

EUROPEAN ORGANIZATION FOR NUCLEAR RESEARCH

Addendum to the Proposal INTC-P-507 for the ISOLDE and Neutron Time-of-Flight Committee

Measurement of the $^{235}\text{U}(n,f)$ cross section relative to n-p scattering up to 1 GeV

January 7, 2024

L. Audouin¹, N. Colonna², L. Cosentino², M. Diakaki³, I. Duran⁴, P. Finocchiaro², J. Heyse⁵, C. Le Naour¹, A. Manna^{2,6}, C. Massimi^{2,6}, P.F. Mastinu², A. Mengoni^{2,7,8}, P.M. Milazzo², A. Musumarra^{2,9}, C. Paradela⁵, E. Pirovano¹⁰, P. Schillebeeckx⁵, L. Tassan-Got¹, G. Vannini^{2,6}, A. Ventura², and the n_TOF Collaboration

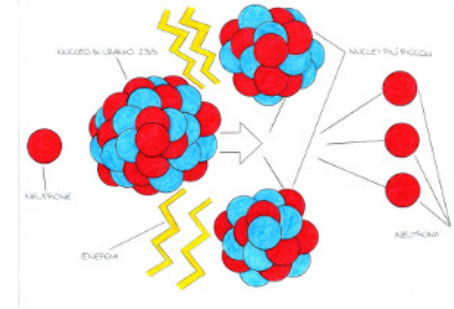


$^{235}\text{U}(n,f)$ cross section

Dynamic effects of the nuclear fission process

Collective Single particle
degrees of freedom in nuclei

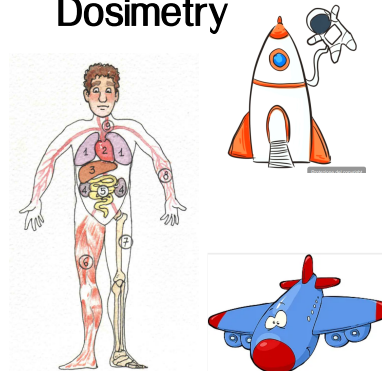
Nuclear Physics



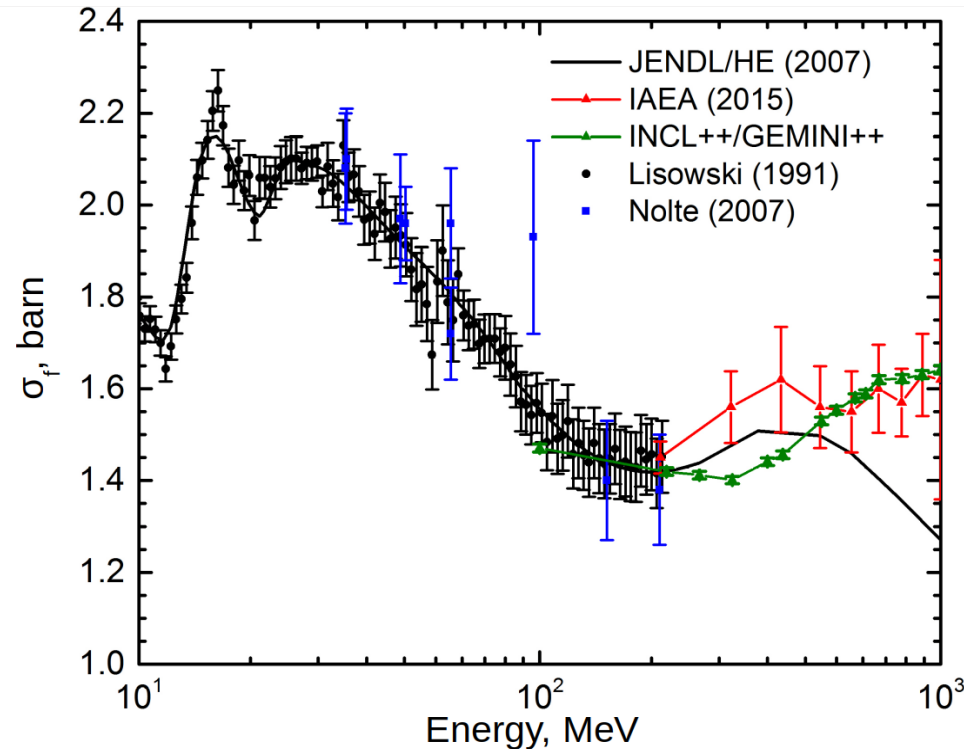
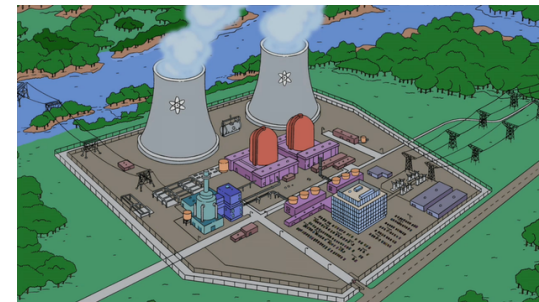
Nuclear Astrophysics



