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MCNP6 CHARACTERIZATION OF NEUTRON DETECTABILITY OF HIGHLY ENRICHED URANIUM

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Nuclear Engineering & Nonproliferation Division

2015 ANS Annual Meeting

San Antonio, Texas

June 7-11, 2015

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OUTLINE

- **Introduction**
 - Motivation
 - ROC curves
- **MCNP6 Model**
 - Detector model
 - HEU
 - Source & normalization
 - Parameter variations
- **Results**
- **Conclusions/Future Work**

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INTRODUCTION – Motivation

- **How do we detect SNM?**
 - active and passive interrogation
 - radiation detectors
 - ^3He neutron detector
- **How do we quantify our ability to detect SNM?**
 - count rate, energy spectrum, pulse shape, etc.
 - binary classification (TP, FP, TN, FN)
 - ROC curves
- **How do we provide a real-time cost/benefit analysis?**
 - parametrize data to inform algorithms

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INTRODUCTION – ROC Curves

- **Radar Receiver Operator Characteristic (1940s)**
- **Binary classification test**
 - true positives vs. false positives
 - e.g. planes vs. birds
- **Employed in numerous areas: psychology (1950s), radiology(1960), medicine (1970s), climatology (1980s), etc.**



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Slide 4

INTRODUCTION – ROC Curves

$P_0(T)$ = count distribution of background (PDF)

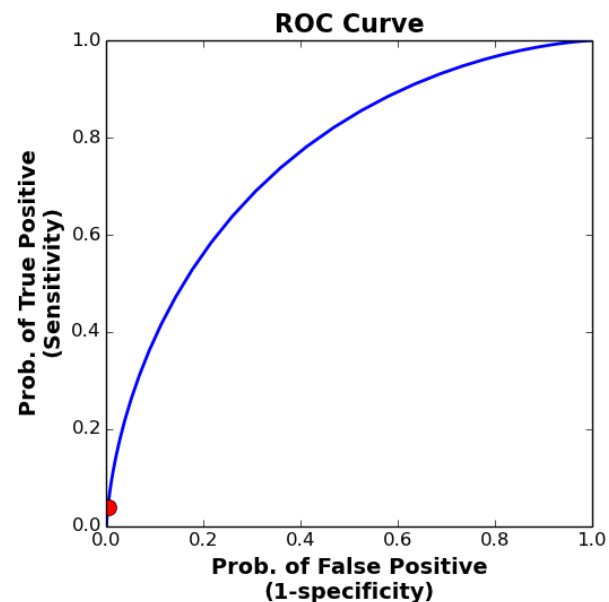
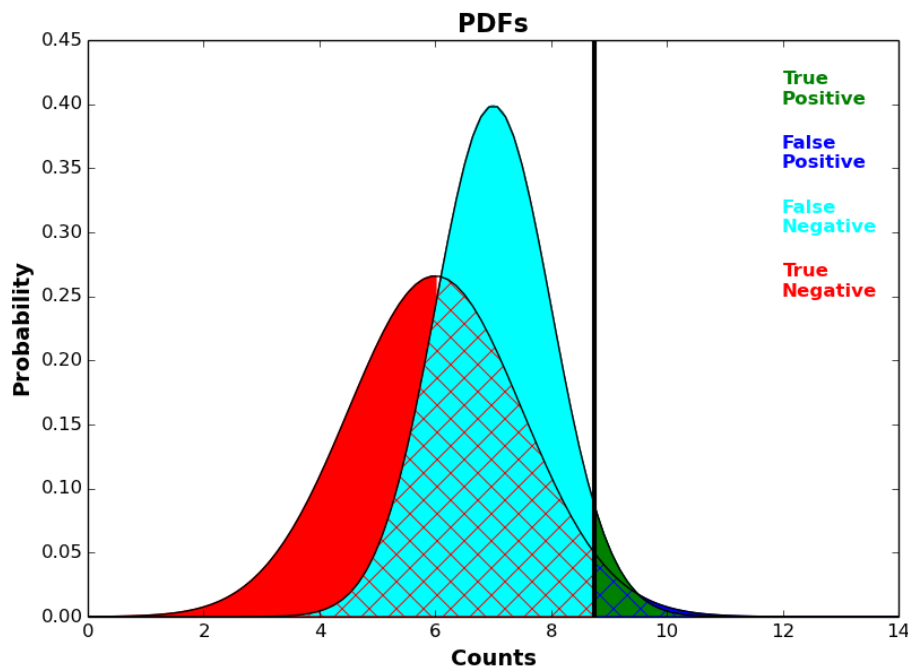
$P_1(T)$ = count distribution of signal + background (PDF)

- Sensitivity = True positive rate = $\int_T^{\infty} P_1(T)dT$
 - Sensitivity = Probability of Detection
- Specificity = False positive rate = $\int_T^{\infty} P_0(T)dT$
 - (1 – Specificity) = Probability of False Alarm
- ROC Plot
 - X-axis = (1 – Specificity)
 - Y-axis = Sensitivity

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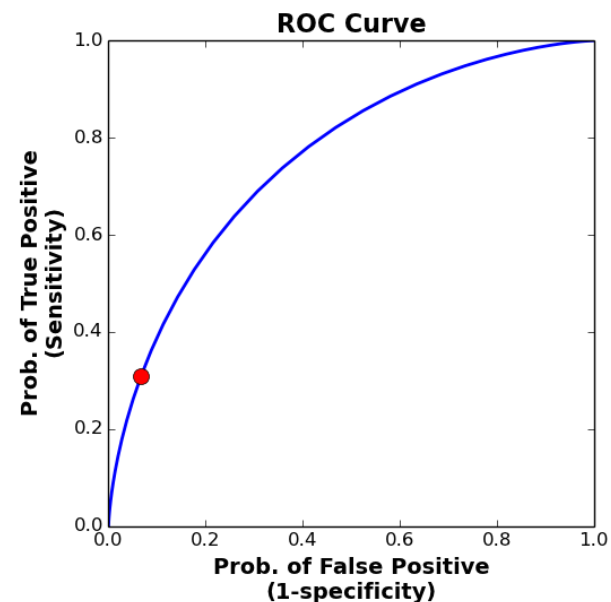
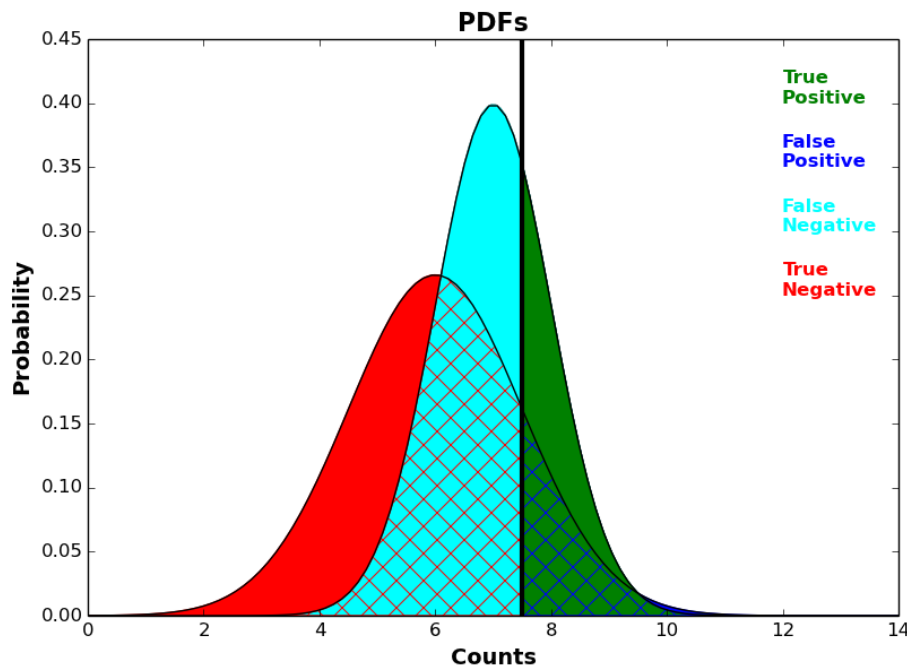
Slide 5

