

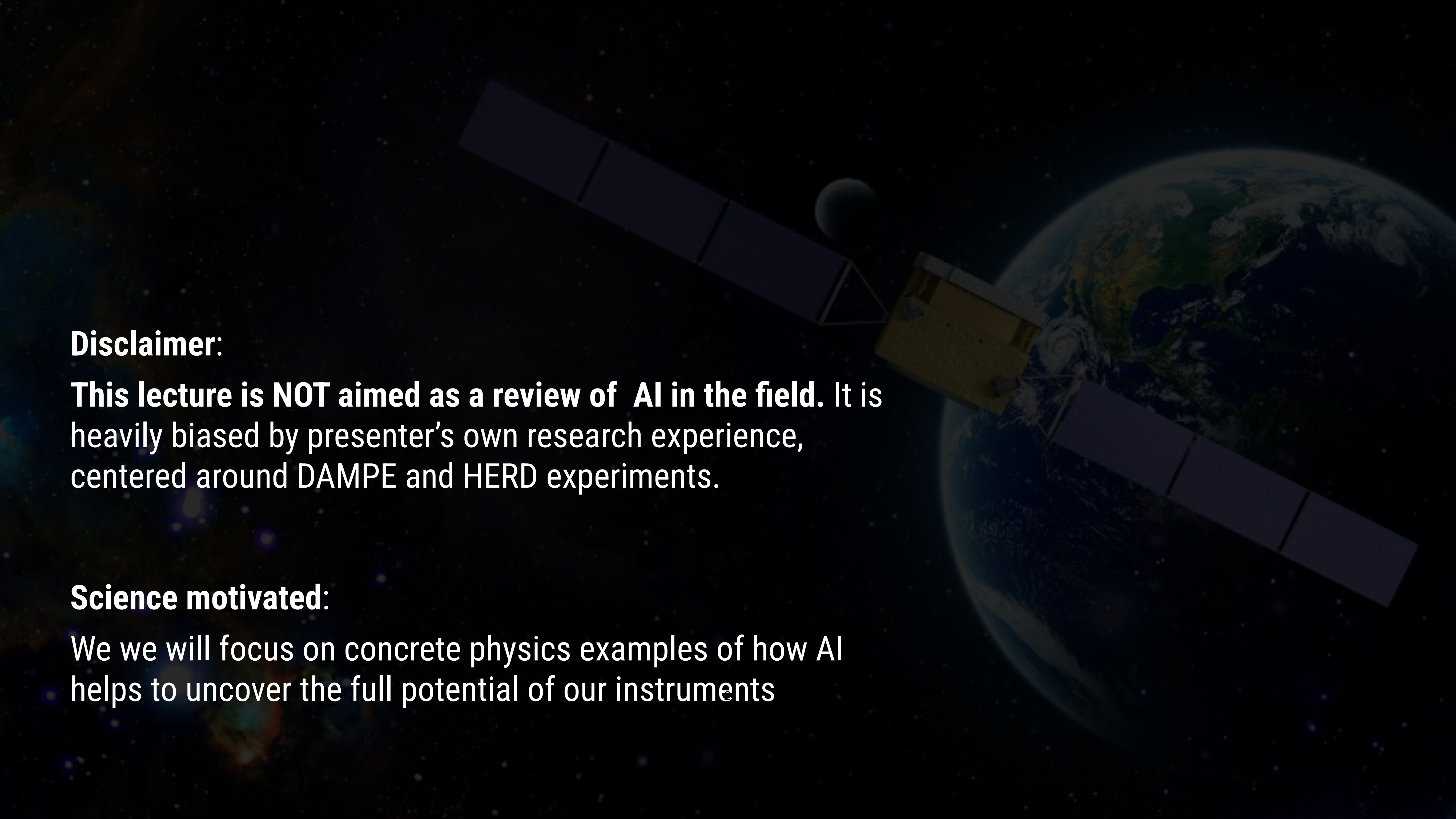
Deep Learning & cosmic ray detection in space at high-energy frontier

Andrii Tykhonov



UNIVERSITÉ
DE GENÈVE



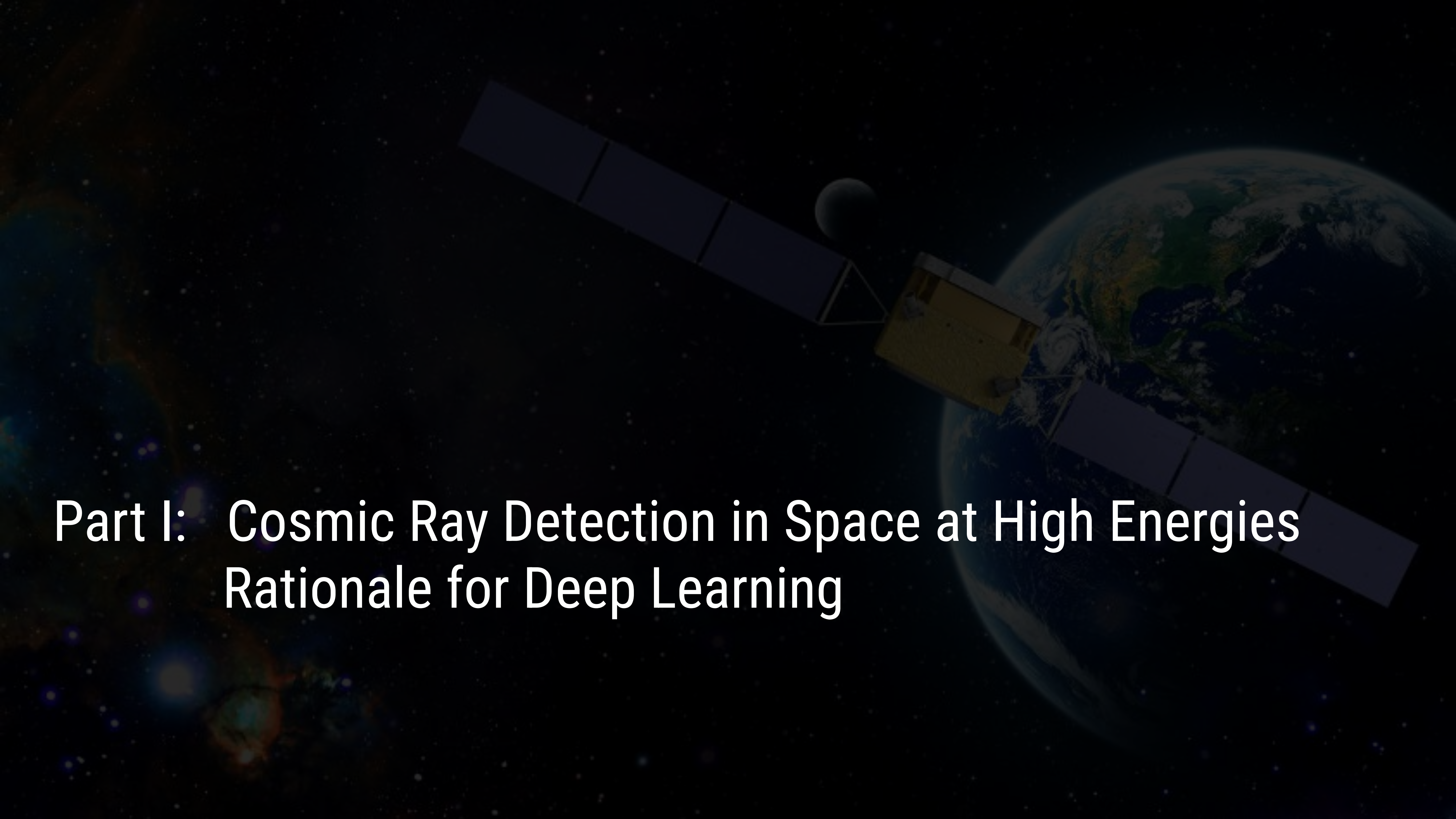
A satellite with a central gold-colored body and two long arms of solar panels is shown in space. The Earth is visible in the background on the right side, showing continents and clouds. The background is a dark space filled with stars.

Disclaimer:

This lecture is NOT aimed as a review of AI in the field. It is heavily biased by presenter's own research experience, centered around DAMPE and HERD experiments.

Science motivated:

We we will focus on concrete physics examples of how AI helps to uncover the full potential of our instruments

A satellite with a long boom and solar panels is shown in space, with the Earth visible in the background. The satellite has a central body and two long arms extending outwards, each with several rectangular solar panels. The Earth is partially visible on the right side of the frame, showing clouds and landmasses. The background is a dark space filled with stars and some nebulae.

Part I: Cosmic Ray Detection in Space at High Energies

Rationale for Deep Learning

Cosmic Ray detection

Space (satellites, ISS, balloons)

Very precise — measurement errors reaching 1% level

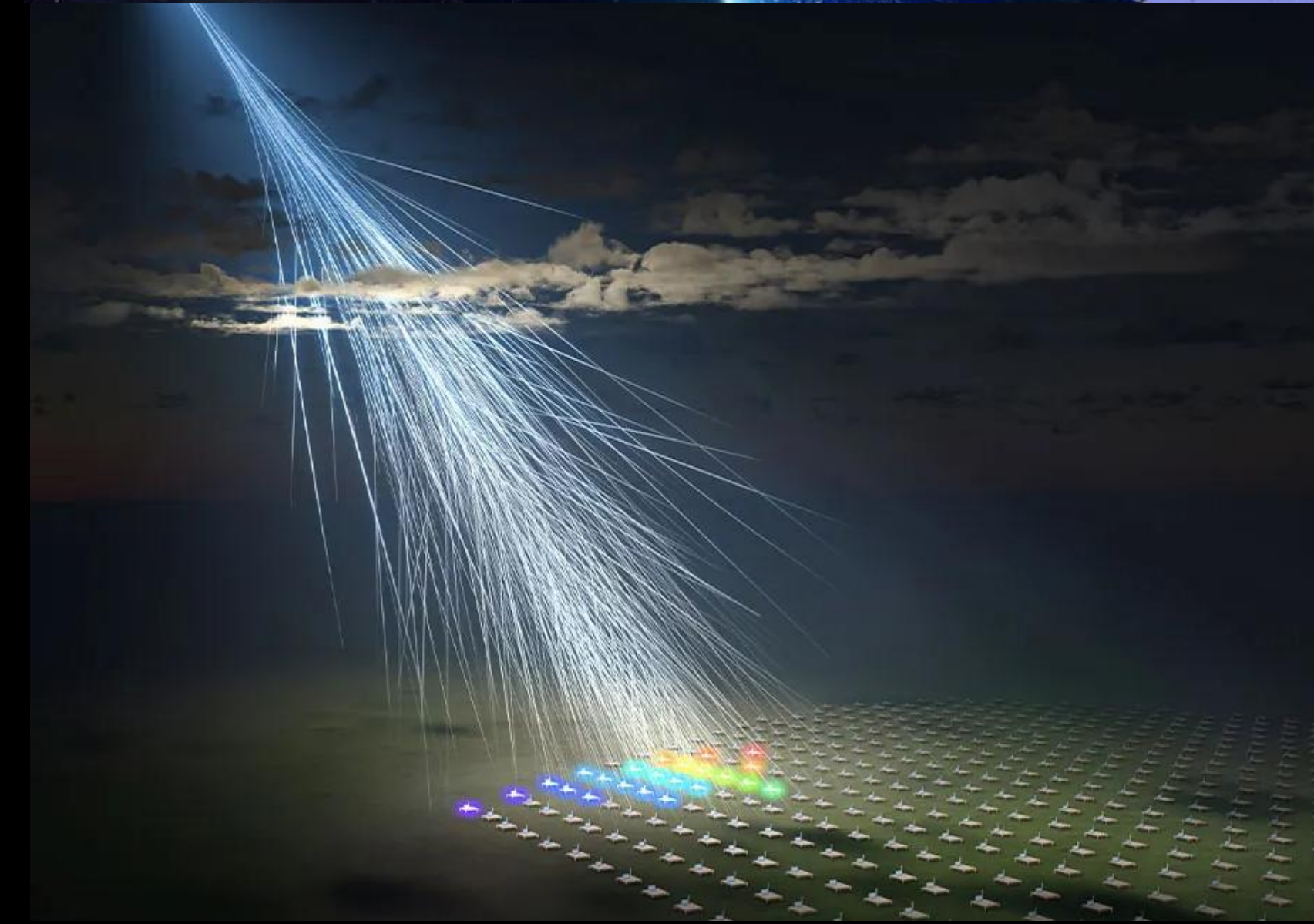
Limited in energy up to ~hundreds of TeV



Ground-based

Cover very large areas $\sim O(100)$ km² and reach maximum possible energies — up to 10^{19} eV (~millions of TeV)

Not very precise — measurement errors more than 100%!



Cosmic Ray detection

Space (satellites, ISS, balloons)

Very precise — measurement errors reaching 1% level

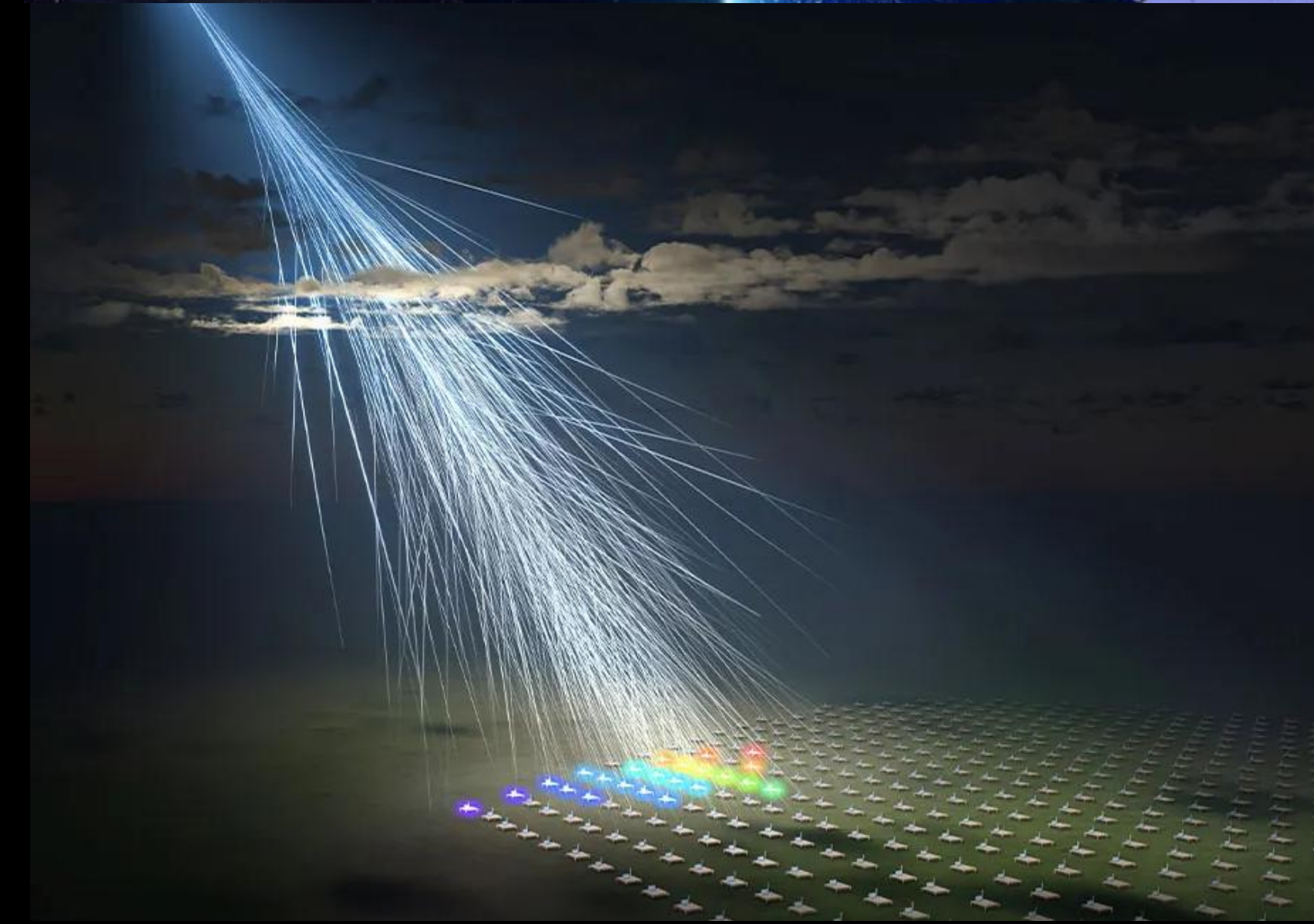
Limited in energy up to ~hundreds of TeV



Ground-based

Cover very large areas $\sim O(100)$ km² and reach maximum possible energies — up to 10^{19} eV (~millions of TeV)

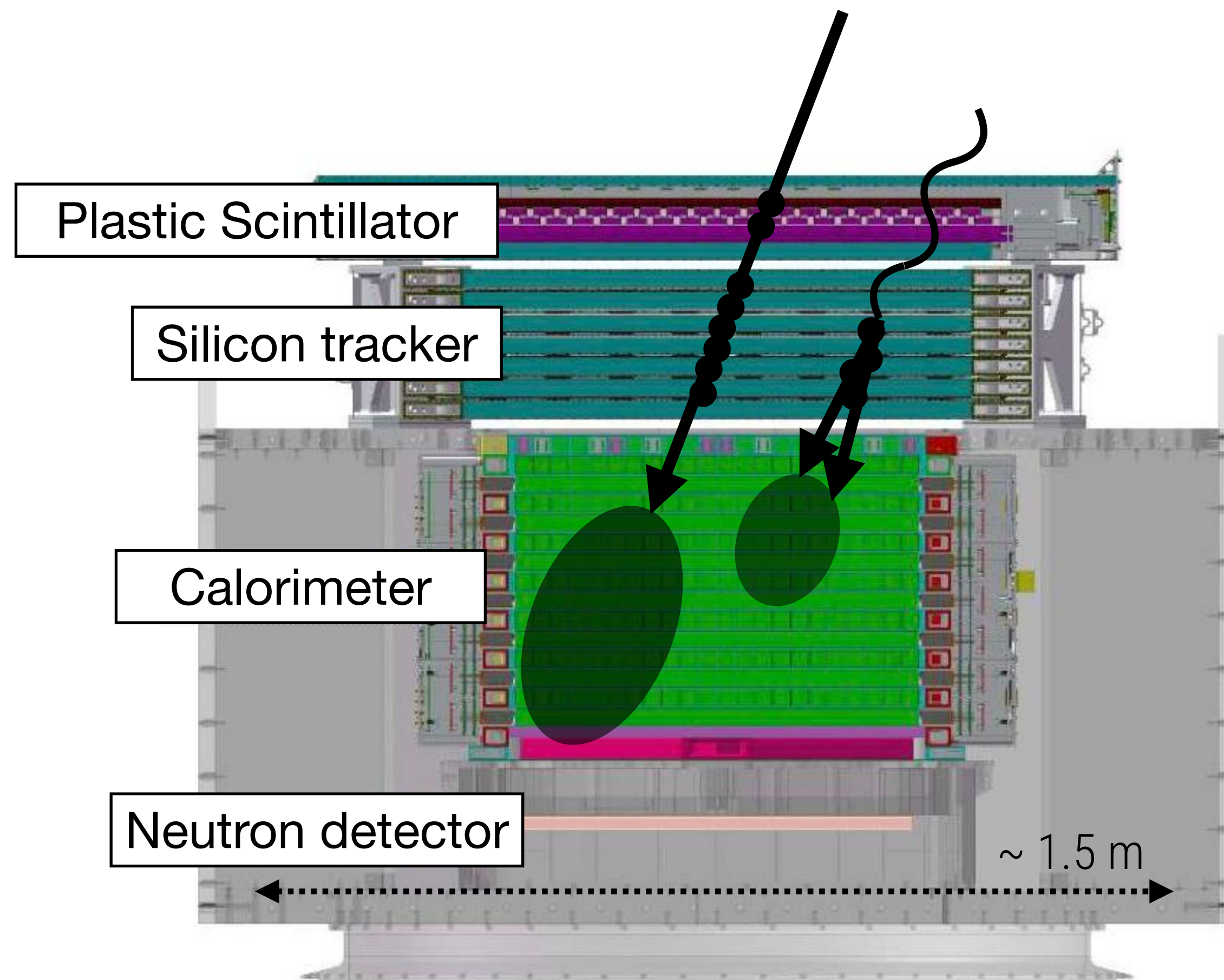
Not very precise — measurement errors more than 100%!



DArk Matter Particle Explorer (DAMPE)

6

DAMPE — a high-energy cosmic ray space mission



Example of a typical cosmic ray (left particle)
gamma ray (right particle) interaction in DAMPE

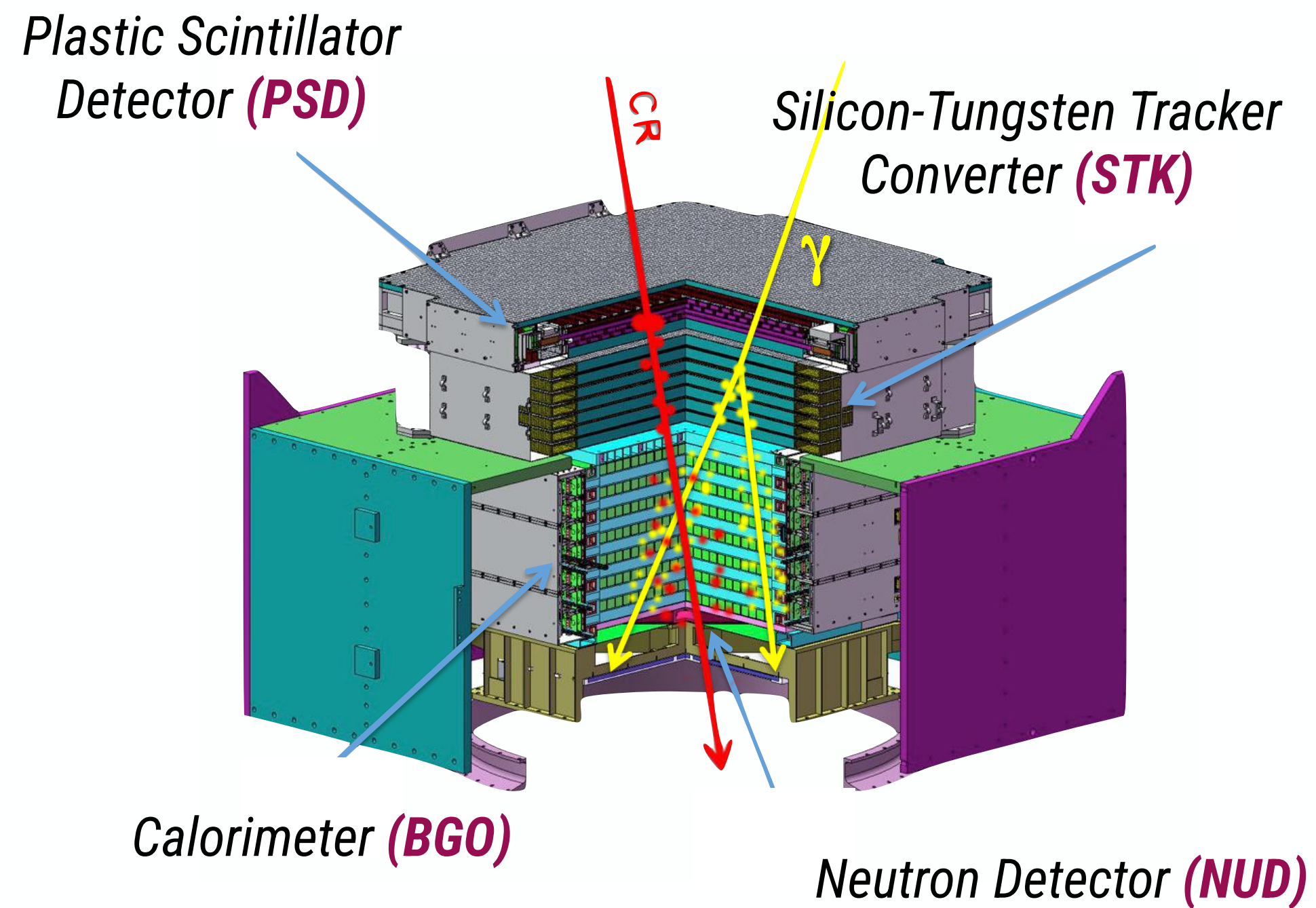
Video credit: Chinese Academy of Science



Joined project of China,
Switzerland and Italy
(launched in 2015)

DArk Matter Particle Explorer (DAMPE)

7



PSD

- Z identification up to *Ni* ($Z=28$)
- γ anti-coincidence signal

STK

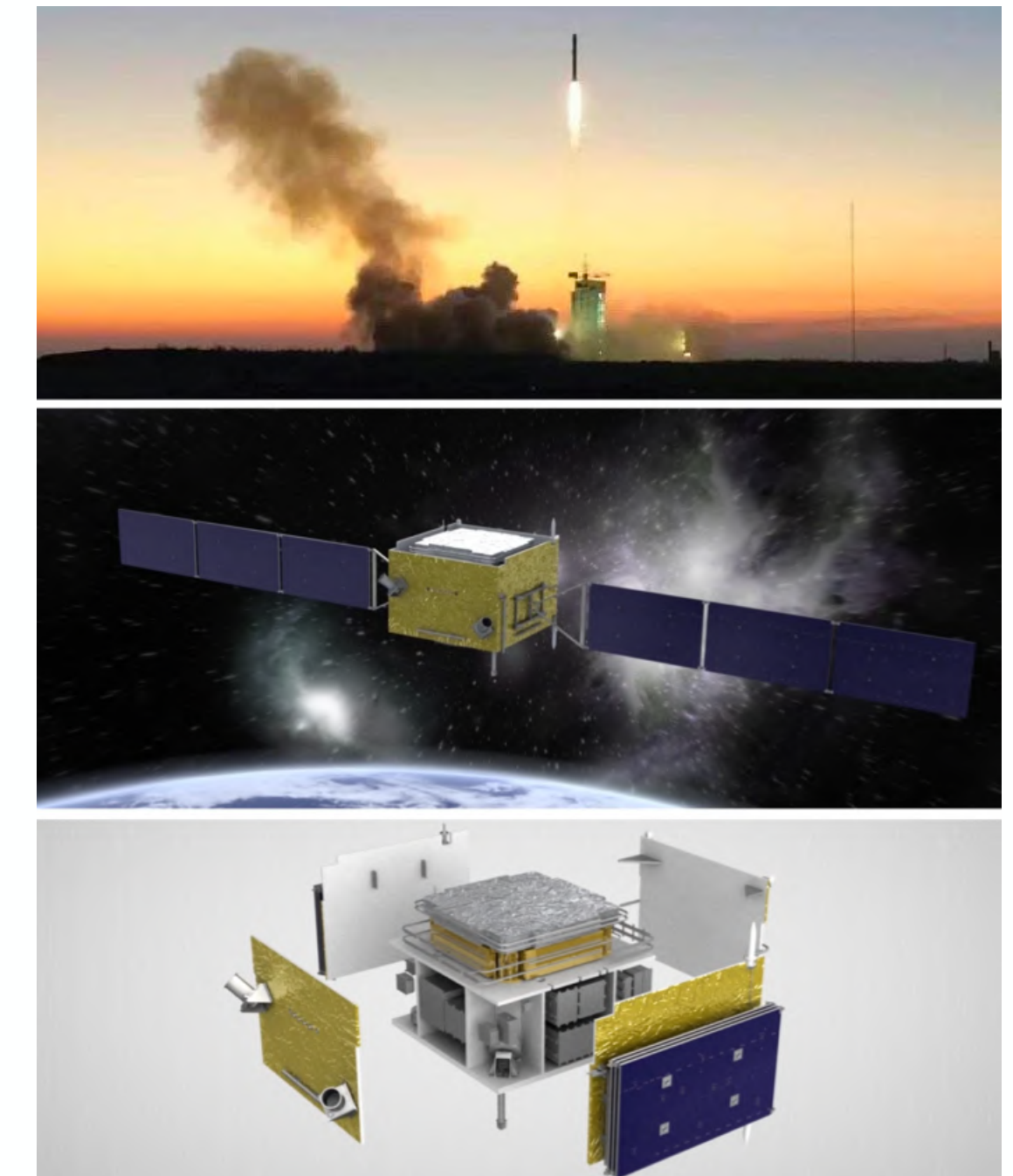
- Position solution ~ 50 micron
- γ -ray angular resolution $0.5^\circ - 0.1^\circ$
- Absolute Charge (Z) identification

BGO

- $31 X_0$ – thickest in space
- e/γ detection **GeV – 10 TeV**
- p/ions : **50 GeV – PeV**

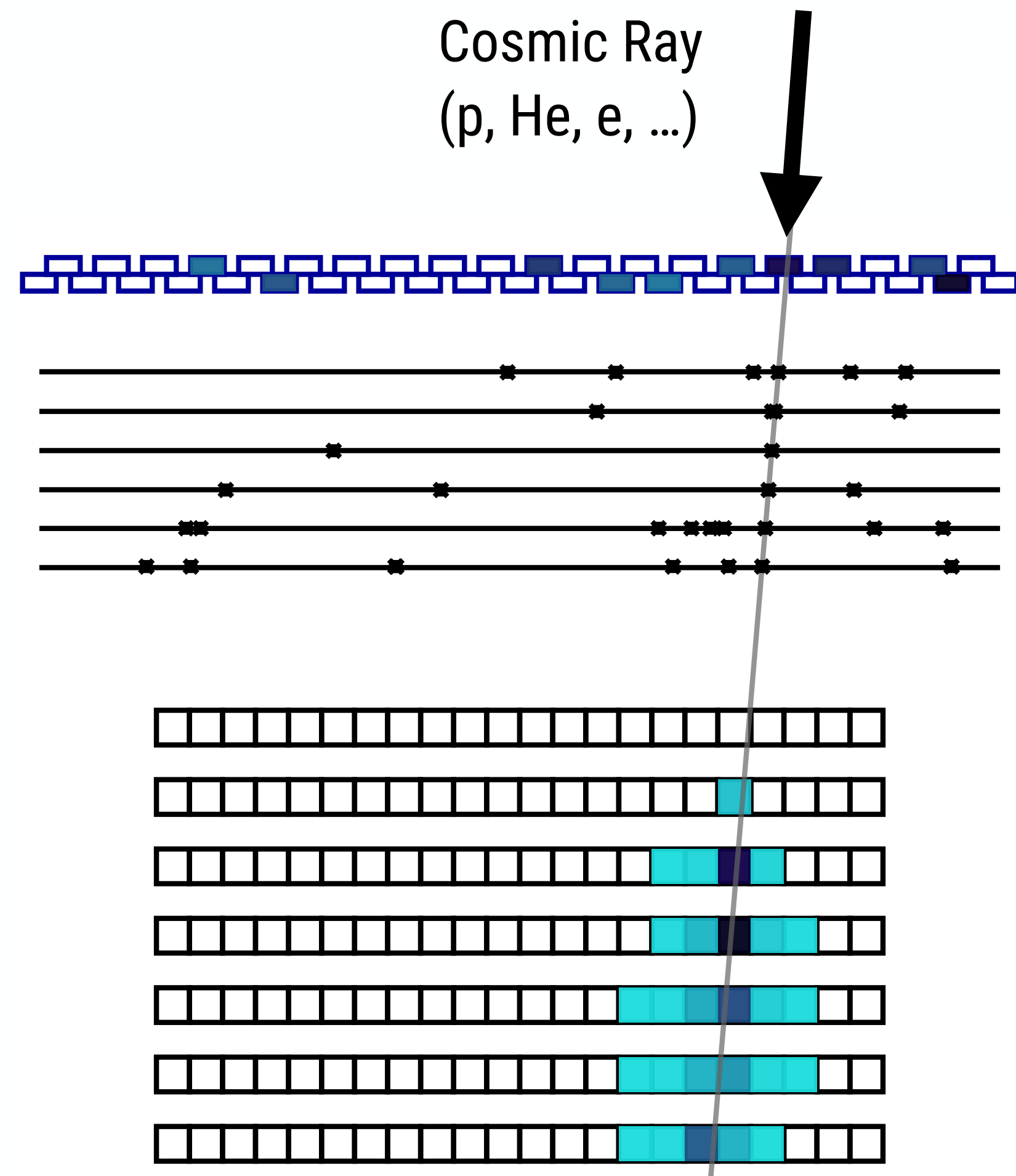
NUD

- Additional e/p rejection power



DArk Matter Particle Explorer (DAMPE)

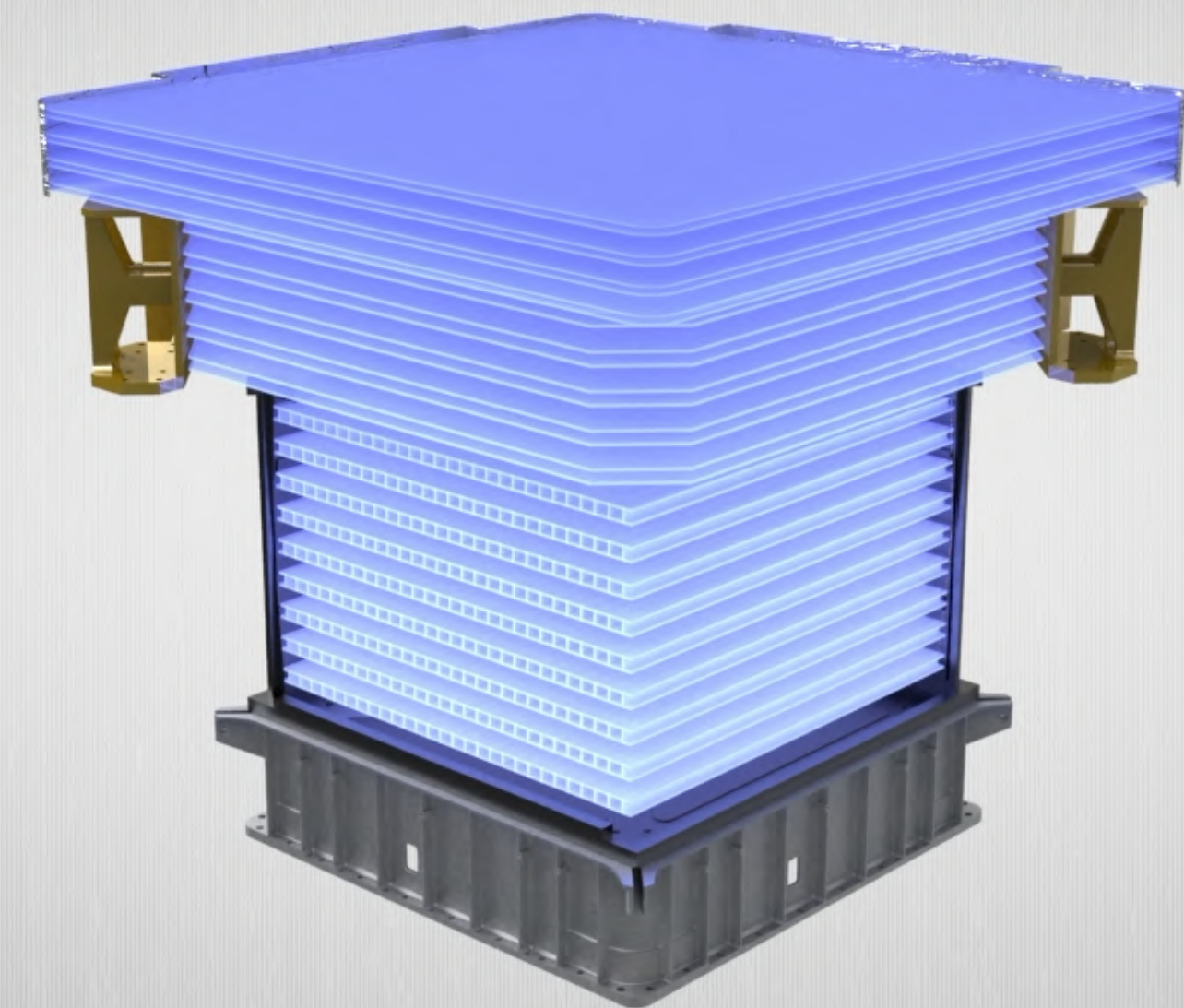
8

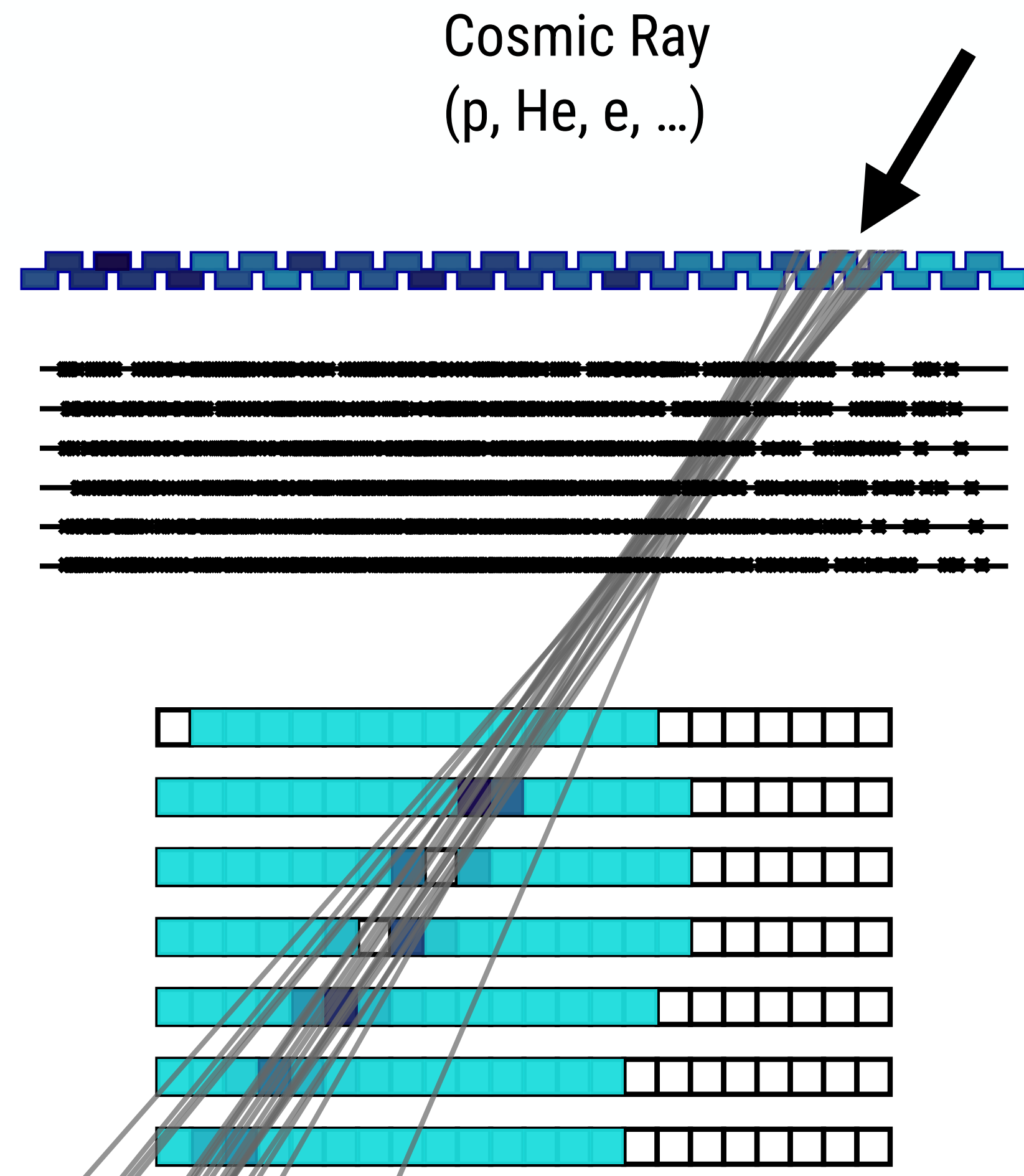


Example of a typical interaction in DAMPE (one projection) for a ~ 1 TeV cosmic ray

As a baseline for data analysis, classical well-understood techniques are use: Kalman filter for reconstructing particle track, linear regression for calorimeter image processing, etc.

Video credit: Chinese Academy of Science 观测入射粒子的种类、电荷、能量以及方向





Example of a typical interaction in DAMPE
(one projection) for a ~ 100 TeV cosmic ray

Analysis becomes challenging at $> \sim 100$ TeV due to back-scattering of secondaries particle from calorimeter.

Identifying a track of a Cosmic Ray in a vast noise of secondary tracks is a **search for a needle in a haystack!**

Q: Why it is essential to precisely identify a track of a cosmic ray?

