

Time-sensitive pulse extraction using ML with NuDot

**Masooma Sarfraz, Spencer Axani, Miles Garcia, on behalf of NuDot
collaboration**



UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE
**BARTOL RESEARCH
INSTITUTE**

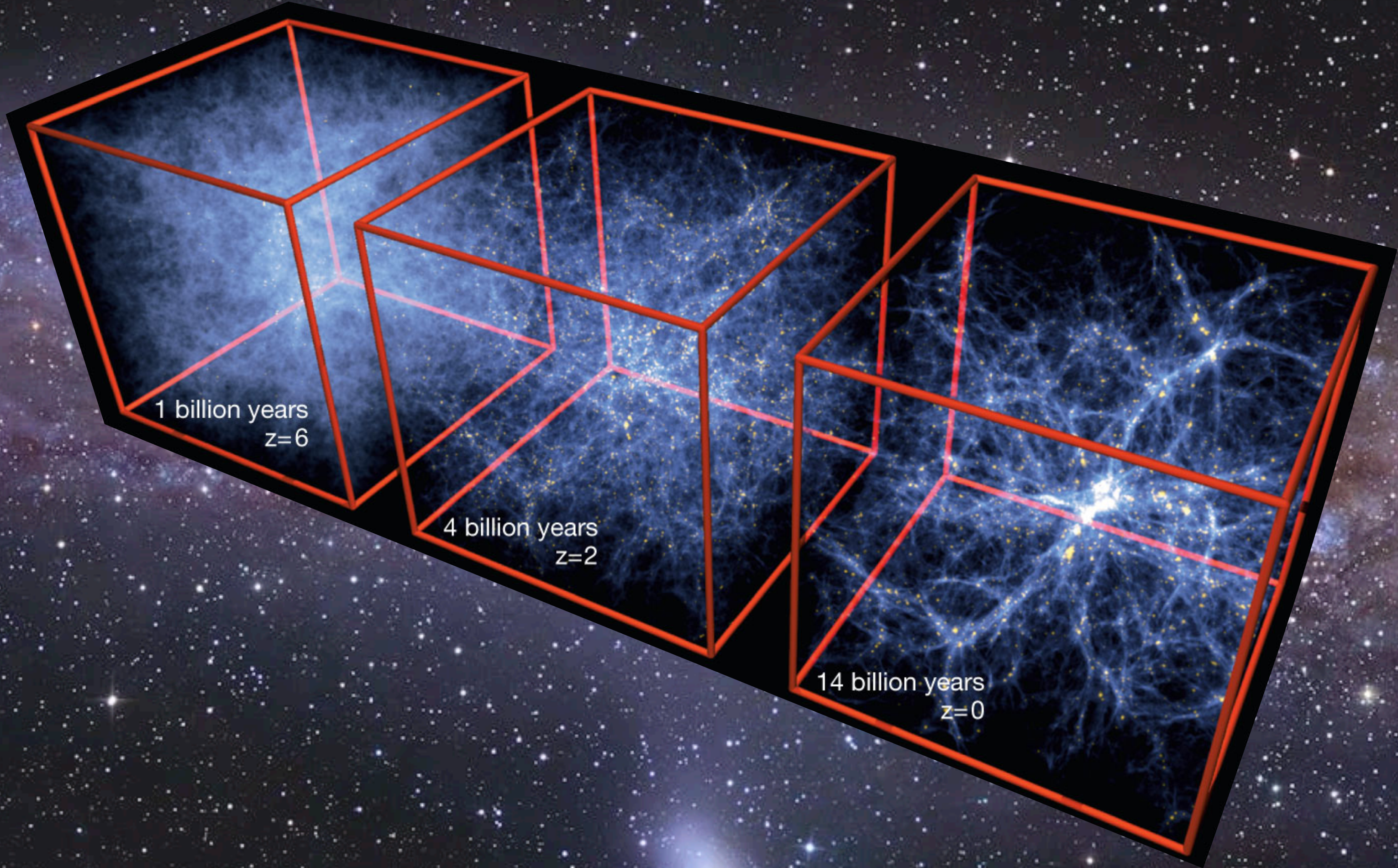
Machine learning workshop
January 30, 2025



Outline:

- Motivation
- NuDot
- Active efforts in Machine learning
- Summary

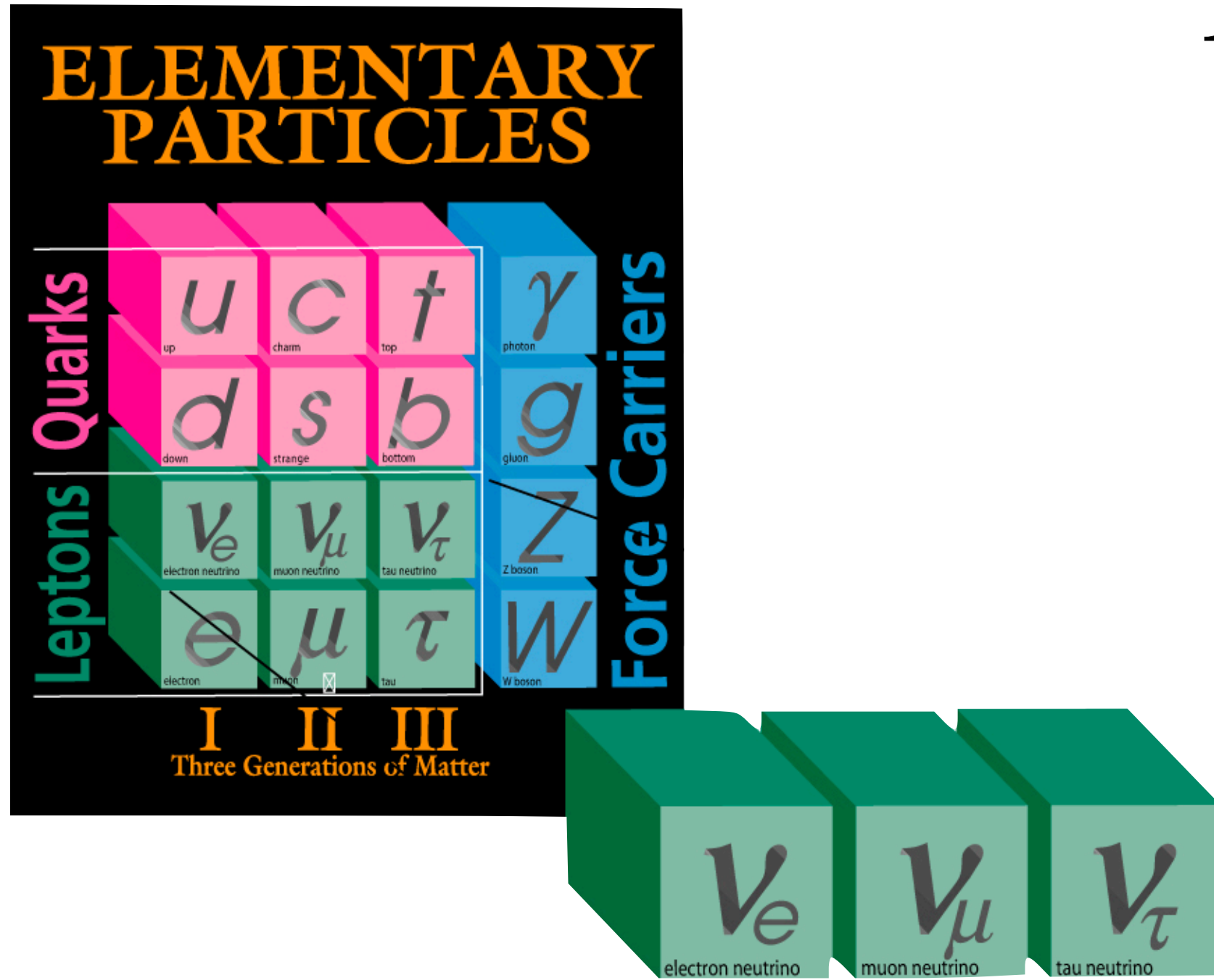
Matter Anti-matter asymmetry



Motivation:

Dirac particles?

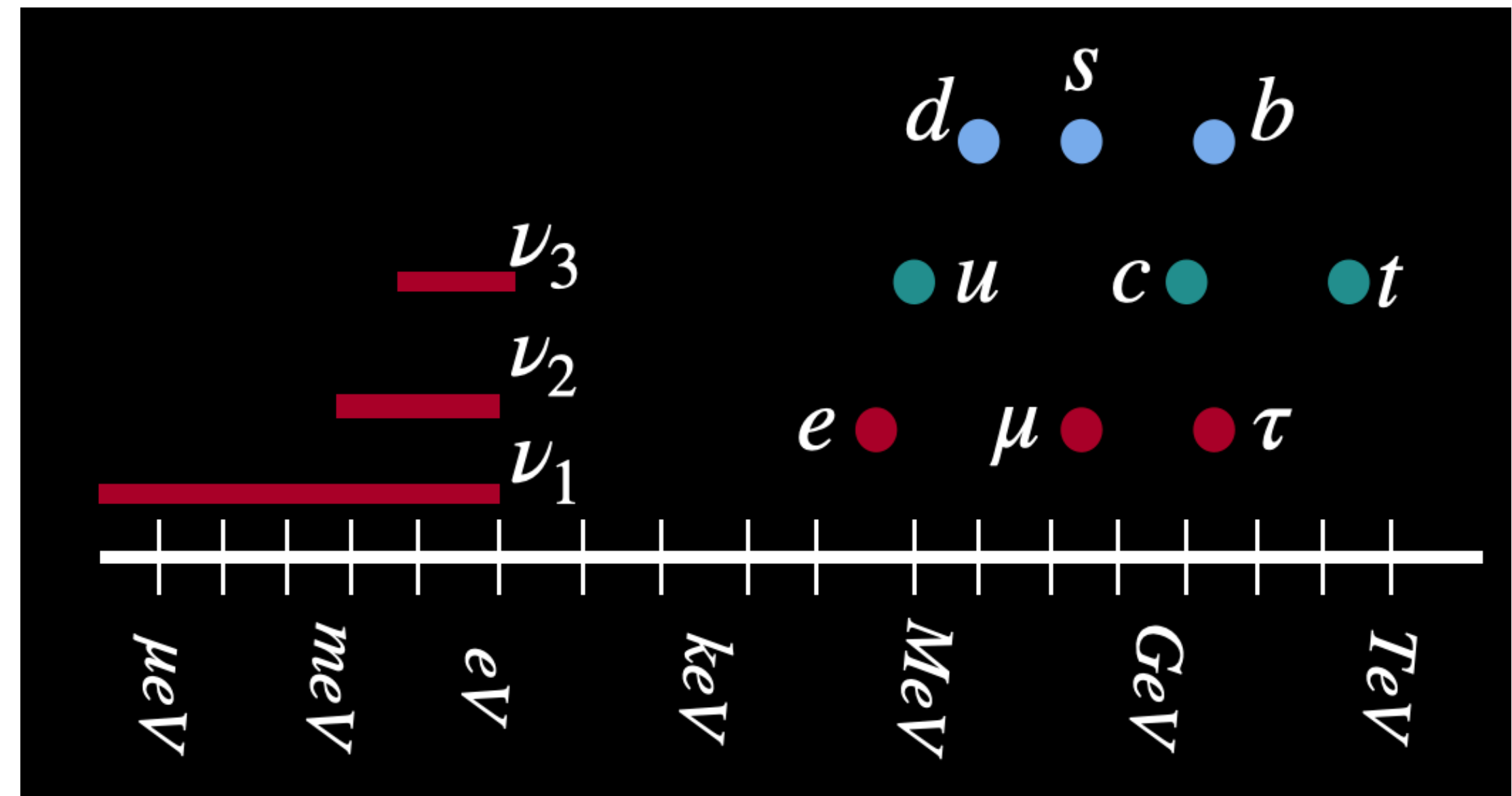
Majorana particles?



Neutrino mass hierarchy

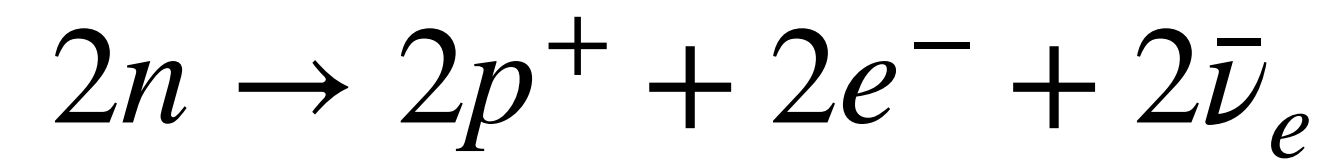
Absolute mass

Mechanism of neutrino's mass

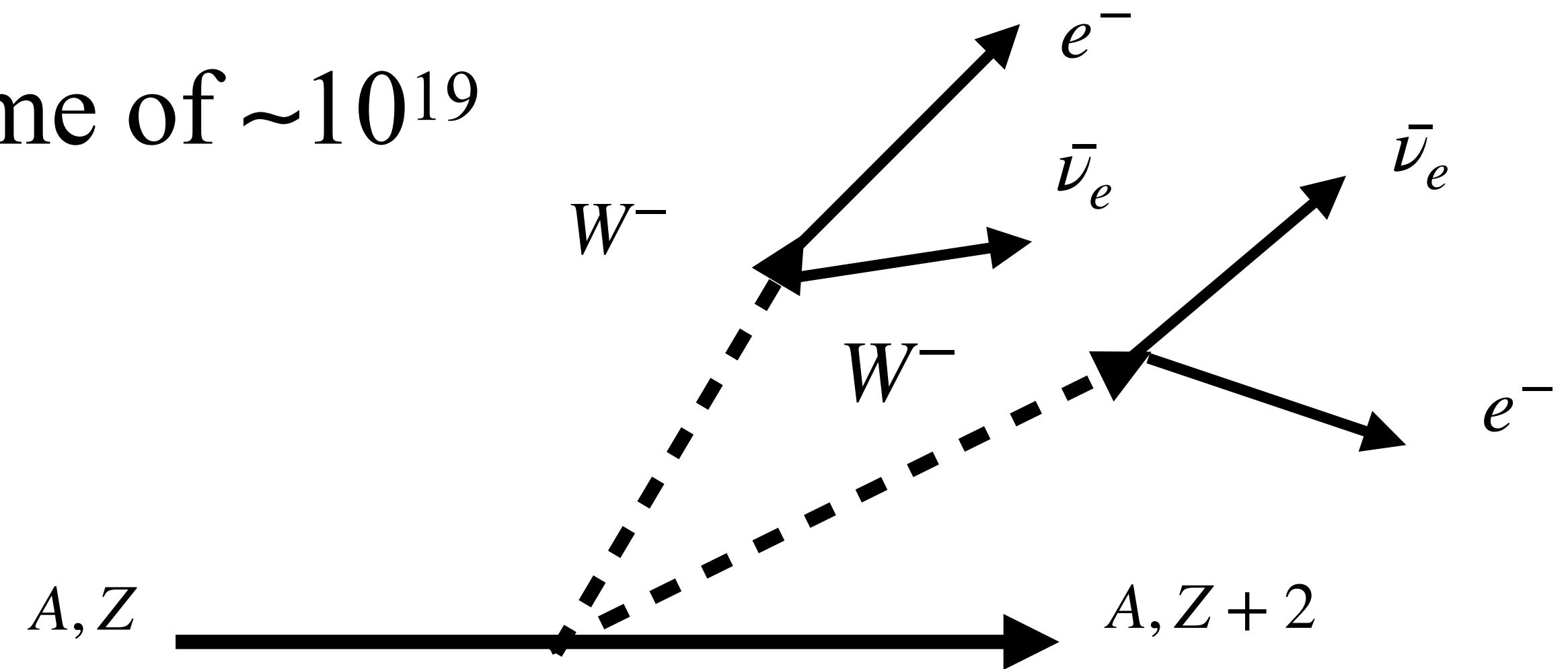


Why double beta decay?

$2\nu\beta\beta$: Observed rare decay with a lifetime of $\sim 10^{19}$ years

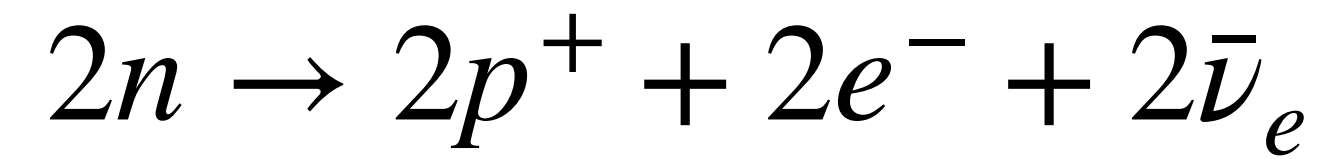


Standard model process

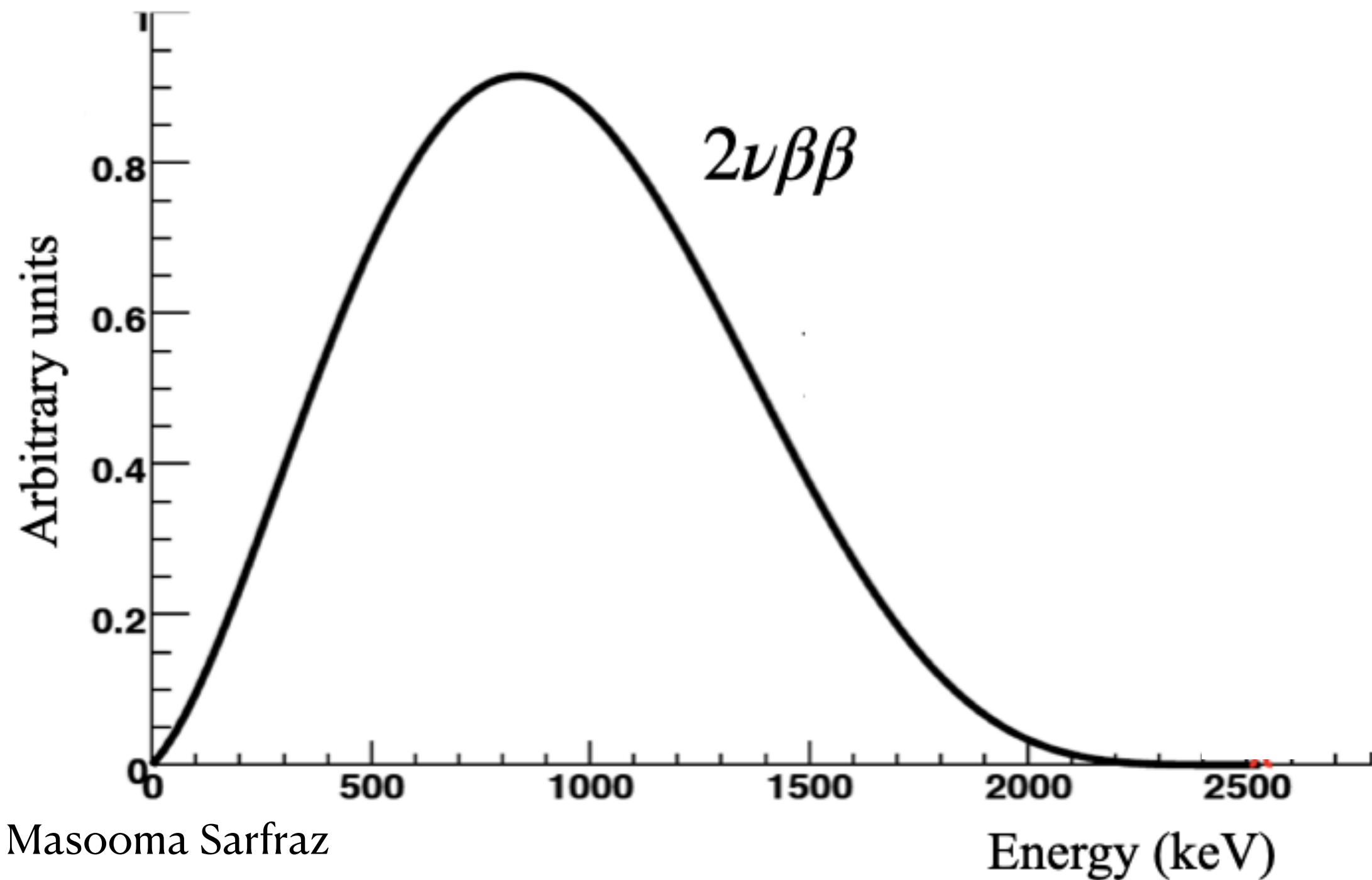
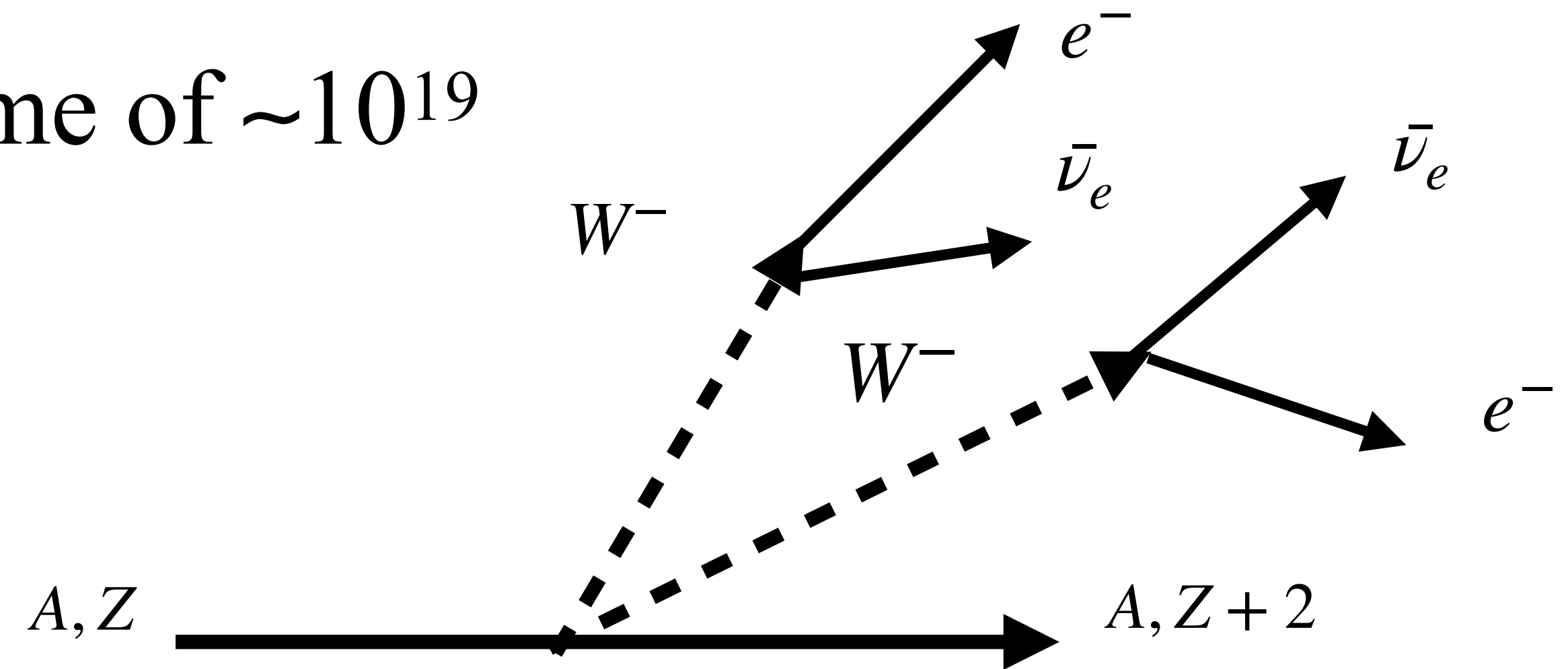


Why double beta decay?

$2\nu\beta\beta$: Observed rare decay with a lifetime of $\sim 10^{19}$ years

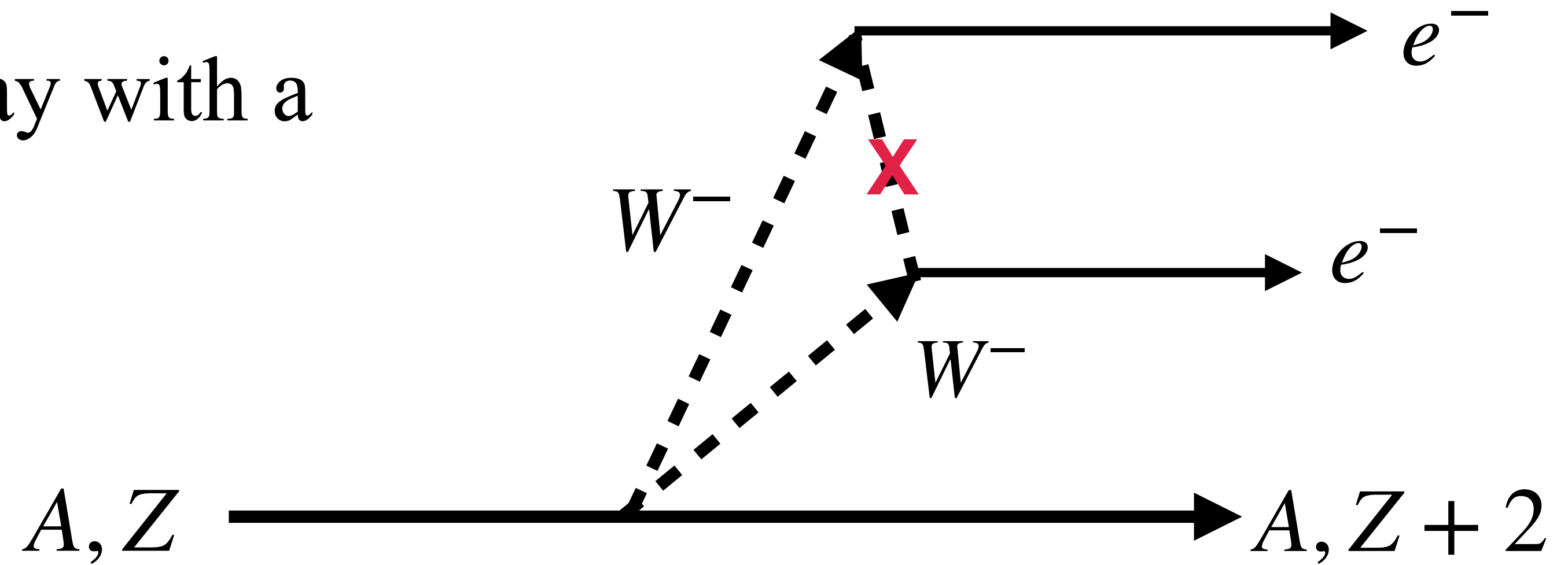
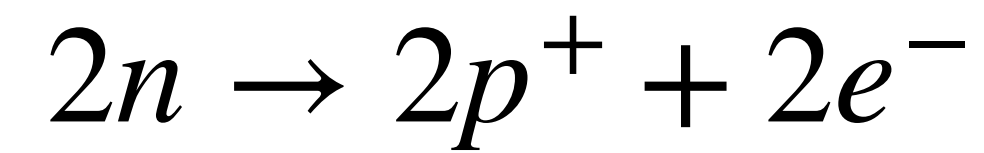


Standard model process



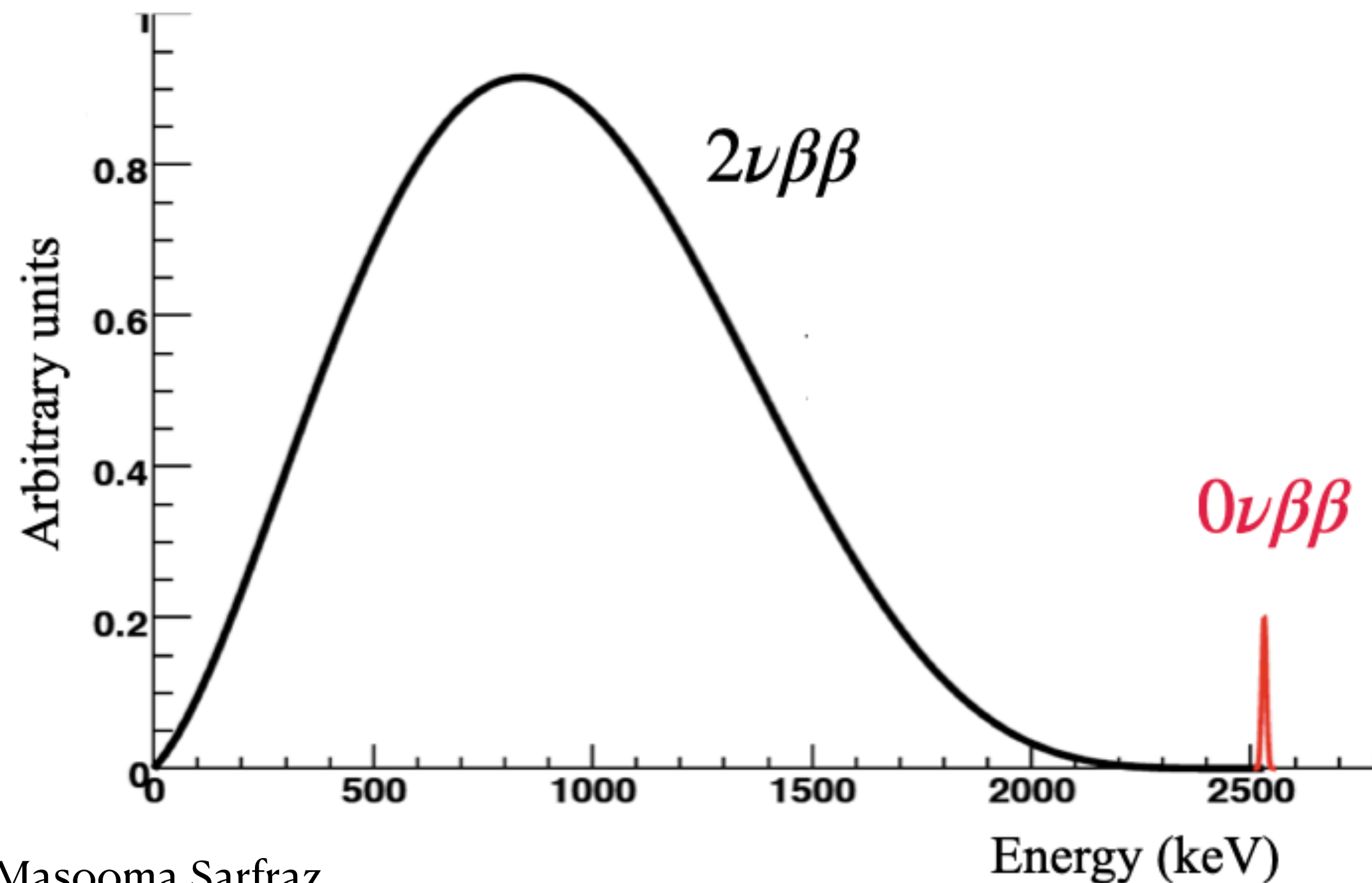
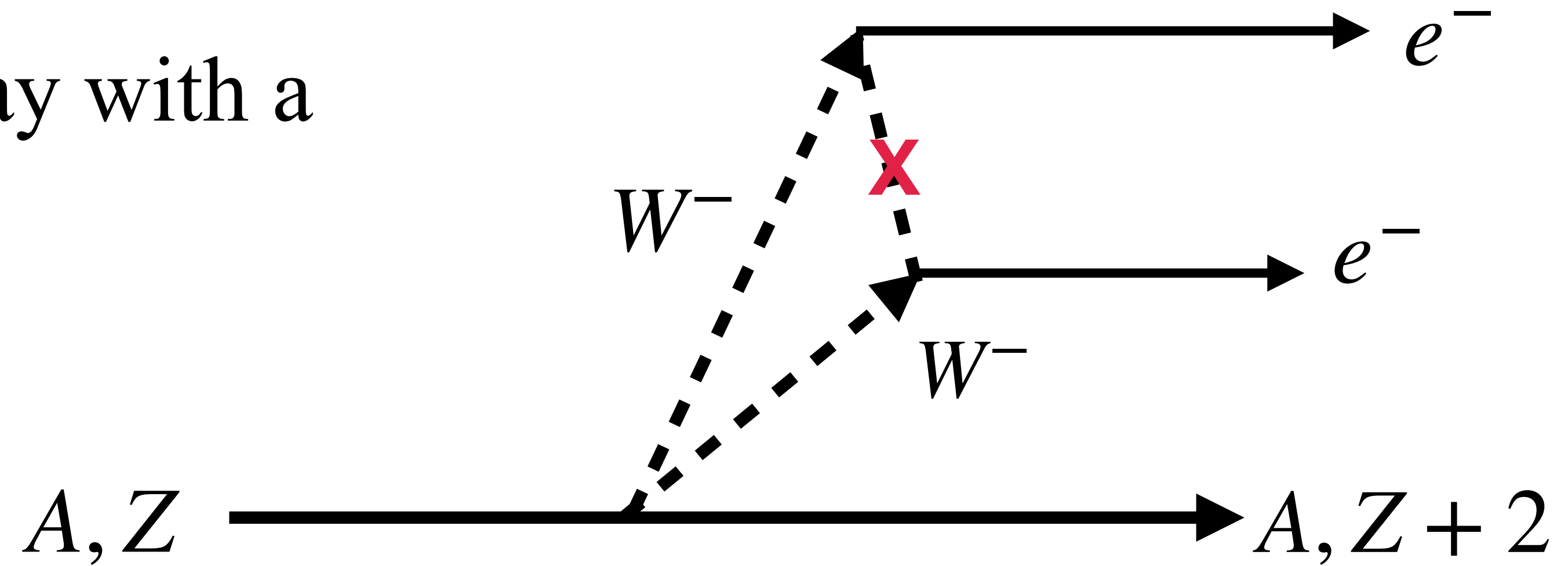
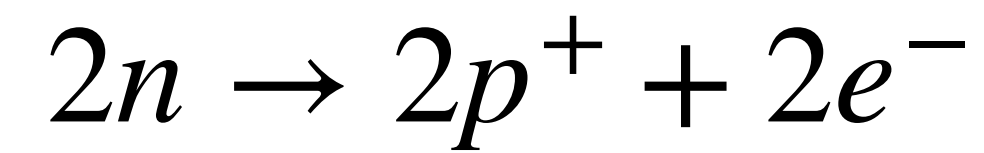
Why double beta decay?

$0\nu\beta\beta$: Ultra-rare hypothesized decay with a lifetime of $>10^{26}$ yrs



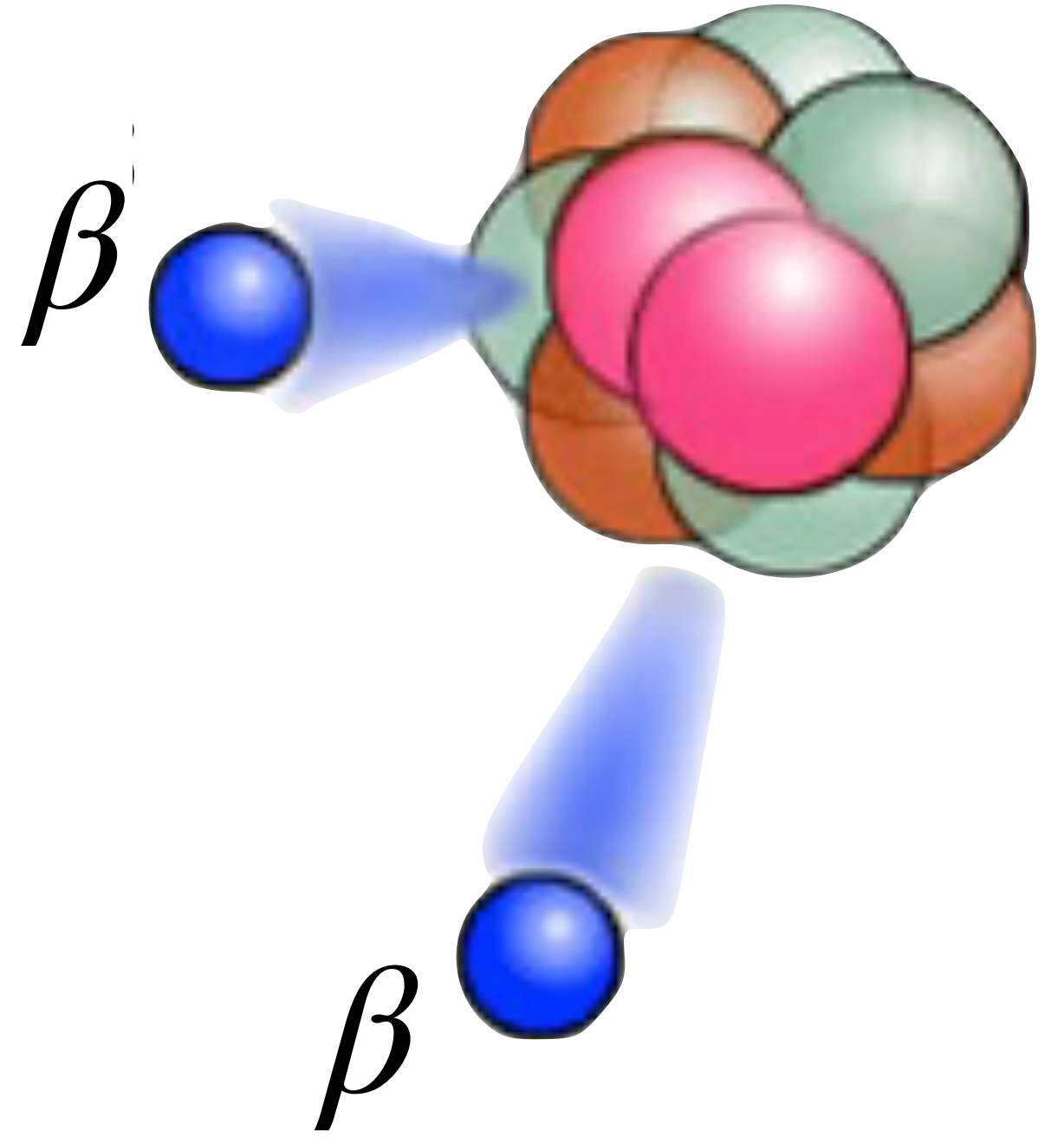
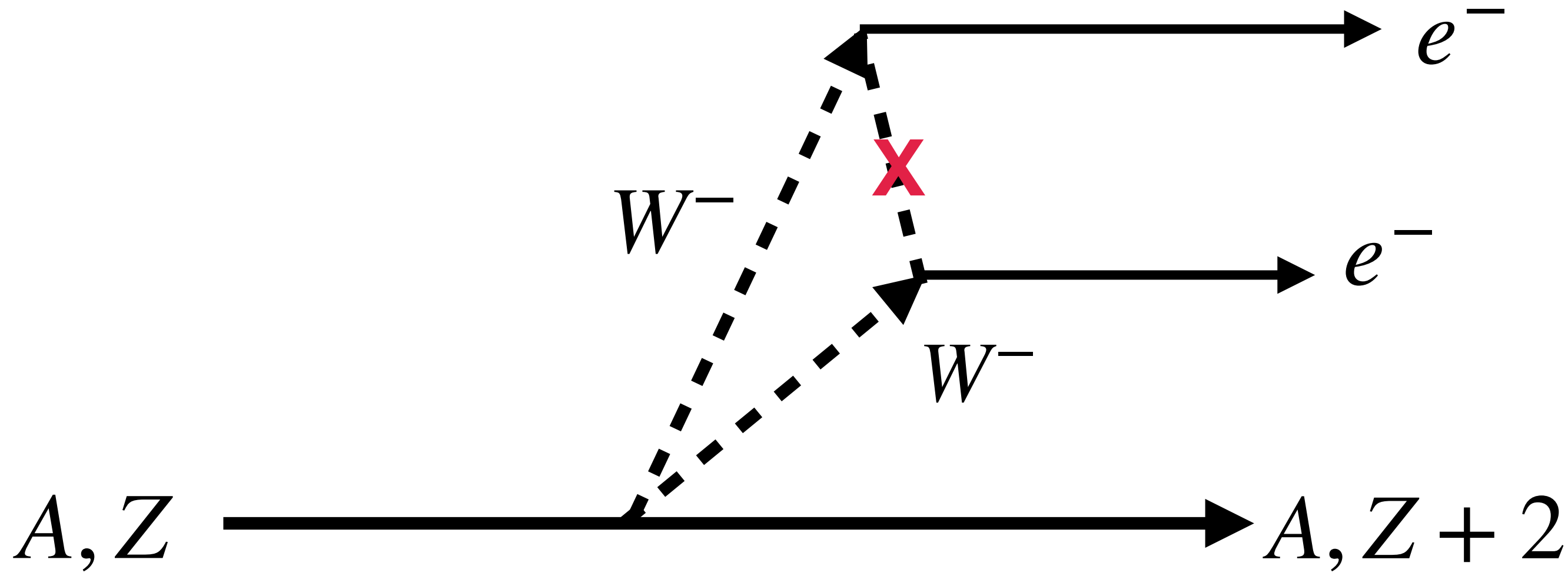
Why double beta decay?

