

# EM Showers

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# Introduction

1. A short intro to LArTPCs - how they work, and which ones we're talking about
2. Particle Interactions with matter - what do we expect when photons and electrons interact in argon?
3. Electron Photon/separation - methods of telling one from the other
4. Validation with other samples: Pi-naughts/Michels?
5. Thoughts on what reconstruction can or cannot do.
6. Thoughts on future.

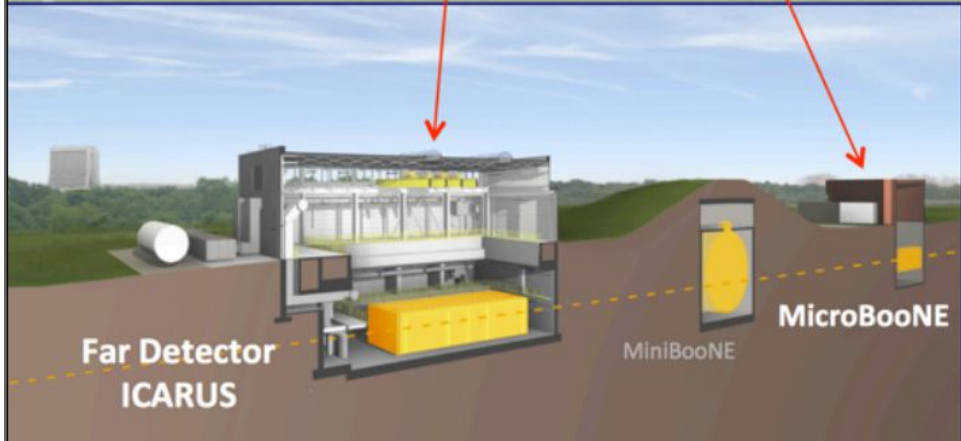
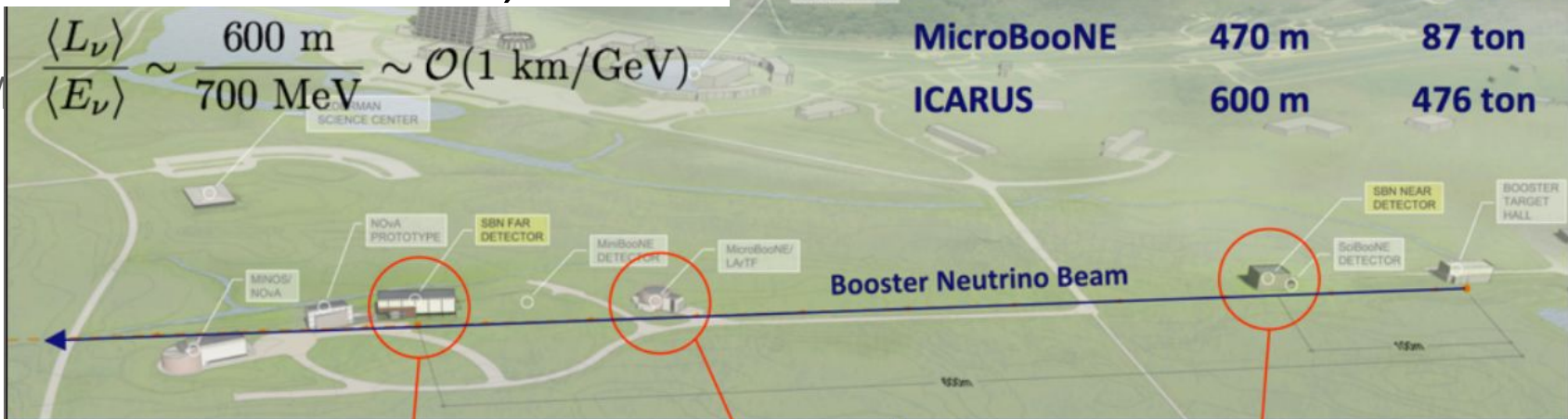
# LArTPCs

(we're interested in)

M

$$\frac{\langle L_\nu \rangle}{\langle E_\nu \rangle} \sim \frac{600 \text{ m}}{700 \text{ MeV}} \sim \mathcal{O}(1 \text{ km/GeV})$$

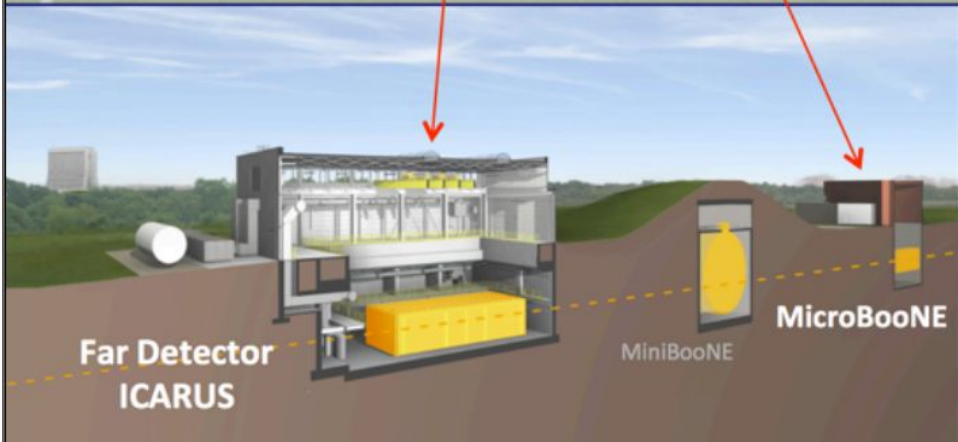
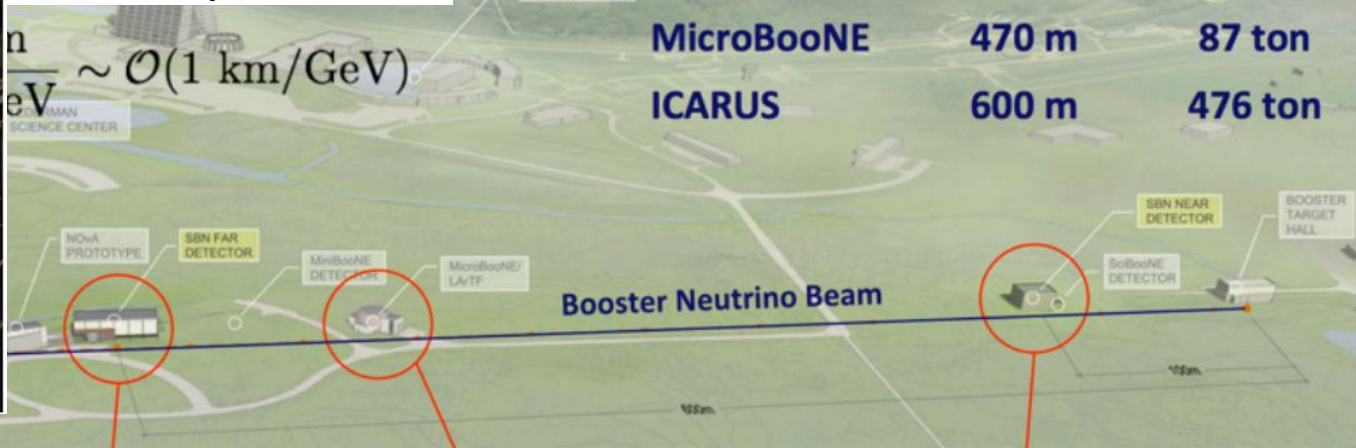
Detector	Distance from BNB Target	Active LAr Mass
SBND	110 m	112 ton
MicroBooNE	470 m	87 ton
ICARUS	600 m	476 ton



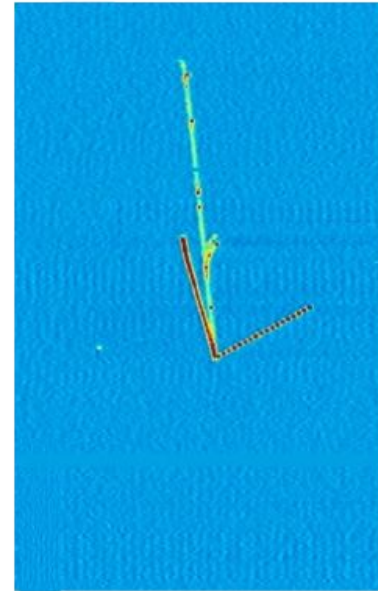
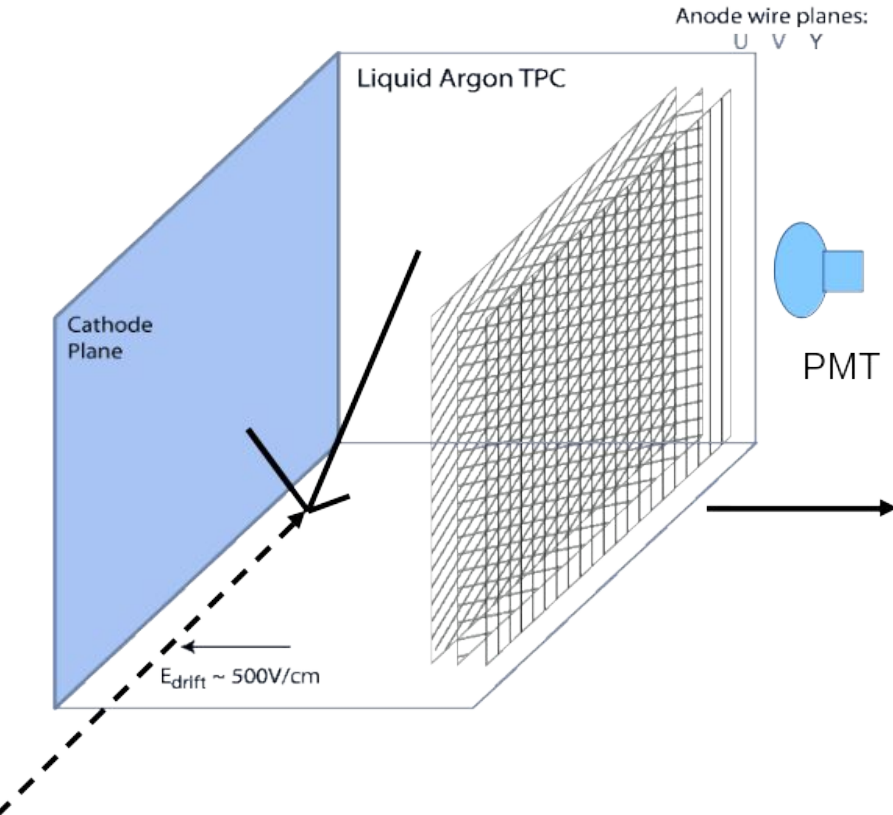
# LArTPCs



used in)

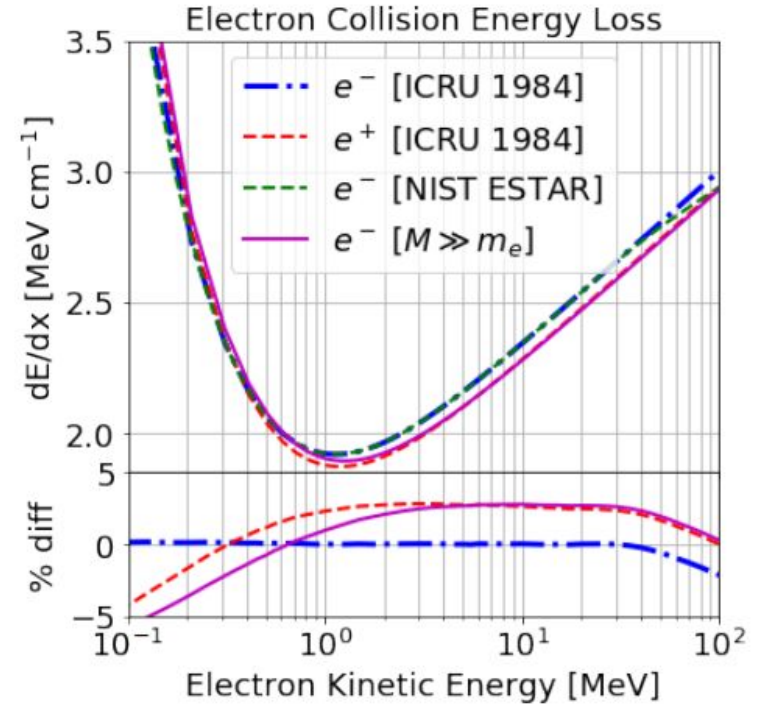
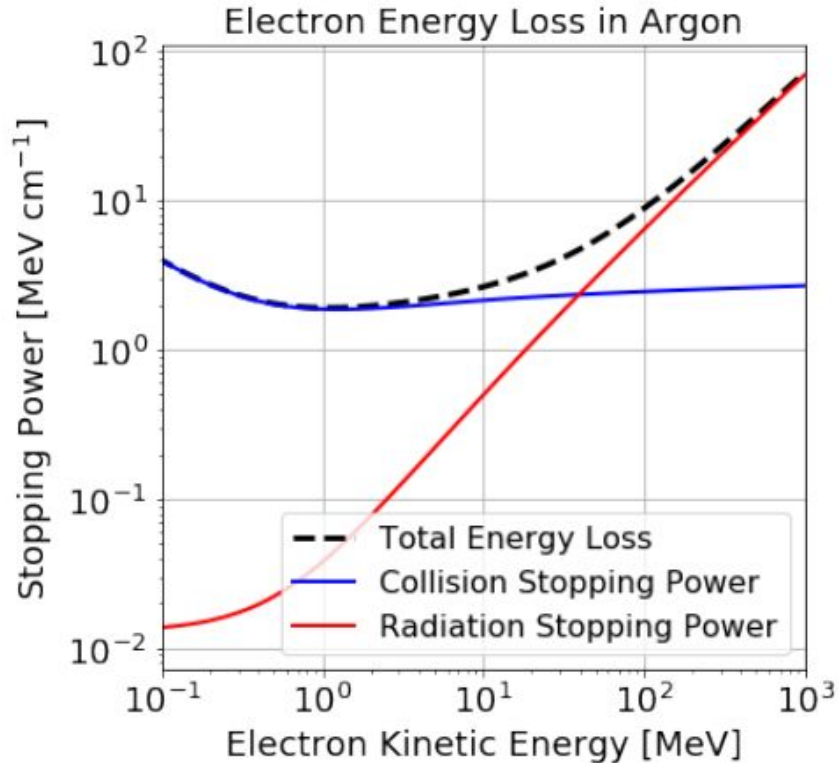


