

High Resolution Measurements of the Prompt Temporal Response of Fast Plastic Scintillators



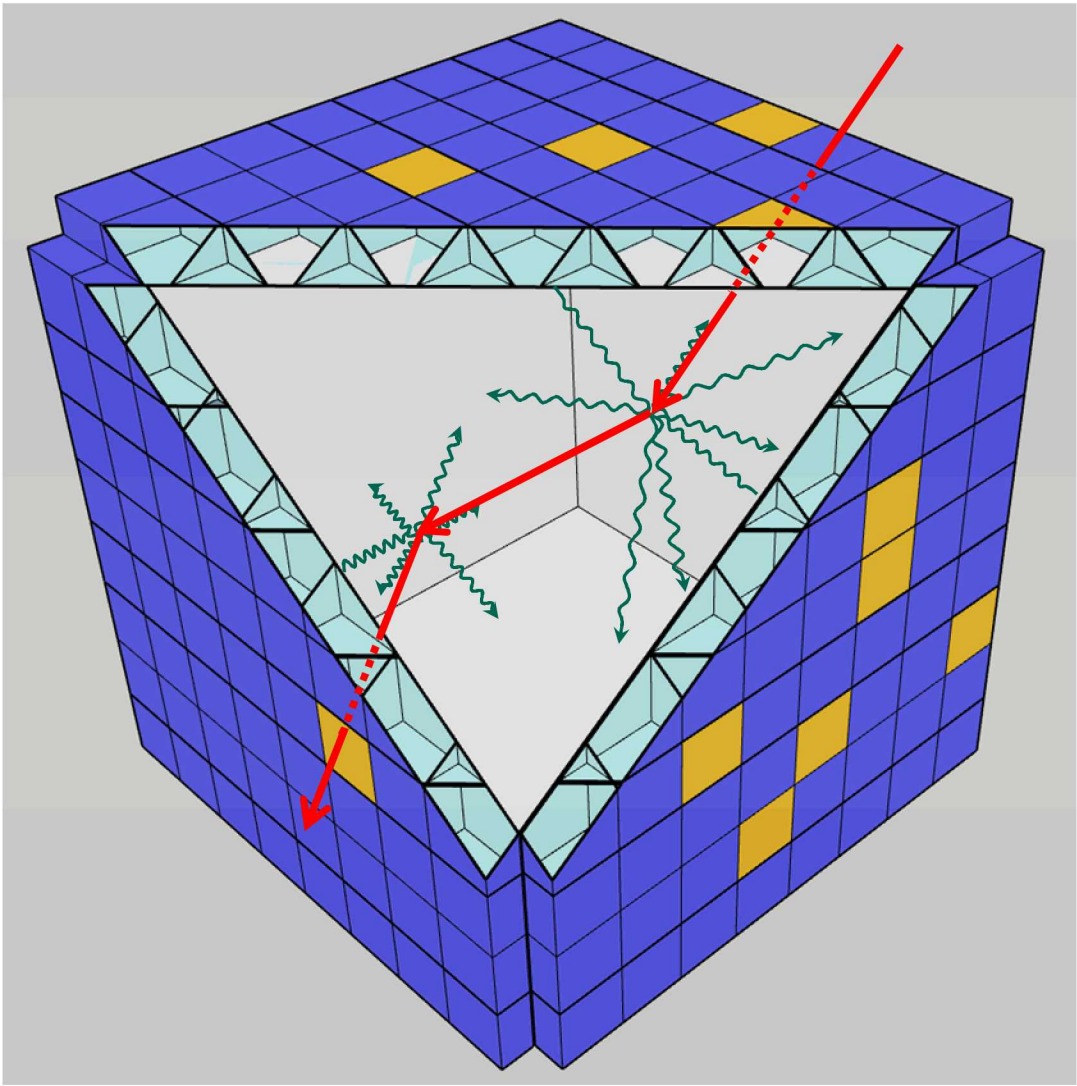
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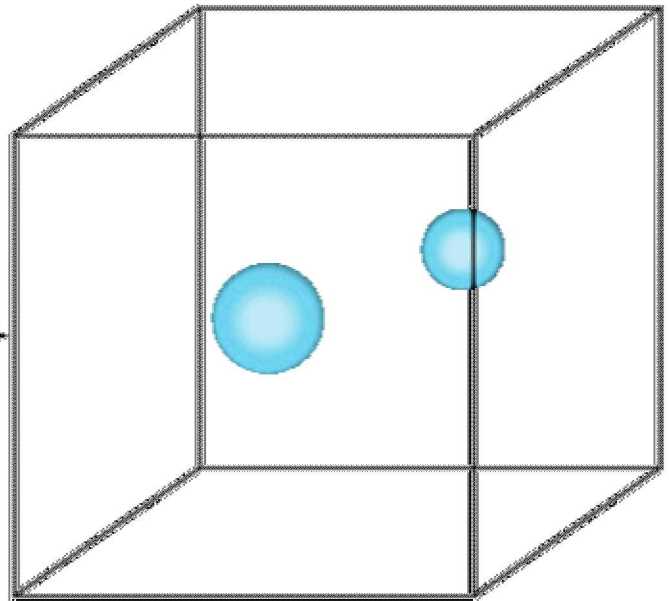
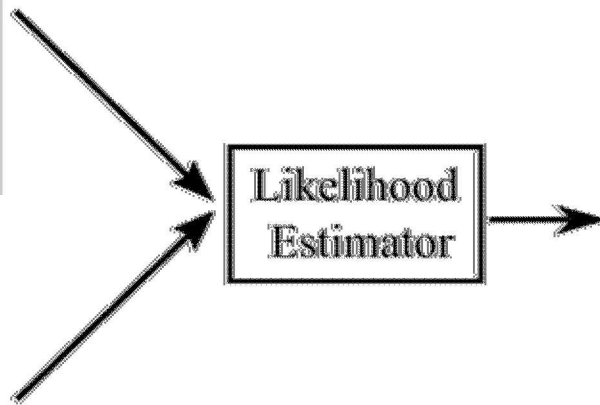
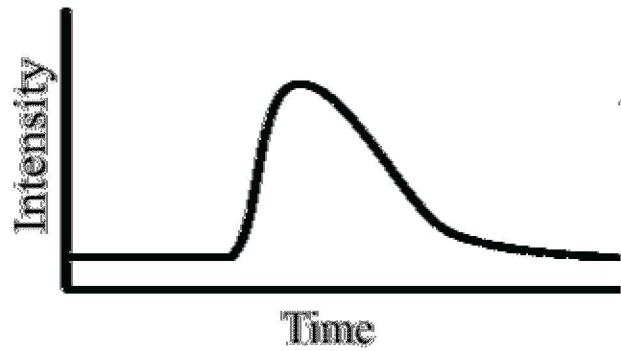
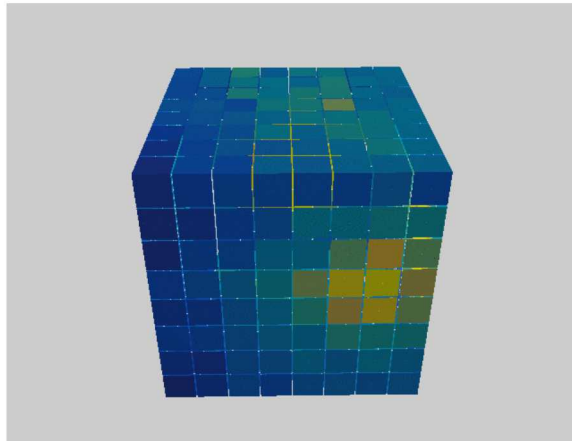
Joshua A. Brown



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3 Why Measure Pulse Shapes?

