

Unsupervised clustering for neutrino event exploration

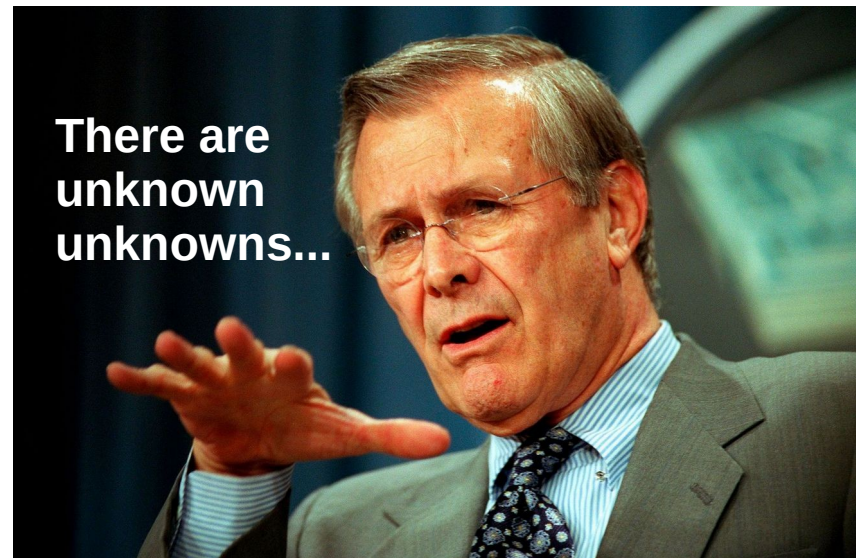
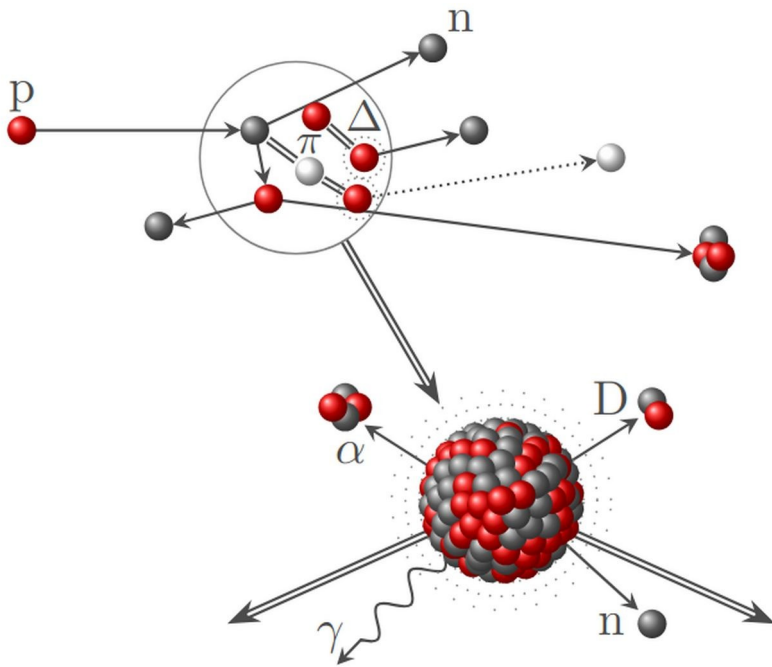
Callum Wilkinson, LBNL

On behalf of the DUNE
Collaboration



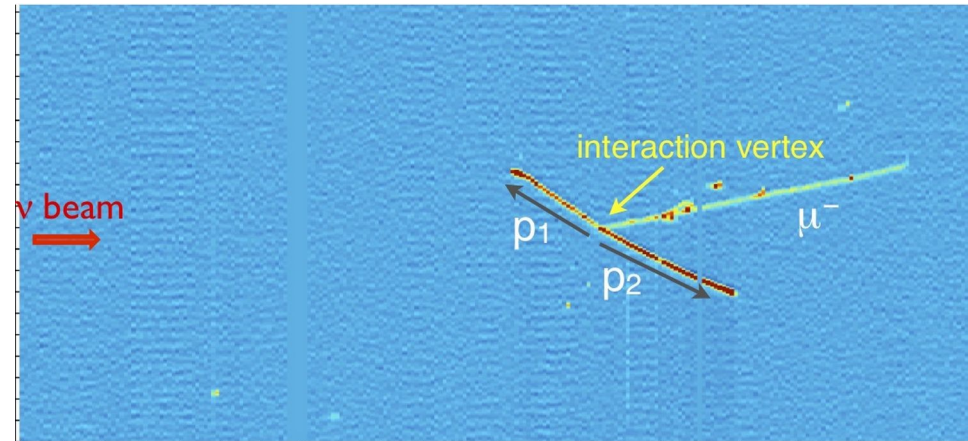
What's the problem?

- ν -A interactions poorly understood, low-energy nuclear physics is hard
- Difficult to design analyses to measure signals we don't simulate *at all*... particularly if we also don't know where to look...



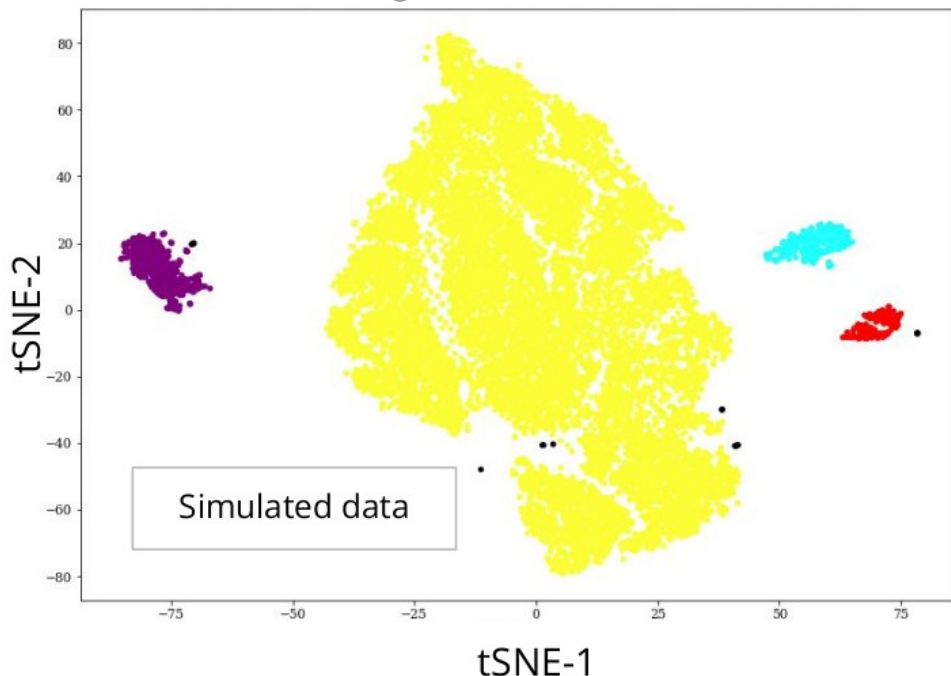
Sources of inspiration

- ArgoNeut hand-scanning: observed “back-to-back” protons
- Hypothesis: short range correlated n-p pairs in the nucleus
- Led to new theory and measurements



