



Office of Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation
Research and Development

University Program Review (UPR) 2017 Meeting

**Practical Implementation of a Zero Knowledge
Protocol for Warhead Verification**

NSSC – Nuclear Science & Security Consortium

June 6, 2017

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Implementation of a Zero Knowledge Protocol for Warhead Verification



- **Project: CONFIRMATION using a Fast-neutron Imaging Detector with Anti-image NULL-positive Time Encoding (CONFIDANTE)**
- **Goal: Implement and characterize a ZKP for warhead verification**
- **Peter Marleau, Sandia National Labs**
- **Rebecca Krentz-Wee, UC-Berkeley, NNSC**
- **Patricia Schuster, University of Michigan, CVT affiliate**

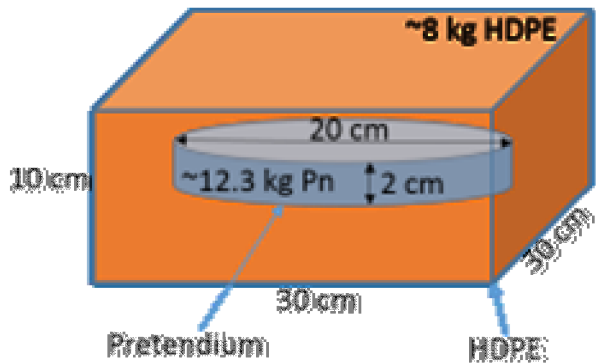


Challenge: Item Authentication & Certification



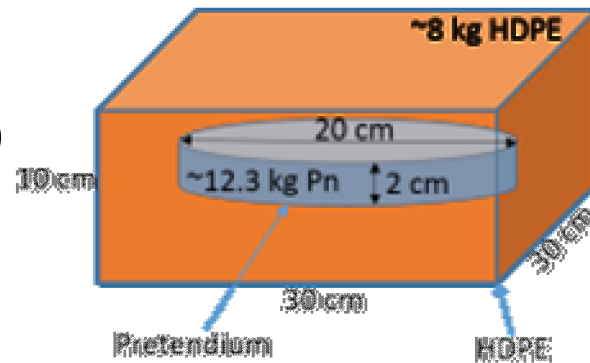
Authentication - the process by which a monitoring party gains confidence that reported characteristics of an entity reflect the true state of that entity

Certification – the process by which a host party gains confidence that sensitive information regarding an entity or facility remains secure.



**Object T = valid type
1 TAI**

= (?)



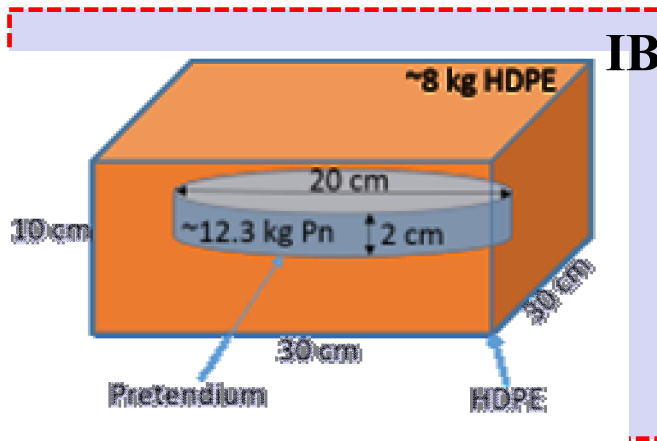
Object X = ?



Current Verification Methods: Attribute



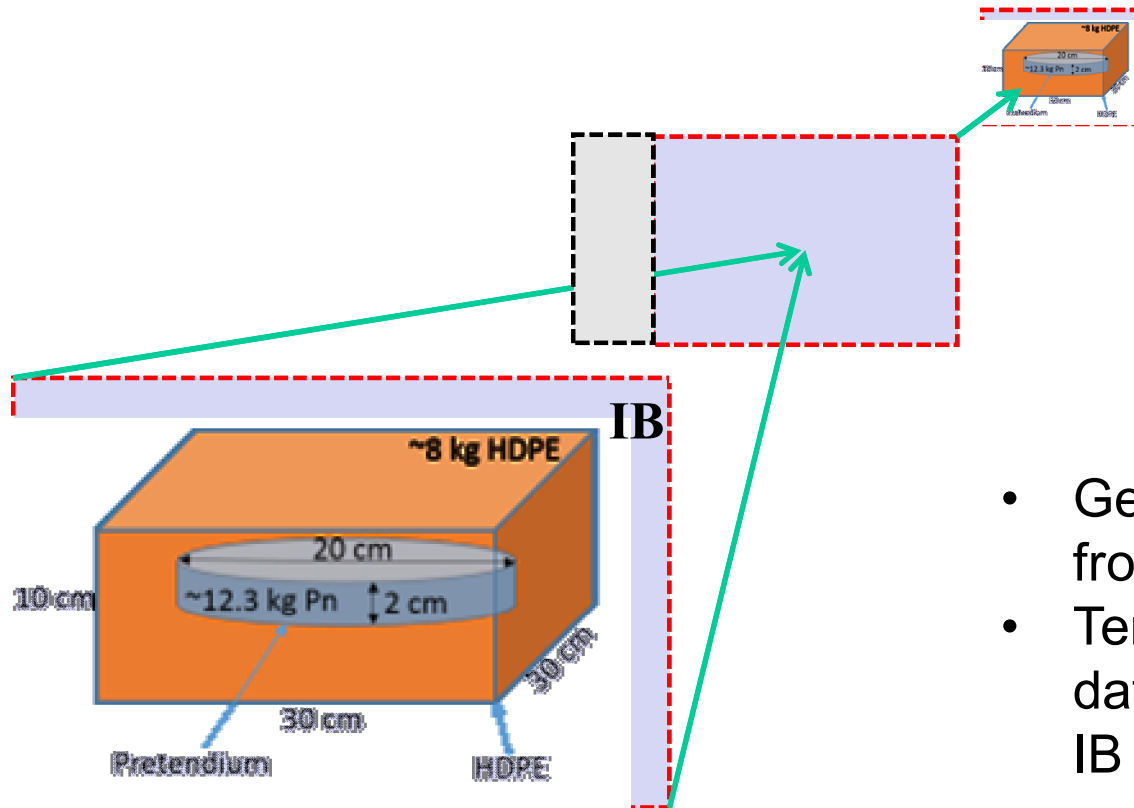
Radius = r ;
Thickness = t ;
Volume = $t * \pi * r^2$
Flux = $f \rightarrow \text{mass} > M$



- Define relevant & specific attributes
- Derive attributes from measurements
- Compare with acceptable threshold values
- Measurement and values all sensitive information



Current Verification Methods: Template

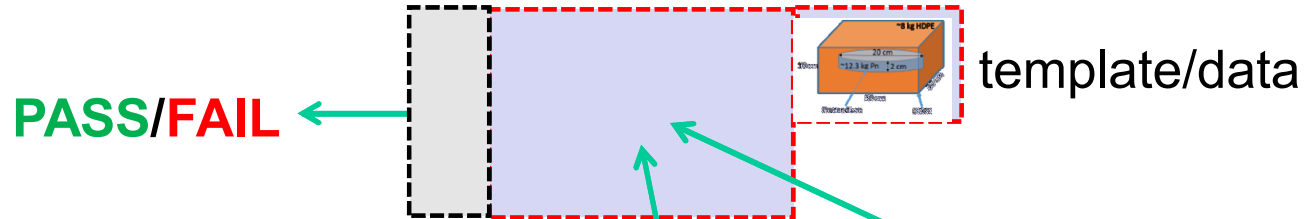


Object T = valid type
1 TAI

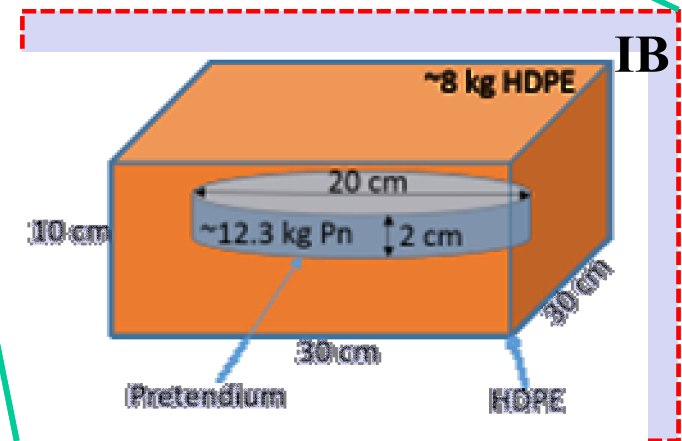
- Generate a template from a verified object
- Template has sensitive data, so stored behind IB



Current Verification Methods: Template



- Compare unknown object with template
- Does it match within expected uncertainties?
- Pass/Fail



Object X = ?



