

DarkLight@ARIEL Experiment  
Simulation Study

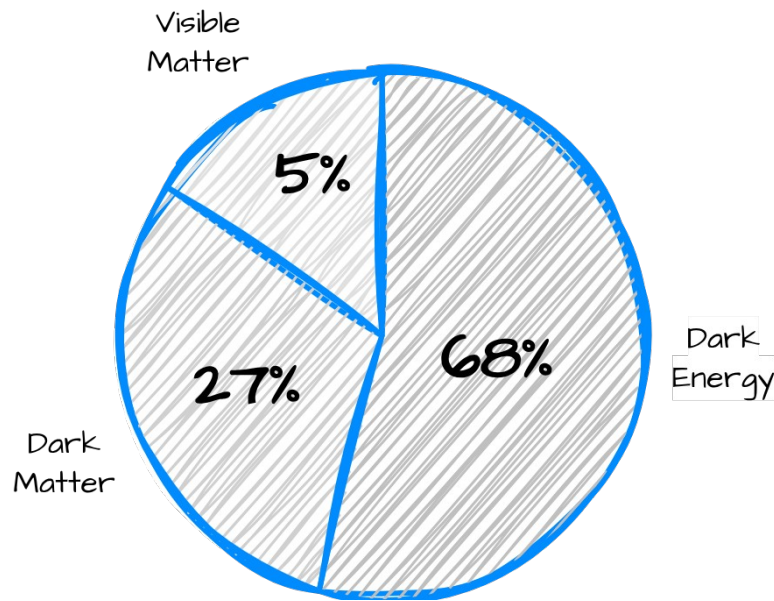
Siddhartha Gupte  
Stony Brook University



# DarkLight and the Search for Hidden-Sector Physics

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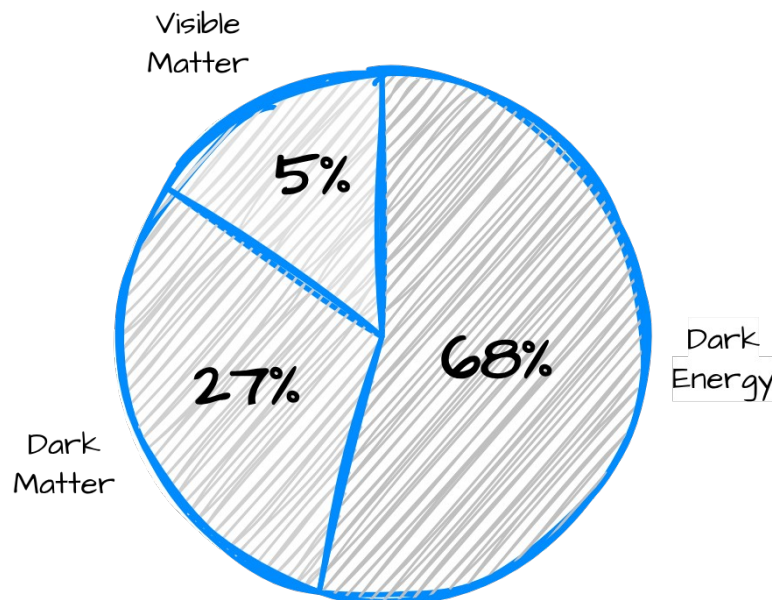
- Standard Model explains only ~5% of the universe
- What lies beyond the Standard Model?
- Precision searches for the low-mass, weakly coupled particles



# DarkLight and the Search for Hidden-Sector Physics

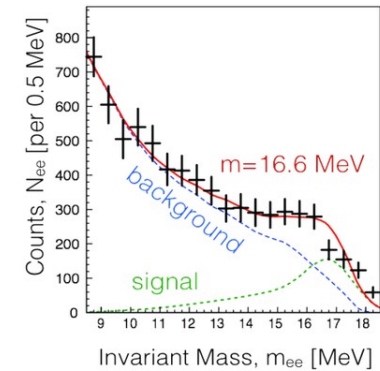
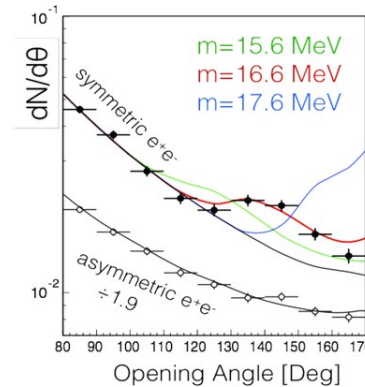
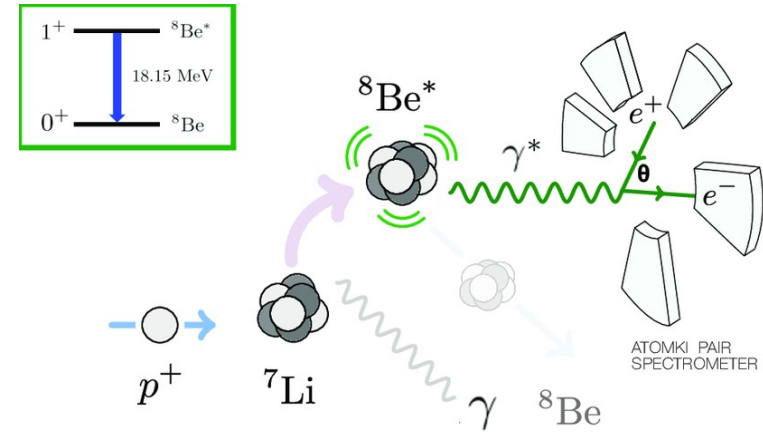
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- Standard Model explains only ~5% of the universe
- What lies beyond the Standard Model?
- Precision searches for the low-mass, weakly coupled particles
- **DarkLight**: Designed to explore the hidden sector via electron-nucleus interactions in a fixed-target setup



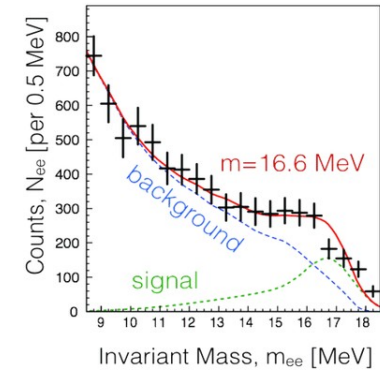
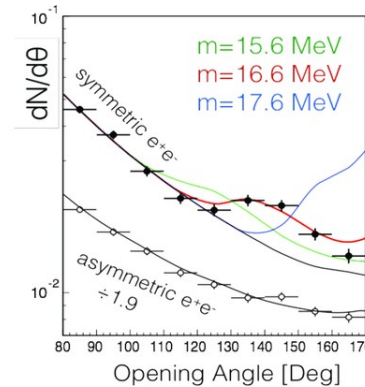
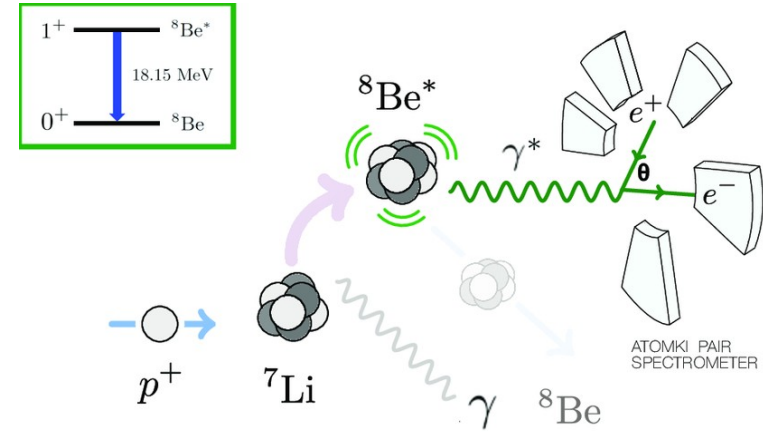
# The X17 Anomaly: A Window into the Dark Sector?