PRD90 (2014) 012008, arXiv:1405.4261

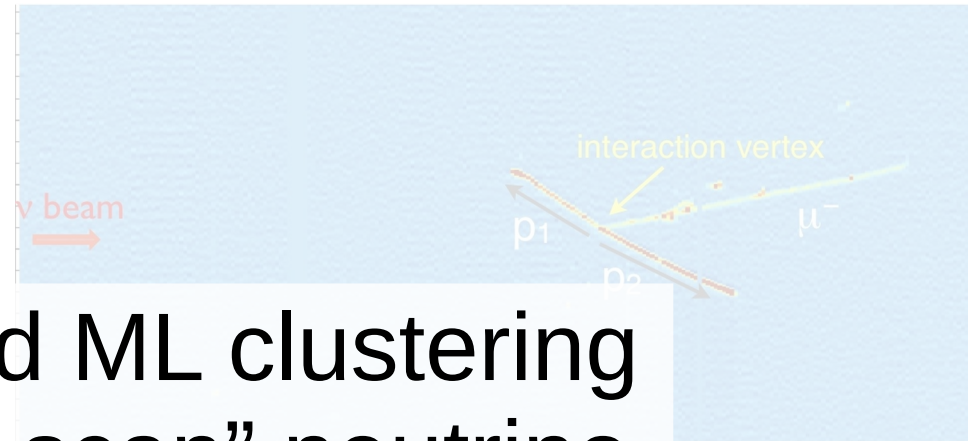
C. Amarasinghe, CoSSURF 2022 talk



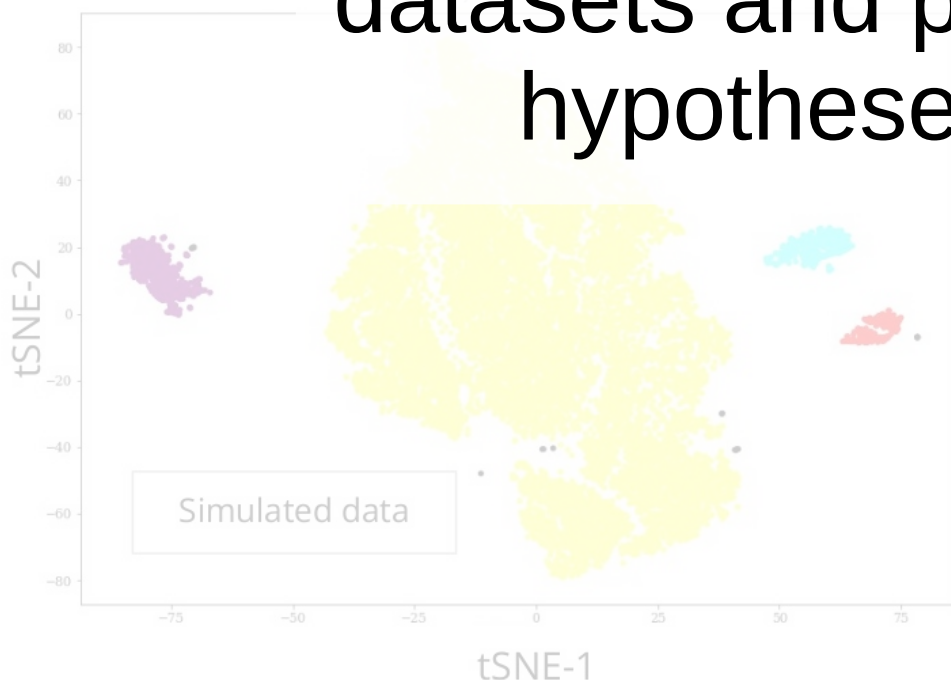
- LZ studies looking at both simulation and early calibration data
- Use dimensionality reduction ($30 \rightarrow 2$) to look for unexplained clusters
- Example: cyan had an unexpected bug in the pulse shape model

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Can unsupervised ML clustering algorithms “hand scan” neutrino datasets and provide interesting hypotheses for testing?



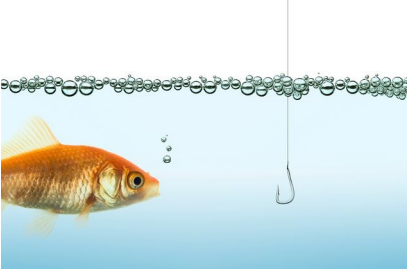
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Unsupervised clustering for ~~neutrino~~ **cosmic** event exploration

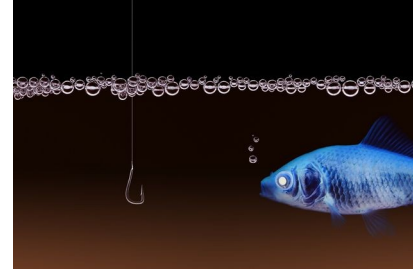
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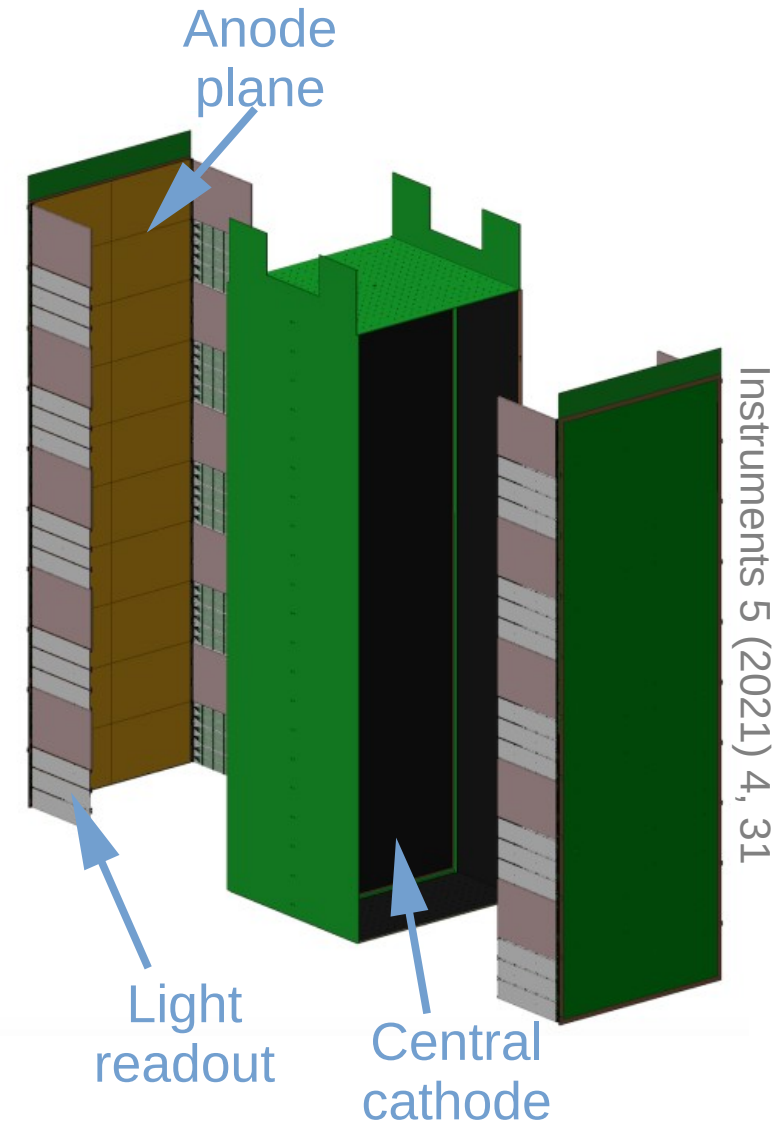


