



The Abdus Salam
International Centre
for Theoretical Physics



2456-7

Joint ICTP-IAEA Workshop on Advances in Digital Spectroscopy

6 - 10 May 2013

Gammas contd.

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Berkeley
USA*



The Abdus Salam
International Centre
for Theoretical Physics



Digital Gamma-Ray Spectroscopy

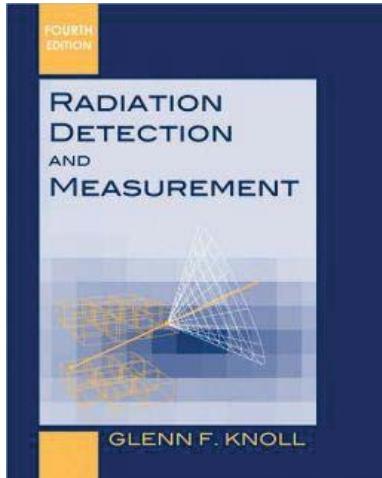
Joint ICTP-IAEA Workshop on Advances in Digital Spectroscopy
May 7th 2013



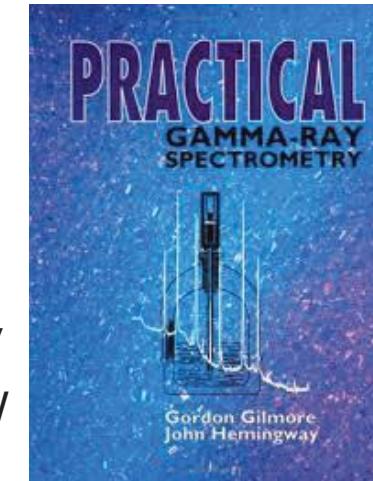
Ren Cooper

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, USA

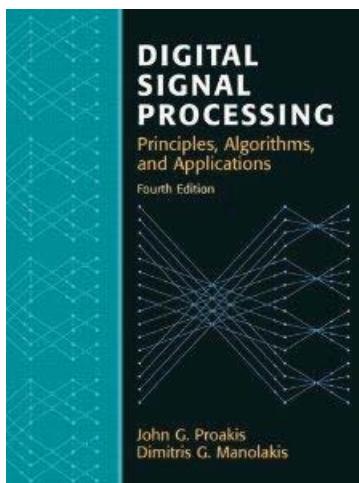
Literature



"Radiation Detection and Measurement"
Glenn Knoll



"Practical Gamma-Ray Spectrometry"
Gilmore and Hemingway



"Digital Signal Processing"
Proakis and Manolakis

Lecture Notes, Helmuth Spieler
www.physics.lbl.gov/~spieler



Overview

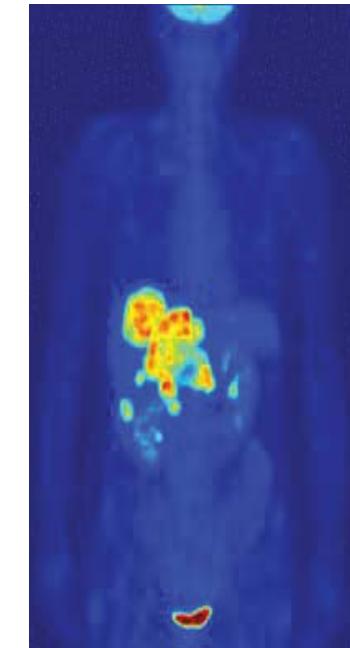
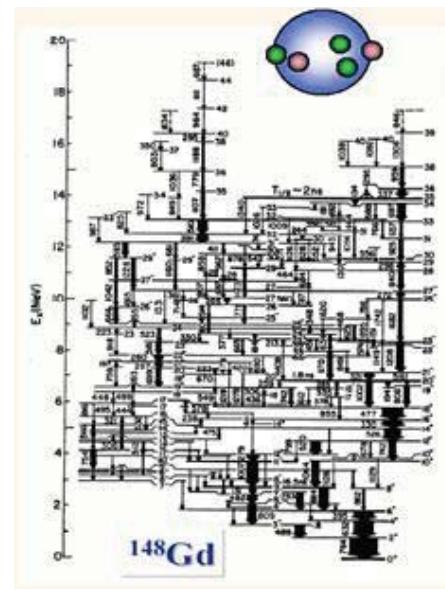


From some basic concepts to some modern applications....

- Gamma-Ray Detection: Why and How?
- Semiconductor Detectors
- Digital Electronics for Gamma-Ray Spectroscopy
- Digital Signal Processing Techniques
- Applications

Gamma-Ray Detection: Why?

- Gamma rays are emitted following discrete nuclear transitions
- These transitions are defined by the structure of the decaying nucleus
- Gamma rays are penetrating and have well defined interaction kinematics



Gamma-Ray Detection: How?



- Measure the charge created in some detection medium from the interaction of gamma rays
- Collect this charge and induce an electronic signal

Ideally....

- The amount of charge is proportional to the energy deposited
- The signal allows us to define the time of the event
- The evolution of the signal with time might change with position
- **Interaction via three main processes** (in the energy range of interest)

Gamma-Ray Interactions

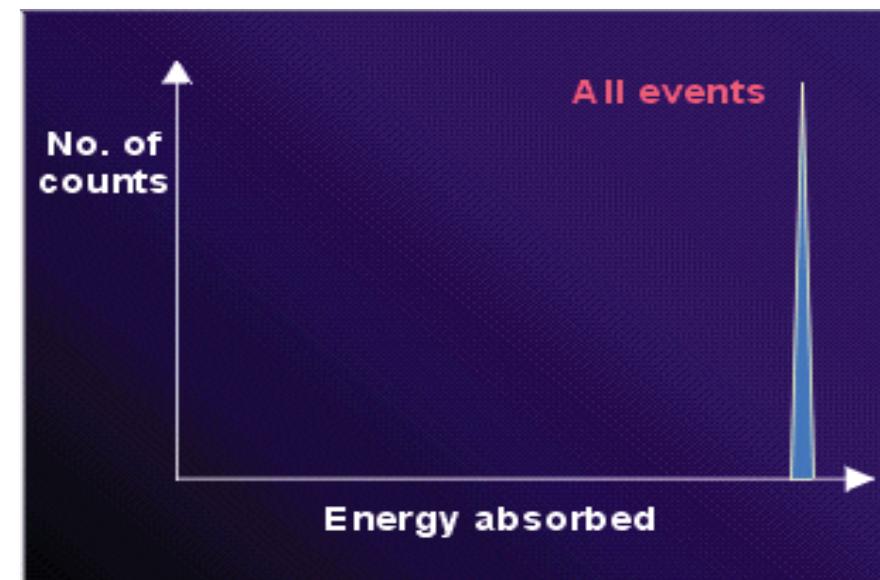
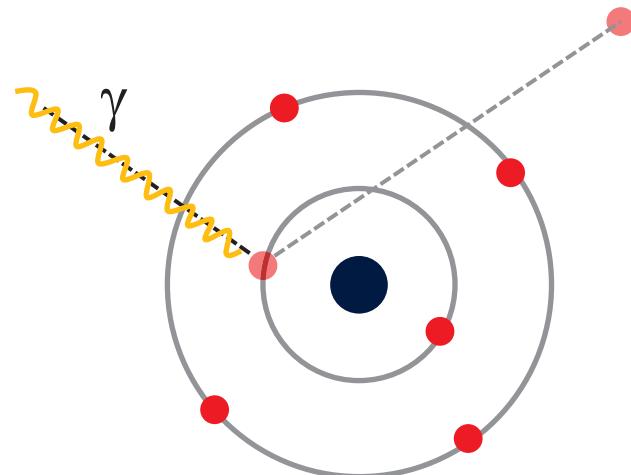


- Photoelectric Absorption

- Compton Scattering

$$E_e = E_\gamma - E_{binding}$$

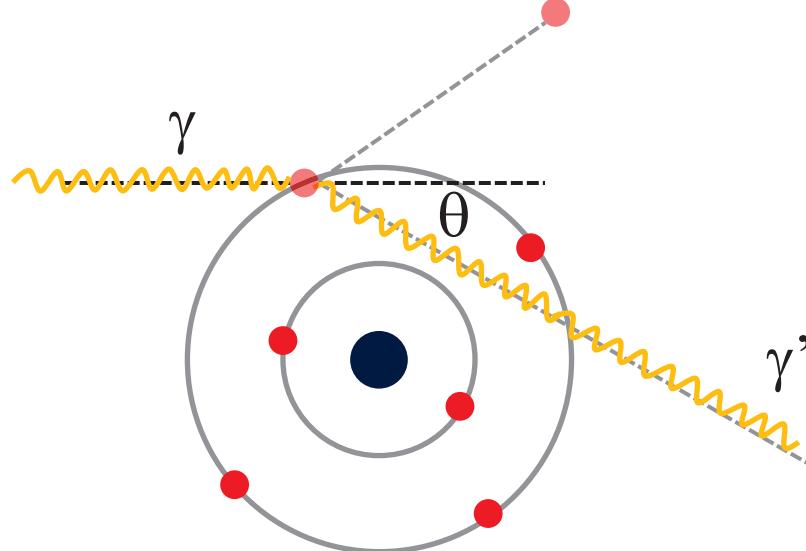
- Pair Production



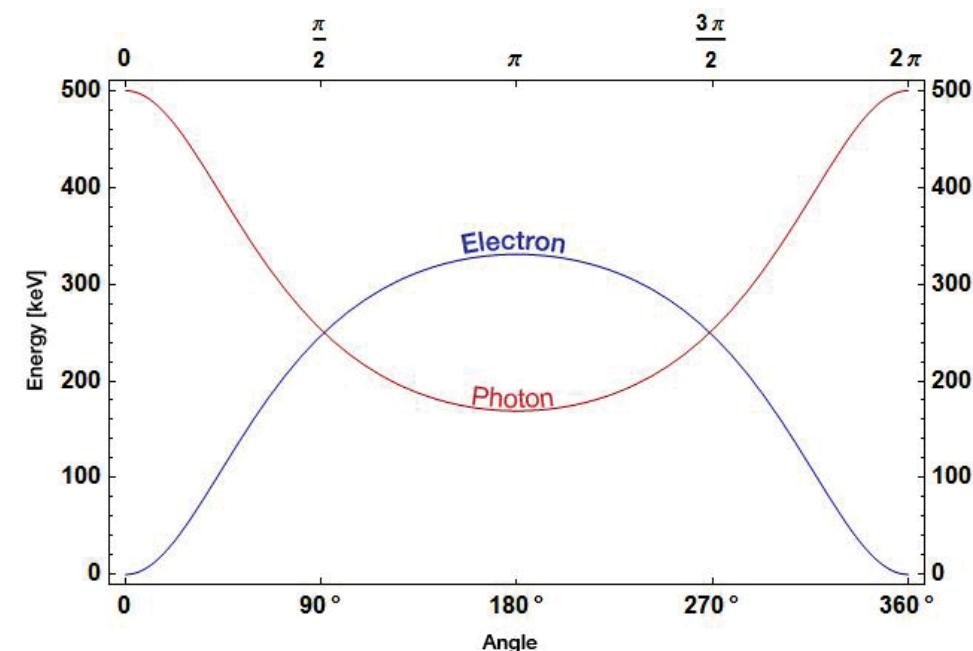
Gamma-Ray Interactions



- Photoelectric Absorption
- Compton Scattering
- Pair Production



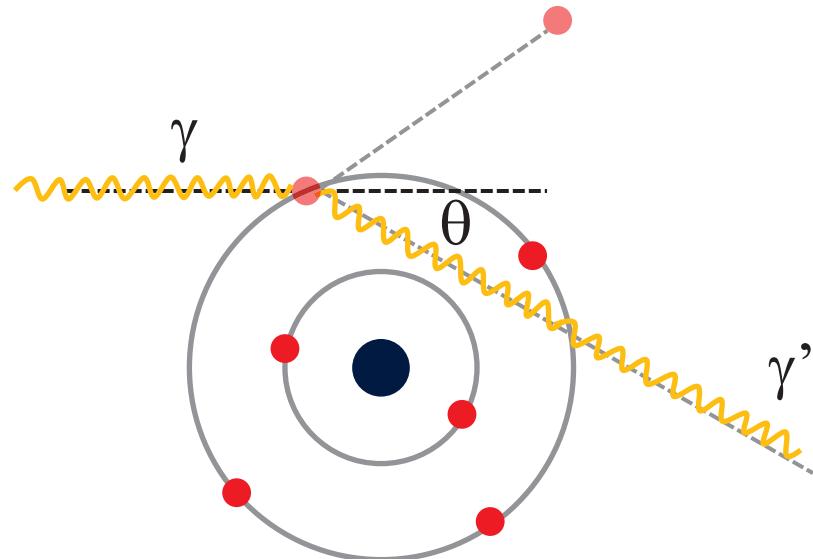
$$E_{\gamma'} = \frac{E_\gamma}{1 + \frac{E_\gamma}{m_0 c^2} (1 - \cos\theta)}$$



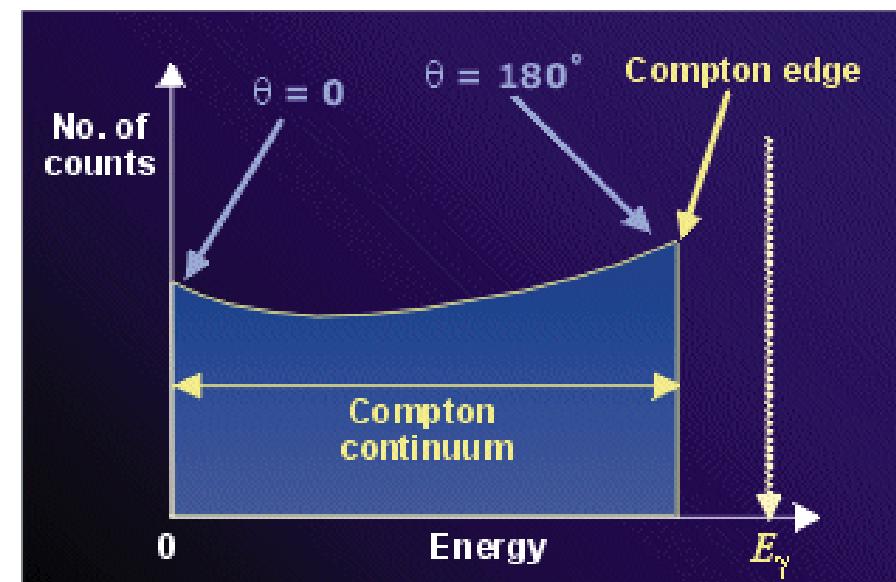
Gamma-Ray Interactions



- Photoelectric Absorption
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$$E_{\gamma'} = \frac{E_\gamma}{1 + \frac{E_\gamma}{m_0 c^2} (1 - \cos\theta)}$$



Gamma-Ray Interactions



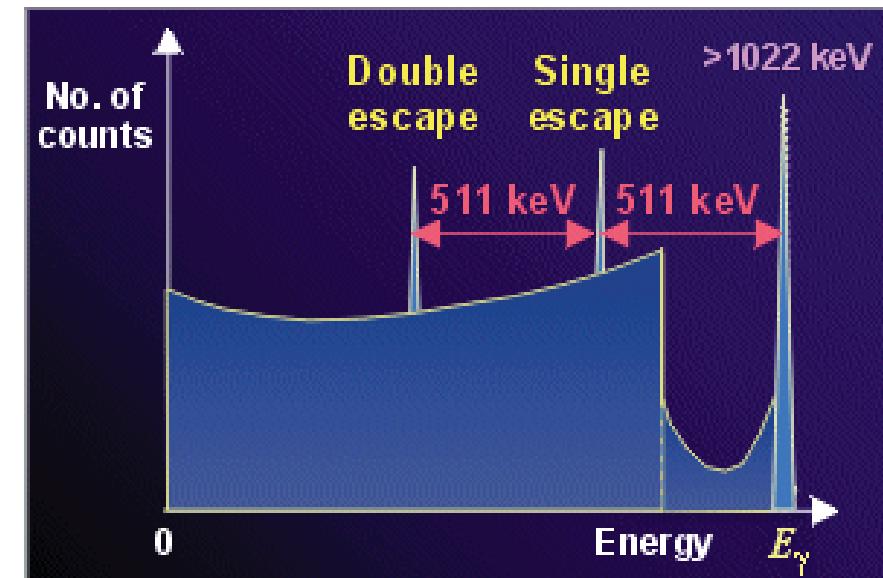
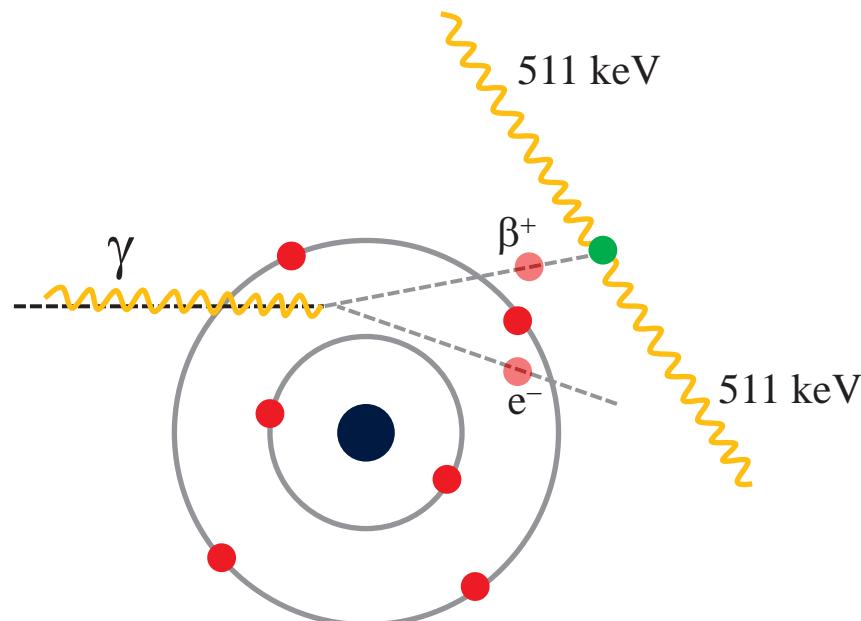
- Photoelectric Absorption