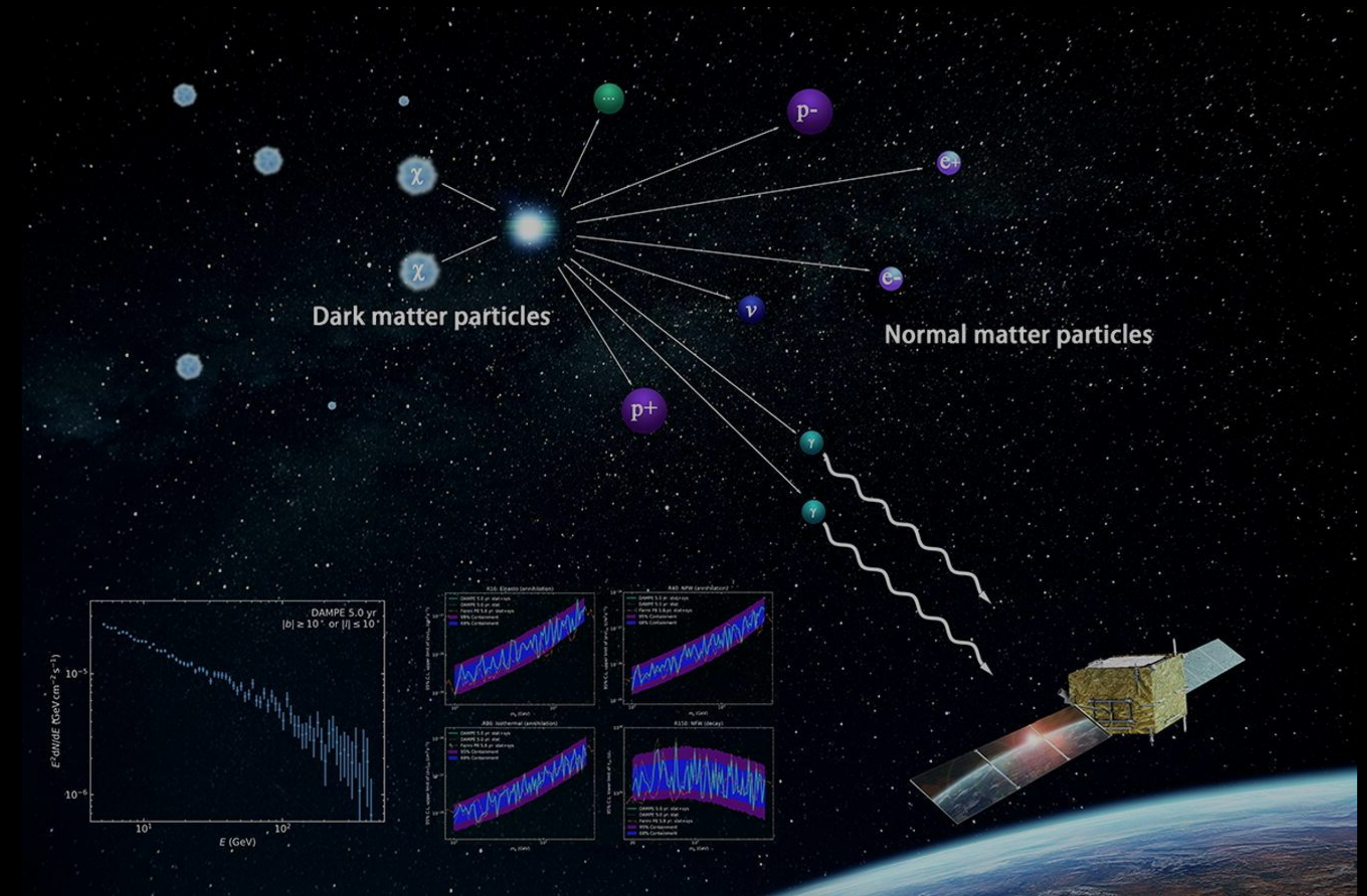
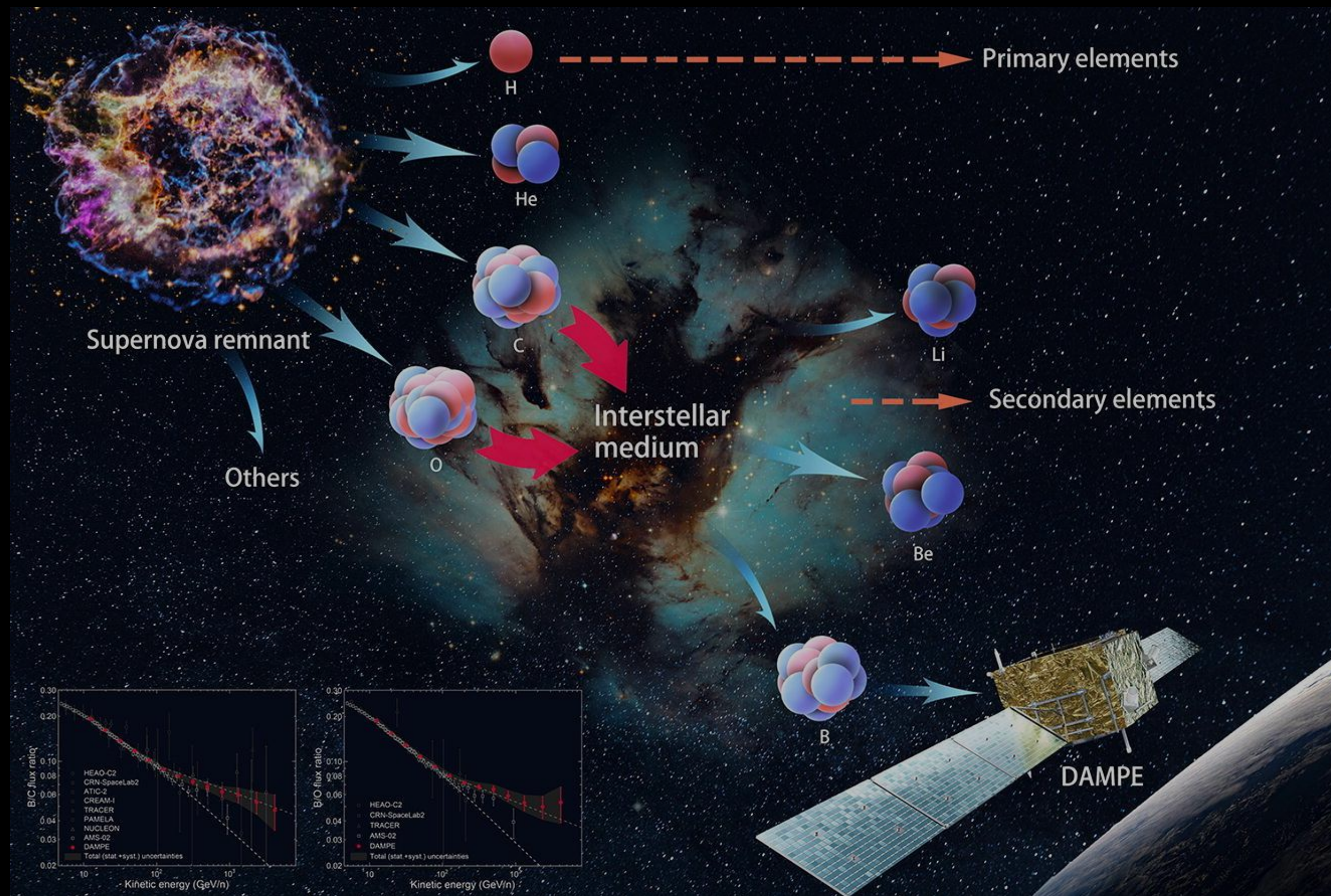
A: To extract information about the particle type (if it is p, He or other ion)!

$$\left\langle -\frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle \sim K \underbrace{z^2}_{\text{charge}} \frac{Z}{A} \frac{1}{\beta^2}$$

(Remember Bethe-Bloch formula for ionization losses)

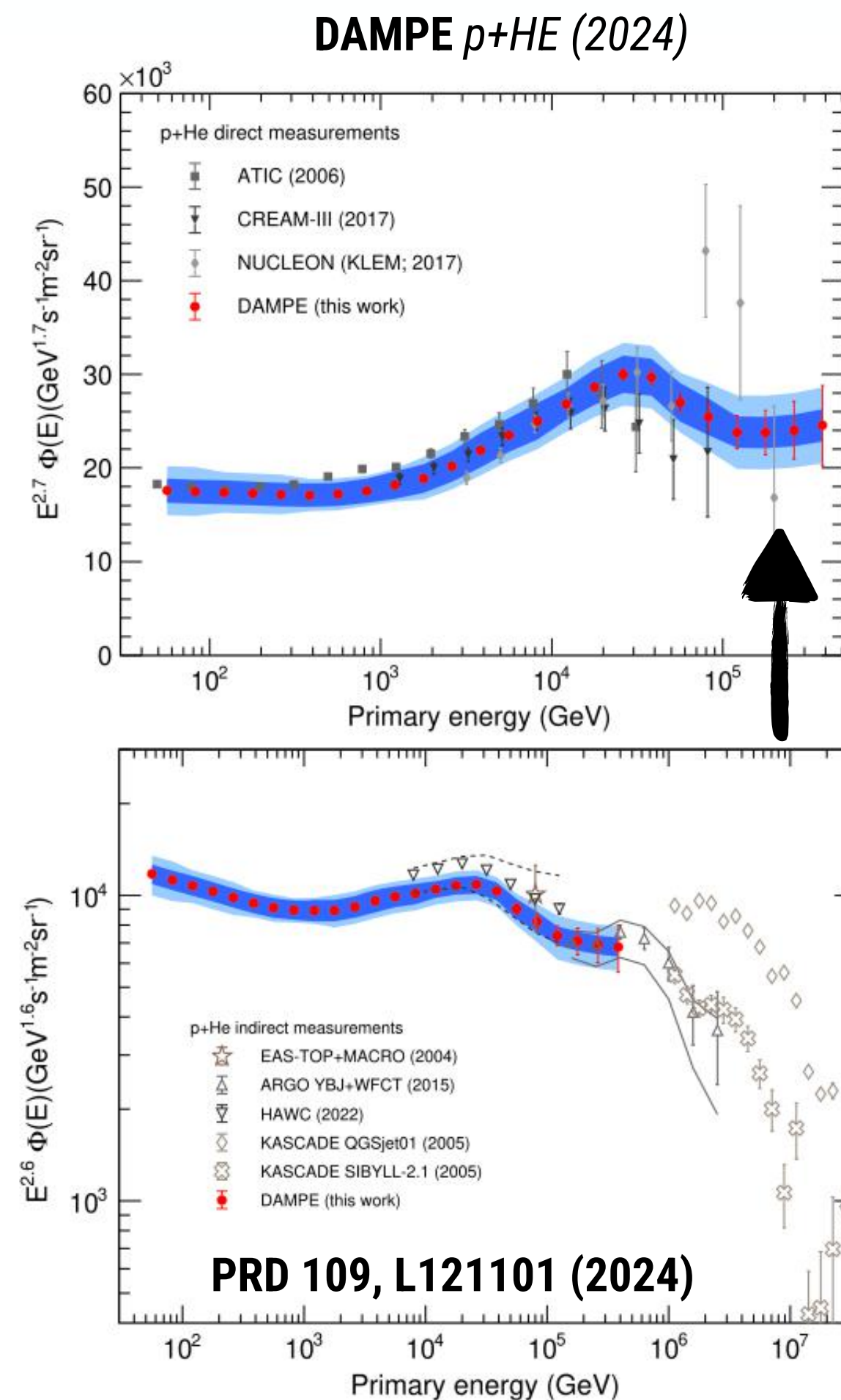
DAMPE on orbit

- Many exciting results published since 2015: electrons, protons, helium, B/C and B/O, γ -rays, solar physics
- More in progress (C,O, Ne-Mg-Si, Fe)

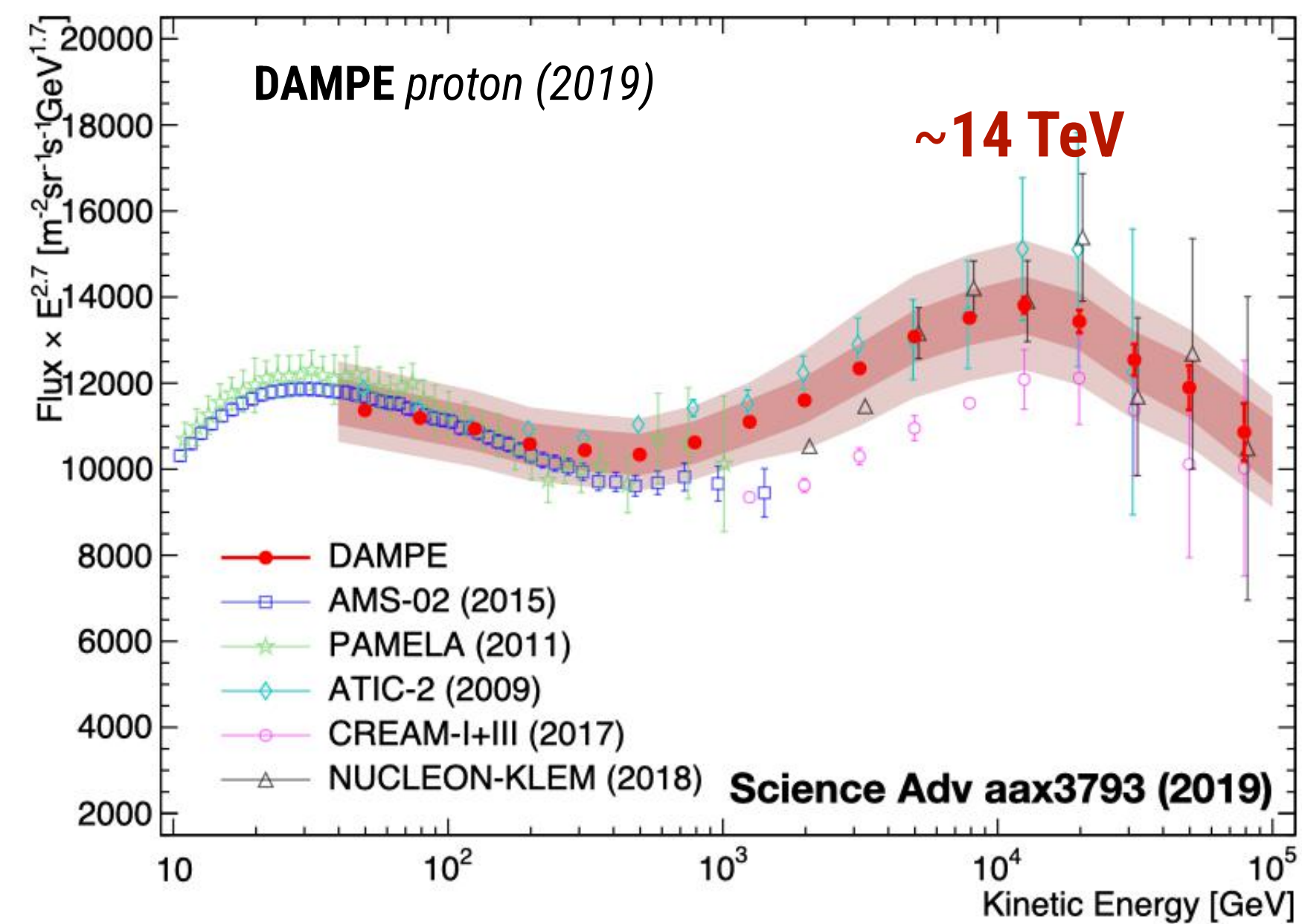


Motivation – exploring TeV-PeV energies in Space

11



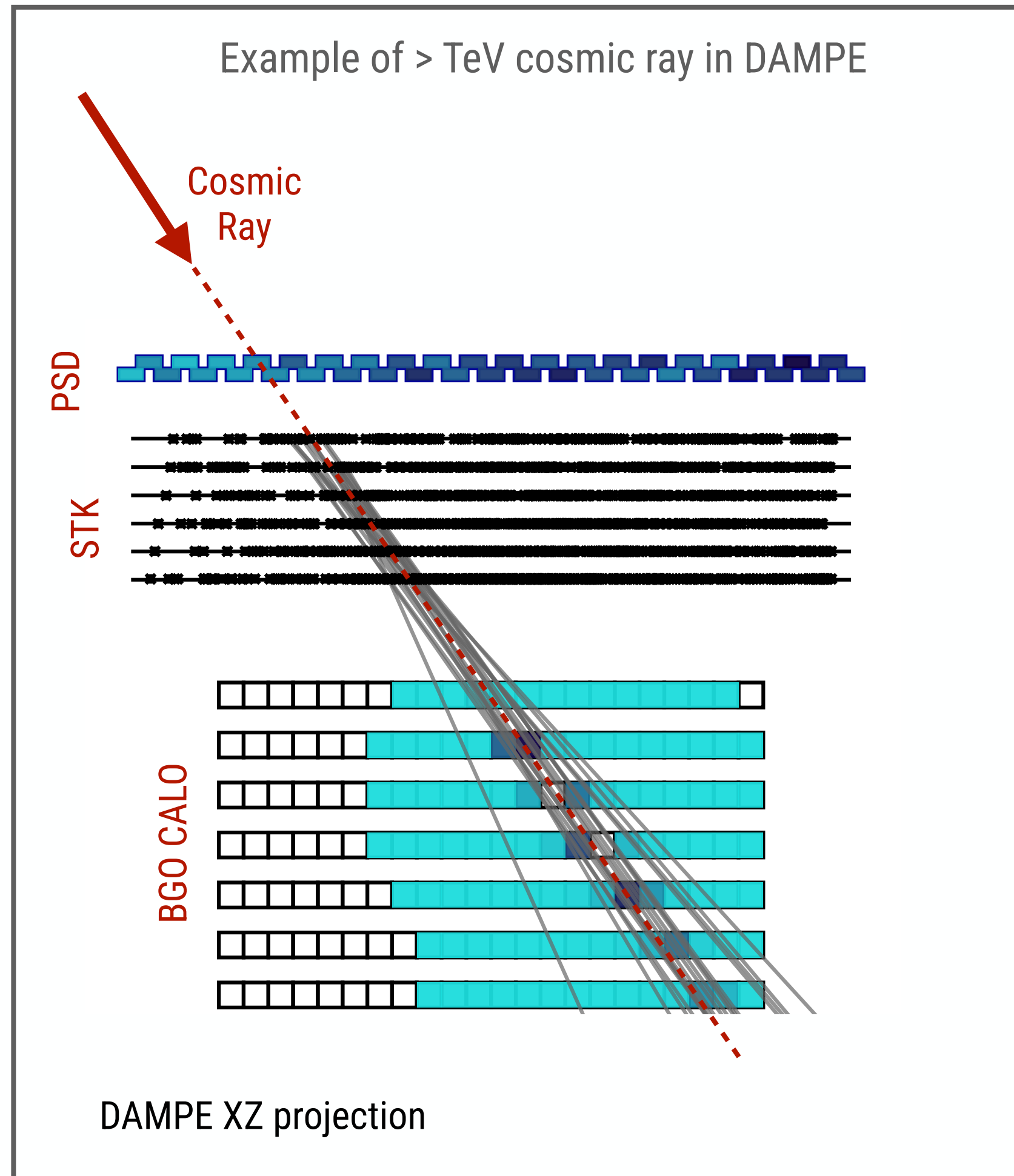
DAMPE's previous proton-spectrum result is limited to 100 TeV, and it's not only due to statistics!



- Detection of new feature in light cosmic rays (p+He) at **$\sim 150 \text{ TeV}$**
→ What is the physics behind it? We need individual p and He measurements towards PeV ... but here comes the problem (see next slides)

Challenge: CR reconstruction at > 100 TeV

12



Conventional track reconstruction:

- Shower axis from CALO as a seed
- Kalman fitting
- Combinatorial track finding
- XZ and YZ fitted separately,
- ... then combined in 3D tracks

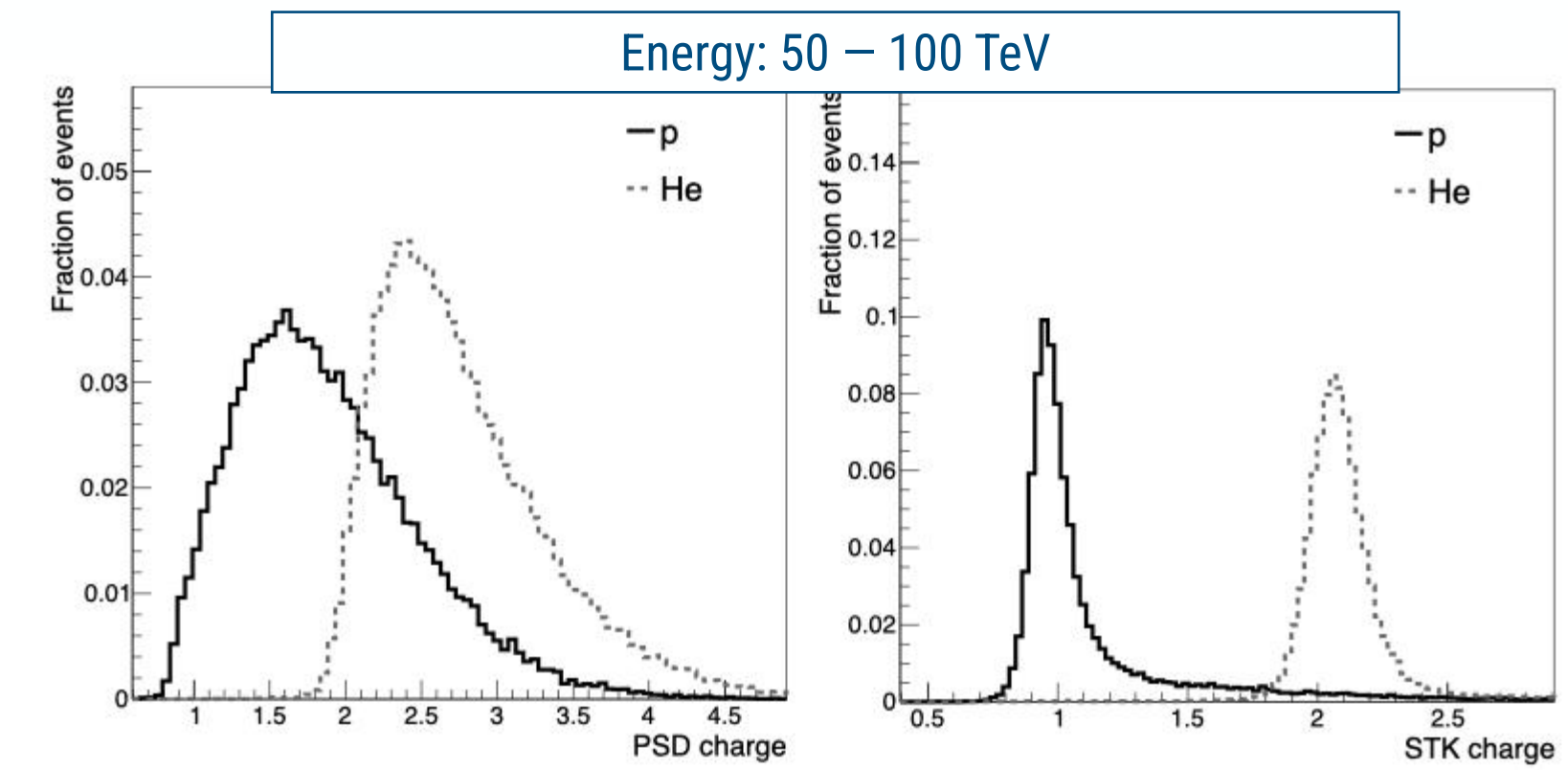
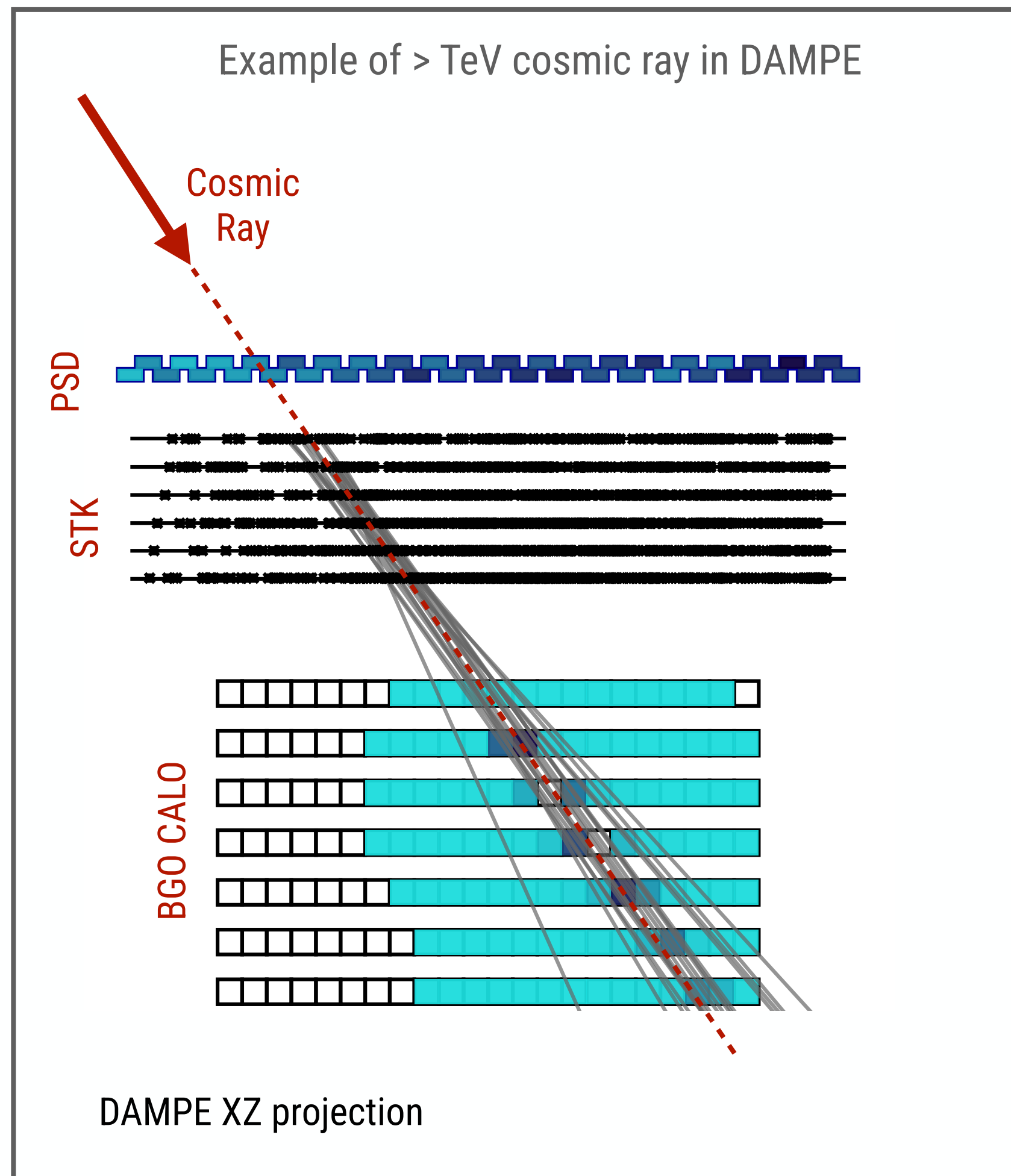
Problems:

- Selection needed to find **the ONLY track**
- Efficiency drops at high hit multiplicity

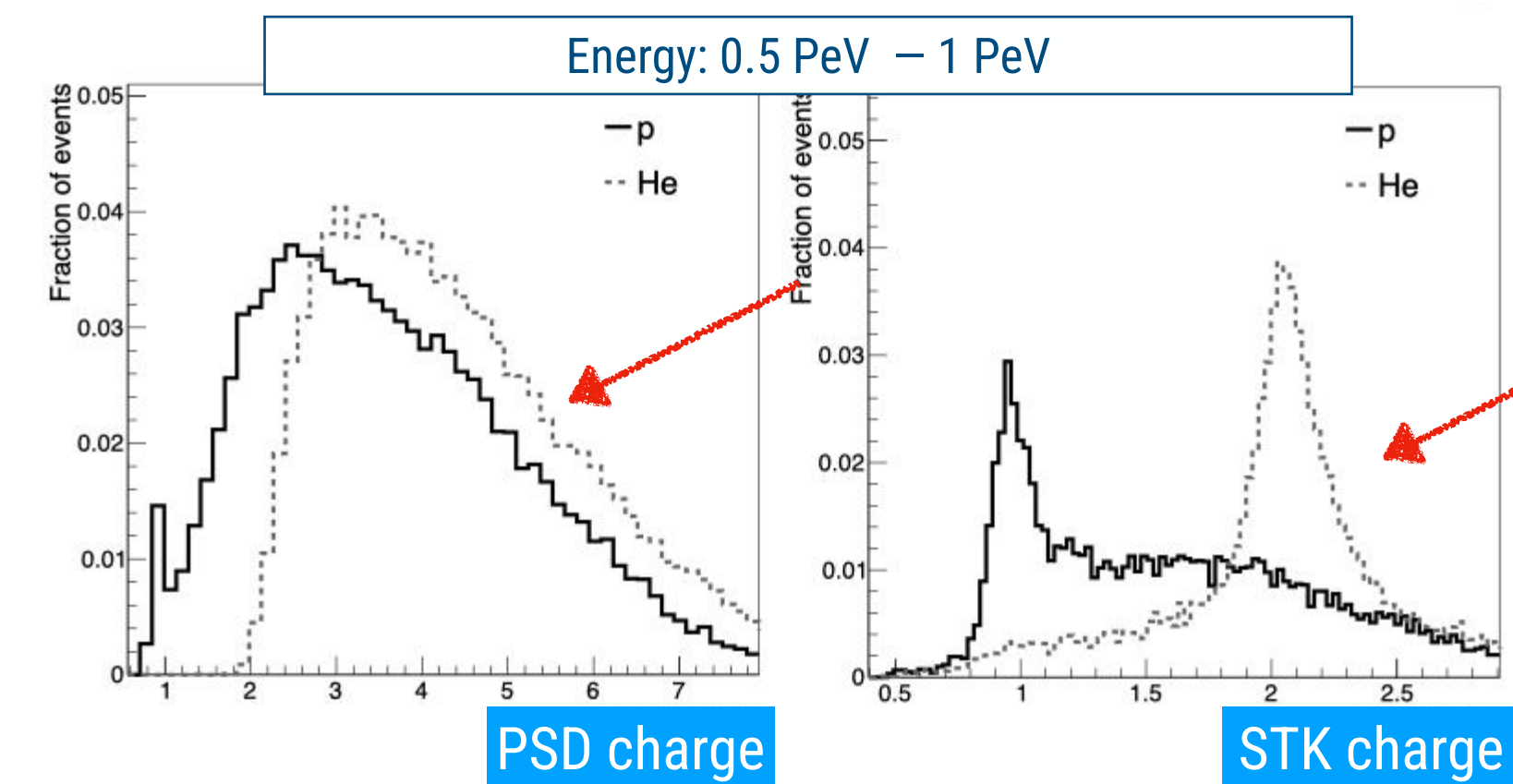
At TeV– PeV hit multiplicity increases dramatically →
Track reconstruction & identification is a key challenge!

Challenge: CR reconstruction at > 100 TeV

13



Still OK...



Not sustainable for reliable analysis

Charge identification in PSD – track used as a pointer:

- Tolerant to track mis-identification
- However, **p and He peaks “washed out” at high energies!**

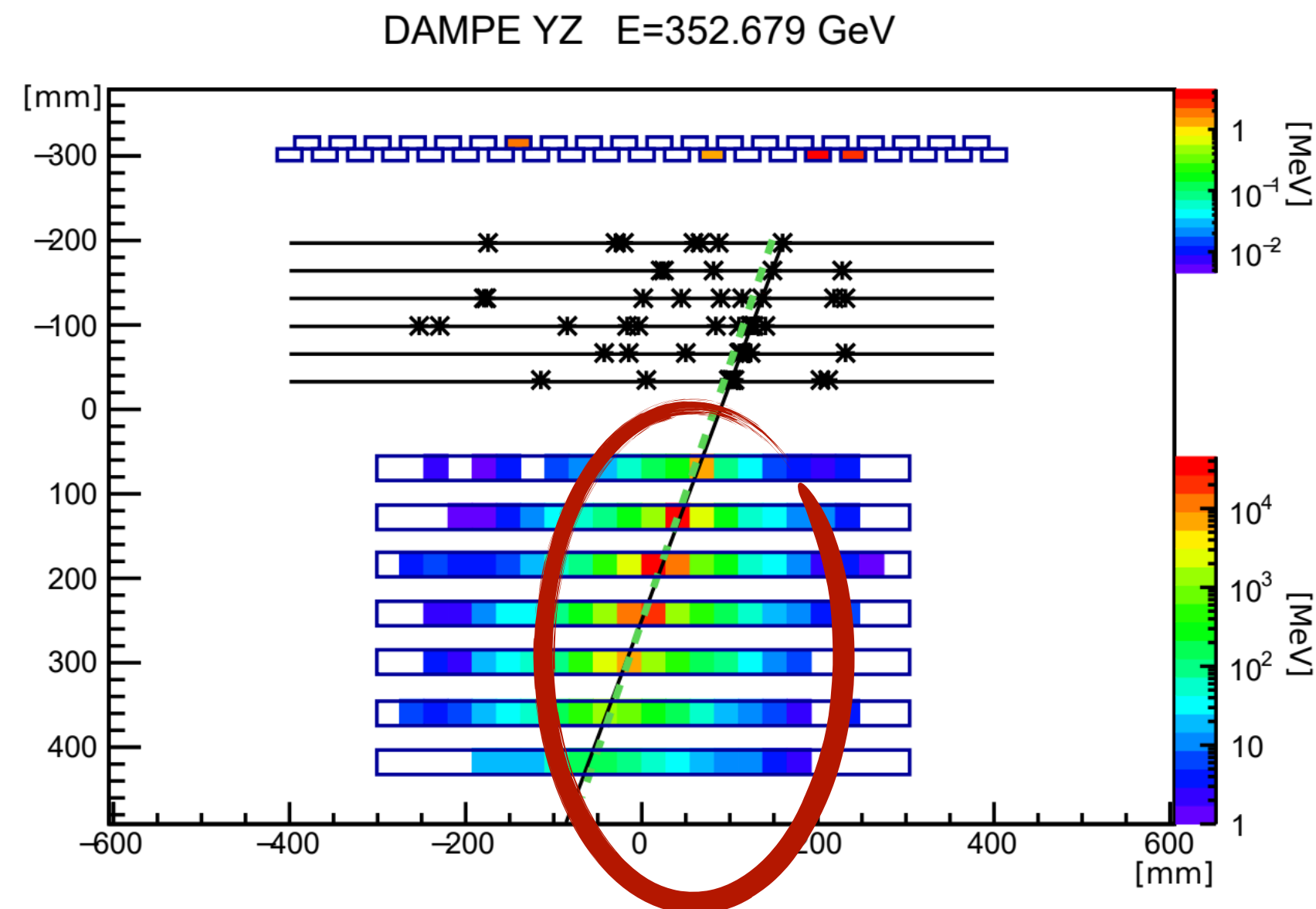
We need a new algorithm to reconstruct particle track with ultimately better precision! (regression type of problem)

Challenge: CR electron/proton discrimination

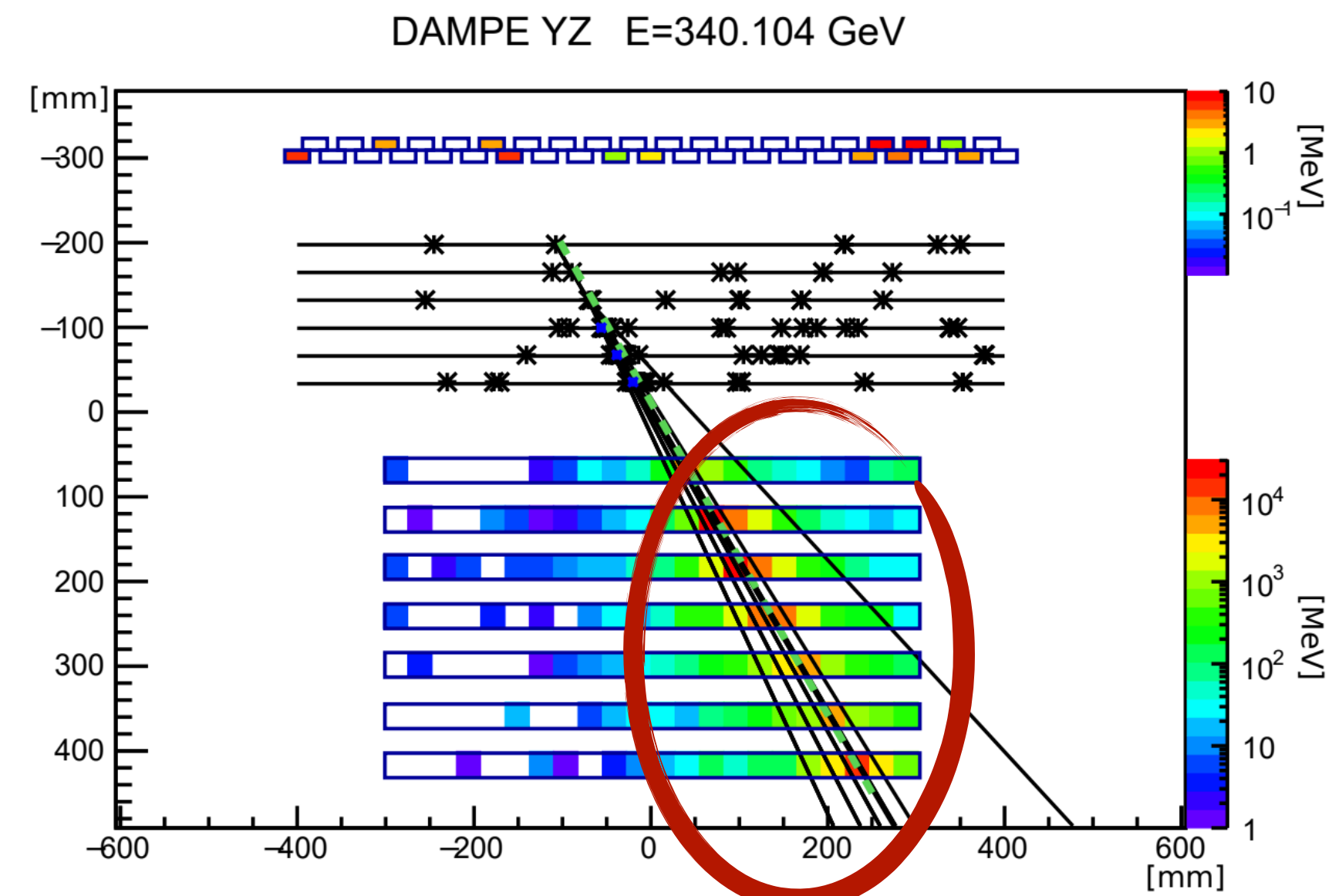
14

Protons are 10^4 – 10^5 times more than electrons at $> \text{TeV}$ energies. While electromagnetic showers are prominently different from hadronic ones, at such high rates one can get proton showers that look exactly like electrons (for example due to $>90\%$ π^0 content). As we move to higher energies, our e/p discrimination methods have to "look" for more-and-more subtle details that tell electron from proton

Typical **electron**
interaction in DAMPE



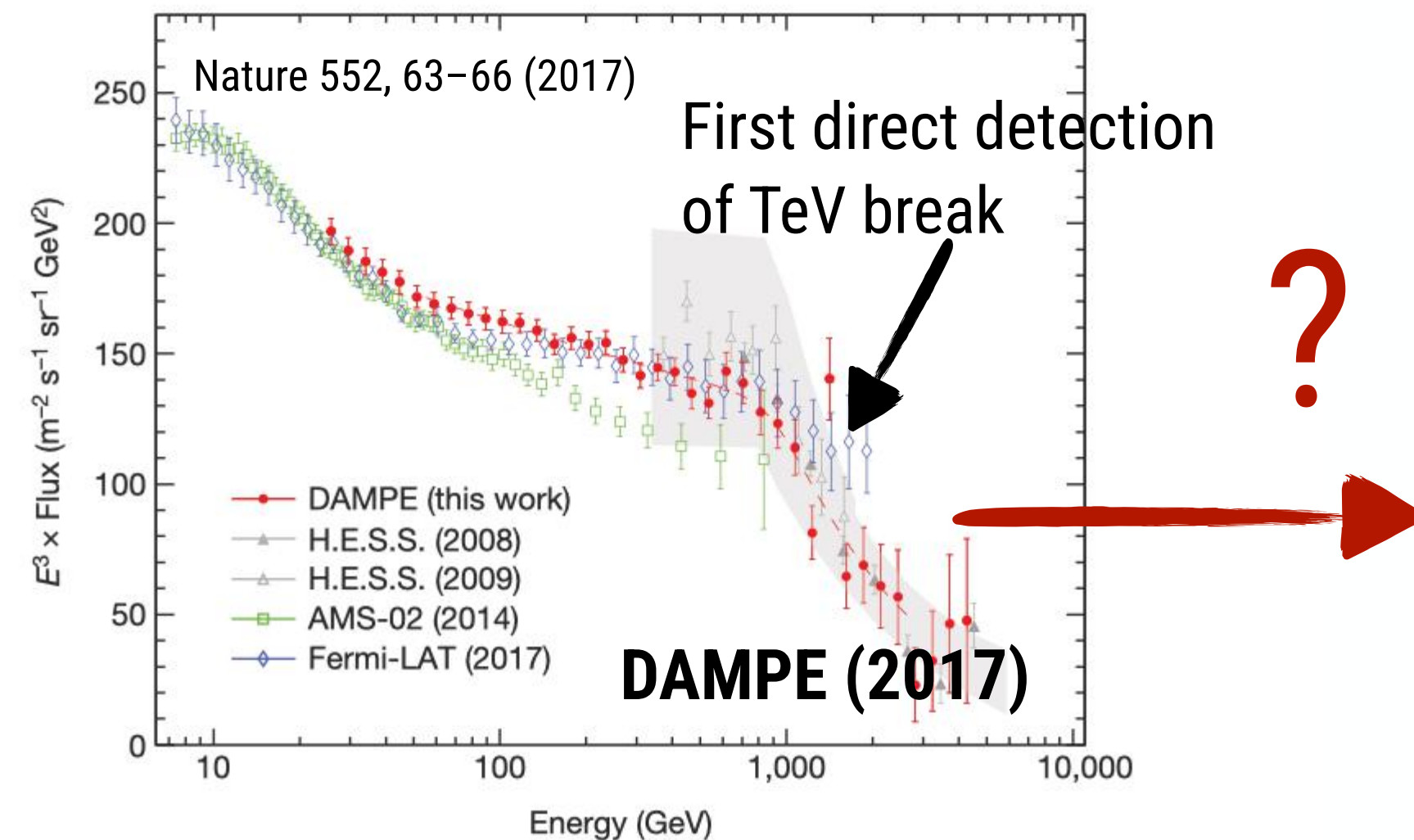
Typical **proton**
interaction in DAMPE



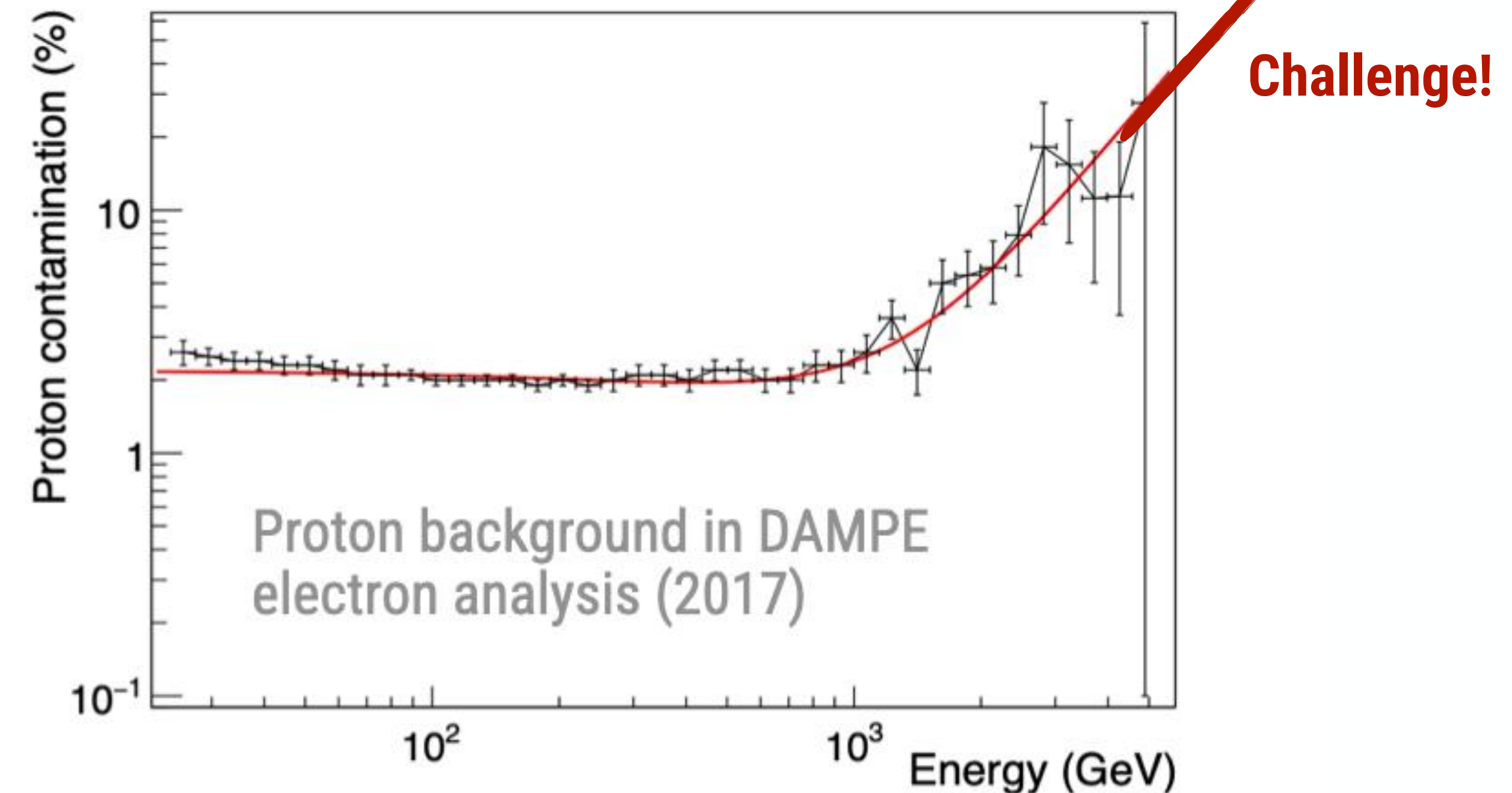
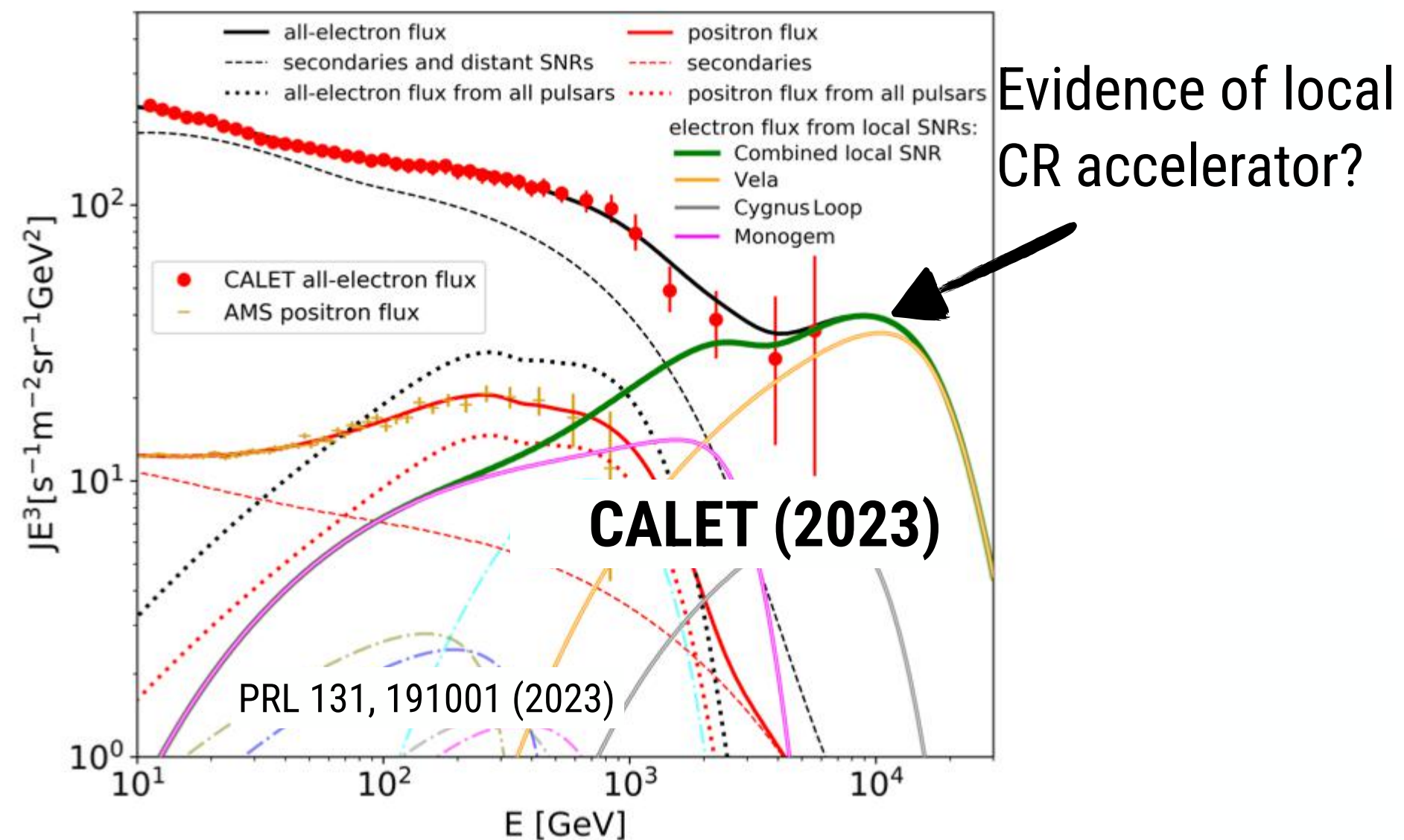
We need very powerful e/p separation technique!
(classification type of the problem)!

Challenge: CR electron/proton discrimination

15

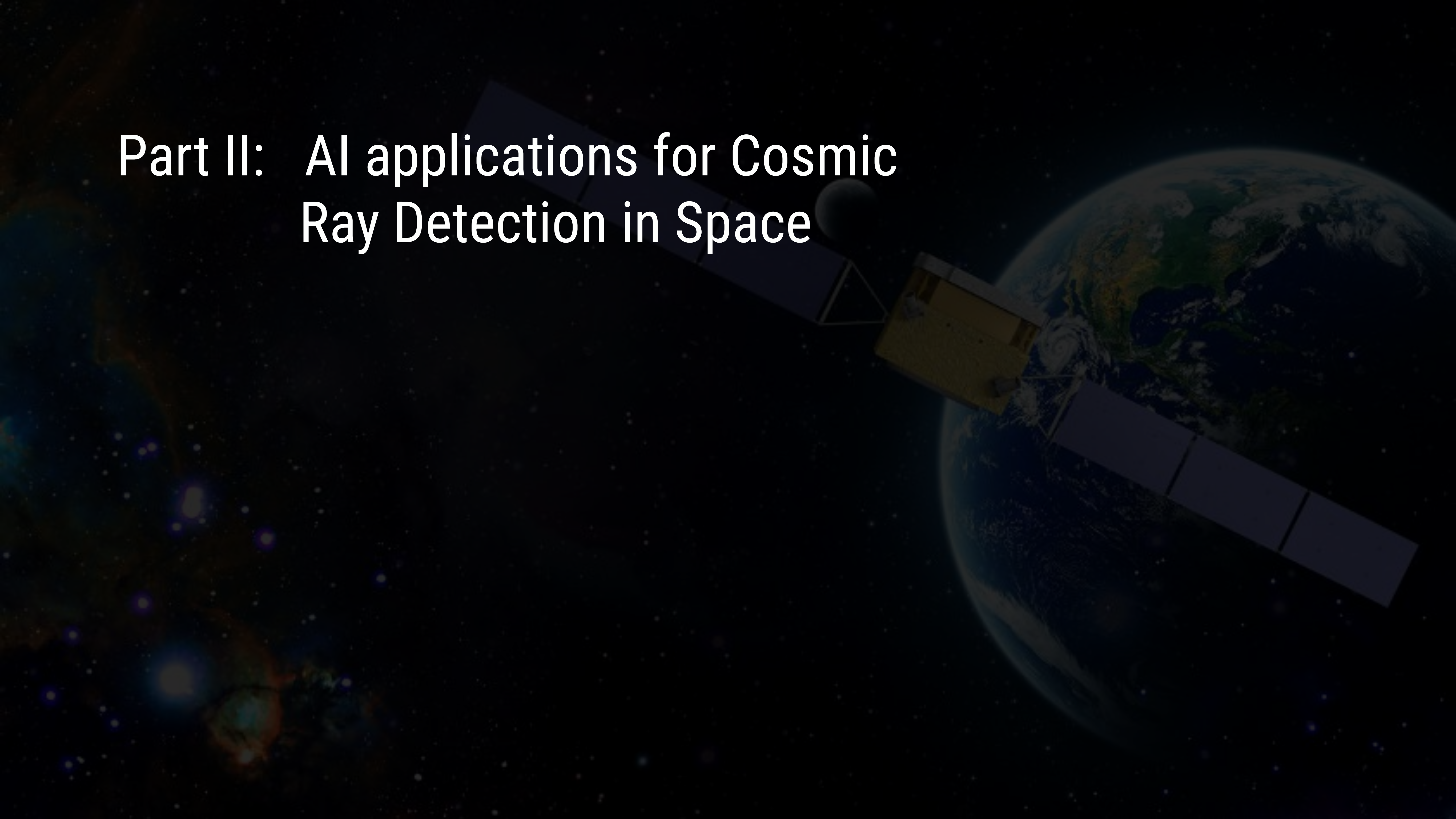


Arguably, we are on a brink of detection of the first CR accelerator directly in CR spectra: electrons at > 10 TeV



We need very powerful e/p separation technique!
(classification type of the problem)!