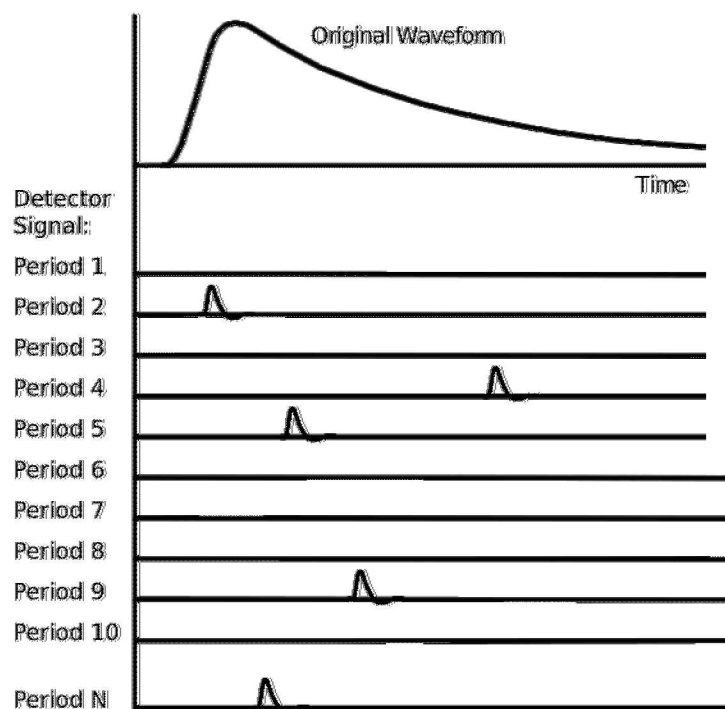
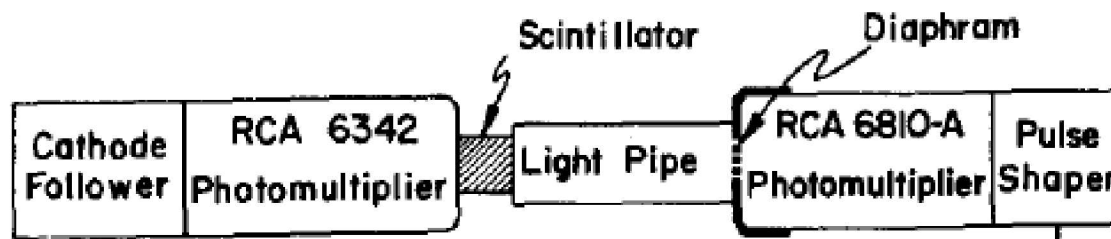




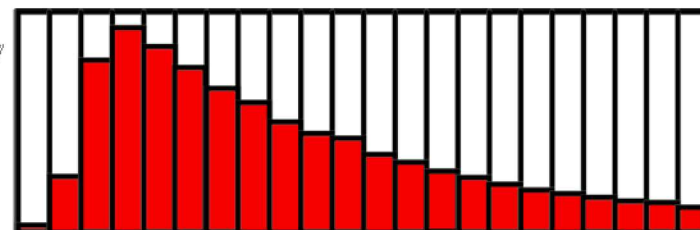
For multiple interactions

- Position (x,y,z)
- Time
- Proton Energy

Time Correlated Single Photon Counting



Result
after many
Photons



Principle of the TCSPC technique

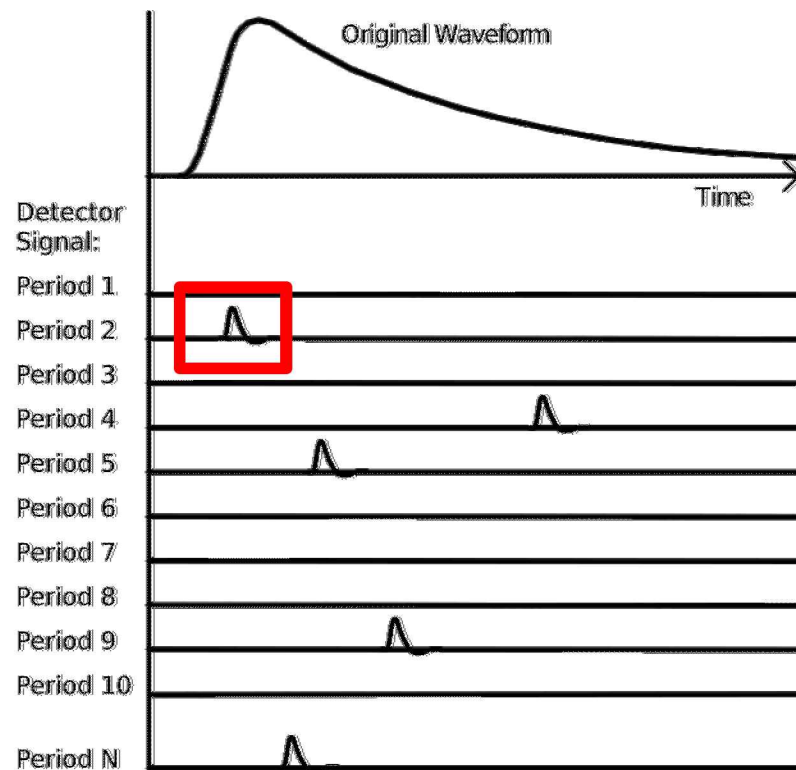
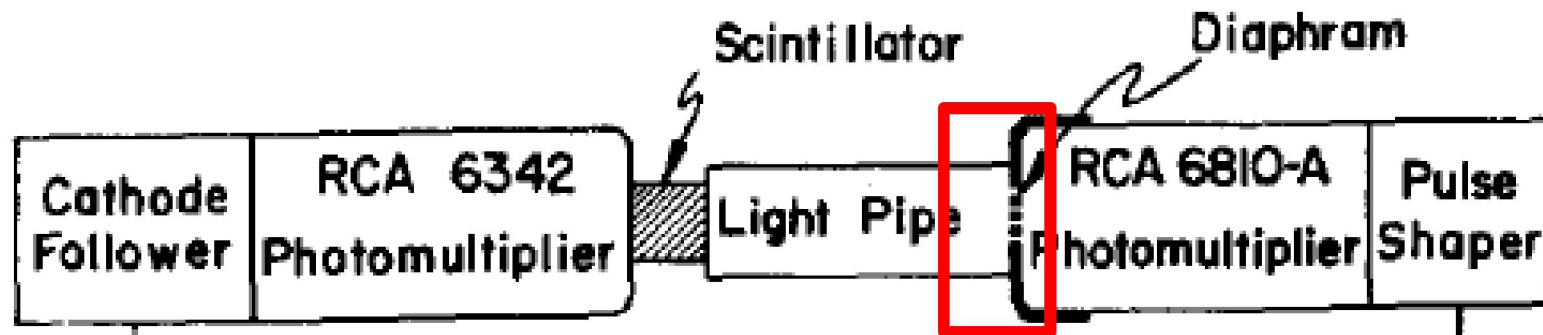
Measurement of the Time Dependence of Scintillation Intensity by a Delayed-Coincidence Method*

