

# Electron Neutrino Reconstruction for the ICARUS Experiment

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# Overview

- Short Baseline Program (SBN) and ICARUS at Fermilab
- Deep learning for LArTPC Event Reconstruction – A bird's eye view
- Preliminary Results on BNB and NuMI  $\nu_e$  Reconstruction
- Conclusion & Future Work

# Neutrino Oscillations

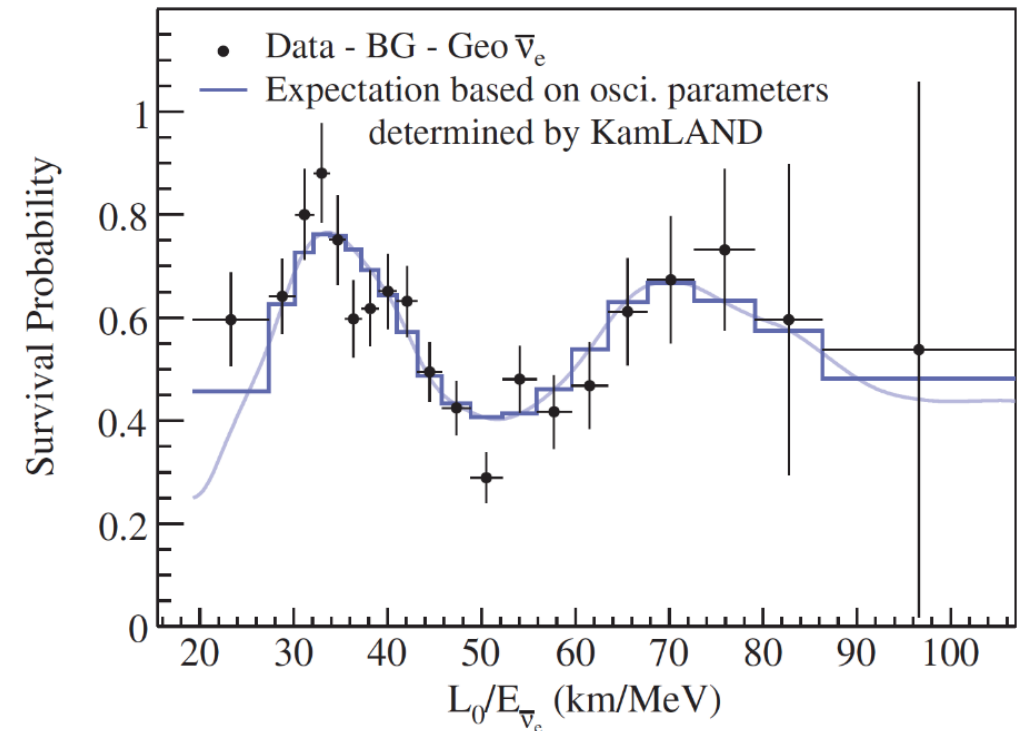
- **Neutrino Oscillations** is one major example modification to the Standard Model (SM) from experiment
  - Neutrino flavor state from a  $W^+$  decay is a superposition of mass eigenstates, where mixing is governed by the Pontecorvo-Maki-Nakagawa-Sakata (PMNS) Matrix:

**Flavor Eigenstates**  $|\nu_e\rangle, |\nu_\mu\rangle, |\nu_\tau\rangle$       $|\nu_\alpha\rangle = \sum_i U_{\alpha i}^* |\nu_i\rangle$      **Mass Eigenstates**  $|\nu_1\rangle, |\nu_2\rangle, |\nu_3\rangle$

- Two-flavor approximation:

$$P(\overline{\nu}_\alpha \rightarrow \overline{\nu}_\beta) = \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2\left(\Delta m^2 \frac{L}{4E}\right)$$

- Experiments control the  $L/E$  parameter, where  $L$  is usually referred to as the **baseline**.

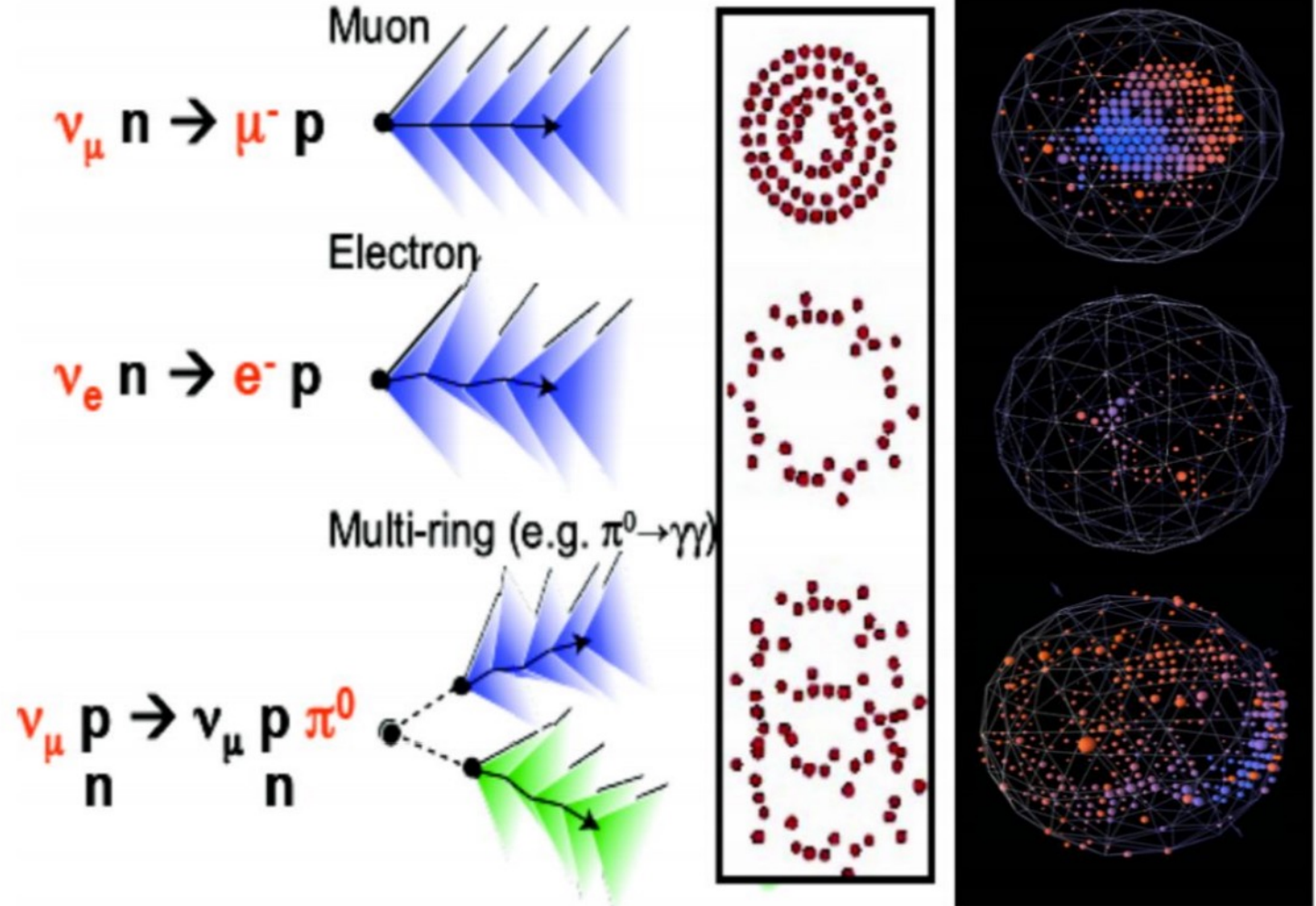
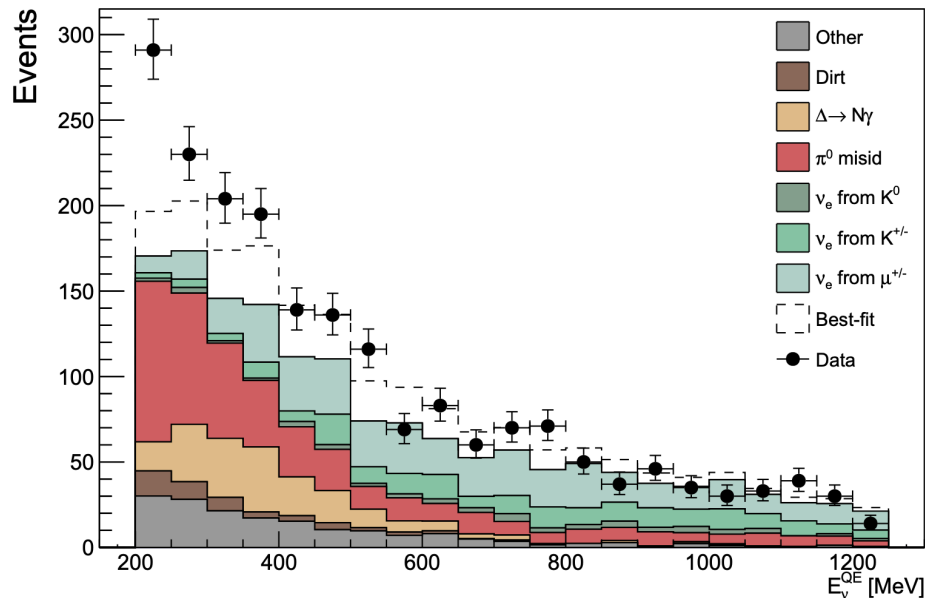


**Neutrino Oscillation pattern observed by KamLAND**

Image Credit: DOI: [10.1016/j.revip.2016.04.003](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.revip.2016.04.003)

# Short Baseline Anomalies: An Example from MiniBooNE

- **MiniBooNE:** Excess of  $\nu_e$  events in  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$  mode observed over backgrounds,  $4.5\sigma$  deviation from expectation.
- This excess cannot be explained by the Standard Model (sterile neutrinos?)

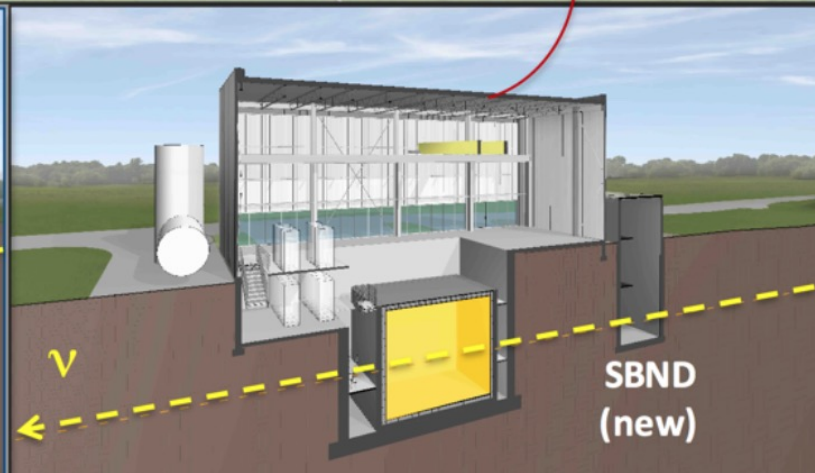
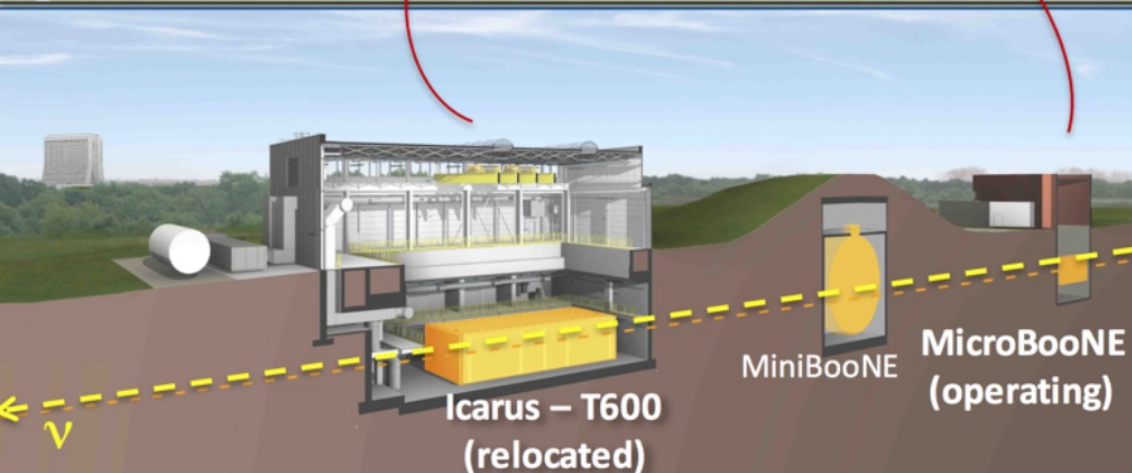
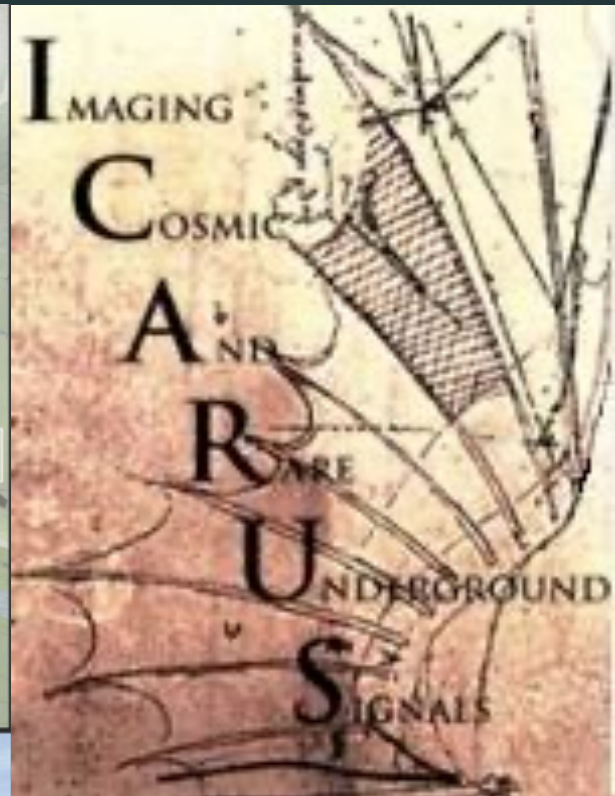
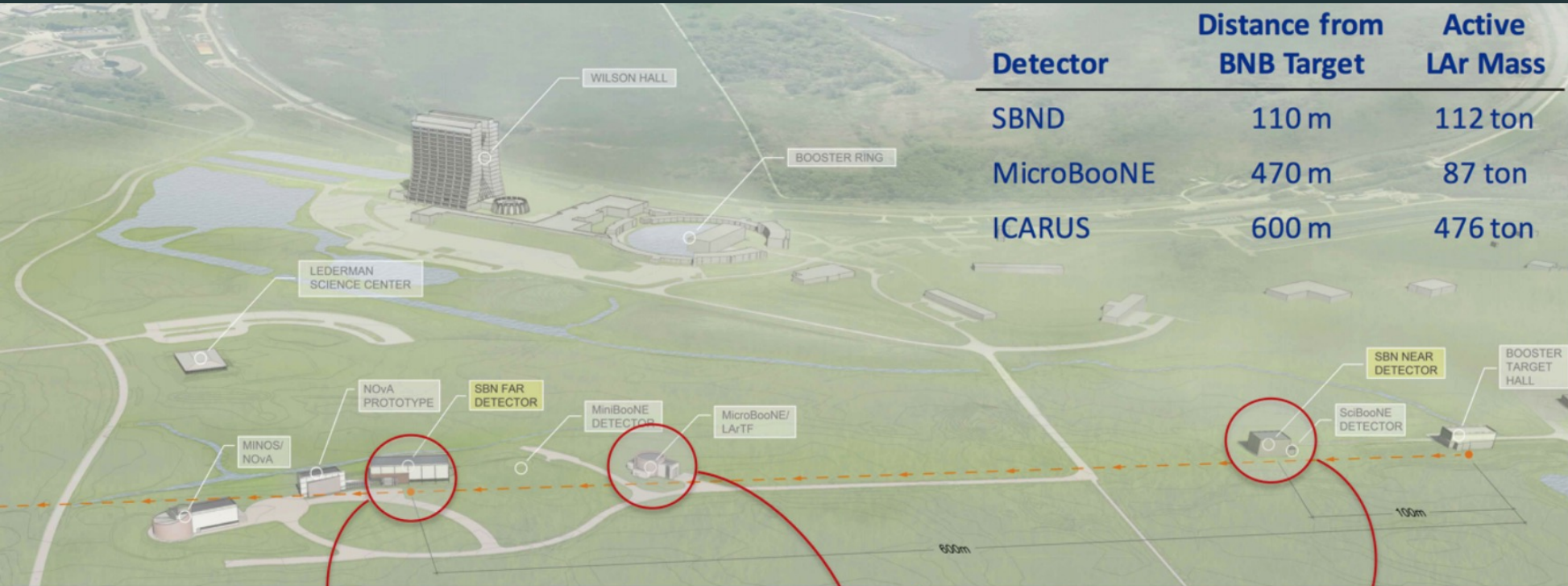




## II. The Short Baseline Neutrino Experiment and ICARUS

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# The Short Baseline Neutrino (SBN) Program at Fermilab



# Booster Neutrino Beam (BNB)

- The **Booster Neutrino Beam (BNB)** produces neutrinos using 8.89 GeV momentum Booster synchrotron protons incident on a Beryllium target.
- $p + Be \rightarrow \pi^+, K^+, K_L^0 \rightarrow \nu_\mu + \mu^+ + \dots$
- In neutrino mode, the flux is dominated by
  - $\nu_\mu$  (93.6%) and  $\bar{\nu}_\mu$  (5.9%)
  - **Intrinsic  $\nu_e/\bar{\nu}_e$  contamination of ~0.5%**
- Majority of  $\nu_\mu$  flux from pion decay in flight ( $\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ + \nu_\mu$ ) until ~2GeV, where  $K^+/K_L^0$  decay dominates.

Expected BNB Neutrino Flux observed at the SBN Far detector (ICARUS)

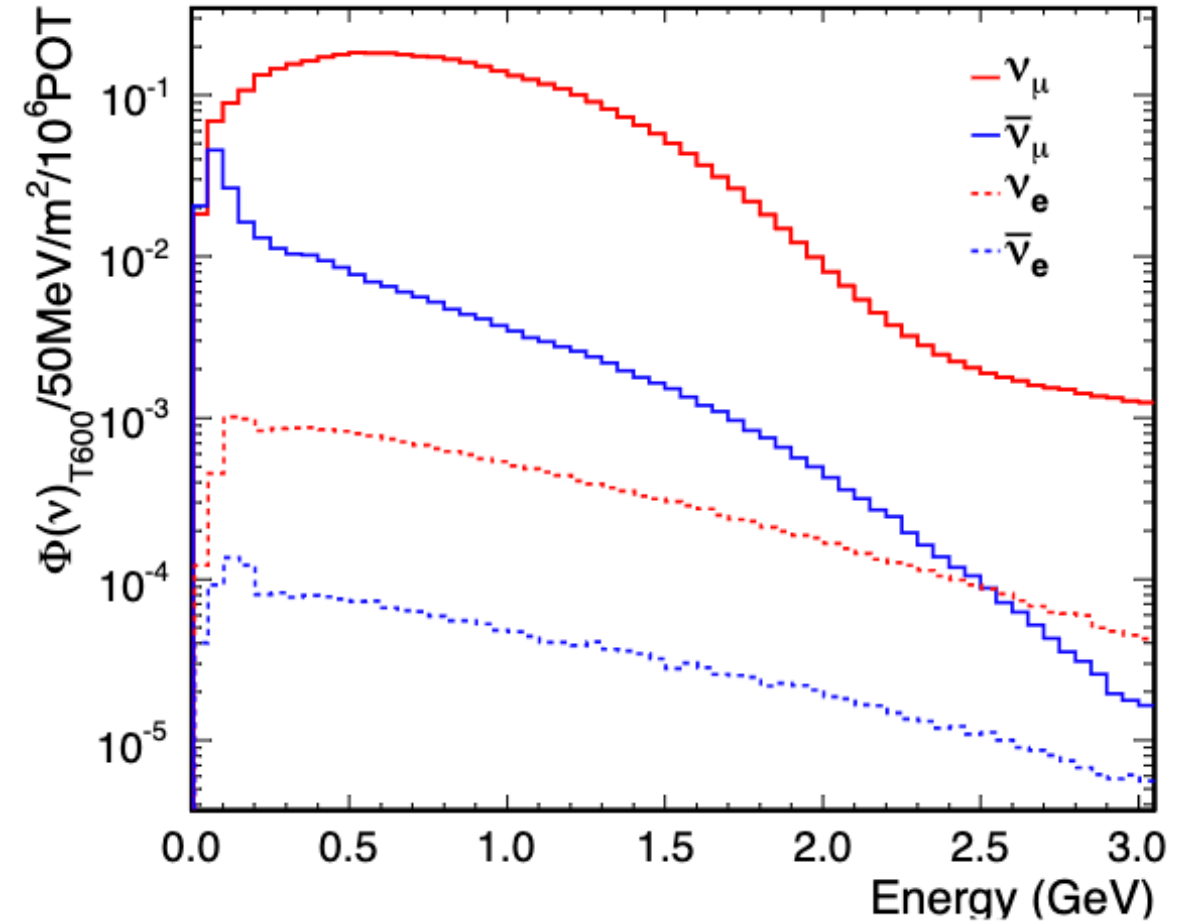


Image Credit: A Proposal for a Three Detector Short-Baseline Neutrino Oscillation Program in the Fermilab Booster Neutrino Beam, ICARUS-WA104, LAr1-ND, MicroBooNE Collaboration, C. Rubbia (CERN, GSSI, Aquila, INFN LNGS, Assergi) for the collaboration.



# Neutrinos at the Main Injector (NuMI) Beam

- **The Neutrinos at the Main Injector (NuMI) Beam** produces neutrinos using 120 GeV protons incident on graphite target.
- Higher primary proton beam energy  $\rightarrow$  more  $K$  production  $\rightarrow$  relatively **high  $\nu_e$  content (~4-5%)**.
- ICARUS is  $6^\circ$  **off-axis** from the NuMI beam line.
- Rich physics programs using NuMI beam at ICARUS:  $\nu - Ar$  cross section measurements, BSM searches, etc.

