



nBLM detectors

Final design, production and 1st beam loss detection

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nBLM CDR1.2

12/02/2019

- Description of slow and fast detectors
- Final detector design
- Production plan
- 1st beam losses detection at LINAC4

- Results from other tests



As presented in Irena's talk

- Micromegas BLM detectors chosen for the MEBT and DTL sections.
 - Detector sensitive to fast neutrons and not to thermal neutrons (shielding), X- and γ -rays (signal discrimination)
 - 84 detectors will be delivered: 42F (fast) and 42S (slow), 8 of them in assembly SF
- System designed to be sensitive to small losses → to operate in counting mode with few n/cm² sensitivity
 - ➔ Extension of the dynamic range to very low particle fluxes
 - Current mode for higher rates, other observables can be measured (e.g. Q, ToT, ...)
 - For a section where other BLMs have low sensitivity
 - The specific requirements for the system are:
 - Response in 5 μ s
 - To be able to detect 100 mW/m losses.
 - Two types of detectors: slow and fast
 - Different physical reaction to create the charged particles from the neutrons
 - Complementary function

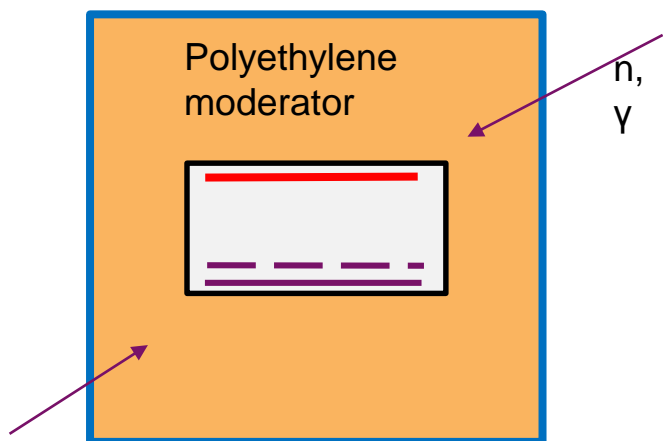
- [nBLM_CDR11_SlowvsFast_nBLM_Detector.pdf](#) document







	SLOW	FAST
neutron-to-charged particle convertor	B_4C	Mylar or Polypropylene
Reaction	$^{10}B(n,\alpha)^7Li$	(n,p)
Signal produced by	Fast neutrons after moderation	Fast neutrons
Detected energy	~constant for all initial neutron energy	Depends on initial neutron energy
Sensitivity	$10^{-4} < E_n < 100 \text{ MeV}$	$E_n > 0.5 \text{ MeV}$
Solid angle	4π	2π , n coming from the front only
Efficiency	~few $n \cdot cm^{-2} \cdot s^{-1}$	~10-100 times smaller
Response time	~200 μ s	~0.01 μ s
Objective	Monitoring of small losses	Alarm (in 5 μ s) Fine structure of the lost
Shielding	Yes, for thermal neutrons	Not needed

Detector chamber identical, differences on the: converter and the surrounding of the slow with absorber + moderator

SLOW

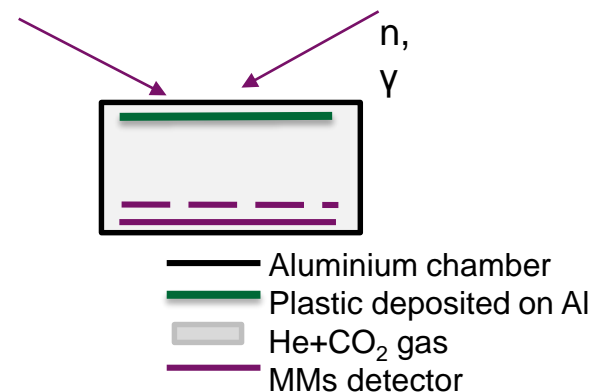
- Absorber shielding
- Detection of fast neutrons after moderation in polyethylene (~4cm)
- Gas chamber with layer of B4C
 - $^{10}\text{B}(n, \alpha) ^7\text{Li}$ reaction







-  Borated rubber (1mm)
-  Polyethylene (4cm)
-  Aluminium chamber
-  B4C deposited on Al
-  He+CO₂ gas
-  MMs detector

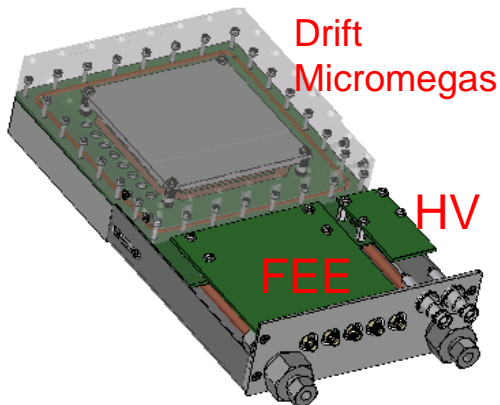
FAST

- Recoil protons produced by neutrons in hydrogen rich material (mylar)
- High flux high energy n's (>0.1 MeV)
- Faster response



-  Aluminium chamber
-  Plastic deposited on Al
-  He+CO₂ gas
-  MMs detector

THE NBLM FINAL CHAMBERS

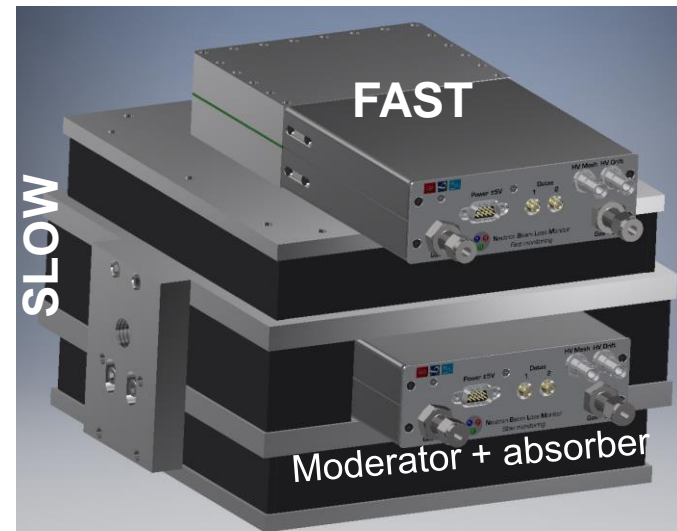


Approved in July 2018

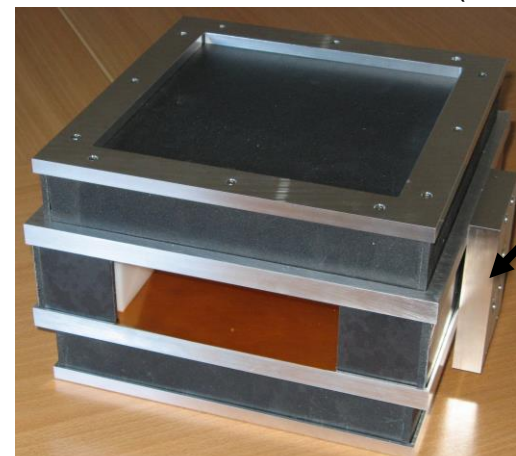
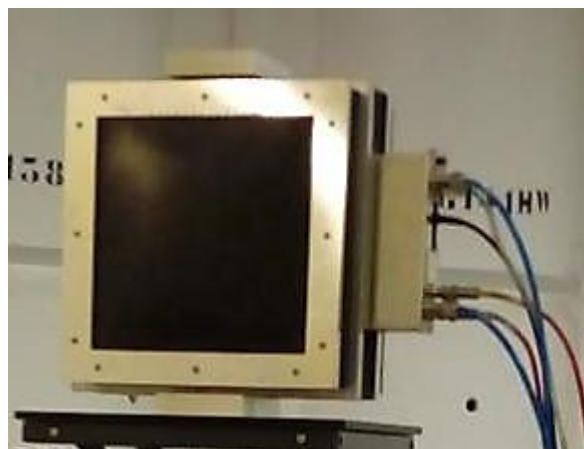


Same design for both modules

- Chamber
- Detector
- FEE & HV

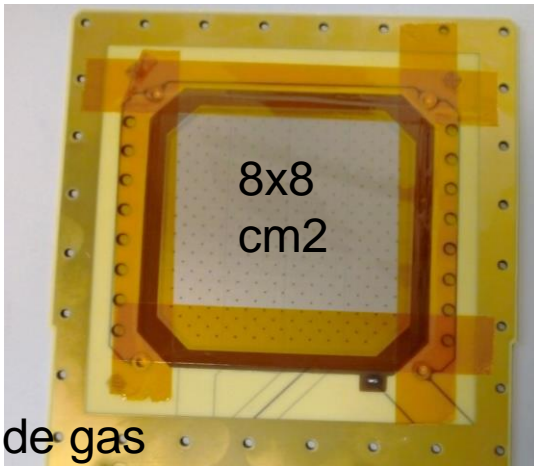


Assembly of a fast and a slow detector size $\approx 20 \times 25 \times 25 \text{ cm}^3$ (~14 kg)

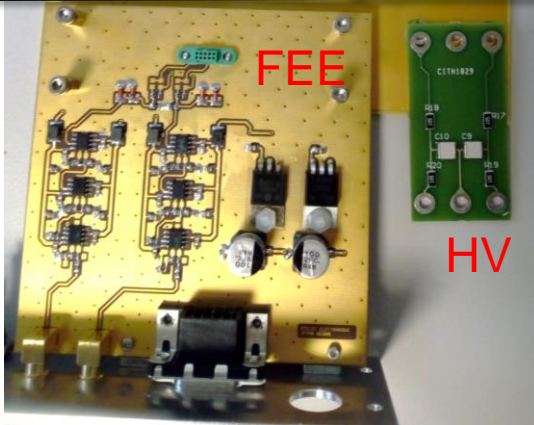


To be made in PEEK

Moderator + absorber



Inside gas



Final FEE design



- Bulk Micromegas detector
- Done at the MPGD workshop at CEA/Saclay
- Active surface 8x8 cm²
- Segmented in 4 sectors to accommodate for final rates
- Only one signal output (from 1 to 4 segments together)
- Operating in He+10% CO₂, 1 atm

- FEE card in P. Legou talk
- HV card designed also internally by M. Combet
Includes the HV filters. The ground of the HV cables can be or not connected

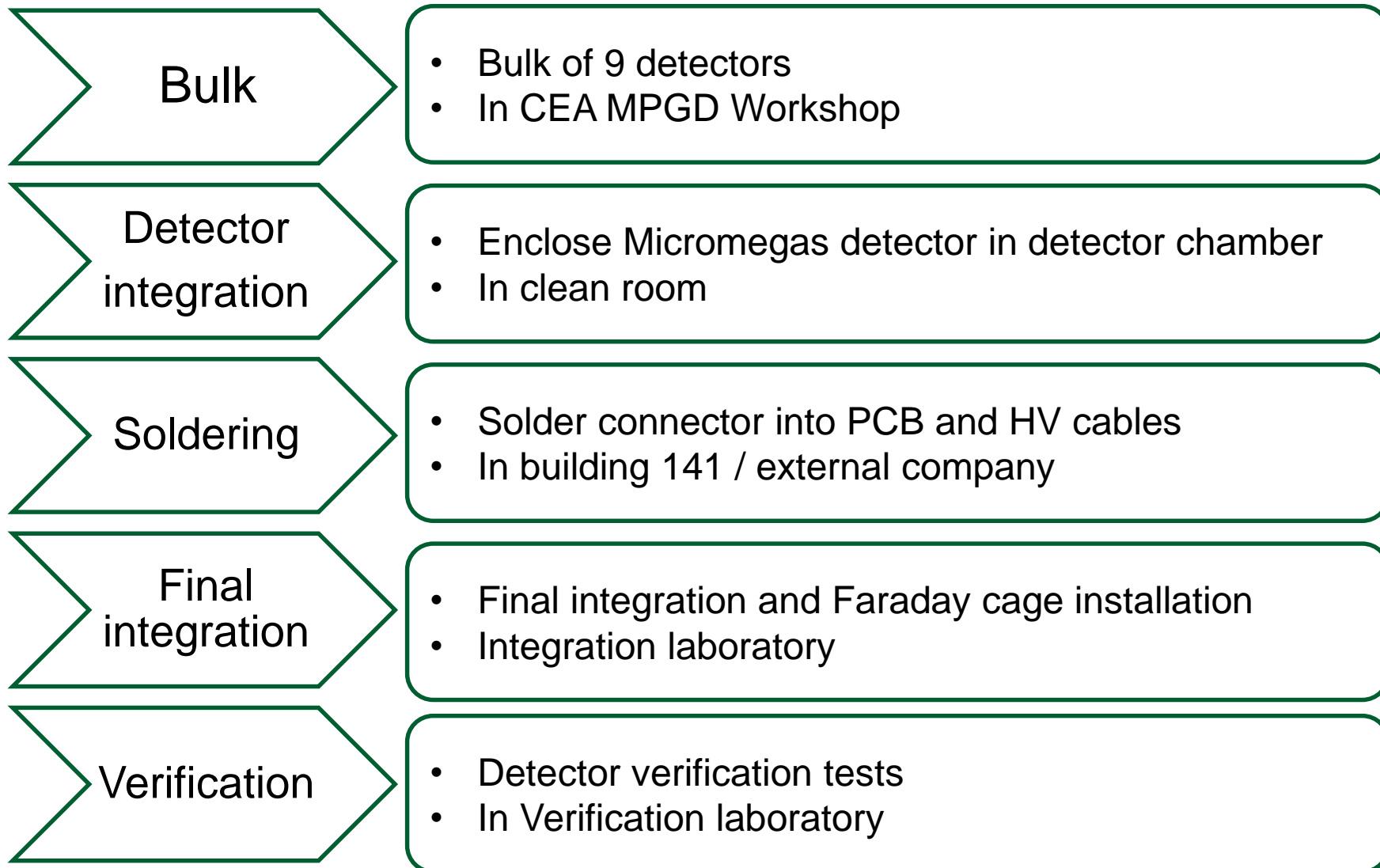
Presented during CDR1.1

From MC simulation studies in the DTLs

	Rates	
	1% 1W/m	Complete beam loss (rate in 1 st μ s)
Slow	0.1 – 68 kHz	10 MHz – 60 GHz
Fast	1 – 400 Hz	2-700 MHz

- The nBLM system originally conceived to operate in counting mode.
- Results from simulations using ESS scenarios as input have shown that rates up to GHz can be expected in cases of complete losses.
- The electronics chosen to be able to cope such rates and to be operative both in counting and in current mode.
- Each neutron pulse will have a duration of about 150 ns.
 - The requirement from ESS is to send a BIS flag to MPS in 5 μ s.
 - If we monitor 1 μ s window, taking into account the duration of each pulse, with ~6 events we start having pile-up (at 6 MHz)

Pieces	Company	Status
Polyethylene (moderator)	Numeca	Delivered ✓
Neutron absorber	Mirrotron	Delivered ✓
Detector chamber	Numeca	Delivered ✓
Detector front face		To be ordered after CDR, 4 weeks after ordering
Detector chamber components	Swagelok, Numeca, ...	Delivered ✓
Moderator support	CEA Workshop	For 12 detectors ready by March, rest TBD
PCB boards	Elvia	2 boards delivered Rest ordered, arriving in 4 weeks
Detectors support	TBD	3 months for MEBT and DTL Waiting final approval from ESS for the rest
Cathodes	Sermo	Delivered ✓
Boron convertors	ESS Detector Coatings Workshop (Linkoping)	Delivered ✓
Mylar (fast convertor)	Good Fellows	Delivered ✓
FEE cartes		5 delivered, Rest to be delivered by Mars 2019
HV cartes		Ordered, waiting for delivery



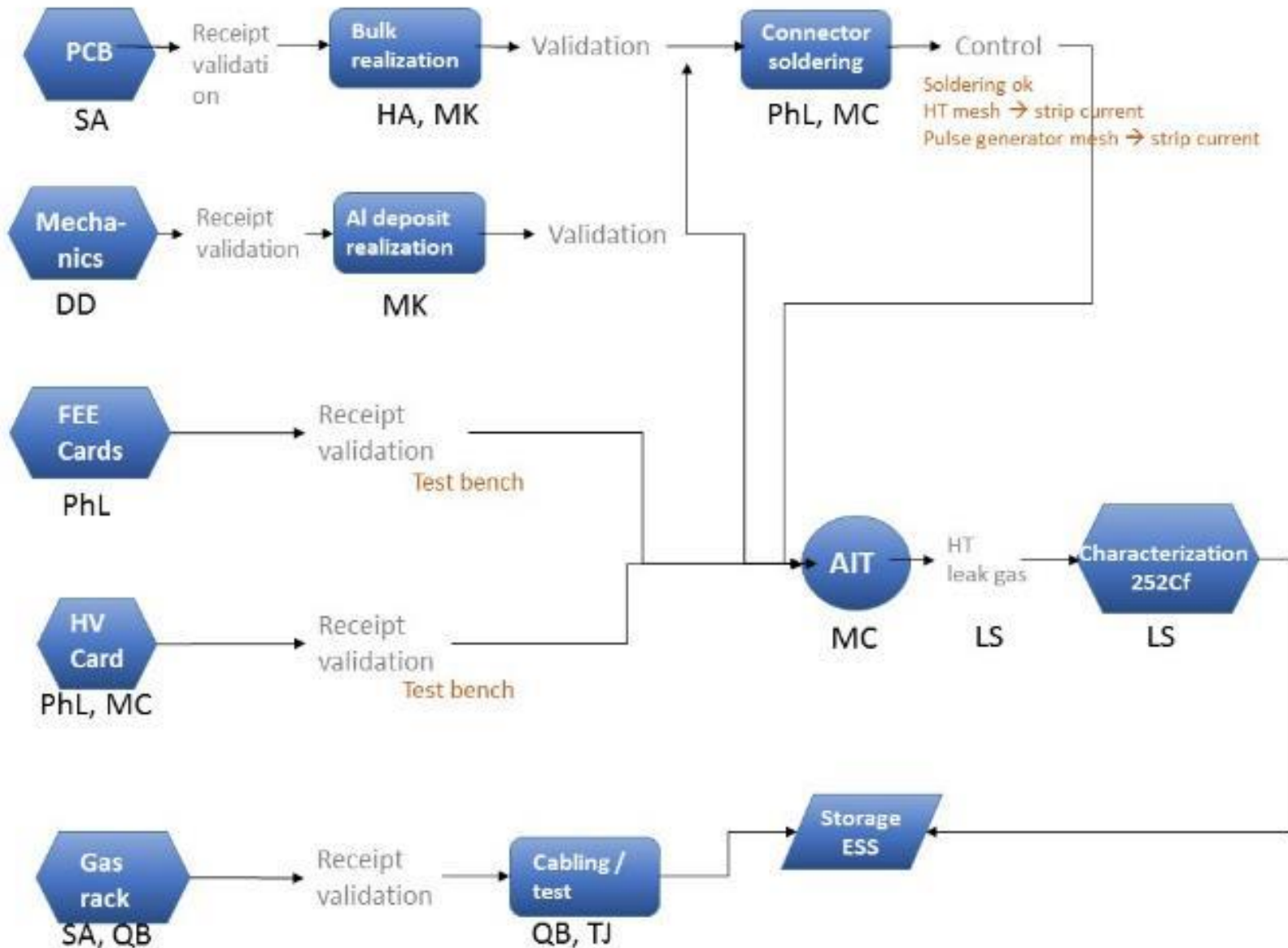
NBLM – DETECTOR PRODUCTION



- First 18 detectors in 6-7 weeks from T0
- Then procedure start to overlap
- T0 may change 2-3 weeks, schedule precision 1 month
- Still 12 detectors can be ready in April