- Compton Scattering

$$E_{e^-} + E_{\beta^+} = E_\gamma - 2m_0c^2$$

- Pair Production

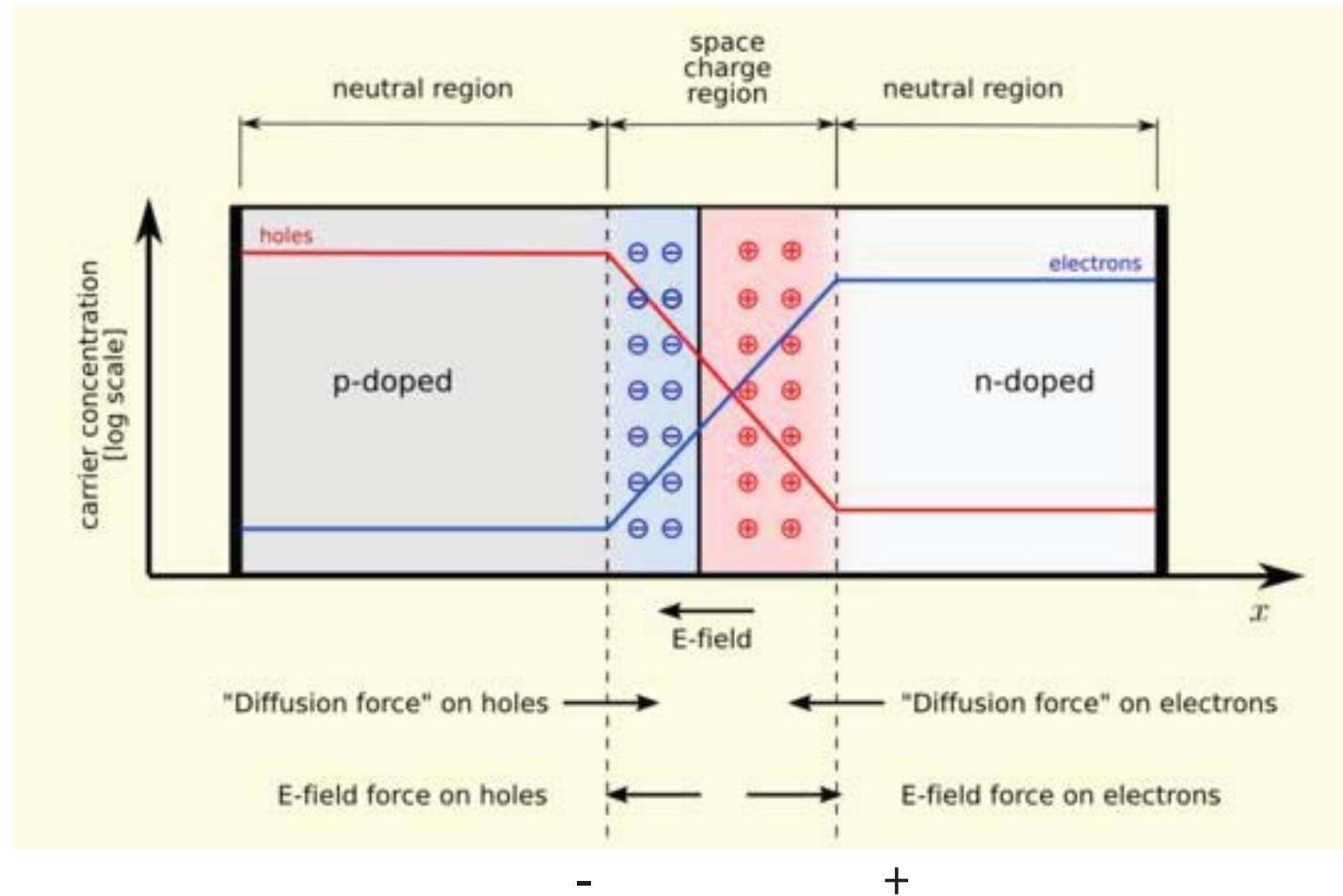
$$E_\gamma > 1022 \text{ keV}$$



Semiconductor Detectors



Reverse biased p-n junctions

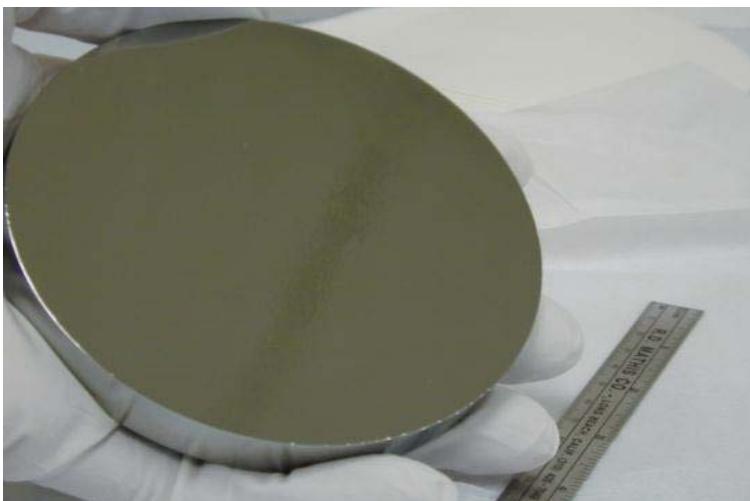
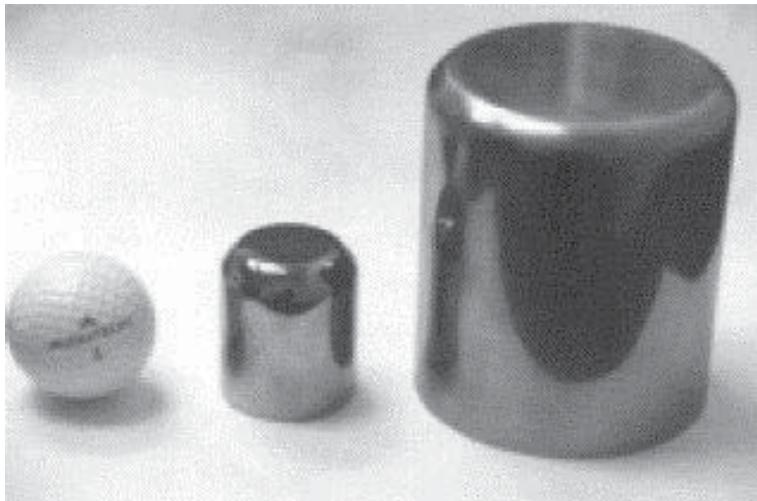


HPGe is the semiconductor detector of choice for gamma-spectroscopy

HPGe Detectors



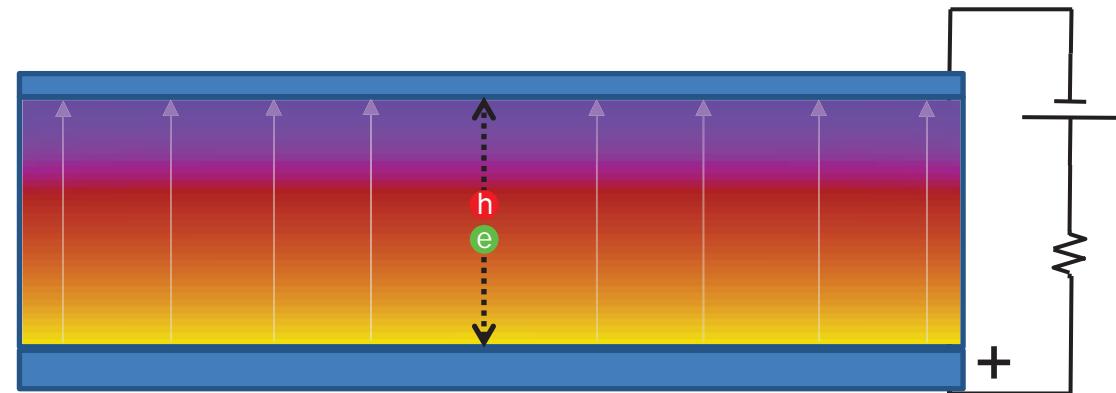
“The workhorse of gamma-ray spectroscopy”



- Very good energy resolution (0.2 - 1%)
- Extremely low noise
- Coaxial detectors:
 - cylinder 60-80 mm diameter
 - 60-100 mm long
- Planar detectors:
 - 60-80 mm square
 - up to 20 mm thick

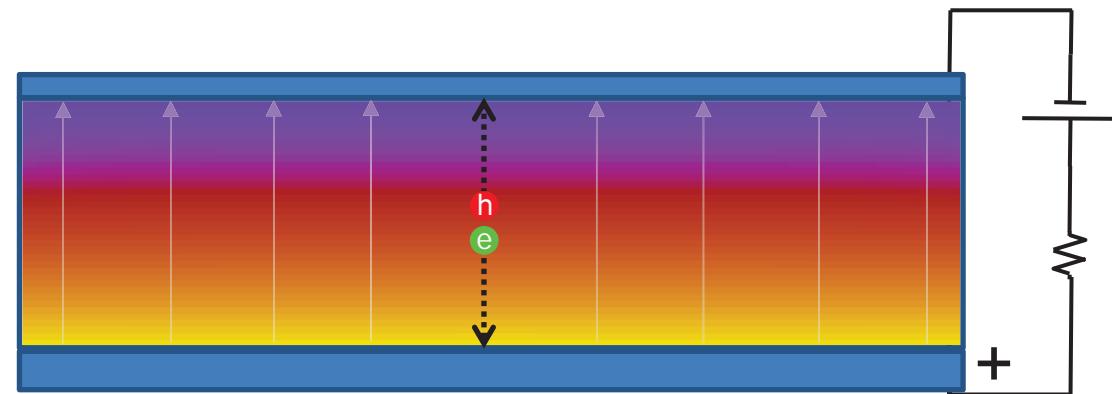
Segmented HPGe Detectors

Electrical segmentation of outer, charge collecting contact(s)

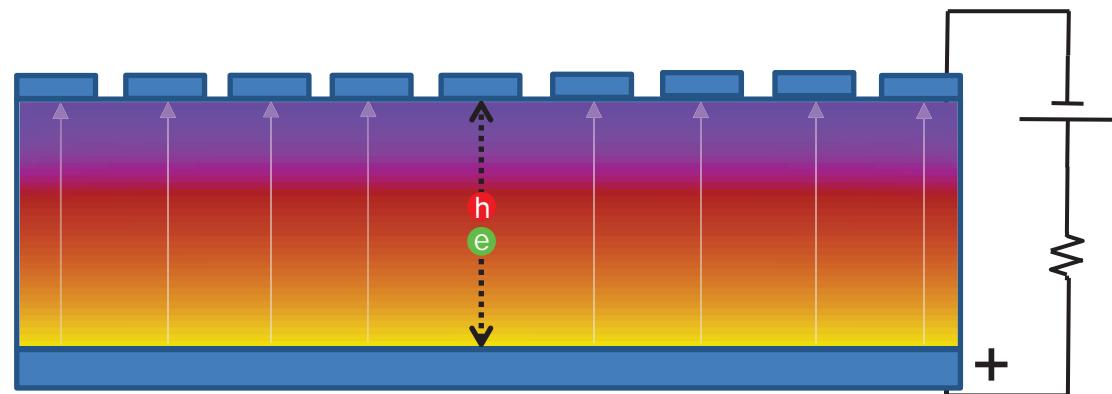


- Planar or coaxial geometry
- Instrument every channel
- Position sensitivity
- Count rate

Segmented HPGe Detectors



- Planar or coaxial geometry
- Instrument every channel
- Position sensitivity
- Count rate



HPGe Detectors: Signal Generation

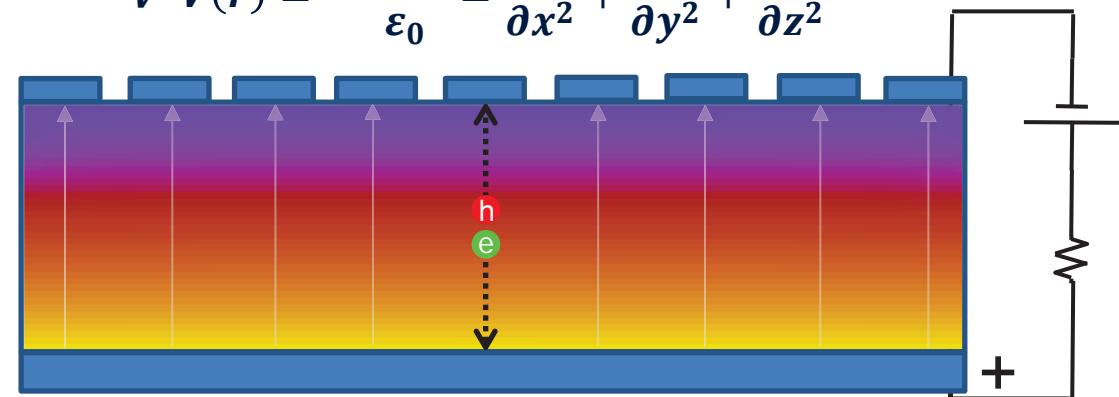
Charge transport dynamics defines signal shape

- Charge trajectory defined by electric field
- Induced signal defined by weighting potential

Electric Field

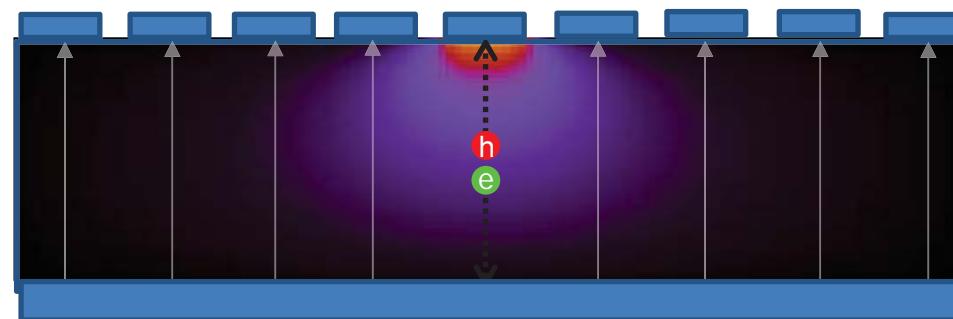
- Created by bias
- ~1000V/cm
- Defines drift velocity

$$\nabla^2 V(r) = -\frac{\rho(r)}{\epsilon_0} = \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial z^2}$$



Weighting Potential

- Defined by geometry
- Solve Poisson equation with collecting contact at unit potential
- Other contacts at ground

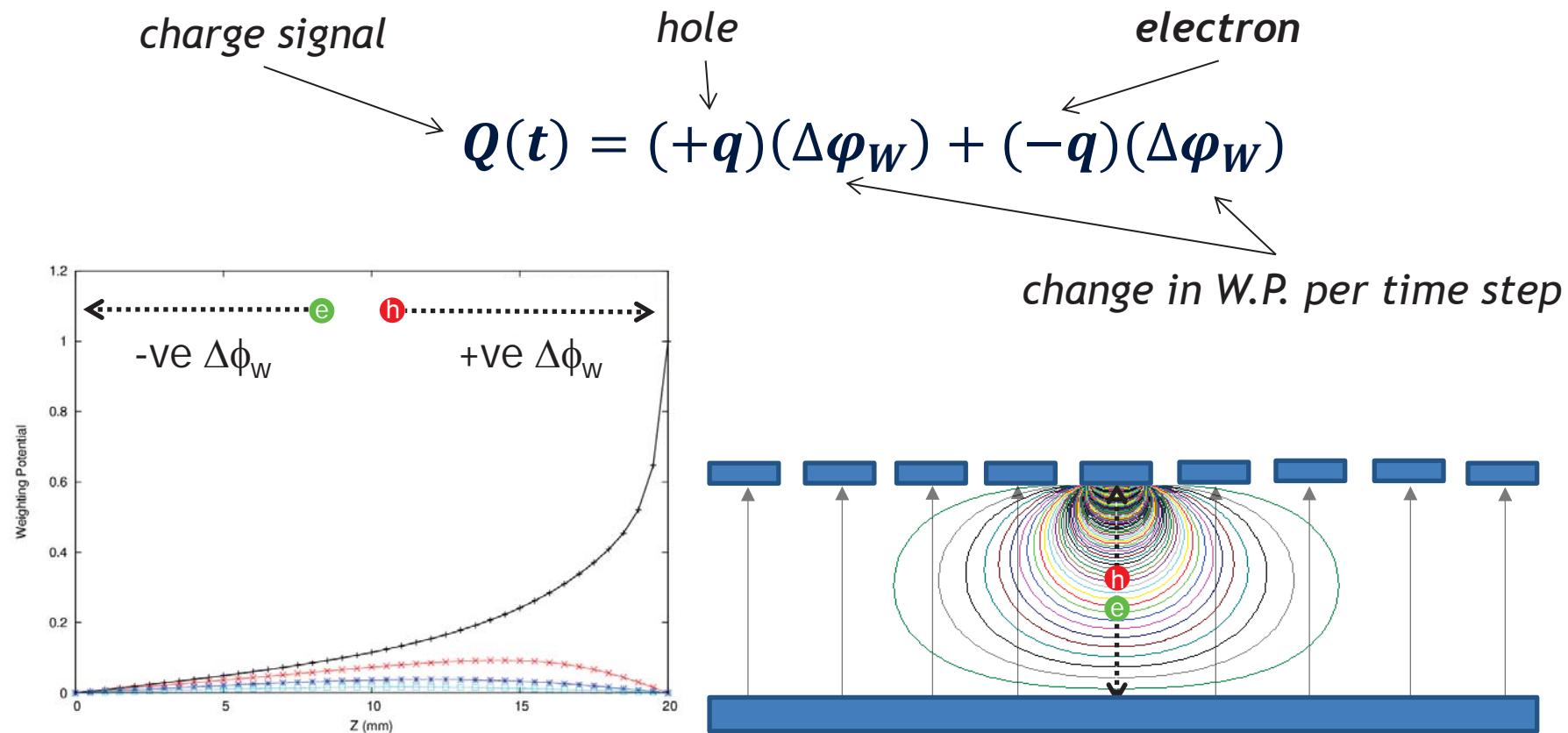


HPGe Detectors: Signal Generation



Charge transport dynamics defines signal shape

- Both carriers contribute to signal
- Can have a linear e-field but non-linear signal response

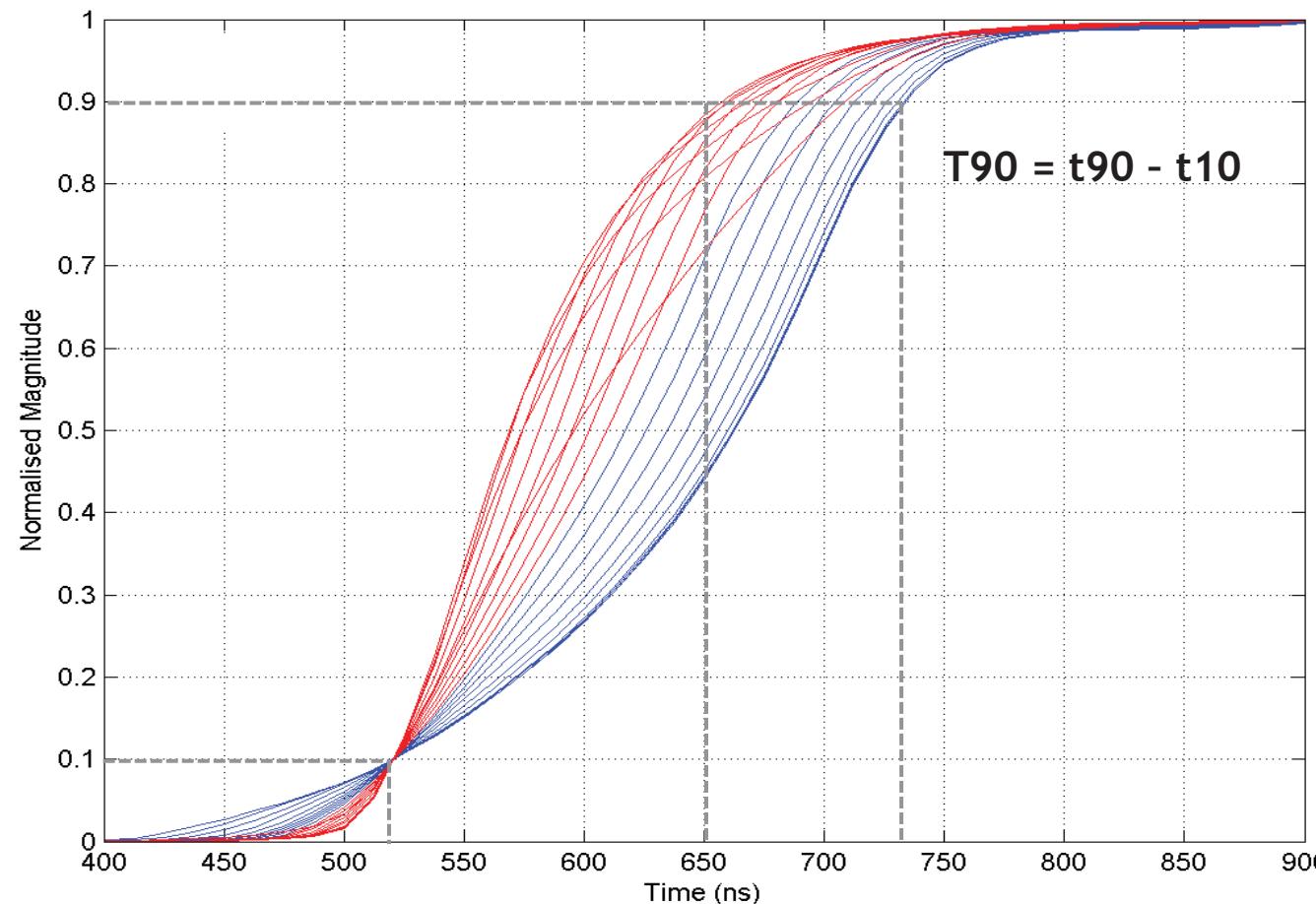


HPGe Detectors: Signal Generation



Strong variation in shape of charge signal with interaction “depth”