$0\nu\beta\beta$: Ultra-rare hypothesized decay with a lifetime of $>10^{26}$ yrs



Observation of neutrinoless double-beta decay ($0\nu\beta\beta$) would be a groundbreaking discovery, providing direct evidence of Majorana nature of neutrinos.

- ☑ Neutrino is a Majorana particle
- ☑ New mechanism for neutrino's mass
- ☑ Lepton number violation



Liquid scintillator detectors

Pros:

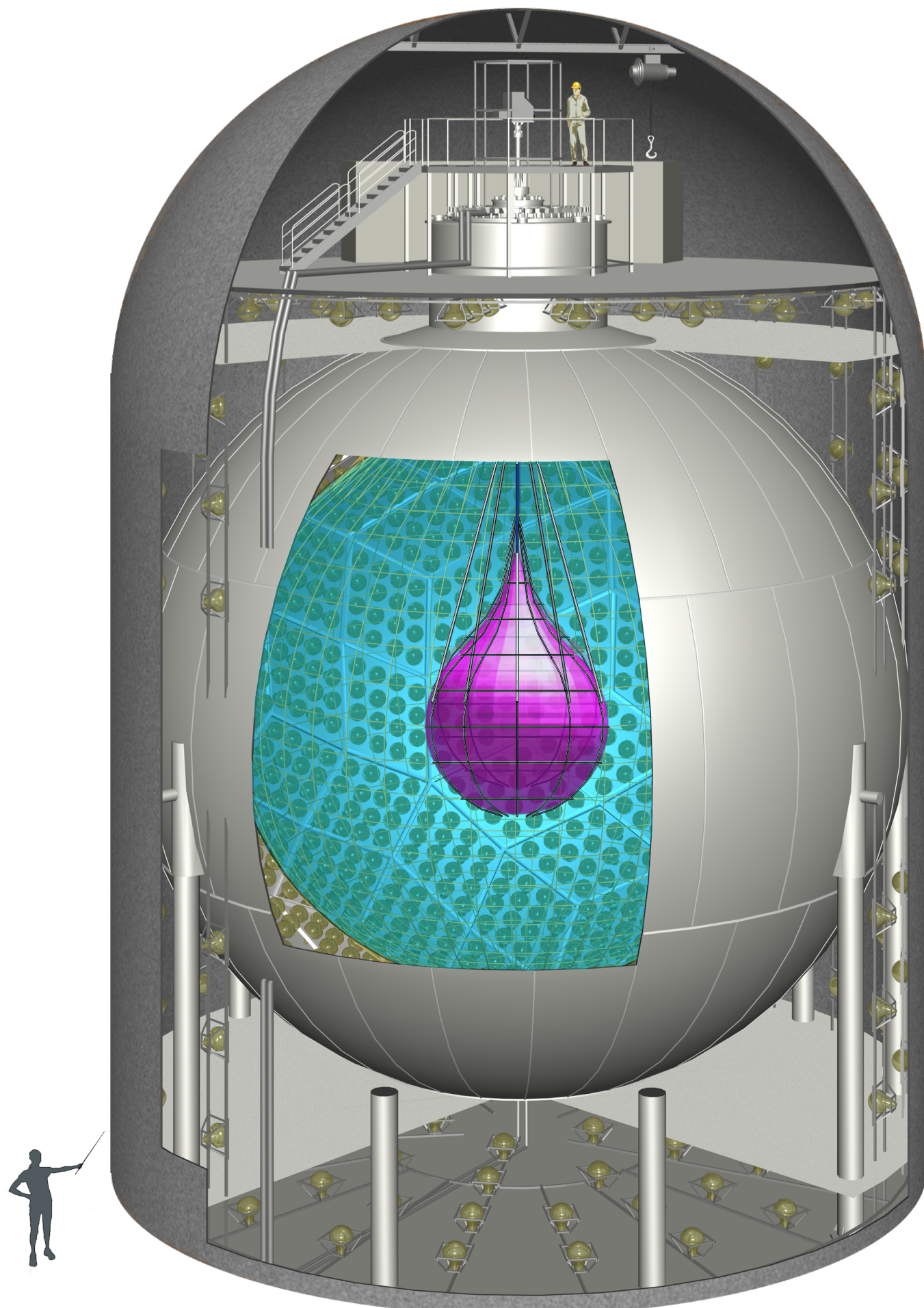
- Self-shielding
- Multi-purpose neutrinos measurement
- Scaling

Cons:

- Low energy resolution
- Some irreducible backgrounds

Liquid scintillator detectors

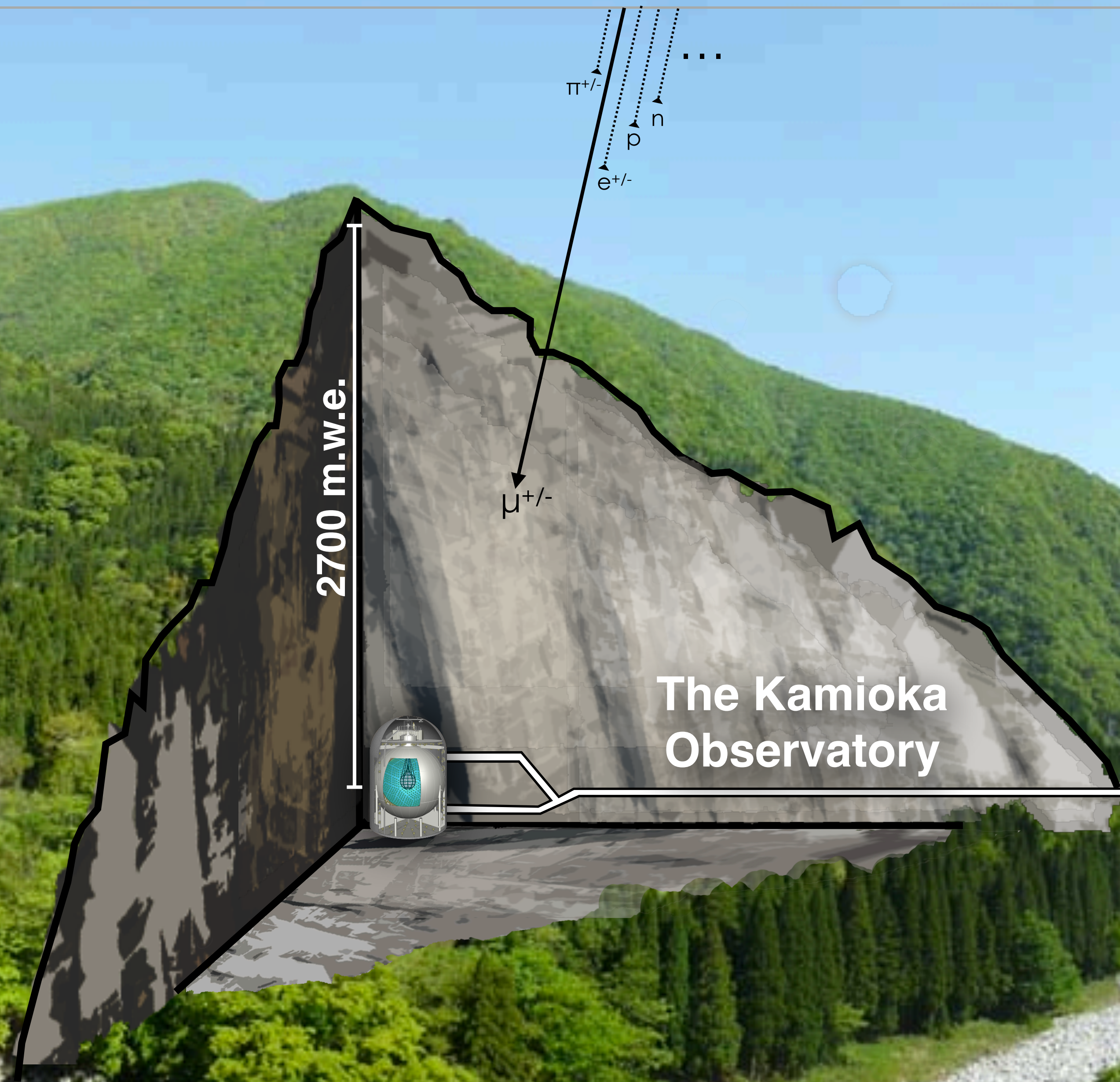
KamLAND-Zen800



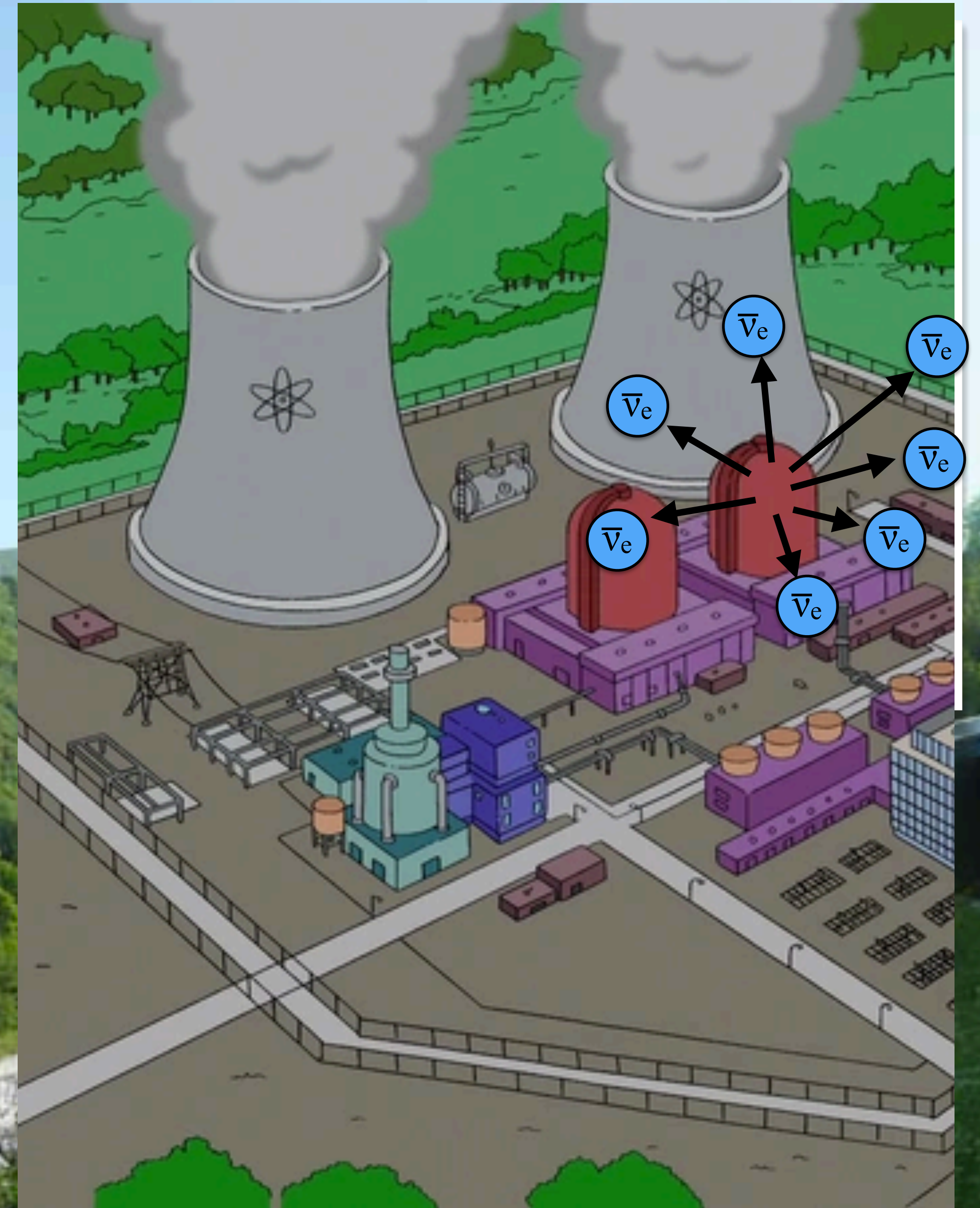
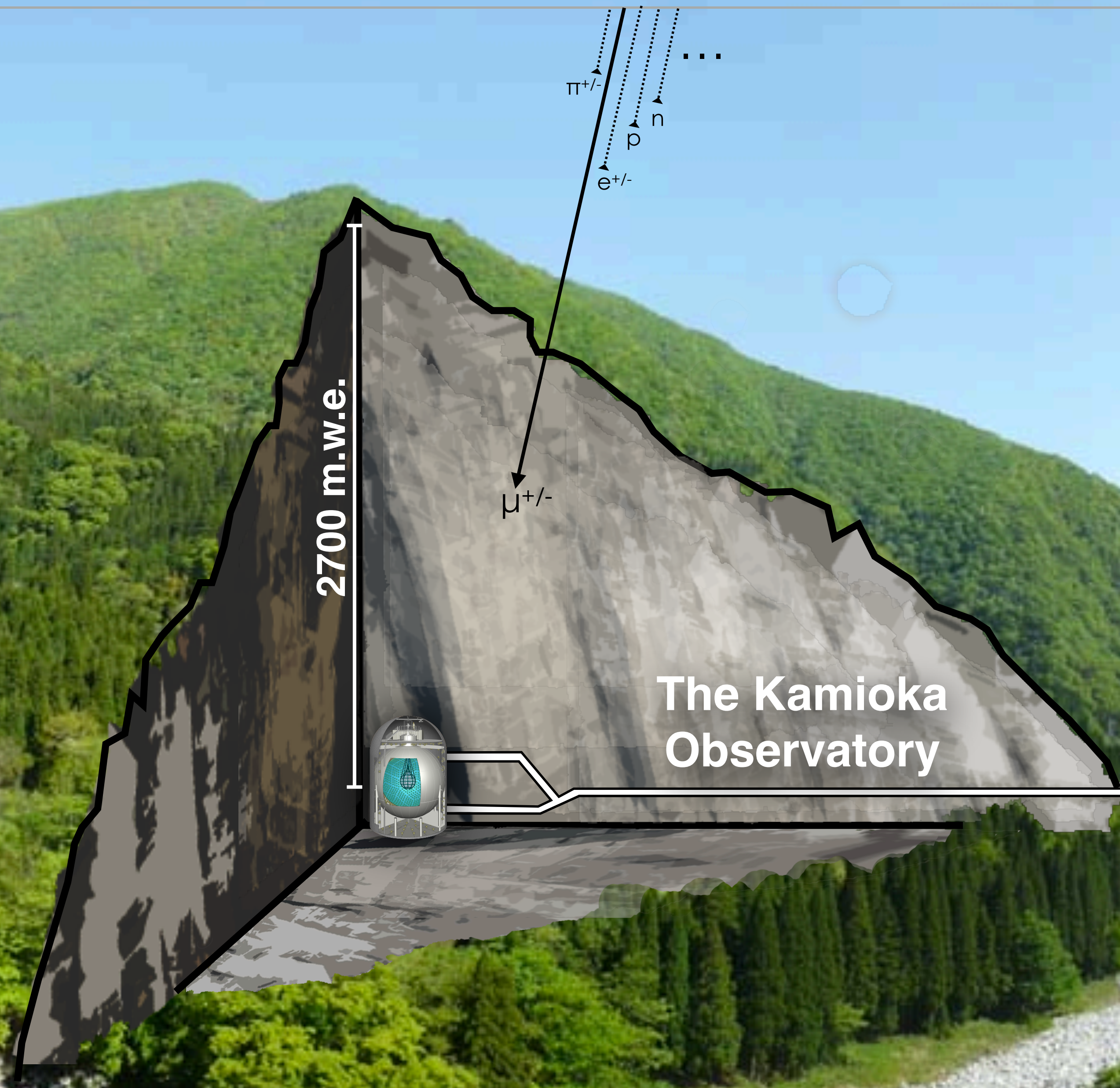
World's leading limits on effective Majorana mass.
 $T_{1/2} > 4.3 \times 10^{26}$ years for ^{136}Xe at 90% C.L.

PRL pre-print: [arXiv:2406.11438](https://arxiv.org/abs/2406.11438)

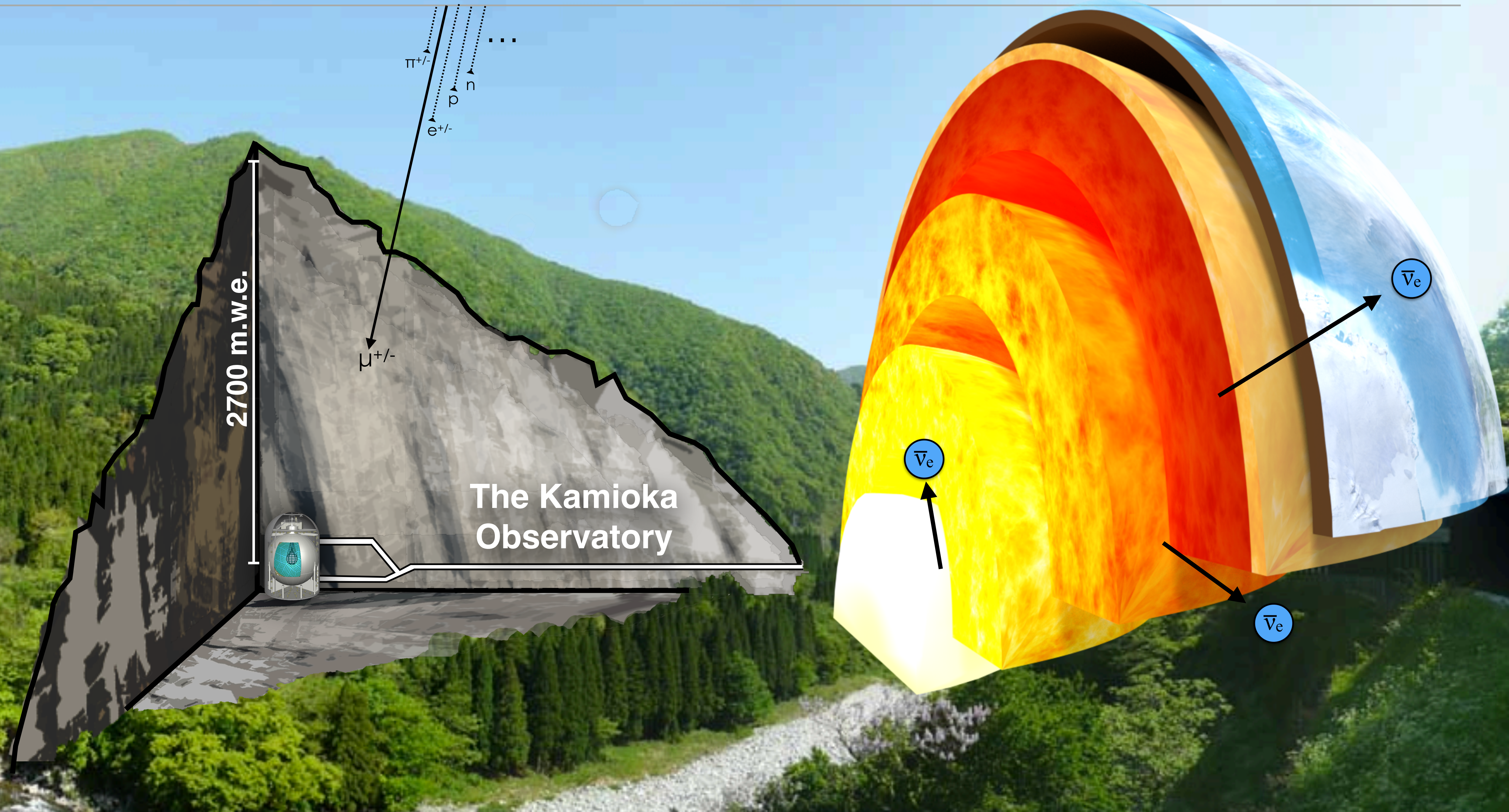
KamLAND (the Kamioka Liquid Scintillator Antineutrino Detector)



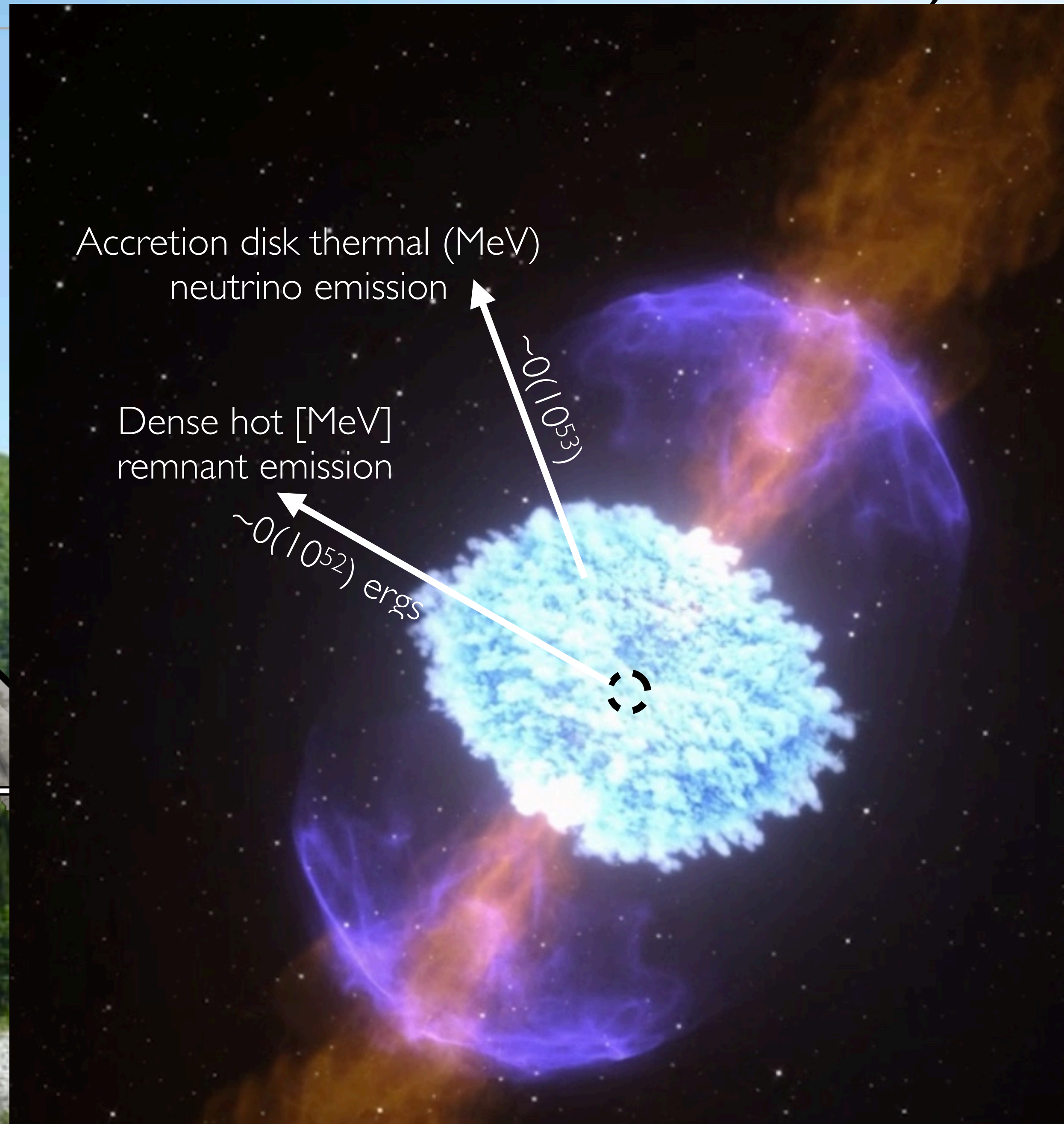
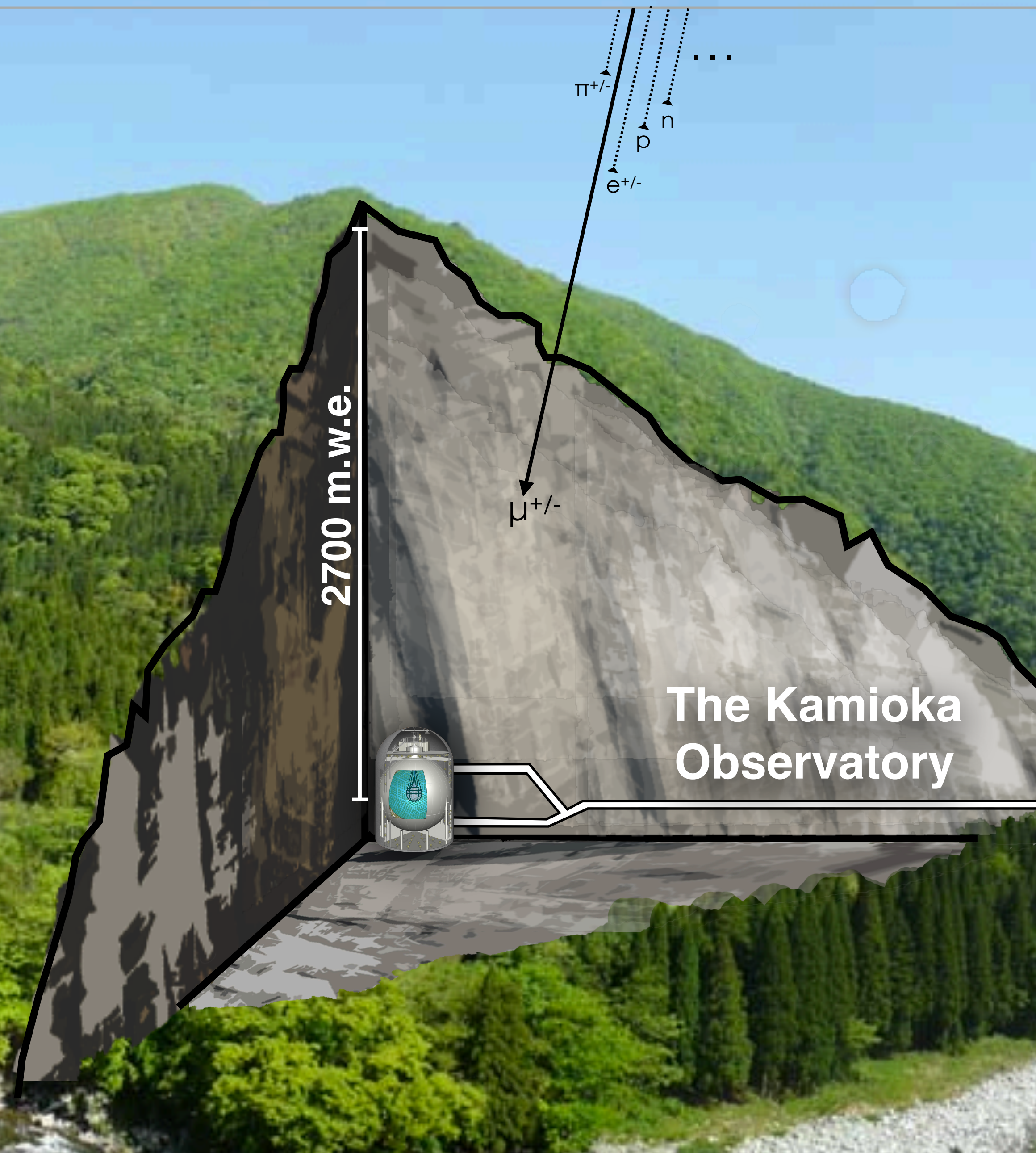
KamLAND (the Kamioka Liquid Scintillator Antineutrino Detector)



KamLAND (the Kamioka Liquid Scintillator Antineutrino Detector)

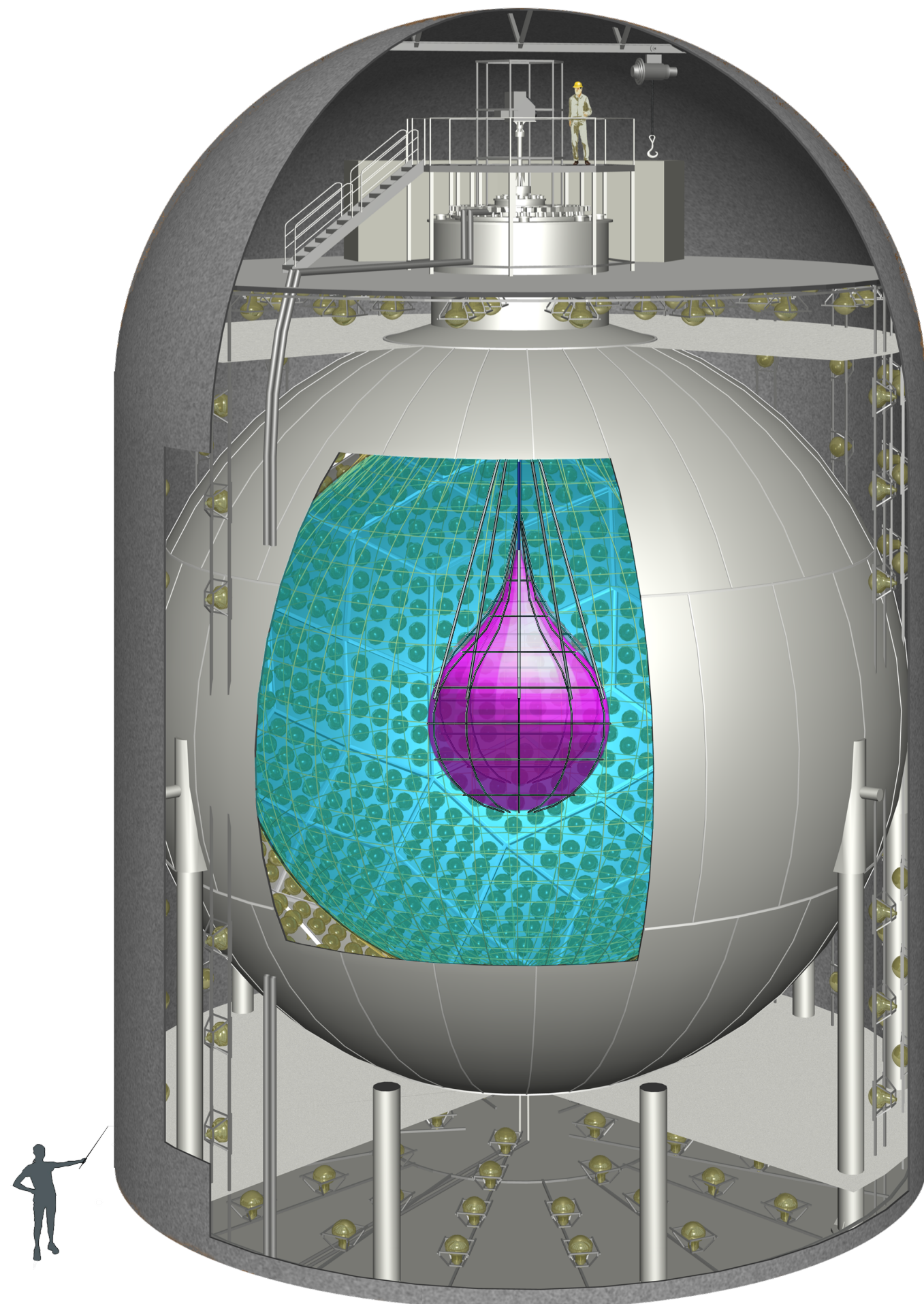


KamLAND (the Kamioka Liquid Scintillator Antineutrino Detector)



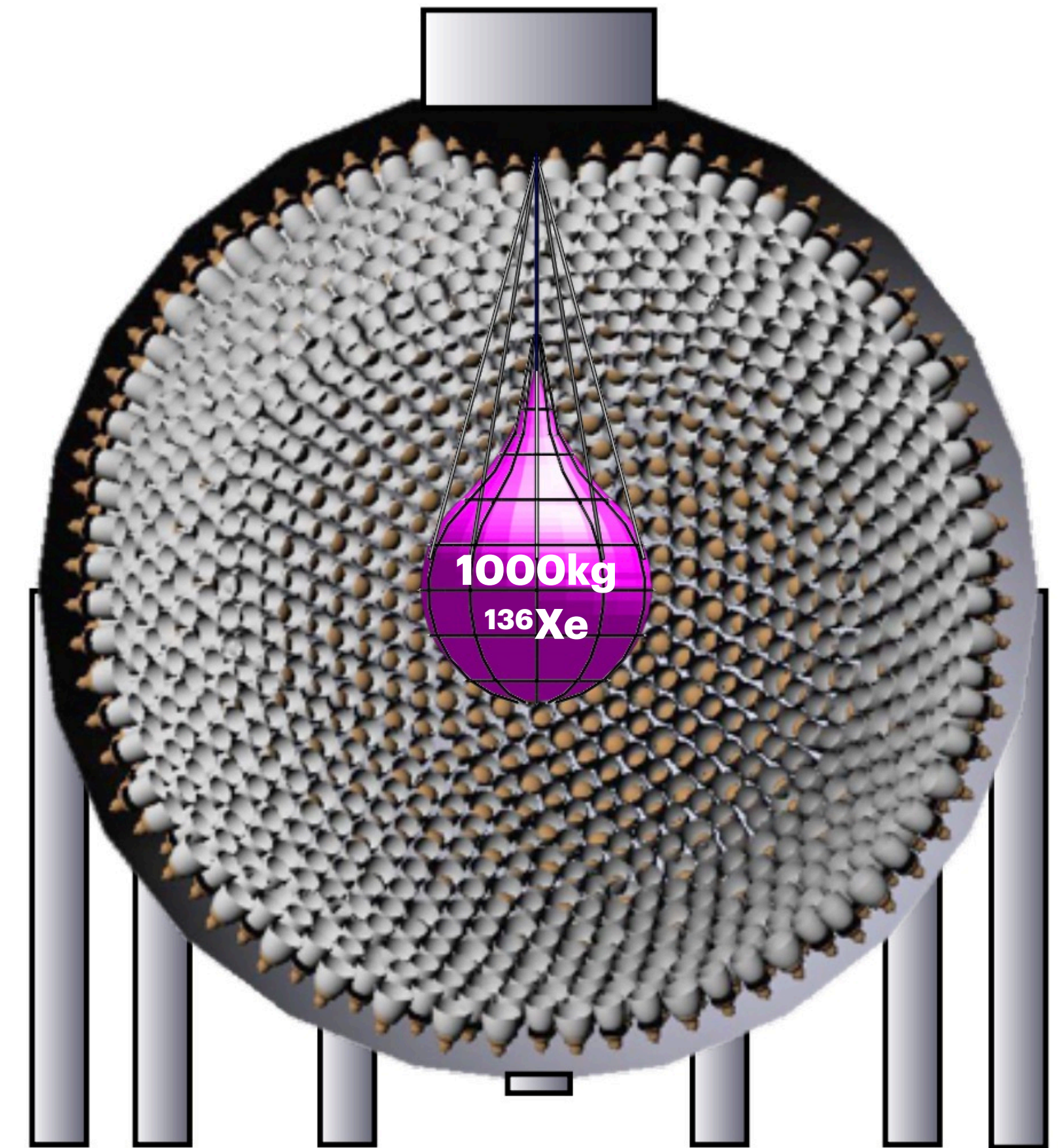
Liquid scintillator detectors

KamLAND-Zen800



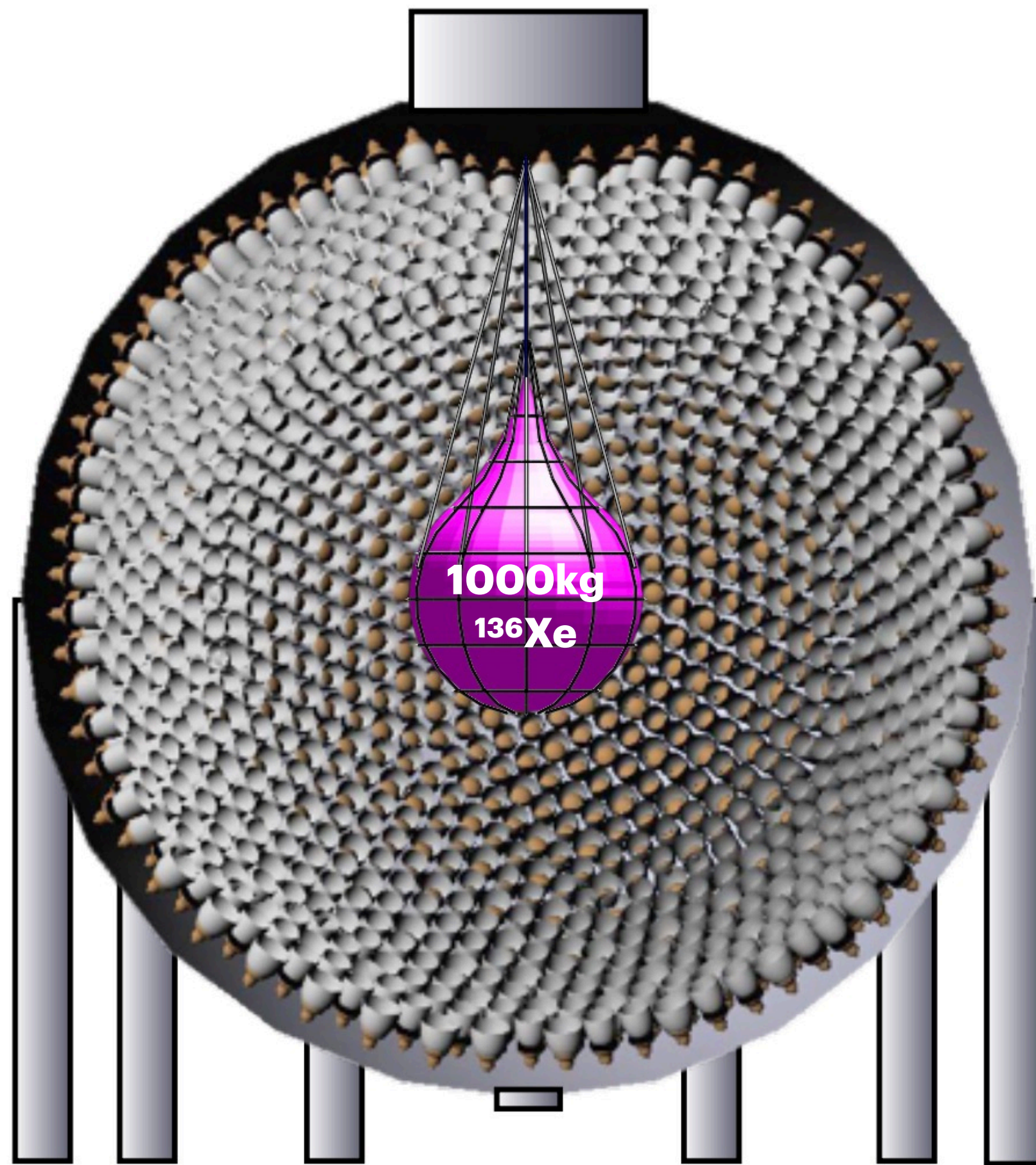
KamLAND2-Zen is funded and will bootup in **2028**.