Dosimetry



Reactor technology



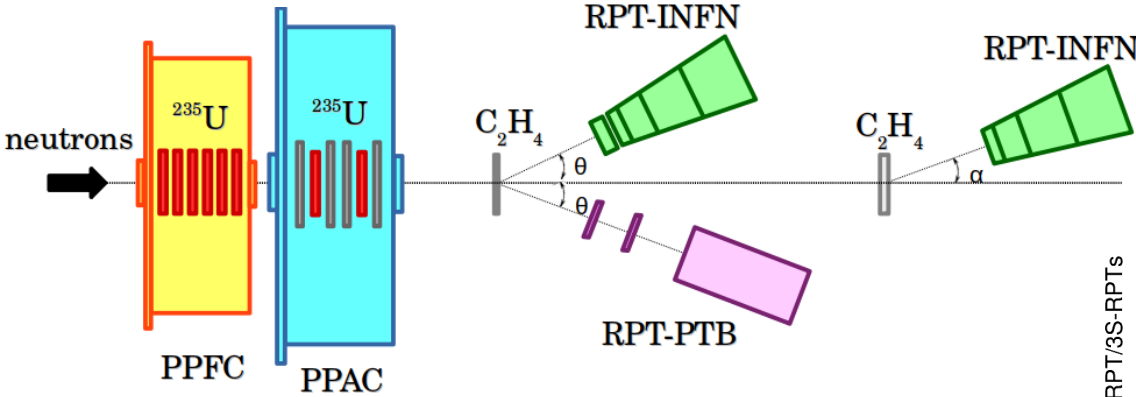
Proposal 2017

Requested protons: 4×10^{18} protons on target
Experimental Area: EAR1

Proposal to the ISOLDE and Neutron Time-of-Flight Committee

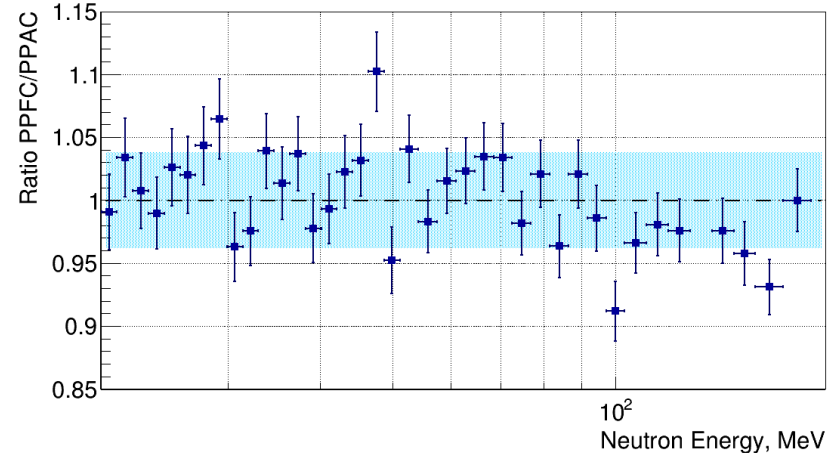
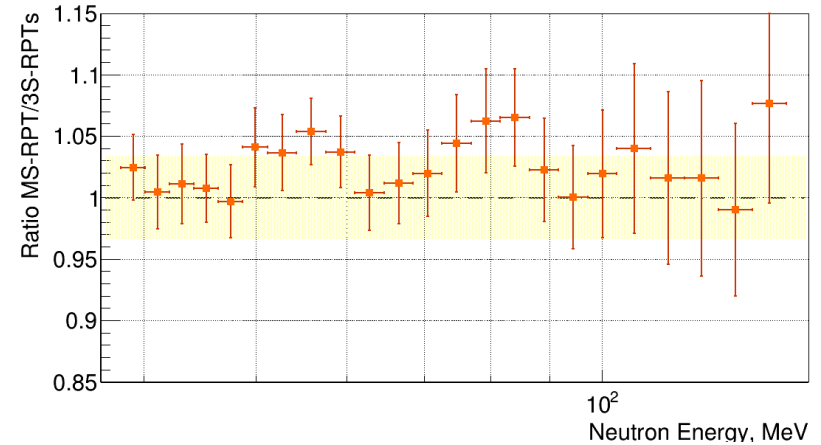
Measurement of the $^{235}\text{U}(n,f)$ cross section relative to n-p scattering up to 1 GeV

May 06, 2017



Sample	PPFC		PPAC	
	# Protons (pot)	Running time	# Protons (pot)	Running time
^{235}U	3.387×10^{18}	35 days	3.83×10^{18}	40 days

Sample	RPTs at 25°		RPT at 20°	
	# Protons (pot)	Running time	# Protons (pot)	Running time
C_2H_4 - 1 mm	7.08×10^{17}	7 days	-	-
C - 0.5 mm	3.27×10^{17}	3.5 days	-	-
C_2H_4 - 2 mm	1.11×10^{18}	11 days	-	-
C - 1 mm	3.88×10^{17}	4 days	-	-
C_2H_4 - 5 mm	7.44×10^{17}	8 days	2.07×10^{18}	20 days
C - 2.5 mm	3.14×10^{17}	3.5 days	1.55×10^{18}	16 days
Sample Out	1.48×10^{17}	1.5 days	2.23×10^{17}	2.5 days
Beam Off	-	0.25 days	-	0.25 days



