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Studying proton structure with Deeply Virtual Compton Scattering

Oliver Jevons
University of Glasgow, UK

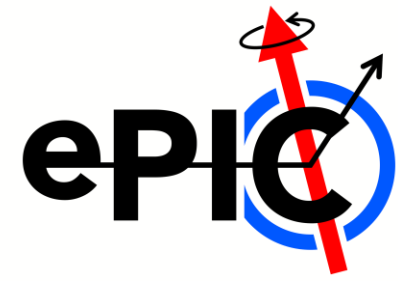
Exclusive, Diffractive and Tagging PWG meeting
28/07/25

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GLASGOW

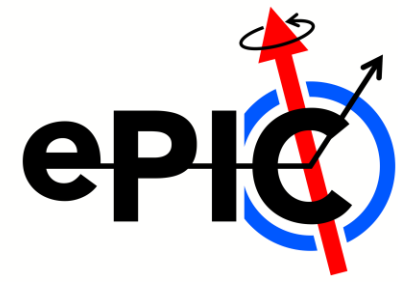




This presentation



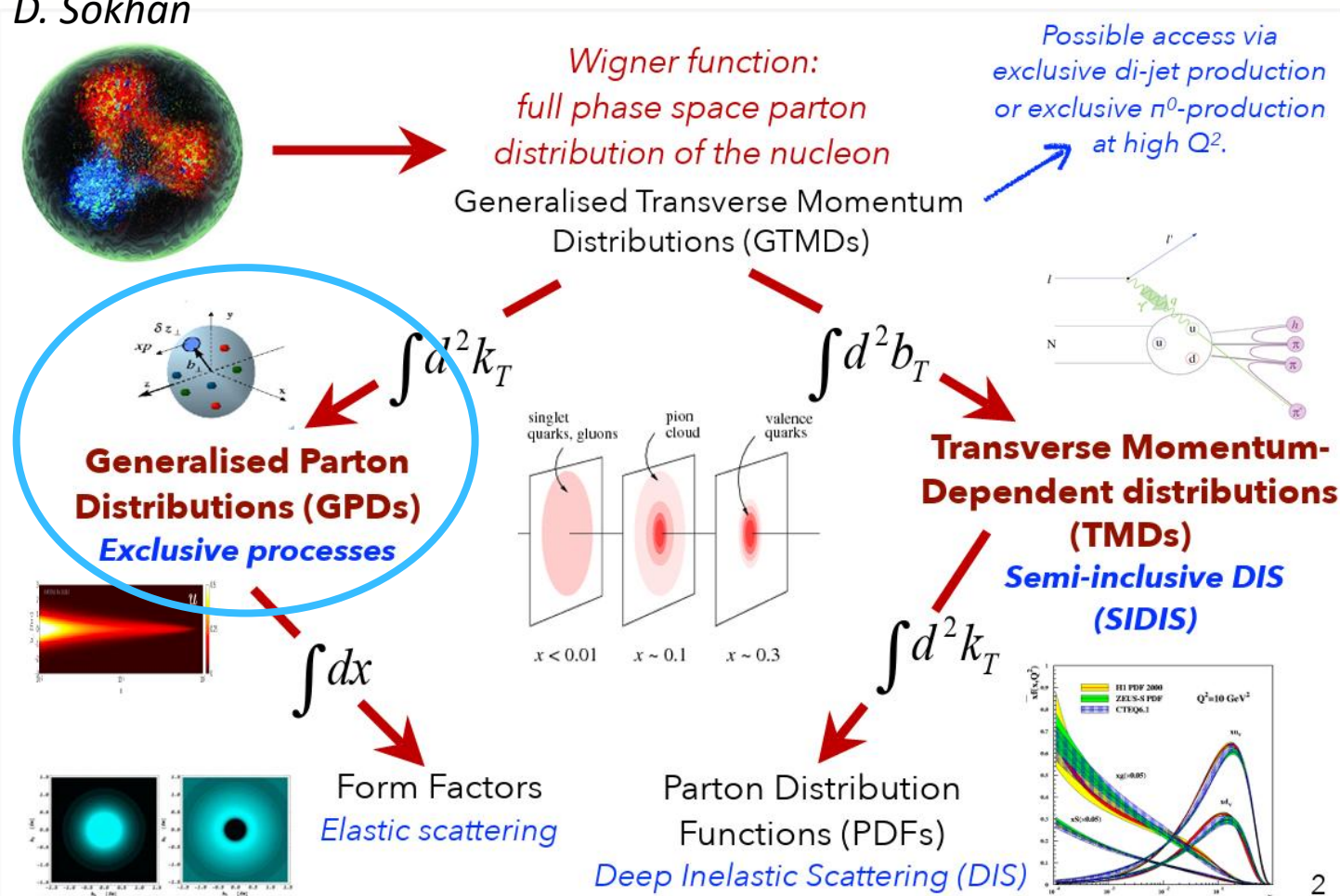
- Overview of DVCS and its place in the EIC physics programme.
- Summary of simulation and analysis efforts.
- Current status of analysis.



Deeply Virtual Compton Scattering

Nucleon structure

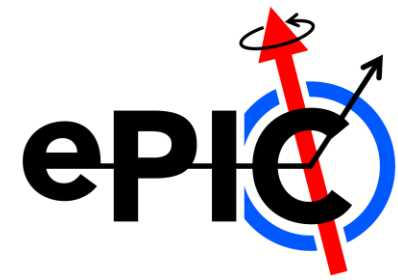
D. Sokhan



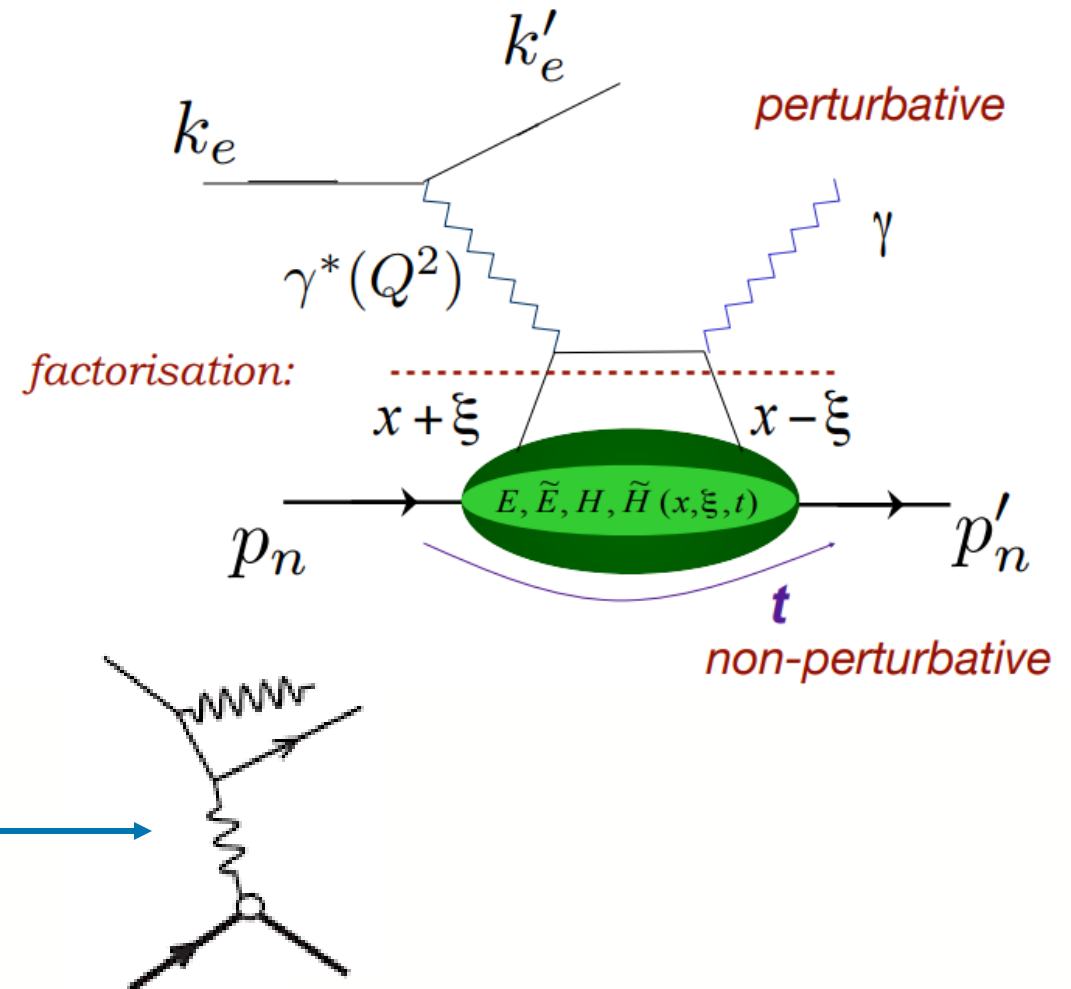
- Nucleon structure can be described within multiple dimensions by a large number of different functions.
 - GTMDs – full 5D phase space distributions.
 - PDFs – 1D as function of parton momentum.
 - Form factors – 1D as function of transverse distance from centre.
- GPDs relate the transverse position of partons to their longitudinal momentum fraction.



