

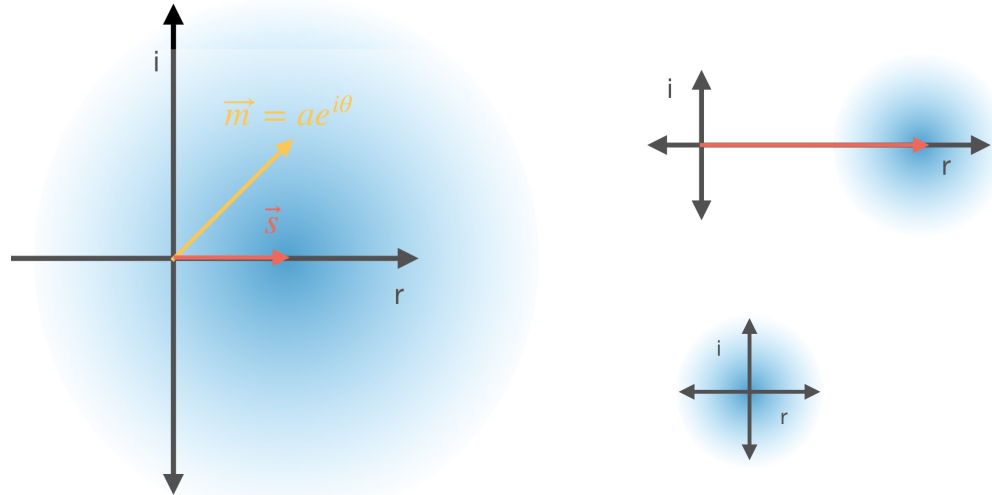
PIERRE
AUGER
OBSERVATORY



ARENA 2024 - Chicago 11th June 2024

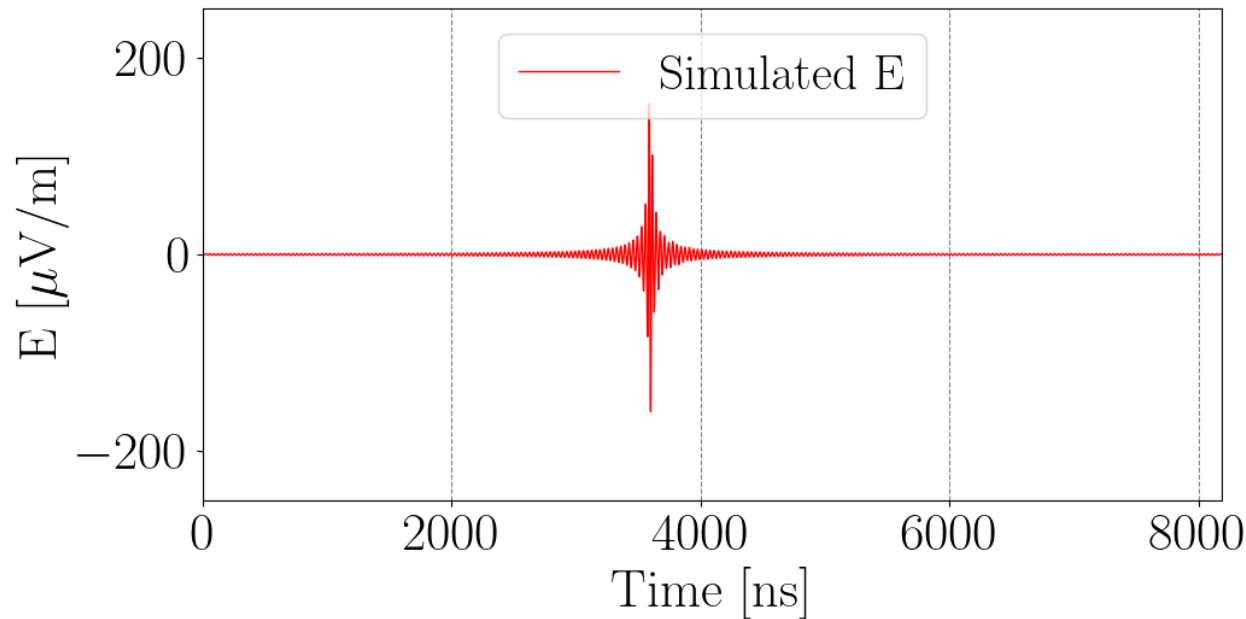
Quantifying energy fluences and their uncertainties in the presence of noise

Sara Martinelli, Dr. Tim Huege, Dr. Diego Ravignani, Dr. Harm Schoorlemmer



It is the energy deposit per unit area in terms of radio waves. The total fluence at a given antenna position is the time integral of the Poynting vector:

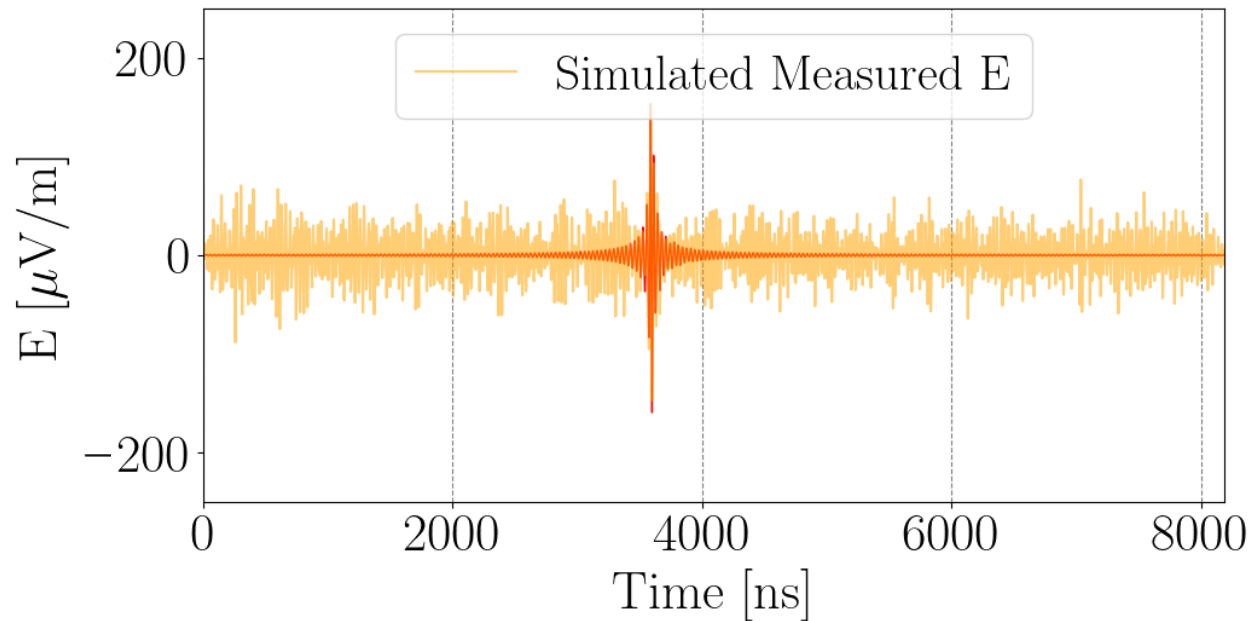
$$f_{\text{tot}}(\vec{r}) = \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \sum_{\text{pol}}^3 \left(\sum_j E_{\text{pol}}^2(\vec{r}, t_j) \right) = \sum_{\text{pol}}^3 f_{\text{pol}}(\vec{r})$$



We need a method to estimate the energy fluence in the presence of noise.

The noise subtraction method is largely used within the radio community:

- works well for large signal-to-noise ratio (SNR)

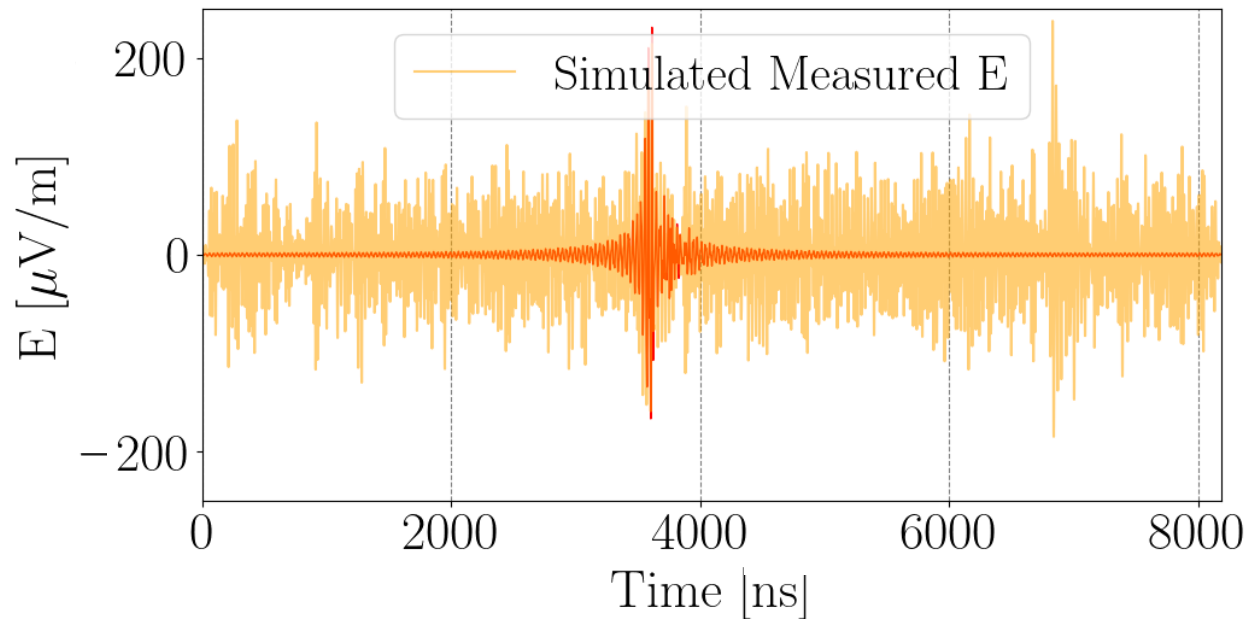


$\text{SNR}_{\text{pol}}=60$

We need a method to estimate the energy fluence in the presence of noise.

The noise subtraction method is largely used within the radio community:

- works well for large signal-to-noise ratio (SNR)

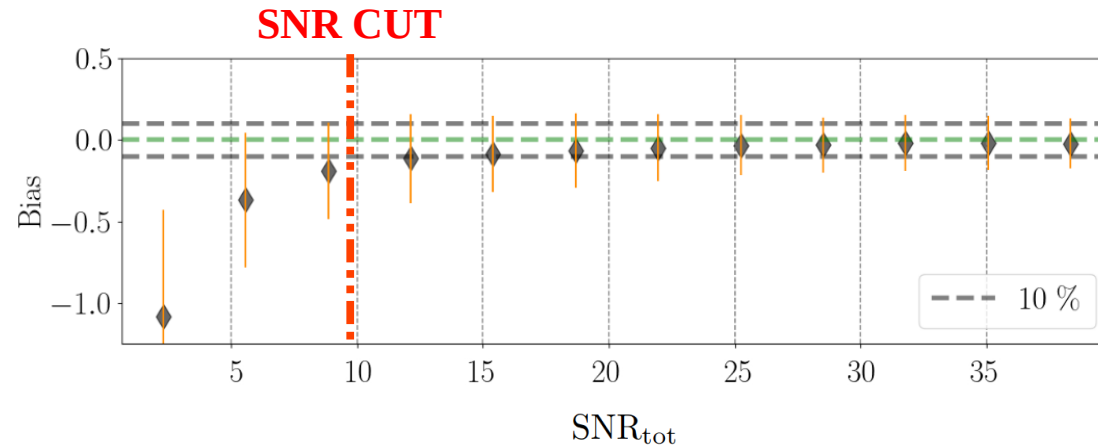


$\text{SNR}_{\text{pol}}=4$

We need a method to estimate the energy fluence in the presence of noise.

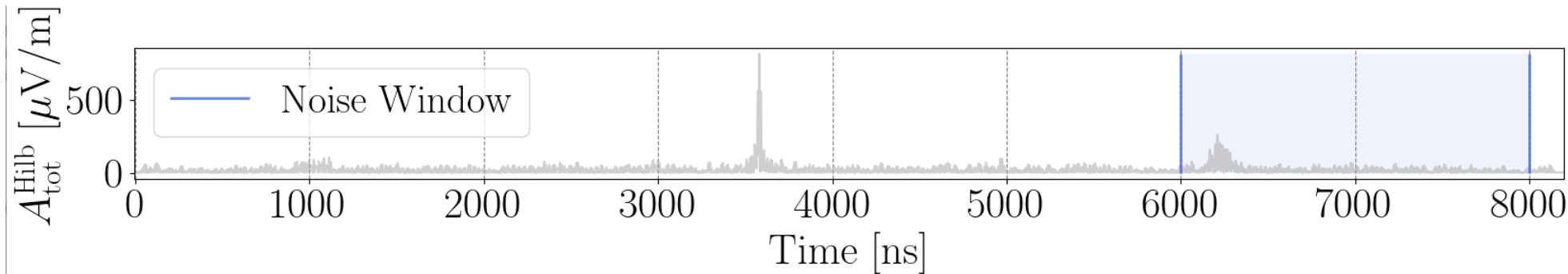
The noise subtraction method is largely used within the radio community:

- works well for large signal-to-noise ratio (SNR)
- an **SNR threshold cut** is usually imposed



(as defined in the next slide)

$$A_{\text{tot}}^{\text{Hilb}}(\vec{r}, t) = \sqrt{\sum_{\text{pol}}^3 |E_{\text{pol}}^{\text{Hilb}}(\vec{r}, t)|^2}$$



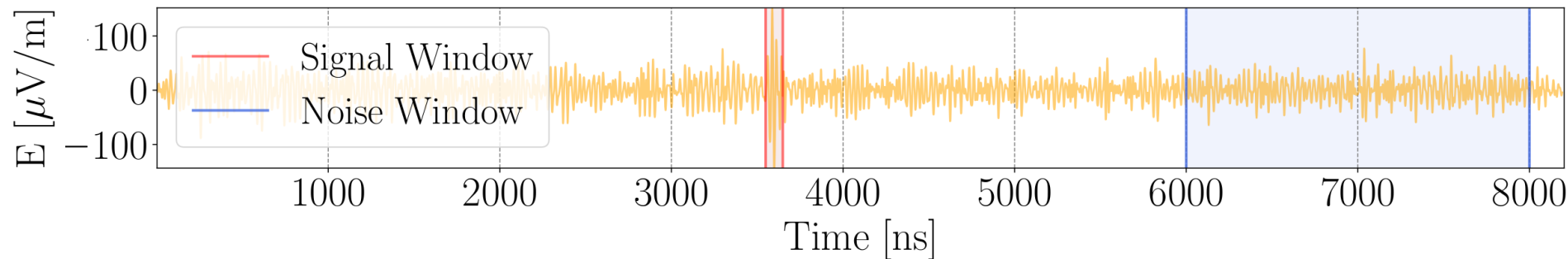
$$\text{SNR}_{\text{tot}} = \left(\frac{A_{\text{tot}}^{\text{Hilb}}|_{\text{max}}}{A_{\text{tot}}^{\text{RMS}}} \right)^2$$

(similar definition at polarisation level)

pol.

Definition of the signal window

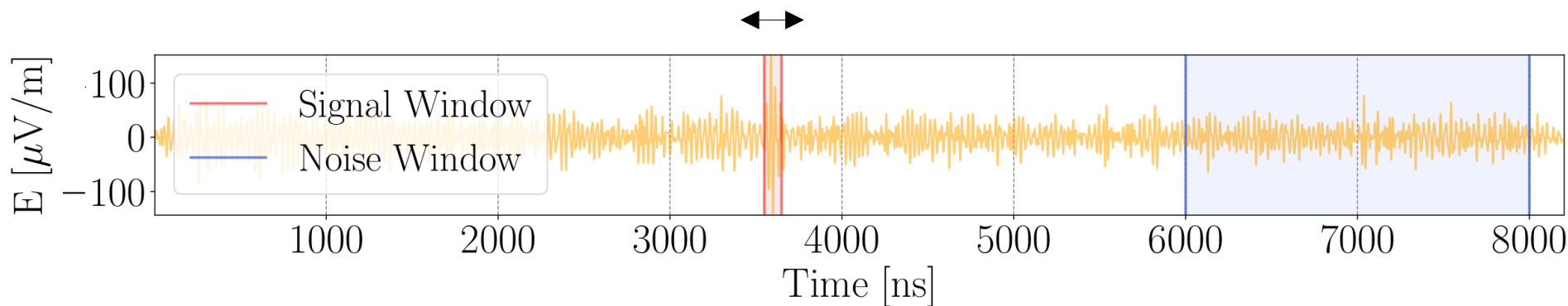
Algorithm to find the maximum $A_{\text{tot}}^{\text{Hilb}}|_{\text{max}}$



pol.

Definition of the signal window

$$\hat{f}_{\text{pol}}(\vec{r}) = \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \left(\sum_{t_j=t_1}^{t_2} E_{\text{pol}}^2(\vec{r}, t_j) + \dots \right)$$

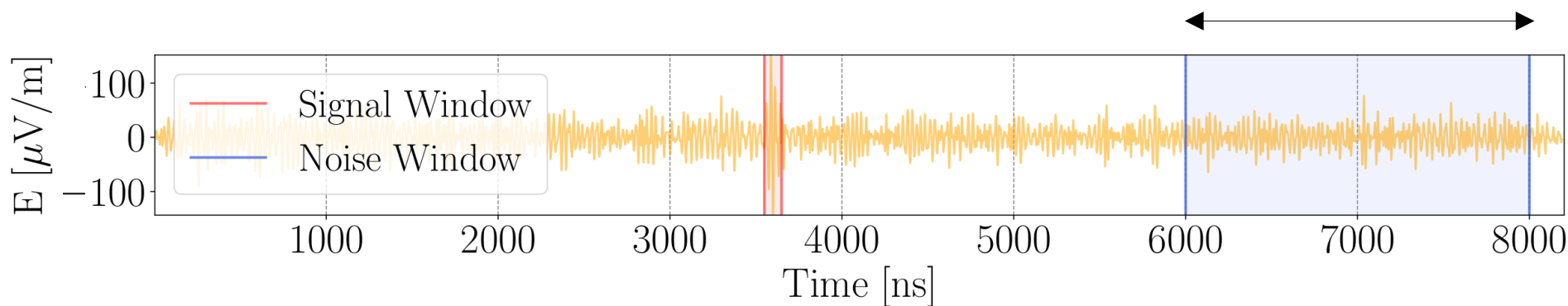


pol.

Definition of the signal window

Definition of the noise window

$$\hat{f}_{\text{pol}}(\vec{r}) = \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \left(\sum_{t_j=t_1}^{t_2} E_{\text{pol}}^2(\vec{r}, t_j) + \dots \right)$$



pol.

Definition of the signal window

Definition of the noise window

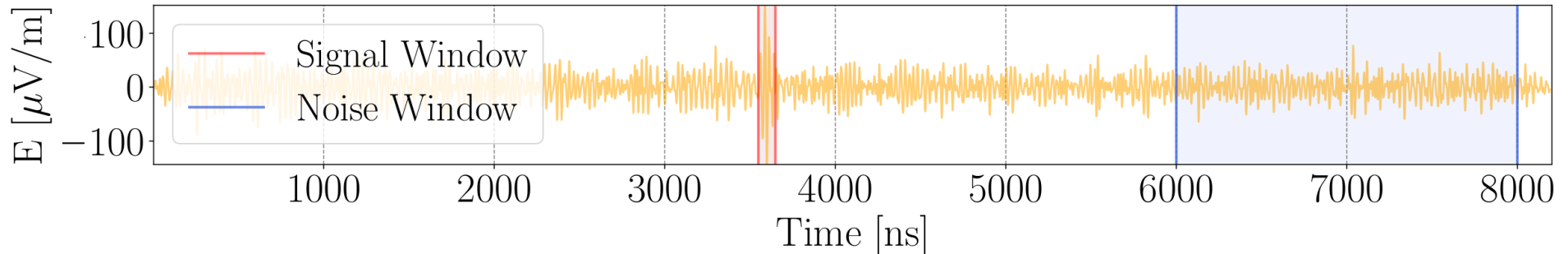
Fluence estimator & uncertainty

$$\hat{f}_{\text{pol}}(\vec{r}) = \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \left(\sum_{t_j=t_1}^{t_2} E_{\text{pol}}^2(\vec{r}, t_j) + \dots \right)$$

$$\hat{f}_{\text{pol}}(\vec{r}) = \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \left(\sum_{t_j=t_1}^{t_2} E_{\text{pol}}^2(\vec{r}, t_j) - \frac{t_2 - t_1}{t_4 - t_3} \sum_{t_j=t_3}^{t_4} E_{\text{pol}}^2(\vec{r}, t_j) \right)$$

Subtraction of the normalized noise fluence

→ the estimator can be negative



pol.

