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Study of single π^+ production in ν_μ NC interactions in the T2K experiment and the upgrade of its near detector ND280

A comprehensive summary



Part 1:
Measuring $\text{NC}1\pi^+$

Introduction and motivations



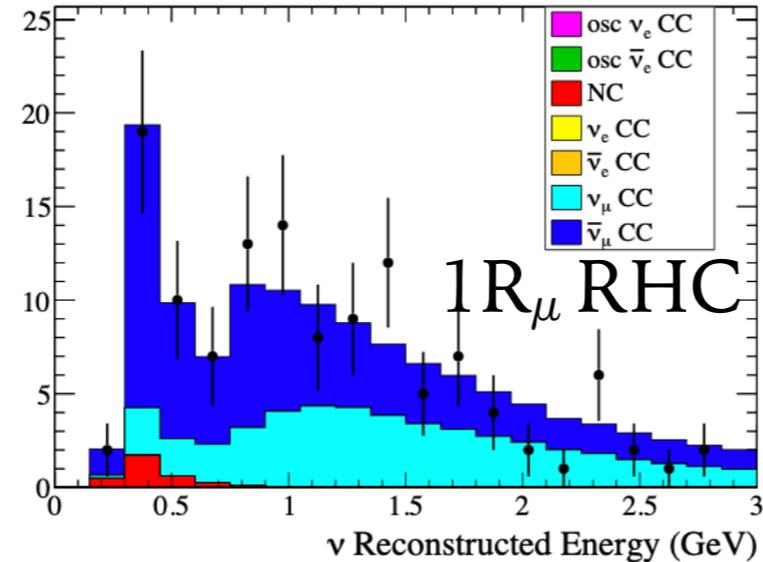
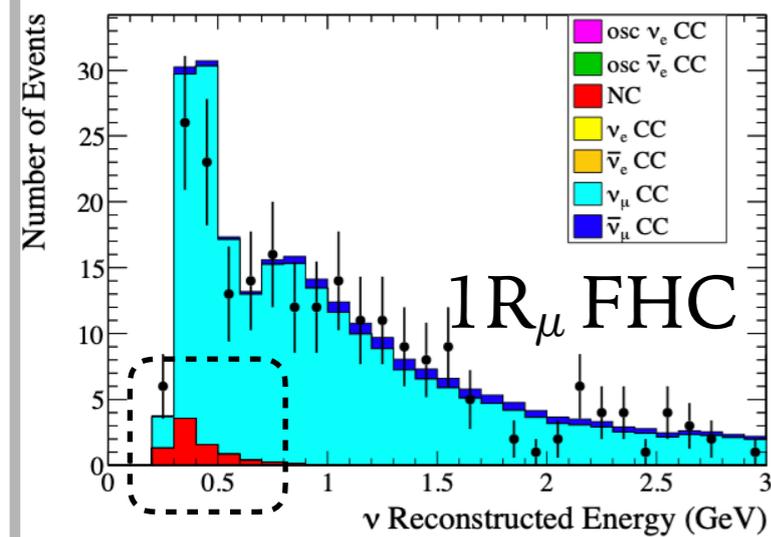
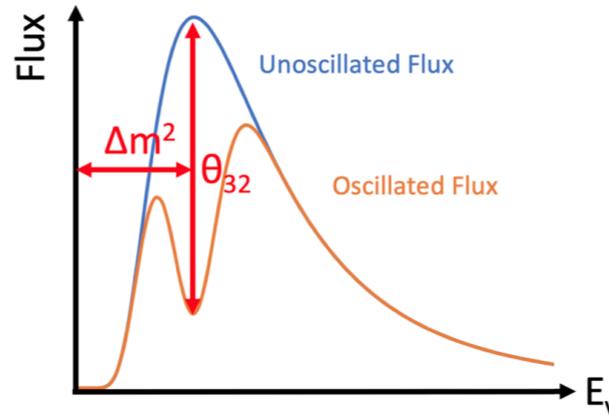
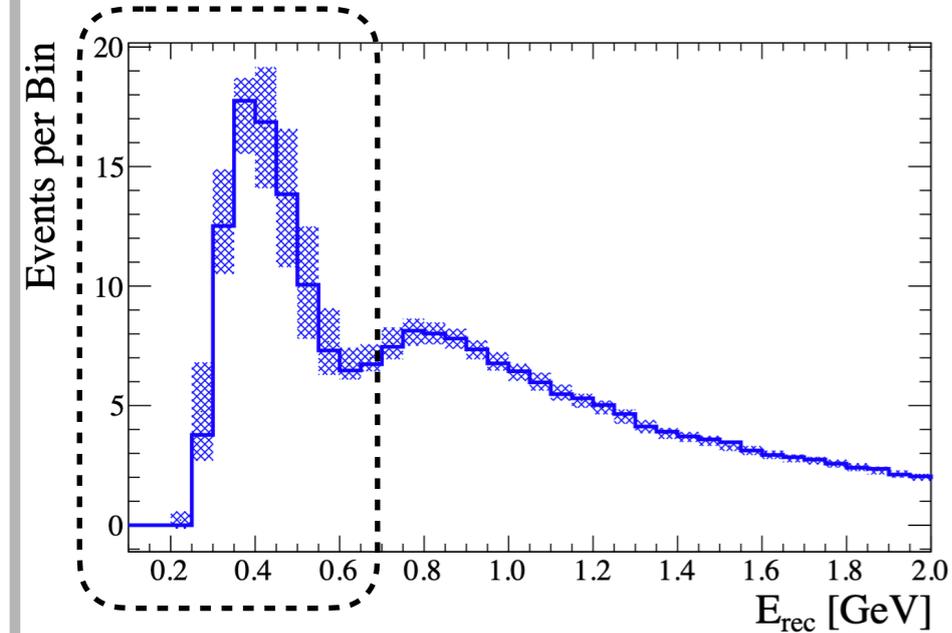
Why do we care about NC1π?

<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2101.03779.pdf>

The NC1π+ 59% syst. compared to 5% for CC0π

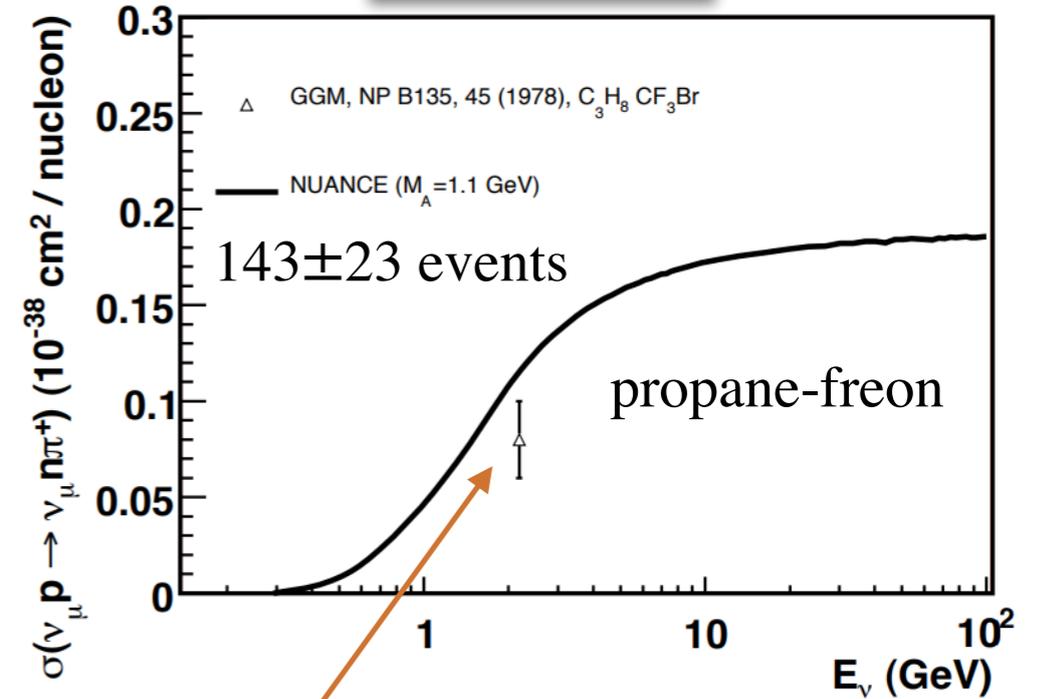
5% 110 → ± 5.5 events

60% 10 → ± 6 events



Existing published data

Gargamelle



$$\sigma_{nuc}^{GGM} = 0.056 \pm 0.011 \times 10^{-38} \text{ cm}^2,$$

$$\sigma_{cor}^{GGM} = 0.08 \pm 0.02 \times 10^{-38} \text{ cm}^2.$$

Argonne National Laboratory

$$\sigma(\nu_\mu p \rightarrow \nu_\mu n \pi^+) / \sigma(\nu_\mu p \rightarrow \mu^- p \pi^+) = 0.17 \pm 0.08$$

$$\sigma(\nu_\mu p \rightarrow \nu_\mu n \pi^+) / \sigma(\nu_\mu p \rightarrow \mu^- p \pi^+) = 0.12 \pm 0.04$$