Two Current Verification Methods



Attribute

- Define relevant & specific attributes
- Derive attributes from measurements
- Compare with acceptable threshold values
- **Measurement and values behind IB**

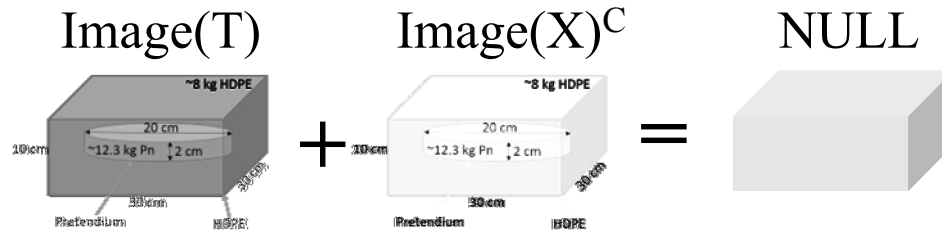
Template

- Generate template from verified object
- Compare unknown object with template
- **Template (device and measurement) behind IB**

Only the final Pass/Fail can be seen by both parties.

Can we decrease the amount of information behind a barrier while still maintaining confidence?

ZKP: Complementary Comparison

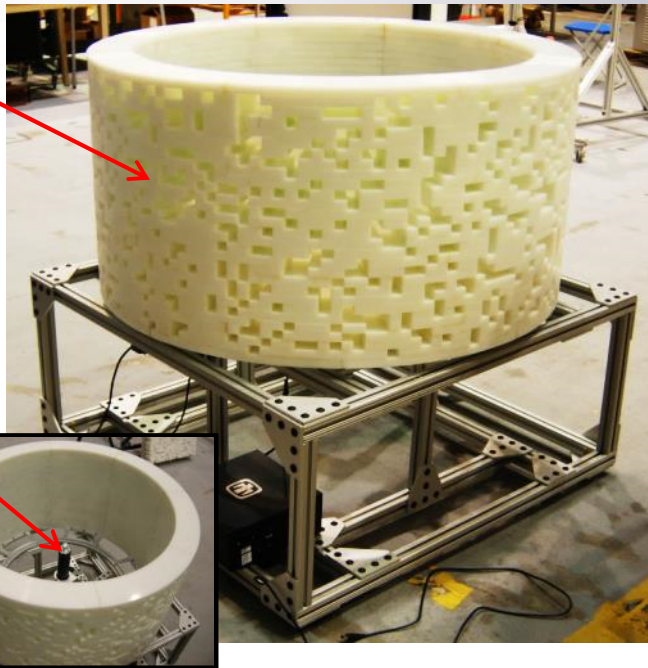


- An image added to its complement produces a null result
- Null result
 - Confirms two original objects are the same
 - Contains zero sensitive information
 - Both parties can view the result
- Is there a way to get a physical NULL as an indication of positive confirmation at all times?

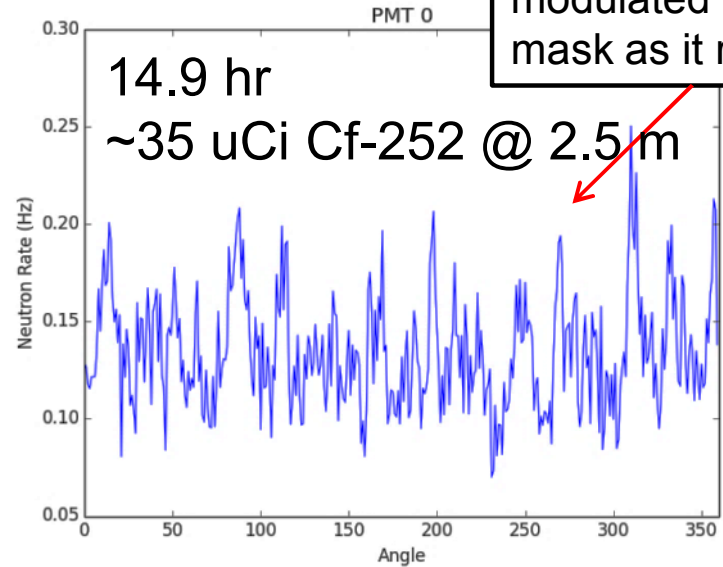
2D Time-Encoded Imaging (TEI)

2-d coded mask

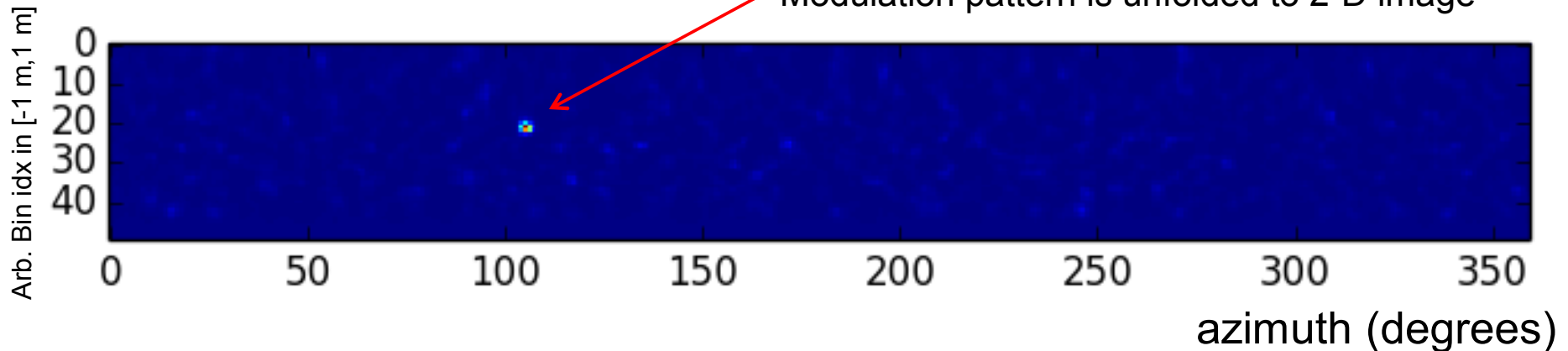
Single 1" D x 1" LS pixel



Single pixel rate is modulated by the mask as it rotates.