- Typically characterised by the rise-time

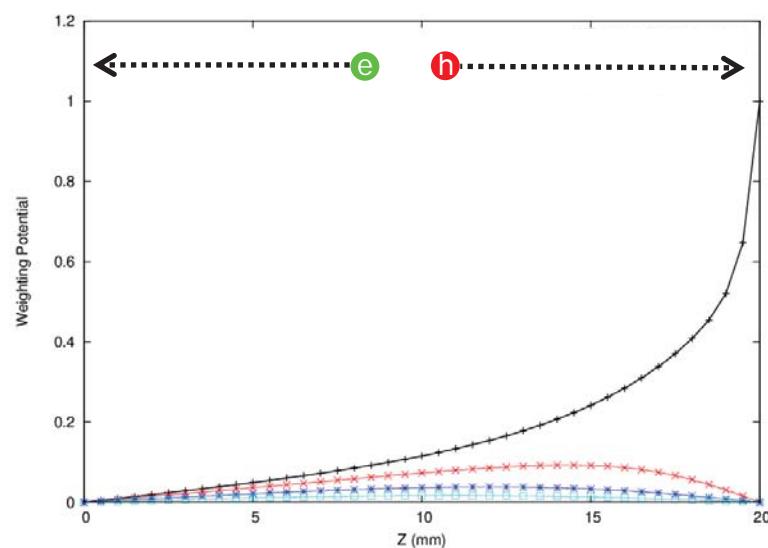


HPGe Detectors: Signal Generation

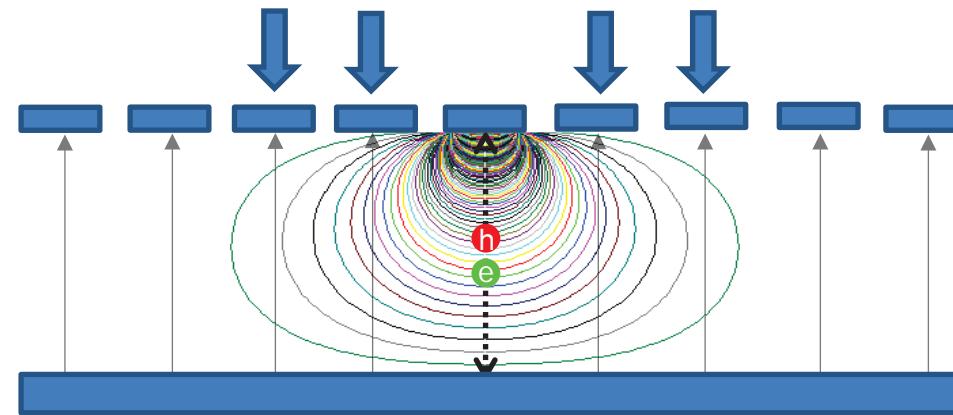


The story doesn't end there.....

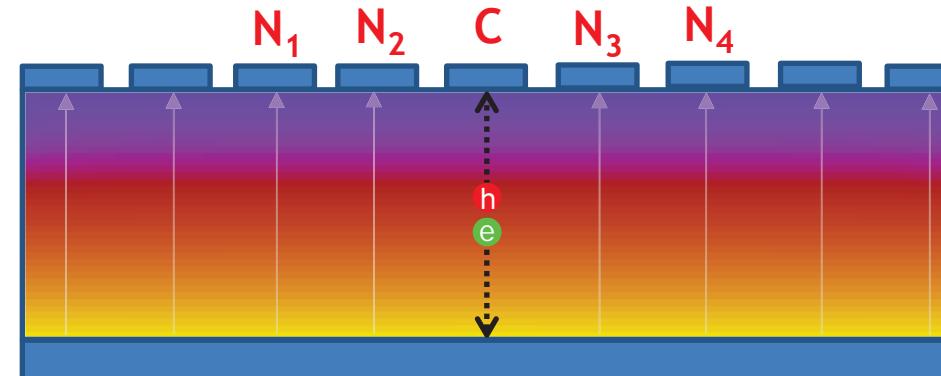
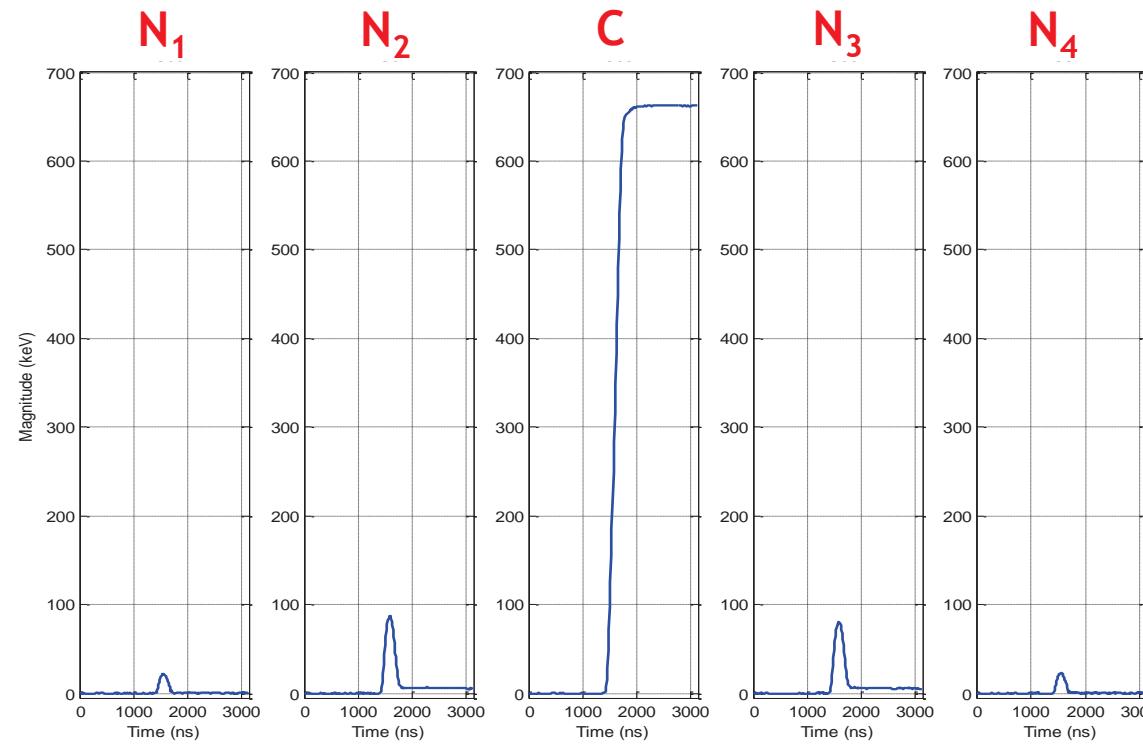
- The weighting potential extends out of the charge collecting strip
- The carriers are coupled to the neighbouring segments
- No net charge is collected on the neighbouring strips
- The weighing potential looks very different
- Image charges (transients) are induced



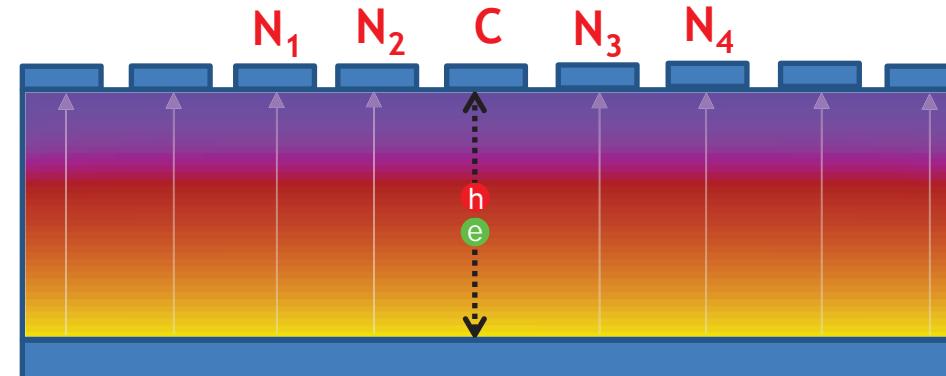
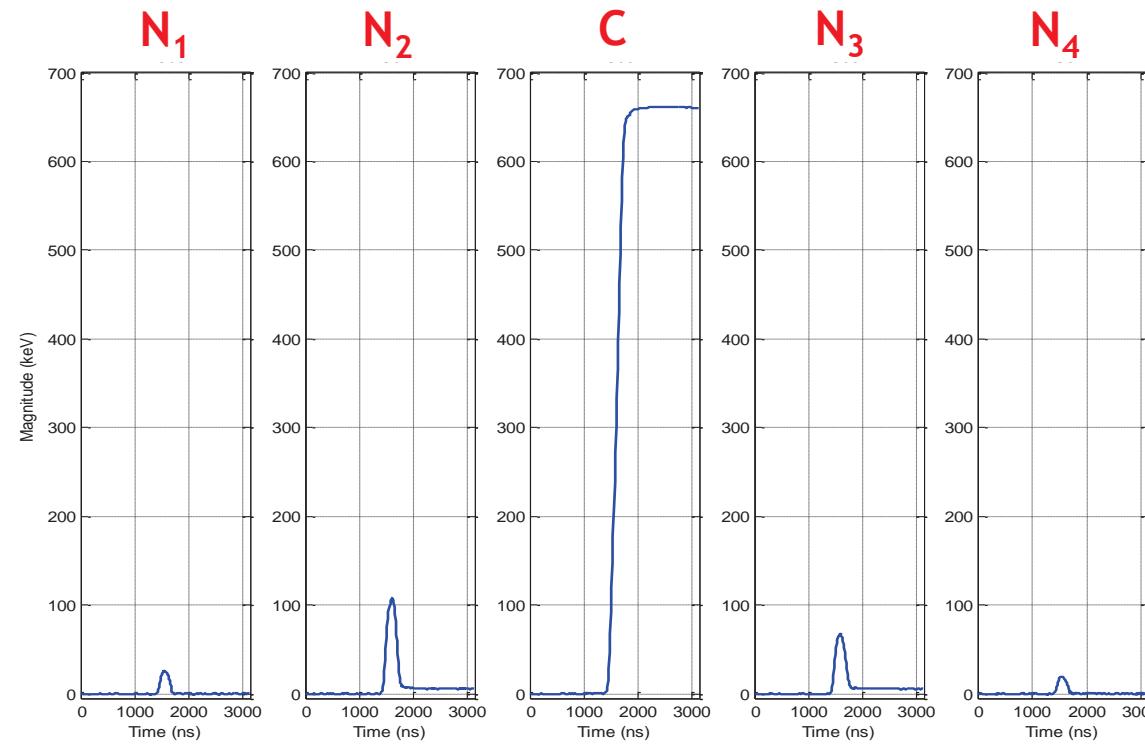
$$Q(t) = (+q)(\Delta\varphi_W) + (-q)(\Delta\varphi_W)$$



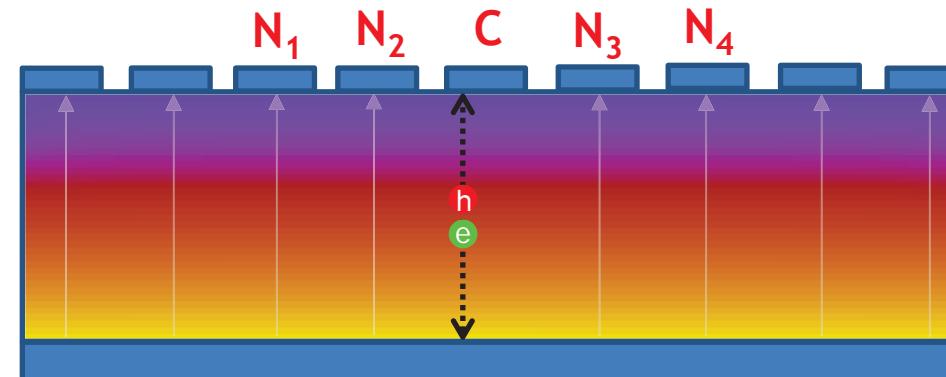
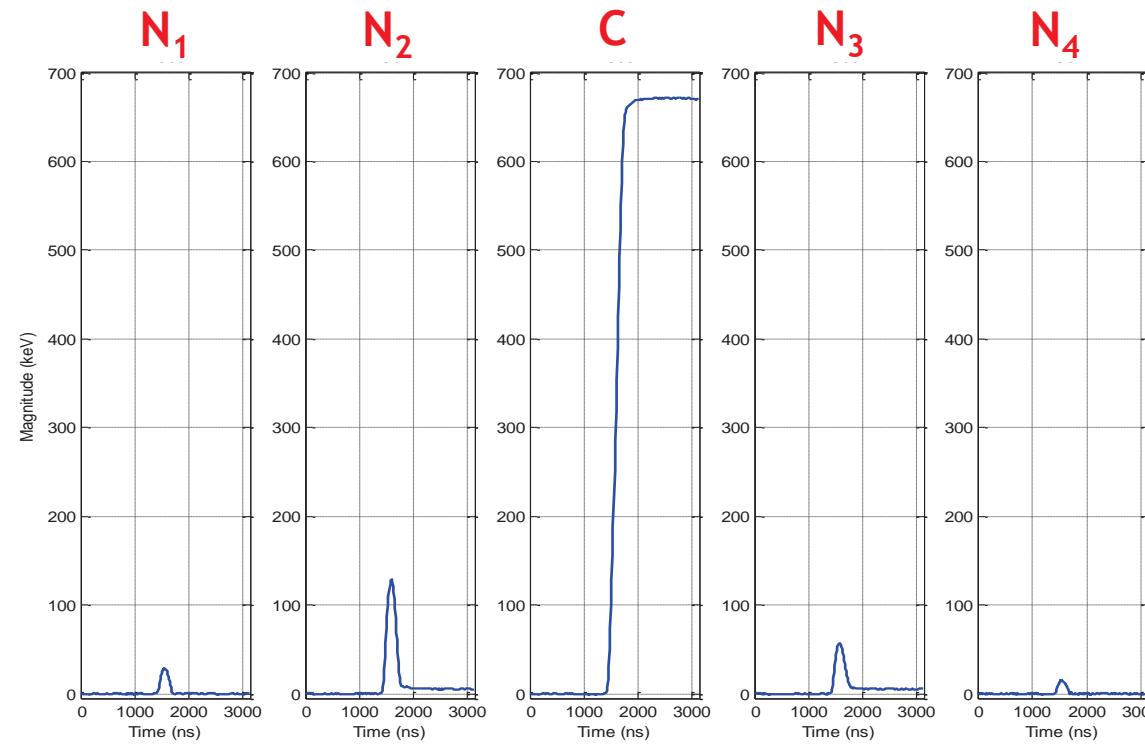
HPGe Detectors: Signal Generation II



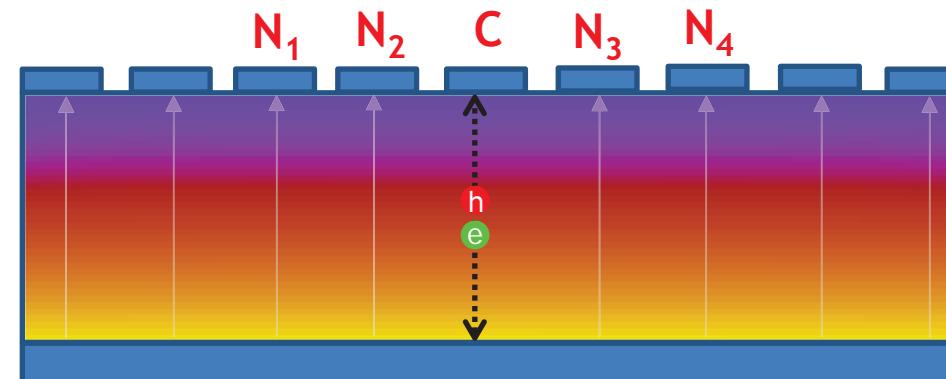
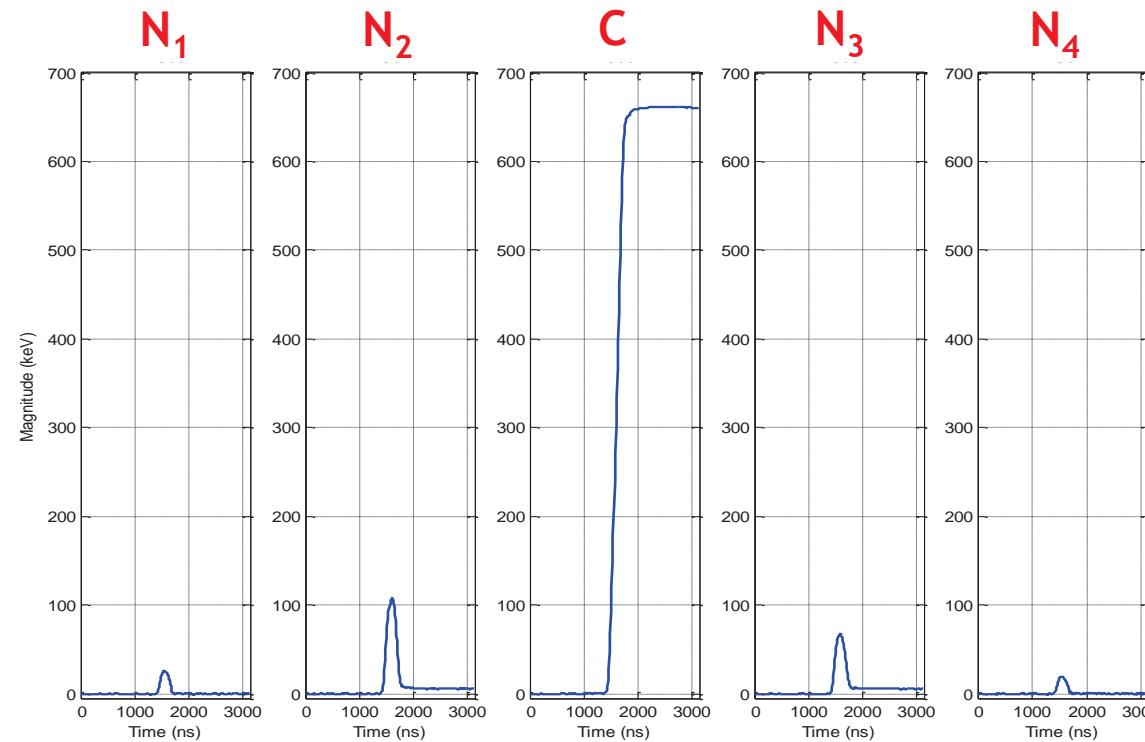
HPGe Detectors: Signal Generation II



