

DE LA RECHERCHE À L'INDUSTRIE



INFLUENCE OF SYSTEMATIC EXPERIMENTAL UNCERTAINTIES IN THE EVALUATION OF NUCLEAR DATA

Cyrille De Saint Jean, Pascal Archier , Gilles Noguere,
Pierre Leconte, D. Bernard, C. Carmouze and T. Nicol
CEA/DEN/Cadarache

JEFF-CHANDA Joint Winter Meeting

November, 20/24, 2017

JEFFDOC-1880

1

Reminders, context and objectives

2

Bayesian inference (Generalize least square and Monte-Carlo)

3

Systematic **Microscopic** Uncertainties:

A. What ?

B. Marginalization

C. Covariances ^{239}Pu , an example

4

Integral Data Assimilation and Syst. Uncertainties

A. What ?

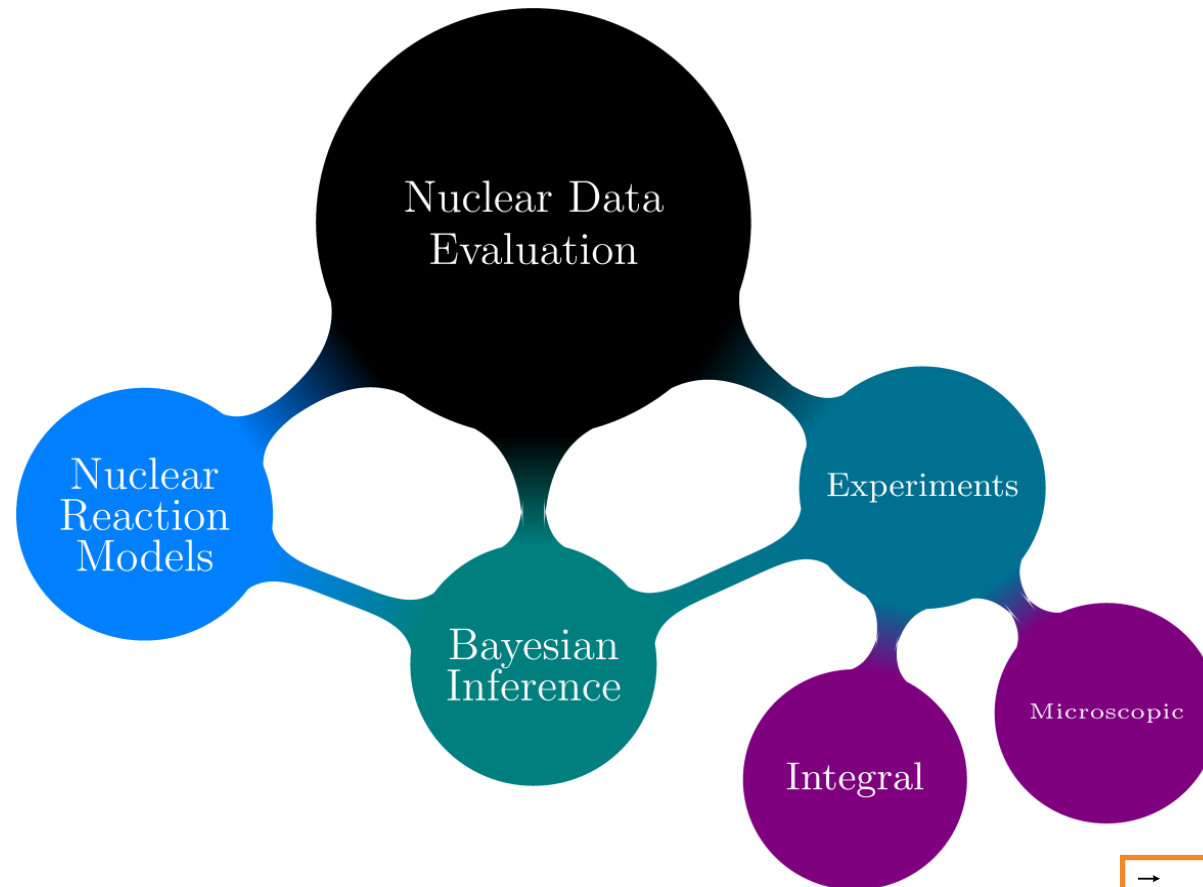
B. Single experiment (JEZEBEL) → Covariances ^{239}Pu , an example

C. Several experiments : PU-SOL-THERM → Syst. Uncertainty

D. A positive aspect of Syst. Uncertainties

5

Conclusions and Perspectives



Issues :

- Systematic experimental uncertainties
- Phenomenological Nuclear reaction model theories + Parameters
- Model defects (Epistemic Uncertainties)
- Integral experiment assimilation
- Common Physics from RRR to Continuum

$$\vec{t}(M, \vec{x}, \vec{\theta})$$

$$\vec{x} = \{\gamma_{a\lambda}, E_{\lambda}, a_c, R'\}$$

$$\vec{x} = \{\langle \Gamma_a \rangle, a_c, R^{\infty}, D_0, S_a\}$$

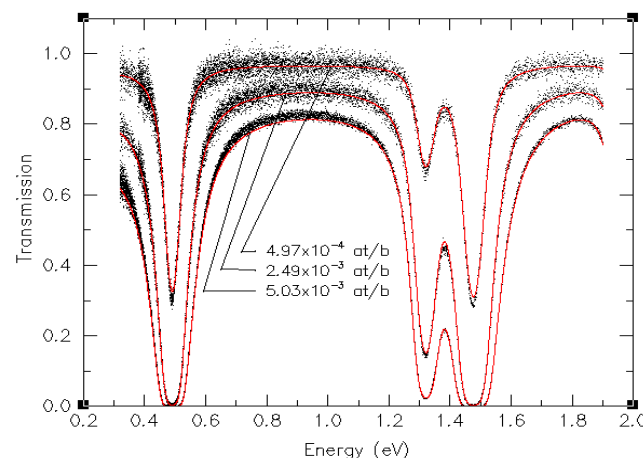
$$\vec{x} = \{\beta_2, a_c, d_c, V, W, \dots\}$$

$$\vec{x} = \sigma_g^r, \chi_g, \nu \dots$$

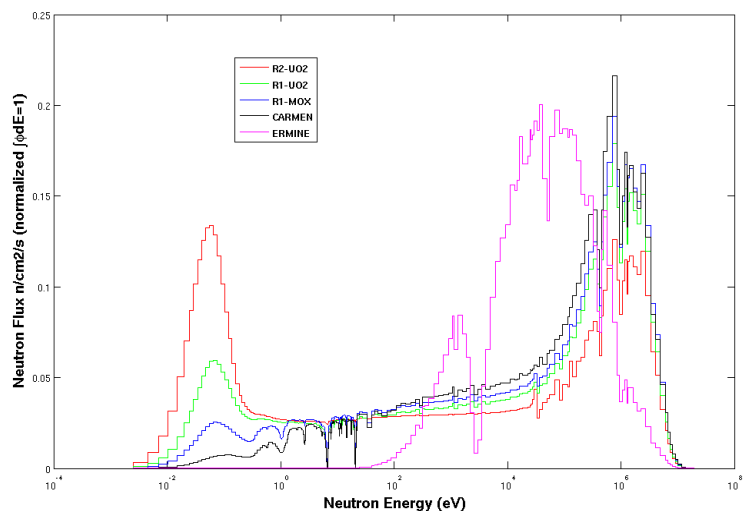
Microscopic experiments

- Fine resolution in energy
- All reactions: (n,γ) , (n,f) , (n,n') , (n,xn) ...
- Outgoing particles $(n, \gamma, \alpha...)$ characterized in terms of spectrum/multiplicity/angular distribution...
- **Systematic uncertainties (normalization, background, detector efficiency...)**

Transmission measurements at JRC/Geel (GELINA)