	Process	Time	Where
1	Bulk of 9 detectors	1 week	MPGD Lab
2	Partial Integration of the 9 detectors	½ week	Clean room
3	Soldering of the connectors	½ week	Integration lab
4	Finalize Integration of the 9 detectors	1 week	Integration lab
5	Verification tests of the 9 detectors	1 week	Verification lab
TOTAL for 9 detectors		4 weeks	

		2019																		
		February			March				April					Mai				June		
		week 6 4 to 8	week 7 11 to 18	week 8 18 to 24	week 10 4 to 8	week 11 11 to 5	week 12 18 to 22	week 13 25 to 29	week 14 1 to 5	week 15 8 to 12	week 16 15 to 19	week 17 22 to 26	week 18 29 to 3	week 19 6 to 10	week 20 13 to 17	week 21 20 to 24	week 22 27 to 31	week 23 3 to 7	week 24 10 to 14	week 25 17 to 21
Saclay nBLM AIT Operations	Bulk				Det 1-9		Det 10-18		Det 19-27	Det 28-36	Det 37-45	Det 46-54	Det 55-63	Det 64-72	Det 73-81	Det 82-90	Contingency detectors			
	Soldering					Det 1-9	Det 10-18			Det 19-27	Det 28-36	Det 37-45	Det 46-54	Det 55-63	Det 64-72	Det 73-81	Det 82-90	Contingency detectors		
	Integration						Det 1-9	Det 10-18		Det 19-27	Det 28-36	Det 37-45	Det 46-54	Det 55-63	Det 64-72	Det 73-81	Det 82-90	Contingency detectors		
	Gas leak							Det 1-9		Det 10-18		Det 19-27	Det 28-36	Det 37-45	Det 46-54	Det 55-63	Det 64-72	Det 73-81	Det 82-90	Contingency detectors
	252Cf							Det 1-9		Det 10-18		Det 19-27	Det 28-36	Det 37-45	Det 46-54	Det 55-63	Det 64-72	Det 73-81	Det 82-90	Contingency detectors





Polyethylene



Mirrobor



*Integration
laboratory*



*Mechanics of the nBLM detector chambers
(for 84 modules) at CEA*



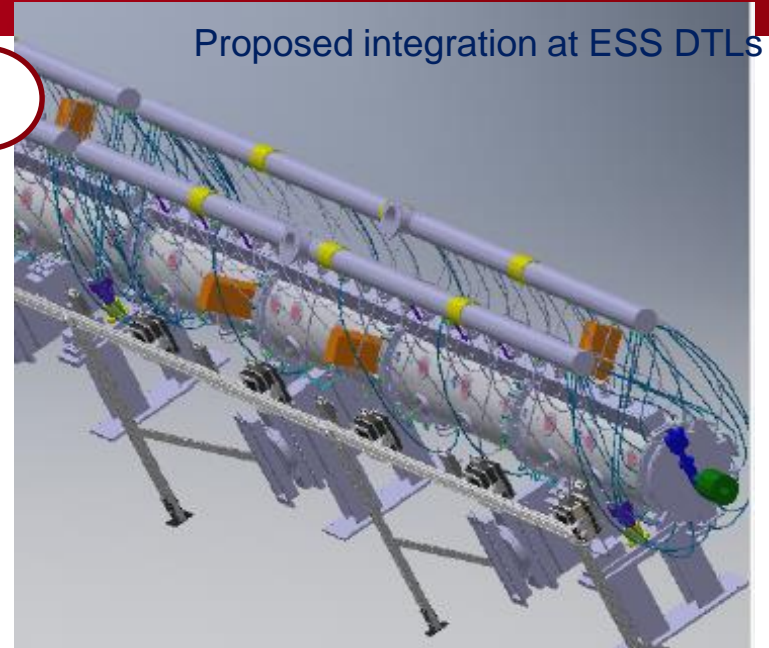
*Detectors
Verification
laboratory*



Three designs based on same principle

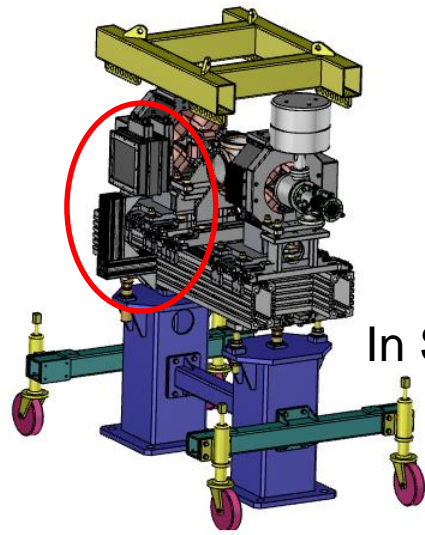
1. For DTL Region
 - Integrated at ESS 3D model
2. For Spokes and high energy regions
3. For MEBT

1

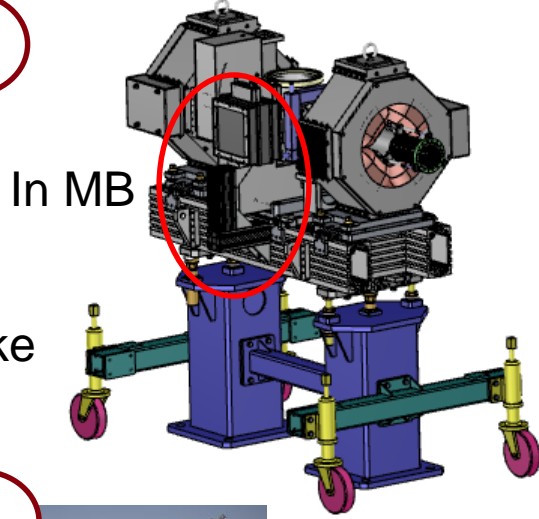


Proposed integration at ESS DTLs

2



In Spoke



In MB

2



Proposed integration at ESS MEBT

3

Installation	Date	Goal of test	Results
MC40 (Birmingham)	Nov-17	First test in an accelerator	Linear response with beam current
IPHI (Saclay)	Jan-18	First test in a beam pulsed accelerator First test of FEE in accelerator First test of fast module with big neutron flux	Time Response Neutron identification (FEE test) Algorithm development
AMANDE (Cadarache)	March-18	Calibration of detectors Moderator optimization Fast module tested at high energies First gamma/neutron discrimination	Response curves as a function of moderator thickness and neutron energy
ORPHEE (Saclay)	March-18	Response to thermal neutron B4C thickness studies	Response to thermal neutrons Signal characteristics B4C thickness studies
LINAC4 (CERN)	Oct/ Dec-18	Test in real accelerator conditions Test the FEE, the DAQ and the detectors	Response to beam losses Response to gammas from RF
Saclay	Feb-19	Detailed study neutrons vs gamma Test of one final nBLM module	Gain curves Discrimination n/gamma

All details in document [*nBLM_CDRfinal_ReportTests.pdf*](#)

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Presented in July 2018

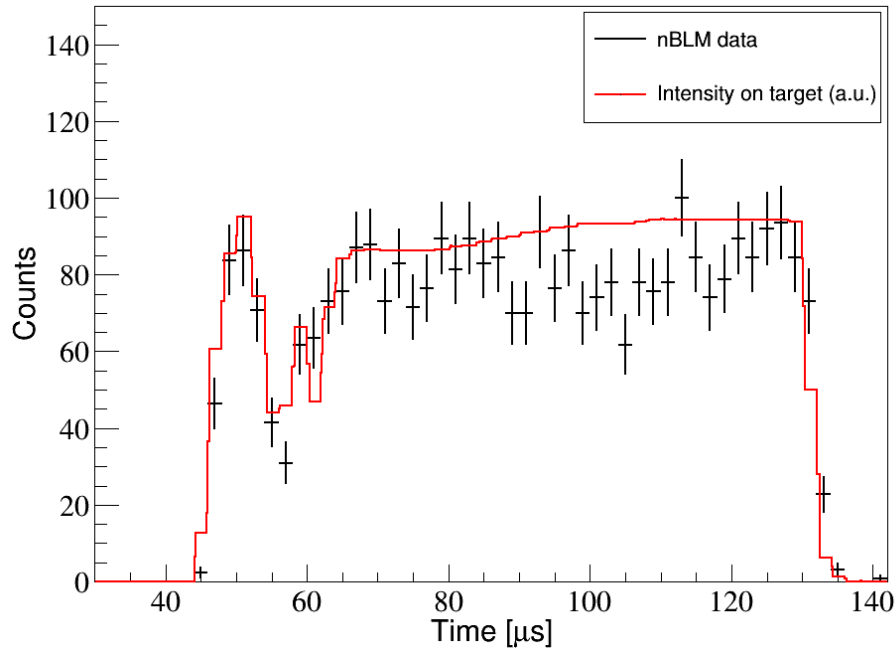
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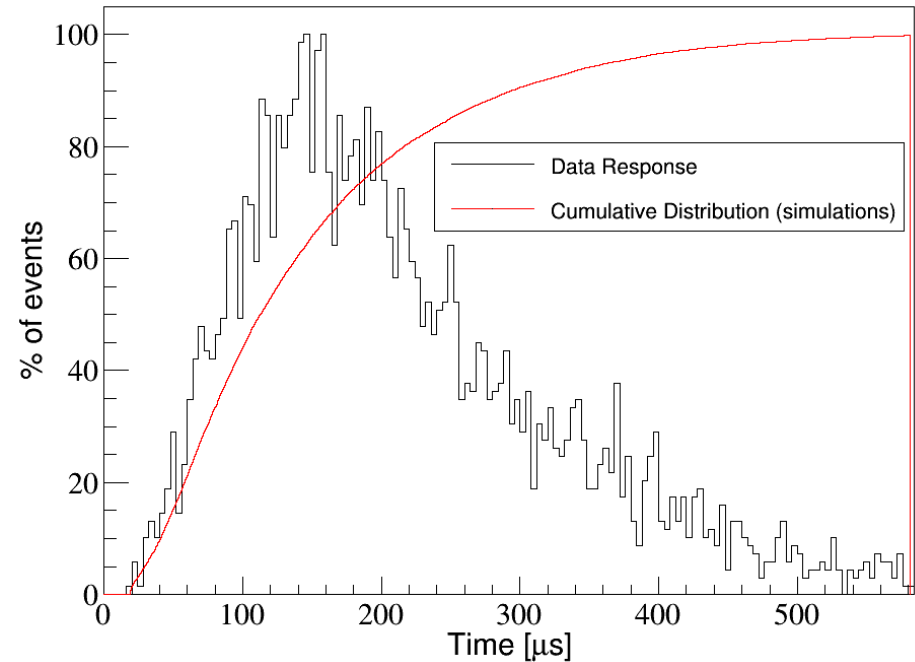
Presented in July 2018

Fast detector



- Immediate response
- Count rate in direct correlation with beam current intensity

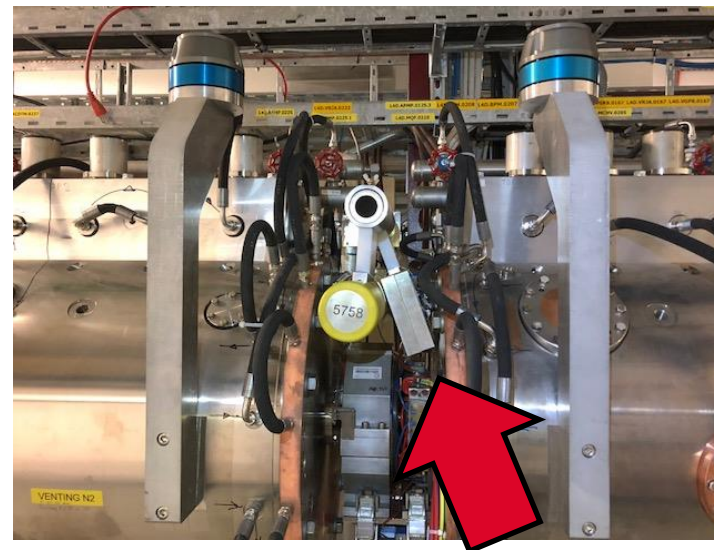
Slow detector



- Moderation time → delay of 100-200μs.
- In agreement with simulation
- Higher efficiency

~5% of the total in the first 5μs so possible to use for early warning. To verified during commisioning

- **Fast nBLM module** installed between two DTLs at ~ 13 MeV proton region
- Final mechanics and electronics (pre-series)
- Gas: He + 10% CO₂
- Two data campaigns
 - **November 2018**
 - Understanding the detector, test the FMC for first time, test FEE in accelerator conditions...
 - **December 2018**
 - Losses were produced
 - Second test of FMC with newer version



- Data taking with a fast oscilloscope
 - 250 Ms/s
 - Full bandwidth
 - With trigger of Linac4 also recorded
- CEA Analysis based on C code integrated with ROOT (details in the backup)
- Benchmark for results obtained with FMC

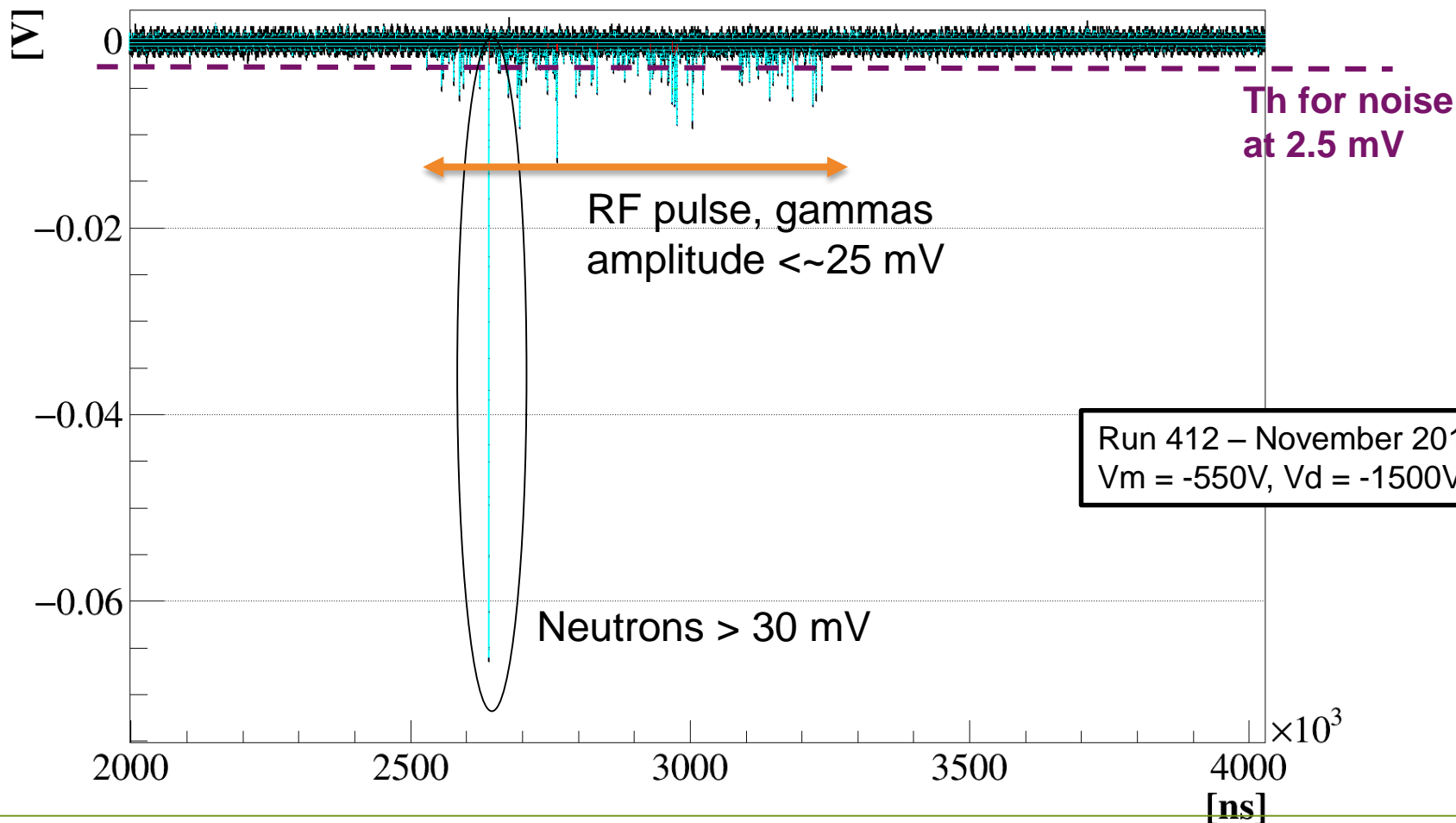
Nov 2018

Run	Vm	Vd	ext trigger	Comments
412	550	1650	no	autotrigger in "neutrons"