Modulation pattern is unfolded to 2-D image

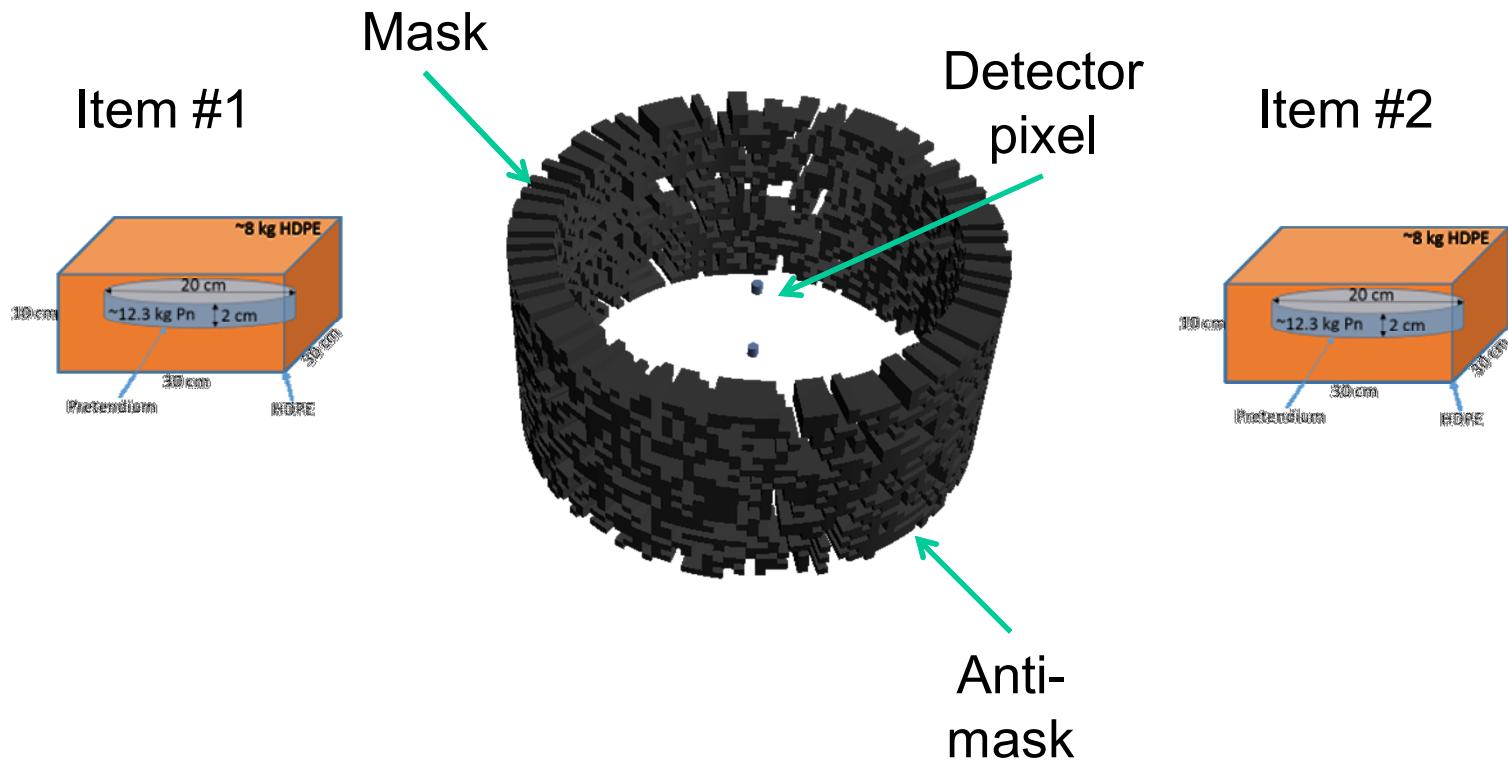




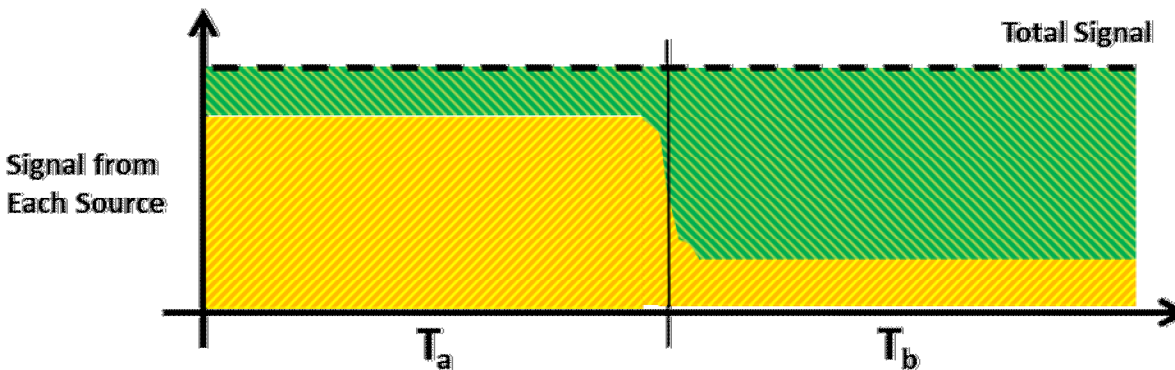
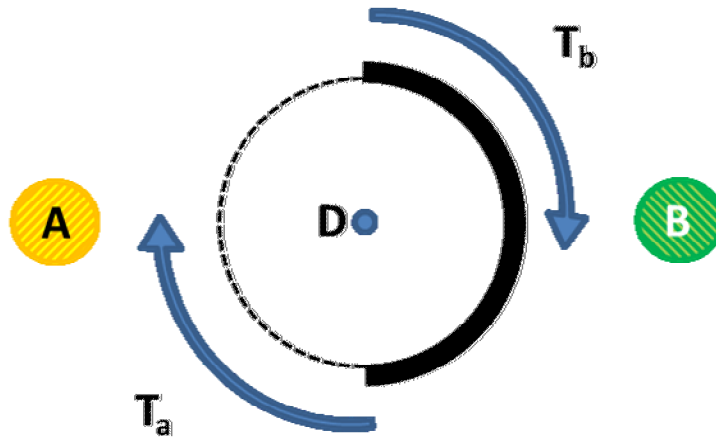
Solution: 2D-TEI mask/anti-mask



If the mask is designed such that one side is the anti-mask of the other, then **Item #2 projects the anti-image of Item #1 at all times if and only if they are identical!**



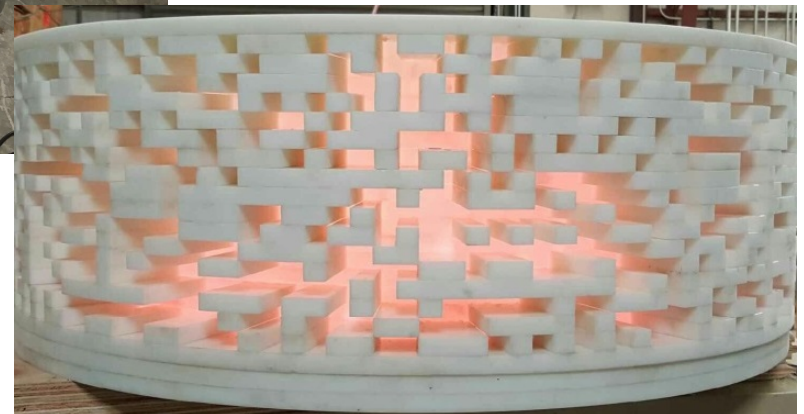
Simple Example of ZKP



- For example, take a very simple mask: half mask, half aperture.
- The fraction of total count rate coming from A and B is unknown at any given angle.
- In this example, the location (and shape) of the boundary between regions is not revealed.

