

Exclusive π^0 Production in ep Collisions ($DV\pi^0P$)

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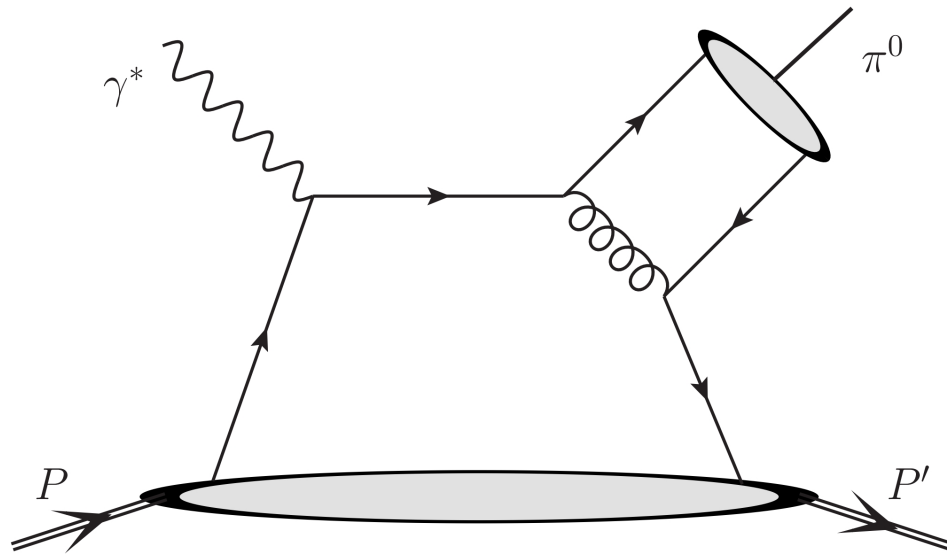
Brookhaven National Laboratory

2025/12/16

ePIC Physics Forum

Physics Motivation

Exclusive π^0 production



Phys. Rev. Lett. 133, 051901 (2024), arXiv:2312.01309

Hard exclusive production of π^0 mesons

- Provides access to the **3D nucleon structure** via **GPDs**.
- **Complementary to DVCS**, offering sensitivity to **polarized** and **transversity** GPDs.
- Previously studied in **fixed-target experiments** at JLab, and COMPASS.
- **Collider mode (never done before!)** at the EIC enables:
 - High proton polarization.
 - Broad kinematic coverage, reaching **lower x** and **higher Q^2** .
- Represents a **unique opportunity** to probe **quark orbital angular momentum (OAM)** → within **spin program**.
- DVMP π^0 **production** may serve as a **potential background** to DVCS.

Physics Goals

Generalized Parton Distributions (GPDs)

- Extract the **t-distribution** to obtain the **quark spatial distribution**

Quark Orbital Angular Momentum (OAM)

- Conduct a feasibility study of the **longitudinal single-target spin asymmetry**.
- Theory proposal¹: Single-target spin asymmetry is sensitive to Quark OAM, yet **no experimental measurement** exists to date

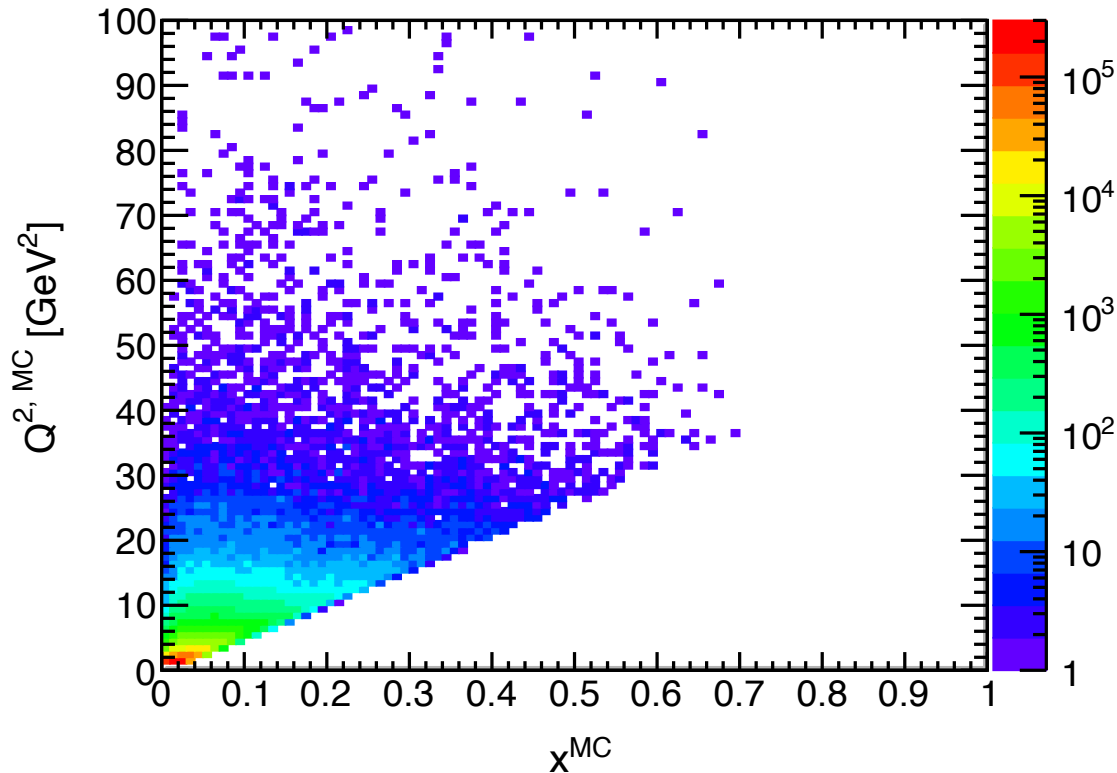
Physics Background to DVCS

- Estimate rate of single-photon mis-identification², which can **mimic the DVCS signal**

¹Phys. Rev. Lett. 133, 051901 (2024), arXiv:2312.01309

²Phys. Rev. D 112, 036010 (2025), arXiv:2503.05908

Simulation Sample



EpIC Monte Carlo Generator

Generation ranges:

- $1 < Q^2 < 1000$
- $10^{-5} < x_B < 0.95$
- $0.01 < t < 1.6$
- $0.01 < y < 0.85$

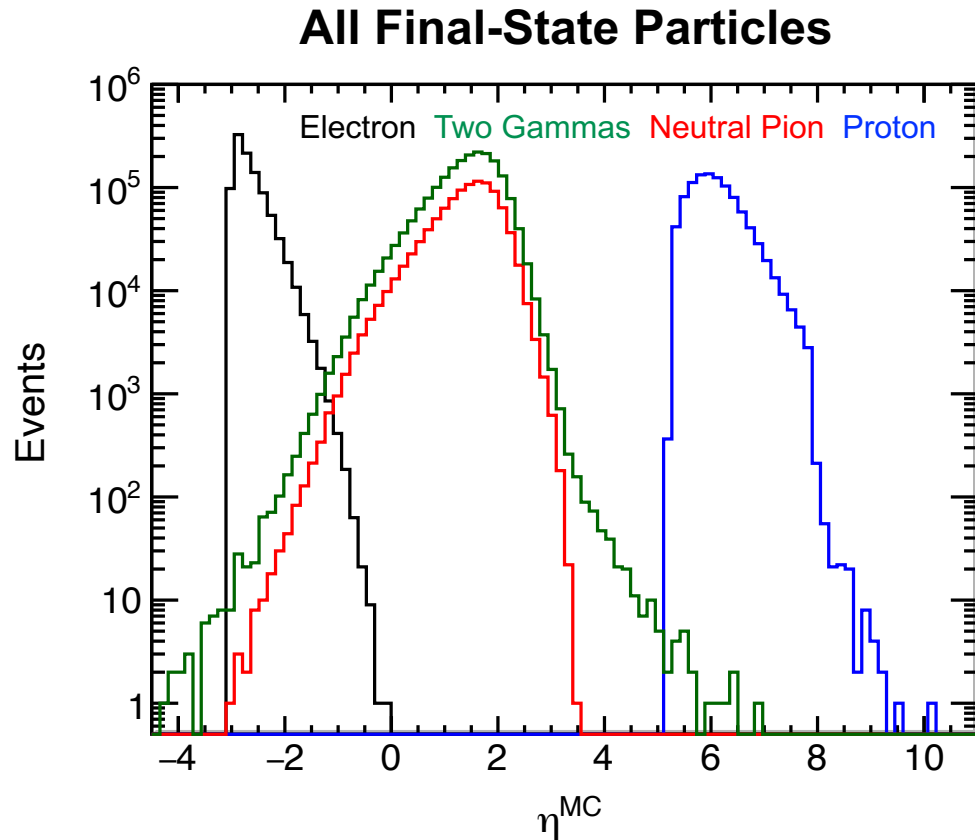
Simulation Setup:

All results are based on

ePIC October Simulation Campaign

25.10.2 ($10 \times 130 \text{ GeV}^2$) + 25.10.3 ($5 \times 41 \text{ GeV}^2$)

DV π^0 P Kinematics



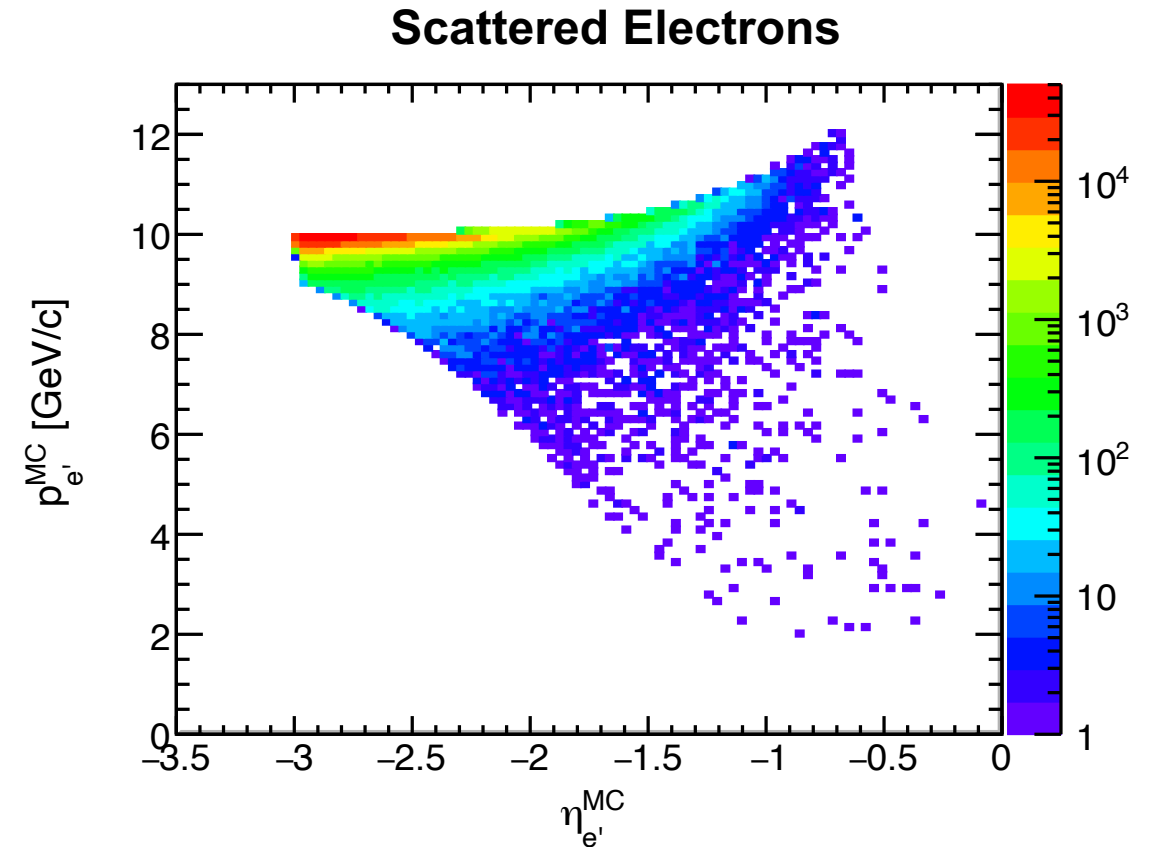
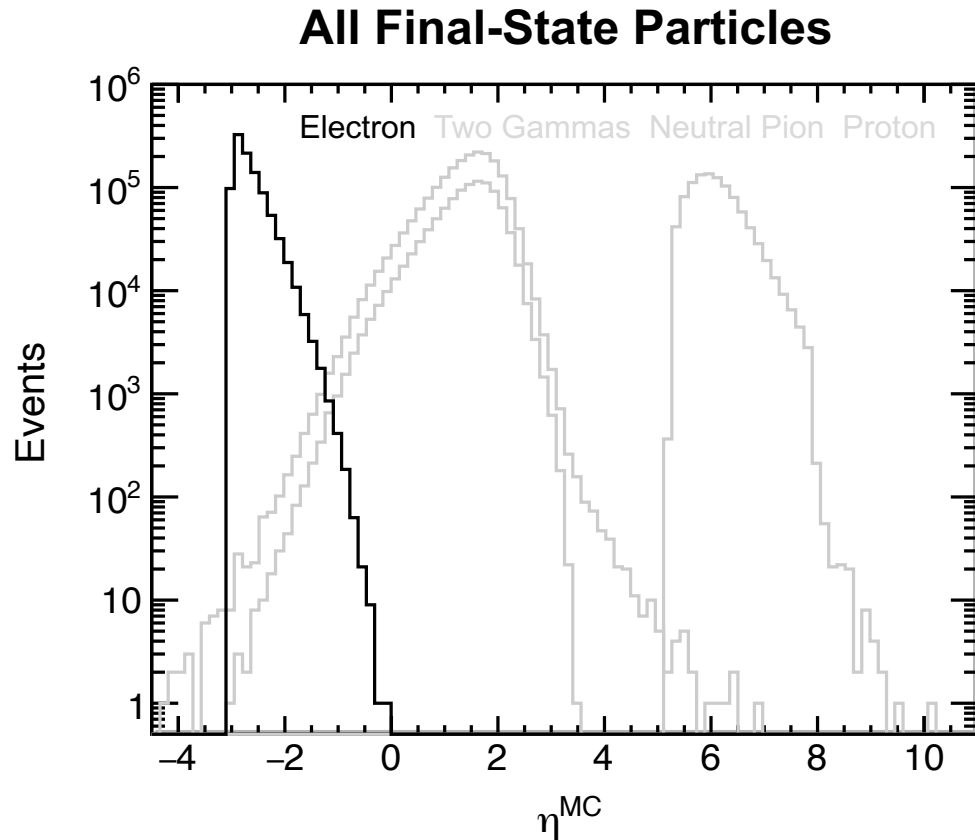
Relatively clean kinematics

Minimal overlap between final-state particles

Detector Signatures

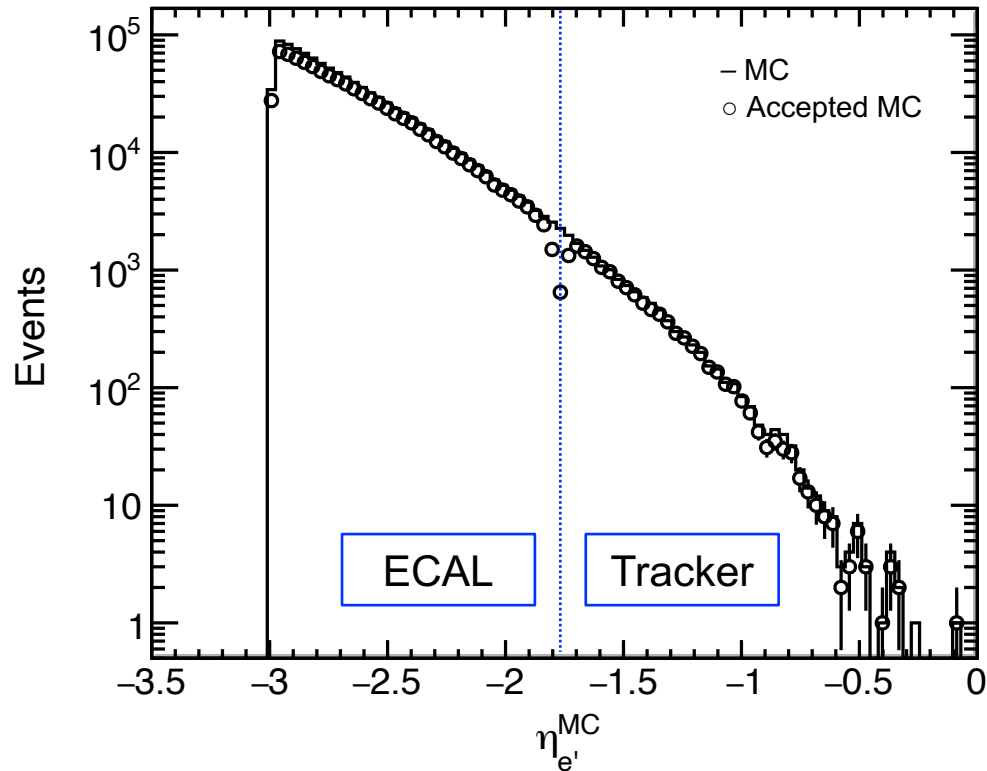
- Scattered electron:
 - Detected in backward region (Tracker + Calorimeter)
- Neutral pion ($\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$):
 - Detected in mid-rapidity and forward calorimeters
- Scattered proton:
 - Detected in Far-Forward tracker