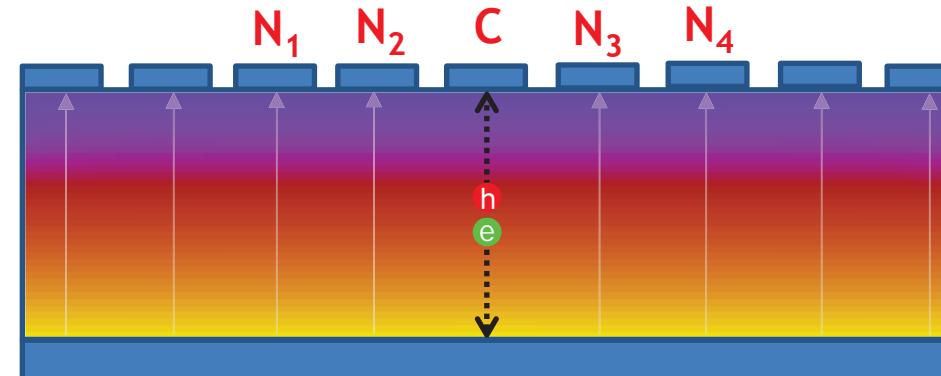
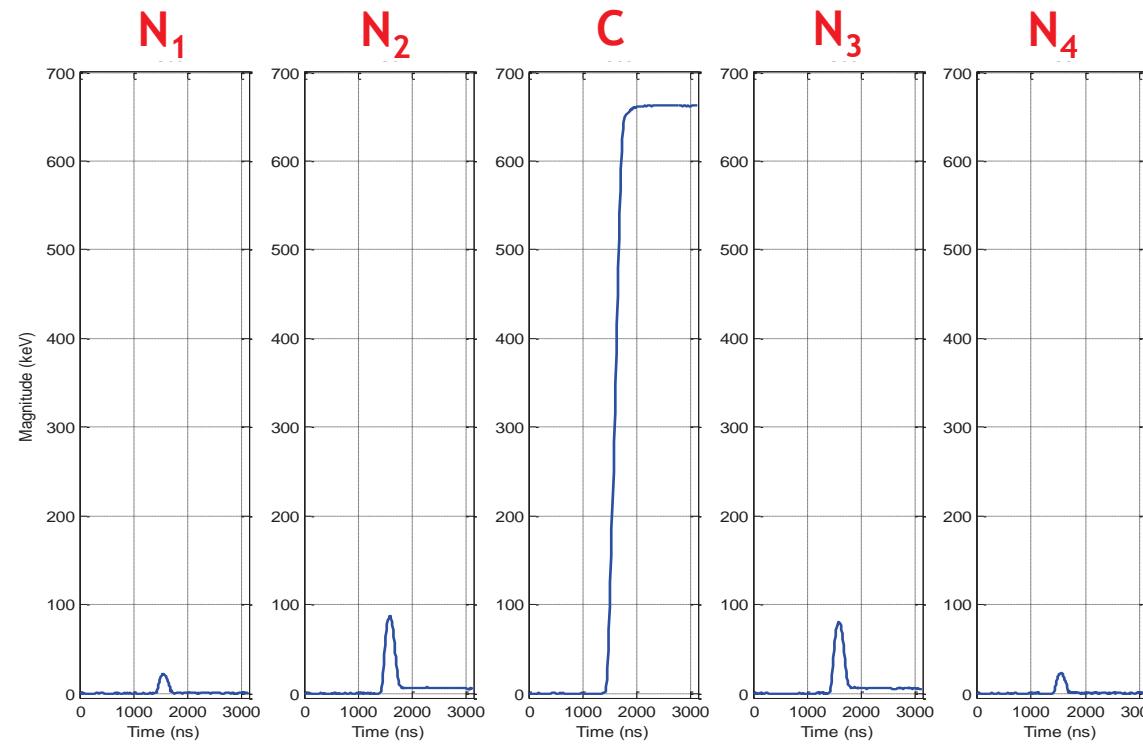
HPGe Detectors: Signal Generation II



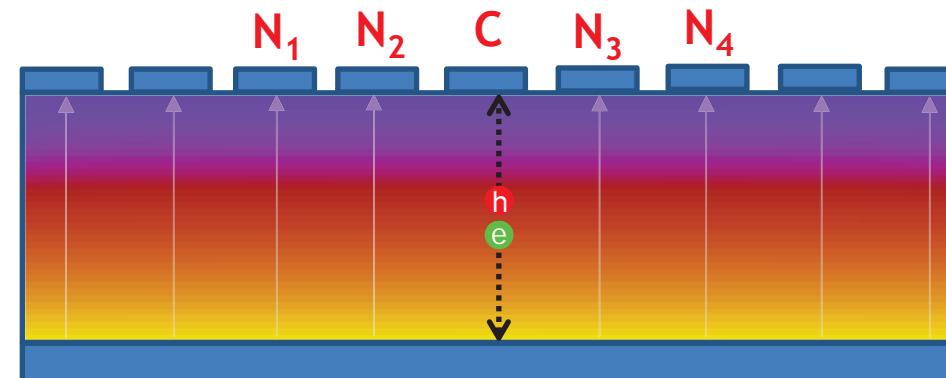
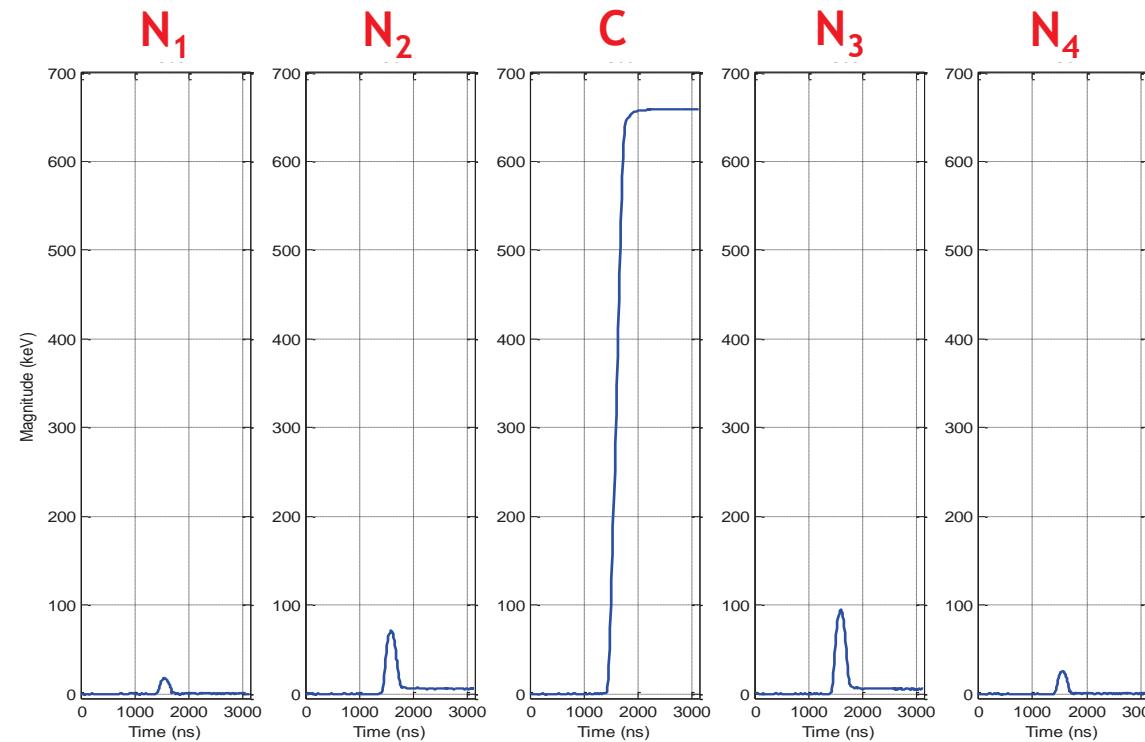
HPGe Detectors: Signal Generation II



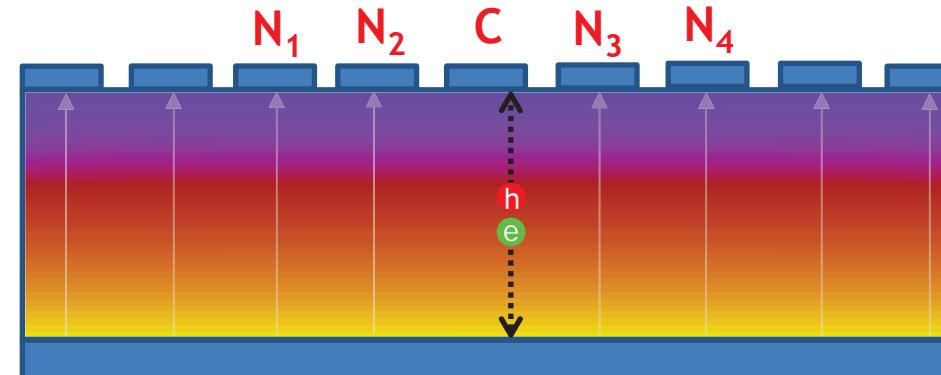
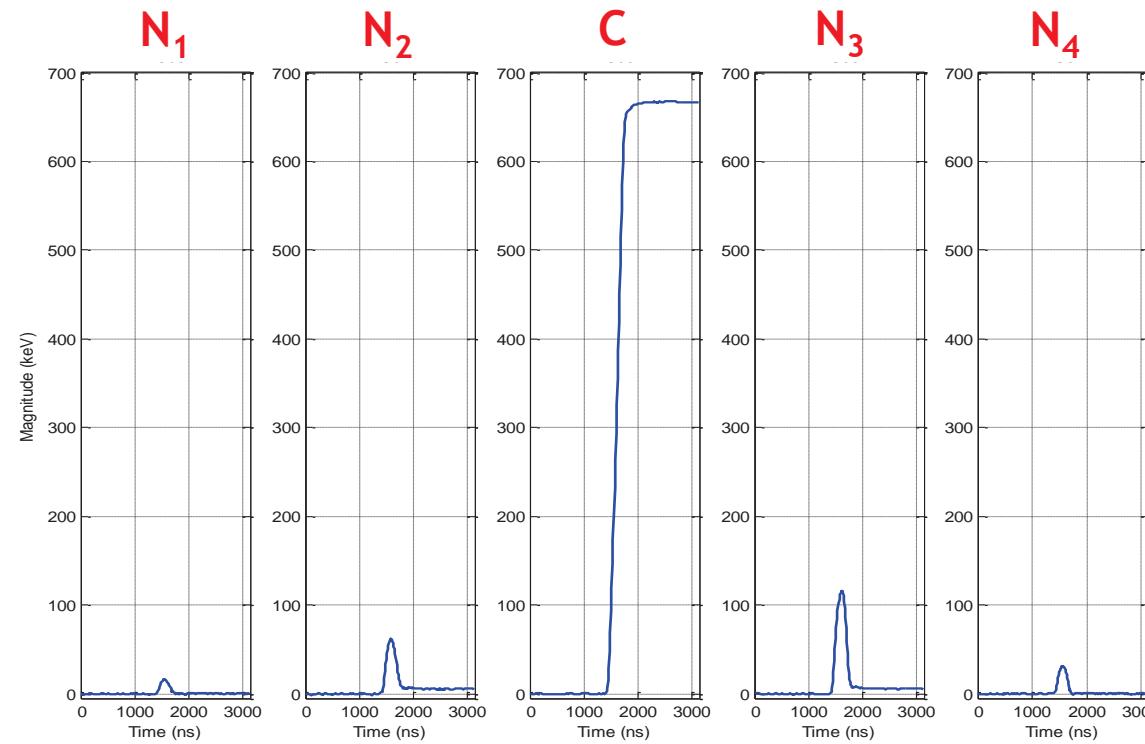
HPGe Detectors: Signal Generation II



HPGe Detectors: Signal Generation



HPGe Detectors: Signal Generation



Literature: HPGe Detectors



Available online at www.sciencedirect.com



Progress in Particle and Nuclear Physics 60 (2008) 283–337

Progress in
Particle and
Nuclear Physics

www.elsevier.com/locate/pnnp

Review

From Ge(Li) detectors to gamma-ray tracking arrays – 50 years of gamma spectroscopy with germanium detectors

J. Eberth^{a,*}, J. Simpson^b

^a Institut für Kernphysik, Universität zu Köln, D-50937 Köln, Germany

^b STFC, Daresbury Laboratory, Daresbury, Warrington WA4 4AD, UK

Recent Developments in the Fabrication and Operation of Germanium Detectors

Kai Vetter*

Glenn T. Seaborg Institute, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Livermore,
California 94550; email: kvetter@llnl.gov

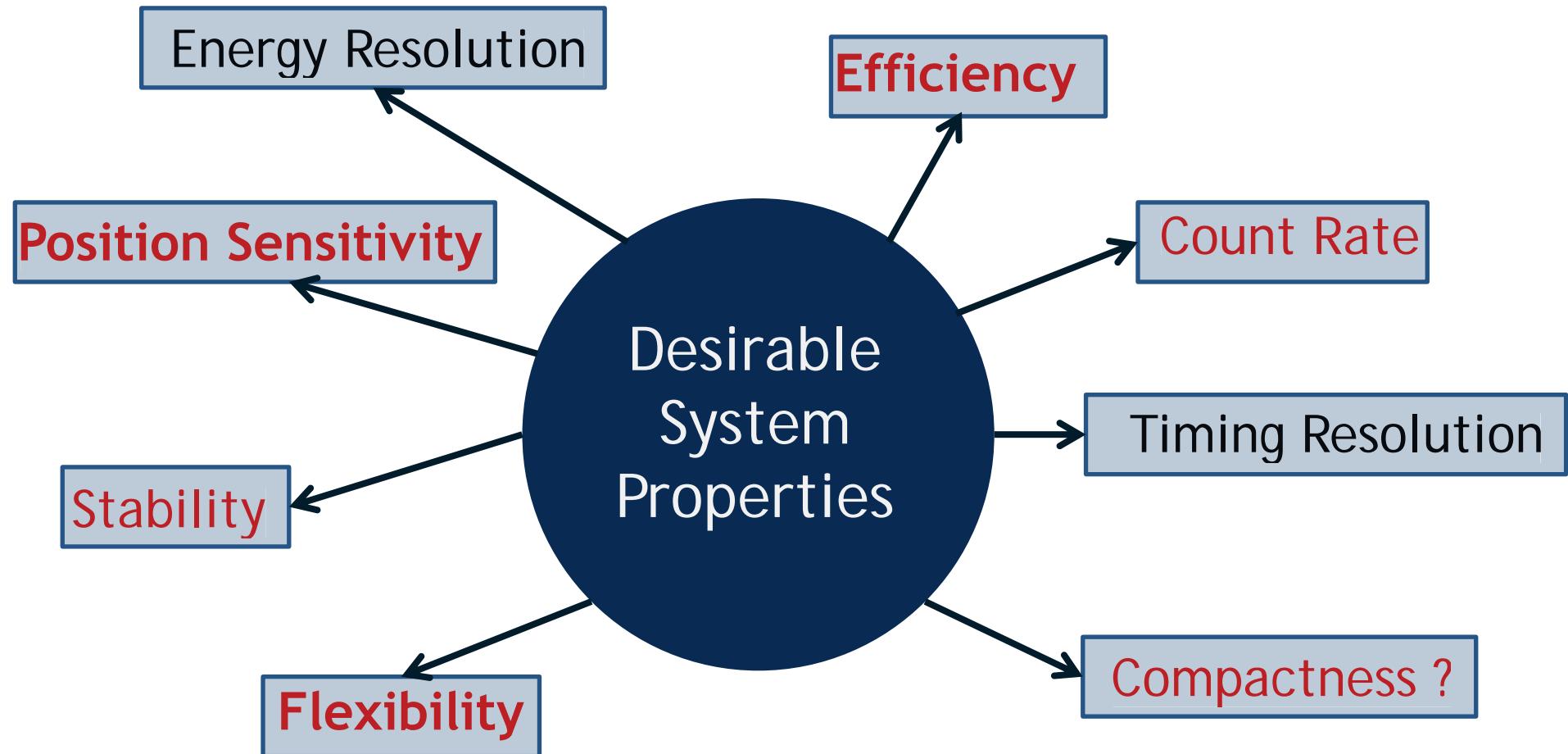
Ann. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci. 2007. 57:363–404

First published online as a Review in Advance on
June 28, 2007

The *Annual Review of Nuclear and Particle Science* is
online at <http://nucl.annualreviews.org>

Why Use Digital Electronics?

