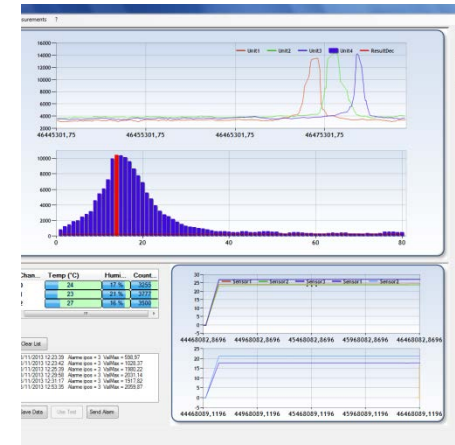




# NEW MONITORING SYSTEM TO DETECT A RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL IN MOTION

**Session 7. #Dosimetry and Monitoring - 2** | Karim Boudergui, Vladimir Kondrasovs, Romain Coulon, Gwenolé Corre, Stéphane Normand

**list**





**CONTEXT**

**STATE OF THE ART**

**METHOD**

**RESULTS**

**CONCLUSION**

## CONTEXT

### WHAT ARE THE DIFFICULTIES TO DETECT A RADIOACTIVE SOURCE IN MOTION ?

- To have enough count statistic to differentiate the analysis signal from the background noise signal :
  - Low count rate due to the short time acquisition (speed)
  - Dependency to the background noise (fluctuation)
- To have an adapted acquisition system



### A real time approach

CEA List developed a monitoring system to detect radioactive sources in motion based on :

- 2 or more sensor units aligned and separated by the same distance
- Time correlation between each sensor unit



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## STATE OF THE ART

- **Radiation Portal Monitors (RPM)** are more and more required.
- RPM are mainly included with one or more **large volume plastic scintillation detectors**.
- These systems generally use **statistical** approaches based on **threshold** set-up with regards to **background fluctuations**.