Neutron flux in MINERVE



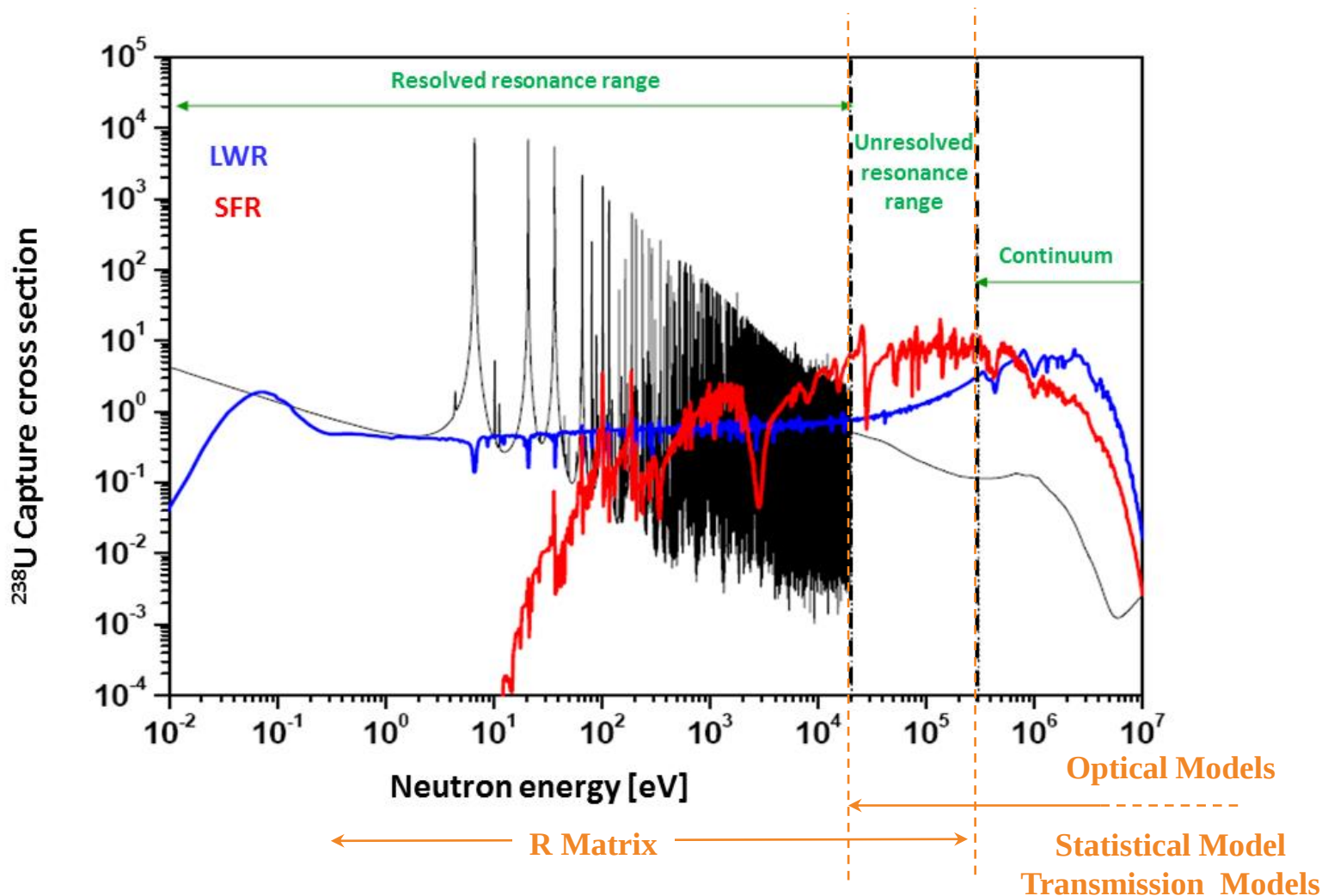
Integral experiments

- Integrated measurements in angle/energy/space
- Better overall precision) $<3\%$ (1s) for difficult regions
- Representativity w/t to Industrial concepts:
- keff, reactivity effects, flux/power distribution ...
- **Integral experiments correlations (systematic uncertainties)**
- **Evaluation $\rightarrow$ Processing $\rightarrow$ Transport code $\rightarrow$ feedback ND**

Oscillation measurements in Minerve

CROSS SECTIONS “KNOWLEDGE” EVALUATION IN THE RESONANCE RANGE AND HIGHER

1



≠

Nuclear reaction models

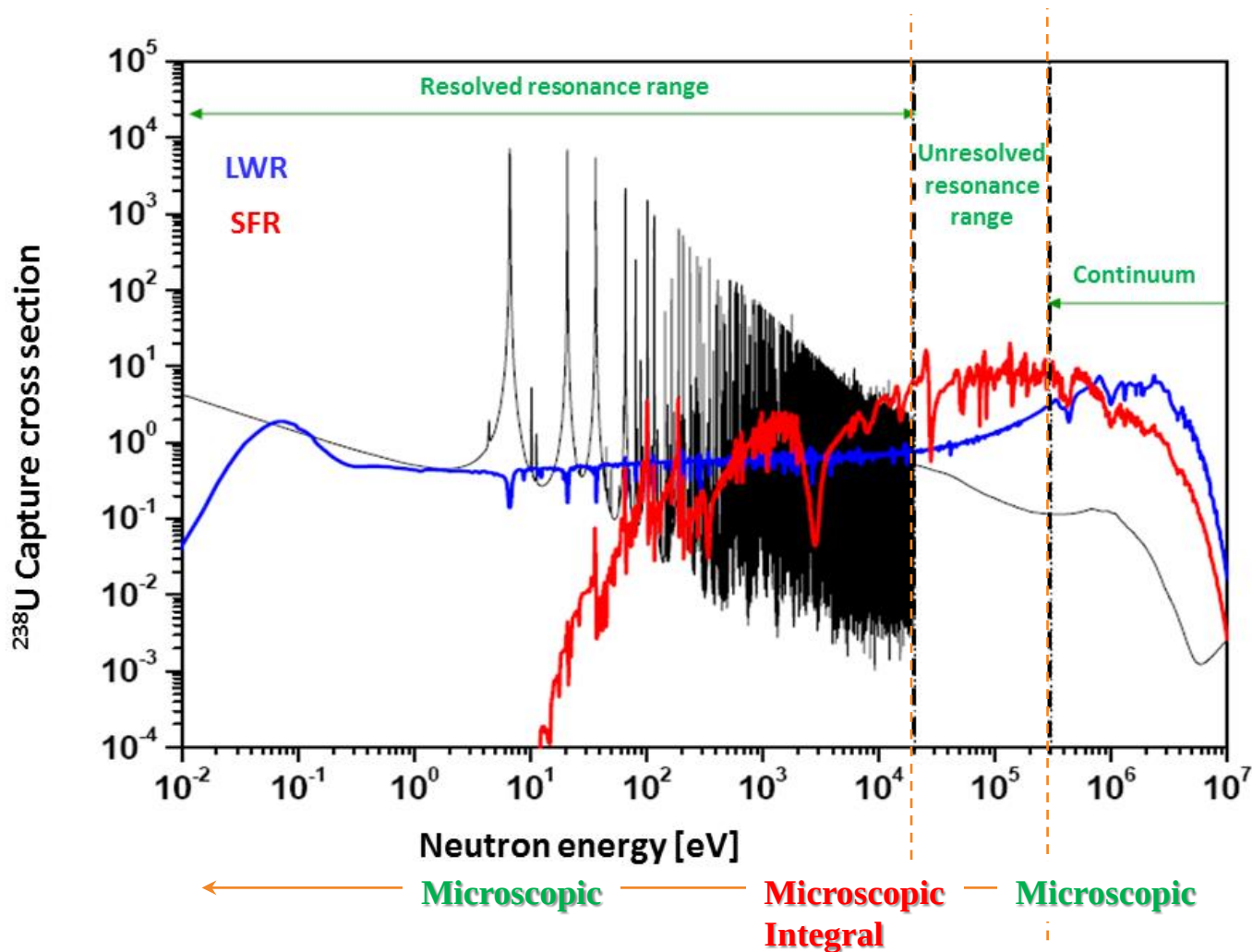
Experiments (microscopic/integral)

Bayesian inference technique

Evaluation of uncertainties (variances and correlations)

