



# Development of a Geant4 simulation of the DESPEC setup

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# Motivation



- **To have a coherent simulation that includes both AIDA and DEGAS/FATIMA**
- The main drivers are:
  - The need to account for gamma-ray absorption at low energies to evaluate the response of the setup (necessary to extract branching ratios, intensities)
  - The need to investigate the beta tagging efficiency and expected correlation of AIDA
  - Identify the best analysis strategies for AIDA
  - To understand issues of the setup and drive future developments

# Public repository

- Hosted on the GSI Gitlab and publicly available
- It is still in a preliminary phase and is currently being tested/verified
- The idea is to have a code that is easy to access and simple to use



## Project information

32 Commits

2 Branches

0 Tags

13.2 MiB Project Storage

README

+ Add LICENSE

+ Add CHANGELOG

+ Add CONTRIBUTING

+ Enable Auto DevOps

+ Add Kubernetes cluster

+ Set up CI/CD

+ Add Wiki

+ Configure Integrations

**D** **DEGAS-AIDA Simulation**

main ▾

degas-aida-simulation /

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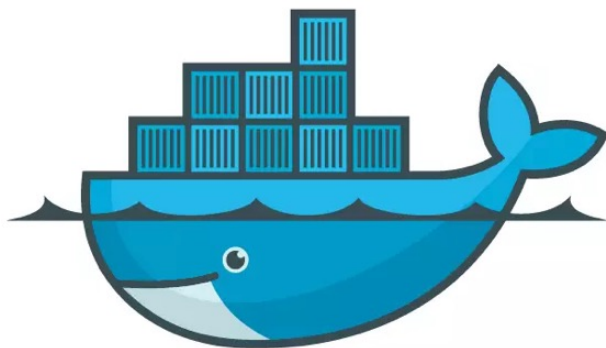
Code ▾

Created on  
August 21, 2025

# Some details about the code

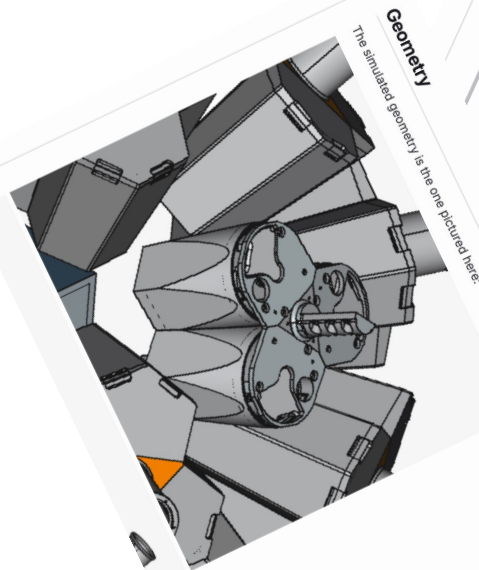


- Requires to compile Geant4 with GDML support for the geometry
- A Dockerfile is also provided in order to take care of the dependencies automatically
- A singularity configuration has also been added to allow it to work on the Virgo cluster



# Documentation

- The documentation is provided in a README.md and describes the installation procedure and how to run the code
- Since the simulation is still in its testing phase the documentation is still scarce
- We plan to provide complete instructions for external users that will be helpful also for proposals and other evaluations or response/efficiency





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**Monte Carlo simulation of the beta decay with DEGAS and AIDA**

This project is a Geant4-based simulation. Below are succinct, copy-pasteable instructions to **configure, build, and run** it with CMake on Linux/macOS.

Prereqs: a working Geant4 (v11.2.1) installation (built with multithreading and GDML). Either:

- source Geant4's environment script (recommended): `source /path/to/geant4/install/bin/geant4.sh`
- or pass `Geant4_DIR / CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH` explicitly to CMake (see below).

**Work in progress**

**Multithreading**

Run multithreaded executing

```
sh ./macros/run.sh
```

**Geometry (GDML)**

This project loads a GDML file from `macros/` from your build folder. If you run from another working directory, use an absolute path or adjust the relative path in your macro.

**Useful runtime commands (project messengers)**

These are parsed at runtime (e.g., in your macro) to control thresholds and smearing. Units are mandatory where shown.

