



UNIVERSITY  
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Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare

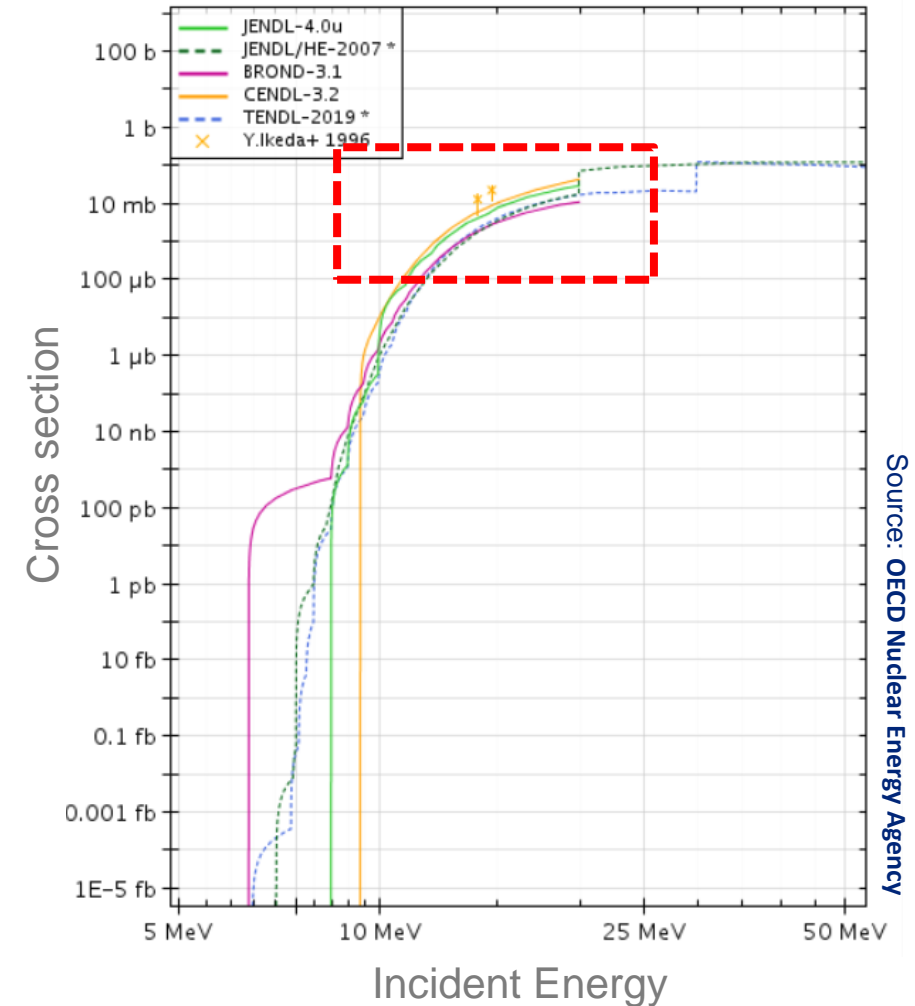
**$^{12}\text{C}(n, \text{cp})$  physics cases: Validation of  
the nTD a-Si prototype using digital PSA**

# Physics motivation

## Pressing need for (n, lcp) determination

- **Nuclear Fusion**
  - Neutron interactions with structural material cause **displacement, transmutation, and gas formation**
- **Safety/Waste management**
  - **Scarce/Discrepant/Limited-energy-range** data points available in online libraries, like FENDL(fusion), EAF (activation cross-sections), IRDFF (dosimetry)
- **Theoretical models**
  - **Uncertainties up to 100%!**
  - Refine calculations, especially for the emission of light-charged particles

Mo95 (n,d) or Nb94 production



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  - **Uncertainties up to 100%!**
  - Refine calculations, especially for the emission of light-charged particles

For this development we have:

**New Hardware**

**New Software**

**New PSA**

# Physics motivation

Pressing need for  $(n, I_{cp})$  determination

- Nuclear Fusion

Scope of this presentation:

**First quality checks of Experimental Data accompanied by MC simulations**

- Uncertainties up to 100%!
- Refine calculations, especially for the emission of light-charged particles

New Hardware

New Software

New PSA

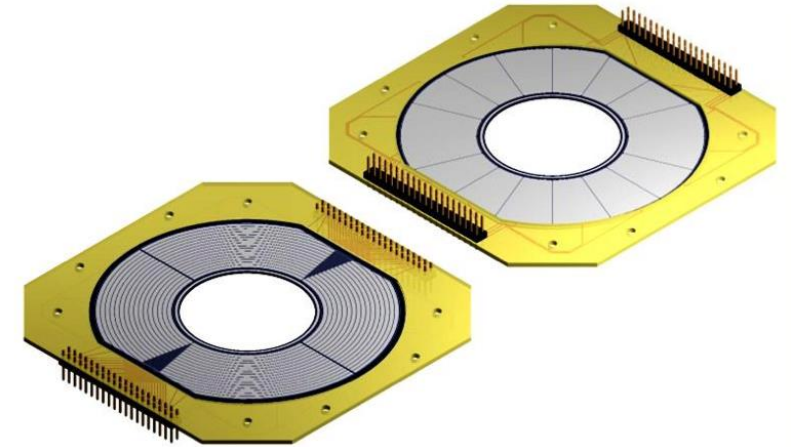
# Annular Silicon Detector

**Producer:** MICRON Semiconductor

**Advantages:**

- **High-spatial resolution**
  - Precise angular distribution (  $\sim 2^\circ$  )
- **Reduced Dead Space:**
  - The ring-shaped configuration maximizes the active detection area

**Characteristics:**



Si-wafer	nTD
Thickness	305 $\mu$ m
Inner diameter	48 mm
Outer diameter	96 mm
Metal coverage	0.5 $\mu$ m
Interstrip gap	SiO <sub>2</sub> layer
Active area	4 x16 strips
	16 sectors

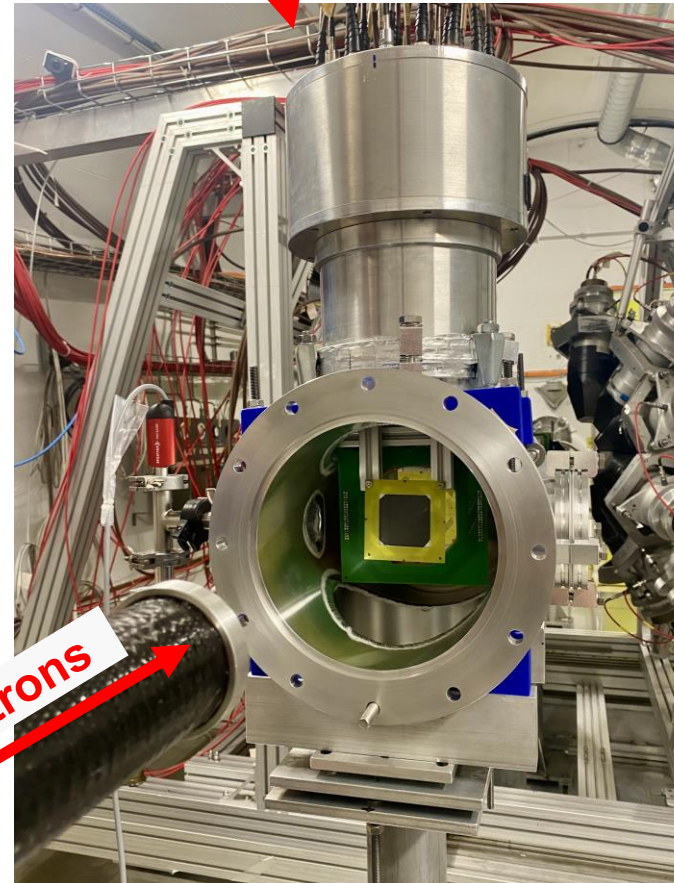
# Setting up @ EAR1

Proposal: May 2022 [INTC-P-629](#)

Experiment on Sept 2023 with:

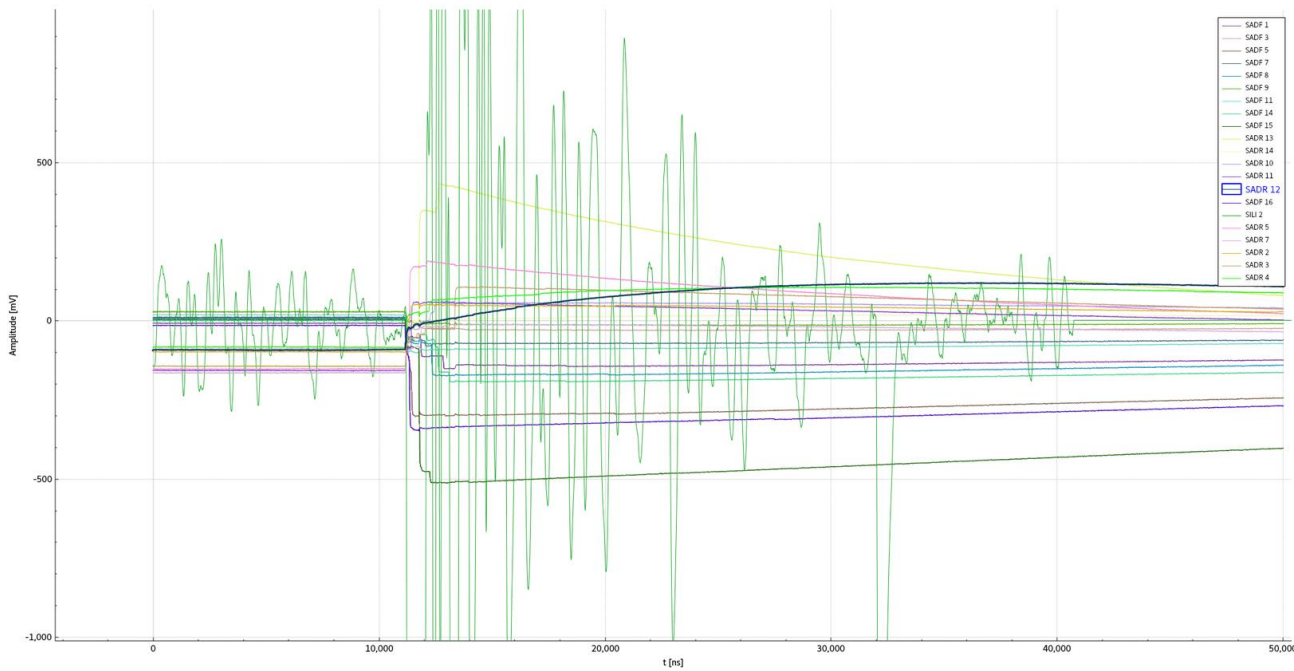
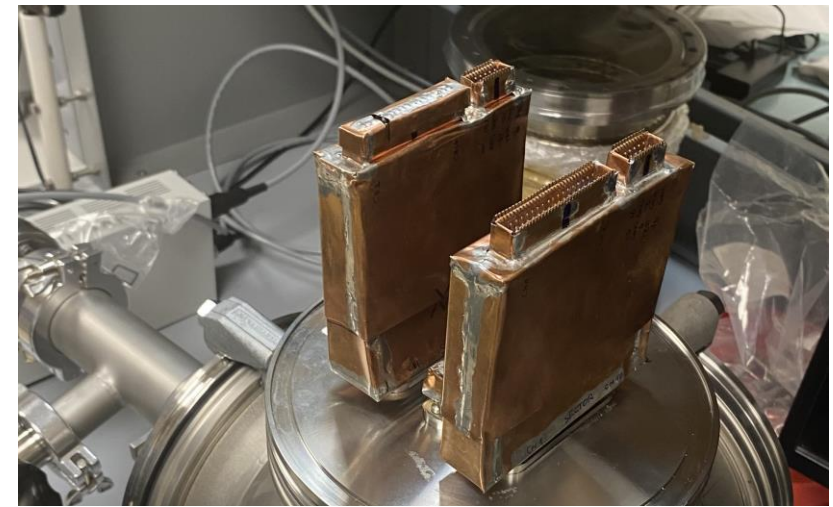
- Total protons: **1.75E+18** onto **5x5 cm<sup>2</sup>** targets
  - PE (1mm) & LiF (400nm)
  - Rigid Graphite (0.25 & 0.5 mm)
  - Empty
- Sample-to-detector distance: **5 cm**
- $\theta$ : ~ **25 - 44 °**
- **Reversed-injection** configuration
- Full-Depletion Voltage (FDV) @ 47V
- **32 channels** in total (16 sectors/strips)