Dec 2018

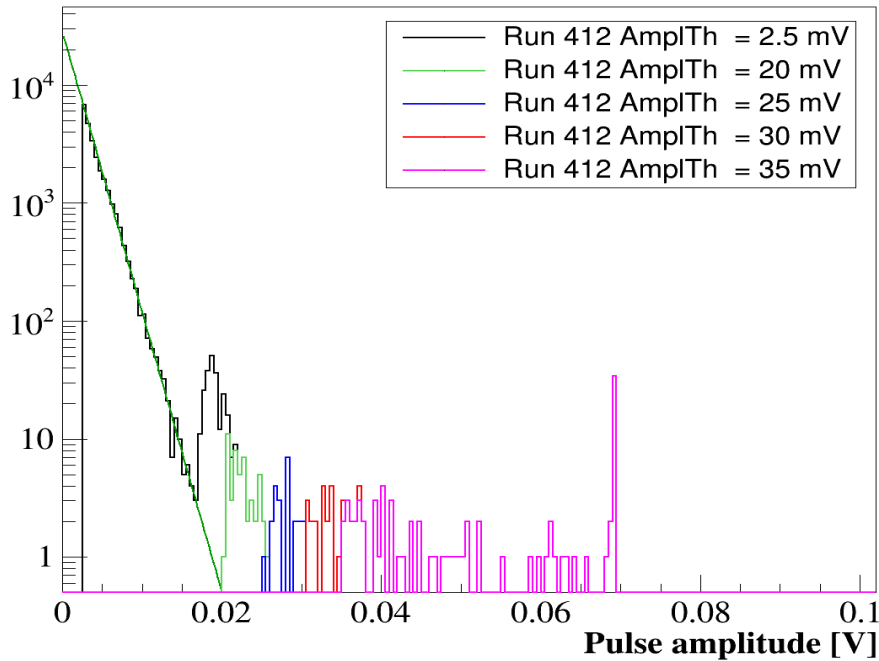
Run	Vm	Vd	ext trigger	Comments
413	550	1500	yes	Losses
414	525	1000	yes	No losses
415	525	1000	yes	Losses
416	550	1500	no	Autotrigger, no losses
417	550	1500	no	Autotrigger, no losses, signal shared with Strucks
418	550	1500	yes	No losses signal shared with IOxOS
419	525	1000	yes	Losses
420	550	1500	no	Autotrigger signal shared with IOxOS

- Some history... Initially at Linac 4 we were detecting nothing so we increase the gain of the detector to force sparks to check detector was alive
- We start having events at 550V... ~50 -75 V higher gain than nominal

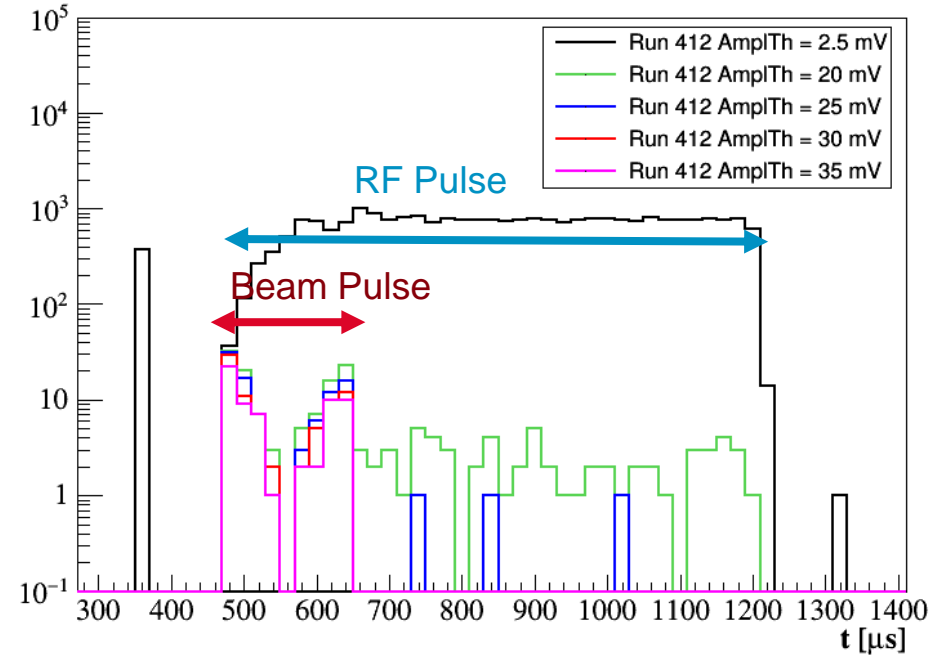


Run 412 – November 2018
Vm = -550V, Vd = -1500V

Amplitude

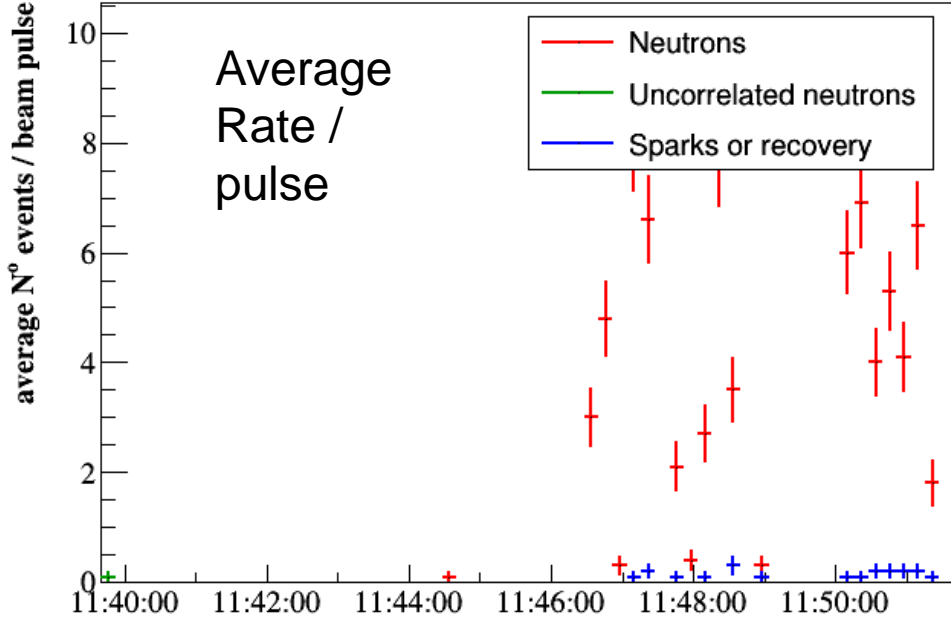
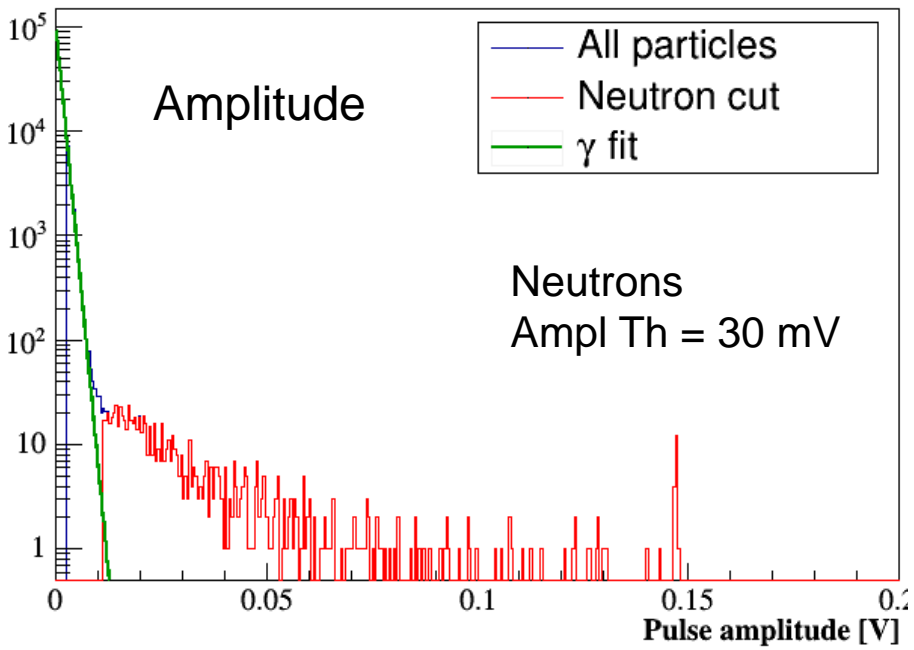


Beam Structure



Applying amplitude cut, we recover the beam duration
 → Neutrons produced by beam
 → Gammas distributed all along RF pulse

Run 413 – December 2018
Vm = -550V, Vd = -1500V



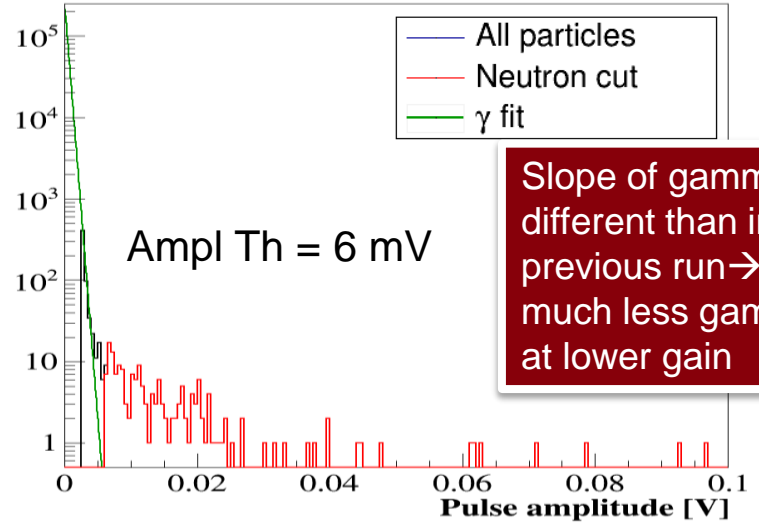
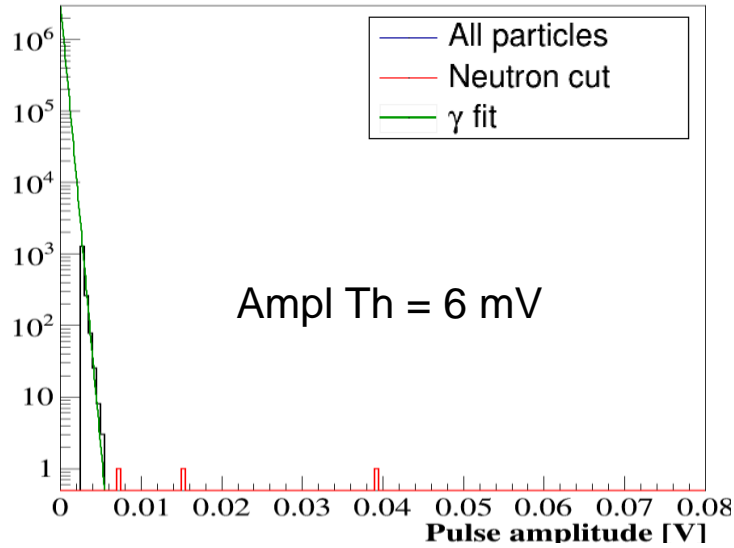
- Sparks appear at high gain
- Produced by the neutrons

Run 414
No losses

Vmesh = 525 V
Vdrift = 1000 V

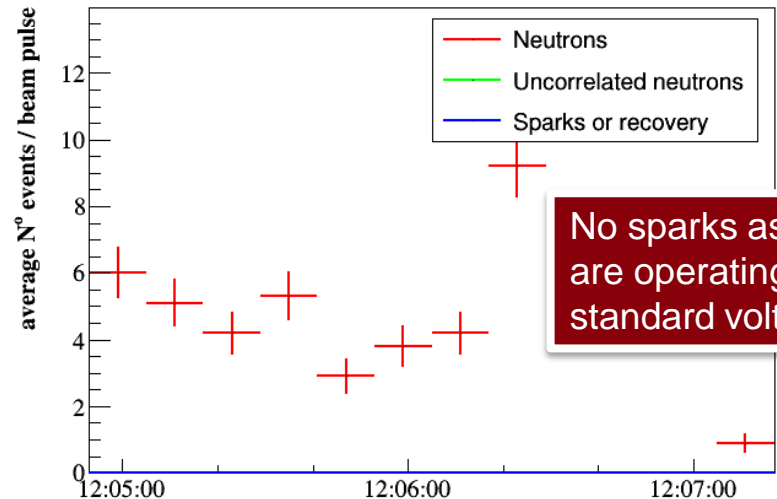
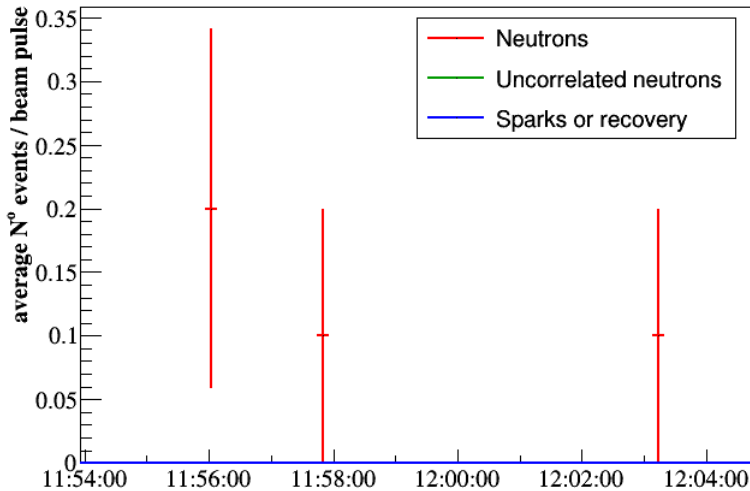
Run 415
Losses