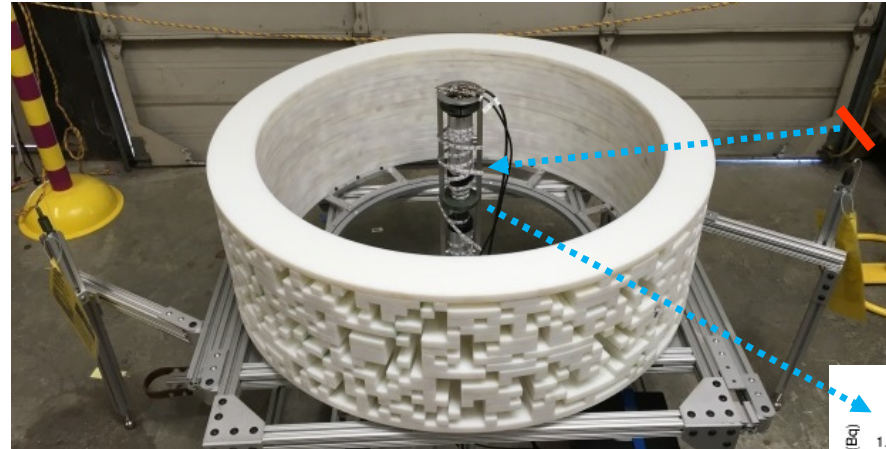


CONFIDANTE

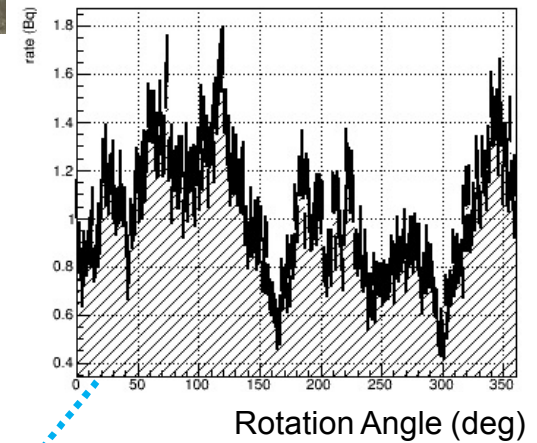


Results: Double Point Source Measurements

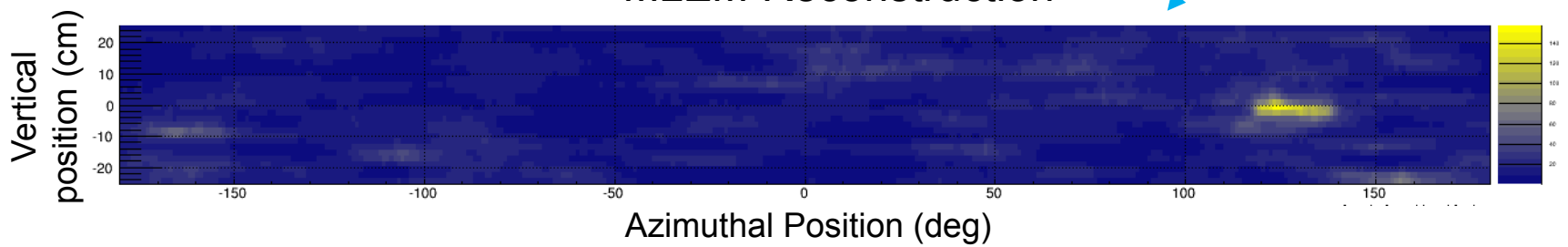
Measurement of a double "line" source (~20 hours)



Neutron Rate



MLEM Reconstruction

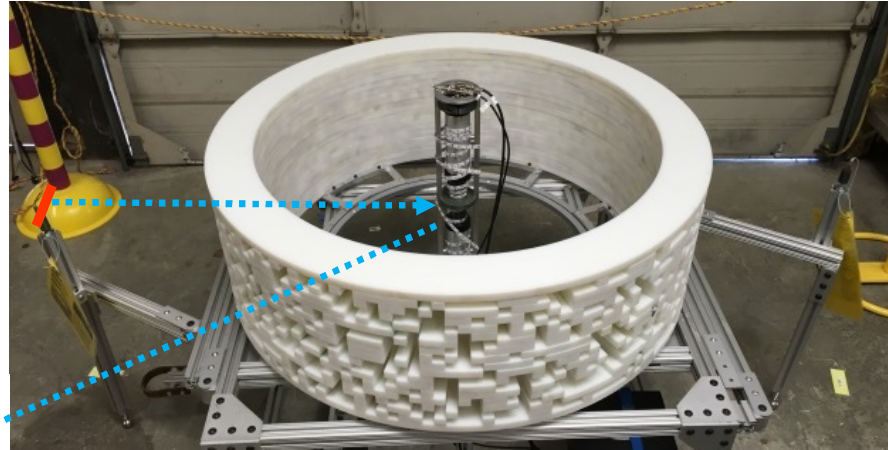




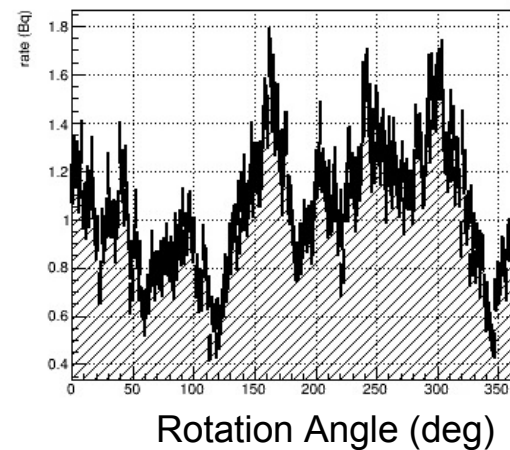
Results: Double Point Source Measurements



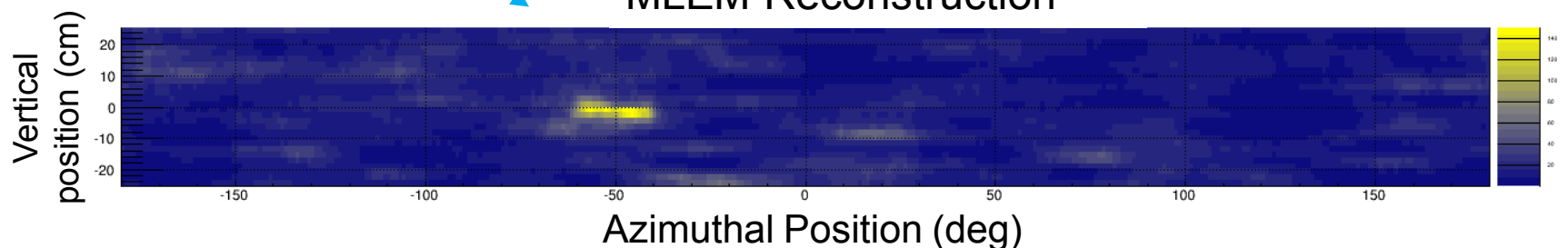
Measurement of a double “line” source (~20 hours)