ROC CURVE – Sensitivity << Specificity



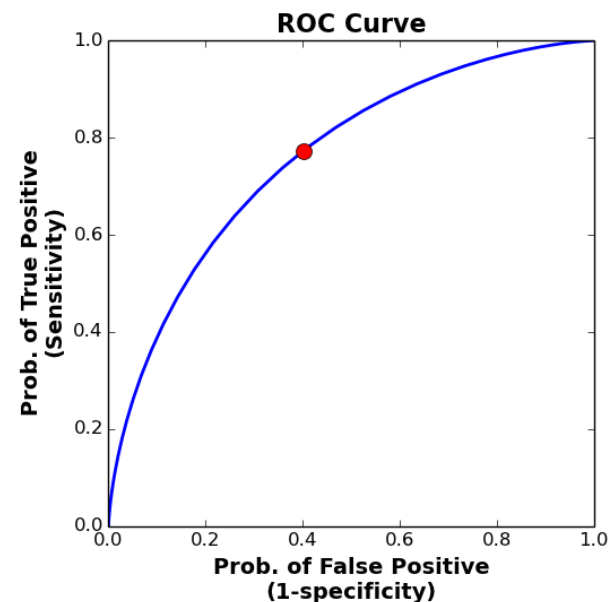
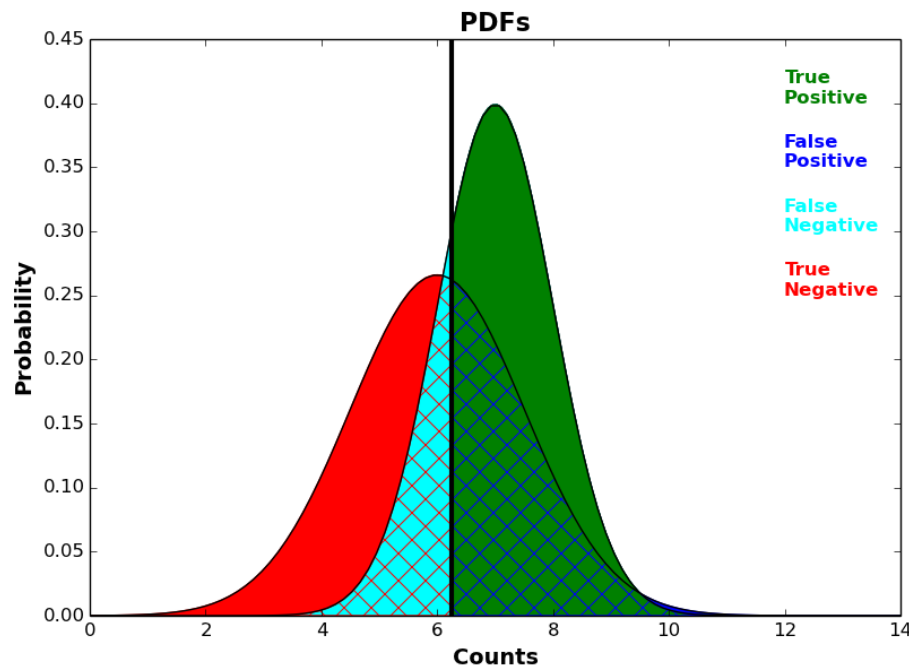
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ROC CURVE – Sensitivity < Specificity



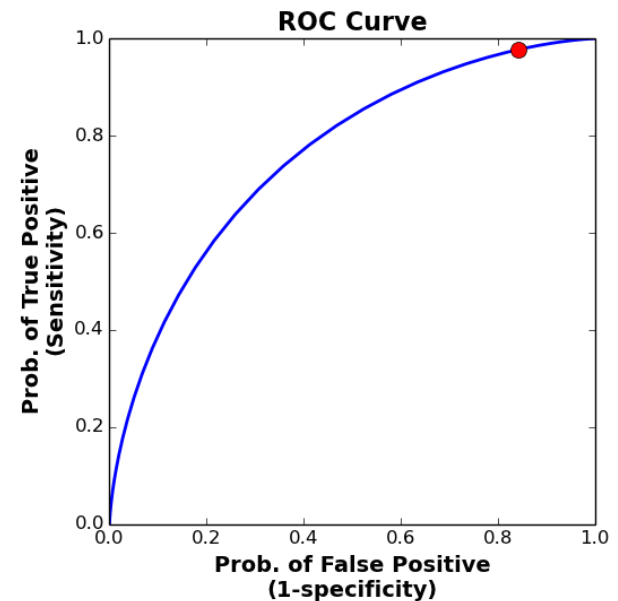
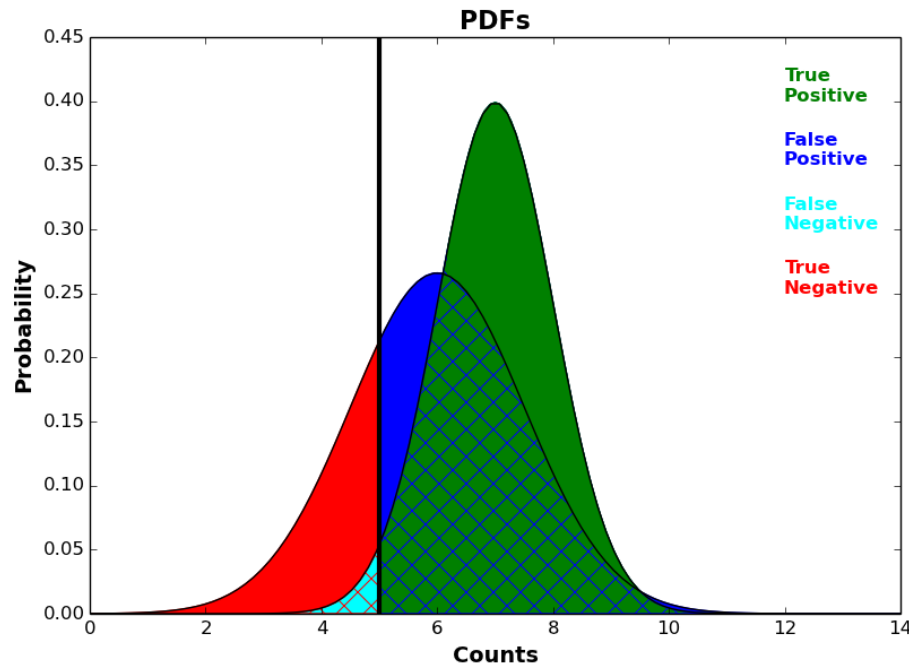
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ROC CURVE – Sensitivity > Specificity