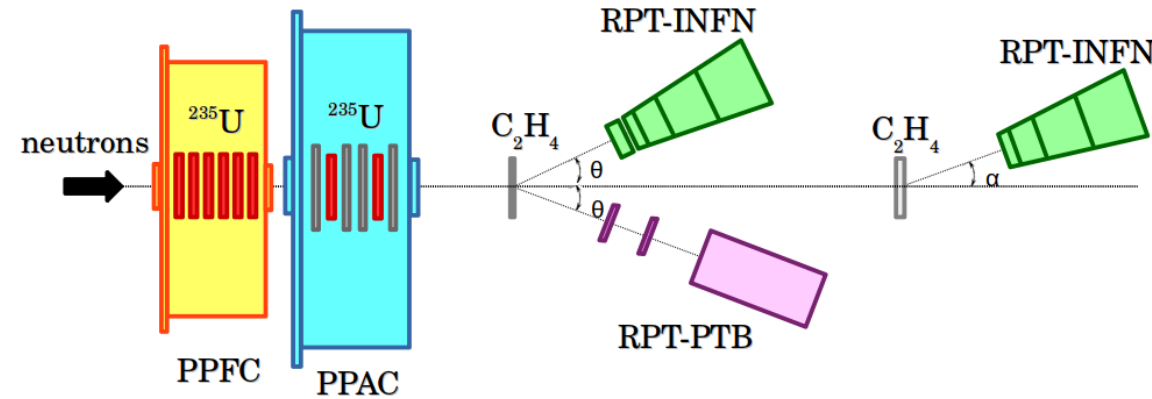
The obtained result

Proposal to the ISOLDE and Neutron Time-of-Flight Committee

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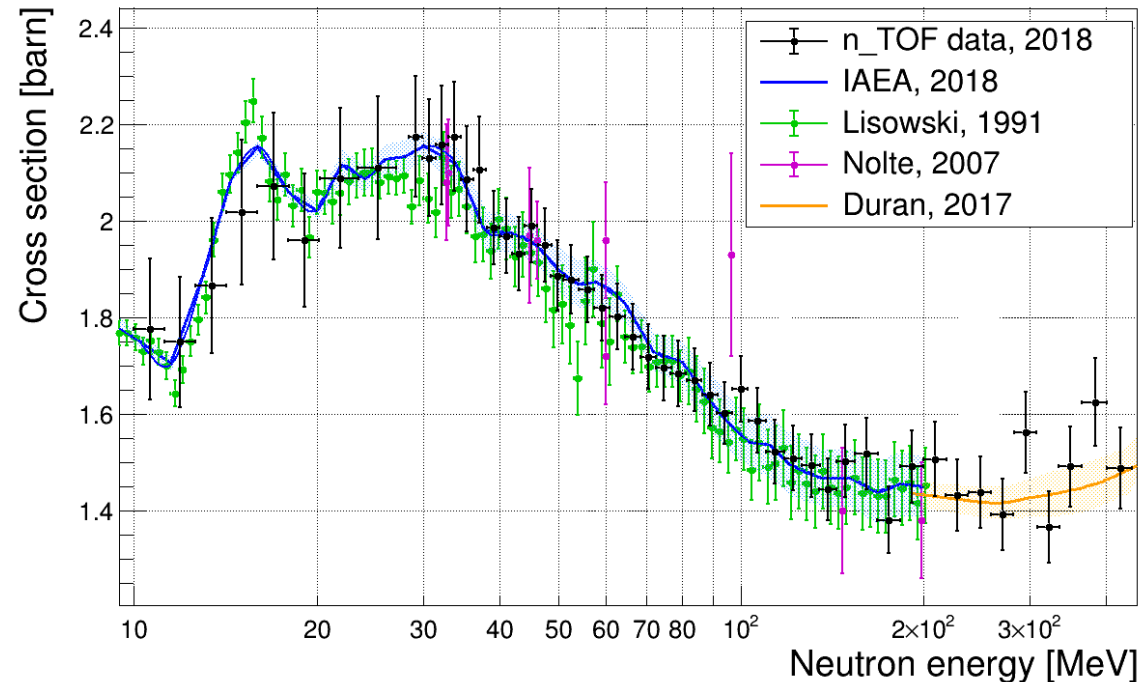
The **limitation** of the 2018 measurement:

maximal energy: 425 MeV

opening of the inelastic channel
in the n-p scattering

above 150 MeV statistical fluctuation

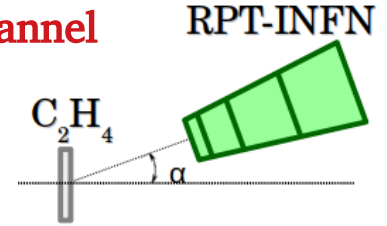
when only PPAC and RPT-INFN
work



The inelastic scattering

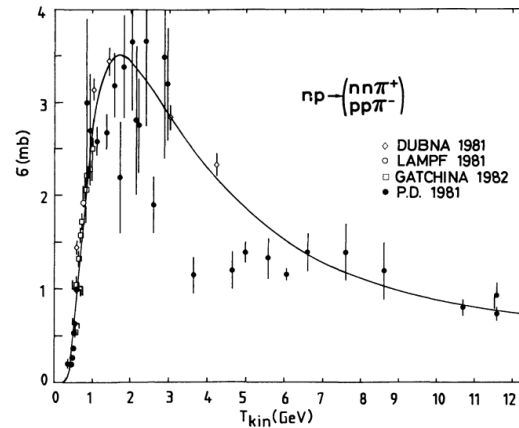
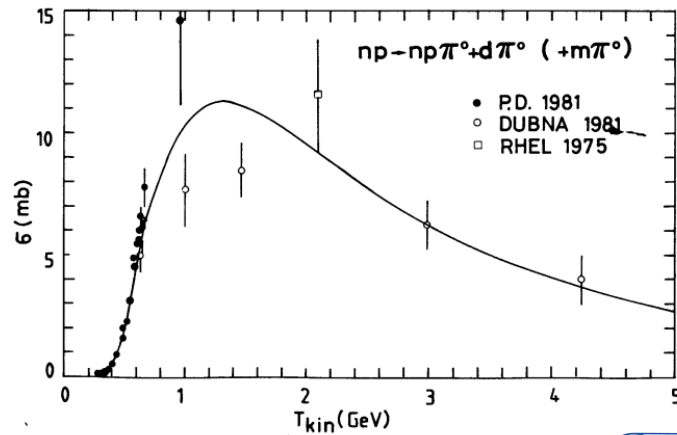
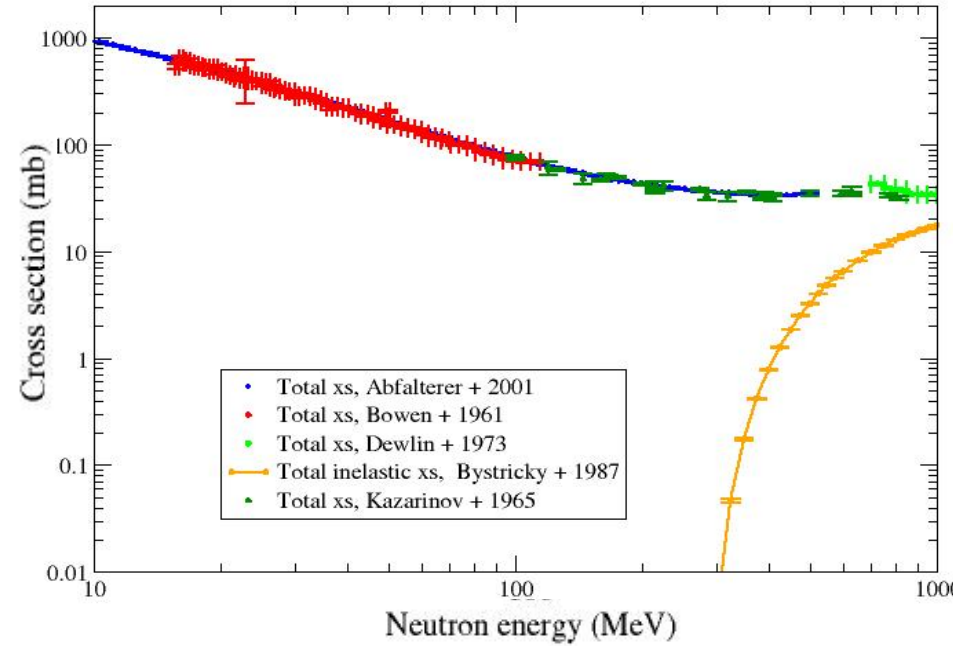
From ~ 300 MeV:

opening of the inelastic channel



How we correct for it:

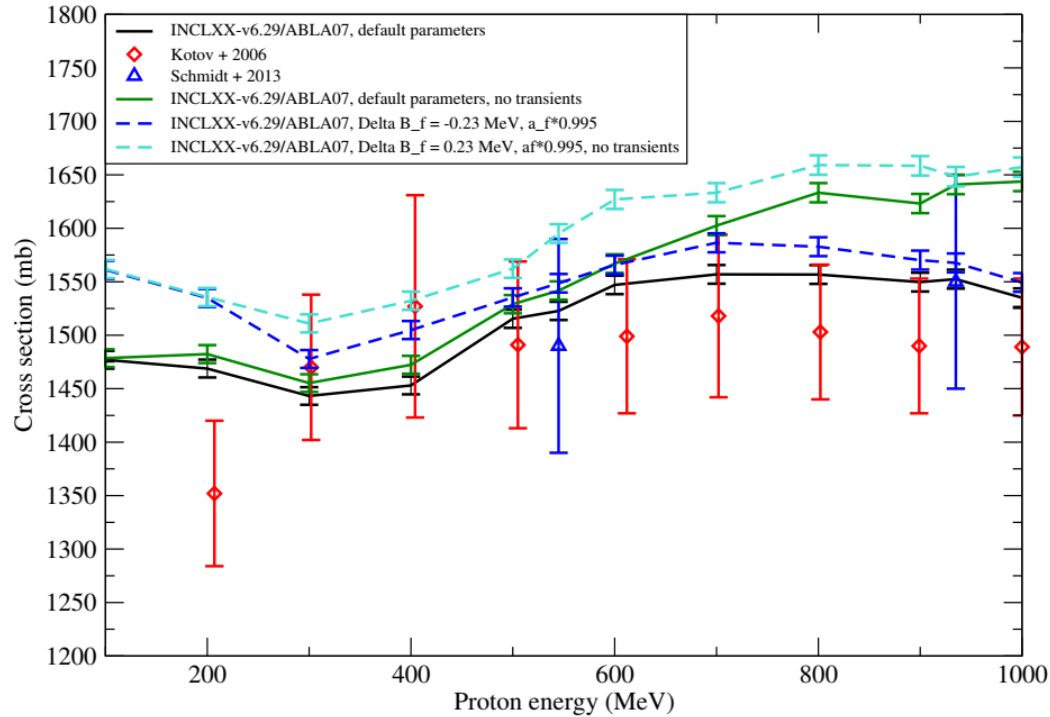
- calculate the angular distribution considering the boost effect
- simulate the proton energy distribution - 3-body



