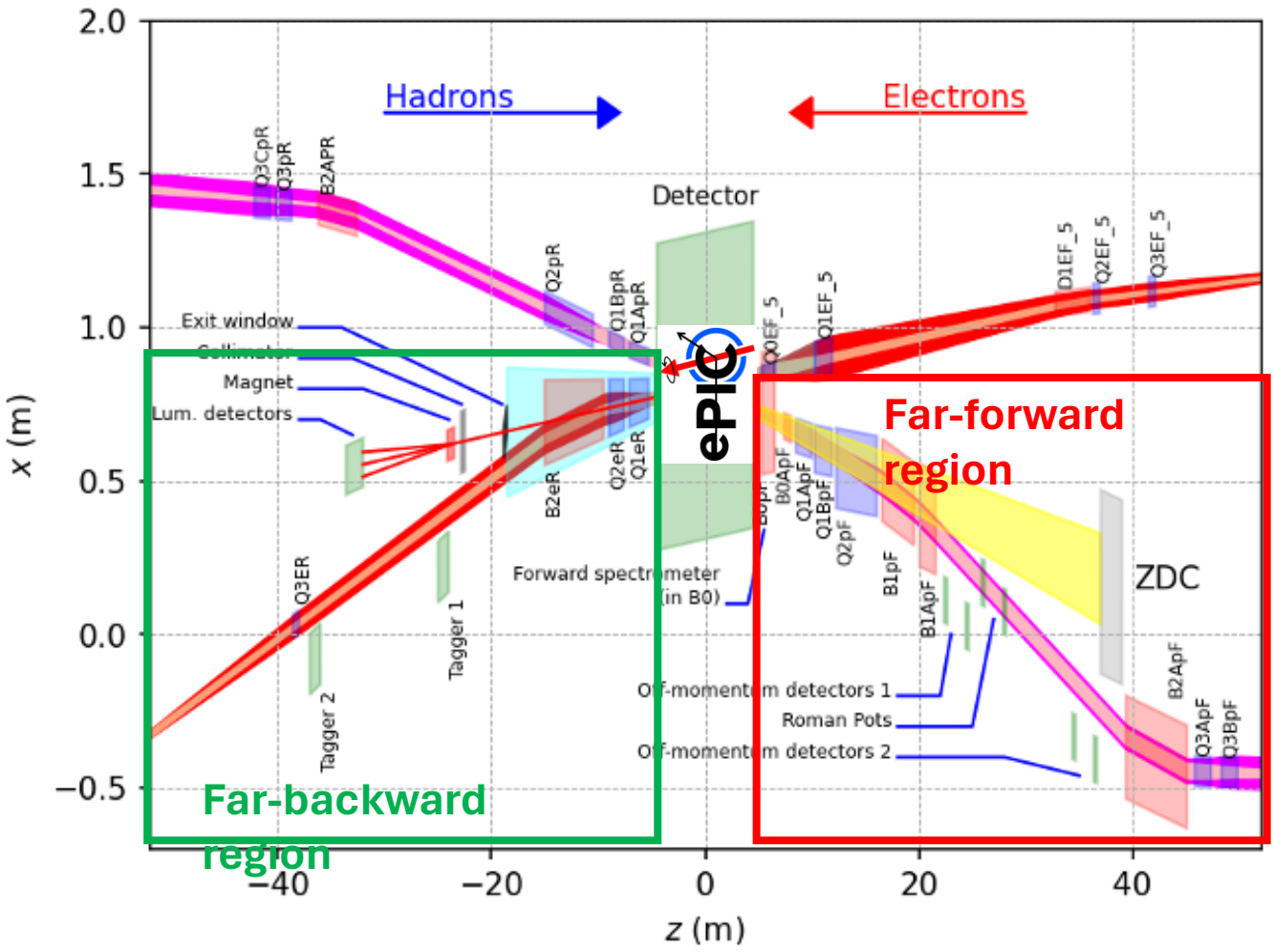


# Single-neutron and DEMP studies in ePIC

Barak Schmookler

# EIC Interaction Region (IR)

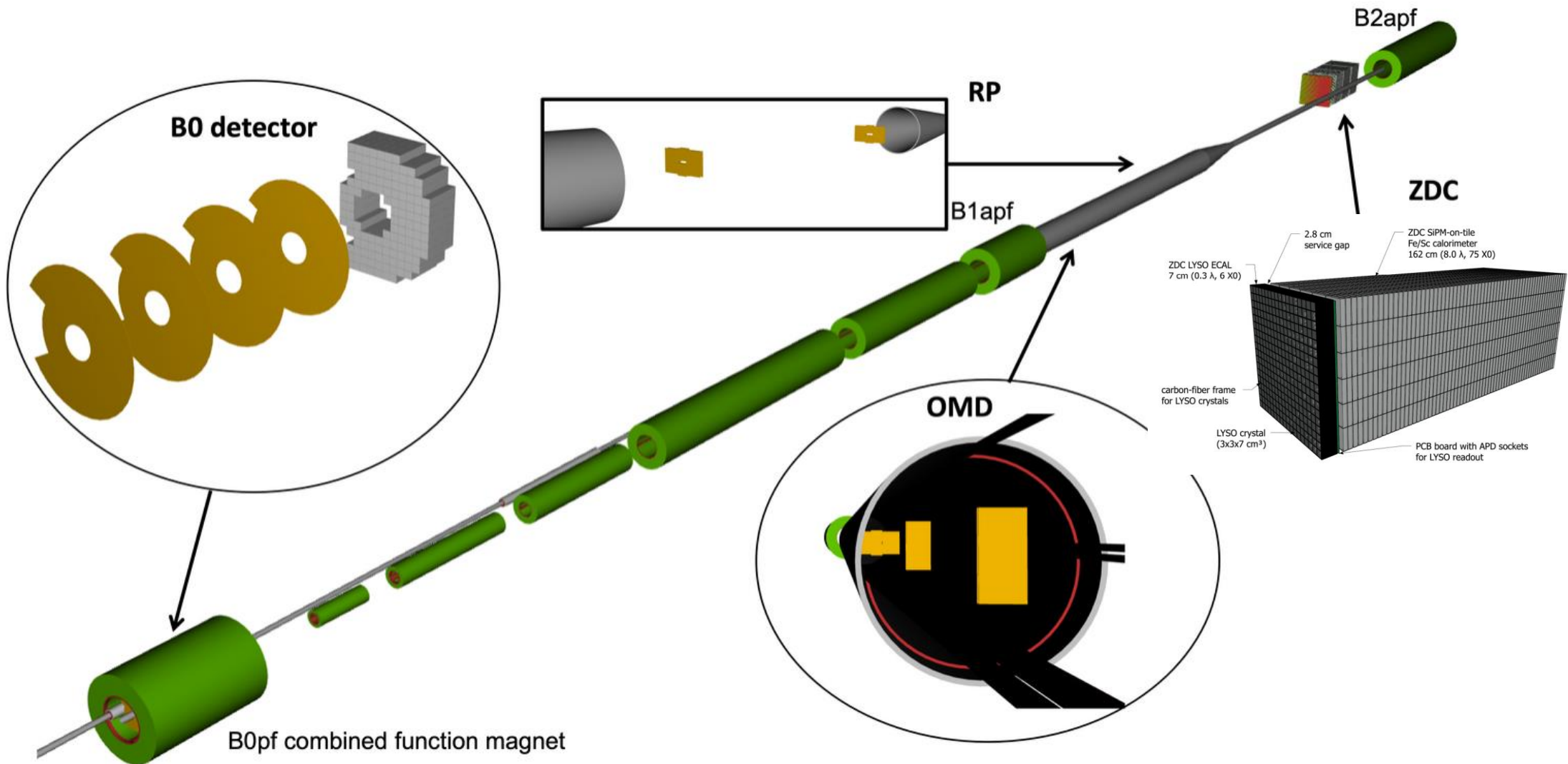


IR design is critical for EIC science

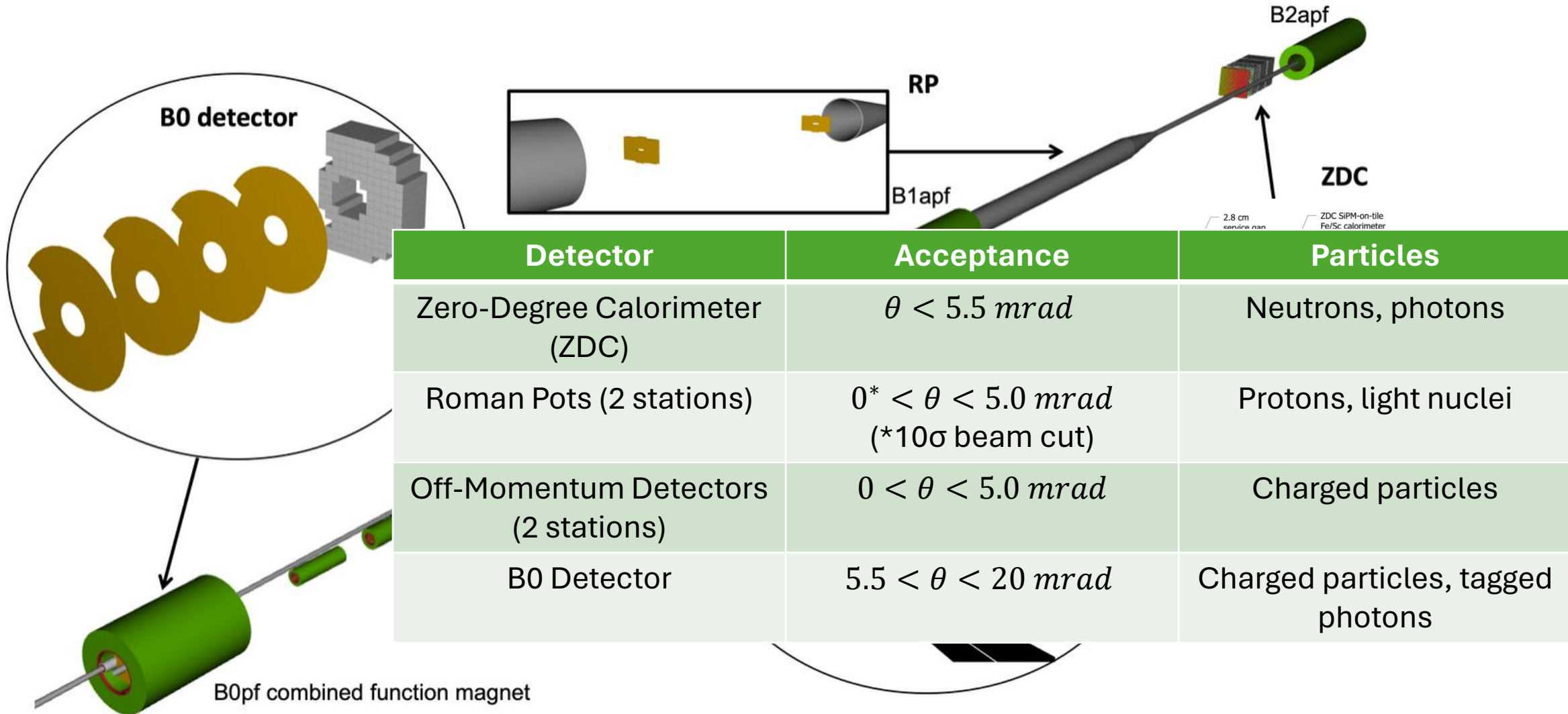
**Far-forward region:** Many physics channels require the tagging of charged and neutral particles scattered at very small angles to the incoming proton/ion beam. Detectors in this region are the B0, Off-Momentum detectors, Roman Pot detectors, and Zero-Degree calorimeter.

**Far-backward region:** Measurement of the absolute and relative luminosity, as well as tagging of low- $Q^2$  electrons. The detectors in this region are the Direct Photon detector, the Pair Spectrometer, and the Low  $Q^2$  taggers.