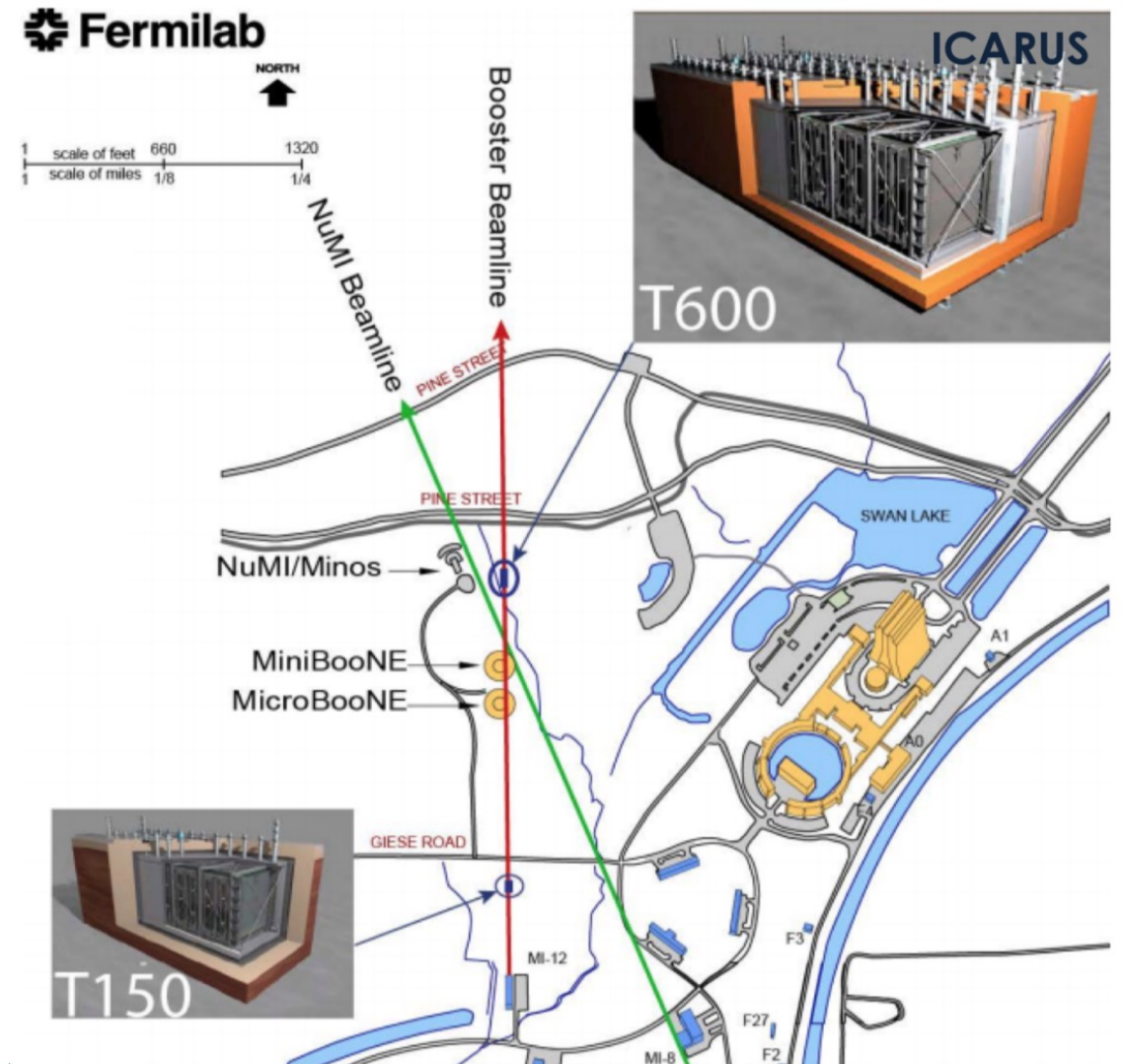
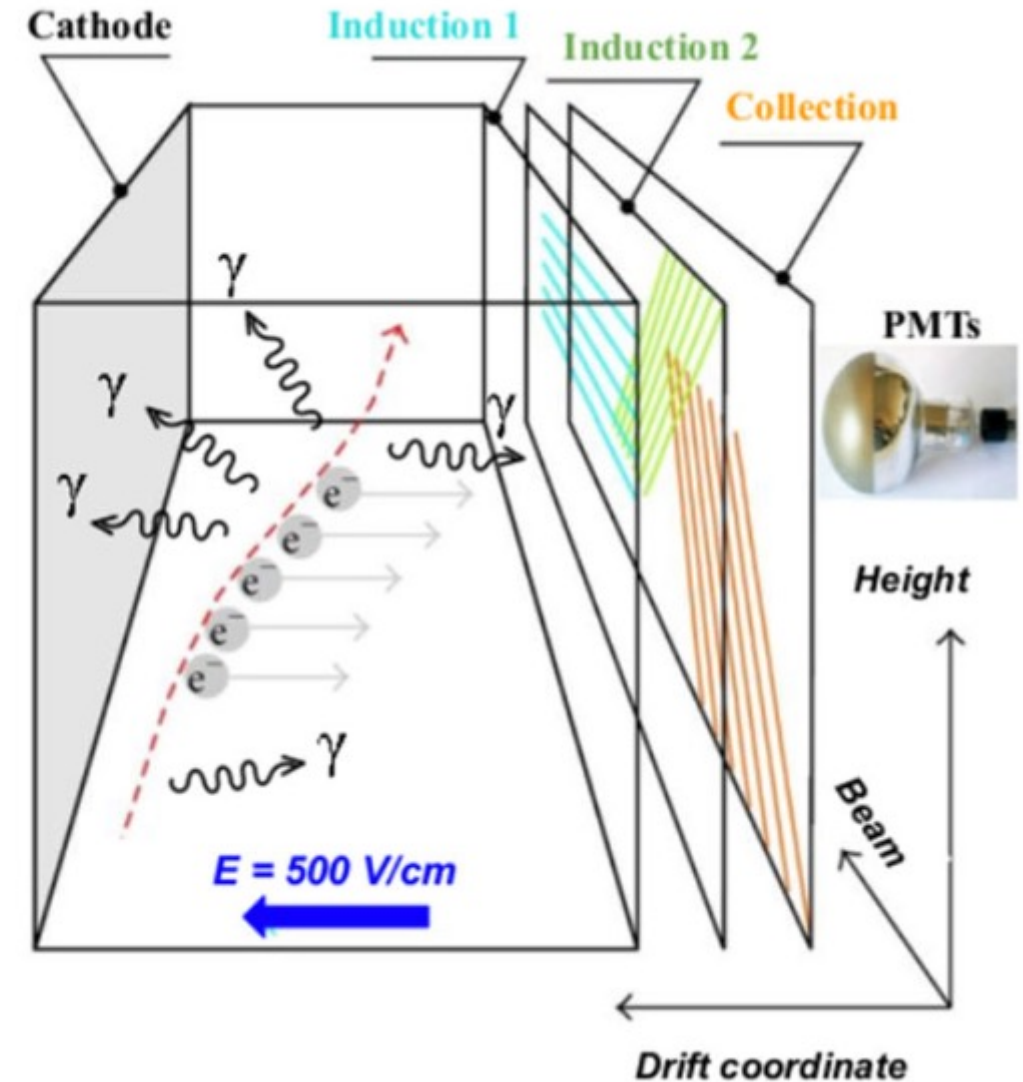
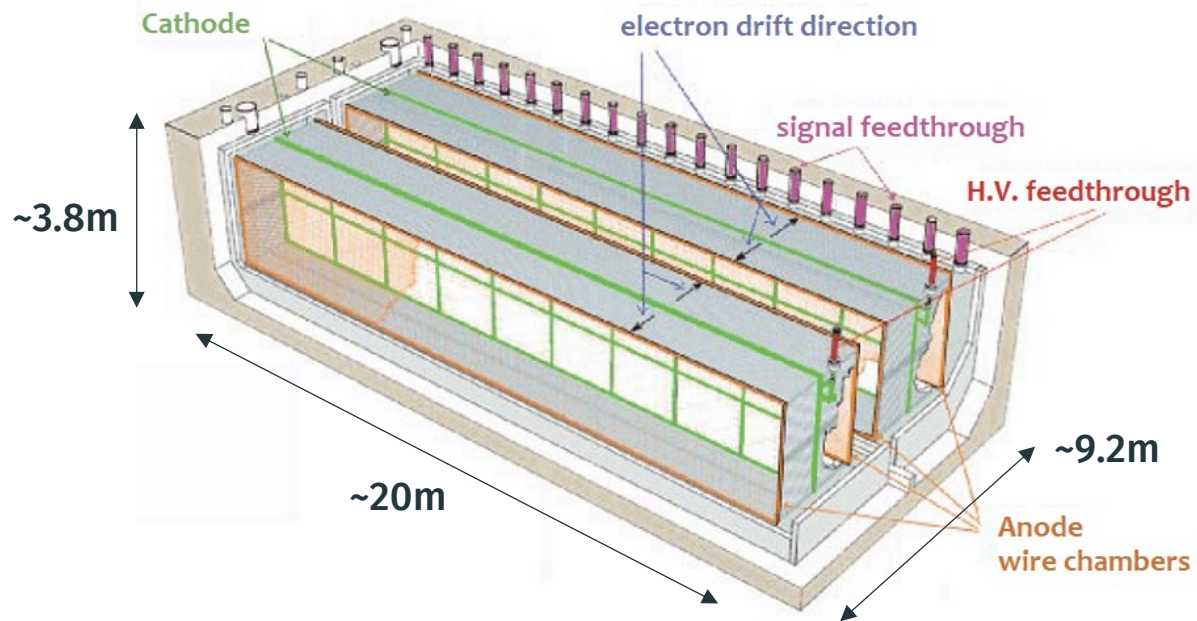


Image Credit: Marta Babicz, *ICARUS T600 Trigger Study at the Short-Baseline Neutrino Experiment (EP-NU meeting)*  
[https://indico.cern.ch/event/864614/contributions/3859763/attachments/2038762/3413897/EPNU\\_talk.pdf](https://indico.cern.ch/event/864614/contributions/3859763/attachments/2038762/3413897/EPNU_talk.pdf)

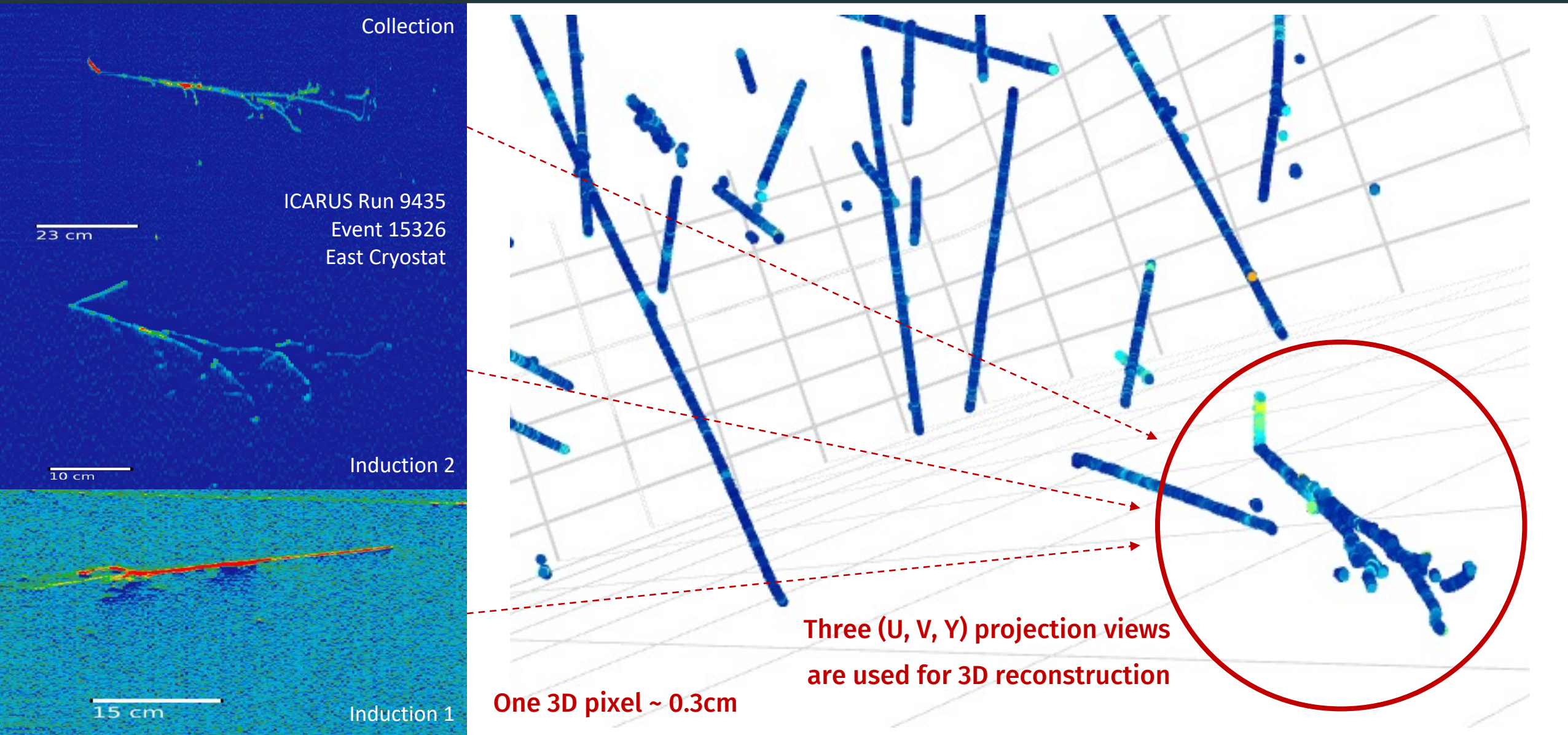
# The ICARUS T600 Detector

- **Time projection chamber with 760-ton liquid argon medium**, 500 V/cm nominal electric field applied between cathode and anode plane.
- Neutrino-argon interaction creates charged particles, which in turn releases **ionization electrons that drift towards the anode plane**.
- **Maximum electron drift time is ~1ms** with 500 V/cm
- **Photon signals detected within ~ns at PMTs**.





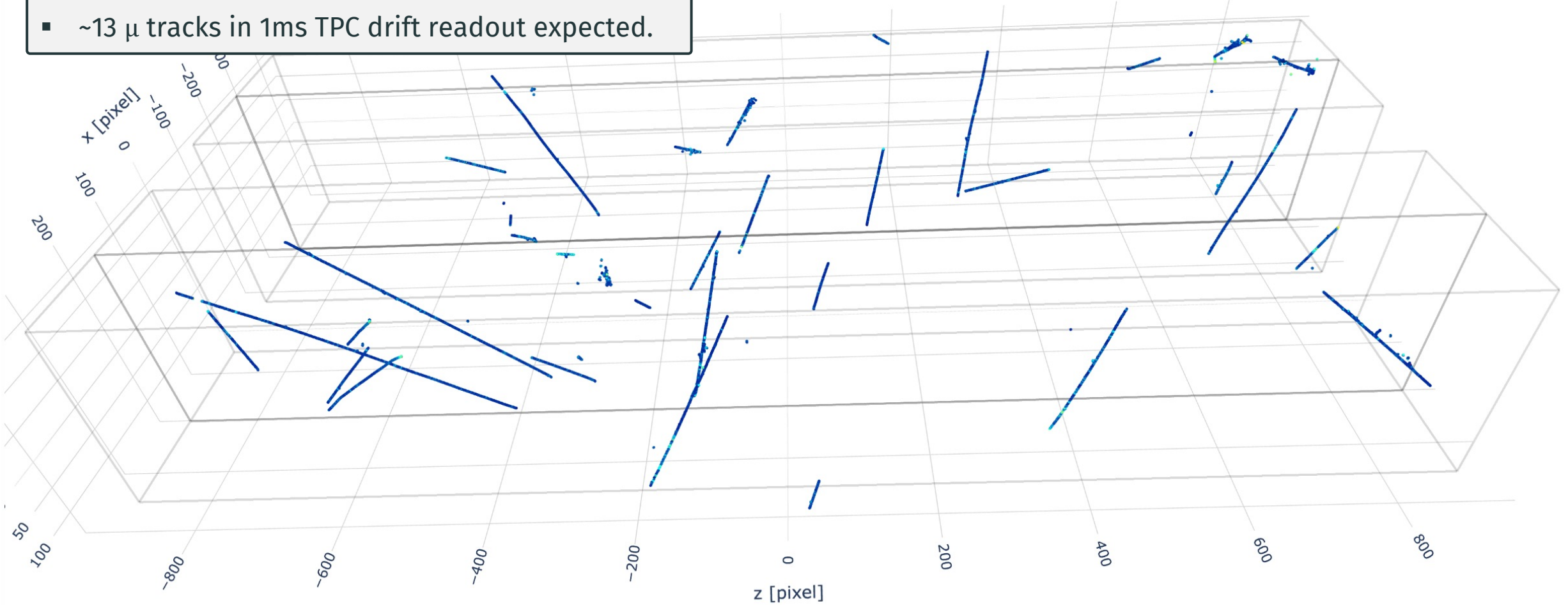
# ICARUS Detector: Example Neutrino Candidate Event



# ICARUS Detector: Example Neutrino Event

ICARUS Run 9435, Event 15326

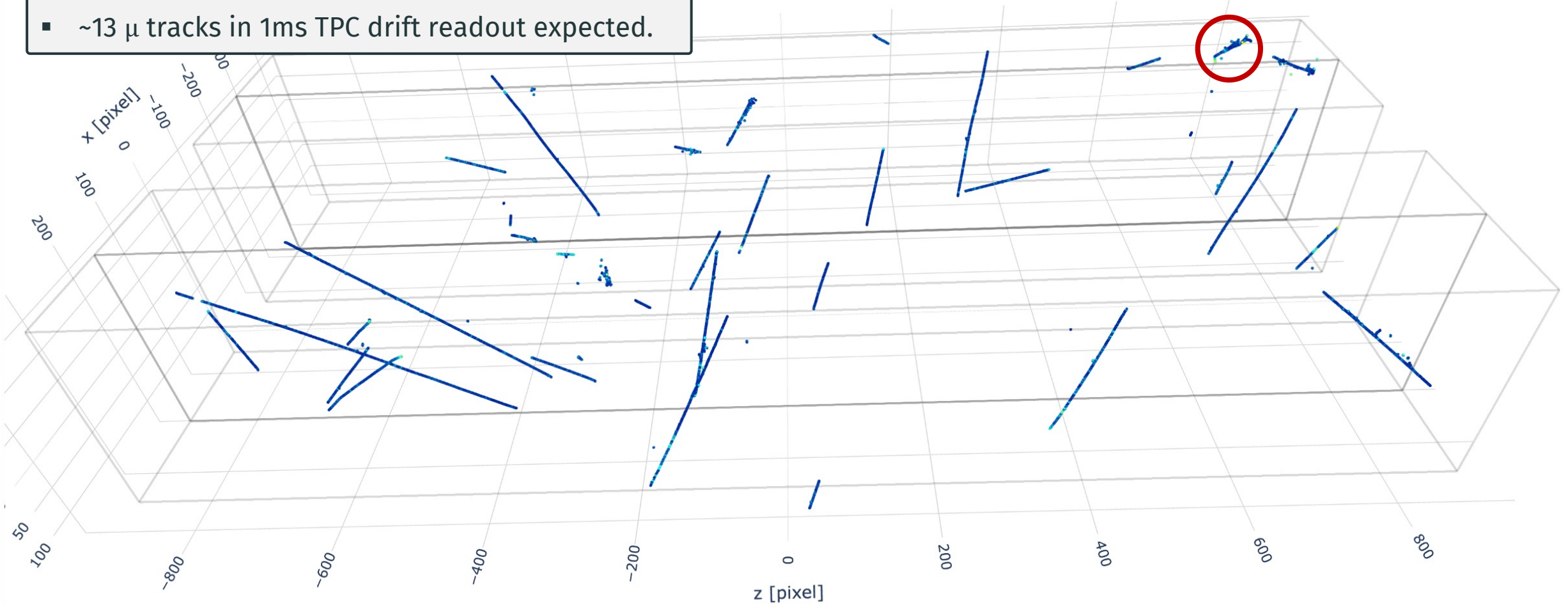
- ~13  $\mu$  tracks in 1ms TPC drift readout expected.



# ICARUS Detector: Example Neutrino Event

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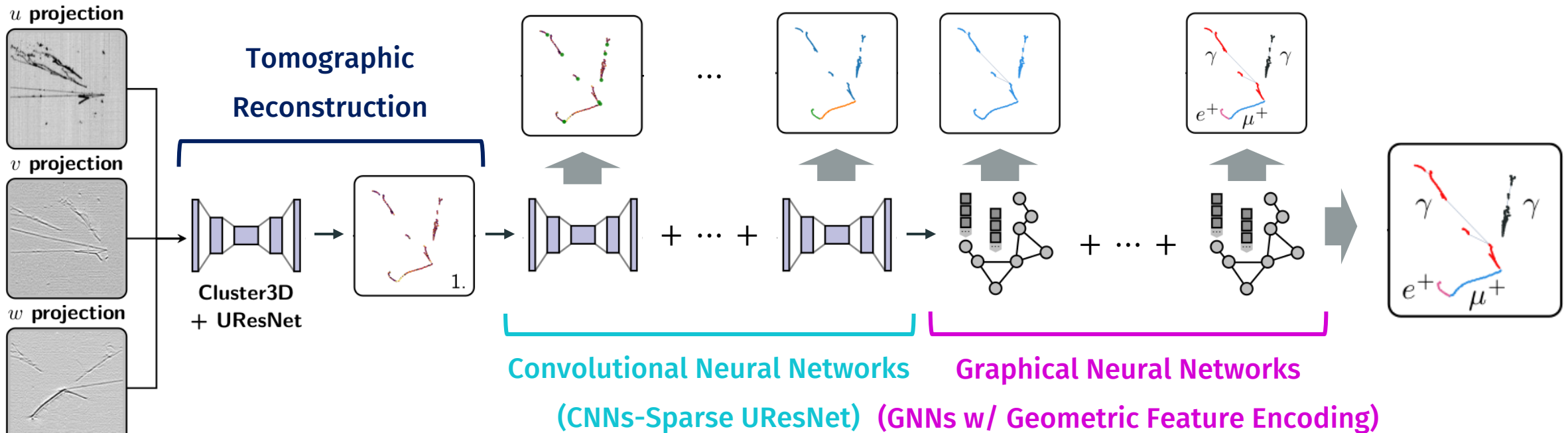
## III. Deep learning for LArTPC Event Reconstruction

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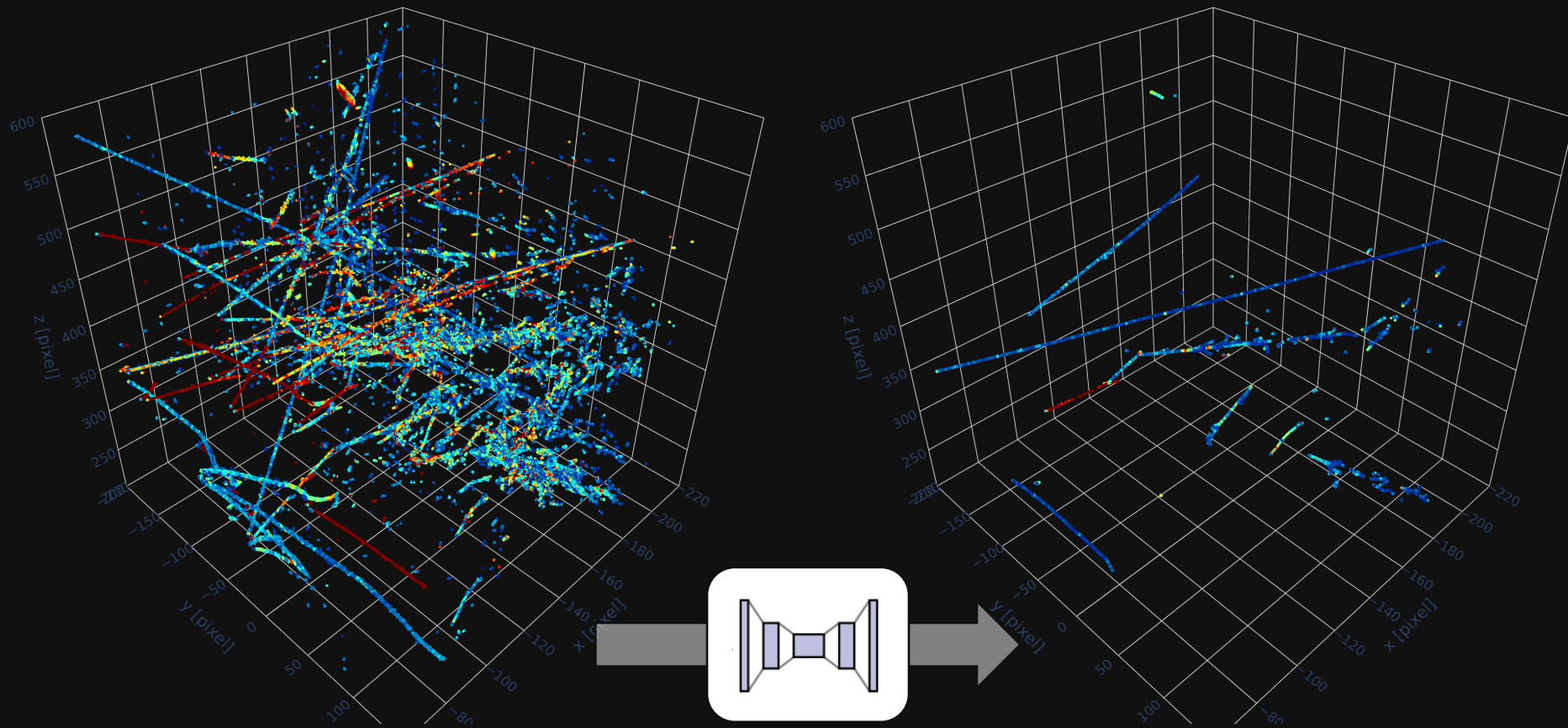
# SPINE: Scalable Particle Imaging with Neural Embeddings