L. M. BOLLINGER AND G. E. THOMAS
Argonne National Laboratory, Argonne, Illinois

(Received January 13, 1961; and in final form, April 11, 1961)



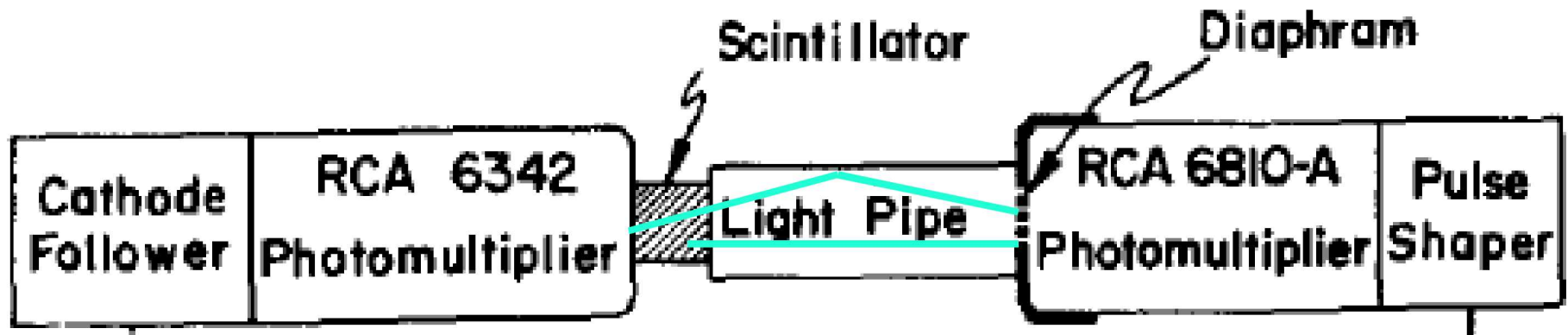
Temporal Resolution of the Single Photon Counter



- Generally set by the characteristics of the photomultiplier used
- Held as the dominant source of uncertainty in classical setups



Optical Path Length Variance



- Dependent on the geometry employed
- Dependent on scintillator size
- Potentially includes effects due to absorption and re-emission

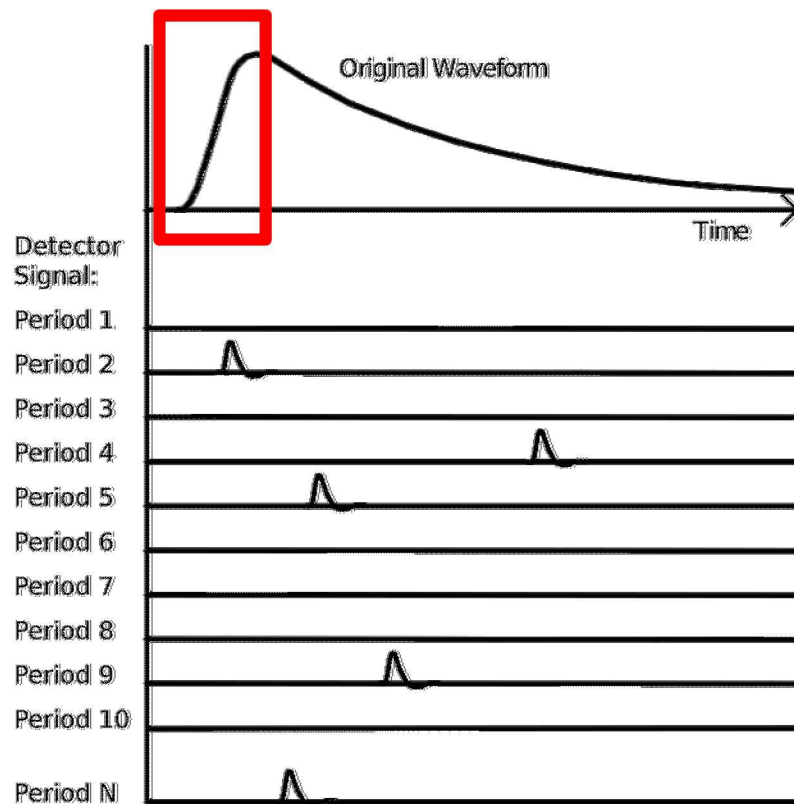
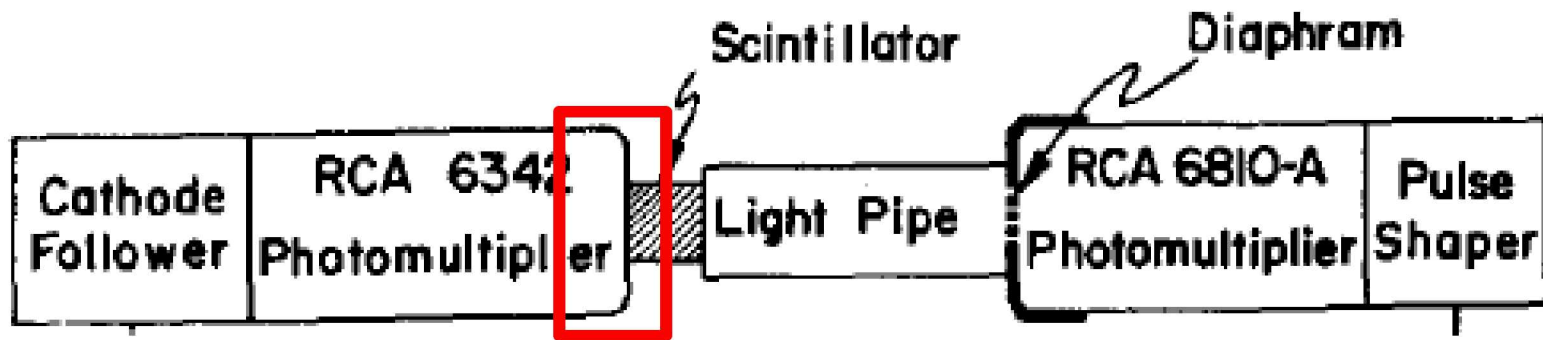


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Temporal Resolution of the Pulse Start Time (T_0)