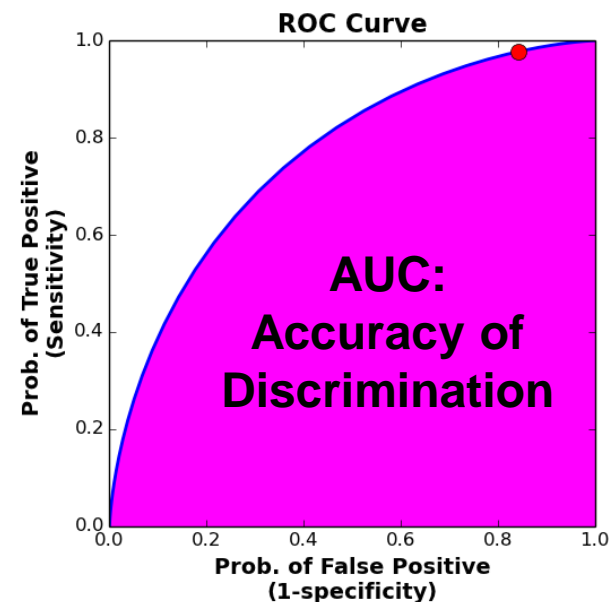
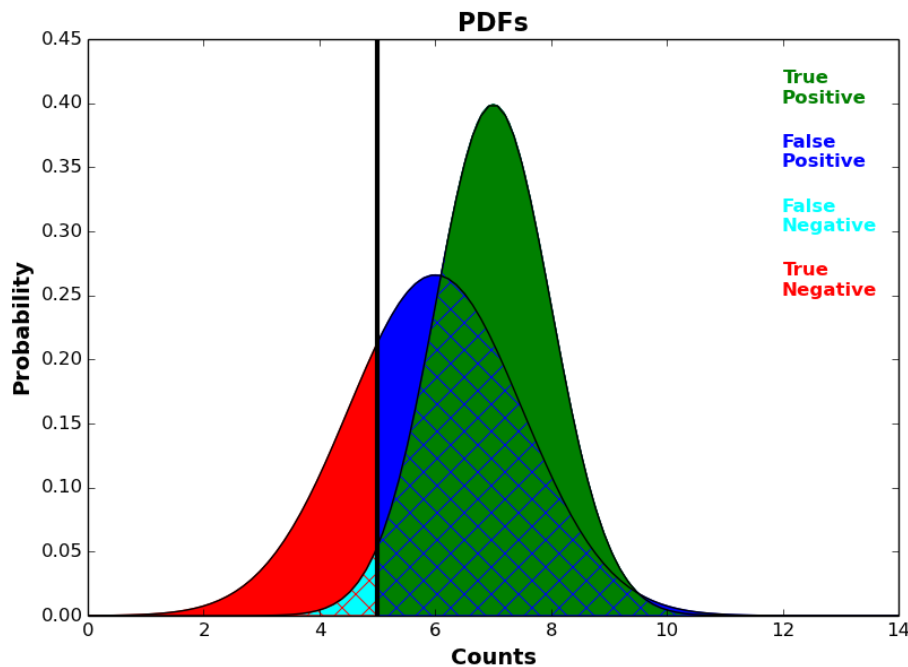
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ROC CURVE – Sensitivity >> Specificity



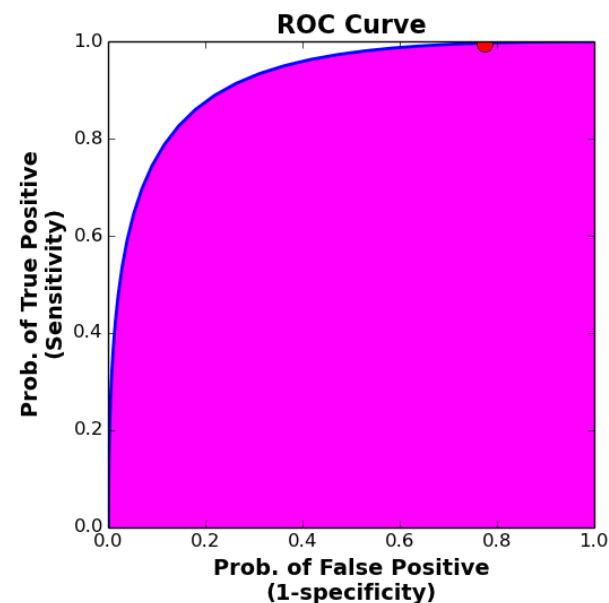
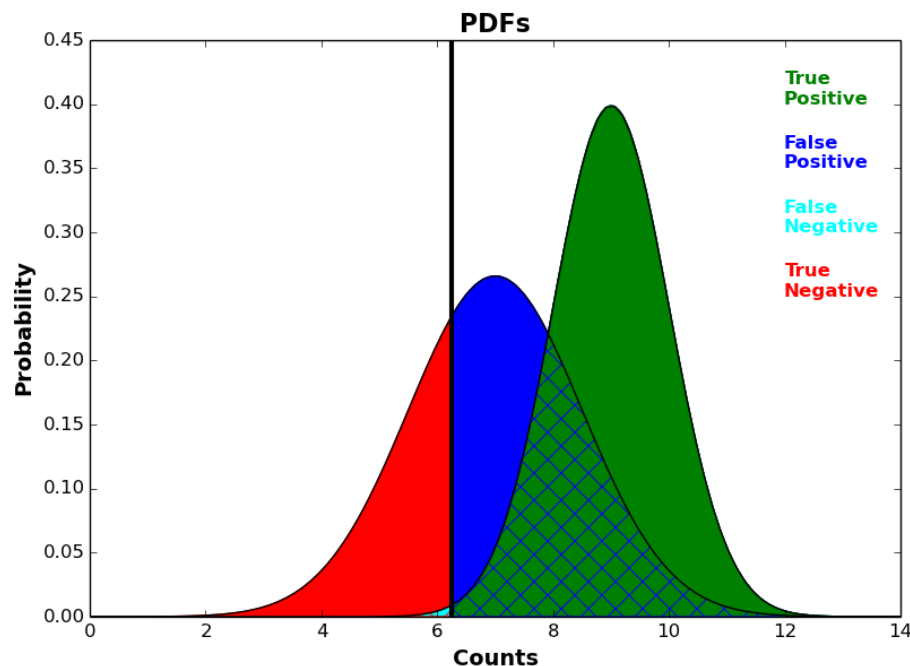
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ROC CURVE – Sensitivity >> Specificity



