



Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare
Sezione di Roma

“Eppur si vede”

Francesco Collamati
Open Day INFN-Rm - 9.10.25



DISCLAIMER



This will NOT be:

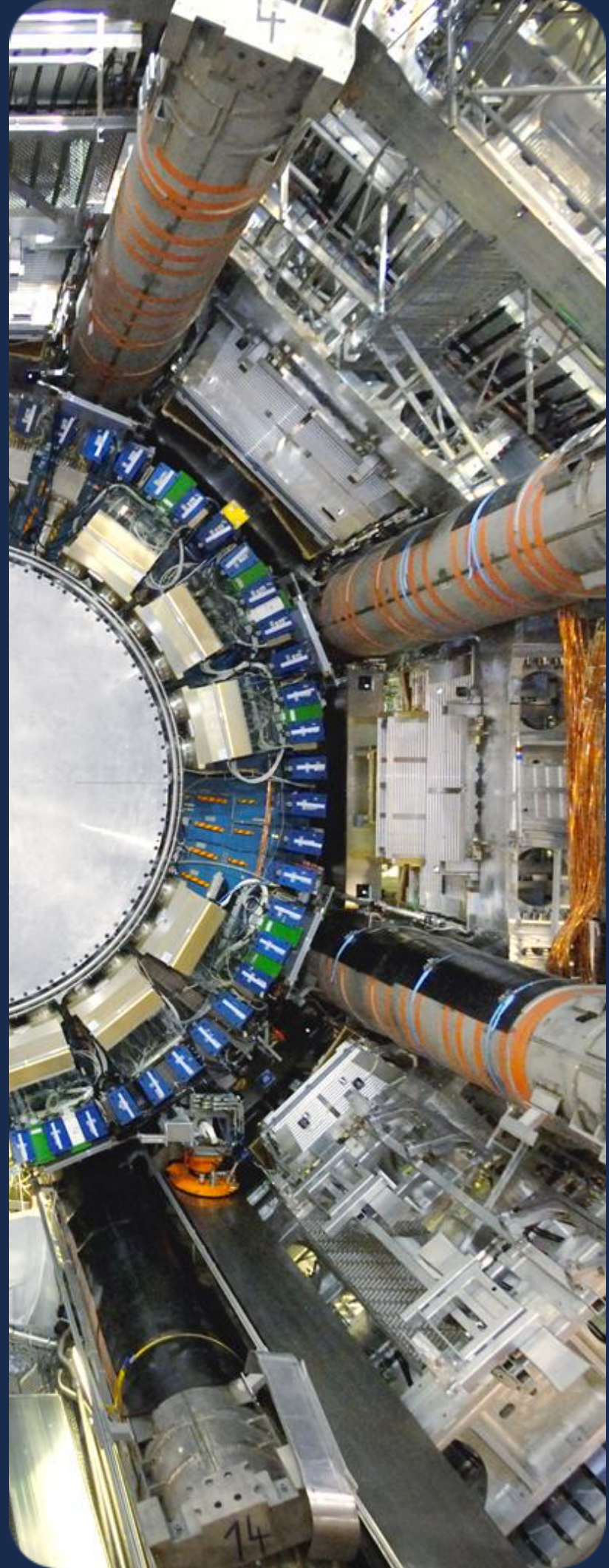
~~→ complete / systematic~~

~~→ “to scale”~~

~~→ splatter*~~

...but rather a (~)random walk
to give a **glimpse** and a **feeling**

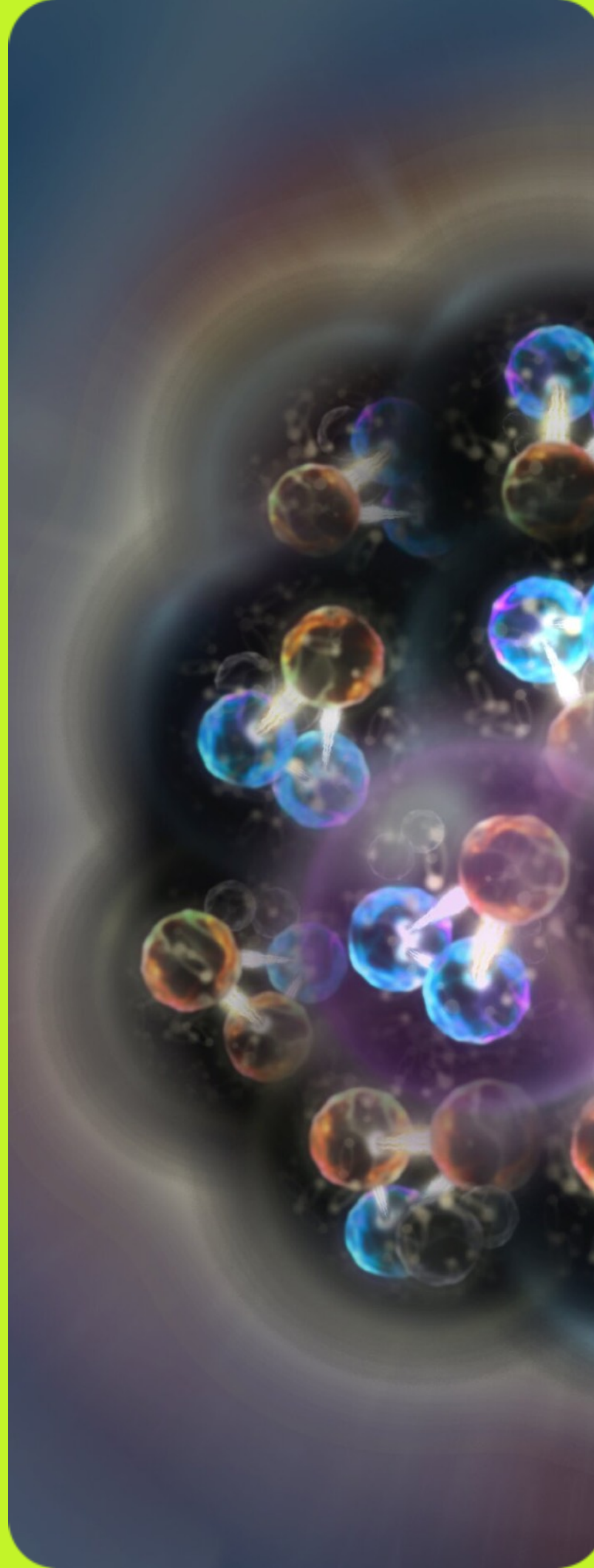
CSN1



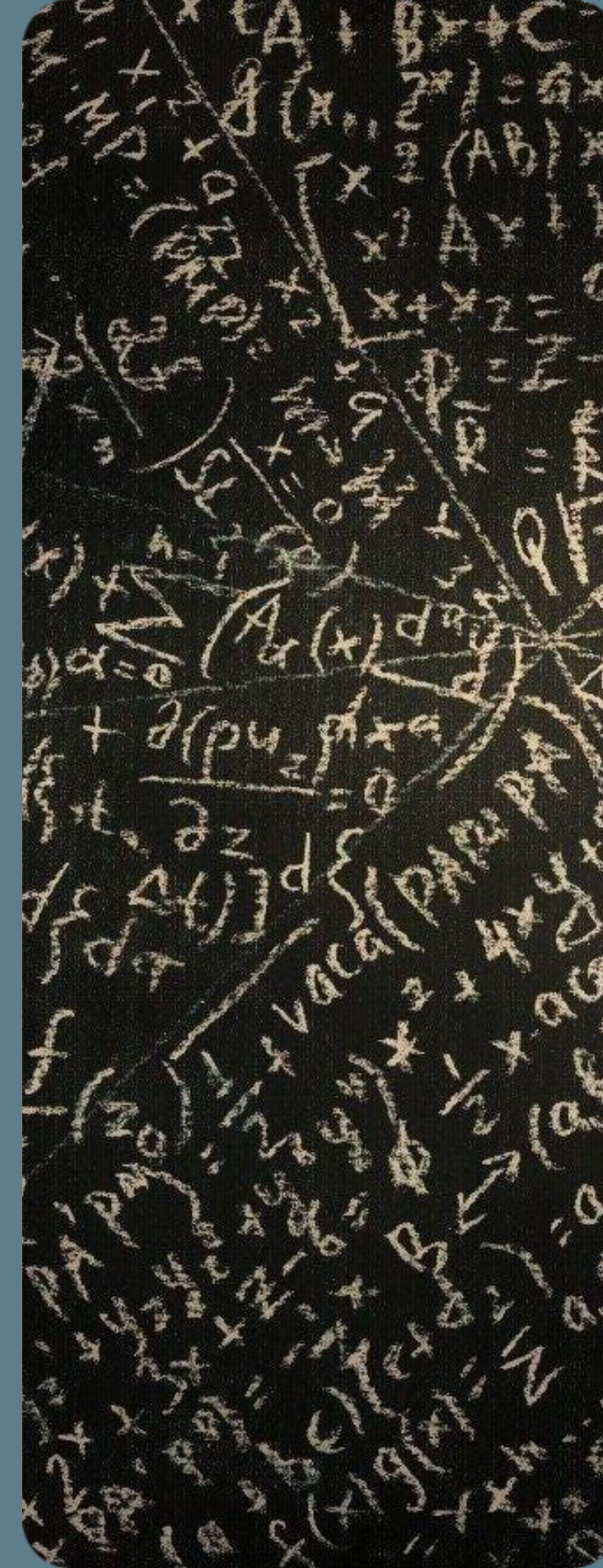
CSN2



CSN3



CSN4



CSN5



CSN5

Accelerators

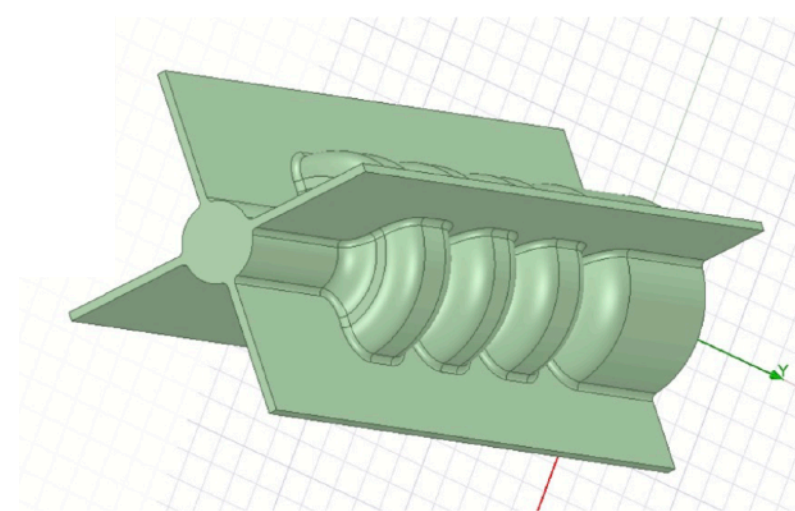
Interdisciplinary Physics

Electronics & Detectors

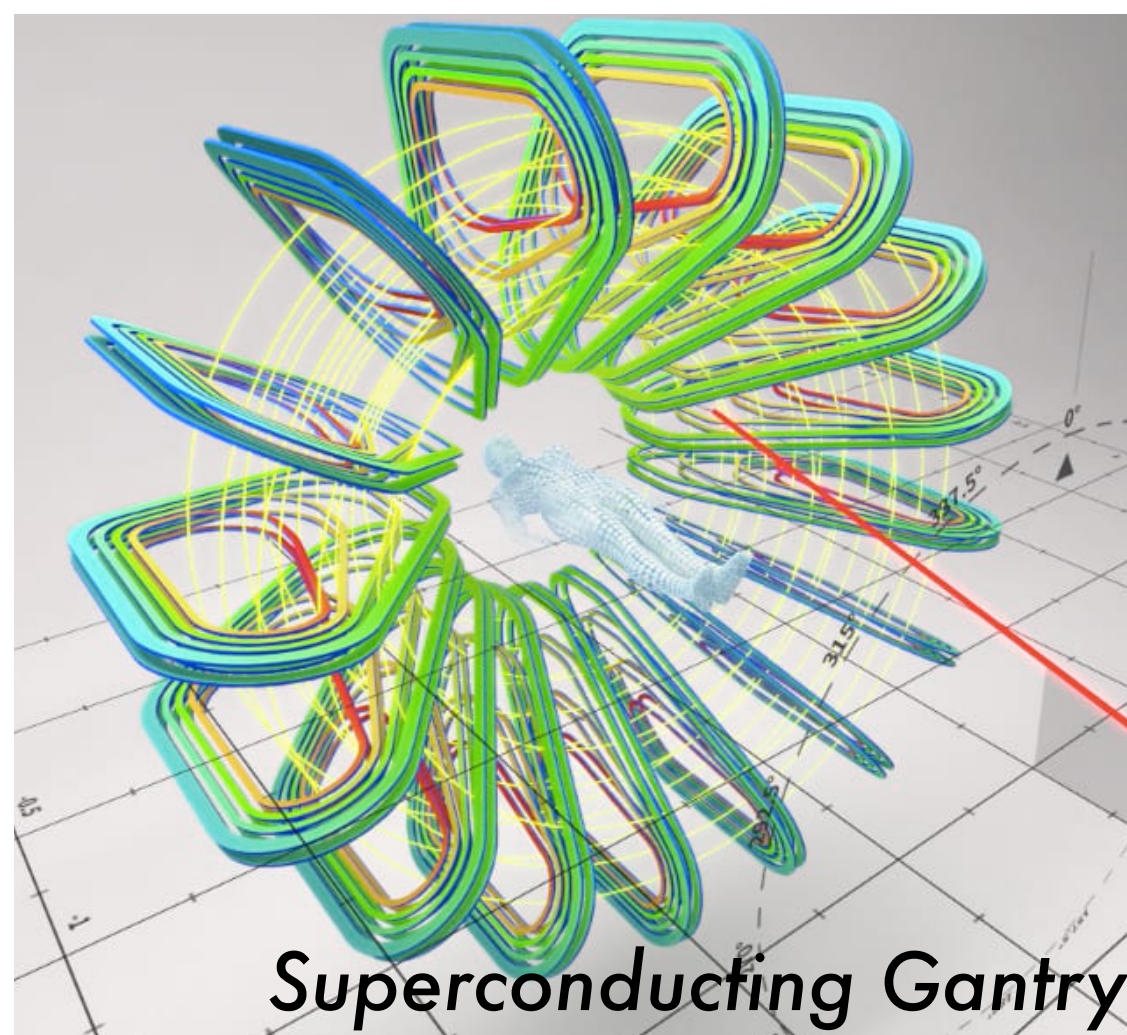
Computing

Accelerators

Applications

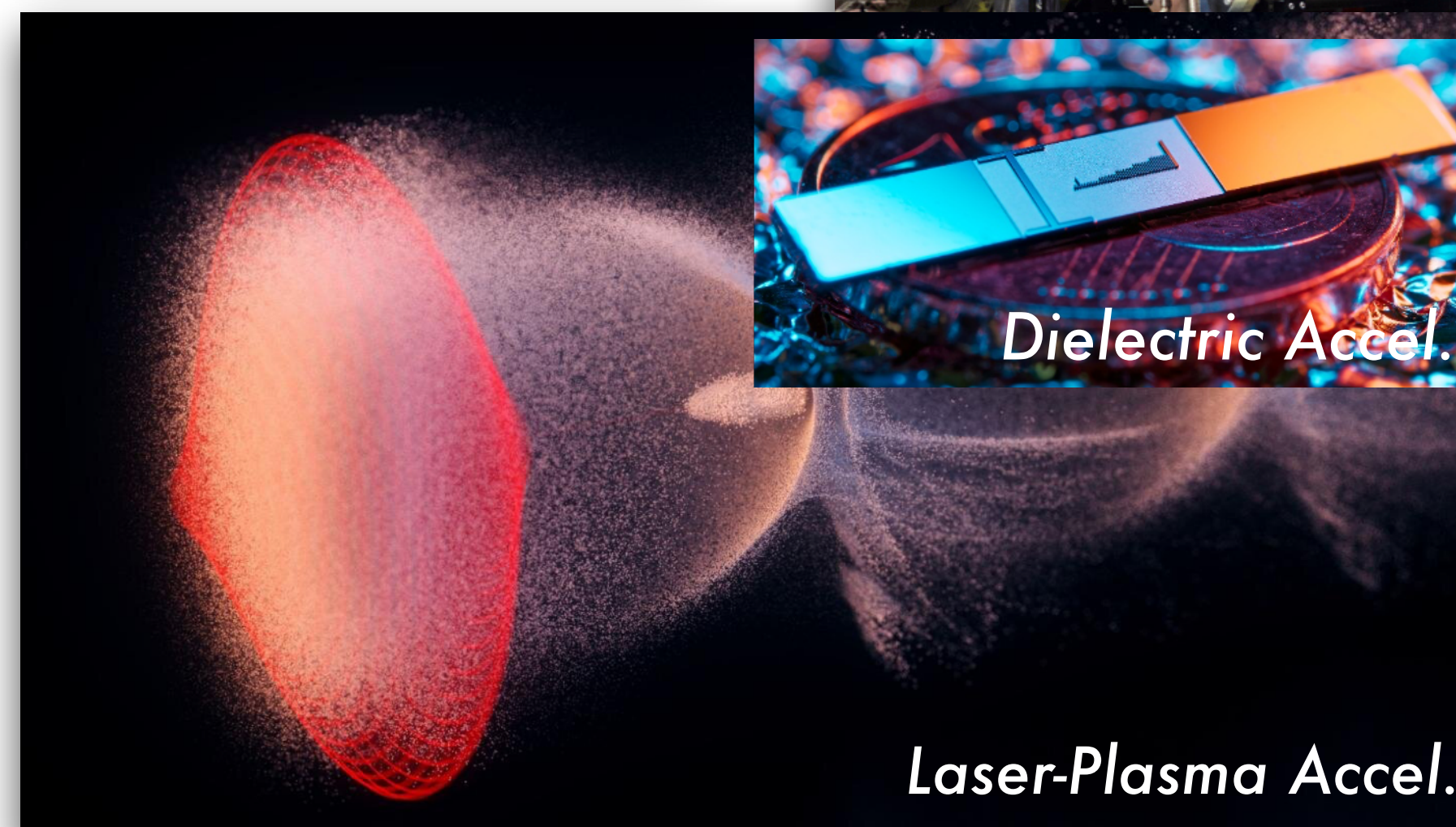
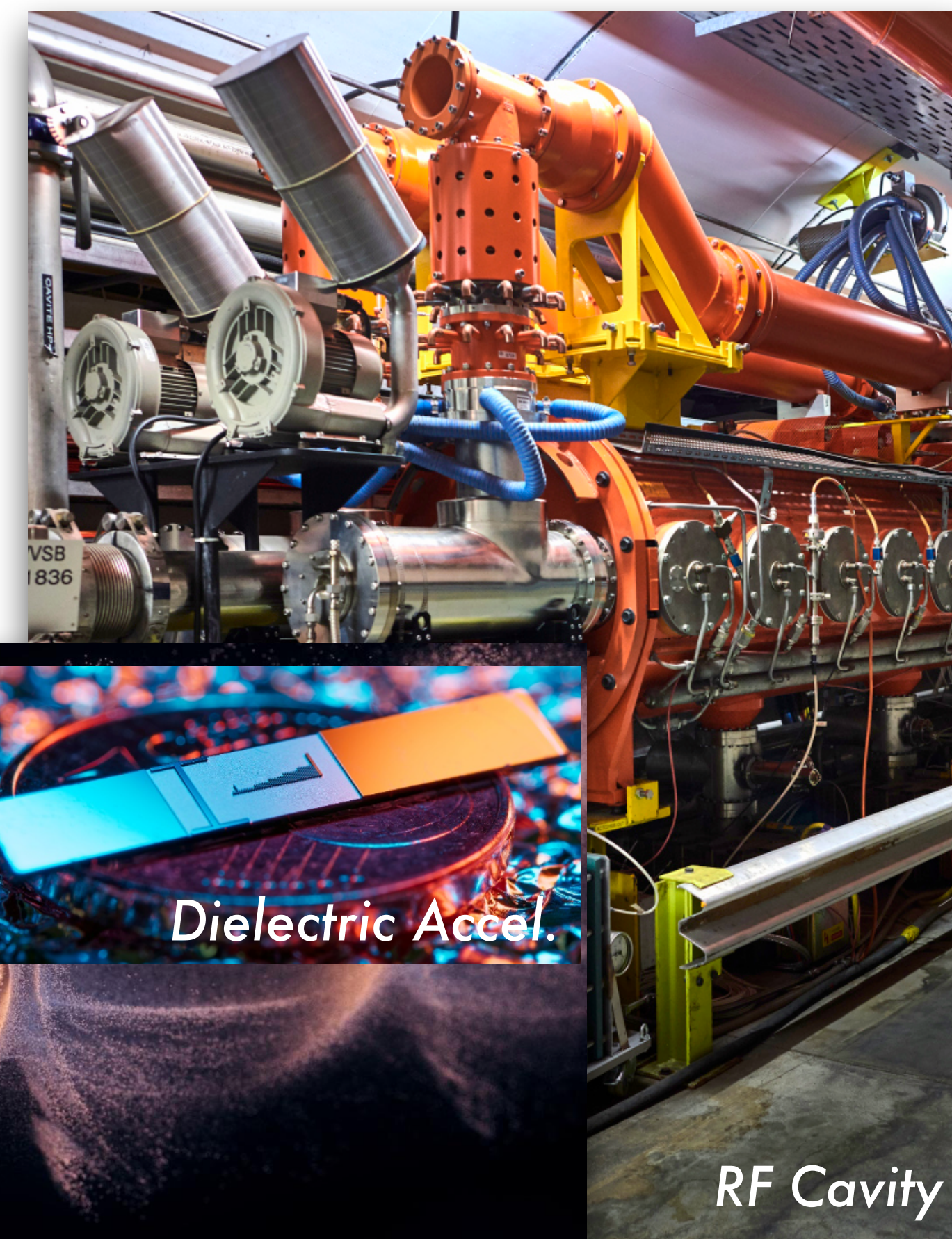
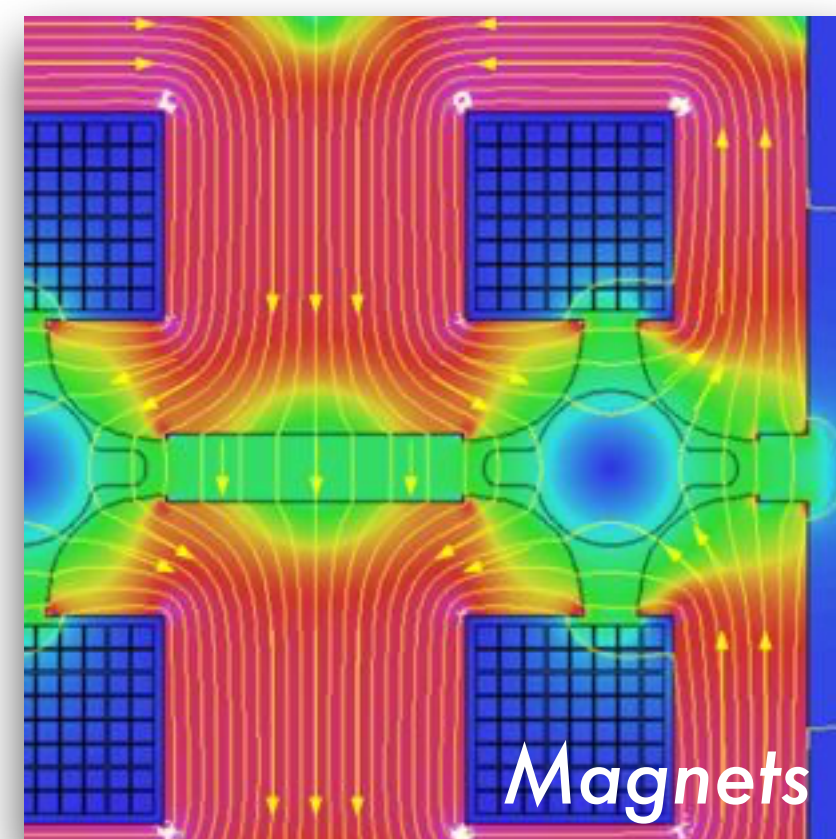


Miniaturised
aCceleRatOrs Network



Superconducting Gantry

Base technologies for acceleration



CSN5

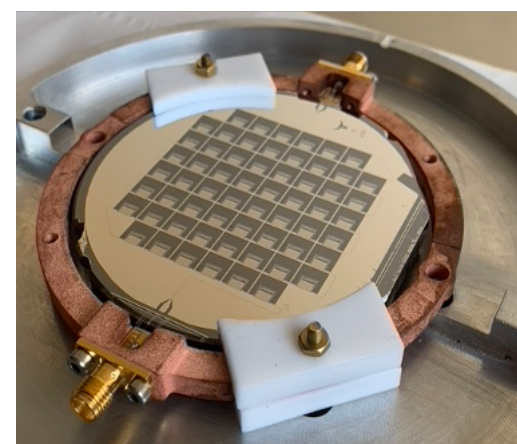
Accelerators

Interdisciplinary Physics

Electronics & Detectors

Computing

Detectors for experiments

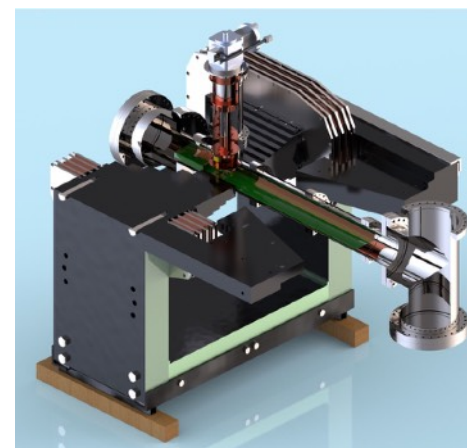


Bullkid
(dark matter)

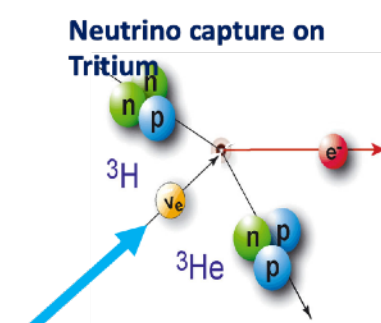


Glass	
150nm	ITO
10nm	p
0/1200/2500nm	i
50nm	n
Cr/Al/Cr	metal

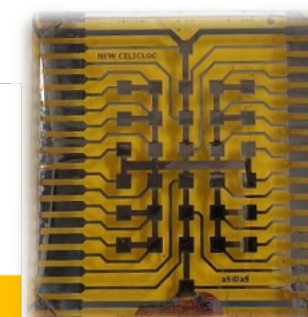
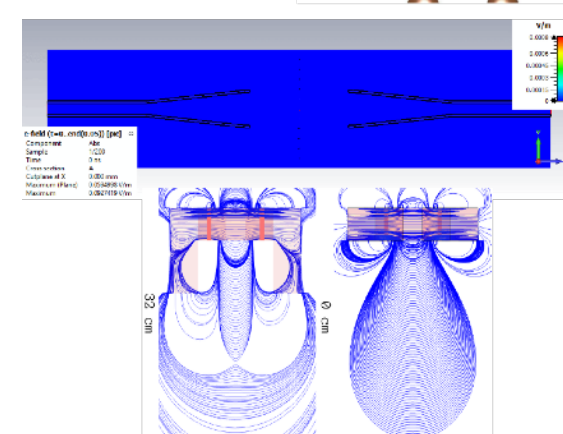
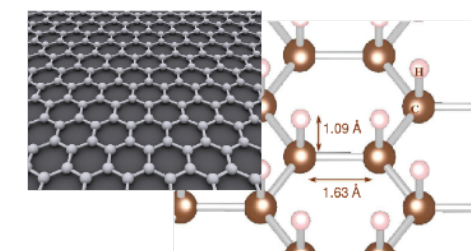
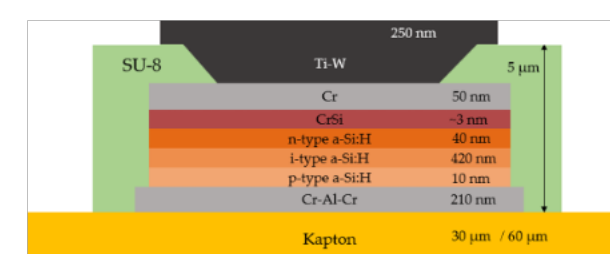
Haspide HAMorphous Silicon Pixel DETector for ionizing radiation



Ptolemy
(CNB detection)

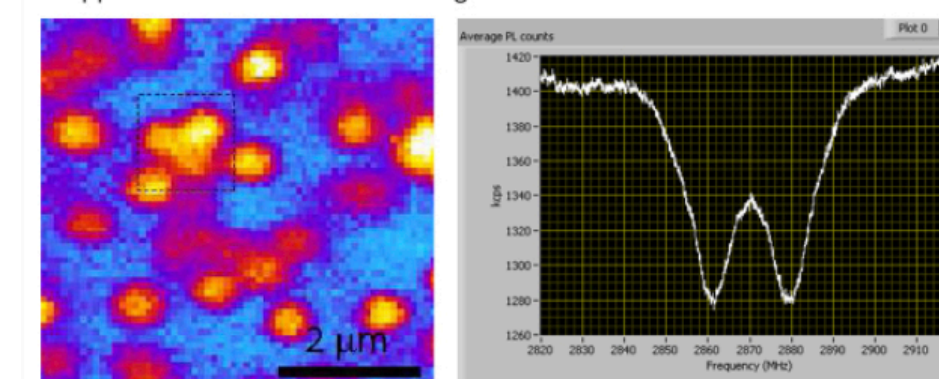


Kapton



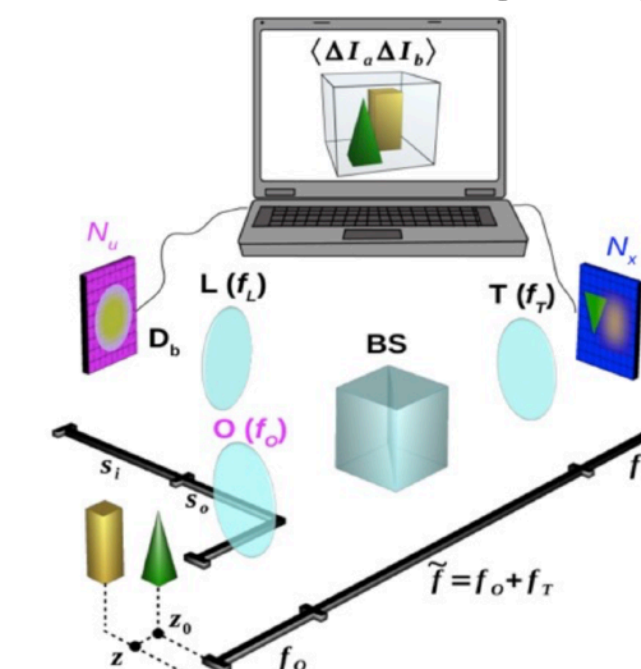
Quantum Sensing & Quantum Imaging

Mappe in fotoluminescenza di singoli centri di colore in diamante



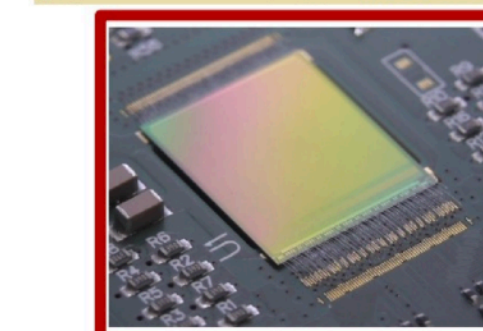
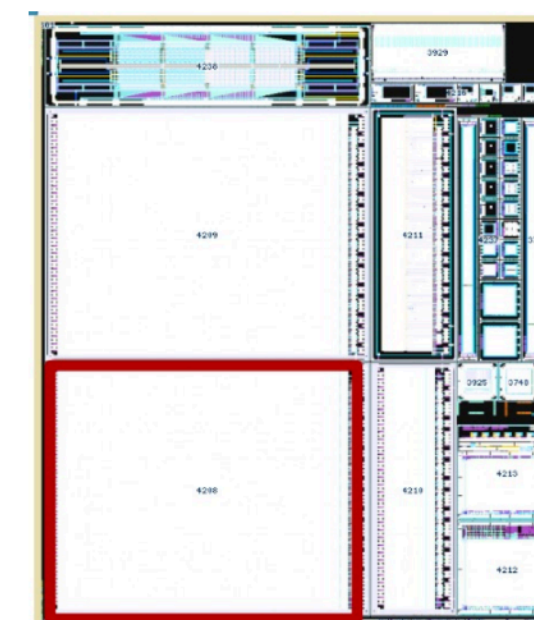
Risonanza magnetica di spin di un ensemble di centri NV in diamante letta mediante contrasto di luminescenza

<http://www.solid.unito.it/RICERCA/Diamante/diesis/diesis.html>



Electronics & Detectors

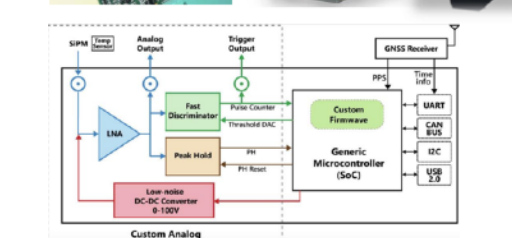
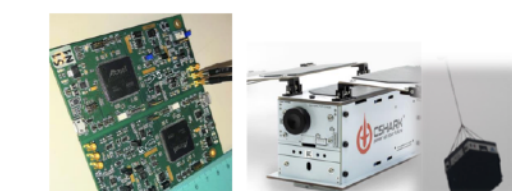
Electronics



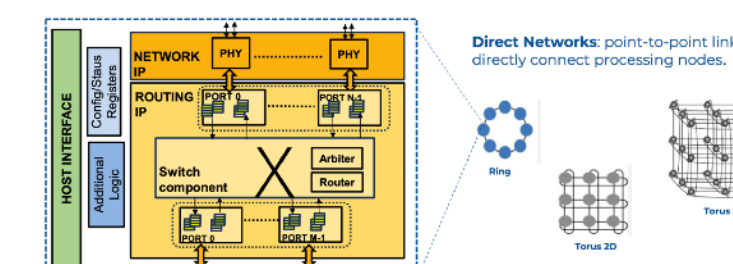
Microelectronics



2 x 55 cm ² 100 g/ch	50 cm ² 21 g/ch	25 cm ² 10 g/ch	4 cm ² /ch ² g/ch
GEN1	GEN2	GEN3	GEN4

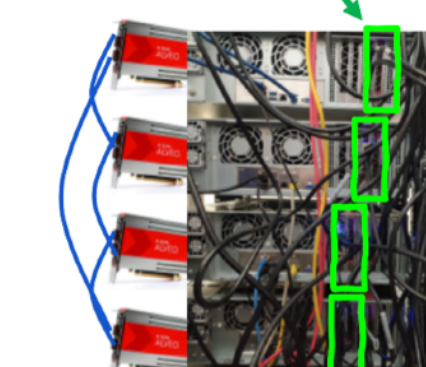


System-On-Chip



- FPGA-based testbed**
- AMD Xilinx FPGA U200
 - 4x Supermicro servers
 - Sapphire Rapids CPUs
 - Gen3 PCIe

APEnetX prototypes connected point-to-point with QSFP28 cables



FPGA

CSN5

Accelerators

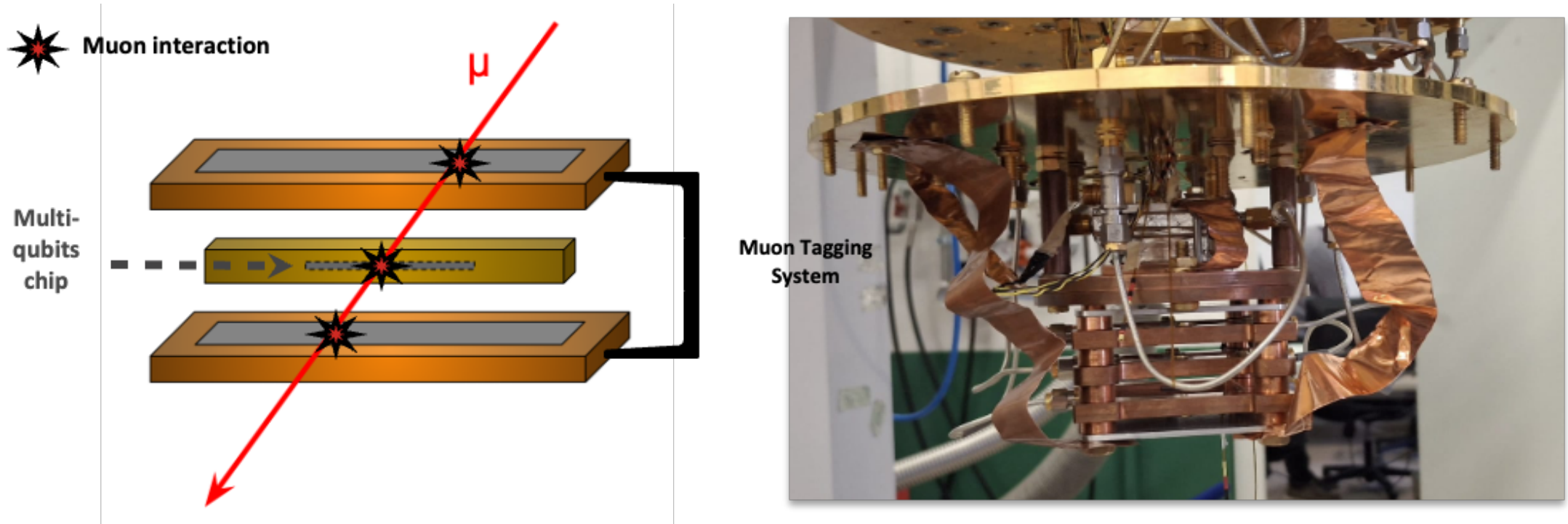
Interdisciplinary Physics

Electronics & Detectors

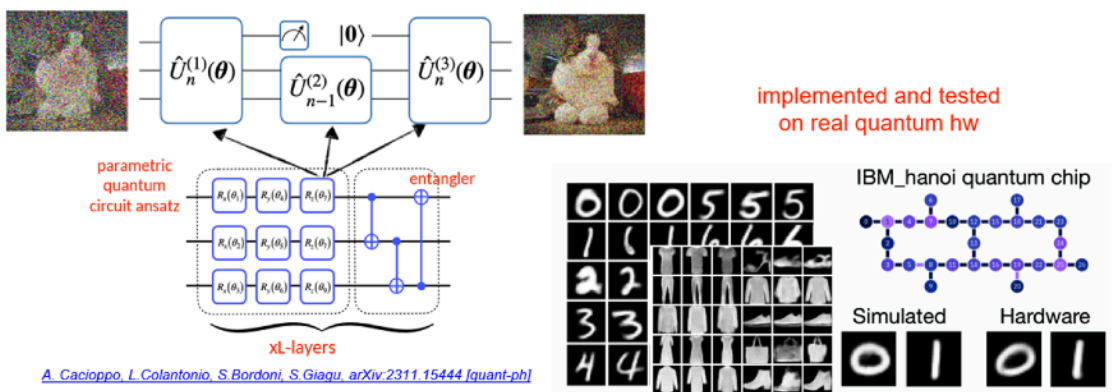
Computing

Quantum Computing

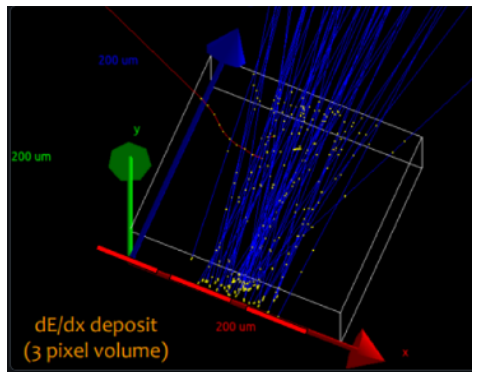
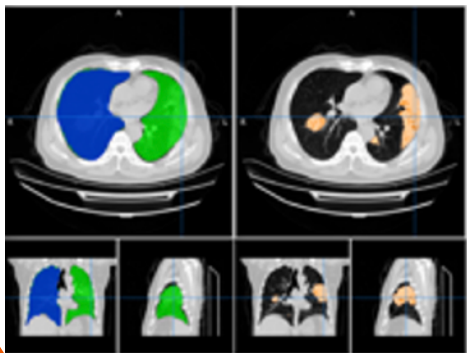
ACE-SuperQ



Artificial Intelligence Quantum Machine-Learning

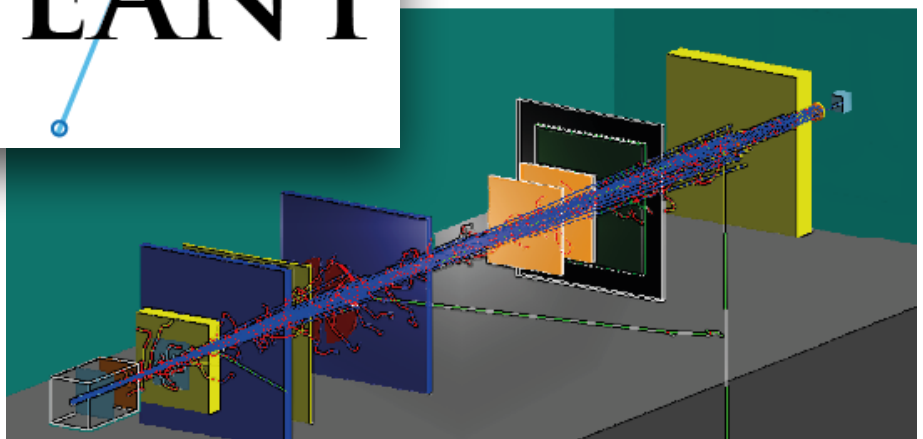
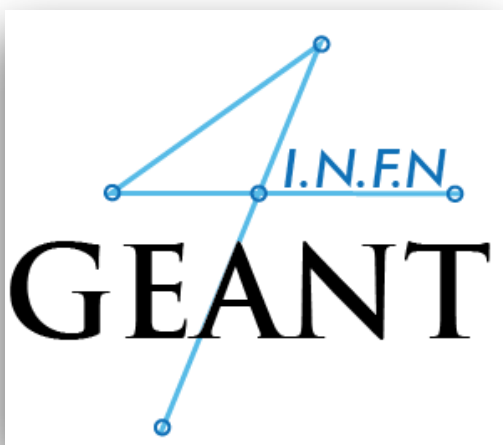


Radiomics

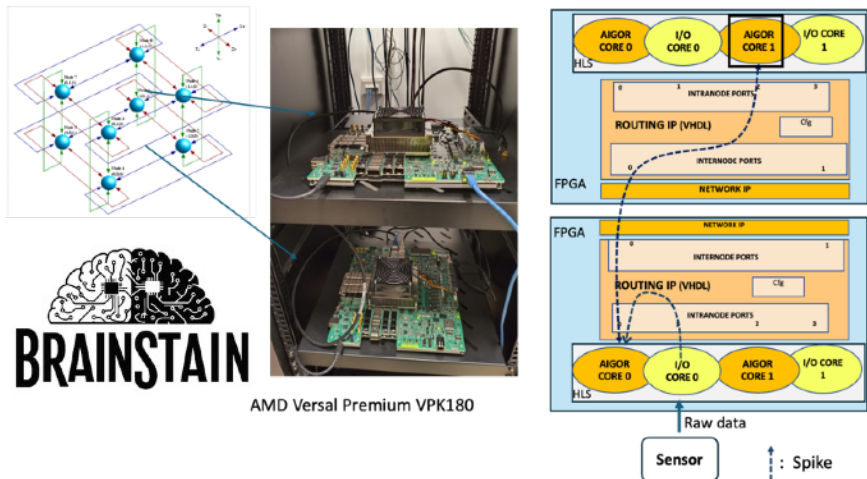


Detector Simulation

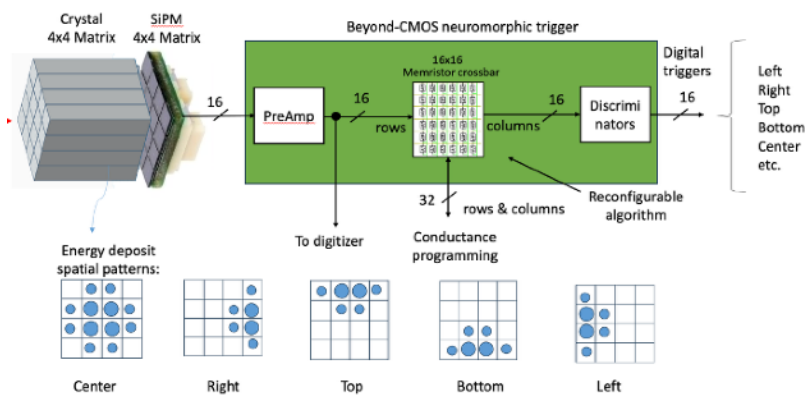
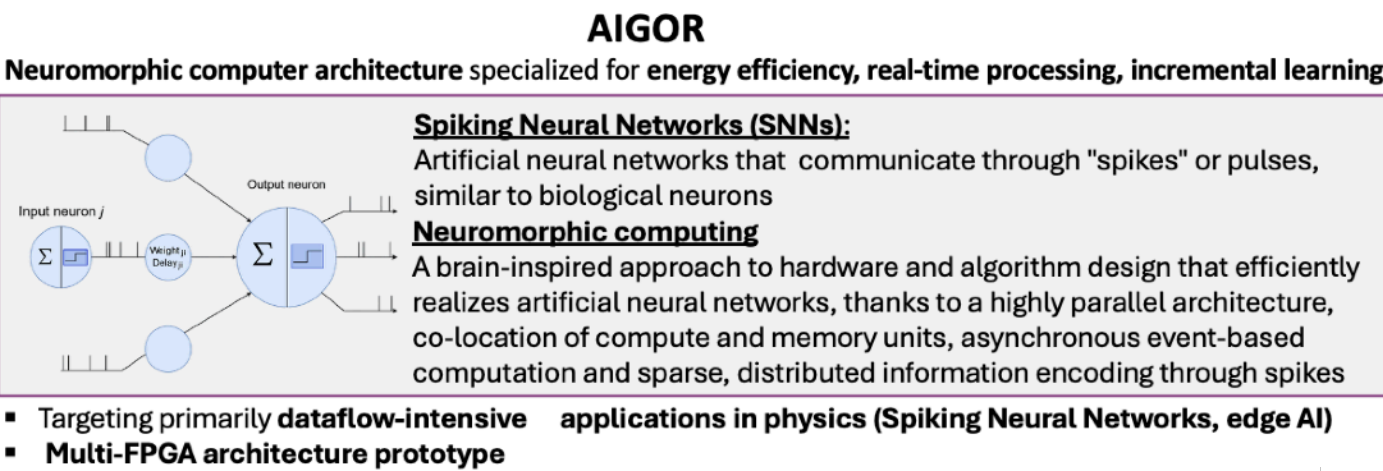
CSN5



Neuromorphic Computing



MEMPHYS (MEMristive-CMOS hybrid electronics for experimental PHYSics)



Computing

CSN5

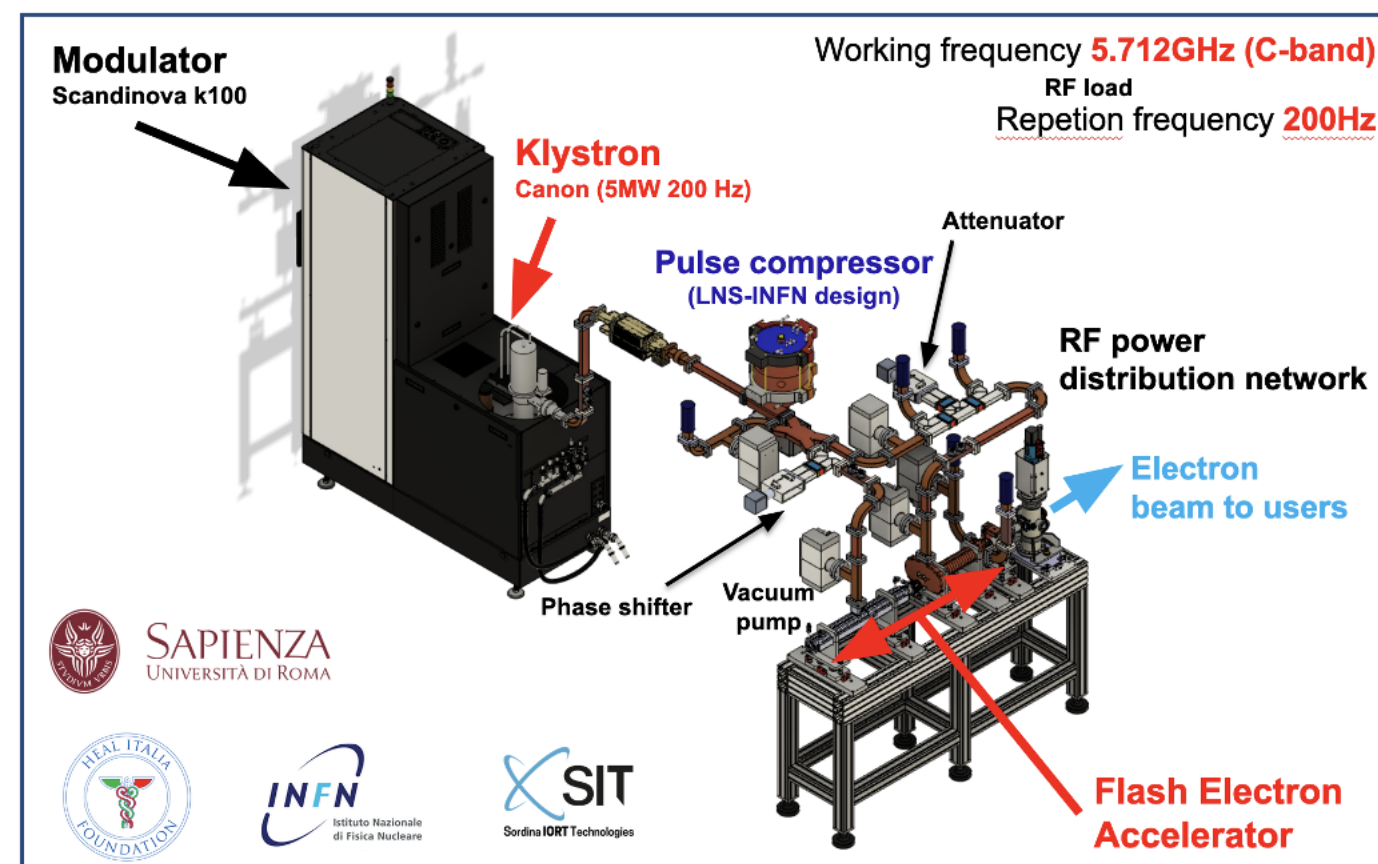
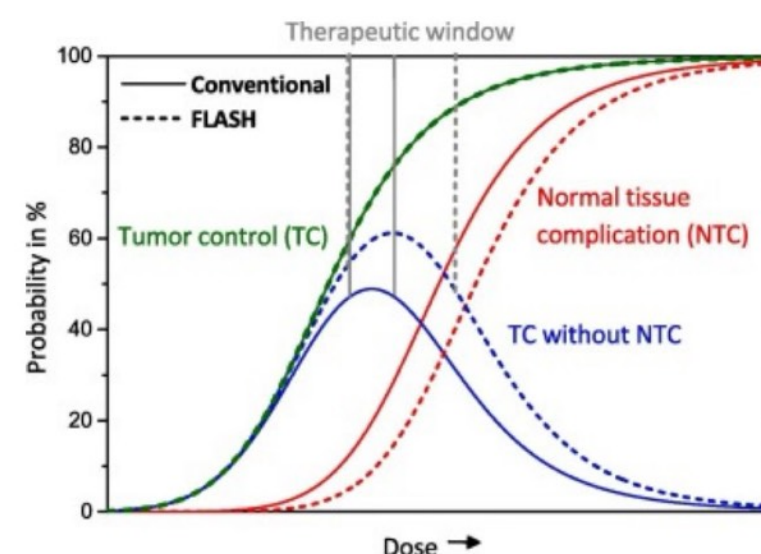
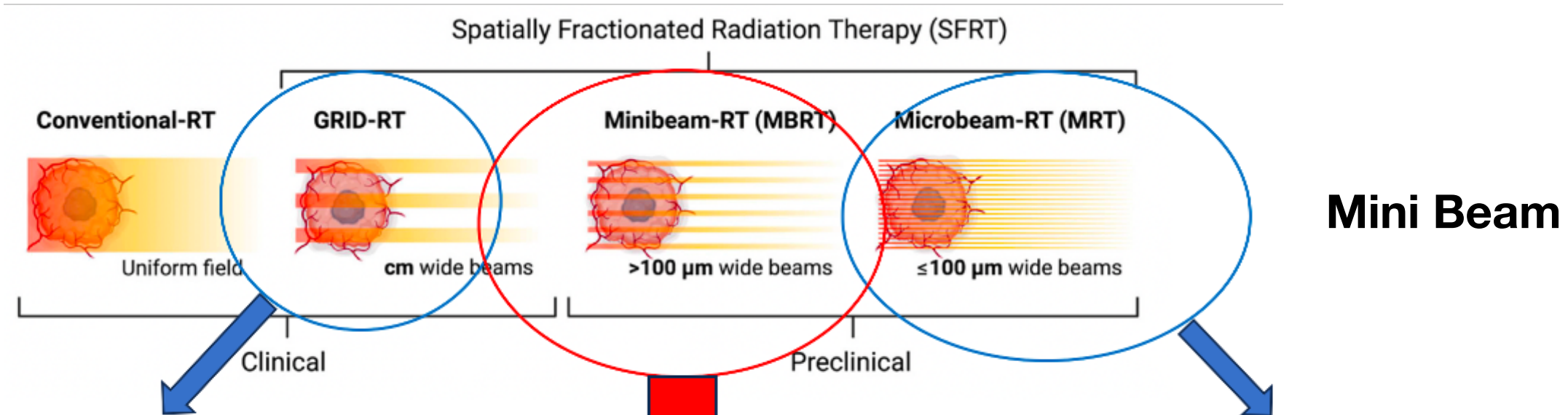
Accelerators

Interdisciplinary Physics

Electronics & Detectors

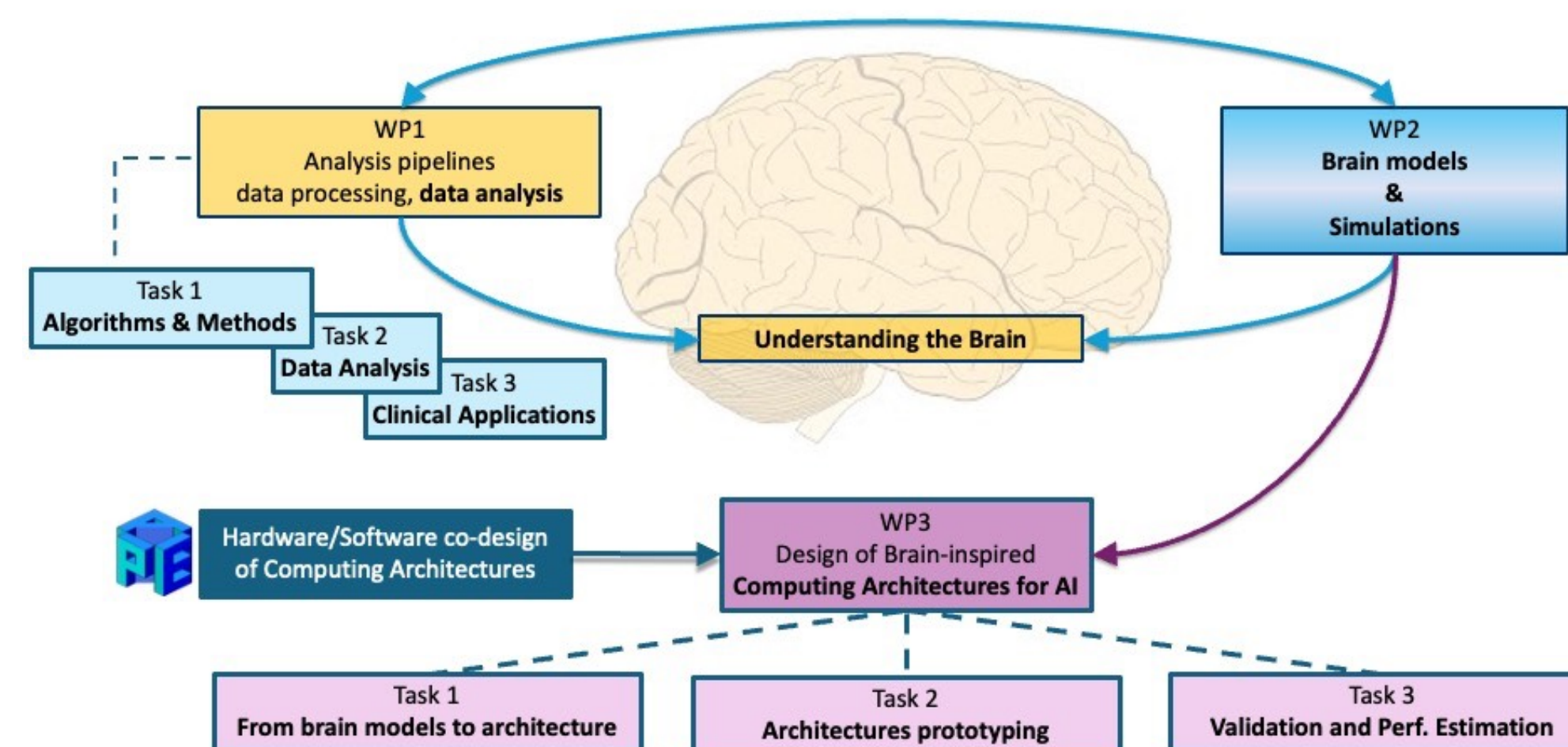
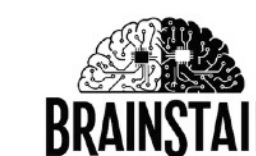
Computing

Medical Physics

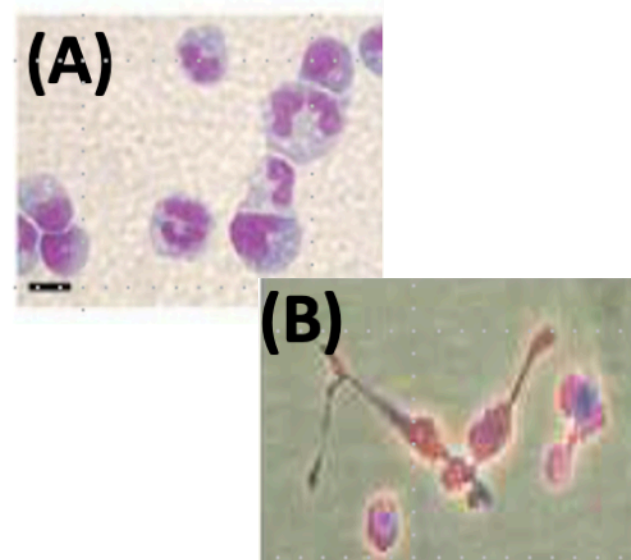
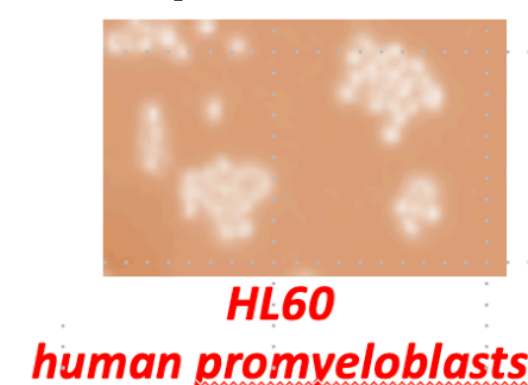


Interdisciplinary Physics

Computational Neuroscience



Biophysics



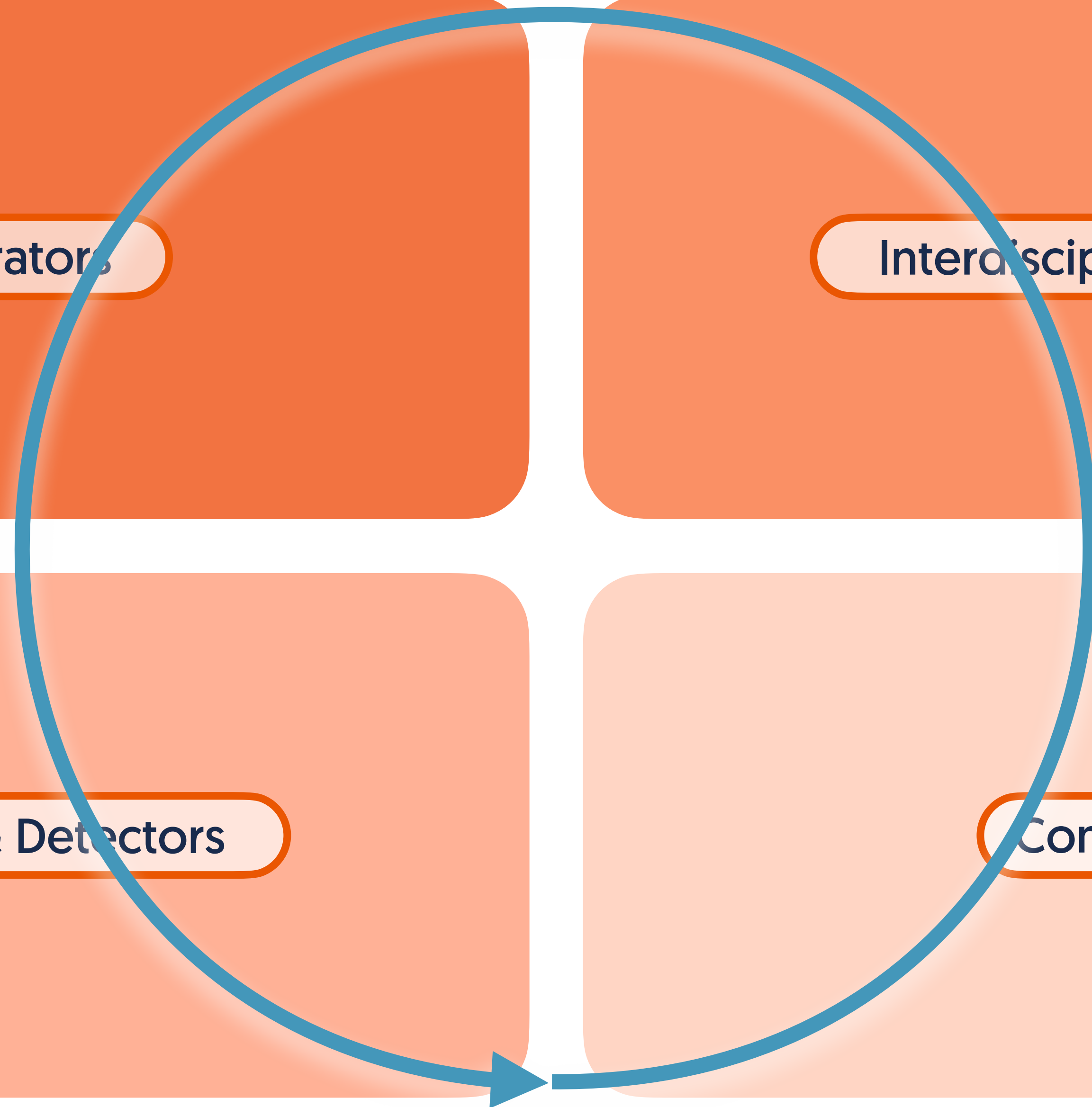
CSN5

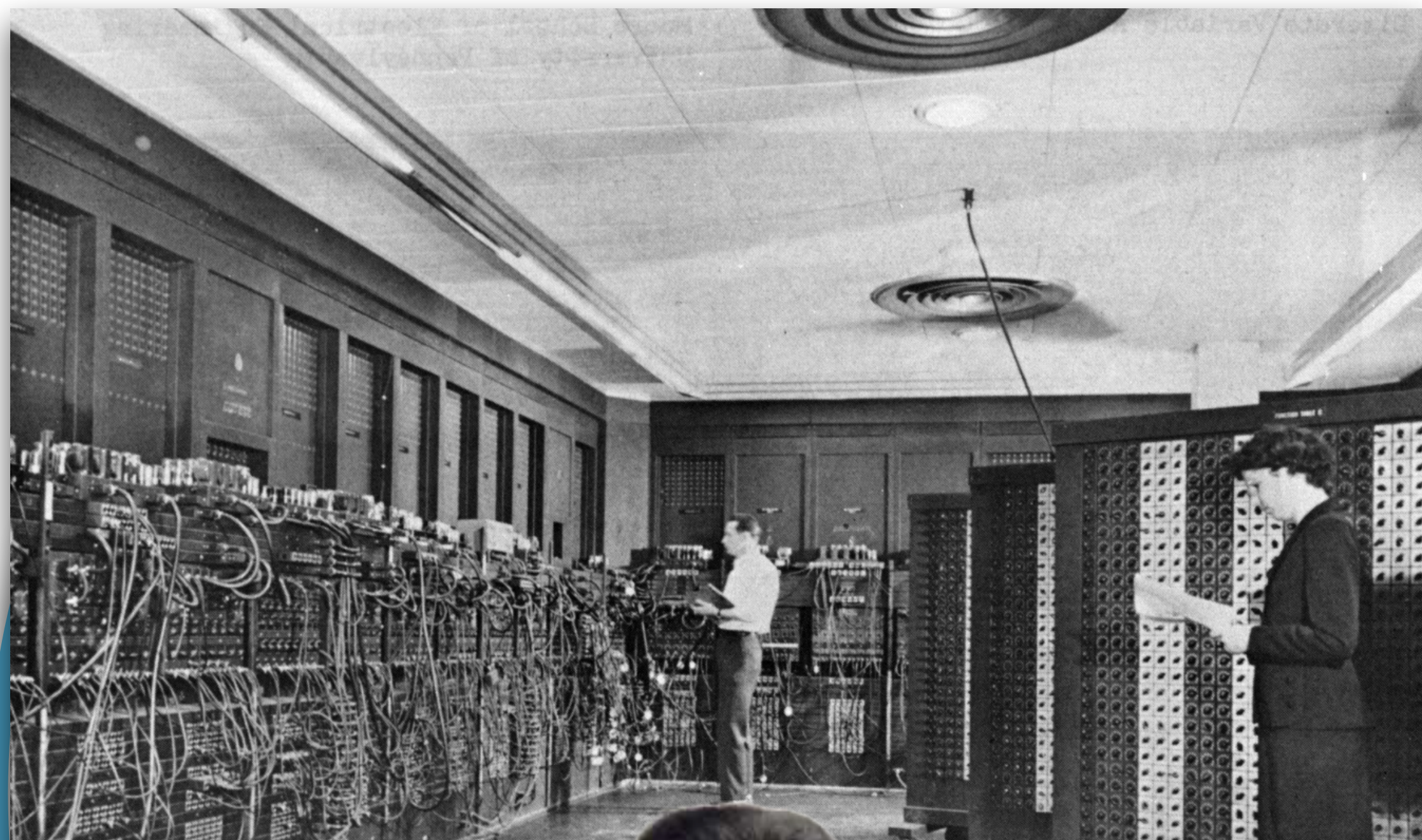
Accelerators

Interdisciplinary Physics

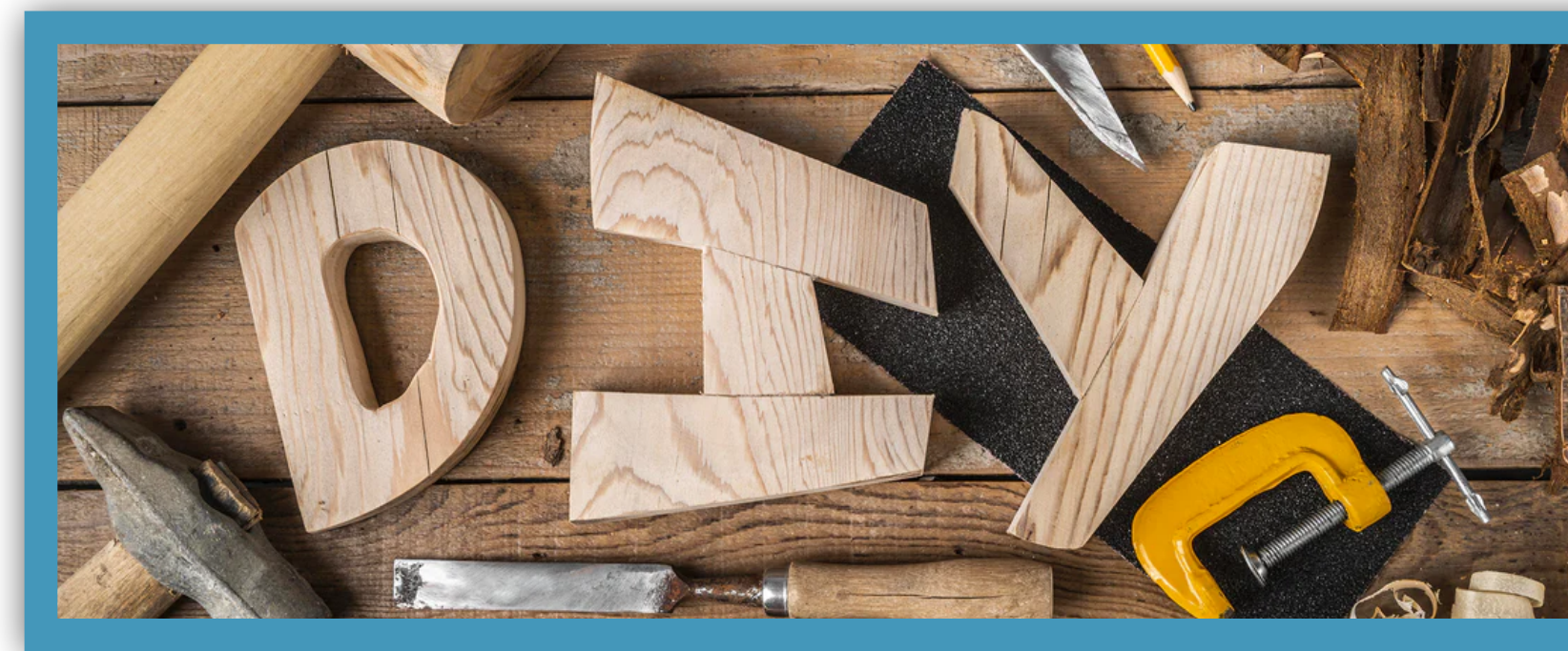
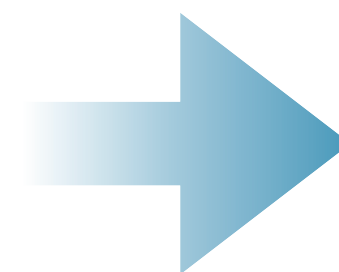
Electronics & Detectors

