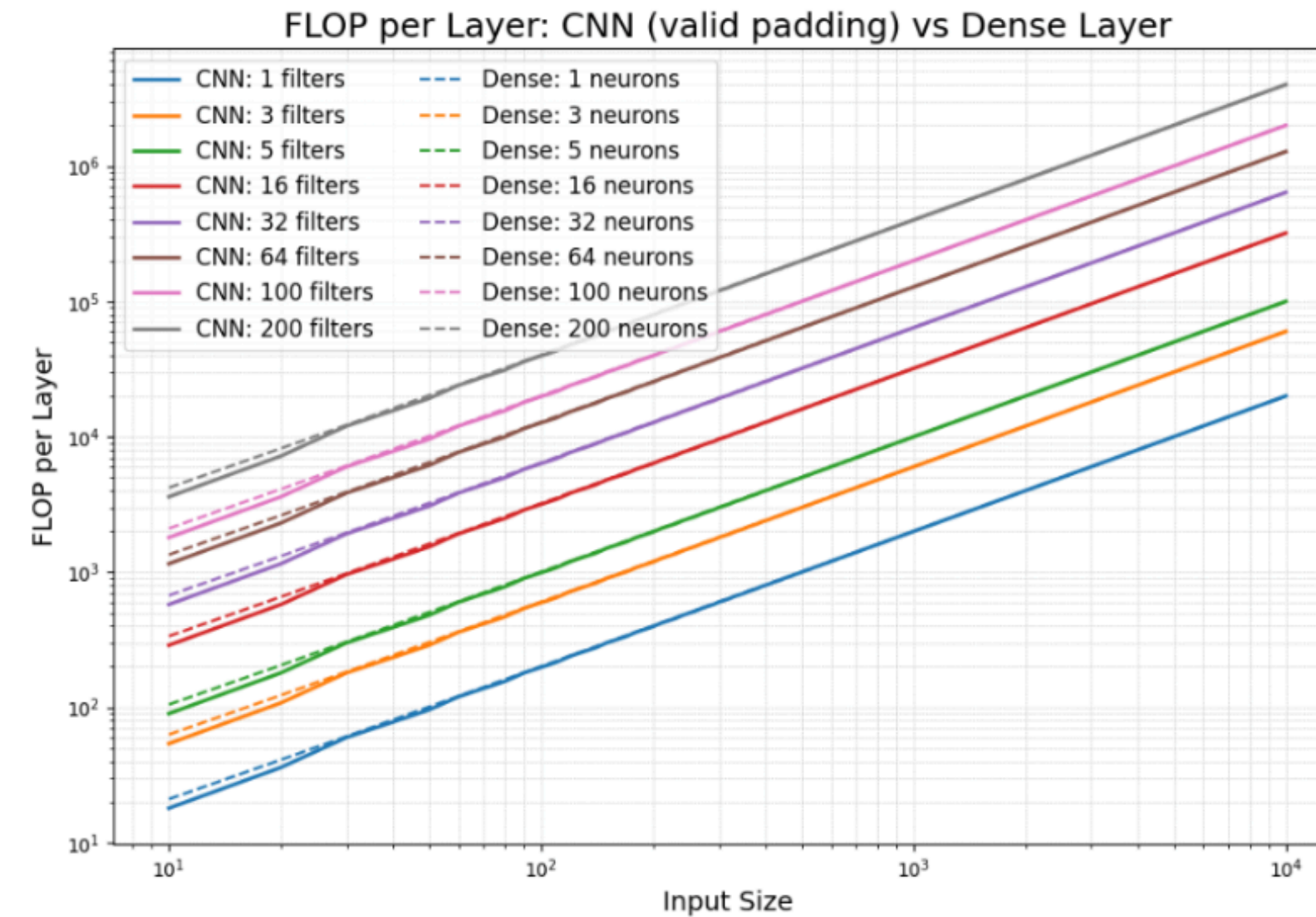


Figure 5: Comparison of total computational cost (FLOP) per layer for 1D convolutional layers (CNN) and fully connected (dense) layers as a function of input size. Fluctuations in convolutional model comes from valid padding (or no padding), not recommended if border information is crucial. Solid lines represent CNNs, and dashed lines represent dense layers. Both axes are on logarithmic scales.

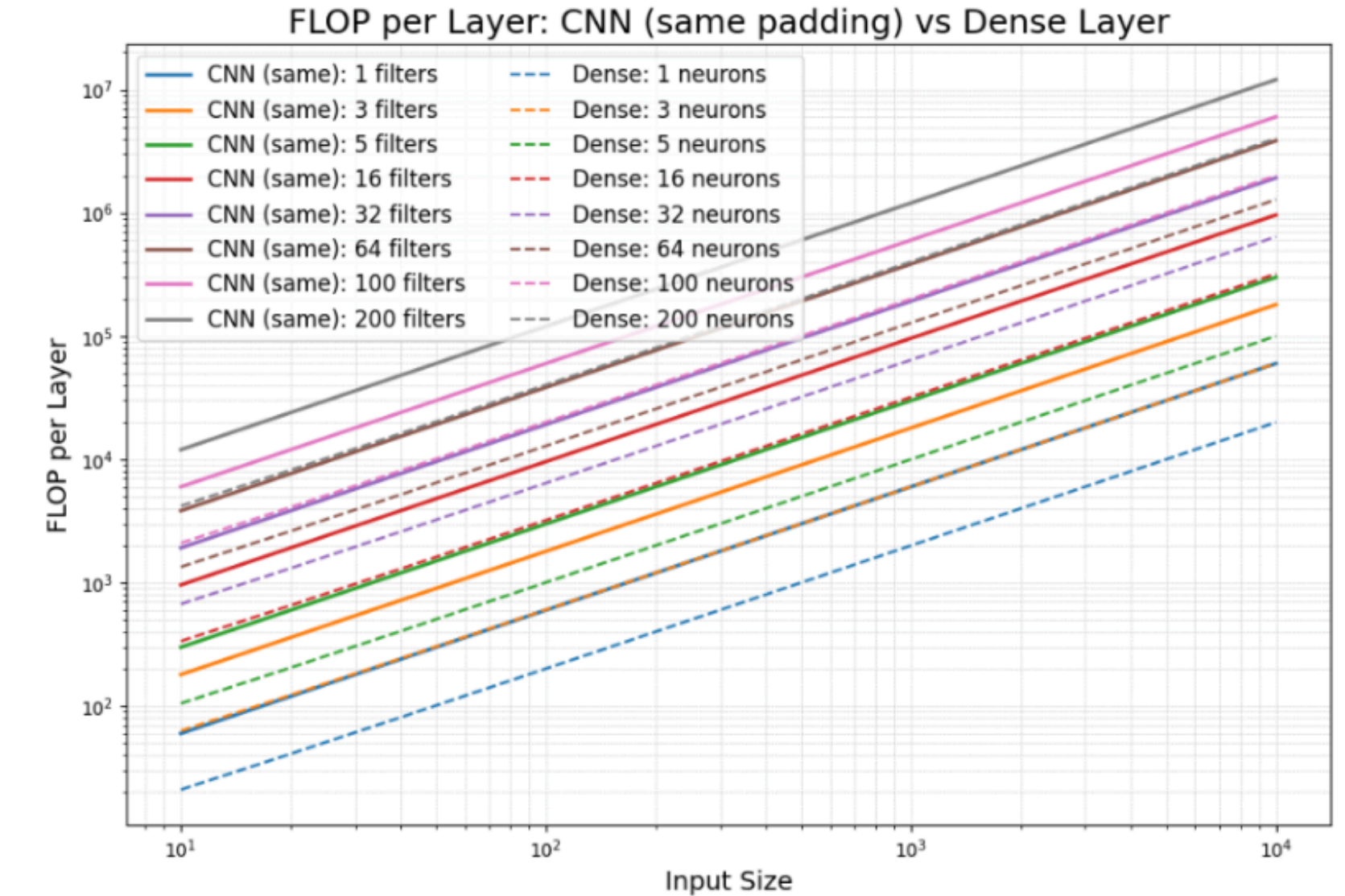


Figure 6: Comparison of total computational cost (FLOP) per layer for 1D convolutional layers (CNN) and fully connected (dense) layers as a function of input size. Case for layers designed with “same” padding, which preserves border information. In this situation, convolutional layers conserve their dimensions, hence the higher complexity.





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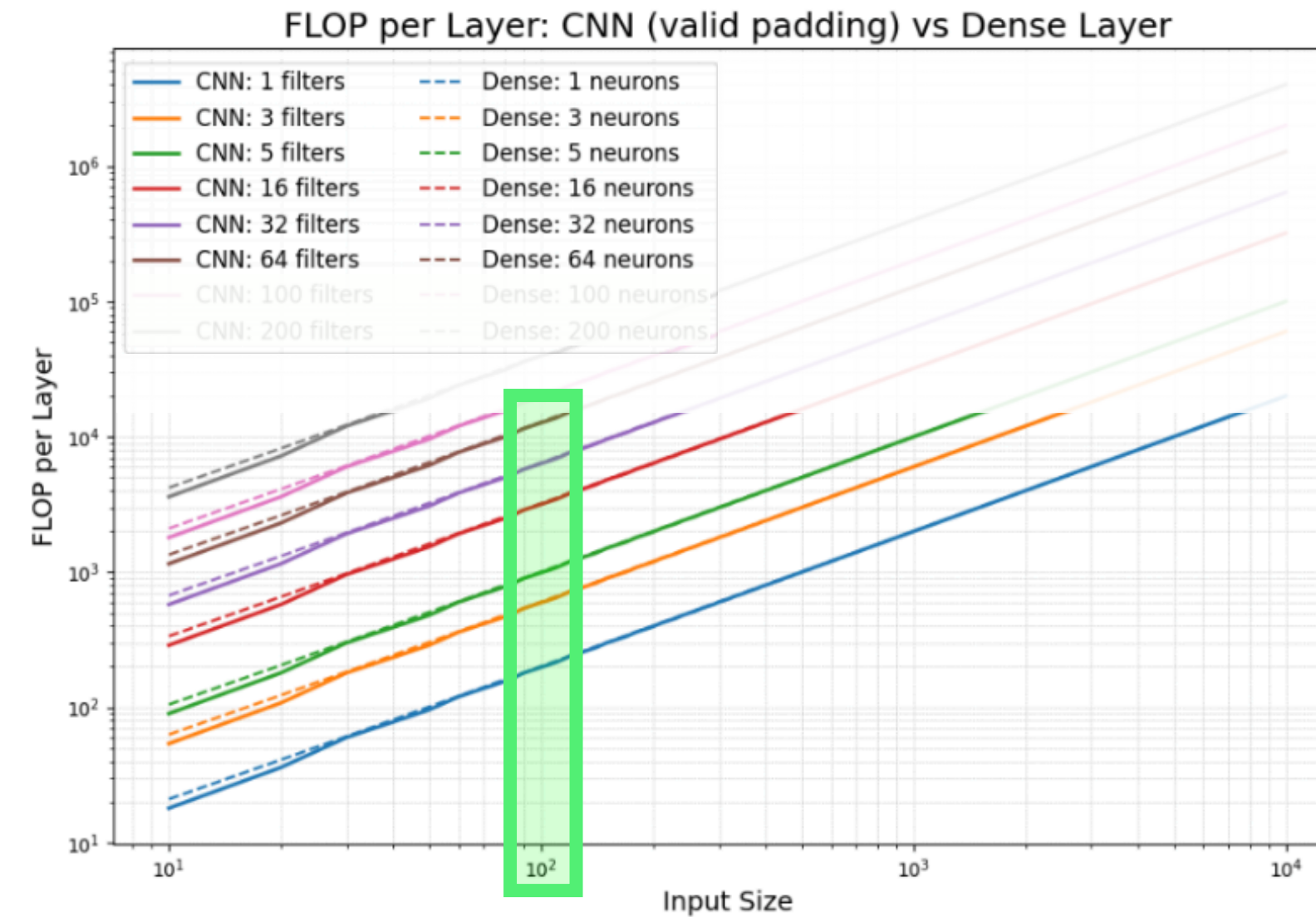