RADOS Truck monitor. MIRION



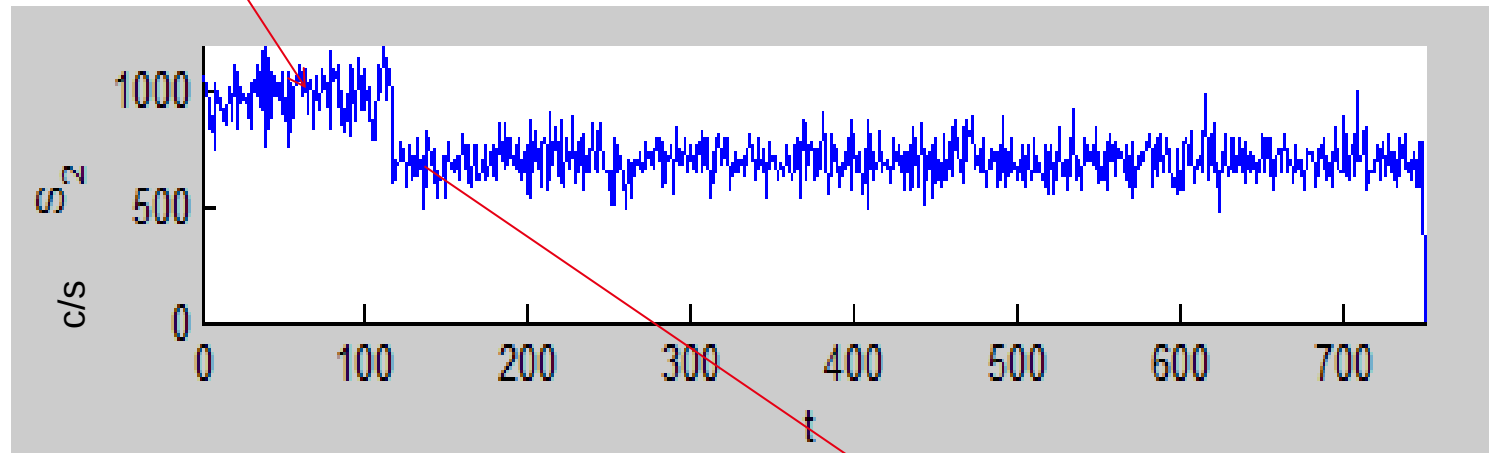
CRCV. SAPHYMO



PORTIA - CANBERRA

## SHIELDING EFFECT

Background baseline

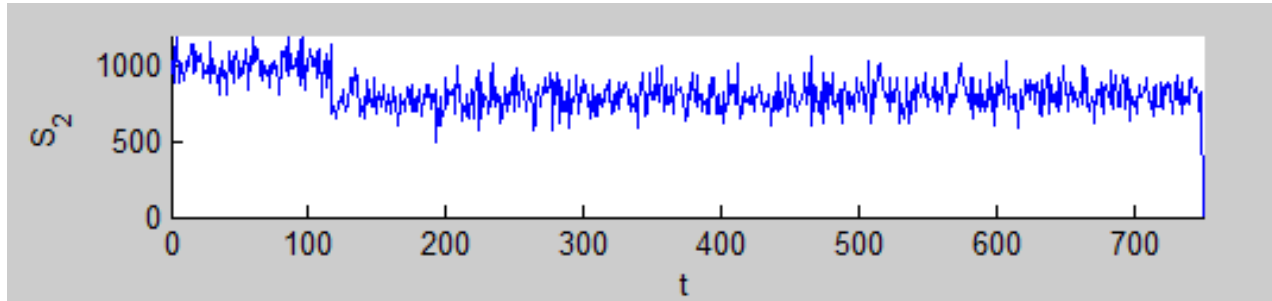


Background noise Simulation with :

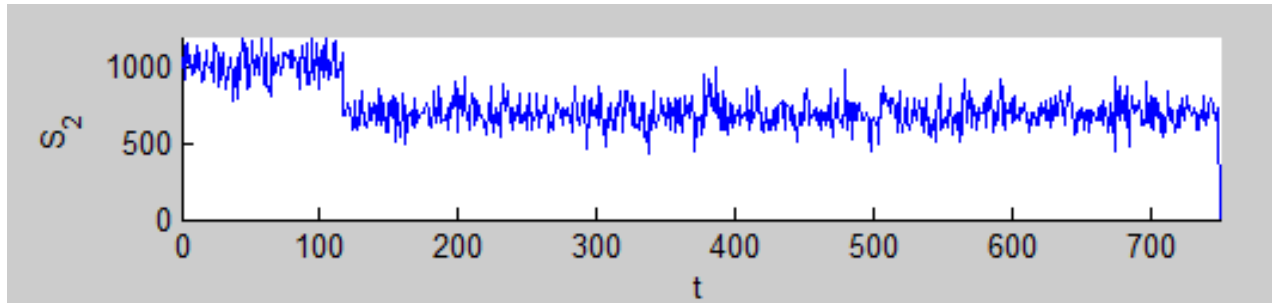
- Speed : 15 km/h
- Sampling time 100 ms