Future: KamLAND2-Zen



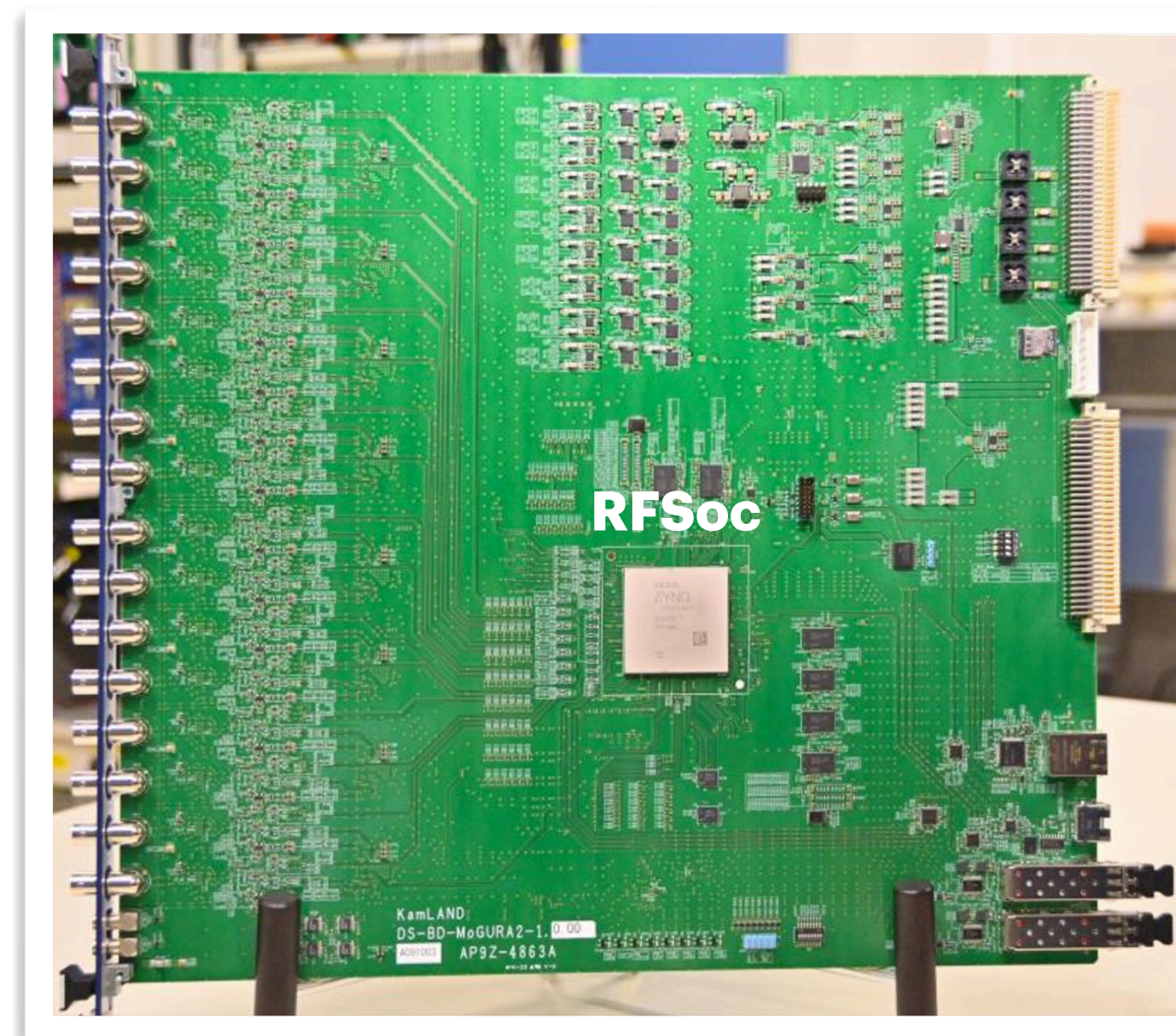
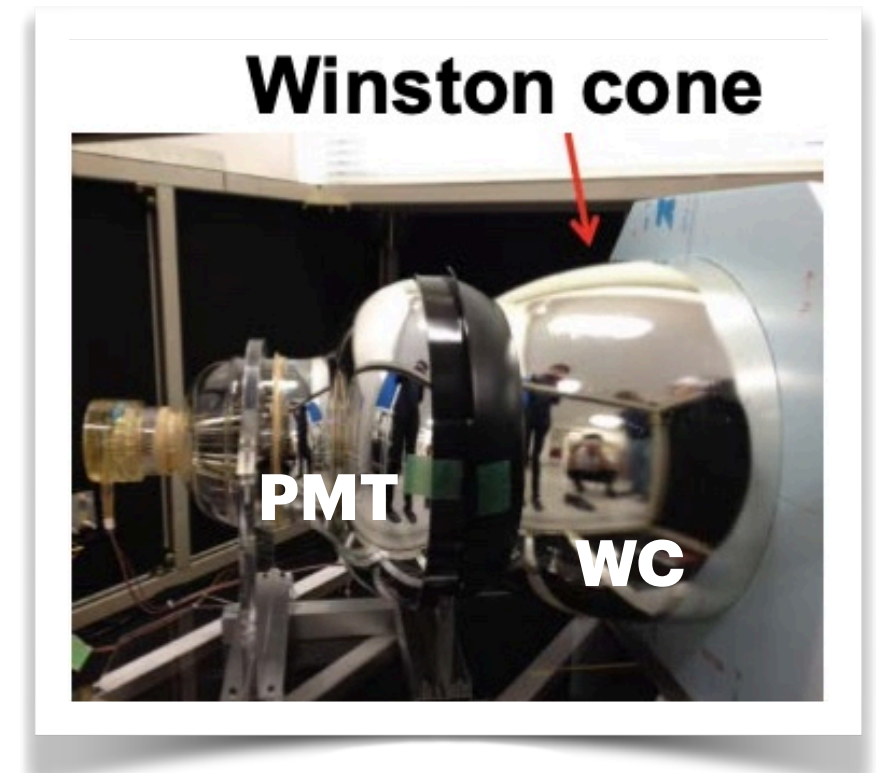
KamLAND2-Zen

KamLAND2-Zen aims to cover the Inverted Ordering region.



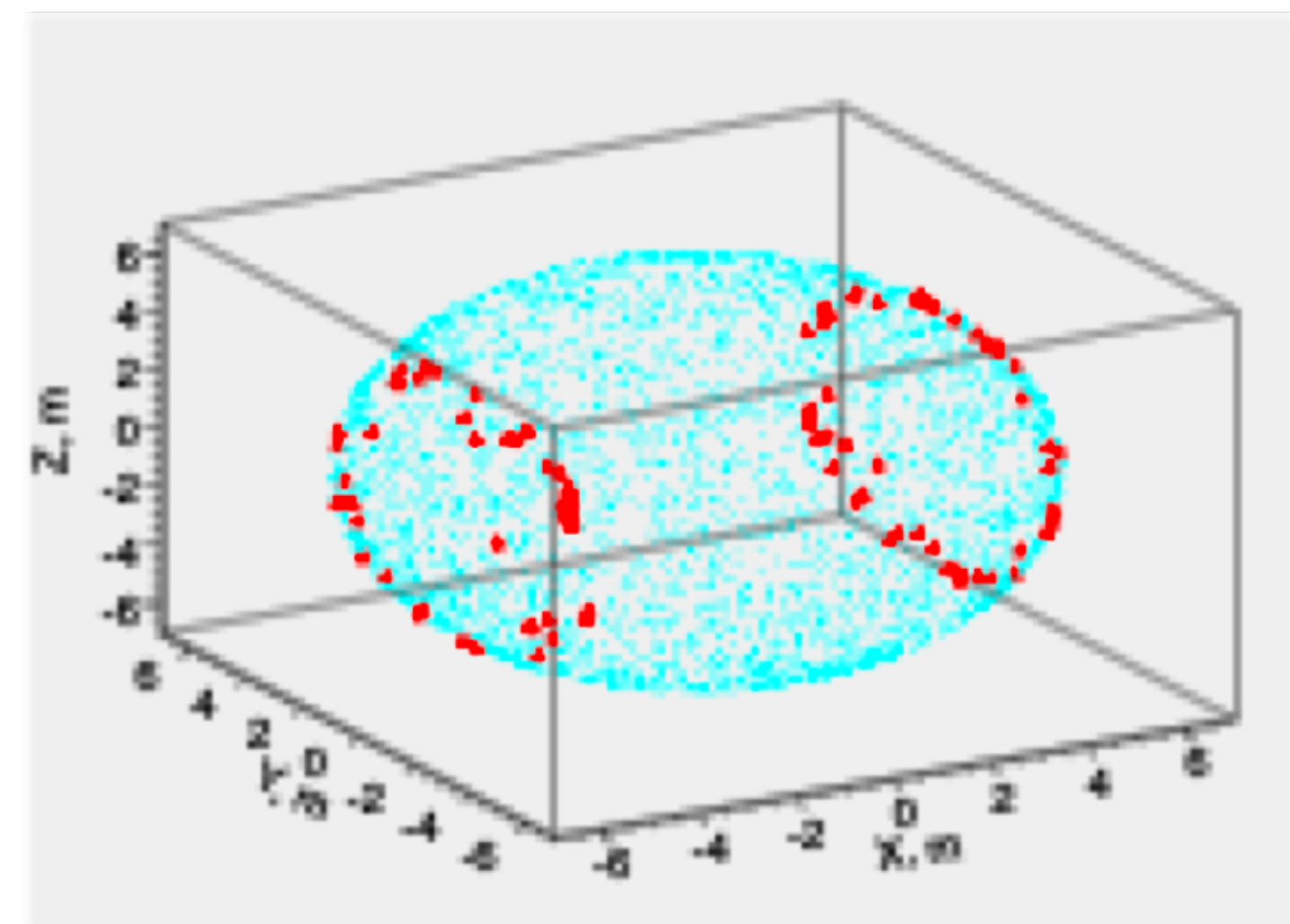
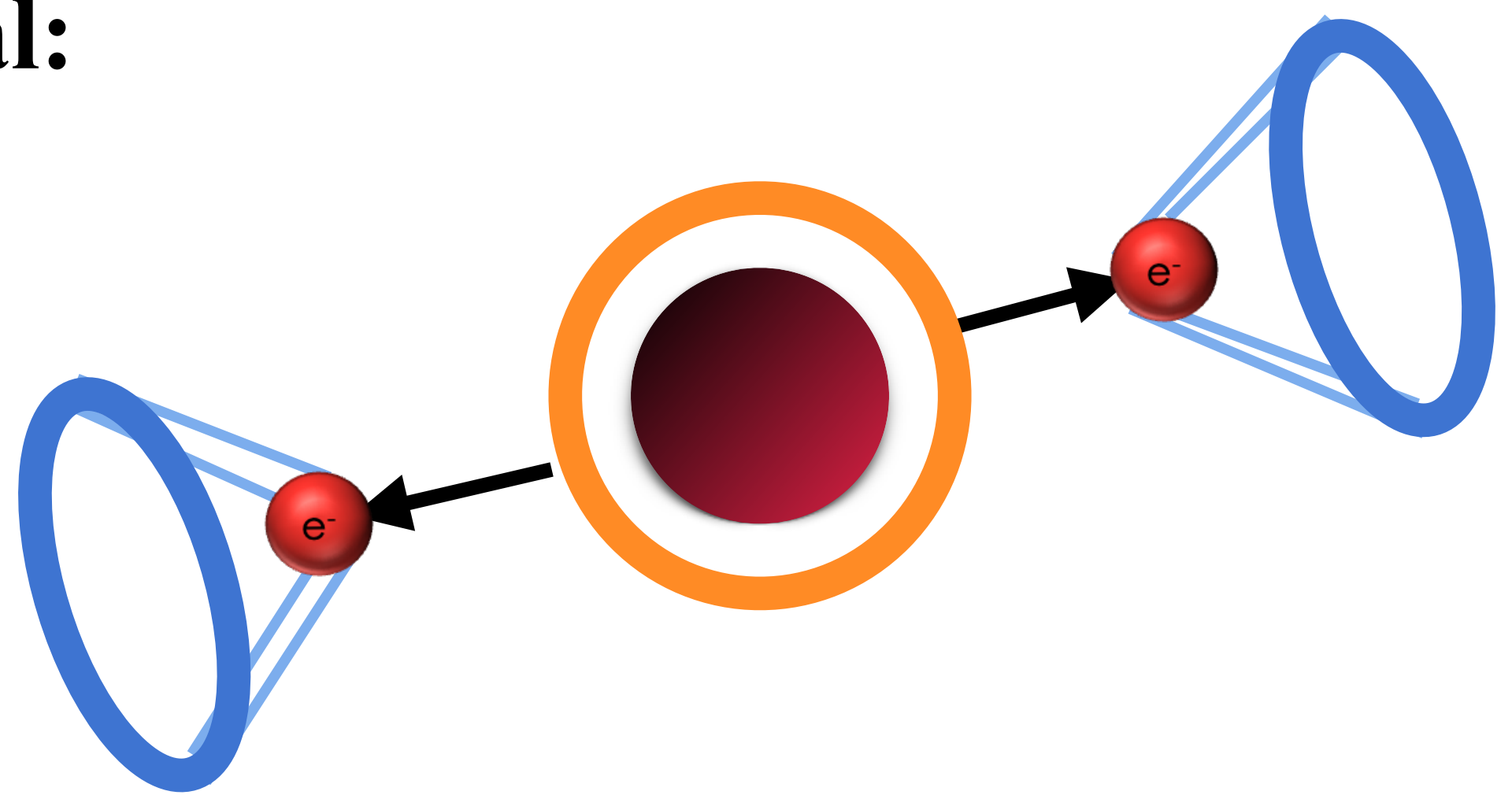
Improved energy resolution
Purpose: further separate $2\nu\beta\beta$ from the $0\nu\beta\beta$.

State-of-the-art electronics
Purpose: Improve background suppression.

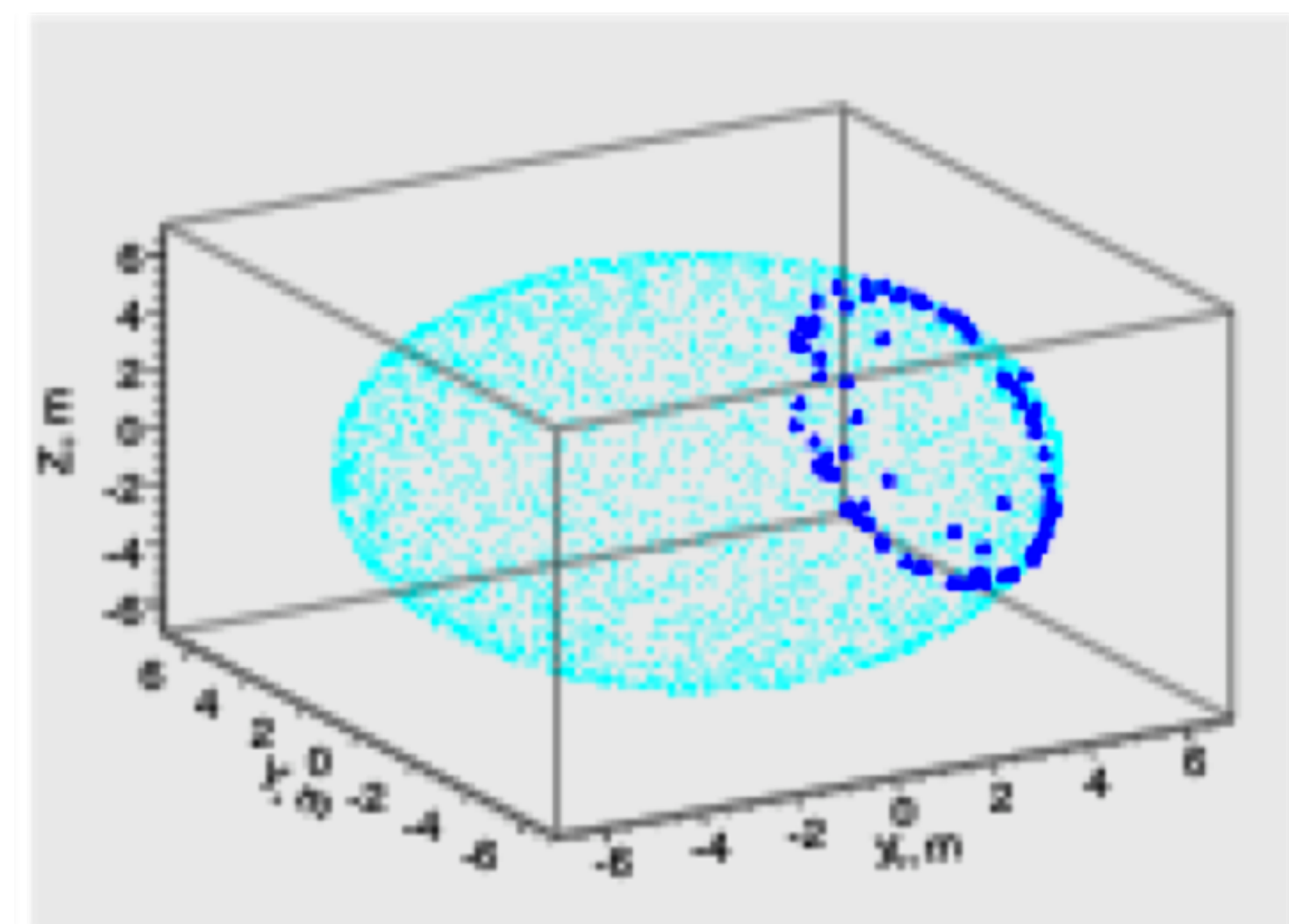
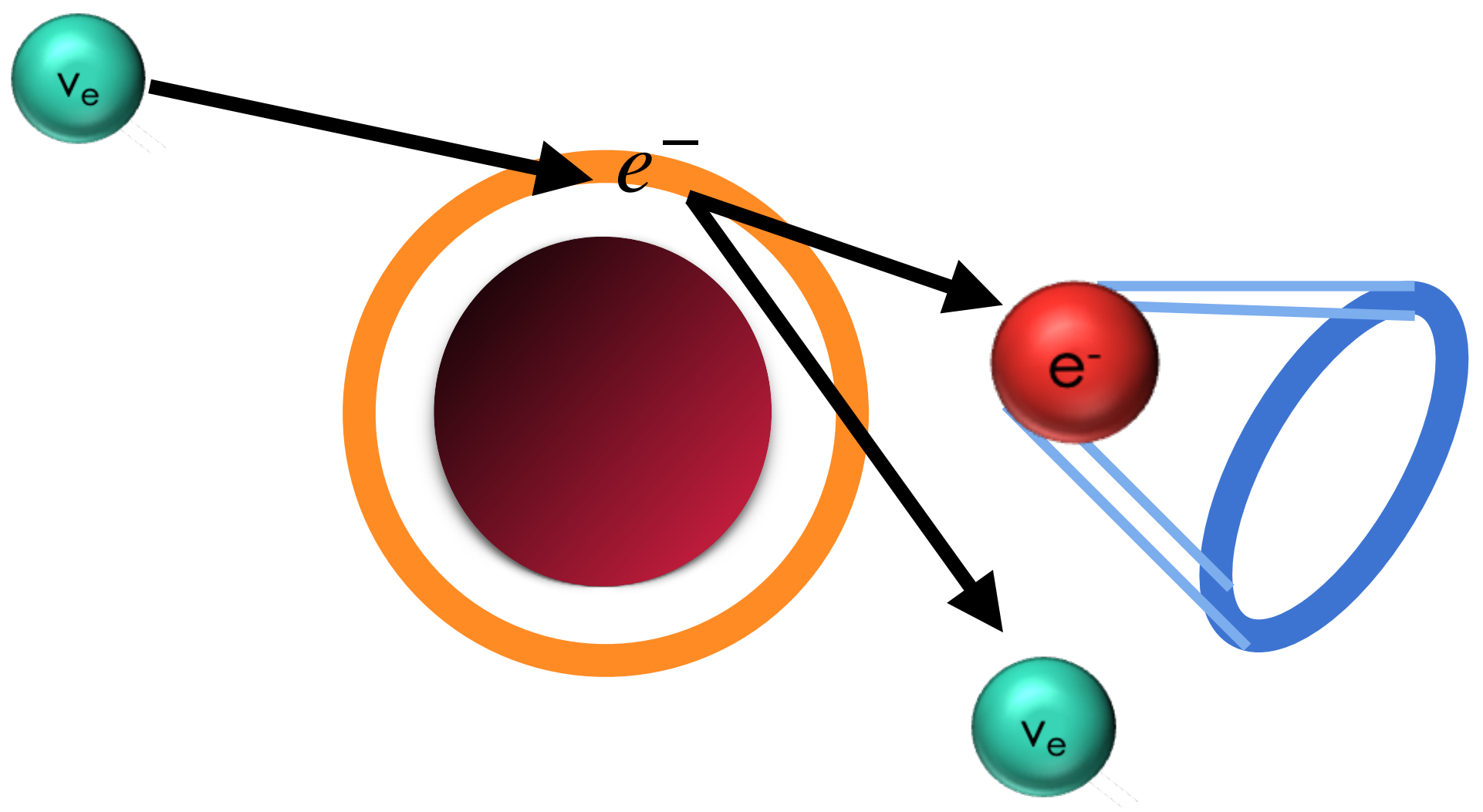


Separating solar neutrino backgrounds from $0\nu\beta\beta$ signal

Signal:



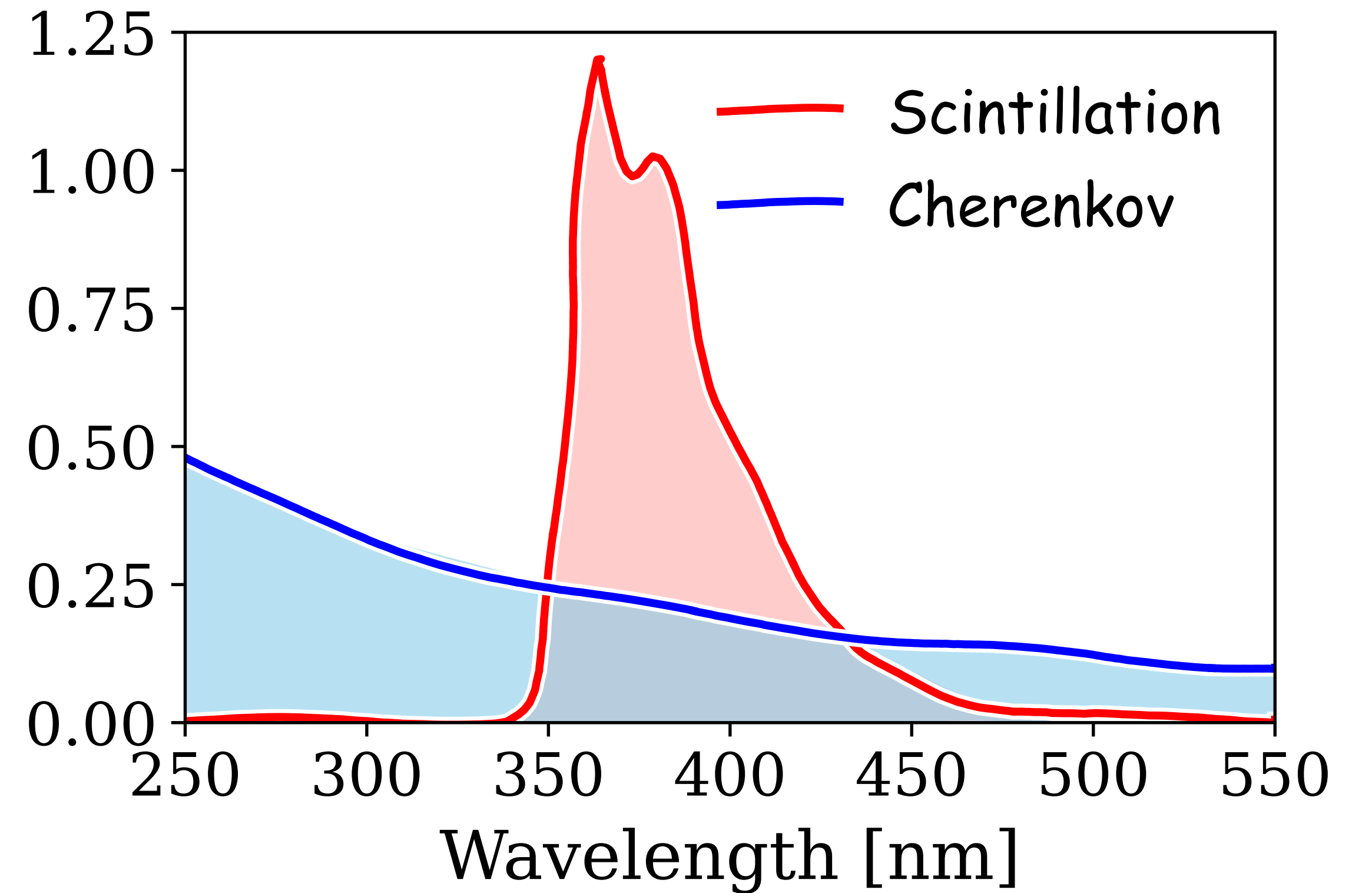
Background:



Figs. courtesy of A. Elagin

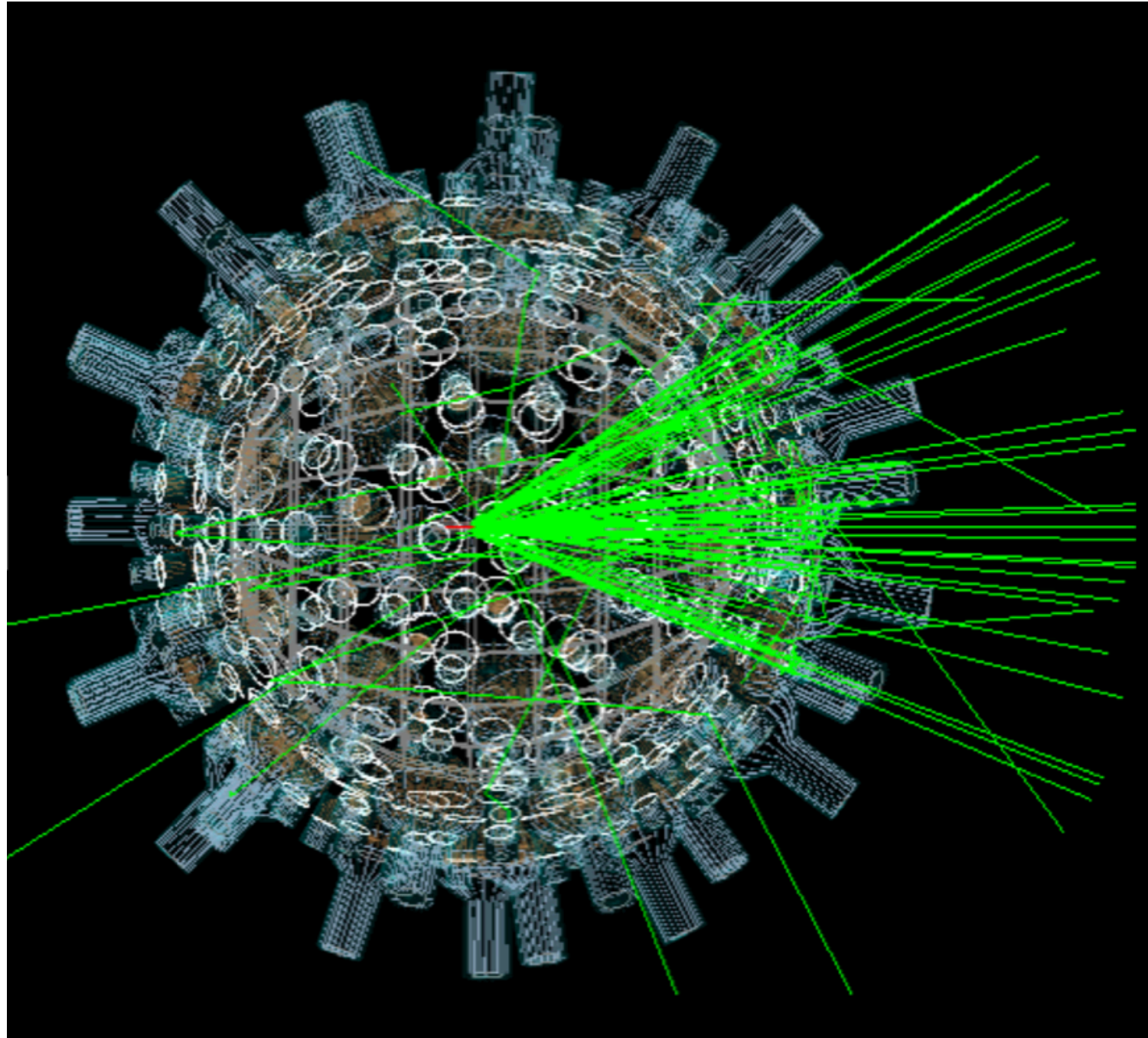
Ways to reduce background

1. Using wavelength-shifting materials

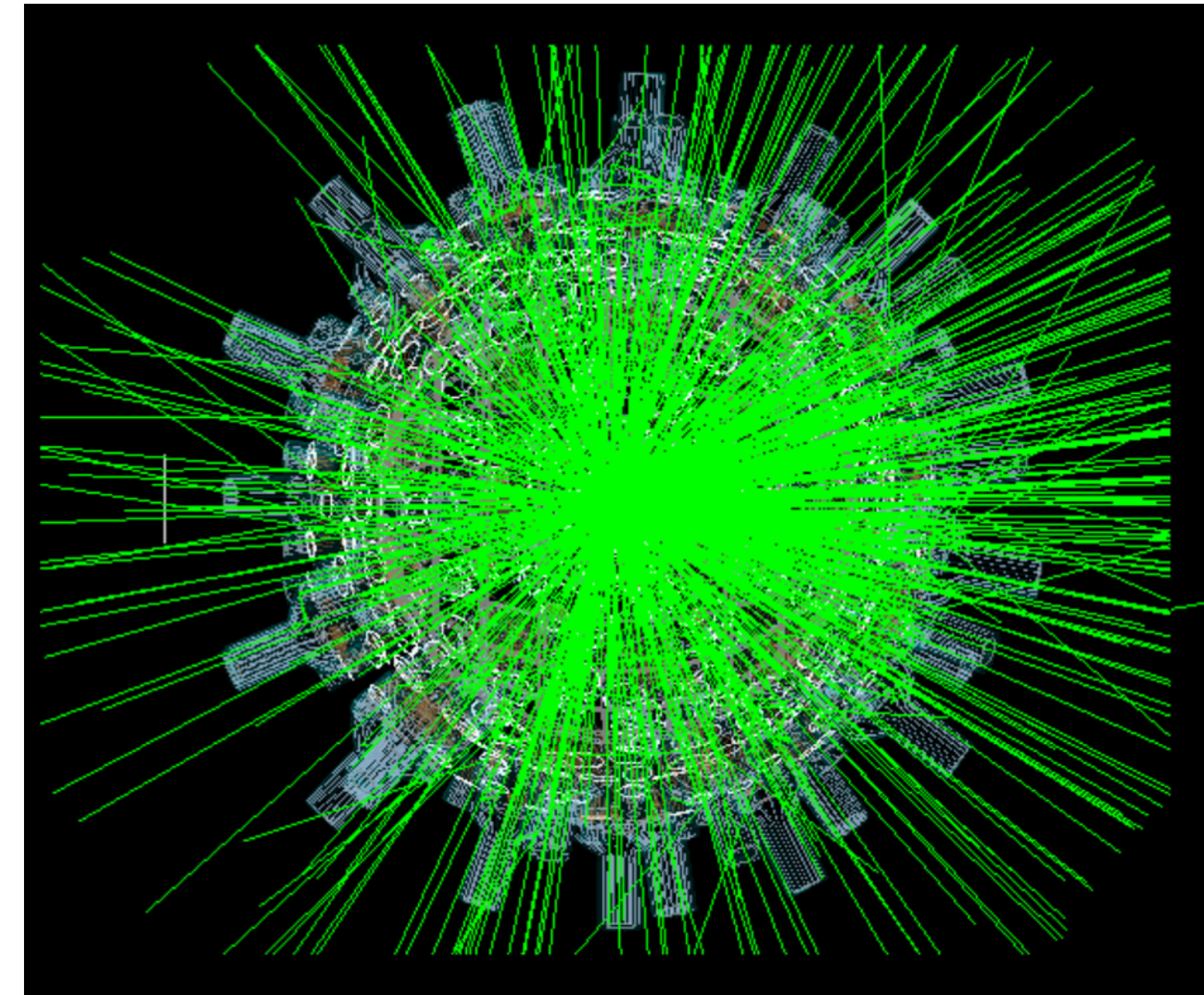


Ways to reduce background

1. Using wavelength-shifting materials
2. Using directional reconstruction



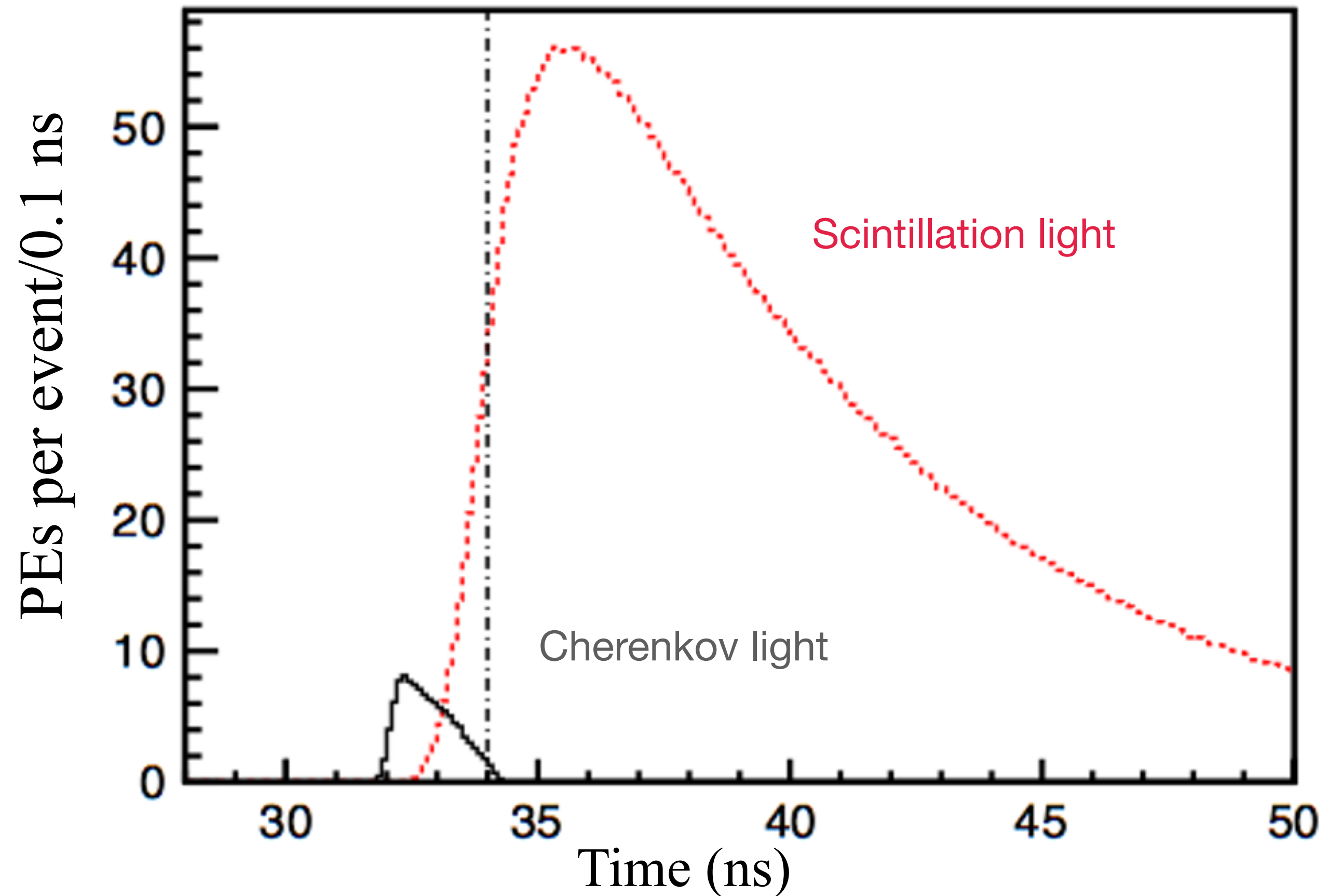
Cherenkov light



Scintillation light

Ways to reduce background

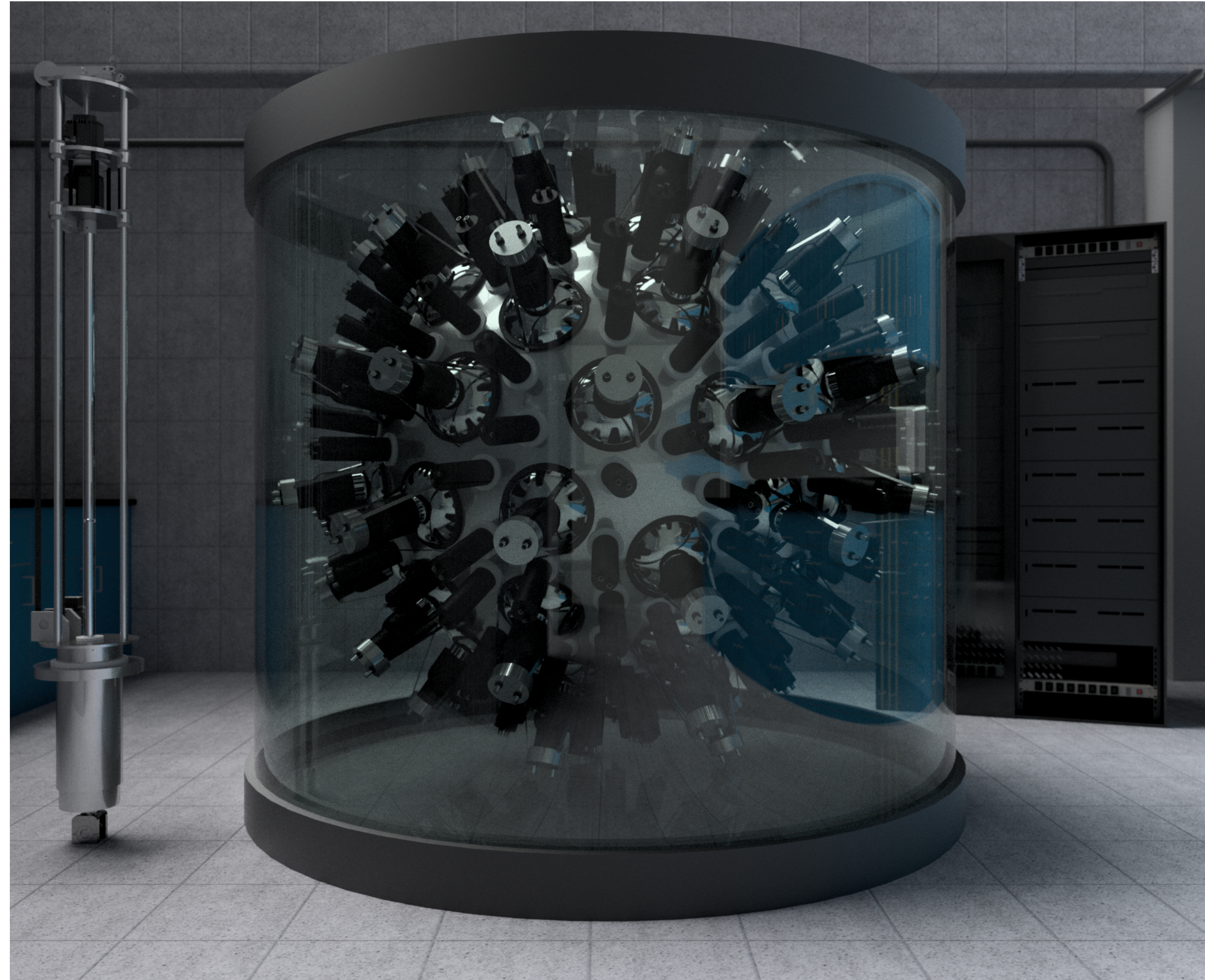
1. Using wavelength-shifting materials
2. Using directional reconstruction
3. Using precise timing resolution



Simulation of KamLAND-Zen type detector for separating Cherenkov from prompt scintillation emission.