Computing

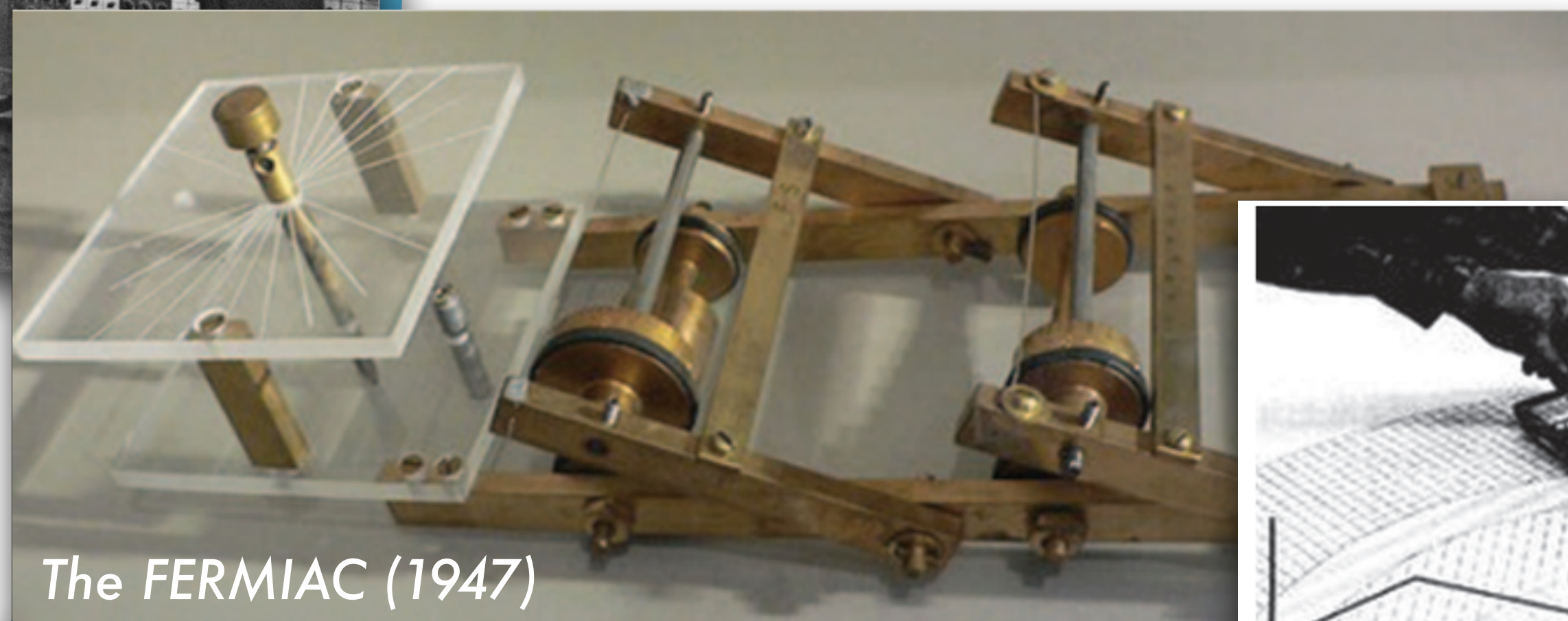




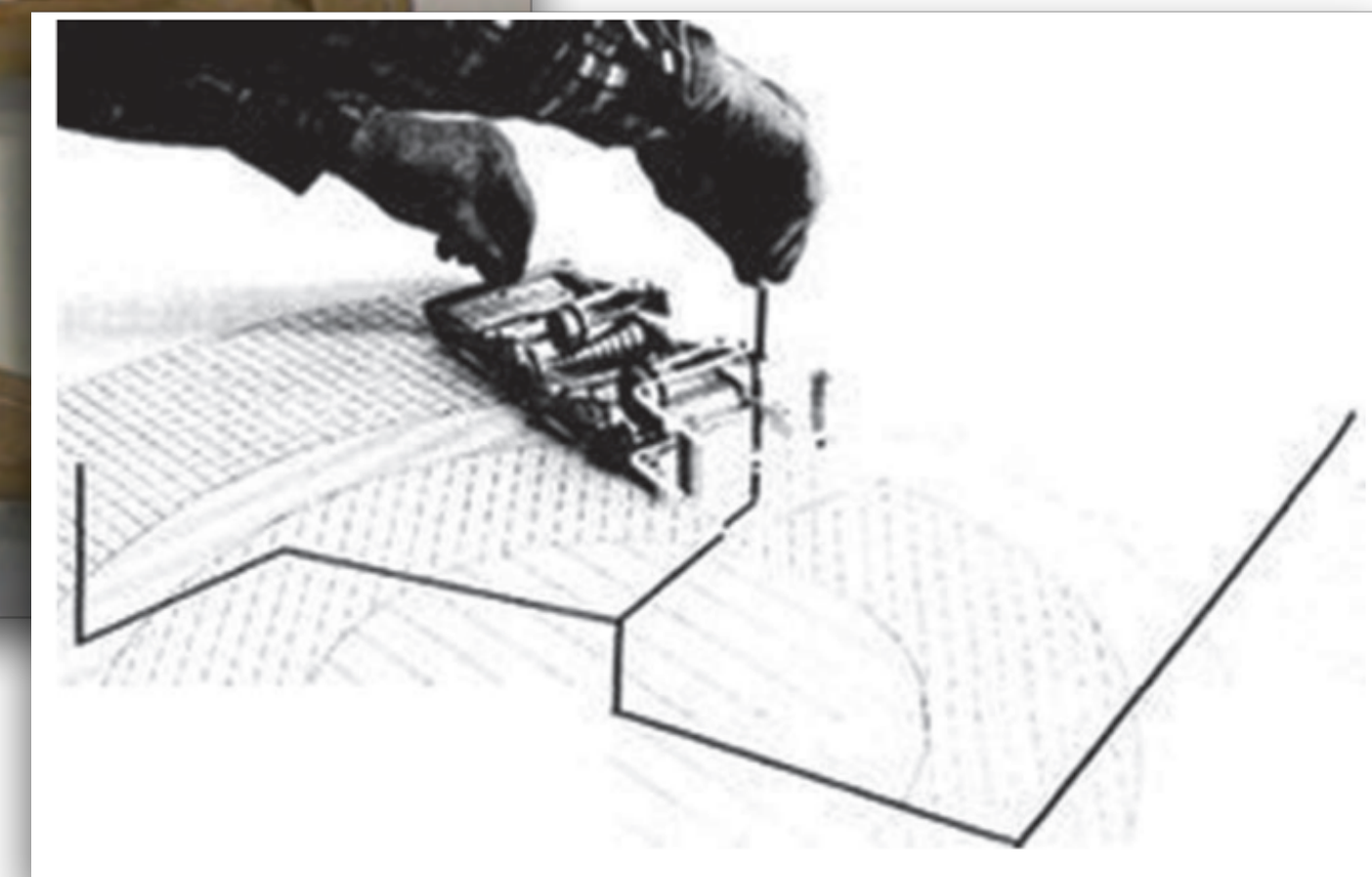
ENIAC - Electronic
Numerical Integrator
And Computer

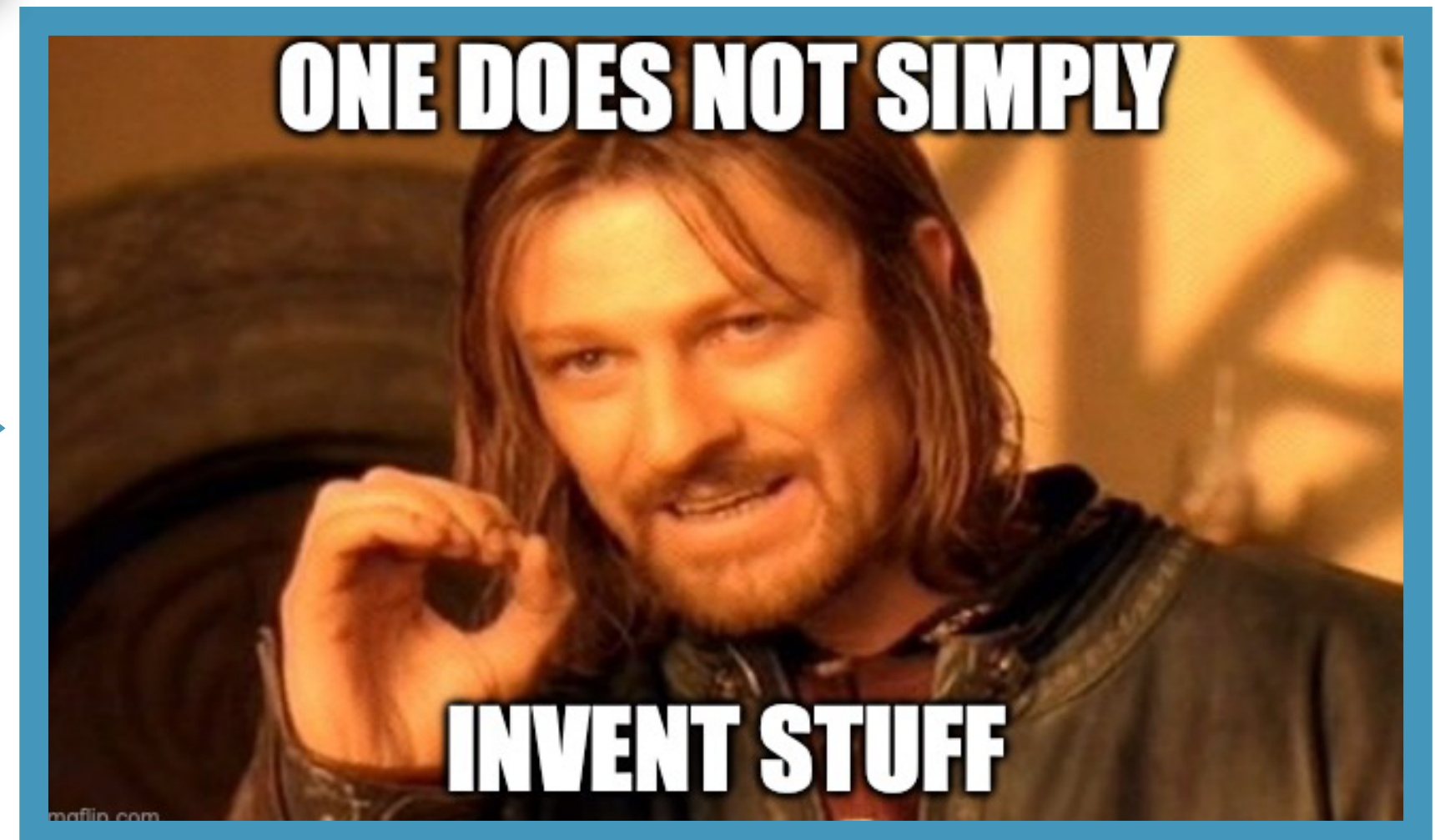
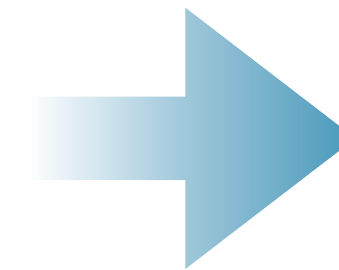


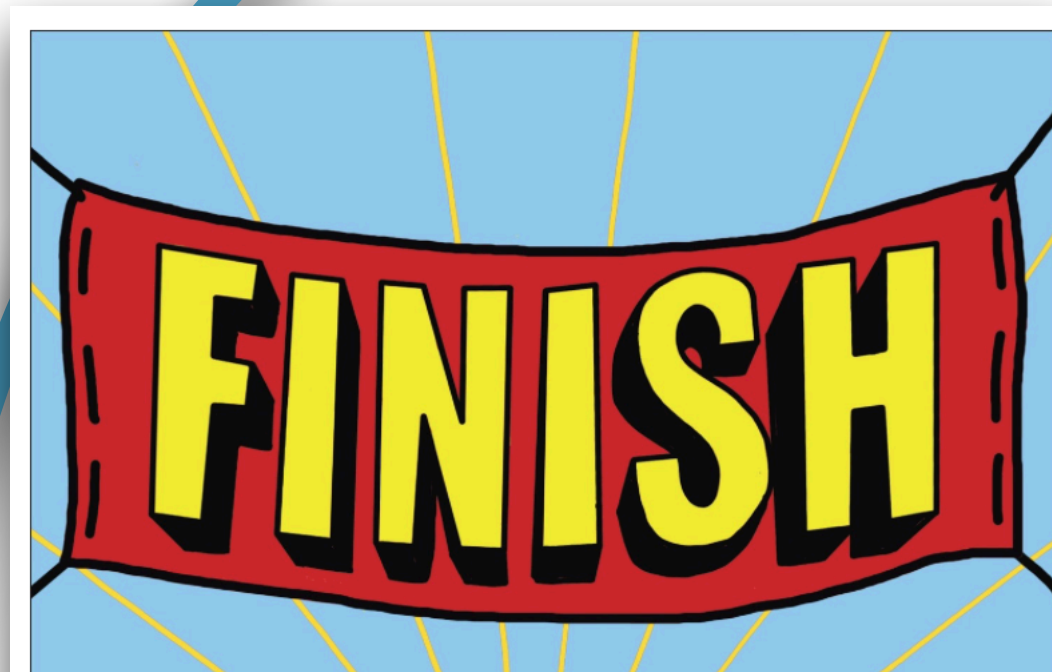
Do It Yourself



The FERMIAC (1947)





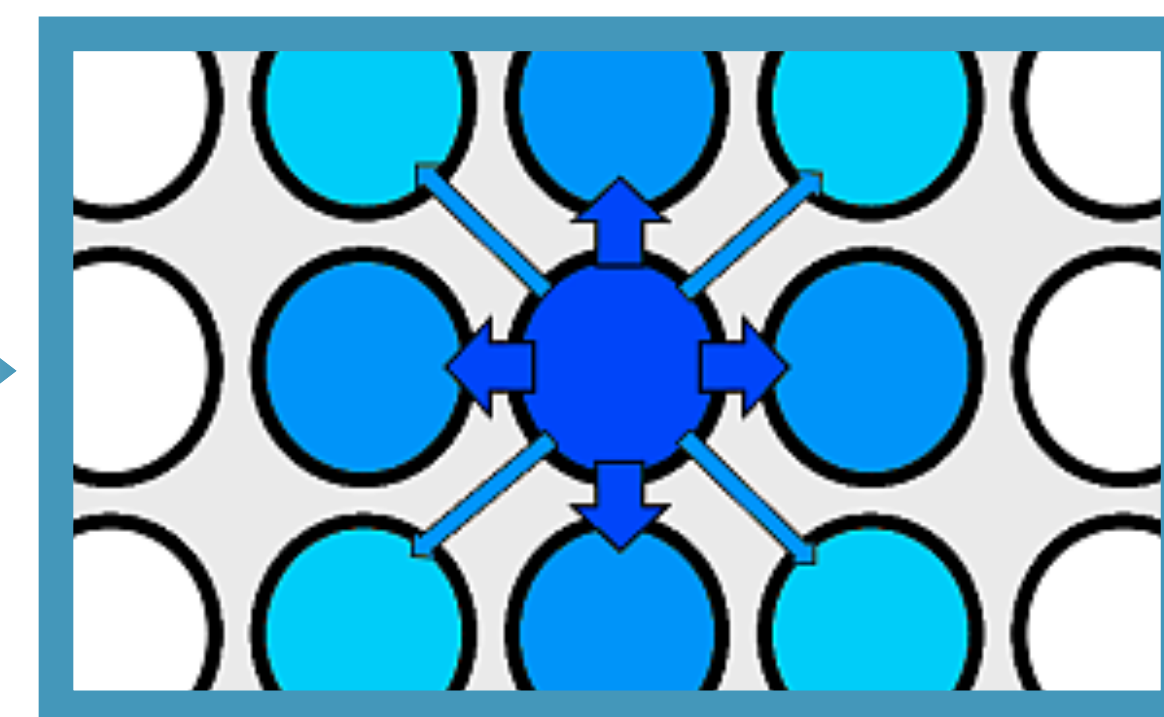


day siege to you with other opportunities.

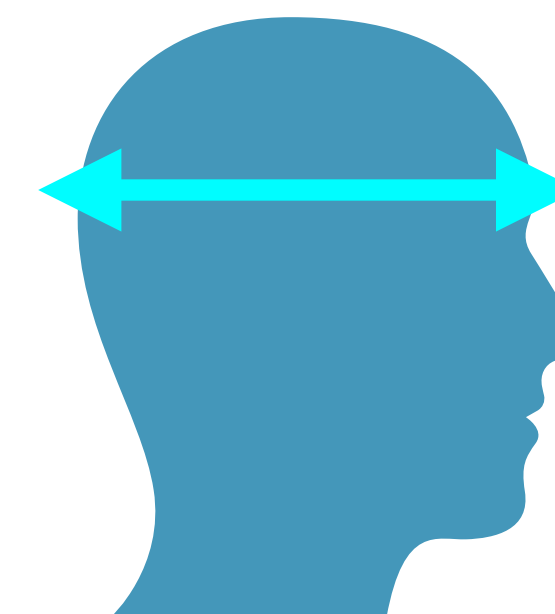
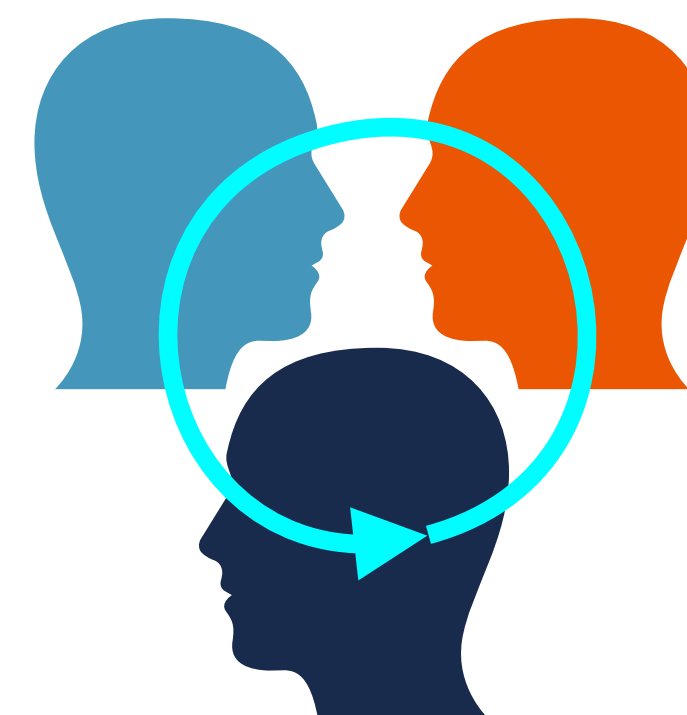
The closer you get to finishing, the more interesting everything else in your life becomes. It's as if you've put on distraction goggles. Things you never noticed pop up and dance

JON ACUFF

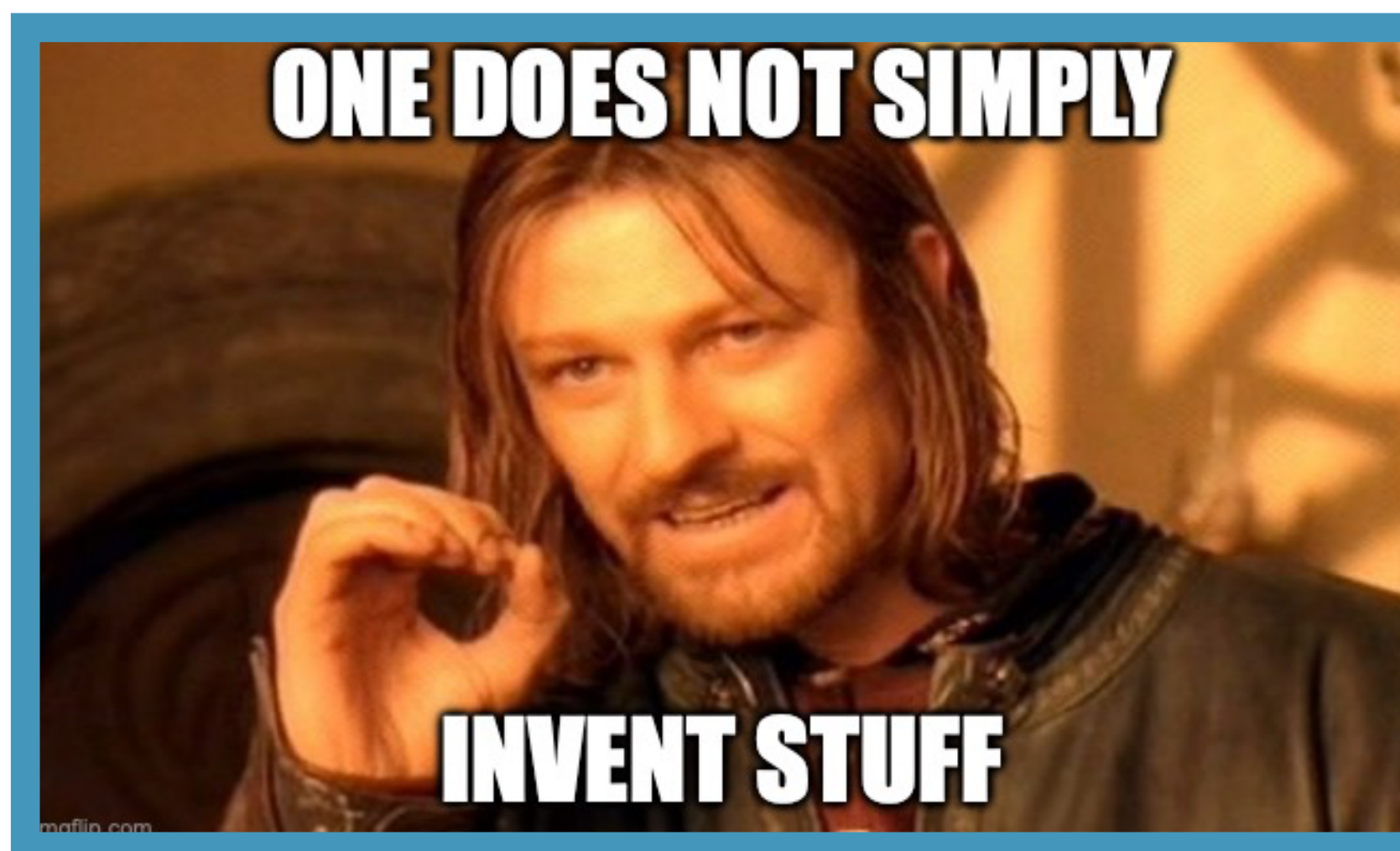
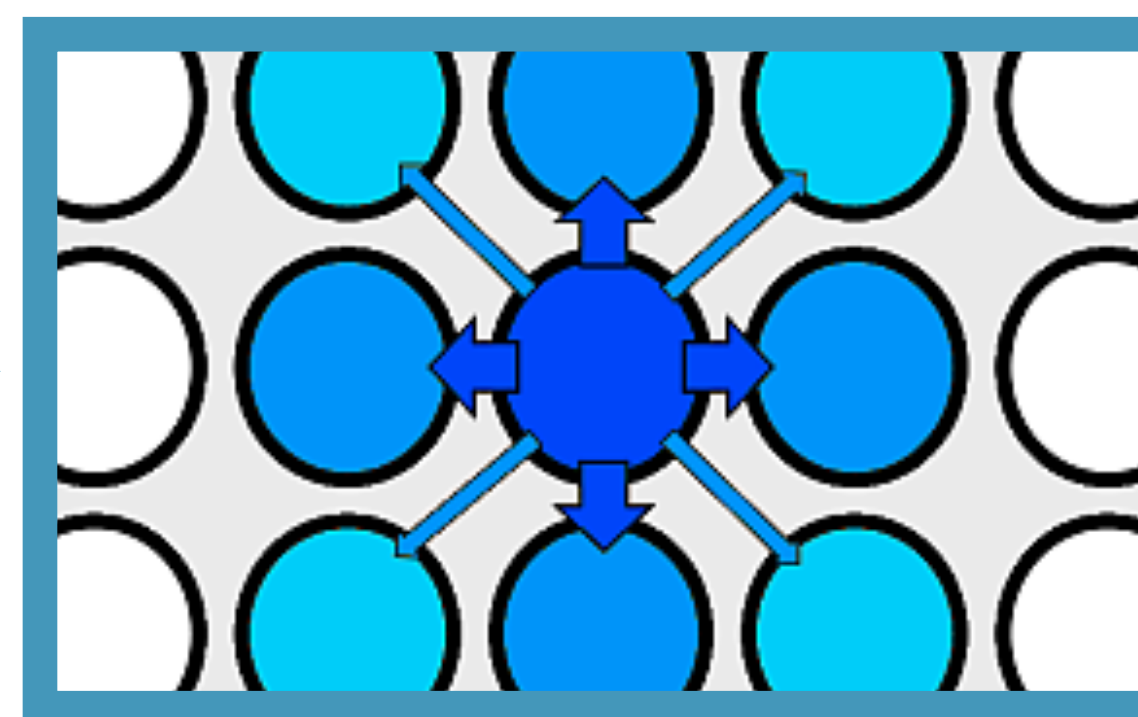
New York Times bestselling author of *DO OVER*



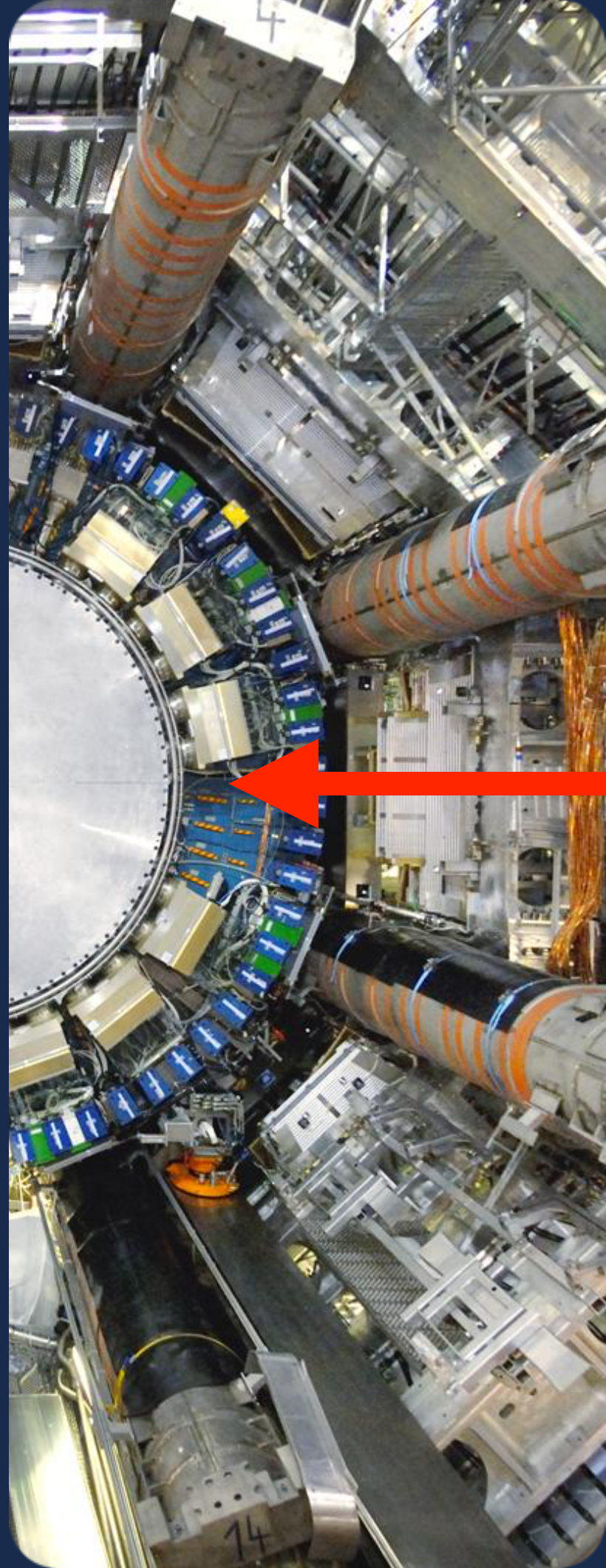
Crosstalk



CSN5



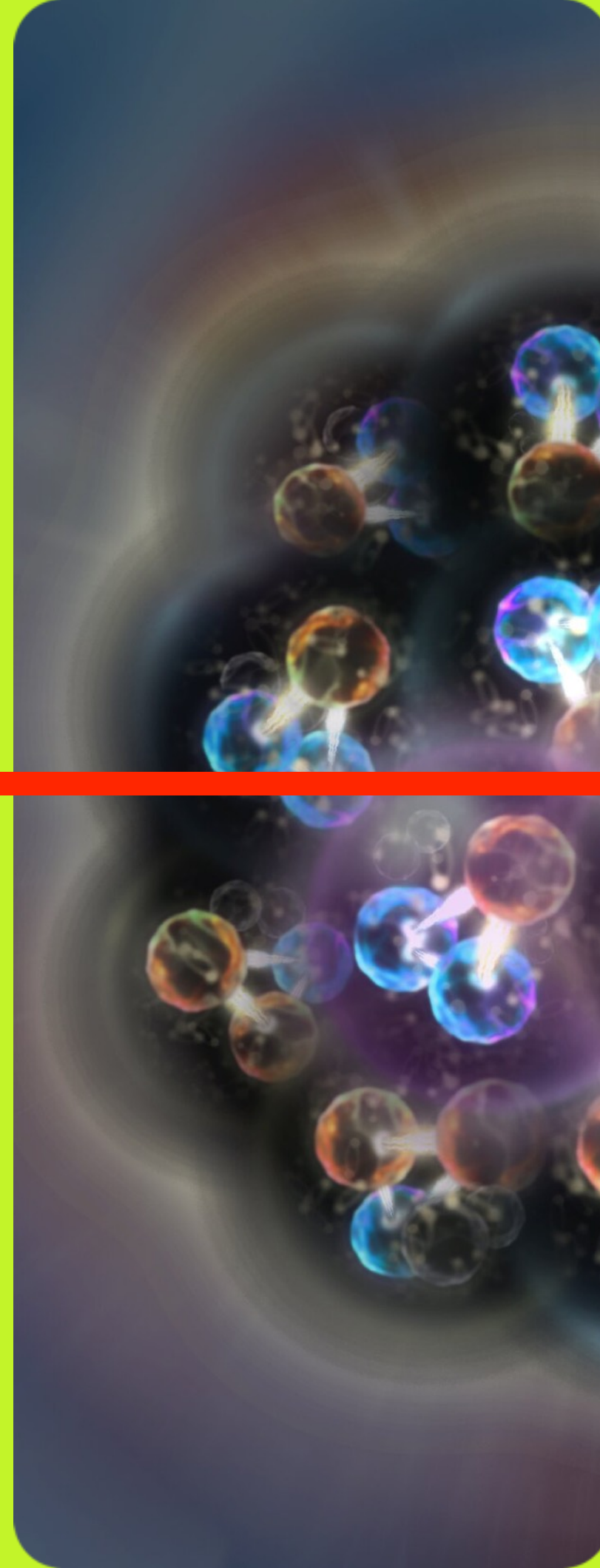
CSN1



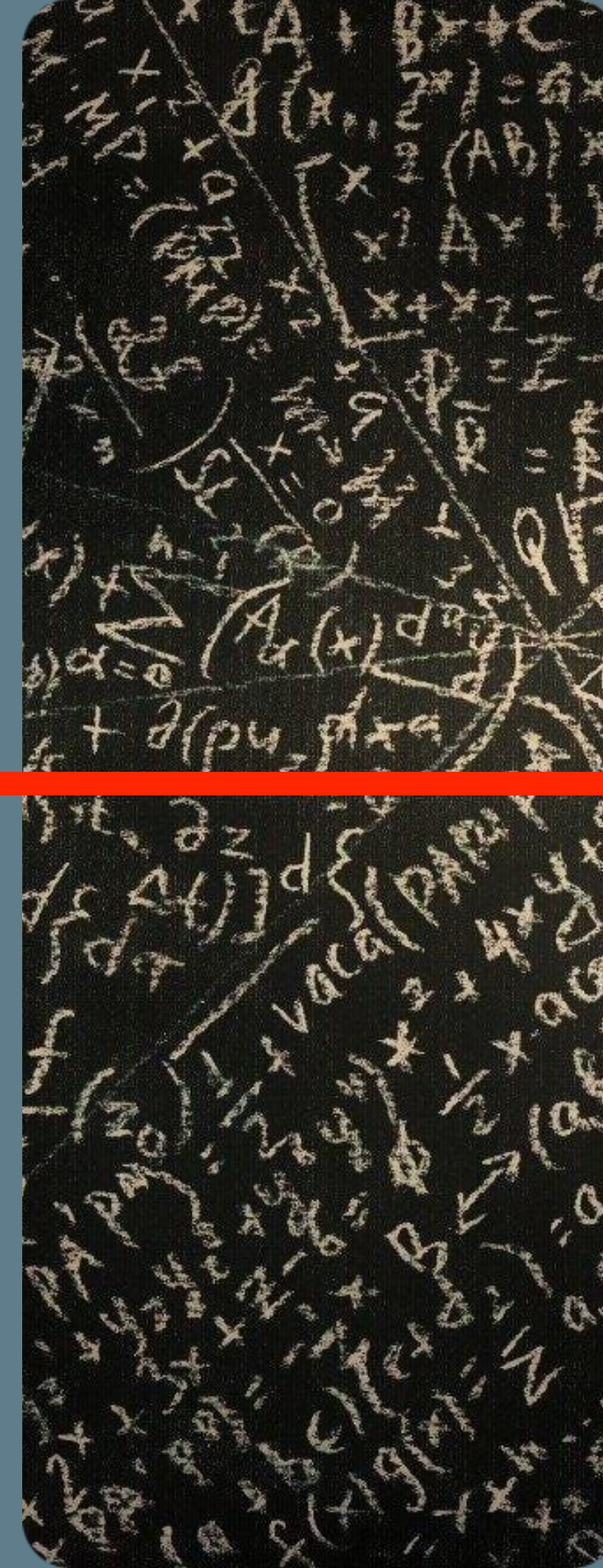
CSN2



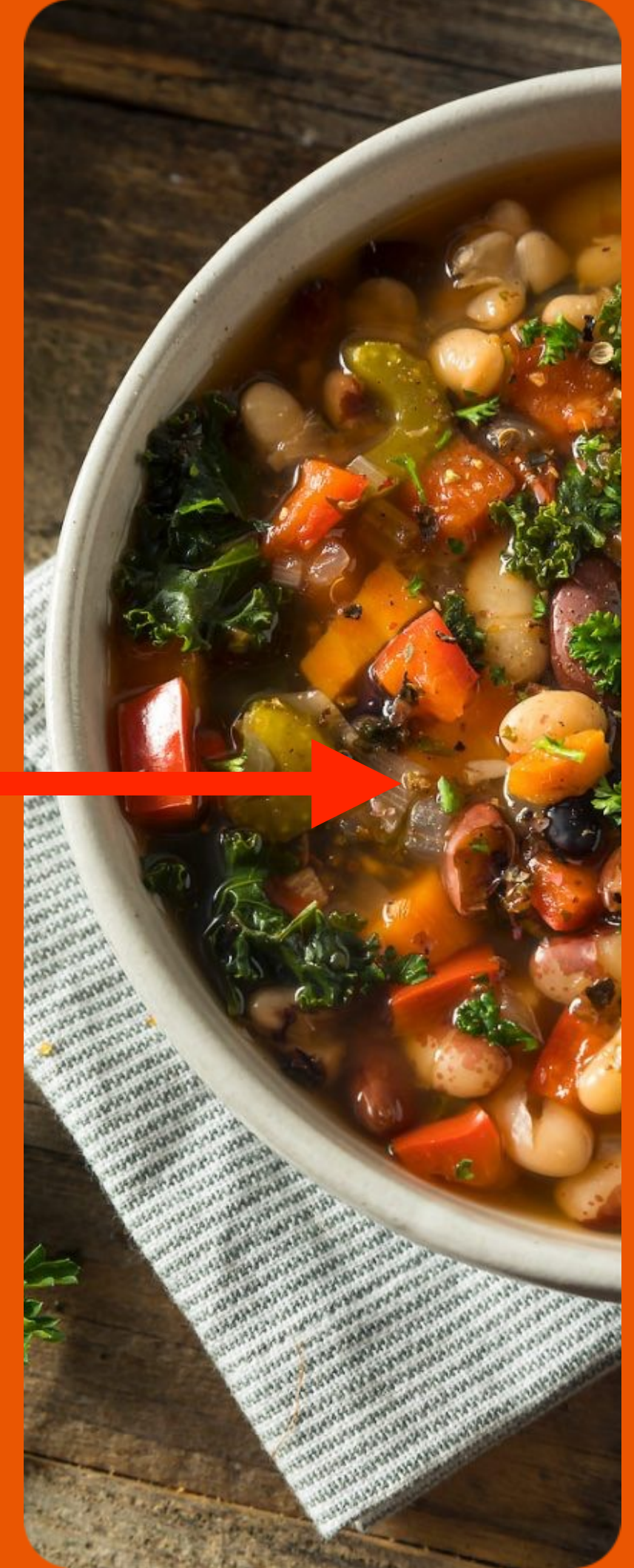
CSN3

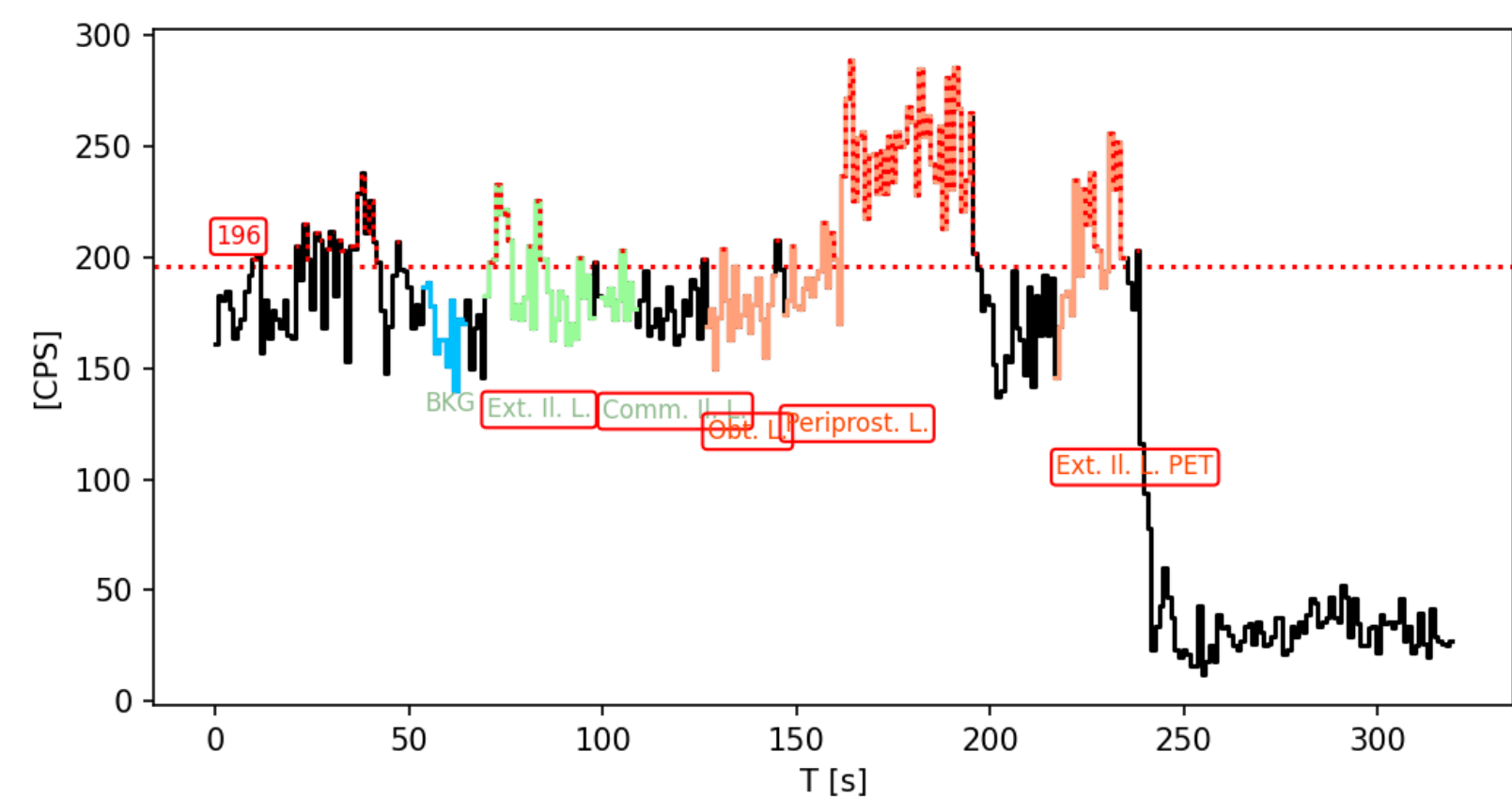
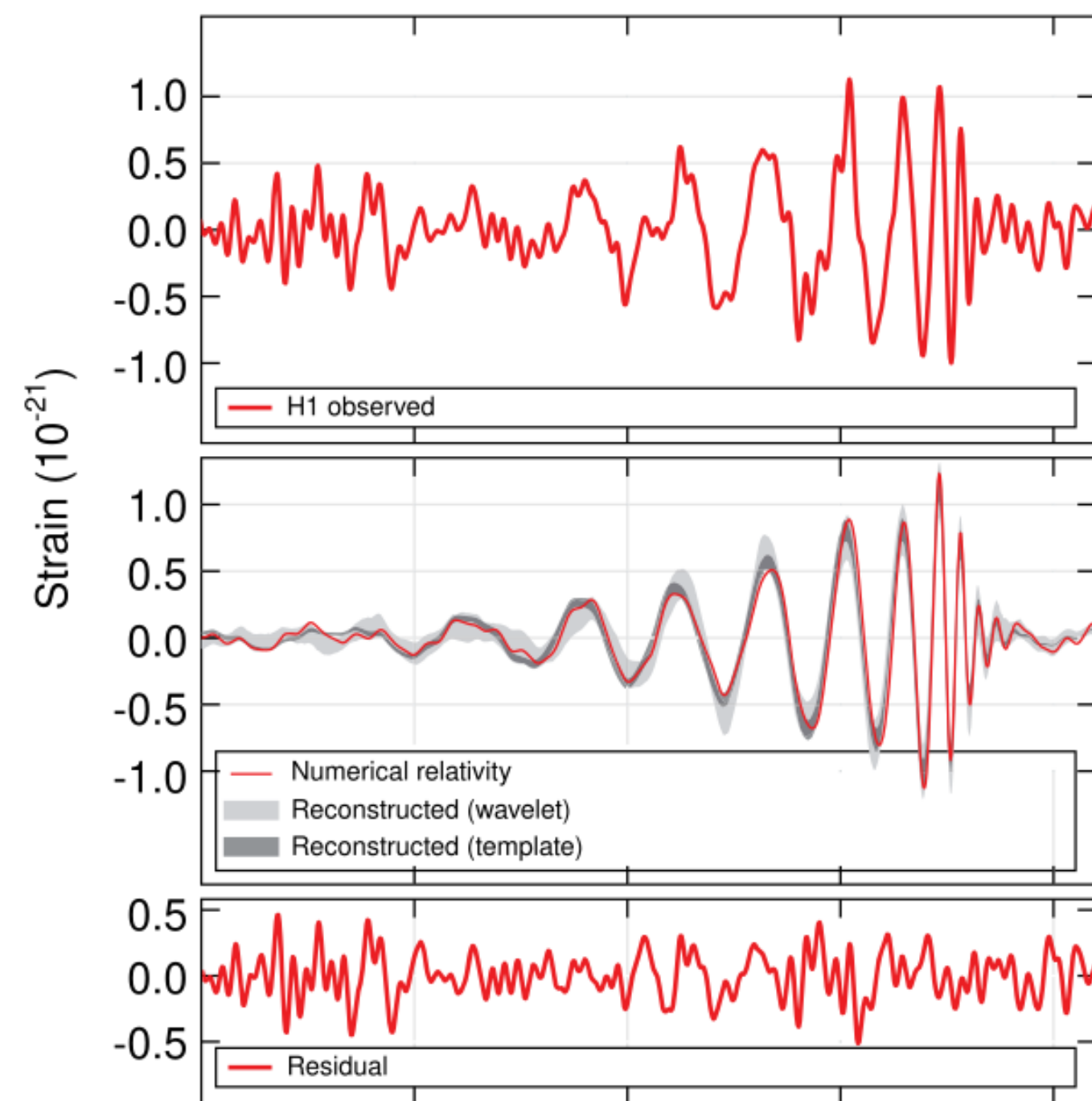
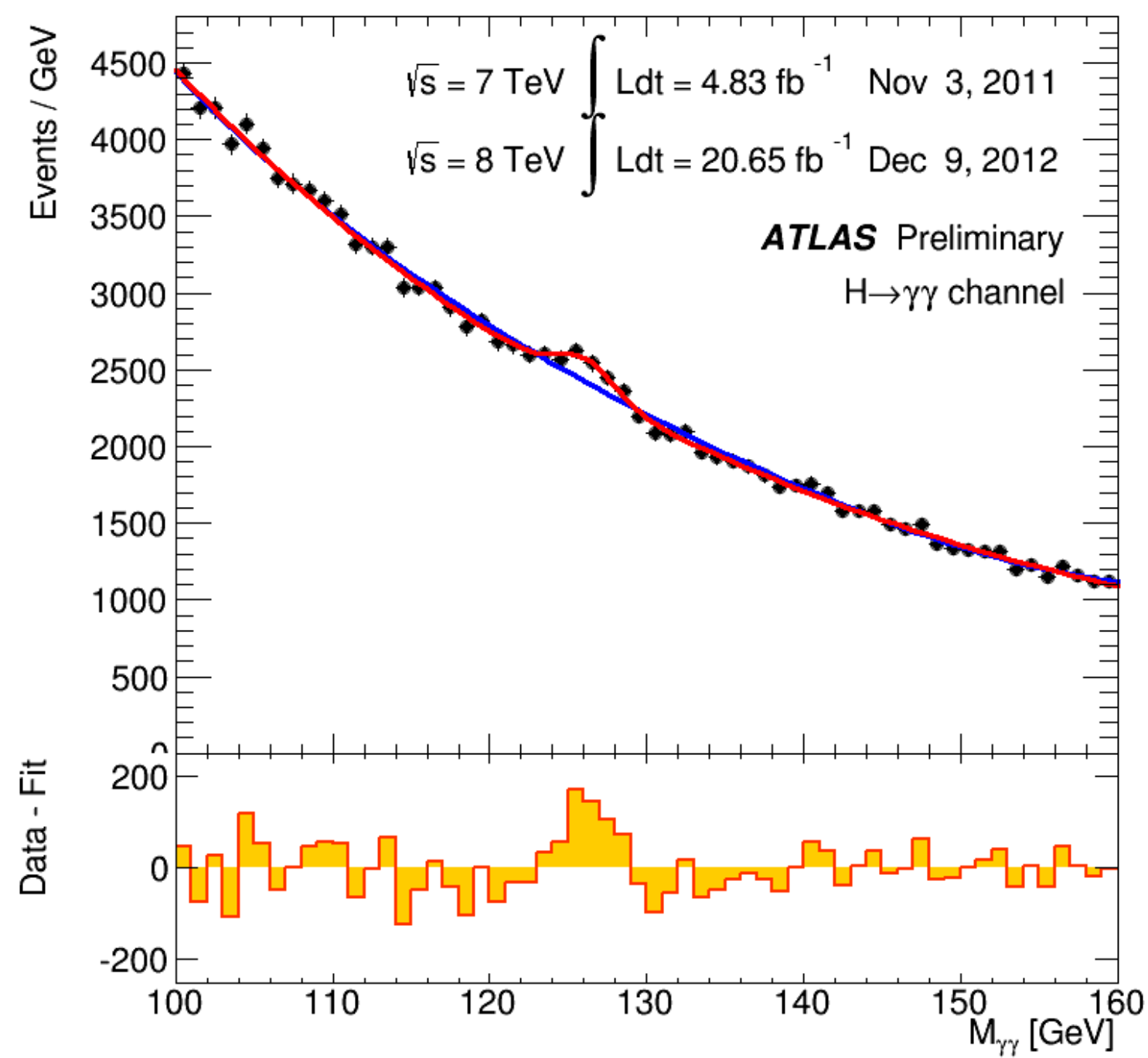


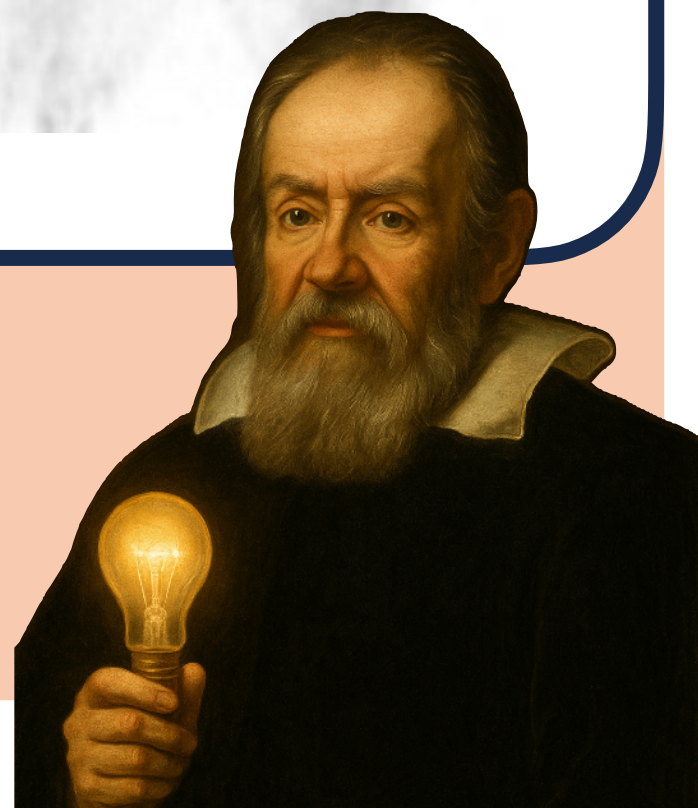
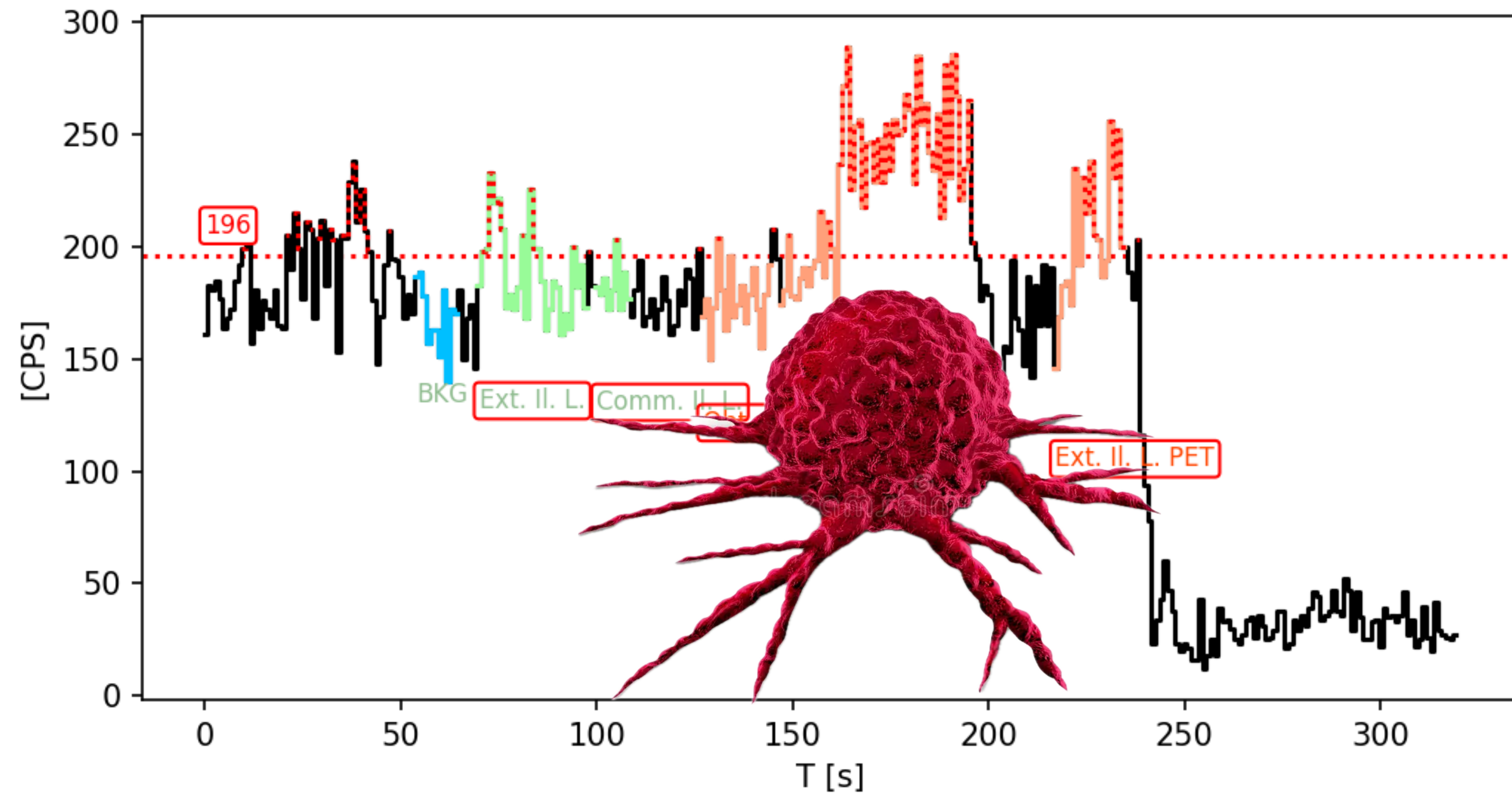
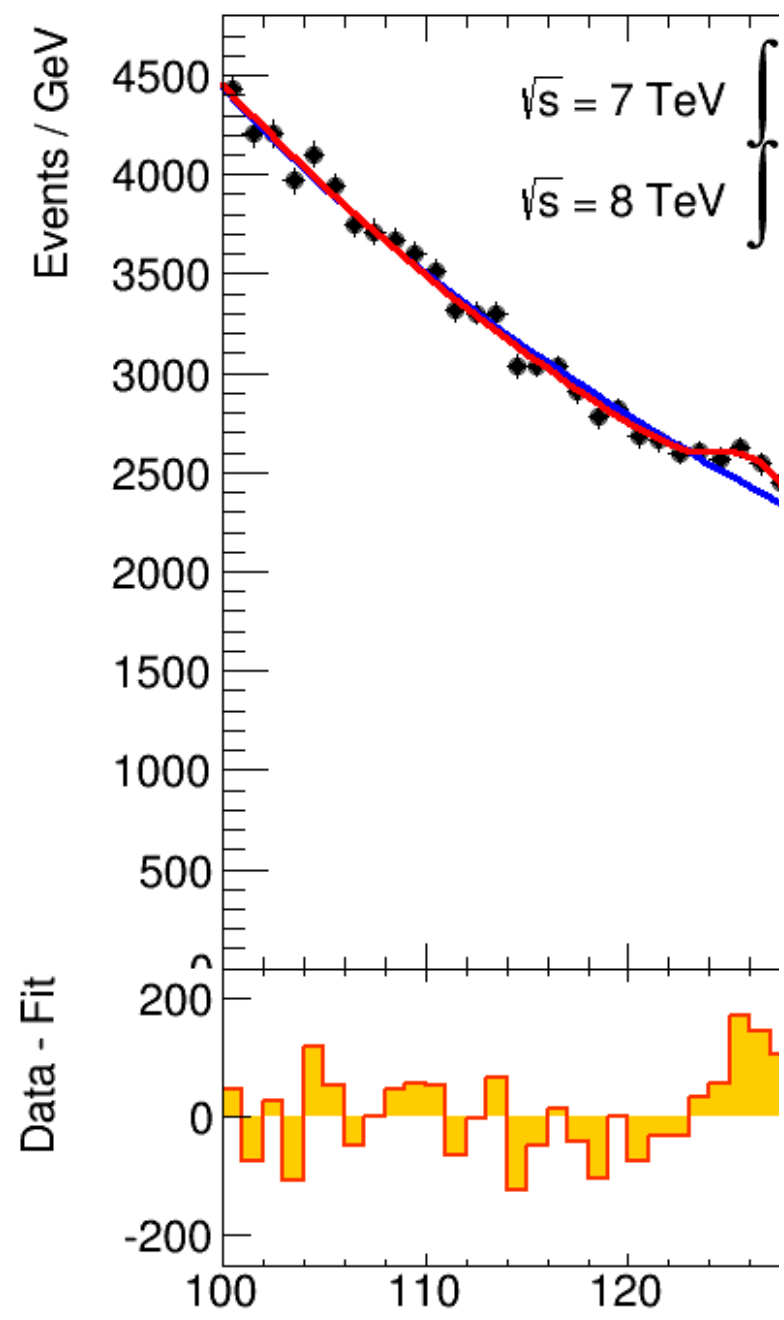
CSN4