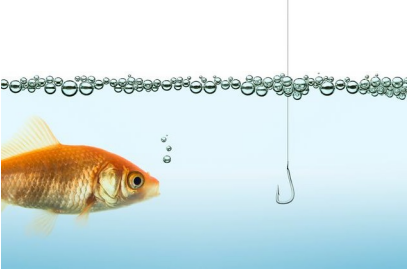


A pilot study with FSD data

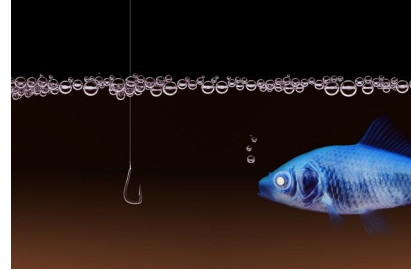


- Playing with neutrino data is *discouraged*, so this is a pilot study using cosmic data
- Data+simulation here is from the DUNE ND “full scale demonstrator” (FSD) prototype:
 - 3m x 1m x 1m LArTPC
 - ~4x4 mm pixel charge readout (anode)
 - Raw charge deposits projected onto the anode
 - Separated into events by timing
- **Task:** group visually or physically similar events to enable data-driven exploration

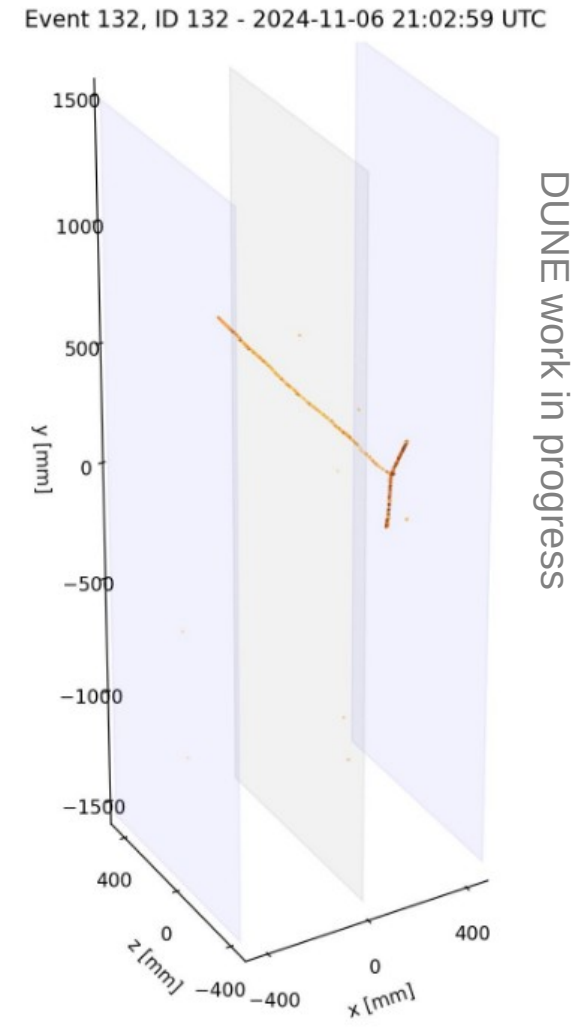




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A pilot study with FSD data

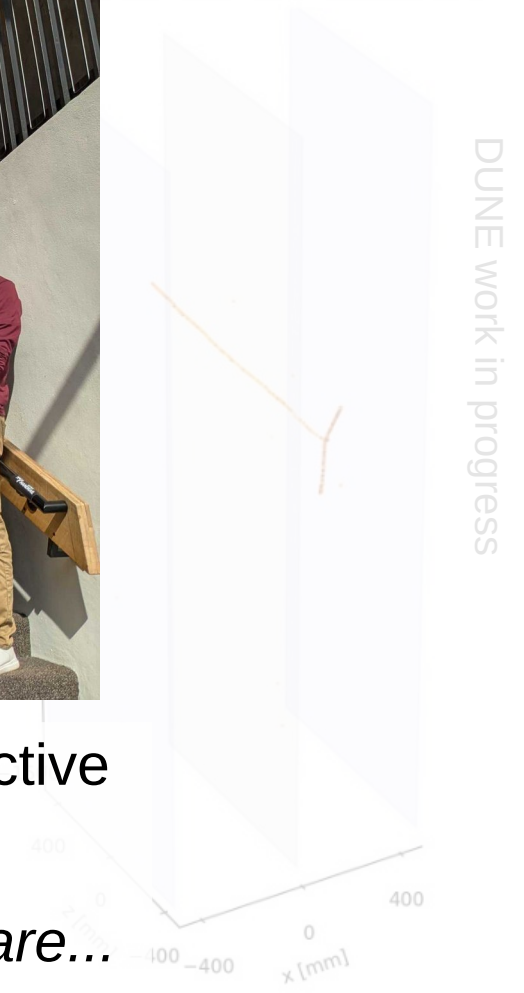
- Playing with new data so this is a pilot
- Data+simulation “full scale demo”
 - 3m x 1m x 1m
 - ~4x4 mm pixels
 - Raw charge
 - Separated in



- **Task:** group visit This work relies entirely on the collective work of lots of people!

Detector, data, simulation and software...