Part II: AI applications for Cosmic Ray Detection in Space



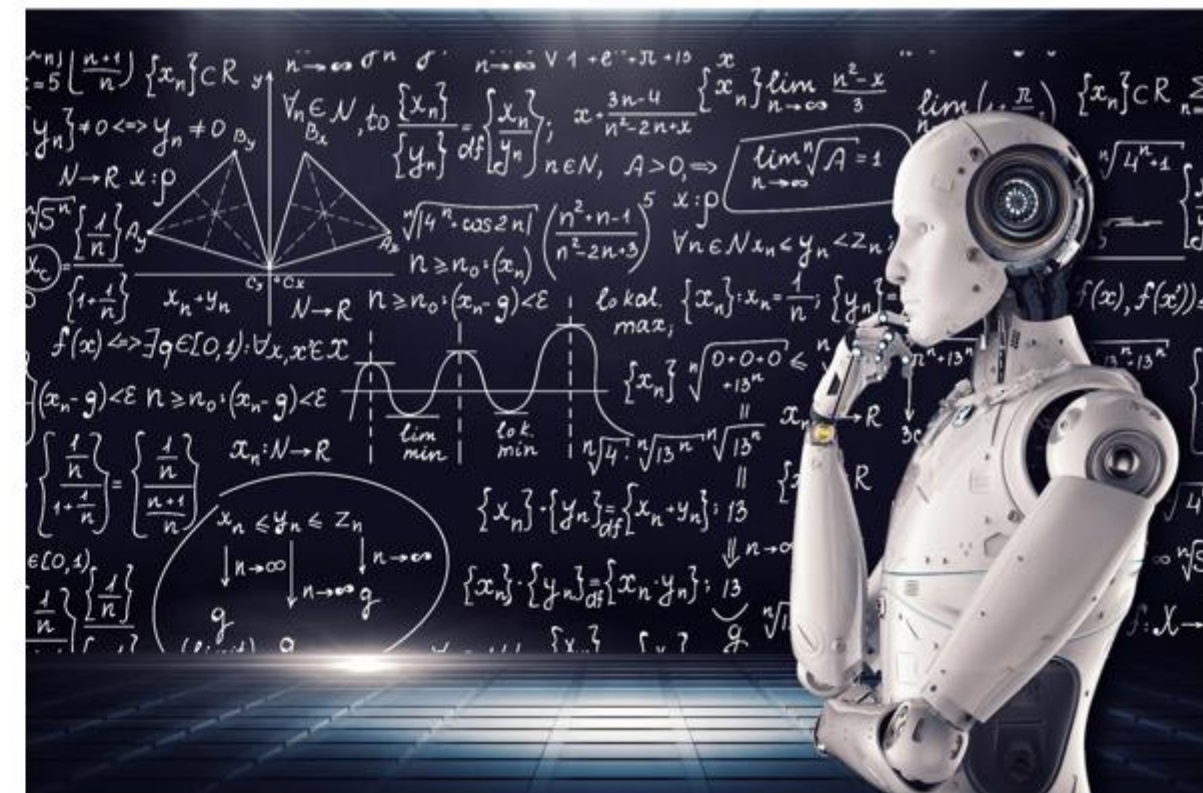
Artificial Intelligence

Human Intelligence
Exhibited by Machines



Machine Learning

An Approach to Achieve
Artificial Intelligence

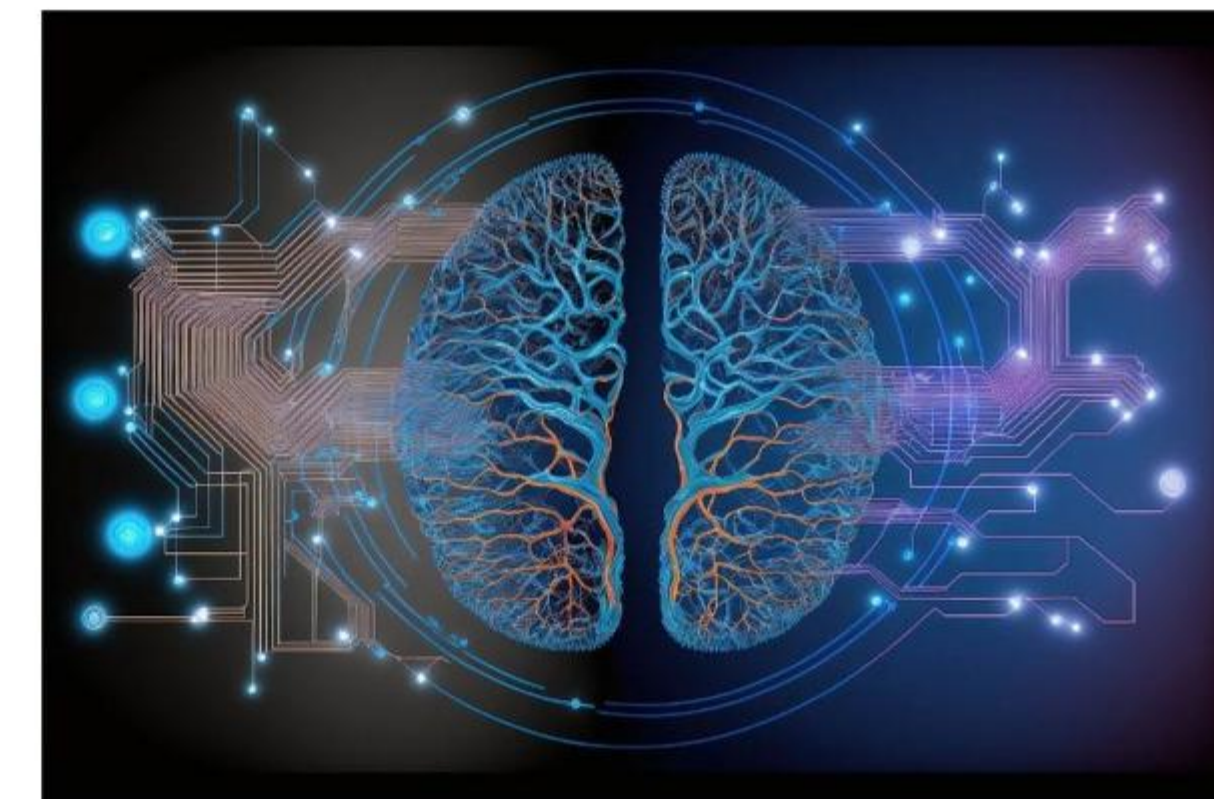


We focus mostly on deep learning
applications in this talk



Deep Learning

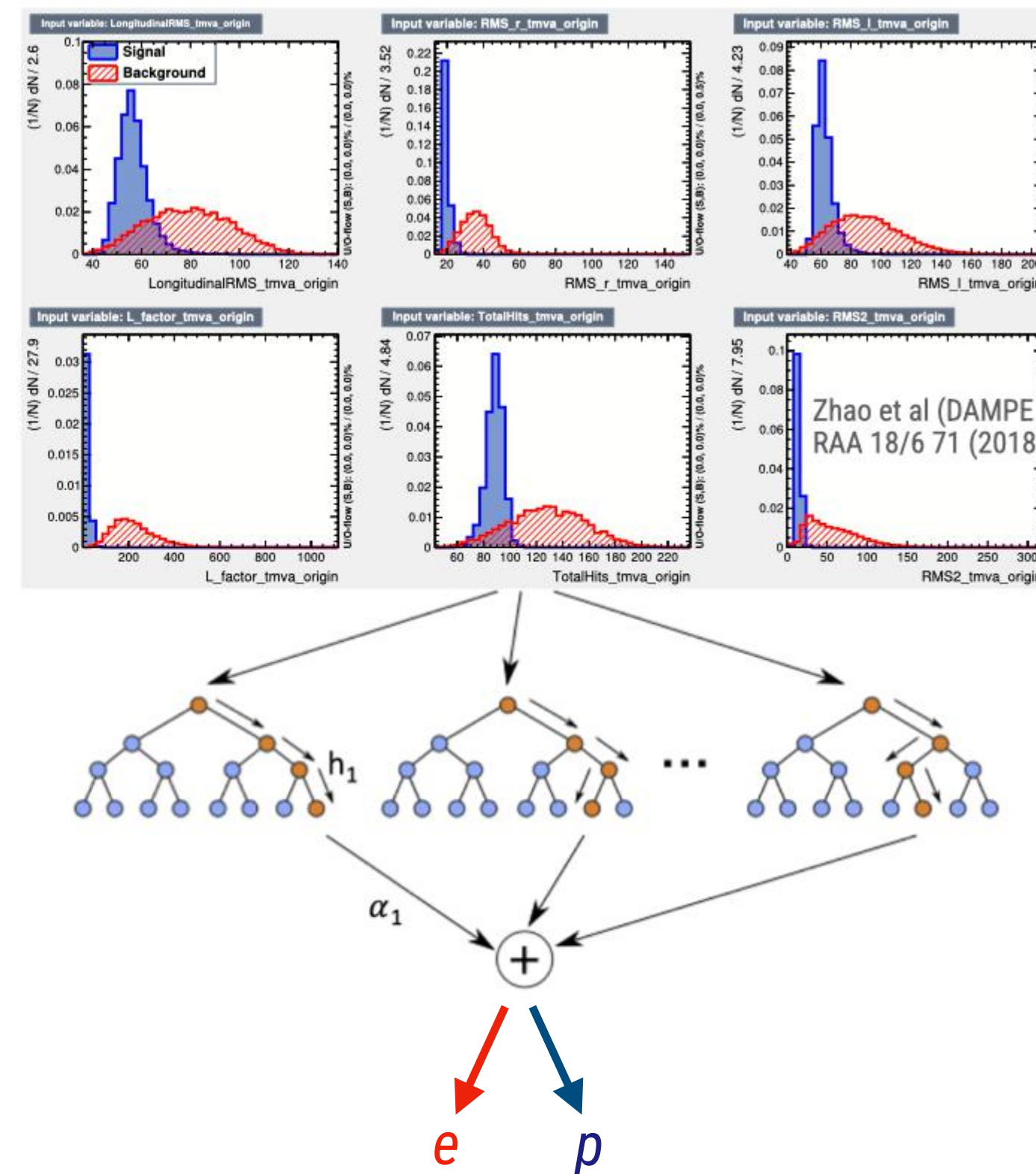
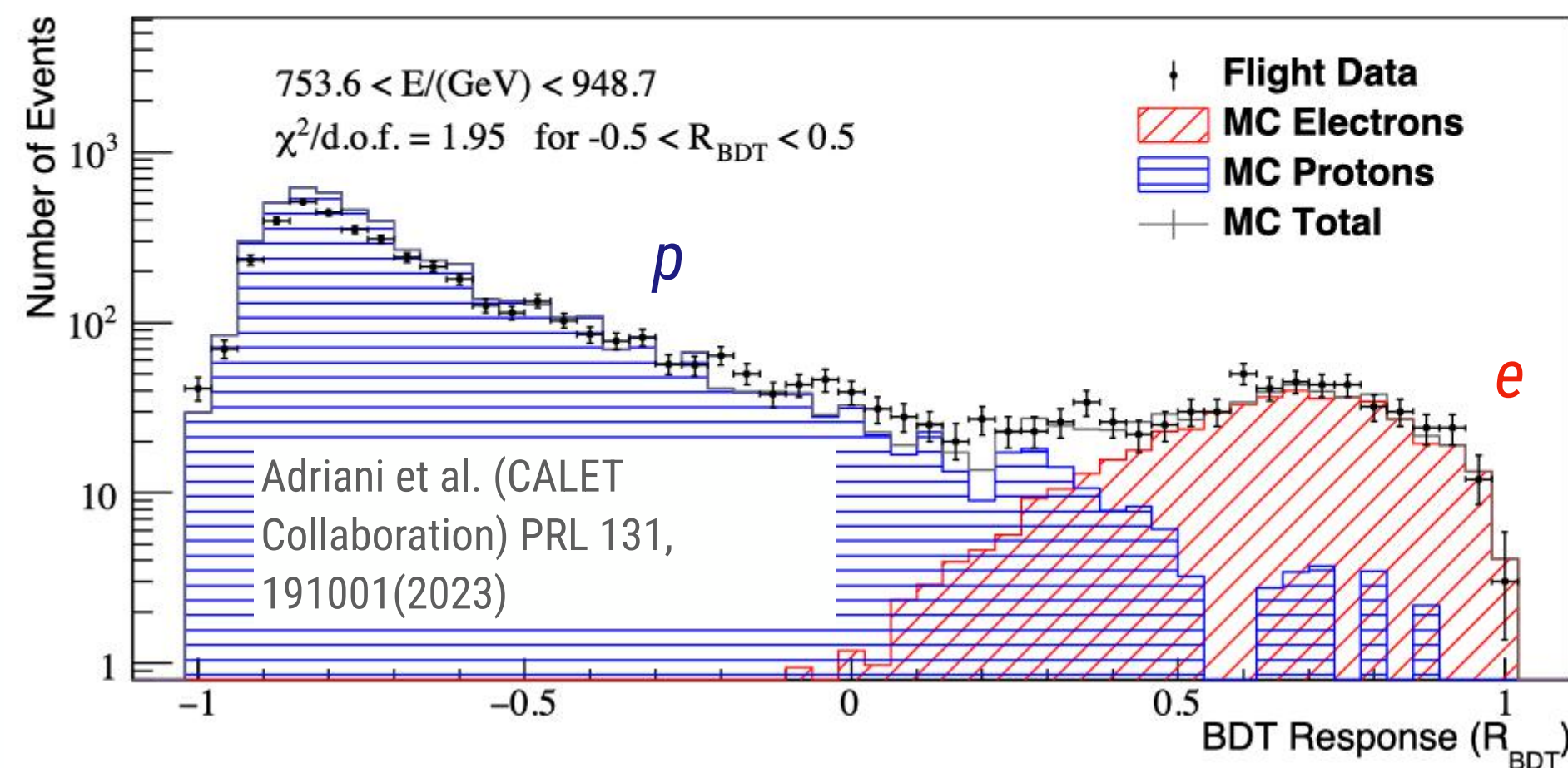
A Technique for
Implementing Machine
Learning



Boosted Decision Trees (BDTs) [... not deep learning]

18

- Powerful technique for classification (and in certain case regression)
- Well-known/studied since pre-LHC era
- Commonly used in space experiments (AMS-02, CALET, DAMPE)



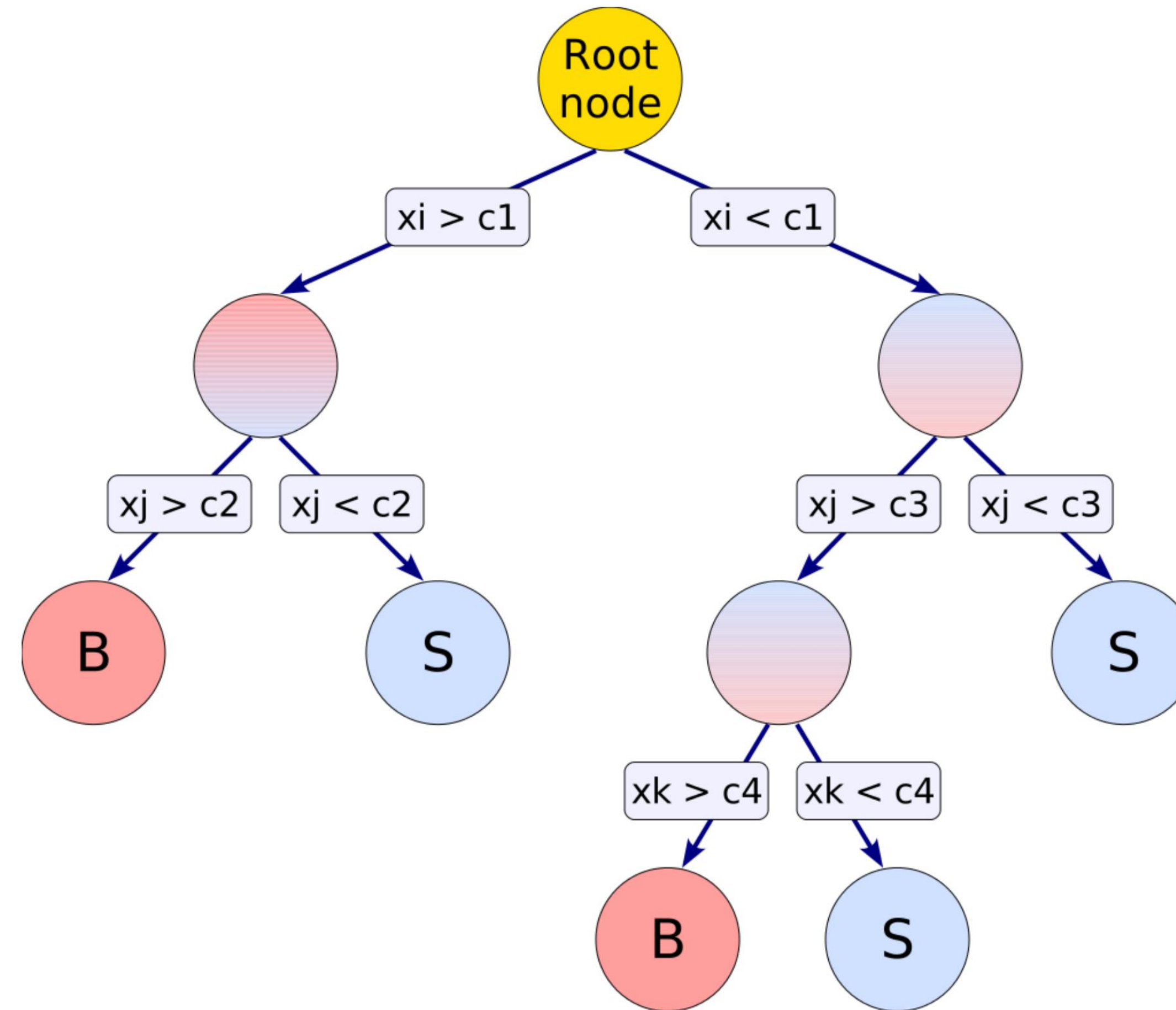
Classical use case: combination of correlated high-level variables each having some classification power (number of hits in the detector, energy-per-layer etc.)



Boosted Decision Trees (BDTs) [... not deep learning]

19

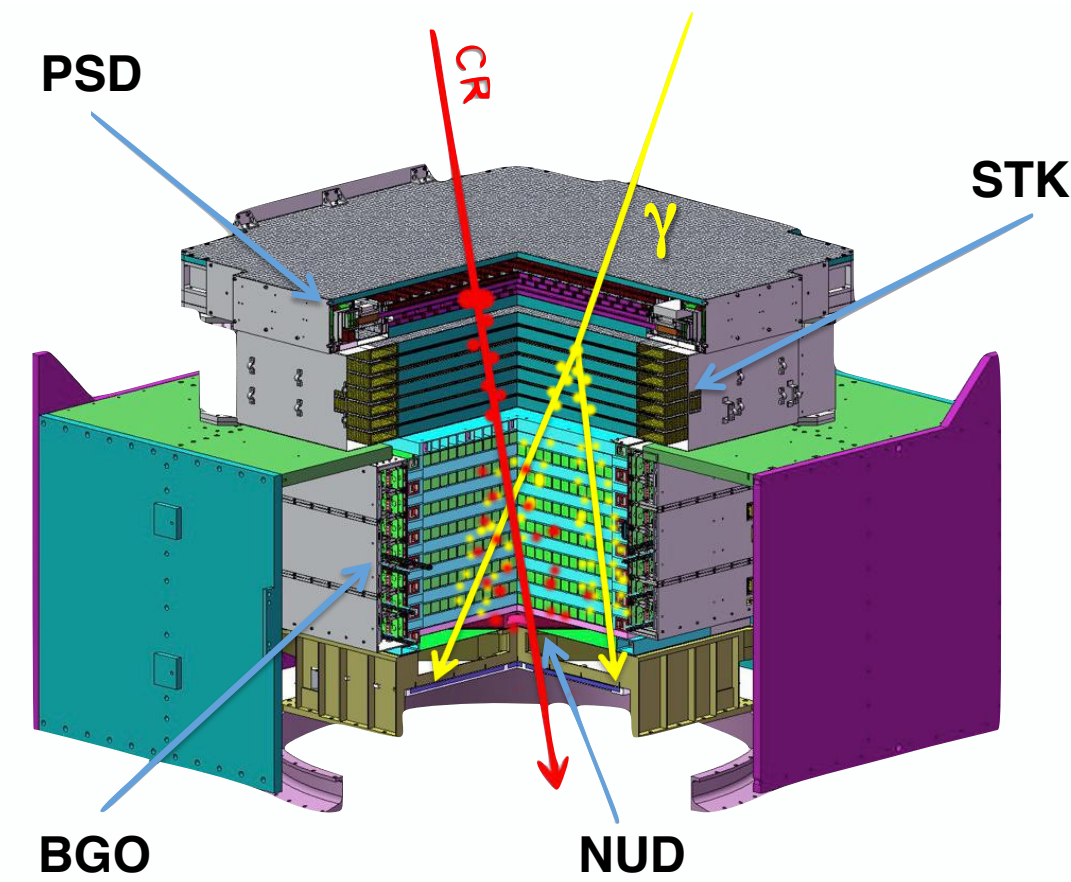
- We all saw this canonical image, but what is BDT and how it is trained?



Boosted Decision Trees (BDTs) [... not deep learning]

Let's take an example of DAMPE detector:

- Say, we have one million simulate particle interaction in DAMPE, denoted as **0 for proton, 1 for electron**.
- Each interaction is characterized, say, by 4 **features** (E_{TOT} , ϕ , θ , X_{MAX}) (it is very ovesimplified)



E_TOT	phi	theta	X_max	particle
[7.75681502e+01,	1.53397721e+00,	1.44904093e-01,	4.88372628e-01]	[0]
[9.44332801e+01,	4.99172621e-01,	1.01597742e+00,	4.05432853e-01]	[0]
[8.07924576e+01,	1.09393488e+00,	1.70475418e+00,	8.92284561e-02]	[1]
[9.07662861e+01,	2.94882994e-01,	1.43258714e+00,	6.00182604e-01]	[0]
[2.56174396e+01,	1.60203322e-01,	2.53668119e+00,	9.24928506e-02]	[0]
[5.11821004e+01,	1.55394742e+00,	1.68910805e+00,	4.05057996e-01]	[0]
[5.52805087e+01,	1.49059293e+00,	9.15734664e-01,	2.89532404e-01]	[1]
...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...
[6.02792632e+00,	3.36060004e-01,	1.13356232e+00,	2.46623555e-01]	[1]
[9.32034716e+01,	1.38081000e+00,	5.86855693e+00,	6.46444145e-01]	[0]
[1.95756751e+01,	7.29298459e-01,	3.65878315e+00,	3.08917693e-01]	[0]

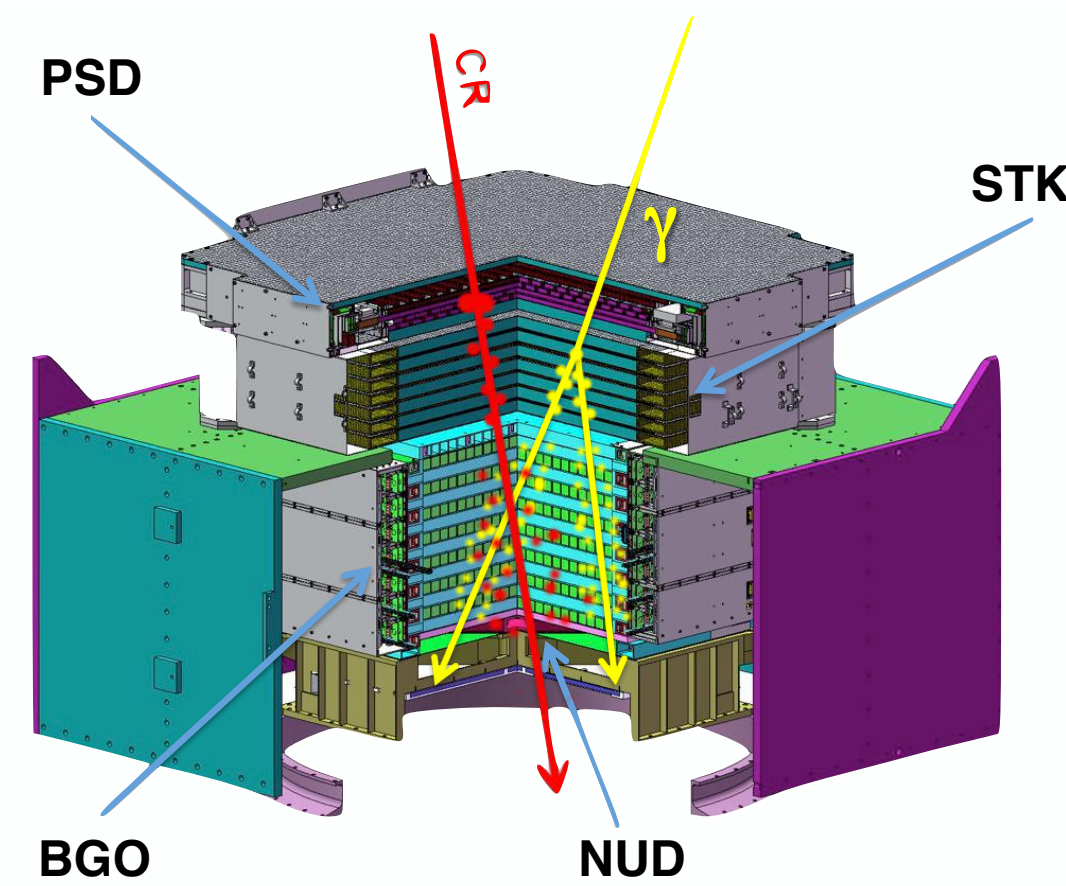
↑
1 Million
simulated
particle
interactions in
DAMPE
↓

Boosted Decision Trees (BDTs) [... not deep learning]

21

Let's take an example of DAMPE detector:

- Say, we have one million simulated particle interaction in DAMPE, denoted as **0 for proton, 1 for electron**.
- Each interaction is characterized, say, by 4 **features** (E_{TOT} , ϕ , θ , X_{MAX}) (it is very oversimplified)



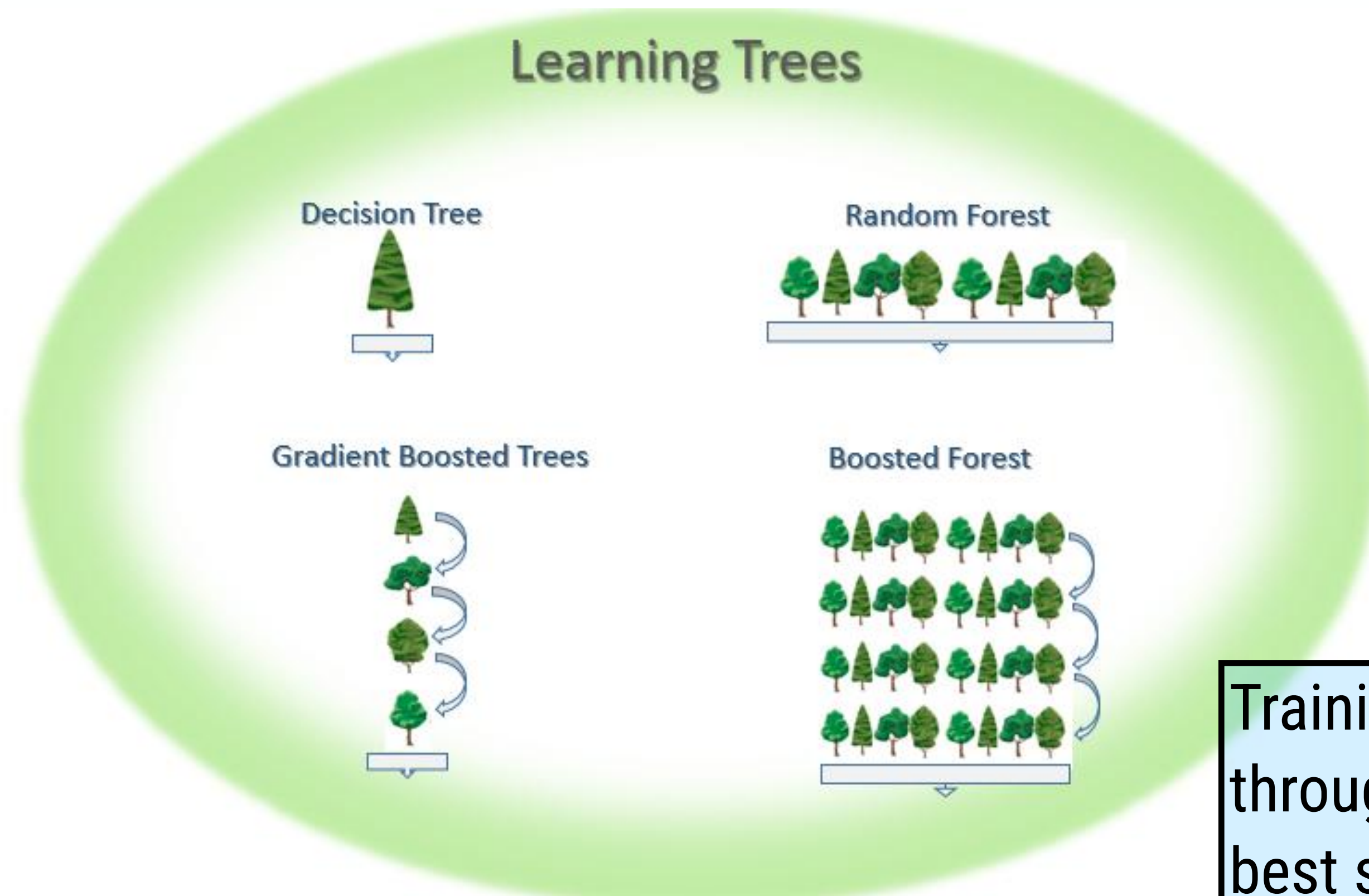
E_{TOT}	ϕ	θ	X_{max}	particle
7.75681502e+01	1.52397721e+00	1.44904093e-01	4.88372628e-01	[0]
[9.44332801e+01,	4.99172621e-01,	1.01597742e+00,	4.05432853e-01]	[0]
[8.07924576e+01,	1.09393488e+00,	1.70475418e+00,	8.92284561e-02]	[1]
[9.07662861e+01,	2.94882994e-01,	1.43258714e+00,	6.00182604e-01]	[0]
[2.56174396e+01,	1.60203322e-01,	2.53668119e+00,	9.24928506e-02]	[0]
[5.11821004e+01,	1.55394742e+00,	1.68910805e+00,	4.05057996e-01]	[0]
[5.52805087e+01,	1.49059293e+00,	9.15734664e-01,	2.89532404e-01]	[1]
...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...
[6.02792632e+00,	3.36060004e-01,	1.13356232e+00,	2.46623555e-01]	[1]
[9.32034716e+01,	1.38081000e+00,	5.86855693e+00,	6.46444145e-01]	[0]
[1.95756751e+01,	7.29298459e-01,	3.65878315e+00,	3.08917693e-01]	[0]

1 Million
simulated
particle
interactions in
DAMPE

- Training of the first "tree" (stump):
 - ➡ Look for the best feature (one out of 4) and its corresponding value (1 out of Million)
 - ➡ Set the above as a threshold: if the feature is $<$ threshold - classify event as "0" (in reality it's a continuous number), otherwise "1"
- Train the second tree to correct for the error of the previous one, by selecting new feature-value pair (threshold)
- Repeat many times each time creating a new tree, until reaching a desired level of prediction accuracy

Boosted Decision Trees (BDTs) [... not deep learning]

22



Training/learning of BDT is a **discretized** process of looping through features and their values, finding the one giving the best separation at each step. This is fundamentally different from training Neural Networks, where parameters of the model are updated **continuously** through gradient descent method

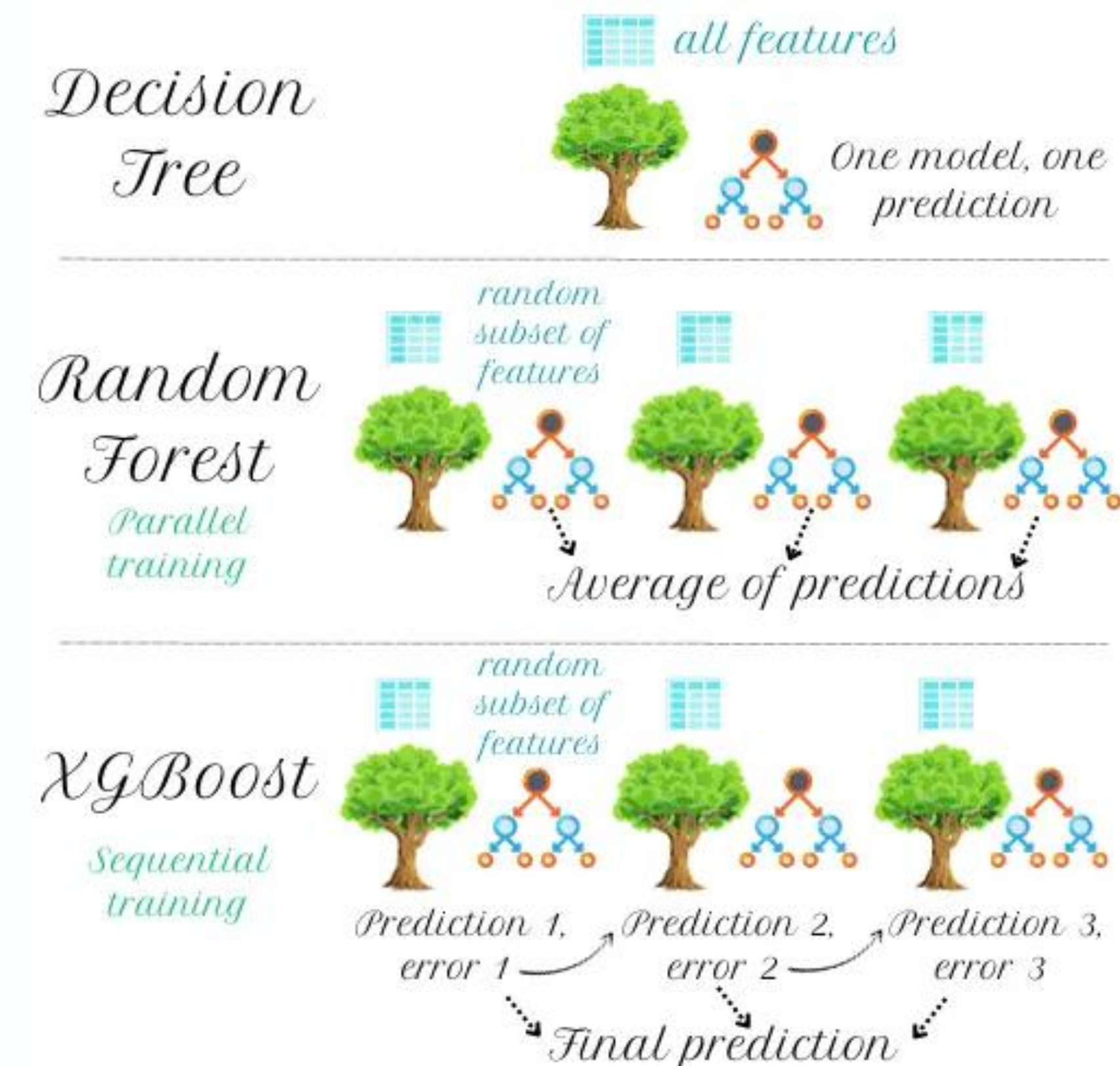
Boosted Decision Trees (BDTs) [... not deep learning]

BDTs are still considered well suitable for many applications:

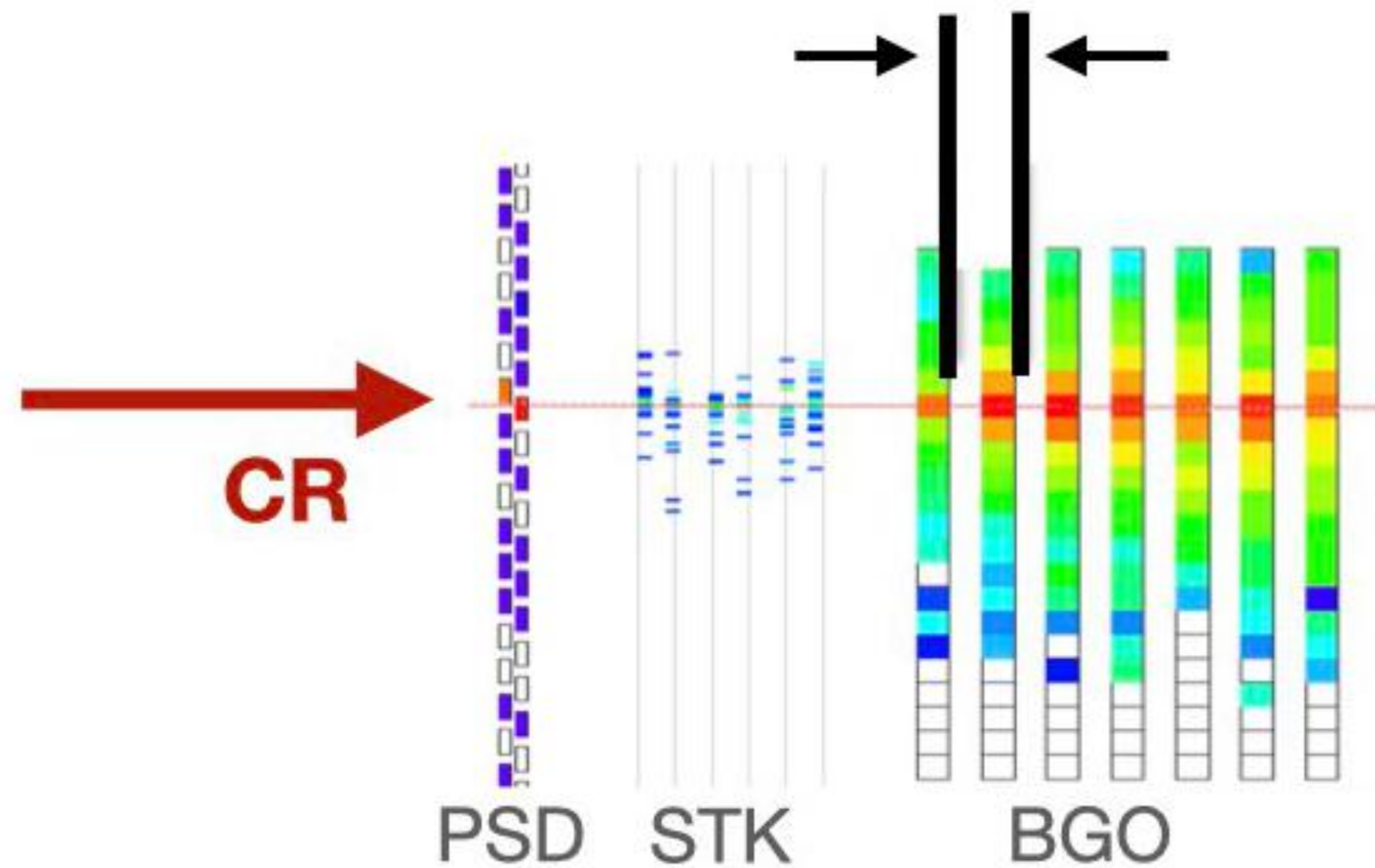
- Easier to interpret (e.g. compared to "black-box" Neural Networks)
- Easier to train (computation-wise)
- Considered more reliable (e.g. to outliers)
- Work well with small datasets

Disadvantages of BDTs

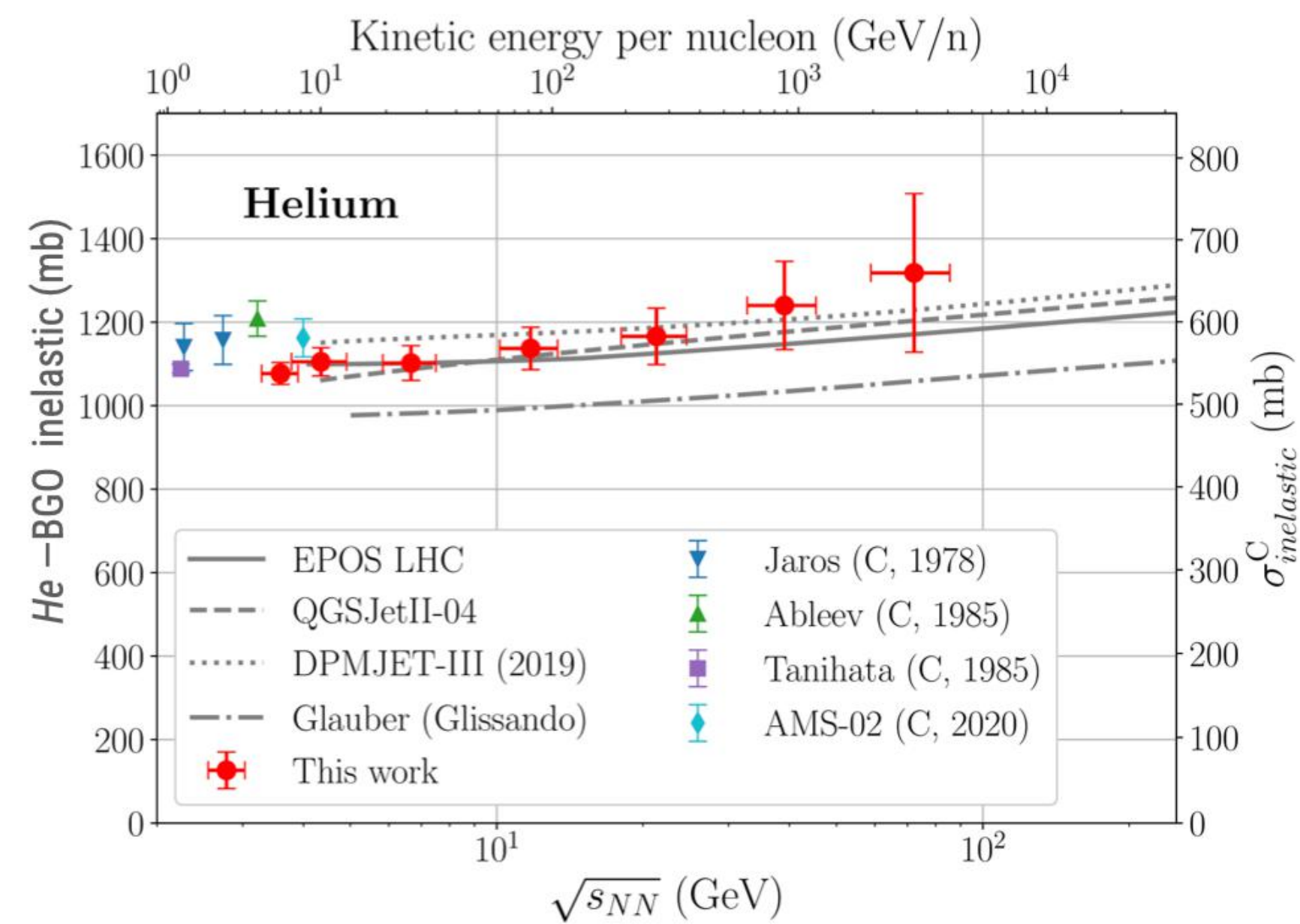
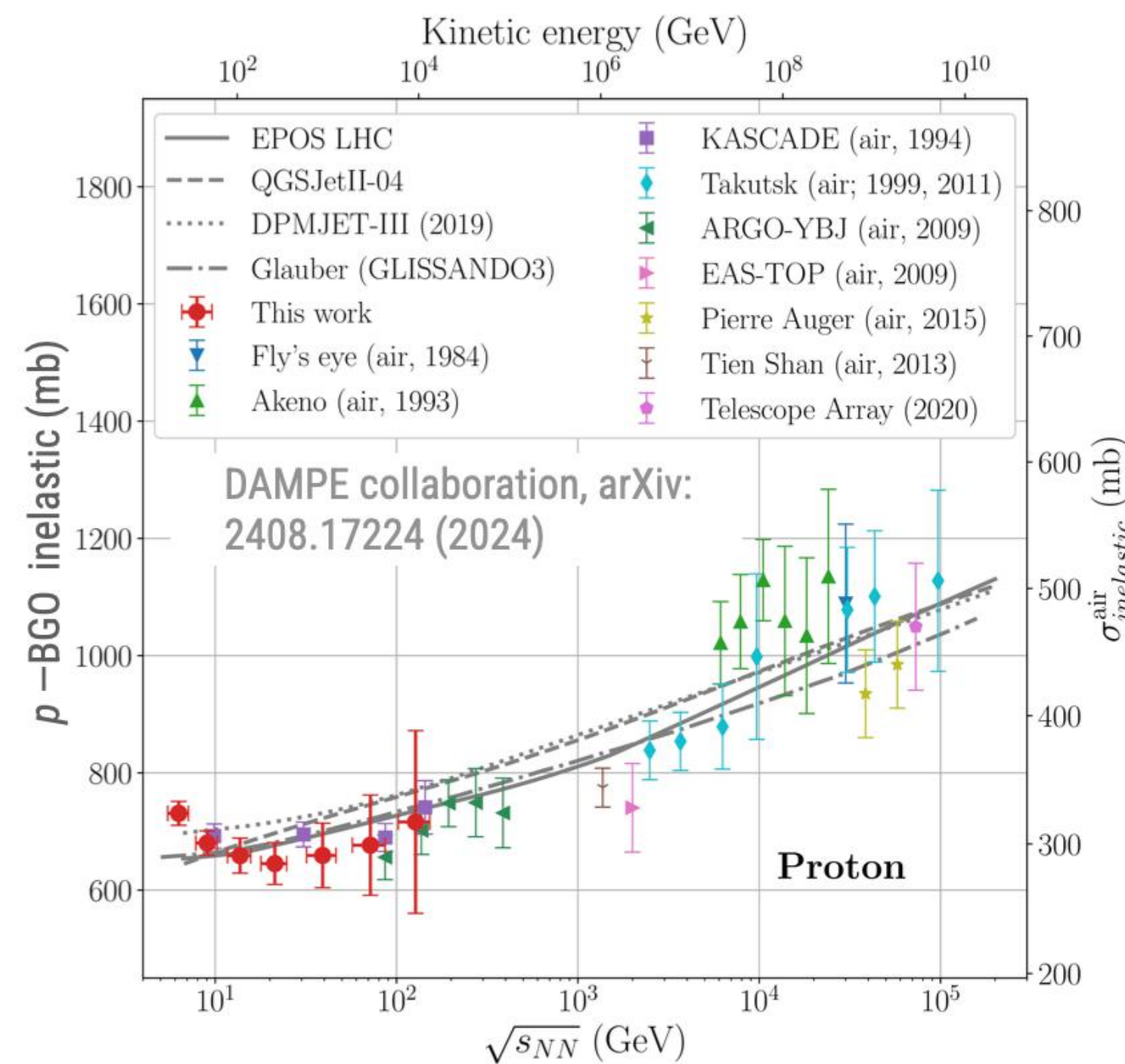
- Limited performance on high-dimensional unstructured data
- Prior feature extraction is important
- Limited architecture flexibility
- **Mostly classification tasks (regression is also possible, however BDTs by construction do not predict continuous values, but rather a "grid" of values defined by the training sample)**



We found BDTs quite efficient for identifying particle interaction point in the detector:



We found BDTs quite efficient for identifying particle interaction point in the detector:



Phys. Rev. D 111, 012002 (2025); arxiv:2408.17224.

This allowed us to measure proton and helium inelastic cross sections on heavy target in the energy regions not probed by accelerators or EAS detectors!