CROSS SECTIONS “KNOWLEDGE” EVALUATION IN THE RESONANCE RANGE AND HIGHER

1



Nuclear reaction models

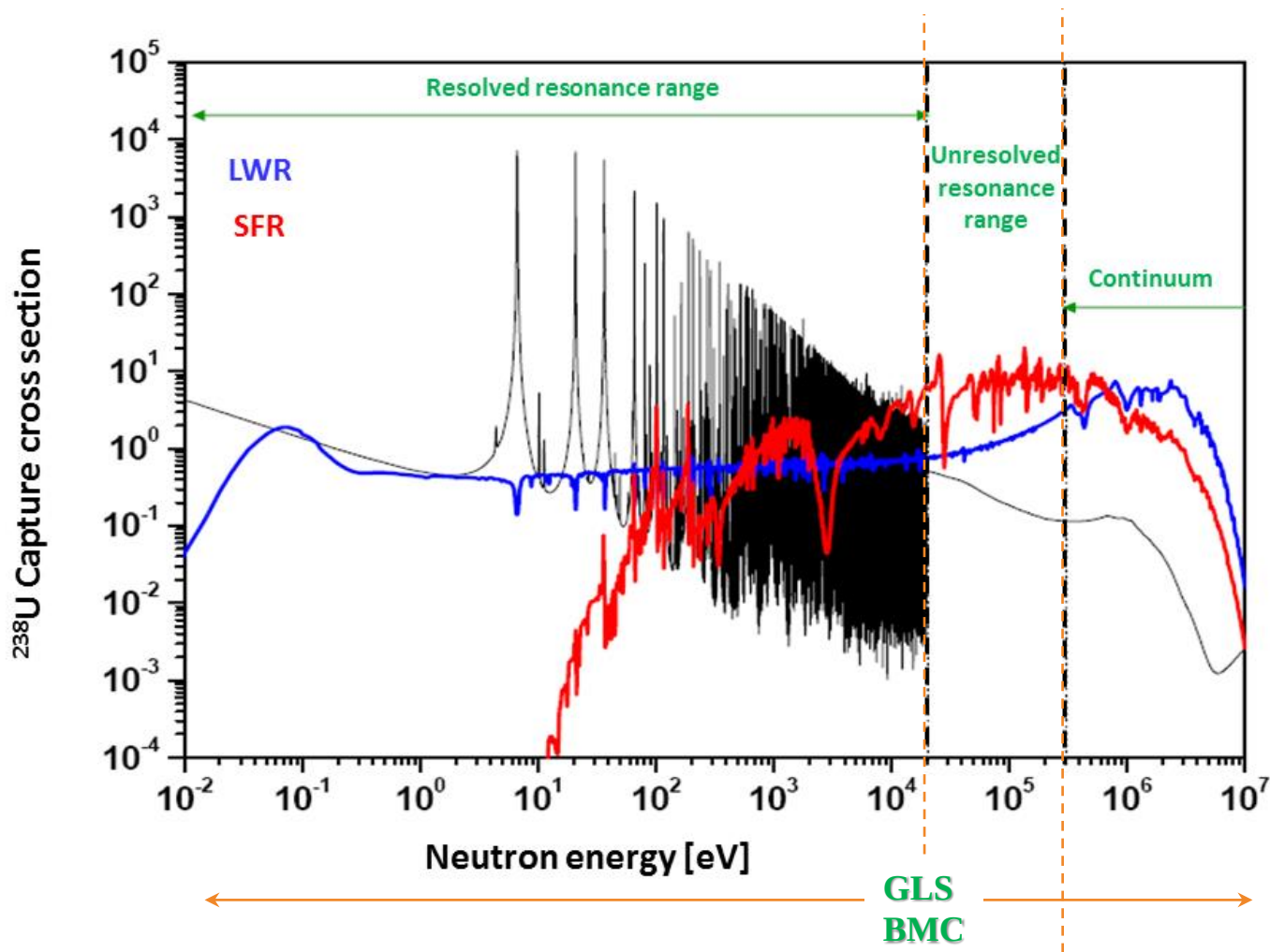
Experiments (microscopic/integral)

Bayesian inference technique

Evaluation of uncertainties (variances and correlations)

CROSS SECTIONS “KNOWLEDGE” EVALUATION IN THE RESONANCE RANGE AND HIGHER

1



≠

Nuclear reaction models
Experiments (microscopic/integral)
Bayesian inference technique
Evaluation of uncertainties (variances and correlations)

Bayesian inference (probability density):

$$p(\vec{x} | M, \vec{y}, U) = \frac{p(\vec{x} | M, U) \cdot p(\vec{y} | M, \vec{x}, U)}{\int d\vec{x} \cdot p(\vec{x} | M, U) \cdot p(\vec{y} | M, \vec{x}, U)}$$

Model

Model parameters New measurements *a priori* information

Formulation:

$$\text{posterior}[p(\vec{x}|\vec{y}, U)] \propto \text{prior}[p(\vec{x}|U)] \cdot \text{likelihood}[p(\vec{y}|\vec{x}, U)]$$

Estimation of the first two moments
of the *a posteriori* distribution

Bayesian inference (probability density):

Maximum Entropy Principle

Laplace approximation
(Sammy, Refit, Conrad, SOK...)

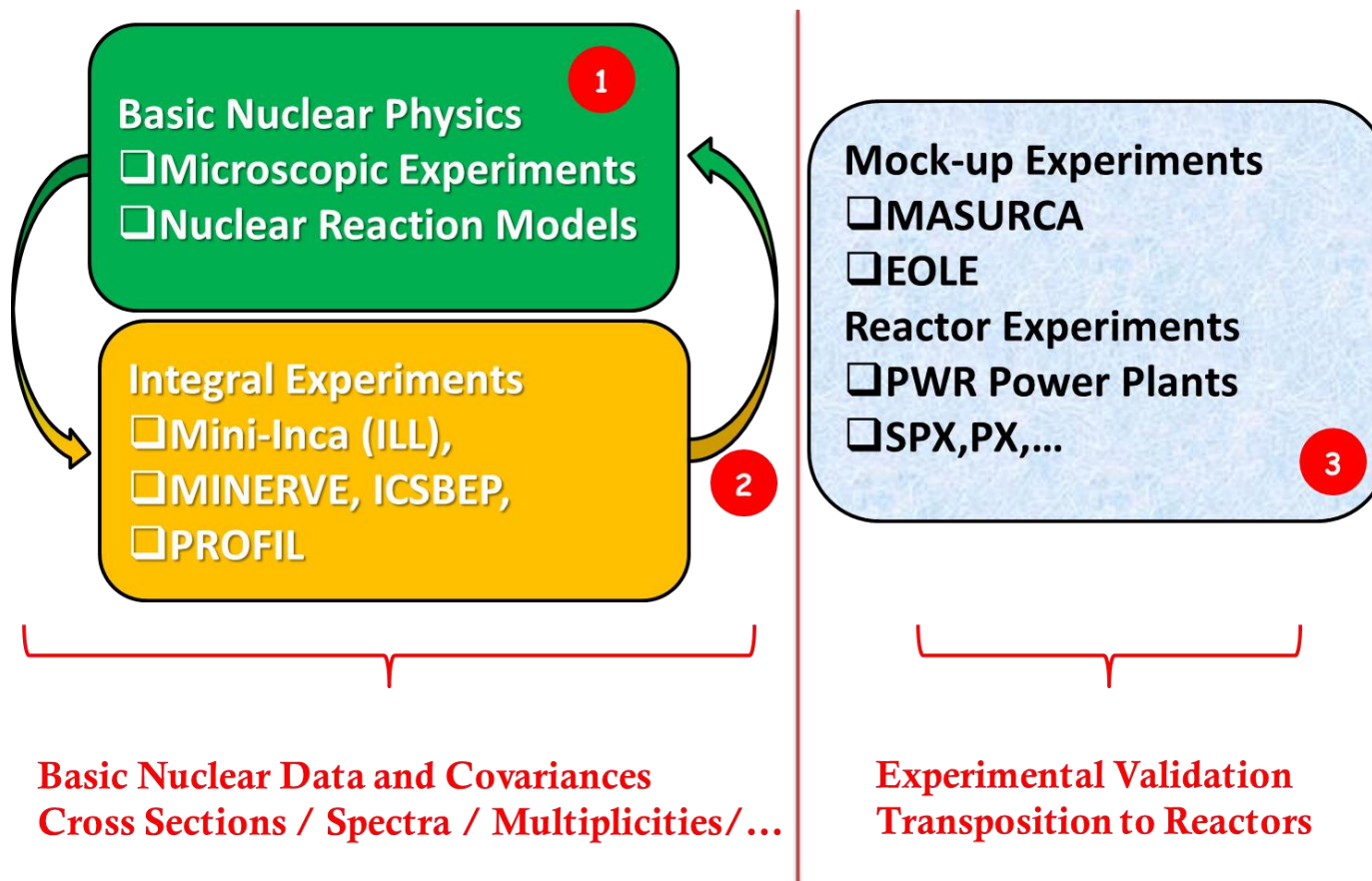
Monte-Carlo
(BMC, Forward-Backward...)

Estimation of a cost function
(Generalized Chi-square)

$$\chi_{GSL}^2 = (\vec{x} - \vec{x}_m)^T M_x^{-1} (\vec{x} - \vec{x}_m) + (\vec{y} - \vec{t}(\vec{x}))^T M_y^{-1} (\vec{y} - \vec{t}(\vec{x}))$$

- Estimate 1st two moments of $p(\vec{x}|M, \vec{y}, U)$
- with Monte-Carlo
- Sample of $p(\vec{x} | M, U) \rightarrow \vec{x}_k$
- For each $\vec{x}_k \rightarrow$ associate a weight
- For ex. $\rightarrow$ Likelihood $\mathcal{L}_k [p(\vec{y}|M, \vec{x}_k, U)]$

