

Status and upcoming steps for ECal calorimeter reconstruction

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Frascati, Dune-Italia annual meeting, 11 November 2025

ECAL overview

From DUNE-It last year

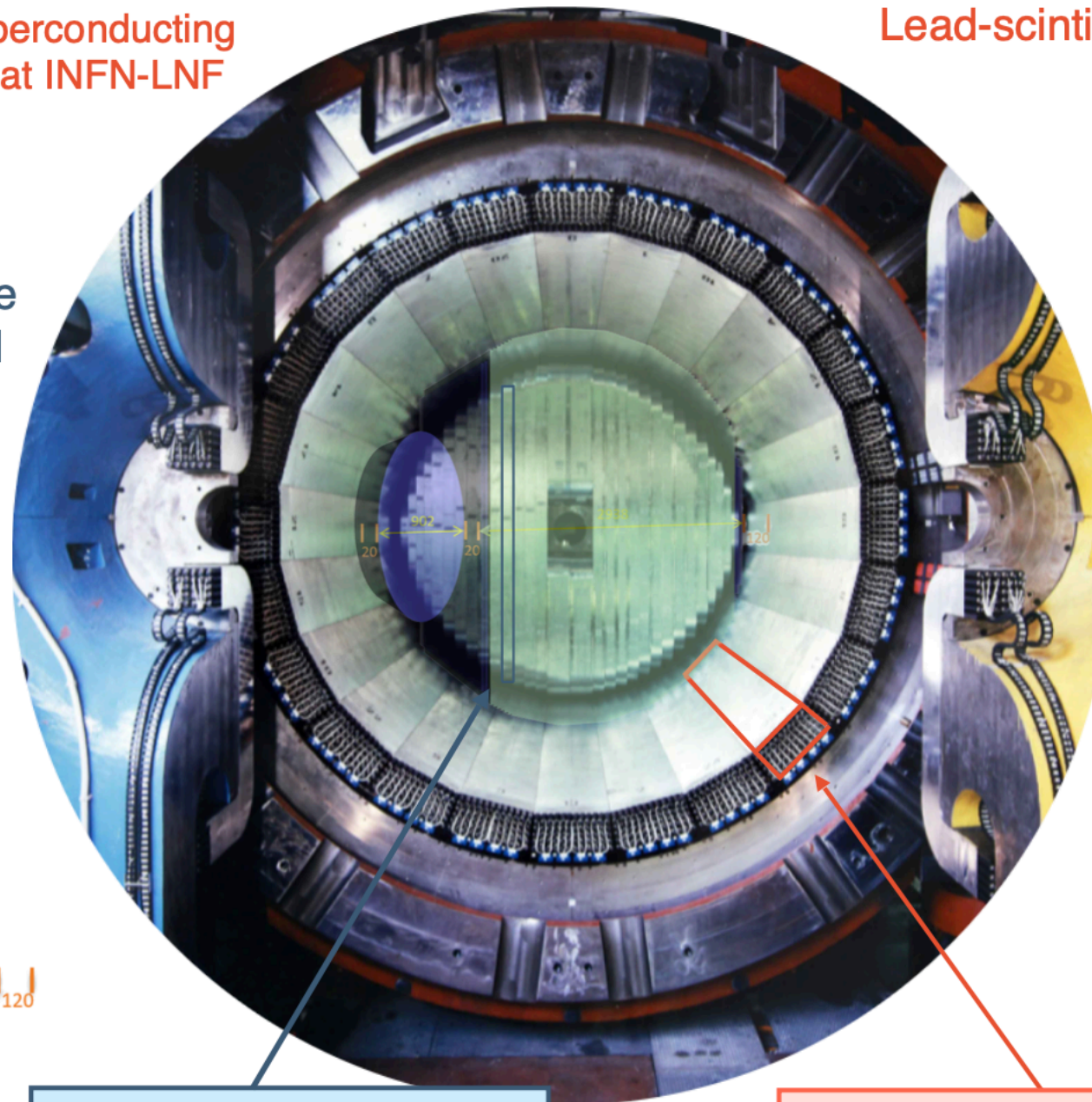
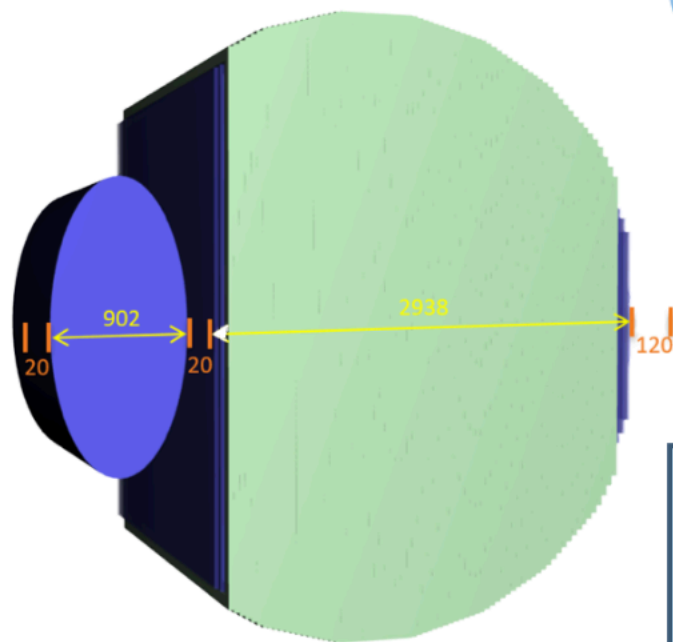
SAND employs an existing superconducting magnet successfully operated at INFN-LNF for the KLOE experiment.

- **Coil**

Superconducting to produce 0.6 T over a 4.3 m long and 4.8 m diameter volume. located inside a cryostat.

- **Iron yoke**

~ 470 t



Lead-scintillating fiber sampling calorimeter.

All modules are composed of alternated foils

- 200 lead foils, 0.5 mm thick, grooved to host fibers.
- 200 layers of cladded fibers glued together with special epoxy, 1mm diameter.

Average density $\sim 5\text{g/cm}^3$, for an overall thickness of ~ 15 radiation lengths.

Readout at both ends of each module via PMTs

Endcap

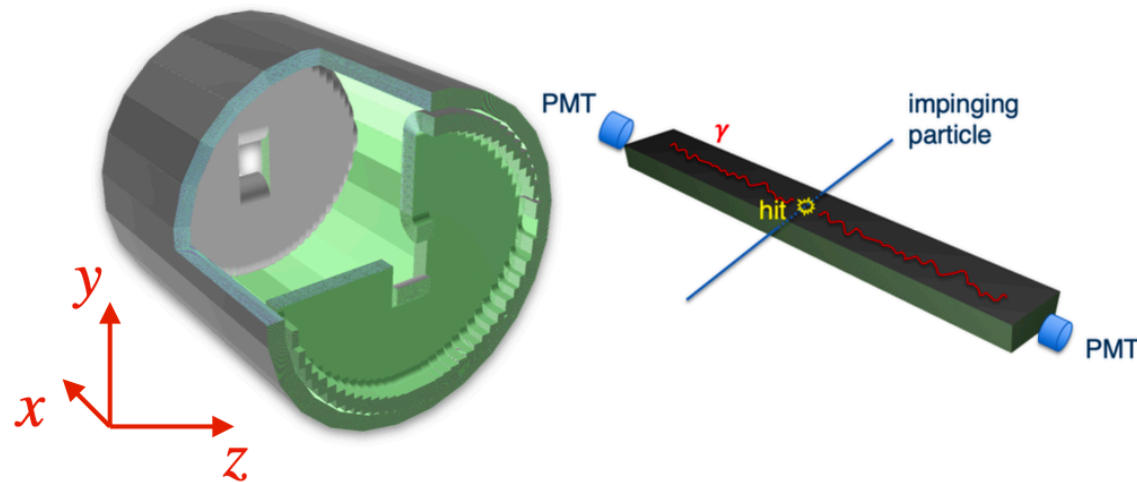
32 C-shaped, different dimensions.

Barrel

24 modules, same dimensions.