Artificial Neural Networks

10001
10100
10001
10101
10010
01011

SR - 7832

29%

76%

G - 4/2

VE - 0084

R - 7.4

IO - 0782

PV - 1783

RO - 9472

S - 8932

R - 3.8

A - 7482

IT - 0837

33.2748

FN - 9062

J[002] - 8953 - 34
DS - 900 - 895 M
3894 - 9032

37.4856

DW - 7361

Q - 9973

KU - 0073

A - 7/3

F - 8.2

63.7843

G - 3948

34.039 - 9504
84.903 - 8942
89.049 - 1948

RO - 2893

VA - 2904

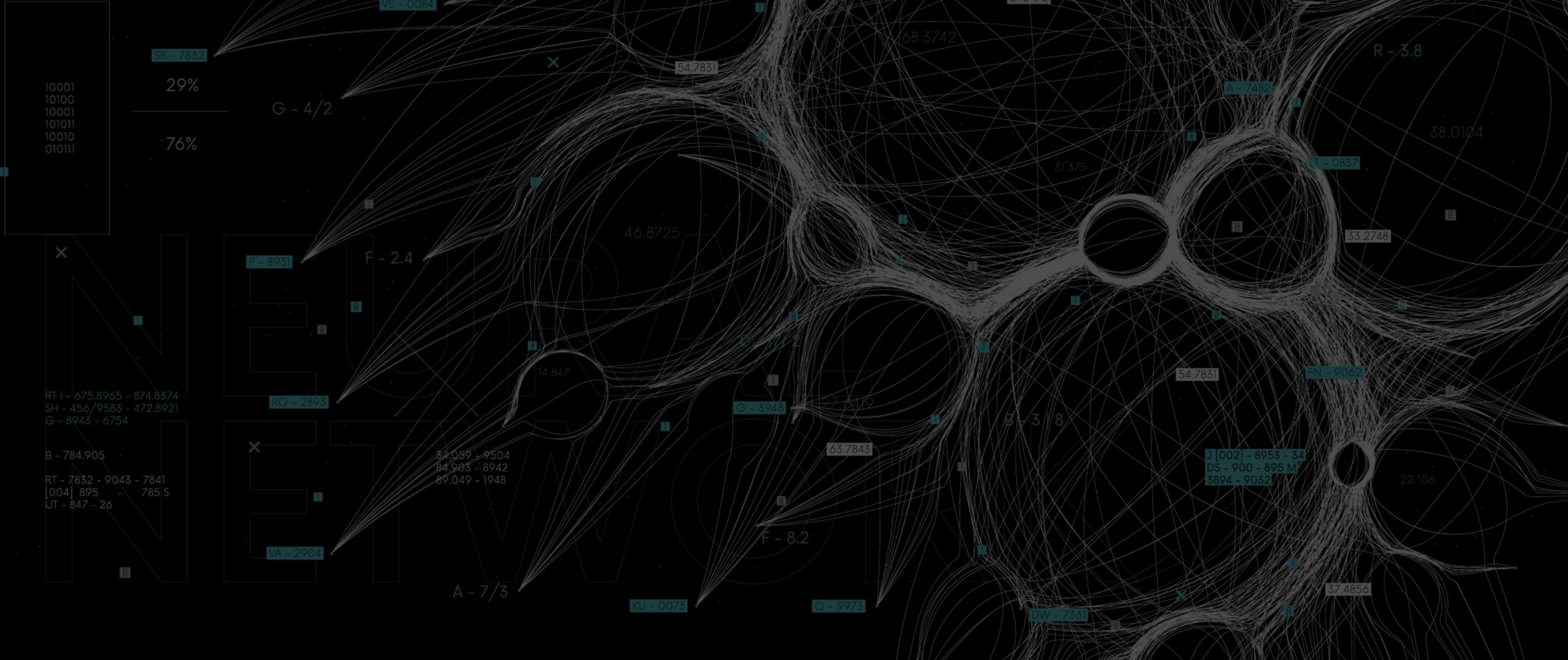
F - 2.4

P - 8931

RTI - 675.8965 - 874.8374
SH - 456/9583 - 472.8921
G - 8943 - 6754

B - 784.905

RT - 7832 - 9043 - 7841
[004] 895 - 785 S
UT - 847 - 26

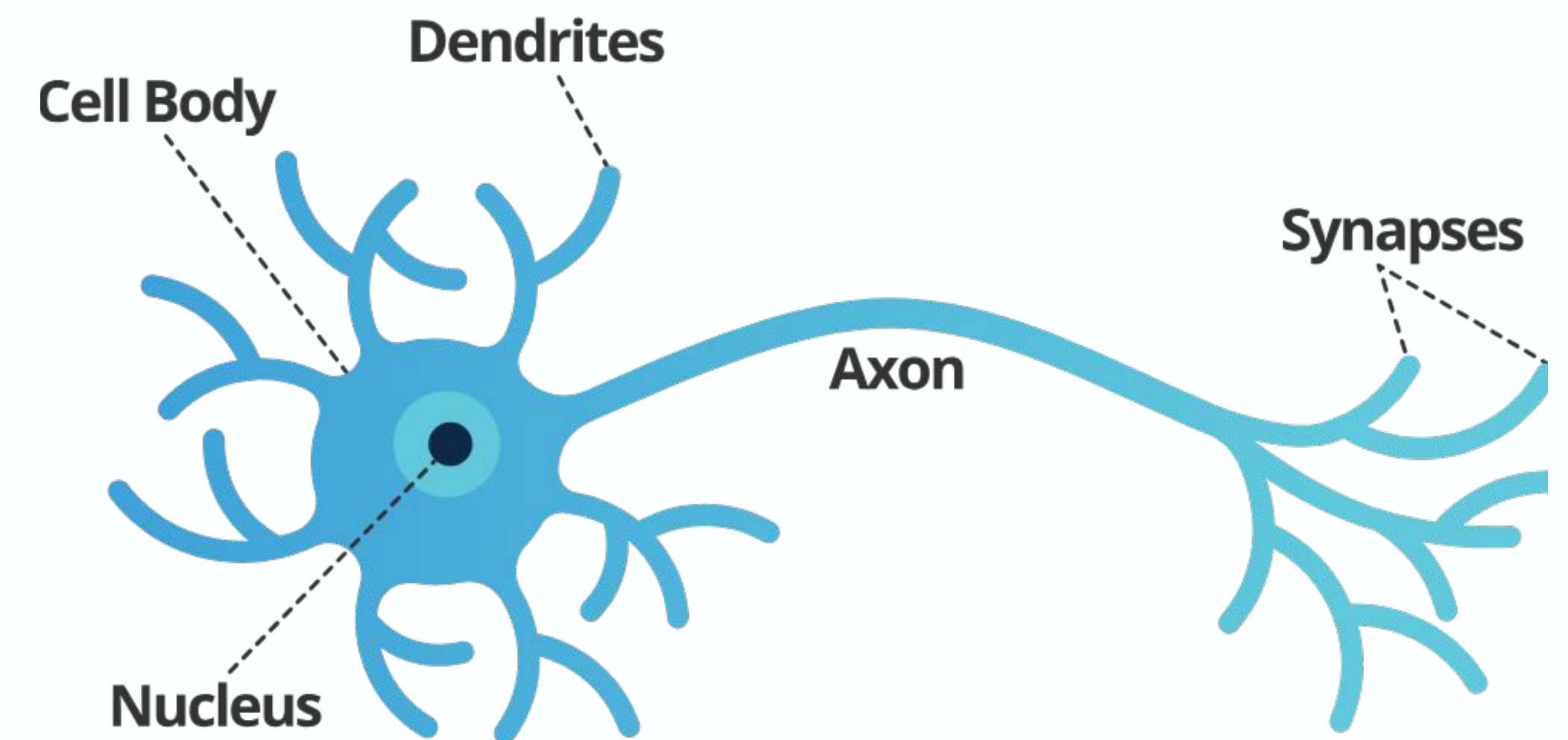
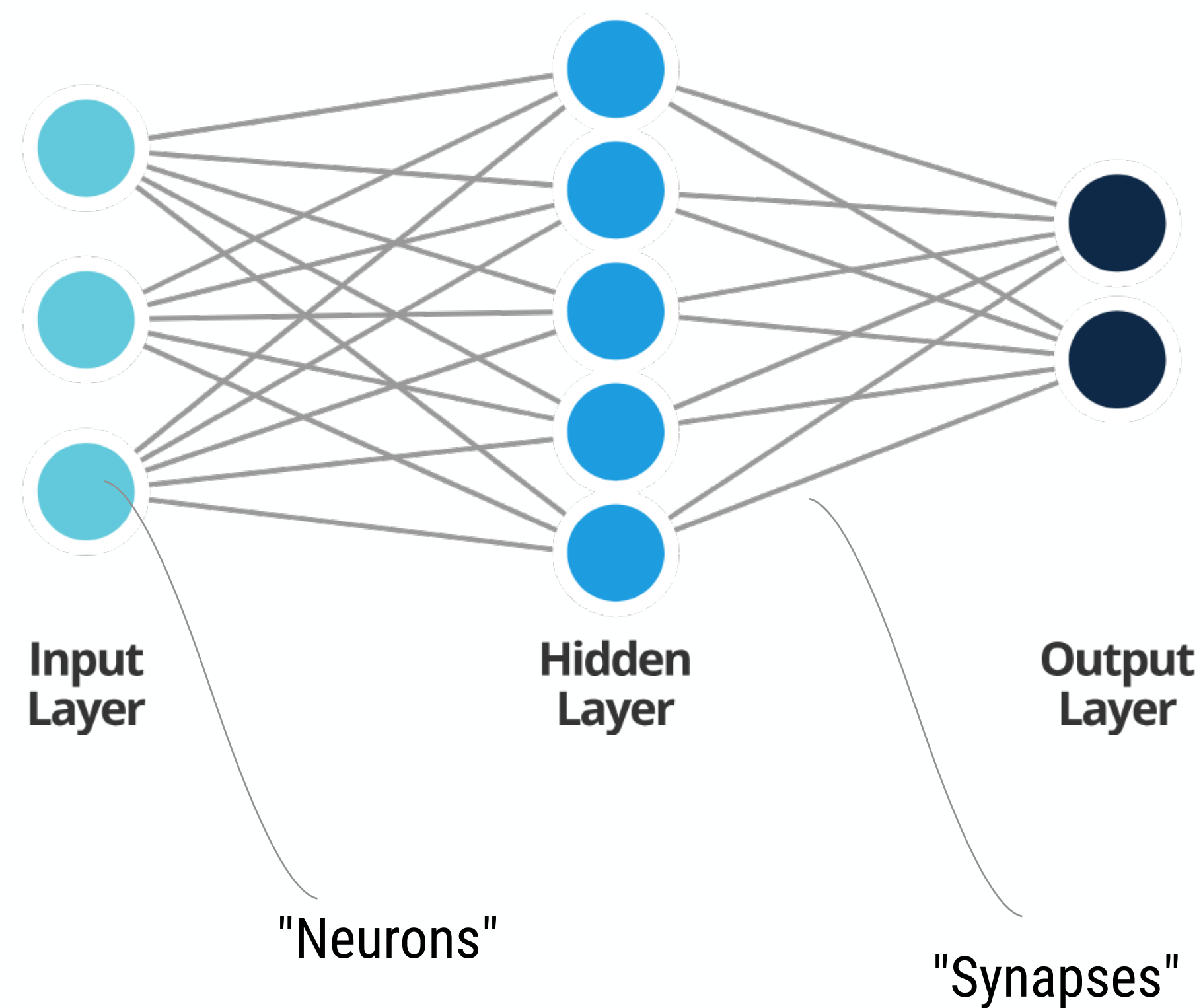


Neural Networks (NNs)

27

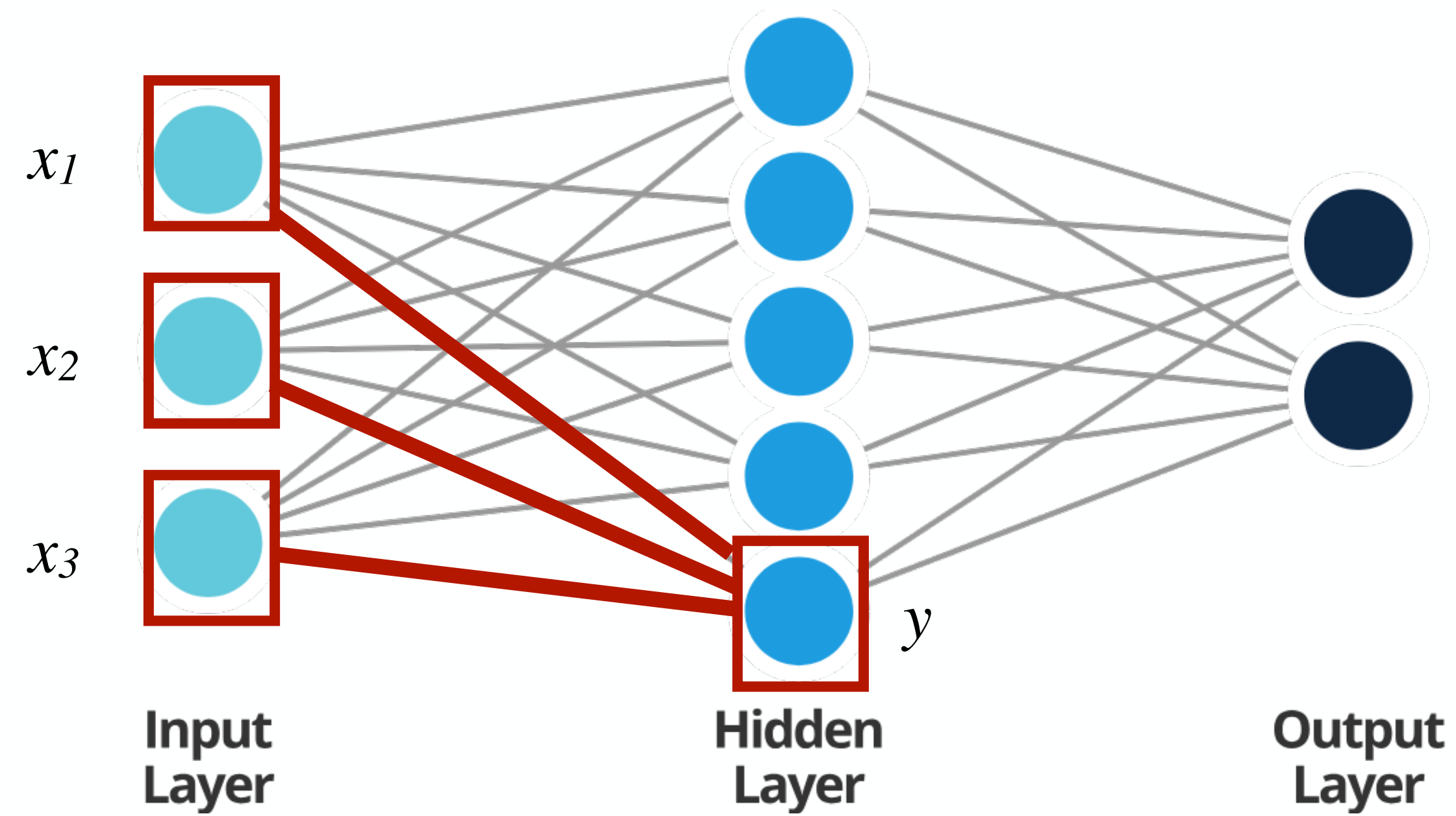
Artificial Neural Networks are inspired by human brain's signal transmission and processing

In a fully-connected NN, each neuron takes a linear combination of signals in previous layer, adds a bias/offset and apply a non-linear activation



Neural Networks (NNs)

28

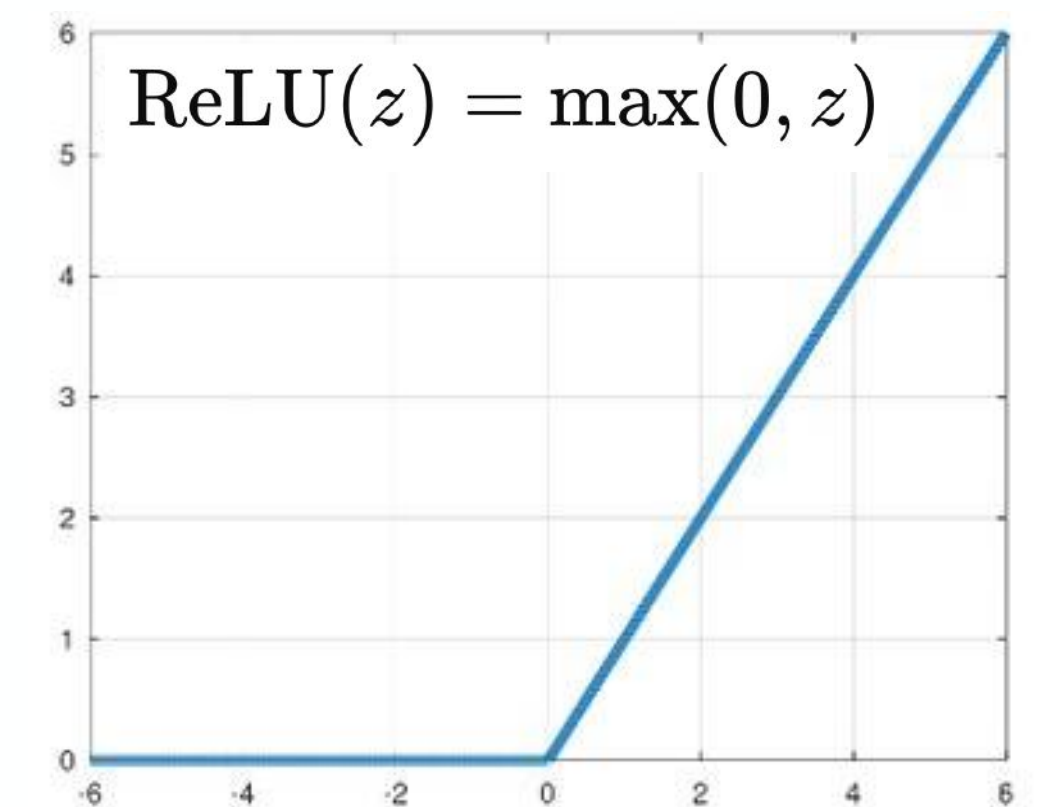


$$y = f(w_1x_1 + w_2x_2 + w_3x_3 + b)$$

wights

bias

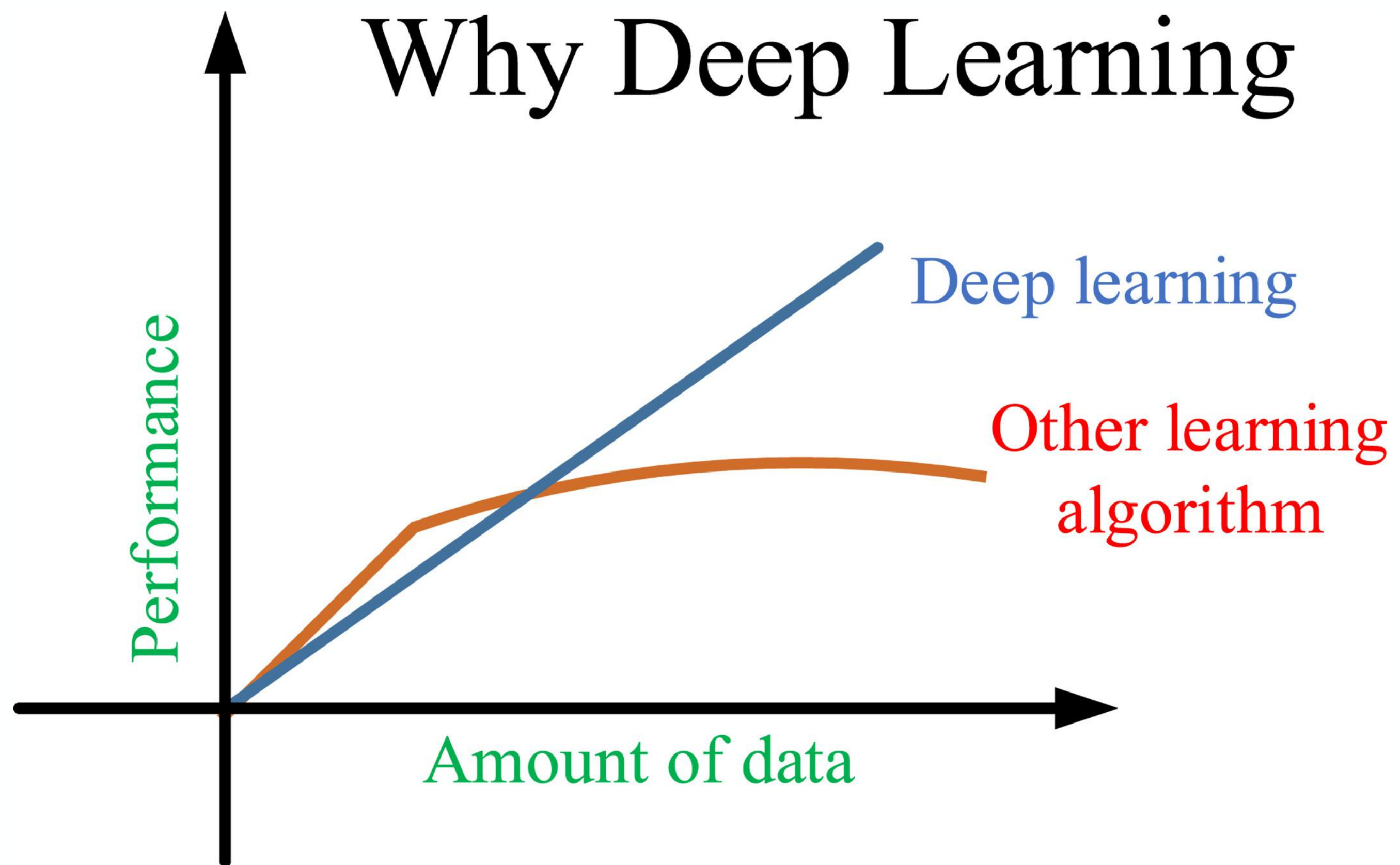
f - activation function:
ReLU, Sigmoid, etc.



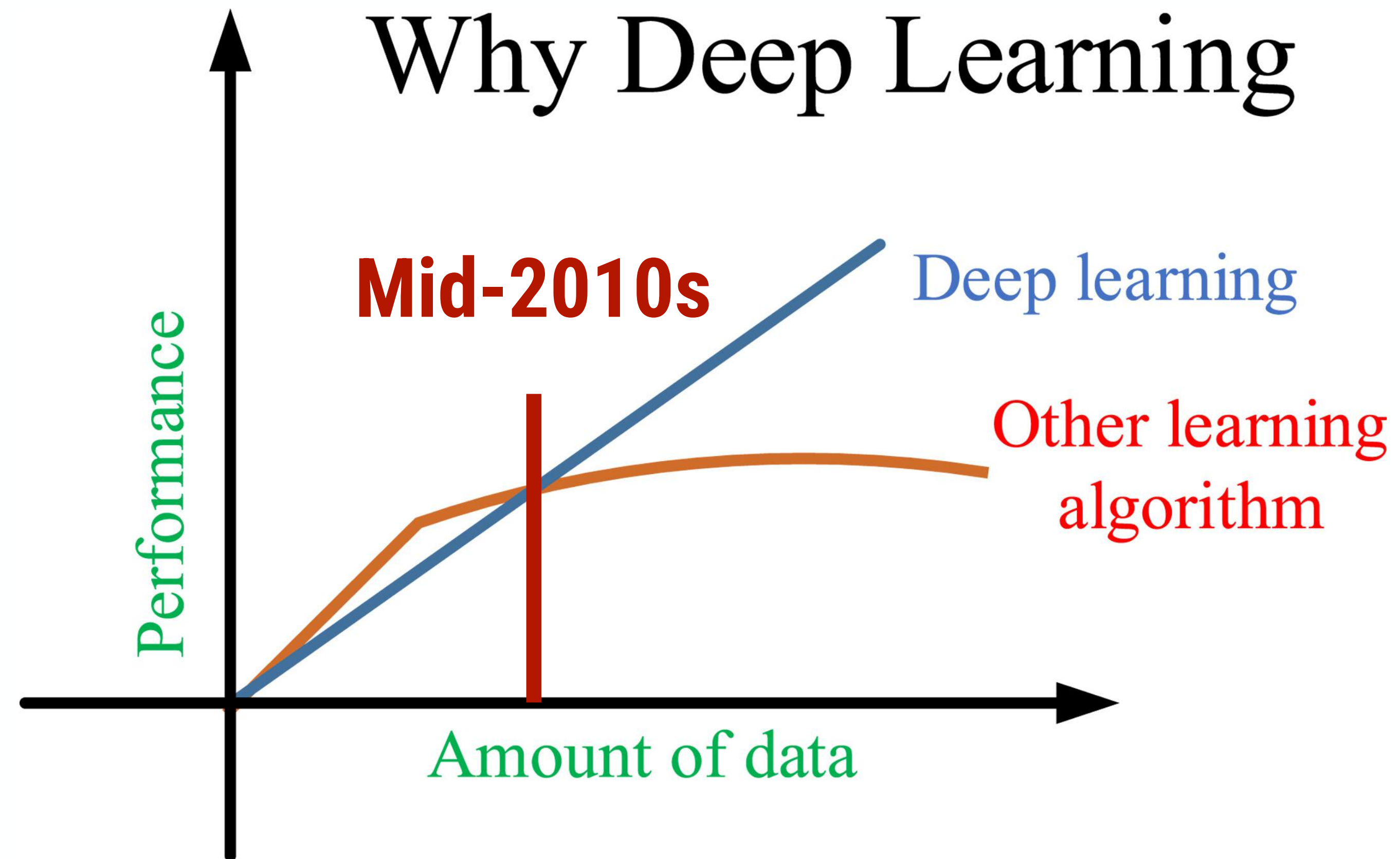
1943: theoretical concept by Warren McCulloch and Walter Pitts: "A Logical Calculus of the Ideas Immanent in Nervous Activity"
1958: Frank Rosenblatt developed the Perceptron, the first trainable neural network (on IBM 704)



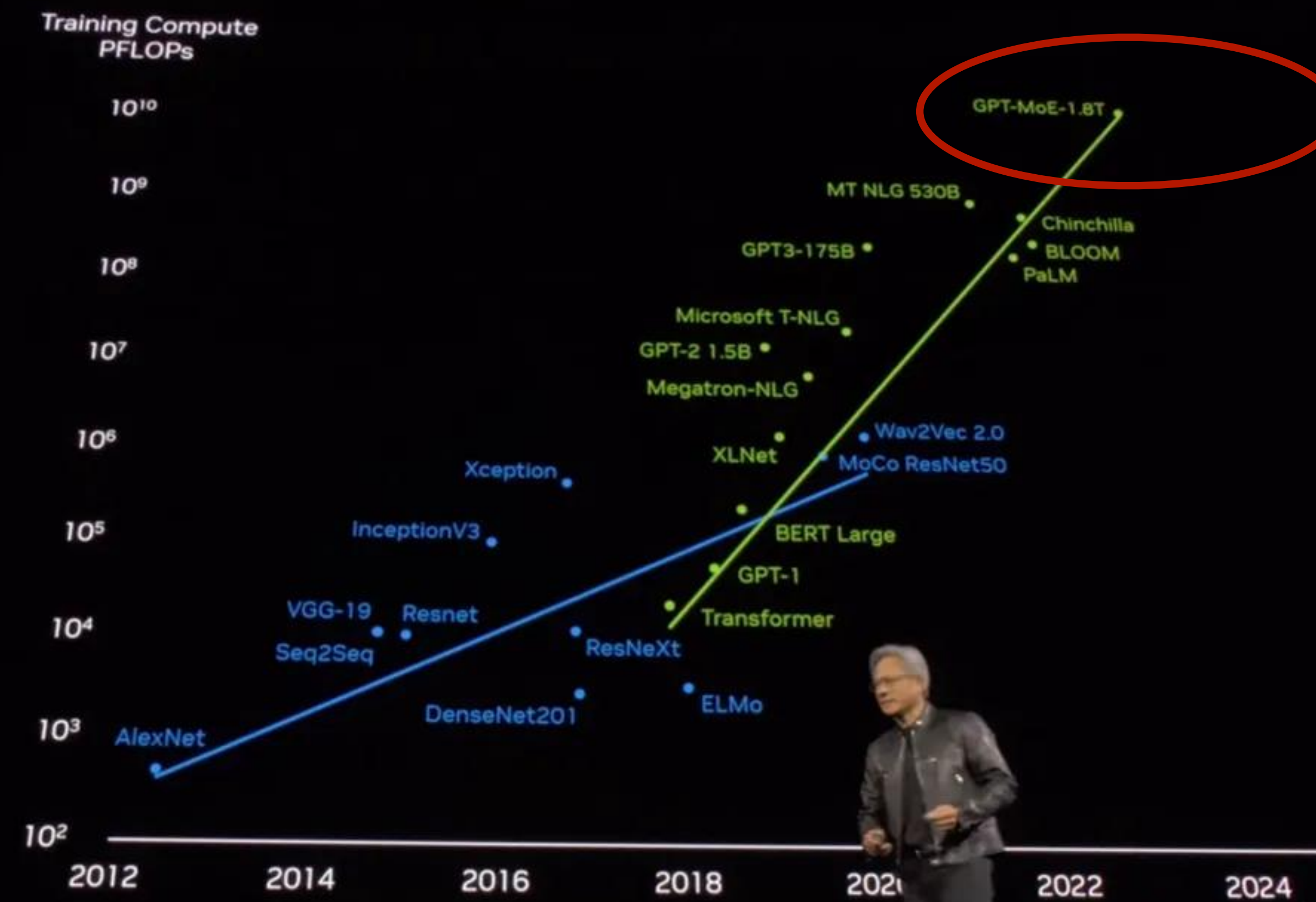
Why Deep Learning



Why Deep Learning



Most advanced NNs, e.g. GPT4-turbo ~ (arguably) 1-10 Trillion parameters
Human brain ~ 100-1000 Trillion synapses



NVidia evlaution as of 2025 ~ 3.5 Trillion USD
(rivals first place with Microsoft and Apple)

NNs: do-it-yourself (no Tensorflow, no PyTorch)

33

```
import numpy as np
import math

# Create random input and output data
x = np.linspace(-math.pi, math.pi, 2000)
y = np.sin(x)

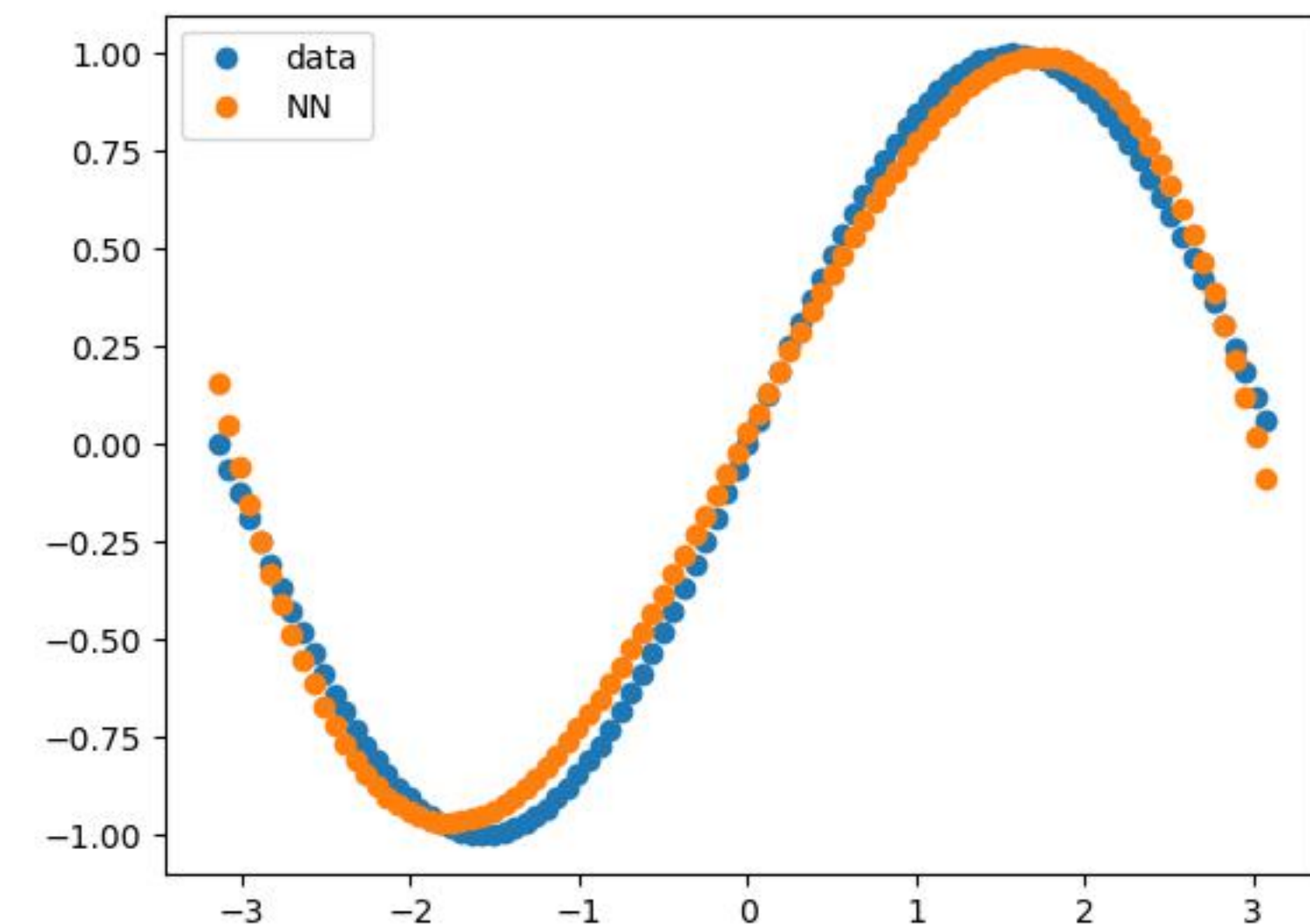
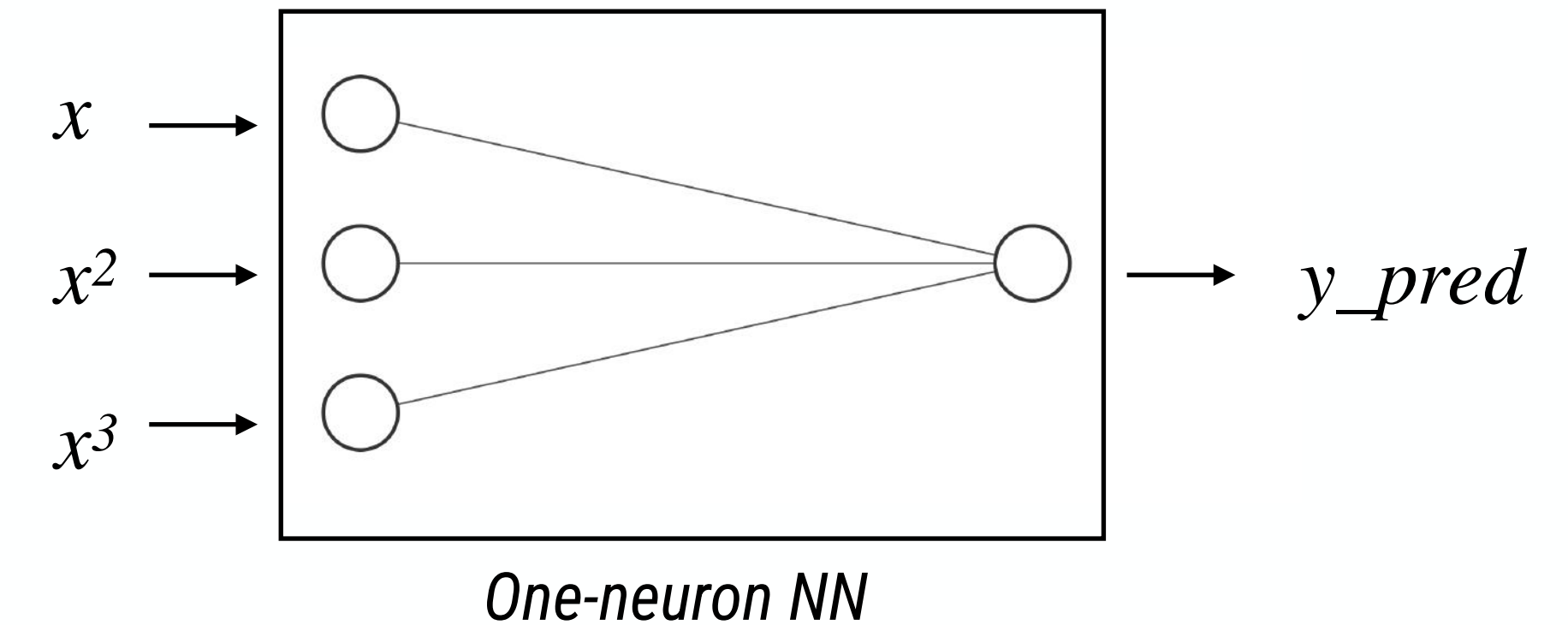
# Randomly initialize weights (4 numbers)
a,b,c,d = np.random.randn(4)

learning_rate = 1e-6
for t in range(100):
    # Forward pass: compute predicted y
    #  $y = a + b x + c x^2 + d x^3$ 
    y_pred = a + b * x + c * x ** 2 + d * x ** 3

    # Compute and print loss
    loss = np.square(y_pred - y).sum()
    print(t, loss)

    # Backprop to compute gradients of a, b, c, d with respect to loss
    grad_y_pred = 2.0 * (y_pred - y)
    grad_a = grad_y_pred.sum()
    grad_b = (grad_y_pred * x).sum()
    grad_c = (grad_y_pred * x ** 2).sum()
    grad_d = (grad_y_pred * x ** 3).sum()

    # Update weights
    a -= learning_rate * grad_a
    b -= learning_rate * grad_b
    c -= learning_rate * grad_c
    d -= learning_rate * grad_d
```



NNs: do-it-yourself (no Tensorflow, no PyTorch)

34

```
import numpy as np
import math

# Create random input and output data
x = np.linspace(-math.pi, math.pi, 2000)
y = np.sin(x)

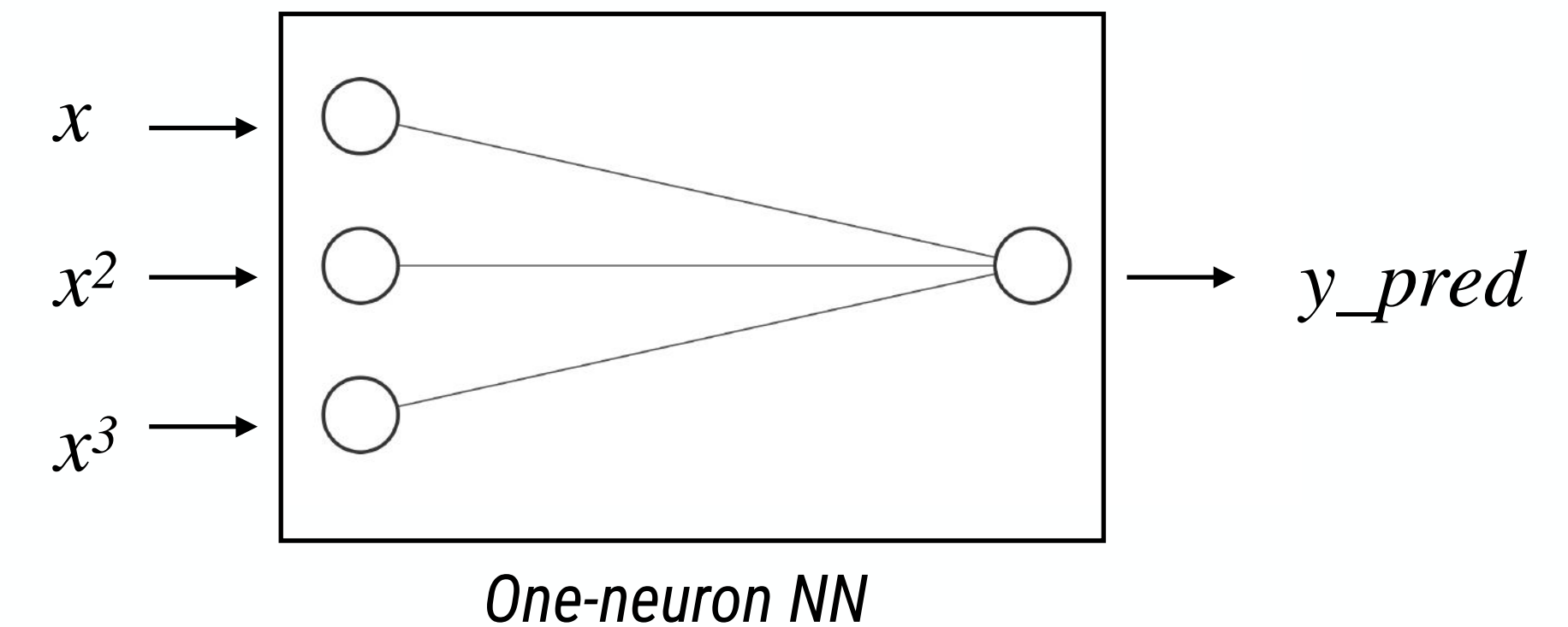
# Randomly initialize weights (4 numbers)
a,b,c,d = np.random.randn(4)

learning_rate = 1e-6
for t in range(100):
    # Forward pass: compute predicted y
    #  $y = a + b x + c x^2 + d x^3$ 
    y_pred = a + b * x + c * x ** 2 + d * x ** 3

    # Compute and print loss
    loss = np.square(y_pred - y).sum()
    print(t, loss)

    # Backprop to compute gradients of
    grad_y_pred = 2.0 * (y_pred - y)
    grad_a = grad_y_pred.sum()
    grad_b = (grad_y_pred * x).sum()
    grad_c = (grad_y_pred * x ** 2).sum()
    grad_d = (grad_y_pred * x ** 3).sum()

    # Update weights
    a -= learning_rate * grad_a
    b -= learning_rate * grad_b
    c -= learning_rate * grad_c
    d -= learning_rate * grad_d
```



Training/learning of NN done through gradient descent:
iteratively compute gradients of loss function and update
parameters (weights, biases) of neurons...