Additional shielding  
for the preamplifiers



# Setting up @ EAR1

- Cable ringing problem
  - Solved for the annular but **not for all detectors**

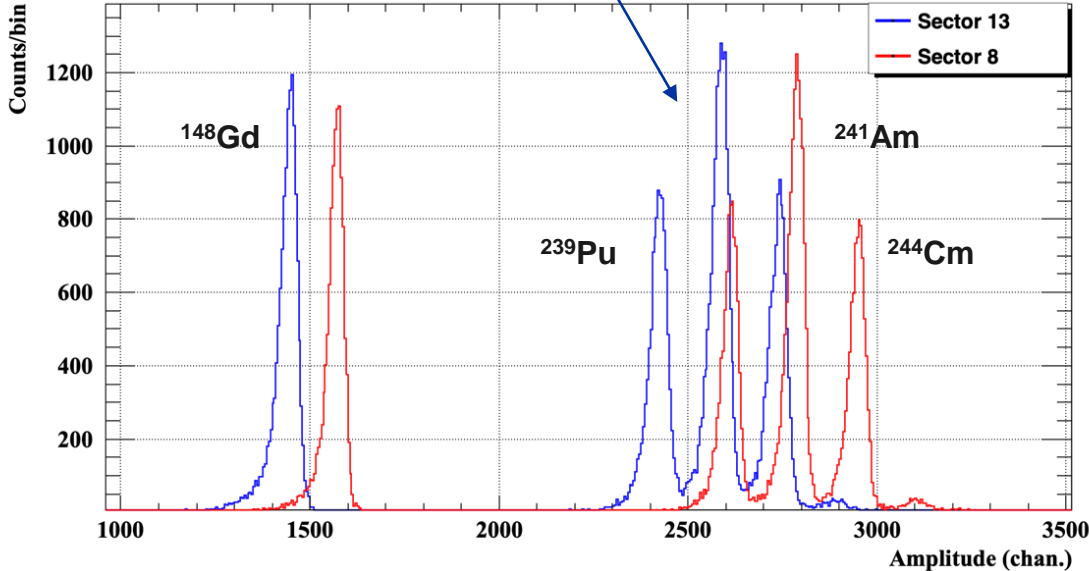
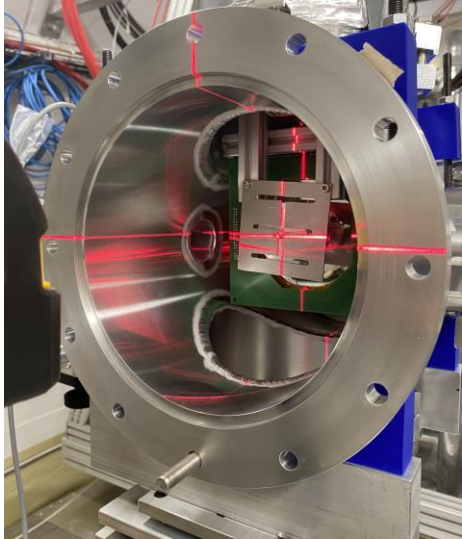


# Energy Calibration @ EAR1

- **Fully realistic conditions** during setting up the on-line experiment
  - The source was placed in the center of the sample position
  - Unsealed  $\alpha$ -source with an active diameter of 7 mm
  - Composed of four  $\alpha$ -emitting isotopes with a total activity of 8 kBq

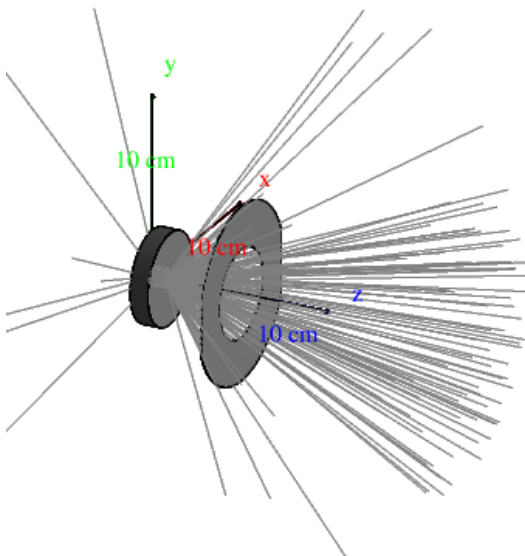


Isotope	Energy (keV)	Intensity (%)
$^{148}\text{Gd}$	3182.690(24)	100
$^{239}\text{Pu}$	5156.59(14)	73.3(8)
	5144.3(8)	15.1(8)
	5105.5(8)	11.5(8)
$^{241}\text{Am}$	5485.6(12)	85.2(8)
	5442.90(13)	12.8(2)
	5388(1)	1.4(2)
$^{244}\text{Cm}$	5804.82(5)	76.4(2)
	5762.70(3)	23.6(2)
	5664(3)	0.022(1)