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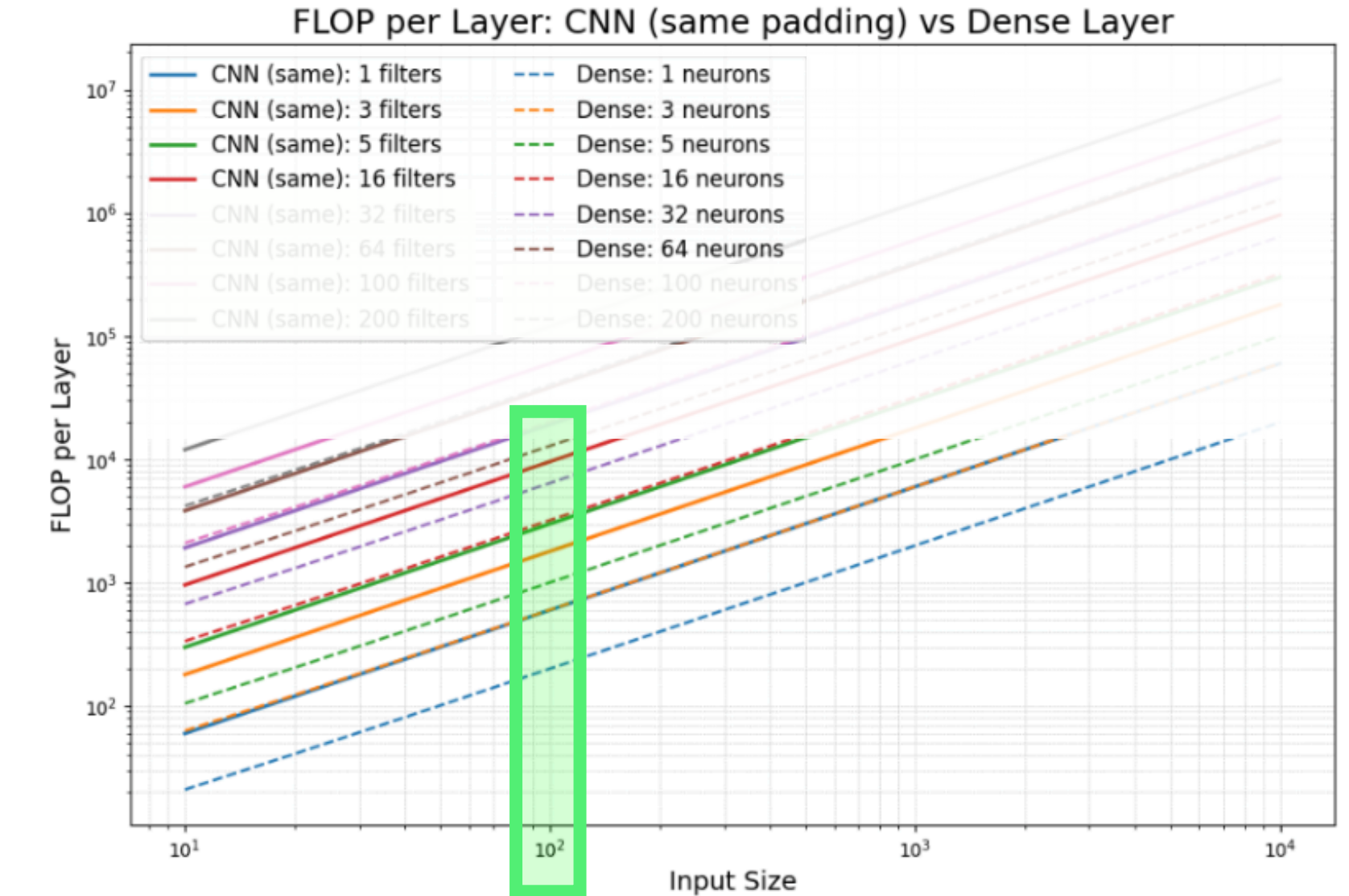
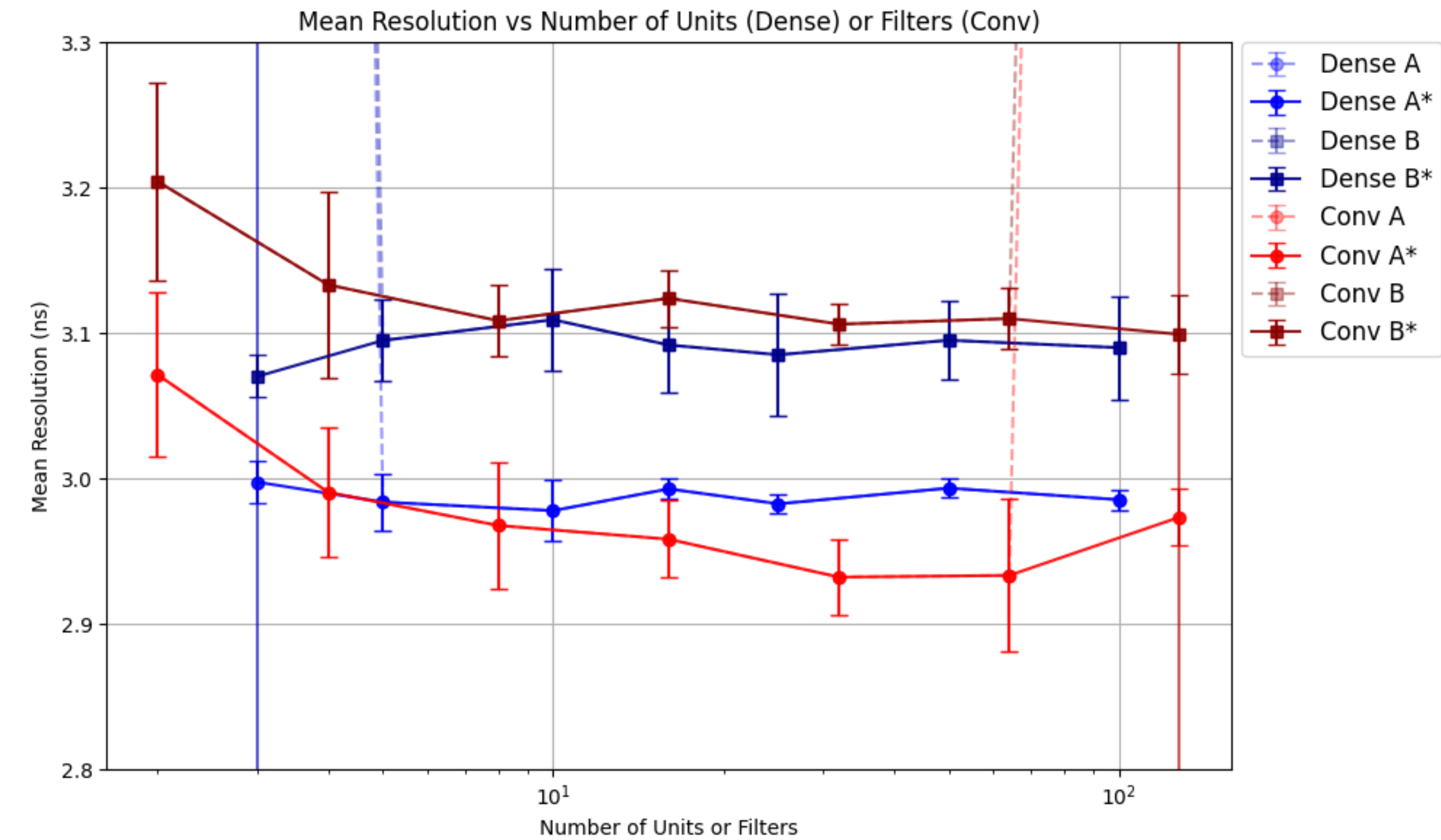
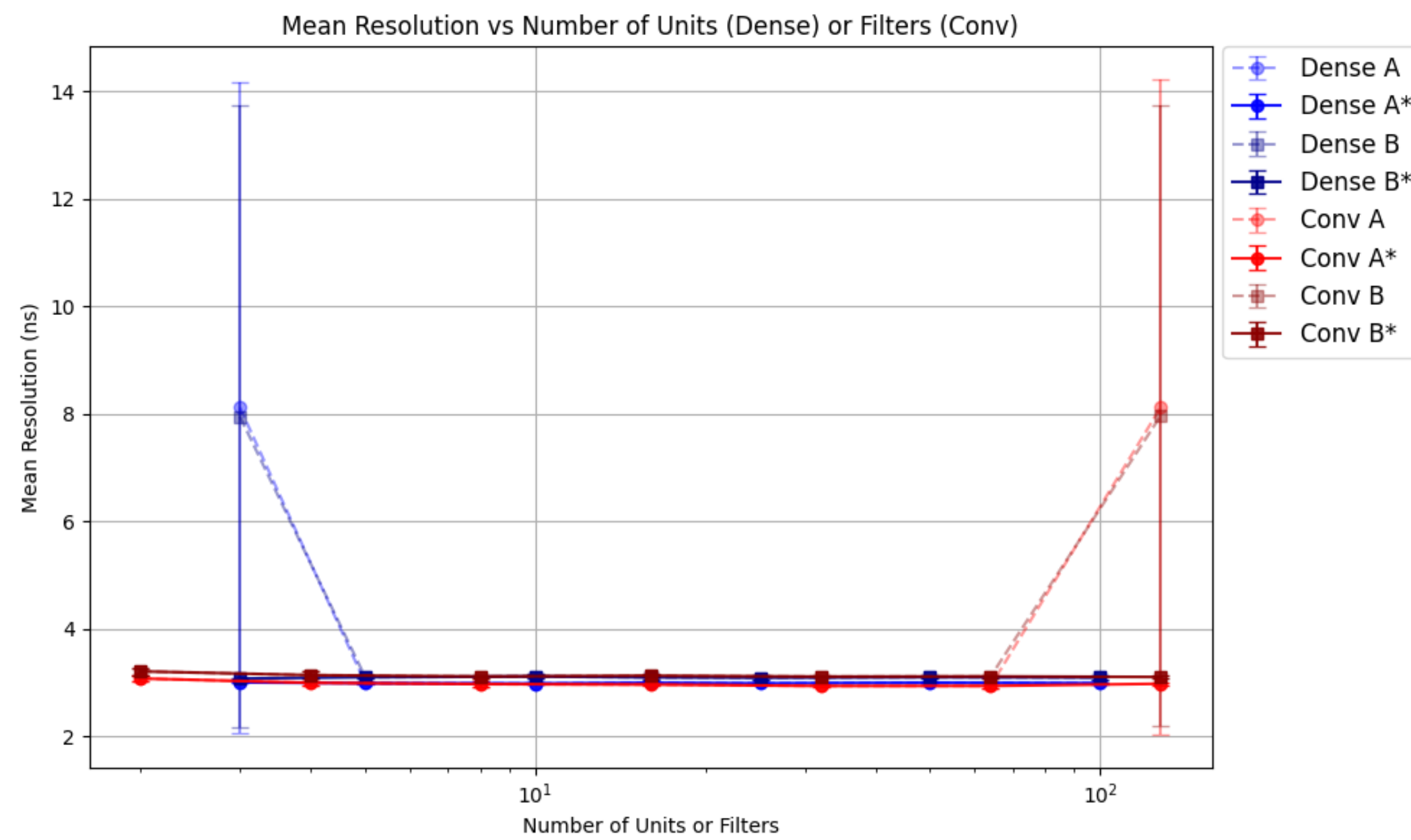
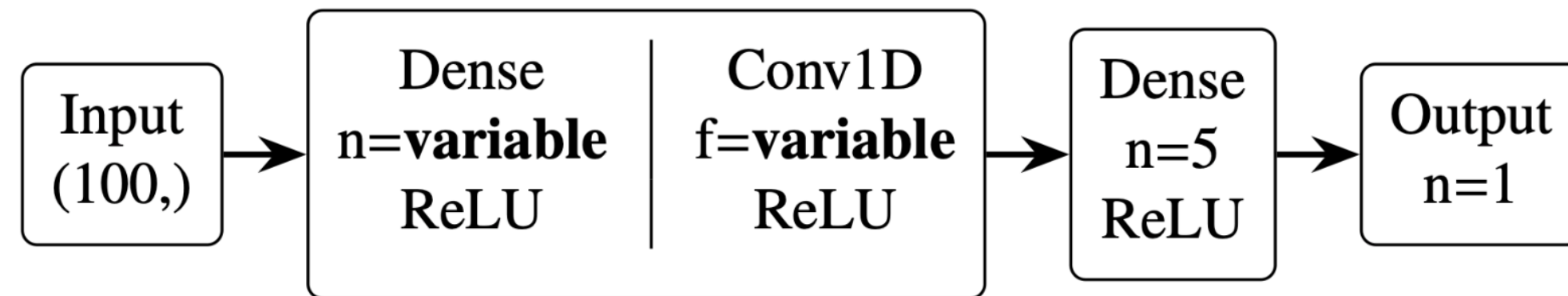


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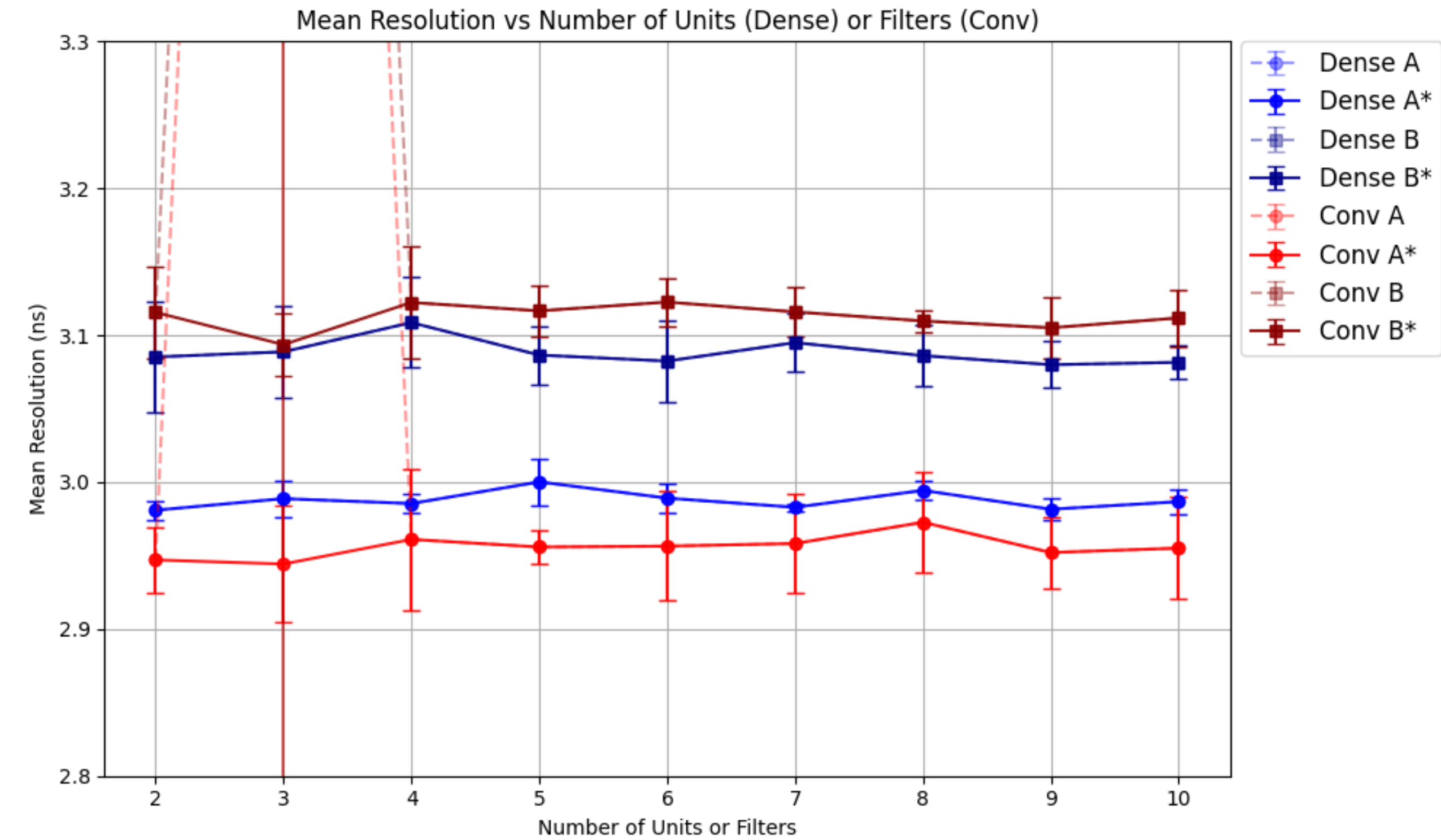
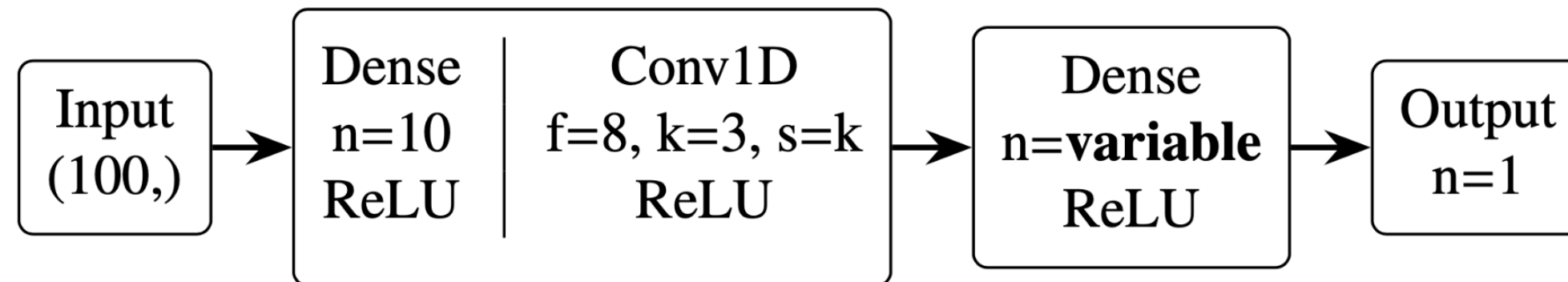


# Model tuning - first hidden layer





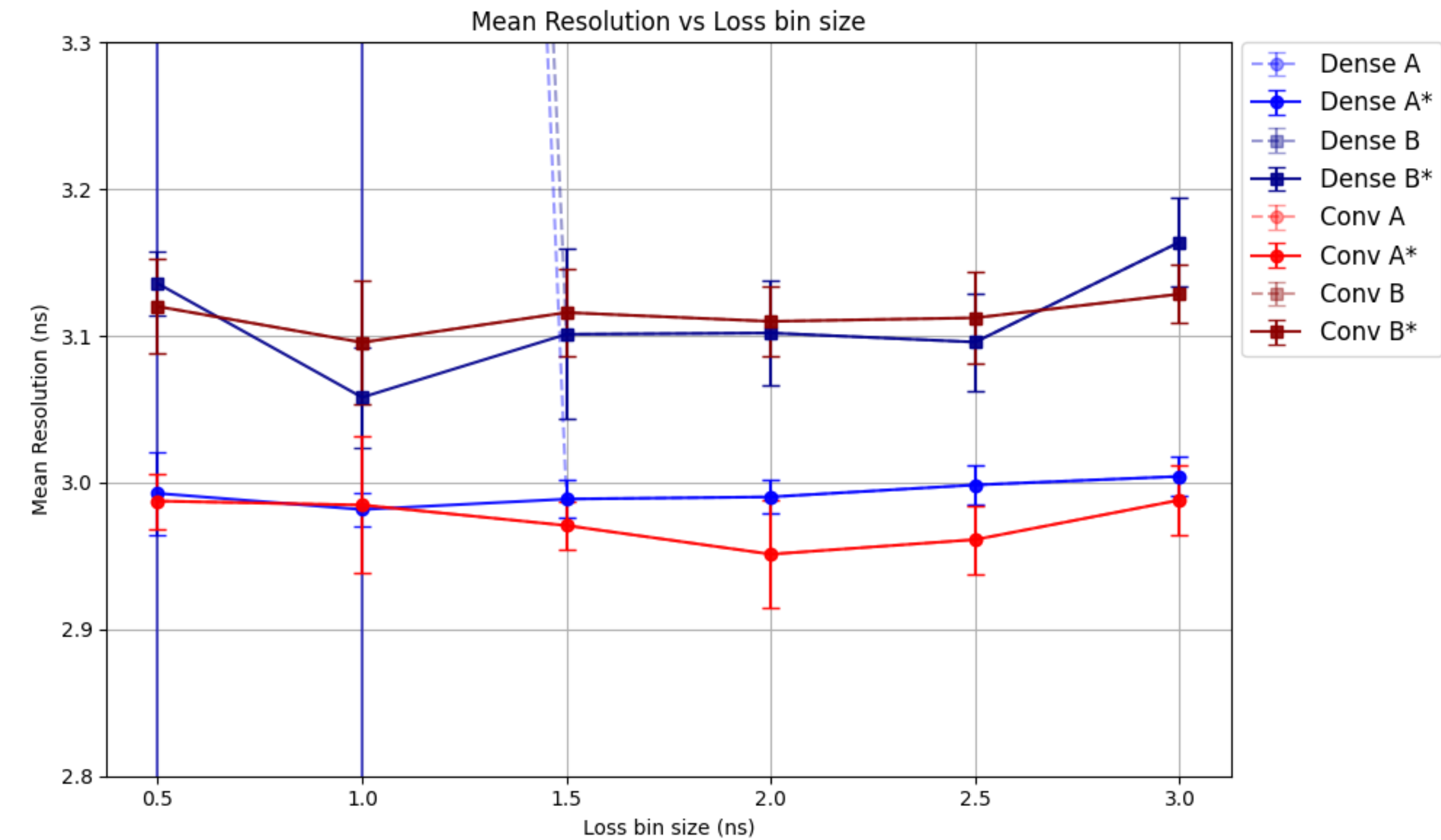
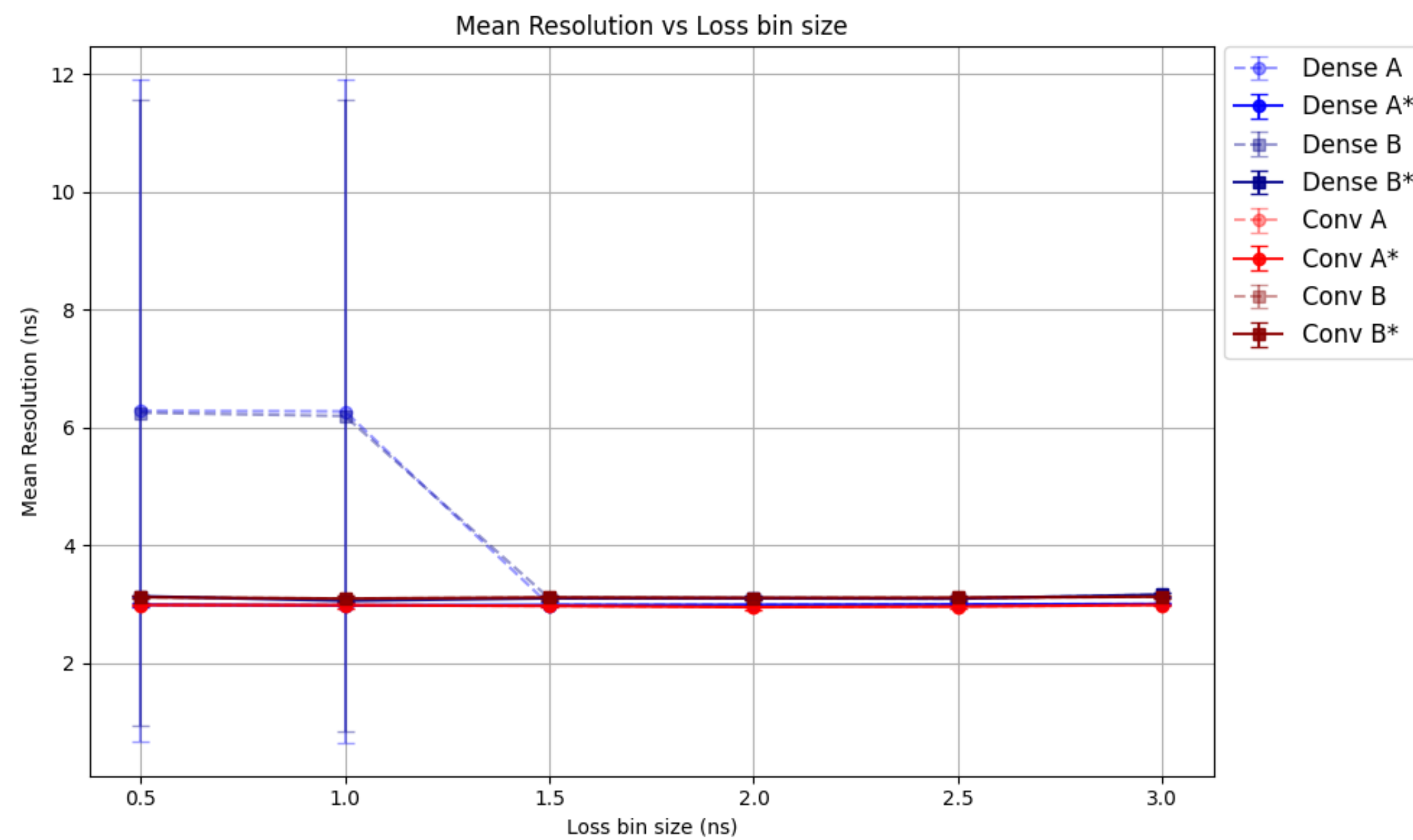
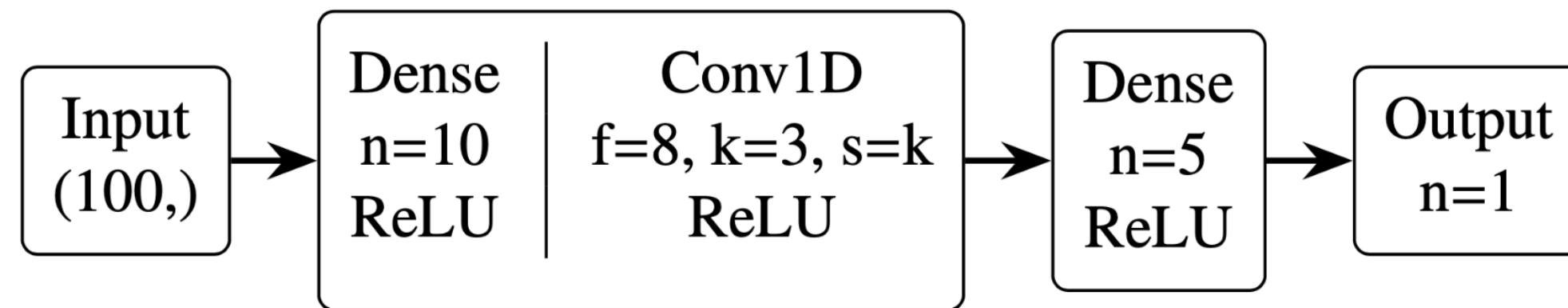
# Model tuning - second hidden layer