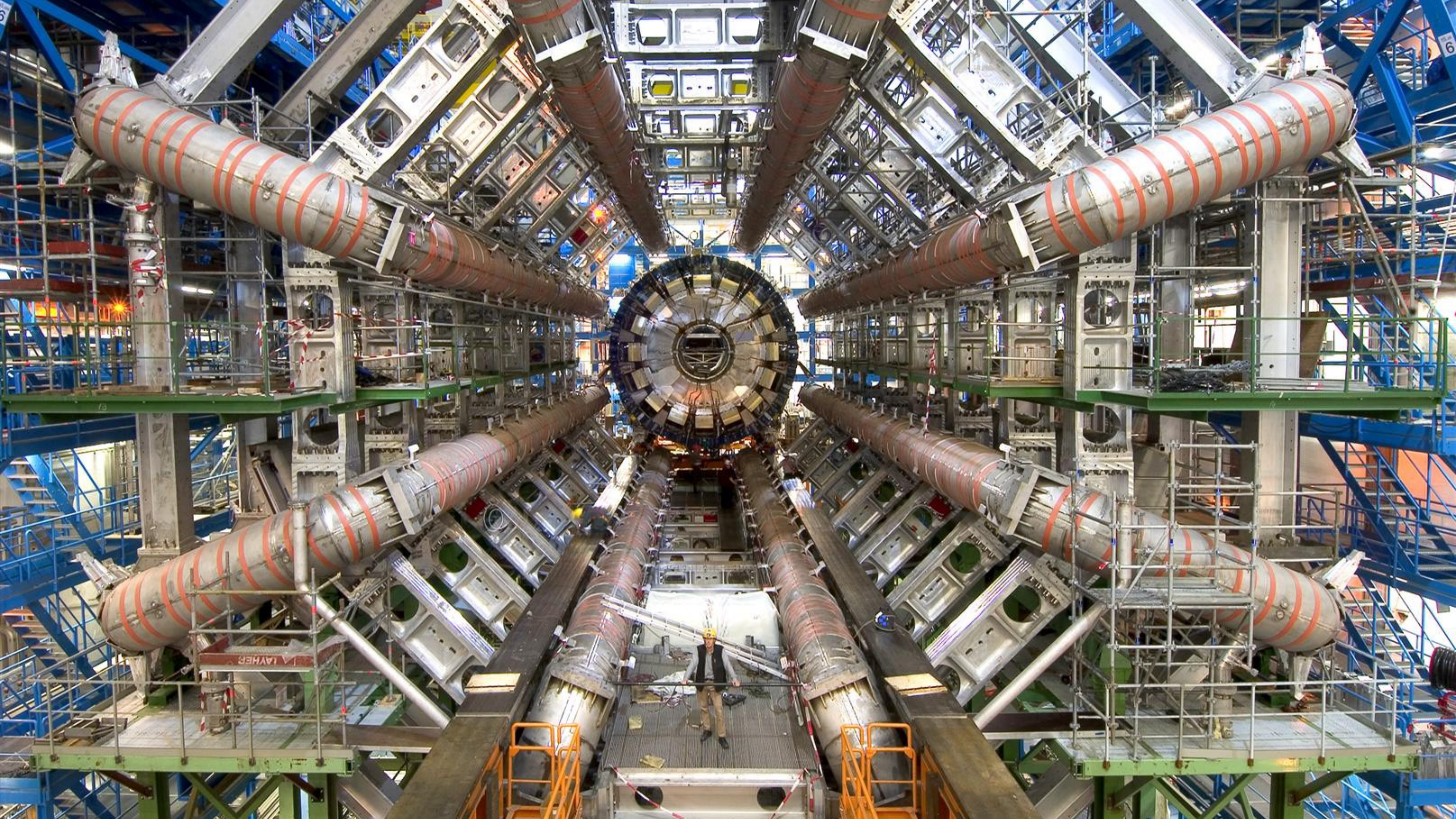


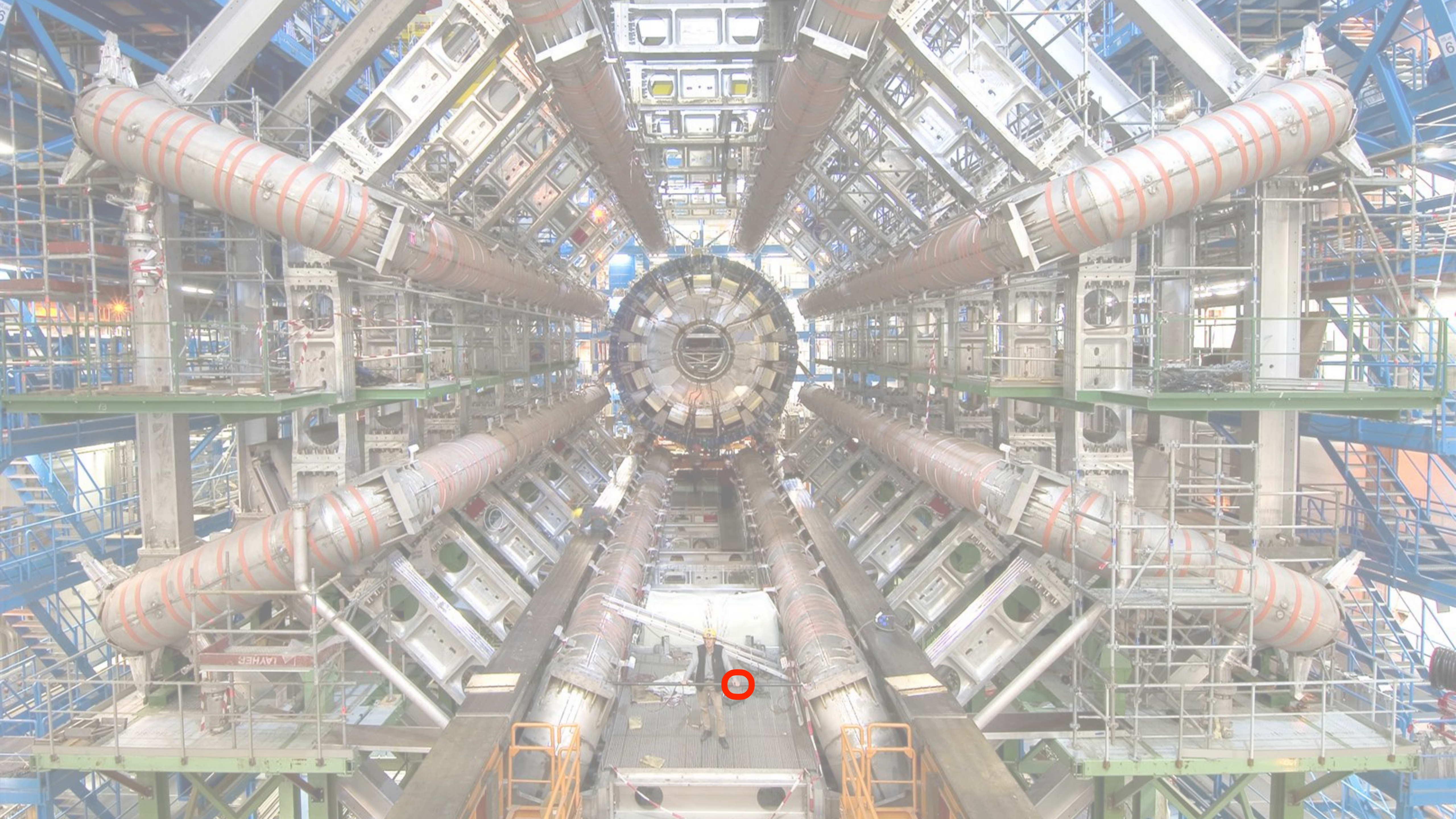
CSN5

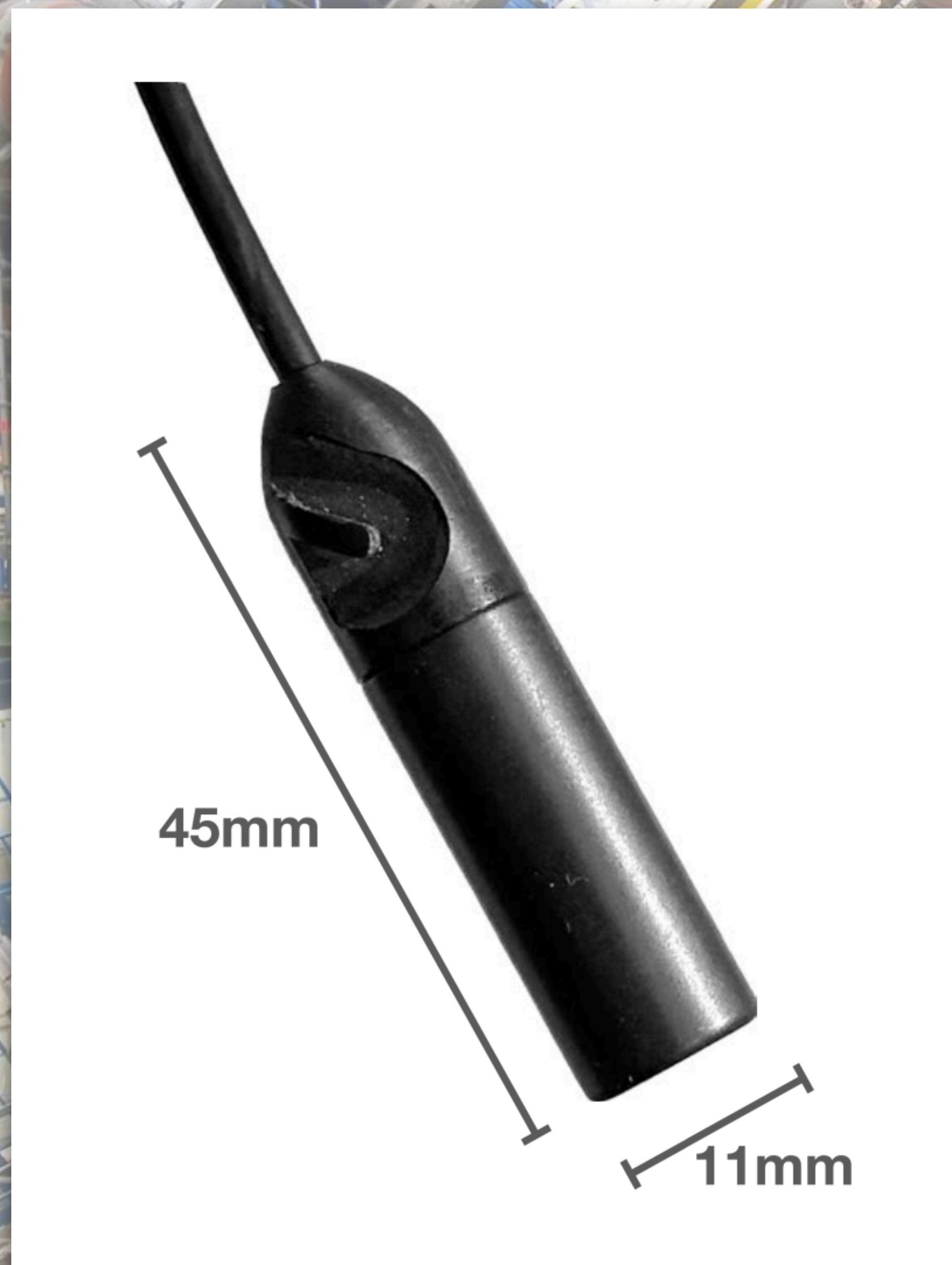


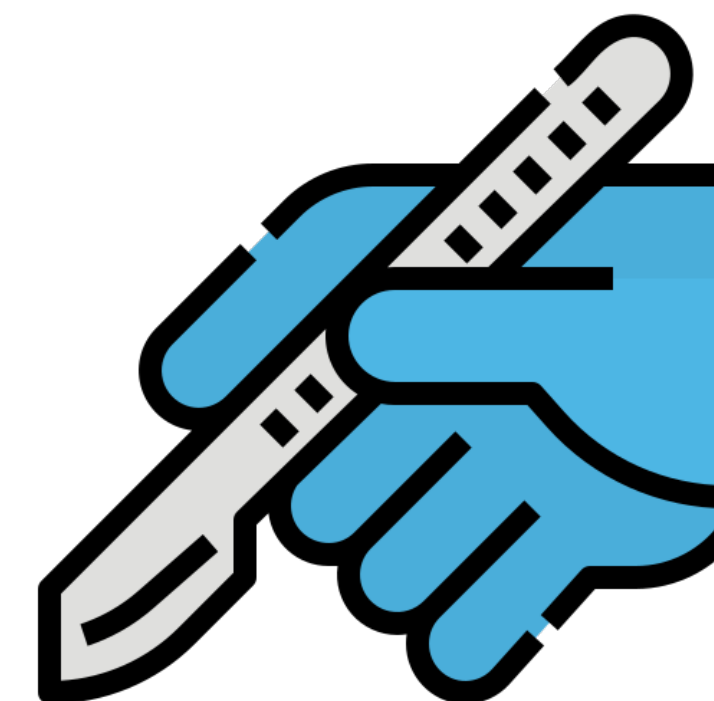
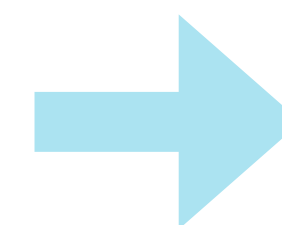
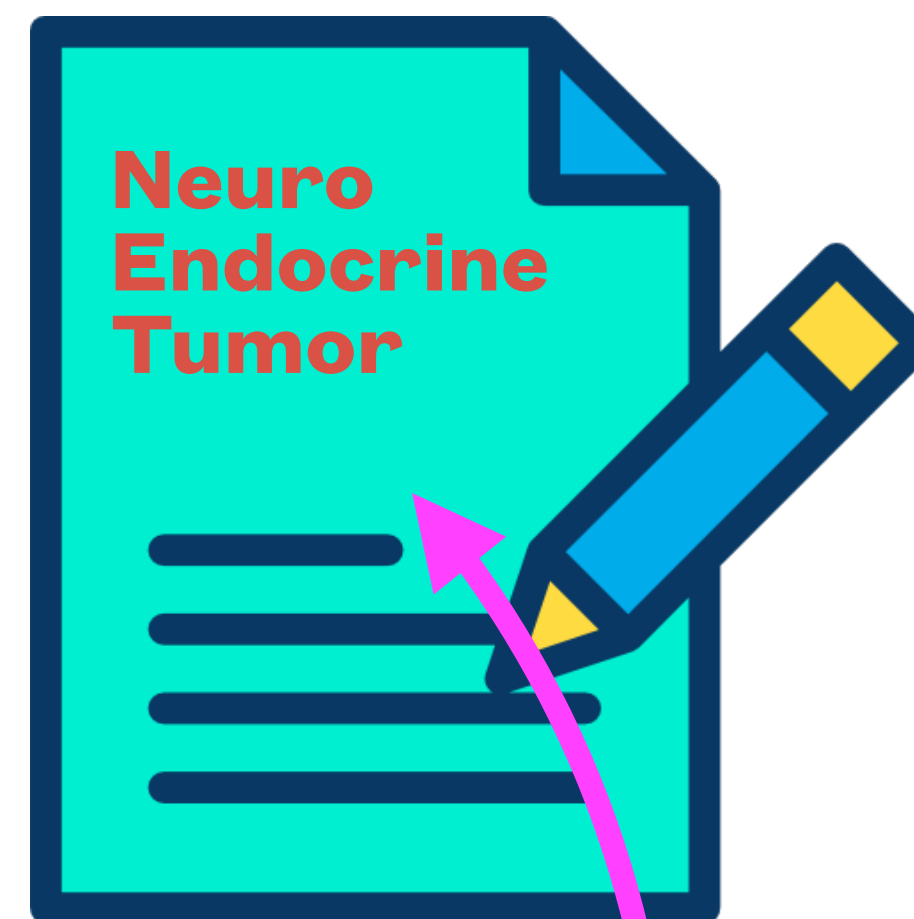
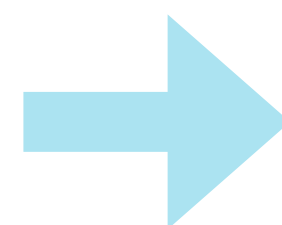
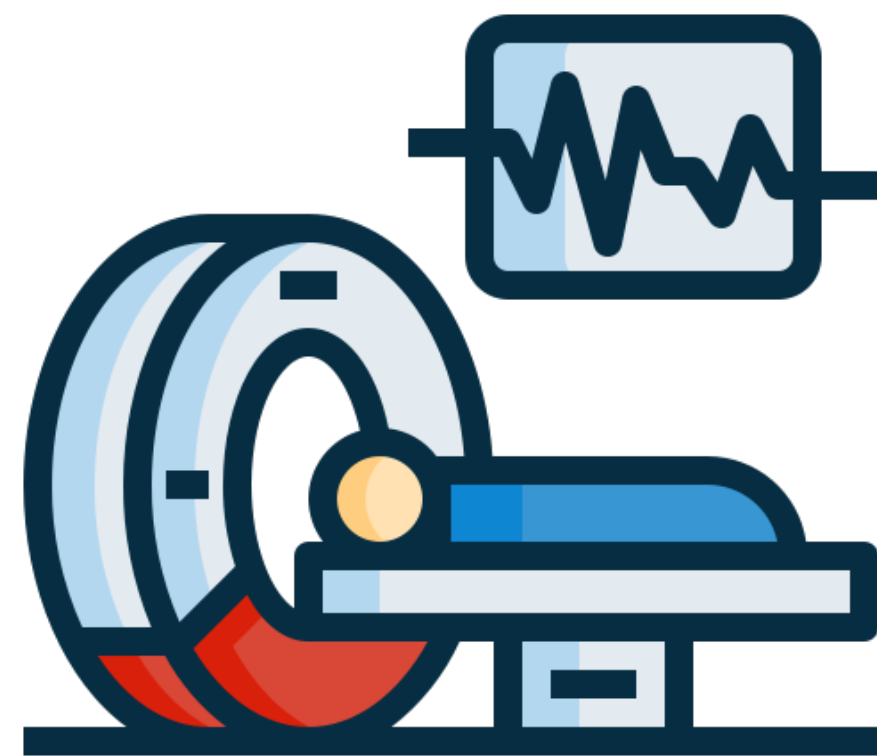
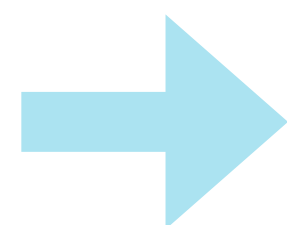




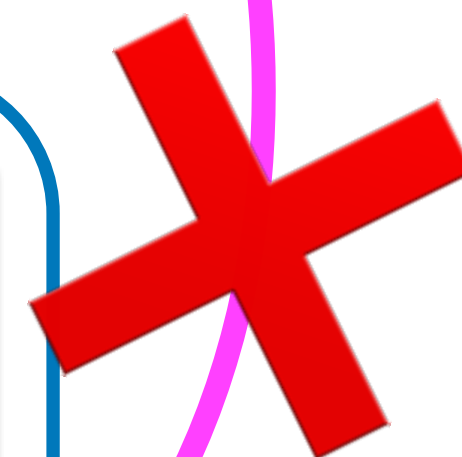
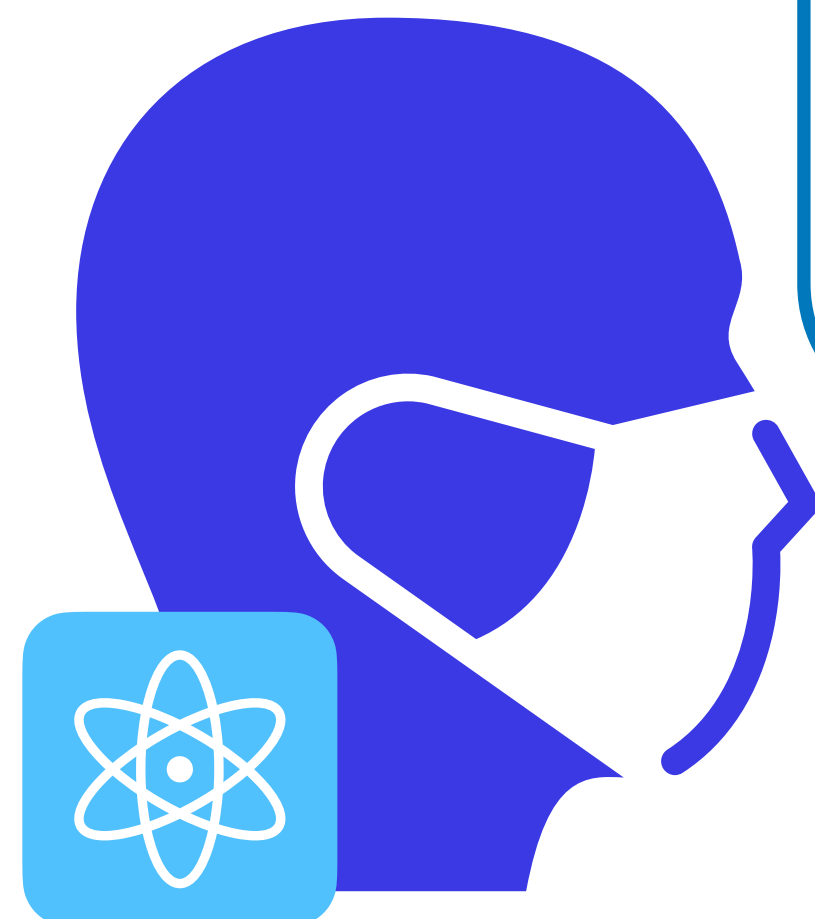




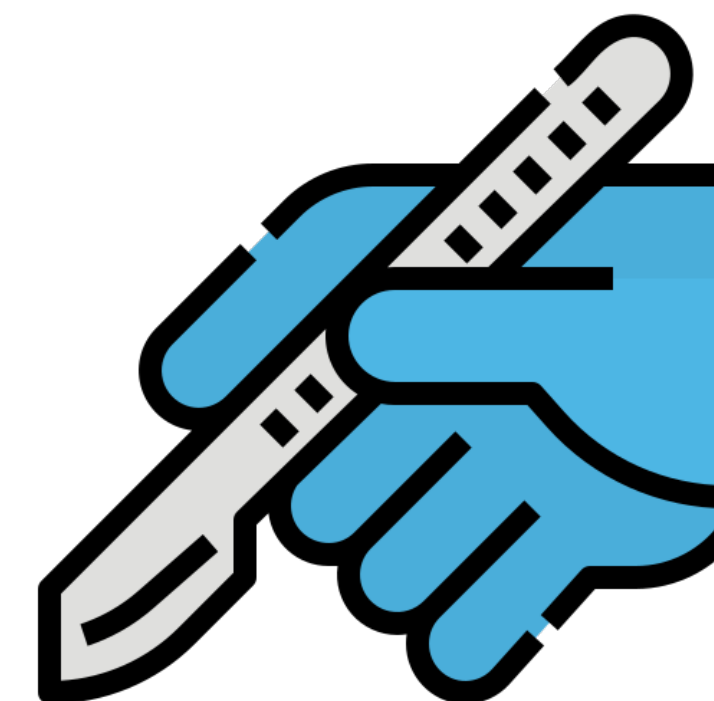
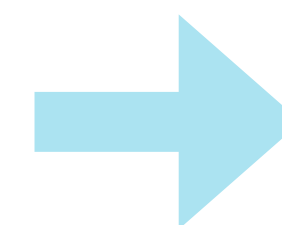
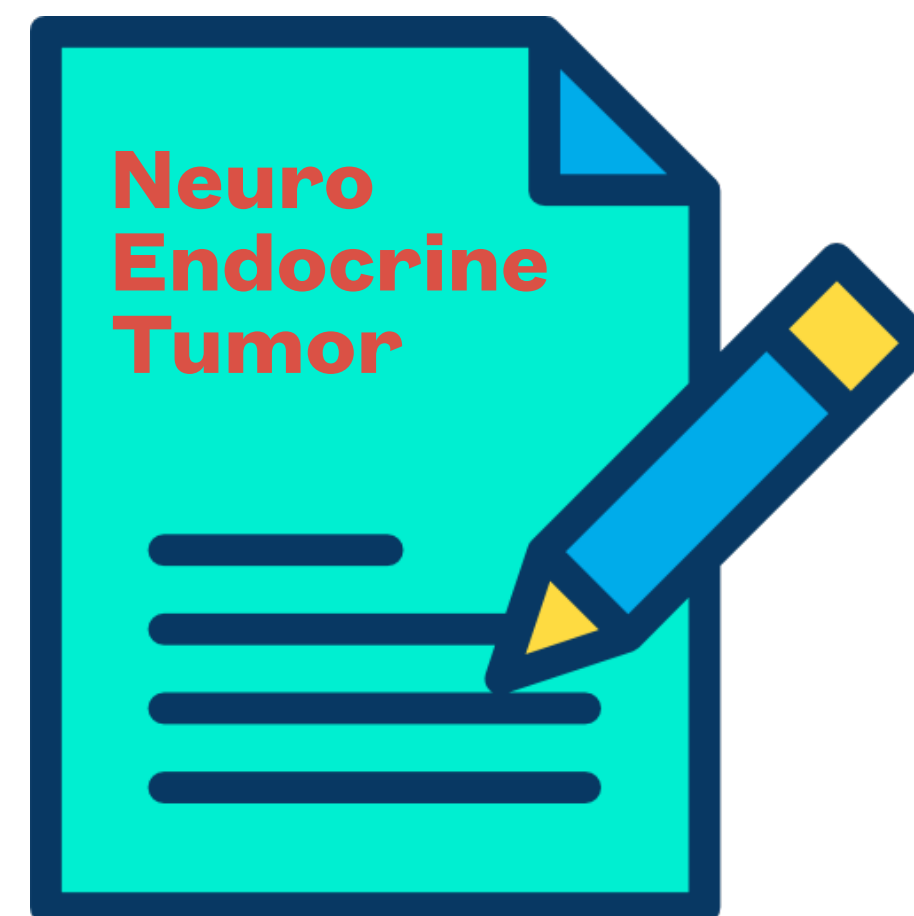
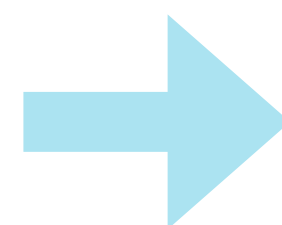
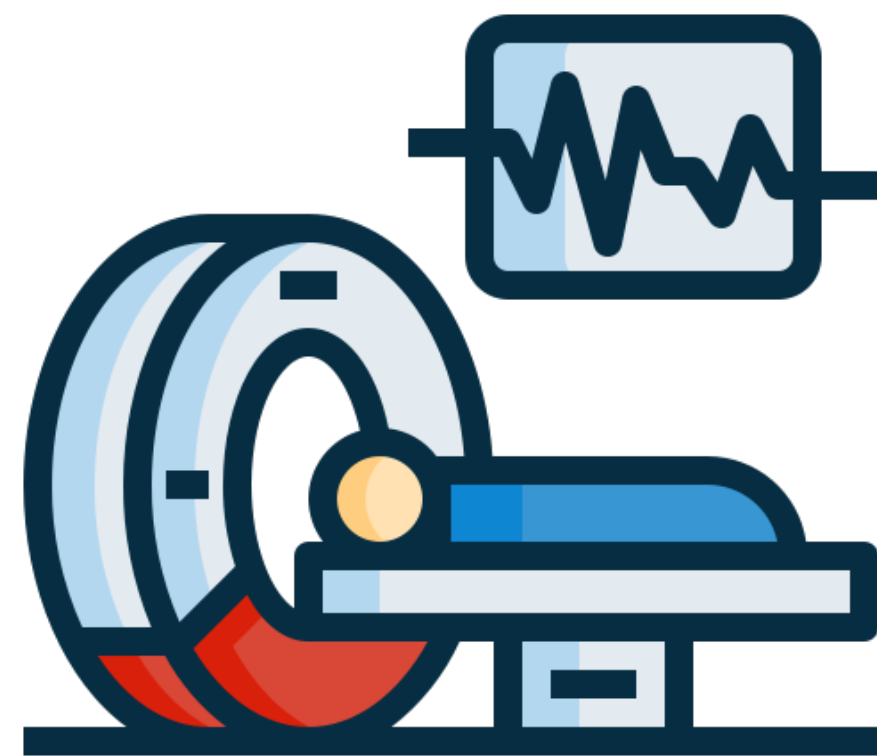
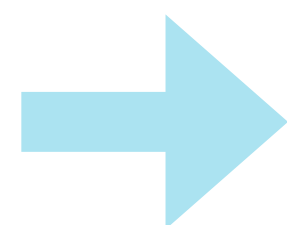




How can I remove the **whole** tumor?

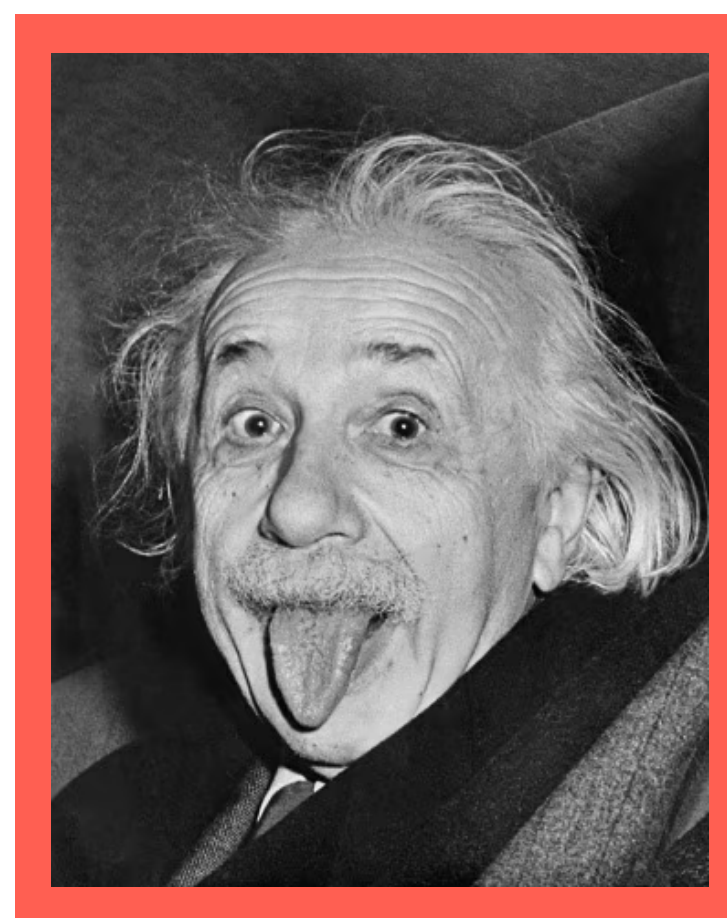
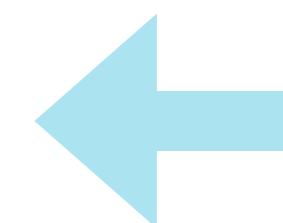
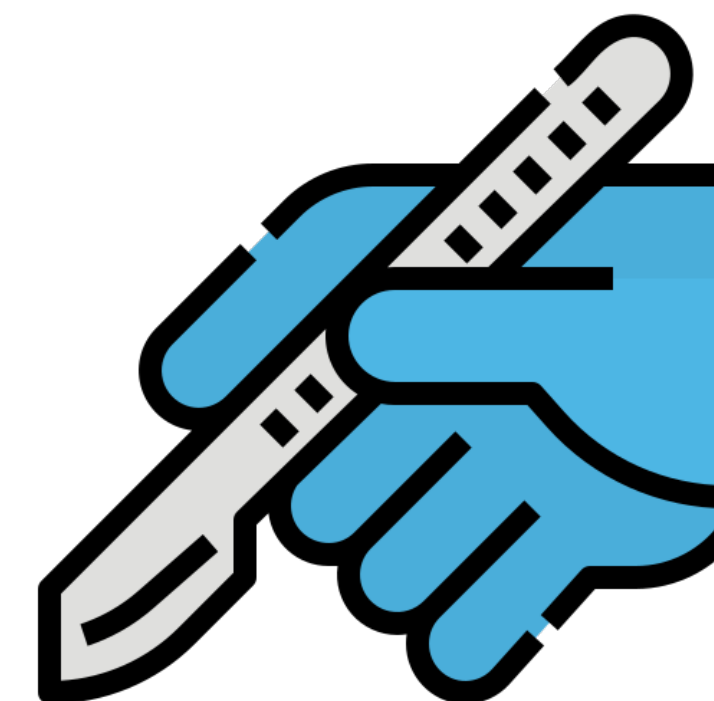
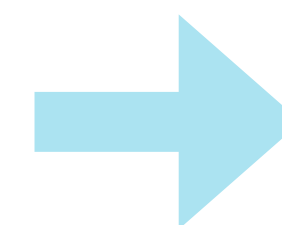
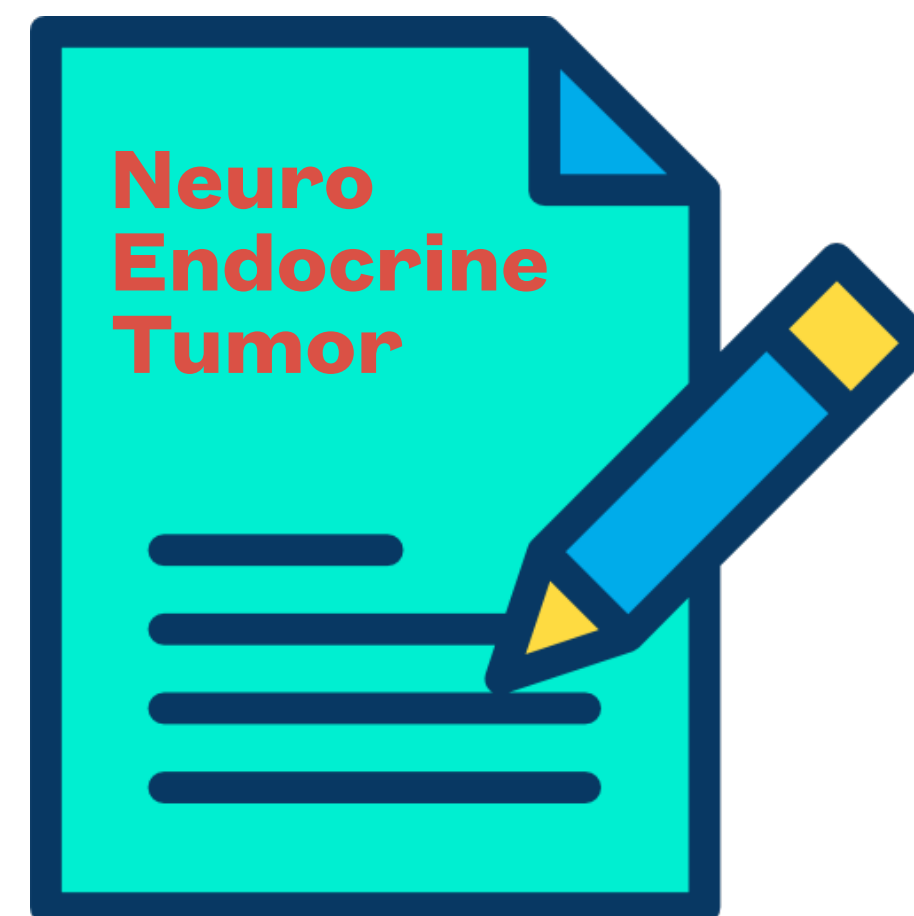
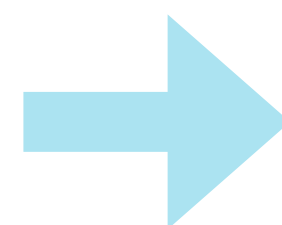
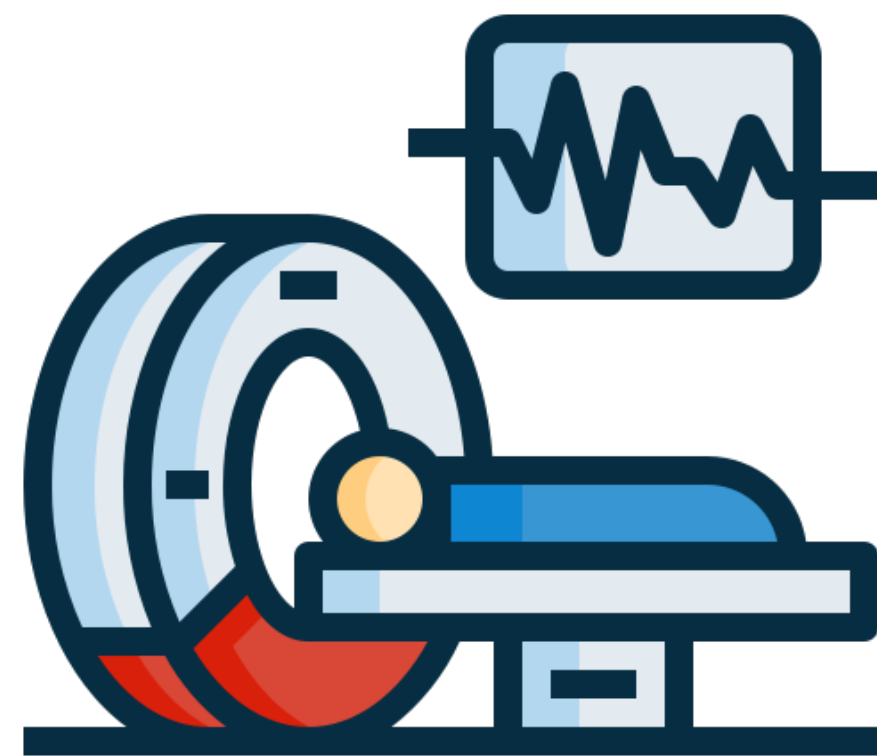
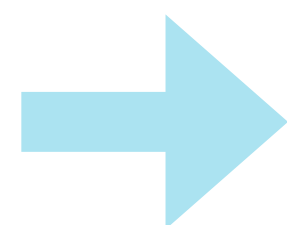


~1-10cm



How can I remove the **whole** tumor?





β-RGS!

~1-10cm → ~1-10mm

How can I remove the **whole** tumor?



Incredible amount of information is available **before** surgery

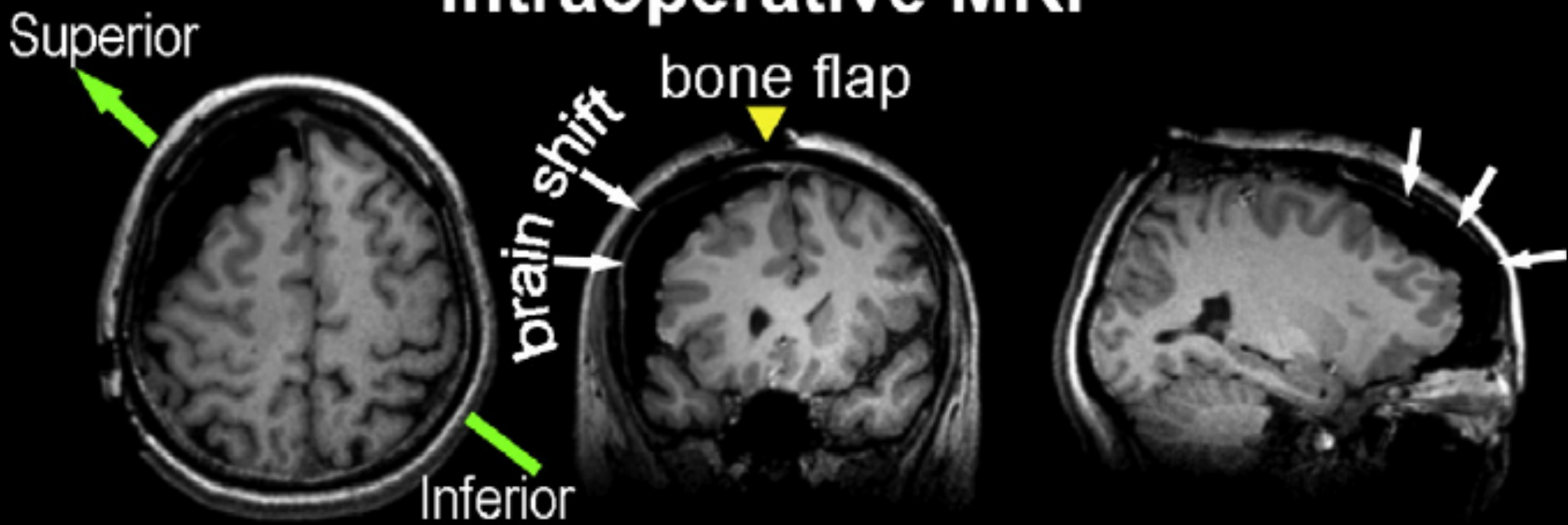


But then.... *during* surgery:

Preoperative MRI



Intraoperative MRI



Radio Guided Surgery

PROBLEM

How to help the surgeon to completely remove the tumor?



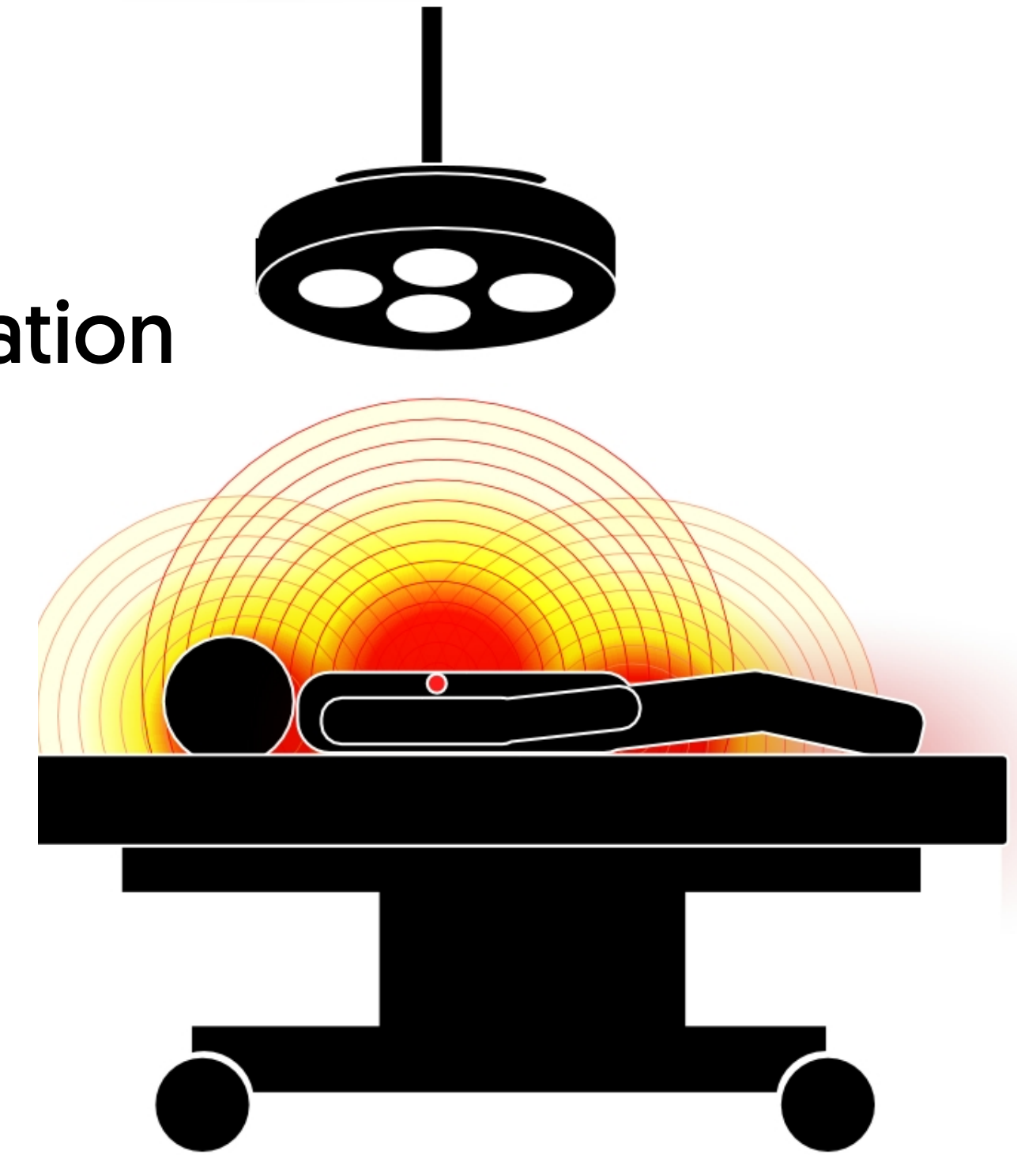
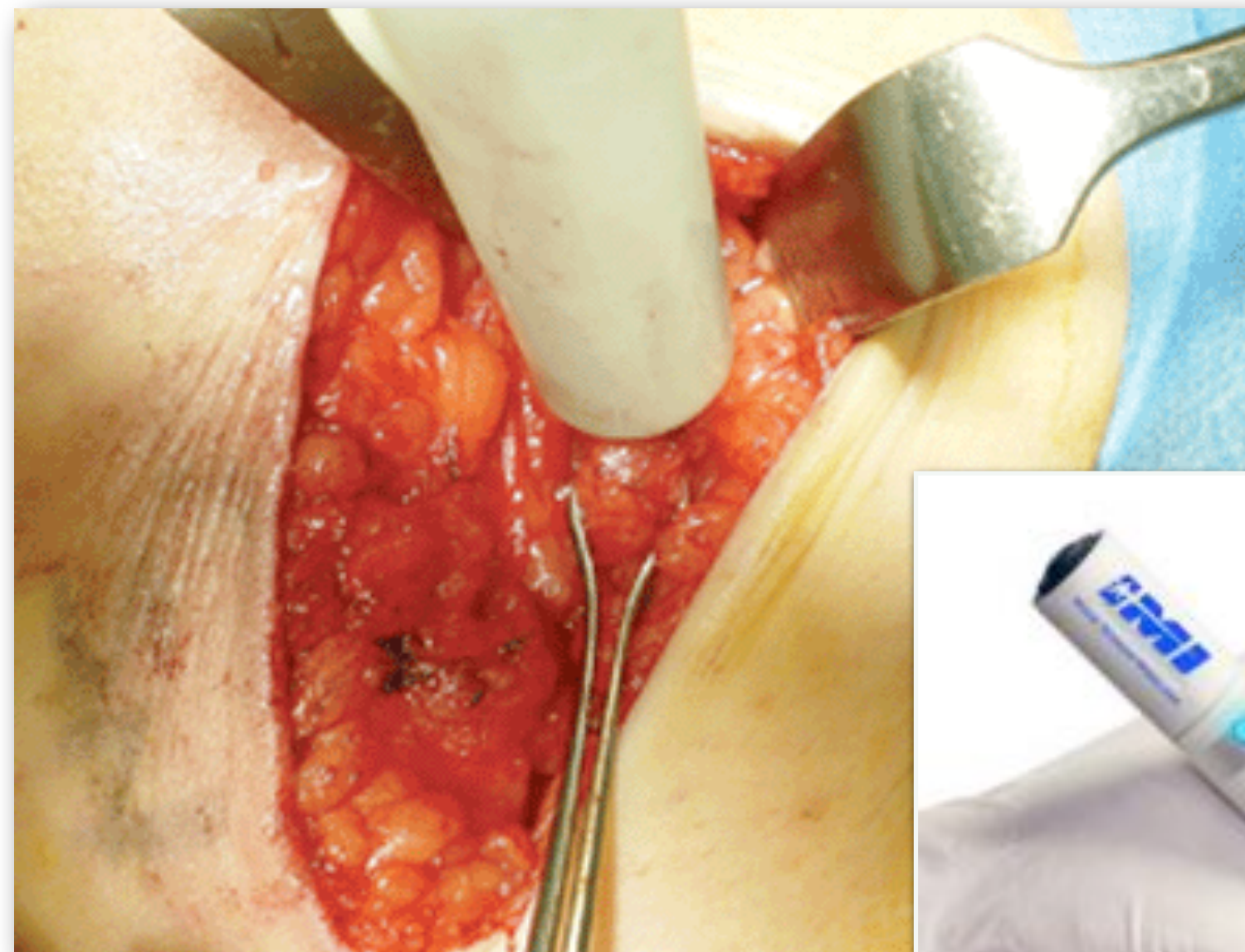
Intra-operative Magnetic Resonance

PROBLEM

How to help the surgeon to completely remove the tumor?

Radio Guided Surgery

- Before surgery, a radioactive tracer (e.g. ^{99m}Tc) is administered to the patient
➡ It reaches tumor cells, that thus become source of radiation

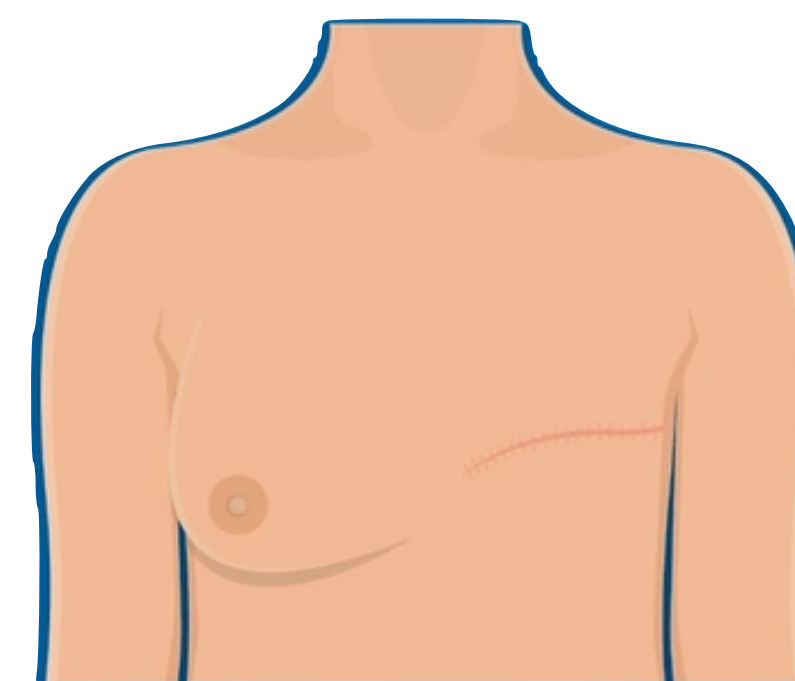


- During surgery, the surgeon uses a handheld radiation detector to identify the emission hotspots
➡ Suggesting the possible presence of tumor residual



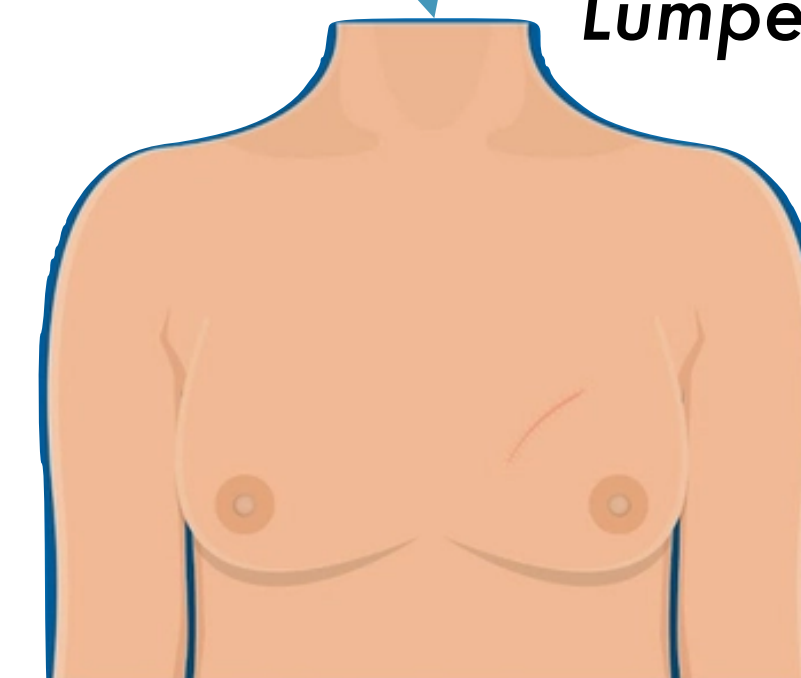
Radio Guided Surgery

Massive improvement in patients outcome



e.g. in breast surgery

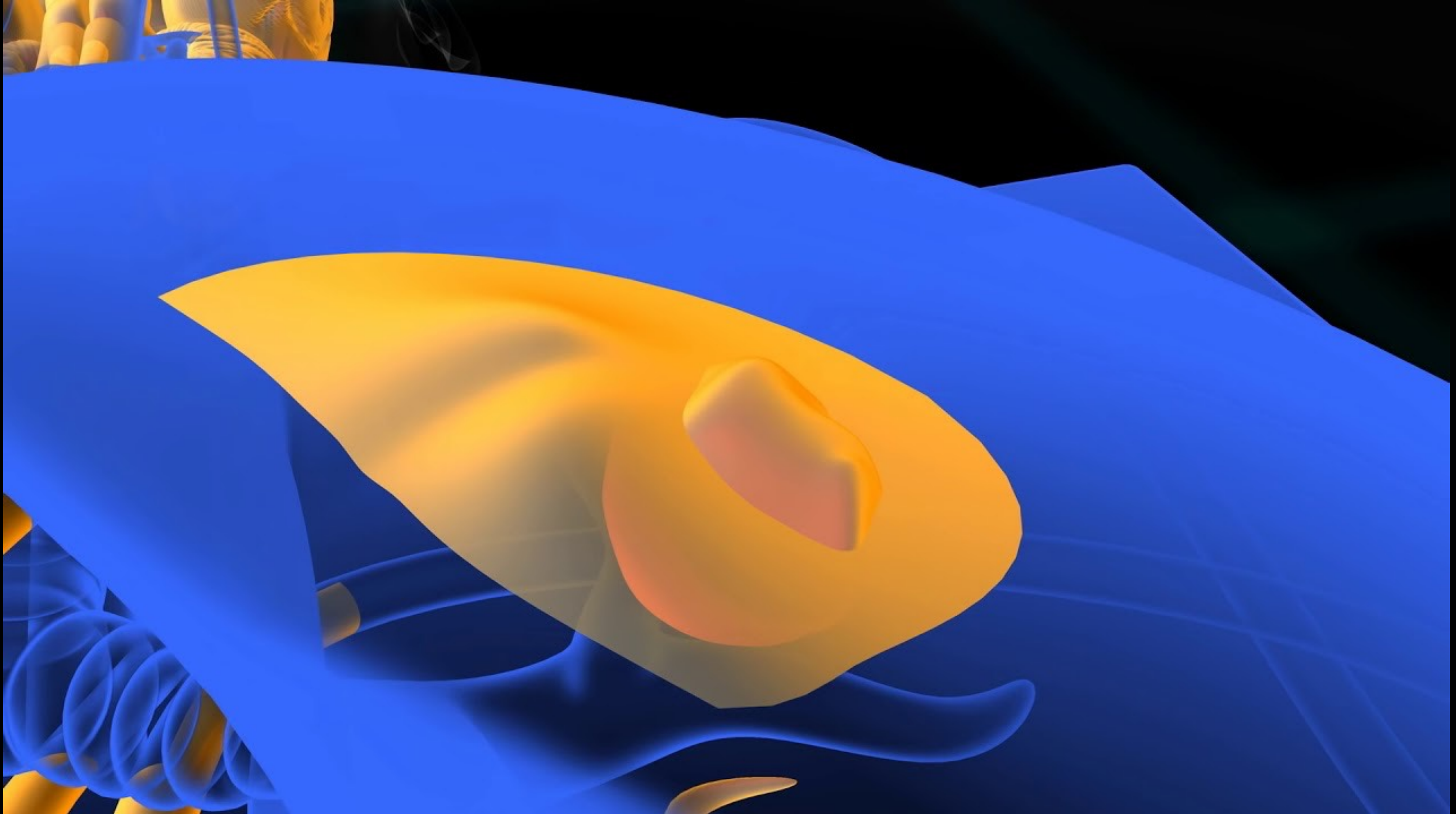
Mastectomy



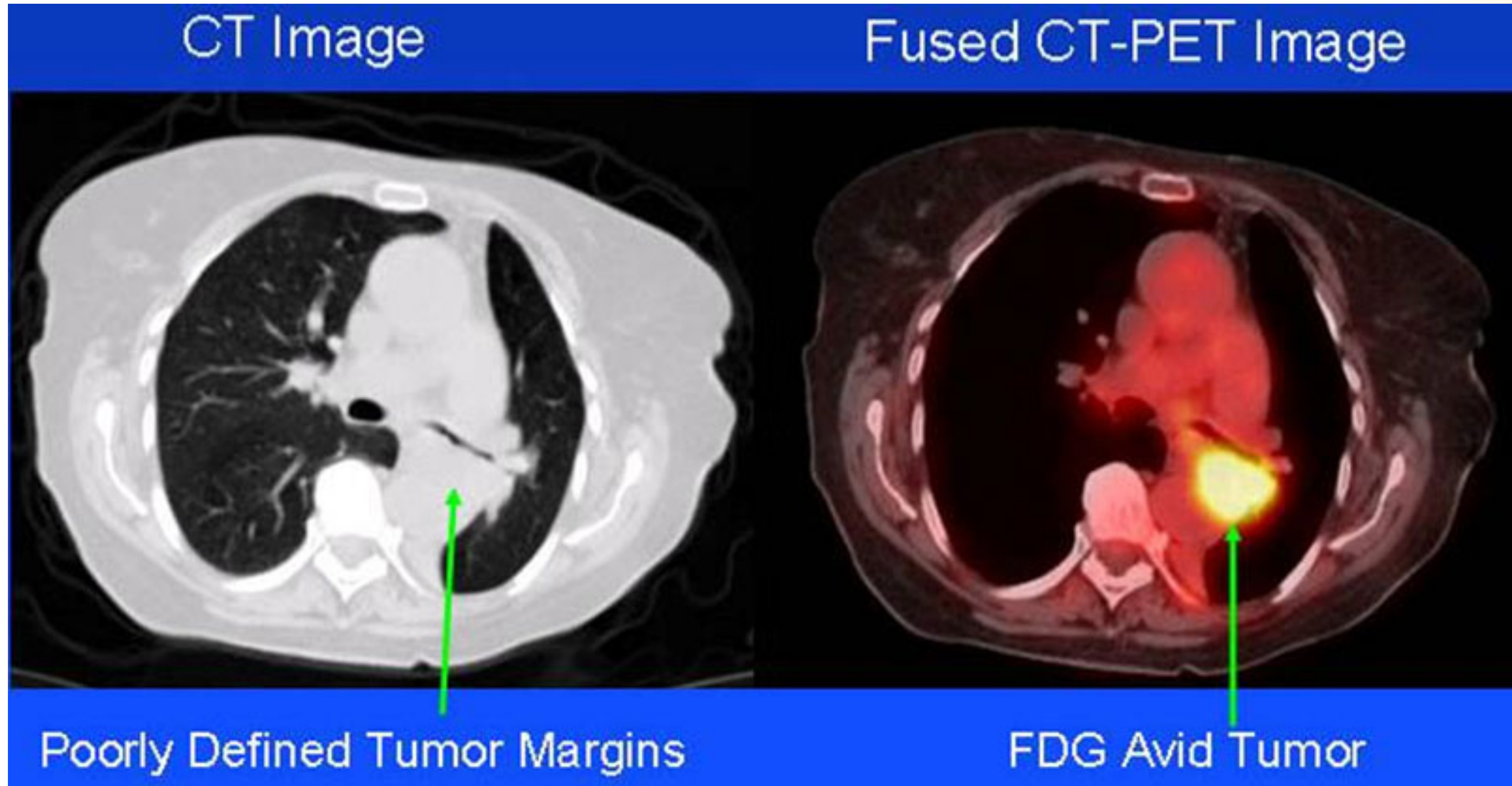
Lumpectomy

The Rise of PET Imaging

The Rise of PET Imaging



The Rise of PET Imaging



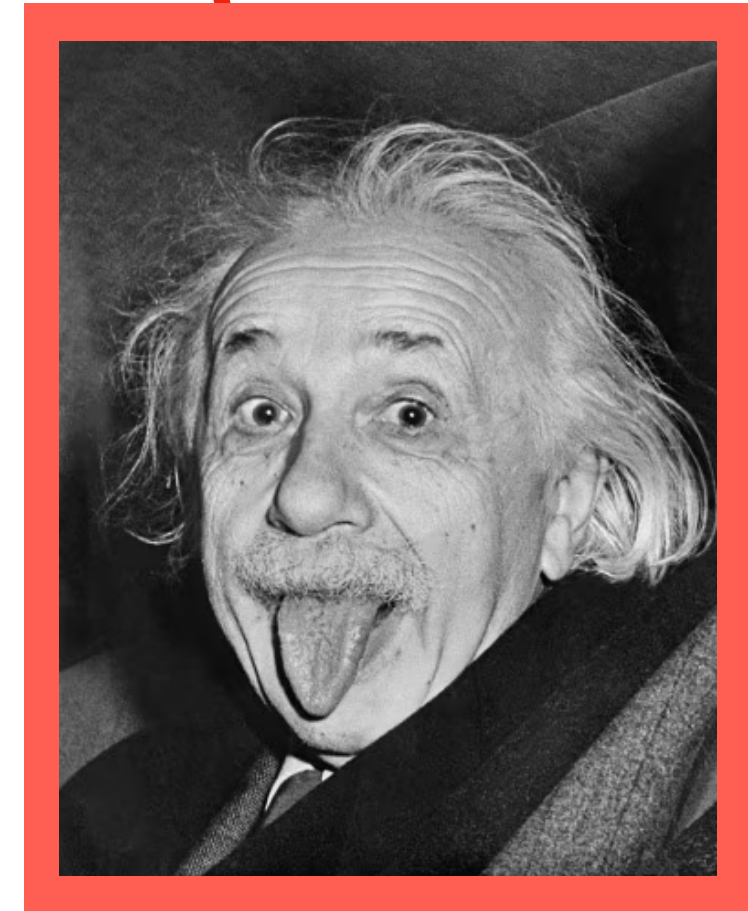
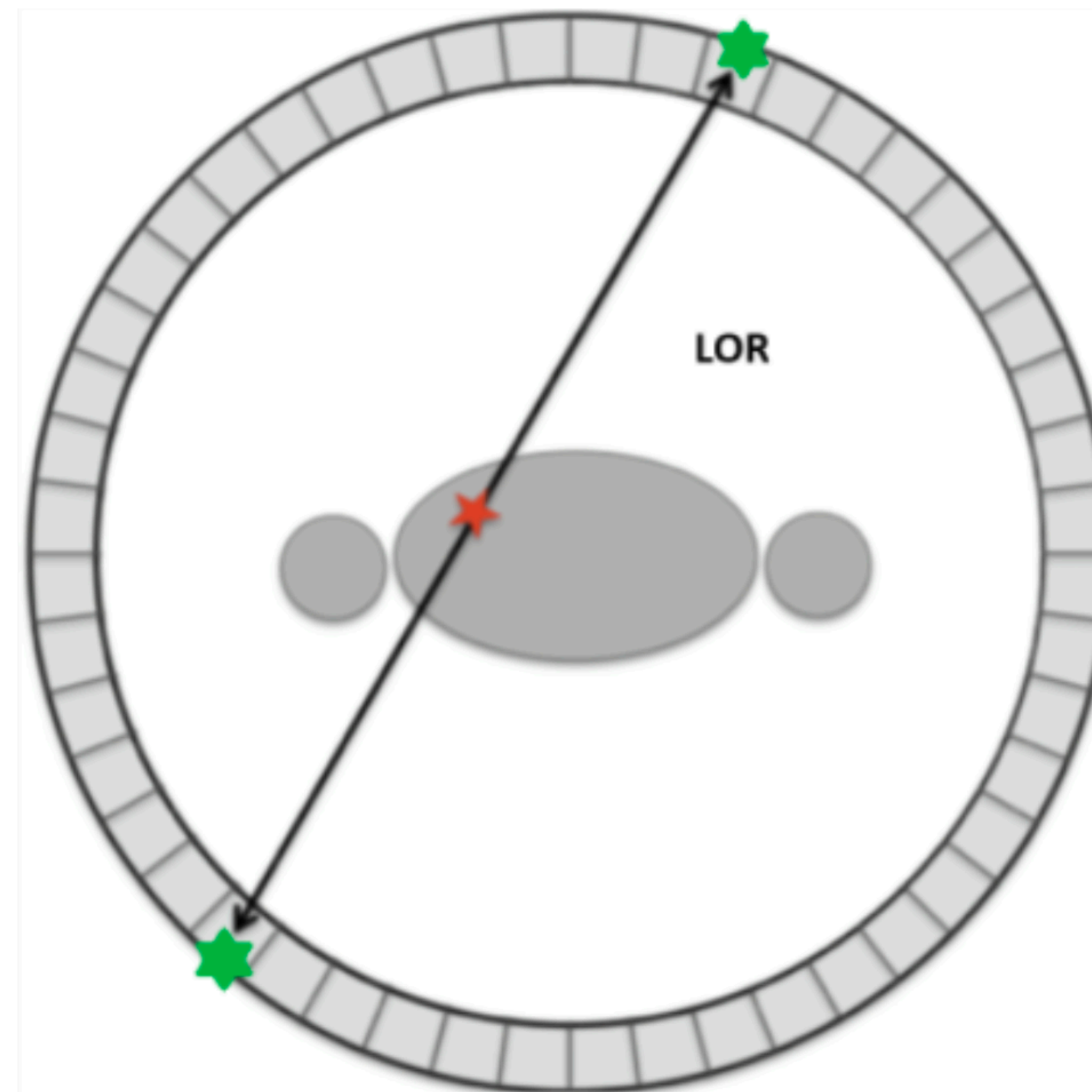
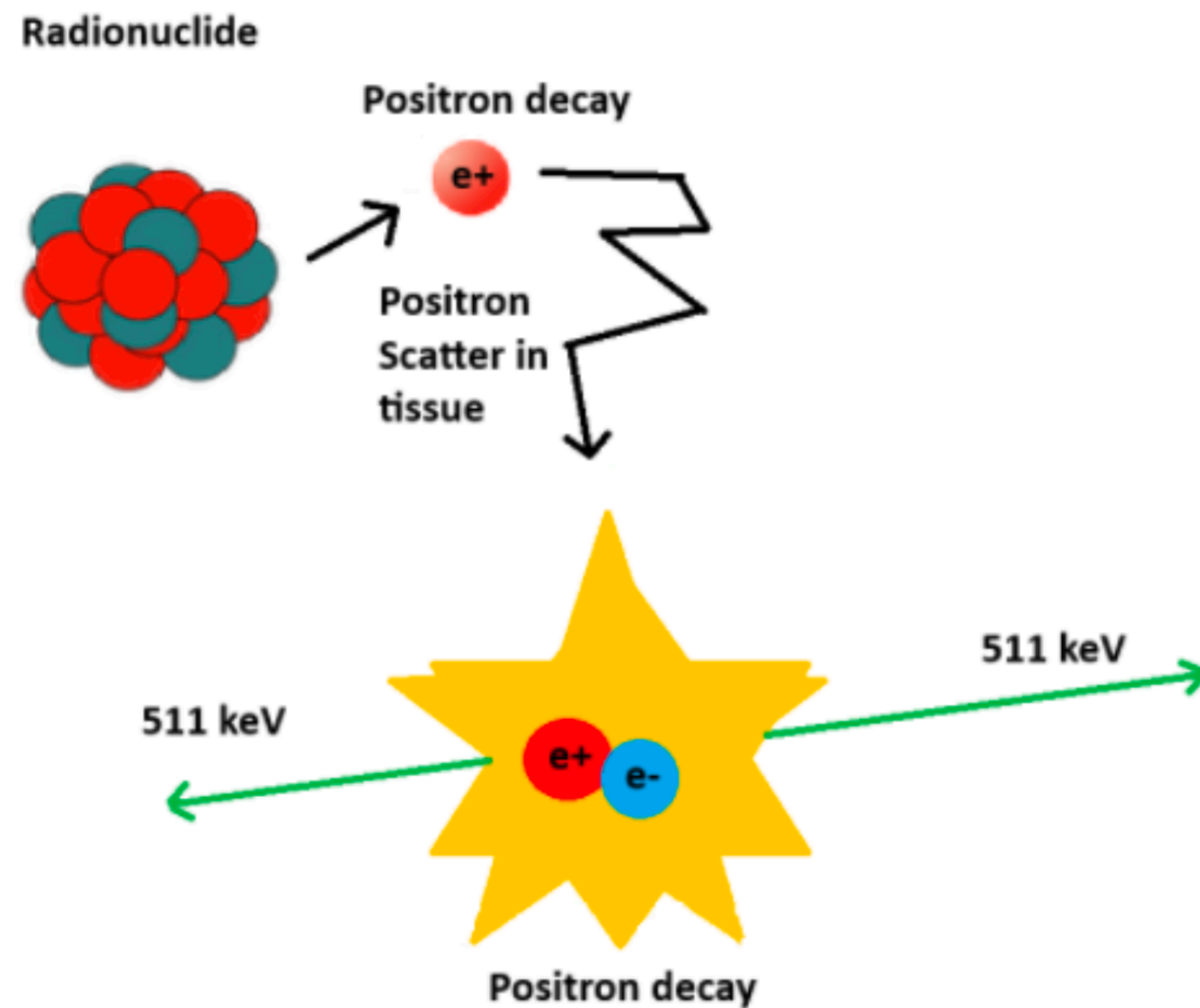
→ High Resolution
→ Functional Imaging



β^+ tracers

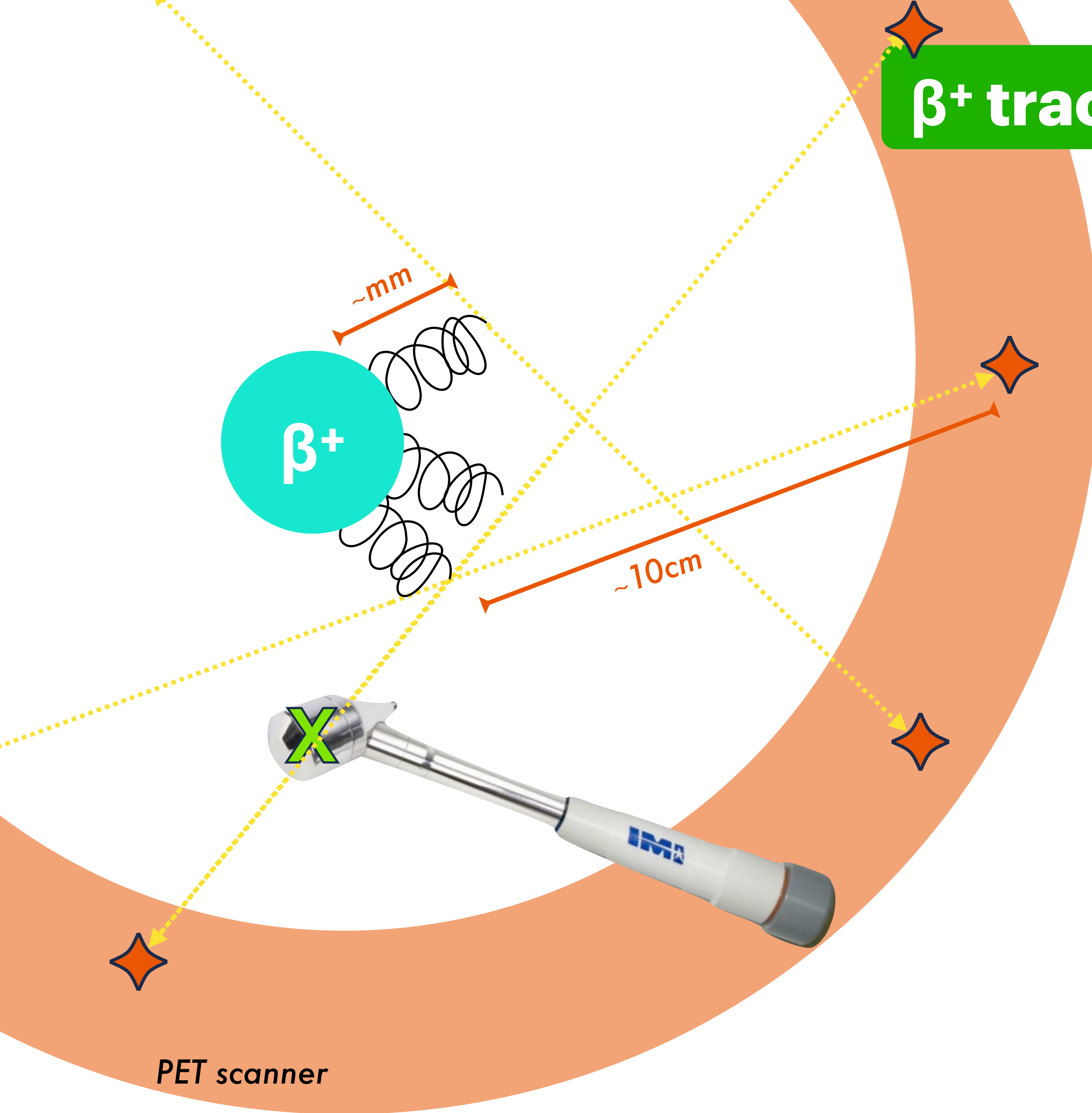
β^+ tracers

Stunning results on pre-operative imaging...

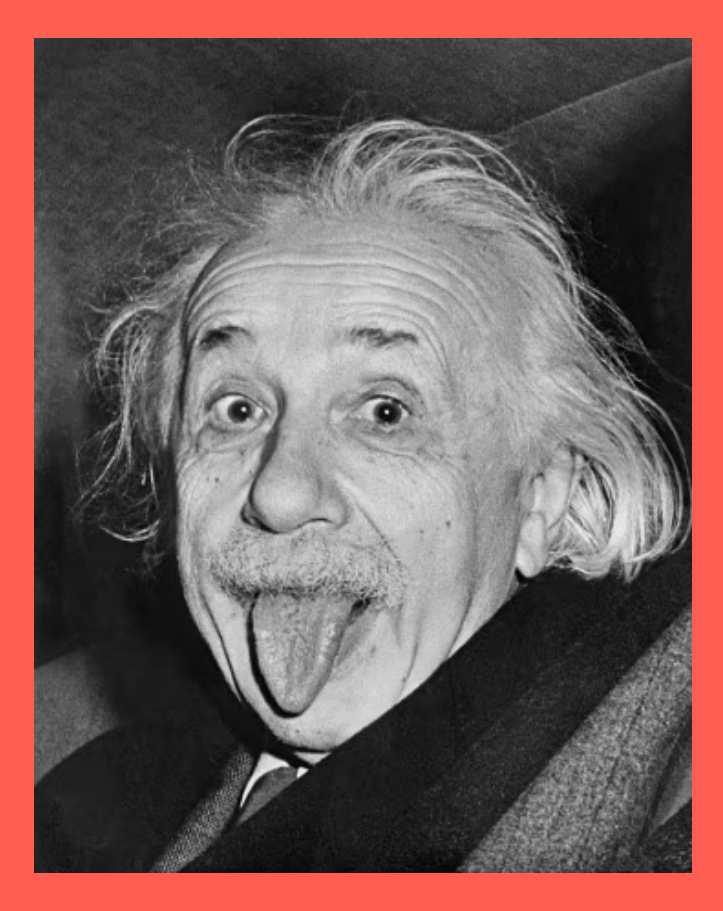


Why not also intra-operative?