Amplitude



Slope of gammas different than in previous run → much less gammas at lower gain

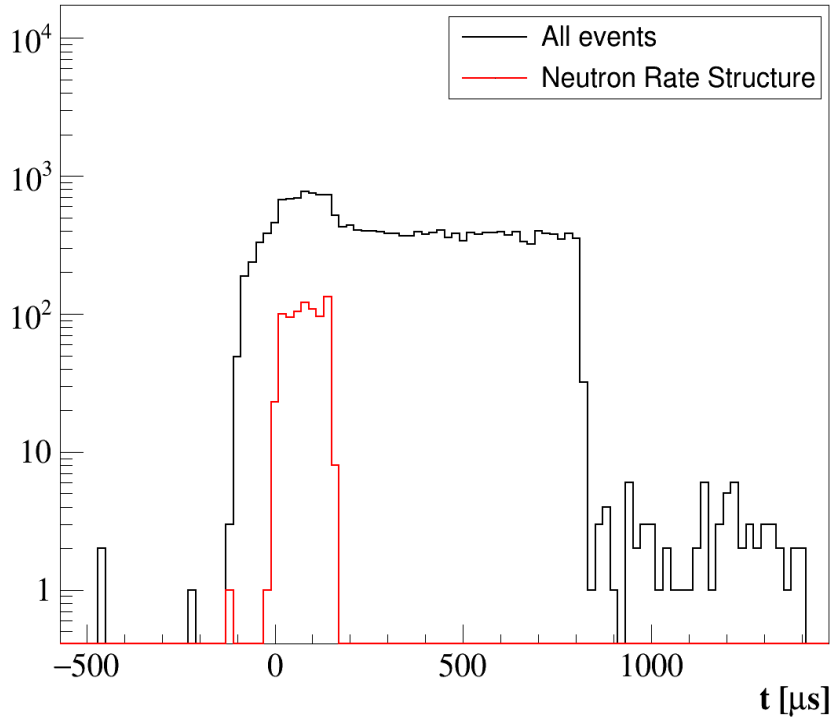
Average rate



No sparks as we are operating at standard voltages

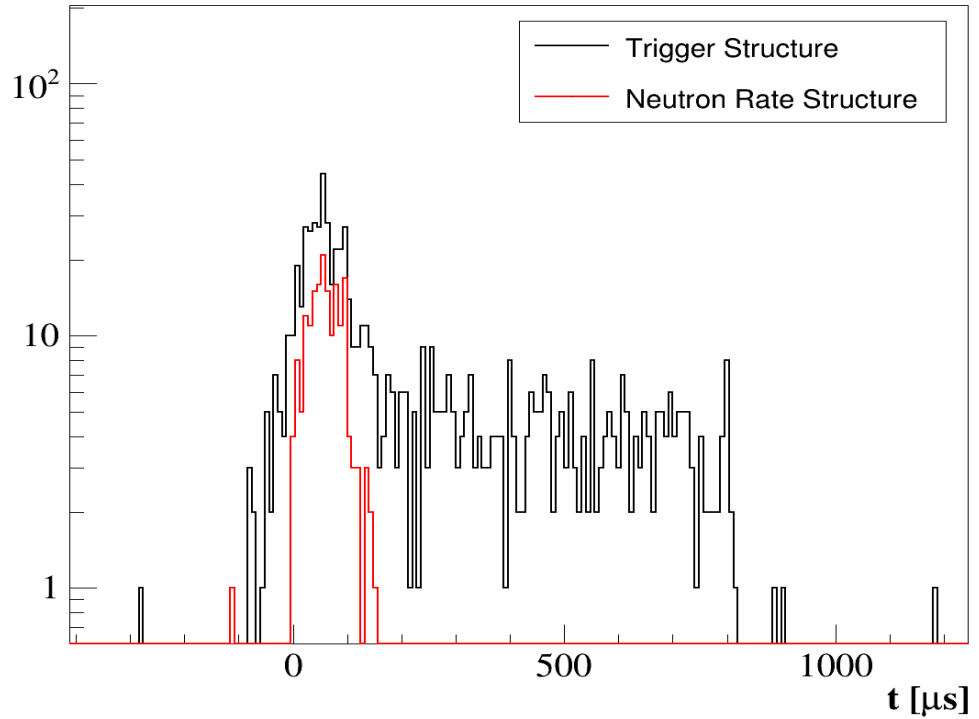
Beam Structure

Run 413



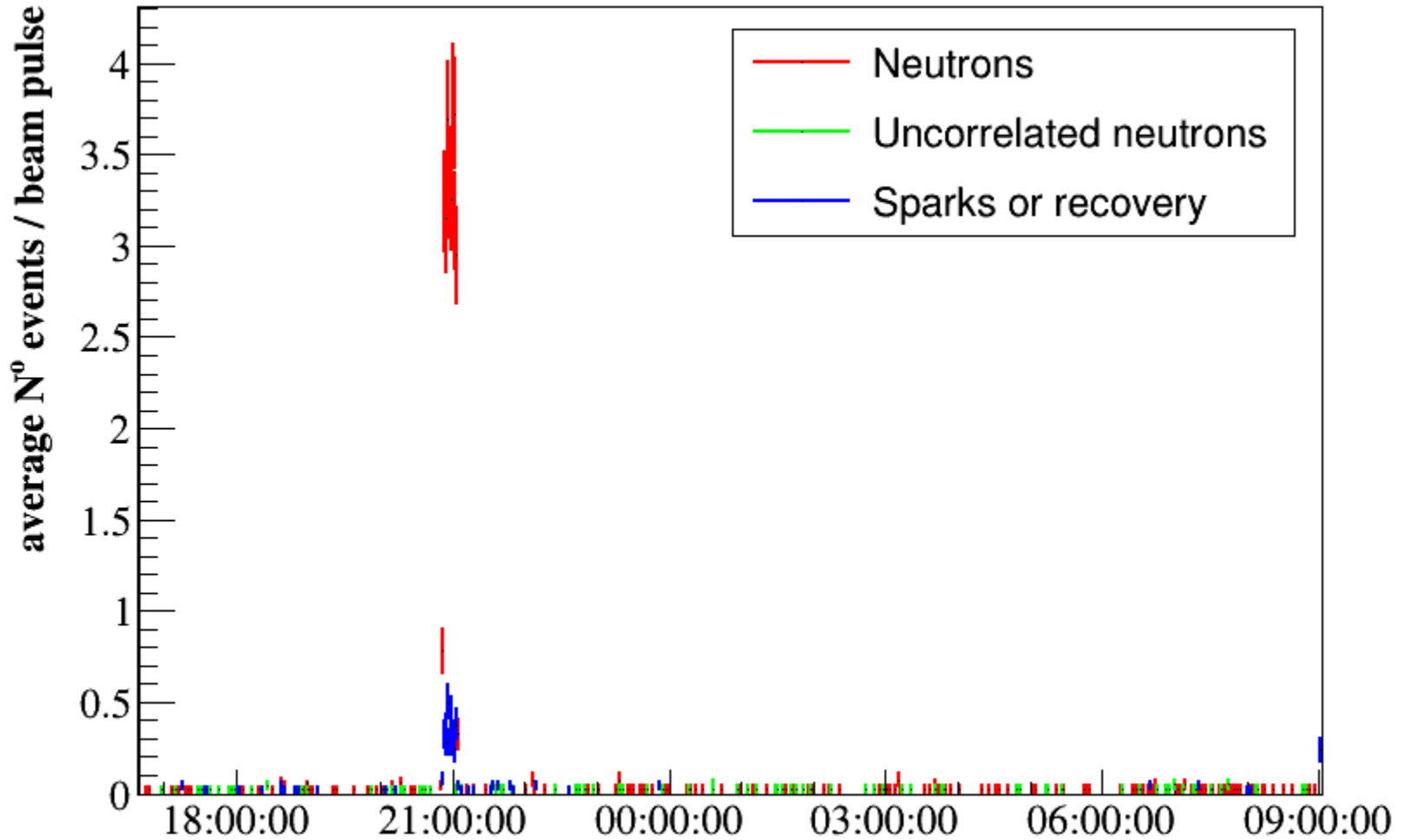
$V_{\text{mesh}} = -550\text{V}$
 $V_{\text{drift}} = -1500\text{V}$

Run 415

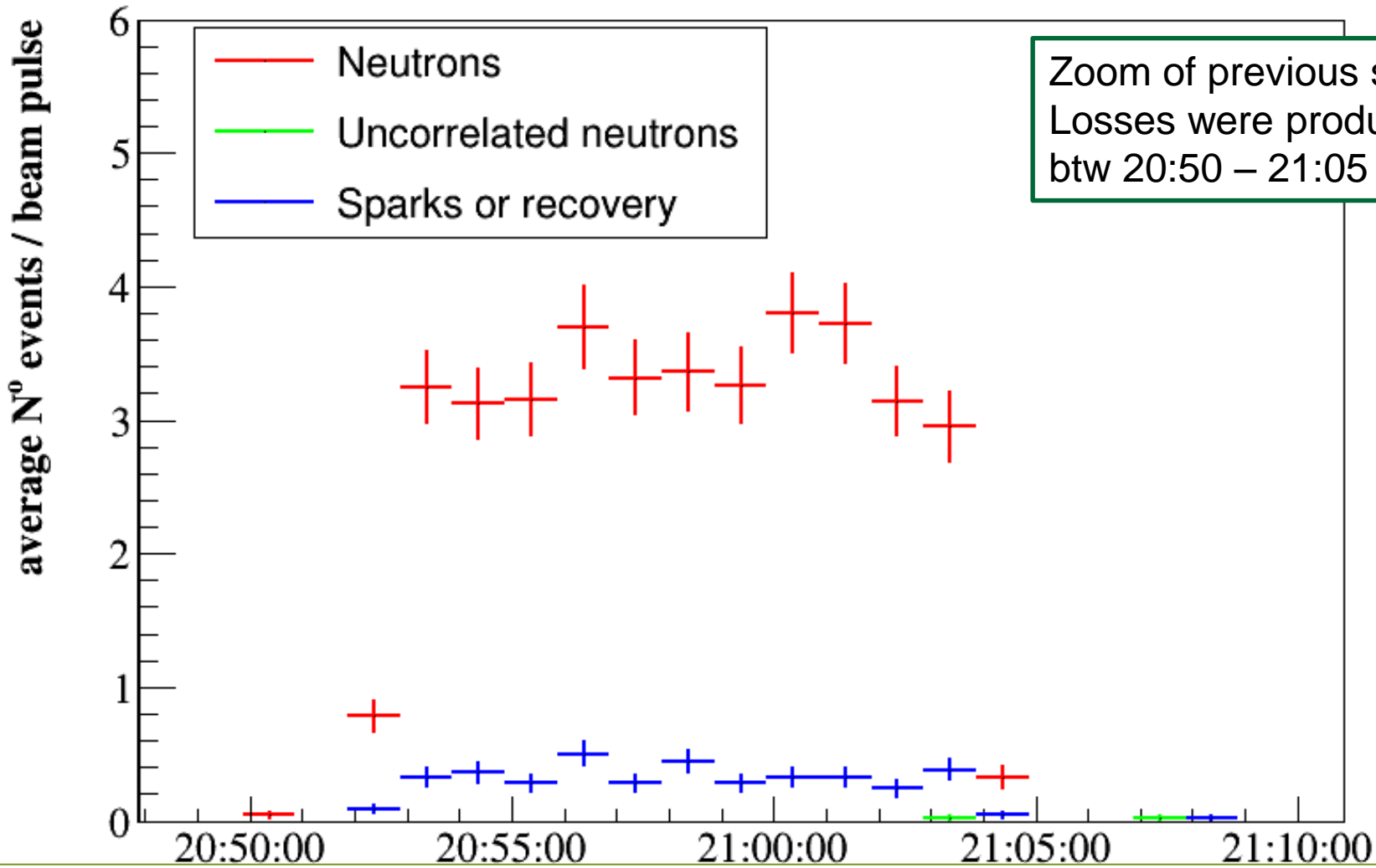


$V_{\text{mesh}} = 515\text{ V}$
 $V_{\text{drift}} = 1000\text{ V}$

Run 420 – December 2018
Vm = -550V, Vd = -1500V



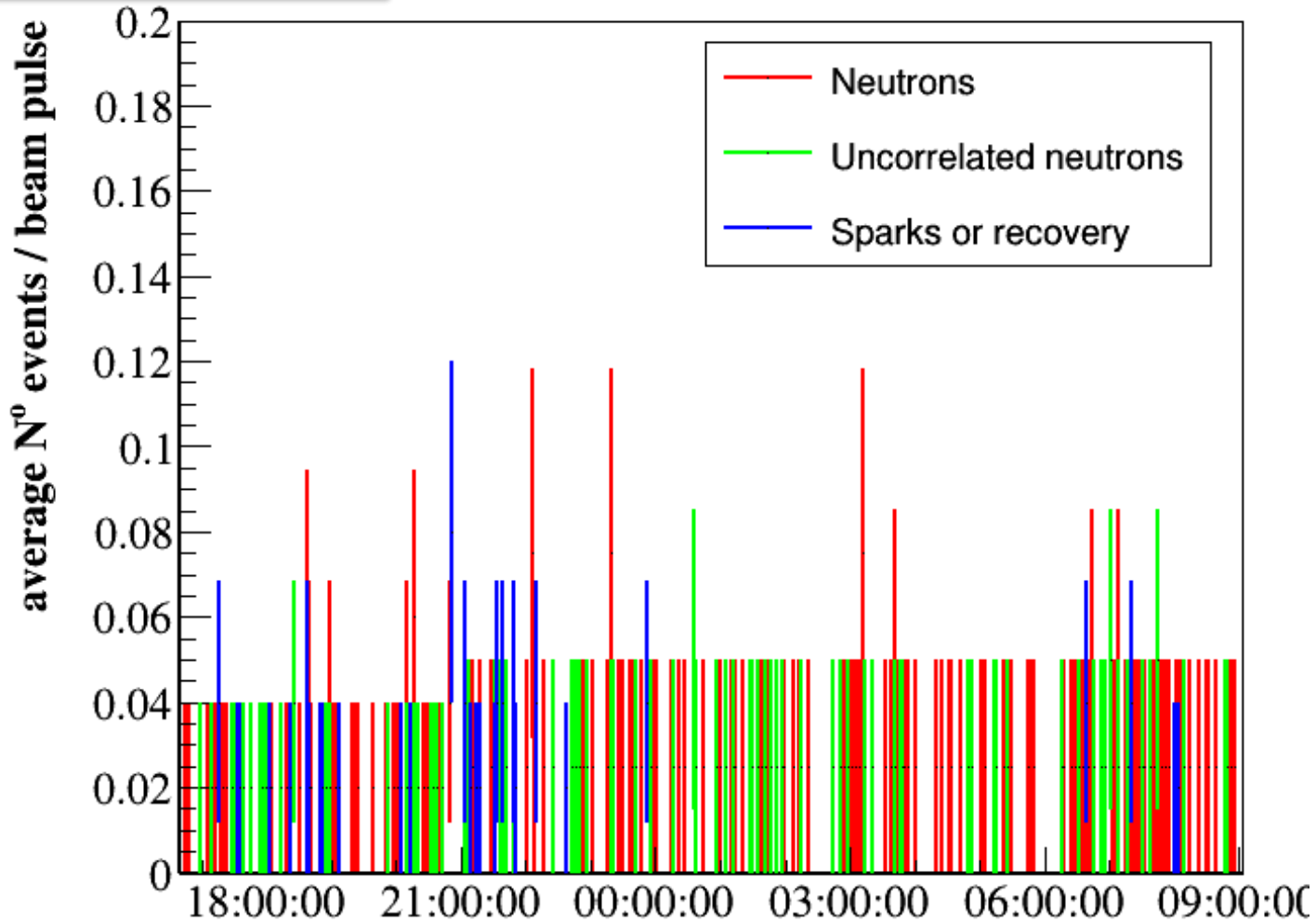
Run 420 – December 2018
Vm = -550V, Vd = -1500V



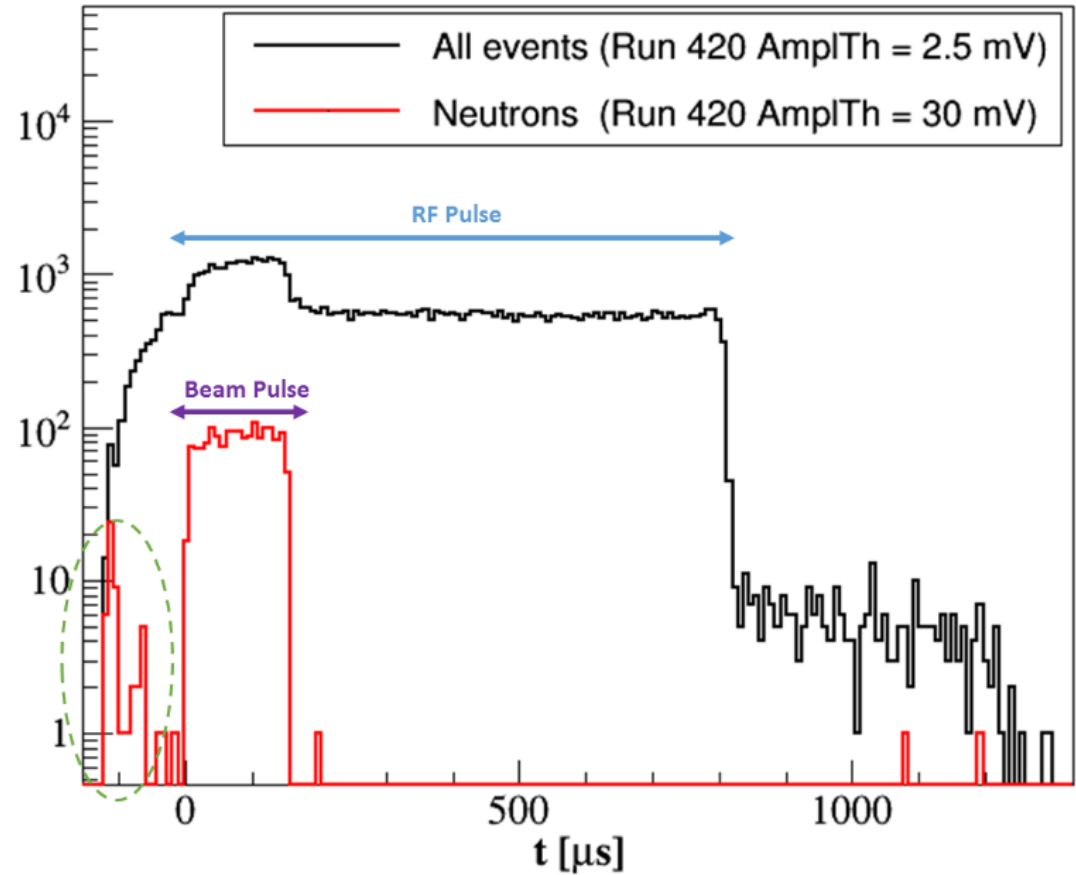
Zoom of previous slide
Losses were produced
btw 20:50 – 21:05

Zoom of previous slide in vertical axis

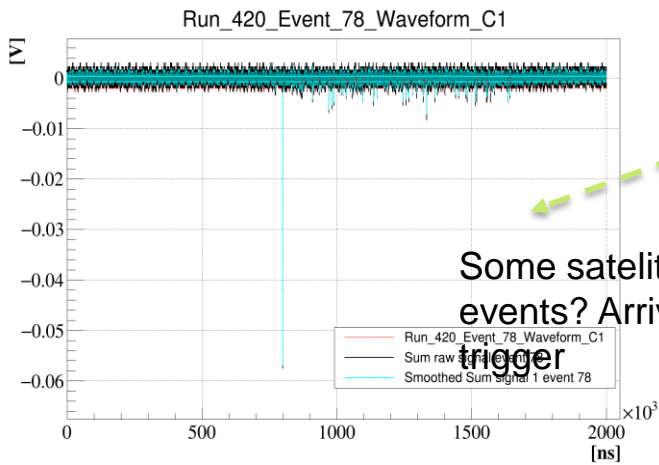
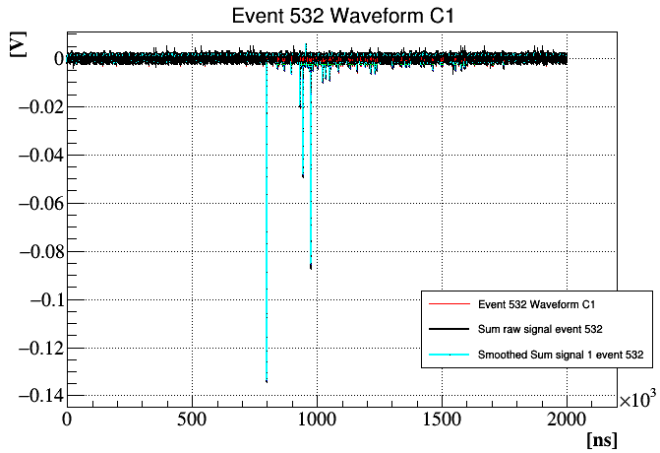
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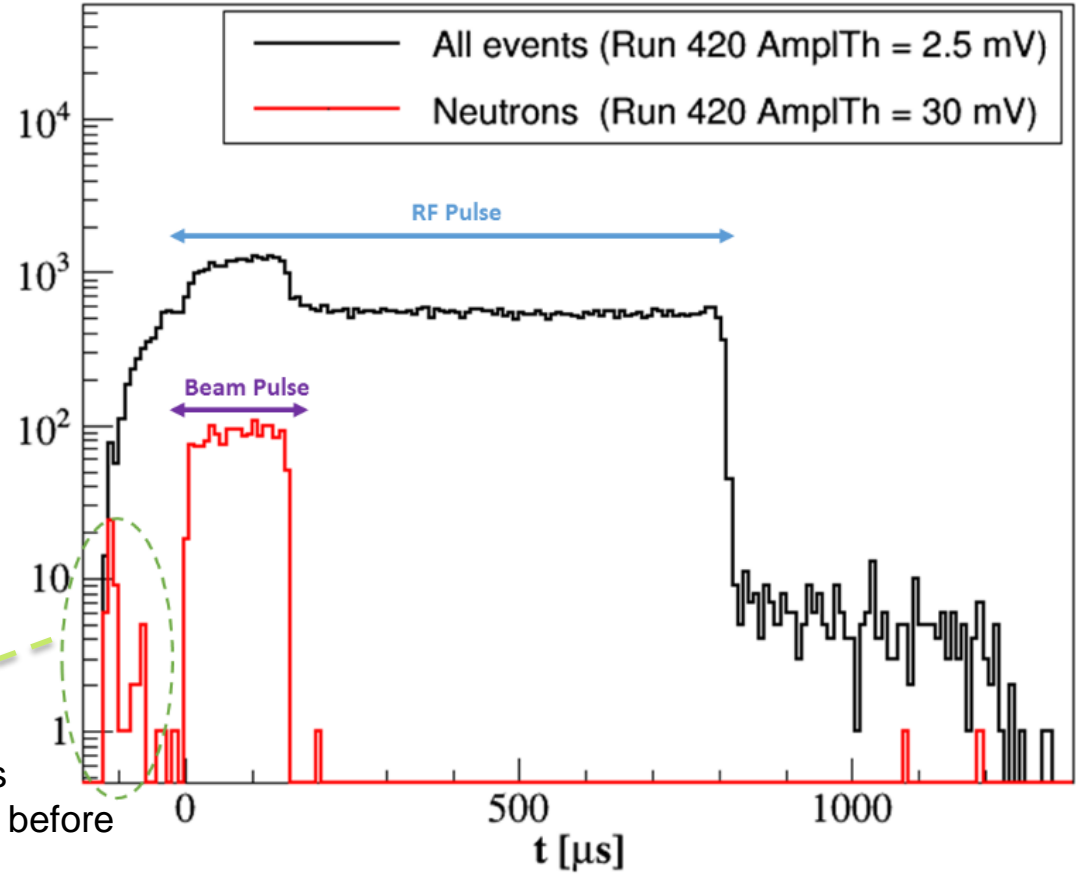
Run 420 – December 2018
Vm = -550V, Vd = -1500V