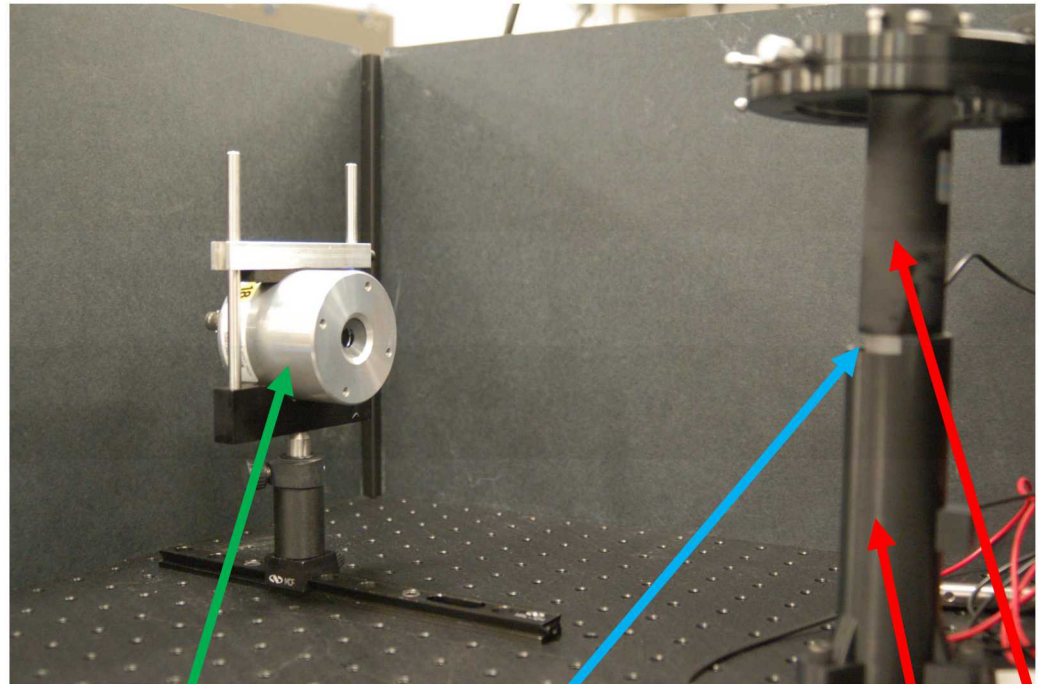
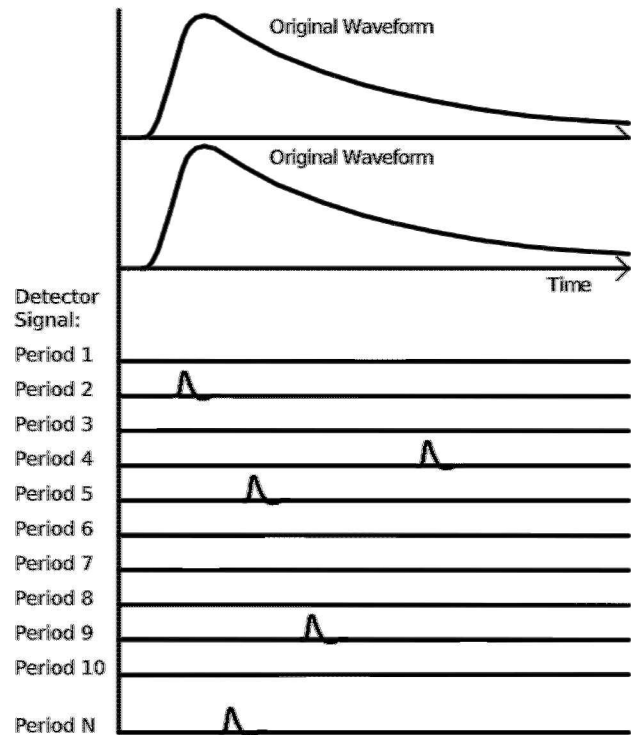


- Dependent on Number of photons collected
- Dependent on photomultiplier used
- Dependent on scintillator size
- Dependent on scintillator rise time
- Generally thought of as small due to the large number of photons collected



Time Correlated Single Photon Counting

(A Modern Interpretation)



