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Characterization of the FALSTAFF spectrometer first arm: Study of ^{252}Cf and ^{235}U fission fragments

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1) Irfu, CEA, Université Paris-Saclay, France

2) GANIL, Caen, France

3) European Commission, Joint Research Centre, Geel, Belgium

Outlook

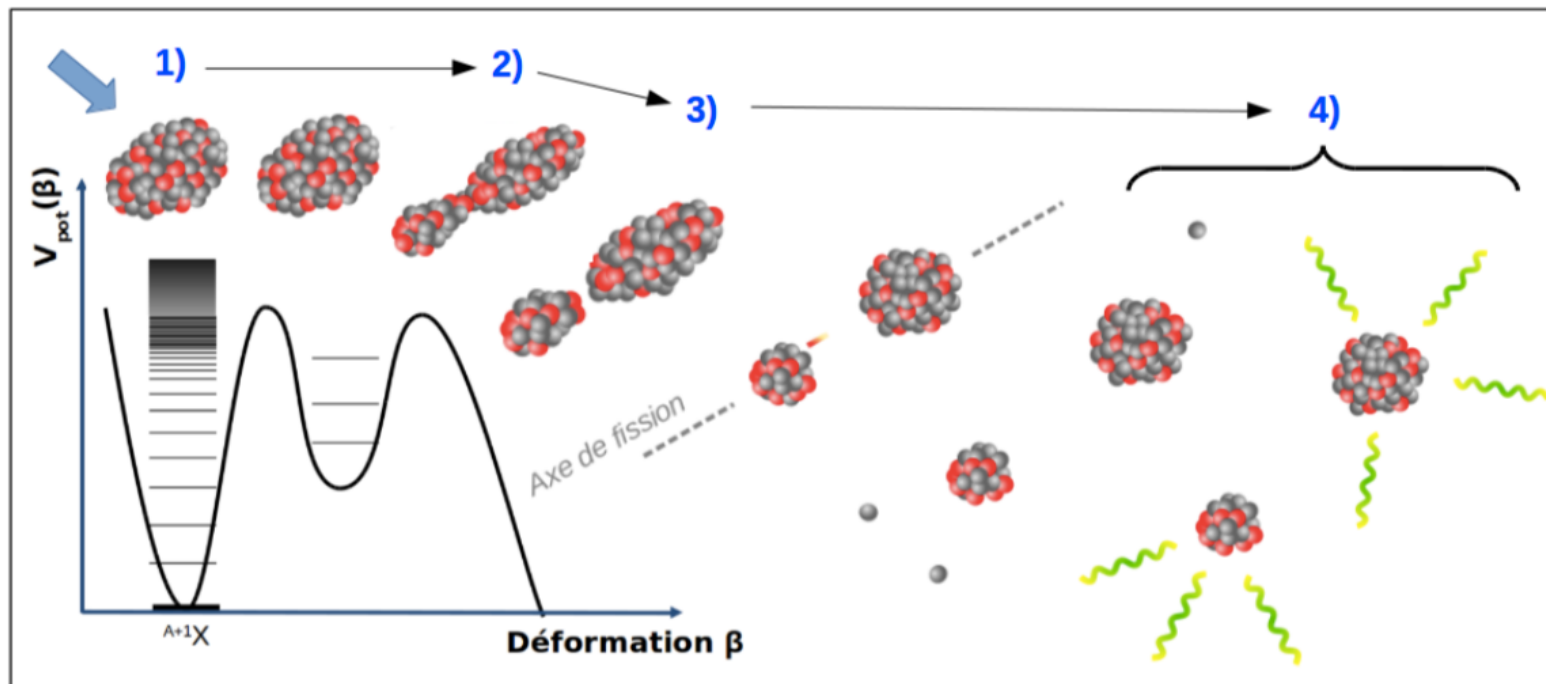
- Context
- Goals and Motivations
- Detectors
- ^{252}Cf and ^{235}U results
- Perspectives and Summary

Nuclear Fission

Splitting of a nuclei into two (+ a few neutron)

Fission process timeline

- 1) Formation of fissioning system
- 2) Deformation up to to saddle point
- 3) Deformation up to the scission point
- 4) De-excitation of primary fragments



Goals and Motivations

Study of actinide fission in the fast energy domain

Fragments in coincidence

- Kinetic energies
- Final masses (after n evaporation)
- Initial masses (before n evaporation)
- Charge

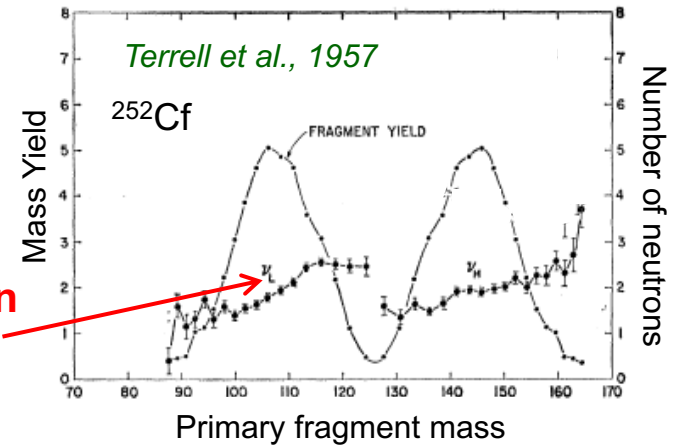
Fragments + gamma

Fragments + neutrons

Actinides to study: $^{238,235}\text{U}$, ^{239}Pu , ^{237}Np , ^{232}Th , ^{233}U , ...

Experiment to be performed at NFS, ...

Neutron
mult.



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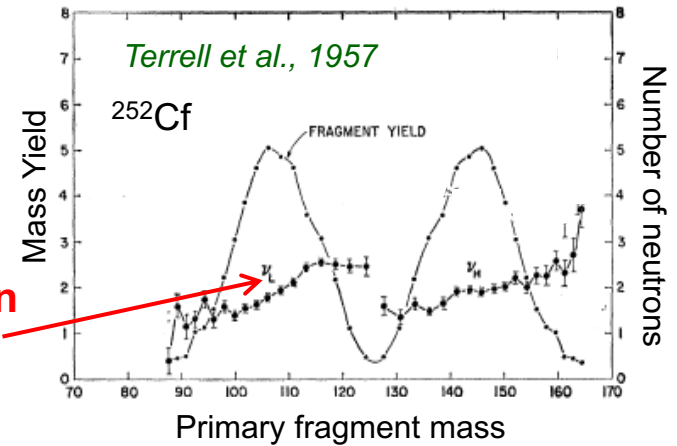
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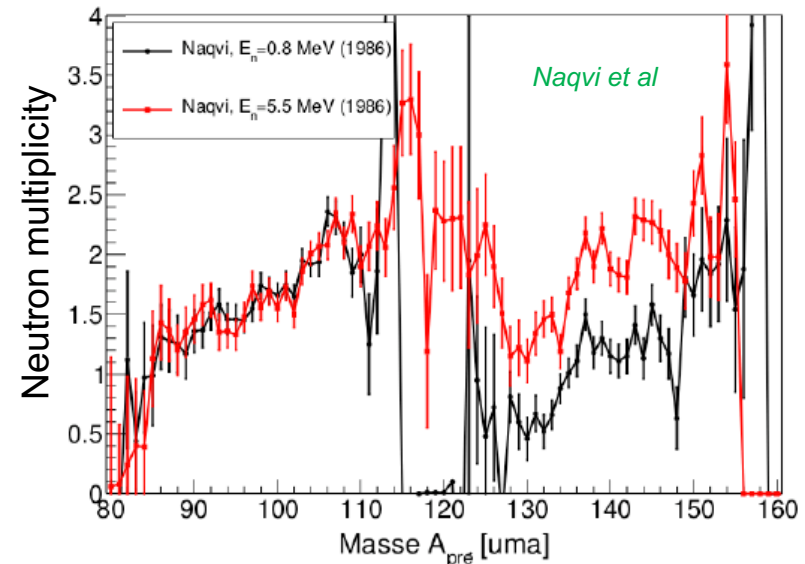
Neutron mult.

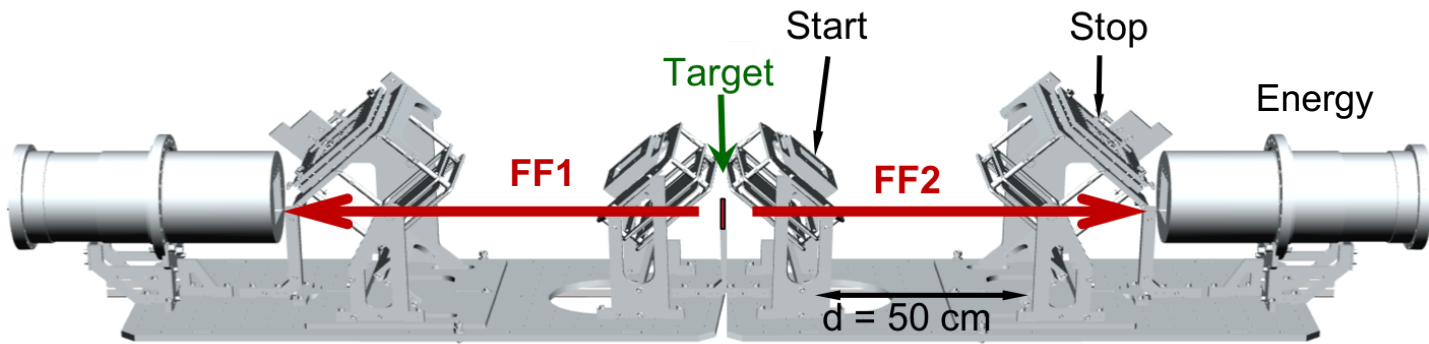


Data needed :

❖ Few data in the fast neutron energy domain

- New generation **reactors**
 - Neutron multiplicity and fission yields
 - Important for ND libraries
- Knowledge about **fission process**
 - energy sharing
 - deformation...





FF mass before evaporation (A_{pre}) \rightarrow The 2V method

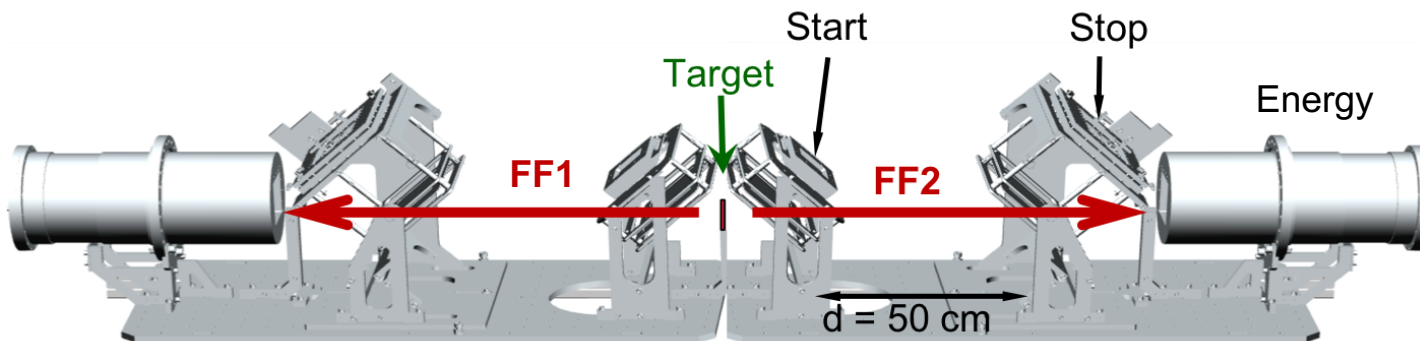
- Hyp: n evaporation does not modify **average velocity**

Measurement using time-of-flight (ToF) method

- Timing resolution : $\sigma_t \sim 150 \text{ ps}$
- Spatial resolution : $\sigma_{x,y} \sim 2 \text{ mm}$



Emissive foils + MWPC



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FF mass after evaporation (A_{post}) → The EV method

- Energy loss corrections

Measurement using an energy detector + ToF

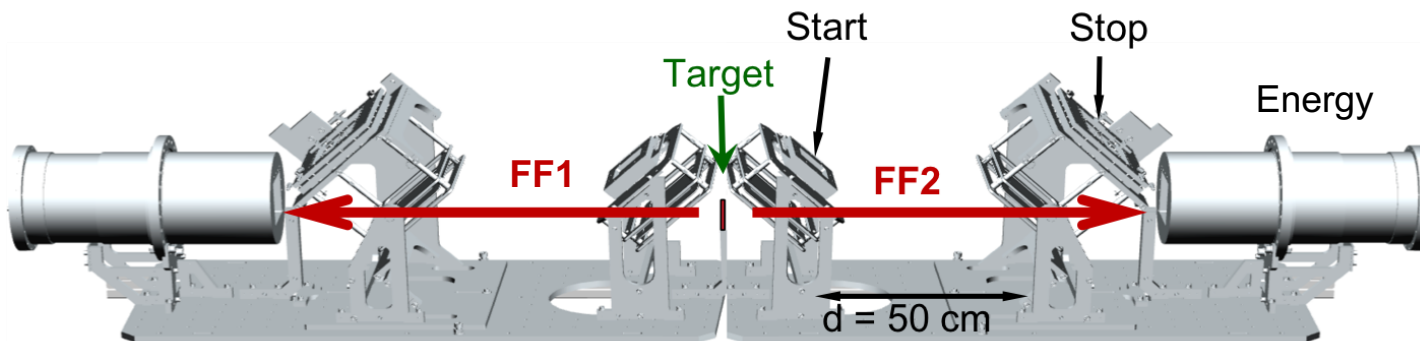
- Timing & position resolution similar to 2V
- Energy resolution $DE/E \sim 1\%$
- Energy loss profile → ~Z