Deeply Virtual Compton Scattering

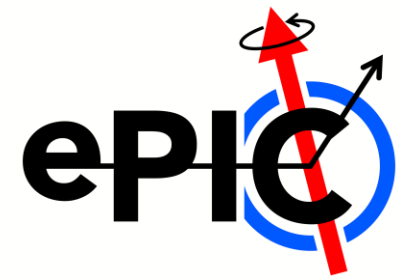


- Electroproduction of a single photon off a hadron target.
 - $ep \rightarrow e'p'\gamma$
 - Simplest inelastic channel the EIC can study.
 - Easiest channel for probing GPDs.
- The cross-section for this process is related to its matrix element, $|\mathcal{T}|^2$.
 - $|\mathcal{T}|^2 = |\mathcal{T}_{DVCS}|^2 + |\mathcal{T}_{BH}|^2 + \mathcal{I}$
 - \mathcal{I} is an interference term.
 - Bethe-Heitler: purely EM process, which does not probe partonic content.





Deeply Virtual Compton Scattering



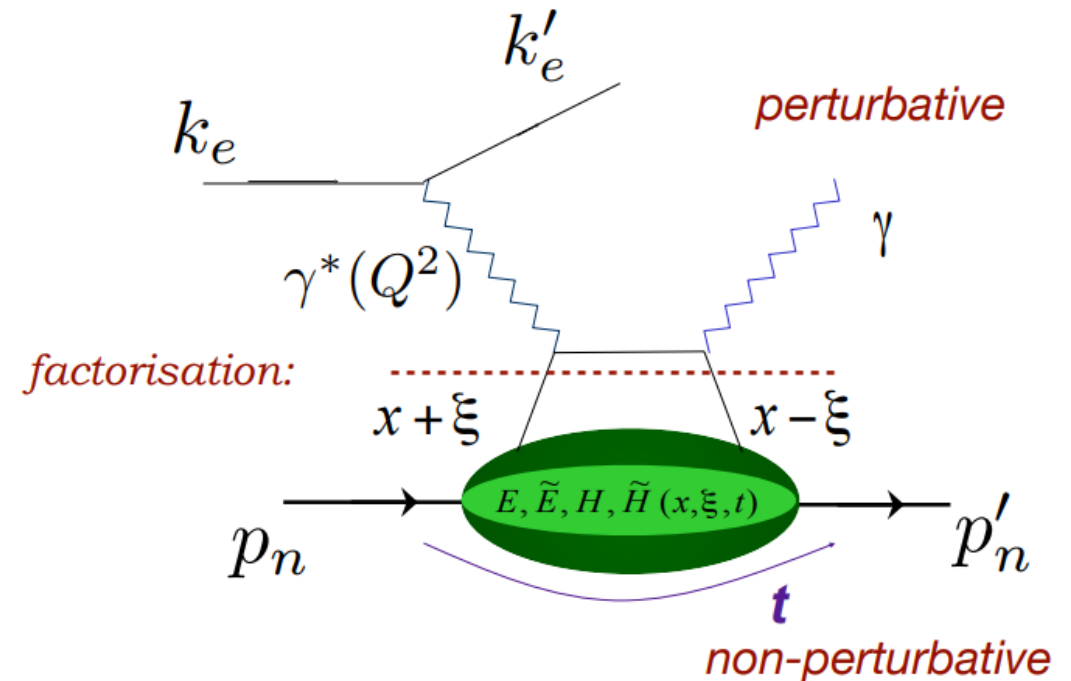
- Default kinematics:
 - $e(k) + p(p) \rightarrow e'(k') + p'(p') + \gamma$

$$Q^2 = -q^2 = -(k - k')^2 \quad x = \frac{Q^2}{2q \cdot p}$$

$$y = \frac{q \cdot p}{k \cdot p} \quad \xi = \frac{x}{2 - x} \approx \frac{x}{2}$$

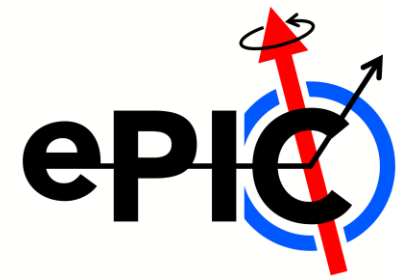
$$t = (p - p')^2$$

- Other formulae exist, using other combinations of reconstructed quantities, if needed (e.g. see InclusiveKinematics branches in ElCrecon trees).

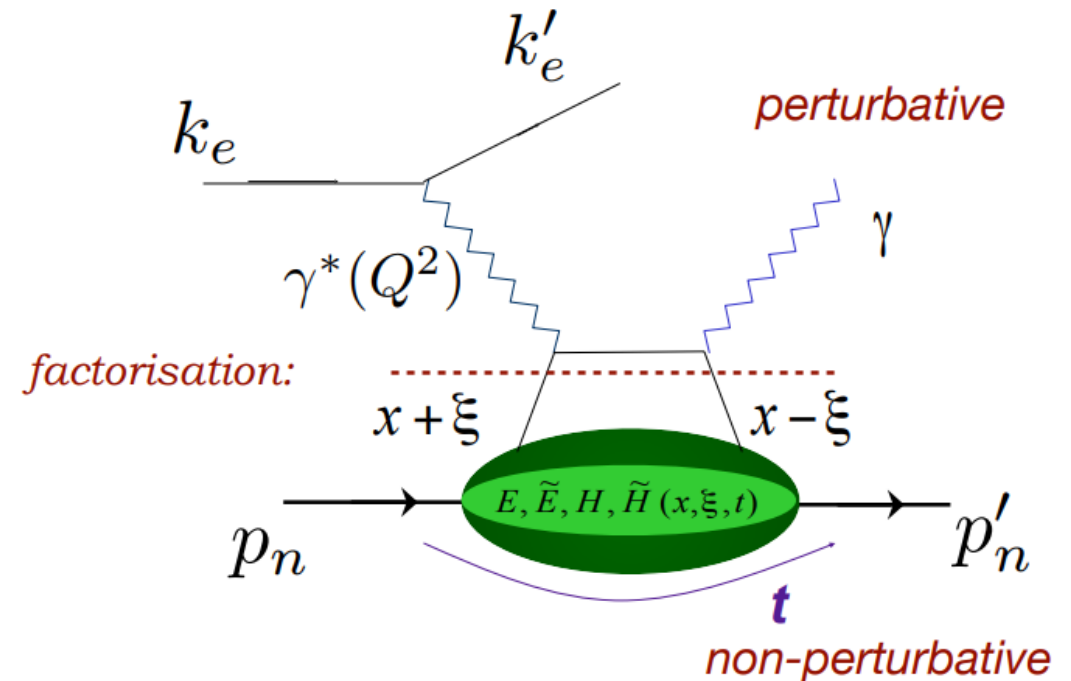




Deeply Virtual Compton Scattering



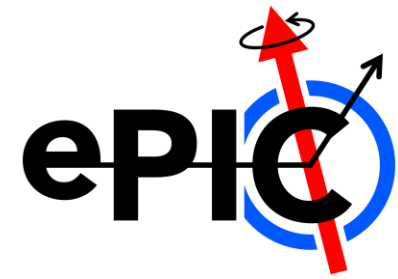
- DVCS amplitude can be parameterized in terms of Compton Form Factors (**CFFs**).
 - Experimentally accessible!
 - Access 4 quark **GPDs**: H_q , \tilde{H}_q , E_q , \tilde{E}_q .
 - Note: does not access GPDs directly, but linear combinations of GPDs.
- $Re \mathcal{F}_q(\xi, t) \propto \int_0^1 [F_q(x, \xi, t) - F_q(-x, \xi, t)] dx$
- $Im \mathcal{F}_q(\xi, t) \propto [F_q(\xi, \xi, t) - F_q(-\xi, \xi, t)]$
- Different combinations of (un)polarised beam and target are sensitive to different combinations of CFFs.



Extract CFFs from asymmetries
between different beam polarisation
states!



Why DVCS @ ePIC?