β^+ tracers



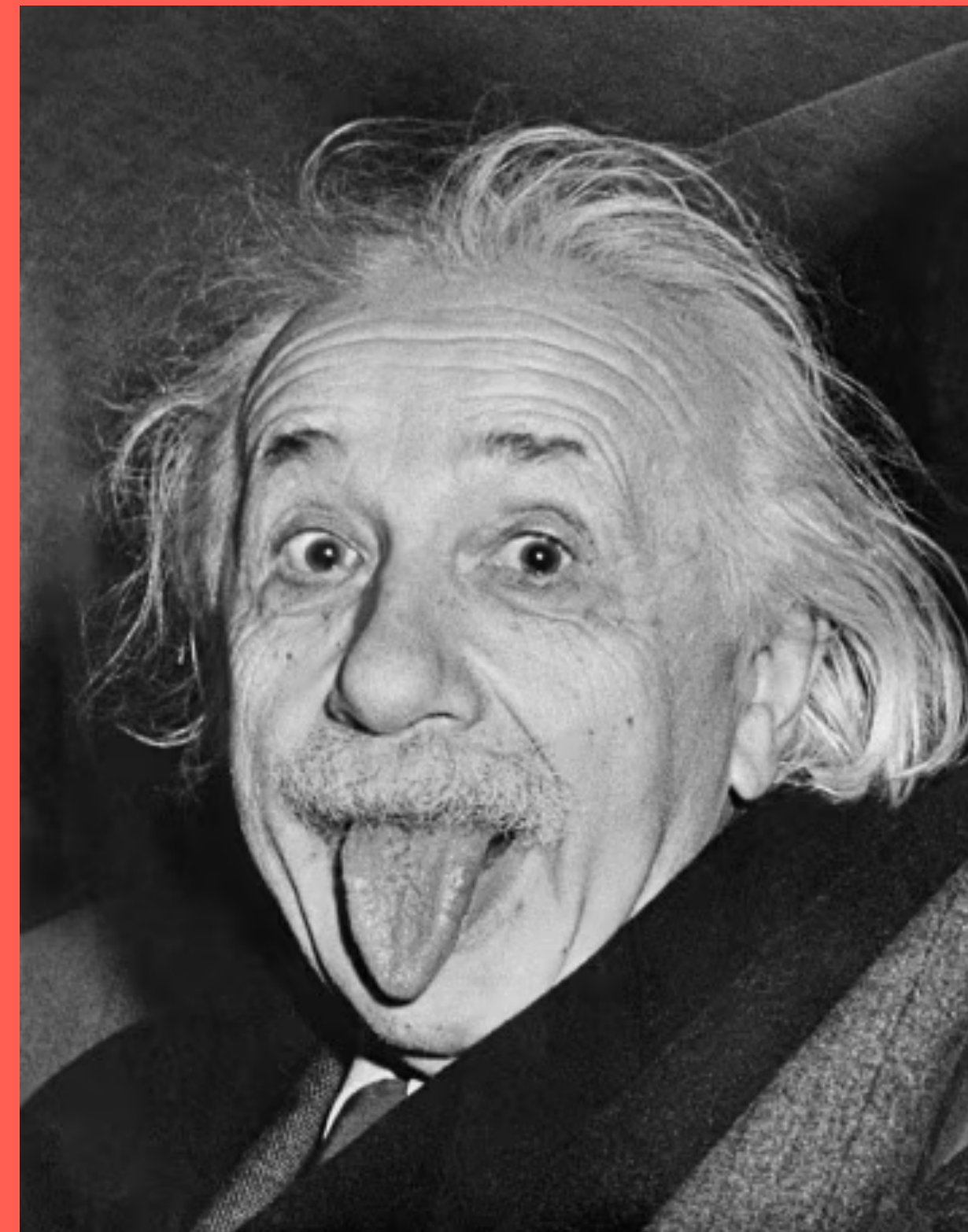
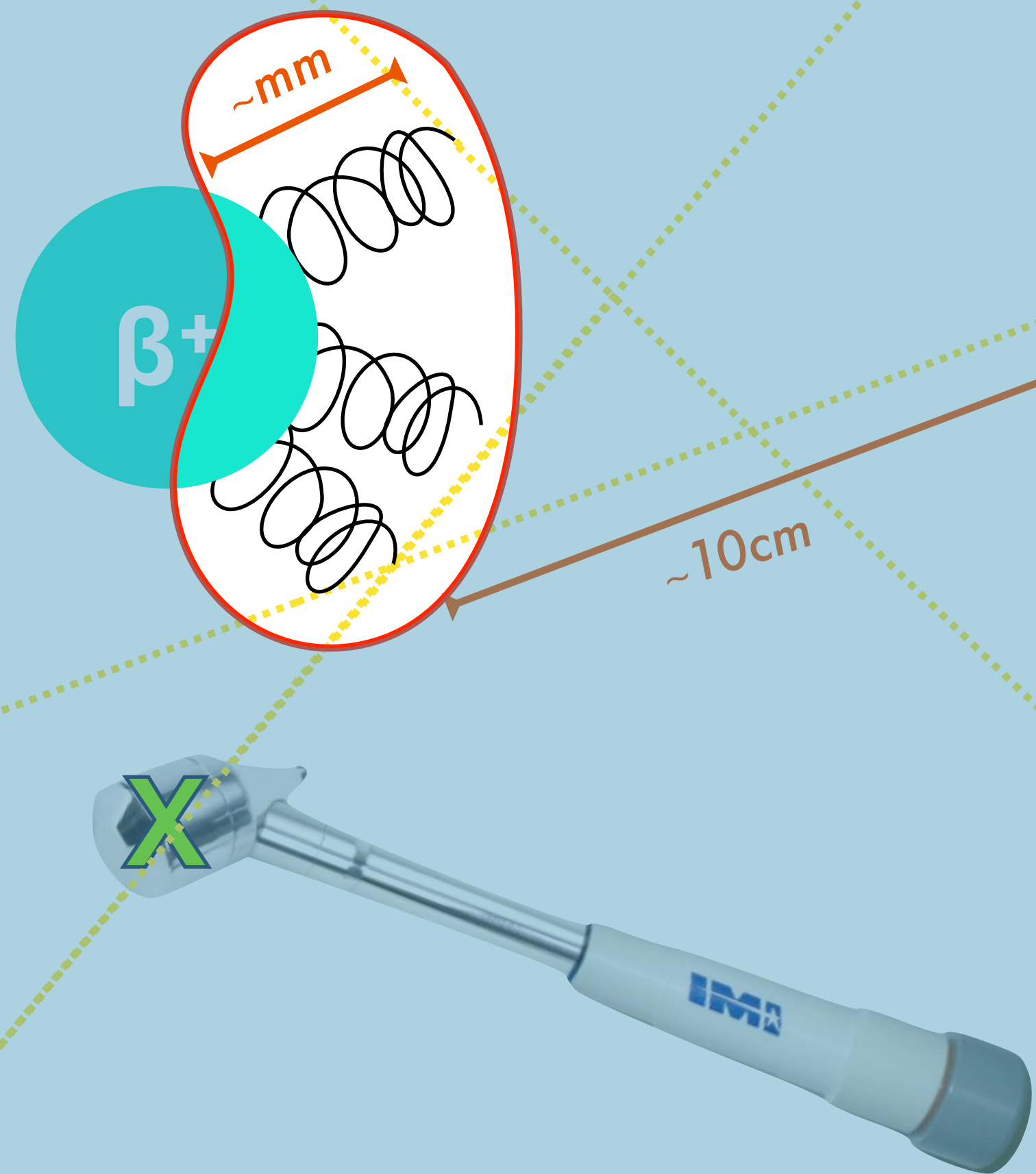
Stunning results on
pre-operative imaging...



Why not also
intra-operatively?

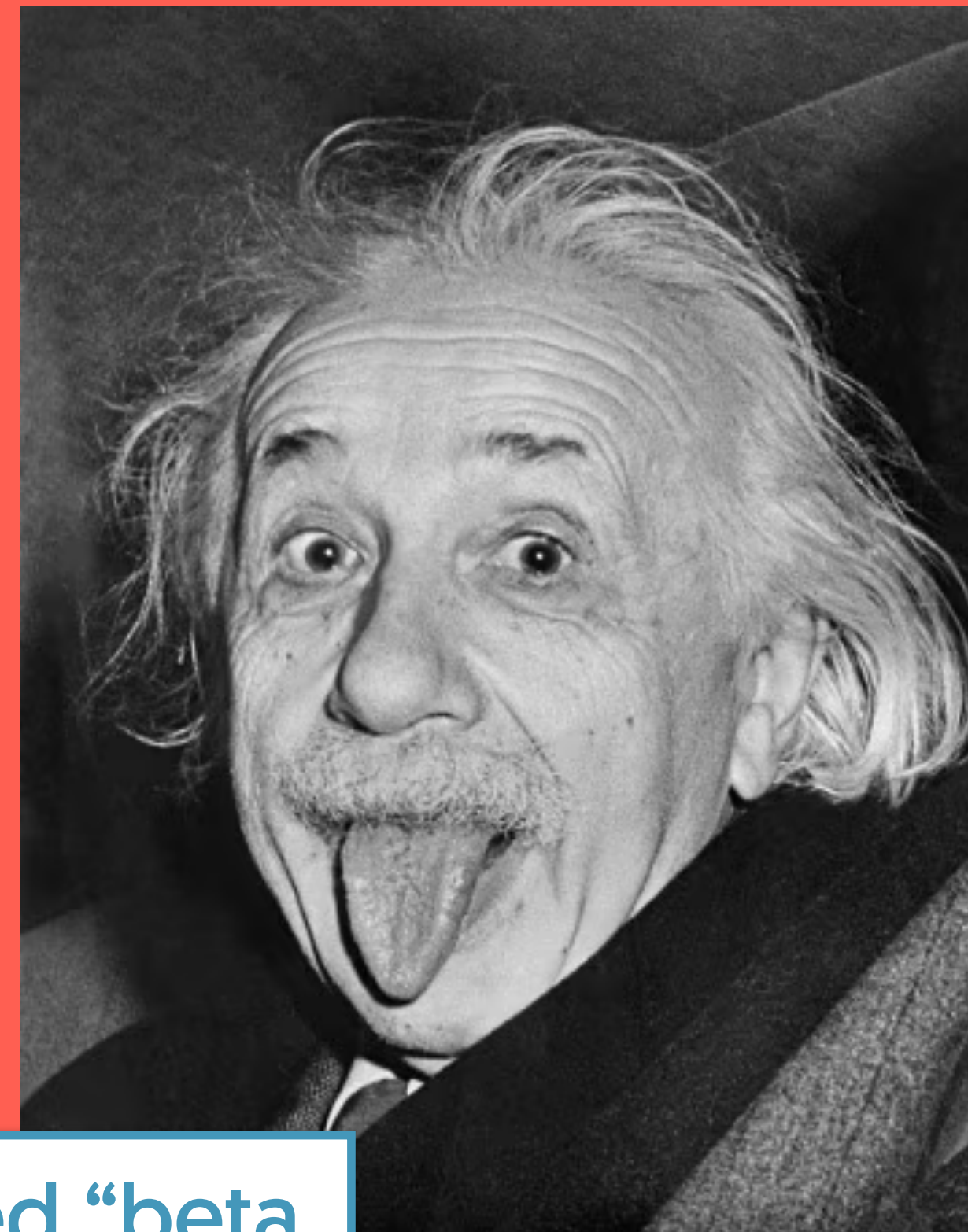
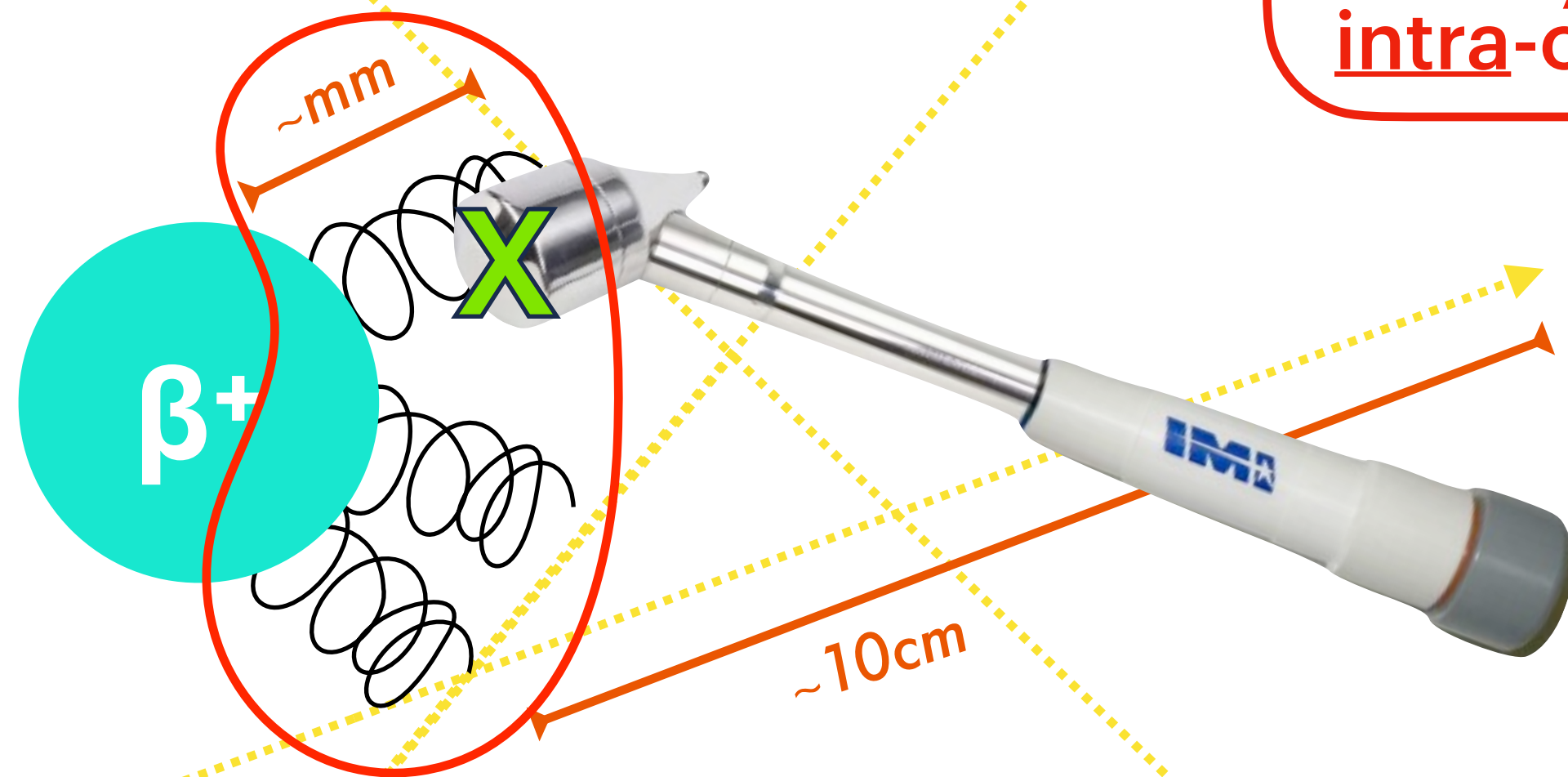
β^+ tracers

Why not also
intra-operatively?



β^+ tracers

Why not also
intra-operatively?



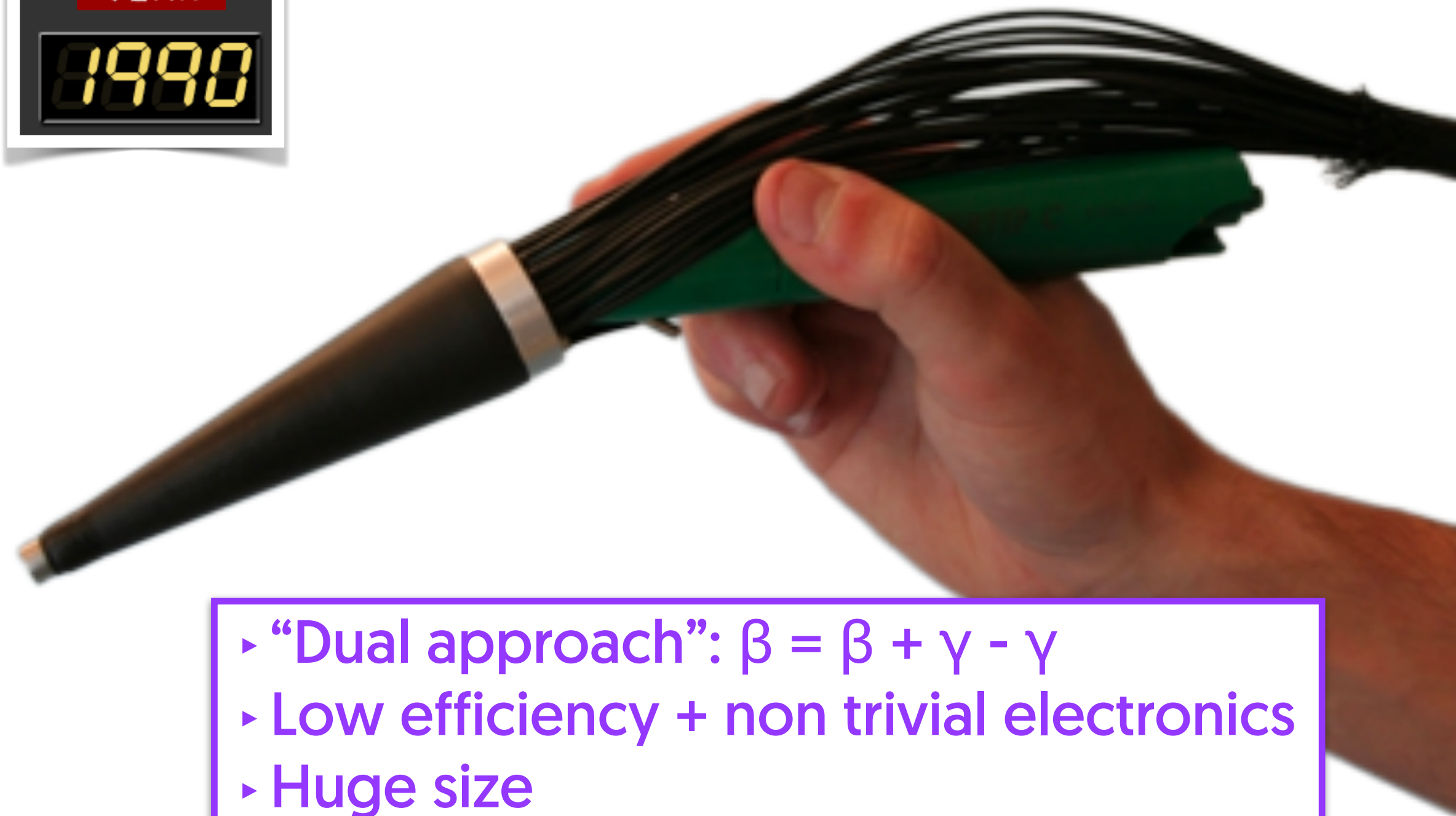
→ A dedicated “beta probe” is needed

β^+ tracers

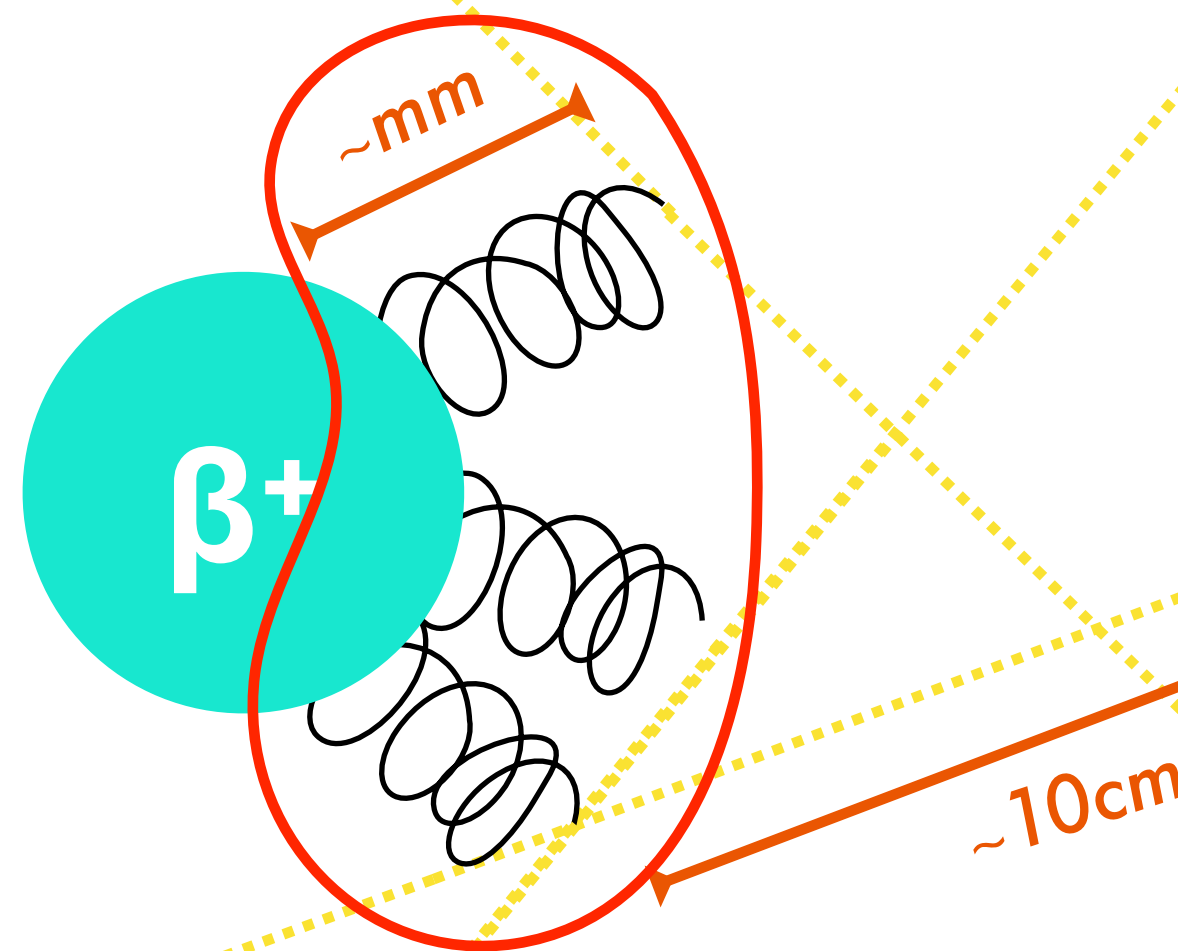
Why not also intra-operatively?

➔ A dedicated “beta probe” is needed

Fun Fact: nothing new!



- ▶ “Dual approach”: $\beta = \beta + \gamma - \gamma$
- ▶ Low efficiency + non trivial electronics
- ▶ Huge size

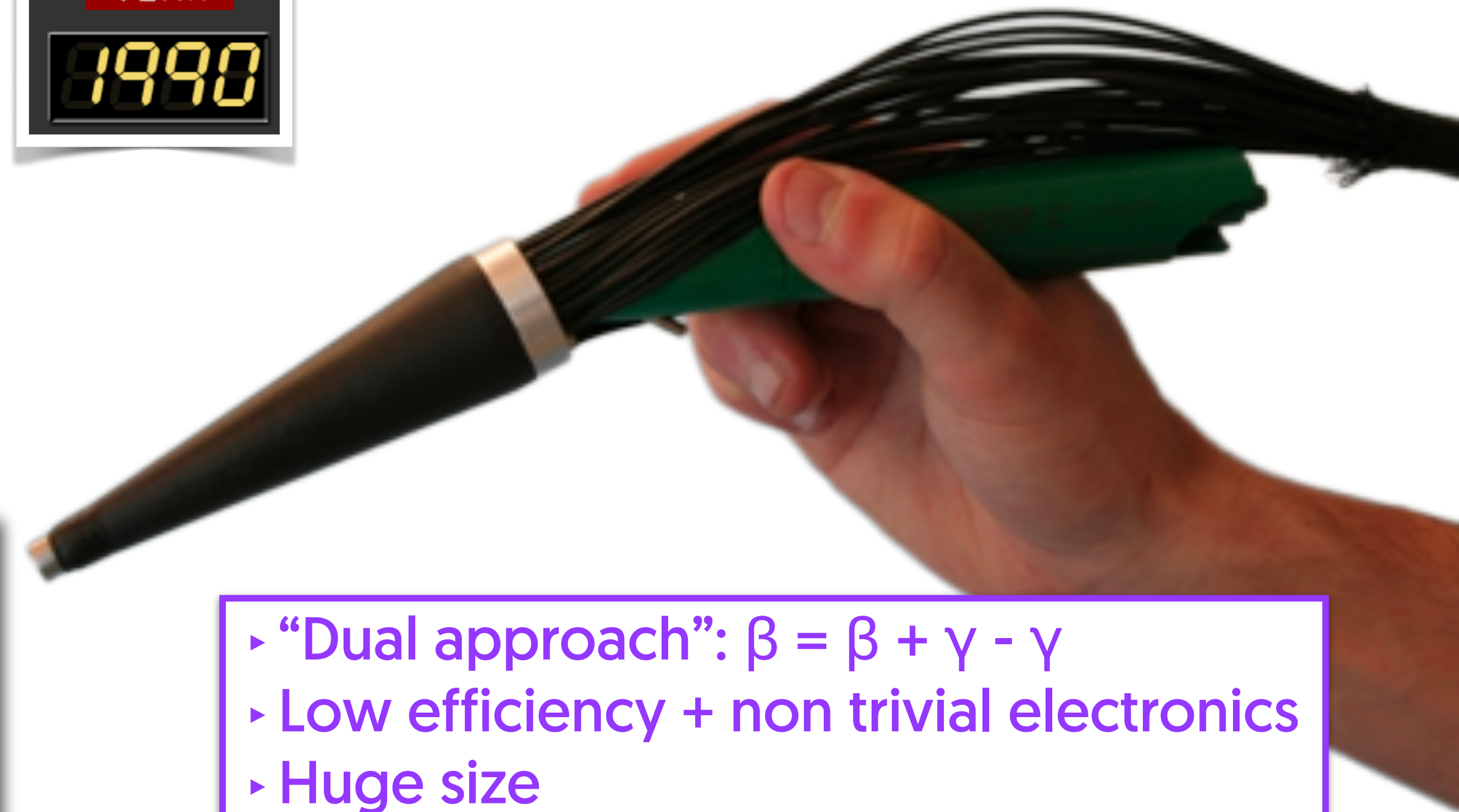
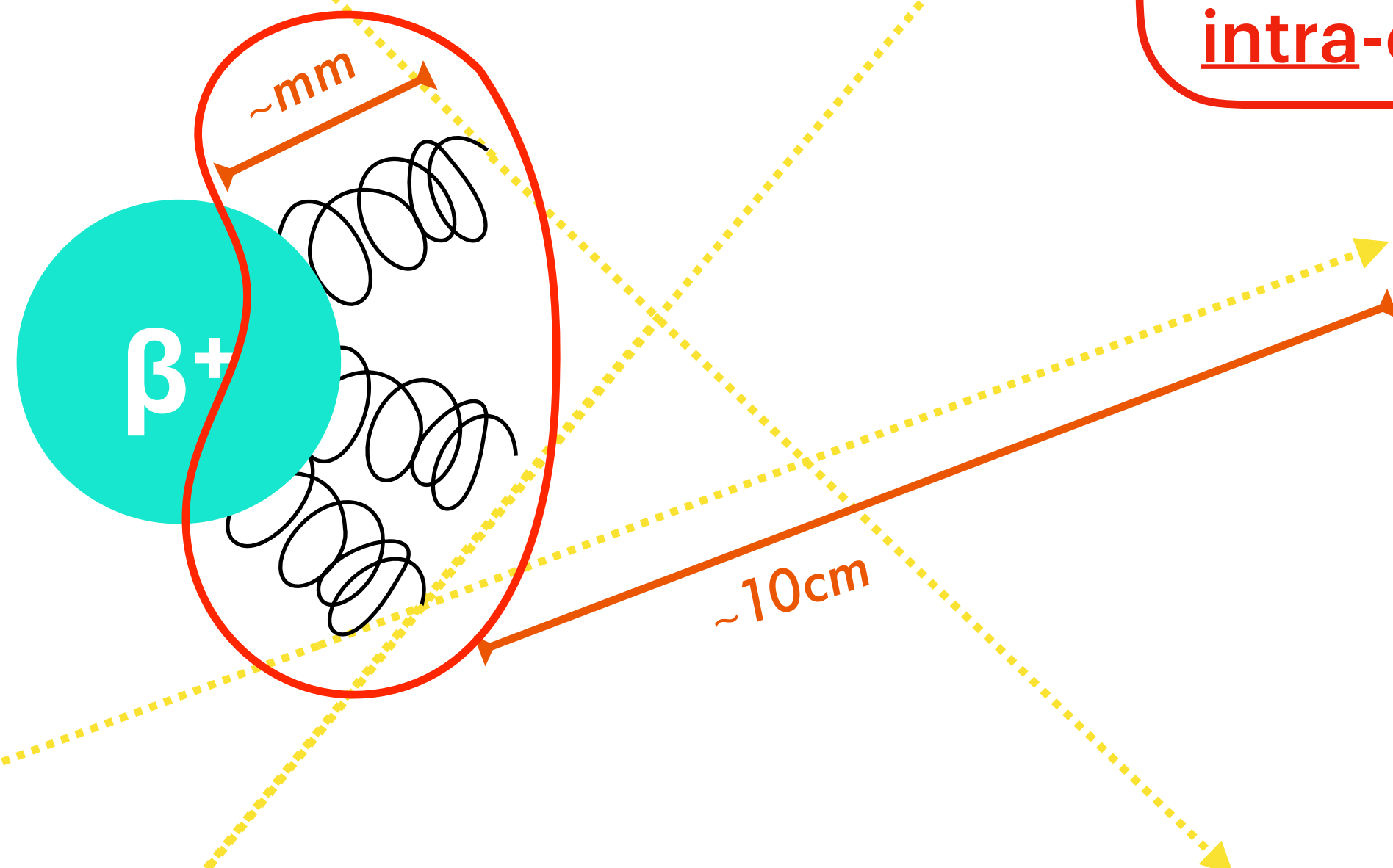


β^+ tracers

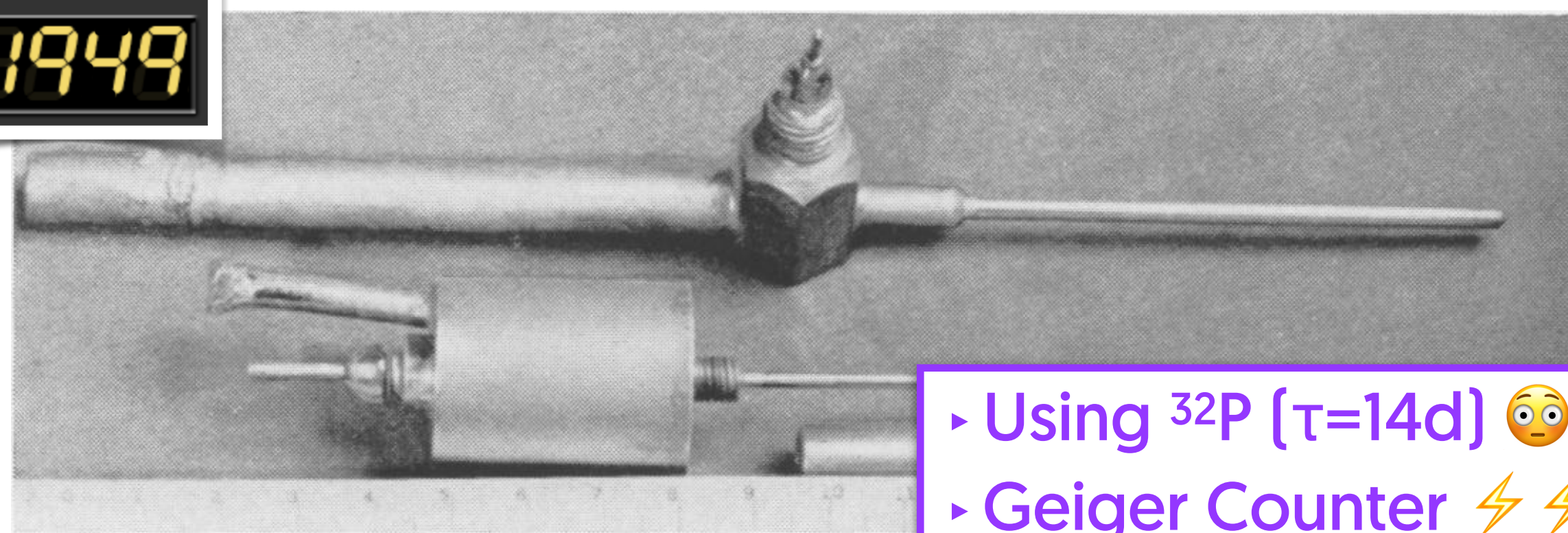
Why not also intra-operatively?

→ A dedicated “beta probe” is needed

Fun Fact: nothing new!



- “Dual approach”: $\beta = \beta + \gamma - \gamma$
- Low efficiency + non trivial electronics
- Huge size



- Using ^{32}P ($\tau=14\text{d}$) 🤨
- Geiger Counter ⚡ ⚡

β^+ tracers

Why not also intra-operatively?

→ A dedicated “beta probe” is needed

Fun Fact: nothing new!



A digital display with a red header labeled "YEAR" and a green LED-style display showing the year "1990".

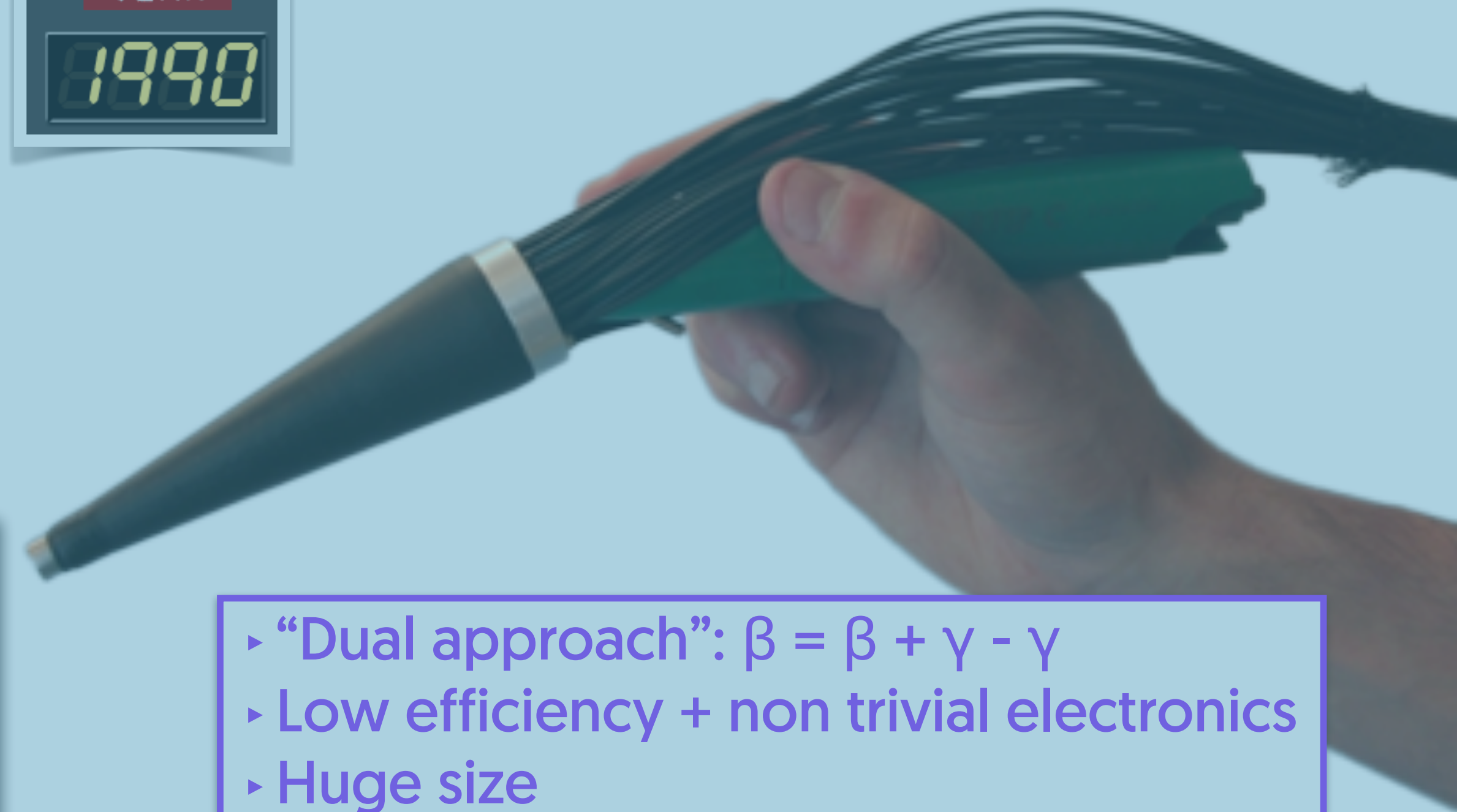
A digital display with a red header labeled "YEAR" and a green LED-style display showing the year "1990".

A digital display with a dark blue background. At the top, the word "YEAR" is written in white capital letters on a red rectangular background. Below it, the year "1948" is displayed in large, yellow, seven-segment digital digits.

A digital display with a dark blue background. At the top, the word "YEAR" is written in white capital letters on a red rectangular background. Below it, the year "1948" is displayed in large, yellow, seven-segment digital digits.

- ▶ Using ^{32}P ($\tau=14\text{d}$) 🤔
- ▶ Geiger Counter ⚡ ⚡

- ▶ “Dual approach”: $\beta = \beta + \gamma - \gamma$
- ▶ Low efficiency + non trivial electronics
- ▶ Huge size

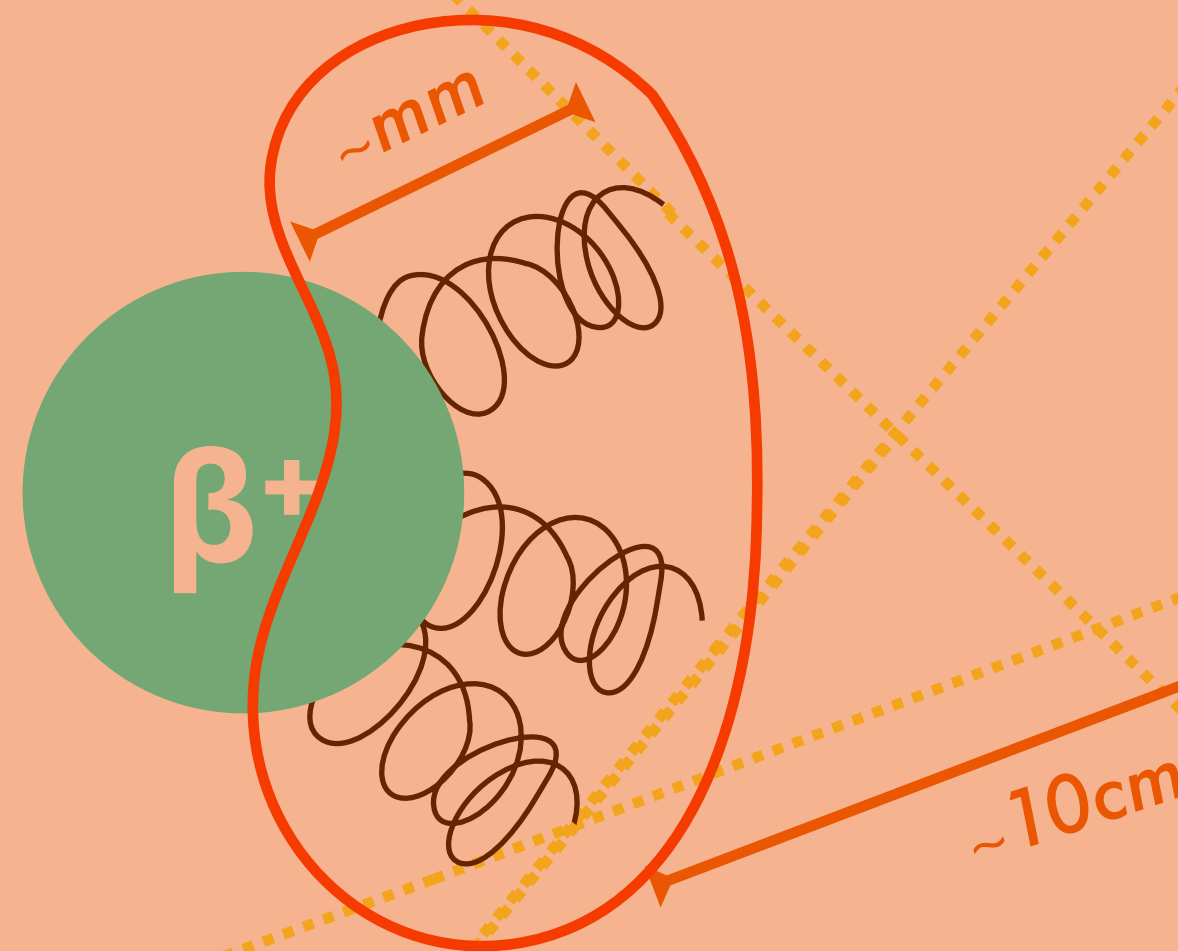


β^+ tracers

Why not also
intra-operatively?

→ A dedicated “beta
probe” is needed

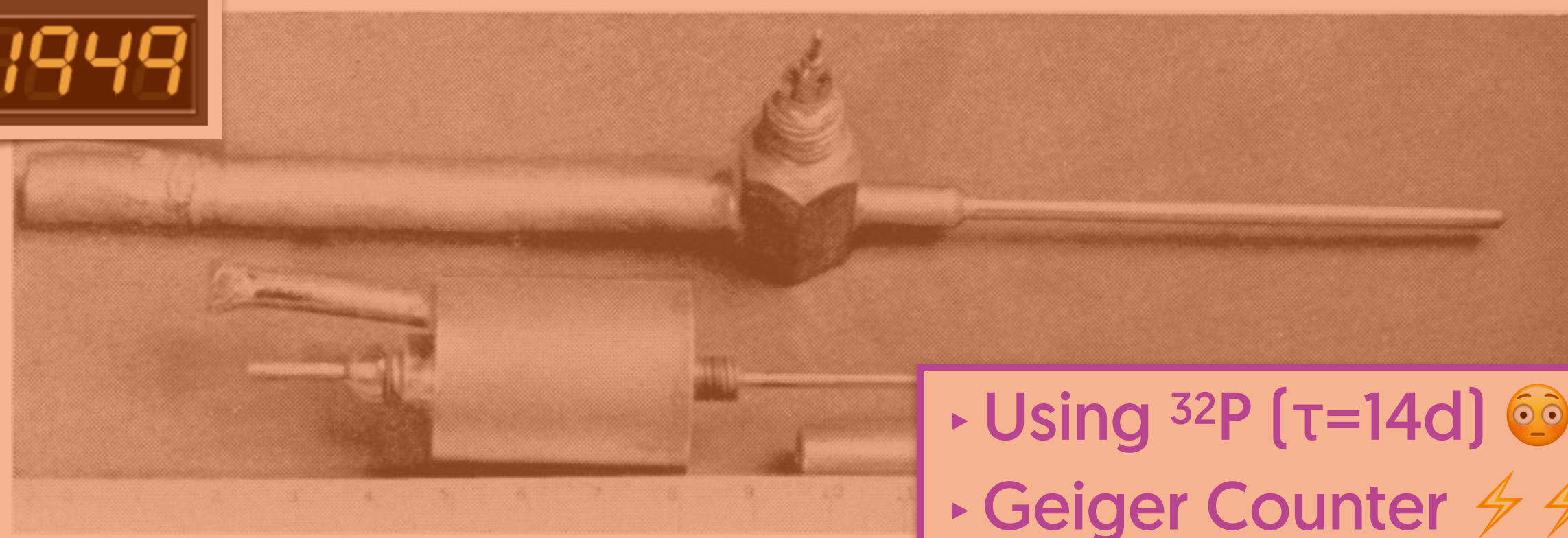
Fun Fact: **nothing new!**



YEAR
1990



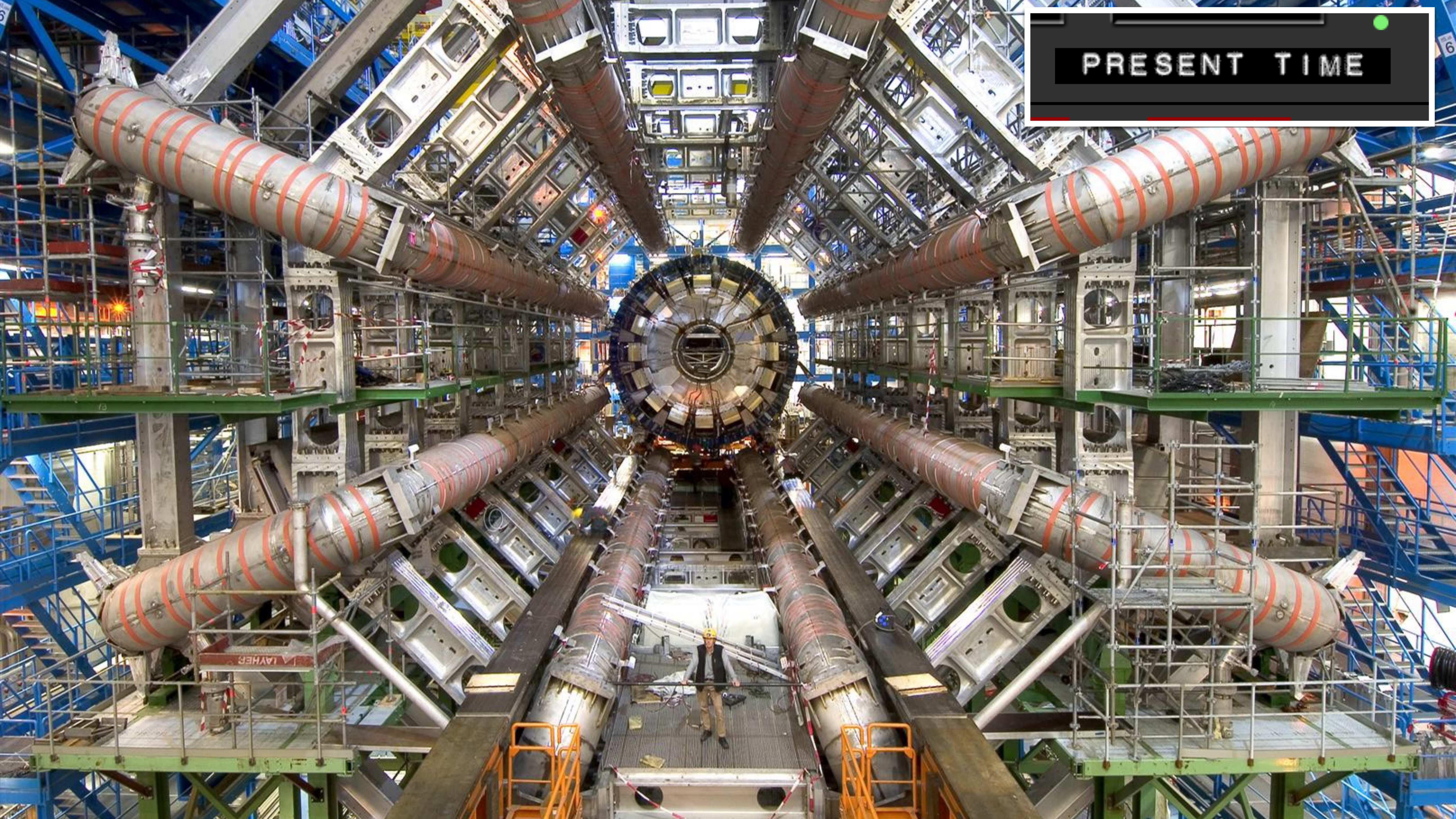
YEAR
1949



- Using ^{32}P ($\tau=14\text{d}$) 🤔
- Geiger Counter ⚡ ⚡

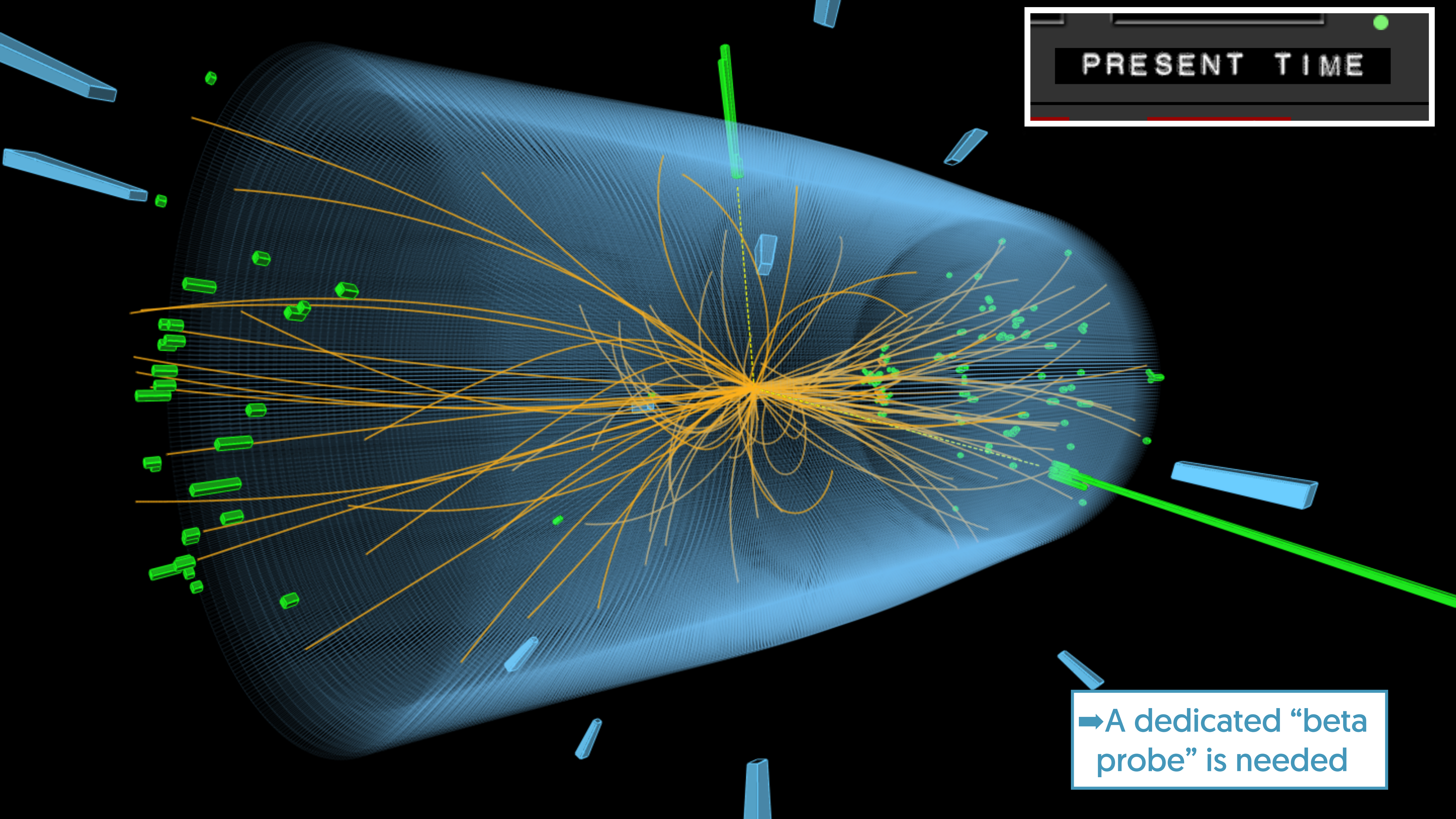
- “Dual approach”: $\beta = \beta + \gamma - \gamma$
- Low efficiency + non trivial electronics
- Huge size

PRESENT TIME



PRESENT TIME

→ A dedicated “beta probe” is needed



**QUAD SCALER AND
PRESET COUNTER-TIMER**
Mod. N145

MODEL 621 CL
DISCRIMINATOR

MODEL 621 CL
DISCRIMINATOR

CH1
GATE 0000000000

CH2
GATE 50 Ω 0000000000
CARRY

CH3
GATE 0000000000

CH4
GATE 50 Ω 0000000000
CARRY

CH5
0000000000

END MARKER OUT SOL REP

WIDTH 1 μ 1 ms

OUT OUT
OUT OUT

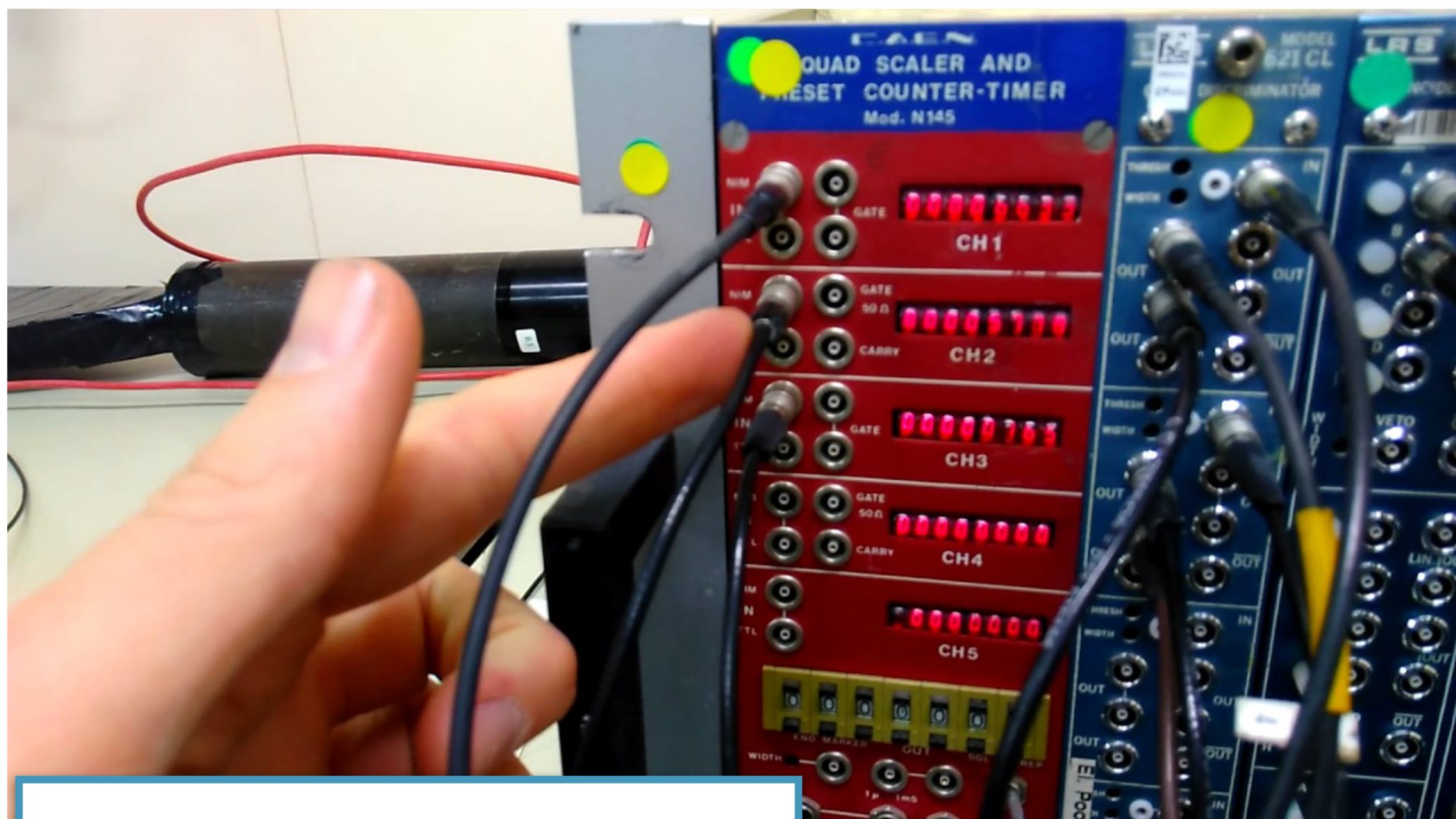
OUT OUT
OUT OUT

OUT OUT
OUT OUT

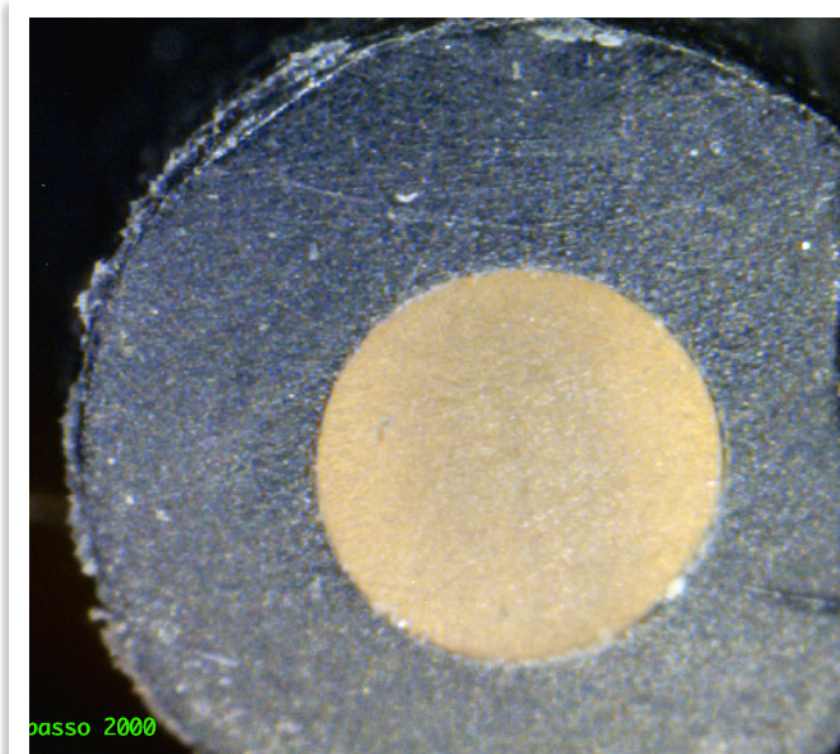
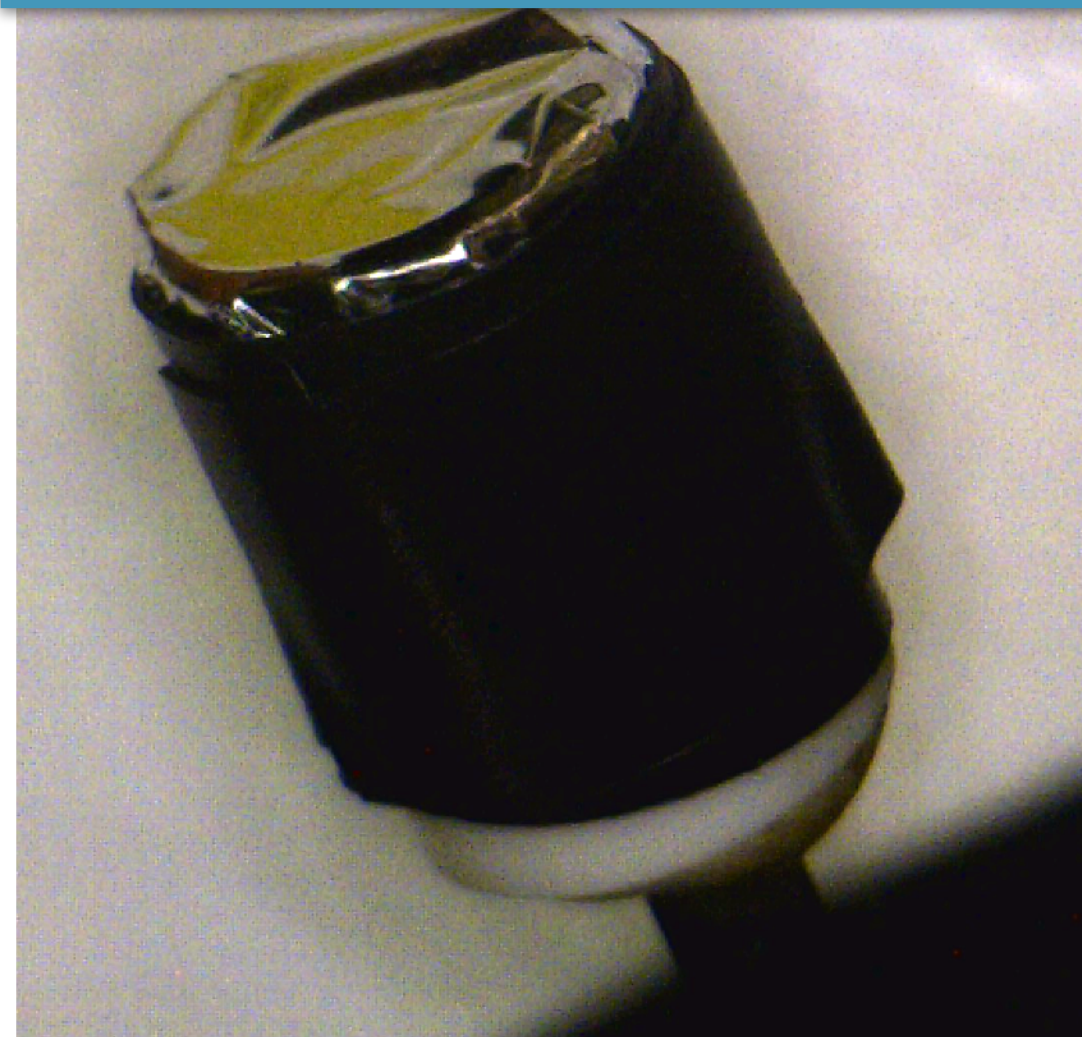
OUT OUT
OUT OUT

OUT OUT
OUT OUT

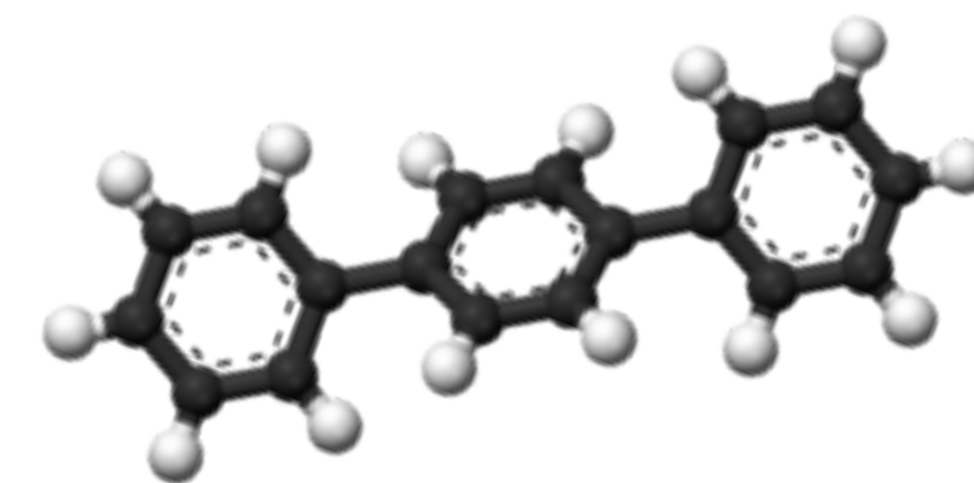
OUT OUT
OUT OUT



→ A dedicated “beta probe” is needed



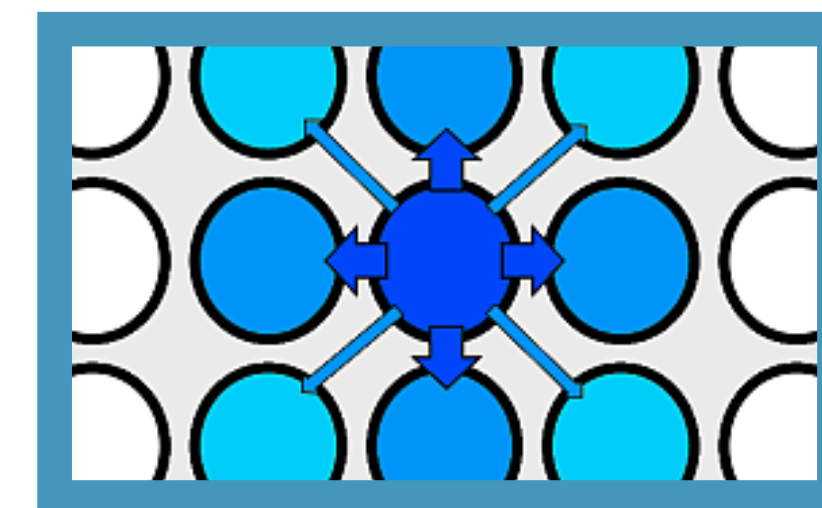
- Use **p-terphenyl** as detector element



Aromatic hydrocarbon isomer

$C_{18}H_{14}$

- Heat storage, opto-electronics, sunscreen lotions!
- Wavelength shifter, doping component for liquid scintillators



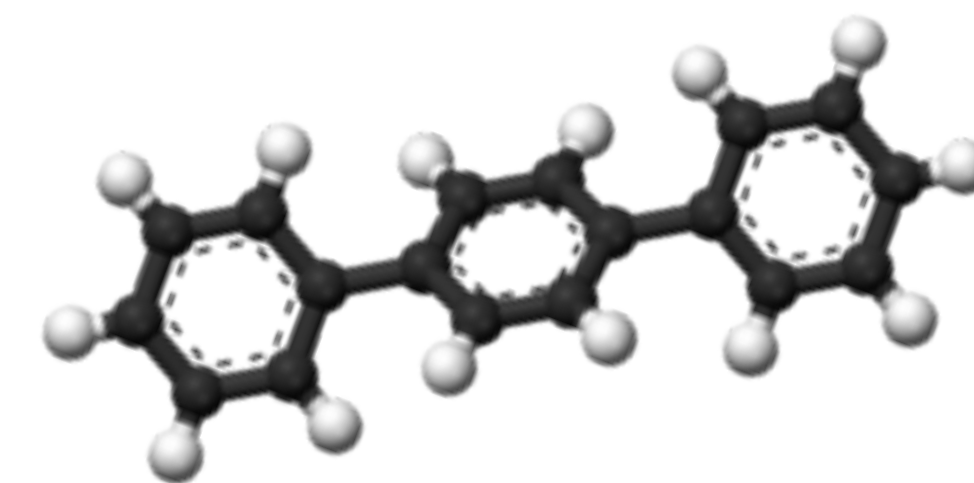
▶ High light yield
 [140% Anthracene]
 ▶ Low density
 [1.2 g/cm³]

→ High sensitivity to charged particles
 → Intrinsic transparency to γ

How does it perform as β particles detector?

