



The Optimization of LIPS and MCNP Simulation to Improve Radioactivity Detection Limits in Thermal Waters

Anes Abdessamed BOUTAHRA

07 April 2026

EGY plasma

Table of Contents

1. Background
2. Motivation
3. Methodology
4. Current Status
5. Challenges
6. Summary

1- Background

- **Algeria's Geothermal Wealth**
- **Socio-Economic Value**



- **Radiological Concerns:** Naturally Occurring Radioactive Materials such as: ^{238}U , ^{232}Th , ^{222}Rn
- **Public Health:** (WHO: World Health Organization, IAEA: International Atomic Energy Agency).



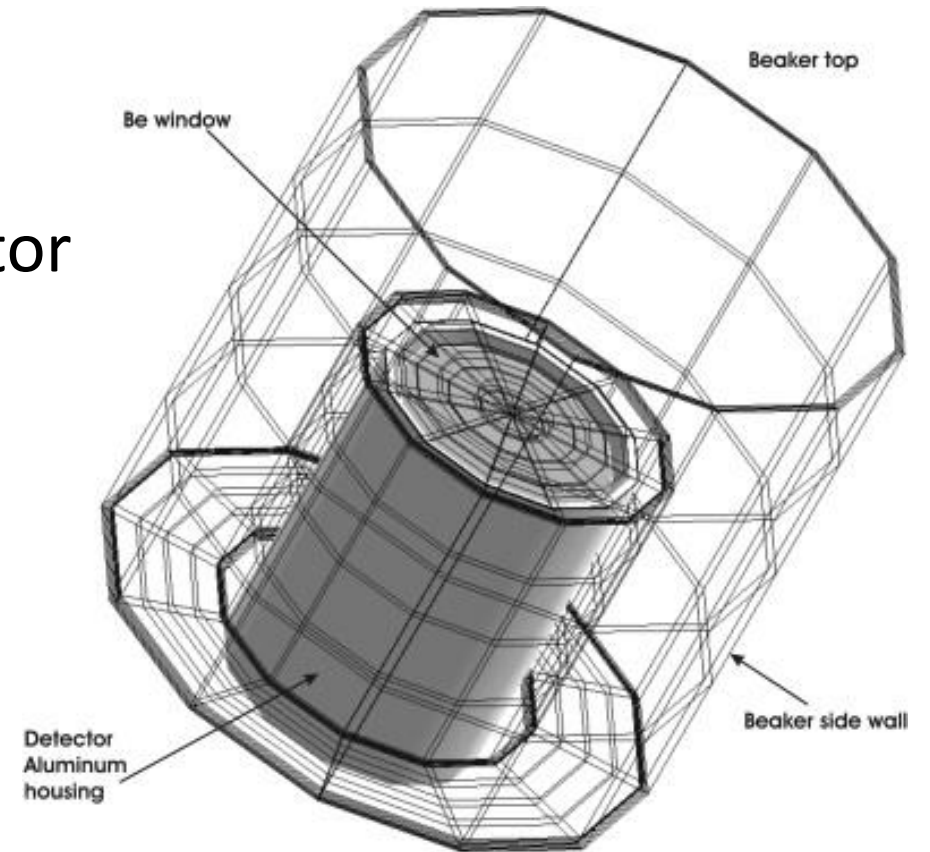
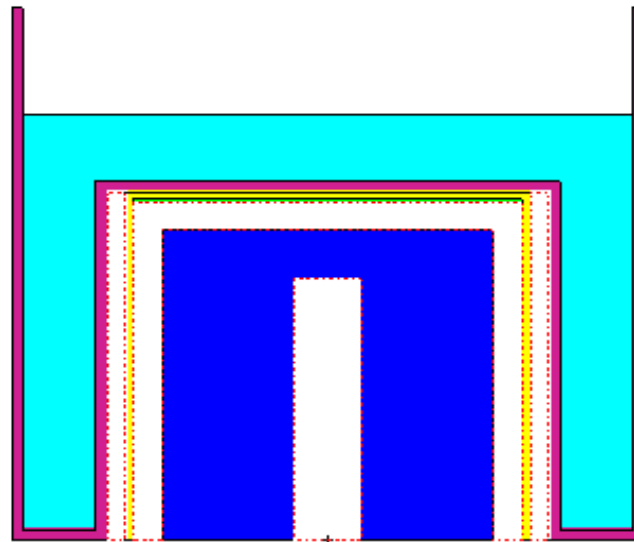
2- Motivation

- **Sensitivity With Traditional tools.**
- **Difficulty of how taking samples.**
- **Difficulty to make matrix elements.**