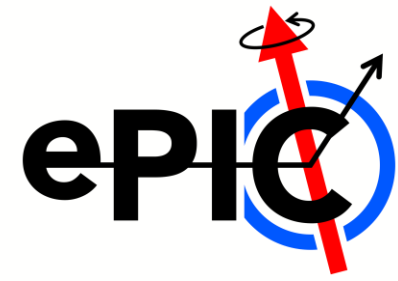


- Amongst the EIC's physics goals are:
 - Probing the 3D structure of nucleons.
 - Solving the mystery of proton spin.
- For an unpolarised target, the distribution of unpolarised quarks is the Fourier transform of the GPD H_q .

$$q(x, b_{\perp}) = \int \frac{d^2 \Delta_{\perp}}{(2\pi)^2} e^{-ib_{\perp} \Delta_{\perp}} H_q(x, 0, t = -\Delta_{\perp}^2)$$



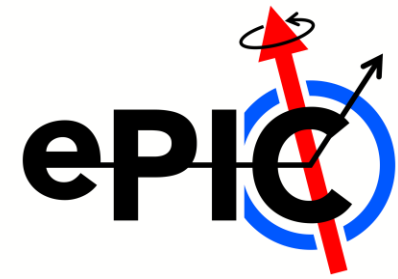
Why DVCS @ ePIC?



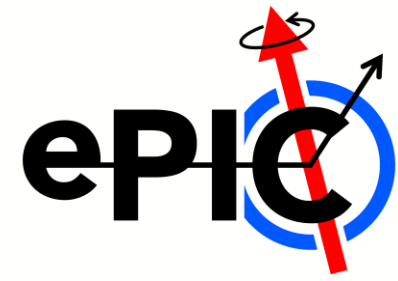
- Amongst the EIC's physics goals are:
 - Probing the 3D structure of nucleons.
 - Solving the mystery of proton spin.
- By Ji's Sum Rule, quark angular momentum can be given by a combination of GPDs.

$$J = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-1}^1 x dx [H(x, \xi, t = 0) + E(x, \xi, t = 0)]$$

Why DVCS @ ePIC?



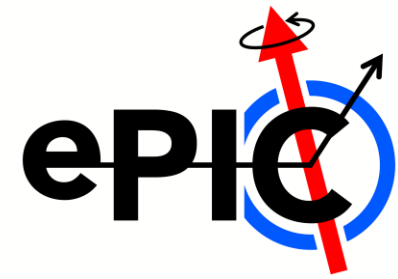
- The final state of the DVCS reaction will utilise many of the subsystems present in ePIC and provide useful probes of their resolutions.
 - The **scattered proton** will only be deflected by a small angle and will end up in the **far forward** region.
 - Tests B0 spectrometer and Roman Pots.
 - The **scattered electron** will be detected in the **central barrel** or (mostly) the **backward endcap**.
 - Test of trackers, PID detectors and calorimeters almost everywhere in the barrel (just not hadron endcap/planes).
 - The **scattered photon** will be detected in the **backward endcap**.
 - Very clean test of EEEMCAL resolution.



DVCS simulations for ePIC



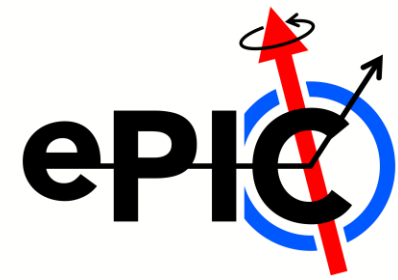
Simulation details



- Using EpIC generator ([GitHub link here](#)).
 - Purpose built generator for such GPD-sensitive processes (DVCS, TCS, DDVCS, etc.).
- Can run in fixed target or colliding beams mode.
 - Useful for JLab and EIC kinematics!
- Cross-sections and CFFs evaluated from models (Guichon and Vanderhaegen / Goloskokov-Kroll respectively).

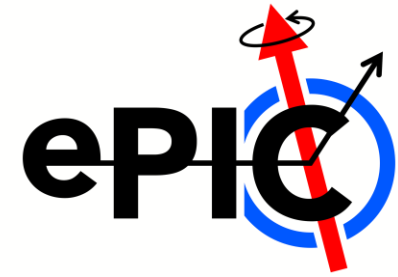


Simulation details



- Event samples used:
 - 1M events
 - DVCS only (5x41, 10x100, 18x275) / DVCS+BH+int. (10x130)
 - $1 < Q^2 < 100 \text{ GeV}^2$
 - $0.01 < y < 0.9$
 - $10^{-5} < x_B < 0.7$
 - (These kinematic ranges are correct for 10x130 – unknown for other energy settings. Have asked Sal, but no response yet).

Simulation details



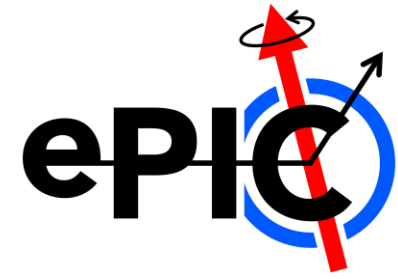
- Generated events represent $\mathcal{L}_{int} \sim 2fb^{-1}$ for the “standard” EIC energy settings, $\mathcal{L}_{int} \sim 0.5fb^{-1}$ for 10x130 GeV.
- Events are passed through the full EIC simulation pipeline.
 - Afterburner (to add beam smearing and crossing angle).
 - npsim
 - ElCrecon
- DVCS has been in the monthly simulation campaigns since the start.
 - Early science setting (10x130) since 25.05.0 campaign.
 - Issues present in that first run; **for 10x130 use campaign 25.06.1 and later!**



Analysis details

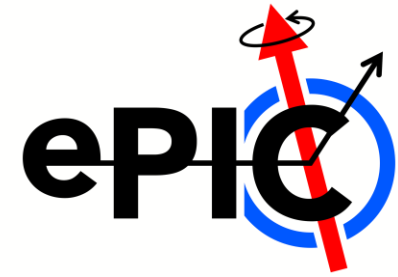
Analysis code [on GitHub](#).

Analysis details



- Truth level particles in `MCParticles` branch.
 - Truth level with PID – afterburner applied.
- Reconstructed electrons and photons in `ReconstructedParticles` branch.
 - ePIC PID not accurate – using `ReconstructedParticleAssociations` to select candidates.
 - Electron energy is calculated using given momenta and e^- mass.
 - Associations branch also used for MC acceptance.

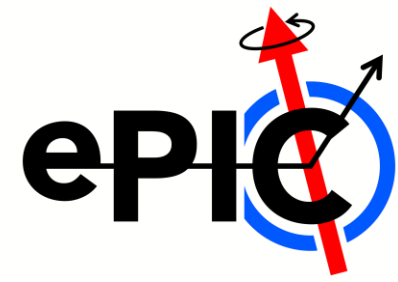
Analysis details



- Reconstructed protons in the B0 detector taken from `ReconstructedTruthSeededChargedParticles` branch.
 - Corresponding `Associations` branch used for PID.
 - Energy calculated from momentum and proton mass.
 - `Associations` also used for MC acceptance.
- Reconstructed protons in Roman Pots taken from tracks in `ForwardRomanPotRecParticles` branch.
 - All tracks in RP branch assumed to be protons.
 - If RP track is present, assume that MC proton is the correct associated particle.

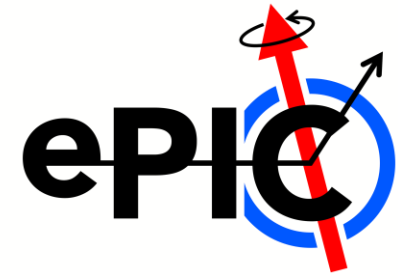


Cuts applied



- Single species cuts:
 - Electron: only 1 reconstructed and $Q^2 > 1 \text{ GeV}^2$
 - Photon: only 1 reconstructed
 - Proton: only 1 reconstructed and track theta appropriate for detector used.
 - $5.5 < \theta_{p'} < 20 \text{ mrad}$ for B0 tracks
 - $0 < \theta_{p'} < 5 \text{ mrad}$ for RP tracks
- DVCS event cuts:
 - Full exclusivity ($e'p'\gamma$ reconstructed)
 - $M_{\text{miss}}^2 < 1 \text{ GeV}^2$

Detector acceptance correction



- Calculate acceptance from MC information if a reconstructed particle/event passes cuts.
 - Efficiency, $\varepsilon = \frac{N(MC\ accepted)}{N(MC\ truth)}$
- Correct reconstructed distributions by efficiency.
 - $N(corrected\ reco.) = \frac{N(raw\ reco.)}{\varepsilon}$