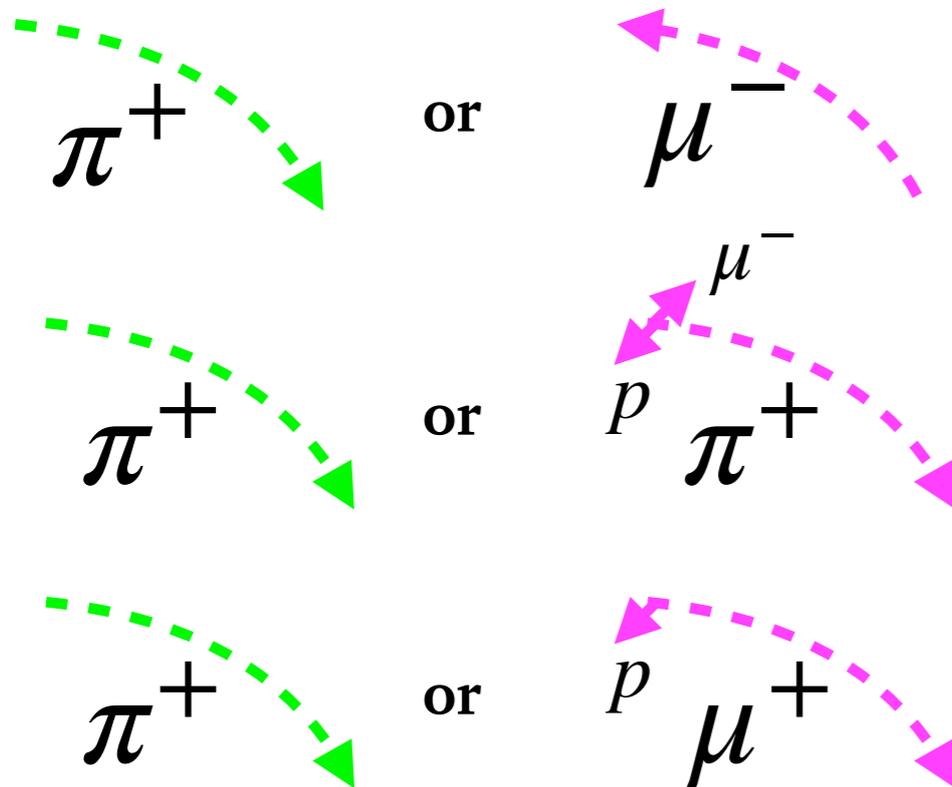
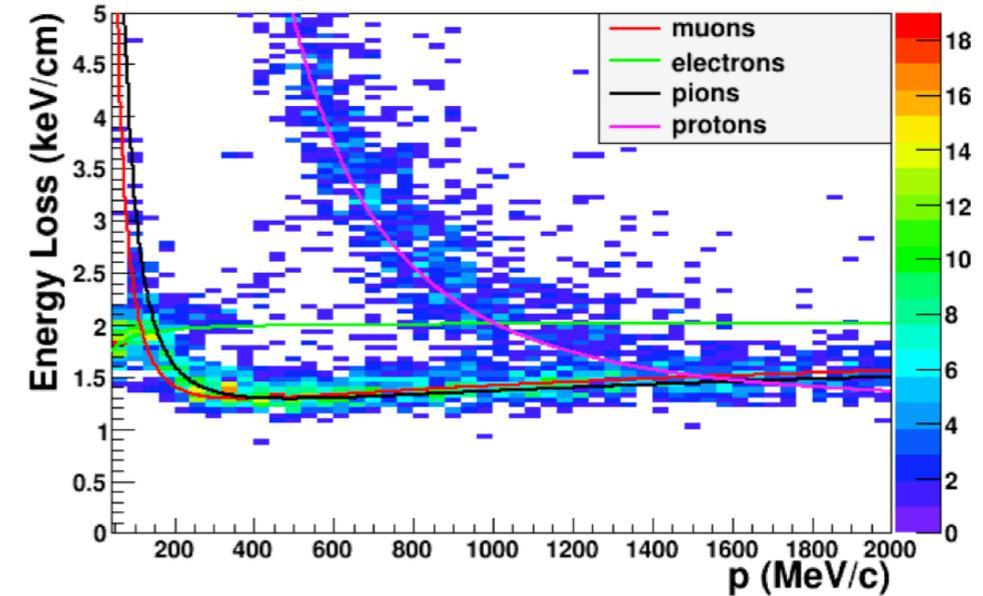
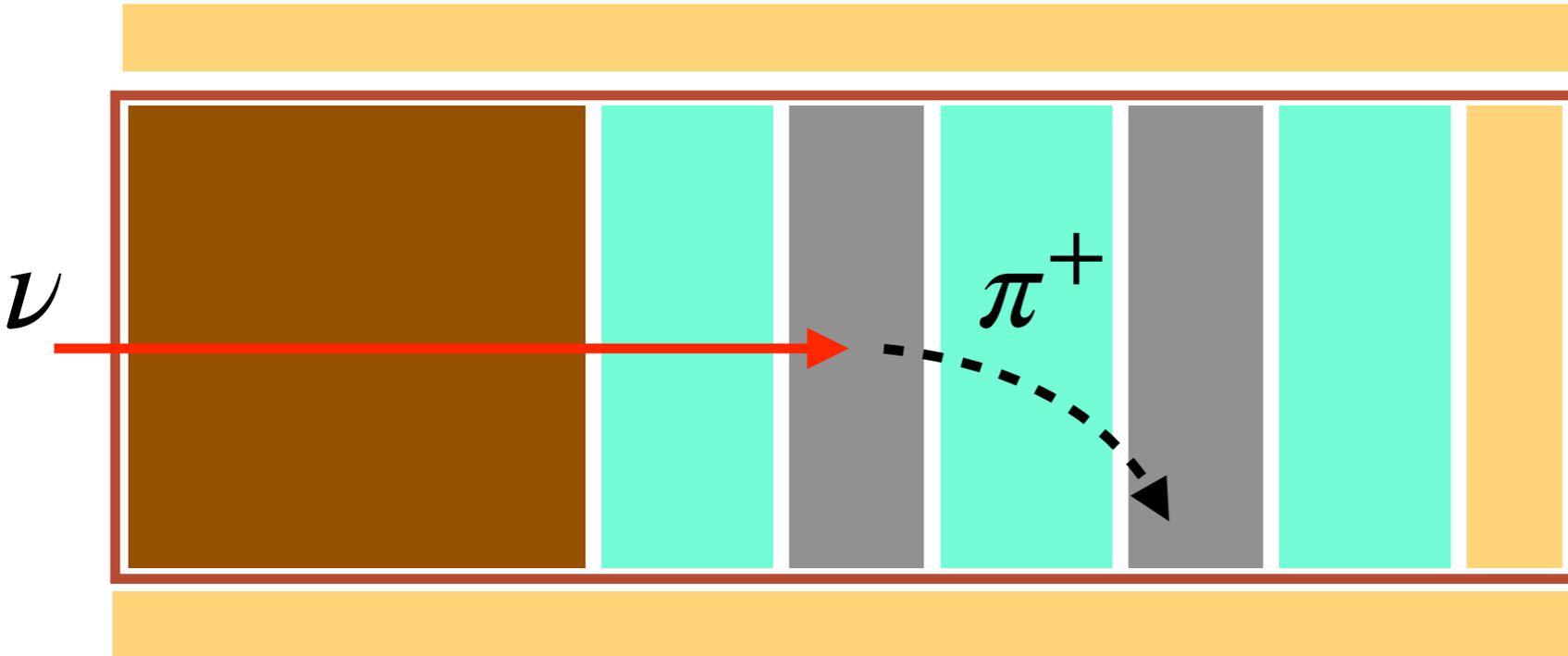
H₂, energy peak ~0.5 GeV long tail.

The selection

Signal definition: $1\pi^+ + 0/N$ neutrons



Look for a single positive pion starting in FGD1 and nothing else.



ν_μ CC0 π signals with backward going muon are more numerous than NC1 π^+ and difficult to reject.

ν_μ CC1 π signals with a low momentum μ^- (absorbed, not tracked) + low momentum proton (not tracked)

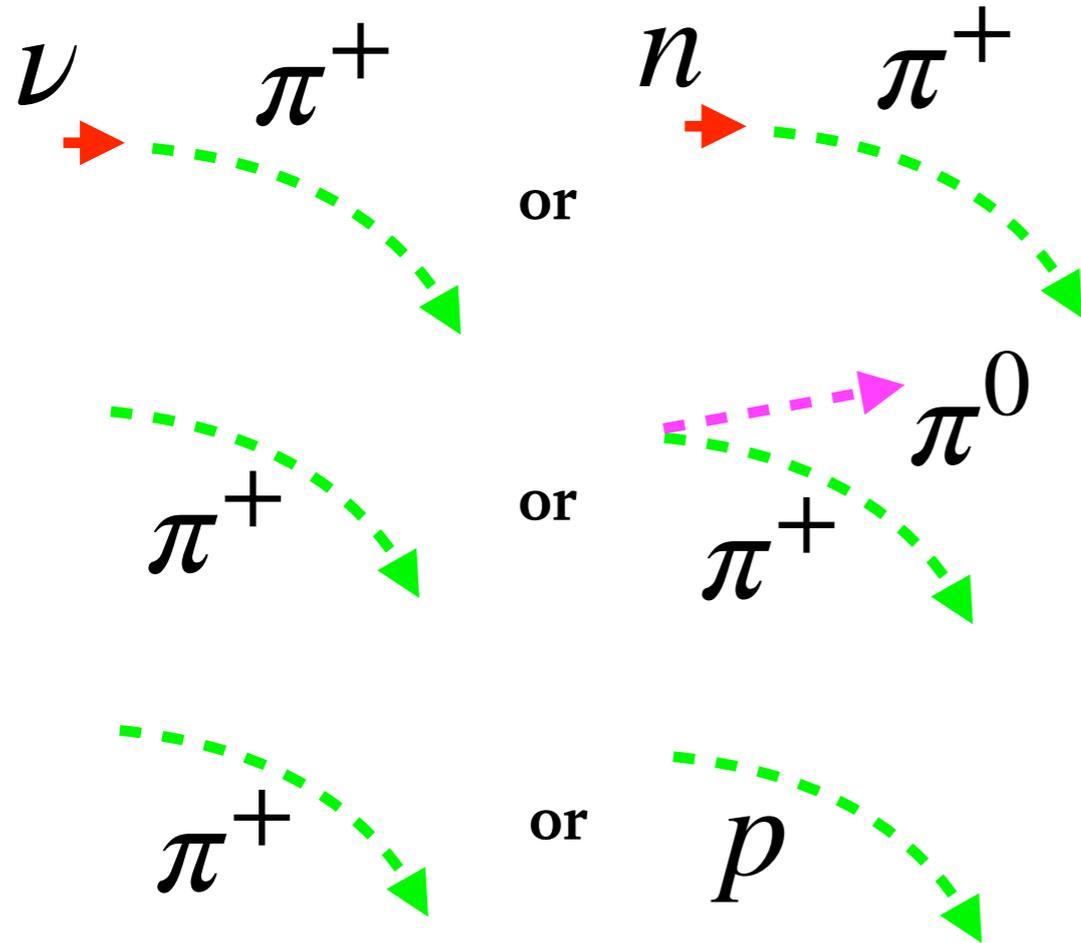
$\bar{\nu}_\mu$ CC0 π signals with μ^+ looking like π^+ and low momentum proton (not tracked)

The selection

Signal definition: $1\pi^+ + 0/N$ neutrons



Additional backgrounds



OOFV Interactions created by neutrons

NC other interactions created with additional mesons which are not tracked, typically π^0 .

NC 0π interactions with a proton miss-identified as a π^+ .

Selection strategy in a nutshell:

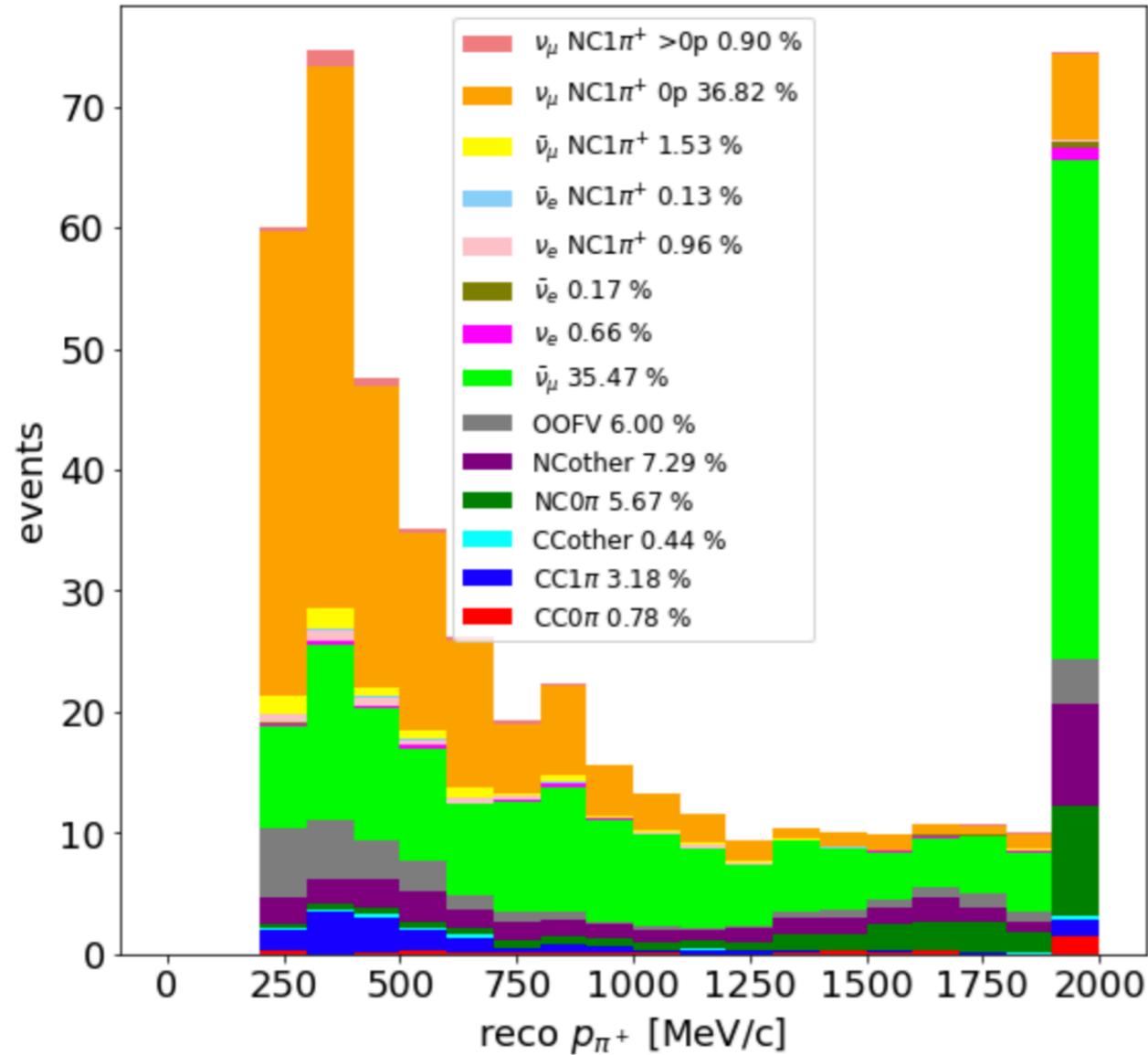
- Select positive tracks starting in FGD1 consistent with π^+ ionization in TPC.
- Veto events with upstream activity.
- Rely on FGD1 ionization to reject additional short tracks and discriminate stopping backward muons from outgoing forward pions.
- Add control regions for $\bar{\nu}_\mu$ CC 0π and NC 0π .
- Possibly limit the measurement to low momentum.