Definition of the signal window

Definition of the noise window

Fluence estimator & uncertainty

$$\hat{f}_{\text{pol}}(\vec{r}) = \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \left(\sum_{t_j=t_1}^{t_2} E_{\text{pol}}^2(\vec{r}, t_j) + \dots \right)$$

$$\hat{f}_{\text{pol}}(\vec{r}) = \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \left(\sum_{t_j=t_1}^{t_2} E_{\text{pol}}^2(\vec{r}, t_j) - \frac{t_2 - t_1}{t_4 - t_3} \sum_{t_j=t_3}^{t_4} E_{\text{pol}}^2(\vec{r}, t_j) \right)$$

Underestimated
(*backup*)

$$\delta(\hat{f}_{\text{pol}}(\vec{r})) = \sqrt{4 \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \hat{f}_{\text{pol}}(\vec{r}) \sigma_e^2 + 2 (\epsilon_0 c)^2 \Delta t \sigma_e^4}$$

It assumes the measured amplitude is the sum of the pulse and the noise (Gaussian- distributed)

pol.

Definition of the signal window

Definition of the noise window

Fluence estimator & uncertainty

$$\hat{f}_{\text{pol}}(\vec{r}) = \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \left(\sum_{t_j=t_1}^{t_2} E_{\text{pol}}^2(\vec{r}, t_j) + \dots \right)$$

$$\hat{f}_{\text{pol}}(\vec{r}) = \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \left(\sum_{t_j=t_1}^{t_2} E_{\text{pol}}^2(\vec{r}, t_j) - \frac{t_2 - t_1}{t_4 - t_3} \sum_{t_j=t_3}^{t_4} E_{\text{pol}}^2(\vec{r}, t_j) \right)$$

$$\delta(\hat{f}_{\text{pol}}(\vec{r})) = \sqrt{4 \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \hat{f}_{\text{pol}}(\vec{r}) \sigma_e^2 + 2 (\epsilon_0 c)^2 \Delta t \sigma_e^4}$$

$$\hat{f}_{\text{tot}}(\vec{r}) = \sum_{\text{pol}}^3 \hat{f}_{\text{pol}}(\vec{r})$$

Error propagation

pol.

Definition of the signal window

Definition of the noise window

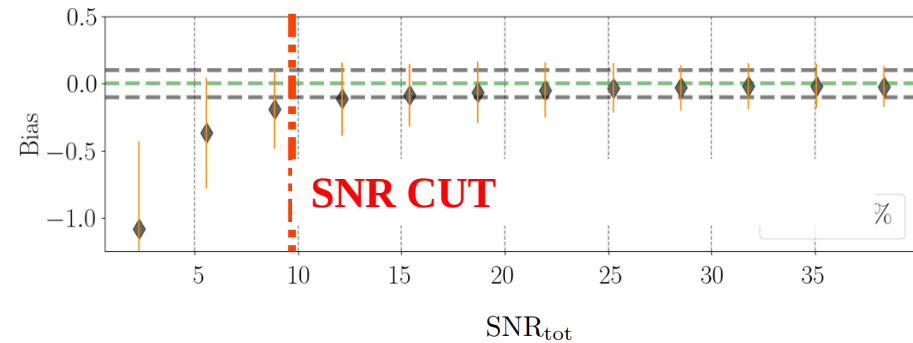
Fluence estimator & uncertainty

$$\hat{f}_{\text{tot}}(\vec{r}) = \sum_{\text{pol}}^3 \hat{f}_{\text{pol}}(\vec{r})$$

Error propagation

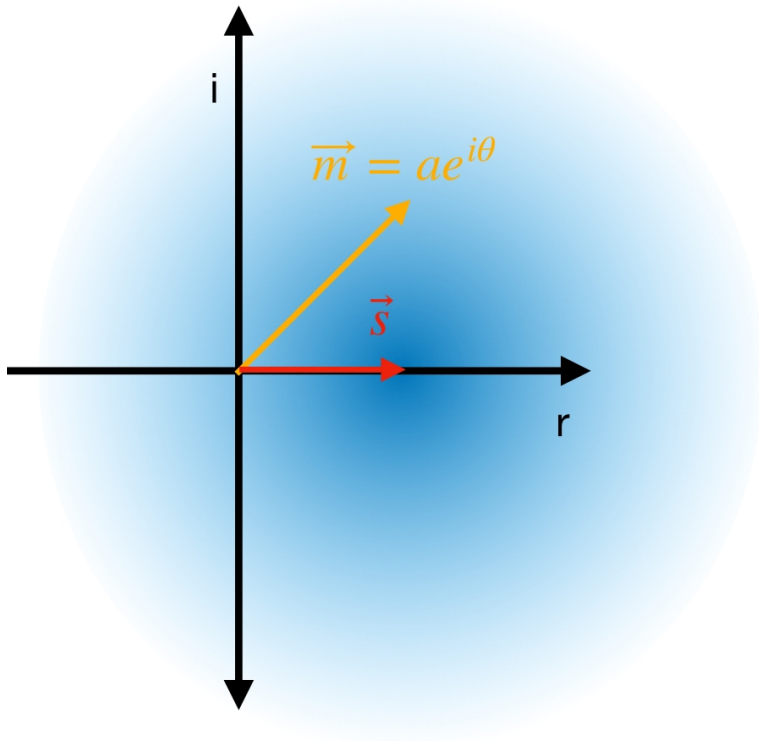
In summary:

- Biased at low SNR values (**SNR cut**)
- Uncertainties underestimated

Why? Can we do better?

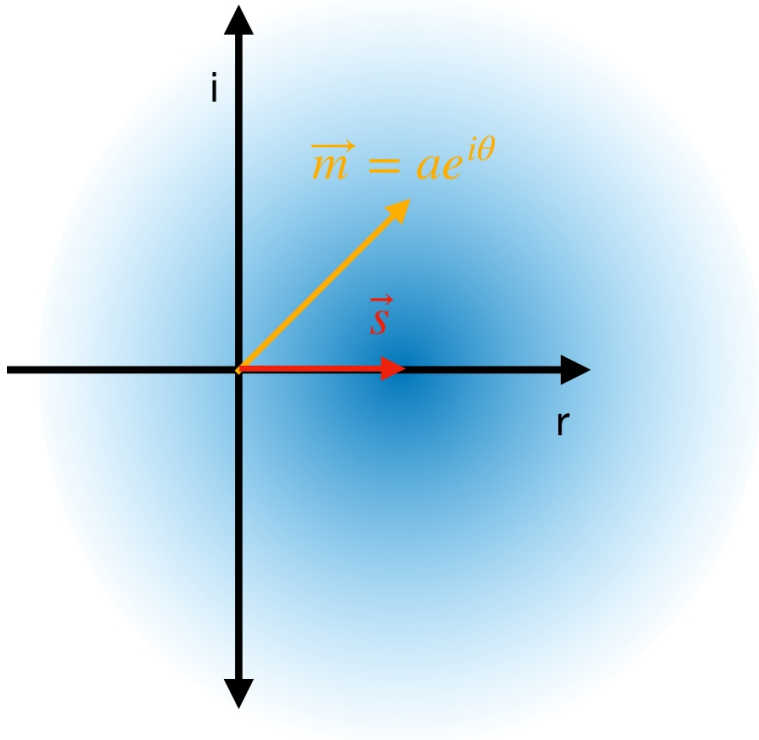
$$\text{SNR}_{\text{tot}} = \left(\frac{A_{\text{tot}}^{\text{Hilb}}}{A_{\text{tot}}^{\text{RMS}}} \right)^2$$

Radio measurements have both an amplitude and a phase



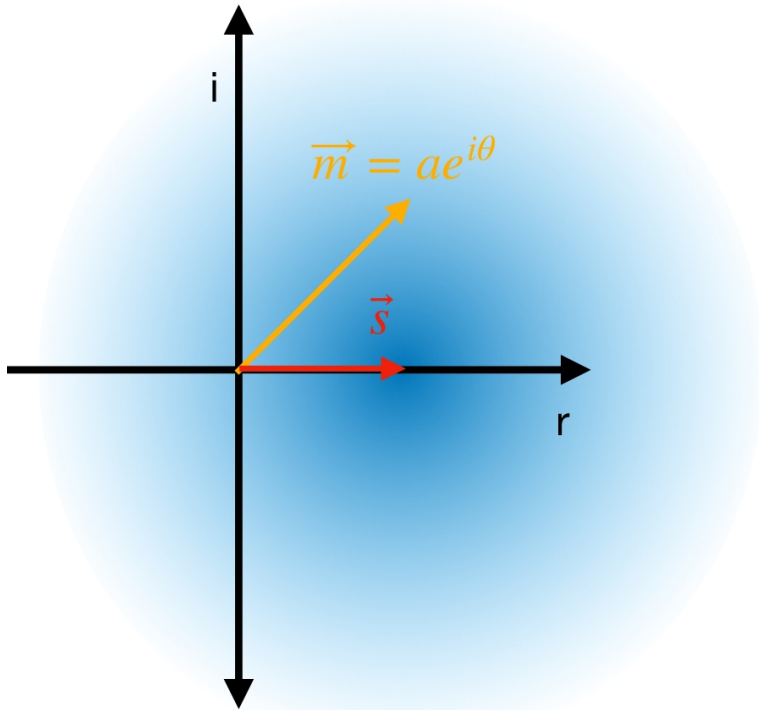
- The signal and the **random noise** can add up constructively or destructively.

Radio measurements have both an amplitude and a phase



- The signal and the **random noise** can add up constructively or destructively.
- Our measurement can be expressed as the sum of constant known phasor s and a random phasor sum (Rayleigh-distributed noise).

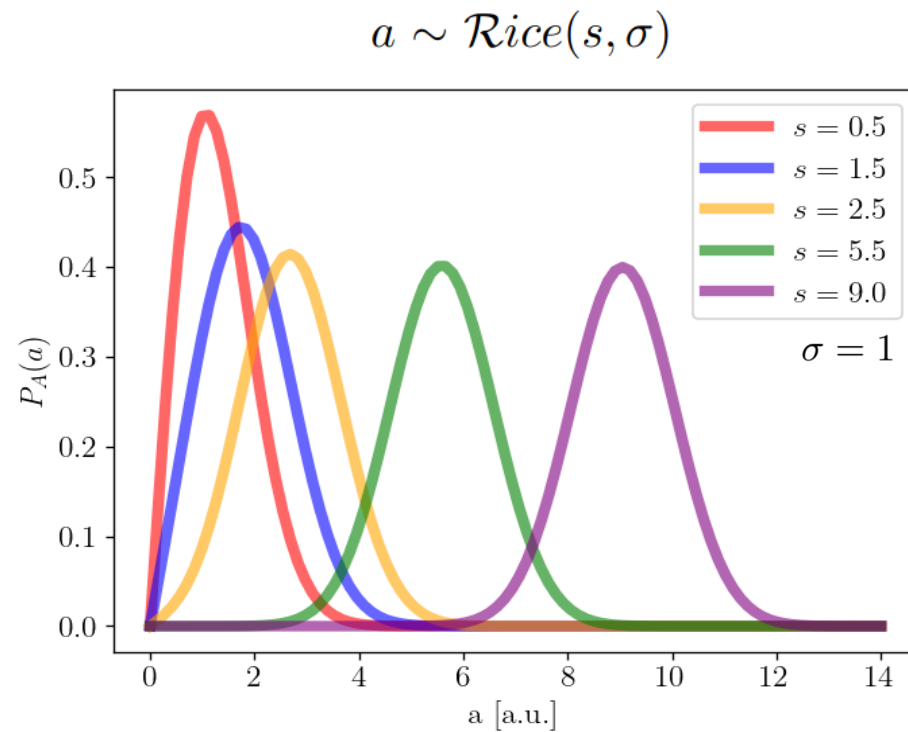
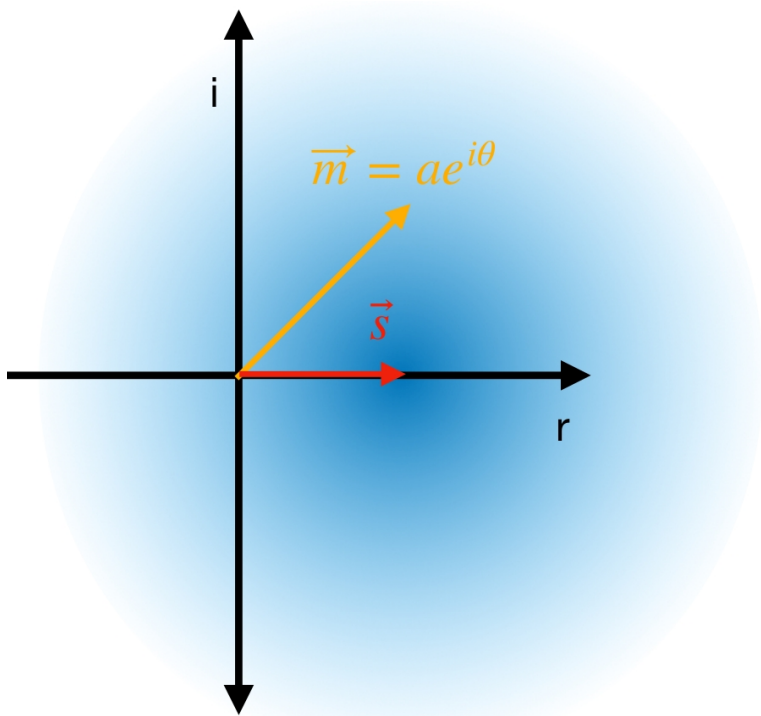
Radio measurements have both an amplitude and a phase



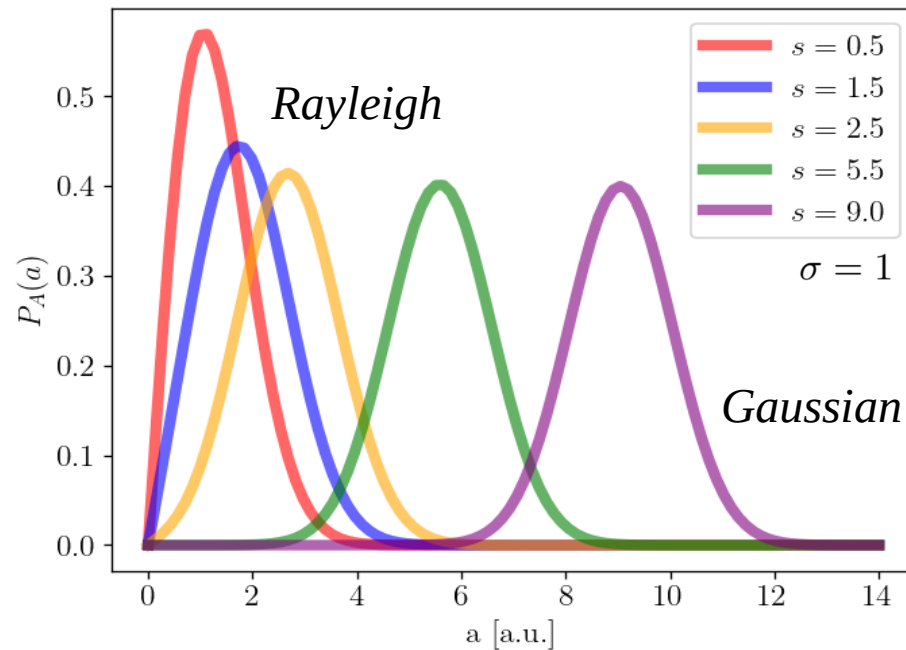
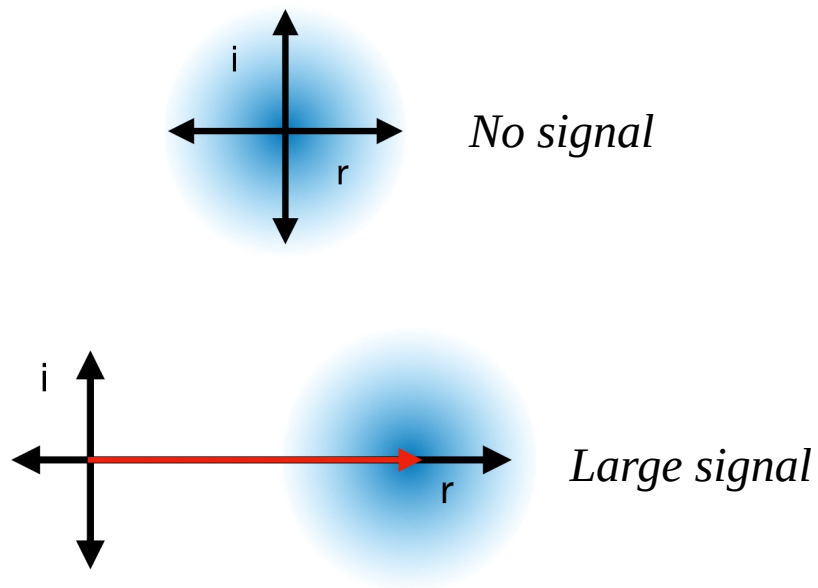
- The signal and the **random noise** can add up constructively or destructively.
- Our measurement can be expressed as the sum of constant known phasor s and a random phasor sum (Rayleigh-distributed noise).
- The **marginal P.D.F.** of the measured **amplitude** is the Rice distribution.

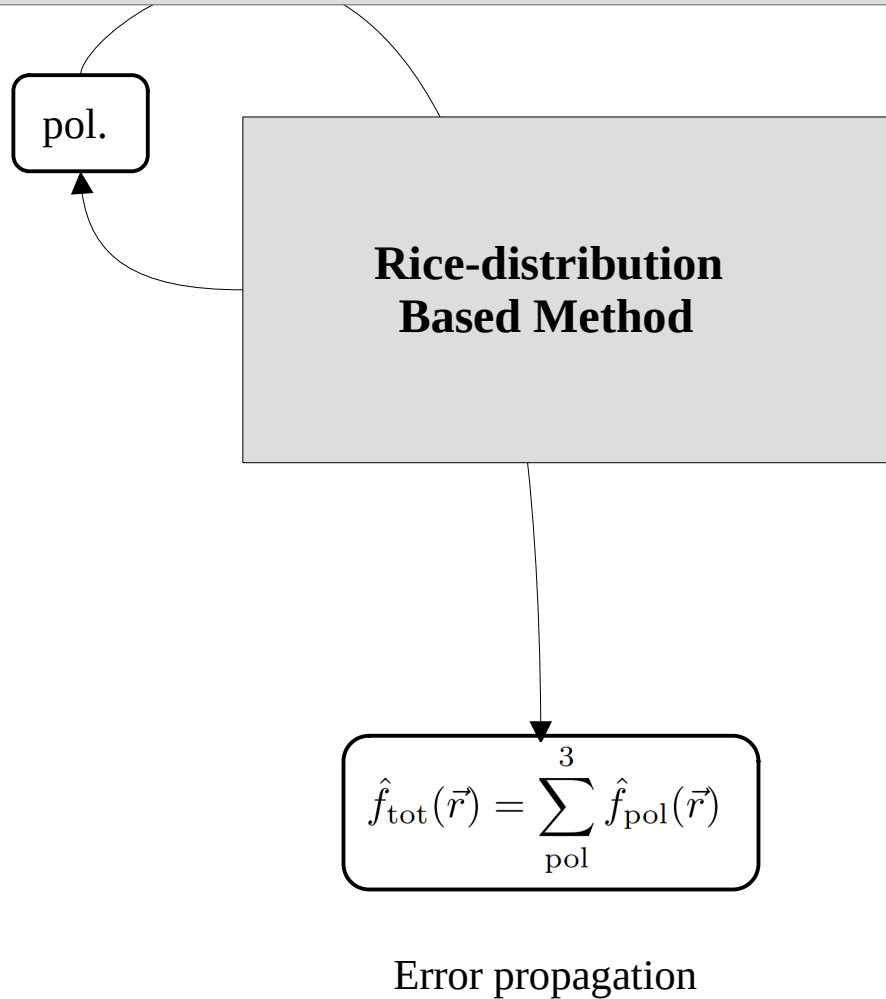
$$p_A(a|s, \sigma) = \begin{cases} \frac{a}{\sigma^2} \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{a^2+s^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) \cdot I_0\left(\frac{as}{\sigma^2}\right) & a > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

The formalism is valid for both time and frequency domains



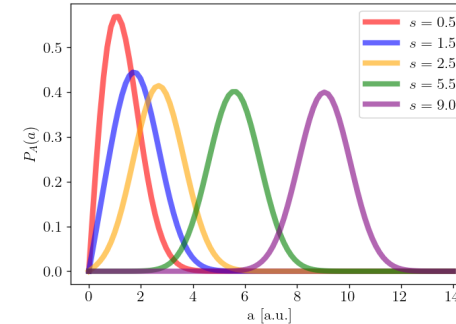
$$a \sim \text{Rice}(s, \sigma)$$





We developed a method:

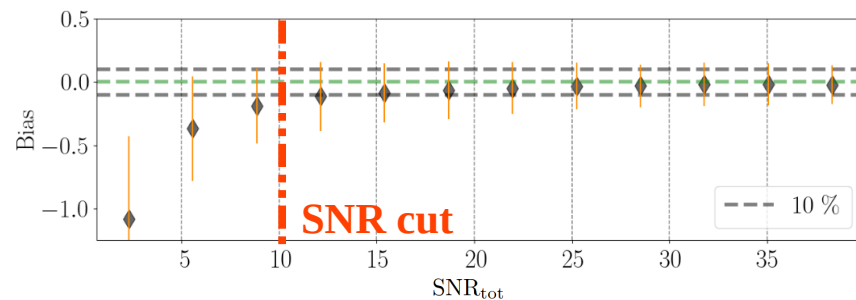
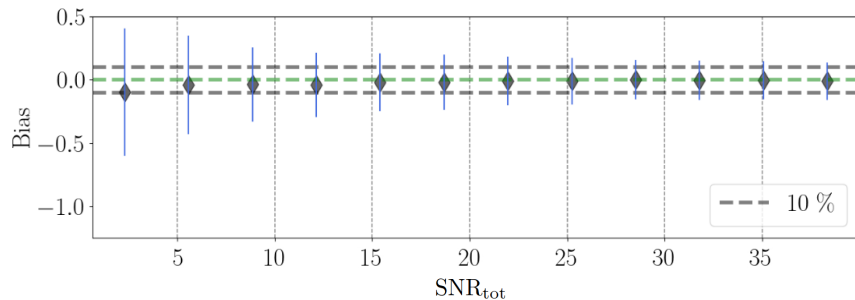
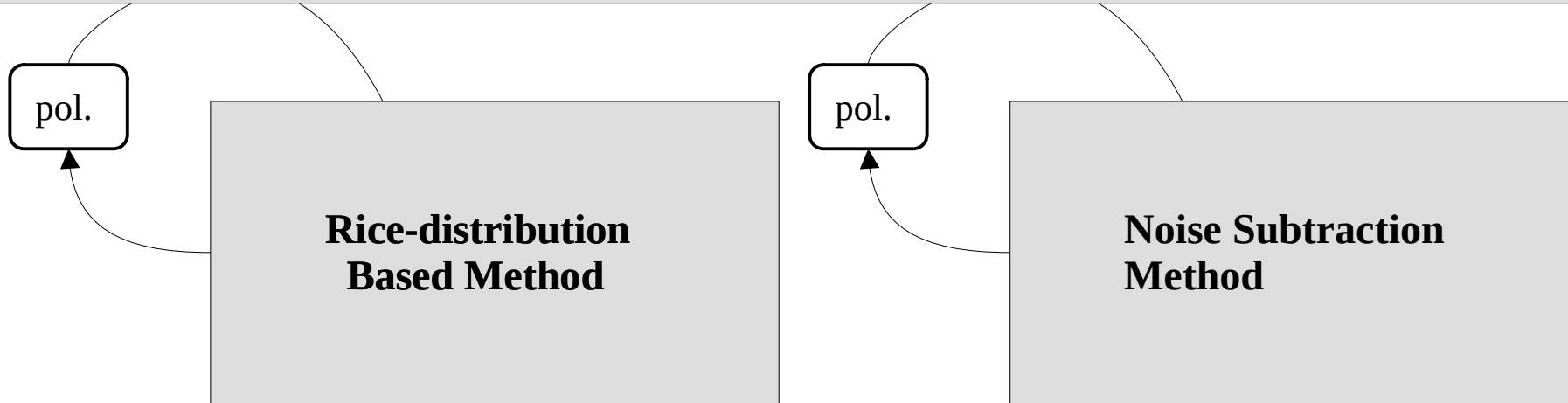
- using the statistical background based on the Rice distribution to build a fluence estimator



- evaluating the fluence in the frequency domain:

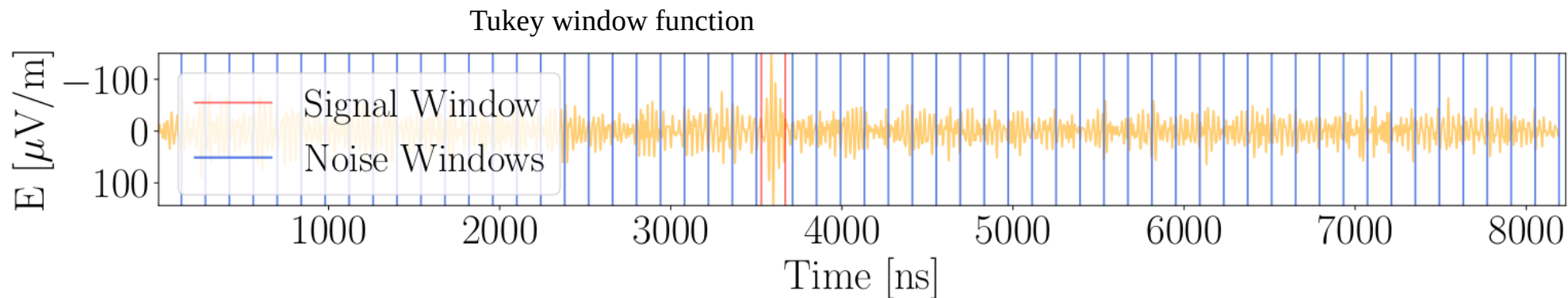
$$f_{\text{pol}}(\vec{r}) = \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} E_{\text{pol}}^2(\vec{r}, t_j) = 2 \epsilon_0 c \frac{\Delta t}{N} \sum_{j=0}^{M-1} |D_{\text{pol}}(v_j)|^2$$

(Parseval's Theorem)



pol.

Definition of the signal and noise windows

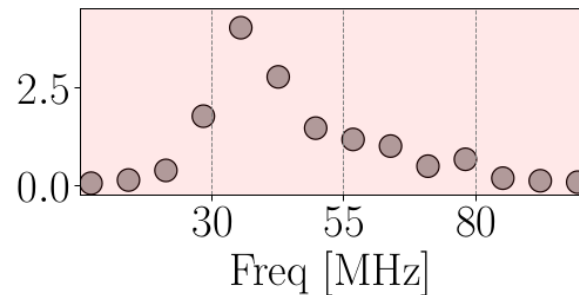
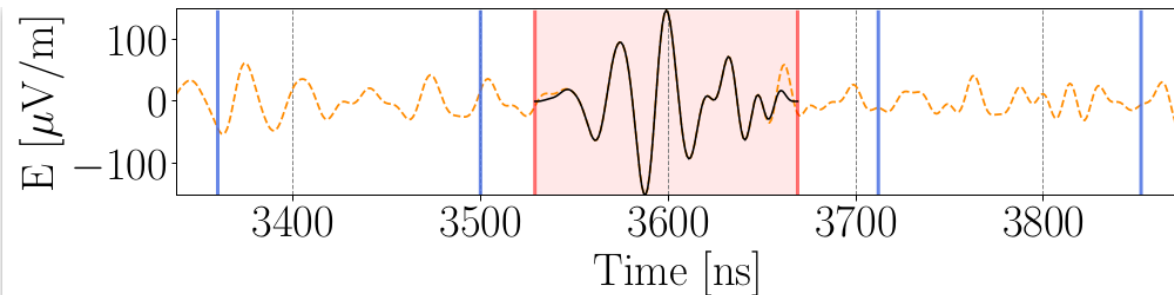


pol.

Definition of the signal and noise windows

Signal window: Tukey function and FFT

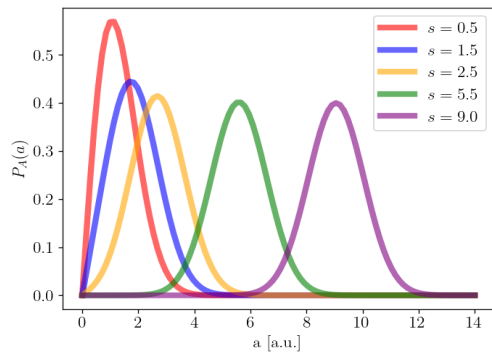
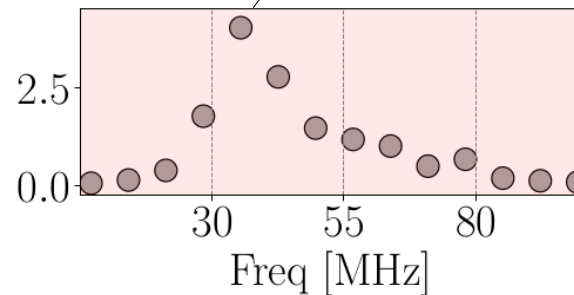
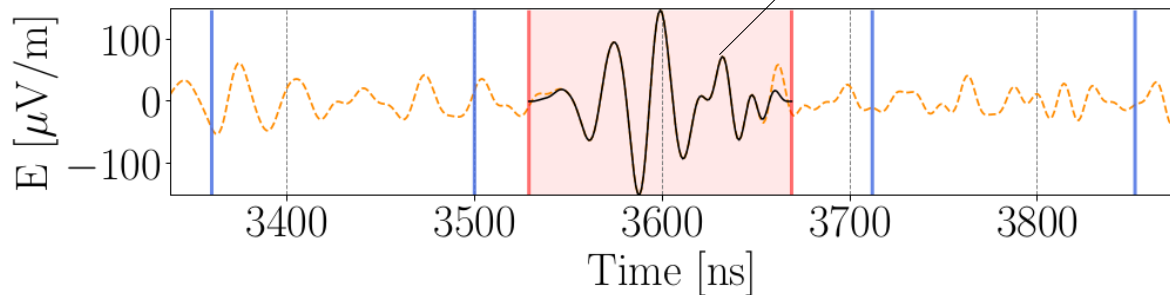
Tukey window function



pol.

Definition of the signal and noise windows

Signal window: Tukey function and FFT

 $a \sim \text{Rice}(s, \sigma)$ $a \sim \text{Rice}(s, \sigma)$ 

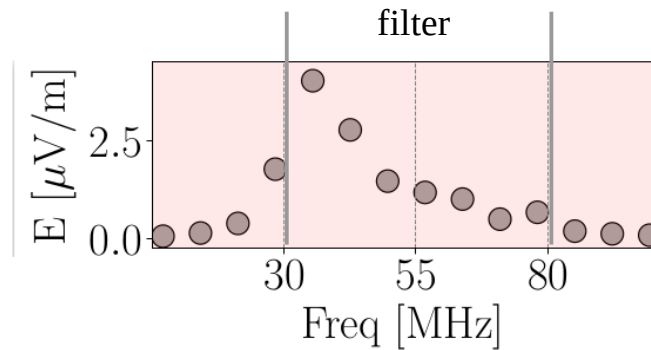
pol.

Definition of the signal and noise windows

Signal window: Tukey function and FFT

M frequencies

$$\hat{f}_a = K \sum_{j=0}^{M-1} a^2(\nu_j) = \sum_{j=0}^{M-1} \hat{f}_a(\nu_j) \quad \text{measured}$$



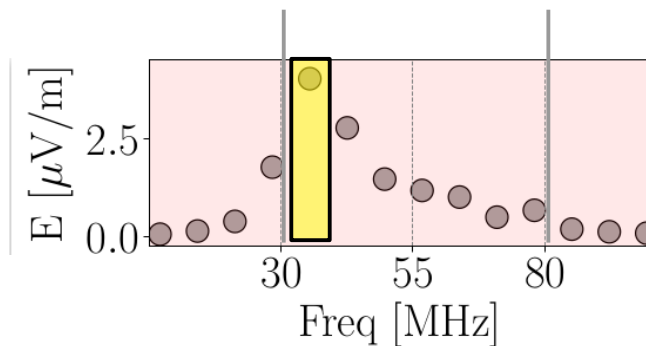
pol.

Definition of the signal and noise windows

Signal window: Tukey function and FFT

j-th frequency

$$\hat{f}_a = a^2 \quad \text{measured}$$



pol.

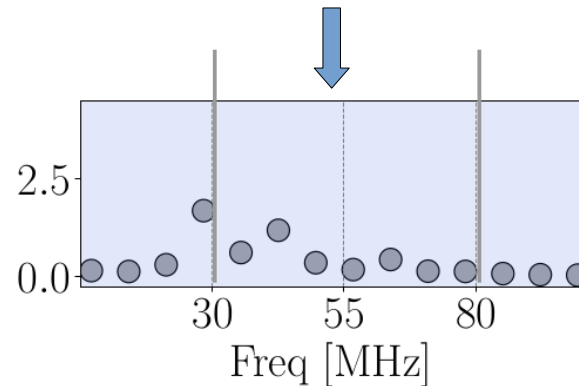
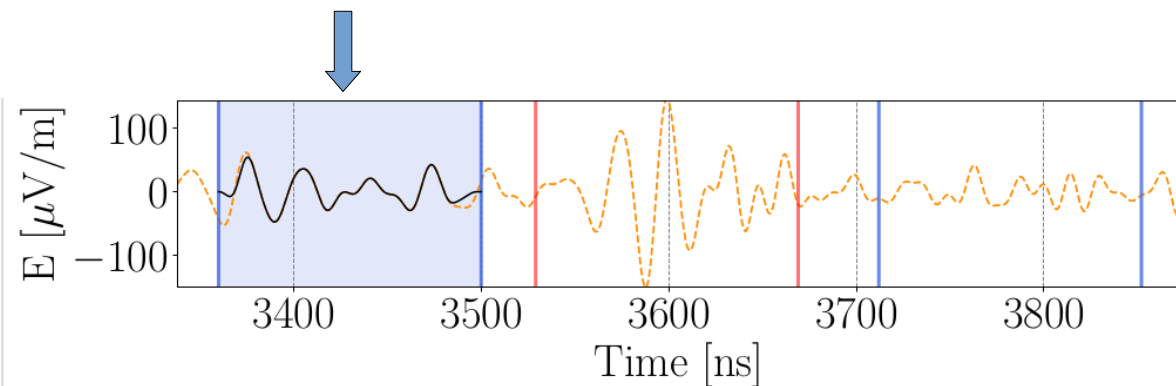
Definition of the signal and noise windows

Signal window: Tukey function and FFT

Noise windows: Tukey function, FFT

j-th frequency

$$\hat{f}_a = a^2$$



pol.

Definition of the signal and noise windows

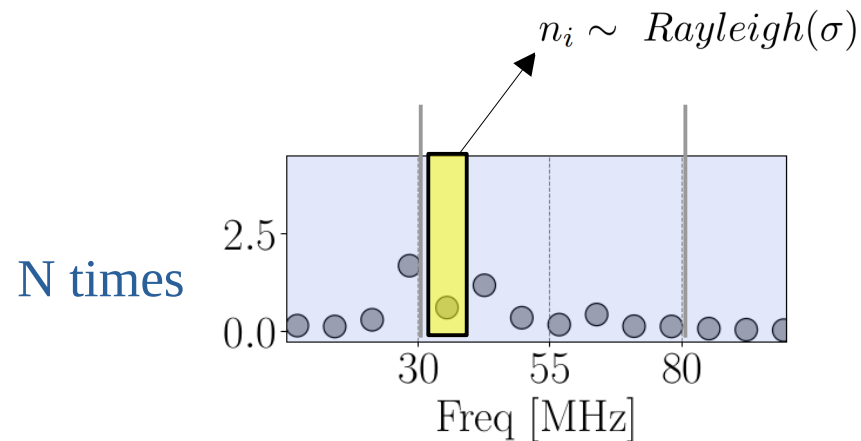
Signal window: Tukey function and FFT

Noise windows: Tukey function and FFT

j-th frequency

$$\hat{f}_a = a^2$$

$$\hat{f}_n = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} n_i^2$$



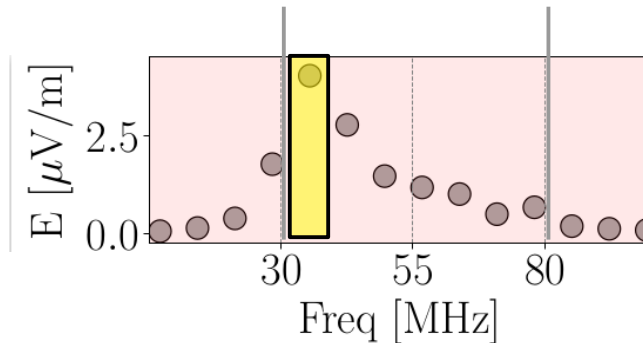
pol.

Definition of the signal and noise windows

Signal window: Tukey function and FFT

Noise windows: Tukey function and FFT

Estimator and uncertainty

**j-th frequency**

$$\hat{f}_a = a^2$$

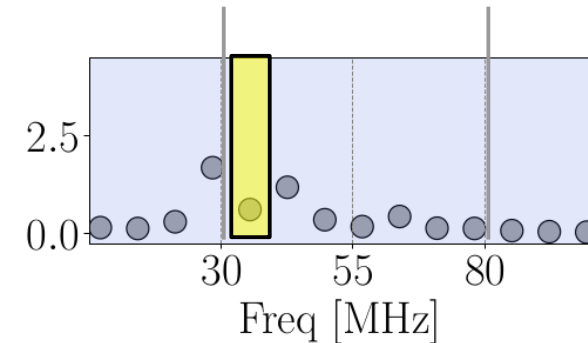
$$\hat{f}_n = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} n_i^2$$

$$\hat{f}_s = \begin{cases} \hat{f}_a - \hat{f}_n & \text{if } \hat{f}_a \geq \hat{f}_n \\ 0 & \text{if } \hat{f}_a < \hat{f}_n \end{cases}$$

$$\delta f_s = \sqrt{\hat{f}_n (\hat{f}_n + 4 \hat{f}_s)}$$

(Derivation in the backup)

N times



pol.

Definition of the signal and noise windows

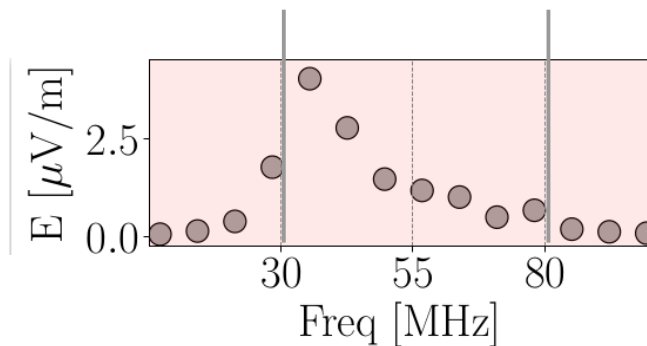
Signal window: Tukey function and FFT

Noise windows: Tukey function and FFT

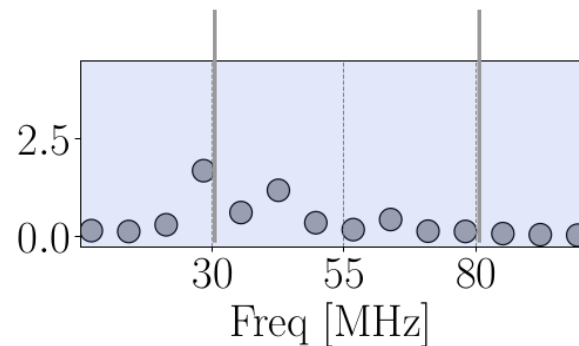
Estimator and uncertainty **M times!****M frequencies!**

$$\hat{f}_s = \sum_{j=0}^{M-1} \hat{f}_s(\nu_j)$$

$$Var(\hat{f}_s) = \sum_{j=0}^{M-1} Var(\hat{f}_s(\nu_j))$$



N times



pol.

Definition of the signal and noise windows

Signal window: Tukey function and FFT

Noise windows: Tukey function and FFT

Estimator and uncertainty

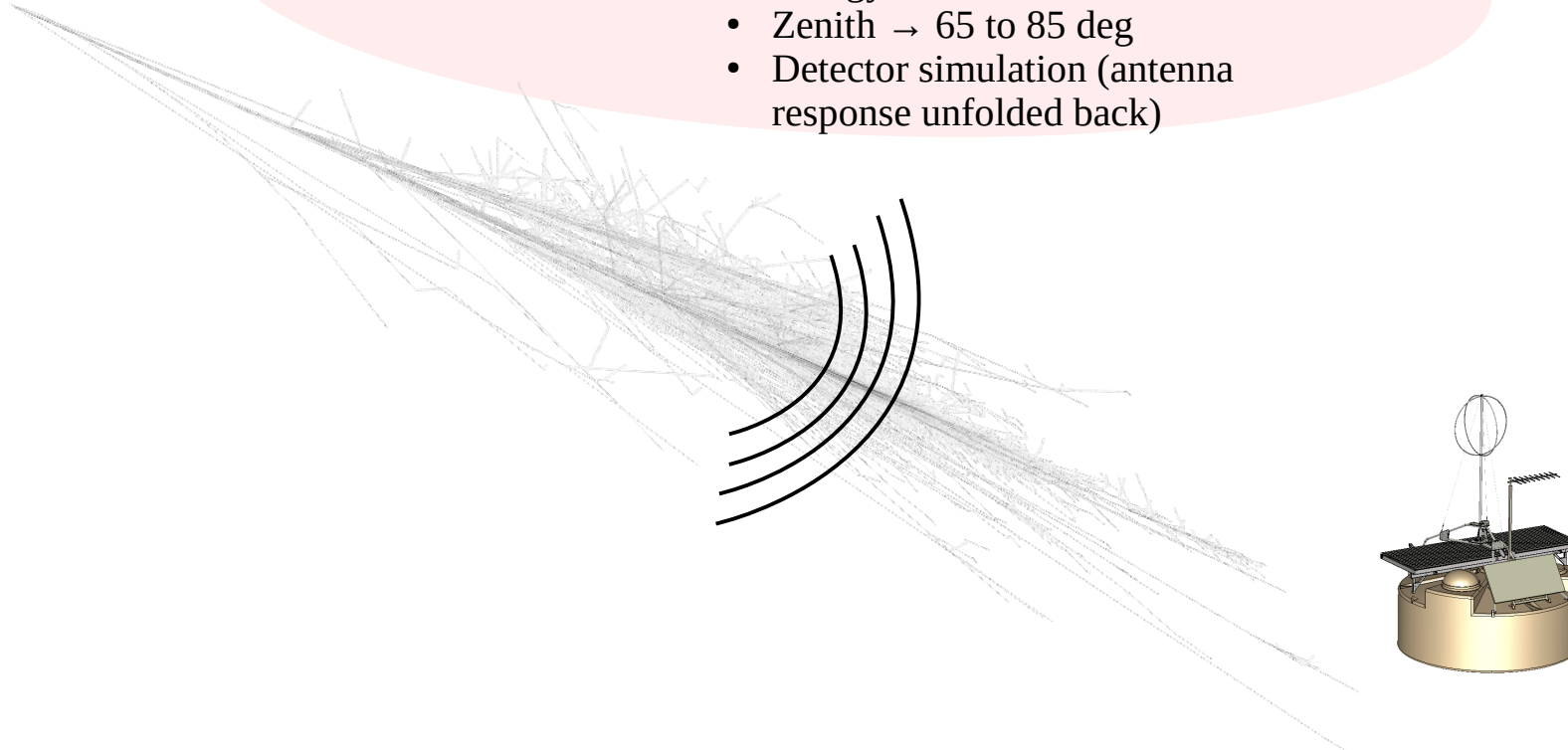
$$\hat{f}_{\text{tot}}(\vec{r}) = \sum_{\text{pol}}^3 \hat{f}_{\text{pol}}(\vec{r})$$

Error propagation

We can now compare the noise subtraction method and the Rice method...