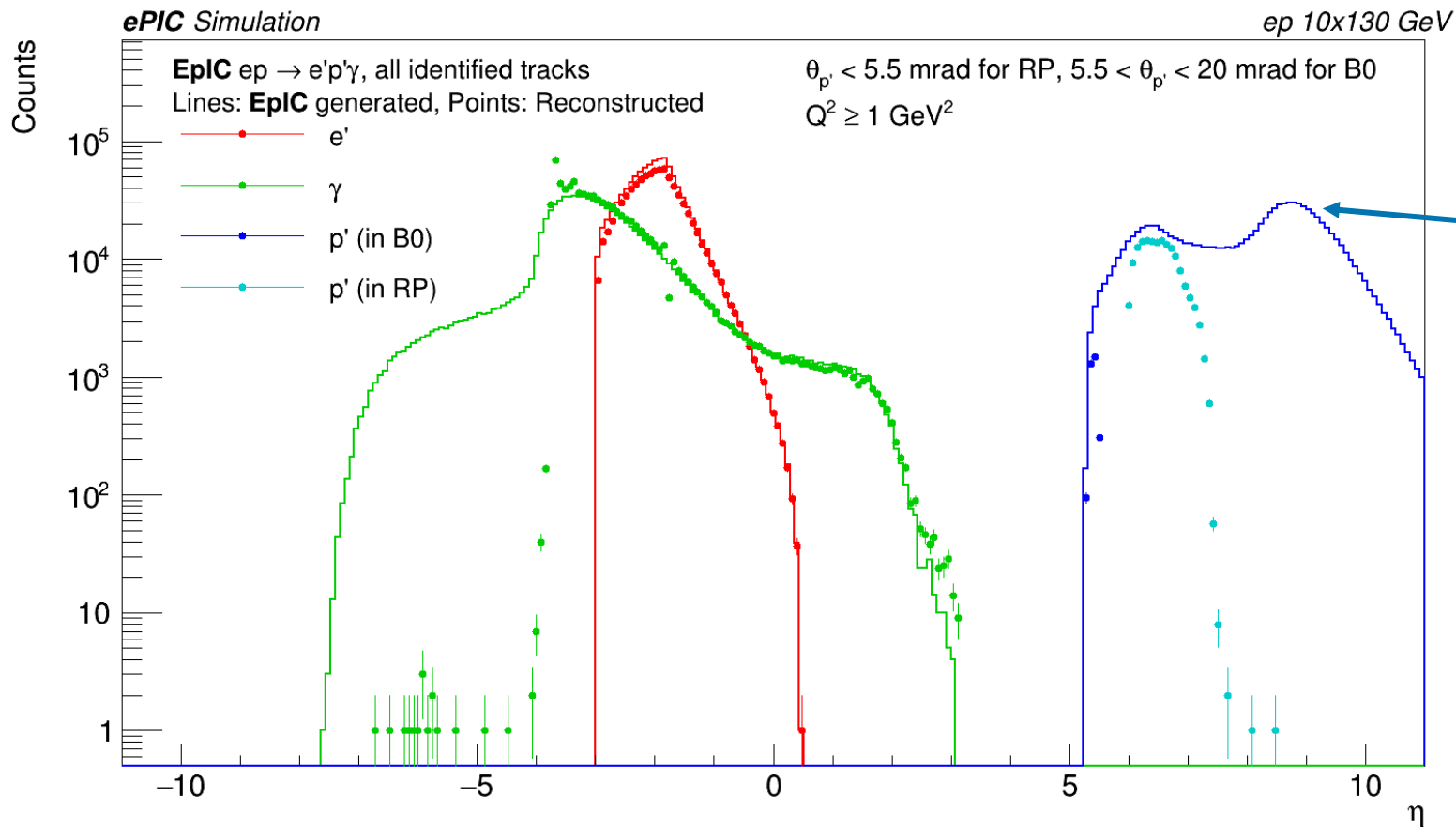


Analysis plots 10x130 GeV

Early Science energy setting



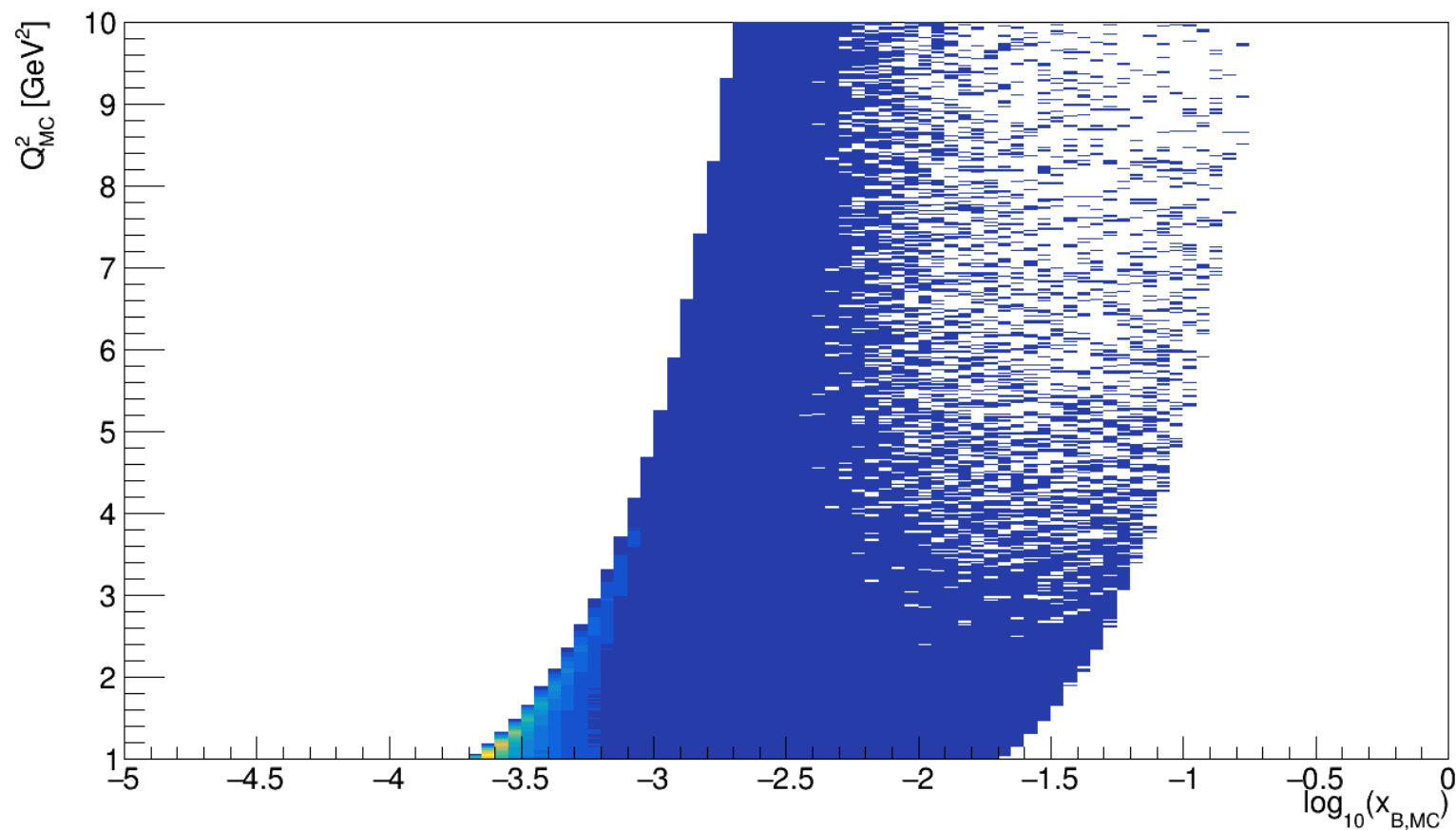
Detector occupancy



Lot of BH
background is
removed by RP
acceptance!