NuDot detector @UD

NuDot detector is a 1m diameter acrylic vessel that is surrounded by 4π array of high precision photomultiplier tubes (PMT) and large light collection PMTs.



NuDot detector @UD

NuDot detector is a 1m diameter acrylic vessel that is surrounded by 4π array of high precision photomultiplier tubes (PMT) and large light collection PMTs.

x151 Hamamatsu R13089

- 2" PMTs
- Low time-transit spread ($\sigma = 200\text{ps}$)



NuDot detector @UD

NuDot detector is a 1m diameter acrylic vessel that is surrounded by 4π array of high precision photomultiplier tubes (PMT) and large light collection PMTs.

x151 Hamamatsu R13089

- 2" PMTs
- Low time-transit spread ($\sigma = 200\text{ps}$)

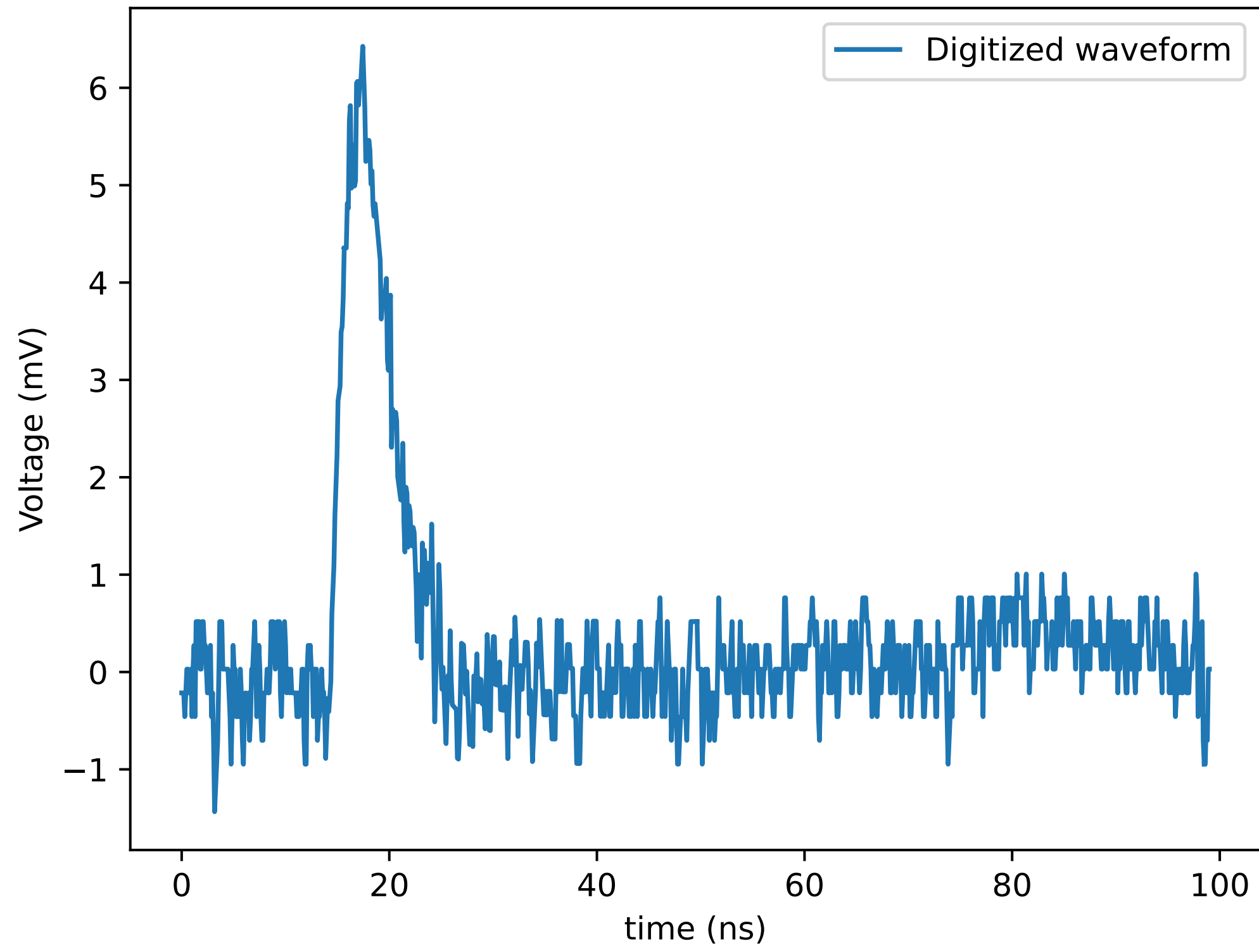
x59 Hamamatsu

- 8" PMTs
- Large light collection area and high quantum efficiency

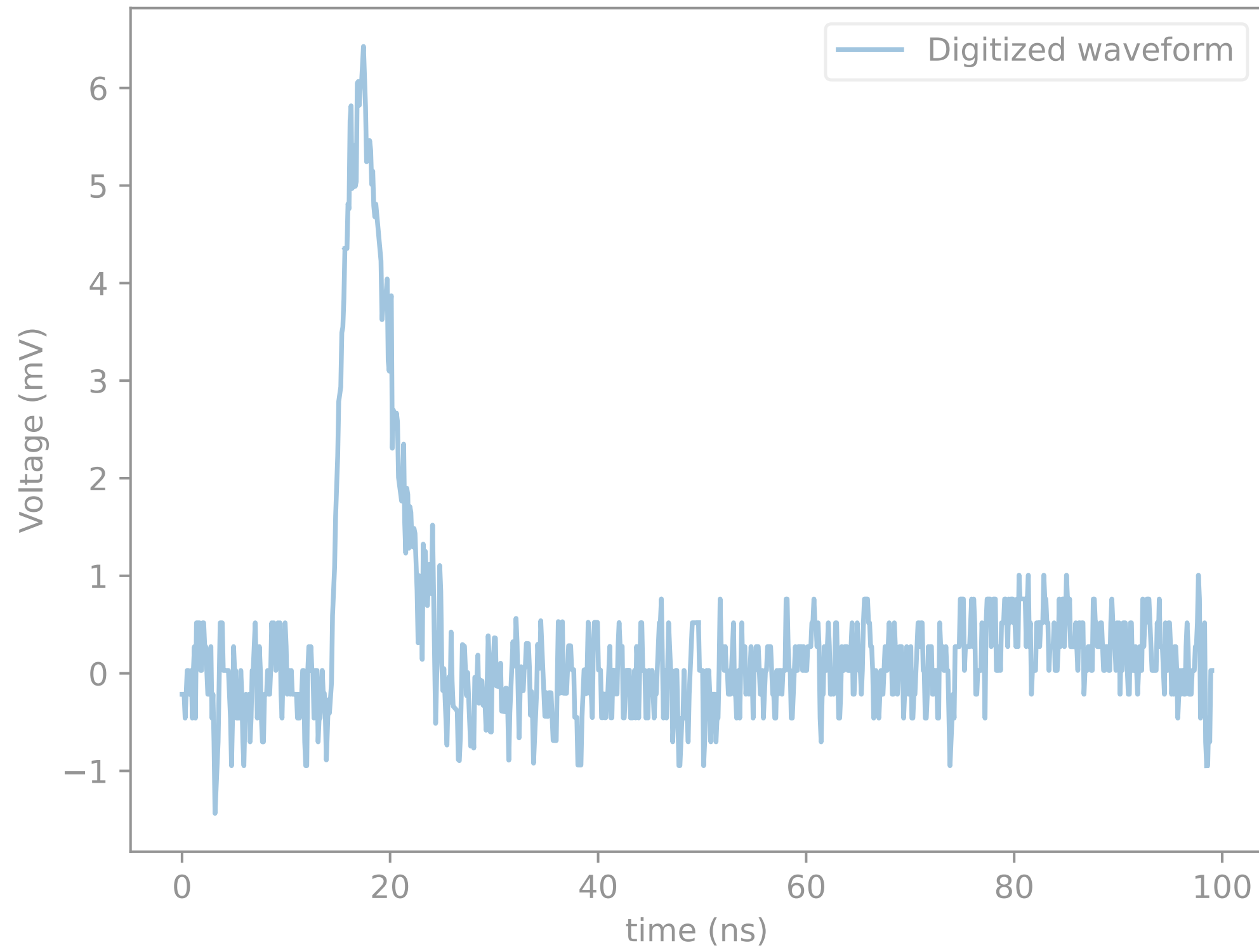
The acrylic vessel contains liquid scintillator, surrounded by PMTs, submerged in mineral oil buffer to provide structural support, passive shielding and optical coupling.



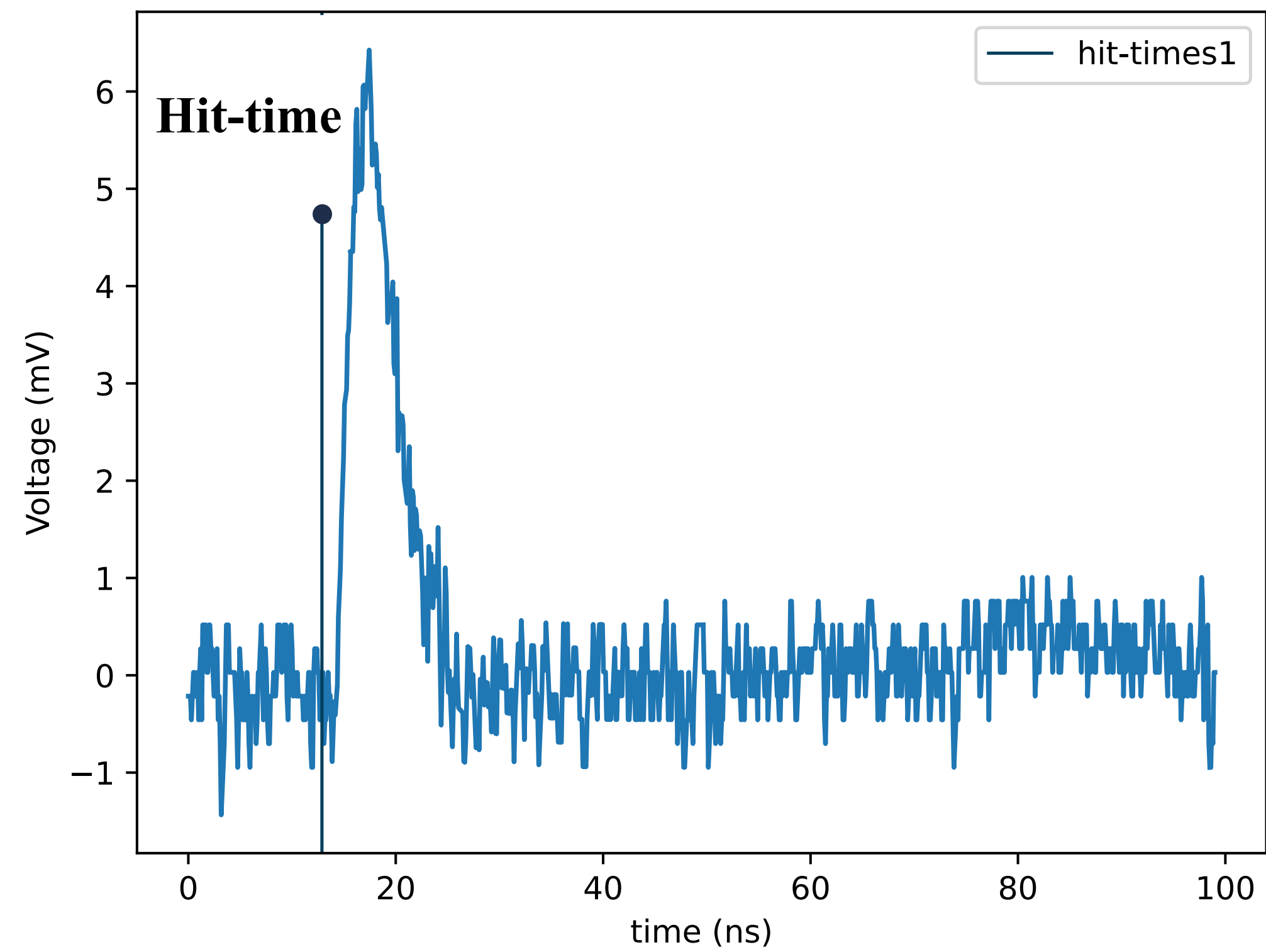
Goals with ML



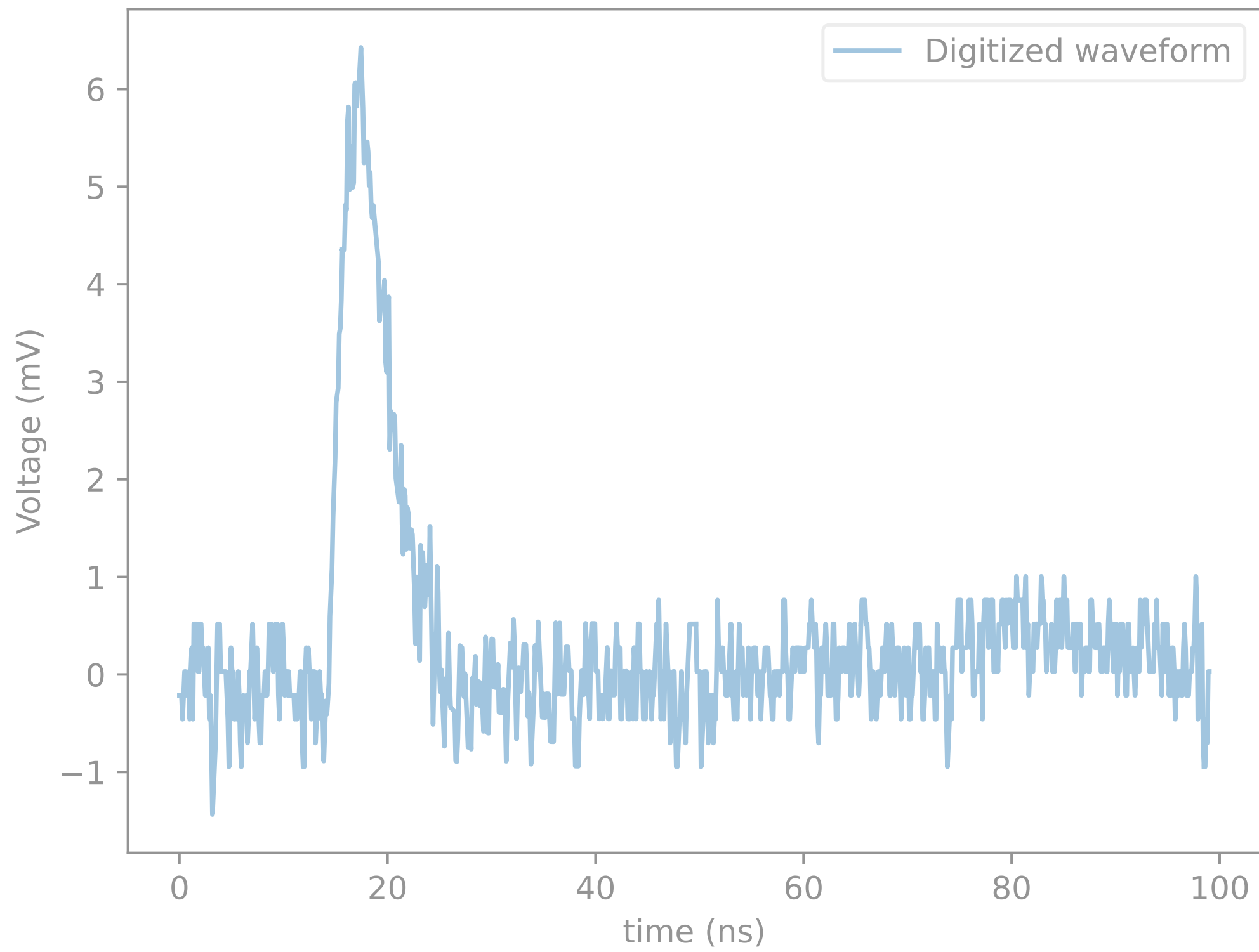
Goals with ML



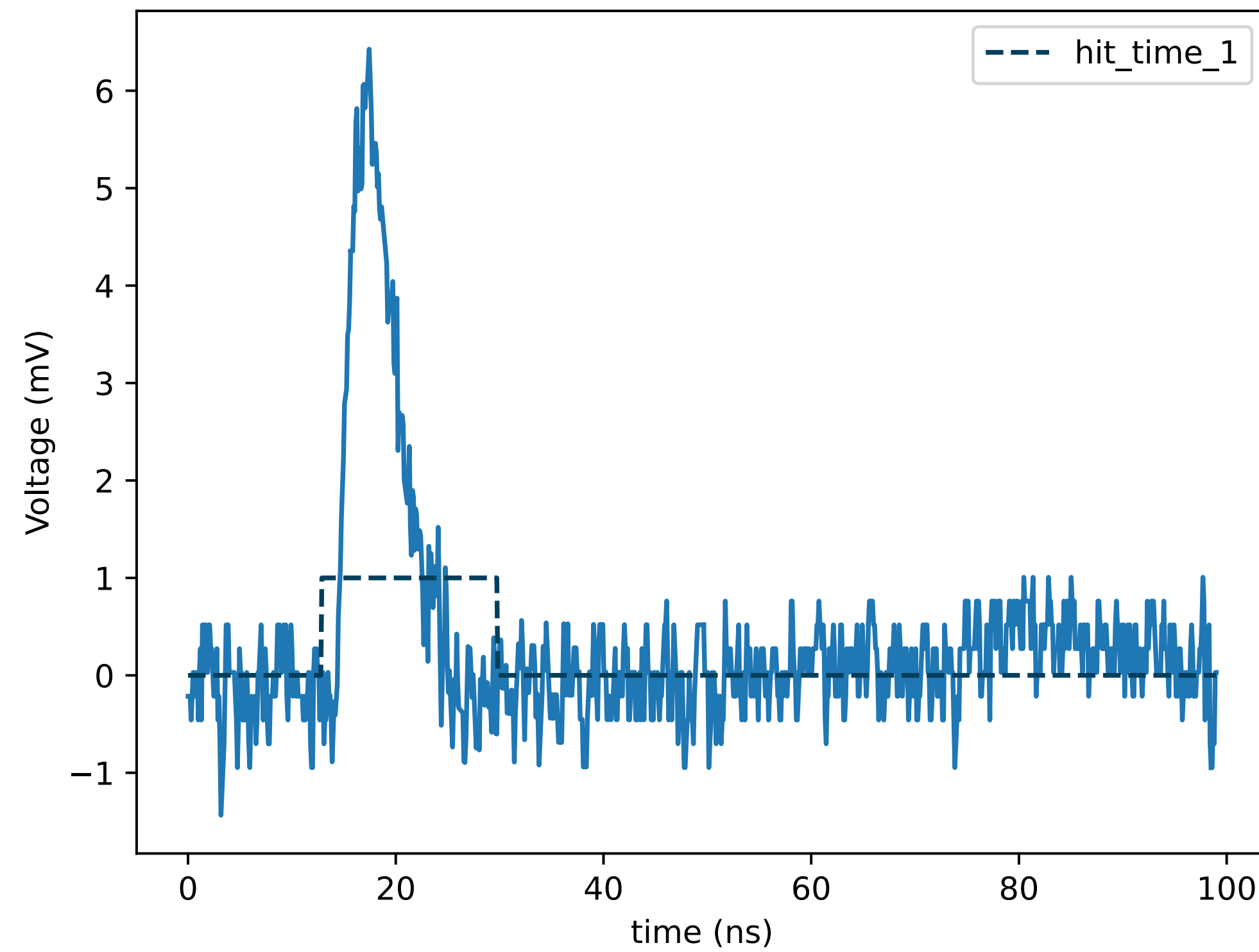
Find the rising time of the pulse in digitized waveform.



Goals with ML



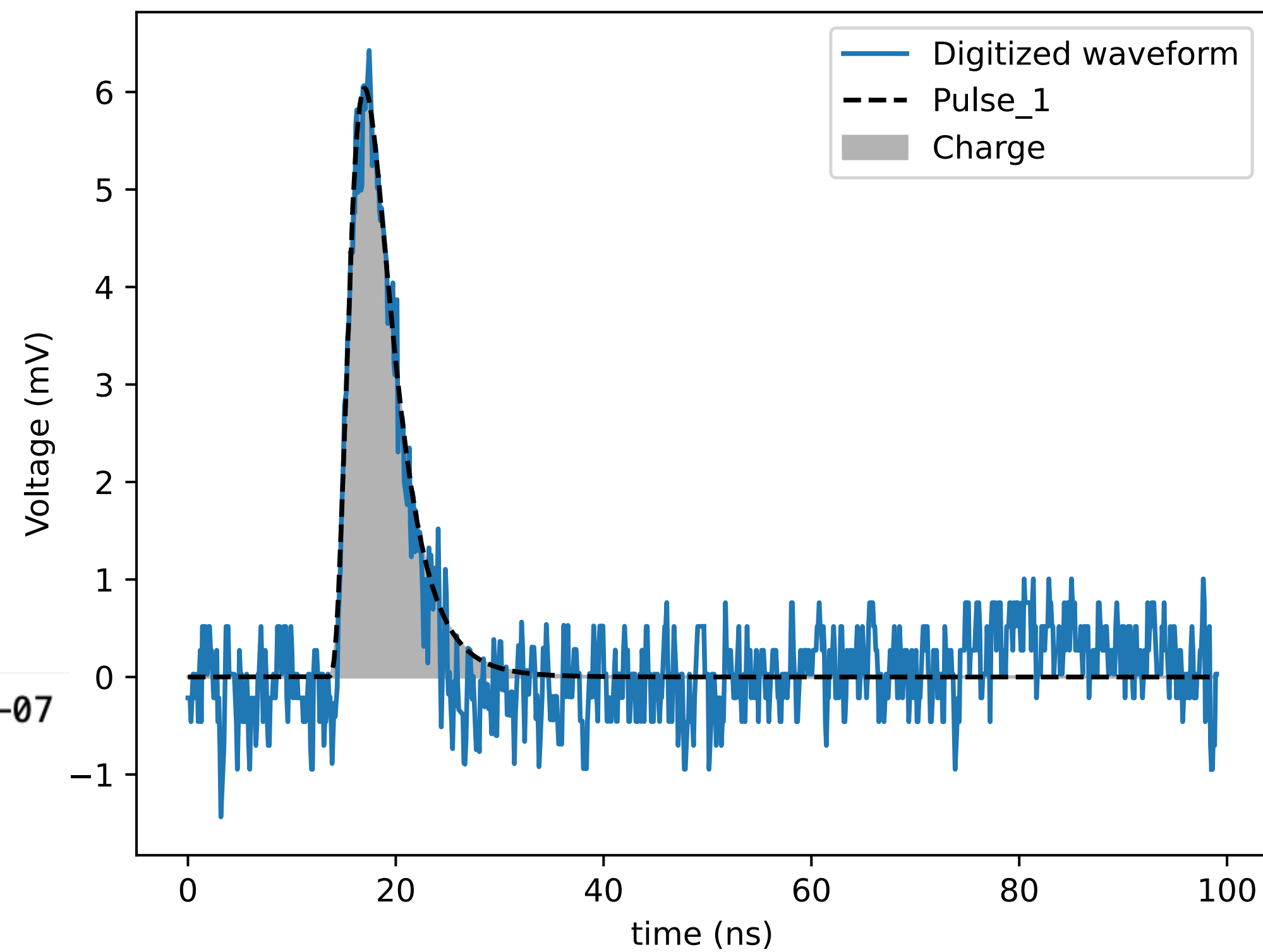
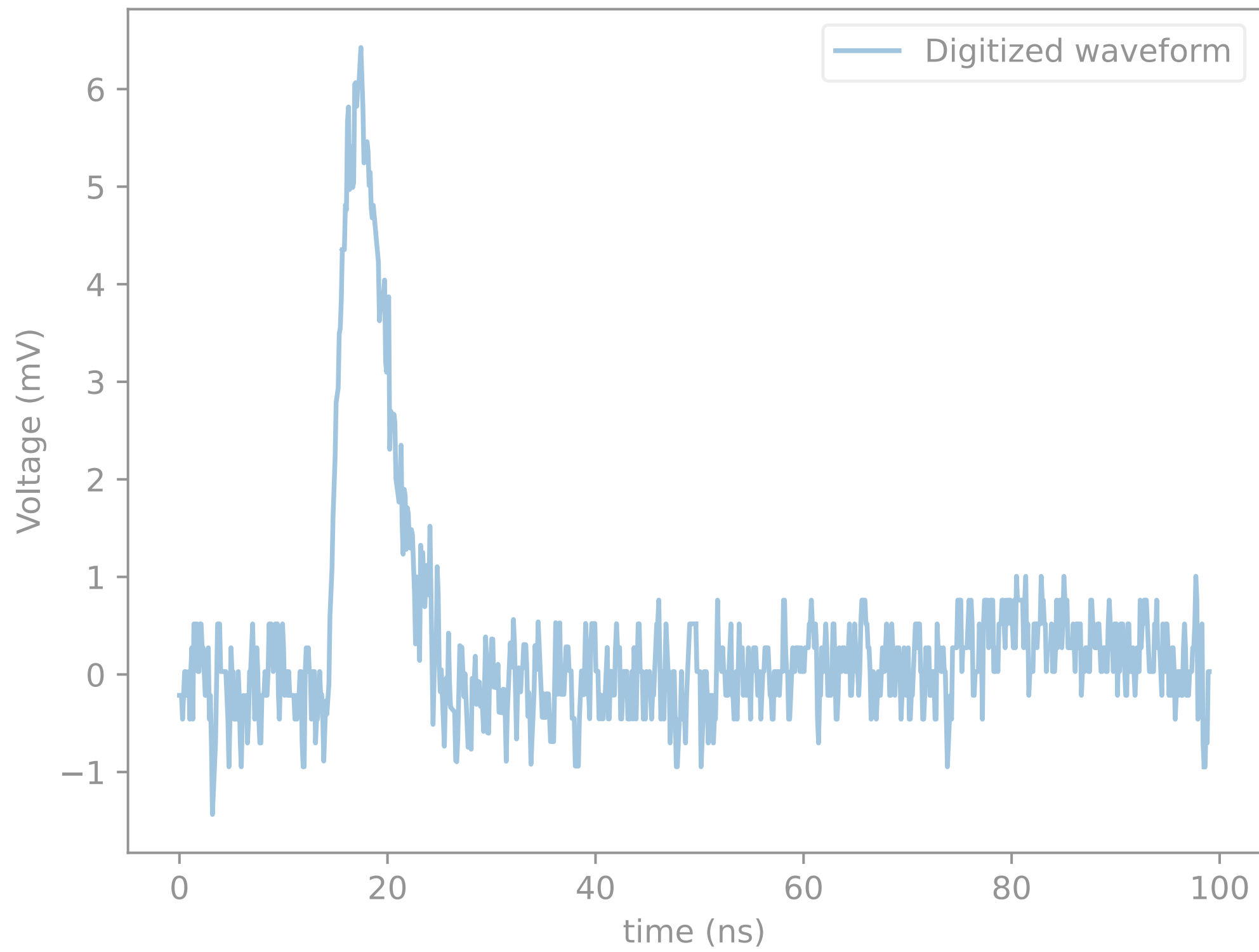
Find the rising time of the pulse in digitized waveform.



[0,0,0,0,0.....1,1,1,1.....0,0,0,0,0]

Goals with ML

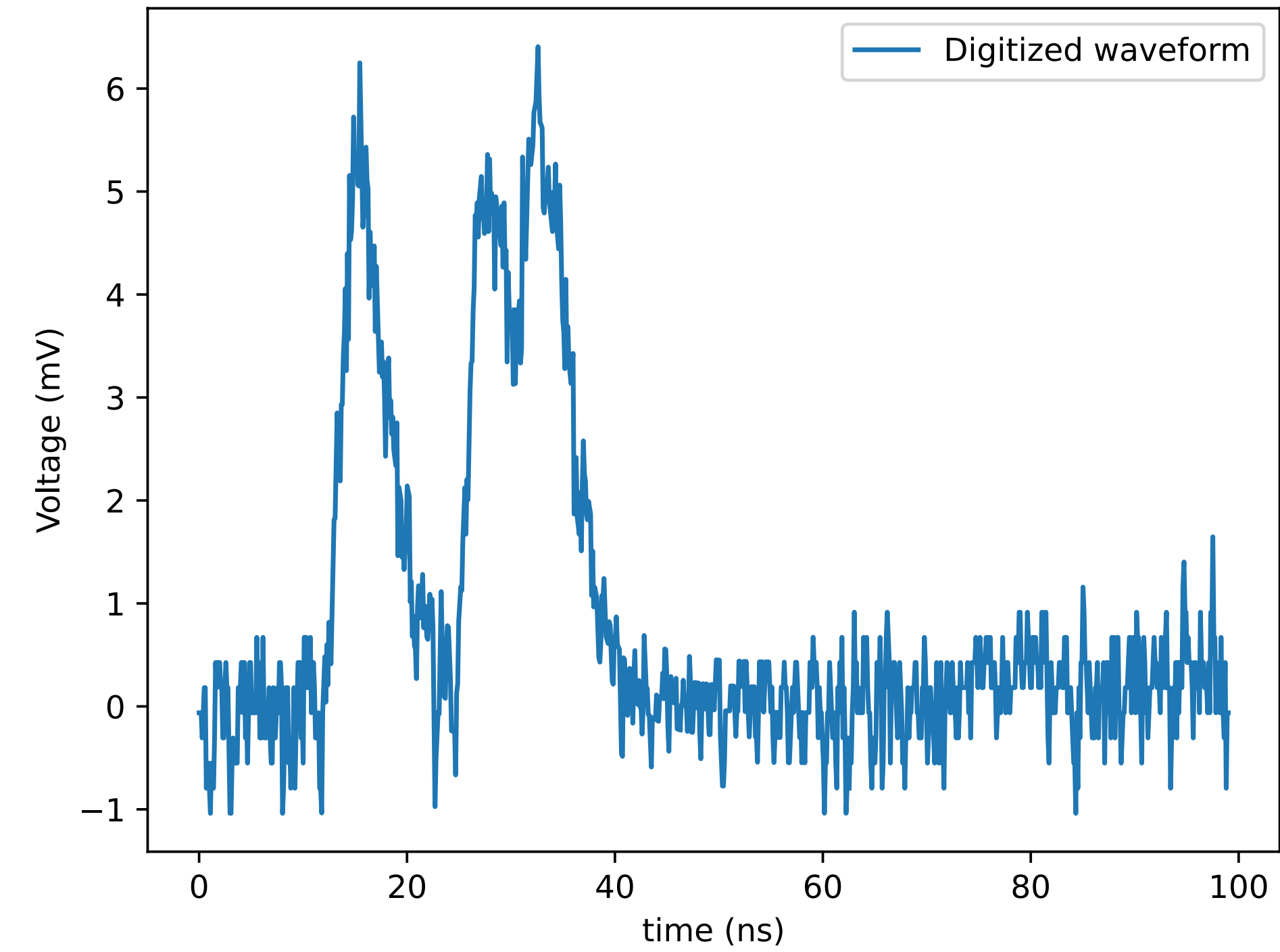
Find the charge of the pulse in the digitized waveform.



```
[[0.00000000e+00 0.00000000e+00 0.00000000e+00 ... 1.40309027e-07  
 1.38124454e-07 1.35975779e-07]]
```

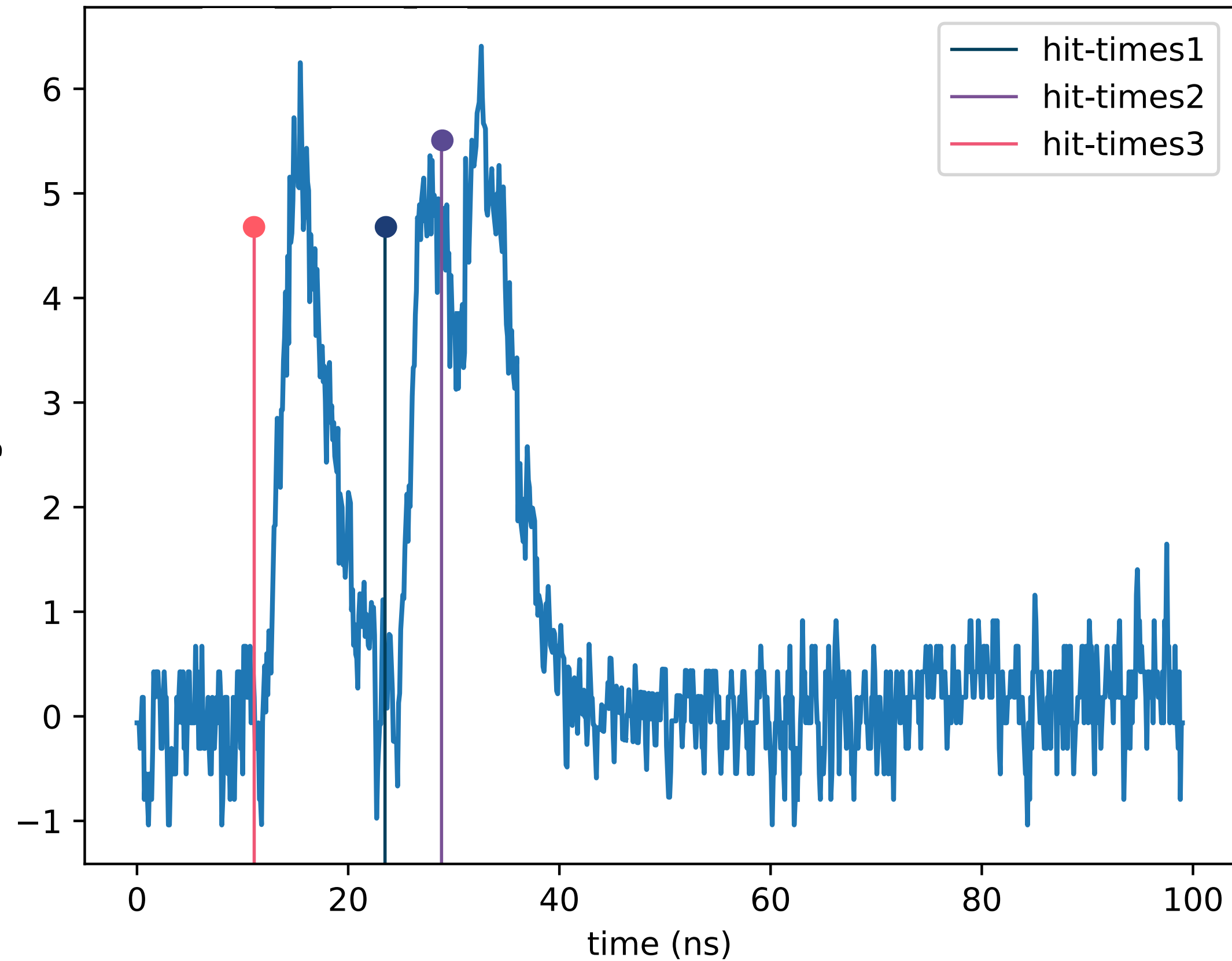
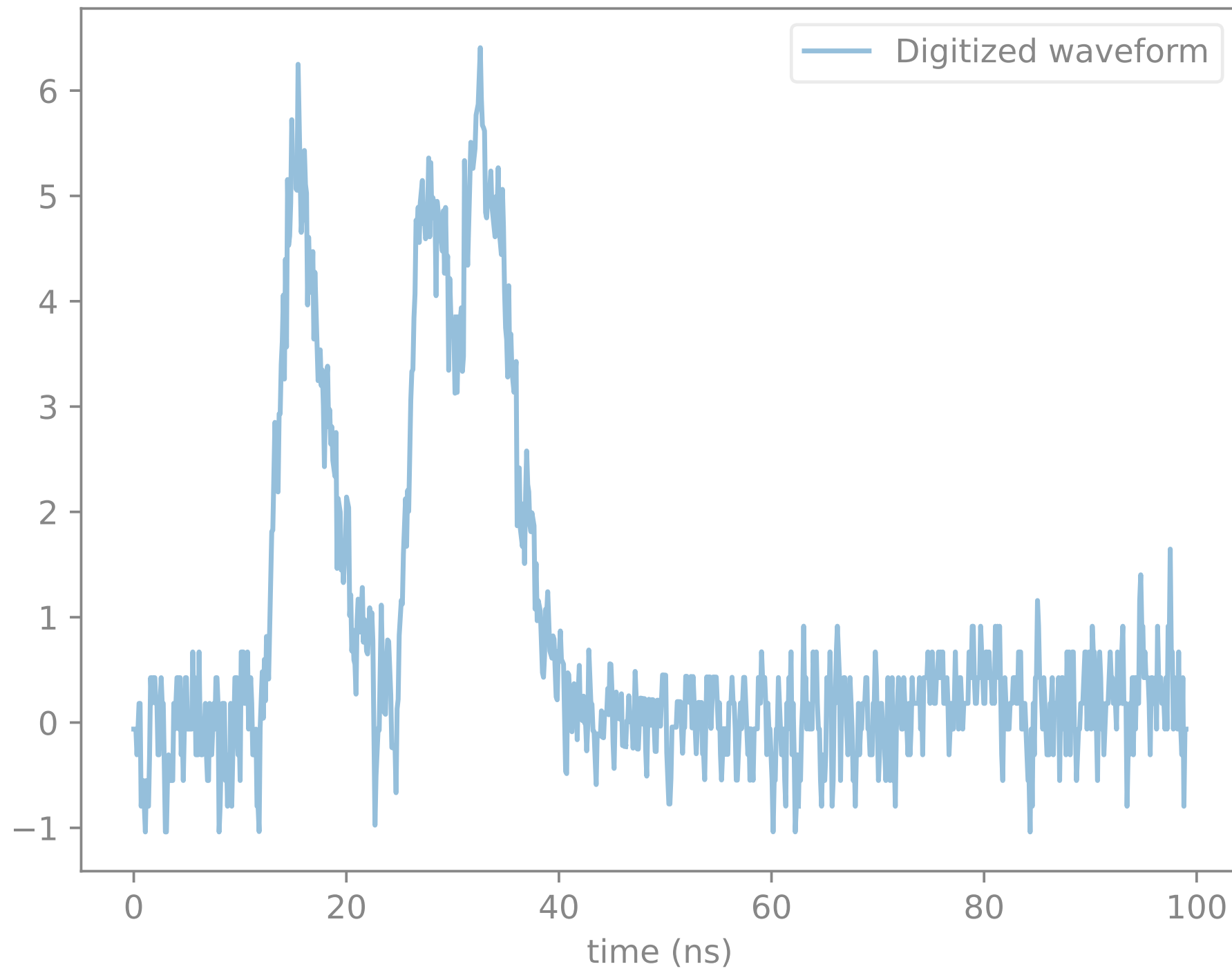
Goals with ML

Can the model do the same for more than a pulse?