Preliminary results

Signal definition: $1\pi^+ + 0/N$ neutrons



preliminary signal:



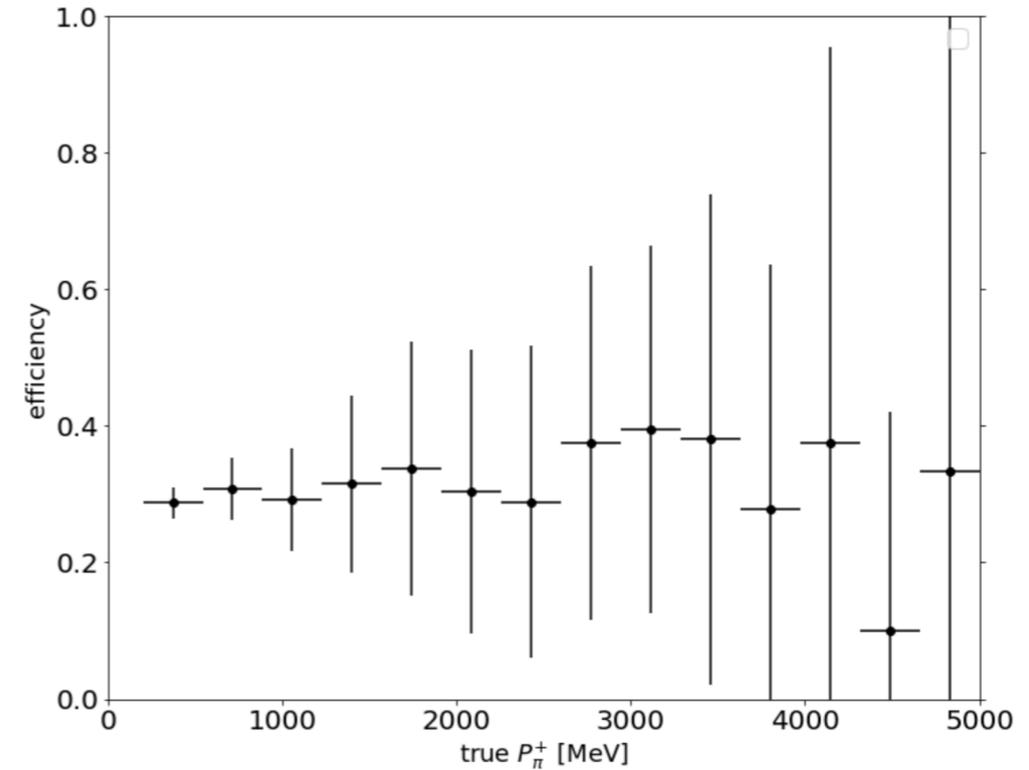
if $p_\pi \in [0.2, 2] \text{ GeV}/c$

183 signal events with 45% pur & 34% eff

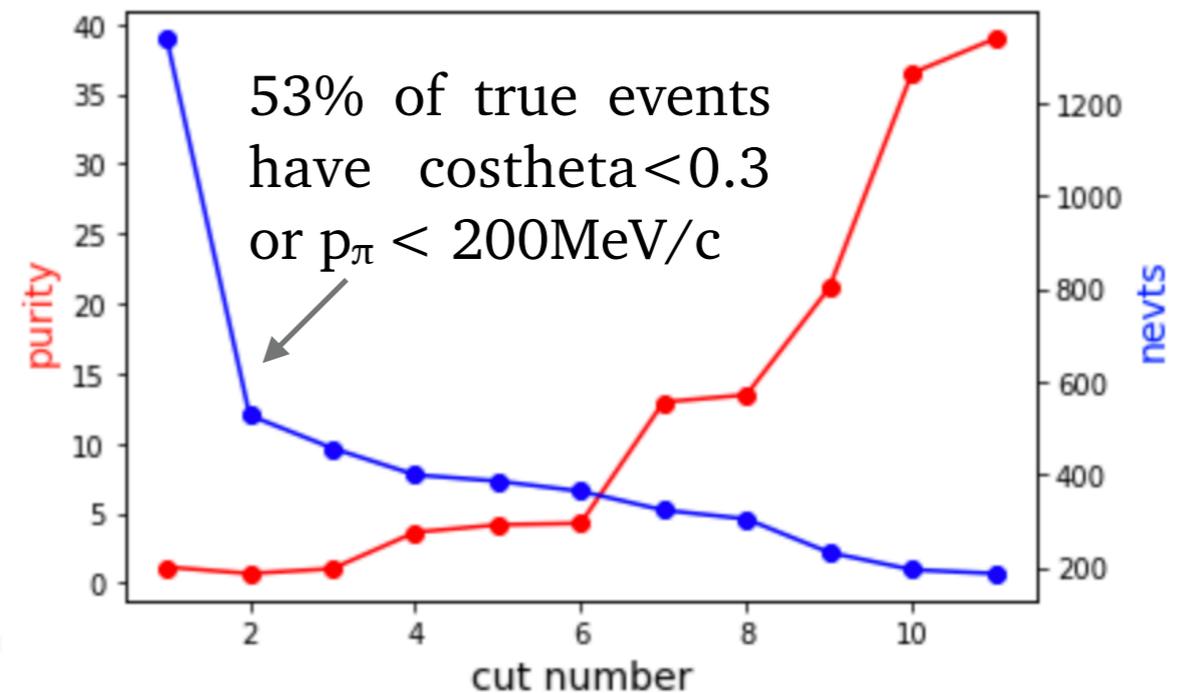
if $p_\pi \in [0.2, 1] \text{ GeV}/c$

168 signal events with 56% pur & 36% eff

efficiency is quite flat in momentum:



Dependence on the cuts:



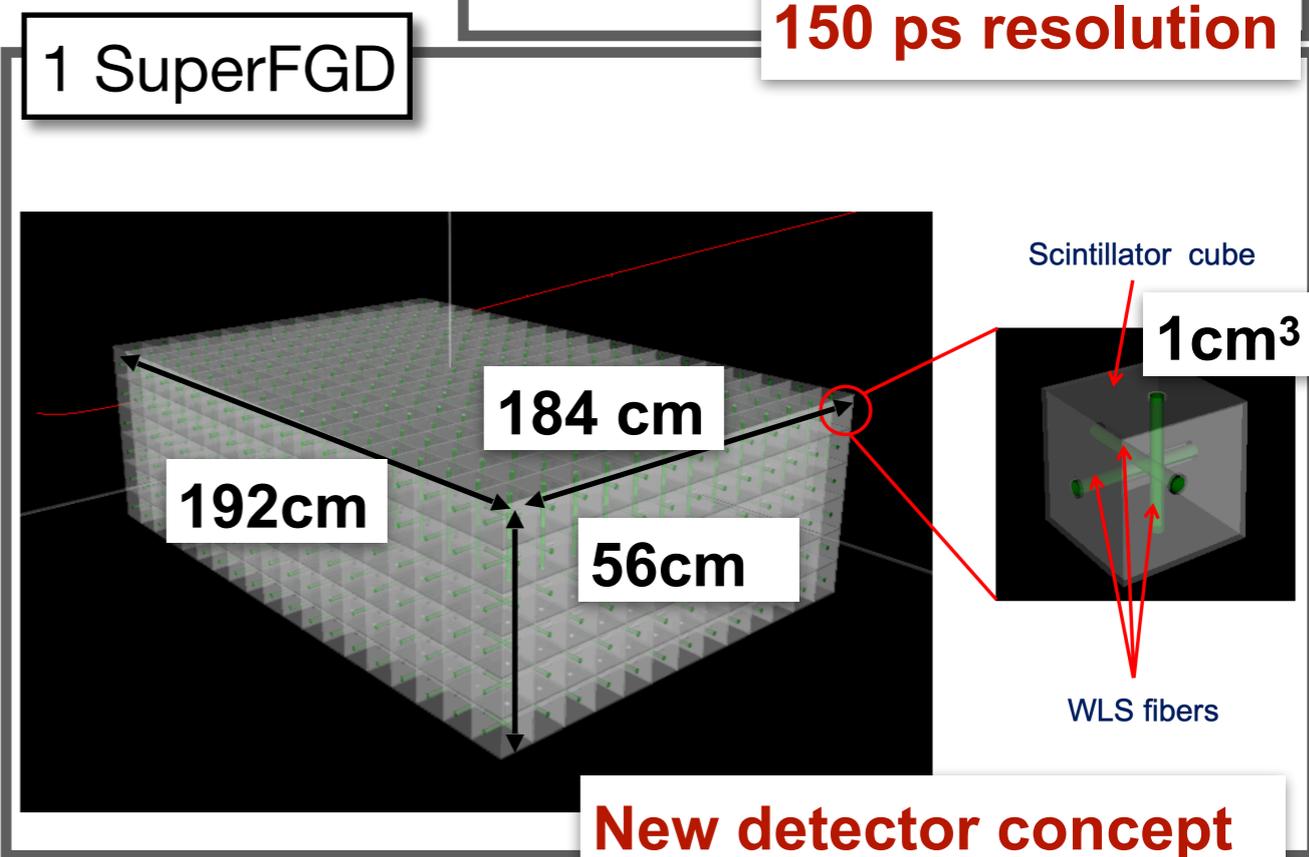
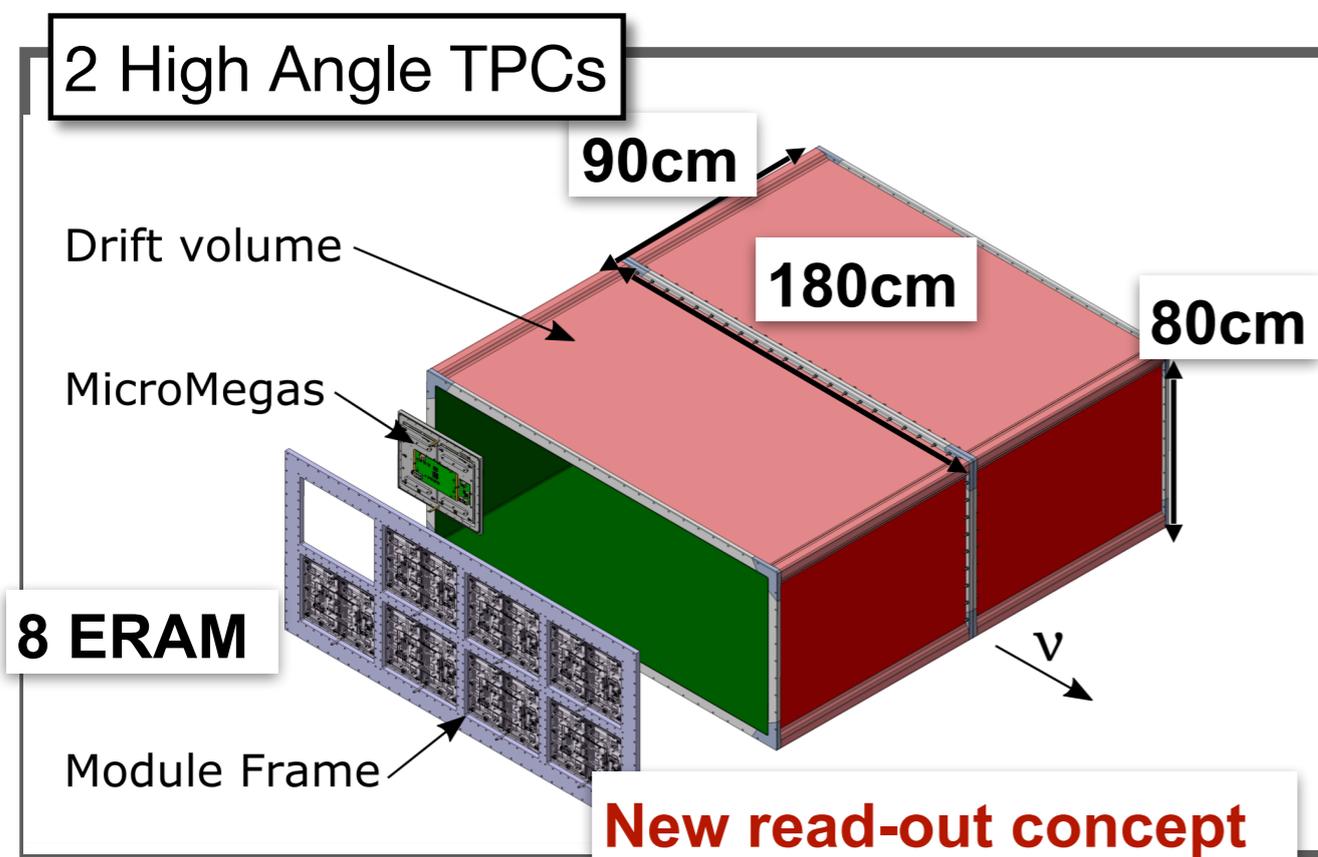
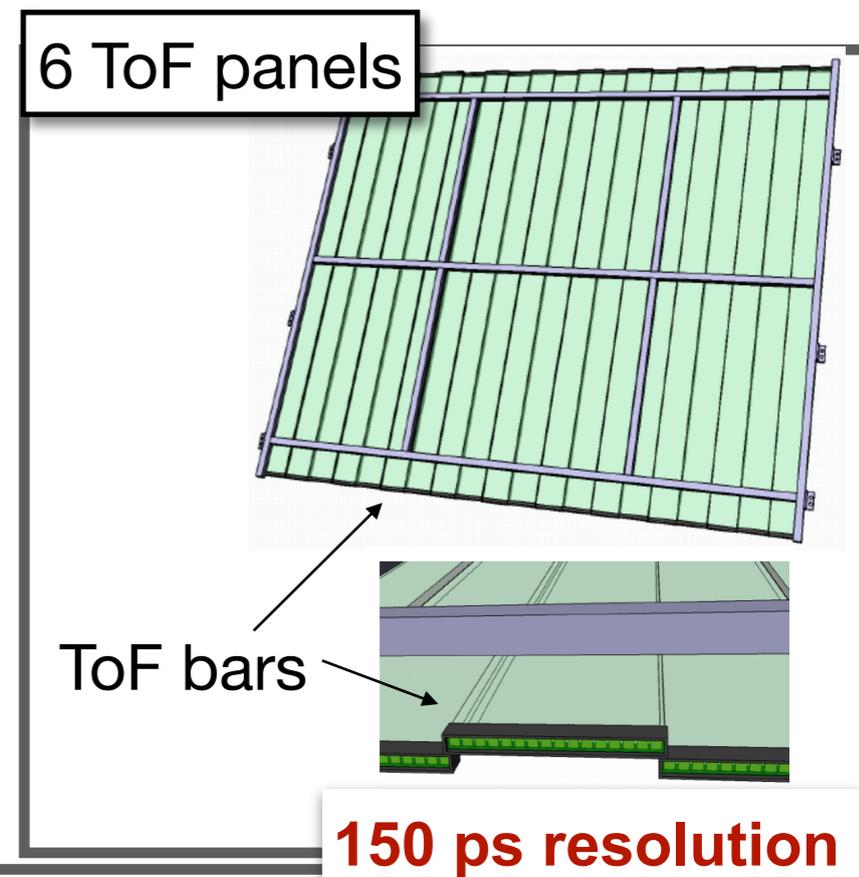
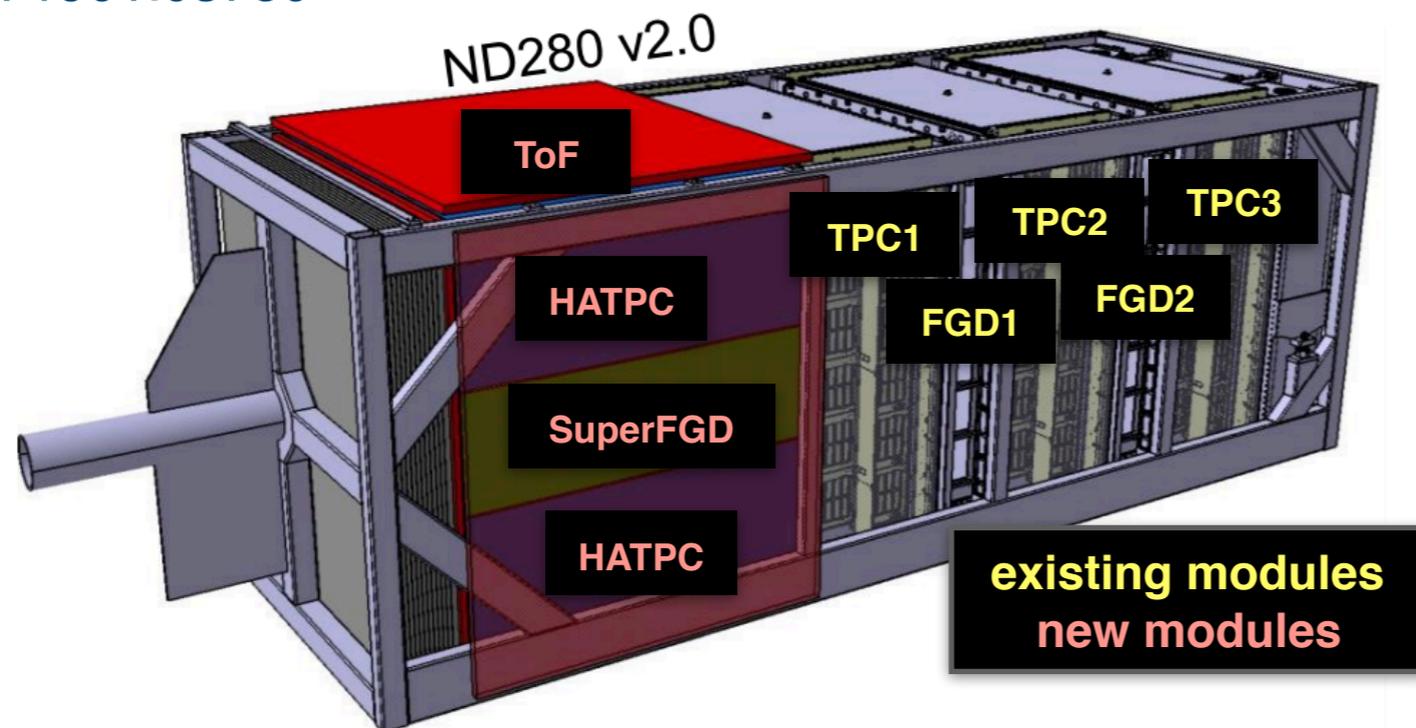