How does it
perform as β particles
detector?

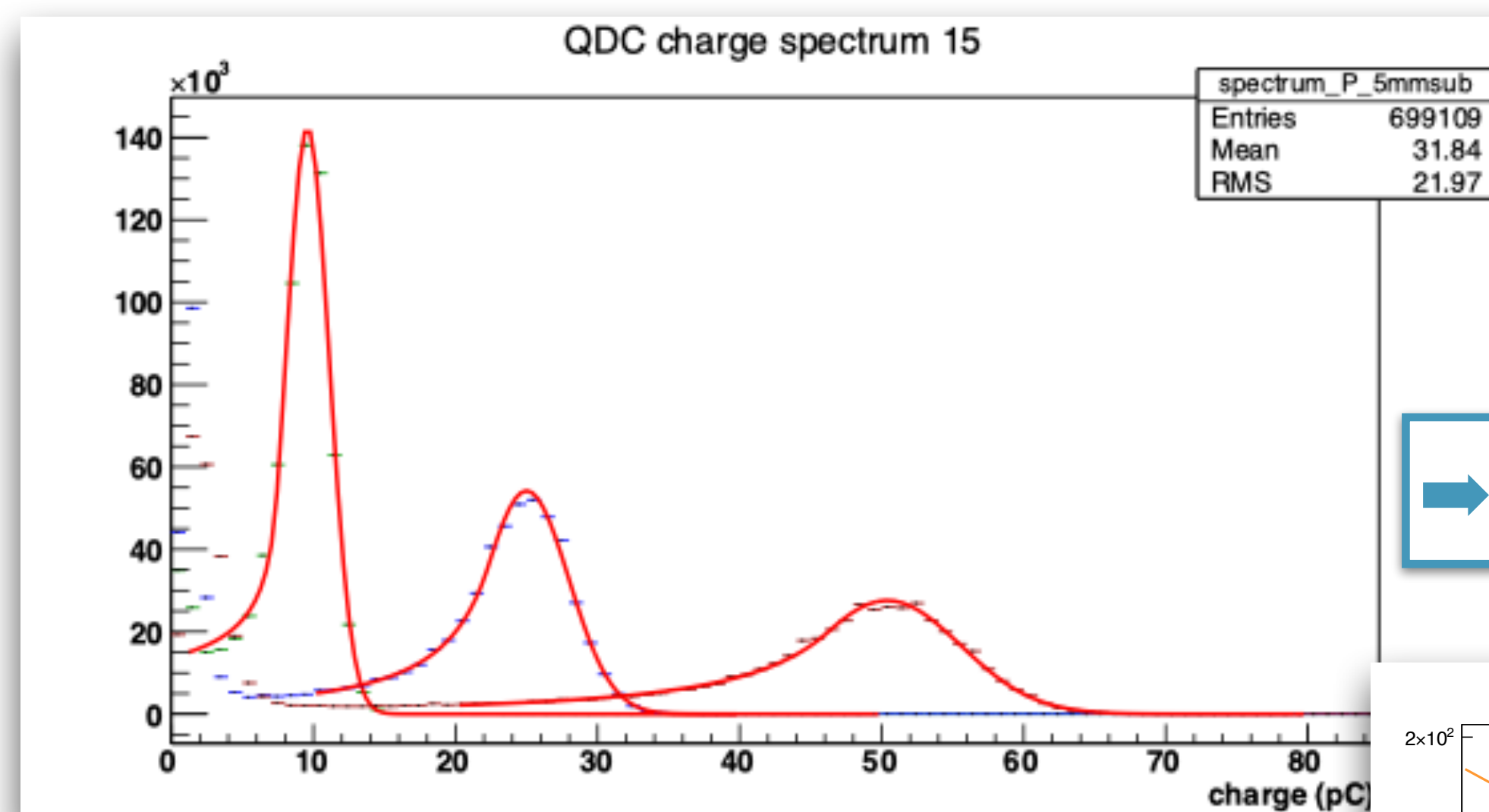
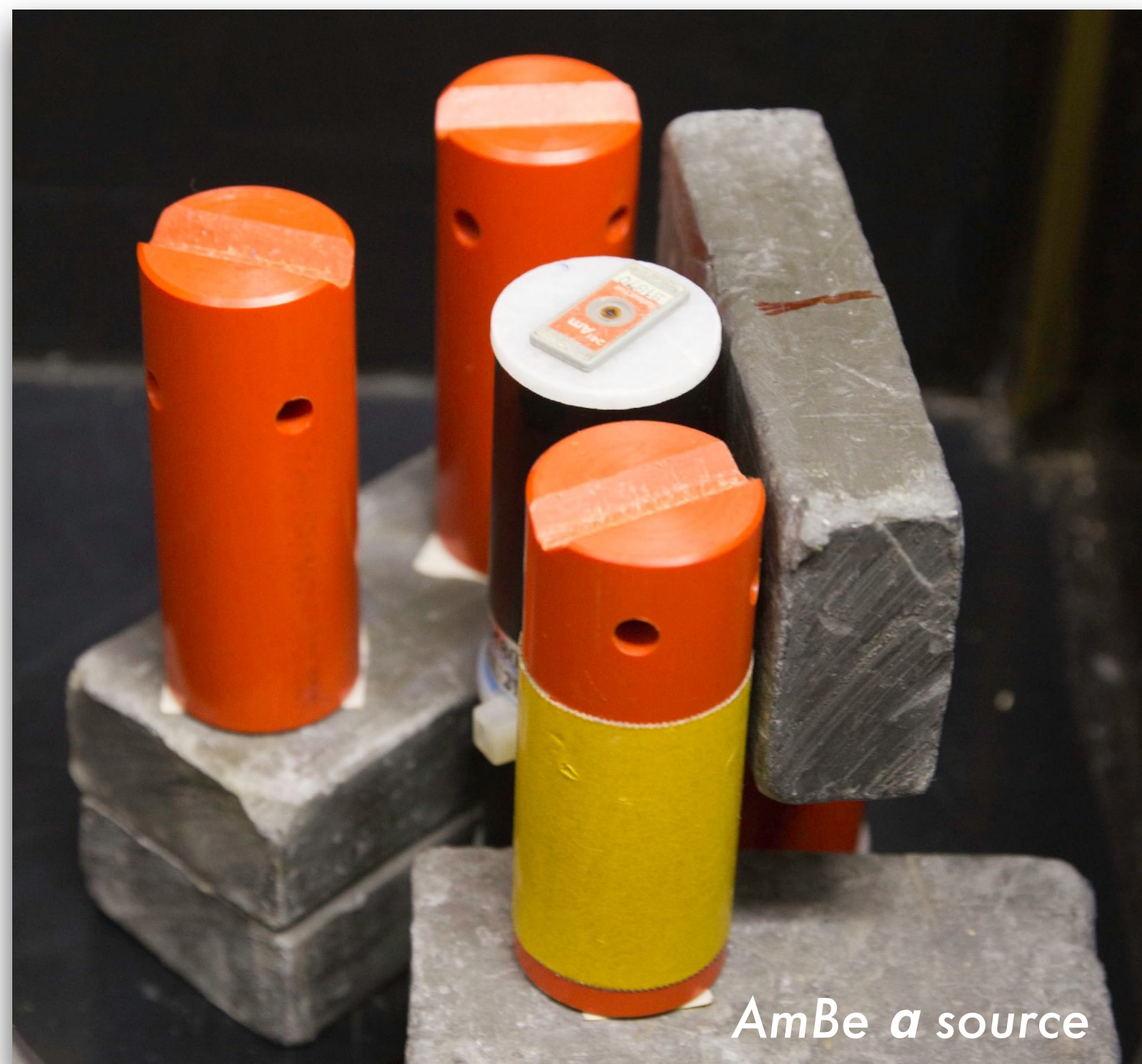
- Use **p-terphenyl** as
detector element



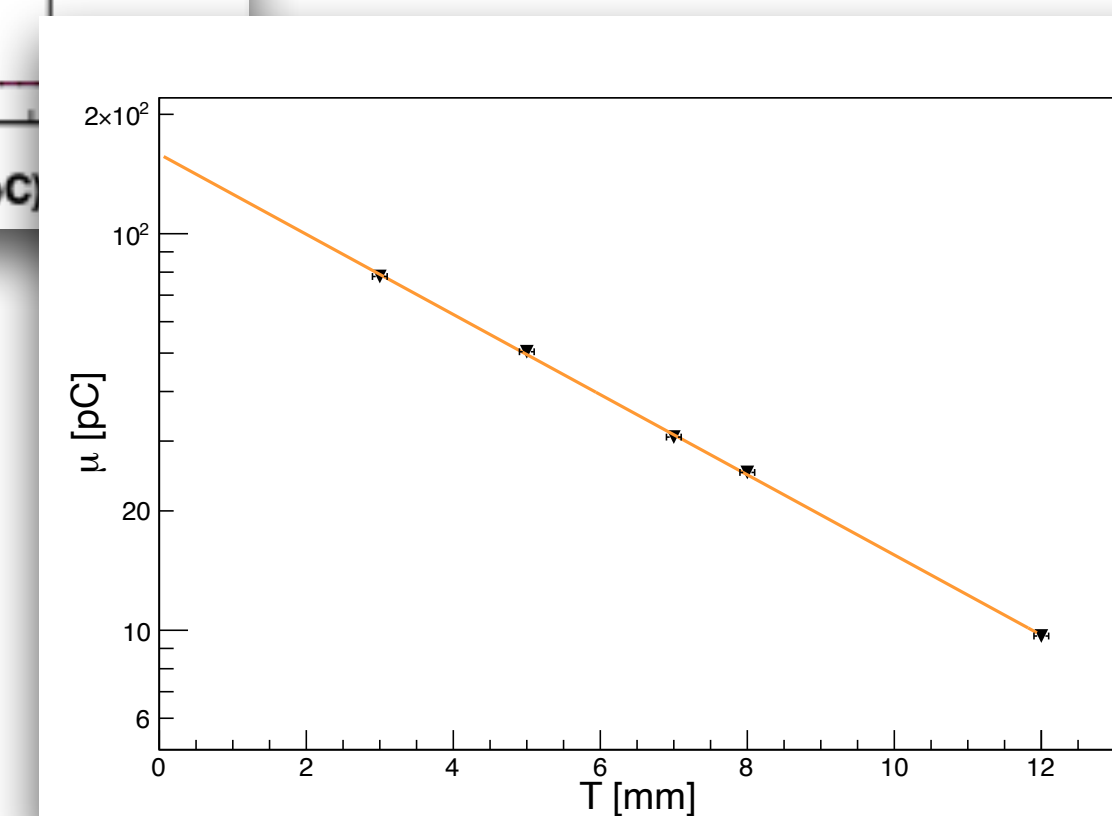
Aromatic
hydrocarbon
isomer

$C_{18}H_{14}$

- Scintillation Light Attenuation Length -

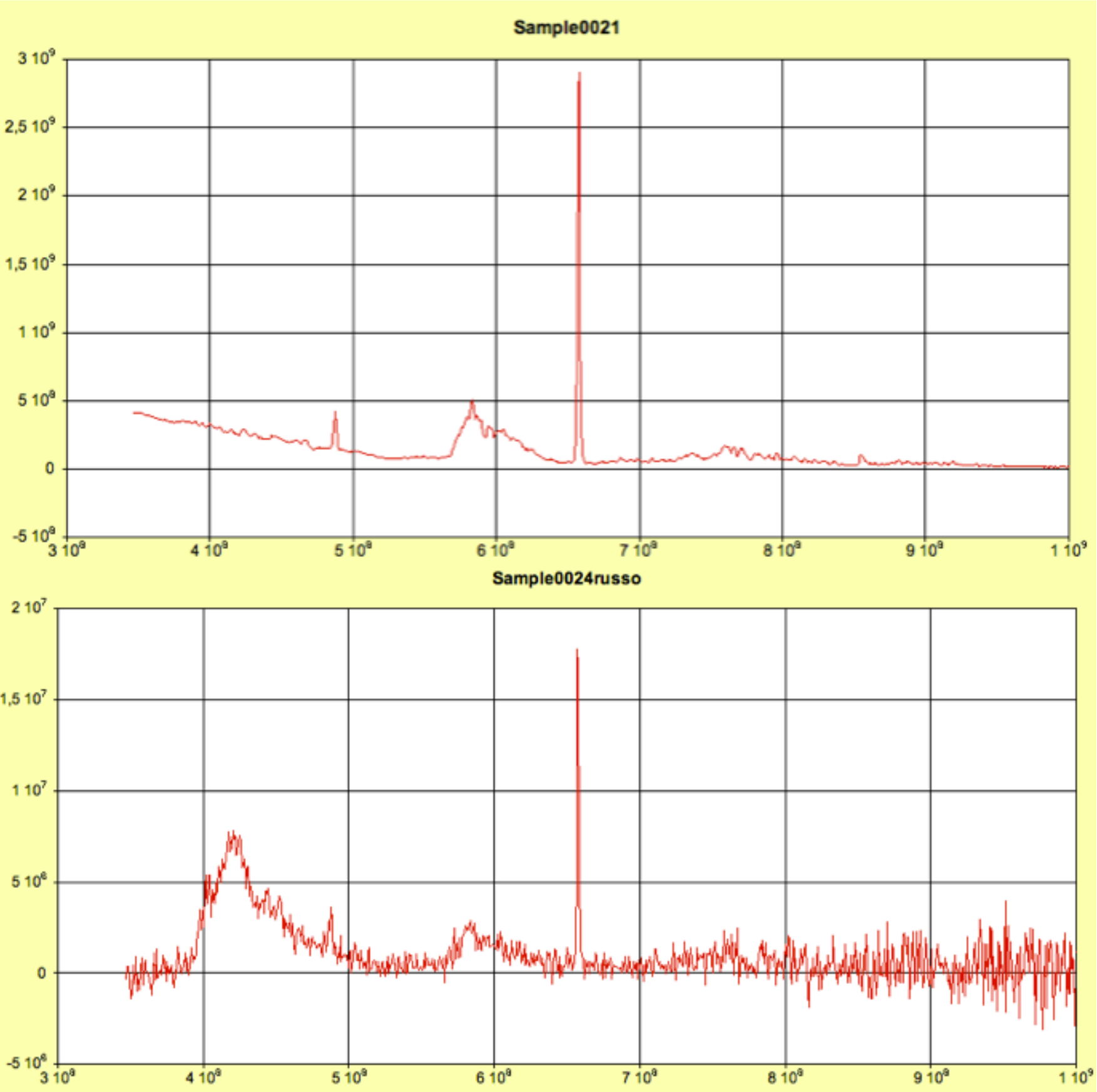


$\Rightarrow \lambda = [4.73 \pm 0.06] \text{ mm}$

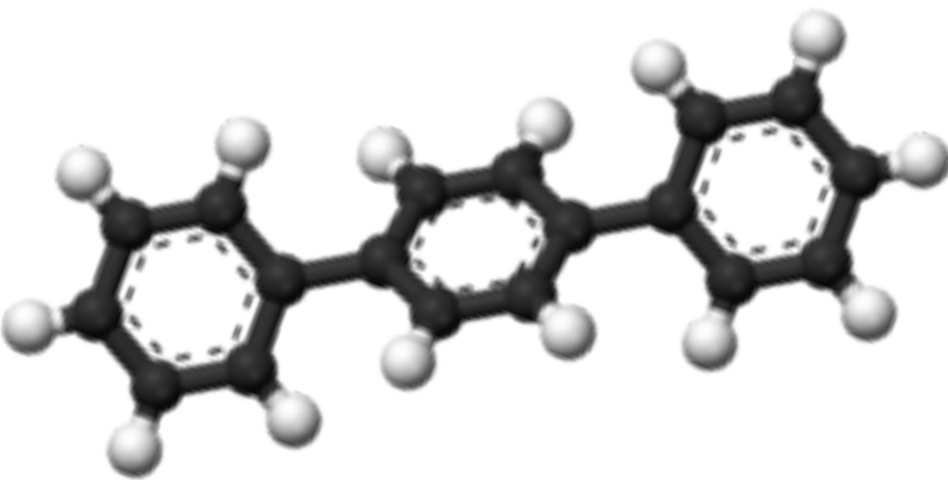


How does it perform as β particles detector?

- Scintillation Light Spectrum -

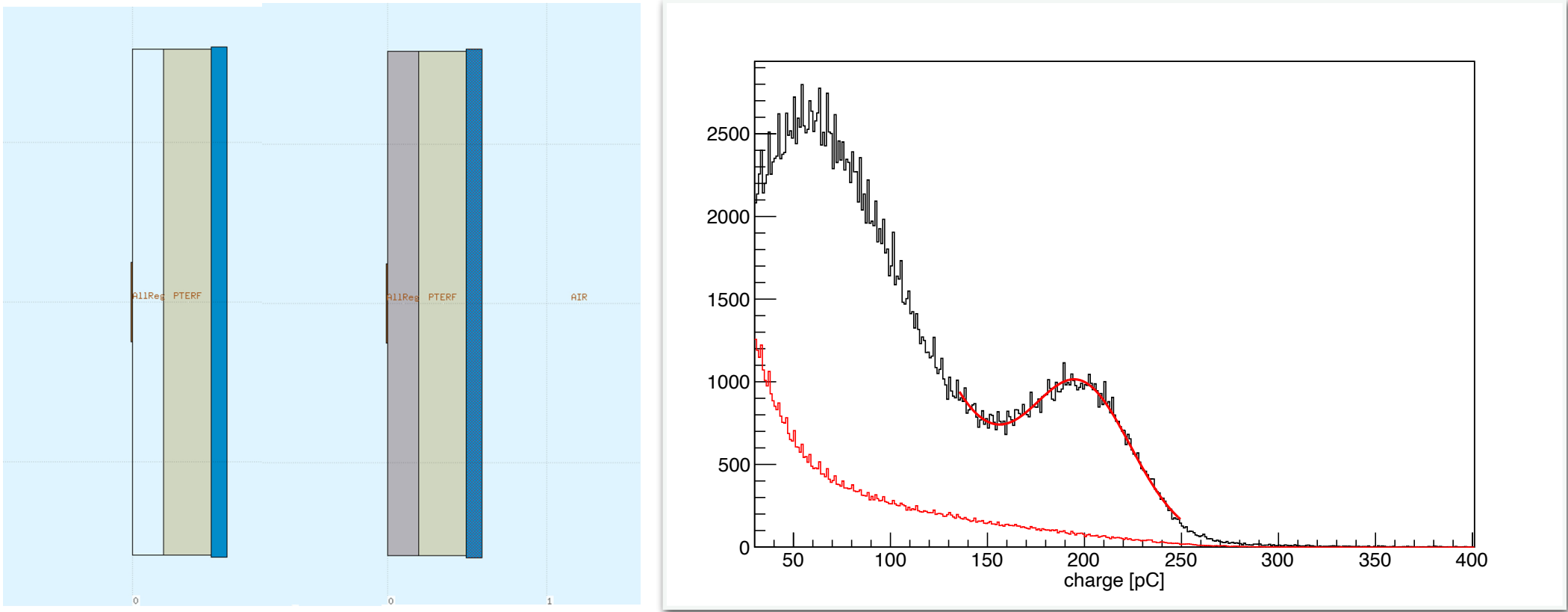


- Use **p-terphenyl** as detector element

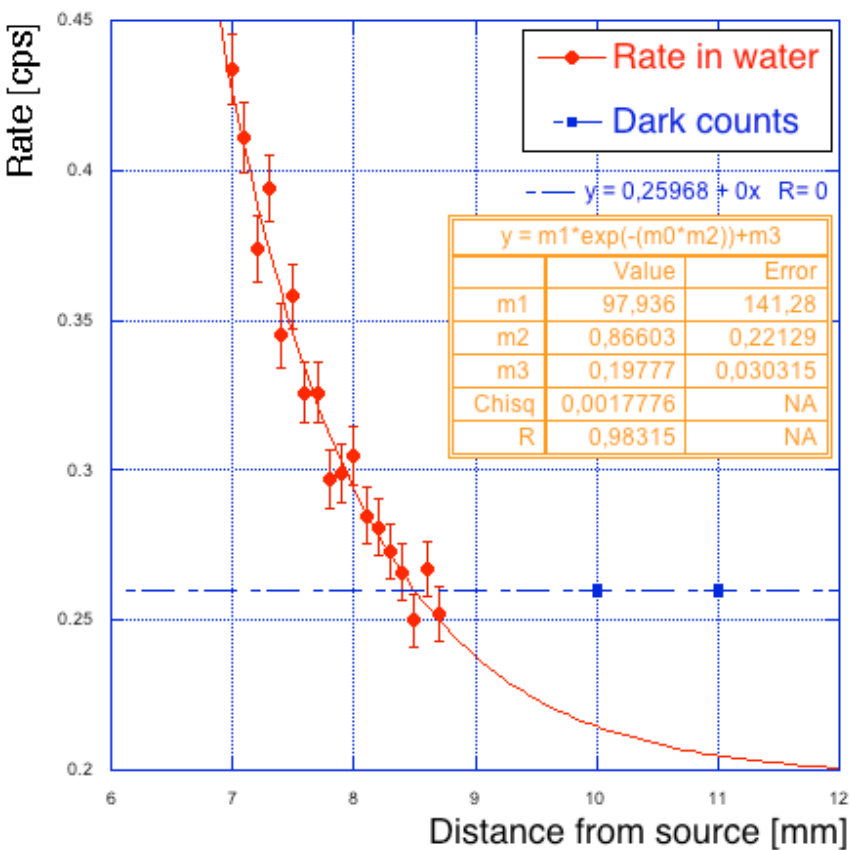
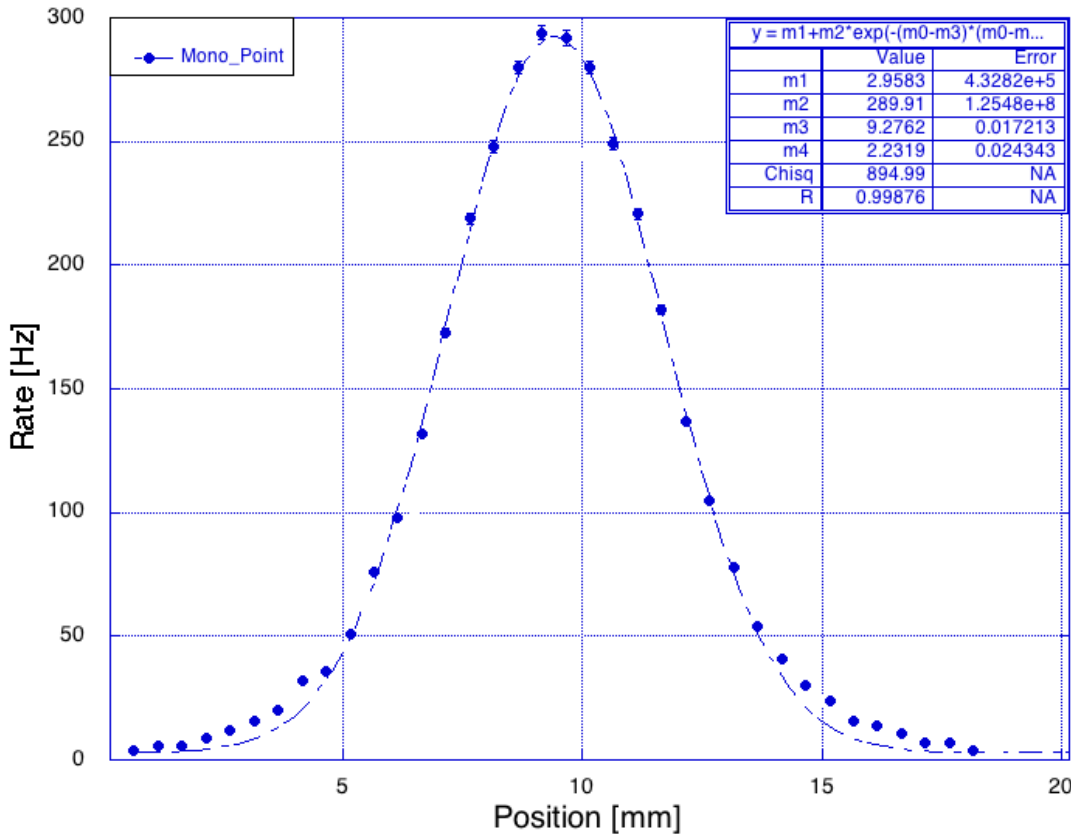


Aromatic hydrocarbon isomer
 $C_{18}H_{14}$

- β/γ Discrimination -

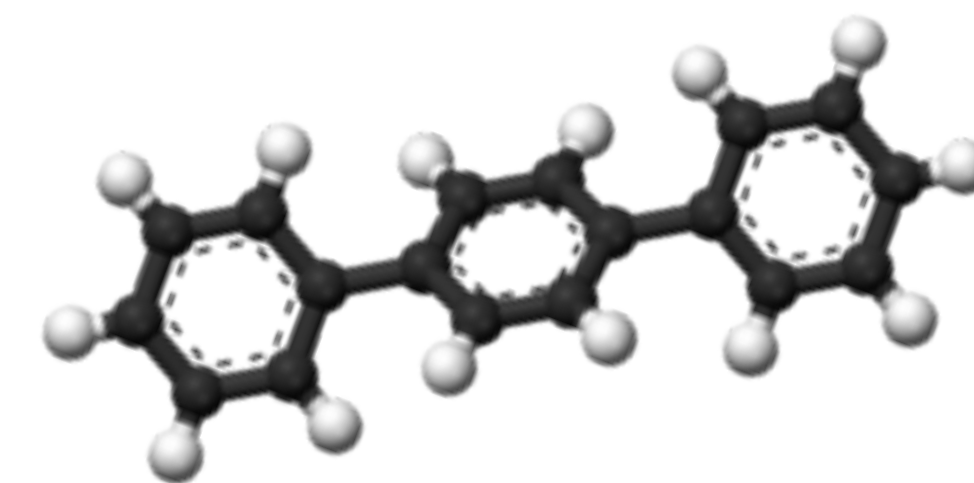


- Field of View -



How does it
perform as β particles
detector?

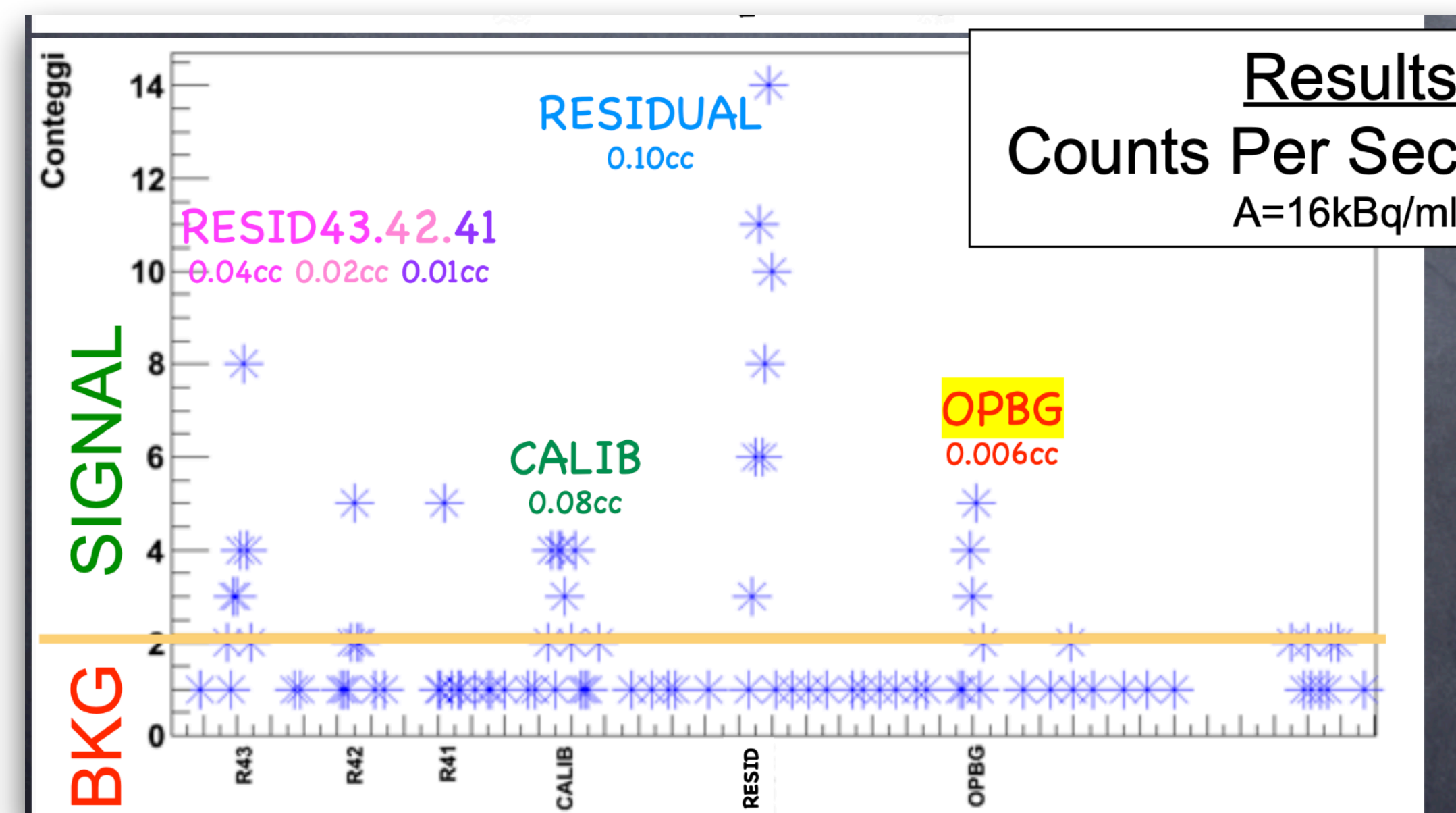
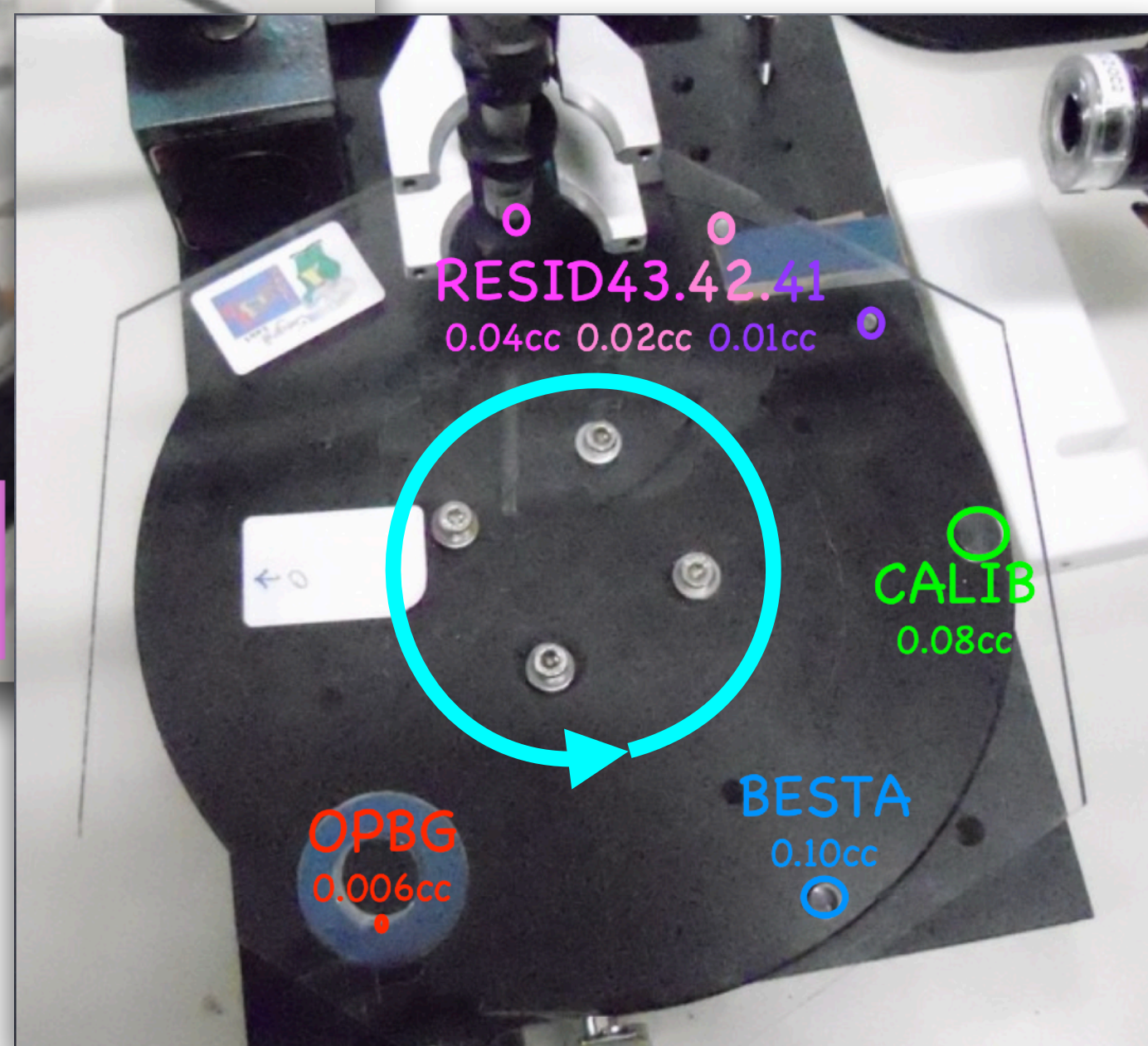
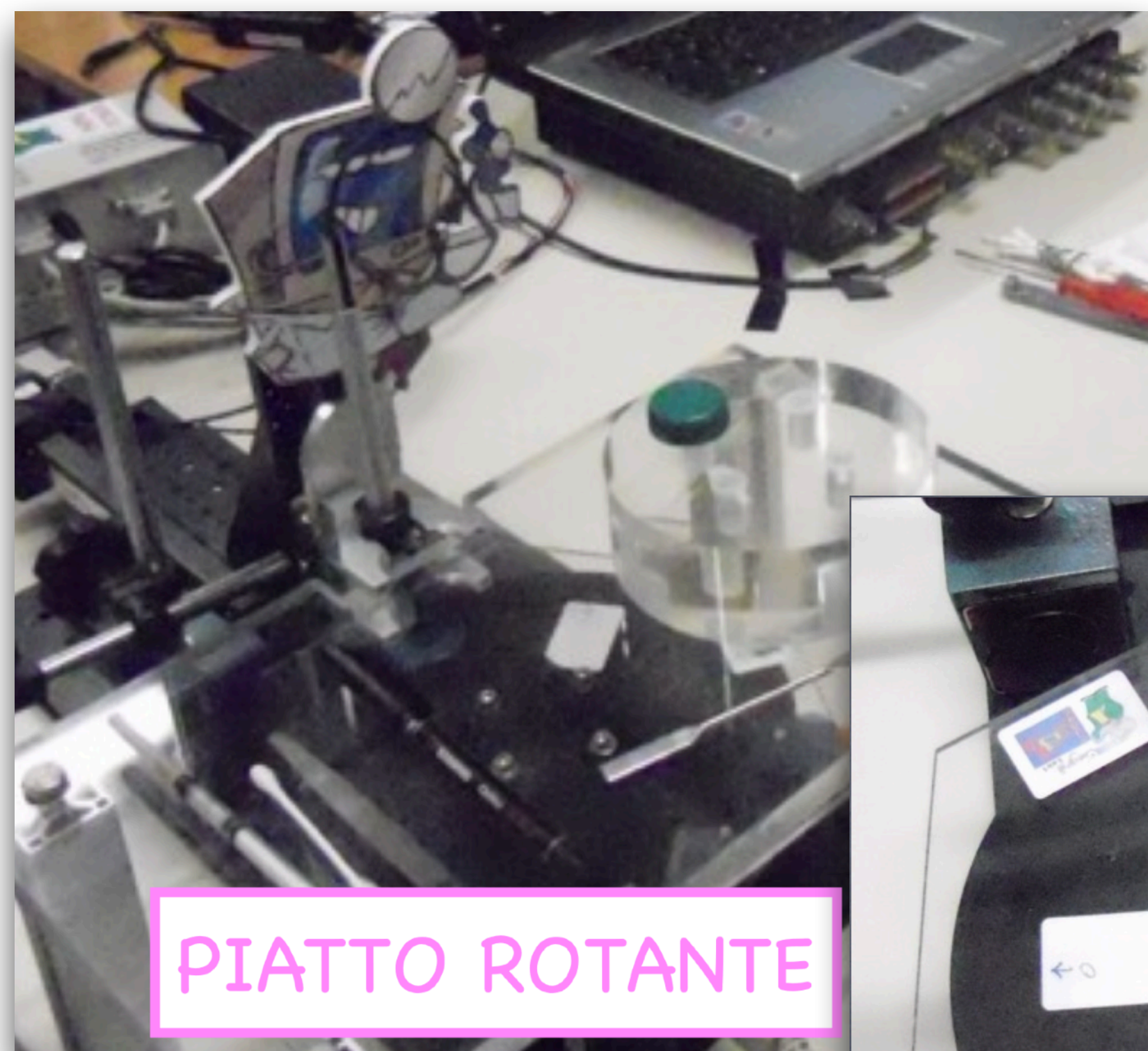
- Use **p-terphenyl** as
detector element



Aromatic
hydrocarbon
isomer

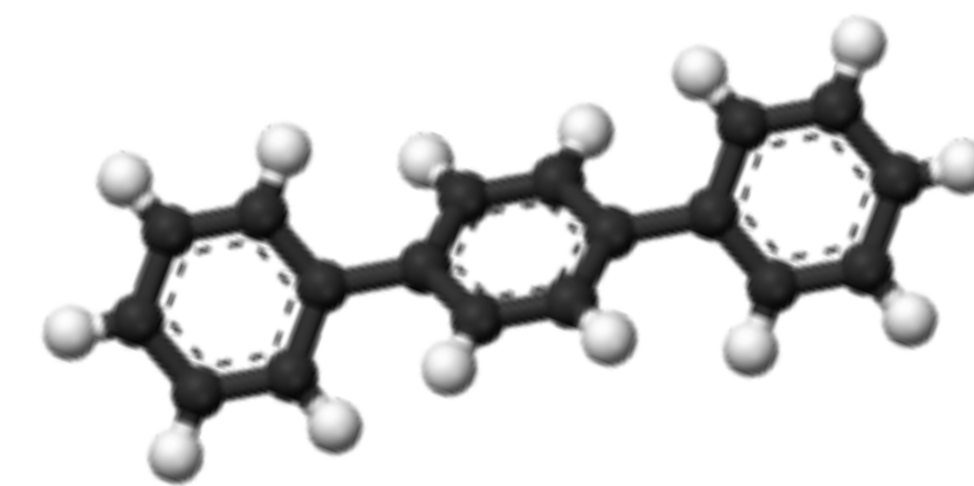
$C_{18}H_{14}$

- First Phantom Tests -



How does it perform as β particles detector?

- Use **p-terphenyl** as detector element



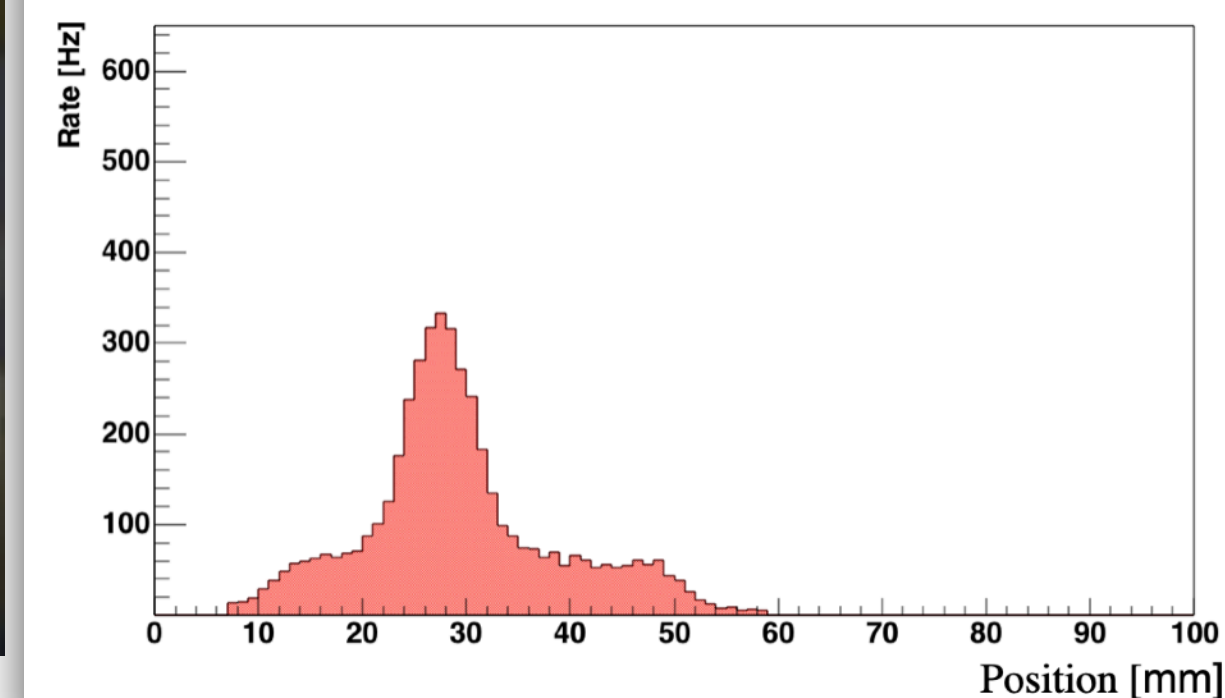
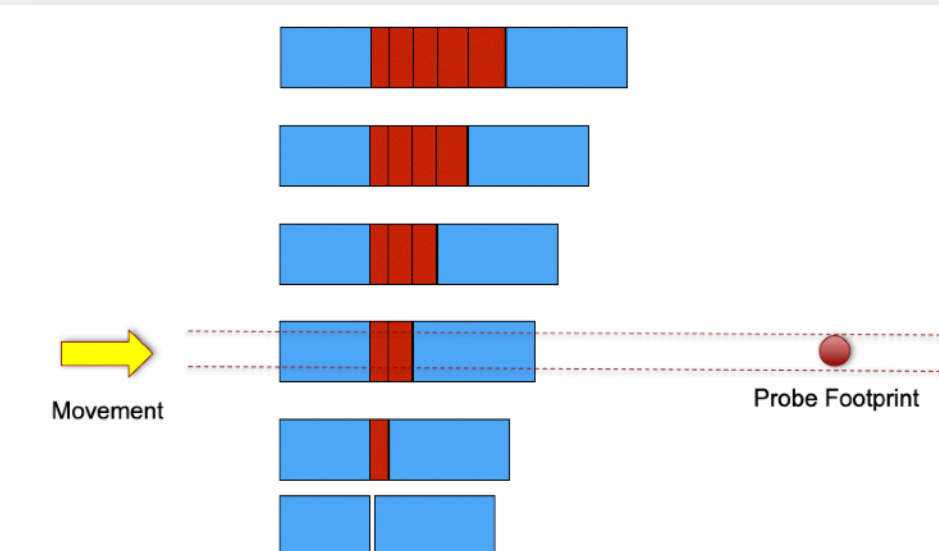
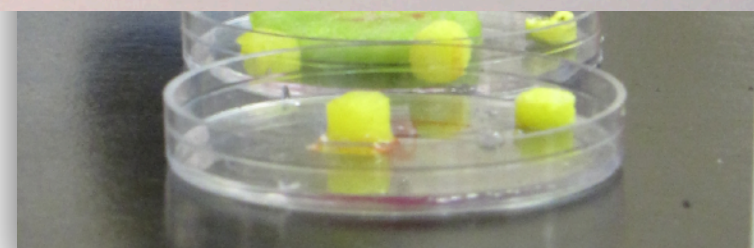
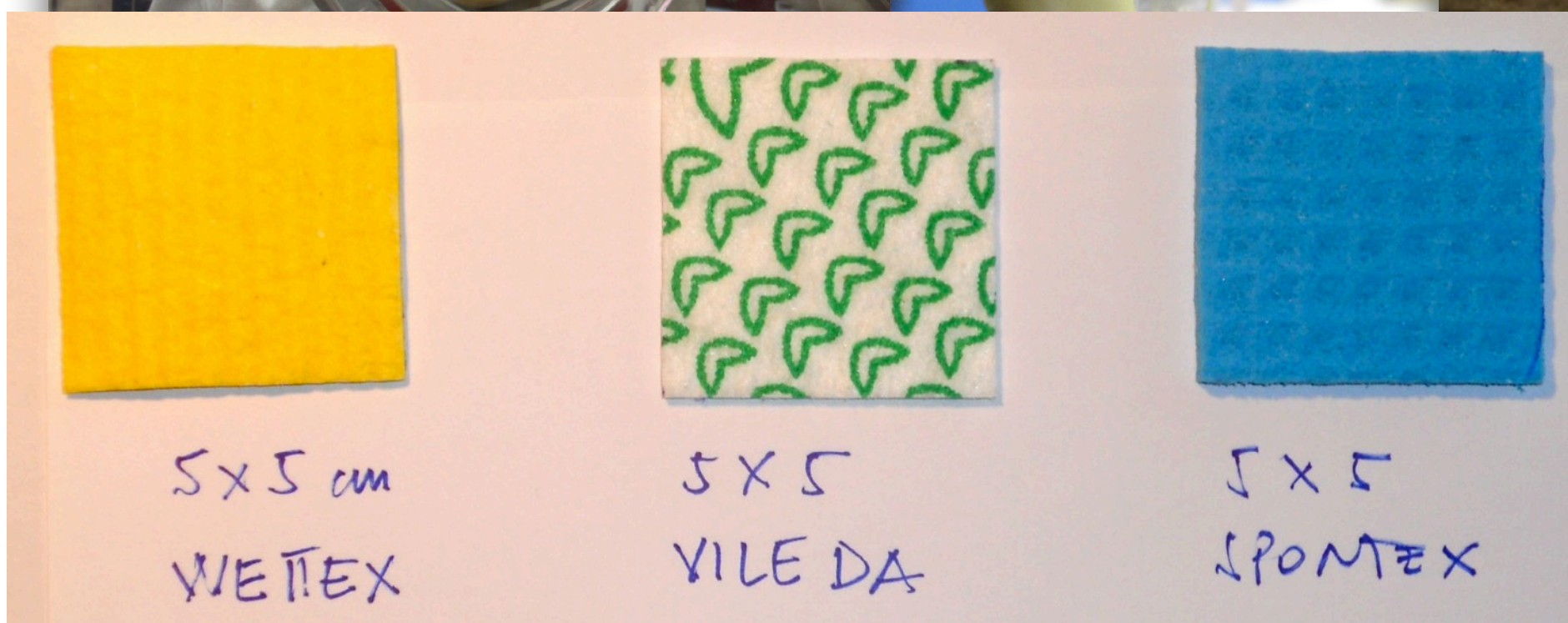
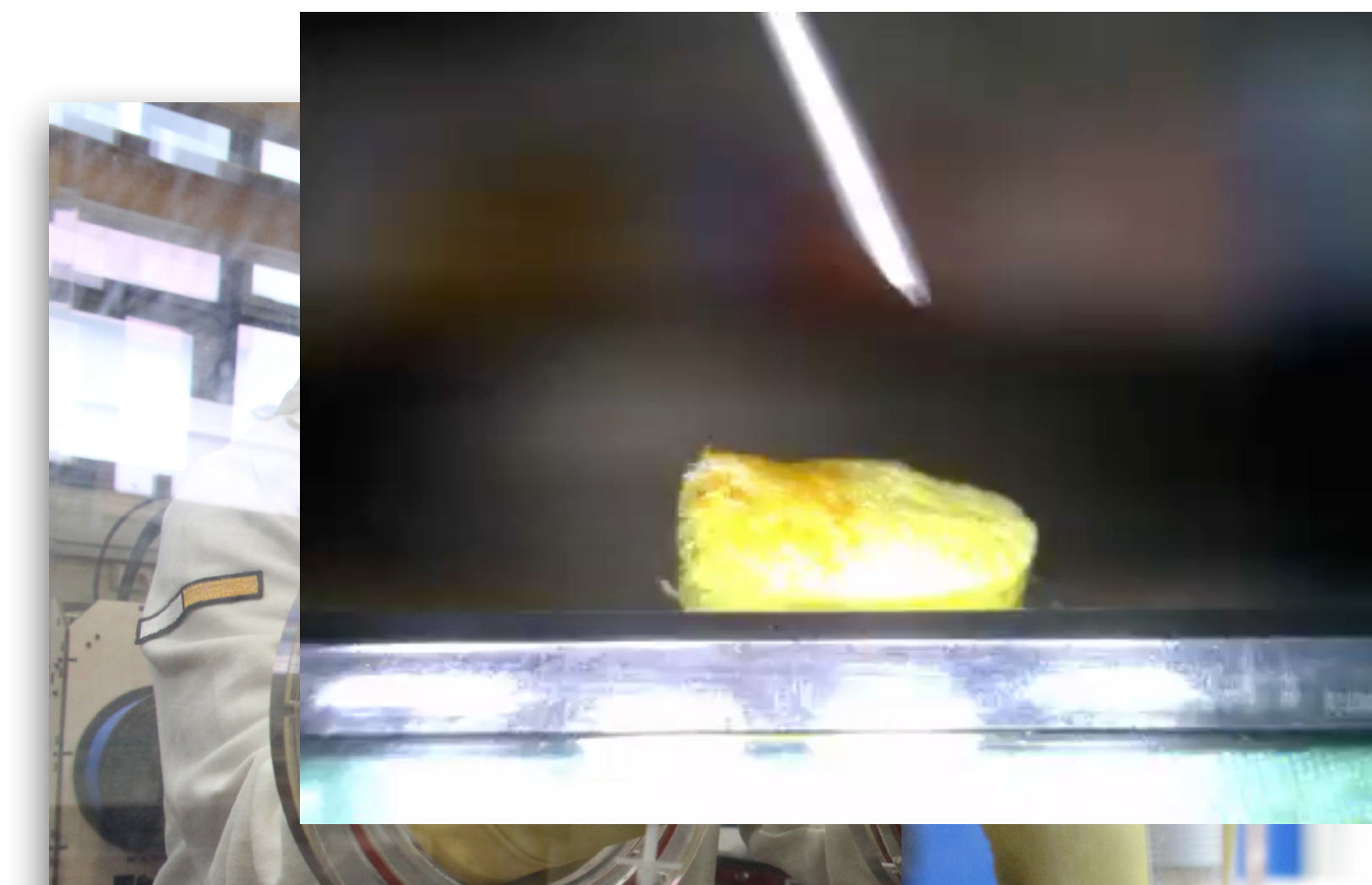
Aromatic hydrocarbon isomer



- First Phantom Tests -

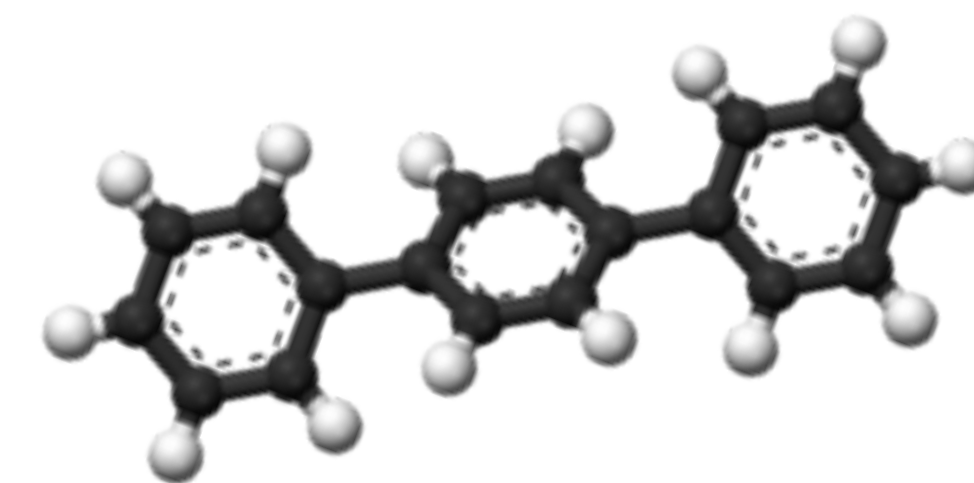


Do It Yourself



How does it
perform as β particles
detector?

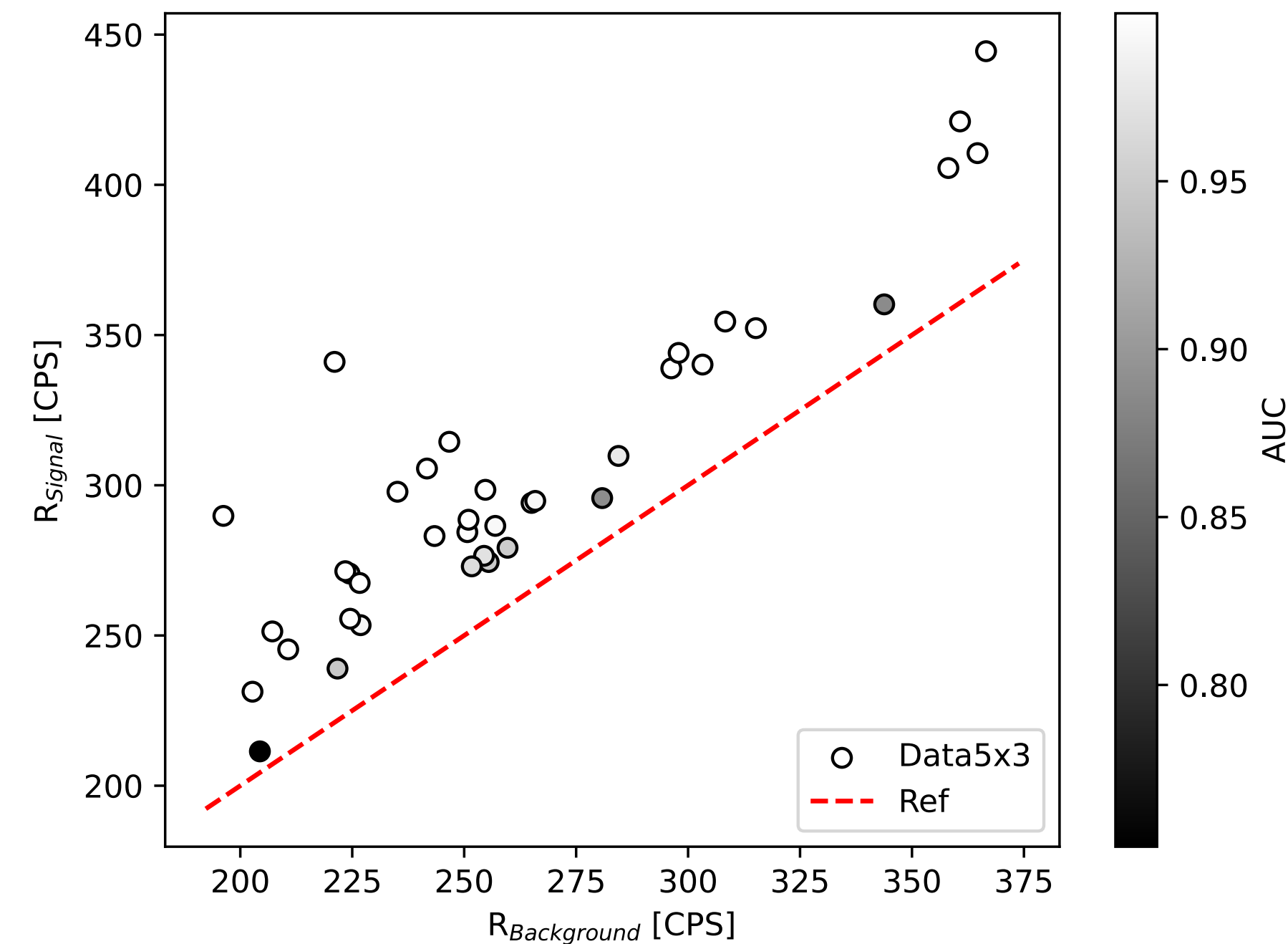
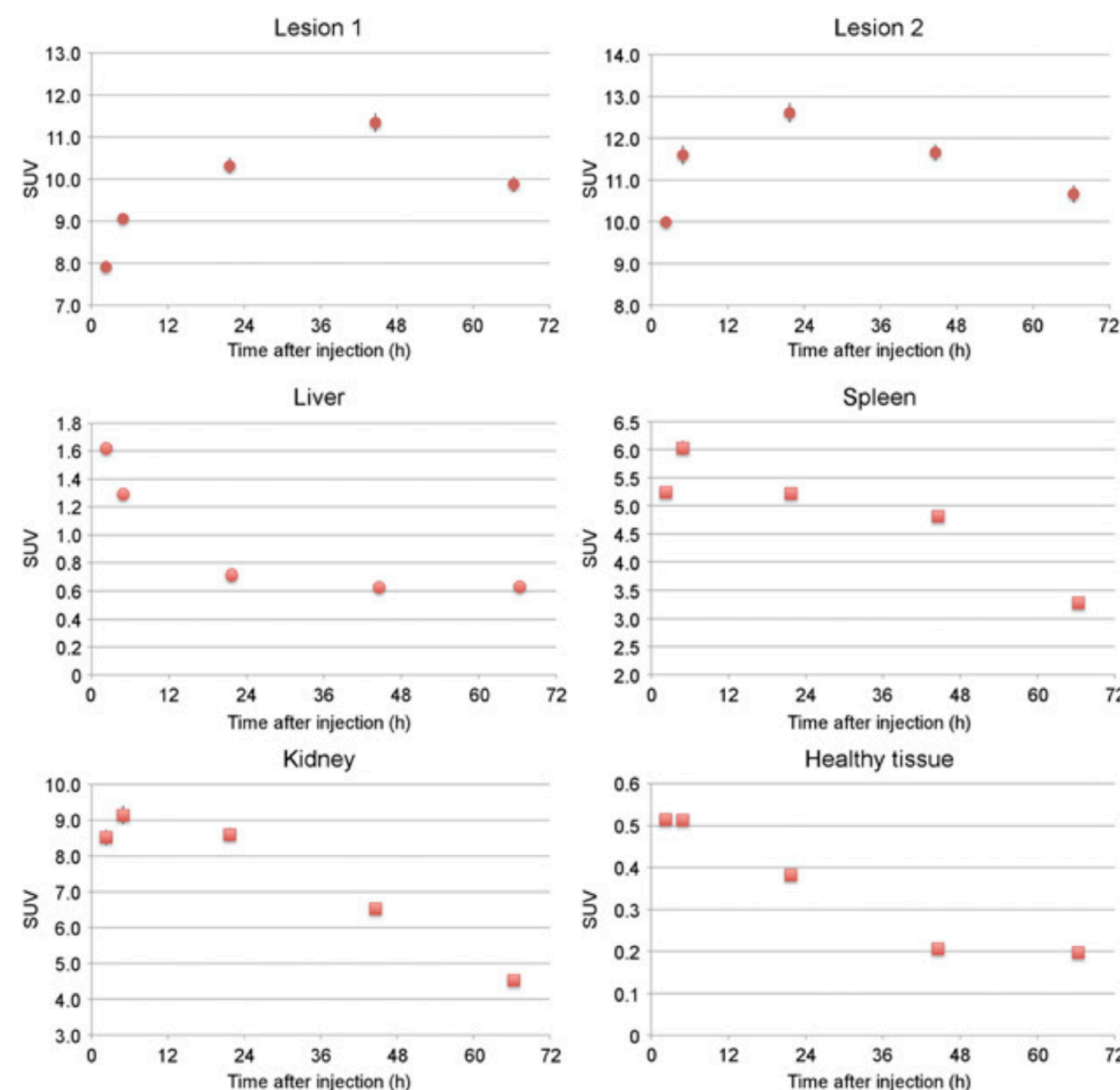
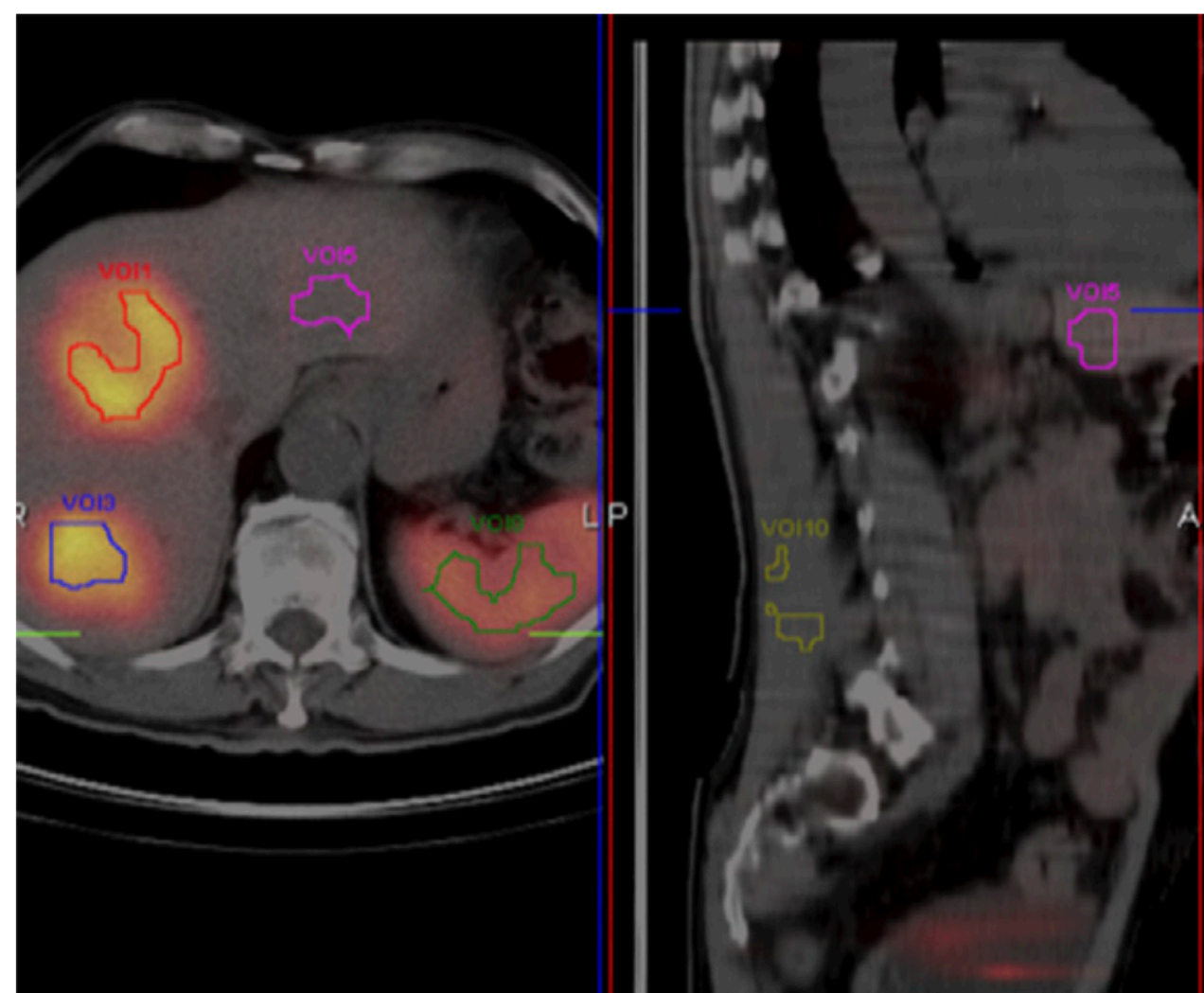
- Use **p-terphenyl** as
detector element



Aromatic
hydrocarbon
isomer

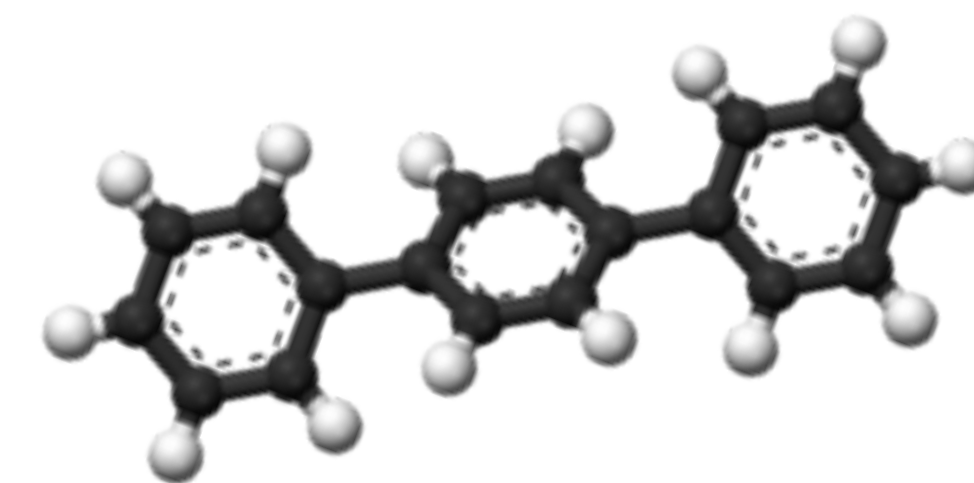
$C_{18}H_{14}$

- Use Cases Selection -



How does it perform as β particles detector?