DV π^0 P Kinematics – Scattered Electron



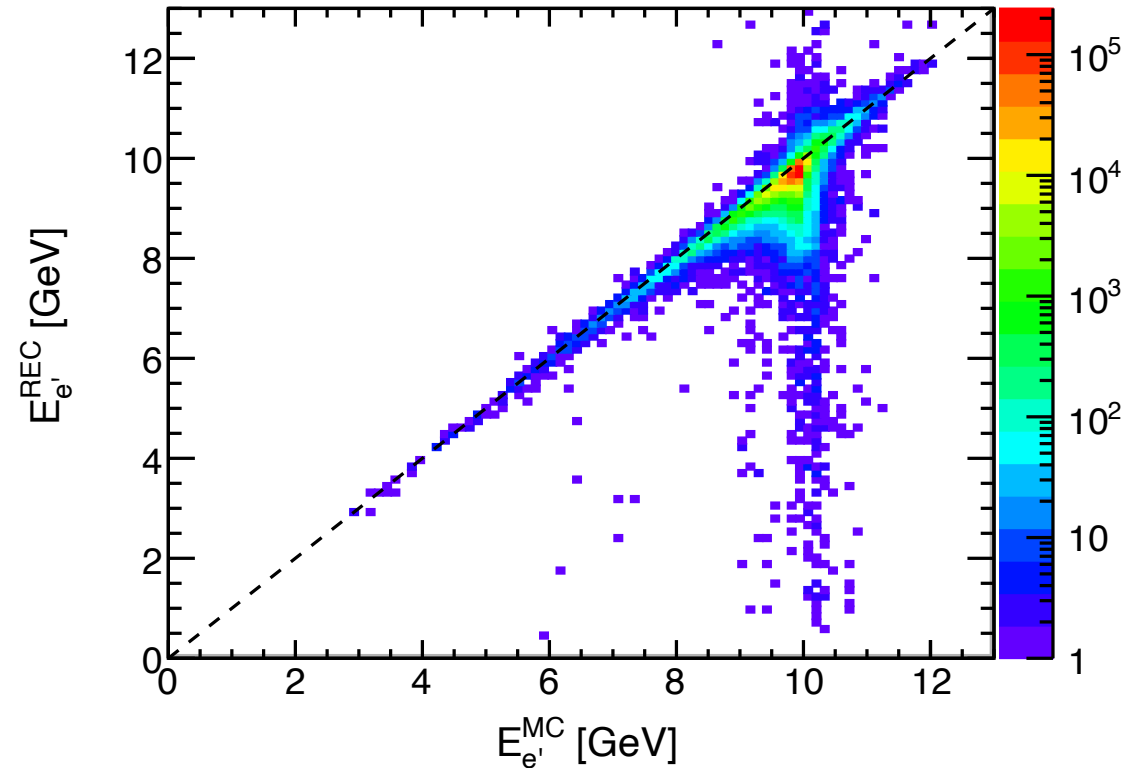
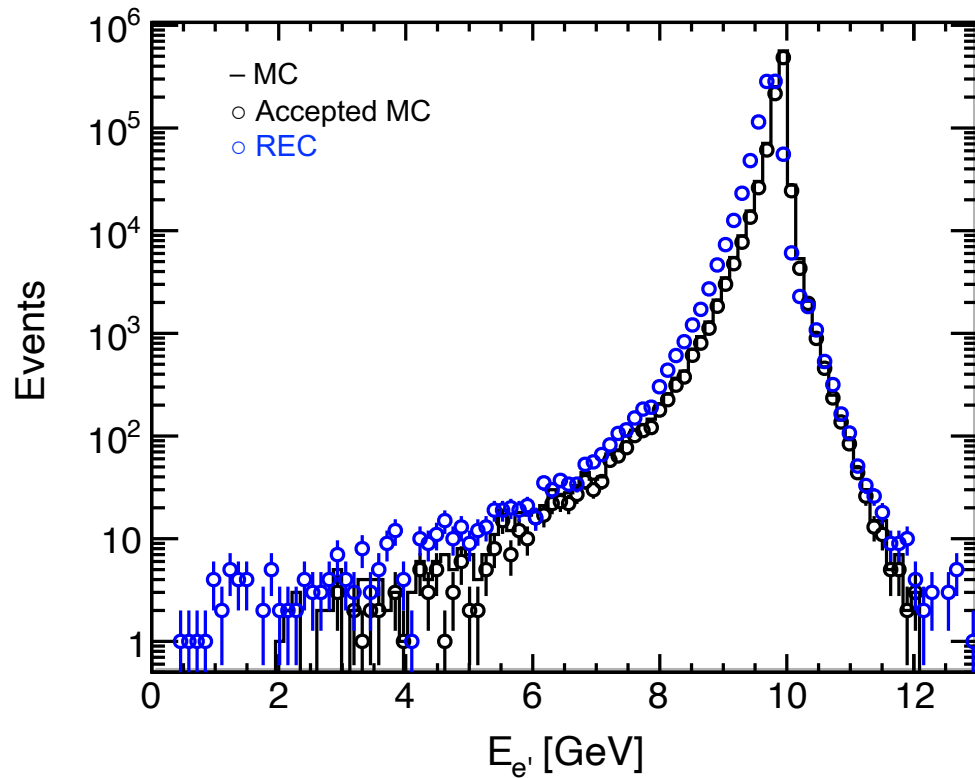
Relatively clean kinematics, with minimal overlap between all final-state particles.
Scattered electron momentum remains very close to the incoming beam energy.

e'_{MC} Acceptance with E/p Cut



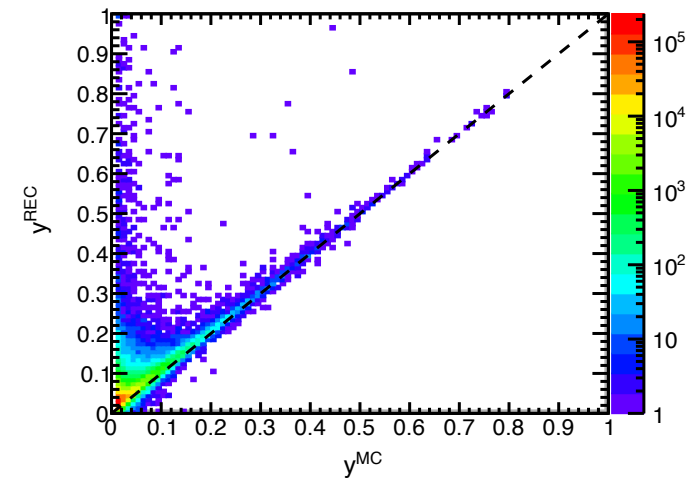
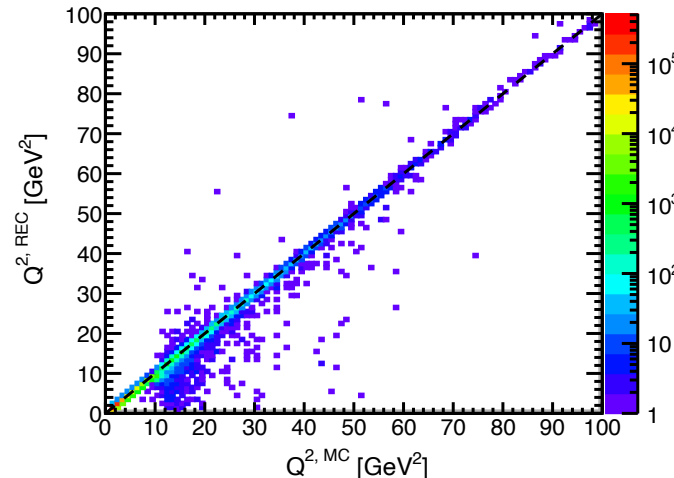
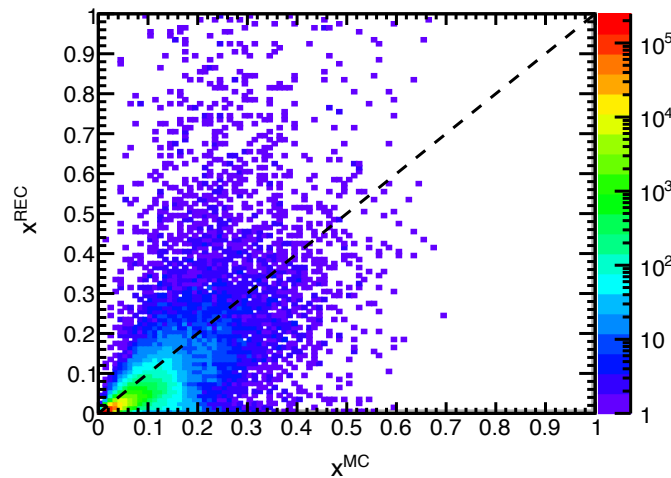
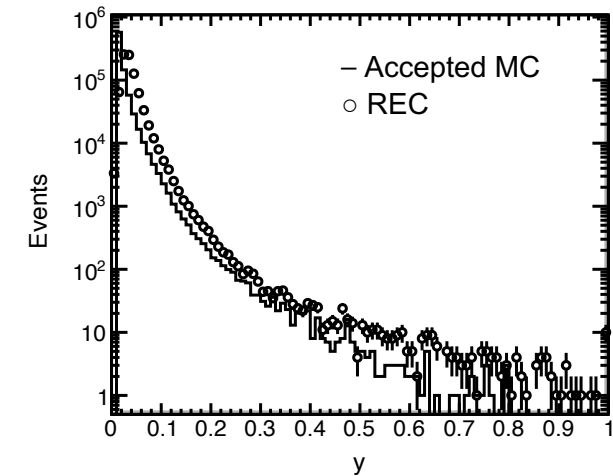
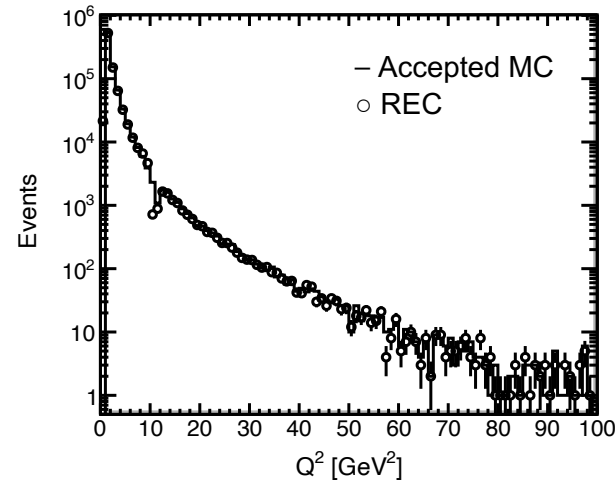
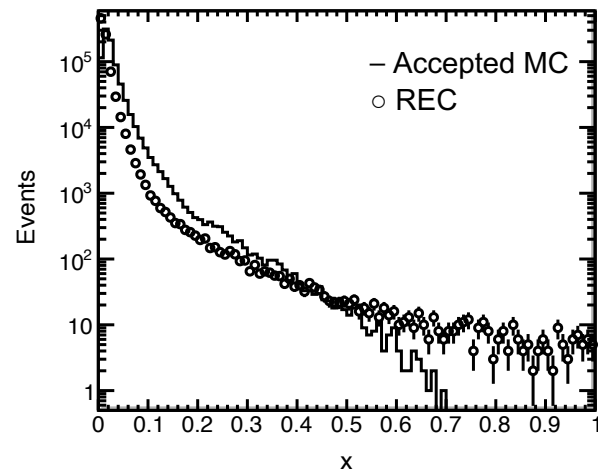
In this analysis, a **truth-associated E/p cut** is applied (when applicable). E/p cut: $0.9 < E/p < 1.2$. If $10 < Q^2 < 100$, use $0.8 < E/p < 1.2$. The **scattered electron acceptance** is approximately **85.7%**.

e'_{REC} with E/p Cut



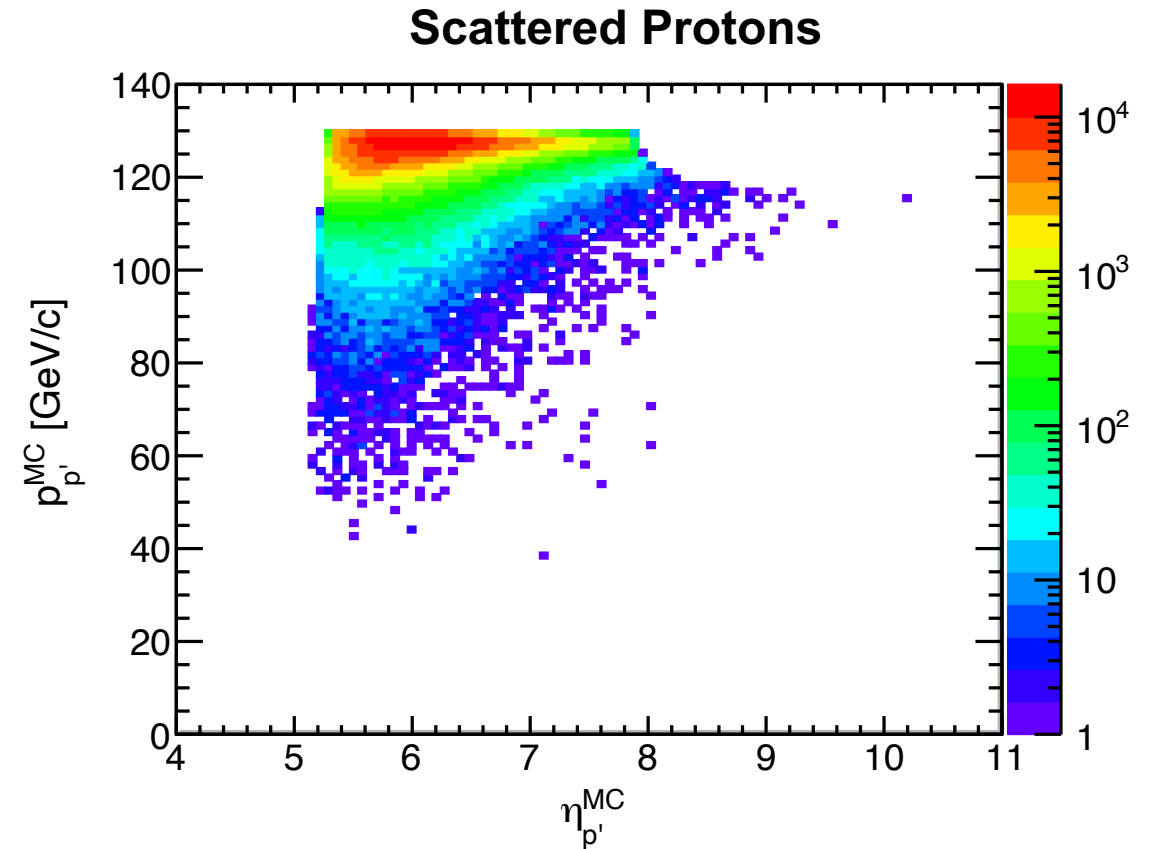
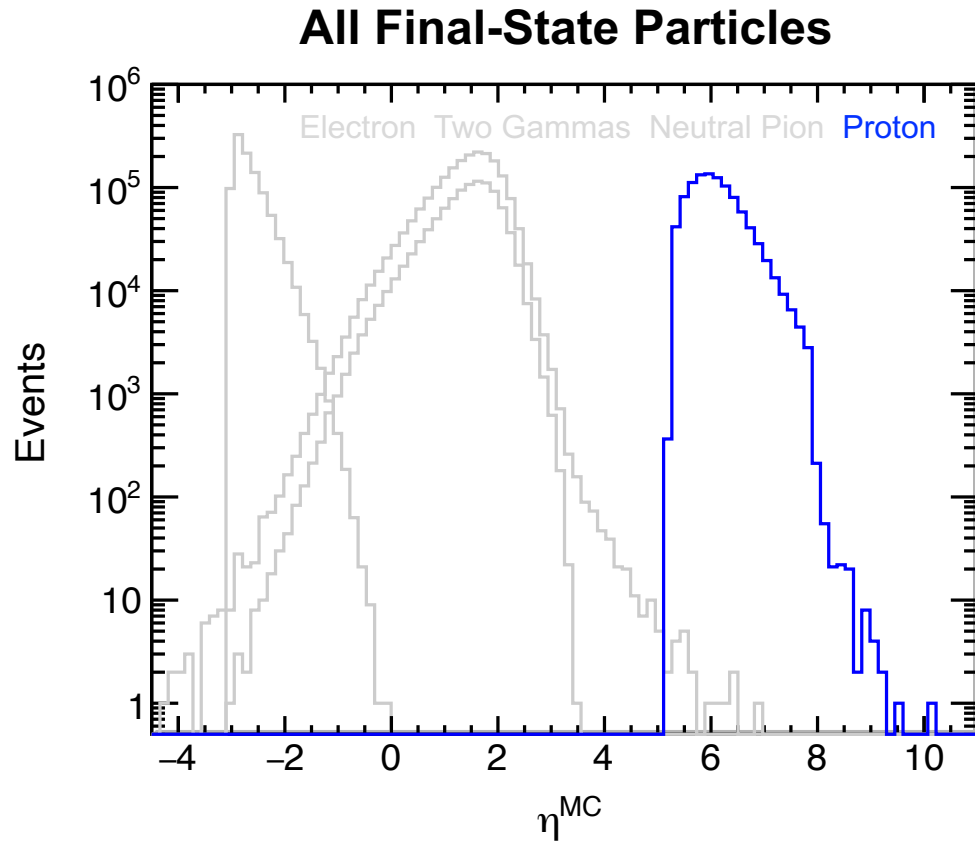
Potential to improve scattered-electron reconstruction and/or refine quality cuts.
Calorimetry calibration constant factor to adjust energy.