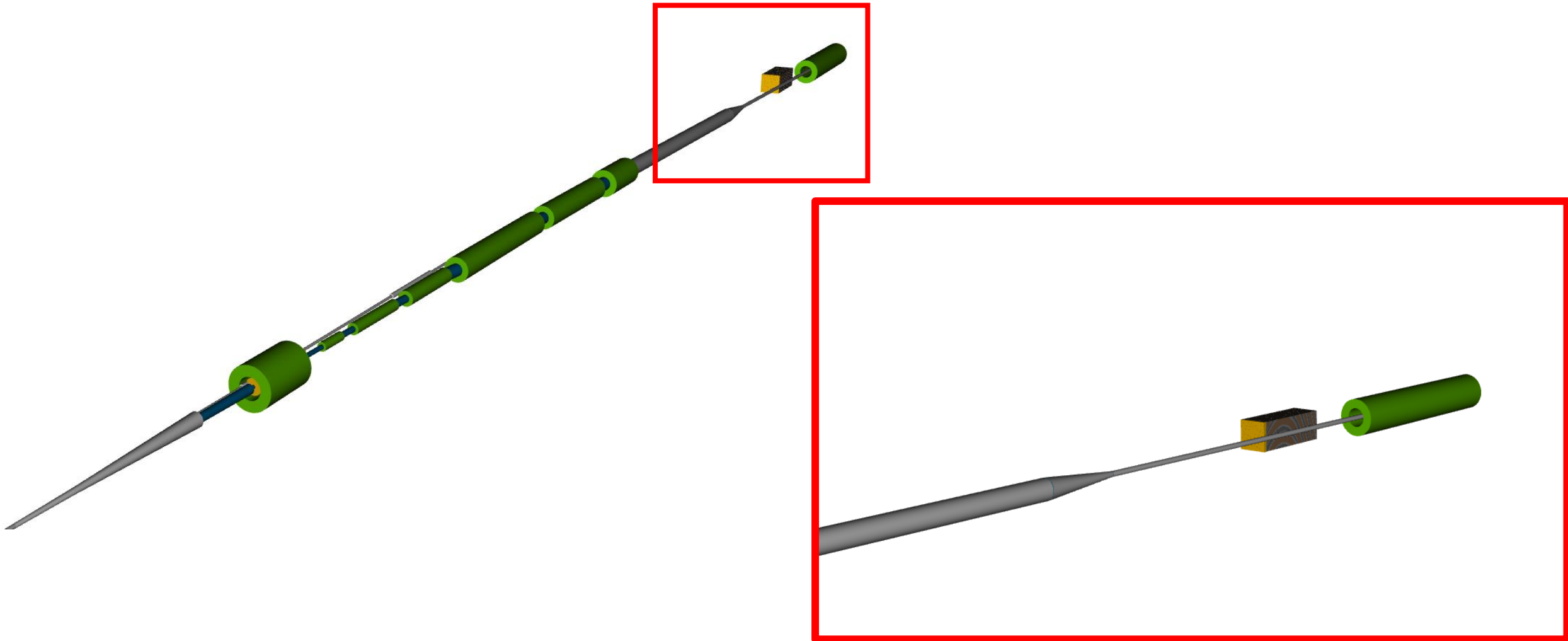
# Far-forward region in ePIC



# Far-forward region in ePIC

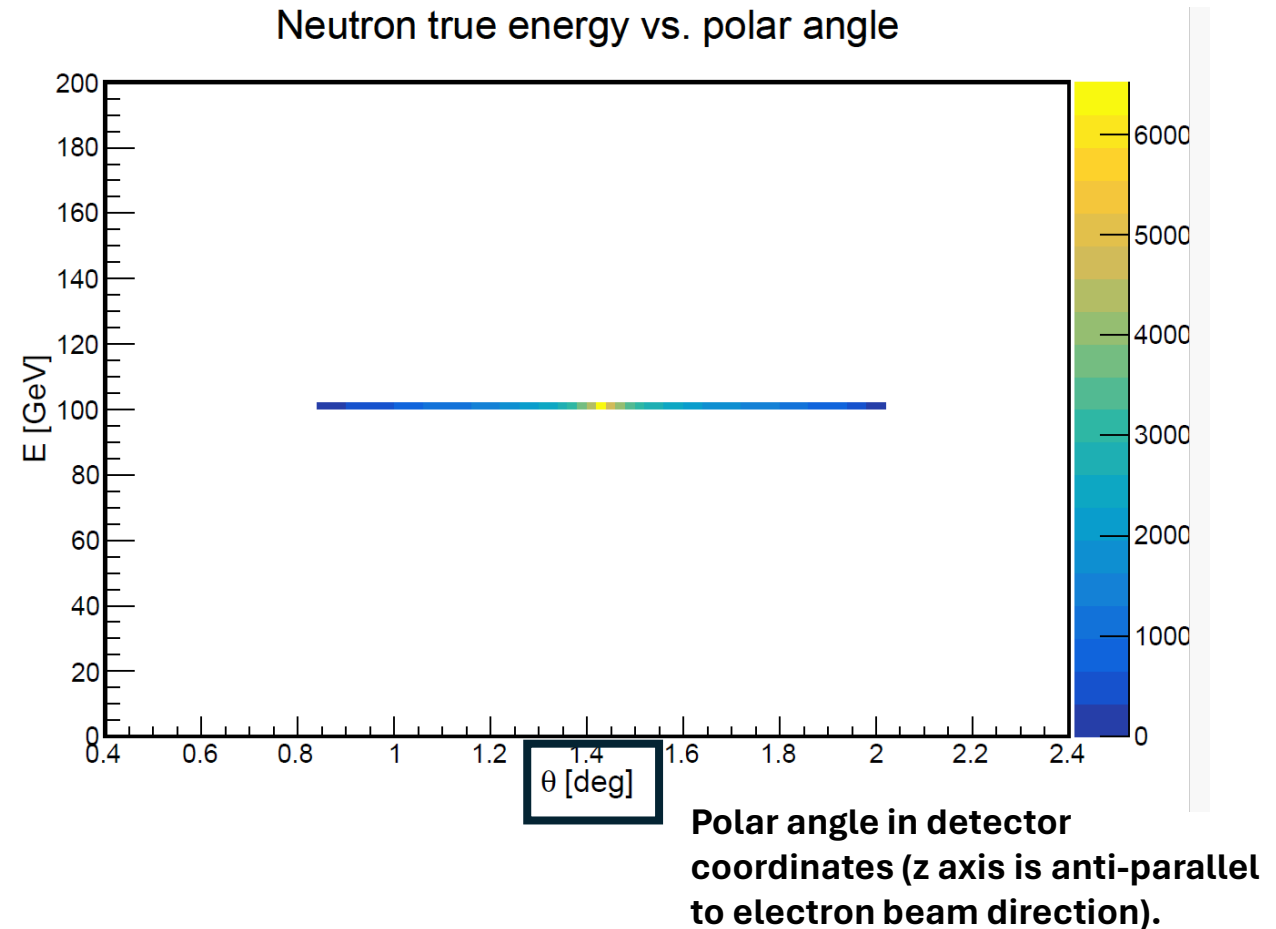


# Full far-forward region in Geant4



# Single-neutron simulation

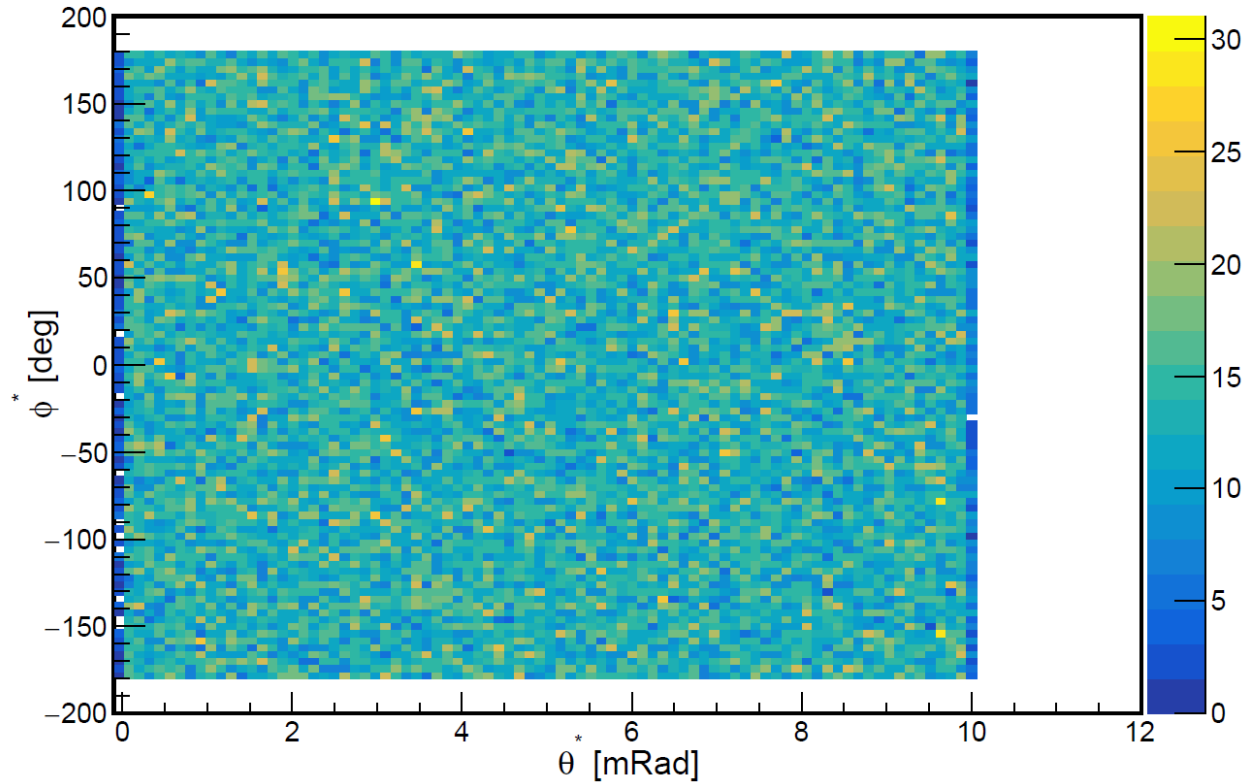
- 100k neutrons using official ePIC simulation with full geometry (DD4Hep) and reconstruction (EICRecon).
- Kinematics:
  - 100 GeV (or 40 GeV)