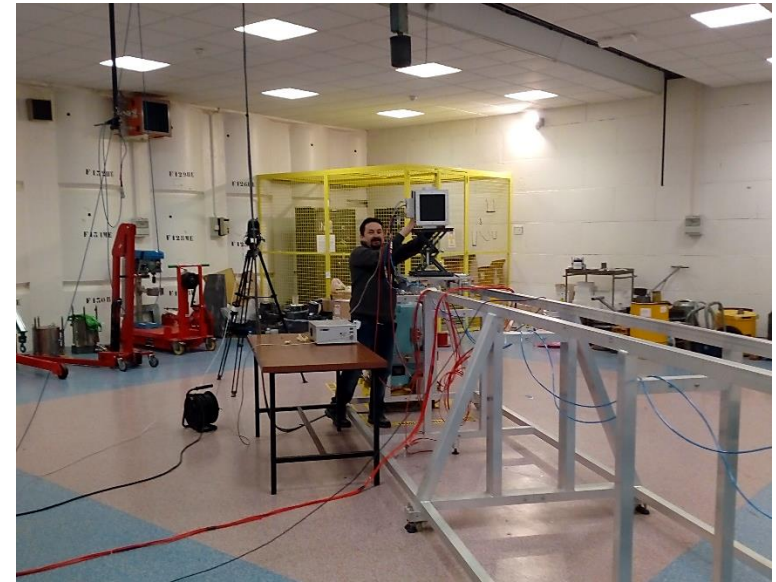
Run 420 – December 2018
Vm = -550V, Vd = -1500V



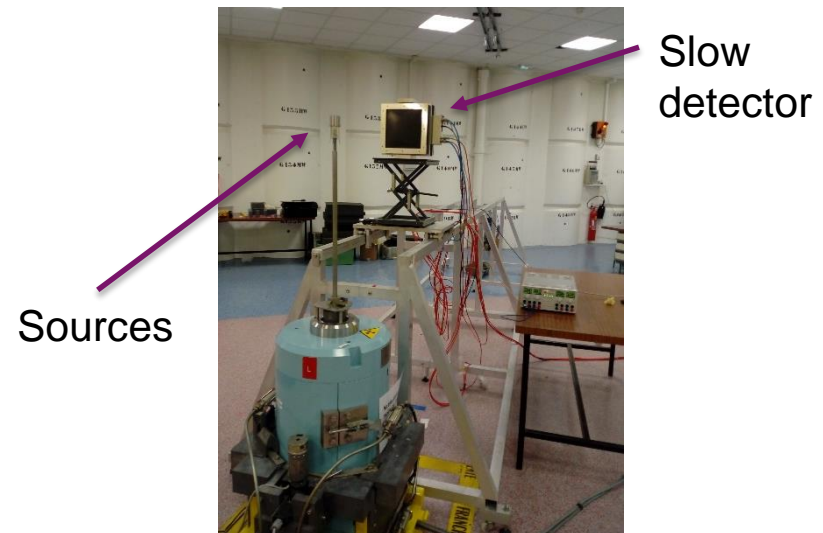
Some satellites
events? Arrive before
trigger



- High intensity neutron and gamma sources available from the CEA radioprotection department
- Data taken with slow module on the 6/02 – 08/02
- Gain curves for gammas and neutrons to determine operational point



Source	Activity (Bq)	H* ₁₀ at 0.5 m
AmBe (Neutrons)	10 ¹¹	275 μSv/h
Co-60	10 ⁸	1 mSv/h
Co-60	10 ⁸	100 mSV/h



- Big matrix of data to analyze
- **n** = neutrons, **γ** = gammas
- Preliminary observations

Vm	Vd = Vm+25mV	Vd = Vm+25mV	Vd = Vm+25mV	Vd = Vm+25mV	Vd = Vm+25mV	Vd = Vm+25mV
440	n	n	n	n	n	n
450	n	n	n	n	n	n
460	n	n	n	n	n	n
470	n	n	n	n	n	n
480	n	n	n, γ	n, γ	n, γ	n, γ
490	n	n	n, γ	n, γ	n, γ	n, γ
500	n	n	n, γ	n, γ	n, γ	n, γ
510	n	n	n, γ	n, γ	n, γ	n, γ
525		γ	γ	γ	γ	γ
550	γ	γ	γ	γ	γ	γ

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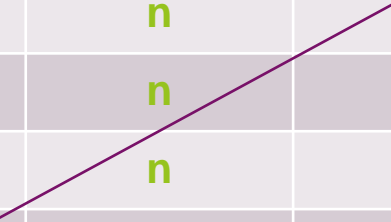
Vm	Vd = Vm+25mV	Vd = Vm+25mV	Vd = Vm+25mV	Vd = Vm+25mV	Vd = Vm+25mV	Vd = Vm+25mV
440	n	n	n	n	n	n
450	n	n	n	n	n	n
460	n	n	n	n	n	n
470	n	n	n	n	n	n
480	n	n	n, γ	n, γ	n, γ	n, γ
490	n	n	n, γ	n, γ	n, γ	n, γ
500	n	n	n, γ	n, γ	n, γ	n, γ
510	n	n	n, γ	n, γ	n, γ	n, γ
525		γ	γ	γ	γ	γ
550		γ	γ	γ	γ	γ

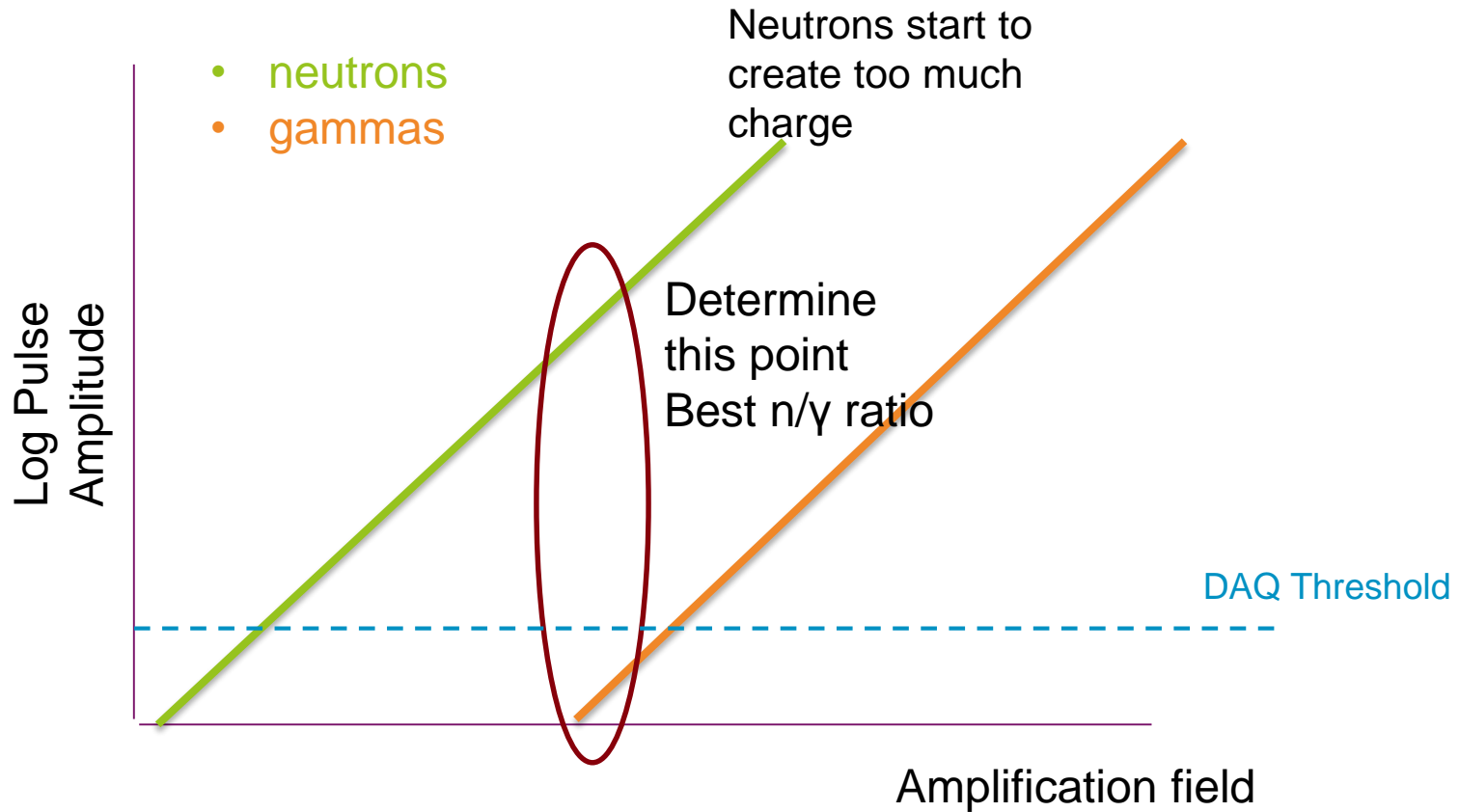
Above this value
the neutrons
produce sparks

- Big matrix of data to analyze
- **n** = neutrons, **γ** = gammas
- Preliminary observations

Vm	Vd = Vm+25mV	Vd = Vm+25mV	Vd = Vm+25mV	Vd = Vm+25mV	Vd = Vm+25mV	Vd = Vm+25mV
440	n	n	n	n	n	n
450	n	n	n	n	n	n
460	n	n	n	n	n	n
470	n	n	n	n	n	n
480	n	n	n, γ	n, γ	n, γ	n, γ
490	n	n	n, γ	n, γ	n, γ	n, γ
500	n	n	n, γ	n, γ	n, γ	n, γ
510	n	n	n, γ	n, γ	n, γ	n, γ
525		γ	γ	γ	γ	γ
550	γ	γ	γ	γ	γ	γ

Below this value
the gammas not
visible





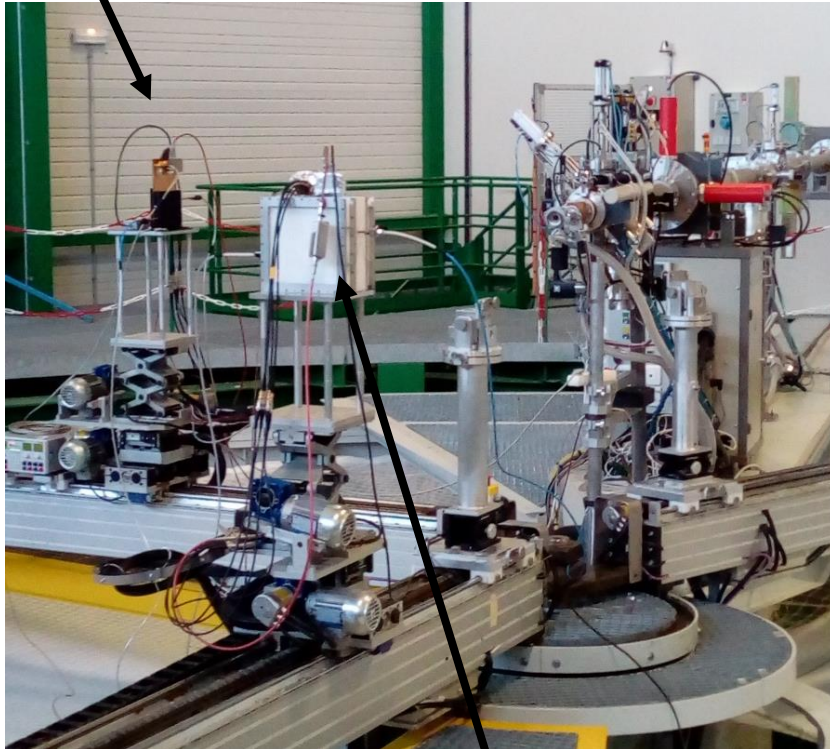
Thank you!

Full characterization of detector in next slides

AMANDE FACILITY (IRSN-Cadarache): monoenergetic neutron reference fields

- Metrology
- Testing and calibrating neutron sensitive devices (between 2 keV -20 MeV).

Fast module
2mm drift



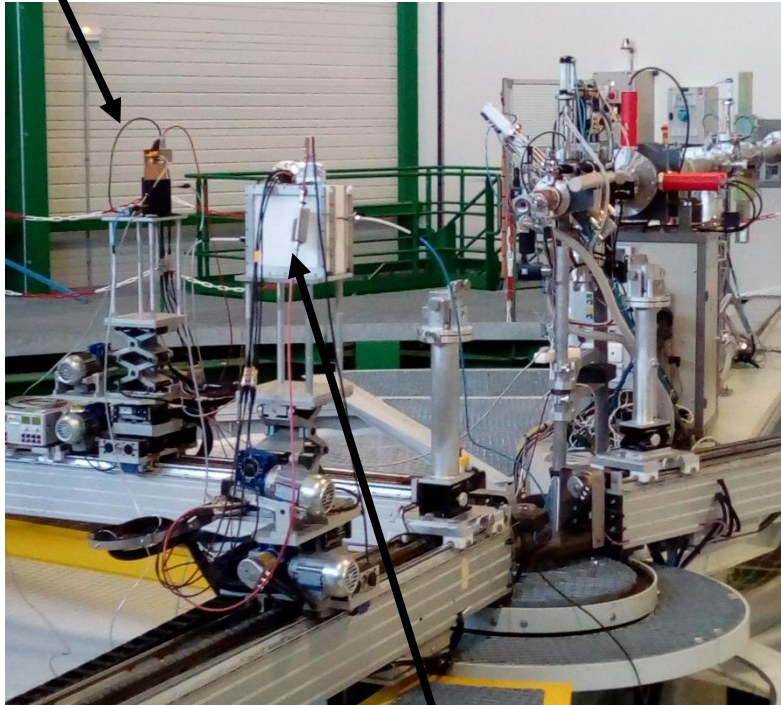
Slow module
0.4 mm drift,
1.5 μ m B₄C

- Data campaign in March 2018
- Slow and fast module tested, He+10%CO₂
- At diff neutron energies:
 - 565, 1200, 2500, 5000 and 15000 keV



AMANDE FACILITY (IRSN-Cadarache): monoenergetic neutron reference fields

Fast module
2mm drift



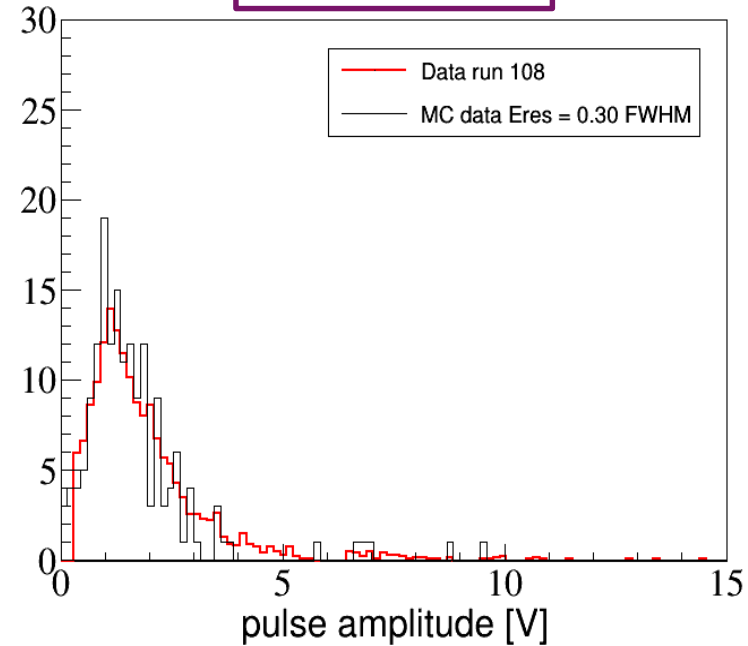
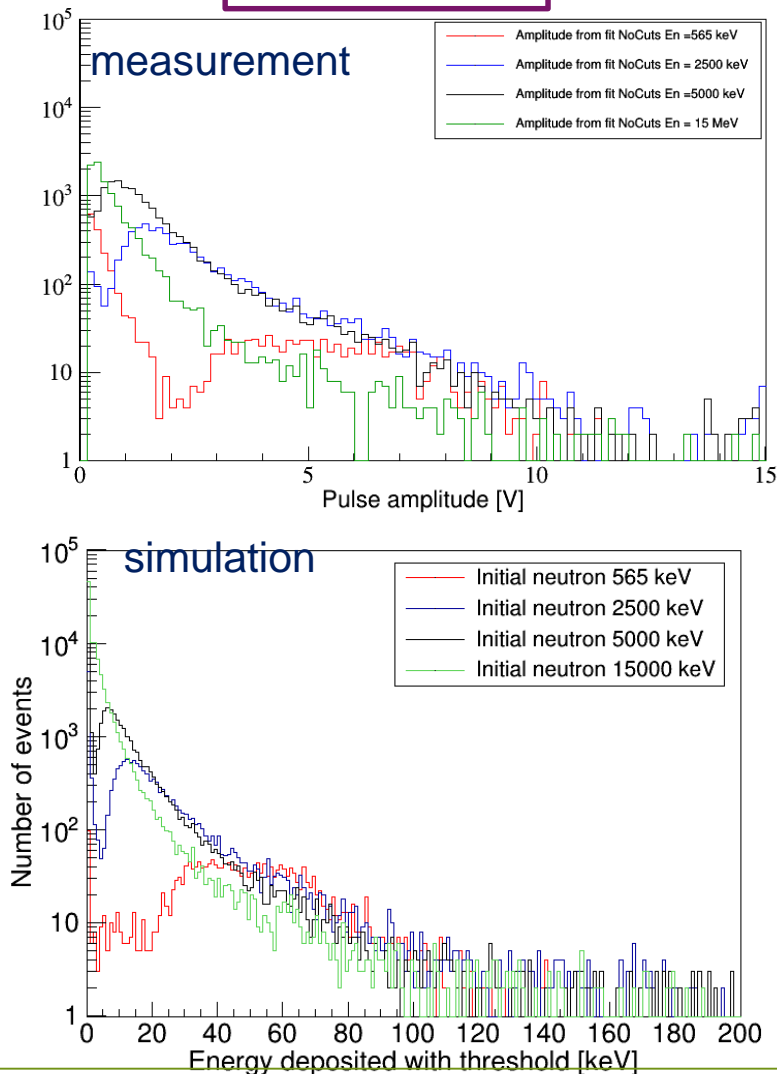
Slow module
0.4 mm drift,
1.5 μ m B₄C