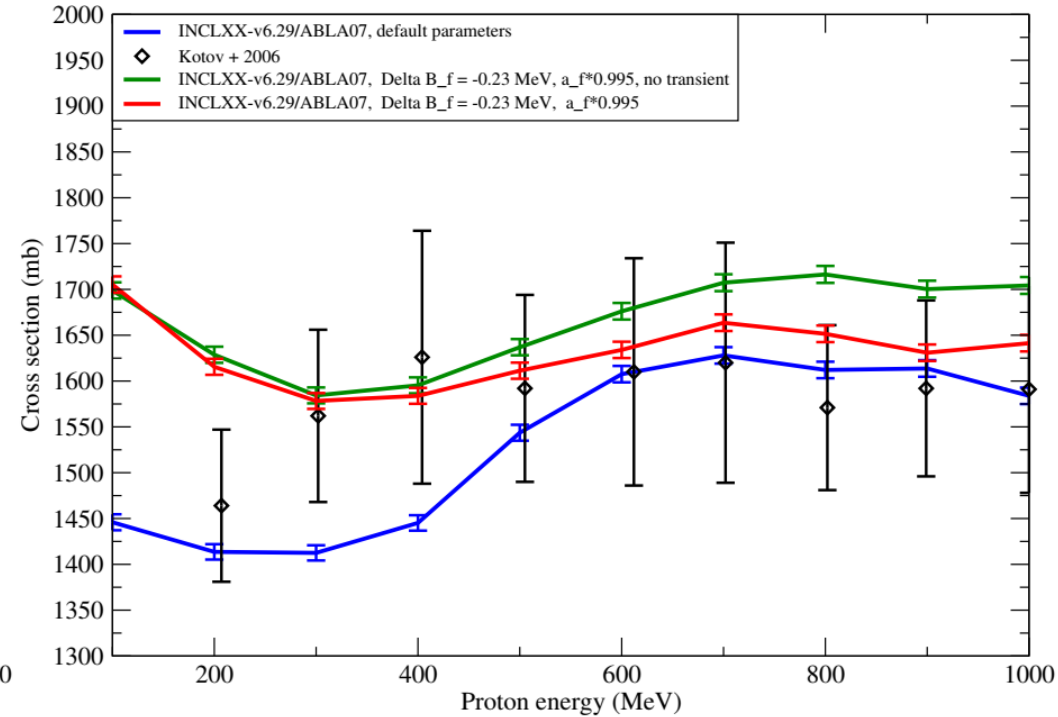
En, MeV	corr, % - 20°	corr, % - 25°
300	0.0	0.0
350	0.0	0.0
400	0.9	0.0
425	3.1	0.8
450	6.4	2.7
475	11.4	5.9
500	18.5	10.7

Why fission at high energy

$^{238}\text{U}(p,f)$



$^{235}\text{U}(p,f)$



the dynamics of the process + intrinsic and collective excitations
→ influences the fission probability and the evolution
→ a fission hindrance

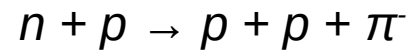
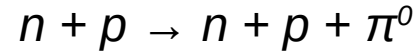
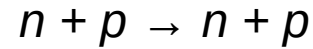
transient time

A new neutron detector

A detector able to discriminate:

🤖 protons from:

🤖 protons from:

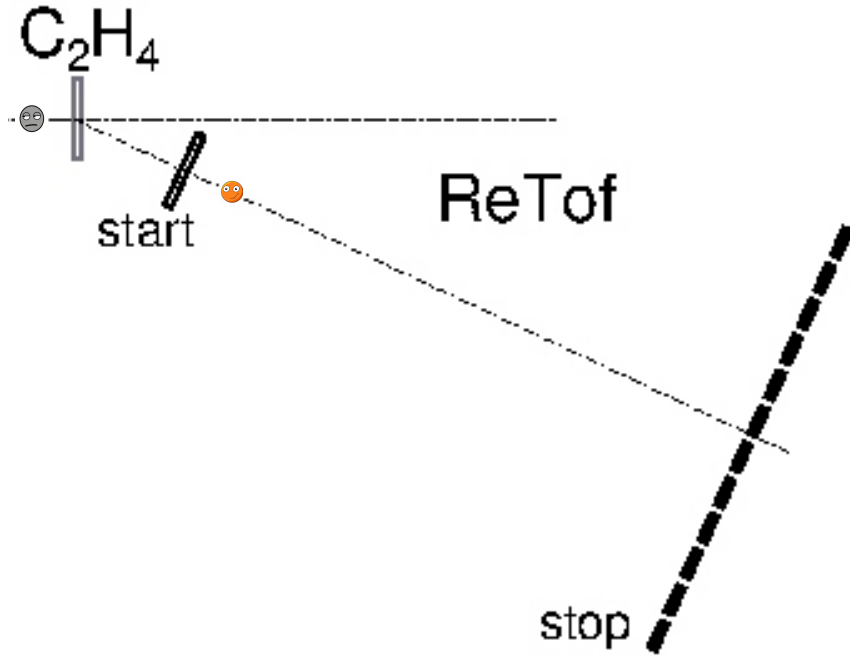


$$m(\pi) = 139.6 \text{ MeV}/c$$



The Re-TOF telescope

neutron TOF Related to proton TOF



Least-favourable scenario:

1 GeV neutron

the nucleons take the full kinetic energy
after creation of the pion

Δt (elastic - inelastic protons) = 440 ps

Time resolution of 300 ps

☺ a start detector : plastic scintillator

☺ a stop detector: a plastic scintillator “wall”