COVARIANCES EVALUATION STRATEGY



■ Counting rates: statistical uncertainties

The more you count, the lower is the uncertainty
Uncorrelated bins

■ Normalization, efficiency,

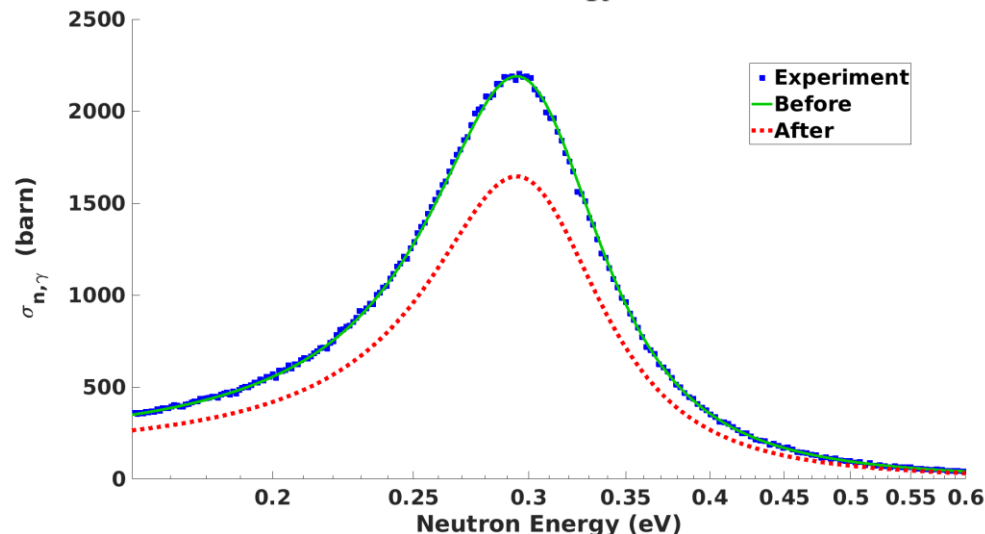
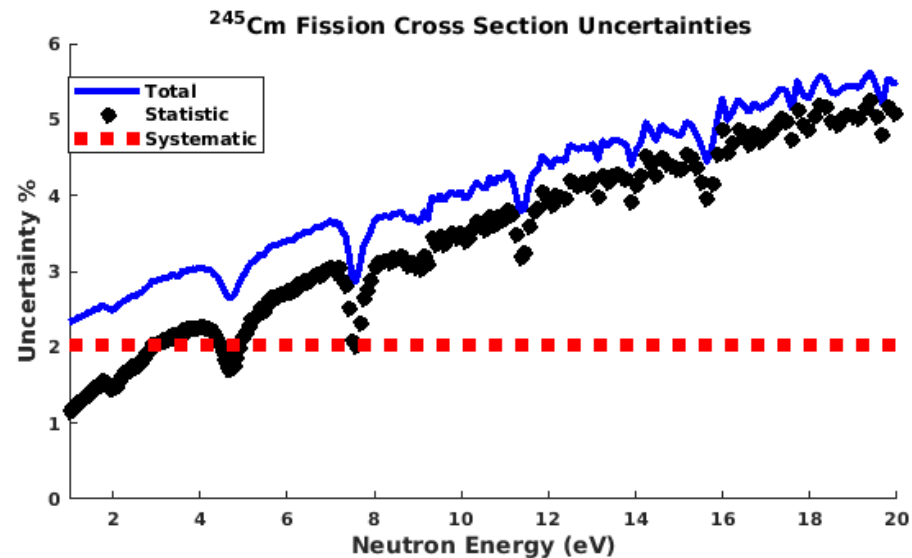
Asymptotic uncertainties → Constants
Long range correlations

■ Bayesian Inference issues : ex ^{239}Pu

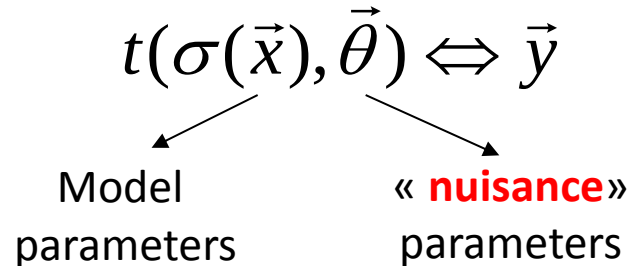
- ◆ Analysis of capture (Gwin 73) ; Syst. Unc. ~ 3%
- ◆ « Classical » (GLS/BMC) for fission and radiative widths
- ◆ Obviously bad result (see Fig.)
- ◆ Due to the likelihood pdf and experimental covariance

$$\chi_{GSL}^2 = (\vec{x} - \vec{x}_m)^T M_x^{-1} (\vec{x} - \vec{x}_m) + (\vec{y} - \vec{t}(\vec{x}))^T M_y^{-1} (\vec{y} - \vec{t}(\vec{x}))$$

■ Solution: Marginalisation of pdf's



Marginalization philosophy



Nuisance parameters are **necessary** during comparisons with experiments (data reduction, normalization,...), but not for the final evaluation

$$t(\sigma(\vec{x}), \vec{\theta}) \quad \longrightarrow \quad \sigma = f(\vec{x}) + \text{Covariances}$$

Marginalization of the probability density:

$$p(\vec{x}, \vec{\theta} \mid M, \vec{y}, U) \quad \longrightarrow \quad p_{\vec{\theta}}(\vec{x} \mid M, \vec{y}, U) = \int d\vec{\theta} \cdot p(\vec{x}, \vec{\theta} \mid M, \vec{y}, U)$$

Marginalization :

estimation of at least the first two moments of the marginal probability density

■ Analytical method* : Full covariance kept:

$$G_x M_x^{Marg} G_x^T = G M G^T \quad \text{with} \quad G = \begin{pmatrix} G_x \\ G_\theta \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad M = \begin{pmatrix} M_x & M_{x,\theta} \\ M_{\theta,x} & M_\theta \end{pmatrix}$$

■ Hybrid Monte-Carlo/GLS**:

1. Sampling of nuisances parameters following its pdf : $\vec{\theta}_k$
2. For each realization k, do a GLS $\rightarrow \vec{x}_k + M_k$
3. Use total variance – covariance theorem on the K-Statistic

■ Full Monte-Carlo*** : double Monte Carlo integration (BMC)

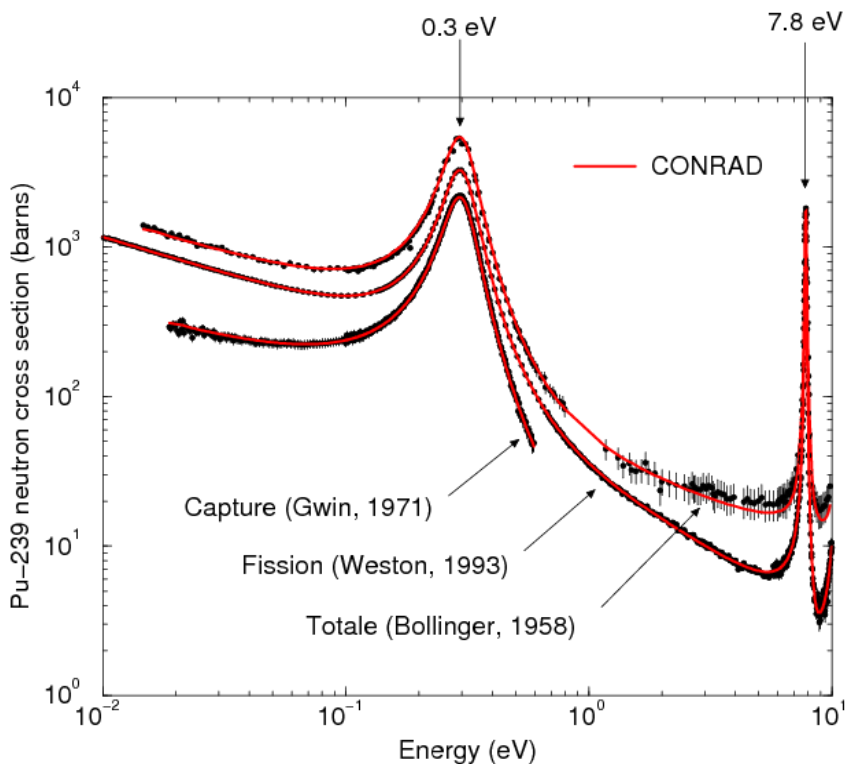
$$p_\theta(\vec{x}|\vec{y}, U) = p(\vec{x}|U) \int \frac{p(\vec{\theta}|U) \cdot p(\vec{y}|\vec{\theta}, \vec{x}, U)}{\int p(\vec{x}|U) \cdot p(\vec{y}|\vec{\theta}, \vec{x}, U) dx} d\vec{\theta}$$