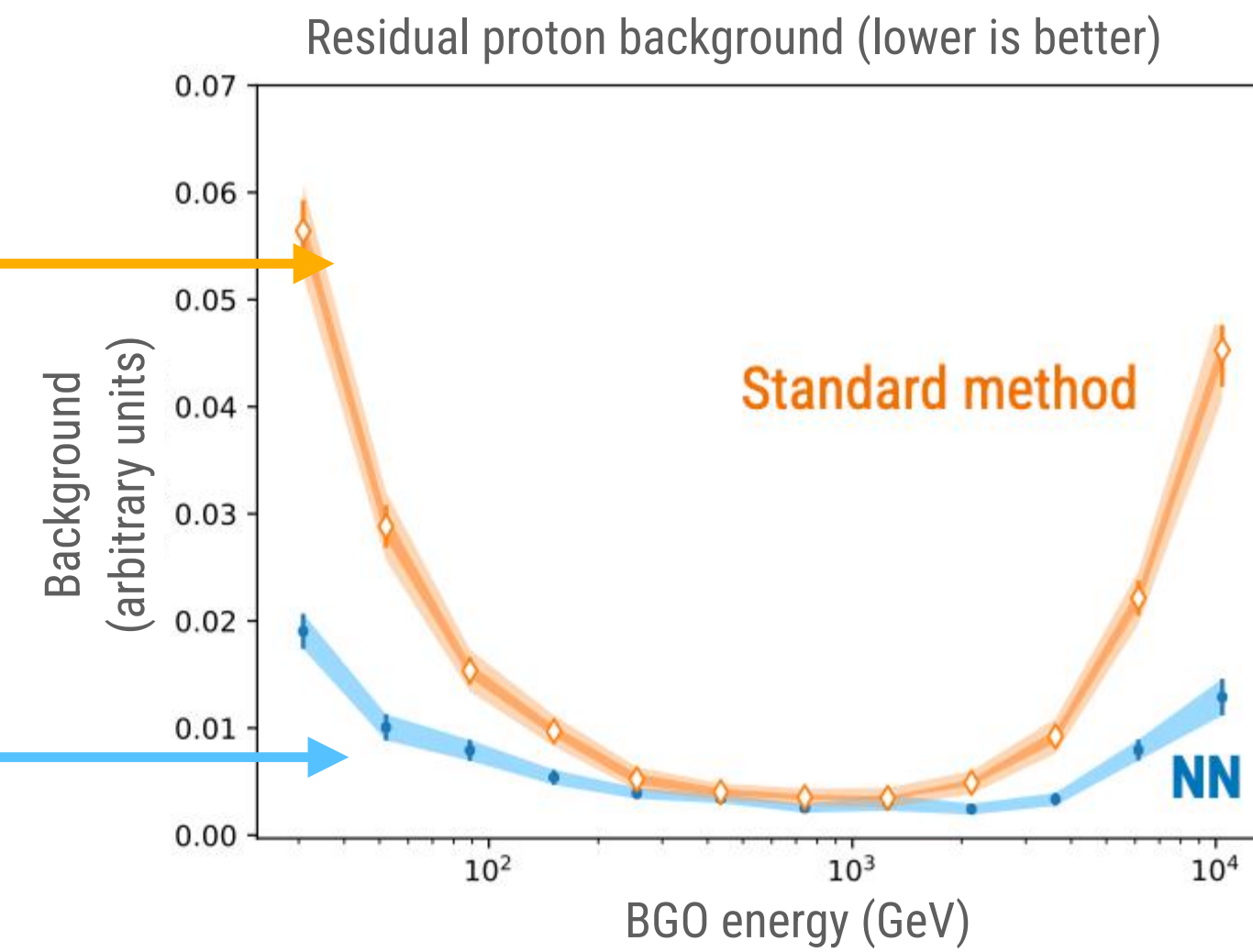
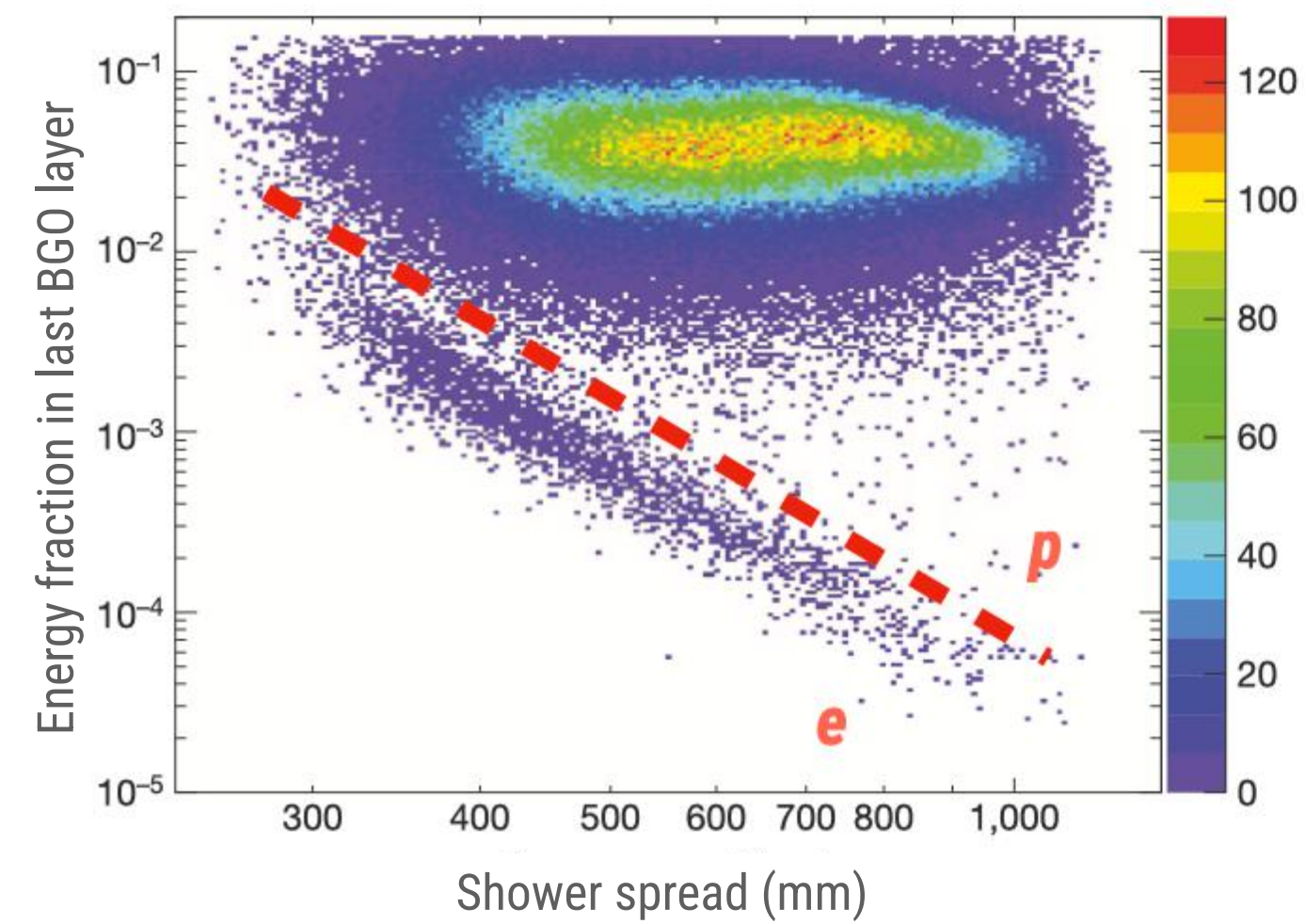
NN application in DAMPE



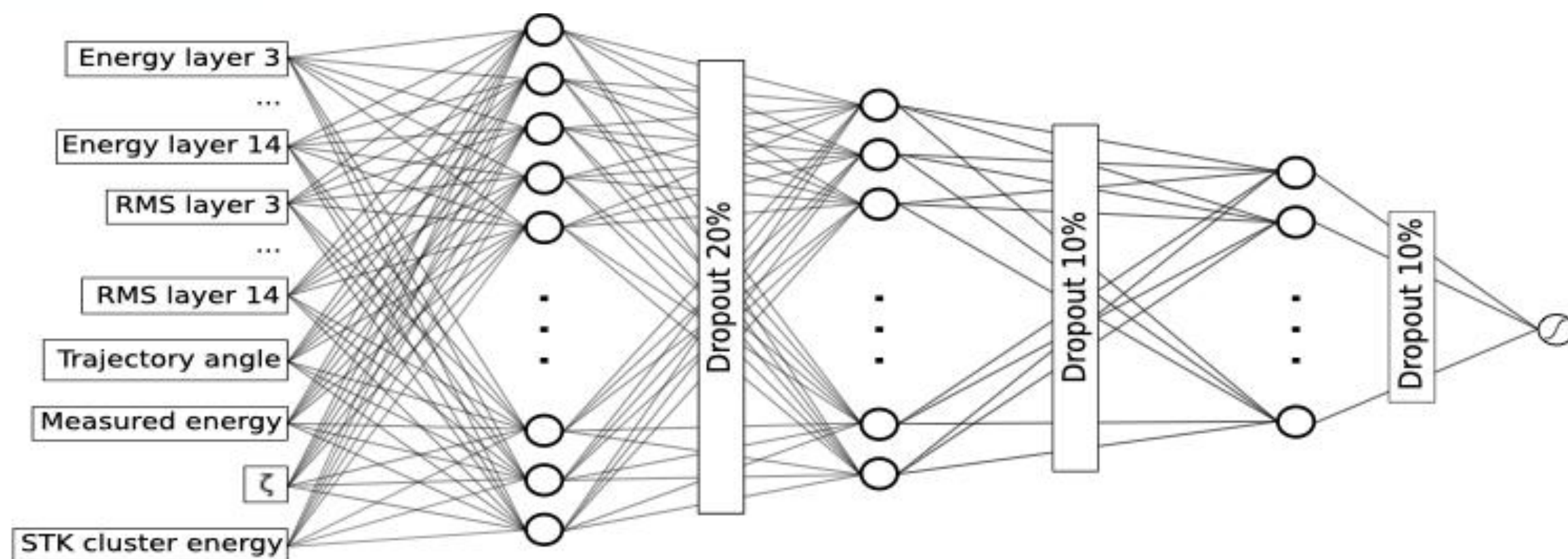
Particle identification (classification): e / p

36

Standard method (shower-shape):



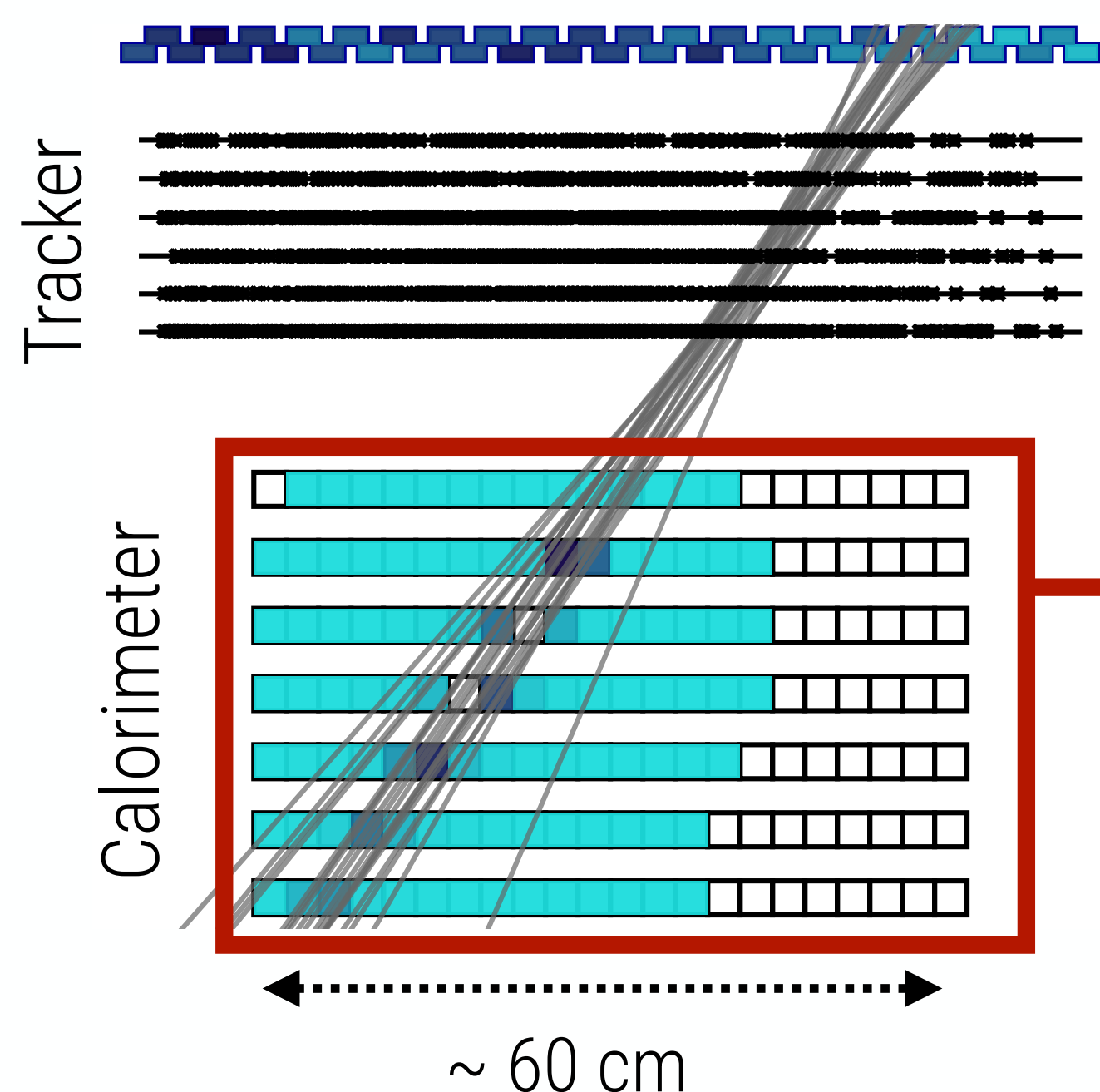
Neural Network classifier:



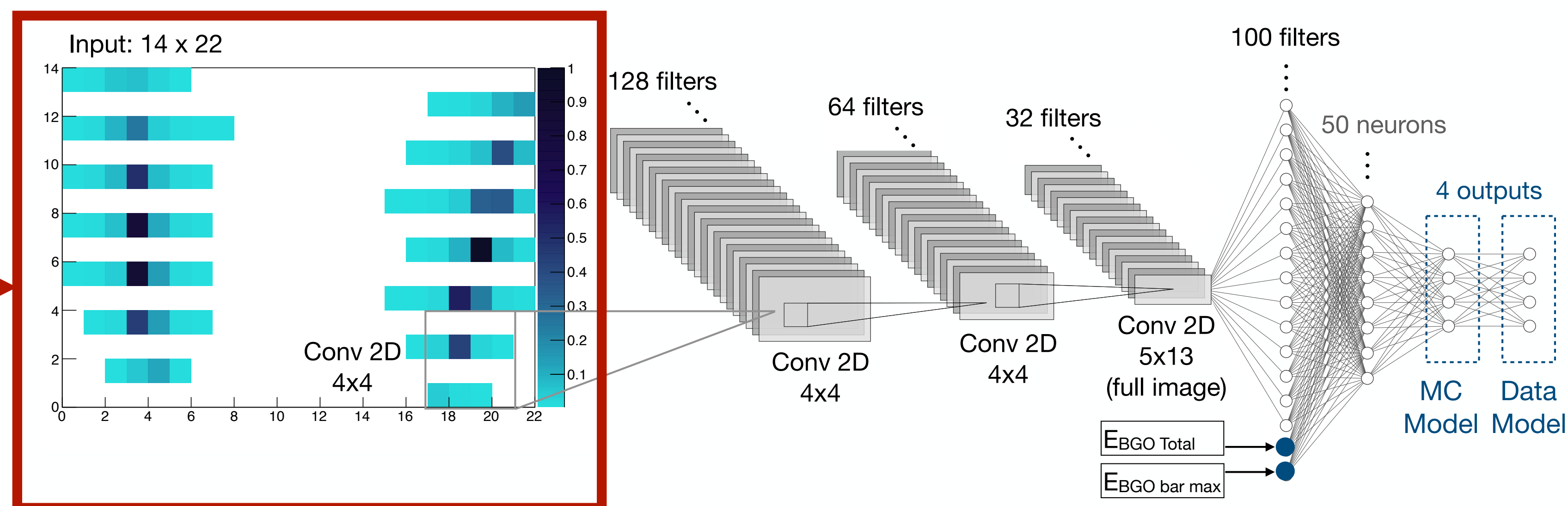
Regression: reconstructing particle trajectory

37

We start with the analysis of calorimeter data to get a first “rough” prediction of particle trajectory:



Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) have proven to be extremely efficient for this kind of tasks:

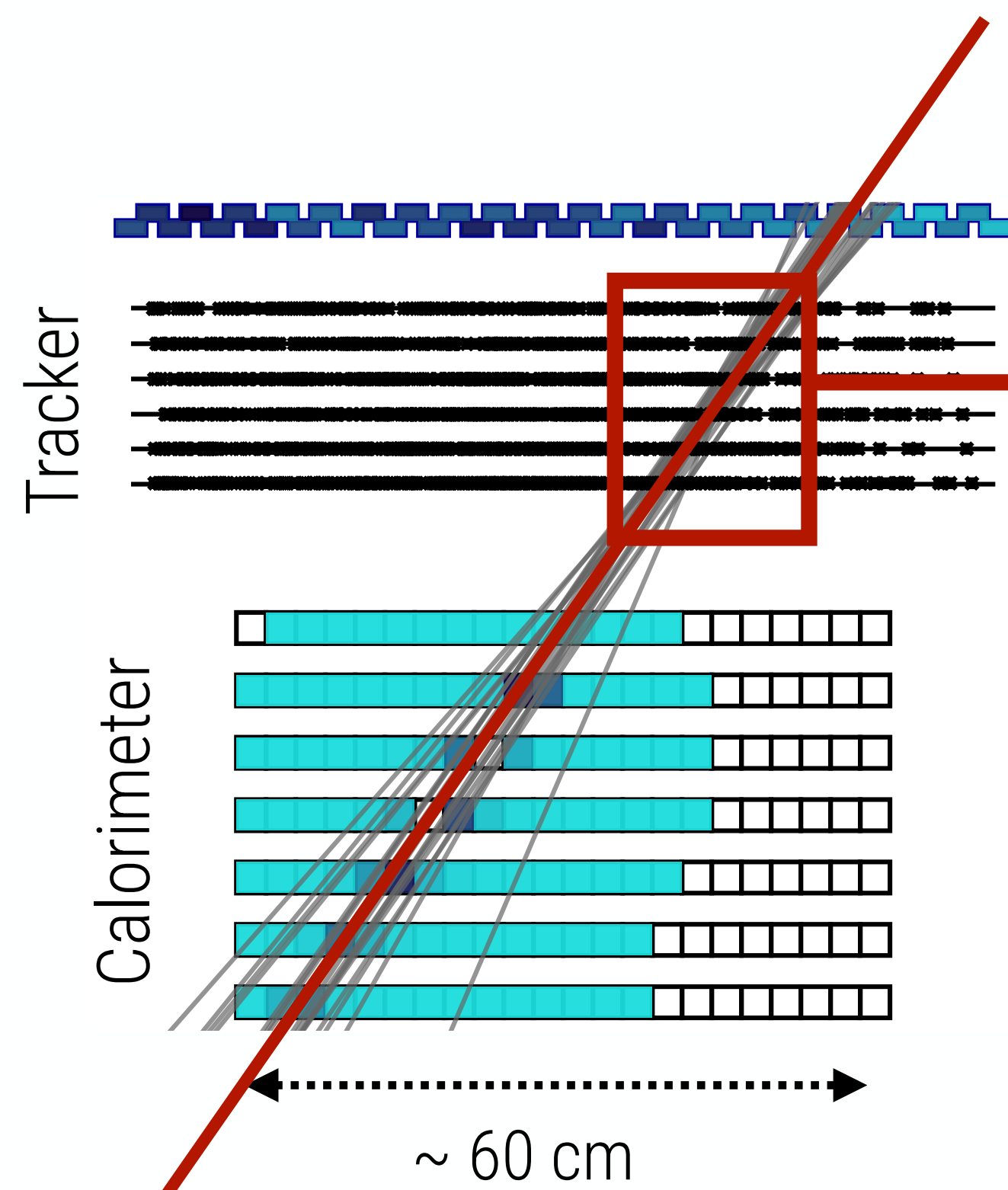


We use combined calorimeter image (two projections merged in one image) which are processed by a CNN to predict a particle direction (2 variables – intercept and slope per projection – 4 output variables in total)

Regression: reconstructing particle trajectory

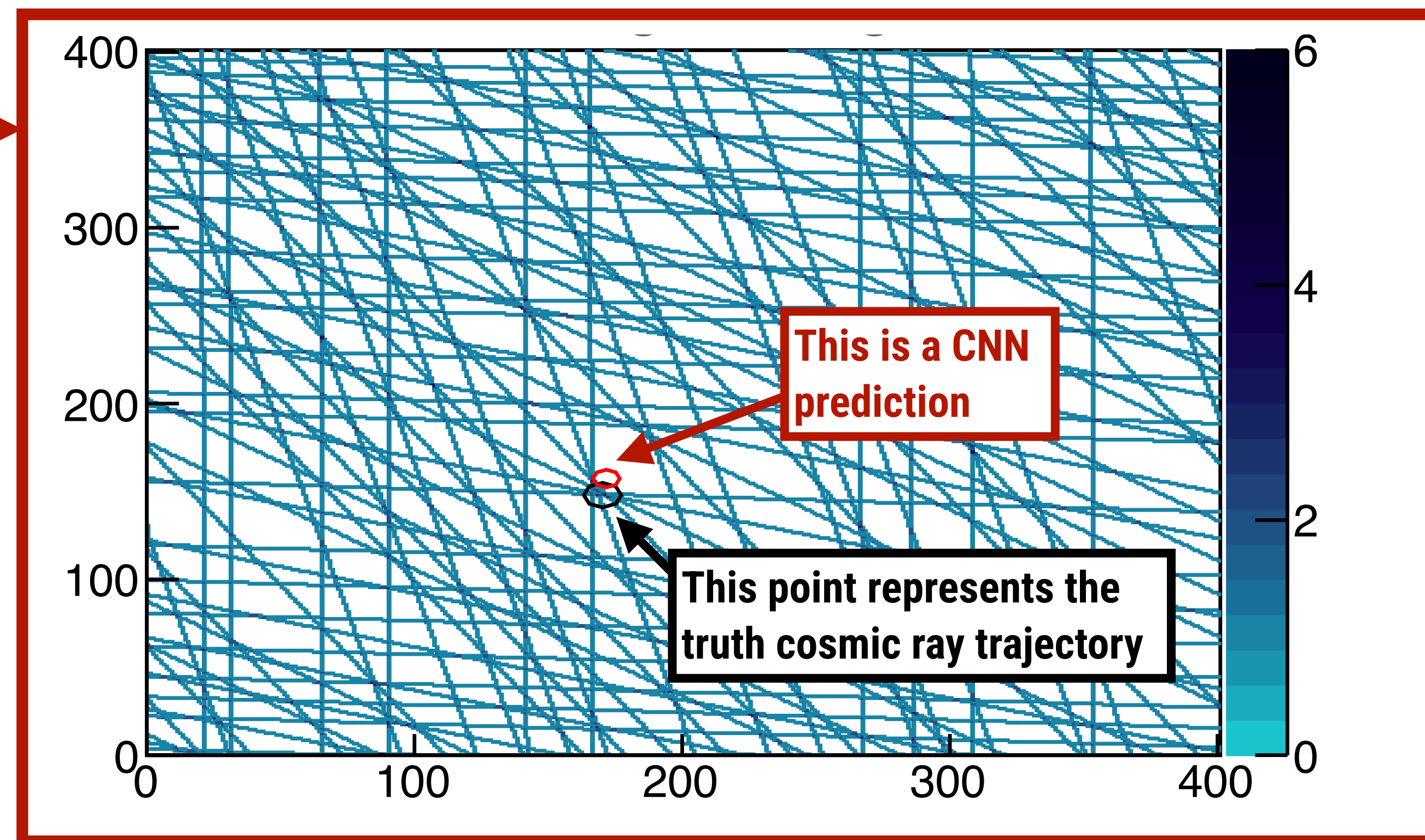
38

The calorimeter-based CNN prediction particle trajectory with a **millimeter precision**



CNN prediction based
on Calorimeter data

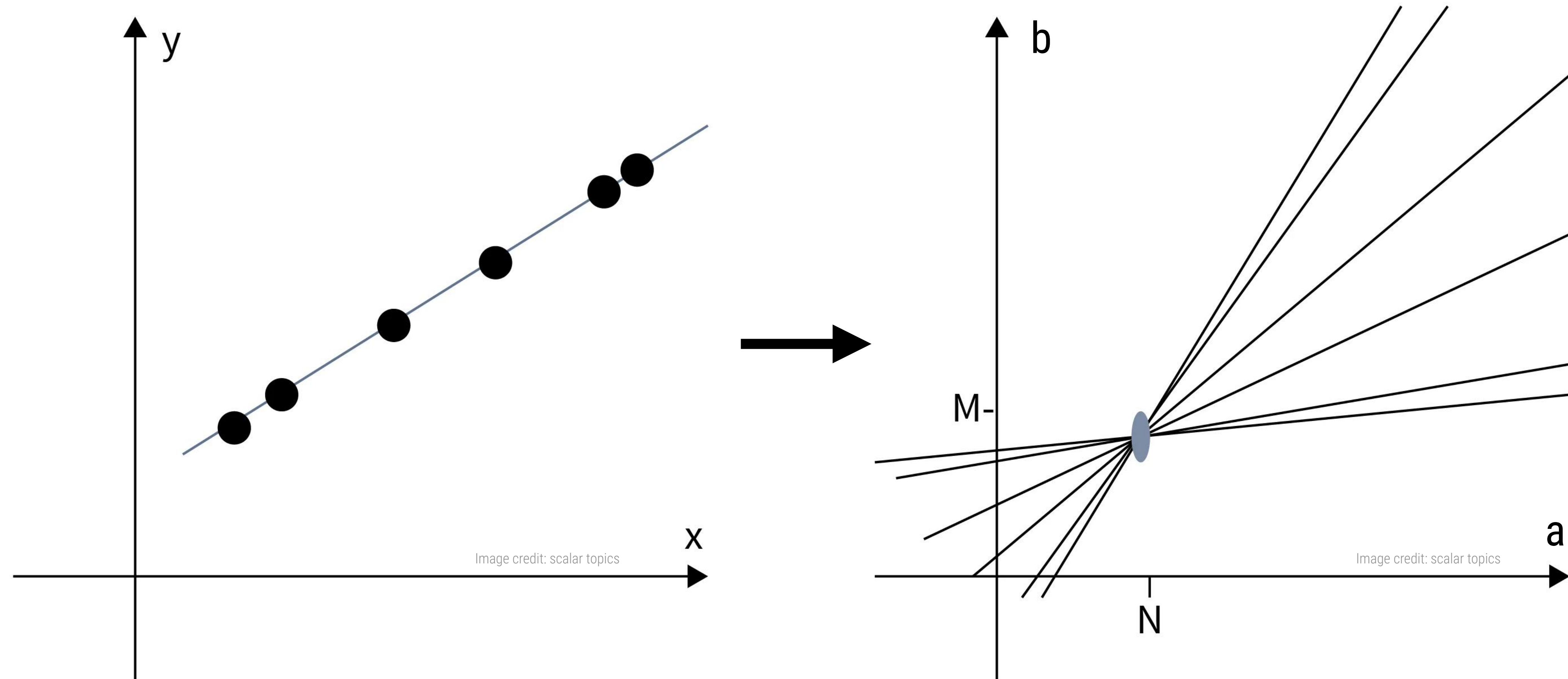
Next step is to analyze tracker data, given the few millimeters “region-of-interest” provided by the previous CNN



Before applying an ML algorithm to the tracker data, we convert tracker signals (points on the left image into lines using the Hough transformation!)

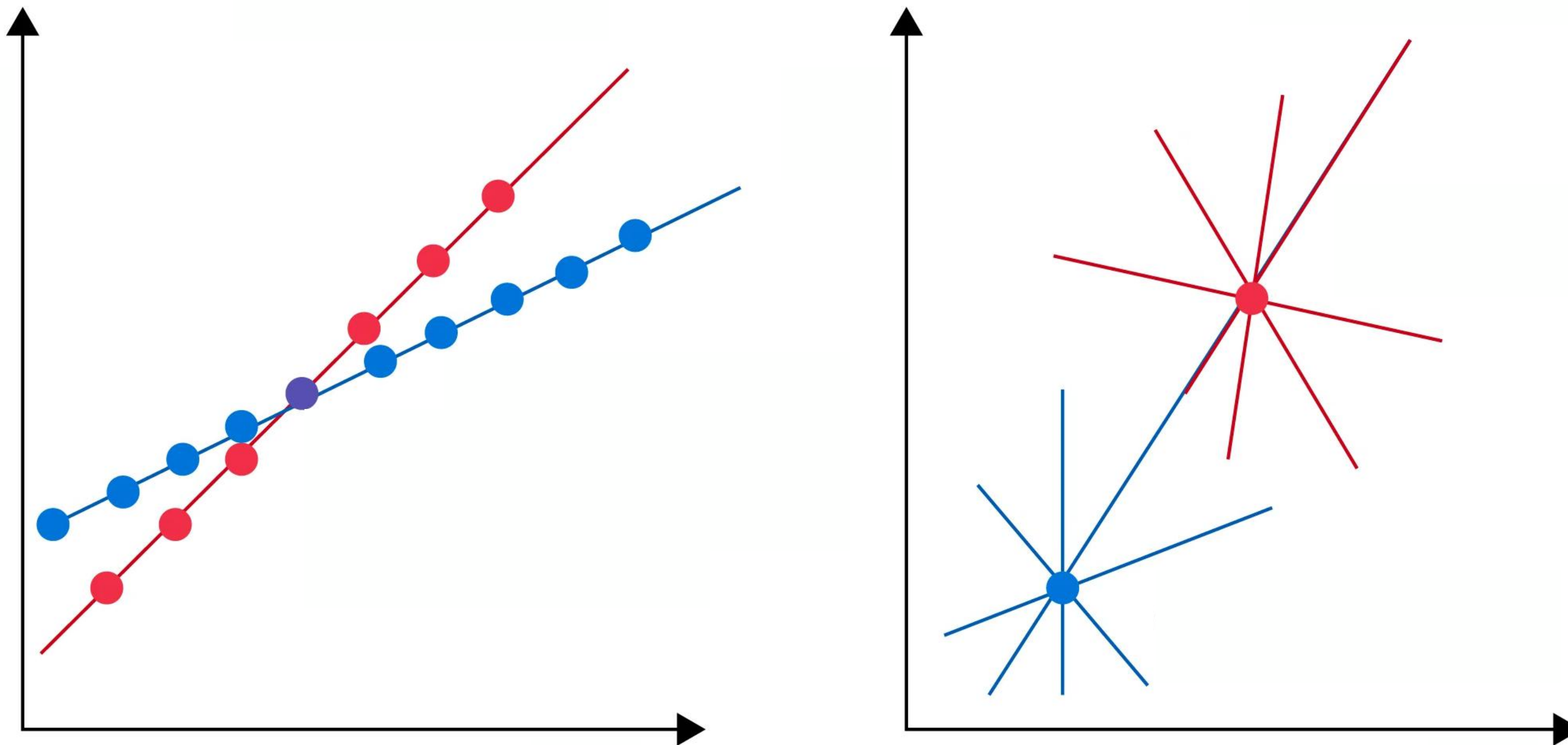
On the Hough transform (not necessarily used with CNNs)

39

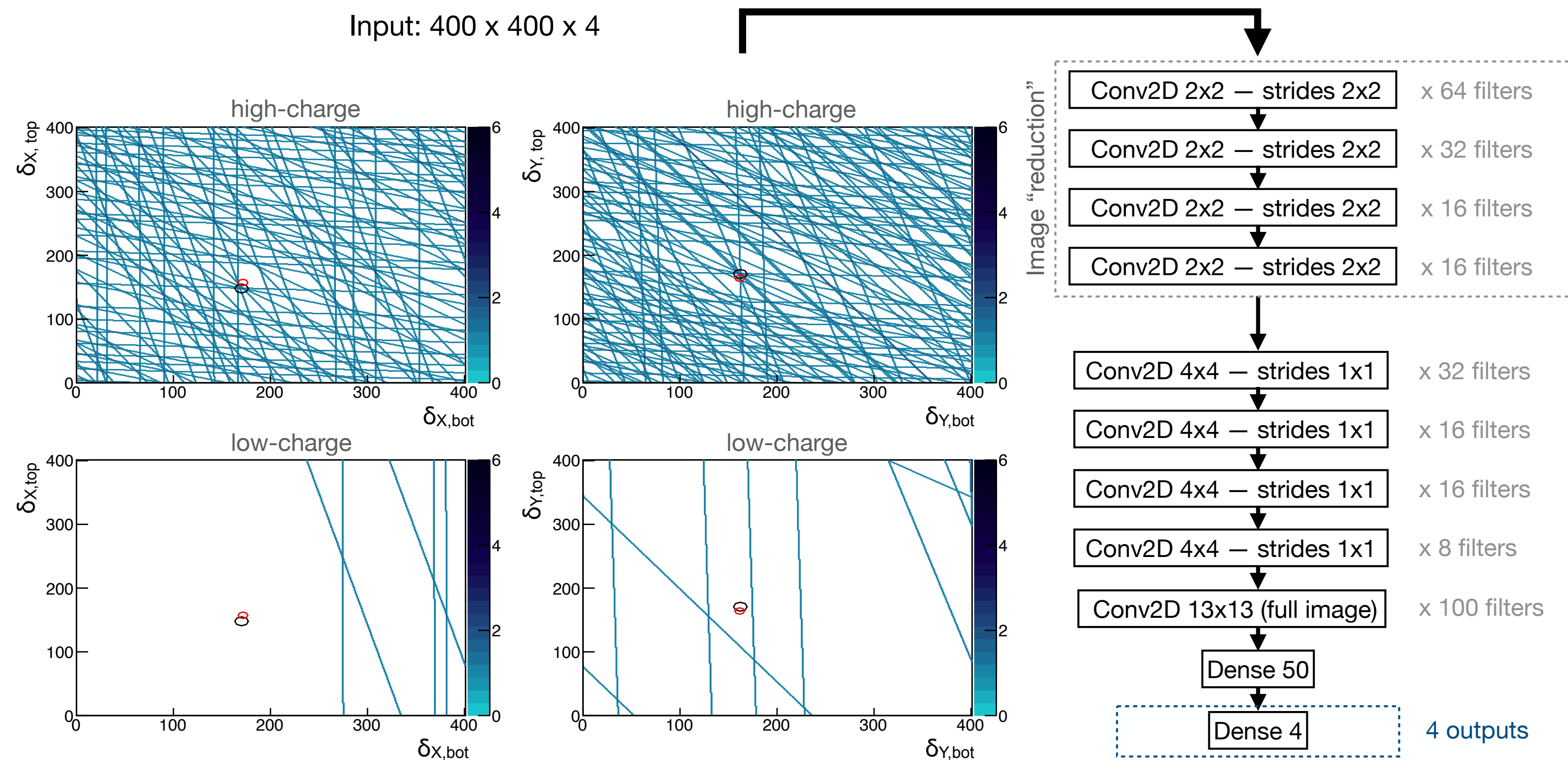


Hough transform: every point (left image) converted into a line in the parameter space of a line questions ($y = ax + b$)

On the Hough transform (not necessarily used with CNNs)



From the Region-of-Interest inferred by a calorimeter CNN, we create a Hough image (two images in two projections, we also artificially divide signals into two groups “low” and “high” - resulting in 4 images total)

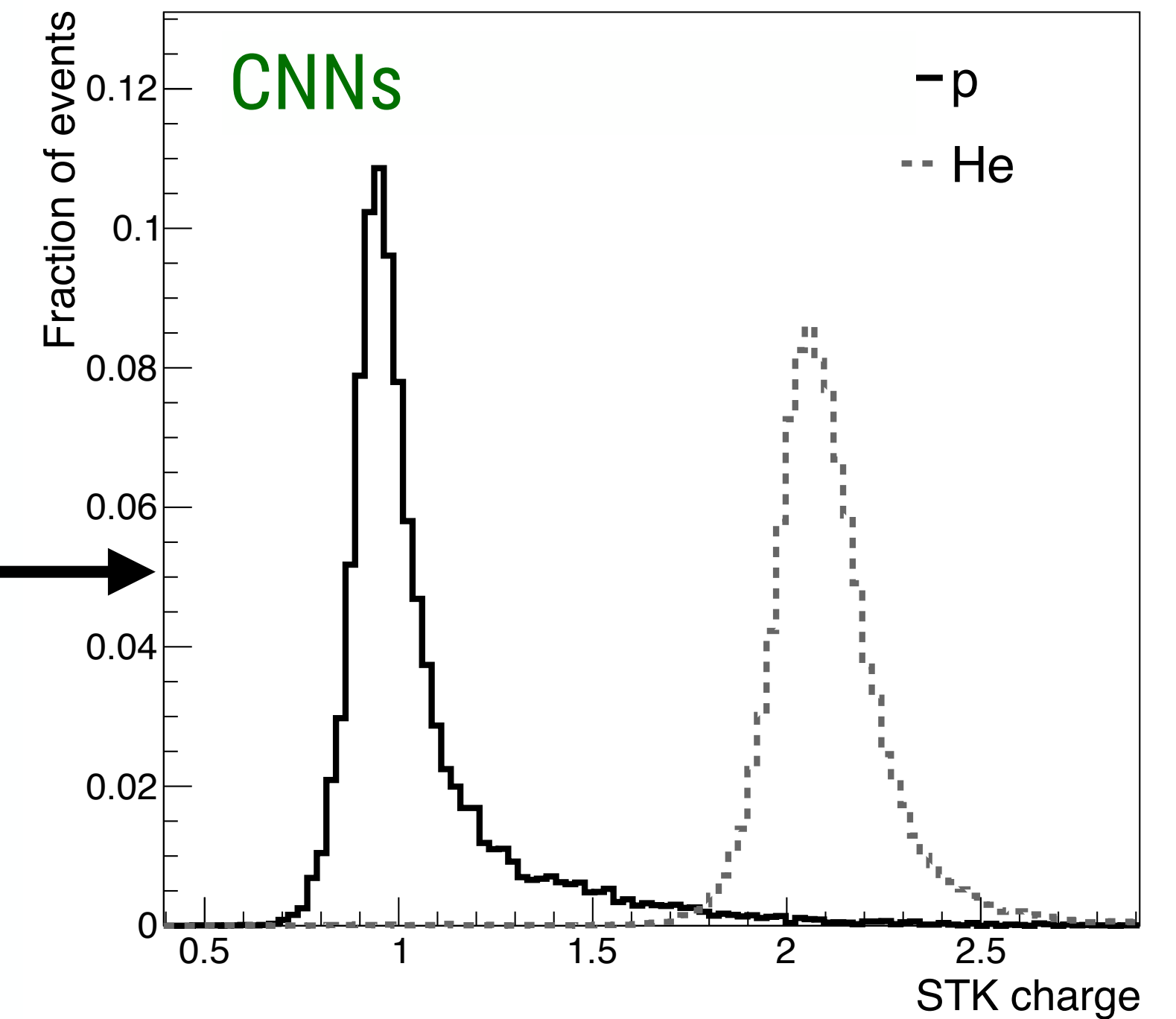
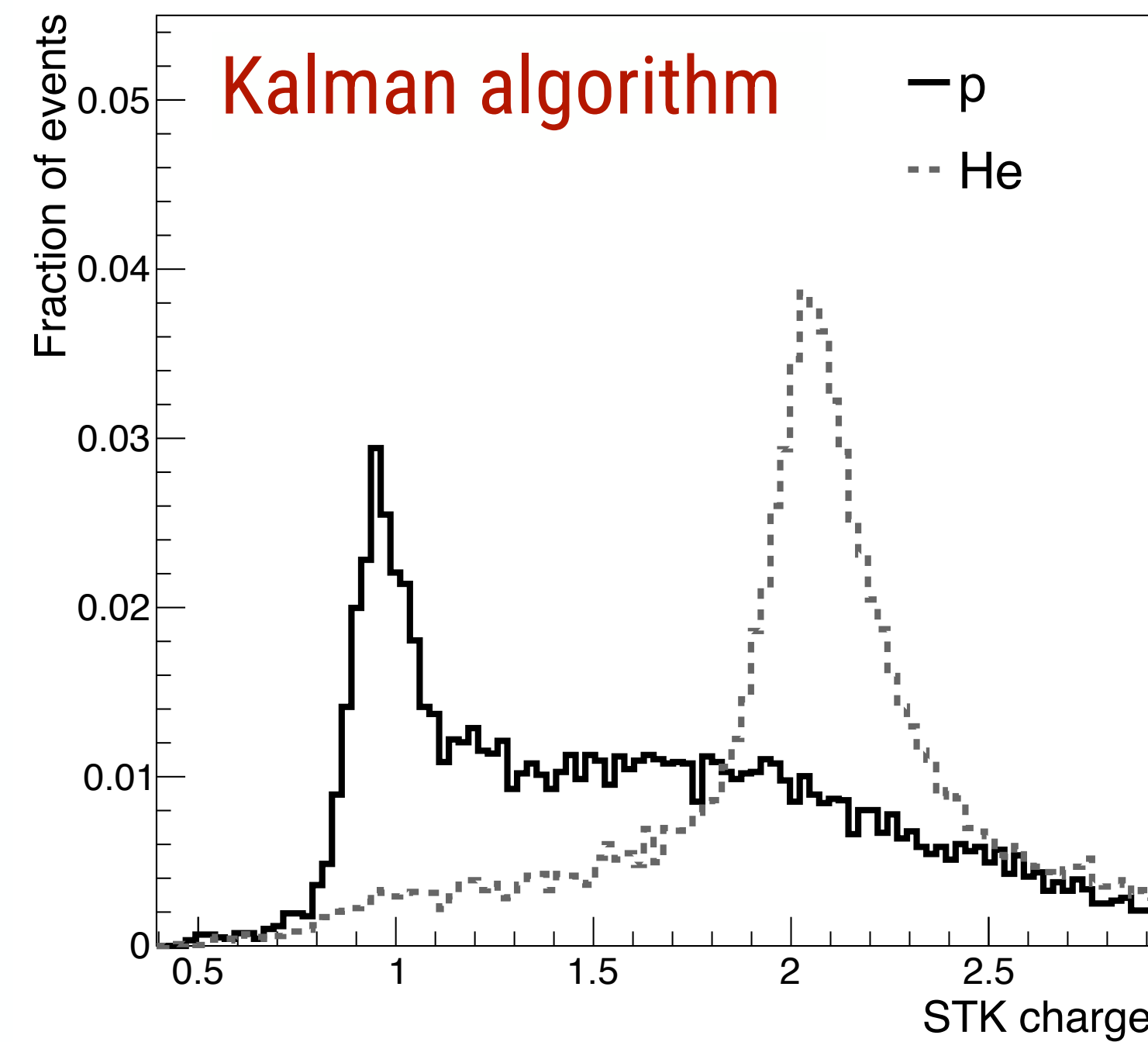
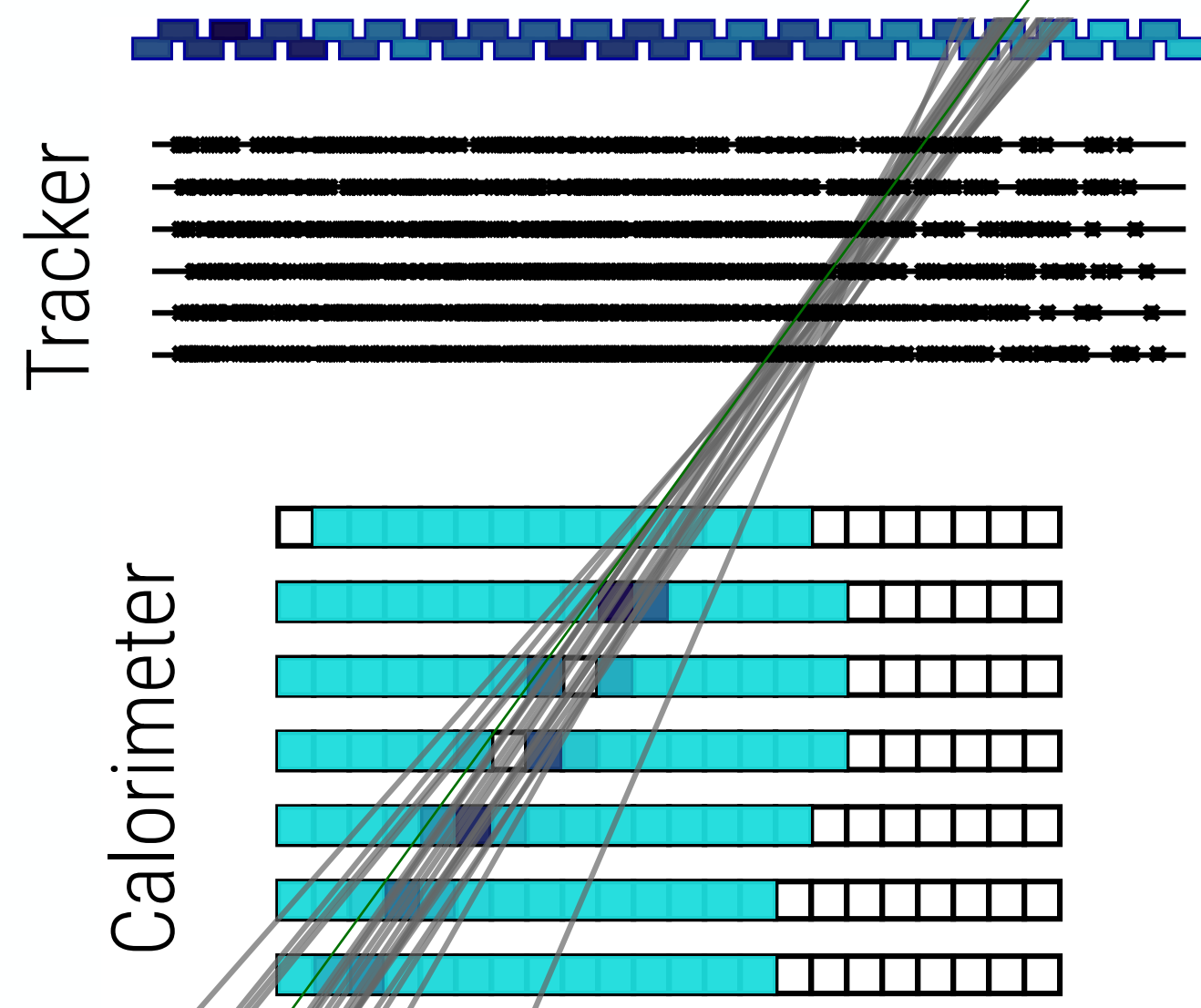


The tracker-based neural network infers particle position with **100 micron precision!**

CNNs & Hough-transformed images

42

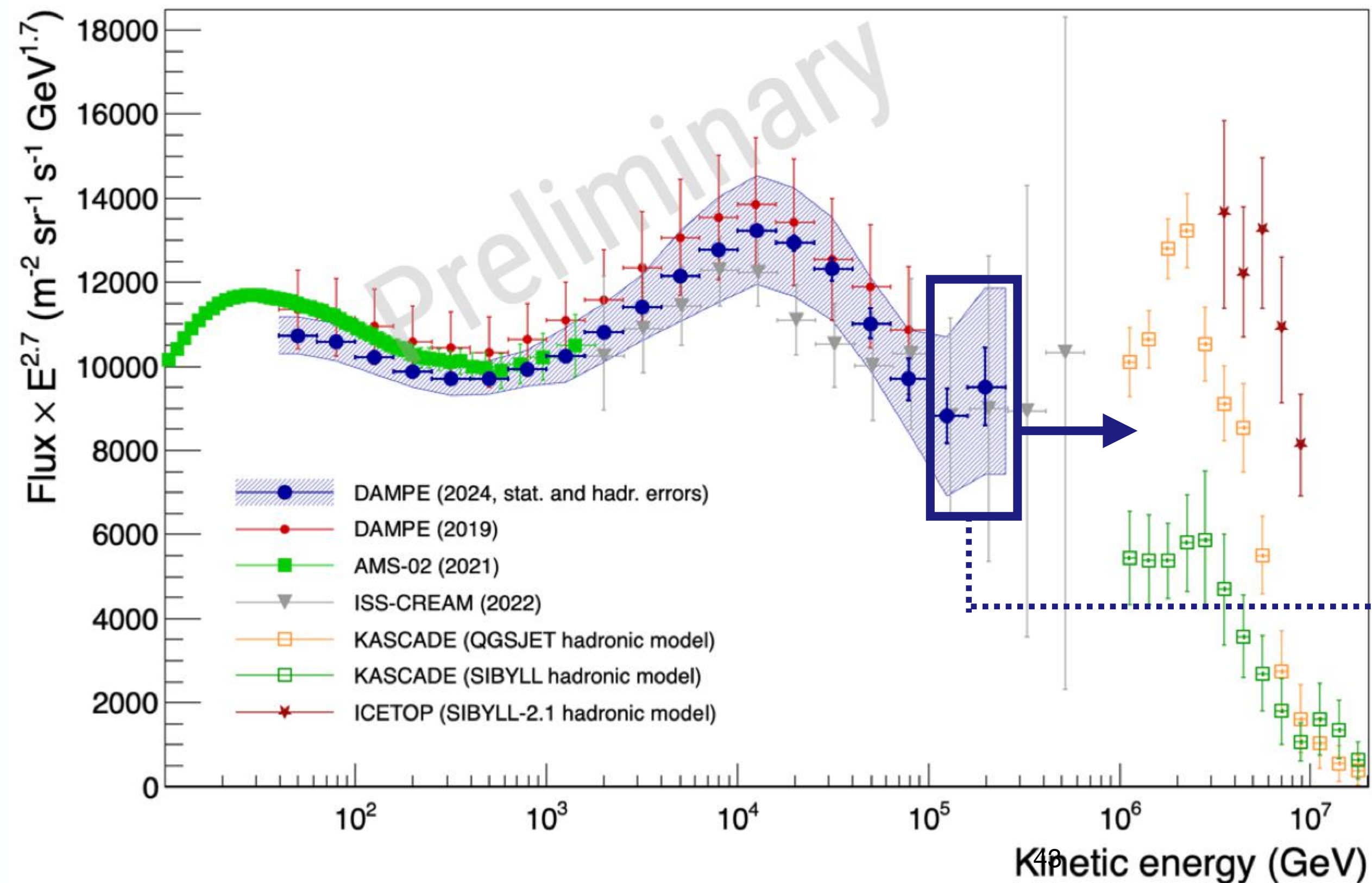
Finally we are able to identify
a Cosmic Ray “needle” in
a “haystack” of noise!



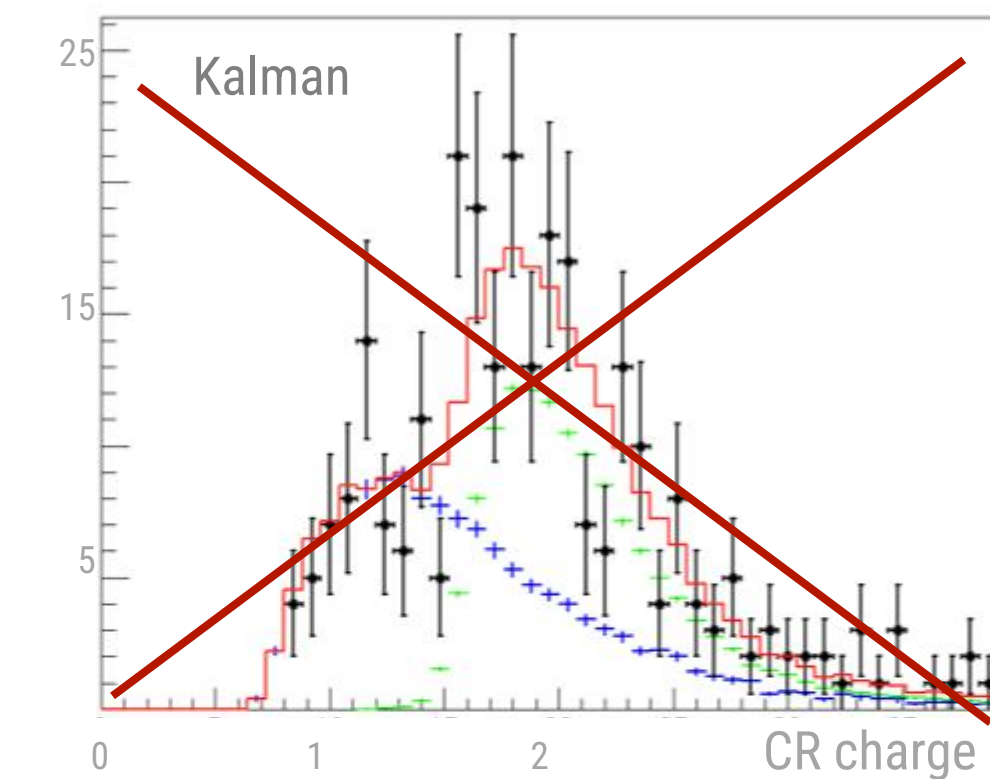
Comparison of Cosmic Ray signal (charge) obtained by analyzing the synthetic DAMPE data with two different algorithms, classical (Kalman) and ML (CNNs):

Why this is important/exciting for physics?