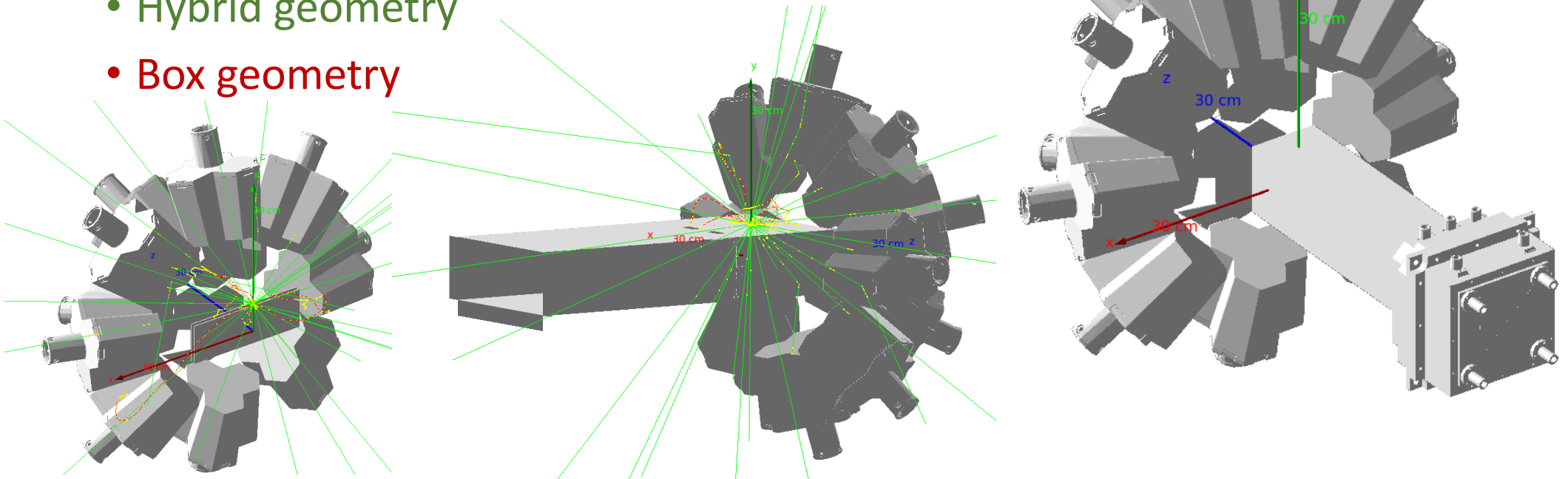
**Germanium (Ge)**

```
/ge/enableSmear true           # enable Gaussian smearing
/ge/smearp0 1.5                 # p0 term
/ge/smearp1 1.5                 # p1 term
/ge/smearp2 0.001               # p2 term (dimensionless fraction)
/ge/edepThreshold 10 keV        # min summed energy per cluster
/ge/timeThreshold 500 ns        # clustering window
```