↓
Emissive foils + MWPC

Fragment energy losses
- Thickness/homog. of materials
- Track reconstruction
- Good calc. of DE

↓
Axial ionization chamber

Method



FF mass before evaporation (A_{pre}) → The 2V method

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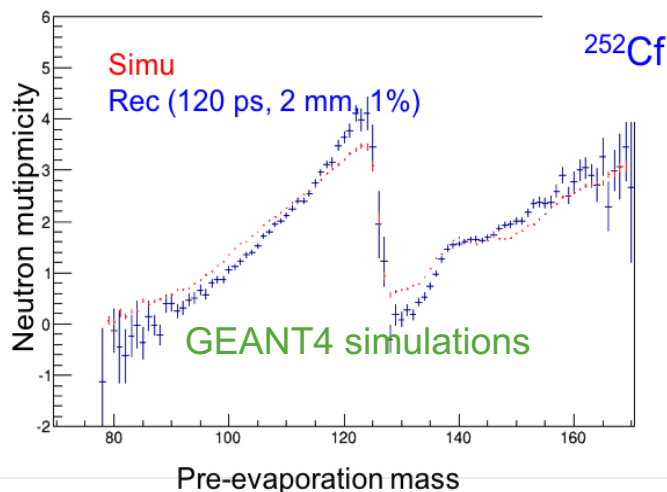
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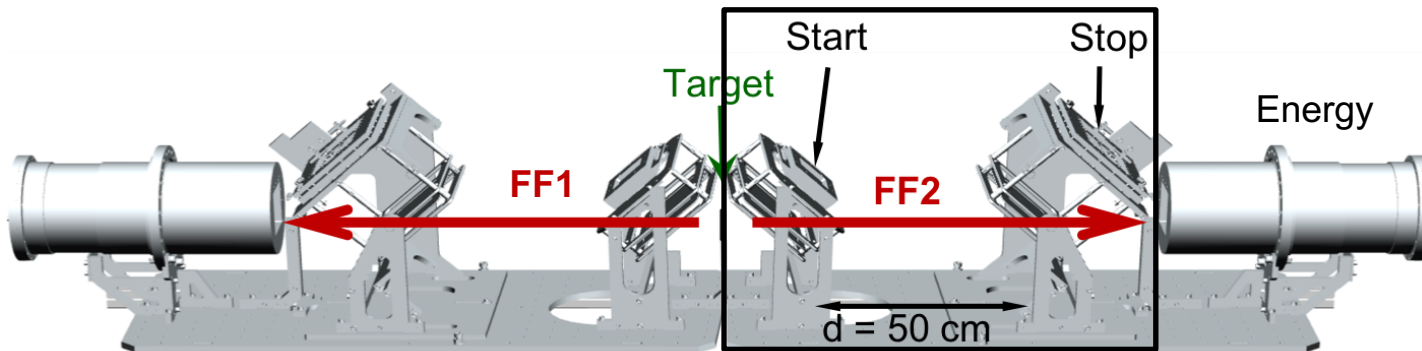
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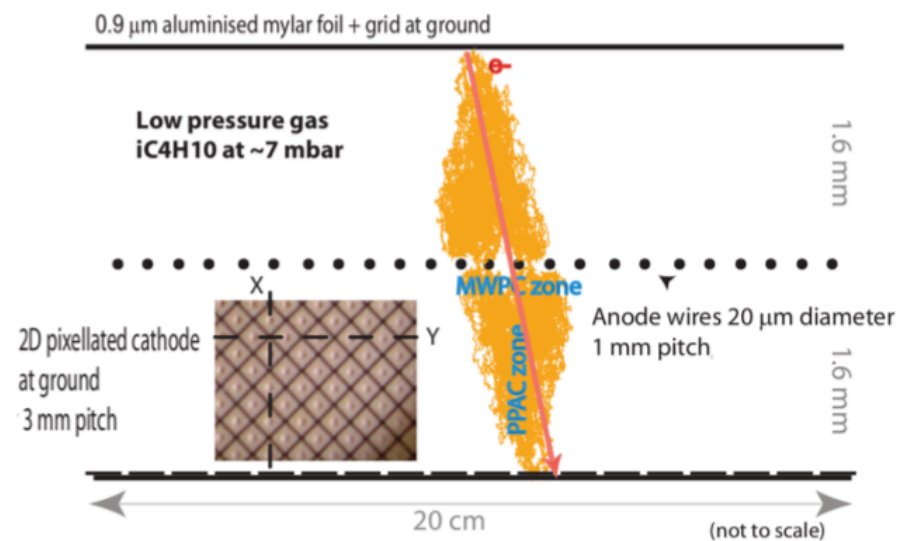


↓
Axial ionization chamber

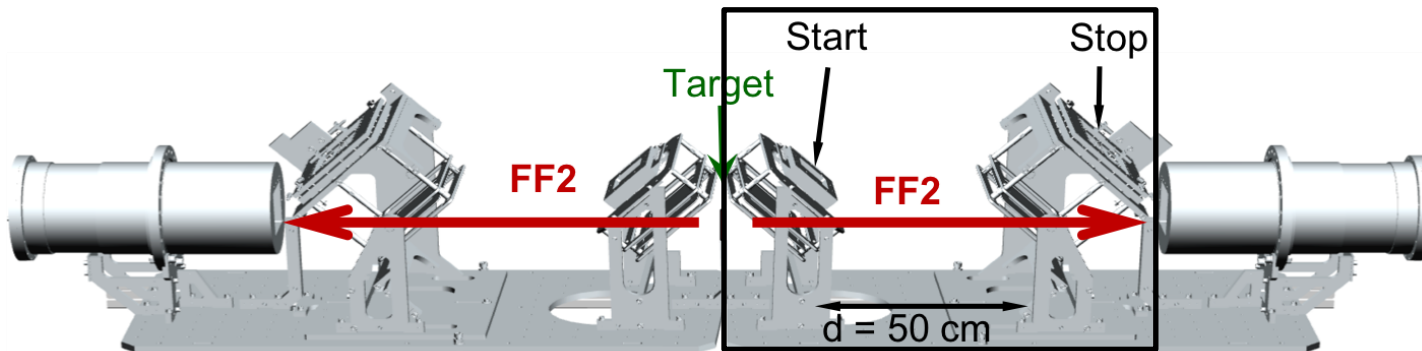
ToF Detectors



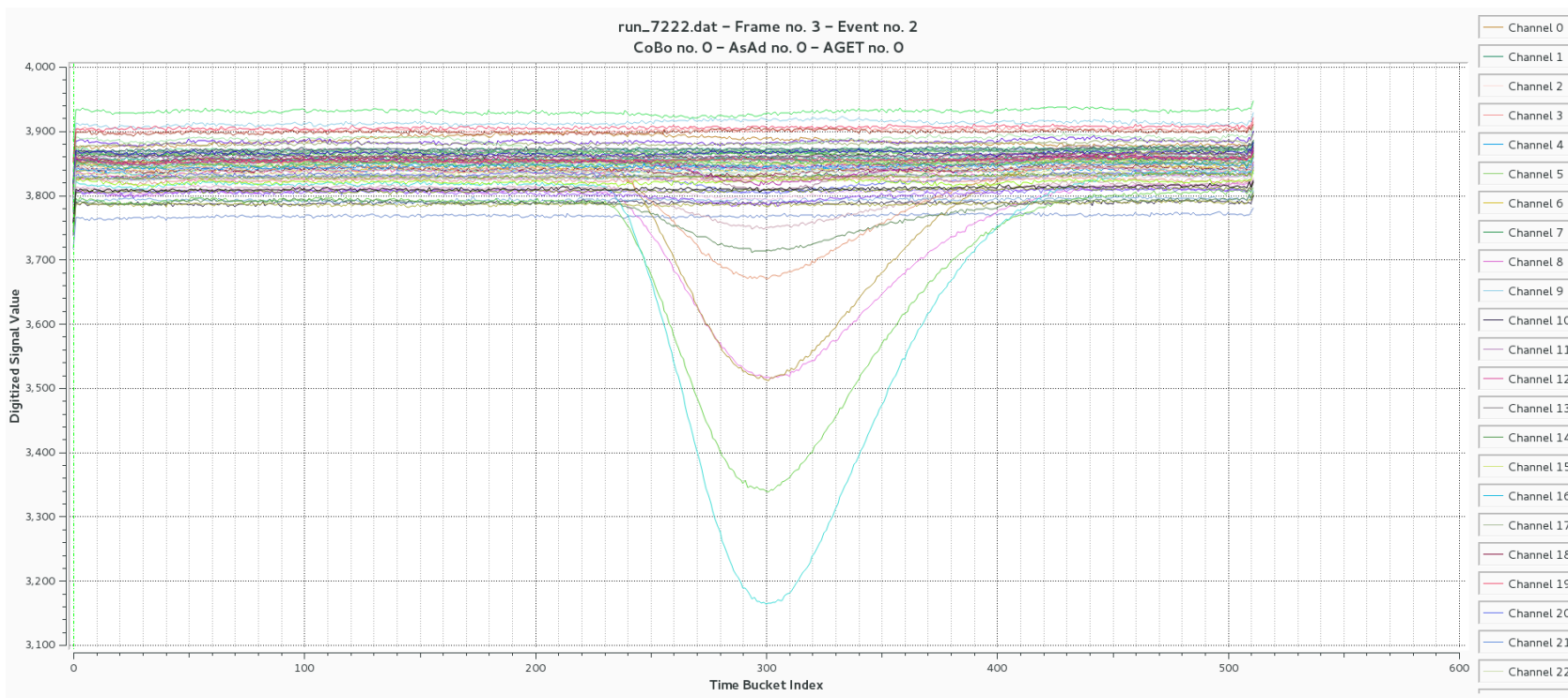
Stop ($20 \times 14 \text{ cm}^2$)



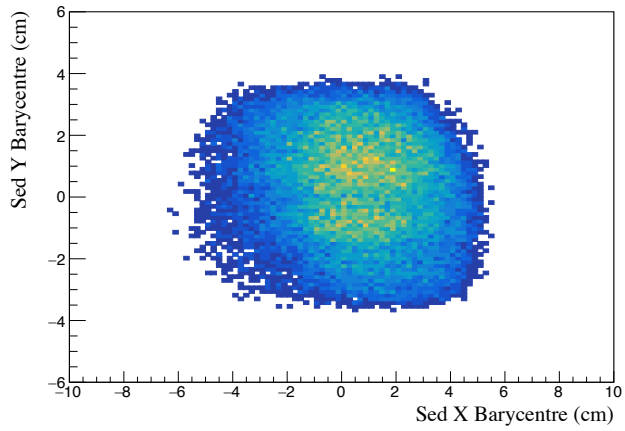
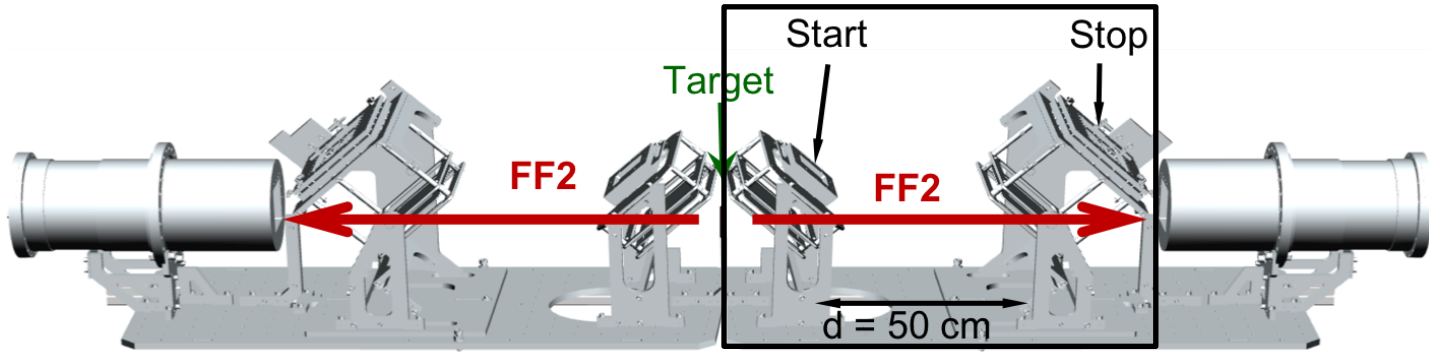
ToF Detectors



Position calculation

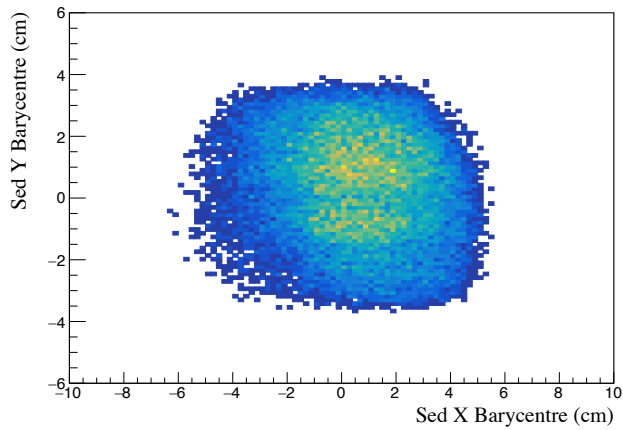
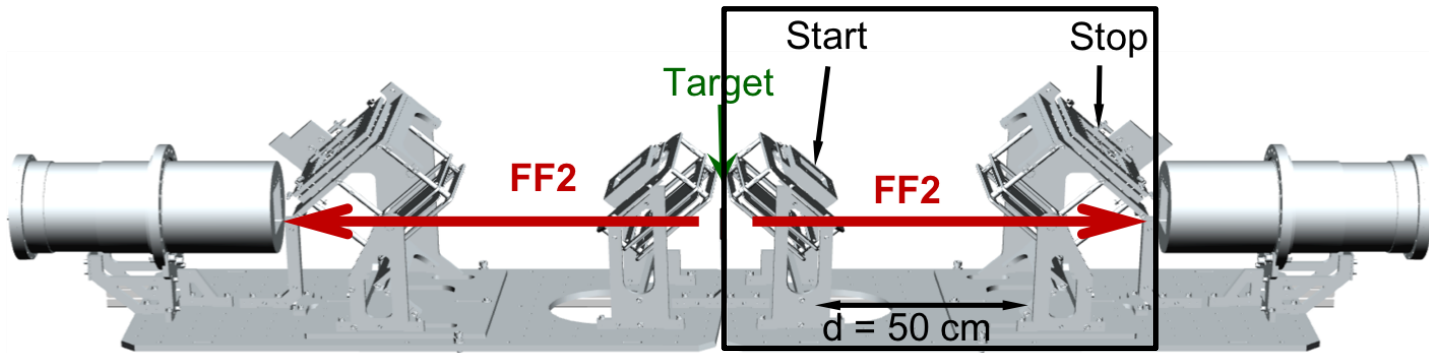