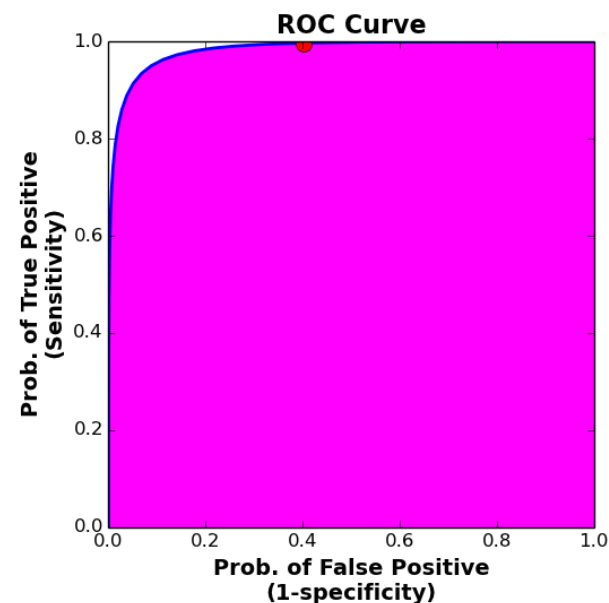
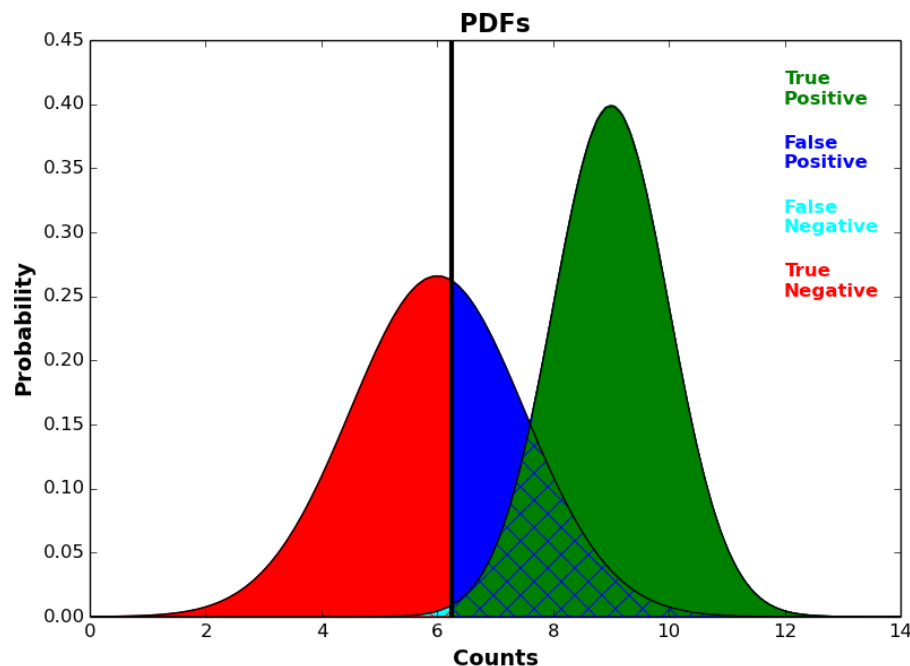
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ROC CURVE – Better Detector



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ROC CURVE – Better Shielding

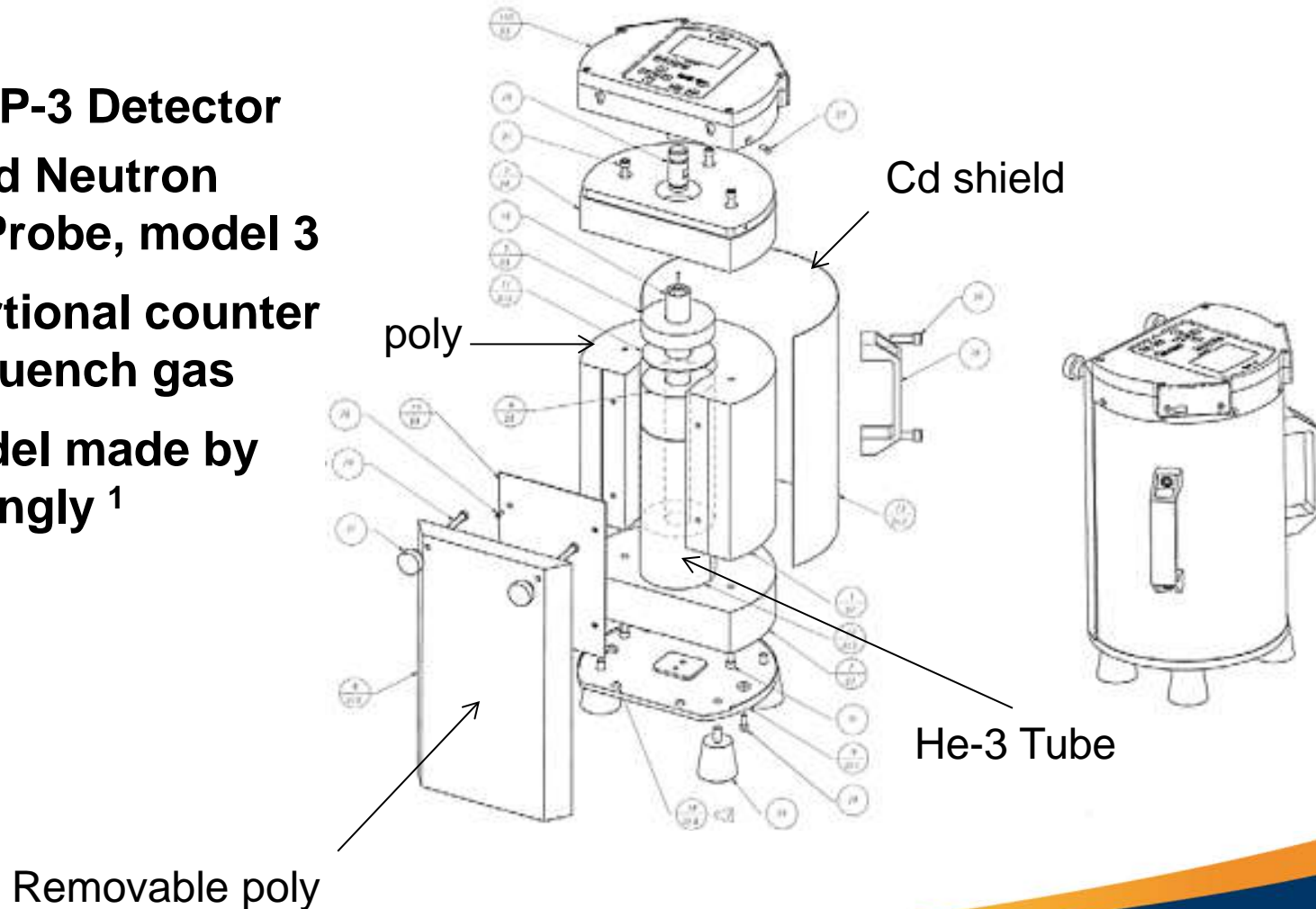


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Slide 12

MCNP6 MODEL - Detector Model

- LANL SNAP-3 Detector
 - Shielded Neutron Assay Probe, model 3
- ^3He proportional counter with CO_2 quench gas
- MCNP model made by John Mattingly ¹



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MCNP6 MODEL – HEU Isotopics

- HEU modeled after Godiva IV delayed-critical experiments performed by Russell D. Mosteller²
- 98.5 wt% uranium
- 1.5 wt% molybdenum
- $\rho = 19.05 \text{ g/cm}^3$