DIS Kinematics After Electron Selection



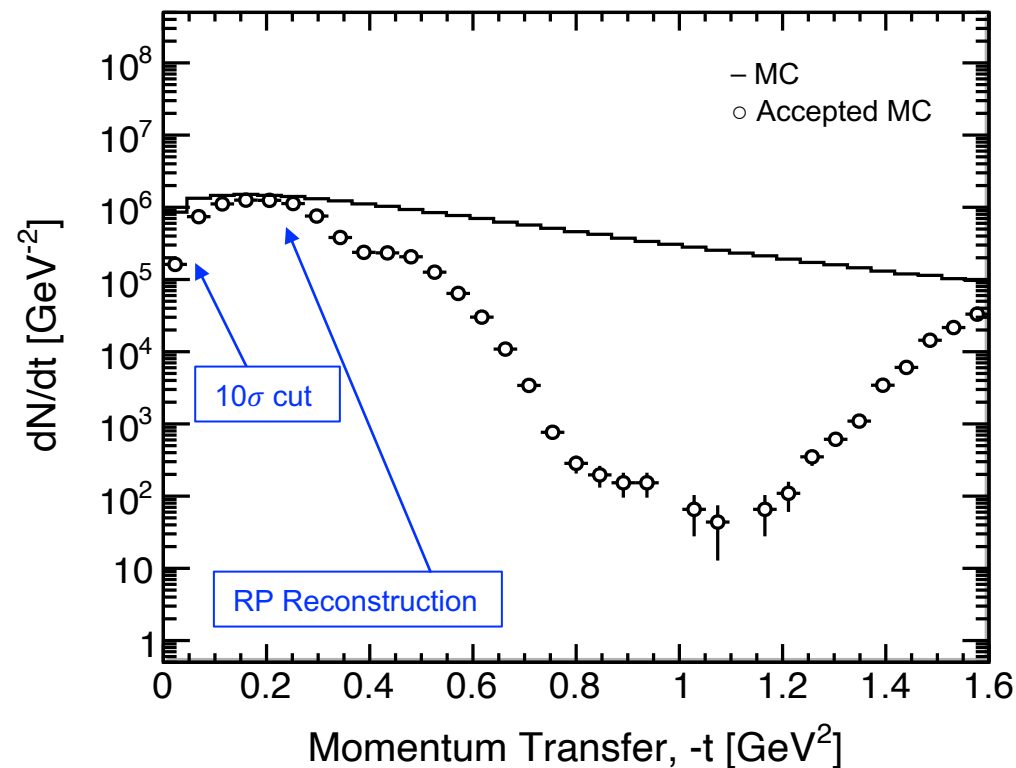
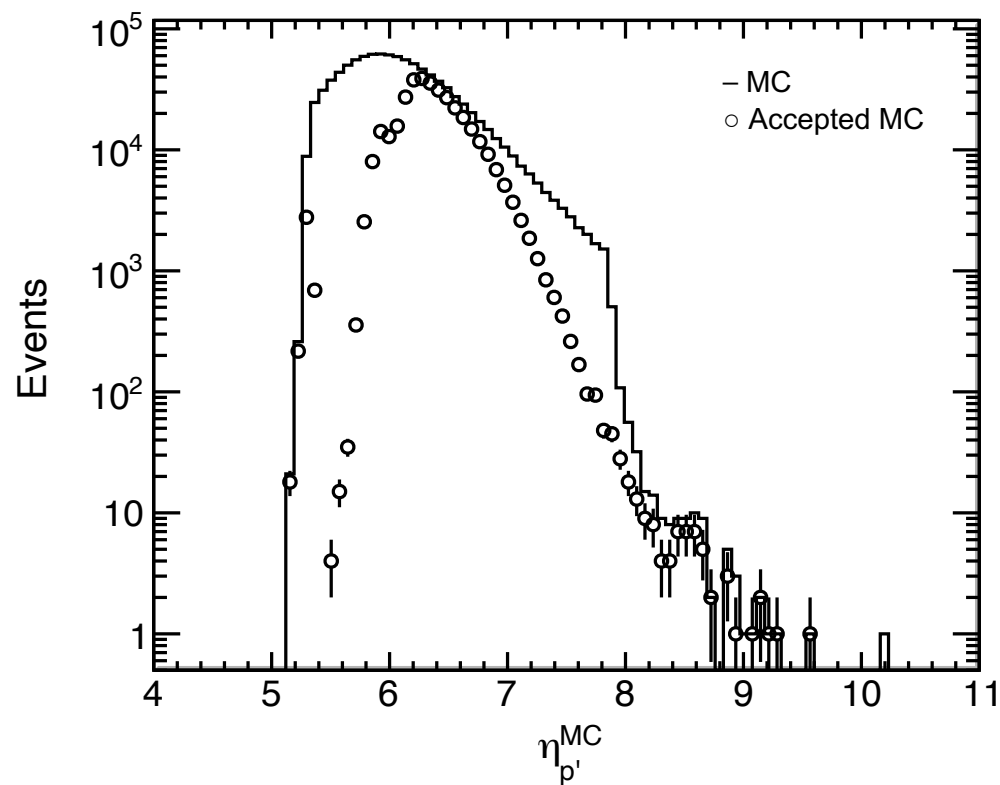
Using TREK + CAL information, reconstructed kinematics show fairly good agreement.

DV π^0 P Kinematics – Scattered Proton



Relatively clean kinematics, with **minimal overlap** between all final-state particles.
Scattered protons travel to the **far-forward region**, detected by **B0** and **Roman Pot** detectors.

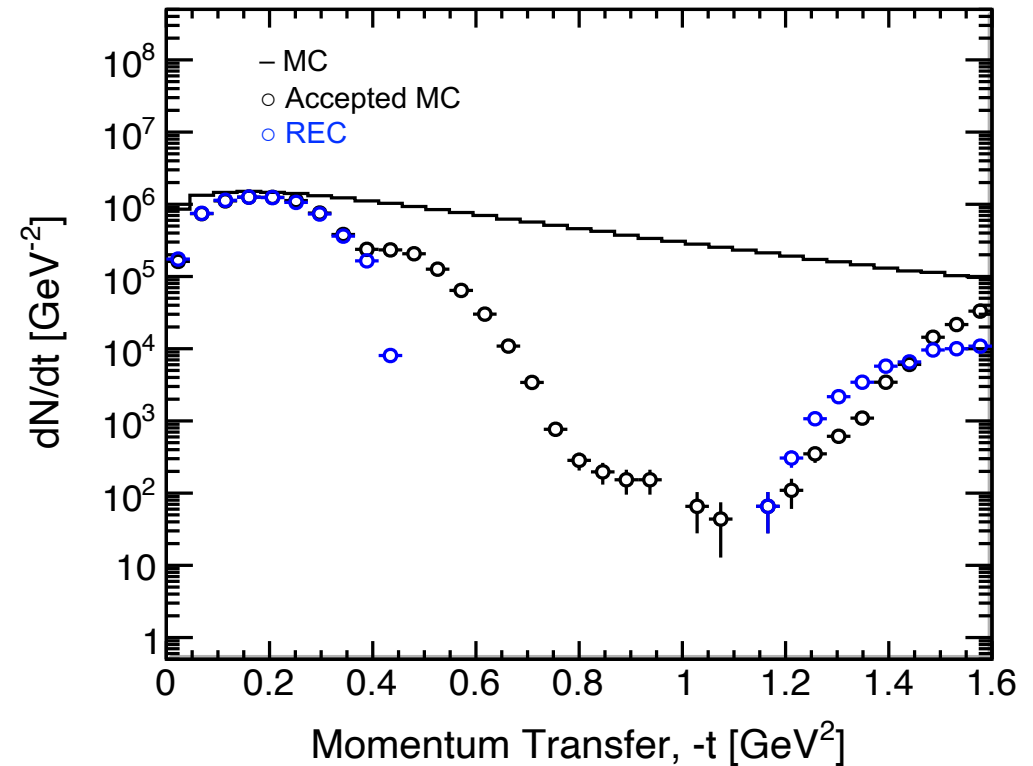
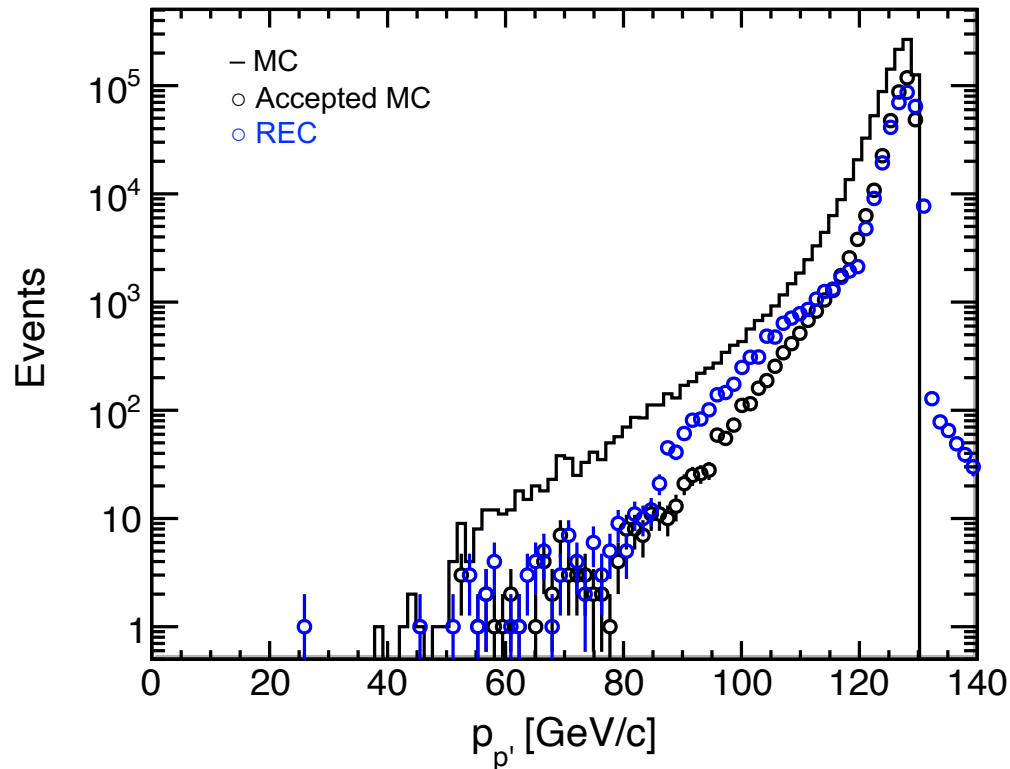
p'_{MC} and $t = (p - p')^2$ Acceptance



Scattered protons are mostly detected in the **Roman Pot**, not B0.

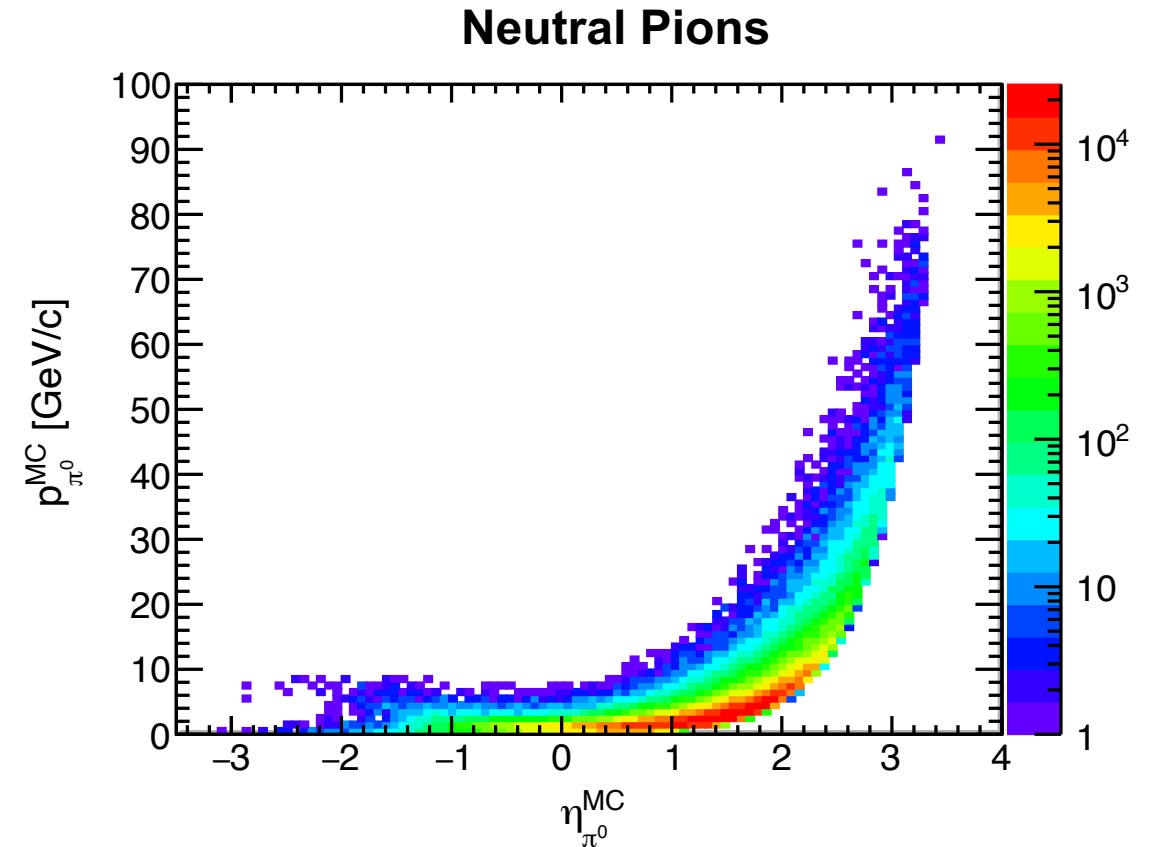
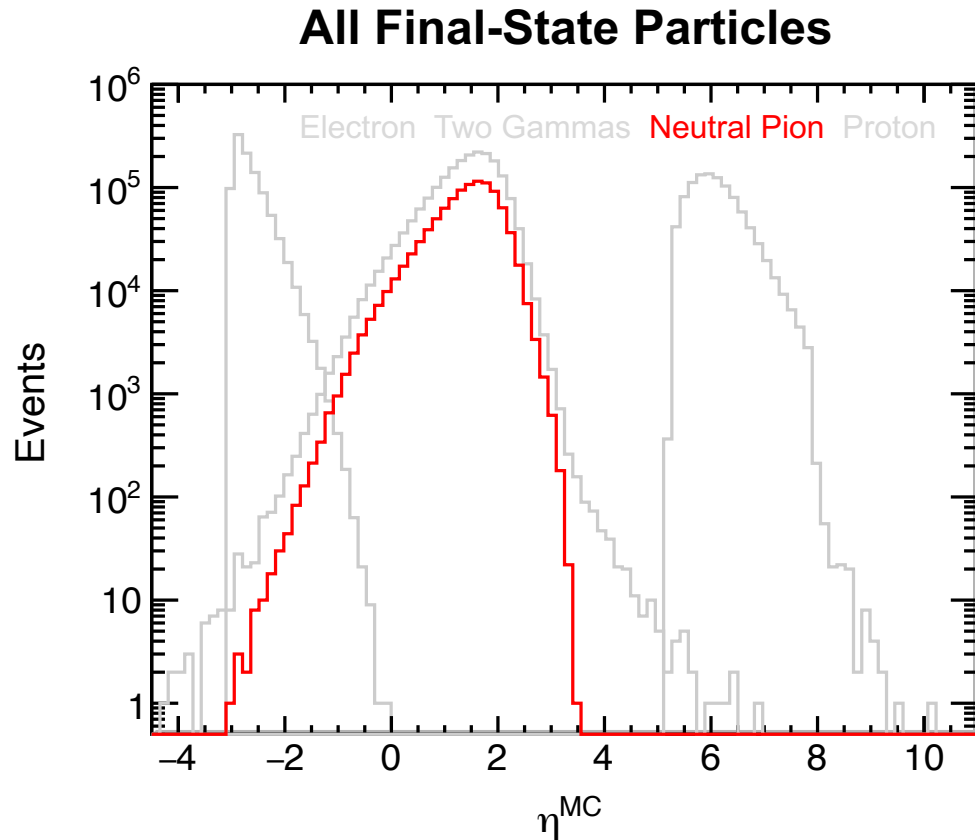
Rather larger acceptance gap between B0 and Roman Pot for p' comparing to $10 \times 100 \text{ GeV}^2$.

p'_{REC} and $t = (p - p')^2$ Reconstruction



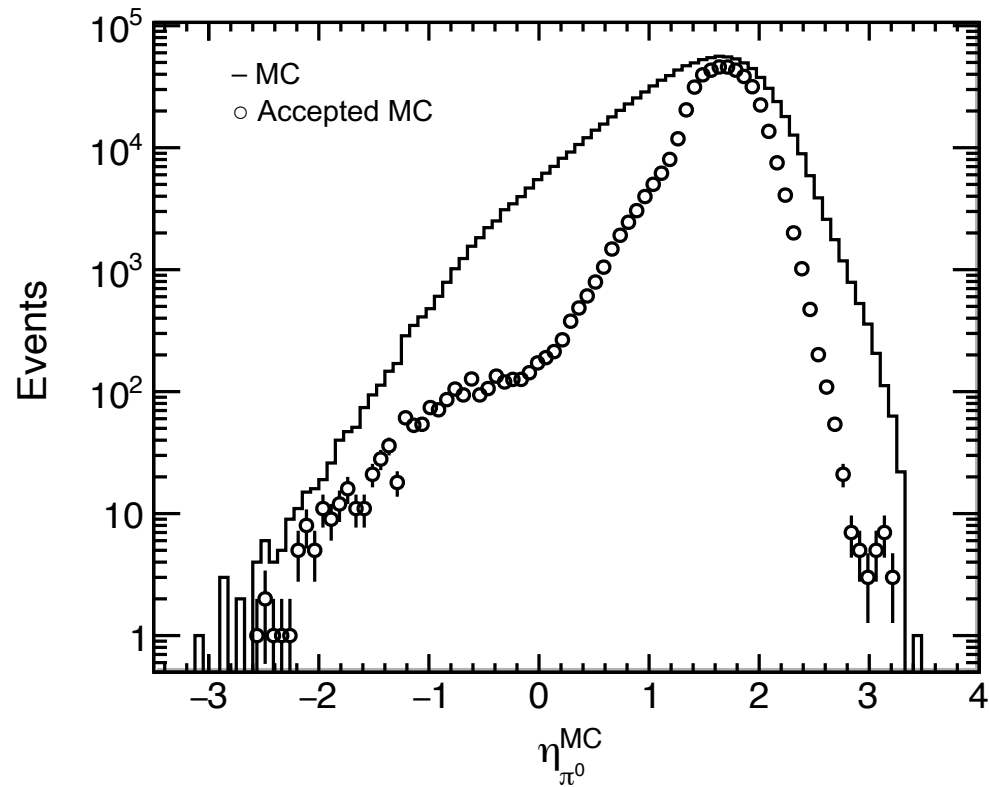
Improvements on p' reconstruction at Roman Pot, which leading better t -reconstruction with BABE.

DV π^0 P Kinematics – Neutral Pion



Relatively clean kinematics, with minimal overlap between all final-state particles.
Neutral pions are boosted into **forward** region.