* B. Habert et al., Nuc. Sci. Eng., **166**, 276 (2010) + PhD Thesis

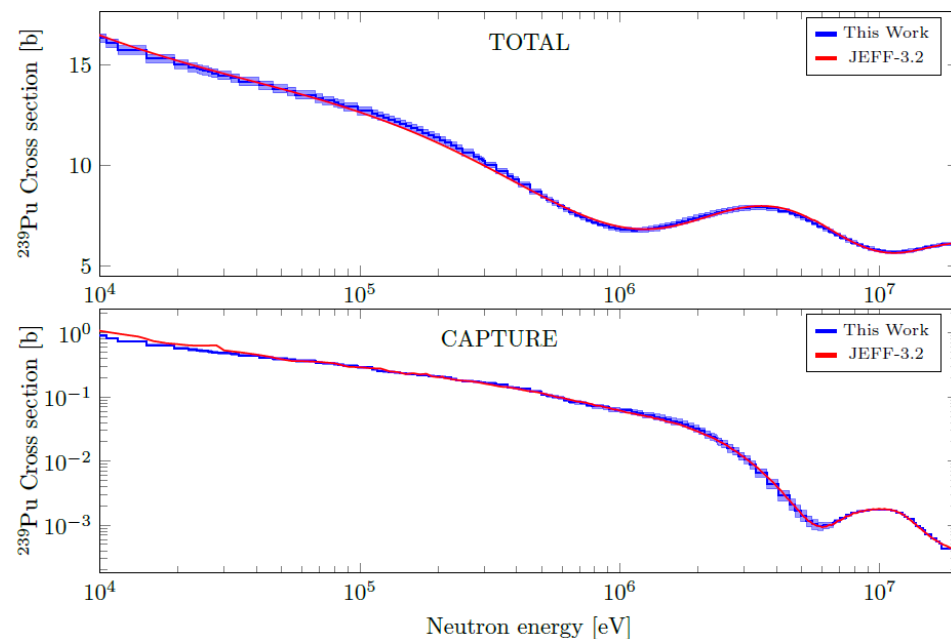
** C. De Saint Jean et al., Nuc. Sci. Eng., **161**, 363 (2009).

*** E. Privas PhD thesis + C. De Saint Jean et al., EPJ Web (ND2016)

Resolved Resonance Range

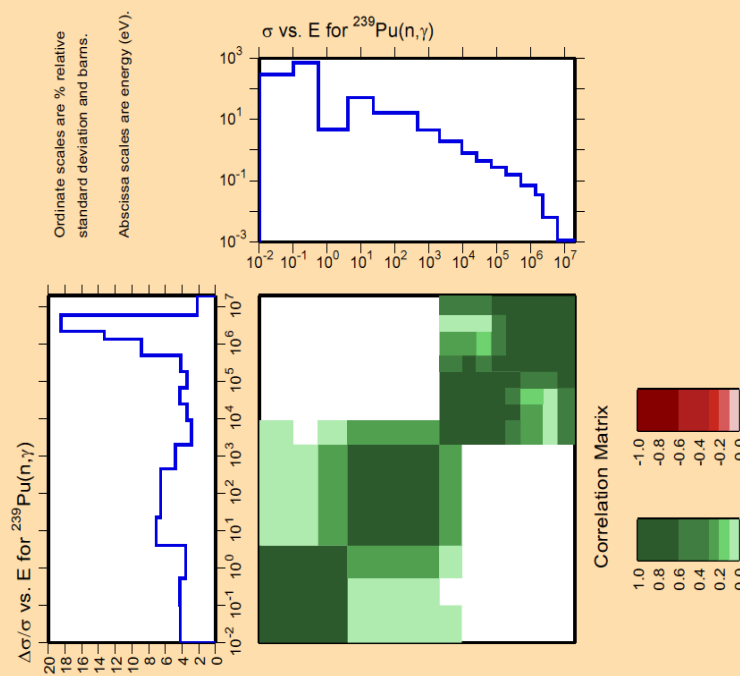
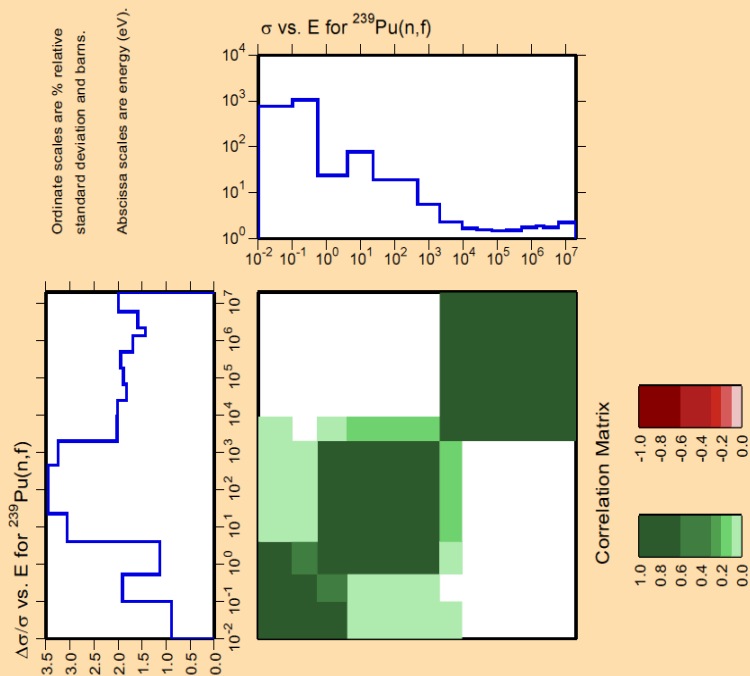


Unresolved Resonance Range and Continuum



- Analysis of main EXFOR experiments ($E < 2500$ eV) with R-Matrix code CONRAD.
- Marginalization of Exp. systematic uncertainties (normalization, background, ...)

- Fit of JEFF3.2 with CONRAD → in house models
- Marginalization of Exp. systematic uncertainties (normalization, background, ...)



■ High impact of Exp. Systematic Uncertainties

- ◆ Long range correlations ($\sim 0.8-1$)
- ◆ High uncertainties $\sim 0.5-10\%$ (Thermal Capture; Fission in Fast range)
- ◆ ~ 1000 pcm on MISTRAL2 (EOLE Reactor) and ASTRID (FR prototype)

■ Energy domain treated separatly

- ◆ Beware of potential impact for Fast Reactor (URR)

Additional
Experimental
information
needed

➤ Systematics Uncertainties ** (see WPEC/SG33-SG39):

- Fuel composition uncertainties
- Detector efficiencies and calibrations
- ...

➤ One experiment analyzed

It will increase the initial uncertainty

➤ Several experiments

It will increase the initial uncertainty

It will give a correlation coefficient between the experiments

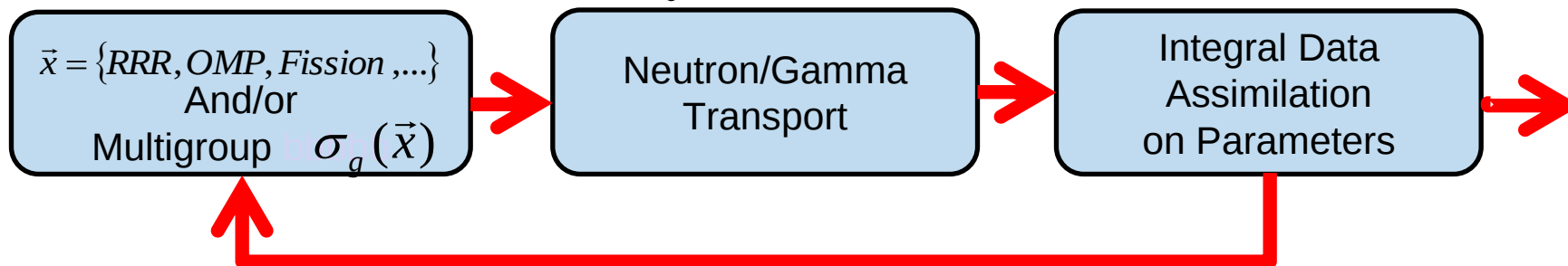
What are the effect on Integral Data Assimilation or Nuclear Data Validation ?

Integral Data Assimilation and Fast energy range : ^{239}Pu

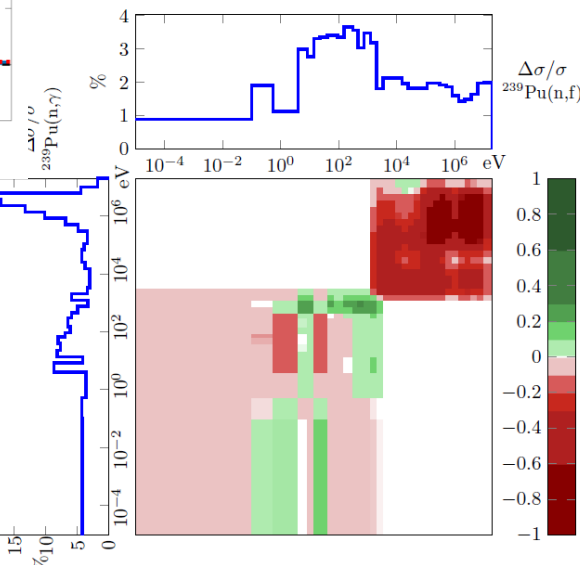
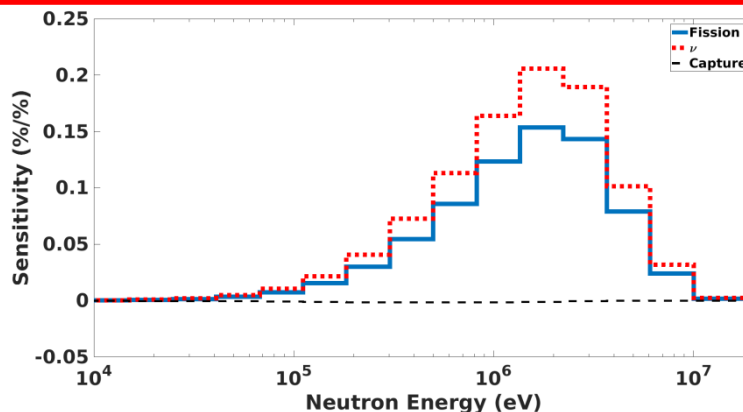
4

Data assimilation of JEZEBEL*

Limited nuclear data adjustment (σ) but with two schemes



JEZEBEL is an indirect
measurement of $\chi + \nu\sigma_f$
Here : Focus on XS
 $\delta E \sim 200\text{-}250$ pcm !!!