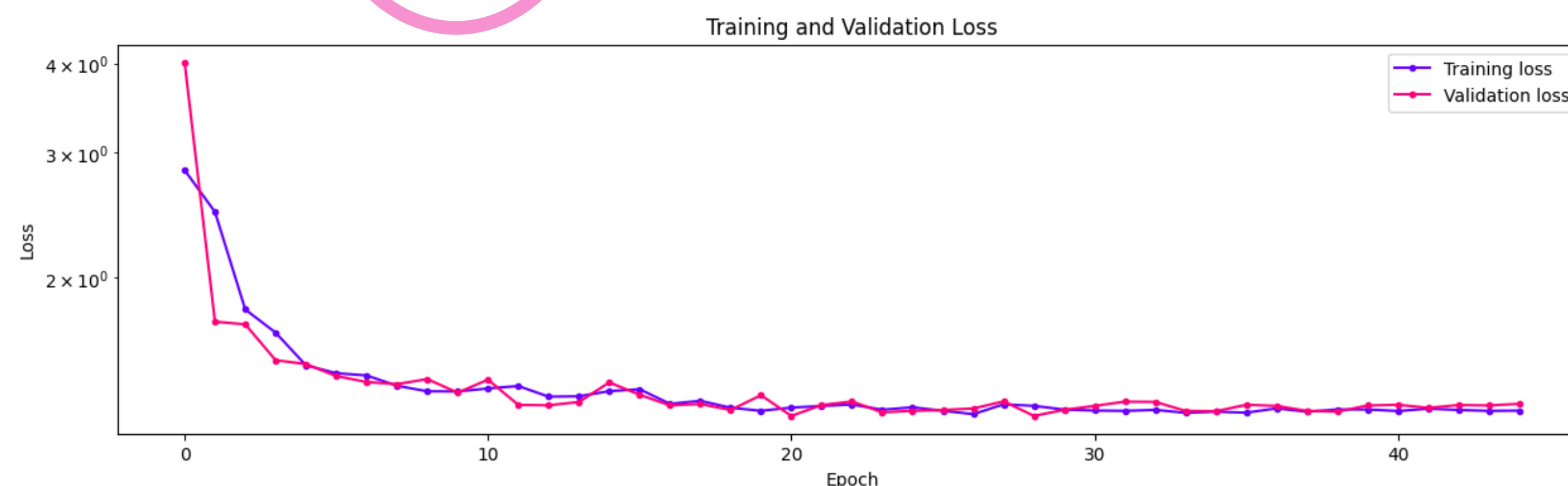
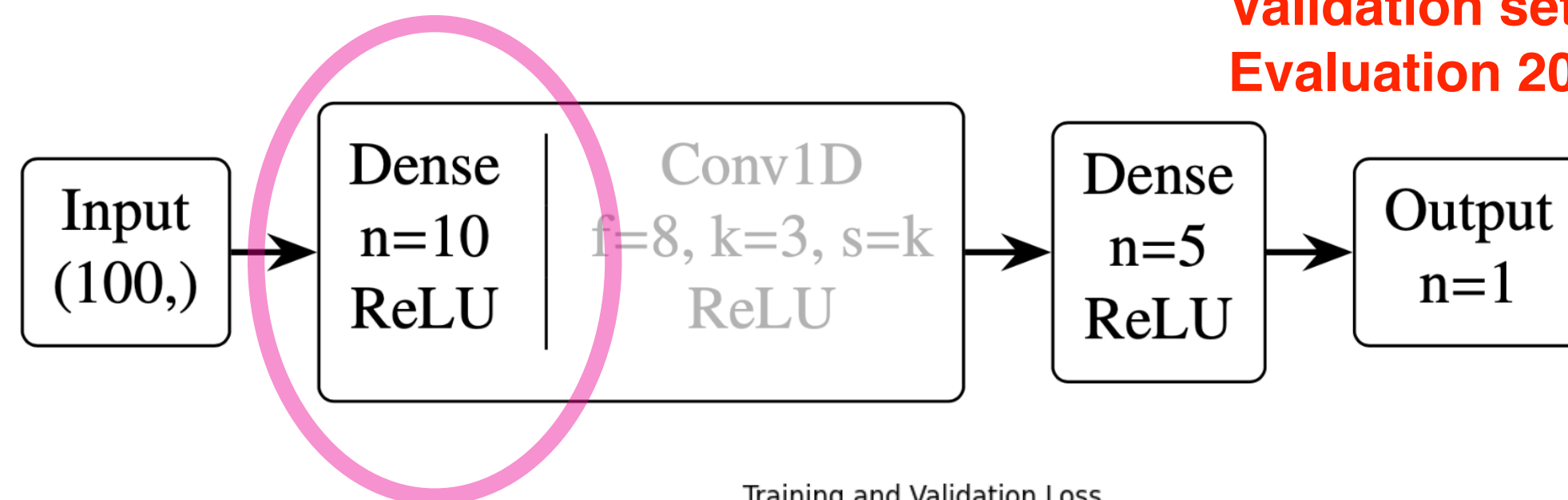
# Model tuning - loss function bin size





# Final Model

Training set 10k signals  
Validation set 2k signals  
Evaluation 20k signals



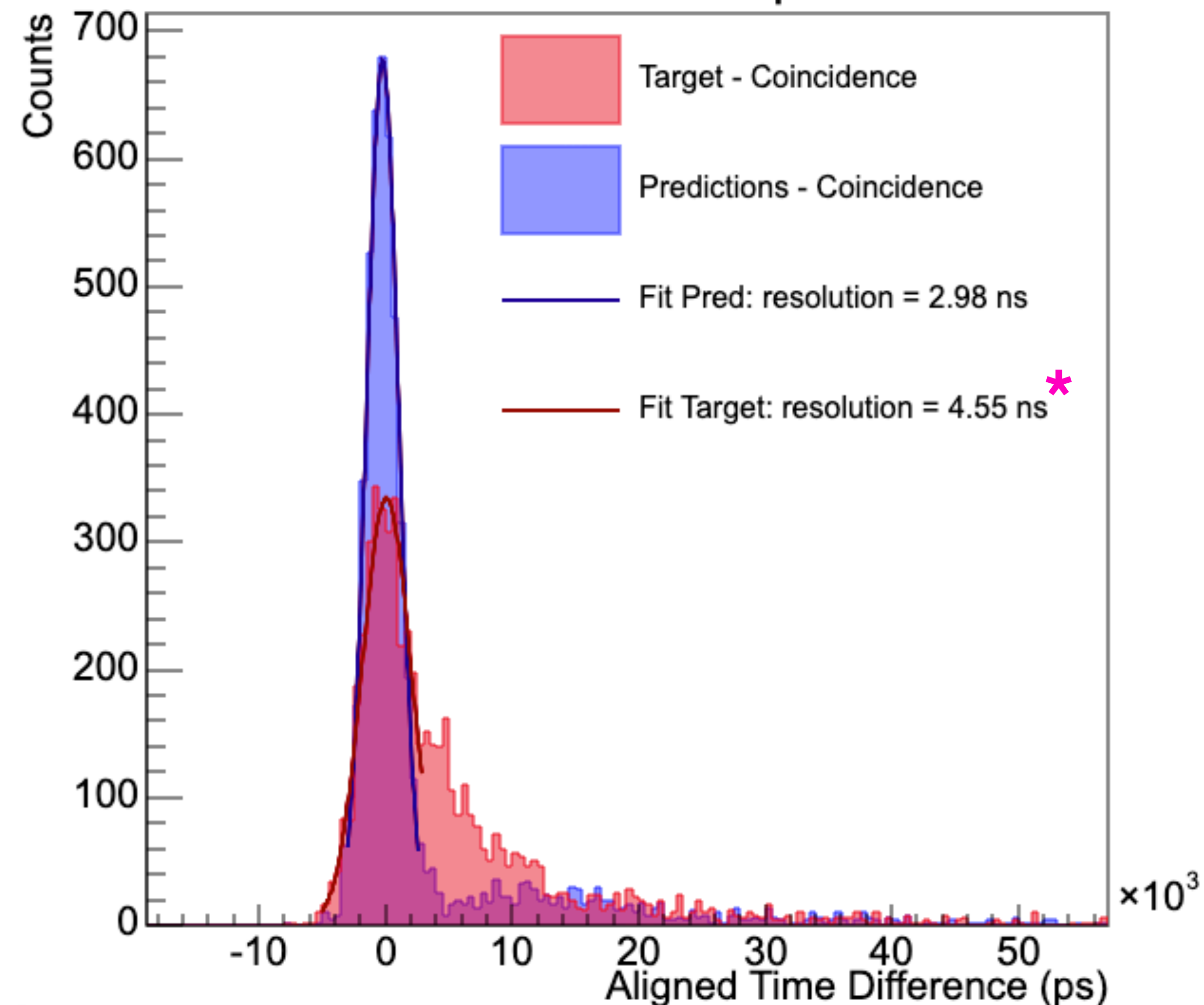
The model can be loaded in c++ script with Tensorflow API and it was directly implemented in our raw data conversion code to ROOT format, replacing the CFD algorithm.

Our final model has **1065 parameters** and requires 2110 FLOP per signal entry, with **total FLOP 2910 per signal**.

The total number of operations already takes into account signal downsampling (600 + 100 FLOP) and rescaling (100 FLOP).

**This represents a computational cost 5 times smaller than CFD algorithm with a time resolution at least 34% better \* .**