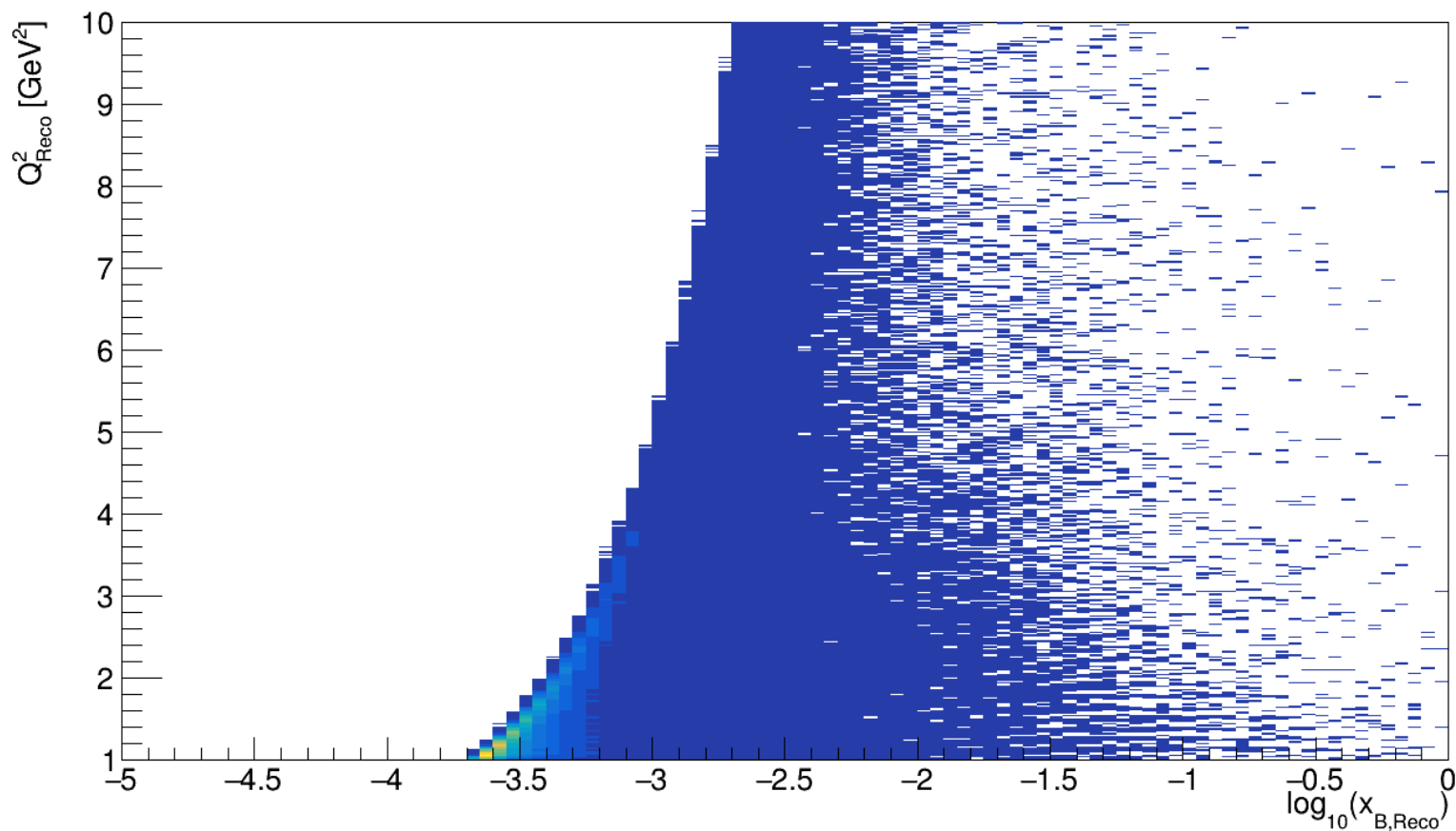


Q^2 vs x_B coverage (inclusive electrons)



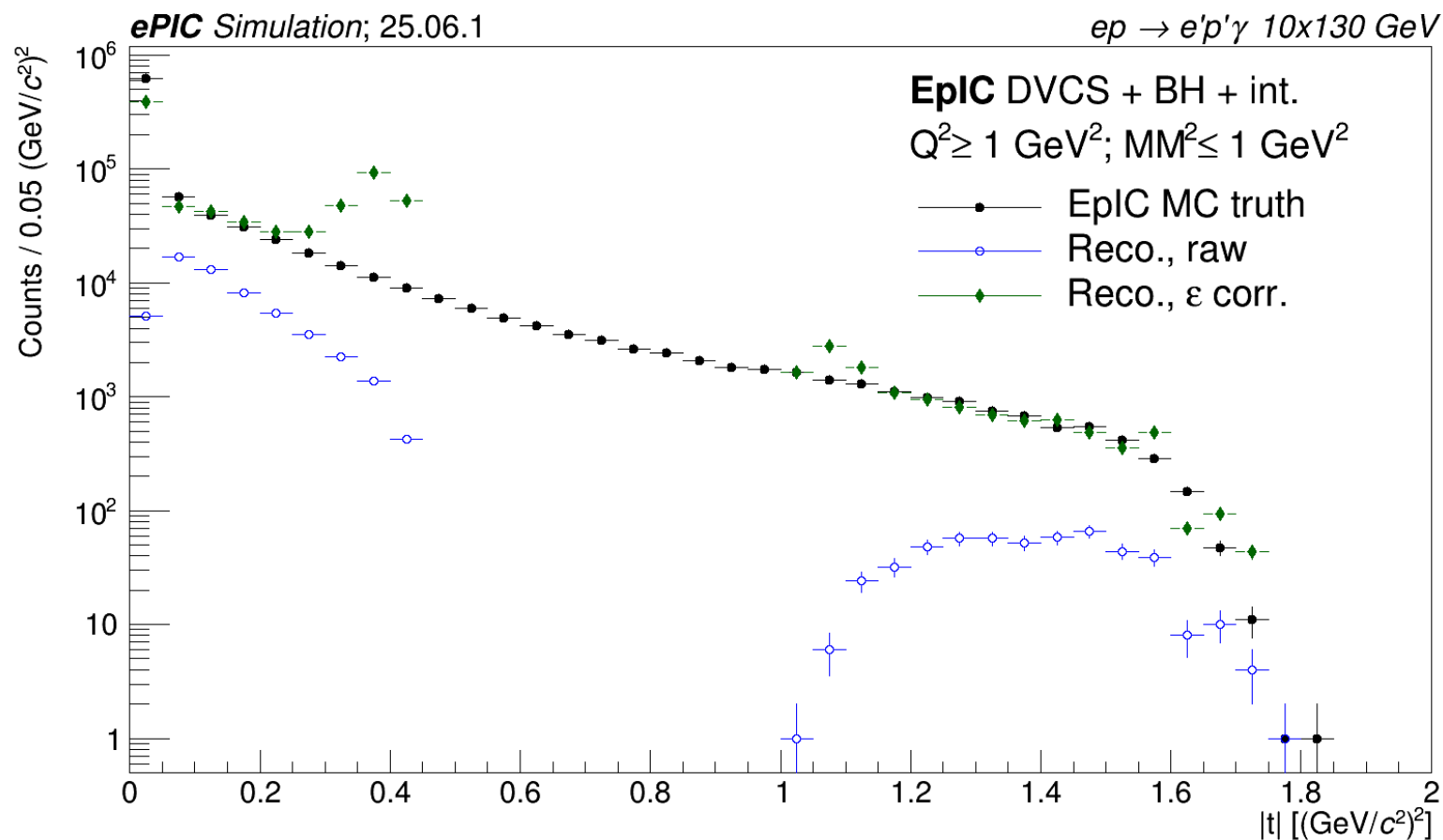


Q^2 vs x_B coverage (inclusive electrons)



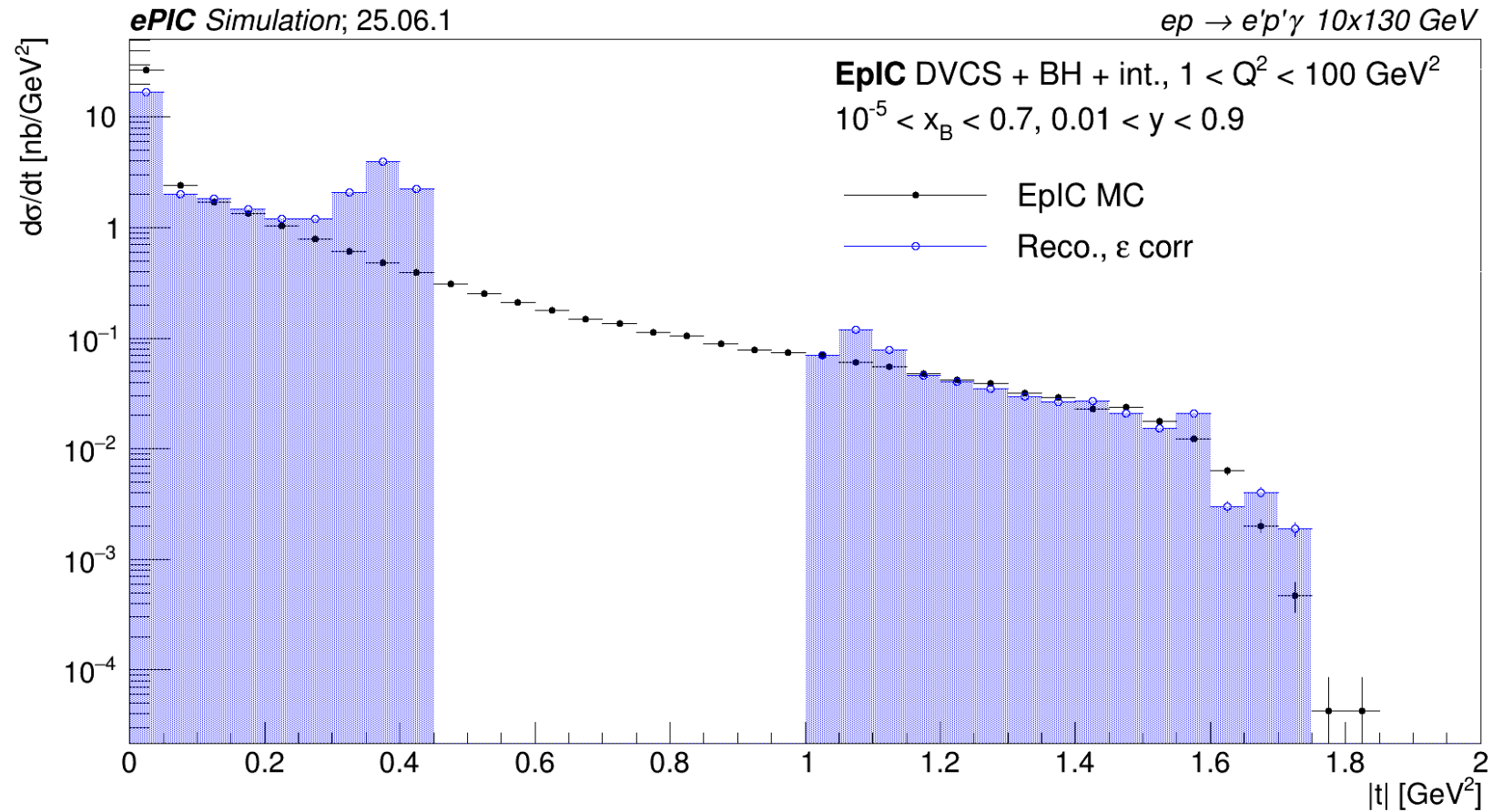
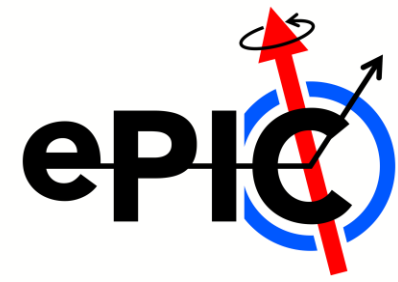