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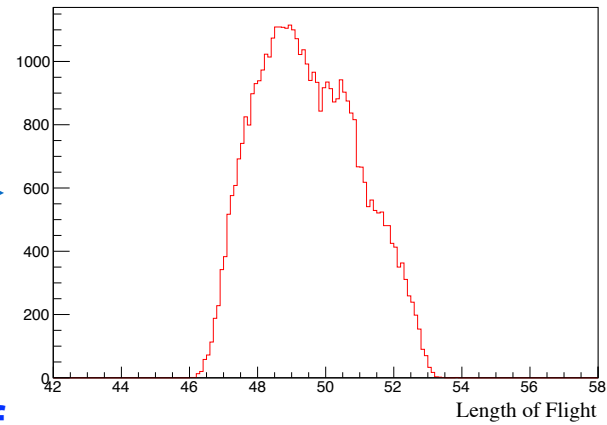


^{252}Cf

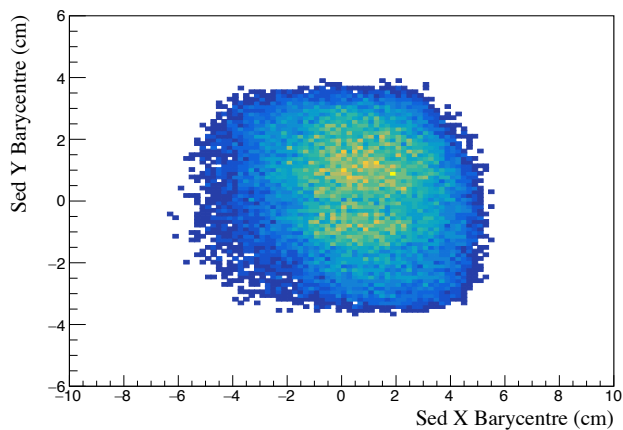
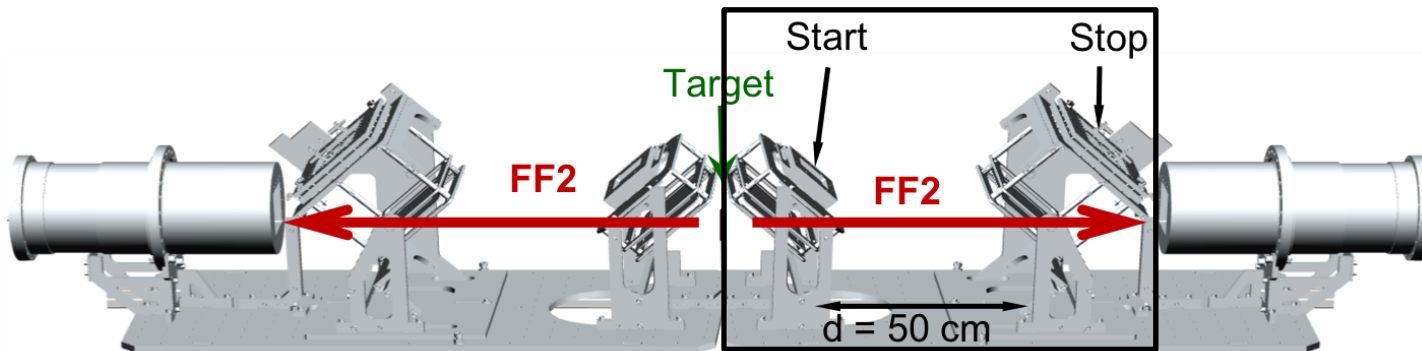
ToF Detectors



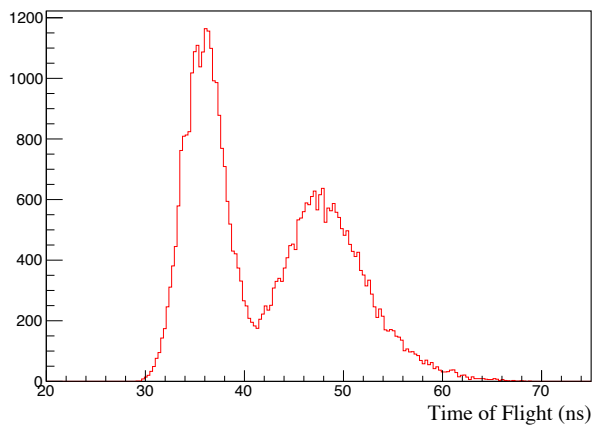
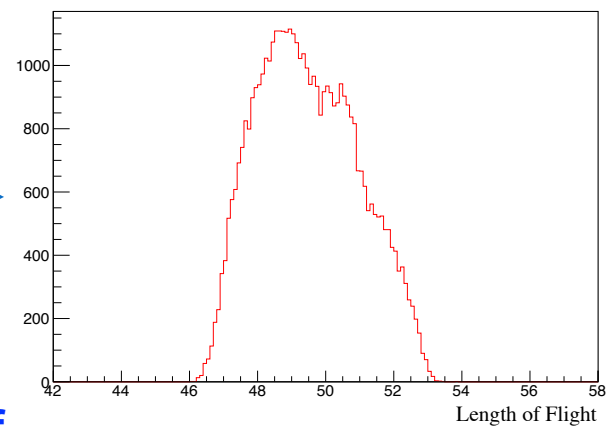
^{252}Cf



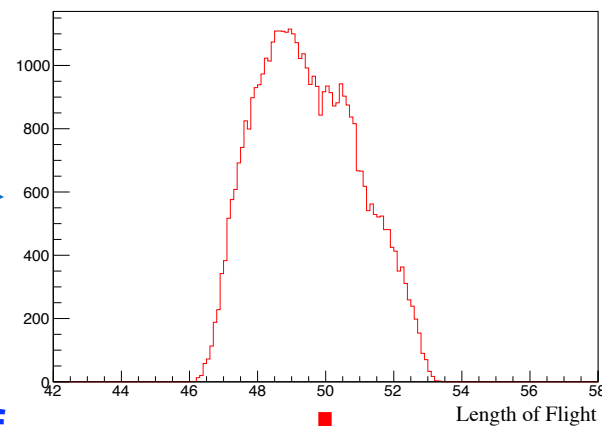
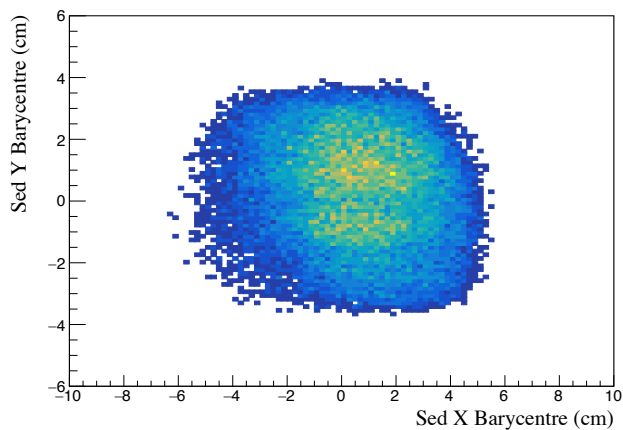
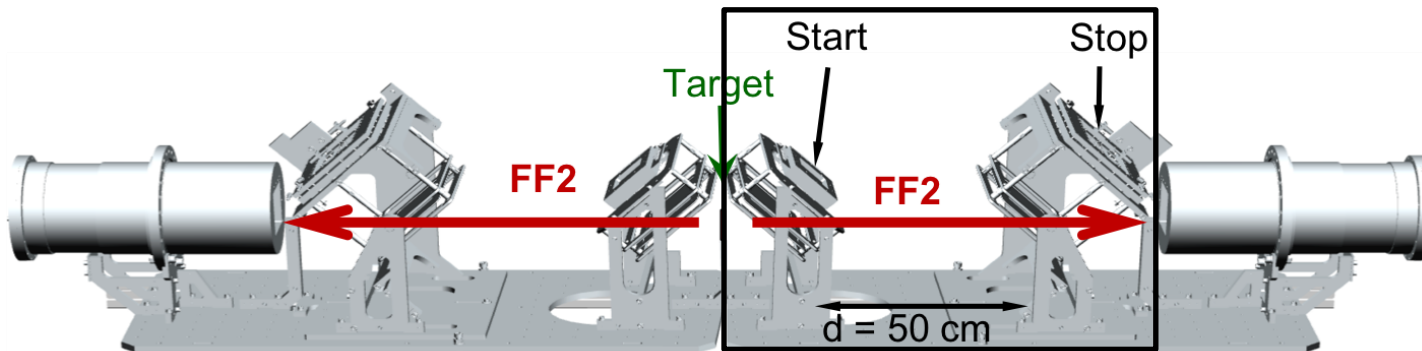
ToF Detectors



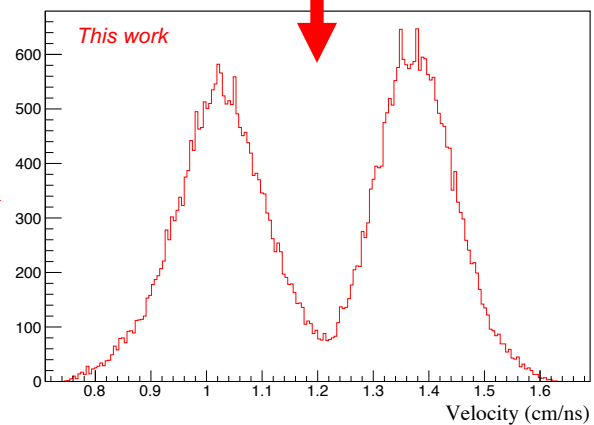
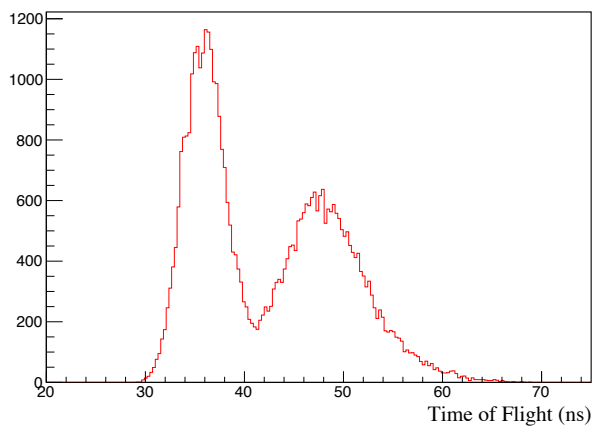
^{252}Cf



