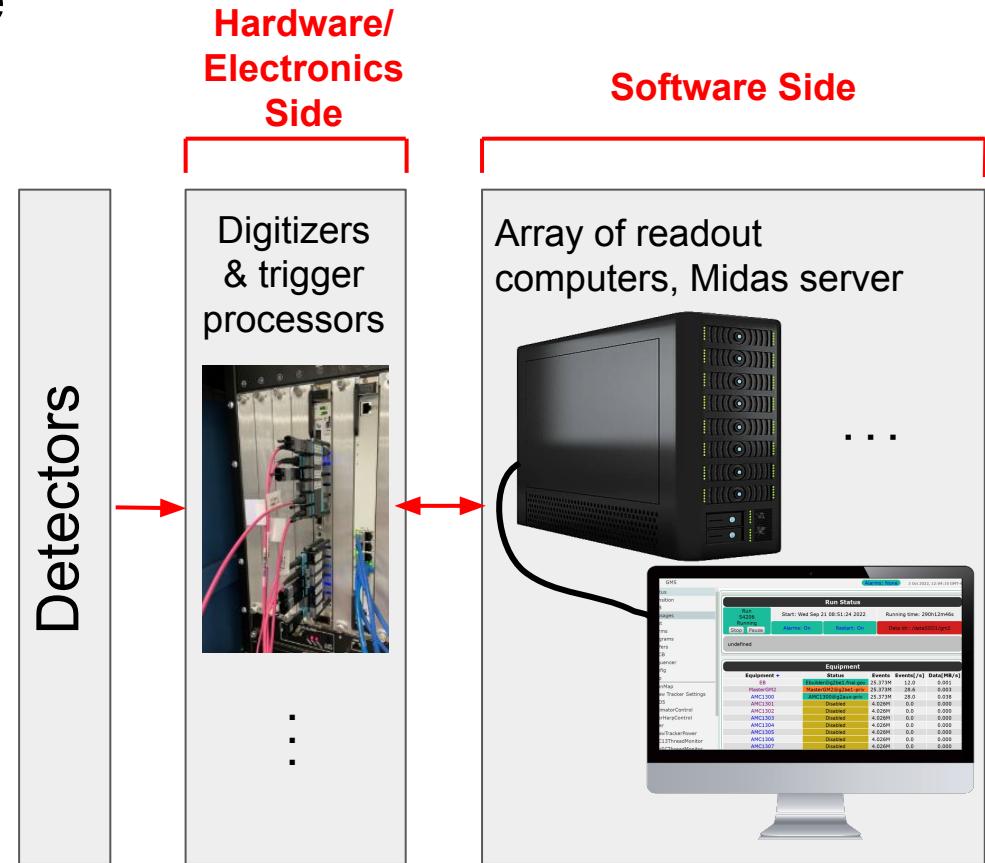


# PIONEER DAQ

Jack Carlton  
University of Kentucky  
June 19th, 2024

# Hardware vs. Software Side

- Usually “DAQ” refers to the “software side” (i.e. MIDAS and related tools)
  - Loosely used for hardware (electronics) side as well
- I like to differentiate between the software and hardware sides

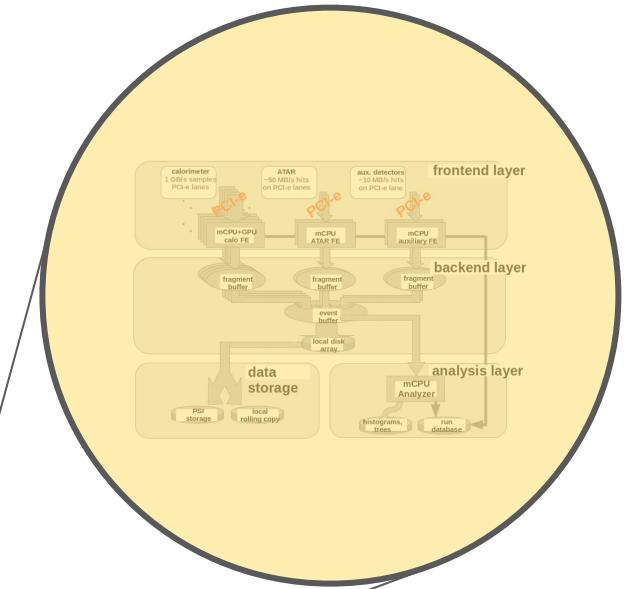
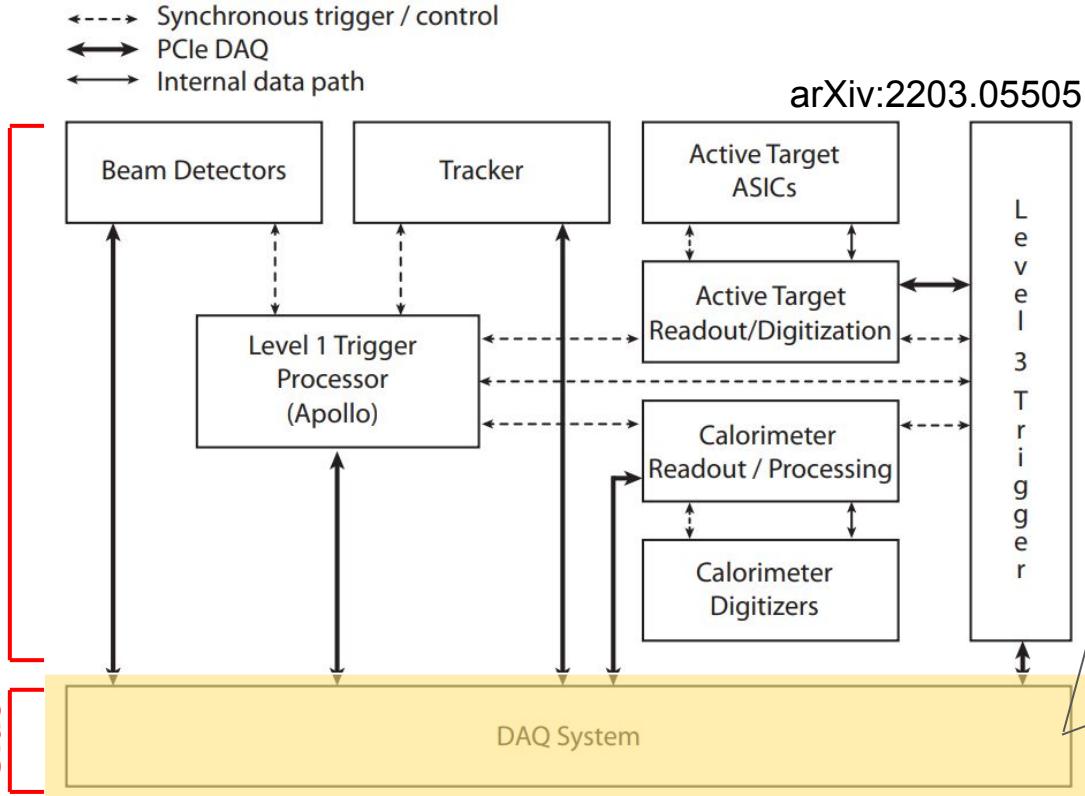


# Proposed Data Acquisition (DAQ) Framework

↔ Synchronous trigger / control  
↔ PCIe DAQ  
↔ Internal data path

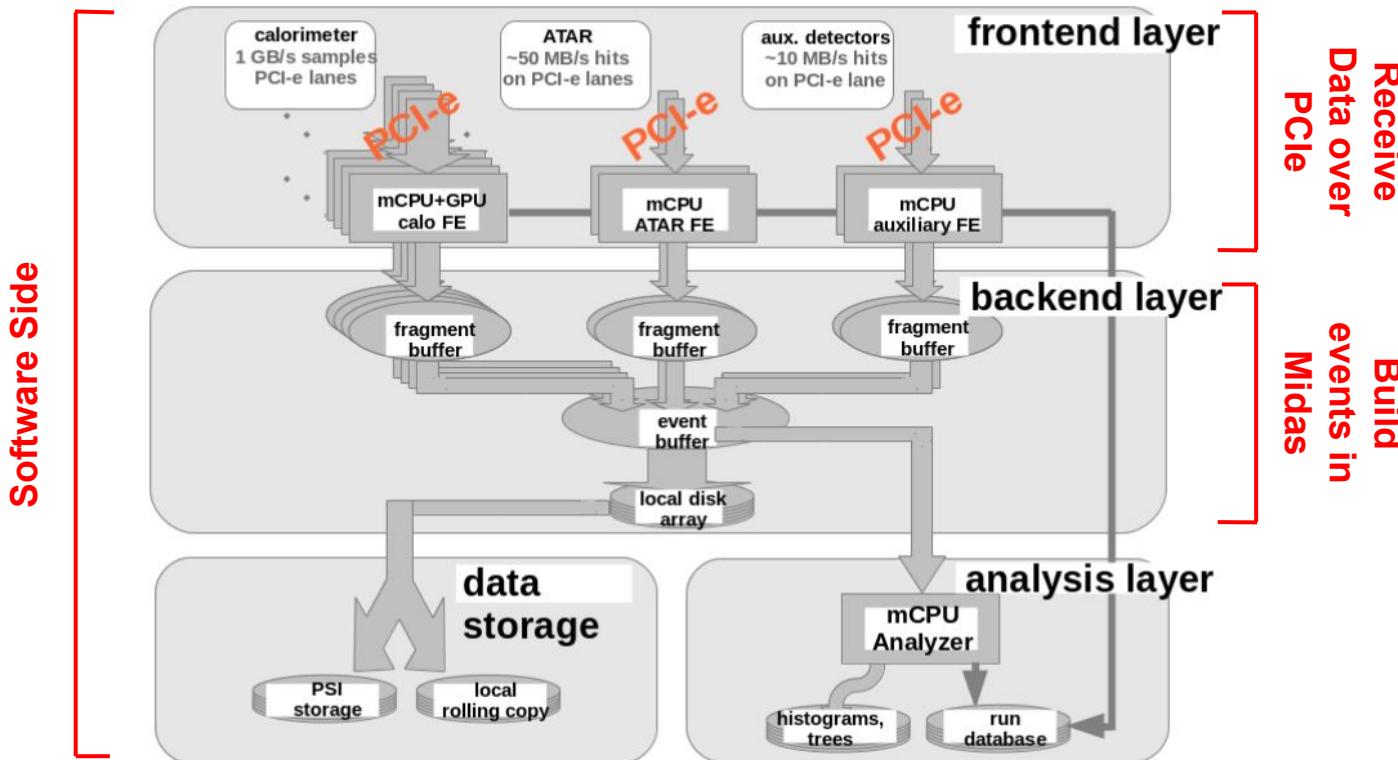
arXiv:2203.05505

Hardware Side  
SW Side



# Proposed Data Acquisition (DAQ) Framework

arXiv:2203.05505



# Data Rates

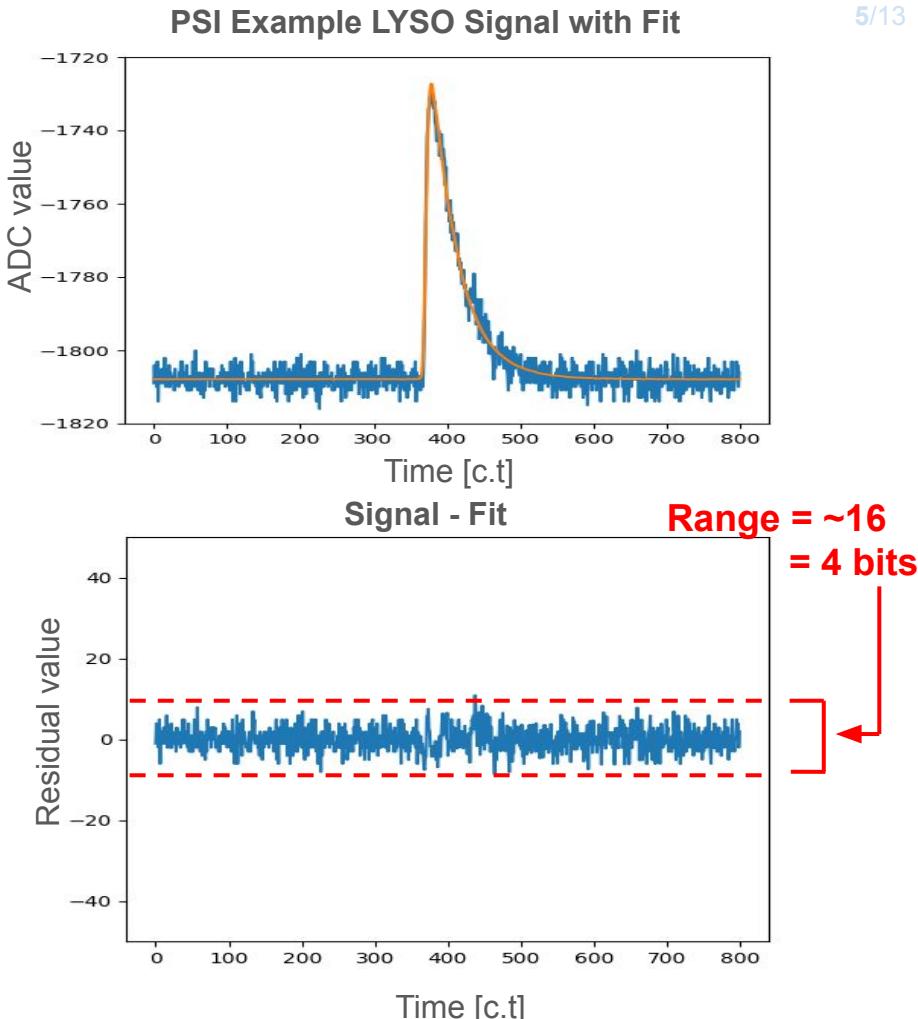
arXiv:2203.01981

triggers	prescale	range	rate	CALO			ATAR digitizer			ATAR high thres		
				TR(ns)	(kHz)	$\Delta T$ (ns)	chan	MB/s	$\Delta T$ (ns)	chan	MB/s	
PI	1000	-300,700	0.3	200	1000	120		30	66	2.4	20	0.012
CaloH	1	-300,700	0.1	200	1000	40		30	66	0.8	20	0.004
TRACK	50	-300,700	3.4	200	1000	1360		30	66	27	20	0.014
PROMPT	1	2,32	5	200	1000	2000		30	66	40	20	0.2