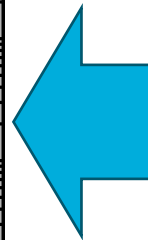
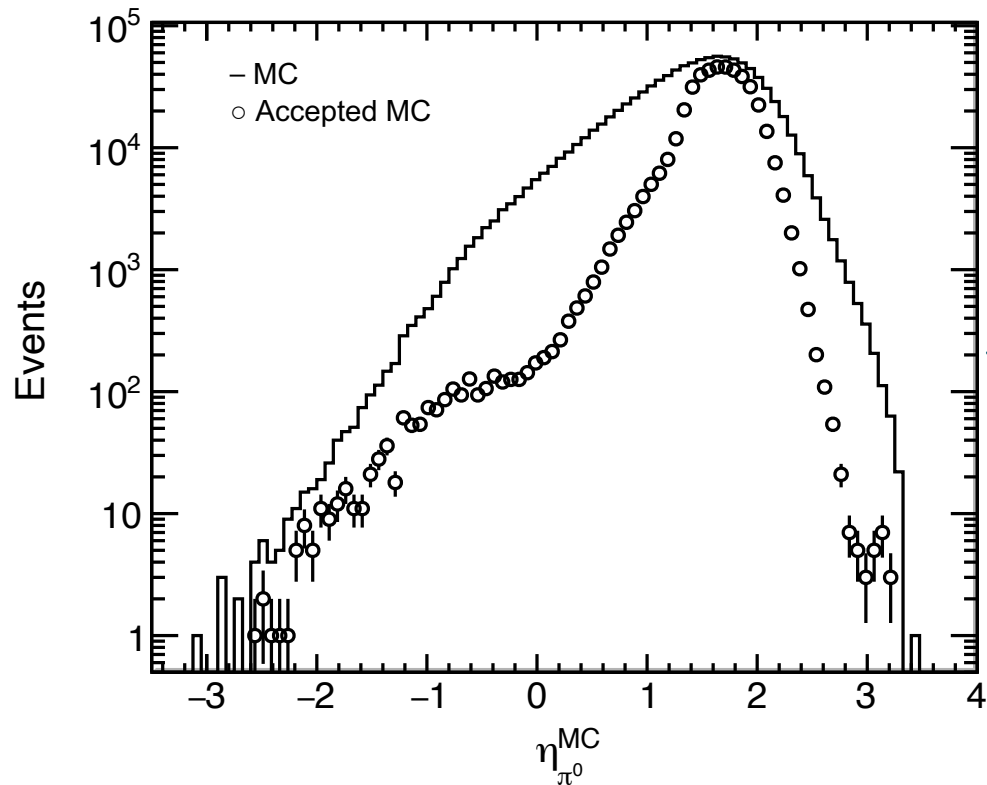
π_{MC}^0 Acceptance



Acceptance loss observed in mid-rapidity and forward regions.

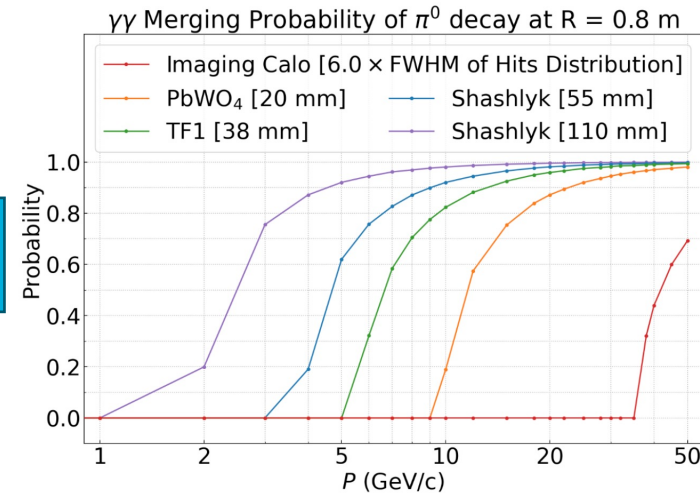
Caused by **non-optimized cluster splitting** in the current **ElCrecon** reconstruction pipeline

π_{MC}^0 Acceptance – Potential Improvement



Mid-rapidity

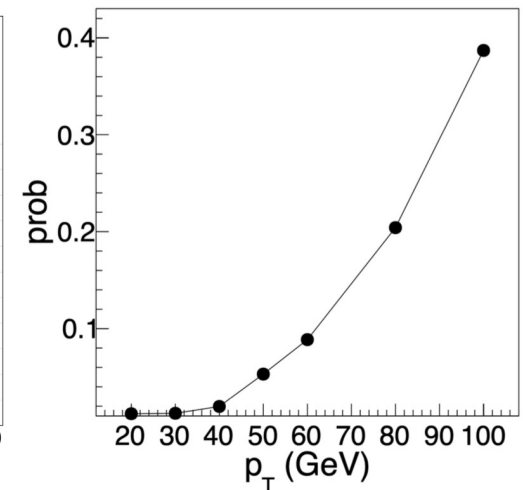
Taken from ePIC preTDR v2.2
(Figure 8.148 (b) on page 230)



Upper limit of $\gamma\gamma$ merging probability
at $\eta = 0$, up to $p_{\pi^0} \sim 35$ GeV can be
separable

Forward

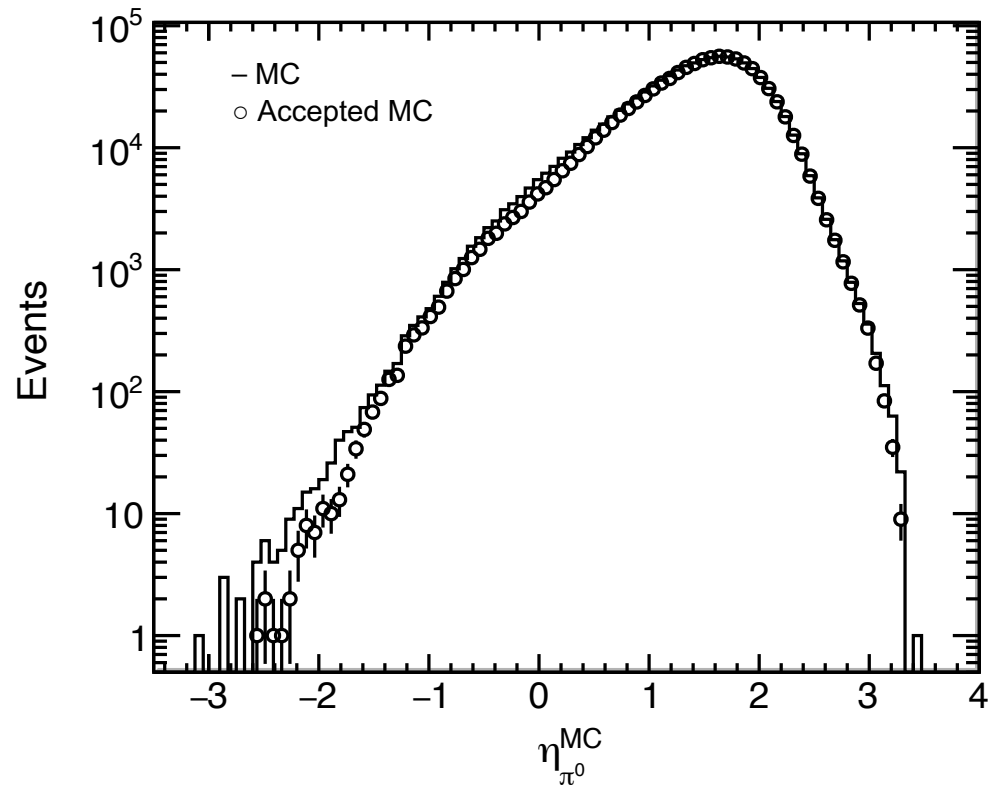
Taken from ePIC preTDR v2.2
(Figure 8.162 on page 253)



W/SciFi 2.5 \times 2.5 at $z = 3.3$ m
Misidentification rate at 60 GeV
is approximately 10 %

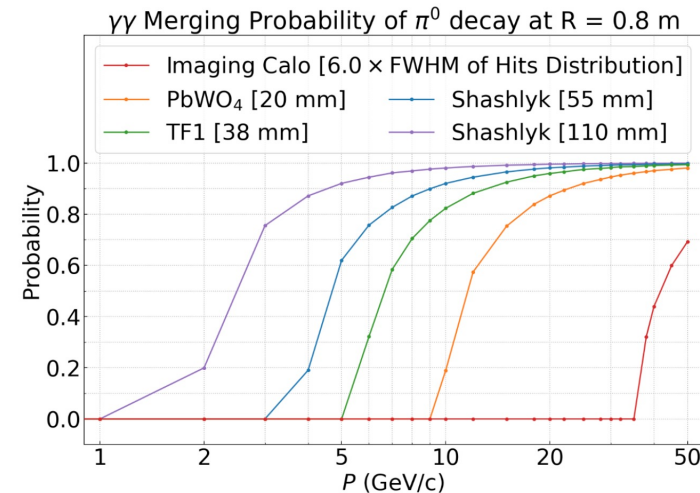
Standalone ML studies in preTDR as a **potential improvement** for future reconstruction.
Targeting **mid-rapidity** and **forward regions**.

π^0_{MC} Acceptance – Potential Improvement



Mid-rapidity

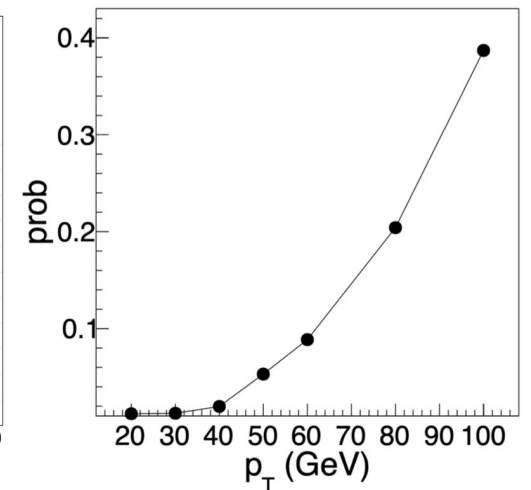
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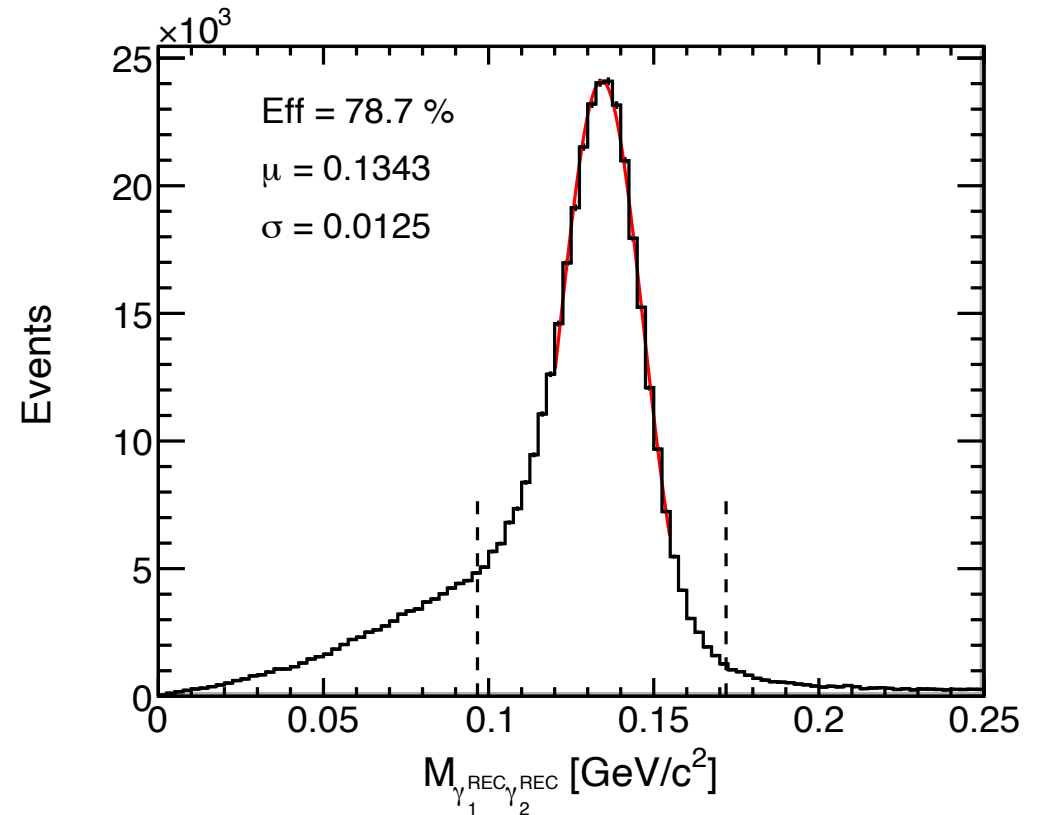
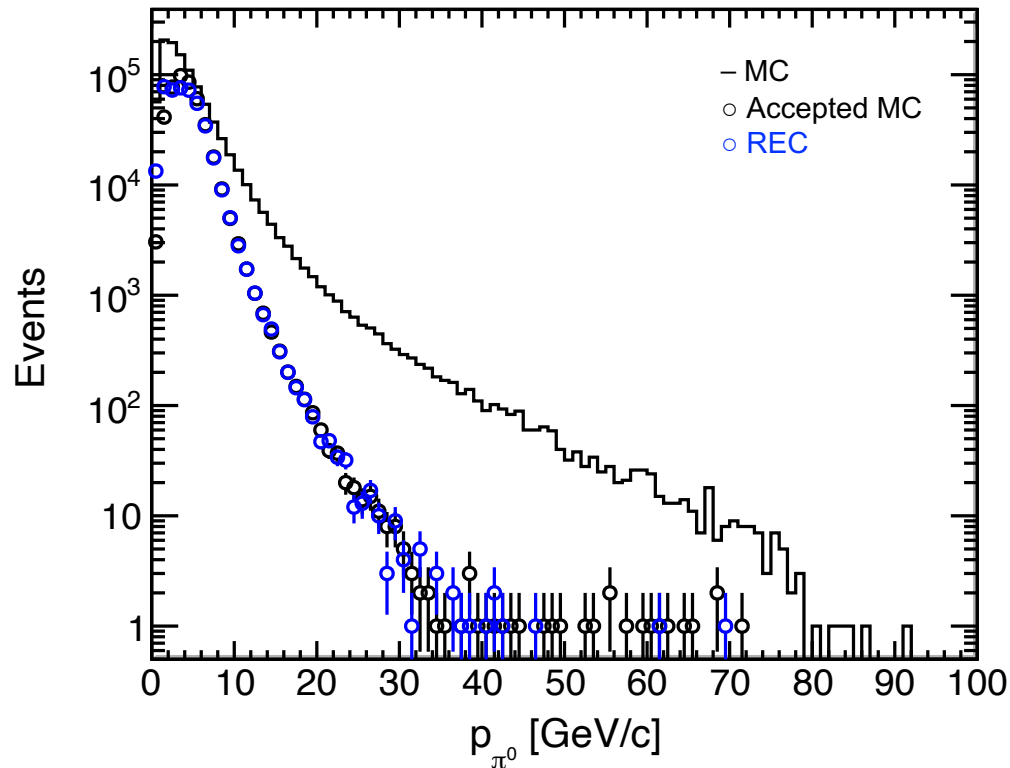
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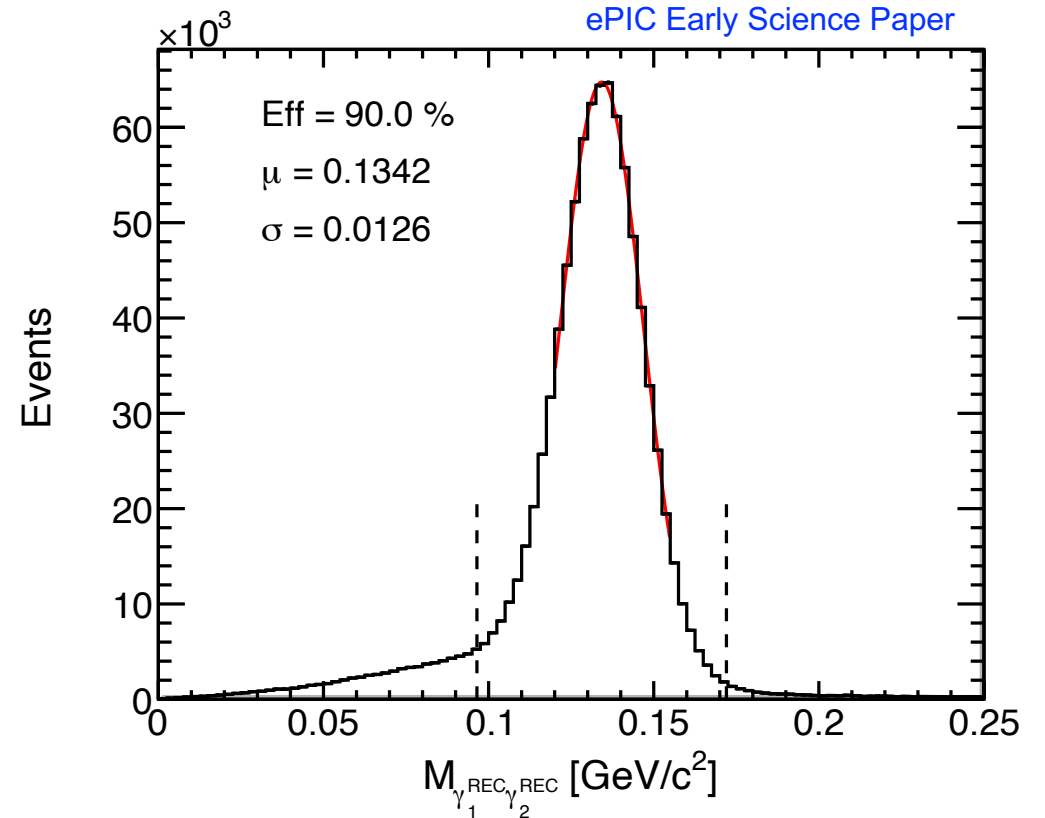
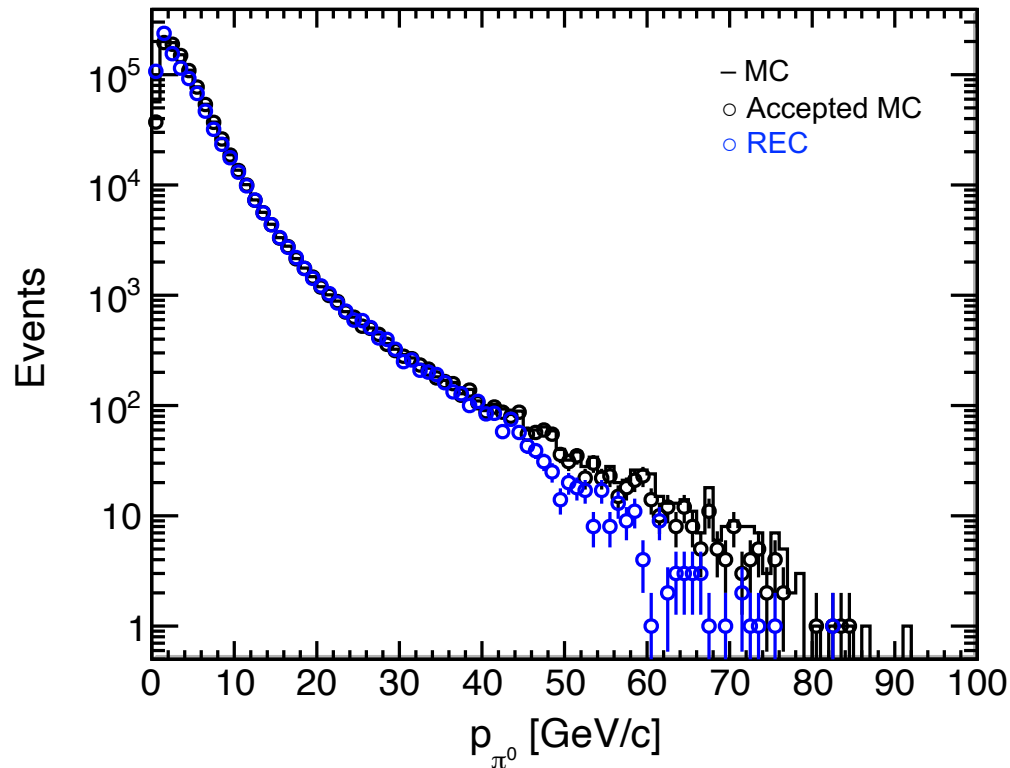
Standalone ML studies implemented as a **potential improvement** for future reconstruction.
Targeting **mid-rapidity** and **forward regions**. Acceptance increased from 45 % to 95 %.