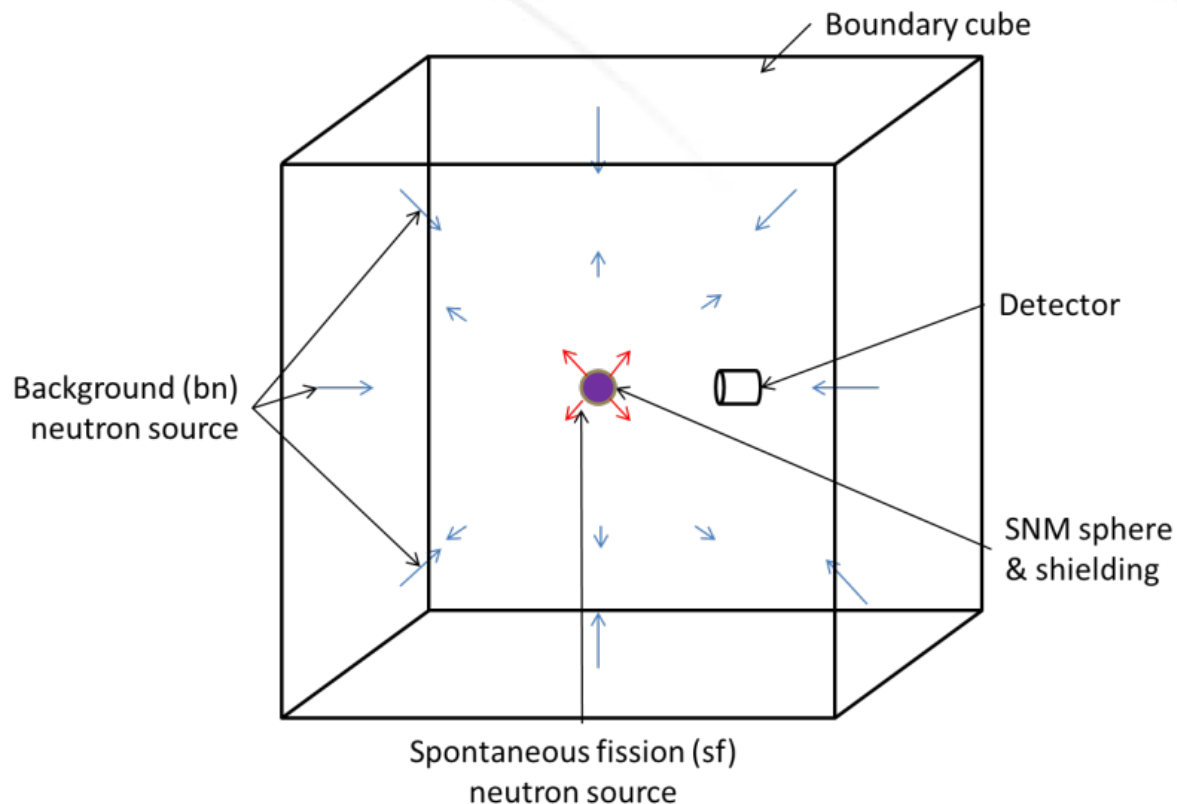
Isotope	Weight Fraction
⁹² Mo	0.0022260
⁹⁴ Mo	0.0013875
⁹⁵ Mo	0.0023880
⁹⁶ Mo	0.0025020
⁹⁷ Mo	0.0014325
⁹⁸ Mo	0.0036195
¹⁰⁰ Mo	0.0014445
²³³ U	0.0001266
²³⁴ U	0.0105958
²³⁵ U	0.9178510
²³⁶ U	0.0066558
²³⁸ U	0.0497706

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Slide 14

MCNP6 MODEL – Source

- Simplified geometry
 - HEU sphere
 - Shielding
 - Ambient air
- Sources
 - Spontaneous fission neutrons
 - Cosmic background neutrons

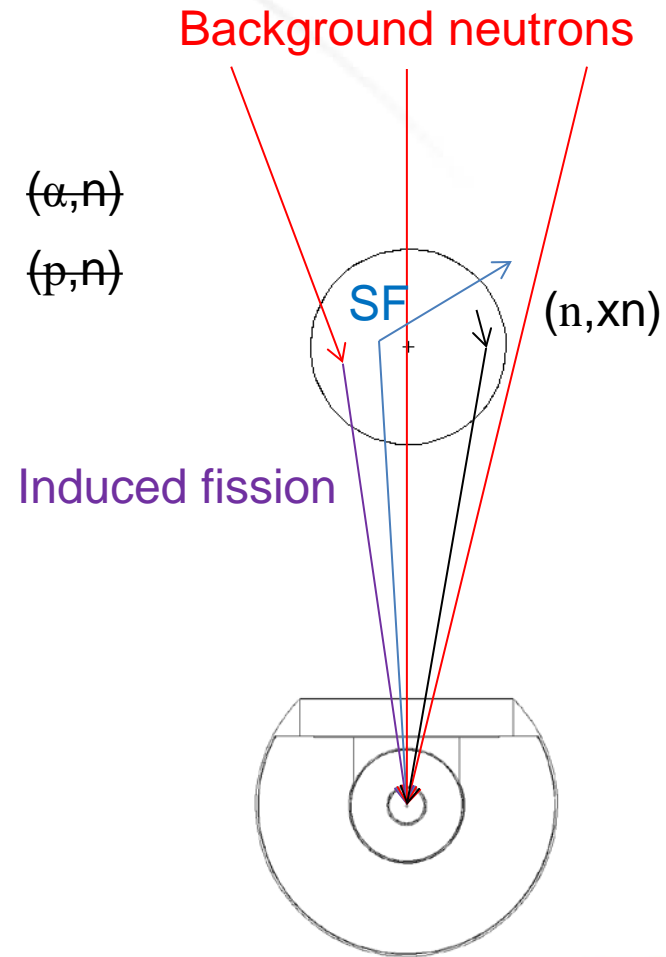


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Slide 15

MCNP6 MODEL – Source

- Simplified geometry
 - HEU sphere
 - Shielding
 - Ambient air
- Sources
 - Spontaneous fission neutrons
 - Cosmic background neutrons



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MCNP6 MODEL – Normalization

$$\mathbf{BN} = \frac{(A_s) I_{flux} T}{3.7} = \frac{6(2000 \text{ cm})^2}{3.7} \left(0.015449 \frac{n}{\text{cm}^2 s} \right) (1000 \text{ s})$$

$$\mathbf{SF} = \sum_i Act_i * SFBR_i * T$$

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Slide 17

MCNP6 MODEL – Normalization

$$BN = \frac{(A_s) I_{flux} T}{3.7} = \frac{6(\textcolor{red}{2000} \text{ cm})^2}{3.7} \left(0.015449 \frac{n}{\text{cm}^2 s} \right) (1000 \text{ s})$$

Surf. Cards { 5 rpp -1000 1000 -1000 1000 -1000 1000

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Slide 18

MCNP6 MODEL – Normalization

SNLL measured data

$$BN = \frac{(A_s) I_{flux} T}{3.7} = \frac{6(2000 \text{ cm})^2}{3.7} \left(0.015449 \frac{n}{\text{cm}^2 \text{ s}} \right) (1000 \text{ s}) = 100,212,324$$

Data Cards { sdef par=-bn loc= 37.7 -122.7 0.196

background.dat { flux (n/cm2/s) 38.0 -120.0 1.69514 330 09/01/2013
4.75779E-02
1.32219E-02

Automatic elevation scaling factor 0.2779

Elevation scaling, see:
MCNP6 Elevation Scaling of
Cosmic Ray Backgrounds, LA-UR-
14-21331