Need of a coherent (Microscopic) prior
(previous analysis)



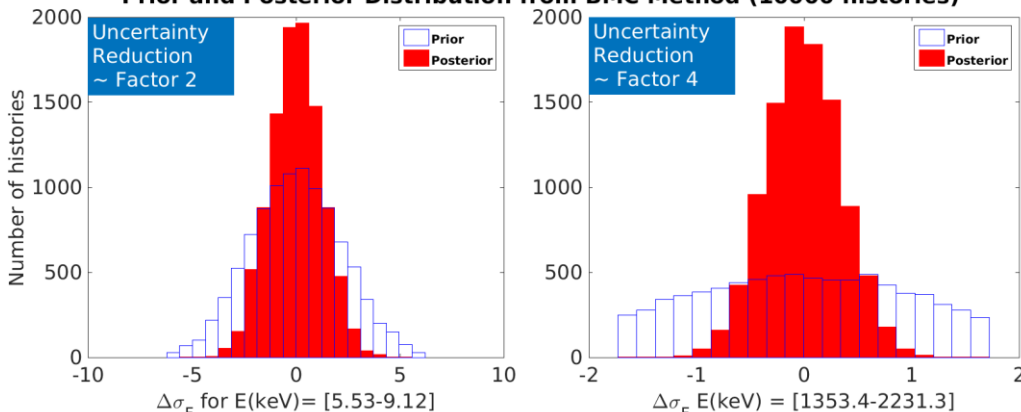
Integral Data Assimilation and Fast energy range : ^{239}Pu

4

Data assimilation of JEZEBEL*

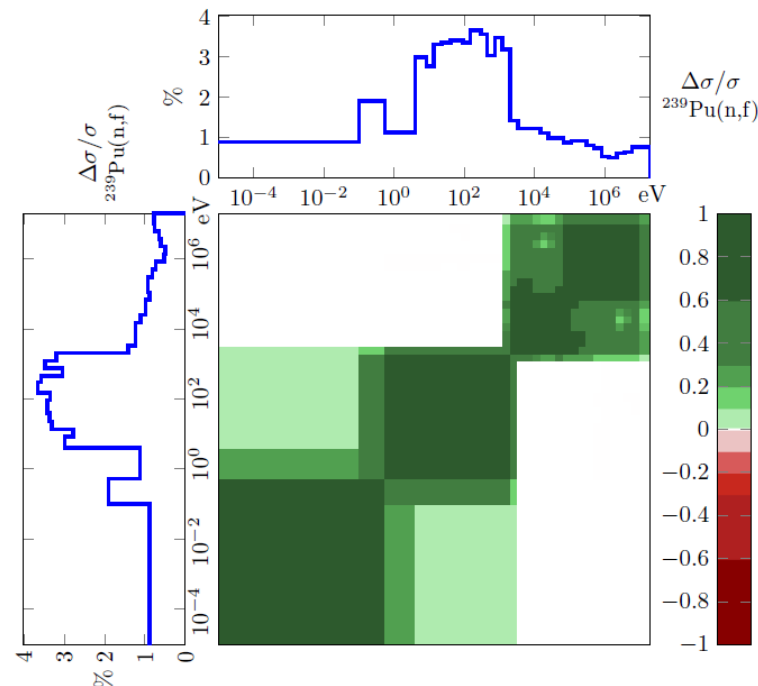
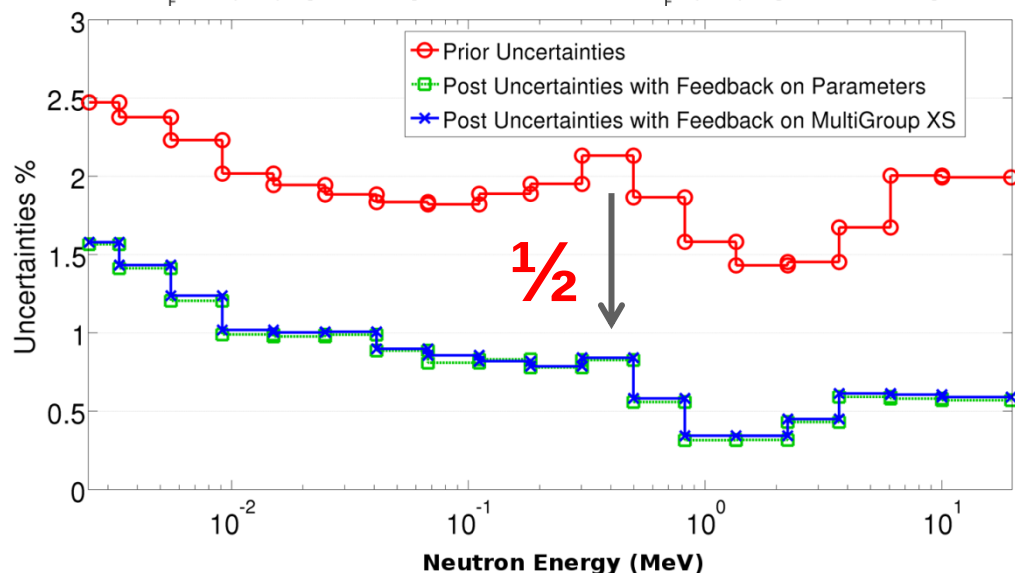
Limited nuclear data adjustment (σ) but with two schemes

Prior and Posterior Distribution from BMC Method (10000 histories)



Bayesian Monte-Carlo ~ GLS
Results: coherent for both methods

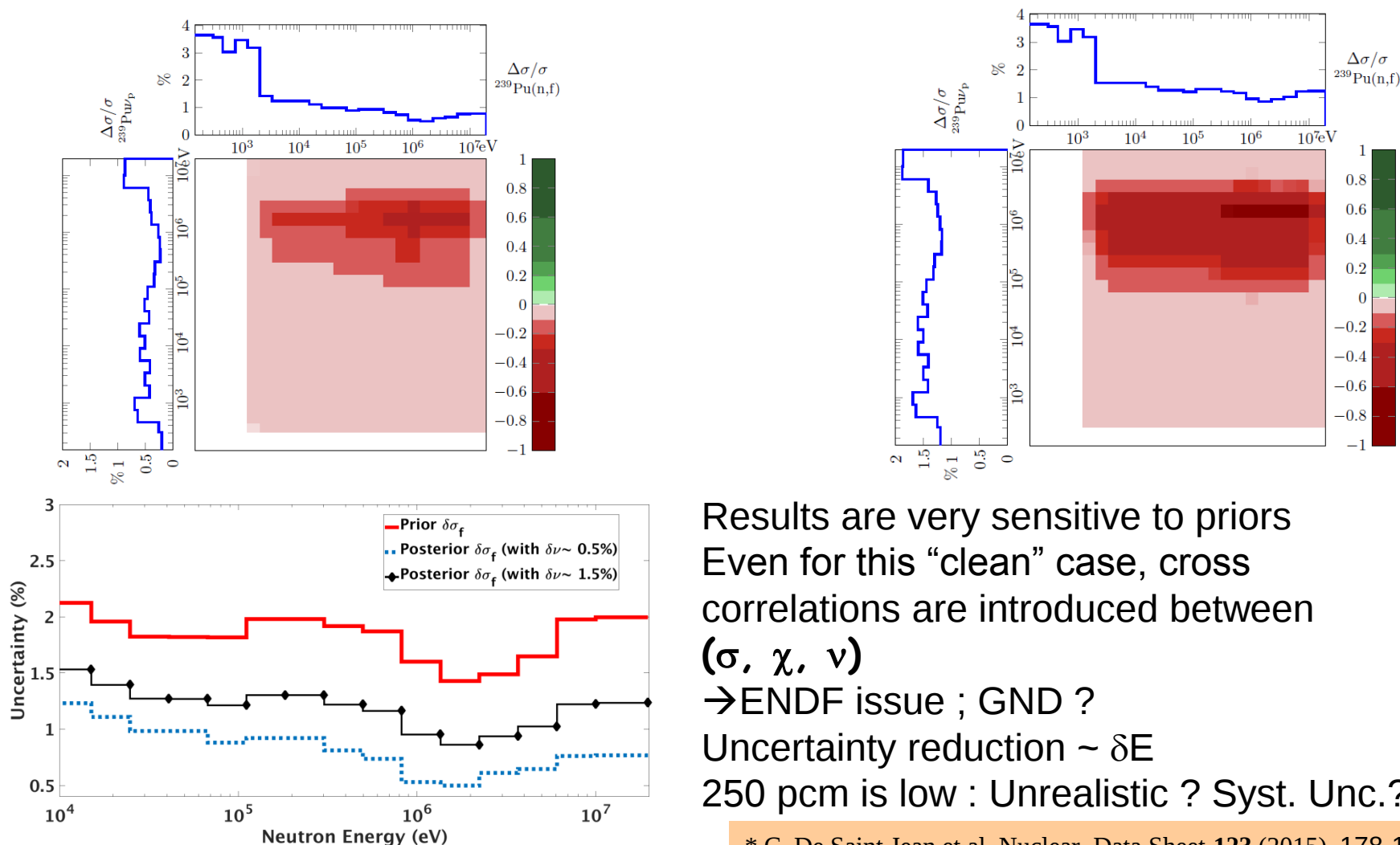
With a coherent (Microscopic) prior
Results: coherent for both schemes