- **nBLM Goal:**
 - Efficiency measurements
 - Comparison with Geant4 simulations
 - Slow module
 - Polyethylene thickness optimization
 - Fast module:
 - Converter comparison
 - Extra: gamma rejection proof
- Use charge preamplifier + Amplifier
- Acquisition with digital oscilloscope
- A shadow cone used for backscatter suppression.
- IRSN reference detectors for the flux

SIMULATION COMPARISON

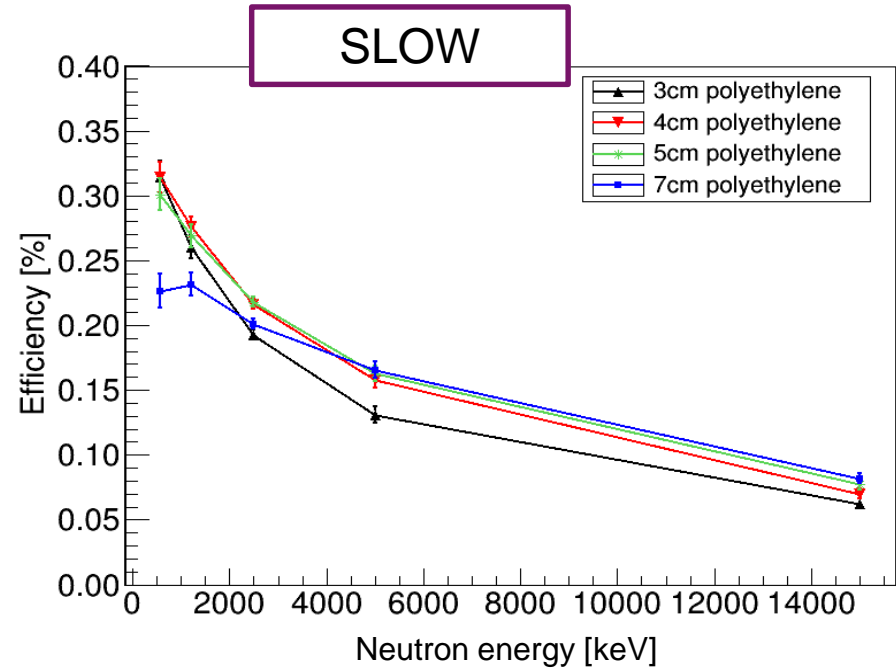
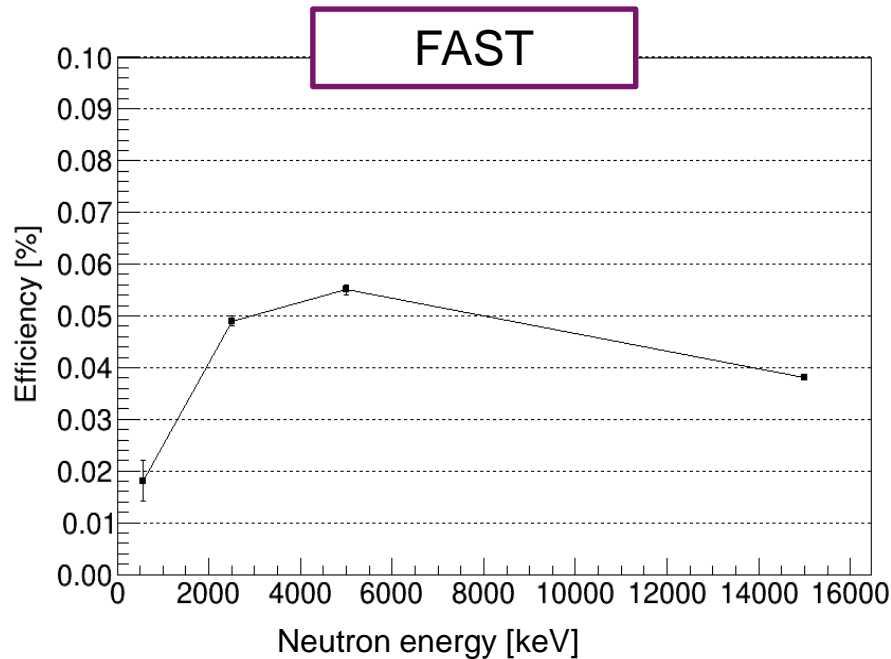
FAST

SLOW



- Good agreement with Geant4 simulation
 - Still few details under revision
- Pulse amplitude spectrum of slow detector independent with neutron energy
- Energy calibration possible for both detectors thanks to the peaks

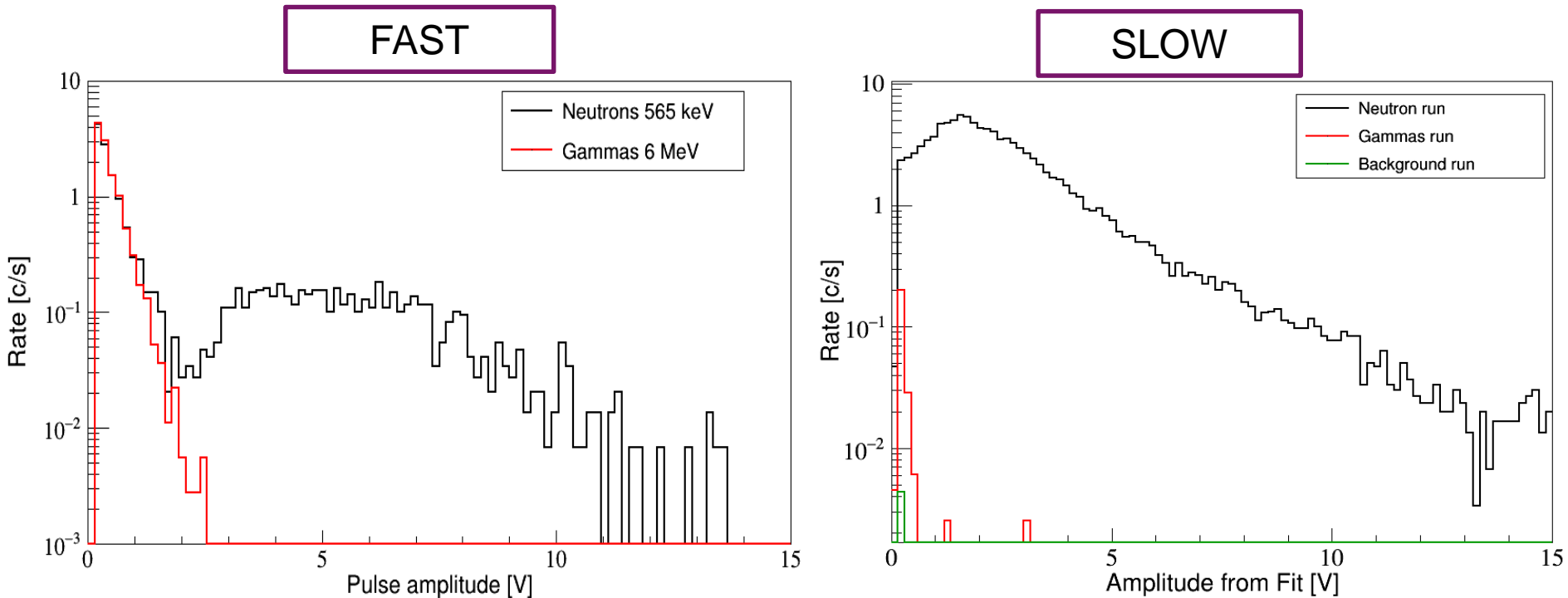
AMANDE FACILITY (IRSN-Cadarache): EFFICIENCY STUDIES



- Efficiency strongly dependent
 - on threshold
 - on initial energy
- Efficiency between factor 5-20 smaller than slow module (as expected)

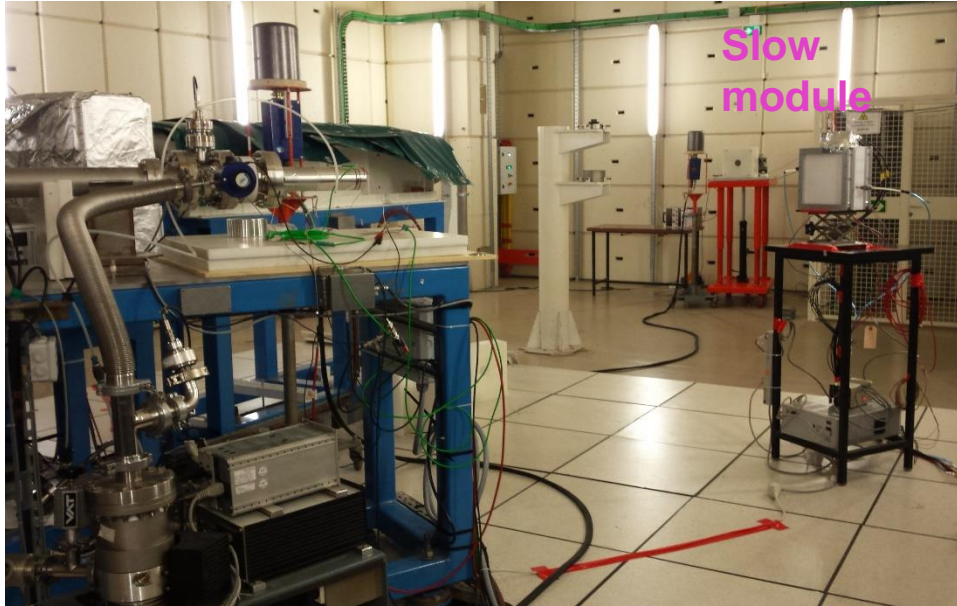
- Count rate of few /s for a neutron fluence rate of 1/s/cm²
- Polyethylene thickness fixed at 5cm

AMANDE FACILITY (IRSN-Cadarache): GAMMA REJECTION



- Rejection possible to difference in the **ionization power between ions and electrons**.
- The choice of **He gas** enhances the suppression
- With a energy threshold we can totally reject the gamma contribution
- The difference in rate observed between fast and slow due to different drift distance (1.9 mm in fast / 0.4 in slow)

IPHI, Injecteur de Protons à Haute Intensité (CEA/Saclay):



With 5 mm borated rubber outside

- 3 MeV proton beam
- Pulsed beam 90 μ s, 1Hz repetition frequency
- Use of a Be target to produce neutrons during January-February 2018
- **Goal:**
 - Neutron flux measurement and characterisation
 - Test of detectors under pulsed beam
 - Time response study
 - Analysis development
- Test both slow and fast modules

MC40 Cyclotron (Birmingham University, UK):



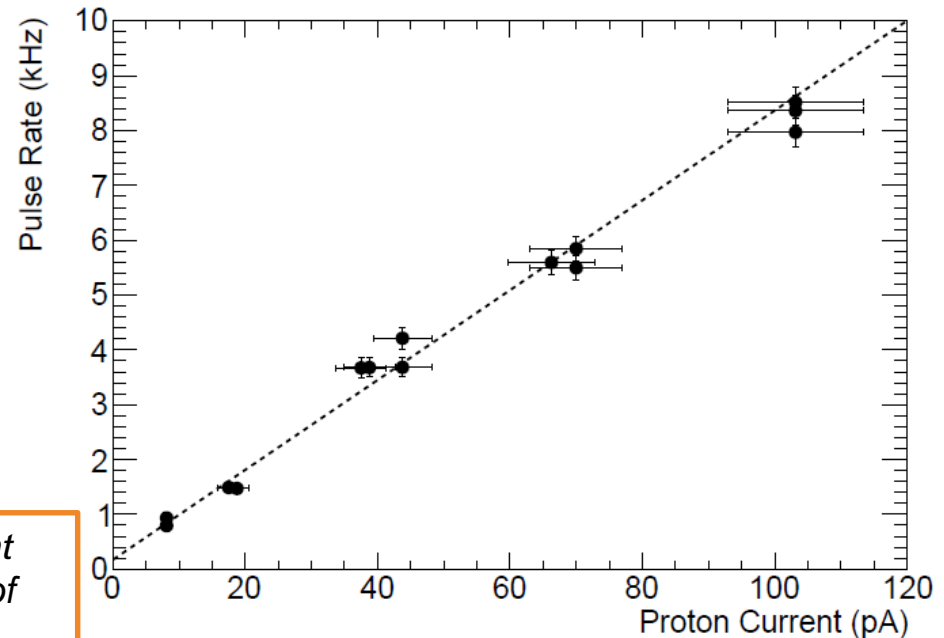
Slow nBLM module

Aluminium plate

Proton beam

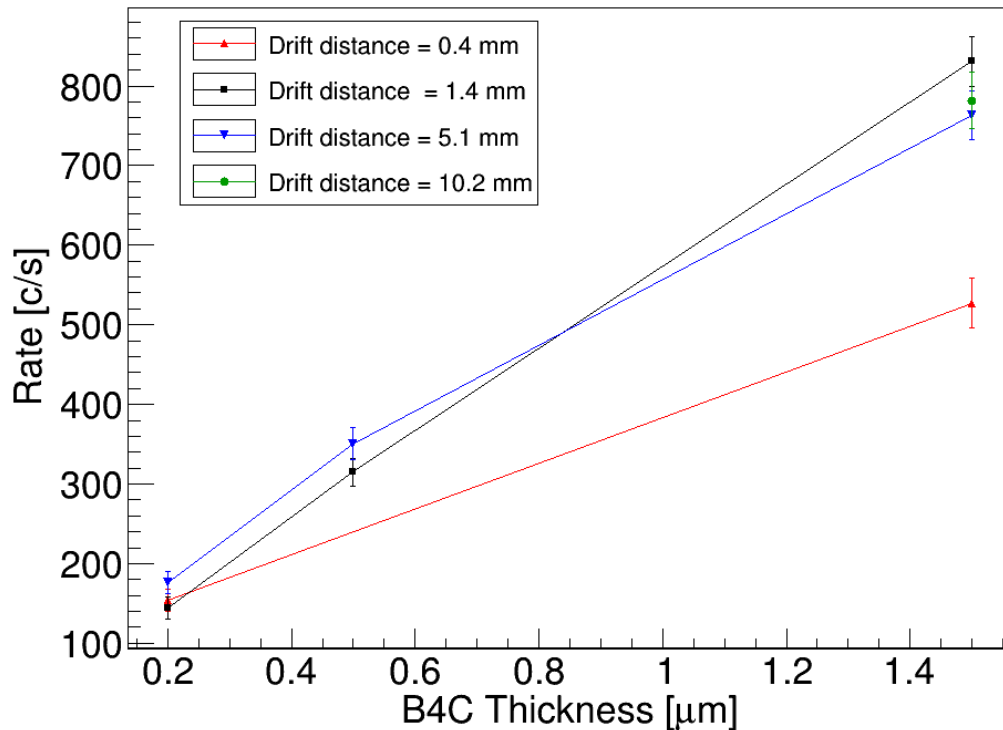
Correlation of the count rate with the intensity of the proton beam

- Medical synchrotron
- Protons up to 30 MeV
- Beam diameter ~1cm
- Continuum pulse
- Data taken at 28 MeV and different intensities
- Proton beam into Al plate $\phi=1$ cm



ORPHEE nuclear reactor LLB, CEA Saclay: 0.01 eV neutrons, flux $2 \times 10^6 \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2}$

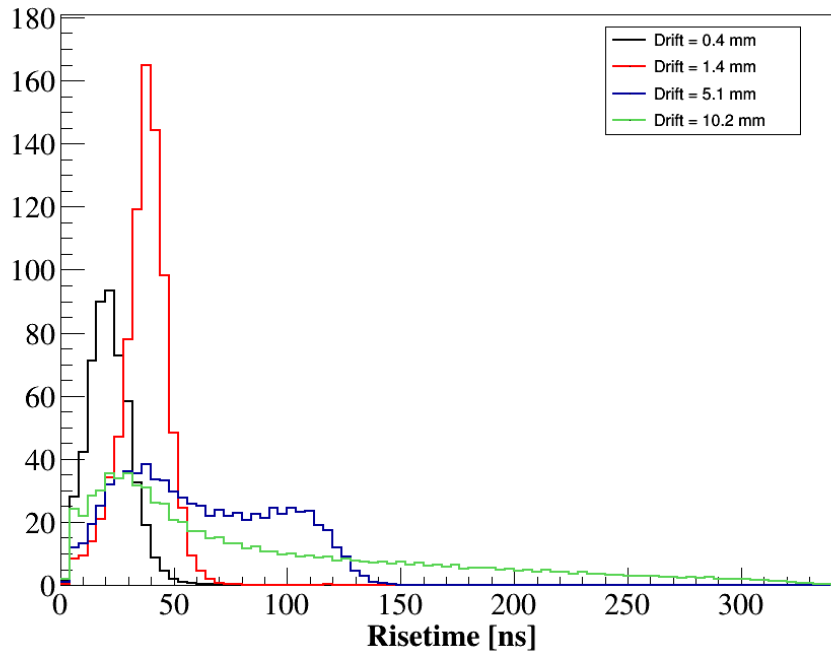
- Stable operation with high current (up to 600 nA), no discharges
- Verified that 5 mm borated rubber absorbs the thermal neutrons a reduction factor of $\sim 2.5 \times 10^{-4}$ + polyethylene $\rightarrow > 10^{-5}$
- Study the detector operation parameters (B_4C thickness, drift gap, operating voltages) to optimize signals (duration, amplitude etc.)