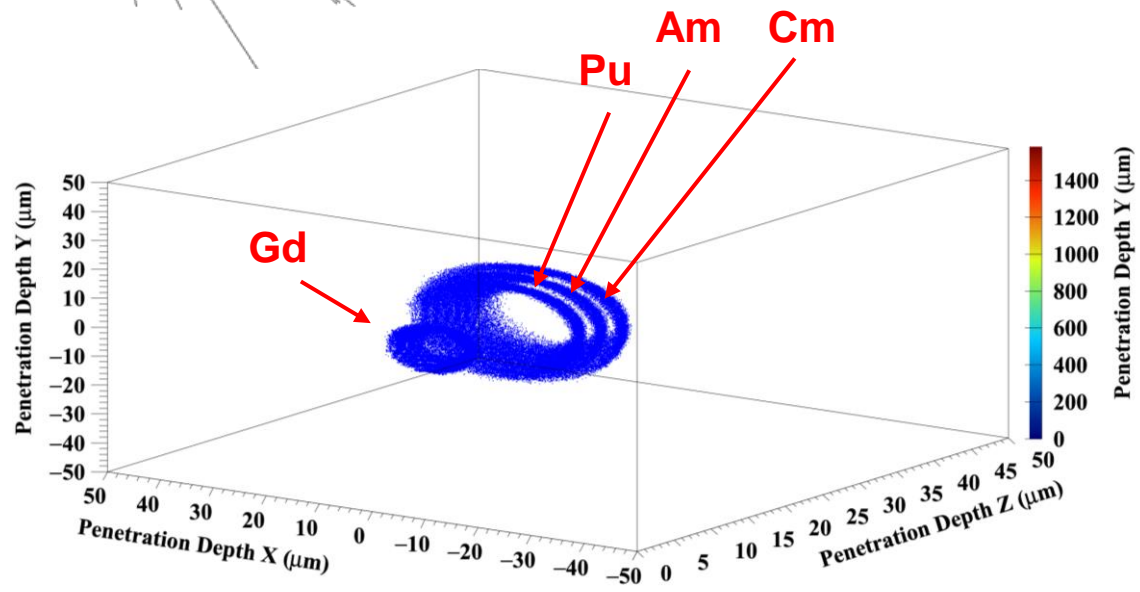




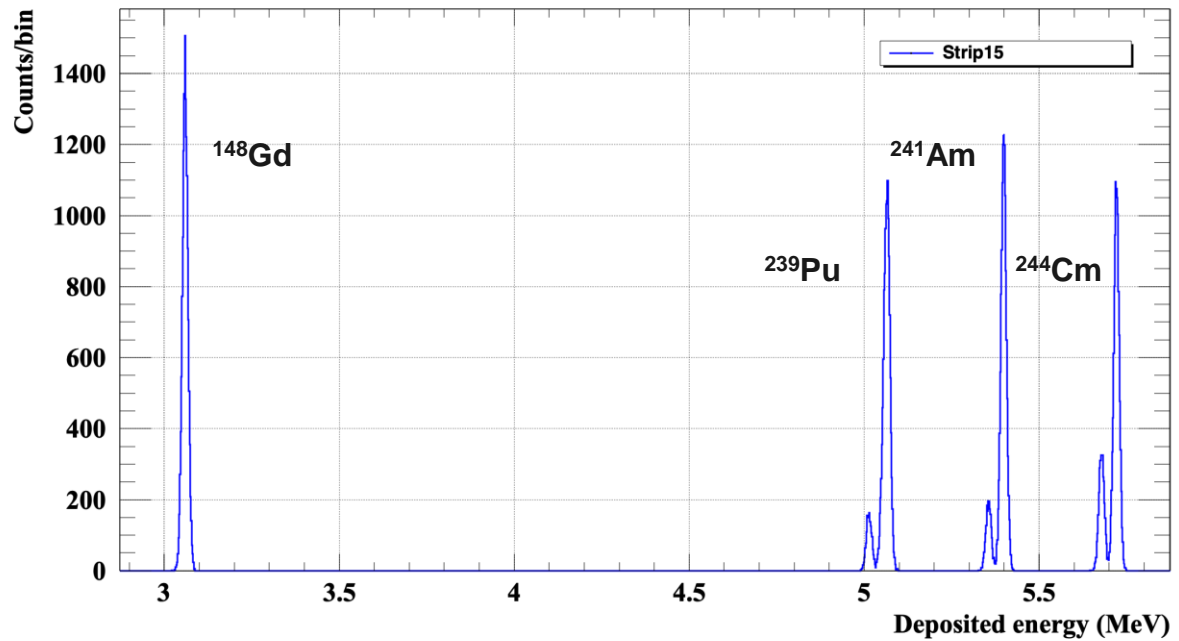
# Energy Calibration @ GEANT4



Source:  $\alpha$  particles from a circle surface source

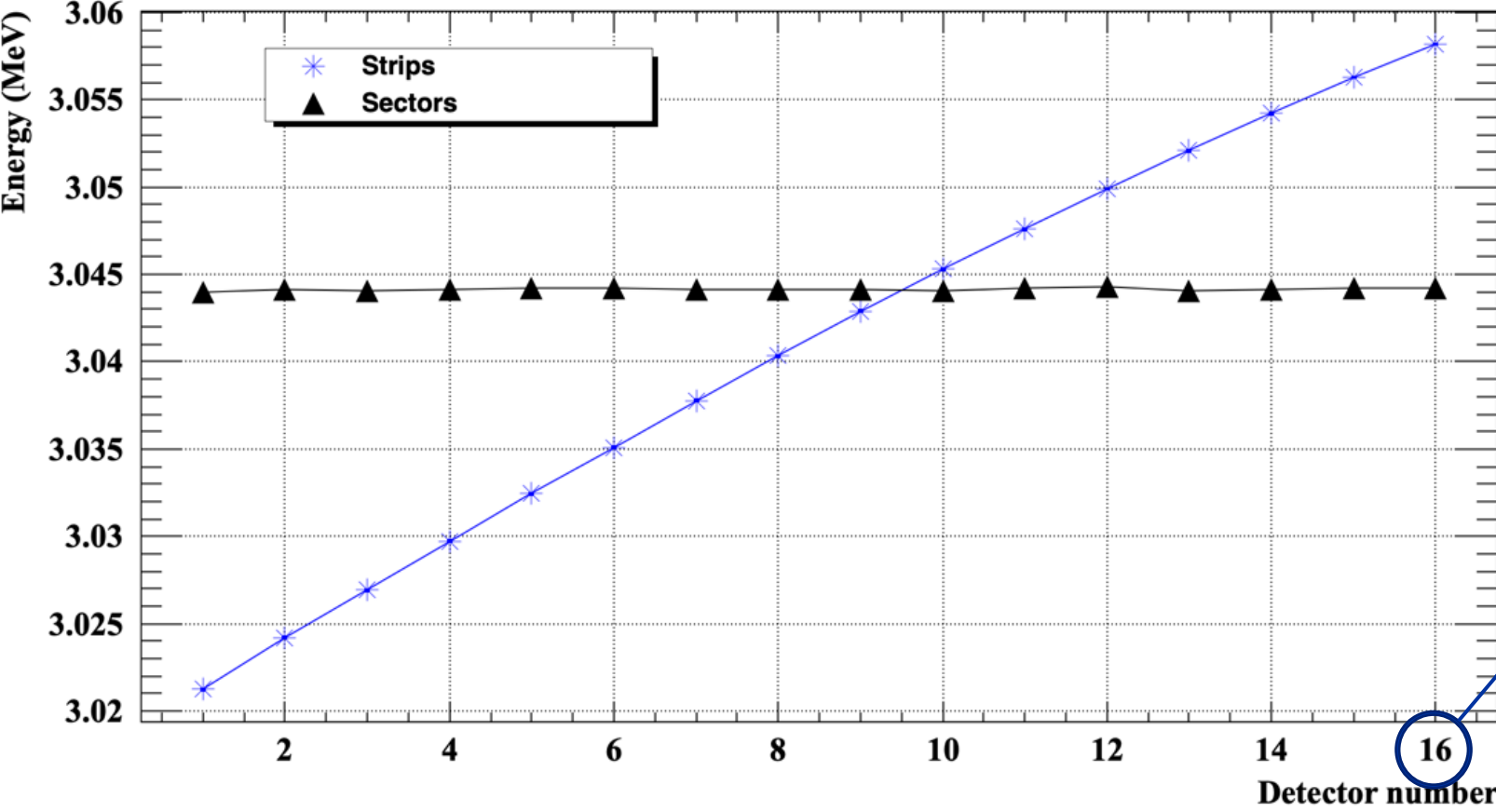


Strip 15: 2nd strip counting from the inner part of the Si

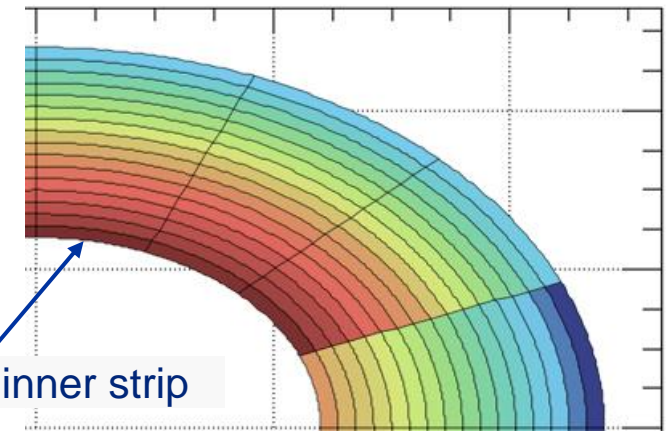


**Response function of the detector to be implemented!**

# Energy Calibration @ GEANT4



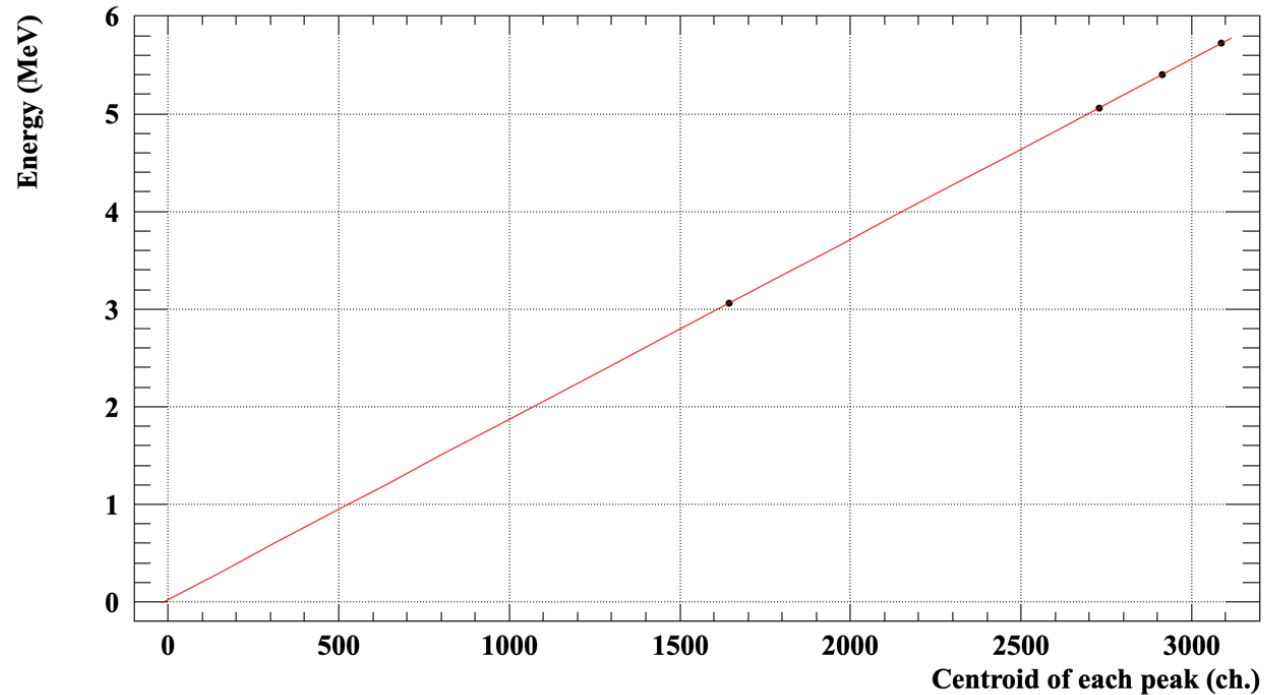
- **Deposited energy (Gd):**
  - sectors: ~ 3.044 Mev
  - strips: ~ 3.02 – 3.06 MeV



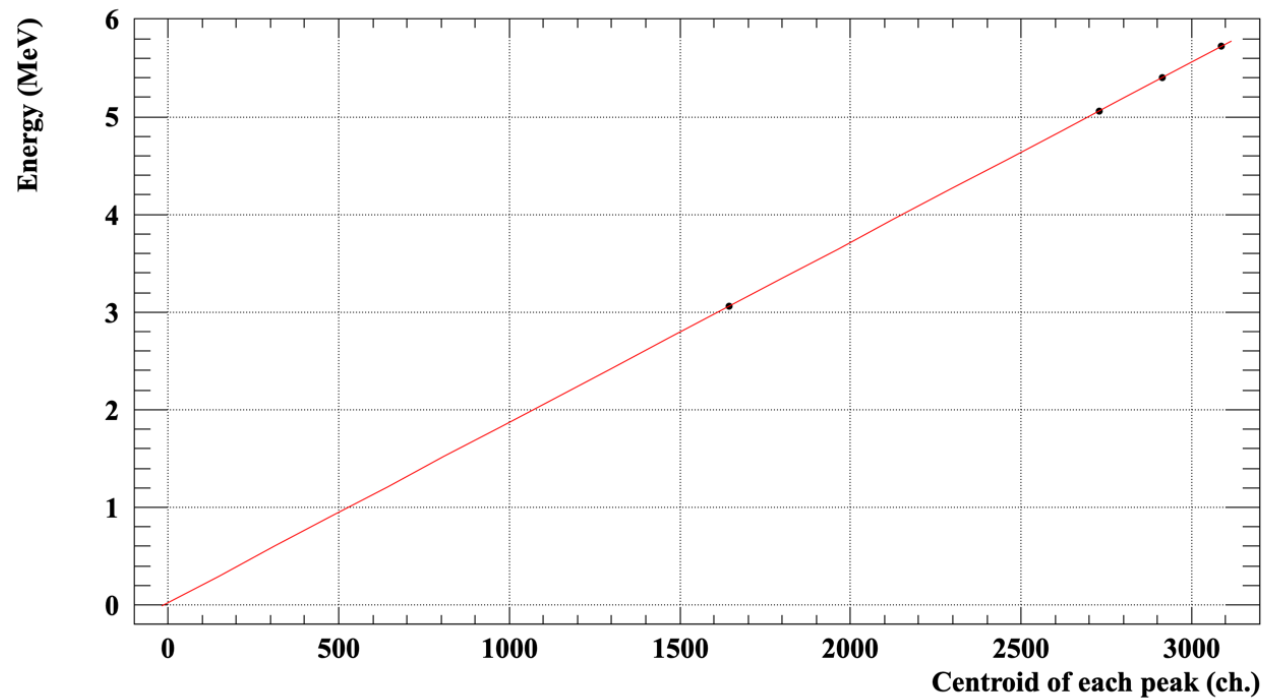
inner strip

Al dead-layer: **decreases** the deposited energy of the particles **inside the active volume**

# Performance of the DSSSD @ Energy matching



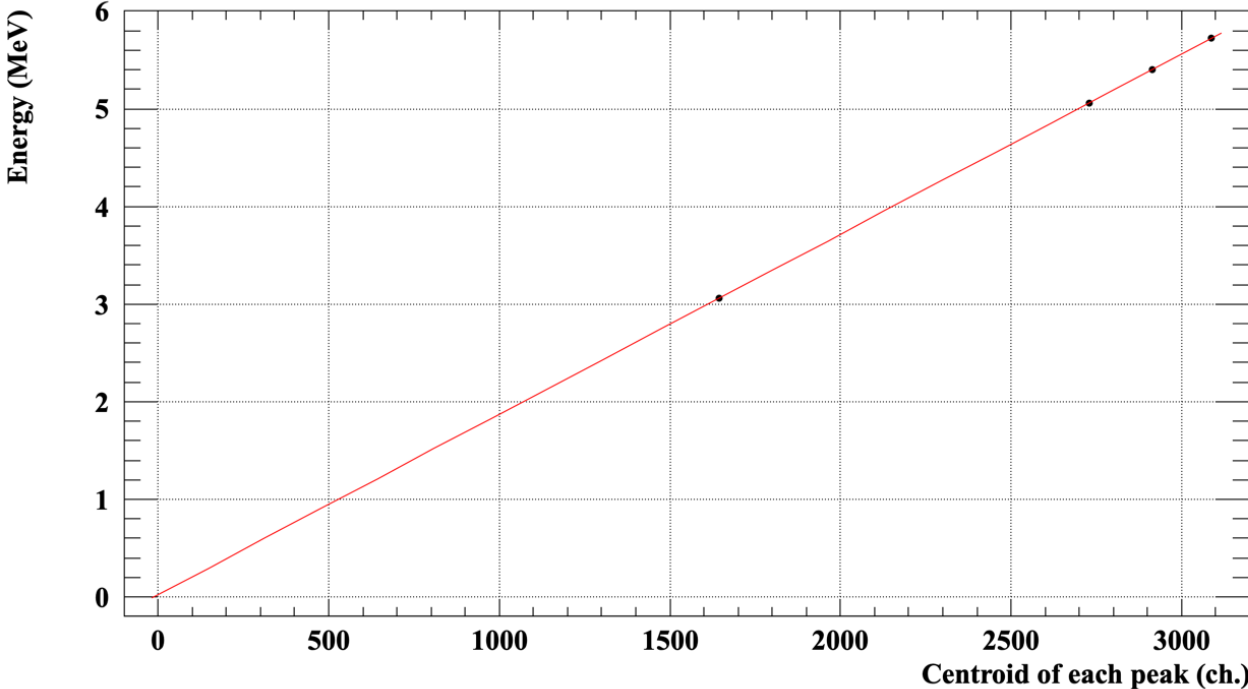
# Performance of the DSSSD @ Energy matching