PHOTEK PMT-210
~30ps std dev SPTR

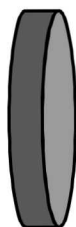
Fast Plastic
Scintillator

H6533 PMT Assemblies
~70ps std dev SPTR

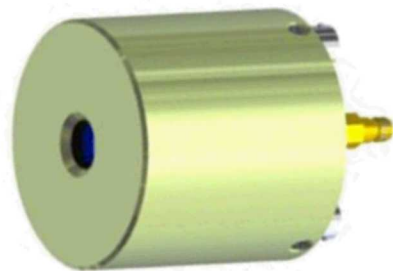


Single Photon Time Resolution

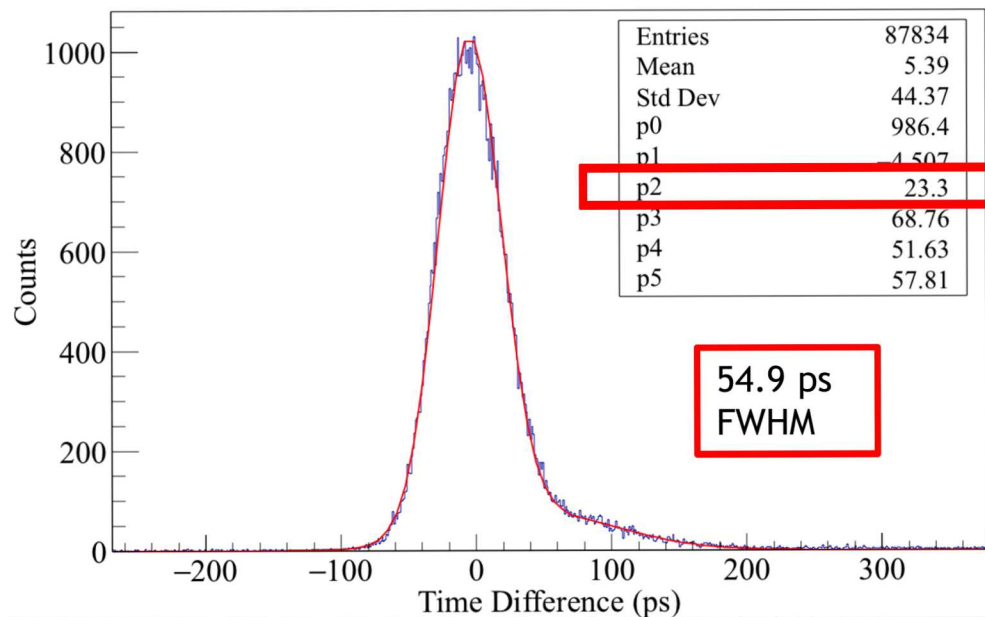
Uncertainty Quantification

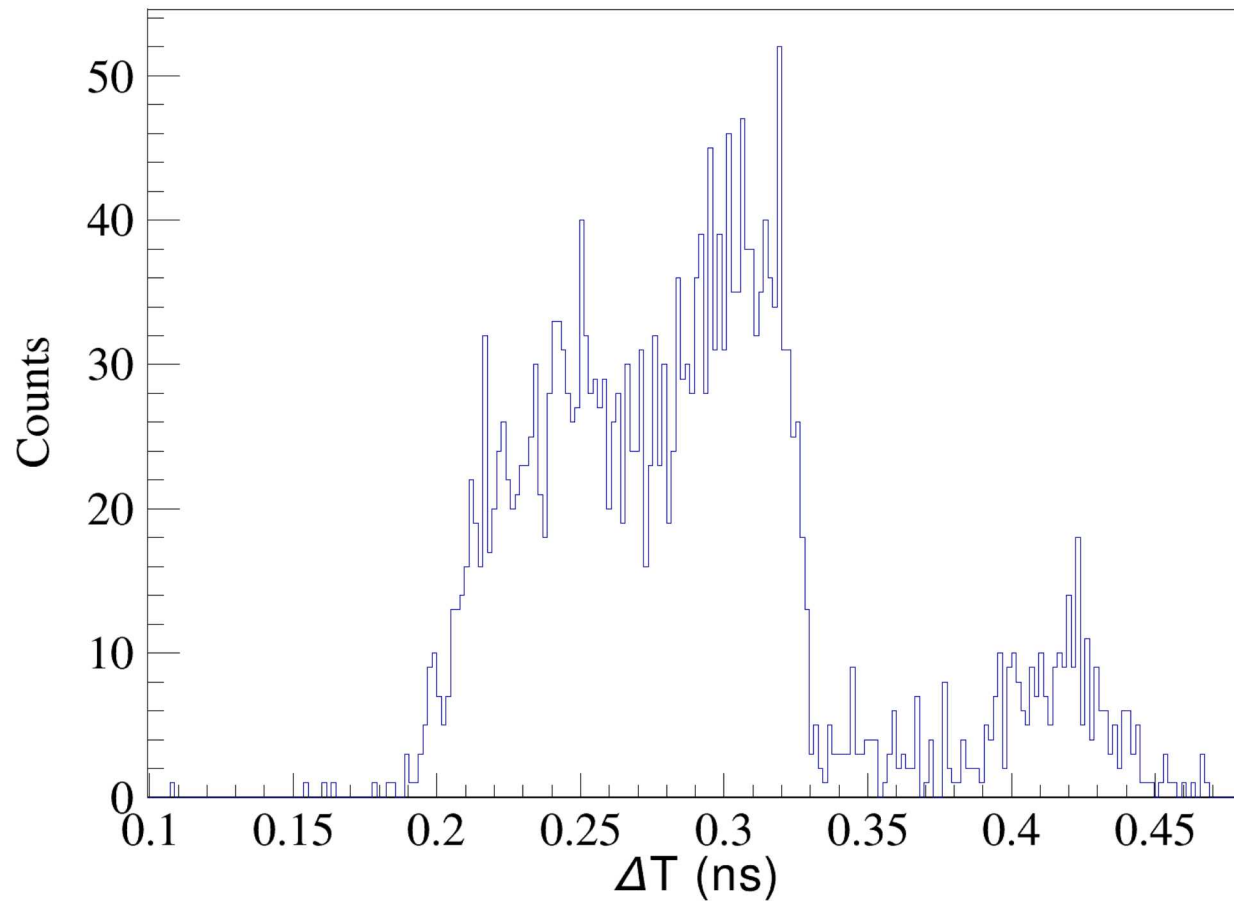
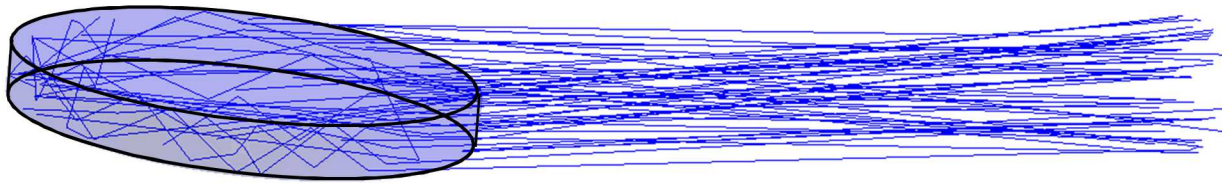


Attenuation
~40dB

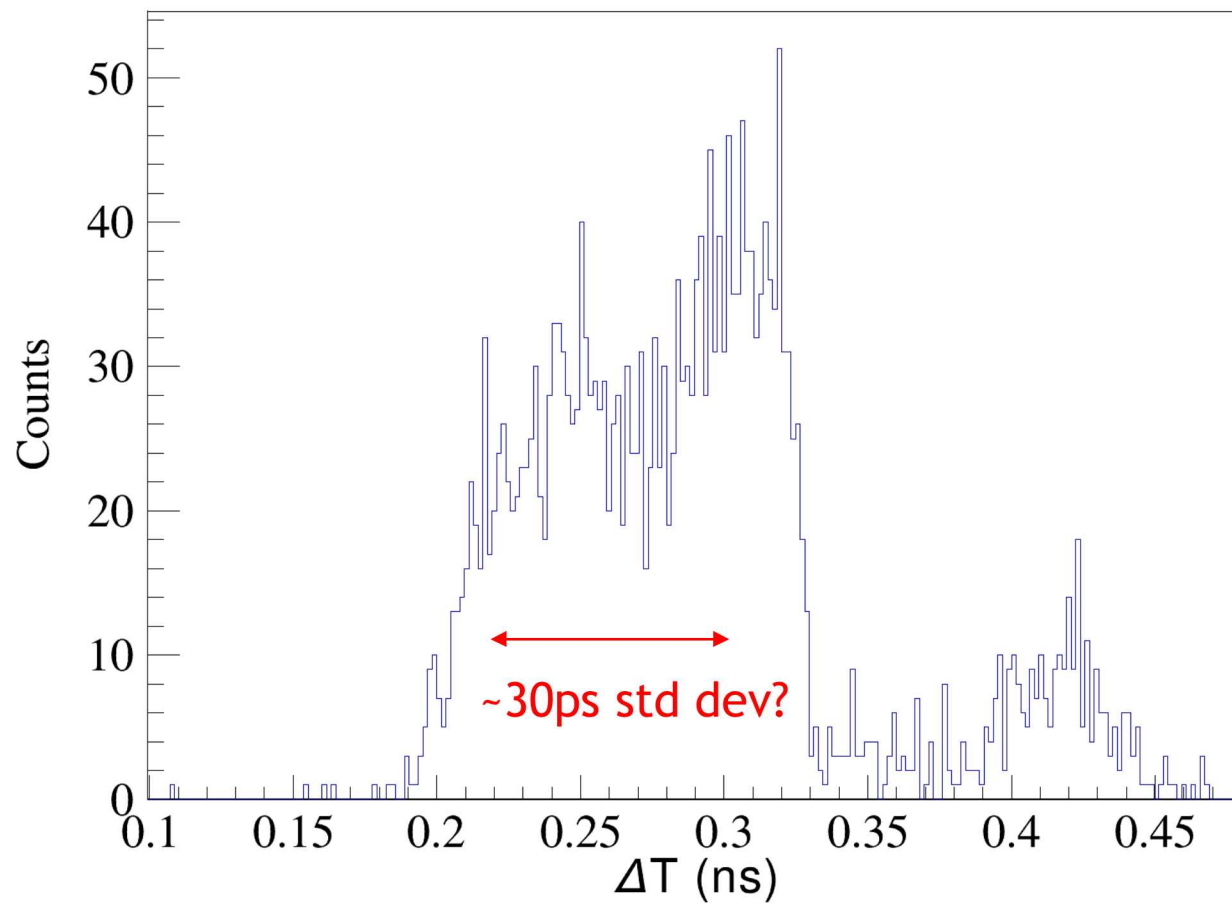
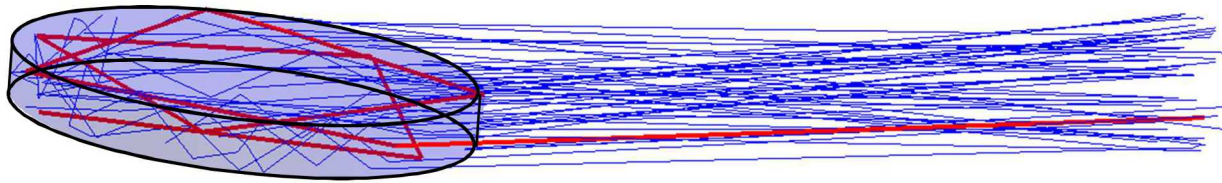


