

# Description of the ERAM signal + some elx noise studies *(simulations using LTSpice + “full” calculation)*

Samira Hassani, Jean-François Laporte, Philippe Schune  
*IRFU, CEA - Saclay, Paris - Saclay university*

Work made with:

- *Shivam Joshi, Tristan Daret (PhD students)*
- *Ahmed Amine Oumarghad, Mohamed Amin Ben Atitallah (M2)  
Soubickchane Ramtchandirin (M1)  
from Gustave Eiffel university (ex. Marne-la-vallée Paris-Est univ.)*
- *Raphaël Fourquet (M1)  
from CentraleSupélec Paris-Saclay*
- *Christopher Winterstein (M1)  
from ENSTA Paris, Institut Polytechnique de Paris*

+ discussions with colleagues:  
*Denis Calvet, Pascal Baron, Alain Delbart, David Attié, Paul Colas, etc.*

Full simulation/numerisation  
Full ERAM prod. analysis,  
dE/dx, etc.

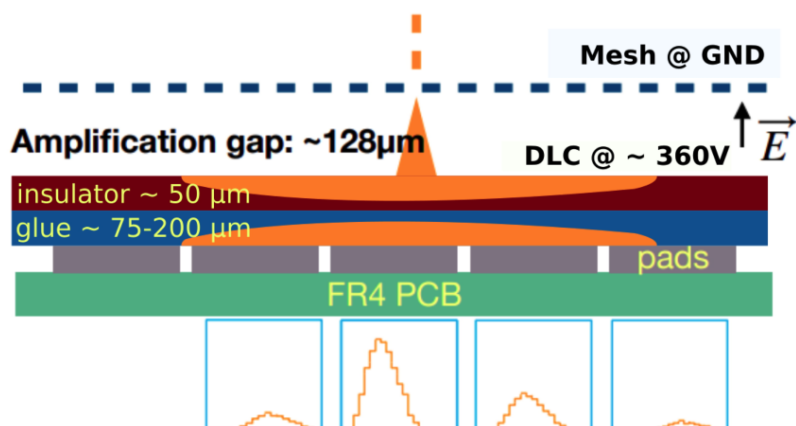
LTSpice + some C++/  
Python analysis/calculation

Full hand made  
simulation/calculation and  
analysis (C++/Python)

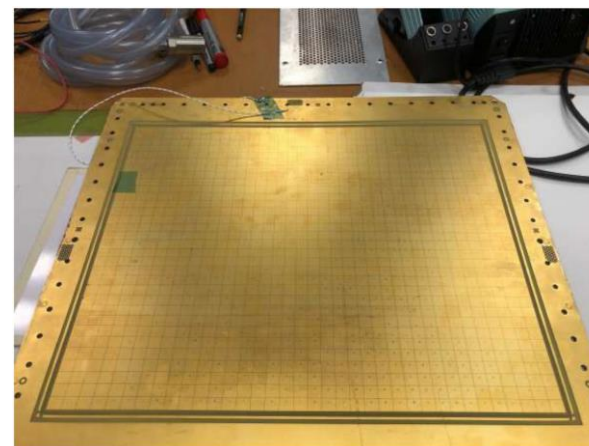
- Signal formation in resistive (full layer) Micromegas
- Telegraph equation
- Electronique response calculation
- LTSpice modeling (included elx response)
- Space time discretisation
- Elx noise studies

ERAM are resistive Micromegas, working very well ! (\*)

They equip the two High Angle TPCs of the upgrades of the Near Detector ND280 of T2K



Resistive anode (DLC) read by metallic pads  
capacitive coupling between resistive layer and pads

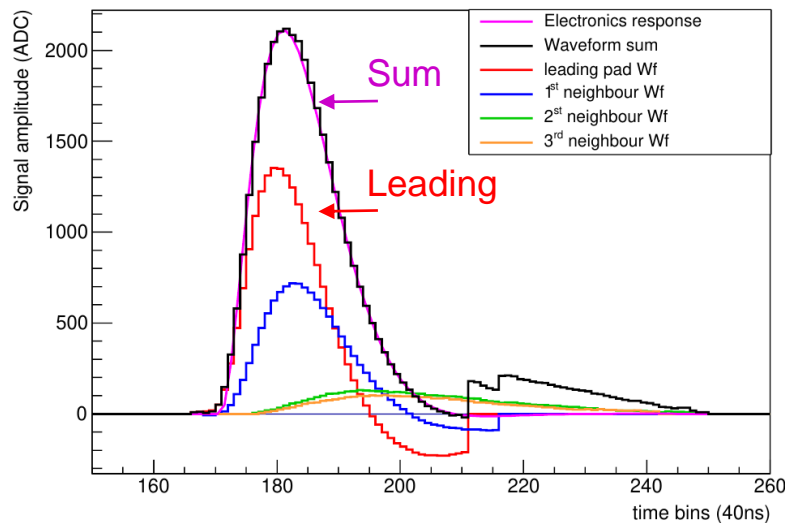
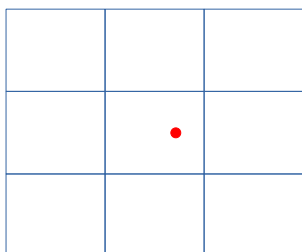


36 x 32 metallic pads  
Pad size (mm<sup>2</sup>) : 11.28 x 10.19

How the signals look ?

(\*) nothing to compare with MM for NSW...

Charge deposited punctually  
on a pad (X ray)



ADC signal : max 4096 counts

Time window of 511 time bins

Time bin (typ.): 40 ns (25 MHz sampling)

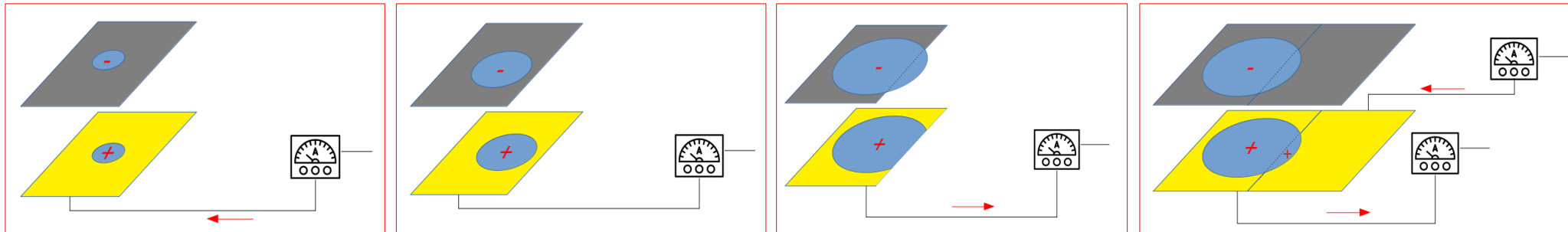
Peaking time (typ.) : 412 ns

Leading pad : highest and earliest signal  $\Rightarrow$  charge deposited in this pad

Next pads: lower and later signals  $\Rightarrow$  charge has diffused up and through these pads

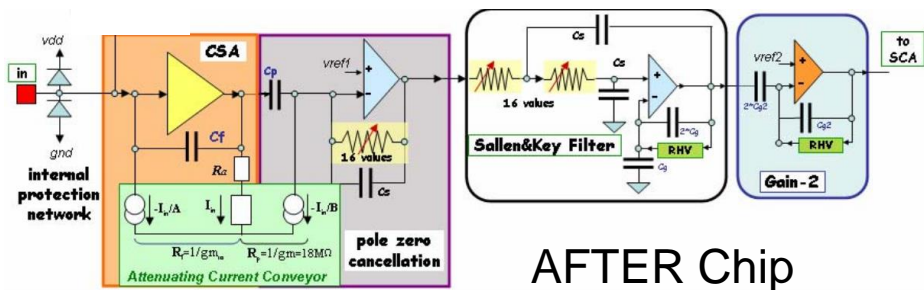
How the signals look ?

Capacity coupling means  
a pad “responds” to the **total** charge on the resistive layer, lying **directly** above it

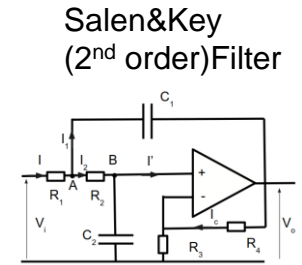
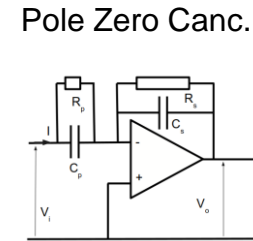
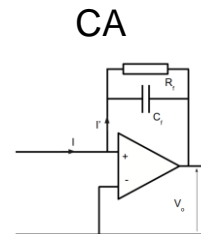


Electronic response :  $ADC_{pad}(t) = \frac{dQ_{pad}}{dt} \otimes ADC^{Dirac}$  ( $\Rightarrow ADC \neq Q$ )  
where  $ADC^{Dirac}(t)$  is the electronic response to a Dirac pulse of current

Pascal B. et al.



AFTER Chip



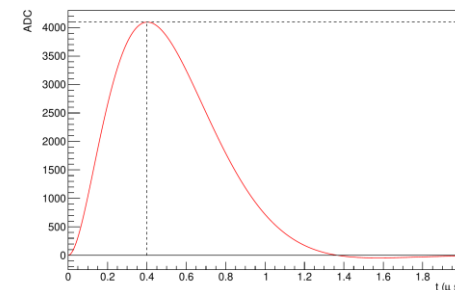
Laplace transform  
⇒ pulse response

JFL

$$ADC^{Dirac}(t) = \frac{4096}{120fC} \frac{f(t; w_s, Q)}{f_{max}} \text{ where } f(t; w_s, Q)$$

$$= e^{-w_s t} + e^{-\frac{w_s t}{2Q}} \left[ \sqrt{\frac{2Q-1}{2Q+1}} \sin\left(\frac{w_s t}{2} \sqrt{4 - \frac{1}{Q^2}}\right) - \cos\left(\frac{w_s t}{2} \sqrt{4 - \frac{1}{Q^2}}\right) \right]$$

Parametrization of the electronics response with 2 parameters  
 $w_s \sim 1/\text{Peaking time}$  and  $Q$  quality factor



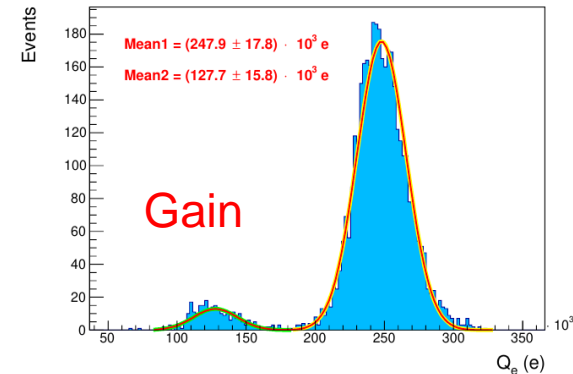
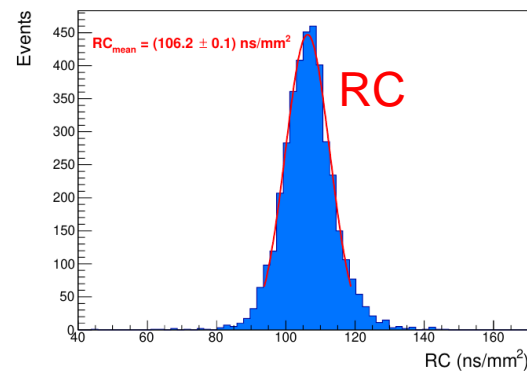
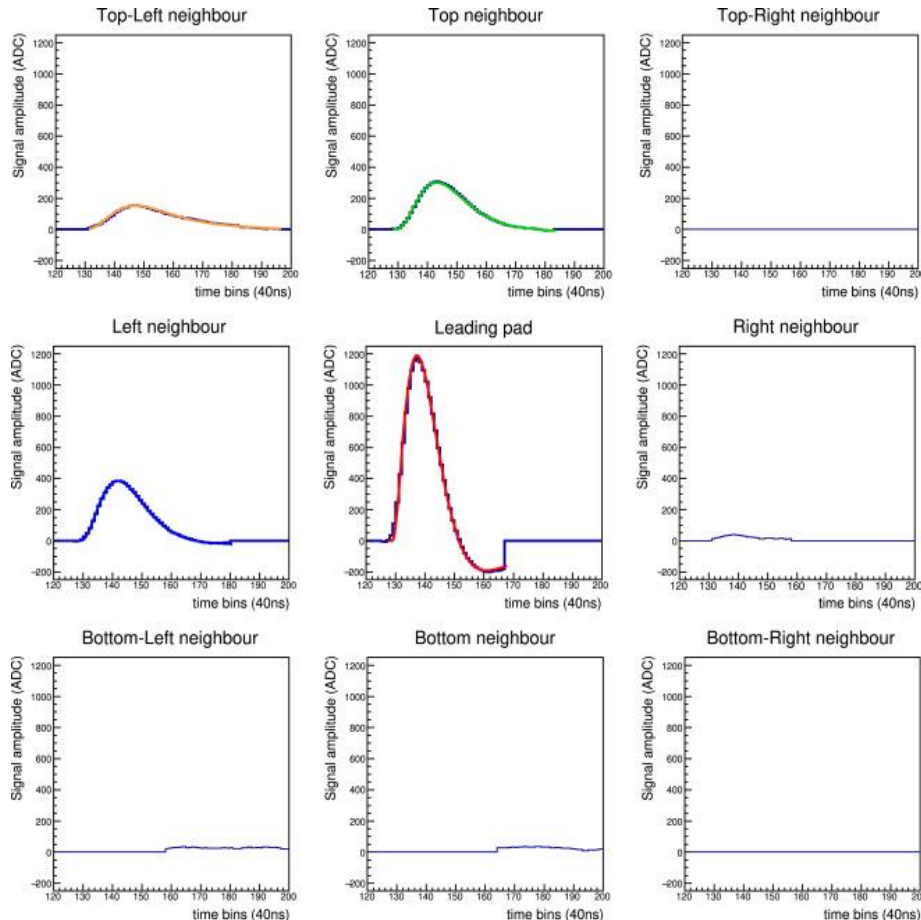
The plan: apply everywhere the “simple” model  
Telegraph Equation ⊗ Dirac pulse parametrization

X rays deposited punctually charge on the anode

Shivam Joshi's study (PhD)

For a given pad, for each deposit  
fit simultaneously the Waveforms of the hottest pads

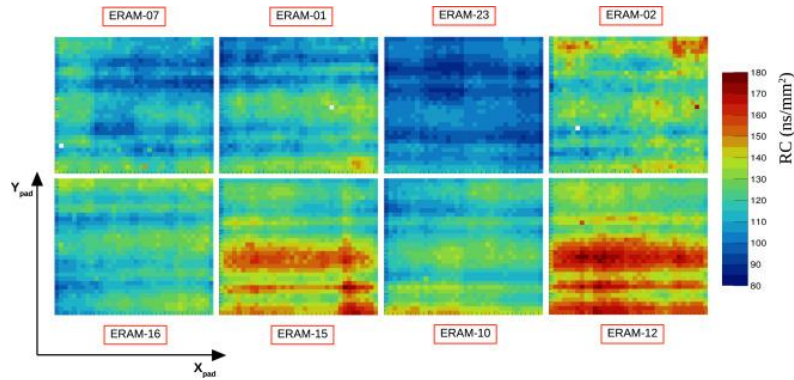
Extract RC, Gain and deposit position/time



