

# The PIENU Experiment

a sensitive probe in the search for new physics

Chloé Malbrunot

For the PIENU Collaboration

A. Aguilar-Arevalo<sup>11</sup>, M. Aoki<sup>4</sup>, M. Blecher<sup>9</sup>, D.I. Britton<sup>8</sup>, D. Bryman<sup>6</sup>, S. Chen<sup>10</sup>, J. Comfort<sup>1</sup>, M. Ding<sup>10</sup>, L. Doria<sup>5</sup>, P. Gumplinger<sup>5</sup>, A. Hussein<sup>7</sup>, Y. Igarashi<sup>3</sup>, N. Ito<sup>4</sup>, S. Kettell<sup>2</sup>, Y. Kuno<sup>4</sup>, L. Kurchaninov<sup>5</sup>, L. Littenberg<sup>2</sup>, C. Malbrunot<sup>6</sup>, T. Numao<sup>5</sup>, R. Poutissou<sup>5</sup>, A. Sher<sup>5</sup>, T. Sullivan<sup>6</sup>, D. Vavilov<sup>5</sup>, K. Yamada<sup>4</sup>, Y. Yoshida<sup>3</sup>

1. Arizona State University

2. Brookhaven National Laboratory

3. KEK

4. Osaka University

5. TRIUMF

6. University of British Columbia

7. University of Northern British Columbia

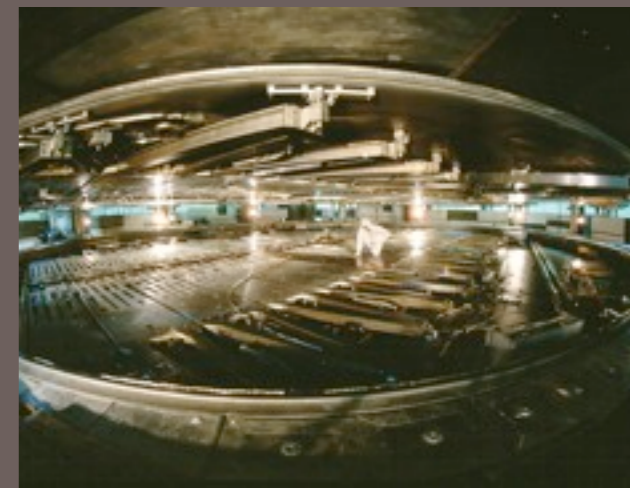
8. University of Glasgow

9. Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University

10. Tsinghua University

11. Instituto de Ciencias Nucleares

LLWI 2012

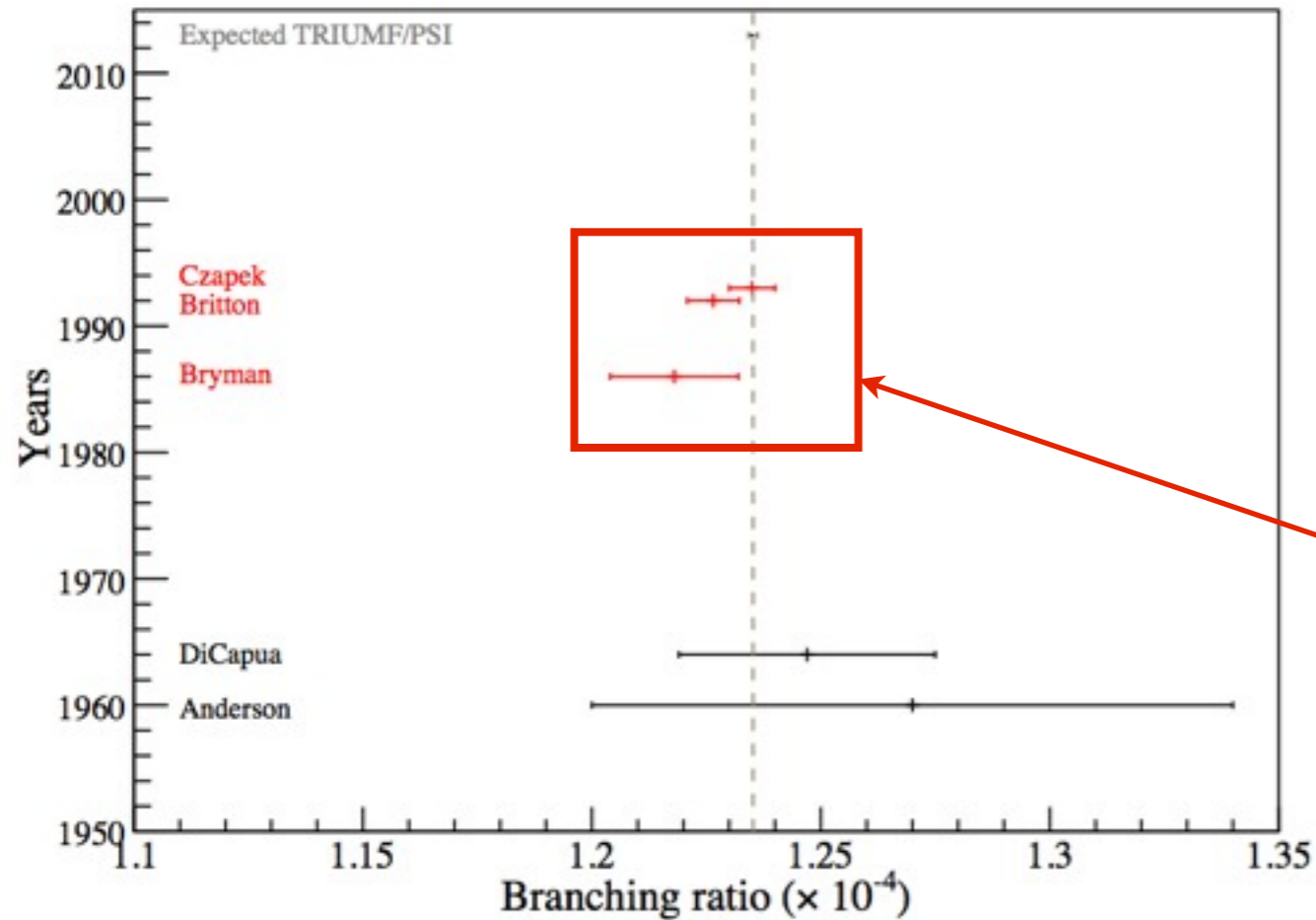
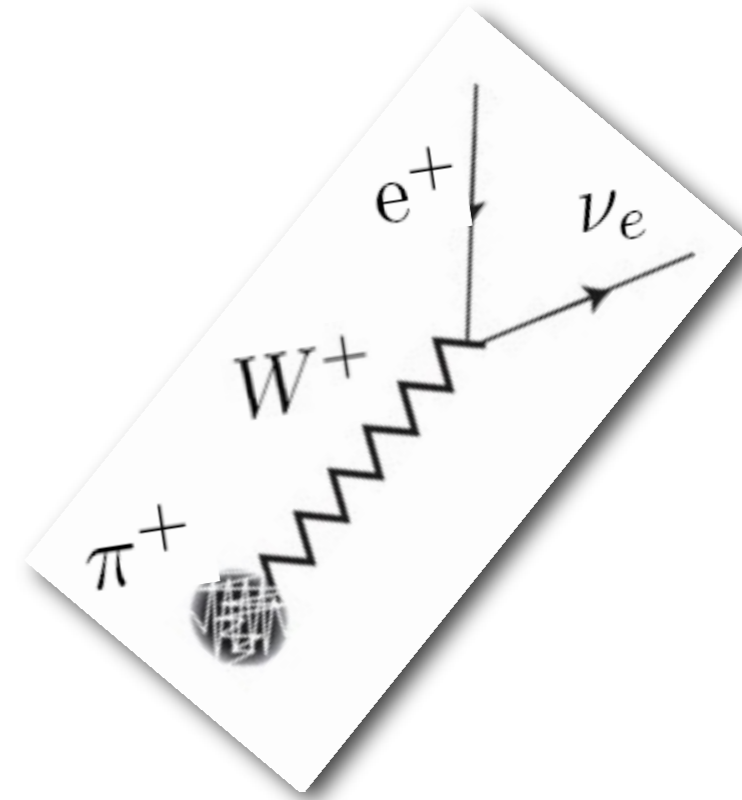


# A Precision Experiment

$$R_{e/\mu}^{SM} = \frac{\Gamma(\pi^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e + \pi^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \gamma)}{\Gamma(\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu + \pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu \gamma)} = 1.2352(2) \times 10^{-4}$$

V.Cirigliano, I.Rosell, Phys. Rev. Lett. 99, 231801 (2007)

W.J. Marciano, A. Sirlin, Phys. Rev. Lett. 71, 3629-3632 (1993)



Current world average : TRIUMF, PSI :

$$R_{e/\mu}^{exp} = 1.230 \pm 0.004 \times 10^{-4}$$

TRIUMF : D.Britton et al., Phys. Rev. Lett., 68:3000–3003, May 1992

PSI : G. Czapek et al. Phys.Rev.Lett.70:17-20,1993

**Factor 20 difference between theoretical and experiment precision → window for BSM physics**

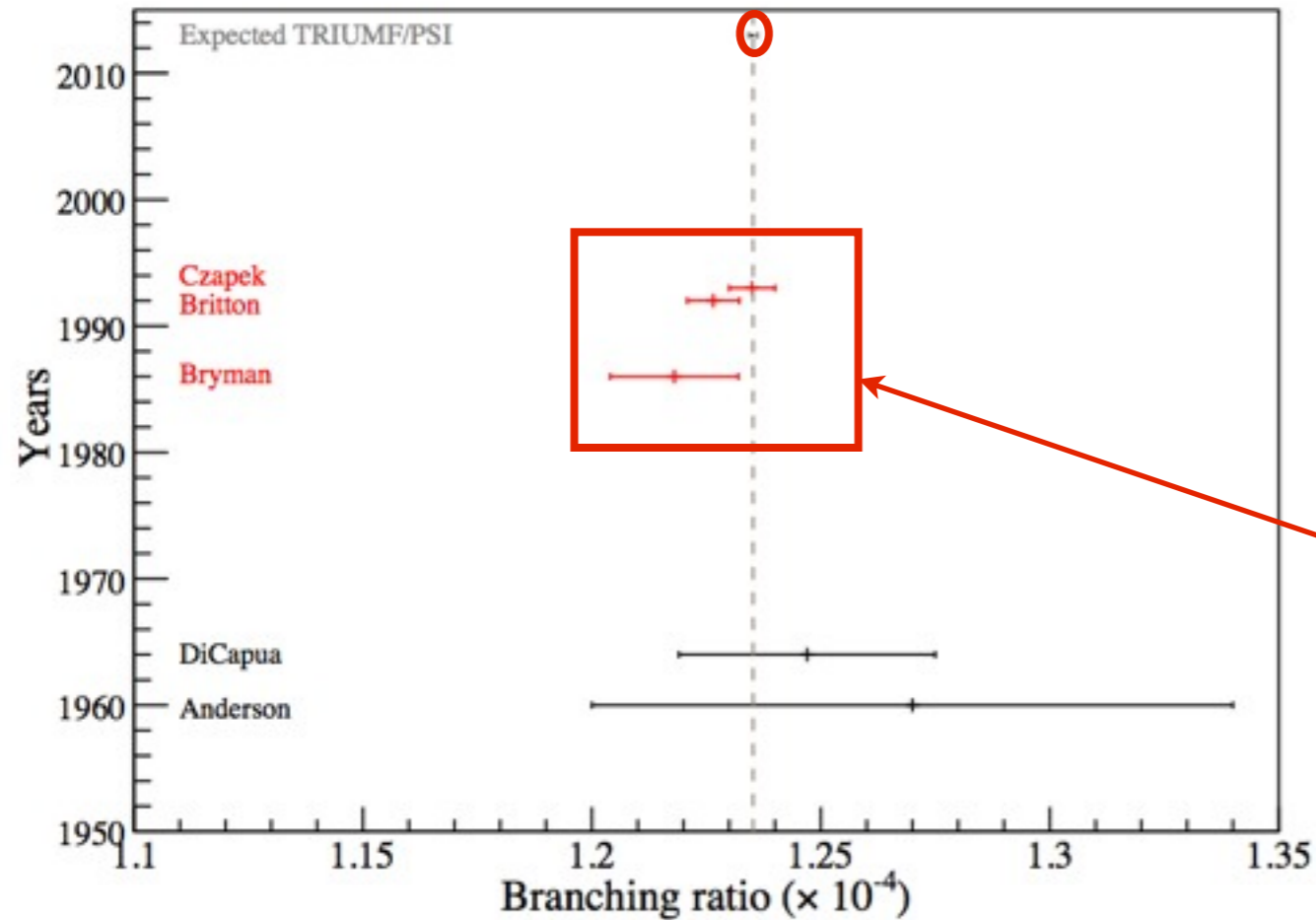
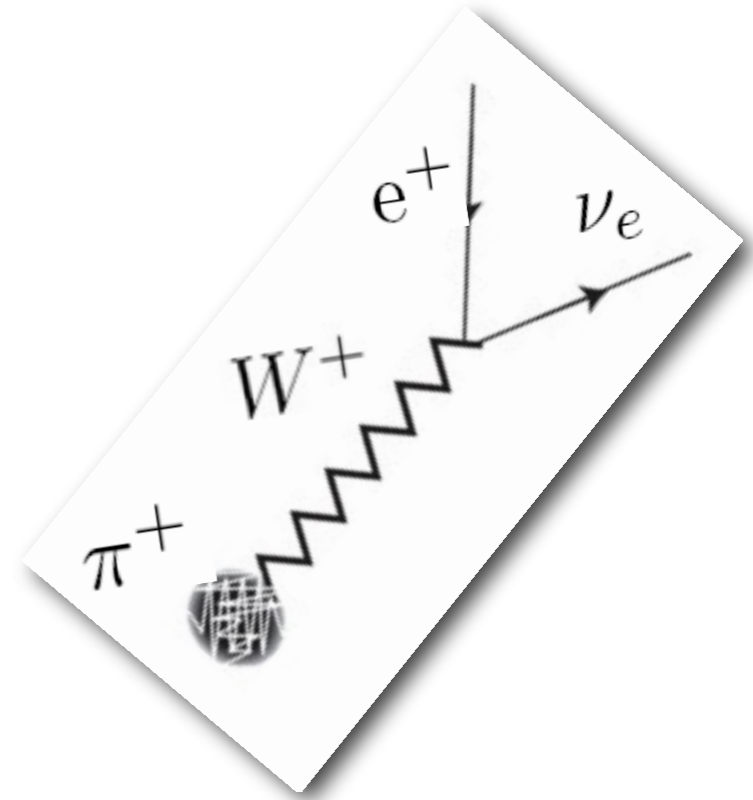
**PIENU goal : improvement x5 → precision < 0.1% on the BR**