## Average offset:

- ~ 20 keV

# Performance of the DSSSD @ Energy matching



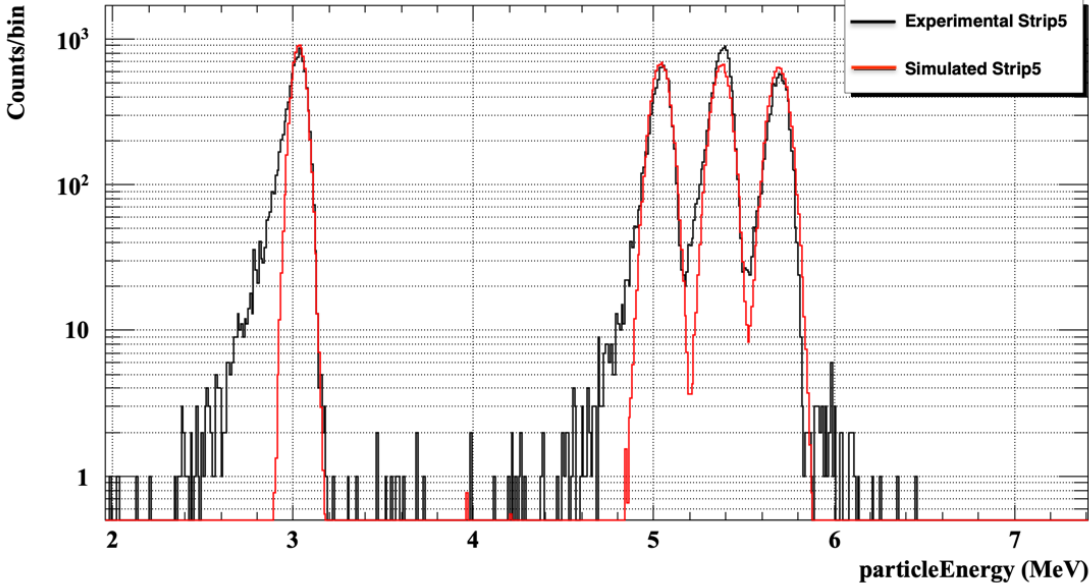
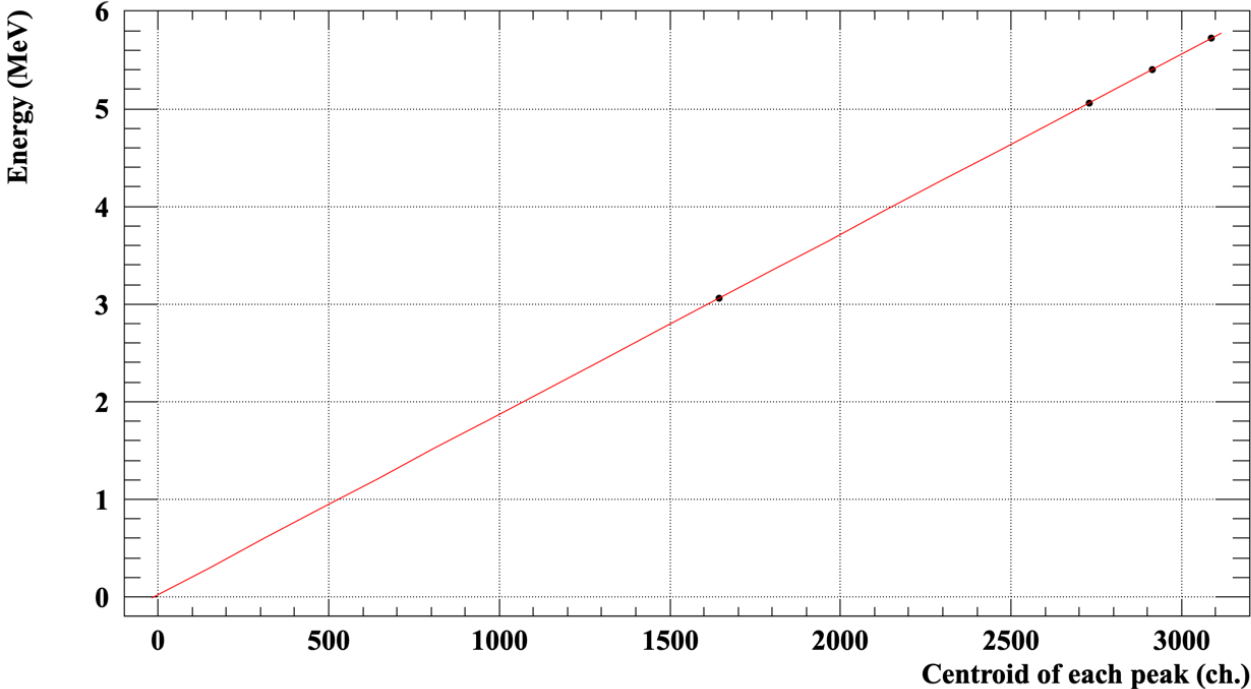
### Average offset:

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Thickness of the mixed-nuclei drop?

Energy loss for a traversing 50nm material: ~ 30 keV!

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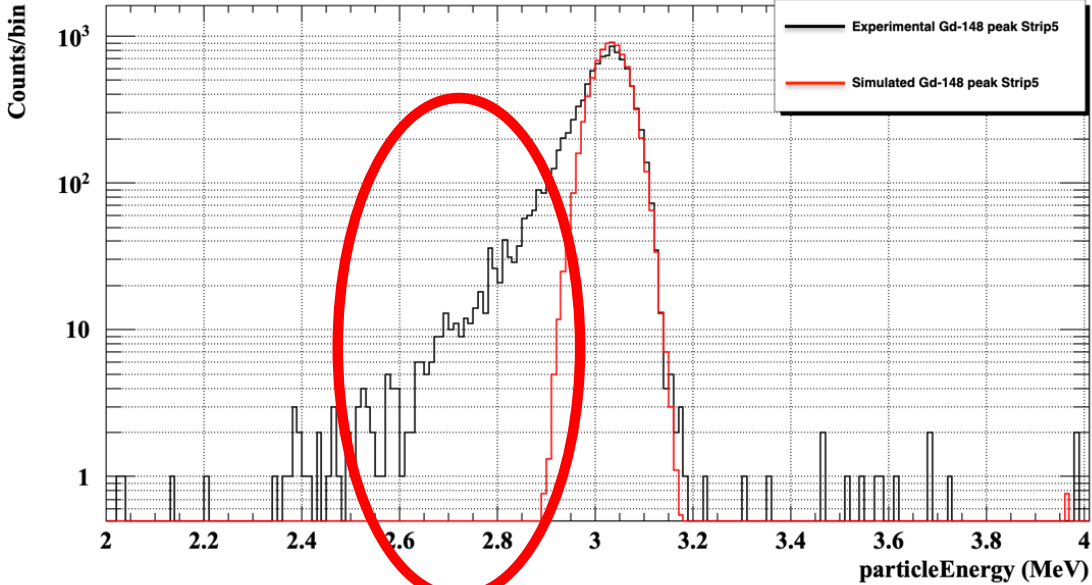
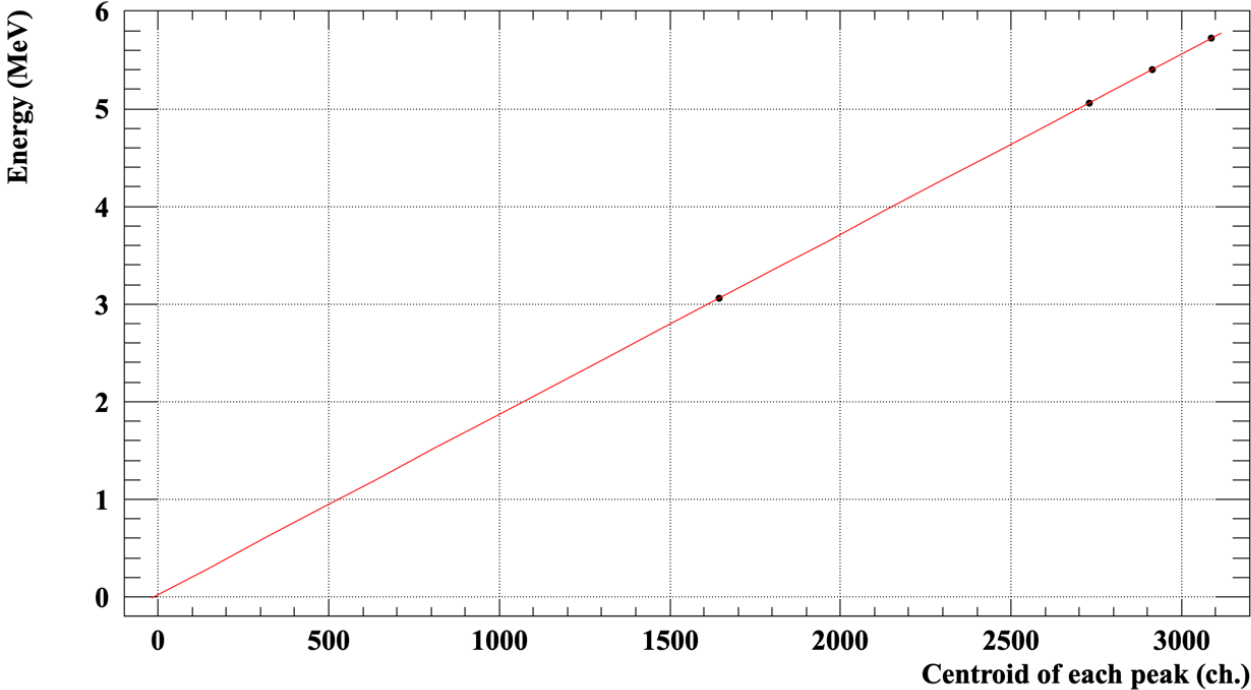
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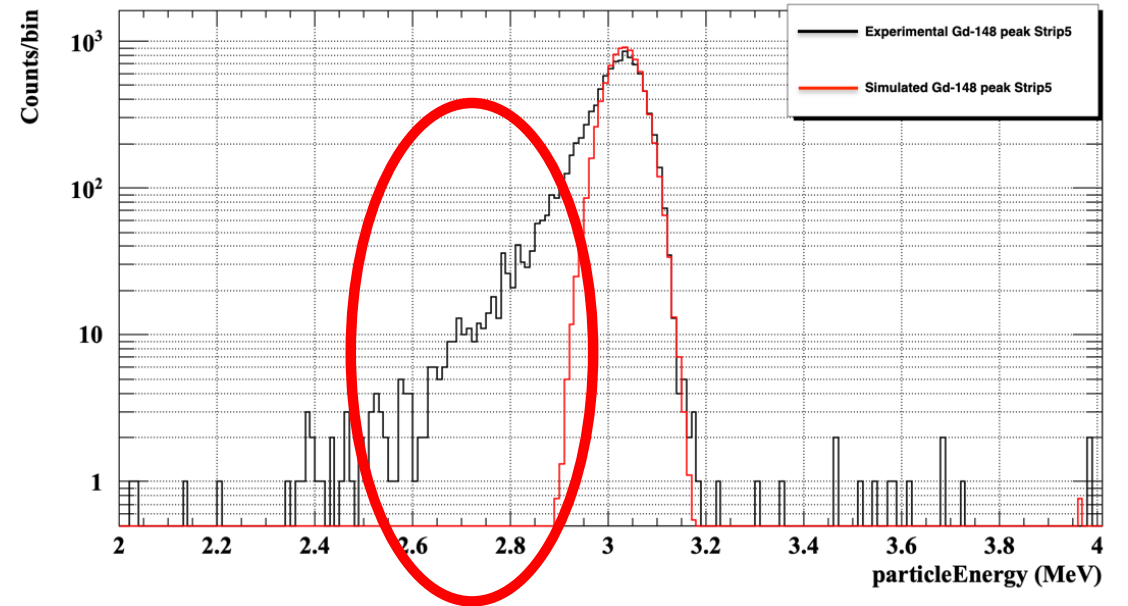
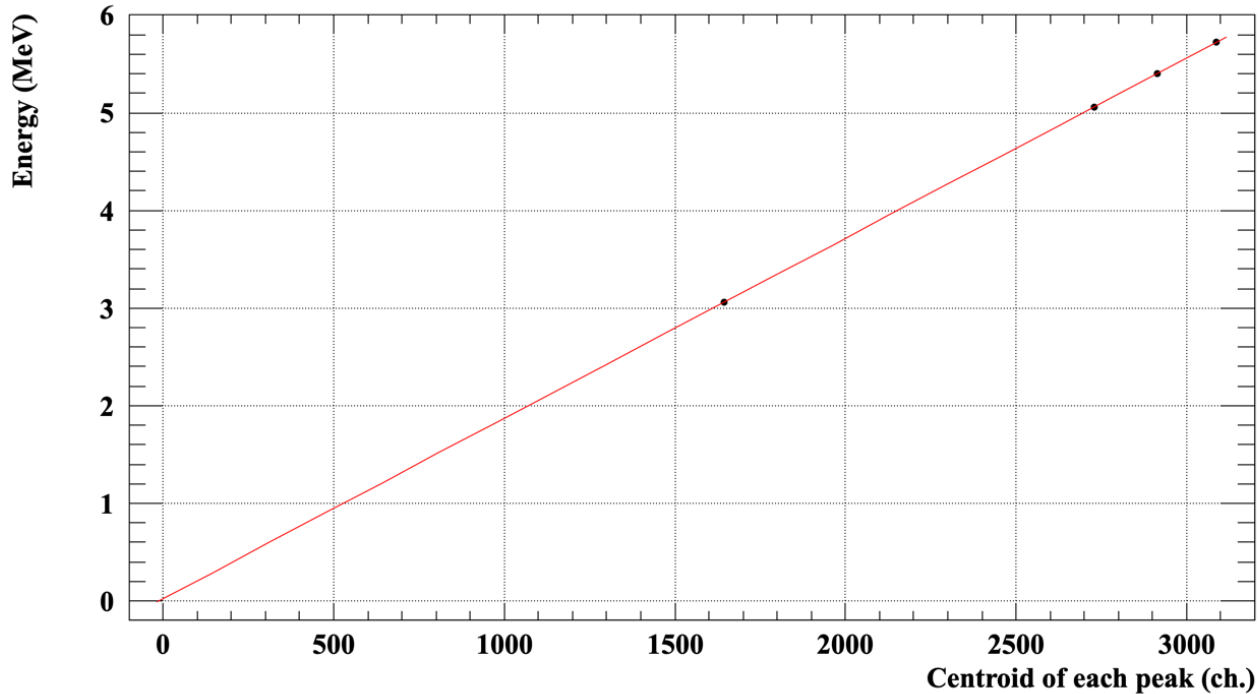
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# Performance of the DSSSD @ Energy matching