Part 2: ND280 upgrade

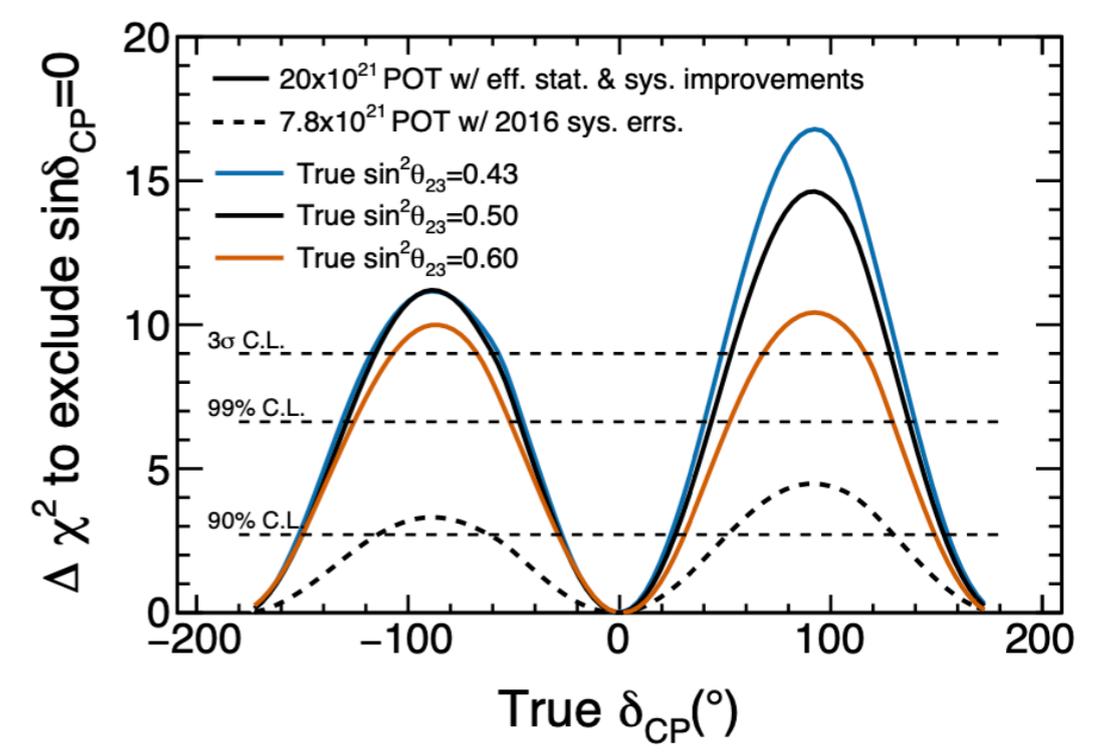
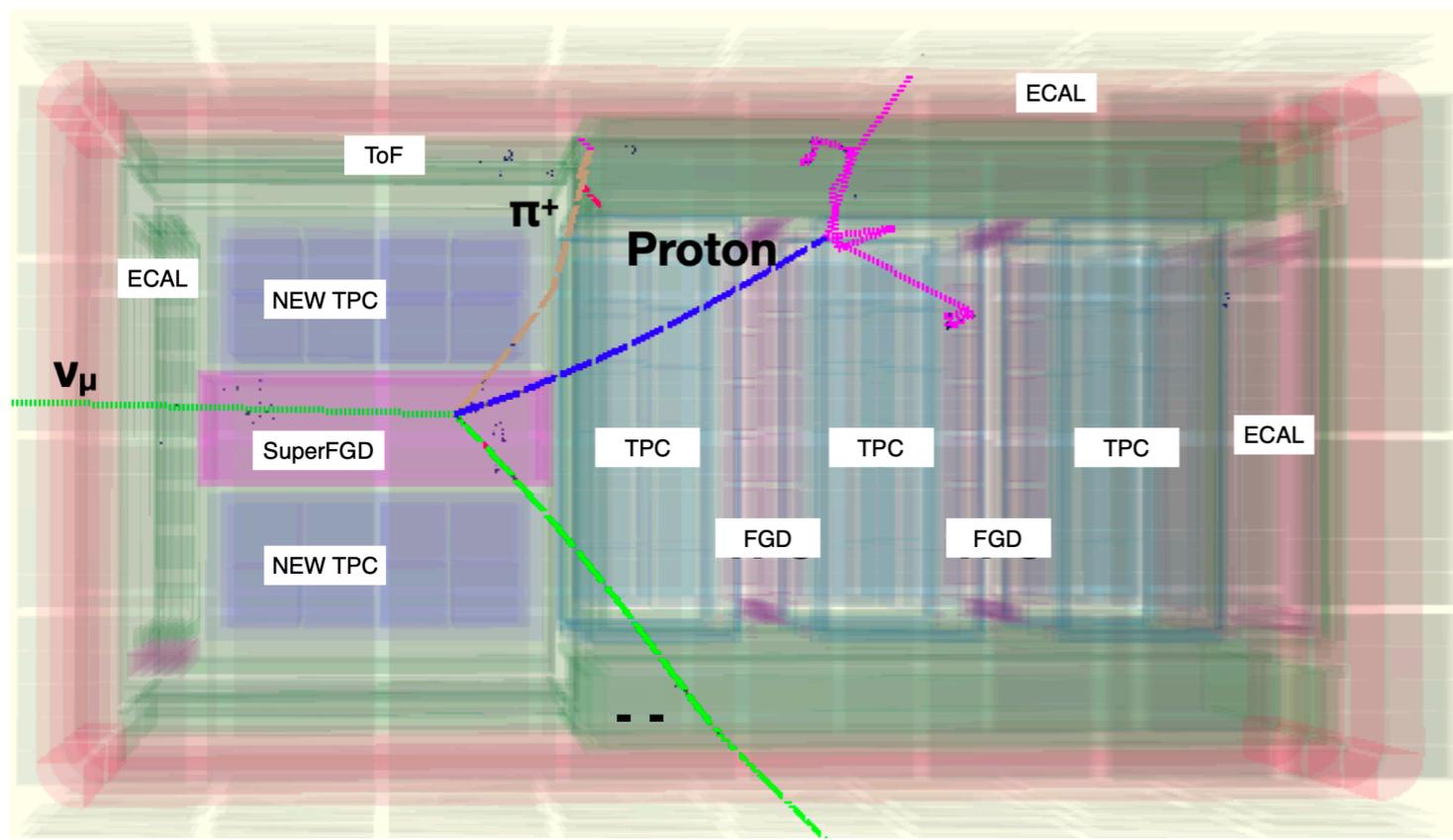
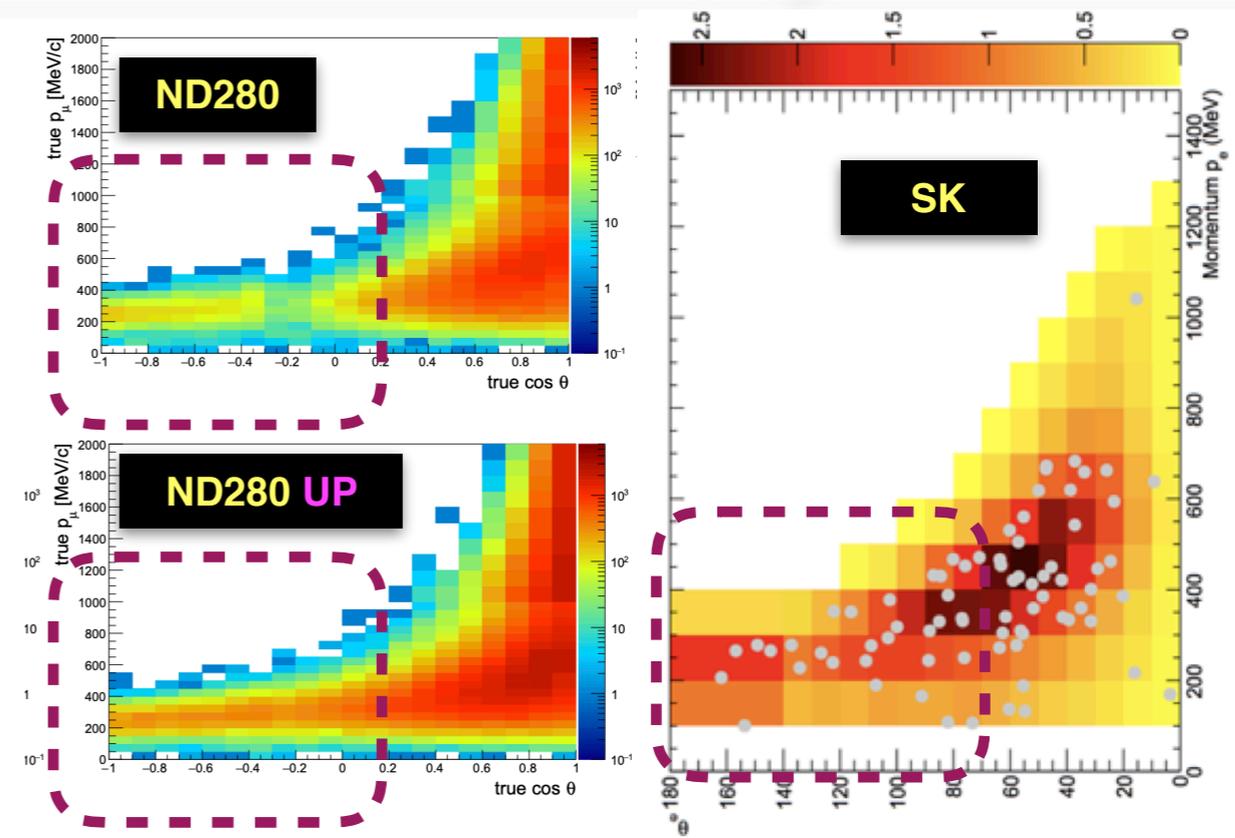
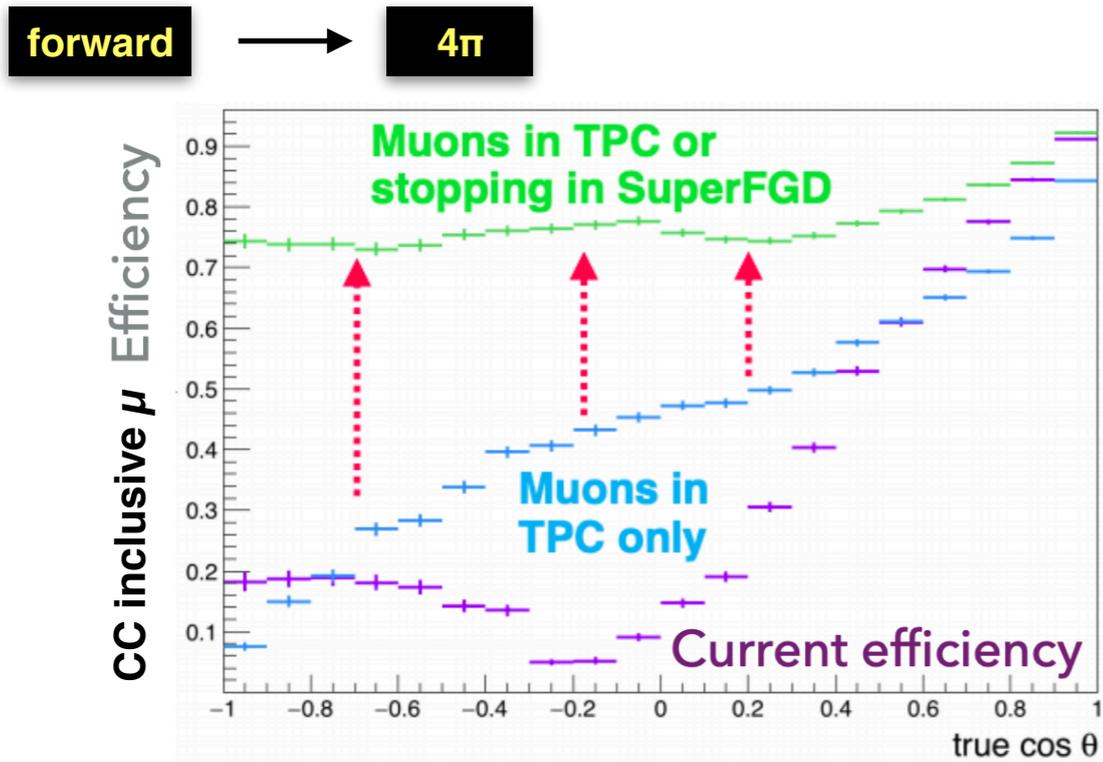
The ND280 upgrade