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# BSM search / Universality test

$$\Gamma_{\pi \rightarrow l + \nu_l} = G^2 \frac{m_{\pi^+}^2 f_{\pi^+}^2 + m_l^2}{8\pi} \left(1 - \frac{m_l^2}{m_{\pi^+}^2}\right)^2 [1 + RC] \quad ; \quad \frac{G}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{g_l^2}{8M_{W^+}}$$

$$1 - \frac{R_{e/\mu}^{New}}{R_{e/\mu}^{SM}} \sim \mp \frac{\sqrt{2}\pi}{G_\mu} \frac{1}{\Lambda_{eP}^2} \frac{m_\pi^2}{m_e(m_d + m_u)}$$

$$\sim \left(\frac{1\text{TeV}}{\Lambda_{eP}}\right)^2 \times 10^3$$

Decay mode	$(g_\mu/g_e)^2$
$\tau \rightarrow \mu/\tau \rightarrow e^*$	$1.0018 \pm 0.0014$
$\pi \rightarrow \mu/\pi \rightarrow e^*$	$1.0021 \pm 0.0016$
$K \rightarrow \mu/K \rightarrow e$	$0.9960 \pm 0.005$
$K \rightarrow \pi\mu/K \rightarrow \pi e$	$1.002 \pm 0.002$
$W \rightarrow \mu/W \rightarrow e$	$0.997 \pm 0.010$

\*  $\tau$  and  $\pi$  are complementary

Pion branching ratio is **one of the most precise** test of CC lepton universality

**0.1% measurement in the BR  $\rightarrow$  0.05% in  $g_e/g_\mu$**

**0.1% measurement  $\rightarrow \Lambda_{eP} \sim 1000$  TeV**

- Massive  $\nu$ 's  
R.E Schrock Phys.Rev.D 24, 5 (1981)
- Scalar coupling  
B.A. Campbell & David W. Maybury Nucl. Phys. B, 709 419-439 (2005)
- R-Parity violation SUSY  
M. J. Ramsey-Musolf, S. Su & S.Tulin, Phys. Rev. D 76, 095017 (2007)
- ...

- Real deviation from the SM  $\rightarrow$  new physics observation
- Agreement with SM  $\rightarrow$  constraints

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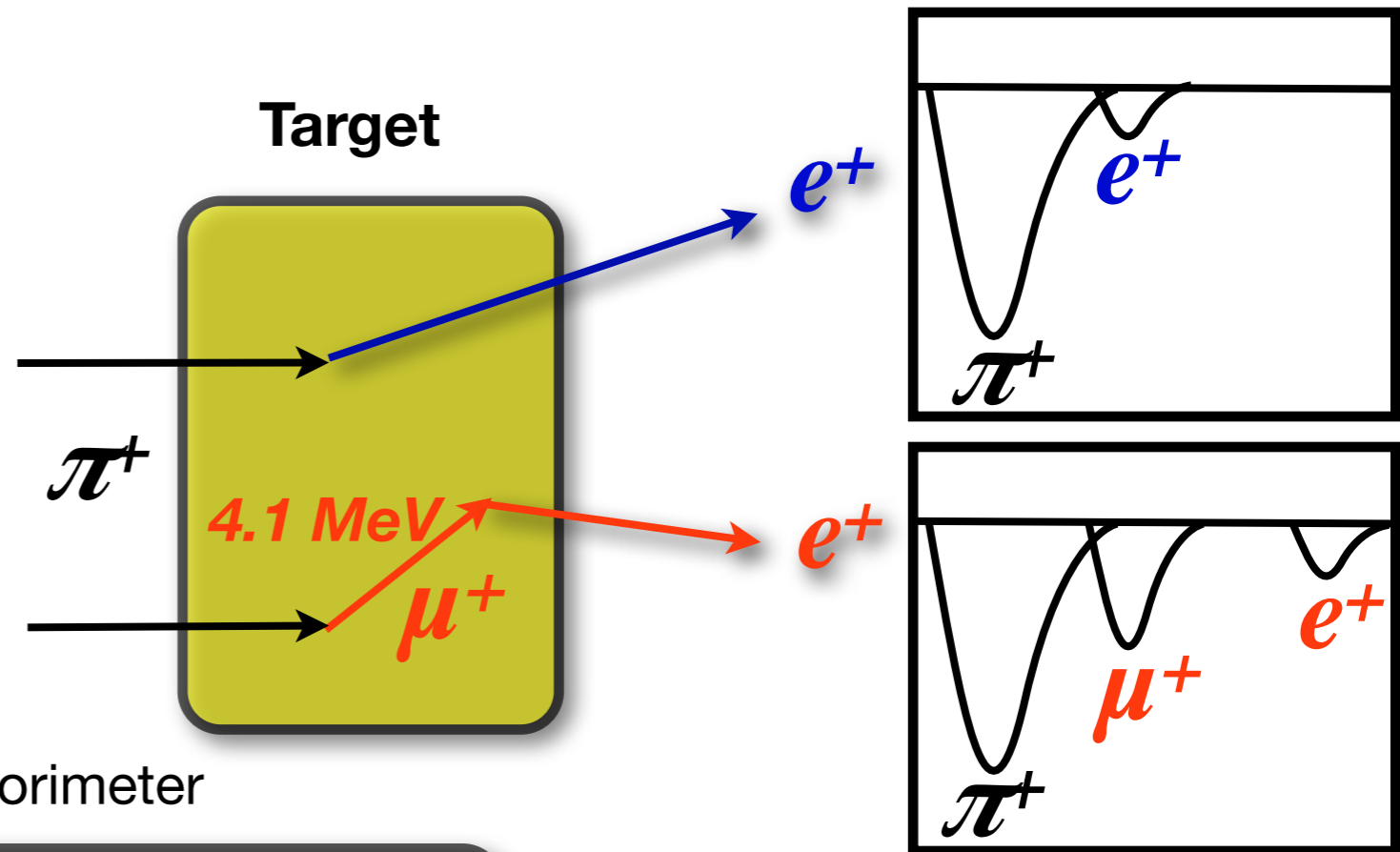
# Experimental Technique

## Experimental Method

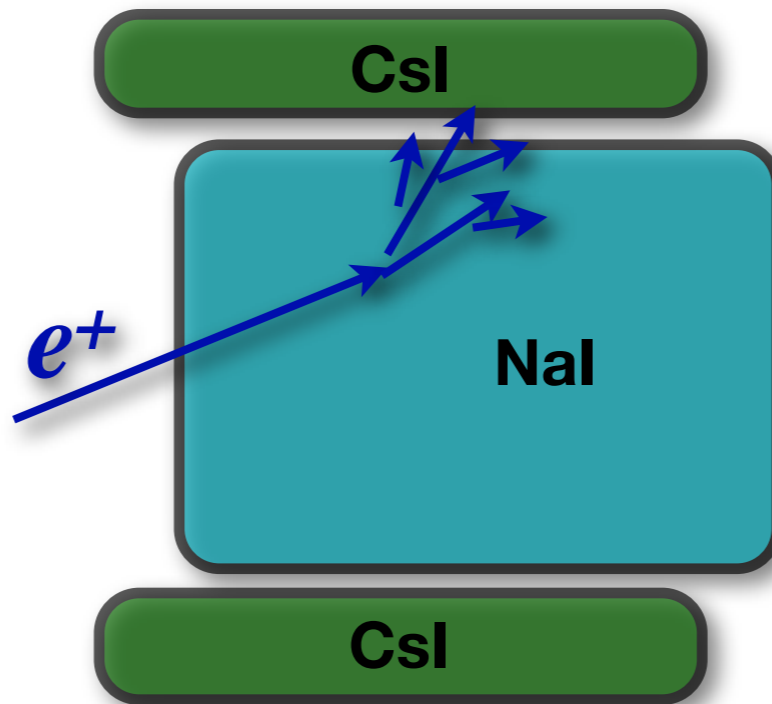
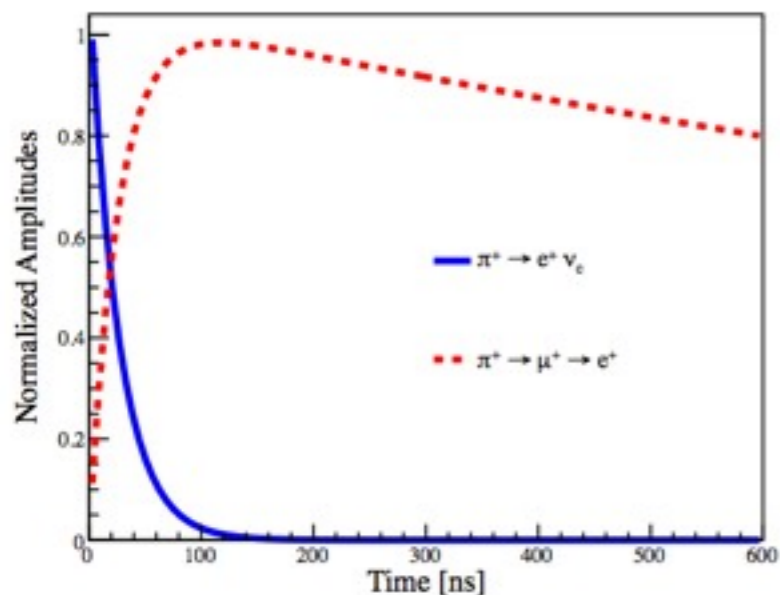
- Stop pions in a target scintillator
- Yield measurement