- **Goal: Automated feature extraction for from LArTPC images**
  - **Interpretable:** chain of neural networks specializing in various sub-tasks
    - Allows detailed and informative error analysis, if certain parts of the chain fails
  - **Automatic optimization:** entire chain is trainable simultaneously using gradient-based optimization

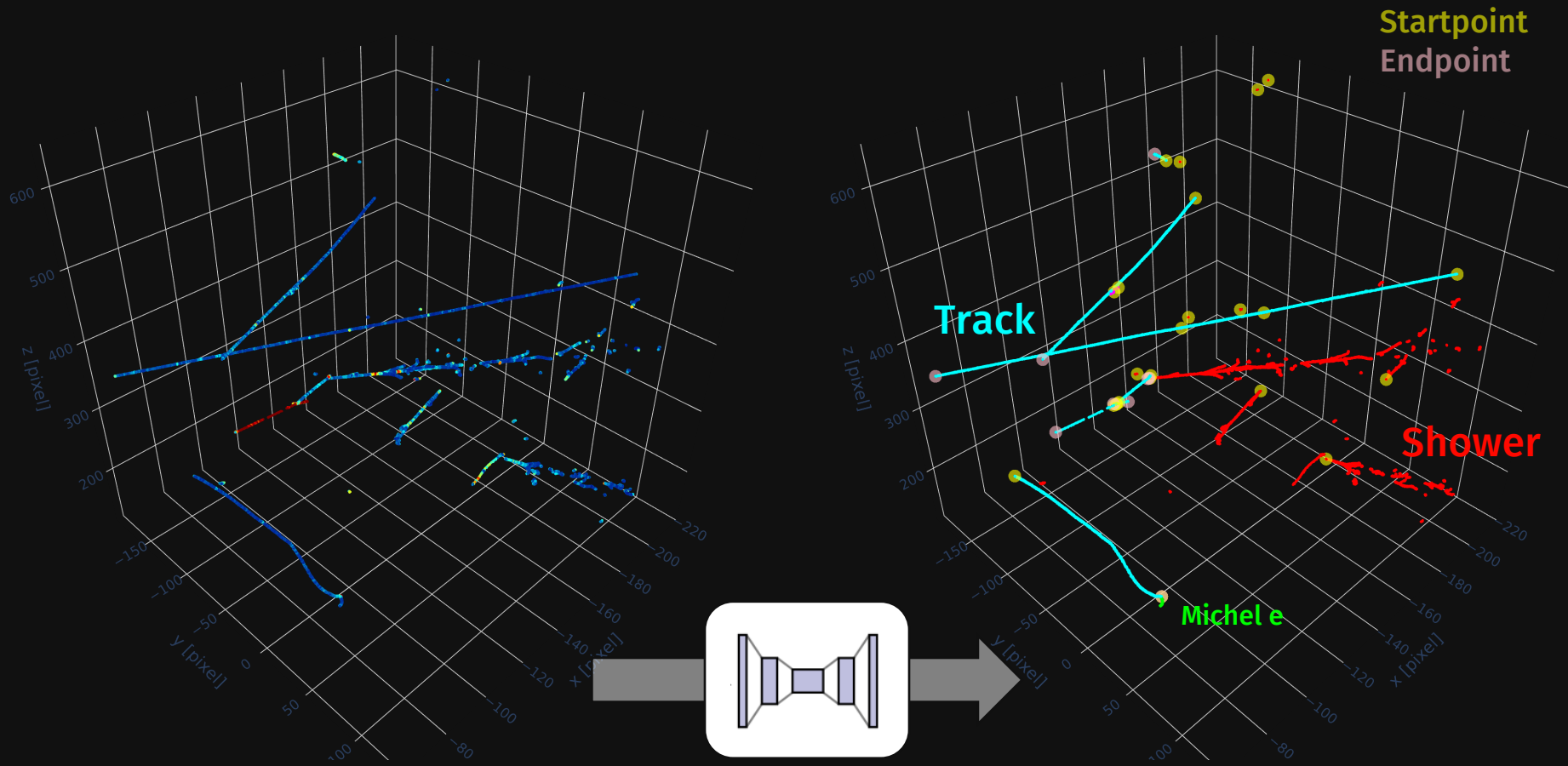


# Deep learning for LArTPC Event Reconstruction



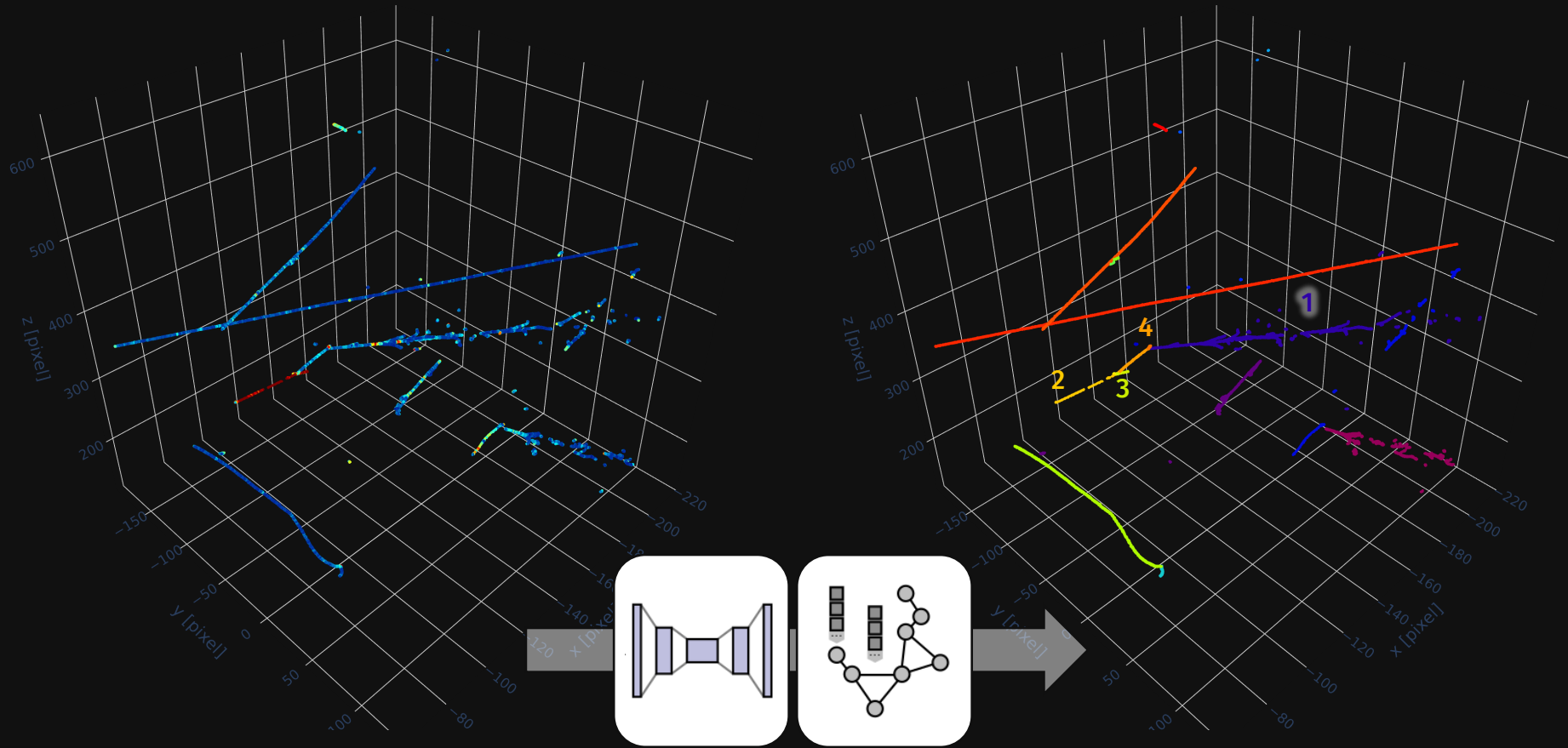
**Step 0: Remove 2D->3D Reconstruction Artifacts (Deghosting)**  
Later ML stages use the cleaned image on the right

# Deep learning for LArTPC Event Reconstruction



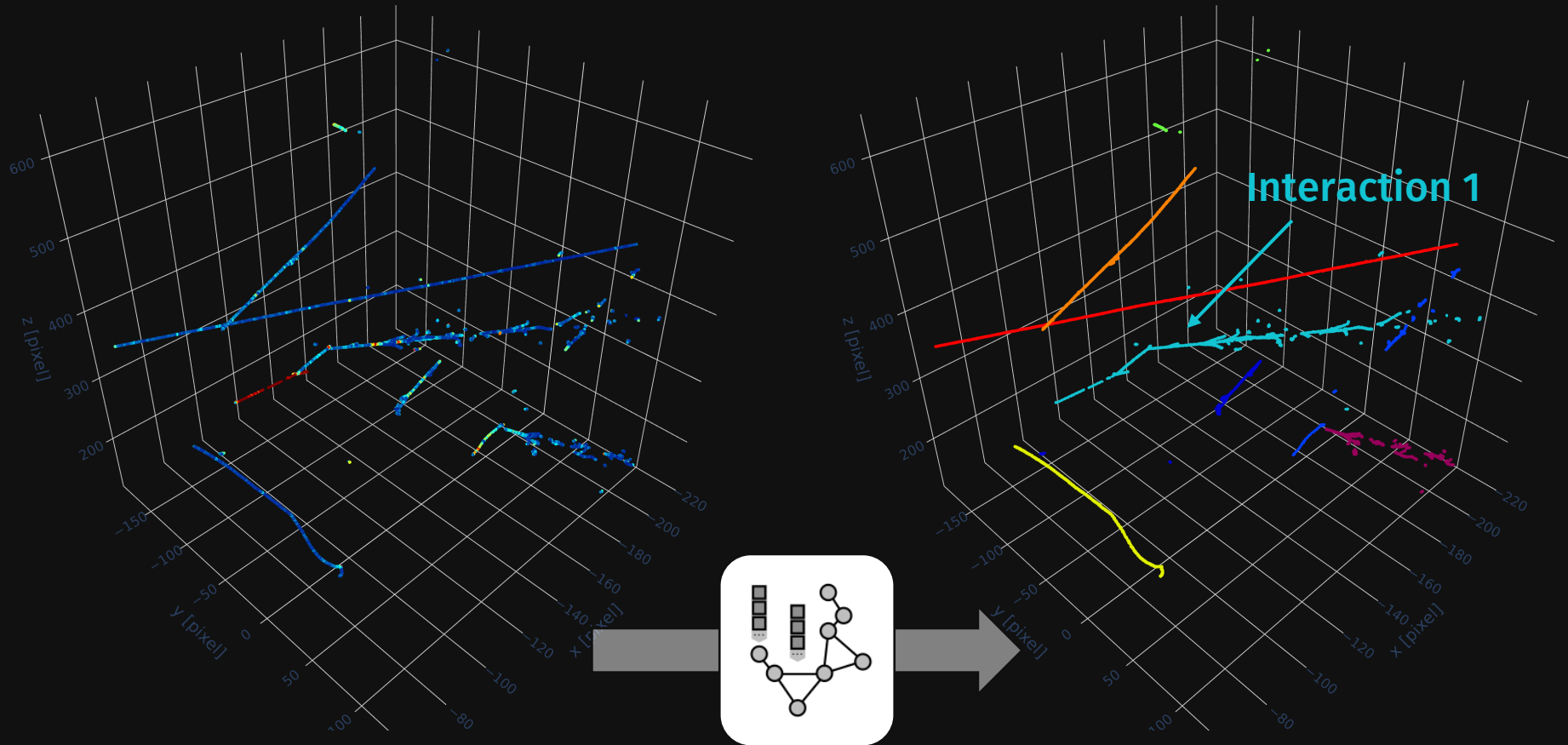
**Step 1: Identify Pixel-Level Features**  
Sparse-CNN for shape classification and interest point detection

# Deep learning for LArTPC Event Reconstruction



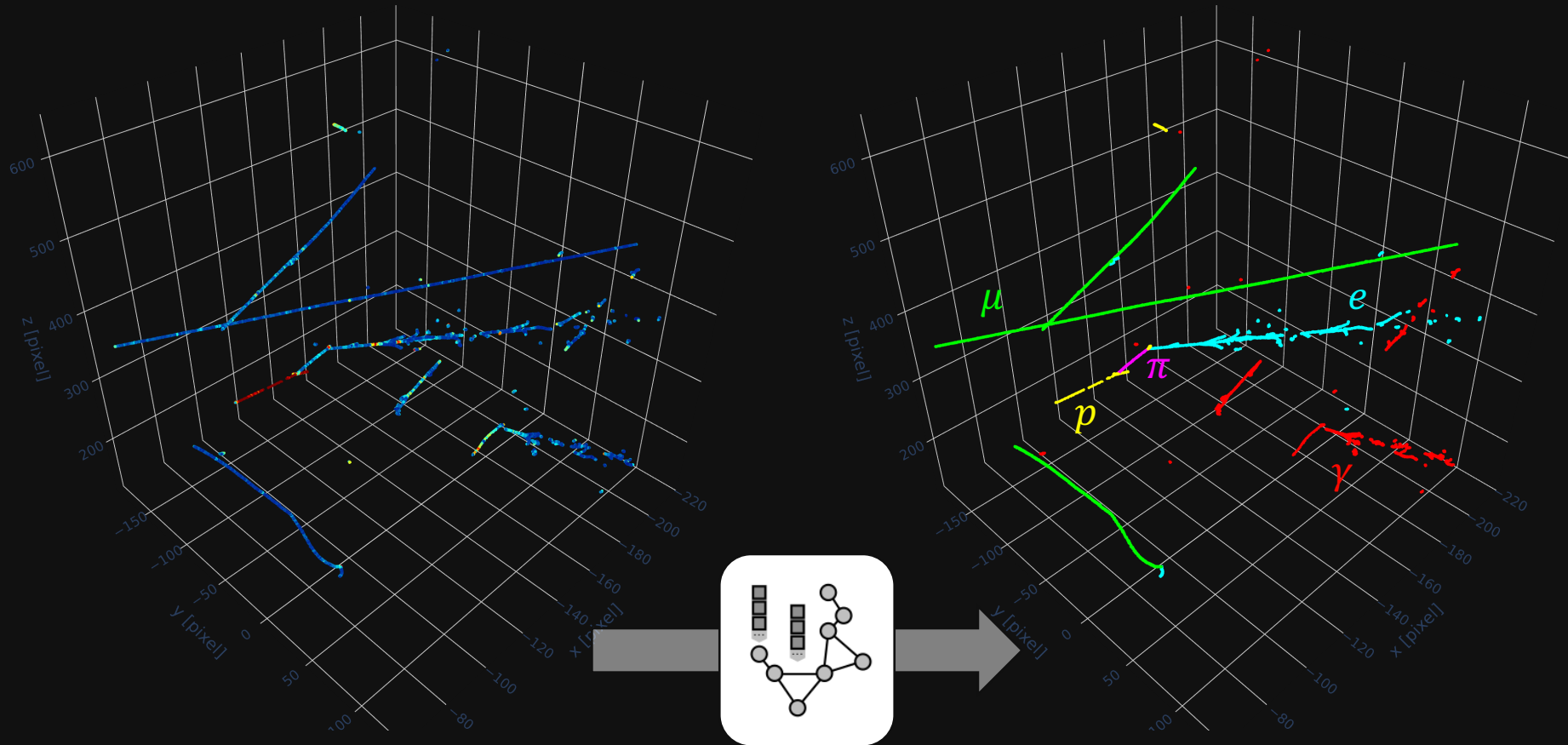
**Step 2: Identify Individual Particles**  
CNN for pixel-to-fragment clustering, GNN for fragment-to-particle aggregation

# Deep learning for LArTPC Event Reconstruction



**Step 3: Group particles to parent interactions**  
GNN, predict which particles have common ancestral interactions (edge prediction)

# Deep learning for LArTPC Event Reconstruction



**Step 4: Identify Cross-Particle Correlations**  
(GNN for particle type prediction, inference with contextual information)

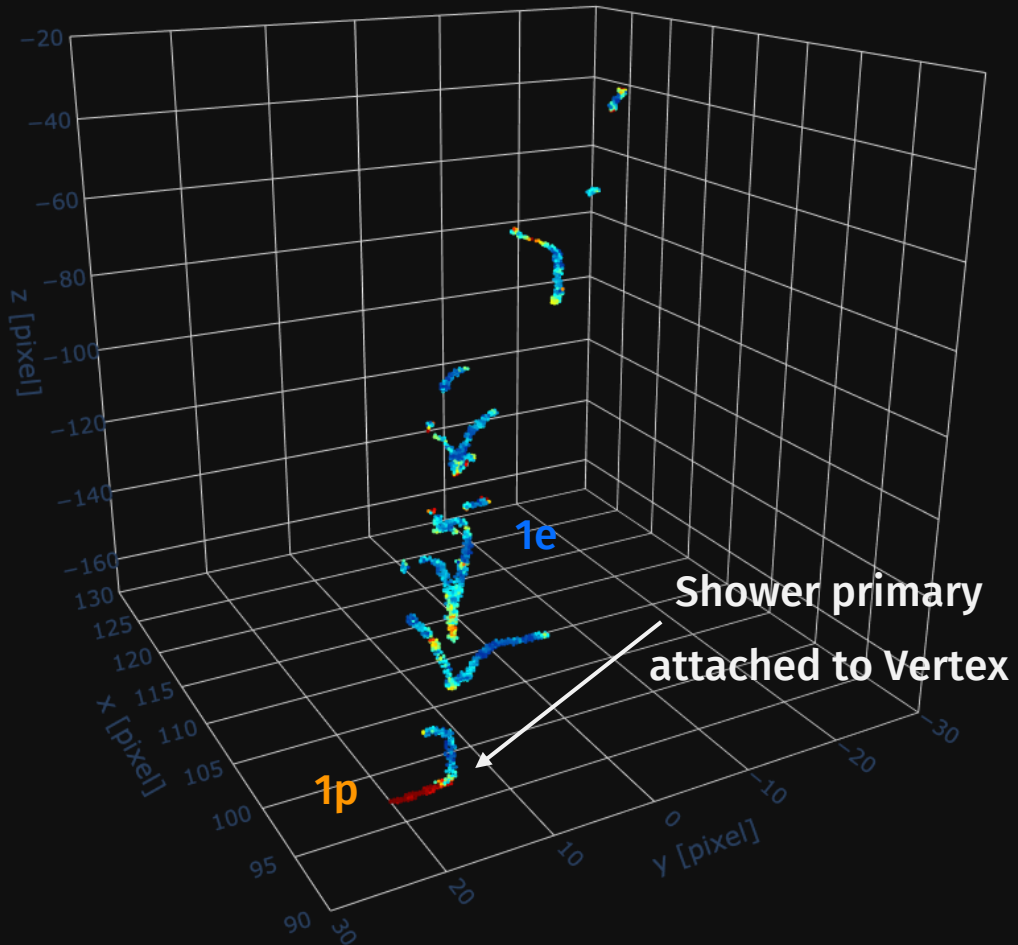
## IV. Preliminary Results

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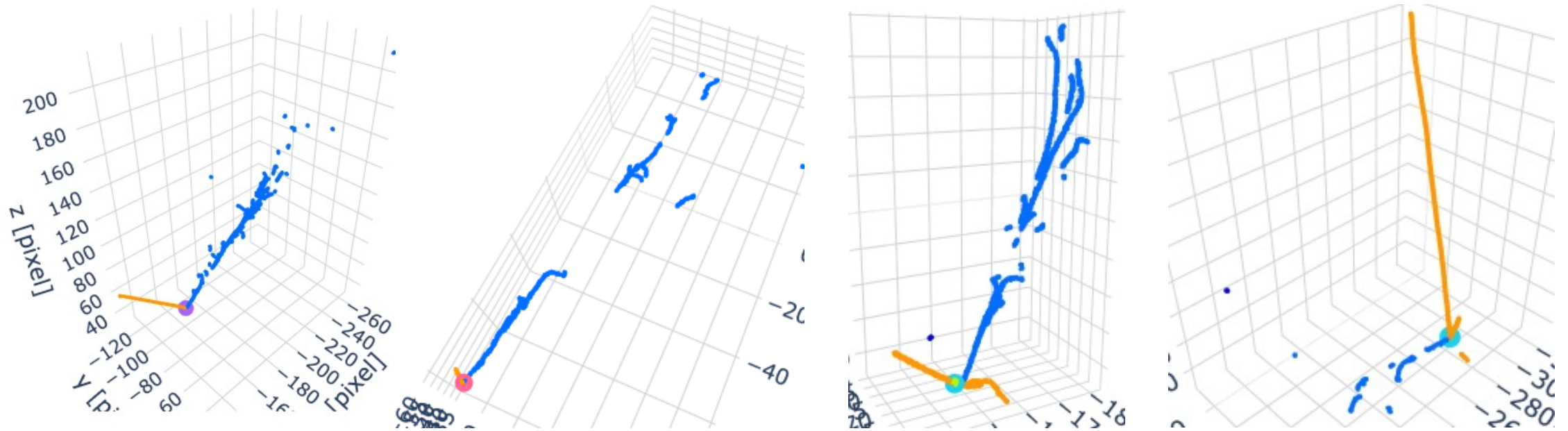
# Preliminary Results: Cuts (BNB)

True Signal  $\nu_e$  1eNp



- **Signal Definition:**  $1eNp0\pi^\pm0\gamma$  **Topology** with a **tagged PMT** information consistent with the **[0, 1.6us]** beam window ("**1eNp+FM**").
- **Visible 1eNp:** 1eNp topologies in which all participating particles deposit  $\geq 25$  MeV (30 MeV for protons)
- **Fiducial Cut:**
  - True and reconstructed vertex must be inside fiducial volume.
- **Conversion Distance Cut:**
  - Photons can travel some distance before pair-producing to EM shower cascade;  $e$  showers deposit energy from the beginning.
  - Require  $\leq 0.8$ cm for electrons