Simulations

- 8000 proton/iron/nitrogen/helium CORSIKA/CoREAS simulations
- Energy $\rightarrow 10^{18.4}$ to $10^{20.1}$ eV
- Zenith $\rightarrow 65$ to 85 deg
- Detector simulation (antenna response unfolded back)

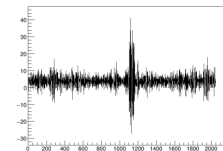
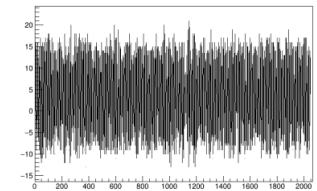
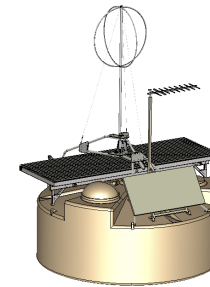
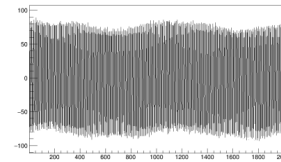


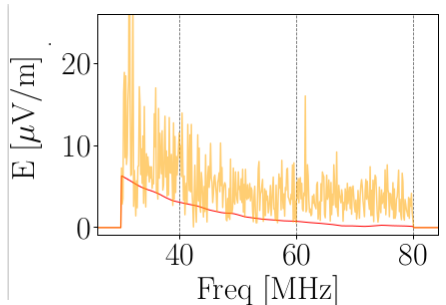
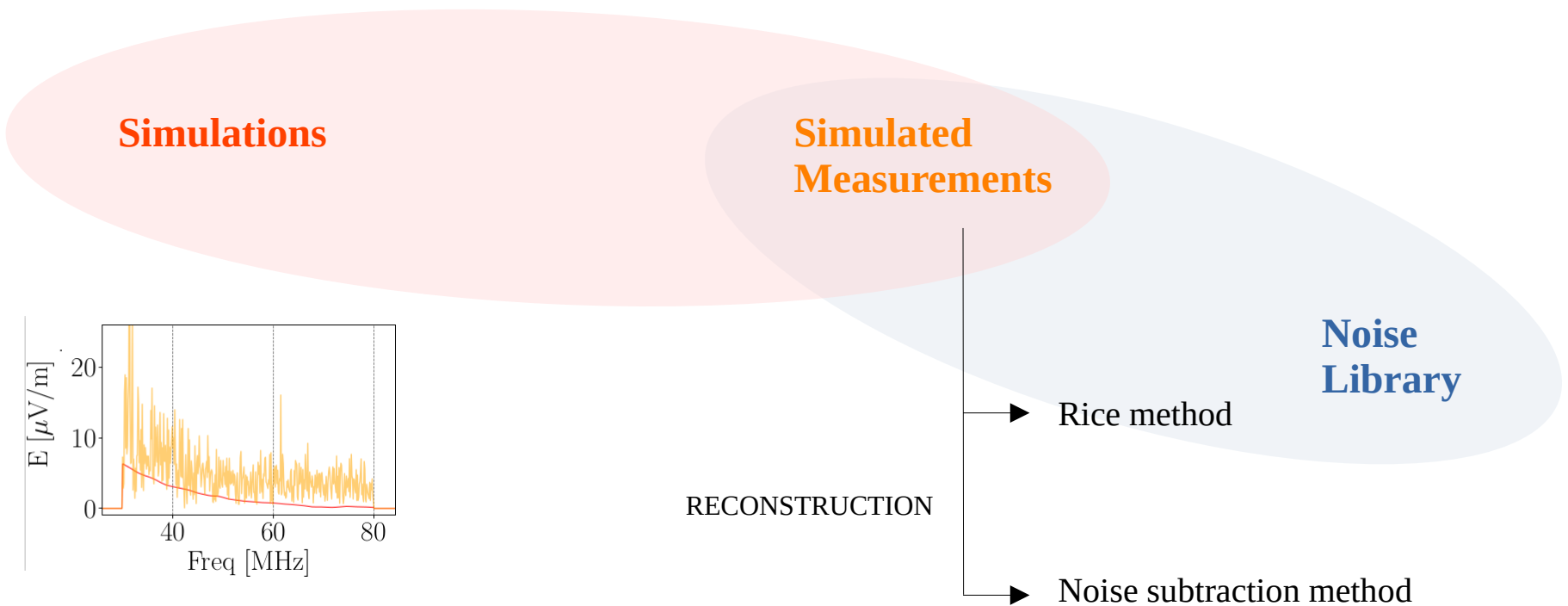
The Radio Detector of Auger is used for practical reasons

Simulations

Background traces recorded over one year at the Auger site

Noise Library

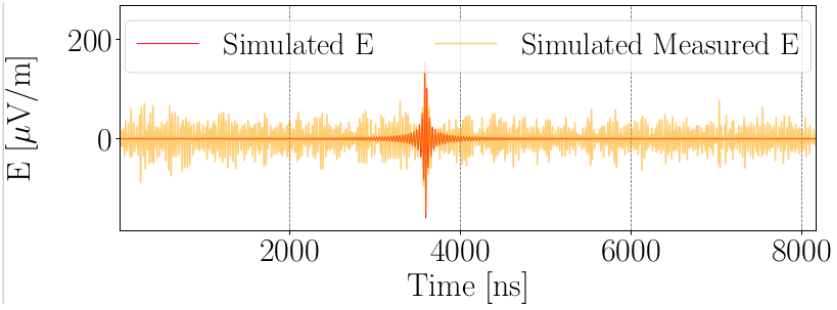


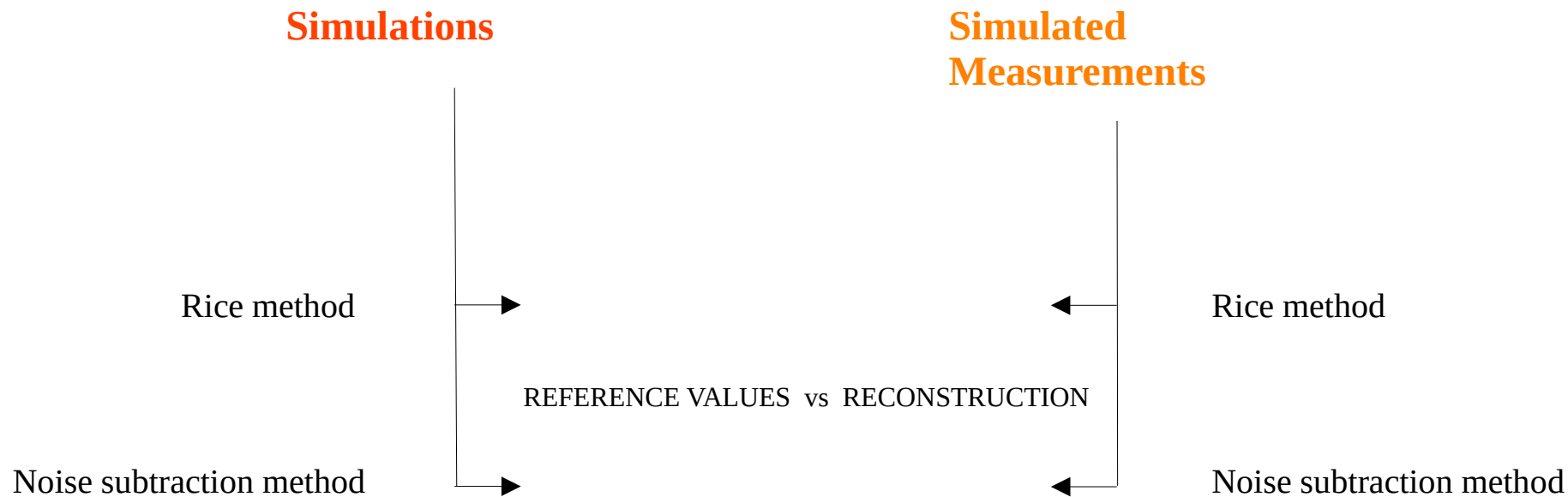


RECONSTRUCTION

Rice method

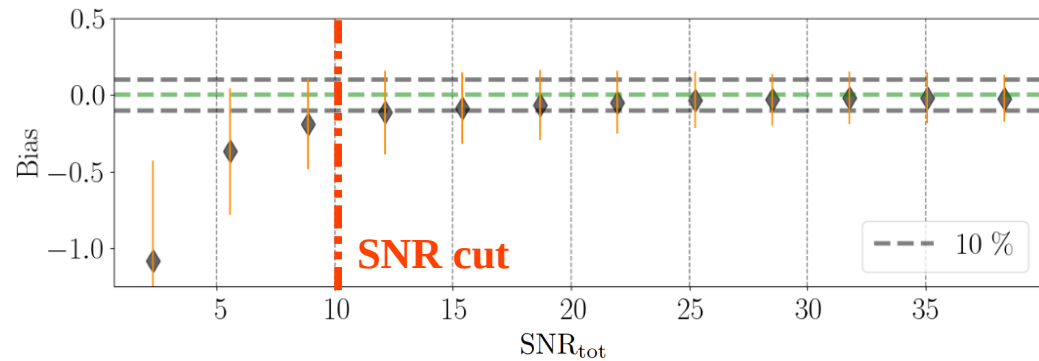
Noise subtraction method



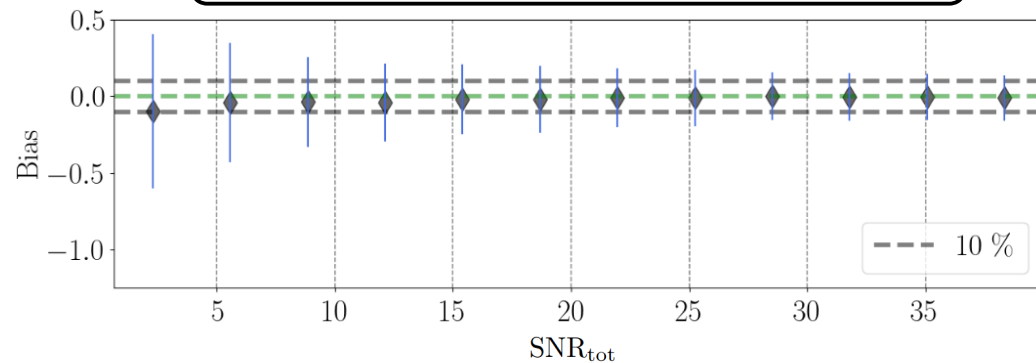


Quality cut: stations affected by thinning artifacts (above 2 Cherenkov radii)

Noise Subtraction Method



Rice-distribution Based Method

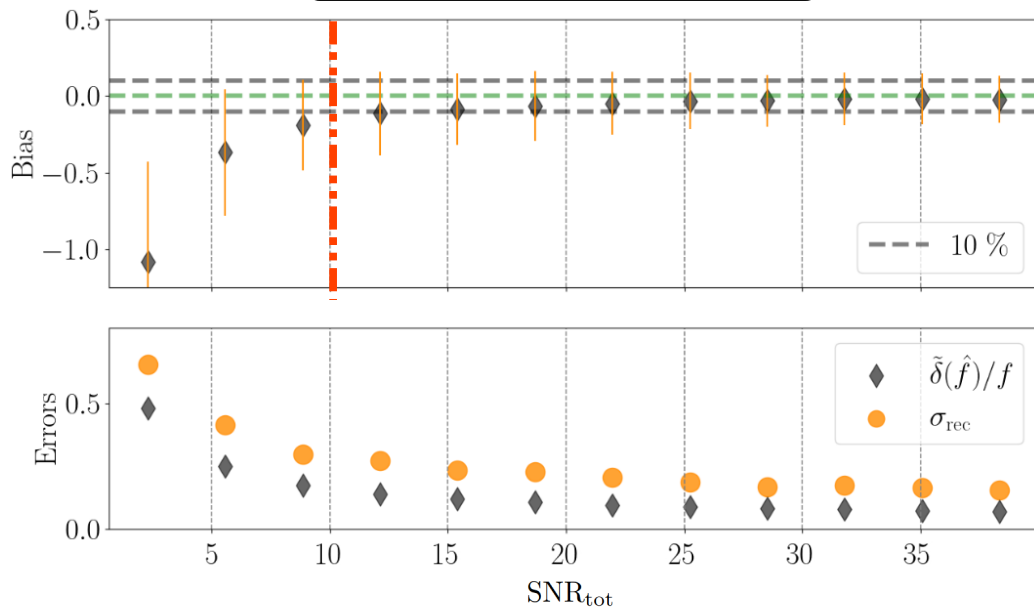


On average the Rice-based method is unbiased even at small SNR

$$\psi = \frac{\hat{f}_{\text{pol}}(\vec{r})}{f_{\text{pol}}(\vec{r})} \quad \text{Bias} = \tilde{\psi} - 1$$

$$\text{SNR}_{\text{tot}} = \left(\frac{A_{\text{tot}}^{\text{Hilb}}}{A_{\text{tot}}^{\text{RMS}}} \right)^2$$

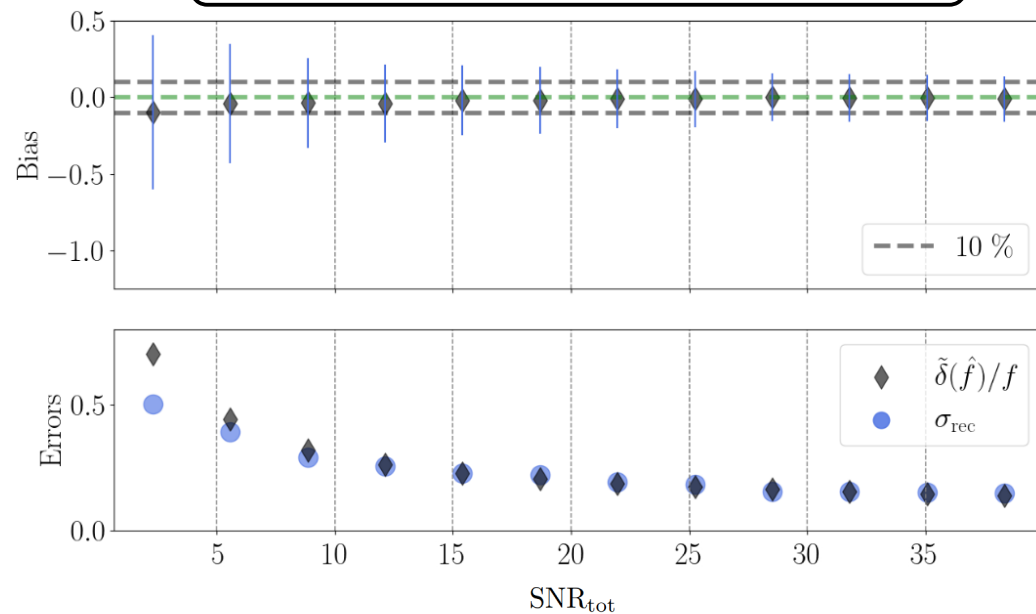
Noise Subtraction Method



The relative errors are smaller than the reconstruction resolution of the same bin

$$\sigma_{\text{rec}} \approx \frac{\text{i.q.r.}}{1.35}$$

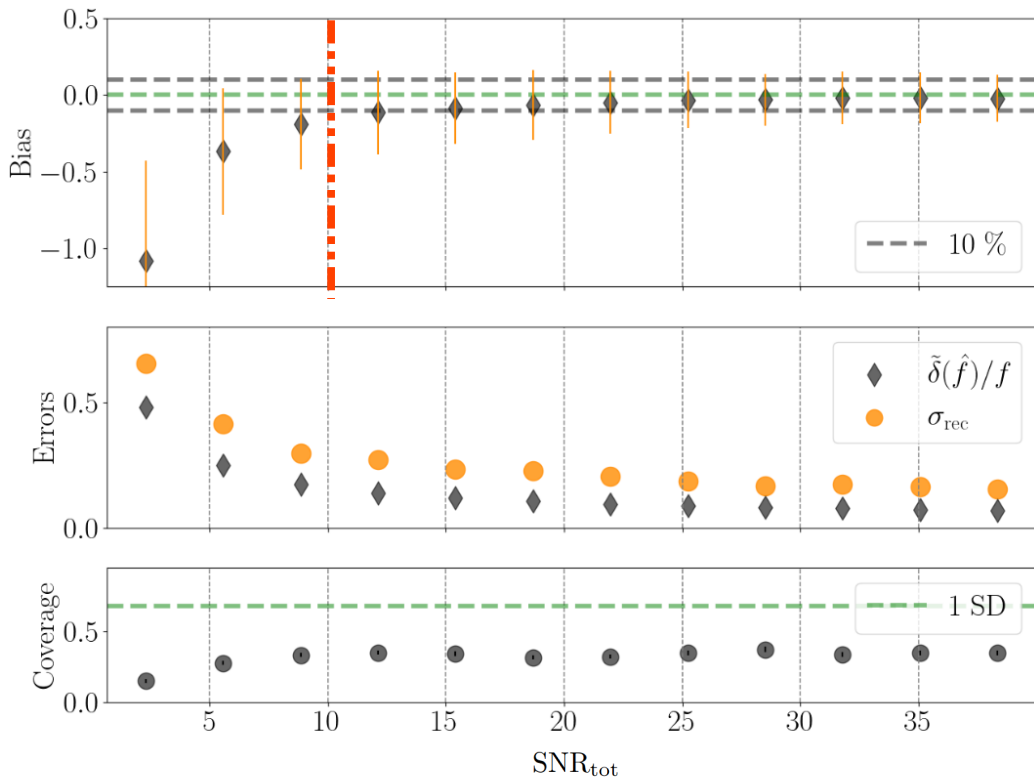
Rice-distribution Based Method



The relative errors of the new method reflect better the reconstruction resolution

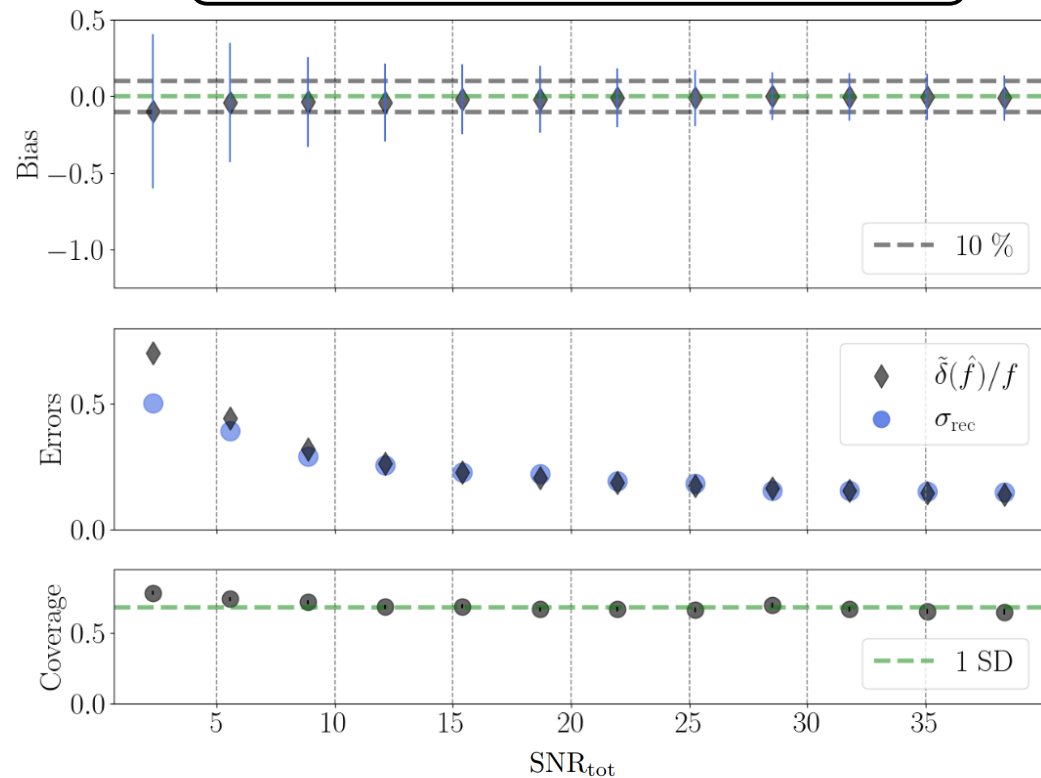
$$\text{SNR}_{\text{tot}} = \left(\frac{A_{\text{tot}}^{\text{Hilb}}}{A_{\text{tot}}^{\text{RMS}}} \right)^2$$

