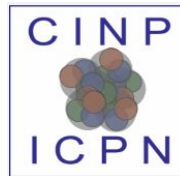


Joint ePIC/EICUG Meeting

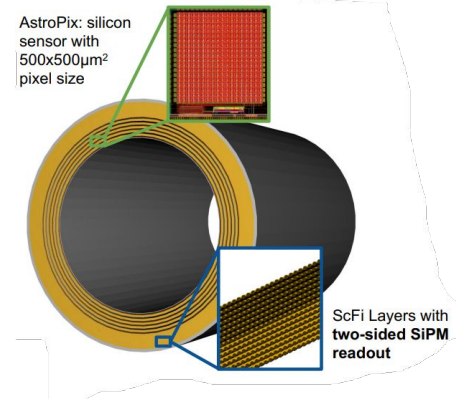
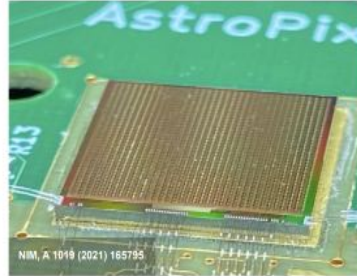
Hybrid Clustering Algorithm for the Barrel Imaging Calorimeter (BIC) at the Electron Ion Collider (EIC)

Akshaya Vijay, Dr Wouter Deconinck
July 17, 2026

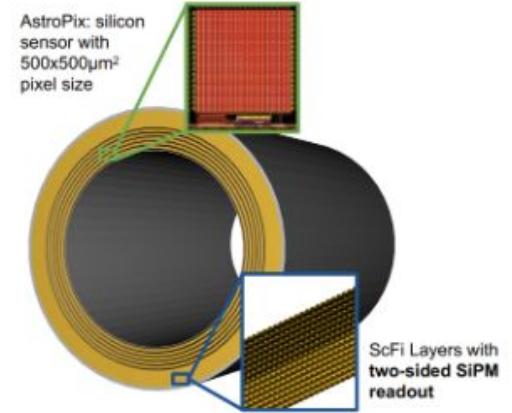
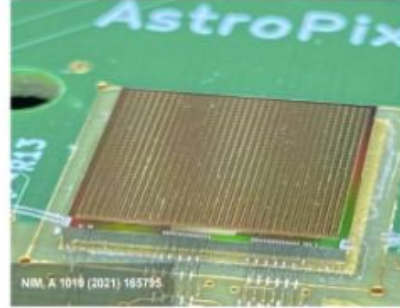


BARREL IMAGING CALORIMETER (BIC)

EIC will use the hybrid EM calorimeter by combining the Pb/ScFi technology used in the GlueX calorimeter and the AstroPix sensors developed for NASA's Amego-X Mission.



Longitudinal shower information from the ScFi system and fine spatial imaging from AstroPix measures **3D image of electromagnetic showers!**



Clustering Methods :

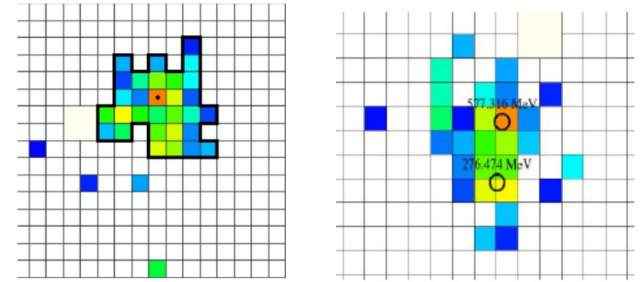
- i. ScFi system : Island Clustering Algorithm
- ii. Imaging system : Topological Clustering Algorithm

ScFi Hits : Island Clustering Algorithm

1. Identify the seed hit : (hits with energy above threshold)
2. Breadth-First Search (BFS) Grouping : Connects adjacent hits meeting a distance threshold
3. Find Local Maxima - Identifies energy peaks within each group:

-If one maximum found: All hits form a single cluster

-If multiple maxima found: splits clusters in the spatial distributions of energy



Plots by Chao Peng (ANL)

Island Clustering is 2D Clustering : Thus cannot be used for Imaging layers of BIC