## Time Difference Comparison

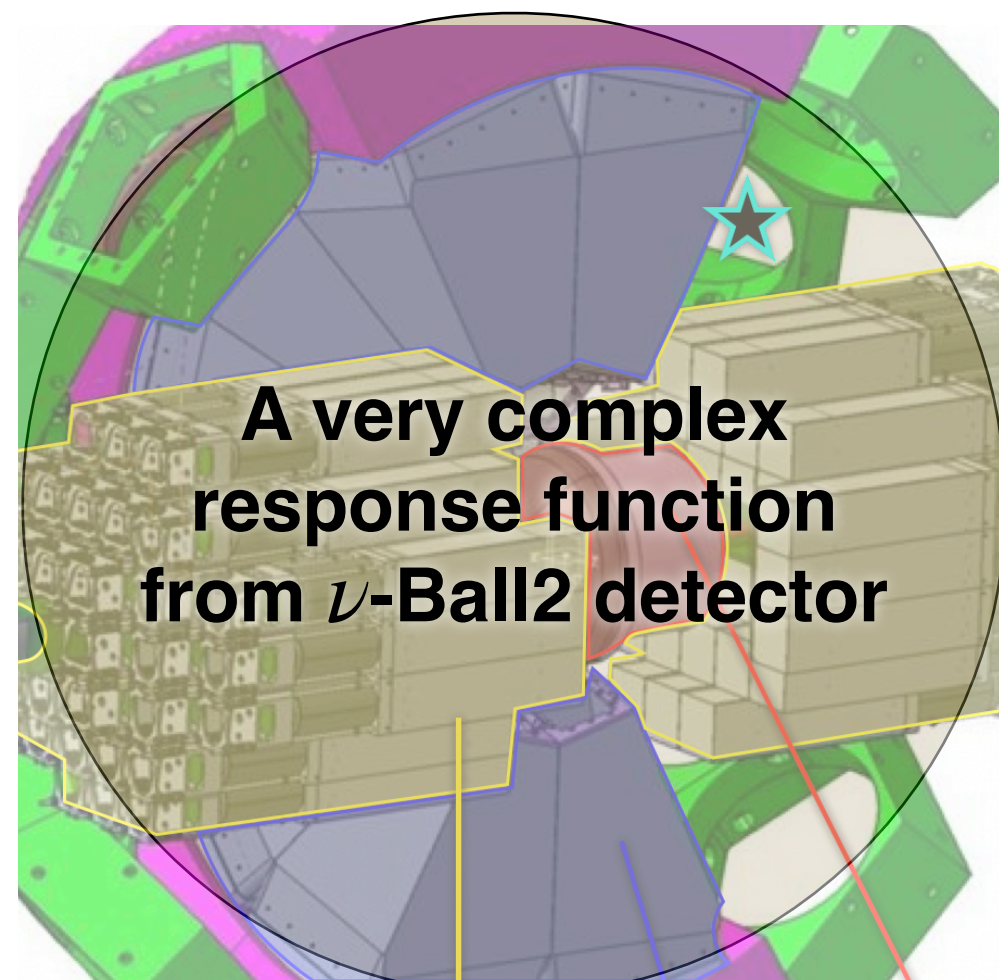




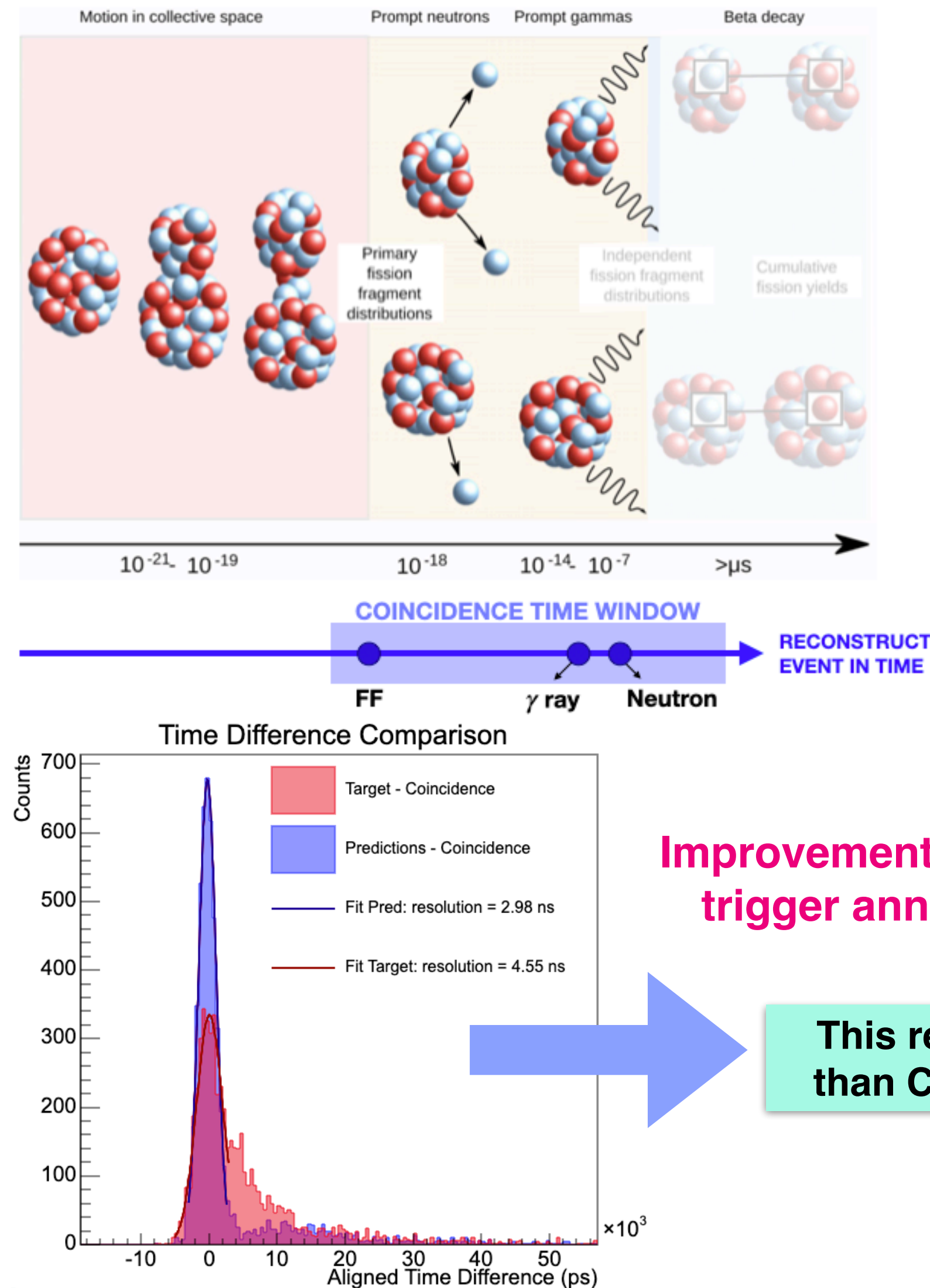
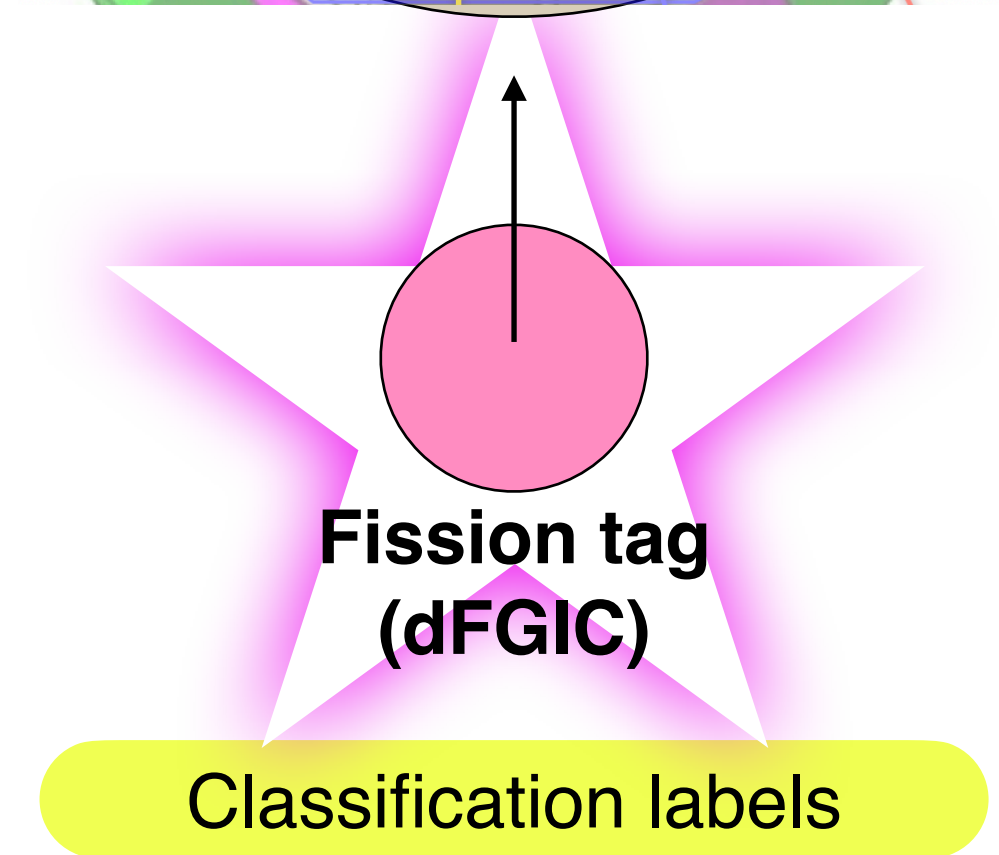


## CONTENTS:

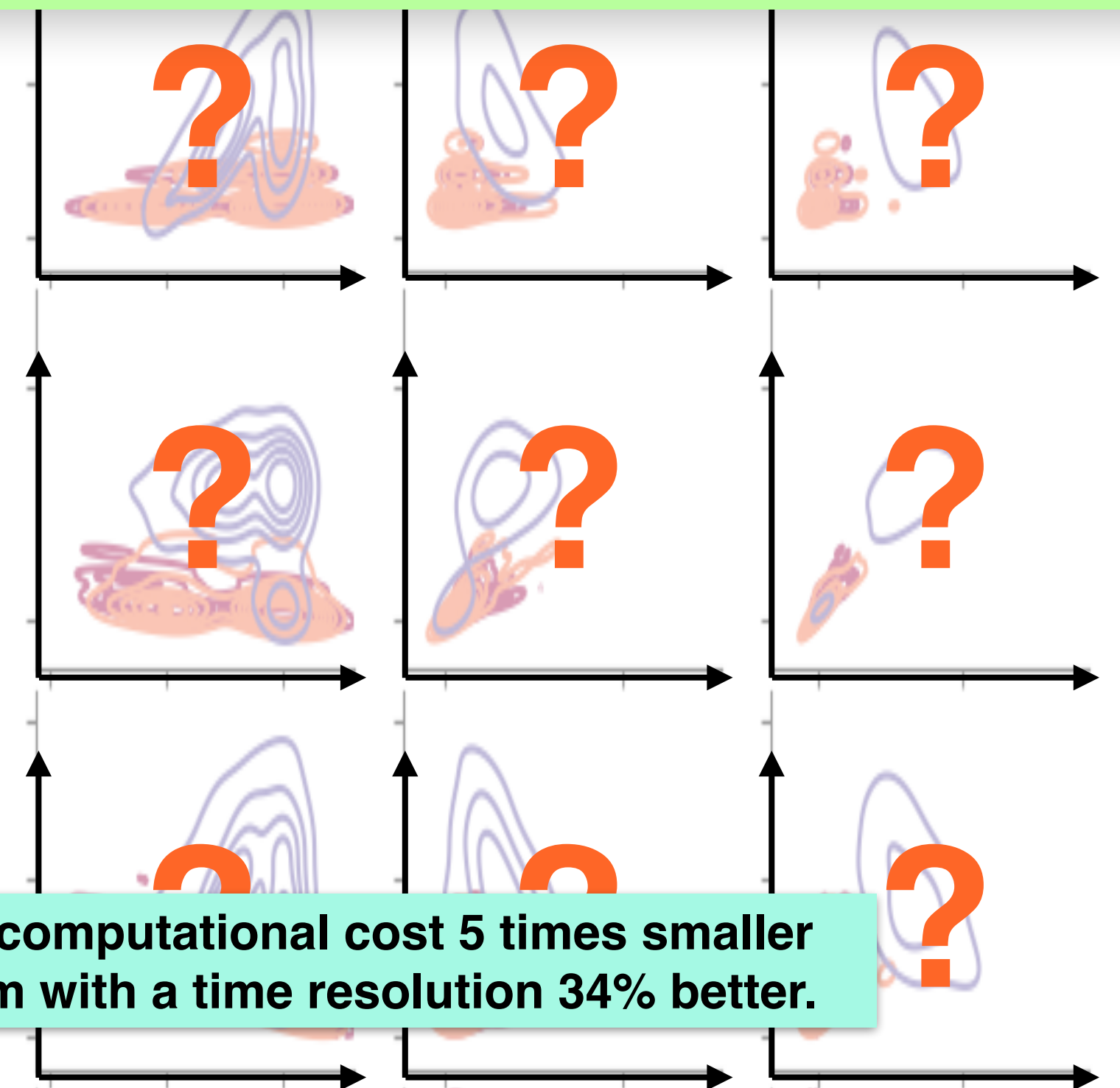
- Motivation for an innovative fission trigger
- Fission annotations through dFGIC analysis
- Innovative methods based in AI
  - ... for waveform analysis
- **Conclusion**



A very complex  
response function  
from  $\nu$ -Ball2 detector



Create a model capable of recognizing fission  
solely based on detector response function



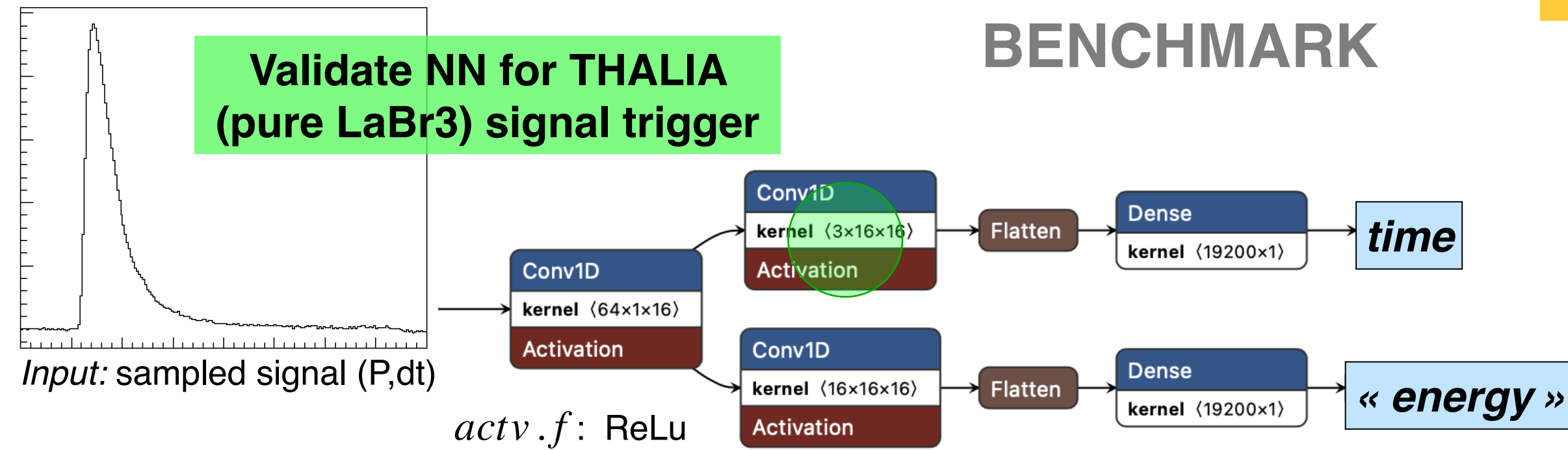
This represents a computational cost 5 times smaller  
than CFD algorithm with a time resolution 34% better.







# Supervised regression model for signal trigger

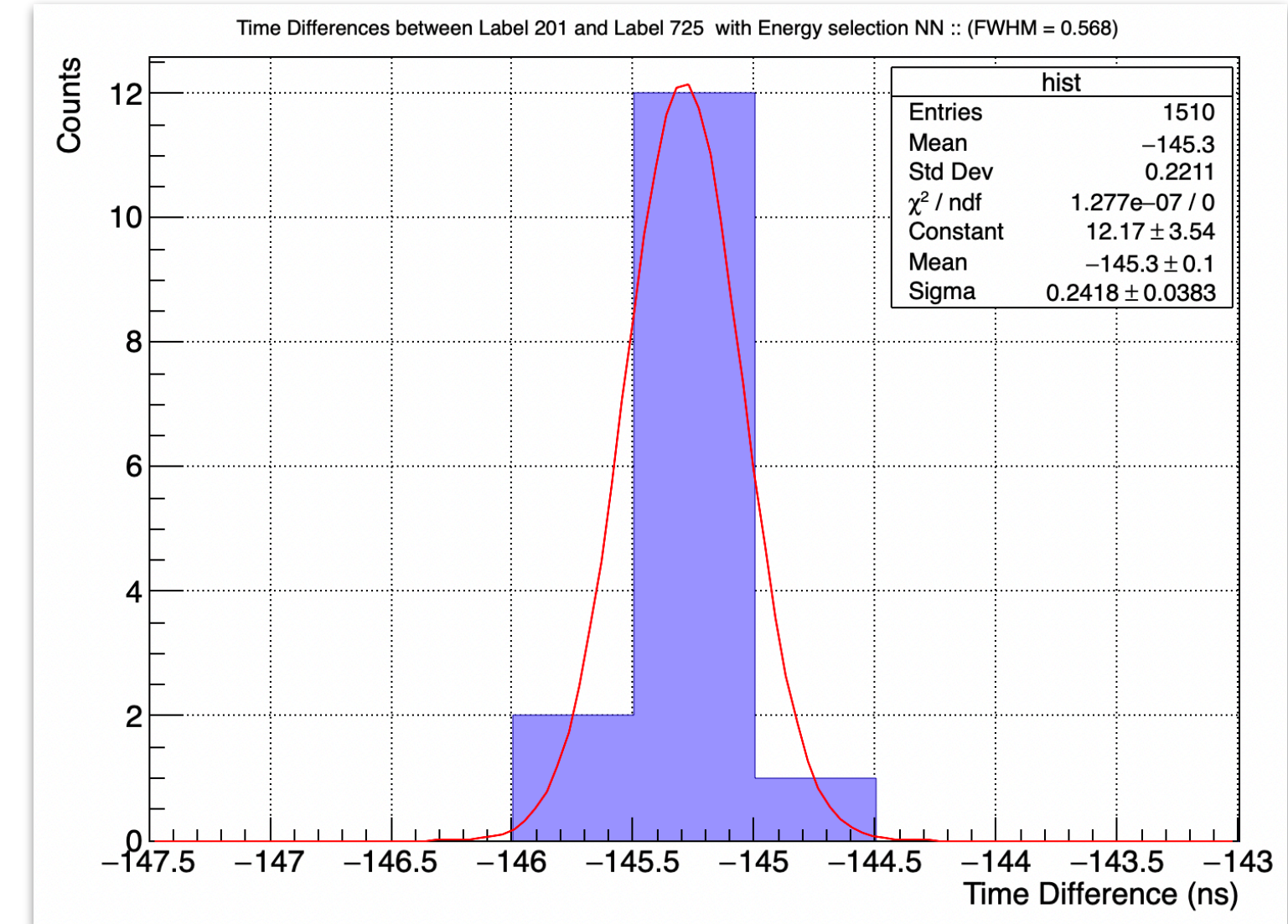


## Model evaluation:

\* Loss: MSE

3,6 % @ 661,7 keV  
 $R(t) = 569$  ps

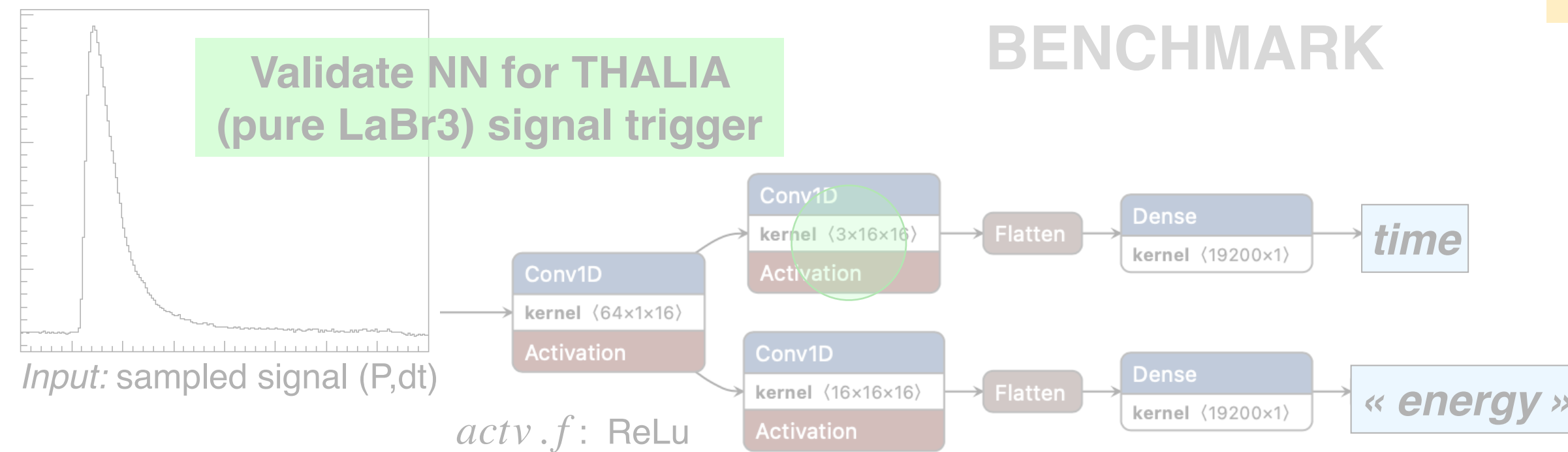
With NN:  
5,6% @ 661,7 keV  
 $R(t) = 568$  ps