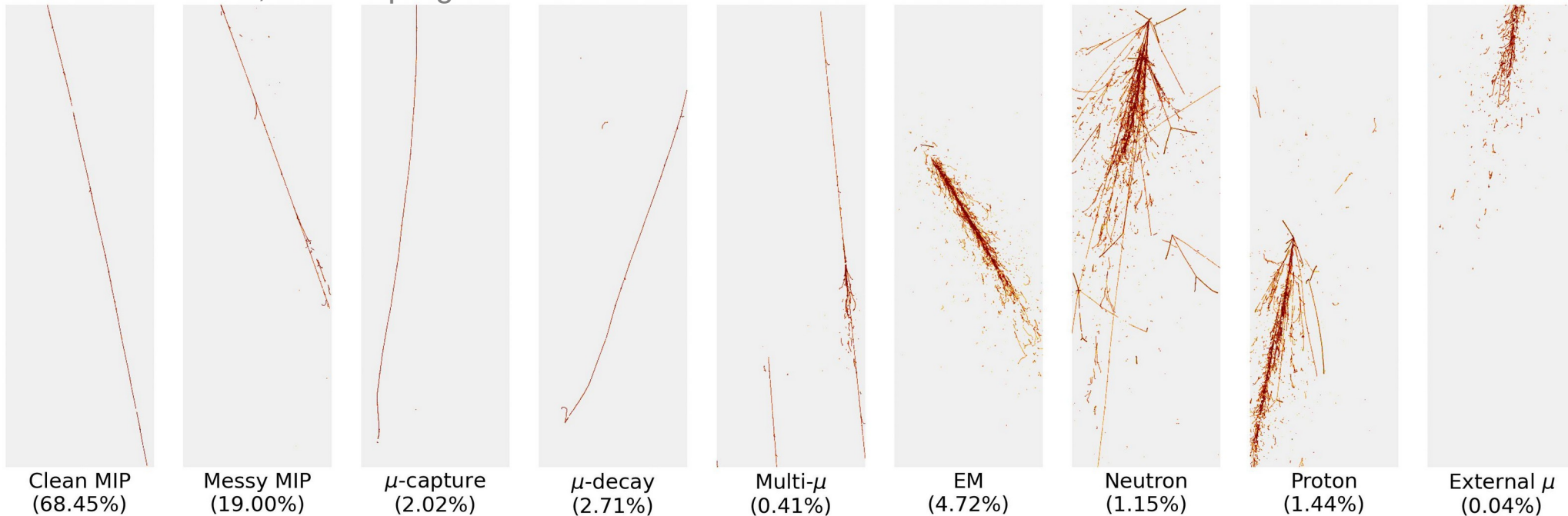
132 - 2024-11-06 21:02:59 UTC



Example FSD cosmic simulation

- Example simulated cosmic events, with very rough truth labels
- I'm going to use the simulation later to see whether the data-driven clustering is doing “sensible” things
- But, these labels are not used in training at all

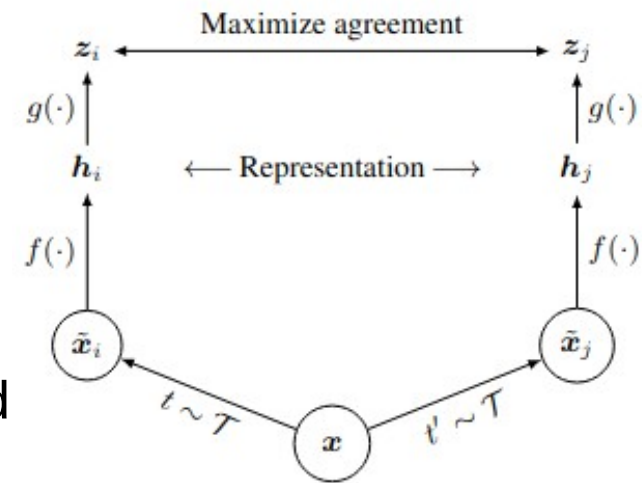
DUNE simulation, work in progress



Methods 1: SimCLR (arXiv:2002.05709)

General idea: train a model to distinguish between “similar” and “dissimilar” data without labels through augmentation invariance

- 1) Take a batch of N images
- 2) Augment each image twice → **positive pair**
- 3) Pass each image through an encoder
- 4) Project encoded features to a latent space with MLP
- 5) Use NT-Xent loss to pull **positive pairs** together, and use other images in the batch as **negative pairs**



$$\ell_{i,j} = -\log \frac{\exp(\text{sim}(z_i, z_j)/\tau)}{\sum_{k=1}^{2N} \mathbb{1}_{[k \neq i]} \exp(\text{sim}(z_i, z_k)/\tau)}$$

Positive pair (points to the numerator)

Negative pairs (points to the denominator)

$$\text{sim}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) = \frac{\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{v}}{\|\mathbf{u}\| \|\mathbf{v}\|}, \tau \text{ is a "temperature" hyperparameter}$$

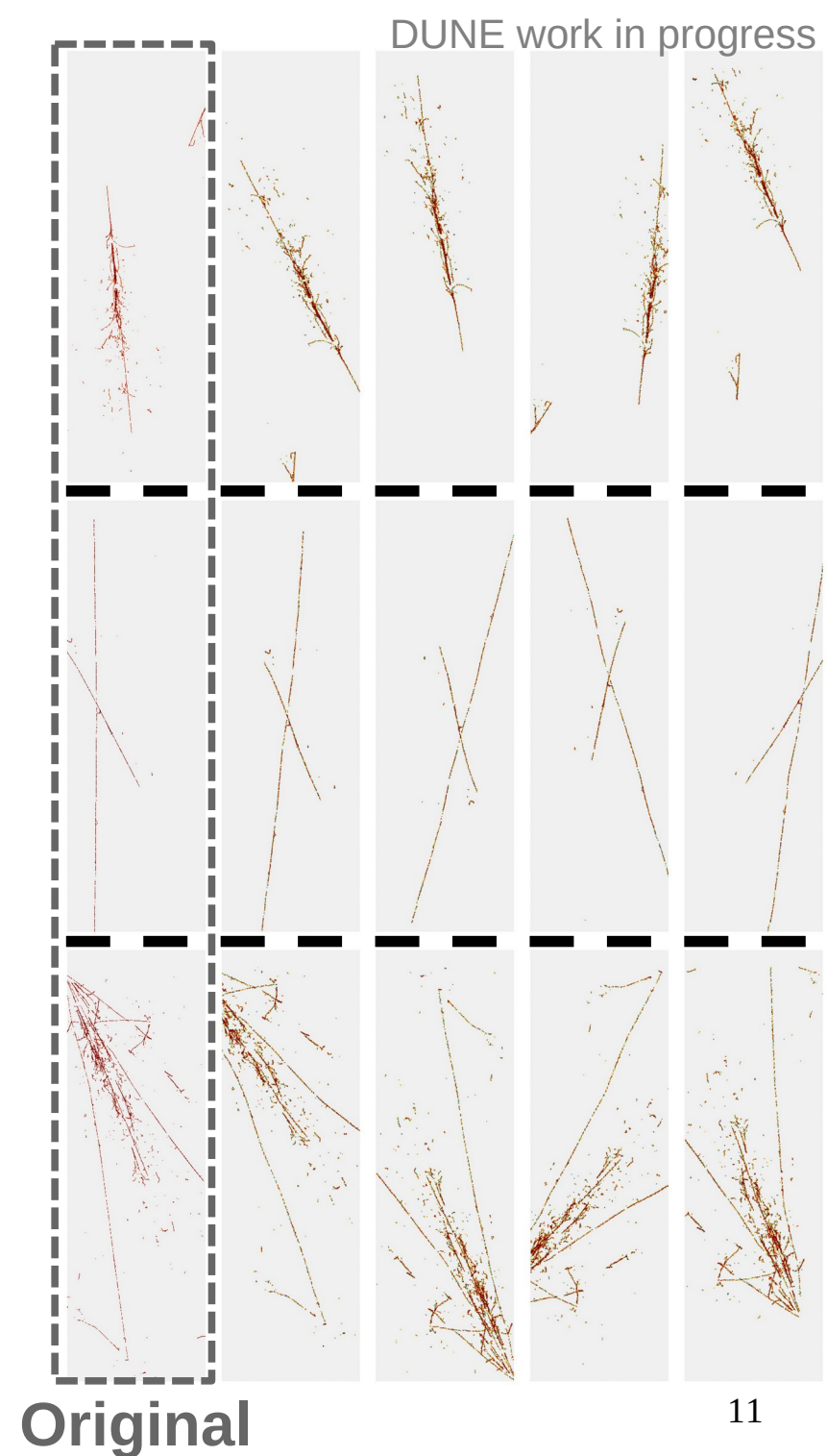
Augmentations

Aim: prevent the model from learning to use certain features, *e.g.*, *rotational invariance through random rotations*