- PIONEER DAQ expects data rate of **~3.5GB/s**
- This is **~100,000 TB/year**
- How do we compress this in real time?
  - Fit data, store fit parameters
  - Compress and store residuals, throw some out
  - Graphics Processing Units (GPUs) used for this operation

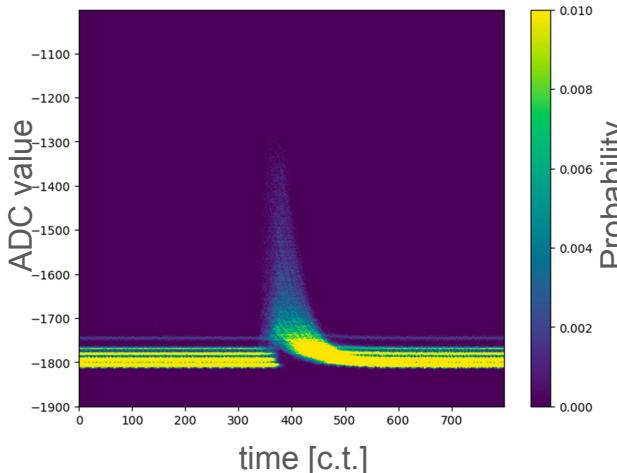
# Template Fitting

- Can construct a continuous template for our traces  $T(t)$
- Can fit traces using template:  
$$f(t) = A \cdot T(t - t_0) + B$$
- Storing unfit traces takes  $\sim 12$  bits per ADC sample
- Storing residuals takes  $\sim 4$  bits per ADC sample
- By fitting, we can compress the data by a **factor of  $\sim 3$**

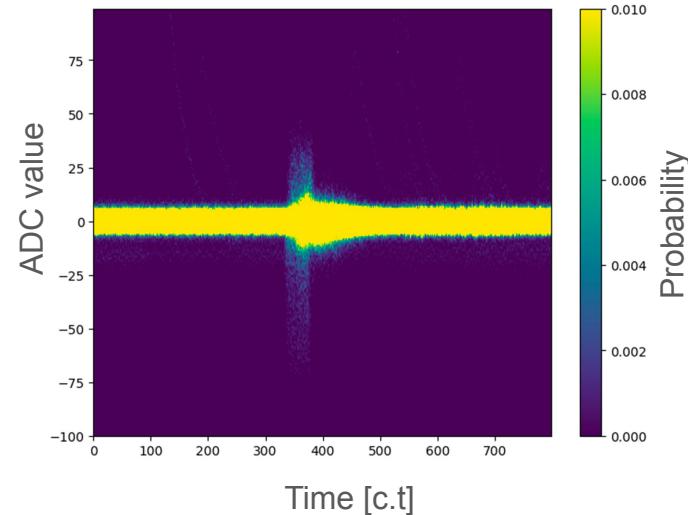


# Template Fitting

- Data from PSI test beam
- Each vertical slice corresponds to pdf  $p_i(x_i)$
- Template fit drastically reduces spread of data



Template fitting



# Theoretical Best Compression

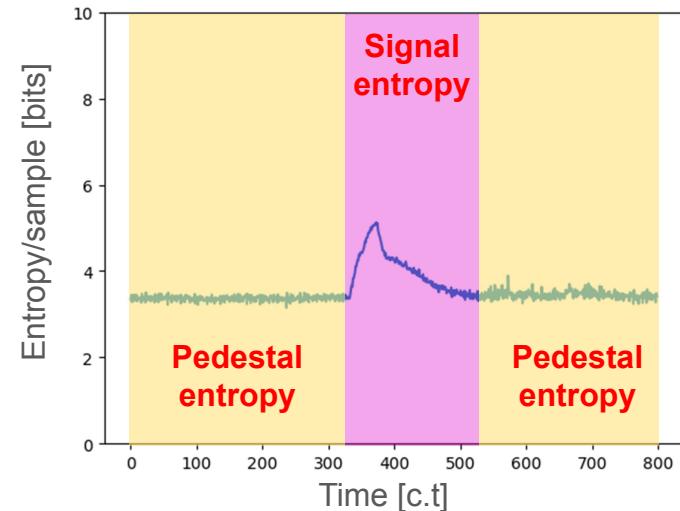
- For lossless compression, the best possible compression rate is the entropy rate
- Entropy rate of pedestal part of signal is **3.4 bits per ADC sample**
  - A perfect fit would reduce signal to pedestal noise
- Best possible data storage rate  $3.5 \text{ GB/s} \rightarrow \sim 1 \text{ GB/s}$ 
  - Assumes similar noise to PSI test beam data
- Realistically the data storage rate depends how good our fit is
  - Assuming entropy rate of  $\sim 5$  bits/sample  $3.5 \text{ GB/s} \rightarrow \sim 1.5 \text{ GB/s}$

Entropy Rate Formula

$$H(X_i) = \sum_{\text{traces}} p(X_i) \log_2 (p(X_i))$$

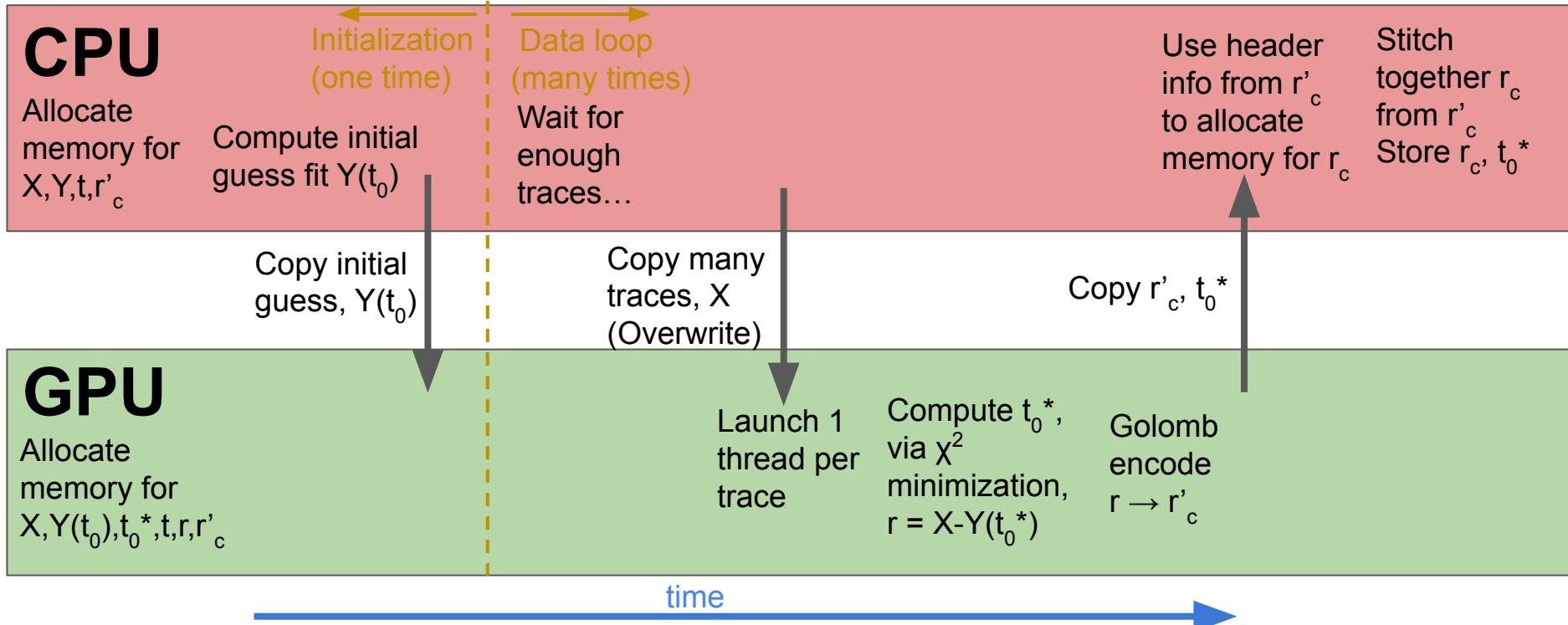
$X_i \equiv$  Random variable for  $i^{\text{th}}$  ADC sample

Entropy Rate of PSI Test Beam Data  
After Fitting



# Real Time Compression Algorithm

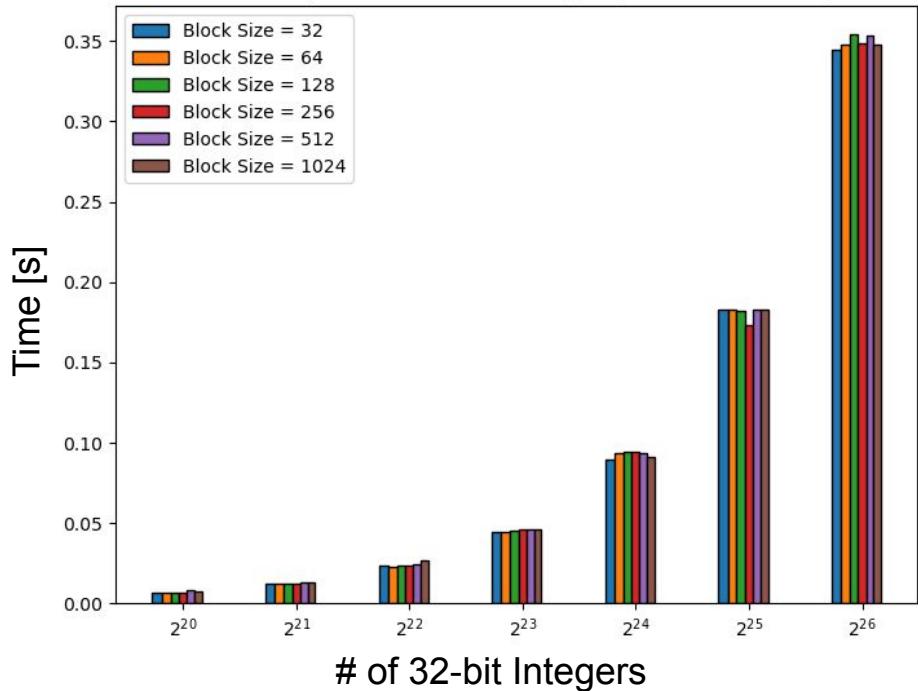
- We choose to let the FE's GPU and CPU handle compression for flexibility



# GPU Benchmarking (Timings)

- Block Size:
  - A GPU parameter, number of threads per multiprocessor
- Can compress  $2^{26}$  integers (32-bit) in roughly  $\frac{1}{3}$  of a second.  
→ ~ **0.8 GB/s** compression rate

Fit + Compression Time using A5000 in PCIe4  
(Batch Size = 1024)

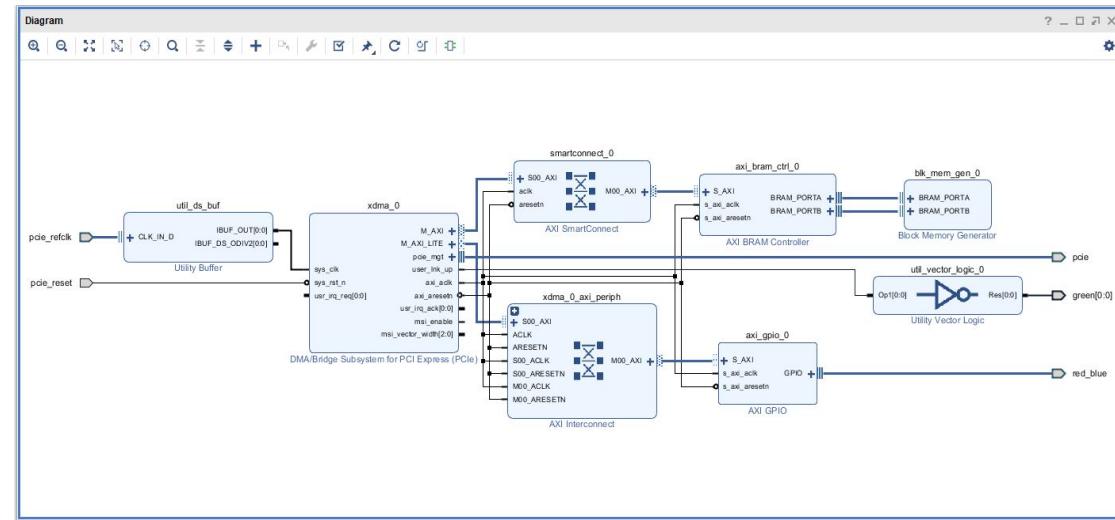


# PCIe DMA Data Transfer

- Testing using a PCIe development board
  - Tested on PCIe2 x4
- Using Vivado IP blocks, we can create PCIe DMA design



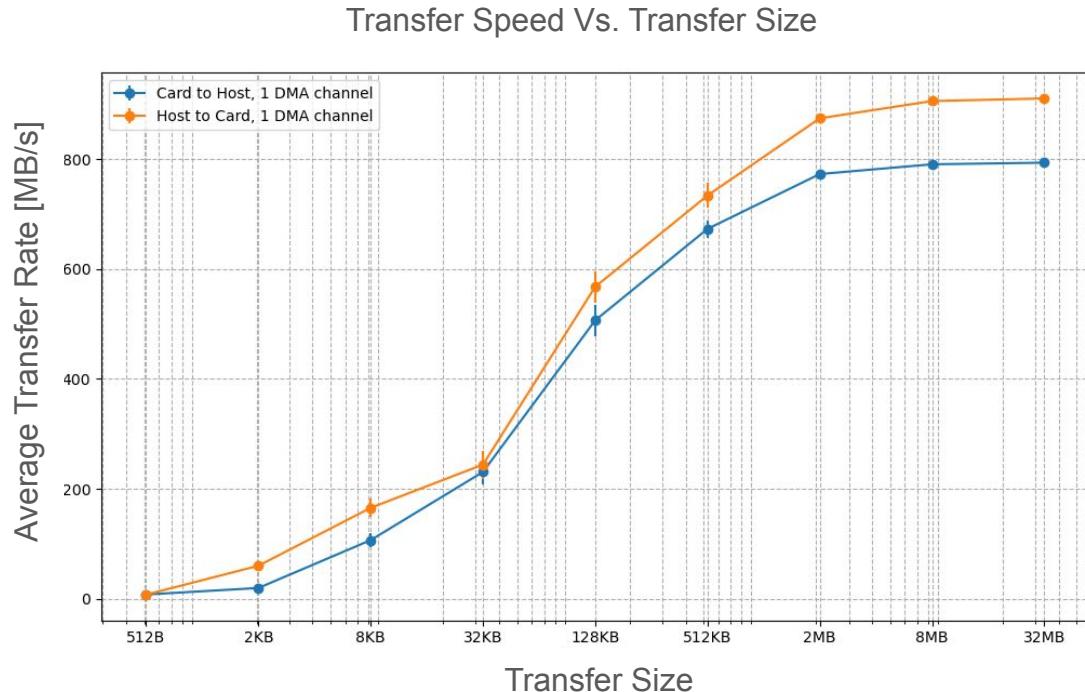
**Nereid K7 PCI Express FPGA Development Board**