# Preliminary Results (BNB)

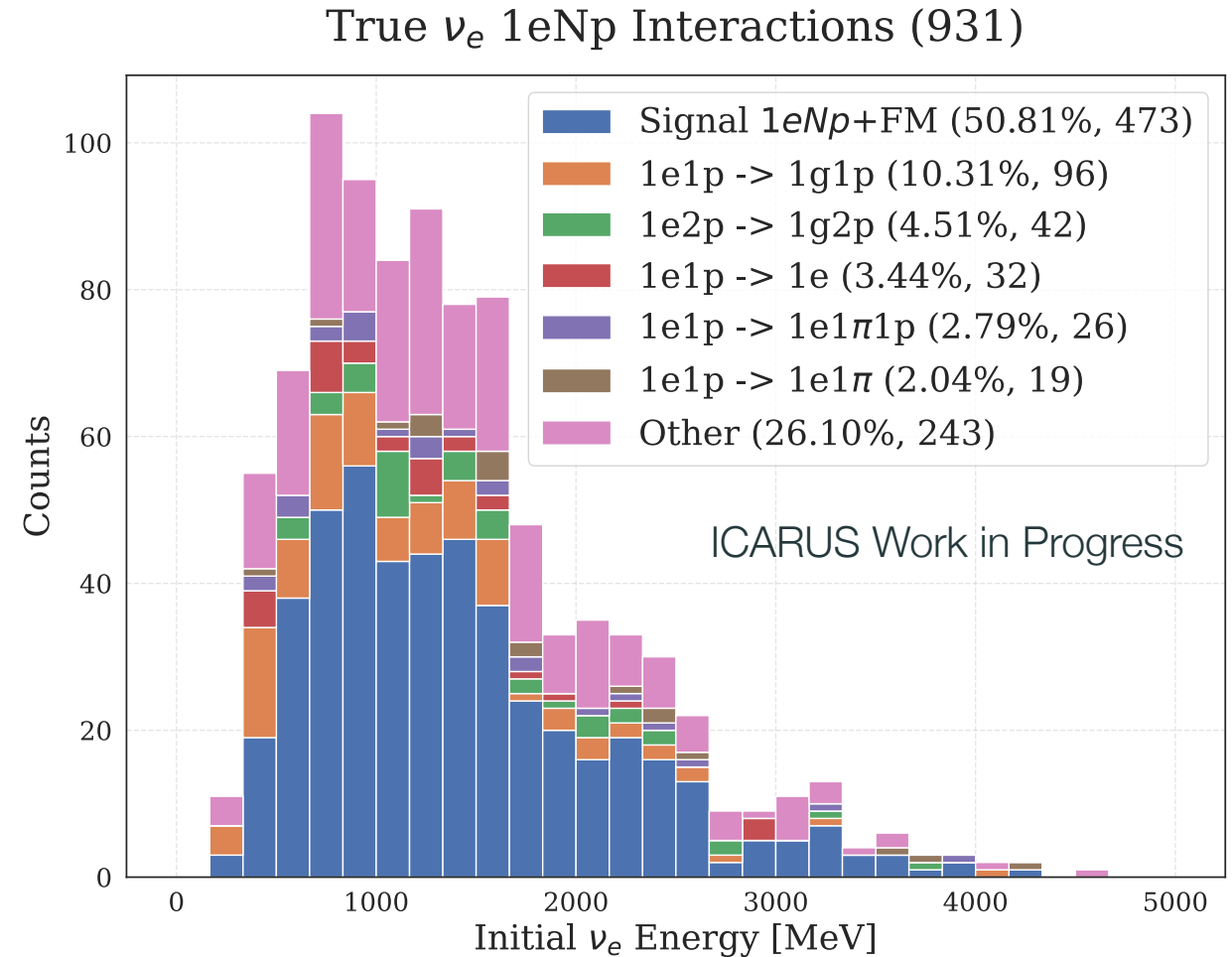


**Selected 1eNp Signals (True  $\nu_e$ 's) from BNB  $\nu_\mu$  + intrinsic  $\nu_e$  + Out-of-time Cosmics**

(Reconstruction with predicted particle types)

# Preliminary Results (1. BNB $\nu_e$ Intrinsic + Cosmic)

- To estimate efficiency, we use a **BNB intrinsic  $\nu_e$  only MC dataset**. (~3.5k  $\nu_e$  interactions with nonzero deposited E).
- **Reconstruction efficiency is ~51%**, with dominant error mode due to  $1eNp \rightarrow 1\gamma Np$ .
- **Energy Reconstruction:**
  - $E_e$  (Electron Energy):
    - **Calorimetric reconstruction** from wire plane charge information
  - $E_p^{(i)}$  (Proton Energy):
    - **Bethe-Bloch range-based energy estimation**



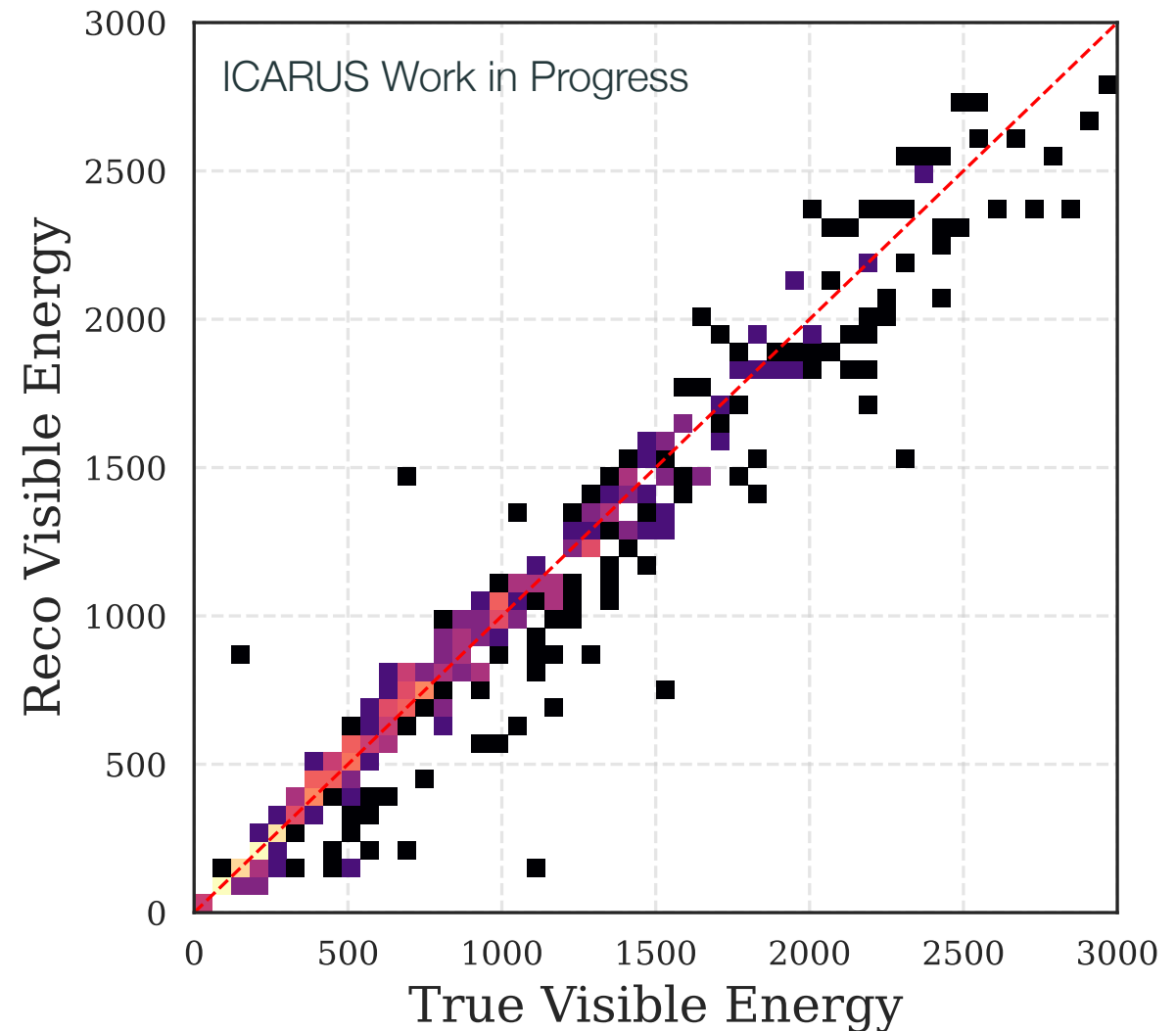
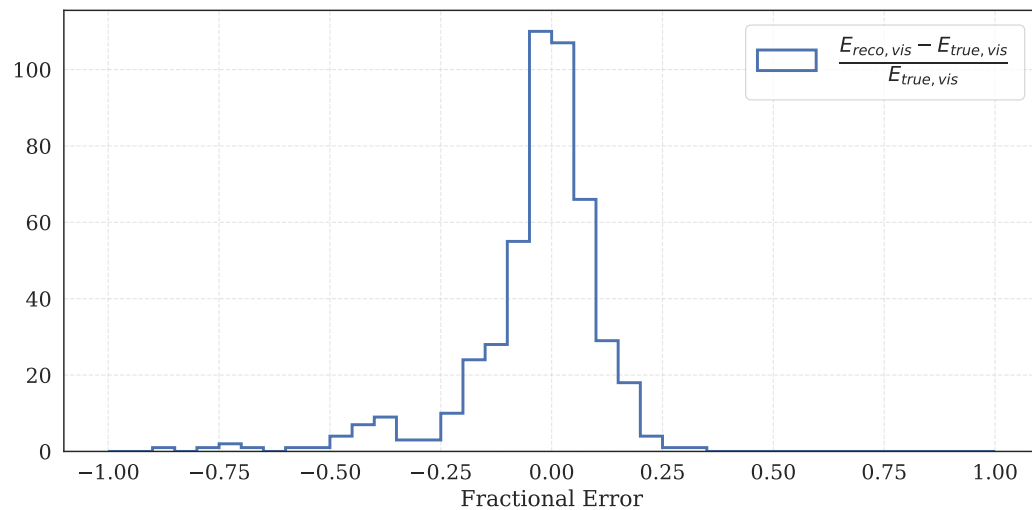
# Preliminary Results (1. BNB $\nu_e$ Intrinsic + Cosmic)

- The **neutrino interaction visible energy** is defined as a simple sum of the constituent particles' reconstructed energy:

$$E_{\nu_e} = E_e + \sum_i E_p^{(i)}$$

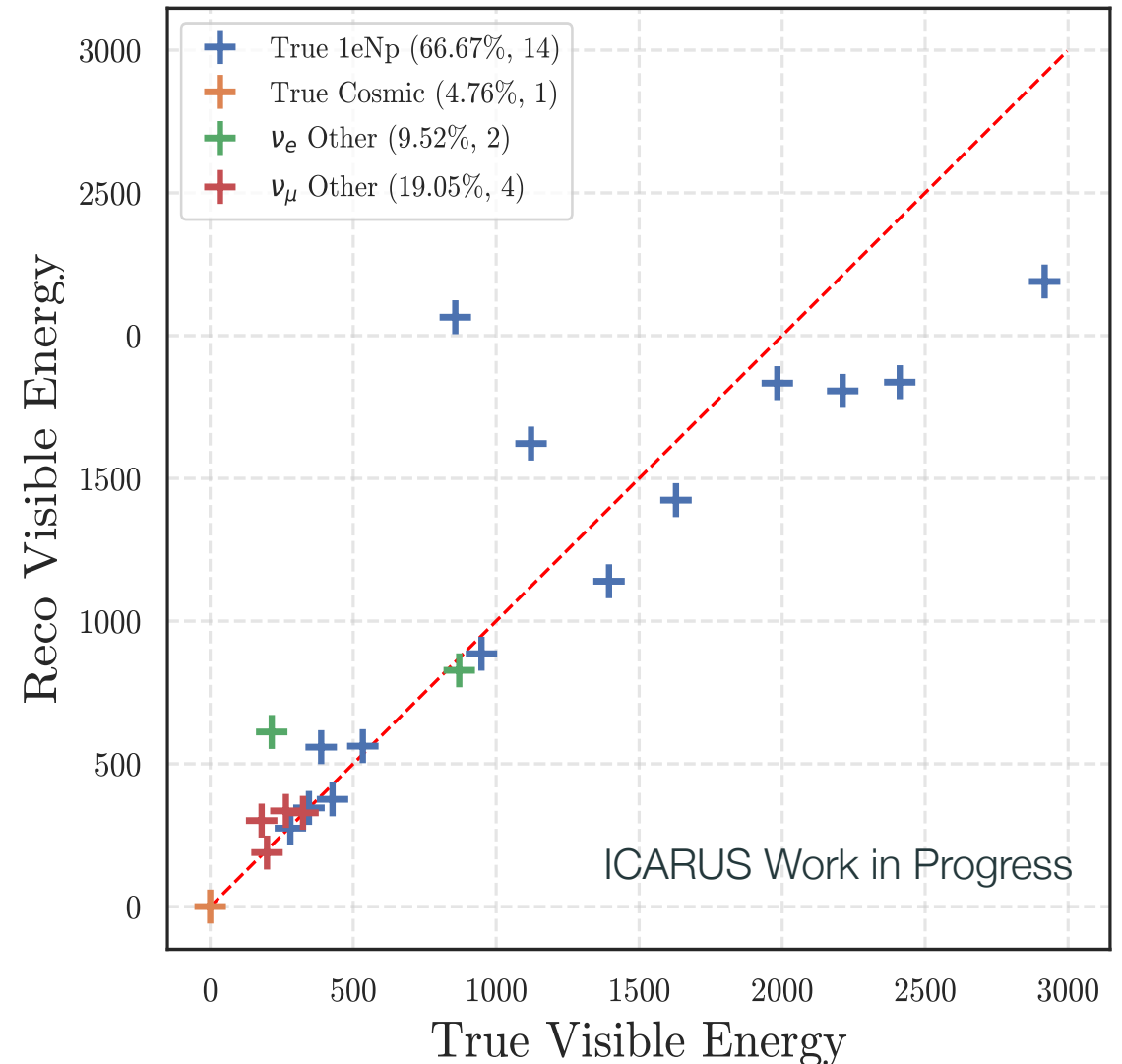
- FWHM is ~20% for the fractional error  $\left(\frac{E_{reco} - E_{true}}{E_{true}}\right)$  about center.**

ICARUS Work in Progress



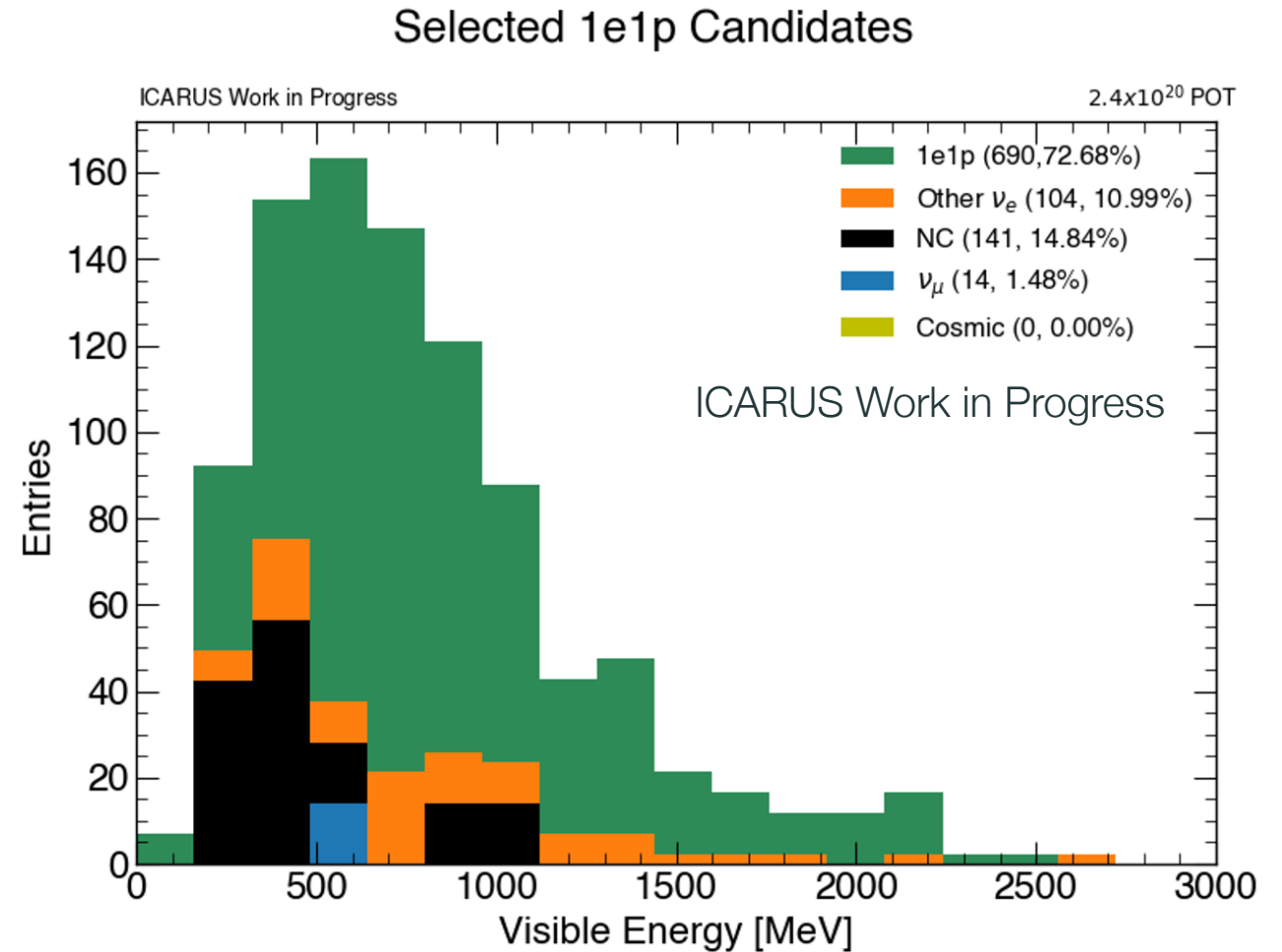
# Preliminary Results (2: BNB $\nu_\mu + \nu_e$ + out-of-time cosmic)

- For purity and background rejection estimates, we use the BNB  $\nu$  Flux (~13k neutrinos, 99.5%  $\nu_\mu$ , 0.5%  $\nu_e$ ) simulation.
- **Estimated Purity: 66.67%**
- **MicroBooNE  $\nu_e$   $1eNp0\pi$  Efficiency/Purity: ~~15%/80%~~ with 40 MeV proton energy threshold**  
DOI:<https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevD.105.112004>
- Selection rejects **all (100%) simulated in-time cosmic (~291k cosmic ray dataset) backgrounds.**



# Preliminary Results (4: NuMI + out-of-time cosmic)

- NuMI  $\nu_e$  candidates (D. Carber):
  - Containment required for visible particles (5cm margin from detector boundaries)
  - Optical flash timing within NuMI Beam window (9.6 $\mu$ s wide)
  - $\geq 1$  reconstructed  $e$  with  $E_e \geq 10$  MeV.
  - $\geq 1$  reconstructed  $p$  with  $E_p \geq 40$  MeV.
- **1e1p: Efficiency: 73.3%, Purity: 72.7%**



# Conclusion

- Demonstrated application of SPINE ML-based reconstruction chain to ICARUS BNB and NuMI electron neutrino reconstruction
- Selection Purity and Efficiency:
  - BNB 1eNp: 51% / 67%
  - NuMI 1e1p: 73% / 73%
- BNB Visible Reconstructed Neutrino Energy resolution: FWHM is ~20% for the fractional error

## Future Work

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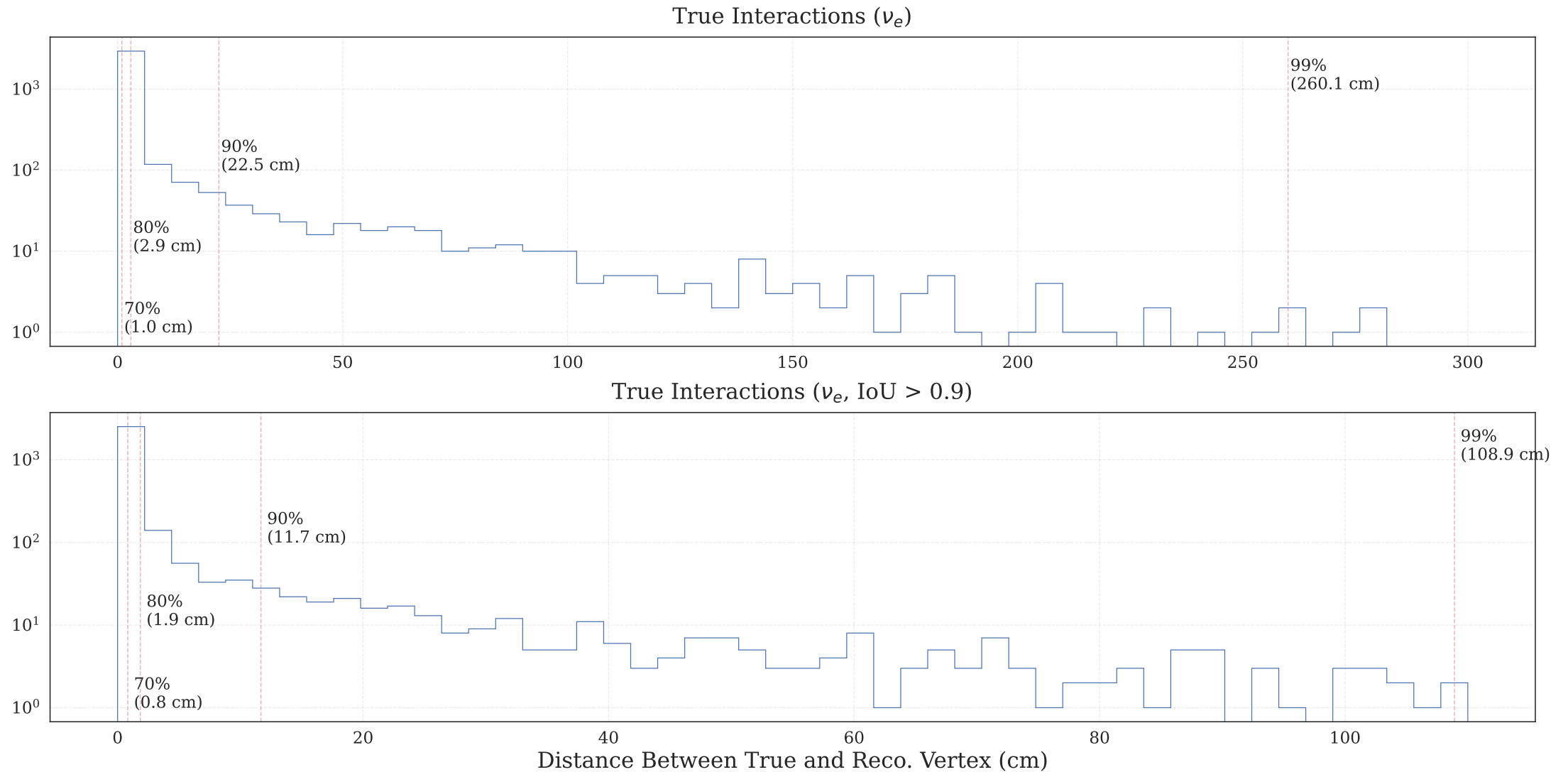
- Validate analysis on large-statistics sample
- Integrate flux, interaction, and detector systematic uncertainties
- Data vs. Simulation Studies