  - $\theta = [0, 10]$  mRad w.r.t. proton beam direction
  - $\phi = [0, 2\pi]$  Rad w.r.t proton beam direction



# Single-neutron simulation – Geant-level response

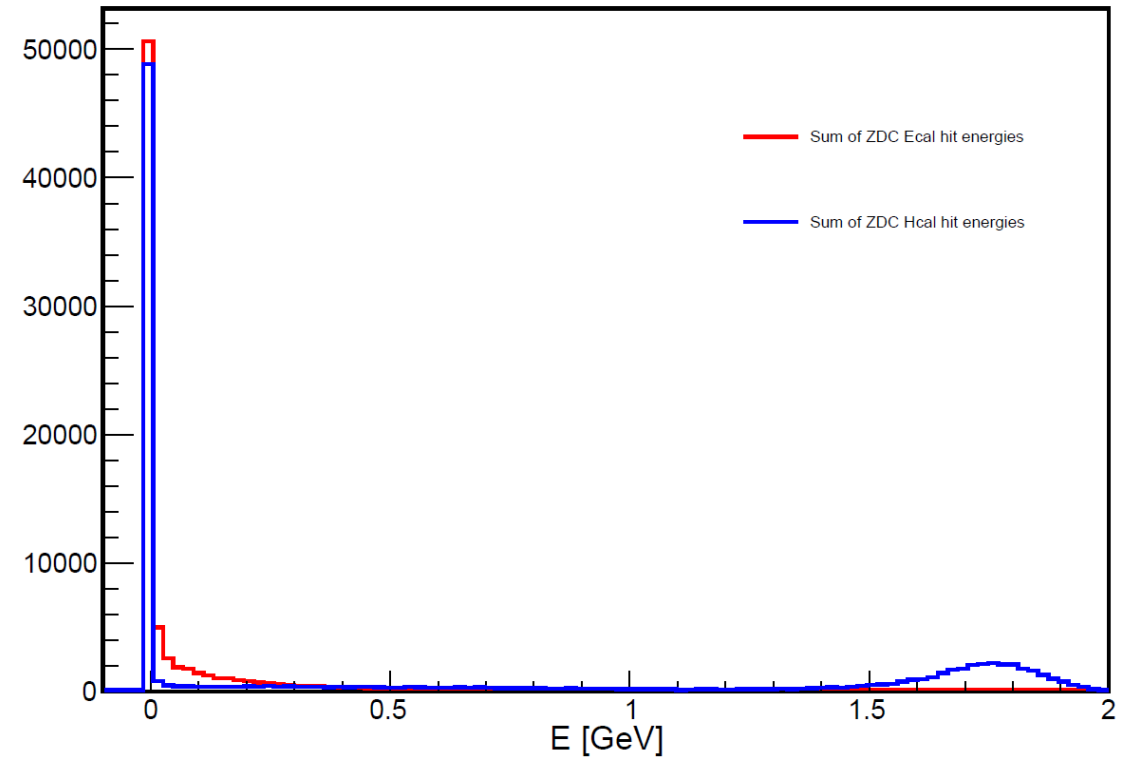
## All generated neutrons

Neutron true azimuthal angle vs. polar angle around p axis



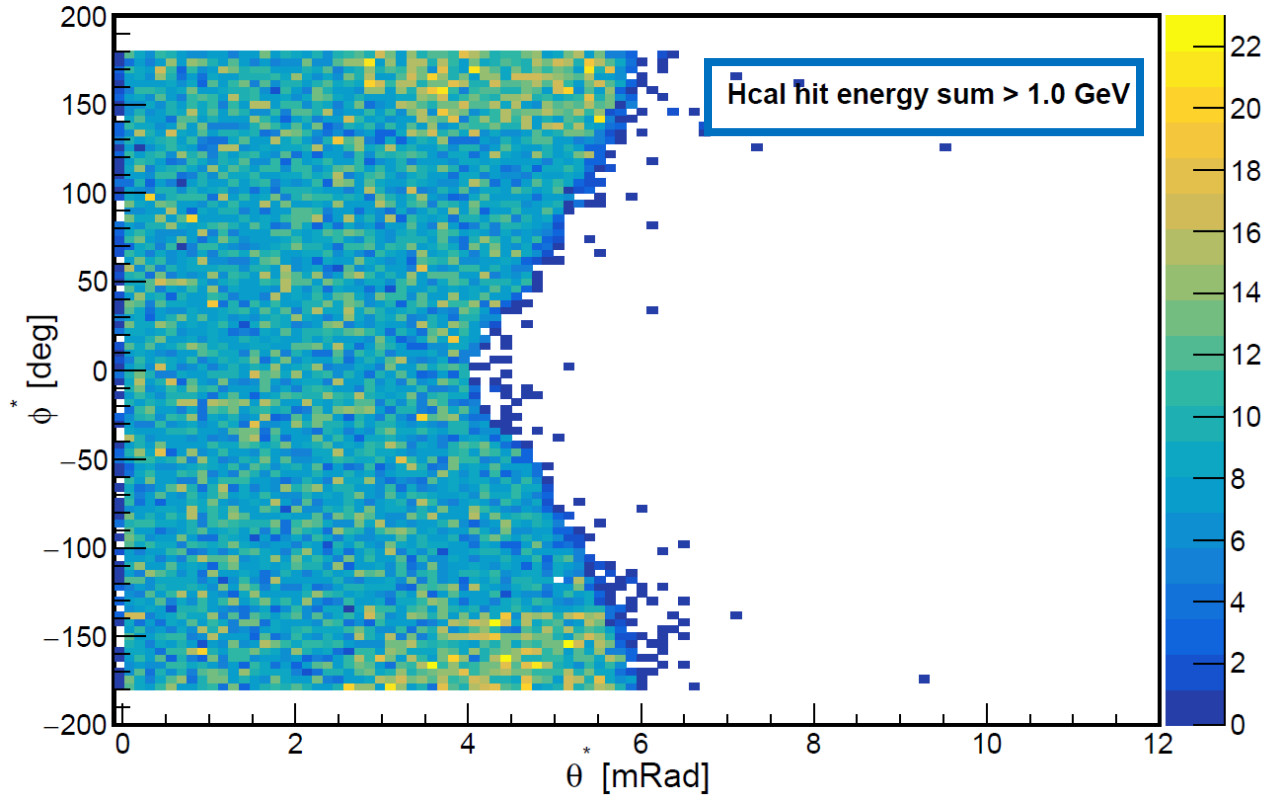
## Total Energy deposited in active area