**Example block diagram (made in Vivado) for a PCIe FPGA**

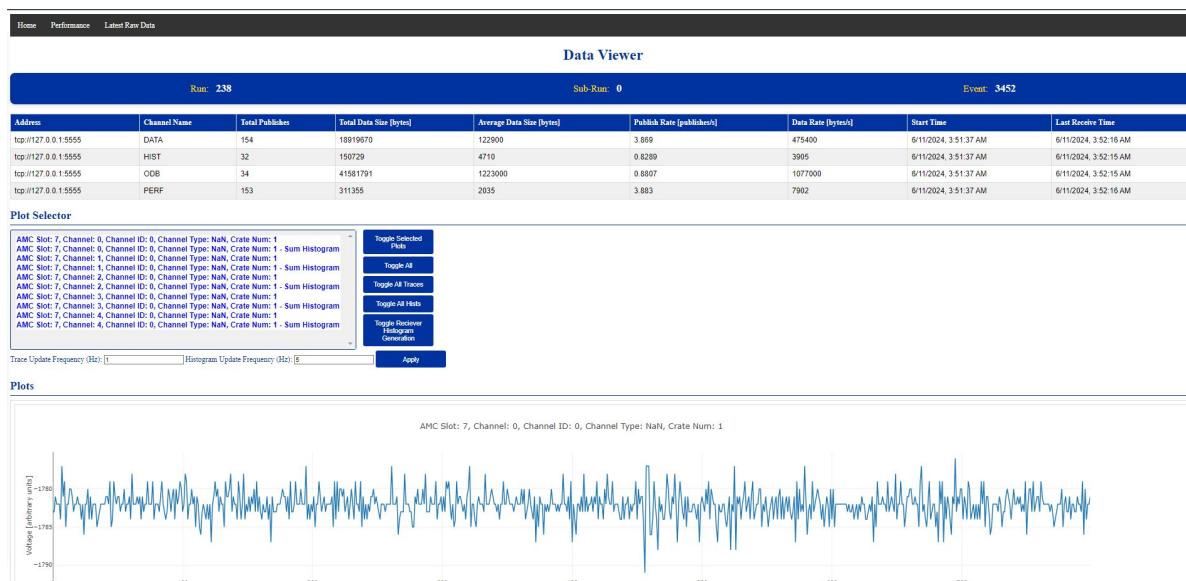
# PCIe DMA Data Transfer

- Speeds here are limited by the board's transfer rate
  - Board can only handle 5GT/s (PCIe gen 2)
  - Expect faster for other boards
- Transfer rate ~1GB/s in ballpark of PIONEER rate (3.5 GB/s)
- Better to transfer in large packets



# Software Development

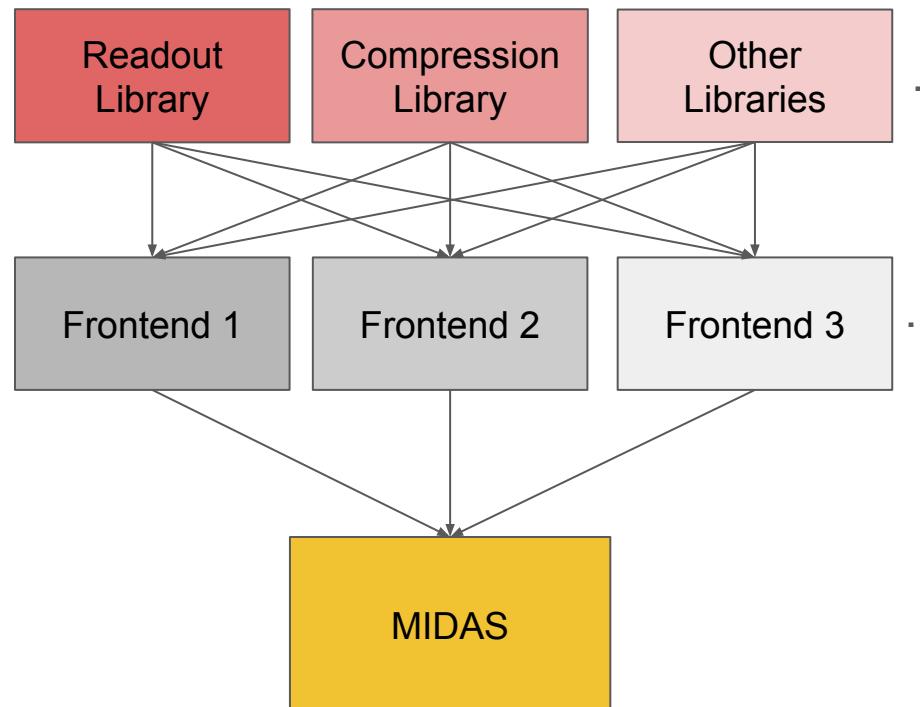
- Developed modular software working around midas
  - Useful for Calo test beam DAQ
  - Detached from Calo test beam DAQ, can be used with PIONEER DAQ
- Examples:
  - [Midas Event Unpacker](#)
  - [Midas Event Publisher](#)
  - [Generalized DQM](#)
  - [Computer System Monitor](#)



**Generalized DQM Webpage**

# Software Development Plan

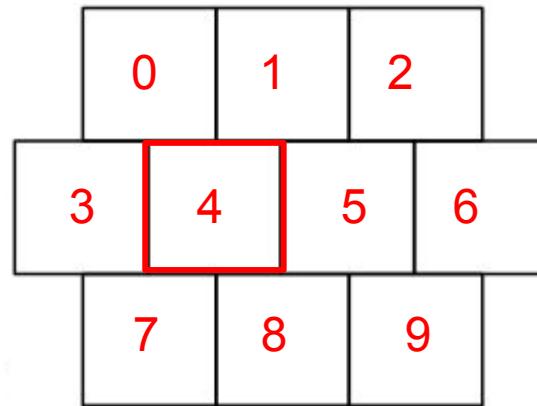
- Continue writing modular software
  - Will make experiment DAQ code much more manageable in the future
- Write PCIe readout libraries usable for PIONEER
- Write compression libraries usable for PIONEER
- Write midas frontend to read data out of FPGA over PCIe
  - Rate test, compression test



# Auxiliary Slides

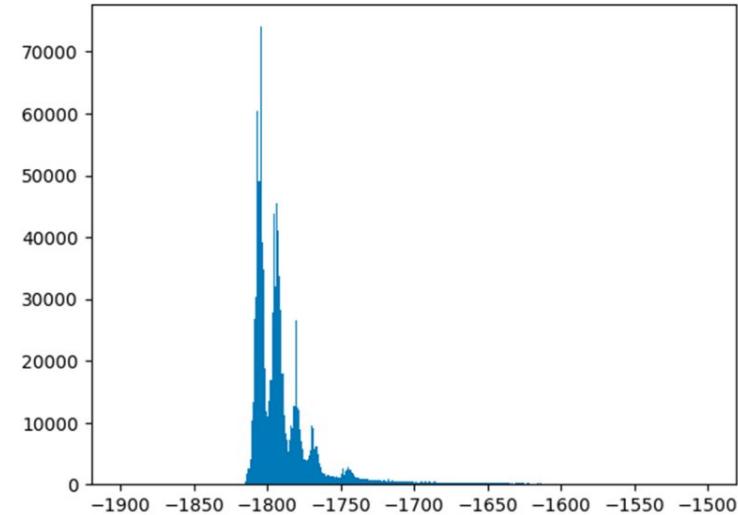
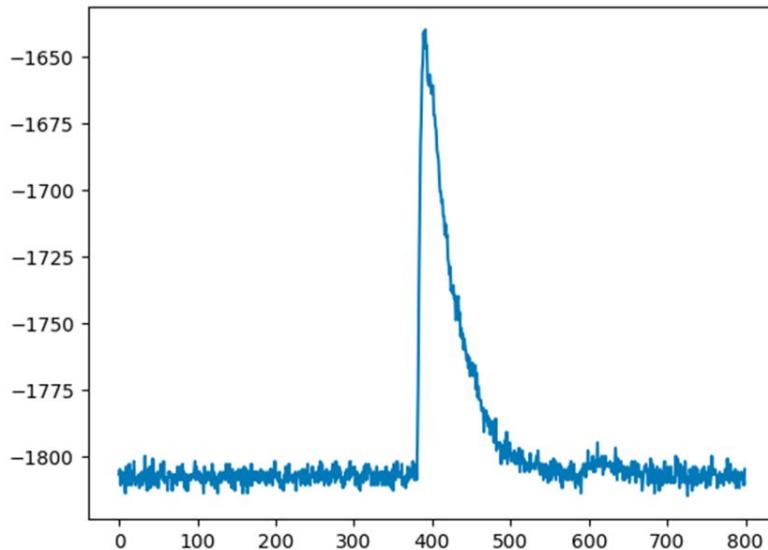
# Data Set

- PSI Test beam, Run 1887
- 70 MeV/c centered on LYSO crystal
- 4.
- The data only includes lyso channels (no NaI for instance)
- More details on that run are in this elog  
(<https://maxwell.npl.washington.edu/elog/pienuxe/R23/124>)



# LYSO traces

- Select only LYSO channels and traces with a signal
- No pedestal subtraction, fitting, etc. (yet)



# Entropy and Lossless Compression

- For lossless compression, the best possible compression rate is the entropy rate

- To first order, the entropy of an entire trace is:

$$H(X_1, \dots, X_n) = - \sum_{\text{traces}} p(X_1, \dots, X_n) \log_2(p(X_1, \dots, X_n))$$

- $X_i$  is the random variable for the ADC value of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  sample in the trace with  $n$  samples

- If we assume  $X_i$  independent, then

$$H(X_1, \dots, X_n) = H(X_1) + \dots + H(X_n)$$

- By transforming ( $X_i \rightarrow$  fit residuals),  $X_i$  becomes approximately independent

# Higher Order Entropy Estimations

- Assume we have N characters (traces) in our alphabet (data set)

- **Zero order:** each character in alphabet  $H = \log_2(N)$  is statistically independent

- **First order:** each character in alphabet is statistically independent,  $p_i$  is the probability of that character to occur 
$$H = - \sum_{i=1}^N p_i \log_2(p_i)$$

- **Second order:**  $P_{j|i}$  is correlation between subsequent characters 
$$H = - \sum_{i=1}^N p_i \sum_{j=1}^N P_{j|i} \log_2(P_{j|i})$$

- **General Model (impractical):**  $B_n$  represents the first n characters 
$$H = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ -\frac{1}{n} \sum p(B_n) \log_2(B_n) \right]$$

# Joint Entropy, Mutual Information

$$H(X_1, \dots, X_n) \leq H(X_1) + \dots + H(X_n)$$

Equality only holds if

$X_1, \dots, X_n$  are mutually statistically independent

This means if

$$I(X_1, X_2) = H(X_1) + H(X_2) - H(X, Y) = 0$$

Then we must have  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  be statistically independent

# Joint entropy for Independent Variables Proof

**Statement:**

$$H(X_1, \dots, X_n) = \sum_{i=1}^n H(X_i)$$

**Proof (part 1):**

$$\begin{aligned} H(X_1, \dots, X_n) &= - \sum_{x_1, \dots, x_n} P(x_1, \dots, x_n) \log_2(P(x_1, \dots, x_n)) \\ &= - \sum_{x_1, \dots, x_n} P(x_1) \dots P(x_n) (\log_2(P(x_1)) + \dots + \log_2(P(x_n))) \end{aligned}$$

**(Note: I am lazy, each  $P(x_i)$  represents a different pdf in general)**

# Joint entropy for Independent Variables Proof

**Proof (part 2):**

$$H(X_1, \dots, X_n) = - \left( \sum_{x_1} P(x_1) \log_2(P(x_1)) \right) \left( \sum_{x_2} P(x_2) \cdot \dots \cdot \sum_{x_n} P(x_n) \right)$$

— ...