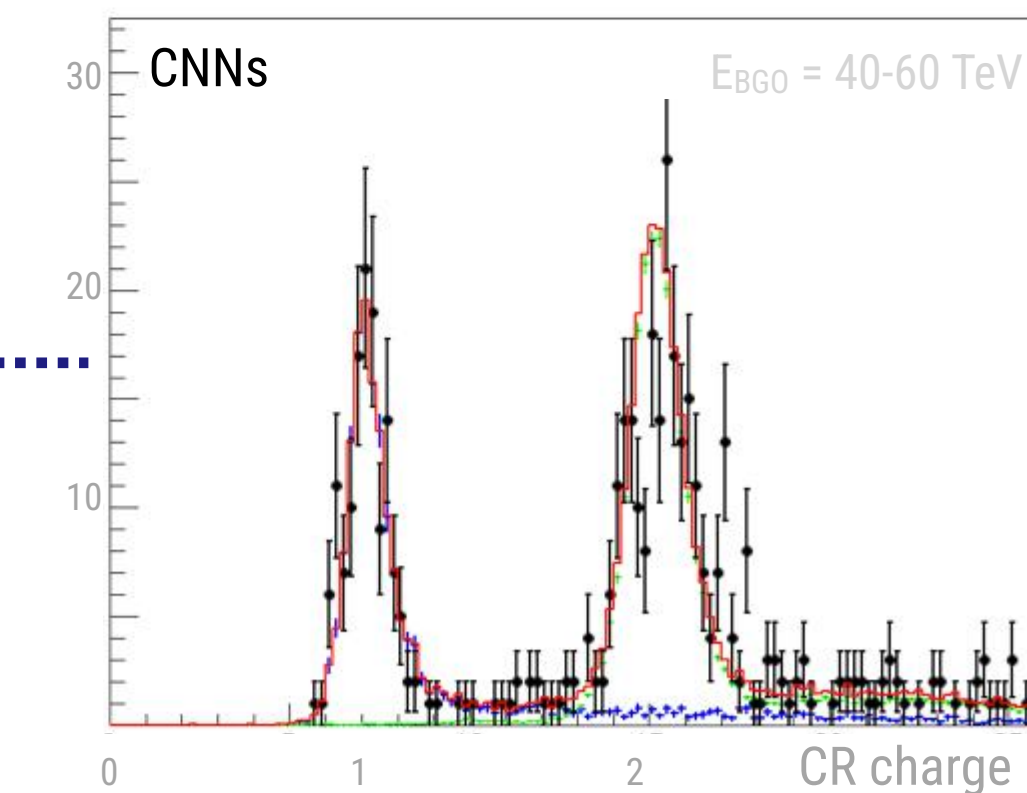
Enables the most precise extension of the DAMPE proton flux measurement beyond 100 TeV!



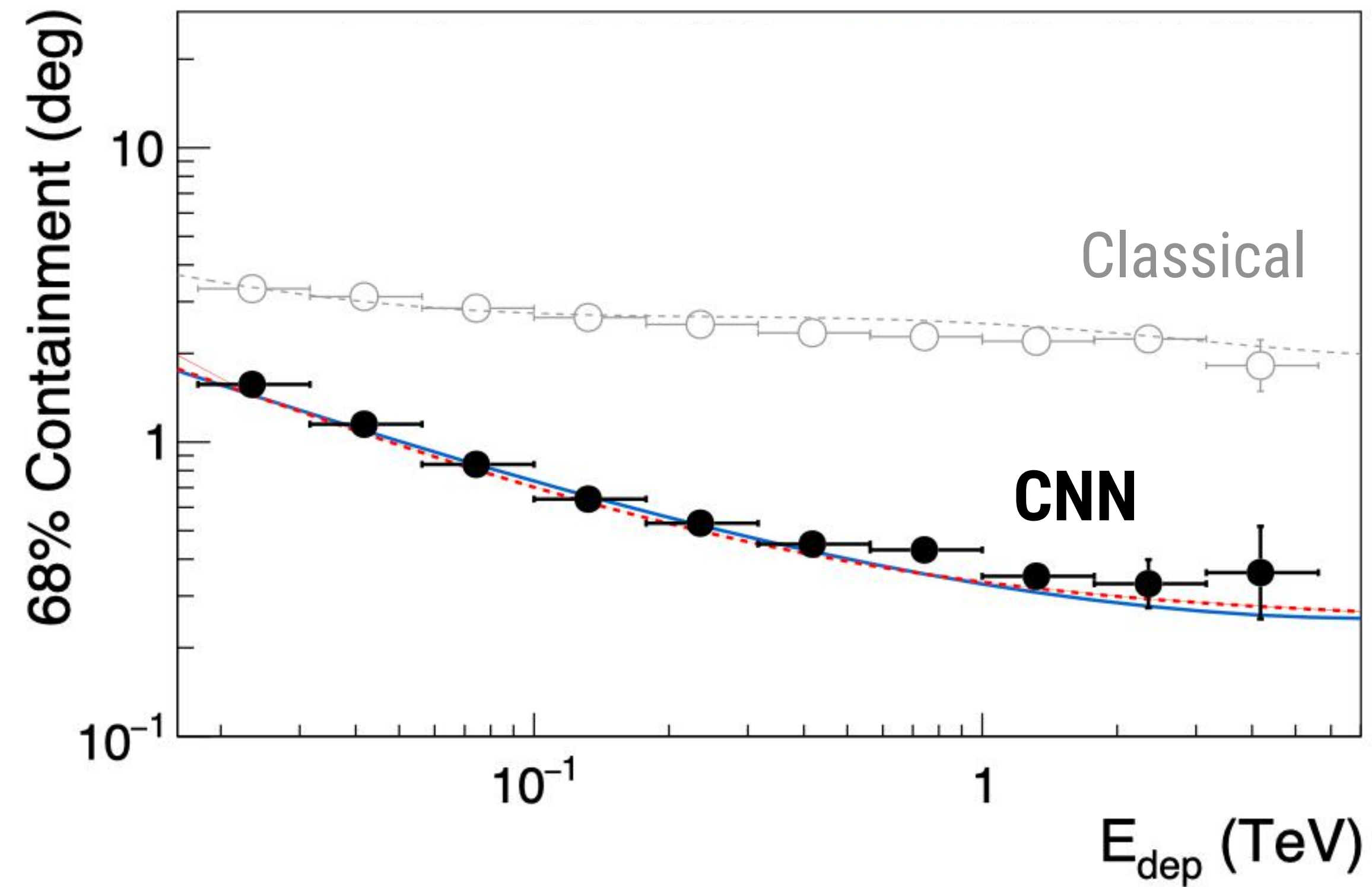
Before:



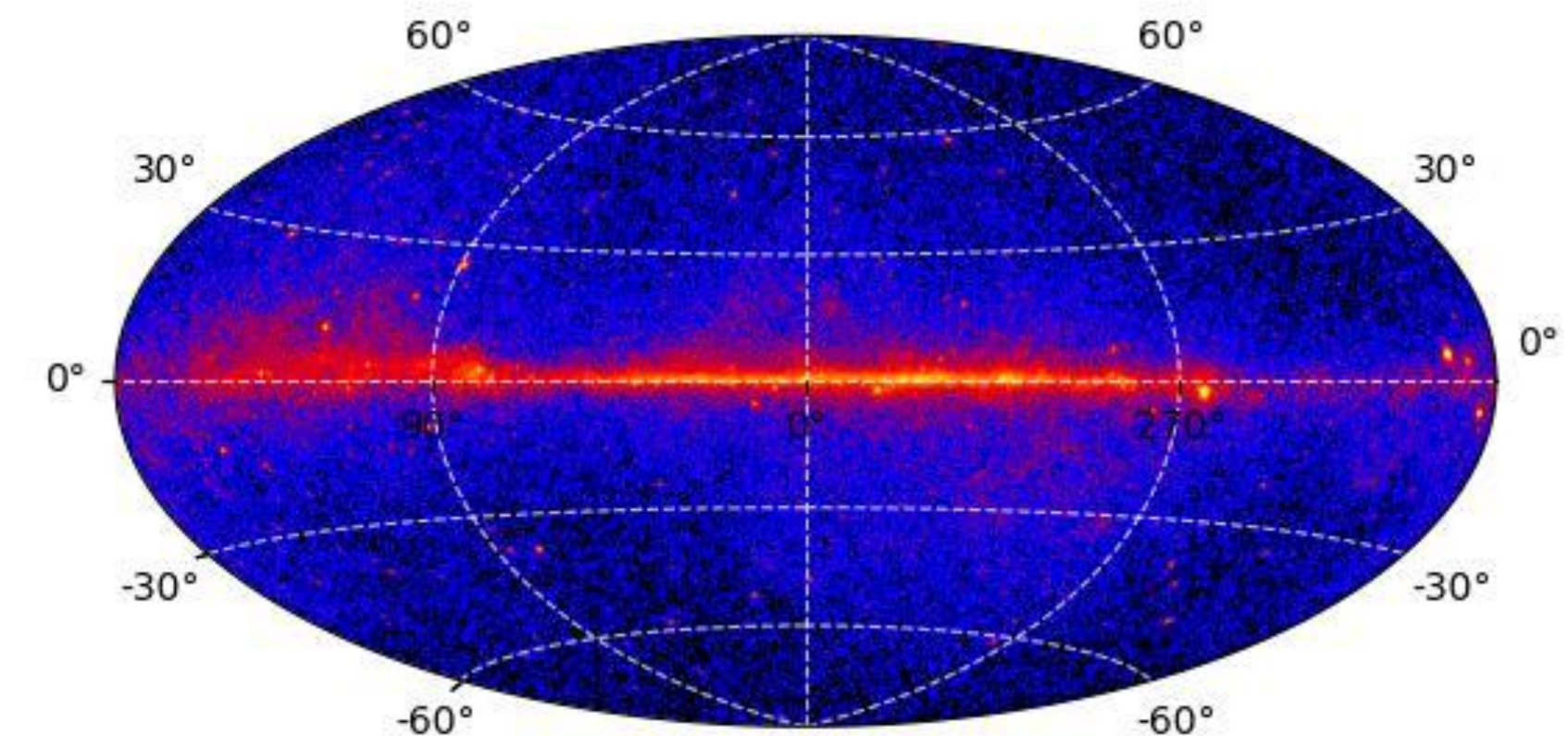
Now:



Why this is important/exciting for physics?



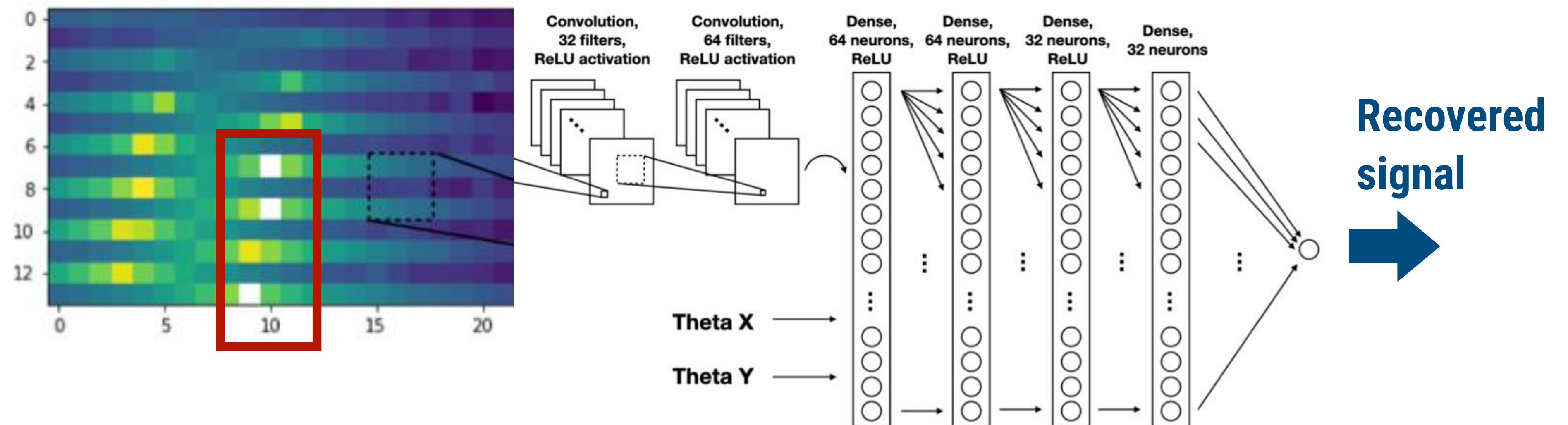
Our calorimeter CNN model achieves ~6 times better PSF compared to classical methods!
(Key implications for gamma-ray detection)



Important instrumentation implications ...

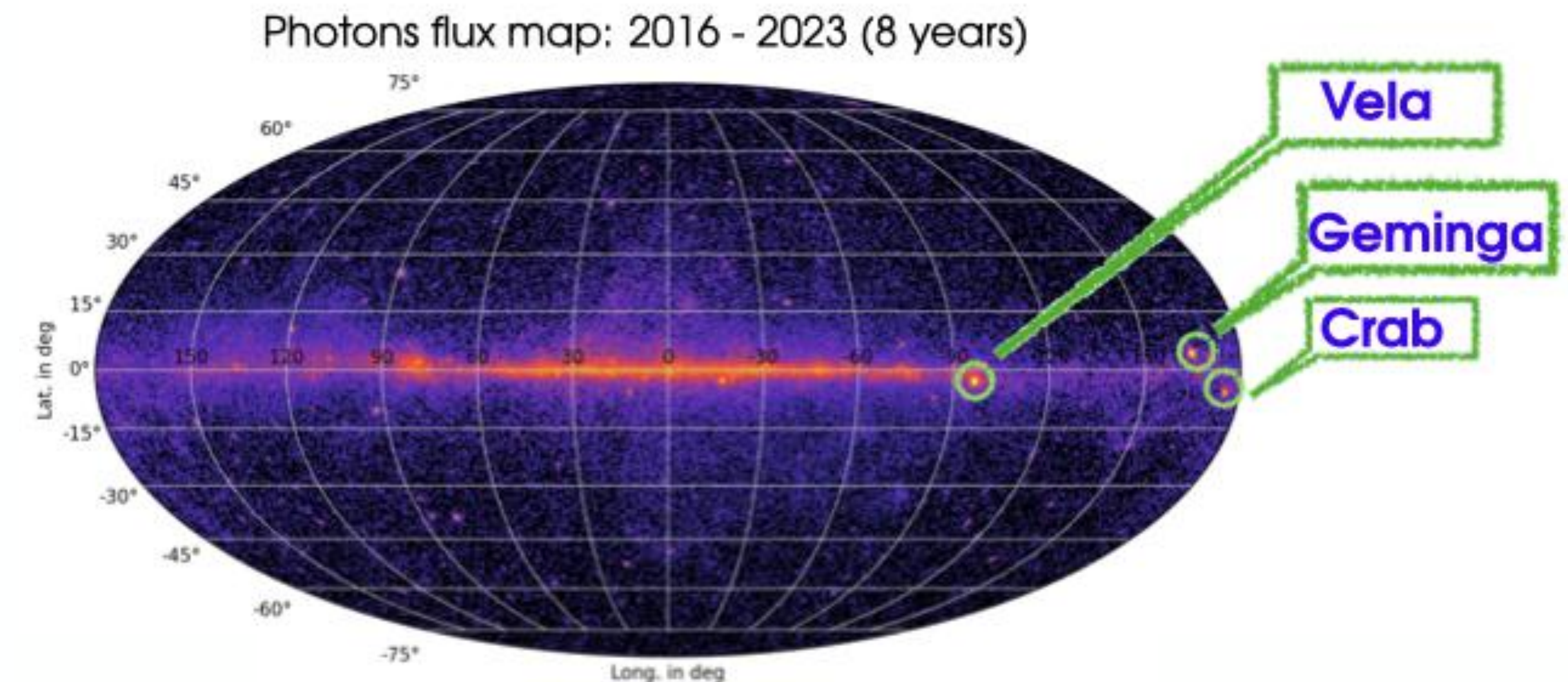
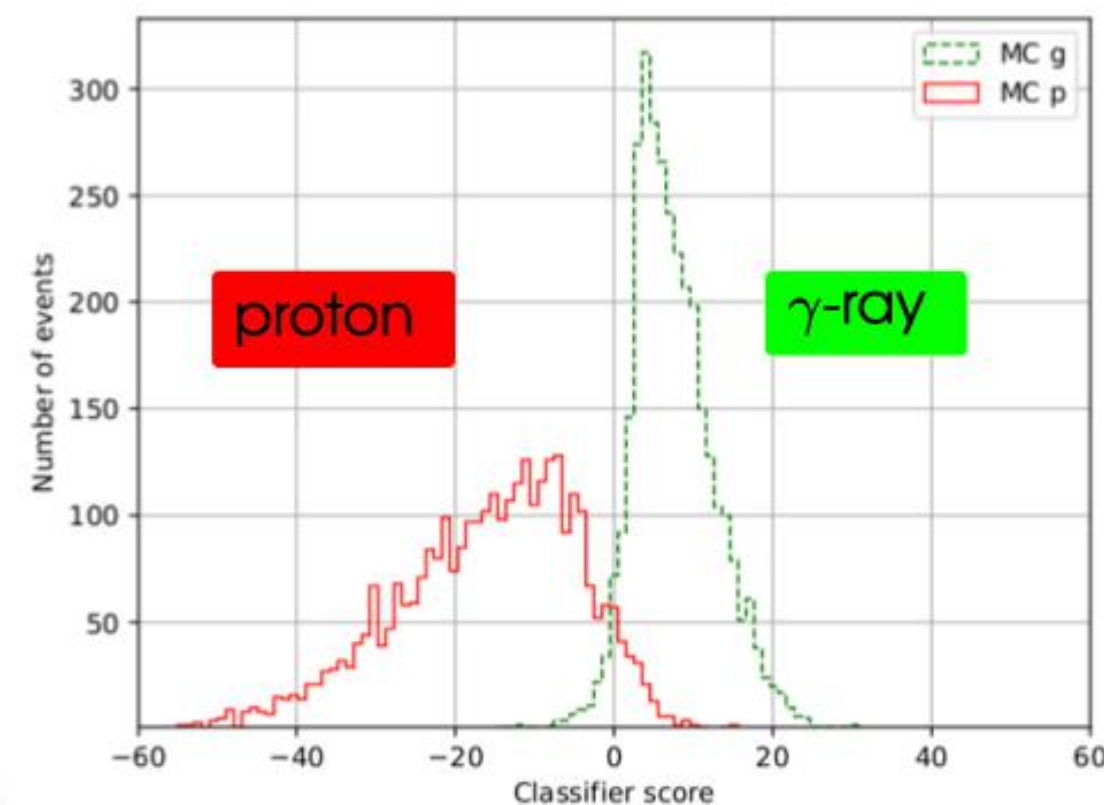
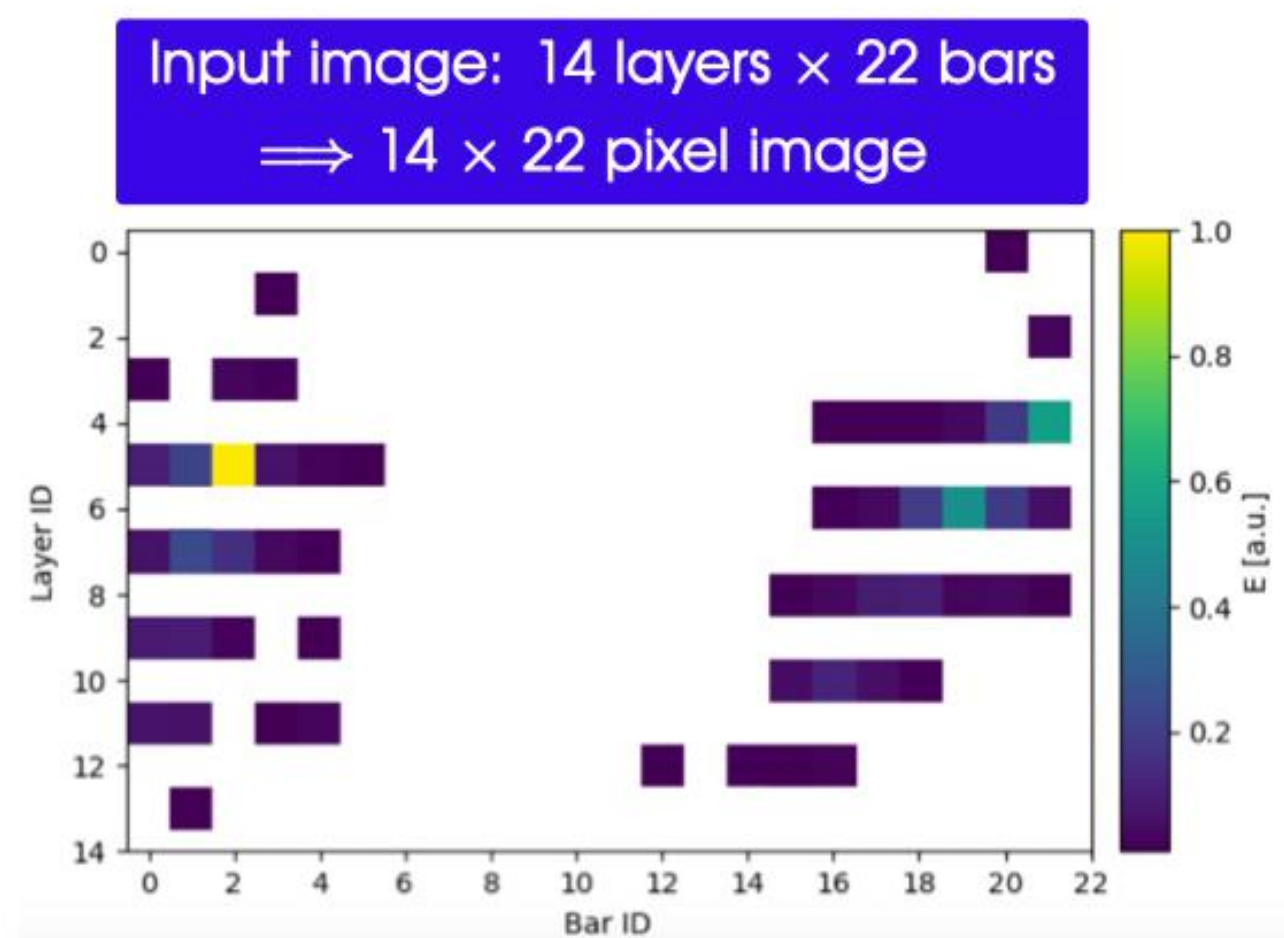
PROBLEM: Lost signal: happens at very high energies (> 100 TeV) due to the detector saturation
➡ Up to 50% of information lost in such events...

SOLUTION: We employ CNNs to recover the missing “pixels” using the image of the calorimeter
➡ recovered profiting of the information of surrounding pixels

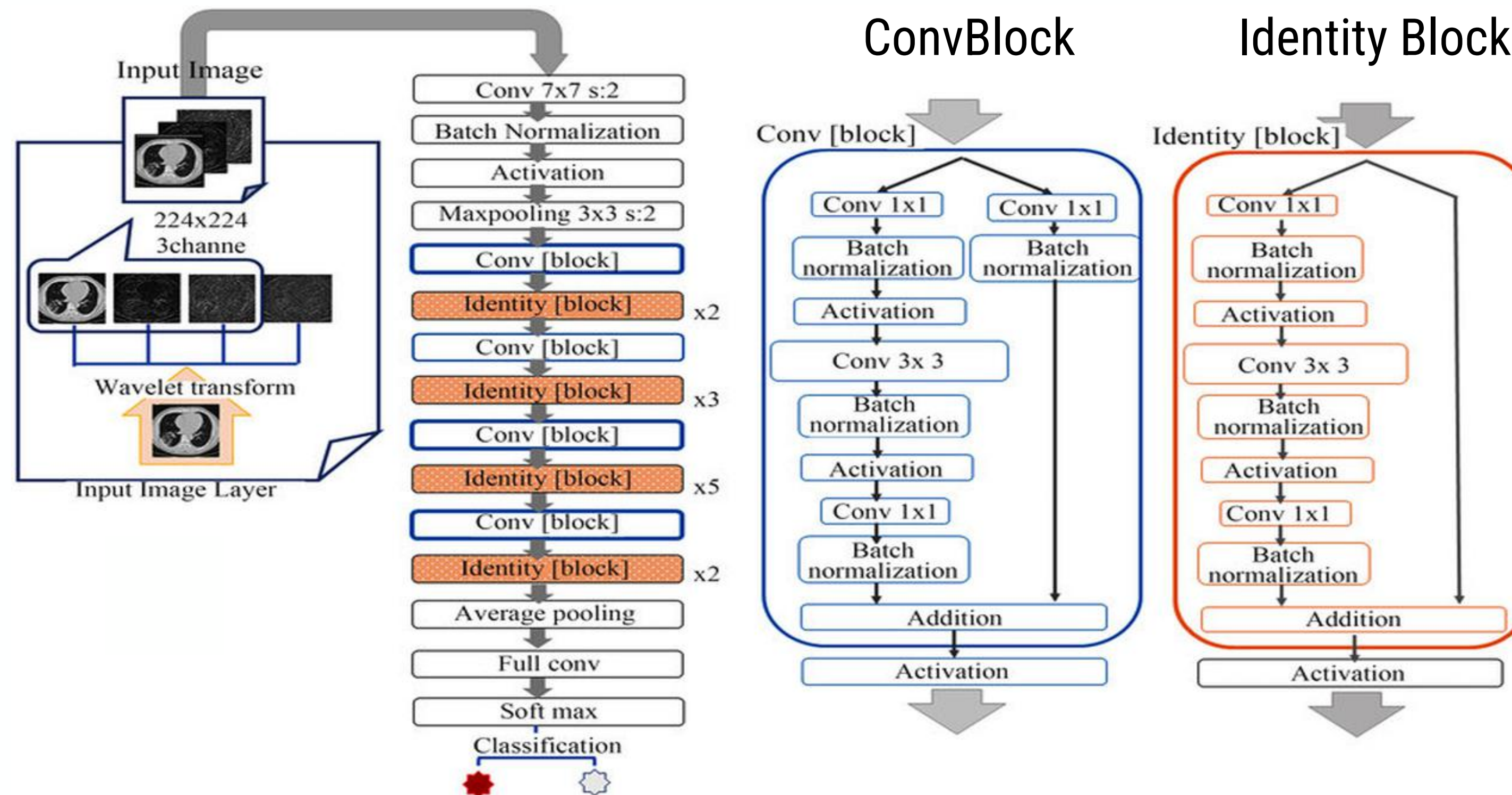


CNNs as a “working horse” of ML in DAMPE (also used in classification tasks)

- Gamma ray astronomy is part of DAMPE science
- Digging out gamma rays from overwhelming proton background is a challenge
- We use similar CNN architecture based on calorimeter images as an input for gamma-ray VS proton classification



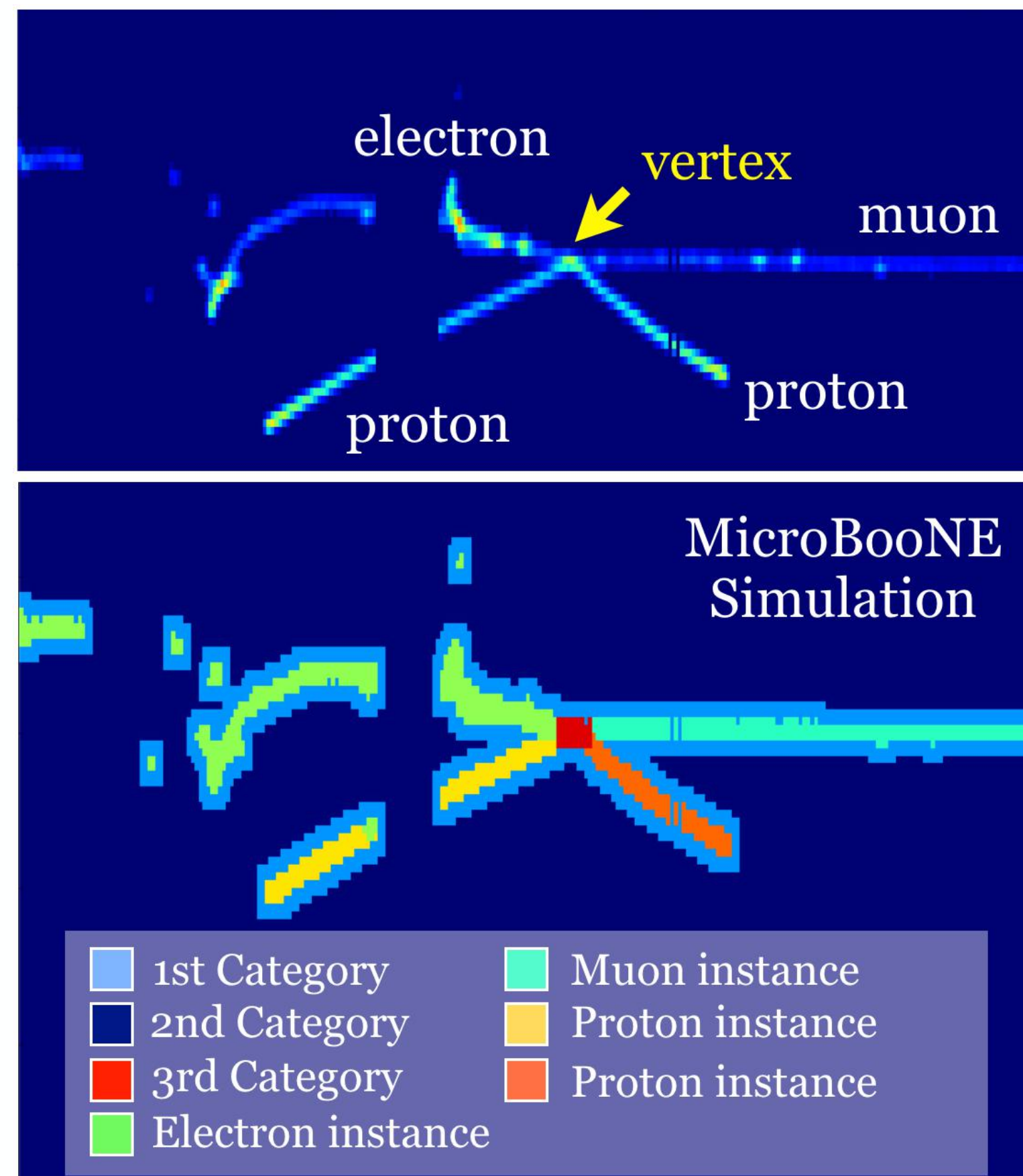
ResNet – a modern CNN architecture



ResNet is a popular type of CNN architecture where the convolutional-processed data is added to the original image.

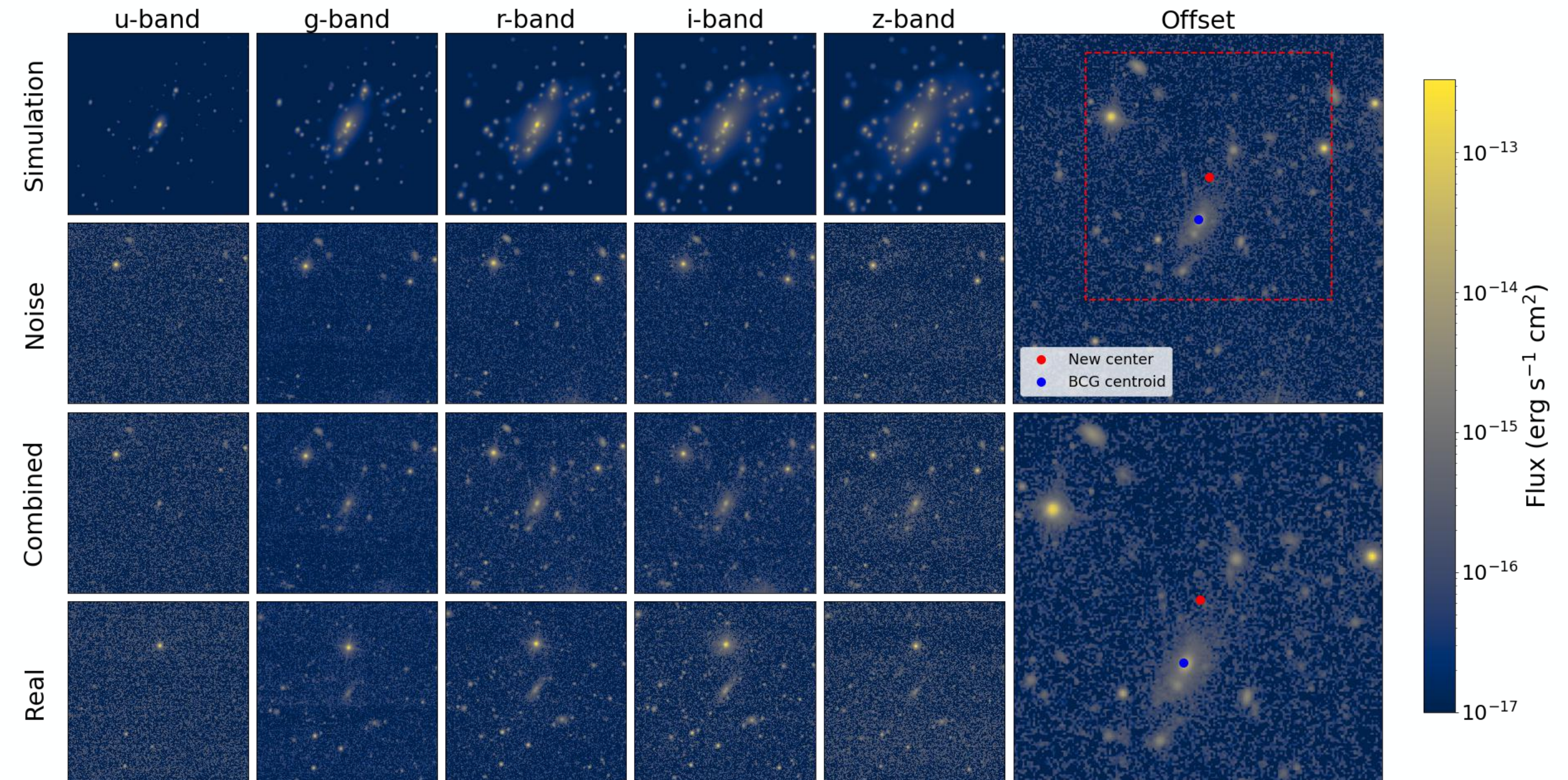
- The dimension either remains unchanged (Identity block) or is reduced (Conv Block).
- The ResNet allows to train very deep networks avoiding the vanishing gradient problem.
- The ResNet model represents a stack of repeating Conv and Identity blocks (e.g. 50 blocks)

Pixel-level particle identification in MicroBooNE Liquid Argon Time Projection Chamber



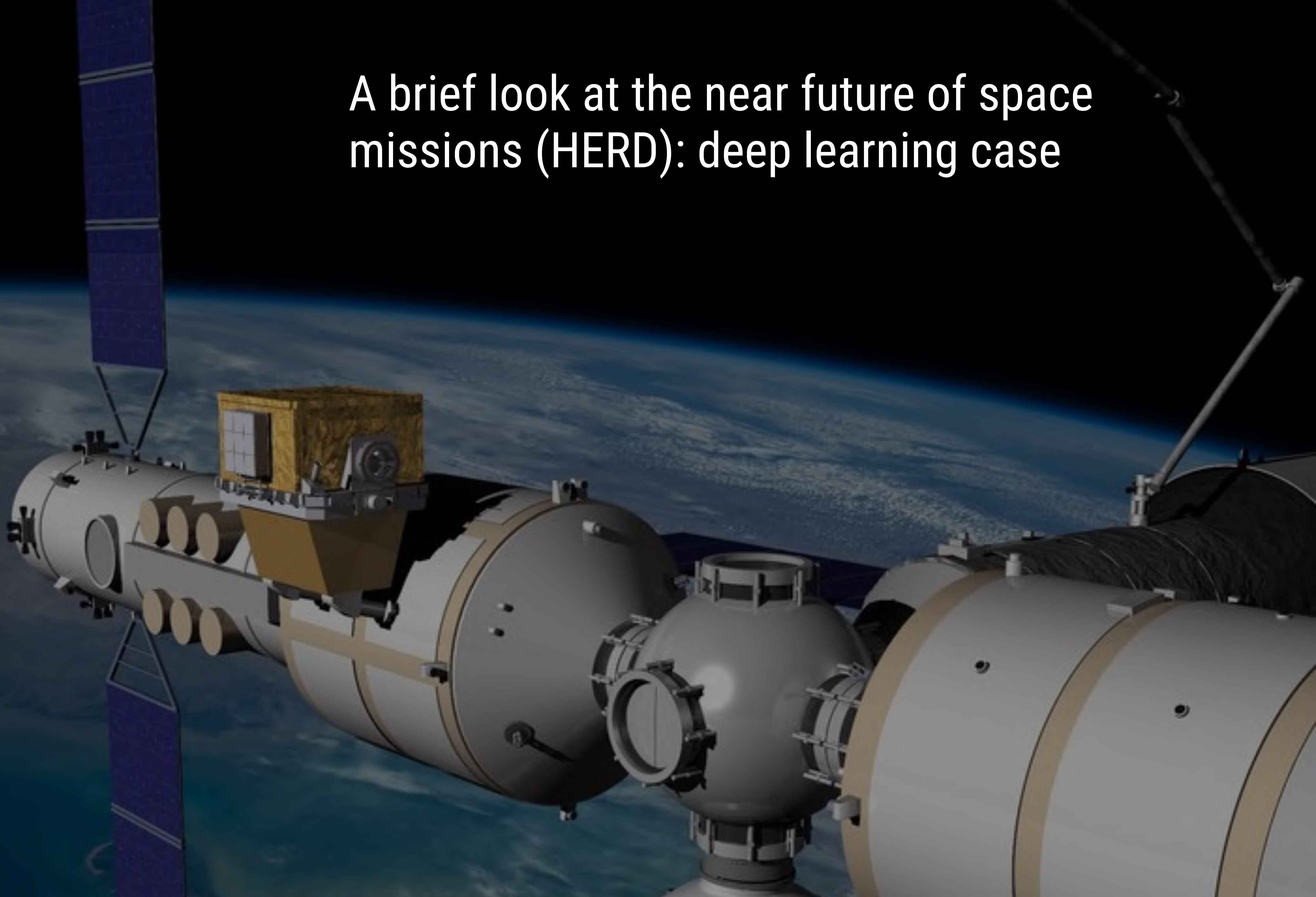
PhysRevD.99.092001,
arXiv.1808.07269

Identification of Brightest Cluster Galaxies in Large Surveys



arXiv:2502.00104

A brief look at the near future of space missions (HERD): deep learning case

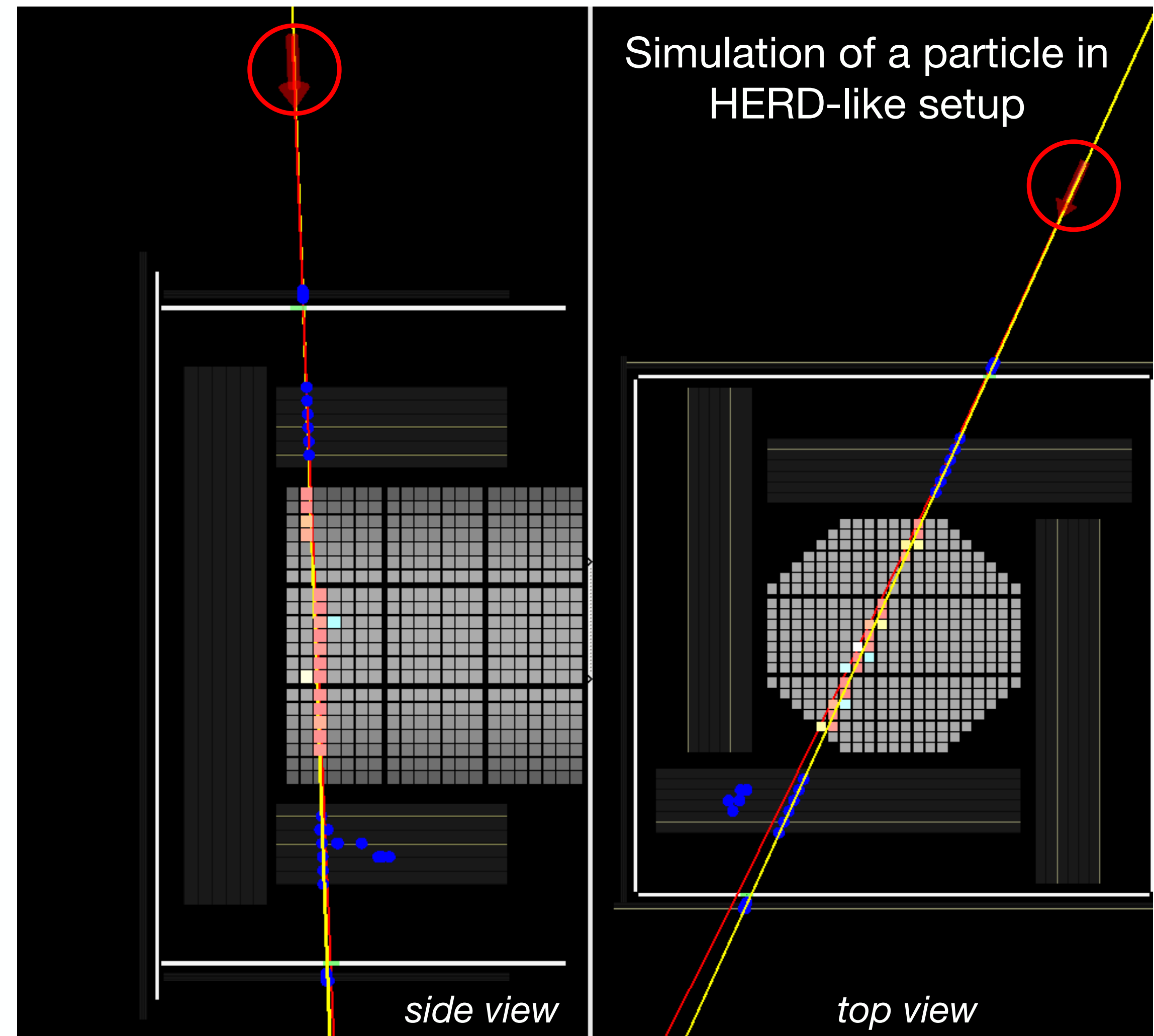


HERD (High Energy cosmic Radiation Detector)

50

3D calorimeter of $55X_0$ (3Λ) + 5-side tracker

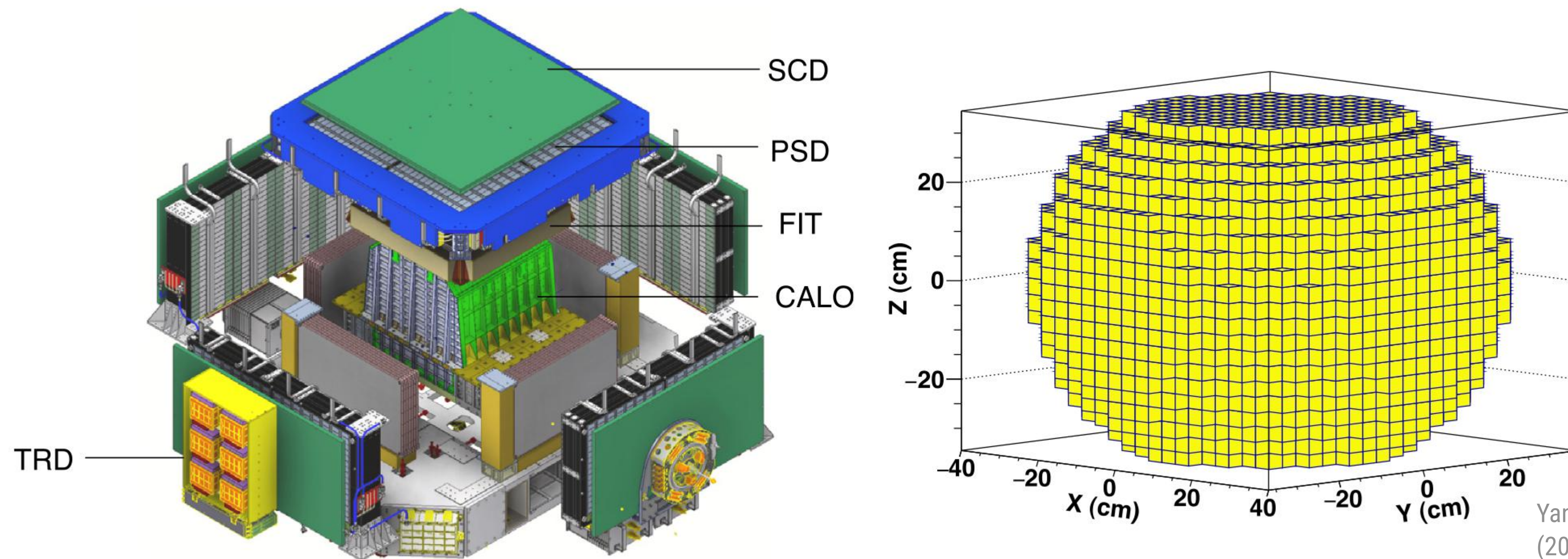
- CR electrons up to 100 TeV
- CR p/ions up to PeVs
- x 10 acceptance compared to DAMPE
→ hundreds of PeV cosmic rays / year



HERD - the first 3D calorimeter in space

51

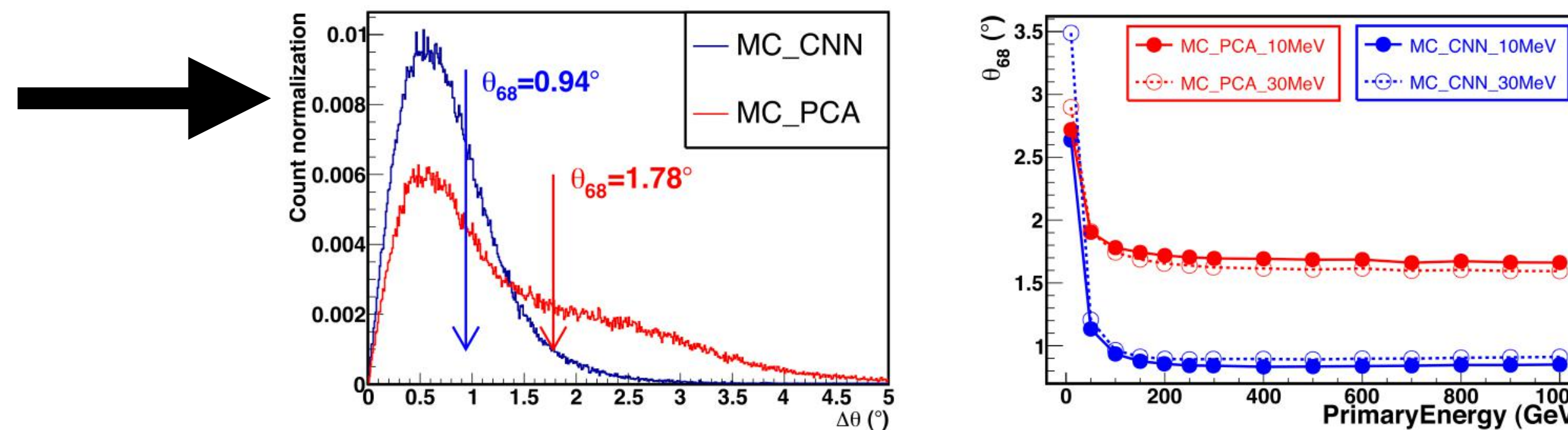
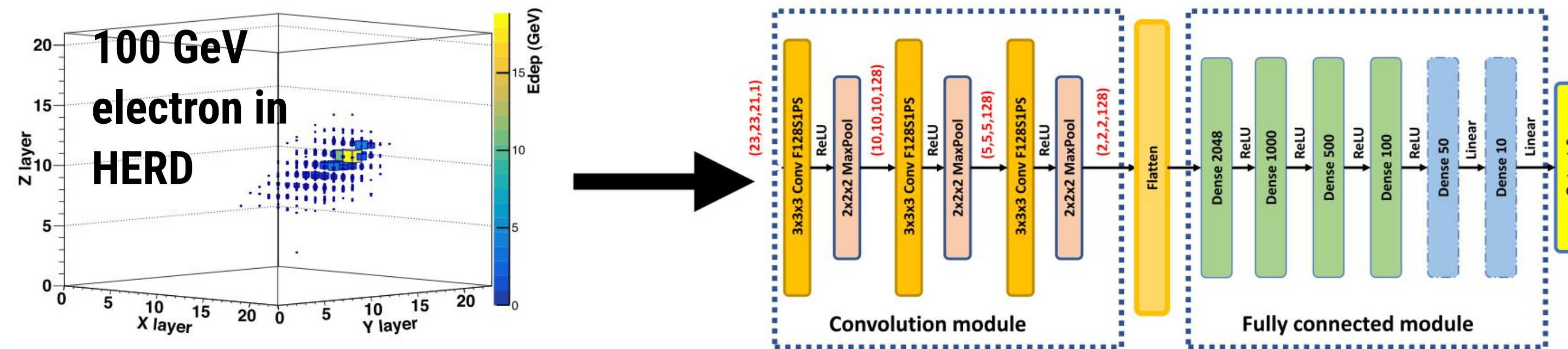
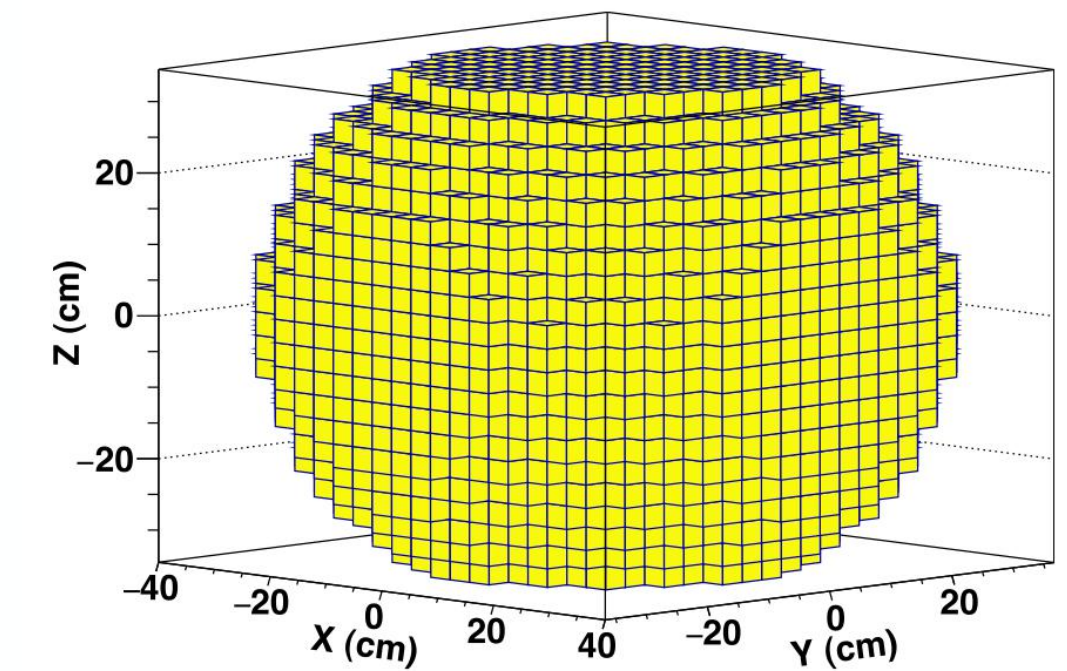
One **order of magnitude higher complexity** of the detector (compared to DAMPE) – ideal “playground” for deep learning ...