arXiv: 1901.03750



Direct benefits for the OA



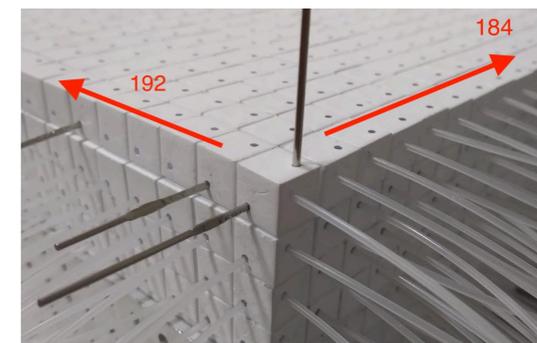
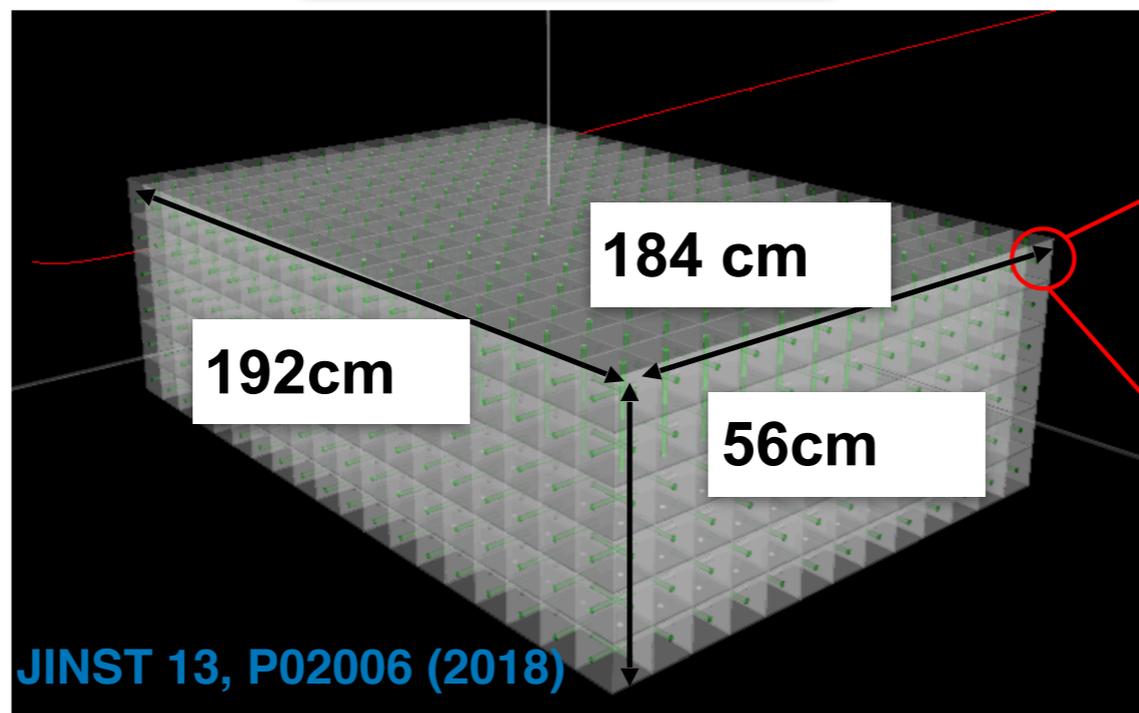
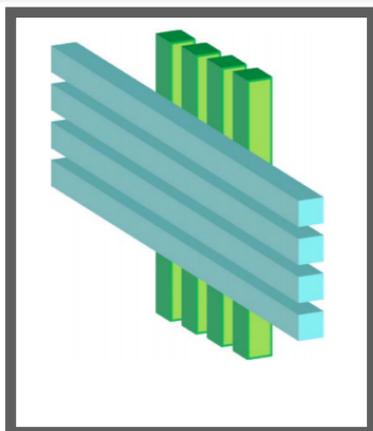
SFGD concept