- ATOMKI observed excess in  $e^+e^-$  angular distribution



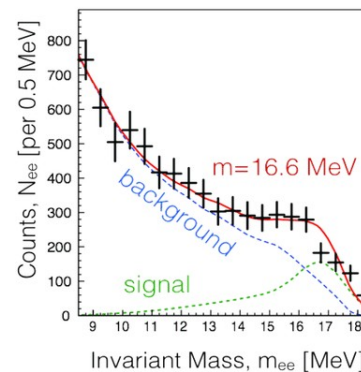
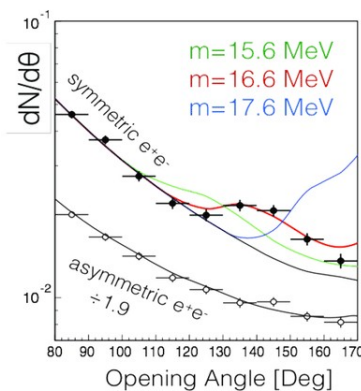
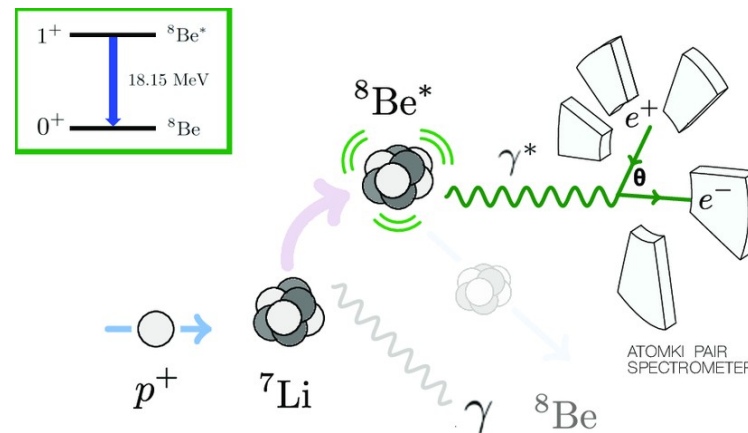
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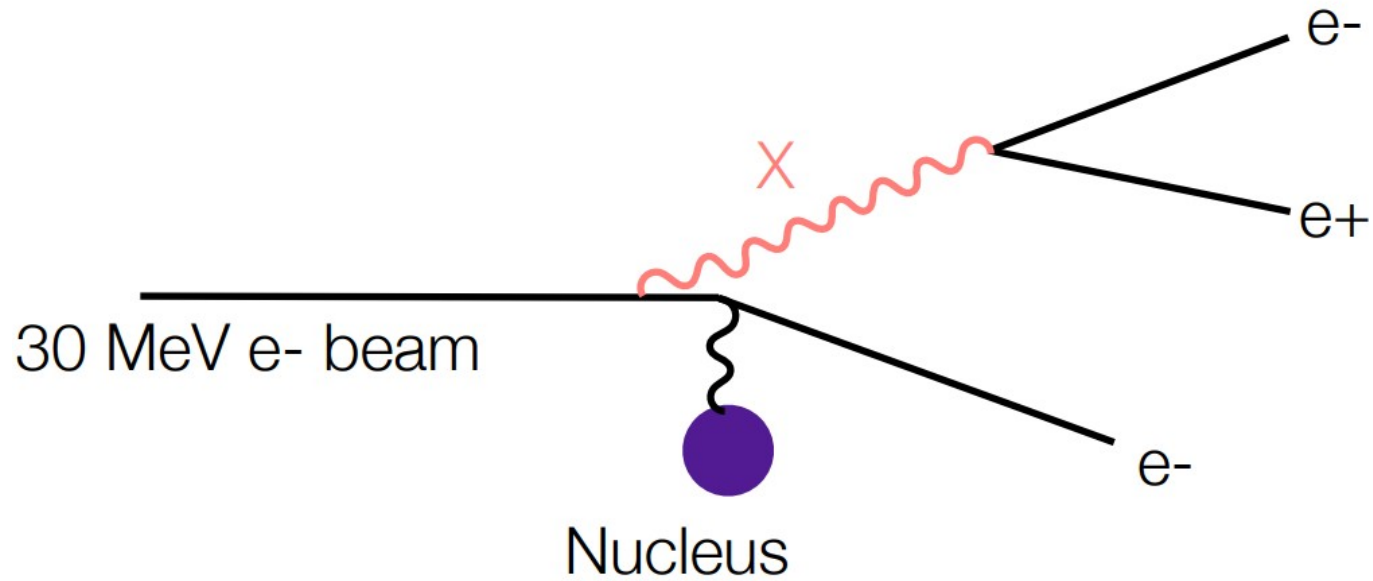
# The X17 Anomaly: A Window into the Dark Sector?

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- Anomaly seen in  $^8\text{Be}$  and  $^4\text{He}$  nuclear transitions
- Interpreted as possible new boson: mass  $\approx 17 \text{ MeV}$  (X17)