Ecal signal reconstruction workflow

Reconstruction of the signal position and time I) Monte Carlo simulation [*edep-sim*]



with MC deposited energy hits,
 N_{pe} from Poisson ($\mu_e = dE \cdot E_{pe} \cdot A_l$)
arrival time [ns]

$$t_{pe} = t_{cross} + t_{decay} + \frac{d_{1,2}}{V_{ph}} + \text{Gauss}(1\text{ns})$$

- Modules segmented in 5 layers w/ cells of $4.4 \times 4.4 \text{ cm}^2$: 4880 readout channels
- The coordinate along the barrel $x(y)$ is extracted from the time difference between signals at the two ends, $z(x)$ and $y(z)$ are derived from the geometrical center of the fired cell

II) Ecal digitisation [ADC, TDC]

from photoelectrons generating the (hit) signal we build digitised photo-signals for each cell-side (A,B): ADC and TDC
DAQ digits stored into a ROOT TTree

III) Ecal clustering

for each event a *cluster* containing all the fired cells w/ non-null photo-signal is created and stored into a ROOT TTree

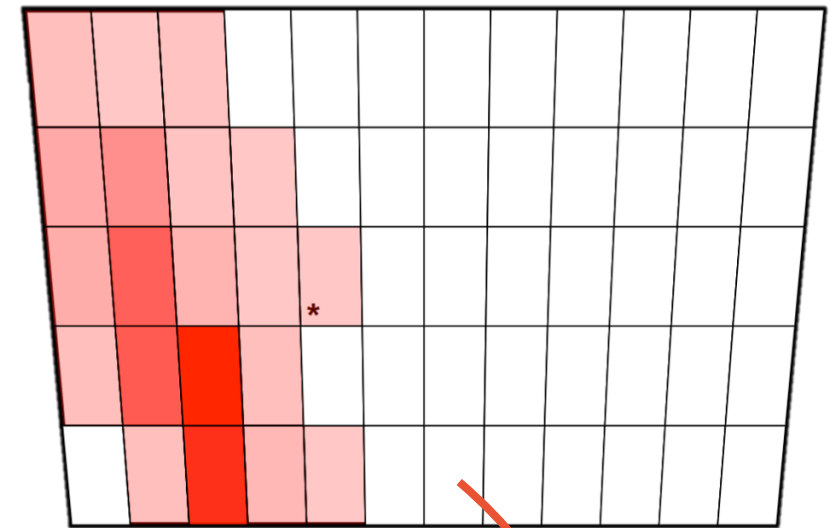
$$t^e = \frac{t^A + t^B}{2} - \frac{L}{2v}, \quad x^e = \frac{v}{2} (t^A - t^B)$$

Ecal reconstruction: clustering

Cluster of cells are built up following these criteria:

- **Pre-clustering**
Cells geometrically nearby are merged together
- **Splitting**
Pre-clusters are divided in time quadrants relying on time spread
- **Merging**
Re-join together clusters with distance < 30 cm and time difference < 2.5 ns

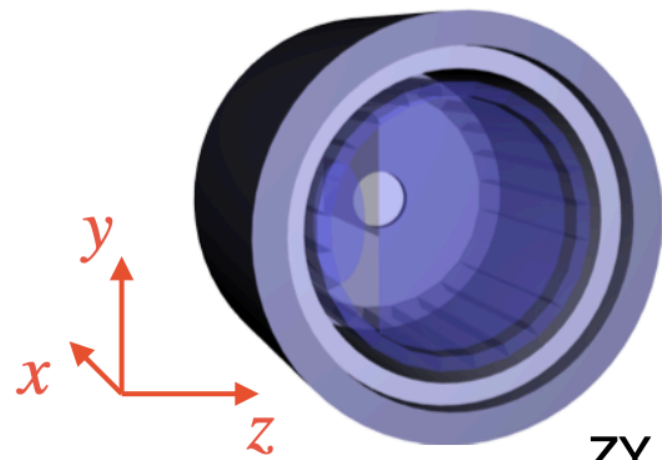
Both **complete** (PMTs on side A,B measure a signal) and **incomplete** (single photo-signal) cells are used to generate clusters.



Cluster output structure

- Energy.
- Position.
- Time.
- Collection of reco cells:
 - Cell geo info.
 - Reco energy.
 - Reco time.
 - Photo-signal_{A,B}.

Ecal reconstruction: association cluster/MC

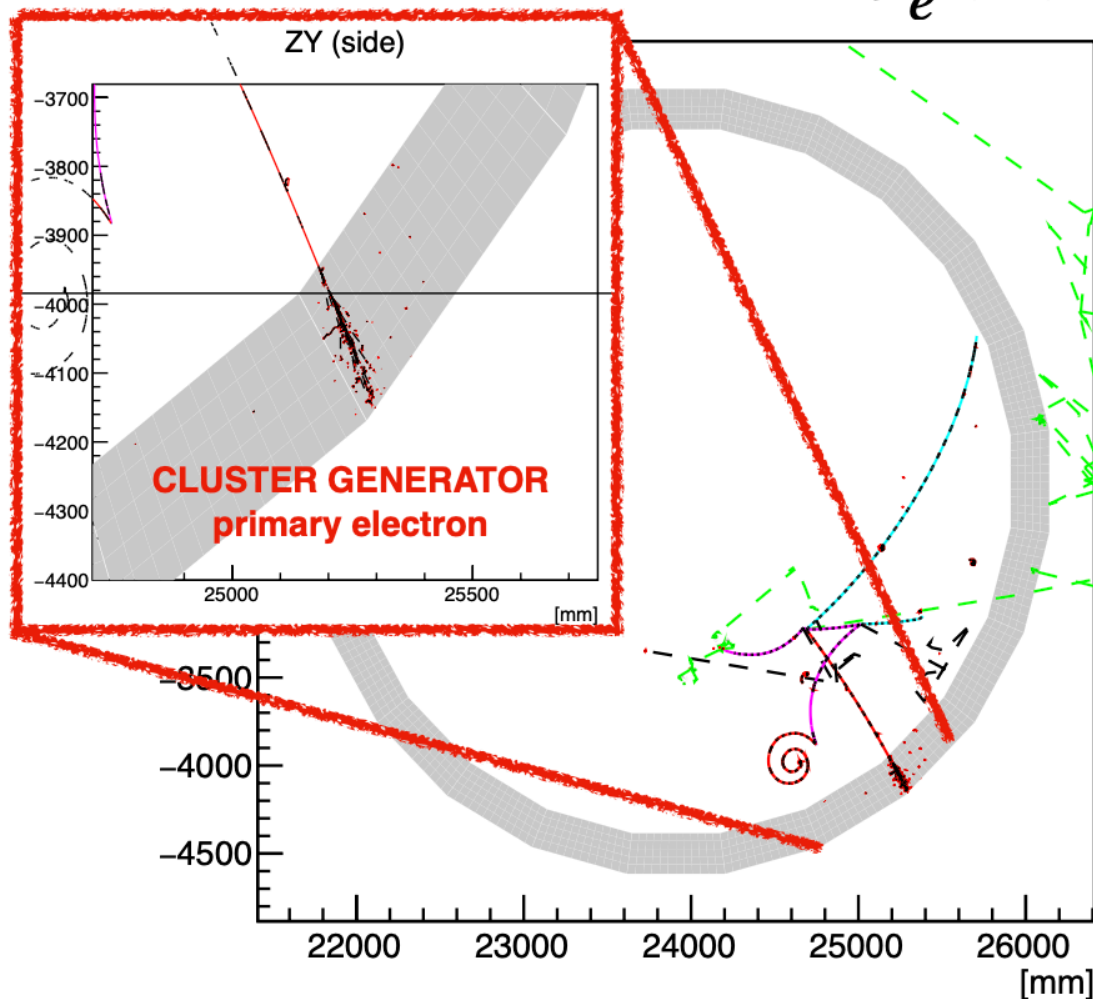


Twofold target:

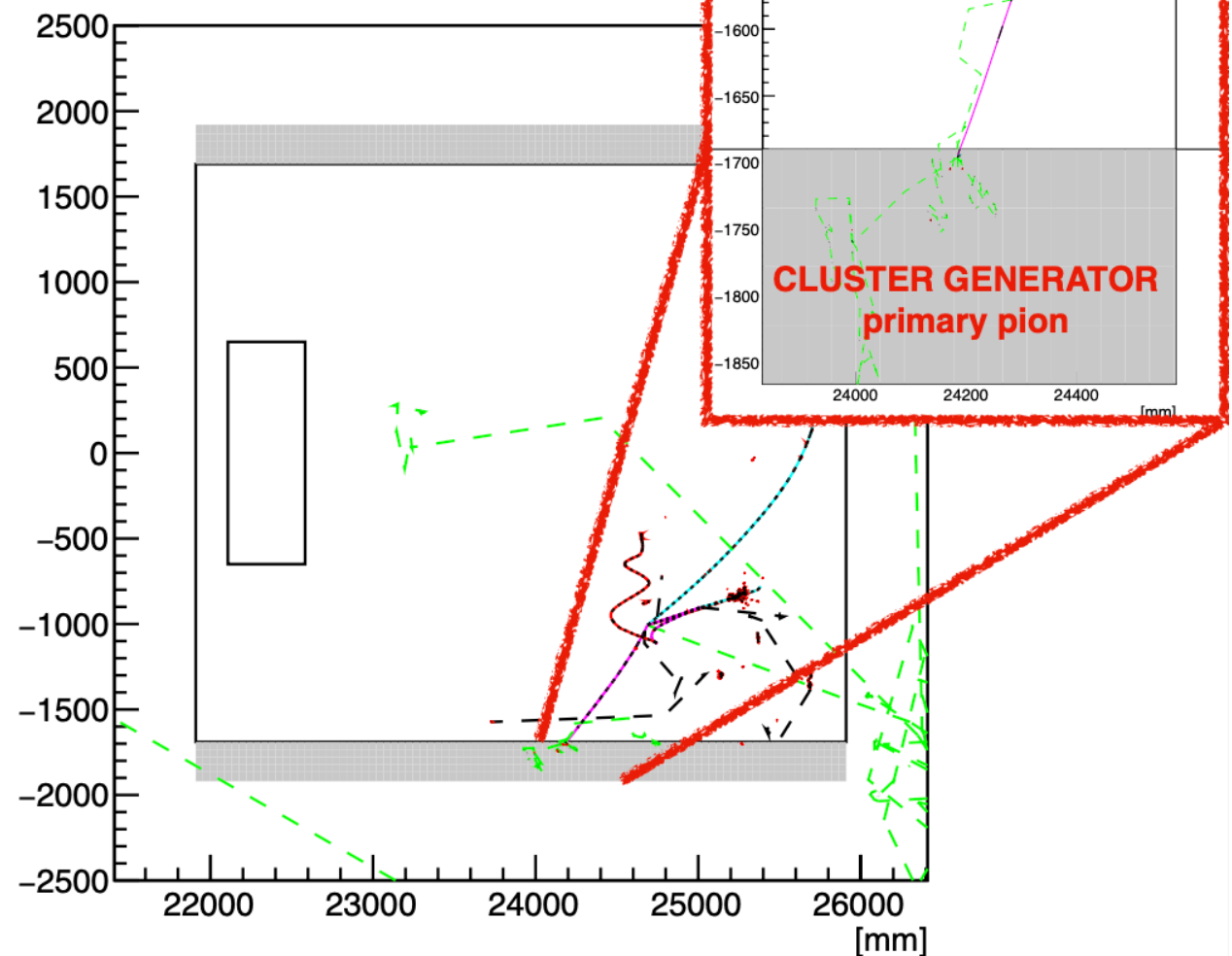
- **Validate** clustering algorithm.
- **Analysis** for ECAL particle reconstruction performances.

First step: MC - cluster association

ZY (side) ν_e event in SAND



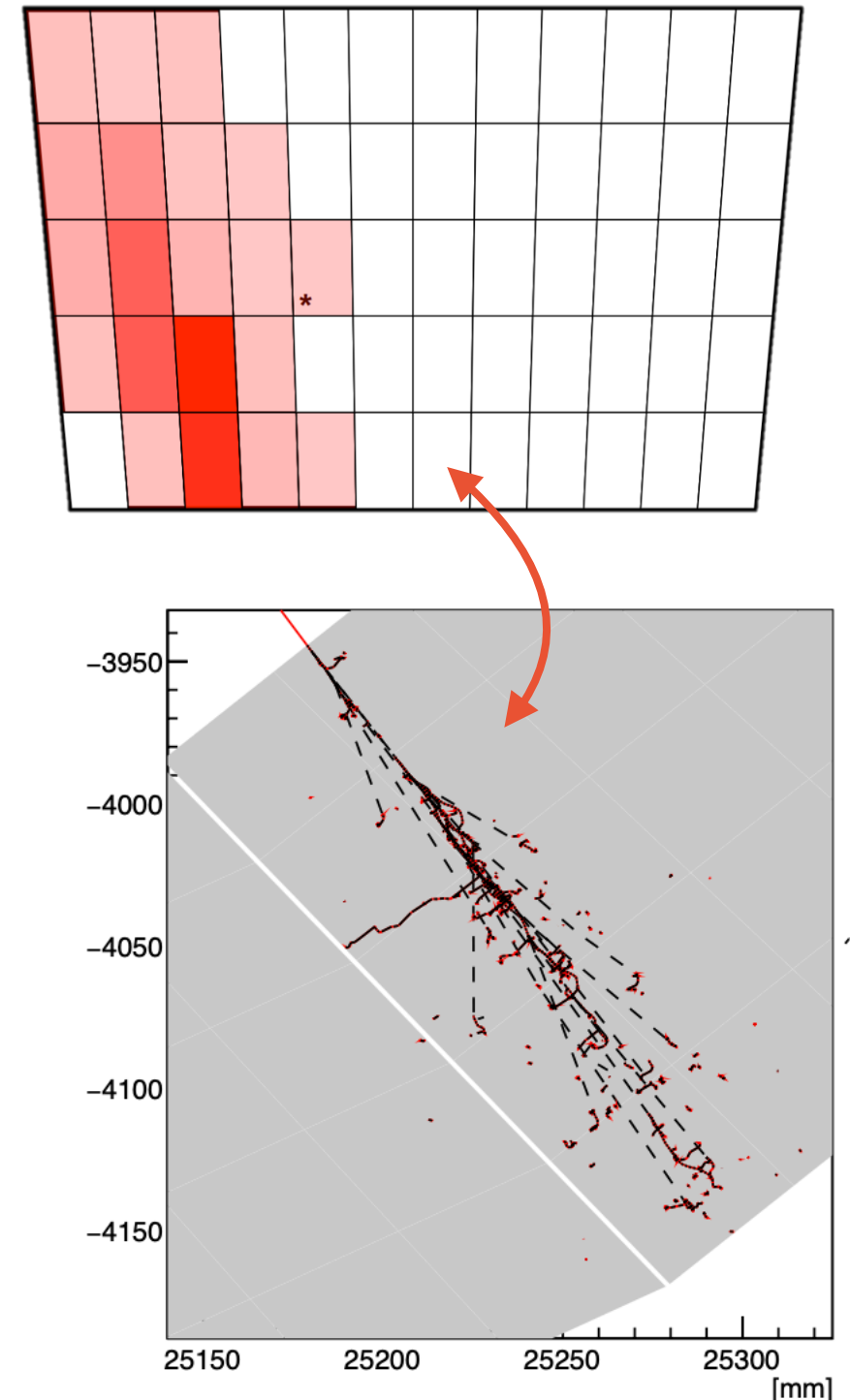
XZ (top)



Ecal reconstruction: association cluster/MC

- Reconstructed cluster:
 - Energy, position, time
 - Collection of cells
- Monte Carlo information on the event:
 - Hits with deposited energy
 - Particle trajectories
- Match information from reco & MC with backtracking:
build a true cluster with all *generators*, i.e. cluster cells where multiple true particles contribute to E deposition
 - True particle:
Track-id/PDG, $\vec{p}_0$, first point in the cluster