# LArTPC operation

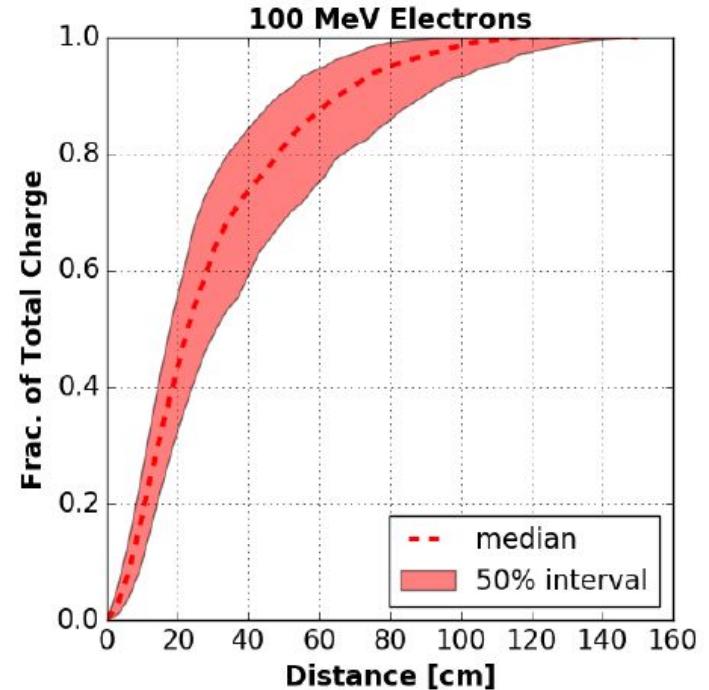
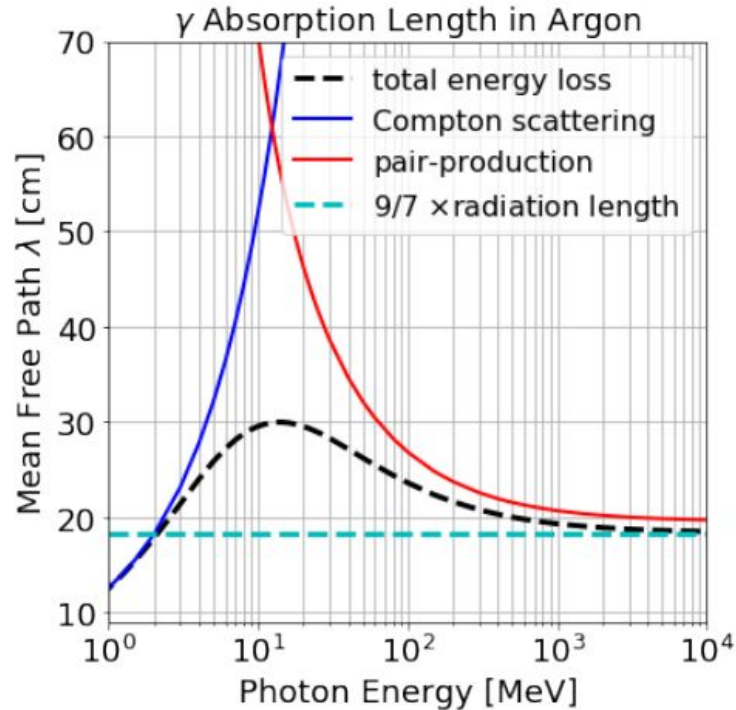


- Charged particles ionise LAr
- Ionised electrons drift to instrumented anode
- Signal from electrons induced/collected on wires at anode

# Particle Interactions with Matter (electrons)

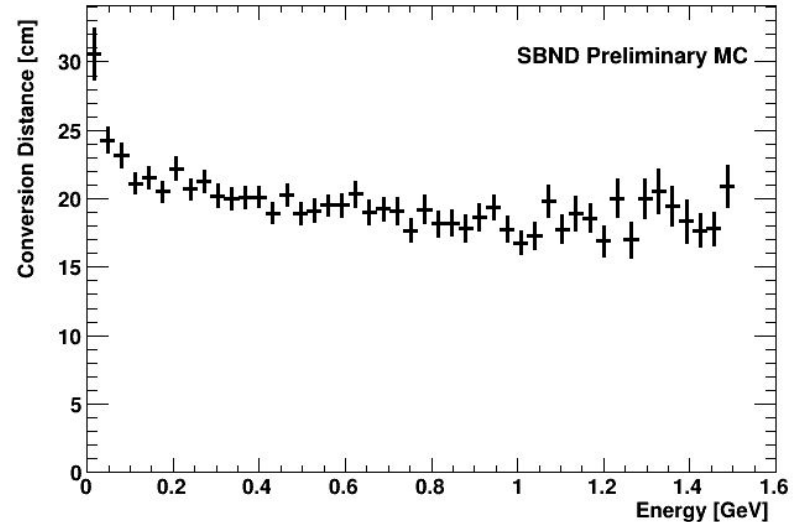
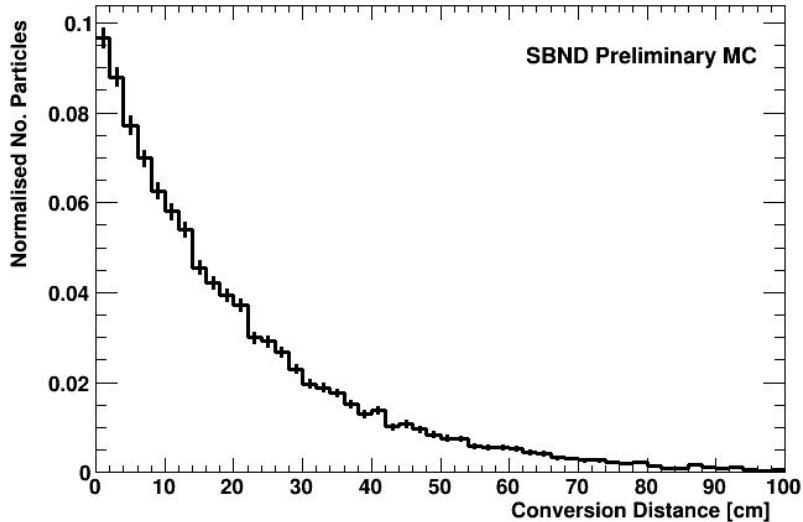


# Particle Interactions with Matter (photons)



# Electron-Photon Separation in Truth: Conversion Gaps

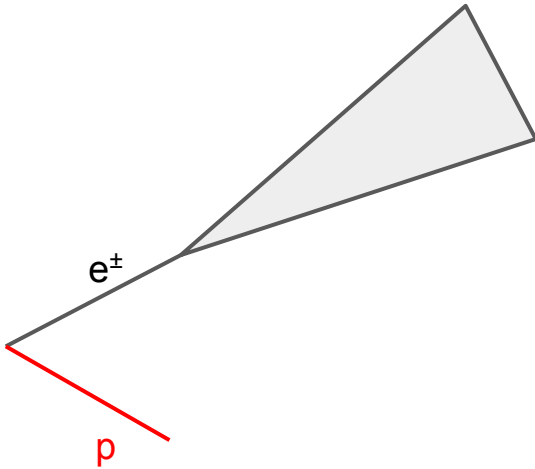
Gap between photon creation and showering follows expected exponential distribution (Radiation length 14.1 cm) which can be used to differentiate them from electrons





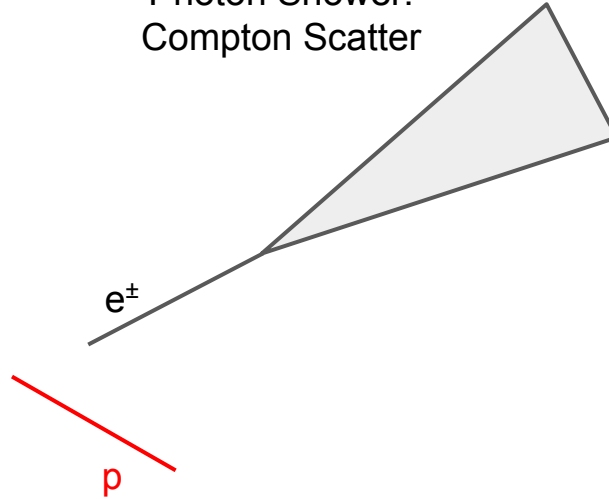
# What that means in our EM Shower searches

Electron Shower



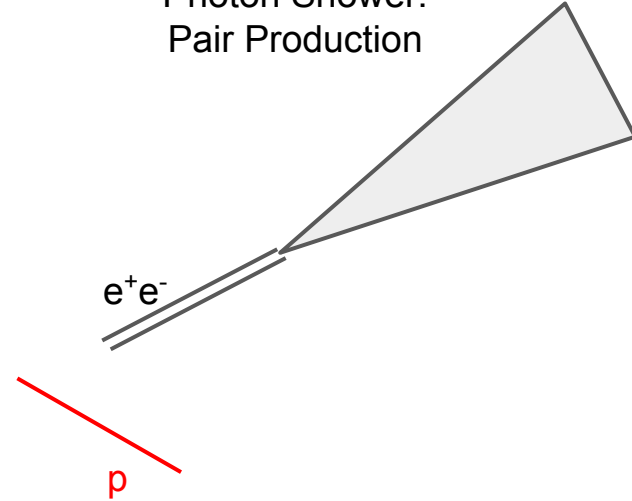
Charged particle track (proton or pion) - not always there  
there

Photon Shower:  
Compton Scatter



Track  
(not always there)

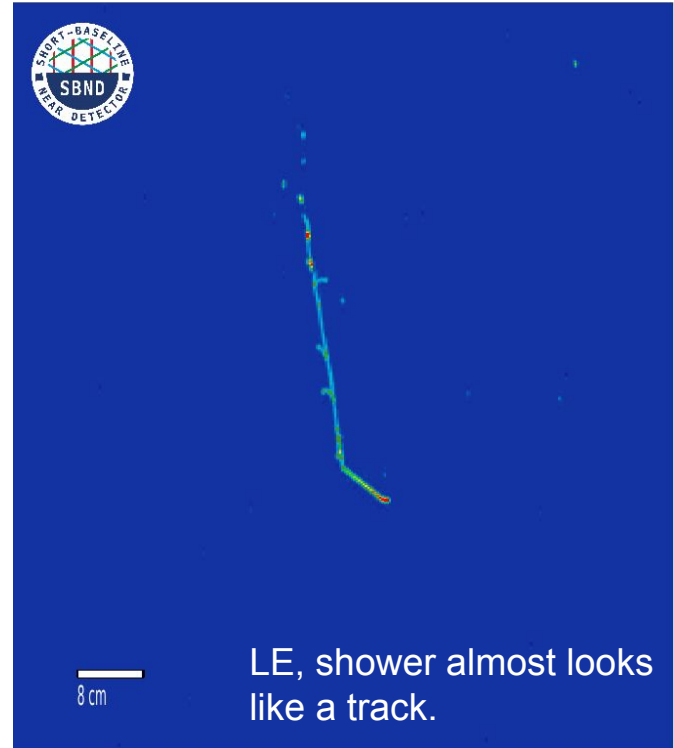
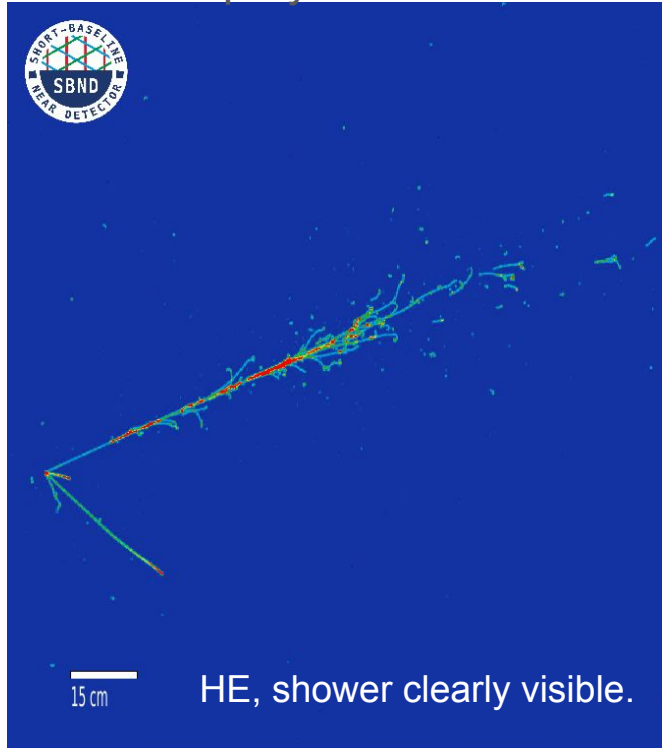
Photon Shower:  
Pair Production



Track  
(not always there)