π_{REC}^0 Reconstruction and Invariant Mass



Acceptance loss observed in Low- or high-momentum neutral pions.
“Good” reconstructed neutral pions defined as those within $\pm 3\sigma$ of the mean.

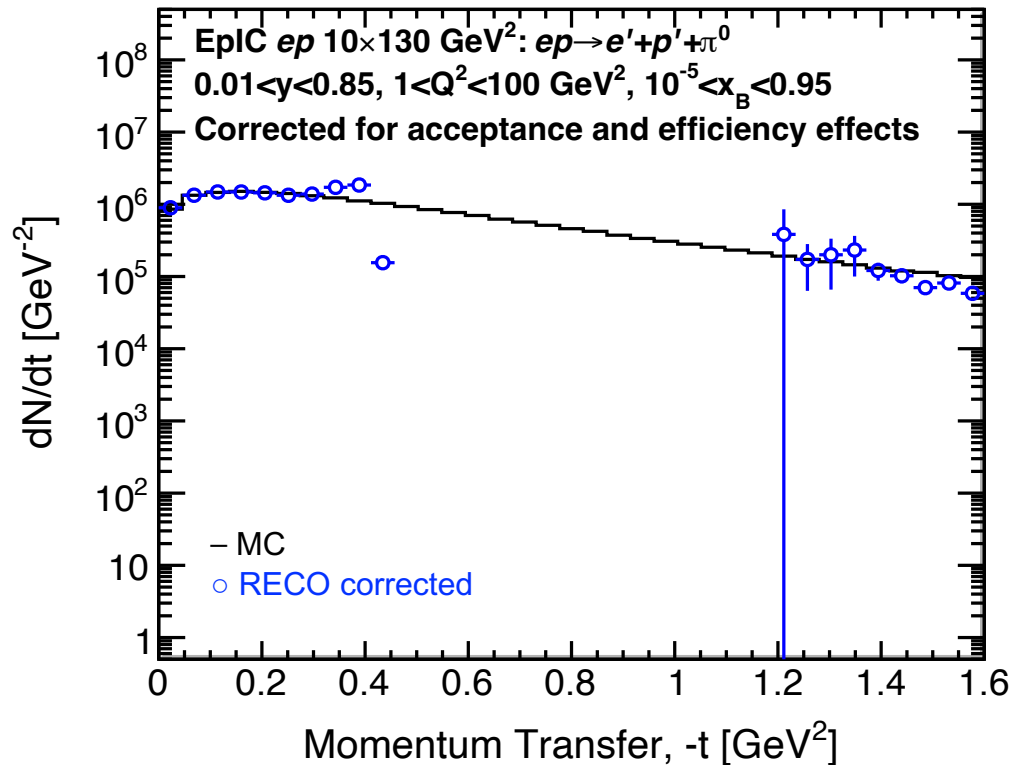
π^0_{REC} Reconstruction and Invariant Mass



Standalone ML studies implemented as a **potential improvement** for future reconstruction.
“**Good**” reconstructed neutral pions defined as those within $\pm 3\sigma$ of the mean.

Results – t -distribution $t_{\text{BABE}} = (p - p')^2$

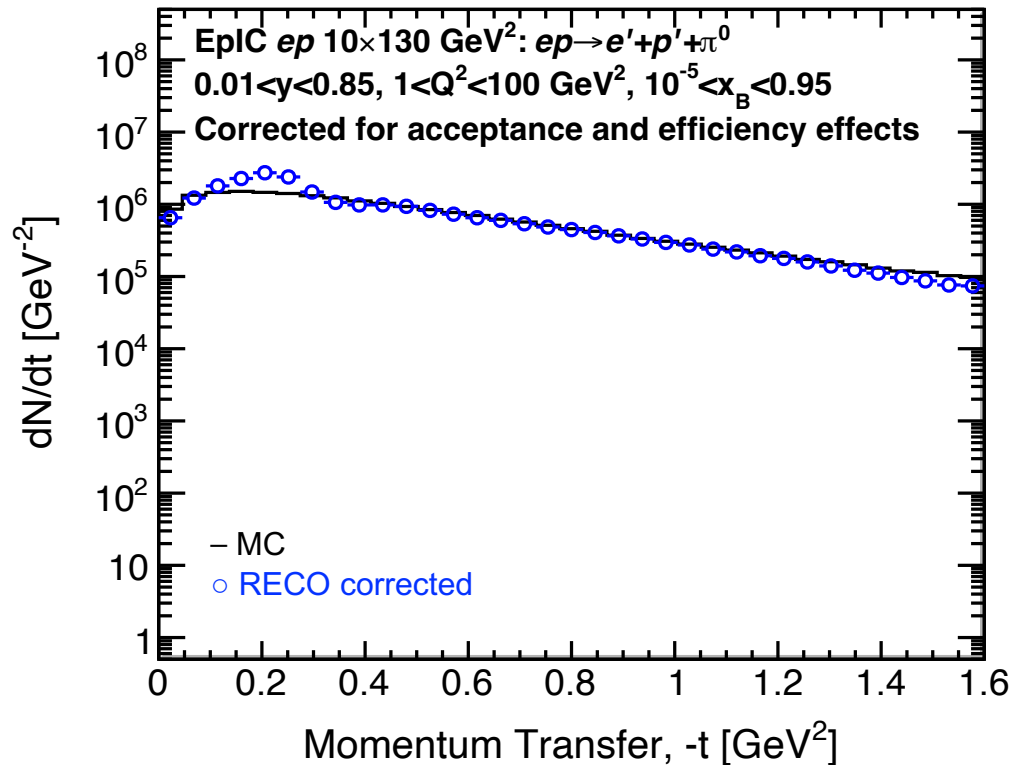
Unpolarized DV π^0 P Sample



- This is t -distribution integrated over x , and Q^2
- Good **Proton** Selection:
 - ✓ is reconstructed in B0 or Roman Pot
 - ✓ **Within angular acceptance** in B0 or Roman Pot
 - $5.5 \text{ mrad} < \theta_{p \text{ in B0}}^{\text{REC}} < 20 \text{ mrad}$
 - $0 \text{ mrad} < \theta_{p \text{ in RP}}^{\text{REC}} < 5 \text{ mrad}$
- Good **Electron** Selection:
 - ✓ With truth-association E/p cut ($0.9 < E/p < 1.2$)
- Good **Neutral Pion** Selection:
 - ✓ Within $\pm 0.04 \text{ GeV}$ of M_{π^0} ($0.096 < M_{\gamma\gamma} < 0.172$)
- Suppress photo production + radiative corrections
 - ✓ $E - p_z$ cut ($15 < E/p < 25$)
- **Exclusivity** Cut
 - ✓ All final-state particles are reconstructed
- **Missing Mass** Cut:
 - ✓ With $|M_{\text{Missing}}^2| < 1 \text{ GeV}^2$

Results – t -distribution $t_{\text{eXBE}} = (p - p'_{\text{corr}})^2$

Unpolarized DV π^0 P Sample

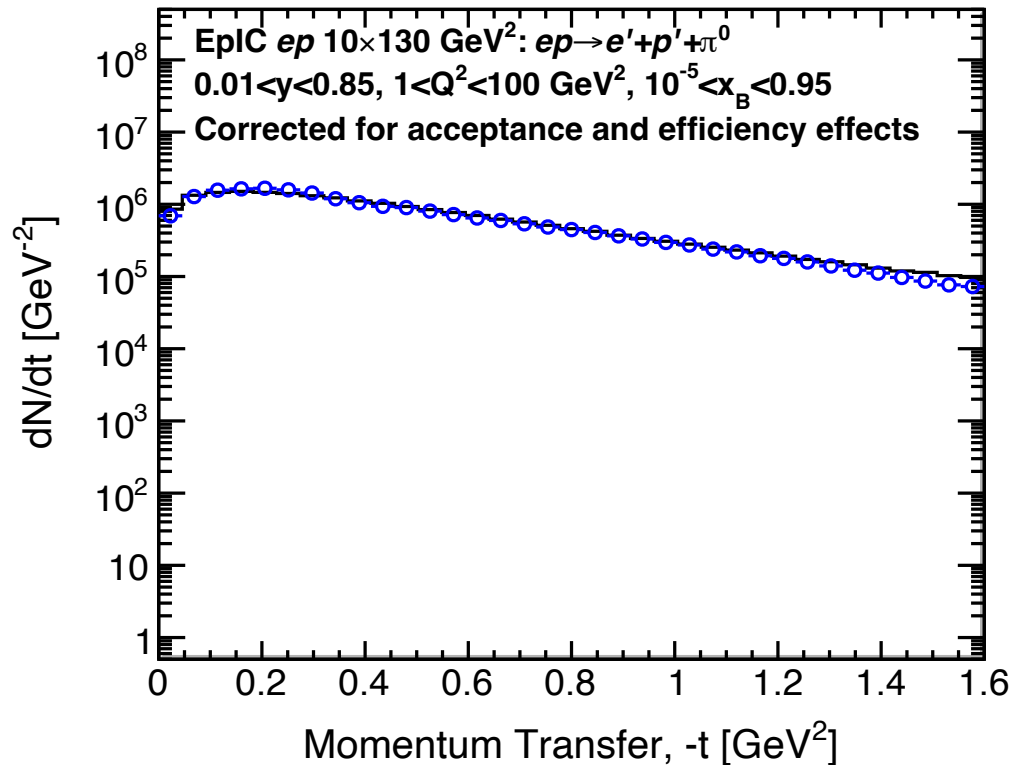


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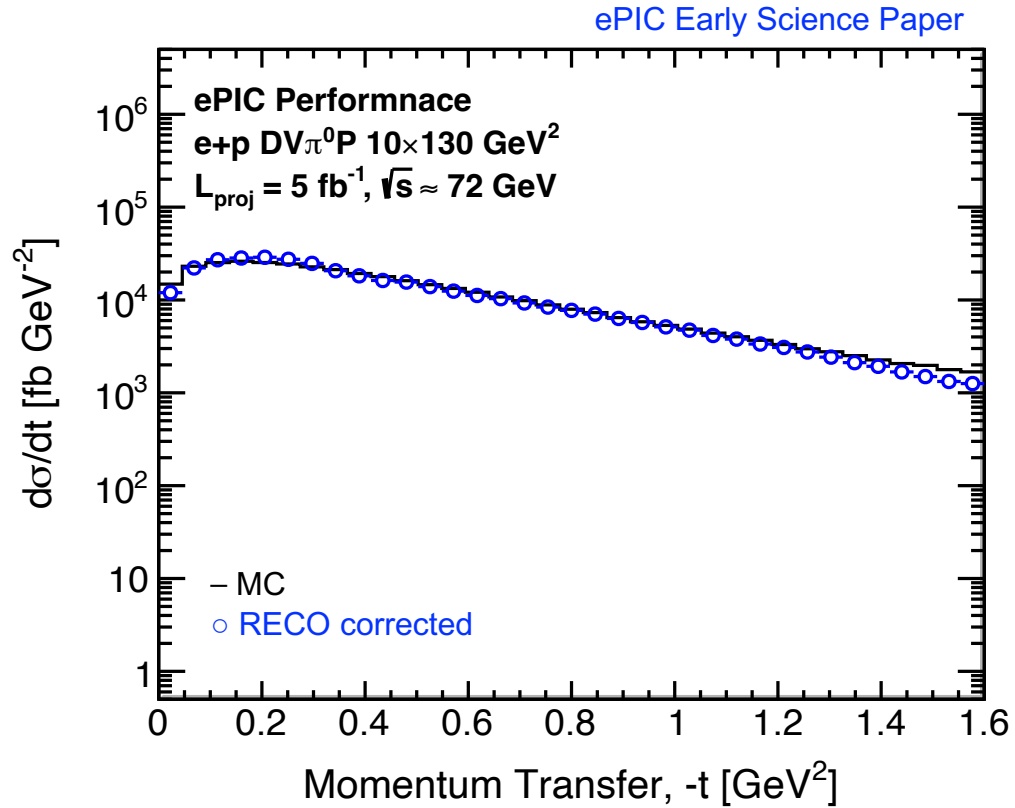
Results – t -distribution $t_{\text{total}} = t_{\text{BABE}} + t_{\text{eXBE}}$

Unpolarized DV π^0 P Sample



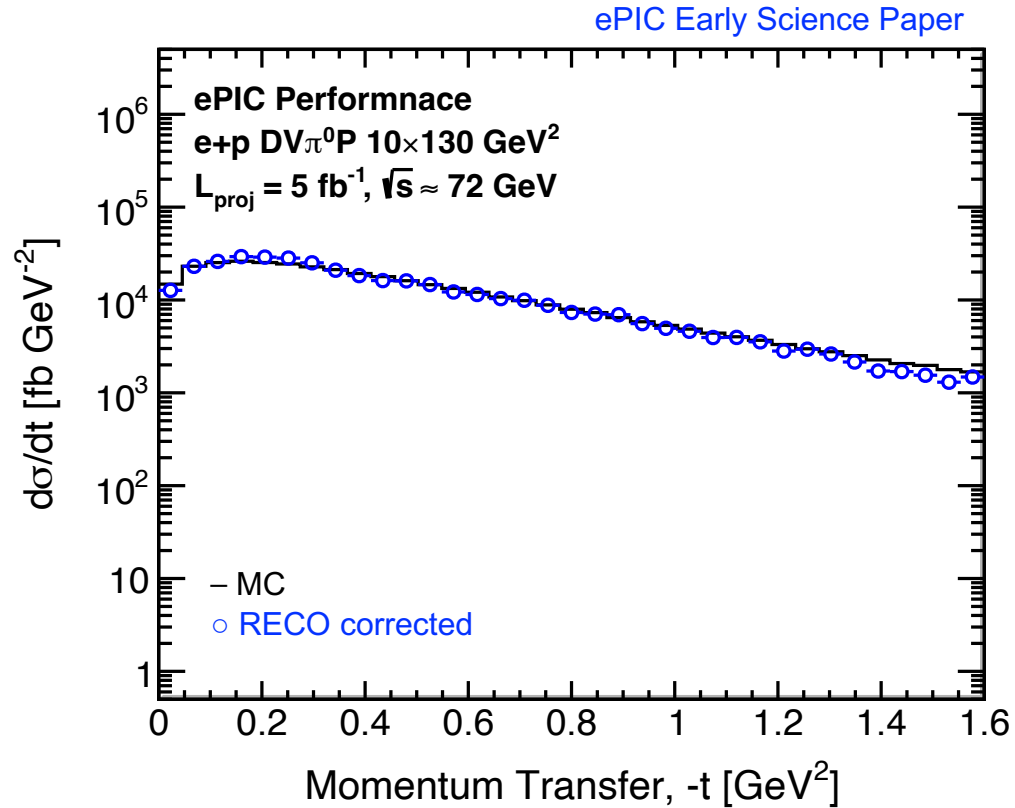
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- **Exclusivity** Cut
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 - ✓ With $|M_{\text{Missing}}^2| < 1 \text{ GeV}^2$