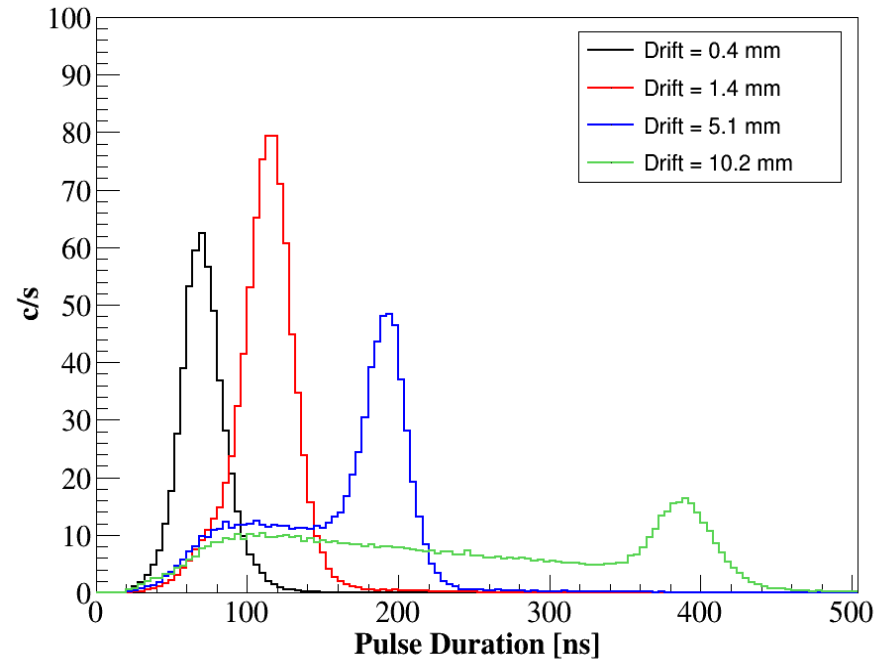
- No corrected by different gain
- Small gap \rightarrow no full ionization
- Factor ~ 5 between 0.2 – 1.5 μm

ORPHEE nuclear reactor LLB, CEA Saclay: 0.01 eV neutrons, flux $2 \times 10^6 \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2}$

Rise Time Distributions for different drift distances



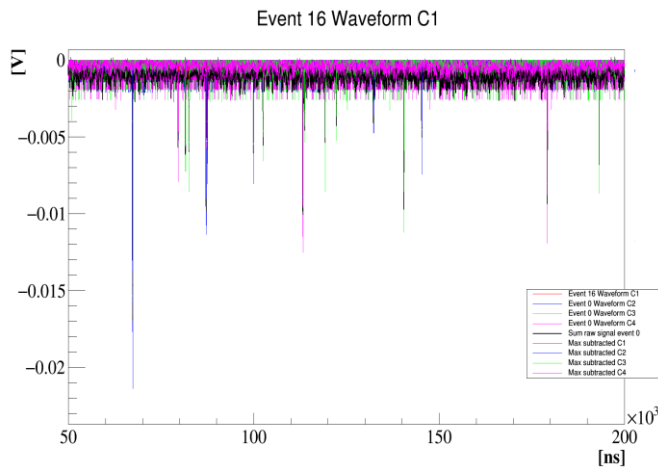
Pulse duration for different drift distances



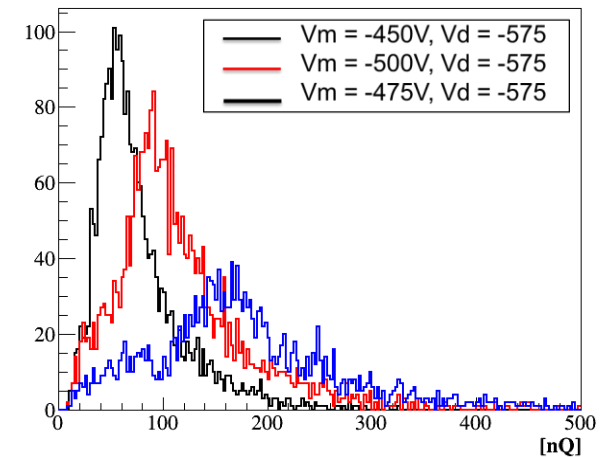
- Optimum **value ~2 mm**
 - Rise Time ~ 45 ns and very stable
 - Pulse duration ~ 60 ns → in $1 \mu\text{s}$ ~ >10 pulses/window before pile-up (~10 MHz)
- Optimized to avoid also to be very close to sparking point

PASSING FROM COUNT RATE CURRENT MODE

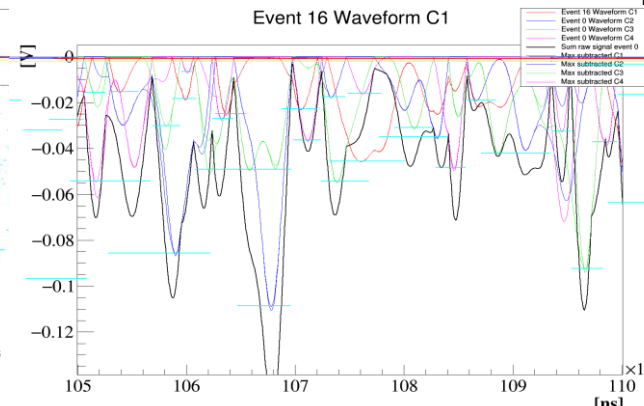
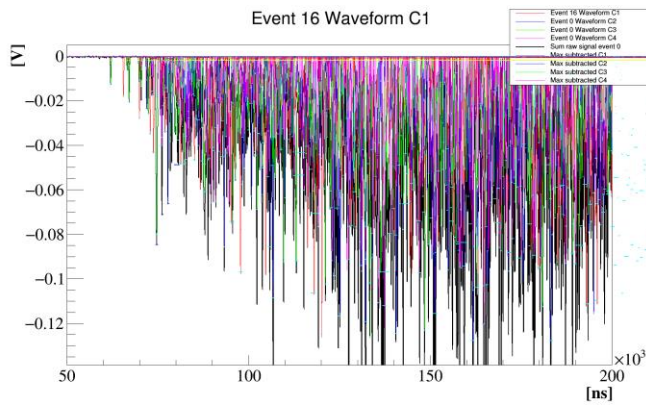
- The 4 segments were recorded independently by a digital oscilloscope at 250 MS/s
- Instantaneous rate high enough to reach the limit of **current mode**. *Detector stable.*



	Rate [c/p]	RateQ [c/p]
Sum	34.	34
C2	12.	11.
C3	10.	10.
C4	7.	6.



Pulse Charge from low intensity run



	Rate [c/p]	RateQ [c/p]
Sum	241	2318
C1	511	794
C2	518	783
C3	521	730
C4	473	816

BACK-UP

SLOW

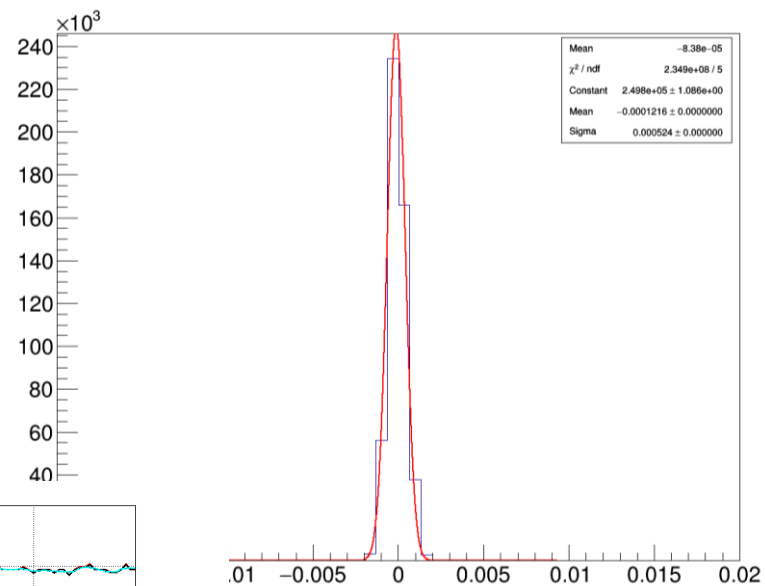
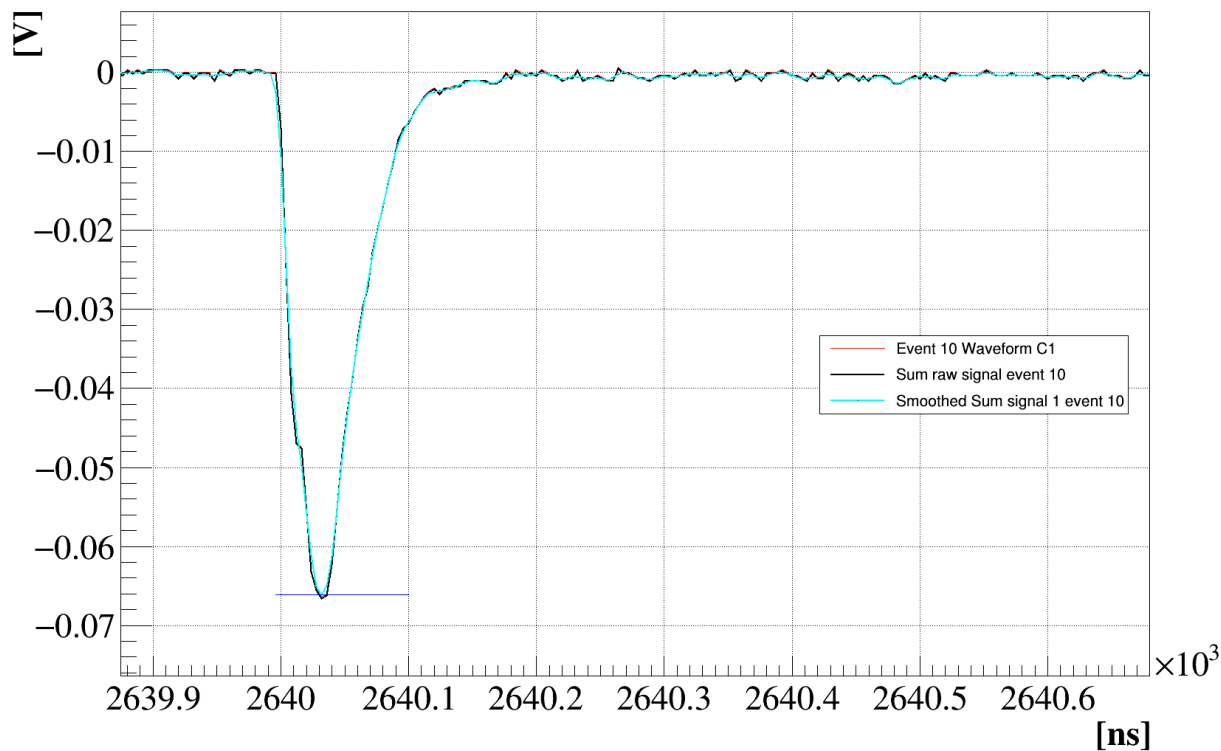
- Neutron converted at the drift entrance
- Converter: B-10
- (n, α) reaction. The α has always the same energy.
- The produced α enters the gas volume ionizing it.
- The amplitude is almost constant as the energy is always the same. It will have a certain distribution as it depends on the angle of the emitted alpha
- Efficiency $\sim 1\%$ for all neutron energies
- Time response is $\sim 150\mu\text{s}$
 - About 10% of events detected in $4\mu\text{s}$
 - The delay is introduced by the moderation time of the neutrons in the moderator
- Each event detected (alpha ionizing the gas) has, more or less, same pulse duration $\sim 100\text{-}200\text{ns}$

FAST

- Neutron converted at the drift entrance
- Converter: plastic
- (n,p) reaction. P with continuum of energies
- Emitted in the opposite direction of the arrival of the neutron.
- Reaction threshold at $\sim 0.1\text{MeV}$
- The efficiency is much lower in this detector
- However, as there is no moderator the time response is very fast, of $\sim 10\text{ns}$.

1 Baseline subtraction

2 Smooth raw data



3 Calculate derivative and integral
(Integral is never used)

4 The derivative is only used to help defining end of pulse

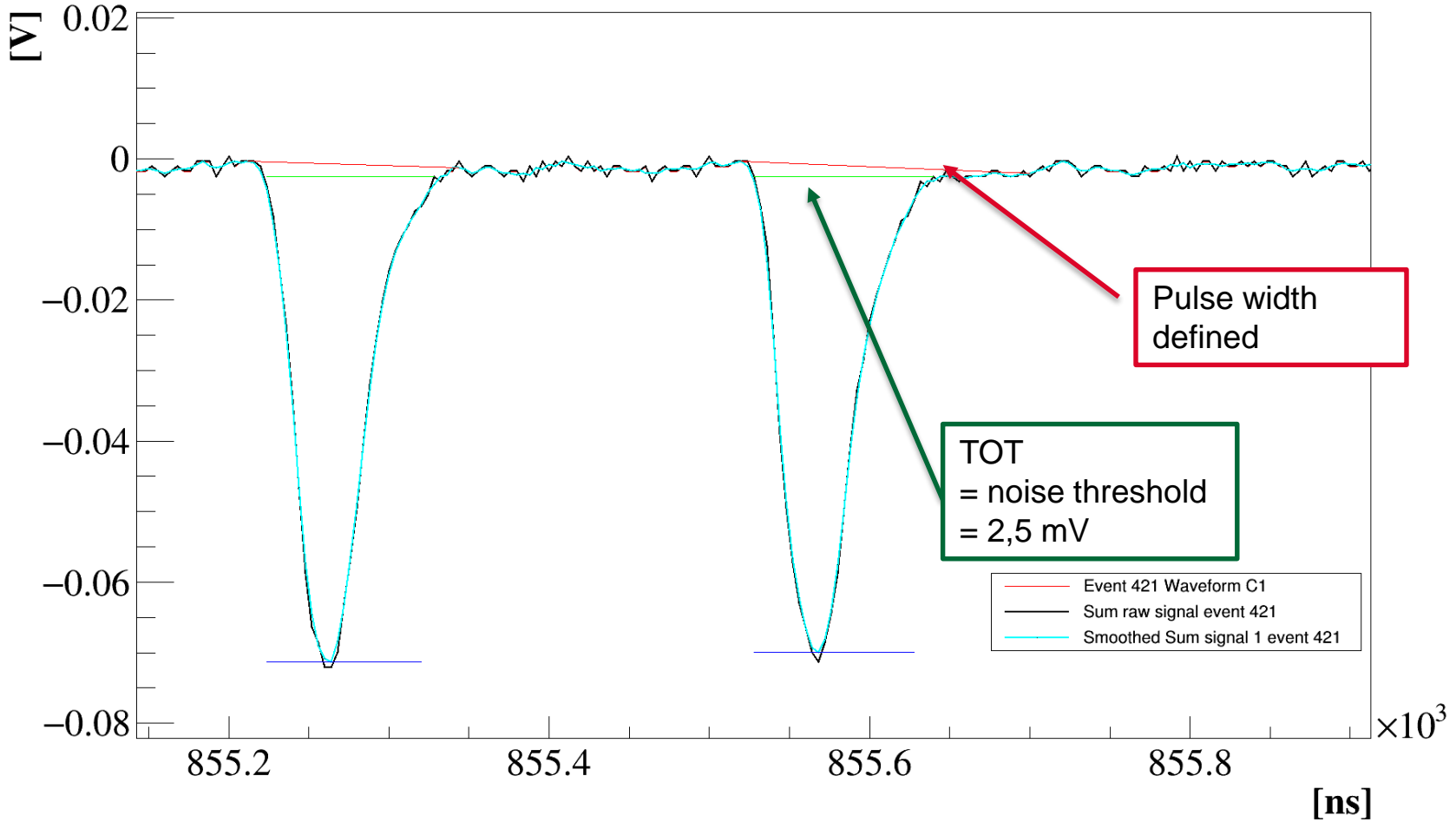
5 Peak identification over Noise Threshold
For each peak identified calculate

- Rise Time : from 10%ampl max to 90% ampl max
- Pulse Width: find end and beginning of pulse requiring ampl to be $<$ than a certain factor of noise threshold and using also the derivative (derivative $<$ than a very small value ~ 0).
- TOT

6 Neutron selection

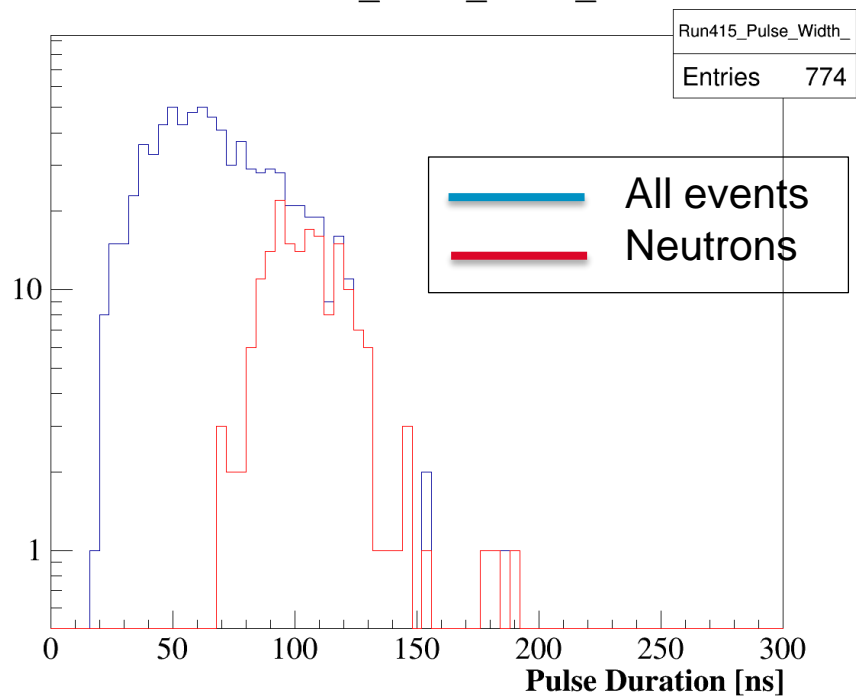
- Cut in amplitude to tag neutron events.
- All variables have been calculated before, when the pulse was identified as a pulse because $\text{ampl} > \text{Noise threshold}$