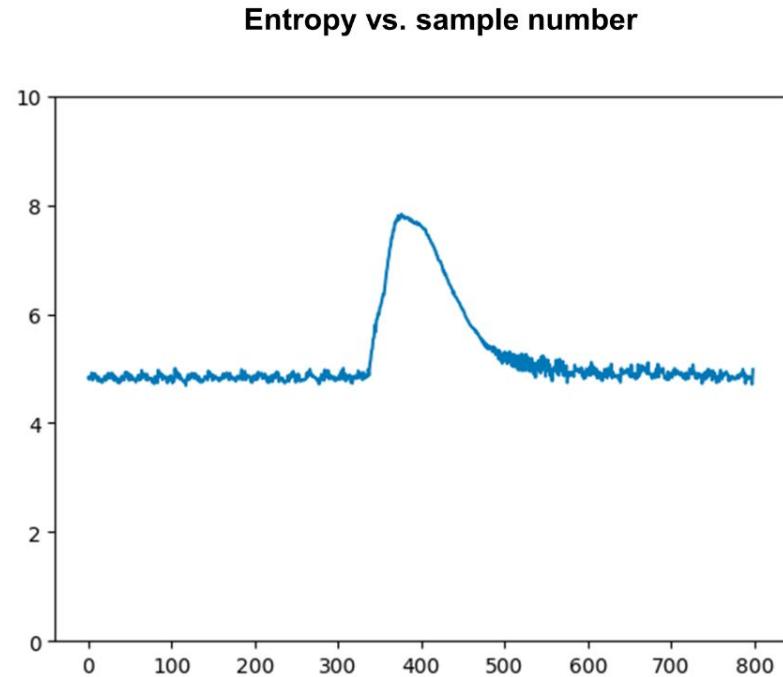
$$- \left( \sum_{x_1} P(x_1) \cdot \dots \cdot \sum_{x_{n-1}} P(x_{n-1}) \right) \left( \sum_{x_n} P(x_n) \log_2(P(x_n)) \right)$$

Note  $\sum_{x_i} P(x_i) = 1$  and  $\sum_{x_1} P(x_i) \log_2(P(x_i)) = H(X_i)$

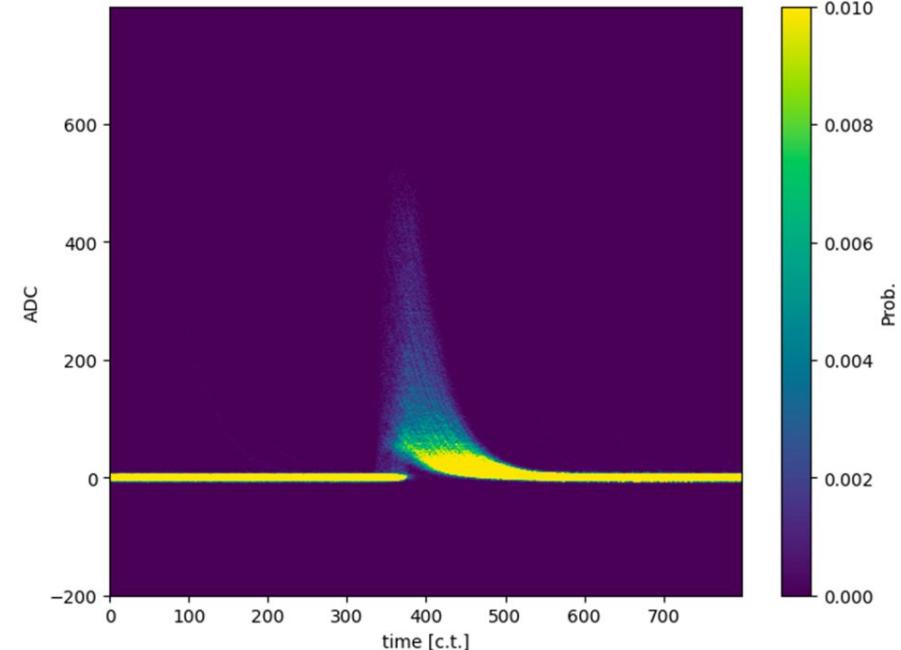
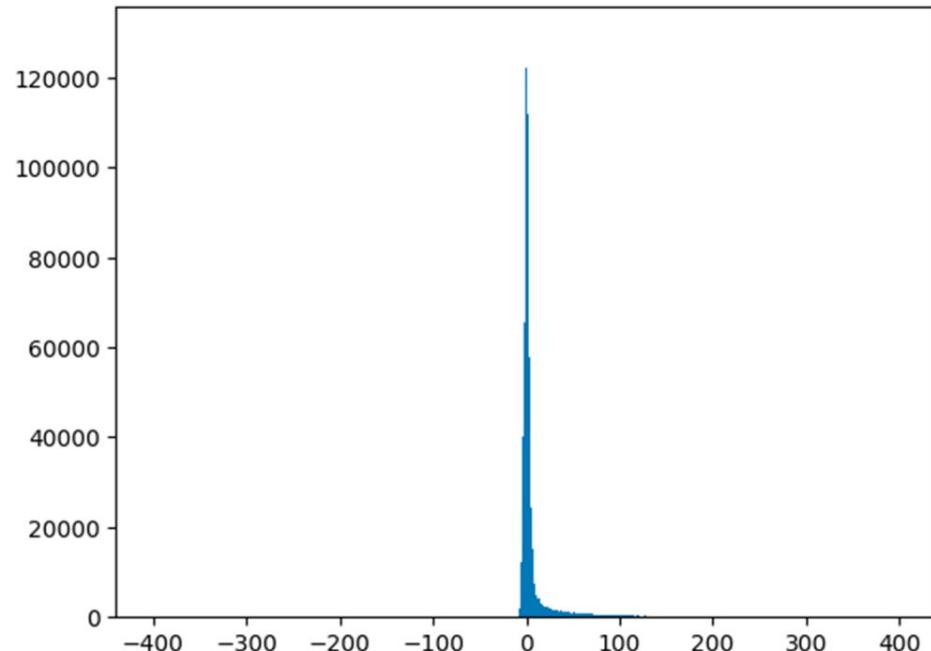
$$= H(X_1) + \dots + H(X_n) \blacksquare$$

# Entropy estimation

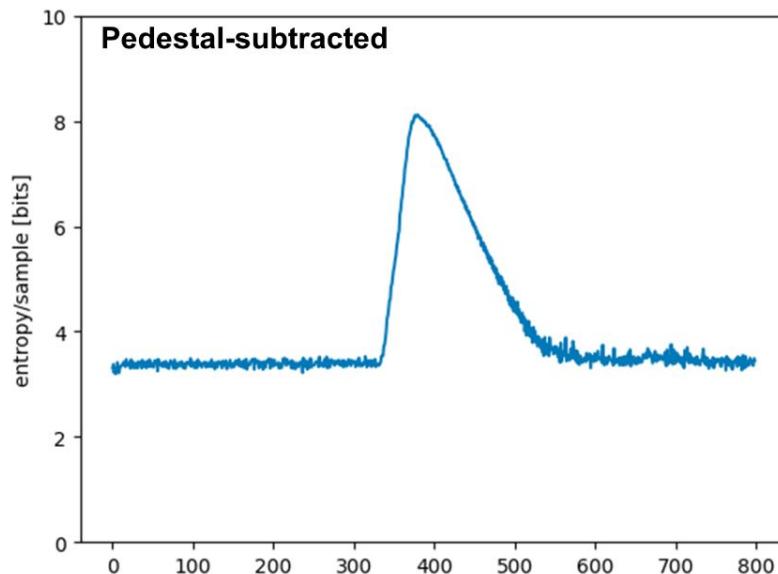
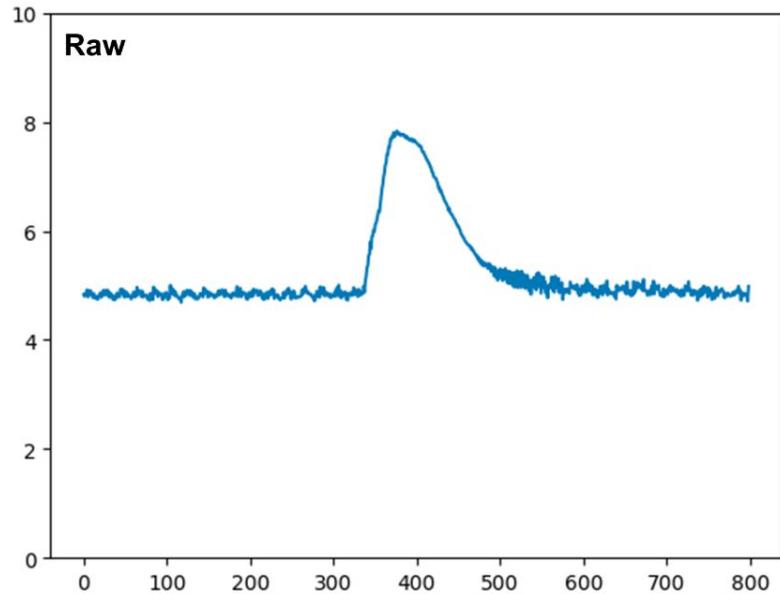
- Average entropy per bit: 5.22 bits / sample (compare to 16 bits for a short)
- Samples near waveform edge have lower entropy
- Samples near middle have higher entropy, due to the pulses
- Entropy is nonzero b/c the waveforms are **not** identical: difference pedestals, different pulse sizes



# Pedestal subtracted

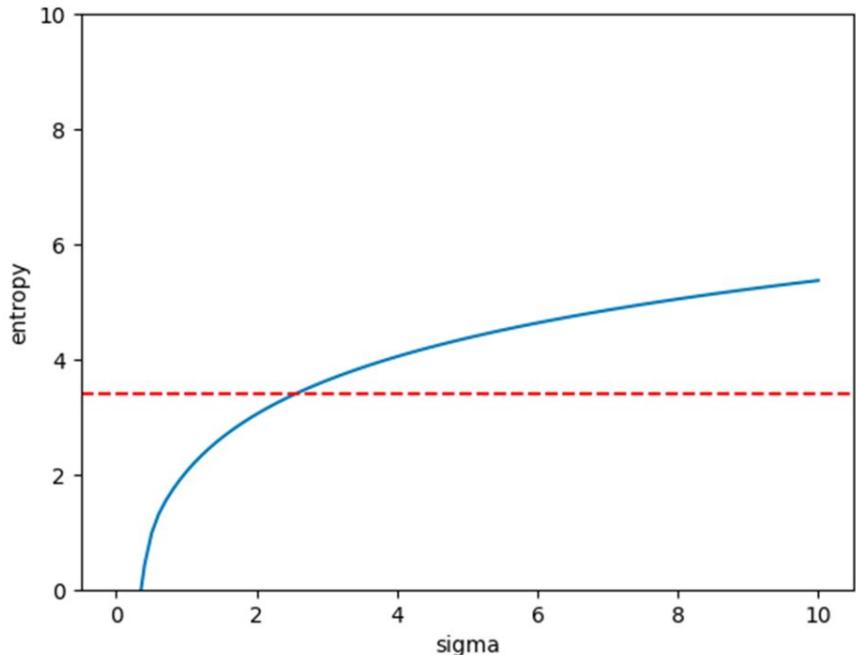


# Entropy estimation

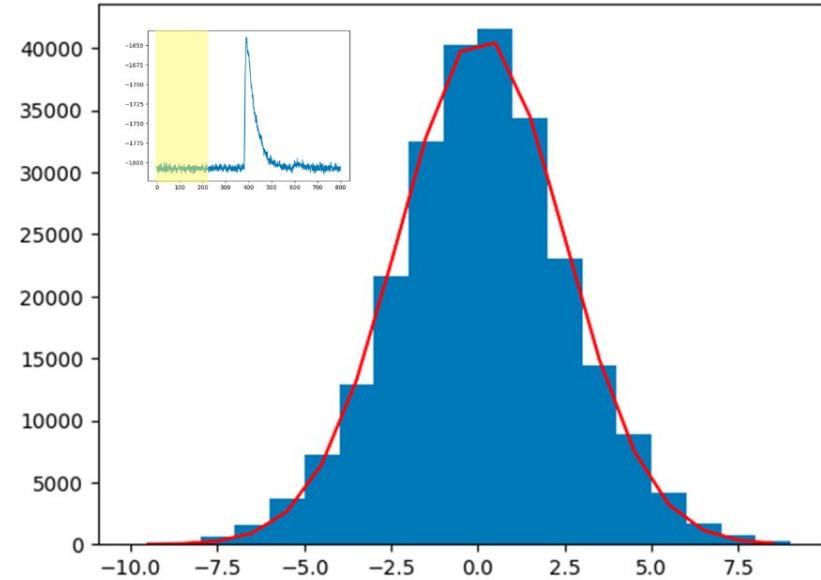


- Entropy reduced for samples near waveform edge: ~3.4 bits
- Average entropy per sample now: 4.05 bits/sample

# Discrete Gaussian entropy



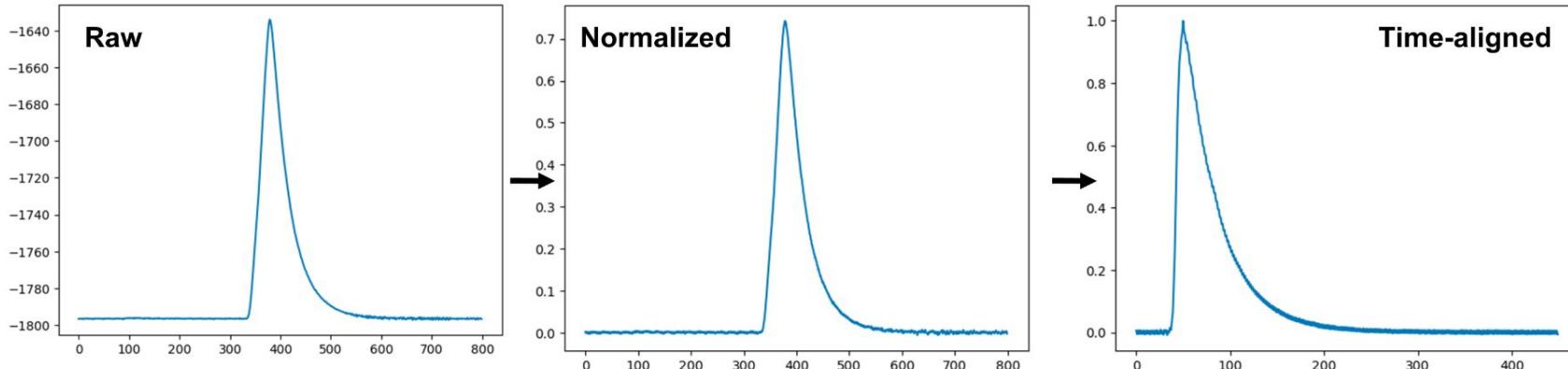
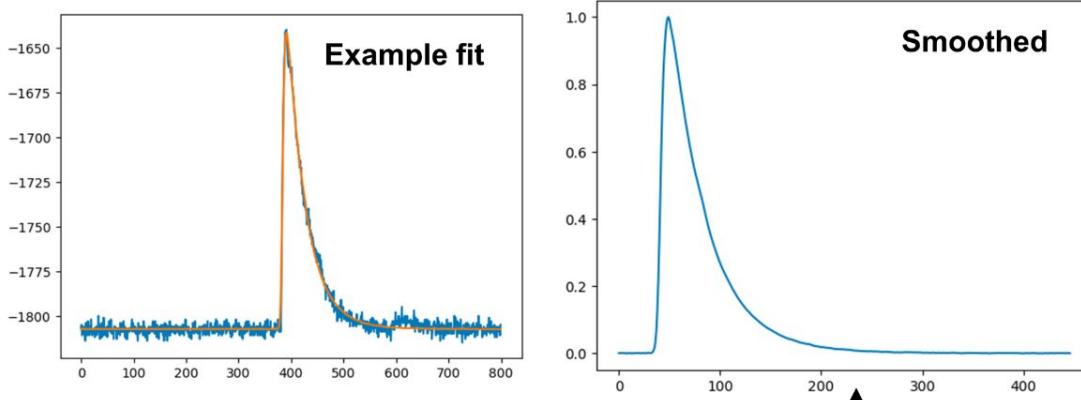
Distribution of ADC values for samples < 200