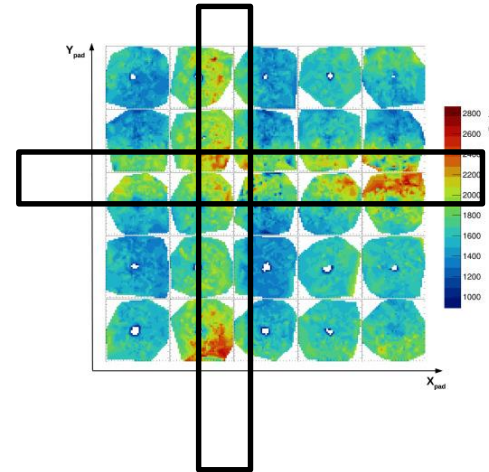
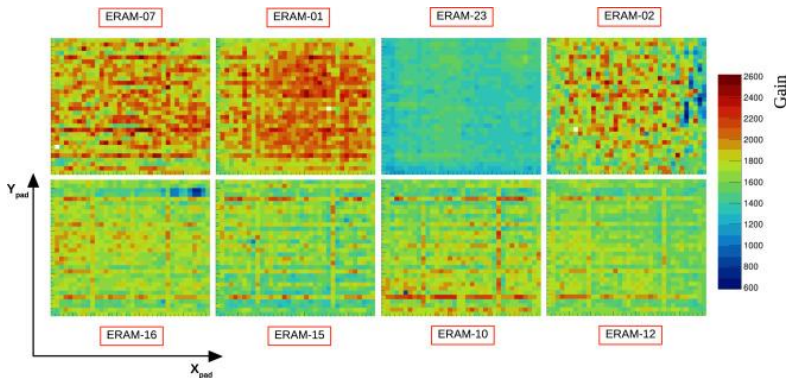
Nucl.Instrum.Meth.A 1056 (2023) 168534

# FITTING THE WAVES (X RAYS DATA)

RC  
maps



Gain  
maps



High granularity gain map  
≤ imprint of **mechanical constraints** at assembly

Shivam's work is now one of the cornerstones of the Quality Validation of the ERAMS used in T2K High angle TPCs

Wave in RC?



# Measurement of R/sq. of a ERAM PCB # 22 - given by Rui

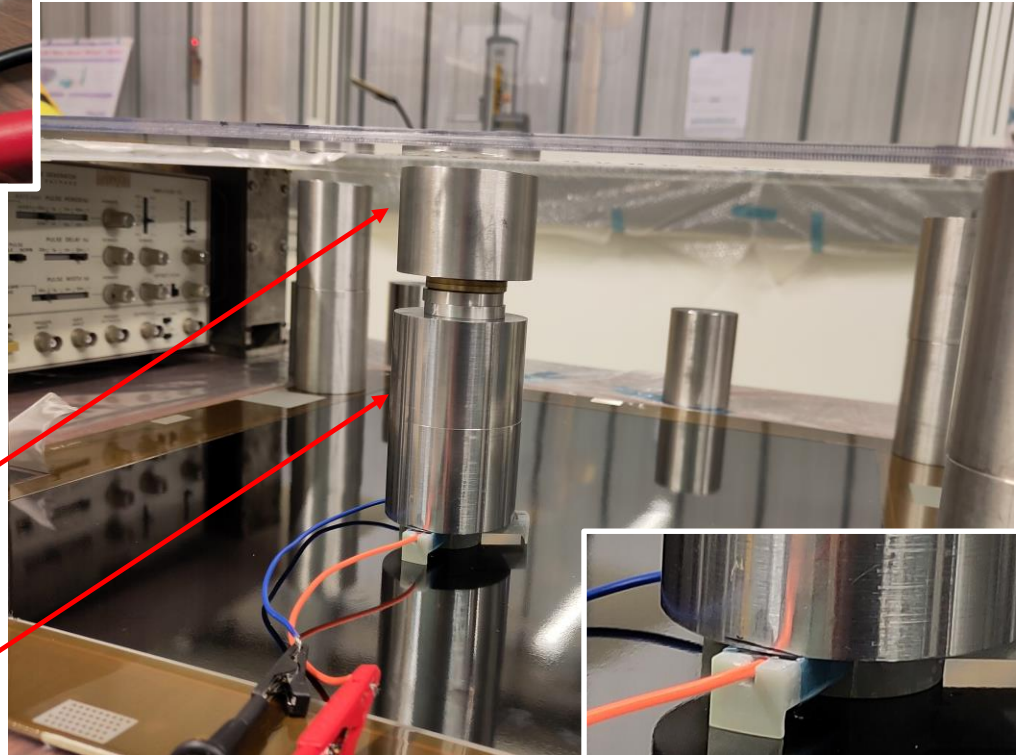
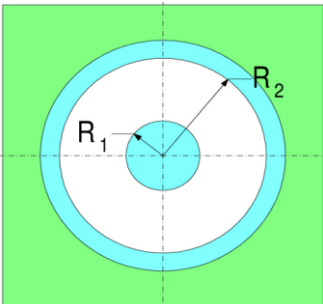
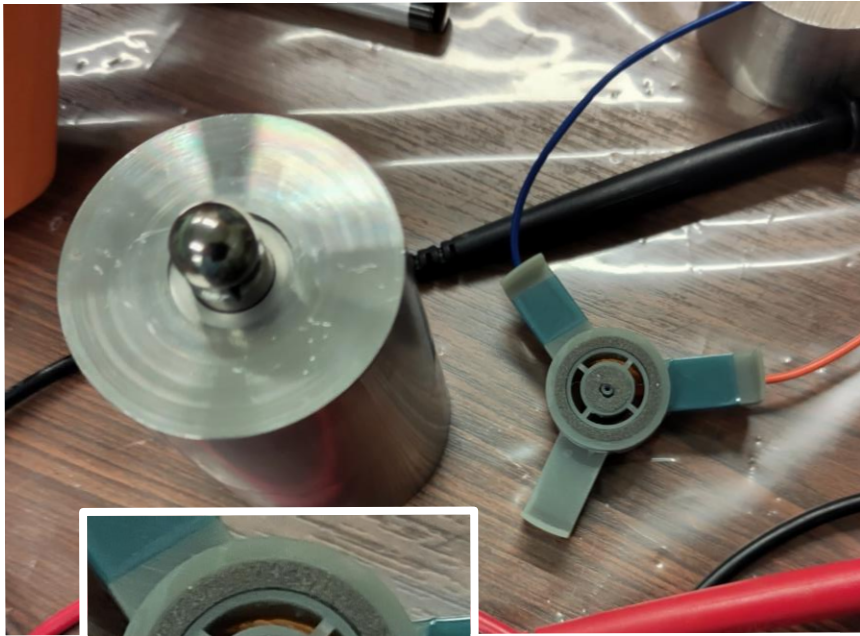
Probe: 2 concentric conductive (polymer) rings

For good/reproducible contact: weights in 2 indep. parts  
(with identical weights ~ in kg/mm<sup>2</sup>)

## From ohm to R/sq.:

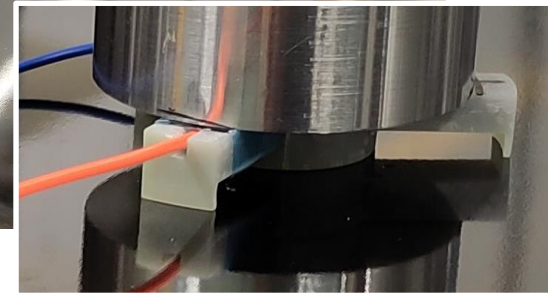
⇒ correction factor:  $K = 2.π / \ln(R_{ext}/R_{in})$

with  $R_{ext} \sim 8 \text{ mm}$ ,  $R_{in} \sim 4,5 \text{ mm} \Rightarrow K \sim 10,9$

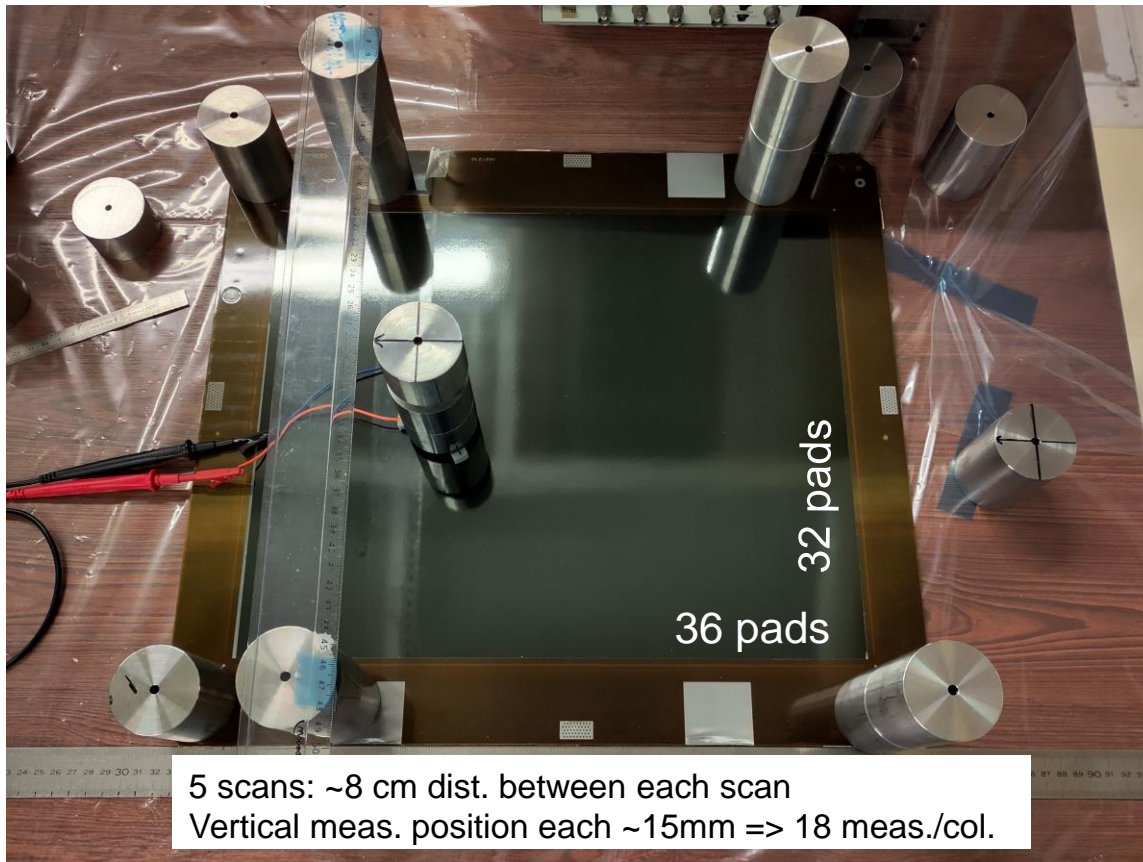


Top weight for the inner cond. ring

Bot. weight for the outer cond. ring

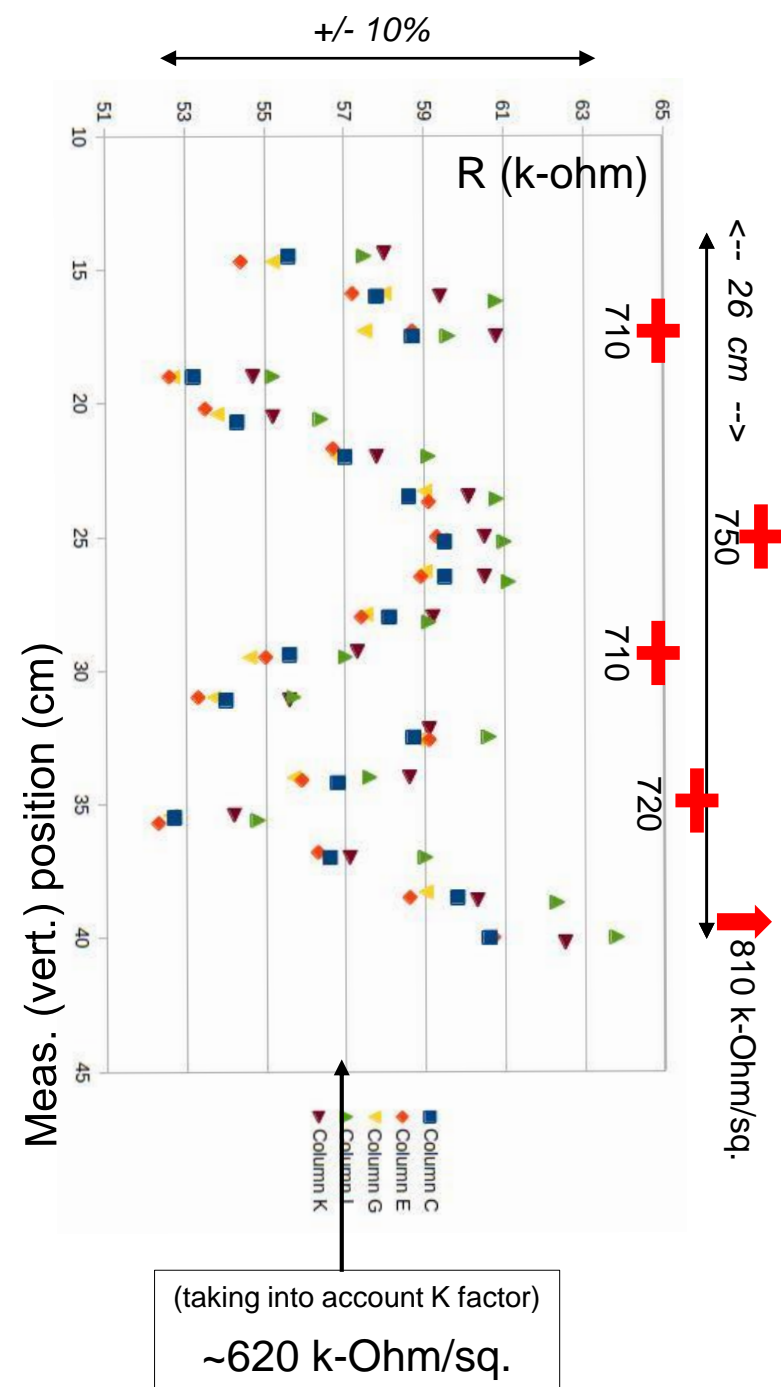


Done with Marc L.  
3D printed in resin.