PMT-210 Single Photon
Time Resolution

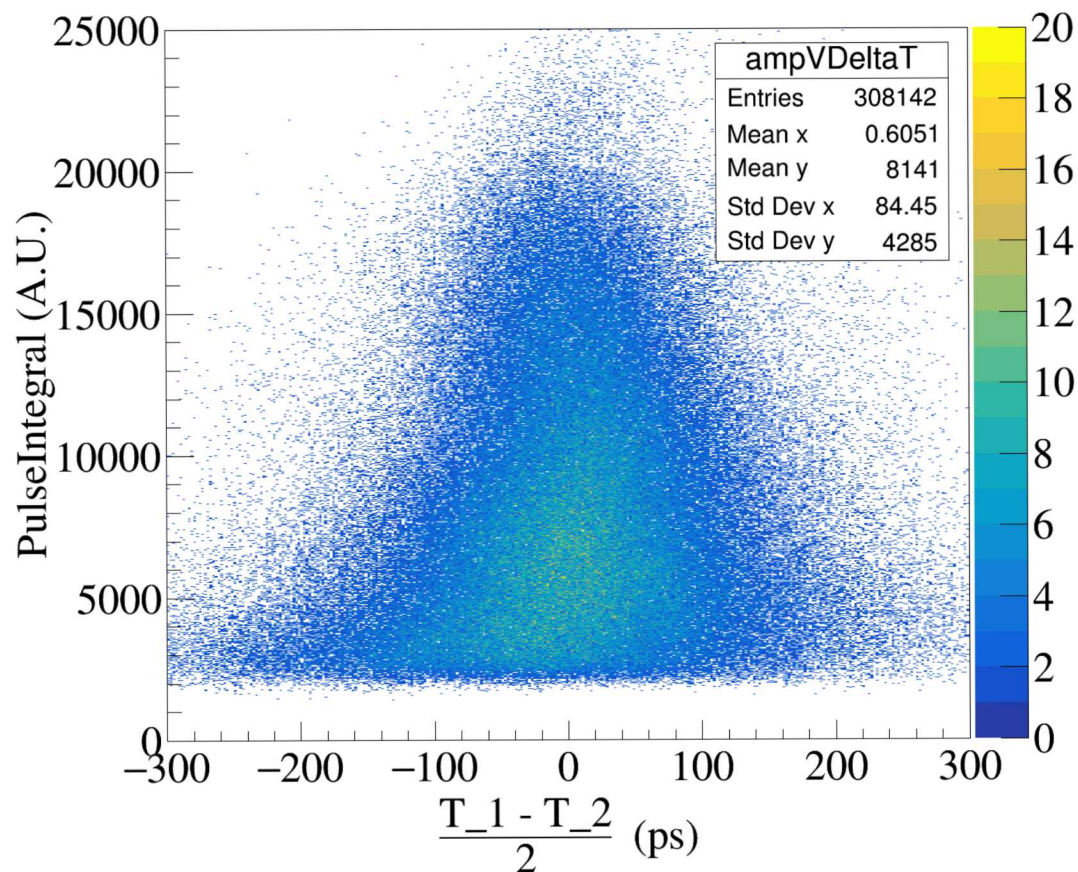
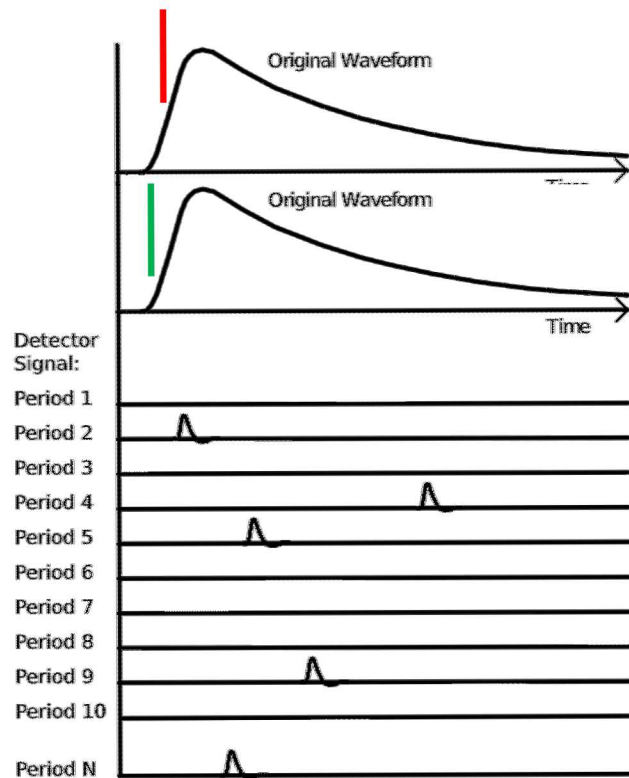