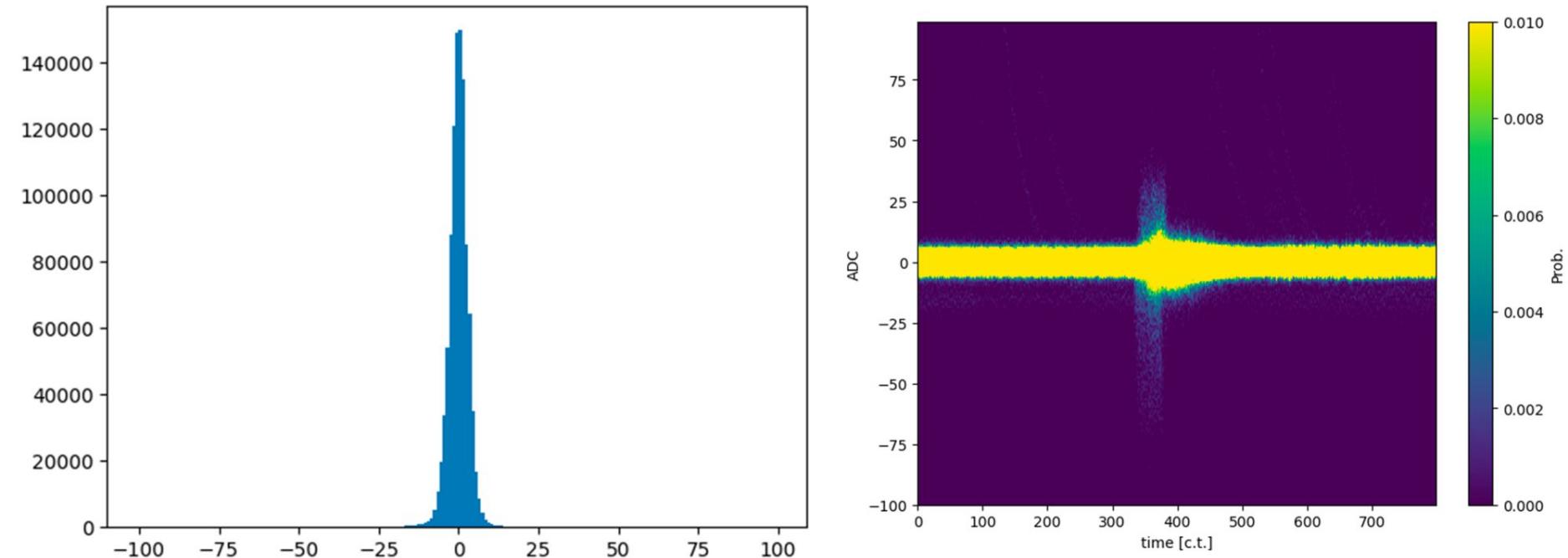
- If we assume gaussian noise: entropy of 3.4 bits  $\rightarrow \sigma = 2.6$
- If we look at samples < samples number 200 and fit ADC to gaussian:  $\sigma = 2.4$

# Template fit

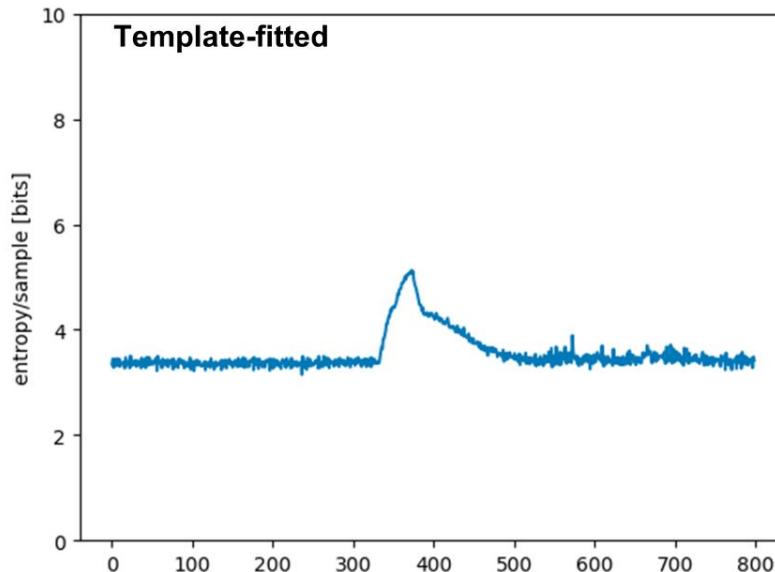
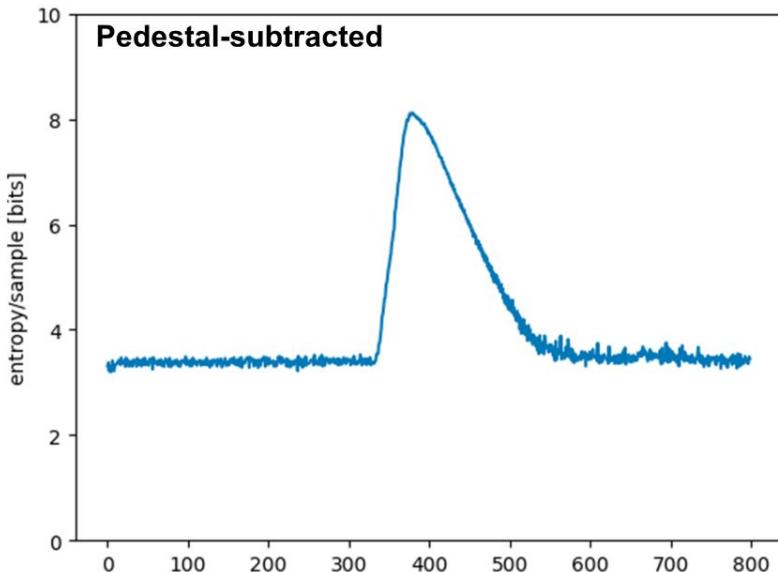
- Constructing a template
  - Normalized all traces
  - Time-align the peak
  - Smooth over adjacent sample
  - Fit with  $f(t) = A \cdot T(t - t_0) + C$



# Template fit

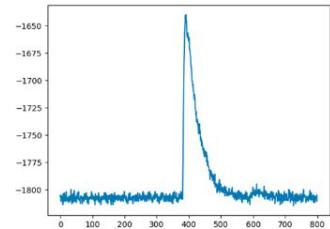


# Entropy estimation

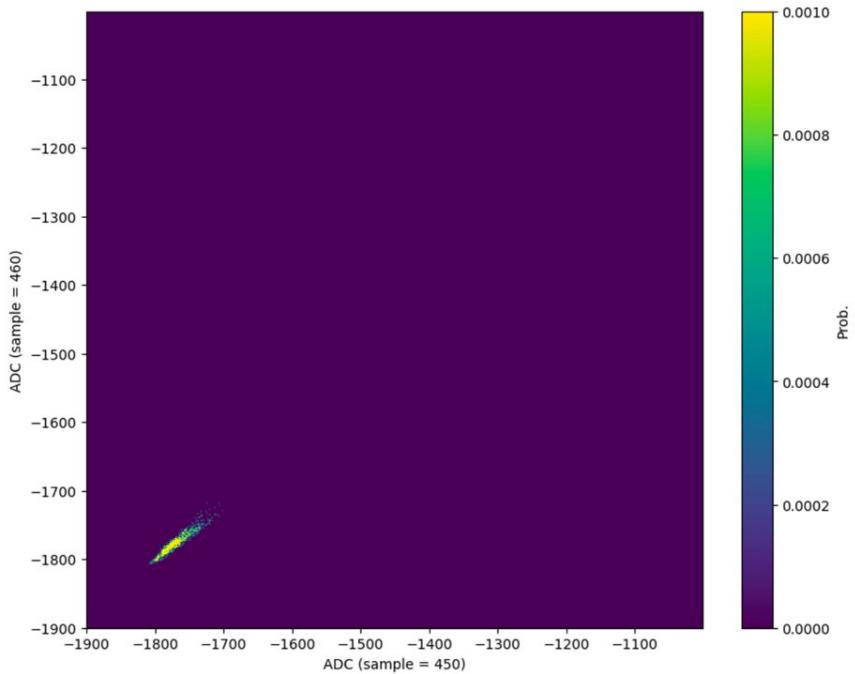


- Baseline hasn't changed much. Makes sense since fluctuations remain
- Peak in middle is reduced, but evidently we can still do better
- Average entropy per sample now: **3.55 bits/sample**

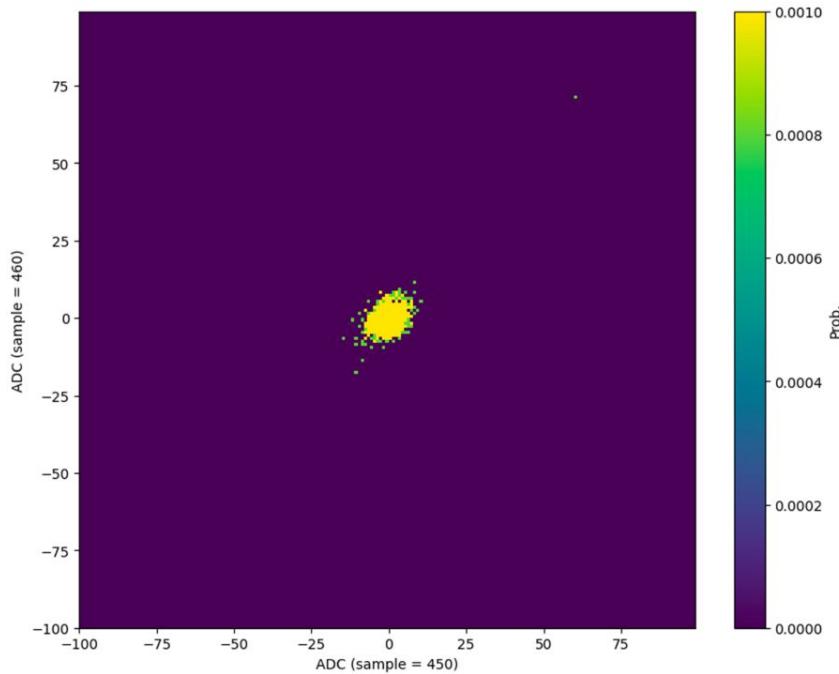
# Correlations



Raw

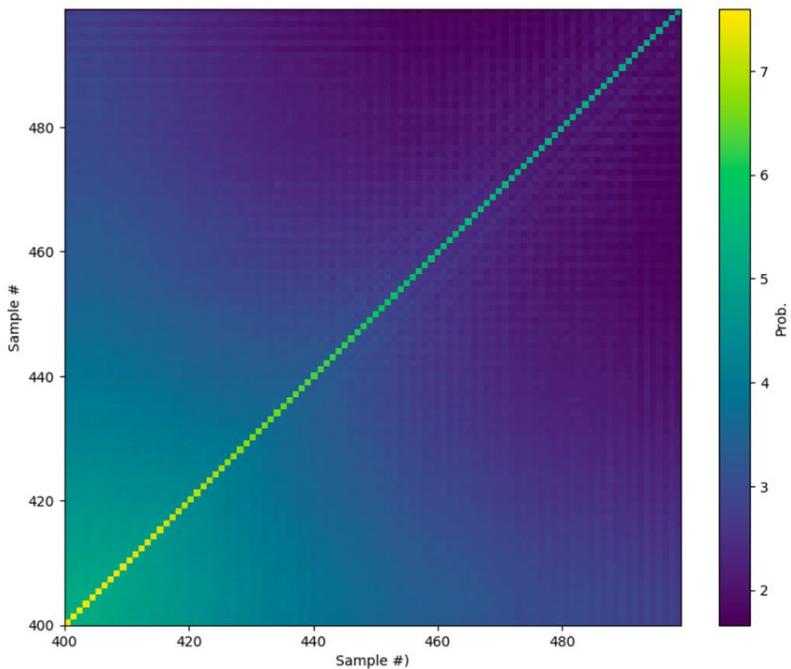


Templated-fitted

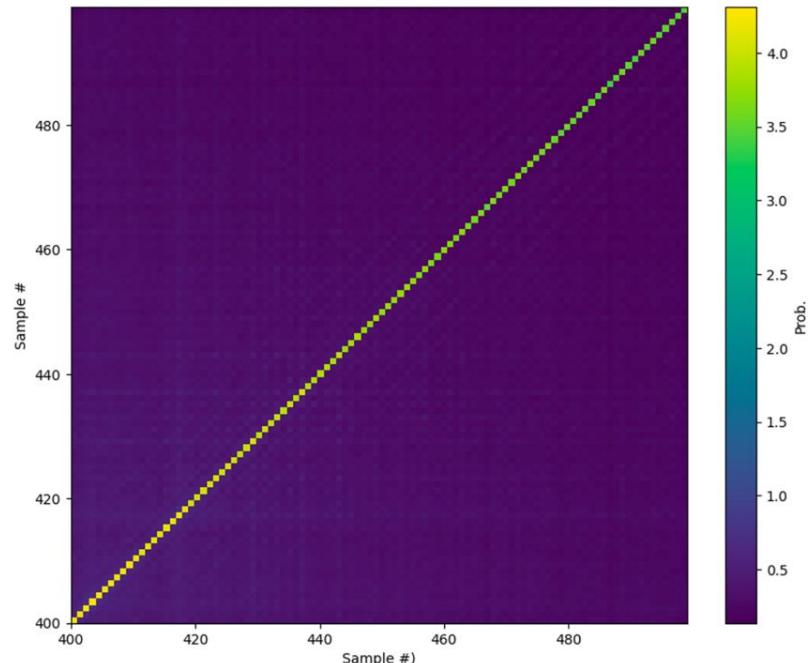


# Mutual Information

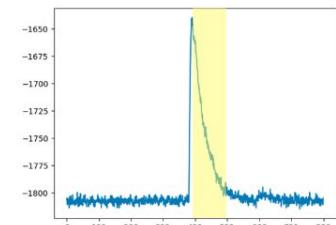
Raw



Templated-fitted

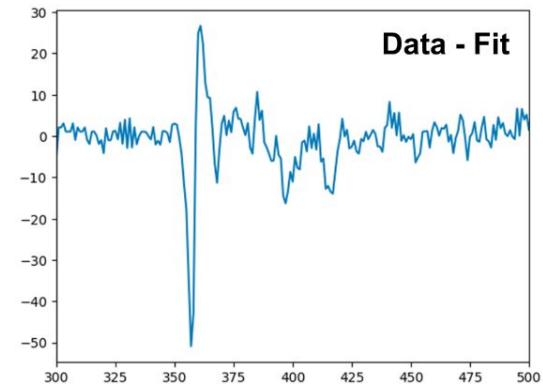
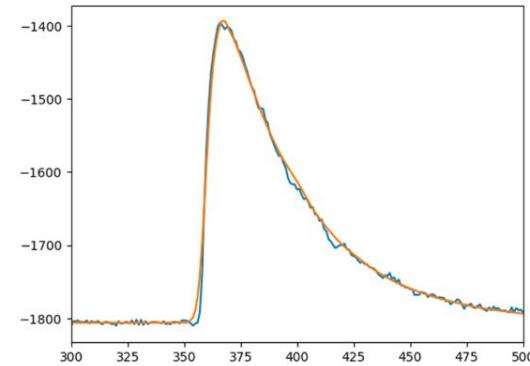
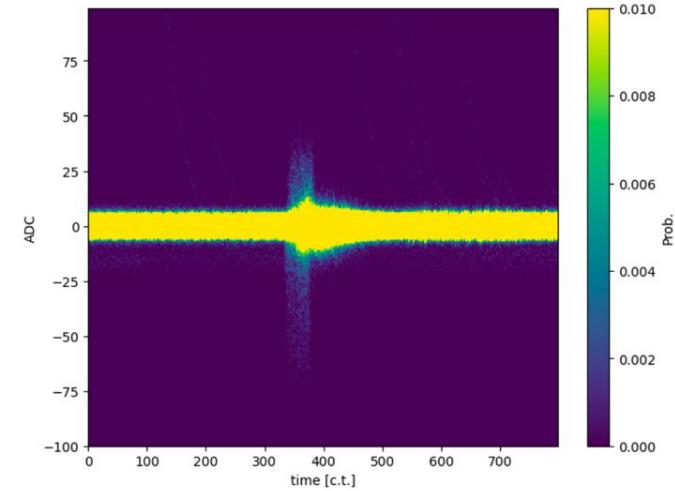