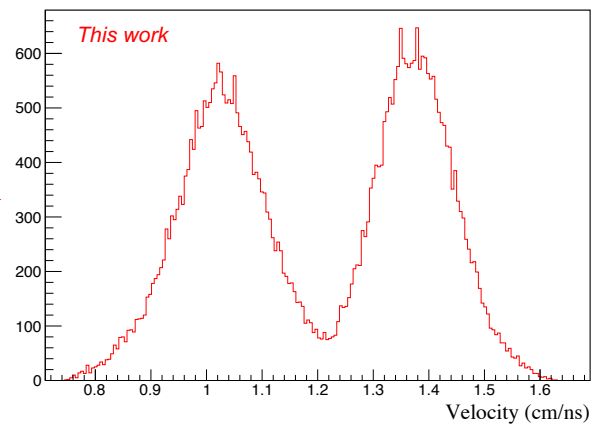
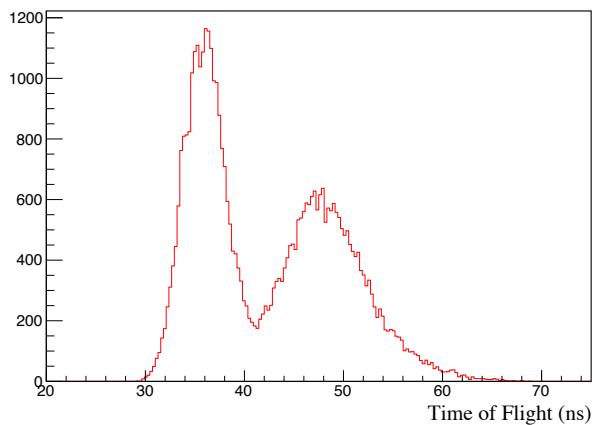
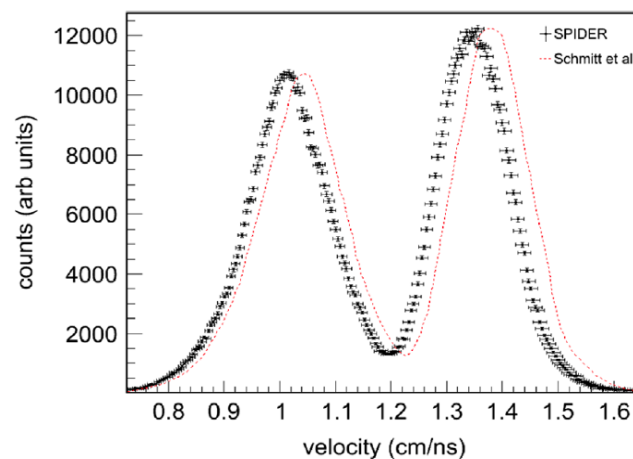
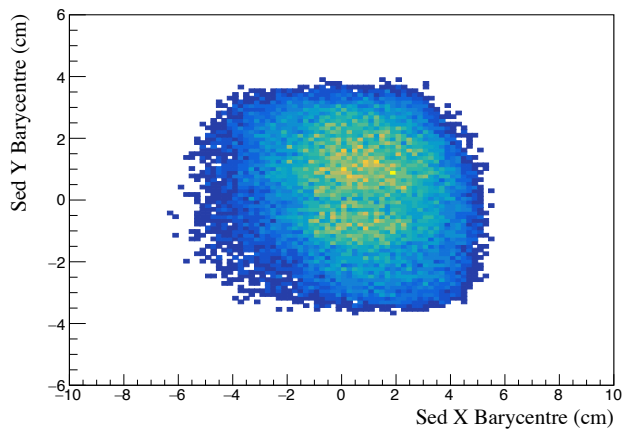
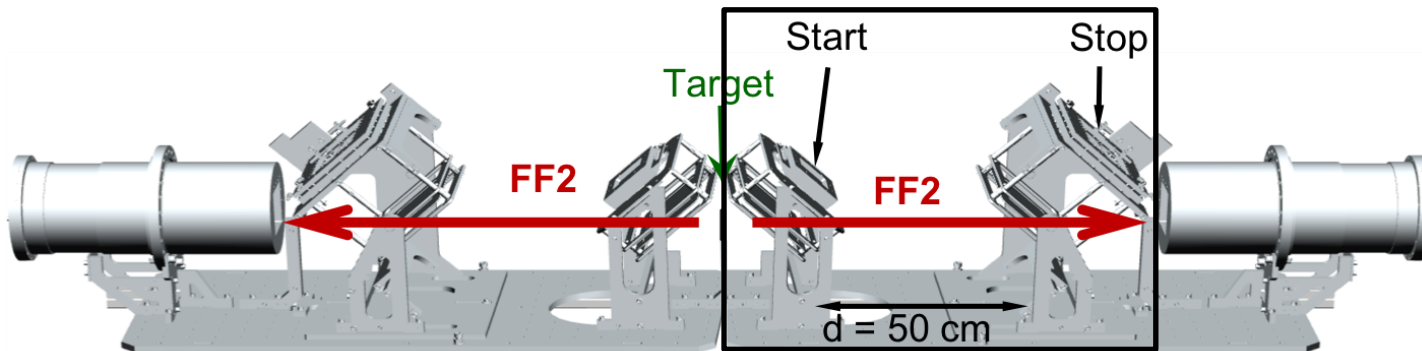
ToF Detectors



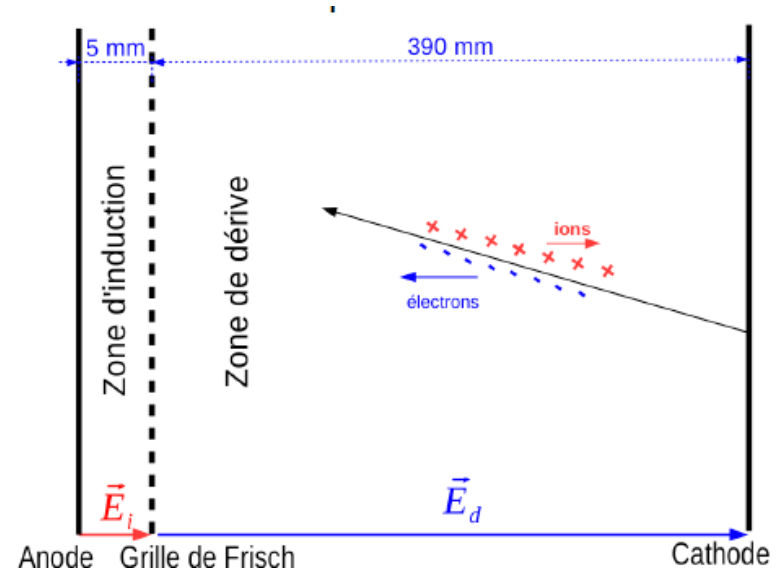
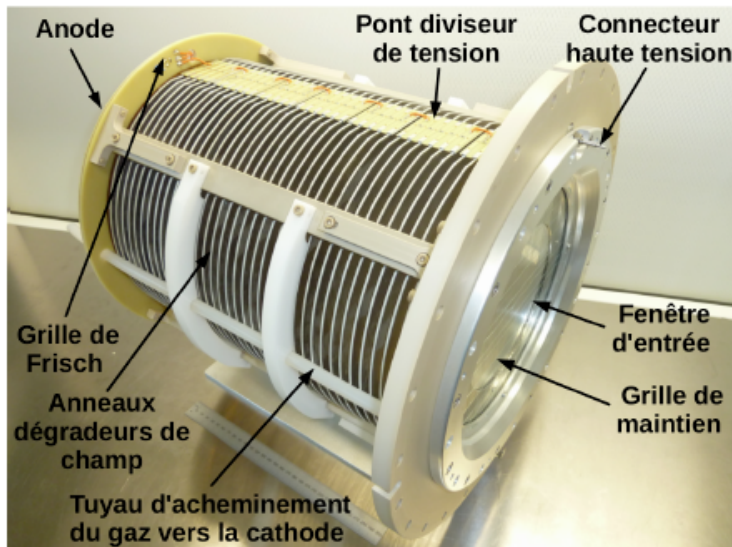
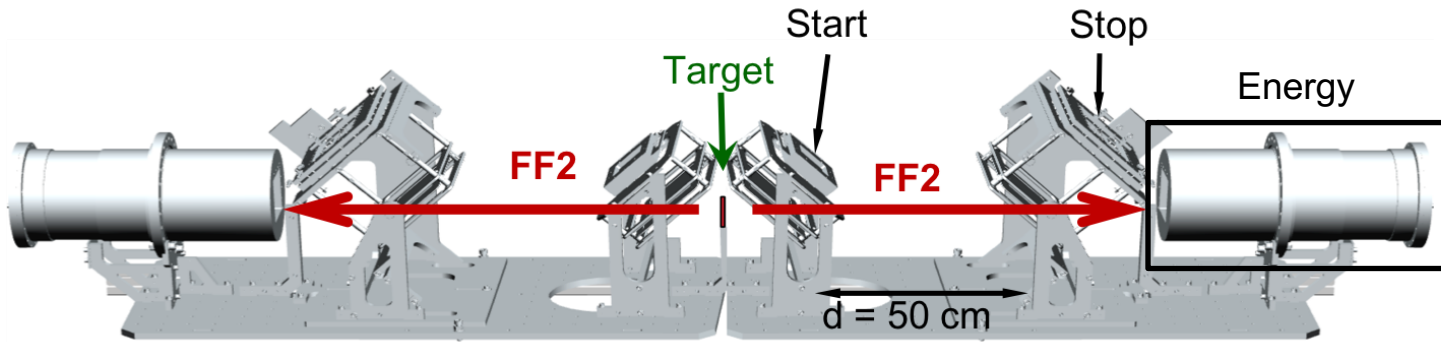
²⁵²Cf