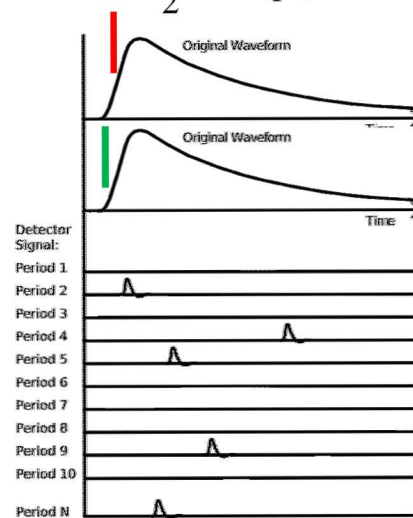
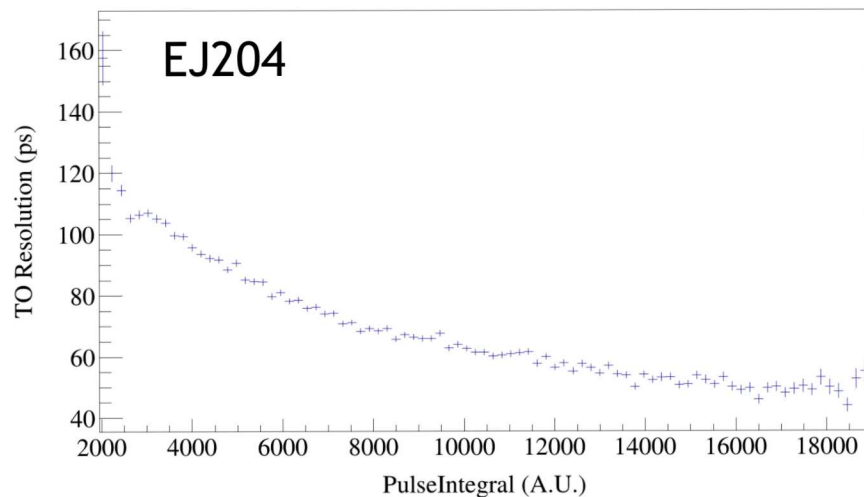
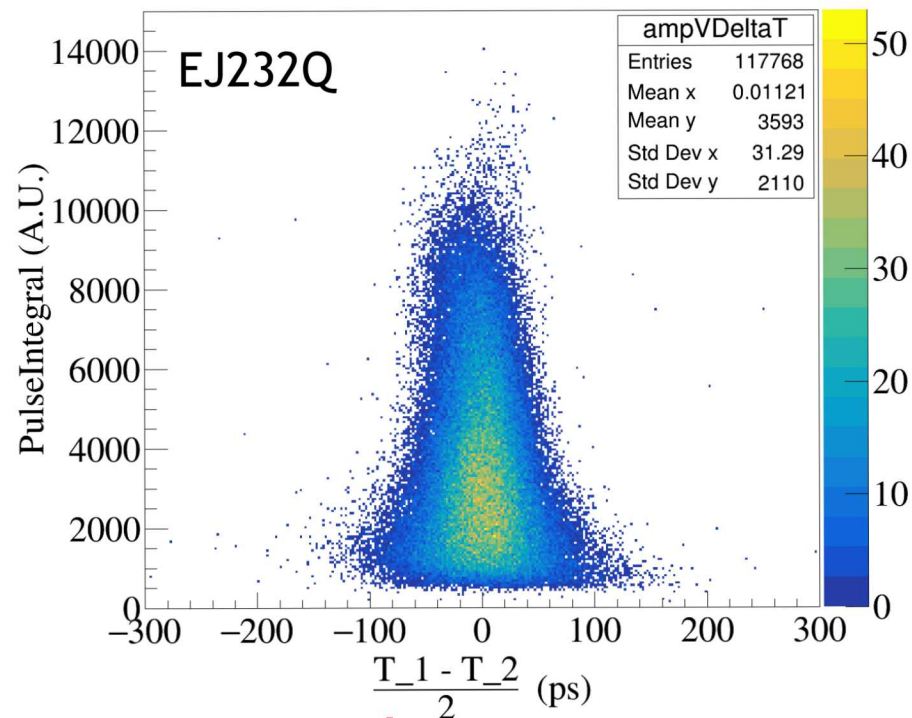
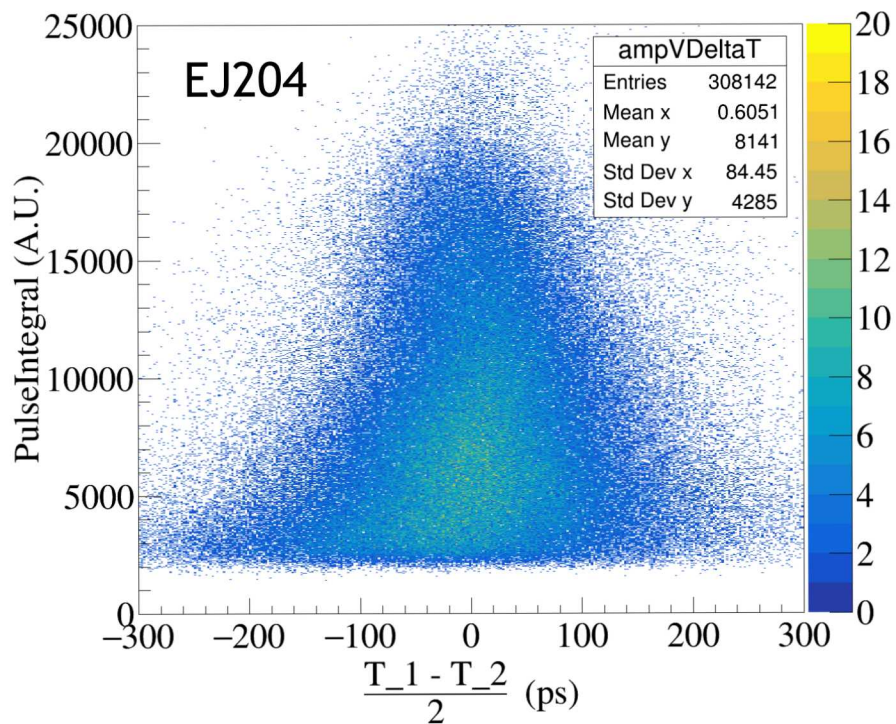
Optical Path Length Variance

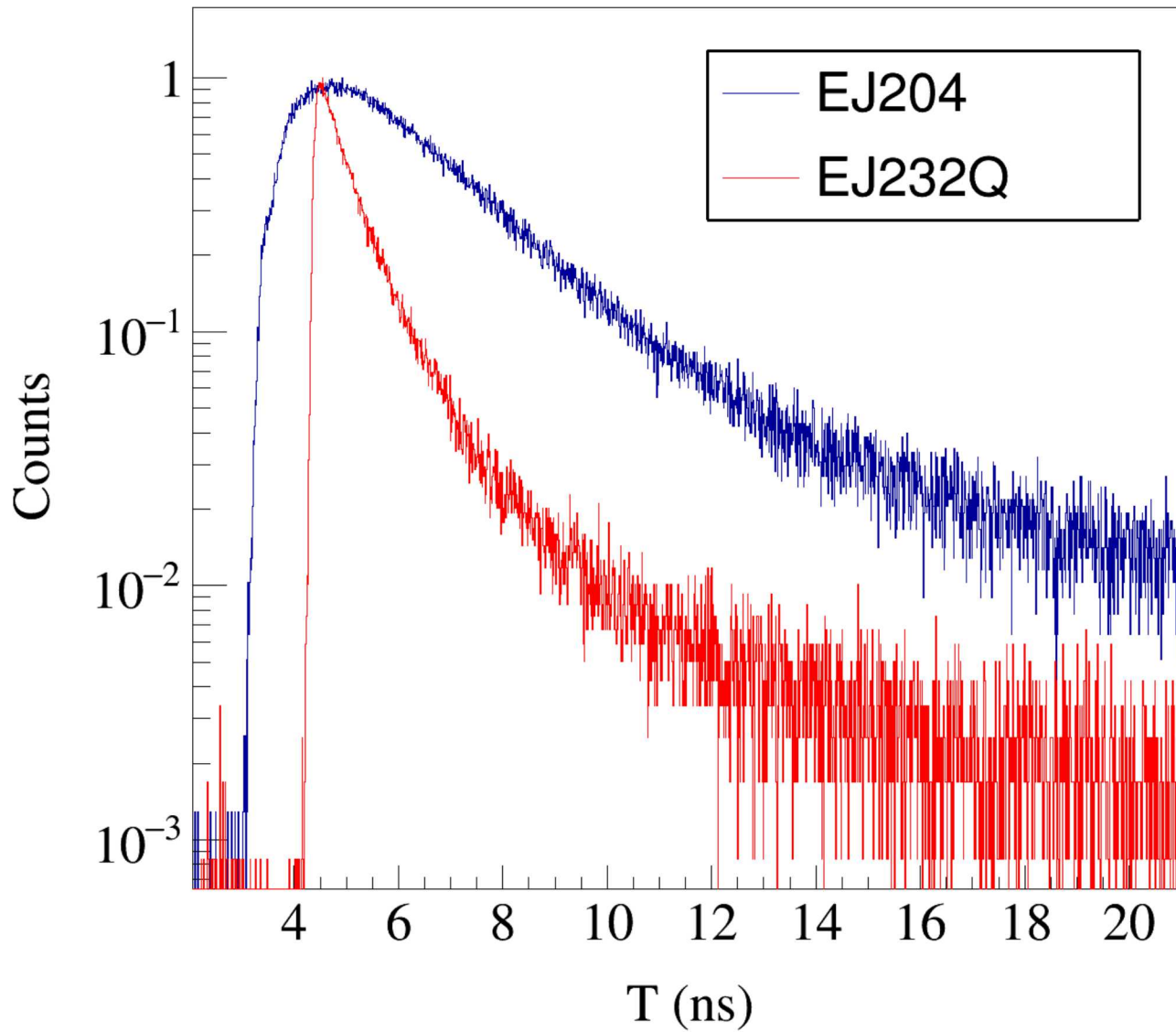


Pulse Start Time Uncertainty (T0)