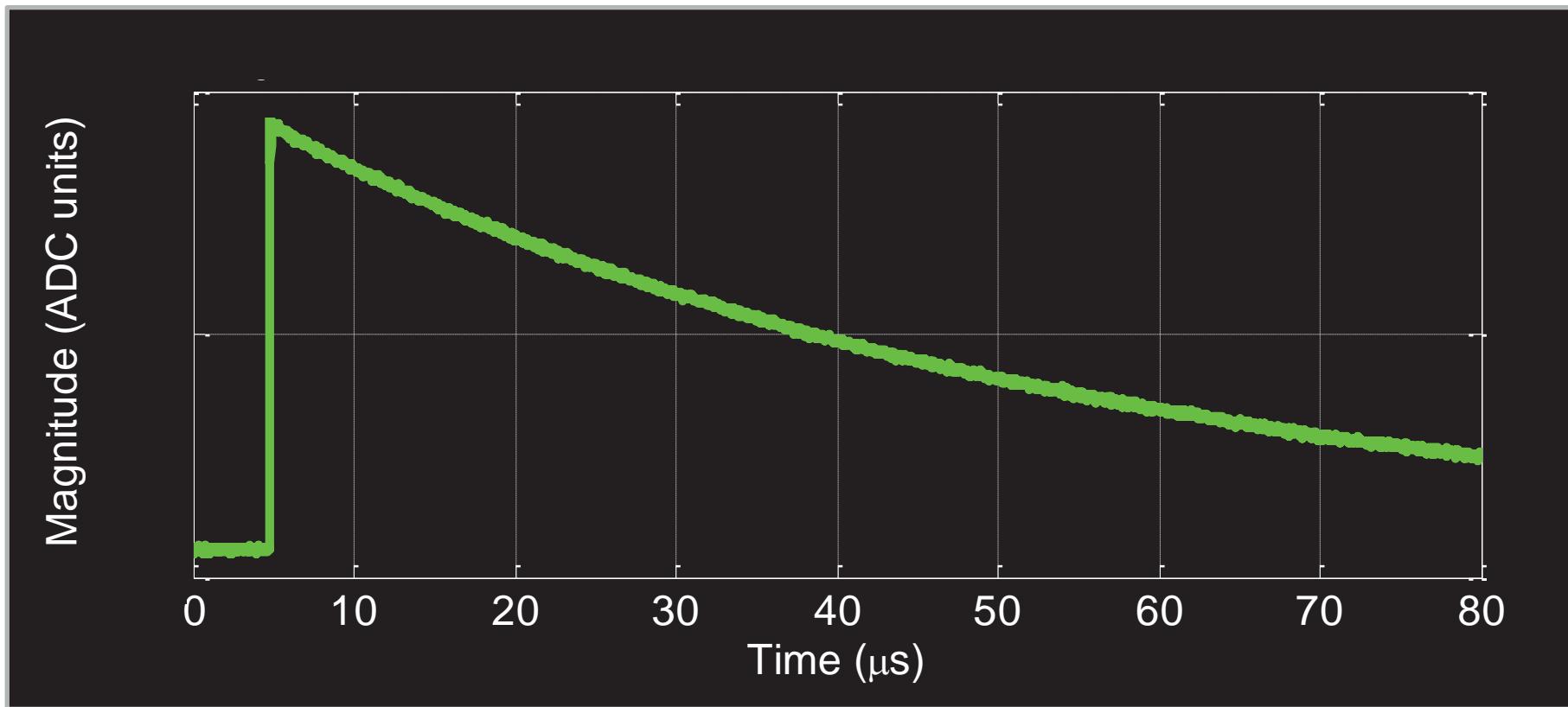
So we can access more information about the physics event



A Digitised Signal

Two major components: Fast rise and slow fall

- Extract energy from the maximum pulse height
- Extract position from the signal shape
- Extract charge arrival time from the slope

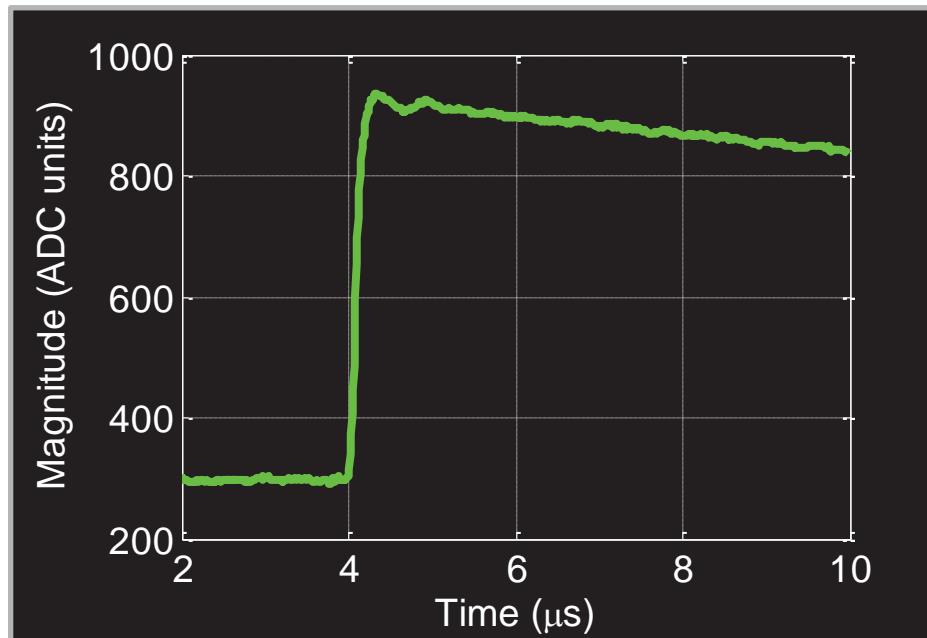


Energy Extraction

Application of filters in the time domain to extract the pulse height

- Signal-to-noise ratio determines the performance
- Baseline correction, pole-zero correction, and pulse shaping
- Trapezoidal filtering is common for HPGe - develop a flat top

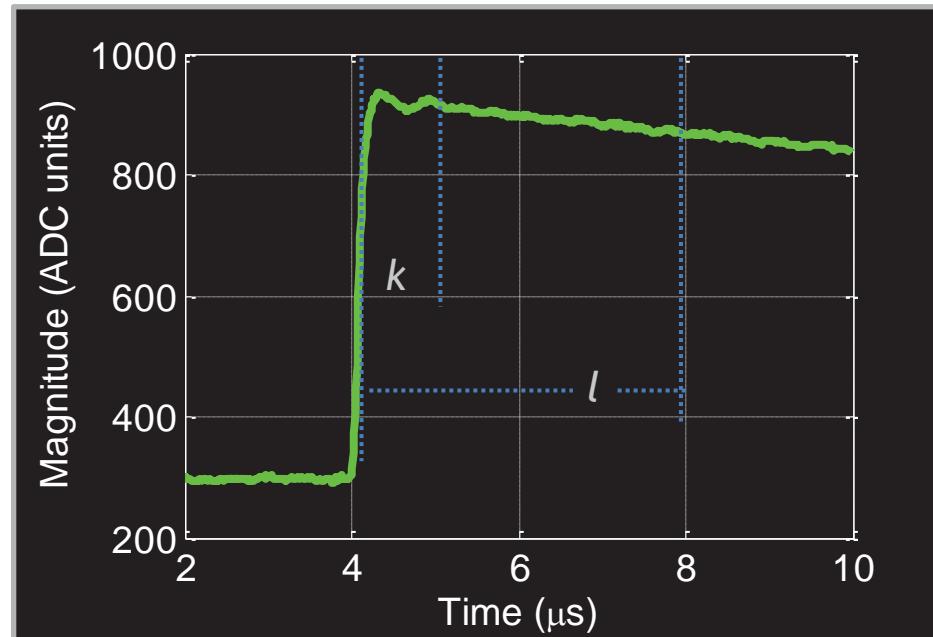
Jordanov et al., Nucl. Instr. and Meth. A 353 (1994)



Energy Extraction

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1. Differentiate (baseline restore) and decay correct
 - attenuate low frequency noise

$$Md(n)^{k,l} = v(n) - v(n - k) - v(n - l) + v(n + l)$$

$$d(n)^k = v(n) - v(n - k)$$

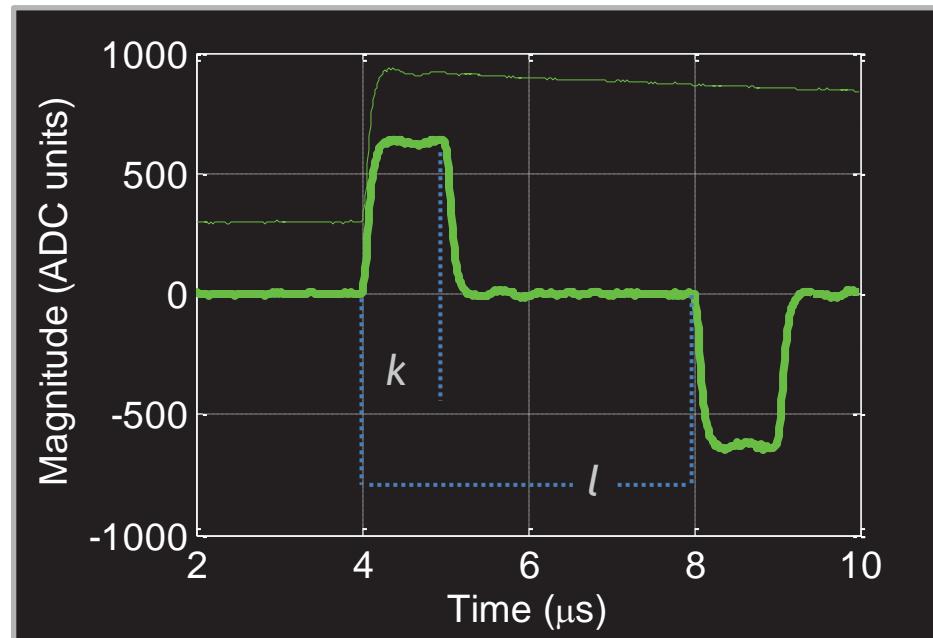
$$d(n)^{k,l} = d^k(n) - v(n - l)$$

Jordanov et al., Nucl. Instr. and Meth. A 353 (1994)

Energy Extraction

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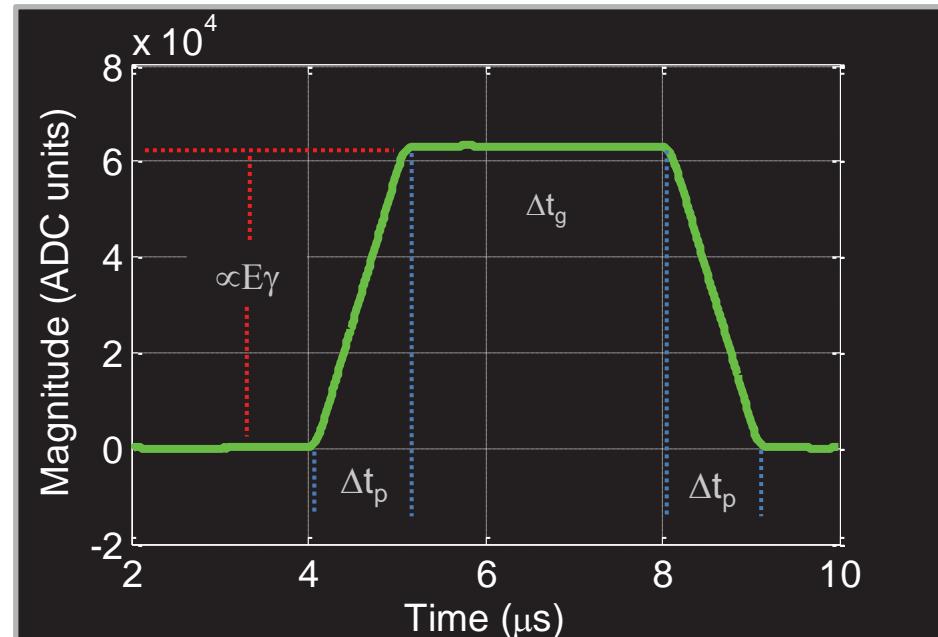
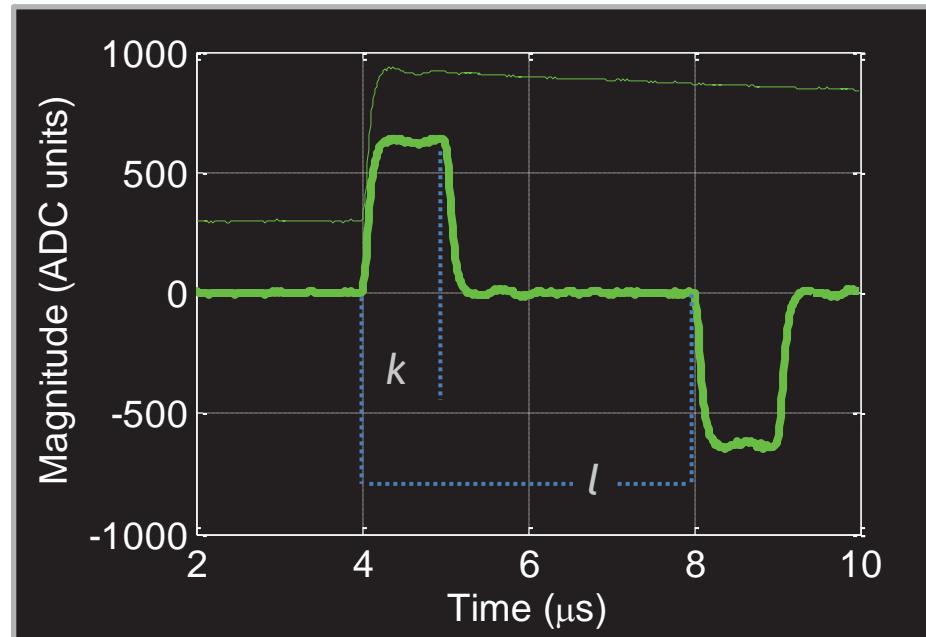
1. Differentiate (baseline restore) and decay correct
 - attenuate low frequency noise
2. Integrate
 - attenuate high frequency noise

Energy Extraction

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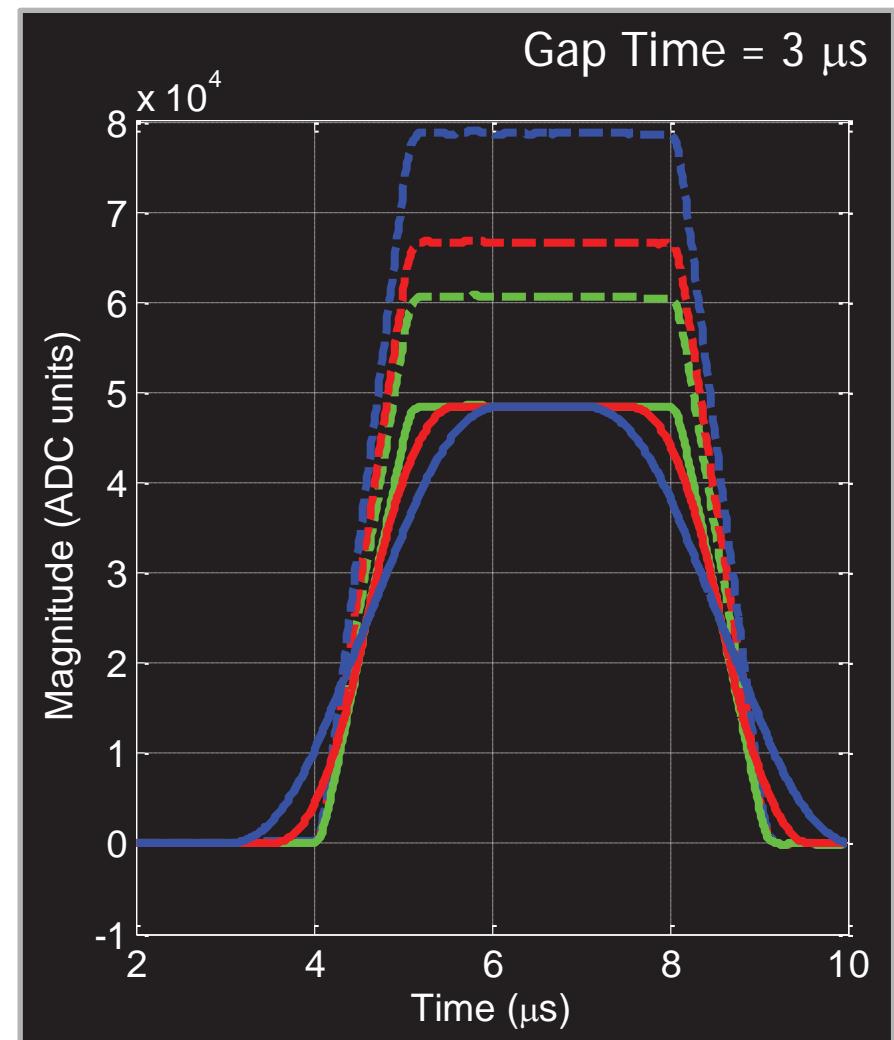
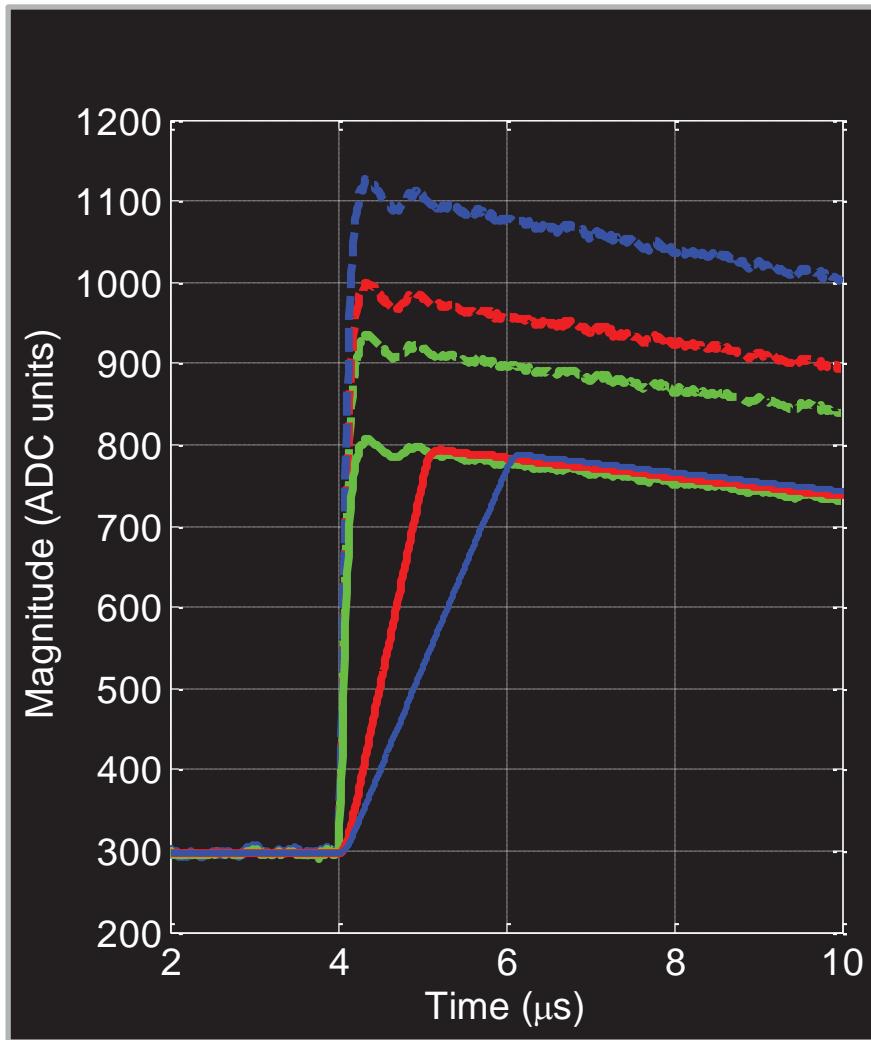
Gap Time, $\Delta t_g = l - k = 3 \mu\text{s}$
 Peaking Time, $\Delta t_p = k = 1 \mu\text{s}$