$$H(X) + H(Y) - H(X, Y) \text{ nonzero means there are still correlations}$$

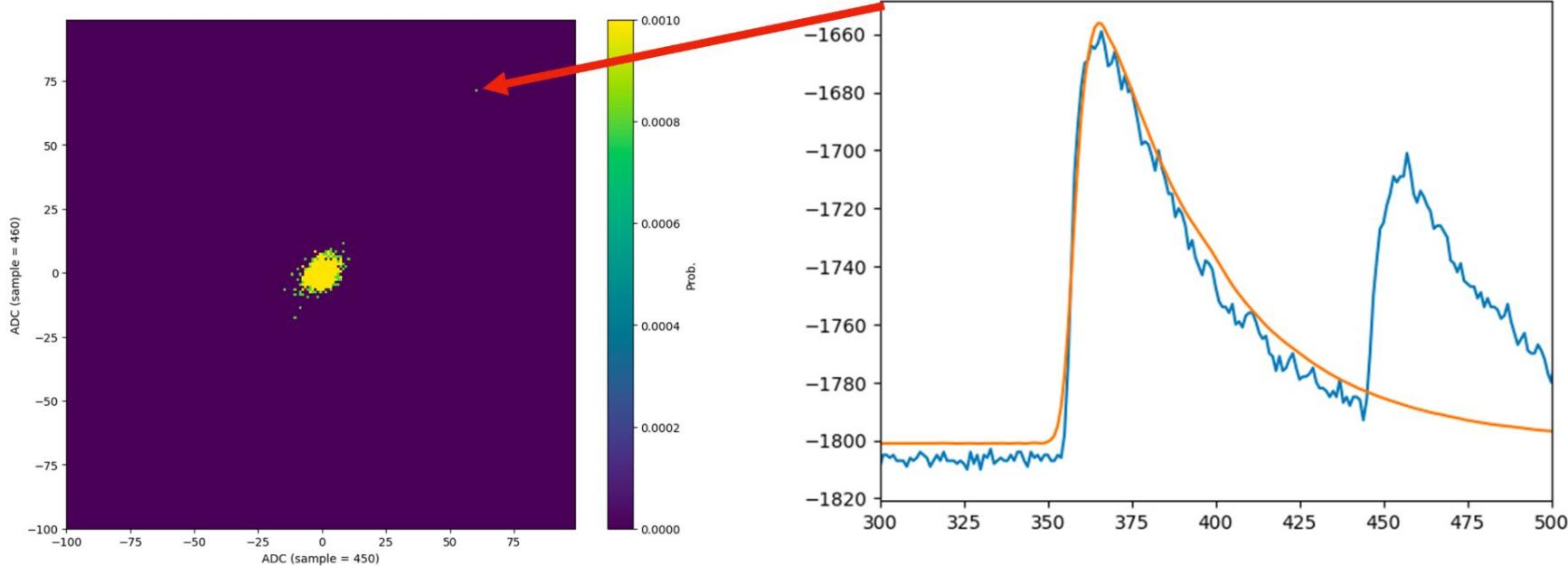


# Template fitting going wrong

- What's causing the spread at the start of the pulse ~360 c.t. or so? (right plot)
- Seems like my template fit going wrong at the pulse turn-on



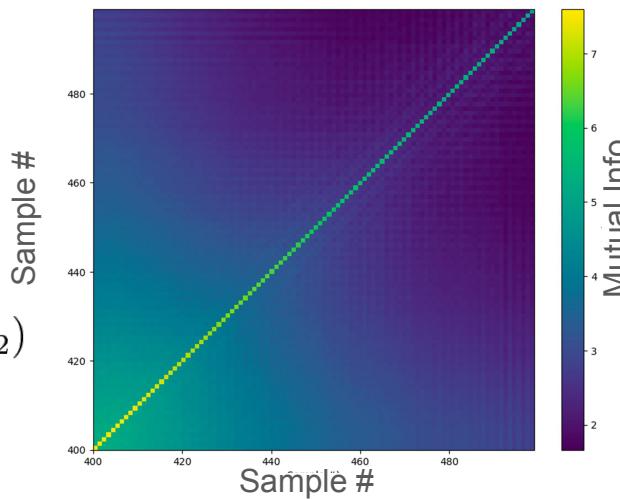
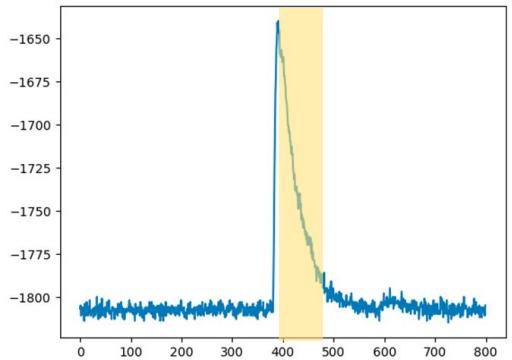
# Stray point due to pileup



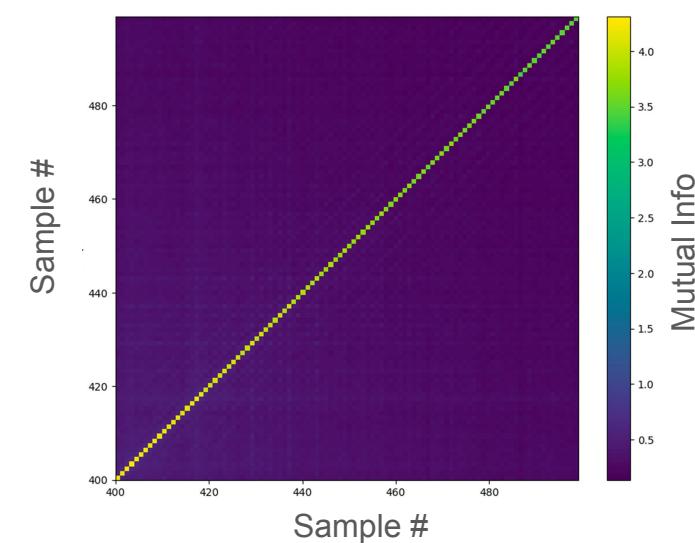
# Mutual Information

- Mutual Information:  

$$I(X_1, X_2) = H(X_1) + H(X_2) - H(X_1, X_2)$$
- $I(X_1, X_2) = 0 \implies$  no correlation
- Template fitting reduces correlations between subsequent samples

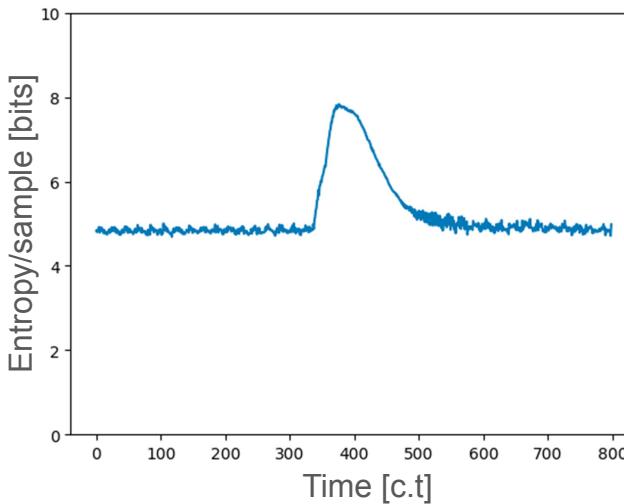
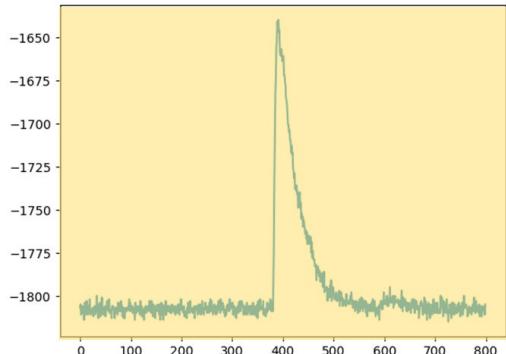


Template fitting

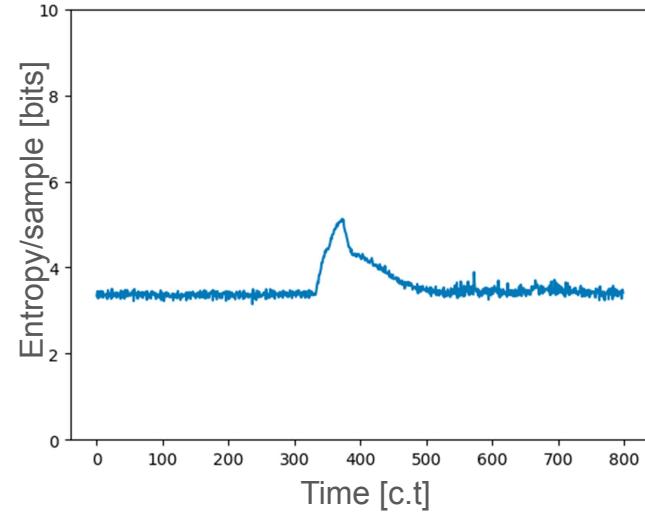


# Entropy Estimation

- Average entropy:
$$H_{\text{avg}} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N H(X_i)}{N}$$
- In this case  $N = 800$
  - Before:  $H_{\text{avg}} = 5.22$  bits/sample
  - After:  $H_{\text{avg}} = 3.55$  bits/sample
  - Some room for improvement(?)

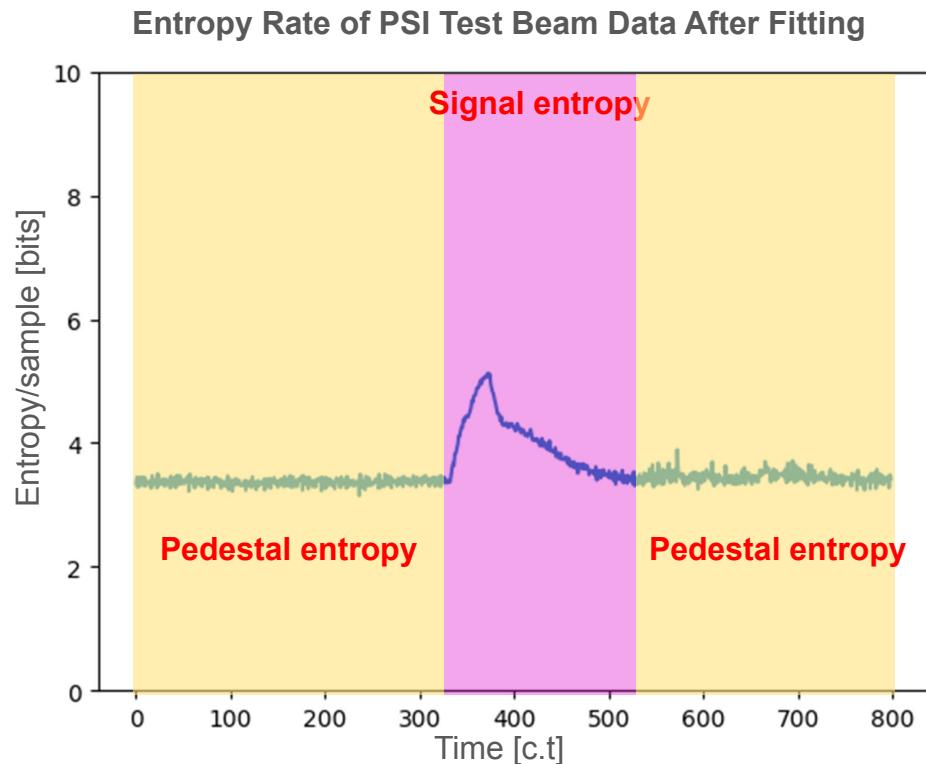


Template fitting



# Explanation of Entropy Plot

- The pedestal is easy to fit, so the variance of the pedestal part of the signal is just the noise of the WFD5s.
  - This is the minimum possible entropy when using this equipment
- The signal is harder to fit and therefore has more variance
  - Entropy of this part of the trace is therefore larger