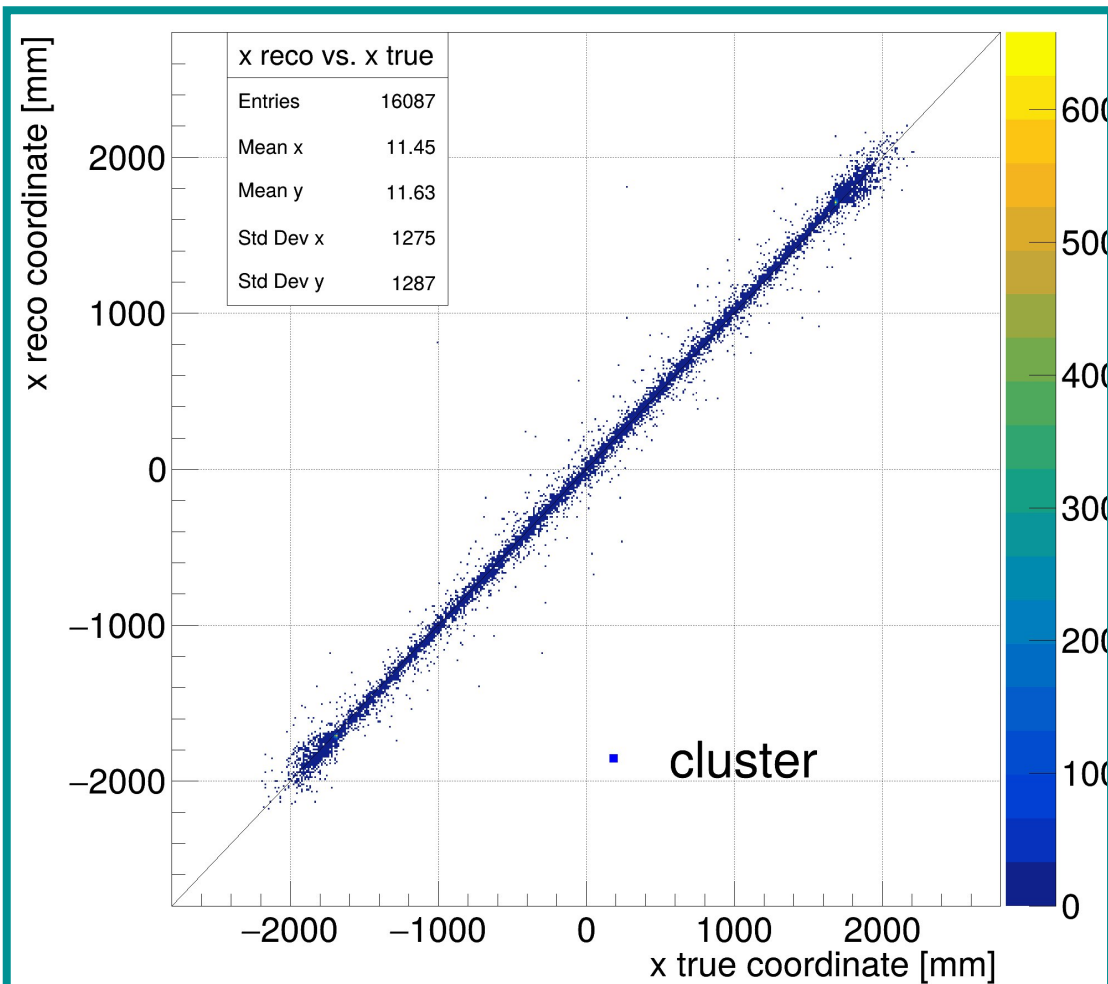
Method: all trajectories with hits are checked to find if they have (trajectory) points entering the reco cluster



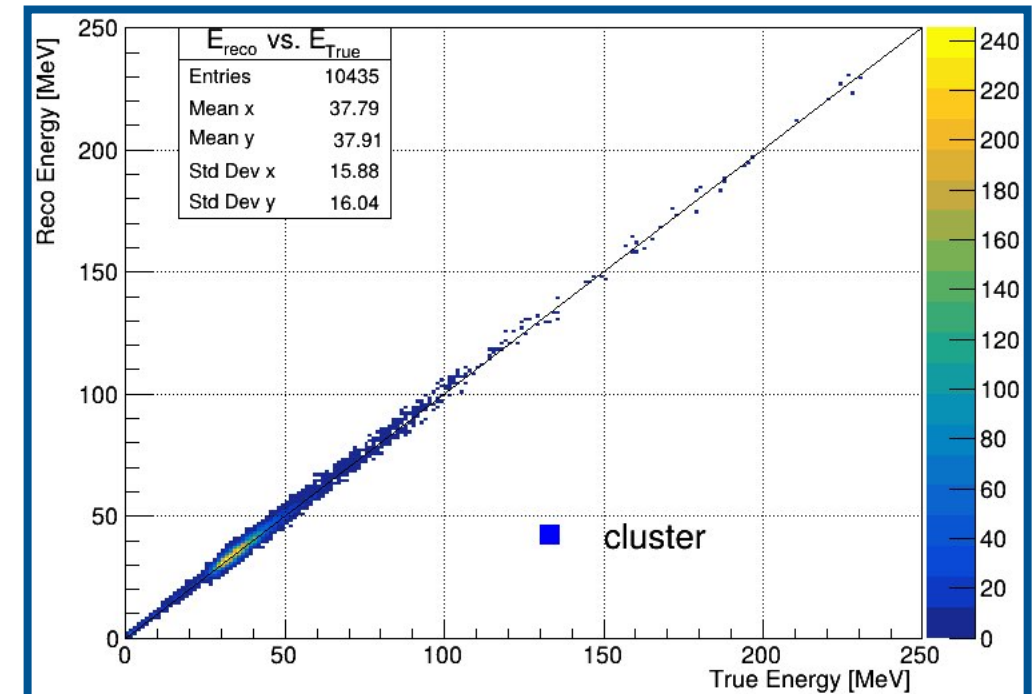
Ecal reconstruction: clustering validation

Validation of the clustering step with MC *backtracking*
comparing true and reco cluster **coordinates** and **energy**

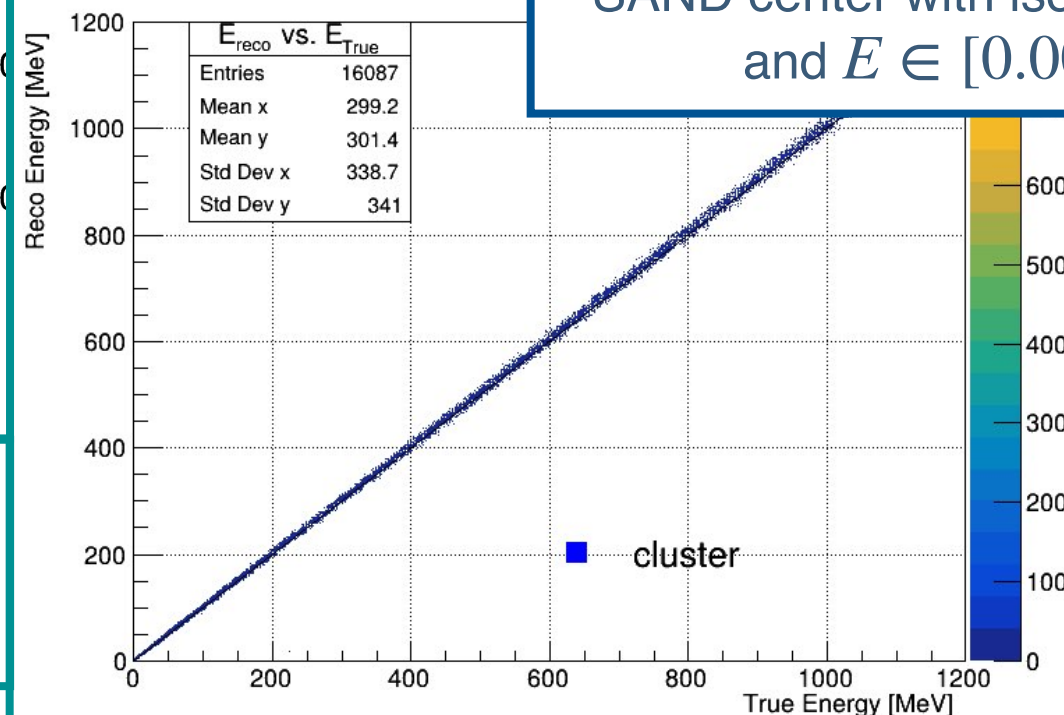
SAND center: (0.0, -2384.73, 23910.0)mm



Sample: $3 \cdot 10^4$ electrons generated in the SAND center and near barrel module with isotropic initial angle and $E \in [0.001, 6]$ GeV.