Noise Subtraction Method



Low coverage

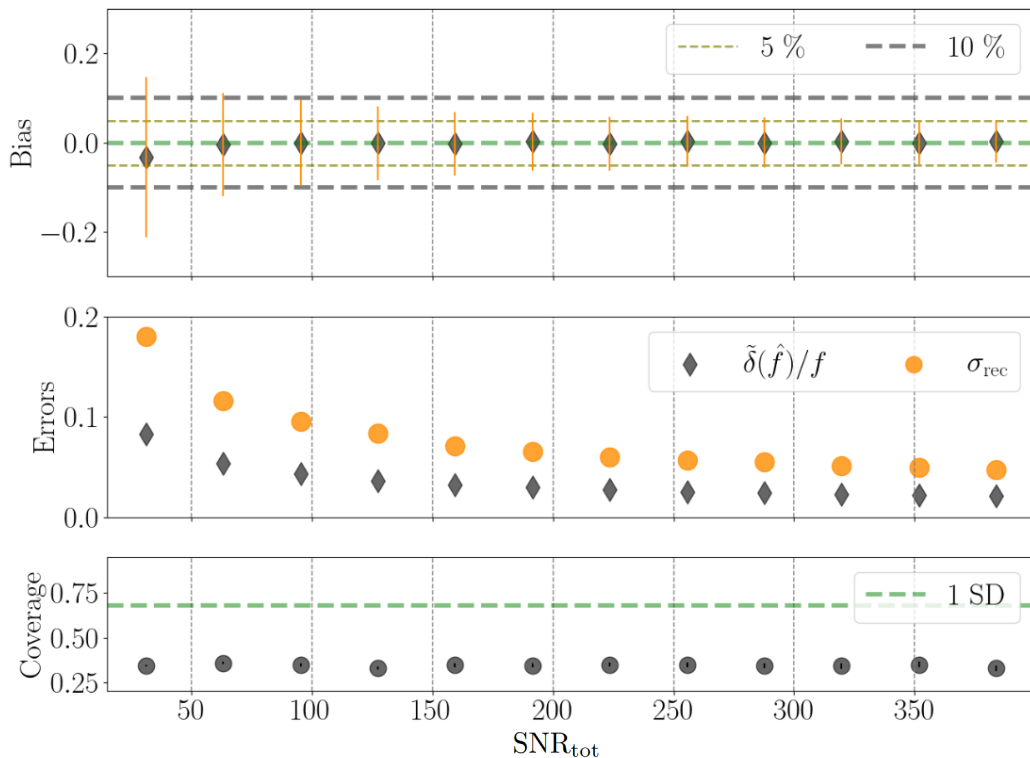
Rice-distribution Based Method



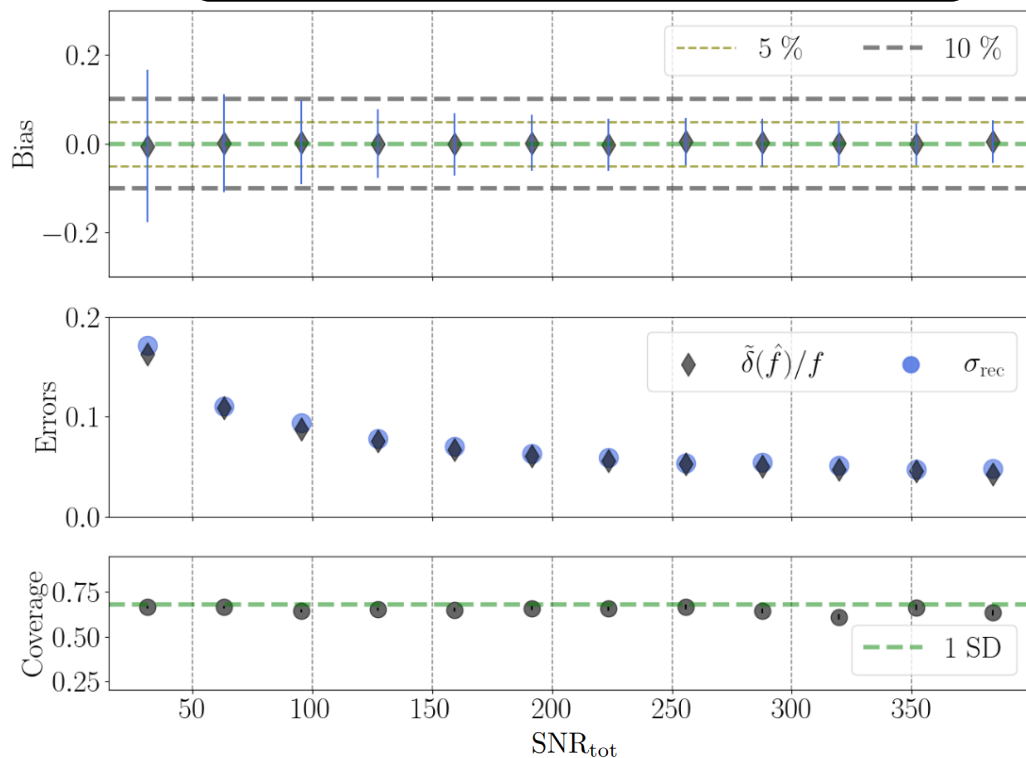
Coverage of the errors fluctuates around 68%

$$\text{SNR}_{\text{tot}} = \left(\frac{A_{\text{tot}}^{\text{Hilb}}}{A_{\text{tot}}^{\text{RMS}}} \right)^2$$

Noise Subtraction Method



Rice-distribution Based Method



The noise subtraction method underestimates the uncertainties at any SNR.

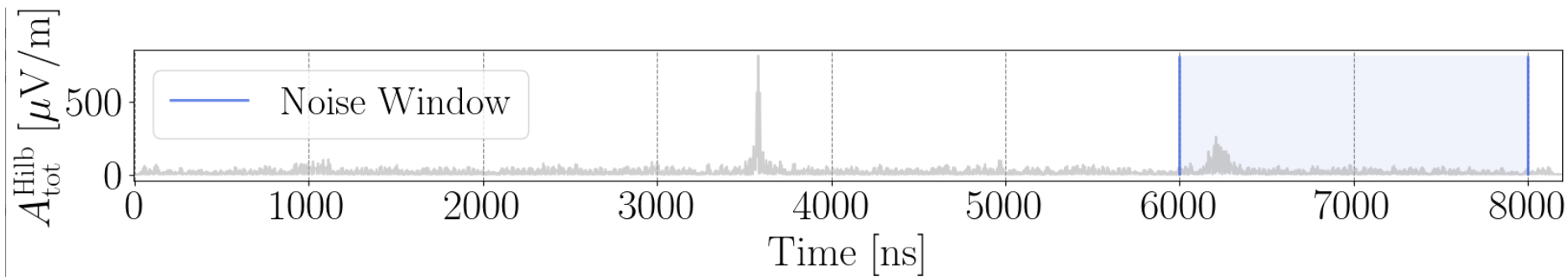
CAVEAT: $\text{SNR} < 15$ excluded in both plots for a fair comparison

$$\text{SNR}_{\text{tot}} = \left(\frac{A_{\text{tot}}^{\text{Hilb}}}{A_{\text{tot}}^{\text{RMS}}} \right)^2$$

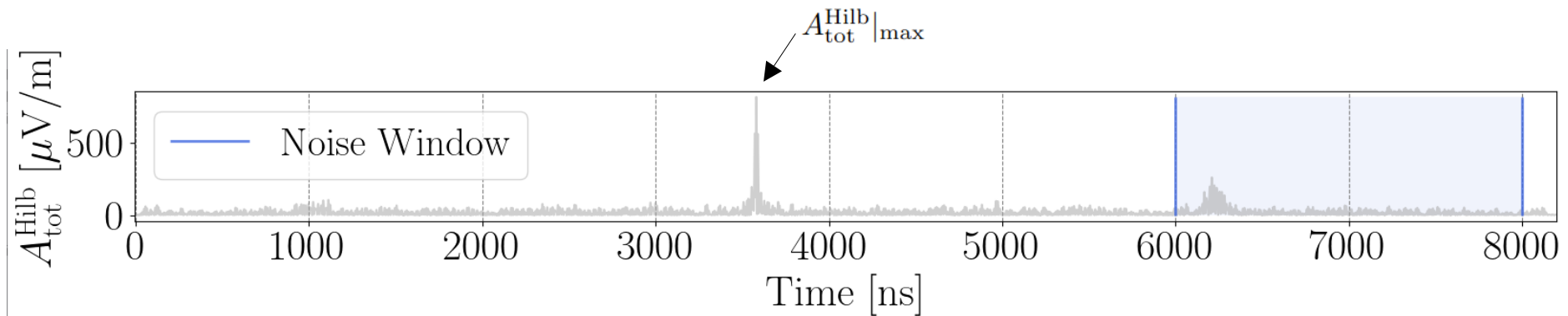
- The fluence estimation based on the Rice distribution shows a smaller bias than the noise subtraction method for small SNR values (on average less than 10%)
- At larger SNR values, the bias of both methods is comparable (on average less than 5%)
- The Rice-distribution method correctly estimate the uncertainties at any SNR (coverage about 68%)
- Paper soon ready for journal submission

Backup

1. Definition of the trace:
$$A_{\text{tot}}^{\text{Hilb}}(\vec{r}, t) = \sqrt{\sum_{\text{pol}}^3 |E_{\text{pol}}^{\text{Hilb}}(\vec{r}, t)|^2}$$



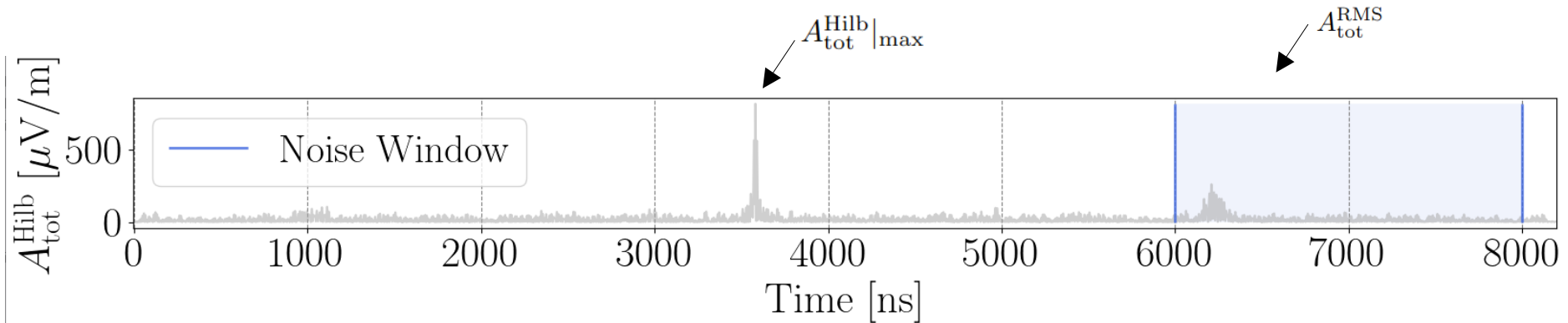
1. Definition of the trace: $A_{\text{tot}}^{\text{Hilb}}(\vec{r}, t) = \sqrt{\sum_{\text{pol}}^3 |E_{\text{pol}}^{\text{Hilb}}(\vec{r}, t)|^2}$
2. Algorithm to find the maximum of the trace: $A_{\text{tot}}^{\text{Hilb}}|_{\text{max}}$



1. Definition of the trace:
$$A_{\text{tot}}^{\text{Hilb}}(\vec{r}, t) = \sqrt{\sum_{\text{pol}}^3 |E_{\text{pol}}^{\text{Hilb}}(\vec{r}, t)|^2}$$

2. Algorithm to find the maximum of the trace: $A_{\text{tot}}^{\text{Hilb}}|_{\text{max}}$

3. Noise level evaluated in the noise window (RMS):
$$A_{\text{tot}}^{\text{RMS}} = \sqrt{\sum_{t_j=t_1}^{t_2} \frac{1}{N} \left(A_{\text{tot}}^{\text{Hilb}}(\vec{r}, t_j) \right)^2}$$



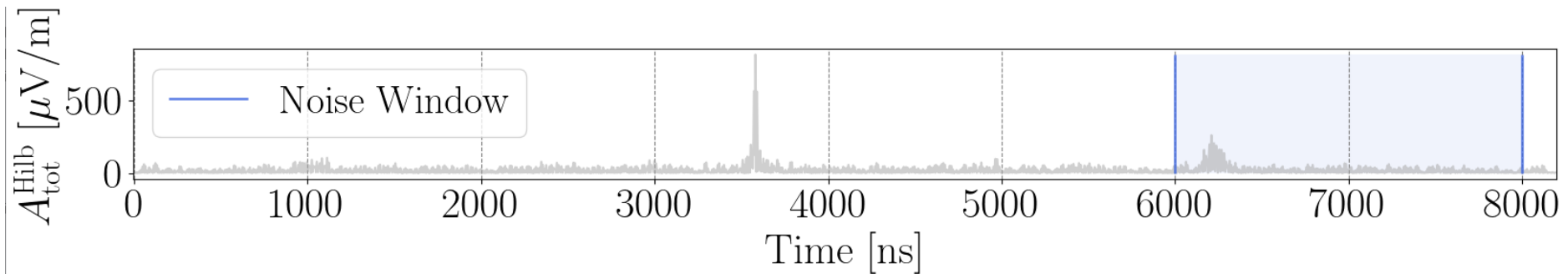
1. Definition of the trace:
$$A_{\text{tot}}^{\text{Hilb}}(\vec{r}, t) = \sqrt{\sum_{\text{pol}}^3 |E_{\text{pol}}^{\text{Hilb}}(\vec{r}, t)|^2}$$

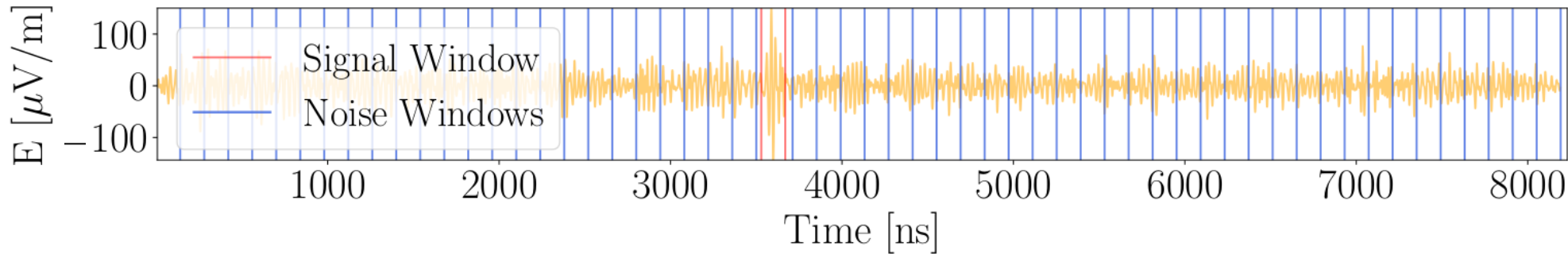
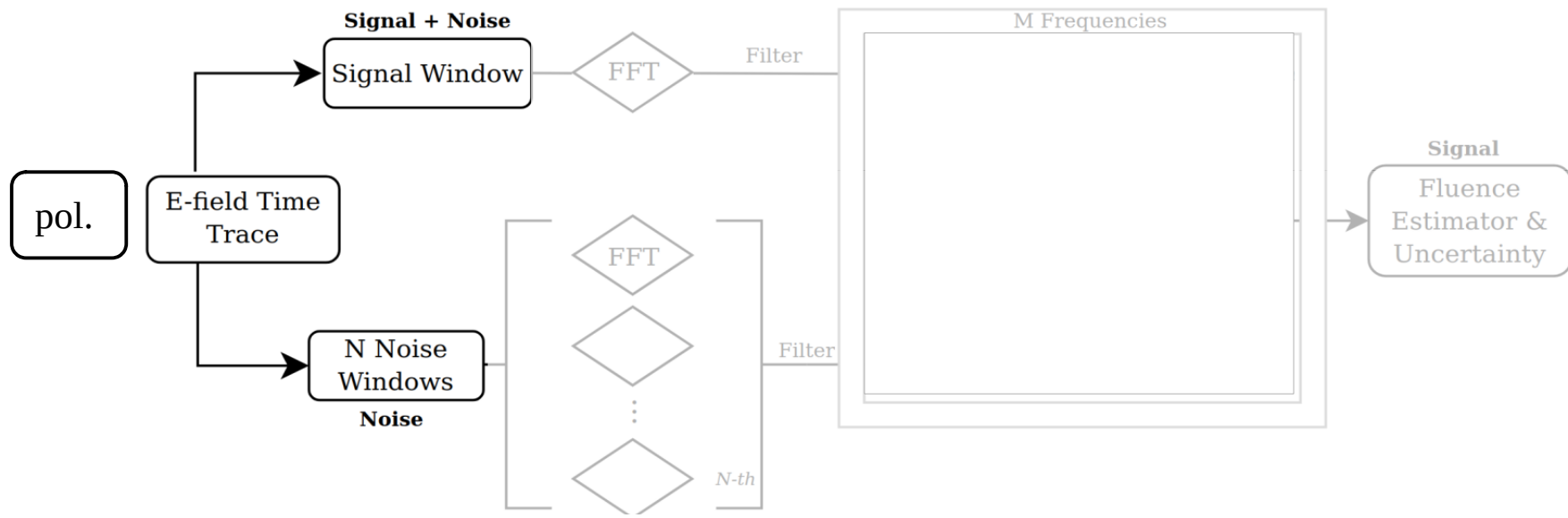
2. Algorithm to find the maximum of the trace: $A_{\text{tot}}^{\text{Hilb}}|_{\text{max}}$

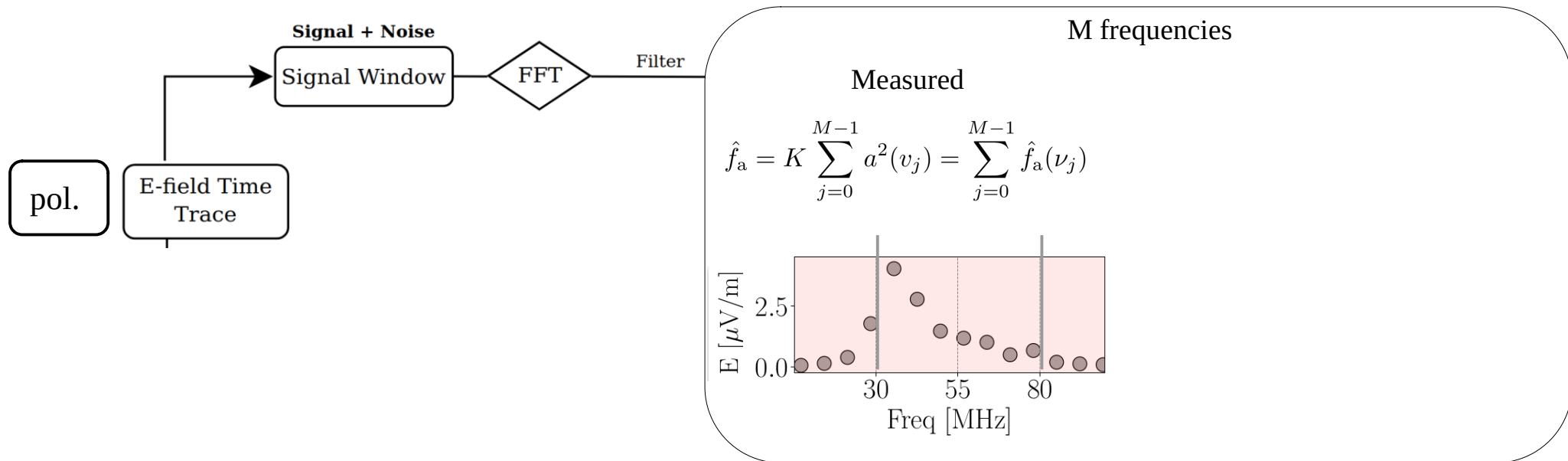
3. Noise level evaluated in the noise window (RMS):
$$A_{\text{tot}}^{\text{RMS}} = \sqrt{\sum_{t_j=t_1}^{t_2} \frac{1}{N} \left(A_{\text{tot}}^{\text{Hilb}}(\vec{r}, t_j) \right)^2}$$