## Characteristics

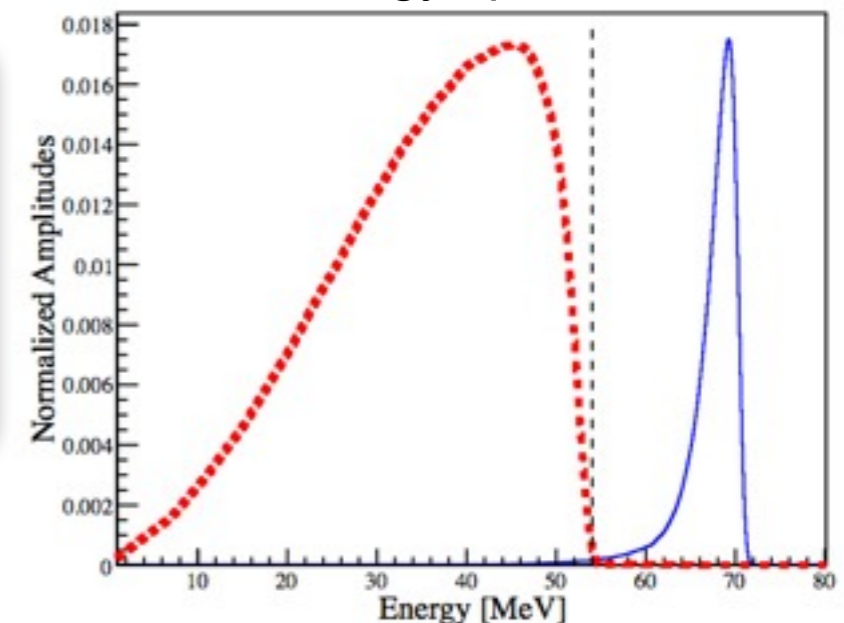
- High purity pion beam
- High speed pulse digitization
- Suppression of decays-in-flight (DIF)
- Measurement of response function of calorimeter



Time spectrum



Energy spectrum



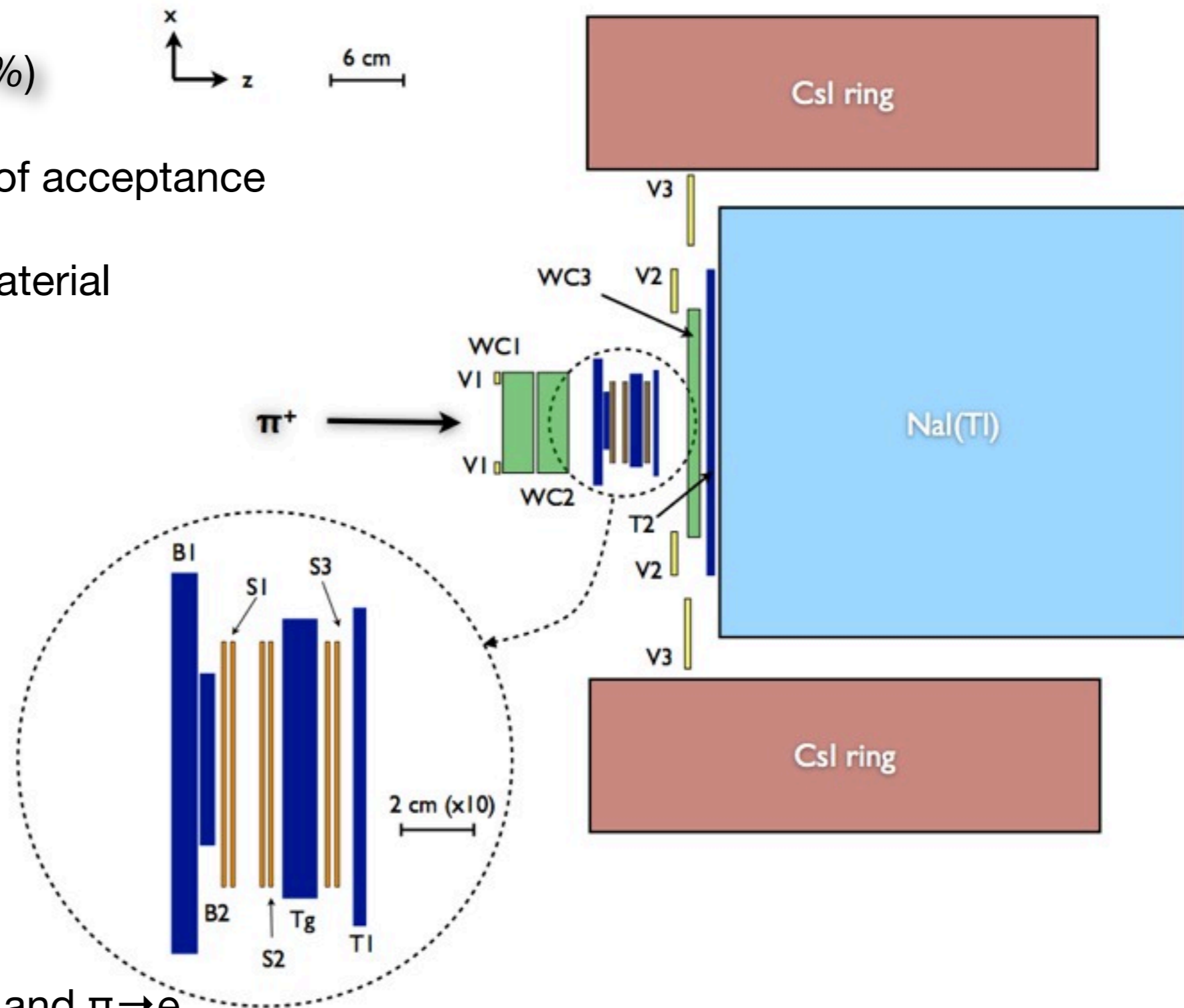
# The PIENU detector

- Large solid angle ( $\Omega/4\pi = 20\%$ )
- Good statistics
- Minimal energy dependence of acceptance
- Contain shower leakage (Csl)
- Decay positron travels few material

- Silicon near target & WC
- Good tracking
- Detection of Decay In Flight

- High resolution calorimeter
- NaI : 1%  $\sigma$  at 70 MeV

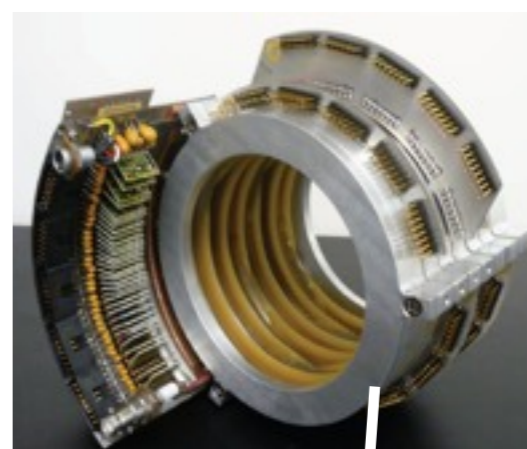
- Use of fast digitizers
- 500 MHz
- separation between  $\pi \rightarrow \mu \rightarrow e$  and  $\pi \rightarrow e$



# The PIENU detector (cont'd)

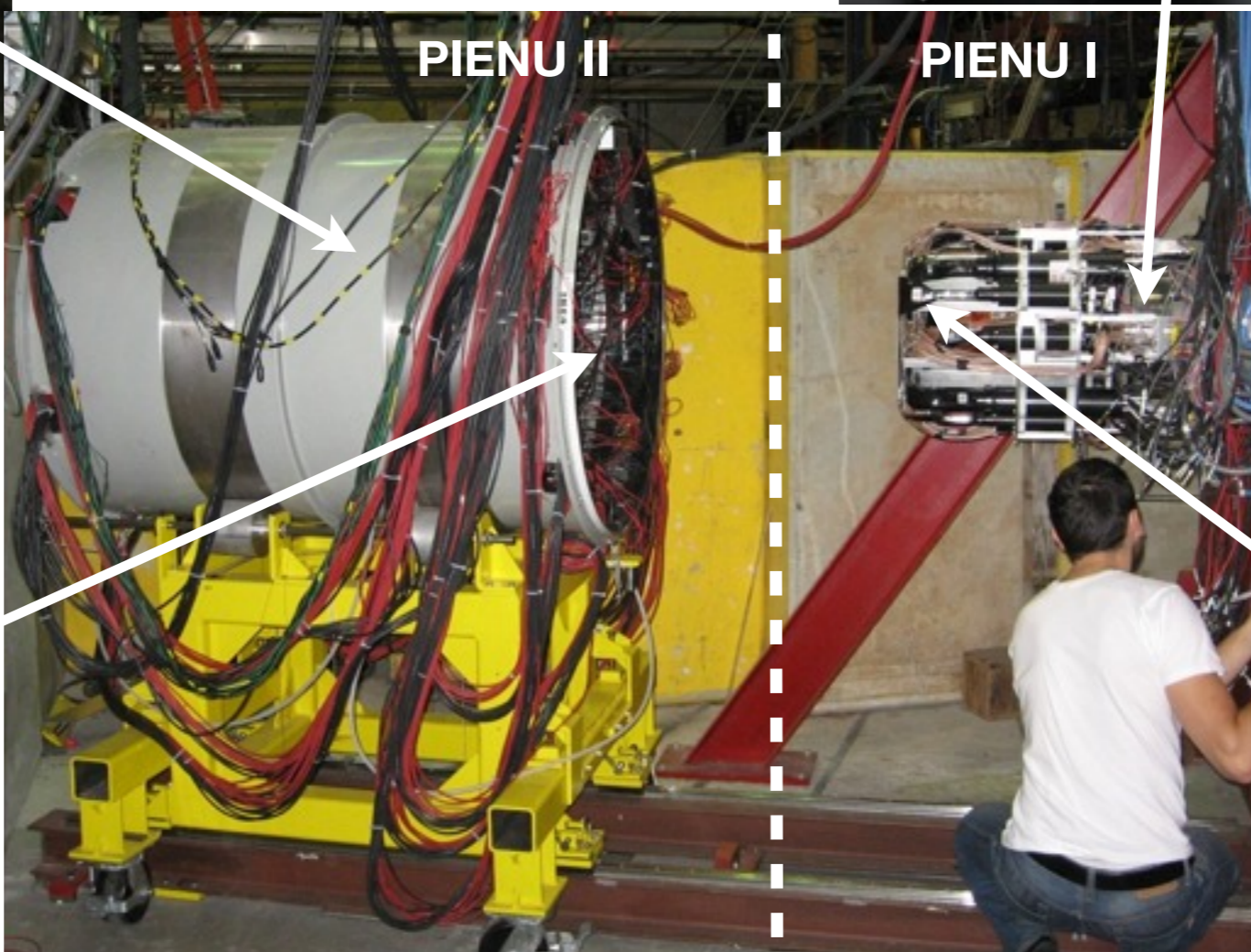
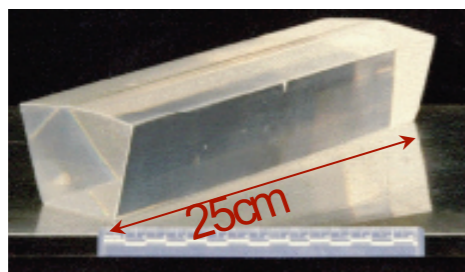