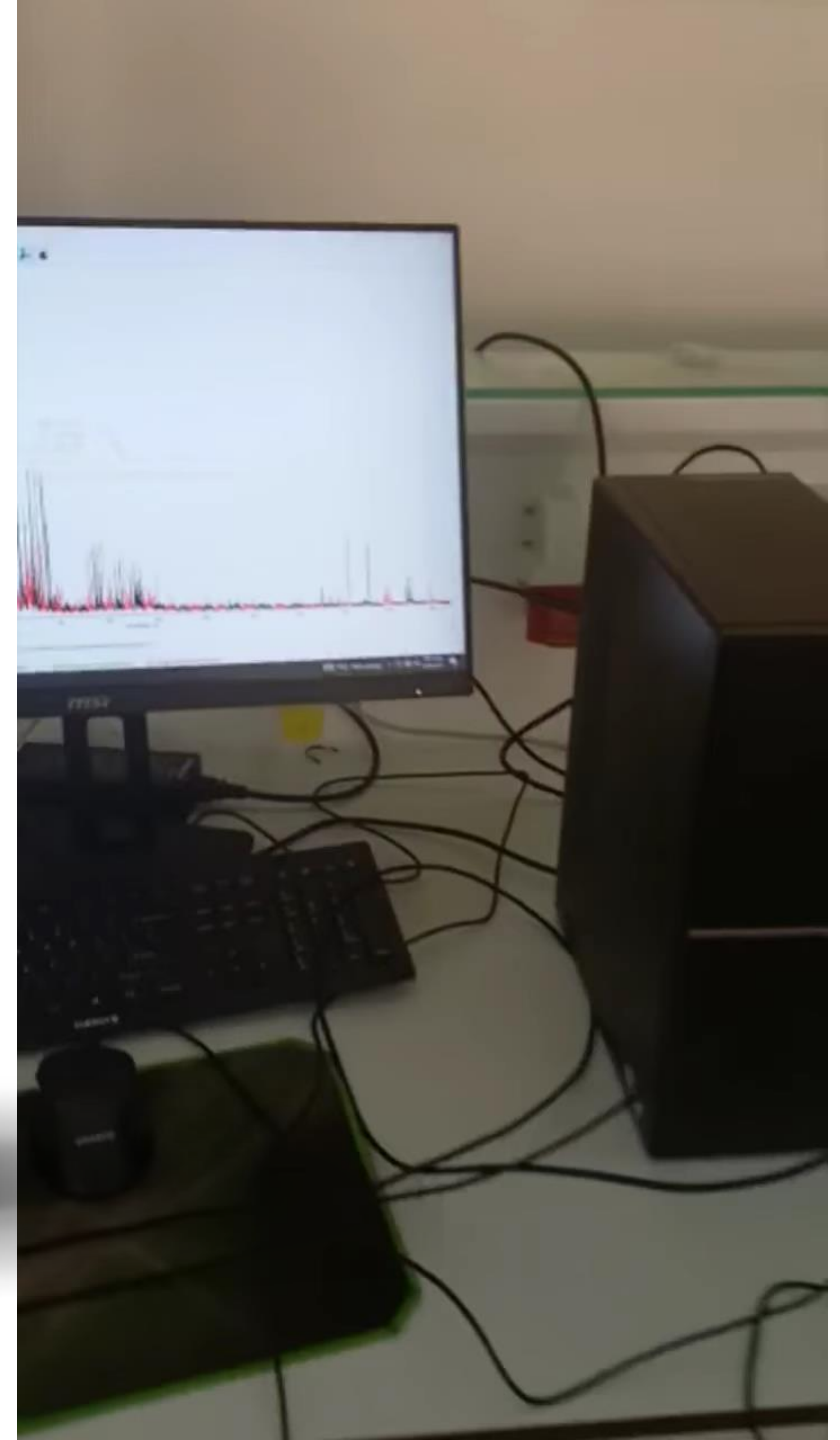
3- Methodology I: MCNP

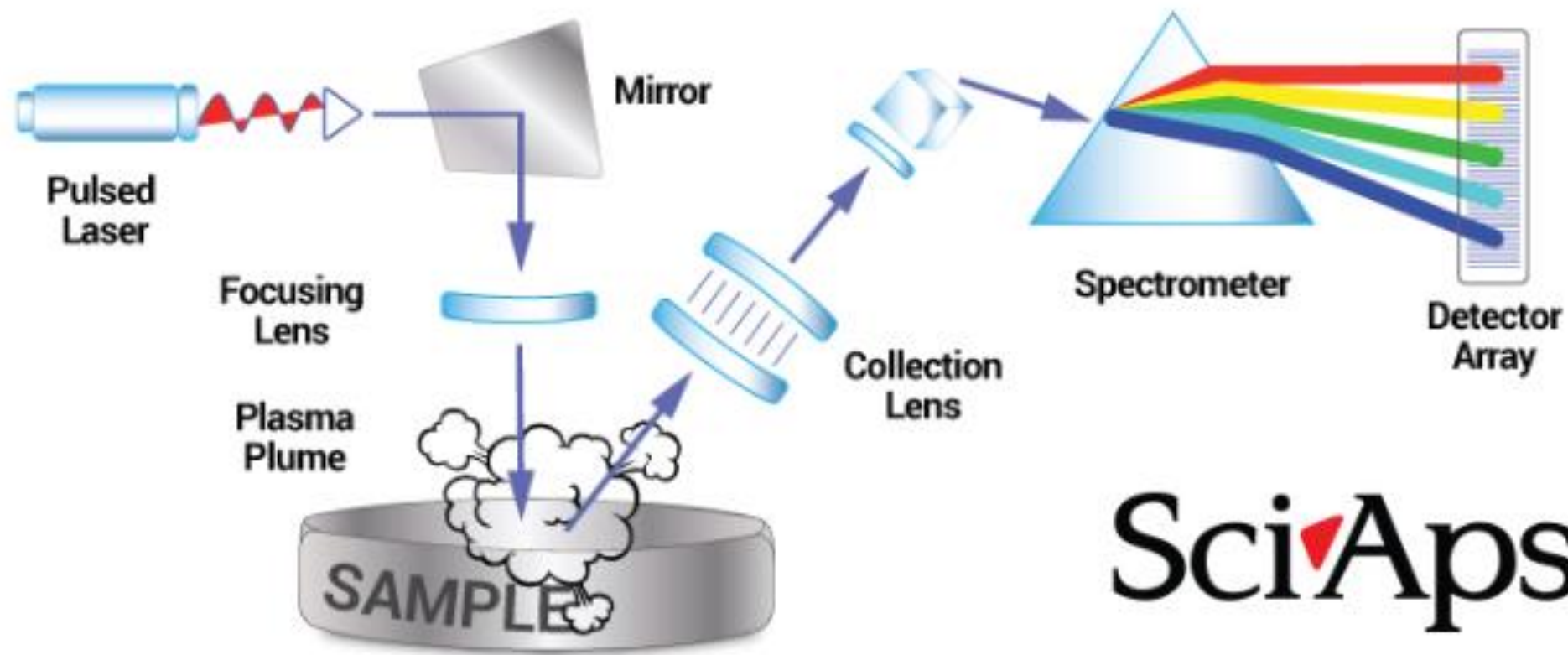
- **What is MCNP?**
- **Virtual Detector Calibration:** (HPGe) detector
- **Efficiency Mapping:** ^{238}U , ^{226}Ra , ^{40}K
- **Synergy:** a theoretical baseline to **LIPS** experimental.



Methodology II: LIPS

- **What is LIPS Technique?**
- **Parameter Tuning.**
- **Liquid Sample Analysis.**
- **Data Integration.**