Results – Final t -distribution



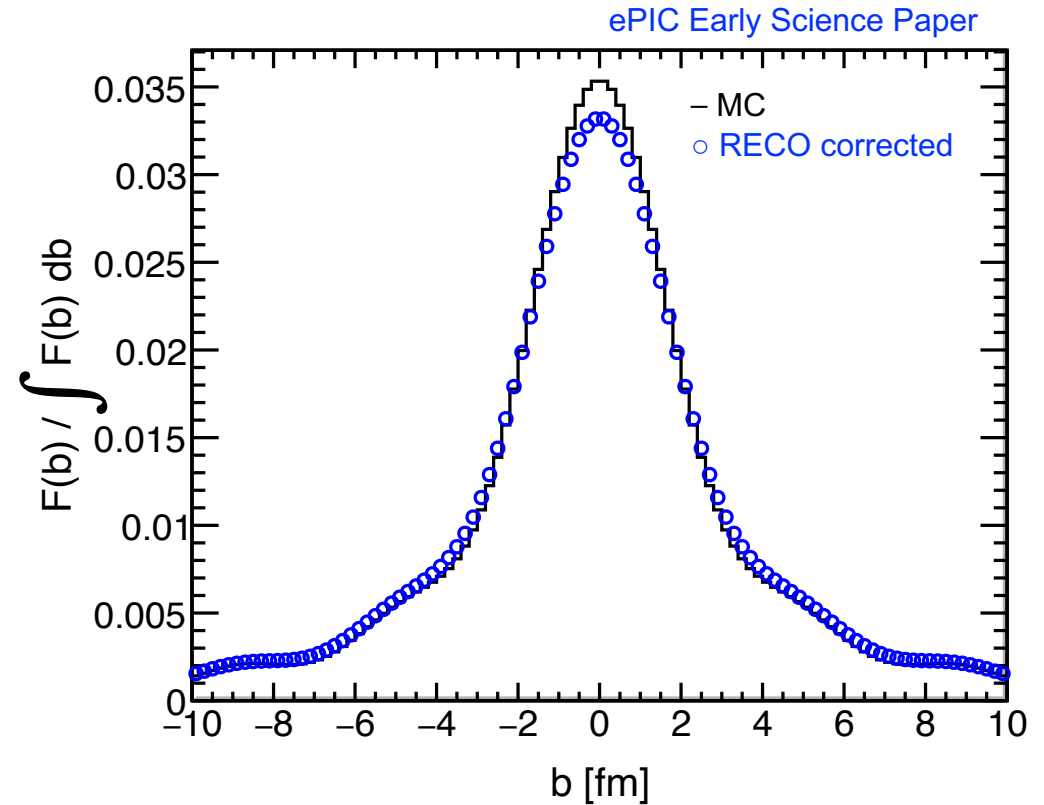
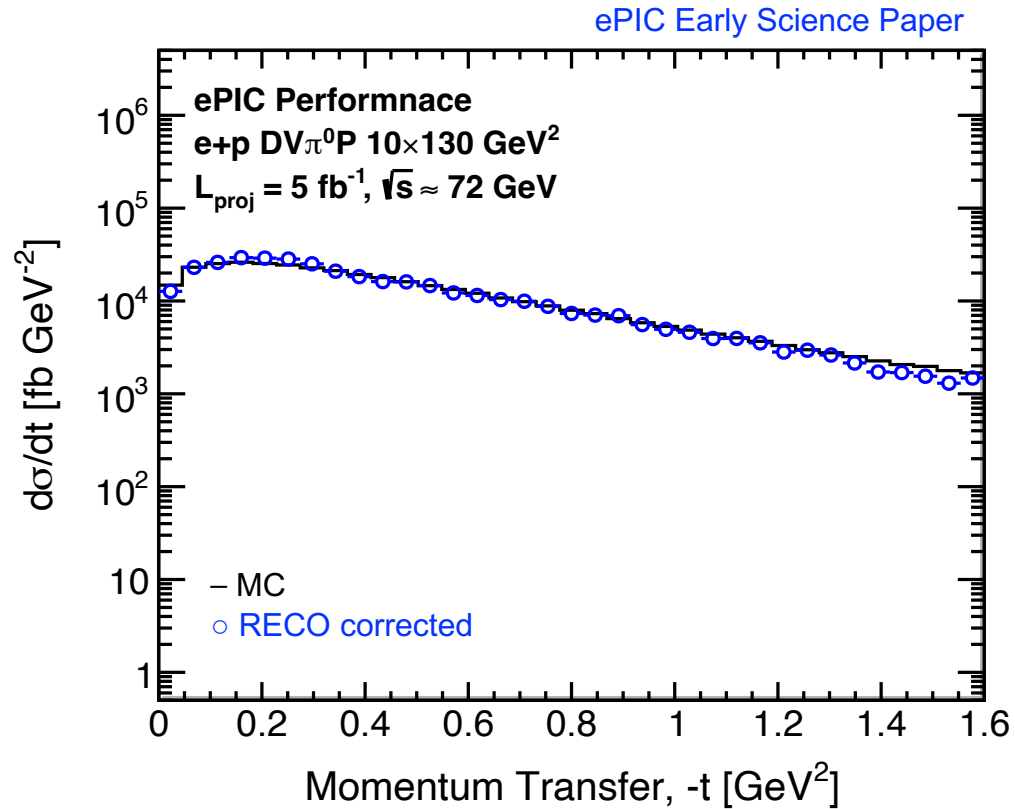
$\frac{d\sigma}{dt}$ distribution and 5 fb^{-1} projection

Results – Final t -distribution



$\frac{d\sigma}{dt}$ distribution → Added realistic fluctuations based on Gaussian(mean, error).

Results – Spatial Distribution



Realistic $\frac{d\sigma}{dt}$ distribution \rightarrow Fourier transformation to obtain spatial distribution.

Background Study – Inclusive DIS and Physics

Approach – Inclusive DIS Background

- **Goal: Estimate inclusive DIS background to $DV\pi^0P$ channel**
 - ep inclusive DIS sample provided by Stephen Maple
/gpfs02/eic/maples/RECO_pythia6_ep_early_science/ on RCF @ BNL
 - Two samples of $10 \times 130 \text{ GeV}^2$ with $1 < Q^2 < 10$ and $10 < Q^2 < 100$
 - **Objective:** Identify inclusive DIS events that mimic exclusive π^0 process
- **Selection Criteria:**
 - An event **has four final-state particles** (i.e. e' , p' , and 2γ s)
 - ReconstructedParticles: three final-state particles (i.e. e' and 2γ s)
 - ReconstructedTruthSeededChargedParticles / ForwardRomanPotRecParticles: (i.e. p')
 - An event **pass quality cuts**
 - Selections based on E/p for e' , $M_{\gamma\gamma}$ for π^0 , and $\theta_{p'}$ for p'

Results – ep Inclusive DIS Background

Check if

1) Central Detector:

Exactly three reconstructed particles

1-1) **One negative** and **two neutral charges**

2) Far-Forward Detector:

One reconstructed **positive-charge particle**

Passes **angular acceptance cut** (θ_p^{REC})

3) Electron Candidate:

Passes **E/p cut**

4) Neutral Pion candidate:

Passes **$M_{\gamma\gamma}$ (invariant mass) cut**

*Note that no luminosity information is taken into account

Selection	$10 \times 130 \text{ GeV}^2$ $1 < Q^2 < 10$	$10 \times 130 \text{ GeV}^2$ $10 < Q^2 < 100$
1)	11.3232 % (56,616/500,000)	3.3658 % (16,829/500,000)
1-1)	2.1324 % (10,662/500,000)	0.486 % (2,430/500,000)
2)	0.5494 % (2,747/500,000)	0.1132 % (566/500,000)
3)	0.479 % (2,395/500,000)	0.0838 % (419/500,000)
4)	0.14 %* (700/500,000)	0.0114 %* (57/500,000)

π^0 s can be produced via multiple processes – this is expected.

Results – ep Inclusive DIS Background

$1 < Q^2 < 10$ for 500k events

- $DV\pi^0P$

$$\sigma_{\text{integrated}} \approx 0.017 \text{ nb}$$

- DIS

$$\sigma_{\text{integrated}} \approx 0.64 \mu\text{b}$$

Scaling factor: [37,647.059](#)

$10 < Q^2 < 100$ for 500k events

- $DV\pi^0P$

$$\sigma_{\text{integrated}} \approx 3.4 \times 10^{-4} \text{ nb}$$

- DIS

$$\sigma_{\text{integrated}} \approx 0.047 \mu\text{b}$$

Scaling factor: [138,235.29](#)

*Note that no luminosity information is taken into account

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5270.6 %

1575.9 %

Additional selection cut required to reduce DIS background

Additional Cuts

Missing mass (M_{Missing}^2)

- Incoming beams are known
- $P_{\text{Missing}}^2 = \left(\overbrace{(P_e + P_p)}^{\text{Incoming beam particles (Truth)}} - \overbrace{(P_{e'} + P_{p'} + P_{\pi^0})}^{\text{Final-state particles (Reconstructed)}} \right)^2 = M_{\text{Missing}}^2$
- If exclusive π^0 event, P_{Missing}^2 should be close to **0**
- If not, P_{Missing}^2 indicates other particles being produced
- Note: Detector resolution/smearing effects being included

Far-Forward Detector Veto

- Scattered proton can be detected at Roman Pot and B0 detectors (possibly Off-Momentum Detector?)
- No activities are expected at Zero Degree Calorimeter
- If there are hits, then it is not exclusive π^0 events

Results – ep Inclusive DIS Background

Check if

1) Central Detector:

Exactly three reconstructed particles

1-1) **One negative** and **two neutral** charges

2) Far-Forward Detector:

One reconstructed **positive-charge** particle

Passes **angular acceptance cut** (θ_p^{REC})

3) Electron Candidate:

Passes **E/p cut**

4) Neutral Pion candidate:

Passes **$M_{\gamma\gamma}$ (invariant mass) cut**

5) Missing Mass: ref. $M_{\pi^0}^2 \sim 0.02 \text{ GeV} + E - p_z$

Passes **$M_{Missing}^2$ cut** ($|M_{Missing}^2| < 1 \text{ GeV}^2$)

6) Far-Forward Detector Veto (ZDC)

*Note that no luminosity information is taken into account

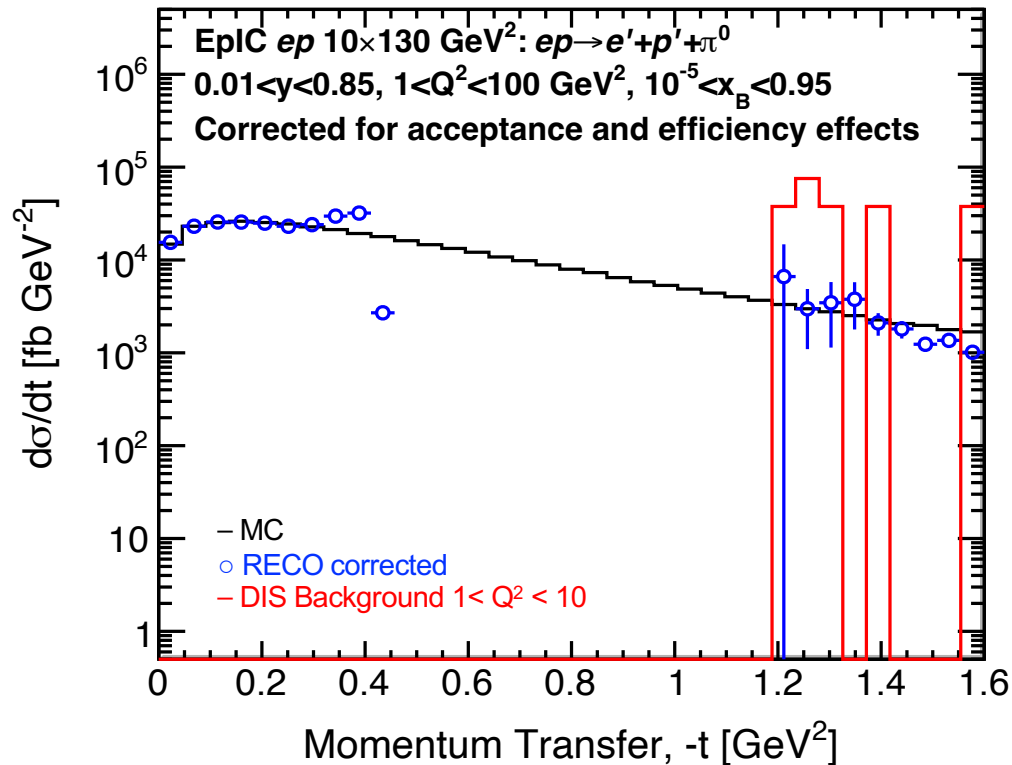
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3)	0.479 % (2,395/500,000)	0.0838 % (419/500,000)
4)	0.14 %* (700/500,000)	0.0114 %* (57/500,000)
5)	0.0032 %* (16/500,000)	0.0004 %* (2/500,000)
6)	0.002 (0.0016) %* (10(8)/500,000)	0.0002 %* (1/500,000)

60.2 %

27.6 %

30

Results – t -distribution $t_{\text{BABE}} = (p - p')^2$



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- Good **Proton** Selection:
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- Good **Neutral Pion** Selection:
 - ✓ Within $\pm 0.04 \text{ GeV}$ of M_{π^0} ($0.096 < M_{\gamma\gamma} < 0.172$)
- Suppress photo production + radiative corrections
 - ✓ $E - p_z$ cut ($15 < E/p < 25$)
- **Exclusivity** Cut
 - ✓ All final-state particles are reconstructed
- **Missing Mass** Cut:
 - ✓ With $|M_{\text{Missing}}^2| < 1 \text{ GeV}^2$

Approach – Physics Background to DVCS

- Main goal: **Estimate single photon misidentification** from October Simulation Campaign $5 \times 41 \text{ GeV}^2$ comparing to DVCS
 - Where one of gammas from π^0 is mis-identified as DVCS γ
 - Geometrical acceptance, energy thresholds, and granularity
- Method
 - MC-level phase space cuts

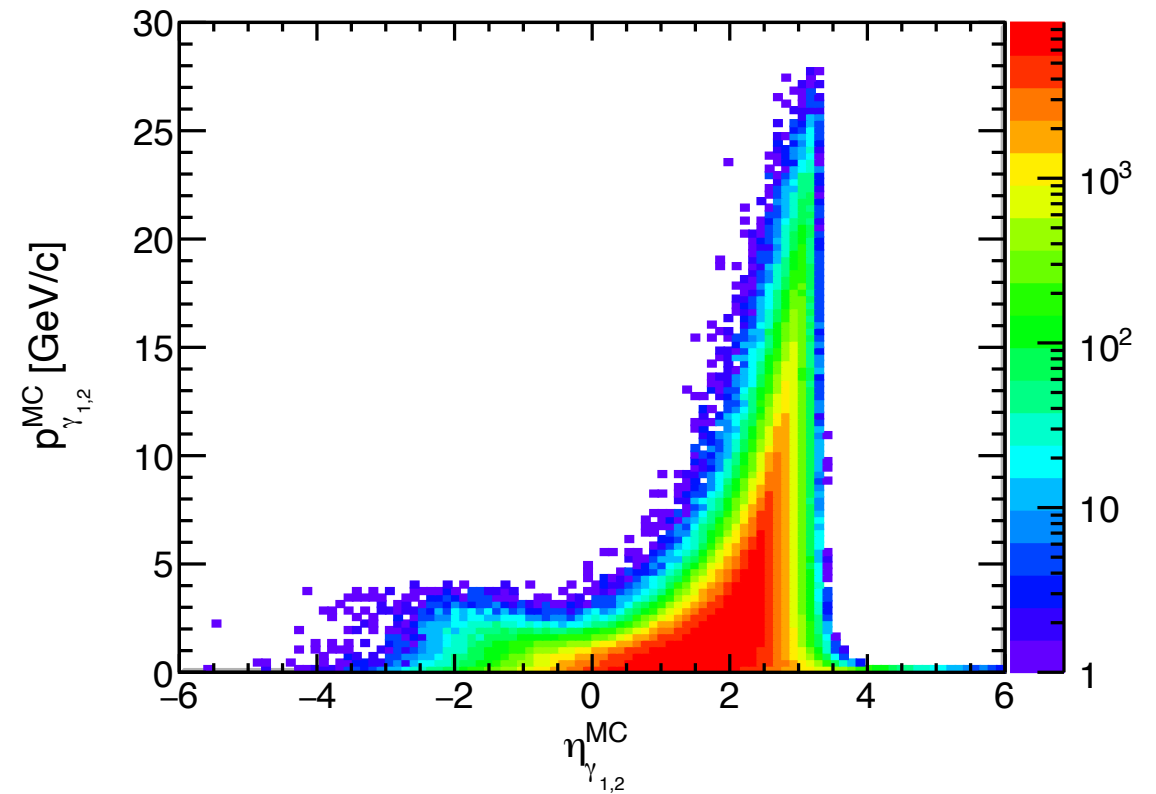
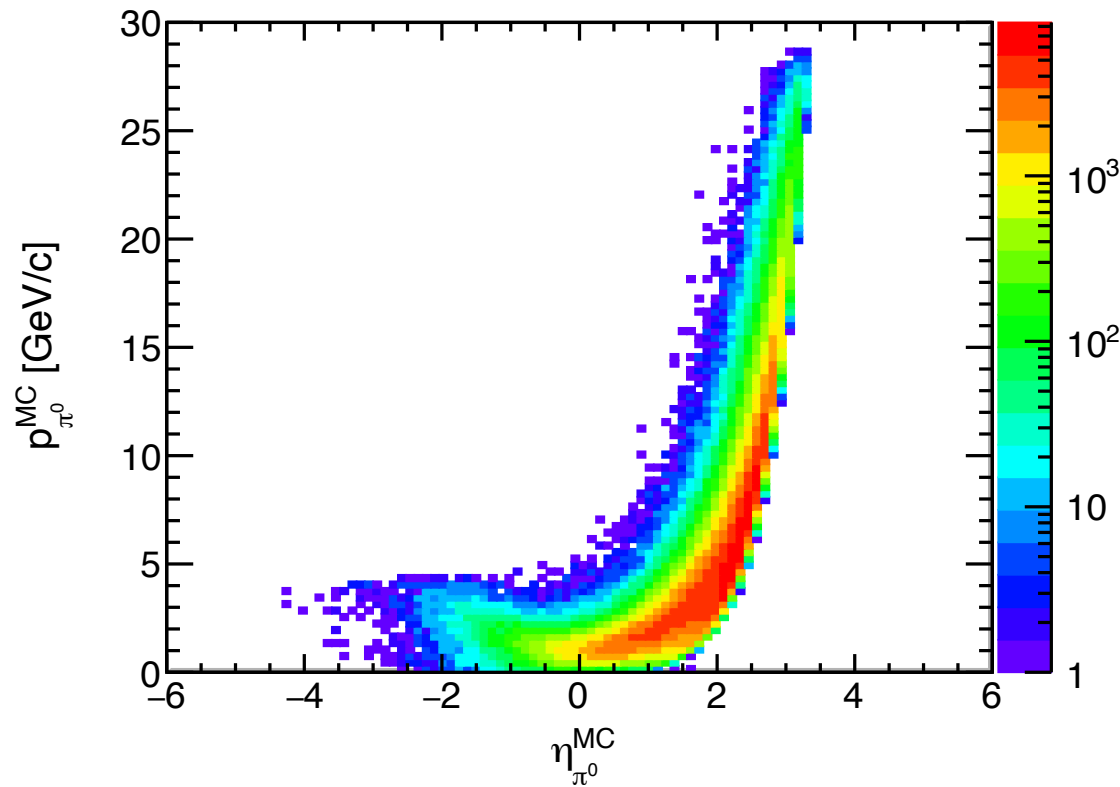
Same cut on EIC DVCS paper
 $0.03 < -t < 1.5, 0.01 < y < 0.85, 1 < Q^2 < 100, 0.00001 < x_B < 0.7$
 - EM Calorimeter information: EcalEndcapN / EcalBarrel / EcalEndcapP
 - Truth ID used to exclude scattered electron
 - Minimum cluster energy cut at 0.1 GeV
 - Look for reconstructed events with 1 cluster formed