Total true hit energy sum

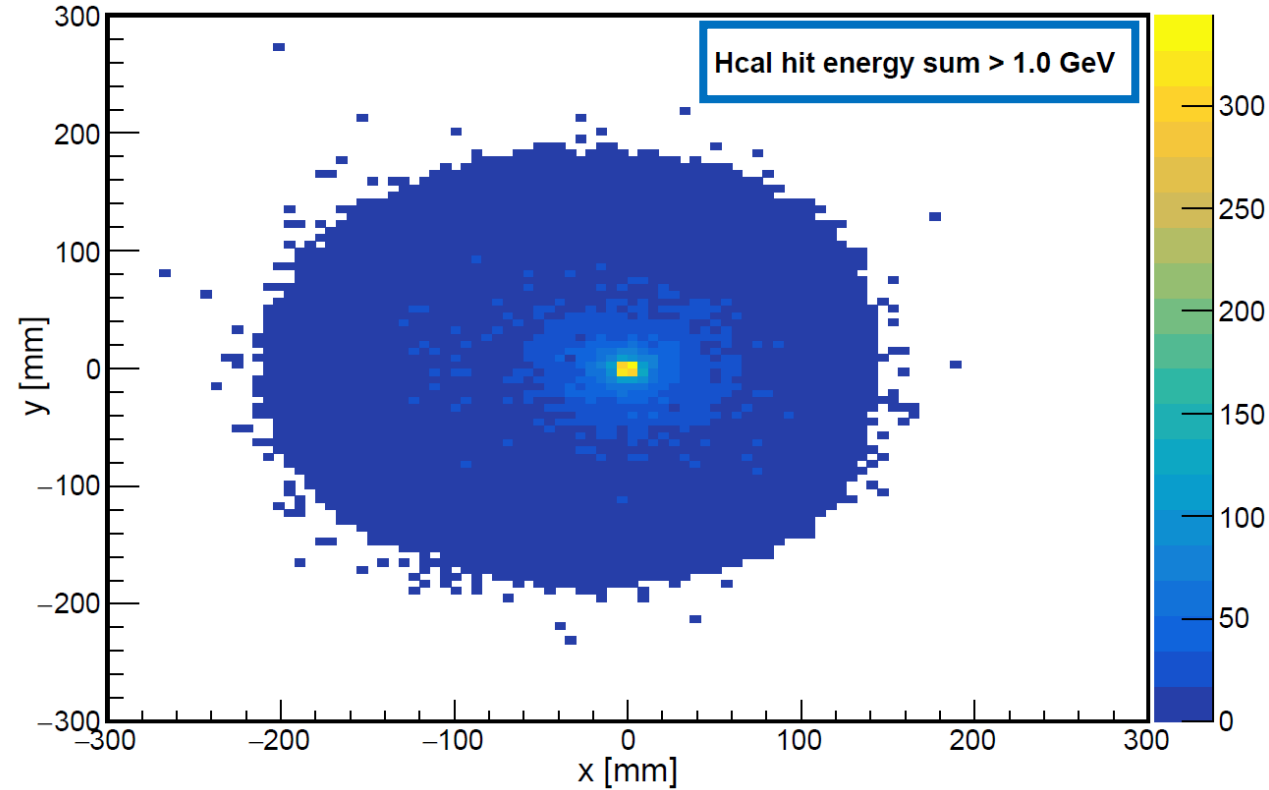


# Single-neutron simulation – Geant-level response

Neutron true azimuthal angle vs. polar angle around p axis



Neutron local hit position at ZDC HCal front face



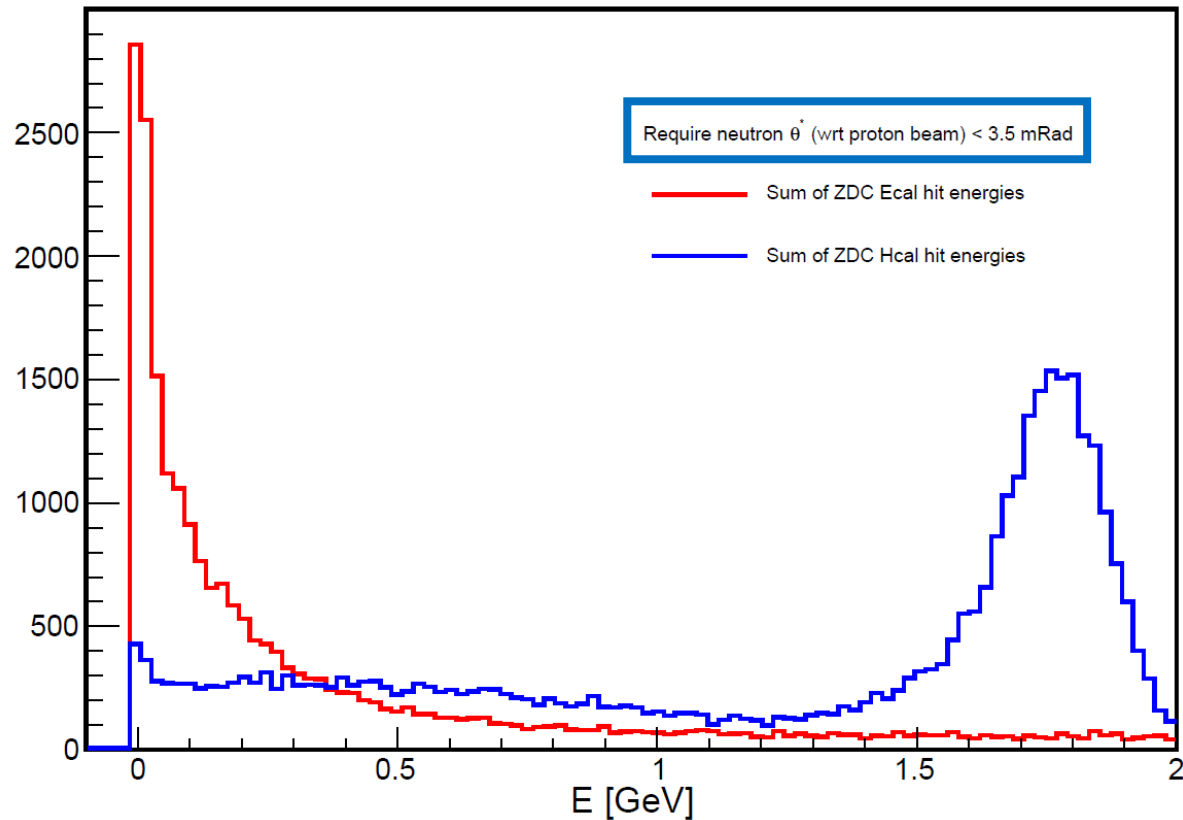
**ZDC extends out to  $\pm 300$  mm ( $\sim 8.4$  mRads at the front face). We see a sharp cutoff in the acceptance with some asymmetry in  $x$ . This is due to two magnets near the B0 detector.**

**An update to the beamline is coming, which will add an exit window for the neutrals that go towards the ZDC. The acceptance will then be uniform, but again with a hard edge around 5 mRad.**