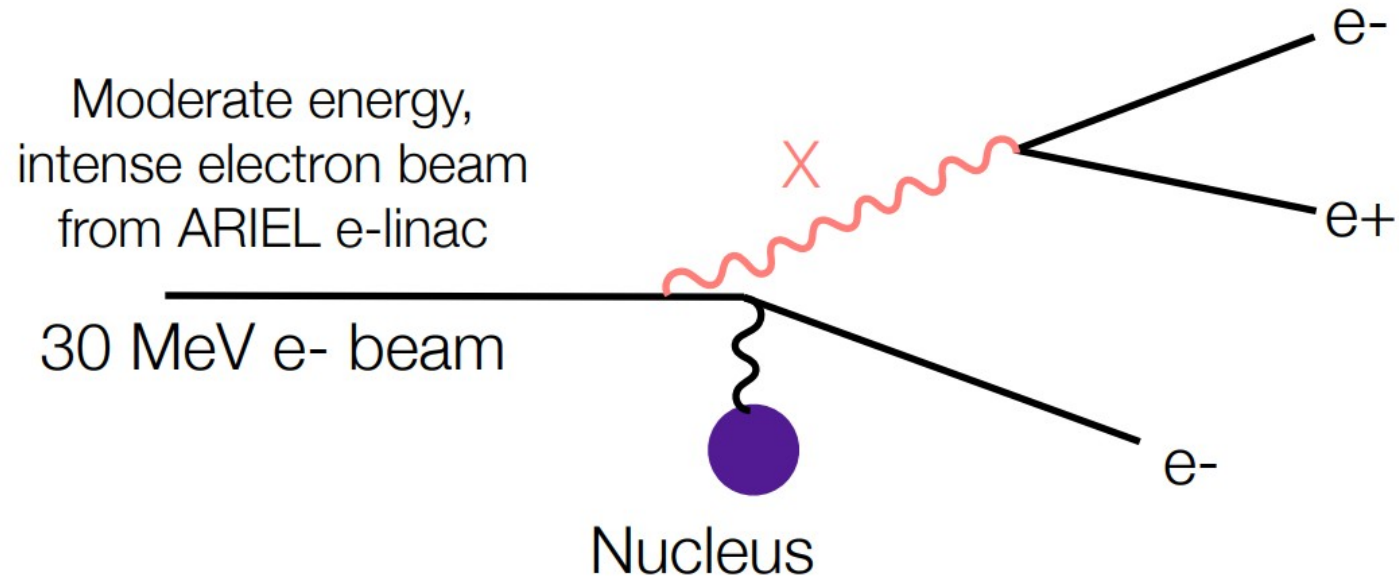
# DarkLight@ARIEL Experiment

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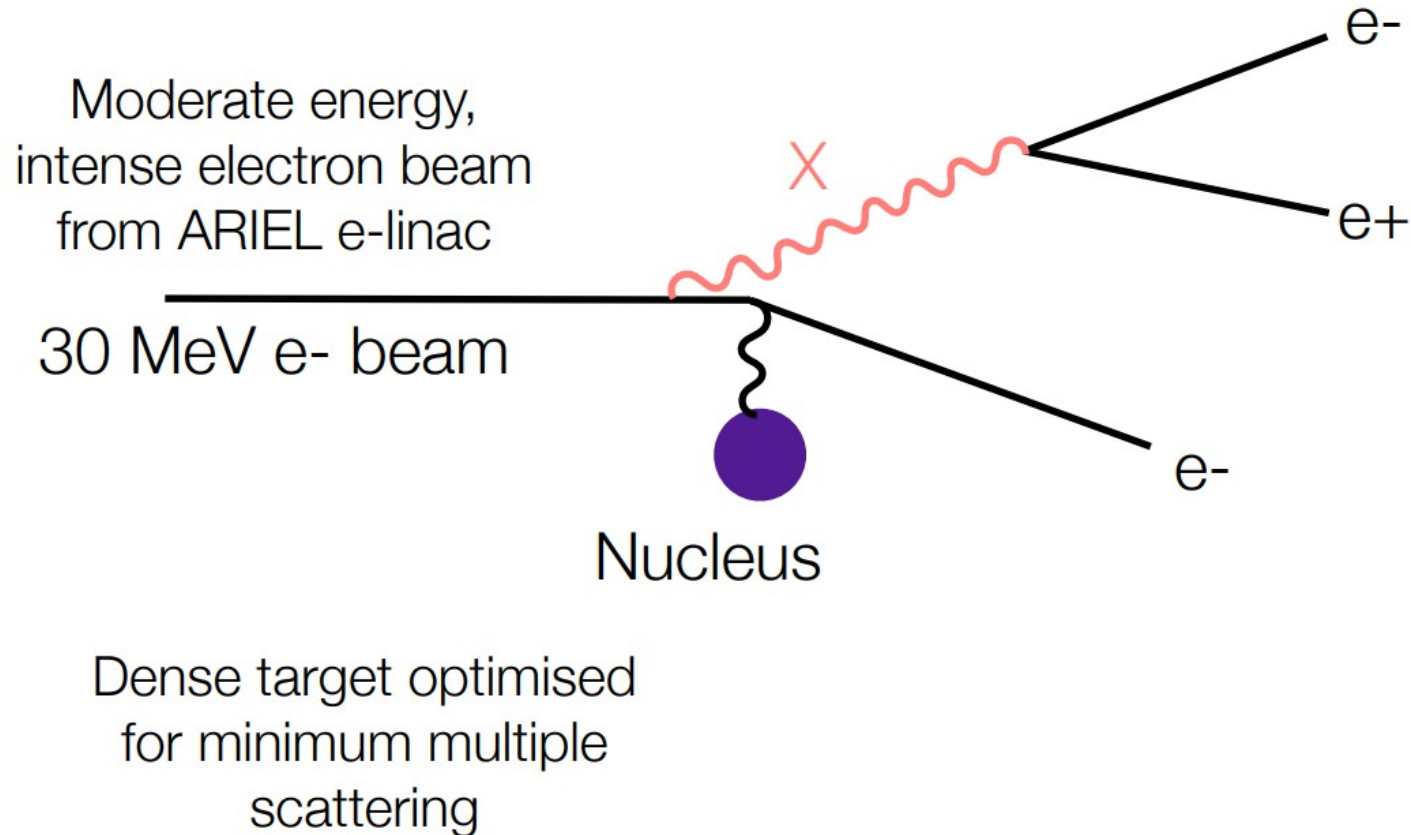
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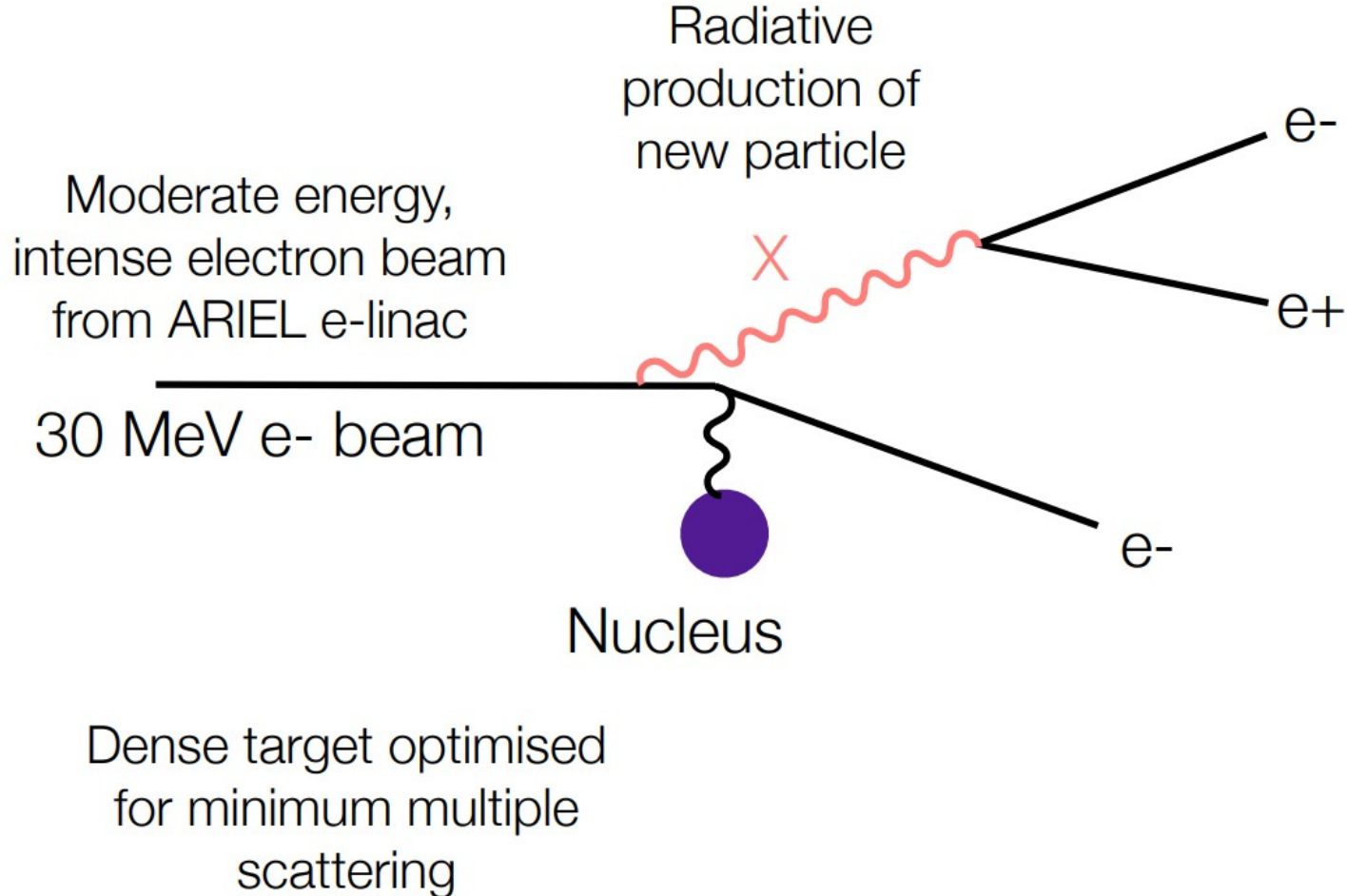
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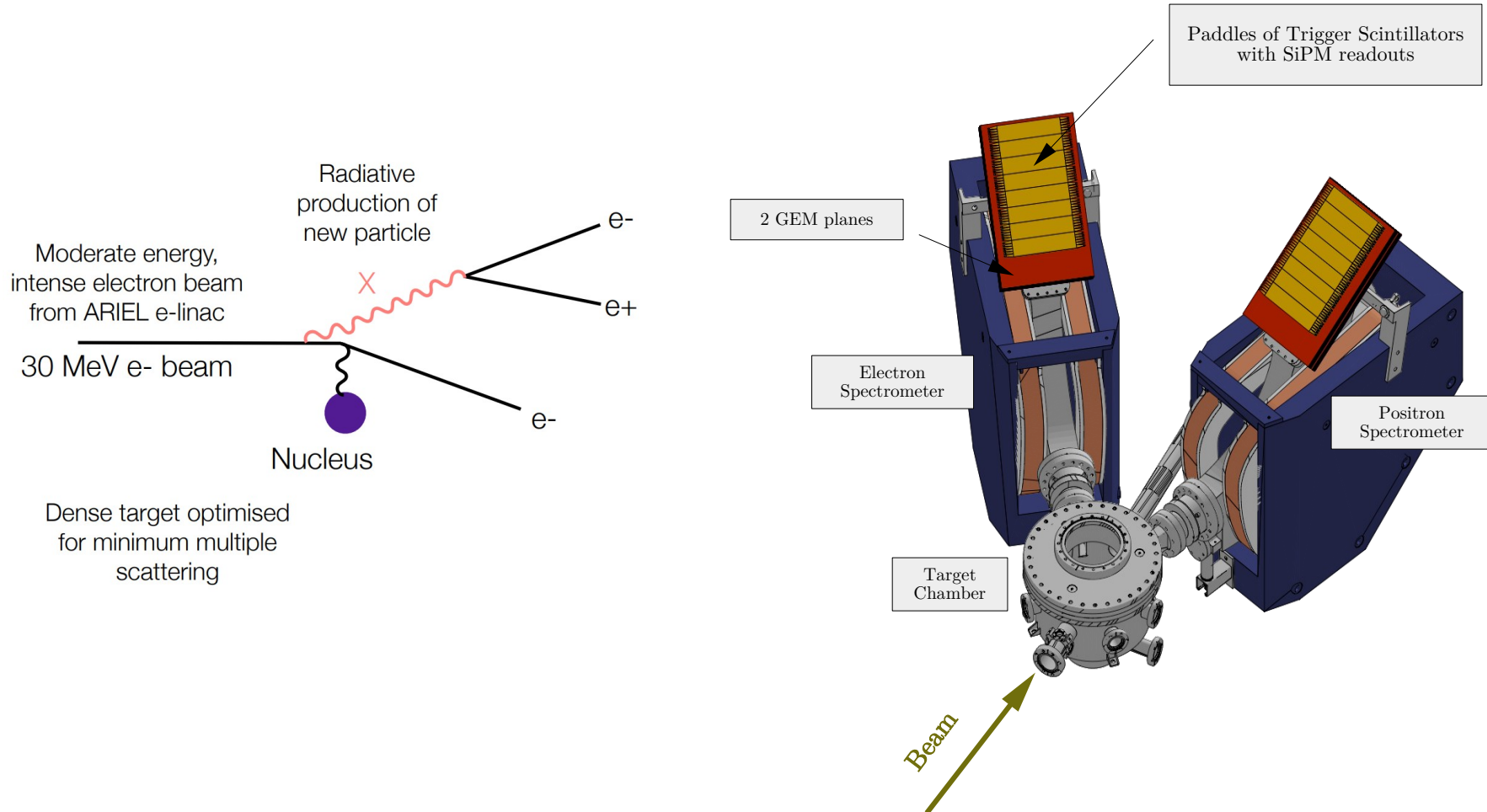