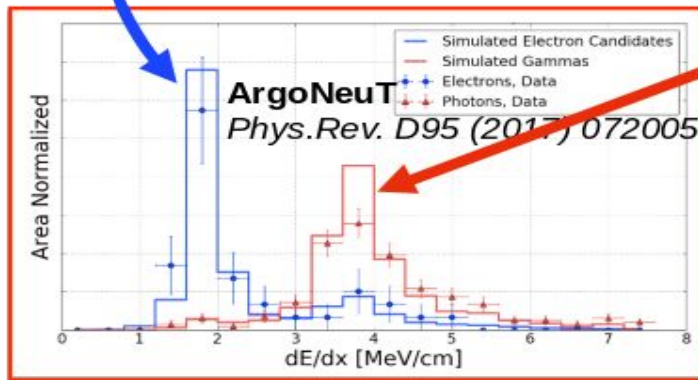
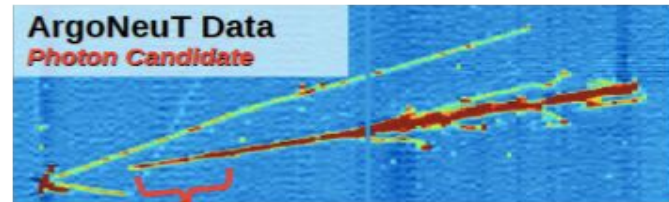
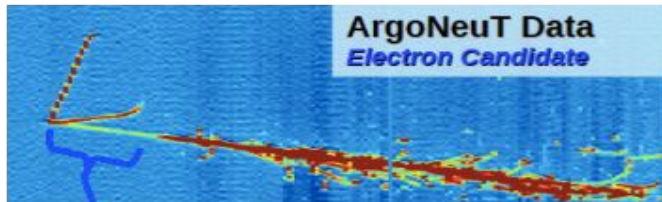
# Reality of low energy showers

## Event displays of HE and LE showers

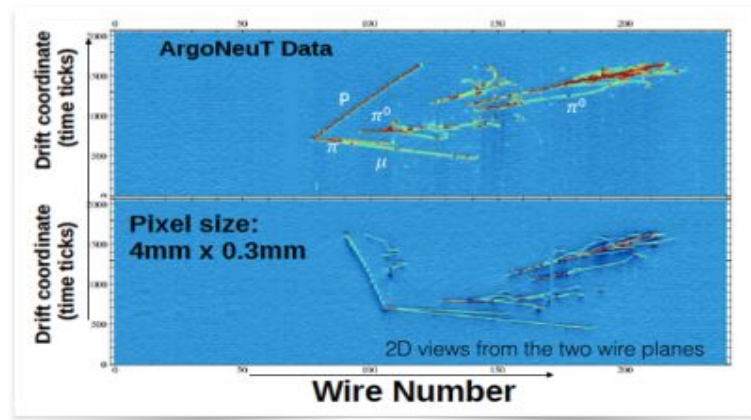


# dE/dx and gap as shower discrimination

## Electron / photon separation



Double handle:  
topology and dE/dx



The LArTPC is an excellent tool for electron/photon separation

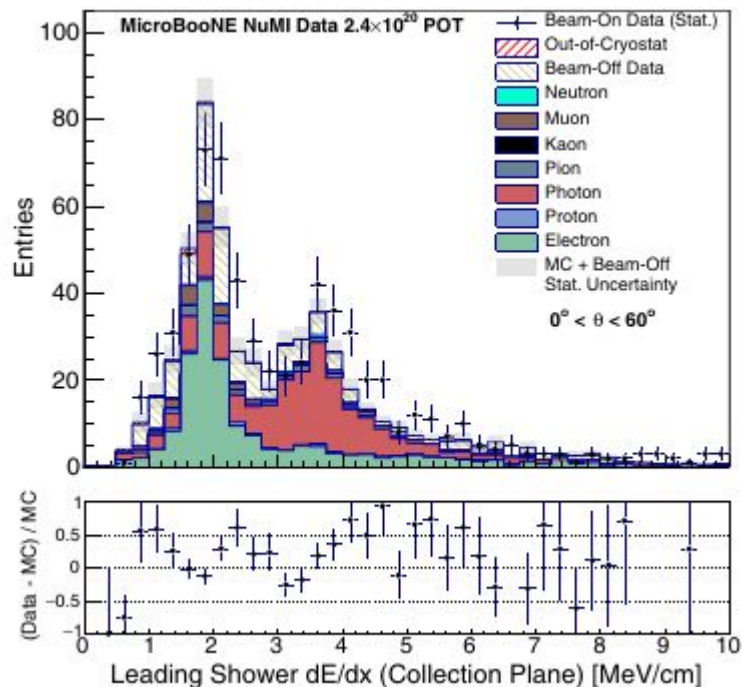
# dE/dx + gap continued

Fully automated reconstruction

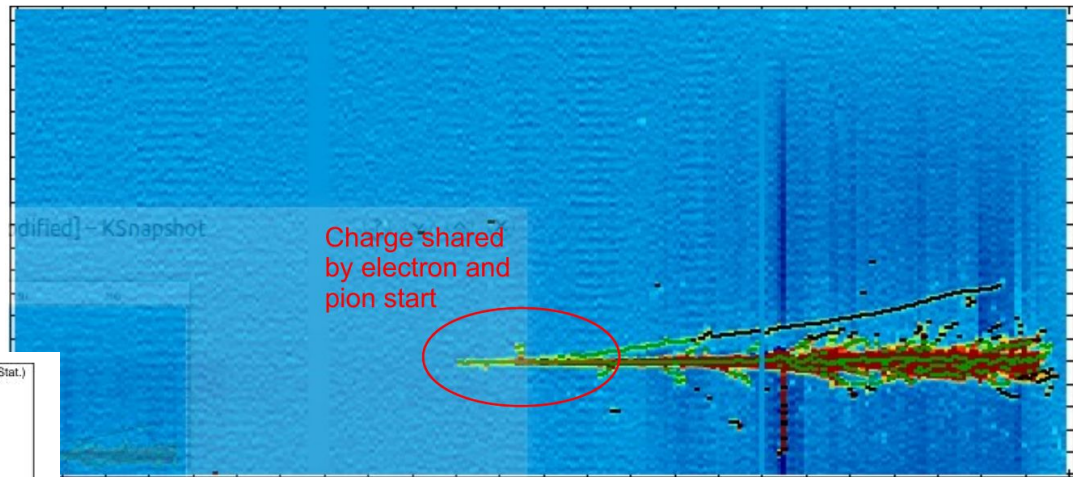
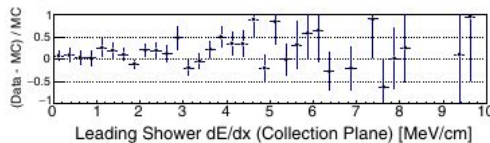
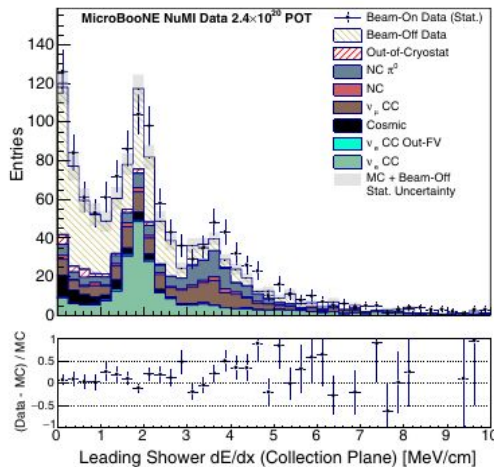
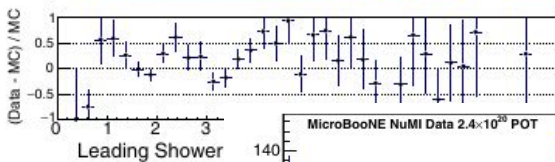
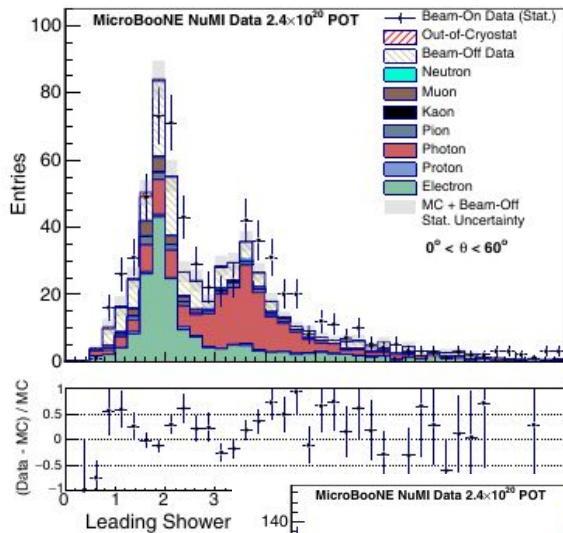
dE/dx seems more powerful than gap

New reconstruction available.

Selection stage	Electrons	Photons	Other
EM shower selection	951	771	273
dE/dx (only)	65%	27%	52%
Shower-vertex distance (only)	89%	72%	73%
Combined	59%	19%	39%
Shower-vertex distance (Only, $\geq 1$ track)	89%	53%	64%



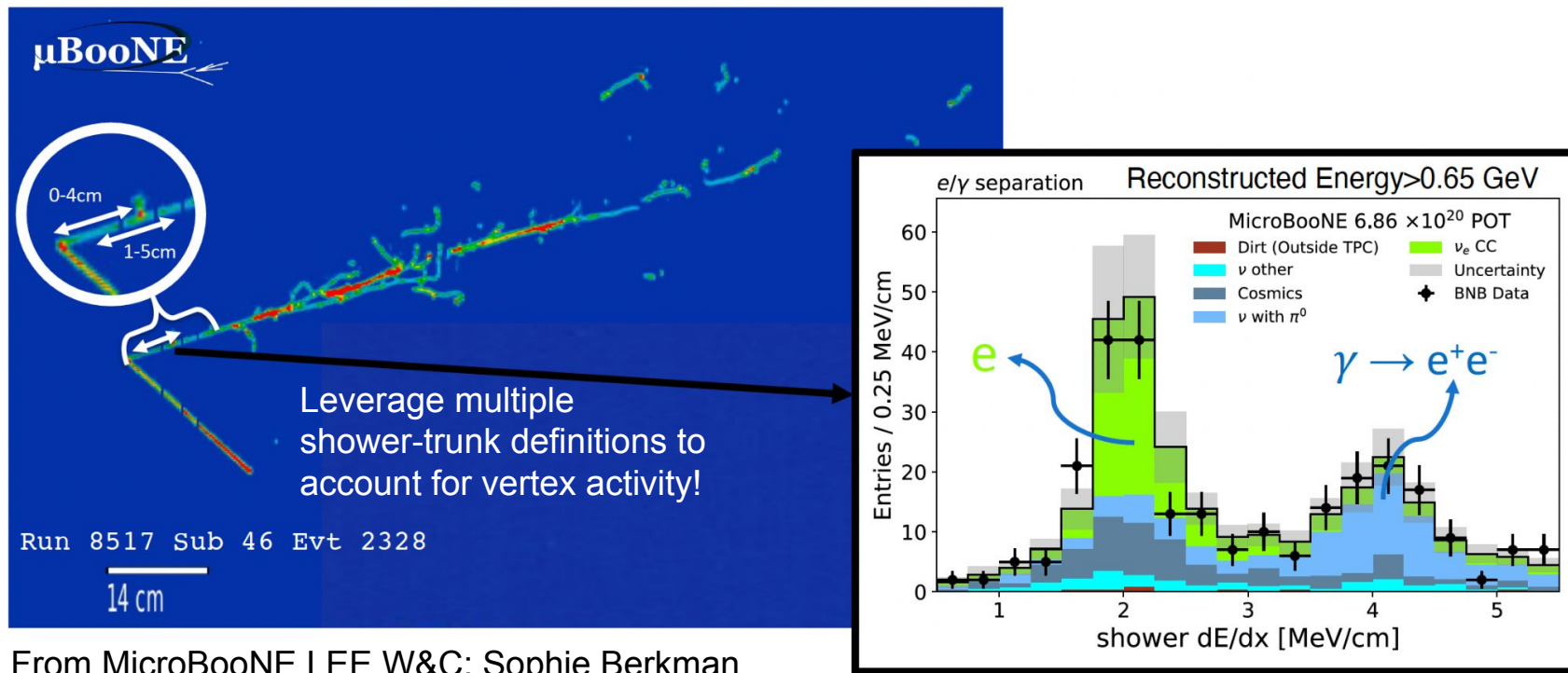
# How things can go wrong (vertex activity, DIC)



ArgoNeuT event reconstructed as double MIP.