Integral Data Assimilation and Fast energy range : ^{239}Pu

4

Data assimilation of JEZEBEL
Full nuclear data adjustment (σ , χ , ν)*



Results are very sensitive to priors
Even for this “clean” case, cross correlations are introduced between (σ , χ , ν)
→ ENDF issue ; GND ?
Uncertainty reduction $\sim \delta E$
250 pcm is low : Unrealistic ? Syst. Unc.?

Systematic Uncertainties for Integral Experiments

Example of Pu-Sol-Therm serie

First Integral Experiment : PU-SOL-THERM-001-1

WATER-REFLECTED 11.5-INCH DIAMETER SPHERES OF PLUTONIUM NITRATE SOLUTIONS

Fissile concentration (g/L) 73
 (H1)/(Pu240,Pu242,Pu241,Pu239,Pu238) 370.1757
 (H1)/(Pu241,Pu239) 352.9084
 Vecteur isotopique :

238Pu	239Pu	240Pu	241Pu	242Pu
0.01%	95.01%	4.67%	0.31%	0.01%

$K_{eff} = 1.0000 \pm 0.0050$

E/C-1 (T4) = - 133 pcm

Second Integral Experiment : PU-SOL-THERM-002-1

WATER-REFLECTED 12-INCH DIAMETER SPHERES OF PLUTONIUM NITRATE SOLUTIONS

Fissile concentration (g/L) 49.84
 (H1)/(Pu240,Pu239) 524.2683
 (H1)/(Pu239) 507.9775
 Vecteurs isotopiques :

239Pu	240Pu
96.88%	3.12%

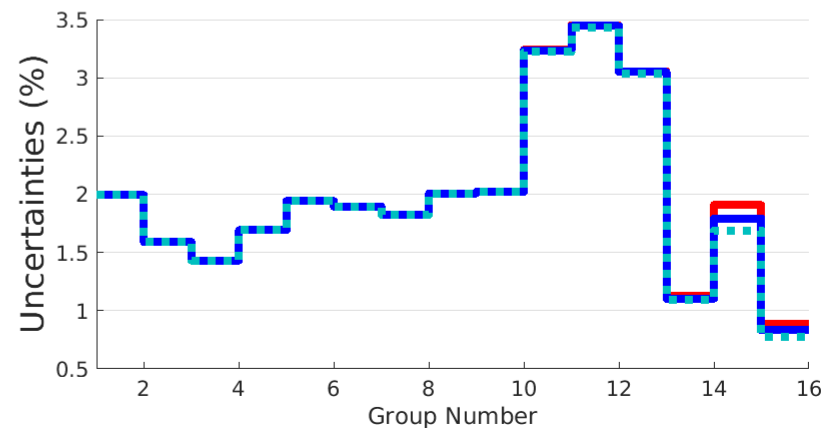
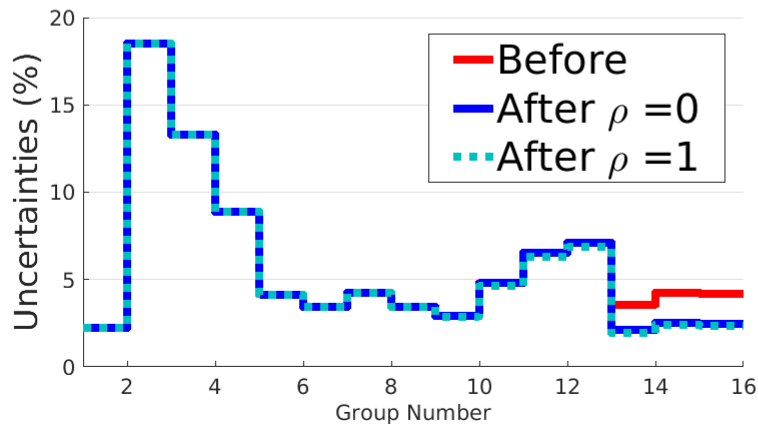
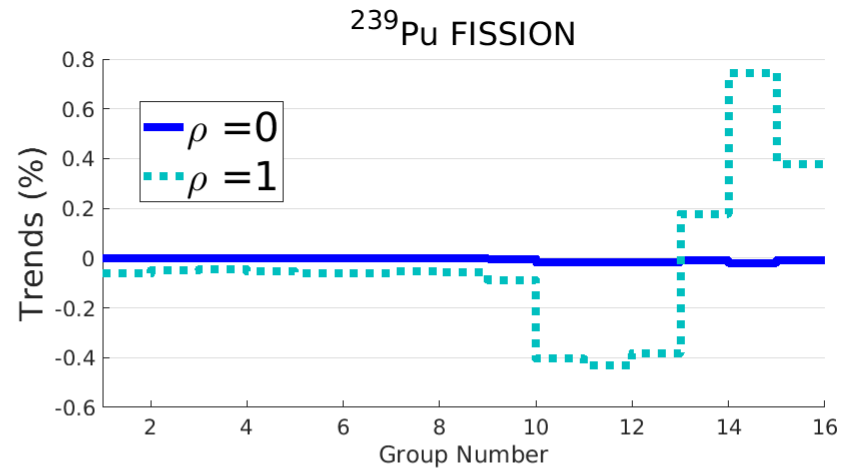
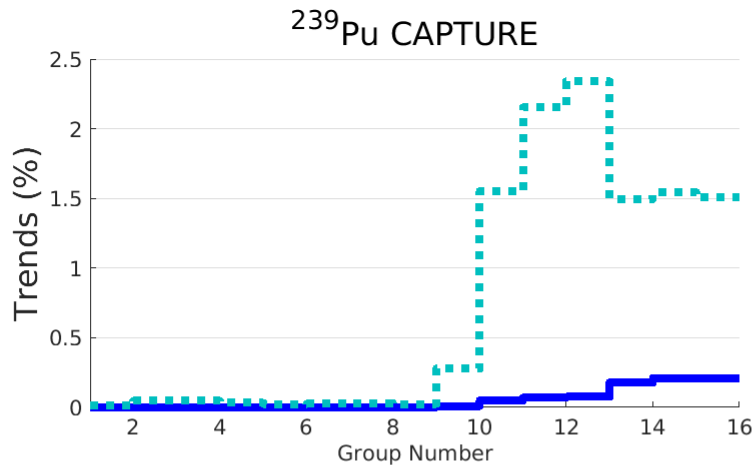
$K_{eff} = 1.0000 \pm 0.0047$

E/C-1 (T4) = - 12 pcm

Integral Data Assimilation of Both PST on Pu Nuclear Data
 With a correlation coefficient : $\rho = 0$ or 1

Systematic Uncertainties for Integral Experiments

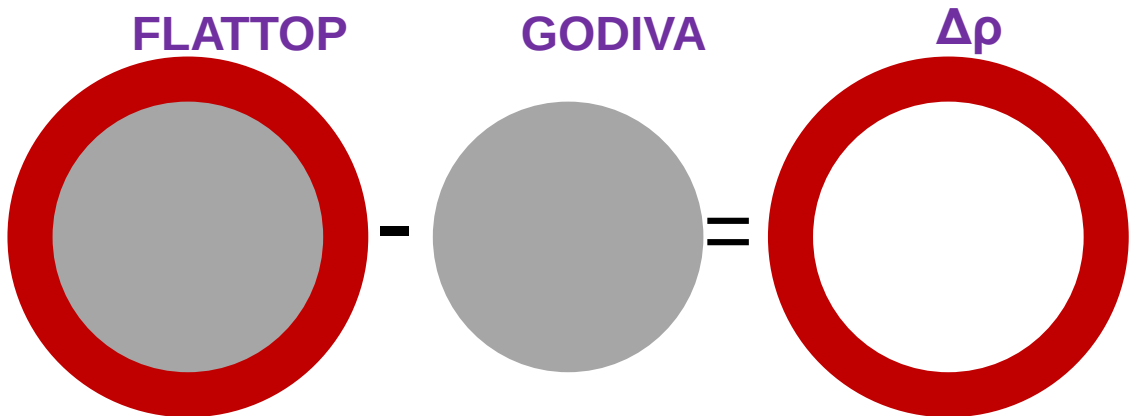
Example of Pu-Sol-Therm serie



Identical uncertainty reduction on ^{239}Pu capture cross section
 Very different trends between $\rho = 0$ or 1