Monolithic NaI(Tl) crystal surrounded by 97 pure CsI crystals



Beam Wire Chamber

CsI crystal

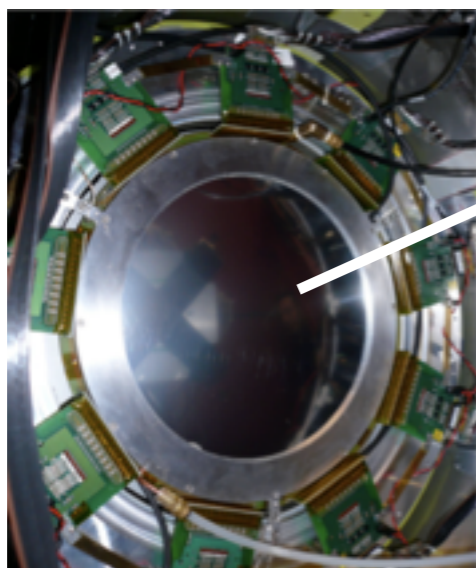


PIENU II

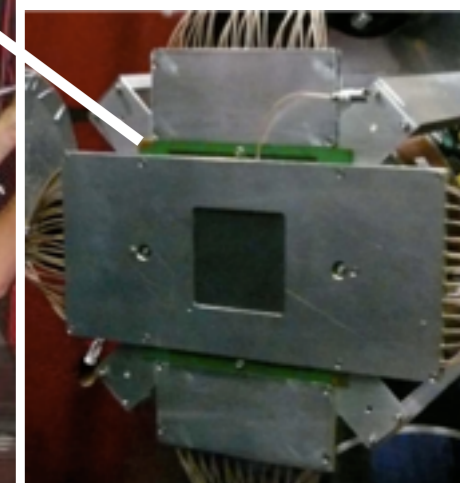
PIENU I

$\pi^+$

Acceptance Wire Chamber



Silicon Trackers



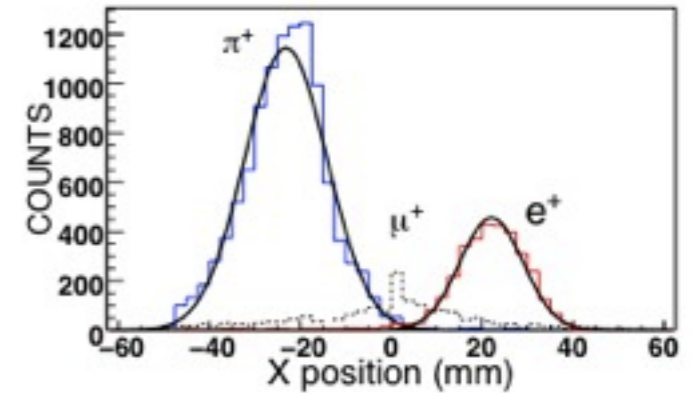
PIENU II is movable and detachable from PIENU I for line shape measurement at various  $e^+$  entrance angles



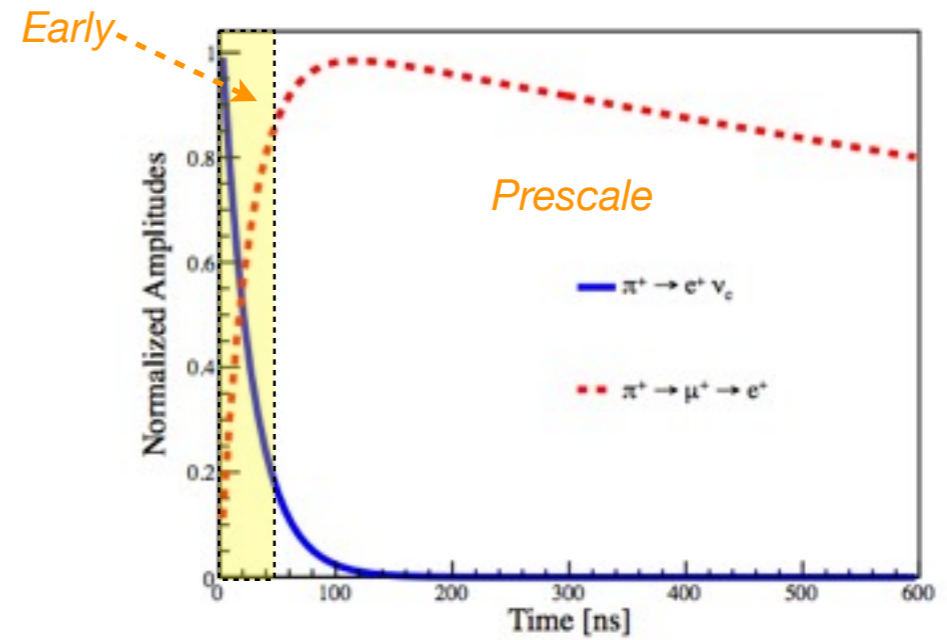
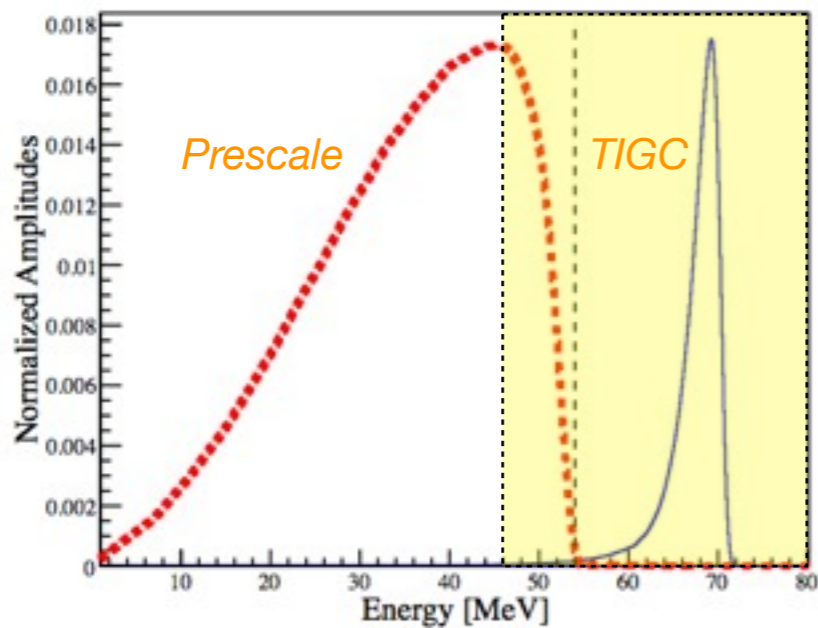
# Data taking conditions

- 50 kHz pion stop in Target with 2% positrons and 10% muons
- Triggers : 600 Hz

▶  $\pi \rightarrow e \nu$  :  $E_{\text{NaI+CsI}} > 46 \text{ MeV}$   
Early (4-40 ns)



A. Aguilar-Arevalo et al., Nucl. Instr. and Meth. A 609 (2009)



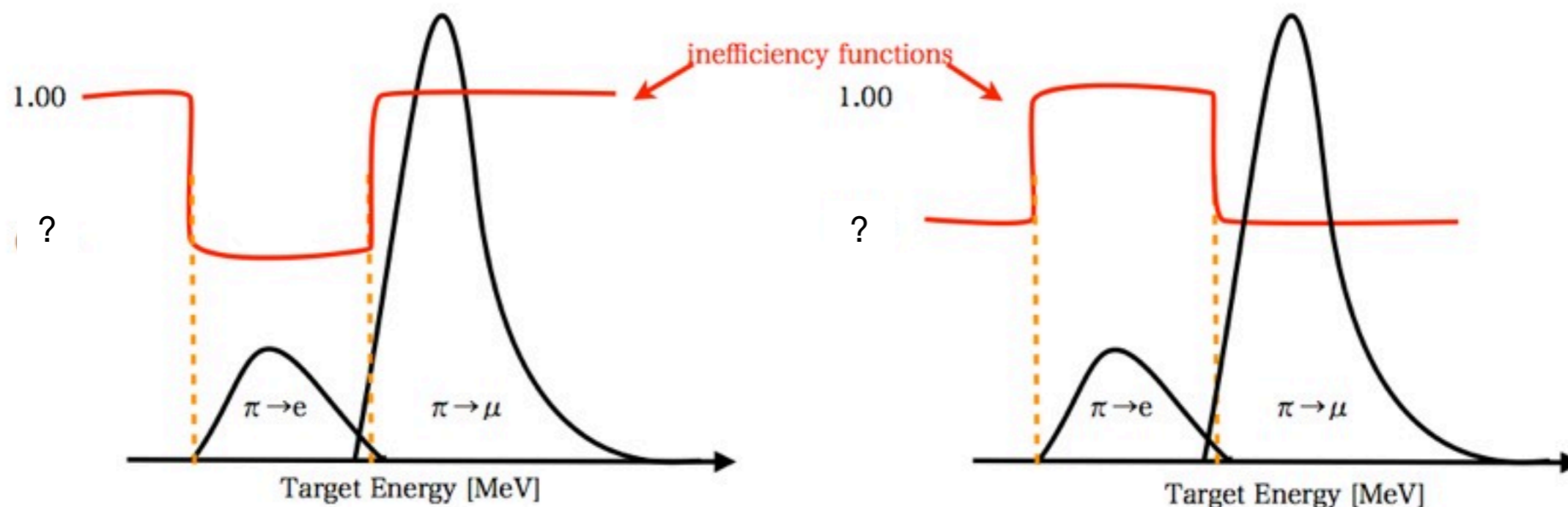
Inspection period -300ns to 500ns

- ▶  $\pi \rightarrow \mu \rightarrow e$  : prescaled (1/16)
- ▶ monitor and calibration triggers:  $e^+$  beam, Xe, cosmic-ray

# Blind Analysis

- 👁️ Extraction of a “raw branching ratio” from the fit of the time spectra
- 👁️ Corrections applied to the “raw branching ratio”
  - ▶ Muon decay-in-flight correction
  - ▶ Tail correction
  - ▶ Acceptance correction