Goals with ML

Can the model do the same for more than a pulse?

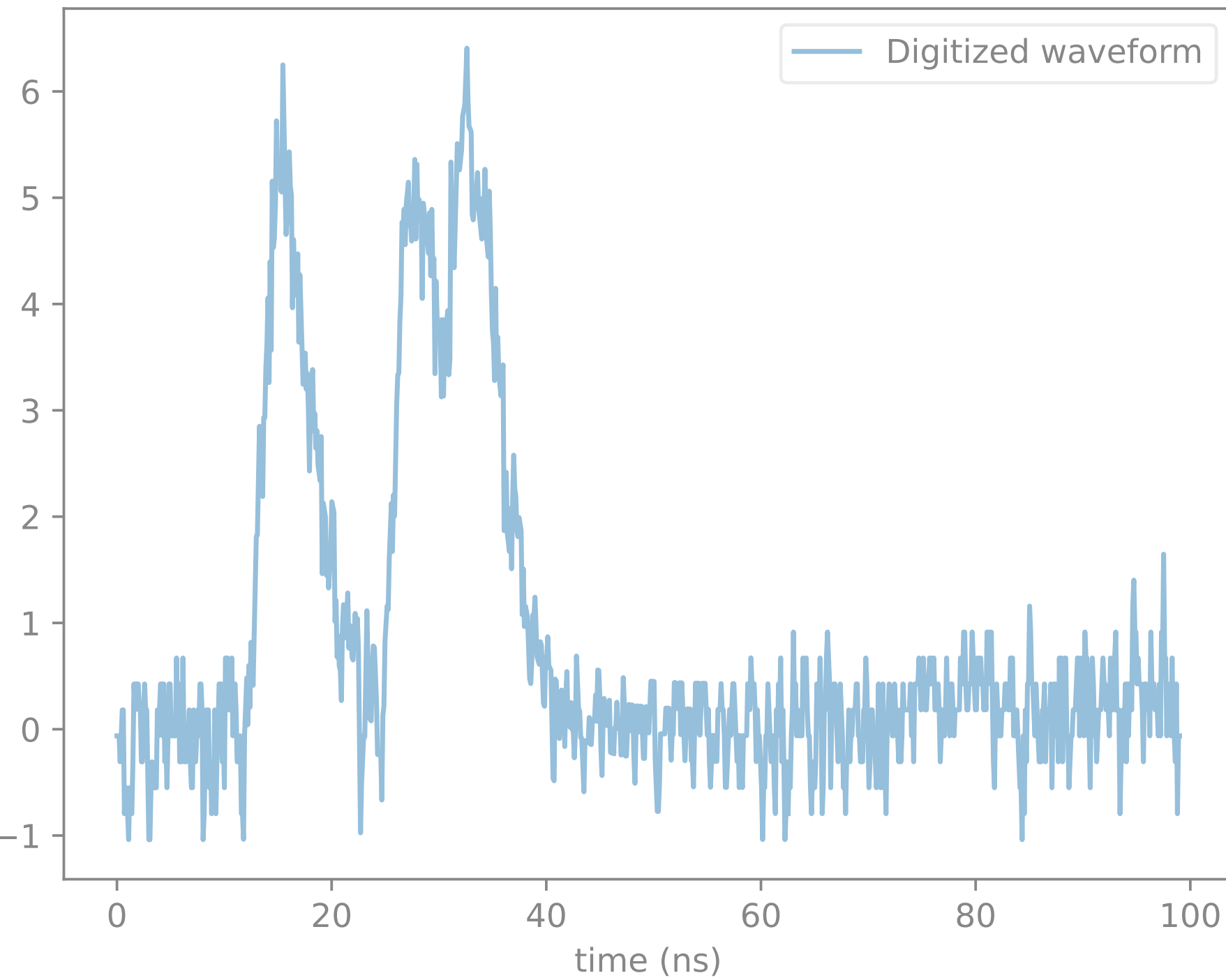


Find the hit times of all the pulses in a waveform.

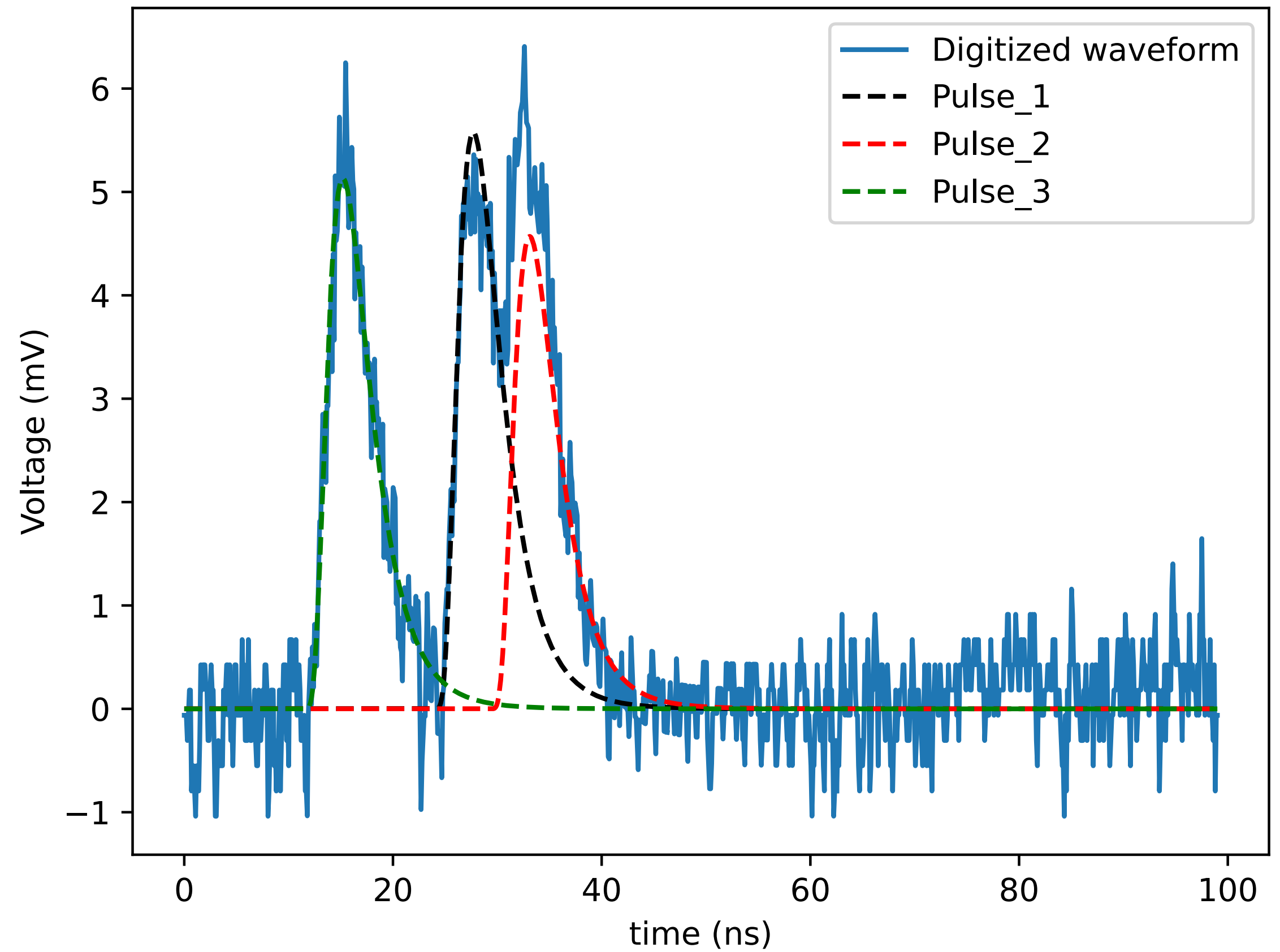
[0,0..1,1...1,1..1,1.....0,0.....0,0,0]

Goals with ML

Can the model do the same for more than a pulse?



Find the charge of all the pulses in a waveform.



Machine Learning

UNet architecture









- U-Net is a deep learning model designed for **semantic segmentation**.
- It is commonly used in **medical imaging** (e.g., tumor detection) and **satellite image analysis**.

UNet architecture

Semantic Segmentation

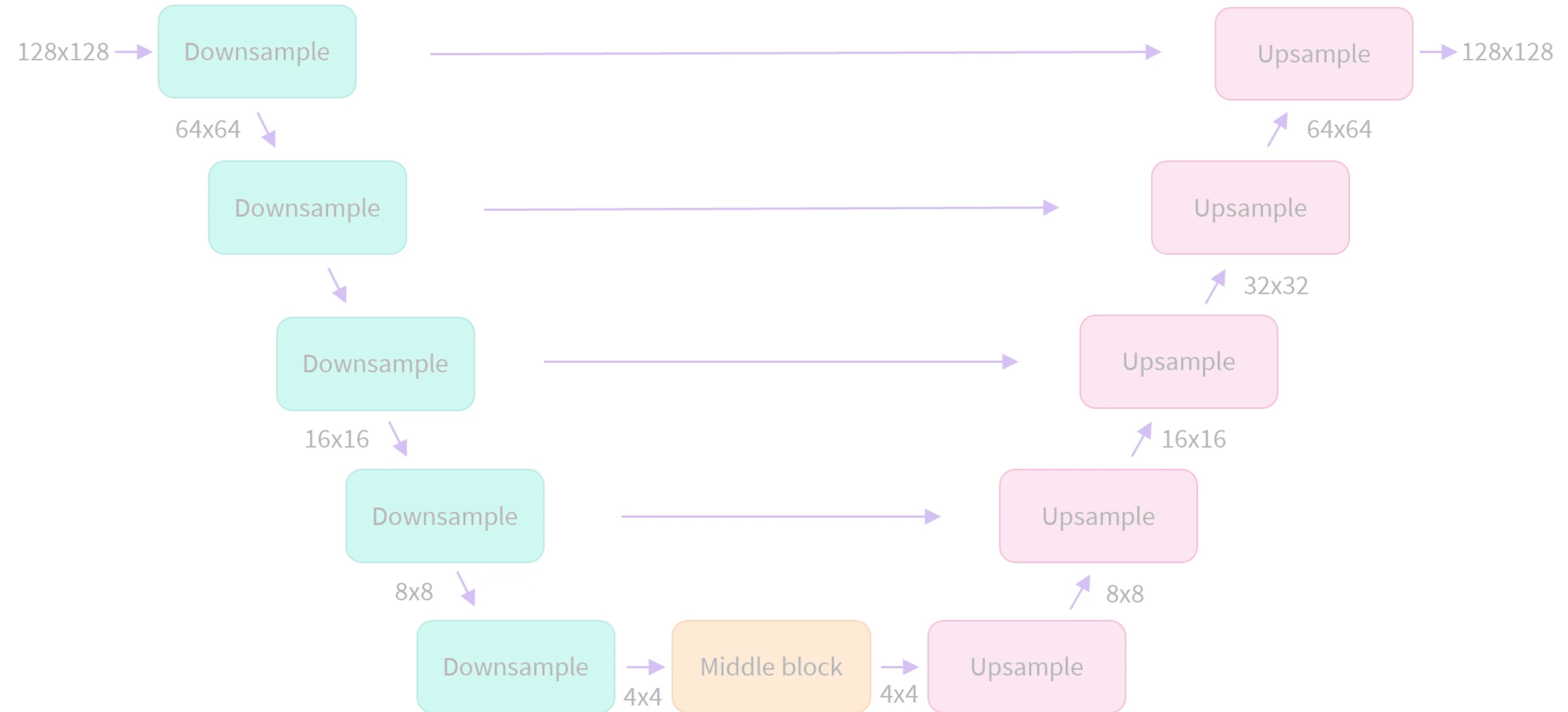
- **Semantic segmentation** involves pixel by pixel categorization in a meaningful way.



 Road	 Sidewalk	 Building	 Fence
 Pole	 Vegetation	 Vehicle	 Unlabel

Machine Learning

UNet architecture

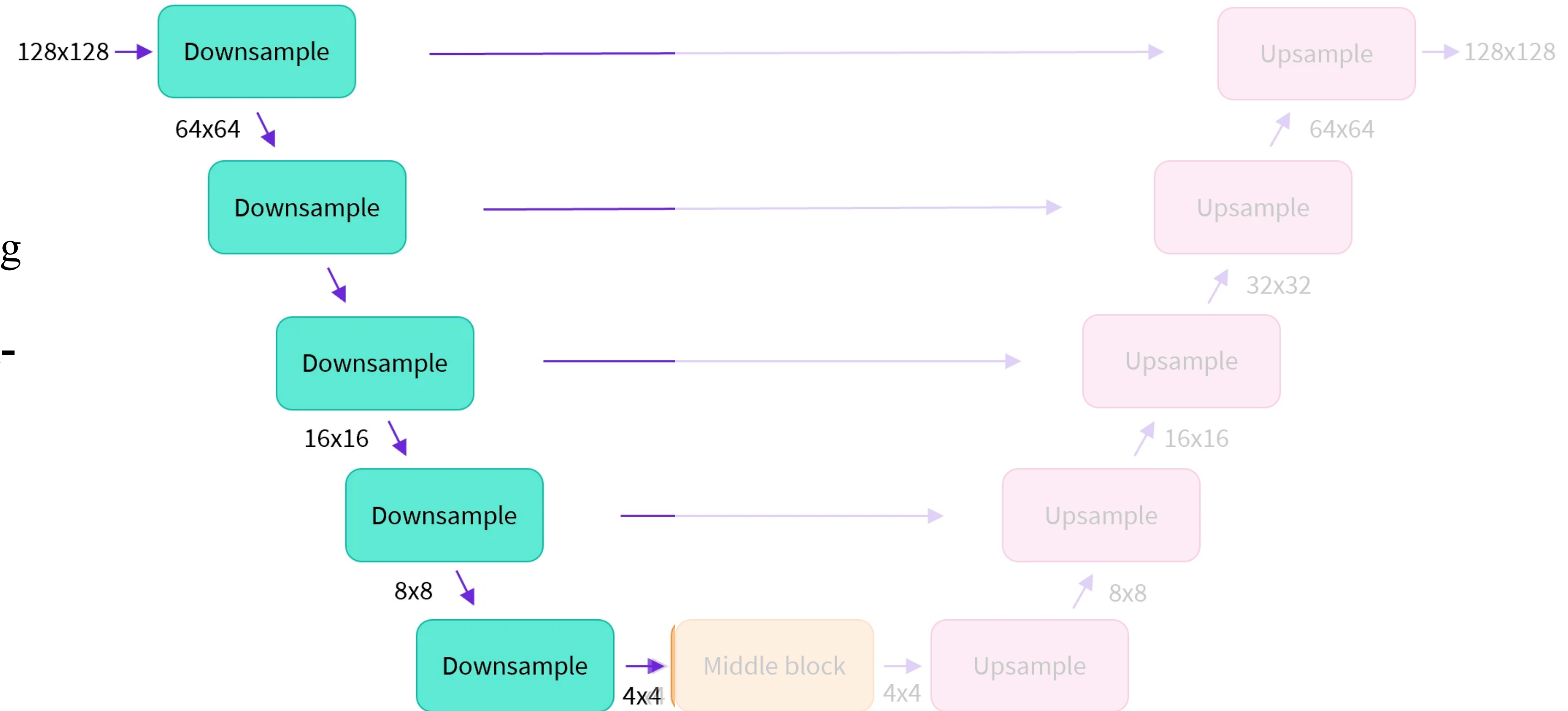


U-Shape Design:

The architecture has two parts: an **encoder** (left side) and a **decoder** (right side).

Machine Learning

UNet architecture



U-Shape Design:

The architecture has two parts: an **encoder** (left side) and a **decoder** (right side).

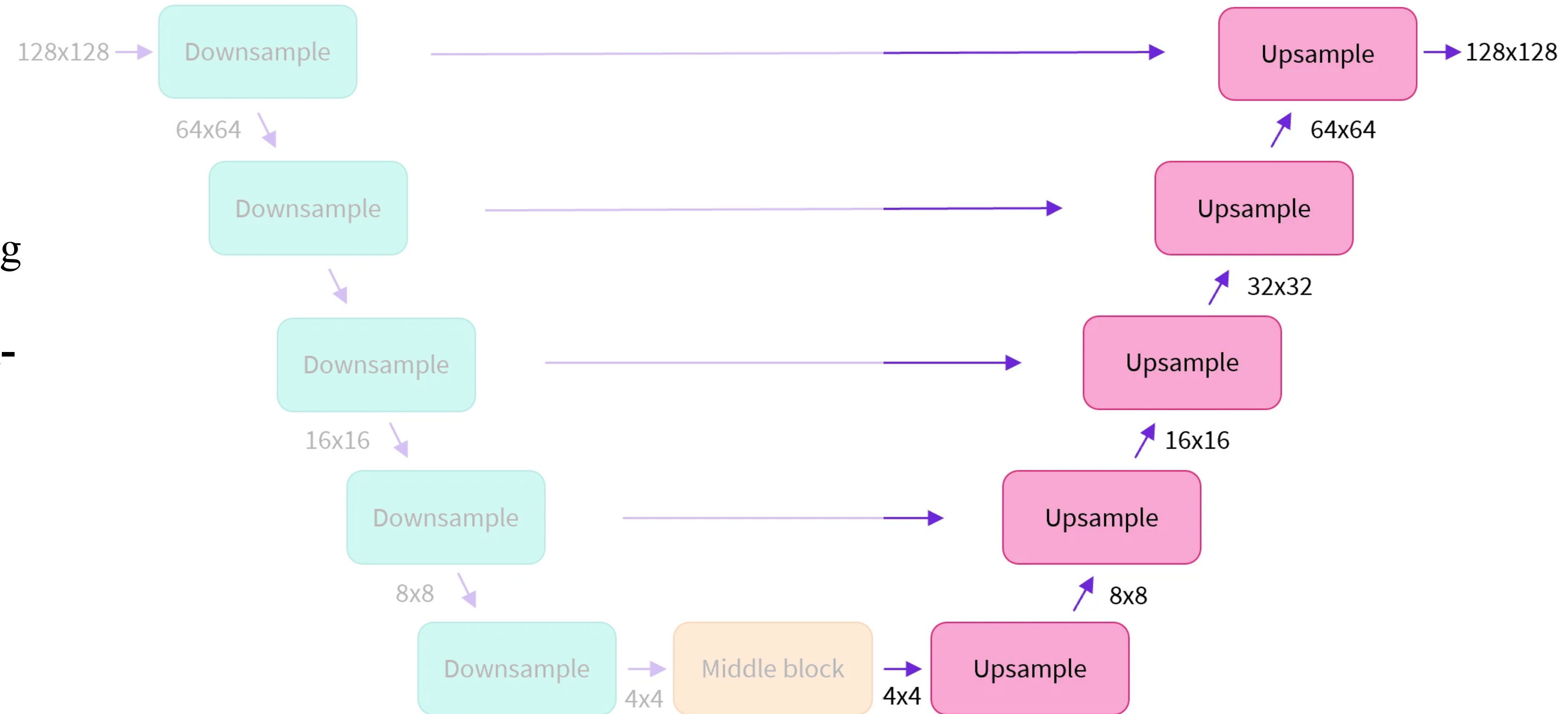
Encoder (Downsampling):

Extracts important features by reducing the image size step by step.

Uses layers like **convolution** and **max-pooling** to focus on the "what" of the image.

Machine Learning

UNet architecture



U-Shape Design:

The architecture has two parts: an **encoder** (left side) and a **decoder** (right side).

Encoder (Downsampling):

Extracts important features by reducing the image size step by step.

Uses layers like **convolution** and **max-pooling** to focus on the "what" of the image.

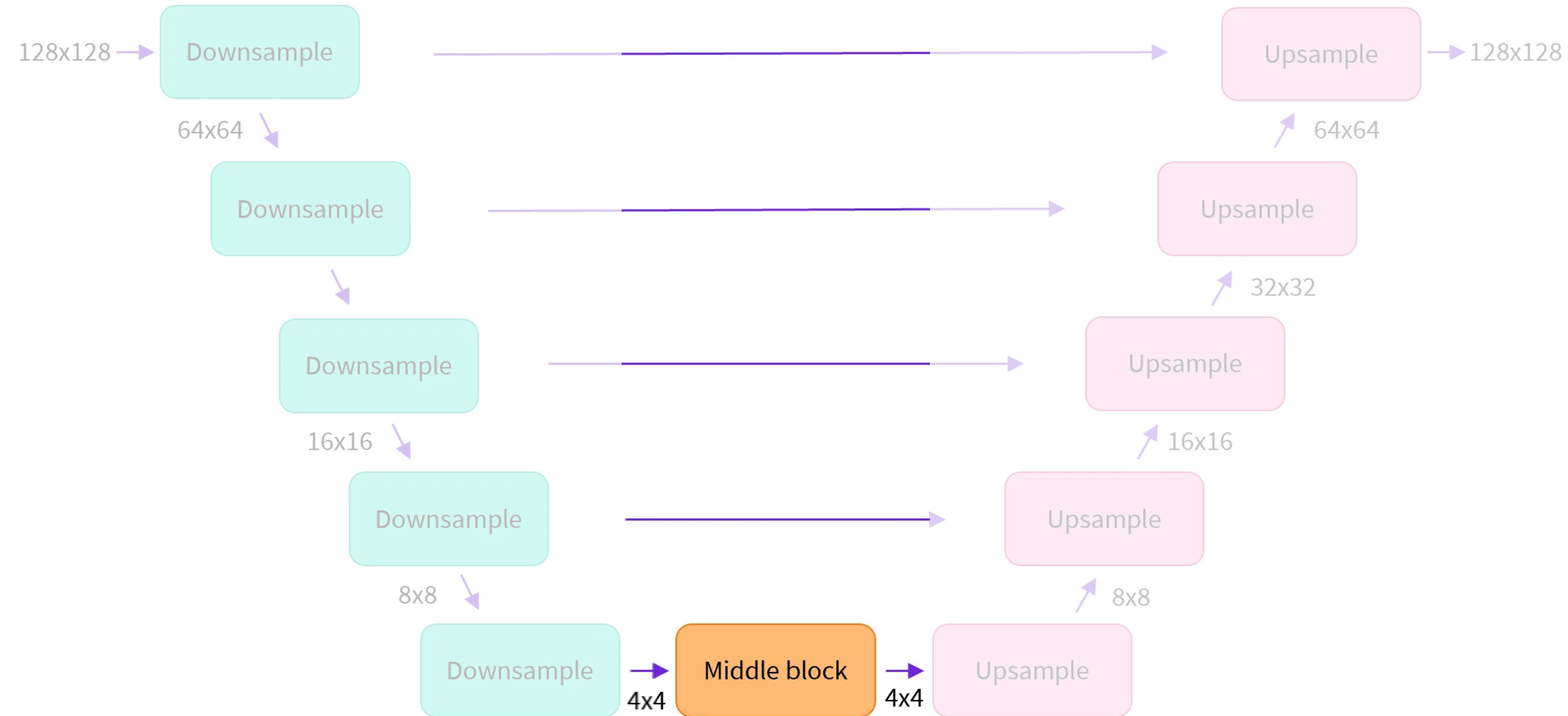
Decoder (Upsampling):

Reconstructs the image size while assigning each pixel a category.

Combines **features from the encoder** with upsampled data to retain details.

Machine Learning

UNet architecture

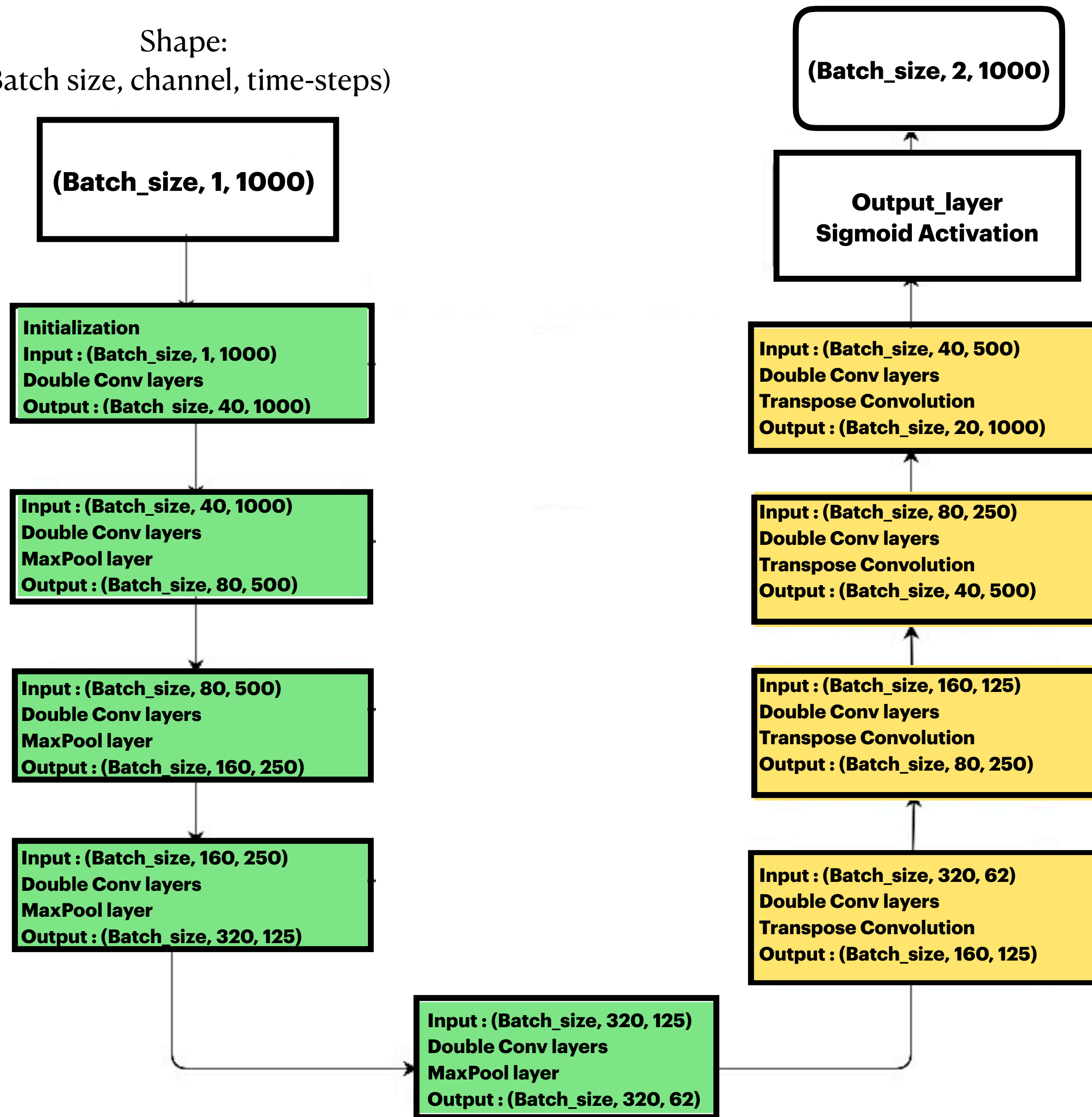


Skip Connections:

Links encoder and decoder layers to preserve fine details during reconstruction.

Classification UNet architecture

Shape:
(Batch size, channel, time-steps)



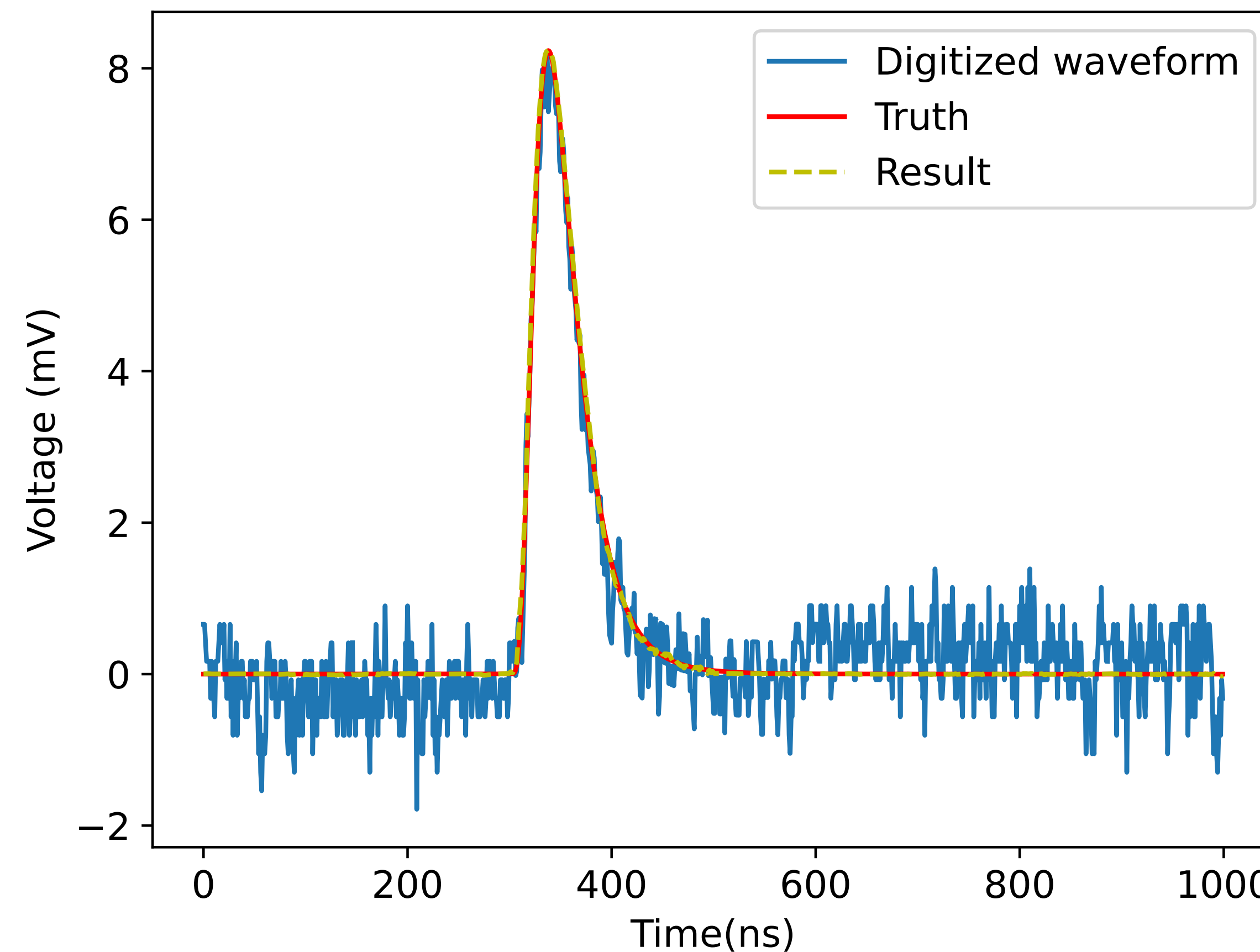
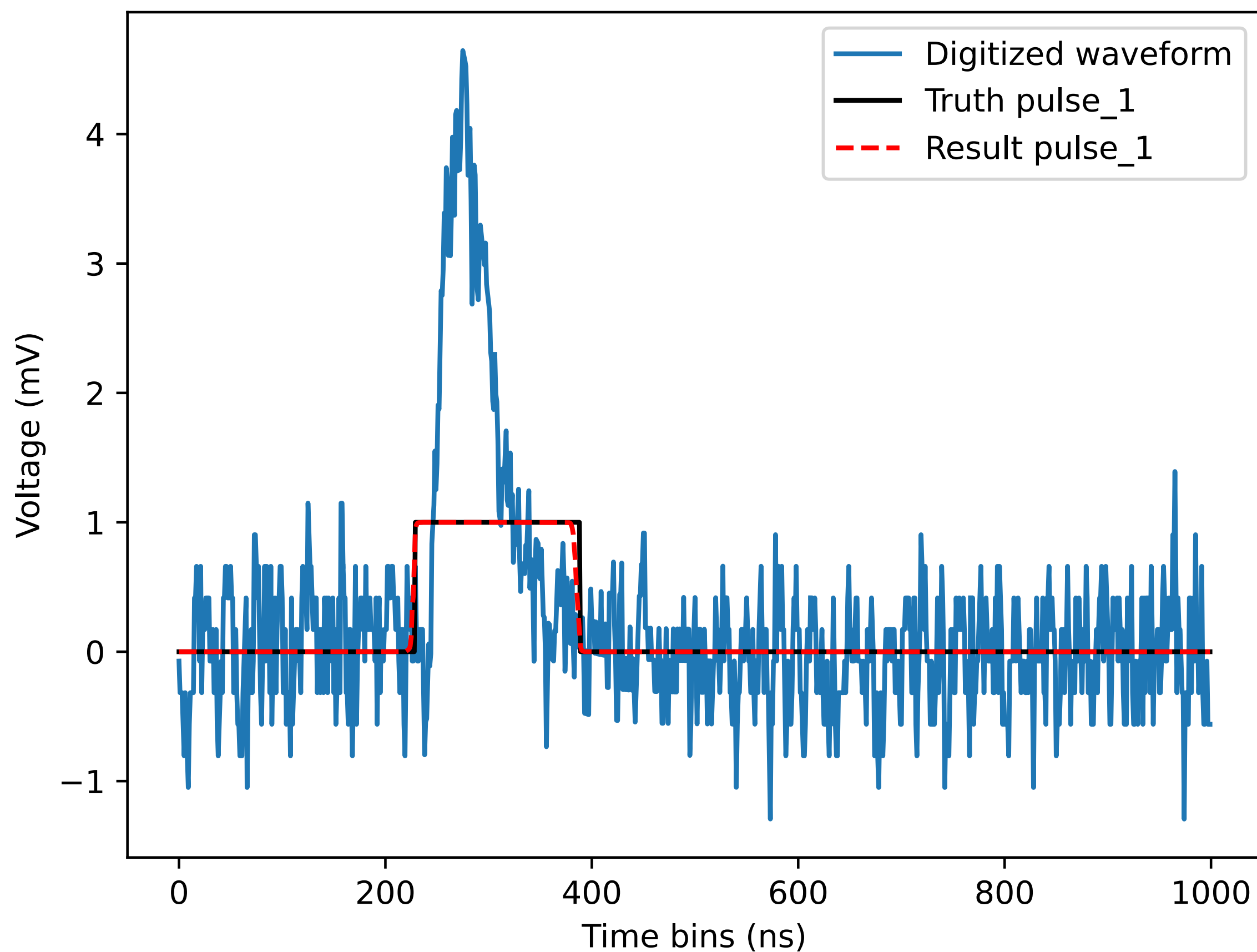
Pulse analysis using machine learning

Classification:

Regression:

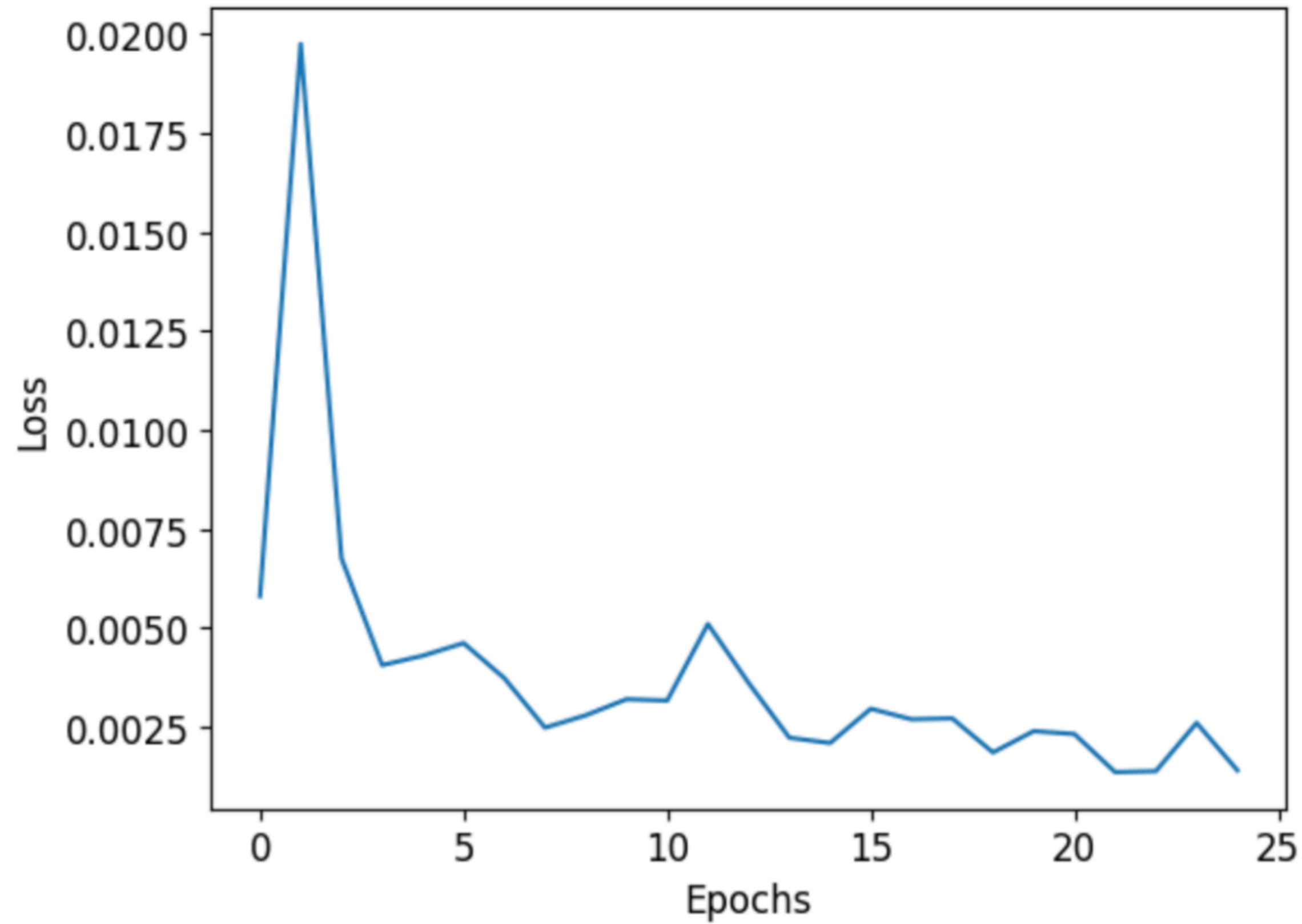
Hit time:

Charge:

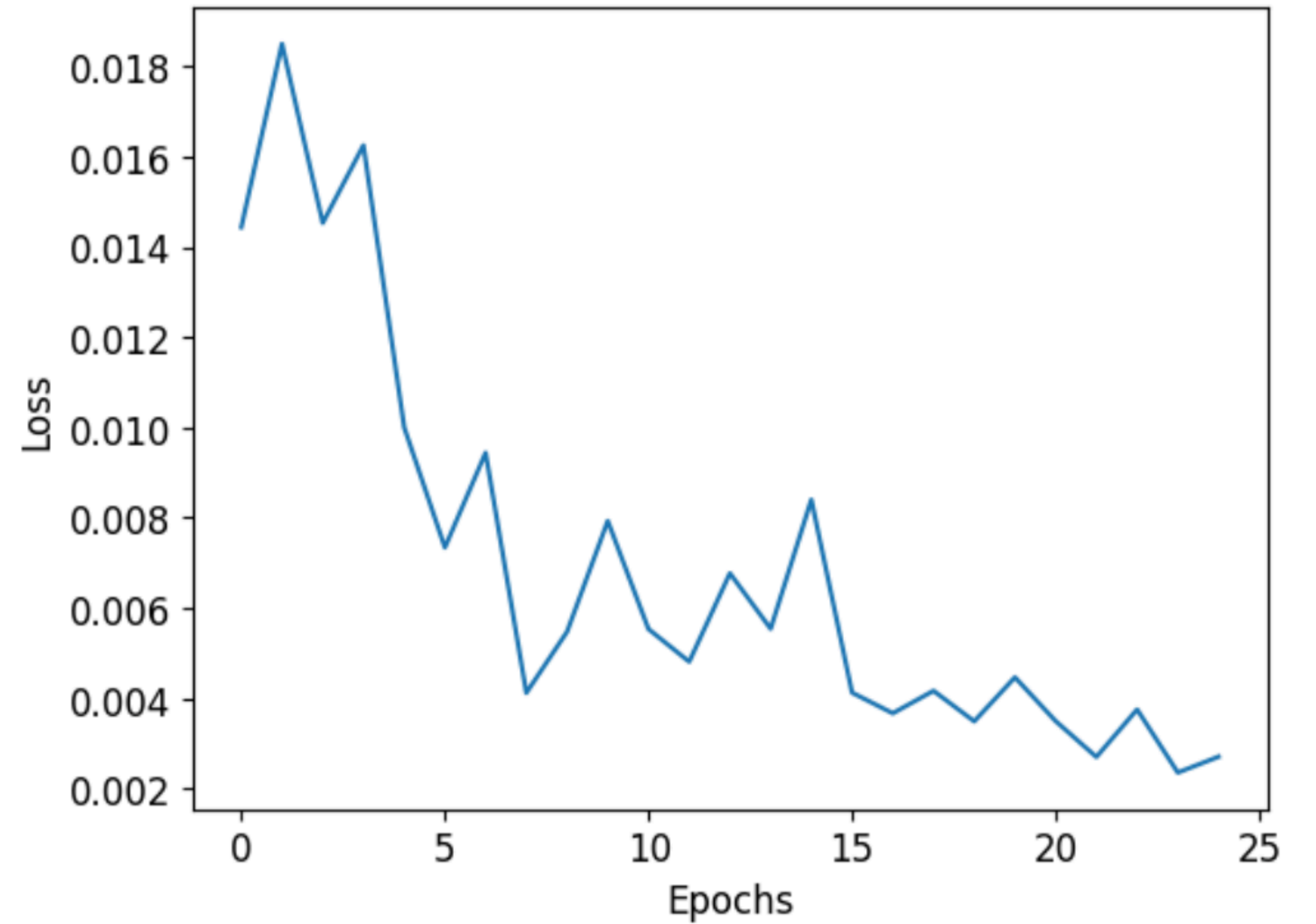


Loss curves

Regression

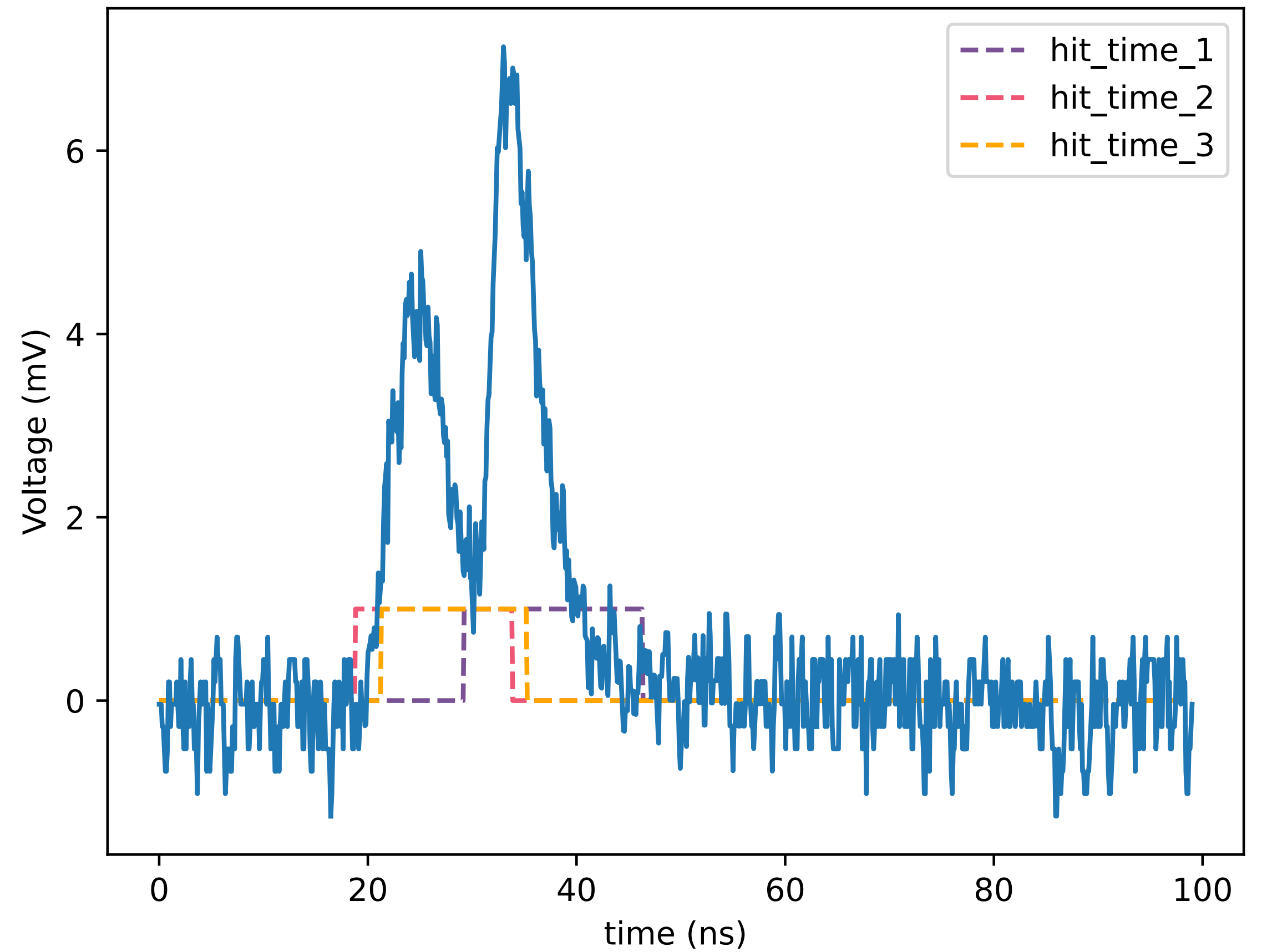
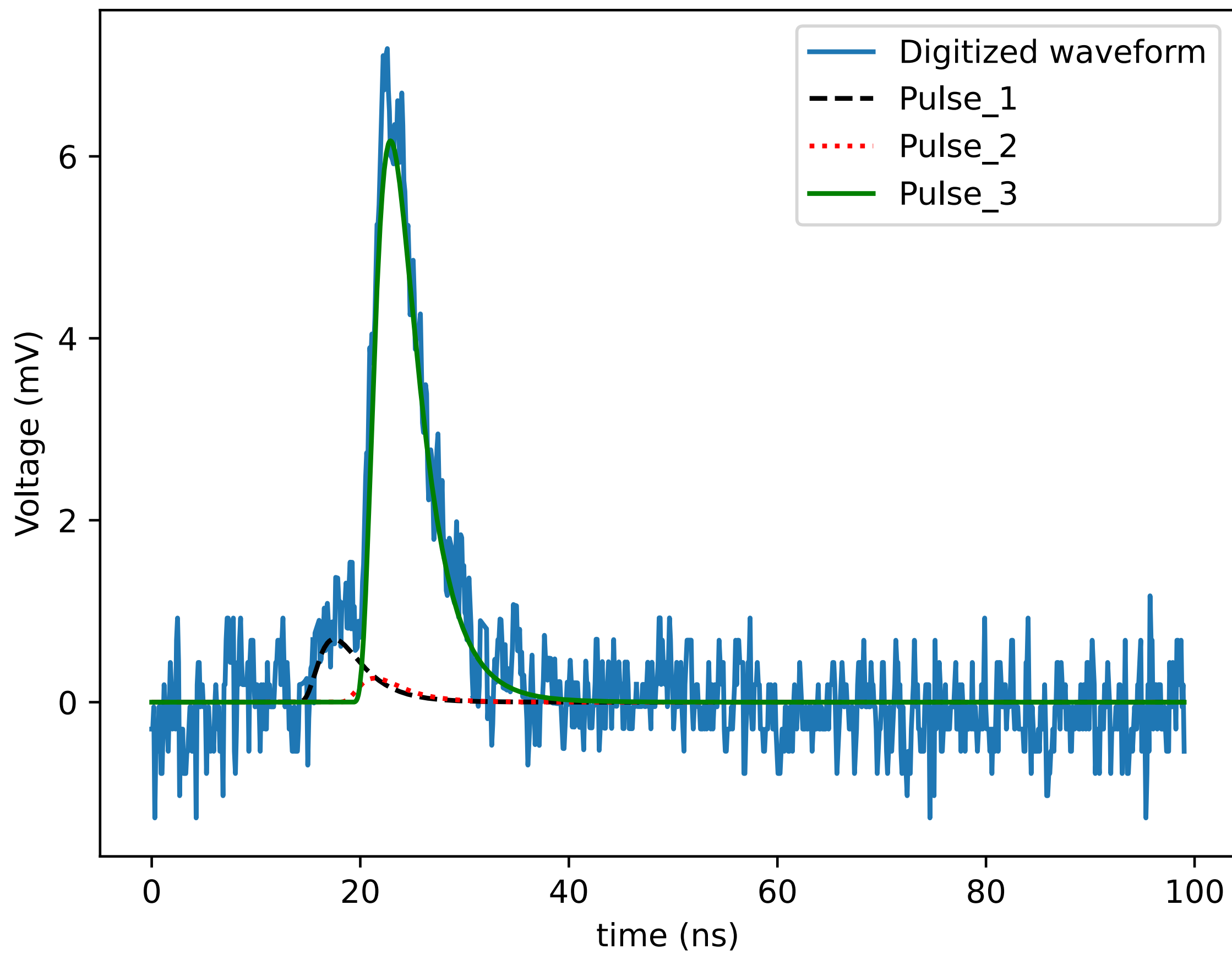


Classification



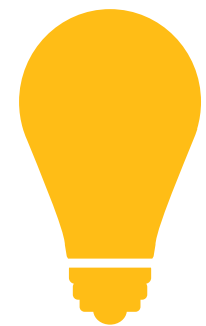
Future work

*Working on multi-pulse analysis



Summary

- We are trying to explain matter anti-matter asymmetry using liquid scintillator technology by looking for rare $0\nu\beta\beta$ events.
- Building up NuDot as a R&D testbed for reducing backgrounds in these detectors.
- The particular solar neutrino background requires precise timing resolution, so the ML algorithm aims to extract the time.
- We can extract a single photoelectron's time and charge. However, there is still room for improvement.



Input from the ML experts, ideas on scaling, multi-pulses, and architecture.

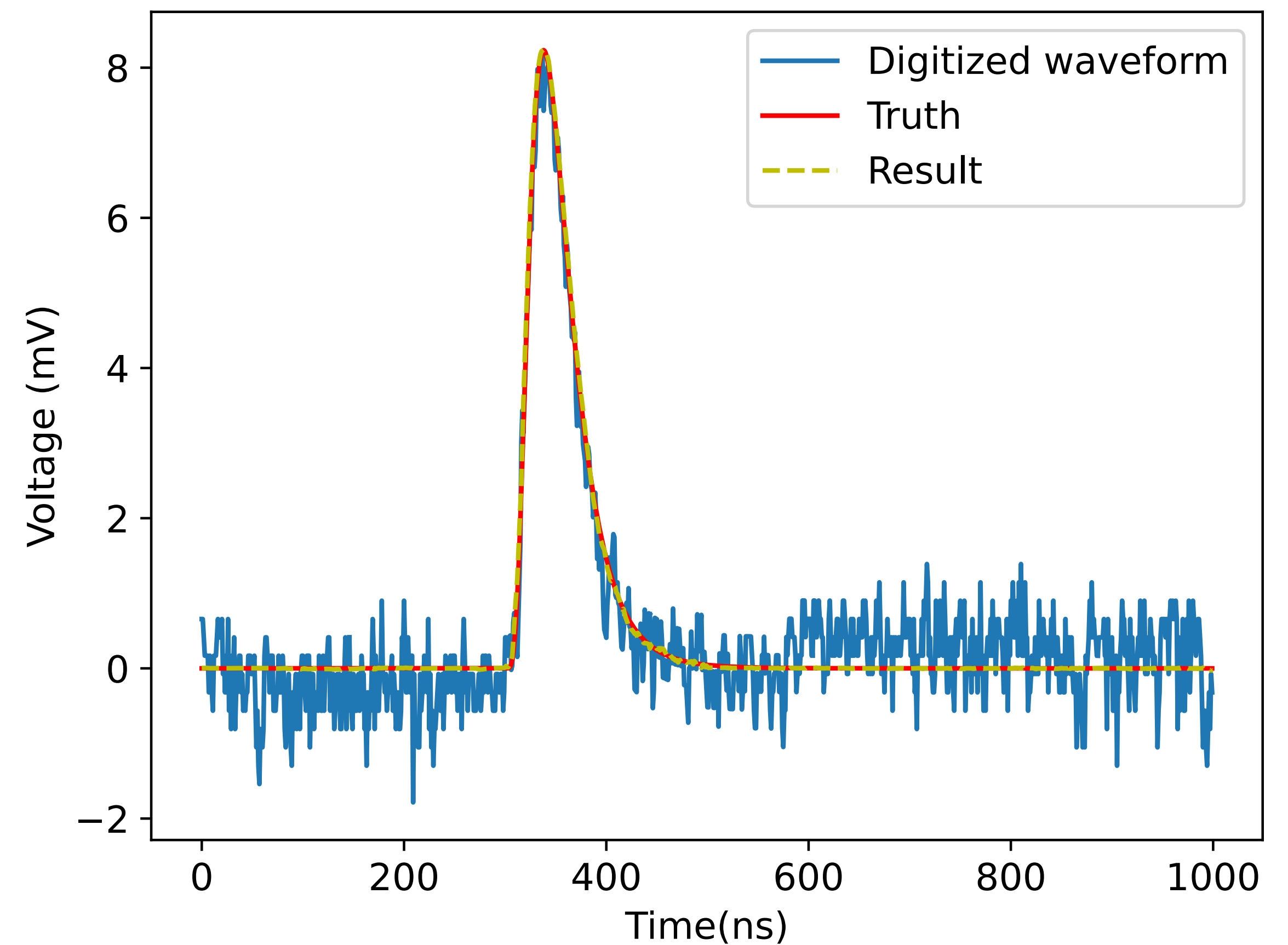
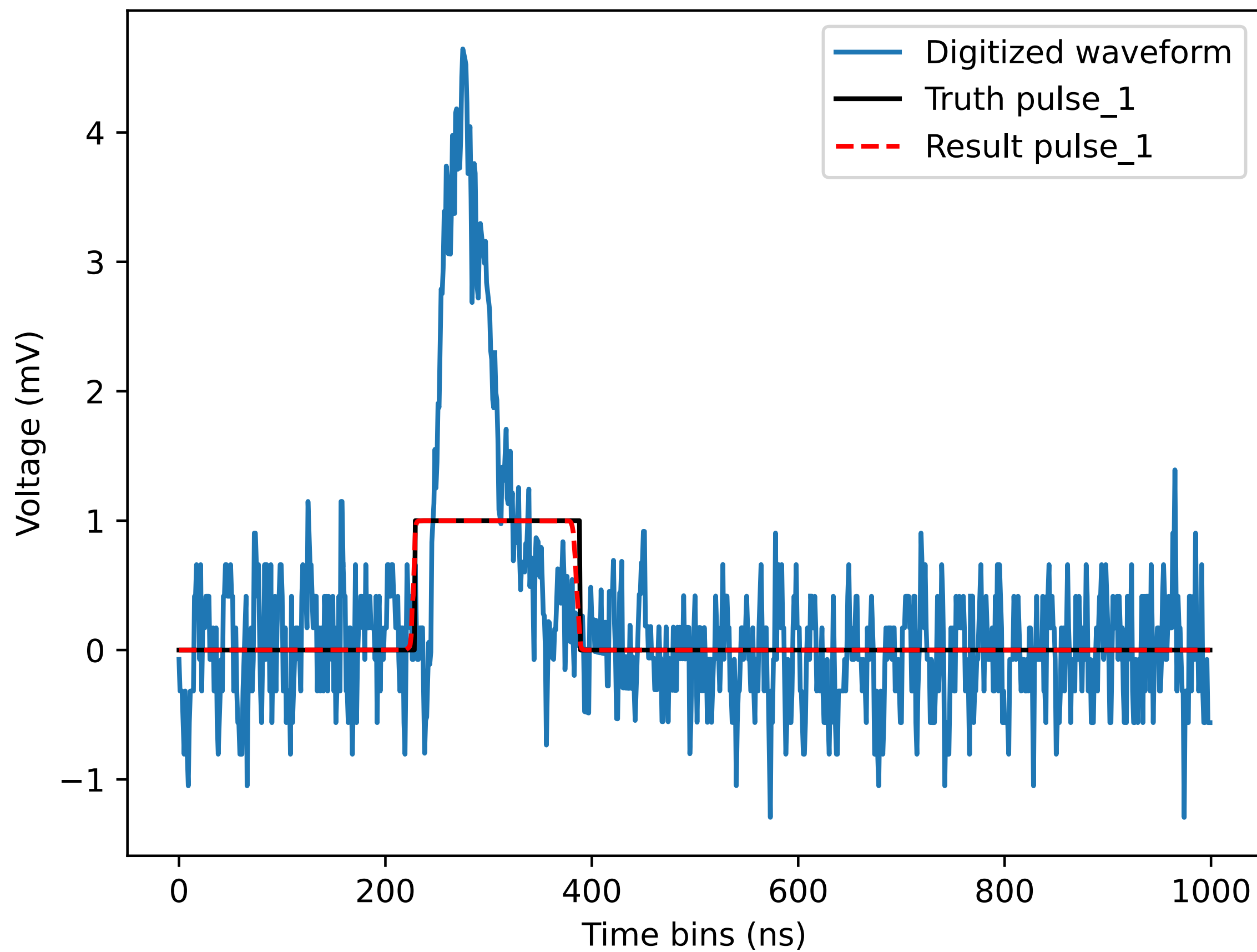
Suggestions for ML on chip.

Backup slides

Pulse analysis using machine learning

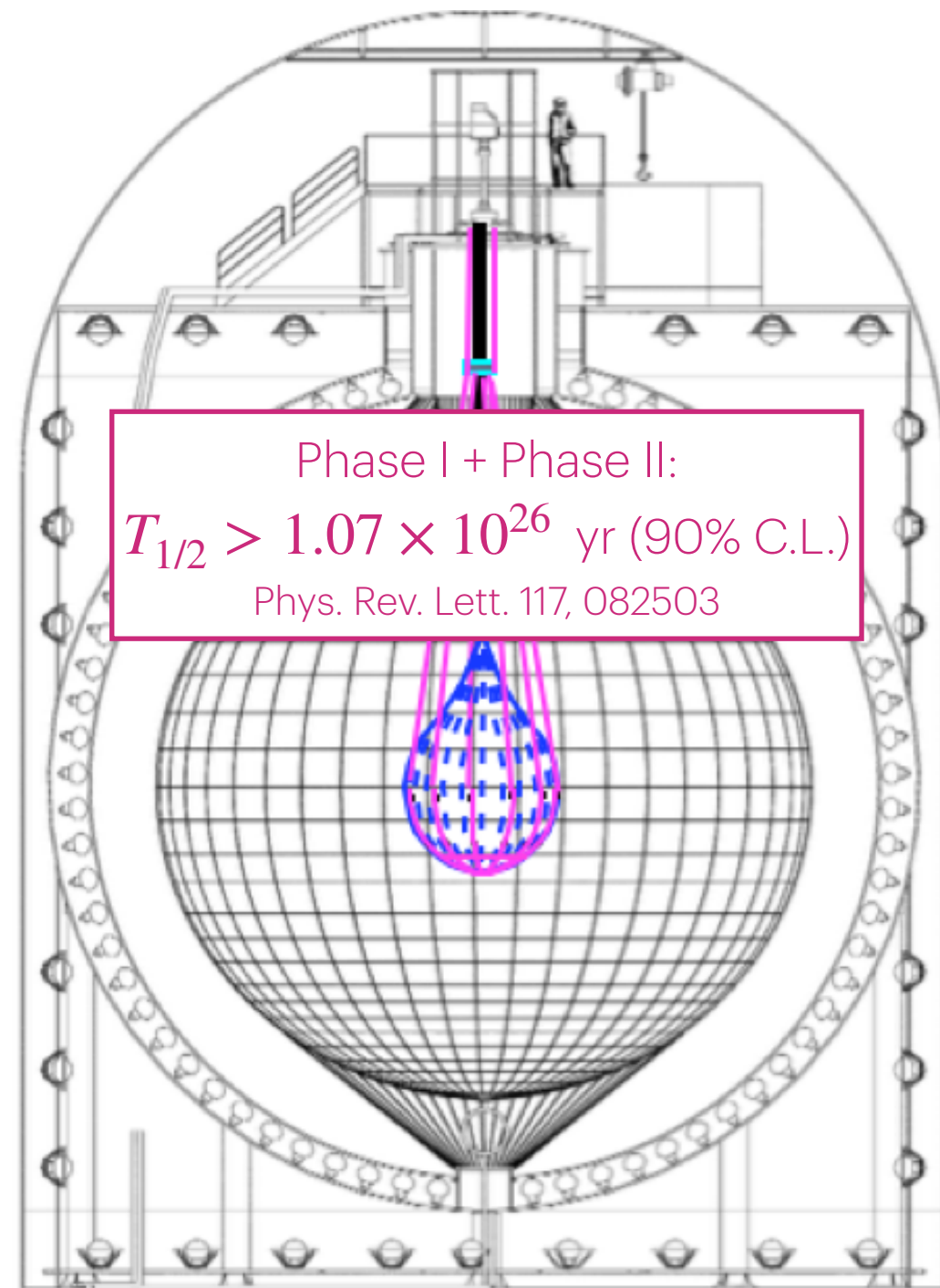
Loss function : BCELoss
Activation function: LeakyReLU
Optimizer: Adam
Output layer activation : Sigmoid

Loss function : MSELoss
Activation function: LeakyReLU
Optimizer: SGD



The evolution of KamLAND-Zen

Past

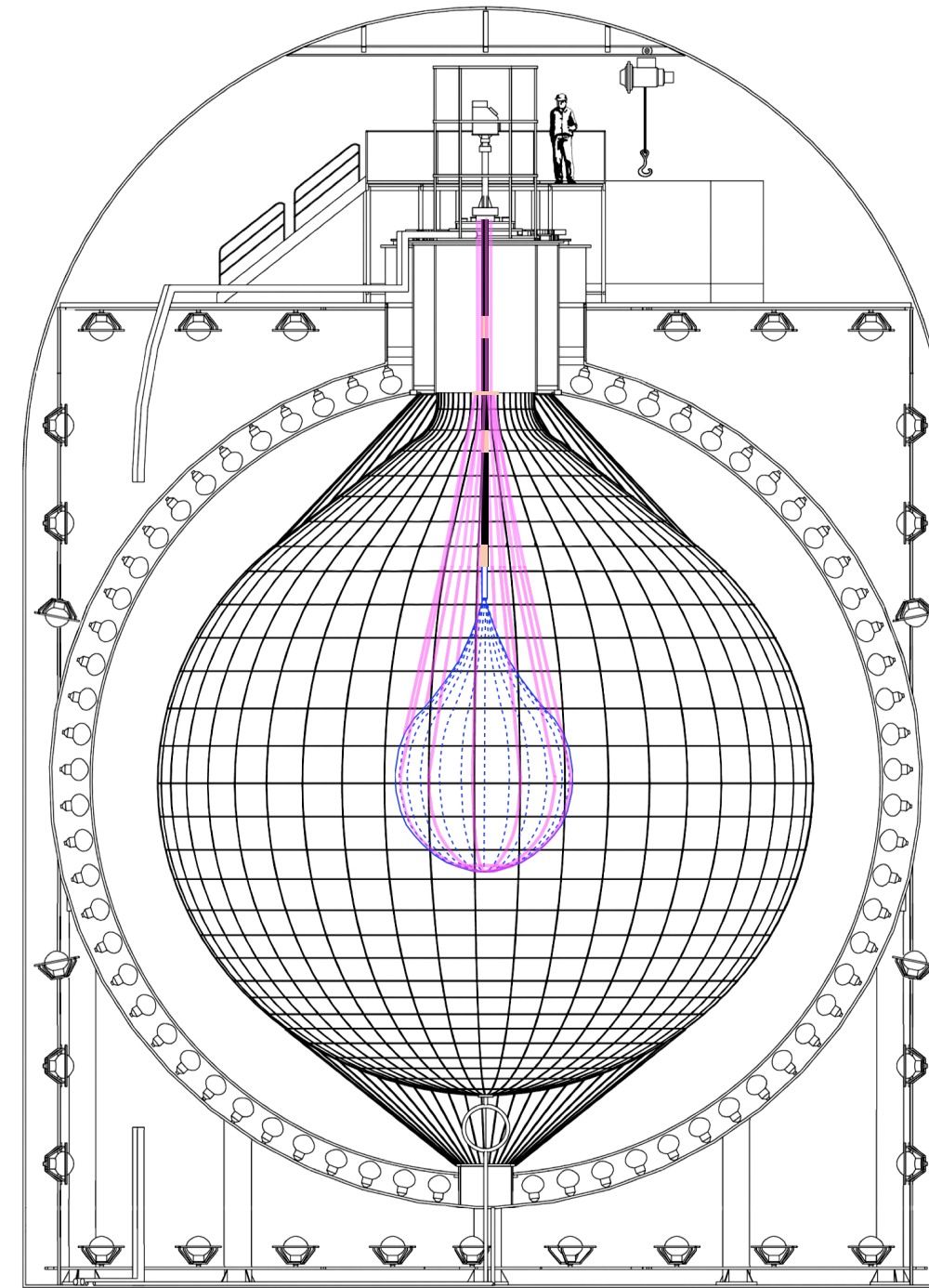


KamLAND-Zen 400:

- Inner-balloon Radius = 1.54 m
- Xenon mass = 320 ~ 381 kg
- Duration: 2011 ~ 2015

[Excited states: Nuclear Physics A 946 \(2016\): 171-181.](#)

Present

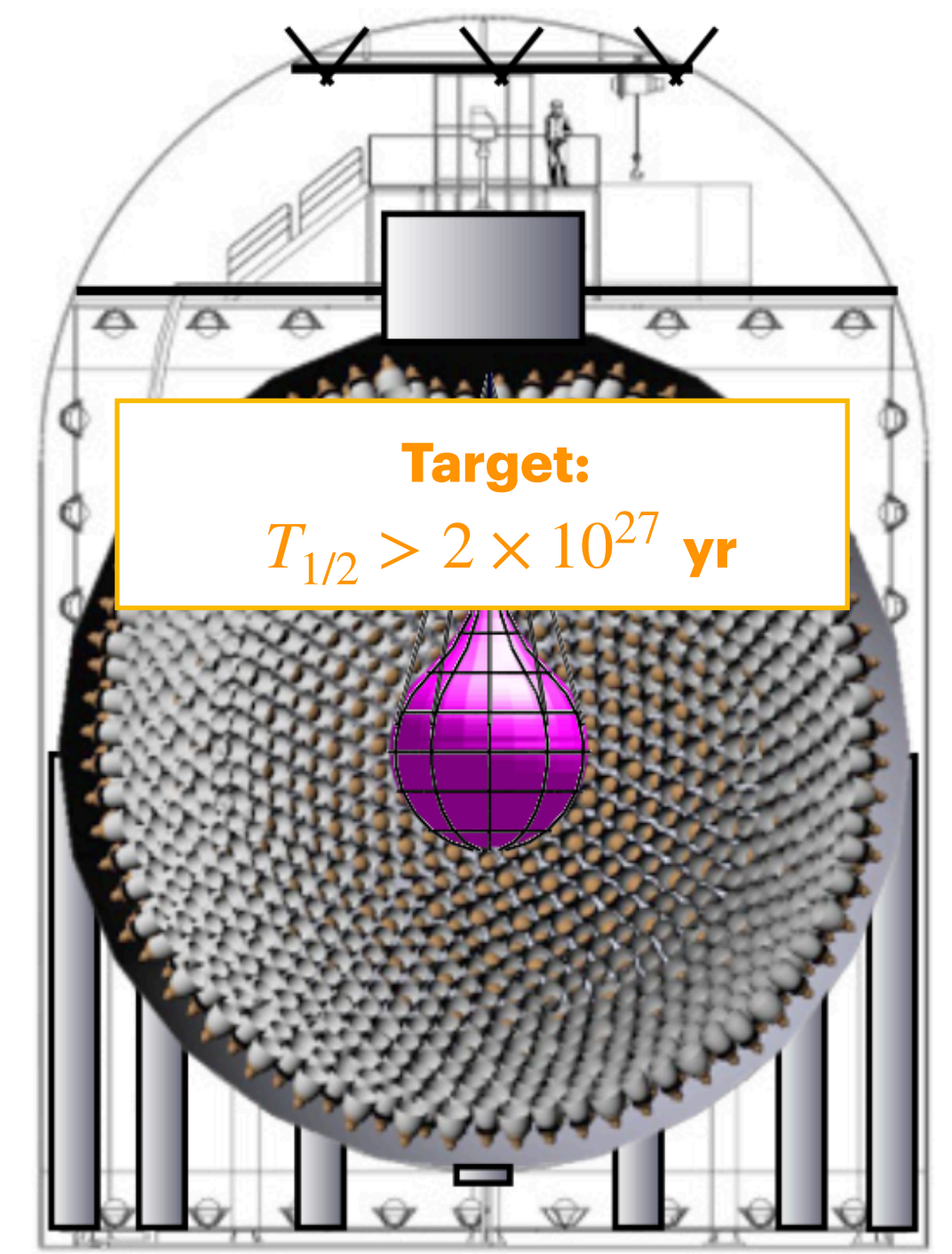


KamLAND-Zen 800:

- Inner-balloon Radius = 1.90 m
- Xenon mass = 745±3 kg
- Data taking starts Jan. 2019

[Physical Review Letters 130.5 \(2023\): 051801.](#)
[PRL preprint: arXiv:2406.11438 \(2024\).](#)

Future

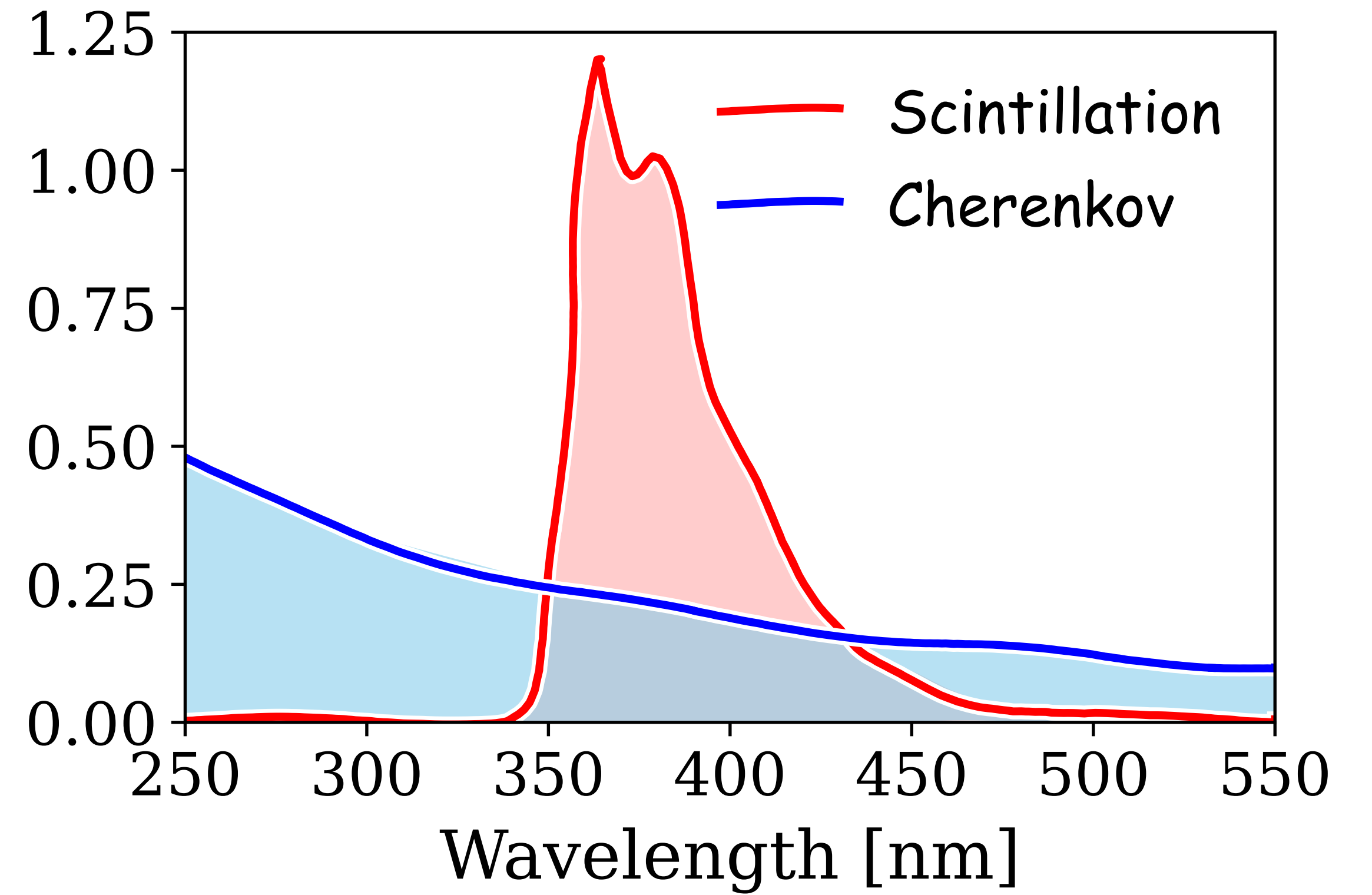
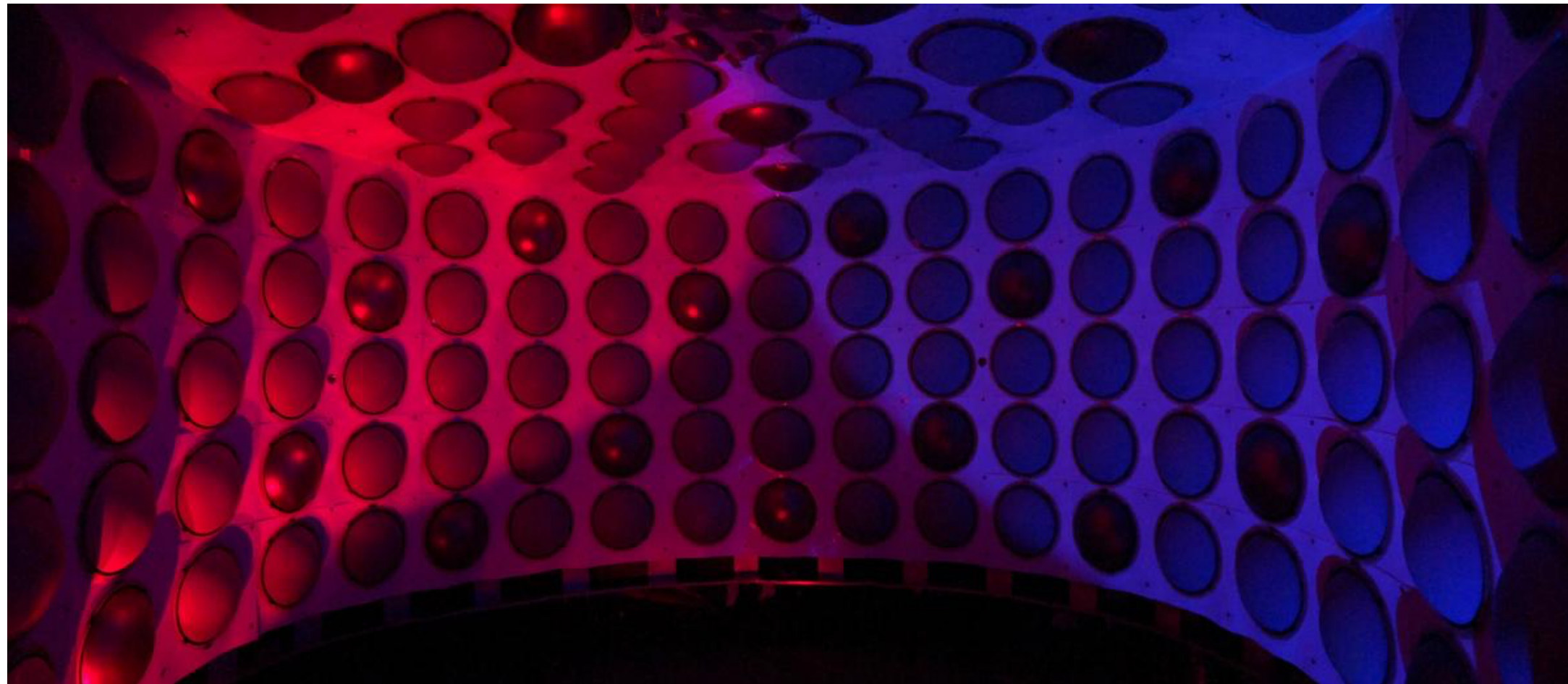


KamLAND2-Zen:

- Xenon mass ~ 1ton
- Aiming at 100% Photocoverage
- PEN scintillation balloon film
- Updated readout electronics

Ways to reduce background

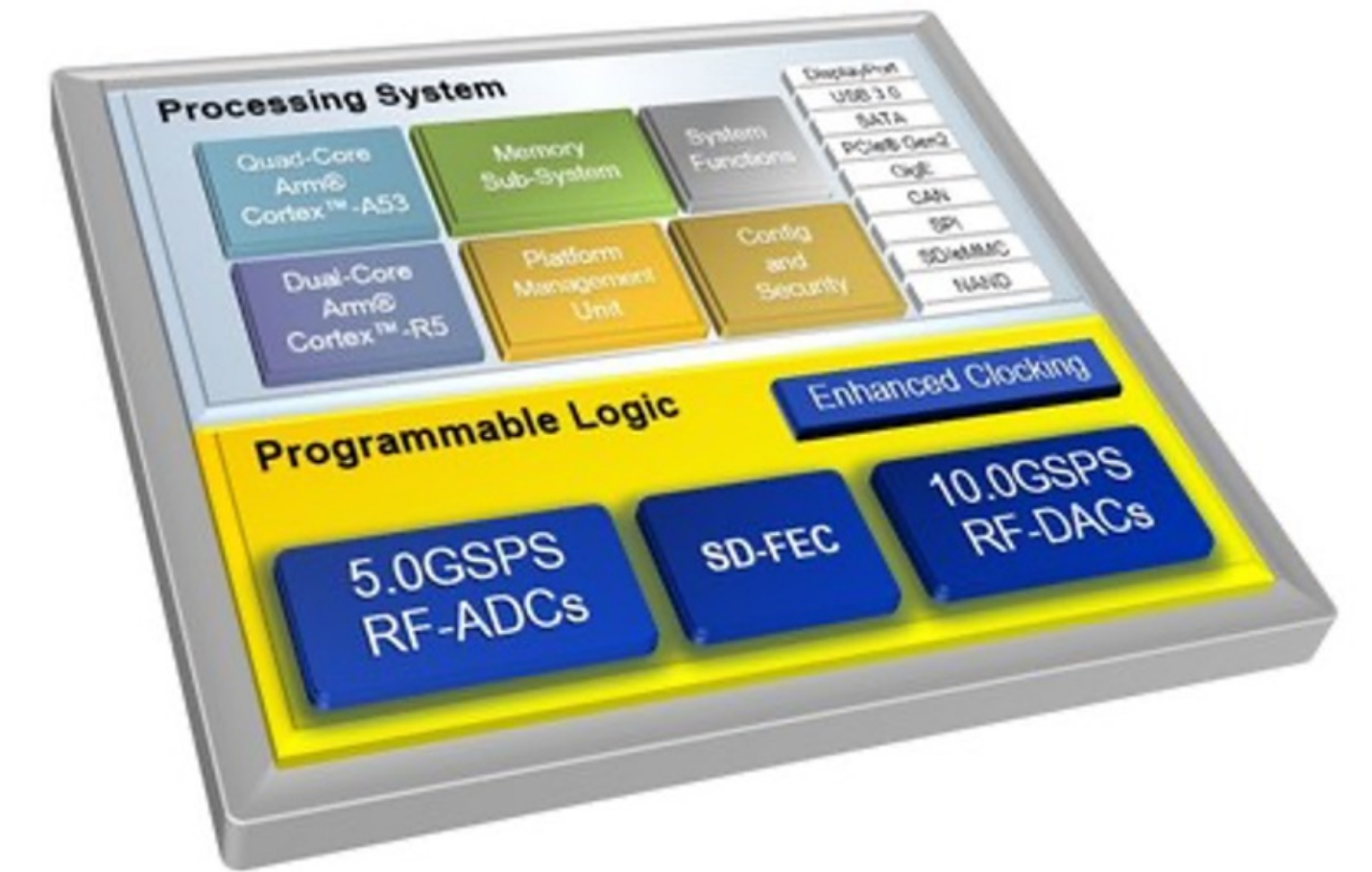
1. Using wavelength-shifting materials



Radio-Frequency System on a Chip

What is RFSoc?