# Supervised regression model for signal trigger

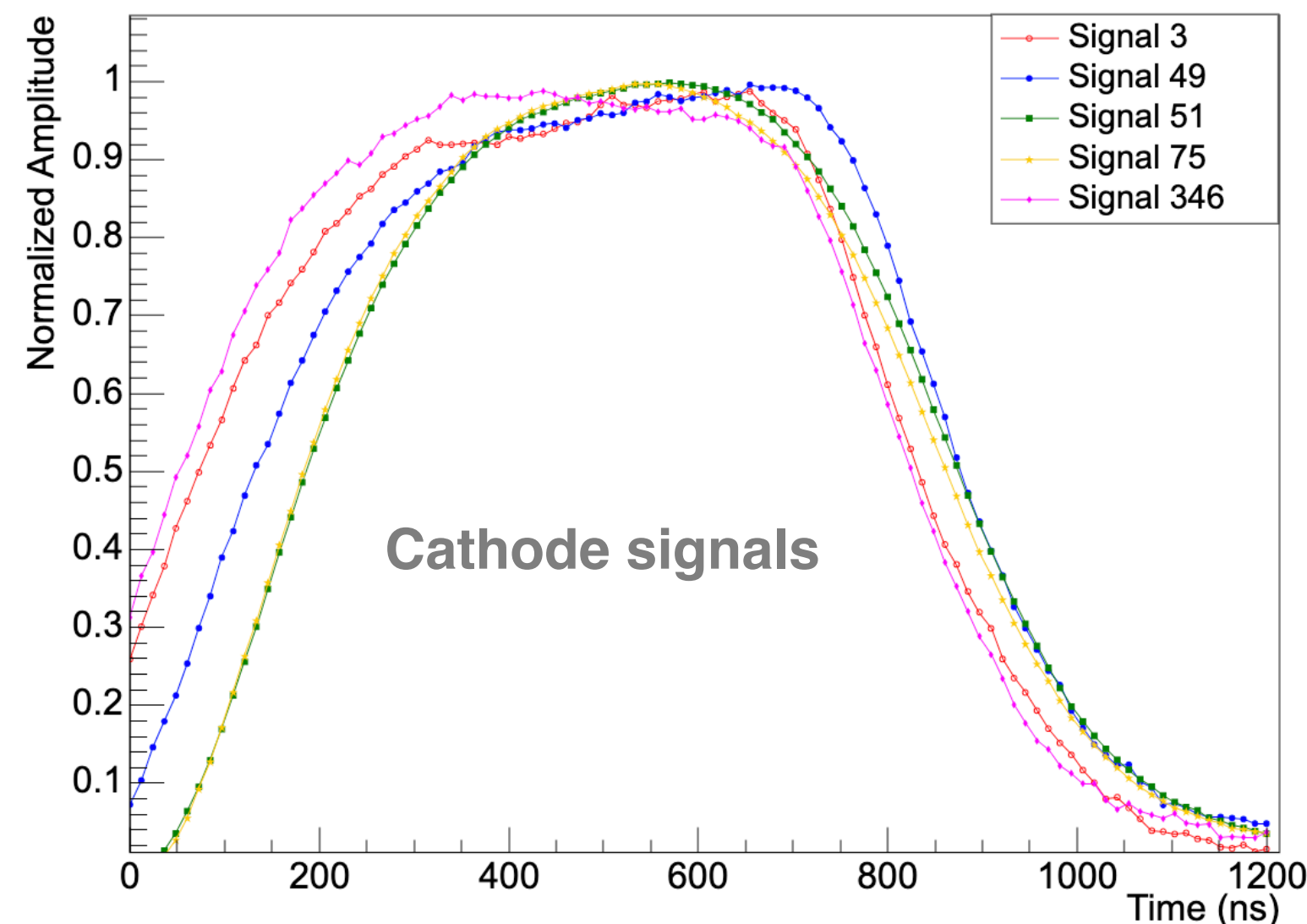
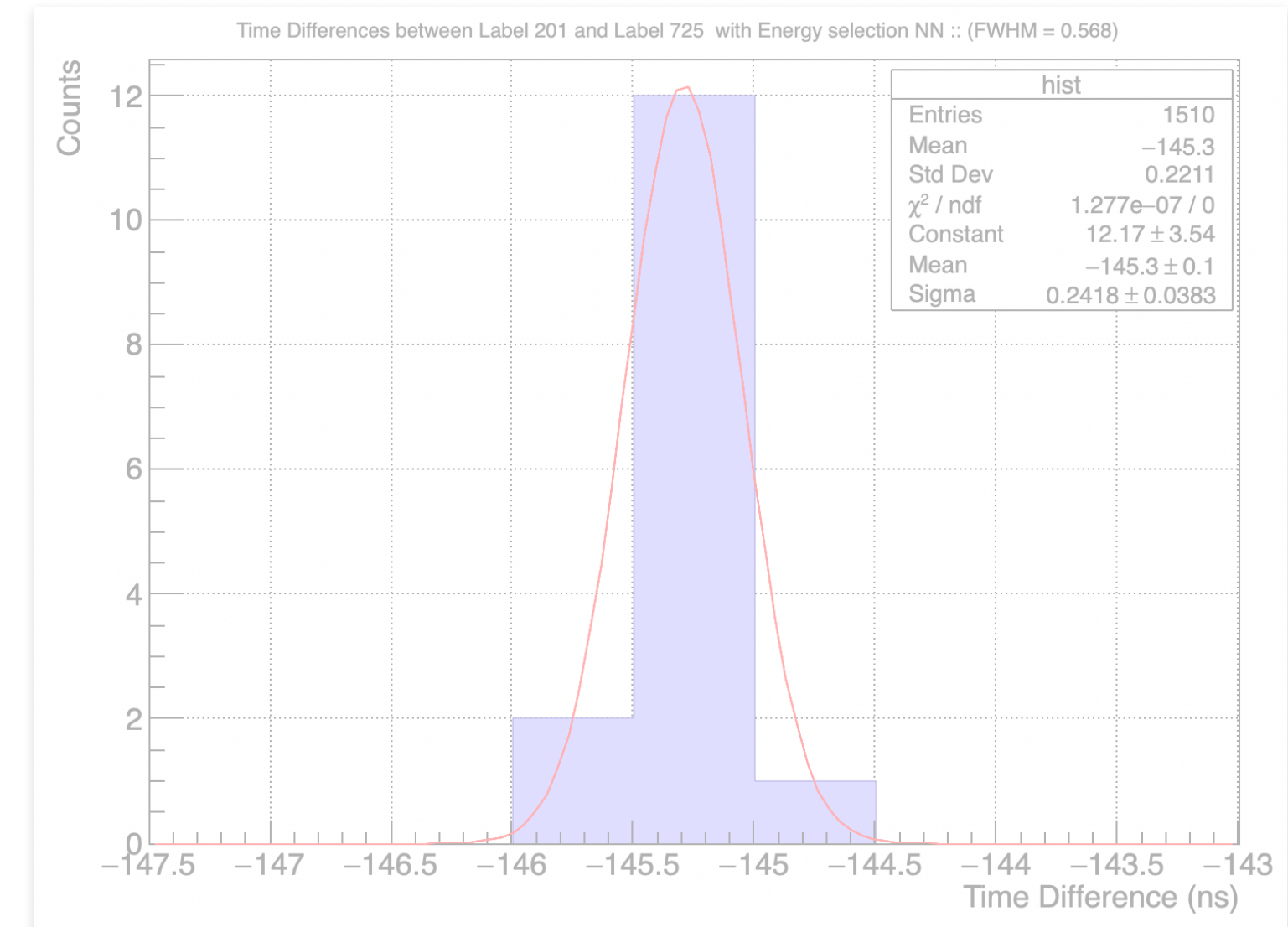


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3,6 % @ 661,7 keV  
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5,6% @ 661,7 keV  
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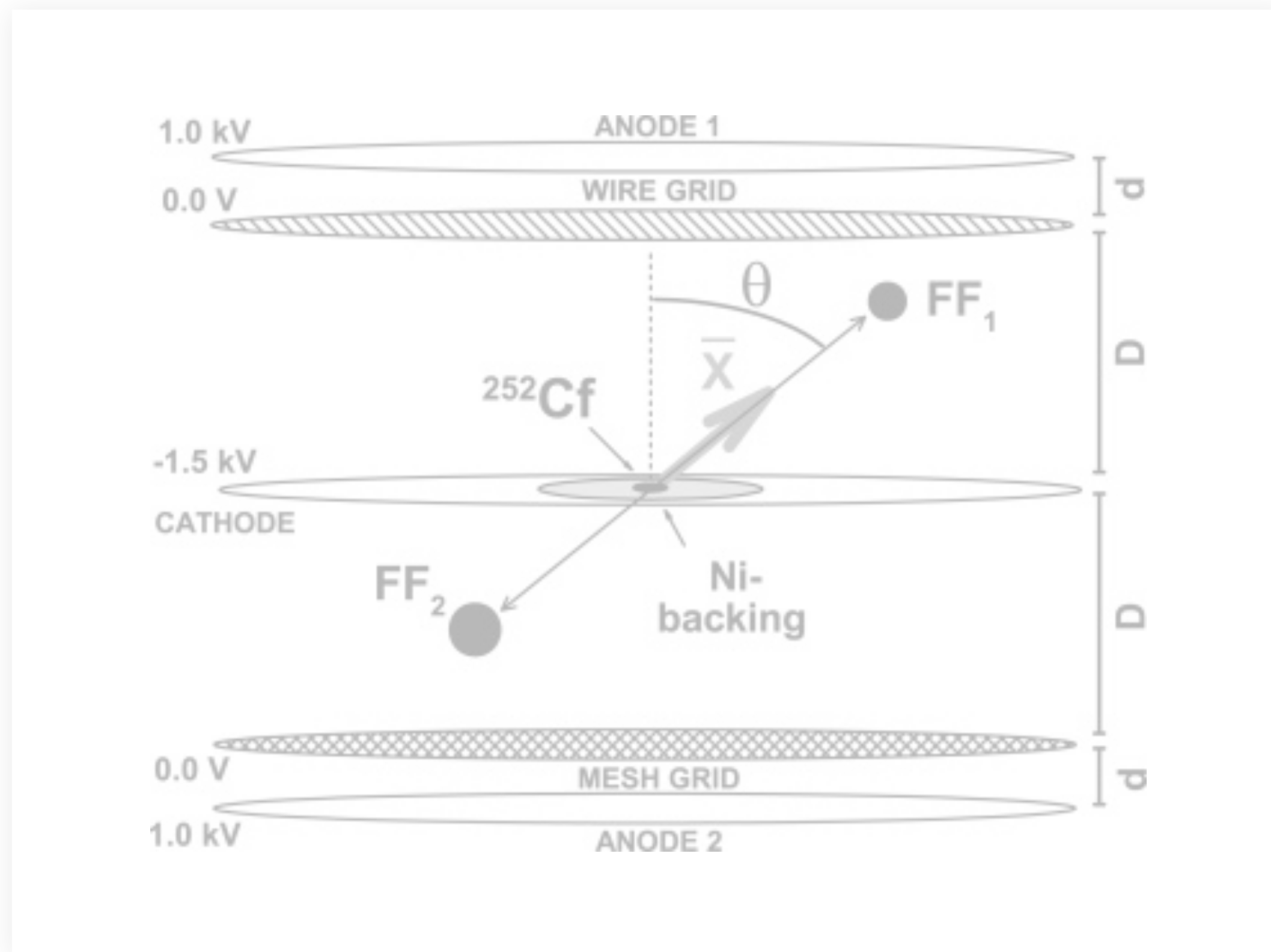
## Adapt and apply to dFGIC cathode signals

- Model fails to improve time resolution

**CAUSE:** degraded resolution in target data ( cathode signal CFD trigger )

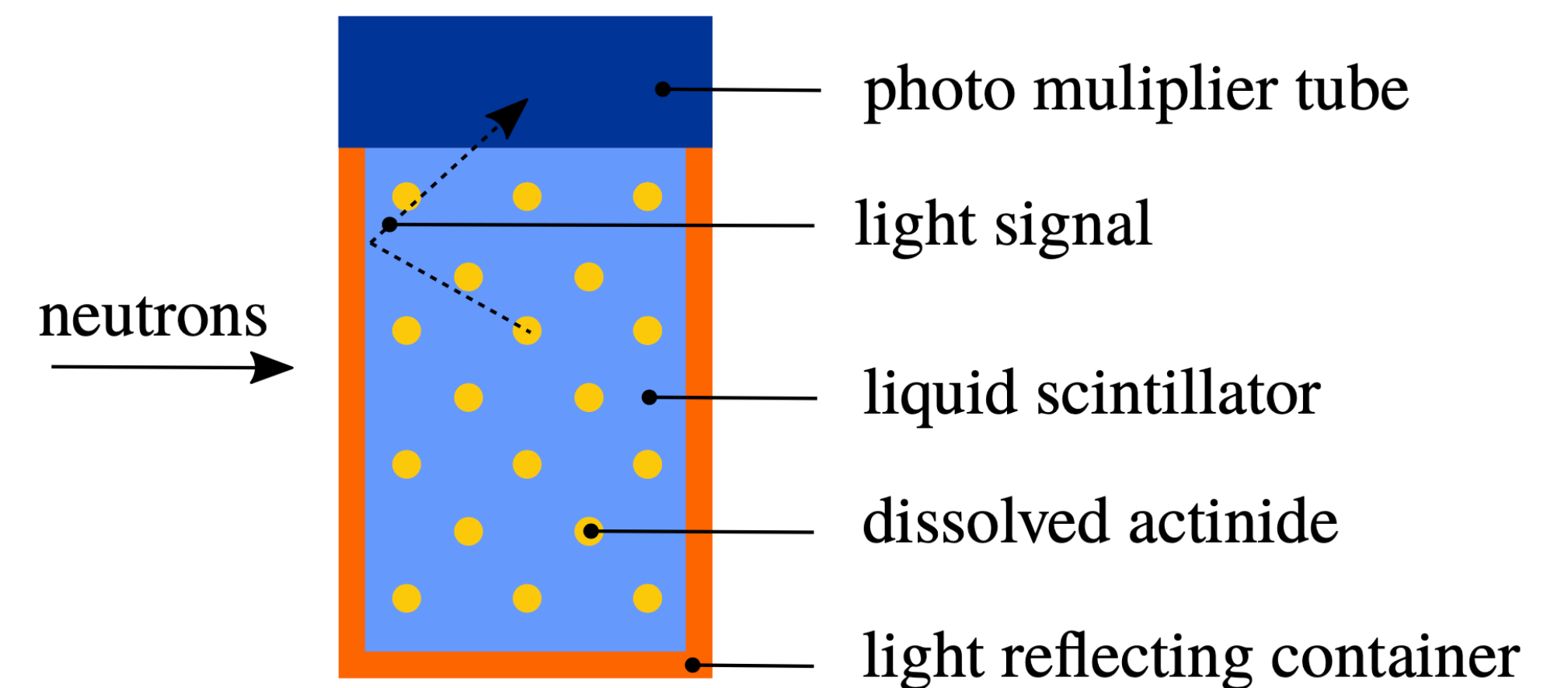
## Dedicated detector:

...such as an ionisation chamber



Taken from: L. Bardelli et al., Nucl. Instrum. Methods Phys. Res. A, vol. 654, pp. 272-278, 2011.