Auto shielding effect

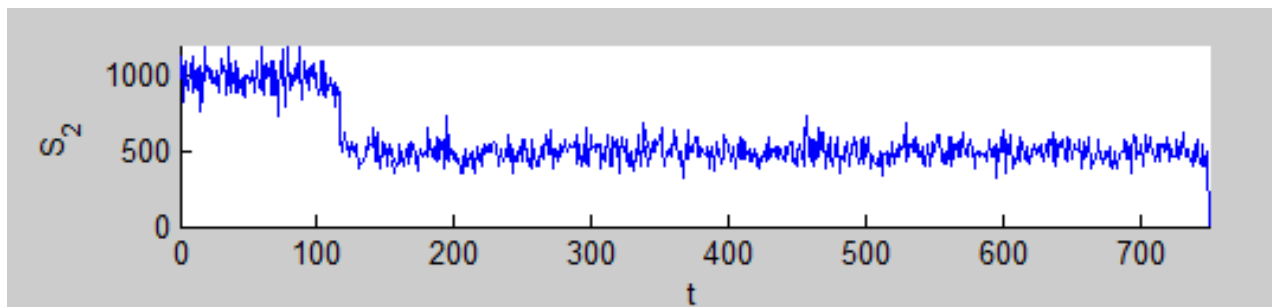
## STATE OF THE ART



**Shielding factor  
0.8**



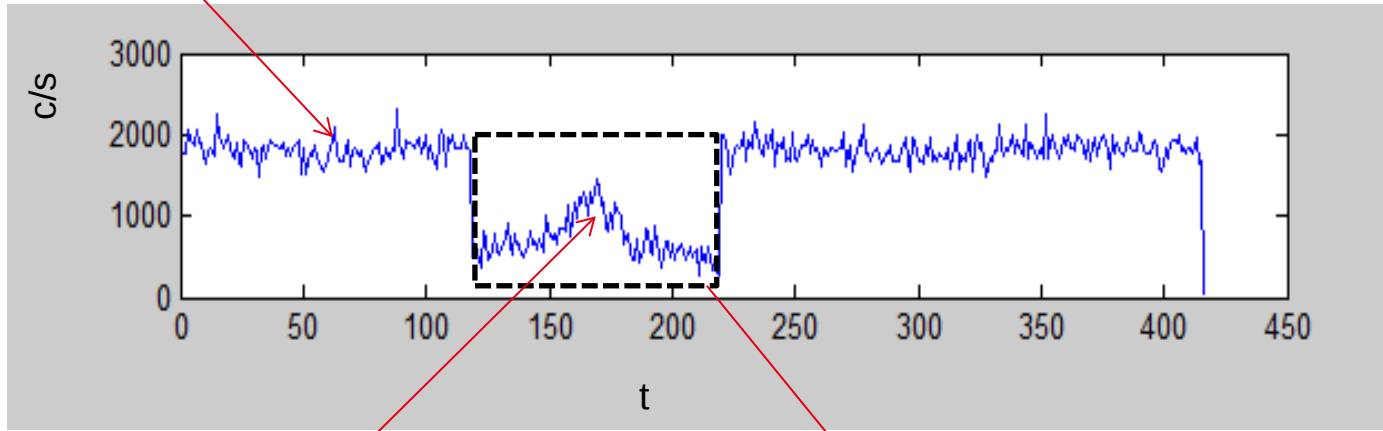
**Shielding factor  
0.7**



**Shielding factor  
0.5**

## STATE OF THE ART

Background baseline



Source signal

Auto shielding effect

CEA LIST developed an approach based on time correlation technics in order to:

- Minimize false alarm number
- Increase detection level
- Achieve no background dependency
- Speed estimation





**CONTEXT**

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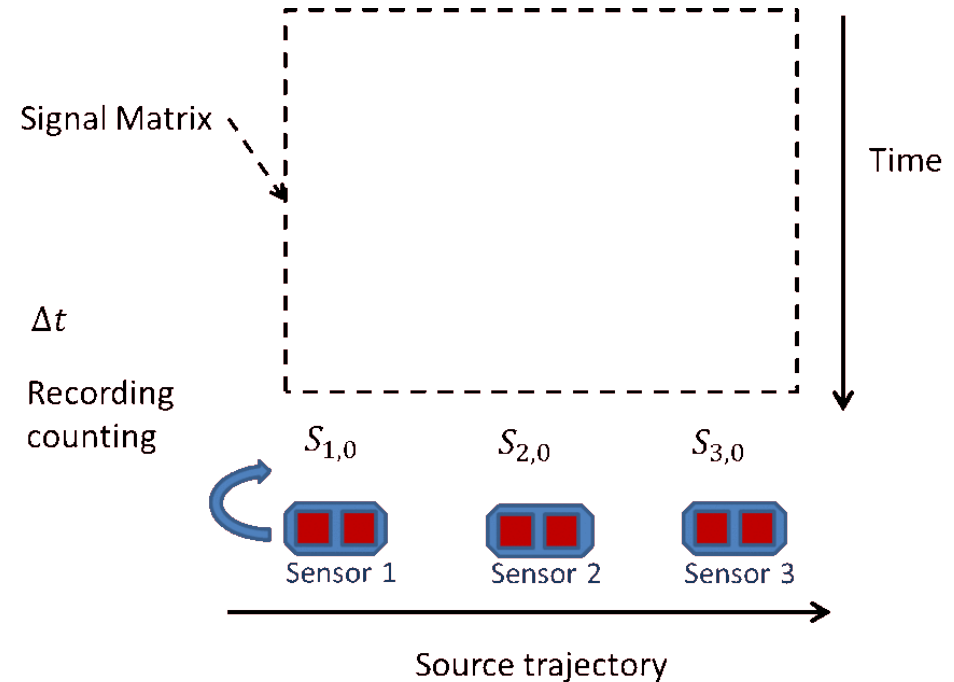
**METHOD**

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## METHOD

- **3 sensor units aligned** and separated by **constant distance** (eg. 2 m in our case)
- Radioactive source is supposed to move in a **constant direction**.
- Count rates from each sensor is **recorded in a memory**.