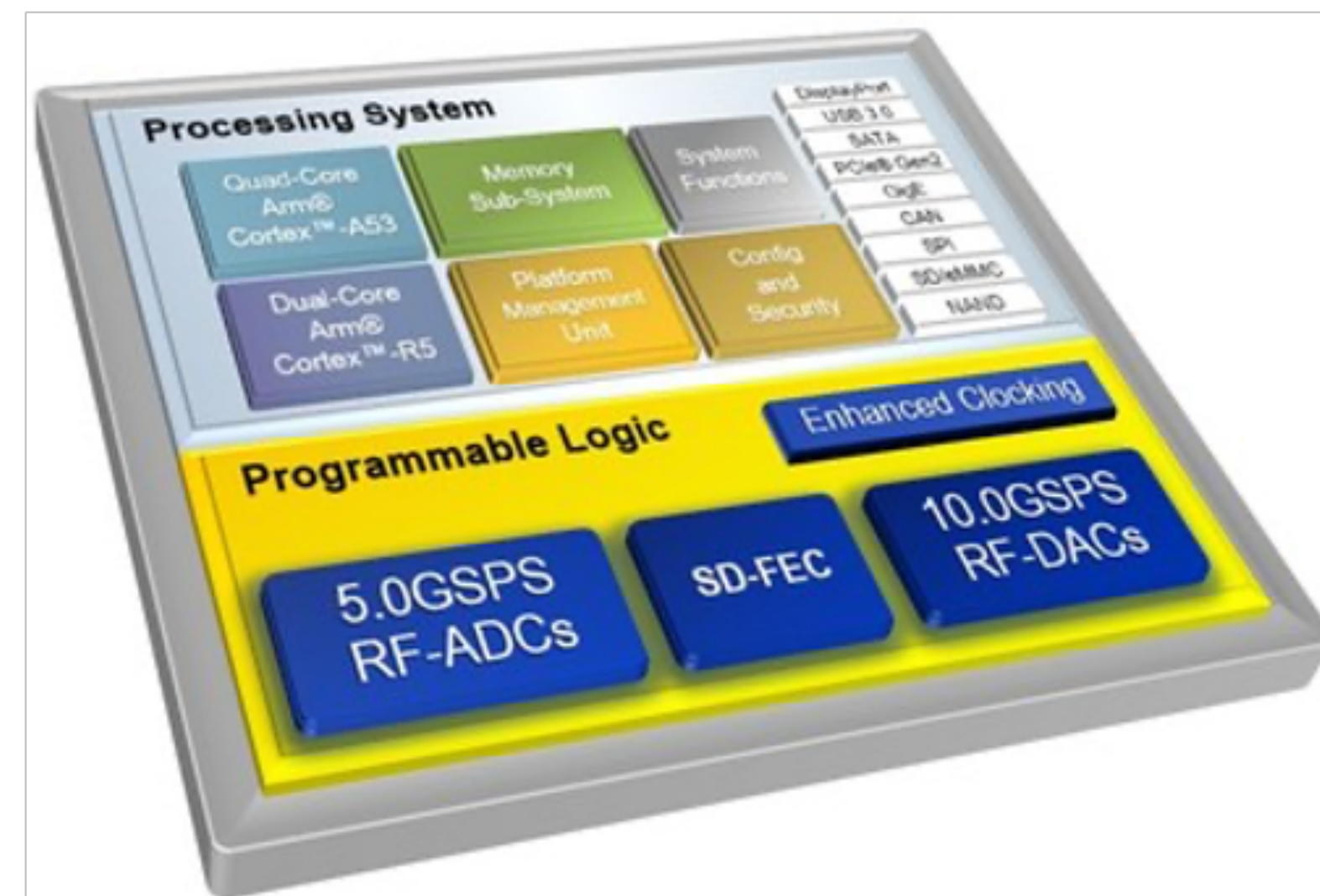
A single chip that contains nearly all the components which are required for high performance data acquisition system front end



Analog waveform

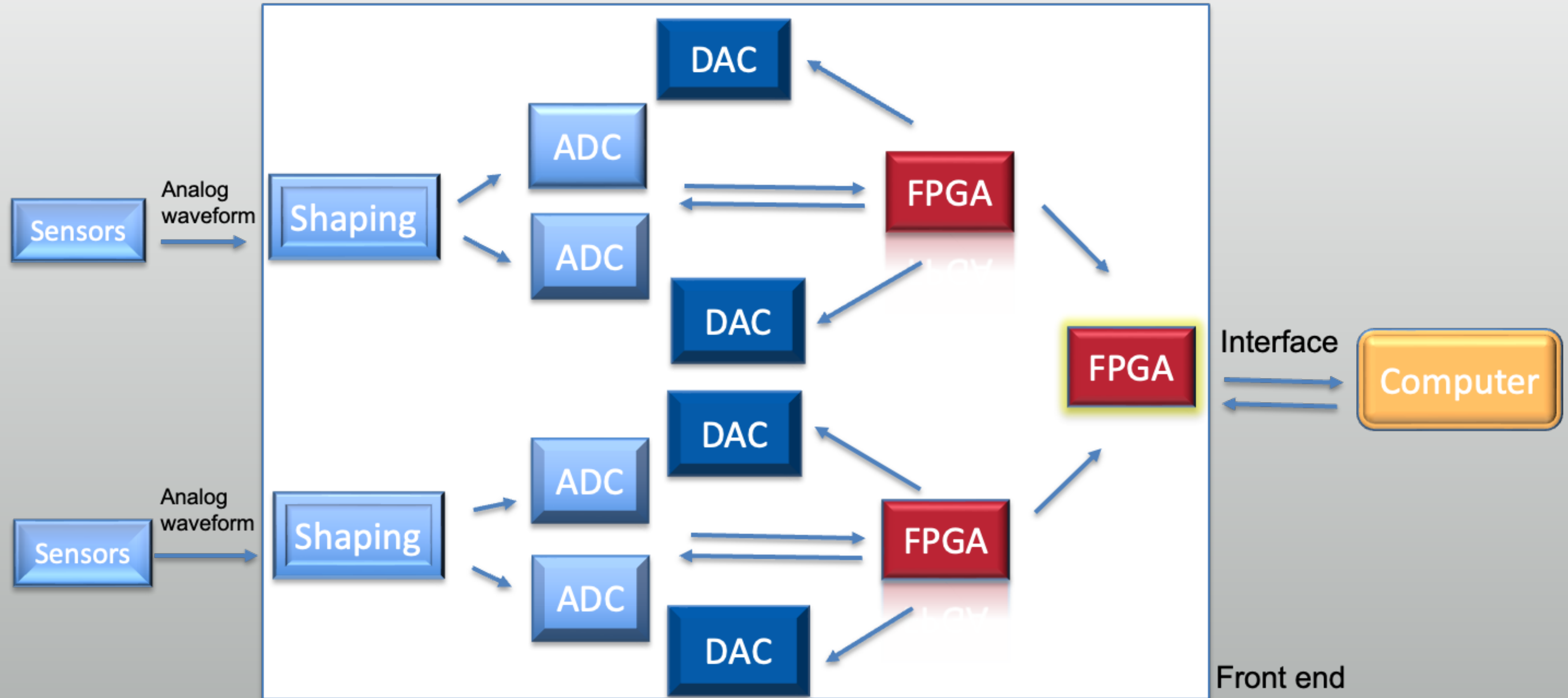


Analog waveform



RFSoc

A Conventional System



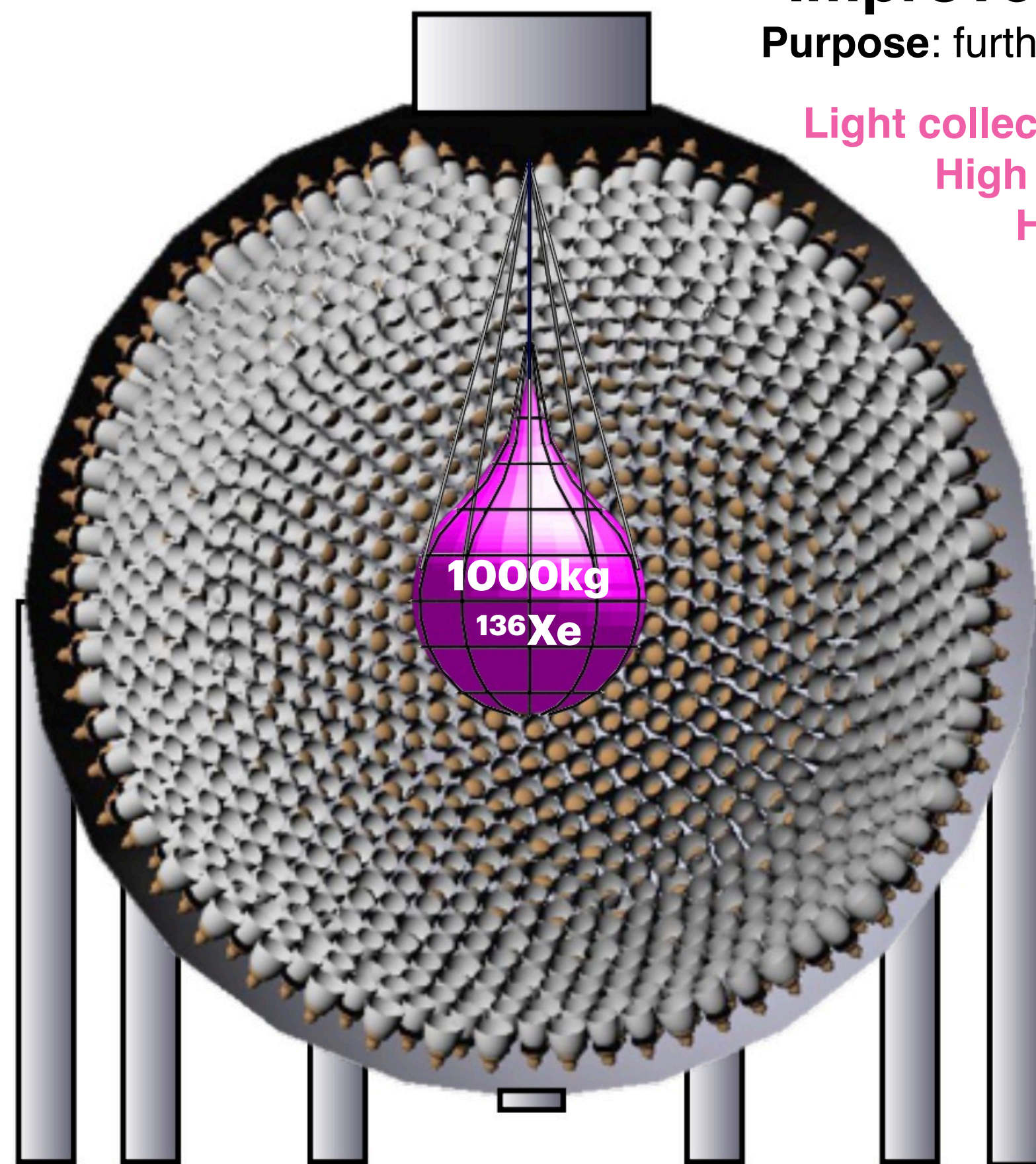
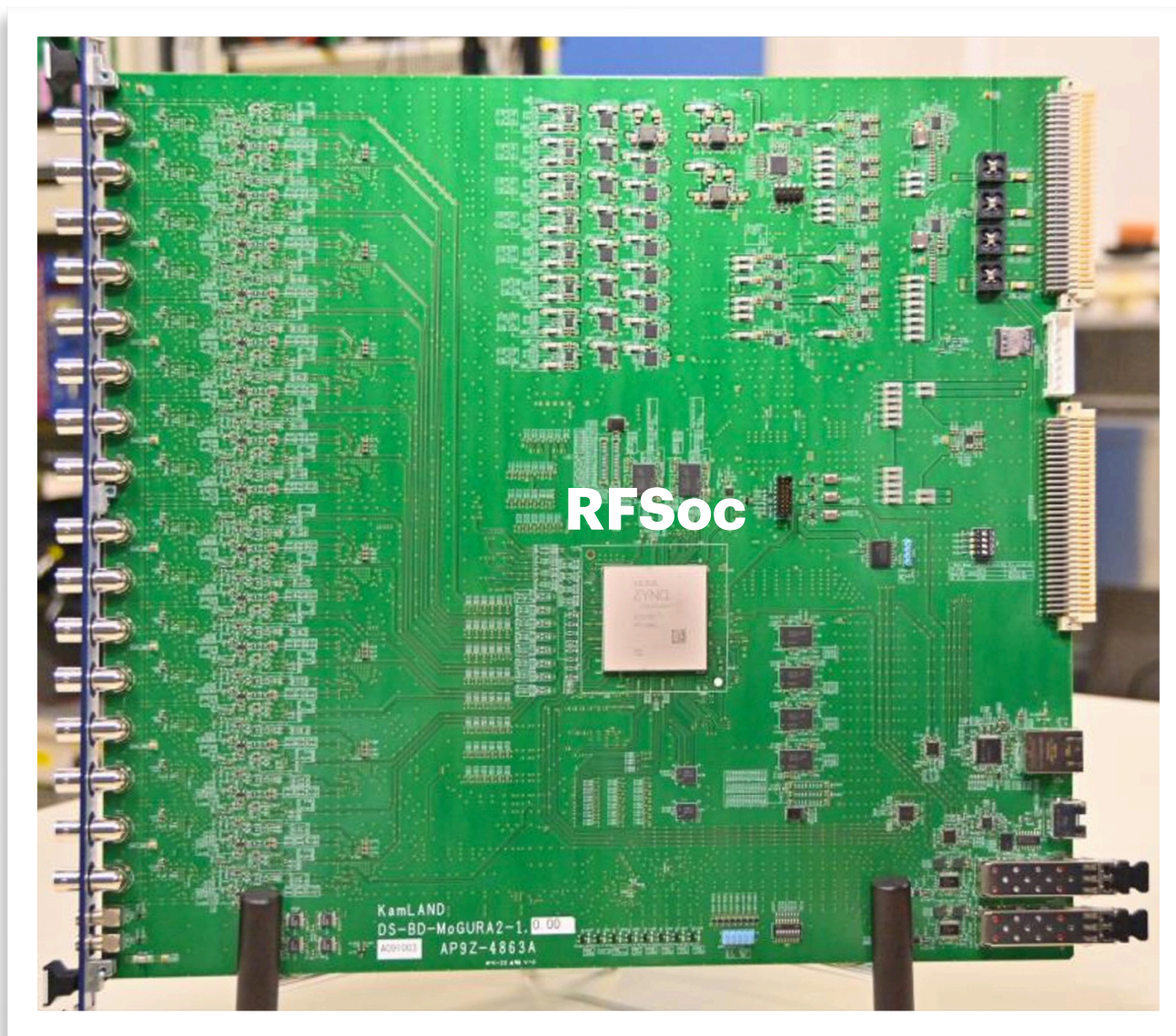
Introducing KamLAND2-Zen

KamLAND2-Zen aims to cover the Inverted Ordering region.

5yr sensitivity: 2×10^{27} yr

State-of-the-art electronics

Purpose: Improve background suppression. Tagging long lived isotope from cosmic ray spallation.



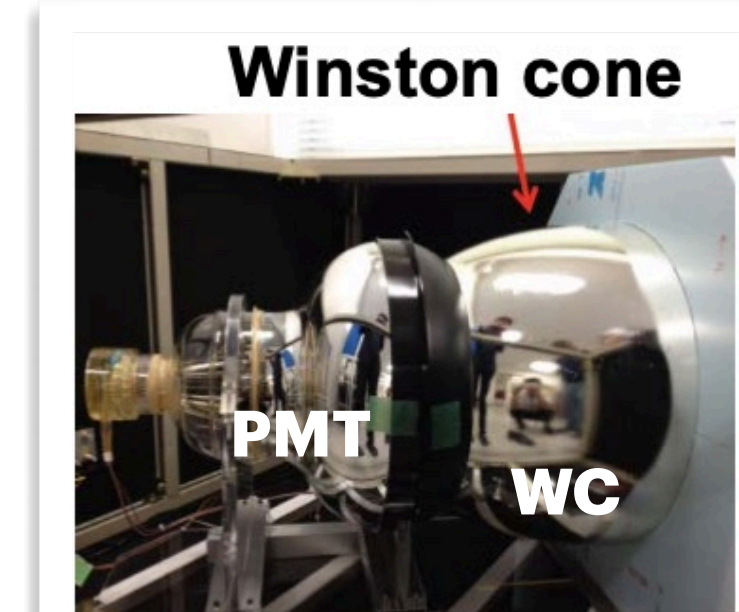
Improved energy resolution

Purpose: further separate $2\nu\beta\beta$ from the $0\nu\beta\beta$.

Light collection with Winston Cones (x1.8)

High light yield scintillator (x1.4)

High QE 20" PMTs (x1.9)

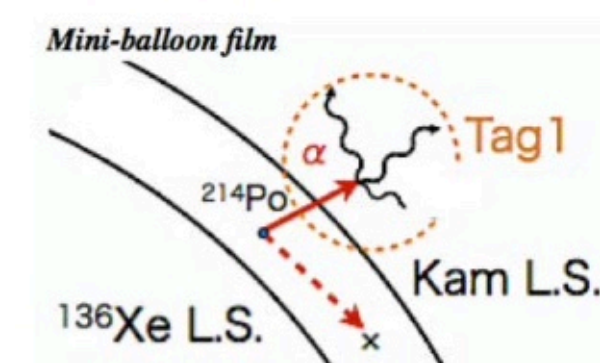


4% → 2% energy resolution

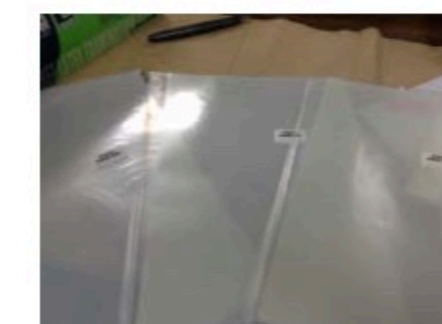
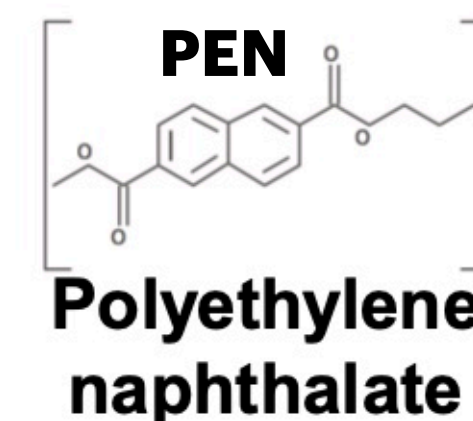
x100 reduction in $2\nu\beta\beta$ background rate.

Improved inner balloon

Purpose: reduce backgrounds originating from balloon.

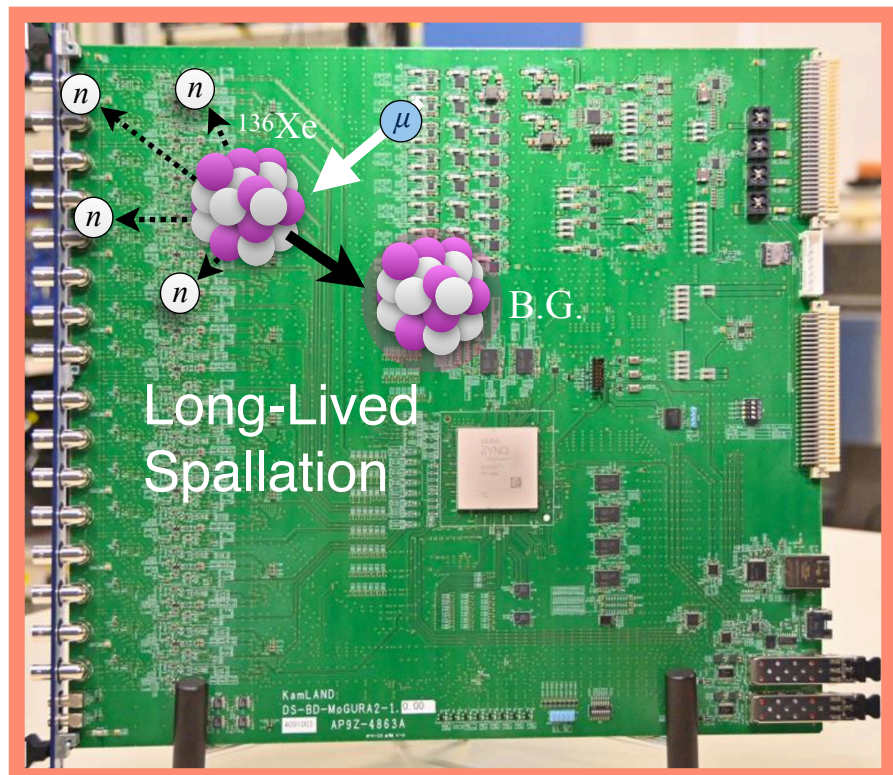
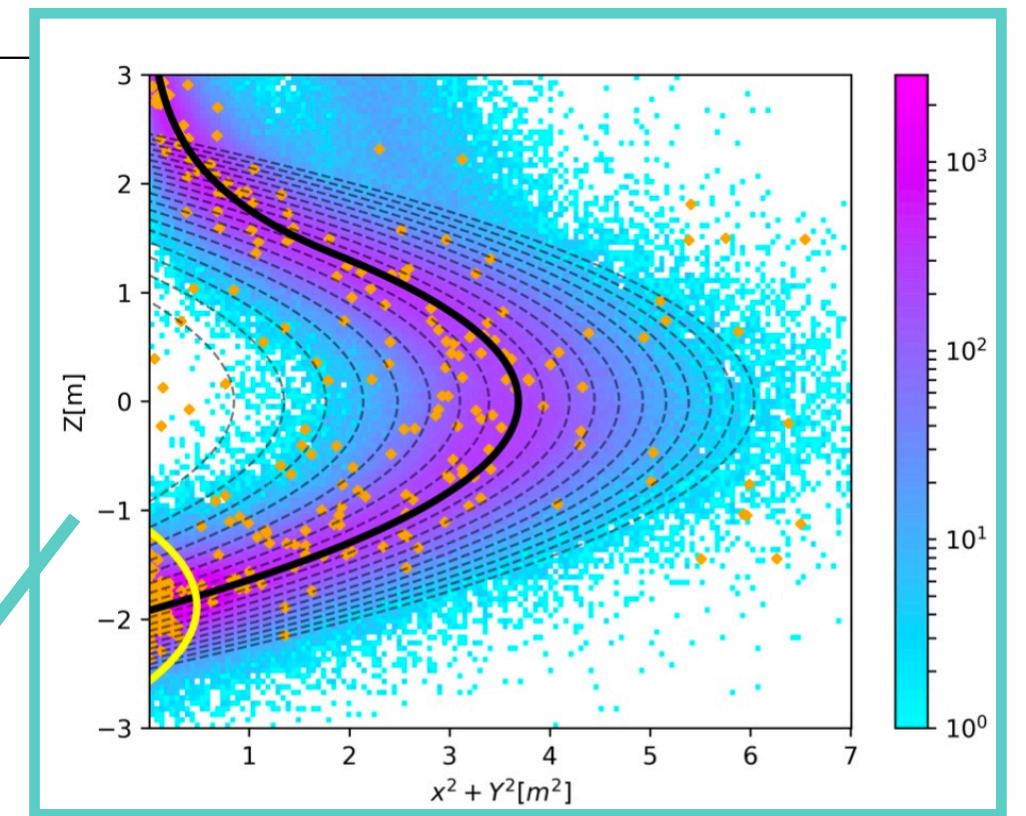
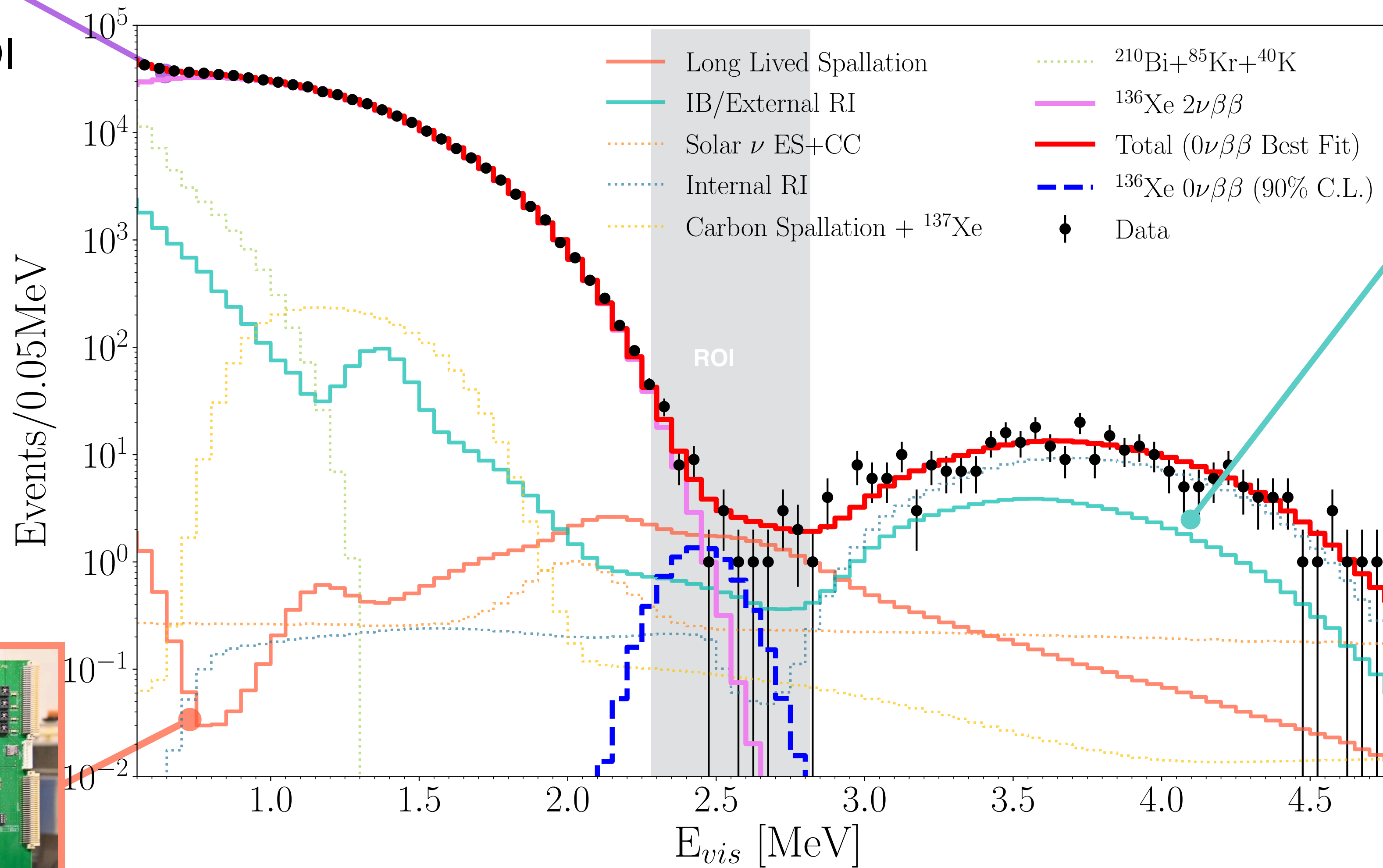


Tag ^{214}Bi decays.



$2\nu\beta\beta$ energy tail
 Most dominant & inevitable bkg.
 ~ 12 events/ROI

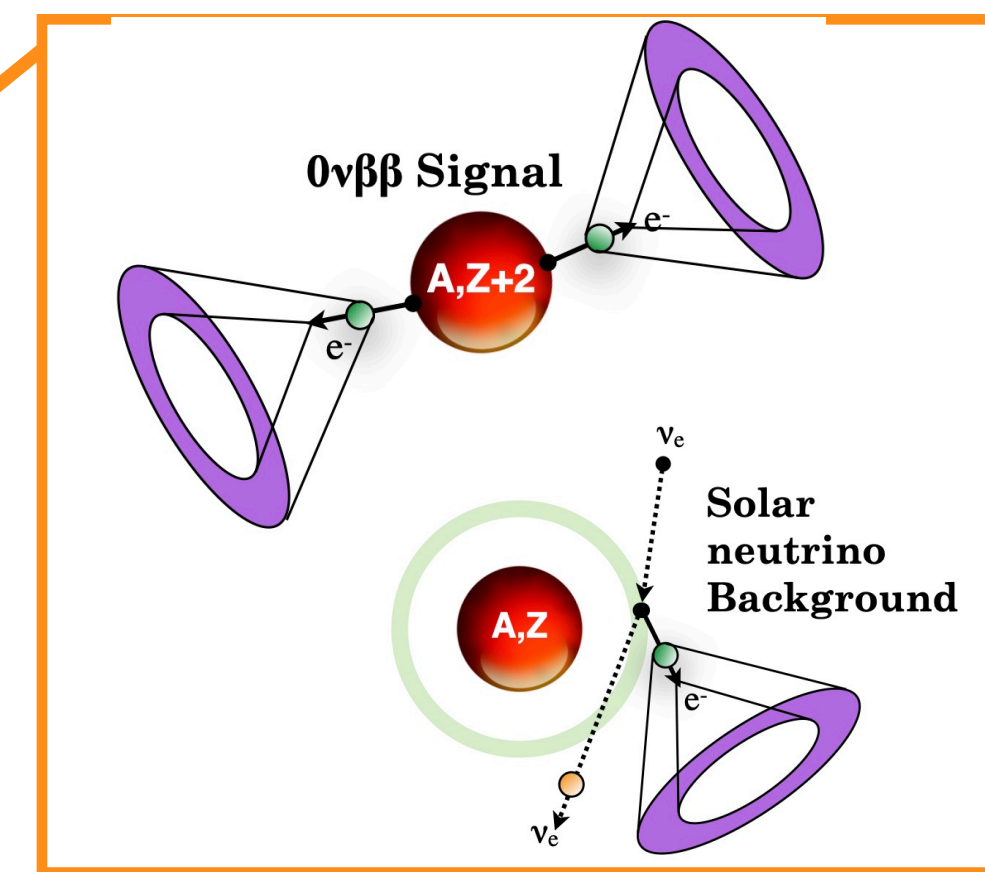
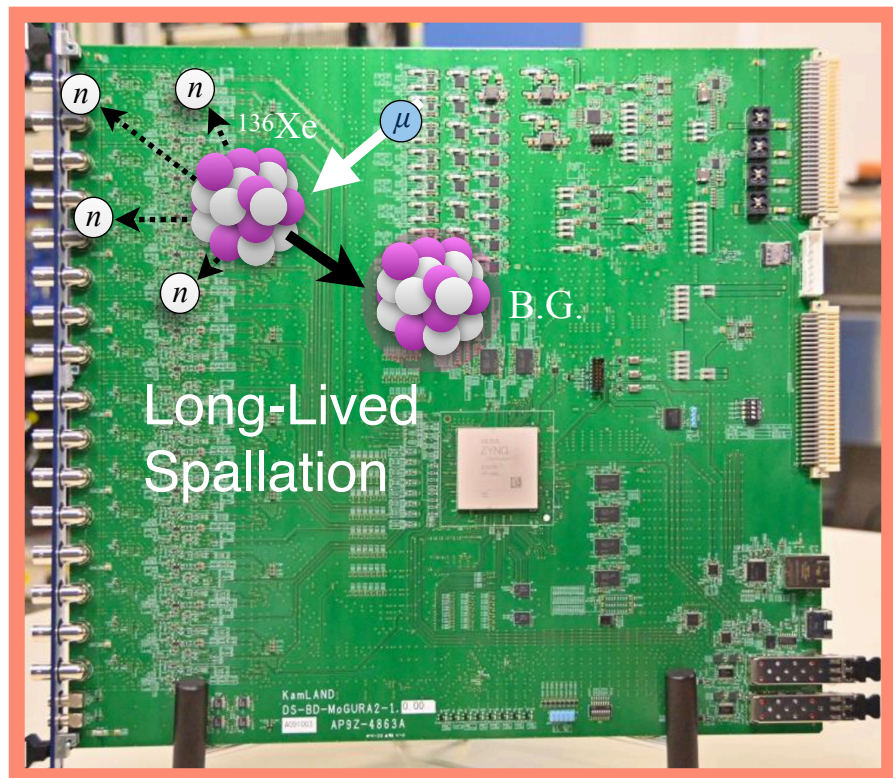
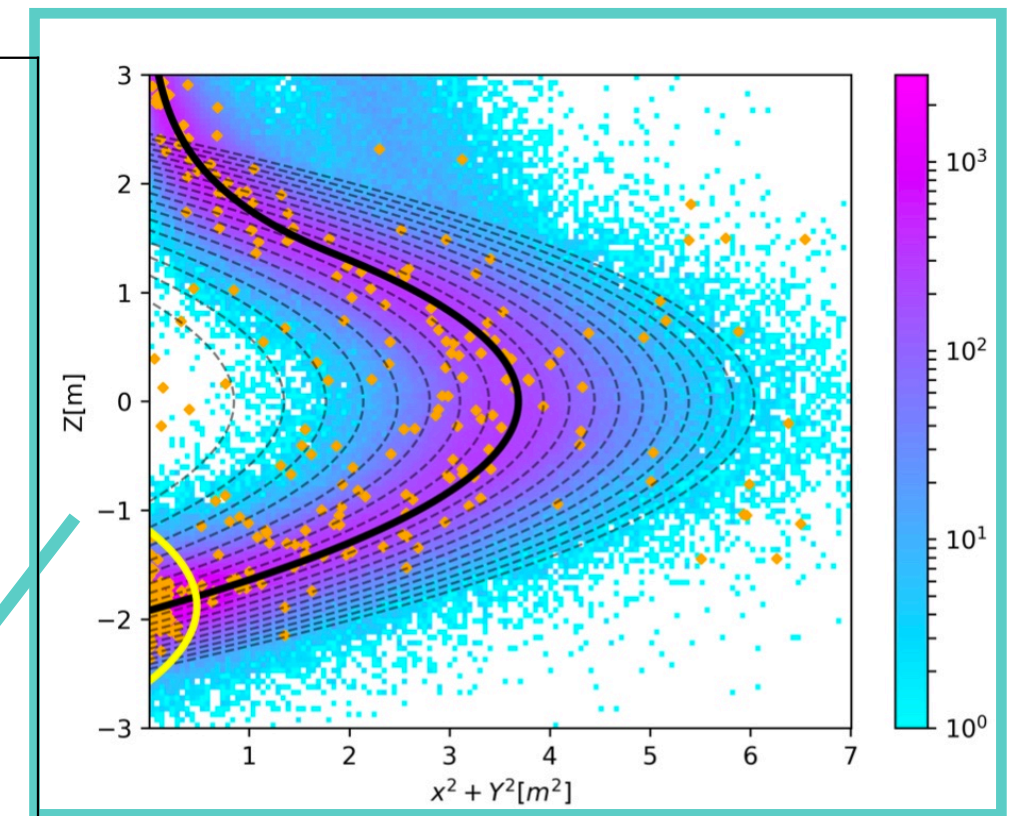
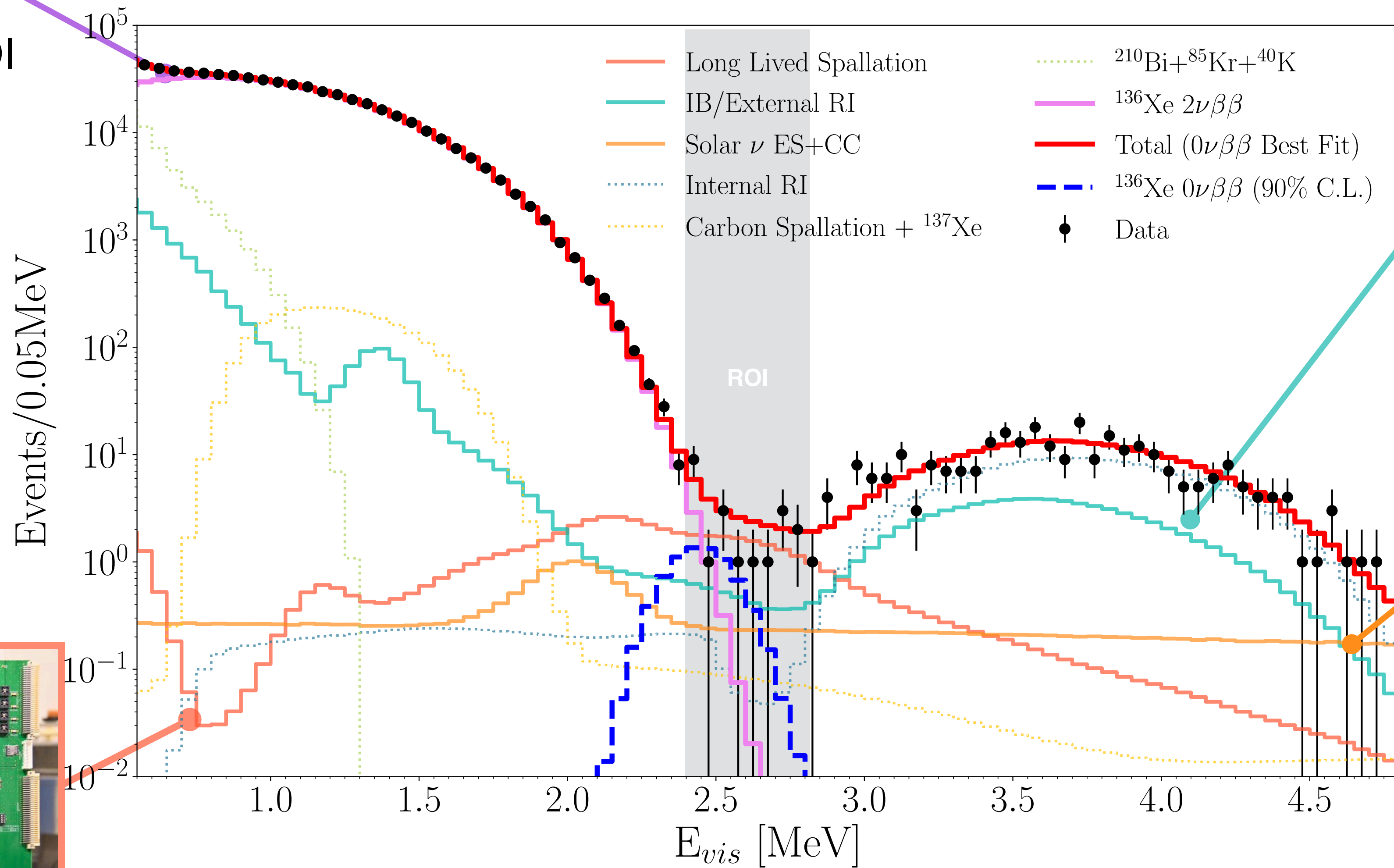
KamLAND-Zen800 energy spectrum