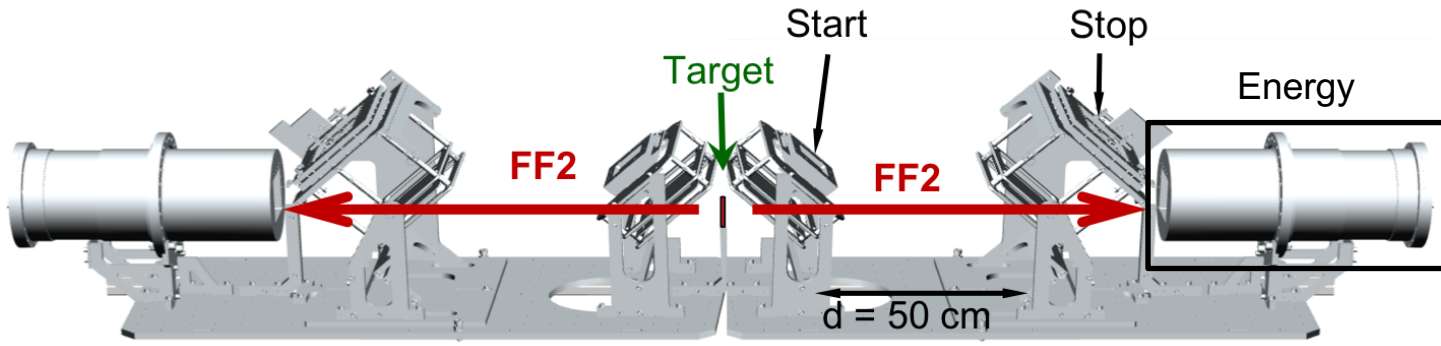
ToF Detectors



Energy Detector

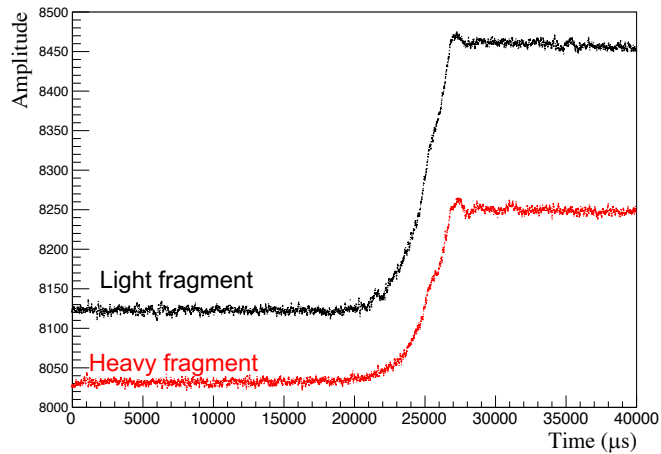


Energy Detector

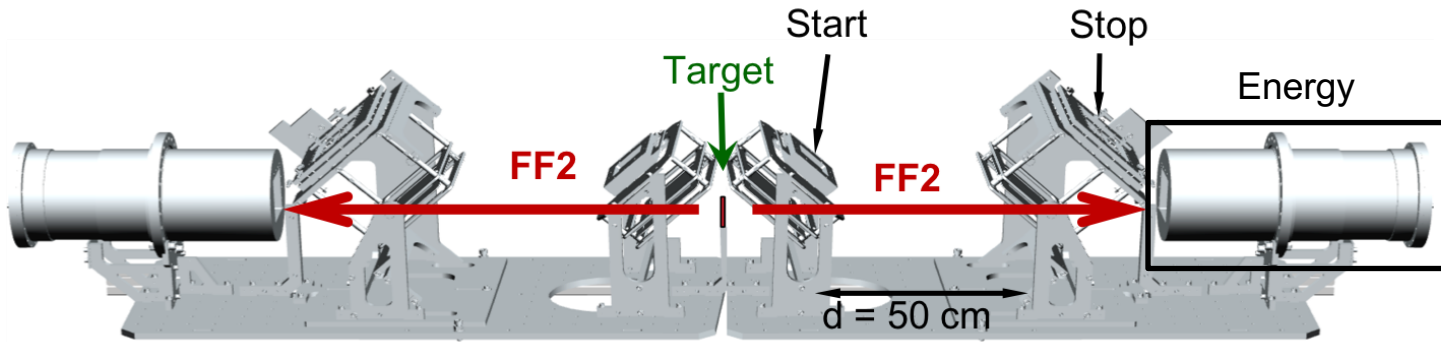


❖ Digitalization of anode signal

- ❖ Possible to derivate
- ❖ Smoothing methods

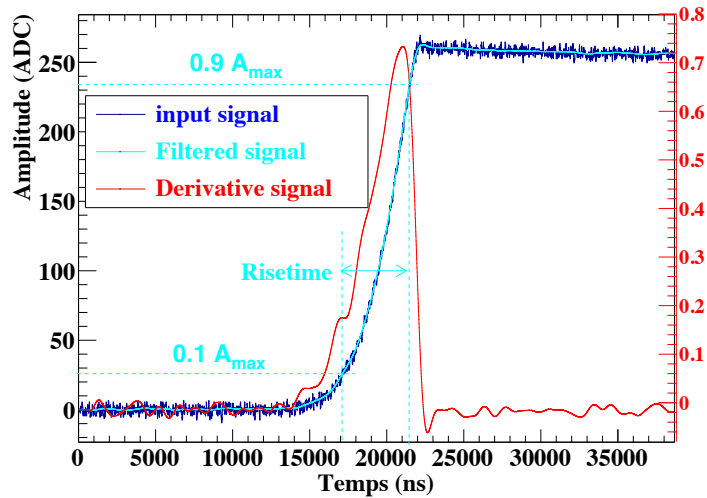


Energy Detector

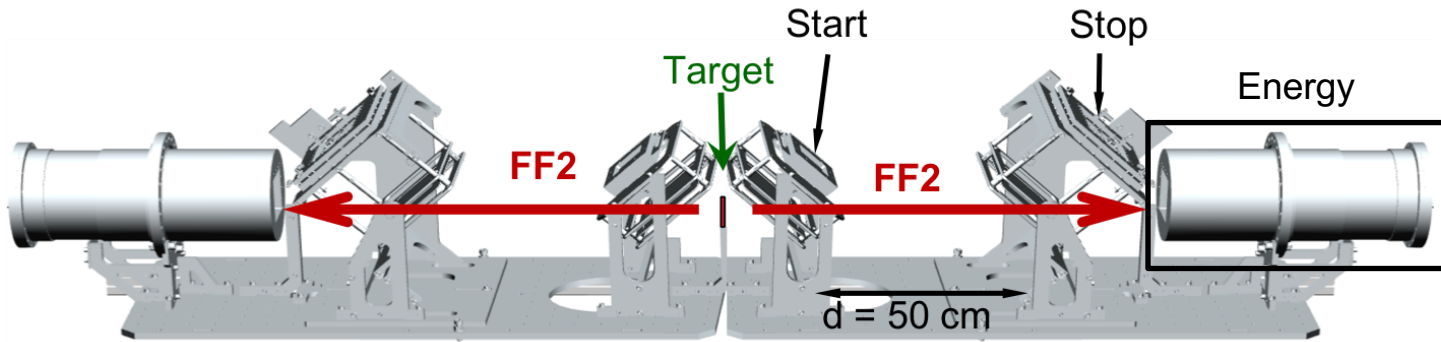


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Energy Detector

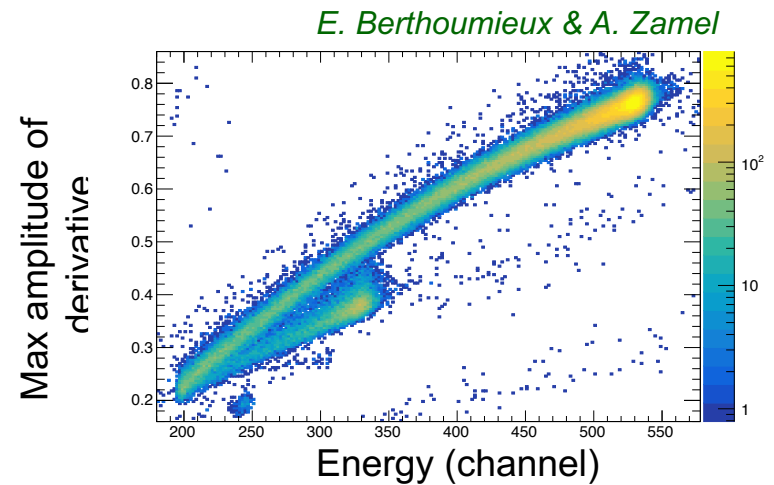
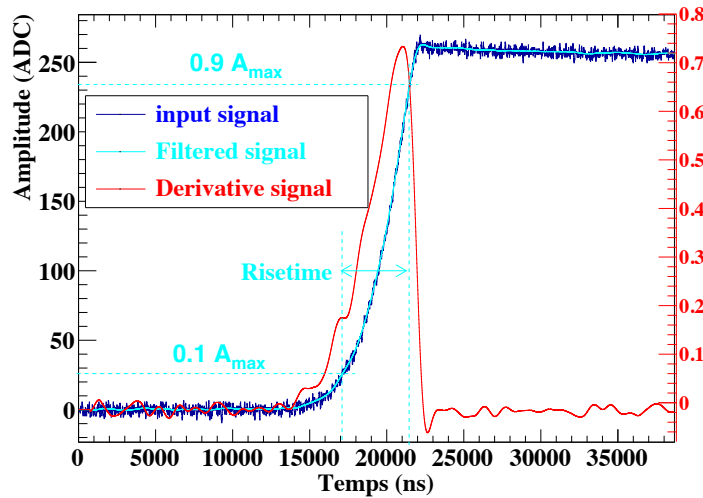


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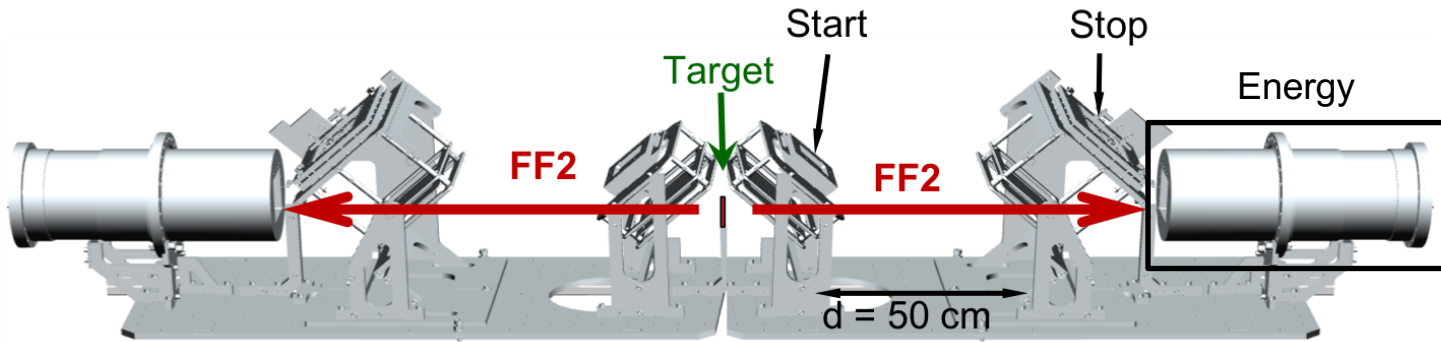
- ❖ Possible to derivate
- ❖ Smoothing methods

❖ Calibration experiment at IPNO

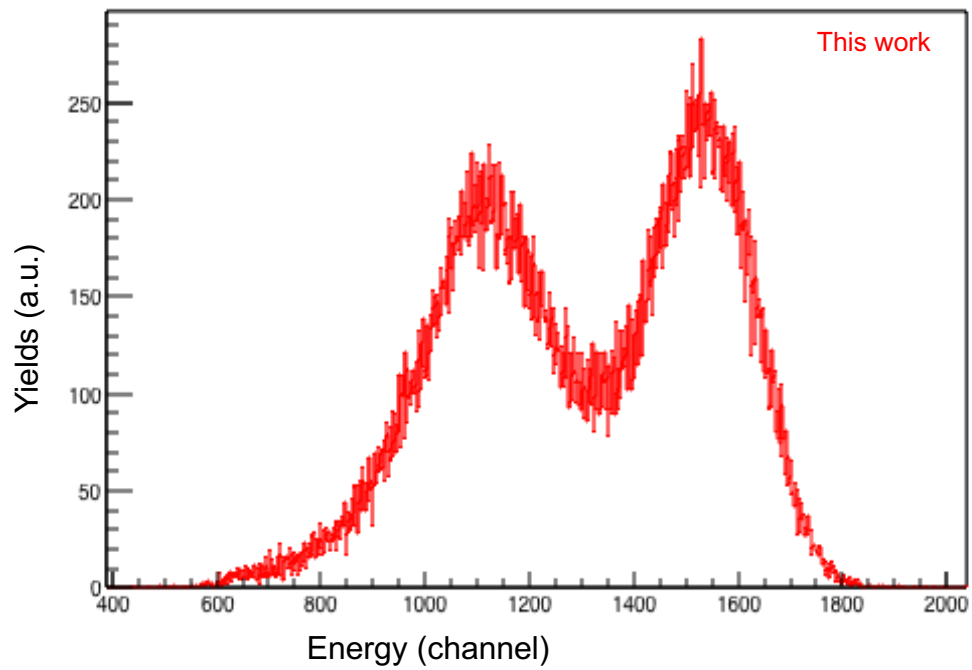
- ❖ Energy and energy loss profile studies
- (Br, I) between 60-100 MeV
- Elastic scattering at 30°



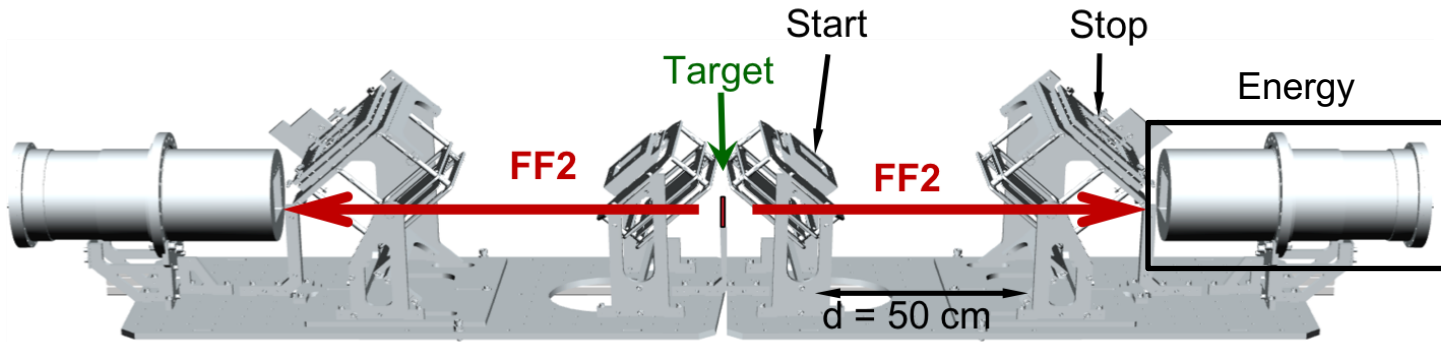
Energy Detector



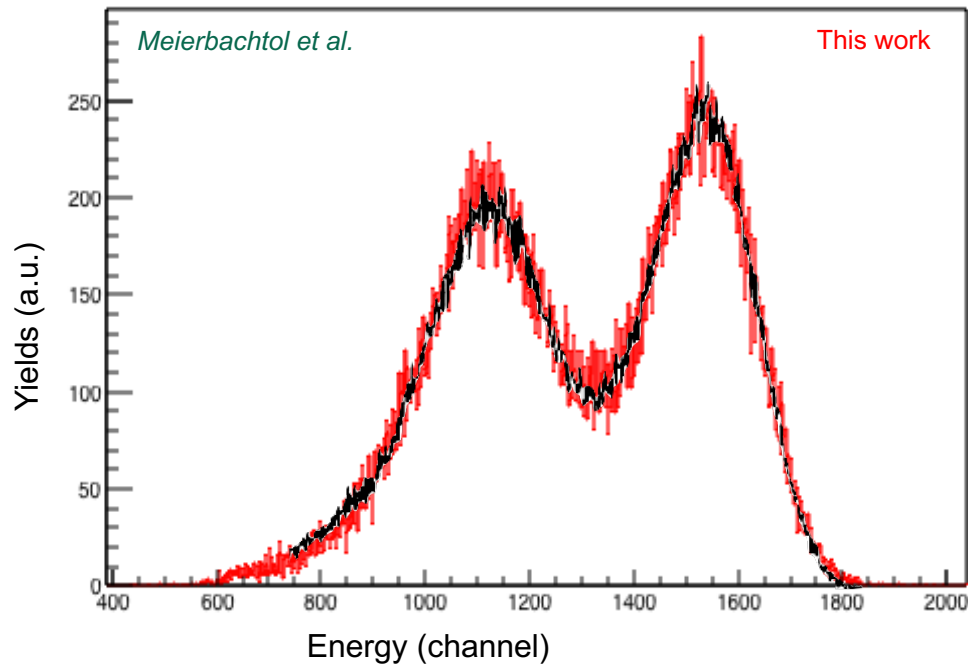
^{252}Cf source



Energy Detector

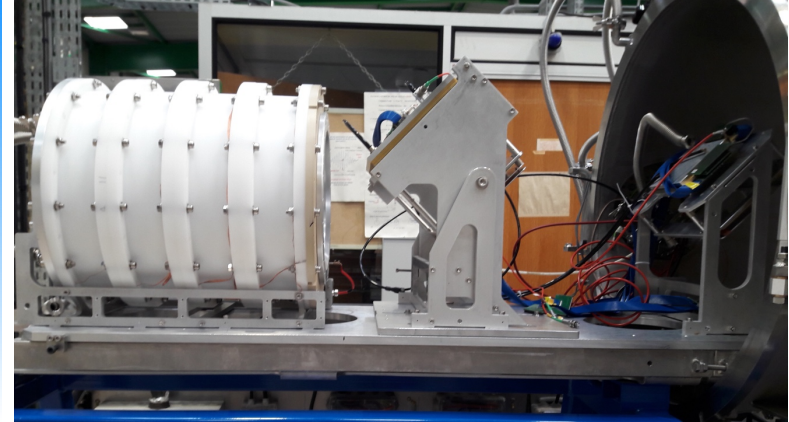
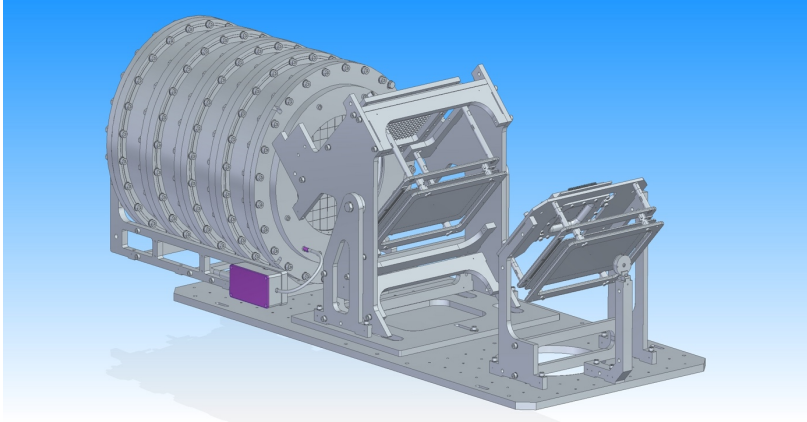