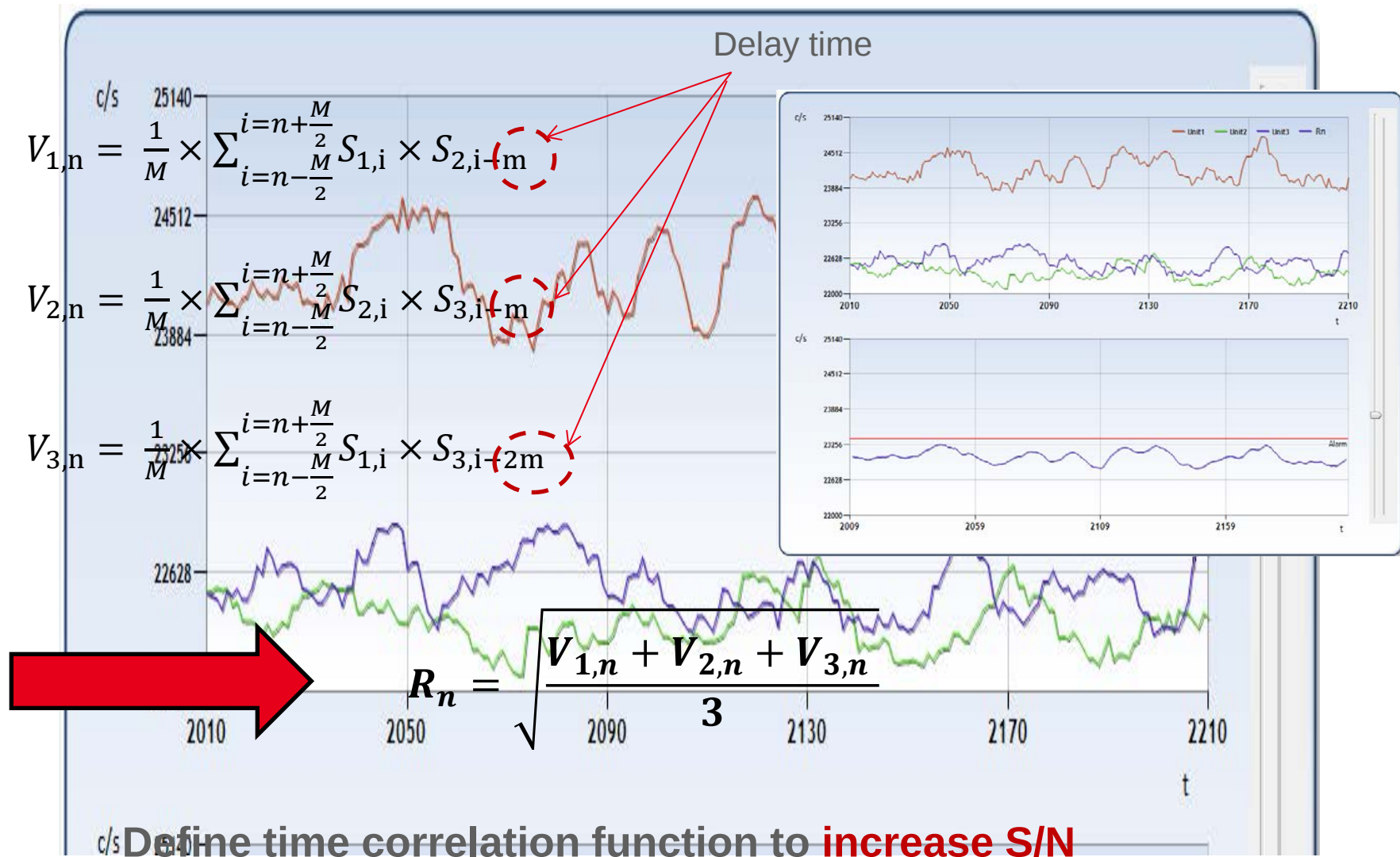


$$S_{i,t} = \begin{pmatrix} S_{1,1} & \dots & S_{1,5} & \dots & S_{1,M} \\ S_{2,1} & \dots & S_{2,5} & \dots & S_{2,M} \\ S_{3,1} & \dots & S_{3,5} & \dots & S_{3,M} \end{pmatrix}$$

sensor unit  
(or channel)

Oldest counting estimate      New counting estimate

## METHOD

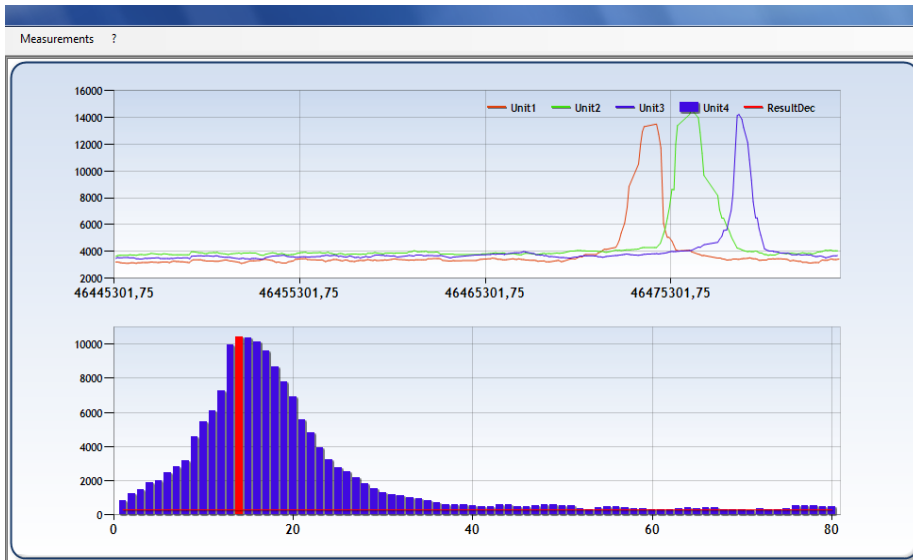


## METHOD

### HOW TO DETERMINE THE DETECTION LEVEL ?

For each new count rate value :