$$T_{1/2} > 4.3 \times 10^{26} \text{ years}$$

$2\nu\beta\beta$ energy tail
 Most dominant & inevitable bkg.
 ~ 12 events/ROI

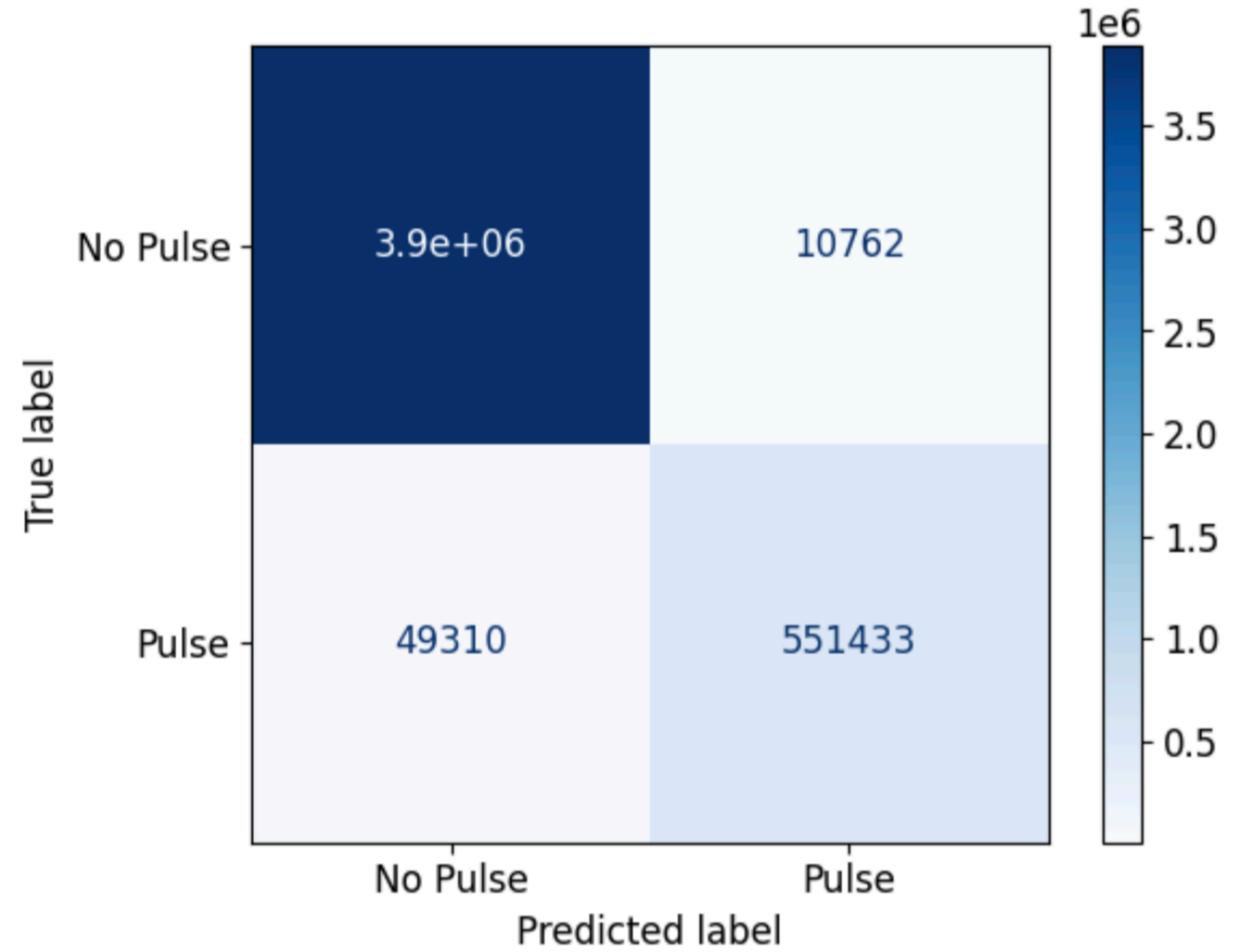
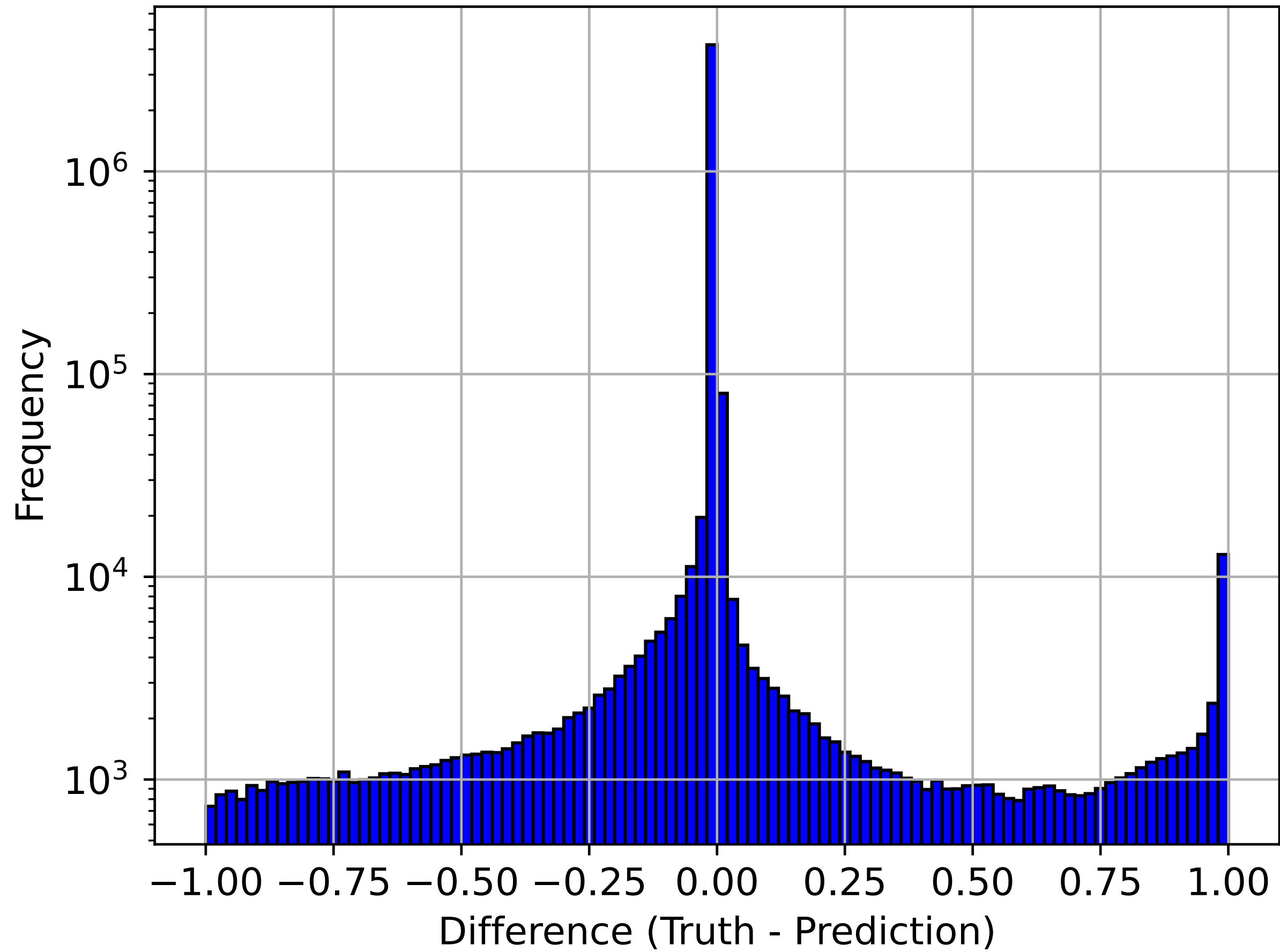
KamLAND-Zen800 energy spectrum



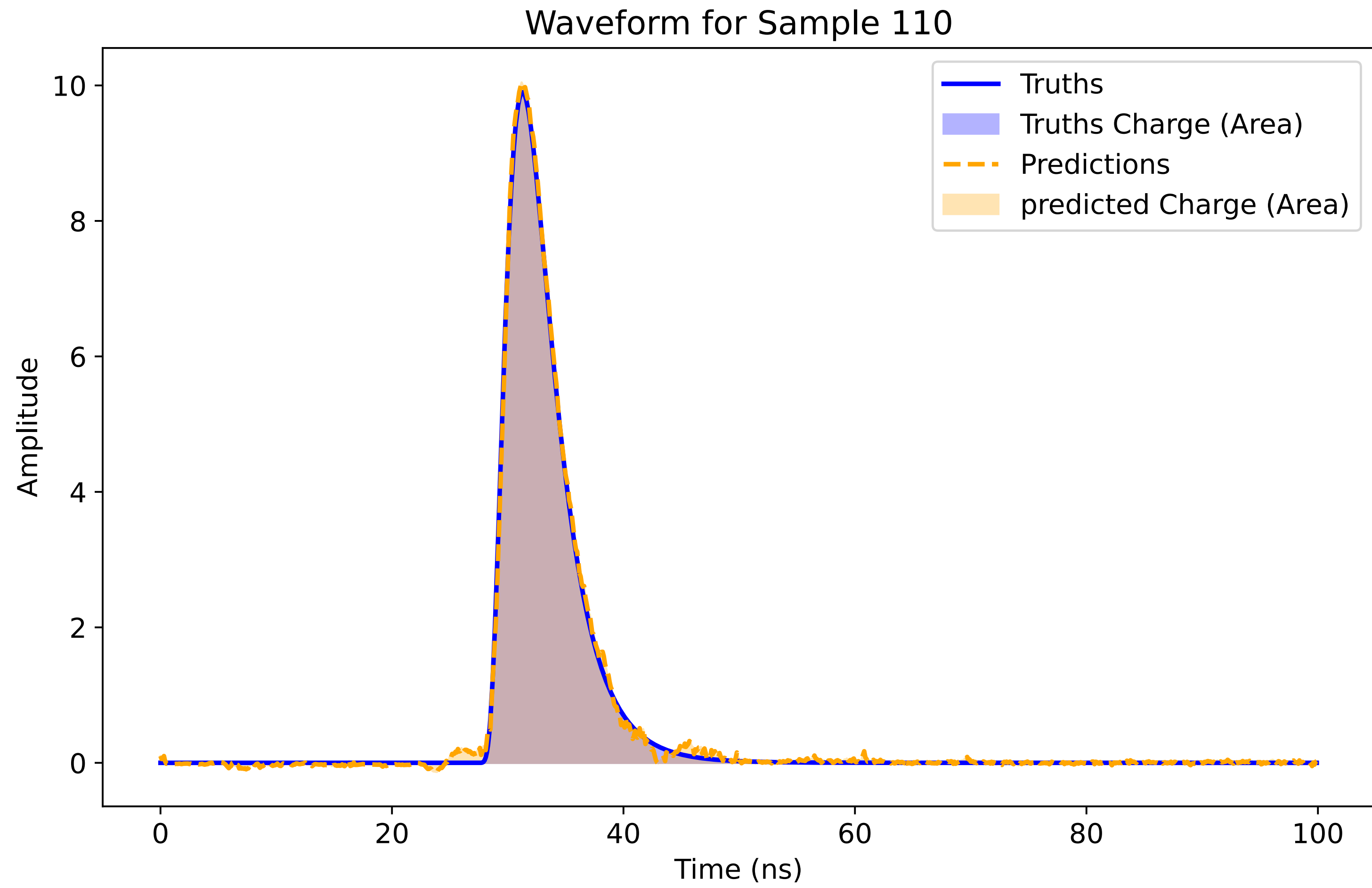
$$T_{1/2} > 4.3 \times 10^{26} \text{ years}$$

Classification

Histogram of Truth-Prediction Differences

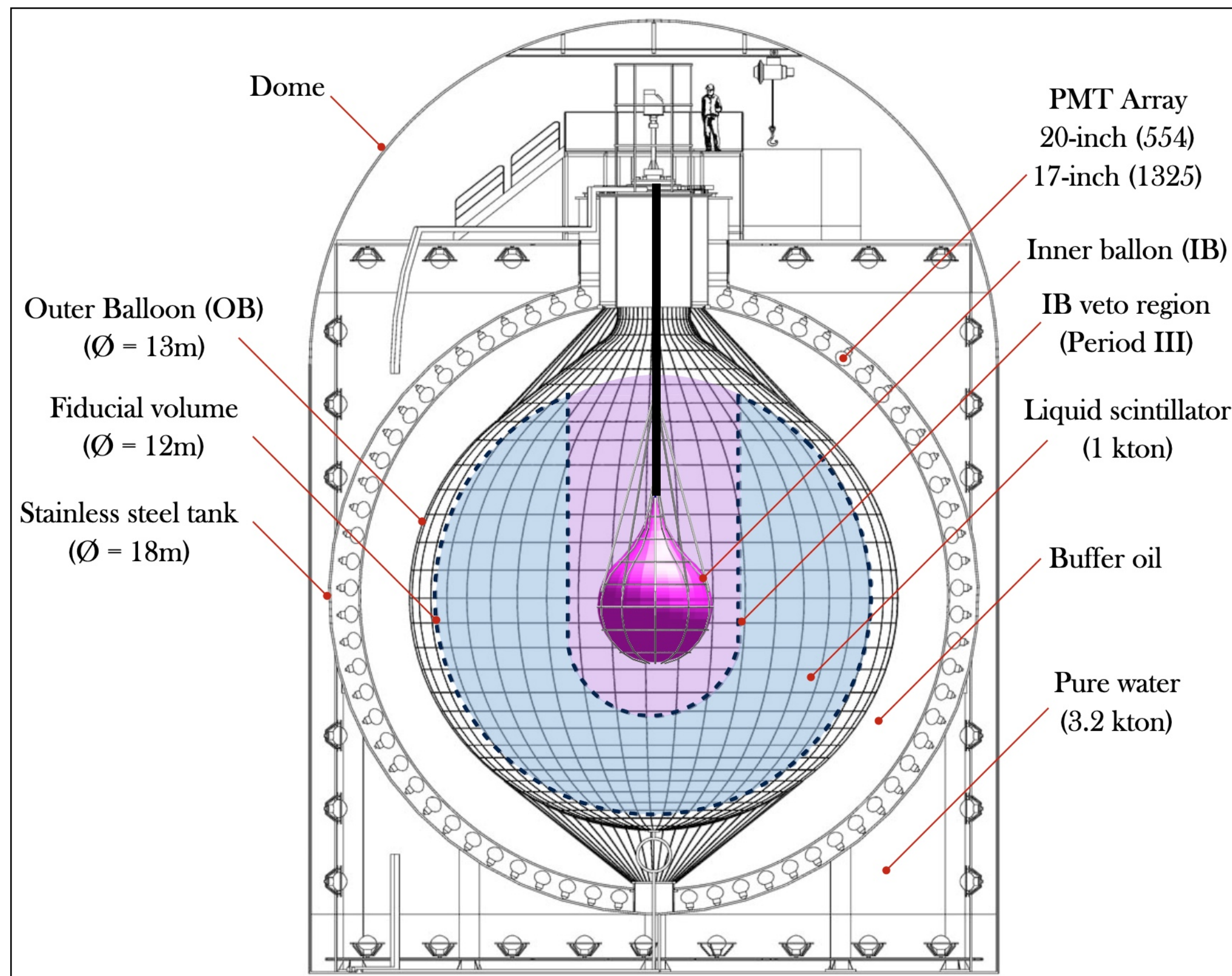


Regression



Liquid scintillator detectors

KamLAND-Zen800



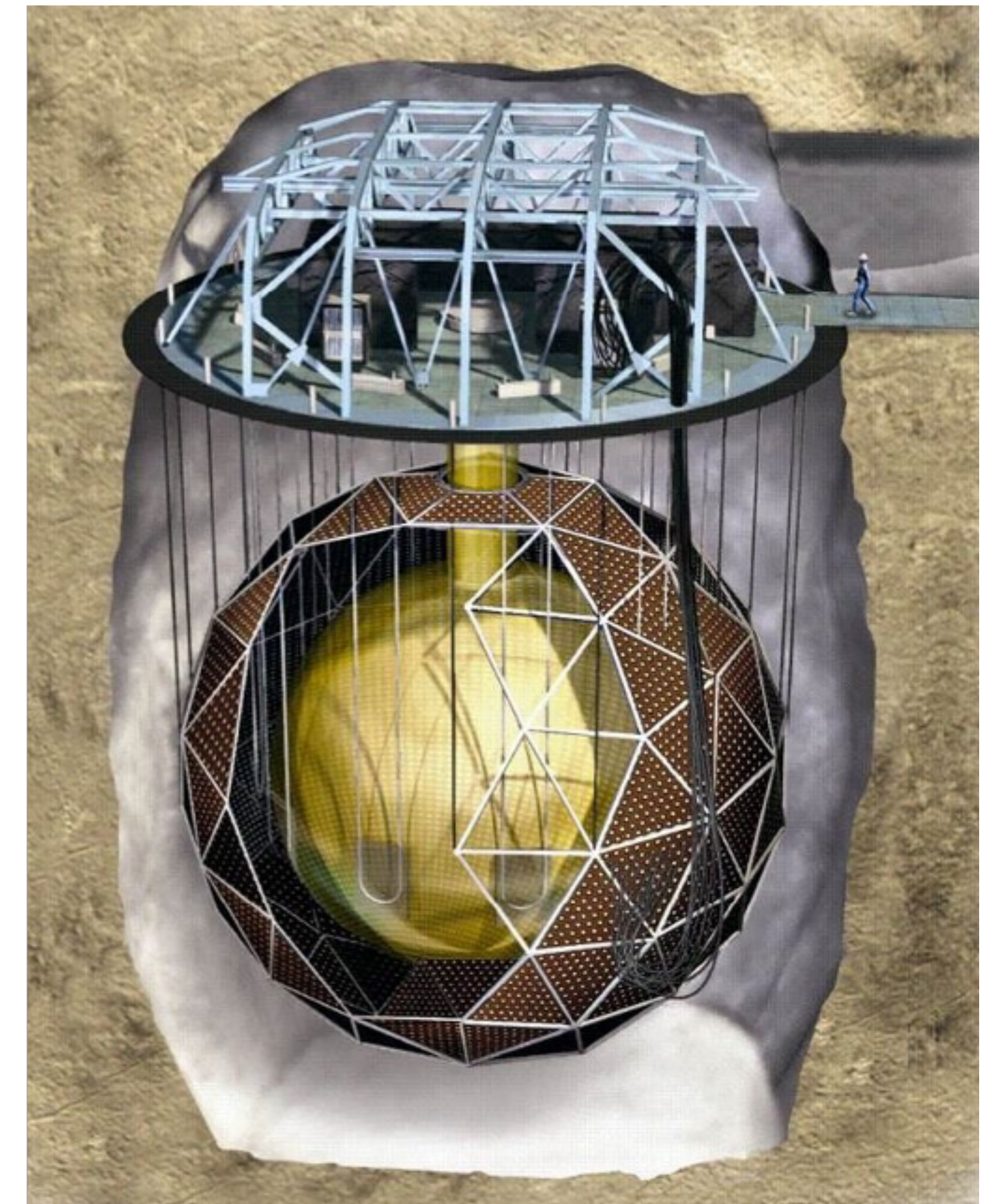
Pros:

- Self-shielding
- Multi-purpose neutrinos measurement
- Scaling

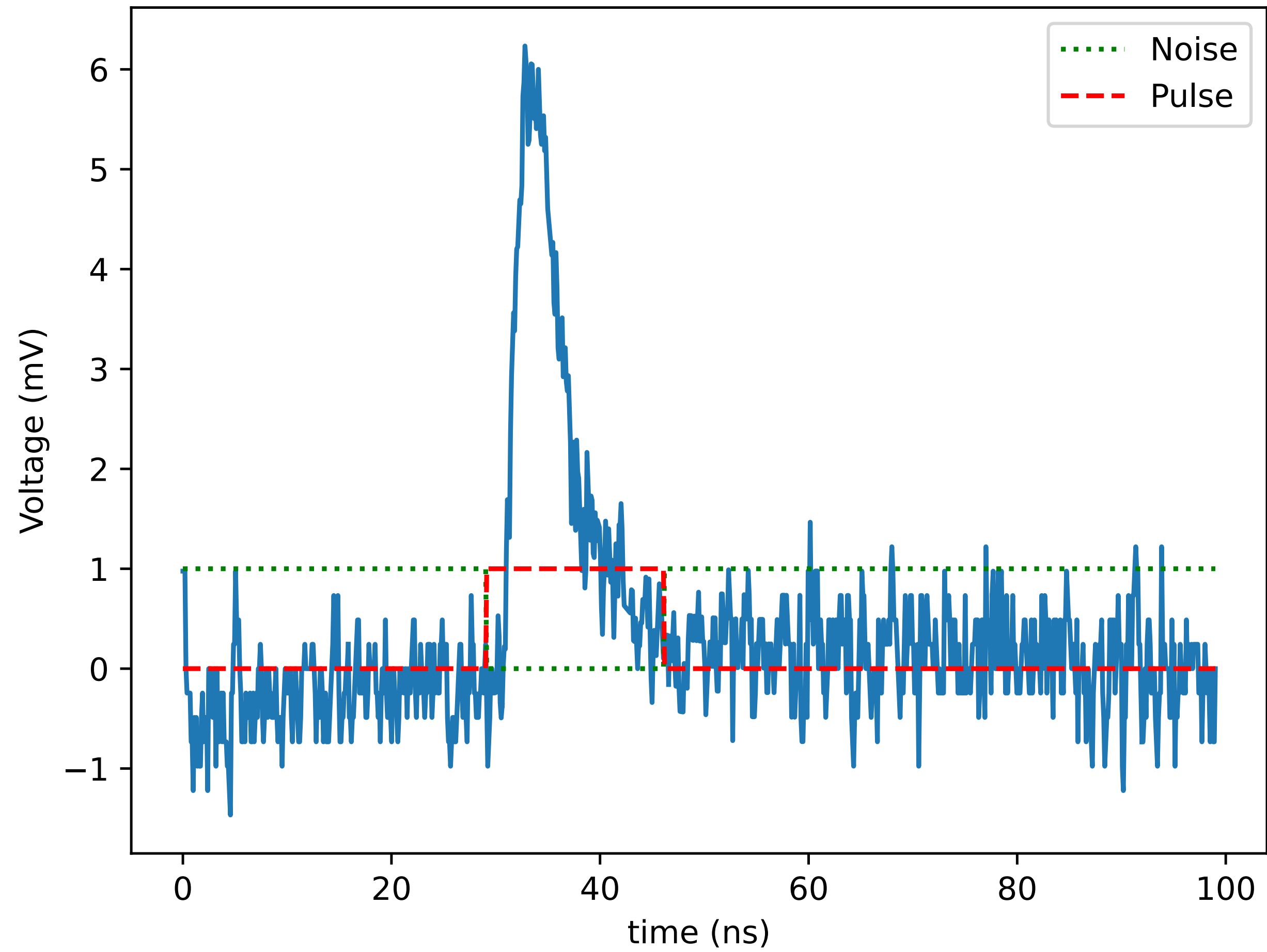
Cons:

- Low energy resolution
- Some irreducible backgrounds

Future: KamLAND2-Zen

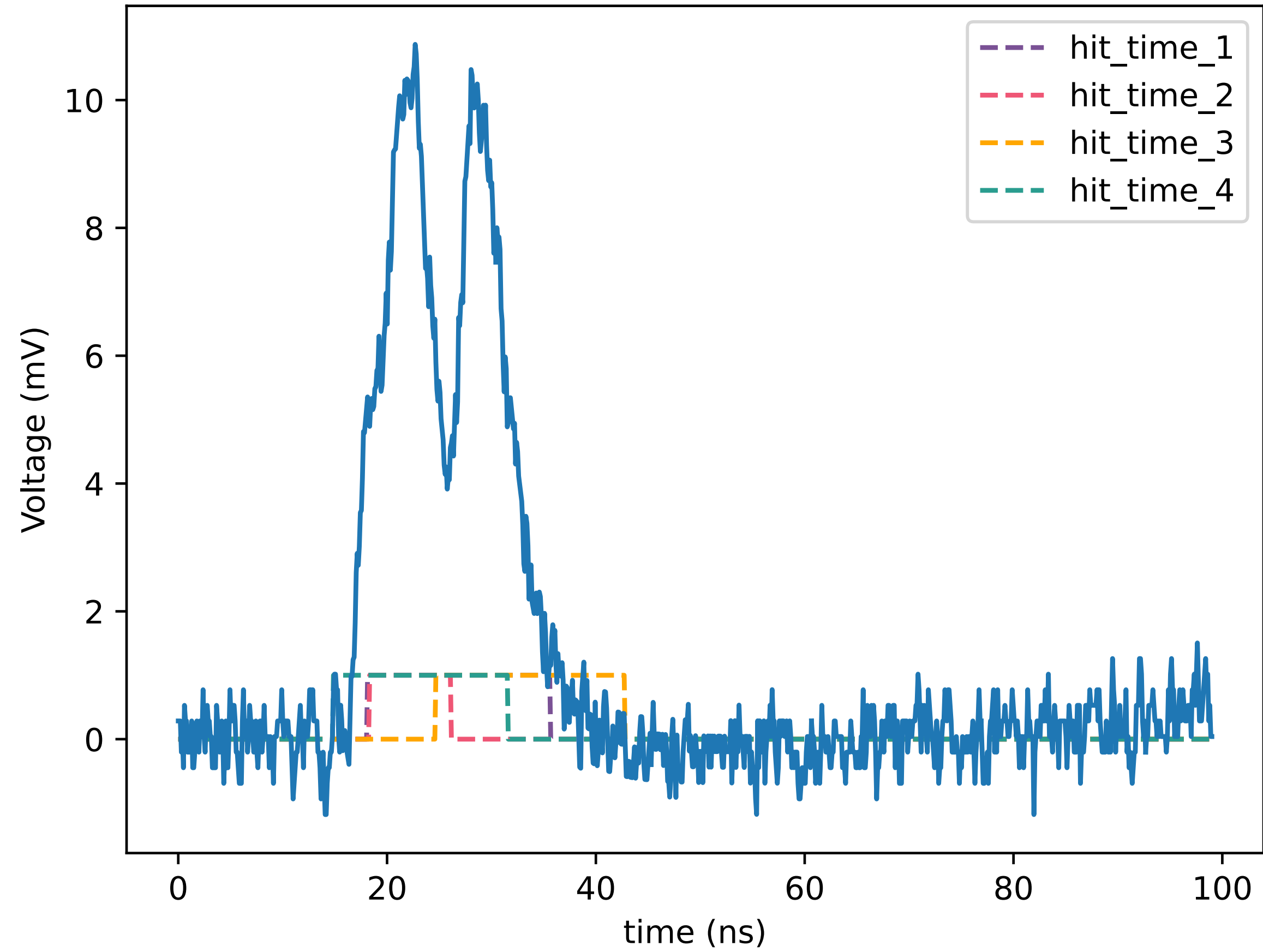
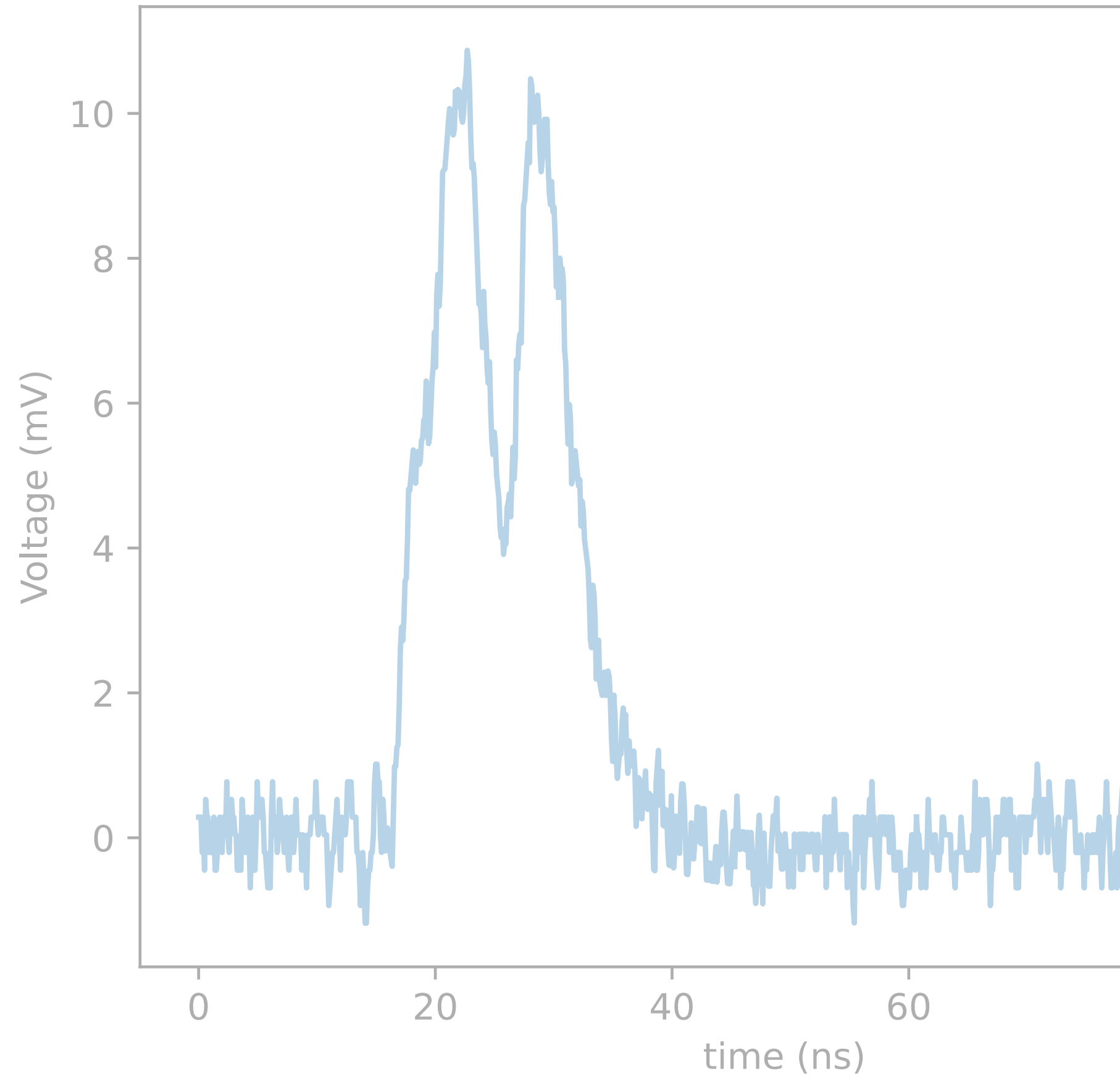


Goals with ML

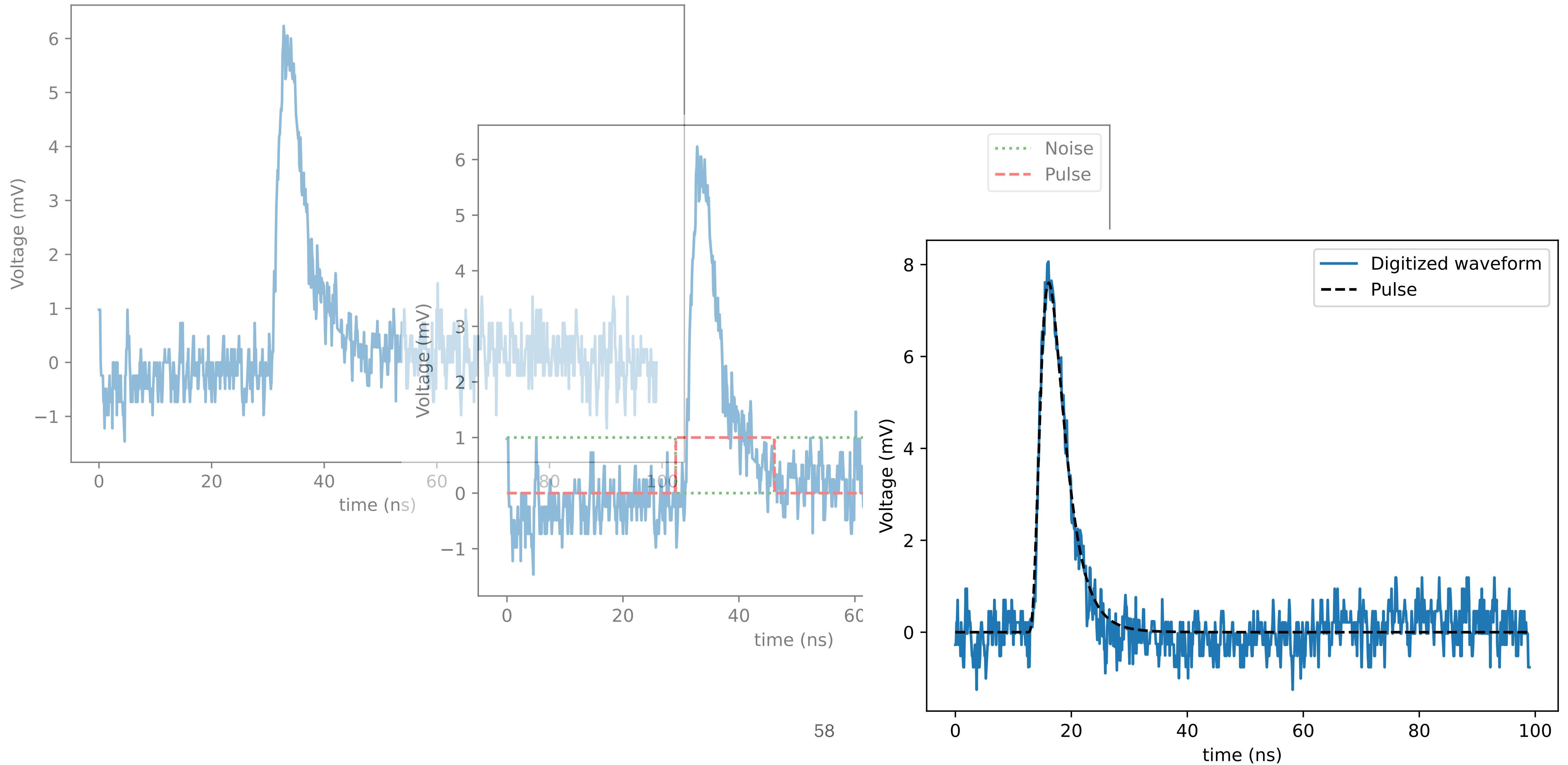


```
[[1, 1, 1, ..., 1, 1, 1],  
 [0, 0, 0, ..., 0, 0, 0]]
```

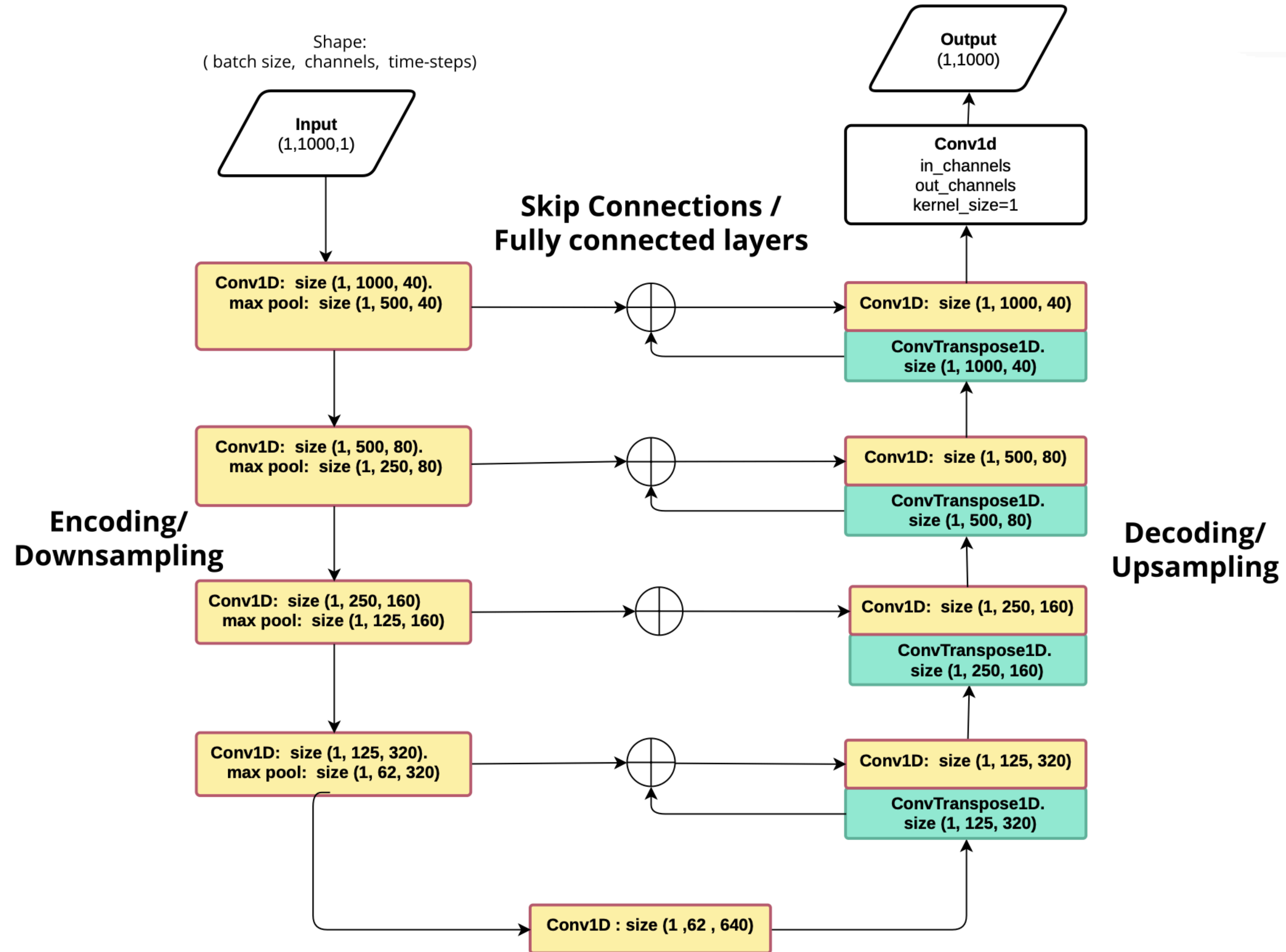

Goals with ML



Digitized waveforms



UNet for pulse extraction



Goals with ML