## Average offset:

- ~ 20 keV

Thickness of the mixed-nuclei drop?

Energy loss for a traversing 50nm material: ~ 30 keV!

## Possible explanations:

- Insulator of  $\text{SiO}_2$  between the strips?
- Incomplete charge collection?

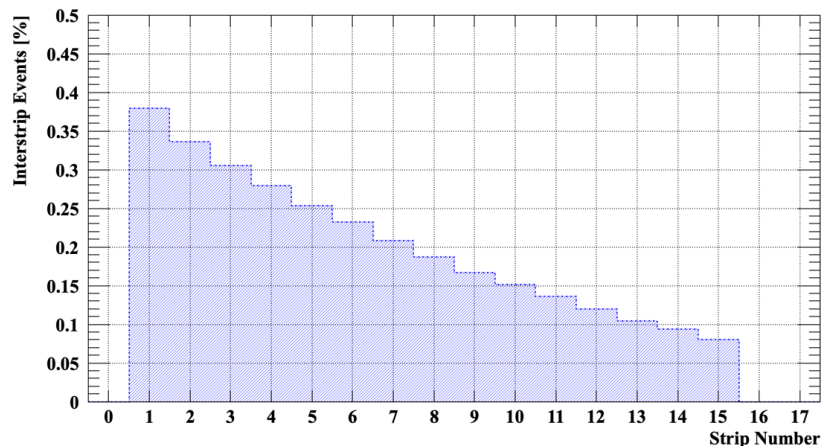
**UNDER INVESTIGATION**



# Coincidences procedure

## Principle of operation:

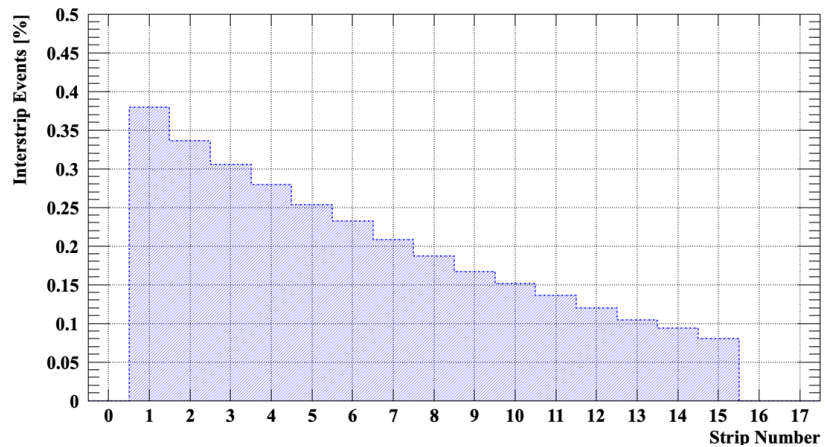
- One event gives rise to two signals simultaneously.
- Majority of events: same deposited energy
- The others? How much is the percentage?



# Coincidences procedure

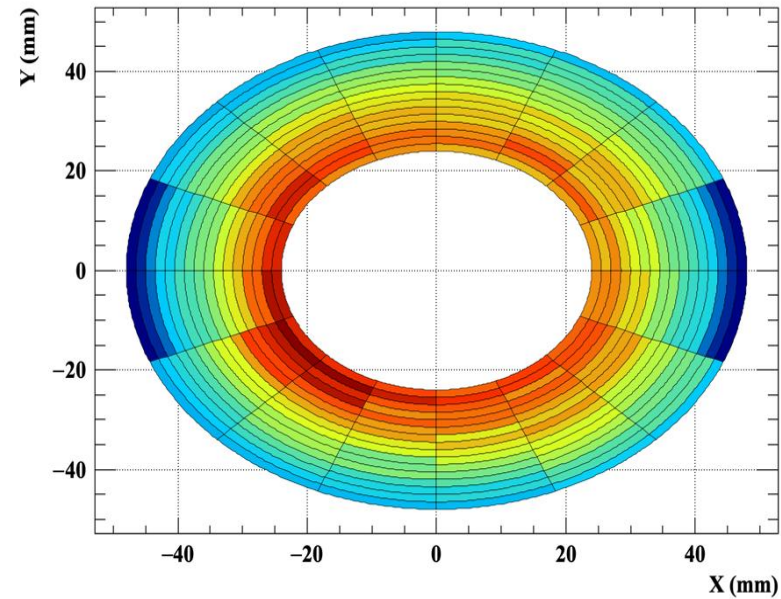
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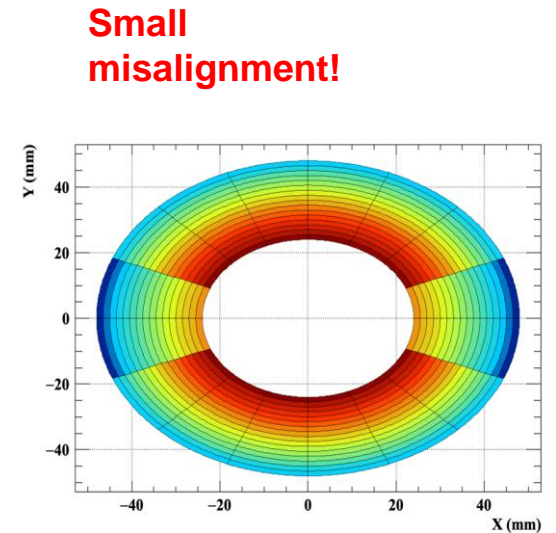


By plotting the difference of the energy one can set an energy limit window

Applying this condition we **keep > 96%** of the statistics!