To improve the granularity the new active target will be a novel 3D tracking

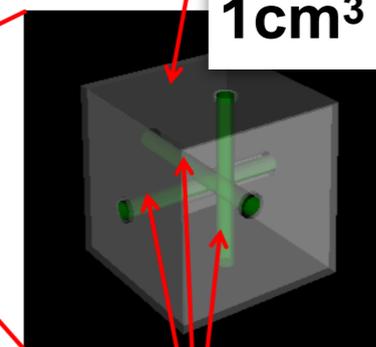
SuperFGD concept

FGD concept



Scintillator cube

1cm³

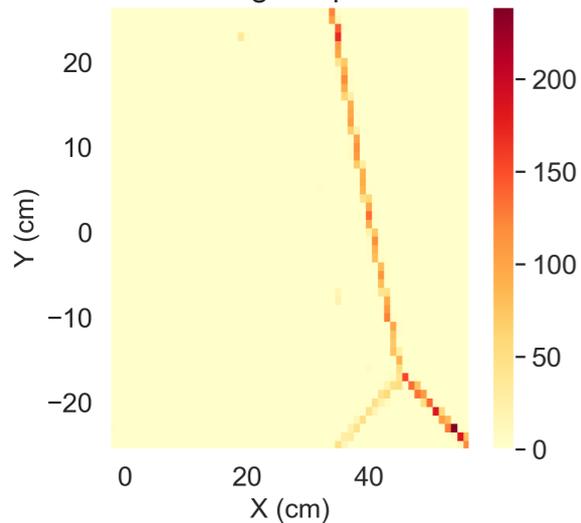


WLS fibers

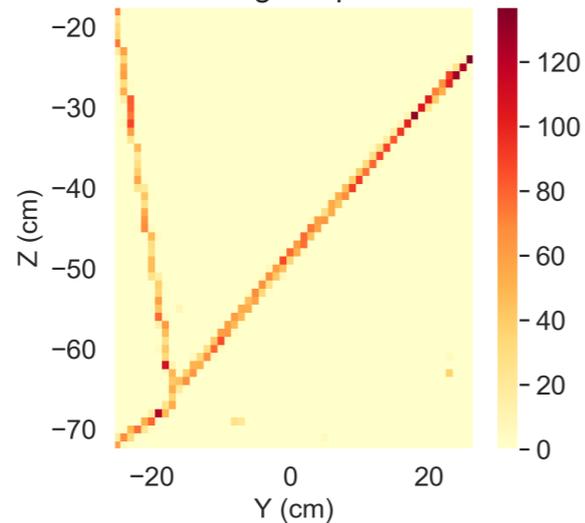
+ new electronics

CITIROC ASIC

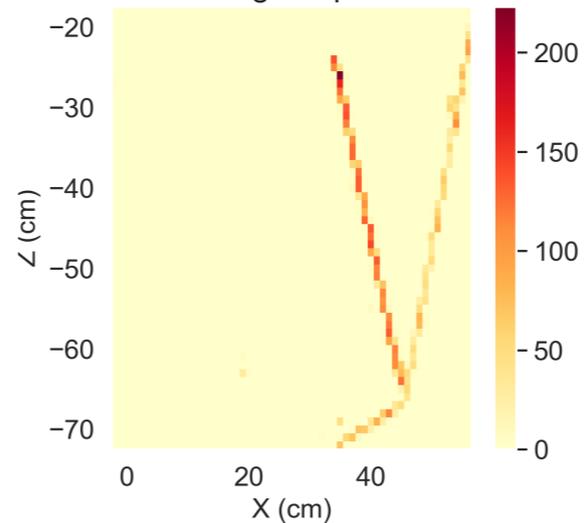
XY charge deposition



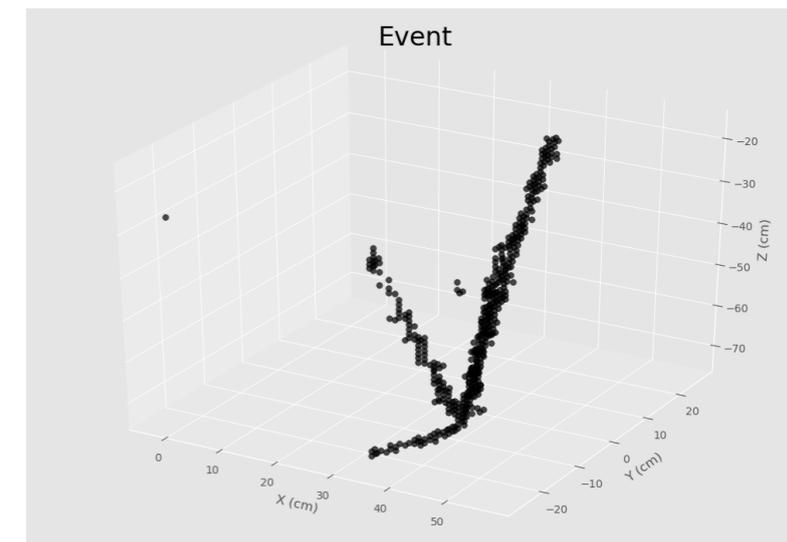
YZ charge deposition



XZ charge deposition



Event



Characterizing SFGD prototype

Improvements in tracking

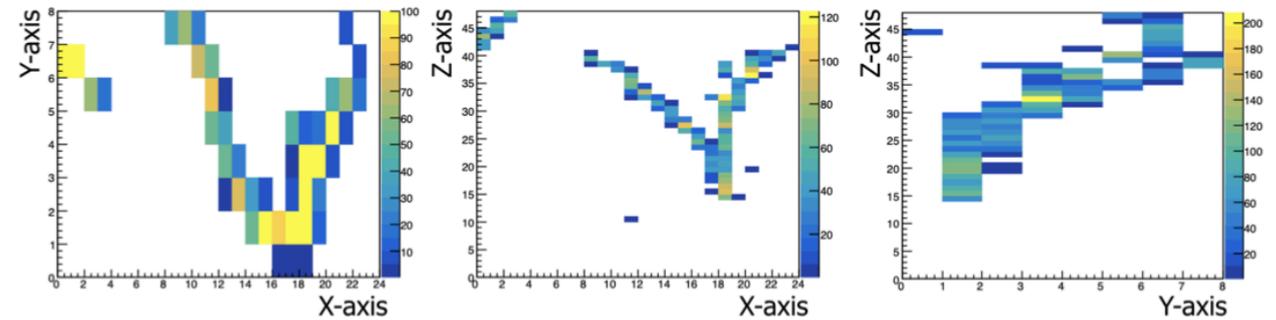
Current FGDs PID is much worse than TPCs

Charge particles beamtest @CERN (2018)

The SuperFGD Prototype charged particle beam tests
JINST 15 P12003

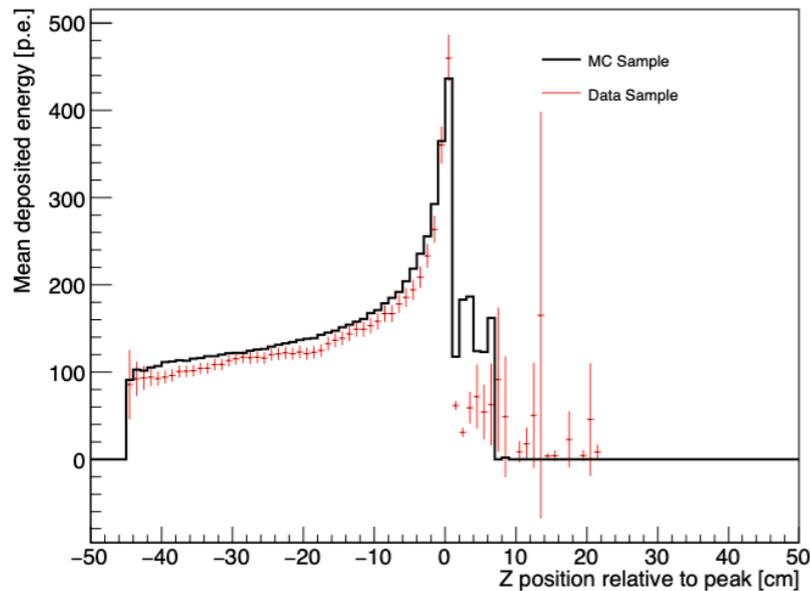


24x8x48

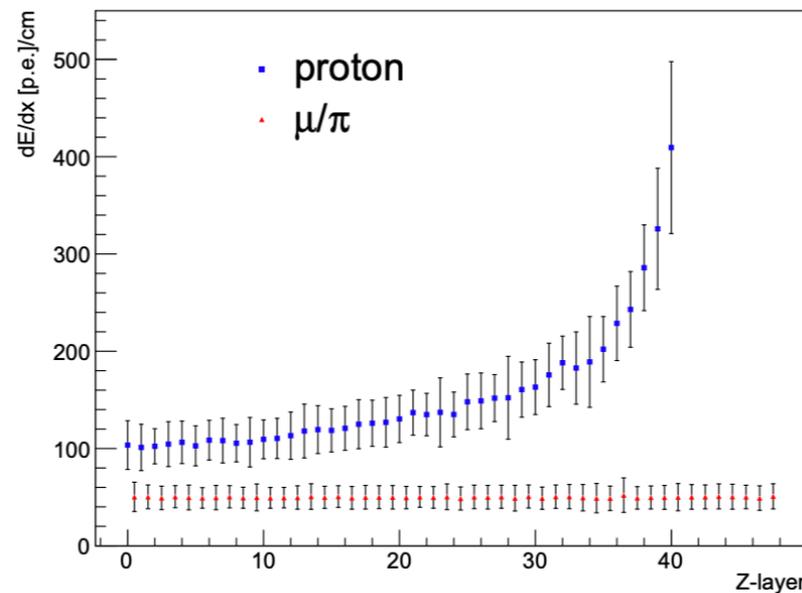


We can see gamma conversions in SuperFGD: important to tag $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$

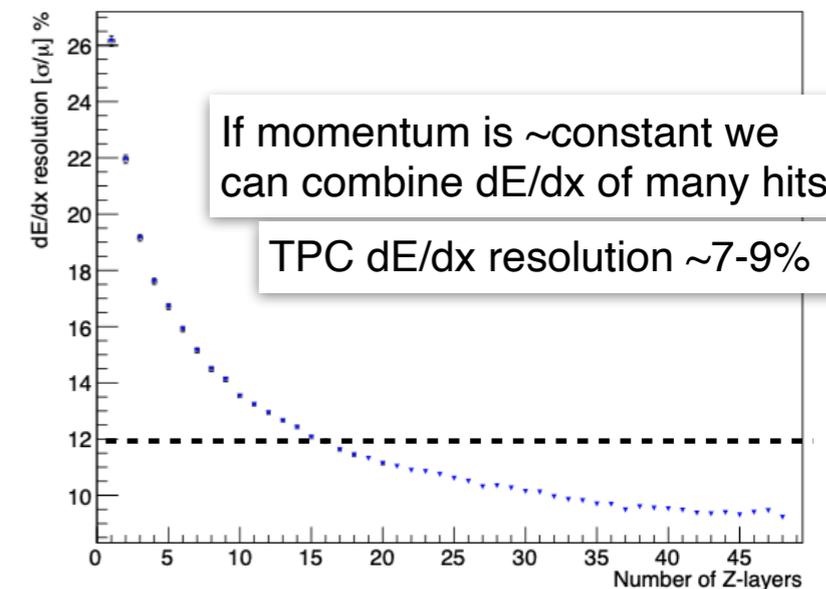
ν_e background reduction



We can see bragg peak



Great μ /proton discrimination by dE/dx



If momentum is ~constant we can combine dE/dx of many hits

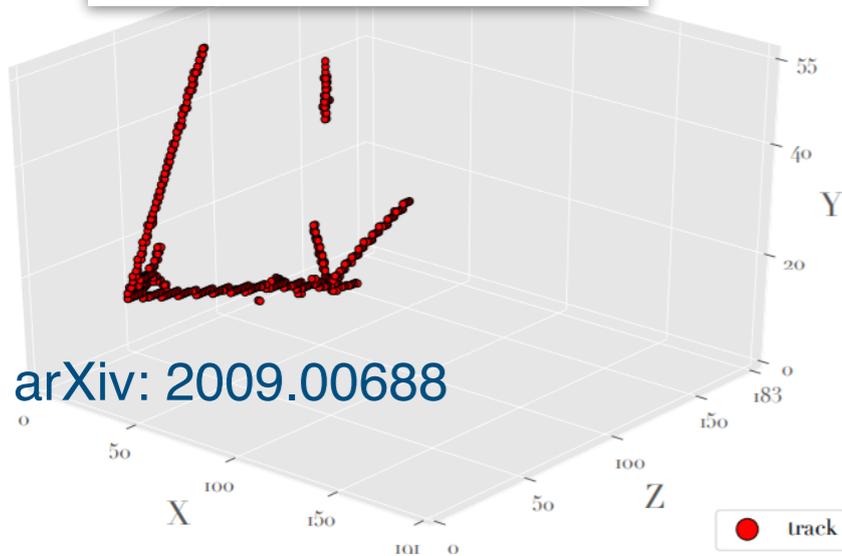
TPC dE/dx resolution ~7-9%

Complement to TPC PID

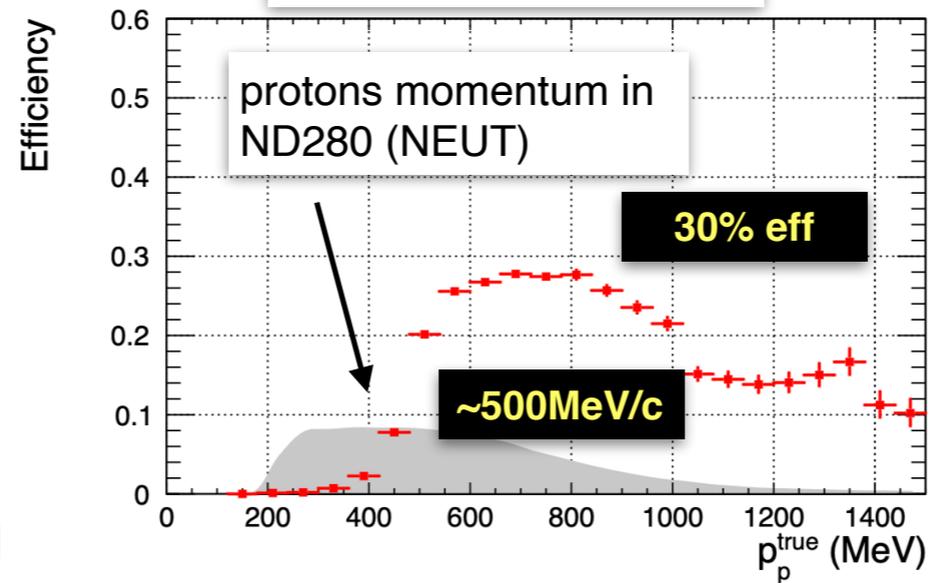
Studying other possibilities with SFGD

Improvements in tracking for low momentum tracks

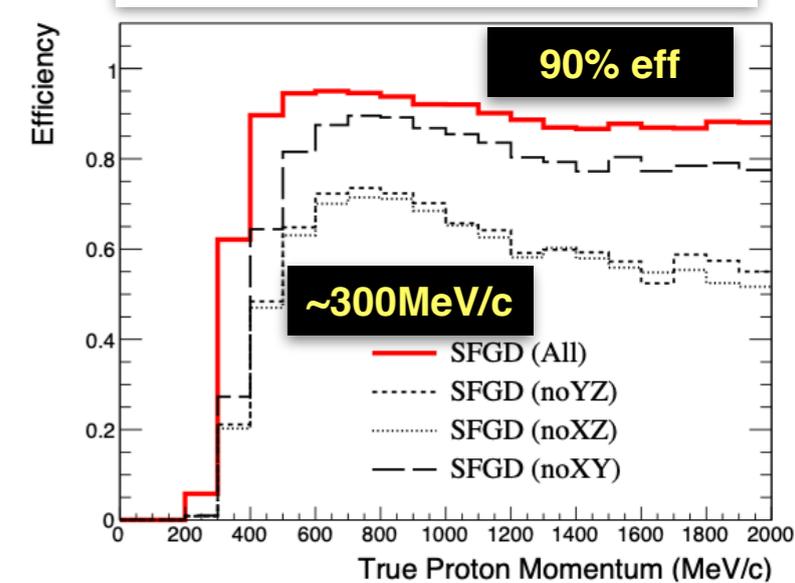
SuperFGD 3D ν_μ MC event



Current ND280 (FGD1)