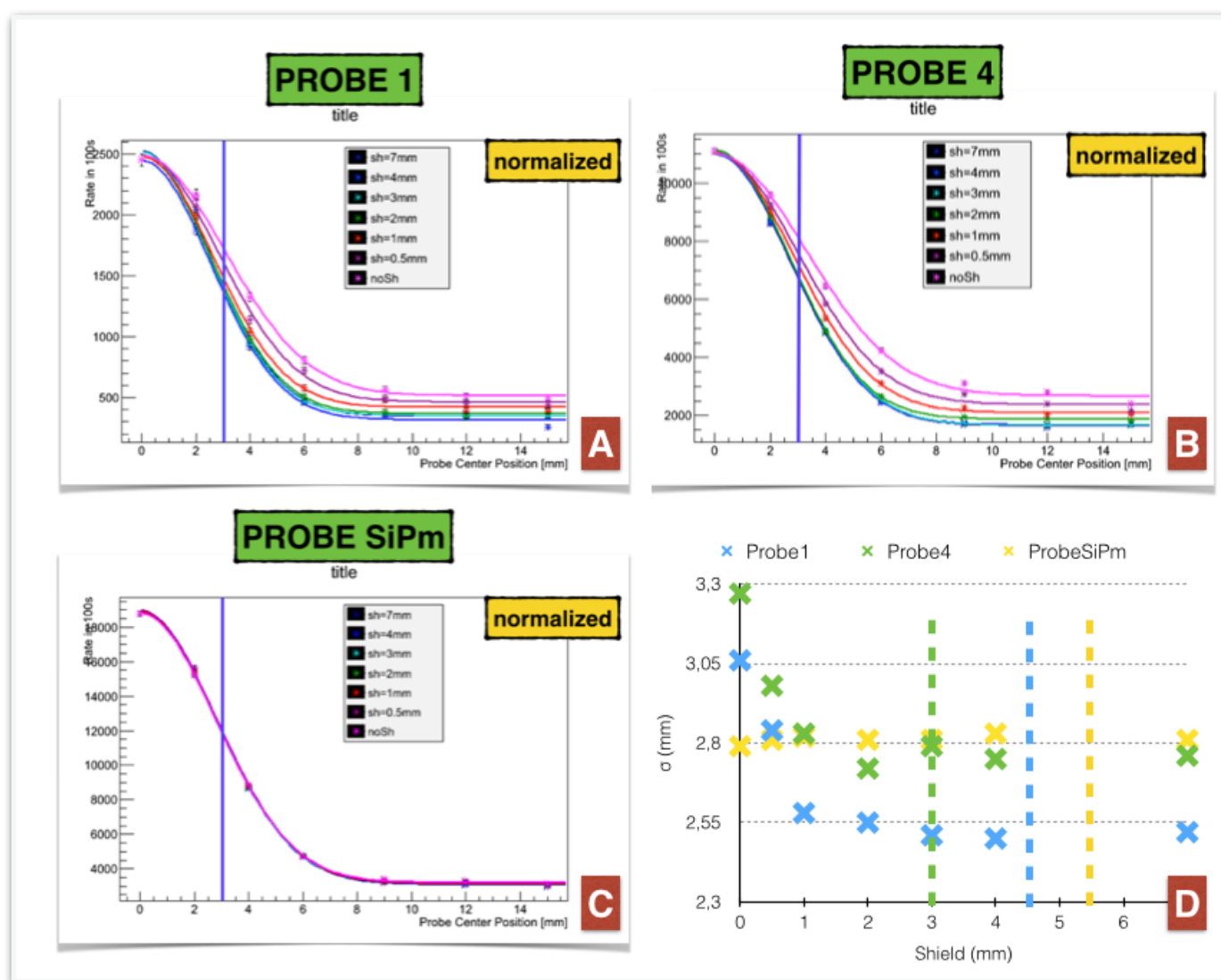
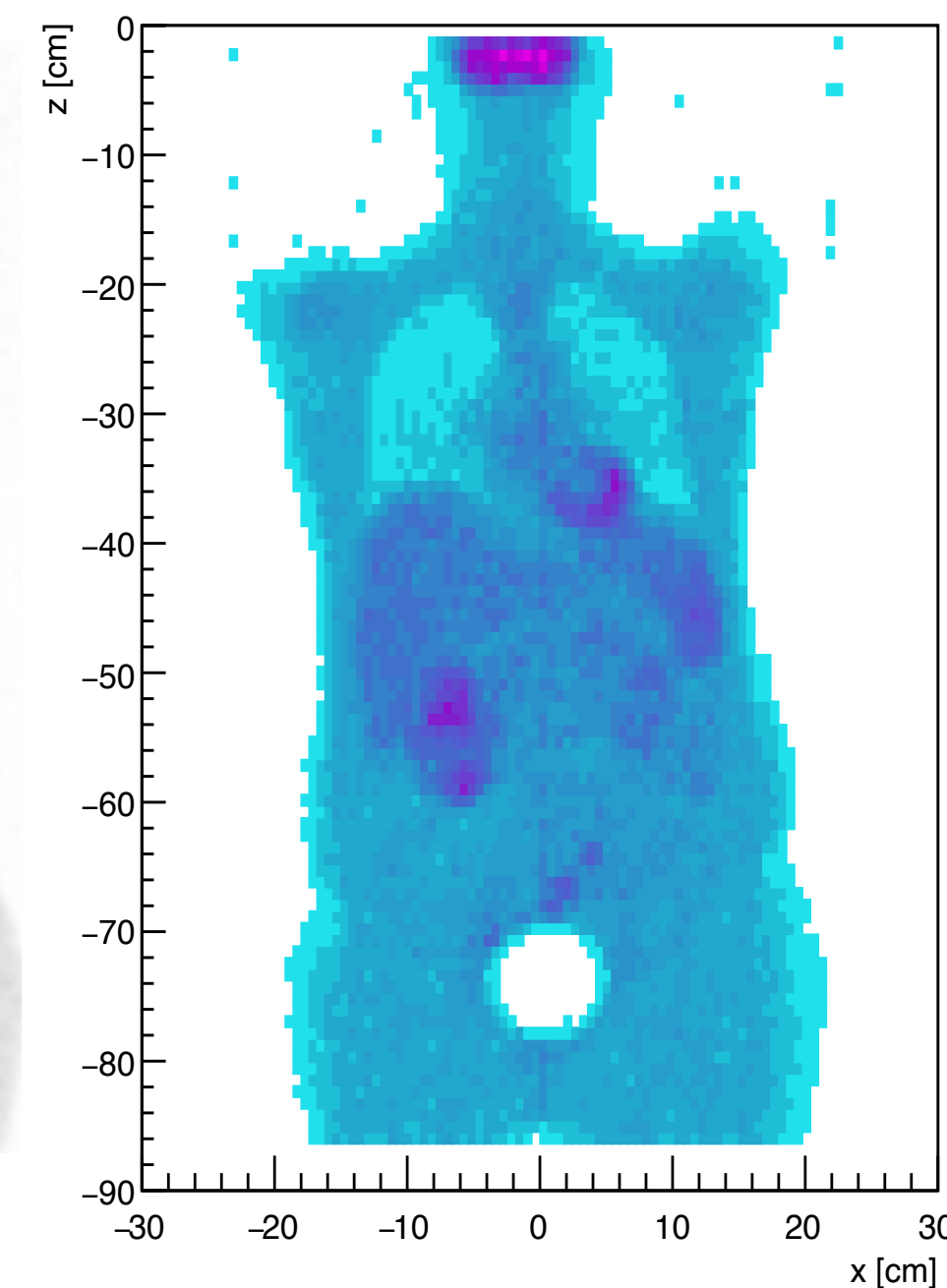
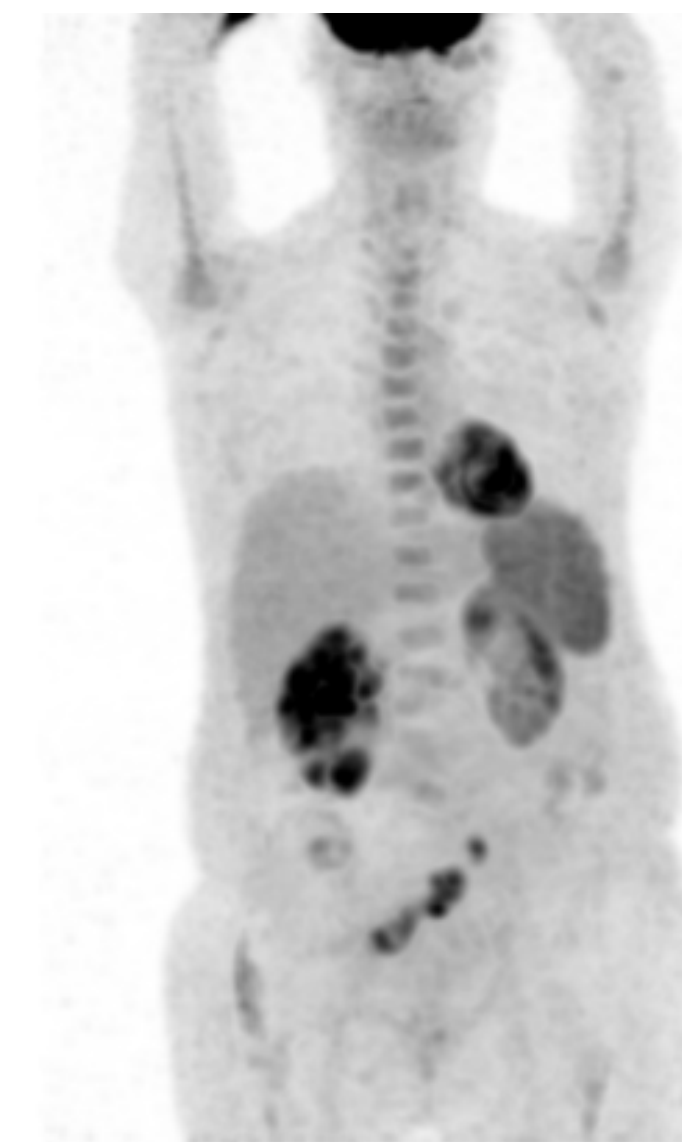
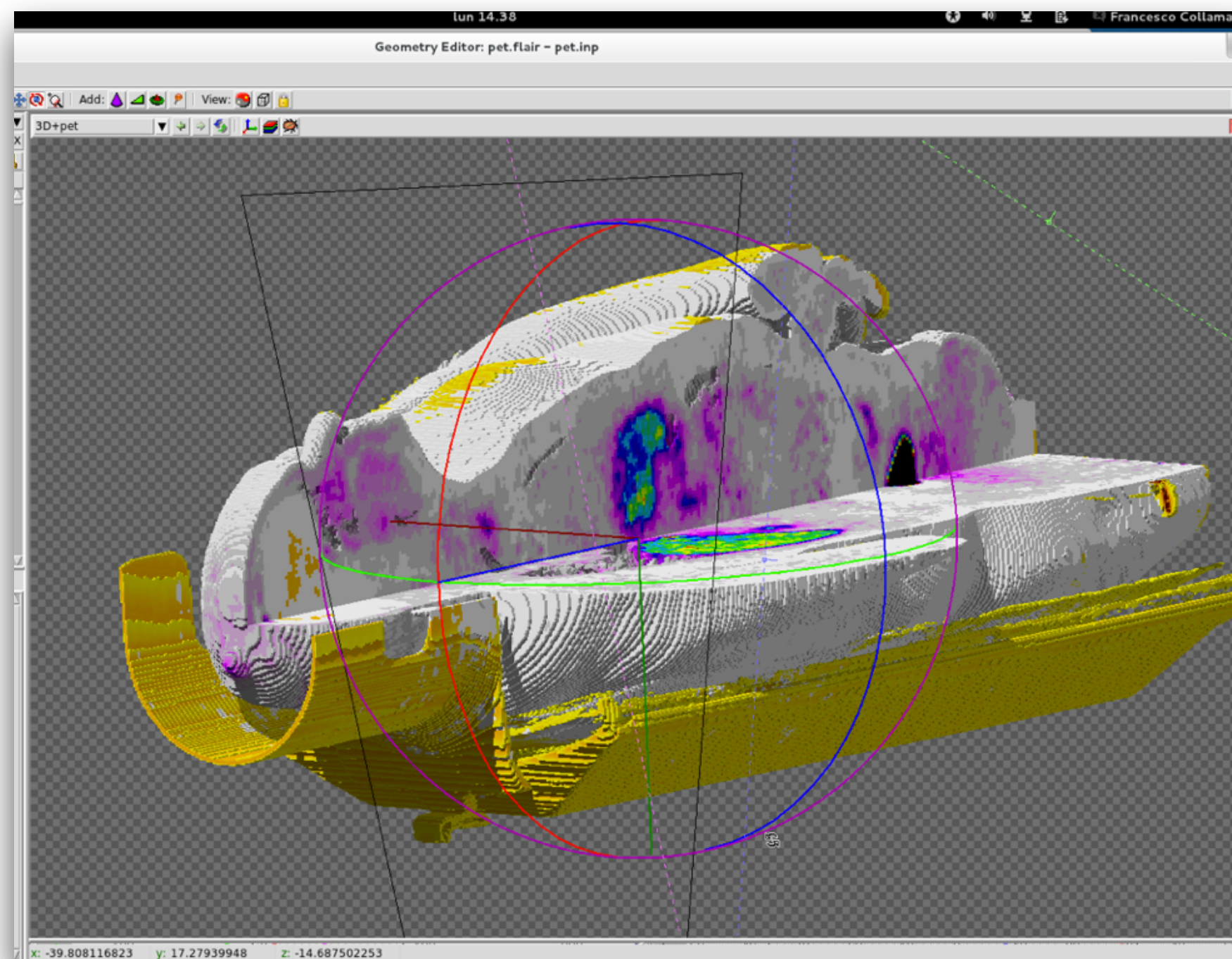
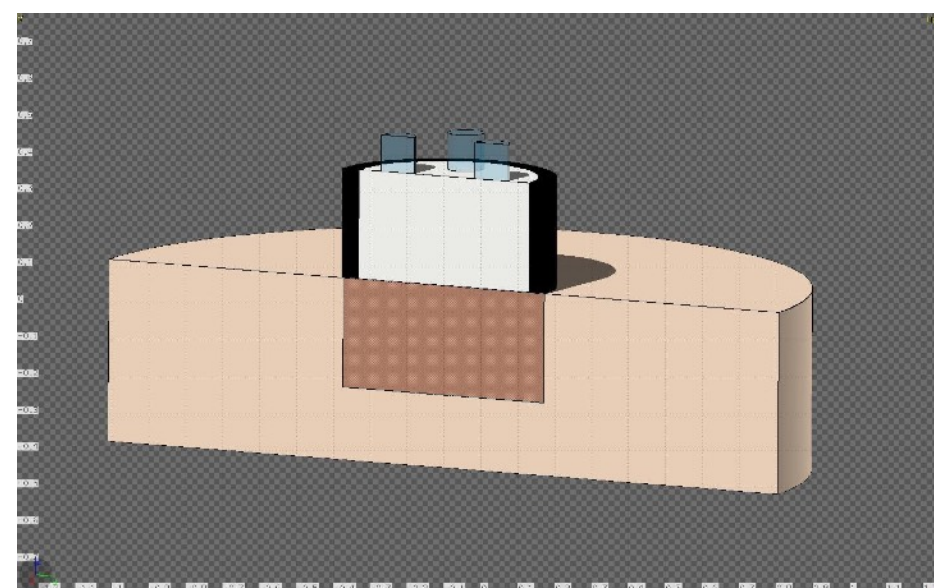
- Use **p-terphenyl** as detector element



Aromatic hydrocarbon isomer

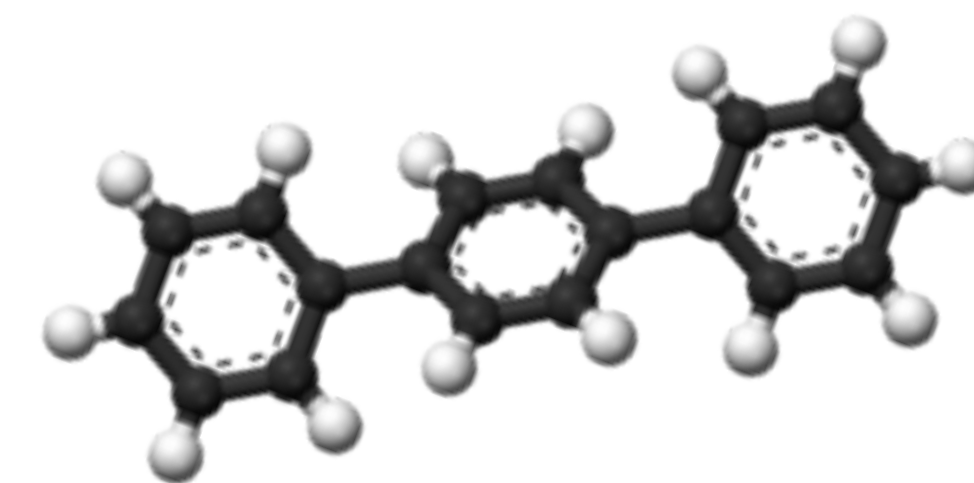
$C_{18}H_{14}$

- Monte Carlo Simulations -



How does it
perform as β particles
detector?

- Use **p-terphenyl** as
detector element

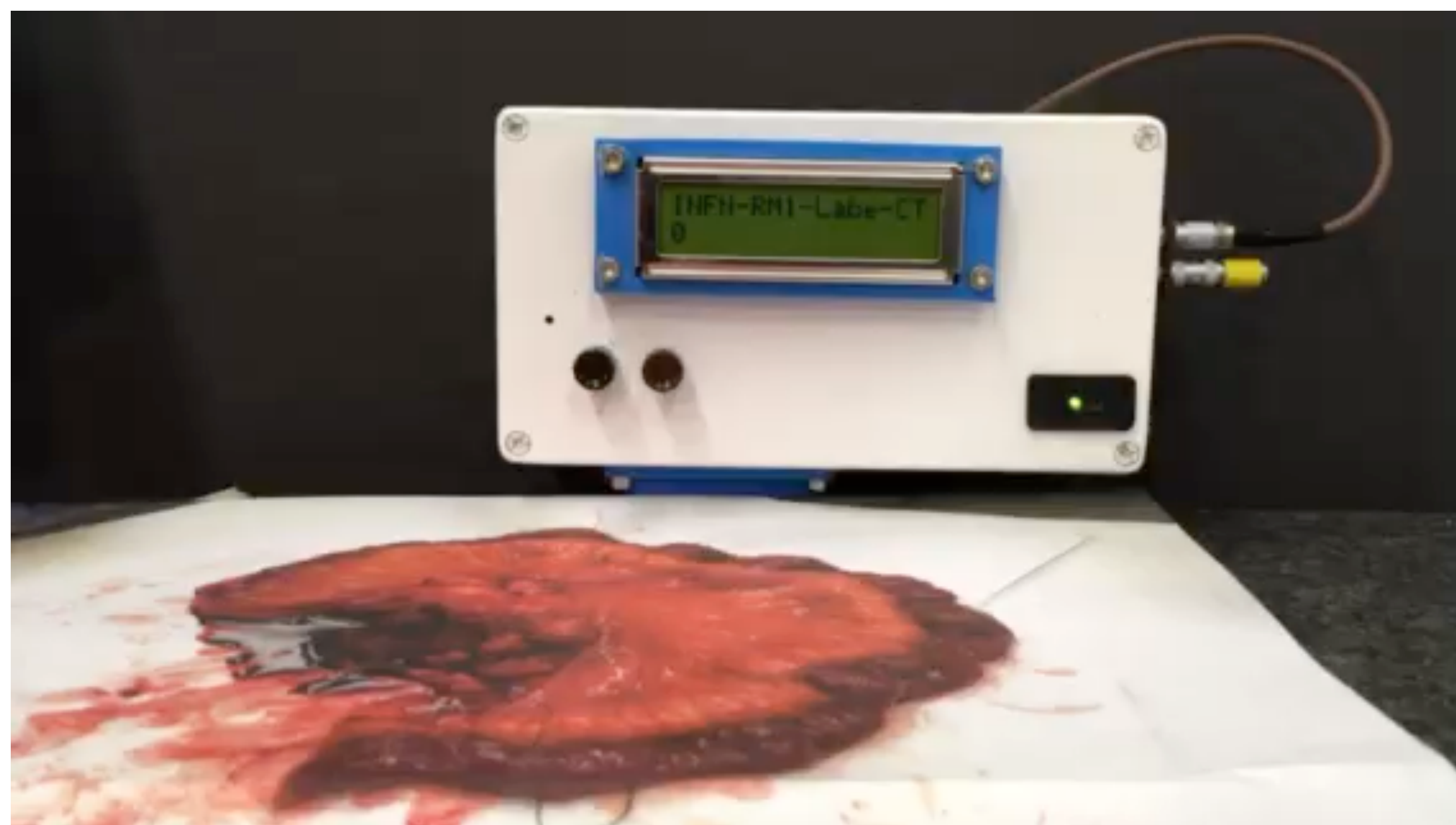


Aromatic
hydrocarbon
isomer

$C_{18}H_{14}$

- Patients Test -

ex-vivo → **in-vivo**



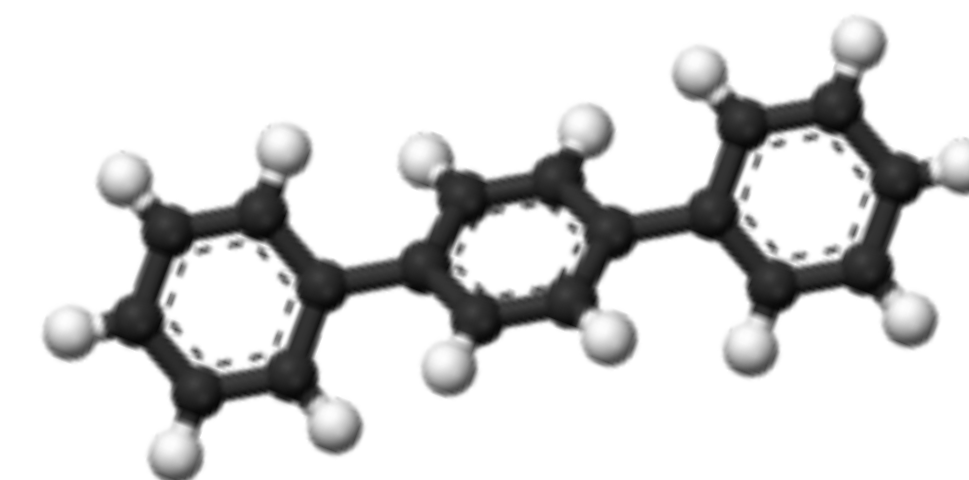
.....



click for video

How does it
perform as β particles
detector?

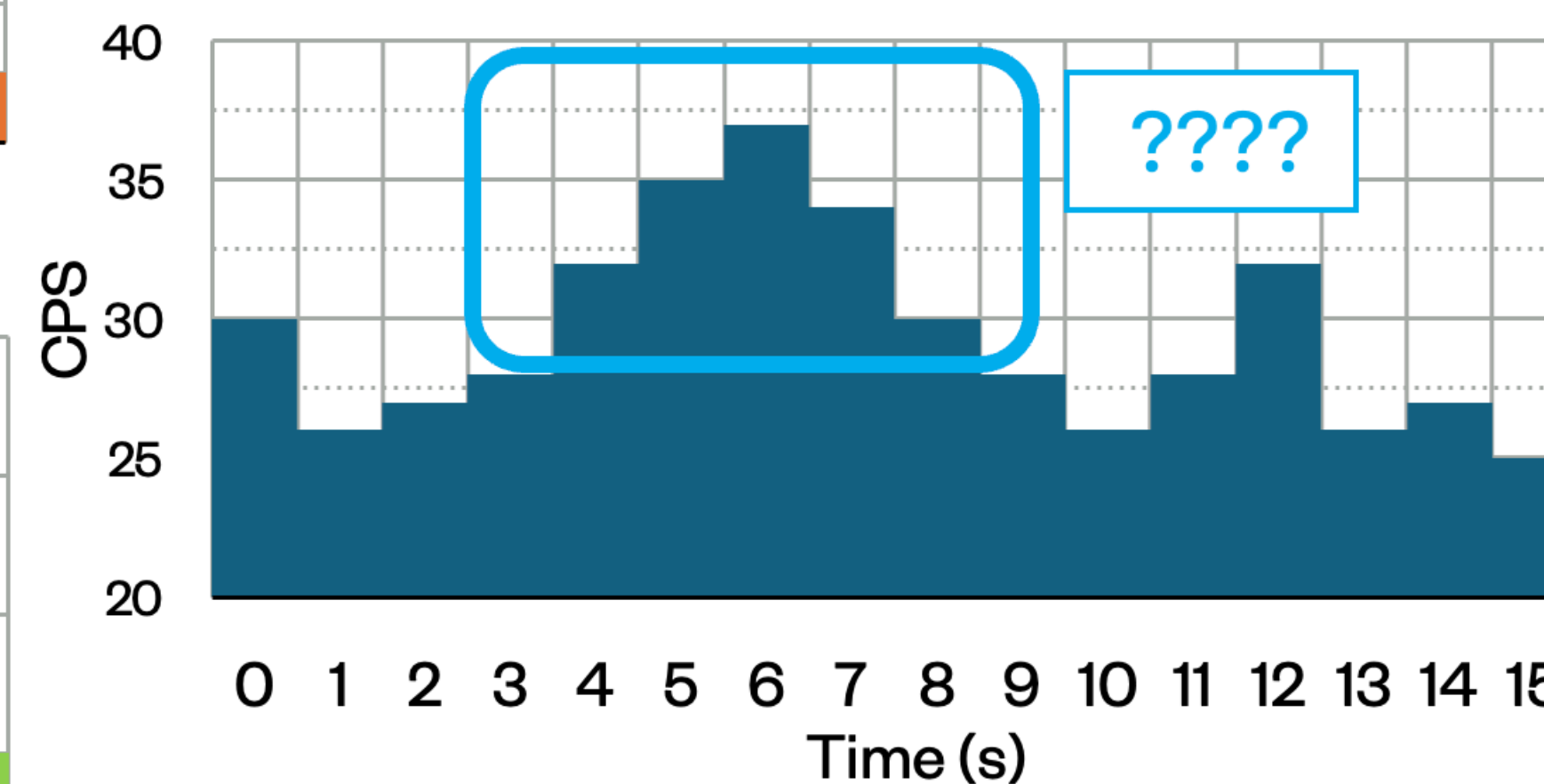
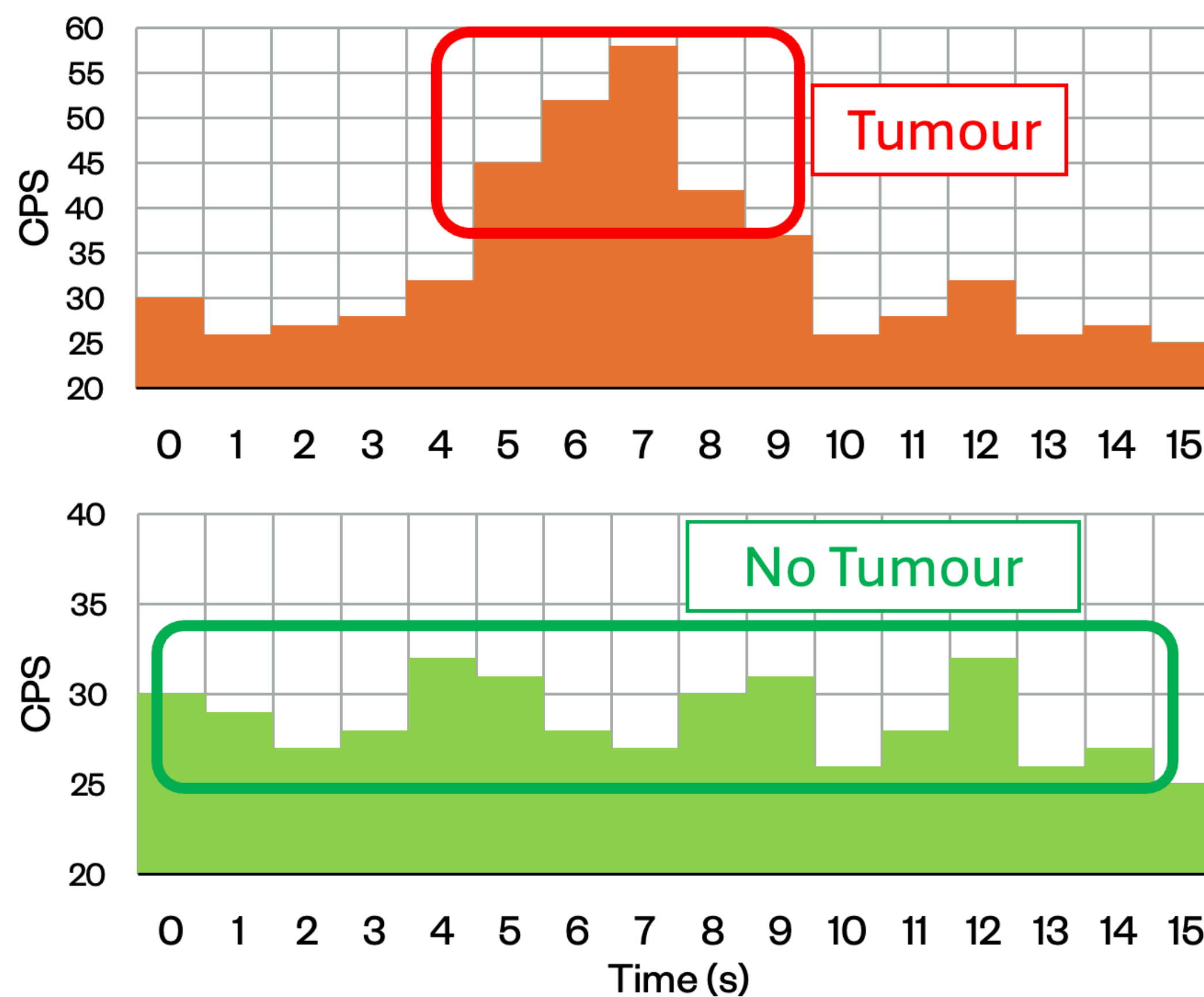
- Use **p-terphenyl** as
detector element



Aromatic
hydrocarbon
isomer

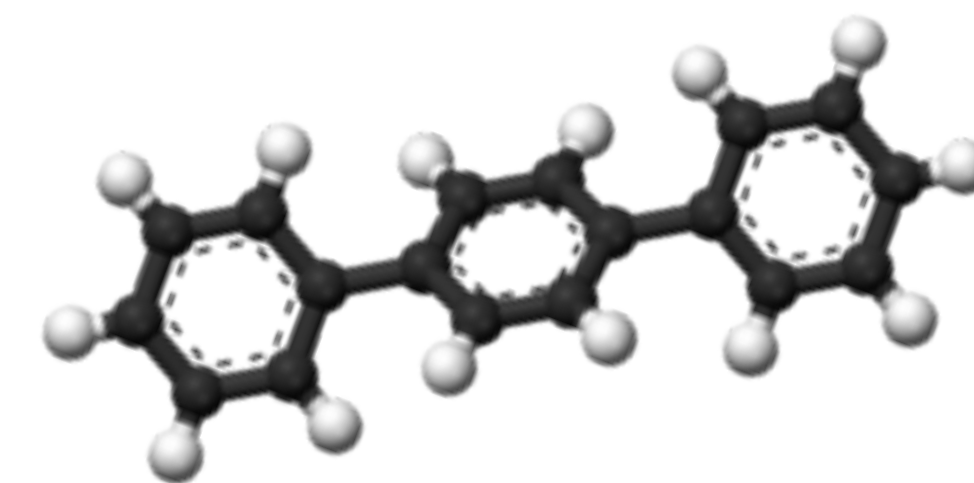
$C_{18}H_{14}$

- In-vivo Patients Test -



How does it
perform as β particles
detector?

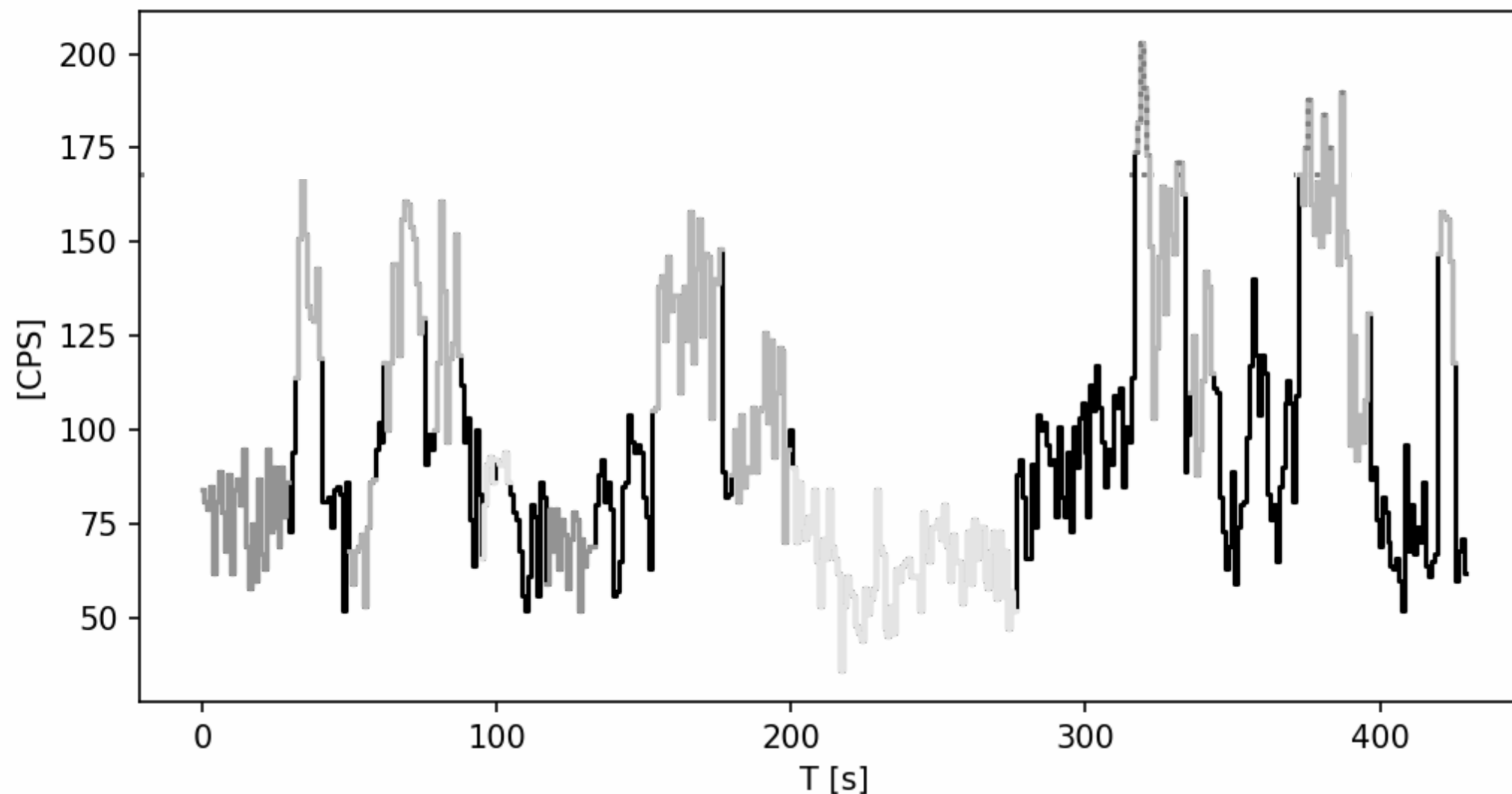
- Use **p-terphenyl** as
detector element



Aromatic
hydrocarbon
isomer

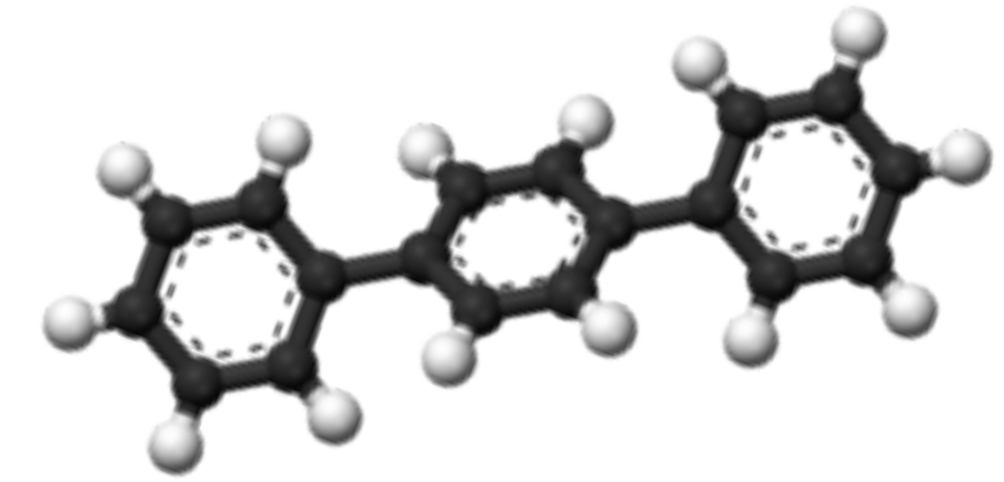
$C_{18}H_{14}$

- In-vivo Patients Test -



How does it
perform as β particles
detector?

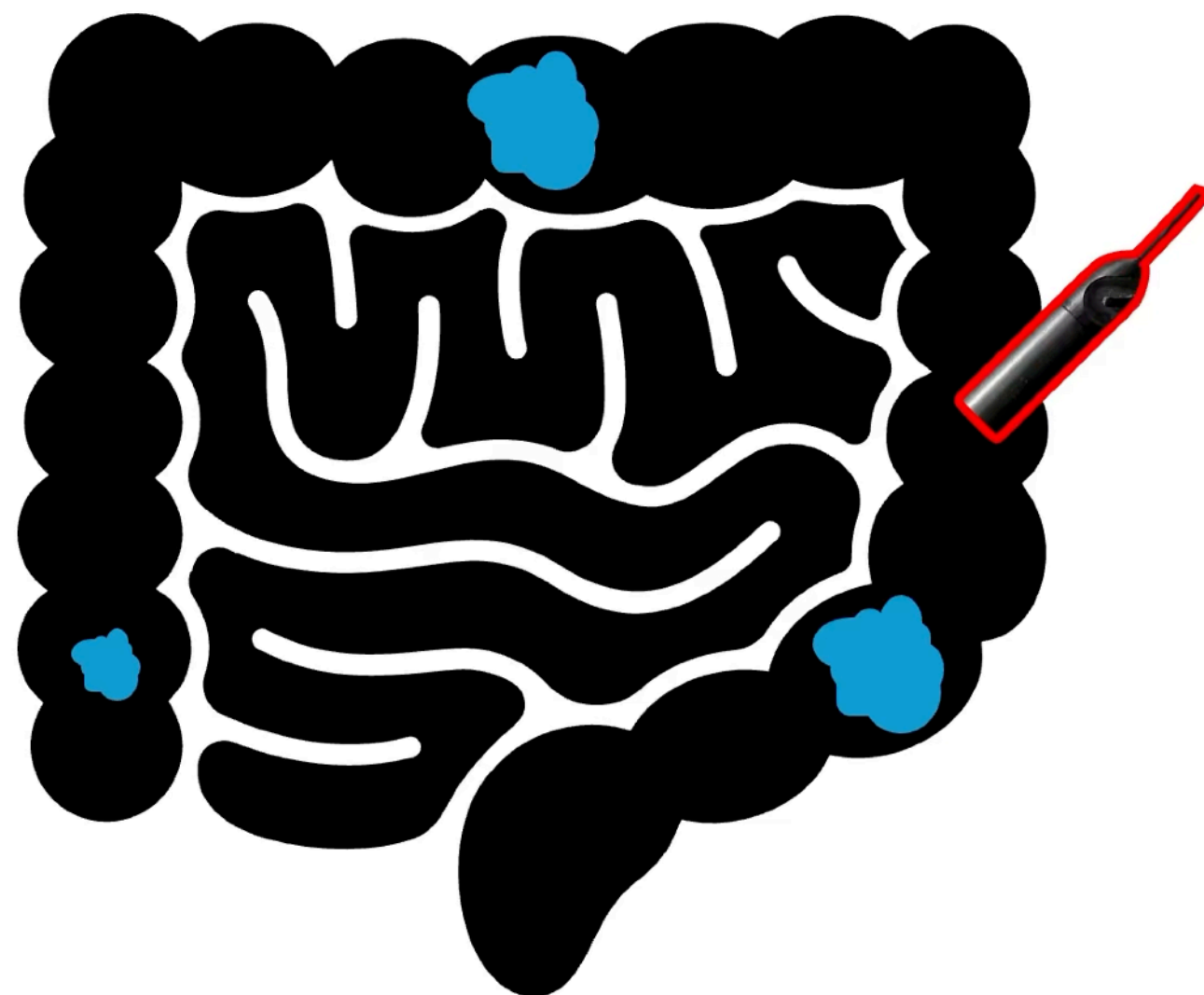
- Use **p-terphenyl** as
detector element



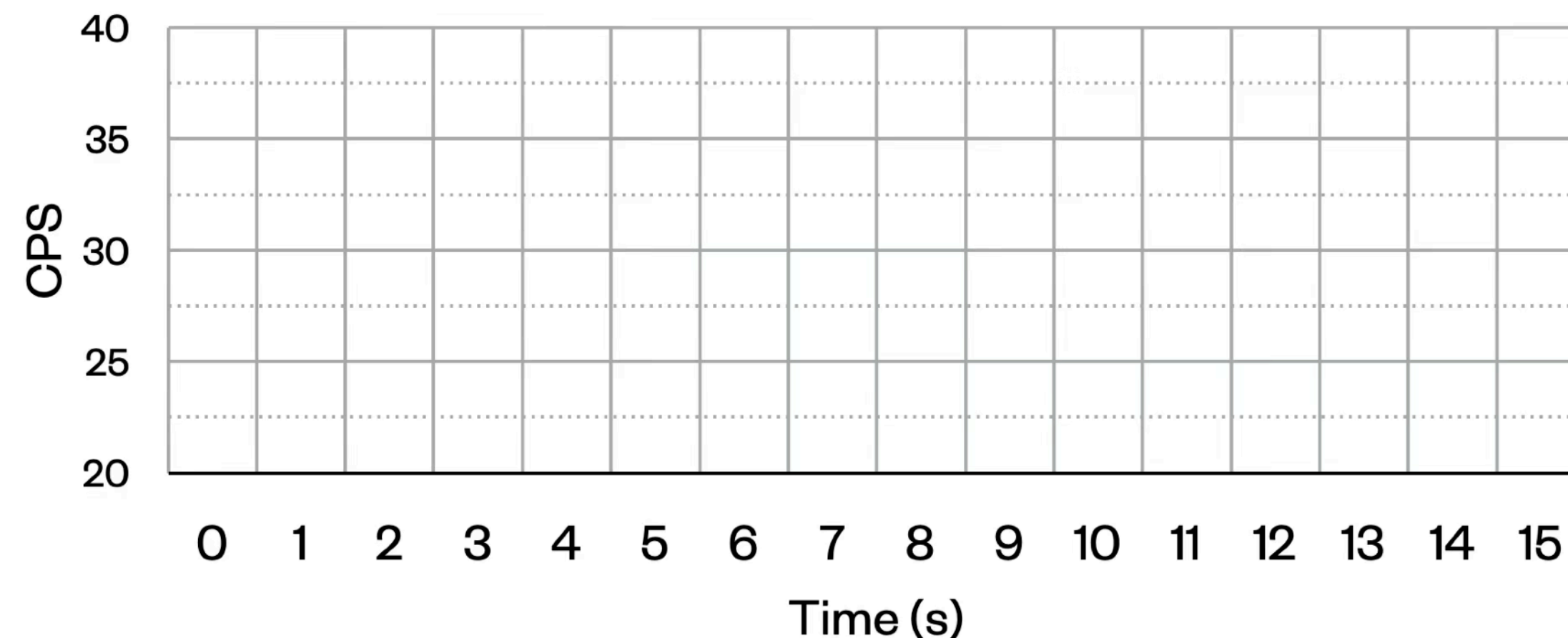
Aromatic
hydrocarbon
isomer
 $C_{18}H_{14}$

- In-vivo Patients Test -

Discrimination Algorithm 1: Background Sampling

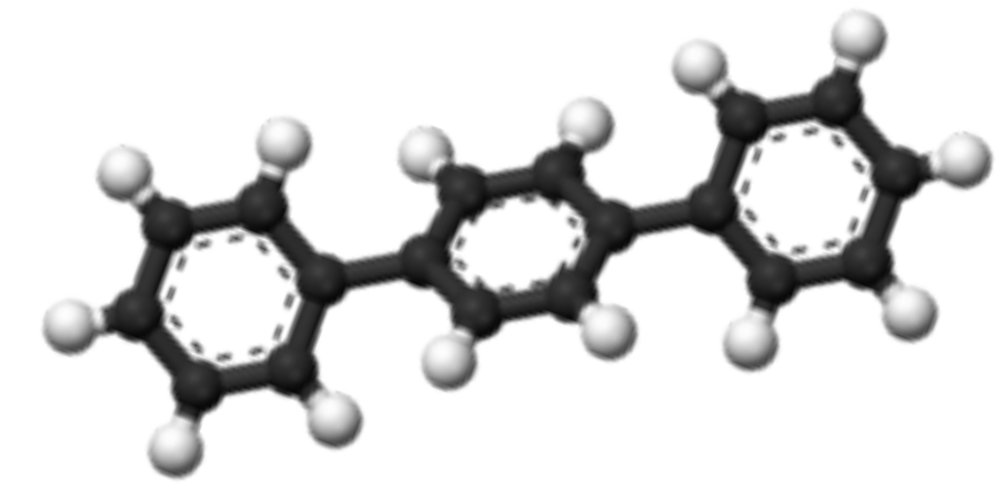


1. The probe is moved for ~ 10 s over an area "*assumed free of disease*" by the surgeon nearby the area of interest



How does it perform as β particles detector?

- Use **p-terphenyl** as detector element



Aromatic hydrocarbon isomer
 $C_{18}H_{14}$

- In-vivo Patients Test -

- But this **is not enough**

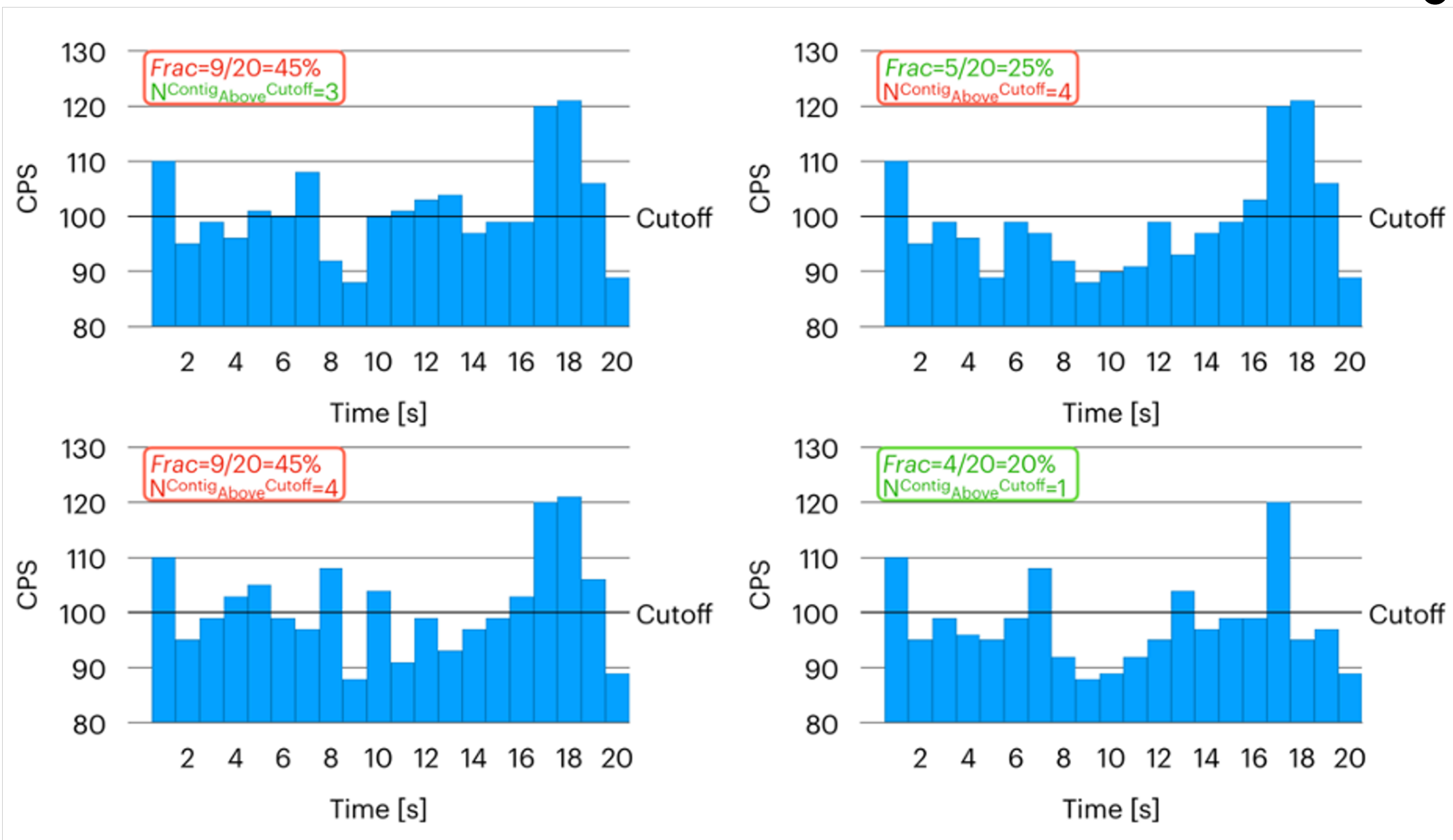
? How “above” is “**above**” cutoff?

➡ We consider 3 parameters:

- N_σ** : Number of σ in cutoff definition:
 $C = \mu + N_\sigma * \sigma$
- ϵ_{NUM}** : Number of contiguous countings above cutoff
- ϵ_{Frac}** : Fraction of countings above cutoff

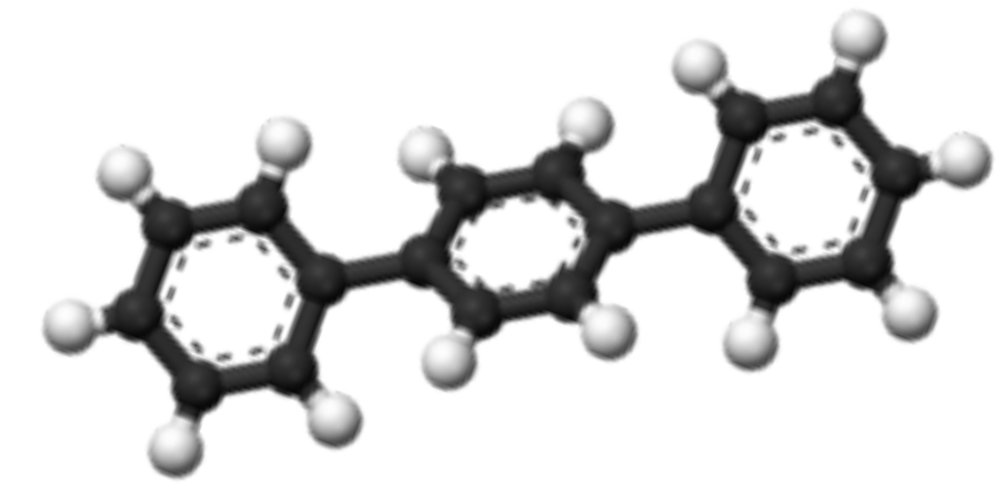
➡ We performed a ROC analysis varying these 3 parameters in their range (504 total values)

+ Dataset splitting (train/test)



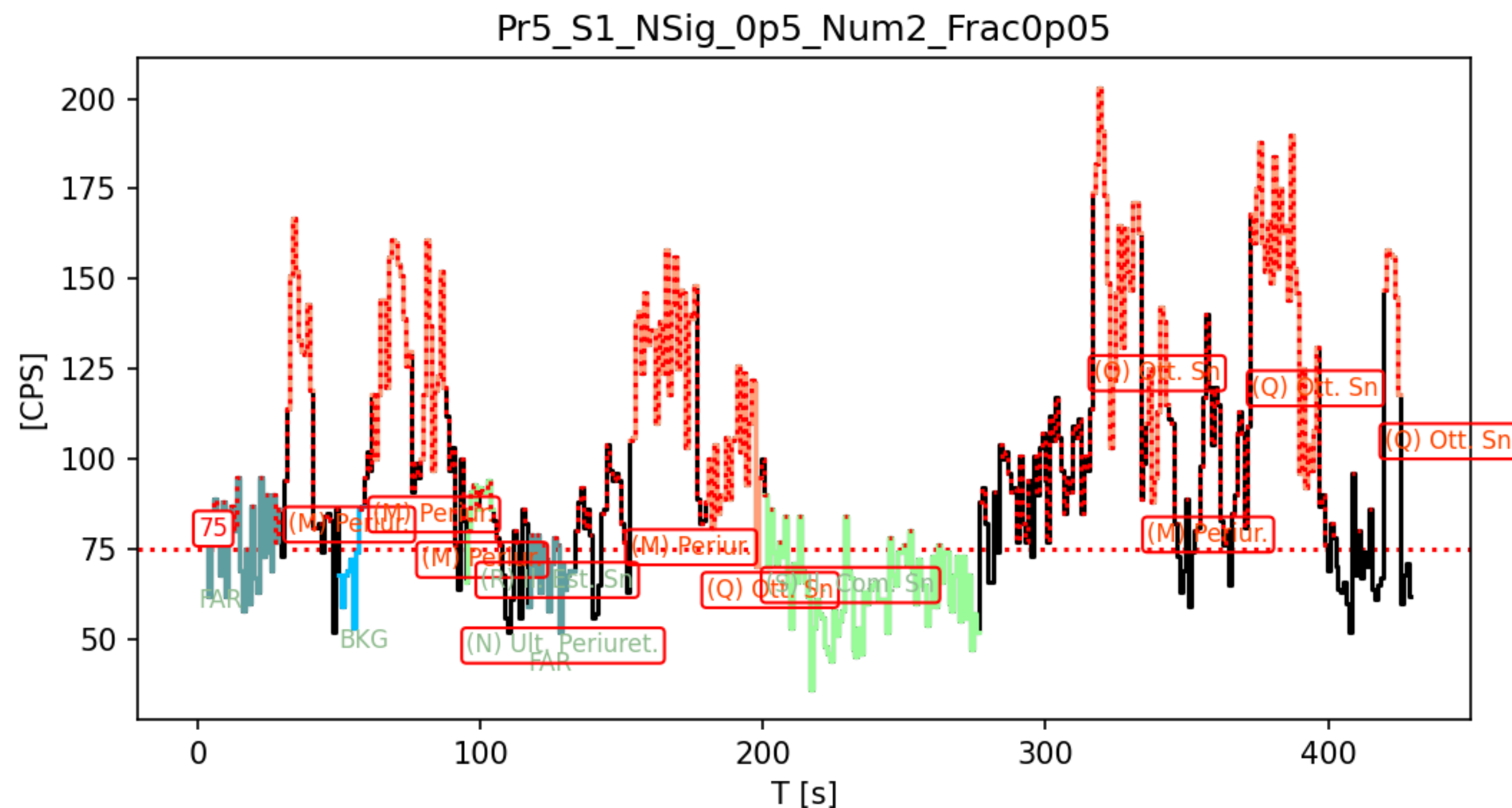
How does it perform as β particles detector?

- Use **p-terphenyl** as detector element



Aromatic hydrocarbon isomer
 $C_{18}H_{14}$

- In-vivo Patients Test -



- But this **is not enough**

? How “above” is “**above**” cutoff?

➡ We consider 3 parameters:

1. **N_σ** : Number of σ in cutoff definition:
 $C = \mu + N_\sigma * \sigma$

2. **ϵ_{NUM}** : Number of contiguous countings above cutoff

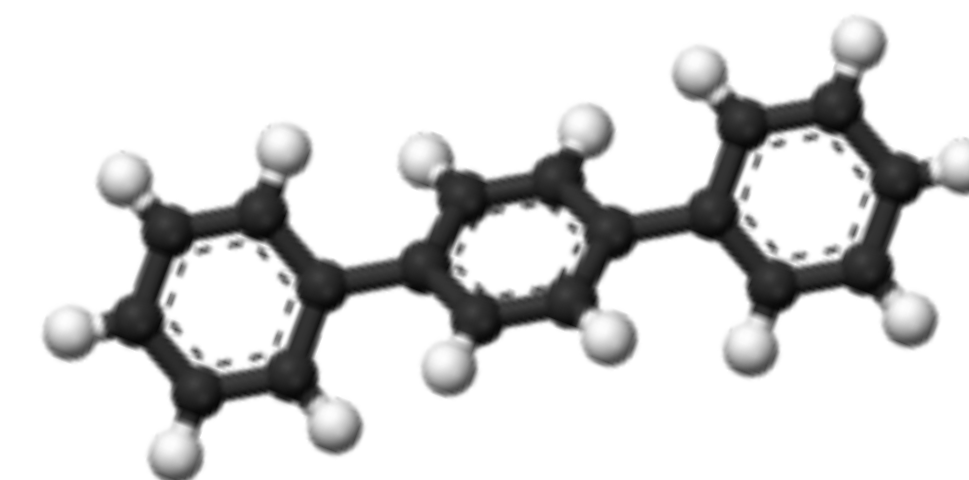
3. **ϵ_{Frac}** : Fraction of countings above cutoff

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+ Dataset splitting (train/test)

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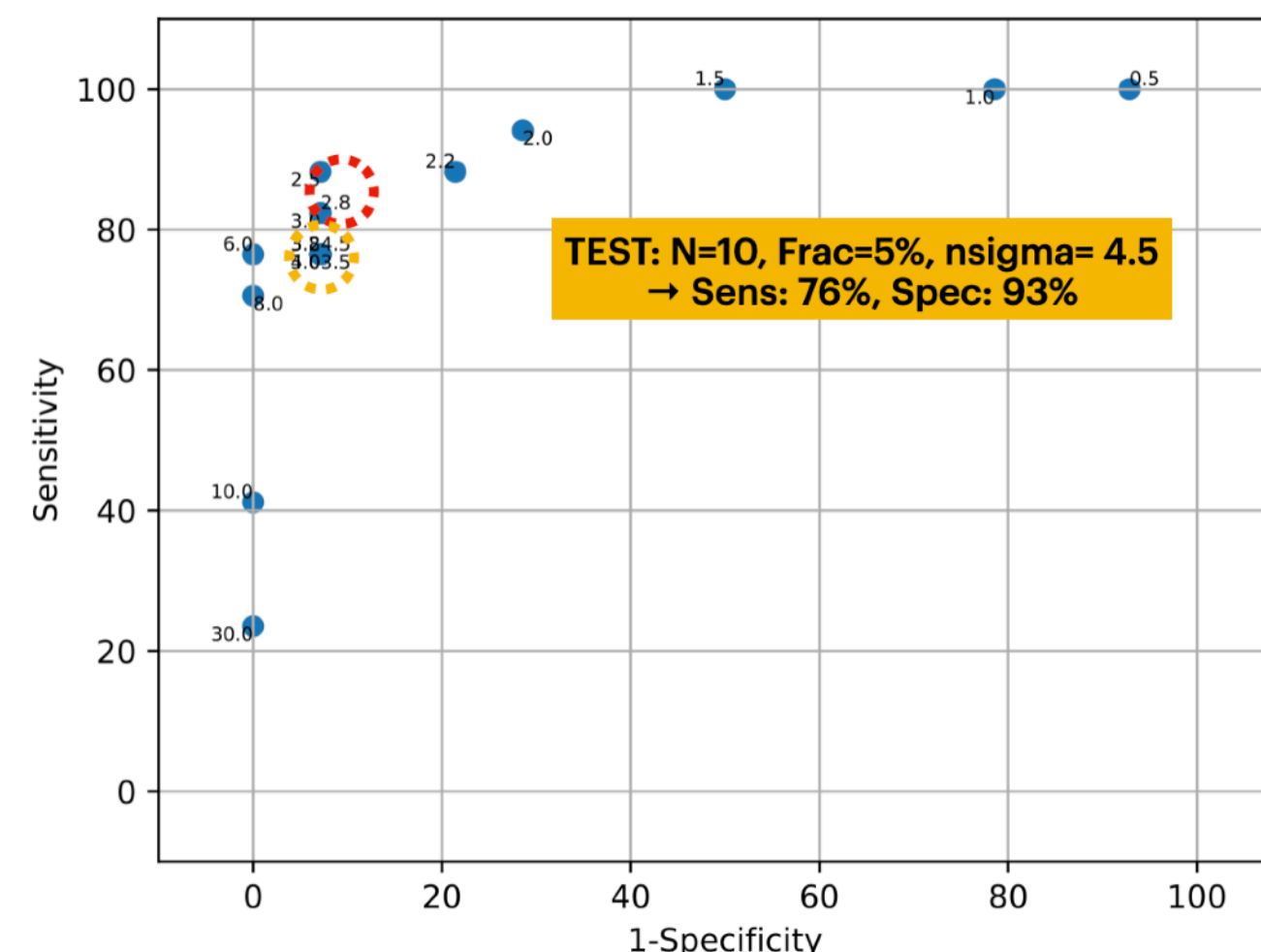
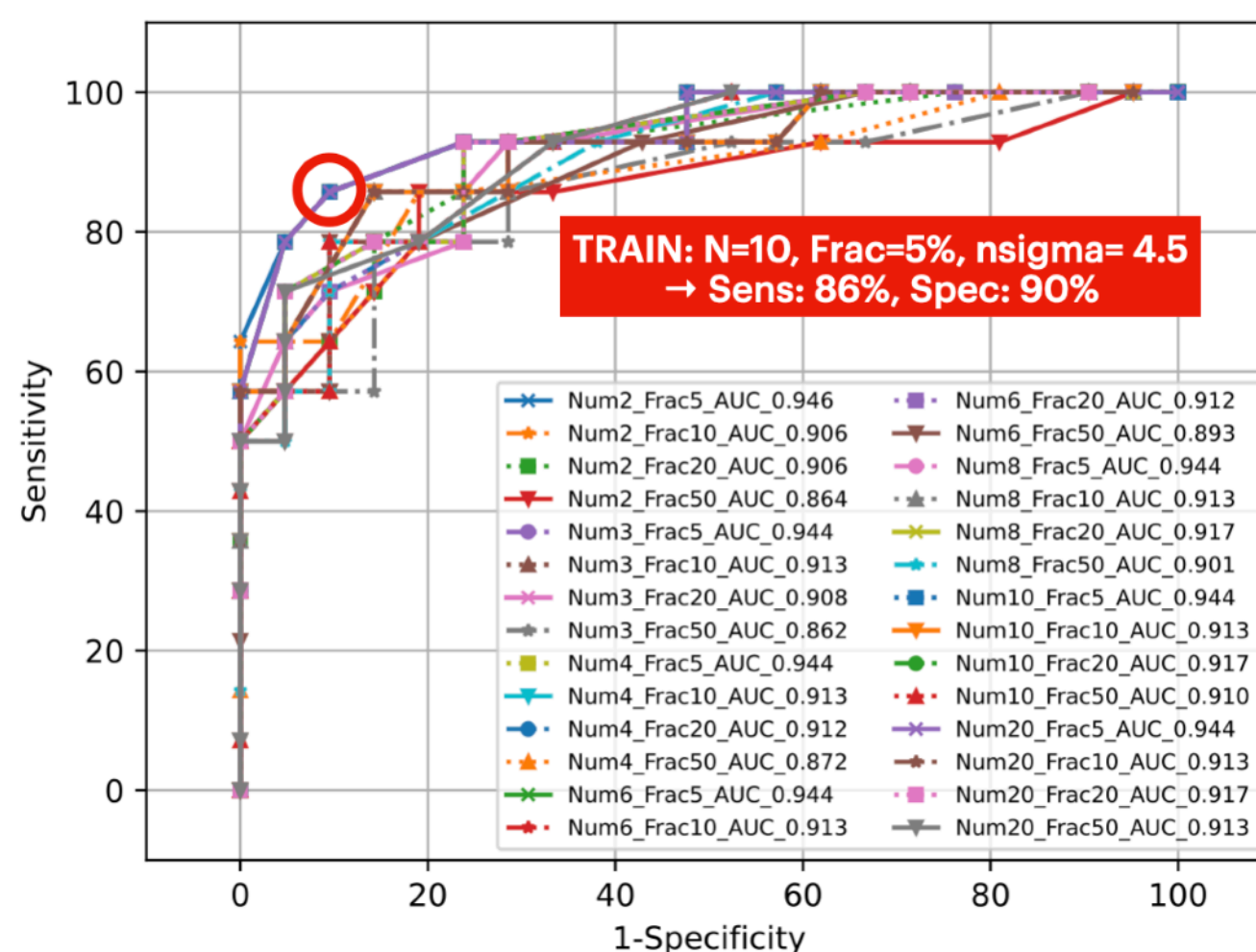
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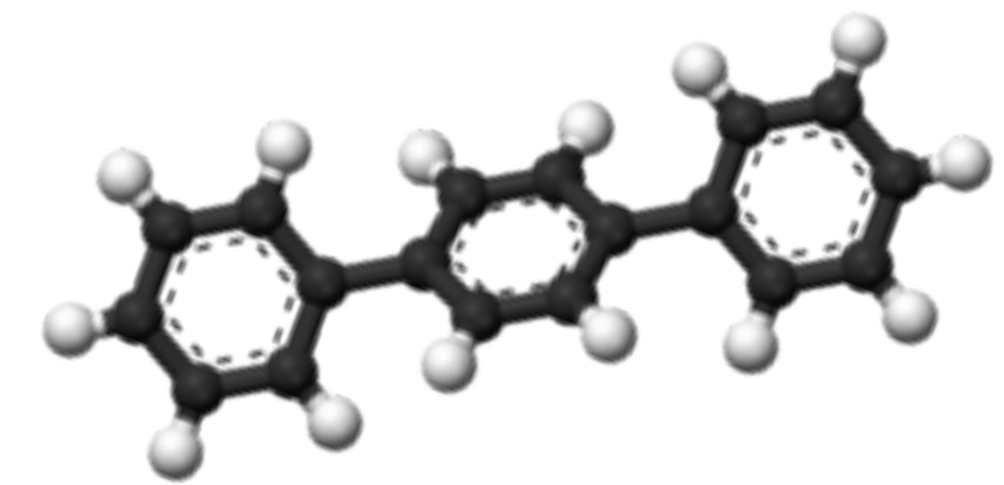
➡ We performed a ROC analysis **varying these 3 parameters in their range (504 total values)**

+ Dataset splitting (train/test)



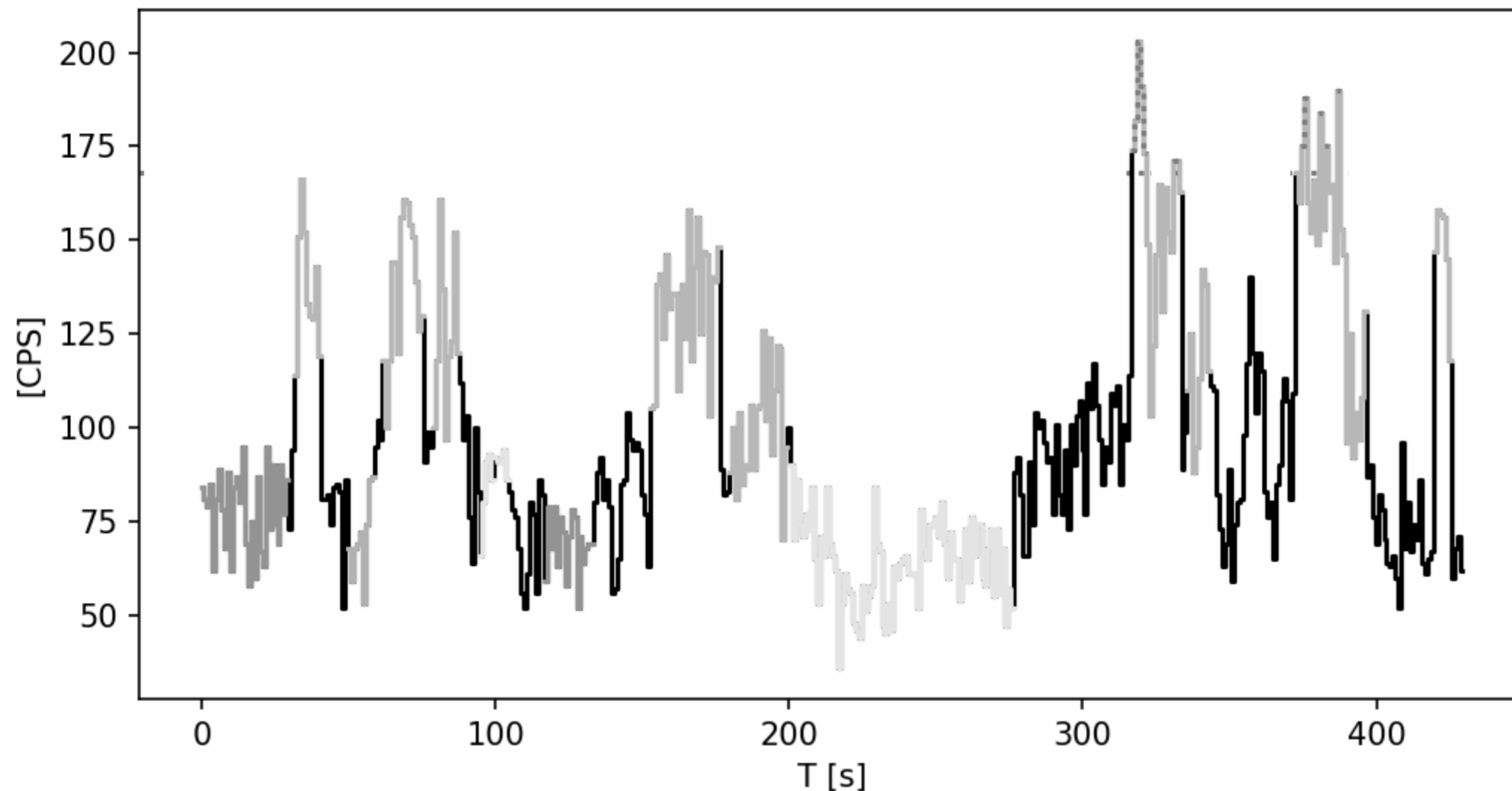
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perform as β particles
detector?