^{252}Cf source

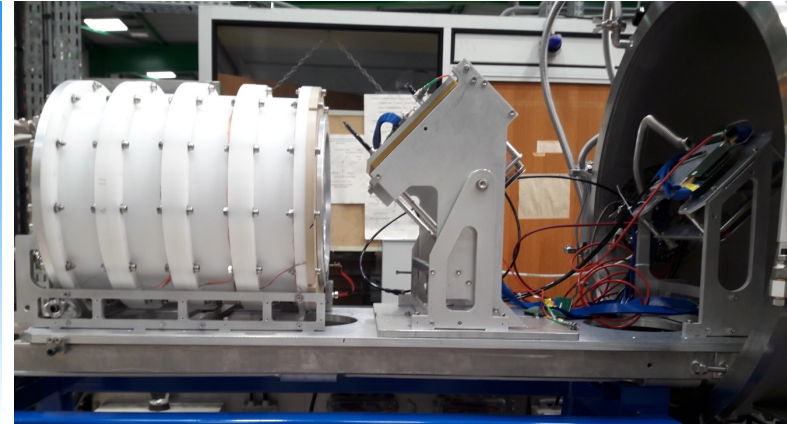
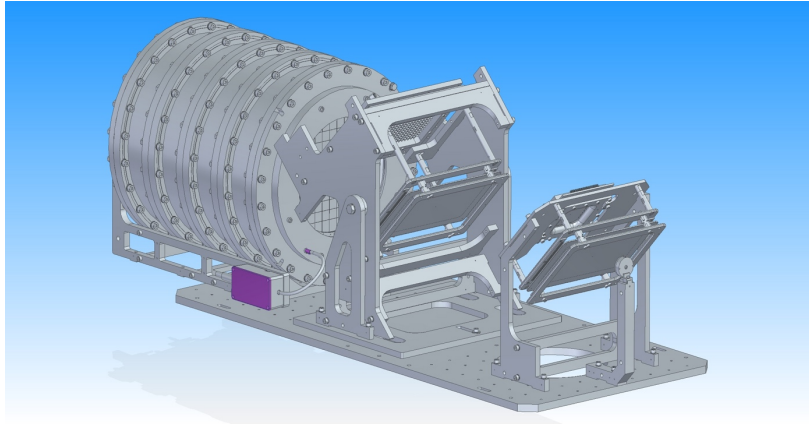


- ❖ Good agreement with literature
- ❖ Expected resolution

First Arm of FALSTAFF

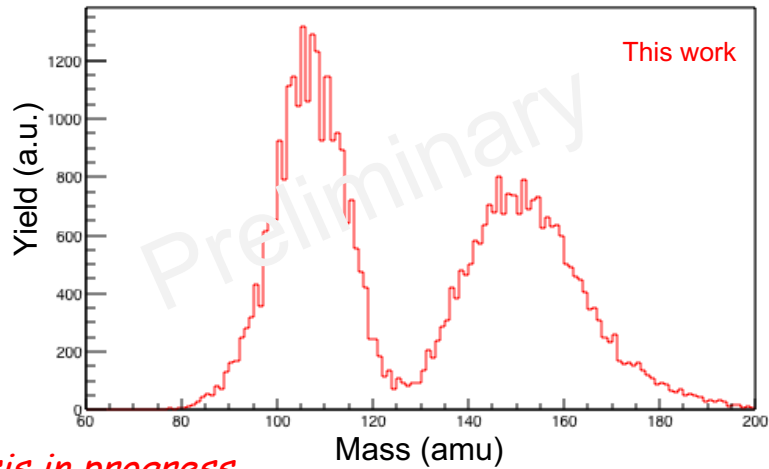


First Arm of FALSTAFF



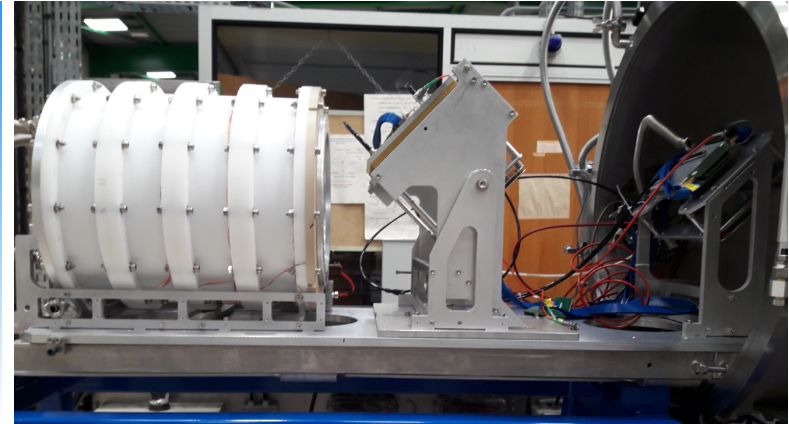
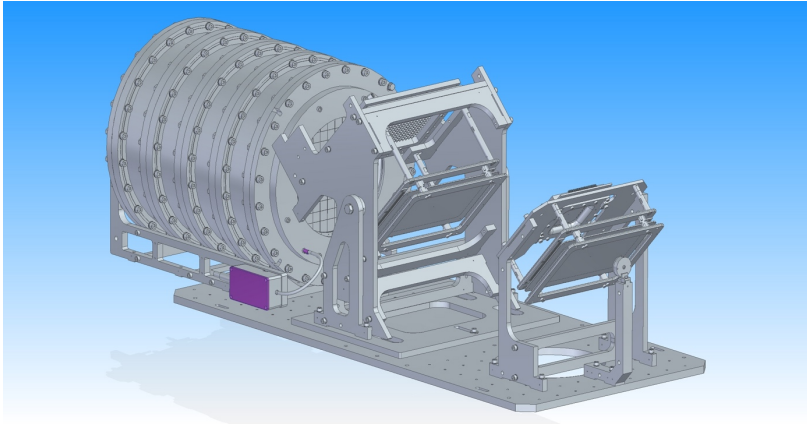
With a ^{252}Cf source ...

Iterative procedure
Energy loss corrections



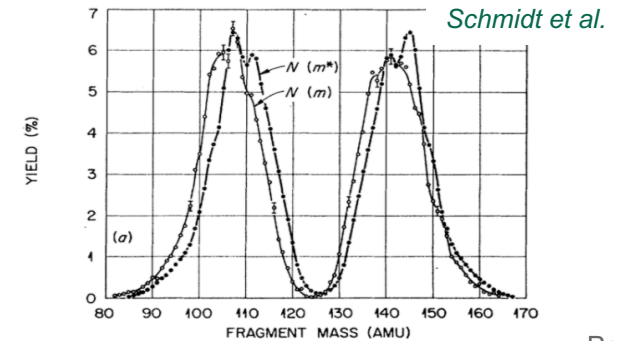
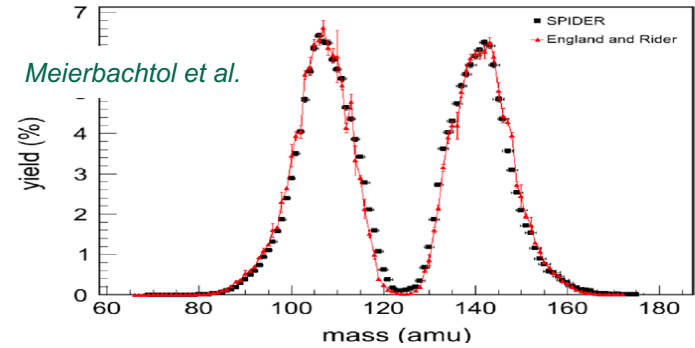
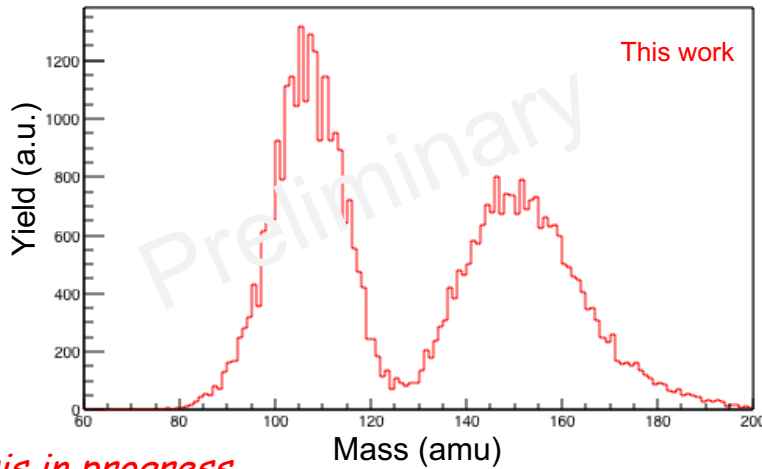
Analysis in progress

First Arm of FALSTAFF



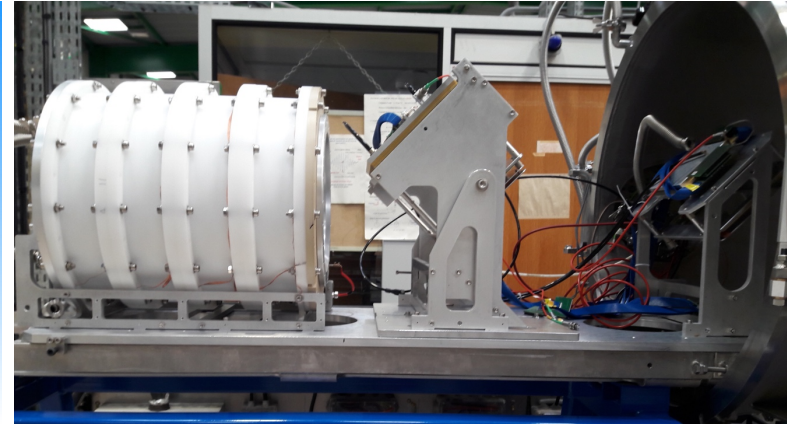
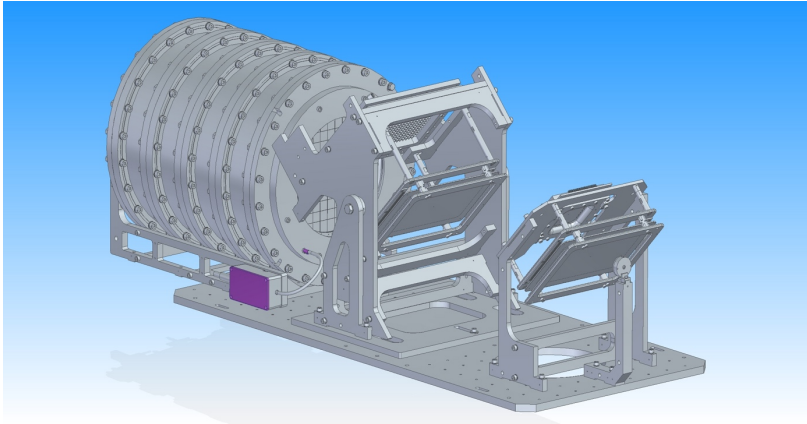
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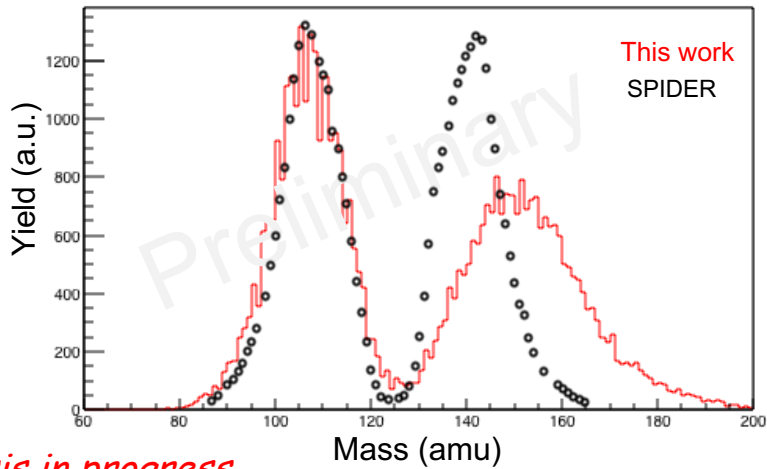
Loss of heavy fragments due to start detector problem

First Arm of FALSTAFF

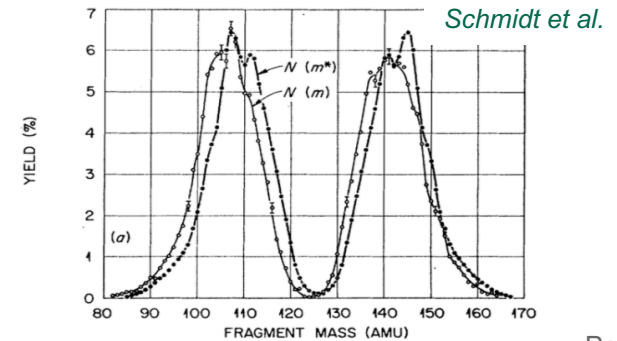
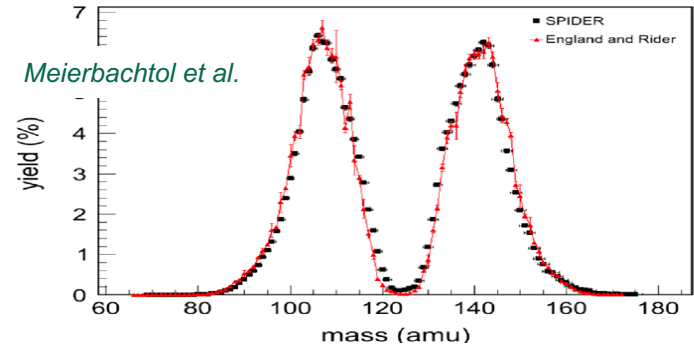


With a ^{252}Cf source ...