# DarkLight@ARIEL Experiment

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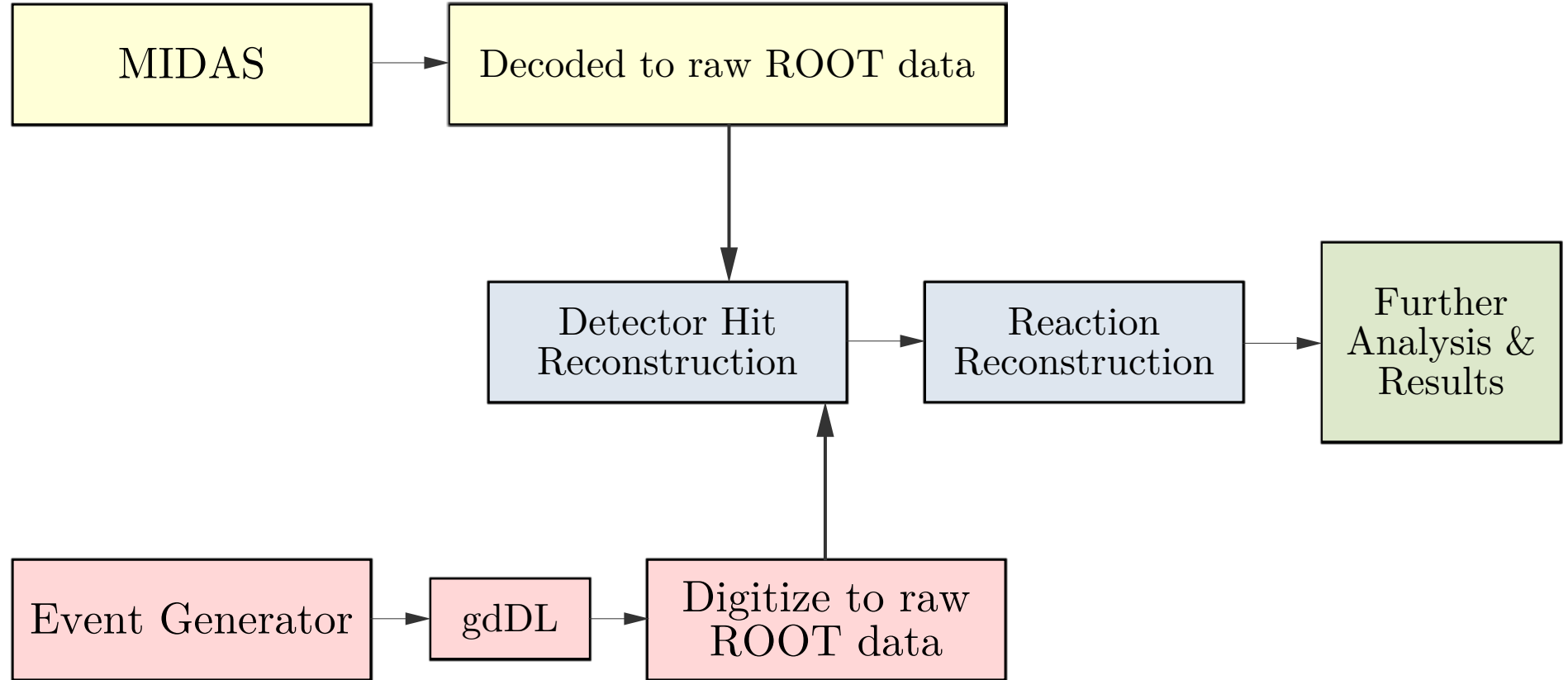