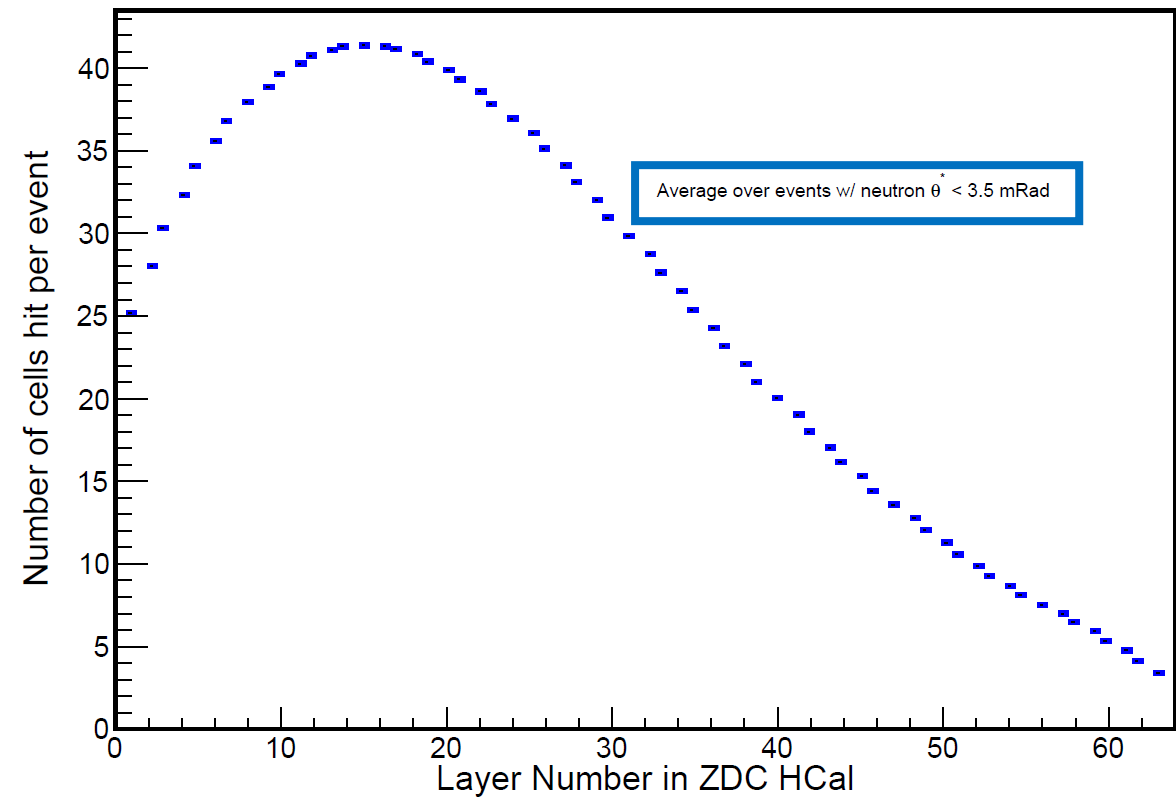


# Single-neutron simulation – Geant-level response

Total true hit energy sum

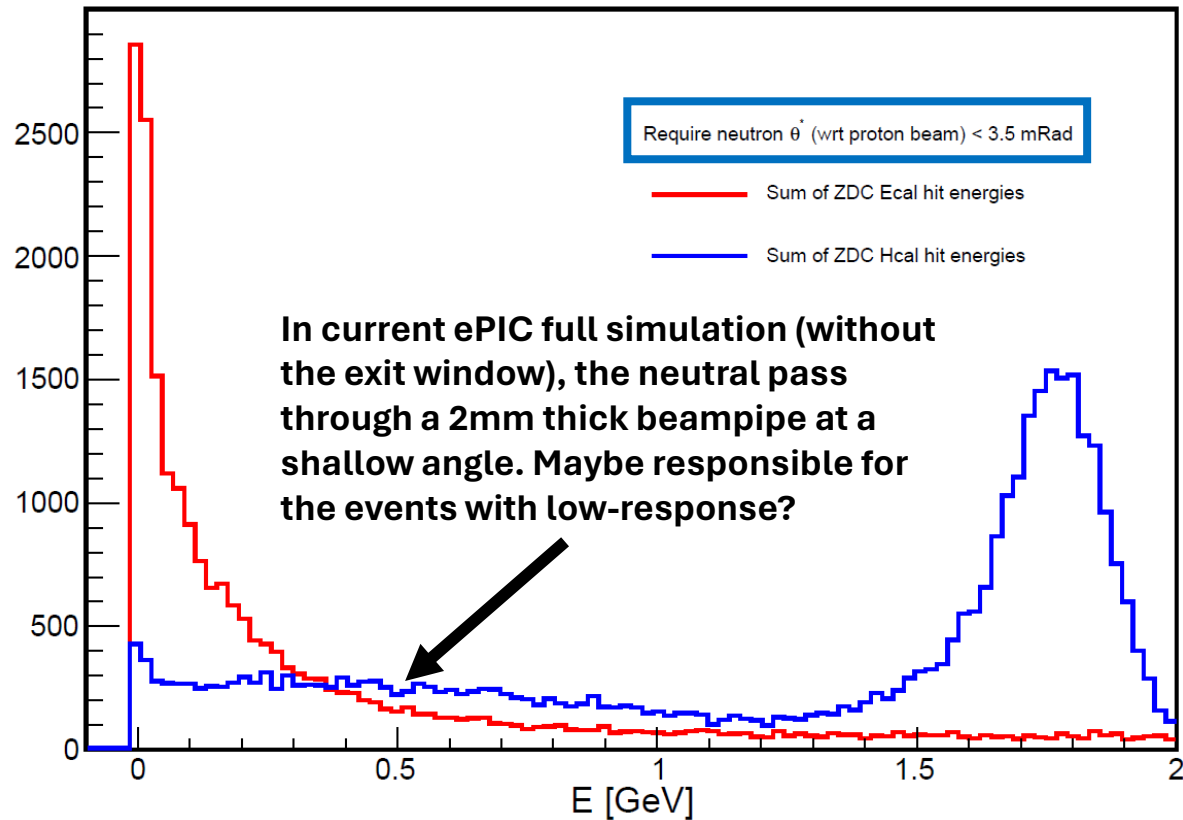


Cells w/ non-zero energy deposit

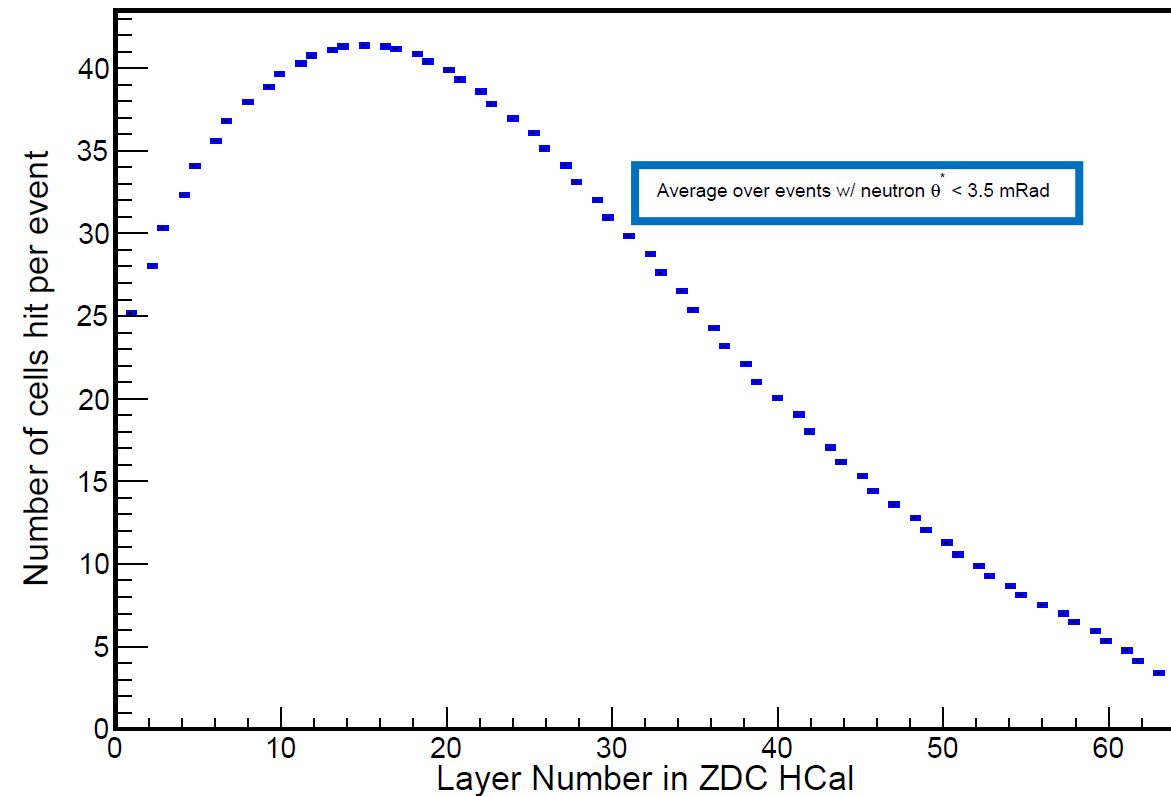


# Single-neutron simulation – Geant-level response

Total true hit energy sum

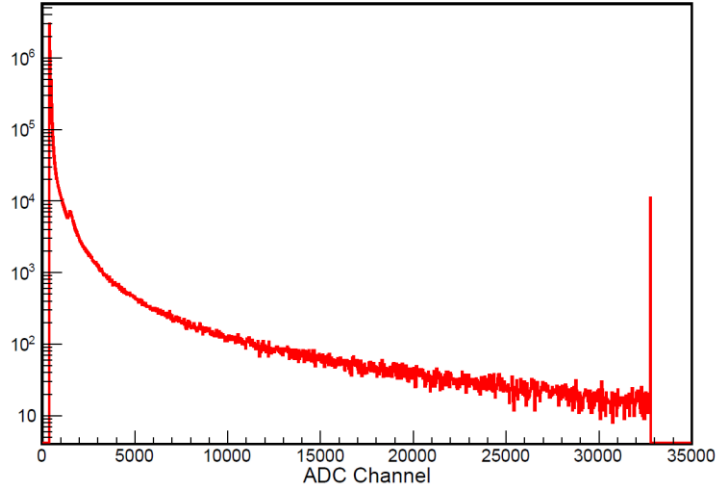


Cells w/ non-zero energy deposit



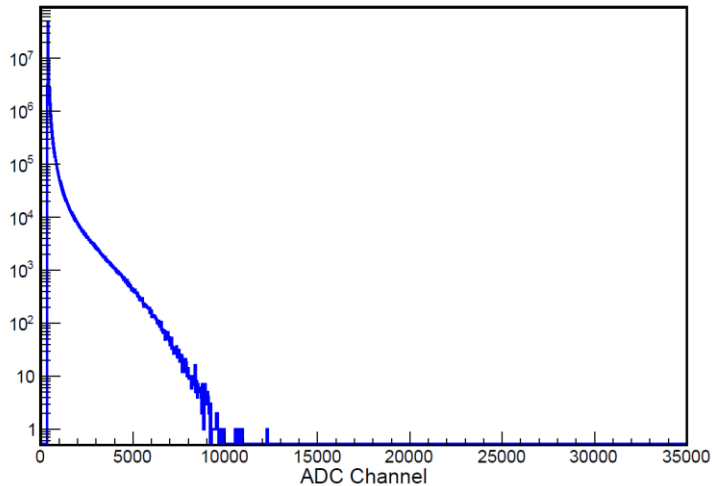
# Single-neutron simulation – Reconstruction-level

Ecal ADC amplitude spectrum



**LYSO Ecal ADC saturates. Need to adjust in simulation.**

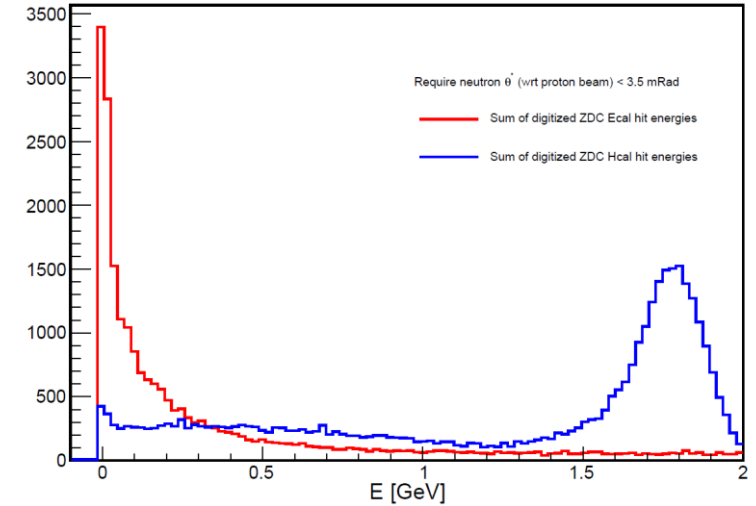
Hcal ADC amplitude spectrum



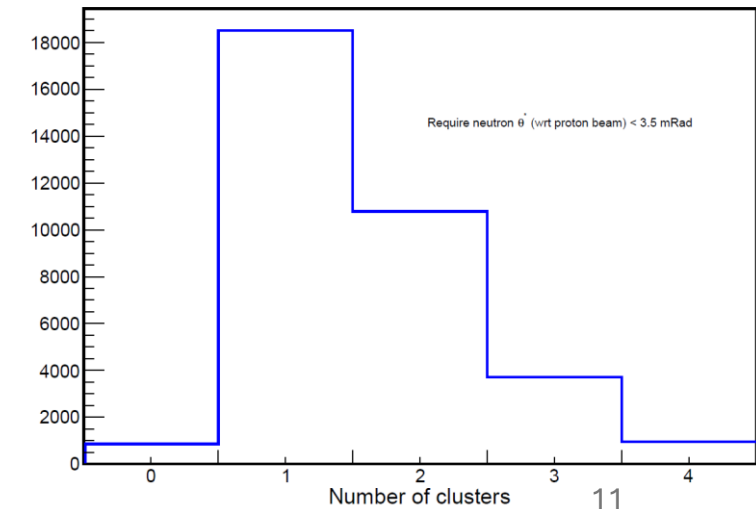
**Hcal ADC shows no saturation, but can adjust gain to cover entire dynamic range.**

Default Island clustering on sub-cells. Should tune and/or update to imaging clustering.