t-distribution (with corrected)



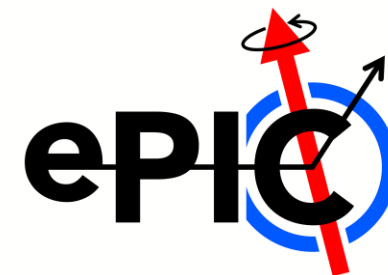


Cross-section ($\mathcal{L}_{int} \sim 0.5 fb^{-1}$)





QA plot status



Kinematic reconstructions	quantity	Reco	Truth	Response (2D)	Purity/bin migration	detector acceptance-only corrected	Unfolding/full correction
(electron,JB, DA,sigma, e-sigma)	Q2	■	■	■	■	■	■
	x	■	■	■	■	■	■
	y	■	■	■	■	■	■
	dQ2/Q2	■					
	dx/x	■					
	dy/y	■					
	e' energy	■	■	■	■	■	■
	e' theta	■	■	■	■	■	■
	HFS (E-pz)	■	■	■	■	■	■
	HFS (pT)	■	■	■	■	■	■
Event level							
	E-pz (e'+HFS)	■	■	■	■	■	■
	E/p for calorimeter	■	■	■	■	■	■
	Calo clusters	■	■	■	■	■	■
Observable of interest							
	e.g., t, etc.	■	■	■	■	■	■
Detector specific variables	Depends						
PID quantities:	add when it comes						



QA plot status



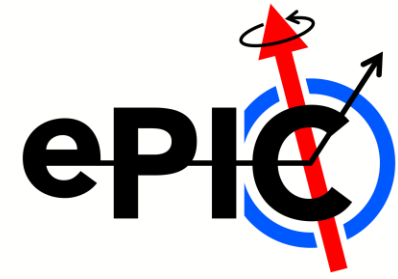
Kinematic reconstructions	quantity	Reco	Truth	Response (2D)	Purity/bin migration	detector acceptance-only corrected	Unfolding/full correction
(electron, JB, DA, sigma, e-sigma)	Q2	■	■	■	■	■	■
	x	■	■	■	■	■	■
	y	■	■	■	■	■	■
	dQ2/Q2	■	■	■	■	■	■
	dx/x	■	■	■	■	■	■
	dy/y	■	■	■	■	■	■
	e' energy	■	■	■	■	■	■
	e' theta	■	■	■	■	■	■
	phi	■	■	■	■	■	■
	phi (pt)	■	■	■	■	■	■
Observable of interest	E-pz (e'+HFS)	■	■	■	■	■	■
	E/p for calorimeter	■	■	■	■	■	■
	Calc clusters	■	■	■	■	■	■
Detector specific variables	add when it comes	■	■	■	■	■	■
	PID quantities:	■	■	■	■	■	■

Majority of QA plots ready!

Will add to analysis note soon



Analysis note



- Template of analysis note made and few preliminary plots added.
- Sections to clean up/improve:
 - Introduction
 - Event generator
- Sections to properly write:
 - Analysis procedure
 - Results

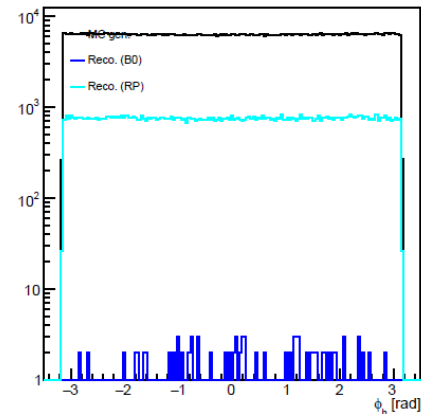
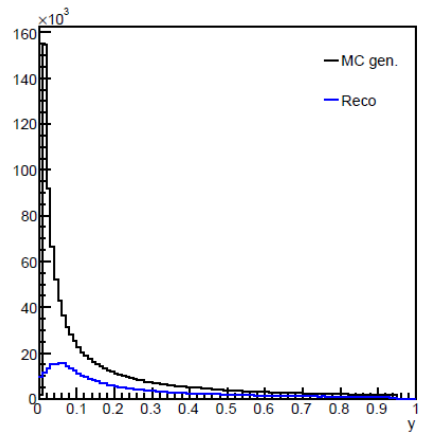
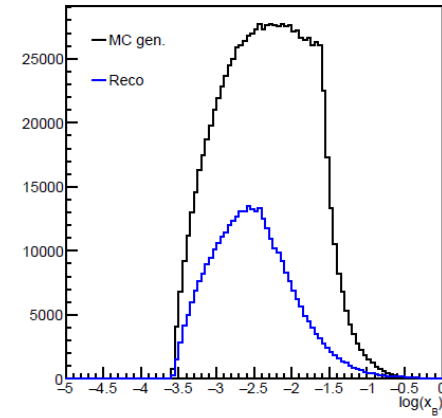
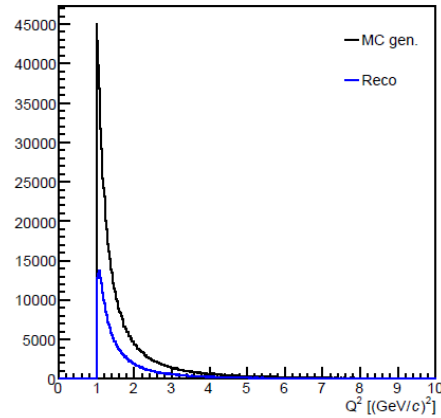
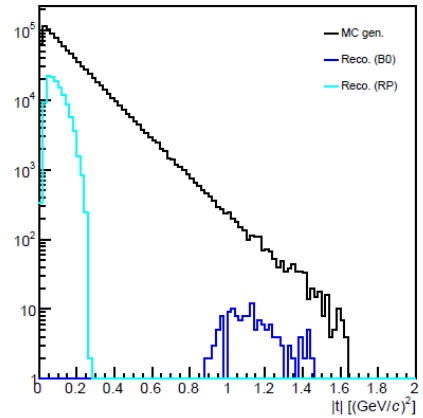


Comment on 25.07.0 campaign

DVCS files run over the weekend.
Only cursory glance at plots so far.