# dE/dx: Recent MicroBooNE LEE Results

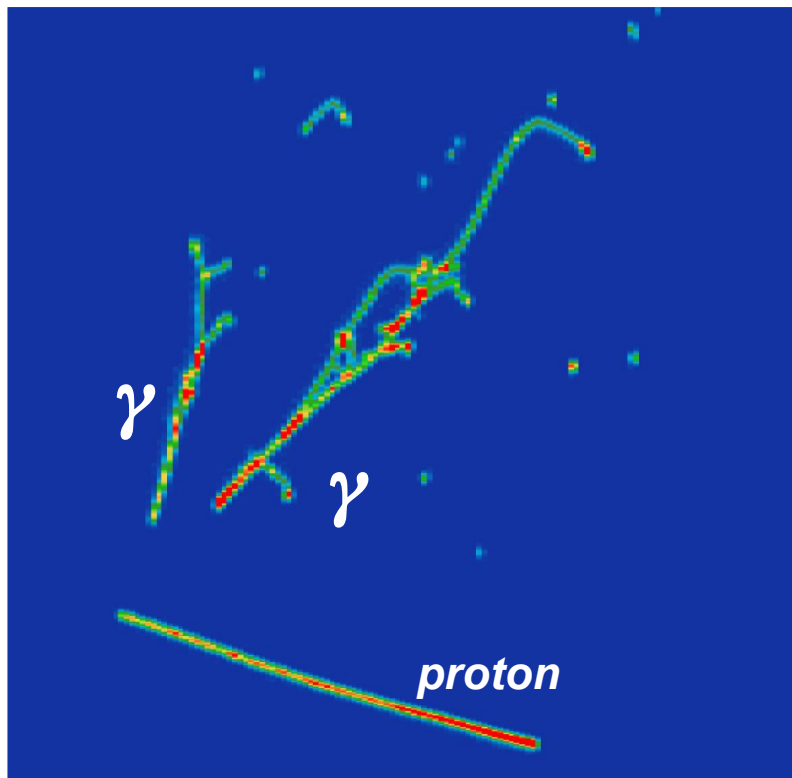
Energy deposited per length (dE/dx) at start of shower



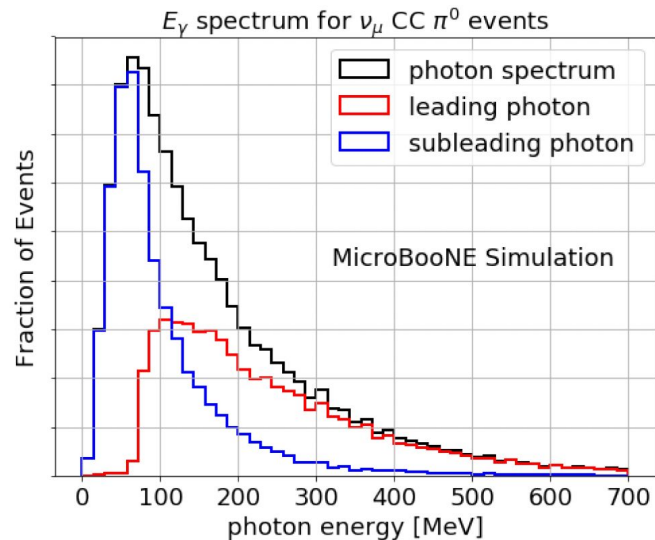
From MicroBooNE LEE W&C: Sophie Berkman

# Pi<sup>0</sup> and Photon reconstruction examples

# $\pi^0$ s: What They Look Like

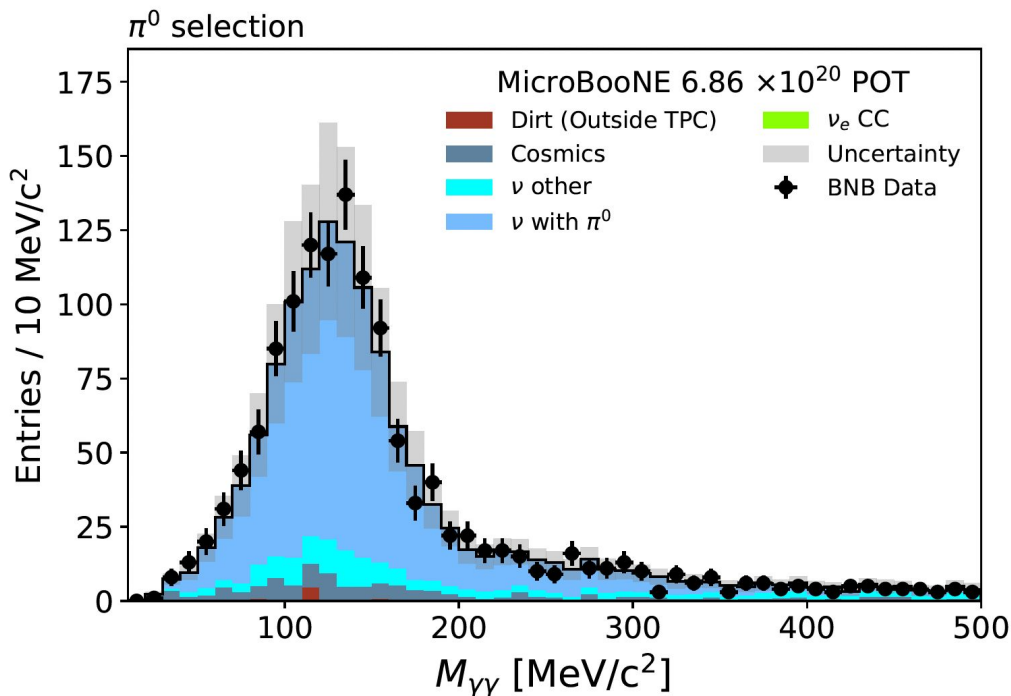


- Two photons, though sometimes not both easy to find.
- Detached from neutrino interaction point
- In BNB O(50-300) MeV photons.





# $\pi^0$ Reconstruction - Status



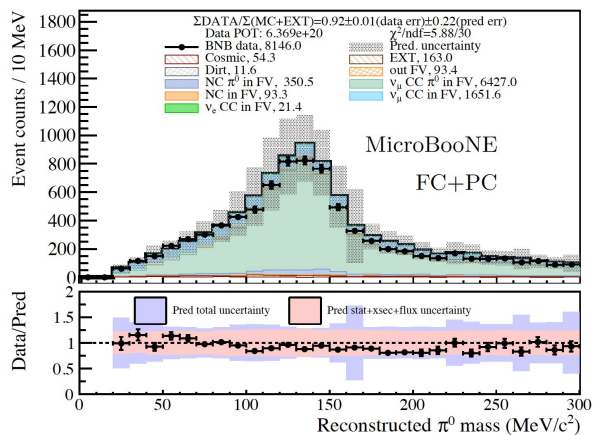
Come a long way in automated EM shower reconstruction...

- Few degree angular resolution
- 10-20% energy resolution.

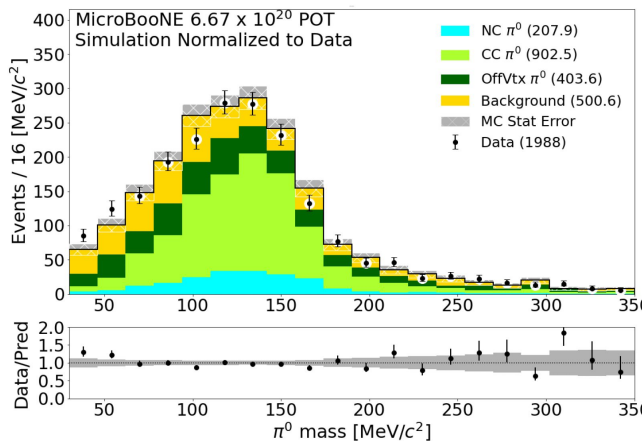
Energy reconstruction in particular still largely driven by reconstruction inefficiencies.

Search for an anomalous excess of charged-current  $\nu_{\text{e}} \nu_{\text{e}}$  interactions without pions in the final state with the MicroBooNE experiment [[2110.14065 hep-ex](#)]

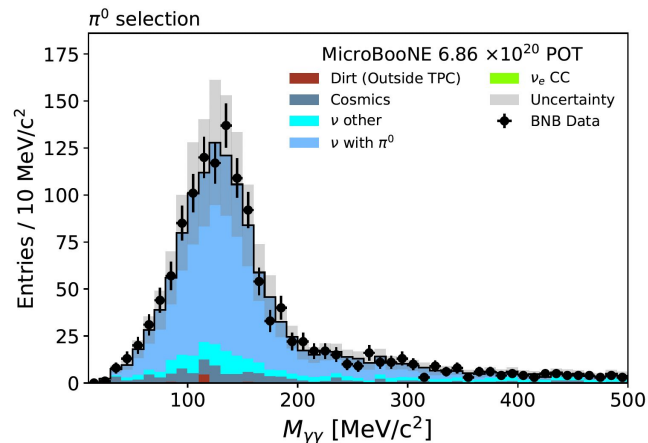
# $\pi^0$ Reconstruction - Status



MicroBooNE, Wire-Cell [2110.13978](#) [hep-ex]



MicroBooNE, Deep Learning [[2110.11874](#) hep-ex]



MicroBooNE, Pandora [2110.14080](#) [hep-ex]

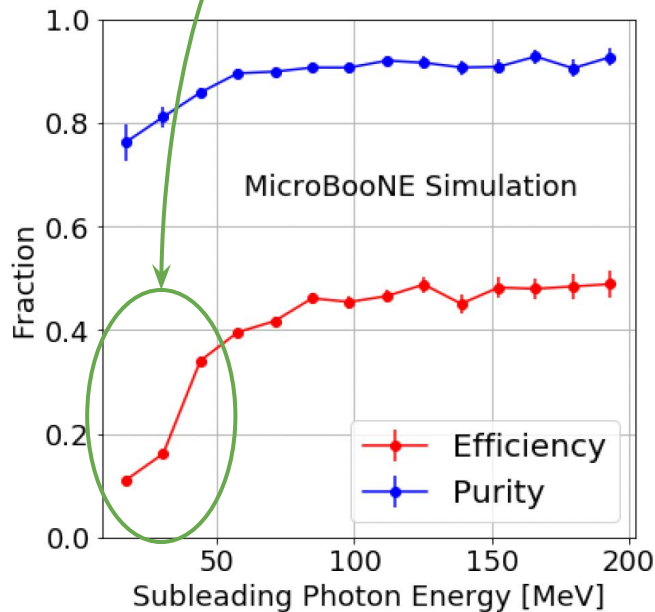
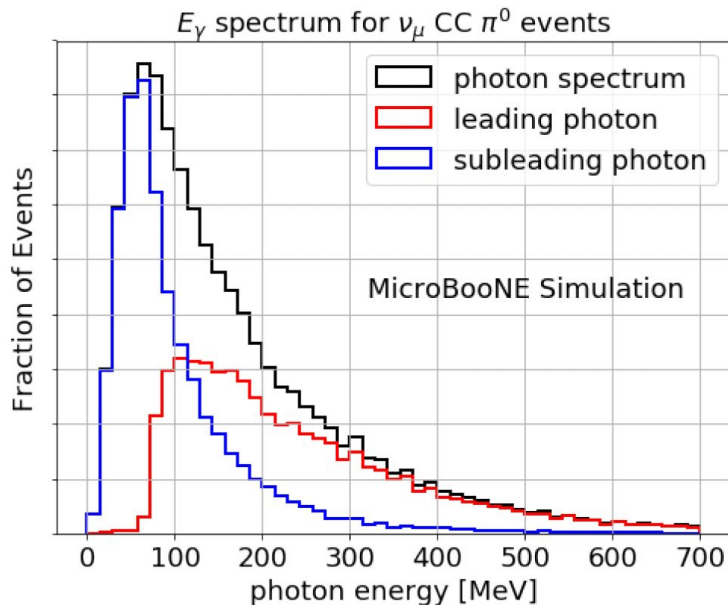
Multiple reconstruction paradigms leveraging different techniques and tools.

Examples here are from MicroBooNE LEE analyses, building on EM shower (and  $\pi^0$  in particular) reconstruction development in ICARUS & ArgoNeUT

# $\pi^0$ Reconstruction - Limitations

Qualitatively same picture for all reconstruction paradigms: upturn in efficiency where still BNB flux of low-energy photons is very high!

Improvements  $\rightarrow$  very large payoff in BSM mis-ID reduction.



# Things that can affect our reconstruction

- Recombination
- Lifetime/impurities while drifting
- Diffusion while drifting
- Dynamically Induced Charge
- Vertexing
- Collecting all of the charge

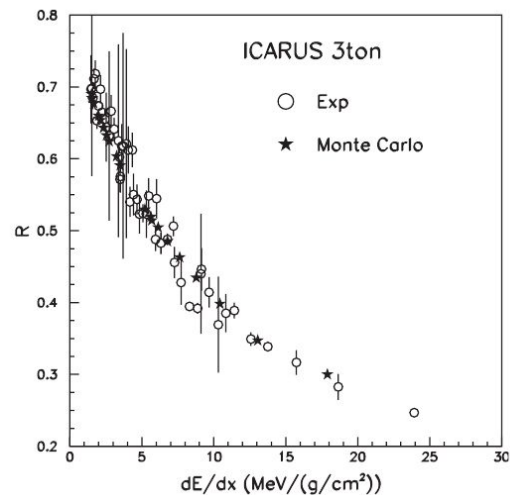
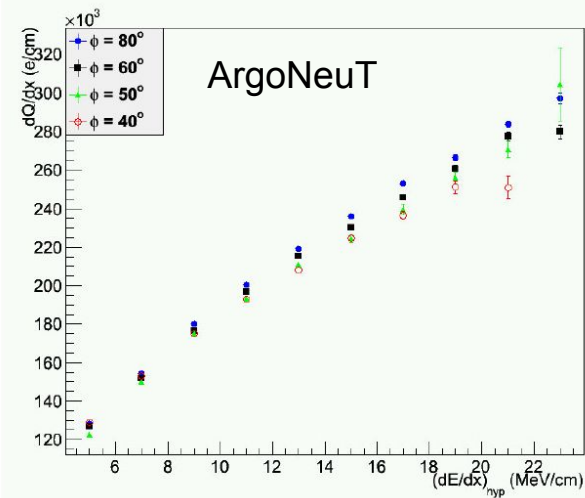
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Ion recombination drives energy  $\rightarrow$  charge conversion.  
 $dE/dx$  and E-field dependent.

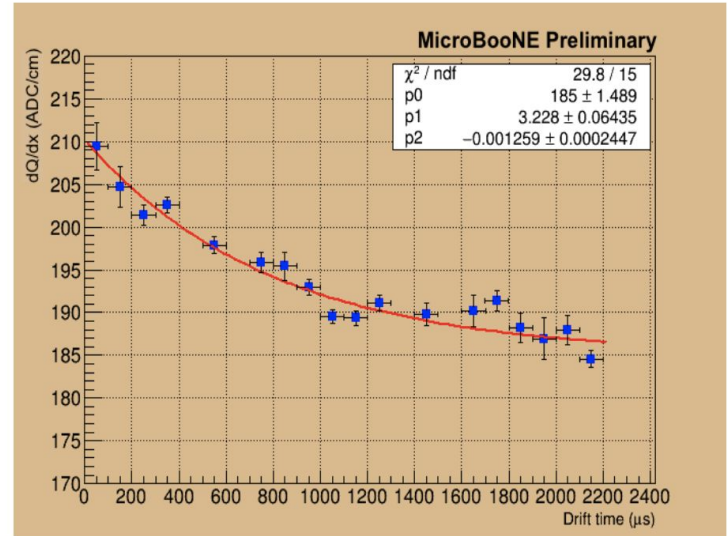
While  $dE/dx$  for showers does not vary too much (unlike e.g. protons), E-field corrections can become important.