# Available geometries

- Wide snout
- Narrow snout
- Hybrid geometry
- Box geometry

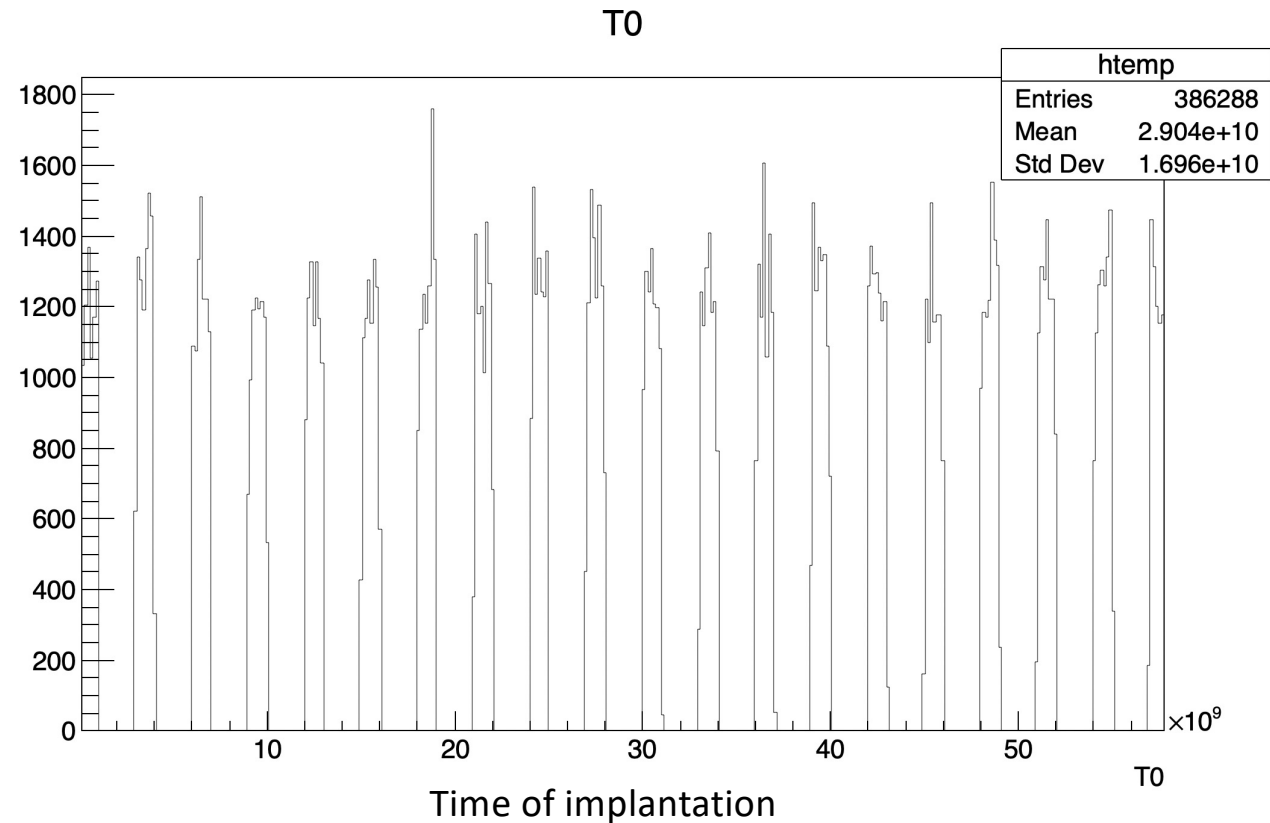
Thanks to Marc L. and Guang-shun



# Event generation



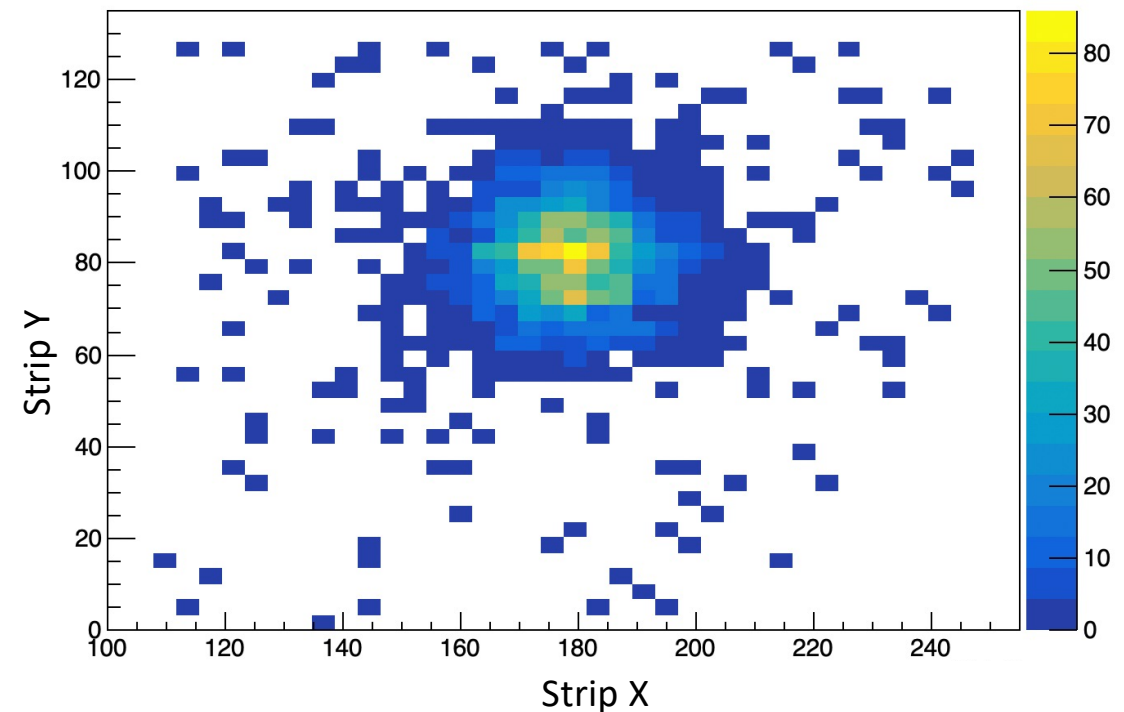
- Poissonian statistic for implantation with spill-on spill-off structure and a settable rate of implantation