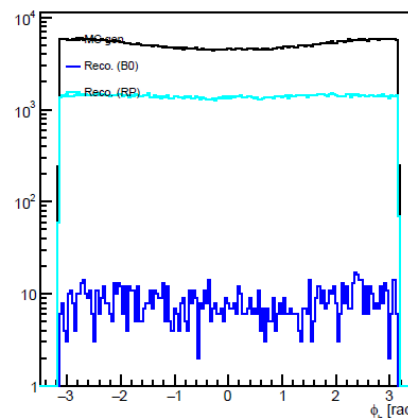
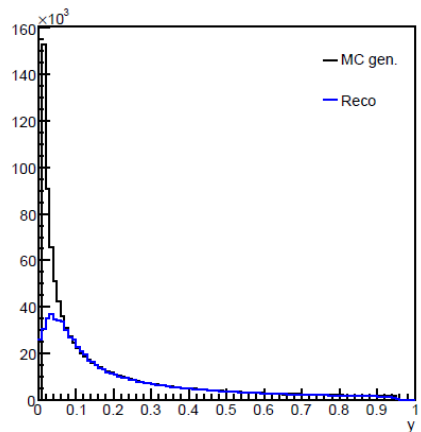
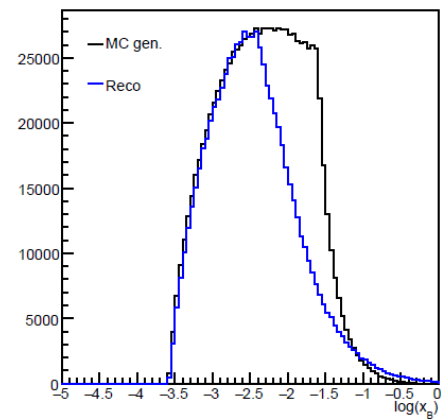
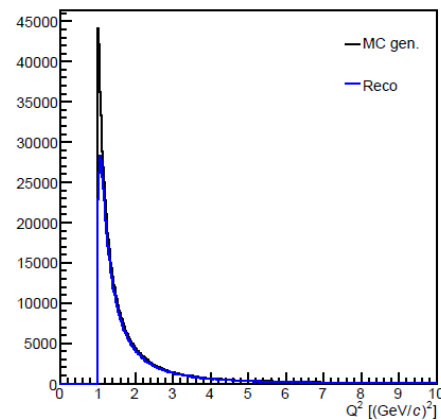
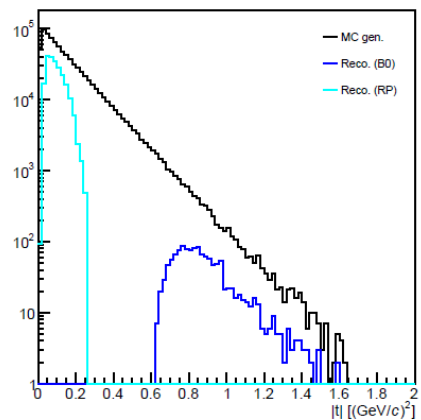


Event kinematics (10x100, 25.07.0) ePIC



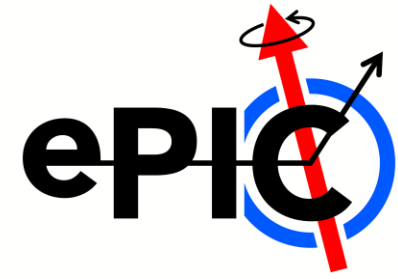


Event kinematics (10x100, 25.06.1) ePIC





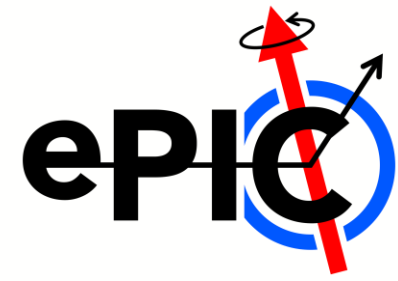
Comments



- Significant drop in accepted events.
- Seems to be tied to drop in accepted electron candidates.
- Need to investigate further.

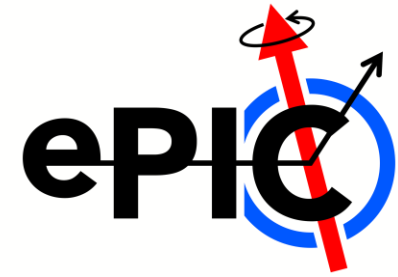


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Concluding remarks

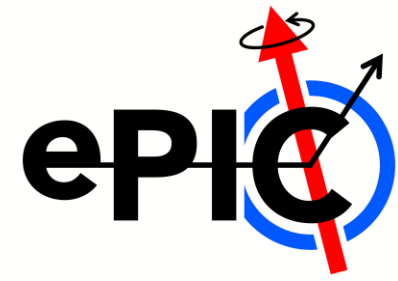
Next steps



- Look into applying ElectronFinder algorithm for reconstructed e^- .
- Apply calorimeter cluster energies to particle 4-vectors.
- More appropriate event cuts.
- Finer x_B/Q^2 binning – what to use?
- More generator files are being prepared.
 - Only 10x130 for now.
 - 2 different beam helicities – project asymmetries.
- Continue with analysis note.



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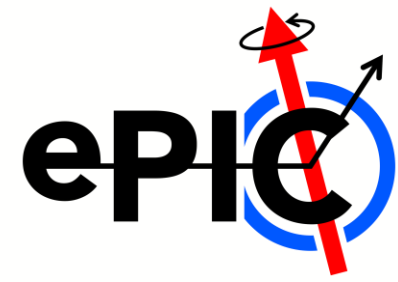


Thank you for listening!

Any questions?



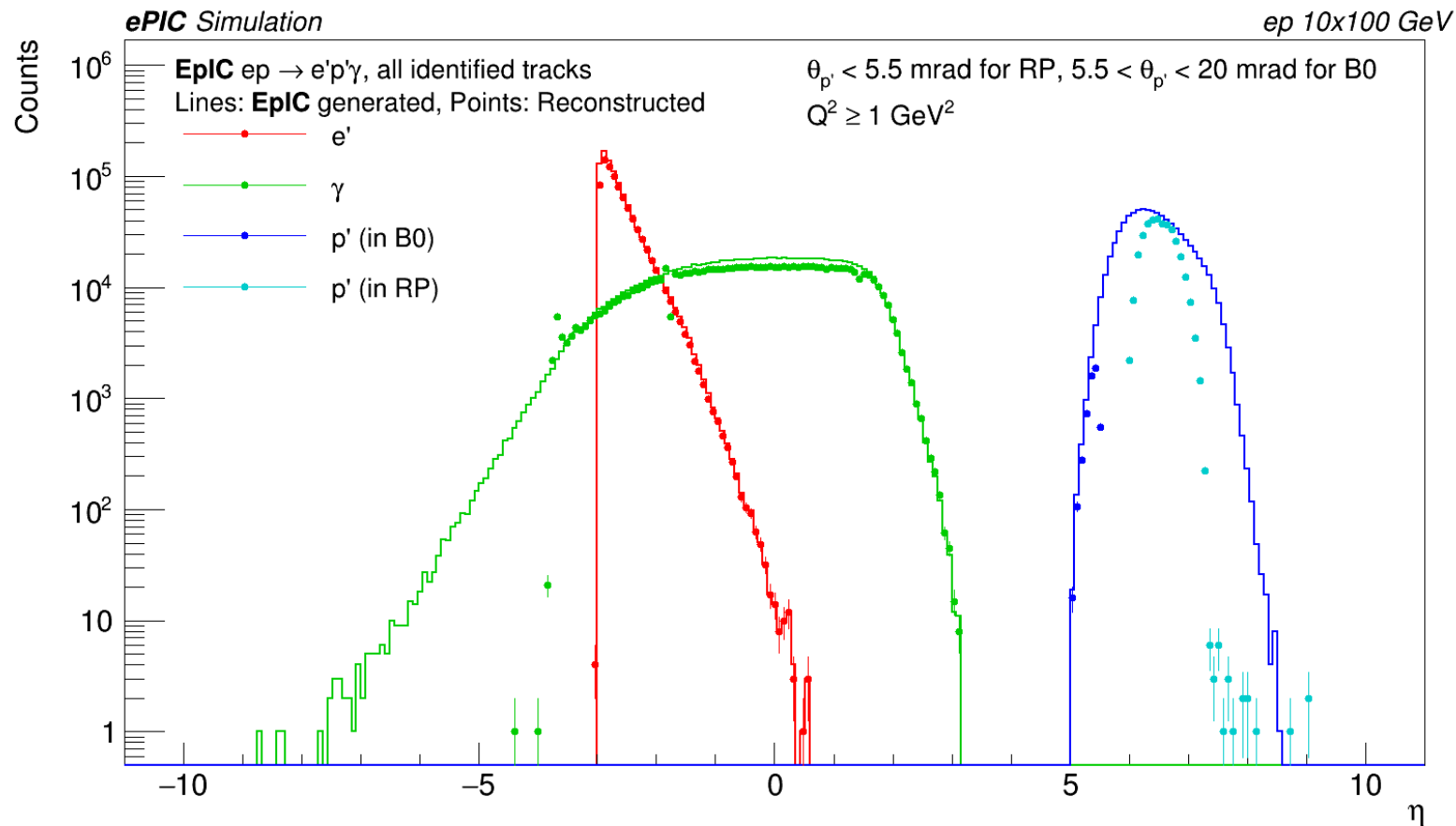
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Backup