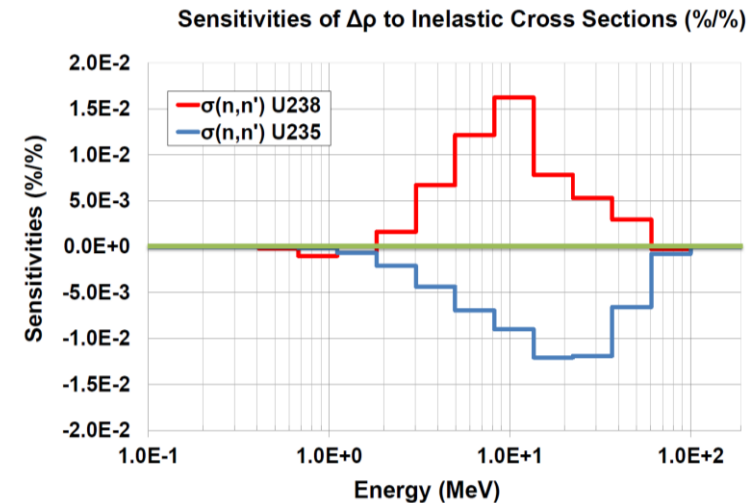
Systematic Uncertainties for Integral Experiments

A positive use possible !



^{235}U + reflector ^{238}U ^{235}U

Reflector worth



@E. Privas et al.

- Contains fuel with equivalent characteristics
- New interpretation of standard Integral Experiments*
- Contains fuel with common Syst. Uncertainties
- Conceive integral experiments with Syst. Uncertainty
→ can permit to reach different Nuclear Data

Systematic Uncertainties for Integral Experiments Validation ; Figure of merit ;

Reduced χ^2

@ O. Cabellos, jefdoc-1843

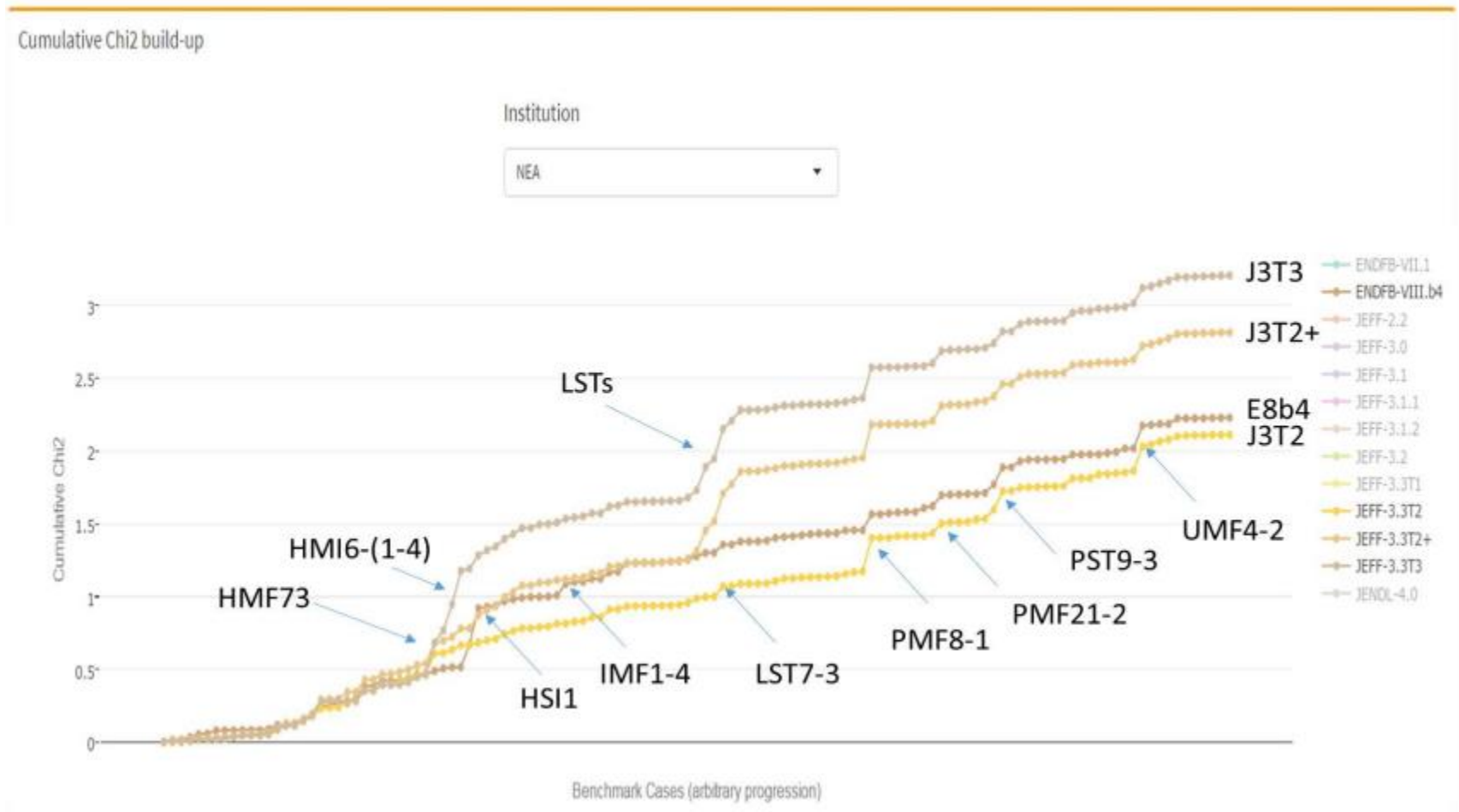
	NEA						
	ENDF/B-VII.1	ENDF/B-VIIIb4	JEFF-3.1.1	JEFF-3.2	JEFF-3.3.T2	JEFF-3.3T2+	JEFF-3.3T3
PU	4.2 (29)	2.2 (29)	2.9 (29)	3.6 (29)	2.8 (29)	2.4 (29)	2.4 (29)
HEU	6.1 (42)	4.1 (42)	5.3 (42)	11.8 (42)	2.2 (42)	3.5 (42)	3.9 (42)
IEU	5.0 (12)	1.9 (12)	11.3 (12)	4.9 (12)	2.7 (12)	2.1 (12)	2.2 (12)
LEU	0.9 (13)	1.4 (13)	1.4 (13)	0.9 (13)	1.8 (13)	3.7 (13)	4.0 (13)
U233	1.7 (18)	2.1 (18)	9.5 (18)	1.2 (18)	1.7 (18)	1.9 (18)	1.7 (18)
MIX	0.7 (8)	1.0 (8)	1.2 (8)	0.9 (8)	0.9 (8)	1.0 (8)	0.8 (8)
SPEC (C/E)	0.99249 (1)	0.99338 (1)	0.98719 (1)	0.98847 (1)	0.99142 (1)	0.99145 (1)	0.99118 (1)
Total	3.7 (123)	2.22 (123)	6.5 (123)	5.6 (123)	2.02 (123)	2.9 (123)	3.1 (123)

Reduced value will be impacted by correlations
Conclusions on the quality of the Library could be changed

Systematic Uncertainties for Integral Experiments Validation ; Figure of merit ;

Cumulative χ^2

@ O. Cabellos, jefdoc-1843



Very usefull to identify outliers
What happens when correlations exists ?

- Evaluation of systematic uncertainties is of prime interest for Nuclear Data evaluators
- Microscopic Experiments:
 - ❖ Still high Syst. Uncertainties on Fission (Continuum), Capture of Fissile isotopes
 - ❖ Mainly related to normalization, background, detectors efficiency, ...
 - ❖ Create Evaluated Nuclear Data with long range (and high) correlations
- Integral Experiments:
 - ❖ A proper look on Syst. Uncert. for Integral Experiments is paramount
 - Go back to pre-ICSBEP (Experimental reports ?)
 - If no information → be careful in the choice ($\rho = 0$ or 1)
 - ❖ Syst. Uncert. will change adjustments results (trends or uncertainty reduction) → SG46
 - ❖ Could be positive !!
 - Look at integral experiments such as godiva/flattop
 - Innovative Integral Experiments to be studied