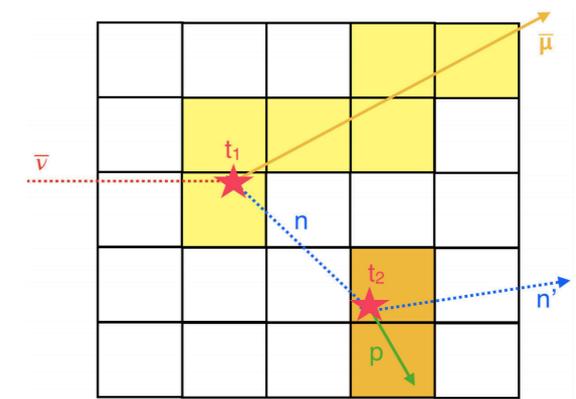
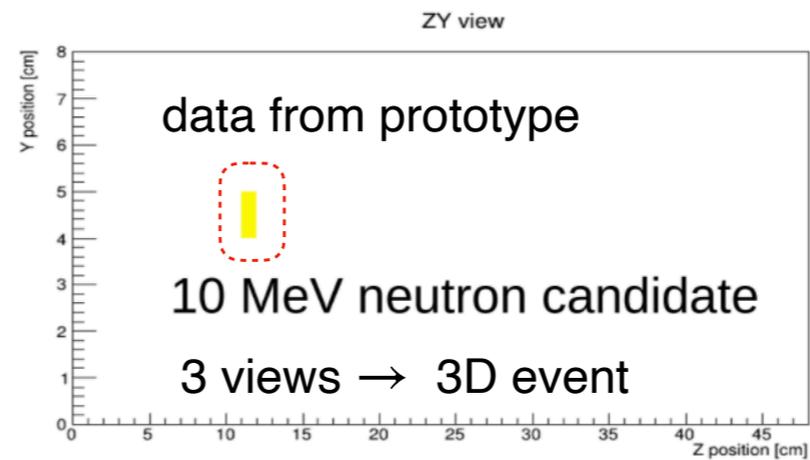
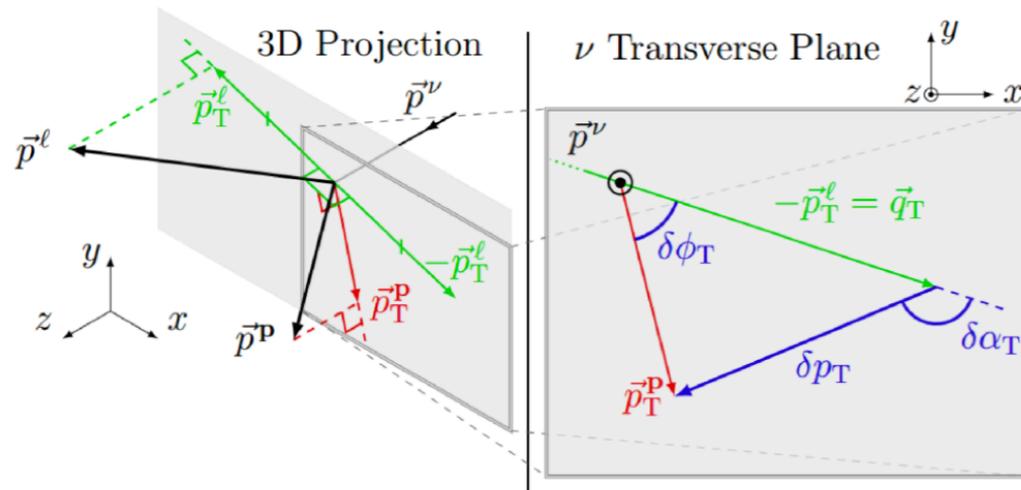


Upgraded ND280 (SuperFGD)



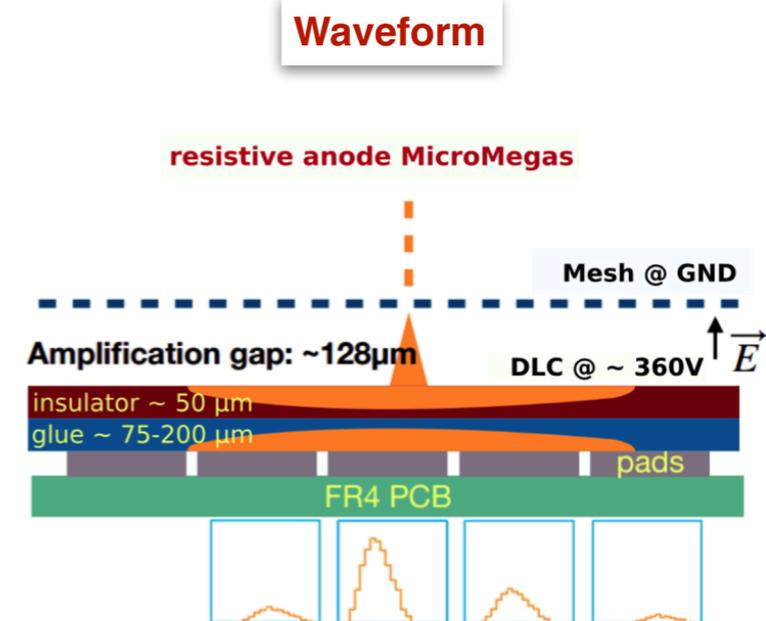
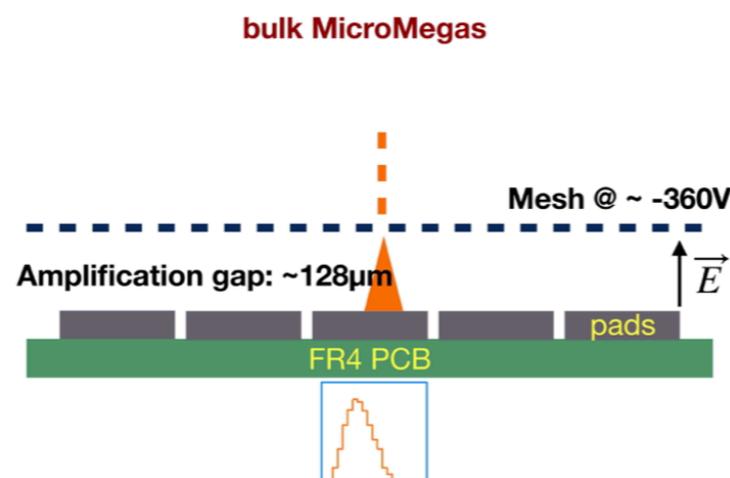
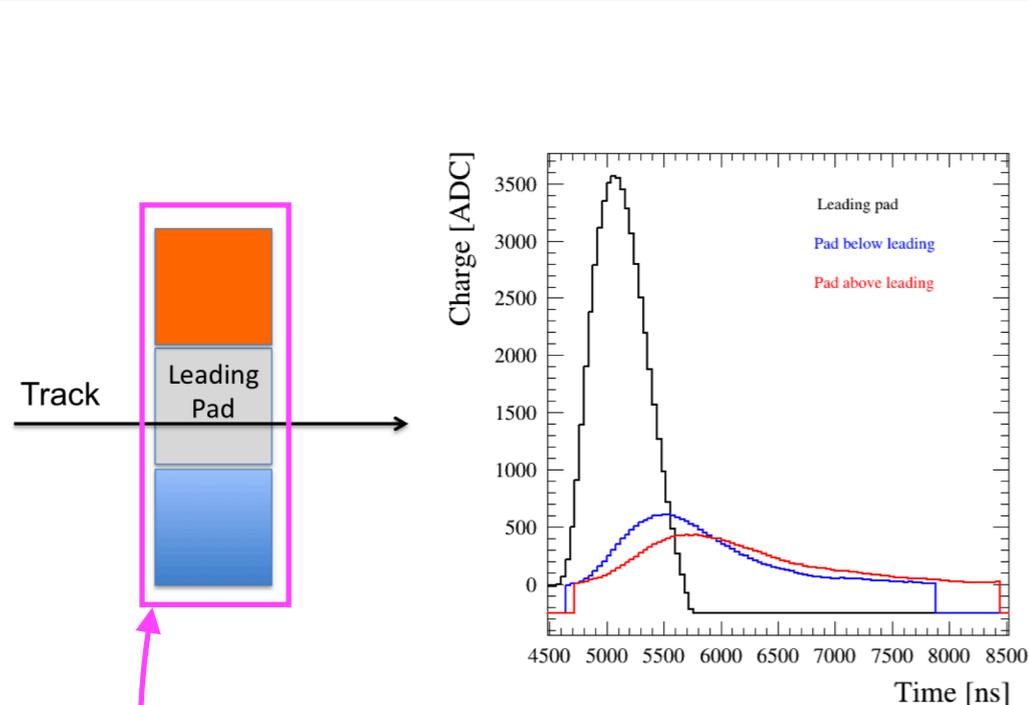
We can study kinematic imbalances using better proton information

Also for neutrons!

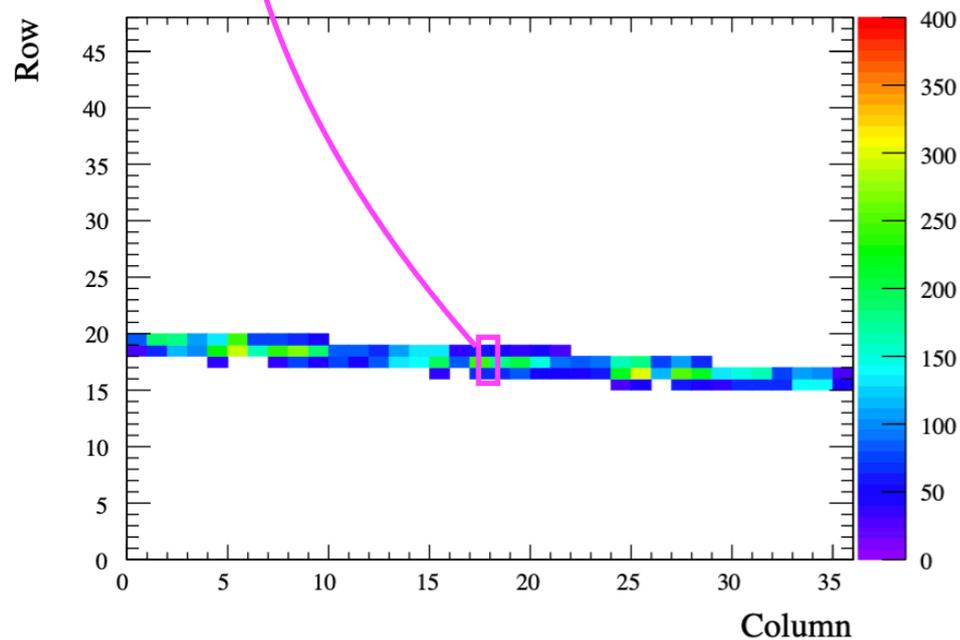


We can better understand multi-nucleon knockout processes.