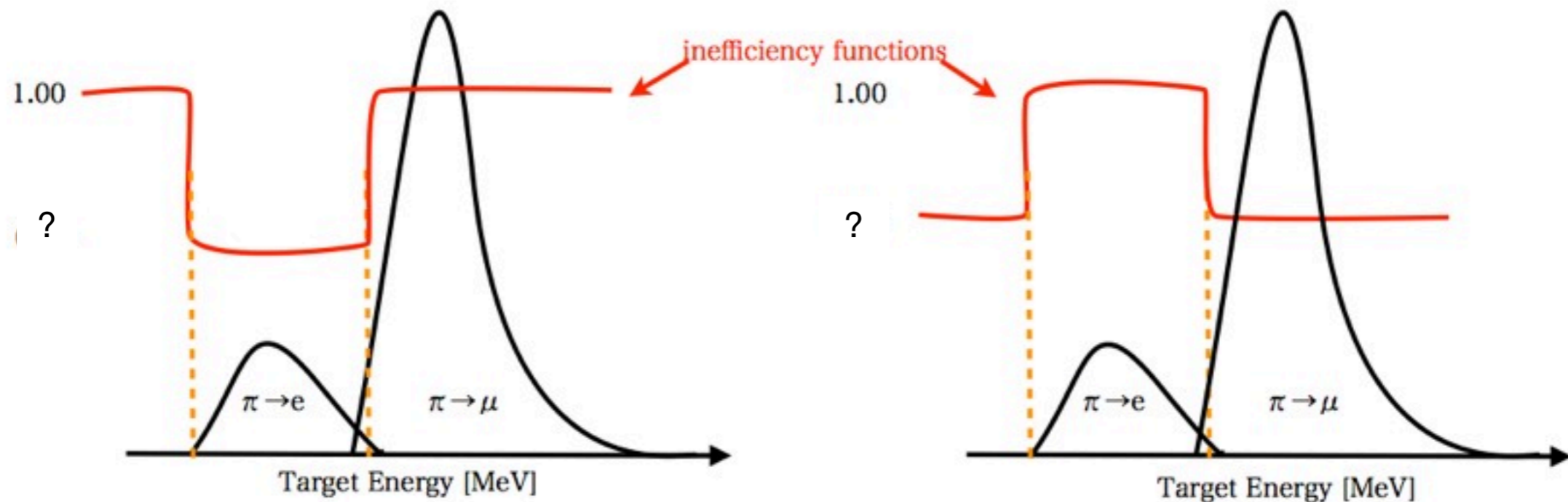
Raw Branching ratio **is blinded**



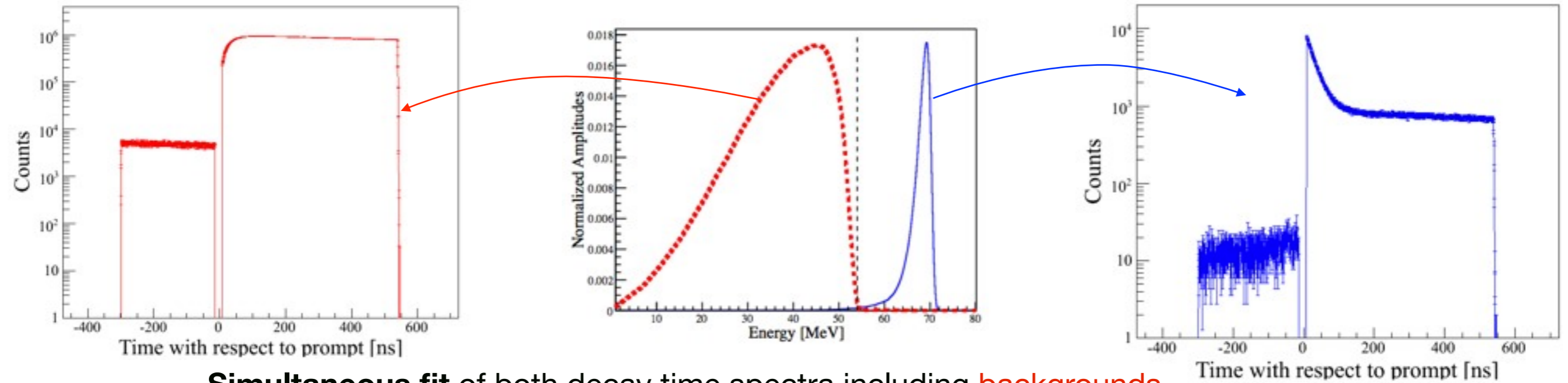
# Blind Analysis

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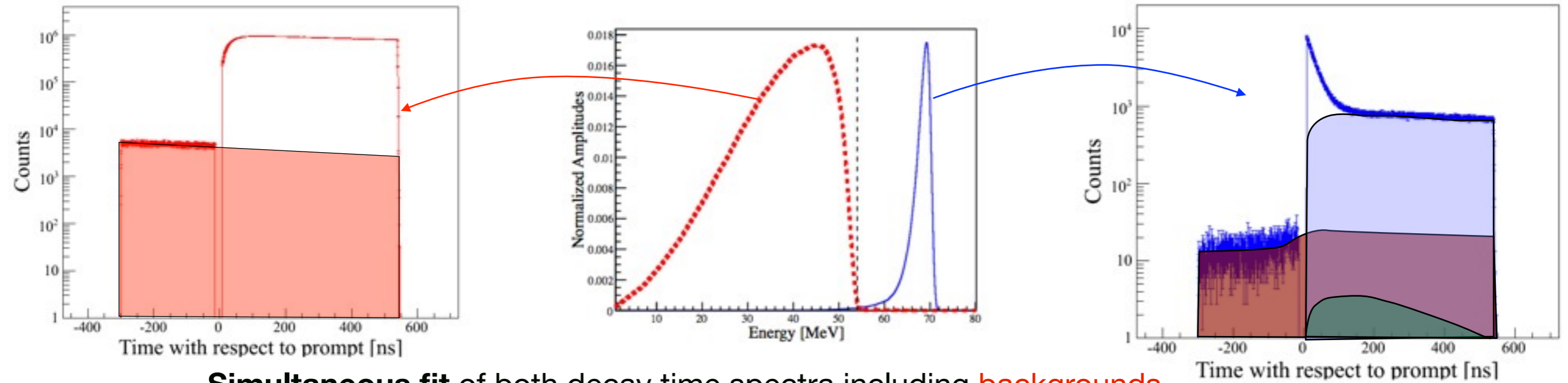


# Raw branching ratio estimation

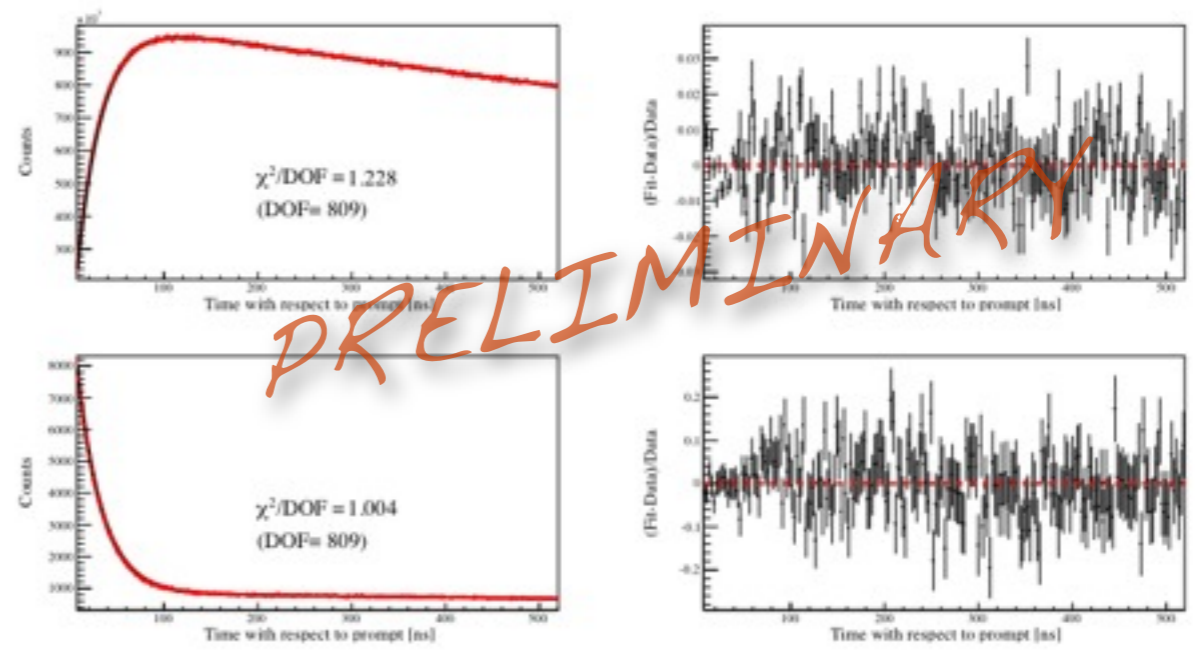


Simultaneous fit of both decay time spectra including backgrounds  
Common  $\chi^2$

# Raw branching ratio estimation

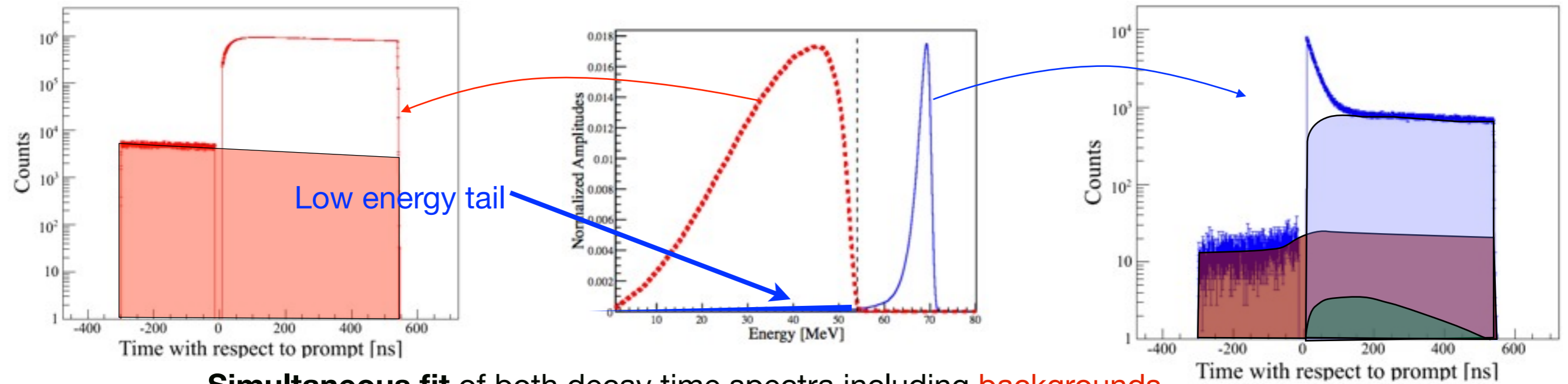


Simultaneous fit of both decay time spectra including **backgrounds**  
 Common  $\chi^2$



PRELIMINARY

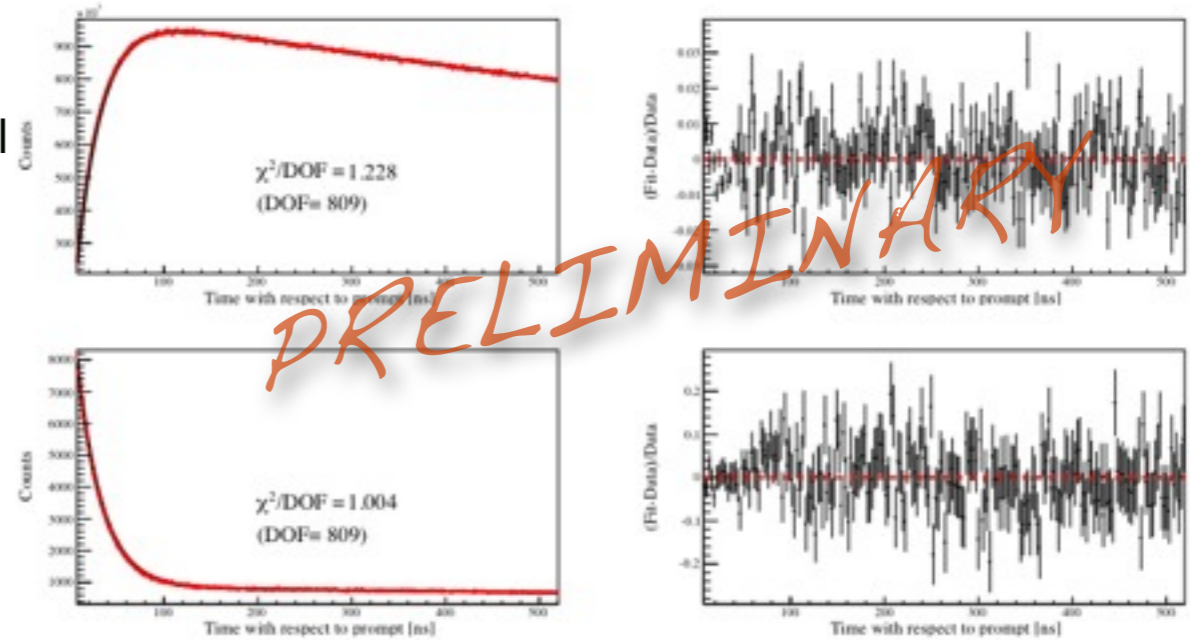
# Raw branching ratio estimation



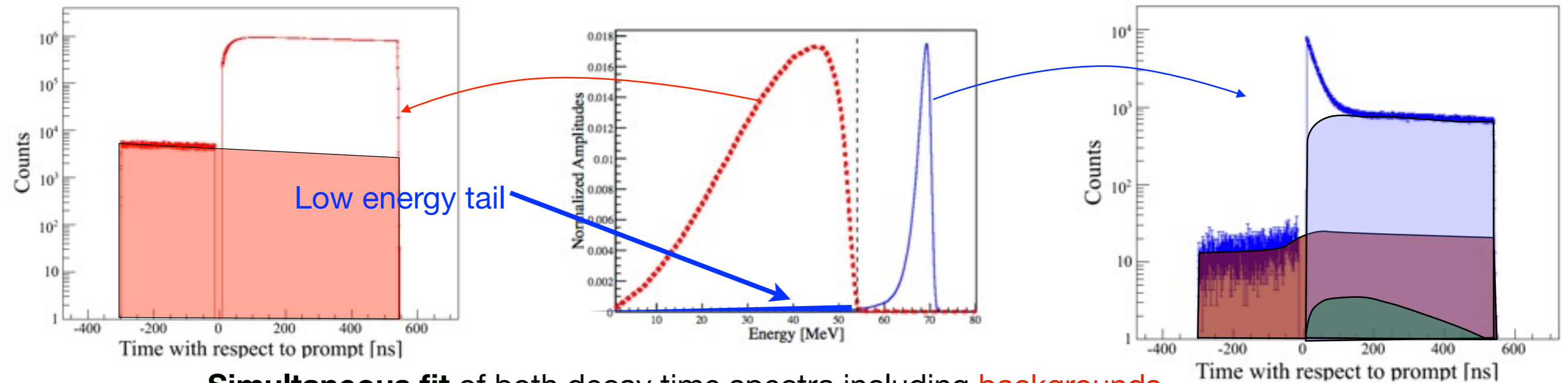
Simultaneous fit of both decay time spectra including **backgrounds**  
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“High energy region” fit does not include the Low energy  $\pi \rightarrow e \nu$  tail