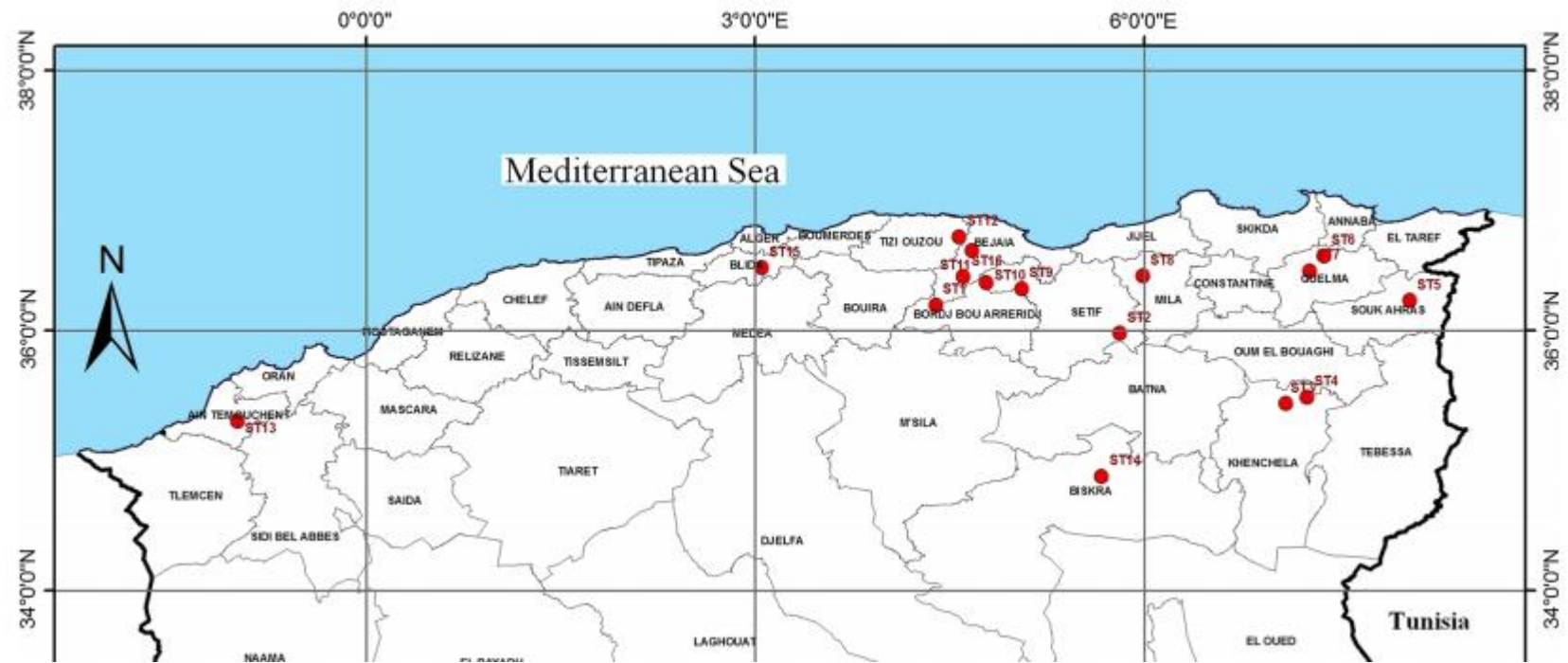




SciAps

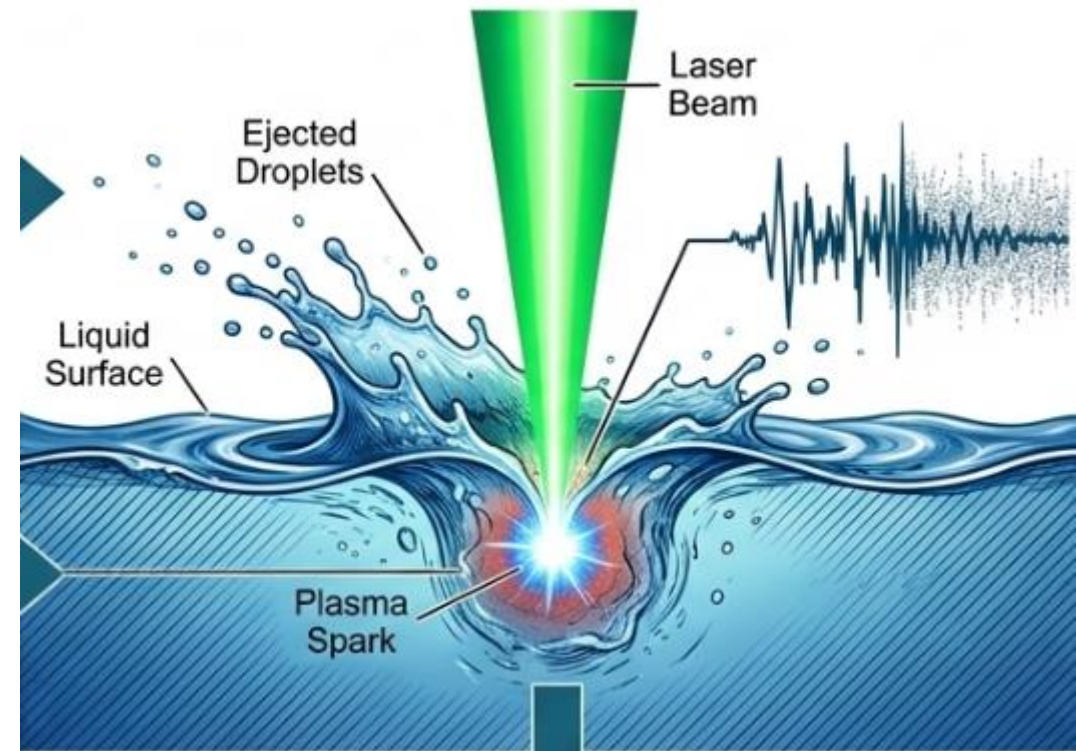
Current Status

- Literature Review.
- MCNP Modeling: input files and its errors.
- Sample Collection: 16 springs.
- Experimental Readiness: Preparing the LIPS.



Challenges

- **Sensitivity Constraints:** (LOD)
- **Matrix Effects:** ^{238}U not in Distilled Water.
- **Quenching:** The sample steals the plasma's heat.
- **Splashing:** the Next pulse
- **Geometric Precision:** The sample and the detector in MCNP



Conclusion & Acknowledgments

- **Summary.**
- **Open for Discussion..**

Thank You!