- Calculation of the correlation function for each delay time



For each delay time :

- Find the maximize of the correlation function.



$$R(v) - \bar{R} > k\sigma(\bar{R})$$



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## SYSTEM DESCRIPTION



2 plastic scintillation  
detectors EJ-200  
10x10x100cm



DAQ digitalization  
by 800MHz ADCs



Detection unit

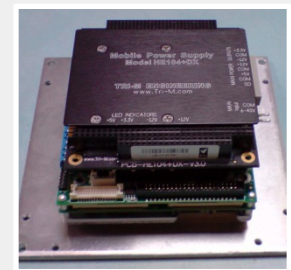
Command control



Ethernet switch



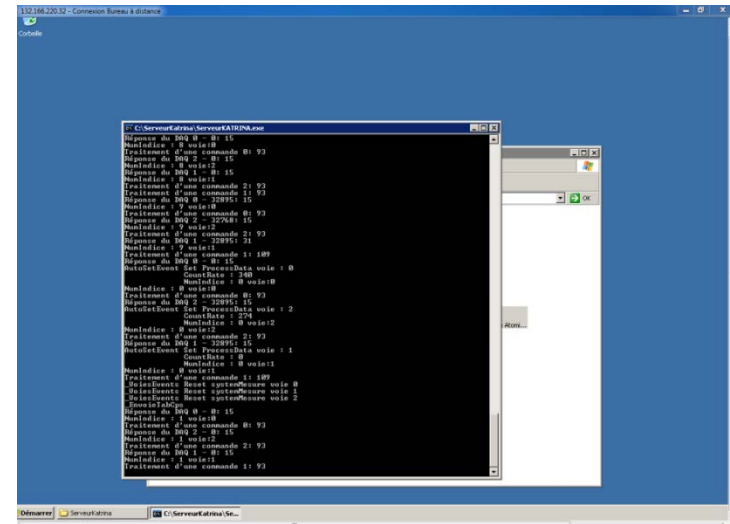
DC-UPS-System



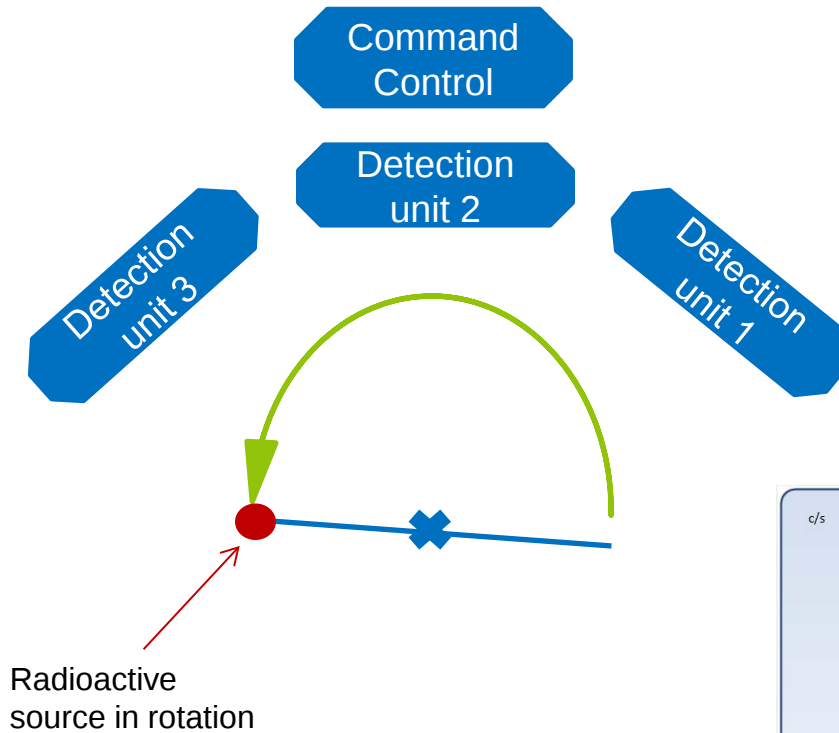
Embedded PC

# ANALYSIS SOFTWARE

- A client/server model
- Server (Embedded computer) for data collection and analysis
- Sampling period of 100ms
- Client (PC) for visualization
- Display in real time different data series and correlation result.