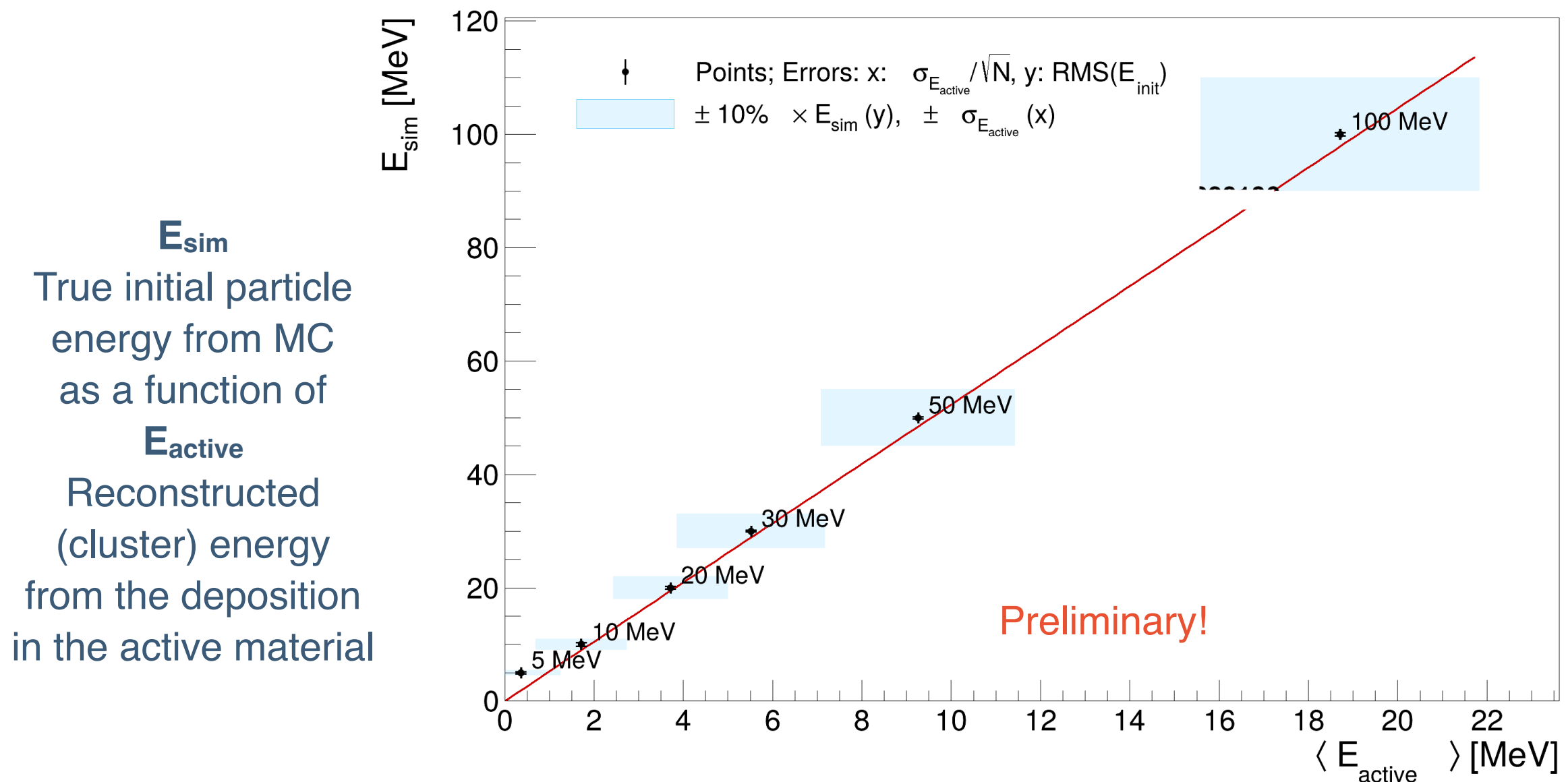


Sample: $3 \cdot 10^4$ muons generated in the SAND center with isotropic initial angle and $E \in [0.001, 6]$ GeV.



Ecal reconstruction: preliminary results on calibration

- Sample of electrons from the vertex from 30k ν_e interactions in the SAND tracker volume with E_ν distributed according to the beam spectrum



Preliminary results are compatible with expectations from KLOE

Ecal reconstruction: software infrastructure status

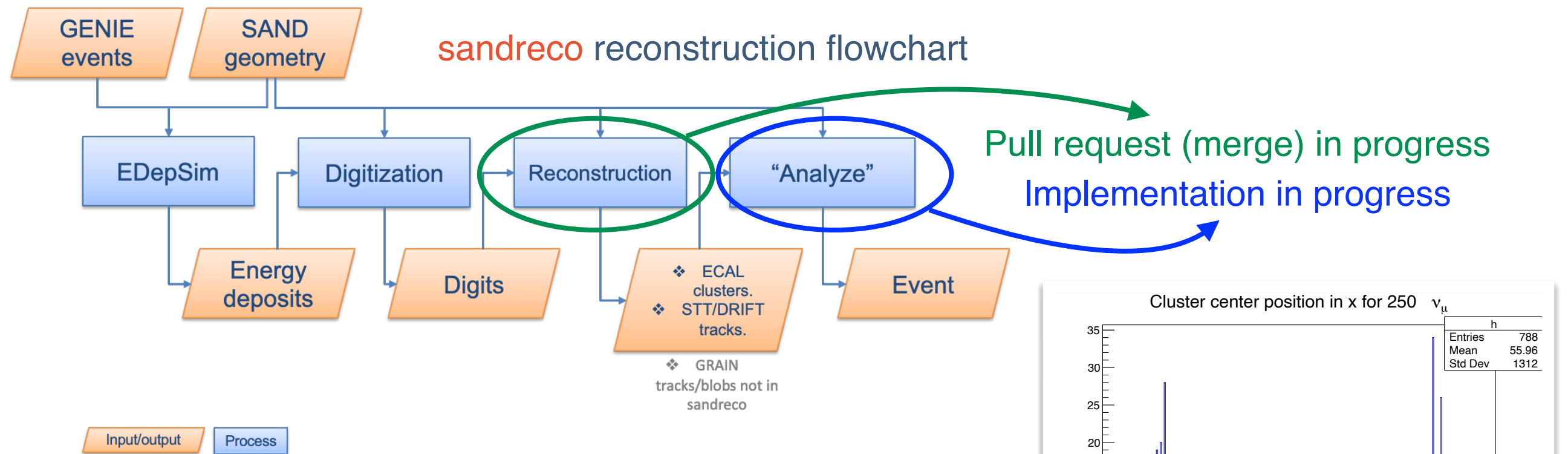
- All the sand reco branches containing development on:

- Geometry and SANDGeoManager
- Digitization
- Clustering

are now merged in *develop* (see [Pull Request](#))

- Full Ecal simulation/reconstruction chain including edep-sim, digitization, clustering, MC/cluster association available in sand reco
 - Clustering tested and validated
- First version of CAF files (see next slide) for calorimeter (& tracker) is ready
- Analyses for PID (e/π separation with ML techniques) and neutron detection

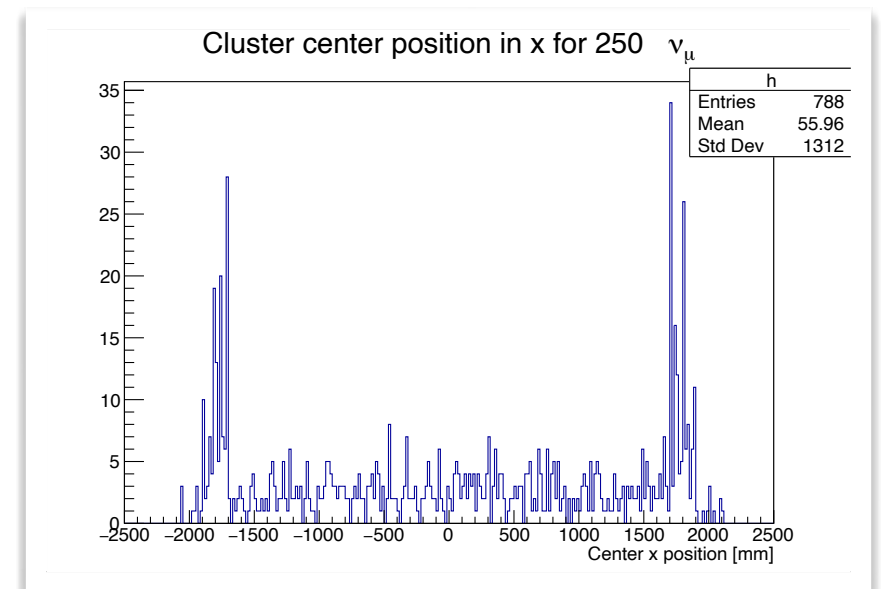
Ecal reconstruction: CAF files & integration within ND



- Common Analysis Files (**CAF**s) to be used for DUNE analyses involving all ND detectors