# DarkLight@ARIEL Experiment



# COOKER Framework

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# Plugin 1: GEMTrack

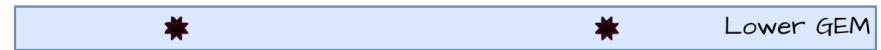
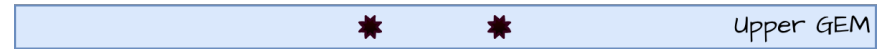
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- Reconstructs the particle trajectories using GEM detector hits data
- Converts the 2D hit positions into 3D tracks

# Plugin 1: GEMTrack

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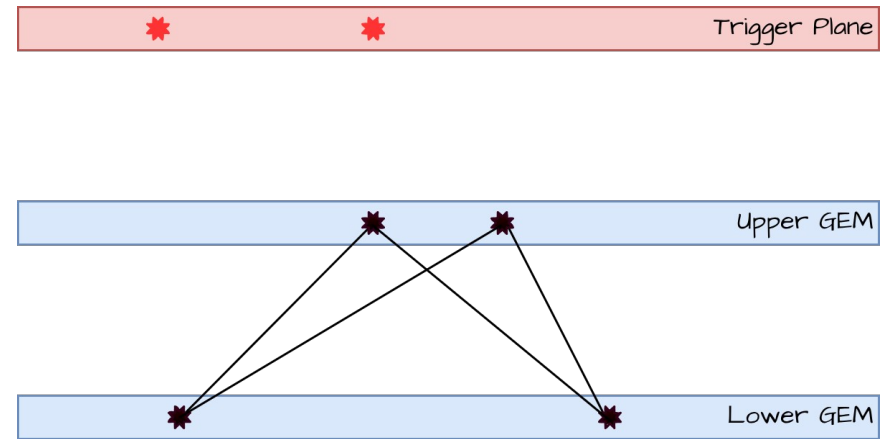
- Reconstructs the particle trajectories using GEM detector hits data
- Converts the 2D hit positions into 3D tracks
- Each event provides hit positions on the **Lower GEM**, **Upper GEM**, and the **Trigger Plane**.
- Initially, all hits are **unlabeled** and **not associated** with any track.
- **Goal:** Build candidate tracks by combining GEM hits and checking for consistency with Trigger hits



# Plugin 1: GEMTrack

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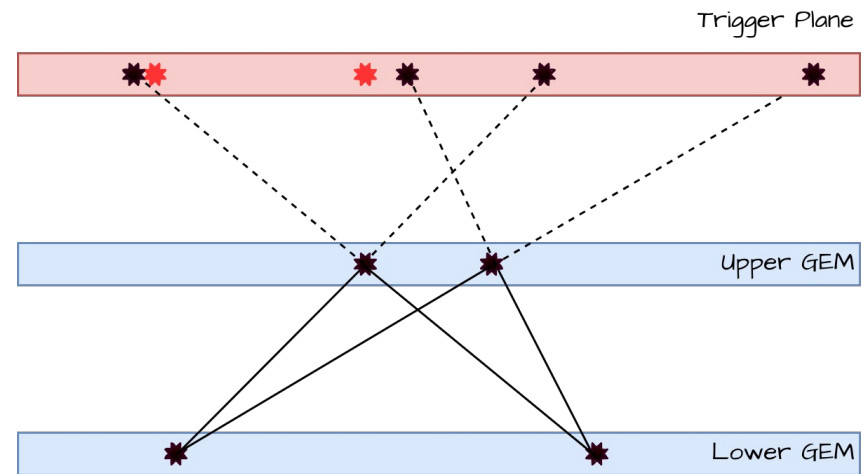
- Form all possible **GEM hit pairs** between Upper and Lower GEM planes.
- Each pair defines a **candidate track**.



# Plugin 1: GEMTrack

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- Form all possible **GEM hit pairs** between Upper and Lower planes
- Each pair defines a **candidate track**
- Project each track onto the **Trigger plane**
- Compare **projected hits** with **actual Trigger hits**