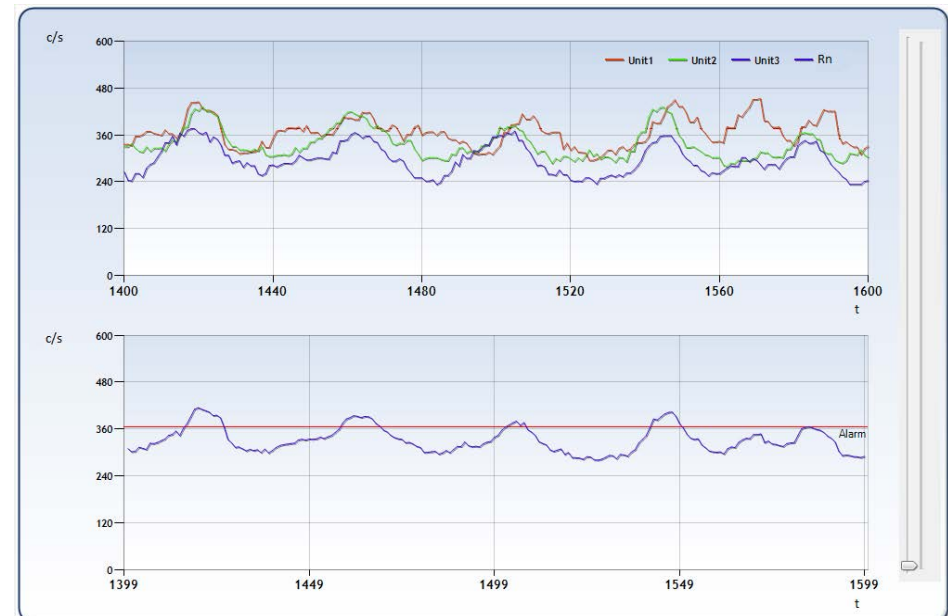
## DETECTION OF RADIOACTIVE SOURCES IN MOTION



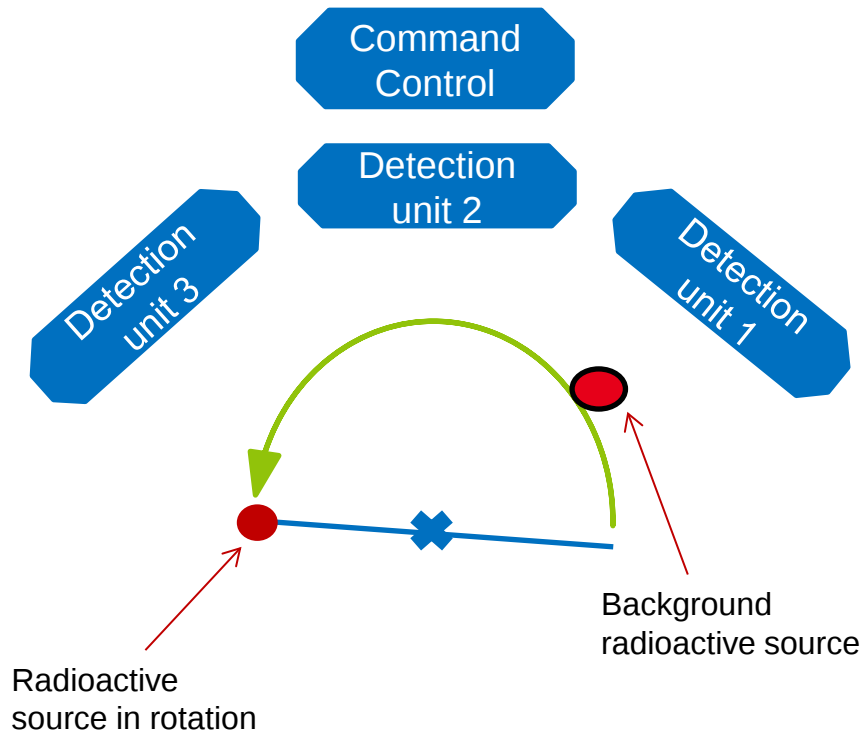
**Source in rotation or static: sensor signal is between 240 and 460 c/s**