...such as an active target



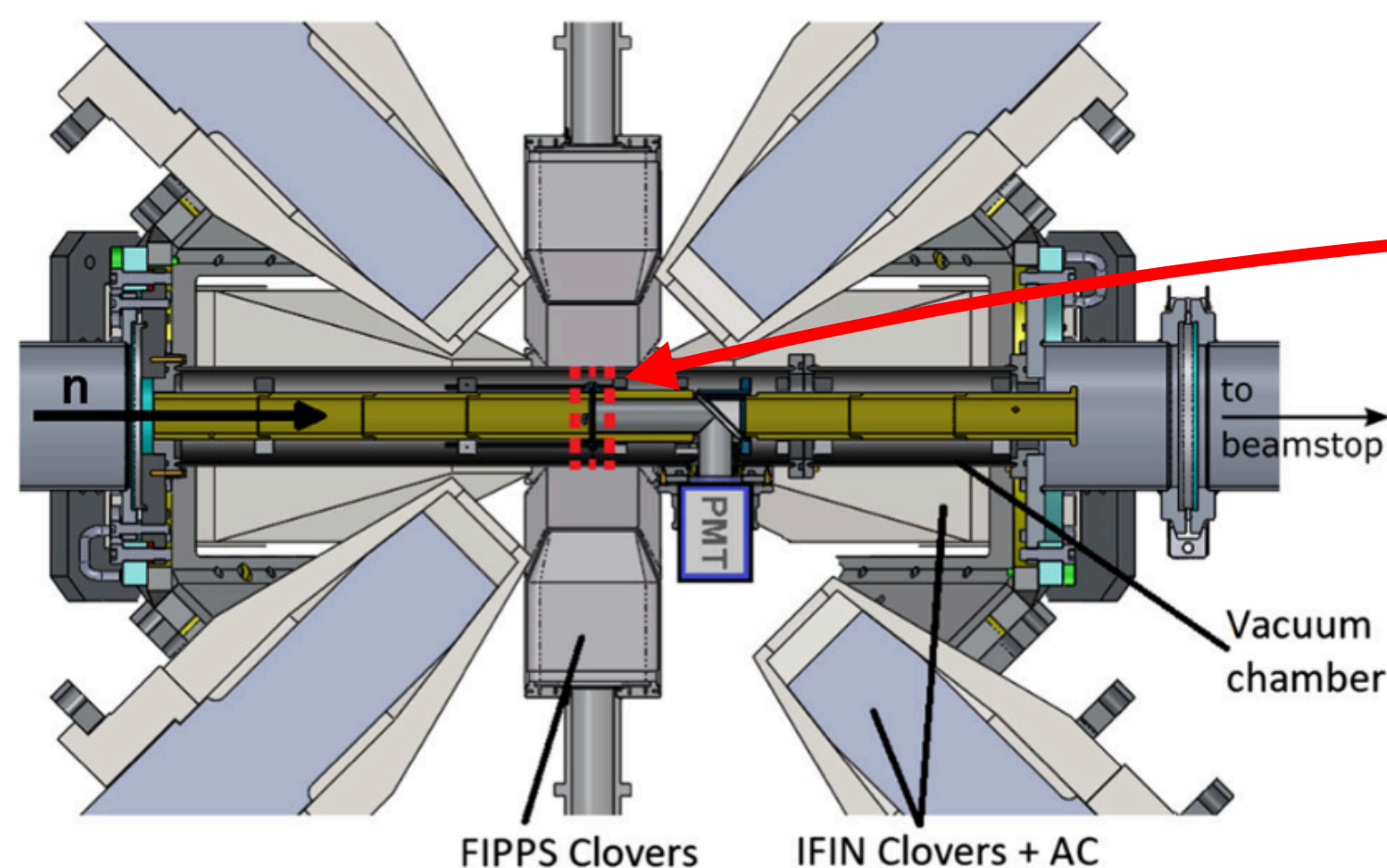
PhD thesis: Dennis Wilmsen. Nuclear structure studies with neutron-induced reactions : fission fragments in the  $N=50-60$  region, a fission tagger for FIPPS, and production of the isomer Pt-195m. Physics [physics]. Normandie Université, 2017. English. <NNT : 2017NORMC269>. <tel-01768580>



## Dedicated detector:

...such

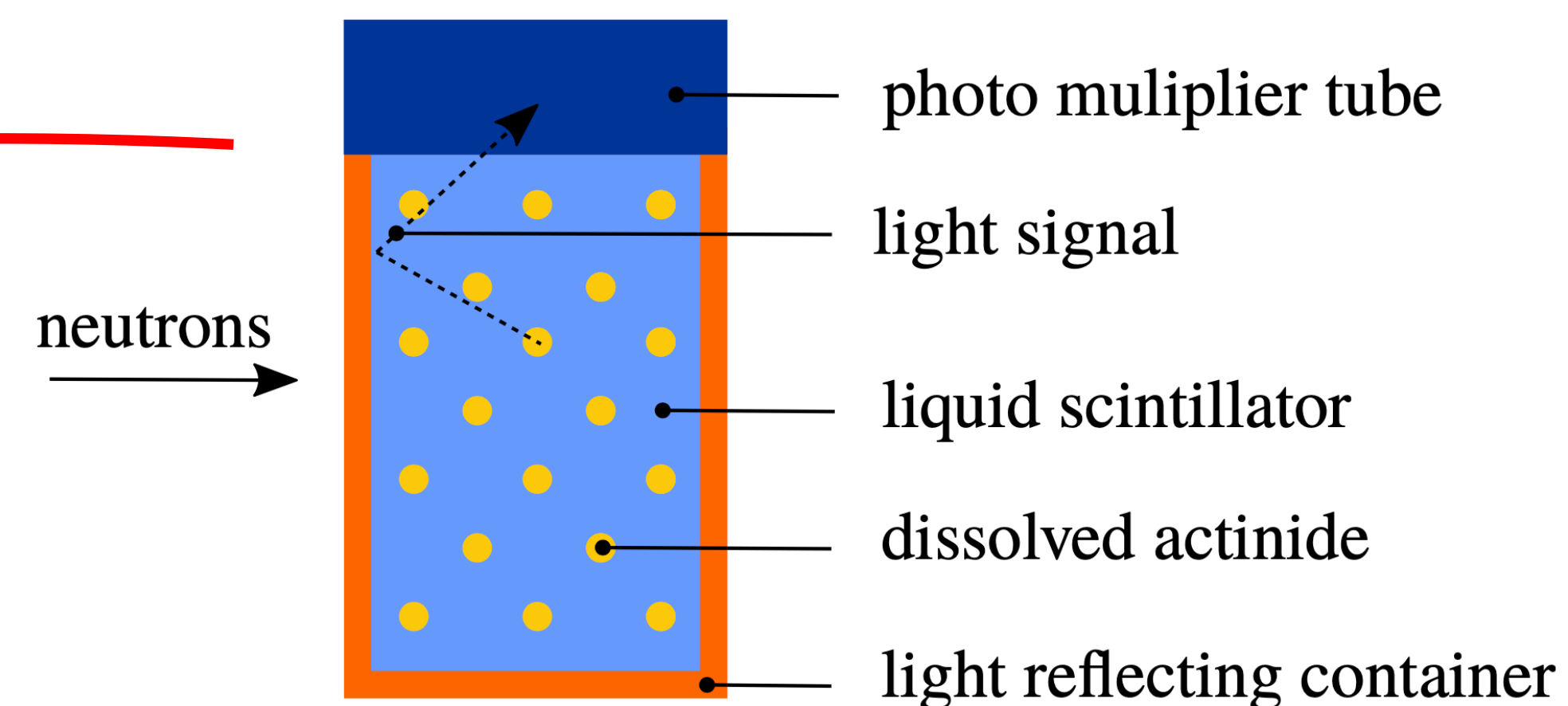
Eur. Phys. J. A (2020) 56:207



**Fig. 1** Section view of the active target setup at the FIPPS instrument. The direction of the collimated, thermal neutron beam (left-to-right) is indicated by an arrow. Eight germanium clover detectors are arranged in the plane perpendicular to the neutron beam at the target position. Eight additional clover detectors with their anti-Compton (AC) shields (loan from IFIN-HH [17]) are mounted in horizontal and vertical 45deg positions with respect to this plane. The active target cell is mounted at target position (red dashed lines). It is optically connected to the PMT by a light guiding system, both are also shown.  $^6\text{Li}$ -loaded cylinders (represented in yellow) mounted around the neutron beam all along the vacuum chamber are used to absorb scattered neutrons, thus minimizing the  $\gamma$ -ray background

Taken from: L. Bardelli et al.

...such as an active target



PhD thesis: Dennis Wilmsen. Nuclear structure studies with neutron-induced reactions : fission fragments in the N=50-60 region, a fission tagger for FIPPS, and production of the isomer Pt-195m. Physics [physics]. Normandie Université, 2017. English. <NNT : 2017NORMC269>. <tel-01768580>

Fission tagging efficiency of 97.8 (25)% for  $^{233,235}\text{U}$   
This fission tag gives a gain in statistics up to a factor of 10

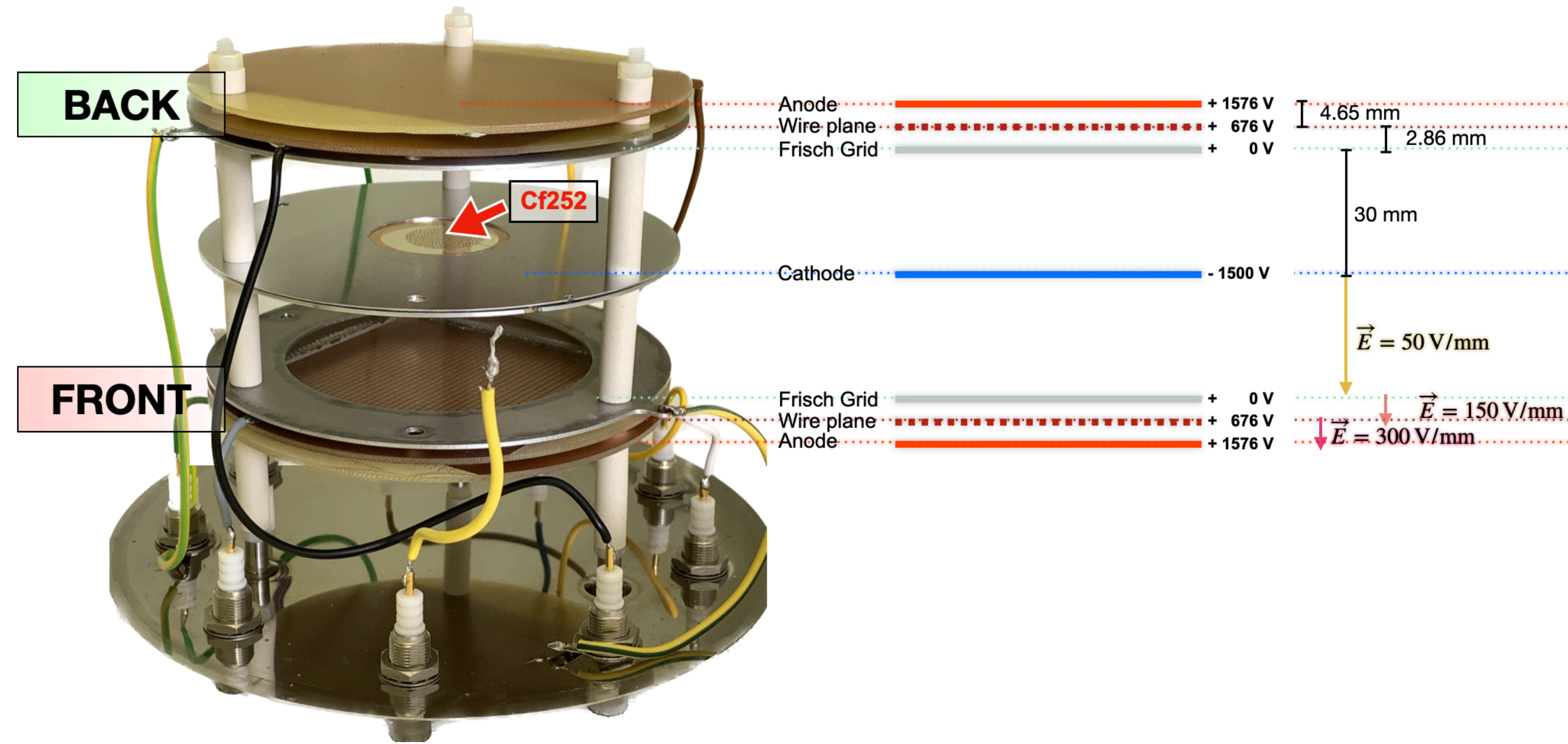
### Constraints:

- Suitable for dissolvable actinides;
- Target mass density.





# Double Frisch-Grid Ionisation Chamber (dFGIC)



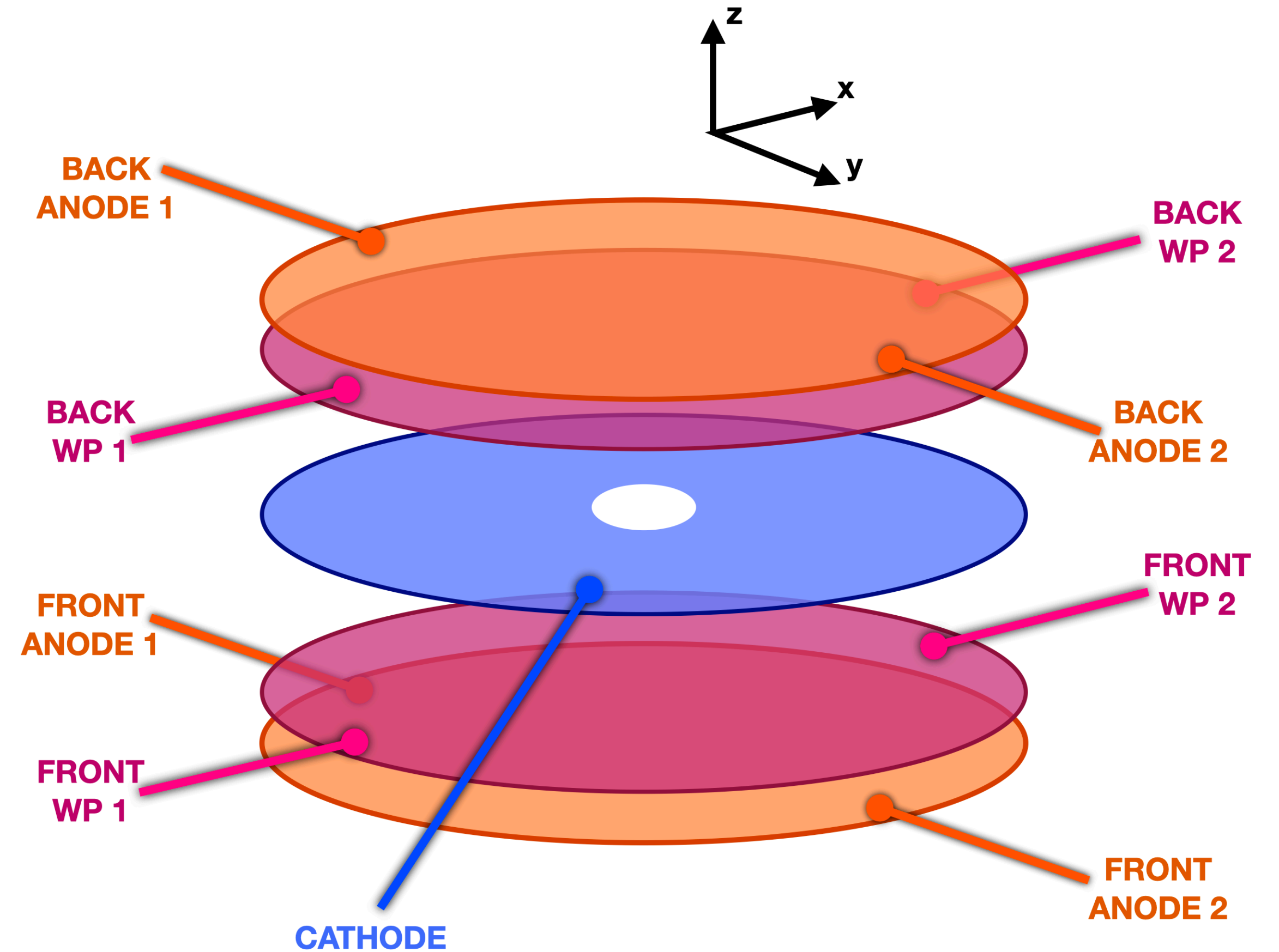
$$\bar{x} = k_x \frac{P_1 - P_2}{P_1 + P_2}, \quad \bar{y} = k_y \frac{A_1 - A_2}{A_1 + A_2}$$