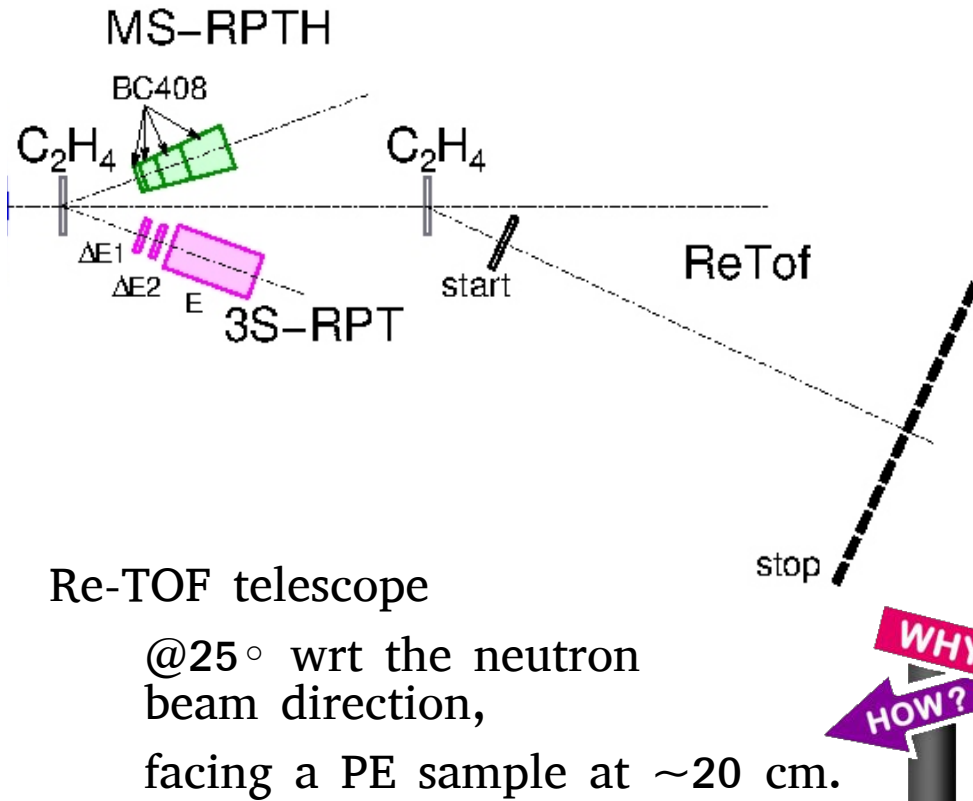
2 m far from the start- 60 x 60 cm²

divided in 20 bars – 3 cm each

coupled with 2 PMT – 1 PMT at each side of the bars



Re-TOF detector test



Re-TOF telescope

@25° wrt the neutron beam direction,
facing a PE sample at ~20 cm.

+ a RPT used in the 2018 experimental campaign

7·10¹⁷ proton on target

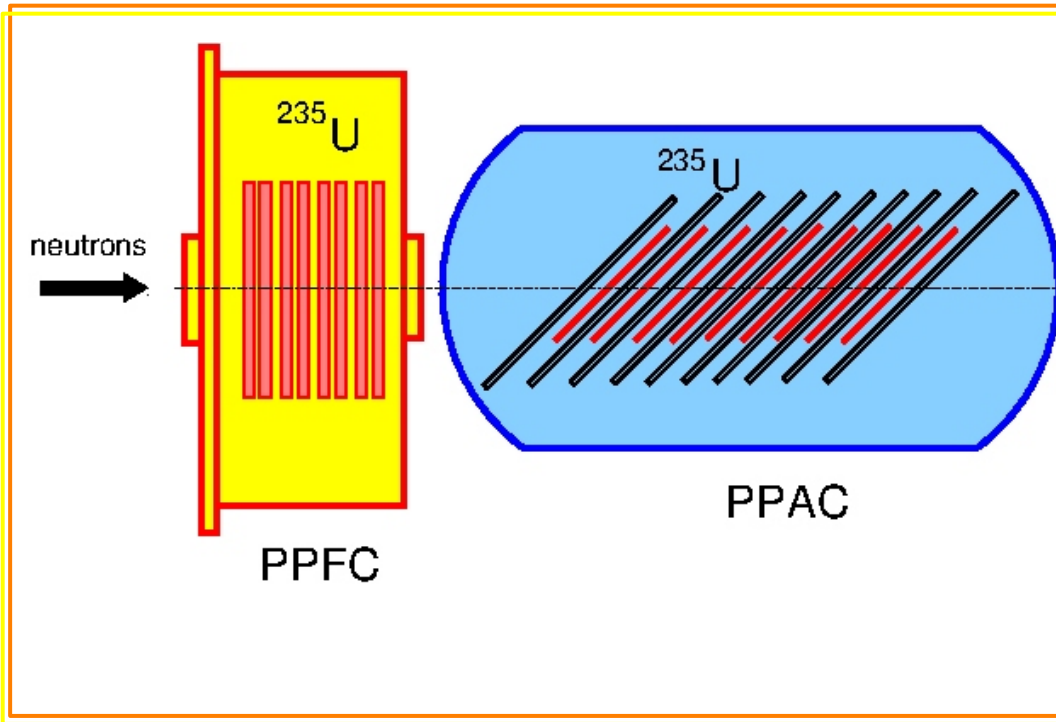
- Response to the γ -flash
- Time resolution in EAR-1

combining
neutron Time Of Flight and
the proton Time Of Flight information

Verify:

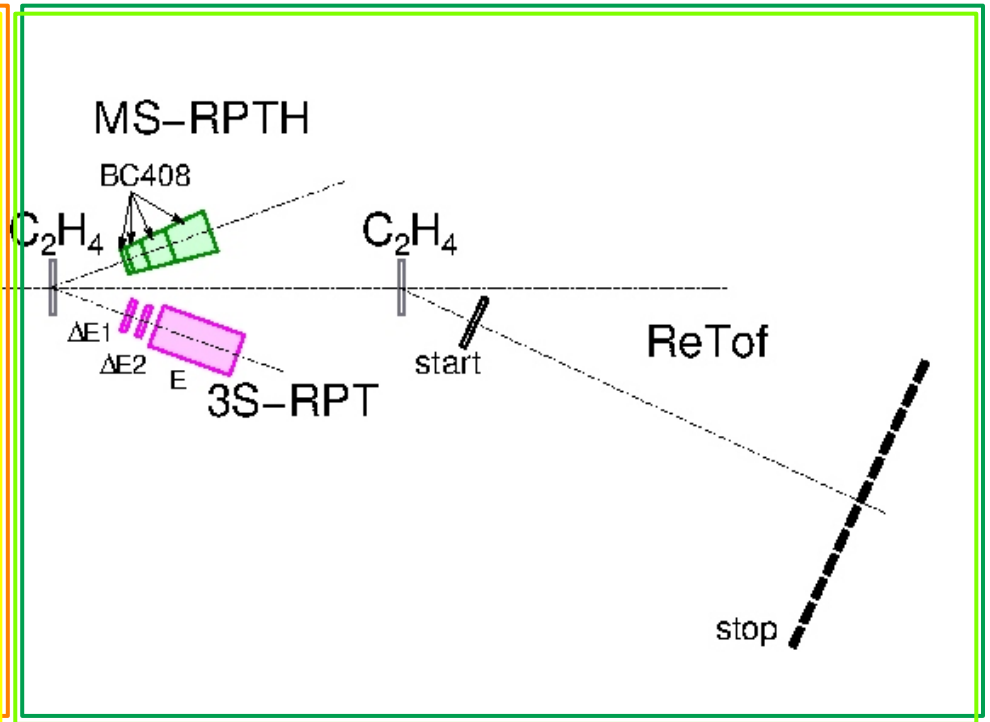
the elastic and inelastic proton discrimination
the possibility to discriminate ¹²C(n,lcp) products

The complete setup



Fission events

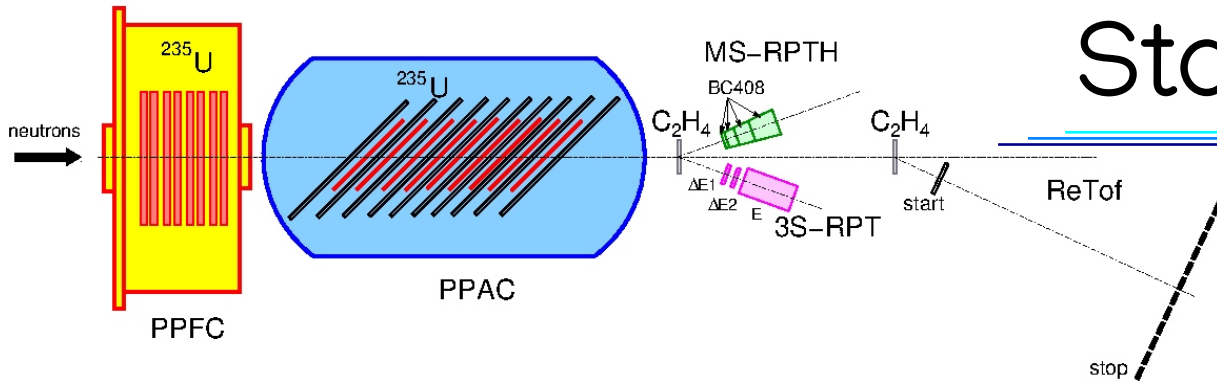
PPAC: 10 PPAC and 9 ^{235}U samples
PPFC: 8 ^{235}U samples



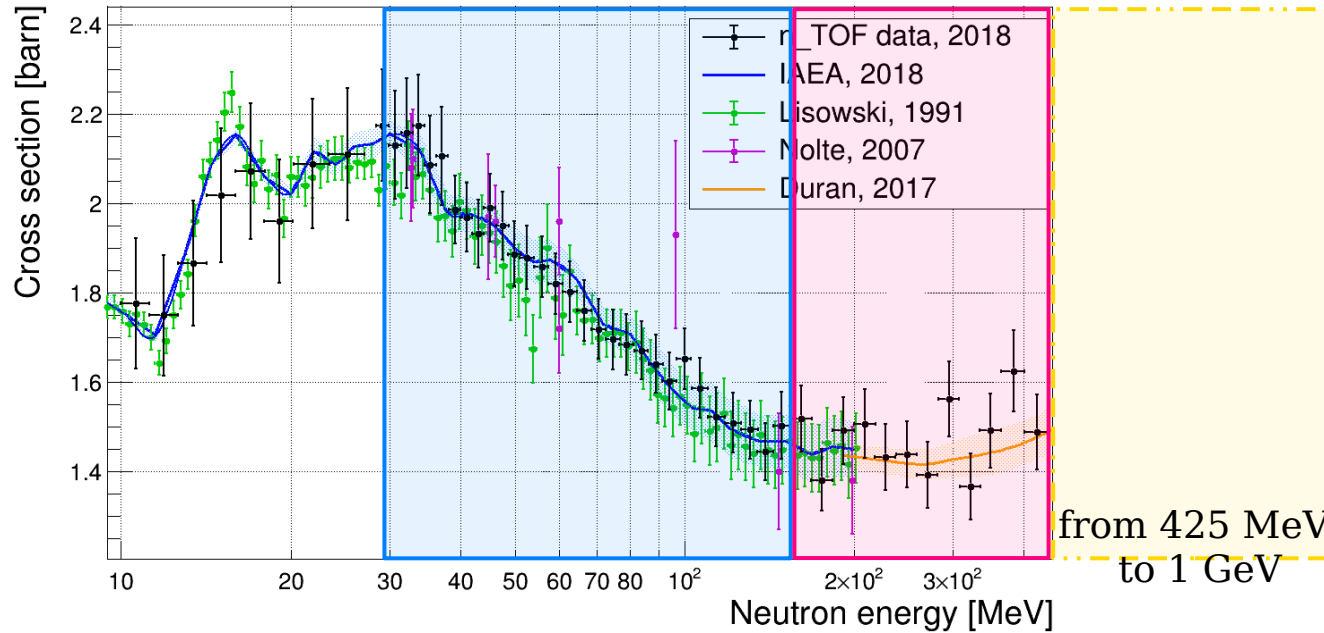
Neutron flux

Re-TOF: pointing PE sample – 25° wrt neutron beam
1 or 2 RPT used in 2018 for the lower energy region + benchmark