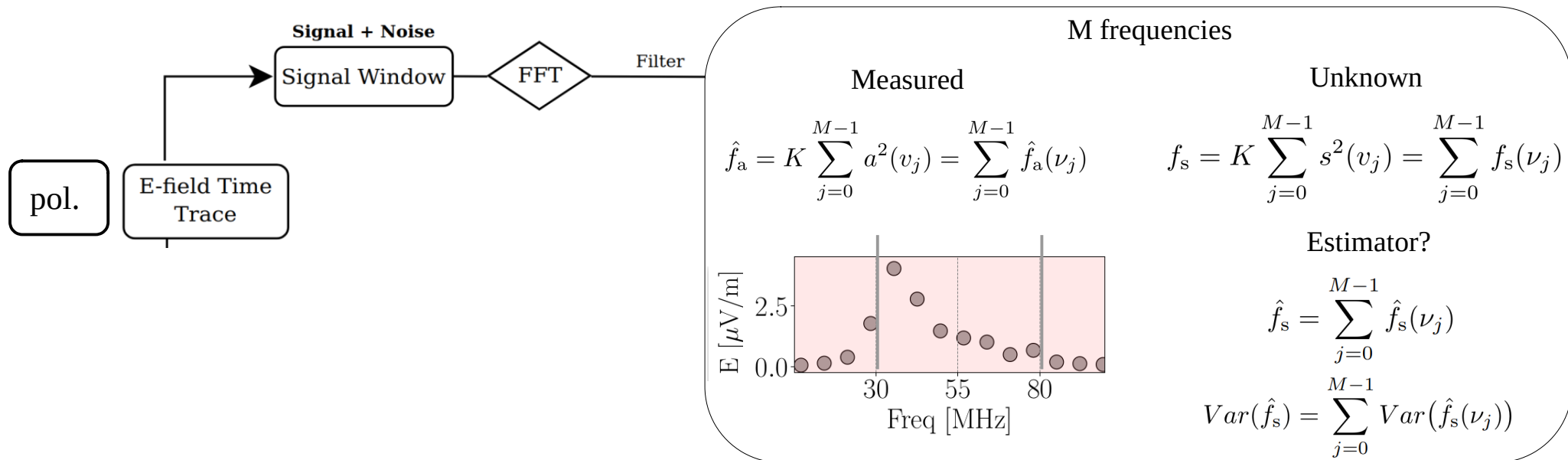
4. Definition of the SNR over all the polarisation:
$$\text{SNR}_{\text{tot}} = \left(\frac{A_{\text{tot}}^{\text{Hilb}}|_{\text{max}}}{A_{\text{tot}}^{\text{RMS}}} \right)^2$$

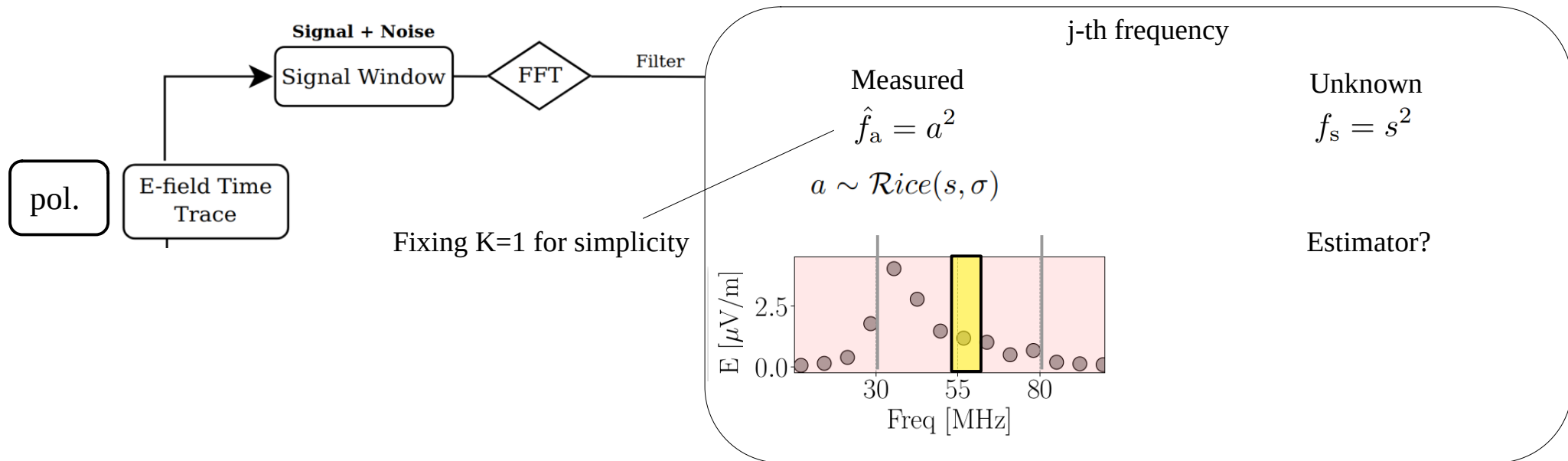
(similar definition at polarisation level)

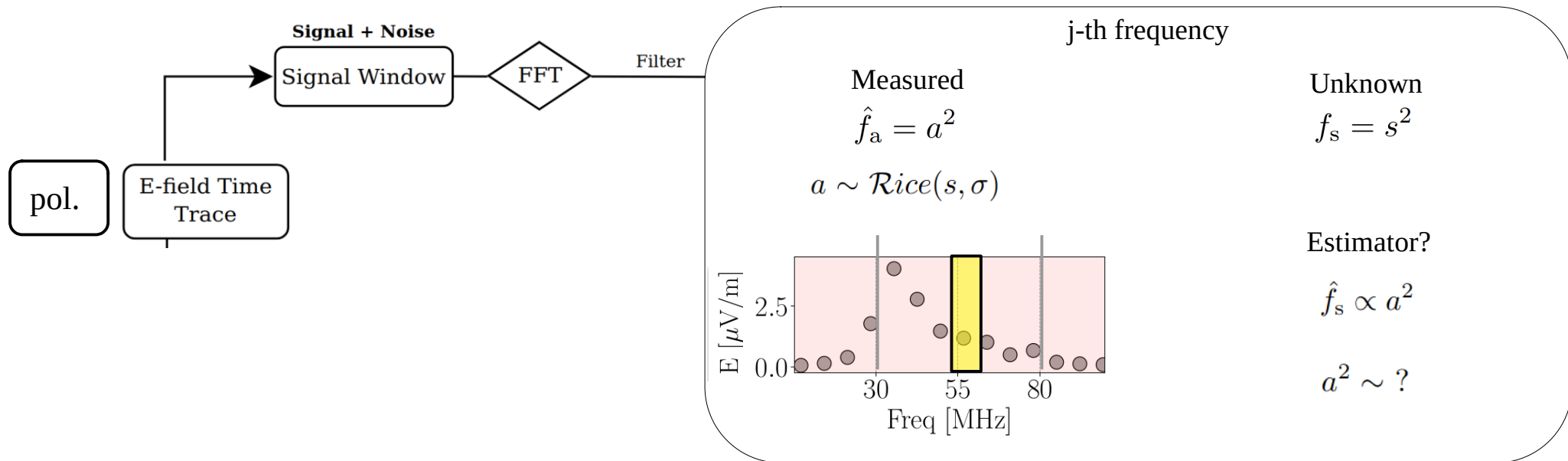


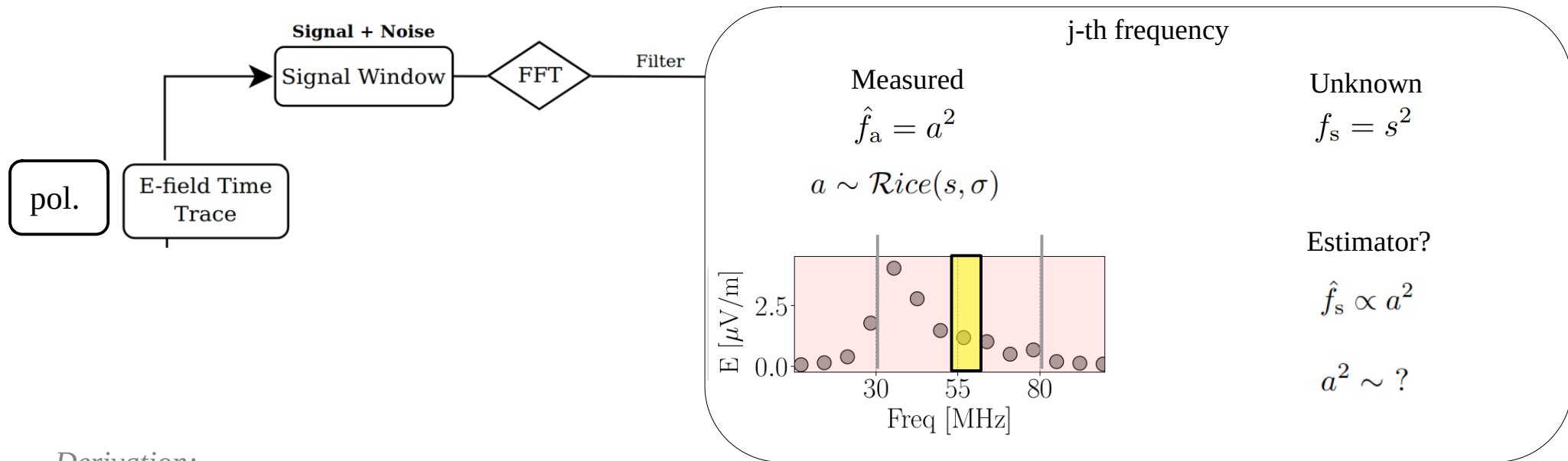












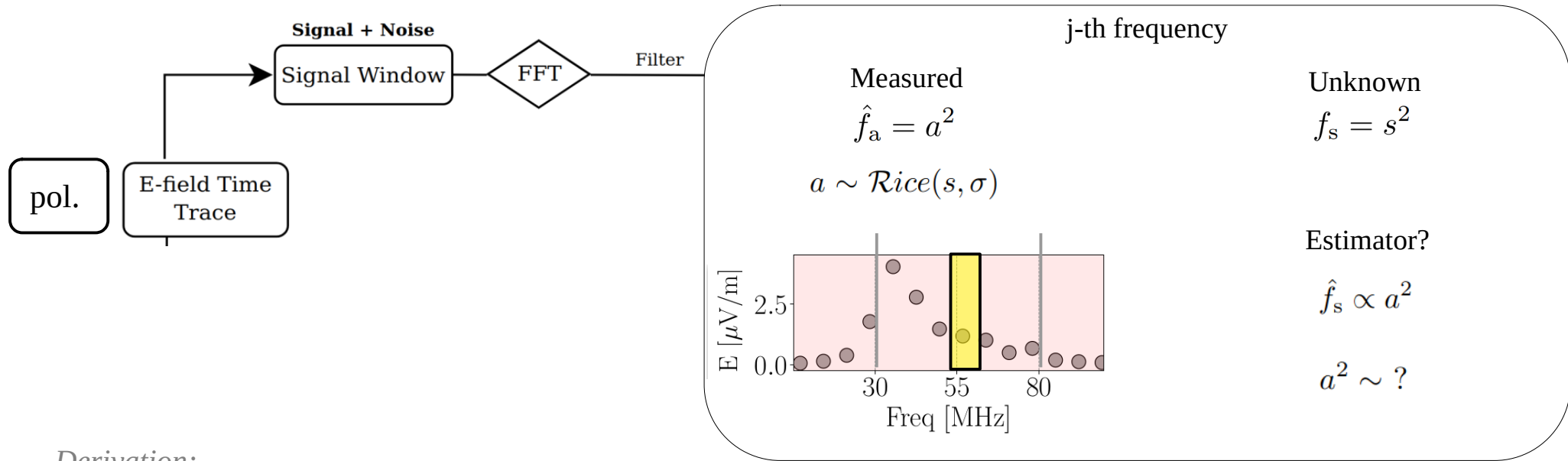
Derivation:

$$b = a/\sigma$$

Change of variable

$$\sigma$$

Noise at bin level



Derivation:

$$b = a/\sigma$$

Change of variable



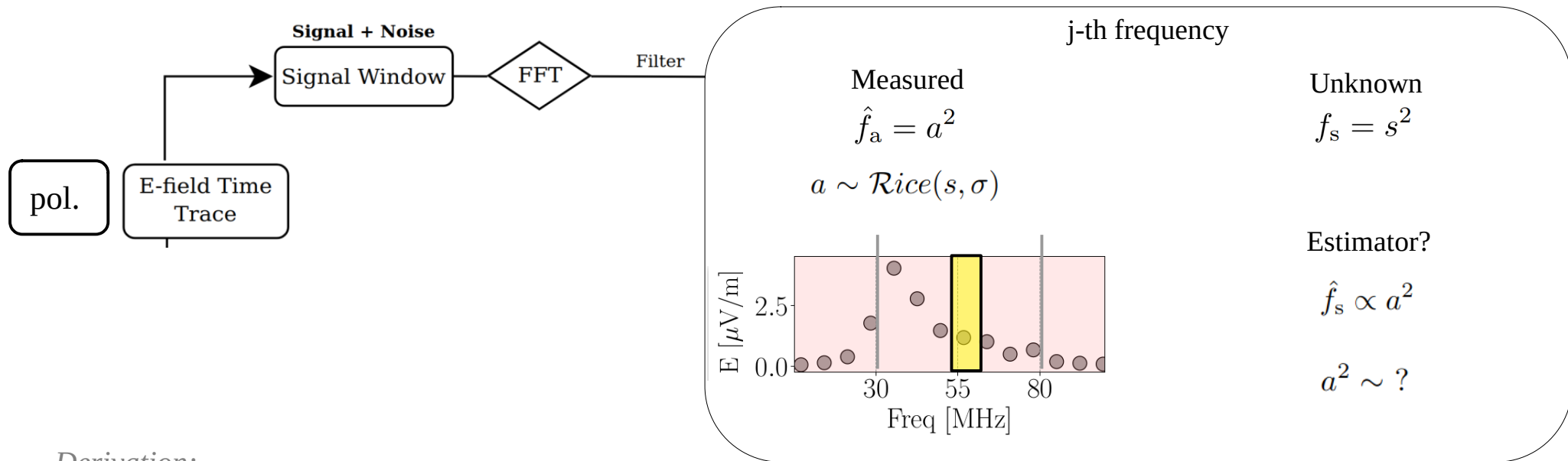
$$b \sim \text{Rice}(s/\sigma, 1) = \chi_{\text{nc}}(DF = 2, \lambda = s/\sigma)$$

σ

Noise at bin level

Degrees of Freedom

Non-centrality
parameter

Derivation:

$$b = a/\sigma$$

Change of variable



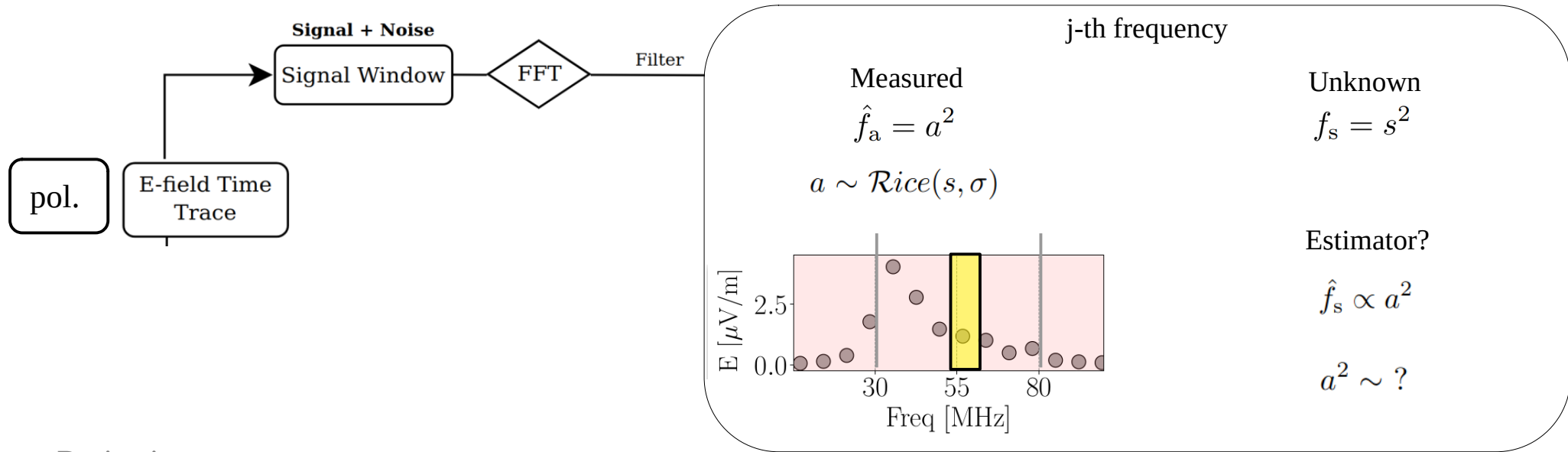
$$b^2 \sim \chi_{nc}(DF = 2, \lambda = s^2/\sigma^2)$$

 σ

Noise at bin level

$$E(b^2) = 2 + (s/\sigma)^2 \quad \text{Expected value}$$

$$\text{Var}(b^2) = 2 (2 + 2 (s/\sigma)^2) \quad \text{Variance}$$



Derivation:

$$E(b^2) = 2 + (s/\sigma)^2$$

$$\text{Var}(b^2) = 2 (2 + 2 (s/\sigma)^2)$$

$$a^2 = \sigma^2 b^2$$

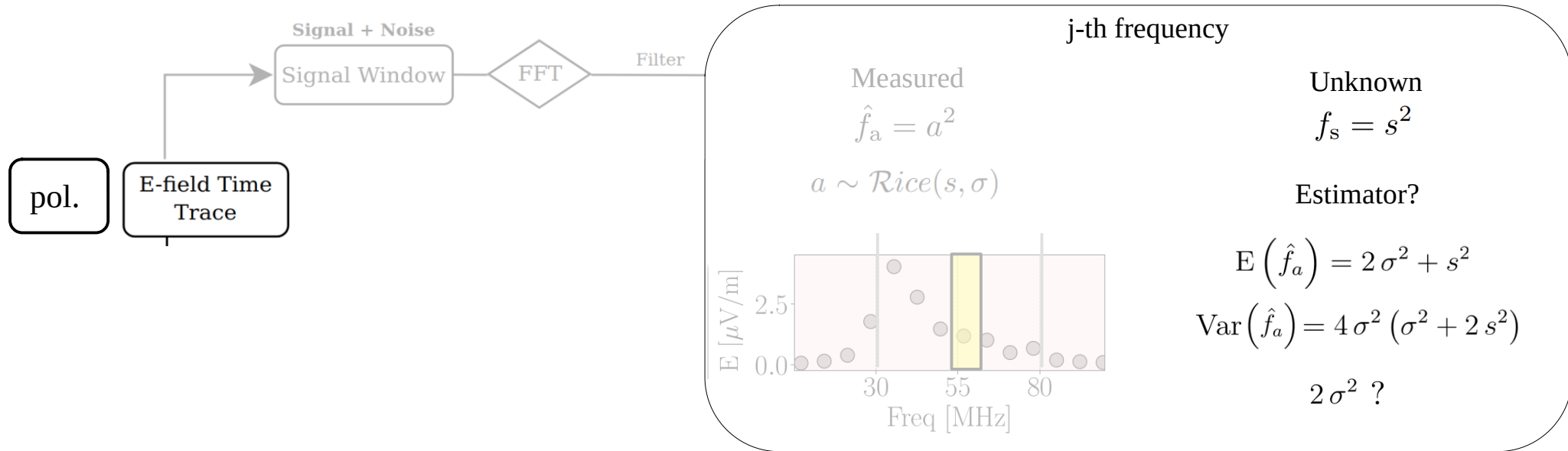


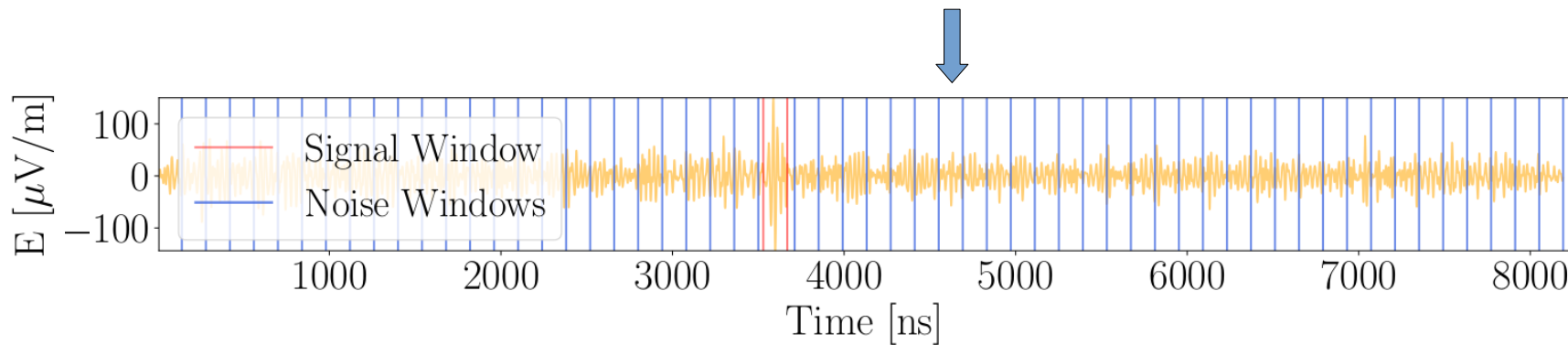
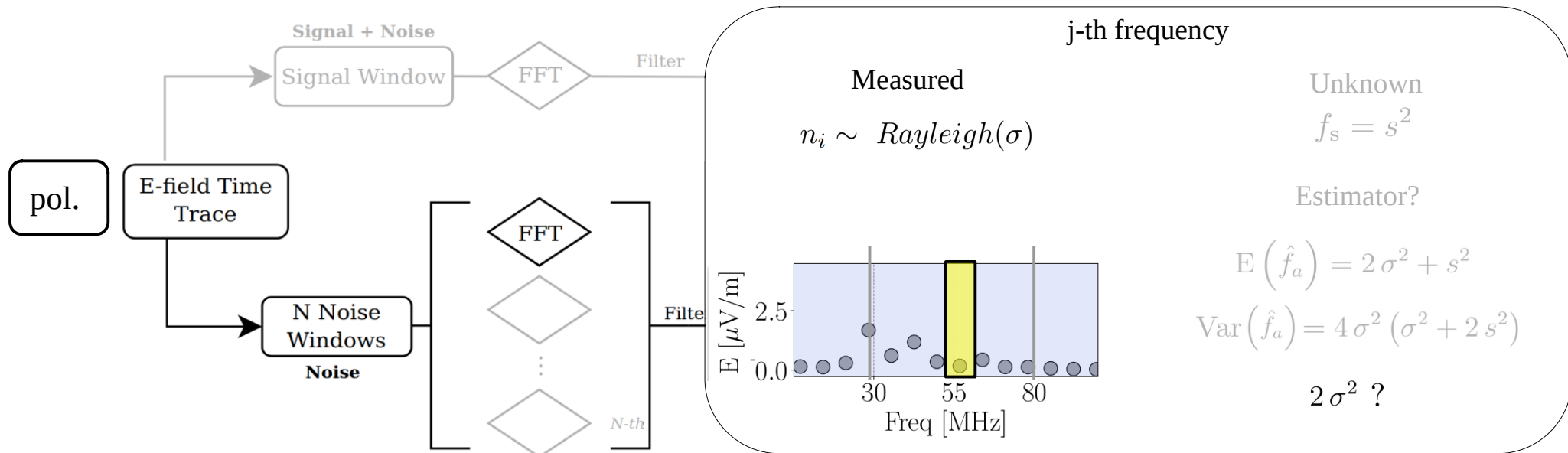
$$E(\hat{f}_a) = E(a^2) = \sigma^2 E(b^2)$$