# Theoretical Best Compression Calculation

Assuming data is sent as 12 bit ADC samples over PCIe at a data rate of 3.5 GB/s:

$$\text{Compression Ratio} = \frac{\text{Entropy Rate}}{12}$$

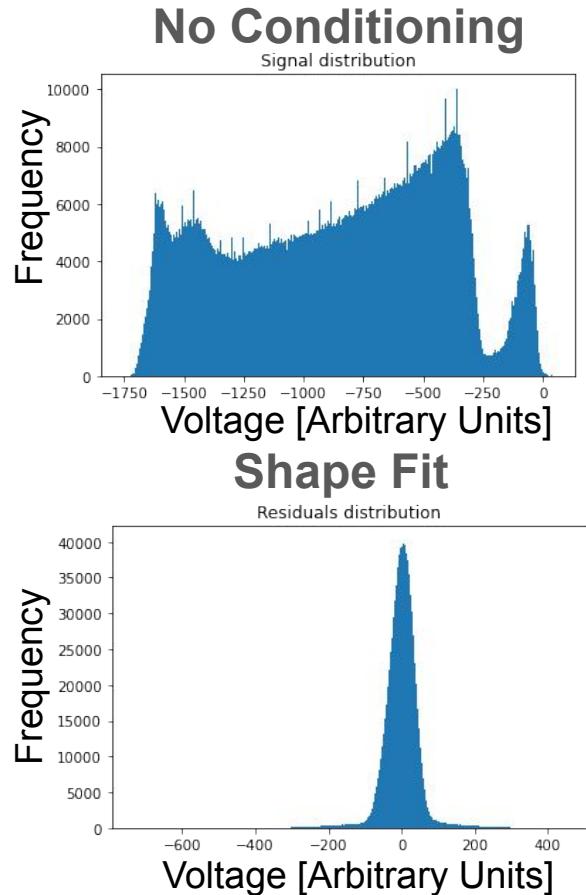
$$\text{Storage Data Rate} = \text{Compression Ratio} \cdot 3.5 \text{ GB/s}$$

$$\text{Entropy rate} = 3.4 \rightarrow \text{New Data Rate} \approx 0.99 \text{ GB/s}$$

$$\text{Entropy rate} = 5 \rightarrow \text{New Data Rate} \approx 1.46 \text{ GB/s}$$

# Signal Conditioning

- Want a narrow distribution for compression. Let  $r_i$  be the numbers we compress
- Methods tried:
  - No conditioning
  - Delta encoding:
$$r_i = y_{i+1} - y_i$$
  - Twice Delta Encoding:
$$r_i = y_{i+2} - 2y_{i+1} + y_i$$
  - Double Exponential Fit:
$$r_i = y_i - (A \cdot \exp(at_i) + B \cdot \exp(bt_i))$$
  - **Shape Fit:**
$$r_i = y_i - (A \cdot T(t_i - t_0) + B)$$



# Shape Fitting Algorithm

1. Construct a discrete template from sample pulses
2. Interpolate template to form a continuous Template,  $T(t)$
3. “Stretch” and “shift” template to match signal:

$$X[i] = a(t_0)T(t[i] - t_0) + b(t_0)$$

[Note: a and b can be calculated explicitly given  $t_0$ ]

4. Compute  $\chi^2$  (assuming equal uncertainty on each channel i)

$$\chi^2 \propto \sum_i \{X[i] - a(t_0)T(t[i] - t_0) + b(t_0)\}^2$$

5. Use Euler’s method to minimize  $\chi^2$

# Lossless Compression Algorithm

- Rice-Golomb Encoding
  - Let  $x$  be number to encode
$$y = "s" + "q" + "r"$$
    - $q = x/M$  (unary)
    - $r = x \% M$  (binary)
    - $s = \text{sign}(x)$
  - Any distribution
  - Close to optimal for valid choice of  $M$
  - One extra bit to encode negative sign
  - Self-delimiting
  - If quotient too large, we “give up” and write  $x$  in binary with a “give up” signal in front

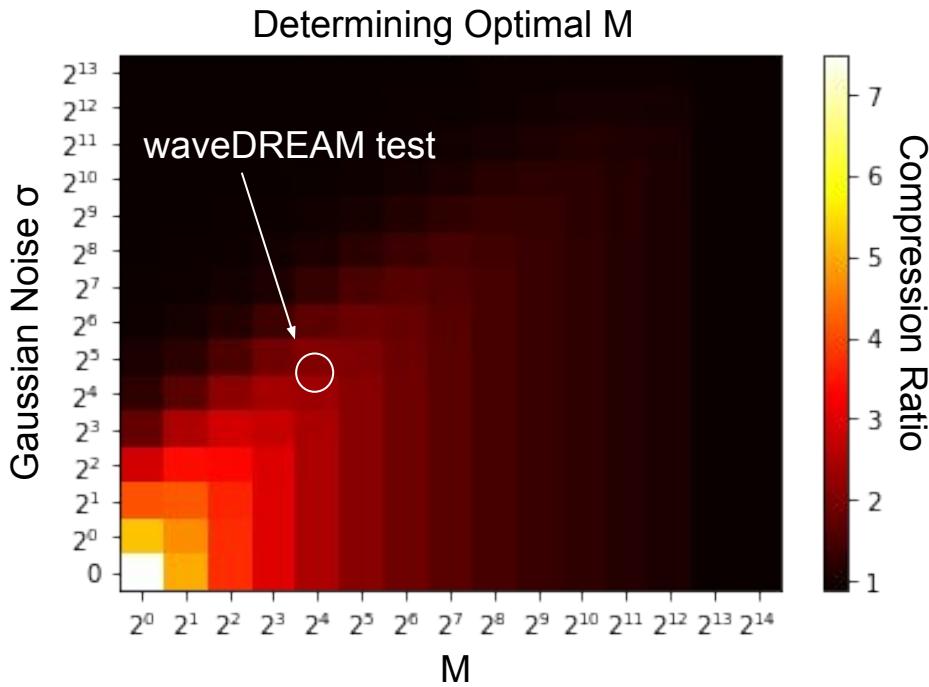
## Rice-Golomb Encoding ( $M=2$ )

Value	Encoding
-1	011
0	000
1	001
2	1000

Red = sign bit  
Blue = quotient bit(s) (Unary)  
Yellow = remainder bit (binary)

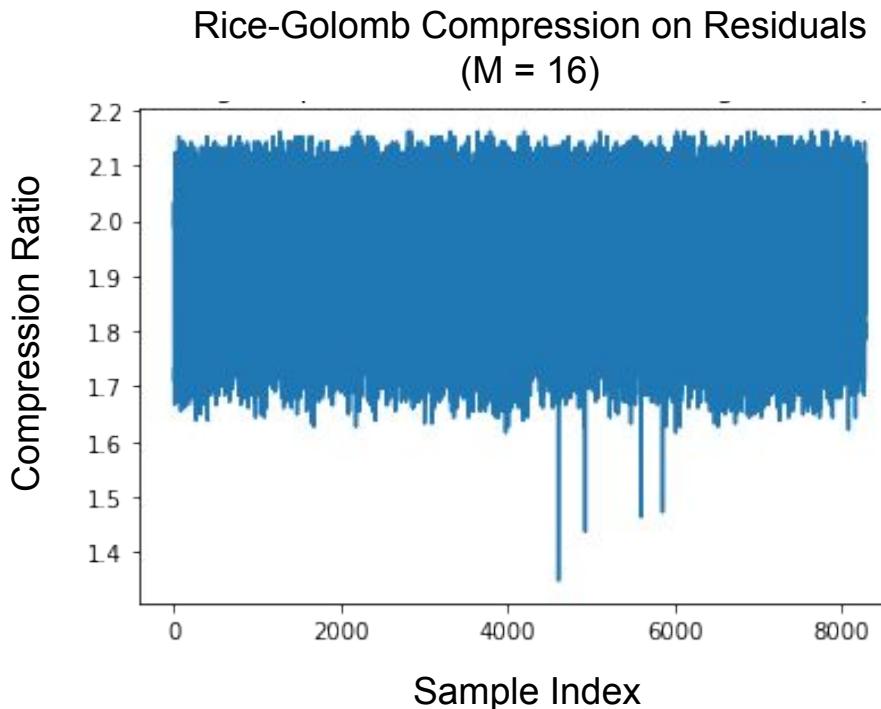
# How to choose Rice-Golomb parameter M

- Generated fake Gaussian data (centered at zero) with variance  $\sigma^2$
- For random variable X,  
 $M \approx \text{median}(|X|)/2$  is a good choice
  - This is the close to the diagonal on the plot
- $\sigma \approx 32$  for residuals of shape on wavedream data  $\rightarrow M = 16$  is a good choice



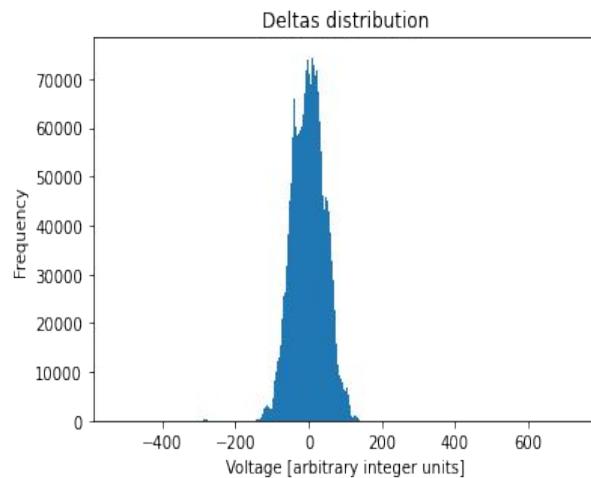
# Compression Ratio from Rice-Golomb Encoding

- Lossless compression factor of ~2
- In agreement with plot from simulated data on last slide
- Data is much noisier than than PSI test beam, so we get a smaller compression factor

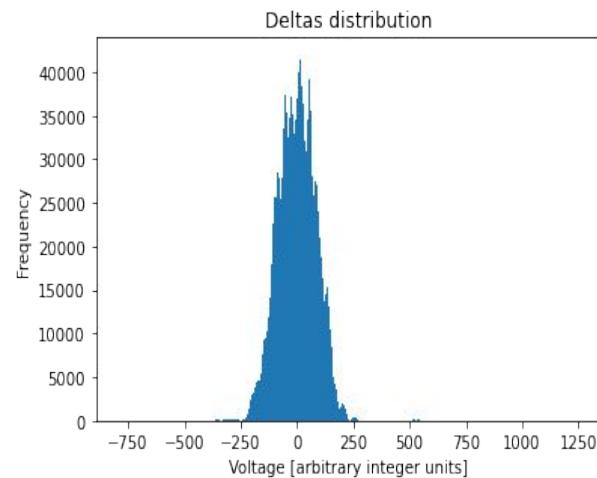


# Other Conditioning Distributions

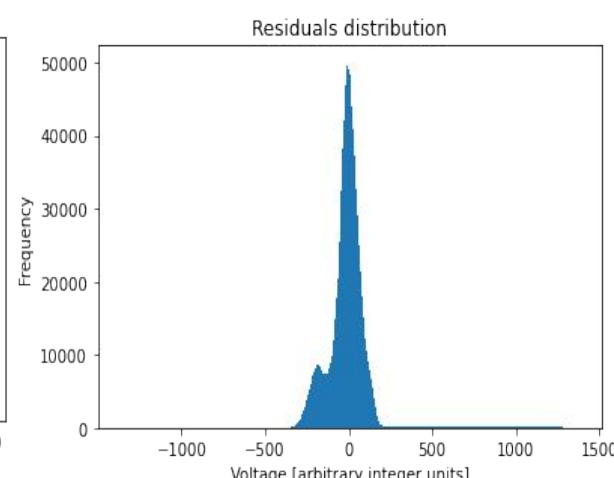
**Delta Encoding**



**Twice Delta Encoding**



**Double Exponential Fit**



# Shape Fitting Details

Fit Function

$$X[i] = aT(t[i] - t_0) + b$$

Explicit  $a(t_0)$  calc

$$a(t_0) = \frac{\sum_i^N X[i] \sum_i^N T(t[i] - t_0)^2 - \sum_i^N T(t[i] - t_0) \sum_i^N T(t[i] - t_0) X[i]}{N \sum_i^N T(t[i] - t_0)^2 - (\sum_i^N T(t[i] - t_0))^2}$$

Explicit  $b(t_0)$  calc

$$b(t_0) = \frac{N \sum_i^N T(t[i] - t_0) X[i] - \sum_i^N T(t[i] - t_0) \sum_i^N X[i]}{N \sum_i^N T(t[i] - t_0)^2 - (\sum_i^N T(t[i] - t_0))^2}$$

Explicit  $\chi^2$  calc

$$f(t_0) \equiv \chi^2 \propto \sum_i \{X[i] - a(t_0)T(t[i] - t_0) + b(t_0)\}^2$$

Newton's method

$$(t_0)_{n+1} = (t_0)_n - \frac{f'((t_0)_n)}{f''((t_0)_n)}$$

Threshold requirement  $|(t_0)_{n+1} - (t_0)_n| < \epsilon \equiv \text{"Threshold"}$

# Golomb Encoding

- In general, M is an arbitrary choice
- Since computers work with binary,  
 $M = 2^x$  such that x is an integer is a  
“fast” choice
  - This is called Rice-Golomb Encoding
- Self delimiting so long as the  
information M is provided

## Golomb Encoding Example

Choose  $M = 10$ ,  $b = \log_2(M) = 3$

$$2^{b+1} - M = 16 - 10 = 6$$

$r < 6 \rightarrow r$  encoded in  $b=3$  bits

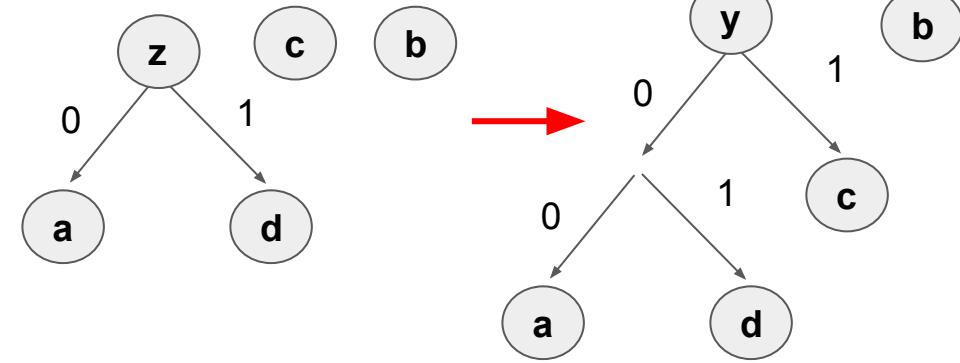
$r \geq 6 \rightarrow r$  encoded in  $b+1=4$  bits