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Slide 19

MCNP6 MODEL – Normalization

$$SF = \sum_i Act_i * SFBR_i * T$$

Act_i can be found in print table 44 or easily calculated

cinder.dat { #3209: 2340920 U 234 H-L= 7.7535E+12 DKref:e .
Eb= 1.2300E-02, Eg= 1.6100E-03, Ea= 4.8419E+00, SFBF= 1.7300E-11

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MCNP6 MODEL – Normalization

$$\text{NHB} = (\text{BN} + \text{SF})$$

HEU [kg]	5	10	20	30	40
SF	2,039	4,077	8,154	12,231	16,308
BN	100,212,324	100,212,324	100,212,324	100,212,324	100,212,324
NHB	100,214,363	100,216,401	100,220,478	100,224,555	100,228,632

$$\text{NPS} = \text{NHB} * 1000 \text{ batches}$$

FTn ROC NHB m

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MCNP6 MODEL – Parameter variation

Parameter	Values				
HEU Mass [kg]	5	10	20	30	40
Detector Distance [cm]	50	100	200	300	400
Shield Thickness [g/cm ²]	1	5	10	15	
Shield Material	Pb	Fe	H ₂ O		

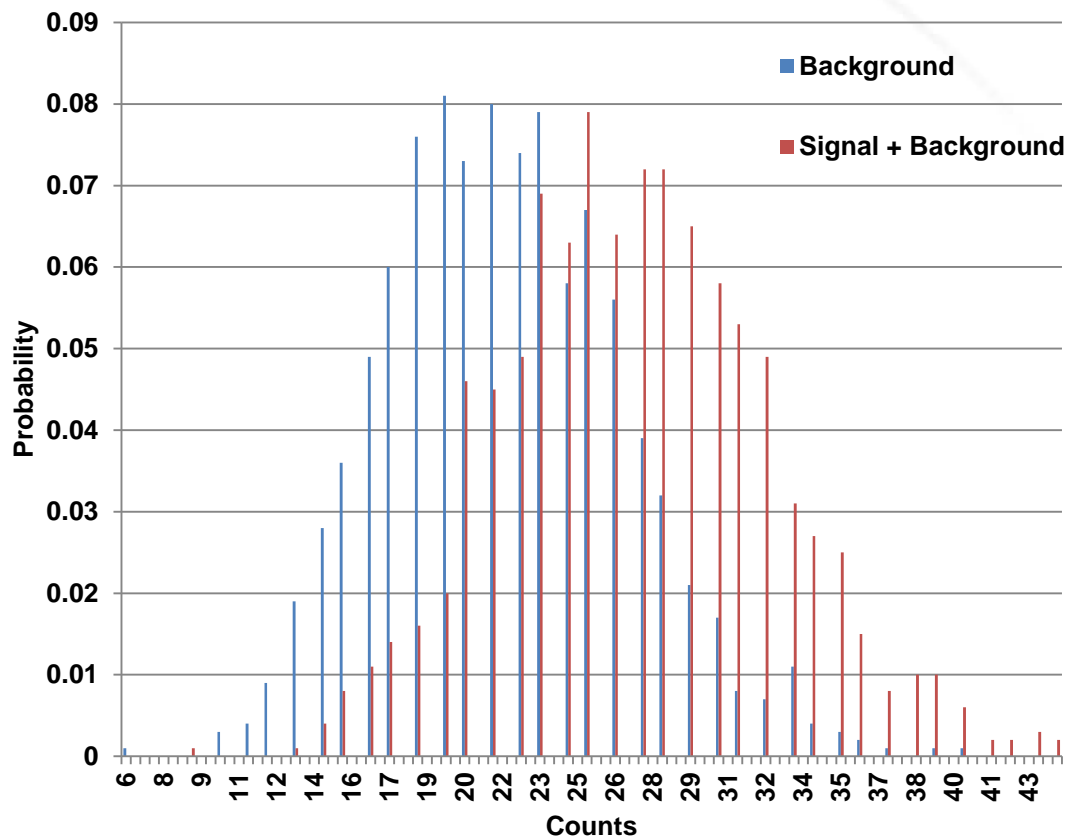
300 parameter combinations (35 too close to critical to simulate)