**Correlation signal :**

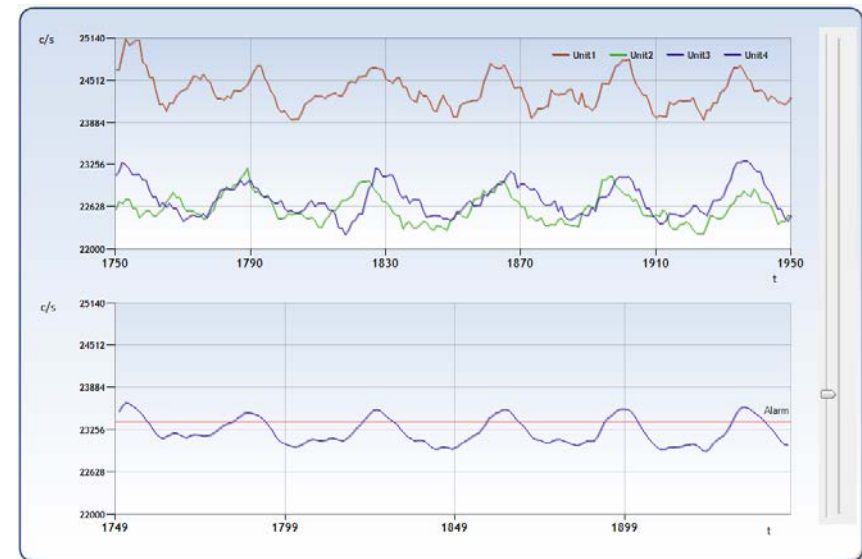
- Between 260 and 340 c/s without source
- between 260 and 400 c/s with source in rotation



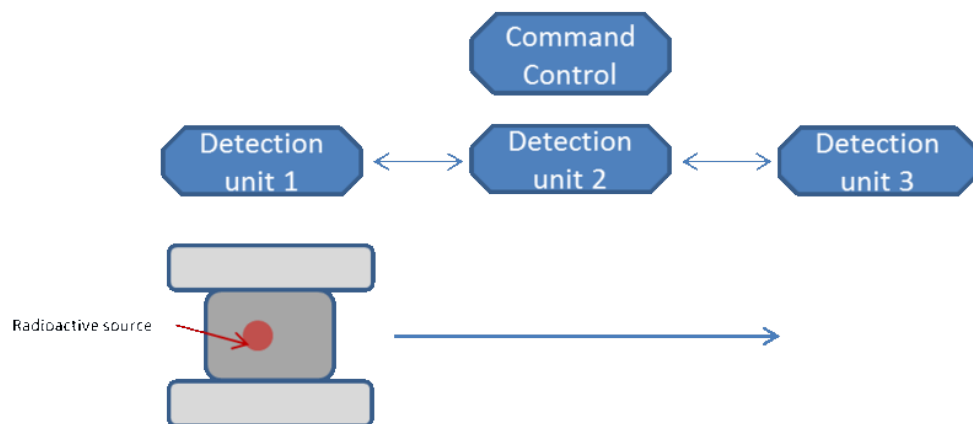
## DETECTION OF RADIOACTIVE SOURCES IN MOTION