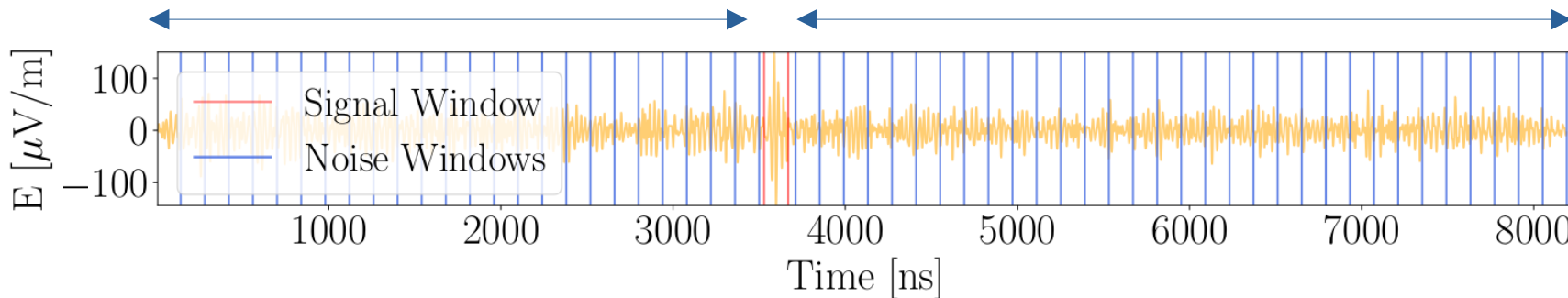
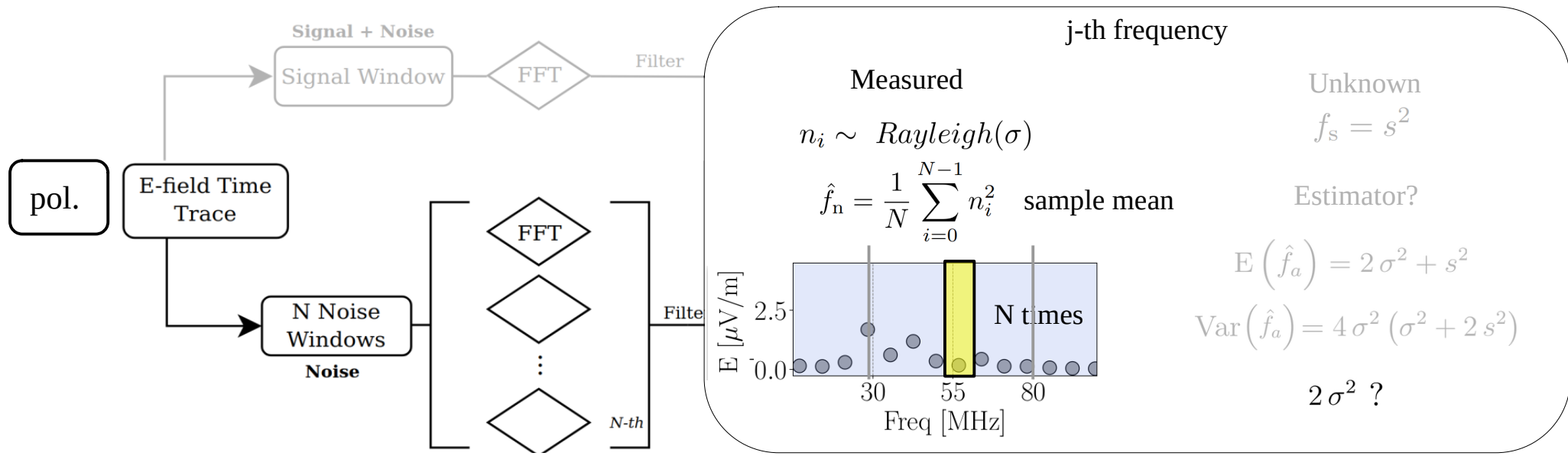
Expected value

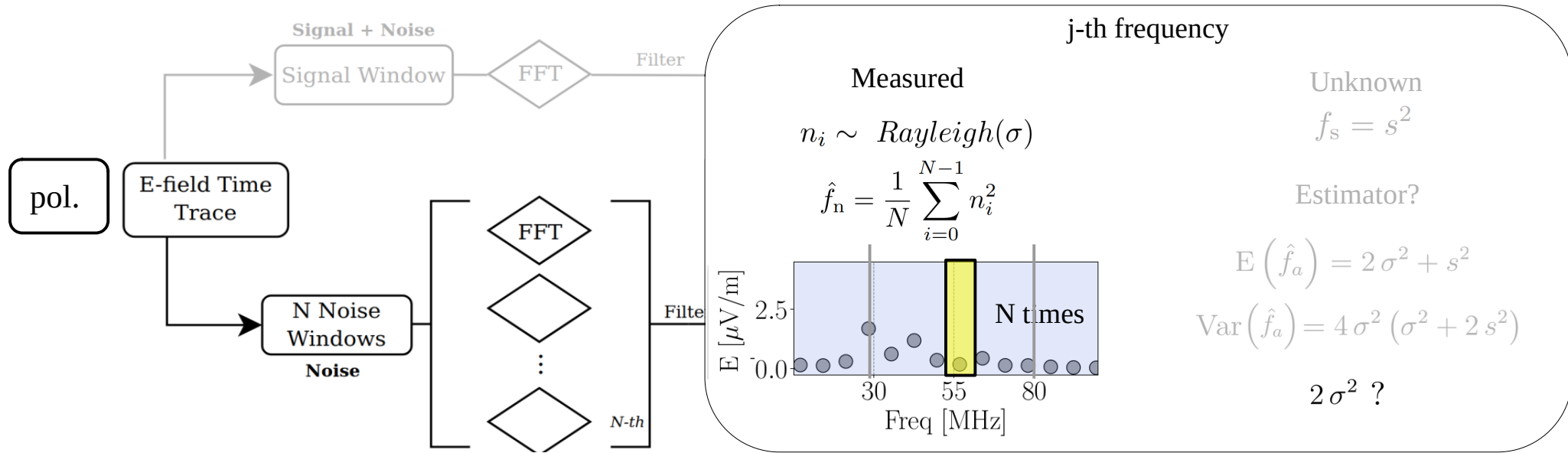
$$\text{Var}(\hat{f}_a) = \text{Var}(a^2) = \sigma^4 \text{Var}(b^2)$$

Variance







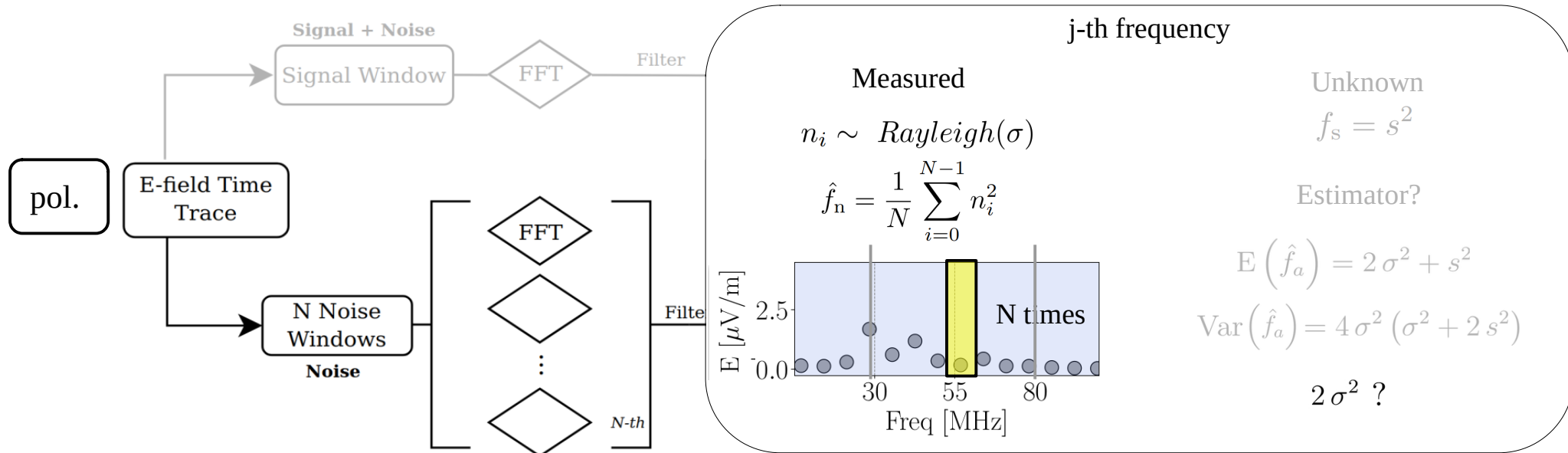
Derivation:

i-th window:

$$n_i \sim \text{Rayleigh}(\sigma)$$

Change of variable

$$(n_i/\sigma)^2 \sim \chi^2(DF = 2)$$

Derivation:

i-th window:

$$n_i \sim \text{Rayleigh}(\sigma)$$

Change of variable

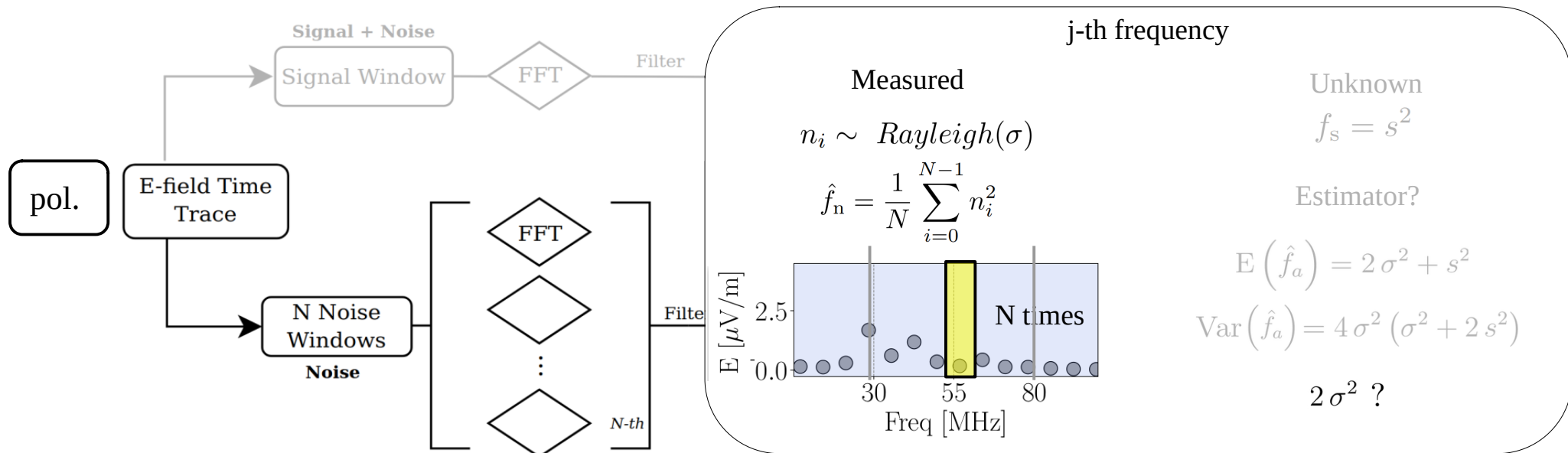
$$(n_i/\sigma)^2 \sim \chi^2(DF = 2)$$



Definition of a new variable over the windows:

$$T = \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} (n_i/\sigma)^2 \sim \chi^2(DF = 2 \cdot N) \approx \mathcal{N}(\mu = 2N, SD = 2\sqrt{N})$$

normally distributed (N large)

Derivation:

$$\hat{f}_n = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} n_i^2$$

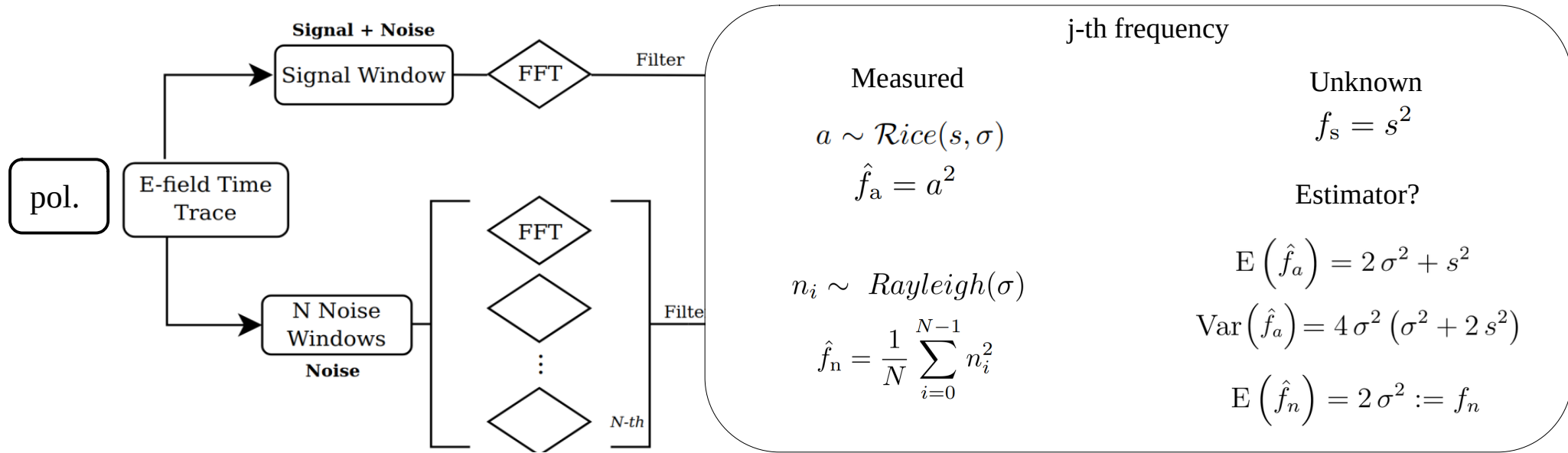
$$T = \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} (n_i/\sigma)^2 \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu = 2N, SD = 2\sqrt{N})$$

normally distributed

$$\hat{f}_n = \frac{\sigma^2}{N} T \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu = 2\sigma^2, SD = 2\sigma^2/\sqrt{N})$$

Unbiased estimator of $2\sigma^2 := f_n$

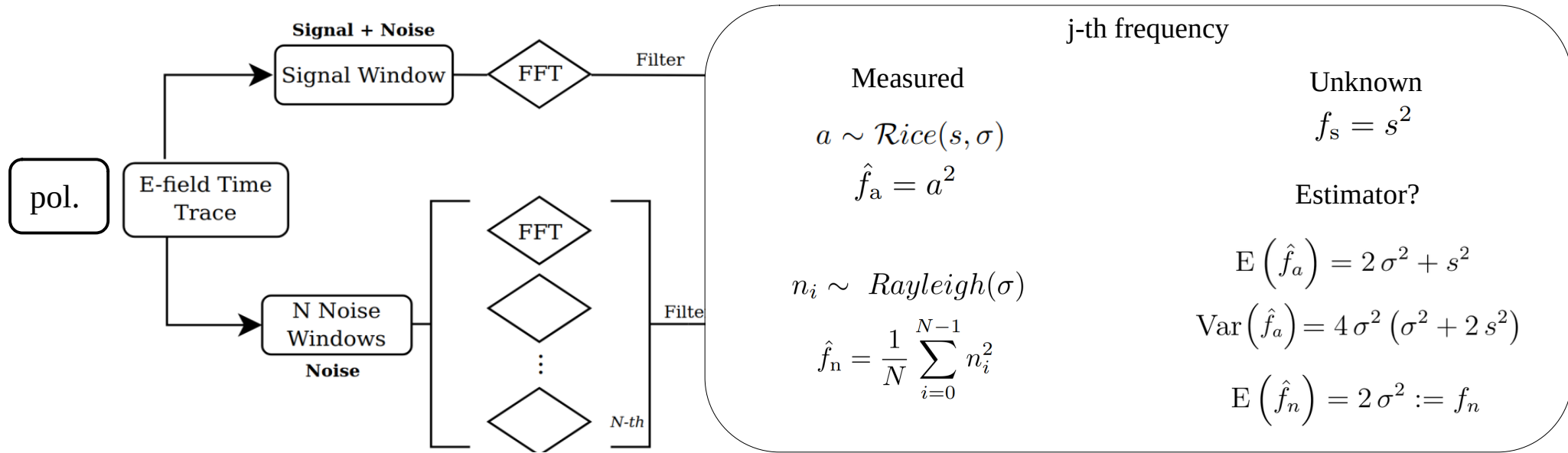
Sample standard deviation can be neglected