## A. Reserve Slides

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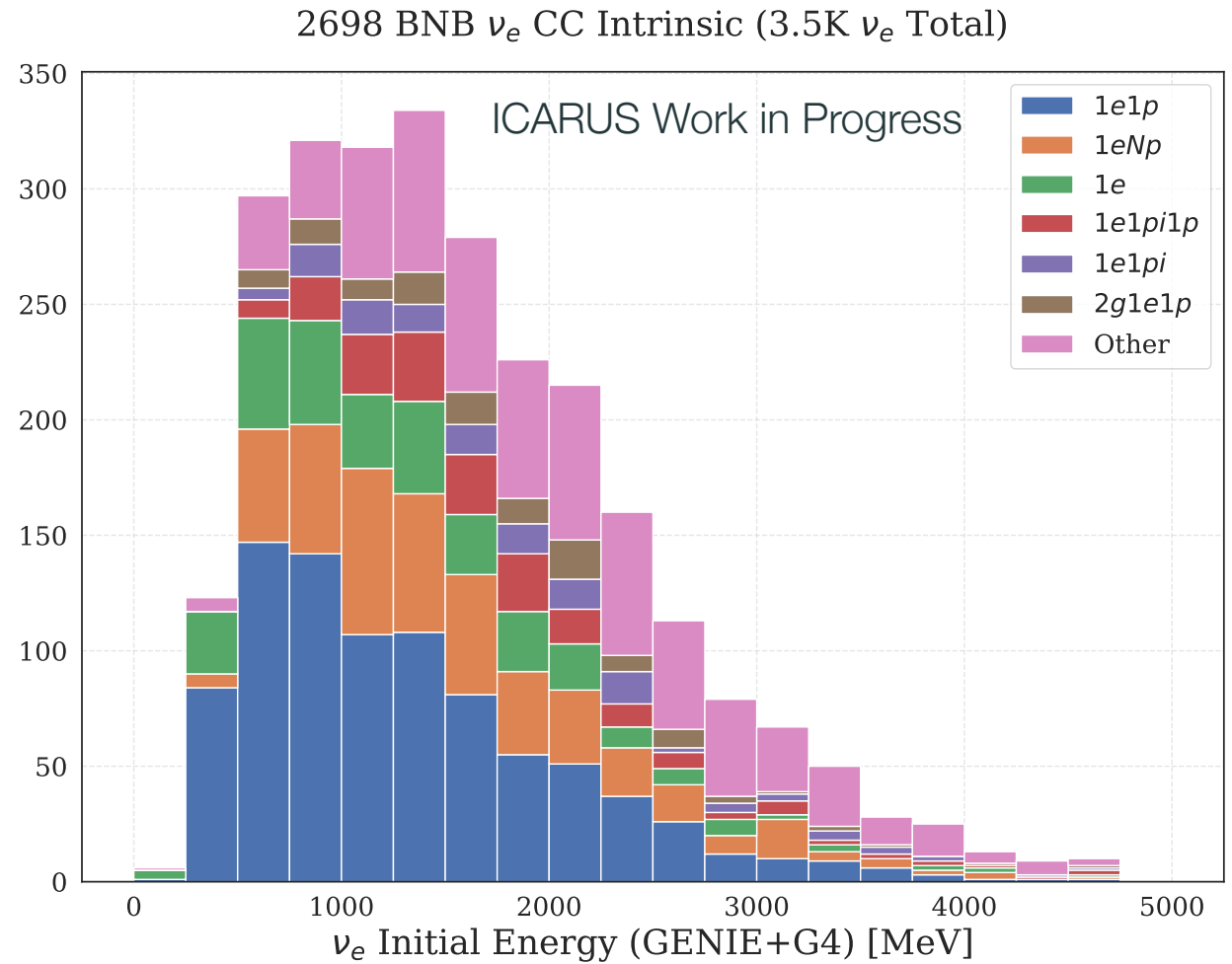


# Vertex Reconstruction Resolution



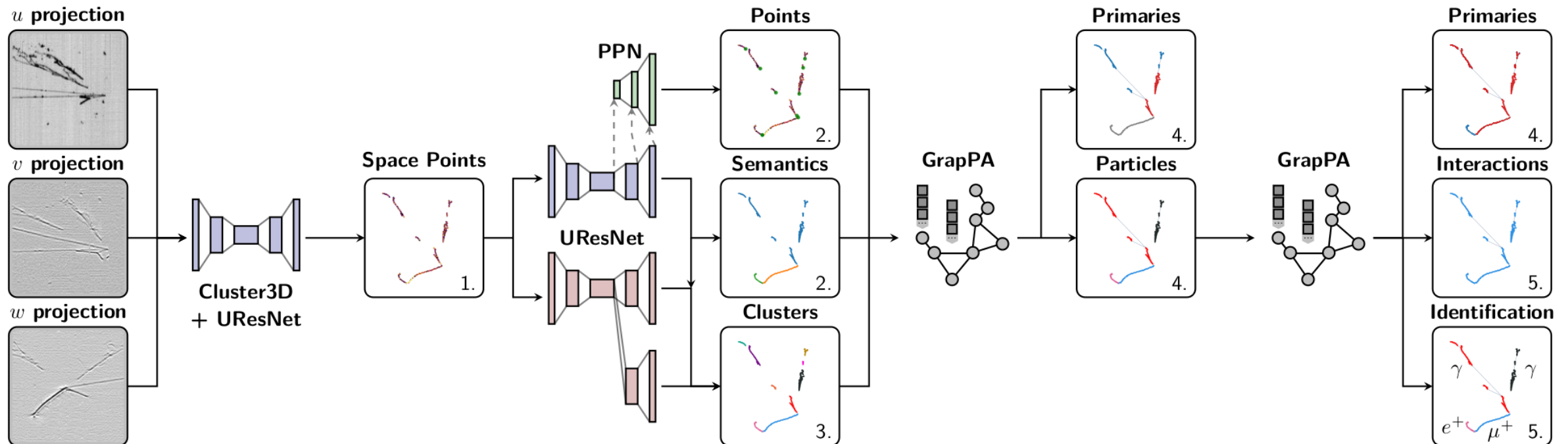
# Defining the Signal (BNB)

- Event topology for  $\nu_e$  selection:
  - Aim for simple and abundant electron neutrino topology
    - $1eNp$ , with  $N \geq 1$ .
  - Single electron ( $1e$ ) topology prone to background contamination from NC  $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$  decays
  - Require no primary photons for  $\nu_\mu$  NC  $\pi^0$  rejection
- **Conclusion:**
  - **$1eNp0\pi^\pm0\gamma$  Topology for  $\nu_e$  candidate**
- Left: simulated 2.7K charge-current electron neutrino interactions ( $\nu_e$  CC) in ICARUS

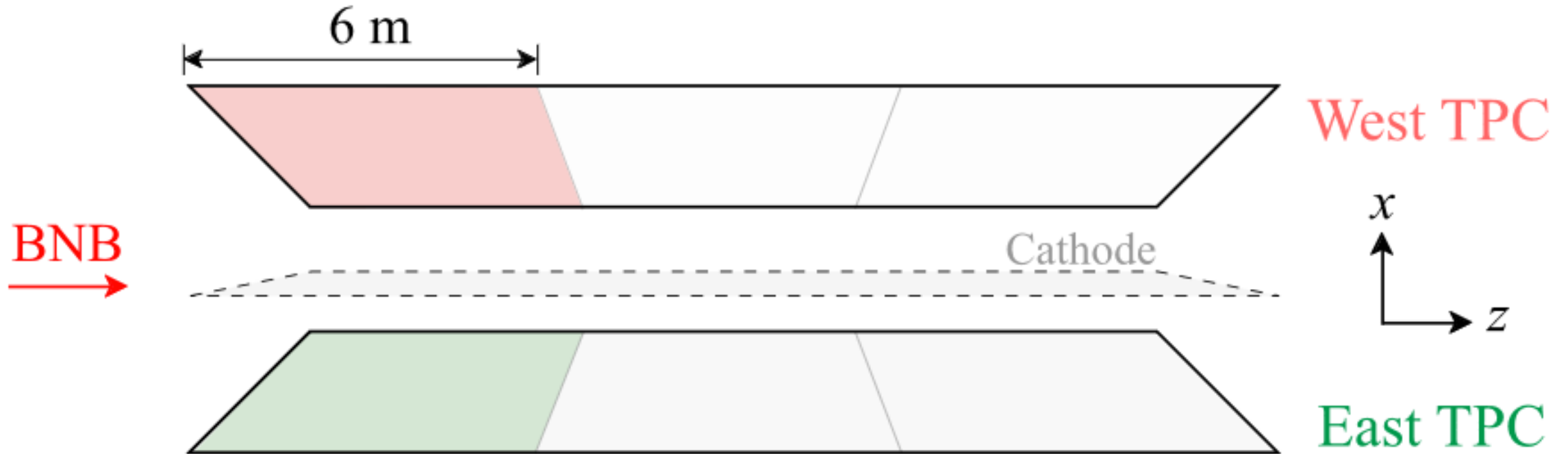


# Deep learning for LArTPC Event Reconstruction

- **Goal: Automated feature extraction for from LArTPC images**
  - **Interpretable:** chain of neural networks specializing in various sub-tasks
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  - **Easy-optimization:** entire chain is trainable simultaneously using gradient-based optimization



# The ICARUS T600 Detector

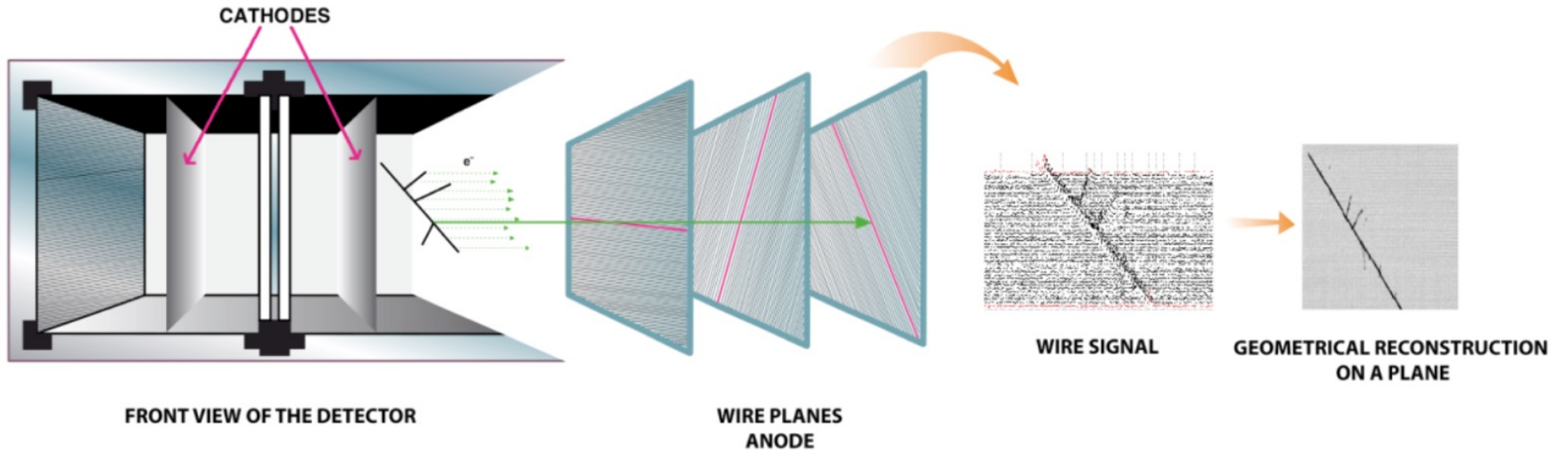


Top View of West ICARUS T300 module (West and East T300 combine to form the T600 Detector)

Image Credit: <https://thesis.unipd.it/handle/20.500.12608/52881>

# The ICARUS T600 Detector

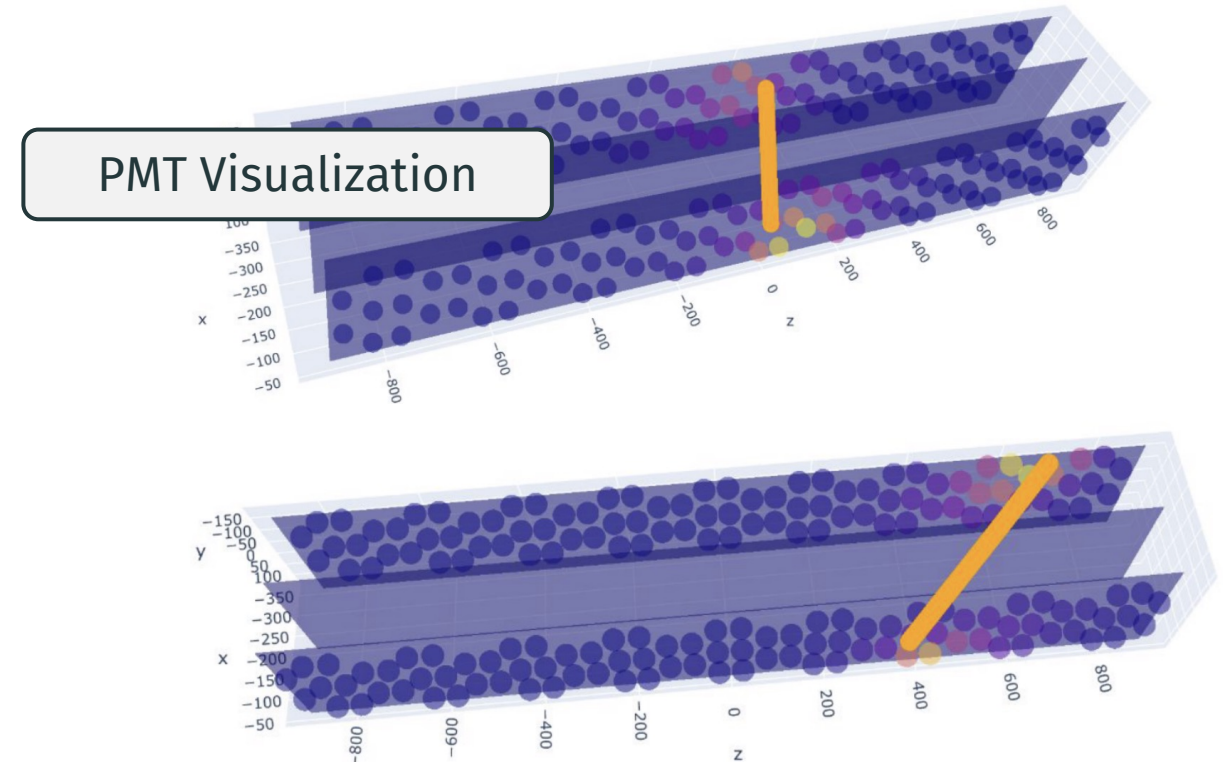
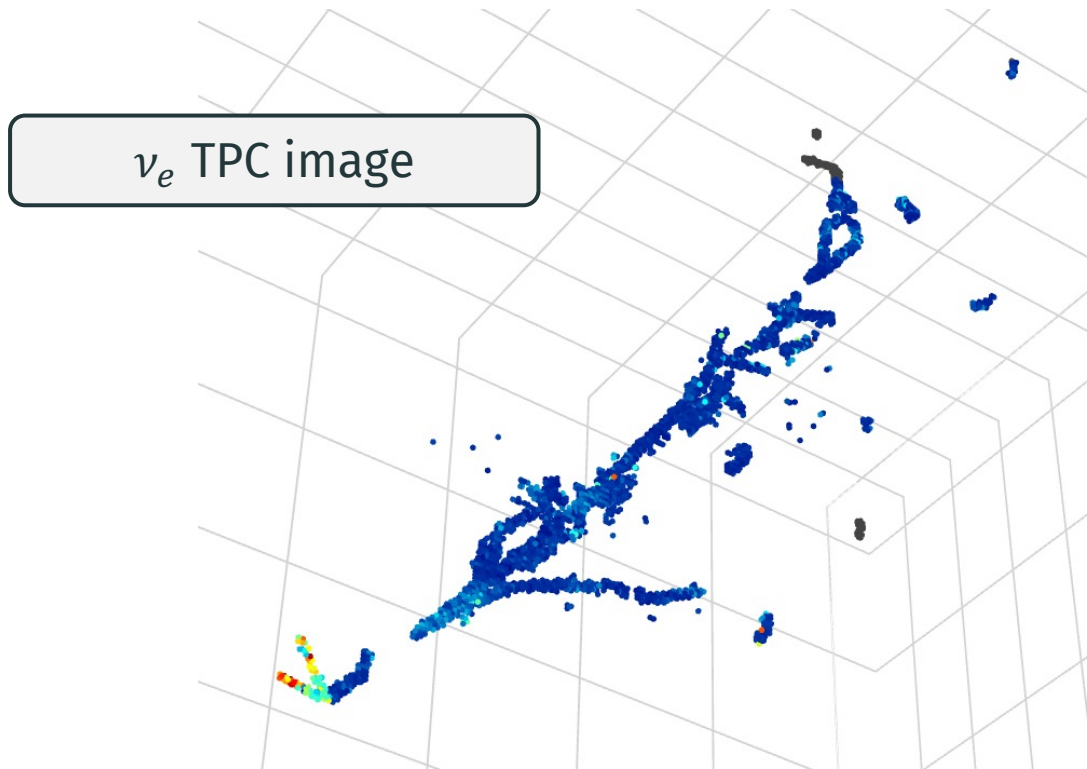
- Each U, V, and Y wire planes provide a 2D projection view of the charged particle ionization path
- A 3D representation of a charge particle ionization path may be reconstructed from the 2D views, provided the initial timing information.



Rubbia, C & Antonello, Matteo & Aprili, P. & Baibussinov, B. & Baldo-Ceolin, M. & Barze, Luca & Benetti, P & Calligarich, E & Canci, Nicola & Carbonara, F. & Cavanna, Flavio & Centro, Sandro & Cesana, A & Cieslik, Krzysztof & Cline, D. & Cocco, Alfredo & Dabrowska, Anna & Dequal, Daniele & Dermenev, A & Zmuda, J.. (2011). Underground operation of the ICARUS T600 LAr-TPC: first results. *Journal of Instrumentation - J INSTRUM.* 6. 10.1088/1748-0221/6/07/P07011.

# The ICARUS T600 Detector

- The ICARUS T600 detector is composed of three major subsystems:
  - **Time Projection Chambers (TPCs):** allow high resolution imaging of particle trajectories.
  - **Photomultiplier Tubes (PMTs):** scintillation light from charged particles used for interaction timing information
  - **Cosmic Ray Tagger (CRTs):** tagging system for crossing and exiting particles



# The ICARUS T600 Detector: Trigger System

- ICARUS Trigger system exploits 360 PMTs installed behind TPC wire planes to recognize beam-related neutrino events within the  $1.6\mu\text{s}$  spills of the Booster Neutrino Beam (BNB).
- Detector receives “early warning” signals 35ms before the protons hit the BNB target, hence the beam spill windows are known.

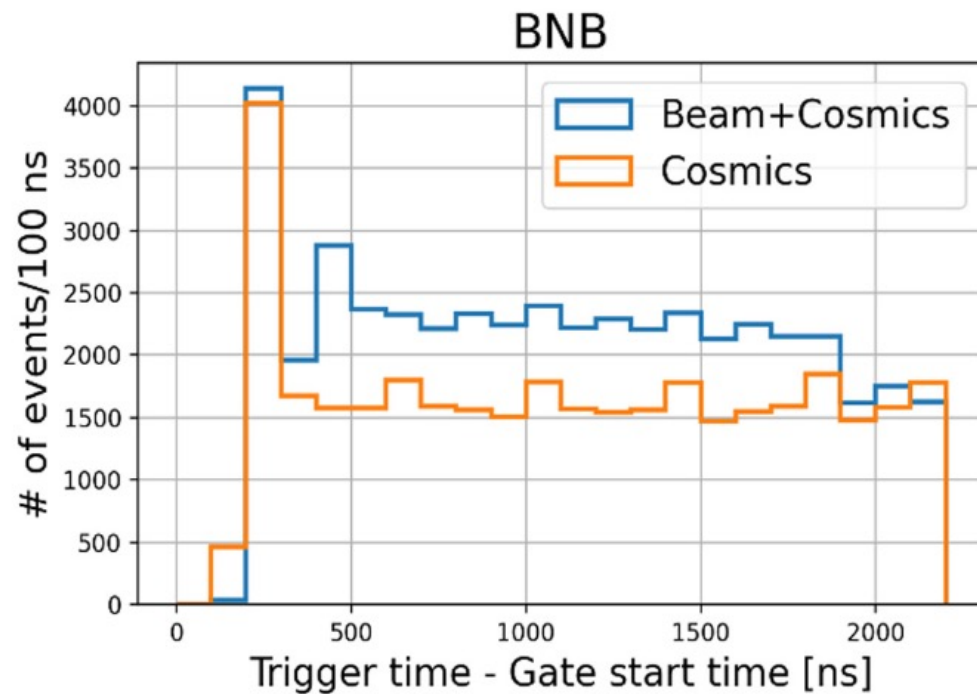


Image Credit: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nima.2022.167498>

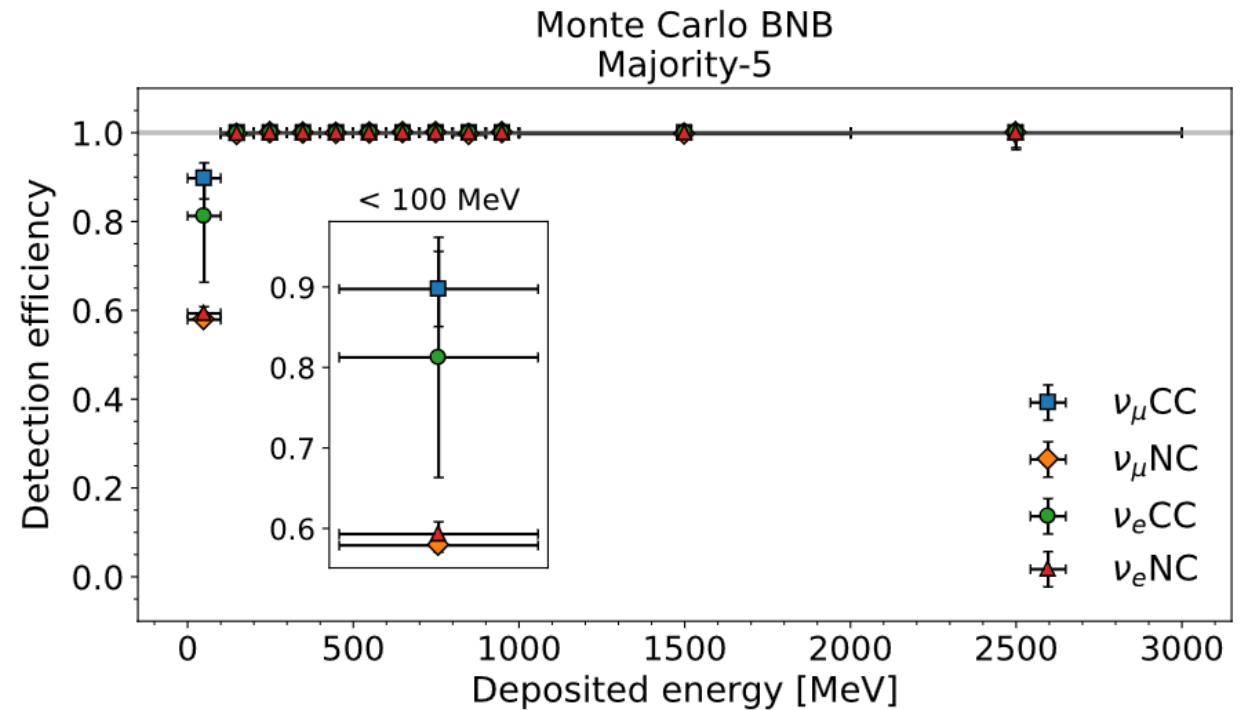
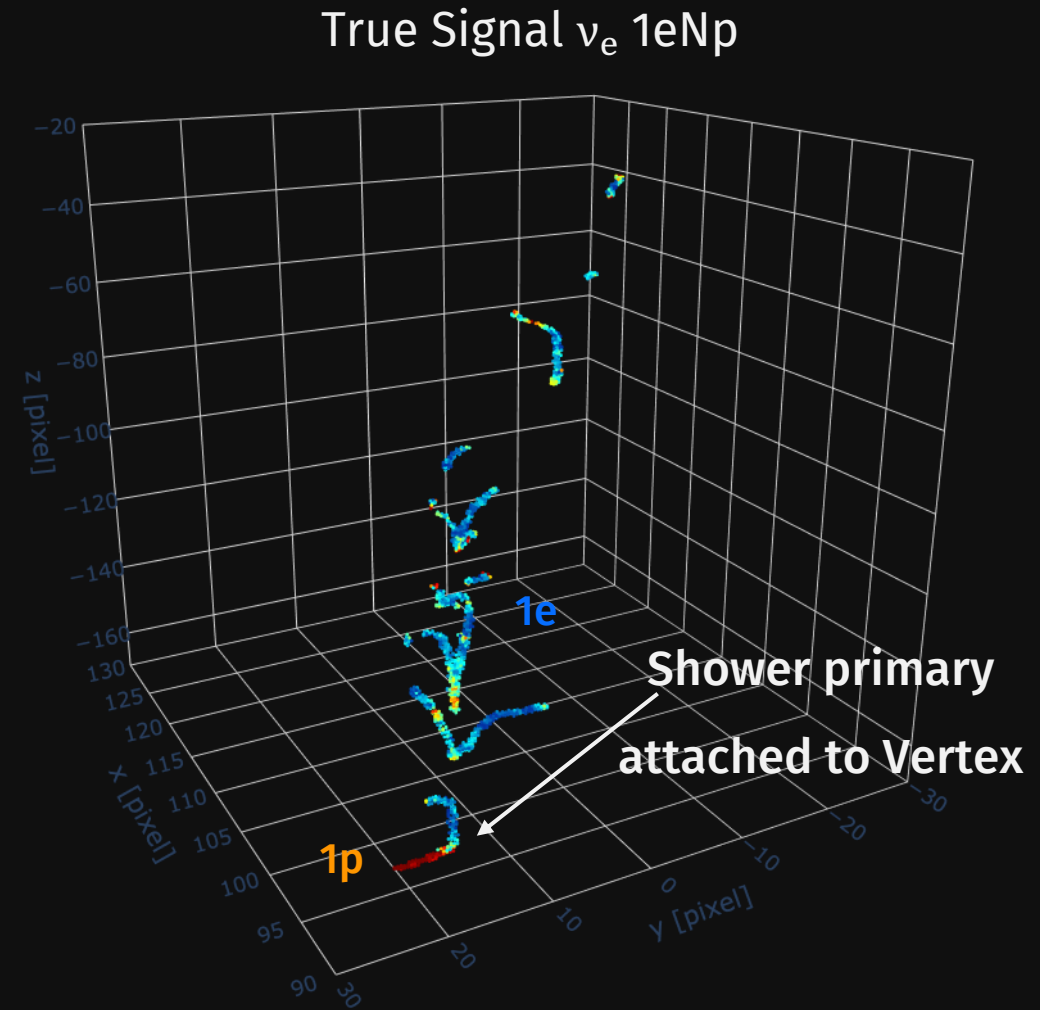
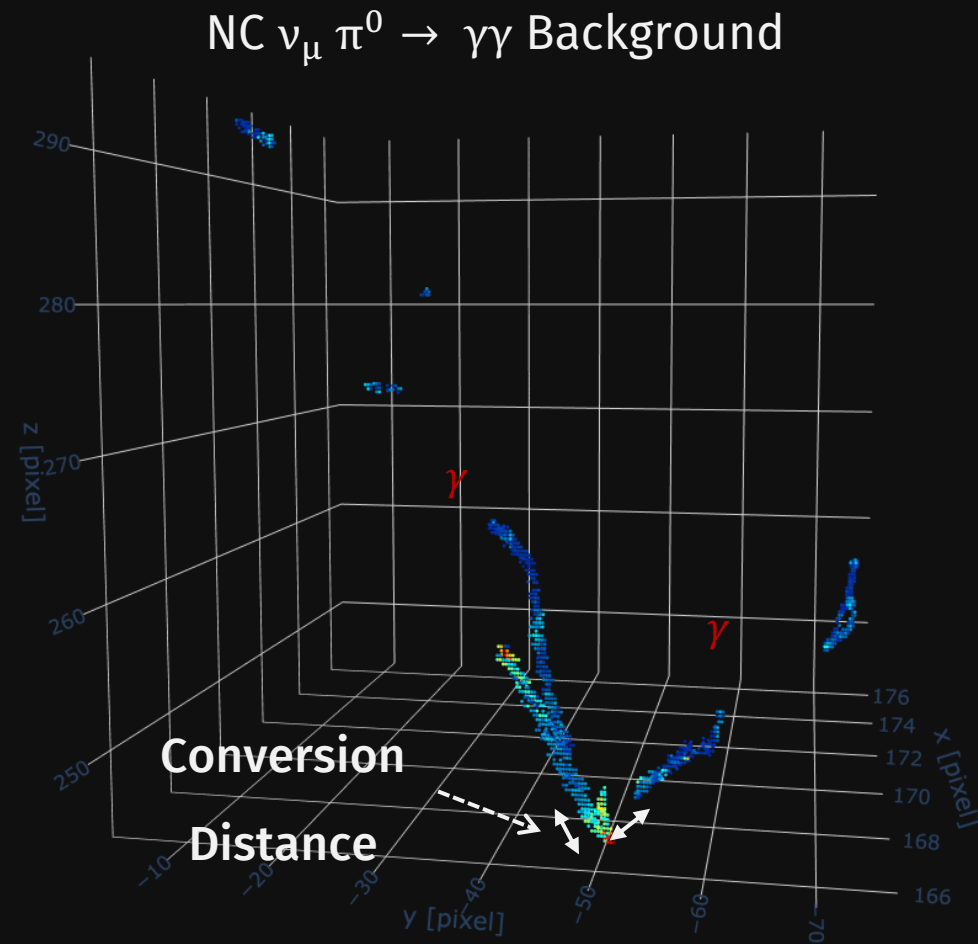