Event 421 Waveform C1



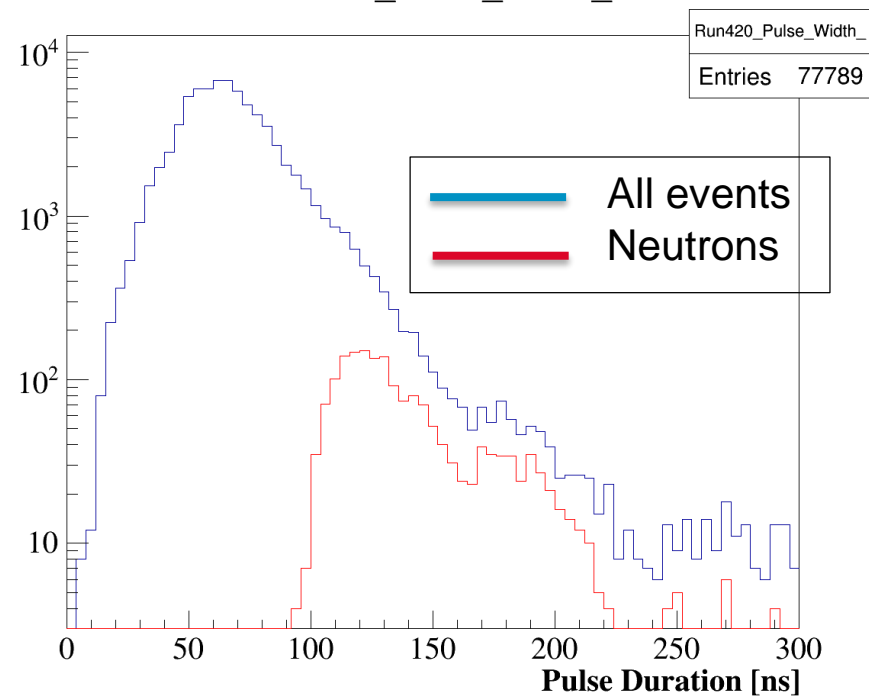
Low gain

Run415_Pulse_Width_



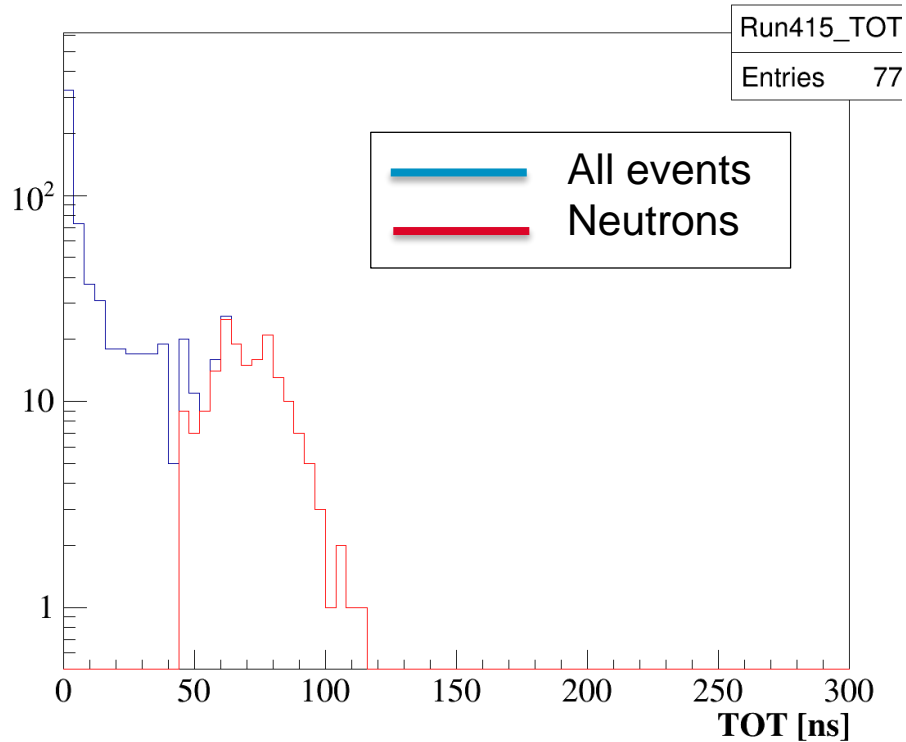
High gain

Run420_Pulse_Width_



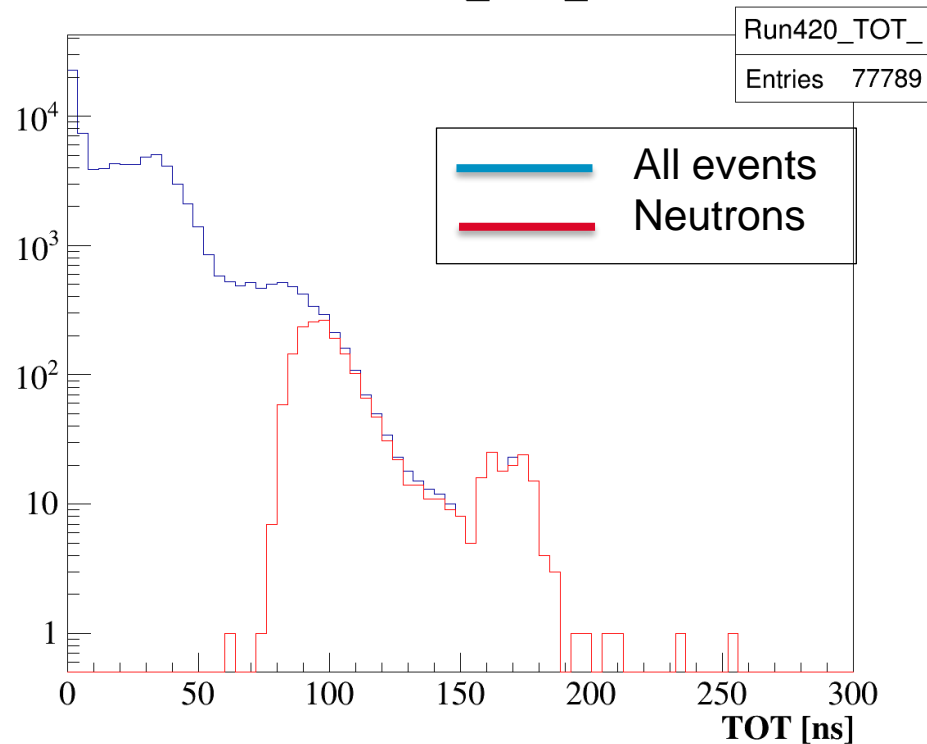
Low gain

Run415_TOT_



High gain

Run420_TOT_



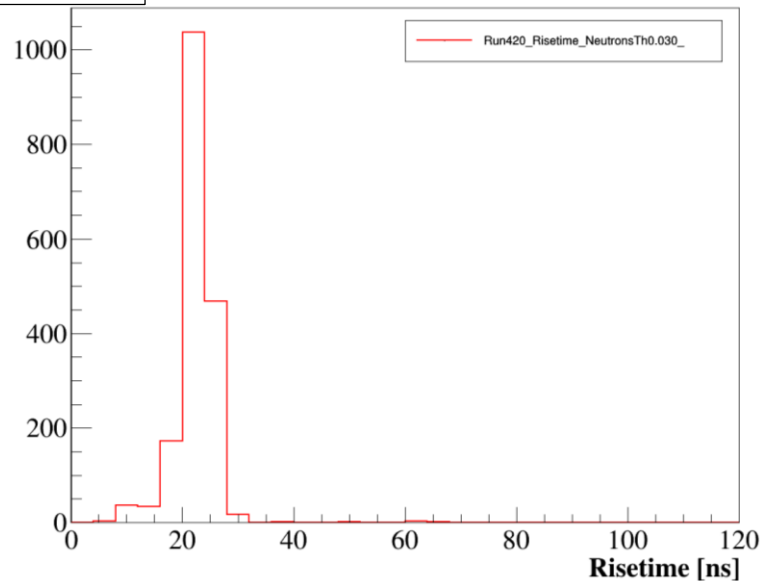
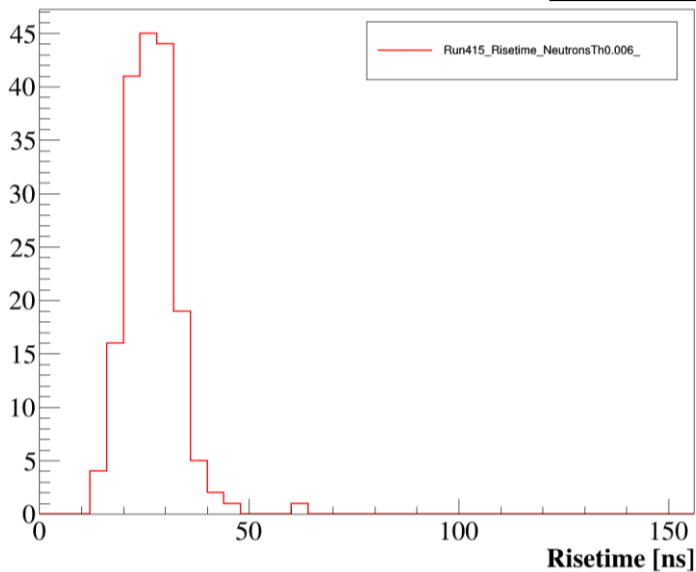
Low gain



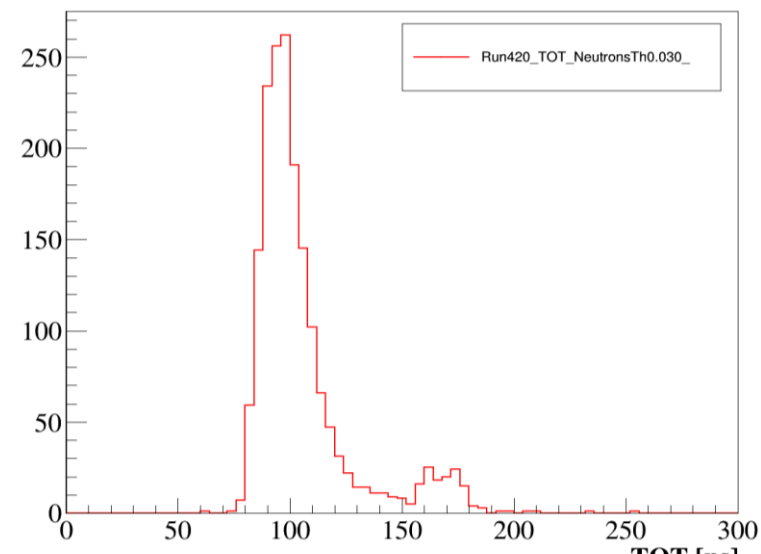
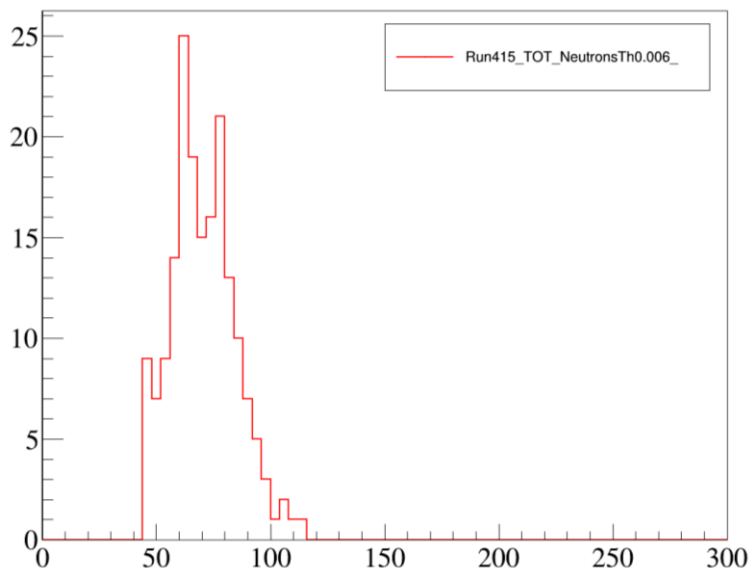
Neutrons

High gain

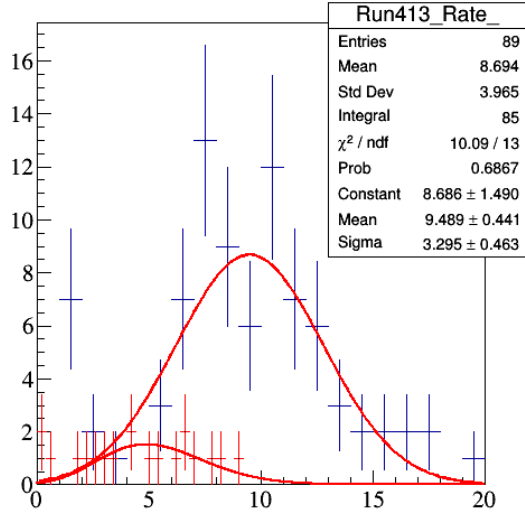
Rise Time



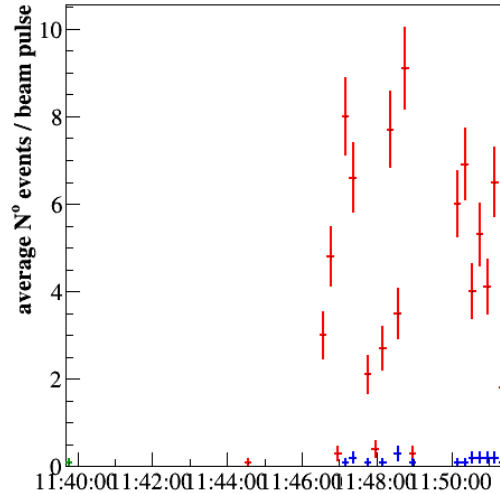
TOT



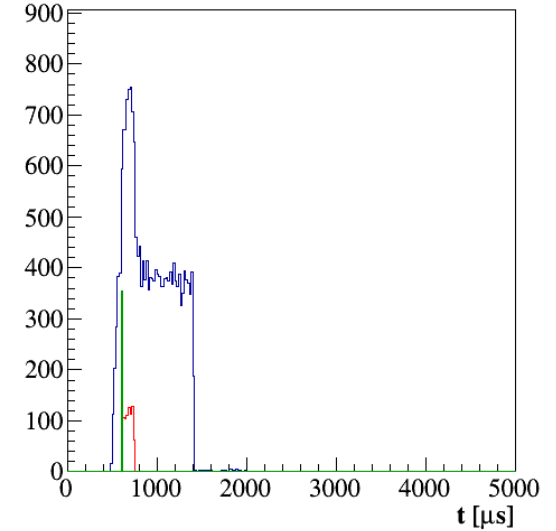
Neutron rate per pulse



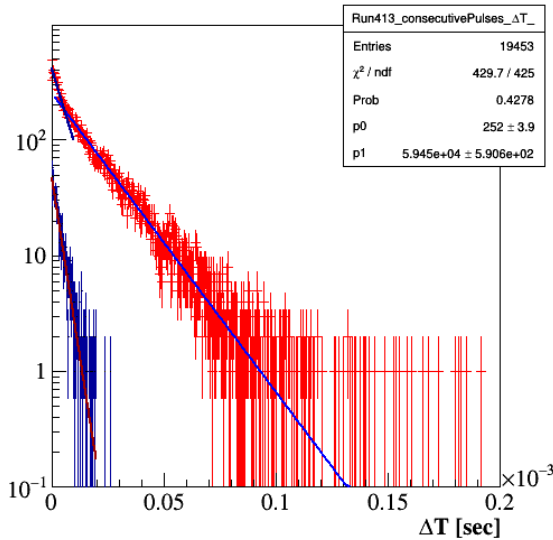
Neutrons



All events



ΔT all particles



$$V_m = -550 \text{ V}, V_d = -1500 \text{ V}$$

Thresholds: peak = 2.5 mV, n = 11 mV

$$\langle r_{n(\Delta t=12s)} \rangle = 5.41 \pm 1.071 \frac{n}{\text{pulse}}$$

$$\langle r_{n(\text{loss events})} \rangle = 9.49 \pm 3.295 \frac{\text{counts}}{\text{pulse}}$$

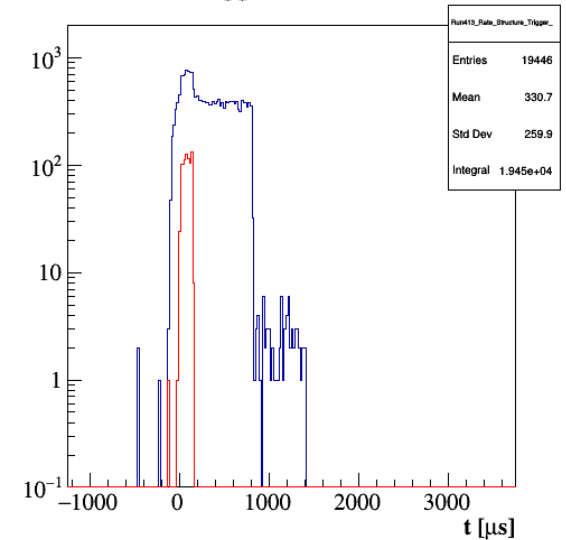
ΔT fit, all particles:

$$\langle r_{\text{all events}} \rangle = 59446 \pm 591 \frac{\text{counts}}{\text{sec}}$$

$$\langle r_{\text{loss events}} \rangle = 146402 \pm 8909 \frac{\text{counts}}{\text{sec}}$$

$$\langle r_{n(\text{loss events})} \rangle = 283447 \pm 16159 \frac{\text{counts}}{\text{sec}}$$

Trigger Structure



- Identified pulse by pulse if
 - Sigma of baseline too large
 - Charge of pulse too large