Energy Extraction



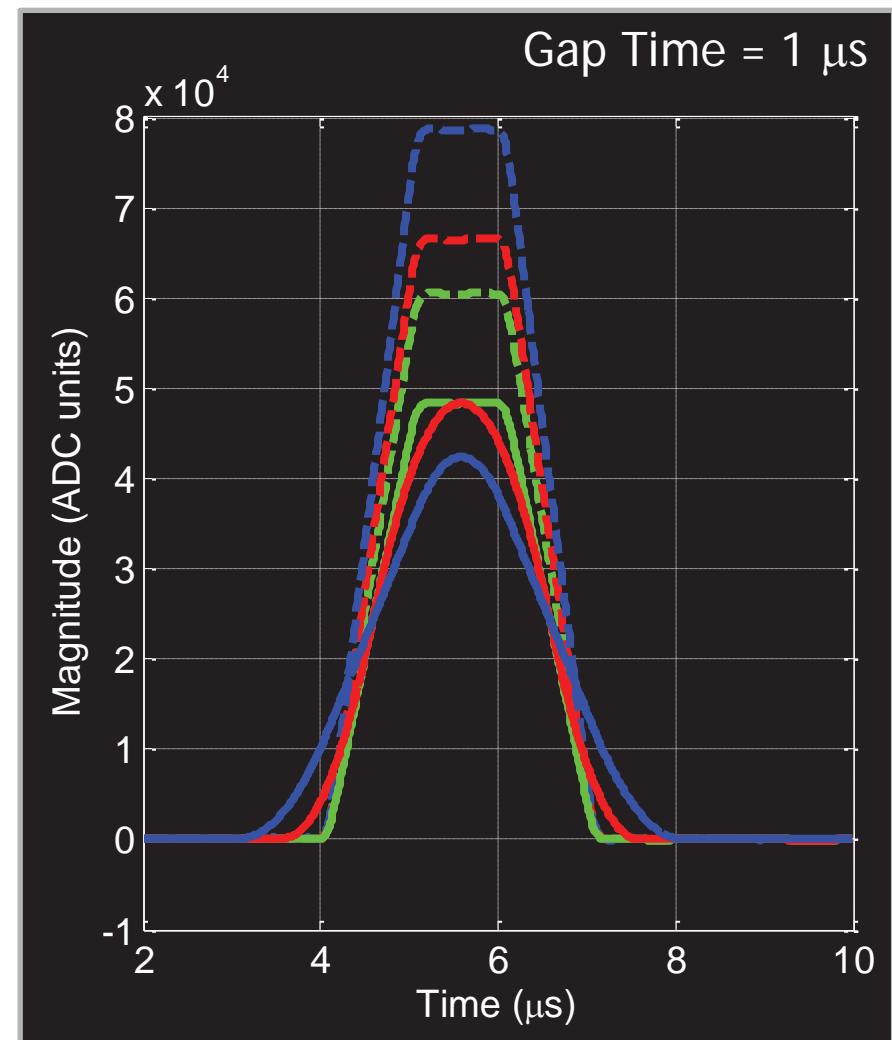
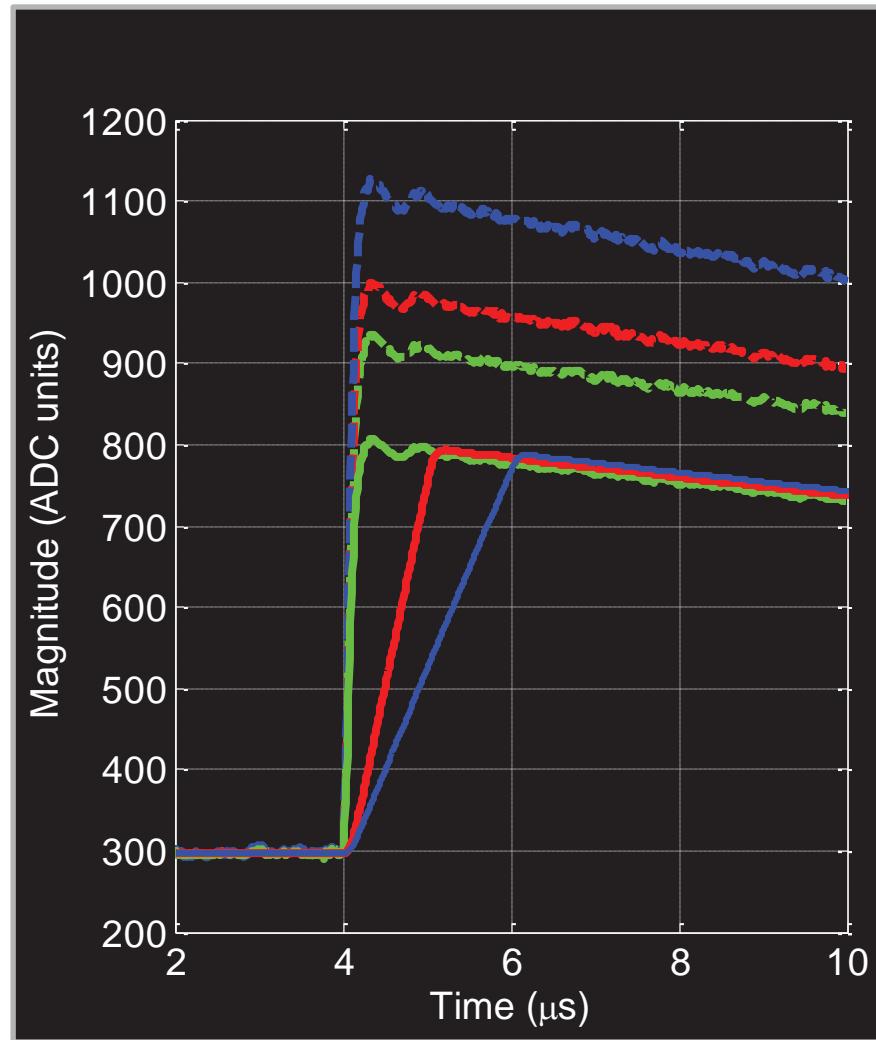
Application of filters in the time domain to extract the pulse height



Energy Extraction



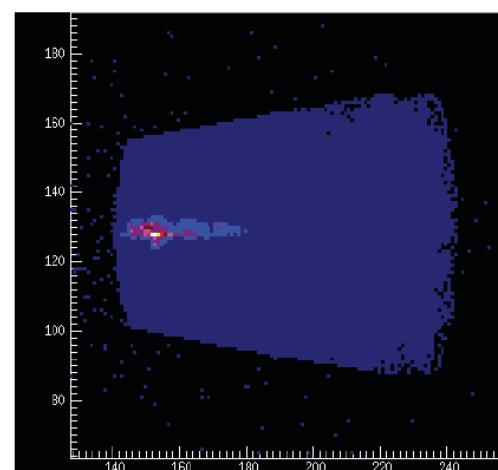
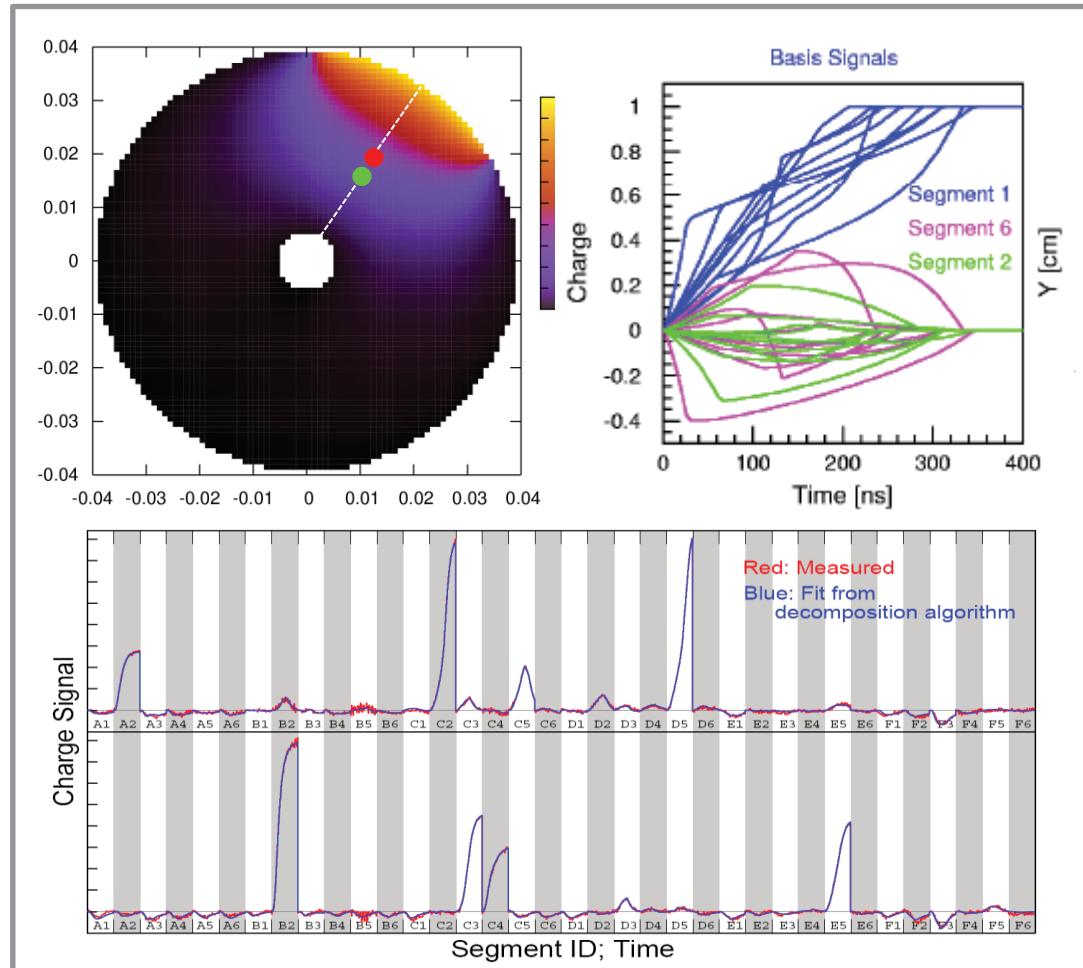
Application of filters in the time domain to extract the pulse height



Position Extraction

Extraction of signal features strongly correlated with hit position

- Parametric and/or “basis” driven approaches
- Millimeter-order resolution in large volume HPGe detectors

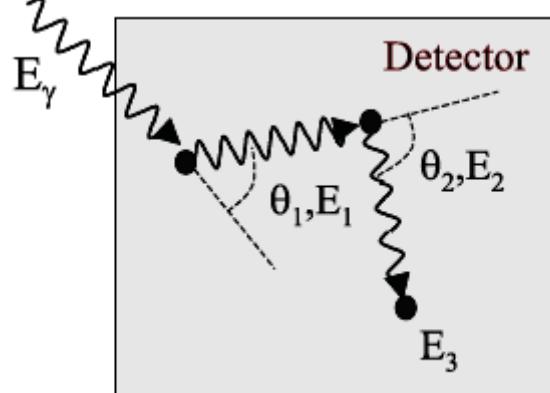


Gamma-Ray Tracking

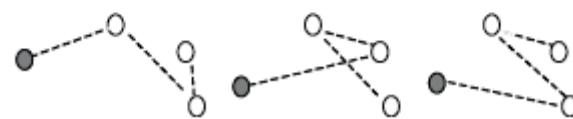
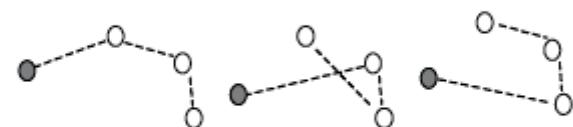
What can we do with all this information?

- Reconstruct the sequence of the event
- Compton scattering kinematics are well defined

1 MeV



$3! = 6$ permutations



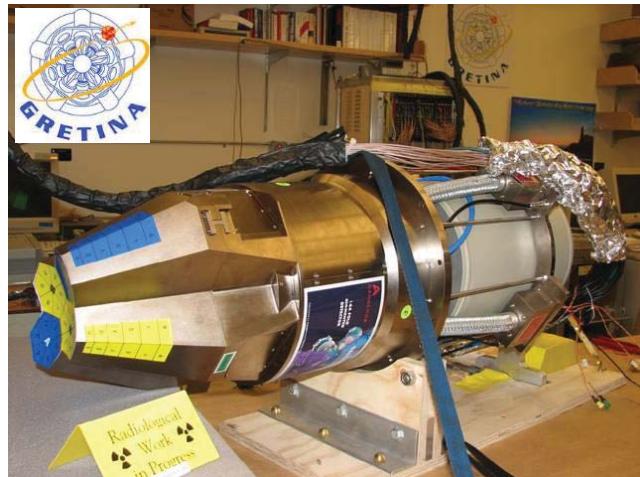
$$E_{\gamma'} = \frac{E_\gamma}{1 + \frac{E_\gamma}{m_0 c^2} (1 - \cos\theta)}$$

$$\chi_j^2 = \sum_{n=1}^{N-1} \left(\frac{\theta_m - \theta_c}{\sigma_\theta} \right)_n^2$$

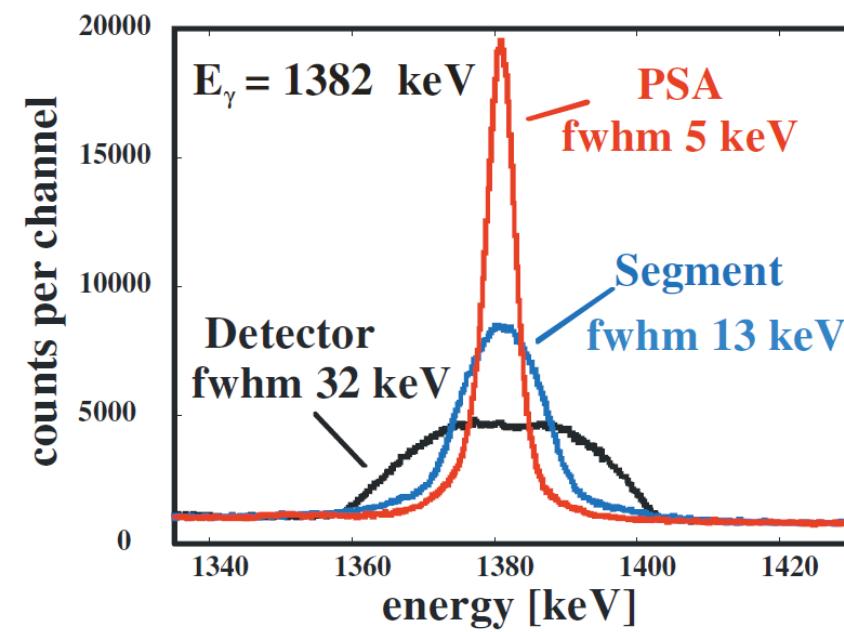
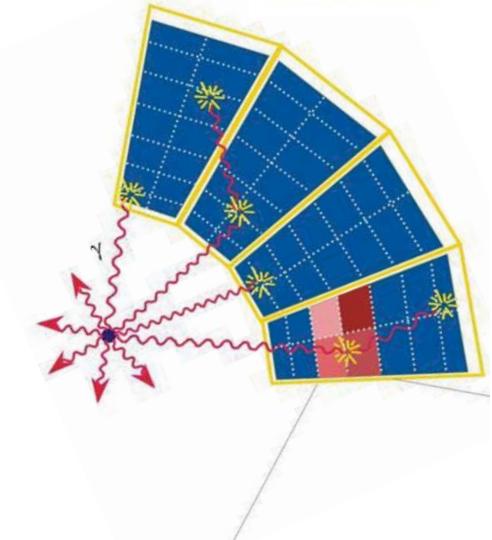
- F.O.M for all permutations to find most probable sequence
- Associate multiple hits from the same event
- “Add-back” energy
- Reject “bad”/Compton escaped events
- Increased efficiency

I.Y. Lee *et al.*, Rep. Prog. Phys. 66 (2003)

Applications: Gamma Spectroscopy



- **Efficiency**
 - Summing of scattered gammas
- **Peak-to-background**
 - Reject Compton events
- **Doppler Correction**
 - Position of 1st hit
- **Counting rate**
 - Many Segments

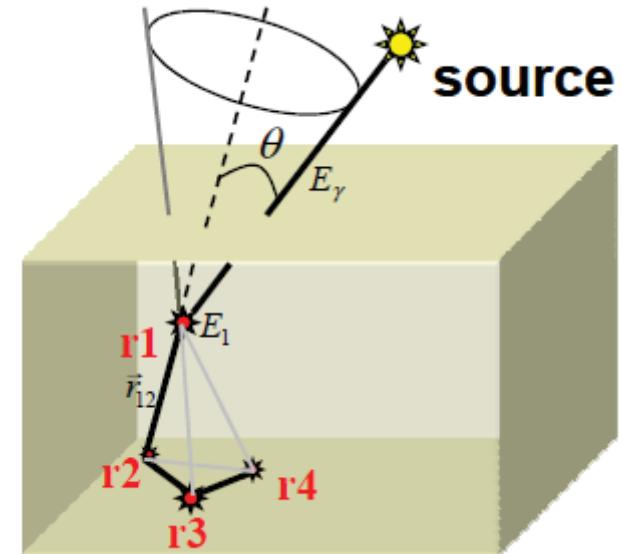


Applications: Compton Imaging



- Event-by-event reconstruction of scattered gamma rays

$$\cos(\theta) = 1 + m_0 c^2 \left(\frac{1}{E_\gamma} - \frac{1}{E_\gamma - E_1} \right)$$

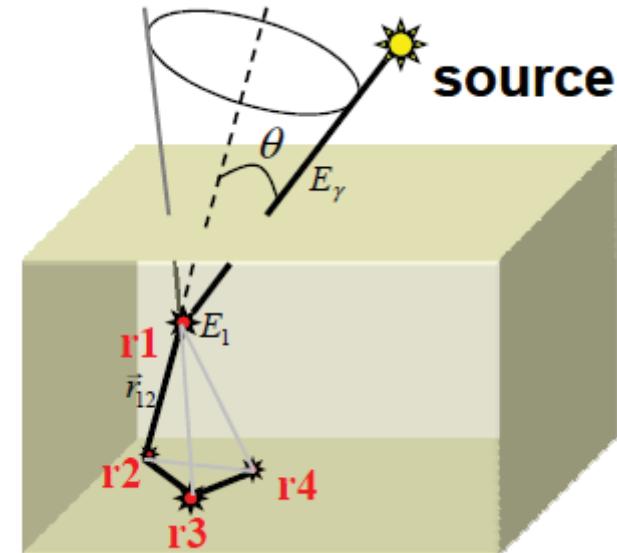
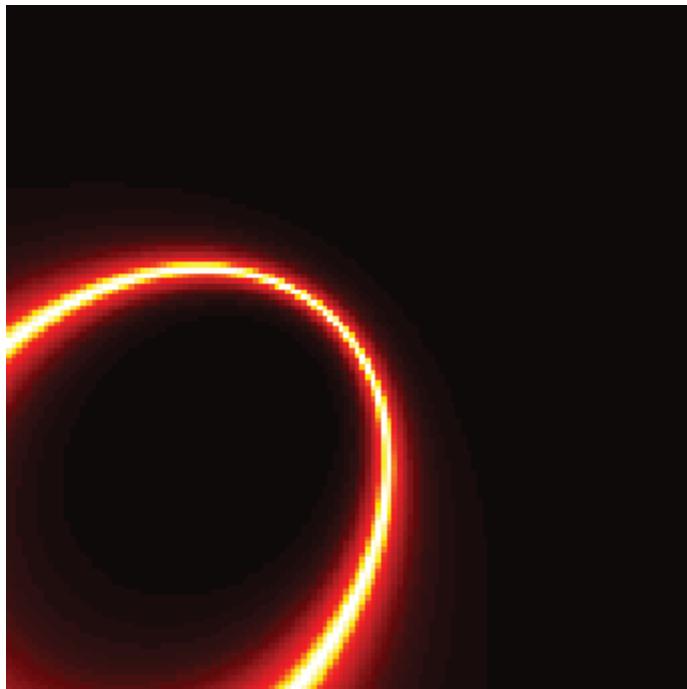