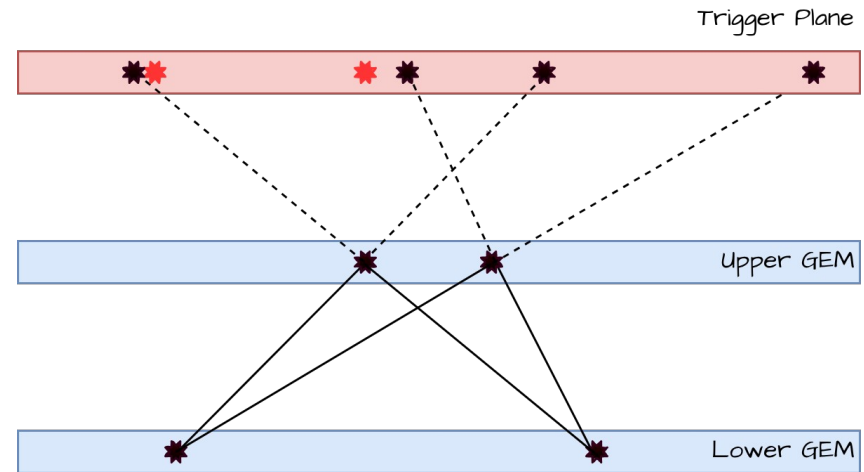




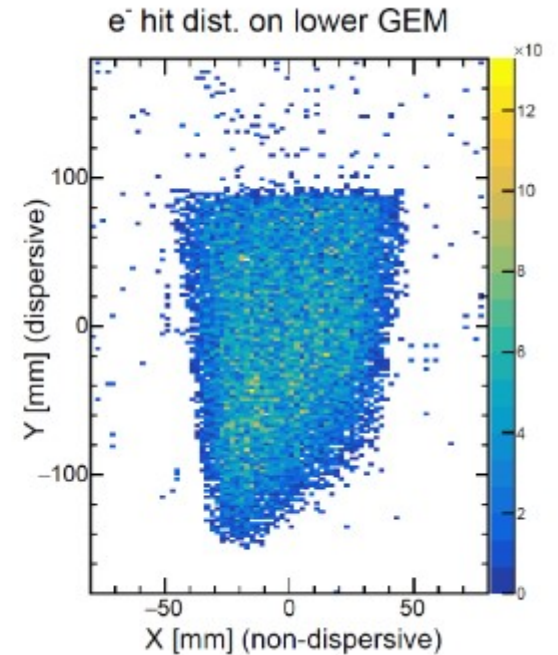
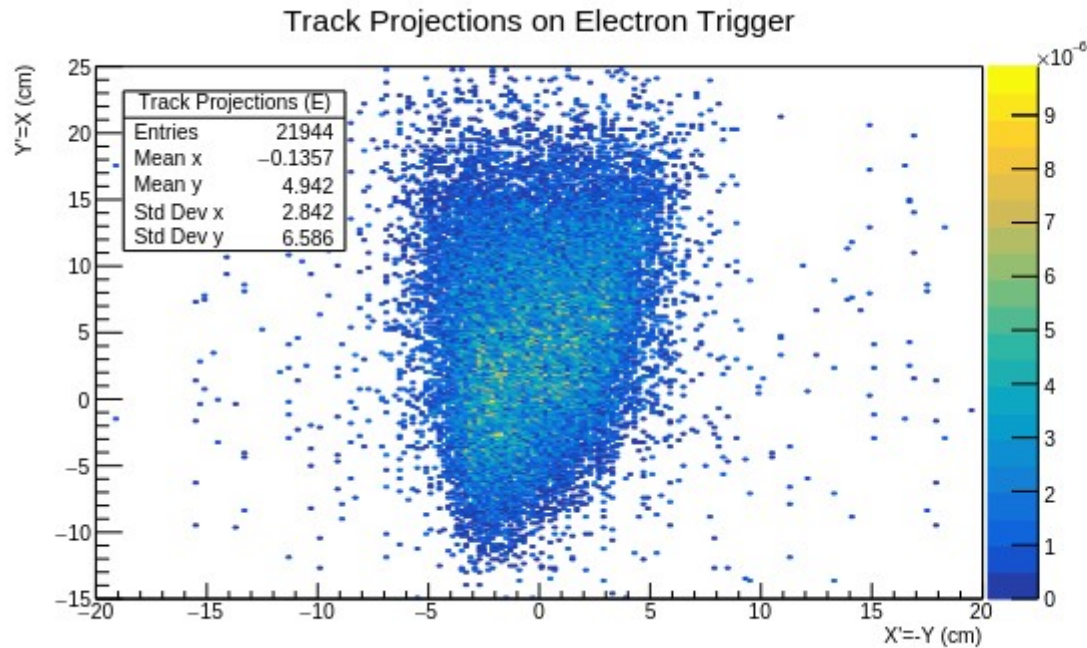
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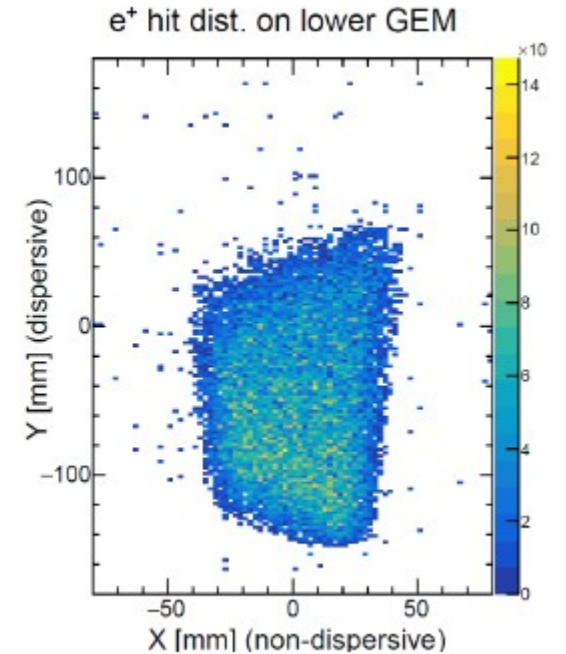
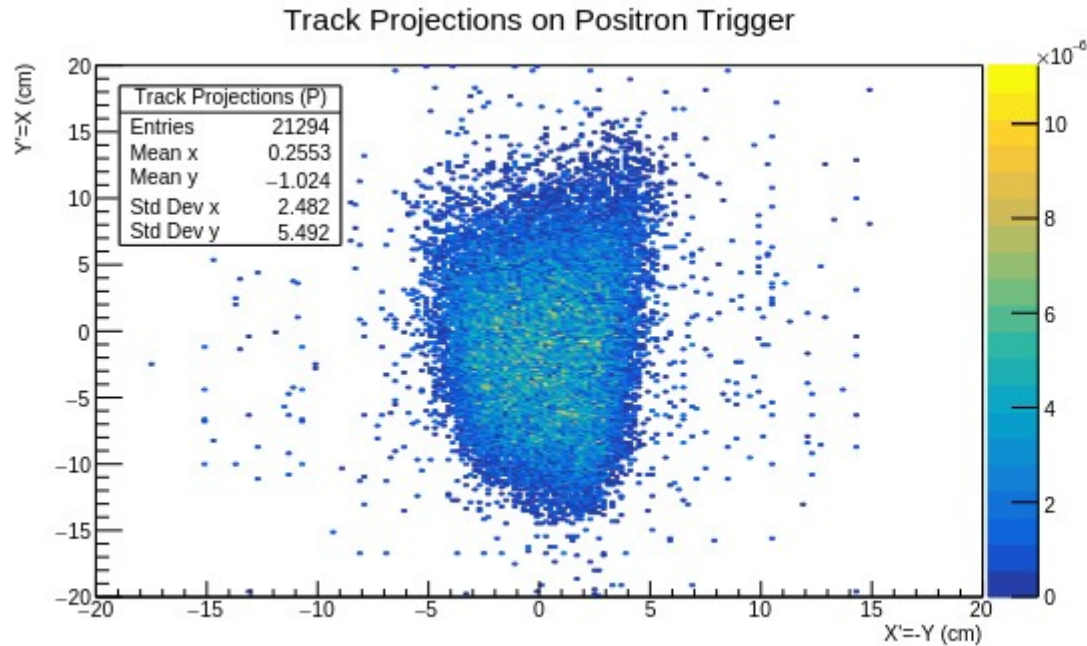
- Filtering the tracks?
- Currently using **distance-based filtering**.
- Accept tracks only if the distance is below a threshold.
- **Future improvements:** Evaluating additional filtering strategies like  $\chi^2$  fit quality, Kalman filtering