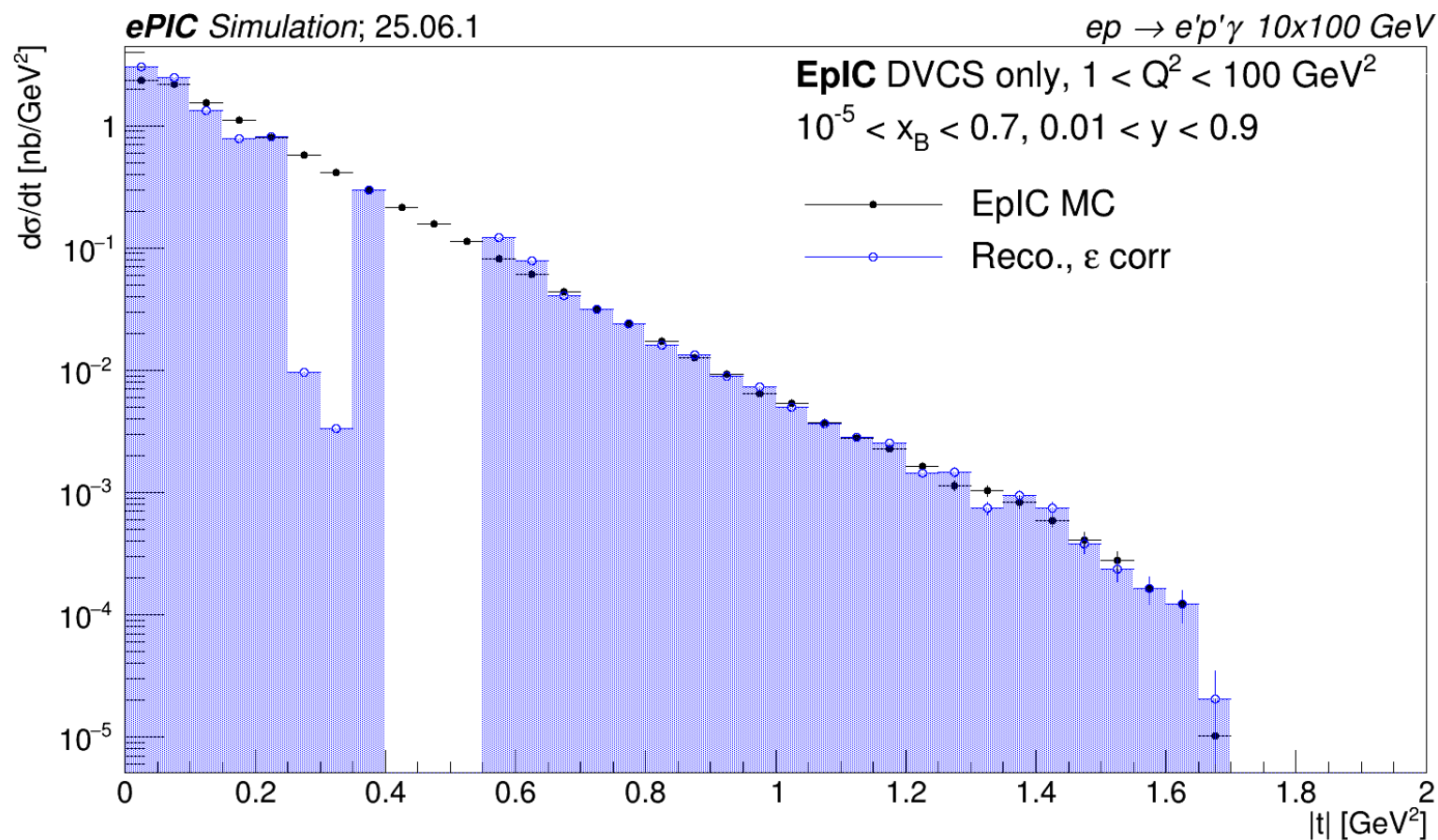


Eta coverage (10x100)



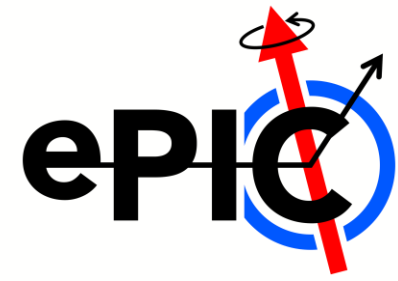


Cross-section ($\mathcal{L}_{int} \sim 2 fb^{-1}$)

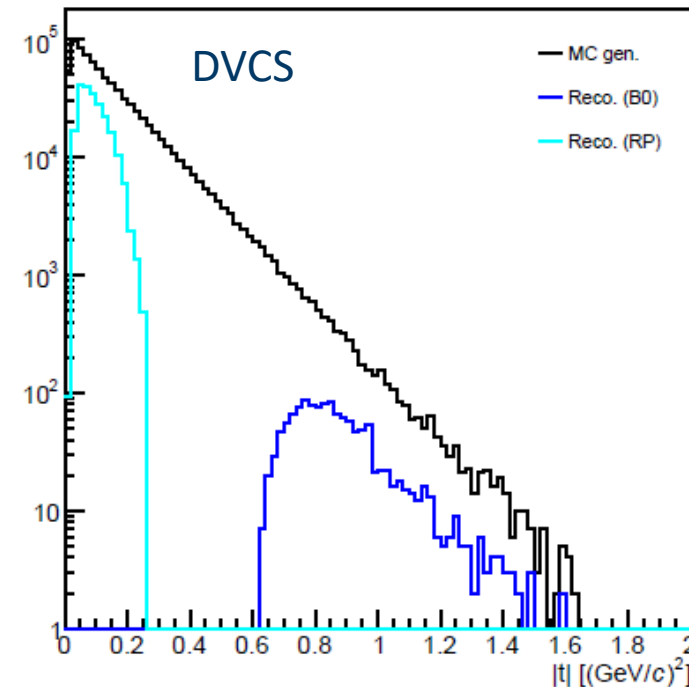
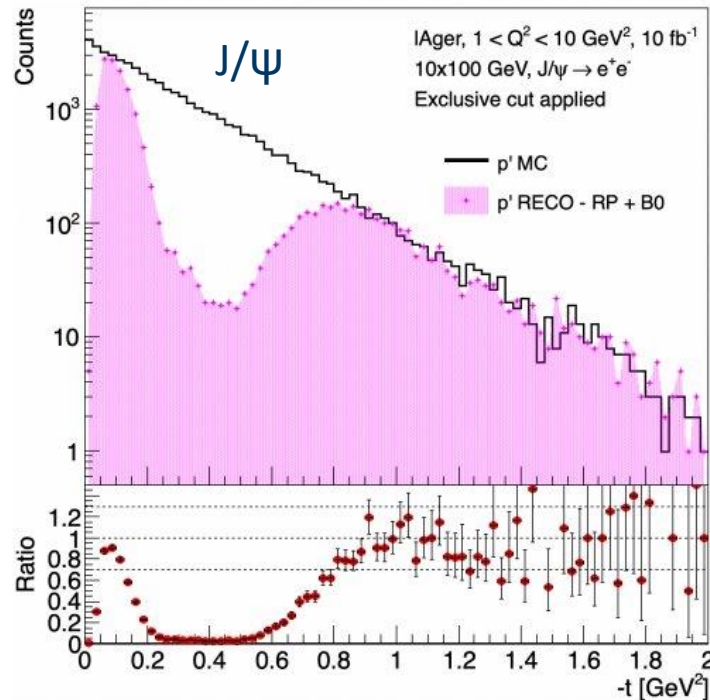




Noted differences between DVCS and other analyses

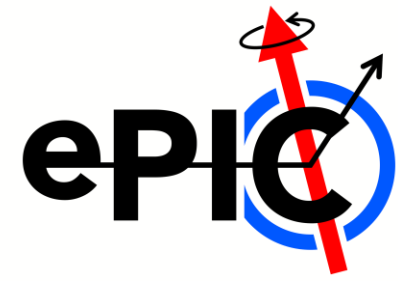


- Observed in the presentations at the EICUG, that Jihee and Olaiya see drops in their acceptance for t , but not a full gap in coverage.
- Emails sent the day after; have heard back from Jihee.





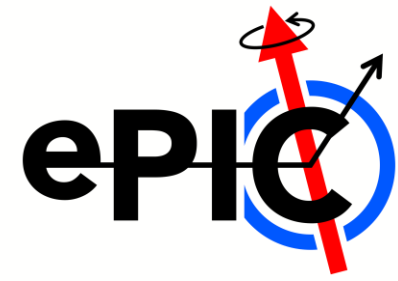
Noted differences between DVCS and other analyses



- Cause: Jihee's $DV\pi^0P$ analysis does not include a cut on proton track angle.
 - Assume that this is true for Olaiya's?
- Pion analysis sees “poorly reconstructed tracks, particularly from the Roman Pot”.
 - Not sure how ‘poor’ these tracks are.
 - Would be nice to see raw eta/theta/t distributions from J/ψ or $DV\pi^0P$ files for proton tracks (separating B0 from RP).



Noted differences between DVCS and other analyses



- Another observation: the reconstructed distributions for DVCS do not agree with MC truth as well as for the J/ψ / $DV\pi^0P$ plots.
- Cause: there is a MM^2 cut applied for the DVCS analysis, but not for the other 2.
 - This reduces the number of accepted events, roughly uniformly.
 - This is somewhat addressed by the MC correction, but not entirely.
 - Edge effects in RP causing fluctuations in σ plot.