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Slide 22

RESULTS

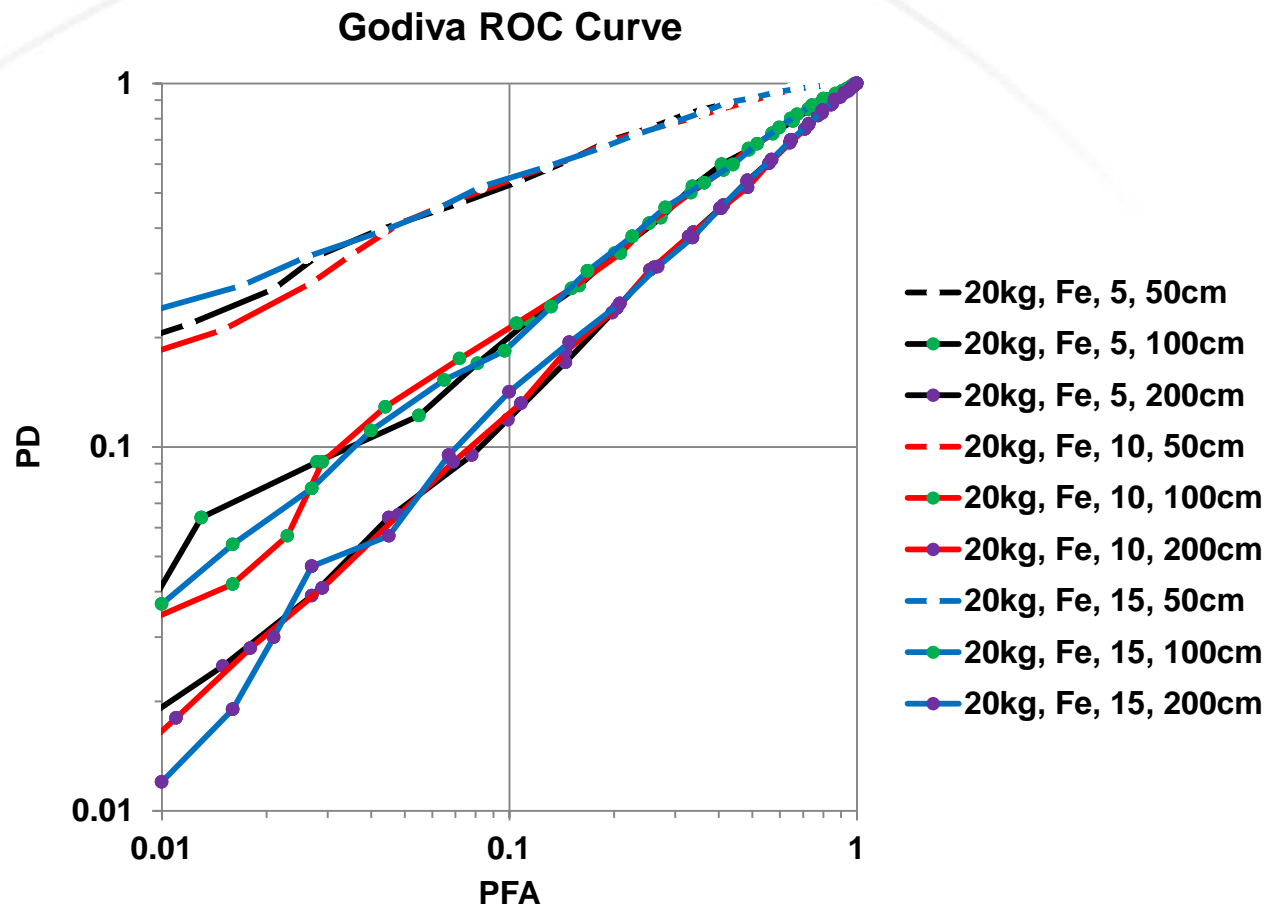
30 kg HEU with 10 g/cm² Fe at 100 cm



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Slide 23

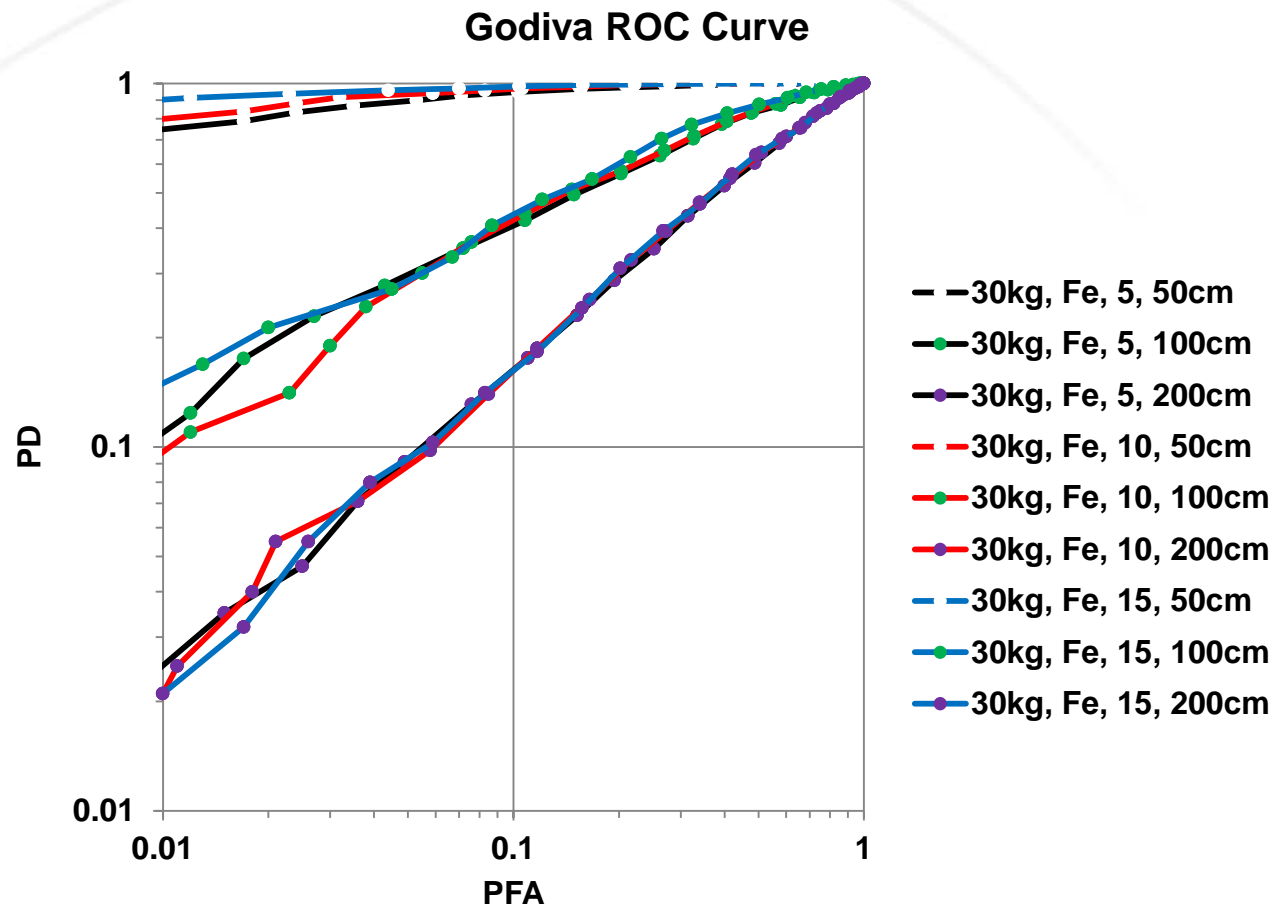
RESULTS



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Slide 24

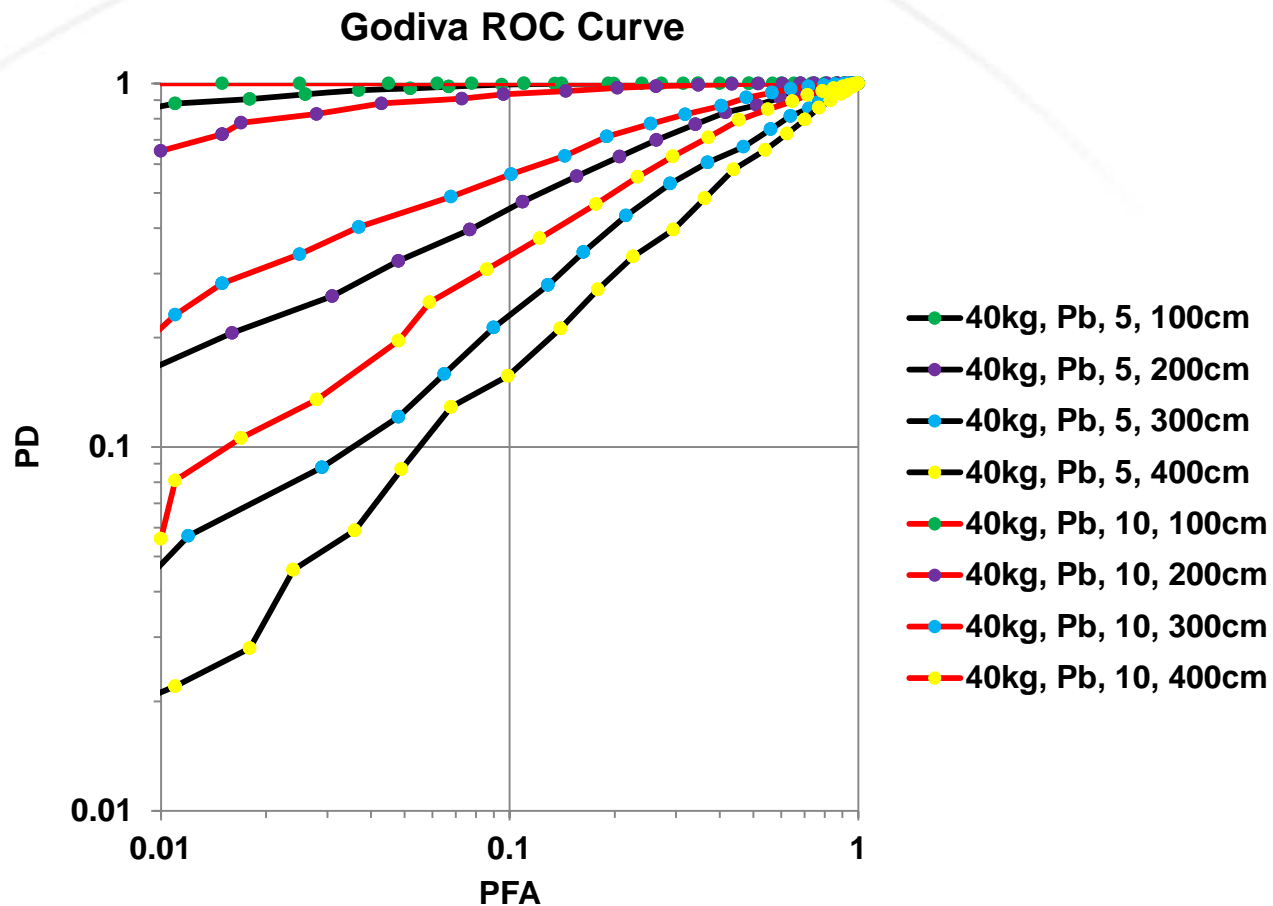
RESULTS



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Slide 25

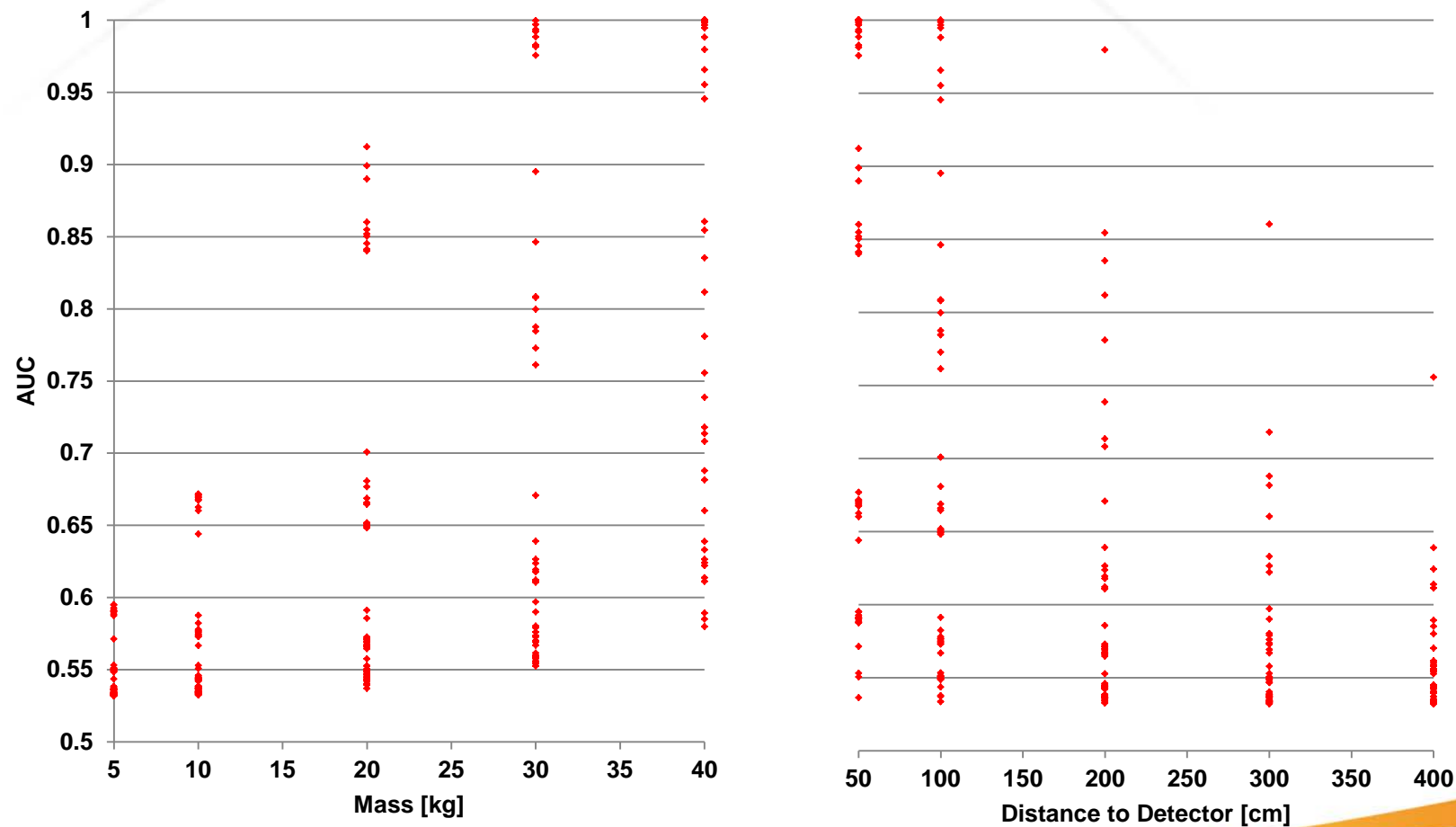
RESULTS



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Slide 26

RESULTS



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Slide 27

CONCLUSIONS/FUTURE WORK

- The FT ROC feature of MCNP6 along with new tagging features has been used to perform an initial parameter study of the neutron detectability of a specific HEU composition.
- A similar photon study is currently being performed
 - *IEEE 2015 Nuclear Science Symposium and Medical Imaging Conference*, San Diego, California, USA, October 31 – November 7, 2015.
- Once these initial simulations are completed a full suite of parameters (SNM, enrichment, detectors, etc.) will be run and the results will populate a parametrized database.

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Slide 28

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- [1] J. MATTINGLY, “Polyethylene-Reflected Plutonium Metal Sphere: Subcritical Neutron and Gamma Measurements,” SNL report SAND2009-5804 rev. 1 (2009)
- [2] R.D. MOSTELLER, “Godiva-IV Delayed-Critical Experiments and Description of an Associated Prompt-Burst Experiment,” NEA/NSC/DOC (95)03/II