# Plugin 1: GEMTrack

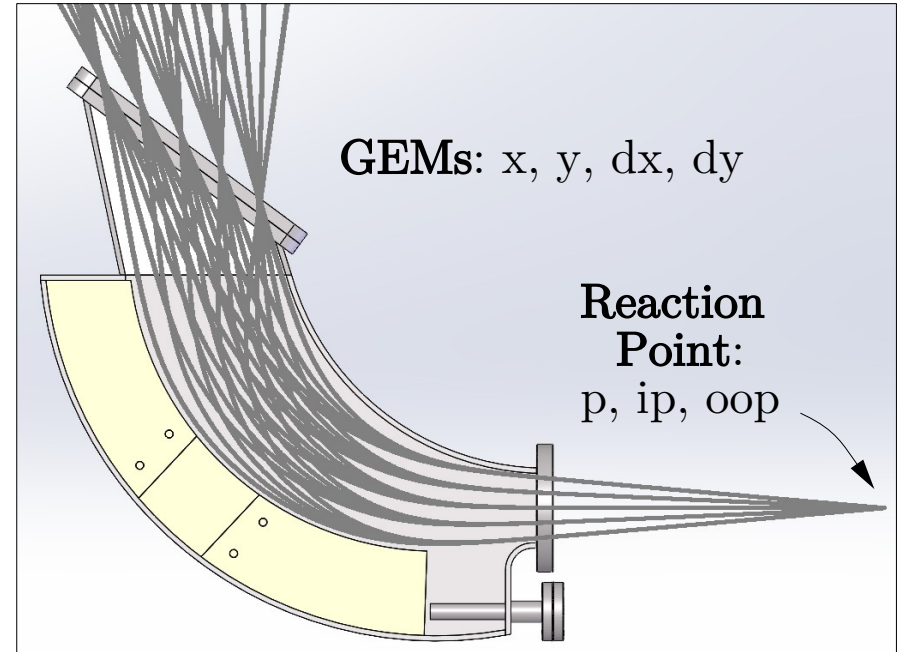


# Plugin 1: GEMTrack



# Plugin 2: VertexXGB

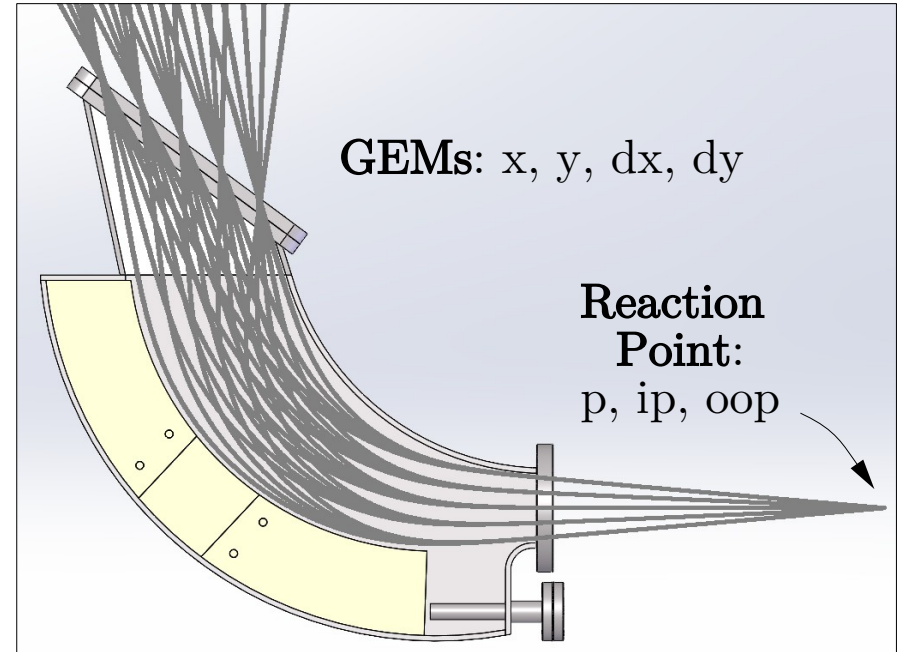
- Uses candidate tracks from **GEMTrack** from both spectrometer arms.
- Reconstructs the reaction point (vertex) of the event
- Critical for identifying  $e^+e^-$  pairs from possible new particles
- Current implementation uses two methods: **Polynomial fit**, **ML-Based Fit (XGBoost)**



Schematic of the cut-away view of spectrometer and particle trajectories

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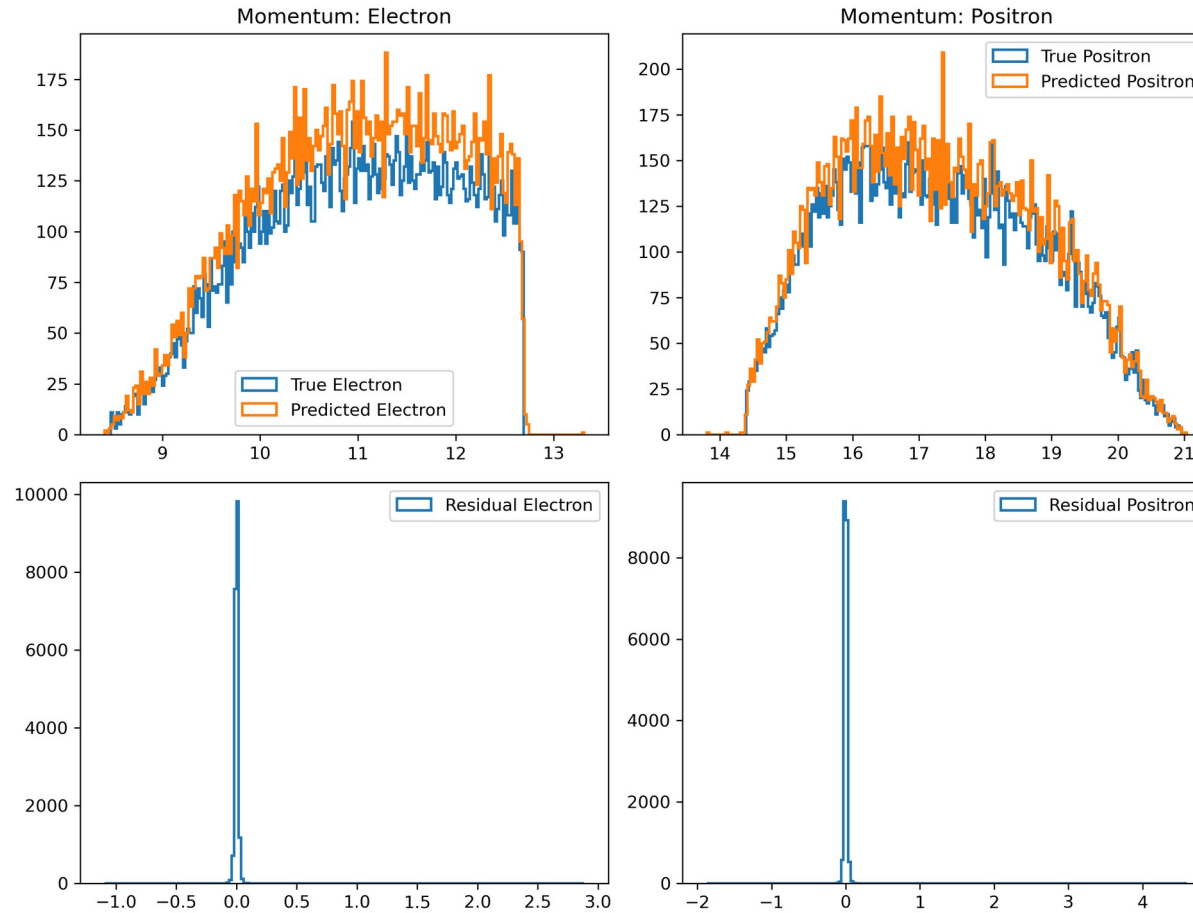
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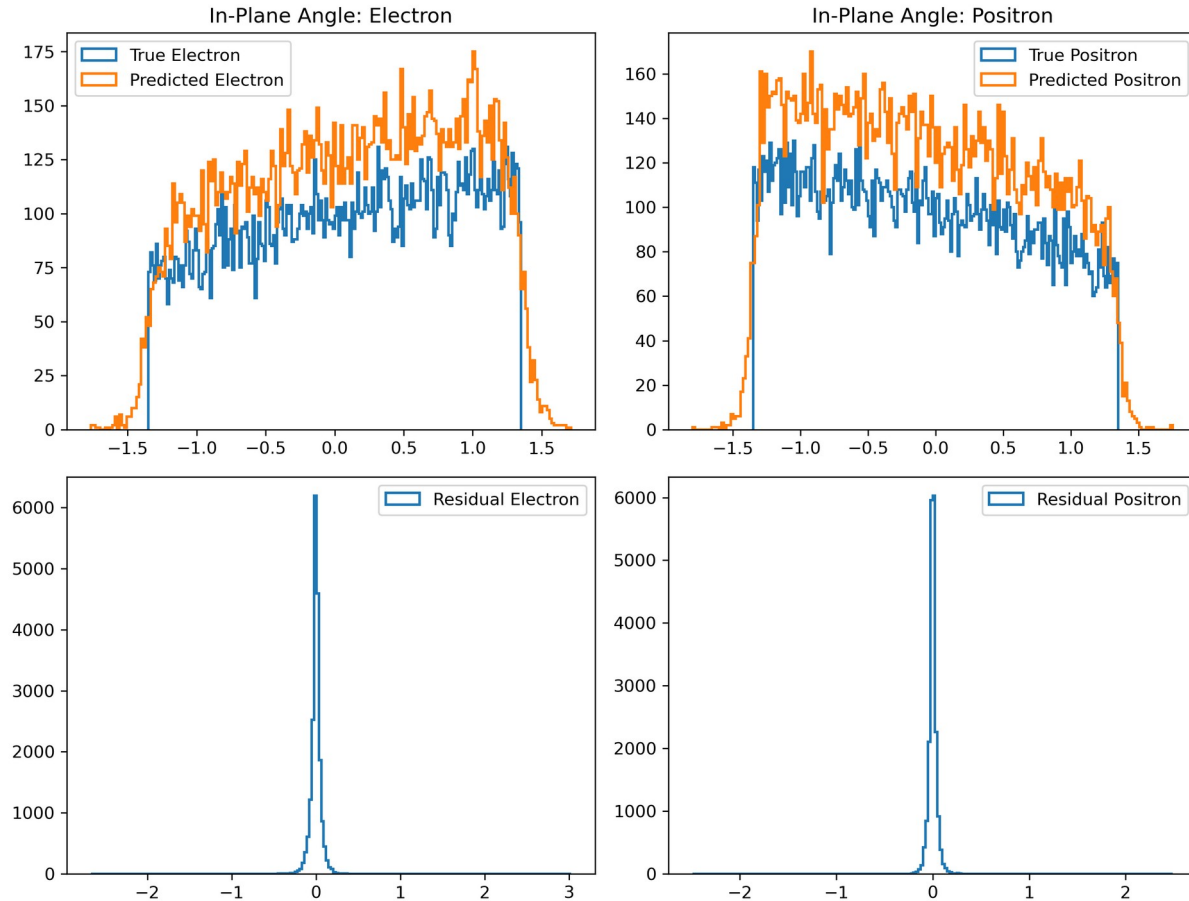
# Plugin 2: VertexXGB