Total reconstructed hit energy sum

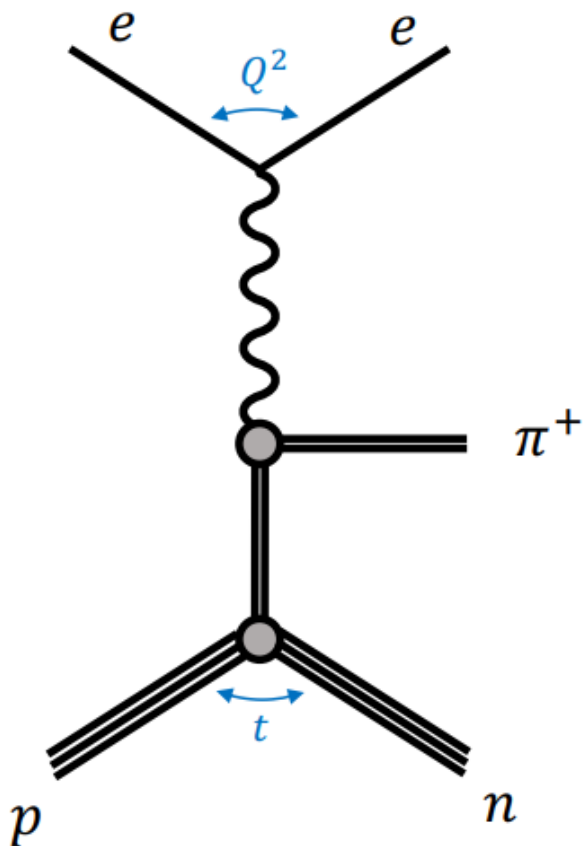


Number of reconstructed clusters in HCal



# Deep Exclusive Meson Production (DEMP)

$$e^- + p^+ \rightarrow e^- + \pi^+ + n$$

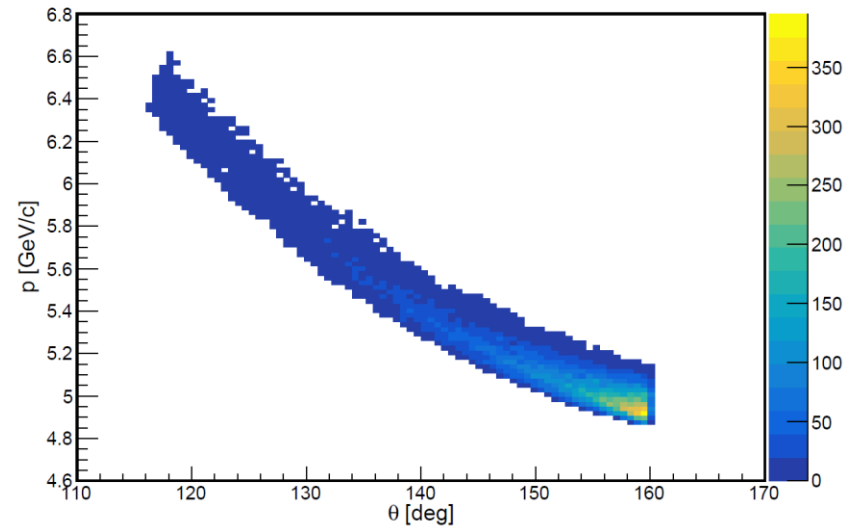


1. Simple 3-particle final state. Electron and positive pion go into the main detector. The neutron goes into the ZDC.
2. Good reconstruction of the neutron angle may be needed for accurate  $t$  reconstruction.
3. Generated events from the [DEMPgen](#) event generator exist on S3 in HepMC3 format. These events have the IP6 crossing angle and beam smearing effects already applied

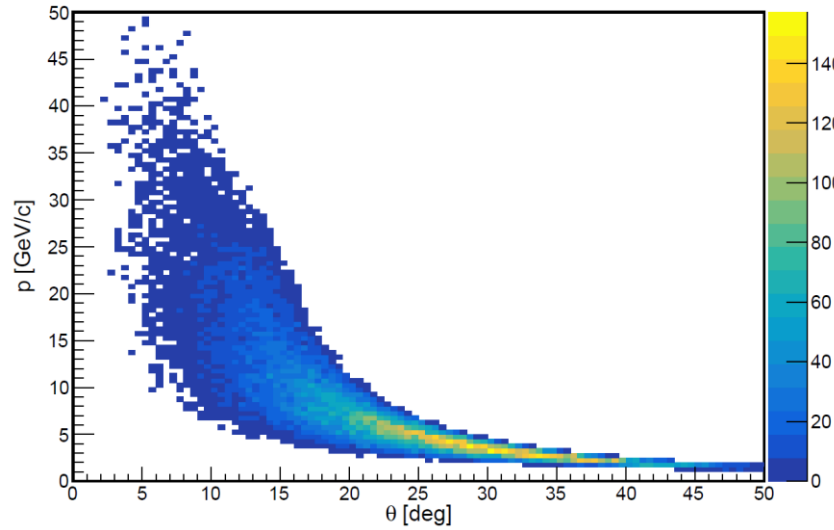
# Results with DEMP simulation – truth level