calibration constants

$$\bar{z} = v_d \left( \bar{t}_{\theta_{max}} - \bar{t}_{1,2} \right)$$

average electron drift time

electron drift velocity

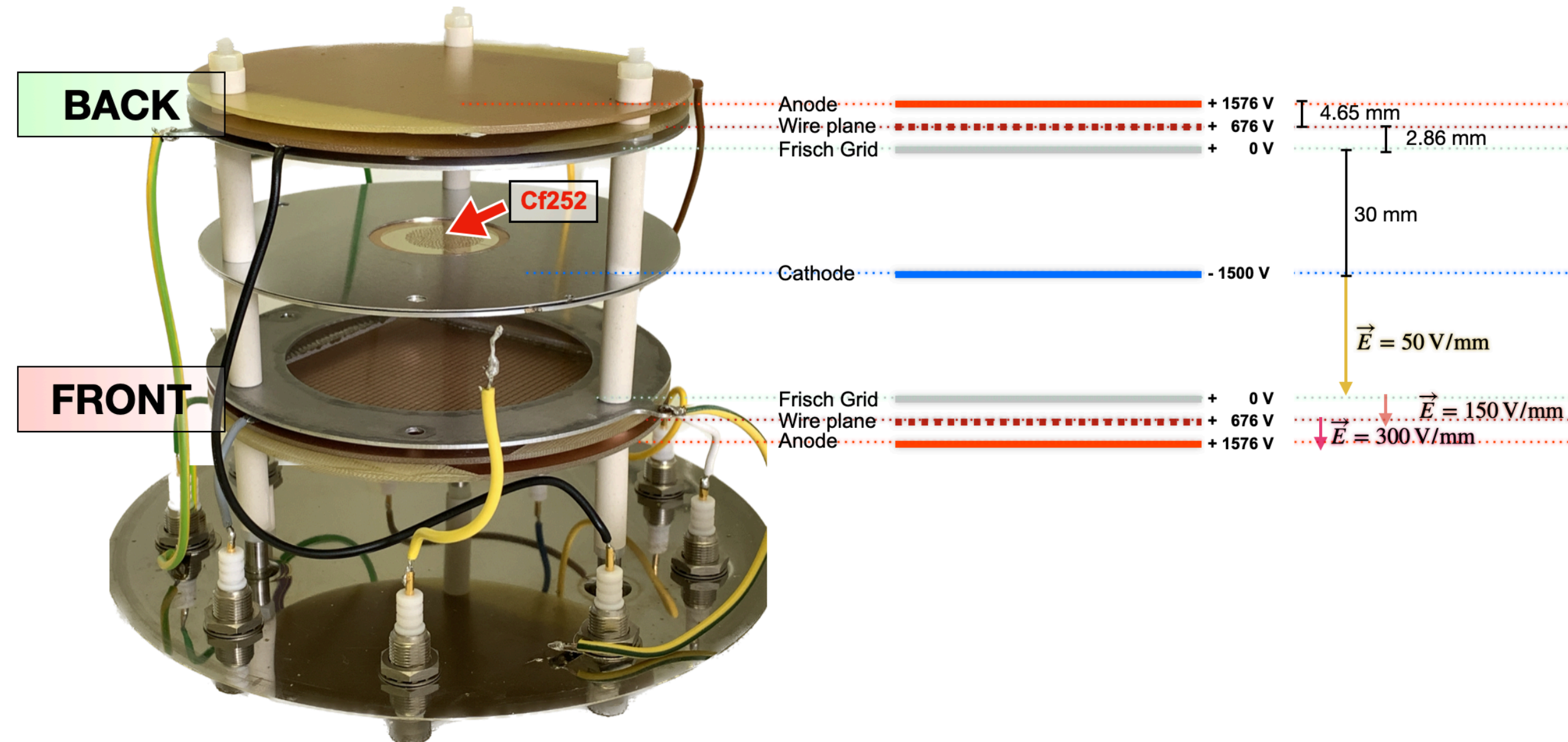


Adapted from: A. Göök, *et al.* A position-sensitive twin ionization chamber for fission fragment and prompt neutron correlation experiments. *Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research Section A: Accelerators, Spectrometers, Detectors and Associated Equipment*, 830:366–374, 2016.





# Double Frisch-Grid Ionisation Chamber (dFGIC)



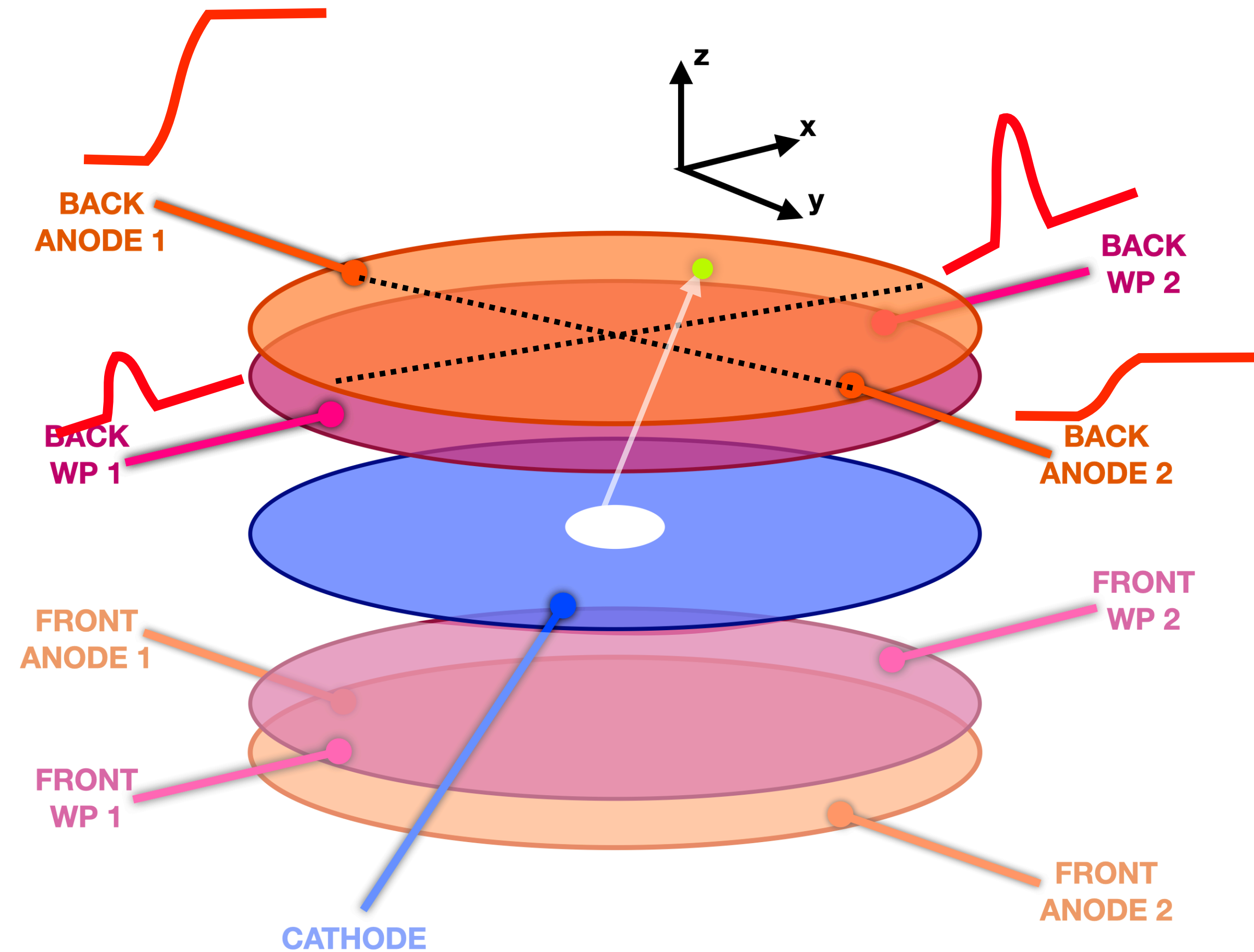
$$\bar{x} = k_x \frac{P_1 - P_2}{P_1 + P_2}, \quad \bar{y} = k_y \frac{A_1 - A_2}{A_1 + A_2}$$

calibration constants

$$\bar{z} = v_d \left( \bar{t}_{\theta_{max}} - \bar{t}_{1,2} \right)$$

average electron drift time

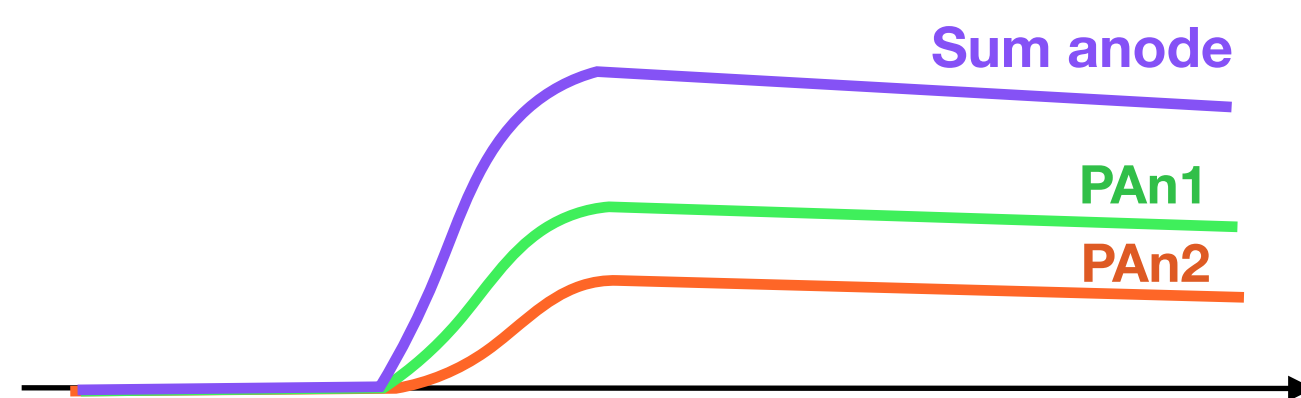
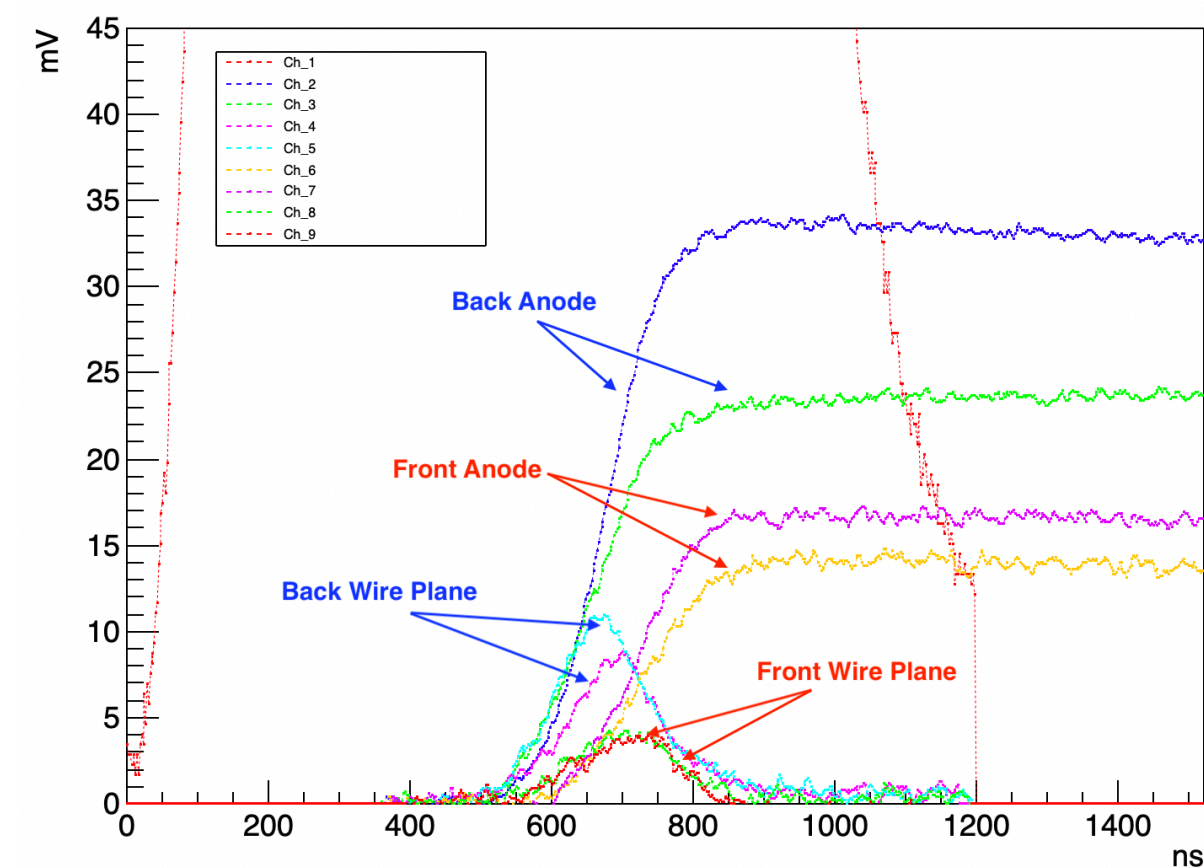
electron drift velocity



Adapted from: A. Göök, *et al.* A position-sensitive twin ionization chamber for fission fragment and prompt neutron correlation experiments. *Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research Section A: Accelerators, Spectrometers, Detectors and Associated Equipment*, 830:366–374, 2016.



## Waveform analysis through most frequently used methods

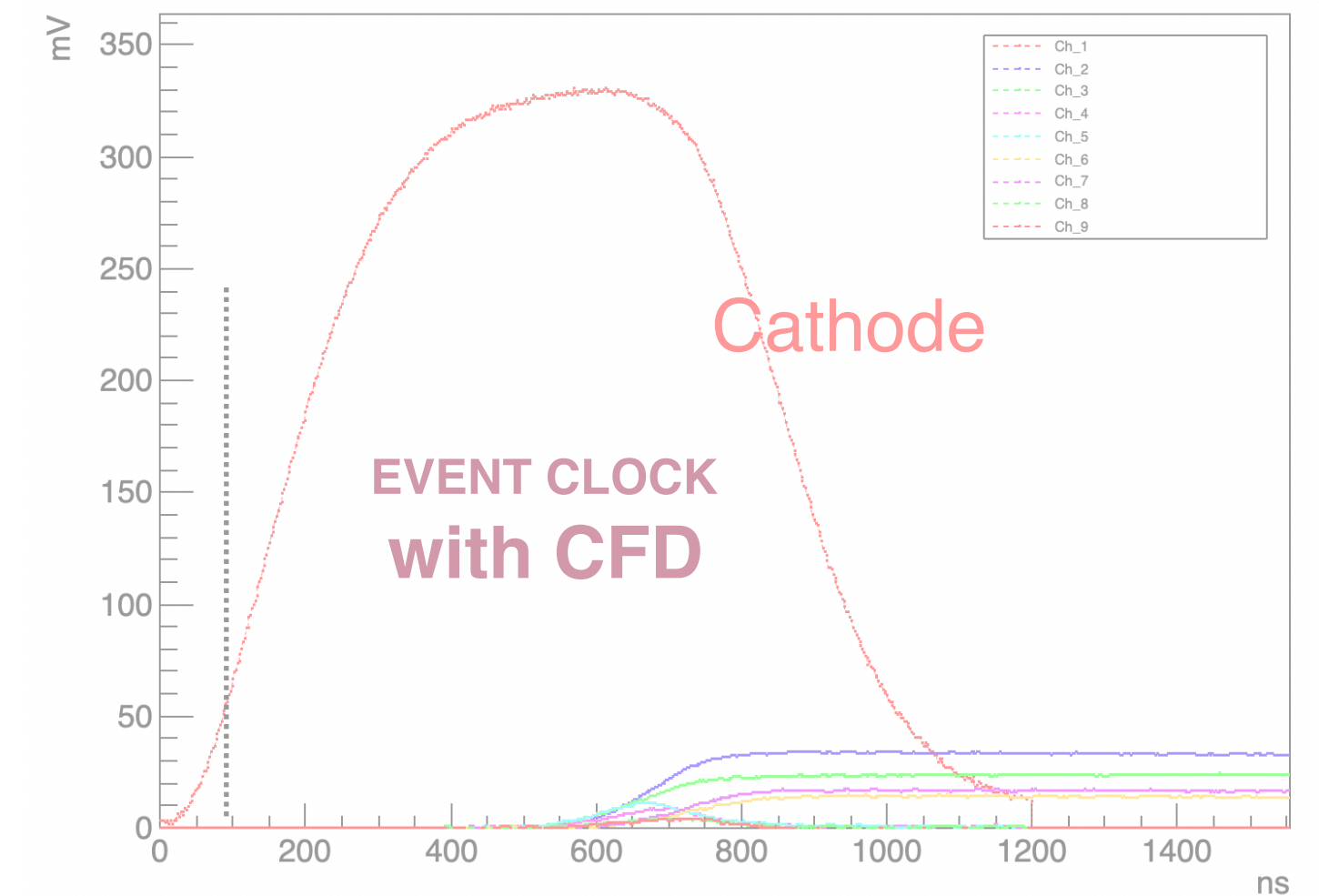


- Perform CFD in all anode signals
- Select first anode signal output for each side as reference. Align and sum samples for both sides