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$$\cos(\theta) = 1 + m_0 c^2 \left(\frac{1}{E_\gamma} - \frac{1}{E_\gamma - E_1} \right)$$

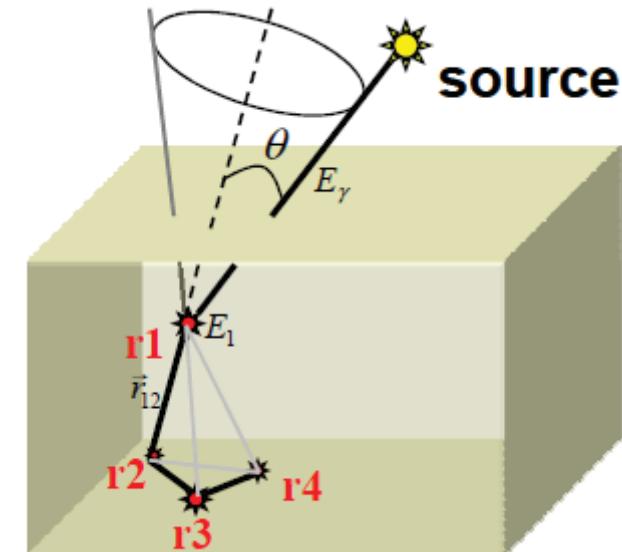
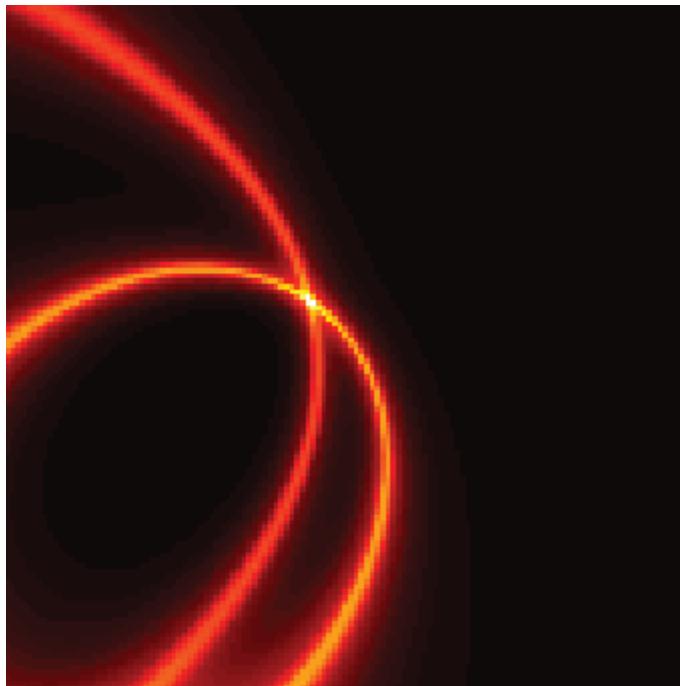


Applications: Compton Imaging



- Event-by-event reconstruction of scattered gamma rays

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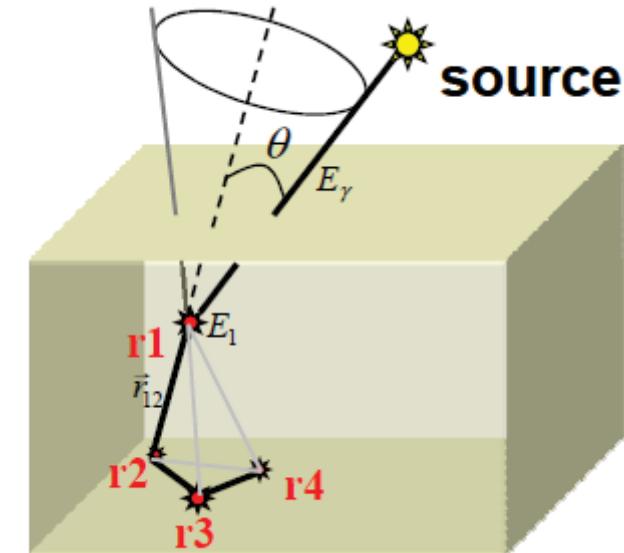
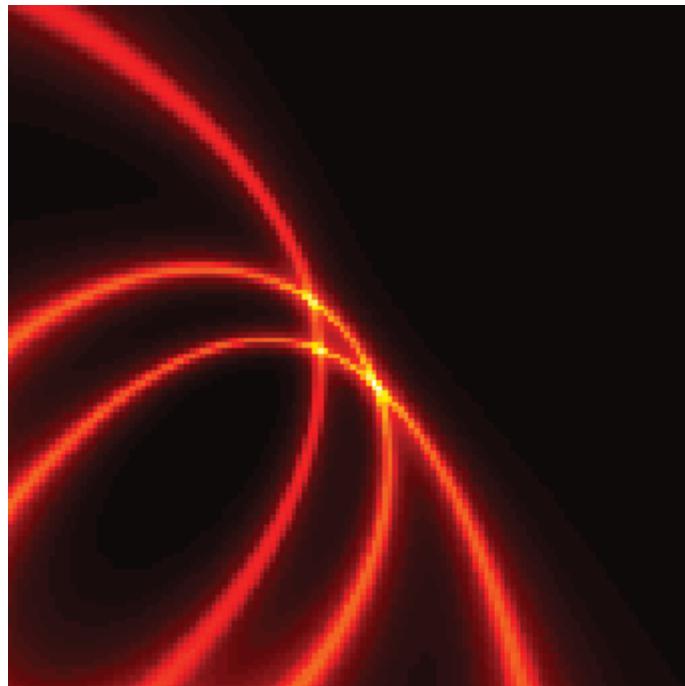


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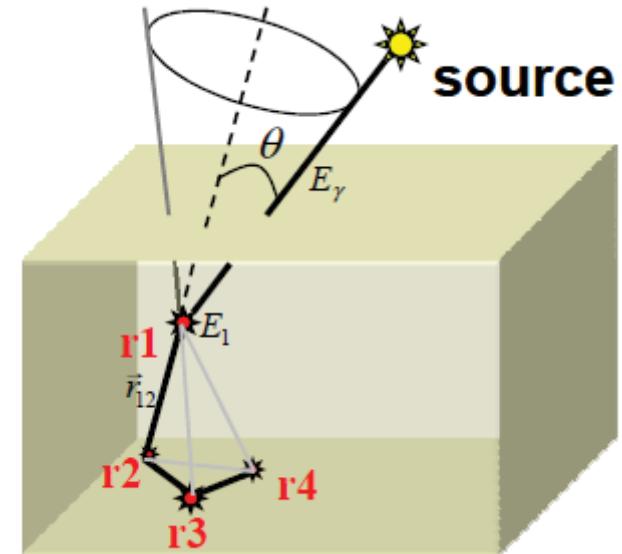
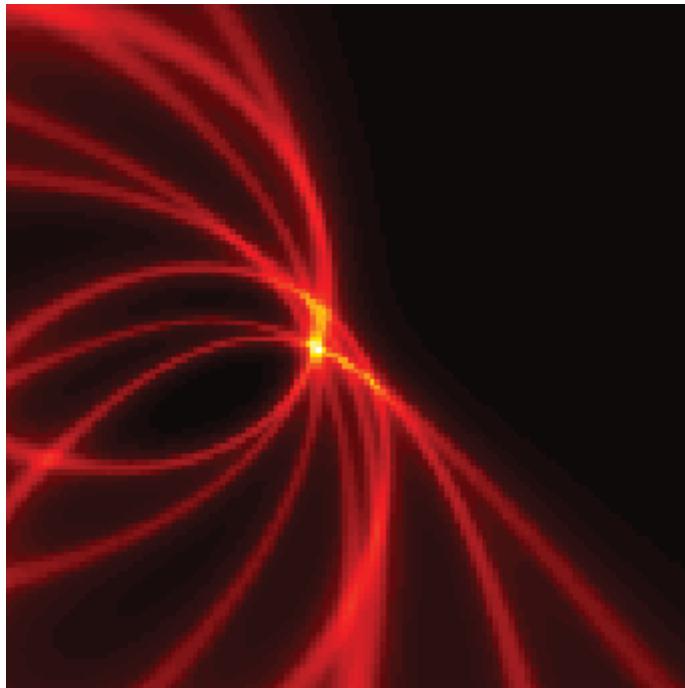


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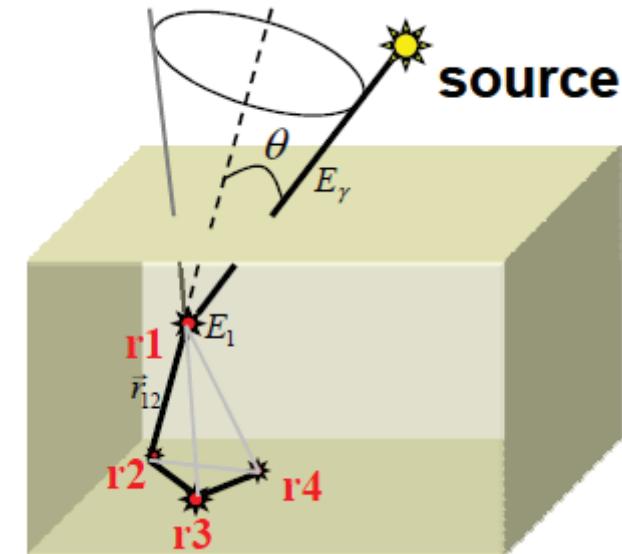
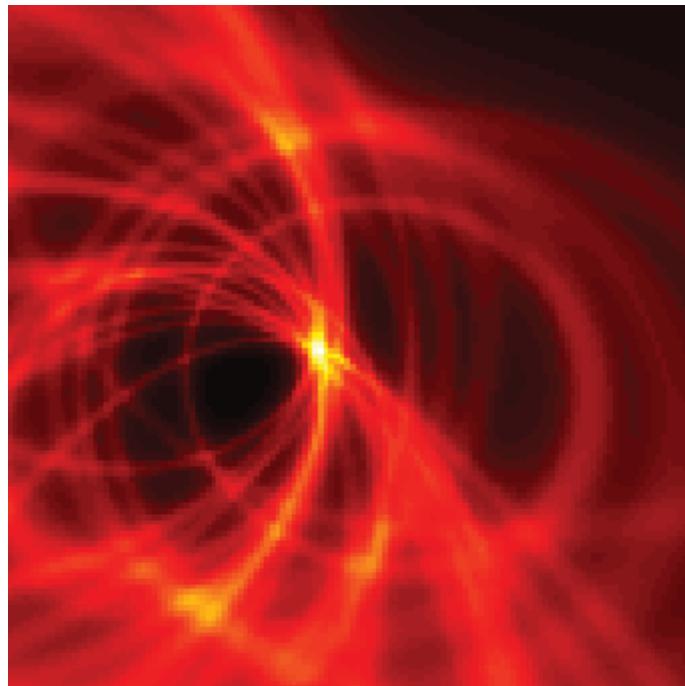


Applications: Compton Imaging



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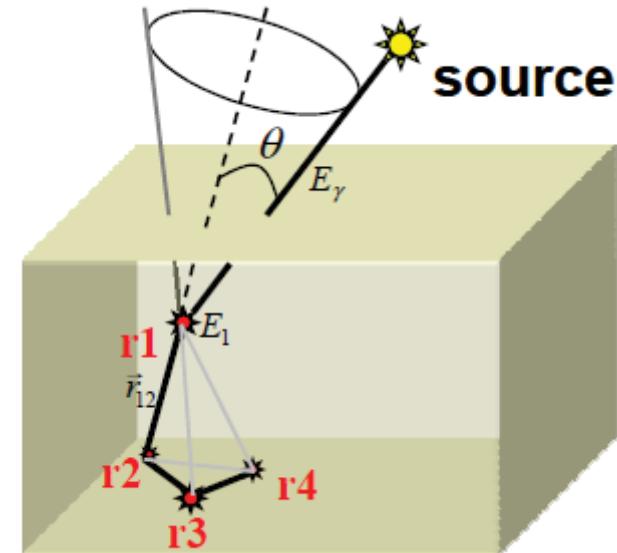
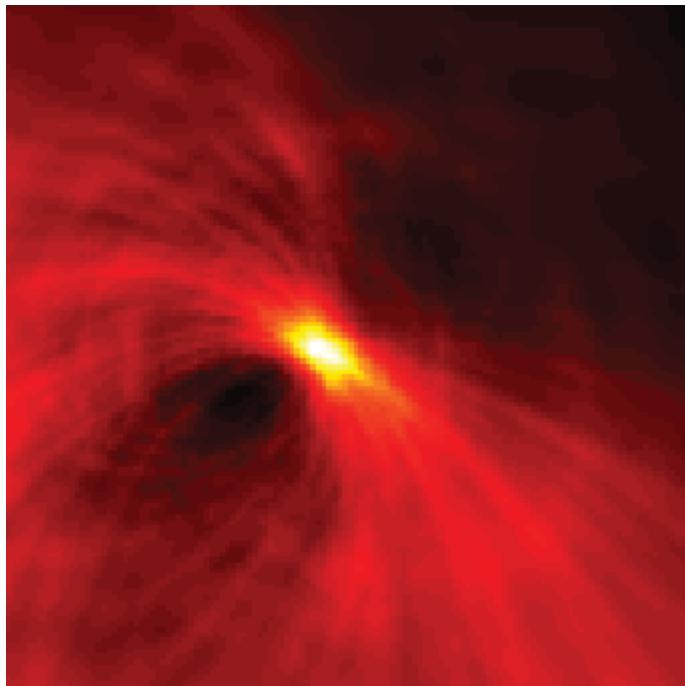


Applications: Compton Imaging



- Event-by-event reconstruction of scattered gamma rays

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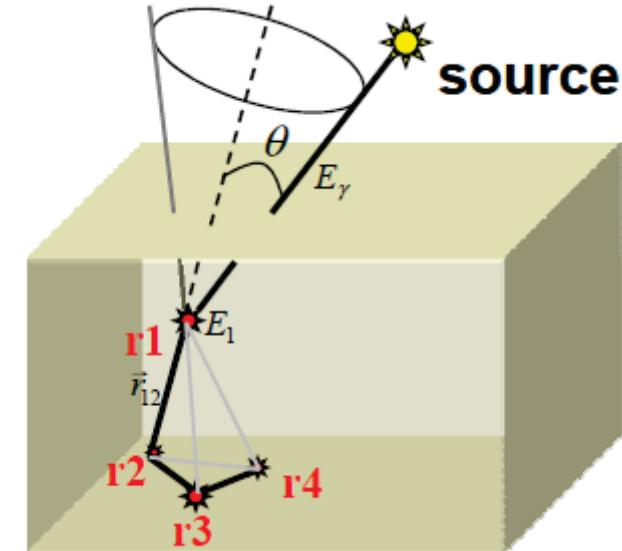
Applications: Compton Imaging



- Event-by-event reconstruction of scattered gamma rays

$$\cos(\theta) = 1 + m_0 c^2 \left(\frac{1}{E_\gamma} - \frac{1}{E_\gamma - E_1} \right)$$

- Potential for high sensitivity, high specificity imaging
- Applications in security, medicine, monitoring etc.
- Fusion with contextual data



Sources of Reconstruction Error:

- Position resolution (axis)
- Energy resolution (angle)
- Doppler broadening (angle)
- Incorrect sequencing (direction)

Applications: Compton Imaging



Courtesy of Lucian Mihalescu, LBNL

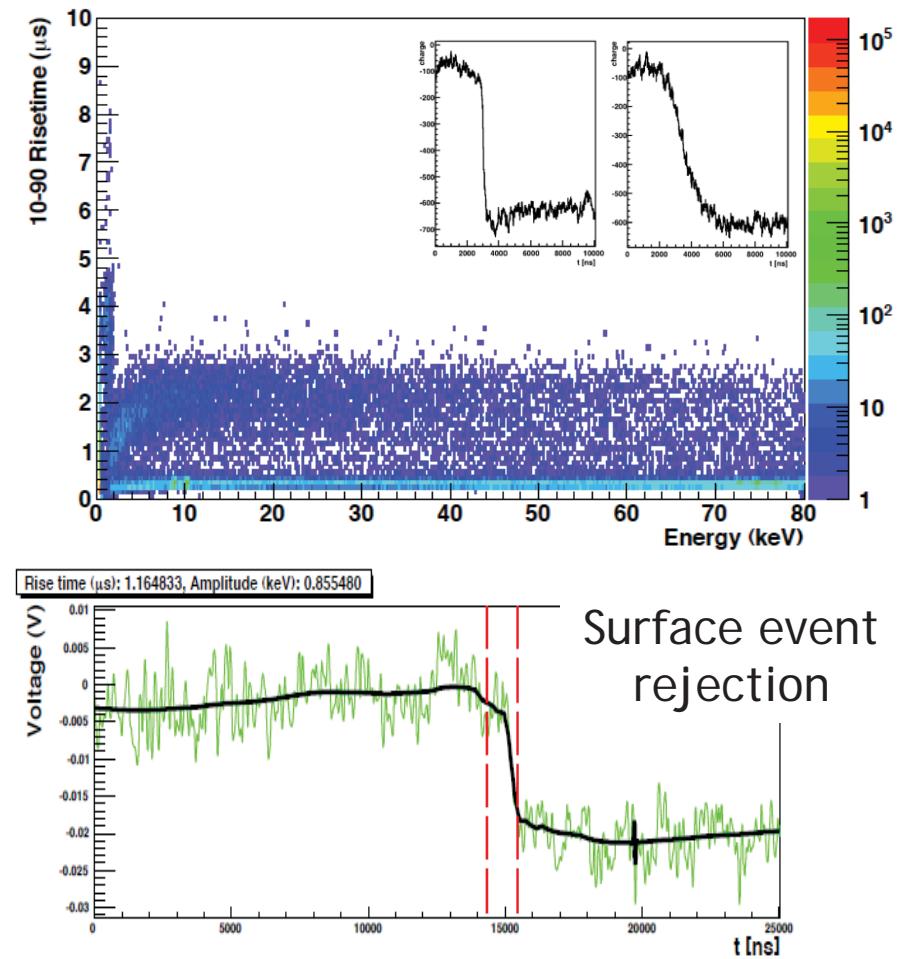
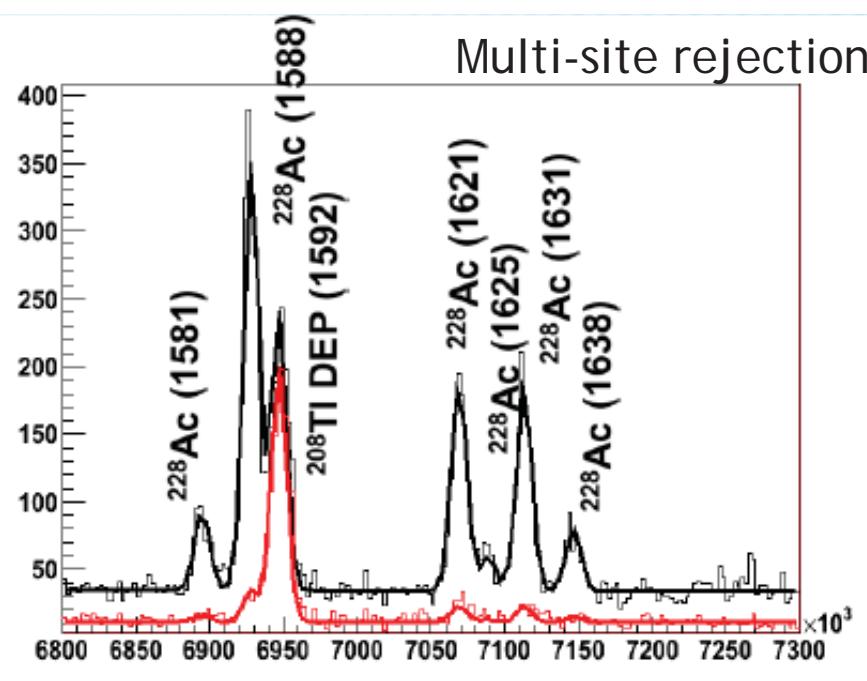