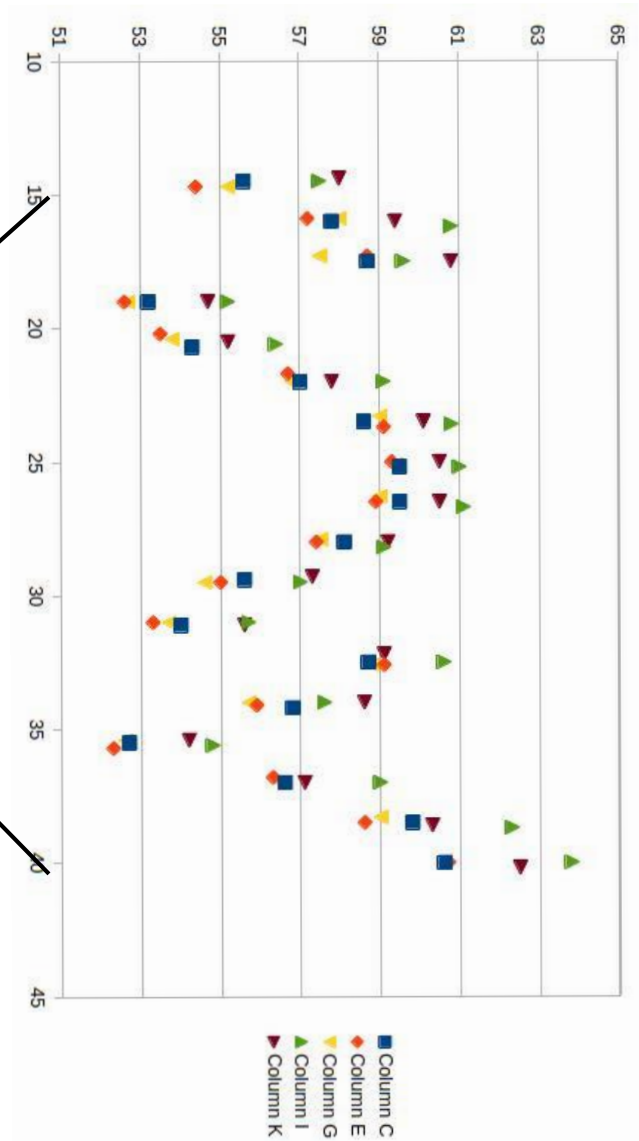
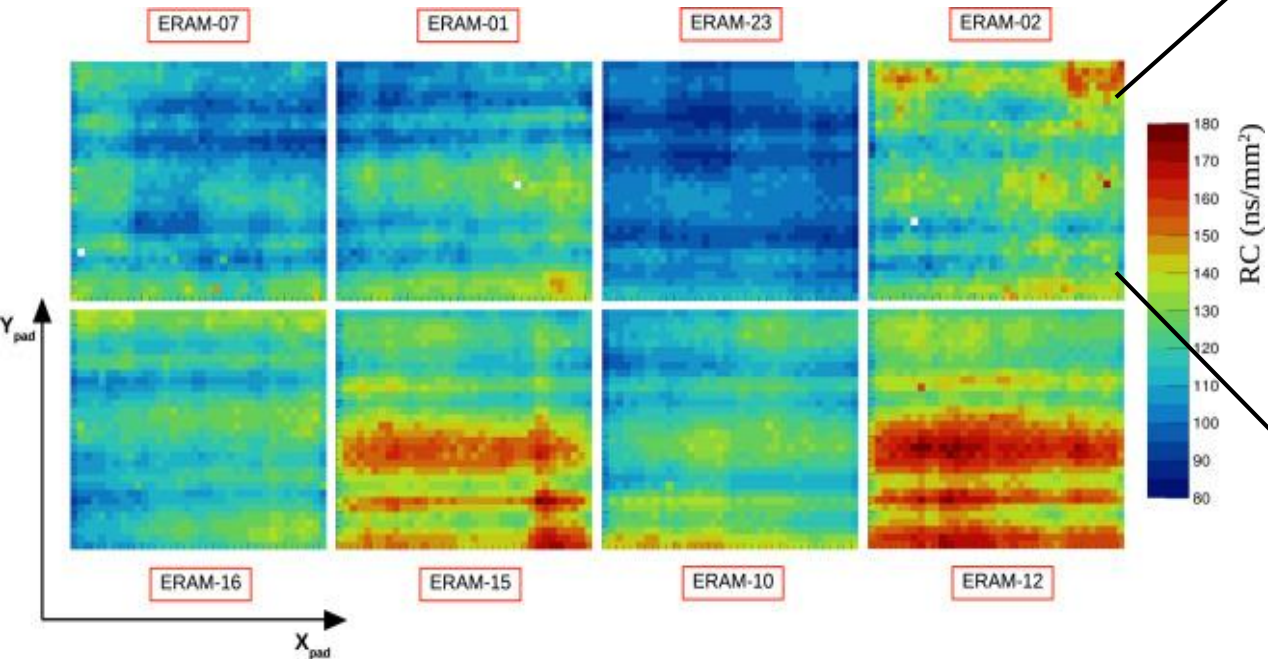
+ 5 measurements **+** done, on the Left side of the PCB

The probe is too large to see the structure of R/sq. of DLC.



# FITTING THE WAVES (X RAYS DATA)

RC maps  
(from X-ray runs)



R/sq. variations come from R-sheet production?

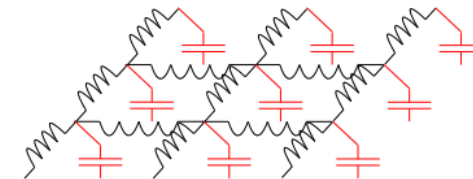
(how to measure C with same pitch, how?)

# SPACE DISCRETISATION: LTSPICE

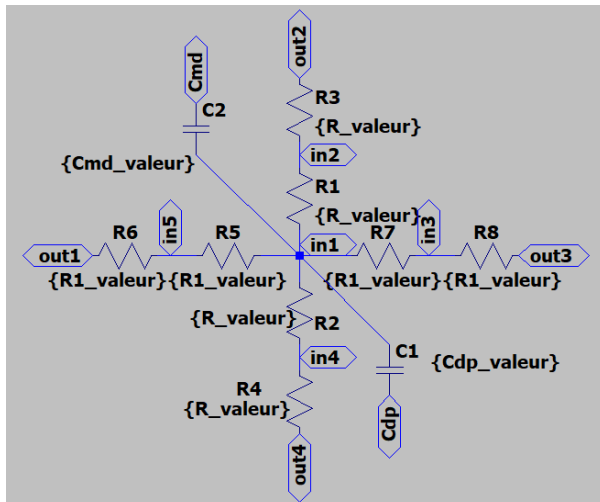
Ben Atitallah Mohamed Amin  
Oumarghad Ahmed-amine (M2)

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{RC} \left( \frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial^2 x} + \frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial^2 y} \right) \Rightarrow \frac{dq_{i,j}}{dt} = \frac{V_{i+1,j} - V_{i,j}}{R_x} + \frac{V_{i-1,j} - V_{i,j}}{R_x} + \frac{V_{i,j+1} - V_{i,j}}{R_y} + \frac{V_{i,j-1} - V_{i,j}}{R_y} \text{ with } R_x = \frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta y}, R_y = \frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} \text{ and } V_i = q_i C_s \Delta x \Delta y$$

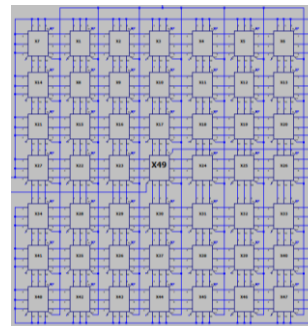
⇔ Layer of resistors connected to ground through capacitances



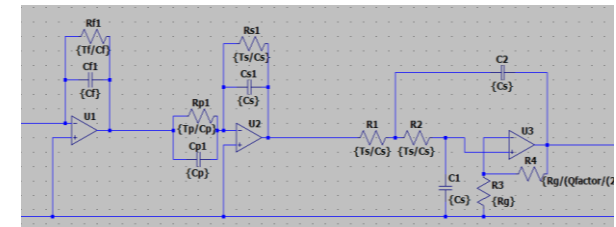
LTspice  
elements of  
our framework



**Elementary cell:**  
4 Rs and 2 Cs  
(DLC/Mesh, DLC/pad)



An Eram of 8x7 pads  
(with a pad=3x3 nodes)

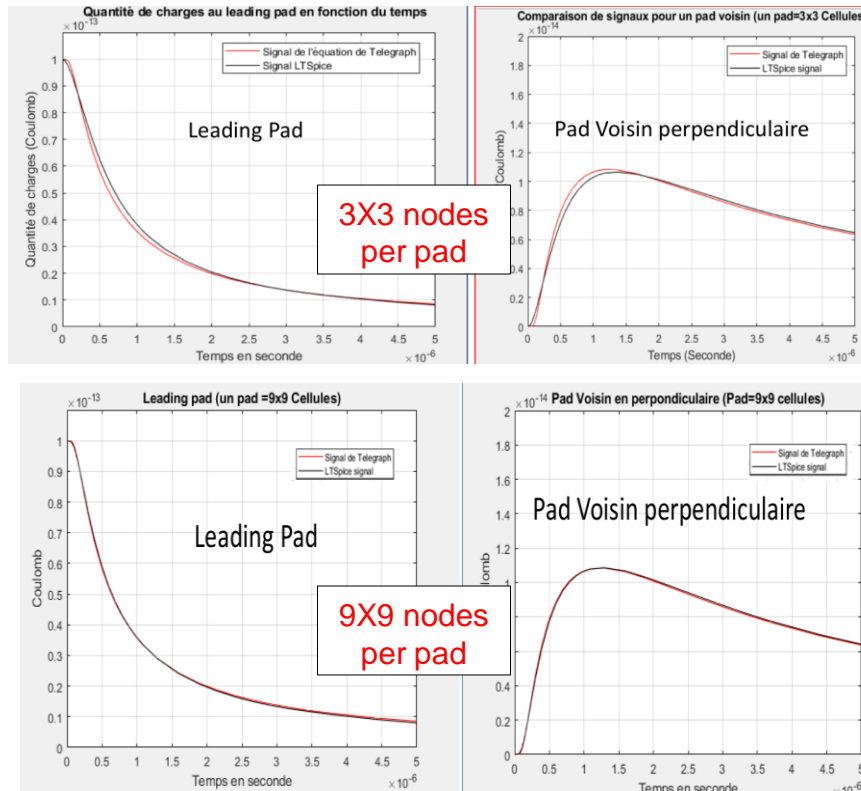
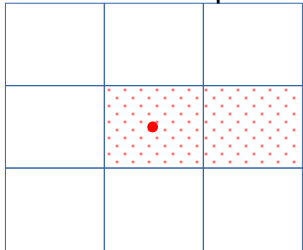


**AFTER Chip LTSpice  
Implementation**  
(not strictly necessary but fun)

(e-) signal injection at the  
capa - DLC connexion

## Charge vs time : Sim. compared to exact Telegraph Eq. solution

Punctual deposit



- How many nodes are needed ?
- Preliminary **X-talk** study : Gerber routing + input **impedance from P. Baron**

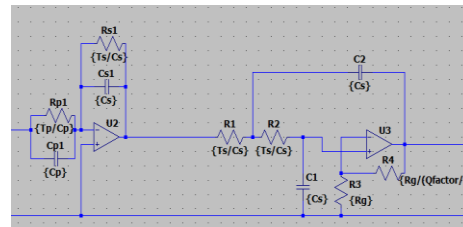
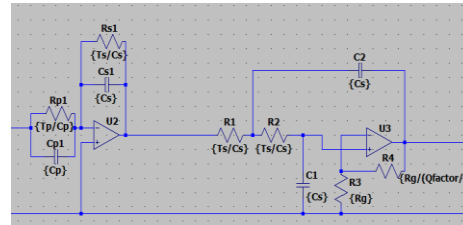
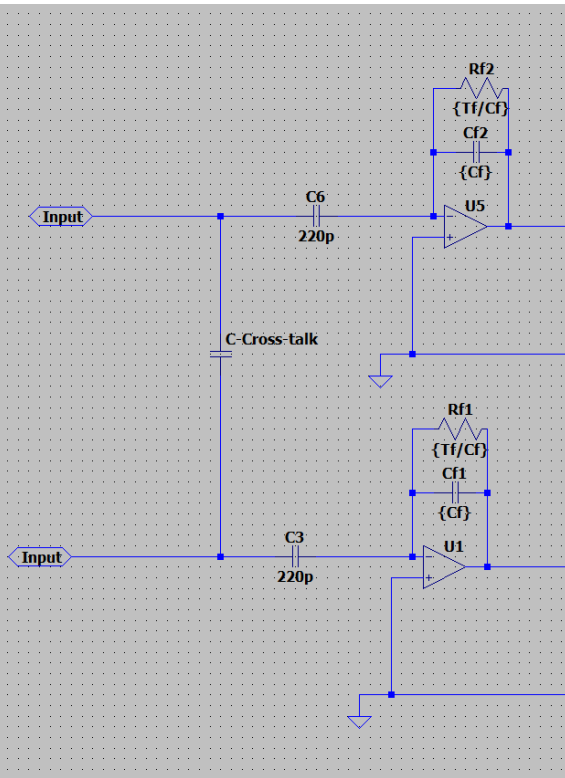
⇒ small effects found but would need more data

The LTSpice framework is now complete

Main issue/showstopper circuits are built graphically nice for debugging for small stuff really problematic for large circuit

Quickly **humanly not scalable/editable**

Possible way out (not explored): ASCII file - *netlist*, description of network (but then no more viewable)