Typically accounted for with “effective” correction based on simulation.



# Things that can affect our reconstruction

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[MICROBOONE-NOTE-1026-PUB](#)

- Uncalibrated, leads to a position-dependent variation in energy response.
- Large impurity concentration  $\rightarrow$  higher effective thresholds further away from TPC wires.
- Similar story for Space-Charge effects.

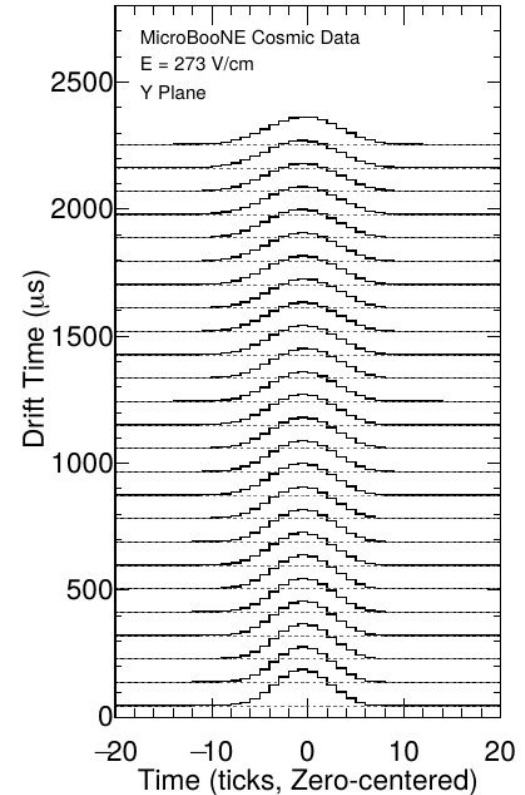
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Diffusion changes the shape of pulses on wires.

More diffusion → wider, less peaked pulses.

Impacts pattern-recognition, hit-threshold, and consequently EM-shower identification and energy reconstruction.



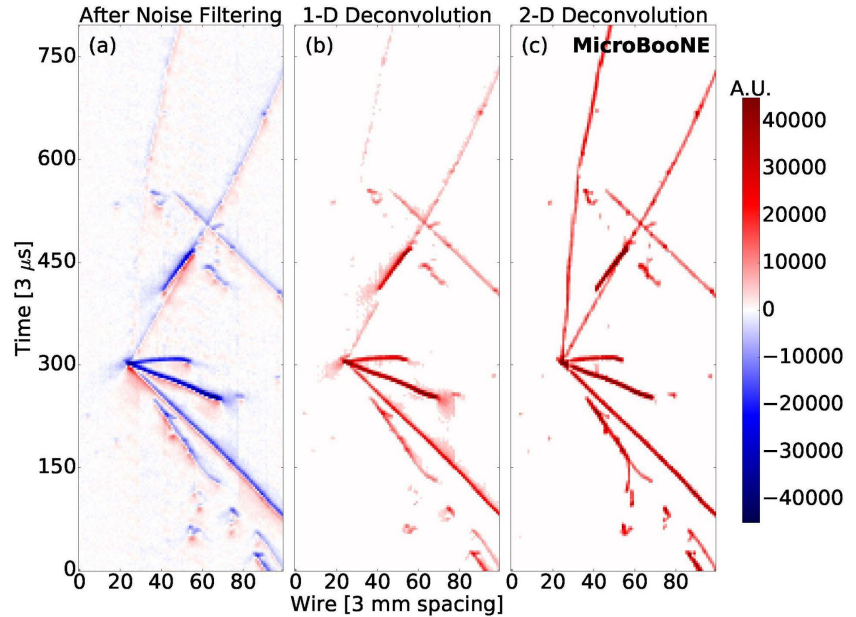
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Systematic Source	Relative Uncertainty [%]
Interaction	10
Detector Response	23
Beam Flux	22
POT Counting	2
Cosmic Simulation	4
Out-of-Cryostat Simulation	6
Total	34

Impact of detector systematics (dominated by DIC in MicroBooNE's first  $\nu_e$  xsec on NuMI

MicroBooNE, *Phys.Rev.D* 104 (2021) 5, 052002 [2101.04228](#) [hep-ex]



MicroBooNE, *JINST* 13 (2018) 07, P07006 [1802.08709](#)  
[physics.ins-det]

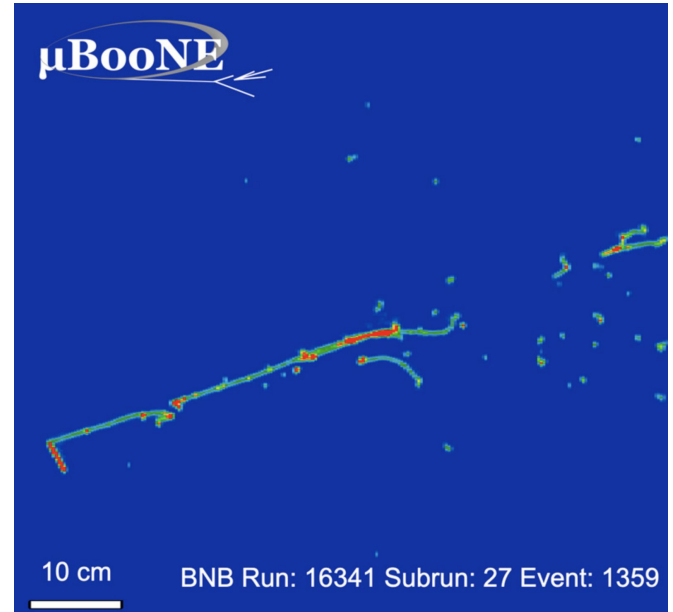


# Things that can affect our reconstruction

- Recombination
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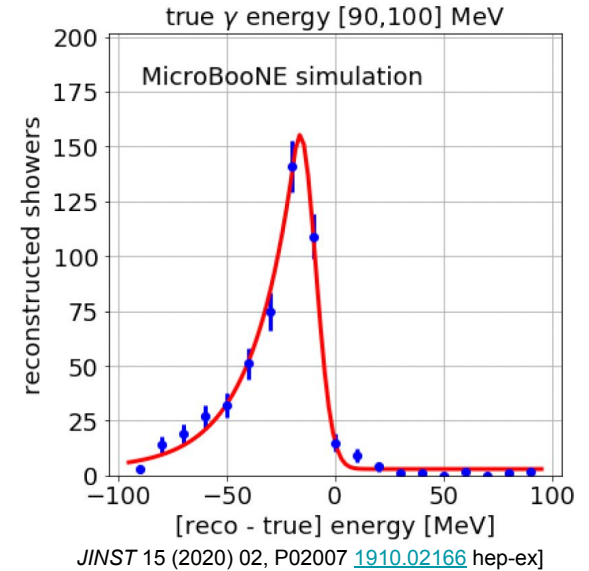
Correctly reconstructed interaction vertex and EM shower start-point are key to the primary deliverables hoped for:

- $e/\gamma$  separation
- Characterization of hadronic activity
- Accurate energy reconstruction



# Things that can affect our reconstruction

- Recombination
  - Lifetime/impurities while drifting
  - Diffusion while drifting
  - Dynamically Induced Charge
- 
- Collecting all of the charge
    - Multi-Gaussian fitting can perform poorly when multiple energy deposits overlap
    - Some charge is below threshold and not picked up by the hit finding
    - Some, primarily low energy, photons can travel a long distance before interacting and leave isolated energy deposits far from the main shower



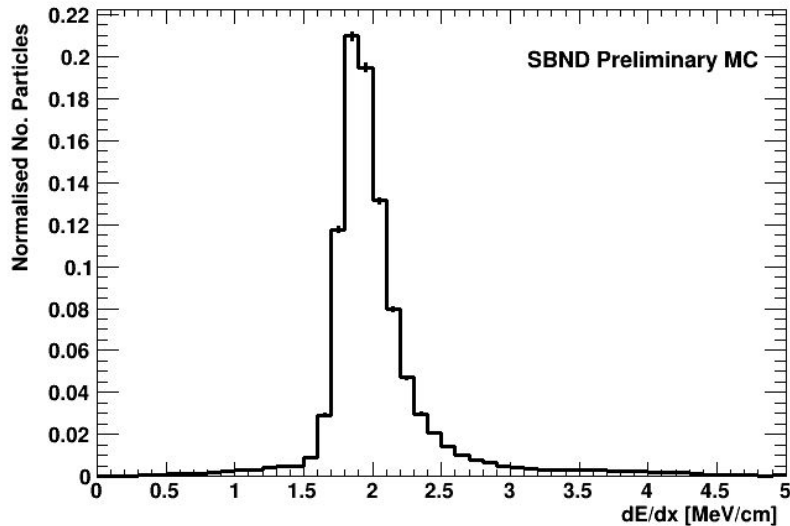
**Demonstration of MeV-Scale Physics in  
Liquid Argon Time Projection Chambers Using ArgoNeUT**

## Reconstruction in Development

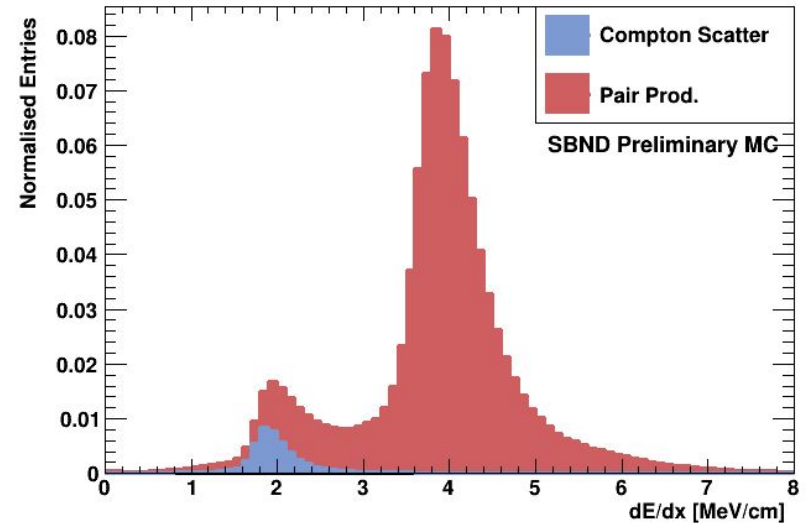
- Using truth studies to tell us where reconstruction will be limited by physics and detector construction.

# Electron-Photon Separation in Truth: $dE/dx$

Look at the  $dE/dx$  for electrons (left) and photons (right) by calculating the median  $dE/dx$  over the wires within 3 cm of the shower start



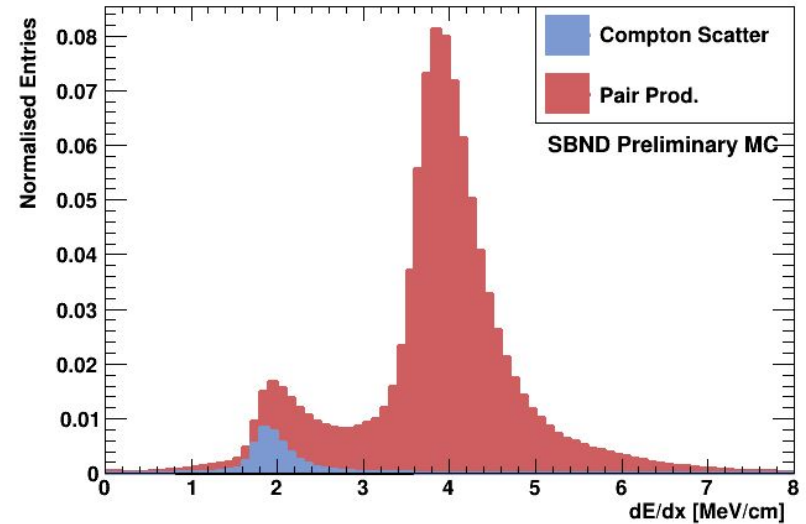
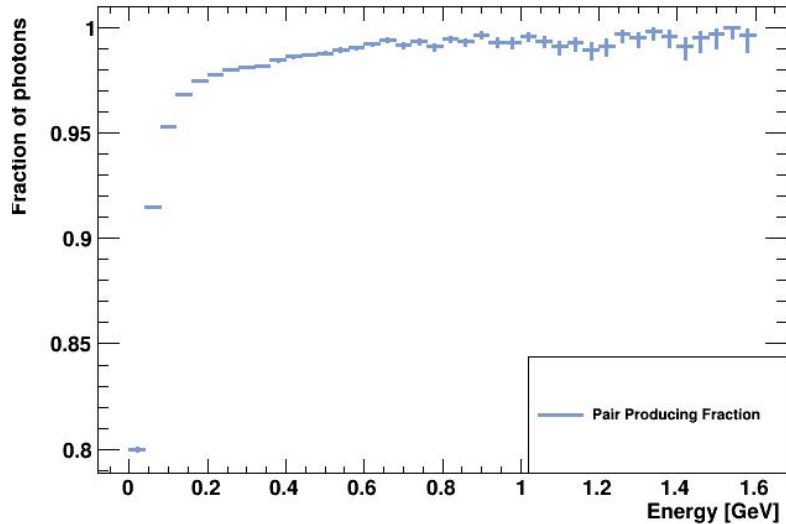
Electrons