Pulse Start Time Uncertainty (T0)

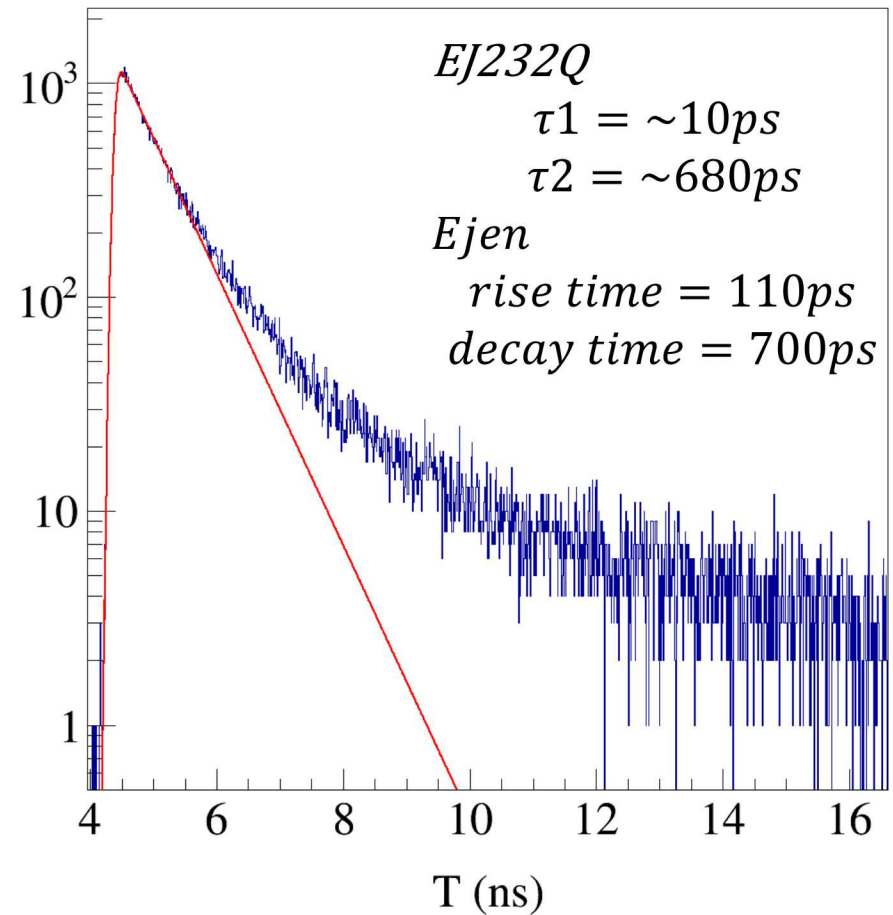
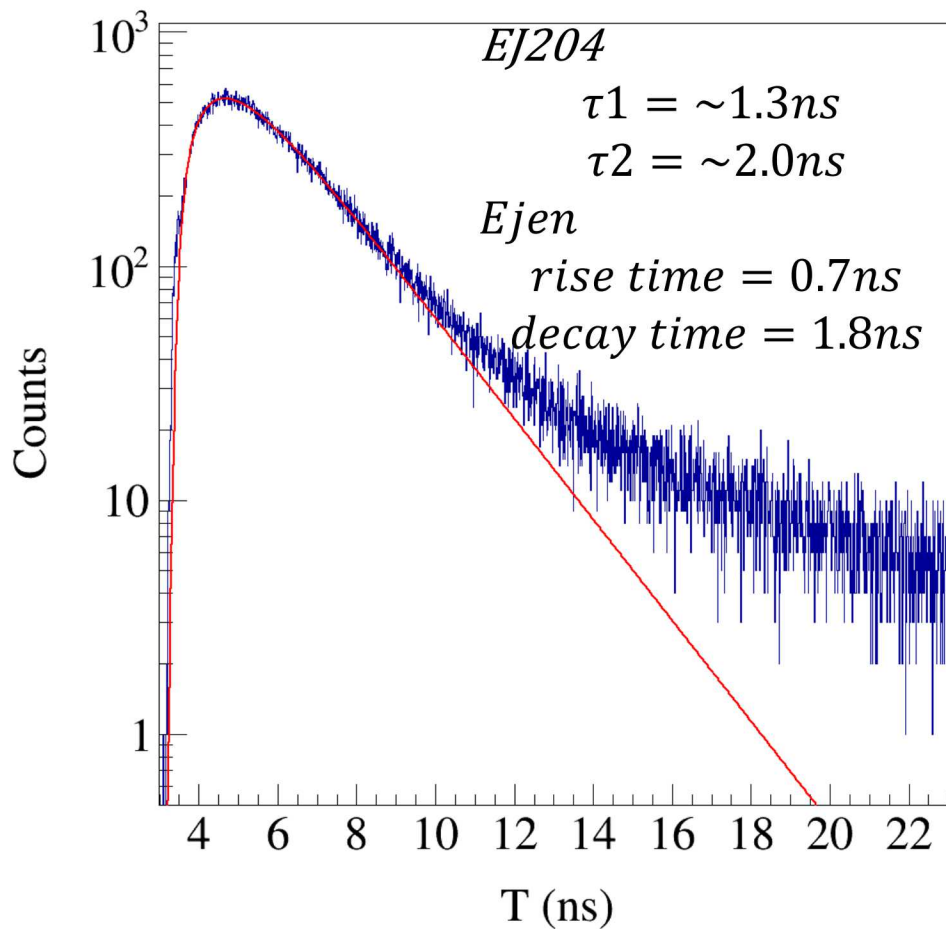


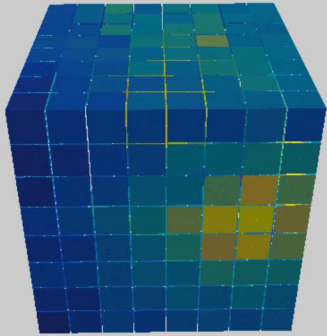


$$I(\tau_1, \tau_2, t) = \frac{(\tau_1 + \tau_2)}{\tau_2^2} e^{-\frac{t}{\tau_2}} \left(1 - e^{-\frac{t}{\tau_1}}\right) \Theta(t)$$

$$F = \text{IRF}(t) * I(\tau_1, \tau_2, t)$$

- IRF is considered a normal distribution with standard deviation equal to the quadrature sum of the outlined uncertainties





- A pulse shape measurement capability has been established with the resolution needed to provide inputs for the likelihood reconstruction algorithms of the Single Volume Scatter Camera
- Mixed source results were presented for two samples

Open Questions

- Neutron and Gamma-ray Pulse Shape Differences
 - Time of flight gated experiments are currently being analyzed
- Optical Path Length Variance
 - Realism needs to be added to the current Geant model to get a better handle on this uncertainty
- Can T0 resolution be improved with more sophisticated timing algorithms?
- Incorporation of delayed light?