TIME AND « ENERGY MEASUREMENTS

« ENERGY » MEASUREMENTS

TIME MEASUREMENTS





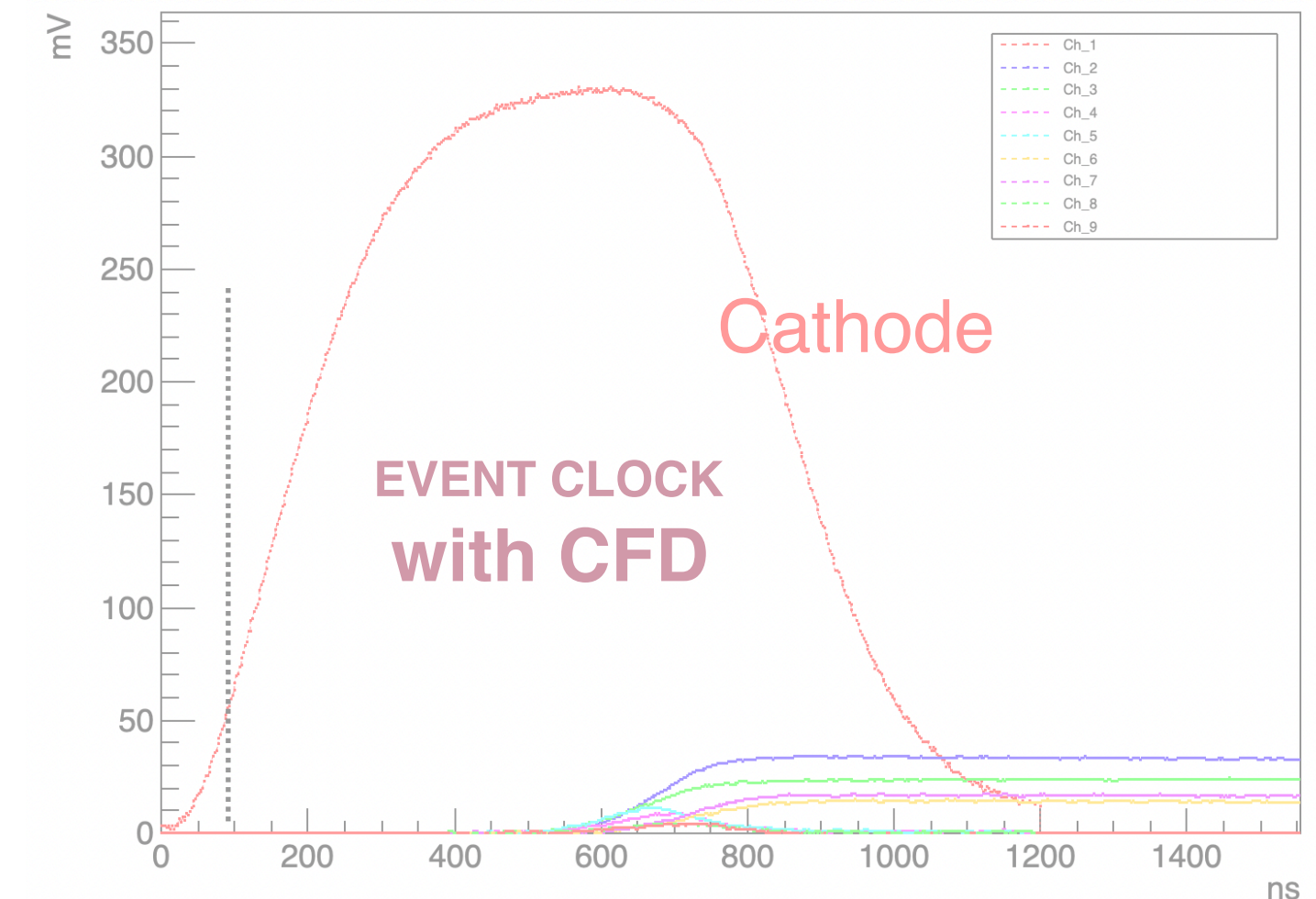


## Waveform analysis through most frequently used methods

- Moving average algorithm;
- RC filter;
- Signal baseline correction;
- CR-RC and CR-RC4 shaping filters;
- Trapezoidal shaping filter;
- Signal integration (deposited charge)
- Constant Fraction Discrimination (CFD)

**BOTH TIME AND « ENERGY MEASUREMENTS**

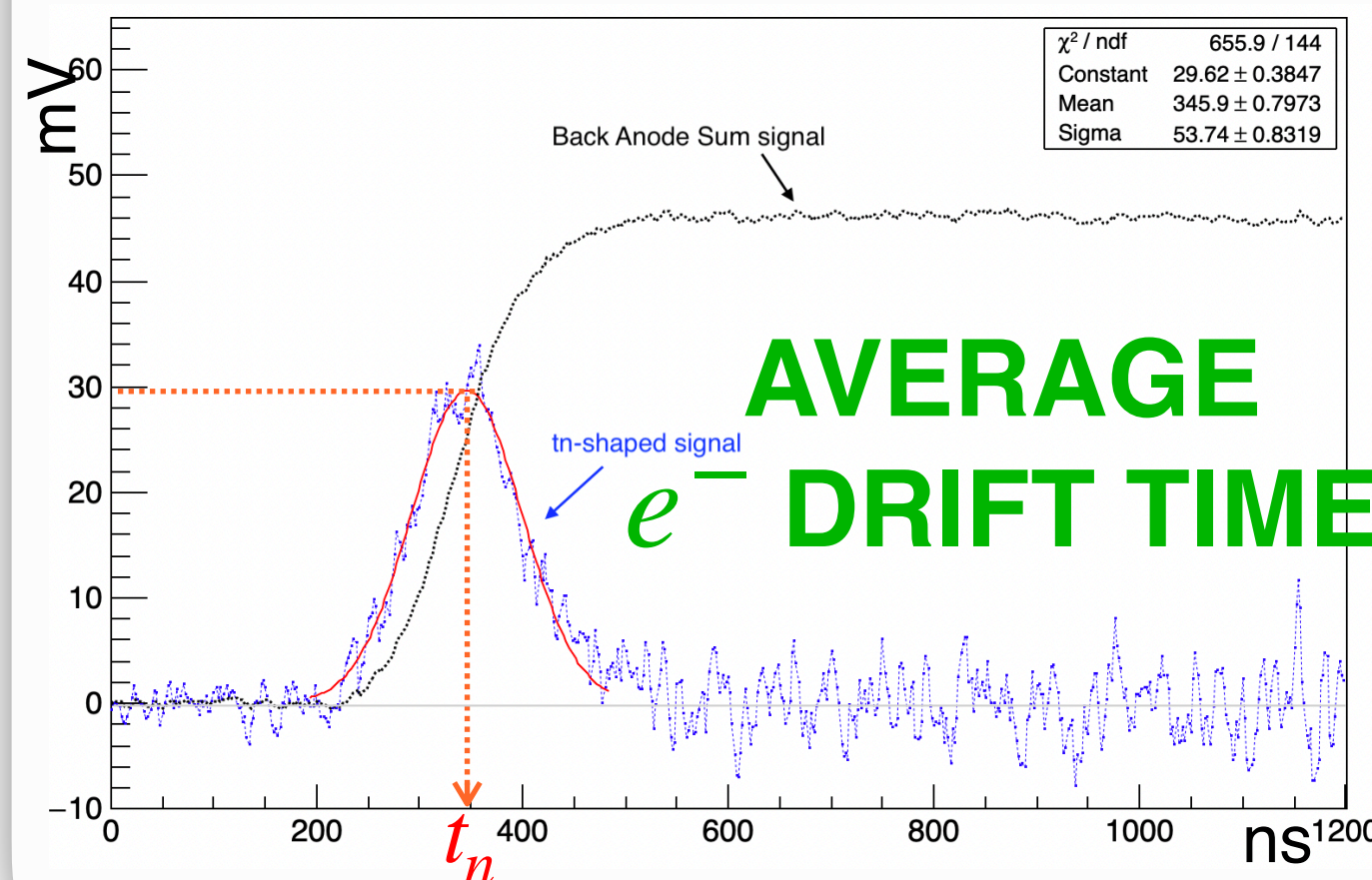
$$t_n = \frac{1}{Q_{max}} \cdot \sum_{k=k_0}^{k_0+n} (q_{k+1} - q_k)(k - k_0) \cdot \frac{1}{f_s}$$



**RECONSTRUCT TOTAL ANODE SIGNAL FOR EACH SIDE**

- Perform CFD in all anode signals
- Select first anode signal output for each side as reference. Align and sum samples for both sides

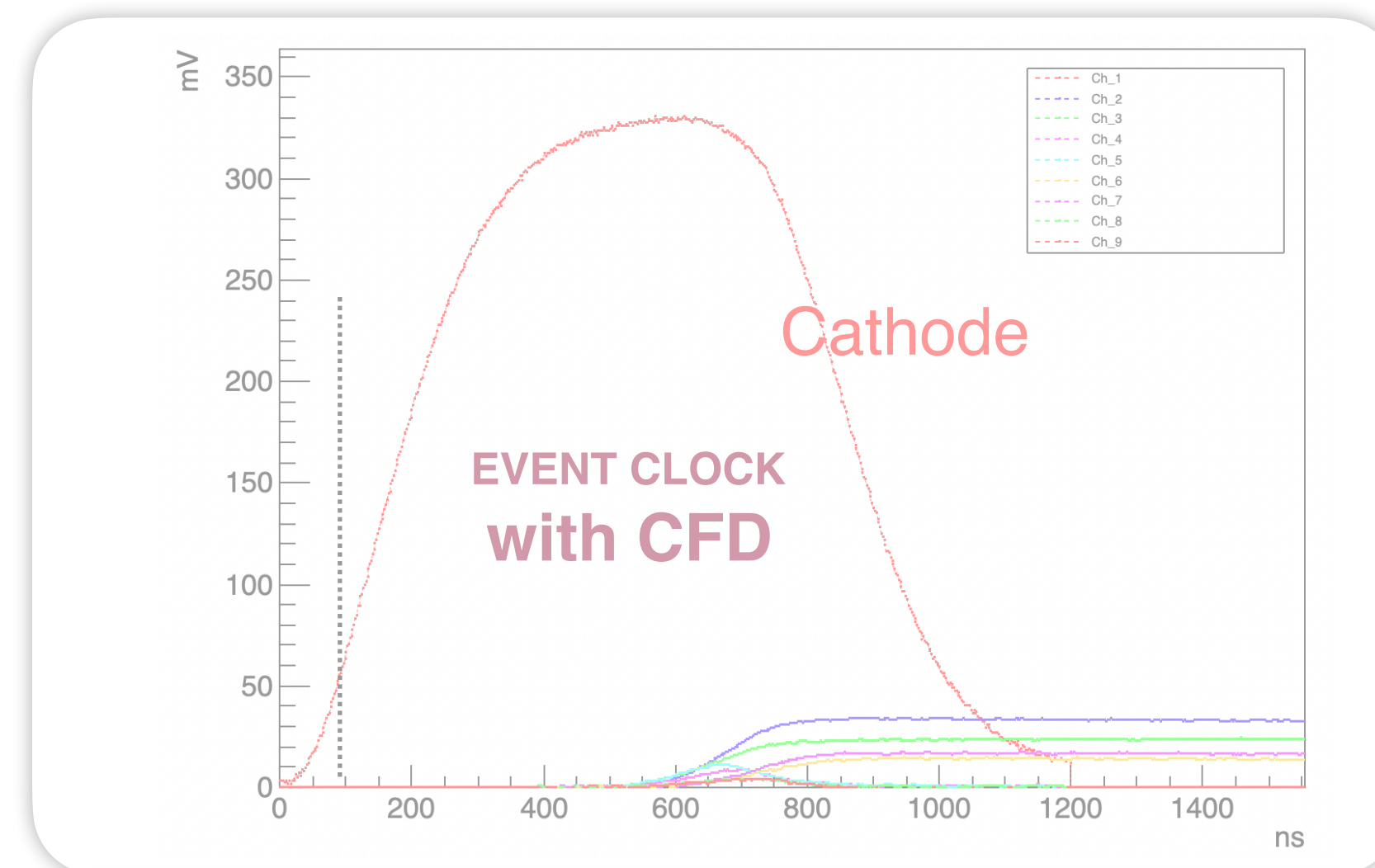
e.g. Waveform analysis for average electron drift time calculation:





## Waveform analysis through most frequently used methods

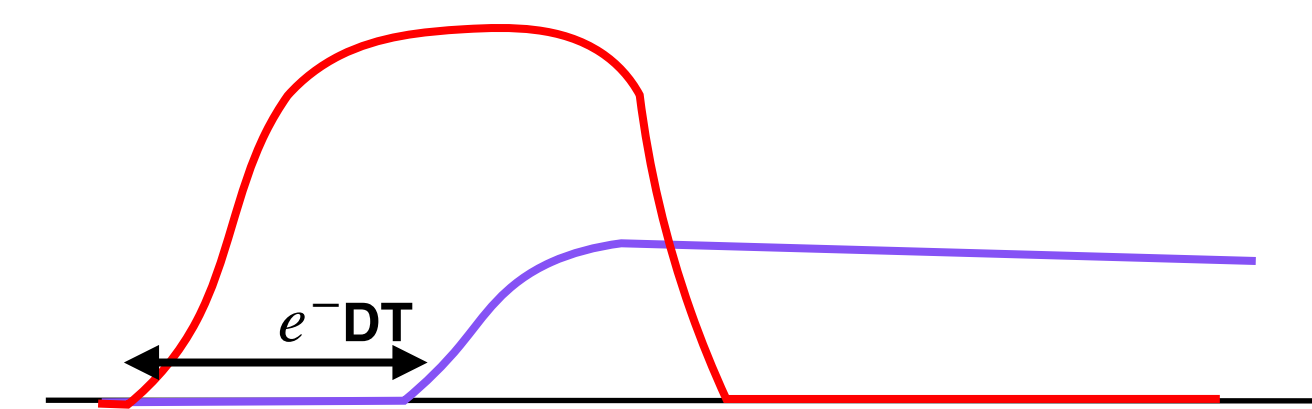
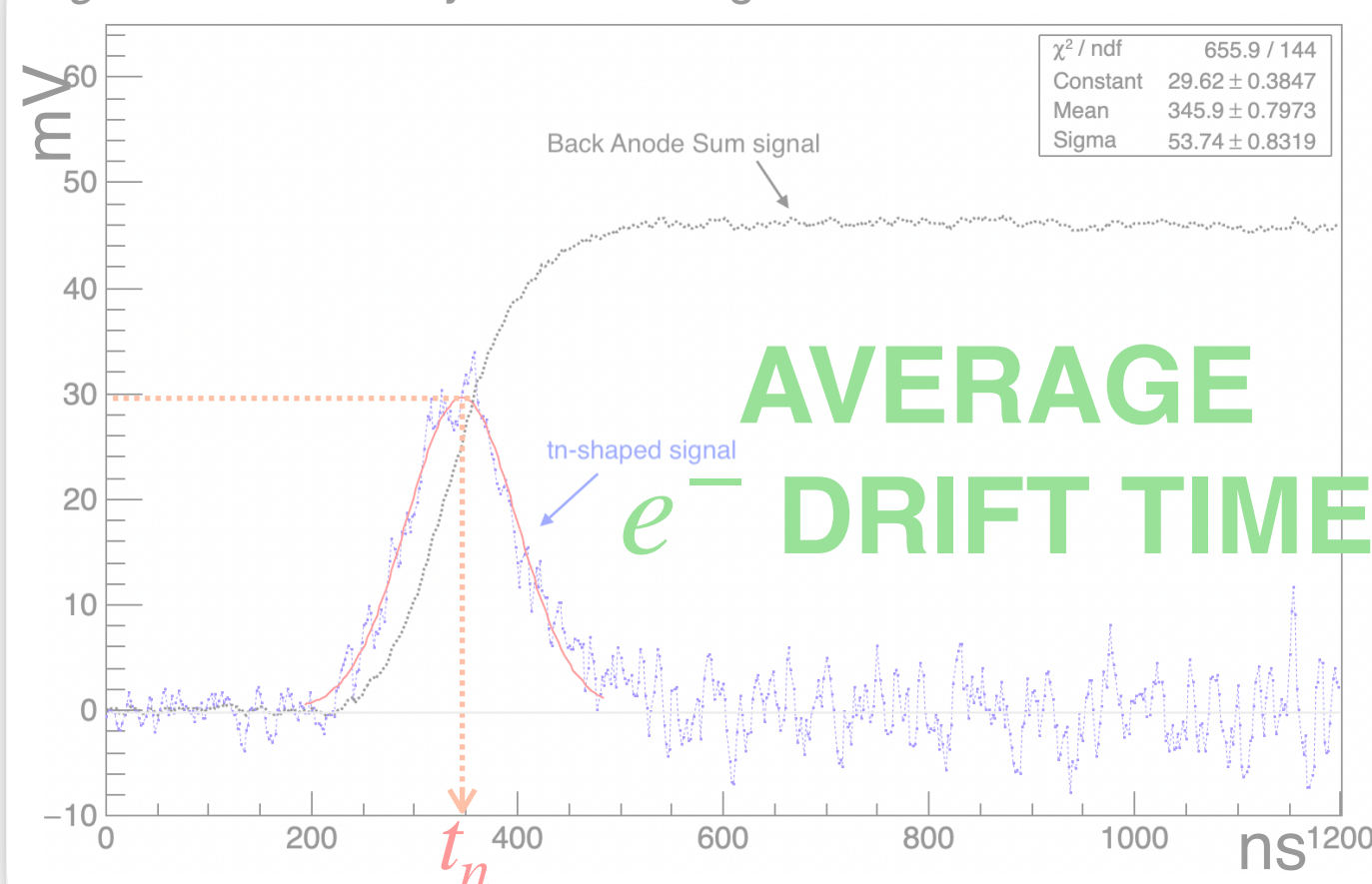
- Moving average algorithm;
  - RC filter;
  - Signal baseline correction;
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  - Signal integration (deposited charge)
  - Constant Fraction Discrimination (CFD)
- BOTH TIME AND « ENERGY » MEASUREMENTS**
- « ENERGY » MEASUREMENTS**
- TIME MEASUREMENTS**



**RECONSTRUCT TOTAL ANODE SIGNAL FOR EACH SIDE**

- Perform CFD in all anode signals
- Select first anode signal output for each side as reference. Align and sum samples for both sides

e.g. Waveform analysis for average electron drift time calculation:



- $e^-$  drift time is the time difference between cathode and sum anode calculated timestamps (with CFD)
- Apply shaping filters to measure « energy » for all channels