Neutron Rate

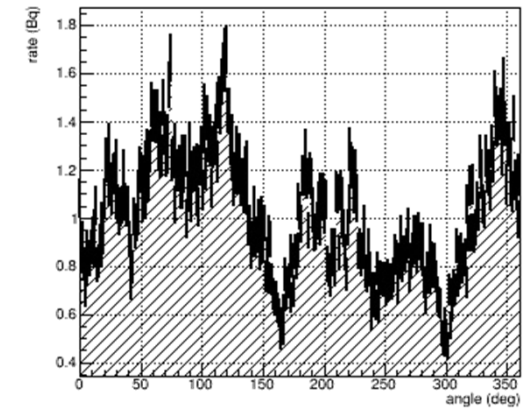
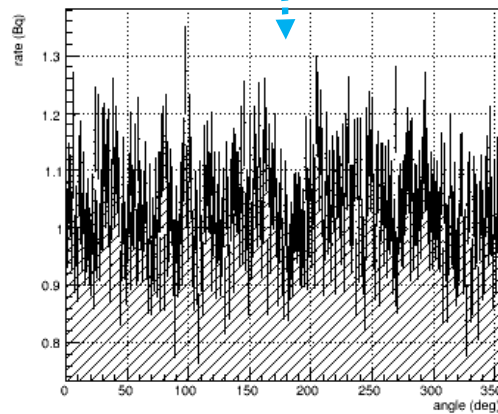
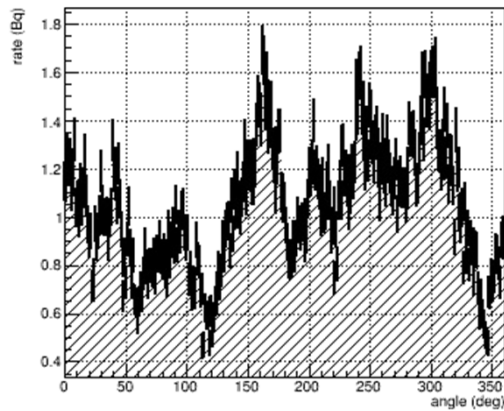
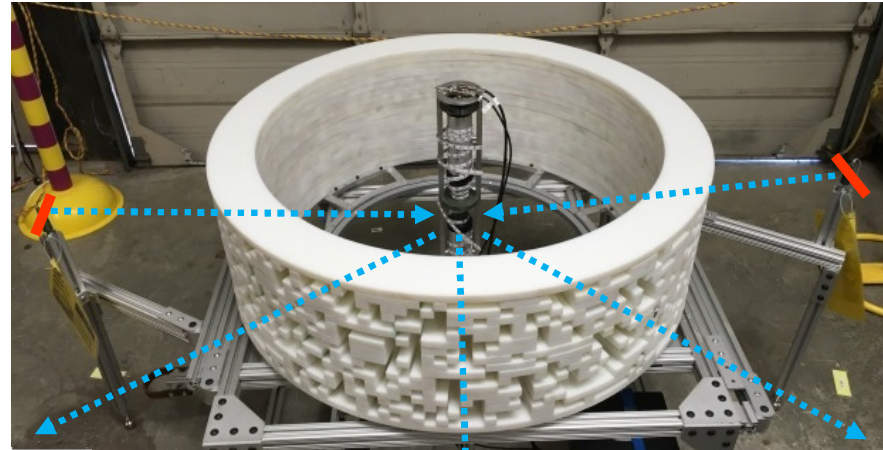


MLEM Reconstruction



Results: Double Point Source Measurements

Measurement of a double “line” source (~20 hours)

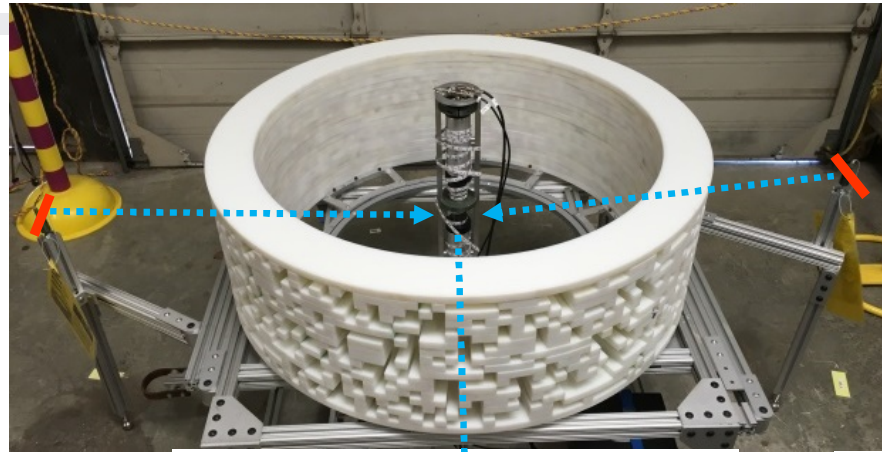




Results: Double Point Source Measurements



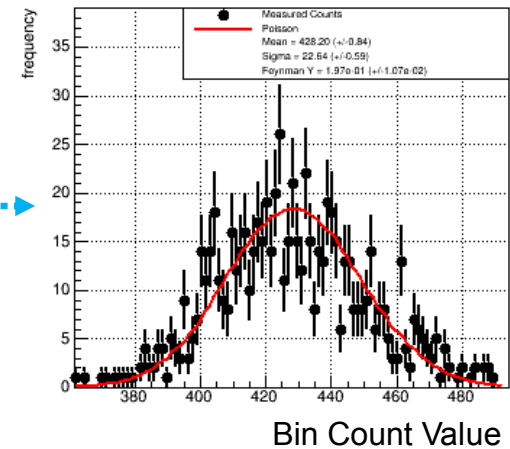
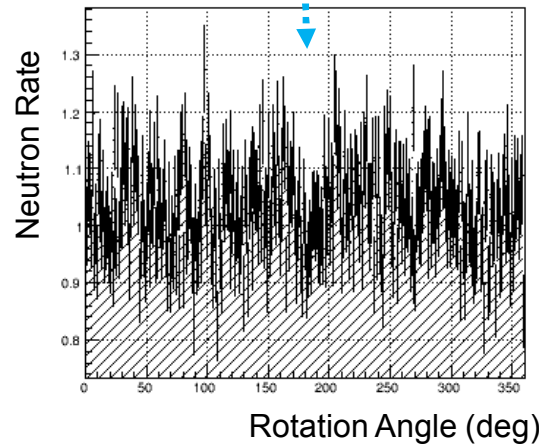
Measurement of a double “line” source (~20 hours total)



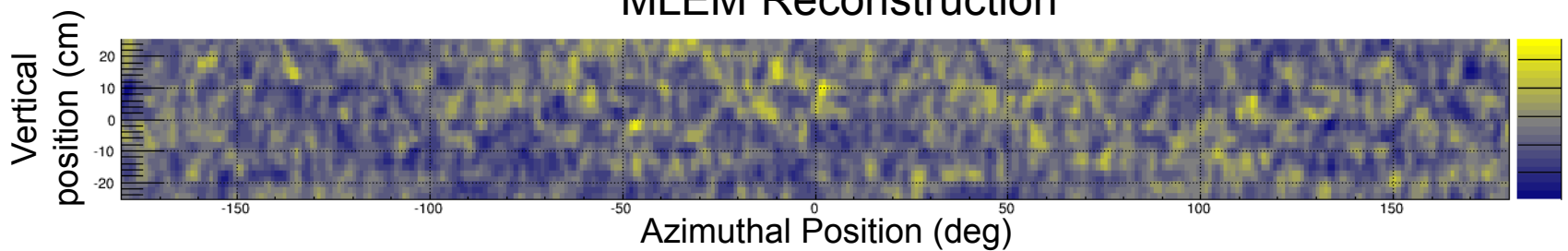
$$\text{Feynman } Y = \left(\frac{\text{variance}}{\text{mean}} - 1 \right)$$

$$= 0.197 \pm 0.011$$

Count Distribution (Poisson – red curve)



MLEM Reconstruction

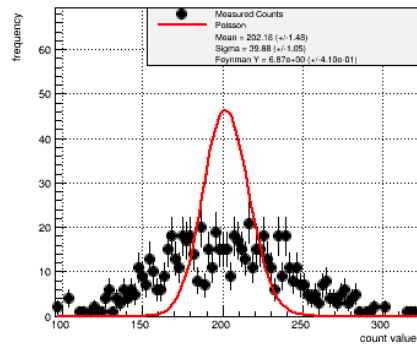




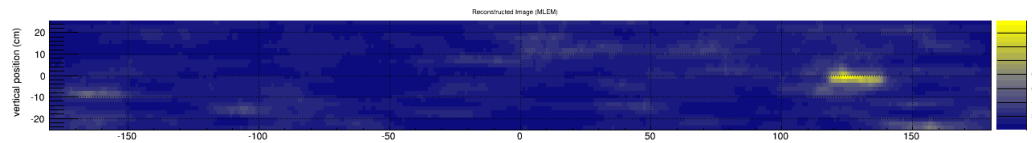
Results: Double Point Source Measurements