References:

https://indico.bnl.gov/event/26526/contributions/103508/attachments/60126/103303/ePIC_exclusive_diffraction_tagging_mtg_JKIM_20250224.pdf

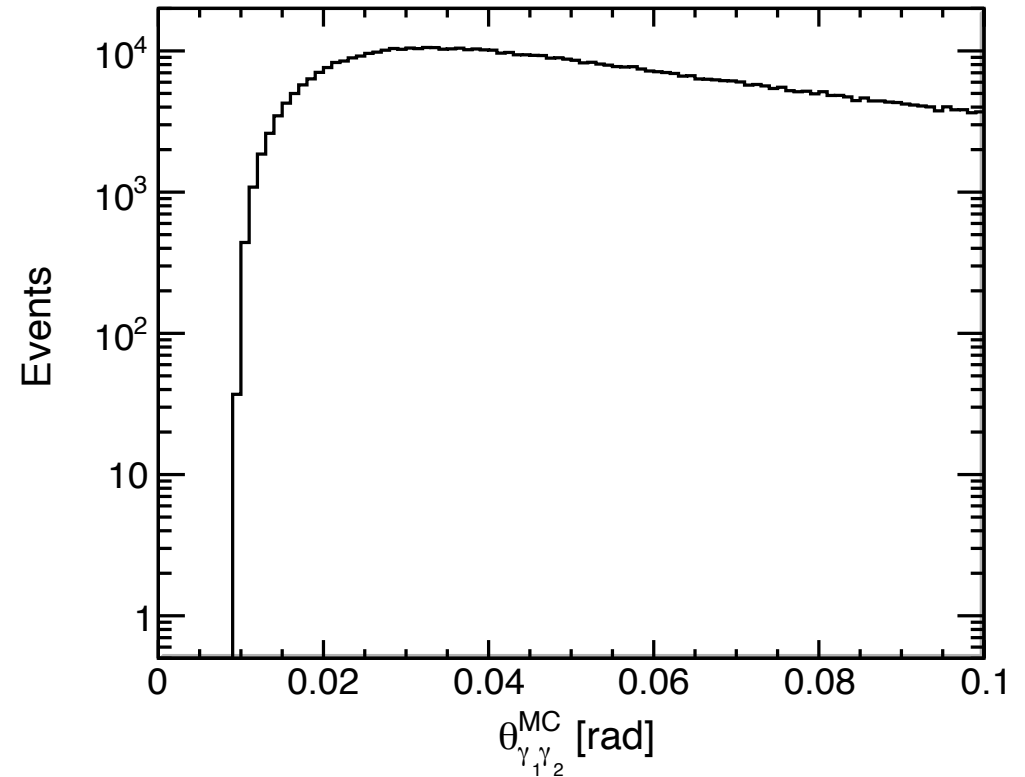
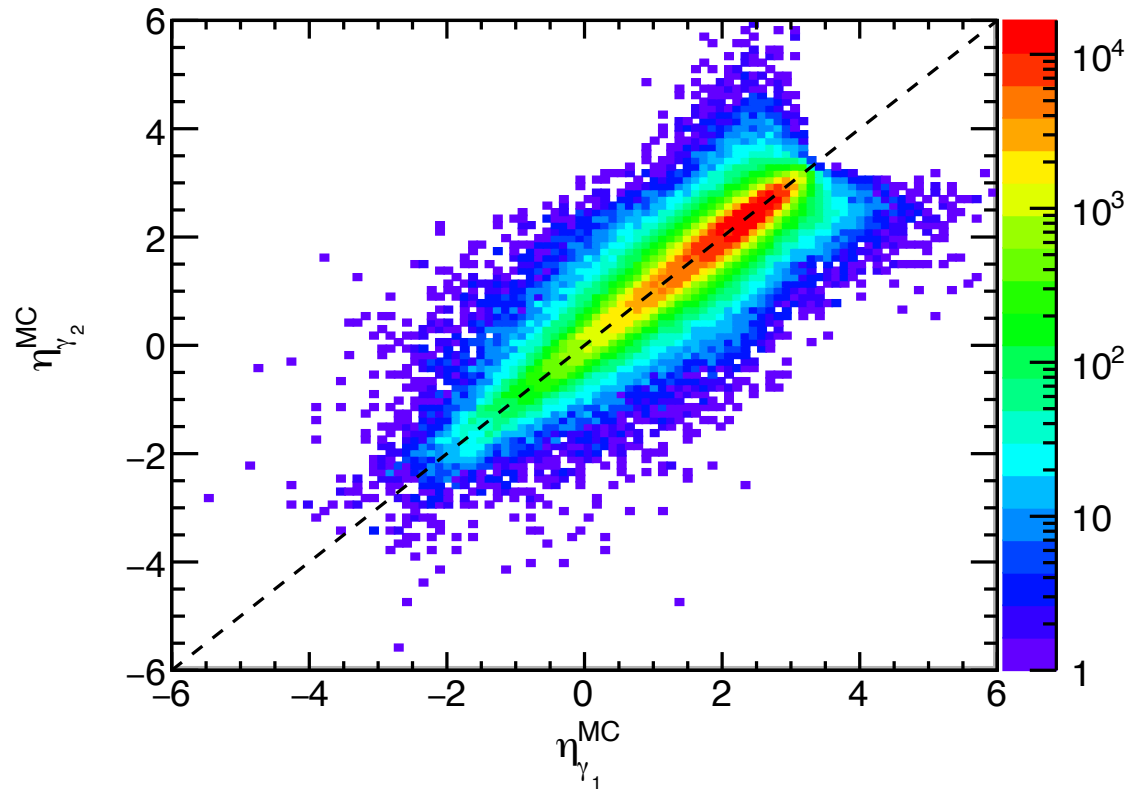
Phys. Rev. D 112, 036010 (2025) <https://doi.org/10.1103/fy8y-bjc9>

π^0 and 2γ Kinematics – p vs η



(Left) π^0 and (Right) decaying two γ s
 π^0 dominates in the forward

2γ Kinematics – η vs η and $\theta_{\gamma\gamma}$



$\gamma\gamma$ are concentrated **within similar pseudo-rapidity** and threshold of $\theta_{\gamma\gamma}$ is around 0.01 rad
Very few events where we simply lose a photon by geometric acceptance

Initial Results

5×41 GeV ²	# of Events	Misidentification
	327,621 / 975,885	0.335717

Above summary shows estimated misidentification ($\pi^0 \rightarrow \text{DVCS}$)

- Current reconstruction pipeline in EICrecon

Initial Results

5×41 GeV ²	# of Events	Misidentification
	327,621 / 975,885	0.335717

Above summary shows estimated misidentification ($\pi^0 \rightarrow \text{DVCS}$)

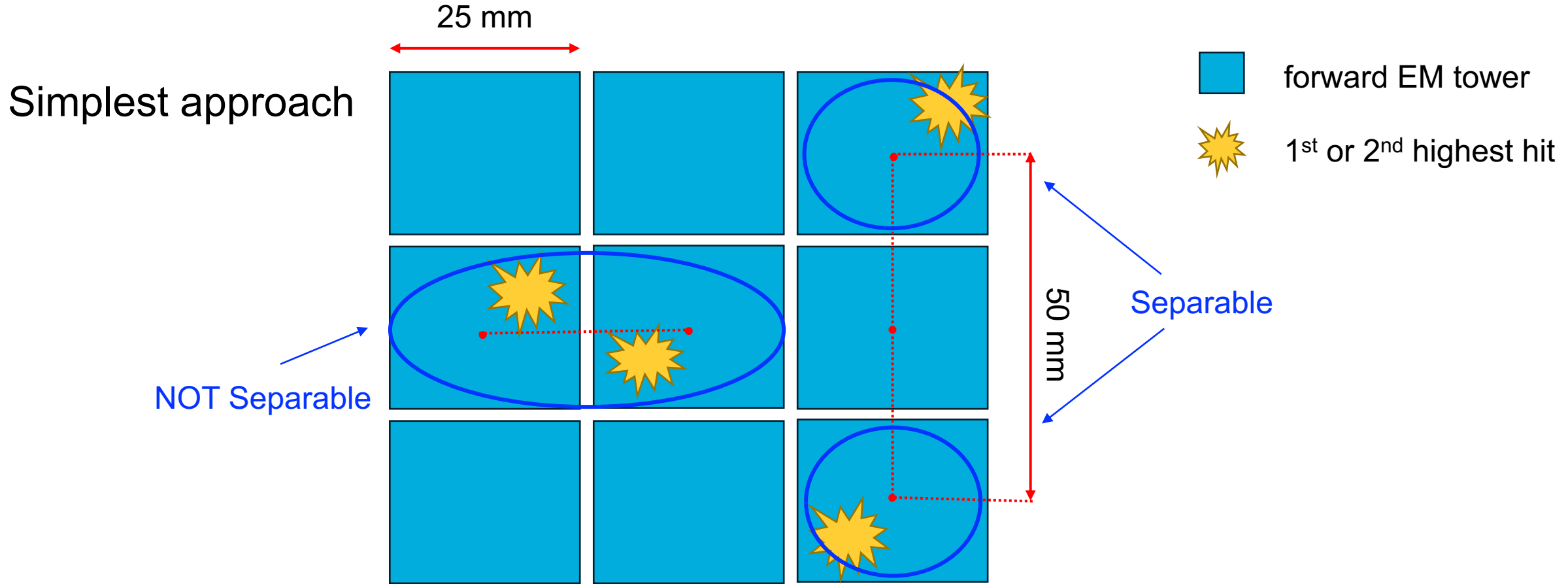
- Current reconstruction pipeline in EICrecon

There is still room for improvement!

- Optimal reconstruction parameters (ex. cluster-splitting)
- Granularity of forward EMCAL ~ 0.015 rad (ex. tower size)

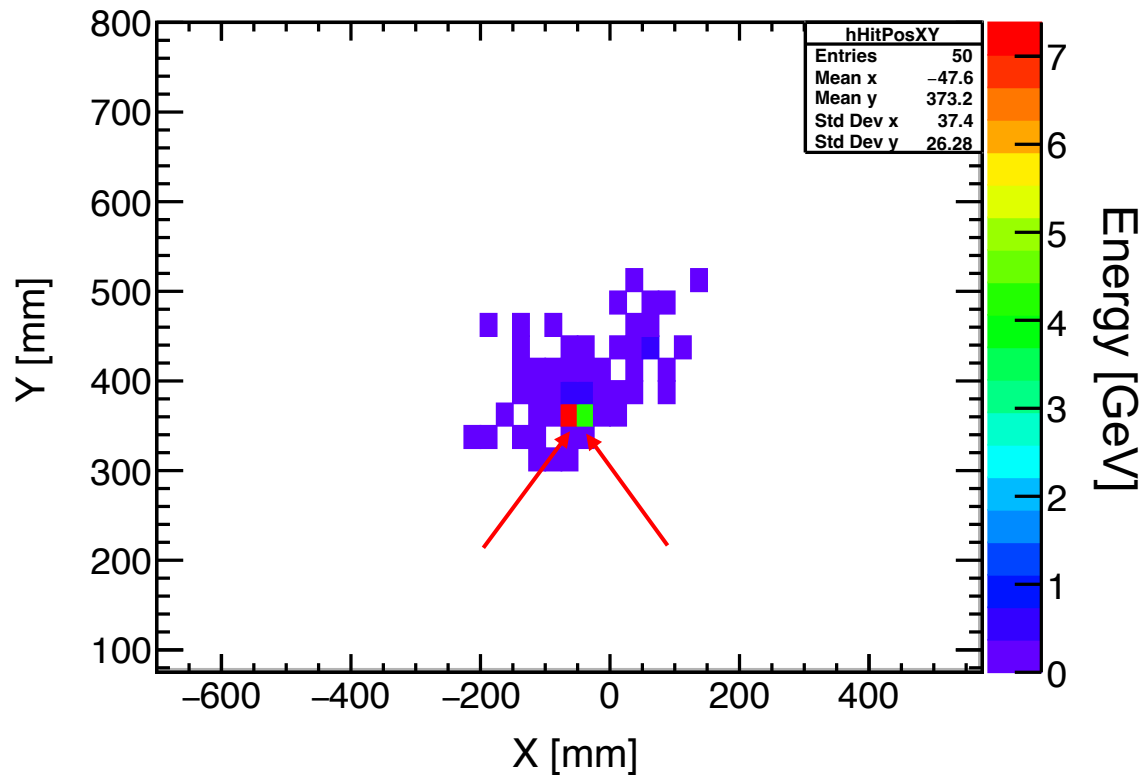
Forward EMCAL tower size: 25 mm and distance from IP: 3,290 mm

Look for Separable Events in Forward



If distance between two highest hits is at least twice tower size (50 mm) to be separable

Example for 5 GeV \times 41 GeV Event



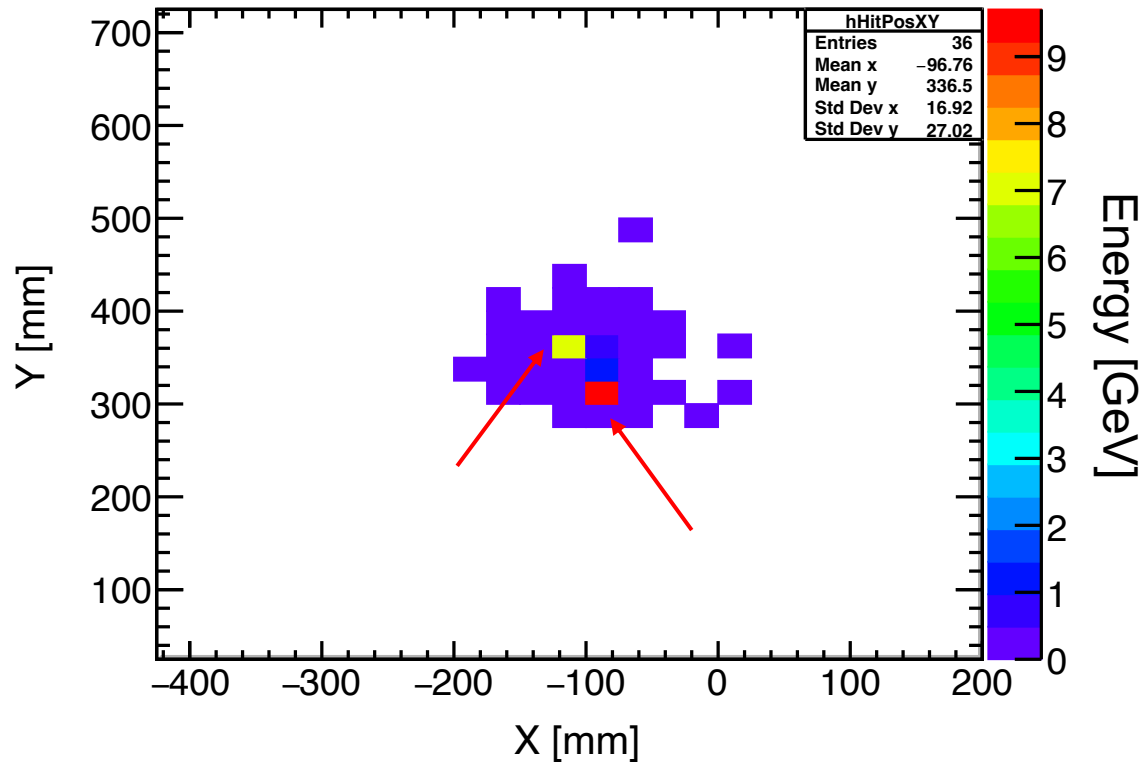
Using current reconstruction pipeline
→ 1 cluster reconstructed

MC information
→ $\theta_{\gamma\gamma}^{\text{MC}} \sim 0.028$ rad

Distance between two highest hit towers
→ ~ 25 mm

This event may NOT be identified as two clusters **at hit-level**.

Example for 5 GeV \times 41 GeV Event



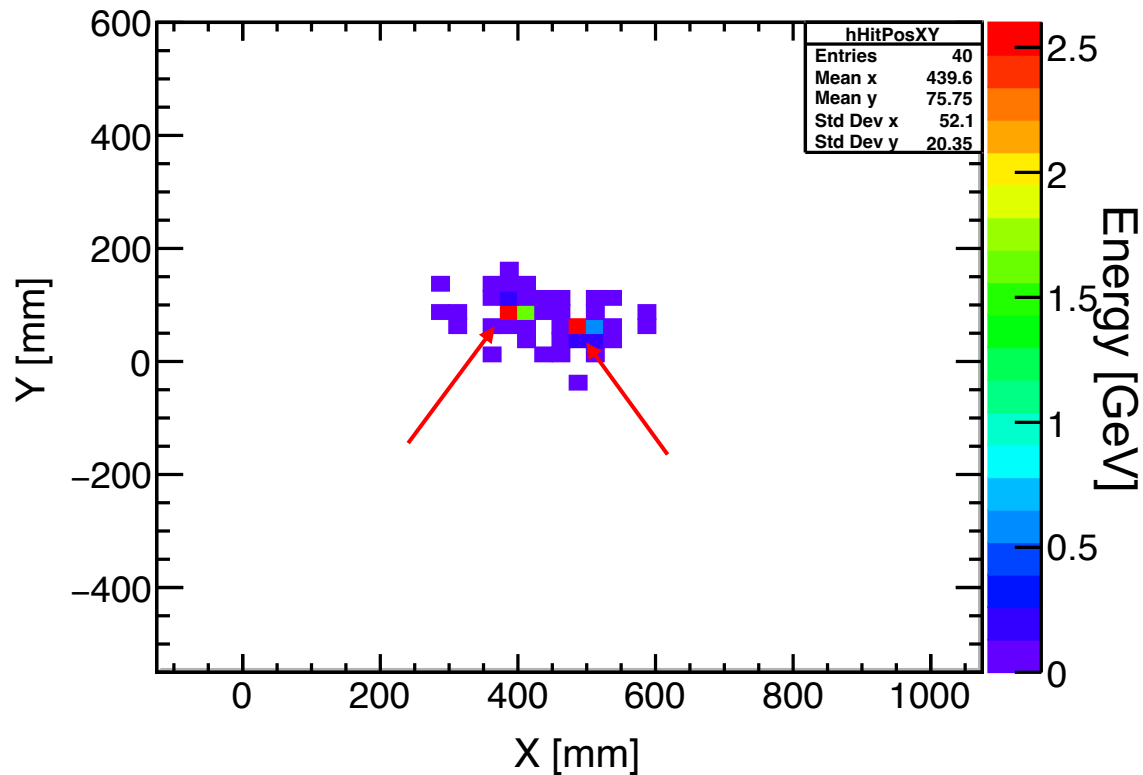
Using current reconstruction pipeline
→ 1 cluster reconstructed

MC information
→ $\theta_{\gamma\gamma}^{\text{MC}} \sim 0.014$ rad

Distance between two highest hit towers
→ ~ 50 mm

This event can be identified as two clusters **at hit-level**.