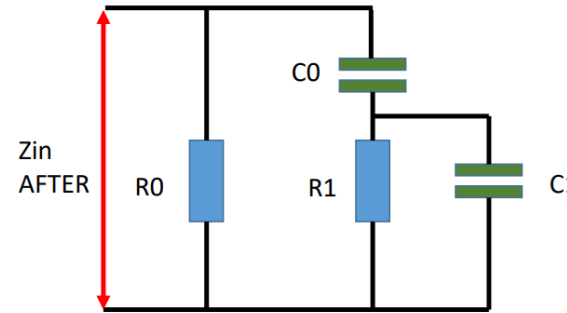


The first chip AFTER simulated uses theoretical elements

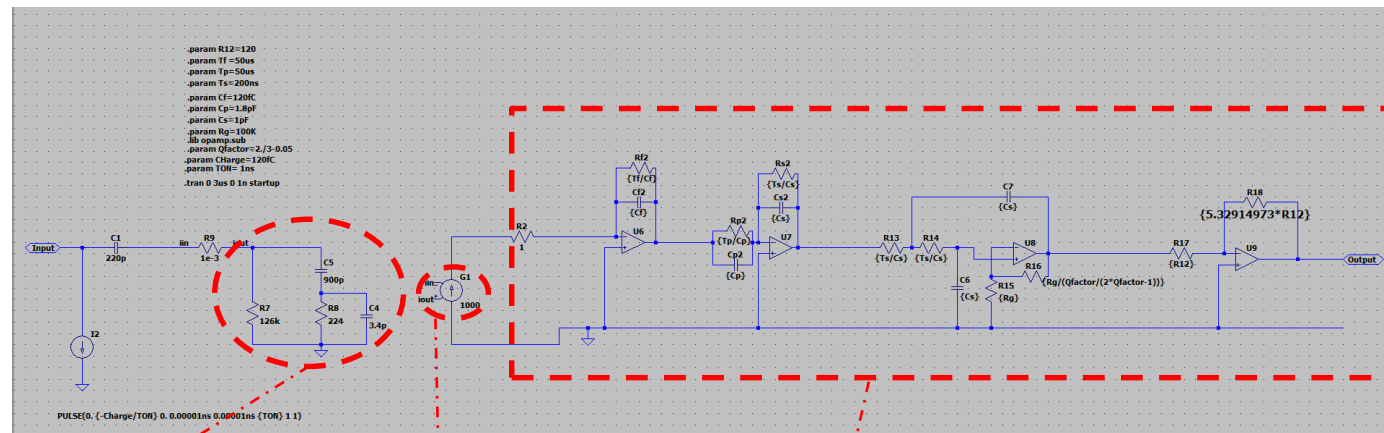
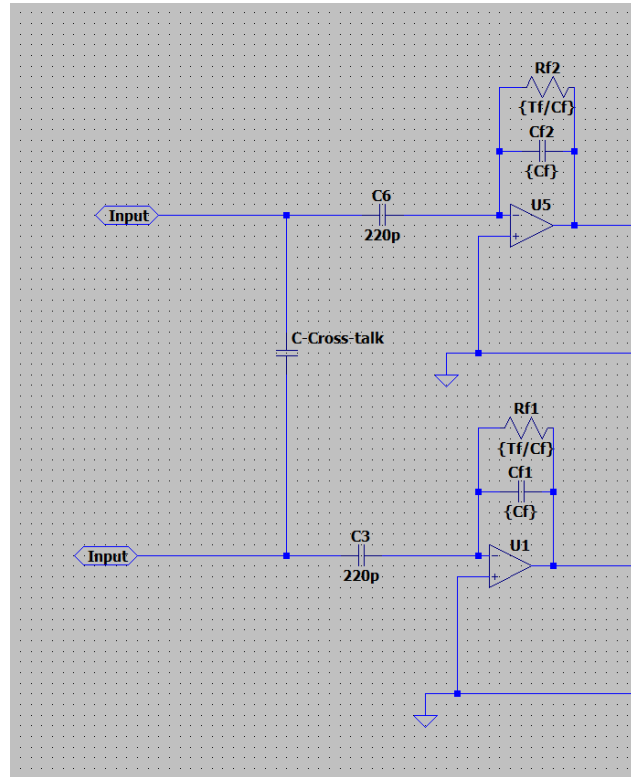
- ⇒ impedance problem...
- ⇒ Pulse timing problem for the non-leading pads when cross talk

# CROSS TALK STUDY: LTSPICE

From Pascal B.



| Gain   | R0    | R1  | C0     | C1     |
|--------|-------|-----|--------|--------|
| 120 fC | 126 K | 224 | 900 pF | 3.4 pF |



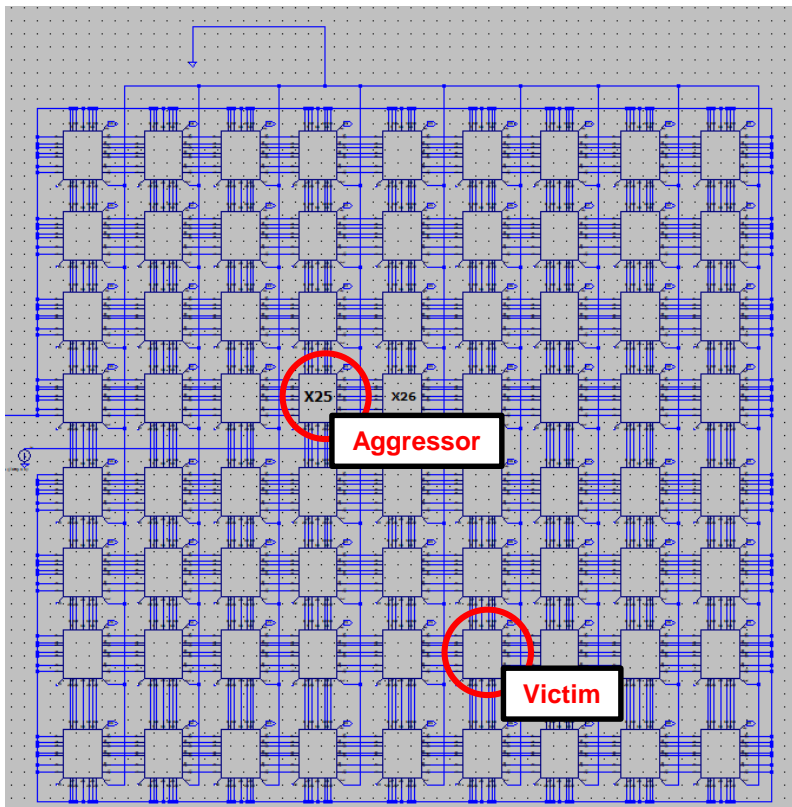
The input  
Impédance  $Z_{in}$

Current mirror

Version 0 AFTER Chip



ASIC Circuit : 9x8 Pads



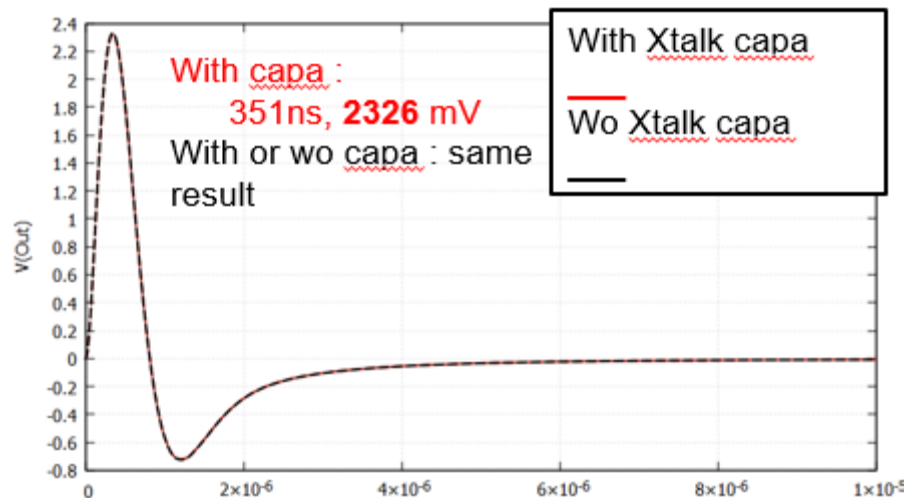
Wrt Aggressor cross talk

- **Cross-Talk ~ 0,4 %**
- $\Delta T \sim 40$  ns (like with real data?)

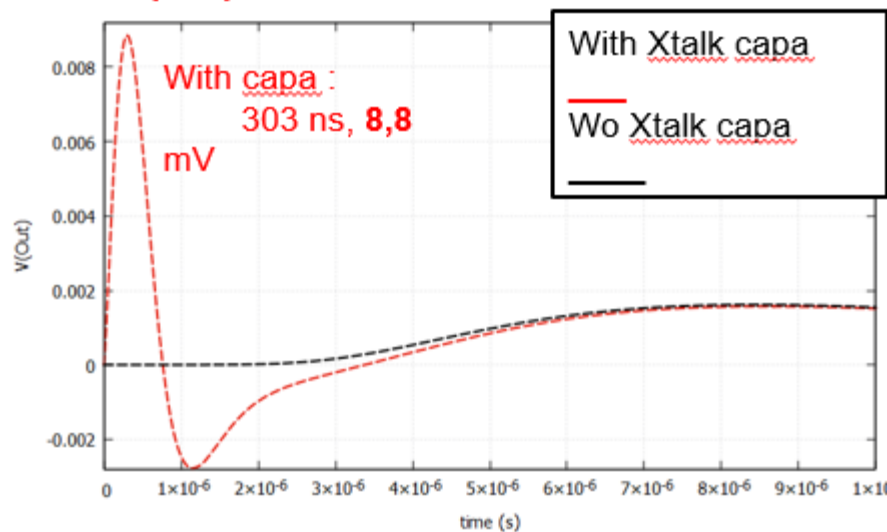
For a C-cross talk of  $\sim 1$  pF

What's the real value?

V(Out) : Aggressor



V(out) : Victim





$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{RC} \left( \frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial^2 x} + \frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial^2 y} \right) \Rightarrow \frac{q_{i,j}^{t+1} - q_{i,j}^t}{\Delta_t} = \frac{q_{i+1,j}^t - q_{i,j}^t}{C_s \Delta_x \Delta_y R_x} + \frac{q_{i-1,j}^t - q_{i,j}^t}{C_s \Delta_x \Delta_y R_x} + \frac{q_{i,j+1}^t - q_{i,j}^t}{C_s \Delta_x \Delta_y R_y} + \frac{q_{i,j-1}^t - q_{i,j}^t}{C_s \Delta_x \Delta_y R_y}$$

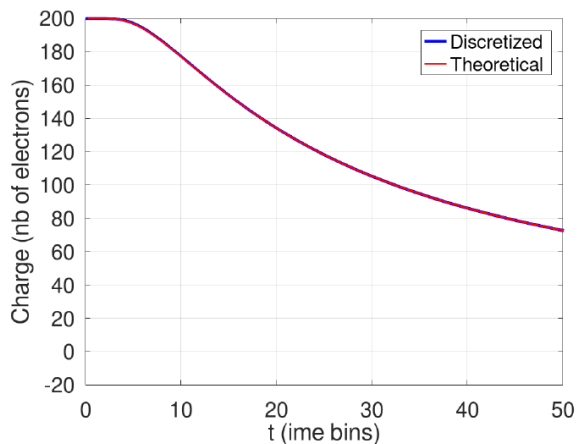
$$\vec{q}^{t+1} = (I + \Delta_t S) \vec{q}^t$$

### Proofs of

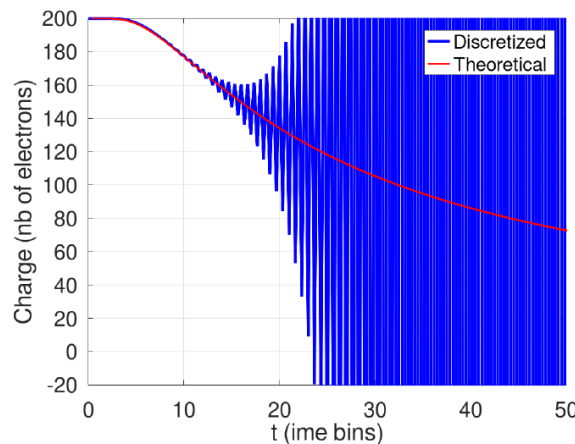
Convergence: numerical solution converges toward continuous solution in the limit  $\Delta_t, \Delta_{x,y} \rightarrow 0$

Stability: space/time discretisation introduces a scale for RC (RC is *Time/Surface*),  $\Delta_t / \Delta_{x,y}^2$

The criteria of stability turns out to be:  $RC \geq 2 \left( \frac{\Delta_t}{\Delta_x^2} + \frac{\Delta_t}{\Delta_y^2} \right)$



$\Delta_t$  below limit



$\Delta_t$  above limit

Actually comfortable limit  
For  $\Delta_t \sim 2\text{ns}$  and  $\Delta_{x,y} \sim 300\mu\text{m}$

$$RC_{min} \sim 76 \text{ ns/mm}^2$$

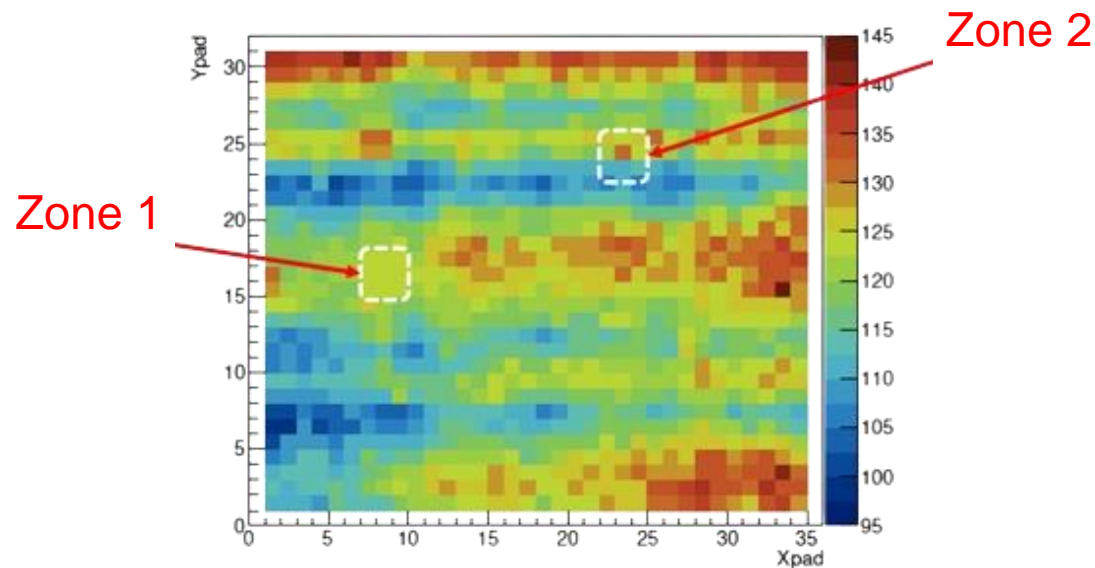
since

Time bin : 40ns

Pad size:  $\sim 1\text{cm}$

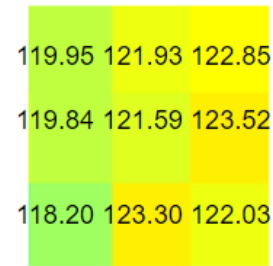
Our RCs are typically  $\geq 100 \text{ ns/mm}^2$

- Scalability is no more an issue: currently 33 x 33 nodes per pad
- Update of local RCs is easy  $\Rightarrow$  preliminary tests with non uniform RC