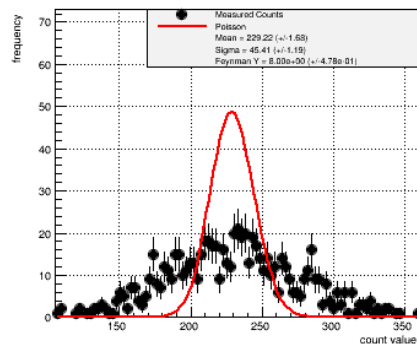
Measured Count Distribution (Run 0)



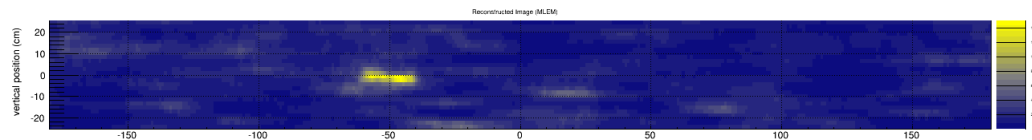
Feynman $Y = 6.87 \pm 0.41$



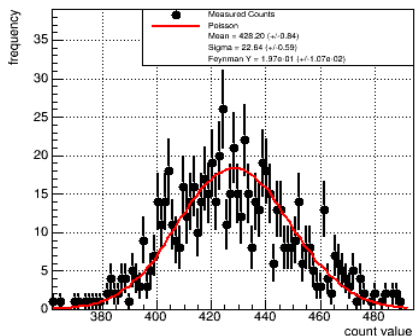
Measured Count Distribution (Run 1)



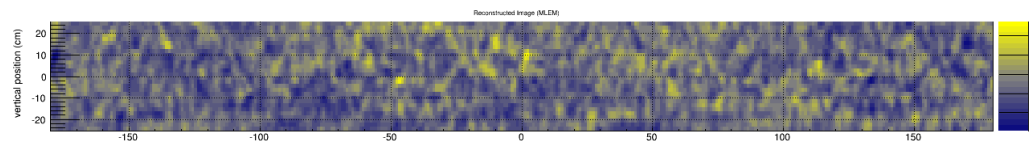
Feynman $Y = 8.00 \pm 0.48$



Measured Count Distribution



Feynman $Y = 0.197 \pm 0.011$

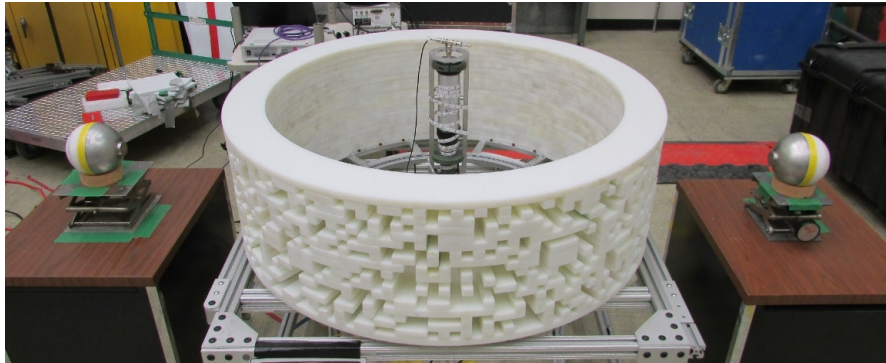




Results: LLNL's PuO₂ Hemi Positive Measurement

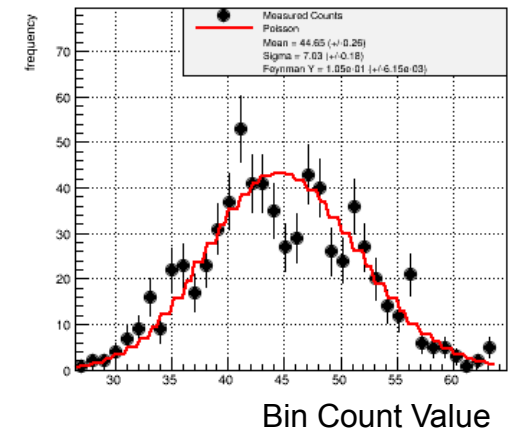
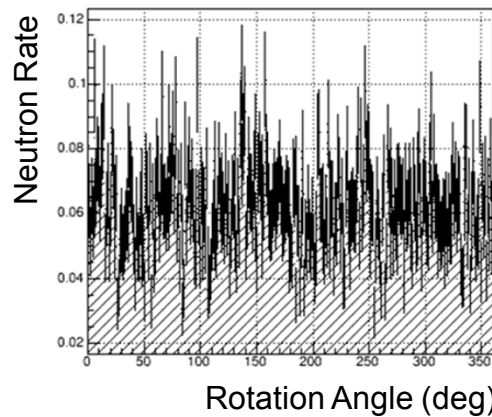


- One hemisphere was placed on each side (180 deg apart) of CONFIDANTE.
- ~68 hours of data was taken.

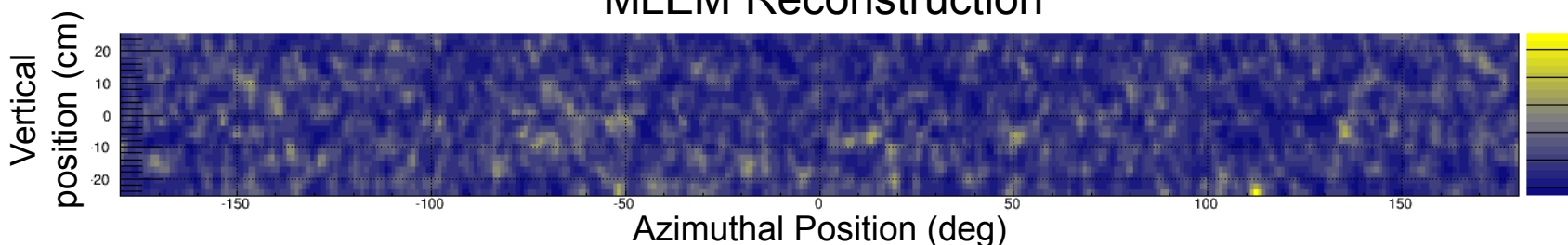


$$\begin{aligned} \text{Feynman } Y &= \left(\frac{\text{variance}}{\text{mean}} - 1 \right) \\ &= 0.105 \pm 0.006 \end{aligned}$$

Count Distribution
(Poisson – red curve)