➔ Largest correction: **empirical estimation**



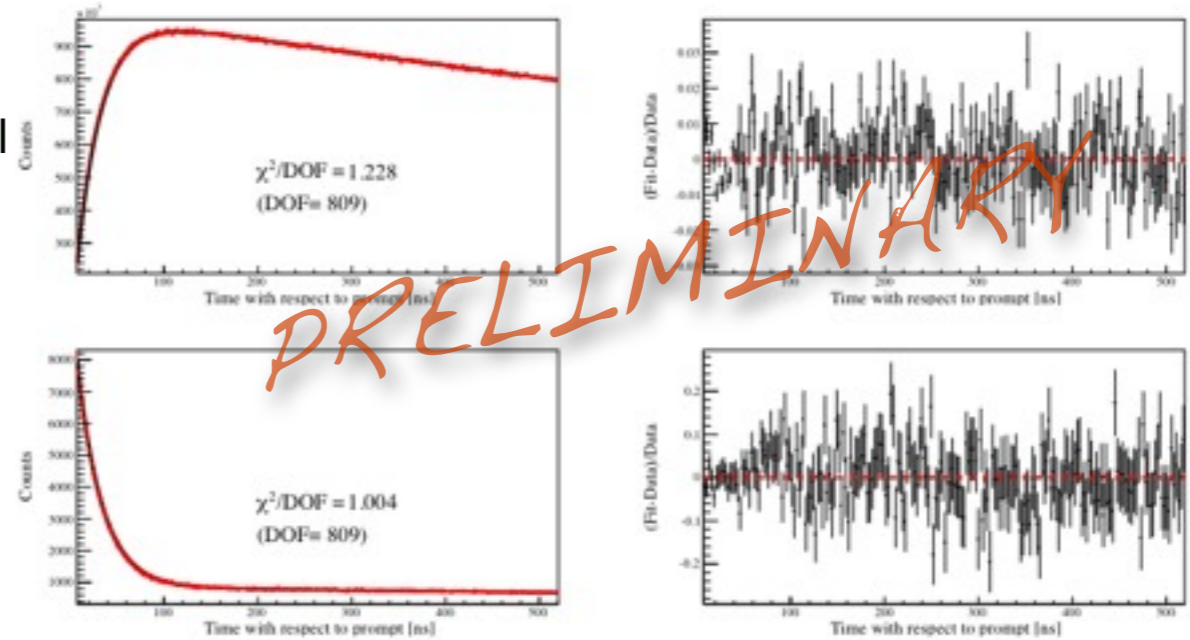
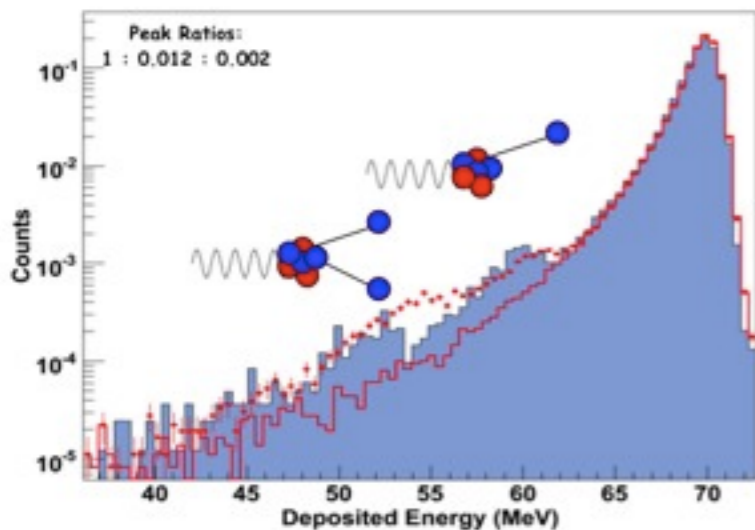
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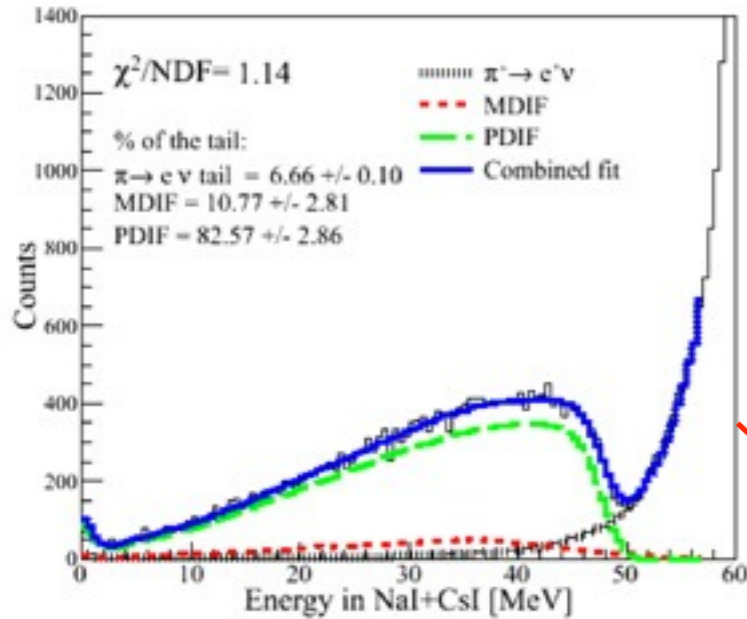


- Good **Nal resolution** and addition of **CsI information** reduces the low energy tail
- The presence of **photo-nuclear** reactions in the Nal slightly affects the tail

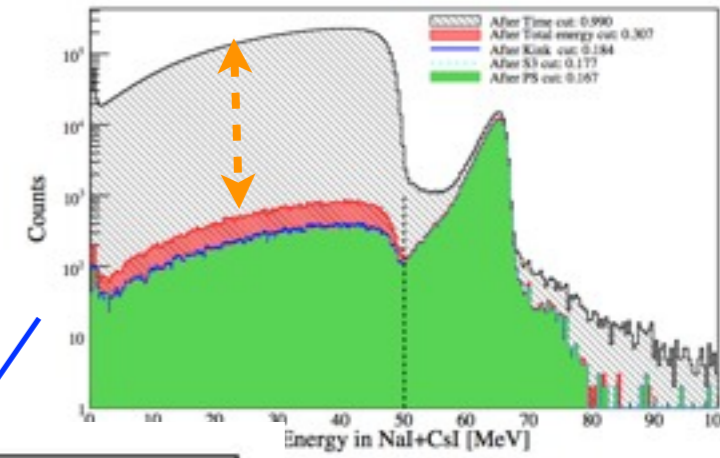
A. Aguilar-Arevalo et al., Nucl. Instr. and Meth. A (2010)

# Tail correction

Correction for MDIF

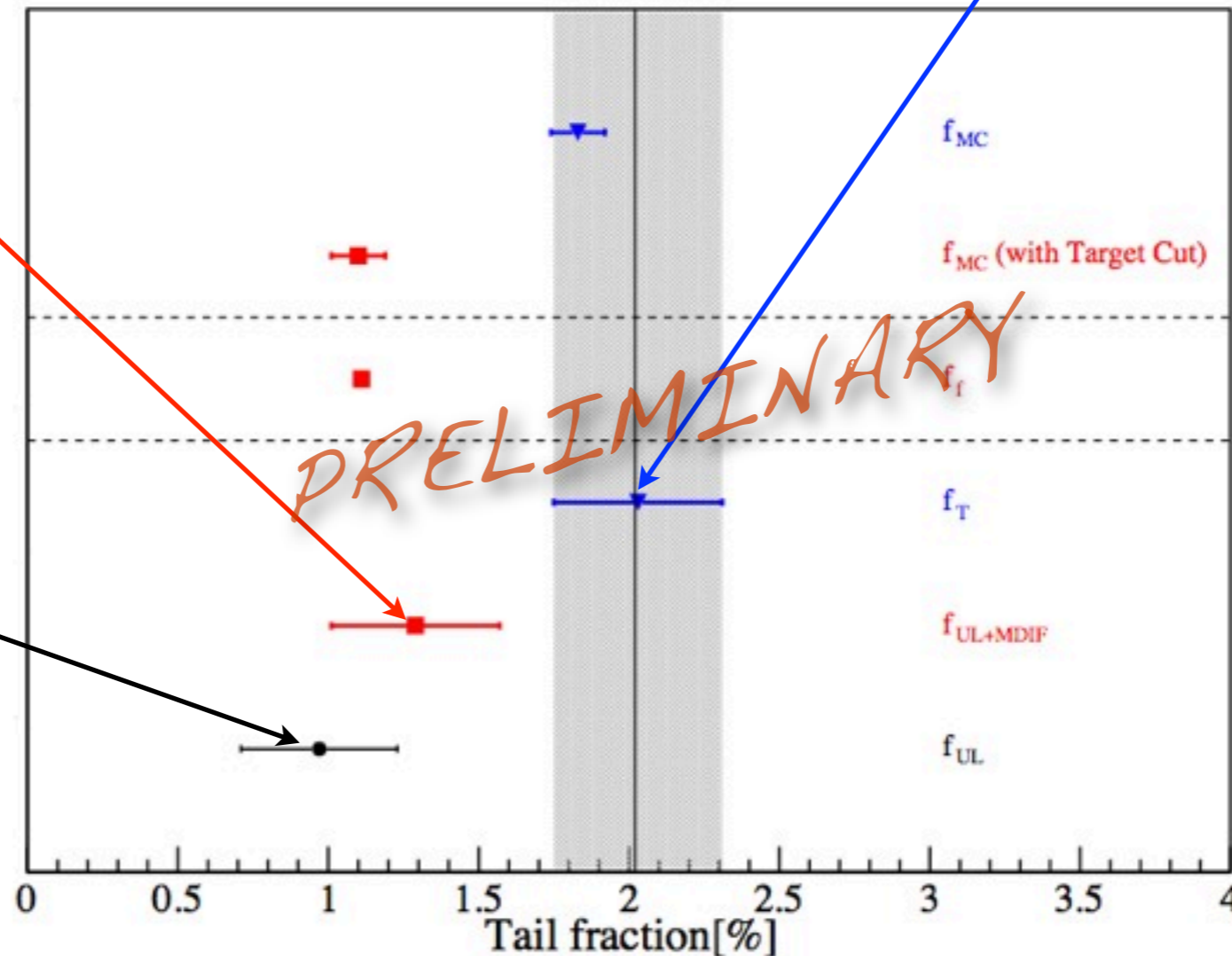
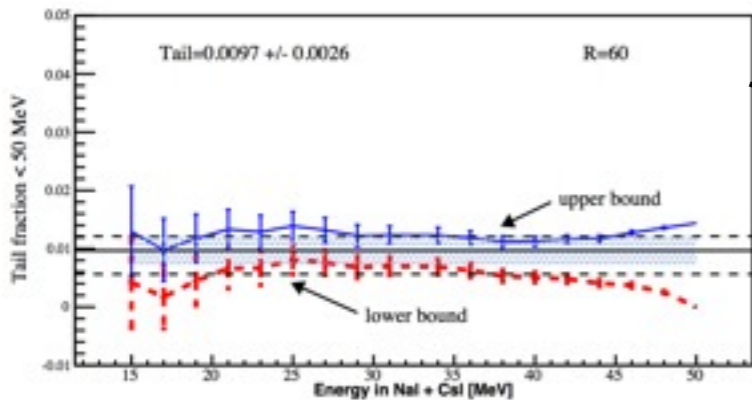