Imaging Hits : Topological Clustering Algorithm

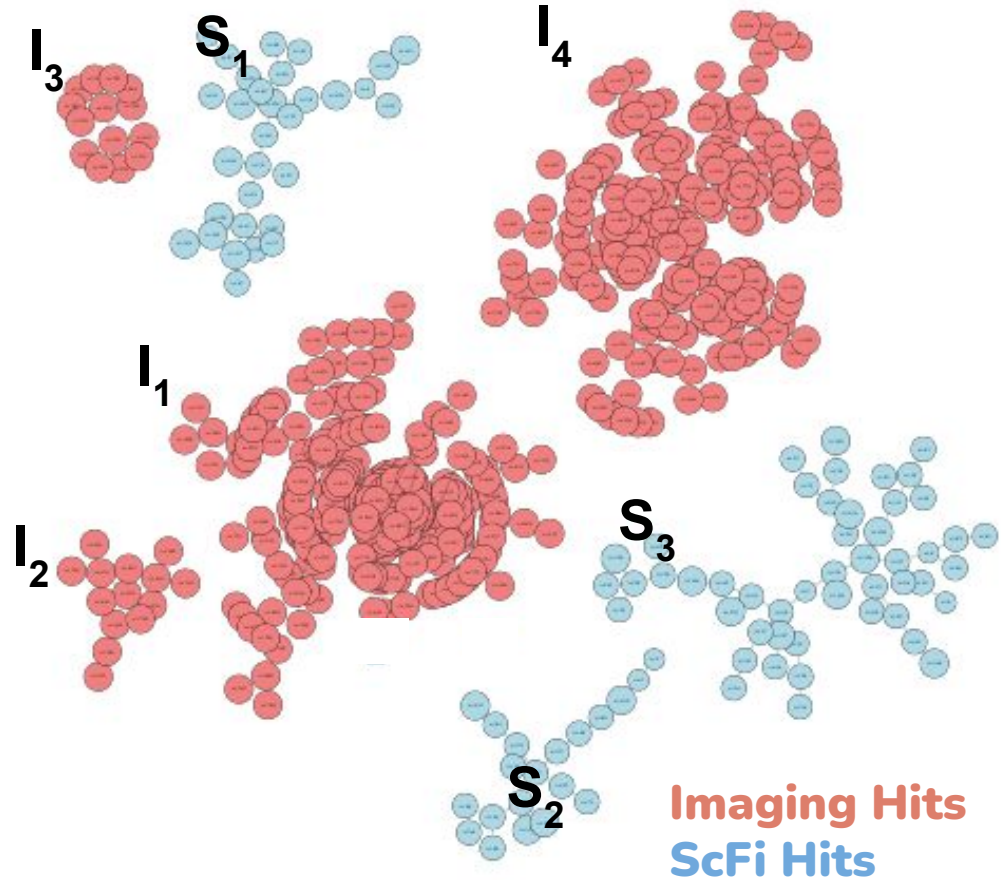
1. Starts with seed hit
2. Breadth-First Search (BFS) - Expands outward, adding neighboring hits to the cluster.
3. Neighbor criteria depend on the layer configuration:
 - Same layer Mode
 - Different layer Mode (within neighbour Layers Range)
 - Different sectors

Hybrid Clustering For BIC

- ❖ **Topological clustering:**
 - **On Imaging Hits**
 - **On Scfi Hits**
- ❖ **Cross System Clustering**

Cross-System Clustering

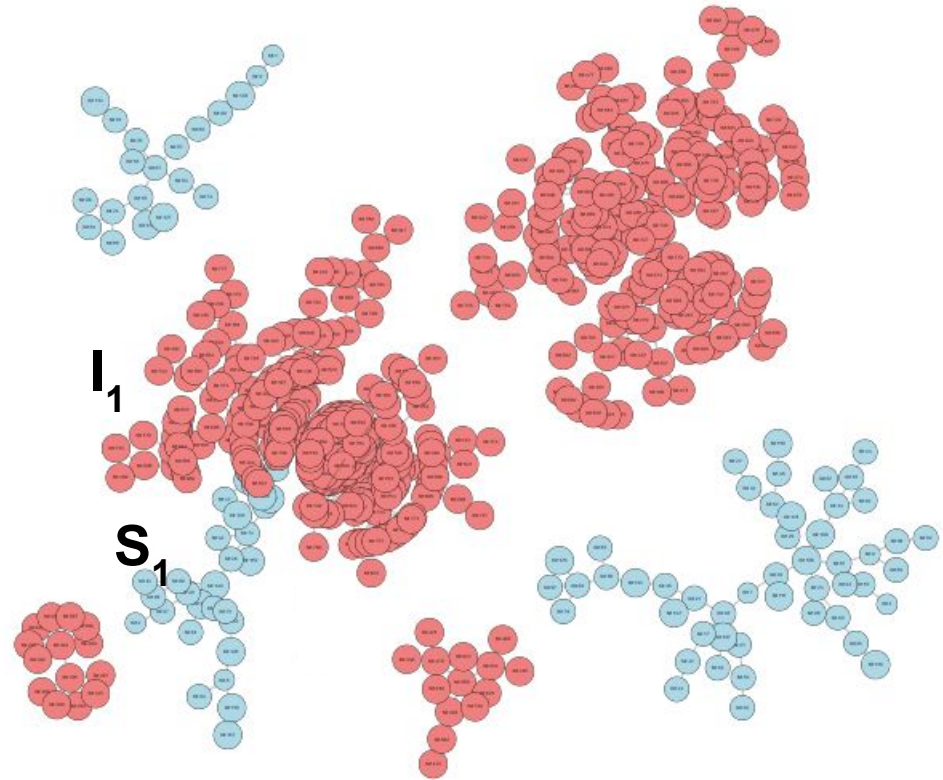
- Start from an Imaging cluster
- Search for neighboring ScFi clusters
- If a neighbour is found → combines Imaging and ScFi clusters
- Check whether other Imaging clusters connect to the same ScFi cluster
- Repeat the neighbour checks for all Imaging clusters
- Keep unused clusters unchanged