5x100 GeV – 30k events  
simulated

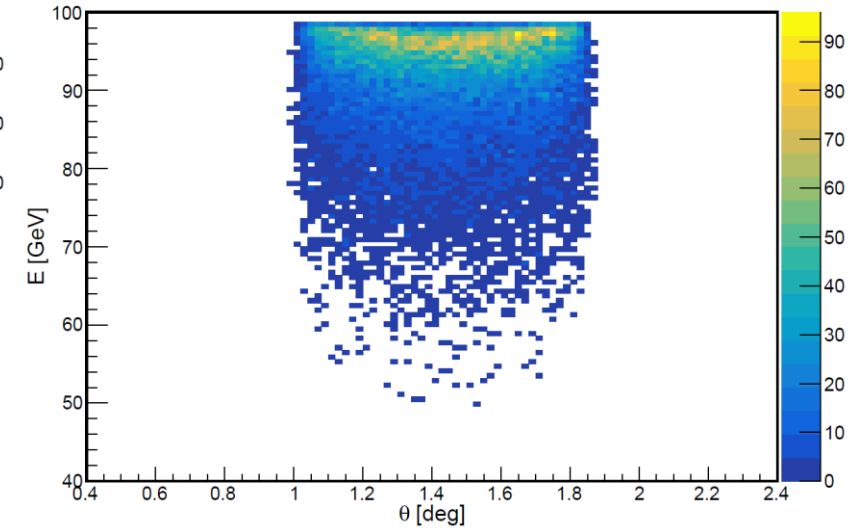
Scattered electron true momentum vs. polar angle



$\pi^+$  true momentum vs. polar angle



Neutron true energy vs. polar angle

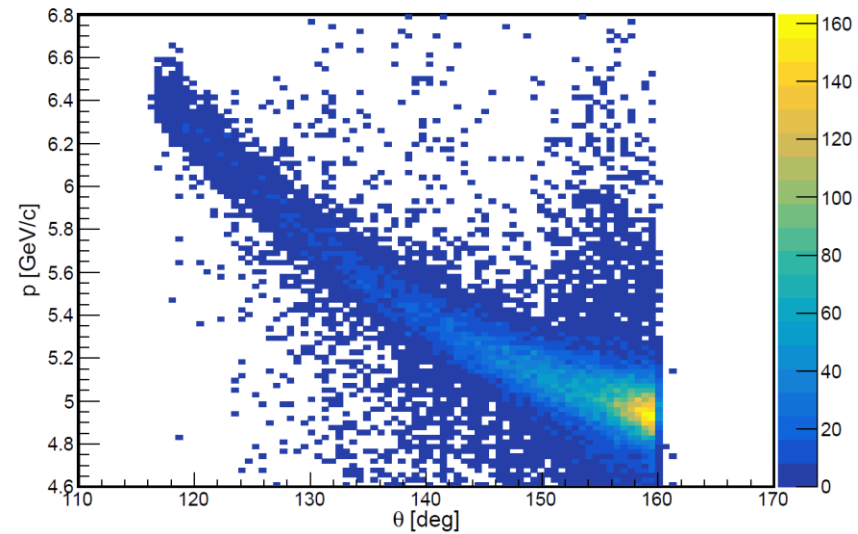


**Neutron centered around 25  
mRad (1.4 degrees), which is the  
proton beam direction**

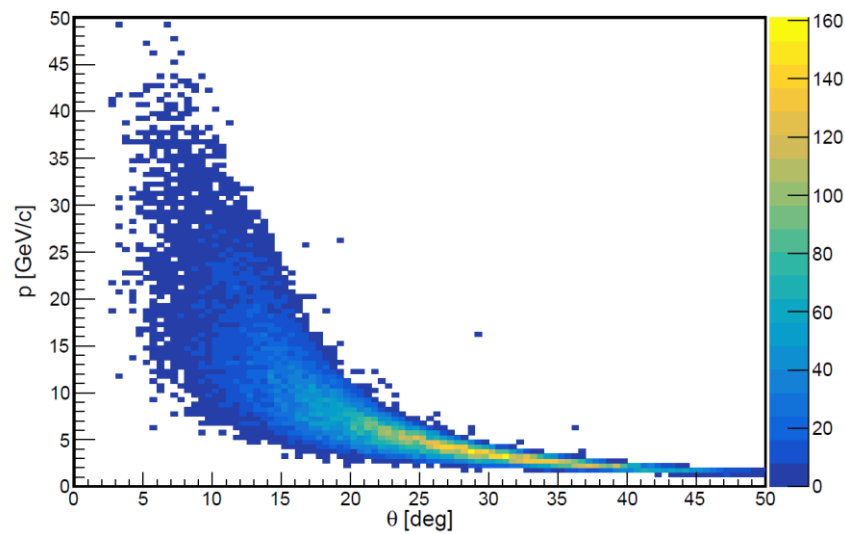
# Results with DEMP simulation – reconstructed level

5x100 GeV – 30k events  
simulated

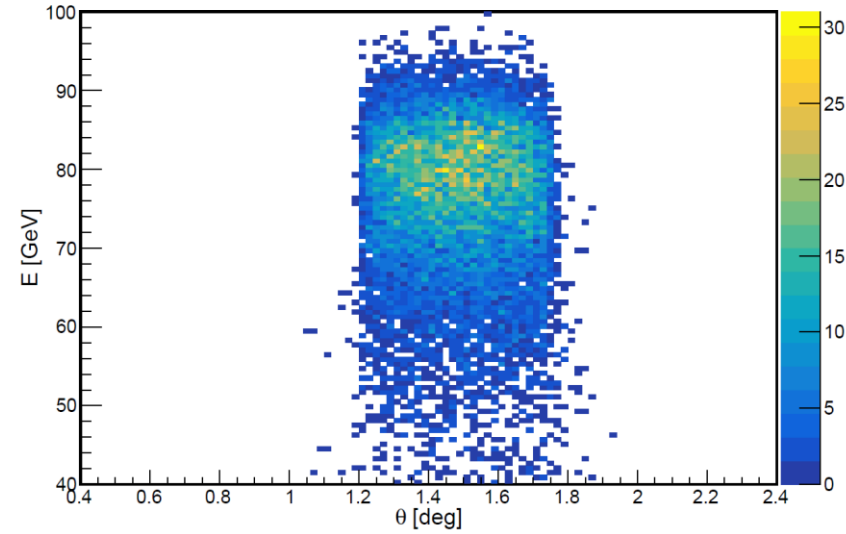
Scattered electron reconstructed momentum vs. polar angle



$\pi^+$  reconstructed momentum vs. polar angle



Neutron reconstructed energy vs. polar angle

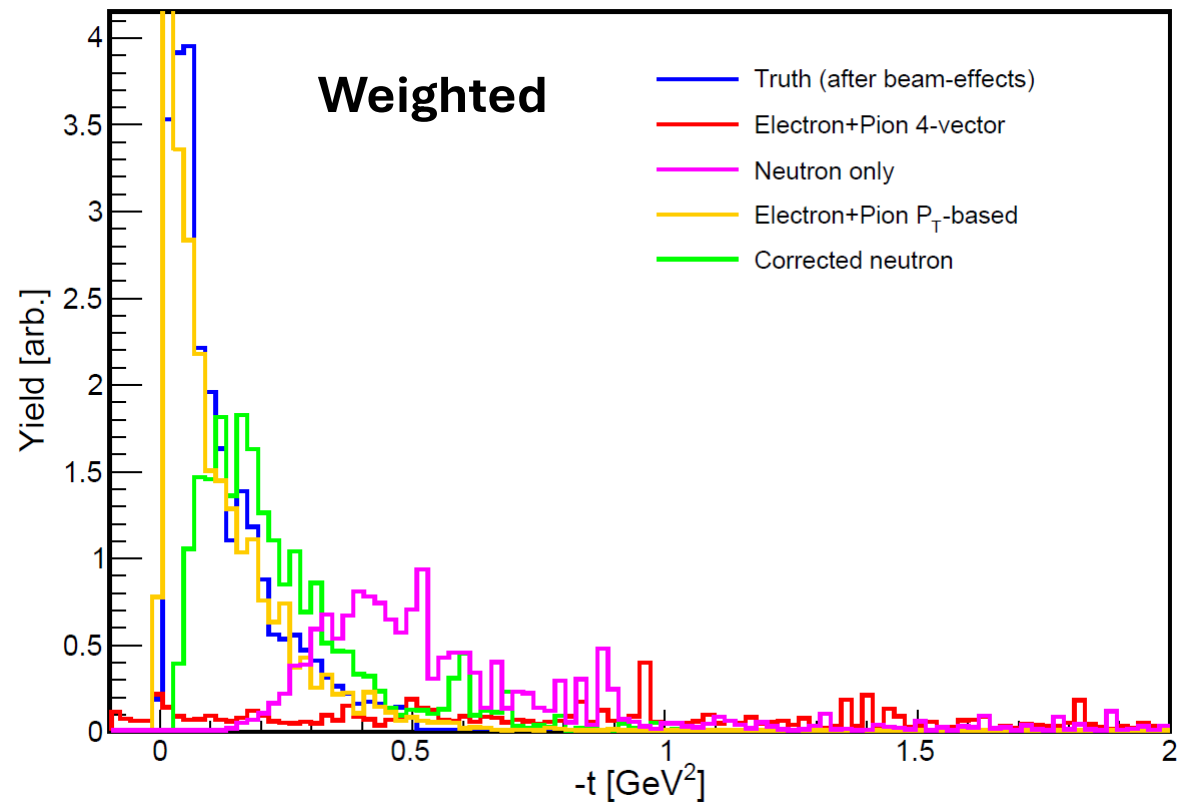


**Electron and pion are reconstructed  
using the central detector tracker (i.e.  
ReconstructedChargedParticles)**

**The neutron is reconstructed in the  
ZDC using the HEXPLIT algorithm  
(<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2308.06939.pdf>)  
and Island clustering.**