# Event generation



- Position of implantation sampled from a gaussian distribution that can be set to reproduce the experimental data







- The particle decay modes are configured by the typical Geant4 files and can be personalized

## RadioactiveDecay:

#	Excitation	flag	Halflife	Mode	Daughter	Ex	flag	Intensity	Q
P	0	-	524880						
				MshellEC		0		0.017066	
				BetaPlus		0		1.3014e-05	
				KshellEC		0		0.88513	
				LshellEC		0		0.097791	
				MshellEC		0	-	3.6122e-07	2132.889
				MshellEC	158.38		-	7.8822e-06	1974.509
				MshellEC	970.23		-	0.012701	1162.659
				MshellEC	1450.68		-	0.0083189	682.209

## PhotoEvaporation:

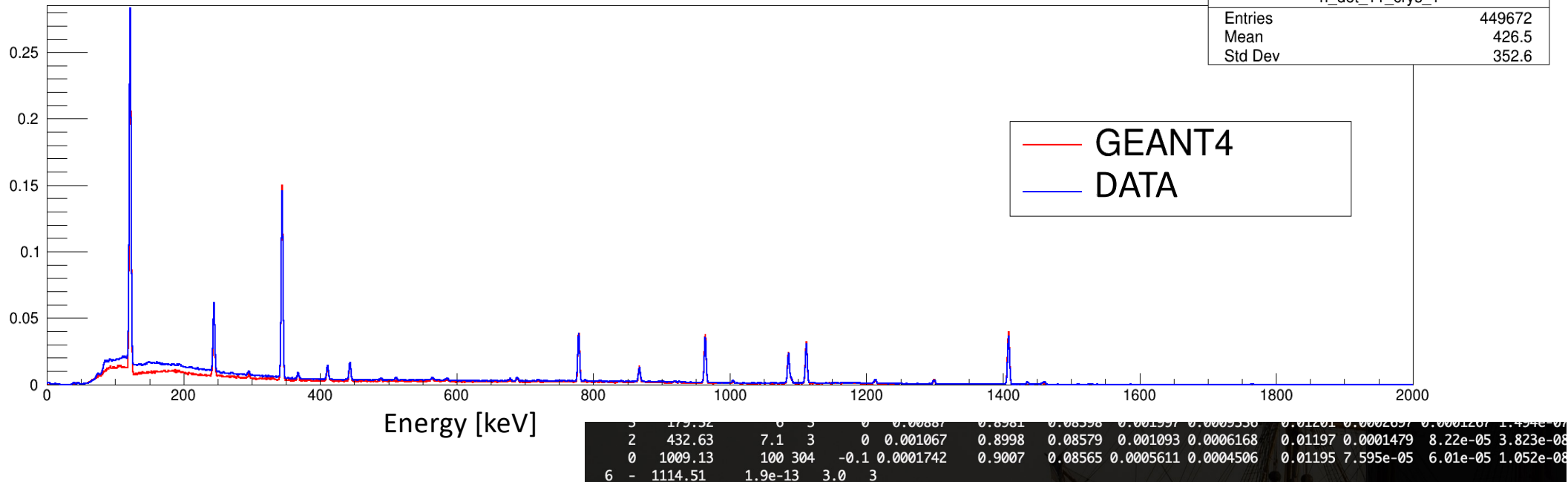
[illegible]

# Event generation

- The particle decay modes are configured by the

## RadioactiveDecay:

#	56NI ( 6.075 D )							
#	Excitation	flag	Halflife	Mode	Daughter	Ex flag	Intensity	Q
P	0	-	524880					
				MshellEC		0	0.017066	
				BetaPlus		0	1.3014e-05	
				KshellEC		0	0.88513	
				LshellEC		0	0.007791	