Derivation:

$$\hat{f}_s = \hat{f}_a - \hat{f}_n$$

$$E(\hat{f}_s) = E(\hat{f}_a) - E(\hat{f}_n) = s^2 = f_s$$



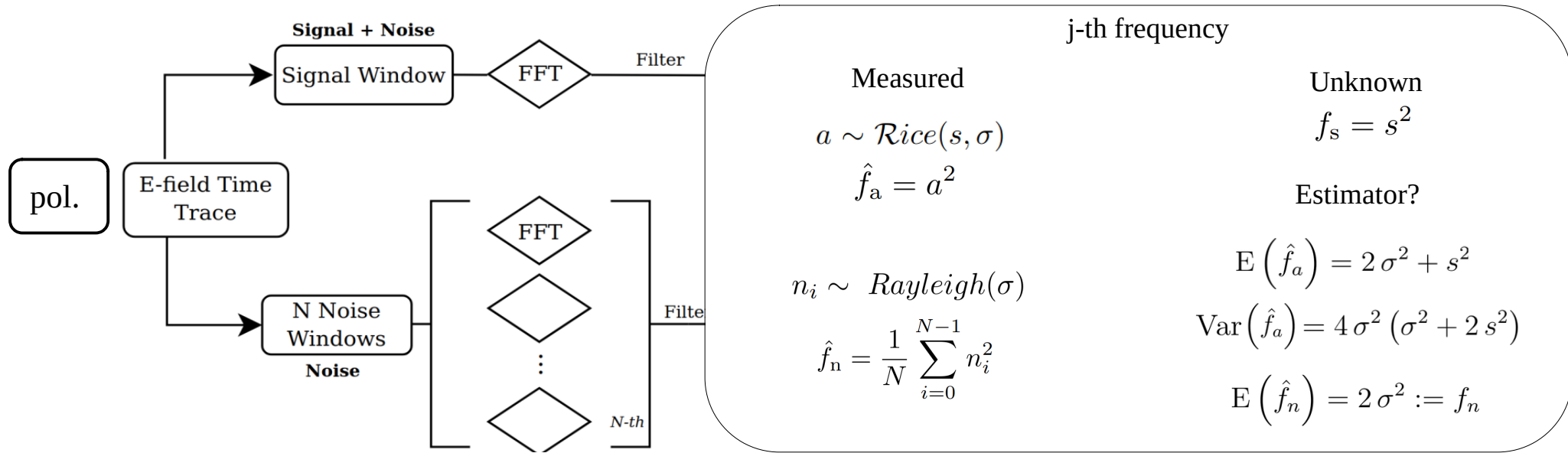
Derivation:

$$\hat{f}_s = \hat{f}_a - \hat{f}_n$$

$$E(\hat{f}_s) = E(\hat{f}_a) - E(\hat{f}_n) = s^2 = f_s$$

Physical
boundary
→

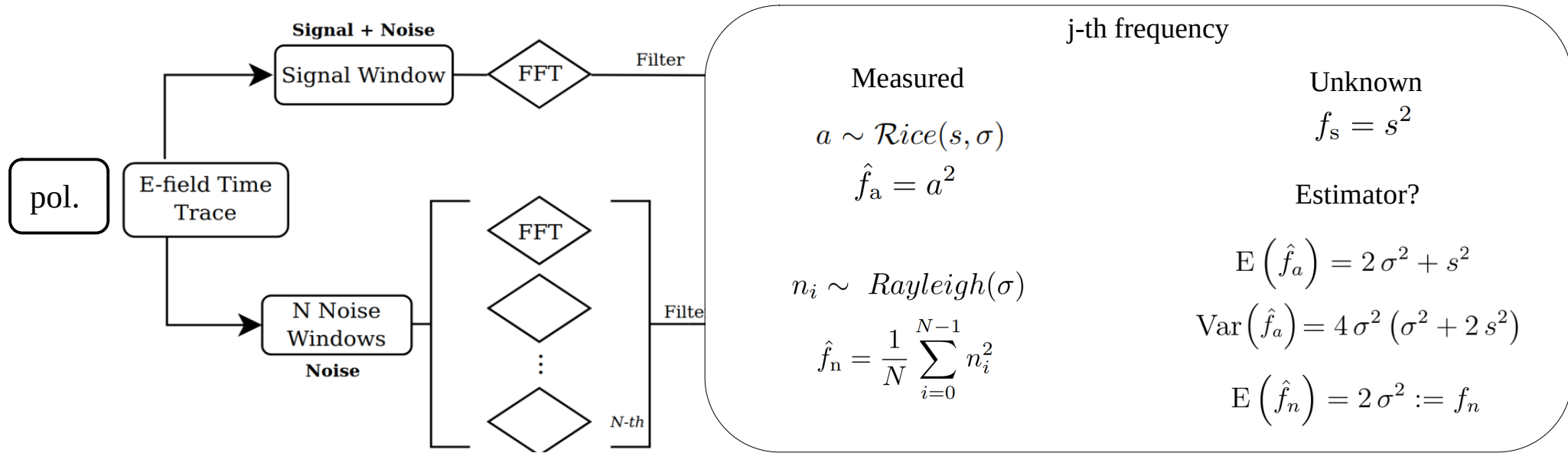
$$\hat{f}_s = \begin{cases} \hat{f}_a - \hat{f}_n & \text{if } \hat{f}_a \geq \hat{f}_n \\ 0 & \text{if } \hat{f}_a < \hat{f}_n \end{cases}$$



Derivation:

$$\hat{f}_s = \begin{cases} \hat{f}_a - \hat{f}_n & \text{if } \hat{f}_a \geq \hat{f}_n \\ 0 & \text{if } \hat{f}_a < \hat{f}_n \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Var}(\hat{f}_s) = \text{Var}(\hat{f}_a) = 4\sigma^2(\sigma^2 + 2s^2)$$



Derivation:

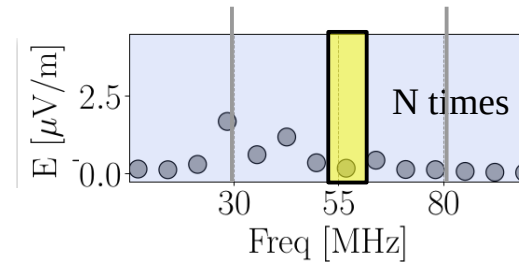
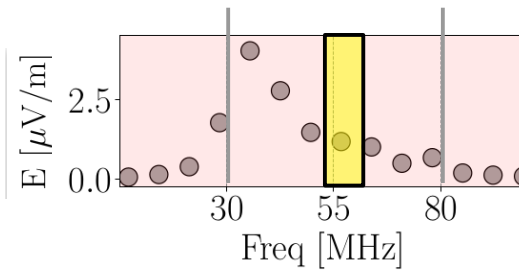
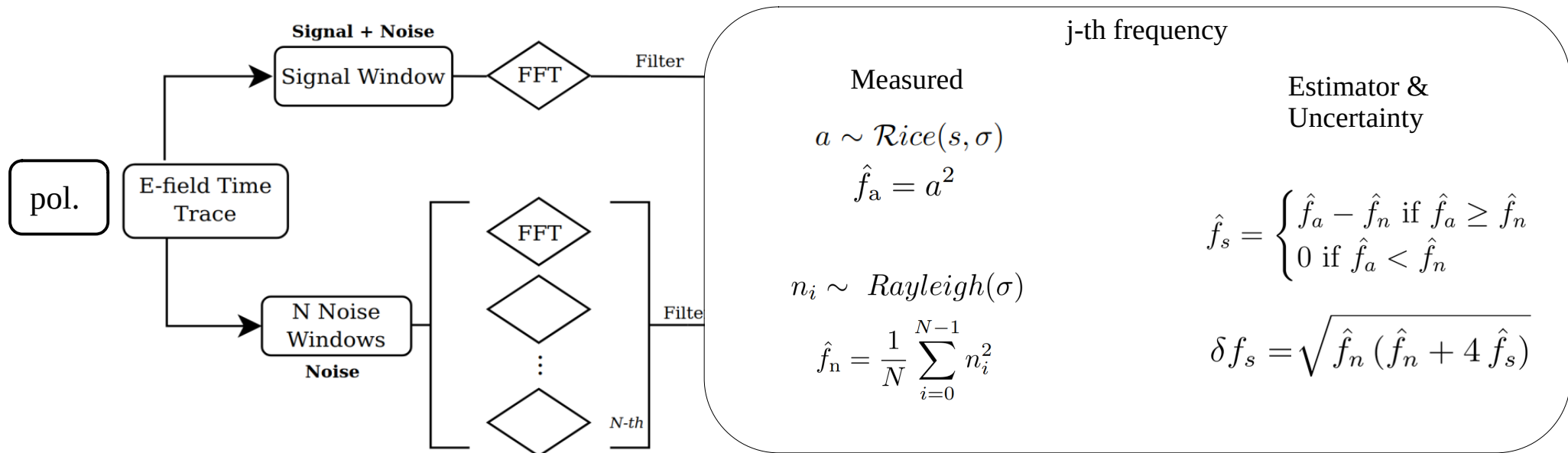
$$\hat{f}_s = \begin{cases} \hat{f}_a - \hat{f}_n & \text{if } \hat{f}_a \geq \hat{f}_n \\ 0 & \text{if } \hat{f}_a < \hat{f}_n \end{cases}$$

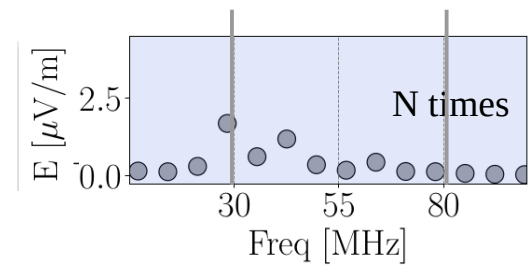
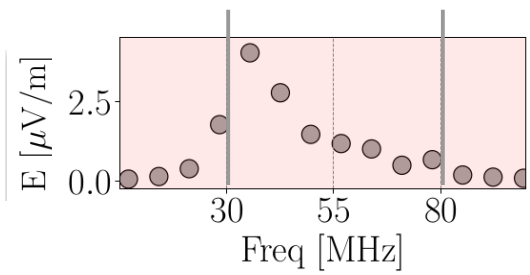
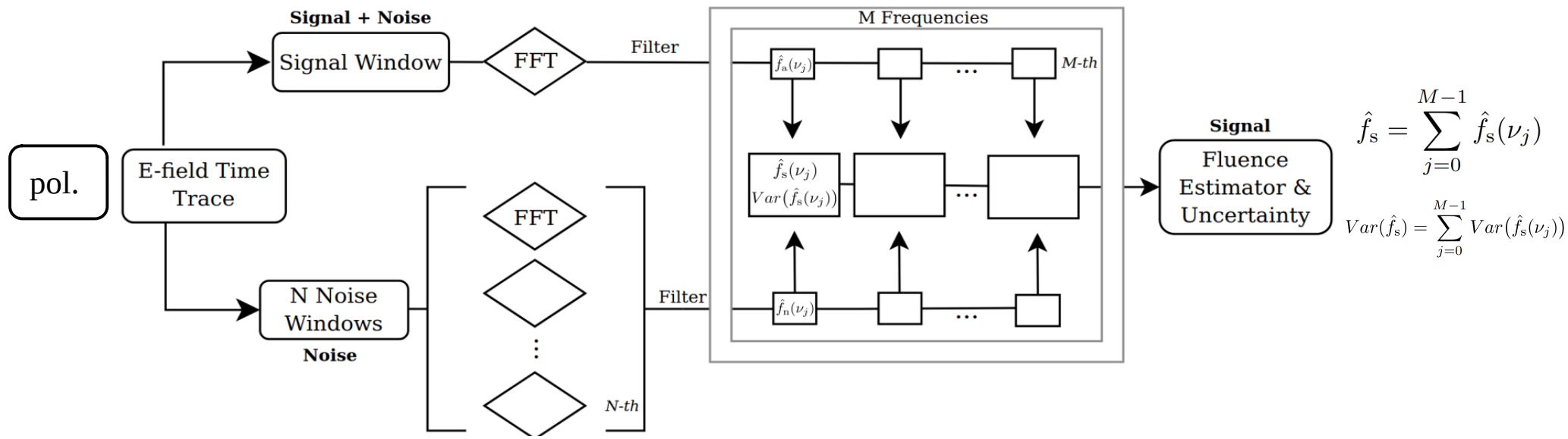
$$\text{Var}(\hat{f}_s) = 4\sigma^2(\sigma^2 + 2s^2)$$

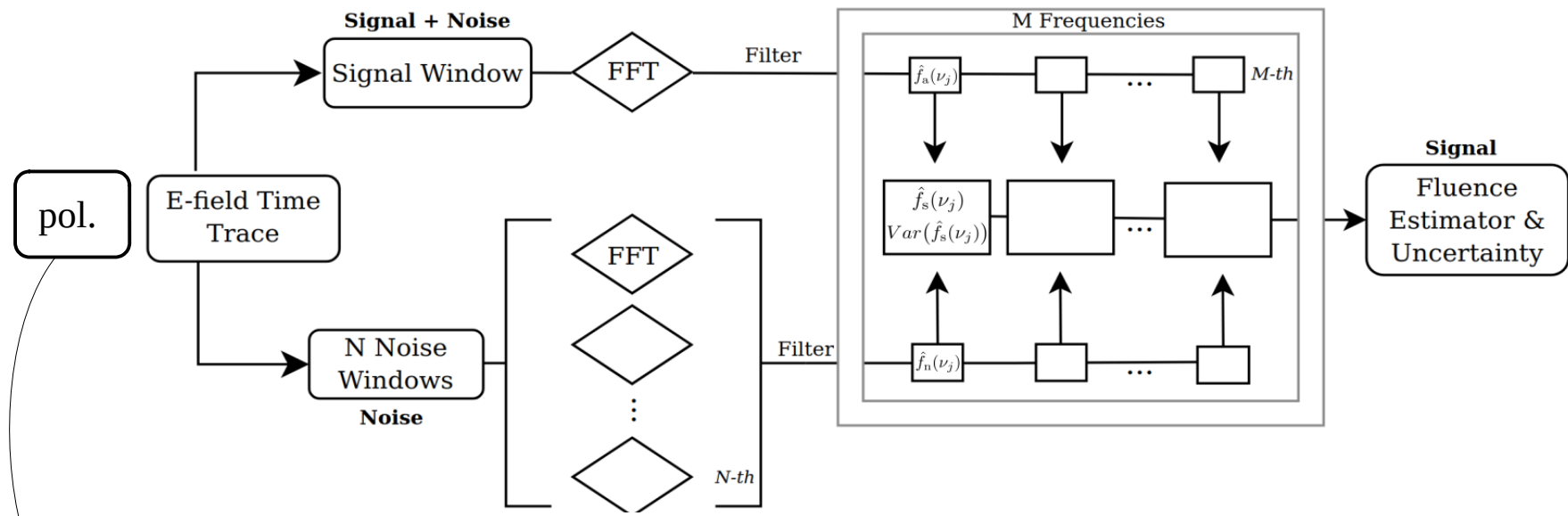
$$s^2 \approx \hat{f}_s$$

$$2\sigma^2 \approx \hat{f}_n$$

$$\text{Var}(\hat{f}_s) \approx \hat{f}_n (\hat{f}_n + 4\hat{f}_s)$$







pol.

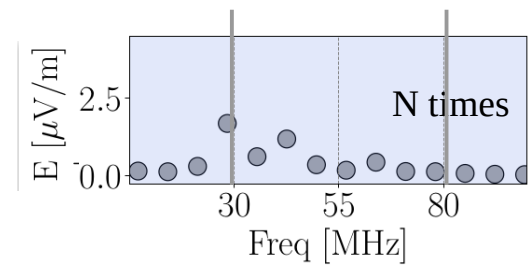
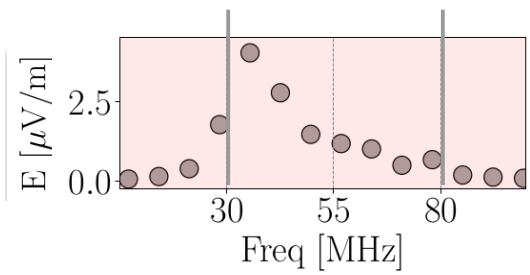
E-field Time Trace

N Noise Windows

Noise

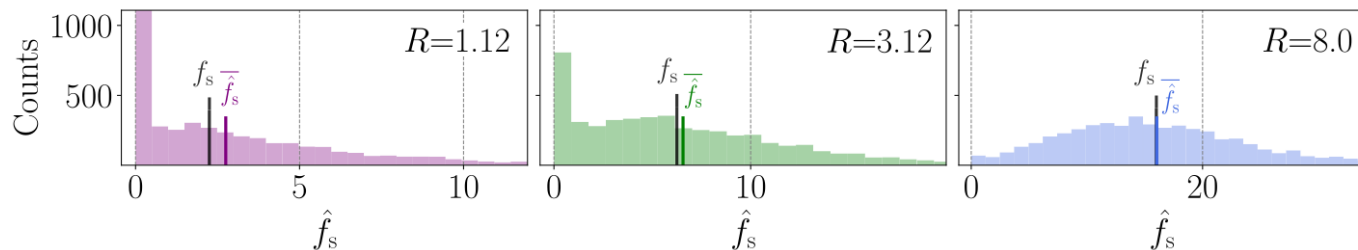
$$\hat{f}_{tot}(\vec{r}) = \sum_{pol}^3 \hat{f}_{pol}(\vec{r})$$

Error propagation



Toy Monte Carlo (using the Rice P.D.F. and the estimator derived)

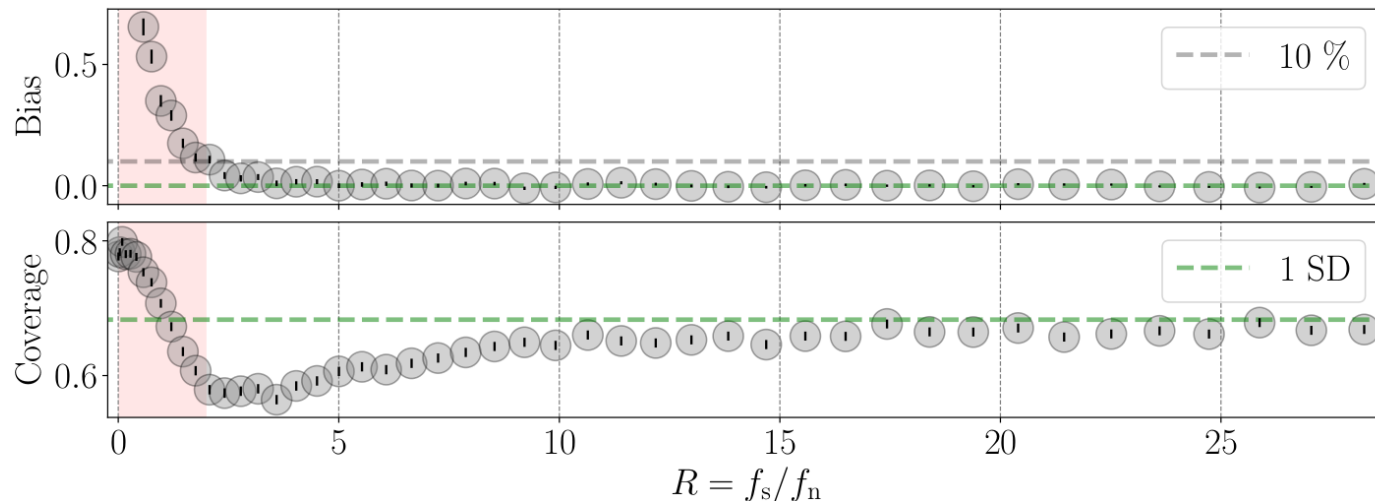
$$\hat{f}_s = \begin{cases} \hat{f}_a - \hat{f}_n & \text{if } \hat{f}_a \geq \hat{f}_n \\ 0 & \text{if } \hat{f}_a < \hat{f}_n \end{cases}$$



$$\psi = \overline{\hat{f}_s} / f_s - 1,$$

$$\sigma_\psi = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N_{MC} - 1} \sum_{i=0}^{N_{MC} - 1} (\hat{f}_{s,i} - \overline{\hat{f}_s})^2}$$

$$f_s \in [\hat{f}_s - \delta(\hat{f}_s), \hat{f}_s + \delta(\hat{f}_s)]$$



Reference: C. Glaser's PhD thesis

5.5.2 Uncertainty of the energy fluence

We estimate the uncertainty of the energy fluence by assuming that the measured electric-field amplitude $A(t)$ is the sum of the cosmic-ray radio pulse $S(t)$ and noise $e(t)$. Furthermore, we assume that the noise $e(t)$ is Gaussian distributed with mean $\mu = 0$ and standard deviation $\sigma = \sigma_e$. The energy fluence of A is then given by the equation

$$f(A) = \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \sum_{t_1}^{t_2} A(t_i)^2 = \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \sum_{t_1}^{t_2} [S(t_i) + e(t_i)]^2 = \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \sum_{t_1}^{t_2} [S(t_i)^2 + 2S(t_i)e(t_i) + e(t_i)^2] \quad (5.16)$$

and the expectation value of $f(A)$ is

$$\begin{aligned} \langle f(A) \rangle &= \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \sum_{t_1}^{t_2} A(t_i)^2 = \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \sum_{t_1}^{t_2} [\langle S(t_i)^2 \rangle + 2\langle S(t_i)e(t_i) \rangle + \langle e(t_i)^2 \rangle] \\ &= \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \sum_{t_1}^{t_2} \left[\langle S(t_i) \rangle^2 + \underbrace{\text{Var}(S(t_i))}_{=0} + 2\langle S(t_i) \rangle \underbrace{\langle e(t_i) \rangle}_{=0} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + 2 \underbrace{\text{Cov}(S(t_i), e(t_i))}_{=0} + \underbrace{\langle e(t_i) \rangle^2}_{=0} + \underbrace{\text{Var}(e(t_i))}_{\sigma_e^2} \right] \end{aligned} \quad (5.17)$$

$$= \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \sum_{t_1}^{t_2} [\langle S(t_i) \rangle^2 + \sigma_e^2] .$$

Hence, the best estimate of the energy fluence of the radio signal S is indeed

$$f(S) = \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \sum_{t_1}^{t_2} [A(t_i)^2 - \sigma_e^2] \quad (5.18)$$

as defined in Eq. (5.8) where σ_e^2 is also calculated from the electric-field trace in a part where no signal is present. Following a similar calculation we can estimate the uncertainty of $f(S)$ by computing $\sigma_f^2 = \text{Var}(f) = \langle f^2 \rangle - \langle f \rangle^2$. After several lines of calculation it follows that

$$\sigma_f^2 = 4f \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \sigma_e^2 + 2(\epsilon_0 c)^2 (t_2 - t_1) \Delta t \sigma_e^4 . \quad (5.19)$$