Photons

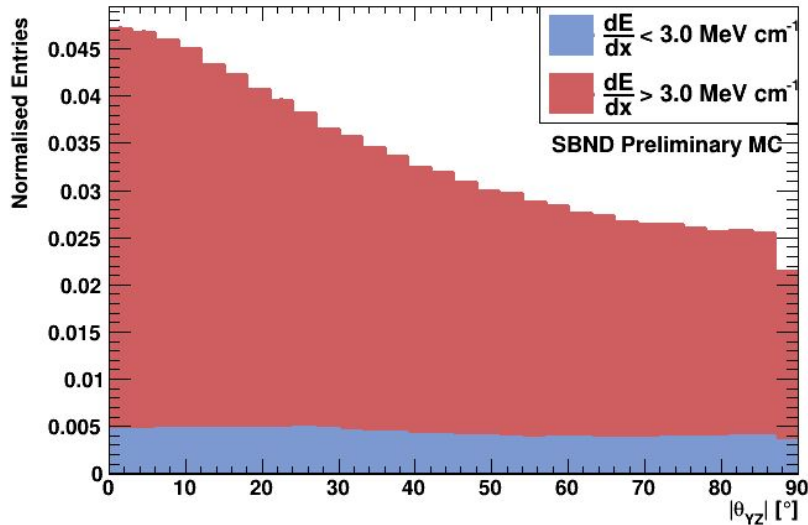
# Electron-Photon Separation in Truth: $dE/dx$

Compton scatters dominate at low energies

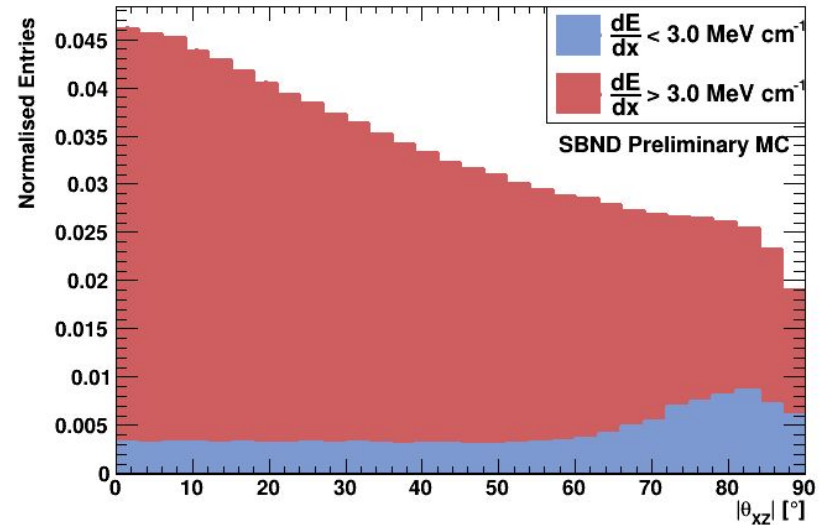


# Electron-Photon Separation in Truth: Angular Dependence

Explore the fraction of single MIP pair-producing photons across detector angles:  
Poor performance when particles are (almost) parallel to drift field ( $\theta_{xz} = 90^\circ$ )



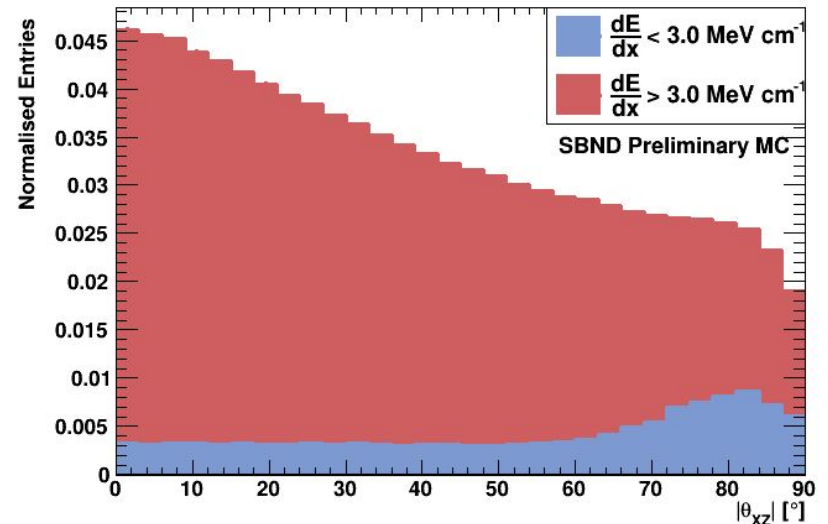
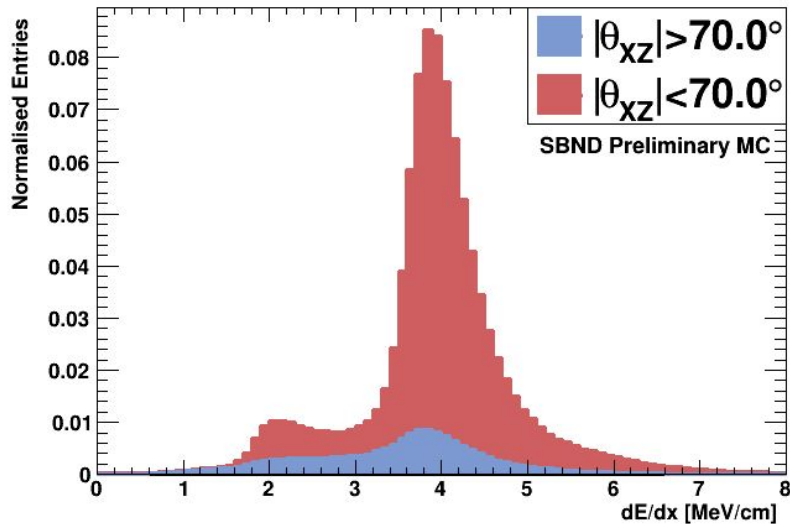
Angle WRT beam within the wire plane



Angle WRT beam in compared to drift field

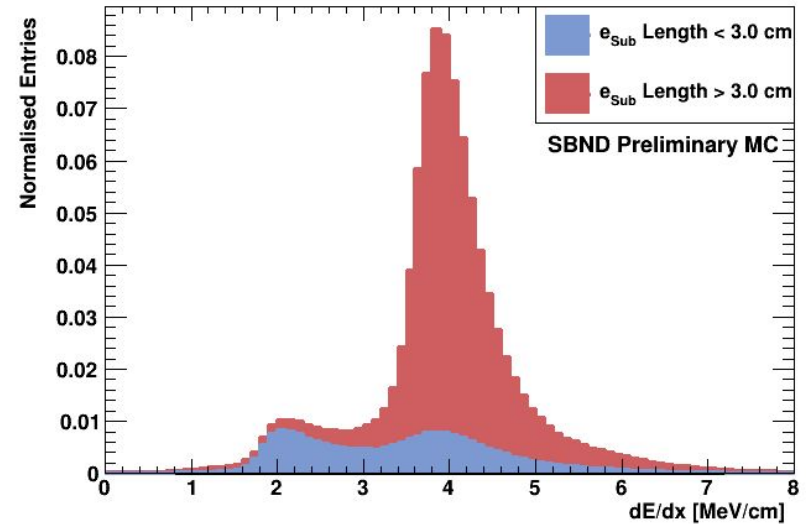
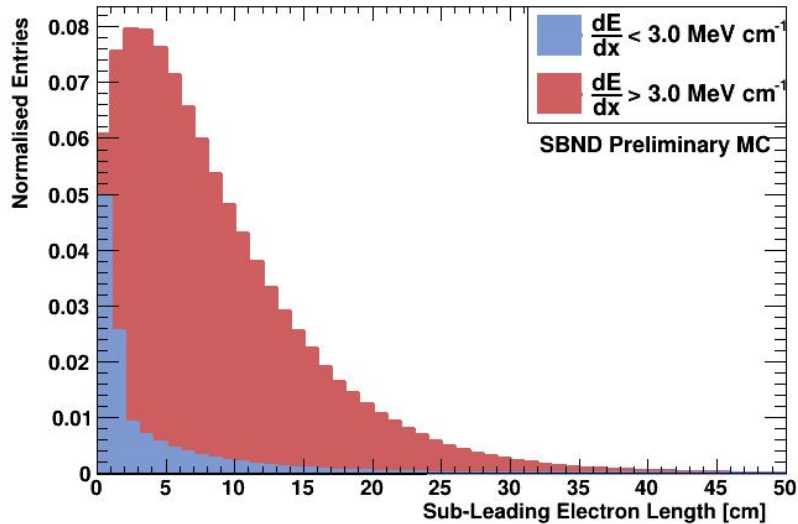
# Electron-Photon Separation in Truth: Angular Dependence

Particles (almost) parallel to drift field smear out the  $dE/dx$  distribution



# Electron-Photon Separation in Truth: Energy Dependence

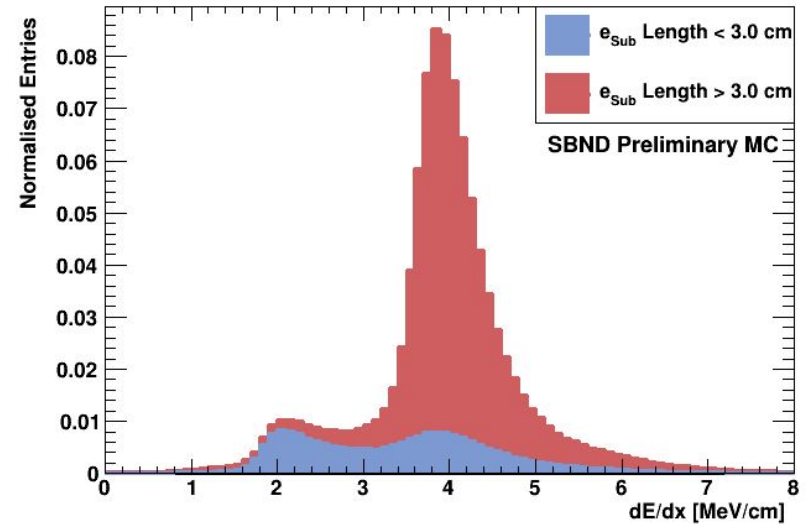
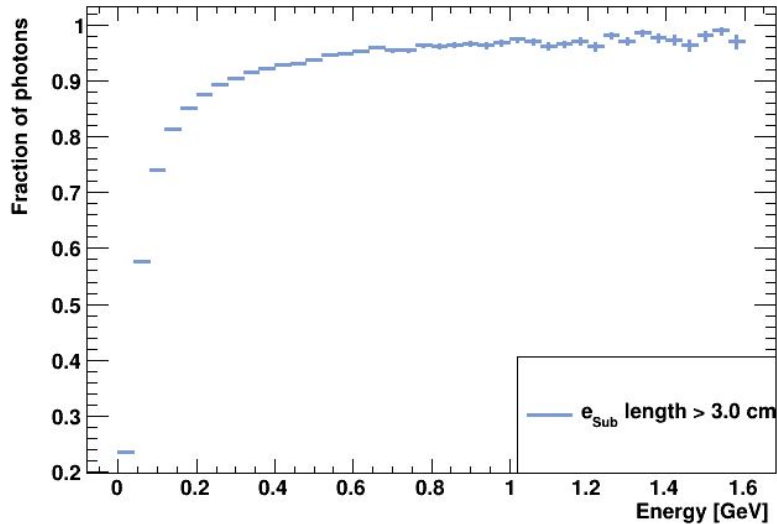
When the sub-leading electron of the pair-produced is low energy it can travel  $< 3$  cm and create a single MIP peak





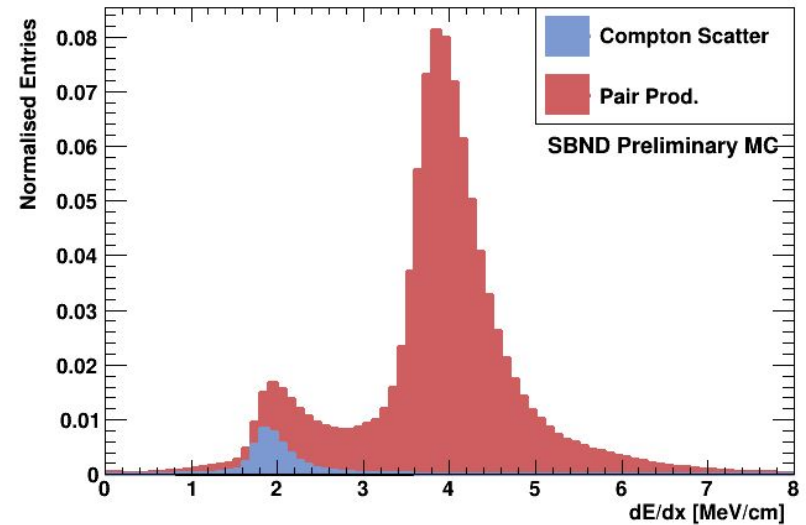
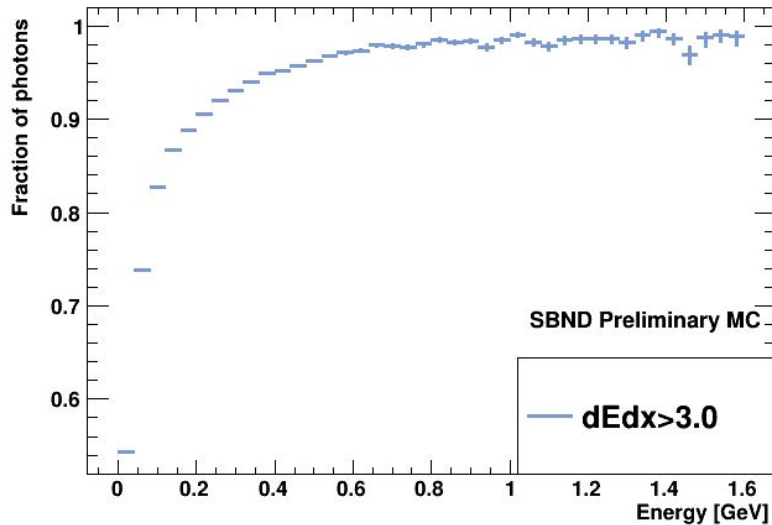
# Electron-Photon Separation in Truth: Energy Dependence