Correction for energy dependent Target cut



$$f_T = (2.03 \pm 0.28)\%$$

Upper-Lower limit

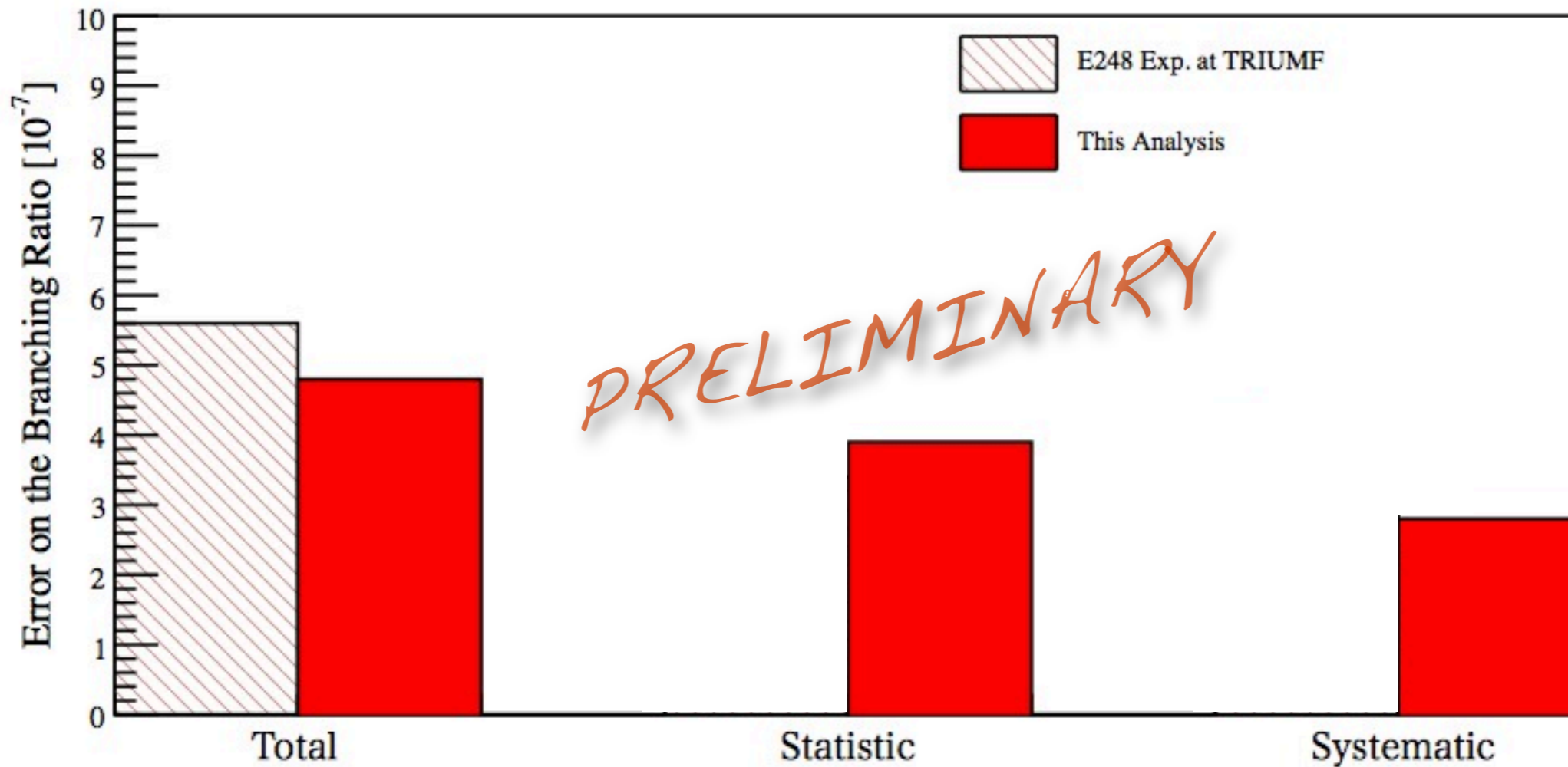




Branching Ratio still **blinded**

Uncertainty dominated by statistics

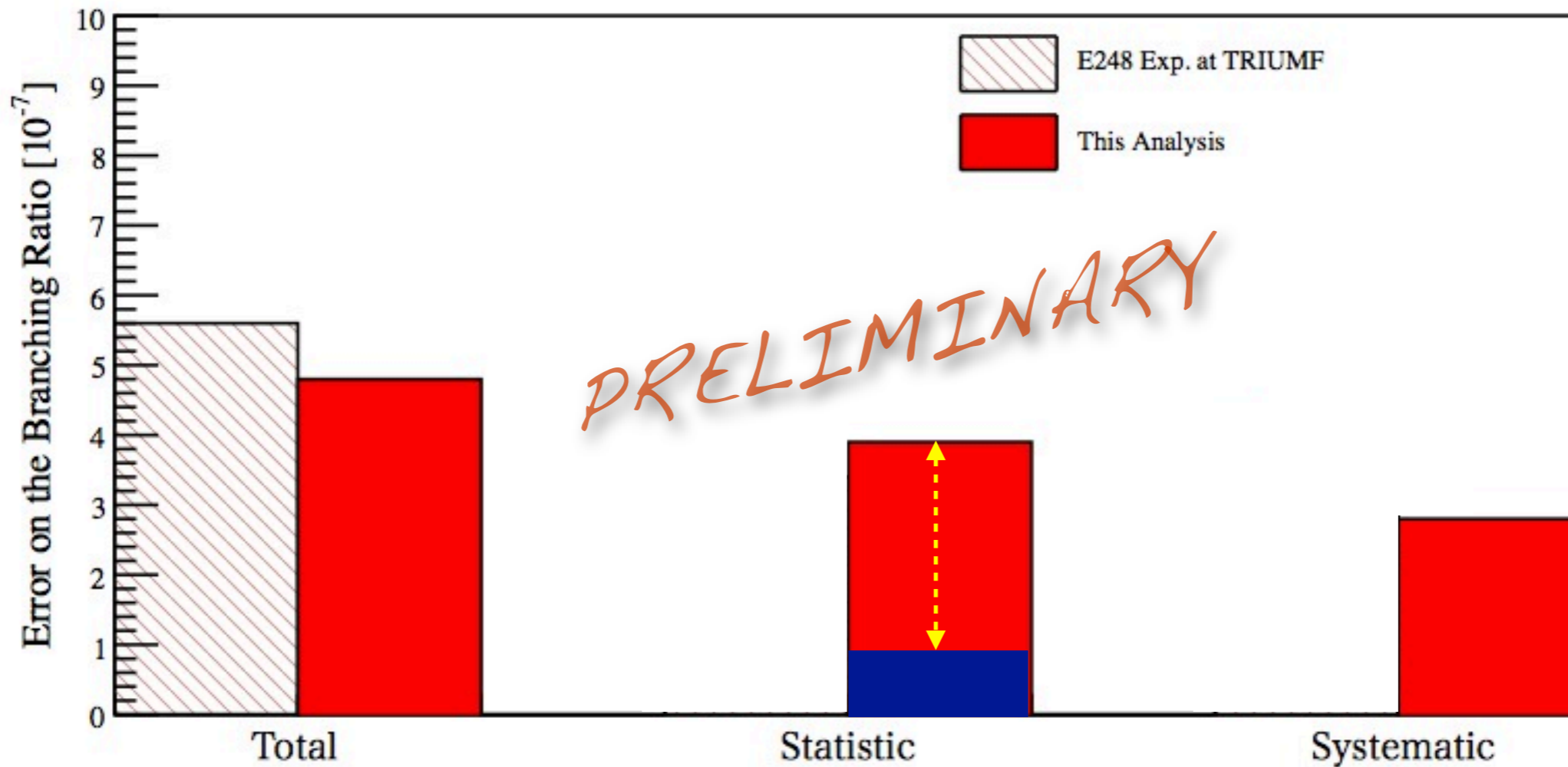
So far only 1 month of data analyzed. Full data set: **~x10** more data