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detector element



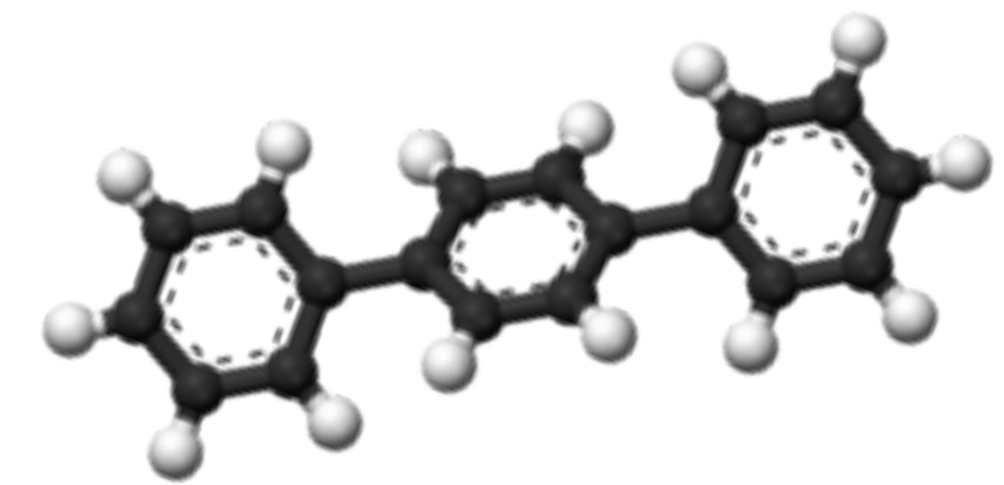
Aromatic
hydrocarbon
isomer
 $C_{18}H_{14}$

- In-vivo Patients Test -



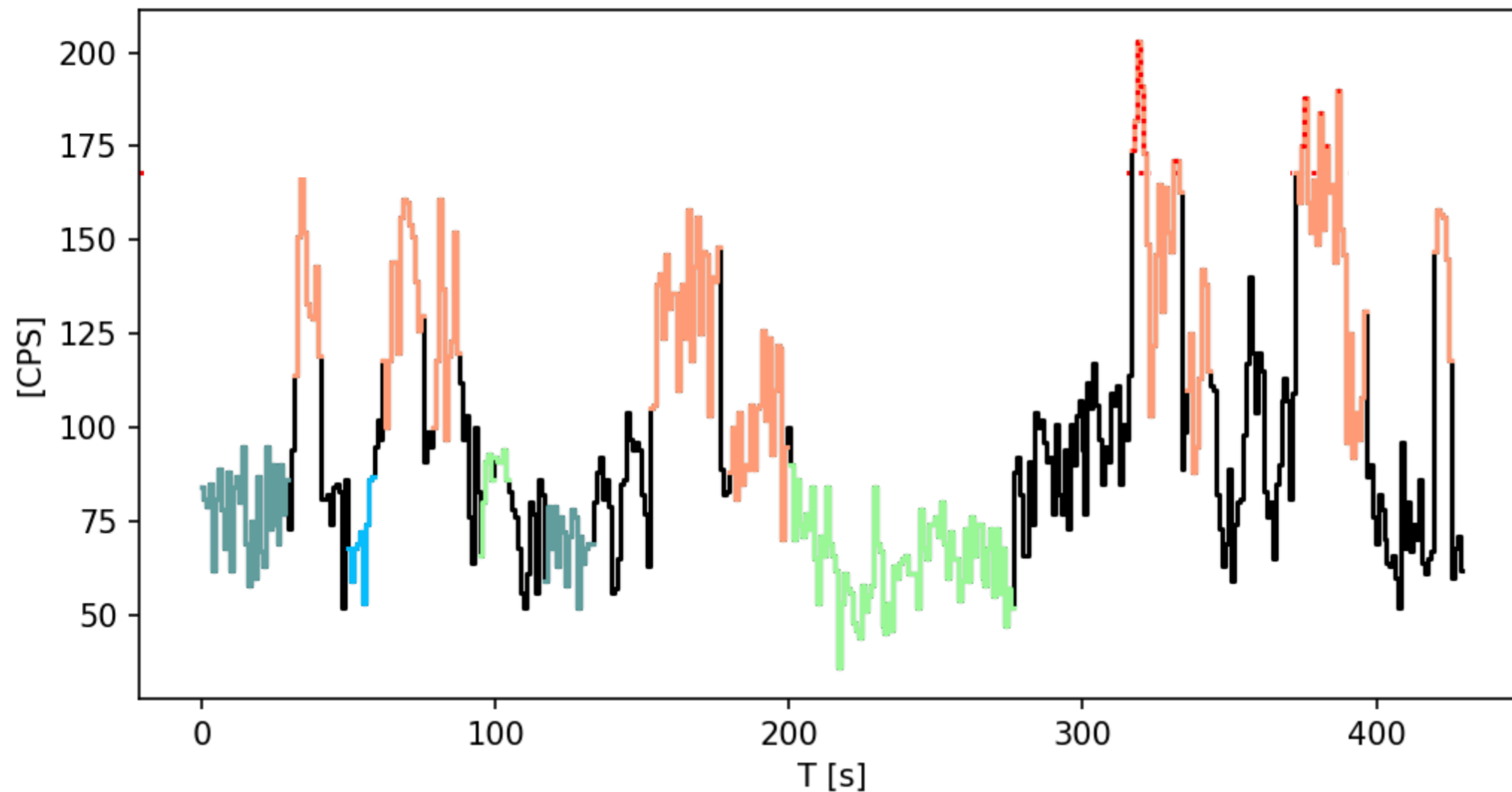
How does it
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- Use **p-terphenyl** as
detector element



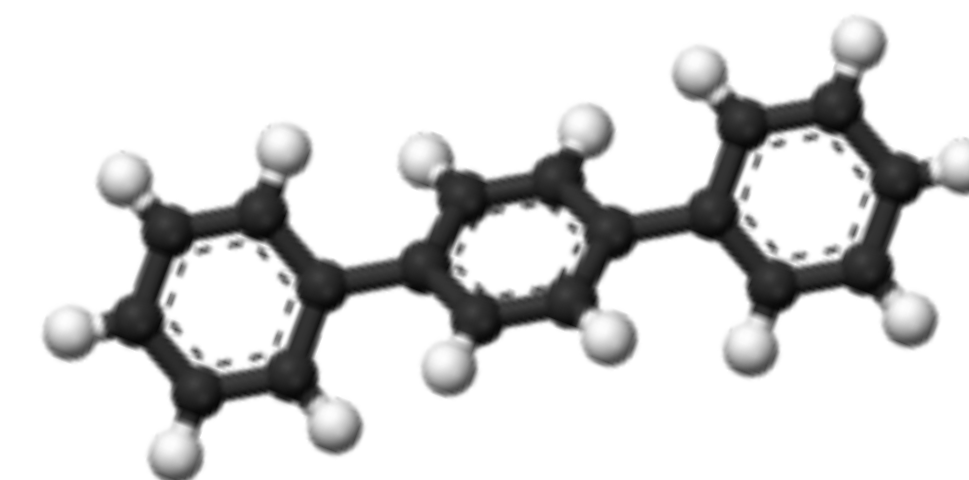
Aromatic
hydrocarbon
isomer
 $C_{18}H_{14}$

- In-vivo Patients Test -



How does it perform as β particles detector?

- Use **p-terphenyl** as detector element



Aromatic hydrocarbon isomer
 $C_{18}H_{14}$

- In-vivo Patients Test -

Results

European Journal of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s00259-024-06653-6>

ORIGINAL ARTICLE



First-in-human validation of a DROP-IN β -probe for robotic radioguided surgery: defining optimal signal-to-background discrimination algorithm

Francesco Collamati¹ · Silvio Morganti¹ · Matthias N. van Oosterom² · Lorenzo Campana^{1,3} · Francesco Ceci^{4,5} · Stefano Luzzago^{5,6} · Carlo Mancini-Terracciano^{1,7} · Riccardo Mirabelli^{1,3} · Gennaro Musi^{5,6} · Francesca Nicolanti^{1,7} · Ilaria Orsi^{1,7} · Fijs W. B. van Leeuwen² · Riccardo Faccini^{1,7}

True Positive Rate

- › Sensitivity: 89%
- › Specificity: 89%

True Negative Rate

Ann Surg Oncol
<https://doi.org/10.1245/s10434-024-15277-x>

Annals of
SURGICAL ONCOLOGY
OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE SOCIETY OF SURGICAL ONCOLOGY



ORIGINAL ARTICLE – ENDOCRINE TUMORS

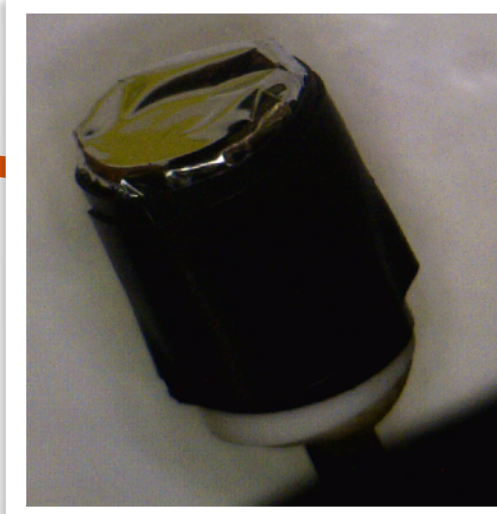
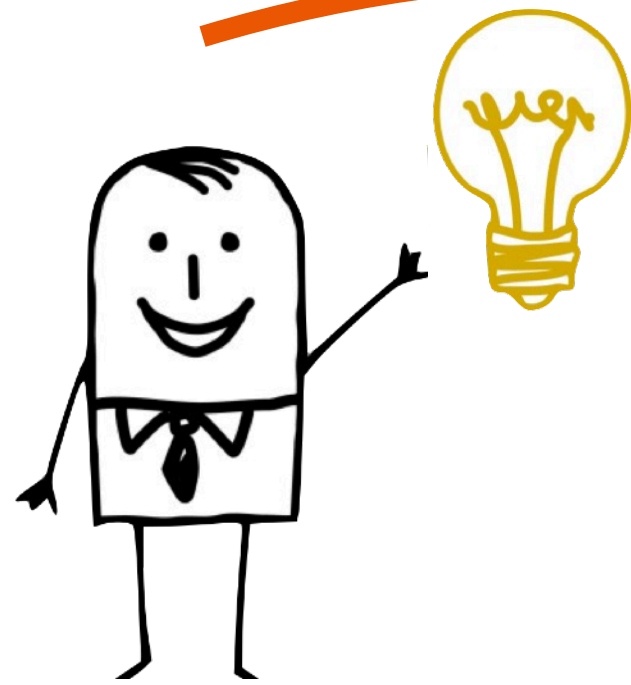
Radio-Guided Surgery with a New-Generation β -Probe for Radiolabeled Somatostatin Analog, in Patients with Small Intestinal Neuroendocrine Tumors

Emilio Bertani, MD^{1,2}, Francesco Mattana, MD³, Francesco Collamati, PhD⁴, Mahila E. Ferrari, MSc⁵, Vincenzo Bagnardi, PhD⁶, Samuele Frassoni, MSc⁶, Eleonora Pisa, MD⁷, Riccardo Mirabelli, PhD^{4,8}, Silvio Morganti, MSc⁴, Nicola Fazio, MD⁹, Uberto Fumagalli Romario, MD², and Francesco Ceci, MD^{3,10}

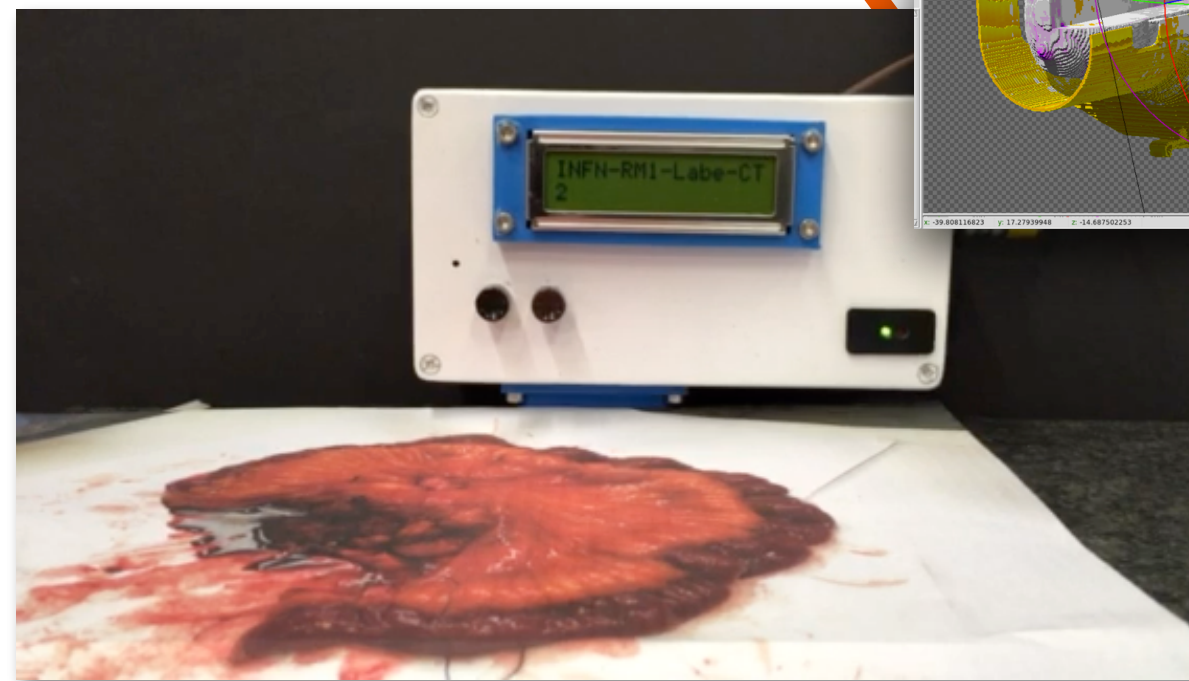
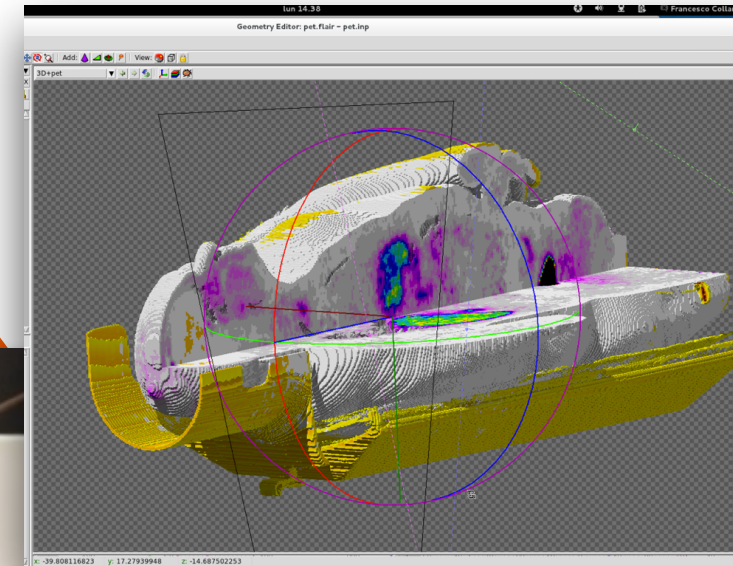
- › Sensitivity: 80%
- › Specificity: 91%



2012



2014

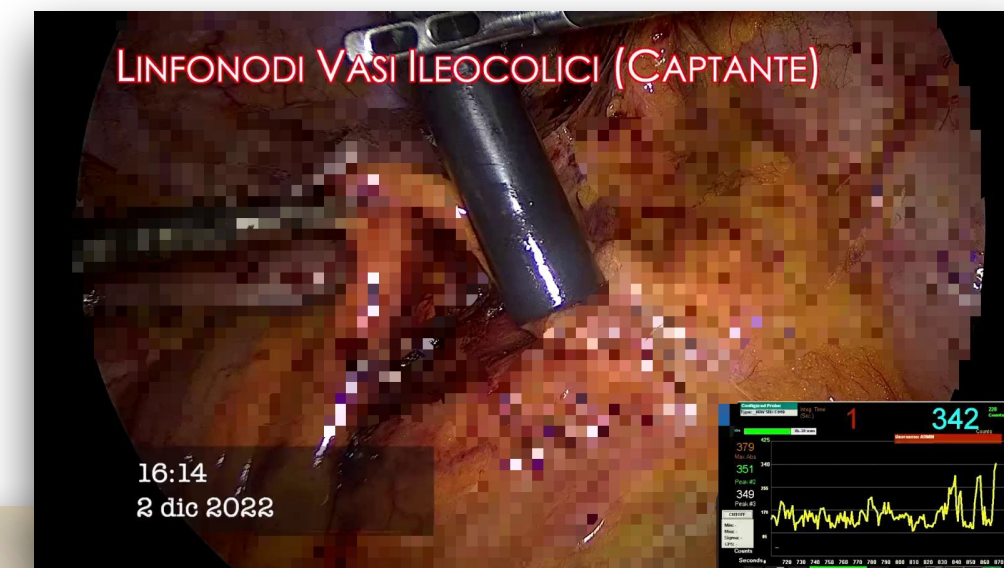


2018

2020



2021



>50pts

2024

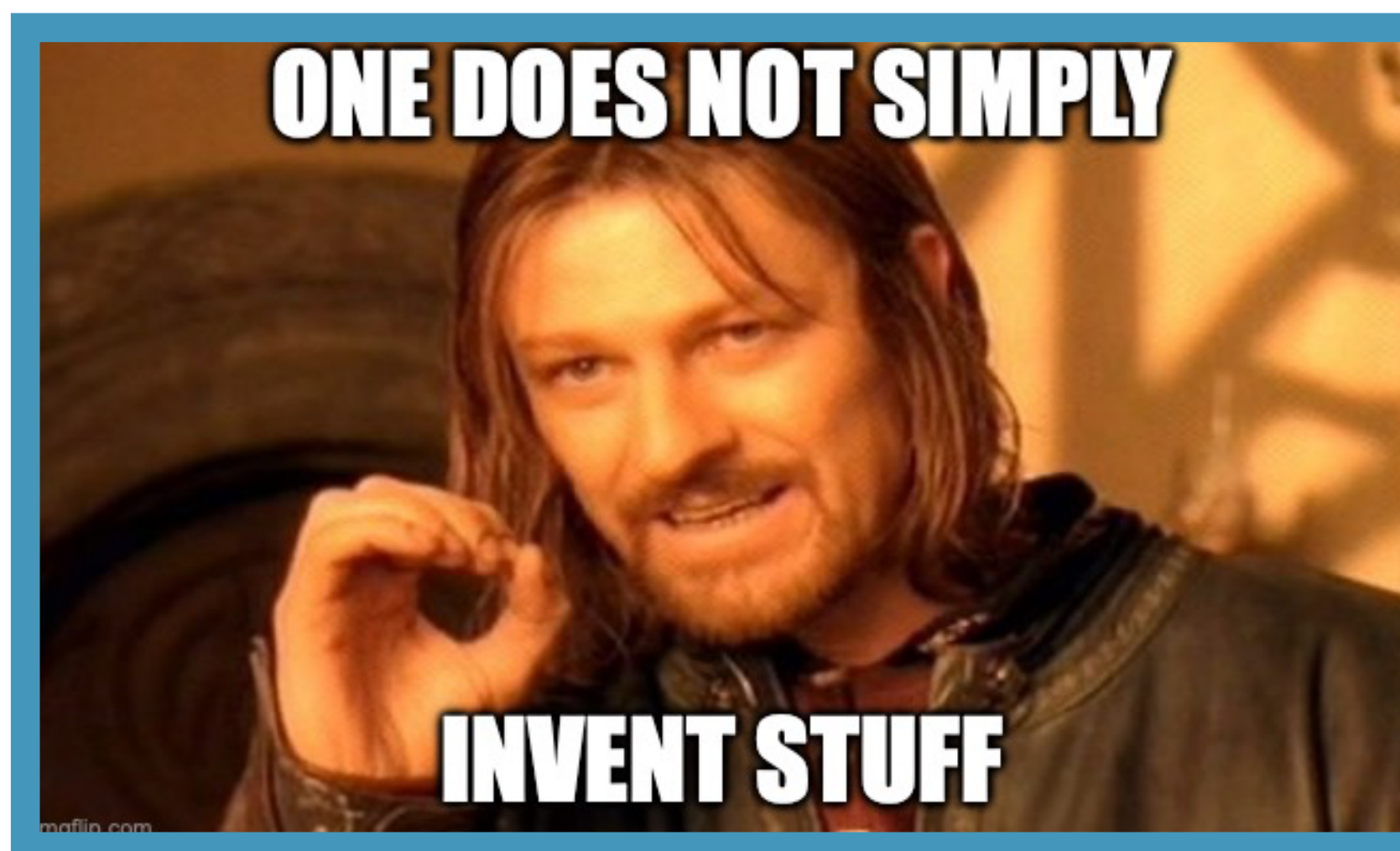
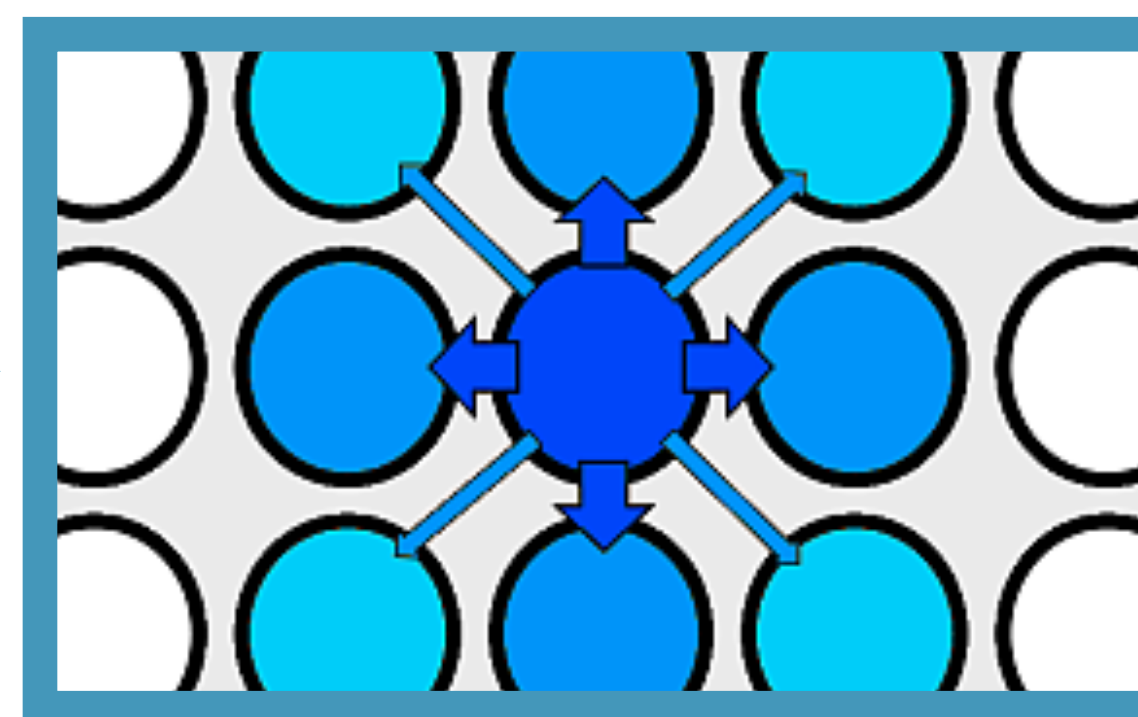


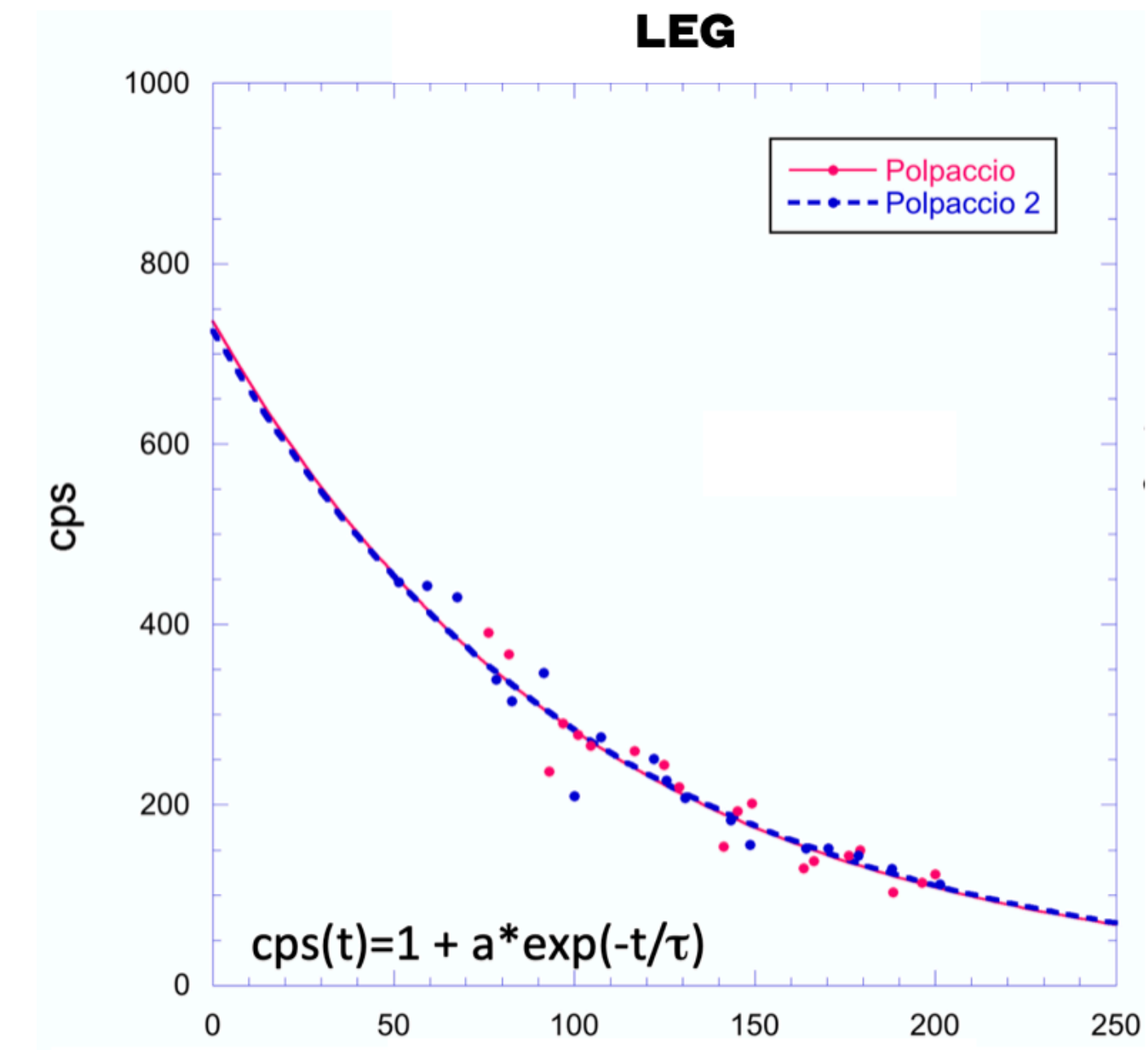
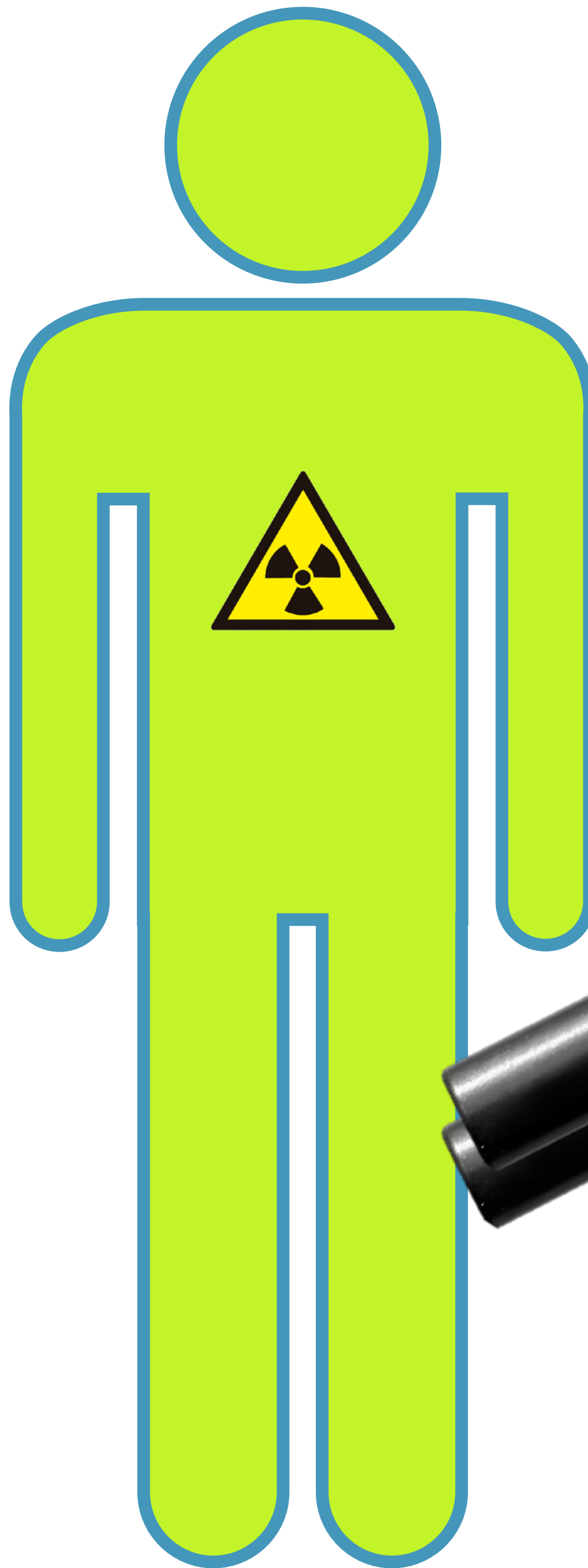
**Radio Guided Surgery
with β tracers**

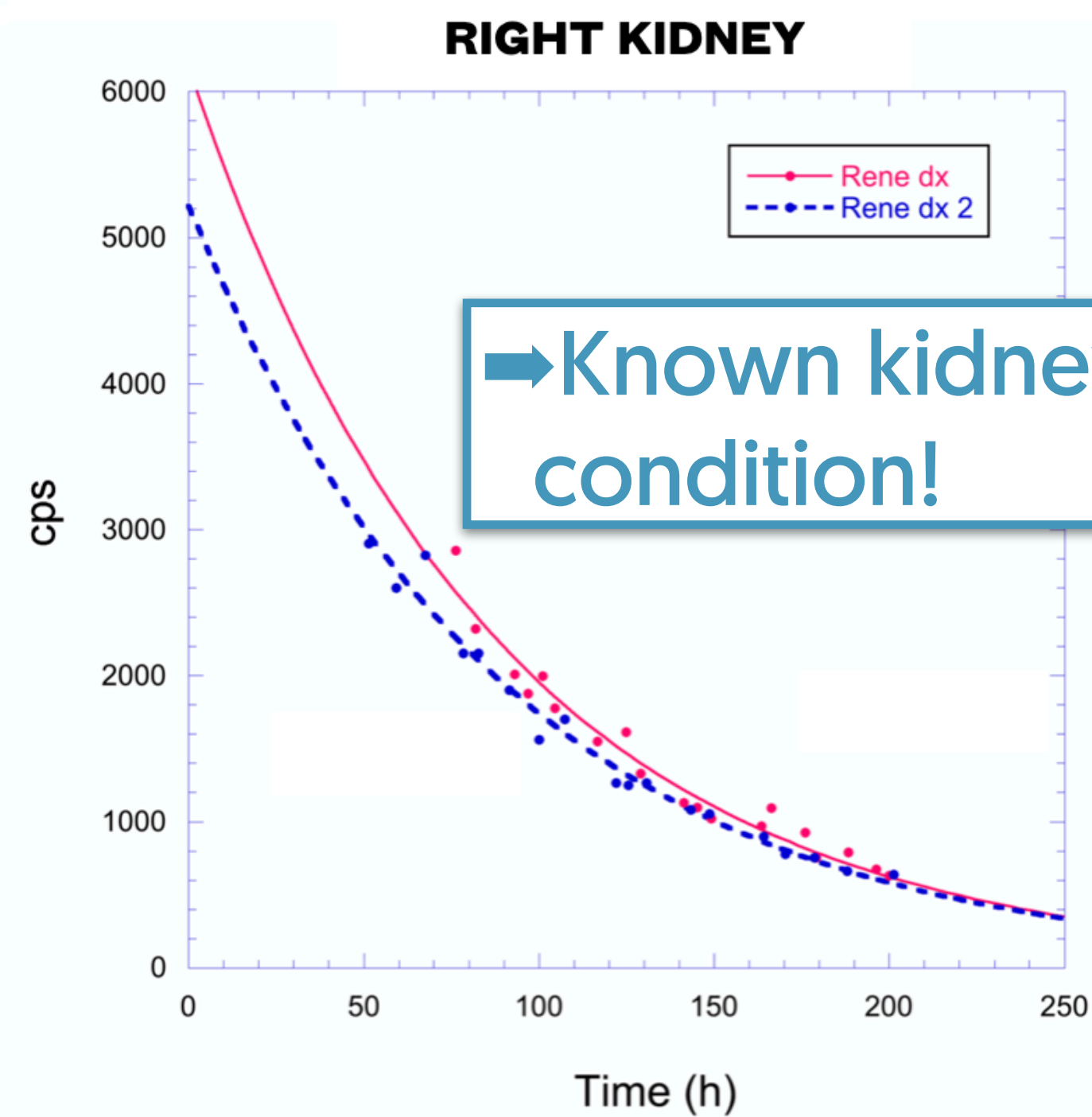
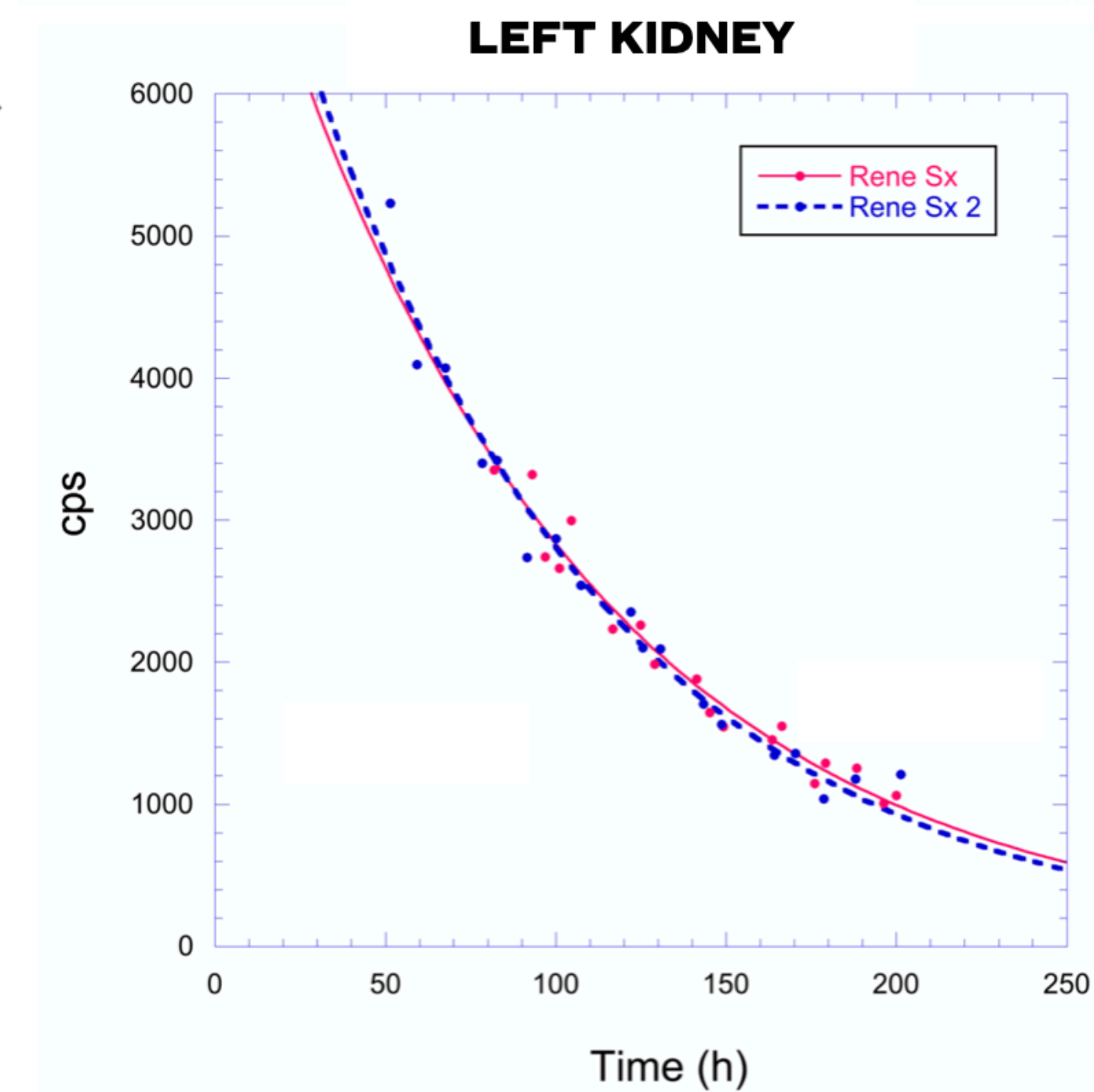
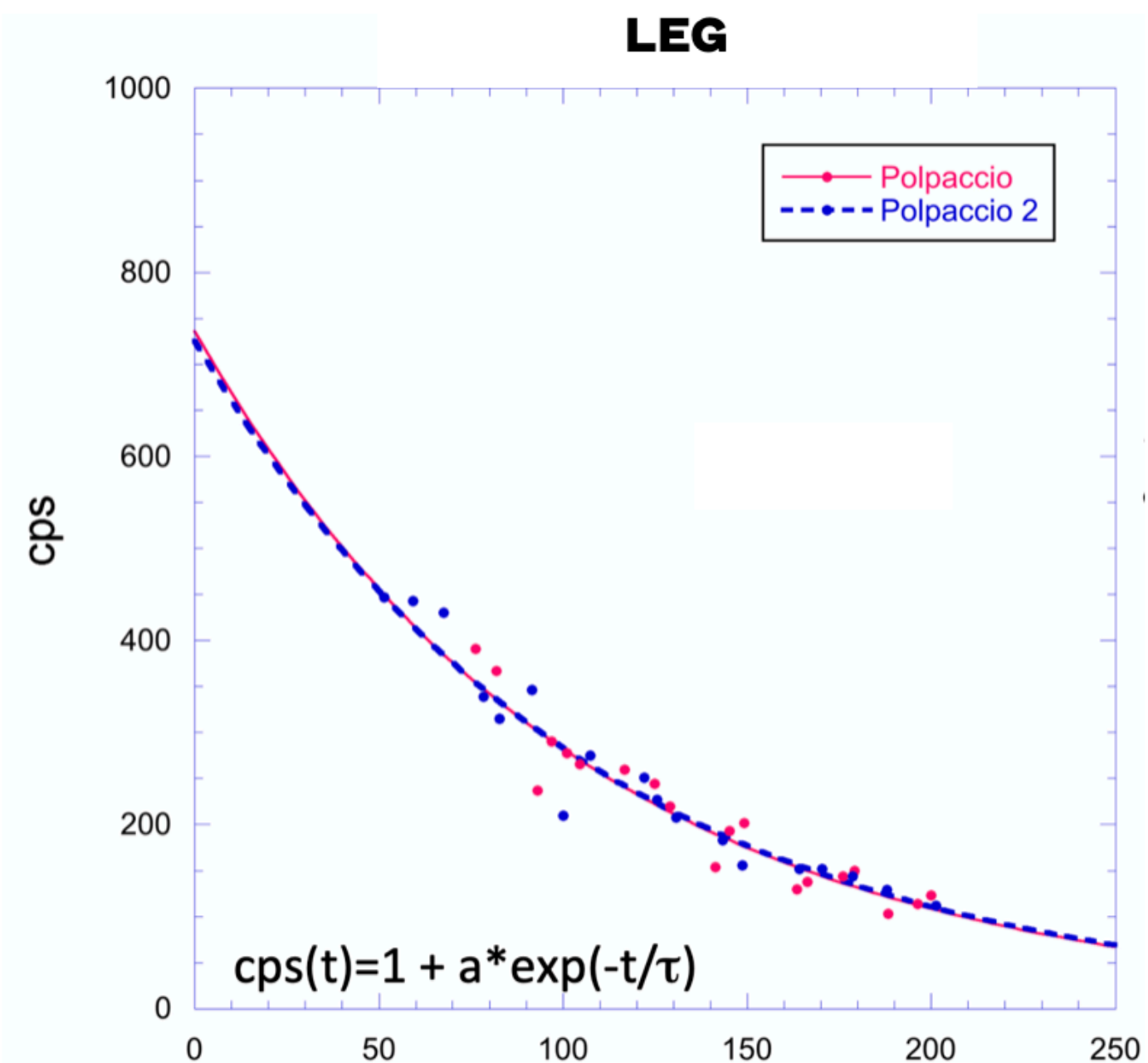
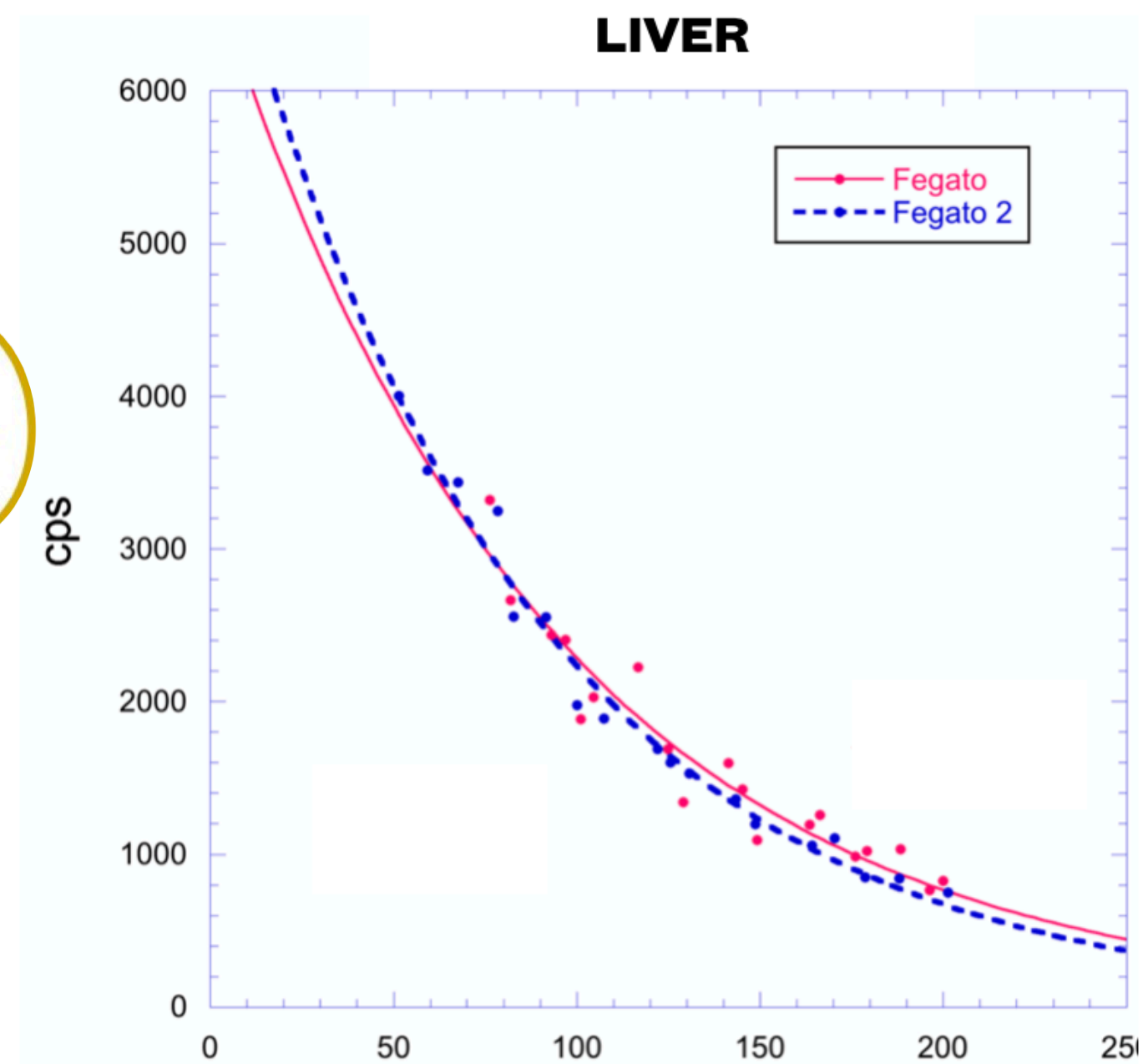
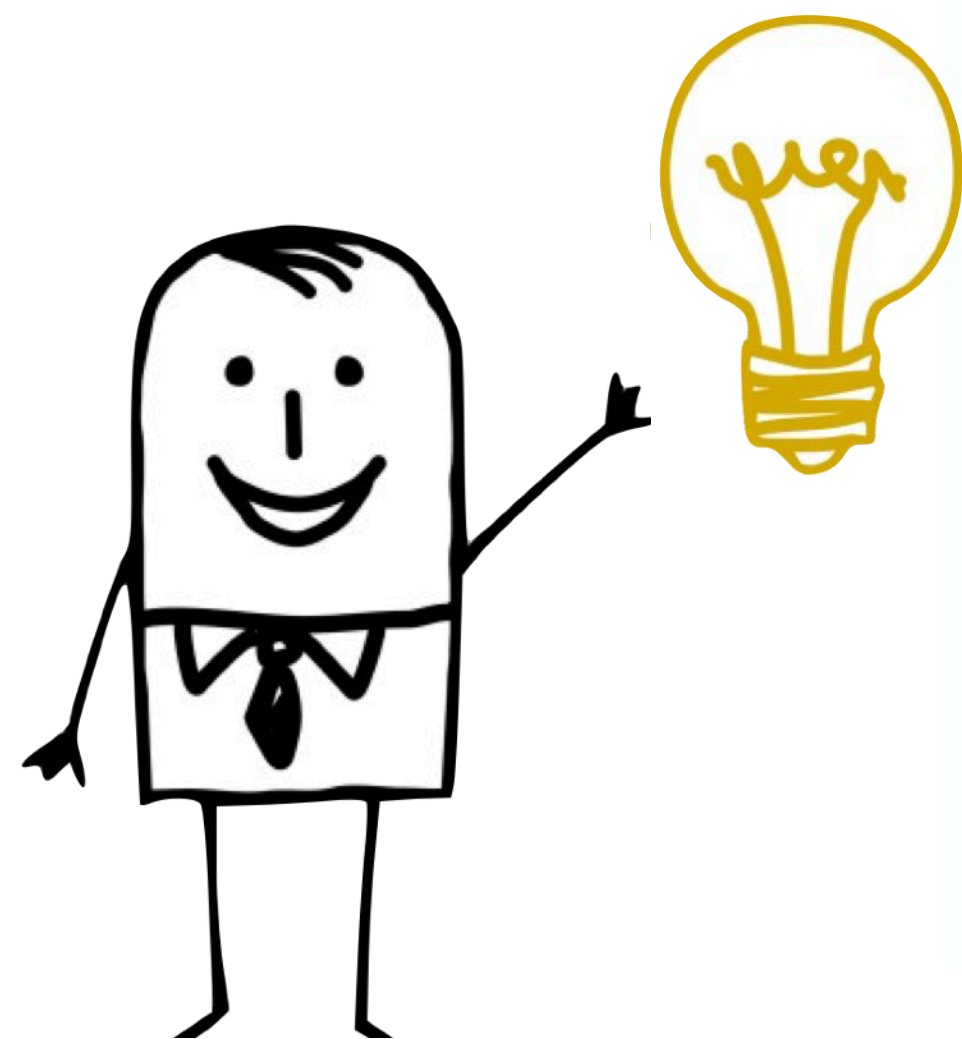
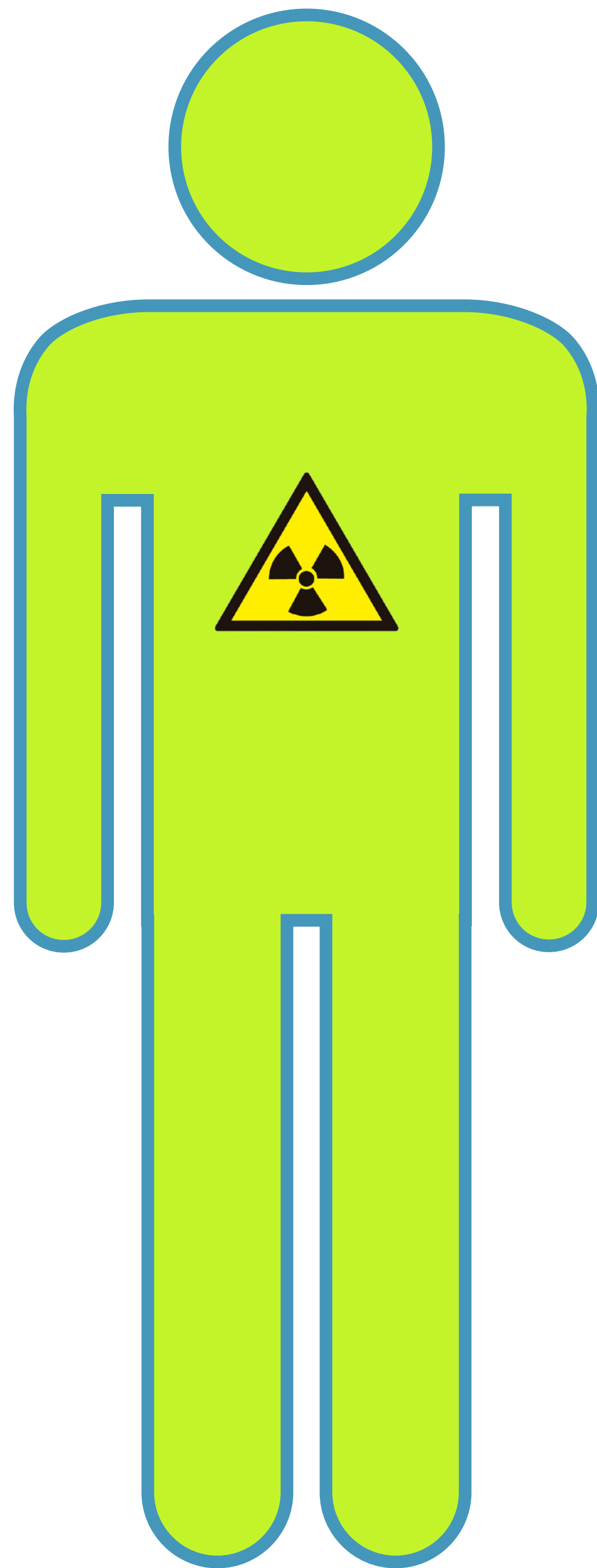
ONE DOES NOT SIMPLY

INVENT STUFF

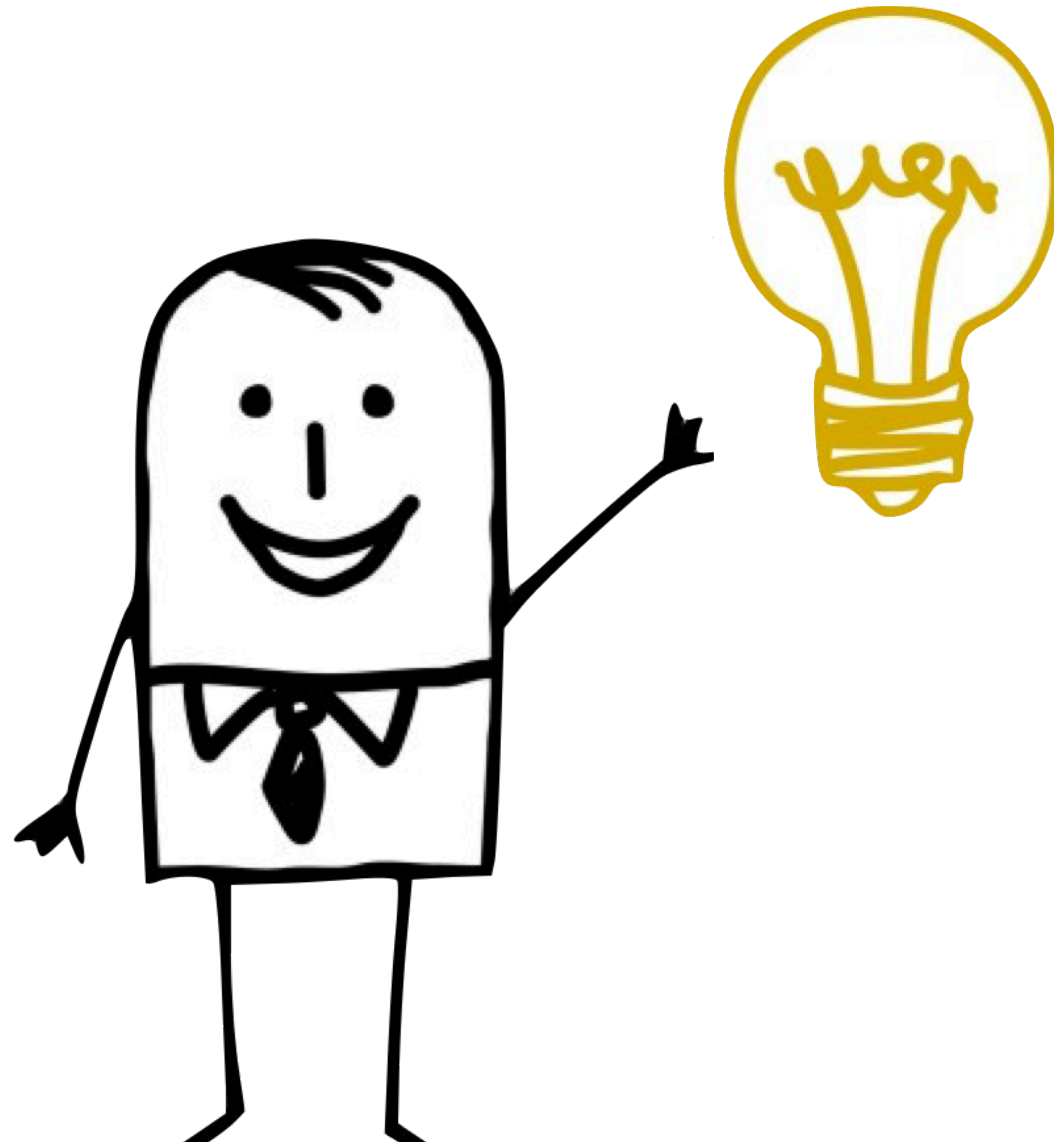
CSN5





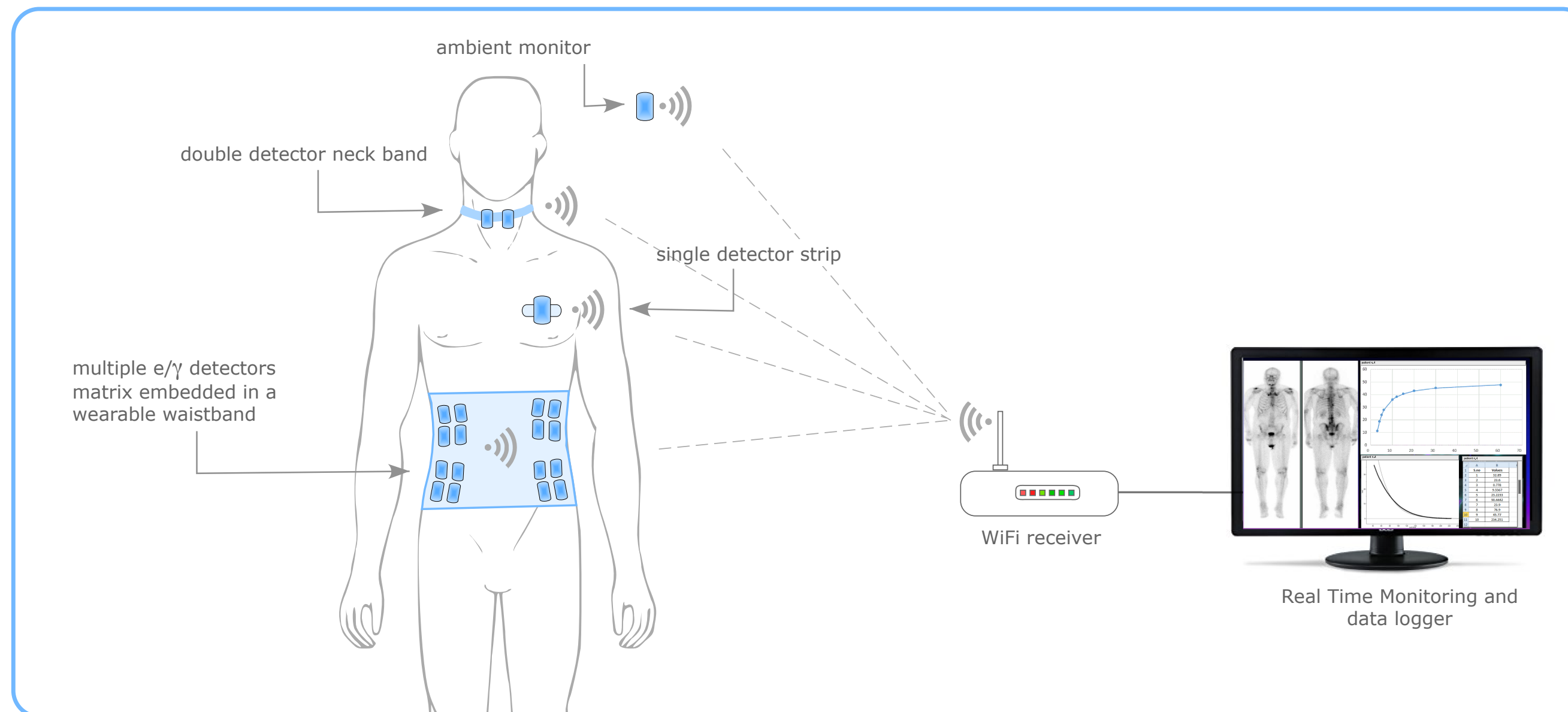


➡ Known kidney condition!