- sand-reco variables filled and validated for (Ecal) *cluster* and to be tested for (STT Tracker) *track* - PR (merge) in progress
- Event* (ν candidate) info (interaction vertex, hierarchy of reco particles, ...) work in progress

- Temporary workaround to ND CAF maker to handle SAND: standardized solution as the next step in sandreco



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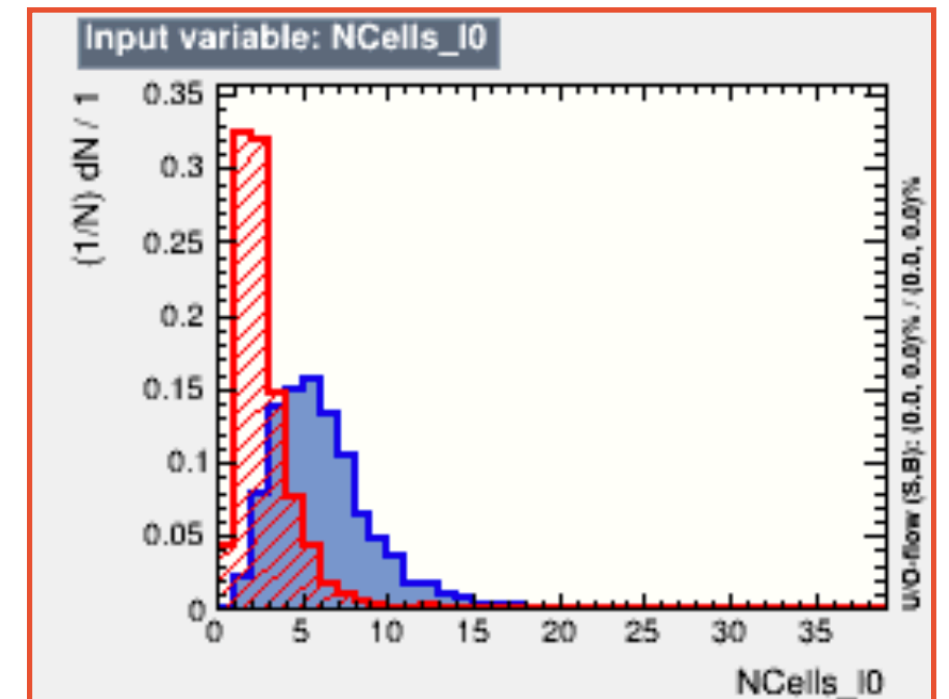
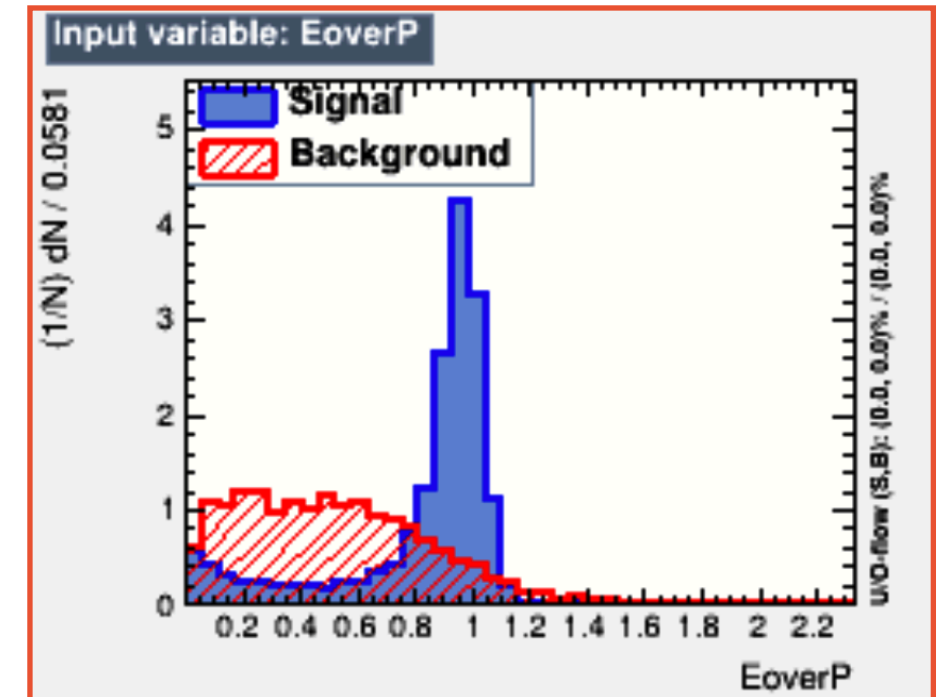
struct cluster {
    int tid;
    double x;
    double y;
    double z;
    double t;
    double e;
    double ax;
    double ay;
    double az;
    double sx;
    double sy;
    double sz;
    double varx;
    double vary;
    double varz;
    std::vector<reco_cell> reco_cells;
    std::vector<incomplete_cell> incomplete_cells;
};
  
```

Ecal reconstruction for physics-driven analysis: PID

- Idea: use Ecal + tracker reconstruction to implement a **ML-based approach** to do particle identification, tests in particular for e/π separation

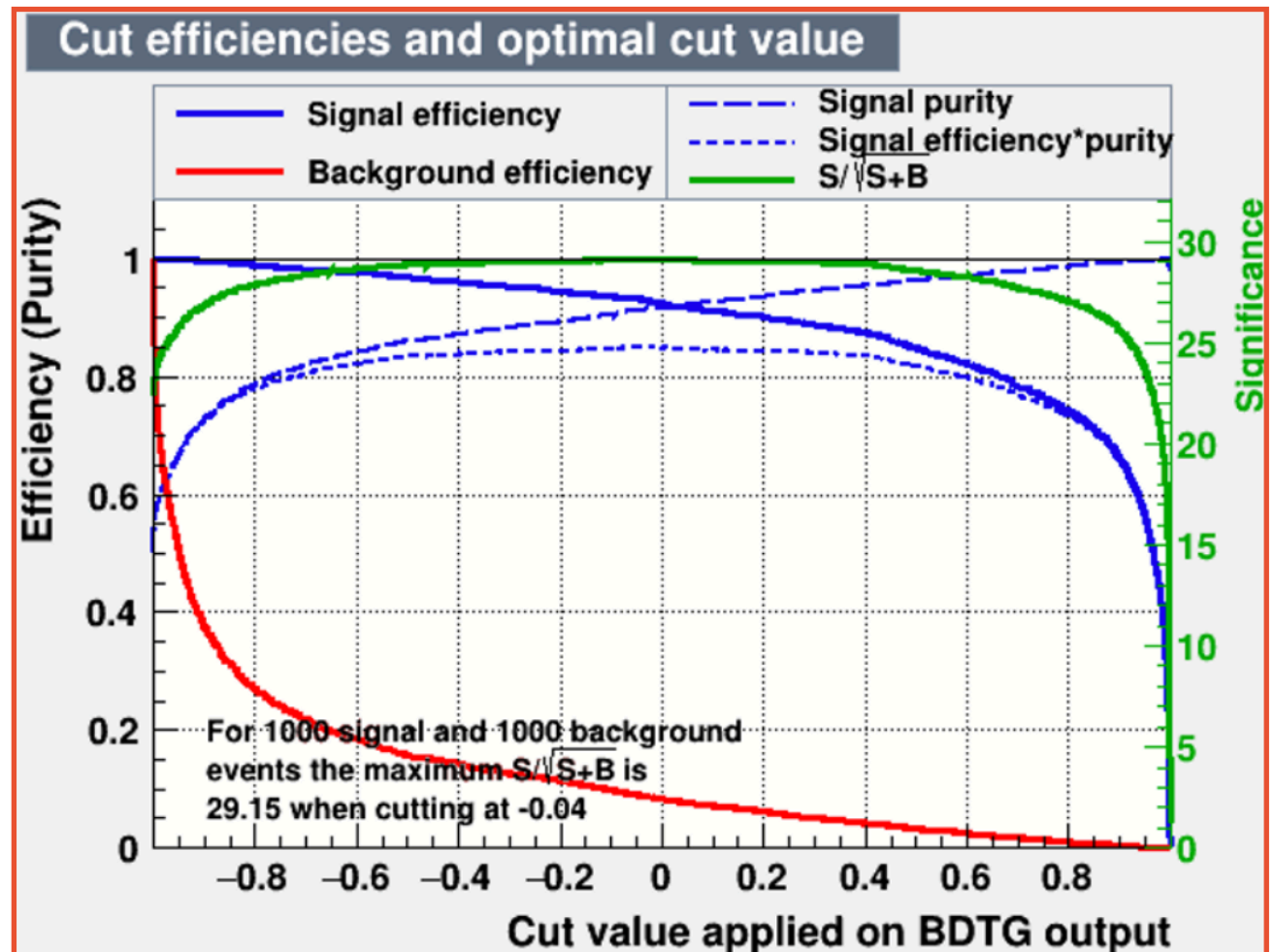
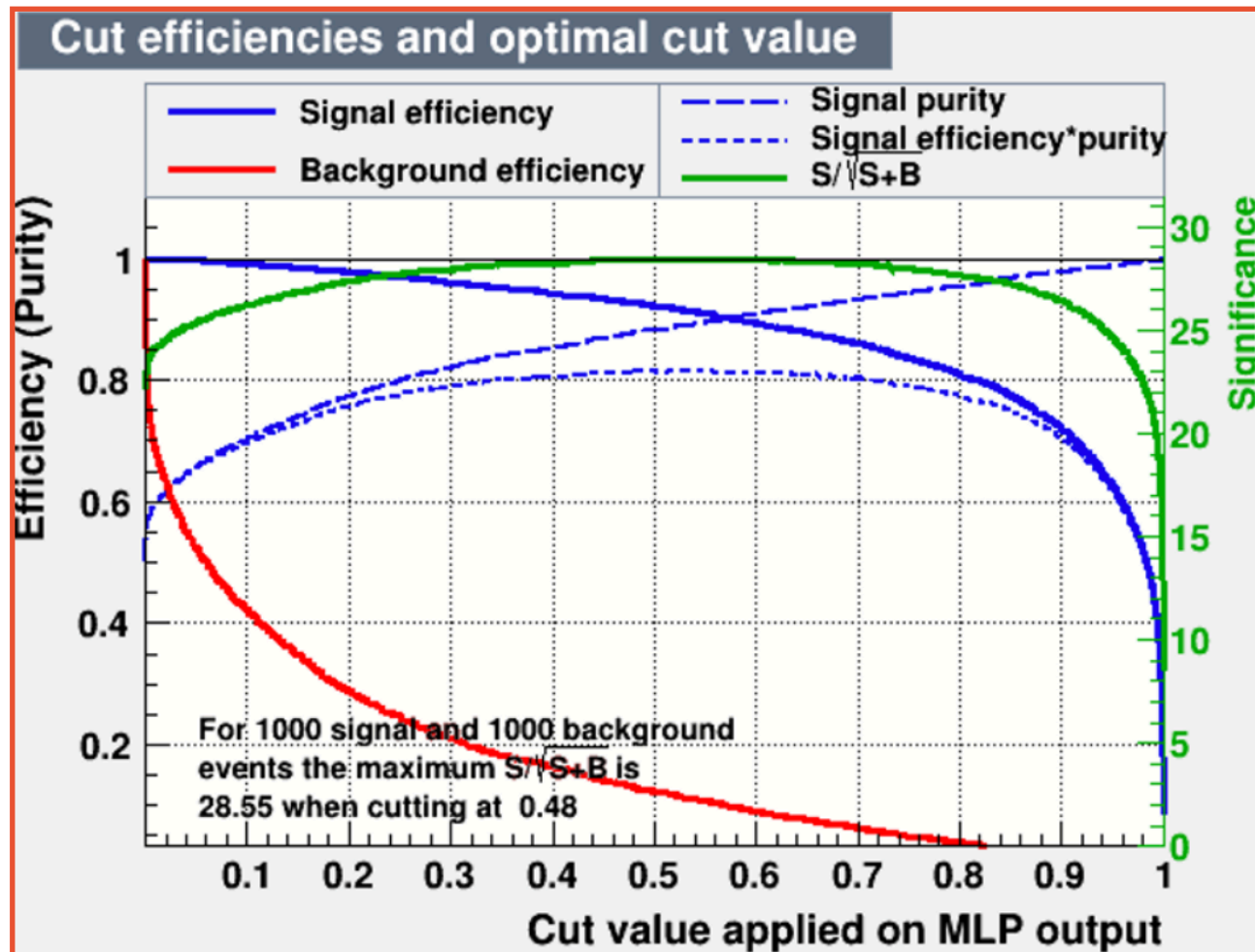
- Sample: 30k ν_e with beam energy spectrum, interacting in the STT
- Candidate event selection:
 - one generator/cluster
 - generator primary particles: $e^\pm, \pi^\pm$ with ν_e as parent
 - reconstructed variables from Ecal clustering (cluster energy, N_{cells} , ...)
 - MC + (4%) smearing variables (momentum) from the tracker
- Input variables used for the classification:

$$\text{ratio } \frac{E_{\text{cluster}}}{P_{\text{gen, MC}}}, N_{\text{cells}} \text{ w/ signal for each Ecal layer, ...}$$



Ecal reconstruction for physics-driven analysis: PID

Preliminary results extracted testing some ML algorithms



Ecal reconstruction for physics-driven analyses

Flux measurement w/ CCQE interactions

- Use CCQE interactions on H to extract **flux measurements** [1]