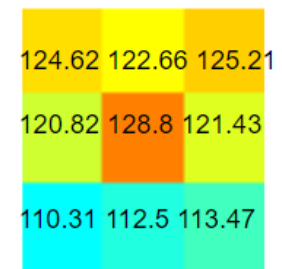
From actual Shivam's RC map of ERAM 16

Zone 1



Calm area

Zone 2

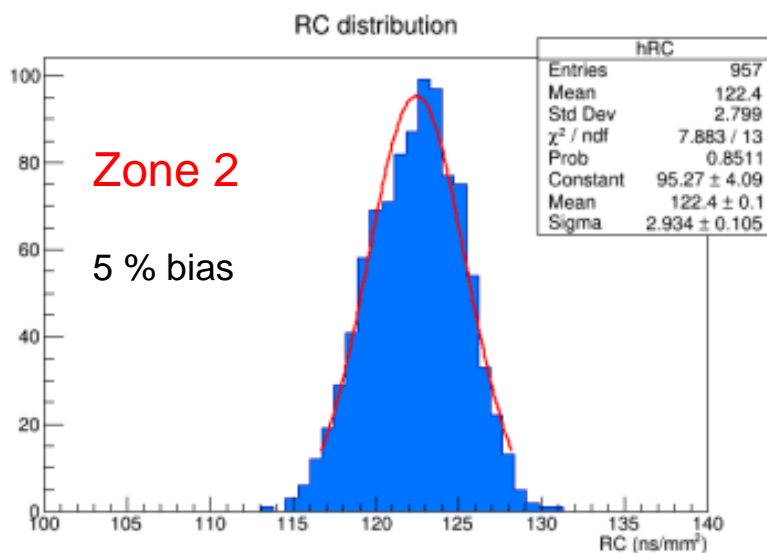
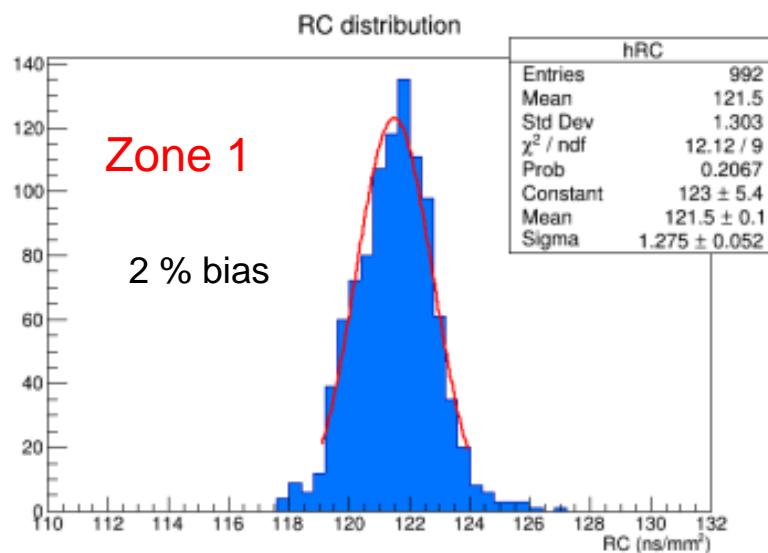


Wild area

Non uniform RC injected in FDM code  
 $\Rightarrow$  Toys events to be fitted as X ray data

Up to now for a given pad, assume all neighbor pads have same RC than leading pad.

- Scalability is no more an issue: currently 33 x 33 nodes per pad
- Update of local RCs is easy  $\Rightarrow$  preliminary tests with non uniform RC



Systematics from RC uniformity assumption can be evaluated from simu/FDM code + realist RC maps

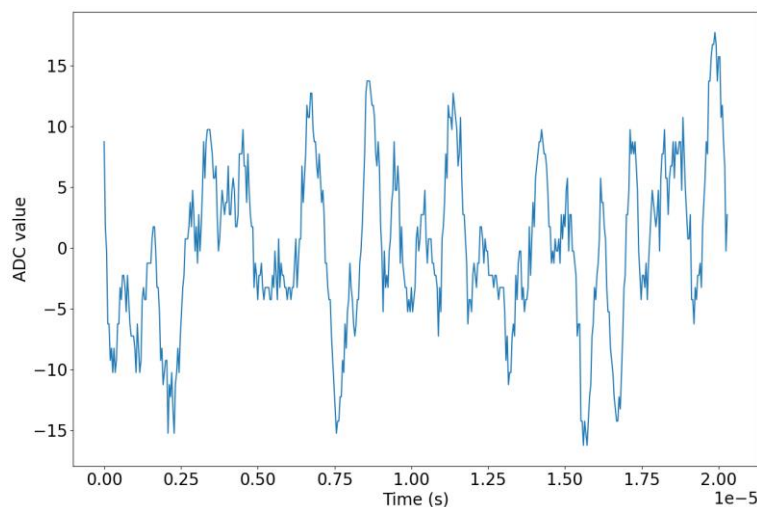
*Work in progress*



To understand the signal, one has to understand the noise. So how it looks?

Soubickchane Ramatchandirin +  
Raphaël Fourquet (M1 interns)

Record of the baseline  
(no trigger) by D. Calvet



One record  
 $T_p = 412$  ns  
 $F_s = 25$  MHz

Fluctuations over many time bins

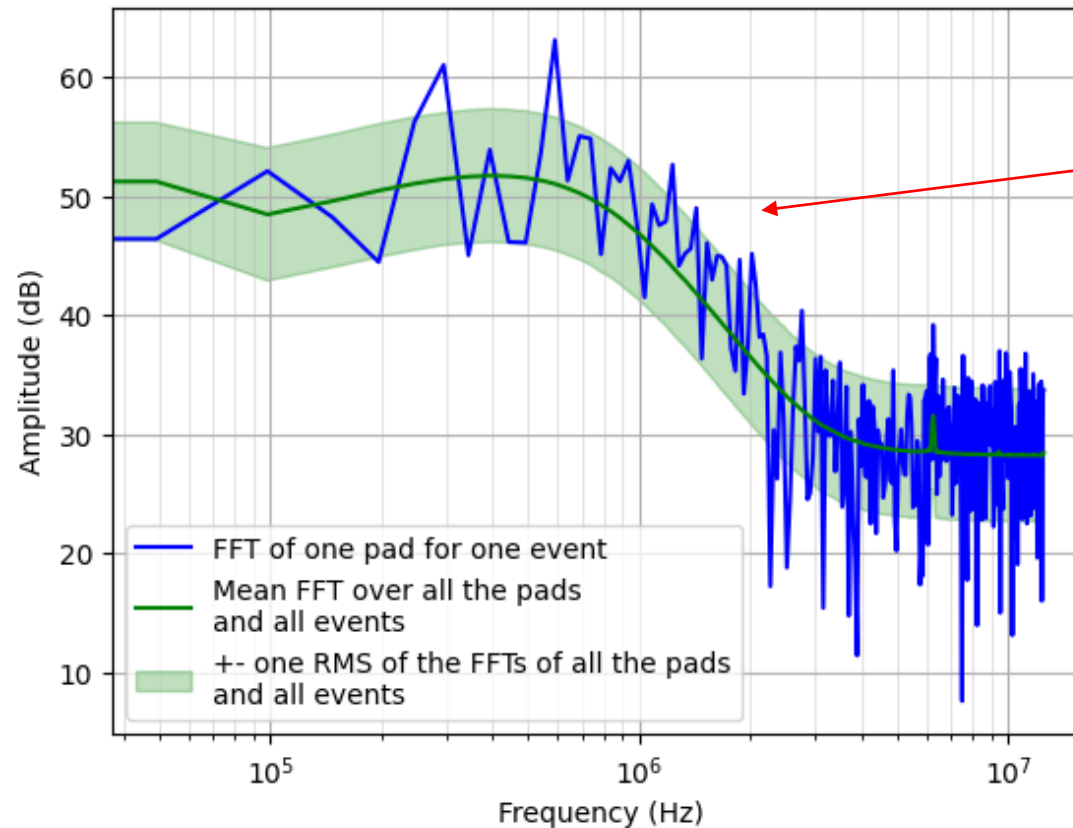
⇒ The frequencies of the bulk of Noise are much lower than 25 MHz ( $1/\text{time bin} = 40$ ns)

⇒ Low frequency noise,  
ie some correlation from time bin to time bin...

Done 10 times for all pads of the **16 Erams now in Japan** (bottom TPC),  
for 4 sampling frequencies and 2 peaking times  
(~1000 pads / ERAM)

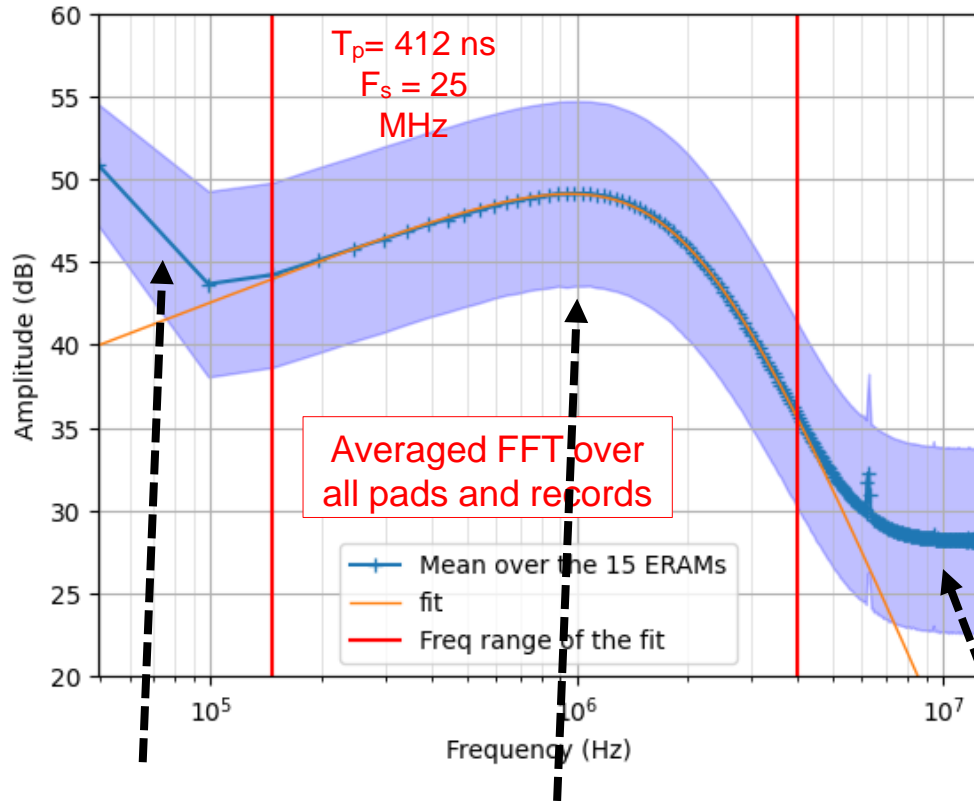
Fast Fourier Transform of the baseline record: one record compared to averaged FFT over all pads and records

$T_p = 412$  ns  
 $F_s = 25$  MHz



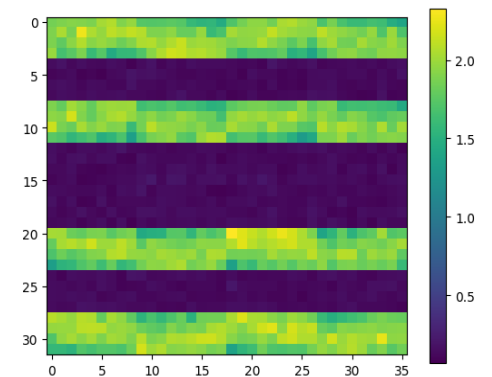
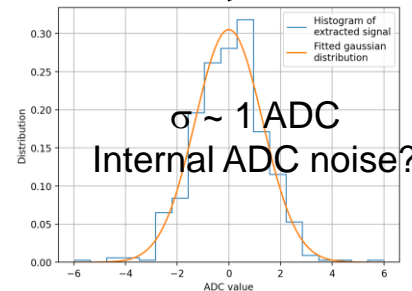
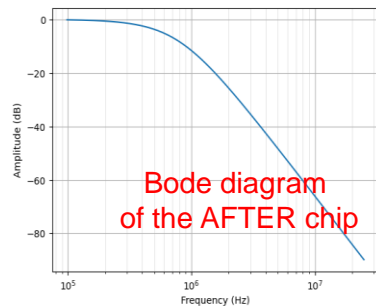
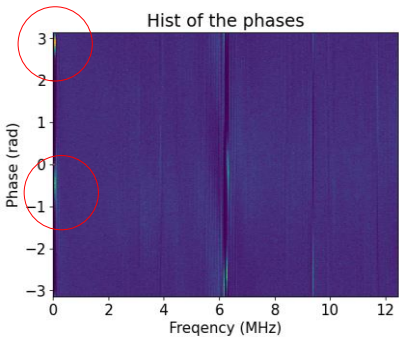
Dominated by frequencies lower than 1 MHz



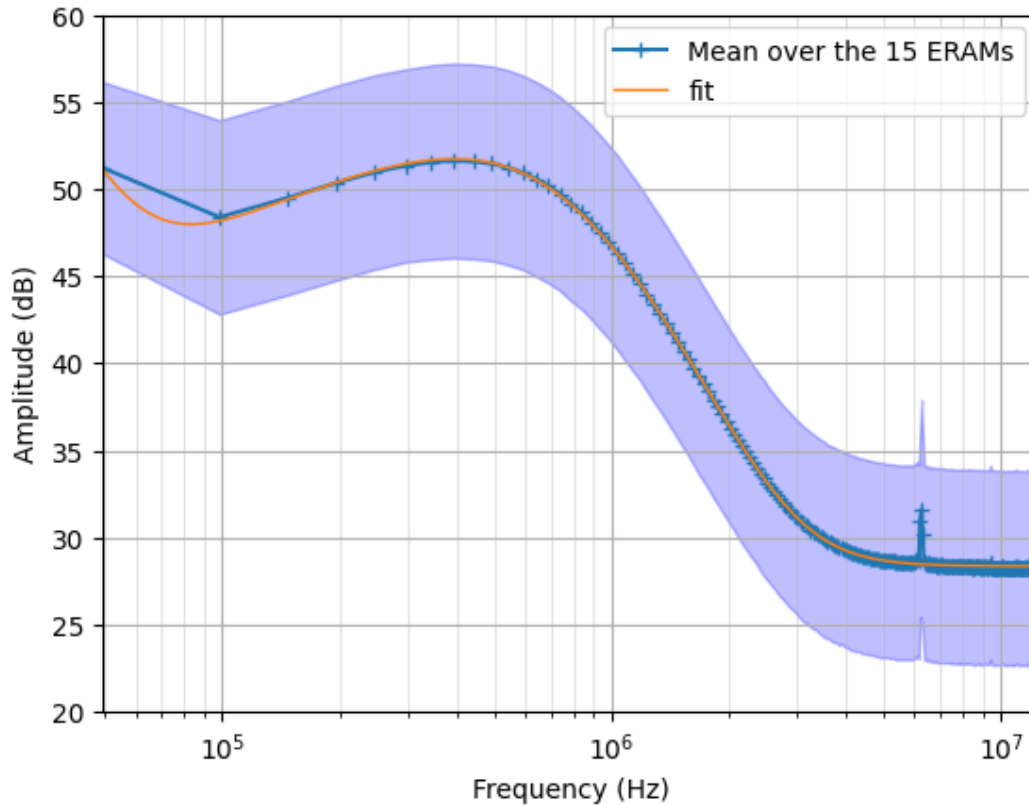


The bulk of the spectrum is understood as the effect of the AFTER chip convoluted with some random current

AFTER chip cuts off frequencies above ~1 MHz



At low f, two populations of pads (2x36), due to pad routing on the ASIC!