Signal Momentum Comparison



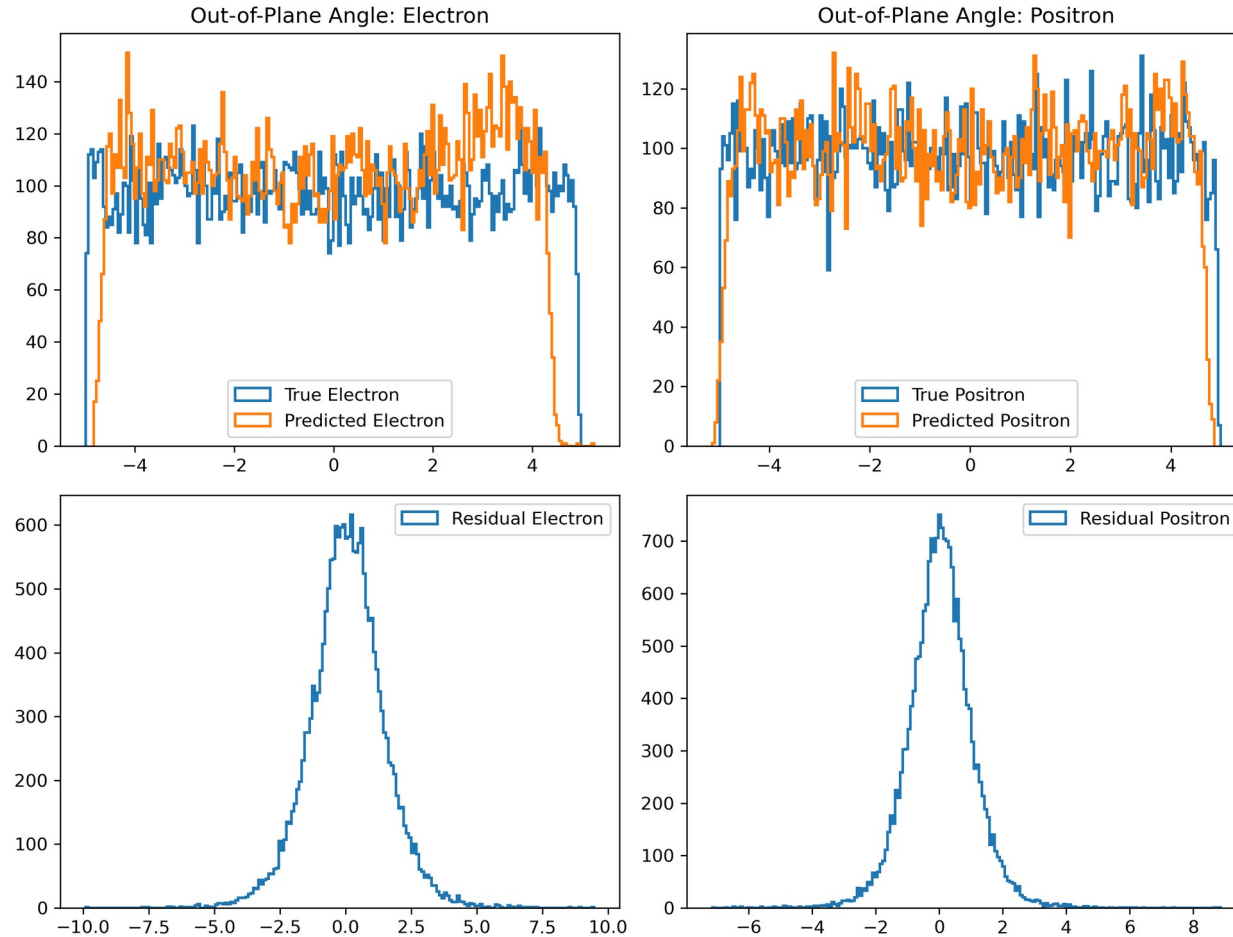
# Plugin 2: VertexXGB

Signal In-Plane Angle Comparison



# Plugin 2: VertexXGB

Signal Out-of-Plane Angle Comparison





# Plugin 3: MassRecon

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