Iterative procedure
Energy loss corrections



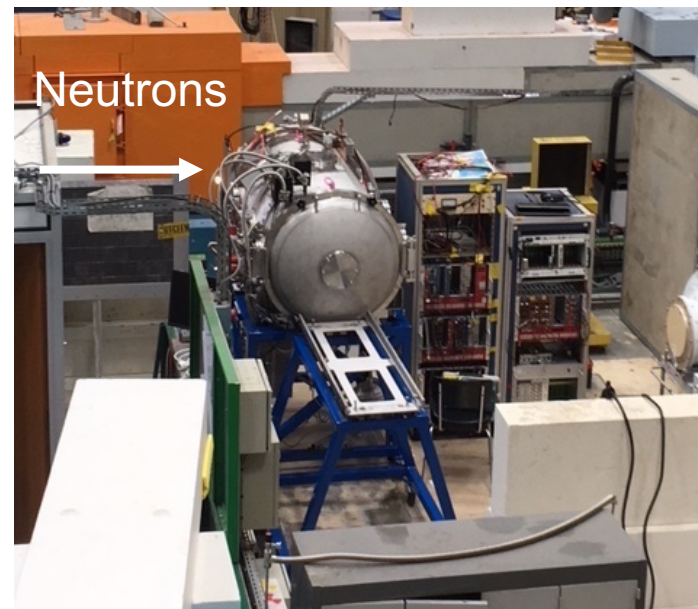
Analysis in progress



Loss of heavy fragments due to start detector problem

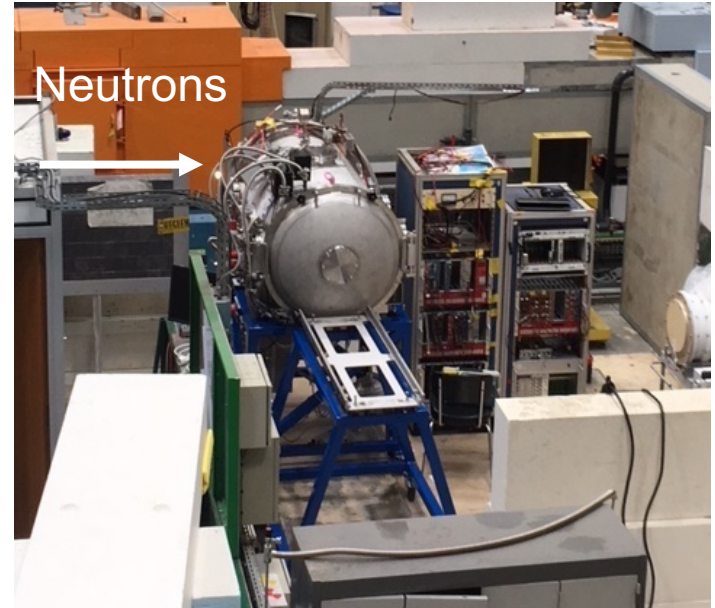
Experiment at the Orphée reactor (Saclay)

- ✓ Target : ^{235}U (8 & 20 μg , $\phi = 1$ cm), CEA/DIF
- ✓ Thermal beam : 10^8 n/cm²/s
- ✓ Two parts : June 2018, Sept-Oct 2018

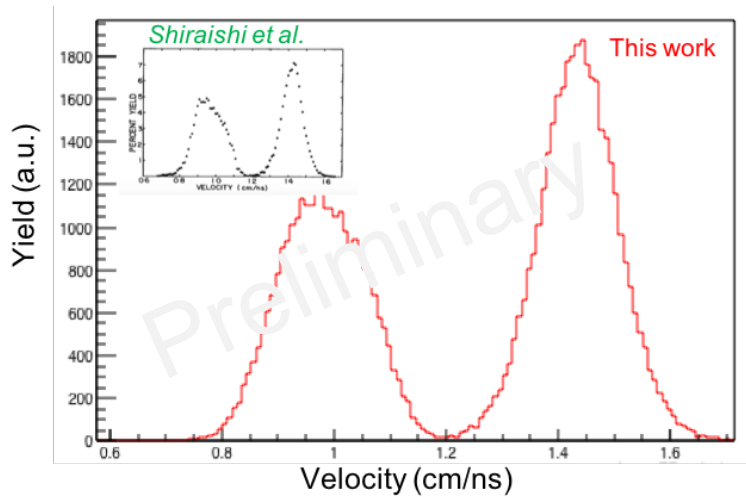


Experiment at the Orphée reactor (Saclay)

- ✓ Target : ²³⁵U (8 & 20 μg, φ= 1 cm), CEA/DIF
- ✓ Thermal beam : 10⁸ n/cm²/s
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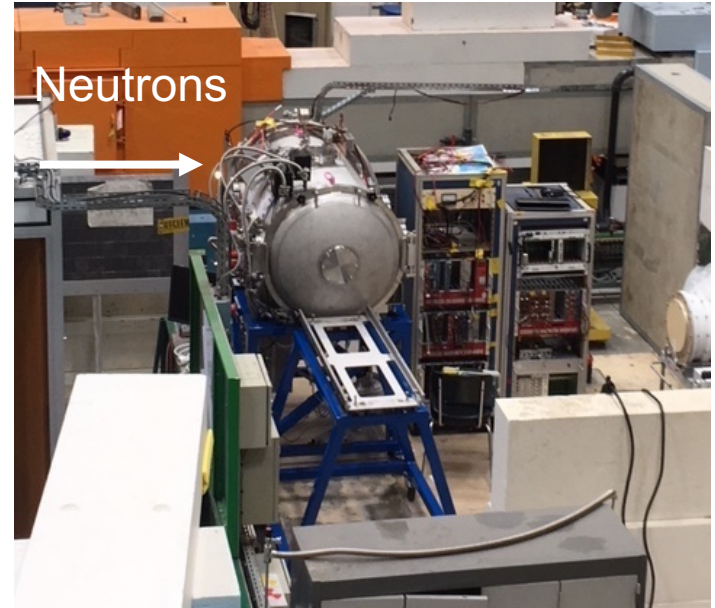
Analysis in progress



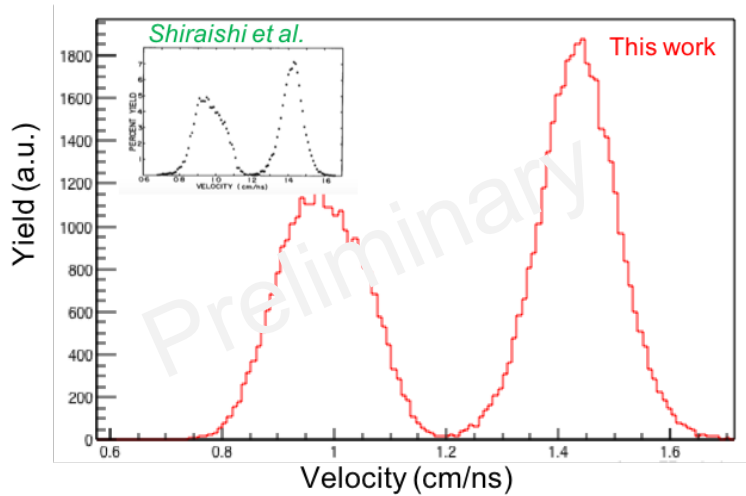
²³⁵U

Experiment at the Orphée reactor (Saclay)

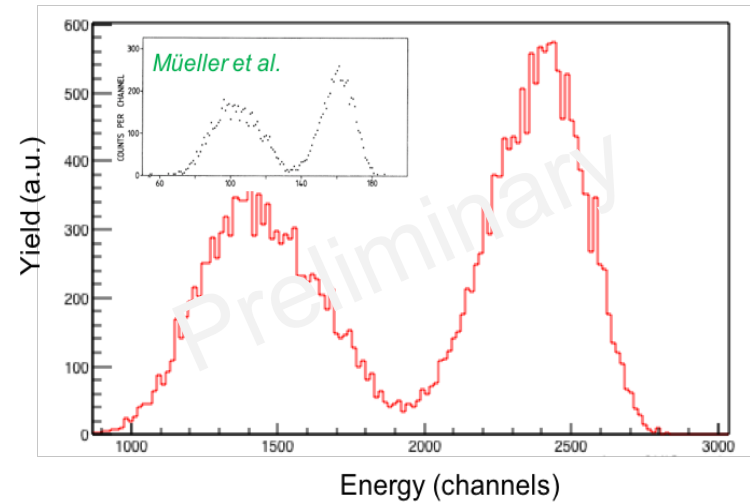
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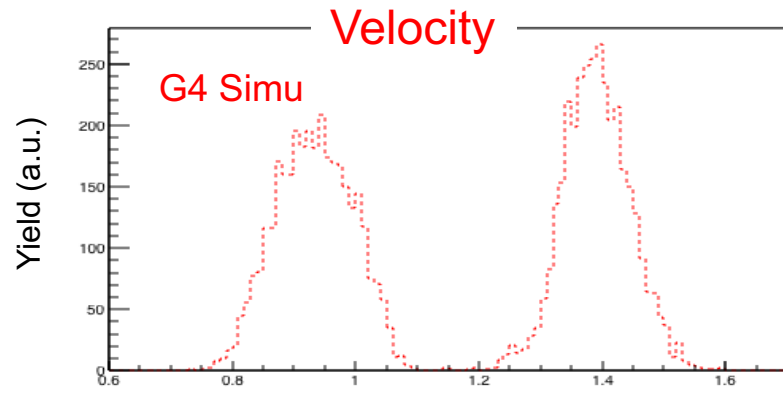


Analysis in progress

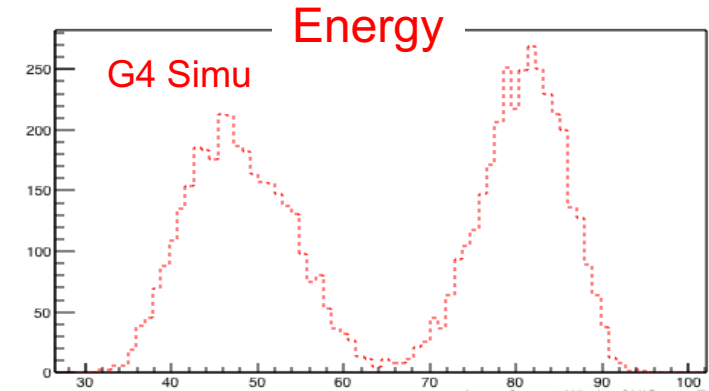


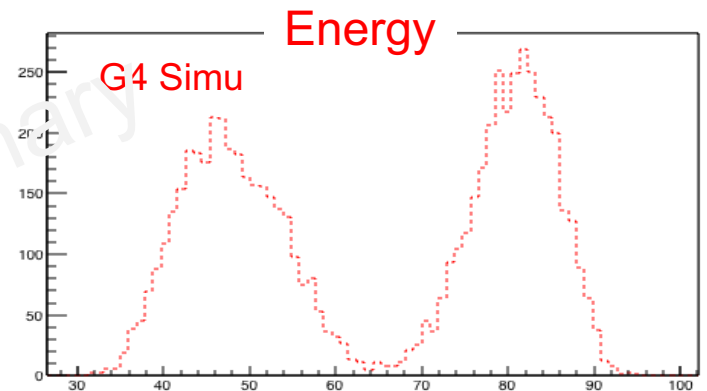
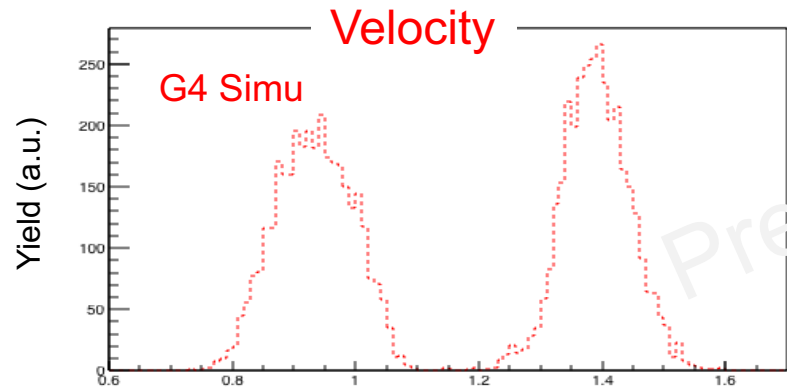
²³⁵U



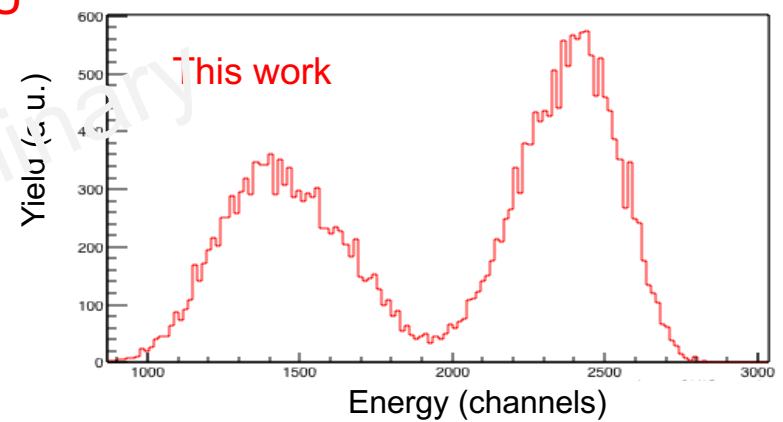
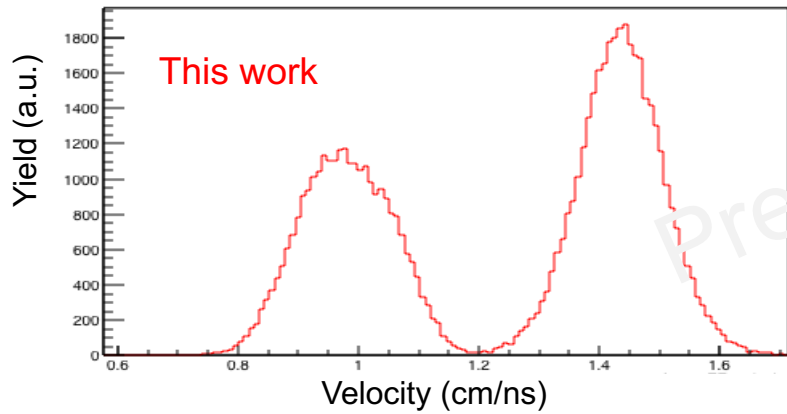