# Configuration macro

The geometry can be configured in the macro and allows to disregard the HPGe or the silicon detectors

```
/geometry/widesnout false
/geometry/widesnoutshift -20 mm
/geometry/narrowsnout false
/geometry/germanium true
/geometry/silicon false
```

```
/ge/enableSmear true
/ge/smearp0 0.000 # keV
/ge/smearp1 0.000 # dimensionless
/ge/smearp2 0.000 # dimensionless
/ge/edepThreshold 10 keV
/ge/timeThreshold 500 ns
/ge/writeoutput true
```

```
/si/edepThreshold 150 keV
/si/timeThreshold 20 us
/si/nstripsX 358
/si/nstripsY 128
/si/pitchX 0.56 mm
/si/pitchY 0.56 mm
/si/writeoutput false
```

The parameters that merge the Geant4 hits to make them analogous to the data can also be configured.

Relevant parameters are:

- The parametrization of the energy resolution of DEGAS
- The time window to merge different hits
- The number of strips of the silicon detector



The event generation allows to:

- Set the spill-on spill-off structure and the rates
- Set the ion that will be implanted
- Set the distribution of implantation
- Use the standard GPS event generation

```
#these are all meaningless if /primary/usegps is true
/primary/spillOn 1 s
/primary/spillOff 0 s
/primary/implantRate 10 Hz
#this needs to be used for an eu source otherwise geant4 dr
/process/had/rdm/thresholdForVeryLongDecayTime 1.0e+60 year
/primary/ionZ 56
/primary/ionA 133
/primary/pos/mean 0 0 0 mm
/primary/pos/sigma 0.1 0.1 0.1 mm

#/primary/usegps true
#/gps/particle gamma
#/gps/ene/mono 1 MeV
#/gps/ang/type iso
#/gps/time 0 s
#/gps/pos/centre 0 0 0 mm
```

# The output of the simulation



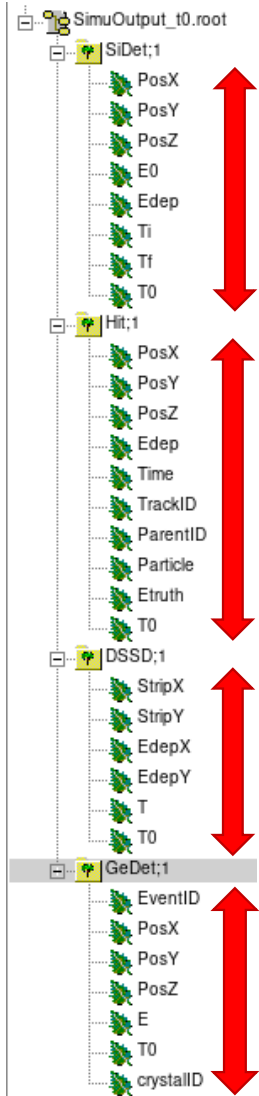
“Perfect” silicon detector data

Hit data from Geant4

AIDA Data-like format

DEGAS data

- With the simulation we can have access to the ground truth and a data-like format
- This can help us to understand:
  - the amount of miss-correlation
  - The overall expected efficiency of the setup given the experimental conditions



# AIDA simulation



- The electronics of AIDA is complicated, as its data is multiplexed. In order to simulate properly and understand its response we need to simulate properly the multiplexing and de-multiplexing.
- We can add noise and study the impact on the data quality
- We can define the best strategy for the analysis

**See Giorgio's talk!**



# DEGAS specific motivation



- In our decay spectroscopy experiment we populate isomers and observe the decay of all the states that branch from the isomer
- The intensity of each gamma ray in a level scheme should “balanced”
- Having under control the intensity means, for example, that we can infer the presence of unobserved branching if there is missing intensity
- There are however some technicalities:
  - The implantation position does not correspond to the

**See Johan Emil's talk!**

# Perspectives



- **The most important step is now to validate the simulation with real data**
- We also need to implement the box configuration
- Do we also need to simulate the implantation?
- Add the presence Dead layer/passivation in the silicon detectors
- Data structure compatible to experimental data in order to have a 1:1 correspondence of the analysis procedure



Thanks

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