Image Credit: <https://thesis.unipd.it/handle/20.500.12608/52881>



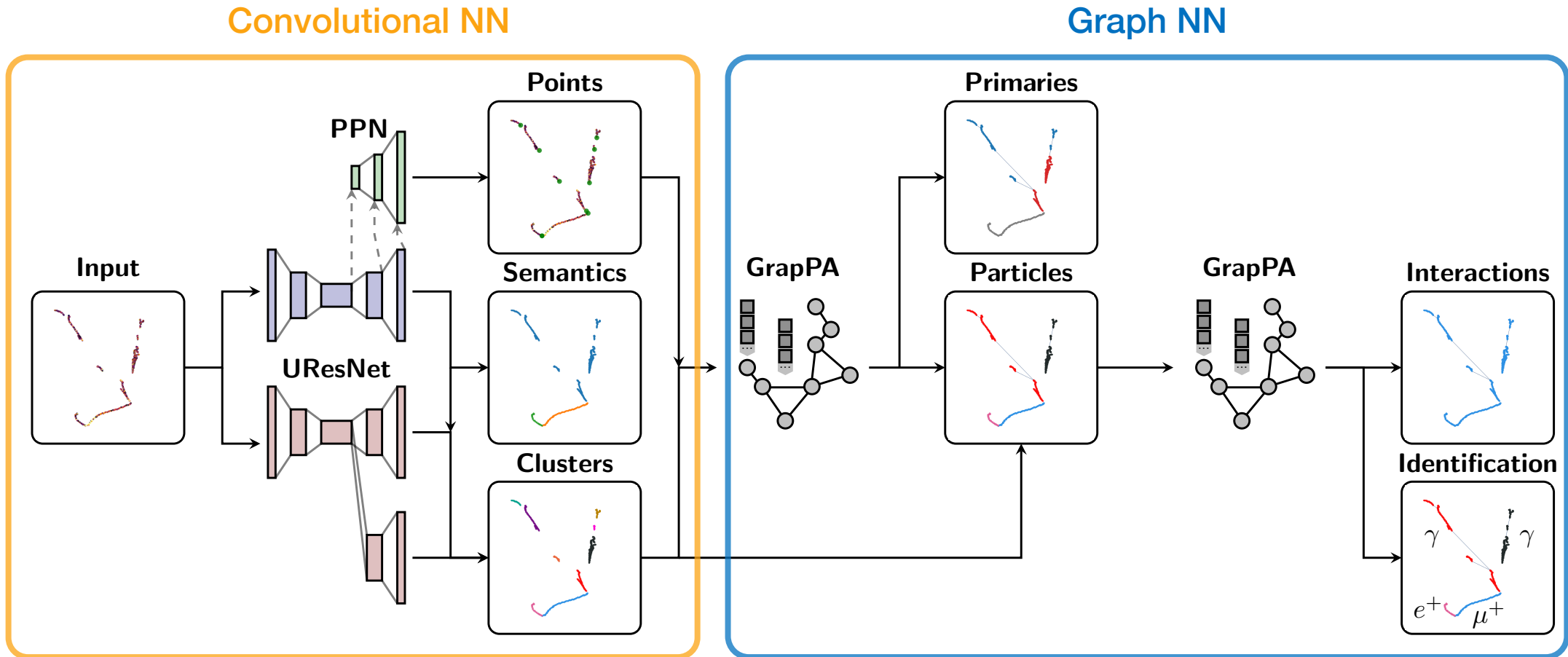
# Preliminary Results: Cuts (BNB)





# Deep learning for LArTPC Event Reconstruction

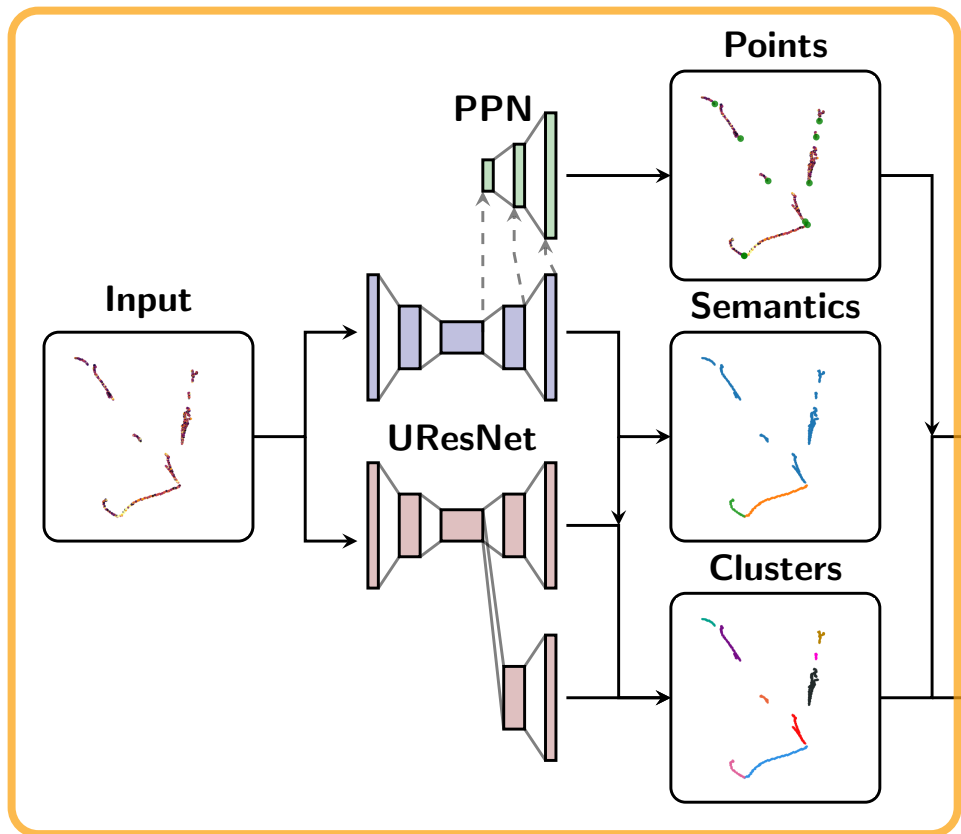
- The reconstruction chain may be separated into two submodules: **convolutional** and **graphical** neural network branches.



# Deep learning for LArTPC Event Reconstruction

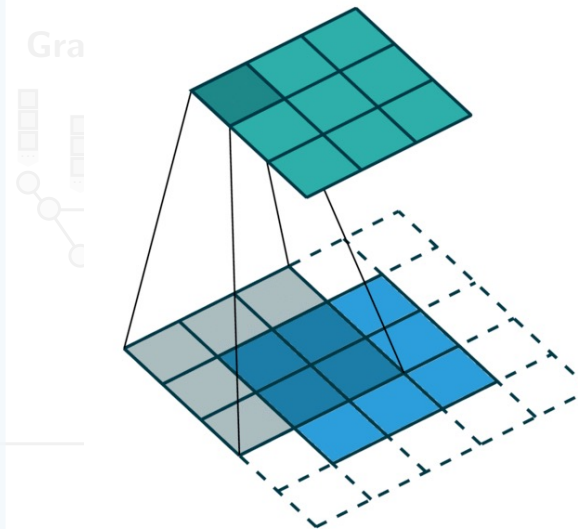
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## Convolutional NN

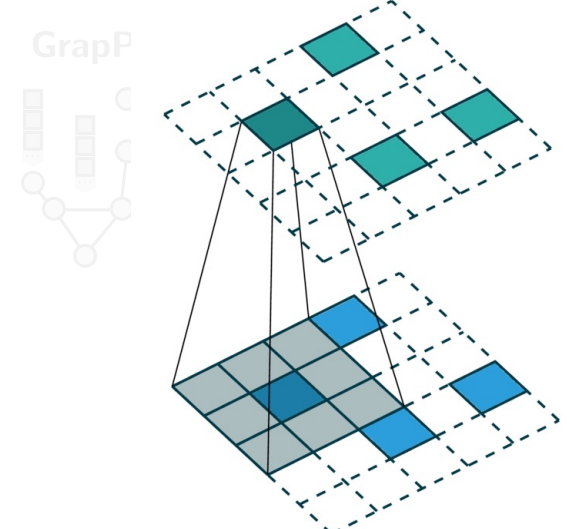


- Sparse Convolutional Neural Networks** allows fast, efficient, and superior processing of LArTPC images.

## Dense Convolution



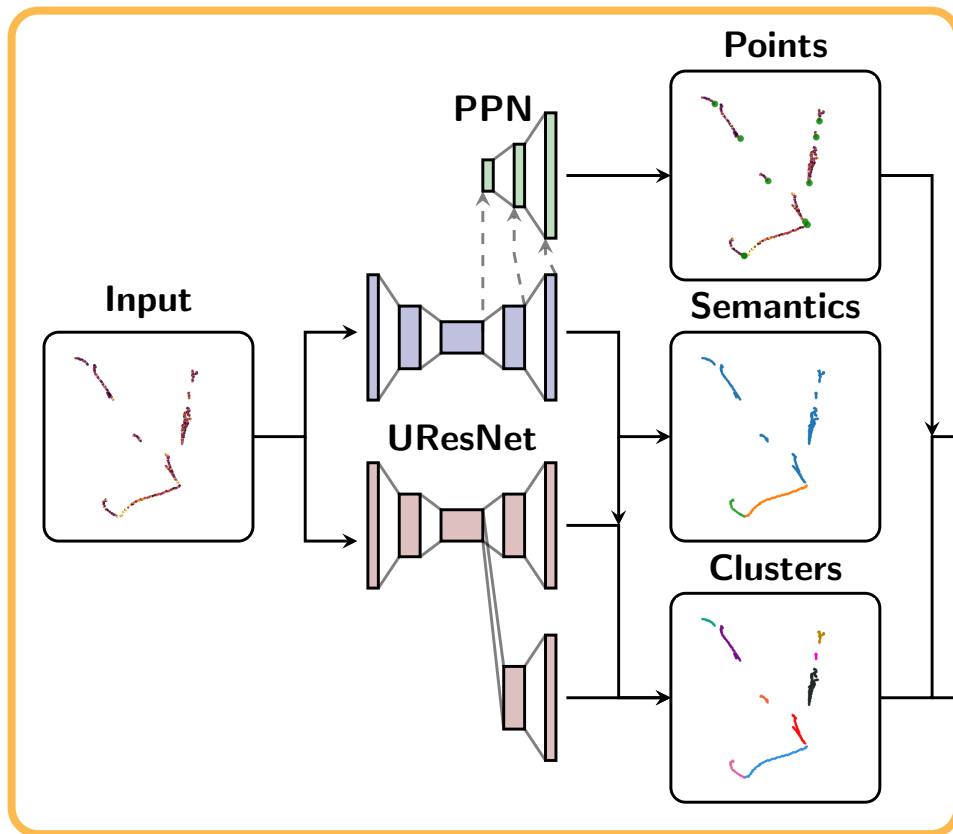
## Sparse Convolution



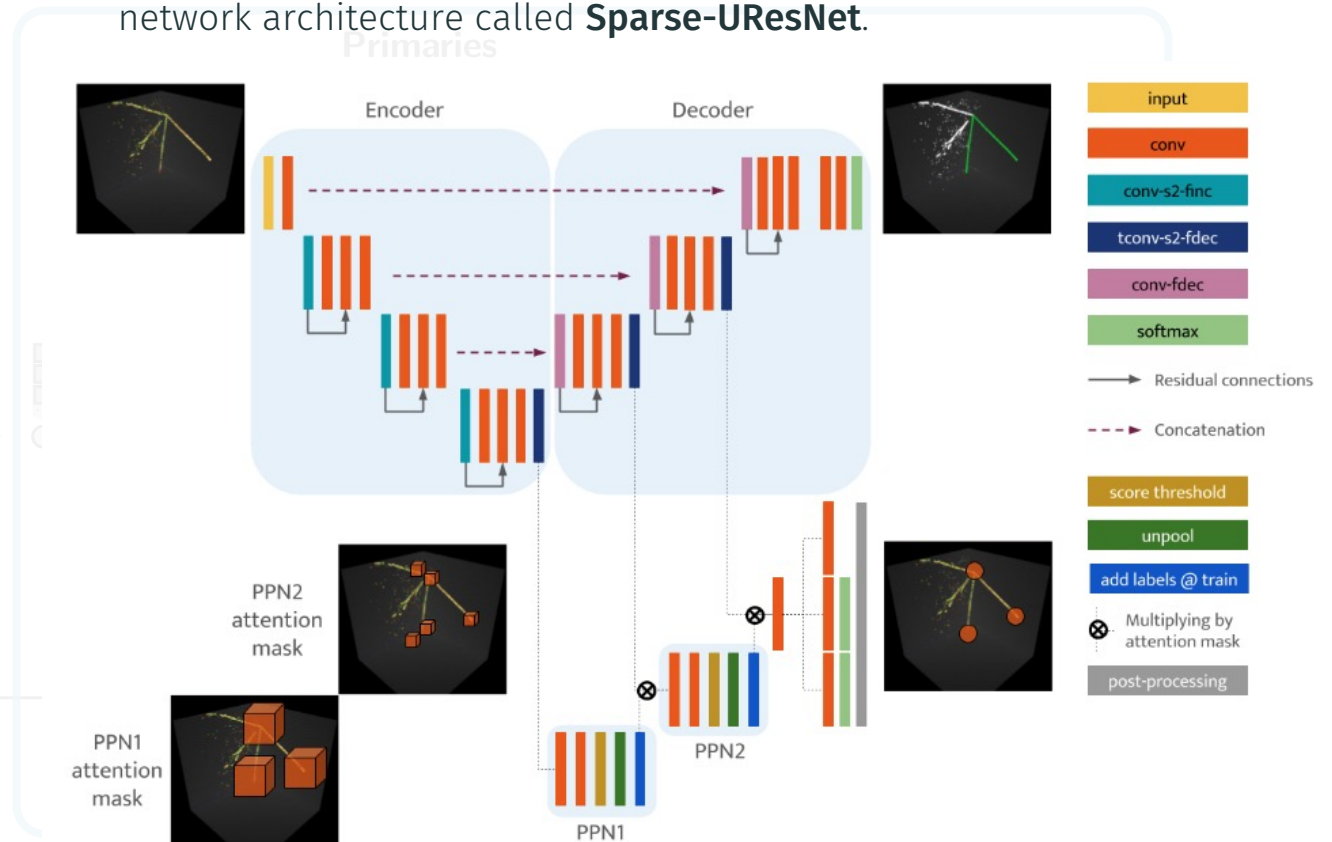
# Deep learning for LArTPC Event Reconstruction

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## Convolutional NN



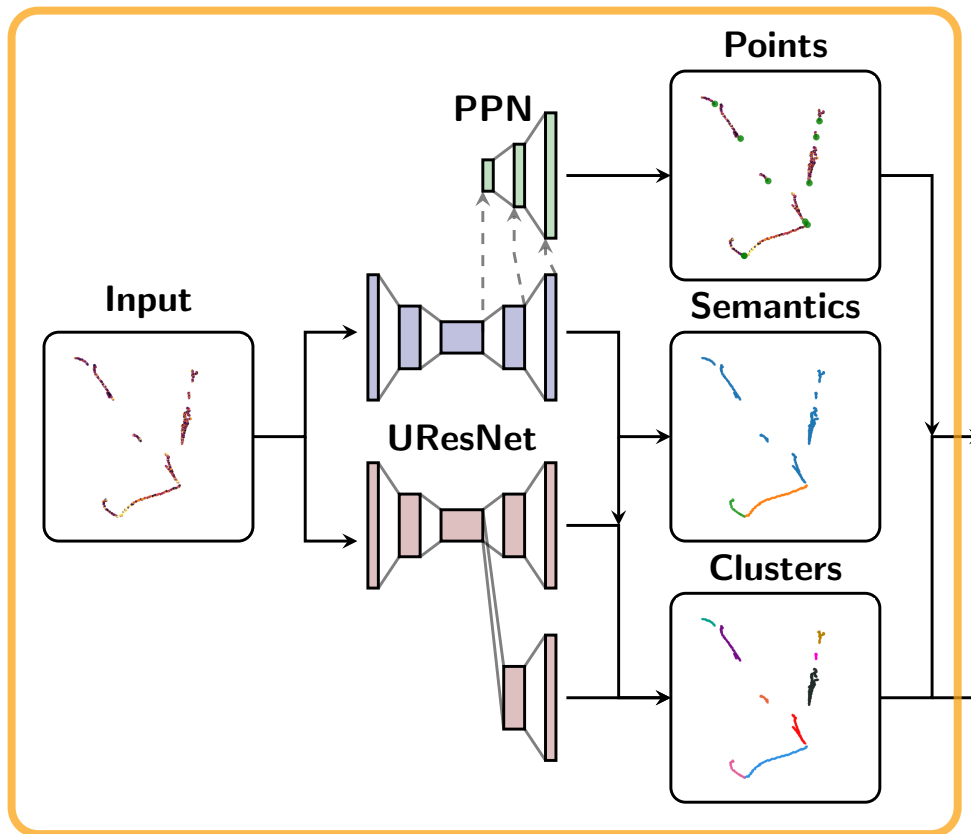
- Pixel-level Tasks** are handled by a sparse-convolutional neural network architecture called **Sparse-UResNet**.