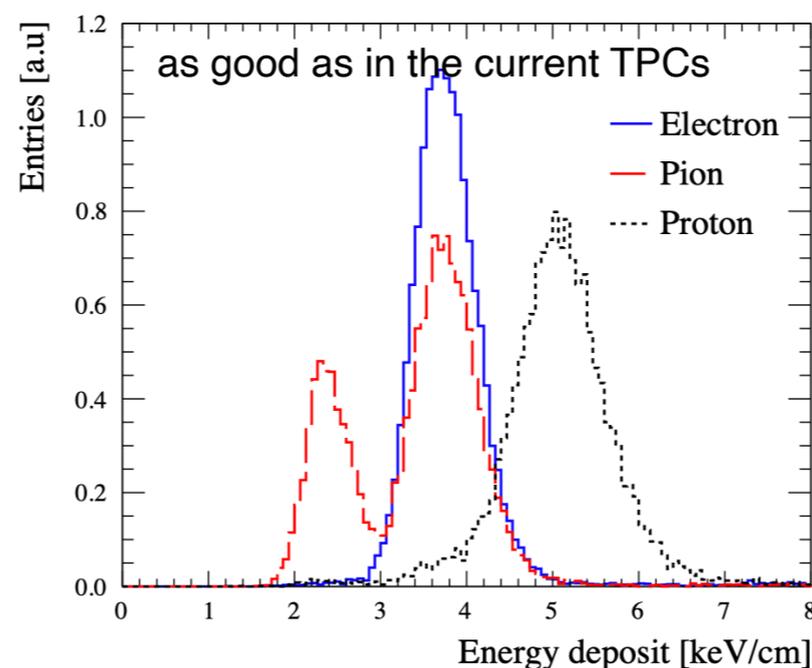
HA-TPC characterisation



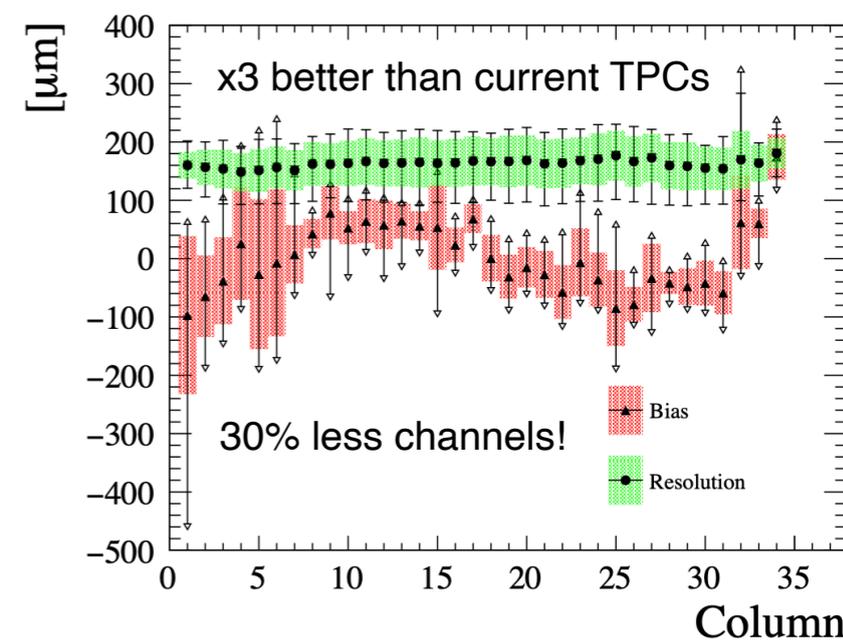
Event display



Ionization for different particle triggers



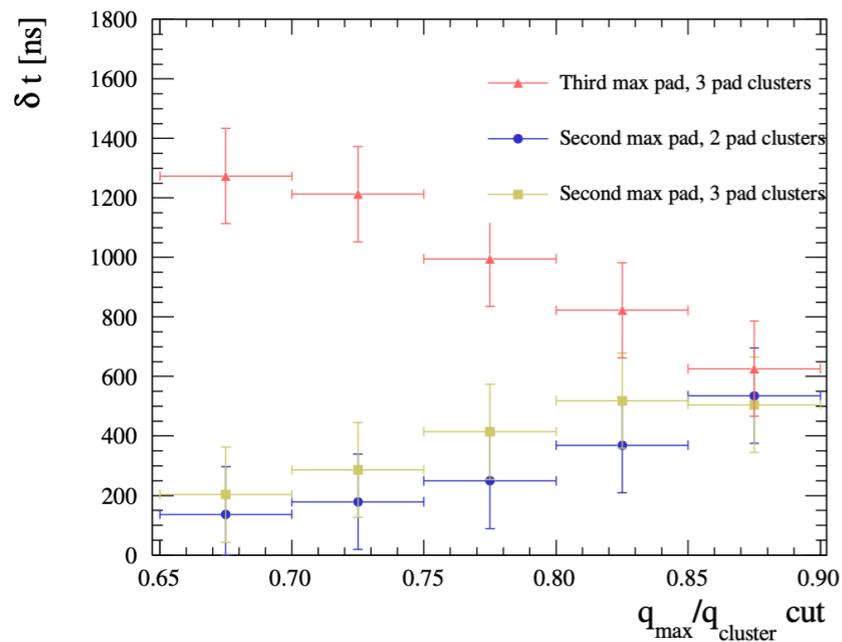
Excellent position resolution



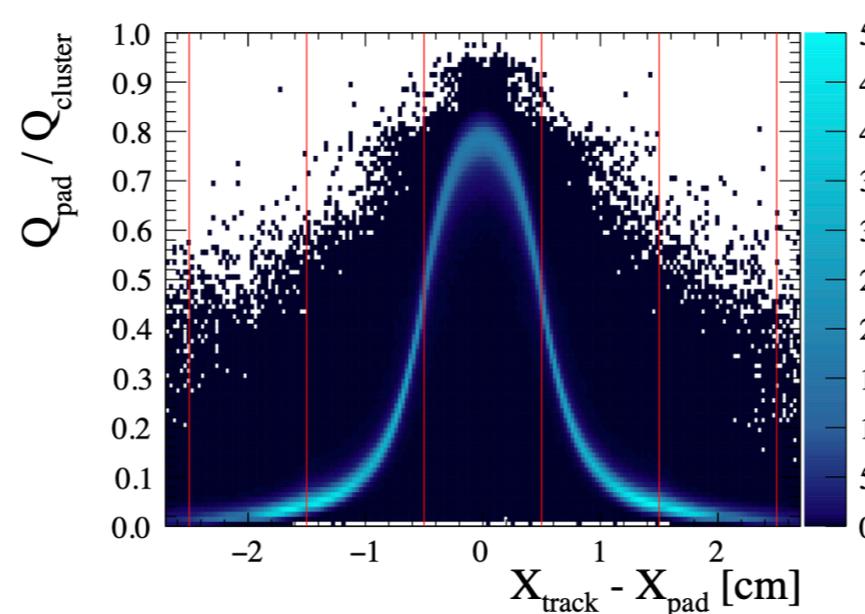
HA-TPC characterisation



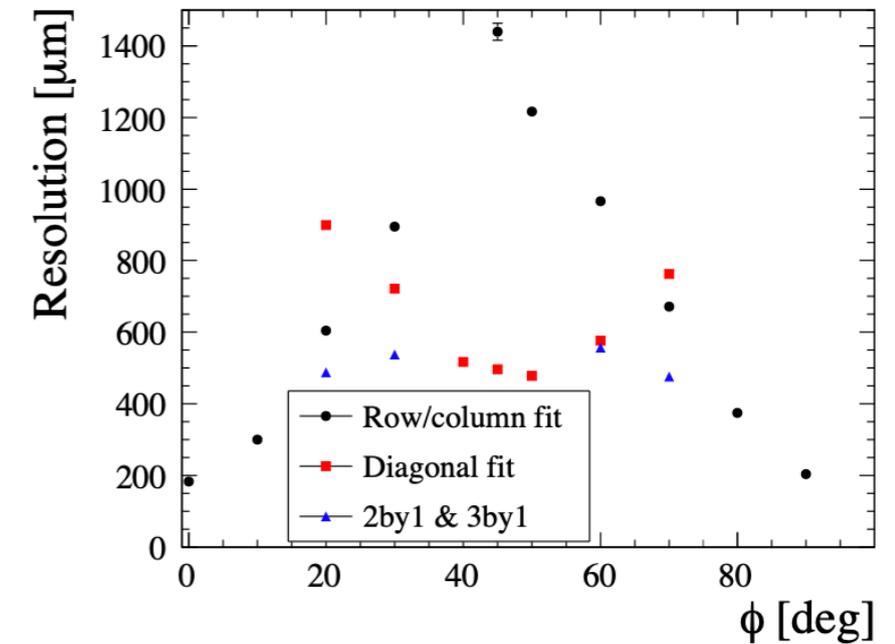
Measurement of the charge spread velocity



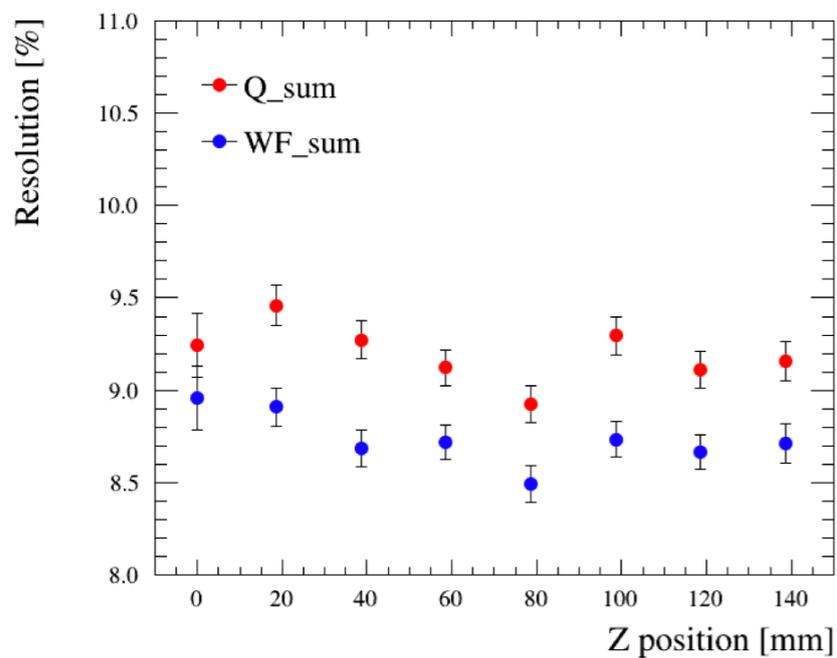
Measurement of the charge spread profile



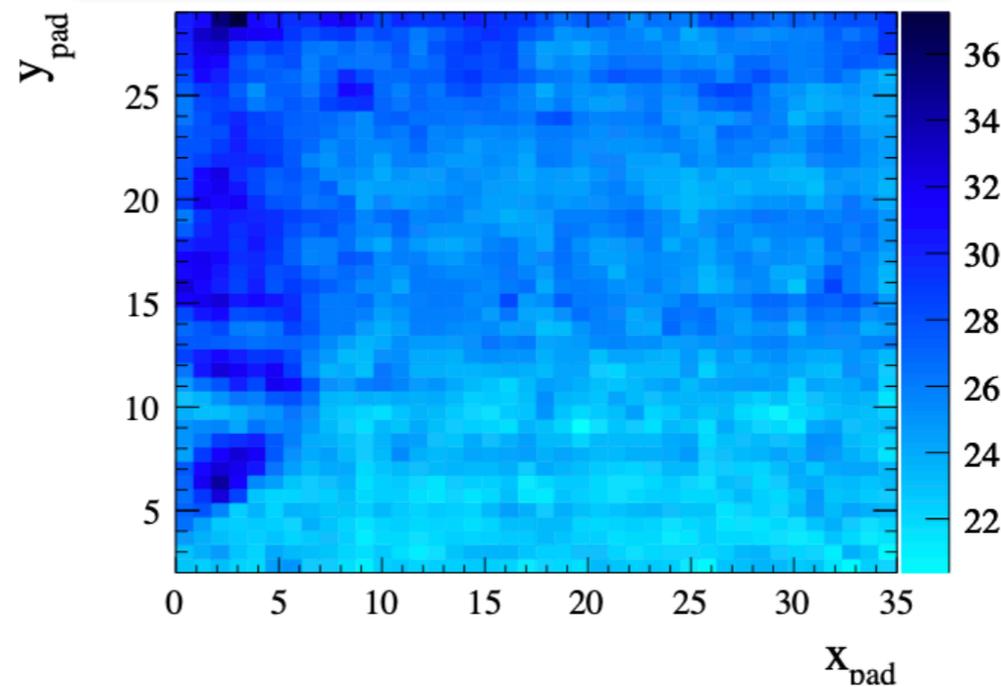
Position resolution vs angle of the track



Energy resolution



Measurement of the resistive foil uniformity



Conclusions

~1 year ahead to finish PhD:

- Upgrade activities 'done' (SuperFGD + TPC studies), prototypes look good, upgrade in 2023
- NC1 π analysis ongoing!



Back Up