This effect strongly correlates with the initial photon energy, degrading performance at low energy



# Electron-Photon Separation in Truth: Energy Dependence

The overall background rejection for photons is very dependant on energy:  
Integrated over BNB energies yields 83% rejection with 95% electron acceptance

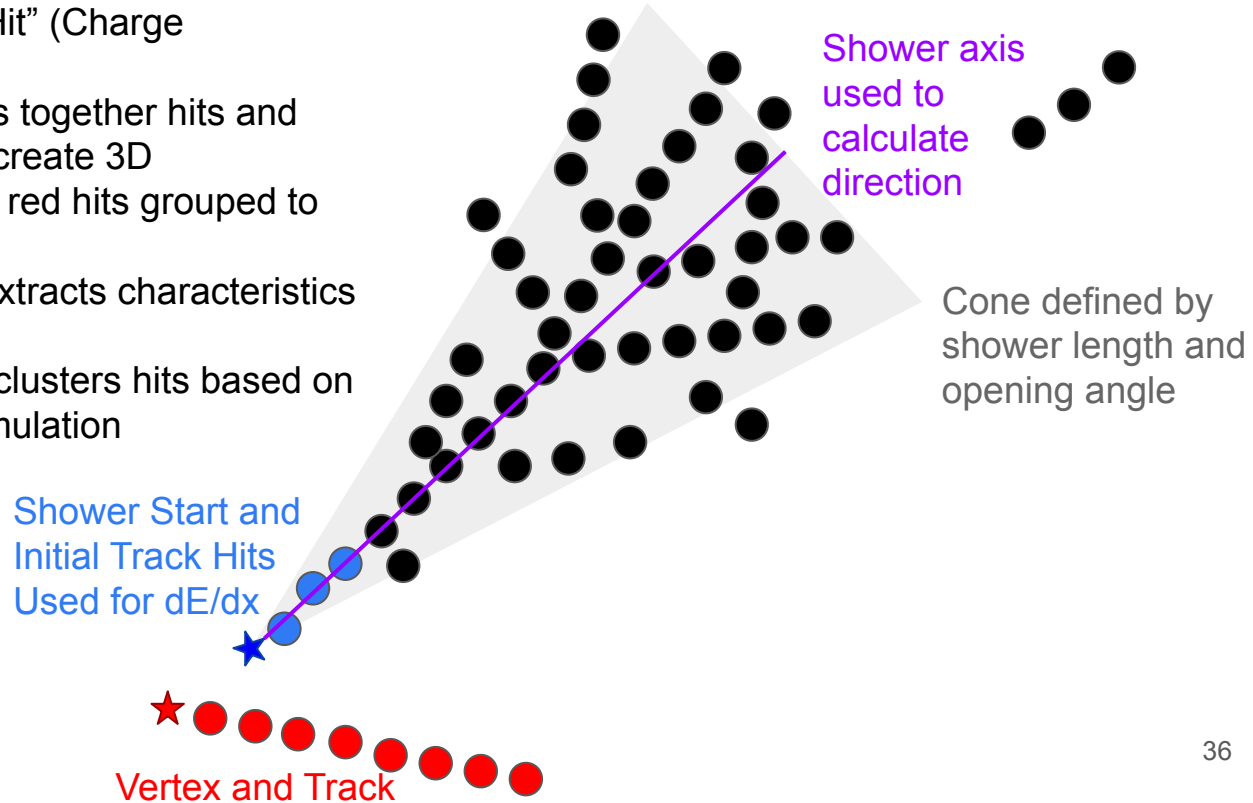


## Reconstruction in Development

- Current status of SBN reconstruction

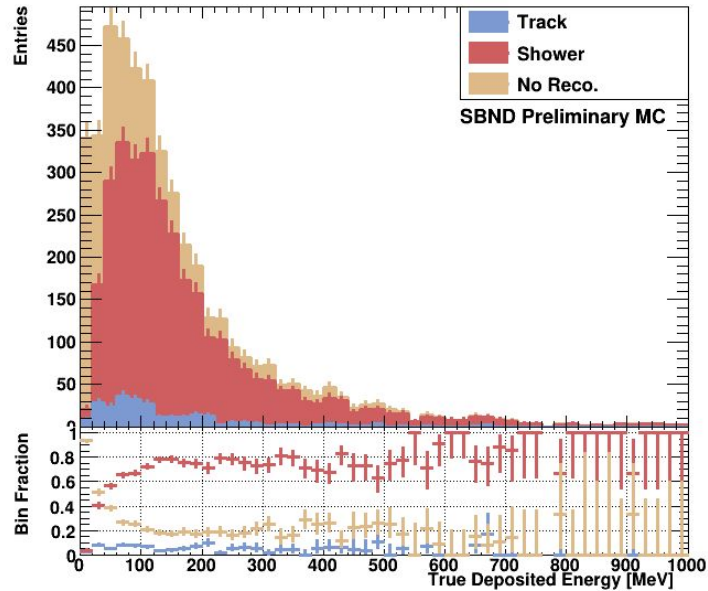
# Reconstructed Shower Diagram

- Each circle represents a “Hit” (Charge deposition on a wire)
- Pattern recognition clusters together hits and matches across planes to create 3D reconstructed objects (e.g. red hits grouped to make a track)
- High level reconstruction extracts characteristics from these 3D objects
- “Cheated” Reconstruction clusters hits based on underlying Monte Carlo simulation

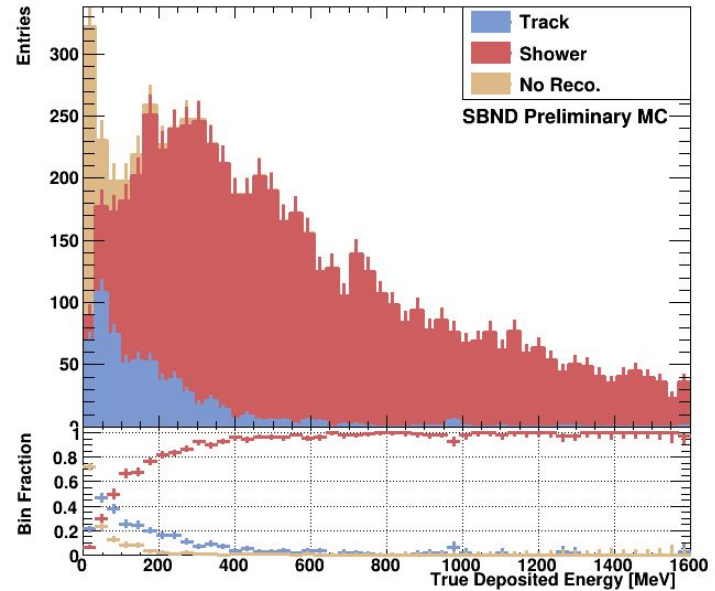


# Classification Metrics

Each 3D object is classified as either a track or a shower



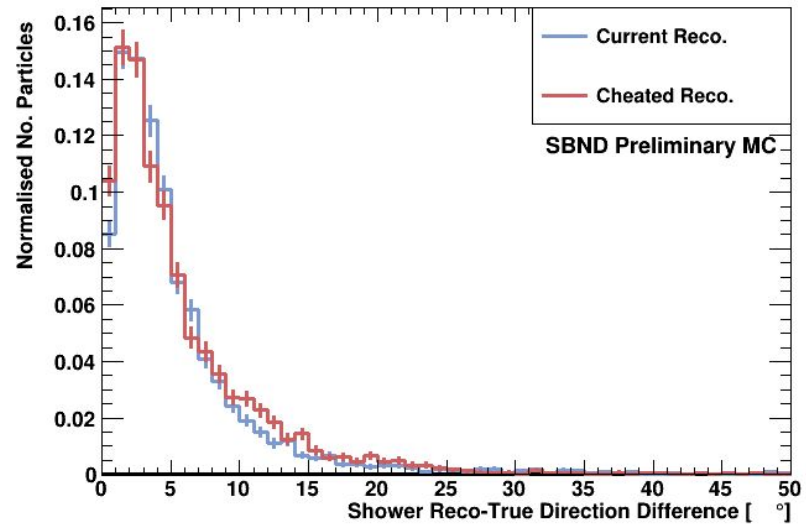
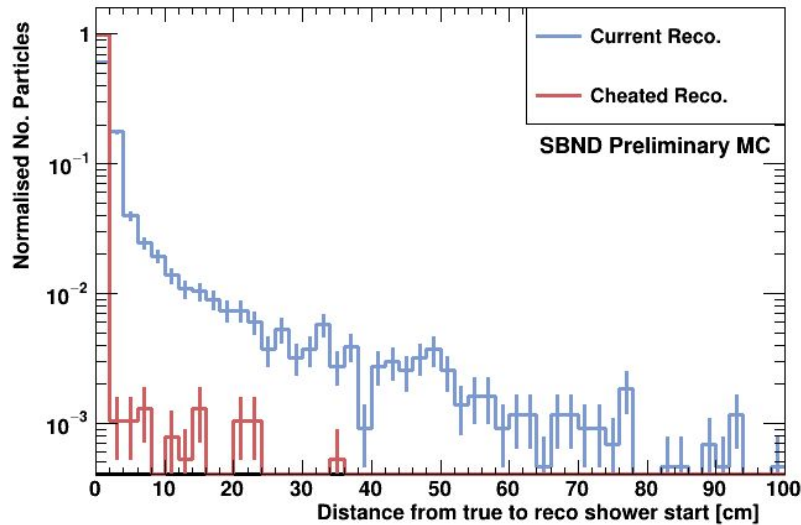
BNB Photons



BNB Electrons

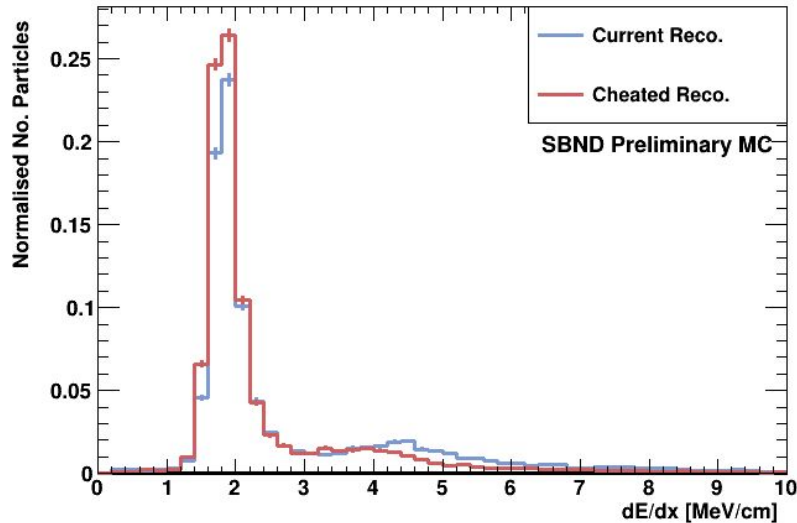
# Shower Reconstruction Topological Metrics

Compare the performance between the Current reconstruction and the cheated pattern recognition (Running the same high level reconstruction algorithms)

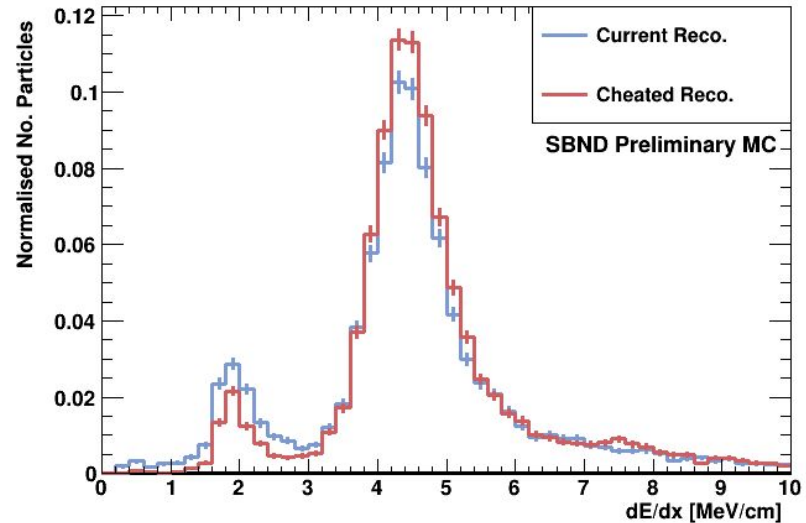


# Shower Reconstruction $dE/dx$

Compare the performance between the Current reconstruction and the cheated pattern recognition (Running the same high level reconstruction algorithms)



Electrons

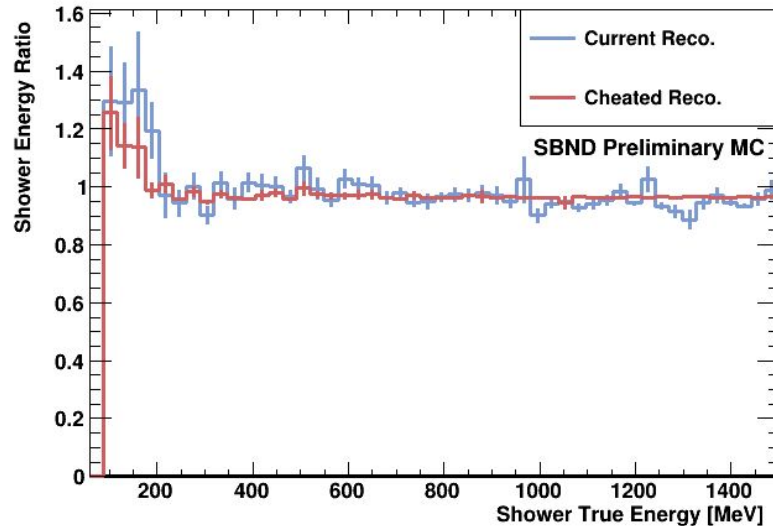
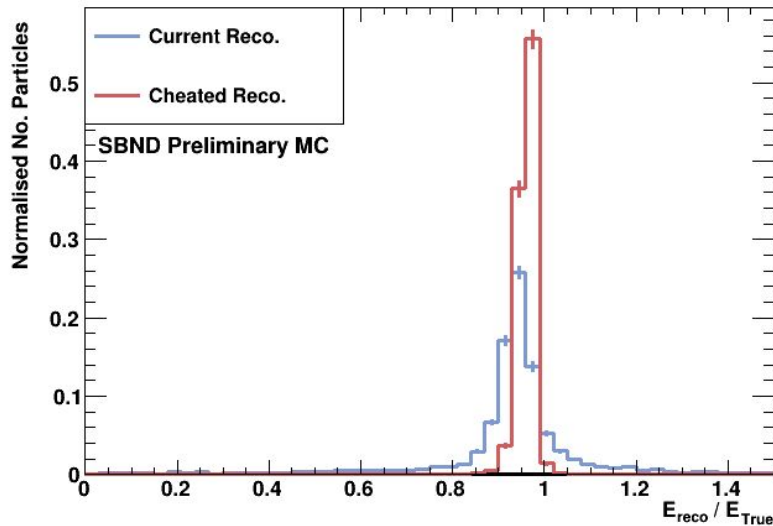