$$\bar{\nu}_\mu + p \rightarrow \mu^+ + n$$

as $\bar{\nu}_\mu$ interactions are expected to be **perfectly balanced** on the transverse plane

- Once μ^+ is **fully reconstructed** (vertex, $\vec{p}$, E) **neutron energy** can be derived from

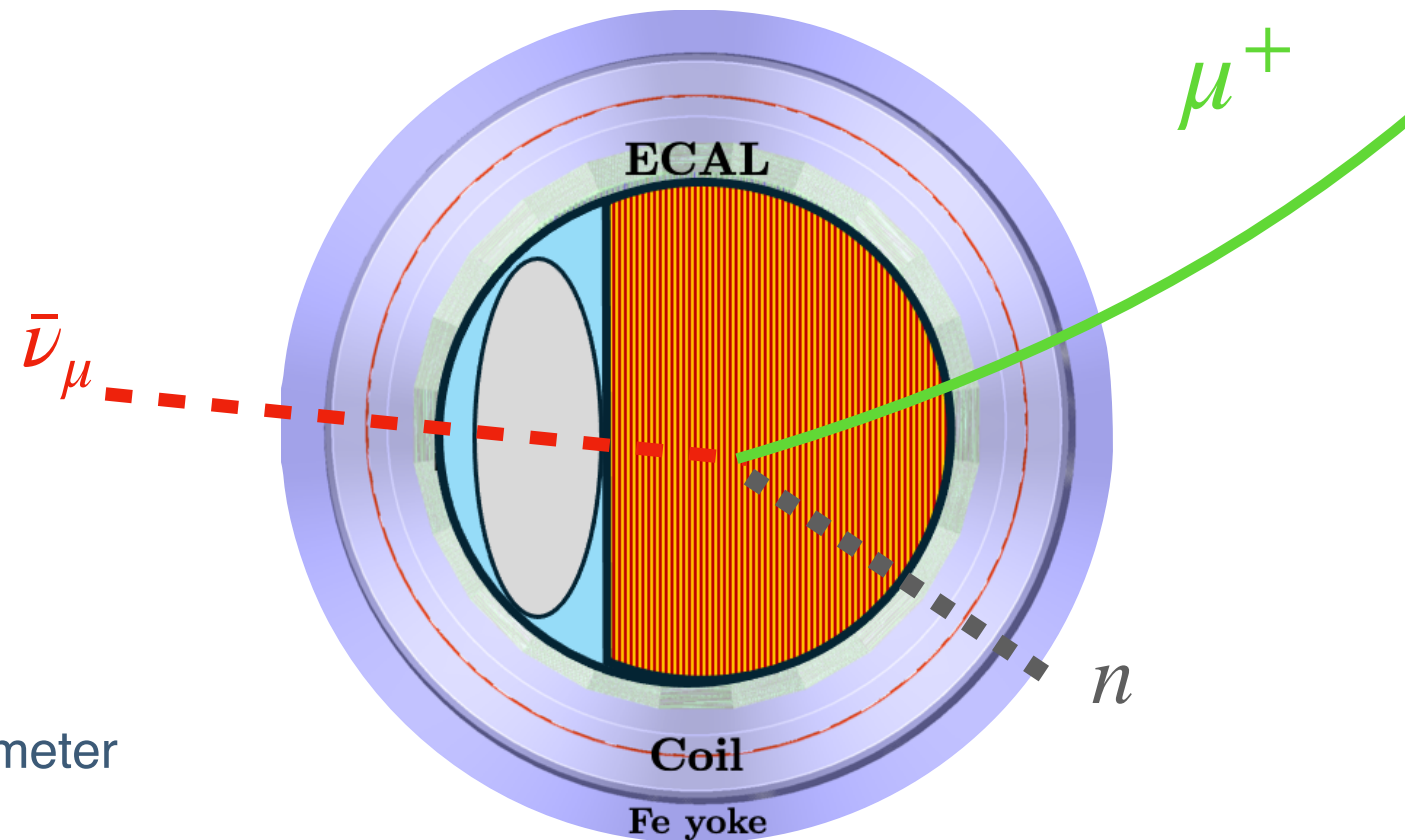
$$E_{\bar{\nu}}^{\text{reco}} = \frac{M_n^2 - m_\mu^2 - M_p^2 + 2M_p E_\mu^{\text{reco}}}{2 \left(M_p - E_\mu^{\text{reco}} + p_\mu^{\text{reco}} \cos \theta_\mu^{\text{reco}} \right)}$$

$$\text{as } E_n^{\text{pred}} = E_{\bar{\nu}}^{\text{reco}} + M_n - E_\mu^{\text{reco}} \rightarrow \beta_n^{\text{pred}} = \frac{p_n^{\text{pred}}}{E_n^{\text{pred}}}$$

and neutron is tagged from its **ToF** to the Ecal calorimeter

$t = \frac{S}{v_n^{\text{pred}}}$ where we assume a the trajectory is a **straight line** vtx - first point with E_{dep} in Ecal (no int in tracker)

$$[1] \quad N_{ND}^{\nu_\mu}(p_{\text{reco}}) = \sum_i \Phi_{\nu_\mu}(E_{\text{true}}) \cdot \sigma_{\nu_\mu}^i(p_{\text{true}}) \cdot \epsilon_{\nu_\mu}(p_{\text{true}}) \cdot R_i(p_{\text{true}}; p_{\text{reco}})$$



Ecal reconstruction for physics-driven analyses

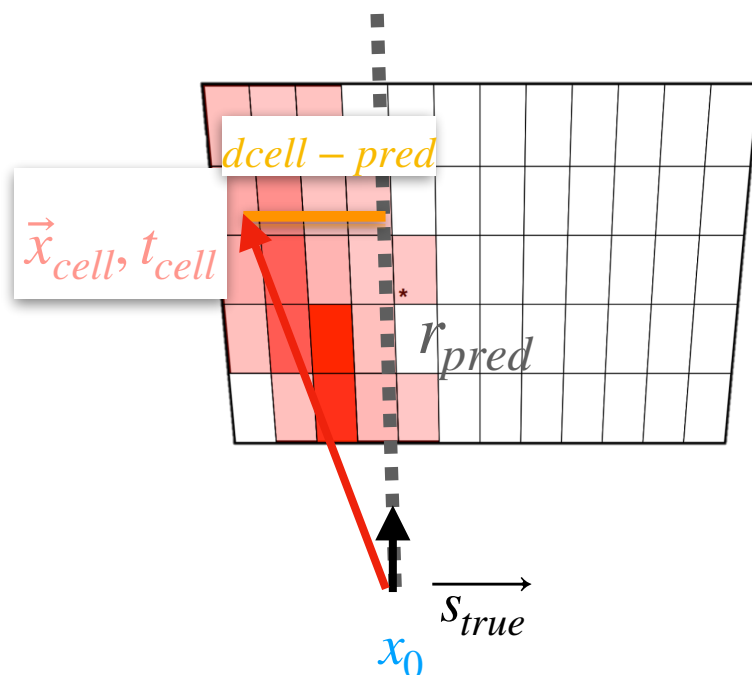
Evaluation of neutron detection efficiency - *work in progress*

- First step towards the analysis: evaluation of visible neutron tagging efficiency with Ecal and kinematic considerations on signal/background

- Sample of $3 \cdot 10^4 \bar{\nu}_\mu$ interactions in SAND tracker volume (1.43×10^{20} PoT) with a single neutron to select interactions on Hydrogen

Efficiency w/o energy threshold and fiber attenuation as $\epsilon_{n, \geq 1 \text{ hit}}^{\text{Ecal}} = \frac{N_n (\geq 1 \text{ hit})}{N_n (\text{produced})}$

Efficiency w/ 0.08 MeV ($\equiv 2.5$ pe) threshold given by $\epsilon_{n, \text{cluster}}^{\text{Ecal}} = \frac{N_n (\geq 1 \text{ hit, clu})}{N_n (\geq E_{\text{min, clu}})}$