This is just for demonstration and are not real detector hits and clusters

❖ Cross-System Clustering

- Start from an Imaging cluster
- Search for neighboring ScFi clusters
- **If a neighbour is found → combines Imaging and ScFi clusters**
- Check whether other Imaging clusters connect to the same ScFi cluster
- Repeat the neighbour checks for all Imaging clusters
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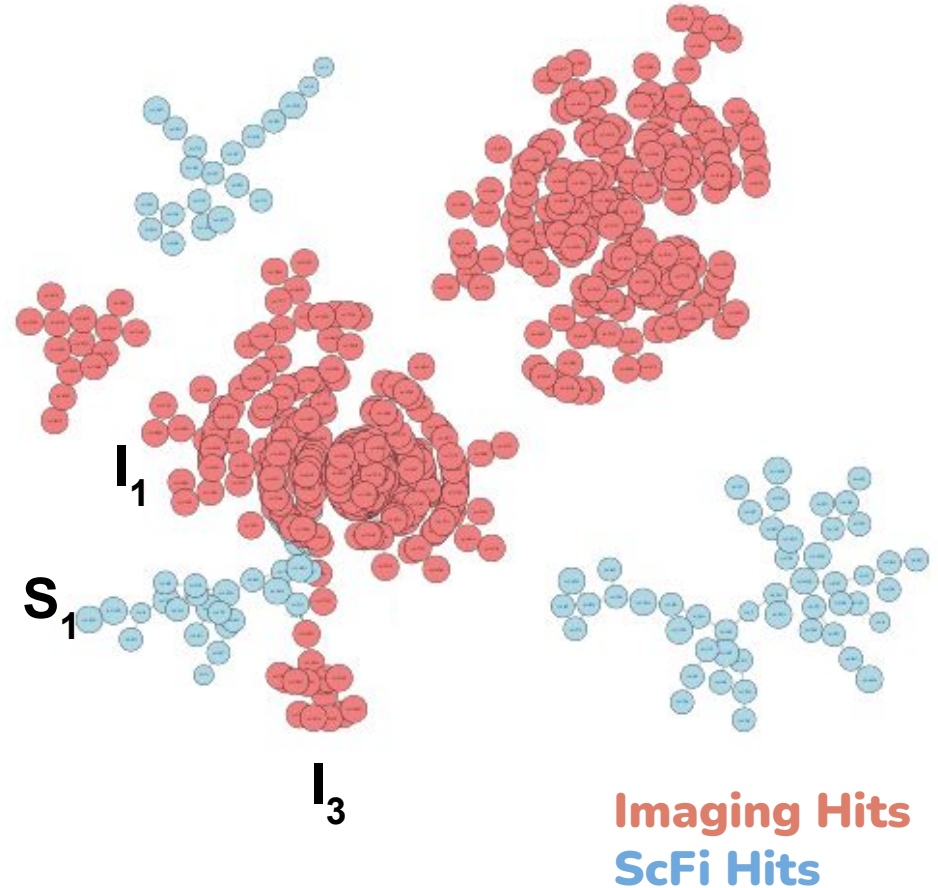


Imaging Hits
ScFi Hits

This is just for demonstration and are not real detector hits and clusters

Cross-System Clustering

- Start from an Imaging cluster
- Search for neighboring ScFi clusters
- If a neighbour is found → combines Imaging and ScFi clusters
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Cross-System Clustering

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Optimizing the Hybrid clustering : based on simulation of 2 Photon at different opening angles and with energy of 500 MeV.