experimental

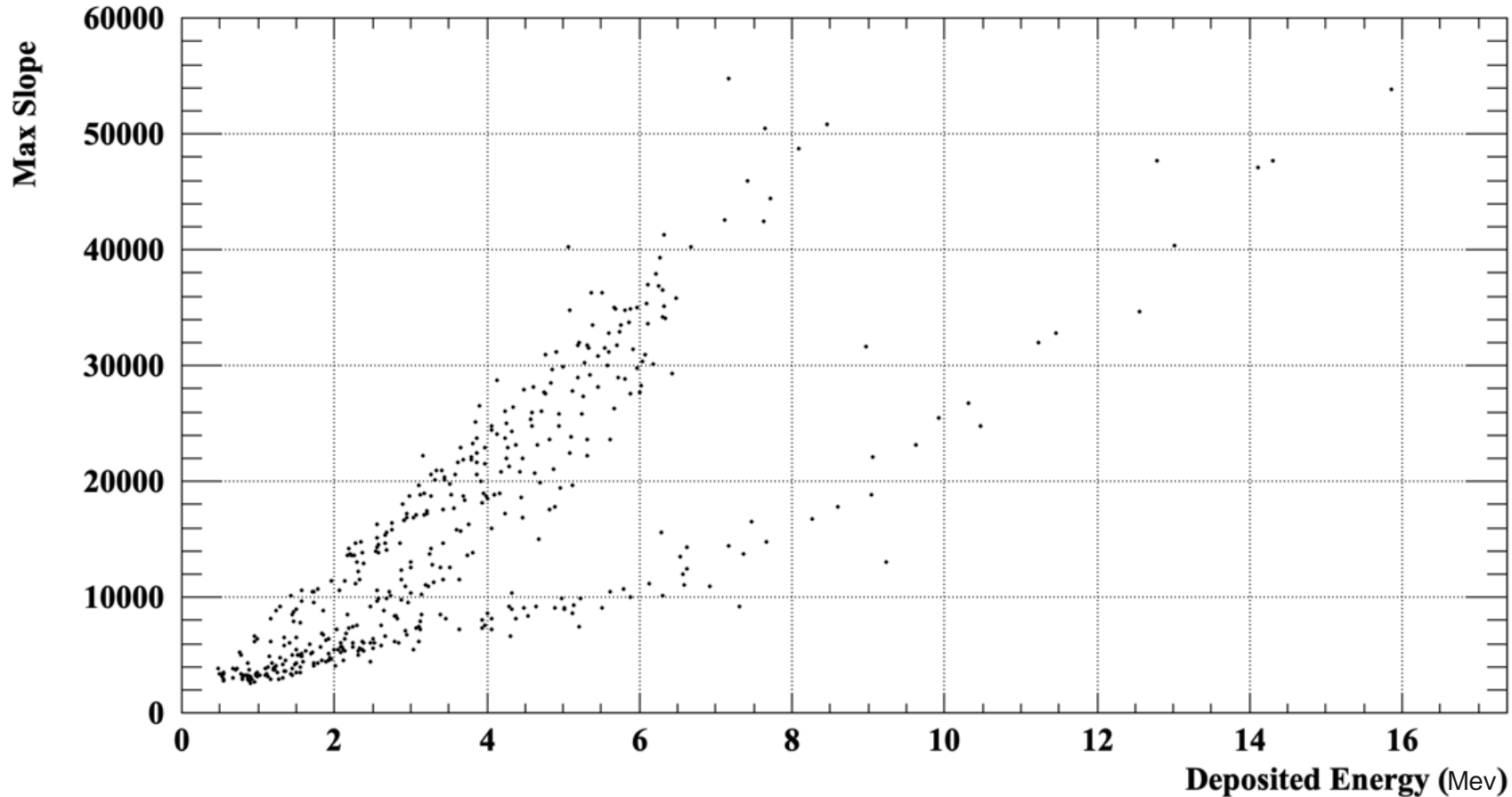


Small misalignment!

simulated

# 12C Experimental Campaign:

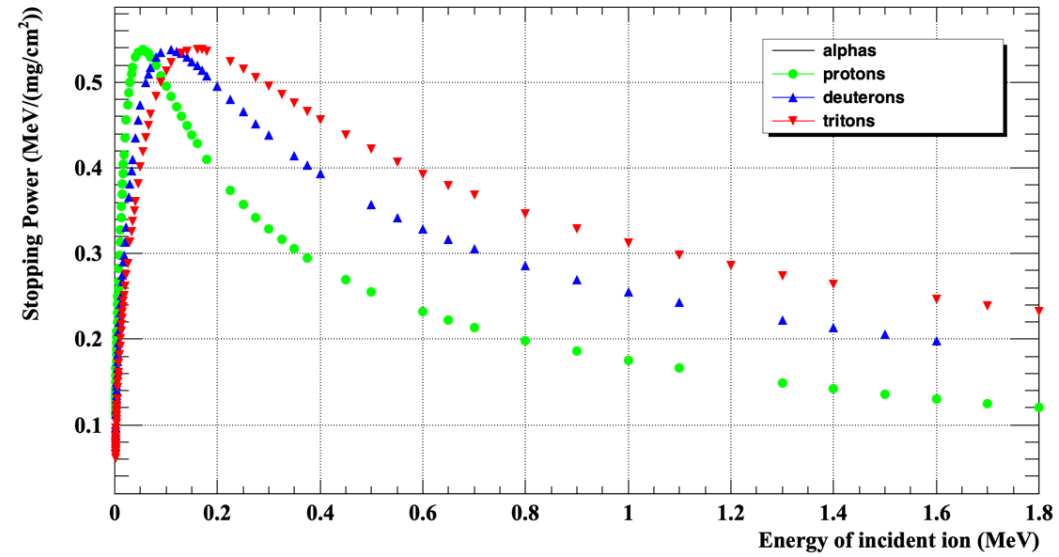
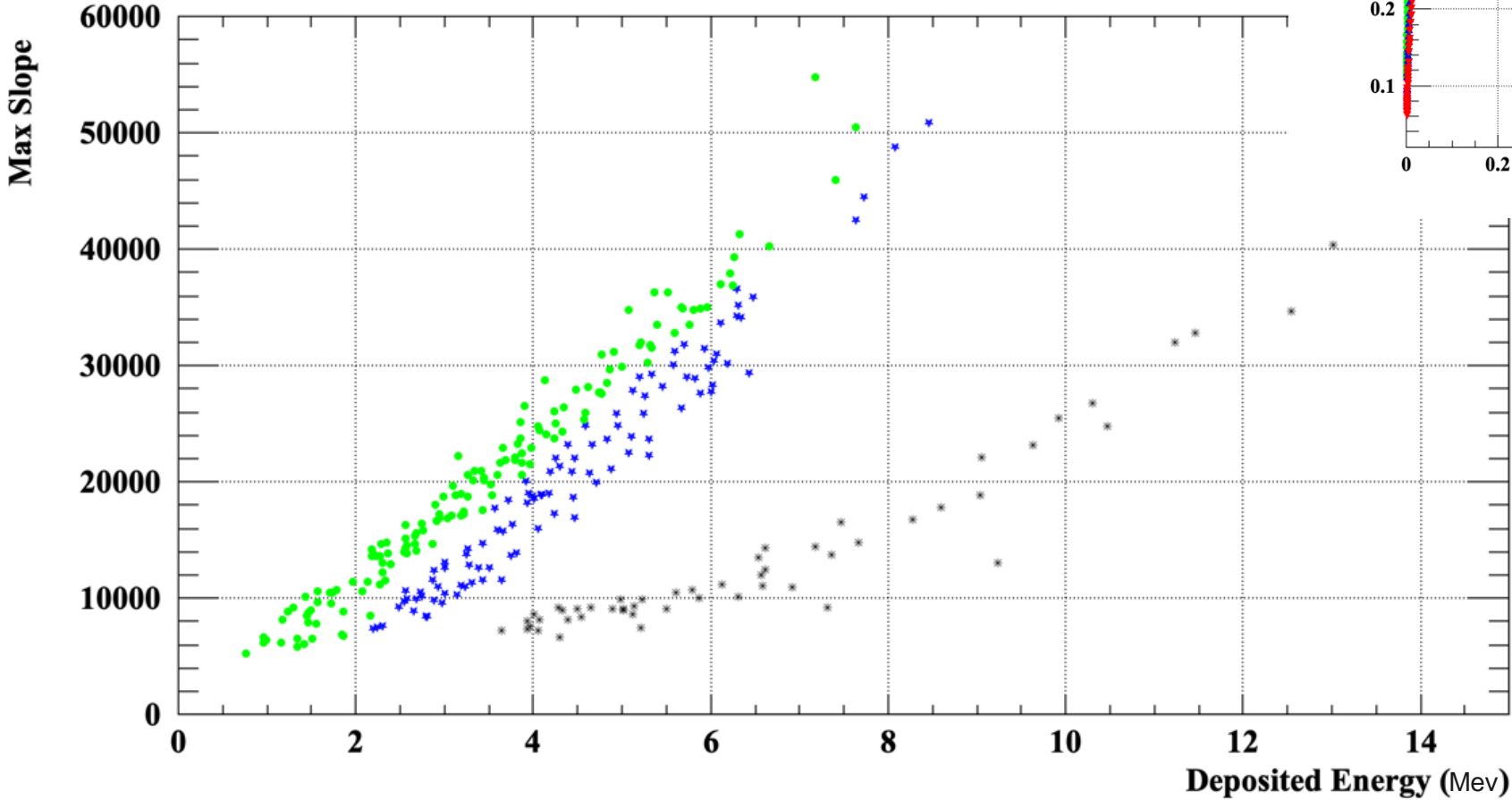
# 12C Experimental Campaign:



Energy loss per  
distance unit:

$$-\frac{dE}{dx} \propto \frac{A Z^2}{E}$$

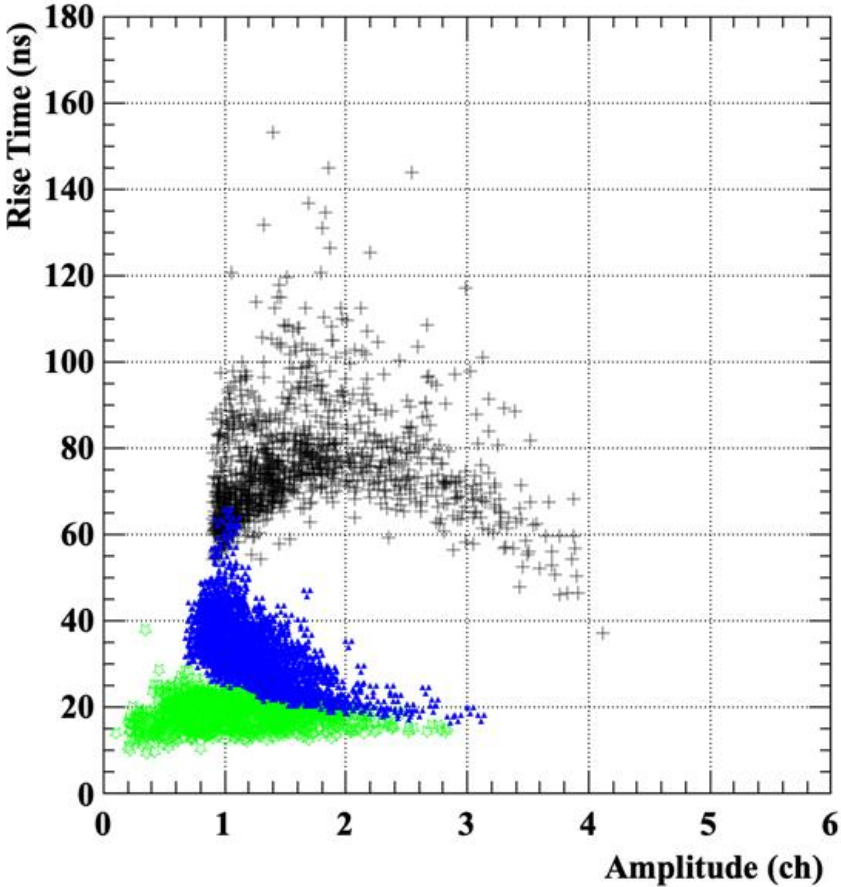
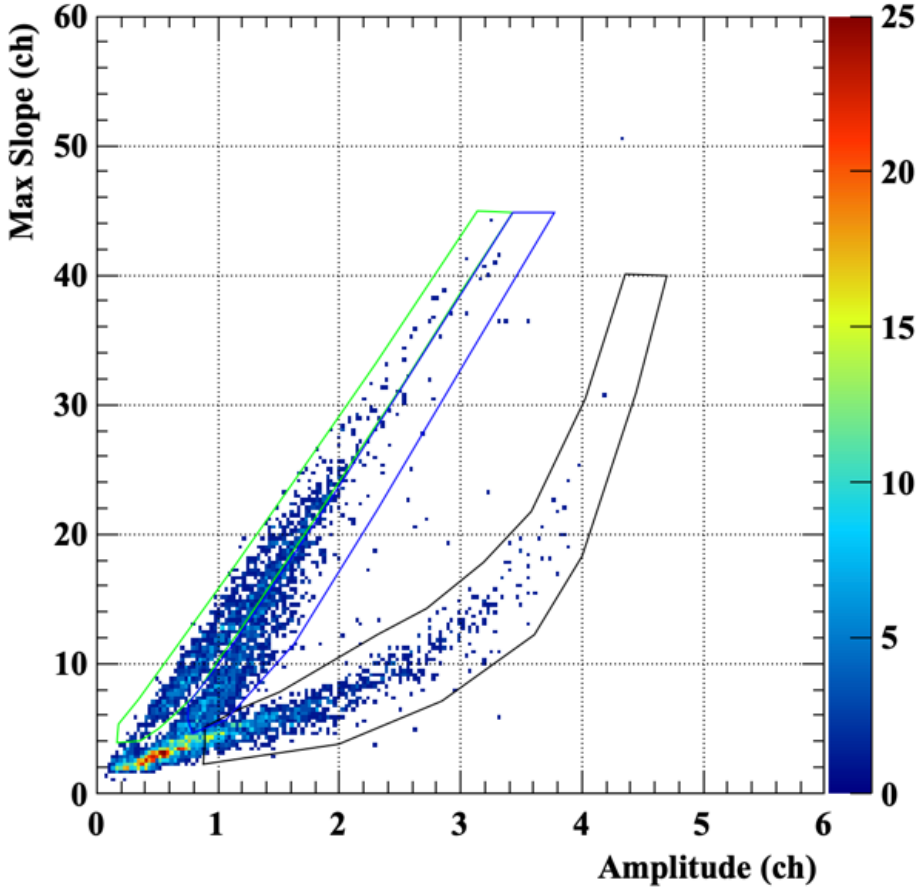
# 12C Experimental Campaign:



Energy loss per distance unit:

$$-\frac{dE}{dx} \propto \frac{AZ^2}{E}$$

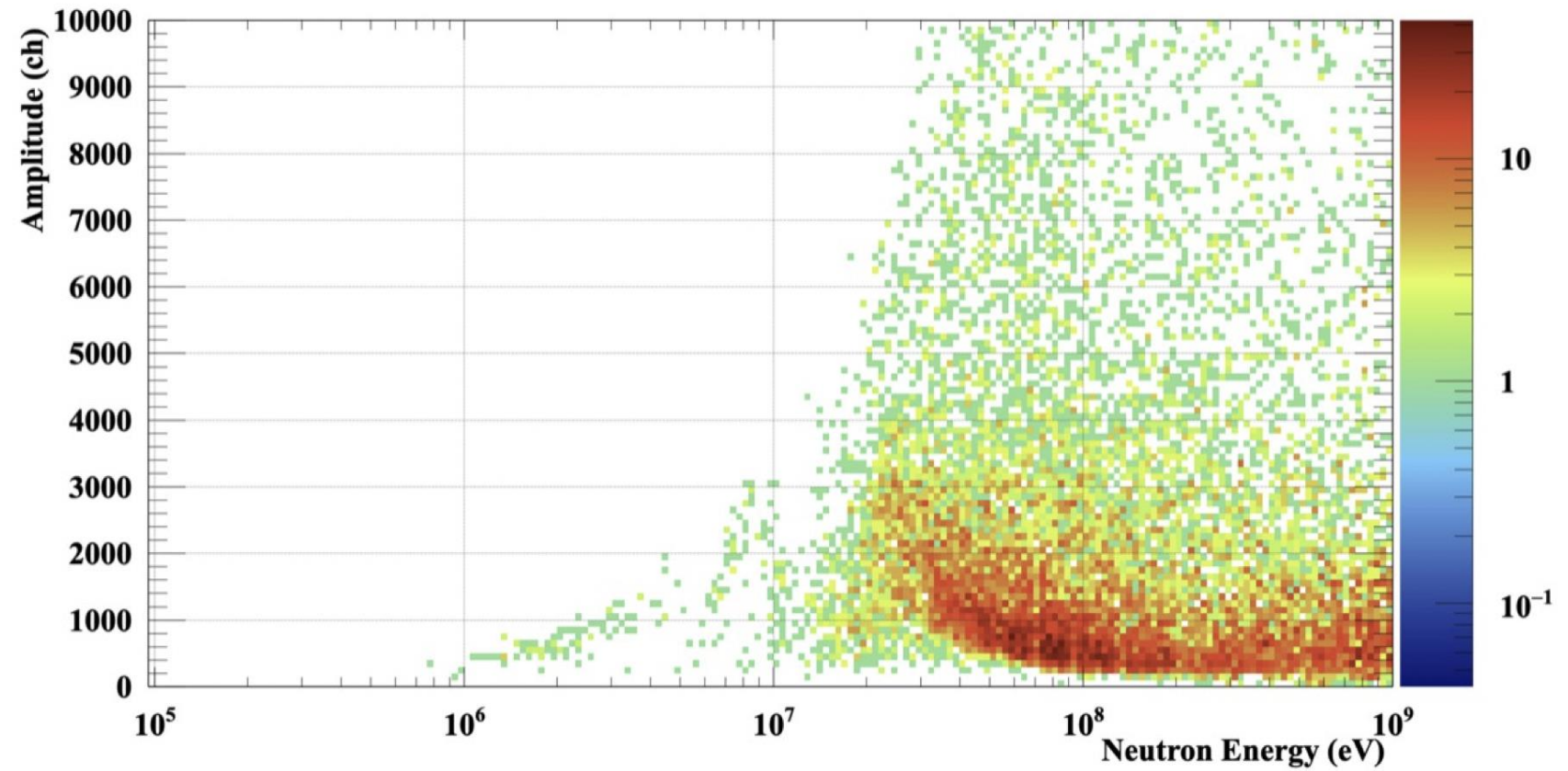
# 12C Experimental Campaign:



# Summary

- **Ringing issue: Solved for the annular detector**
- **First results from the experimental campaign detector: very promising**
- **Hardware and Software (analysis) are in extremely good shape**
- **Experimental campaign at ILL to collect waveform of light charge particles for developing the pulse shape routine and study the technique**
- **Next steps :**
  - A. **Refine** GEANT4 Simulations (energy cal. Instrumental for the analysis)
  - B. GEANT4 Simulation for the **reproduction of the exact placement** of the interaction point
  - C. Extraction of the **energy/angular distribution** for each reaction channel
  - D. **Comparison** with evaluated data and theoretical calculations (**TALYS**)

tof to energy conversion: VERY preliminary!





# Thank you!



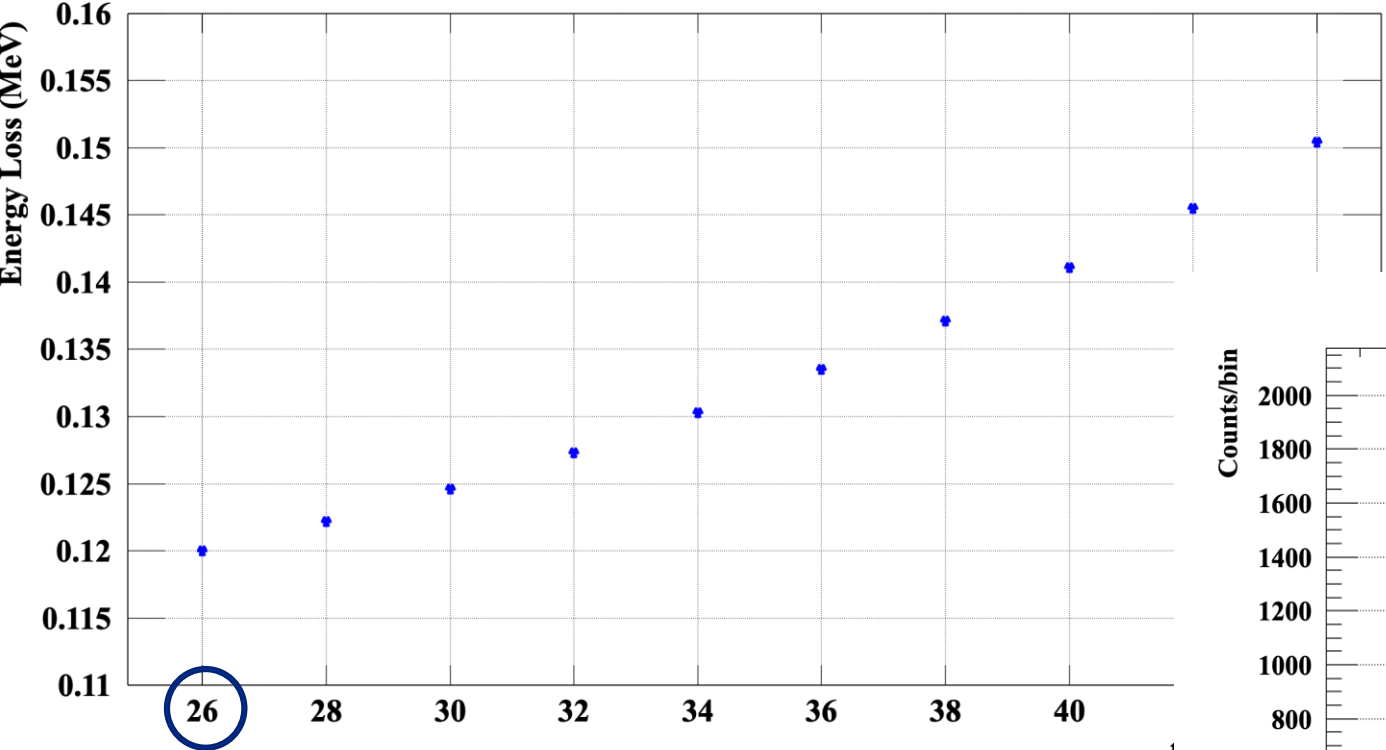
This project has received funding from the Euratom research and training program 2014-2018 under grant agreement No 847594 (ARIEL).