The spectrum can be fitted quite decently with a “simple” analytical function

$$\sqrt{\left[\frac{A_0}{f^2}\right]^2 + \left[A_1 \sqrt{f} \cdot H_{after}(f)\right]^2 + A_2^2}$$

But one wants toys events!

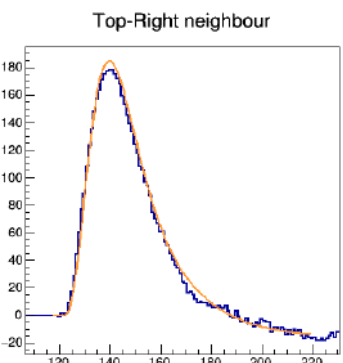
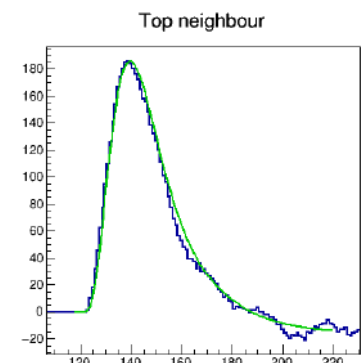
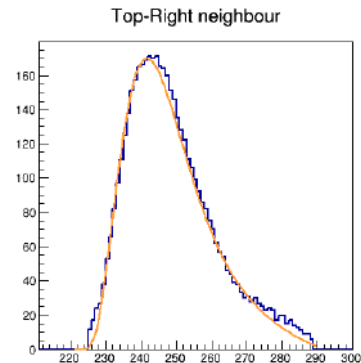
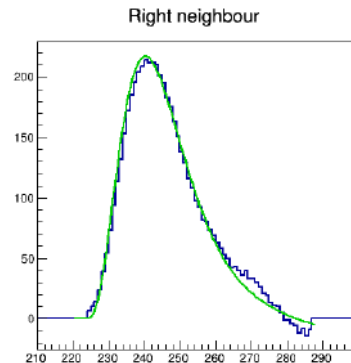
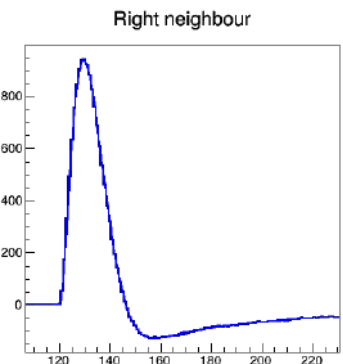
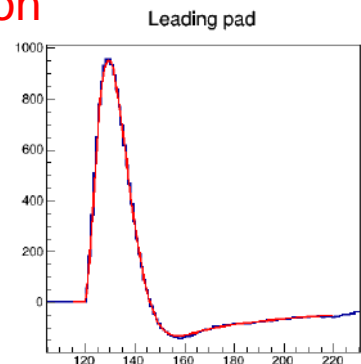
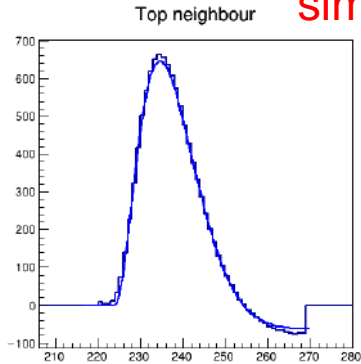
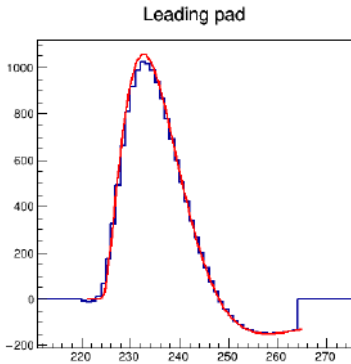
# UNDERSTANDING THE NOISE: MAKING NOISE

X-ray data waveforms

Very realist  
simulation

Simulated noisy waveforms

Preliminary tests ; Plots from Shivam



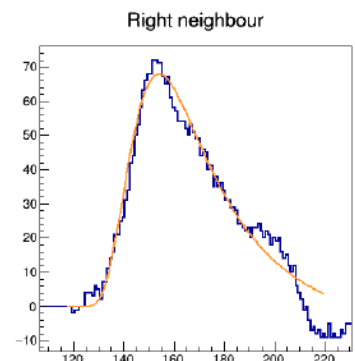
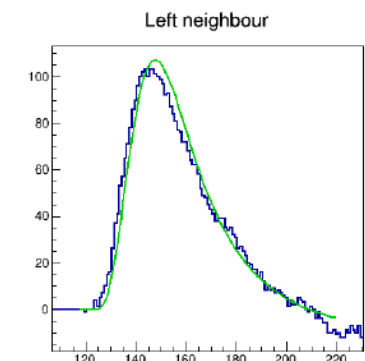
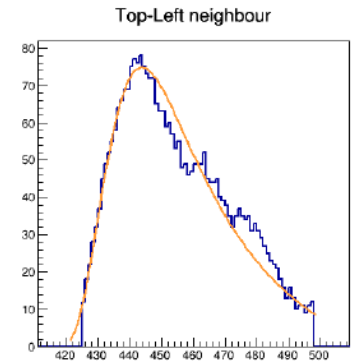
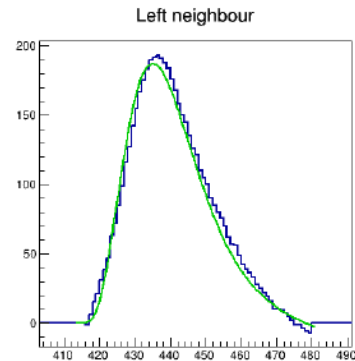
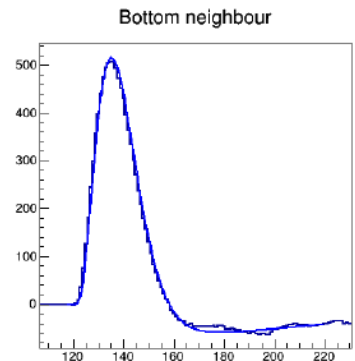
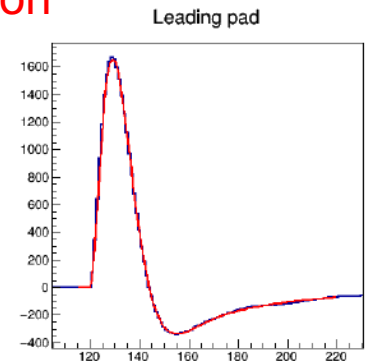
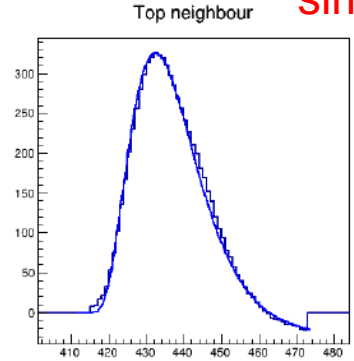
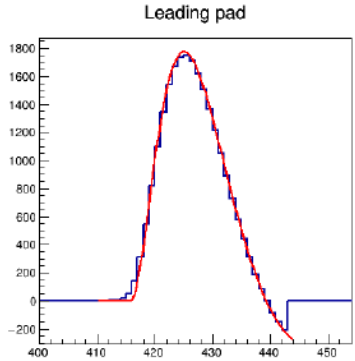
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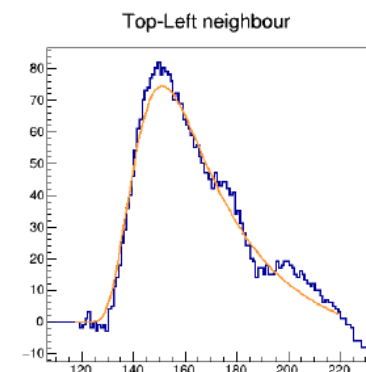
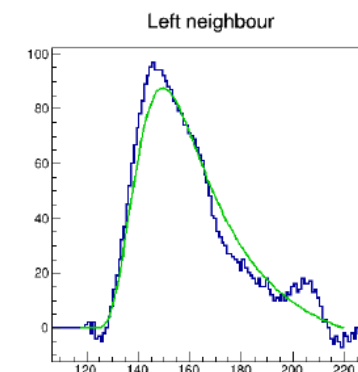
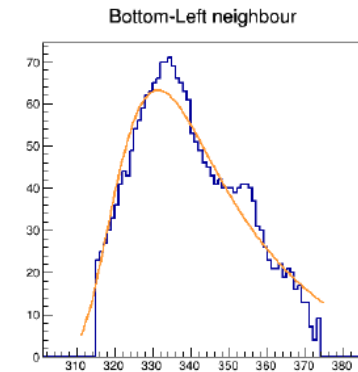
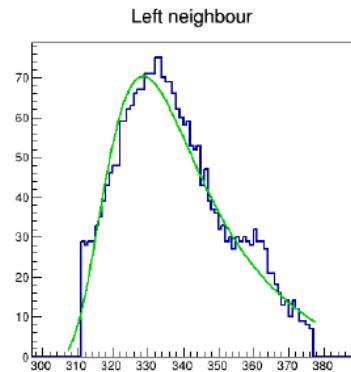
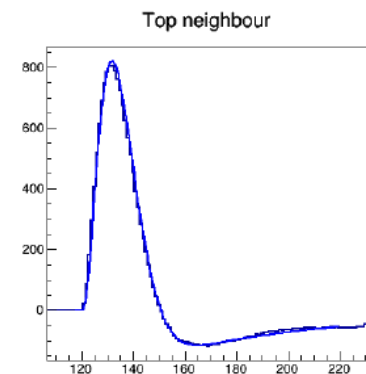
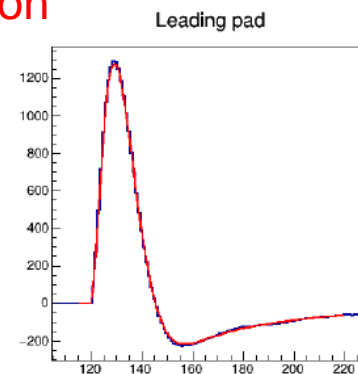
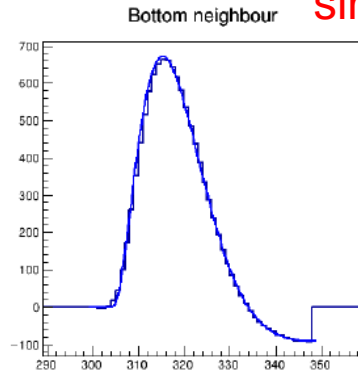
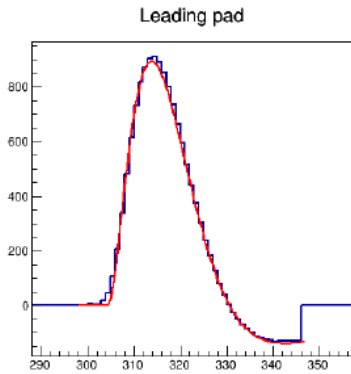
# UNDERSTANDING THE NOISE: MAKING NOISE

X-ray data waveforms

Very realist  
simulation

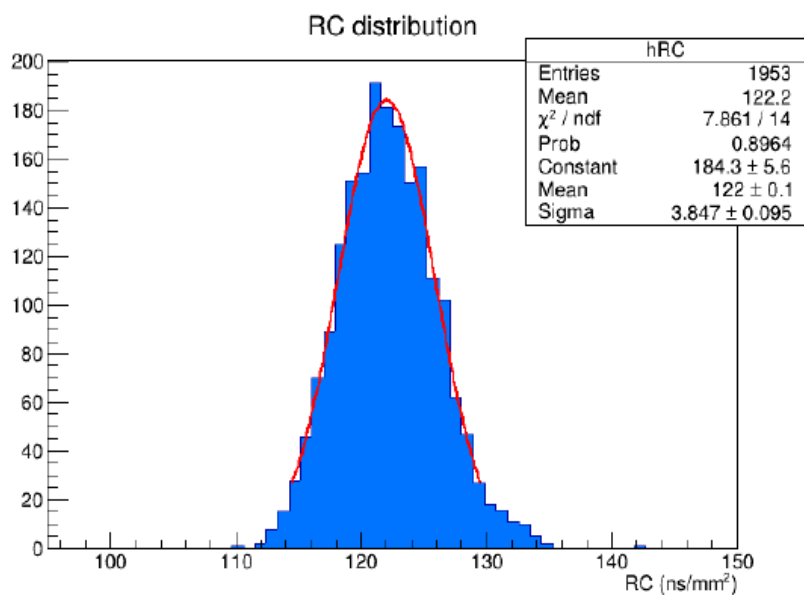
Simulated noisy waveforms

Preliminary tests ; Plots from Shivam



Simulate noise on some pads + neighbour

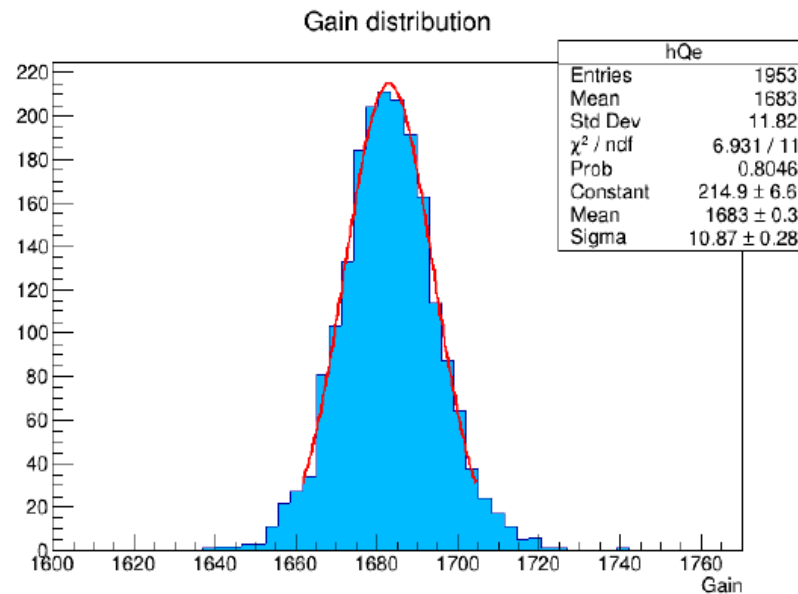
Shivam



- $RC_{\text{fit}} = 122 \text{ ns/mm}^2$
- $RC_{\text{input}} = 123 \text{ ns/mm}^2$
- Diff. = 0.8%

Inputs retrieved at %  
level

Work in progress  
(to be continued)