Photons

“Cheated” Reconstruction  
clusters hits based on  
underlying Monte Carlo  
simulation

# Shower Reconstruction Energy Resolution

Compare the performance between the Current reconstruction and the cheated pattern recognition (Running the same high level reconstruction algorithms)

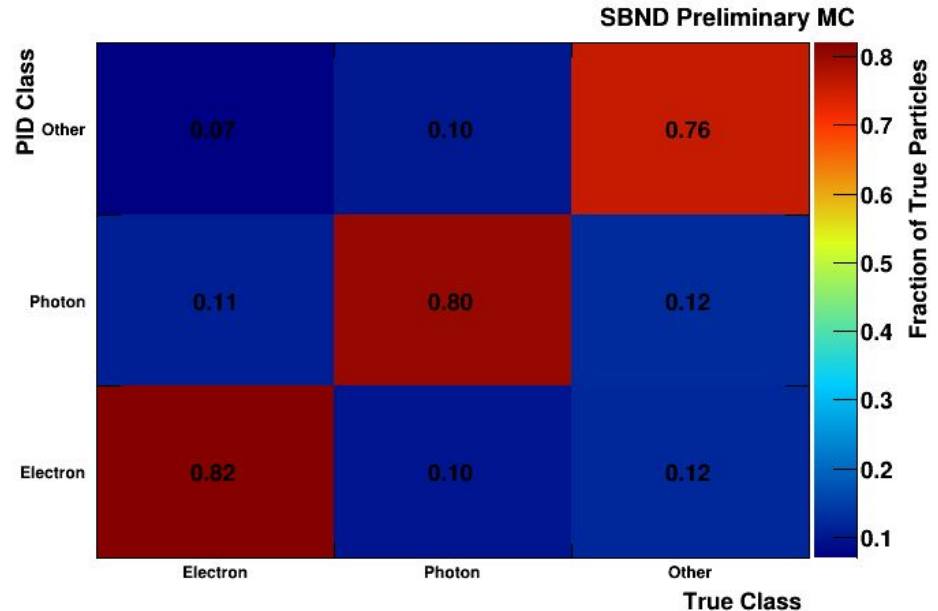


(Peak offset from 1 can be calibrated out using standard candles (e.g. Pi0))



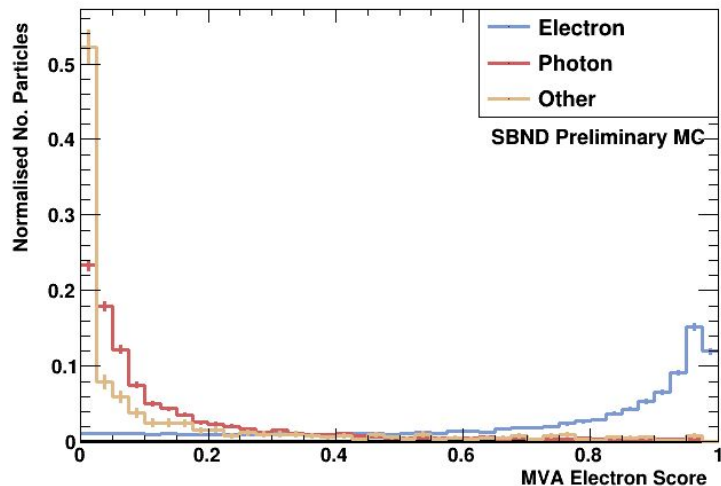
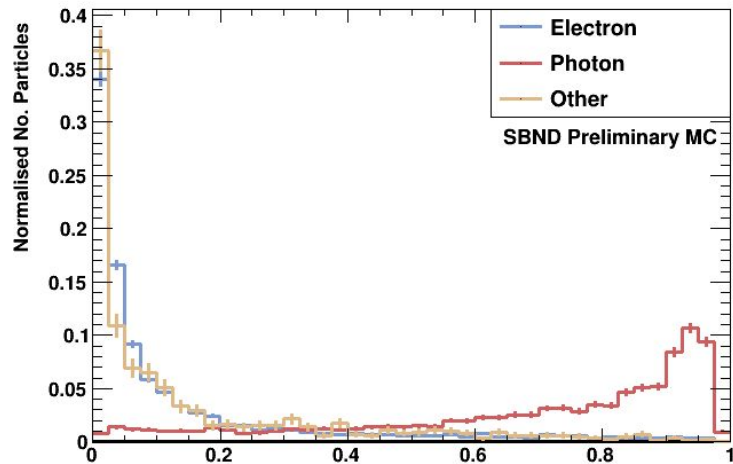
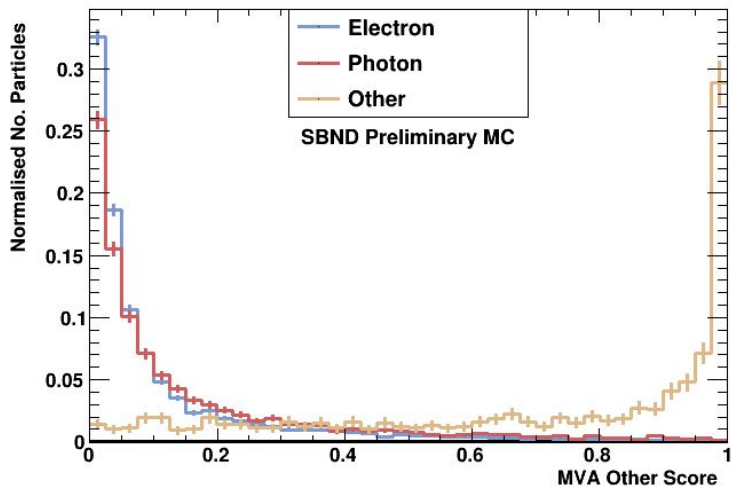
# Razzle PID

- SBND has developed a Multi-Class BDT(G) to perform shower PID
- This combines the dE/dx, conversion gap, opening angle and density of a shower
- Calculates a score for every shower for three hypotheses:
  - Electron
  - Photon
  - Other (dominated by misclassified tracks)
- Confusion matrix shows performance when taking hypothesis with largest score
- Accompanying track BDT: Dazzle



# Razzle PID

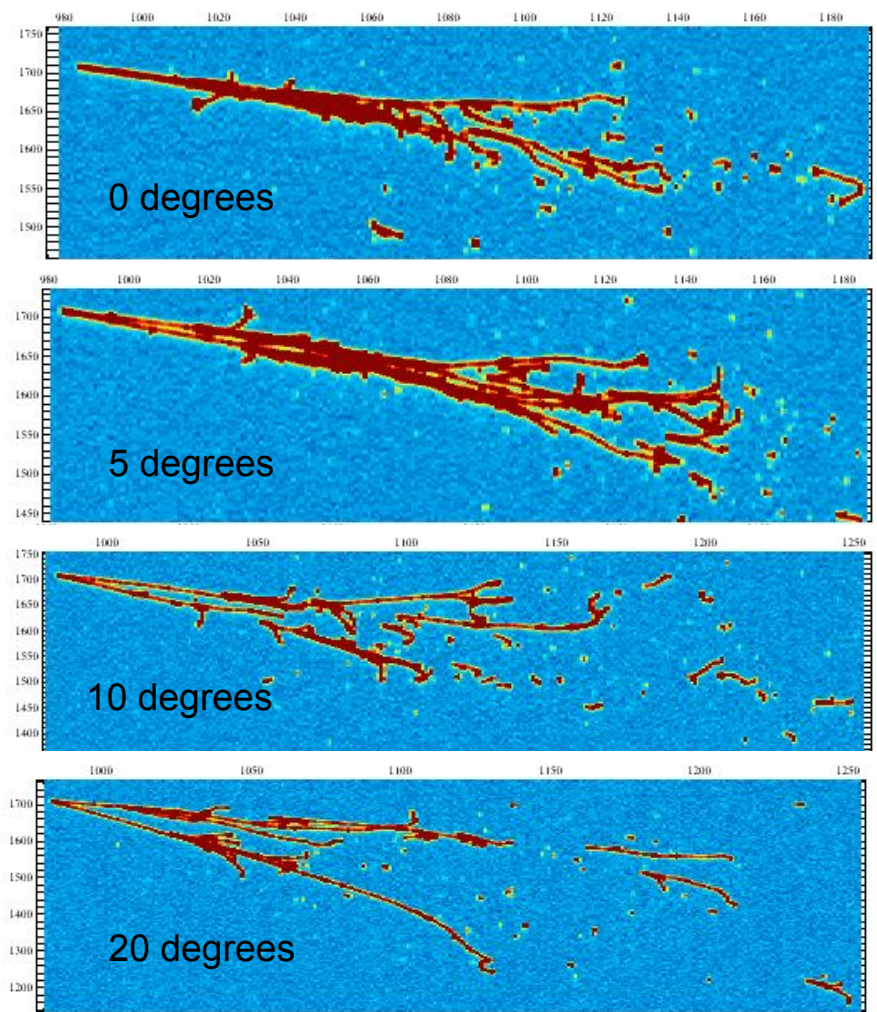
- Can also cut on scores of individual BDTs for tuned efficiency or purity
- BDTs are co-normalised so sum of scores across all hypotheses sums to unity



First look at  $e^+/e^-$  pairs

# First look at $e^+/e^-$ pairs

- Simulated  $e^+e^-$  pairs in the SBND detector
- Fixed 600 MeV and 400 MeV initial momenta
- Fixed, shared starting position
- Varied the opening angle between the  $e^+/e^-$  pair
- Initial track-like sections of the shower separate at higher angles, but the shower cascade can still easily overlap



# Future Developments in Shower Reconstruction

# Future Developments in (SBND) Shower Reconstruction

- Dedicated studies to look at performance of isolated showers
  - Pandora heavily relies on hadronic activity for to identify the vertex
  - Isolated showers are interesting for both  $\nu$ -e scattering and BSM studies
- Studies on overlapping showers (as shown in the event displays) to study the separation at which the showers become individually resolvable
- Improvements to the pattern recognition:
  - Ongoing work to improve the vertex finding used to “grow the event”
  - Exploration of targeted deep learning to augment existing pattern recognition algorithms
    - E.g. Semantic segmentation tags hits as track-like or shower-like allowing more aggressive shower merging whilst protecting track reconstruction quality

# Conclusions

We've gone a long way in EM shower reconstruction.

It is a difficult problem, so we still have a way to go, but situation is promising.

Multiple ideas in reconstruction are progressing:

- we presented primarily Pandora here, but WireCell and Deep Learning efforts are going on in parallels (some paper links on the next slide).

# Articles Relevant to EM Shower Reconstruction

- First Measurement of Inclusive Electron-Neutrino and Antineutrino Charged Current Differential Cross Sections in Charged Lepton Energy on Argon in MicroBooNE [[2109.06832](#) hep-ex]
- Measurement of the flux-averaged inclusive charged-current electron neutrino and antineutrino cross section on argon using the NuMI beam and the MicroBooNE detector [ *Phys.Rev.D* 104 (2021) 5, 052002, [2101.04228](#) hep-ex]
- First measurement of electron neutrino scattering cross section on argon [ *Phys.Rev.D* 102 (2020) 1, 011101 [2004.01956](#) hep-ex]
- First Observation of Low Energy Electron Neutrinos in a Liquid Argon Time Projection Chamber [ *Phys.Rev.D* 95 (2017) 7, 072005 [1610.04102](#) hep-ex]
- Electromagnetic Shower Reconstruction and Energy Validation with Michel Electrons and  $\pi^0$  Samples for the Deep-Learning-Based Analyses in MicroBooNE [[2110.11874](#) hep-ex]
- Wire-Cell 3D Pattern Recognition Techniques for Neutrino Event Reconstruction in Large LArTPCs: Algorithm Description and Quantitative Evaluation with MicroBooNE Simulation [[2110.13961](#) physics.ins-det]
- Semantic segmentation with a sparse convolutional neural network for event reconstruction in MicroBooNE [*Phys.Rev.D* 103 (2021) 5, 052012 [2012.08513](#) physics.ins-det]
- Electromagnetic Shower Reconstruction and Energy Validation with Michel Electrons and  $\pi^0$  Samples for the Deep-Learning-Based Analyses in MicroBooNE [[2110.11874](#) hep-ex]
- Reconstruction and Measurement of O(100) MeV Energy Electromagnetic Activity from  $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$  Decays in the MicroBooNE LArTPC [*JINST* 15 (2020) 02, P02007 [1910.02166](#) hep-ex]
- The Pandora multi-algorithm approach to automated pattern recognition of cosmic-ray muon and neutrino events in the MicroBooNE detector [*Eur.Phys.J.C* 78 (2018) 1, 82 [1708.03135](#) hep-ex]