Applications: Low Background Counting



Noise suppression and ‘background’ rejection

- Maximise energy resolution, peak-to-background, and threshold
- Counting environmental samples
- Rare-event physics





The Abdus Salam
International Centre
for Theoretical Physics



Digital Gamma-Ray Spectroscopy

Joint ICTP-IAEA Workshop on Advances in Digital Spectroscopy
May 7th 2013

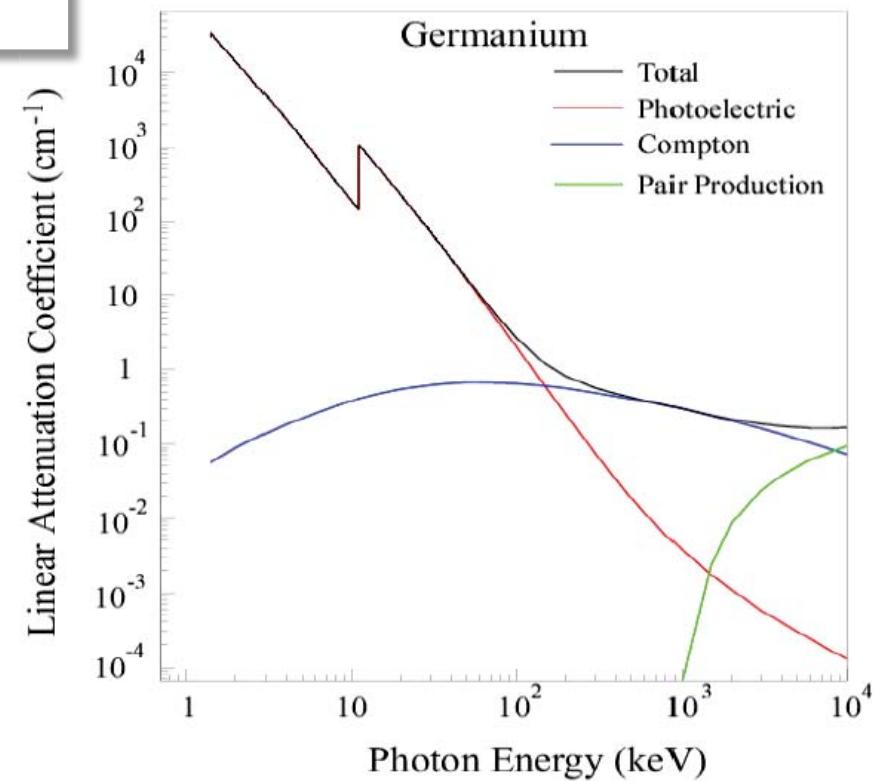
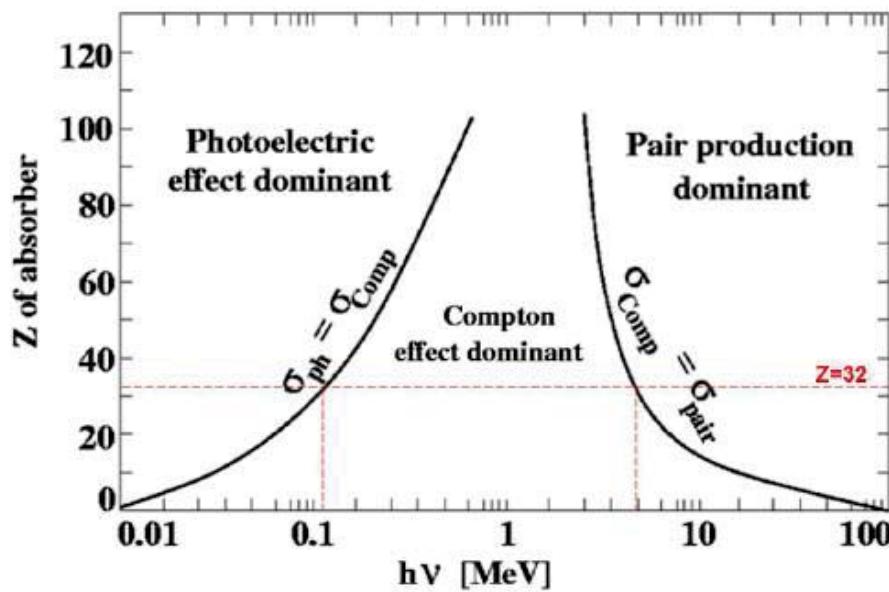


Ren Cooper

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, USA

Gamma-Ray Detection: How?

- Photoelectric Absorption $\sim \frac{Z^{4-5}}{E^{3.5}}$
- Compton Scattering $\sim \frac{Z}{E}$
- Pair Production $\sim Z^2$



Solid State Gamma-Ray Detectors



- Scintillators and Semiconductors

Scintillation detectors usually have:

- Poorer energy resolution
- Higher density
- Higher Z
- Fast timing



High efficiency

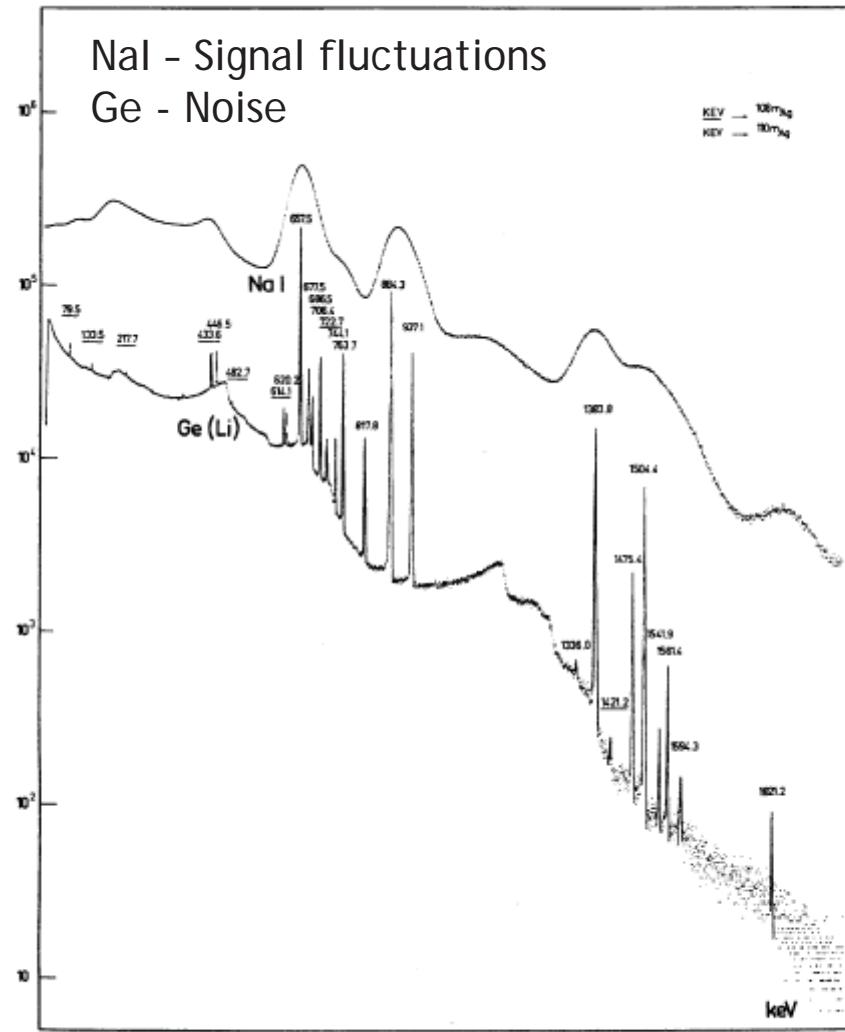
Semiconductor detectors usually have:

- Better energy resolution
- Lower efficiency and “peak-to-total”

And...

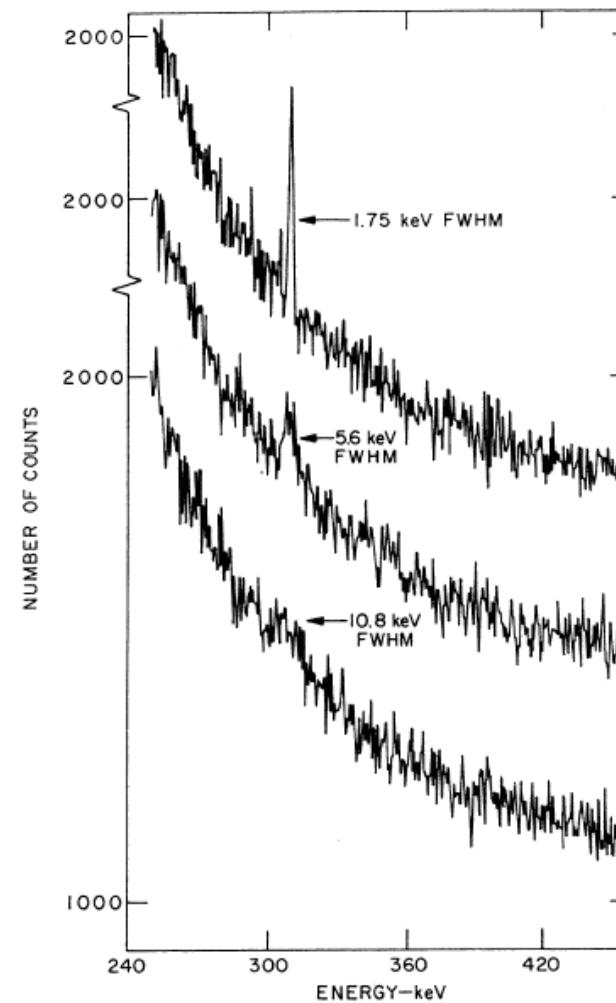
- May be hard to make into big crystals
- May require cooling

Gamma-Ray Spectroscopy



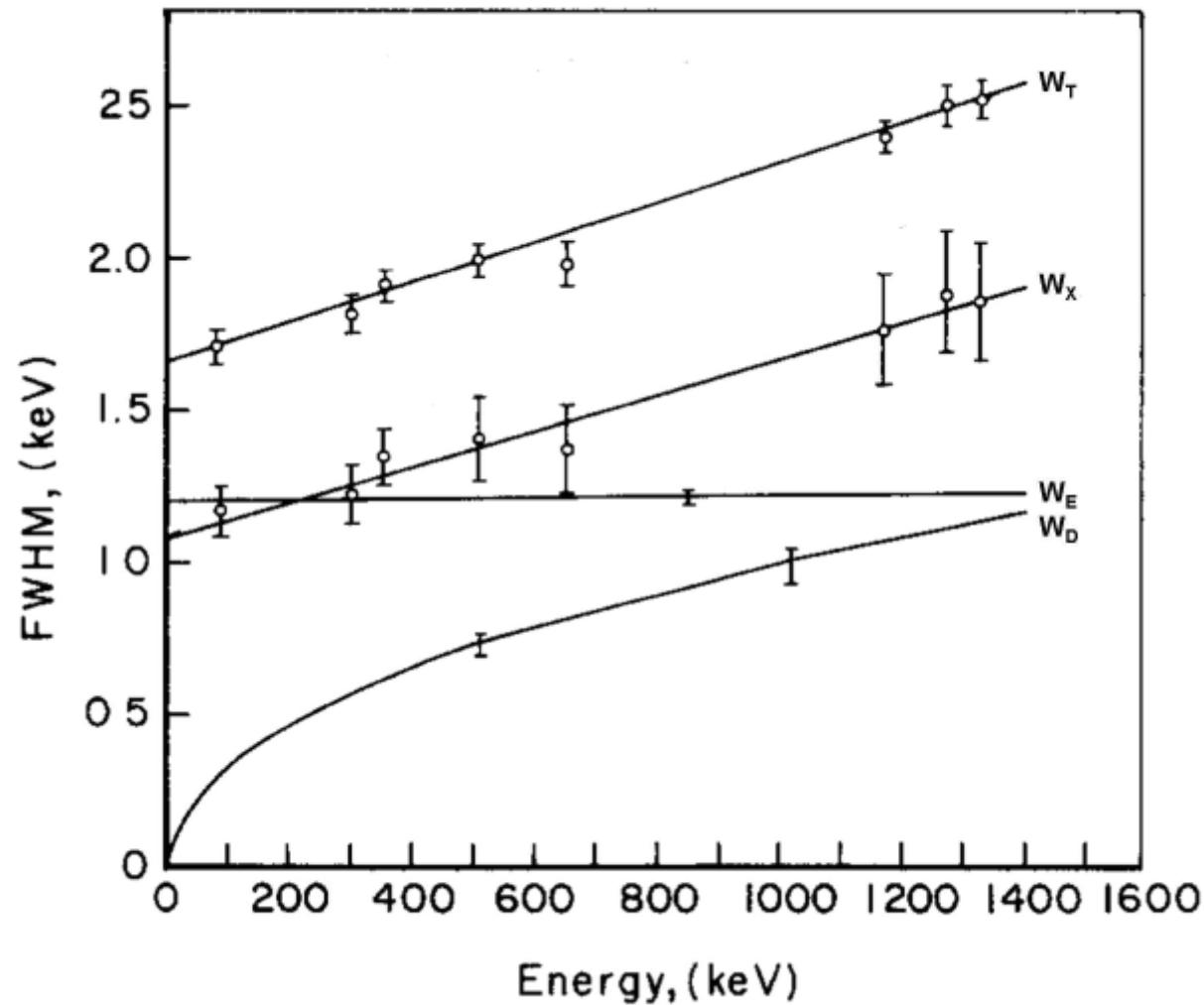
(J.C. Philippet, IEEE Trans. Nucl. Sci. NS-17/3 (1970) 446)

Signal-to-background/Signal-to-noise

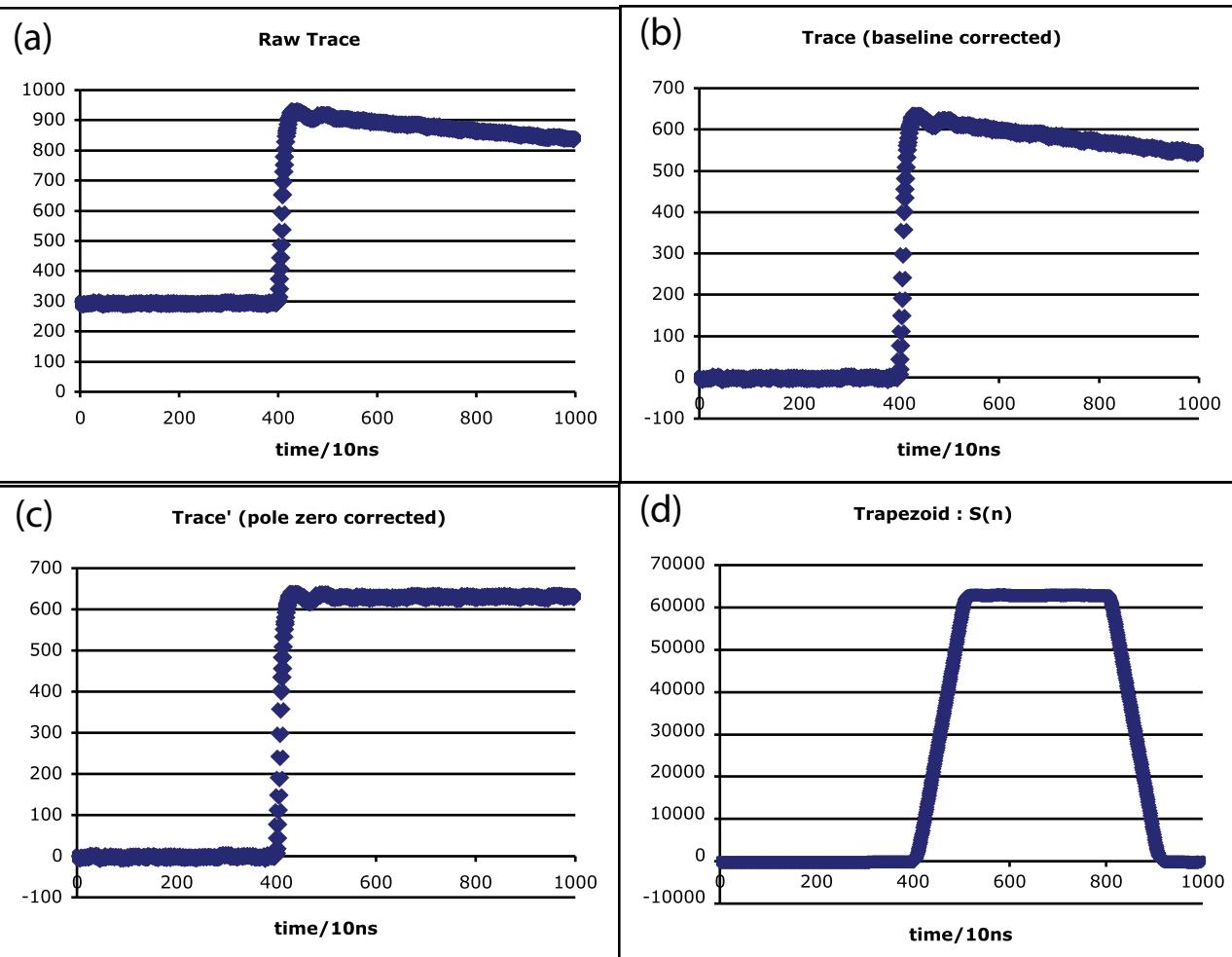


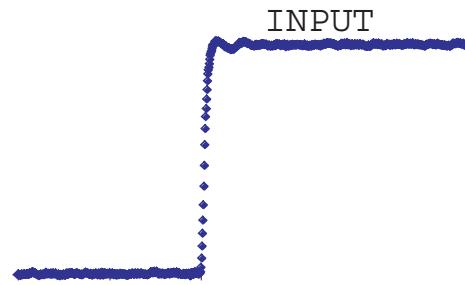
G.A. Armantrout, et al., IEEE Trans. Nucl. Sci. NS-19/1 (1972) 107

Energy Resolution



“Radiation Detection and Measurement”, Glenn Knoll





TRAPEZOID FILTER