Challenges: FSD aspect ratio and the large extent of many images

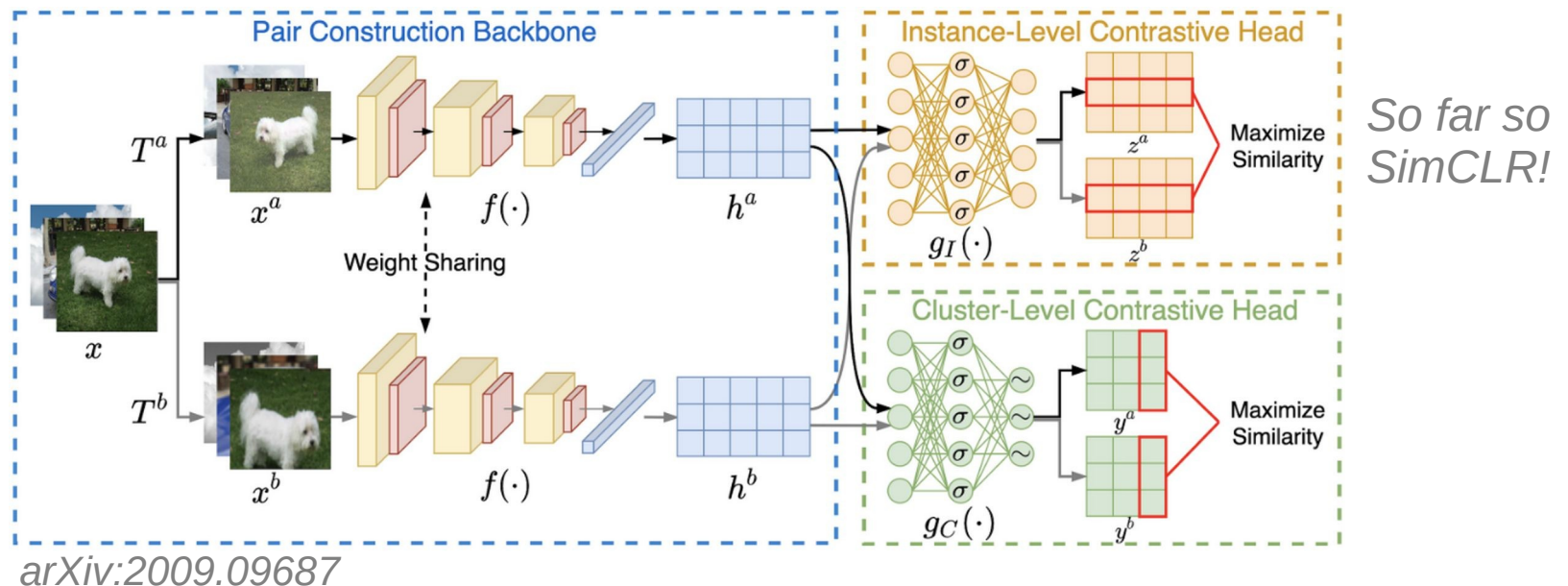
Use a variety of operations including skews, flipping, rotations, distortions, dropping blocks of pixels, ...

Full list in backups, I'm hiding a ***lot*** of trial and error here



Methods 2: Contrastive *Clustering*

(arXiv:2009.09687)



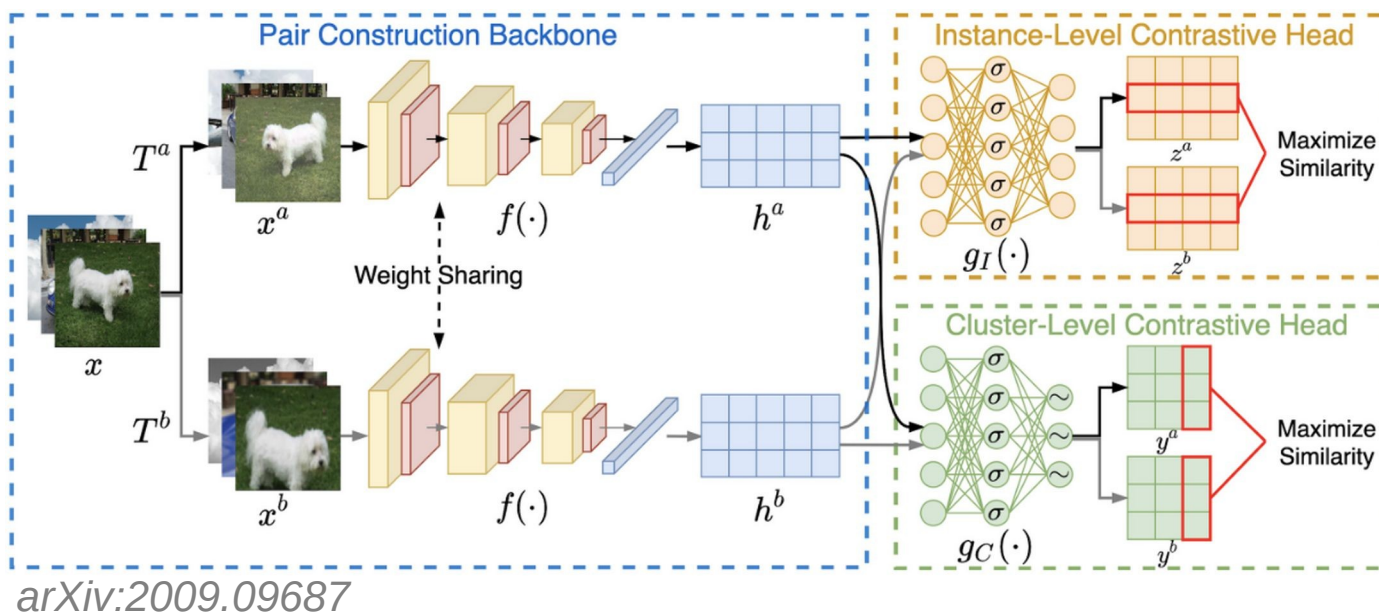
Extends SimCLR with a *clustering* head which produces soft *cluster* assignments, + compares those across the two augmented batches