# t reconstruction

5x100 GeV – 30k events  
simulated



**Corrected neutron method from ECCE ([here](#)):**

$$p_{miss} = p_e + p_p - p_{e'} - p_\pi$$

$$p_e = (0, 0, -5, 5) \text{ GeV}/c$$

$$p_p = 100 \times (\sin(\theta_{cross}), 0, \cos(\theta_{cross}), 1) \text{ GeV}/c$$

Replace the angles in  $p_{miss}$  by the reconstructed neutron angles and set the mass of the 4-momentum to the neutron mass  $\rightarrow p_{neut}^{opt}$

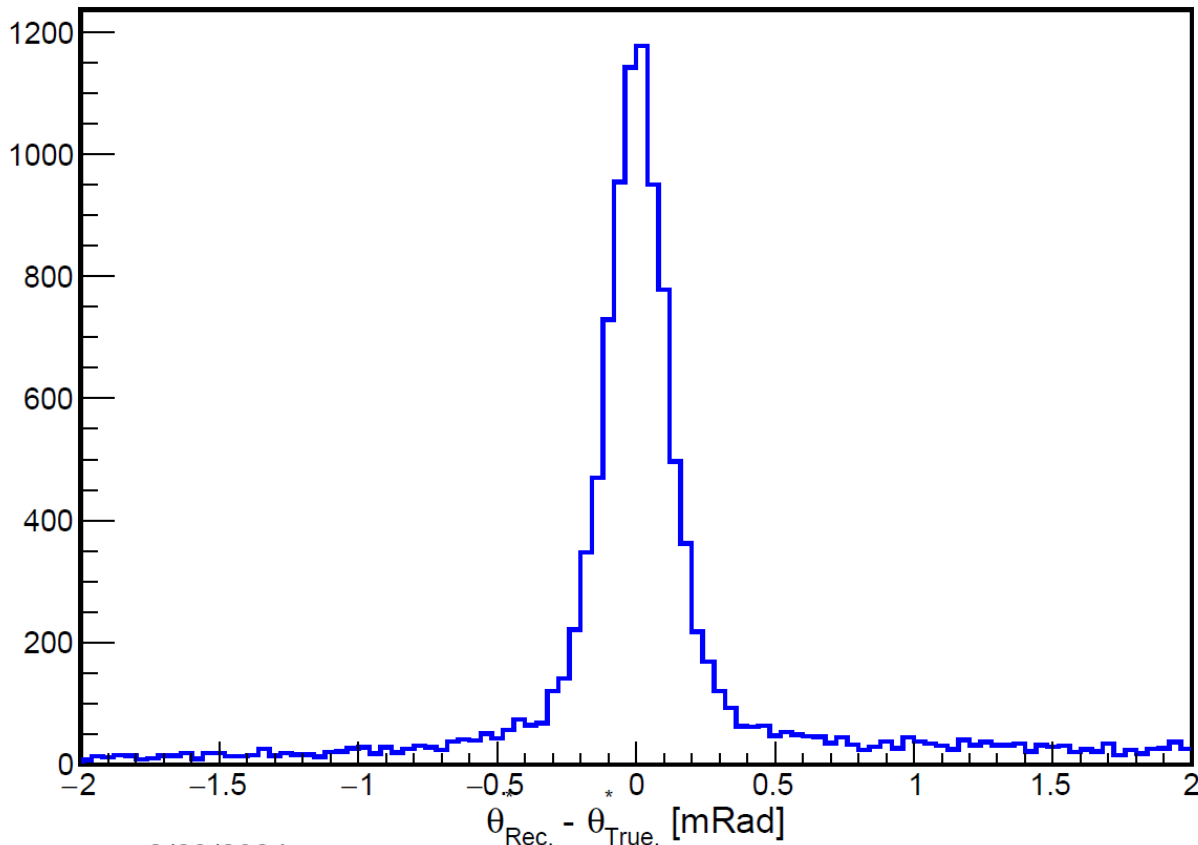
$$t = (p_p - p_{neut}^{opt})^2$$

Some conceptual similarity to method L in [On the Calculation of t in Diffractive VM production and DVCS](#)

**t** reconstruction in this method depends on reconstructed neutron angles

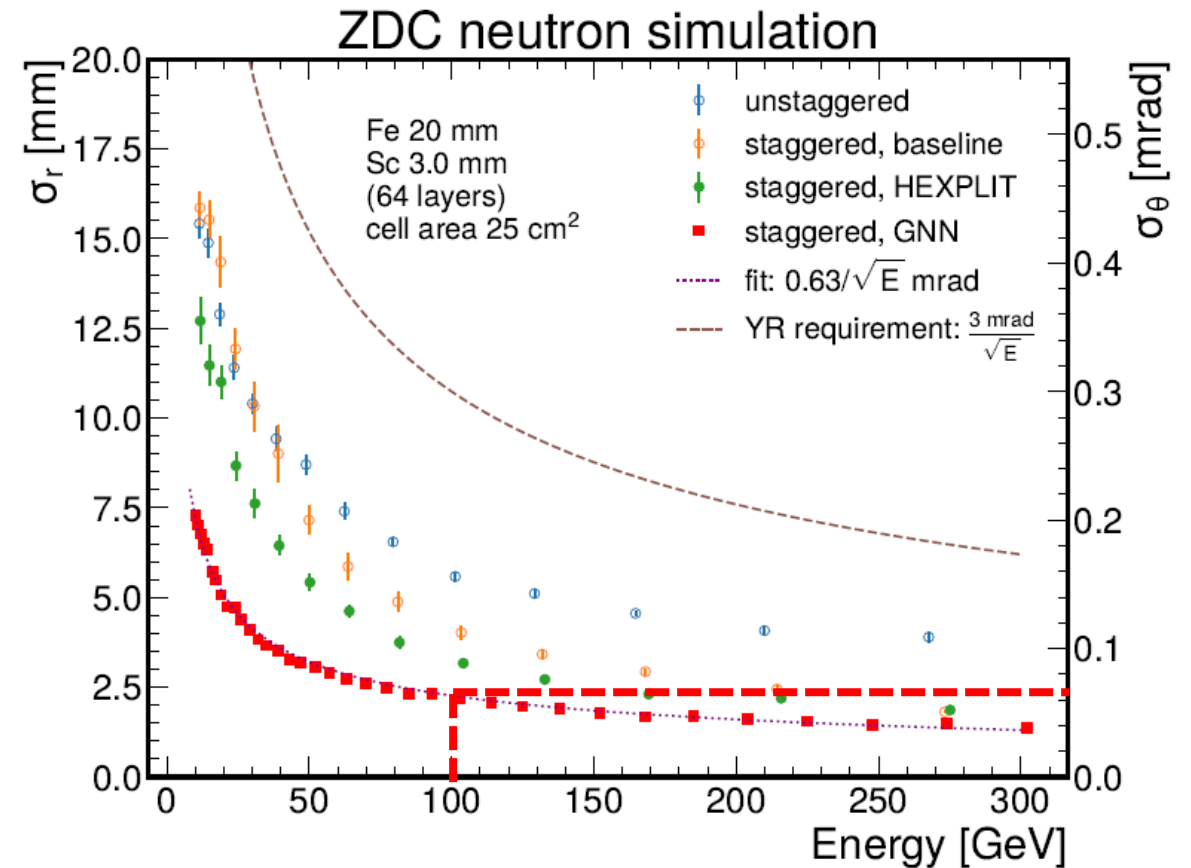
From cluster reconstruction in ePIC full simulation for  $\sim 100$  GeV neutrons.

Reconstructed neutron polar angle resolution



2/29/2024

From standalone simulation with GNN.  
(Assumes one particle.)



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# Summary / next steps

- We have performed some single-neutron and DEMP studies using the full ePIC simulation framework.
- Next steps for single-particle simulation:
  1. Repeat studies once updated far-forward beampipe (with exit window) is ready.
  2. Adjust ADC parameters as needed.
  3. Tune cluster algorithm and/or modify the one that is used. Look at cluster splitting and cluster angle reconstruction.
- Next steps for DEMP simulation
  1. Need updated DEMPgen files to be uploaded to S3, since these are the only files that can be used for the TDR plots (and physics benchmarks).
  2. Understand weighting normalization.