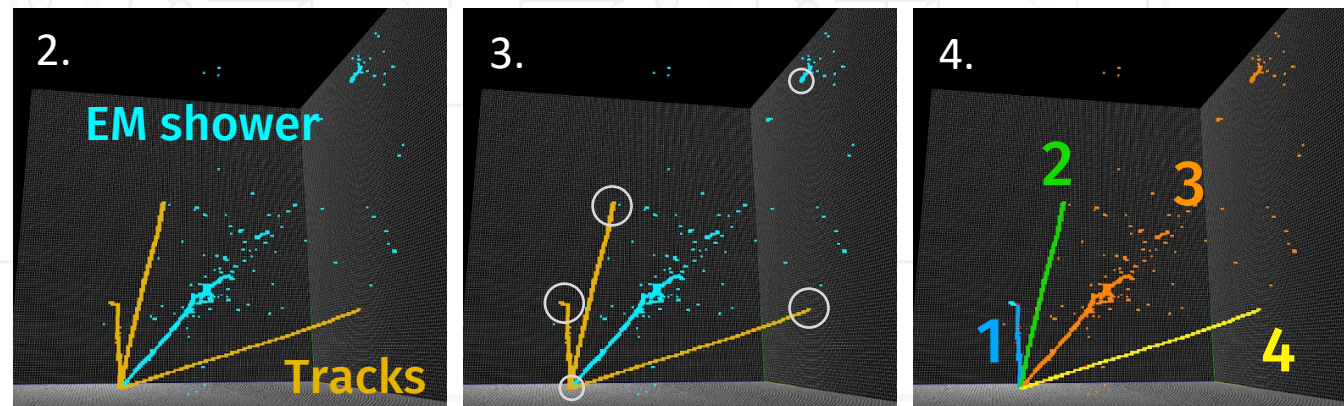
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## Convolutional NN

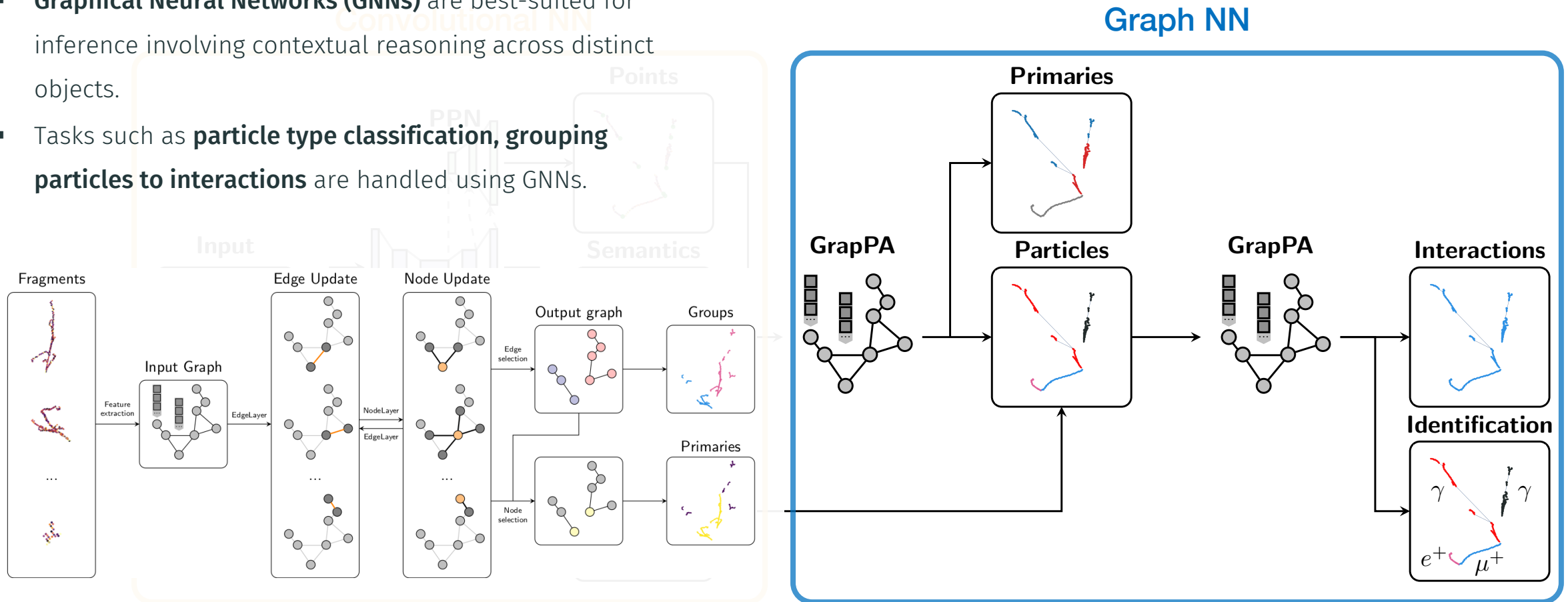


- Pixel-level Tasks** are handled by a sparse-convolutional neural network architecture called **Sparse-UResNet**.
  - Tomographic Artifact Removal:** remove false positive 3D spacepoints from 2D -> 3D tomographic reconstruction.
  - Semantic Segmentation:** classify each pixel to activity type
  - Point of Interest** (track start/end, EM shower start) detection.
  - Particle Clustering:** cluster pixel into different ancestral particles.



# Deep learning for LArTPC Event Reconstruction

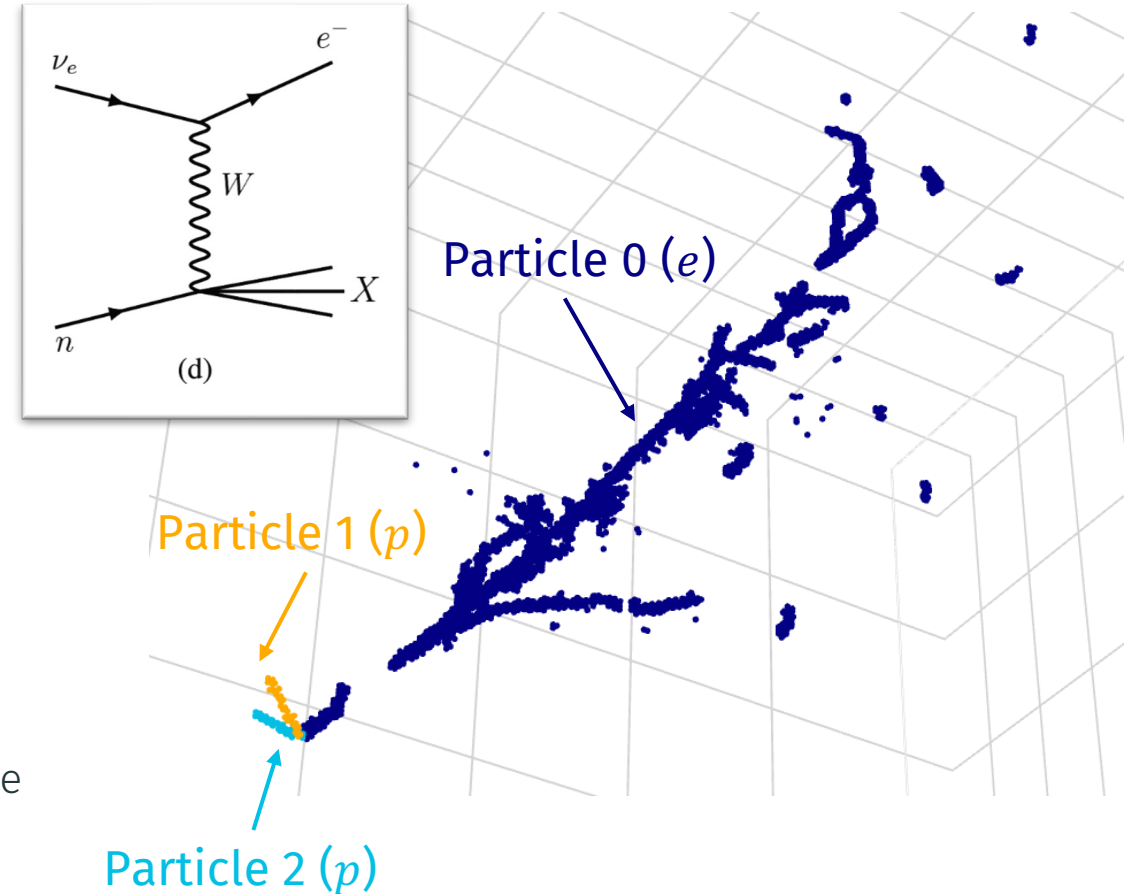
- After particle clustering, each group of pixels realized from the same particle is **abstracted into a node feature vector of a graph**.
- **Graphical Neural Networks (GNNs)** are best-suited for inference involving contextual reasoning across distinct objects.
- Tasks such as **particle type classification, grouping particles to interactions** are handled using GNNs.



# Deep learning for LArTPC Event Reconstruction

- By aggregating all outputs from the ML chain, we can reconstruct the **full geometric information of a given LArTPC image**.
- **For each particle, we predict its**
  - **Type** ( $\gamma, e, \mu, \pi, p$ )
  - **Primary Score** (indicates whether a particle is a primary deposition of an interaction)
  - **Parent Interaction Group**
- **Example:**
  - for every interaction (group of particles) in an image, search for interactions with one primary electron and more than one primary proton.

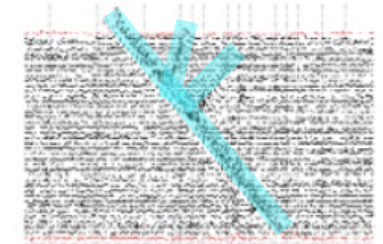
Image Credit: DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevD.103.075023





# Tomographic Reconstruction: Building 3D Spacepoints

- ML Based reco. Chain is developed for 3D images
- Tomographic Reconstruction (three 2D projections -> 3D) essential for ML-reco. Chain on Wire LArTPCs**

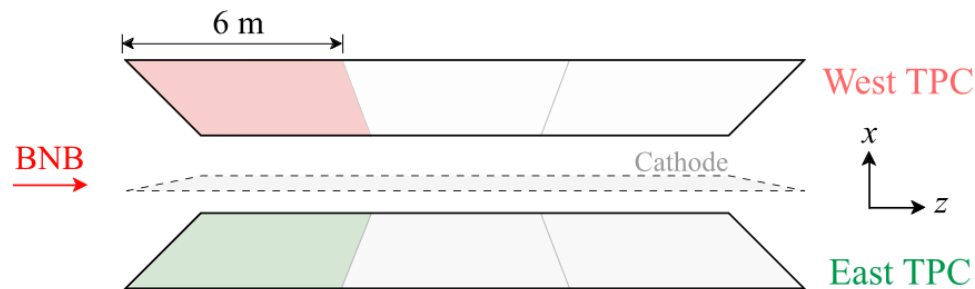


Wire 2D hits in given projection

- In each U, V, and Y projections (indexed by  $p = 0,1,2$ ), let  $h_p^{(i)} = (t_p^{(i)}, w_p^{(i)})$  be a single  $i$ -th 2D hit:
  - $t_p^{(i)}$ : time measured along drift-axis ( $\hat{e}_x$  basis, by convention)
  - $w_p^{(i)}$ : wire number measured along the wire-direction basis  $\hat{e}_p = \lambda_p \hat{e}_y + \kappa_p \hat{e}_z$ , since wire planes are slanted at  $\pm 60^\circ$  (basis transform).
- Cluster3D** is a traditional algorithm which combines 2D hits that are compatible in time and wire to propose 3D positions.

- Find pairs of hits  $(h_p^{(i)}, h_q^{(j)})$  which are compatible in time:  $|t_p^{(i)} - t_q^{(j)}| < \delta_t$
- Form a 3D “doublet” candidate spacepoint:  $x_{ij} := \frac{1}{2}(t_p^{(i)} + t_q^{(j)})\hat{e}_x + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{e}_p \\ \mathbf{e}_q \\ \mathbf{e}_p \times \mathbf{e}_q \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} w_{p,i} \\ w_{q,j} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

Best estimate of time
Change of Basis



- If a third plane hit  $h_r^{(k)}$  is compatible with  $x_{ij}$ , register it as a “triplet”  $x_{ijk}$ .
- In short, find pairs of wires that meet each other (have crossing point) and find wire hits that are compatible in time.**

# Liquid Argon Time Projection Chamber (LArTPC)

- Several detector properties affect event reconstruction:
- TPC-related:
  - **Recombination:**
    - Ionization electrons may recombine with nearby argon ions, underestimating yield.
  - **Diffusion:**
    - Smearing of electron cloud as function of drift time.
  - **Electron Lifetime:**
    - Average capture time of a free ionization electron by an electronegative impurity in Lar.
  - **Space-charge Effect:**
    - Accumulation of positive argon ions induce local distortions of electric field
  - **Transparency**

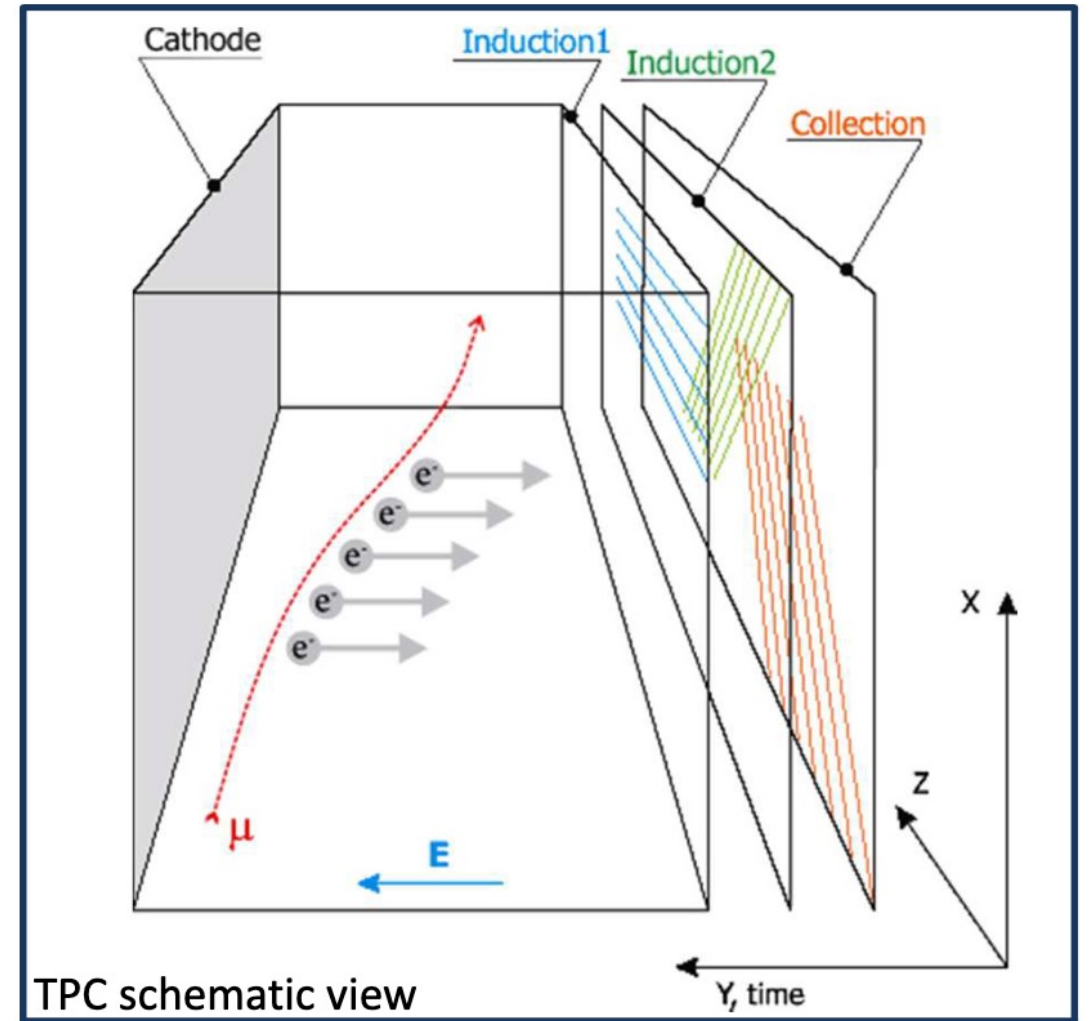


Image Credit:  
[https://indico.cern.ch/event/286883/contributions/654014/attachments/533407/735520/PrezentacjaNCBJ\\_6-12-2013.pdf](https://indico.cern.ch/event/286883/contributions/654014/attachments/533407/735520/PrezentacjaNCBJ_6-12-2013.pdf)

# Conversion Distance Cut

- Electron and Photon Electromagnetic Showers can be distinguished in LArTPCs using **the displacement of the EM shower's start position from the neutrino interaction vertex.**
- **Conversion Distance:** compute the minimum distance between all primary track startpoints and EM shower.
- If the conversion distance exceeds 0.8cm, override shower particle type to photon.

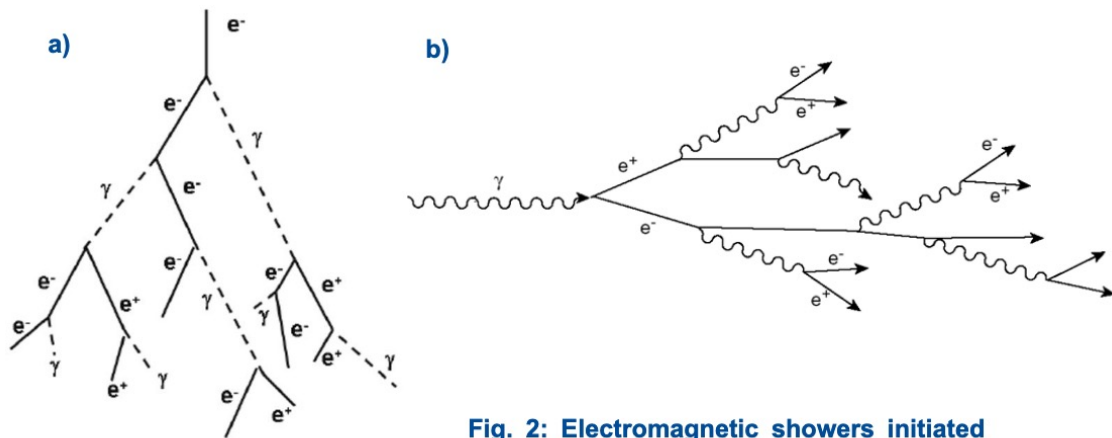
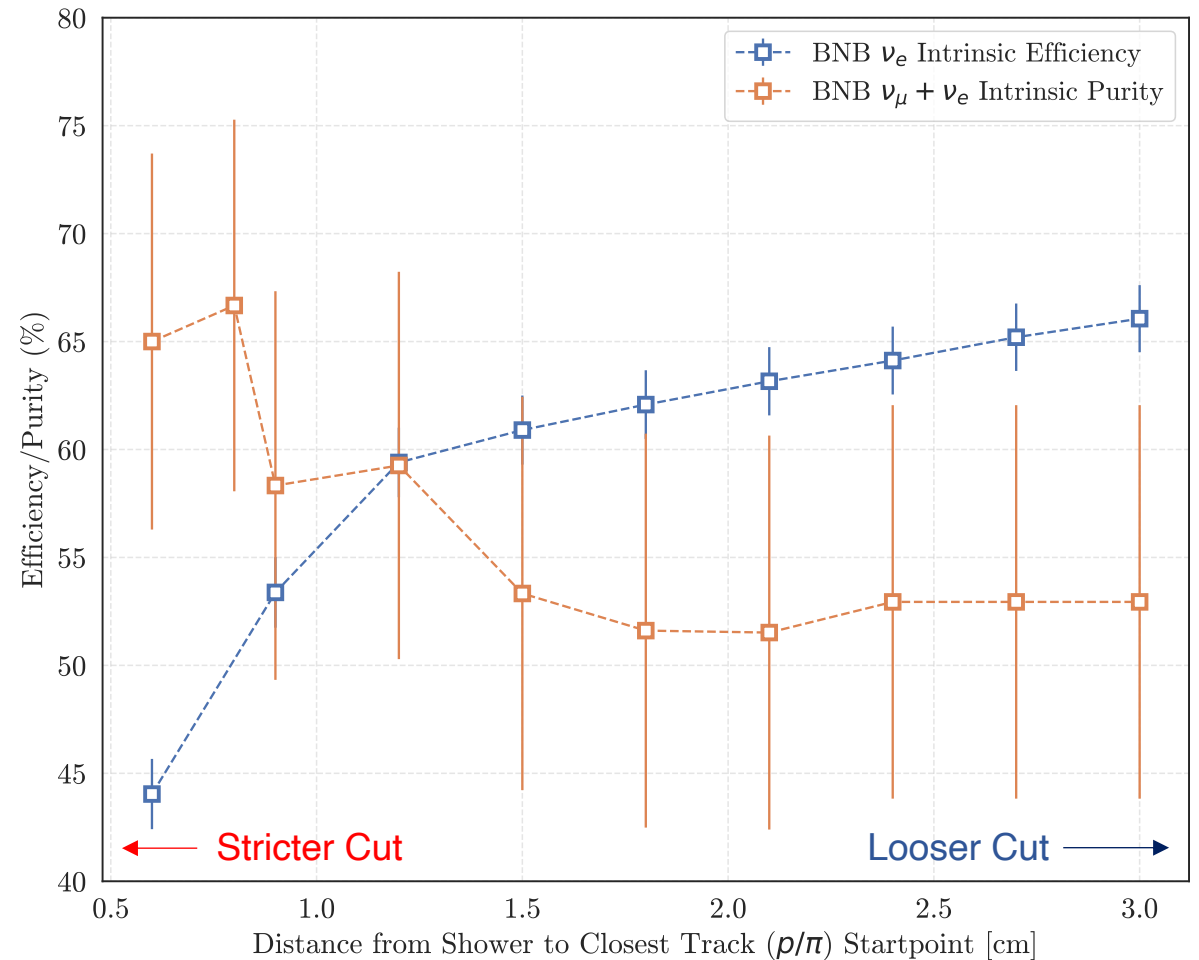


Fig. 2: Electromagnetic showers initiated by an electron (a) and a photon (b).

Image Credit: DOI: 10.2172/1996518

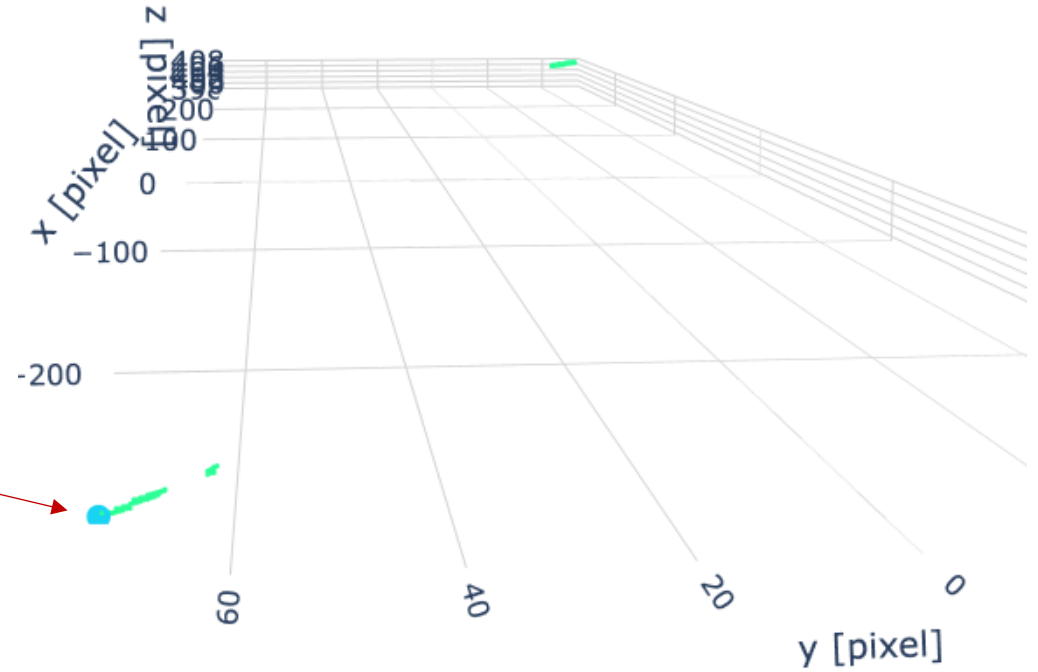
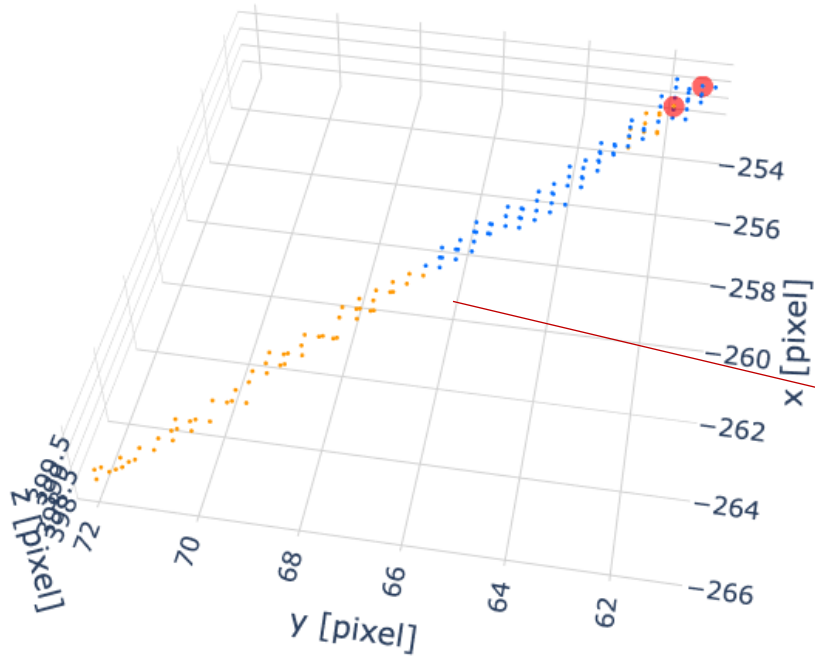


Cosmic

4.76%  
(1)