Statistical uncertainty



**$4 \cdot 10^{18}$ proton on target
for the measurement**



The limitation of the 2018 measurement:

Statistics above 150 MeV

up to 3.8 % statistical uncertainty

up to 5.7 % total uncertainty

from 425 MeV
to 1 GeV

2018 measurement

2.0% to 2.7%

2.9% to 3.8%

This addendum

1.7% to 2.2%

2% to 2.7%

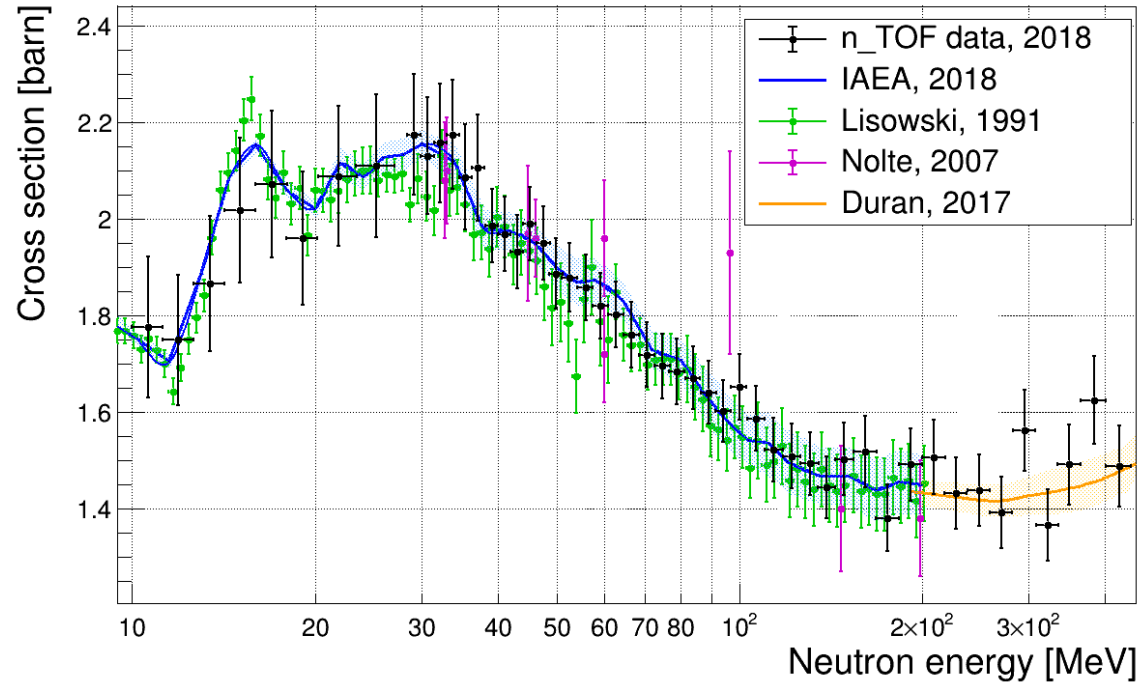
2.7% to ~ 5%

Beam request

EAR-1 capture collimator

$7 \cdot 10^{17}$ proton on target
for the detector test

$4 \cdot 10^{18}$ proton on target
for the measurement

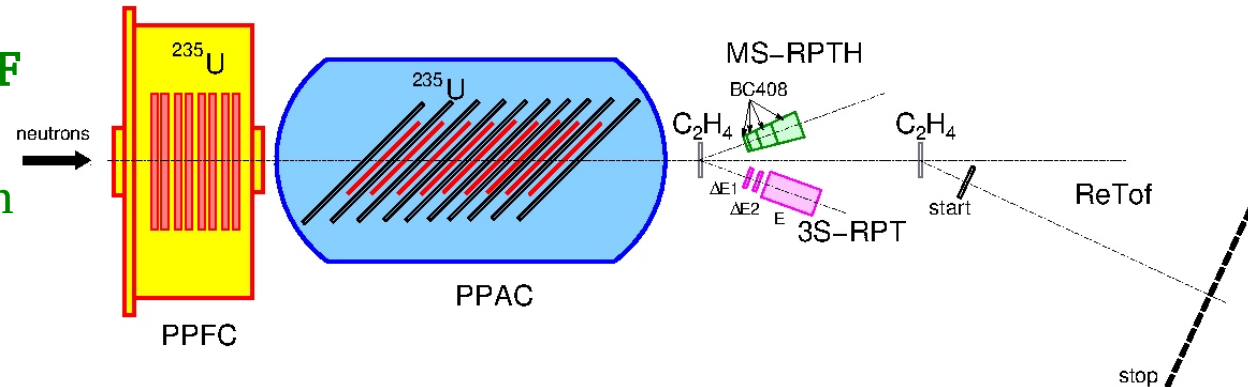


The limitation of the 2018 measurement:

maximal energy: 425 MeV → Re-TOF

above 150 MeV statistical fluctuation
→ increase the ^{235}U samples

+
Re-TOF



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Thank you for your attention

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