- $Gain_{\text{fit}} = 1683$
- $Gain_{\text{input}} = 1700$
- Diff. = 1%

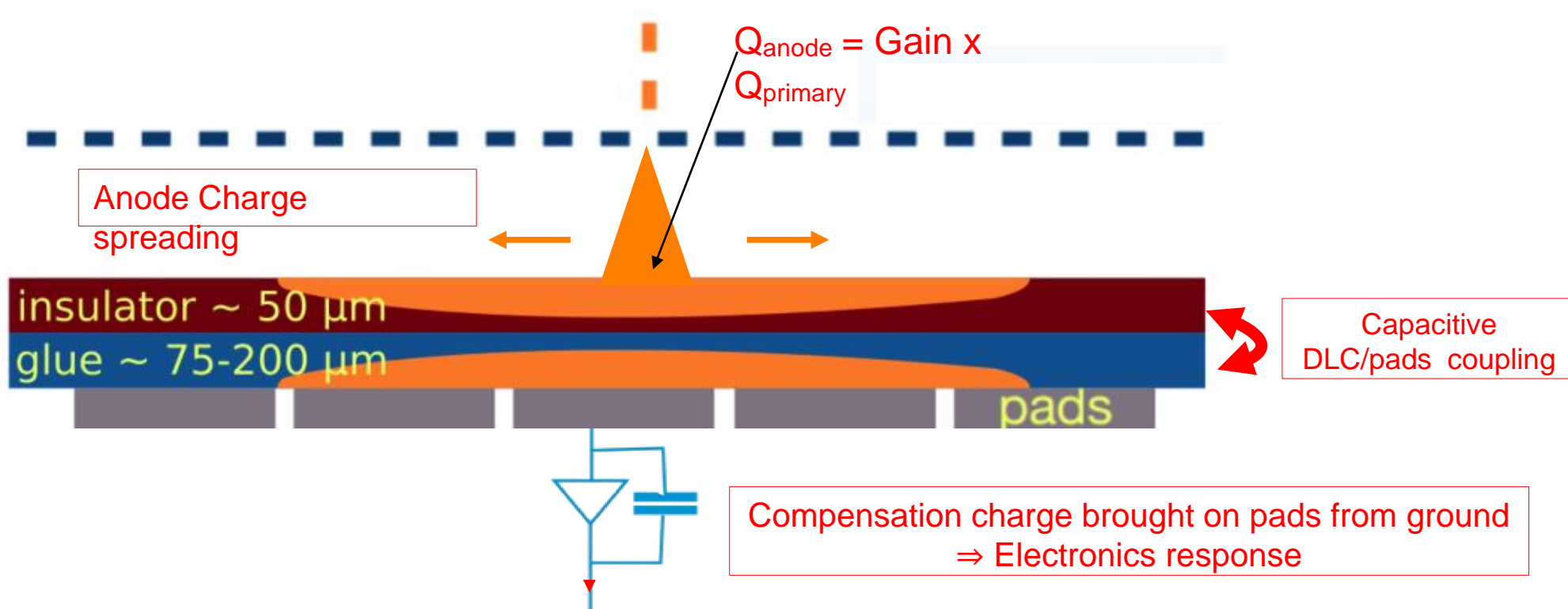
- Over the last ~3 years, a consistent workplan was undertaken to test and consolidate the Telegraph Equation + Dirac pulse parametrization model of the ERAM signal
- The cornerstone of the validation of the model is provided by the X-rays waveform studies, but the model was found relevant for tracks as well
- We have all the needed tools (discretization, noise modeling) to address the systematics due to the RC uniformity and noise assumptions in ERAM signal analyses

( *we didn't take into account gas effects nor particular areas (pillars)* )

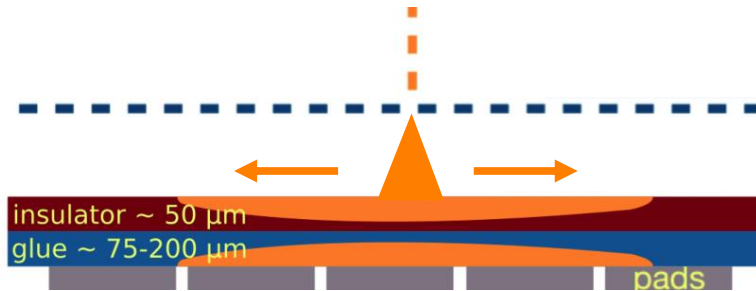
- LTSpice is a simple tool to start simulation of r-Micromegas or r-MPGD/gaseous det.
  - (+) need to have the correct **elementary cell**
  - (-) for a full detector, calculation time may be prohibitive... (didn't test "*netlist*" tool)
  - (-/+) one need to **evaluate elementary component** through measurements / specific run  
(*or use of other software – COMSOL*)

spare





Resistance  
+  
capacitance  
⇒ charge diffusion



$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = \text{div} \vec{j}_S, \vec{j}_S = \sigma \vec{E}, \vec{E} = -\nabla V \text{ and } V = \rho / C_S$$

$\sigma$  surface conductivity,  $C_S$  surface capacitance

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{RC} \left( \frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial y^2} \right) \text{ with } RC = \frac{C_S}{\sigma} \text{ in } s/m^2$$

## 2D Telegrapher Equation

Analytical solution for punctual charge deposition (assuming infinite resistive layer and uniform RC)

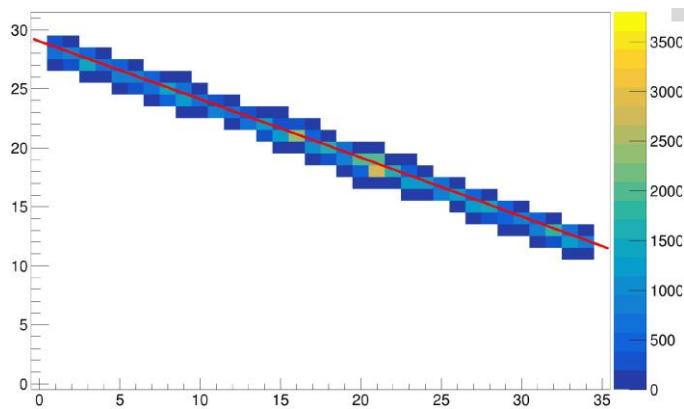
$$\rho_{punctal}(r, t) = \frac{Q_{anode}}{2\pi\sigma^2(t)} e^{\frac{-r^2}{2\sigma^2(t)}} \text{ where } \sigma(t) = \sqrt{\frac{2t}{RC} + w^2} \text{ and } w \text{ initial width (lateral diffusion)}$$

Always work with  $Q_{pad}(t) = \iint_{Pad} \rho_{punctal}(r, t) dS$  Why? There is no pad on the uniform resistive layer!

Signals from a track  $\Rightarrow$  Charge  $\Rightarrow$  Particle Identification by  $dE/dX$

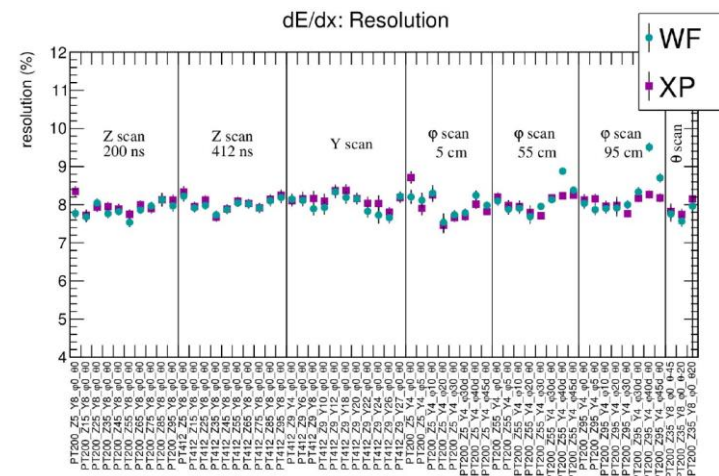
Bold move

use only the pads crossed by the track and *take from the model* the conversion of ADC to Q deposited along the track



Pads display : color = ADC max

And it works pretty well (whatever angle)



Now, one of the 2 PID tools of official T2K reconstruction

Tristan Daret's study (PhD)

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{RC} \left( \frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial y^2} \right) \Rightarrow \frac{q_{i,j}^{t+1} - q_{i,j}^t}{\Delta t} = \frac{q_{i+1,j}^t - q_{i,j}^t}{C_S \Delta_x \Delta_y R_x} + \frac{q_{i-1,j}^t - q_{i,j}^t}{C_S \Delta_x \Delta_y R_x} + \frac{q_{i,j+1}^t - q_{i,j}^t}{C_S \Delta_x \Delta_y R_y} + \frac{q_{i,j-1}^t - q_{i,j}^t}{C_S \Delta_x \Delta_y R_y}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{q}^{t+1} = (I + \Delta_t S) \vec{q}^t$$

Vector of node charges at t+1

$$\vec{q}^{t+1} = (I + \Delta_t S) \vec{q}^t$$

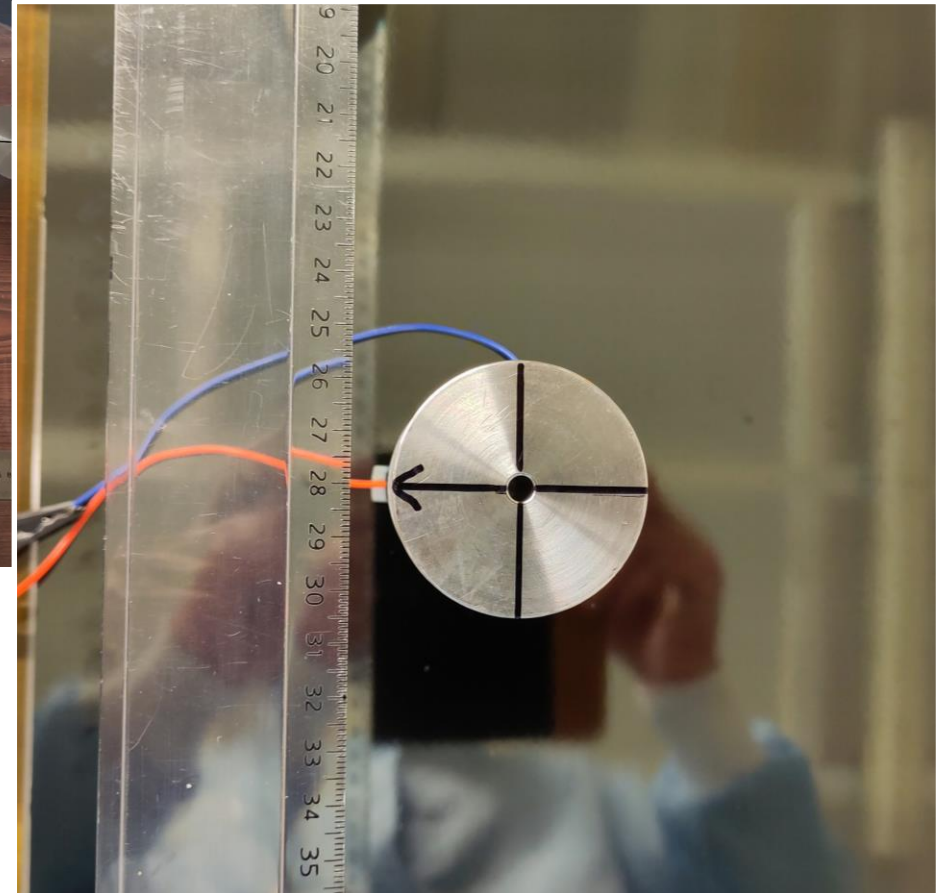
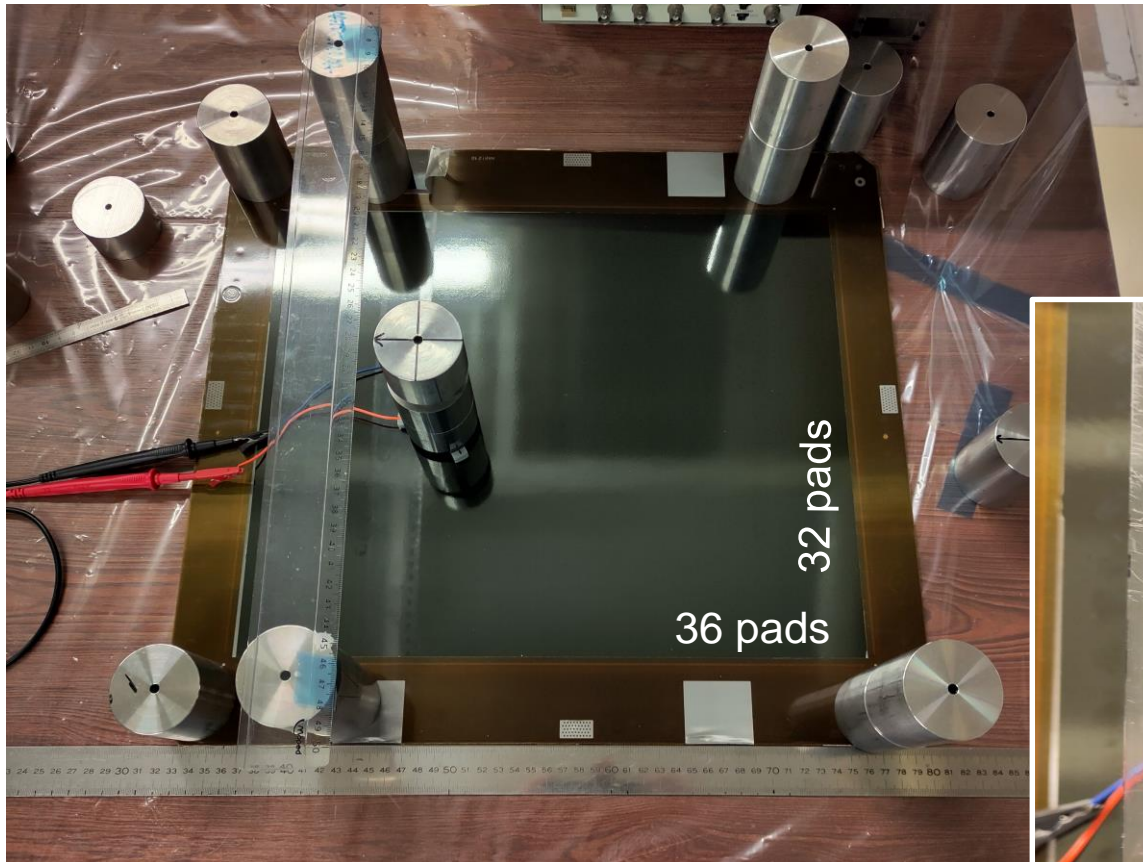
Huge but sparse matrix

Big rank  $\sim 10^5$

Vector of node charges at t

describes node/node connections but actually at most 1 to 4

over the  $\sim 10^{10}$  elements, only  $\sim 10^5$  not null



Relative positioning error:  $\pm 2$  mm vert. and  
 $\pm 3$  mm horiz.