**Even with a background noise the time correlation algorithm maintains a good statistic**



## TEST WITH A LINEAR MOVING SOURCE



## SECUR-ED PROJECT



SECured URban transportation - European Demonstration

Budget = 40 M€

EC Funding = 25 M€

Apr 2011 - Sep 2014

FP7-SEC-2010-1 - Security in Mass transportation

**THALES**

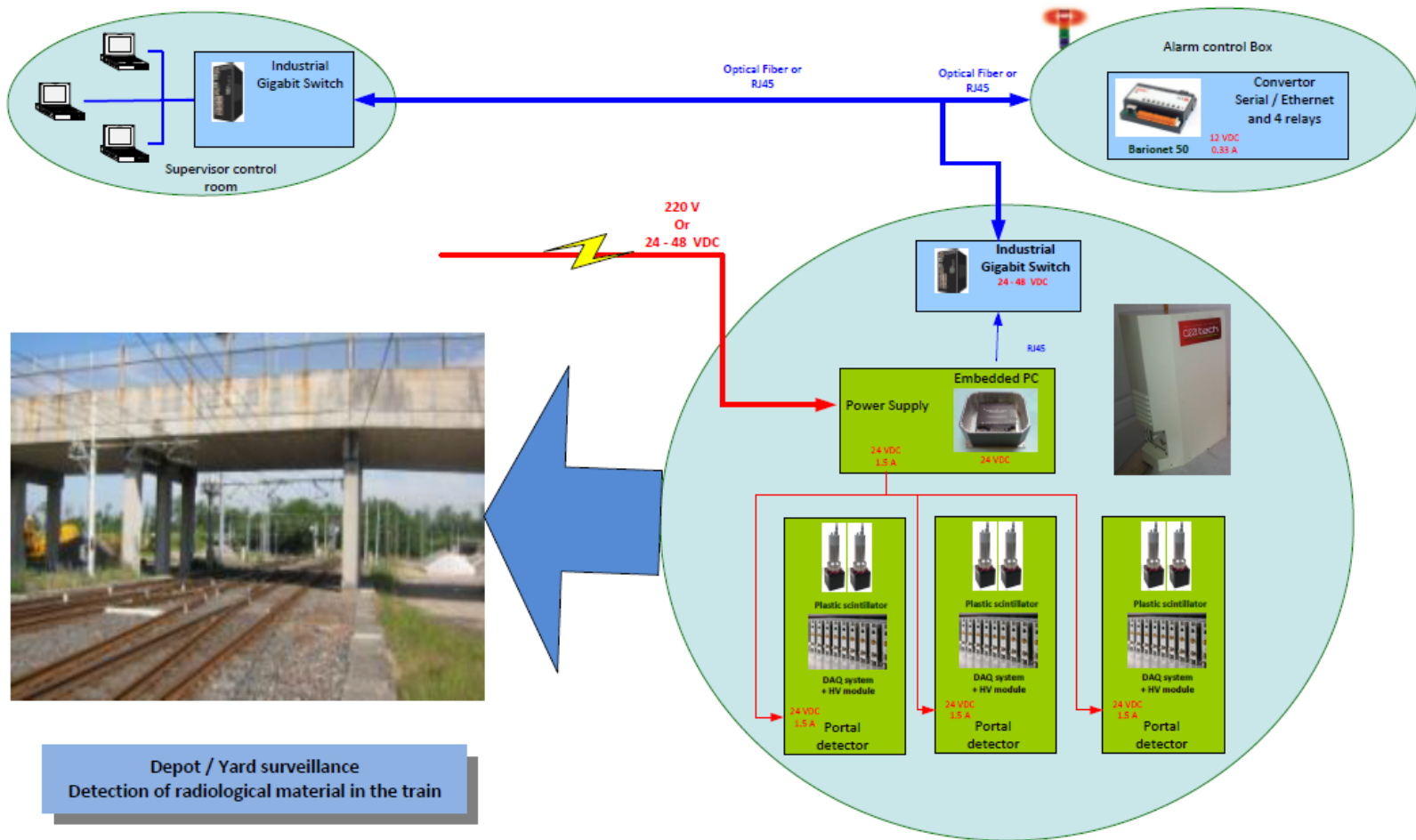
- Project coordinator



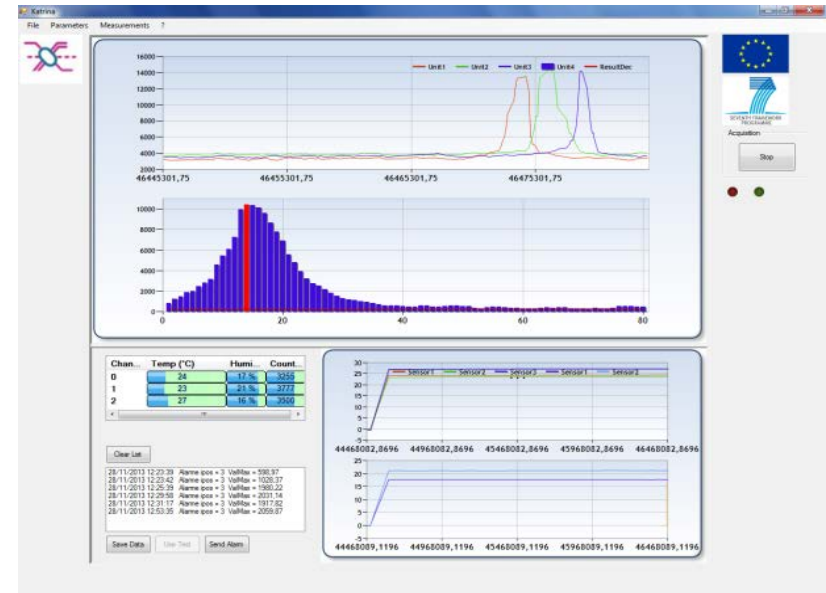
**Provides public transport operators of large and medium European cities with the means to enhance urban transport security**

**Enlarges mass transport security market for the European industry**

# DEMONSTRATION IN MILAN



# DEMONSTRATION IN MILAN



- Train speed : 25 km/h
- Position of radioactive : 1.5m from sensor units
- Dose rate of the radioactive source : <1μGy/h at 1 meter





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## CONCLUSION

## CONCLUSION

- The false alarm rate decreases with the number of sensor units
- This approach was tested with 2 and 3 sensor units and confirms the gain of detection (and false alarm reduction)
- Preliminary results in our labs and on site confirm the gain of the time correlation approach
- Next study, this approach can be tested with other type of detectors and situation (for example detection of contamination in a pipe with a sensor network)

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION



Commissariat à l'énergie atomique et aux énergies alternatives  
Centre de Saclay | 91191 Gif-sur-Yvette Cedex

Etablissement public à caractère industriel et commercial | RCS Paris B 775 685 019

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