Penalty score :

Cluster Count : $P_{\text{count}} = |N_{\text{clusters}} - N_{\text{true}}|$

Cluster Energy : $P_{\text{energy}} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{|E_{\text{cluster}} - E_{\text{true}}|}{E_{\text{true}}}$

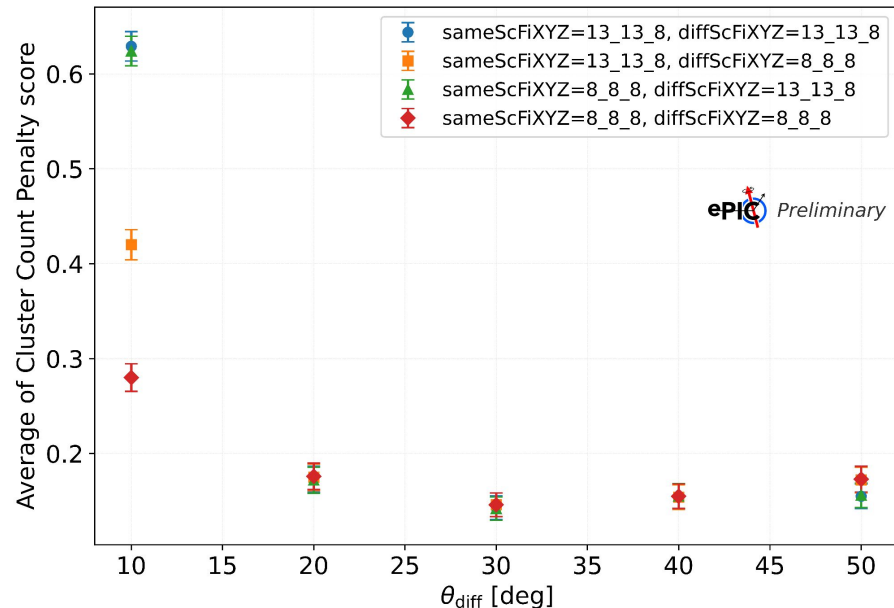
Distance parameters are optimized by minimizing the penalty score; lower values indicate better clustering performance.

For now only the parameters used for Topological clustering on ScFi hits at the initial stage of Hybrid Clustering are optimized. They are:

- 1) ScFisameLayerXYZ
- 2) ScFidiffLayerXYZ

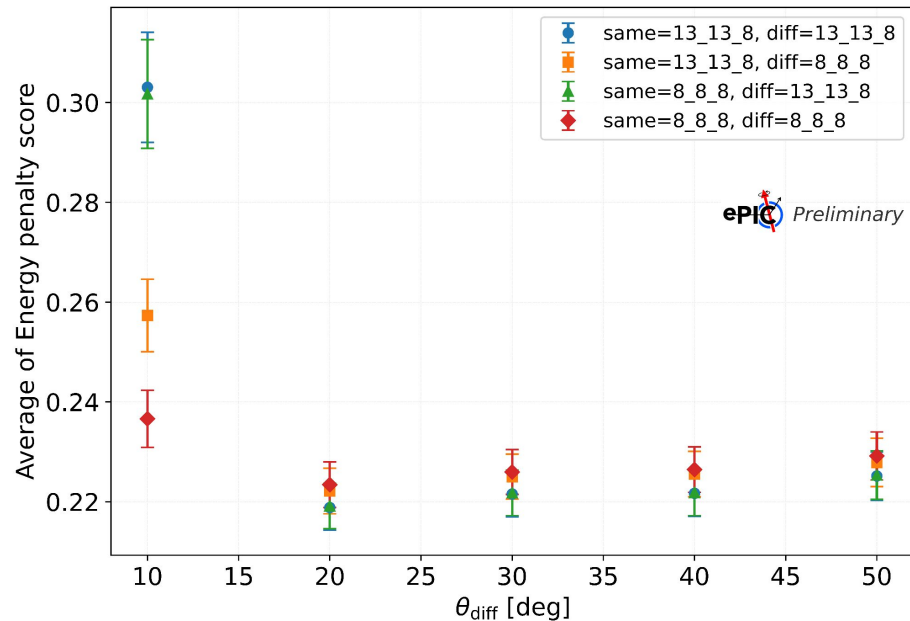
Hybrid Clustering (2 photons of 500 MeV)

Cluster size penalty comparison for different distance parameters



$$P_{\text{count}} = |N_{\text{clusters}} - N_{\text{true}}|$$

Cluster energy penalty comparison for different distance parameters



$$P_{\text{energy}} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{|E_{\text{cluster}} - E_{\text{true}}|}{E_{\text{true}}}$$

Distance parameter with low penalty is the best choice :