Encoding of quotient part		Encoding of remainder part	
<i>q</i>	output bits	<i>r</i>	offset
0	0	0	0000
1	10	1	0001
2	110	2	0010
3	1110	3	0011
4	11110	4	0100
5	111110	5	0101
6	1111110	6	1100
⋮	⋮	7	1101
N	111…1110	8	1110
		9	1111

# Huffman Encoding

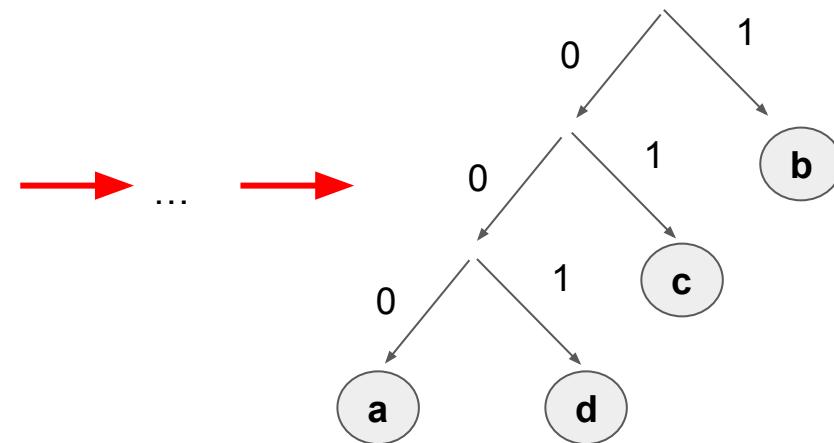
- Requires finite distribution
- Values treated as “symbols”
- Self-delimiting (sometimes called “greedy”)

“Combine” two lowest frequencies into tree,  
Frequency z = 1+3 = 4



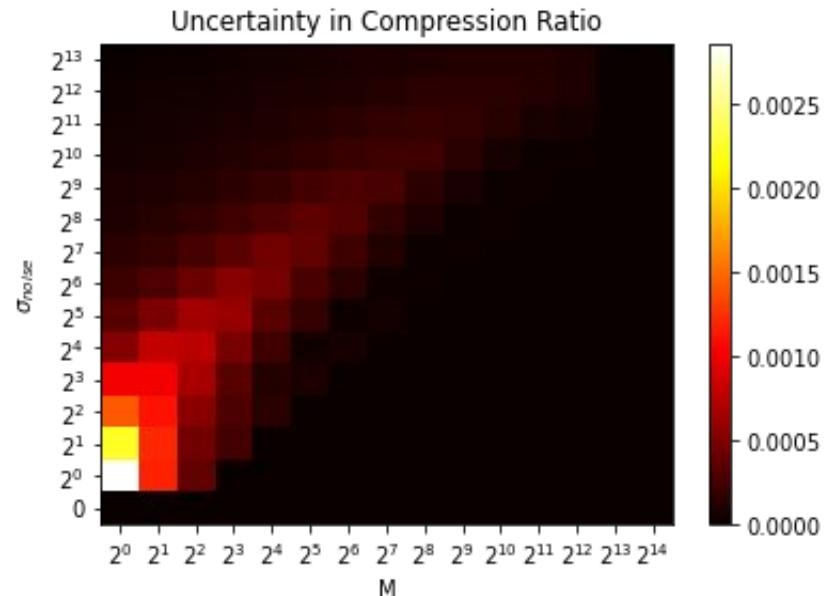
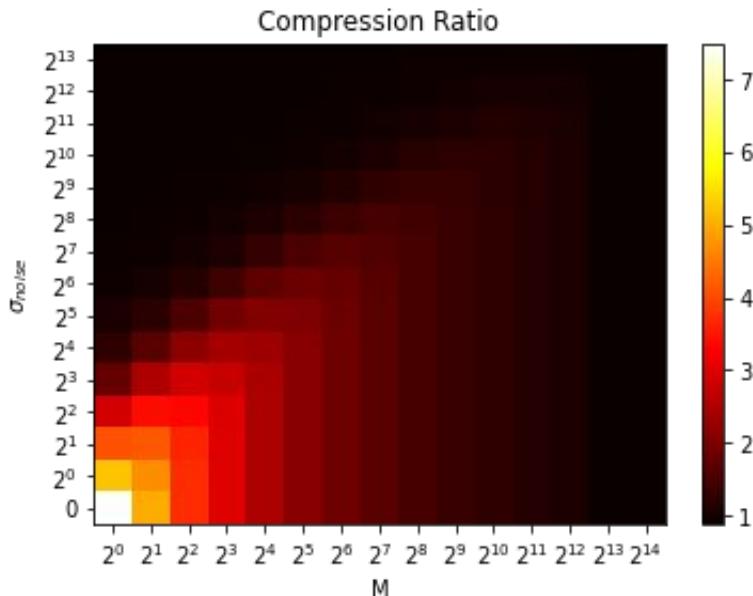
## Huffman Encoding Example

Value	Frequency	Encoding
-1 ≡ a	1	000
0 ≡ b	10	1
1 ≡ c	5	01
2 ≡ d	3	001



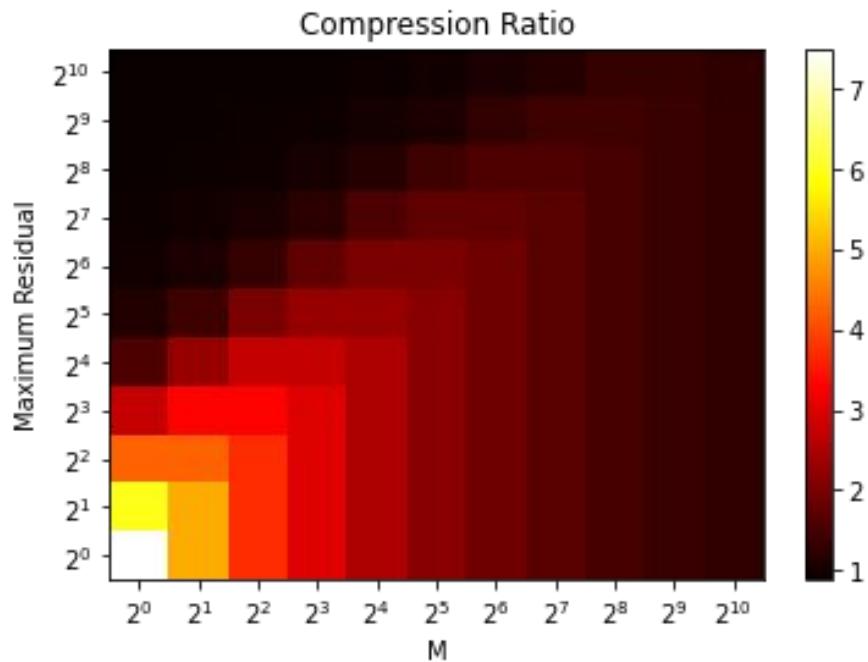
# Theoretical Uncertainty in Compression Ratio from Gaussian Noise

- ~ 0.1% relative error

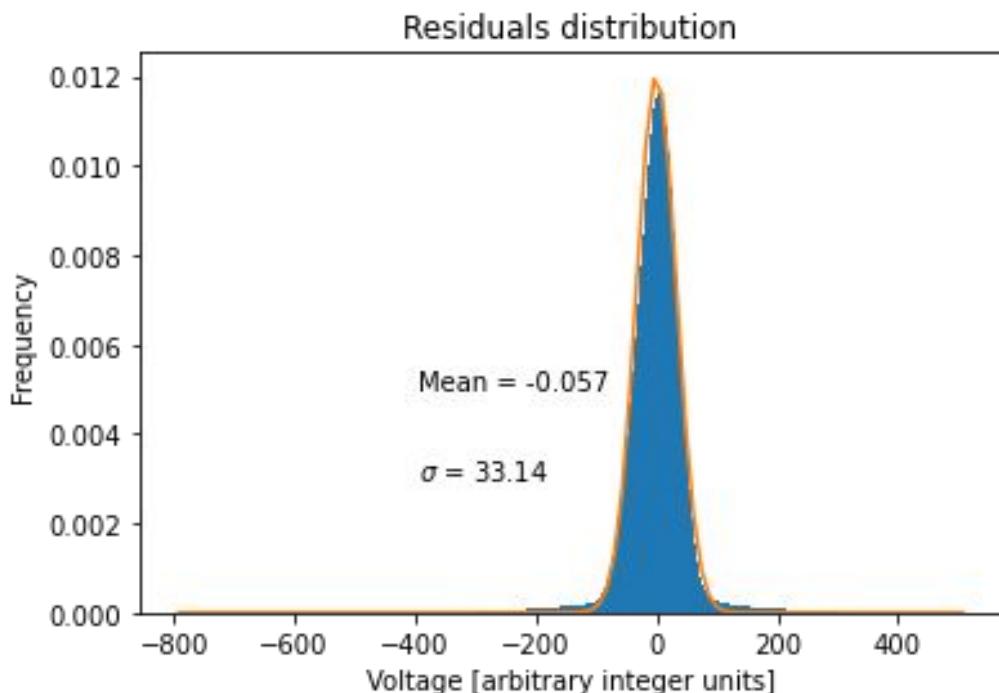


# Uniform Distribution of Noise effect on Compression Ratio

- Here instead we use a uniform distribution to generate the noise
- Not much different than gaussian noise, same conclusions really

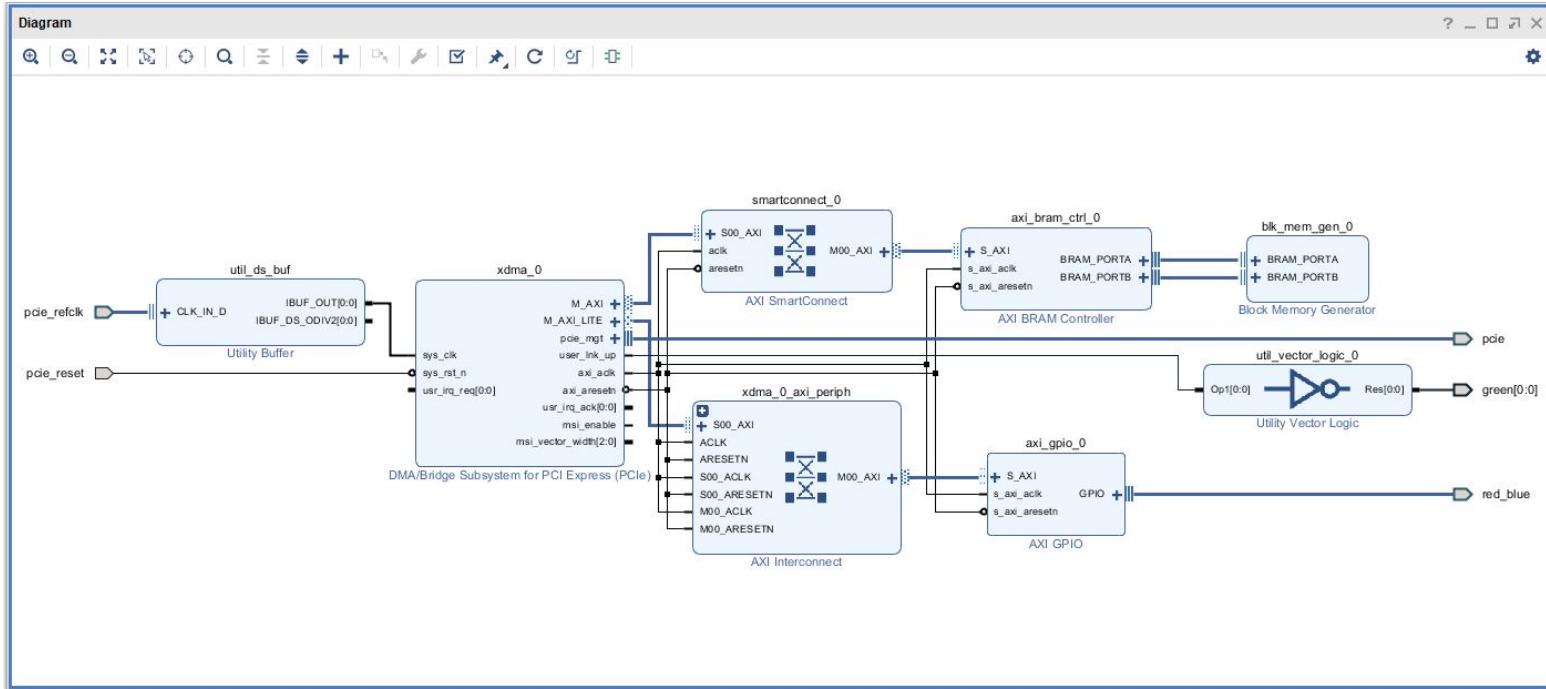


# Residuals Distribution and Optimal M



M	Compression Ratio
1	1.04721105
2	1.21287474
4	1.53114598
8	1.92616642
<b>16</b>	<b>2.09307249</b>
32	2.02975311
64	1.86037914
128	1.66627451
...	...

# PCIe DMA Block Diagram in Vivado



Example block diagram (made in Vivado) for a PCIe FPGA

# PCIe Transfer Speeds for Different Generations

Nereid Test



VERSION	INTRODUCTION YEAR	LINE CODE	TRANSFER RATE	THROUGHPUT				
				x1	x2	x4	x8	x16
1	2003	8b/10b	2.5 GT/s	0.250 GB/s	0.500 GB/s	1.000 GB/s	2.000 GB/s	4.000 GB/s
2	2007	8b/10b	5.0 GT/s	0.500 GB/s	1.000 GB/s	2.000 GB/s	4.000 GB/s	8.000 GB/s
3	2010	128b/130b	8.0 GT/s	0.985 GB/s	1.969 GB/s	3.938 GB/s	7.877 GB/s	15.754 GB/s
4	2017	128b/130b	16.0 GT/s	1.969 GB/s	3.938 GB/s	7.877 GB/s	15.754 GB/s	31.508 GB/s
5	2019	128b/130b	32.0 GT/s	3.938 GB/s	7.877 GB/s	15.754 GB/s	31.508 GB/s	63.015 GB/s
6.0	2021	128b/130b + PAM - 4 + ECC	64.0 GT/s	7.877 GB/s	15.754 GB/s	31.508 GB/s	63.015 GB/s	126.031 GB/s