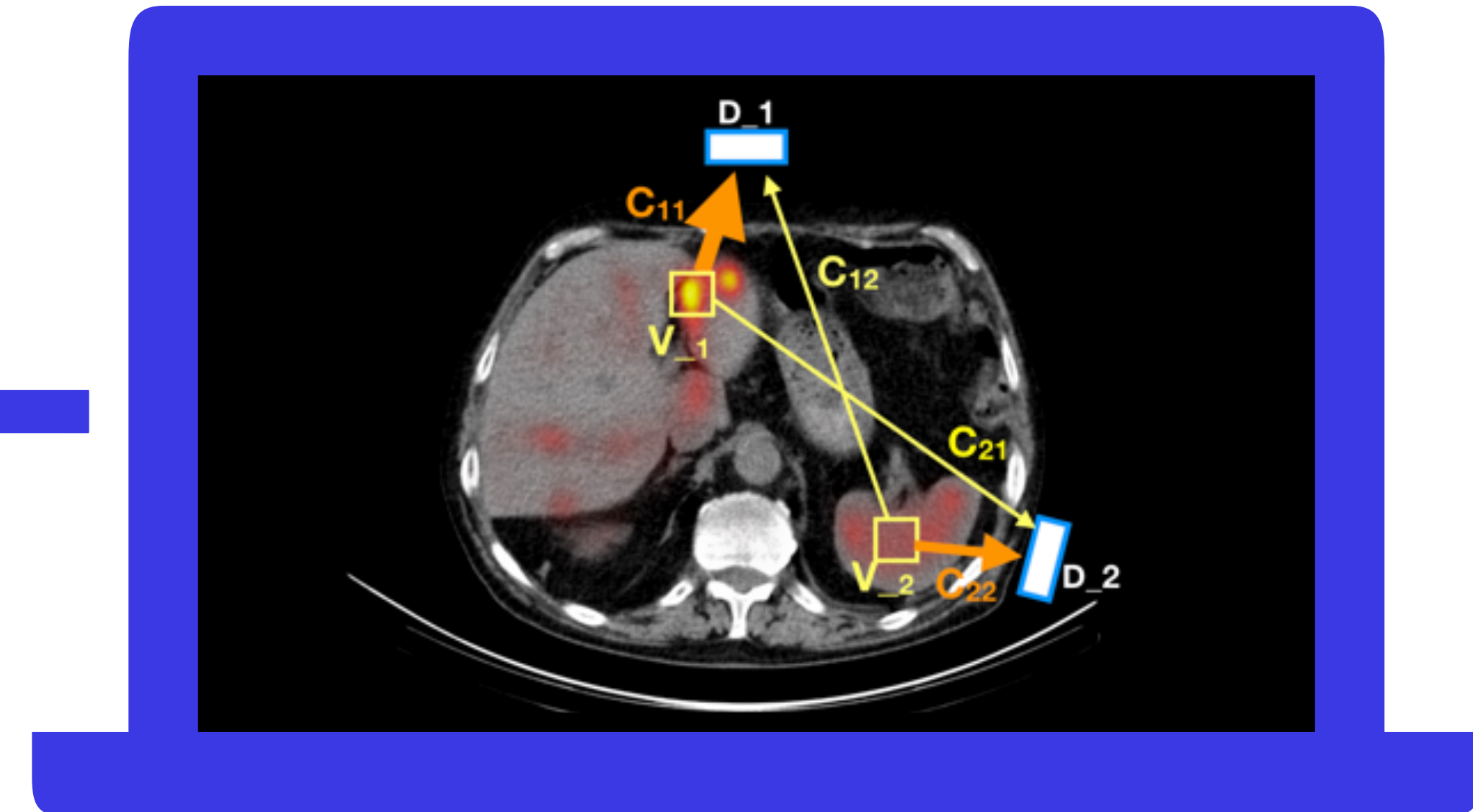


WIDMApp

a **W**earable **I**ndividual **D**ose **M**onitoring **A**pparatus



+



A Multi Channel System of
Radiation Detector

- ☑ Wearable → High Statistics
- ☑ At contact → High Efficiency

A Software Algorithm fo
Analysis and Deconvolution

→ Identify the contribution to
each detector from each organ

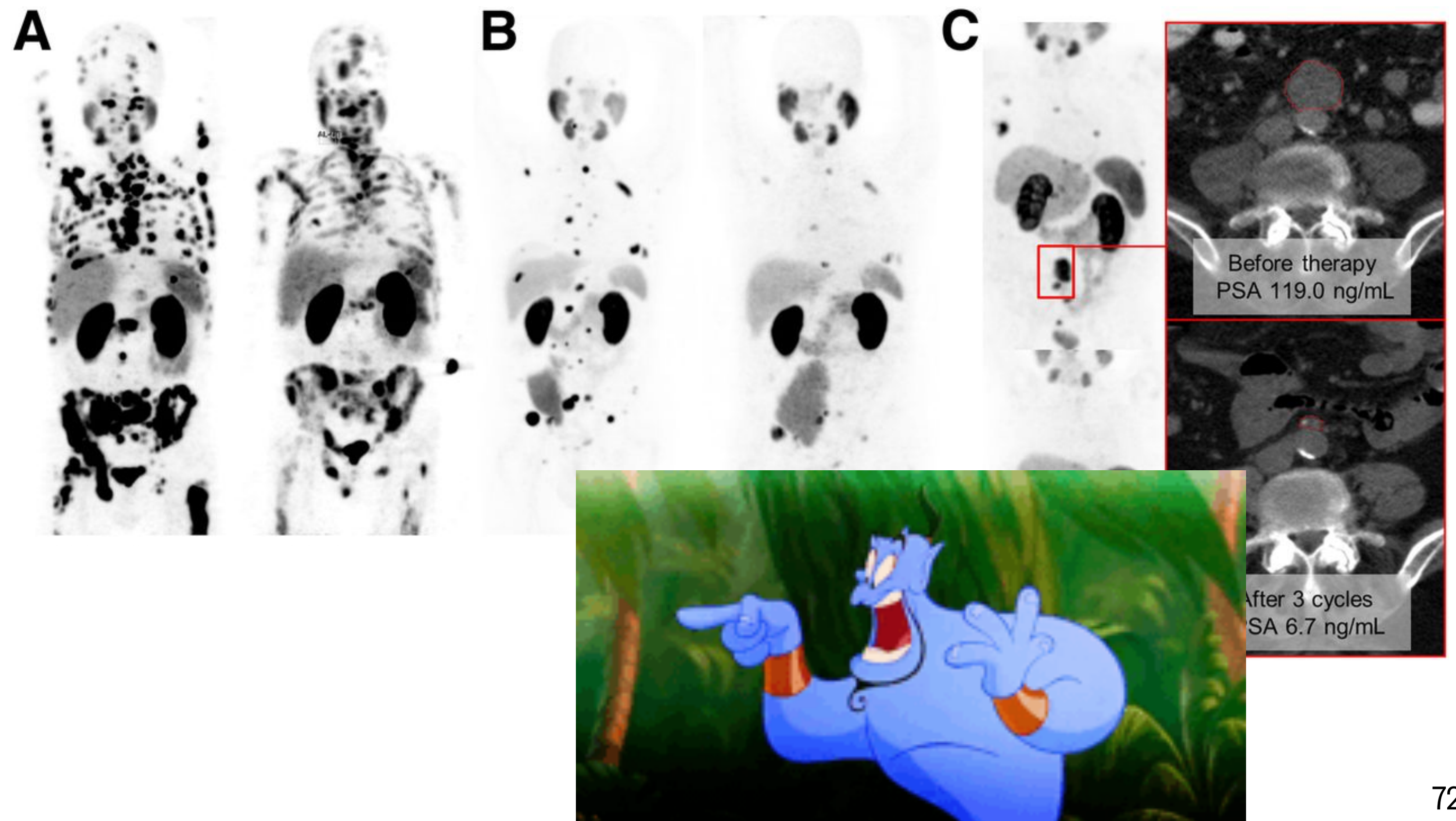
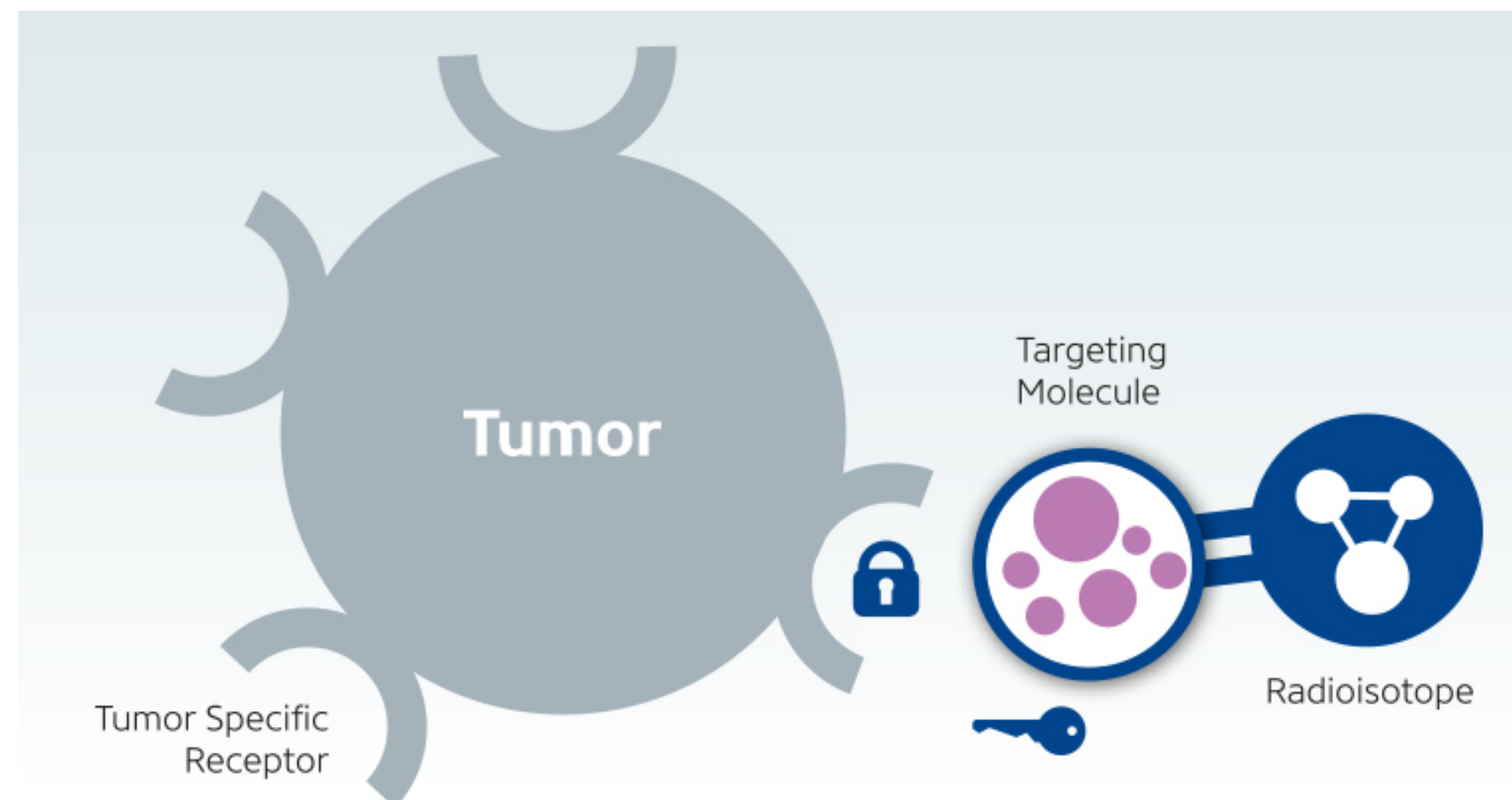
Real Time measurement
of Tracer **Accumulation**
and Transit

WIDMApp

a **W**earable **I**ndividual **D**ose **M**onitoring **A**pparatus

Target Radionuclide Therapy (TRT)

- A **radiopharmaceutical** is systemically injected to the patient
- Thanks to its **specificity** for the given tumor it bounds to it
- The emitted **radiation** destroys the tumor



Dynamic PET/CT study



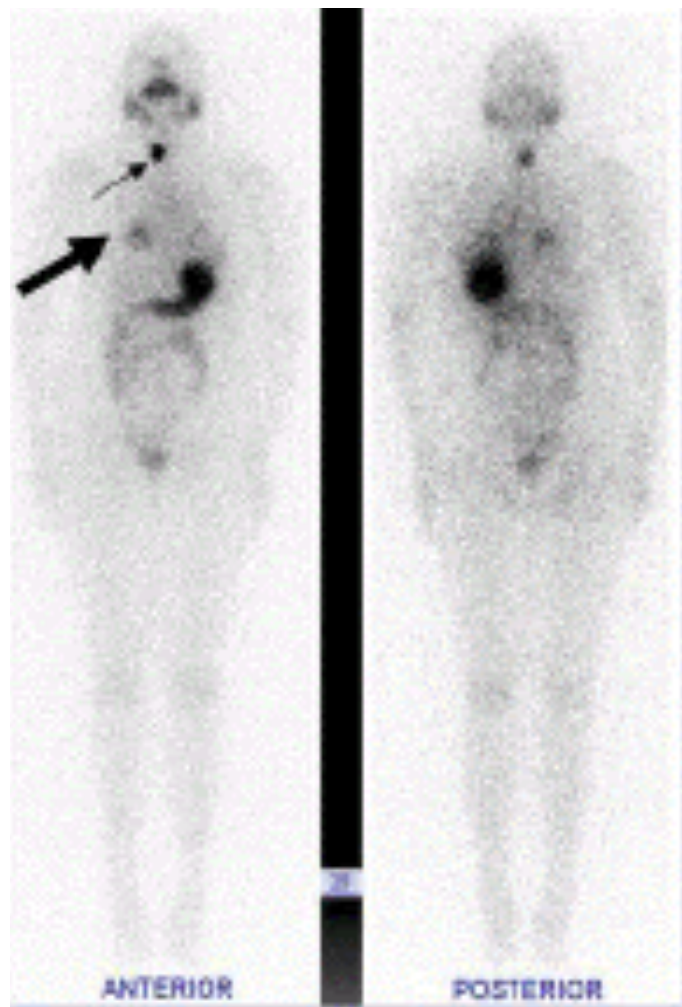
Frame Nr.	Duration(Second)
30	2
5	30
5	60
5	120
8	300



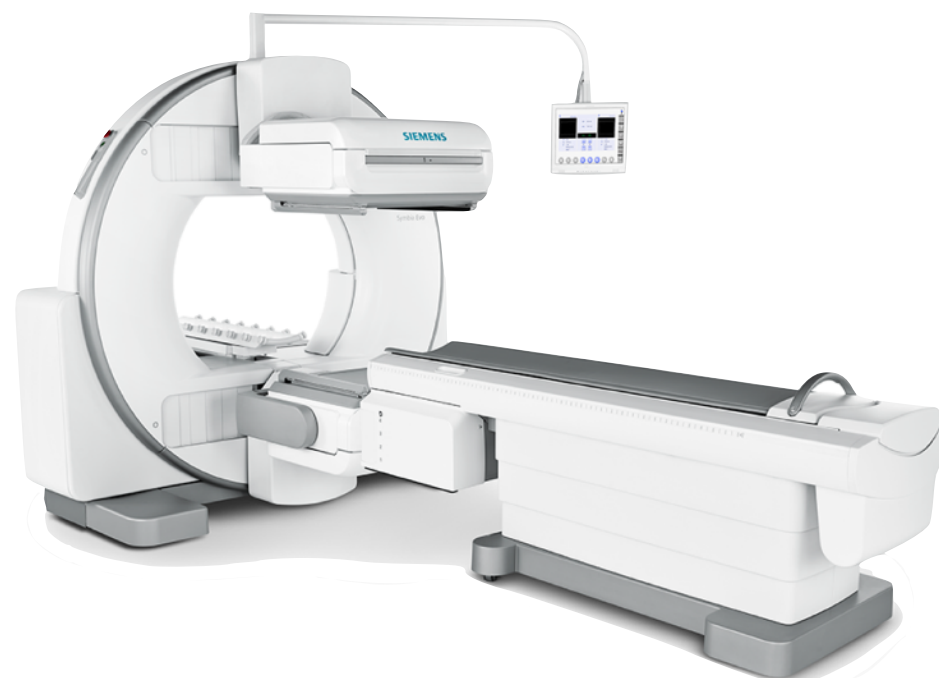
Target Radionuclide Therapy (TRT)

Dosimetry

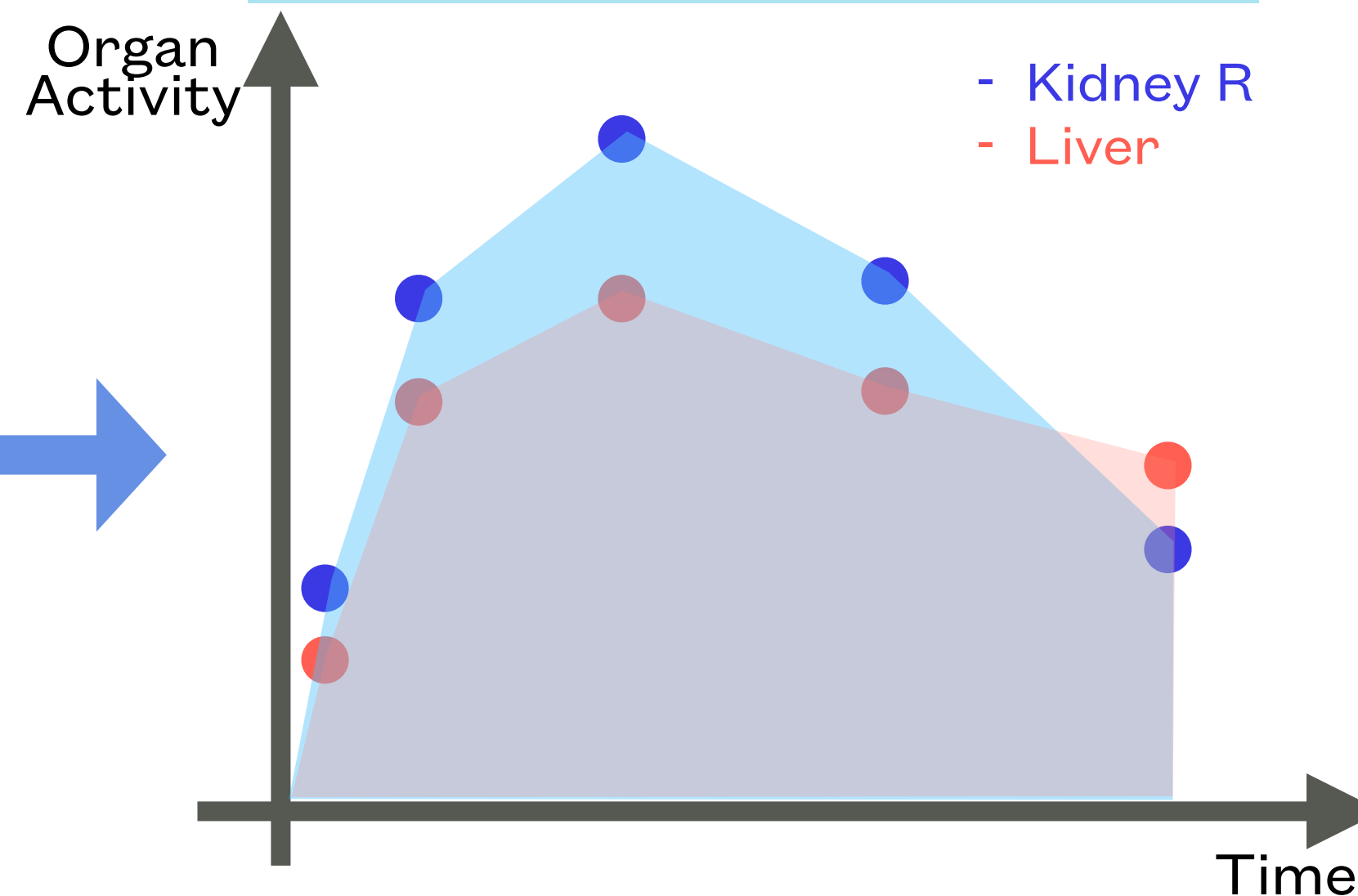
- Current **State of The Art**:
 - Typical current approach: *null*
 - In few centers, repeated quantitative SPECT scans are performed



- Organs activities are measured at 1, 4, 24 and 70 h after injection



TIME ACTIVITY CURVES (TAC)



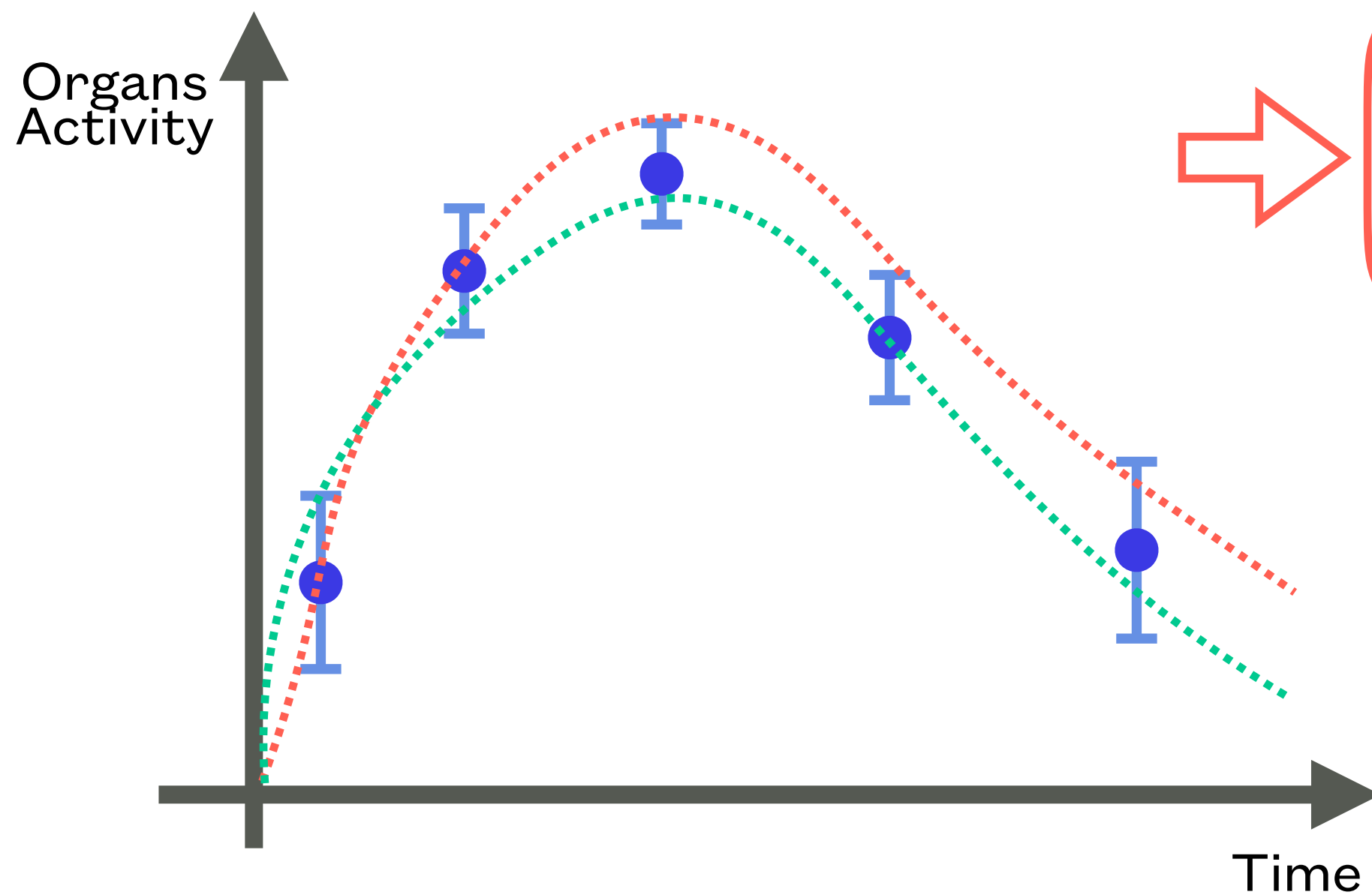
Organ	Total Dose
Kidney R	...
Kidney L	...
Liver	...
...	...

The integral of these curves allows to compute the total dose absorbed by each organ

Target Radionuclide Therapy (TRT)

Dosimetry

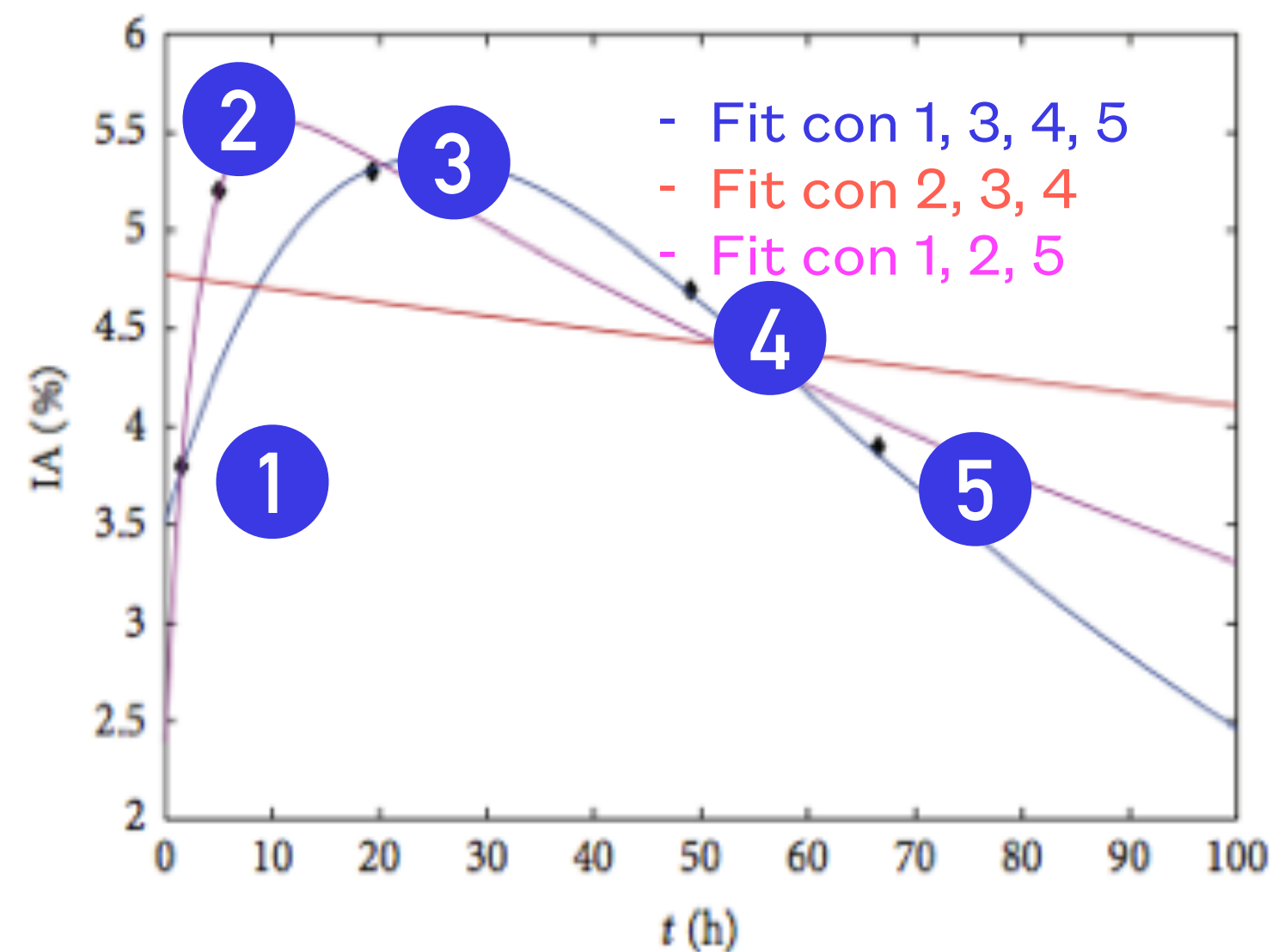
- Limitations:



⇒ The curve integral depends strongly on the fitting function



Real case

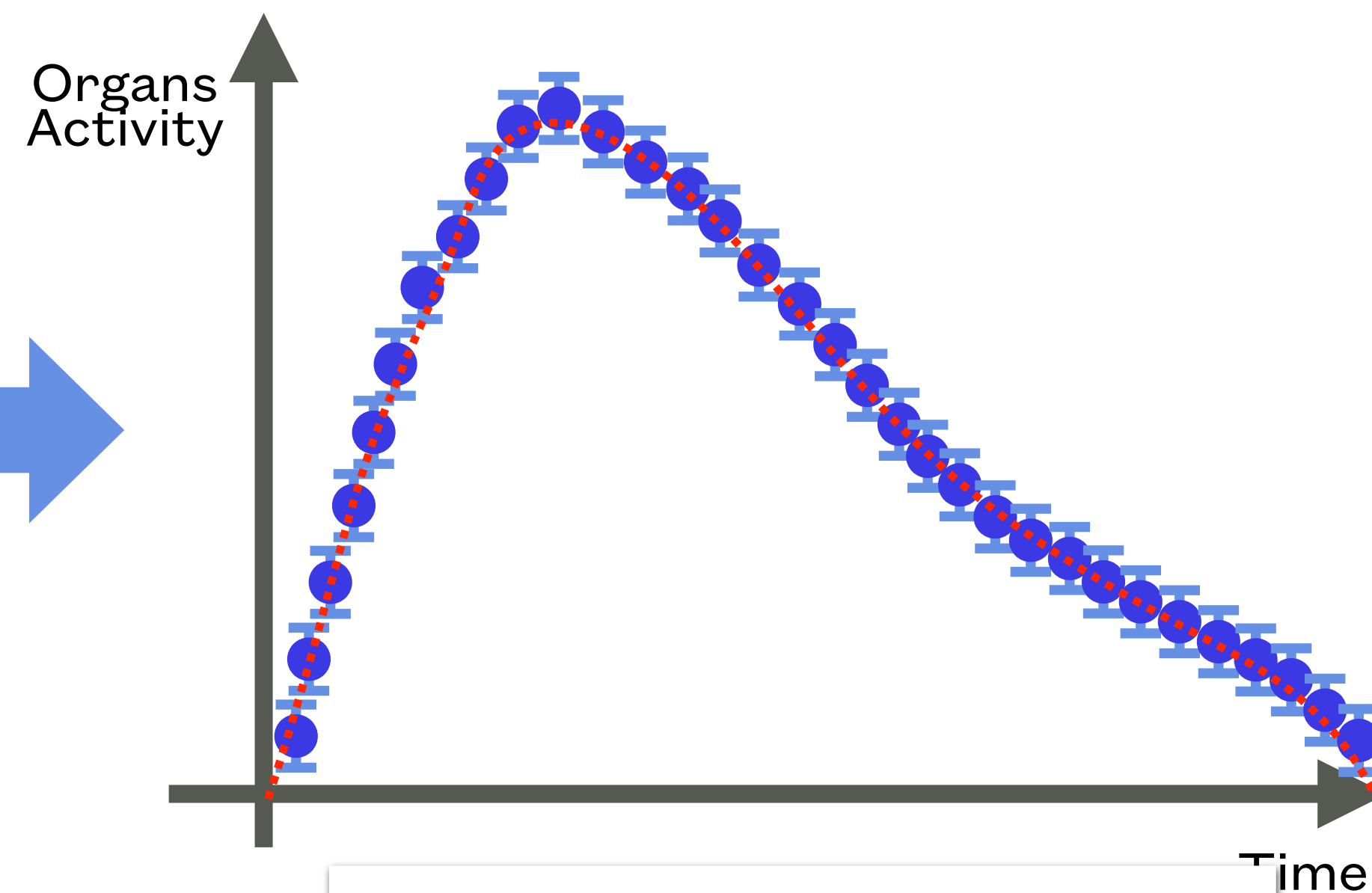
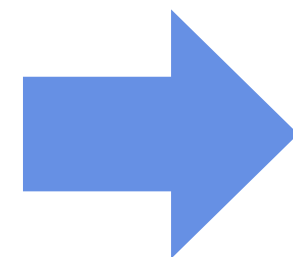
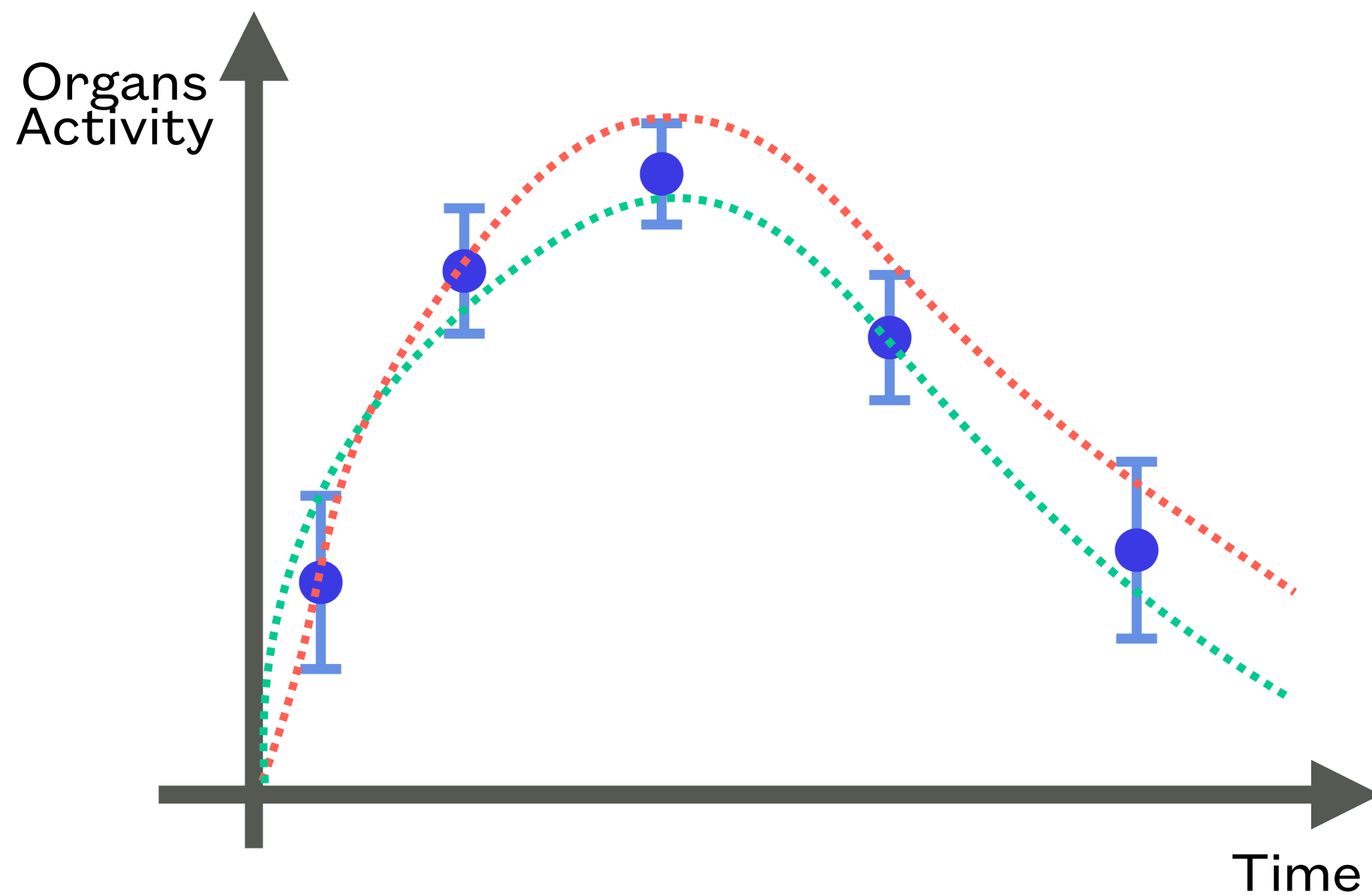


⇒ Final uncertainties of ~50% on organs' doses

Target Radionuclide Therapy (TRT)

Dosimetry

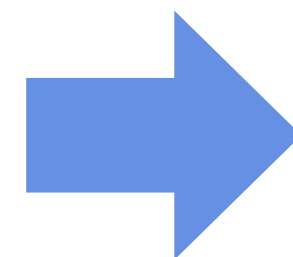
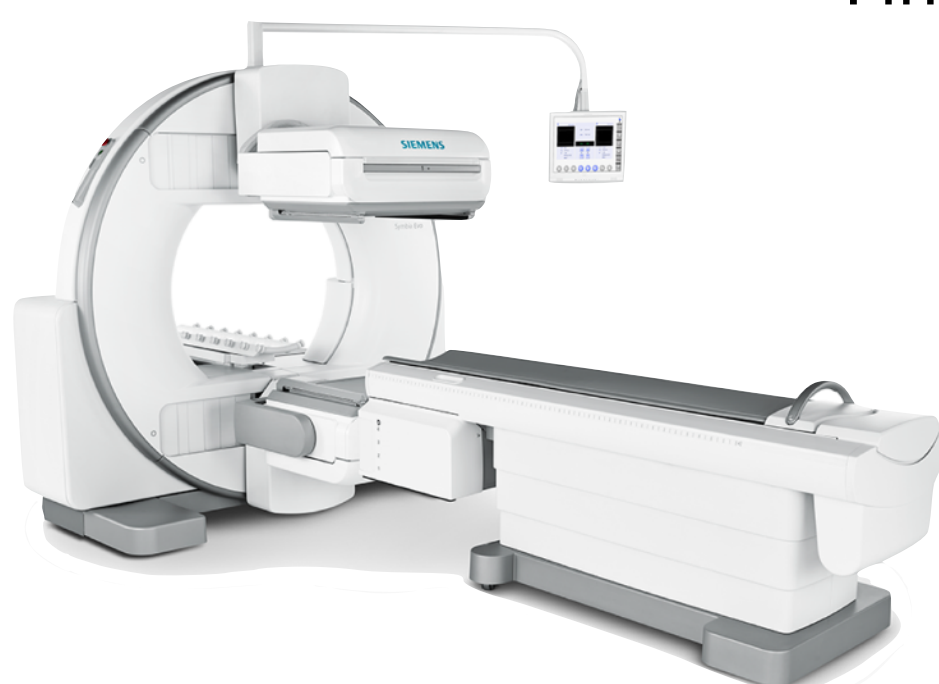
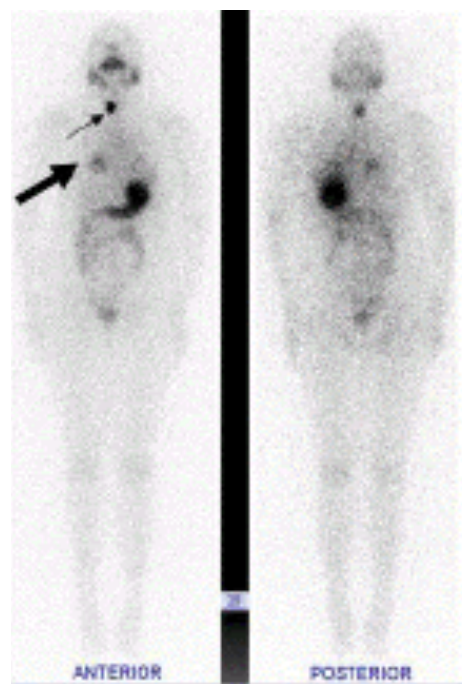
- The **WIDMApp** idea:



- ✓ Much more points
- ✓ Much smaller uncertainties

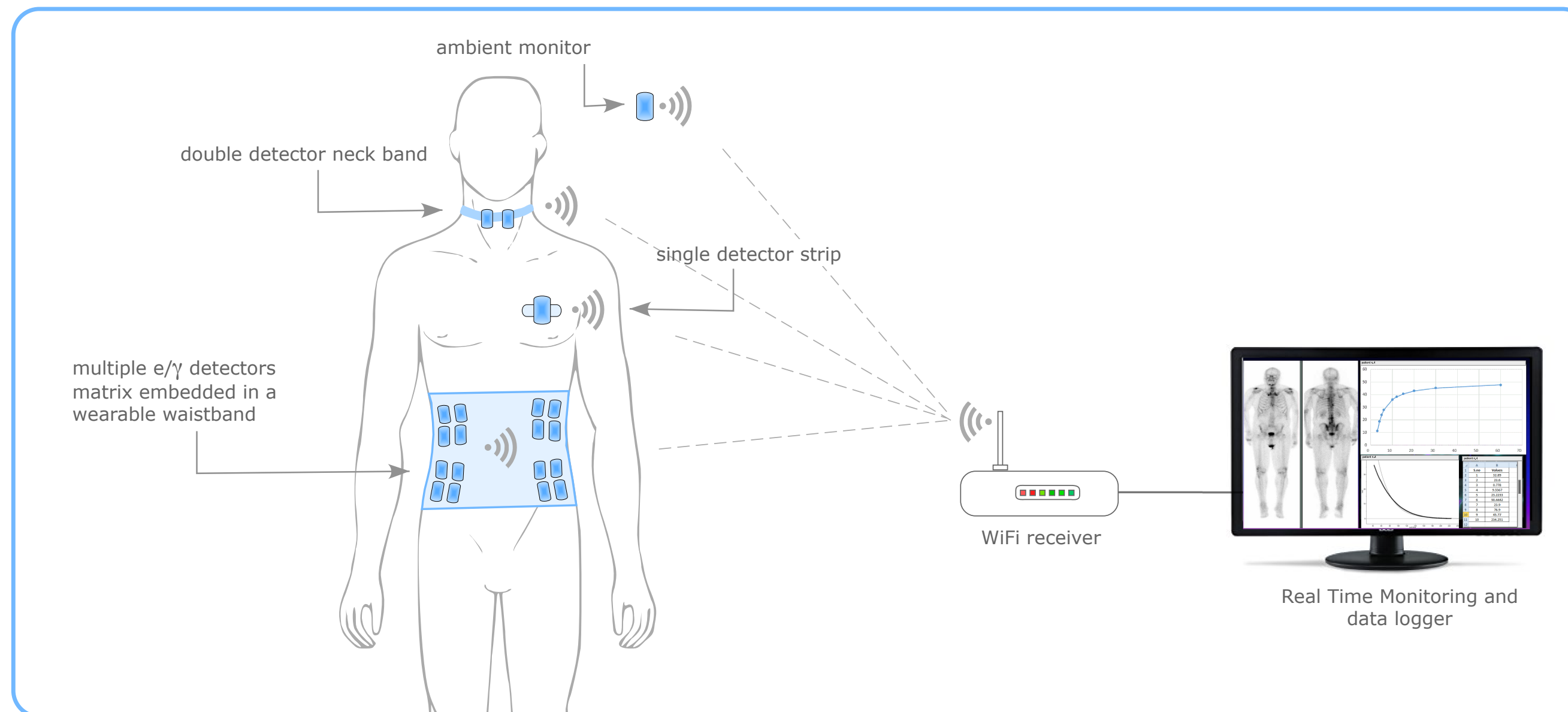


MUCH SMALLER
UNCERTAINTY
ON DOSE

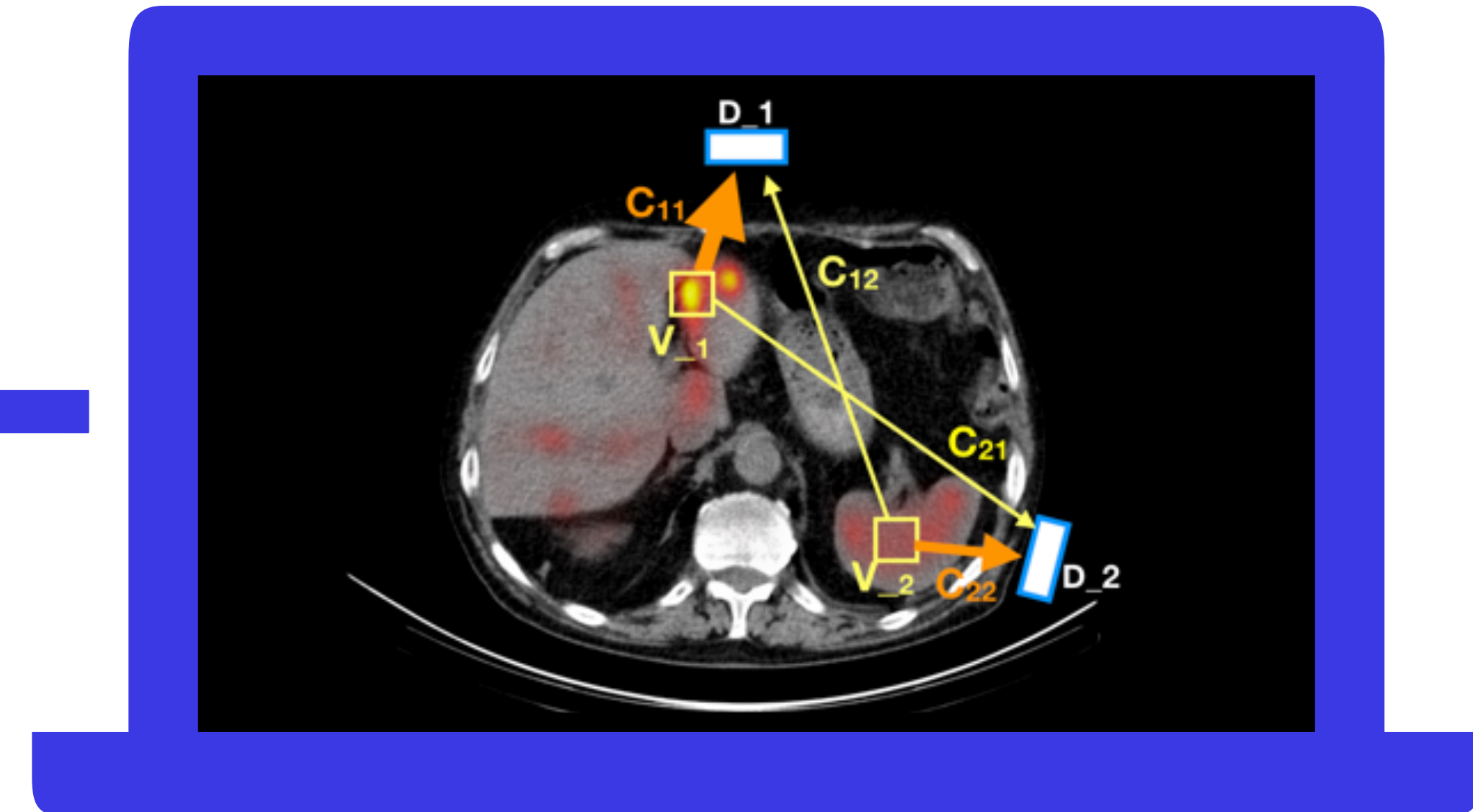


WIDMApp

a **W**earable **I**ndividual **D**ose **M**onitoring **A**pparatus



+



A Multi Channel System of Radiation Detector

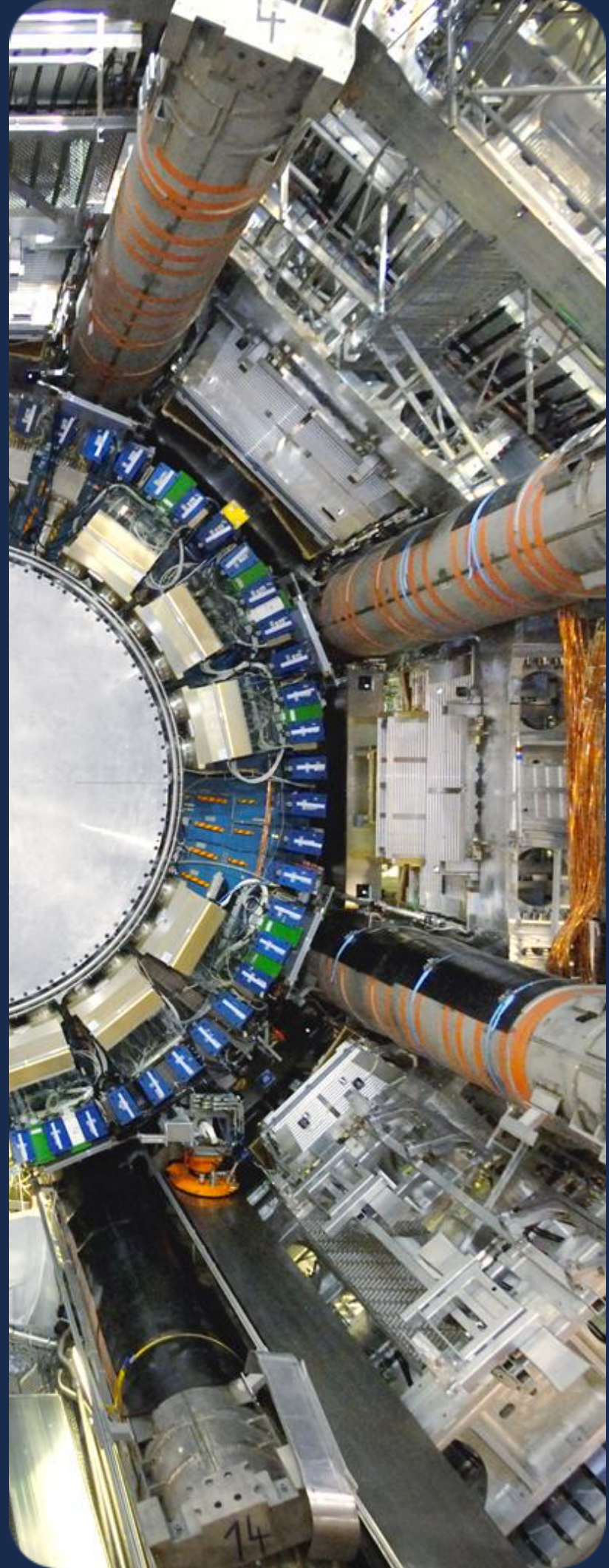
- ✓ Wearable $\Rightarrow$ High Statistics
- ✓ At contact $\Rightarrow$ High Efficiency

A Software Algorithm for Analysis and Deconvolution

$\Rightarrow$ Identify the contribution to each detector from each organ

Real Time measurement of Tracer **Accumulation** and Transit

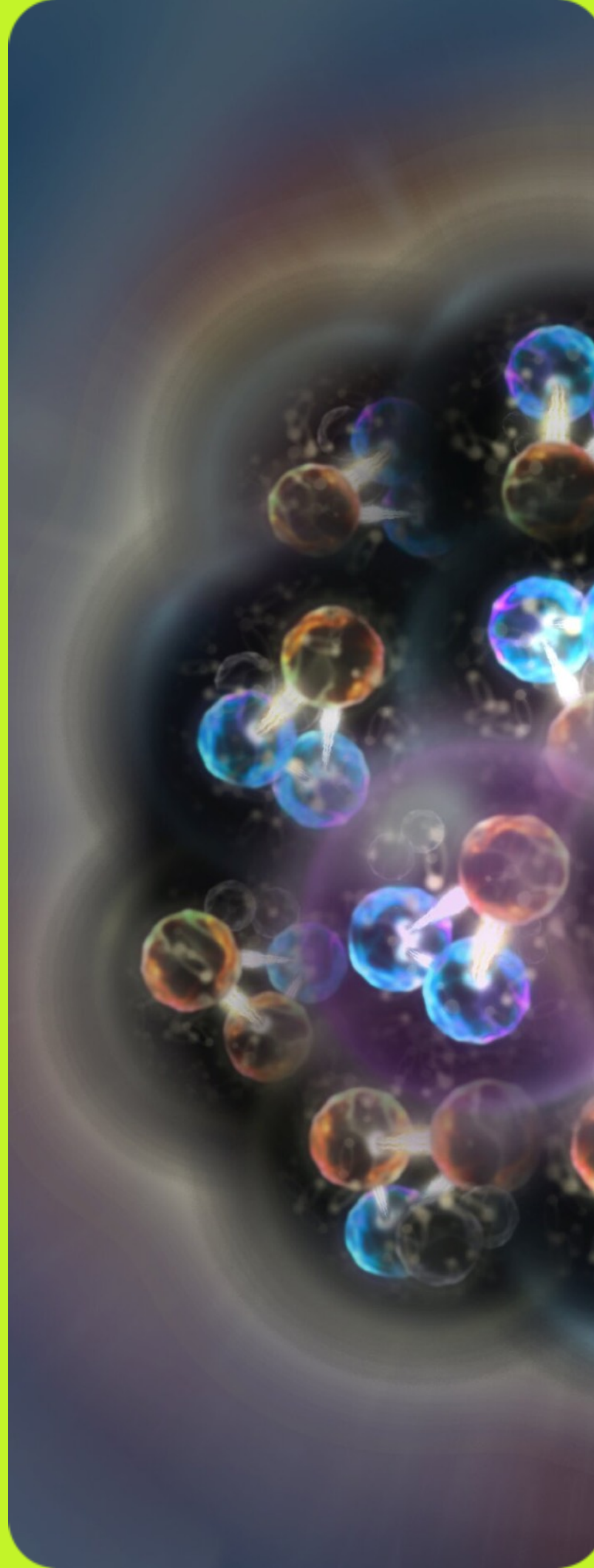
CSN1



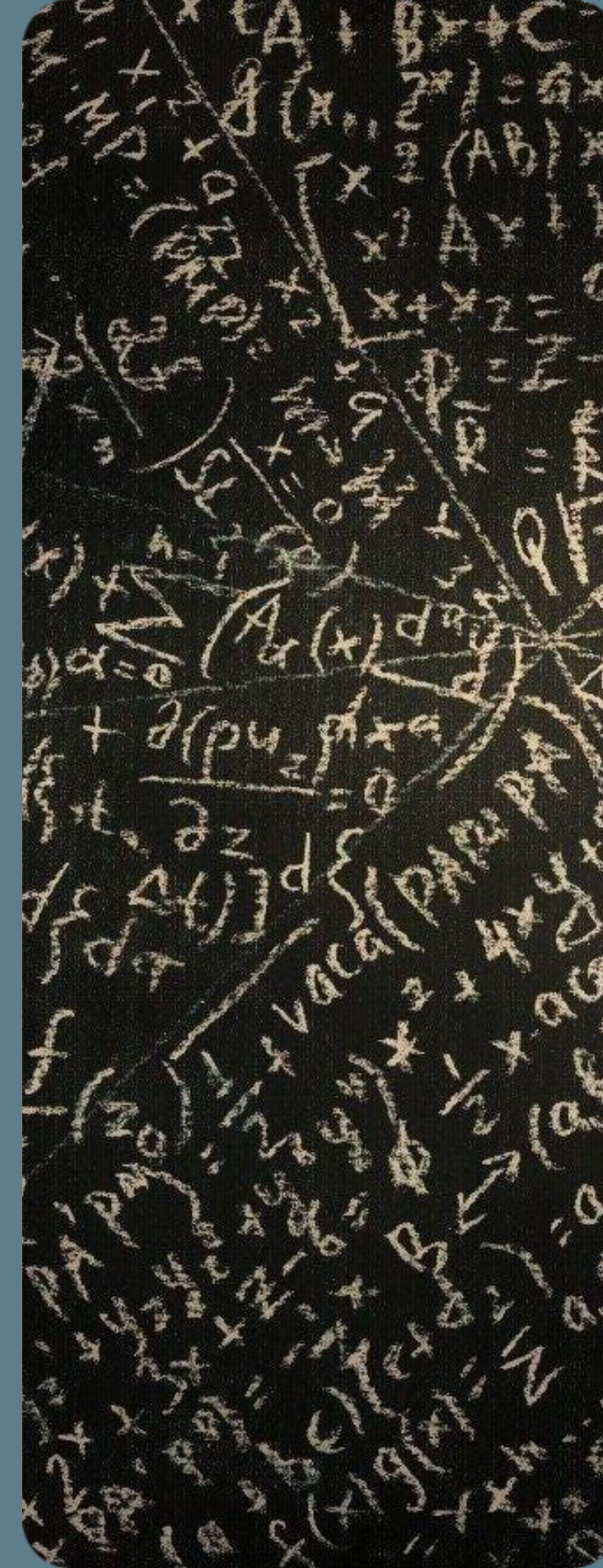
CSN2



CSN3



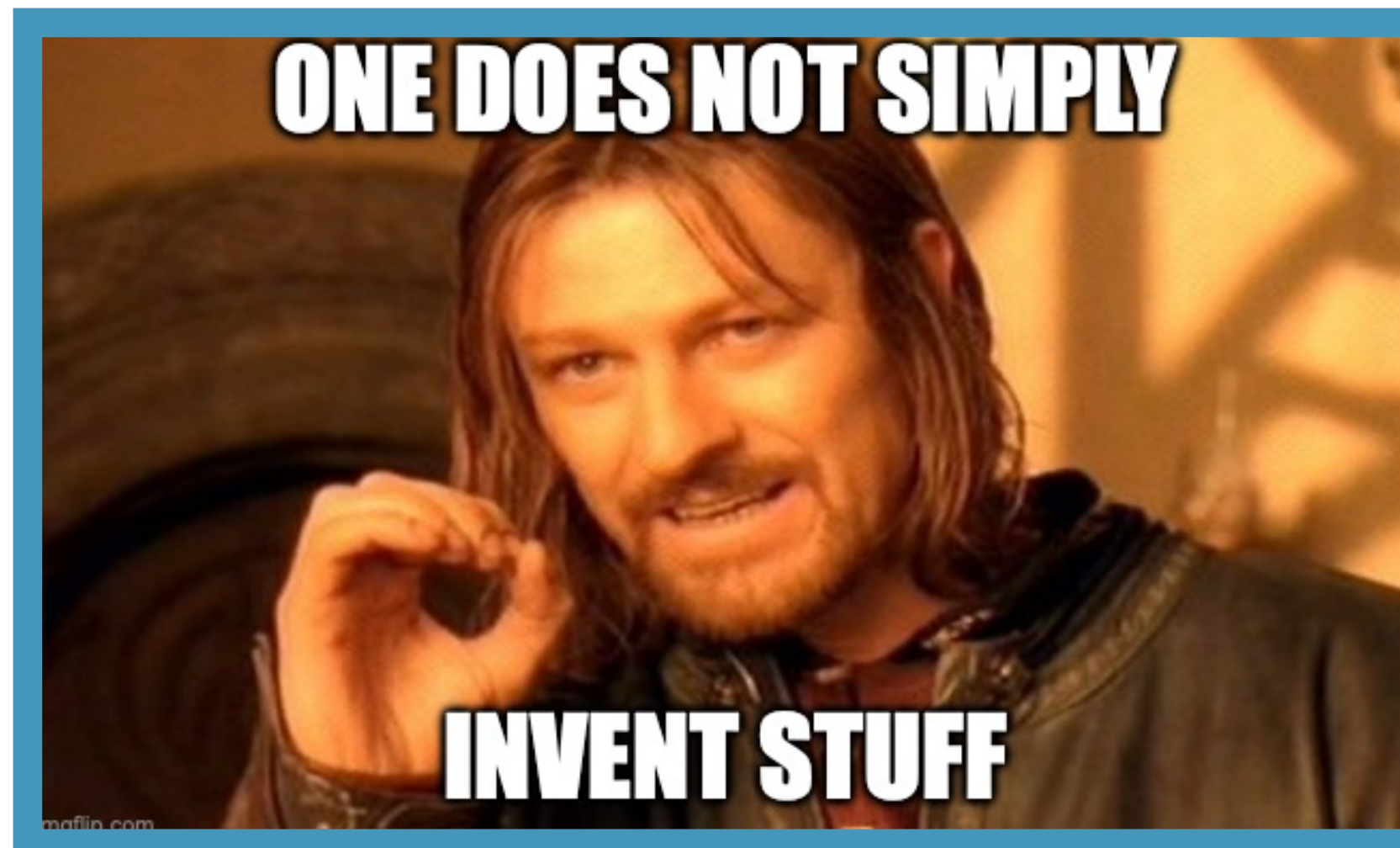
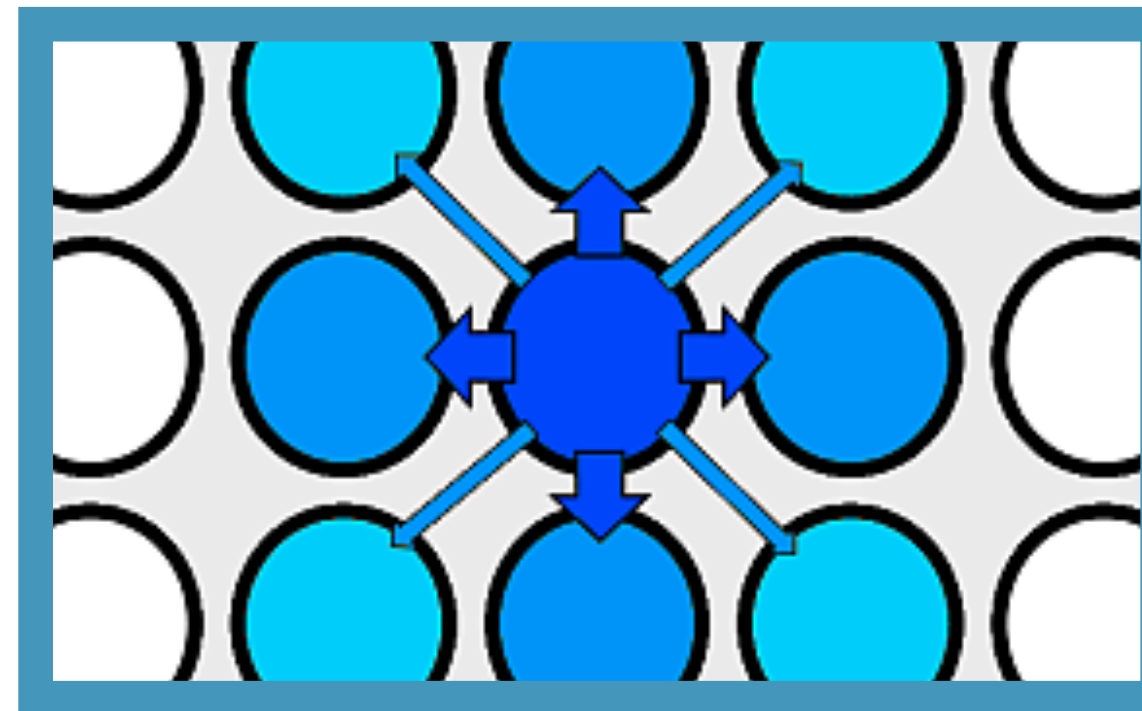
CSN4



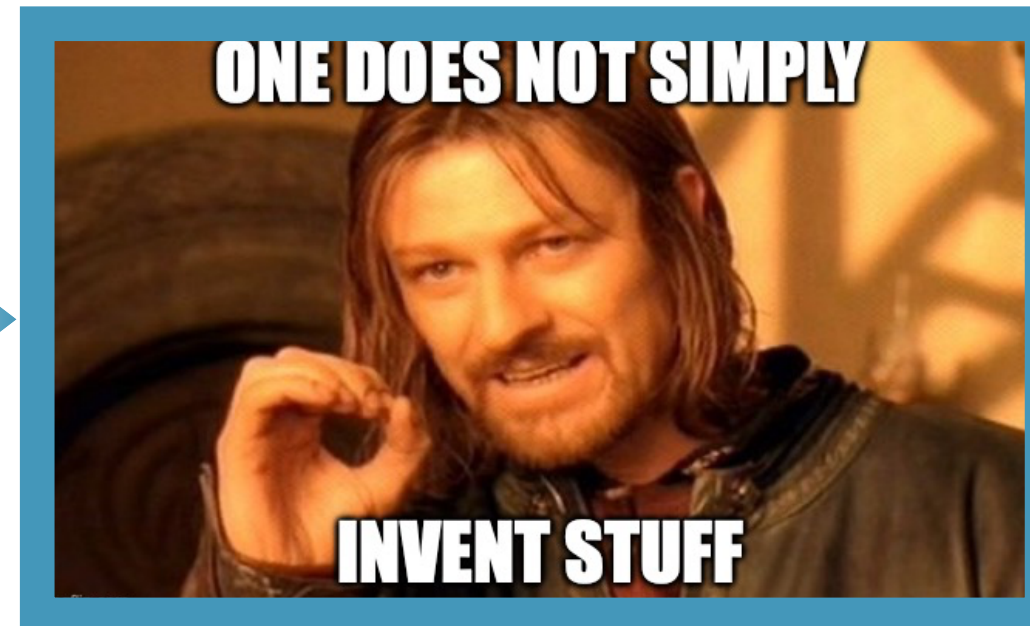
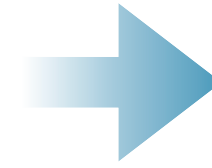
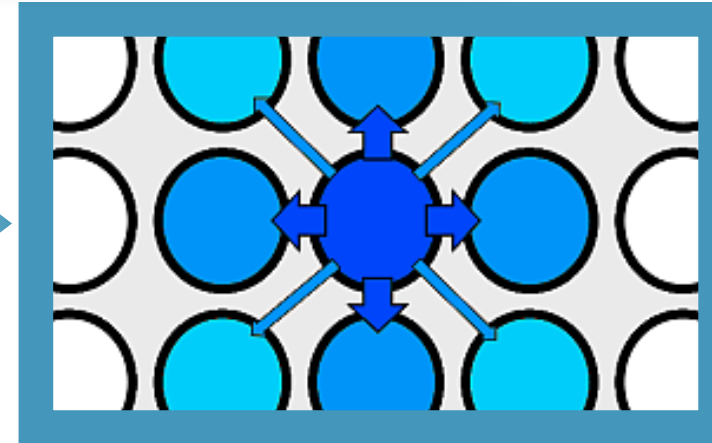
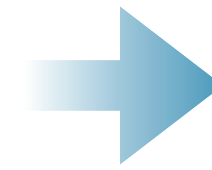
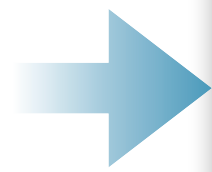
CSN5

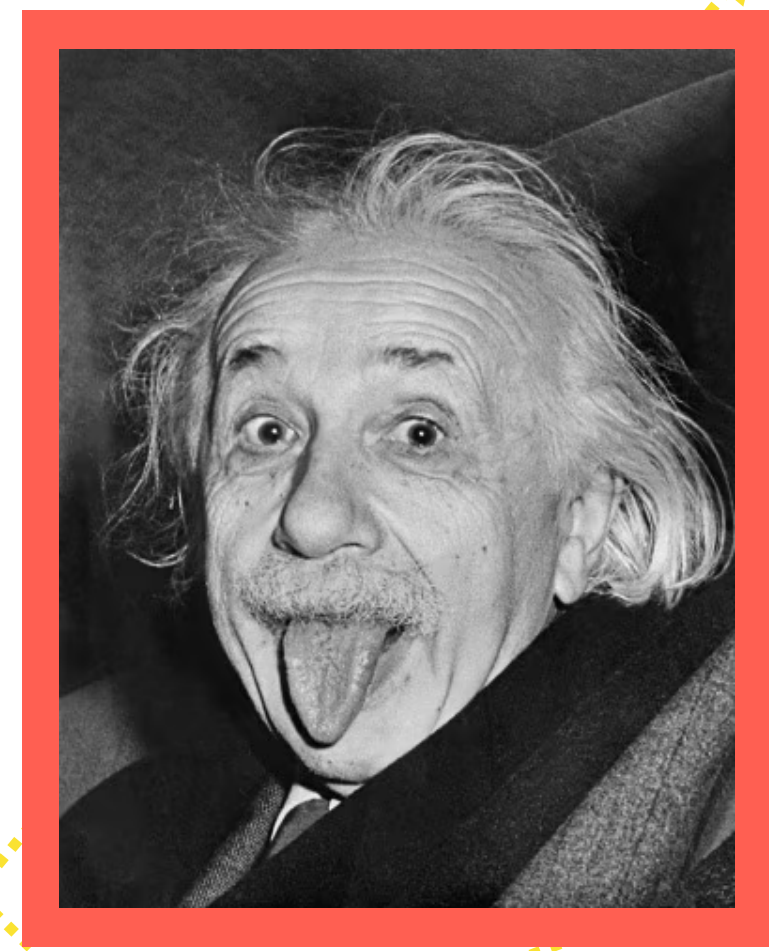
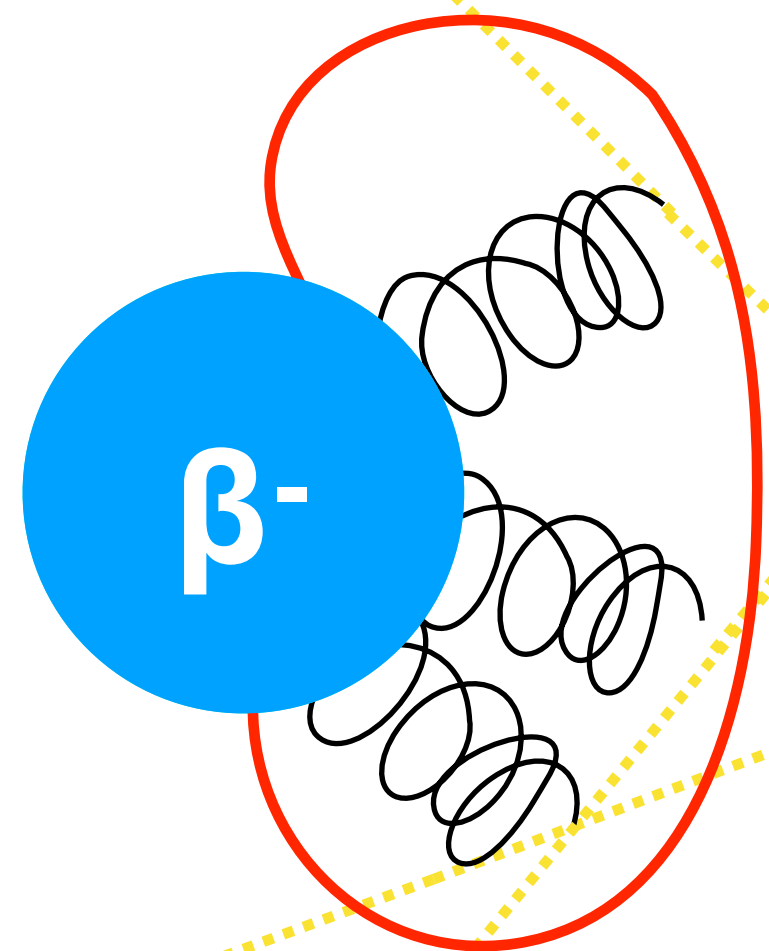


CSN5



CSN5

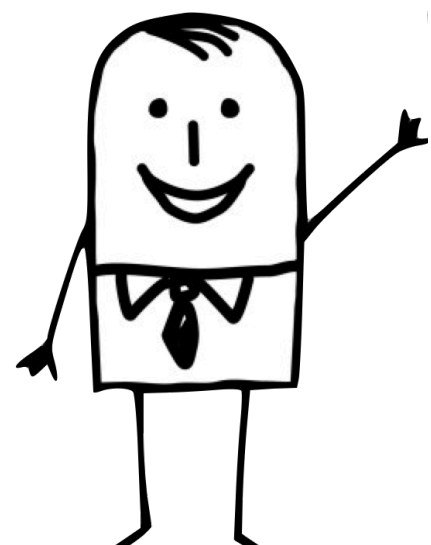




**Radio Guided Surgery
with β tracers**

2012

β^-



**Radio Guided Surgery
with β tracers**

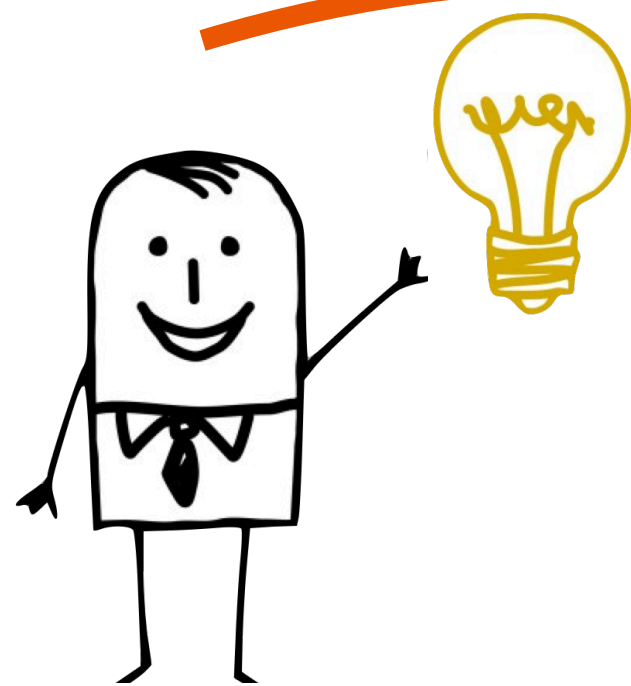
>50pts

2024



2012

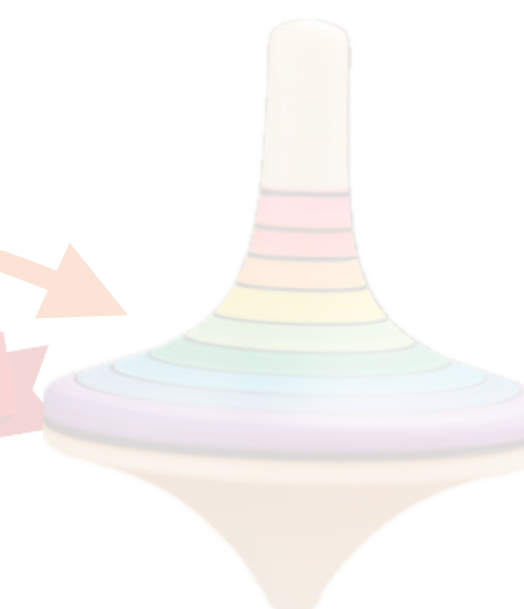
β^-



**Radio Guided Surgery
with β tracers**

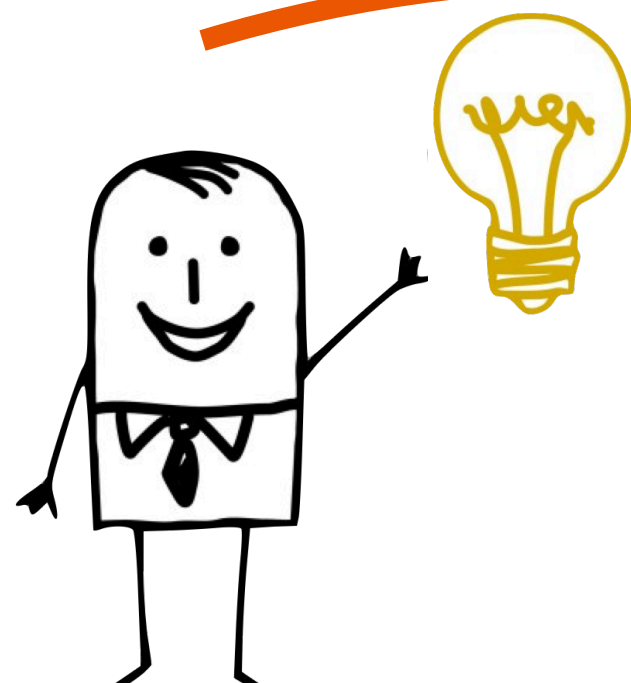
>50pts

2024



2012

β^-



Pursuing β^- RGS we
opened the way to
PET-RGS!

β^+



Radio Guided Surgery
with β tracers

>50pts

2024





CSN5



Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare
Sezione di Roma