## Prediction

## Truth



# Event Displays

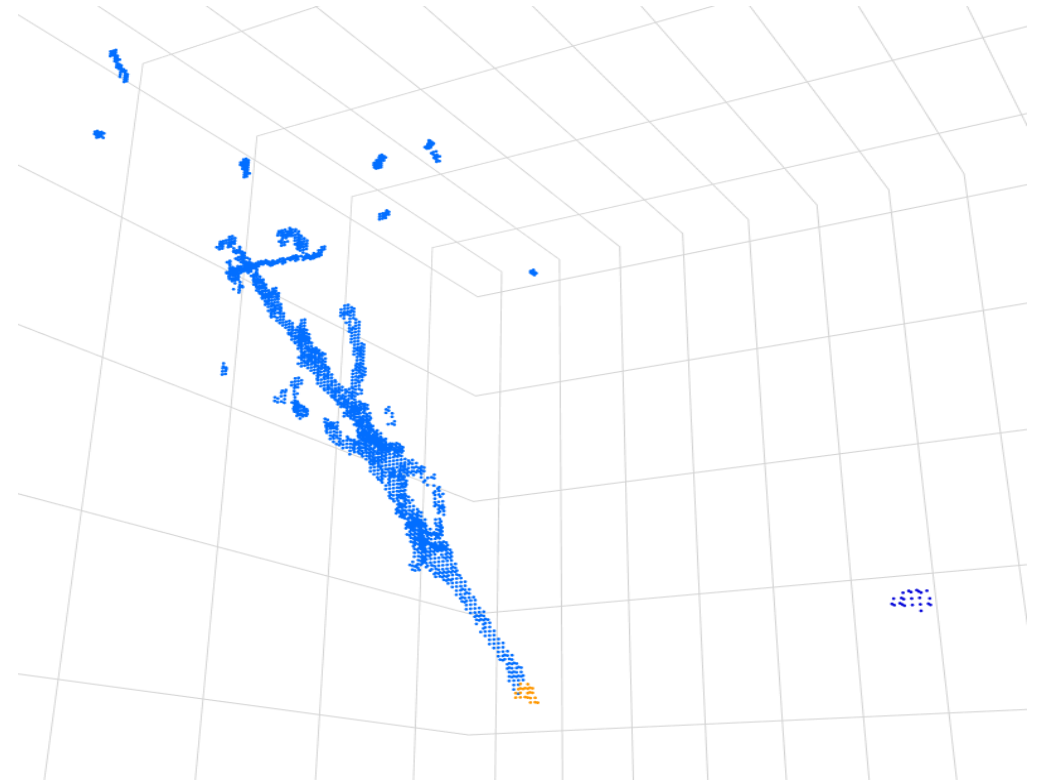
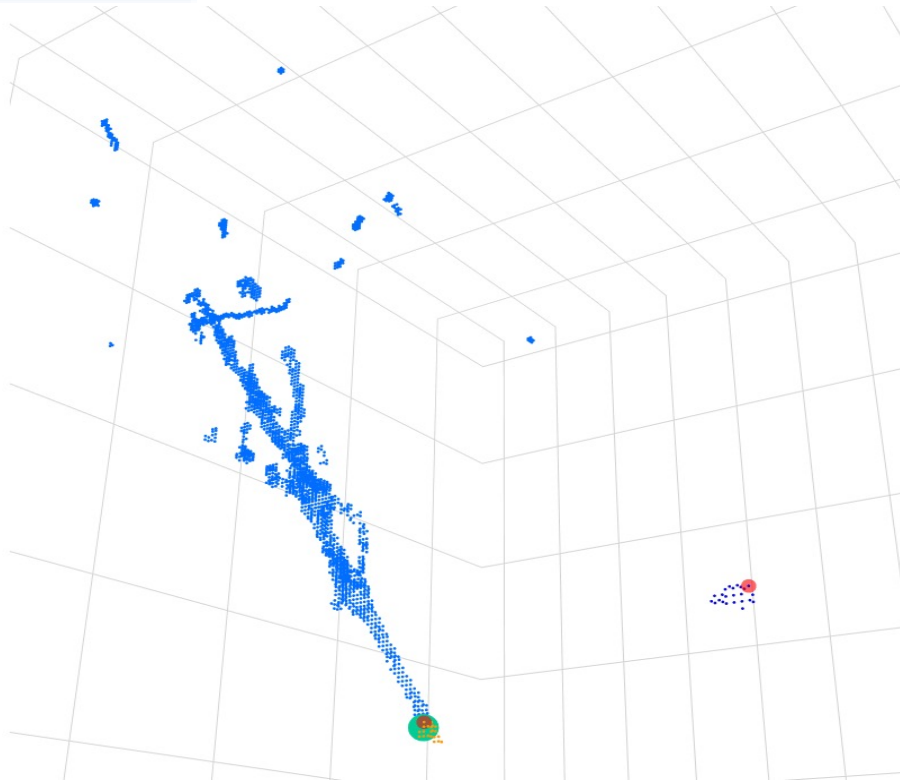
$\nu_e$  Other

9.52%  
(2)

## Prediction

Small proton in ground truth, but does not pass the true visibility cut

## Truth



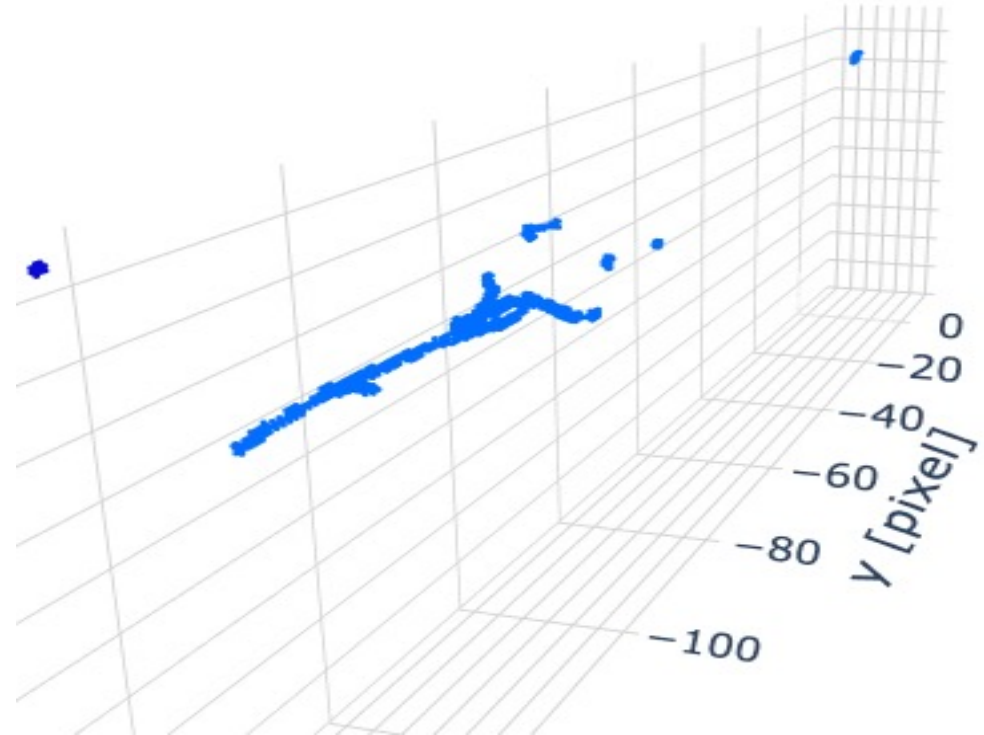
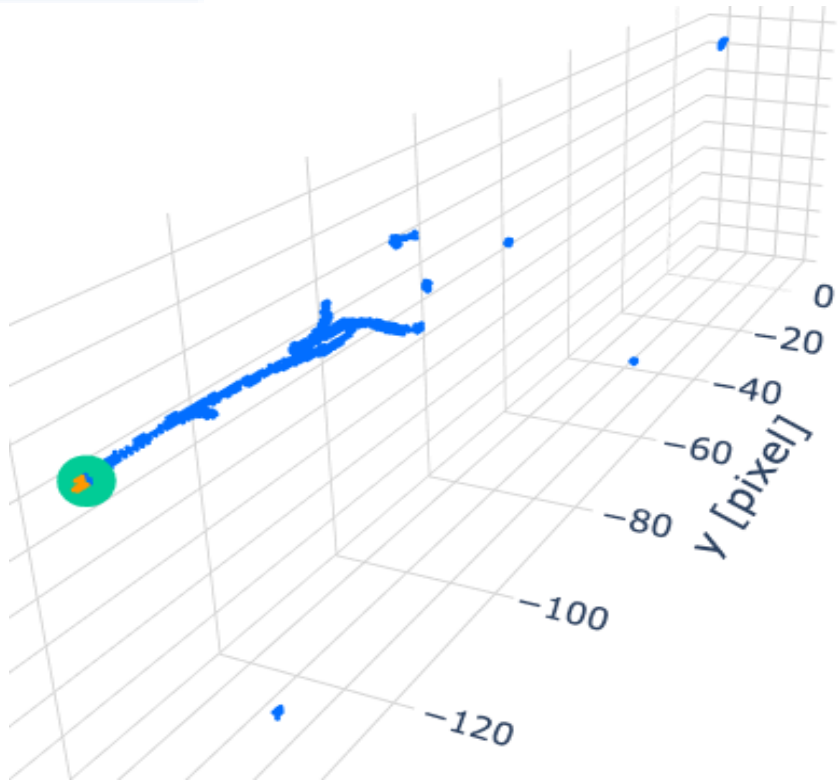
$\nu_e$  Other

9.52%  
(2)

## Prediction

True  $1e \text{ Nue}$ , but high depositions near the shower start  $\rightarrow$  reconstructed as proton

## Truth





# Start point and Vertex Reconstruction

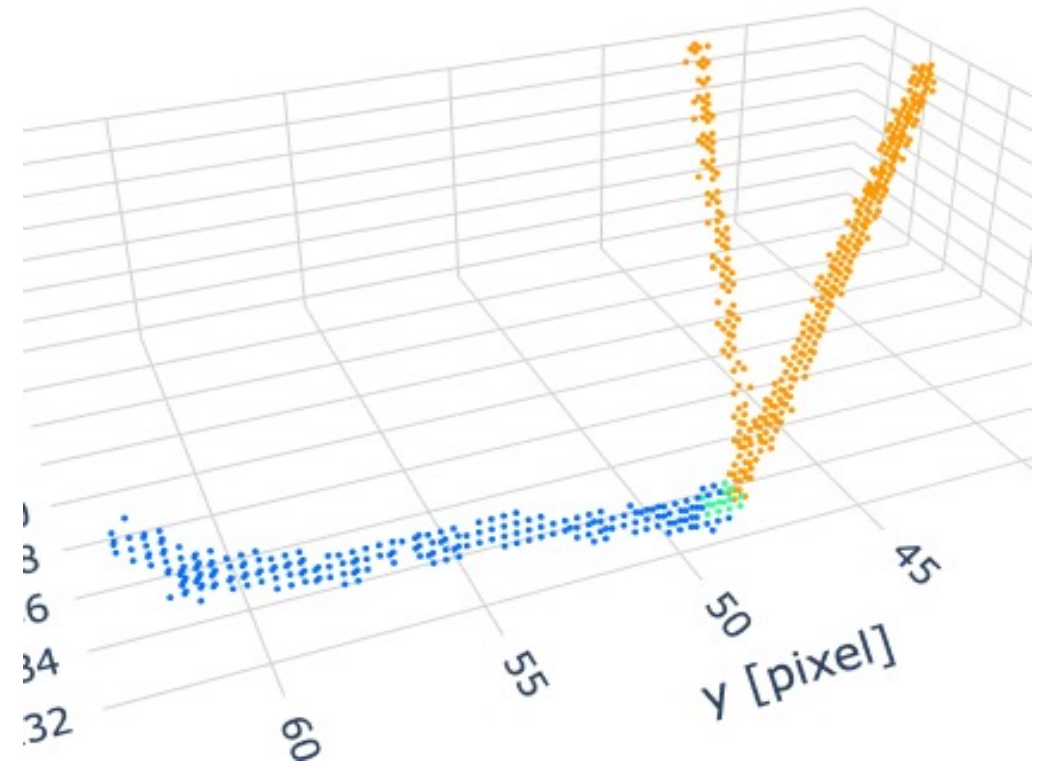
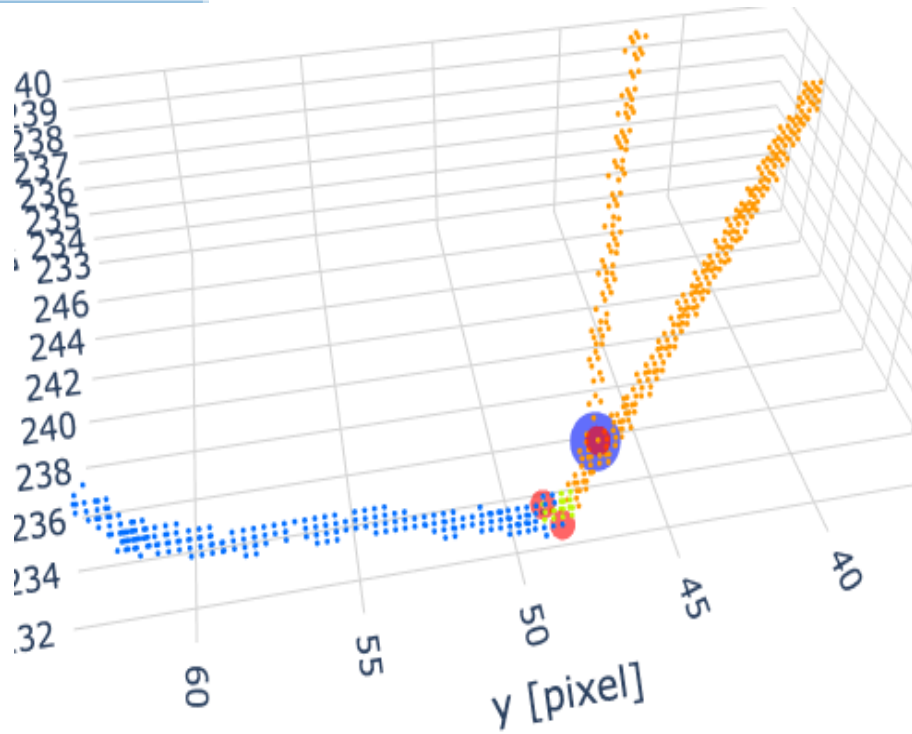
$\nu_\mu$  Other

19.05%  
(4)

## Prediction

Misclassified Michel -> Electron Primary

## Truth



# Start point and Vertex Reconstruction

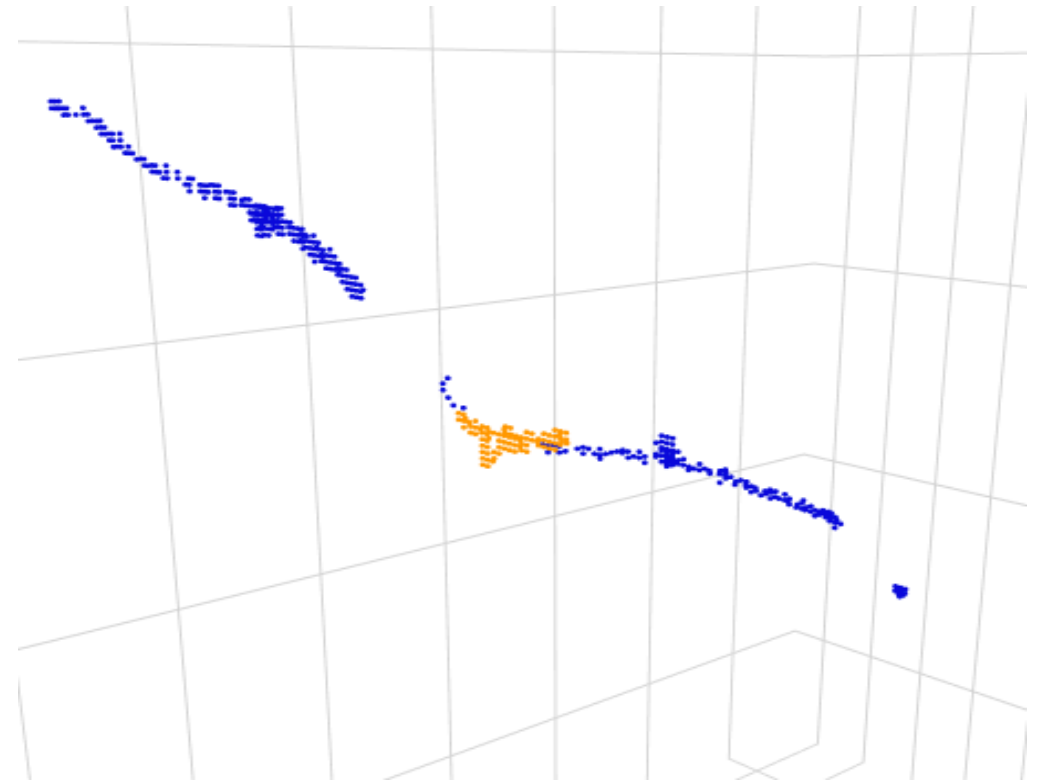
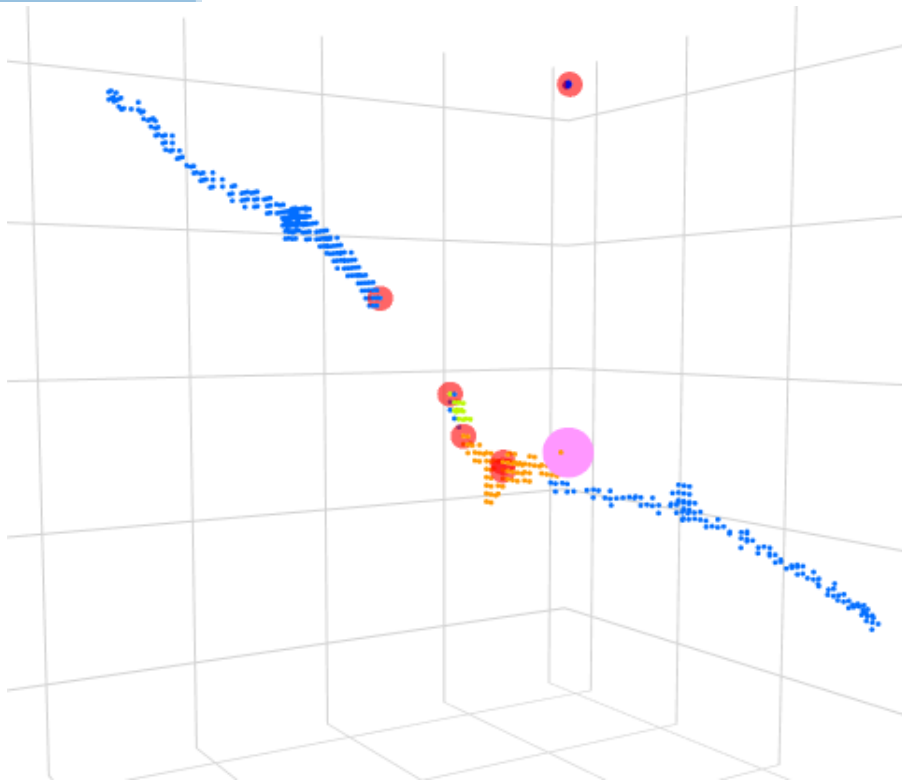
$\nu_\mu$  Other

19.05%  
(4)

## Prediction

Two gamma showers grouped together erroneously and predicted as primary electron

## Truth



# Start point and Vertex Reconstruction

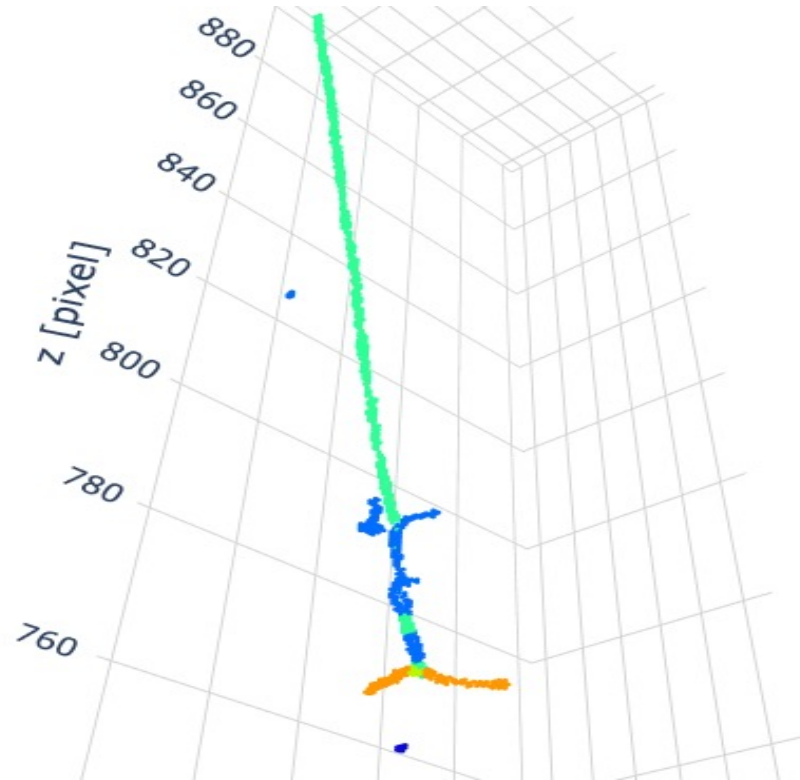
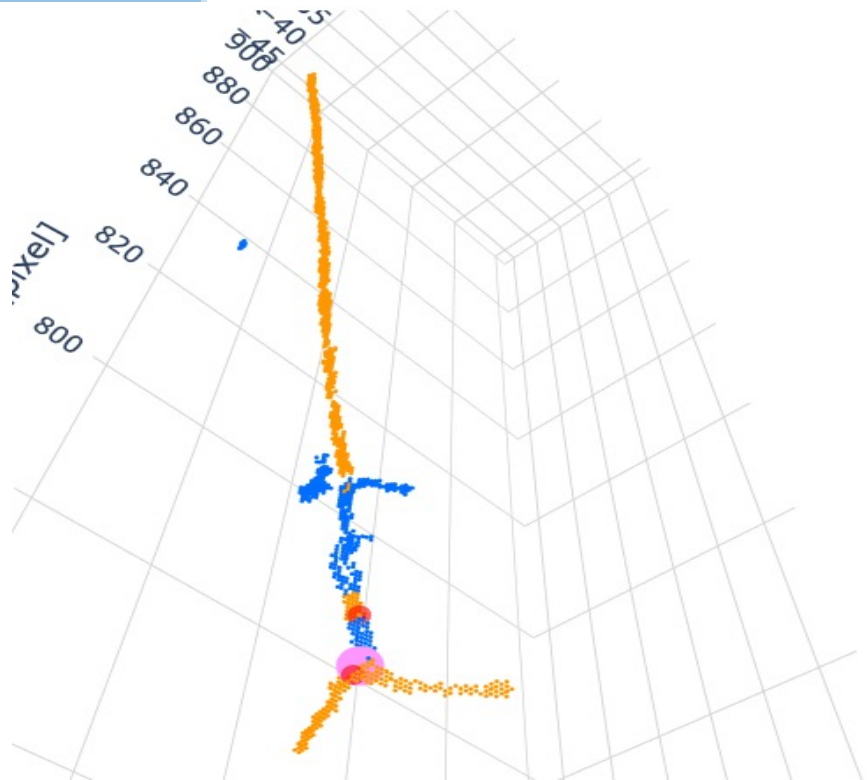
$\nu_\mu$  Other

19.05%  
(4)

## Prediction

High energy delta, True 1muNp

## Truth



# Start point and Vertex Reconstruction

$\nu_\mu$  Other

19.05%  
(4)

## Prediction

True Michel reconstructed as electron  
primary

## Truth