- Idea: select CCQE only where μ is properly reco (thus neutron) and the cluster w/ primary neutron as generator, extract the space/time distance between reco cell and predicted hit position: any deviation from a straight line is potentially a means to discriminate between signal and background (e.g. neutron interacting before reaching the calorimeter, not on Hydrogen) Optimising cut in Δr , Δt to maximize bkg rejection

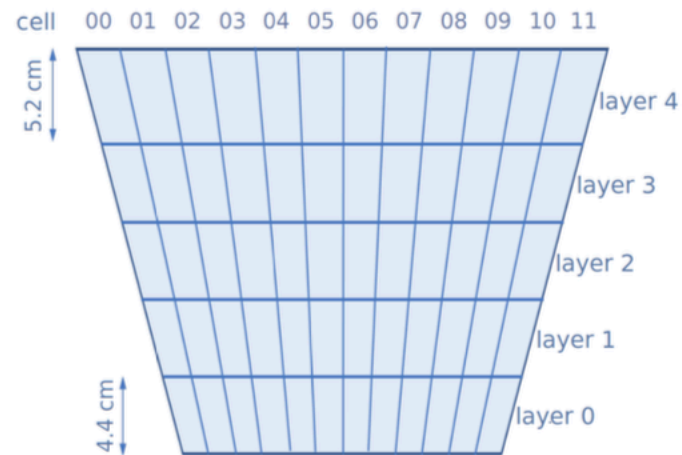
Ecal reconstruction: ongoing/next steps

- Software for the Ecal-based event reconstruction w/ MC info for PID is now part of sand reco legacy: PR approved, further tests post-PR-merge are necessary
- Current analyses lead by D. Casazza and R. D'Amico (see earlier presentation) based on Ecal and ongoing within the sim/reco and calibration working groups rely on the original code that was later included in sand reco - tests & validation checks are foreseen when sandreco legacy software will be frozen
- CAF files: Pull Request merge is in progress as part of the continuous effort to integrate SAND sim/reco software in ND shared software infrastructure

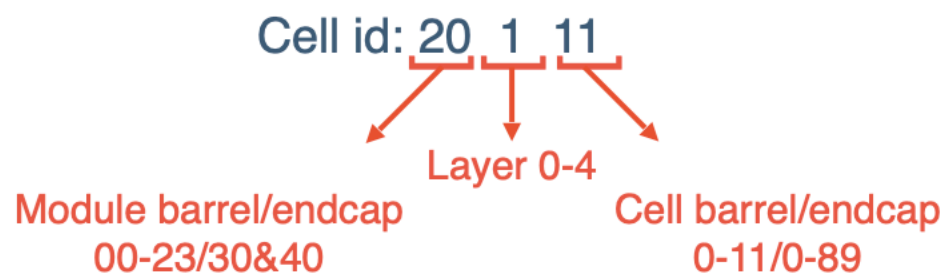
Back-up slides

ECAL reconstruction: digitization

Module segmentation



Segmentation of the modules in 5 layers and cells of $4.4 \cdot 4.4(5.2) \text{ cm}^2$ granularity.



Digit formation in cells

- N_{pe} number of photoelectron produced by an hit is extracted by Poisson distribution with

$$\mu_{pe} = dE \cdot E_{pe} \cdot A_l$$

- Arrival time [ns].
 $t_{pe} = t_{cross} + t_{decay} + t_{prop} + Gauss(1ns)$
- ADC counts $S_i^{B,A} = N_{pe} \cdot peADC$.
- TDC: 2 options constant fraction or fixed threshold.

Digit structure:

- Cell information.
- Photo-signals_{A,B}:
 - ADC, TDC.
 - Collection of pe:
 - Hit index.
 - Time.