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MCNP6 - Features

Description of feature keywords.

Keyword	Parameters	Description
FT PHL	$[n \ t_1 \ b_1 \ \dots]$ [det]	Allows n tallies to be added together to form the signal for a detector. Each pair of t_n and b_n correspond to the tally number and the TF bin it is to be placed. An optional built-in detector response function may also be used to convert deposited energy to charge or MeVee light yield.
FT SCX	k	The SCX special tally treatment allows the user to separate tally contributions based on the k source distribution bin that produced it (in this case BN, or SF)
FT FFT	[LKJI]	Allows the user to toggle (1/0) which physics packages will receive the FFT treatment. I = n induced f (library) J = p induced f (library) K = sf L = n and p induced f (models)

Description of feature keywords.

Keyword	Parameters	Description
FT ROC	nhb [m]	An associated TF card is used to separate tallies into two components, signal and noise. nhb determines the number of histories per batch and m is the maximum number of batches, (default = 100).
TF	$i_1 - i_{16}$	First 8 entries classify bin entries as signal + noise and the second 8 entries as noise.
CF	$c_1 \dots c_k$	Allows the user to separate tally contributions based on whether the particle history ever passed through (+ entry) or collided in (- entry) the listed cells. [NEW FEATURE]
PRDMP	ndp ndm mct ndmp dmmp	Since each batch is an independent count sample, the 2 nd entry (ndm) on the prdmp card must be the same as the number of histories per batch (ROC parameter nhb).

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Slide 30