ScFisameLayerXYZ - 8,8,8

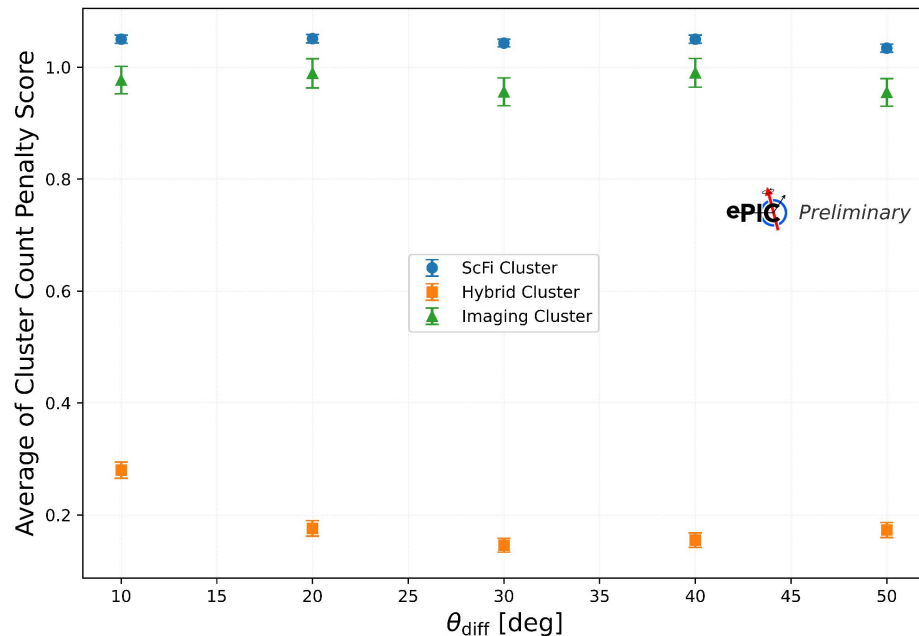
ScFidiffLayerXYZ - 8,8,8

Comparing the 3 Clustering Algorithms:

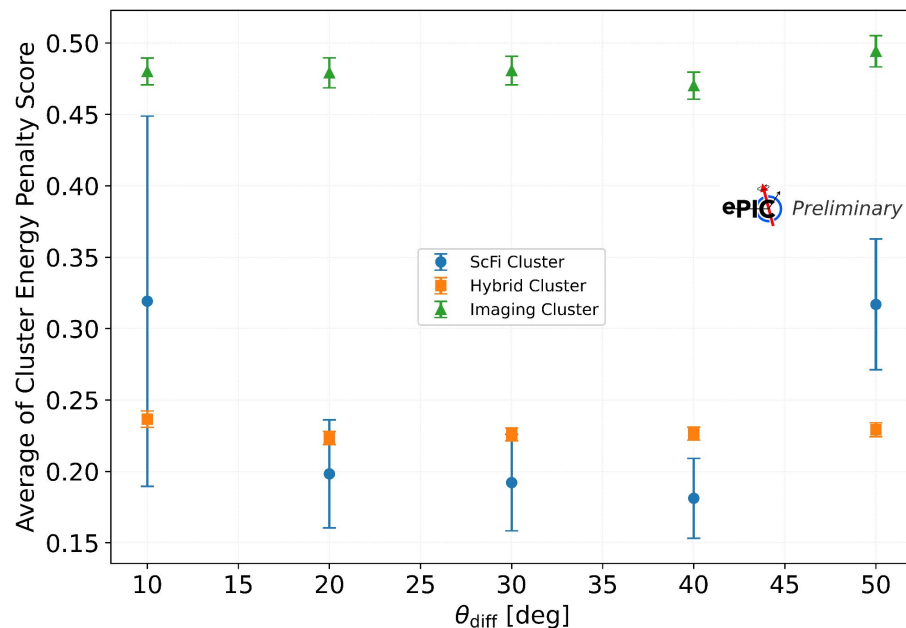
ScFisameLayerXYZ - 8,8,8

ScFidiffLayerXYZ - 8,8,8

Comparison of clustering methods



Comparison of clustering methods



Lower penalty $\rightarrow$ better clustering

Summary :

- Currently the hybrid nature of the BIC uses two different clustering algorithm for each subsystem : Island Clustering, Topological Clustering.
- Developed a single clustering method for both subsystems at BIC : Hybrid Clustering Algorithm.
- Hybrid Clustering shows a low penalty score for both cluster count and cluster energy indicating a better performance than separate clustering method.

Future Goal :

Study the physics-performance by applying the hybrid clustering algorithm to neutral pion reconstruction and evaluating how it improves photon separation, merging probability etc

Thank You