Measurement error:  $\pm 0.1$  k-Ohm - before applying K factor

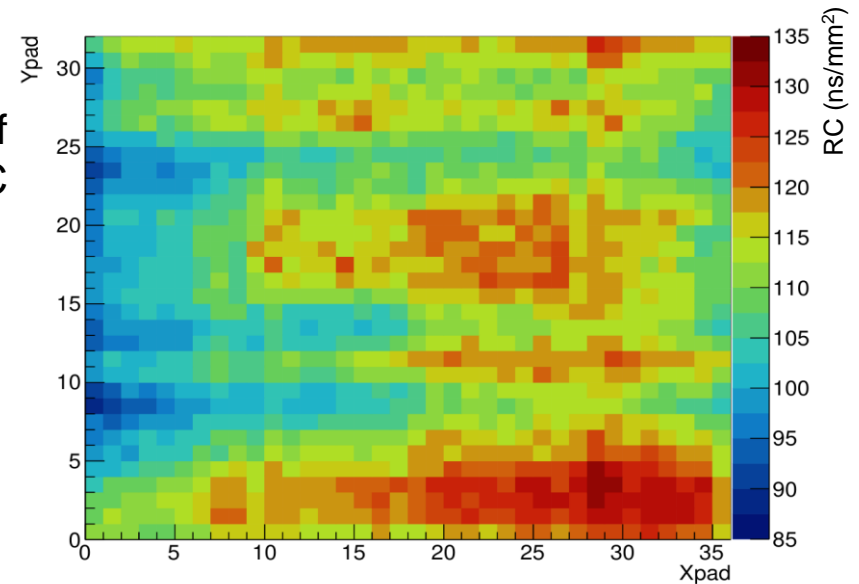
Absolute precision:  $\sim 10 - 15\%$  by calculation (how to check it?)

Previous methods model signal using analytical solution of Telegraph Equation, i.e under the assumption that the RC is uniform

But RC is not uniform as demonstrated by Shivam

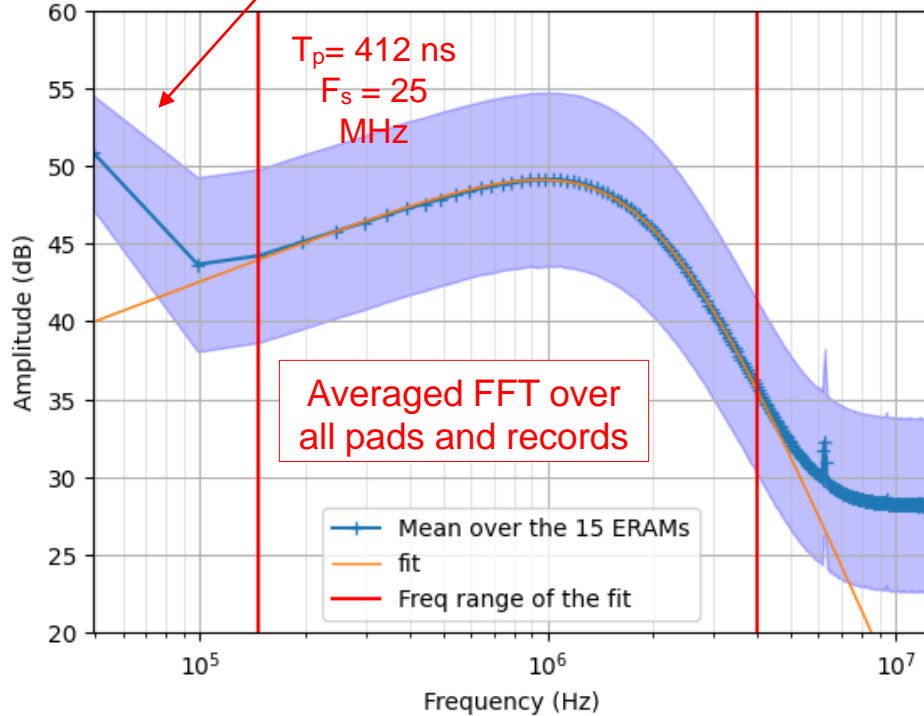
⇒ Systematics; need solution with non uniform RC

⇒ Discretisation of the Telegraph Equation



A RC map from X ray data

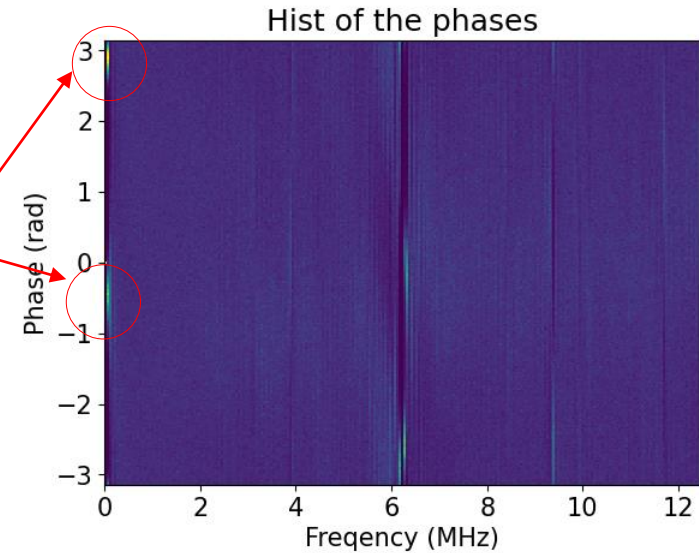
What is this ?



FFT provides also phases : they should be random

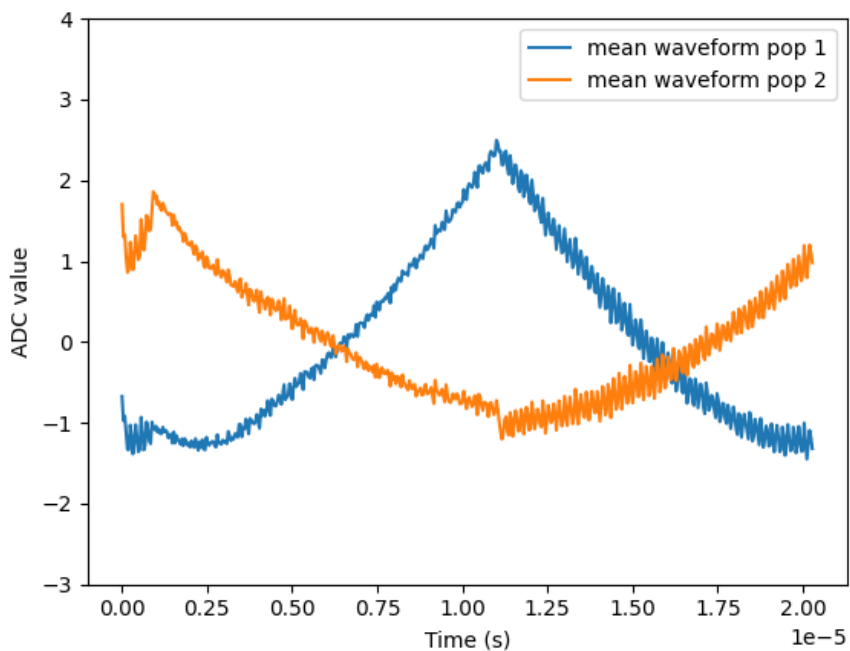
At low f, they are **not random**

2 populations

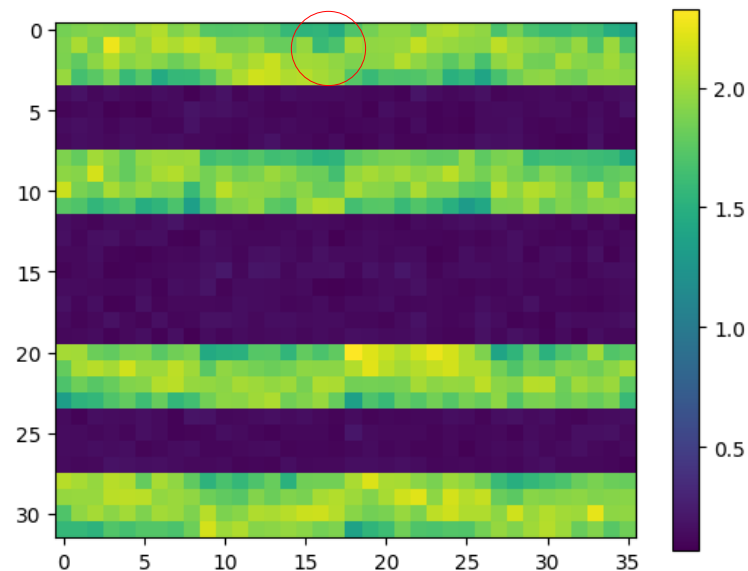


At low f: 2 populations of pads producing regular signals  
To catch them : **average the waveforms**

Averaged waveform over all Erams and records  
very specific ( $\sim |\cos(\omega t)|$  ?)



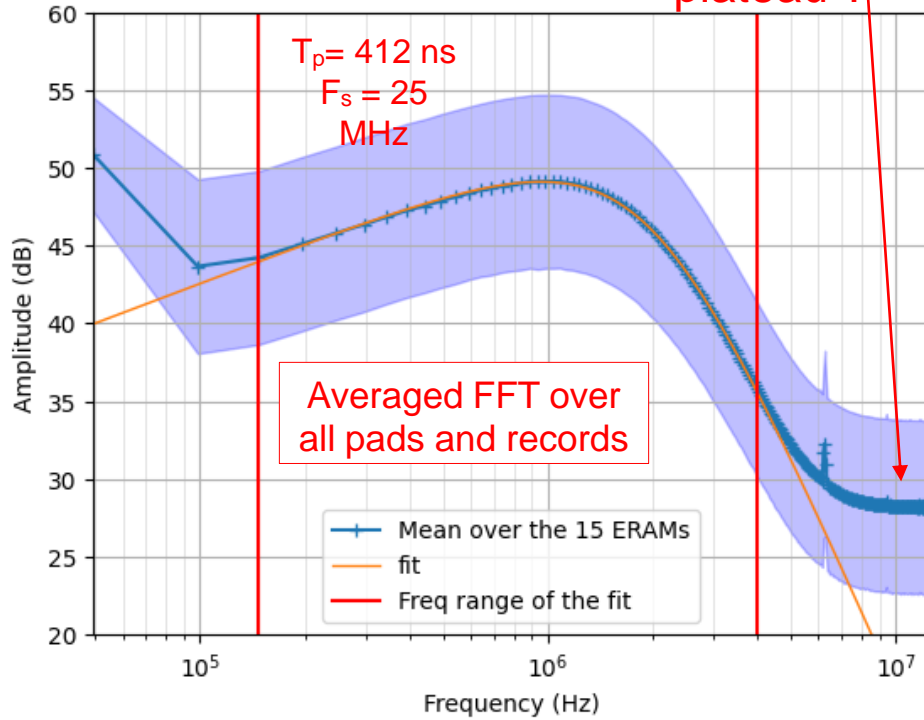
Locations of the 2 populations on the pads board  
very specific too



D. Calvet: map the way the channels connect to one or the other of the two sides of the silicon die

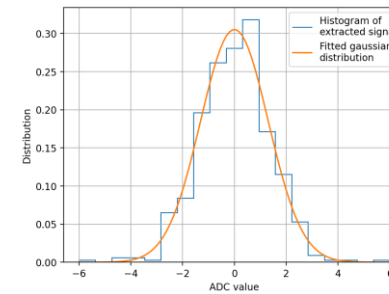


What is this plateau ?



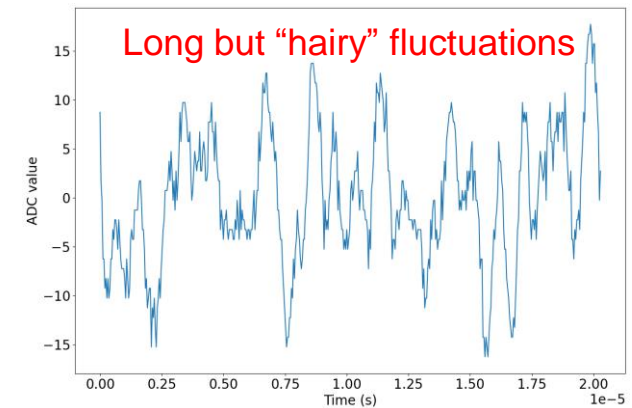
Understood as **white** noise (flat in frequency) of low amplitude

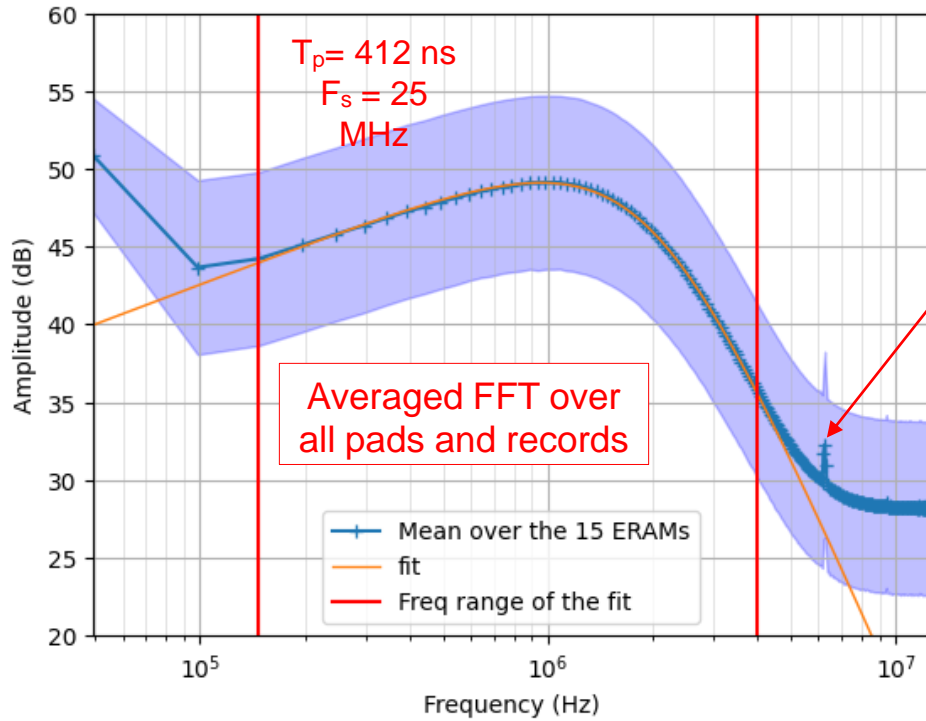
Filter out low frequency  $\Rightarrow$  return to time domain  
 $\Rightarrow$  Histogram of the ADC amplitudes



$\sigma \sim 1 \text{ ADC}$

Internal ADC noise?





And this peak?

No clue (CIA?)

Observed to be

- at  $\sim 1/4$  of the sampling frequency
- Not random (2 populations)

Ignored in further modeling

The aim is to produce noise waveforms

Schematically:

$$ADC(\text{timebin}) = \text{Rounding\&sampling of } \left[ \text{Not random signal (t)} + \sum_i A \sqrt{f_i} \cos(\omega_i t + \Phi_i) \otimes ADC_{Dirac} \right] + \text{Random Integer}$$

Random phases

Low f not random noise

The Bulk:  $I(f) \times H_{After}(f)$   
with  $I(f) \propto \sqrt{f}$

High f white random noise