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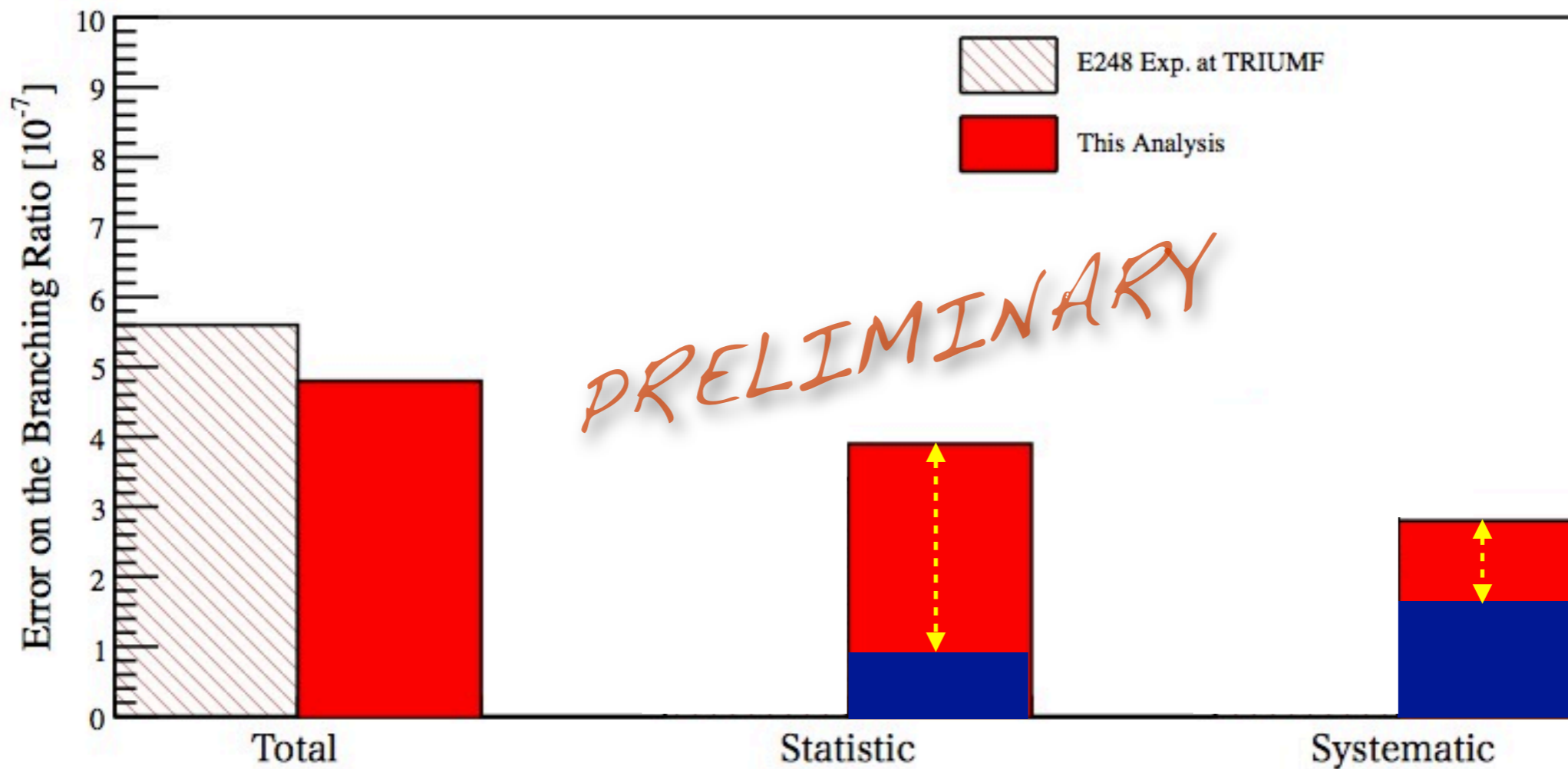
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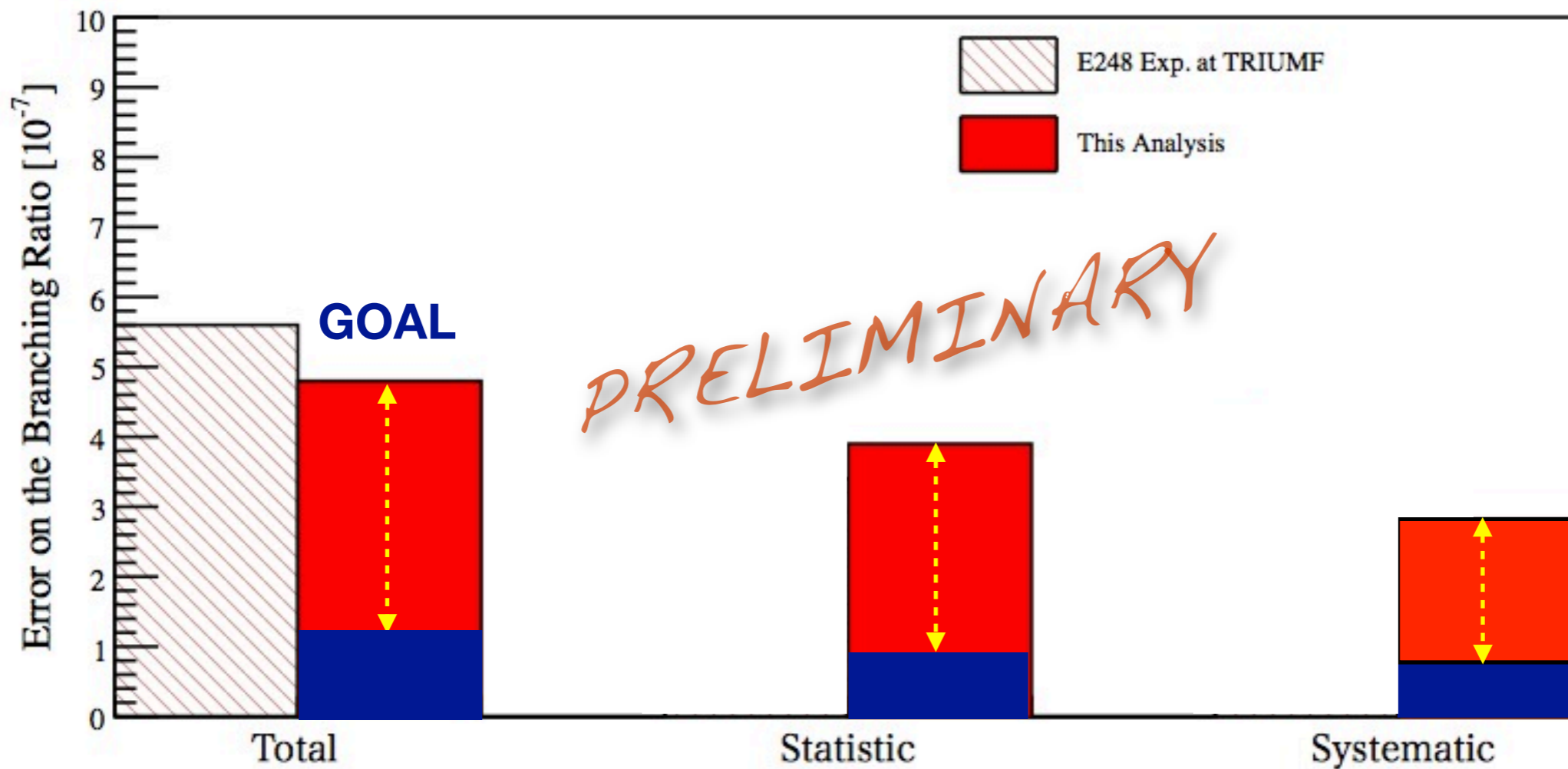
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# Massive neutrino search

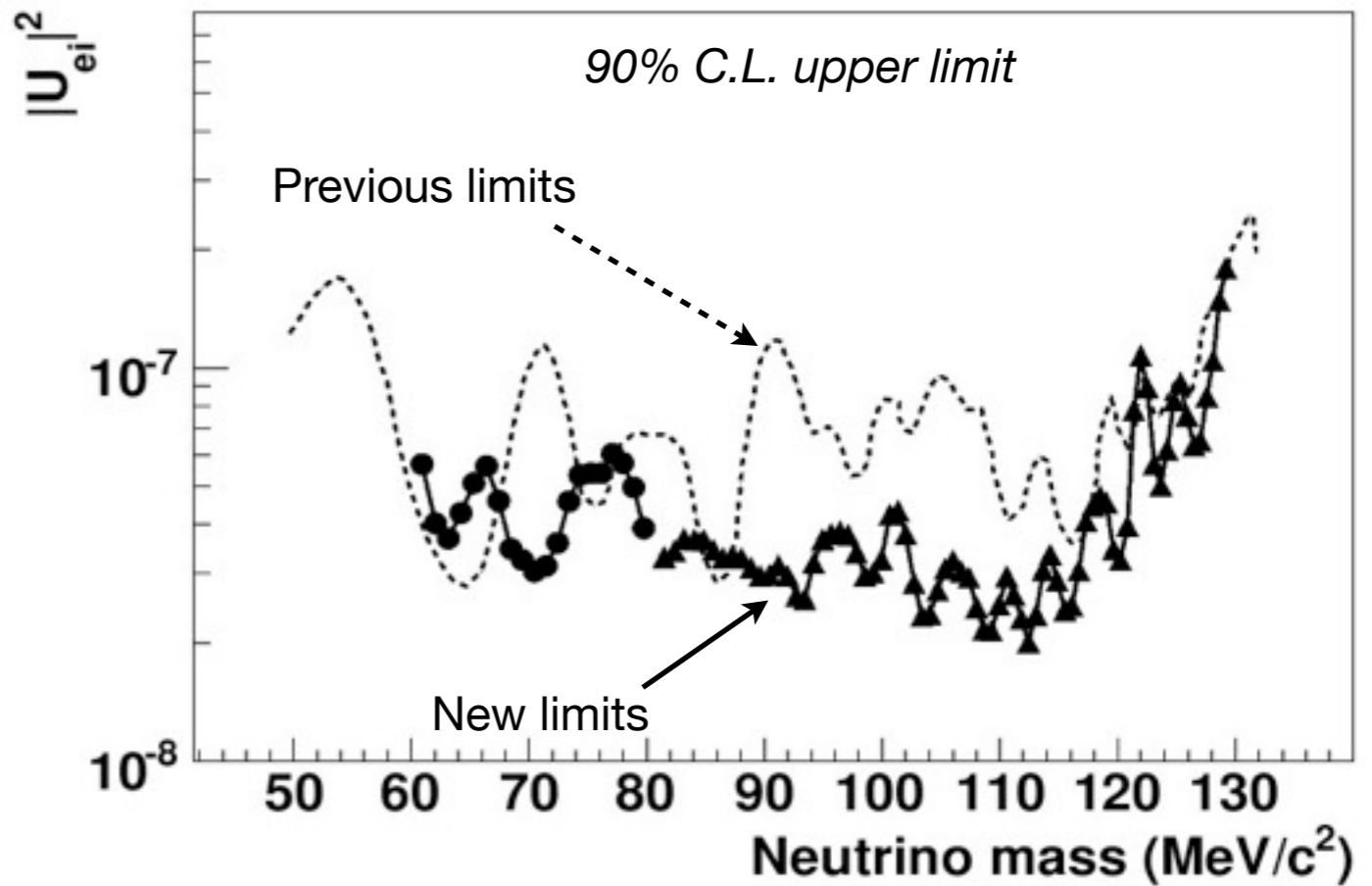
heavy  $u$   $\rightarrow$  Kinematic factor  $\rightarrow$

$$R_{ei} = \frac{\Gamma(\pi \rightarrow e\nu_i)}{\Gamma(\pi \rightarrow e\nu_l)} = |U_{ei}|^2 \rho_{ei}$$

conventional  $u$   $\rightarrow$

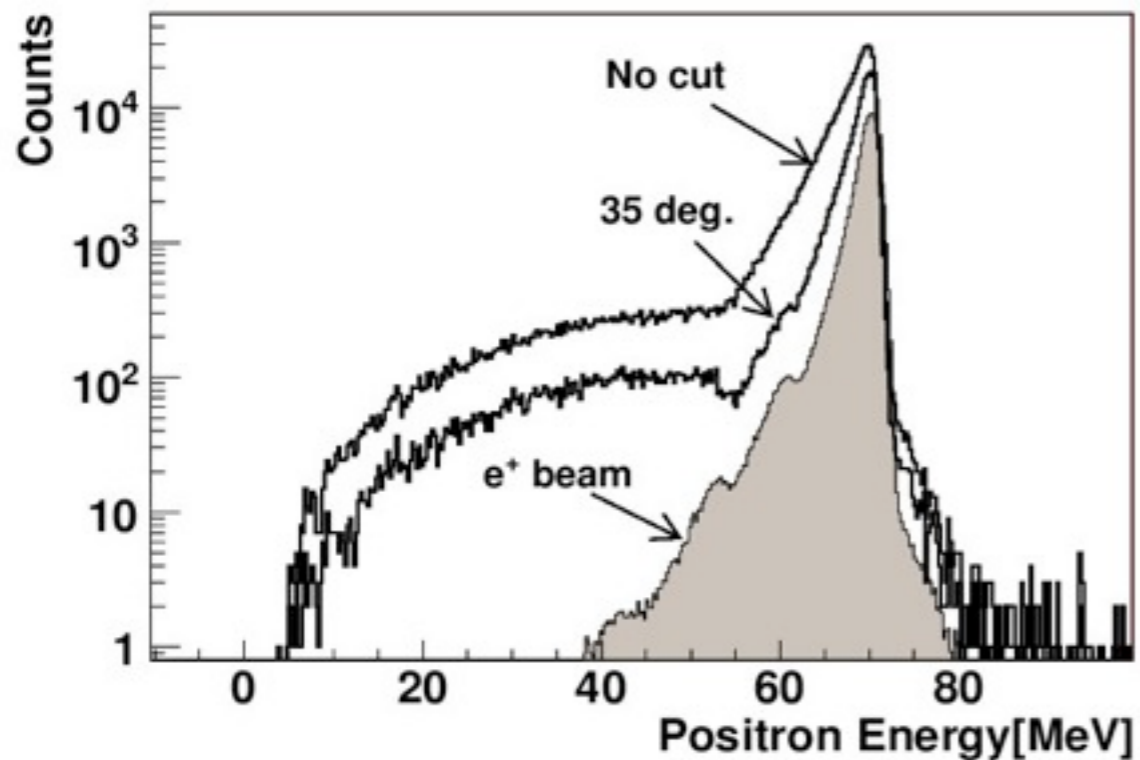
$$\nu_\ell = \sum_{i=1}^{3+k} U_{\ell i} \nu_i$$

$$\ell = e, \mu, \tau, \chi_1, \chi_2 \dots \chi_k$$



M.Aoki et al., Phys. Rev. D 84, 052002 (2011)

Search for extra peak in the suppressed spectrum



# Conclusions

2008	09	End of beamline extension work
	10-12	Test run
2009	05	PIENU detector completed
	05-09	Run I
	09-12	Run II
2010	03	Temperature enclosure completed
	04-09	Run III
	10-12	Run IV
2011	08-12	Run V
2012		Run VI

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*STAY TUNED FOR FIRST B.R. RESULTS  
 COMING SOON*