MLEM Reconstruction

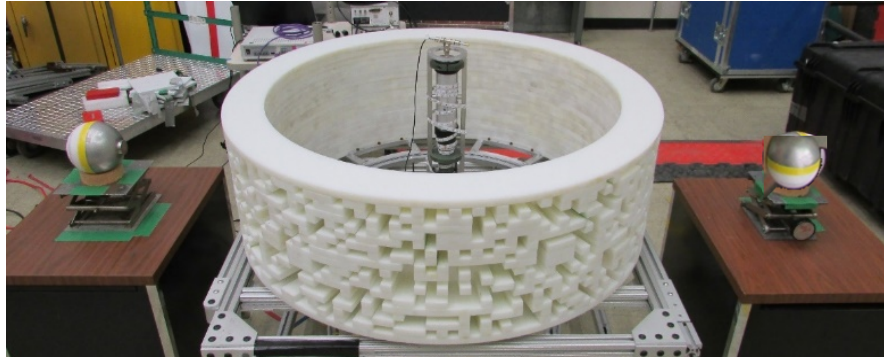




Results: LLNL's PuO₂ Hemi Negative Measurement



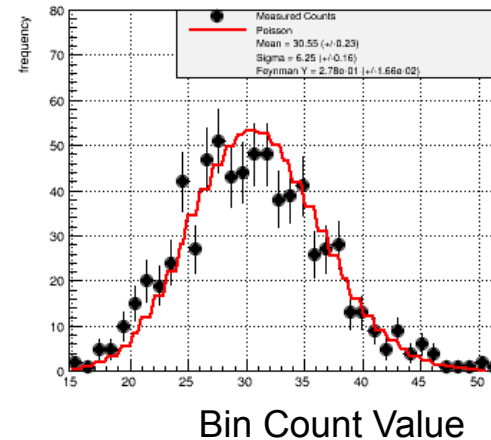
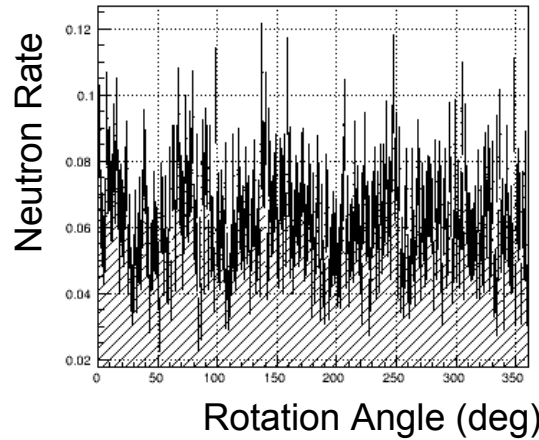
- One hemisphere was placed on each side (180 deg) of CONFIDANTE.



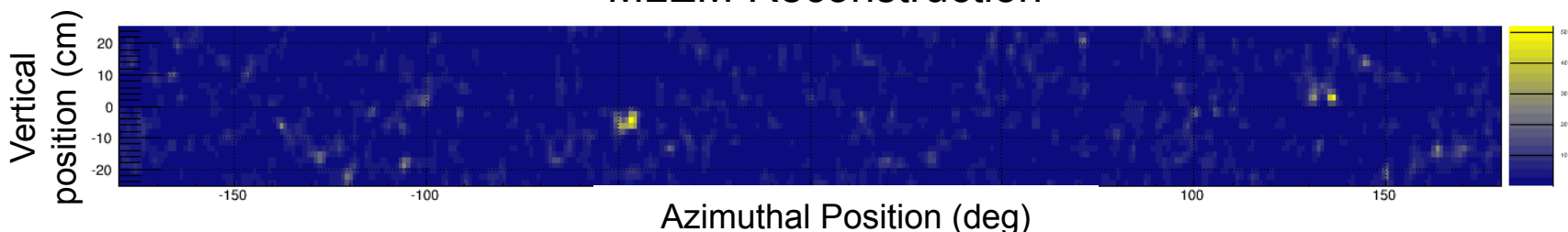
- One was rotated by 90 degrees.
- ~48 hours of data was taken.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Feynman } Y &= \left(\frac{\text{variance}}{\text{mean}} - 1 \right) \\ &= 0.277 \pm 0.016 \end{aligned}$$

Count Distribution (Poisson – red curve)



MLEM Reconstruction





Conclusions



- **Feasibility for the CONFIDANTE concept has been proven.**
- **CONFIDANTE is a simple system based on single pixel compressive imaging.**
- **CONFIDANTE may offer a more easily authenticatable system:**
 1. Confirms that two objects are identical in a single measurement with NULL (constant rate) indicating a positive result.
 2. Because a NULL (constant rate) is present at all times, the inspecting party might be allowed full access to the measurement and data.
 3. A test statistic relating to how “Poisson” that count rate is can be updated to further protect against sensitive information loss.
 4. Can image any third inspector provided object during the confirmation measurement without revealing the first two objects as an authentication measure.

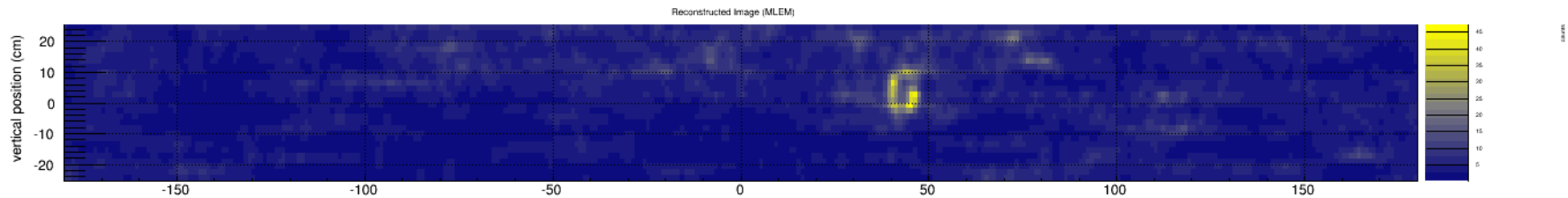


Future Work



- **Sensitivity studies**

- What is the minimum time to verify an object?
- How exact does the alignment have to be?
- Is any information revealed with a long measurement or by adding together short measurements?
- Updating Poisson metric in real time
- Discrimination between circles and squares of various sizes



- **MCNP simulation (with Patricia Schuster)**
- **Compact gamma-ray version (Patricia Schuster)**



Acknowledgements



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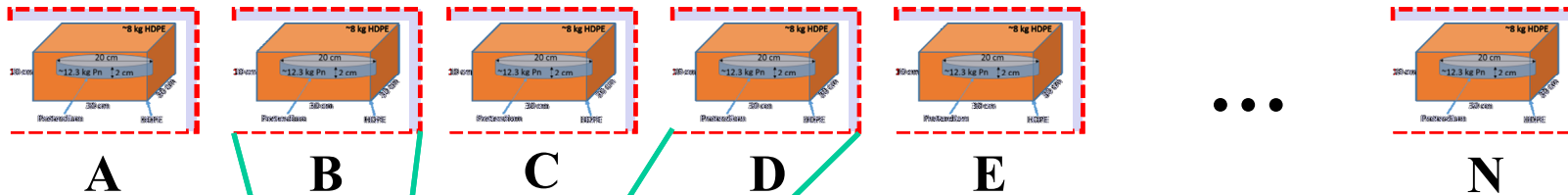
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EXTRA SLIDES

- The ZKP CONOPS offers an interesting way to gain authentication confidence.
- Presented with N objects and k comparison measurements will be made.



Probability of being selected (if random) =
 $1 - \left(1 - \frac{1}{N}\right)^{2k}$

If T is one of the objects, then even if neither X nor T are selected, there was a chance for both to have been selected with probability =