Example for 5 GeV \times 41 GeV Event



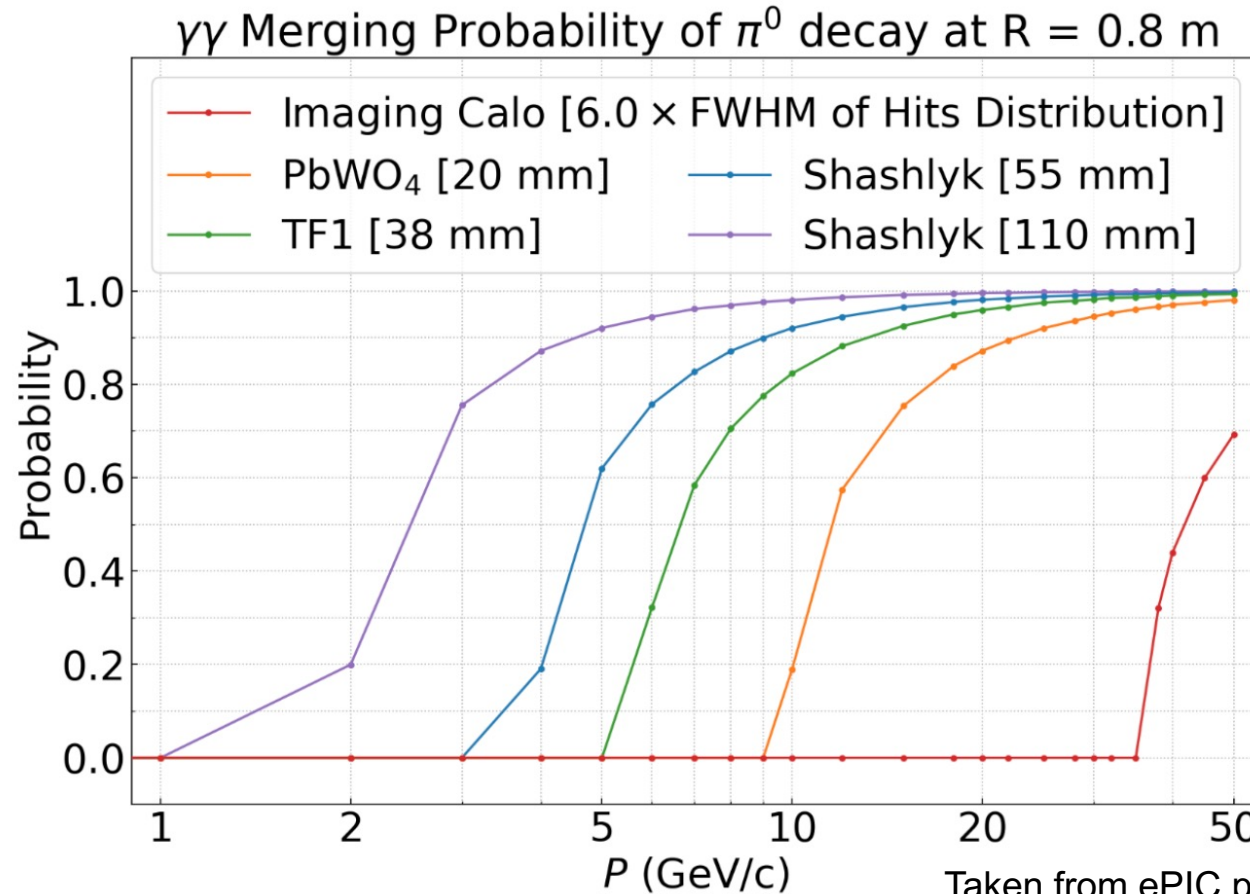
Using current reconstruction pipeline
→ 1 cluster reconstructed

MC information
→ $\theta_{\gamma\gamma}^{\text{MC}} \sim 0.029$ rad

Distance between two highest hit towers
→ ~ 100 mm

This event can be identified as two clusters **at hit-level**.

Look for Separable Events in Barrel



Taken from ePIC preTDR v2.2 (Figure 8.148 (b) on page 230)

Upper limit of $\gamma\gamma$ merging probability at $\eta = 0$, up to $p_{\pi^0} \sim \mathbf{35\ GeV}$ can be separable

Intermediate Results

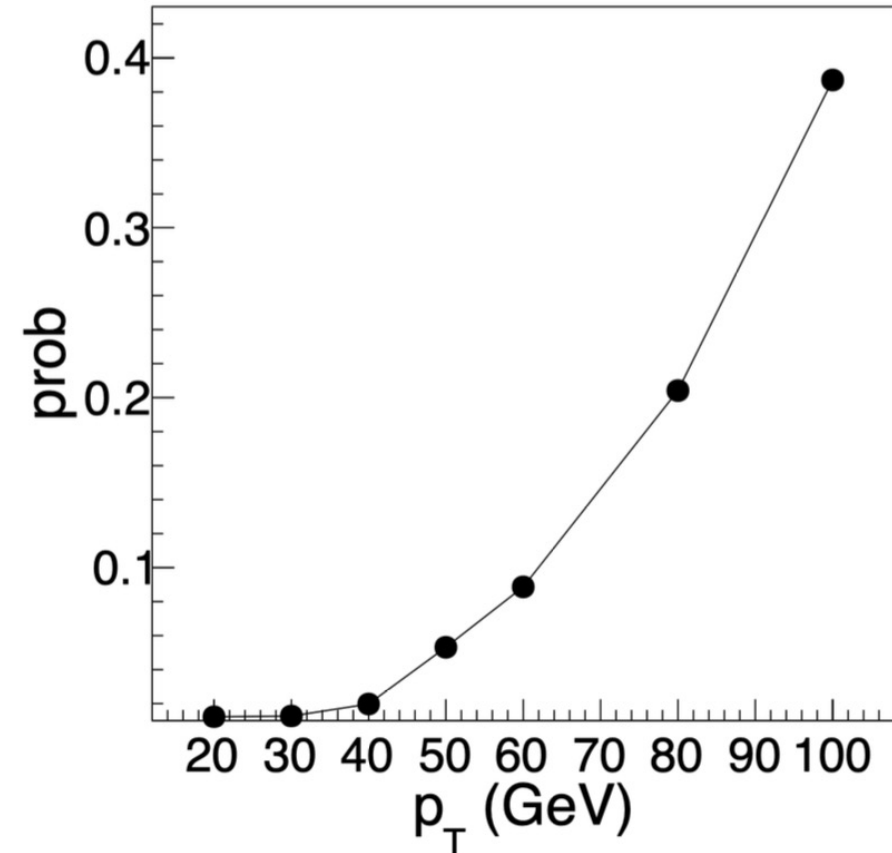
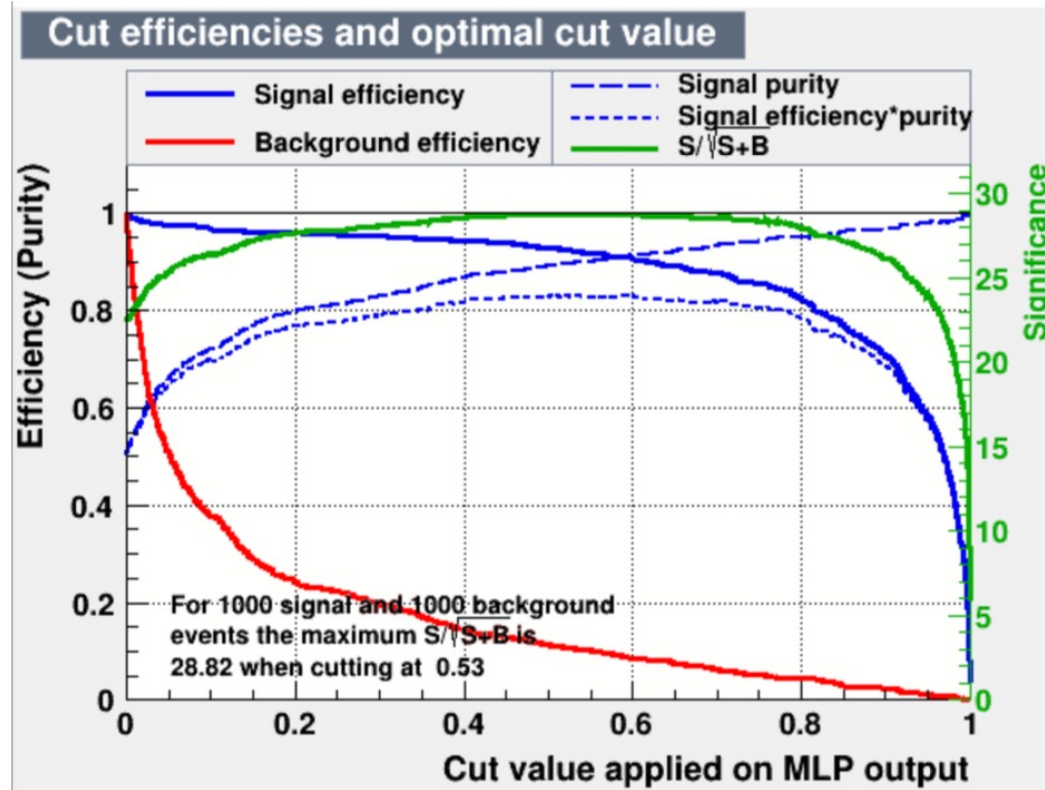
5×41 GeV ²	# of Events	Misidentification	# of Events	Misidentification
	327,621 / 975,885	0.335717	116,184 / 975,885	0.119055

Above summary shows estimated misidentification ($\pi^0 \rightarrow \text{DVCS}$)

- Current reconstruction pipeline in EICrecon
- Potential improvement in Forward (hit-level) & Barrel ML

Potential Improvement in Forward

Taken from ePIC preTDR v2.2 (Figure 8.162 on page 253)



W/SciFi 2.5×2.5 at $z = 3.3$ m

Misidentification rate **at 60 GeV** is approximately **10 %**

Final Results

5×41 GeV ²	# of Events	Misidentification	# of Events	Misidentification	# of Events	Misidentification
	327,621 / 975,885	0.335717	116,184 / 975,885	0.119055	1,156 / 975,885	0.00118457

Above summary shows estimated misidentification ($\pi^0 \rightarrow \text{DVCS}$)

- Current reconstruction pipeline in EICrecon
- Potential improvement in Forward (hit-level) & Barrel ML
- Potential improvement in Forward ML

Cross-section considerations:

Pure DVCS $\sigma_{\text{integrated}} \approx 0.47 \text{ nb}$ (All DVCS $\sim 1.88 \text{ nb}$), and $\text{DV}\pi^0\text{P}$ $\sigma_{\text{integrated}} \approx 0.18 \text{ nb}$.

Scaling factor: DVCS vs $\text{DV}\pi^0\text{P} \sim 1 : 0.096 \Rightarrow \mathbf{1.14 \%}$.

Summary

Analysis Note: <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.17943008>

- Studied exclusive π^0 production physics channel at EIC
 - Extracted t -distribution using t_{BABE} and t_{eXBE} methods.
 - Derived quark spatial distribution.
- Inclusive DIS Background
 - As this is expected, π^0 s can be produced via multiple processes.
 - All remaining events has multiple π^0 s already.
 - Even with cross-section scaling on sample, the background level is 60 % at low Q^2 region. But it has t -dependency and mostly in high- t region.
 - The background contains only one event, leading to a 100% statistical uncertainty. As a result, completely suppressing background is challenging.
- Physics Background to DVCS
 - Single-photon misidentification estimated at $\sim 11.9\%$ (conservative estimate).
 - Cross-section considerations:
 - Pure DVCS $\sigma_{\text{integrated}} \approx 0.47$ nb (All DVCS ~ 1.88 nb), and $\text{DV}\pi^0\text{P}$ $\sigma_{\text{integrated}} \approx 0.18$ nb.
 - Scaling factor: DVCS vs $\text{DV}\pi^0\text{P} \sim 1 : 0.096 \Rightarrow 1.14$ % background contribution.
 - So far, results appear consistent with *EIC DVCS paper.

*Phys. Rev. D 112, 036010 (2025) <https://doi.org/10.1103/fy8y-bjc9>

Backup Slides

Method L

- How the method works

- ▶ Calculate p of outgoing A' : $p_{A'} = p_A - (p_V + p_{e'} - p_e)$
- ▶ Express and correct the outgoing nucleus in light cone variables:
 - ⊙ $p_{A'}^+ = E_{A'} + p_{z,A'}$
 - ⊙ $p_{T,A'}^2 = p_{x,A'}^2 + p_{y,A'}^2$
 - ⊙ $p_{A'}^- = (M_{A'}^2 + p_{T,A'}^2) / p_{A'}^+$, where $p_{A'}^-$ is now modified by using the true mass $M_{A'}^2$.
- ▶ The corrected 4-momentum of the outgoing nuclei is now

$$p_{A'}^{\text{corr}} = \left[p_{x,A'}, p_{y,A'}, (p_{A'}^+ - p_{A'}^-) / 2, (p_{A'}^+ + p_{A'}^-) / 2 \right]$$
- ▶ In short, you are using the true invariant mass of the nucleus to compensate the smearing in the larger component of the electron 4-momentum by **modifying $E_{A'}$ and $p_{z,A'}$ simultaneously**.
- ▶ Now simply: $t_{\text{corr}} = \left| p_A - p_{A'}^{\text{corr}} \right|^2$

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Experiment – COMPASS@CERN

Table 2

Summary of the estimated relative systematic uncertainties for the $|t|$ and ϕ -dependent cross sections and the integrated cross section. The values are given in percent. Note that the uni-directional uncertainty σ_{\uparrow} is a positive number, and σ_{\downarrow} is a negative number.

Source	σ_{\uparrow}^t	$-\sigma_{\downarrow}^t$	σ_{\uparrow}^{ϕ}	$-\sigma_{\downarrow}^{\phi}$	σ_{\uparrow}	$-\sigma_{\downarrow}$
μ^+ flux	2	2	2	2	2	2
μ^- flux	2	2	2	2	2	2
ECAL threshold	5	5	5	5	5	5
acceptance	4	7	4	7	4	7
kinem. fit	0	7	0	7	0	7
ω background	0	1	0	1	0	1
rad. corr.	2	5	2	5	2	5
LEPTO norm.	5–28	3–11	5–51	3–21	8	3
yield mismatch	4–13	3–7	0–12	3–12	9	5
Σ	12–29	13–18	12–53	13–25	14	14

Phys. Lett. B805 (2020) 135454; [arXiv:1903.12030](https://arxiv.org/abs/1903.12030)

Table 2: Summary of the estimated relative systematic uncertainties on the measured $|t|$ and ϕ -dependent cross sections and on the extracted cross-section contributions $\frac{d\sigma_U}{dr} = \frac{d\sigma_T}{dr} + \epsilon \frac{d\sigma_L}{dr}$ and $\frac{d\sigma_{TT}}{dr}$ in the full kinematic range. The values are given as a percentage. Note that the uni-directional uncertainty σ_{\uparrow} (σ_{\downarrow}) has to be used with positive (negative) sign.

source	σ_{\uparrow}^t	σ_{\downarrow}^t	σ_{\uparrow}^{ϕ}	$\sigma_{\downarrow}^{\phi}$	$\sigma_{U\uparrow}$	$\sigma_{U\downarrow}$	$\sigma_{TT\uparrow}$	$\sigma_{TT\downarrow}$
μ^+ flux	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
μ^- flux	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
acceptance	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
ECAL0 threshold	5–7	1	4–8	1	5	1	4	1
ECAL1 threshold	1–2	1	1–3	1	1	1	1	1
χ^2 of kinematic fit	3	5	2.0–5.6	4.0–8.8	3	5	3	4
LEPTO background	6–10	6–10	6–16	6–16	8.3	8.3	1	1
LEPTO normalisation	2–3	2–3	2–5	2–5	2.6	2.6	2	2
ω background	0	1.5–2.7	0	1.4–5.7	0	2.4	0	2.4
radiative corrections	6	3	6.3	3.6	6	3	2	2
Σ	12–16	10.1–13.1	11.6–22.4	9.6–20.1	13.3	11.7	7.7	7.1

Phys. Lett. B870 (2025) 139832; [arXiv:2412.19923](https://arxiv.org/abs/2412.19923)

Experiments – Hall A and CLAS@JLab

- Typical total systematic uncertainty:

4 – 8 %

10 %

(depends on kinematic setting)

Table 5.5: Systematic errors for exclusive π^0 cross-section. The DIS study error includes the systematic from radiative correction, electron identification, and spectrometer acceptance.

Systematic	Value (%)
Exclusivity Cuts	0.5
DIS study	3.5
Clustering threshold	0.5
Photon Energy cut	0.5
Total Quadratic (helicity-independent)	3.6
Beam polarization	1
Total Quadratic (helicity-dependent)	3.75

Phys. Rev. Lett. 127, 152301 (2021); [arXiv:2011.11125](https://arxiv.org/abs/2011.11125)

TABLE IV. Summary table of systematic uncertainties. B denotes bin-to-bin and O indicates overall uncertainties.

Source	Bin-to-bin or overall	Average uncertainty (%)
Proton ID	B	~2.5
Fiducial cut	B	~4.7
Cut on energy of photon detected in the EC	B	~1.6
Cut on missing mass of the $e'\gamma\gamma$	B	~2.5
Cut on invariant mass of 2 photons	B	~2.9
Cut on missing energy of the $ep'\gamma\gamma$	B	~3.2
Radiative corrections	B	~2.9
Total beam charge on target	O	<1
Target length	O	0.2
Absolute normalization	O	6.0

Phys. Rev. C90, 025205 (2014); [arXiv:1405.0988](https://arxiv.org/abs/1405.0988)