(Two-layer) MLP that takes
output from the CNN
→ 64D latent space

NT-Xent term in the loss

Input two
augmented
batches of
images



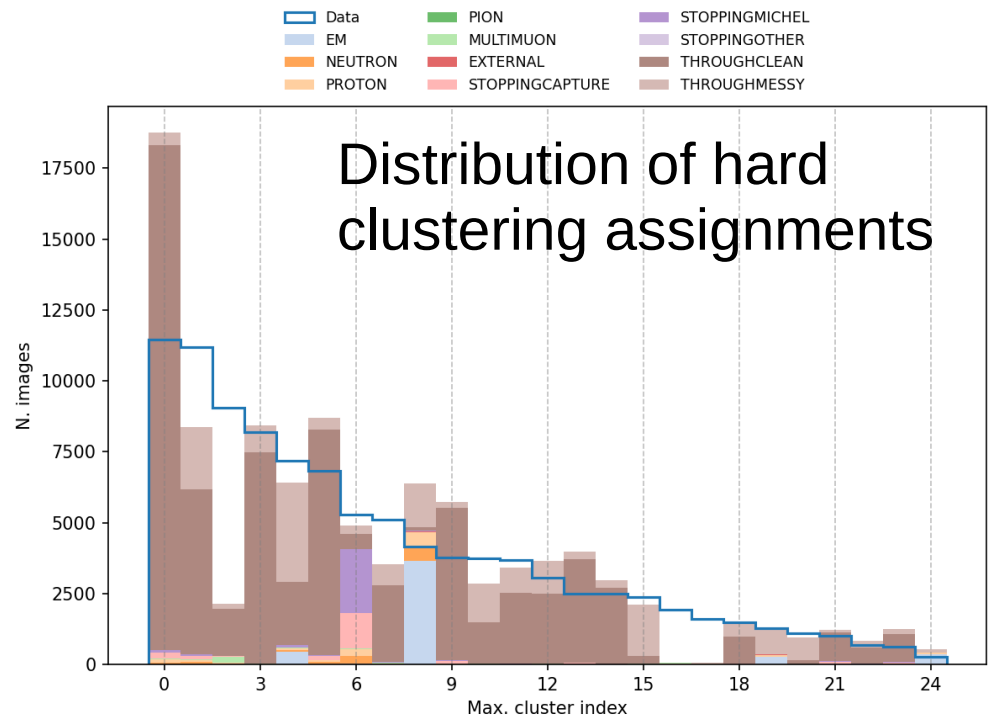
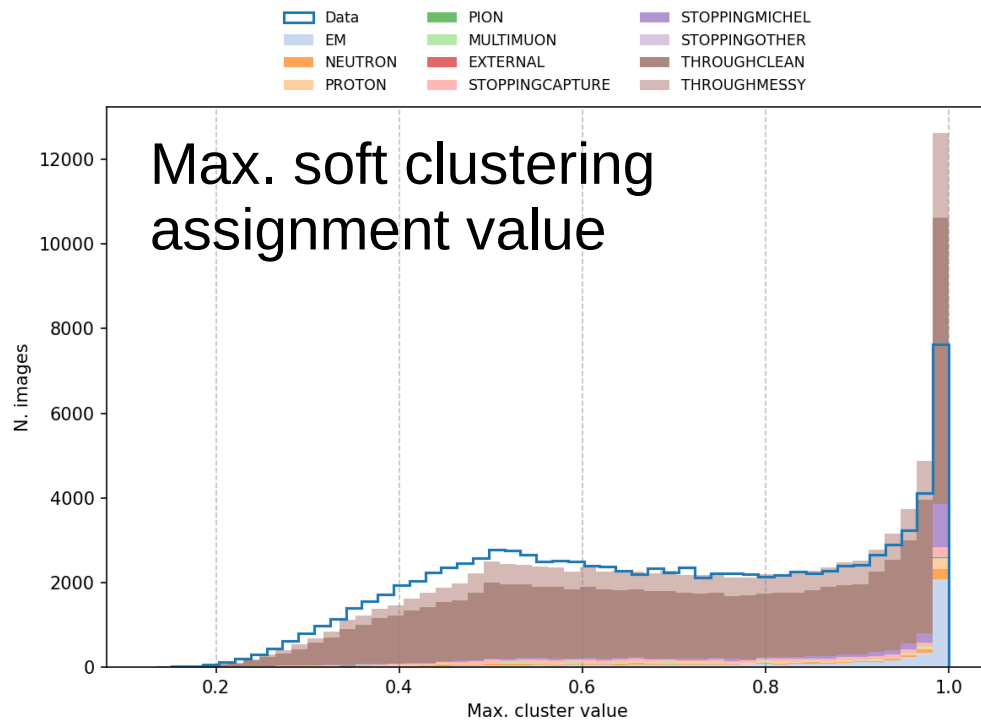
Sparse CNN with (6x) 3x3 downsampling
and fully convolutional layers
→ Global pooling for output

(Probably deeper than it needs to be)

(Two-layer) MLP + softmax,
outputs soft cluster assignments

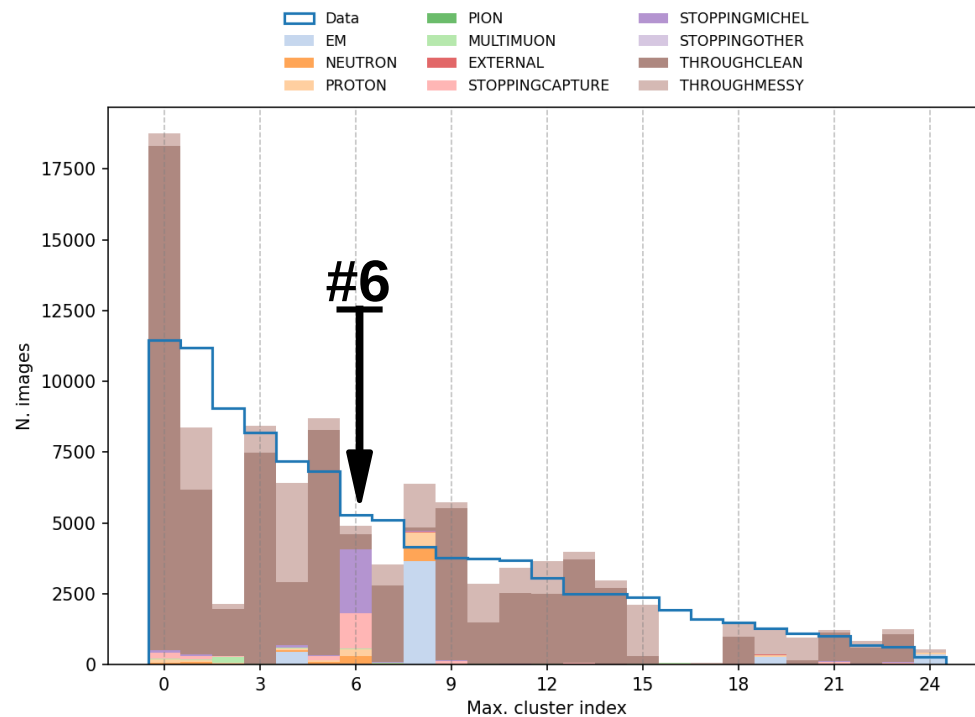
Adds NT-Xent + small entropy
term to the loss