$$\left(1 - \left(1 - \frac{1}{N}\right)^{2k}\right)^2$$

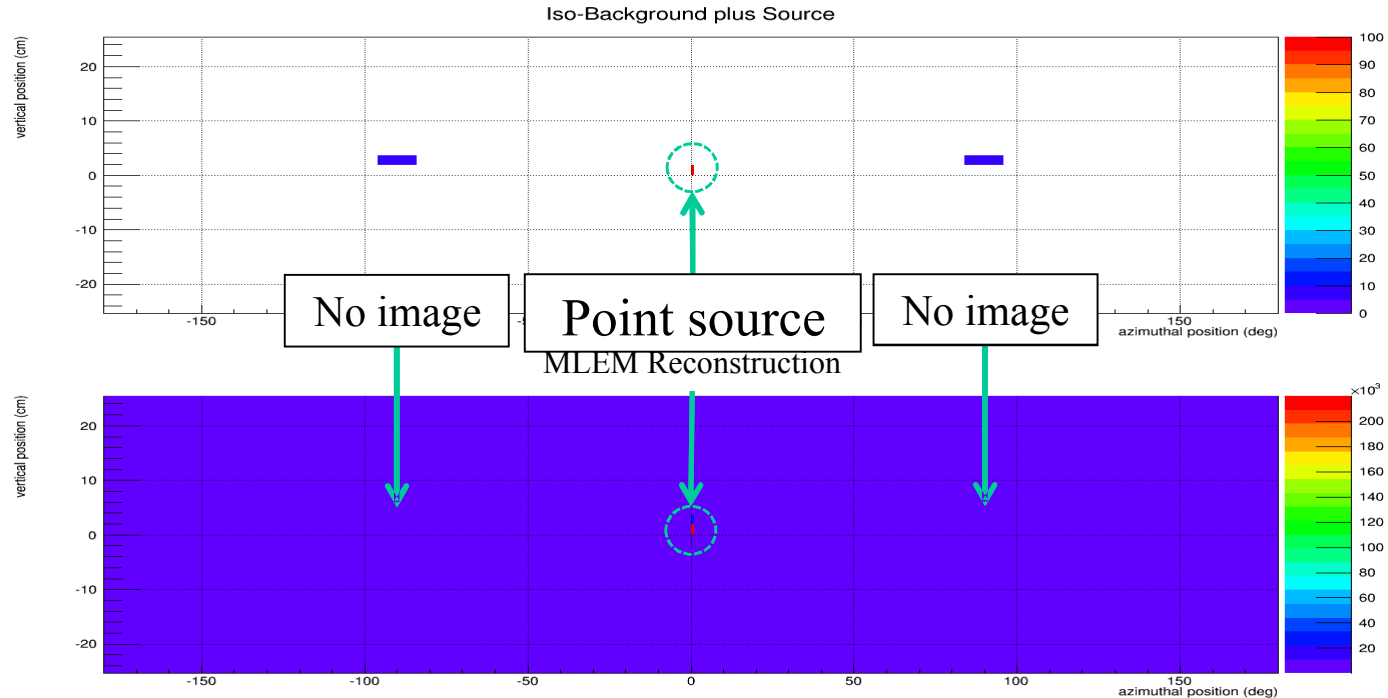
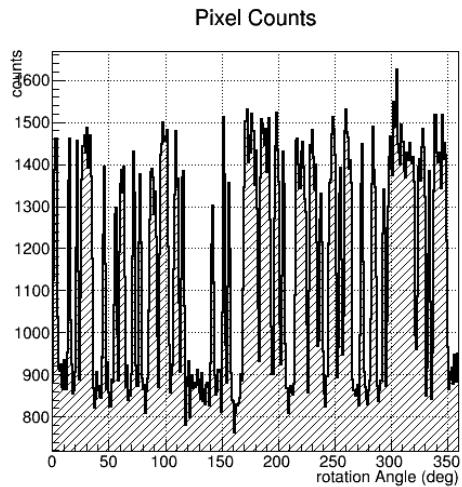
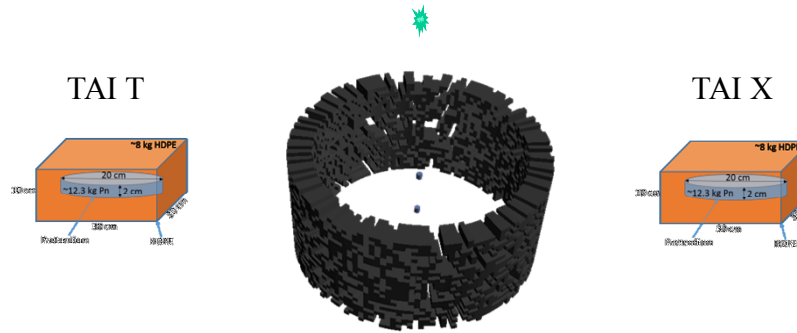
providing some degree of confidence



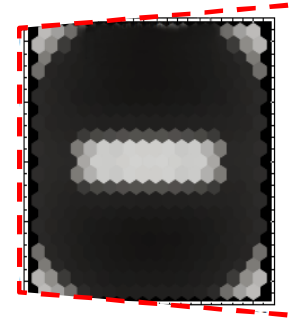
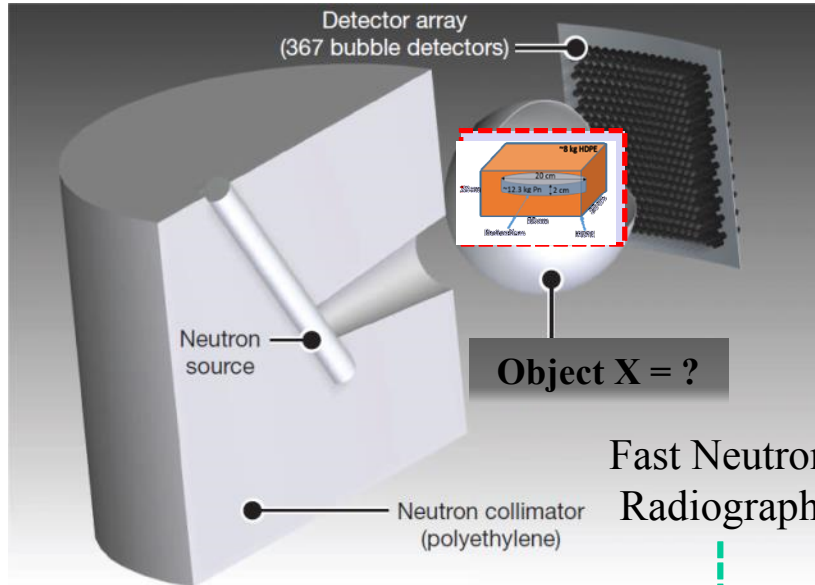
Verification of Imaging System



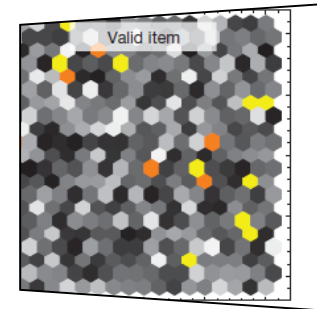
If (and only if) the TAIs are identical, only the third source is visible!



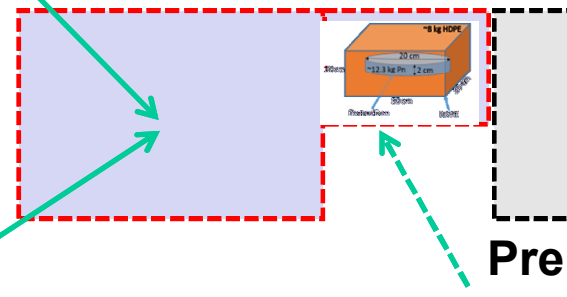
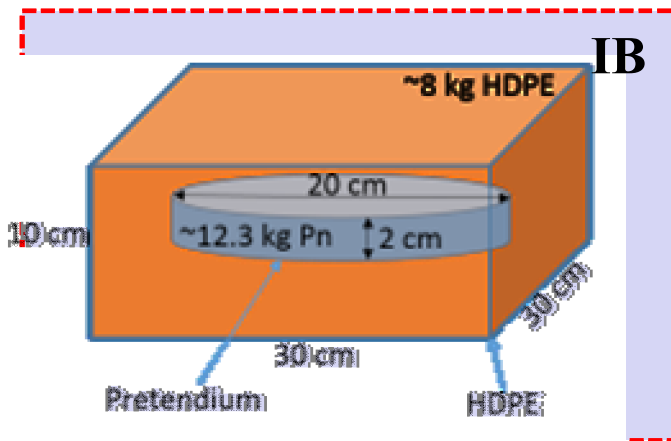
ZKP – Glaser, Barak, and Goldston



Analog bubble detectors with preloaded complement "template"



Flat featured image (NULL) indicates a true positive.



→ **PASS/FAIL**

Preloaded complement behind IB