Yang et al. NIM A 1066
(2024) 169571

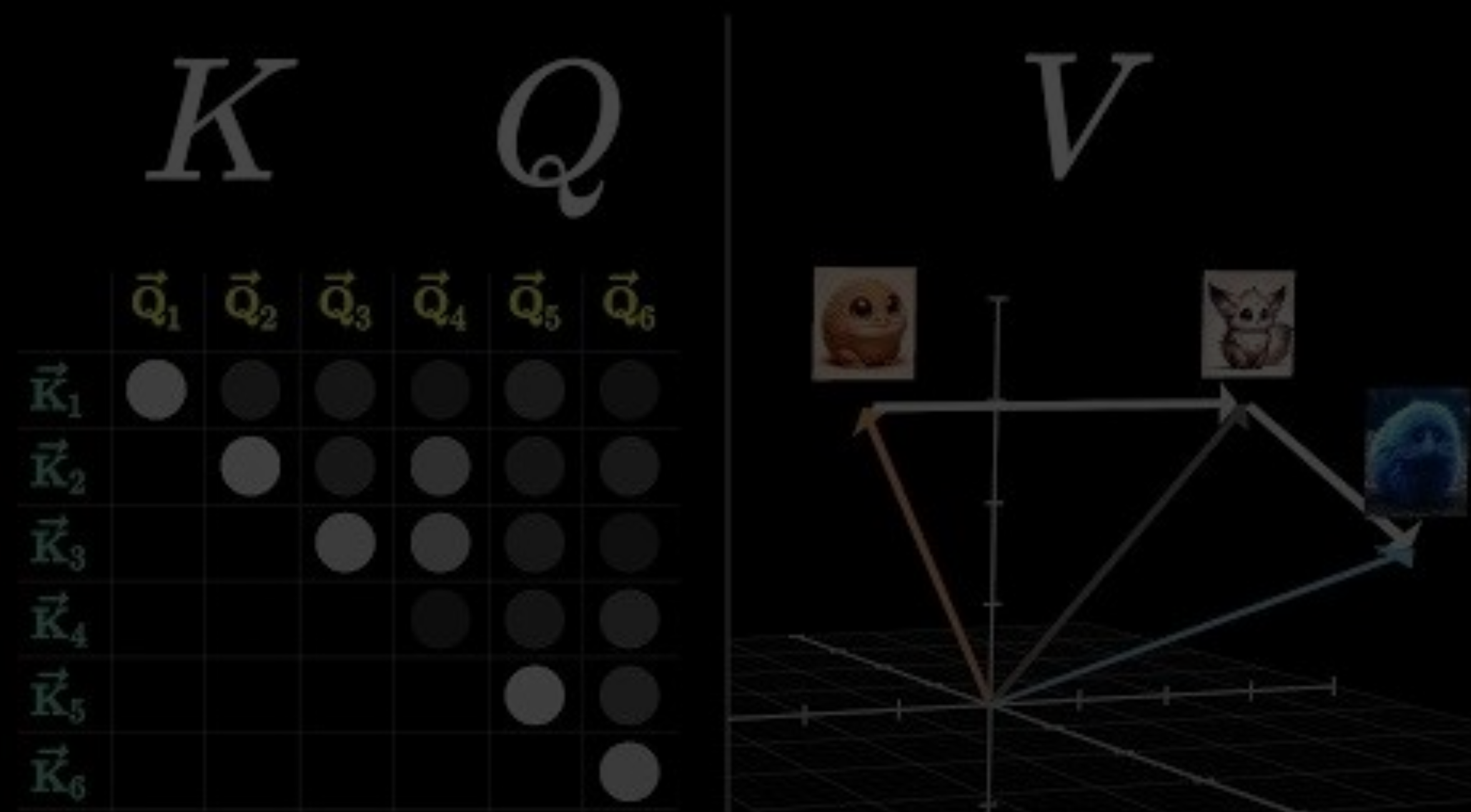
Unlike DAMPE, HERD features is a fully 3D calorimeter

- Inspired by the DAMPE example, a **3D CNN developed**
- CNN shows twice better PSF at 100 GeV compared to classical methods
- ... surprisingly less prominent improvement compared to DAMPE case)



Beyond CNNs

(Transformers, GNNs, Normalizing flows) ...



- Astro-particle community is also exploring modern deep learning methods
 - AI enthusiasts at AMS claim that **Transformers** outperform CNNs (including ResNet) by about one order of magnitude and generalize better when trained / applied across different energies (still to be confirmed with real data)

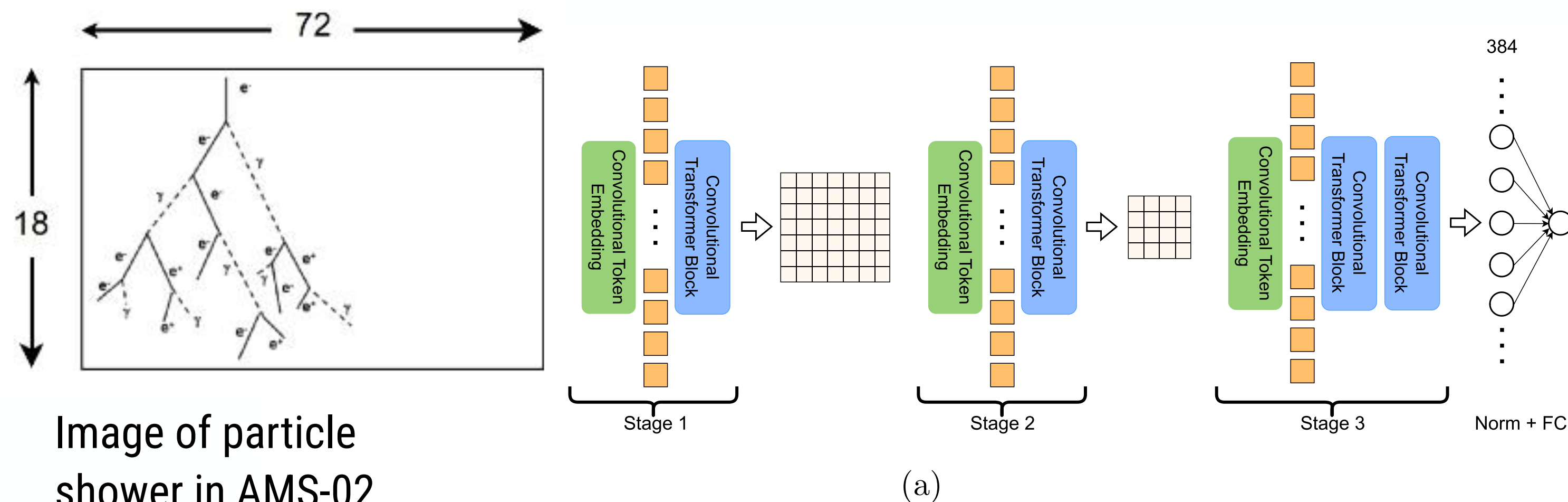
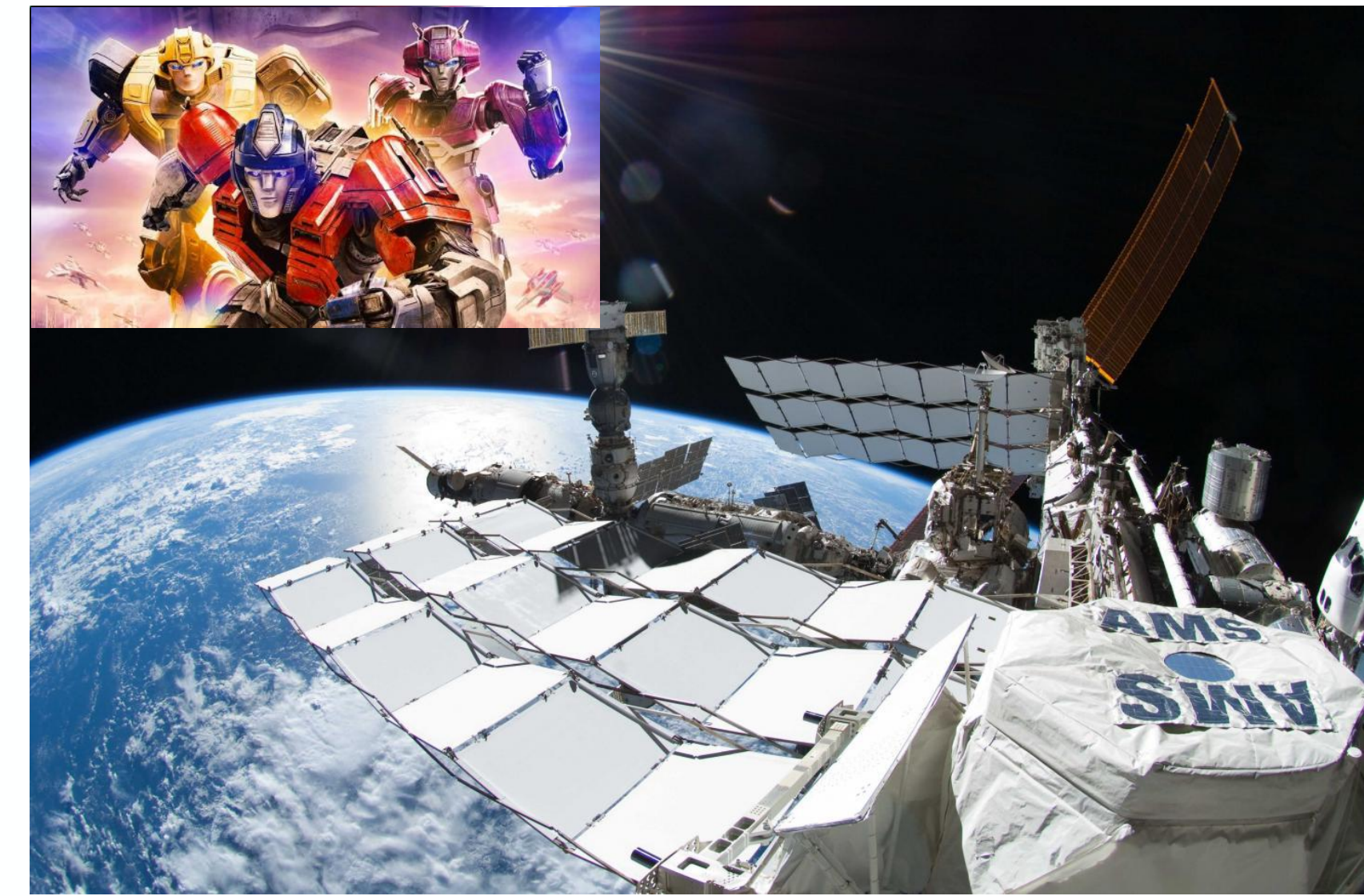
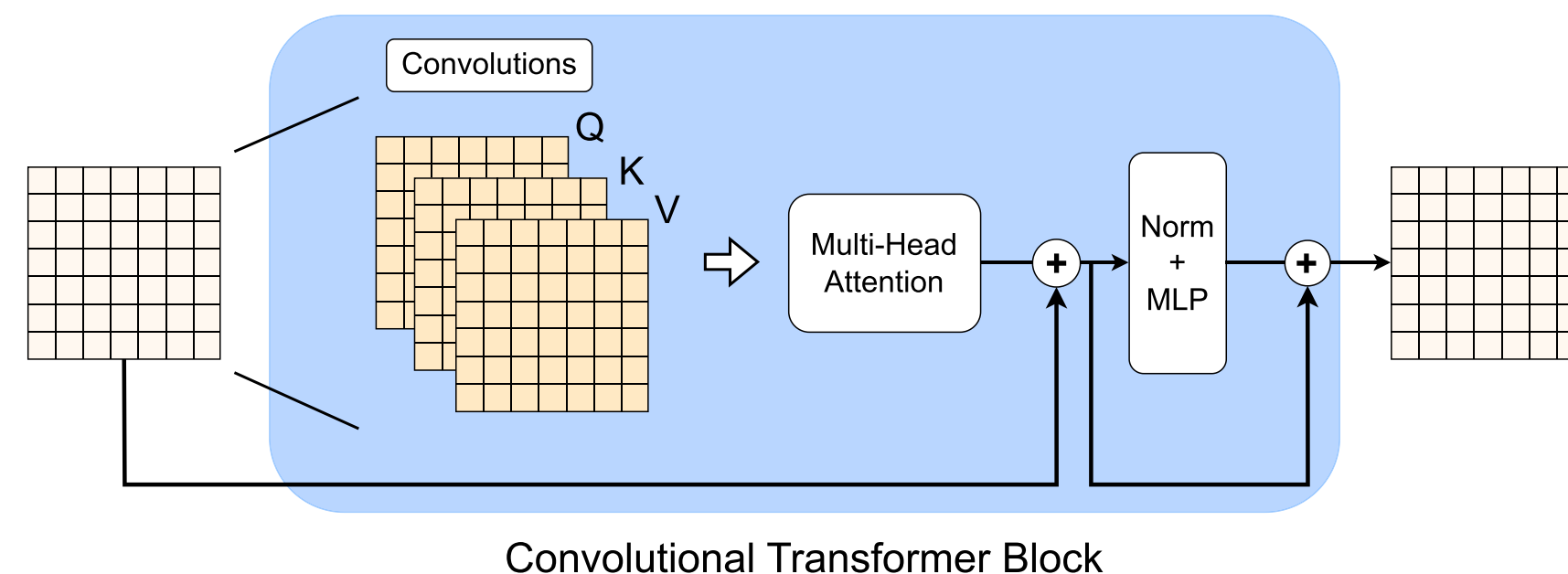
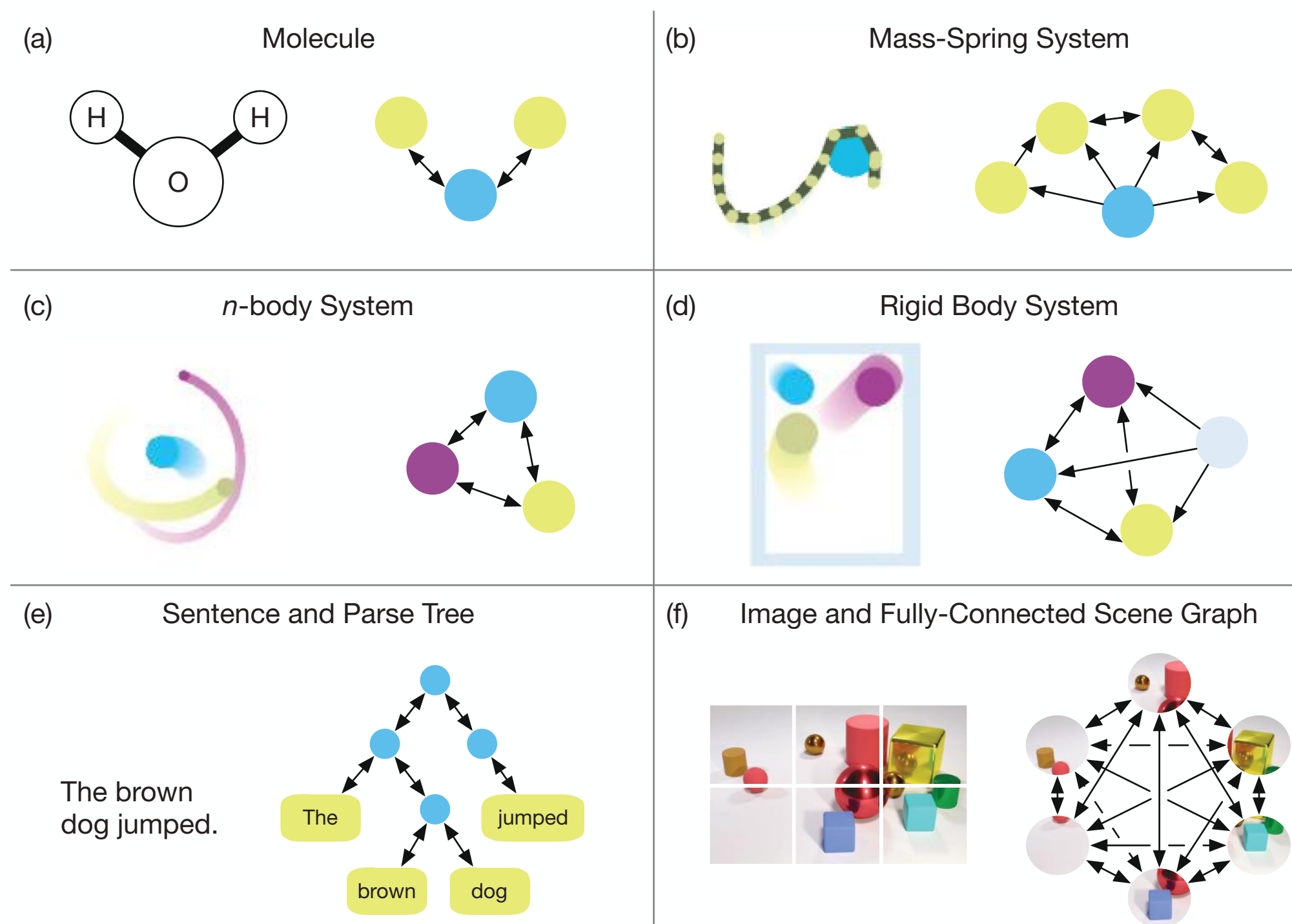


Image of particle shower in AMS-02 calorimeter is taken as an input (similar to DAMPE and HERD cases)

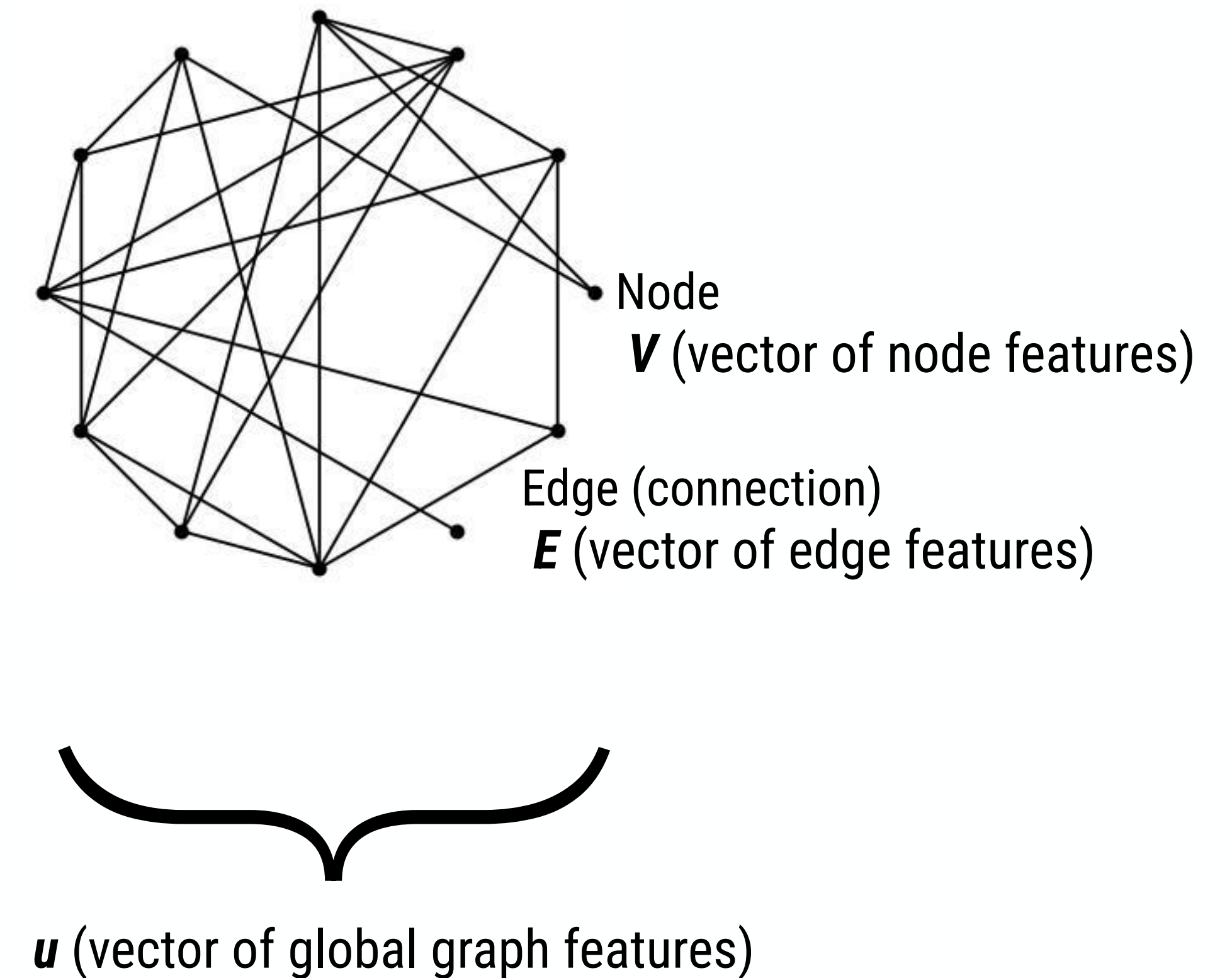


Validation of ML models with real data is probably the most challenging part of applying AI in space astroparticle physics!

- Not always the data can be represented in a grid-like form compatible with image (hence CNNs)
- A more generic/universal representation of data is graph - anything can be presented as a graph



arXiv:1806.01261v3



Graph Neural Networks (GNN)

56

```
# Generated with chat-GPT
# GNN code pseudo-code generated by GPT
# Inputs:
# - V: node features (list of v_i)
# - E: edge features (list of (e_k, sender, receiver))
# - u: global feature

# Output:
# - Updated V, E, u

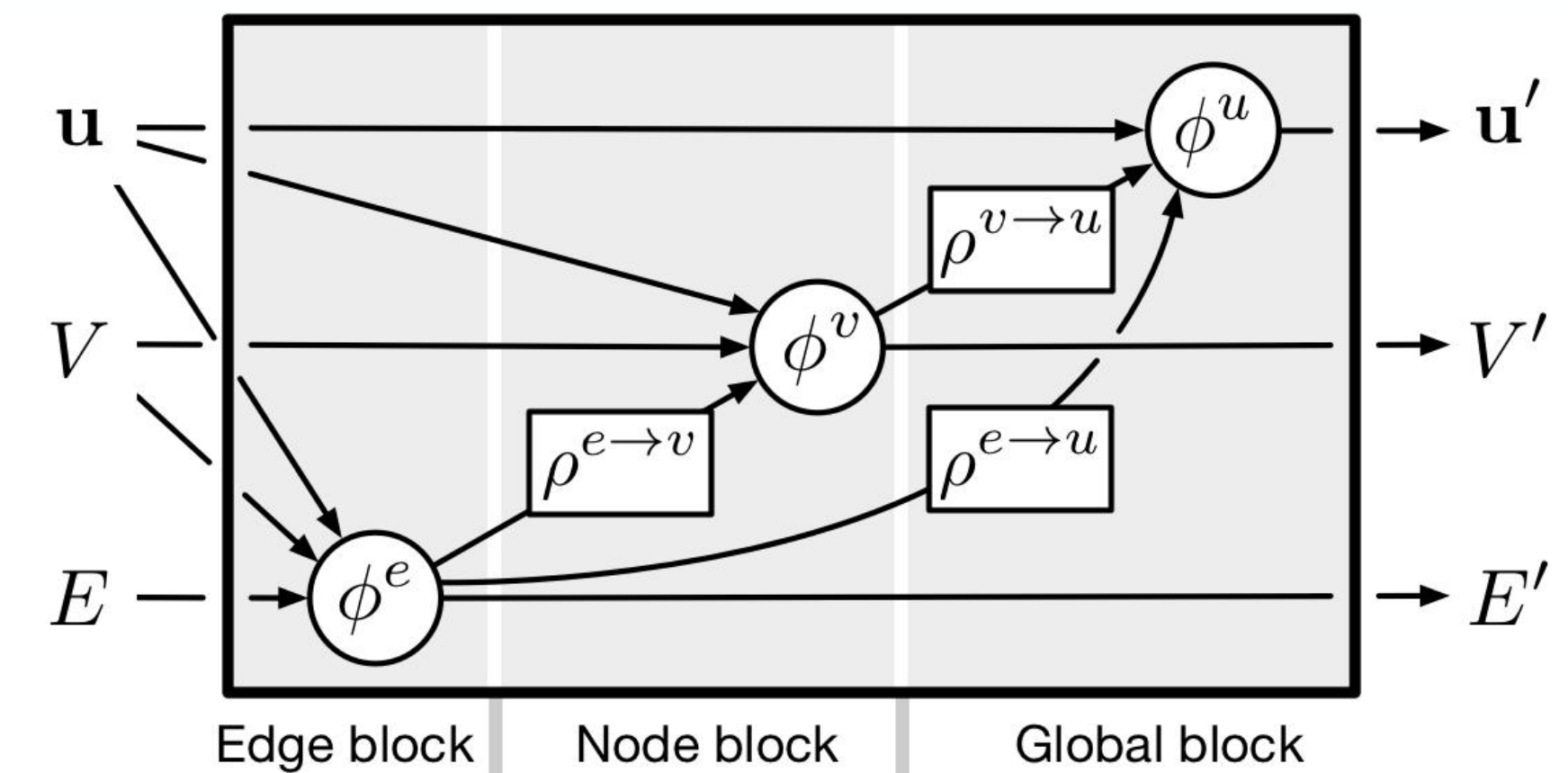
def GN_layer(V, E, u):
    # Edge update
    for each edge k: # e_k connects nodes i -> j
        sender, receiver = E[k].sender, E[k].receiver
        e_k = E[k].features
        E[k].features = phi_e(e_k, V[sender], V[receiver], u)

    # Node update
    for each node i:
        incoming_edges = [e_k for e_k in E if e_k.receiver == i]
        aggregated_edge_info = aggregate_e([e.features for e in incoming_edges])
        V[i] = phi_v(V[i], aggregated_edge_info, u)

    # Global update
    aggregated_nodes = aggregate_v(V)
    aggregated_edges = aggregate_e([e.features for e in E])
    u = phi_u(u, aggregated_nodes, aggregated_edges)

    return V, E, u
```

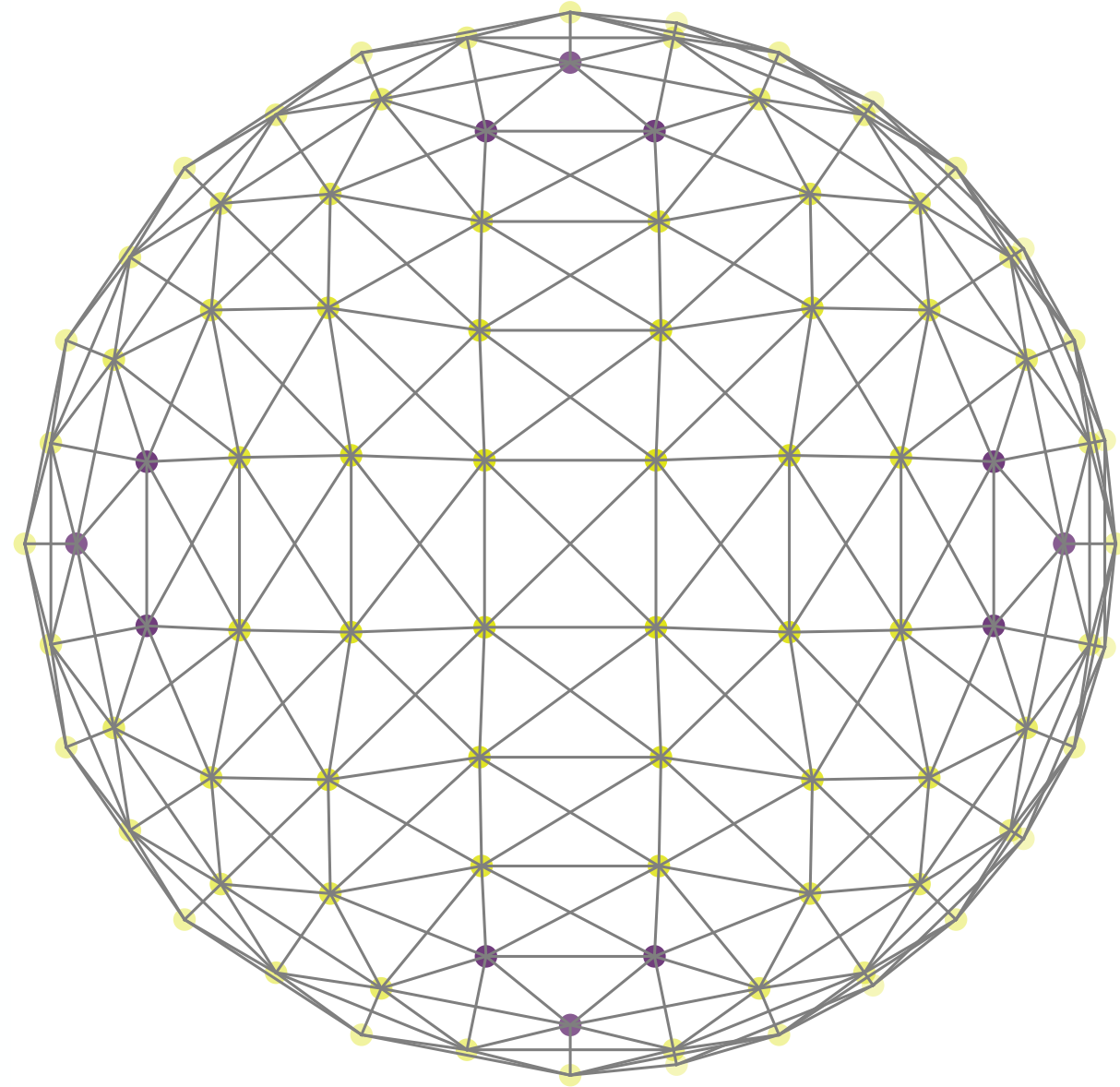
A GNN is essentially a set of layers, where each layer performs a transformation of node, edge, and global feature vectors, updating each vector based on information from related nodes and edges



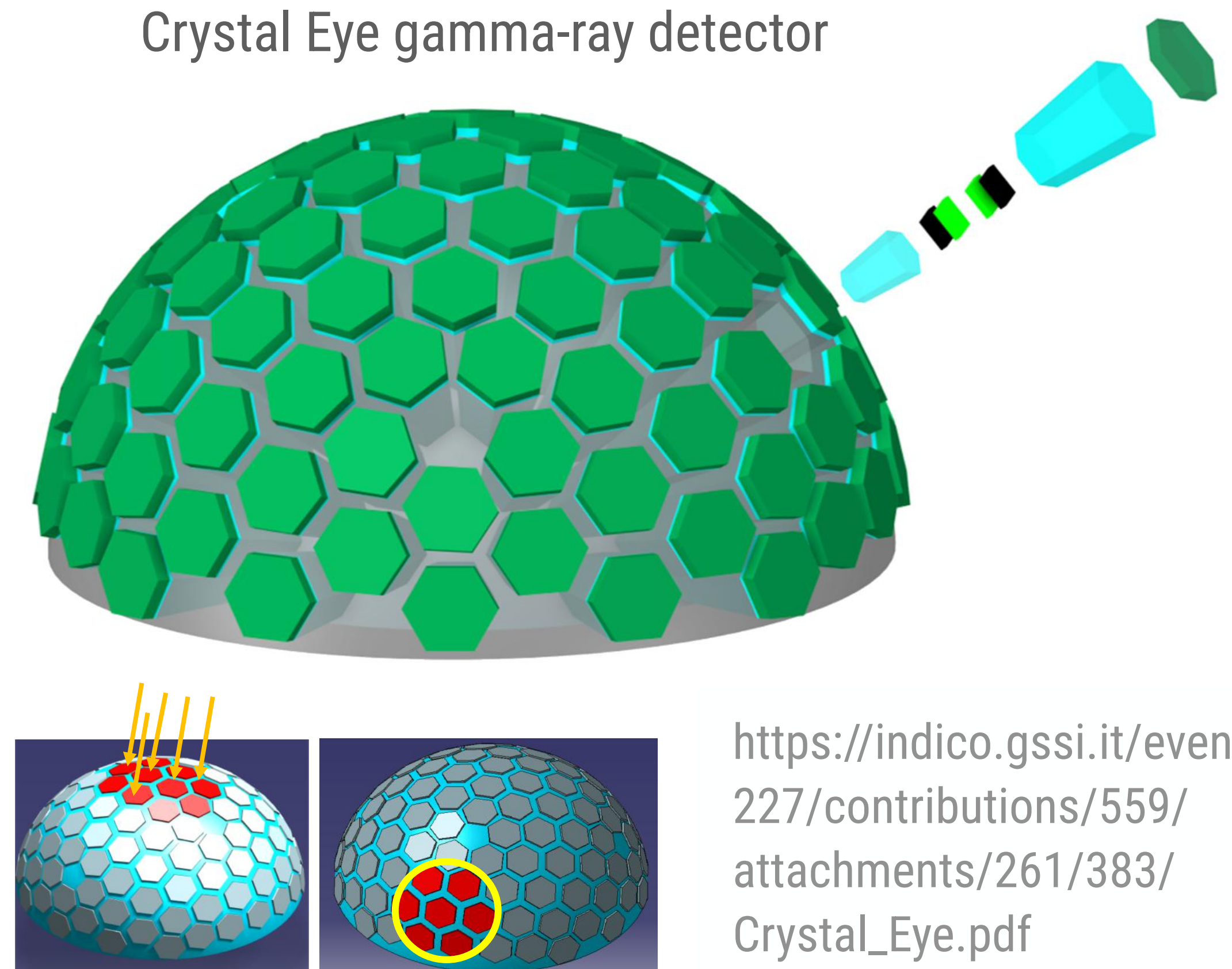
GNNs and spherical images (Crystal Eye ?)

57

- A good example of a possible GNN application is the Crystal Eye gamma ray detector
 - ➡ sphere mesh of (scintillator) hexagons - difficult to represent as a flat image without distortions - a possible way to circumvent the mesh as a graph:

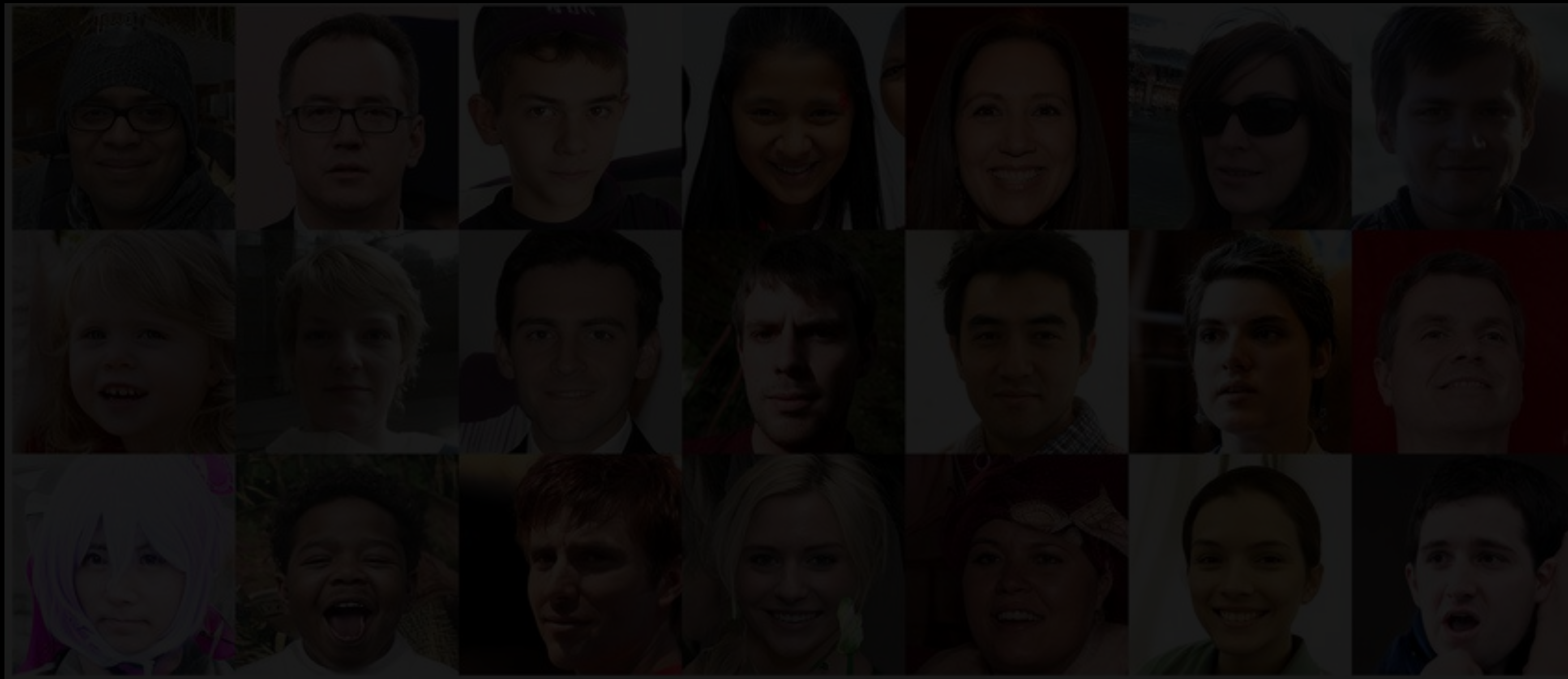


The spherical CNN is constructed by representing the sphere as a graph.
arXiv:1810.12186v2



https://indico.gssi.it/event/227/contributions/559/attachments/261/383/Crystal_Eye.pdf

Generative Models

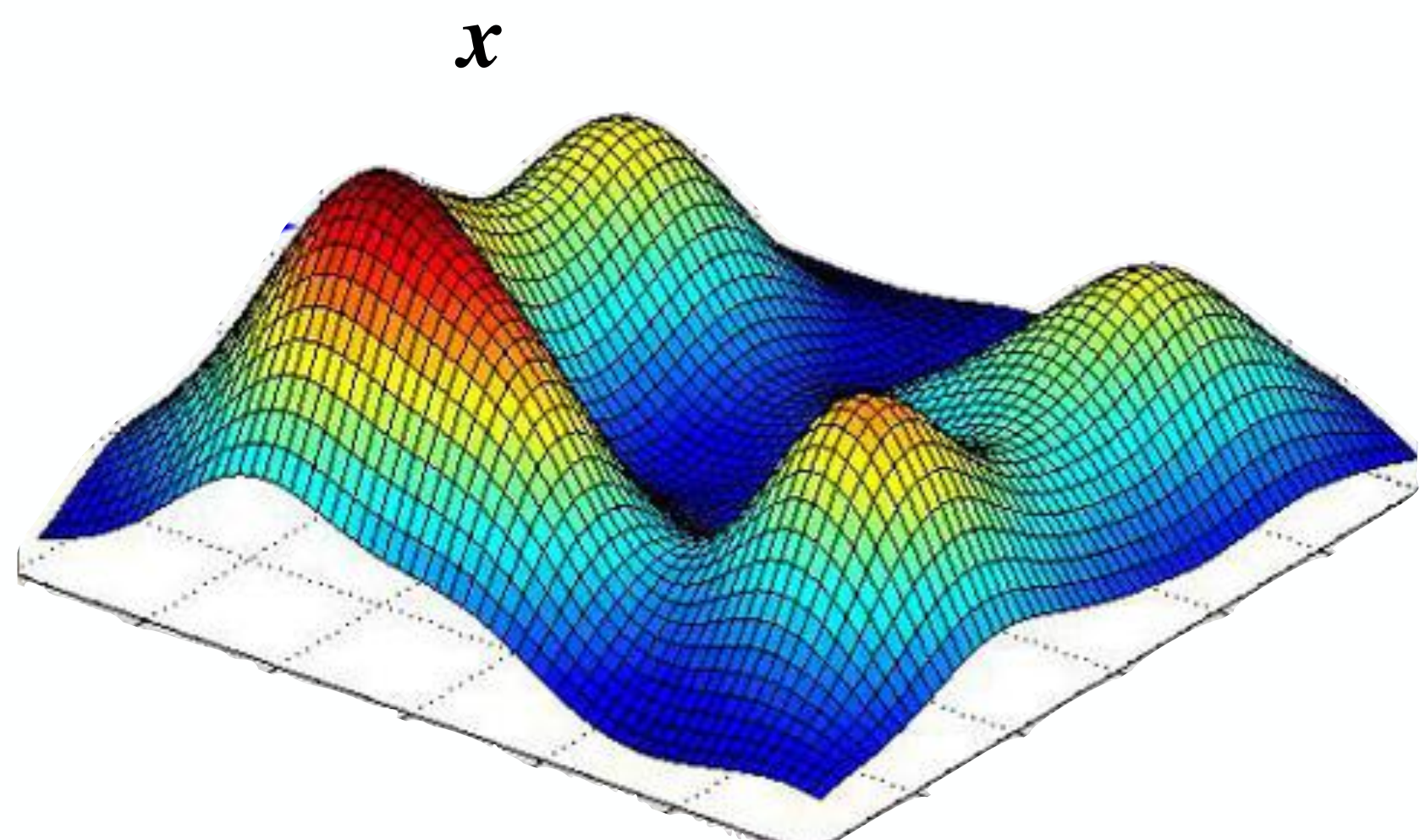


Normalizing flow is a machine learning technique that serves two main purposes:

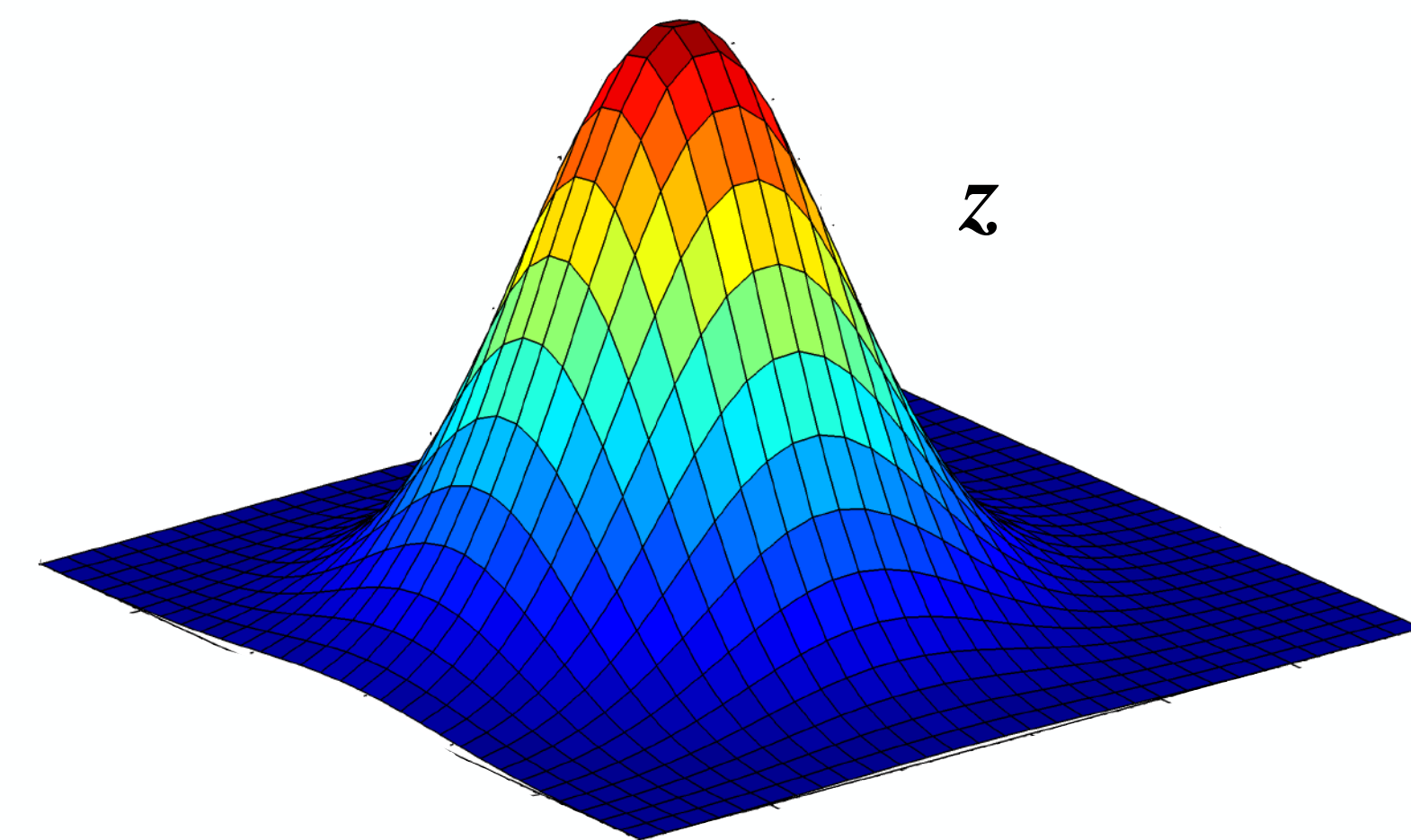
1. Explicitly learn the probability distribution of complex data
2. Generate new data (given the learned distribution)

This is achieved by converting the original complex data representation ($\mathbf{x}$) into a simple one ($\mathbf{z}$) -usually a multidimensional normal distribution - through a series of **invertible** and **differentiable** transformations

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{z} &= f_n(f_{n-1}(\dots f_1(\mathbf{x}))) \\ \mathbf{x} &= f_1^{-1}(f_2^{-1}(\dots f_n^{-1}(\mathbf{z}))) \end{aligned}$$



$\rightarrow f_1() \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow f_n() \rightarrow$



Normalizing flow usually use specific invertible NN layers - **affine coupling layers**

➡ Can be considered as wrappers around the usual (e.g. fully-connected) NN layers

➡ One of the tricks: split the data vector in two parts - one converted, the other not

Direct transformation:

$$\begin{aligned}y_1 &= x_1 \\ y_2 &= x_2 \odot \exp(s(x_1)) + t(x_1)\end{aligned}$$

Inverted transformation:

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 &= y_1 \\ x_2 &= (y_2 - t(y_1)) \odot \exp(-s(y_1))\end{aligned}$$

$\mathbf{s}$ and $\mathbf{t}$ are usual
(fully-connected)
NN transformations

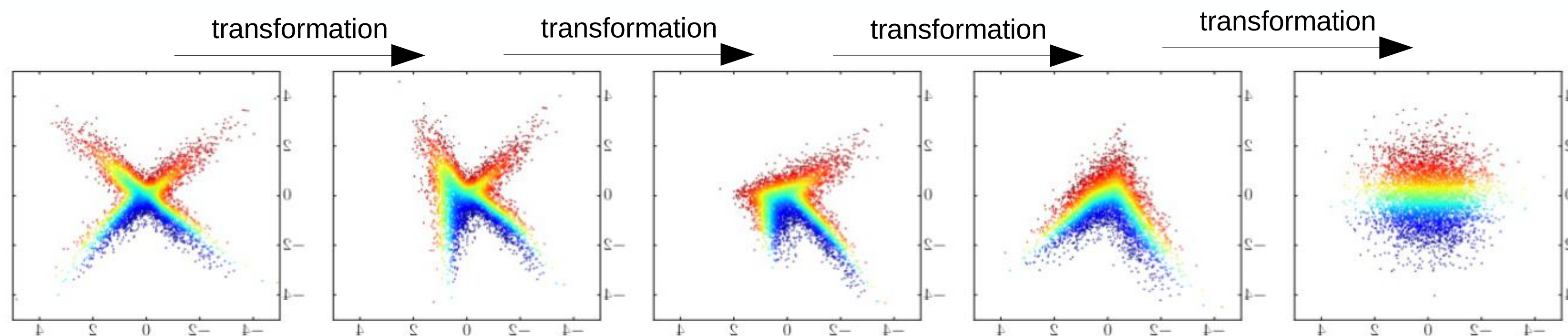


Image credit:
Jonas Glombitza

PyTorch normalizing flow tutorial with MNIST dataset (hand-written numbers):

https://uvadlc-notebooks.readthedocs.io/en/latest/tutorial_notebooks/tutorial11/NF_image_m

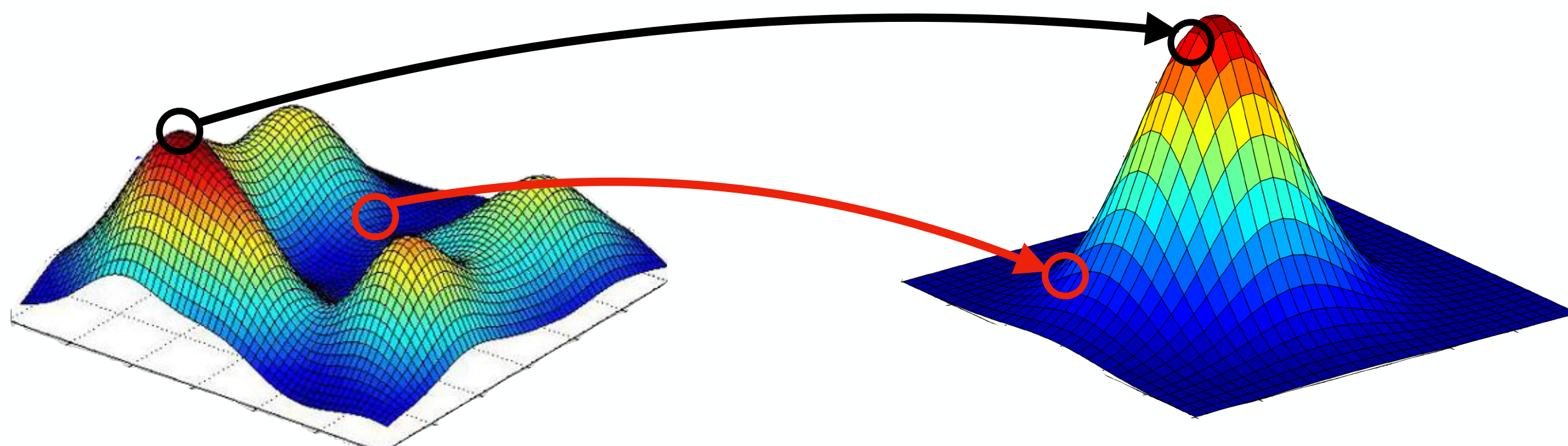
Training of normalizing flow network is done by maximizing the log likelihood $p_x(x)$:

$$p_x(x) = p_z(f^{-1}(x)) \left| \det \left(\frac{\partial f^{-1}(x)}{\partial x} \right) \right|$$
$$p_x(x) = \overbrace{p_z(z)}^{\text{Fixed}} \underbrace{\left| \det \left(\frac{\partial f(z)}{\partial z} \right) \right|^{-1}}_{\text{Trained}}$$
$$\sum \left(\log \overbrace{p_z(f^{-1}(x_i))}^{\text{Fixed}} + \log \underbrace{\left| \det \left(\frac{\partial f^{-1}(x_i)}{\partial x} \right) \right|}_{\text{Trained}} \right)$$

where:

$p_z(z)$ - fixed (multi-dimensional Gaussian)

det(...) is the Jacobian of the transformation



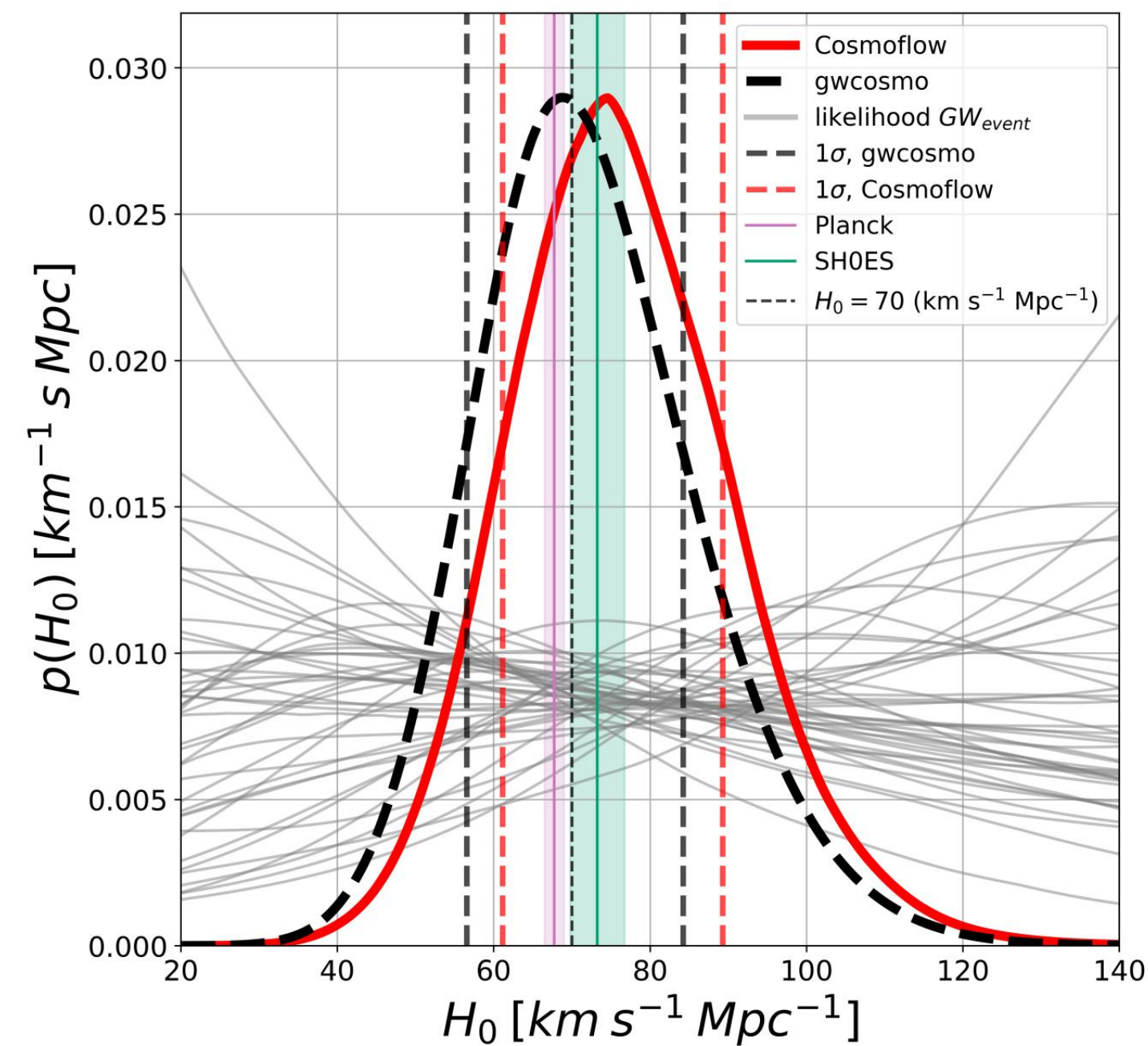
In other words, the transformation $f(...)$ itself during training is "guided" towards representing Gaussian as close as possible

Normalizing Flows application examples

62

Modeling realistic probability distributions

➡ Inference of cosmological parameters

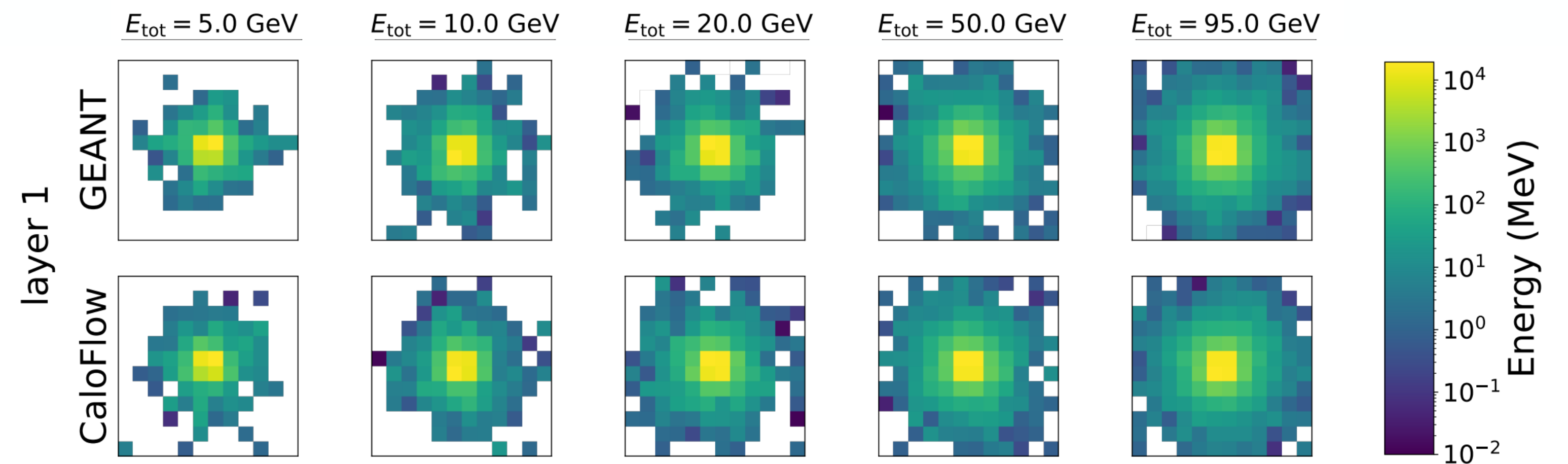


Example: Hubble constant evaluation from
Gravitation Wave detection: [arXiv:2310.13405v2](https://arxiv.org/abs/2310.13405v2)

See also: [arXiv:2105.12024v1](https://arxiv.org/abs/2105.12024v1) - modeling
probability distributions in cosmology

Generative models

➡ Fast replacement of computationally intense GEANT4 (or perhaps CORSIKA?) simulations



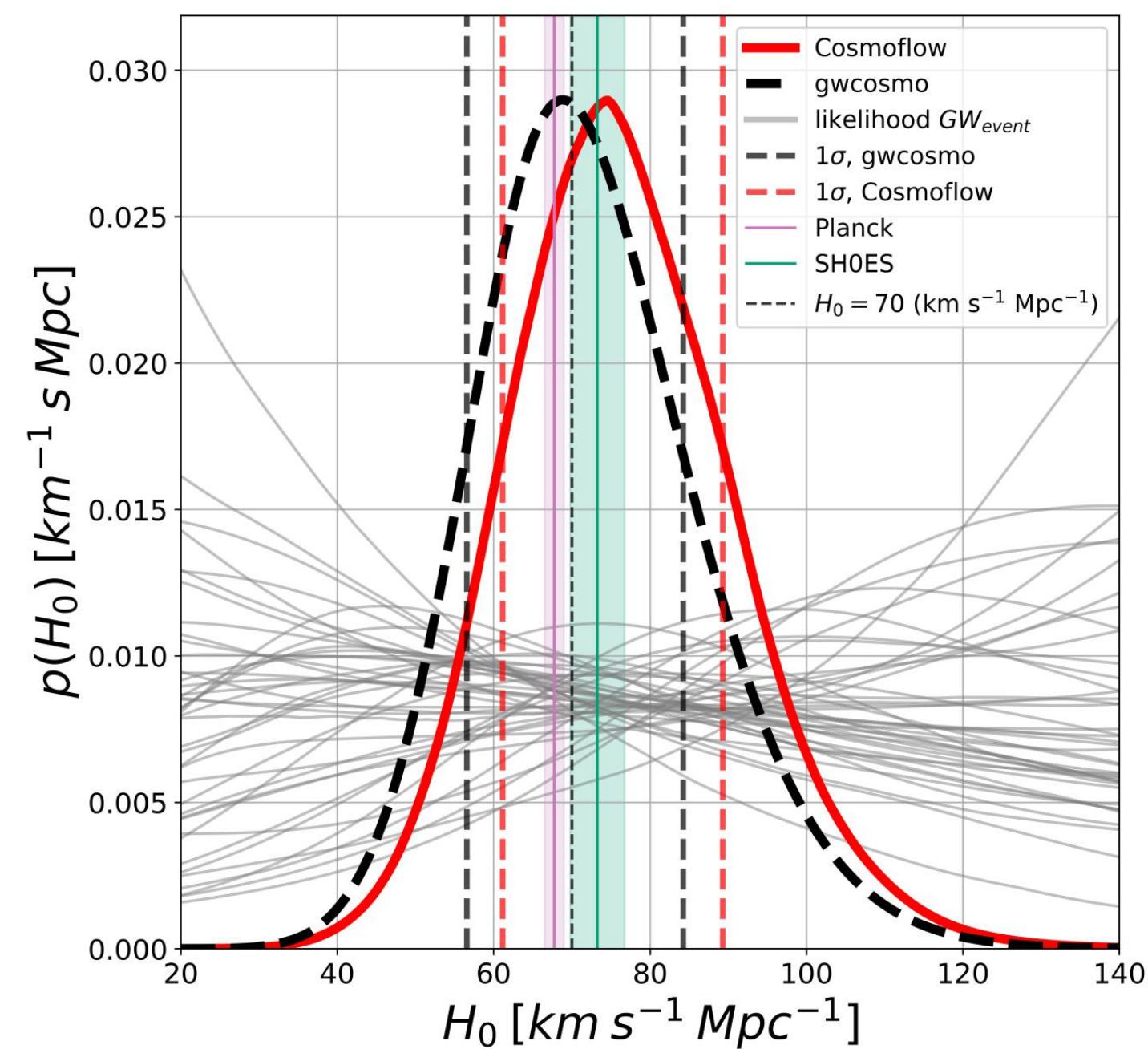
Example: Fast and Accurate Generation of Calorimeter Showers with
Normalizing Flows: [arXiv:2106.05285v3](https://arxiv.org/abs/2106.05285v3)

Normalizing Flows application examples

63

Modeling realistic probability distributions

➡ Inference of cosmological parameters

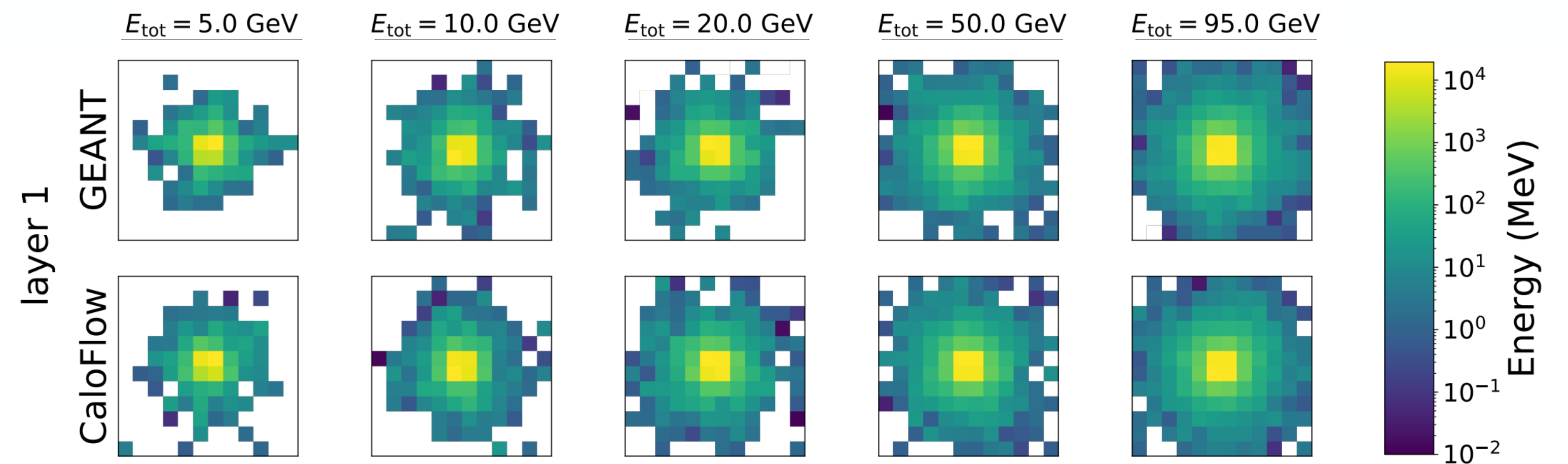


Example: Hubble constant evaluation from
Gravitation Wave detection: [arXiv:2310.13405v2](https://arxiv.org/abs/2310.13405v2)

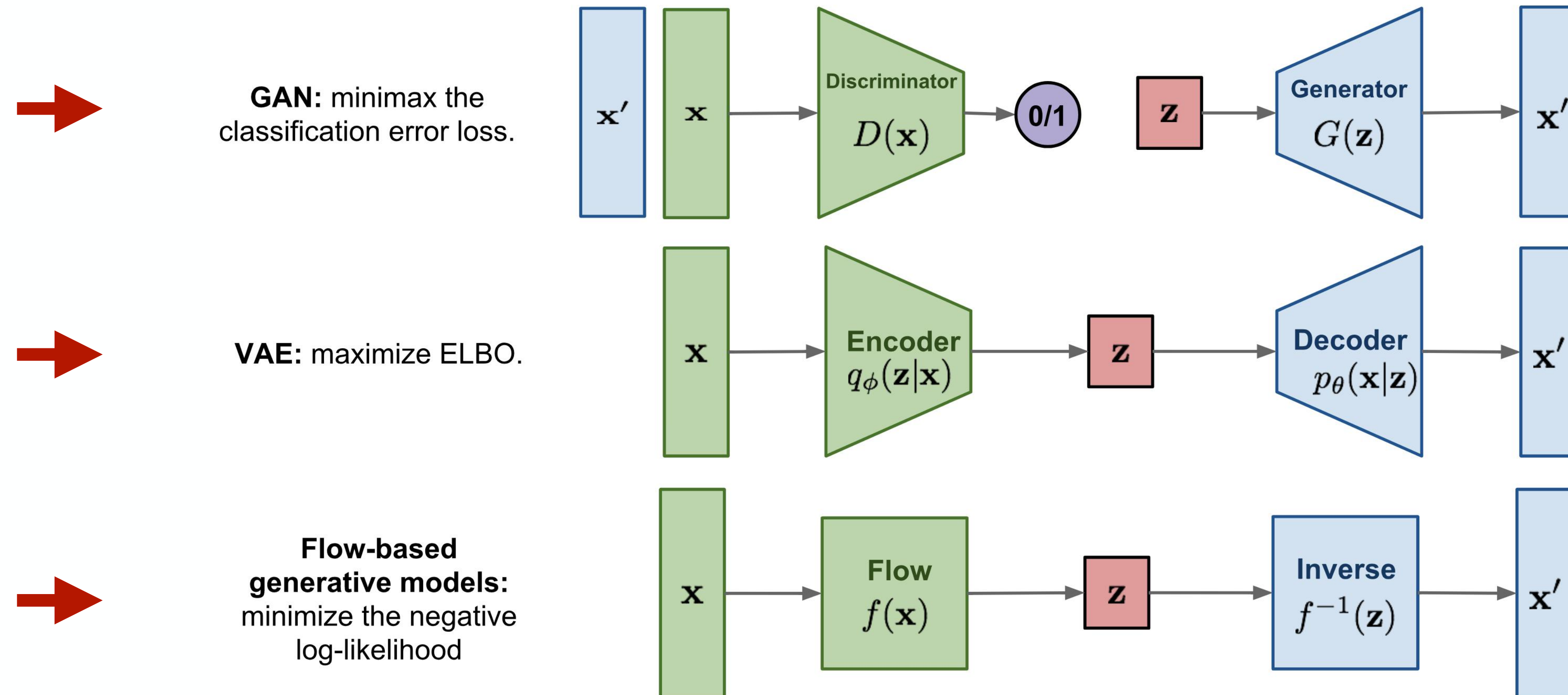
See also: [arXiv:2105.12024v1](https://arxiv.org/abs/2105.12024v1) - modeling
probability distributions in cosmology

Generative models

➡ Fast replacement of computationally intense GEANT4 (or perhaps CORSIKA?) simulations



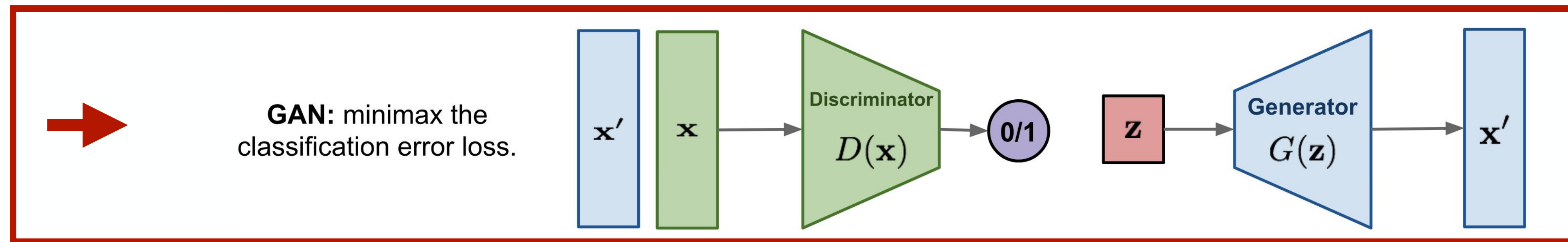
Example: Fast and Accurate Generation of Calorimeter Showers with
Normalizing Flows: [arXiv:2106.05285v3](https://arxiv.org/abs/2106.05285v3)



Discussed previously

On Generative models: Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs)

65

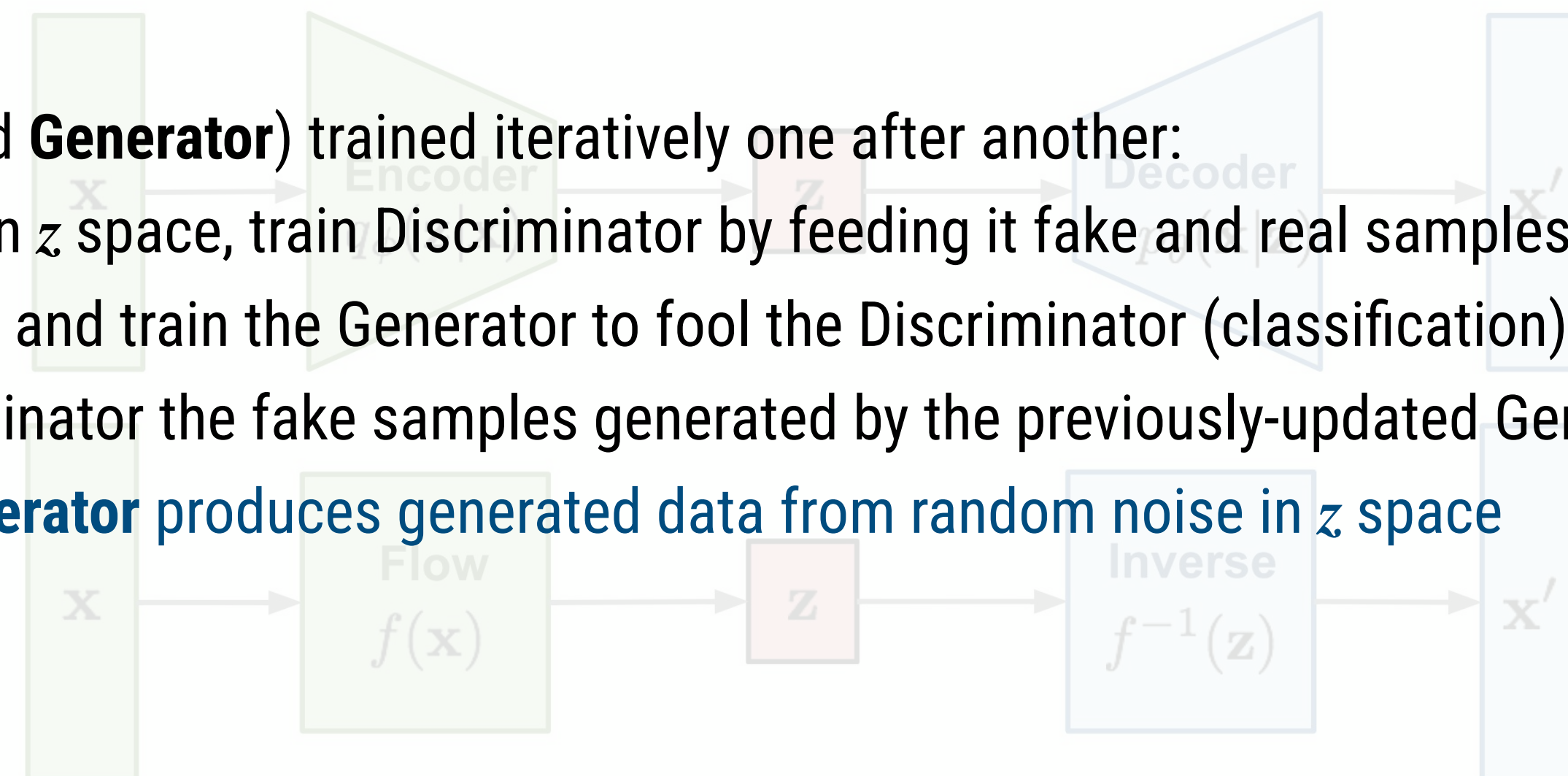


Training: Has two networks (**Discriminator** and **Generator**) trained iteratively one after another:

- Generate samples from random noise in z space, train Discriminator by feeding it fake and real samples (classification)
- Fix the parameters of the Discriminator and train the Generator to fool the Discriminator (classification)
- Repeat the cycle by feeding the discriminator the fake samples generated by the previously-updated Generator etc.

Application (data generation): the trained **Generator** produces generated data from random noise in z space

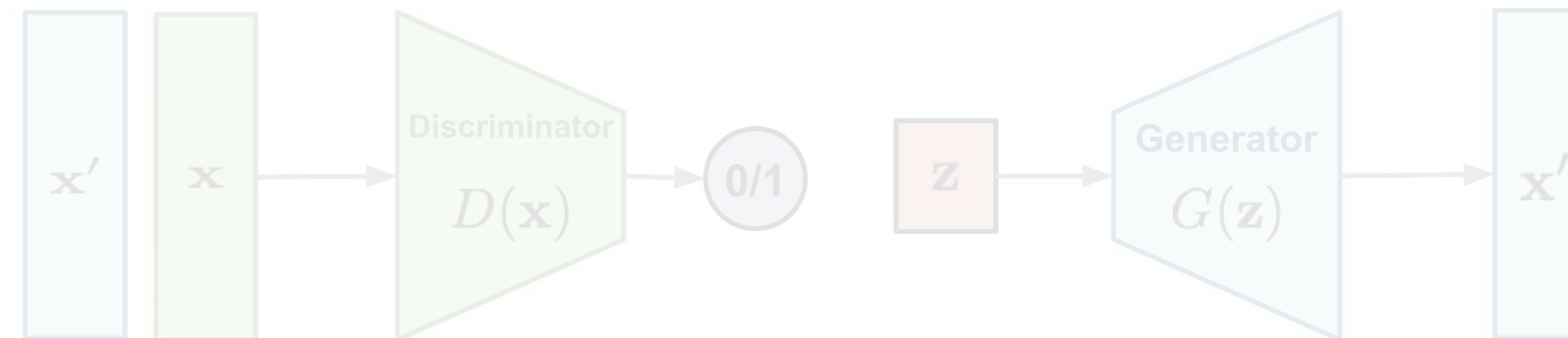
generative models:
minimize the negative
log-likelihood



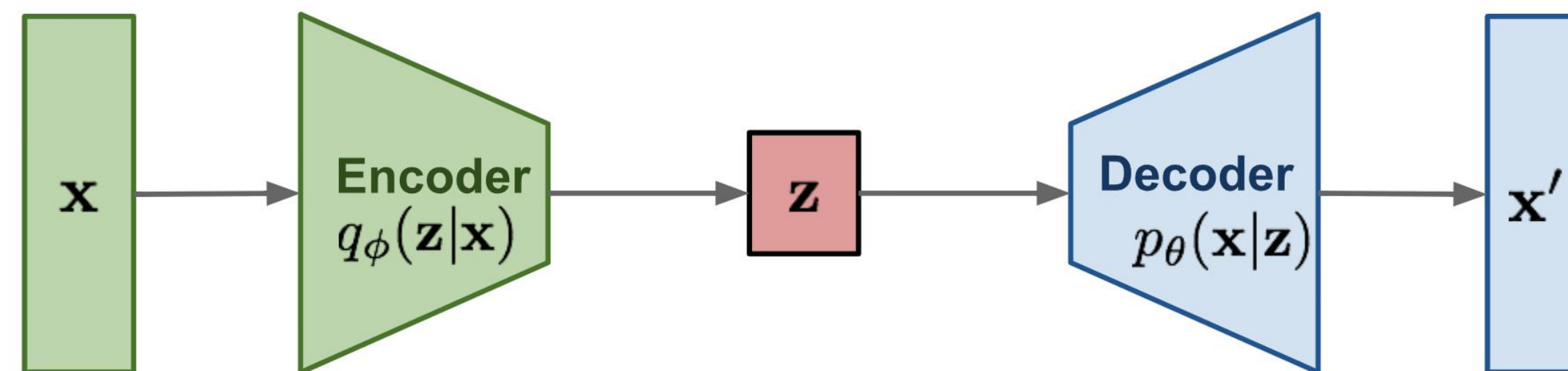
On Generative models: Variational Auto-Encoders (VAEs)

66

GAN: minimax the classification error loss.



VAE: maximize ELBO.



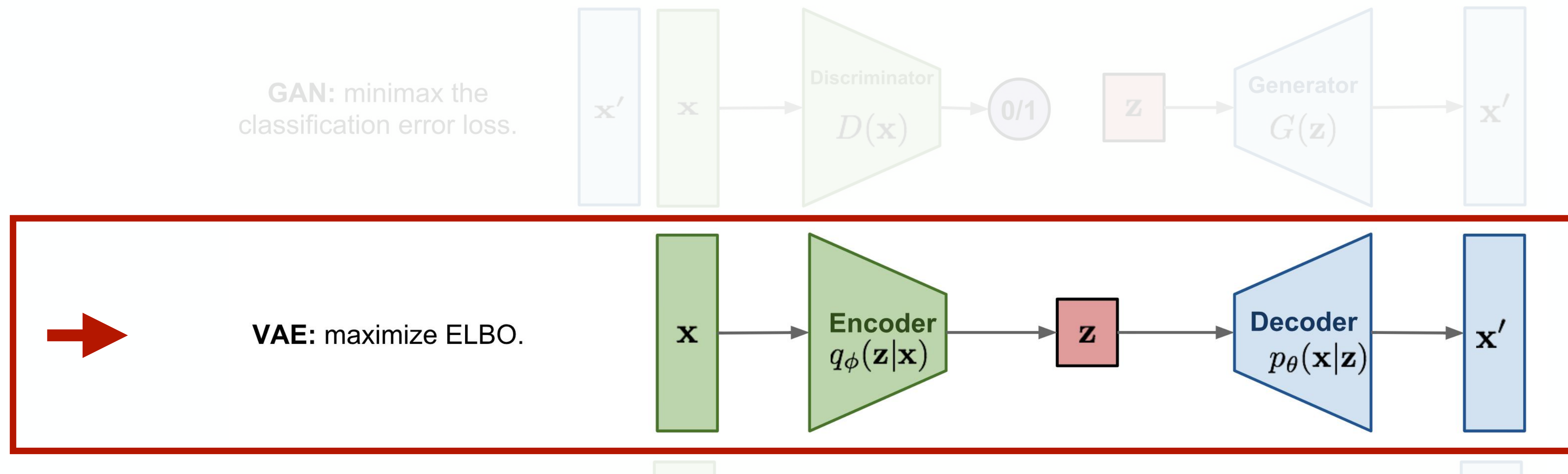
Training: Has two networks (**Decoder** and **Encoder**) trained simultaneously:

- The so-called ELBO loss (Estimated Lower Bound) is minimized
- The encoder produces a Gaussian guess on x representation in latent space z : μ and σ
- z is sampled based on μ and σ , and from this z the Decoder produced the output (x')

Application (data generation): the Decoder produces generated data from Gaussian noise in z space

On Generative models: Variational Auto-Encoders (VAEs)

67



$$\text{ELBO Loss}(x) = L_{\text{recon}}(x, \hat{x}) + L_{\text{KL}}(\mu, \log \sigma^2)$$

$$L_{\text{recon}}(x, \hat{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^d (x_j - \hat{x}_j)^2$$

Accuracy of decoder reconstruction

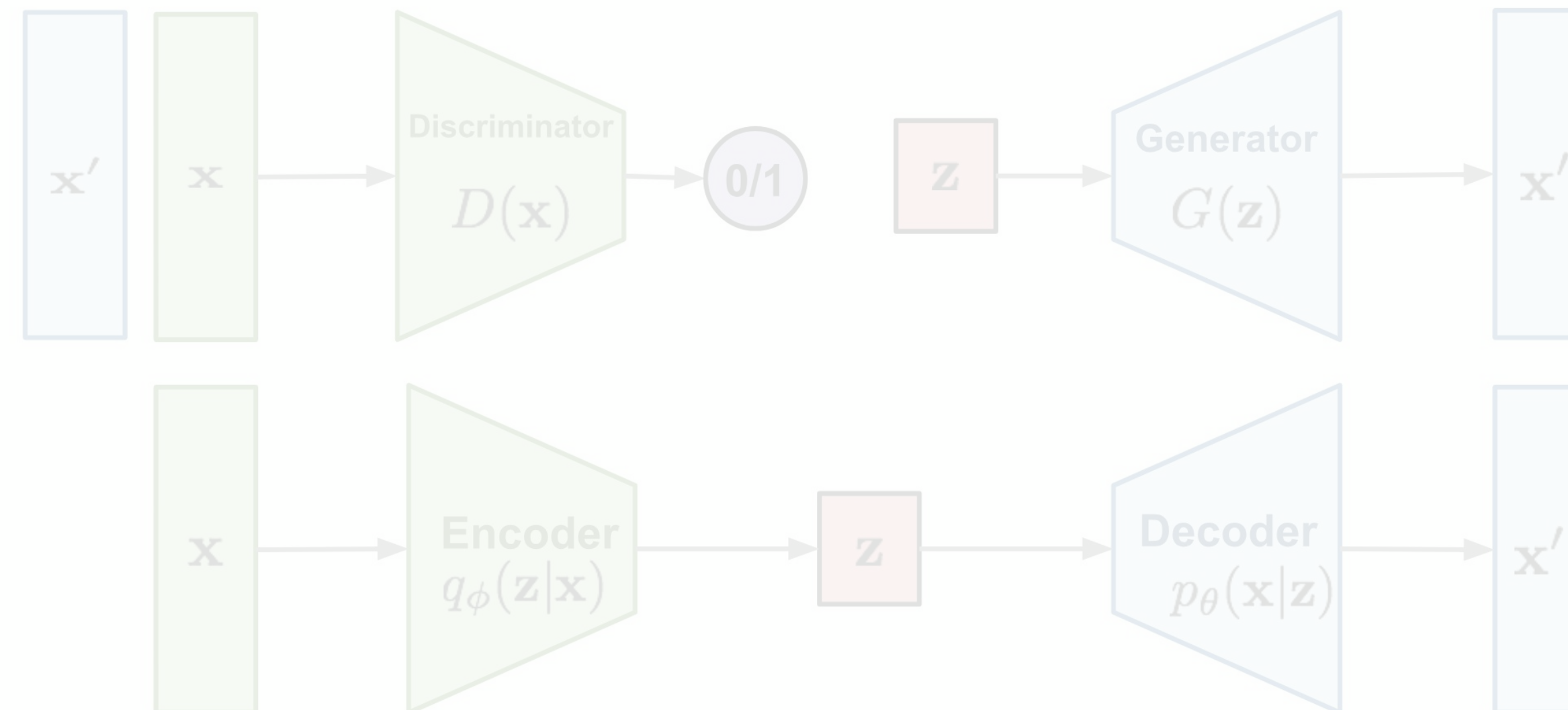
$$L_{\text{KL}}(\mu, \log \sigma^2) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^D (\exp(\log \sigma_j^2) + \mu_j^2 - 1 - \log \sigma_j^2)$$

Kullback-Leibler divergence (measures how far is the probability distribution from encoder output is different from Gaussian)

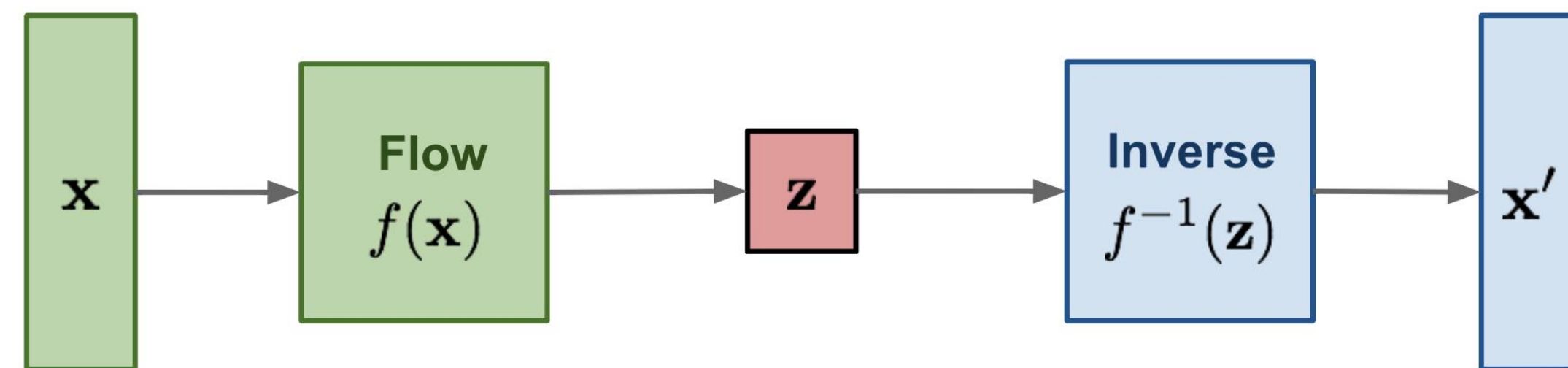
On Generative models: Normalizing Flows

68

GAN: minimax the classification error loss.



Flow-based generative models:
minimize the negative log-likelihood



Training: one (invertable) flow NN

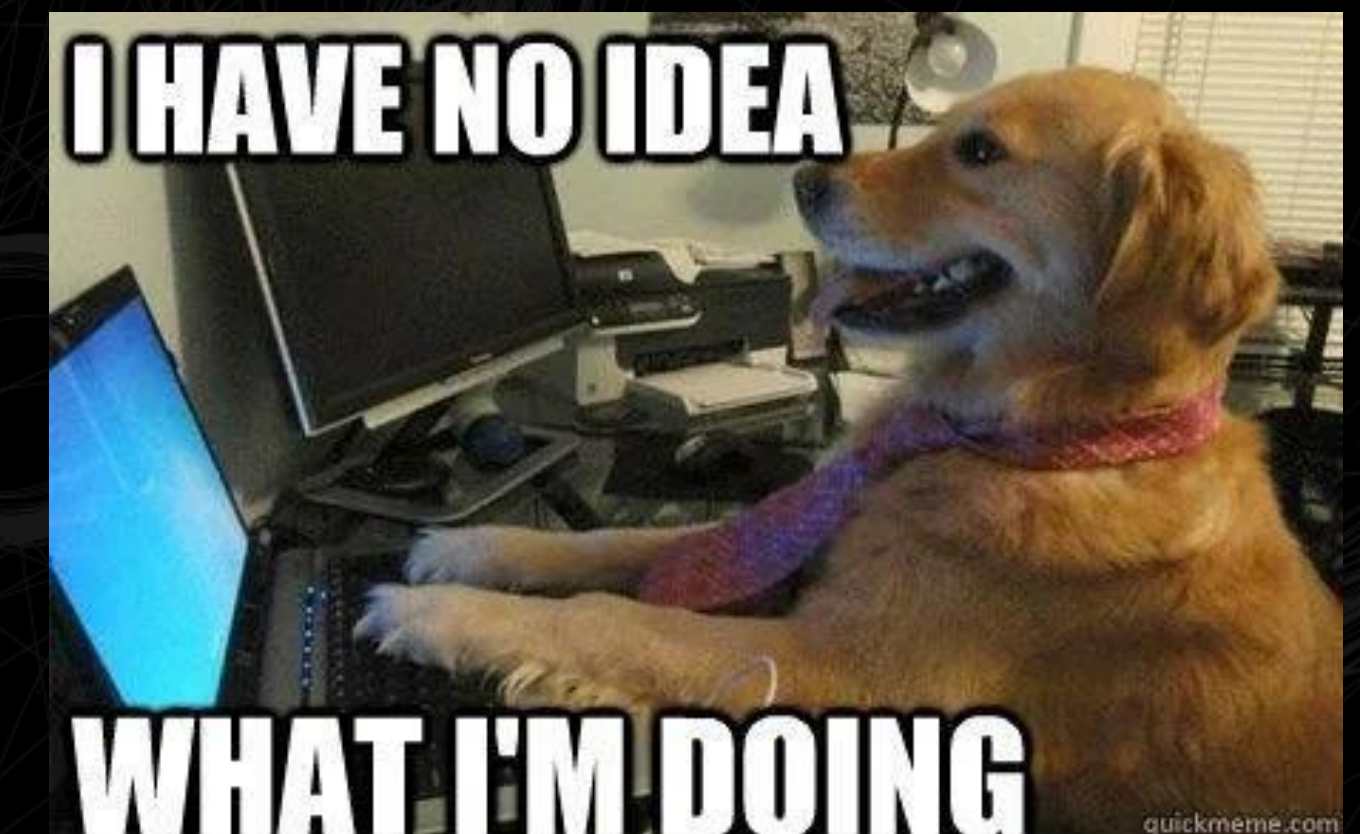
- Loss: negative log-likelihood which is directly analytically

Application (data generation): sample from latent space ($\mathbf{z}$) using the inverse of flow NN

Summary

[before we proceed to coding]

- **Boosted Decision Trees**
 - ➔ not "deep learning" but still powerful for certain applications
- **Neural Networks** - industry standard & economy driver
 - ➔ Excellent for high-dimensionality data, big data revolution
 - ➔ Fully-connected NNs - can be used as standalone architectures
 - ➔ ... or building blocks of more complex architectures
 - ➔ CNNs - very powerful but limited mostly to image processing
 - ➔ GNNs - a way to generalize CNN approach to any data
 - ➔ Transformers - hot topic (ChatGPT etc.) - **[see coding session ...]**
 - ➔ Applications: classification (discrete prediction), regression (continuous prediction), generation, anomaly detection, modeling of probability distributions, ...



Proven to solve real-life problems!

[from speaker's very biased point of view and experience in astro-particle physics]