Training results ($N_{\text{cluster}} = 25$)



- Trained with 5M **data** images (possibly overkill)
- After training, pass 100k new data and 100k simulation images through the encoder + clustering head
- Hard cluster index = max soft clustering assignment

Clustering results: the good

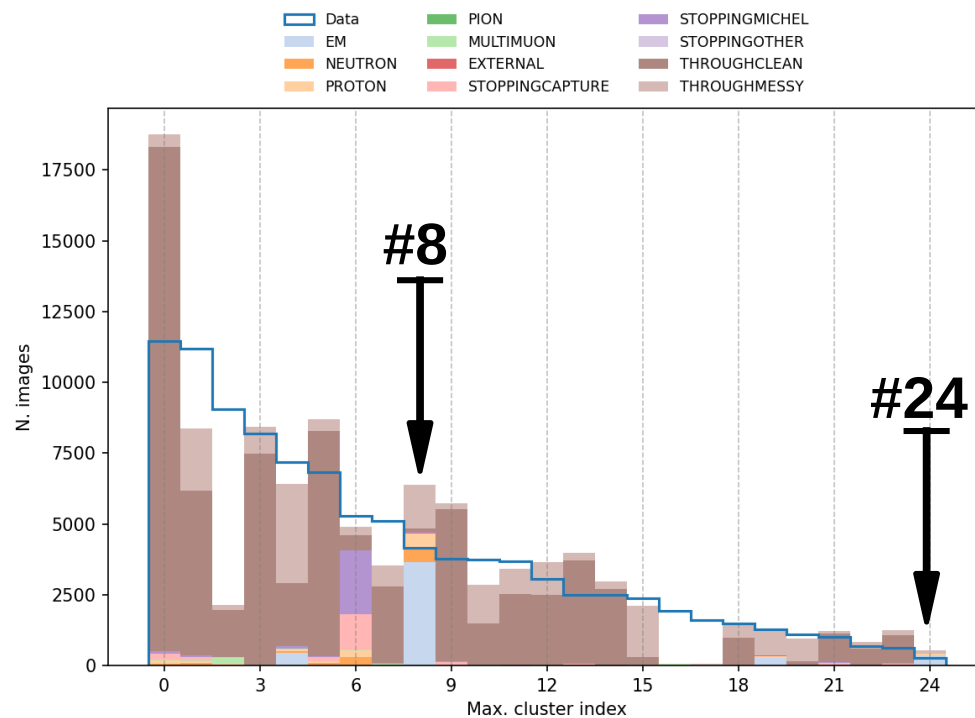


#6 Data events



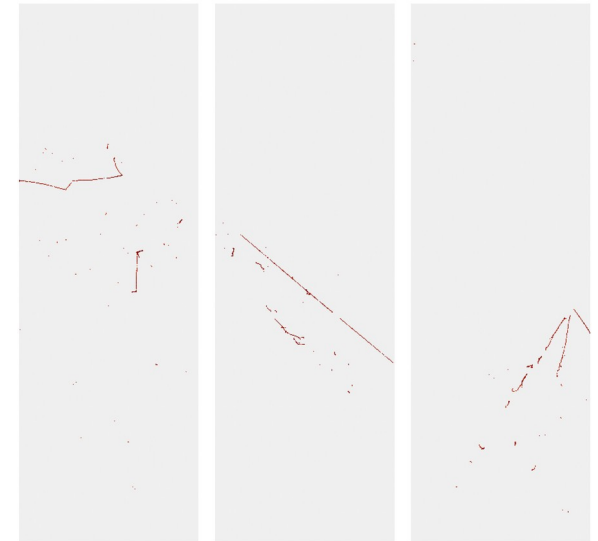
- **Data** cluster 6 *appears* to correspond to stopping muons in simulation
- Randomly chosen examples from data look consistent with that interpretation

Clustering results: the good (2)



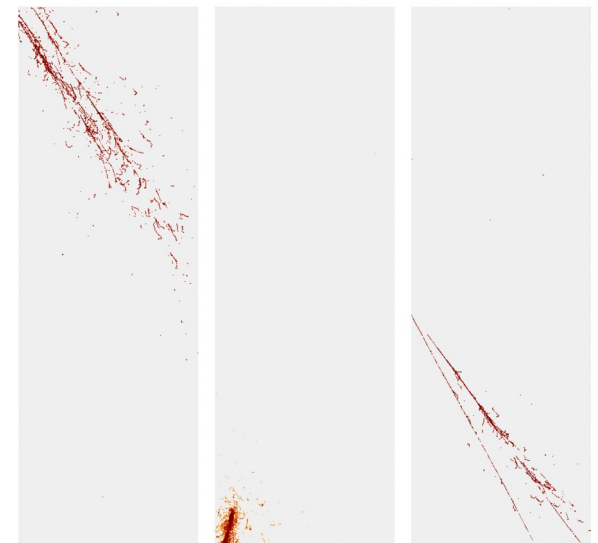
- *Most* non-muon induced events in simulation appear to correspond to two data clusters
- Those clusters also appear to have meaningful differences