[styliani.goula@cern.ch](mailto:styliani.goula@cern.ch)

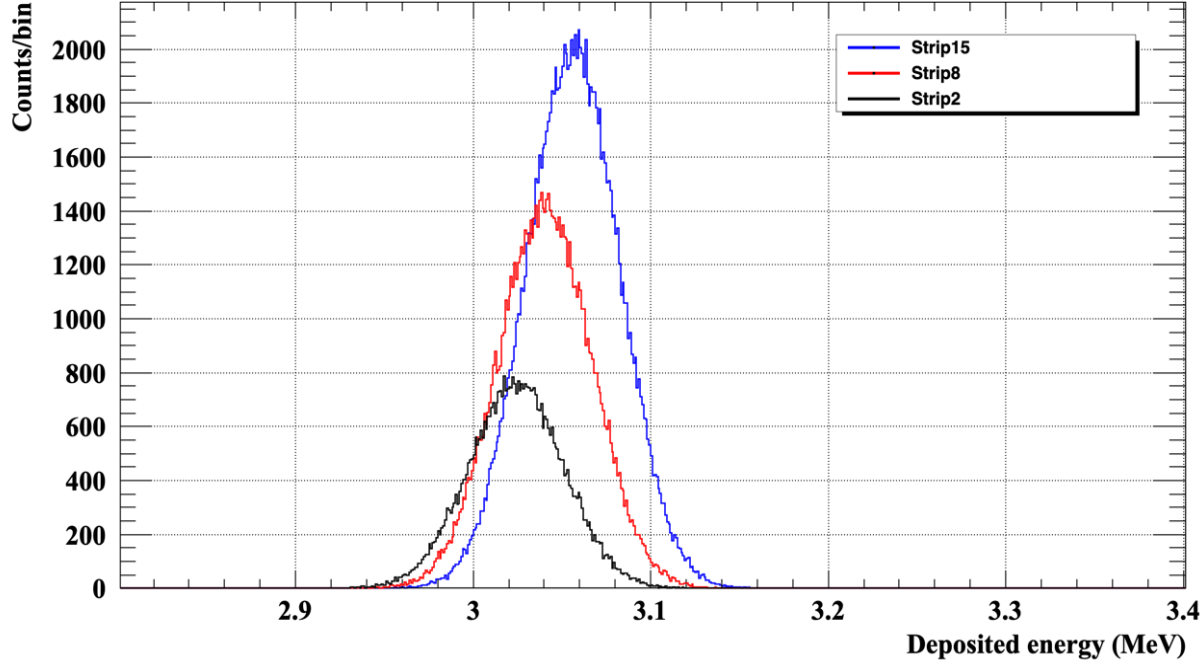
[home.cern](http://home.cern)

# Energy Calibration @ GEANT4



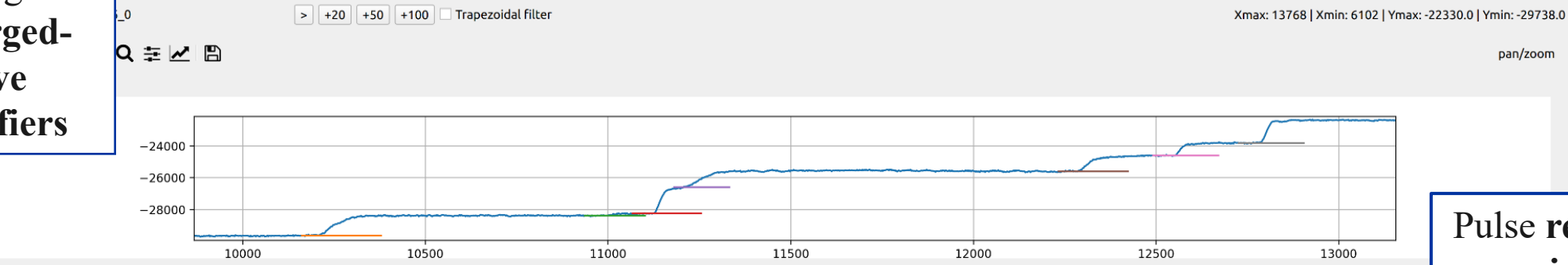
The correction of the emission angle along the strip is necessary!

inner strip

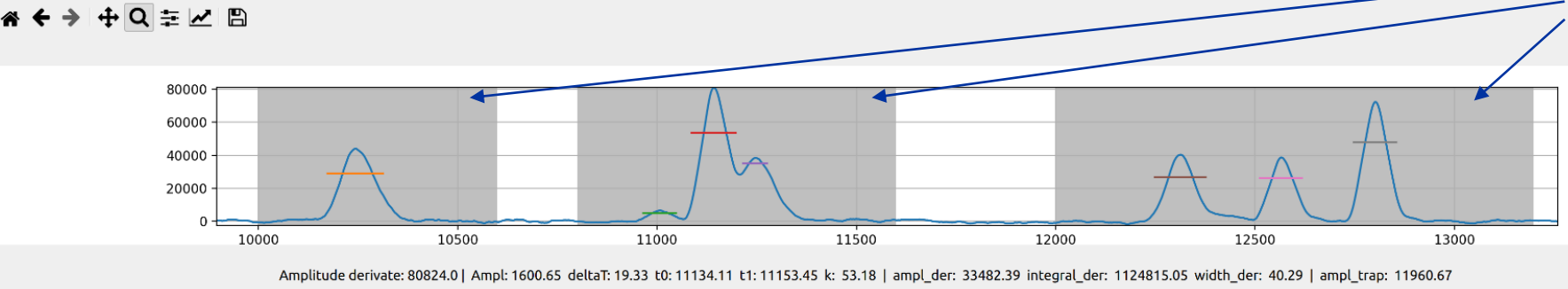


# Particle Discrimination technique

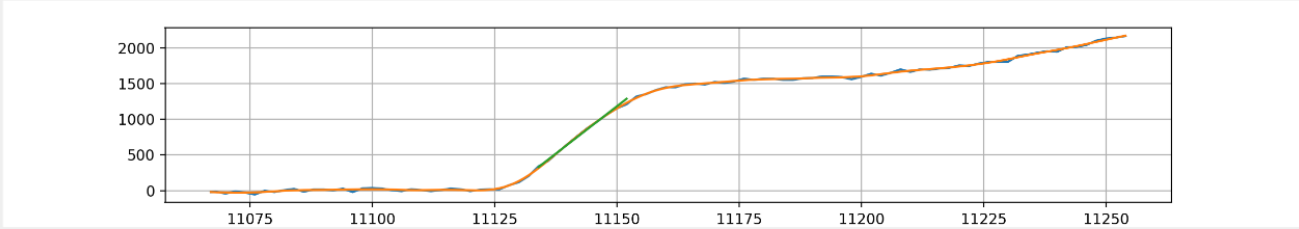
Input the signals from **charged-sensitive preamplifiers**



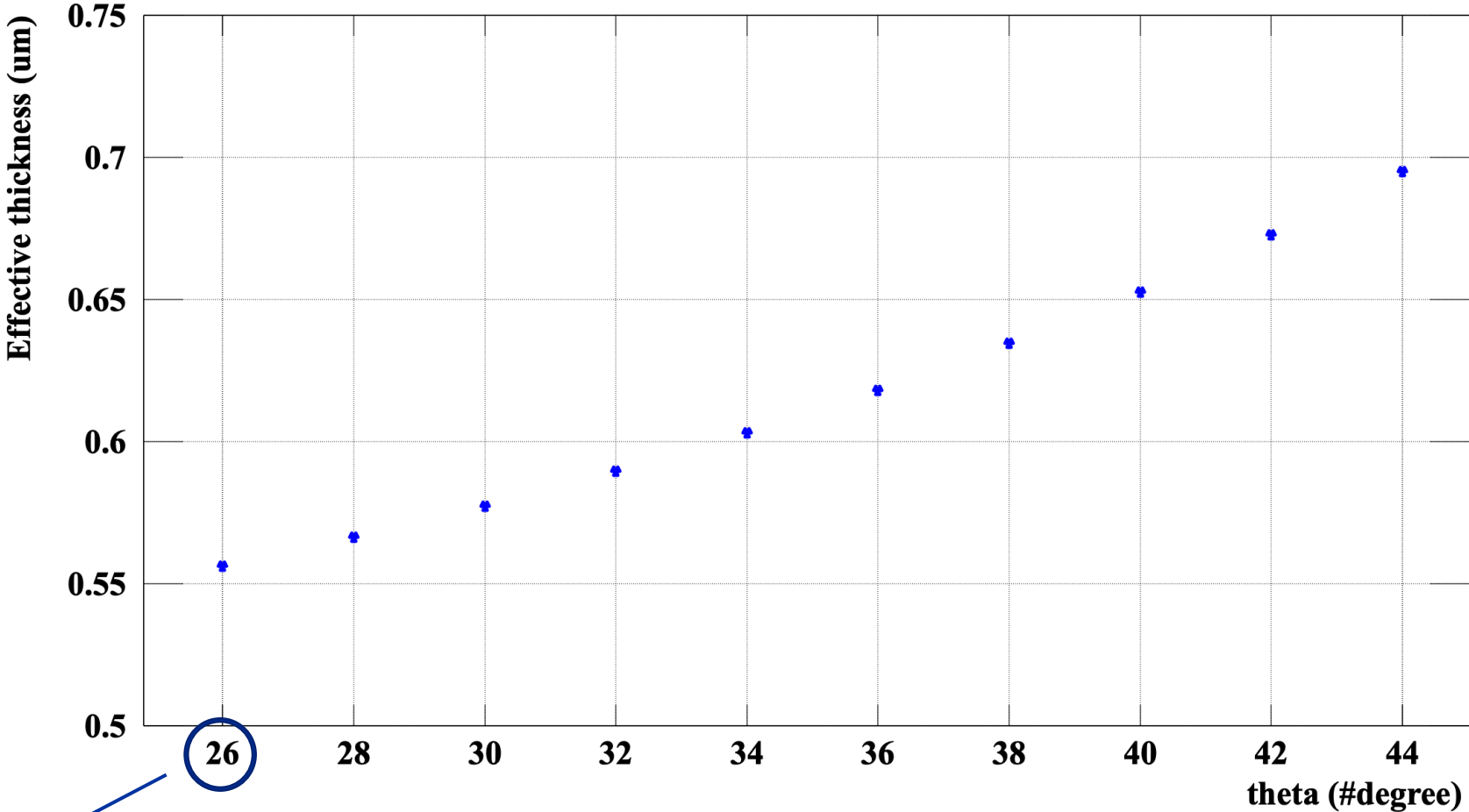
**Pulse recognition using ML algorithm**



**Extraction of signal specifications: rise time, amplitude, etc.**



# Effective thickness

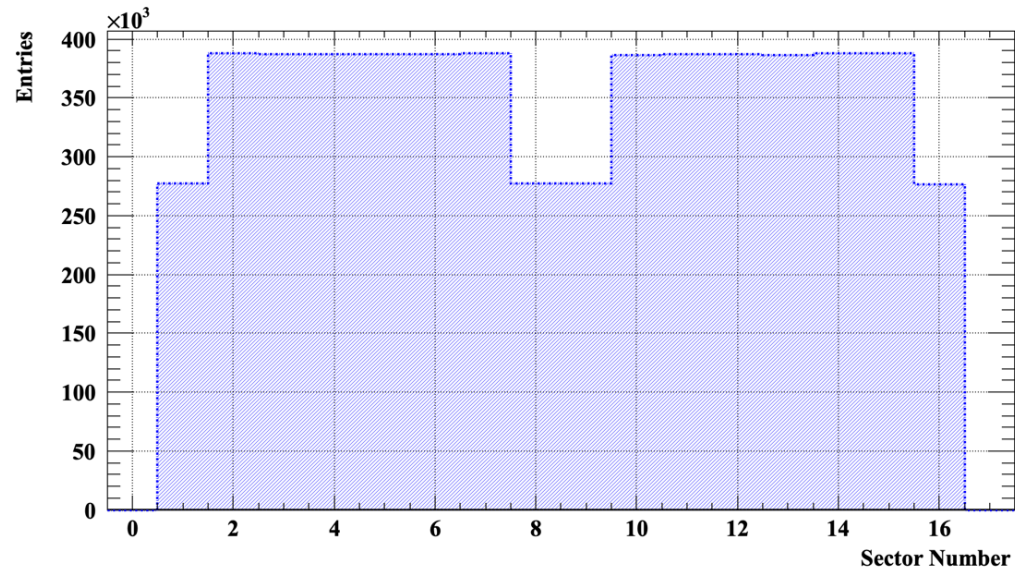


26

inner strip

# MC simulations: Full-energy-events recorded

## Sectors



## Strips