^{235}U

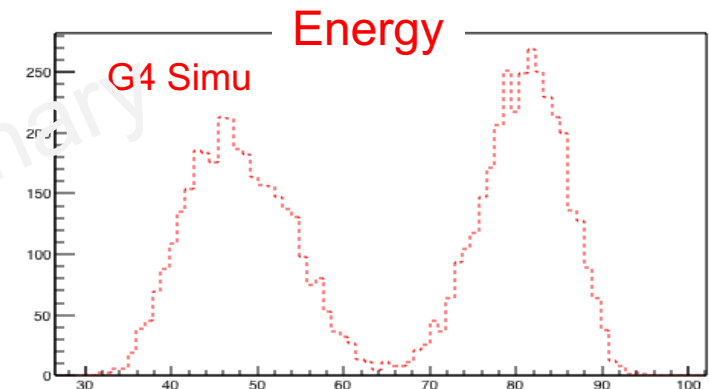
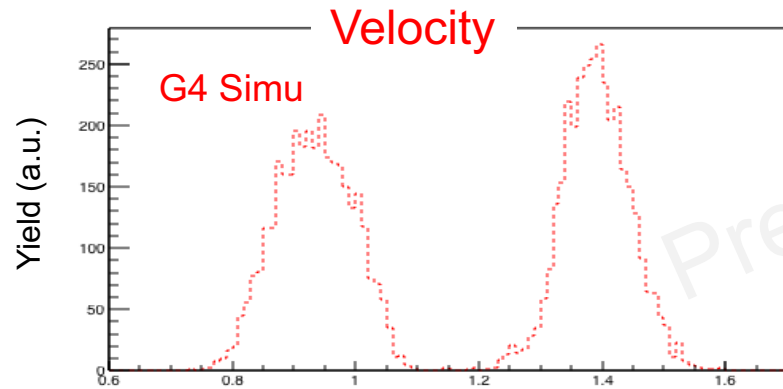




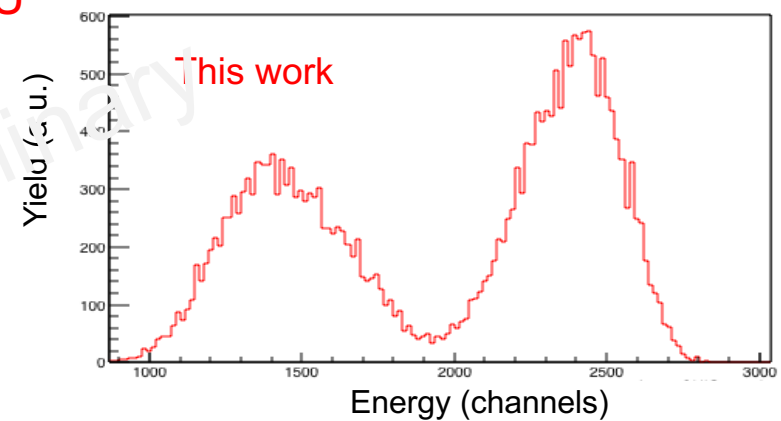
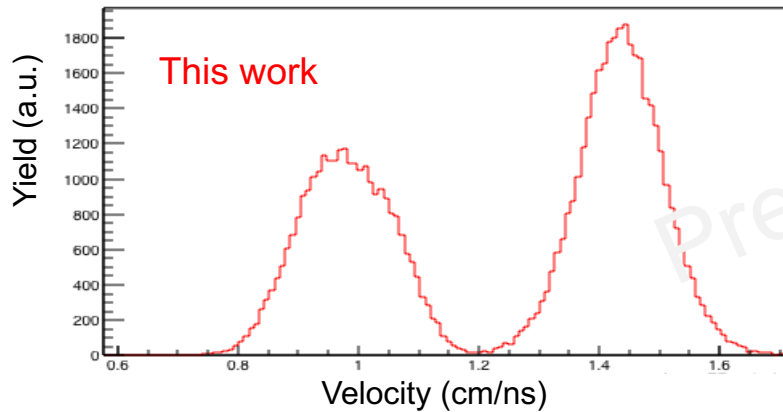
^{235}U



Comparisons Data & G4 Simulations

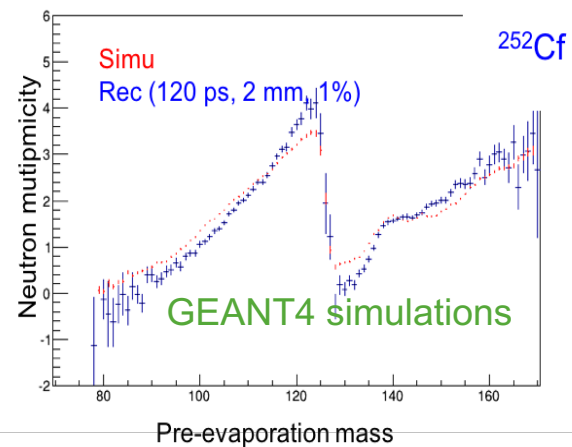


^{235}U

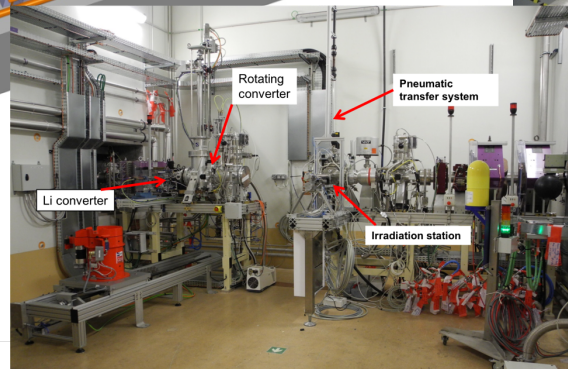
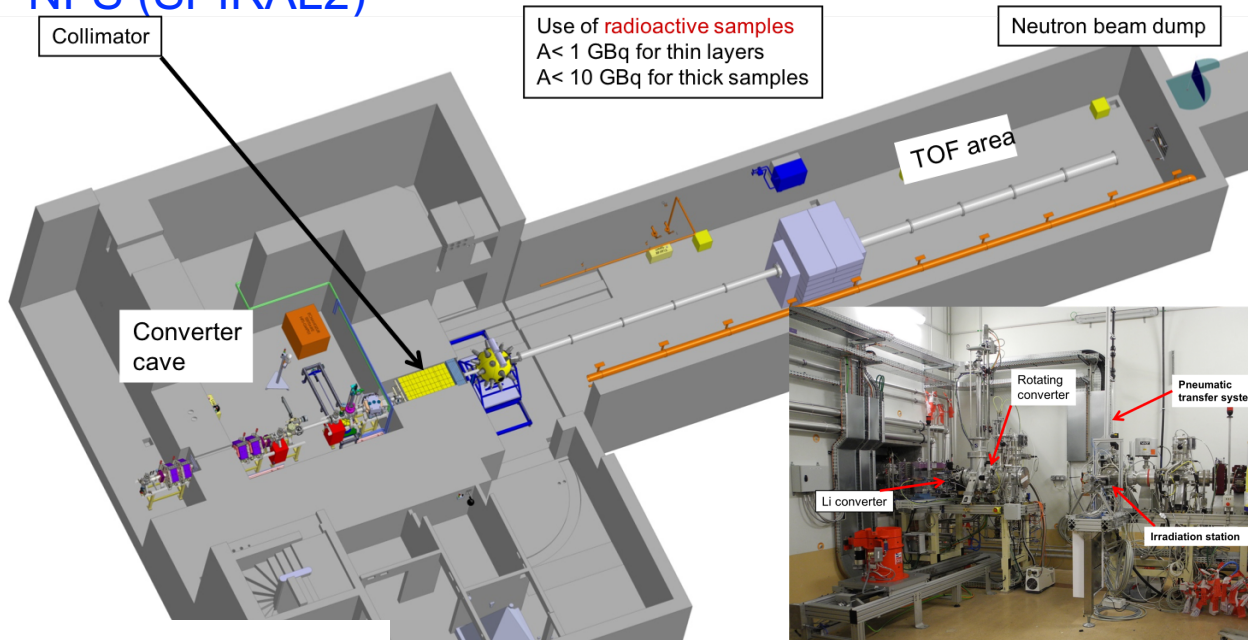


- Rather good agreement
- Inhomogeneities not taken into account
- Other variables to be compared

Exp. resolutions probably suitable
for 2-arm studies



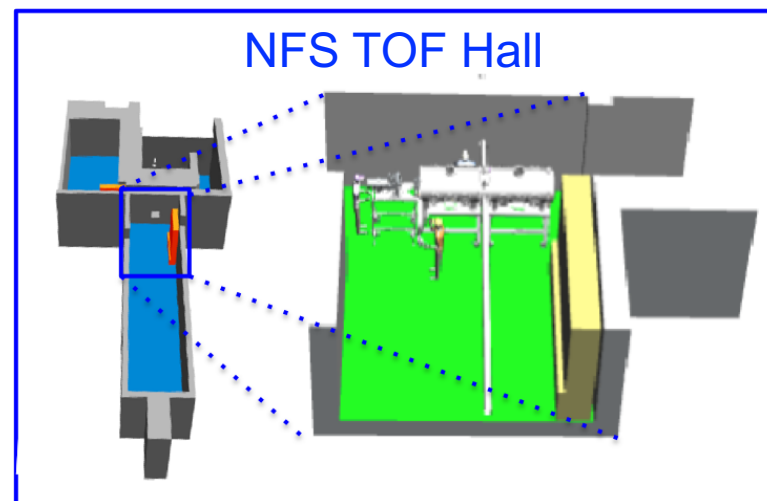
NFS (SPIRAL2)



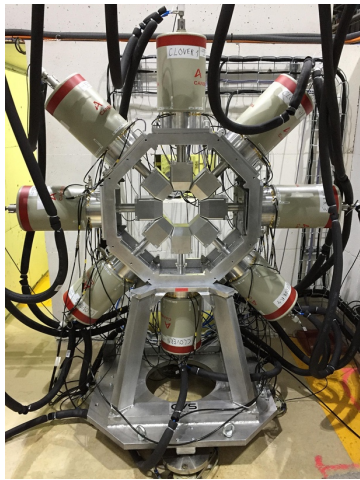
In 2021 : FALSTAFF @ NFS

- 2nd arm to fund and build

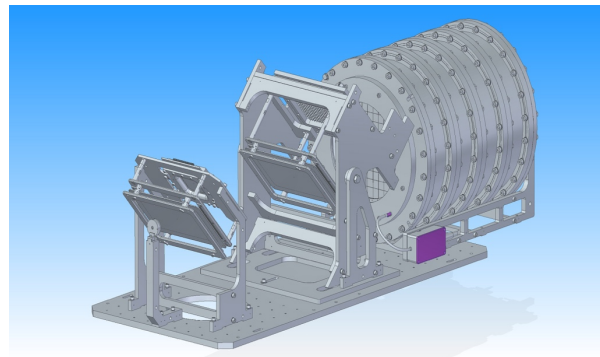
- Mult neut vs fragment mass
- $^{238-235}\text{U}$, ^{239}Pu , ^{232}Th , ^{237}Np



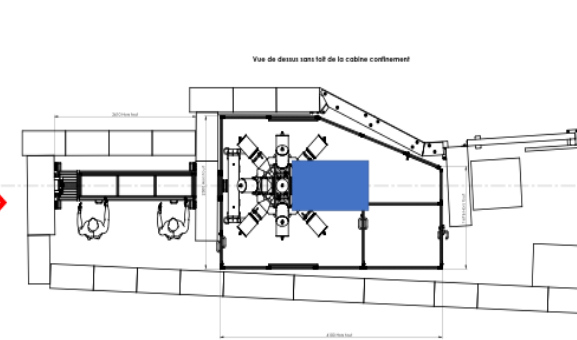
FIPPS



FALSTAFF



neutrons



T. Materna

($\gamma \gamma f$) measurements

- ❖ Nuclear data in thermal fission with the best identification ever
- ❖ Calibrate Falstaff with fully identified fission fragments

Method :

- FALSTAFF : E,V of one fragment \rightarrow filter events with A_1 with $\delta A_1 = 2$
- FIPPS : - identification of one γ -ray transition to the second fragment $\rightarrow (A_2, Z_2)$
- study of other γ -rays from the cascade in the second fragment

\rightarrow Study of FF de-excitation and measurement of the fission yields

Summary

- First arm of FALSTAFF is running with source AND neutron beam
- Expected resolutions seem to be reached
 - ✓ Very promising results with the first arm of FALSTAFF
 - ✓ Room for improvement
- Expecting the funding of the second arm
- Preparation of the experiment at FIPPS

Open to new collaborations !

Performance validation of the FALSTAFF first arm:

^{252}Cf and ^{235}U fission fragment characterisation

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