#8 Data events



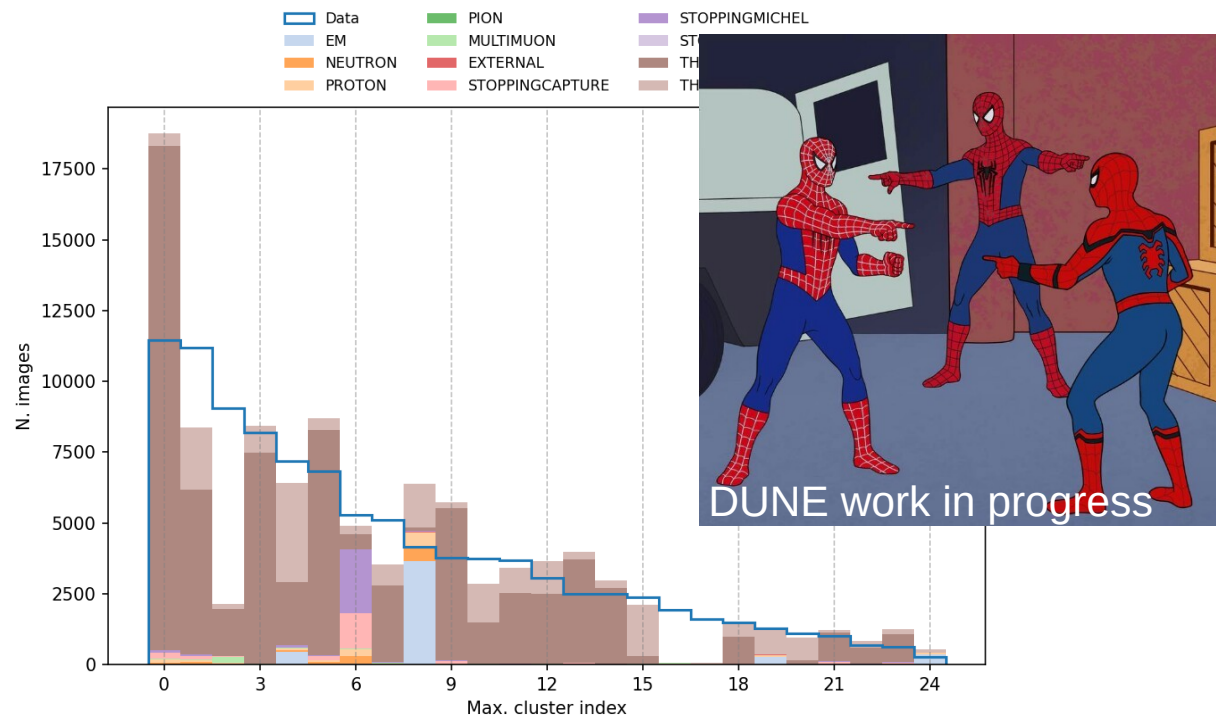
DUNE work in progress

#24 Data events



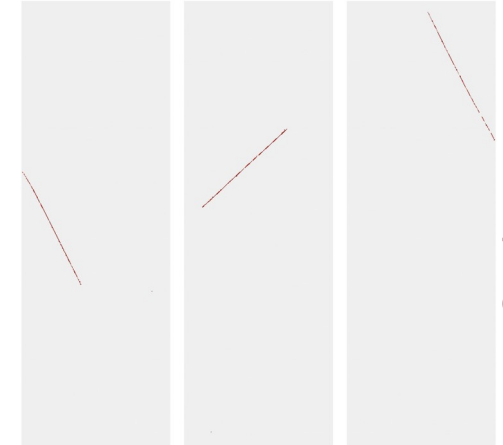
DUNE work in progress

Clustering results: the bad



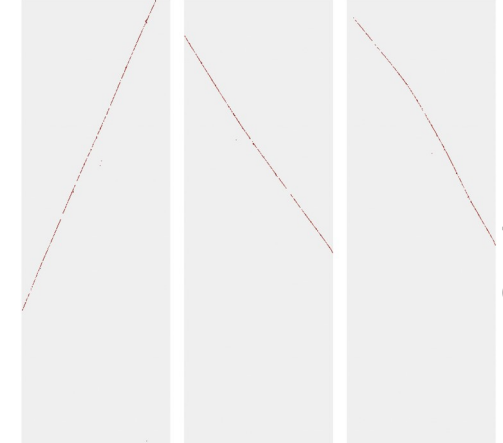
- “Clean” through-going simulation tracks correspond to multiple data clusters
- Generally these clusters have less confident assignments
- My guess is that it's due to the imbalance between event types

#0 Data events



DUNE work in progress

#7 Data events



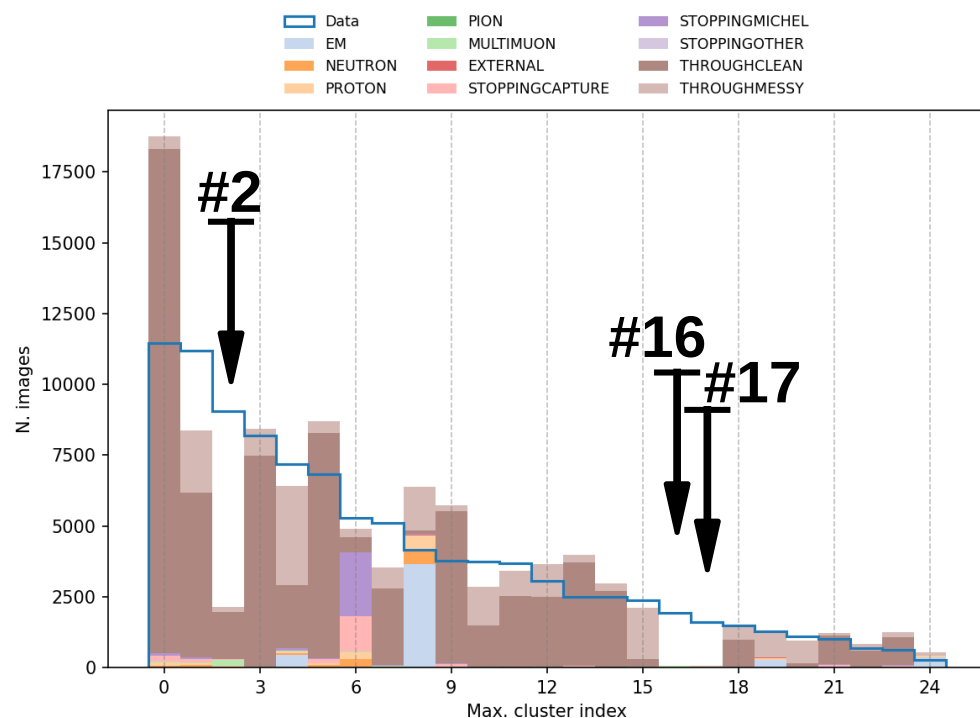
DUNE work in progress

#13 Data events



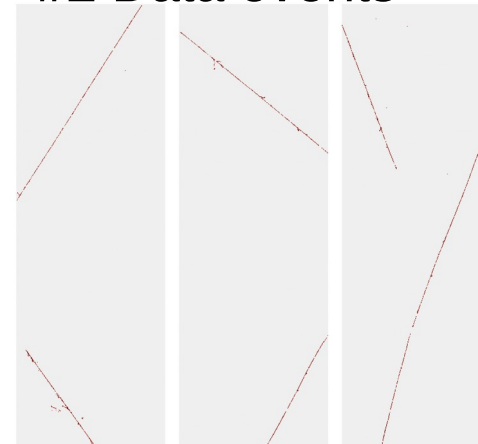
DUNE work in progress

Clustering results: the interesting



- Some data clusters don't seem to correspond to simulation labels
- Likely caused by event separation failures in data, to be investigated...
- But a fun observation from this method

#2 Data events



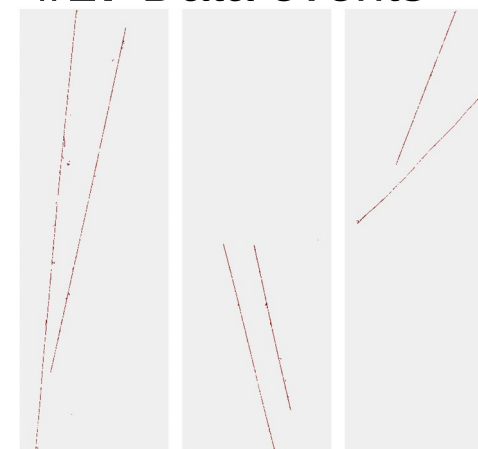
DUNE work in progress

#16 Data events



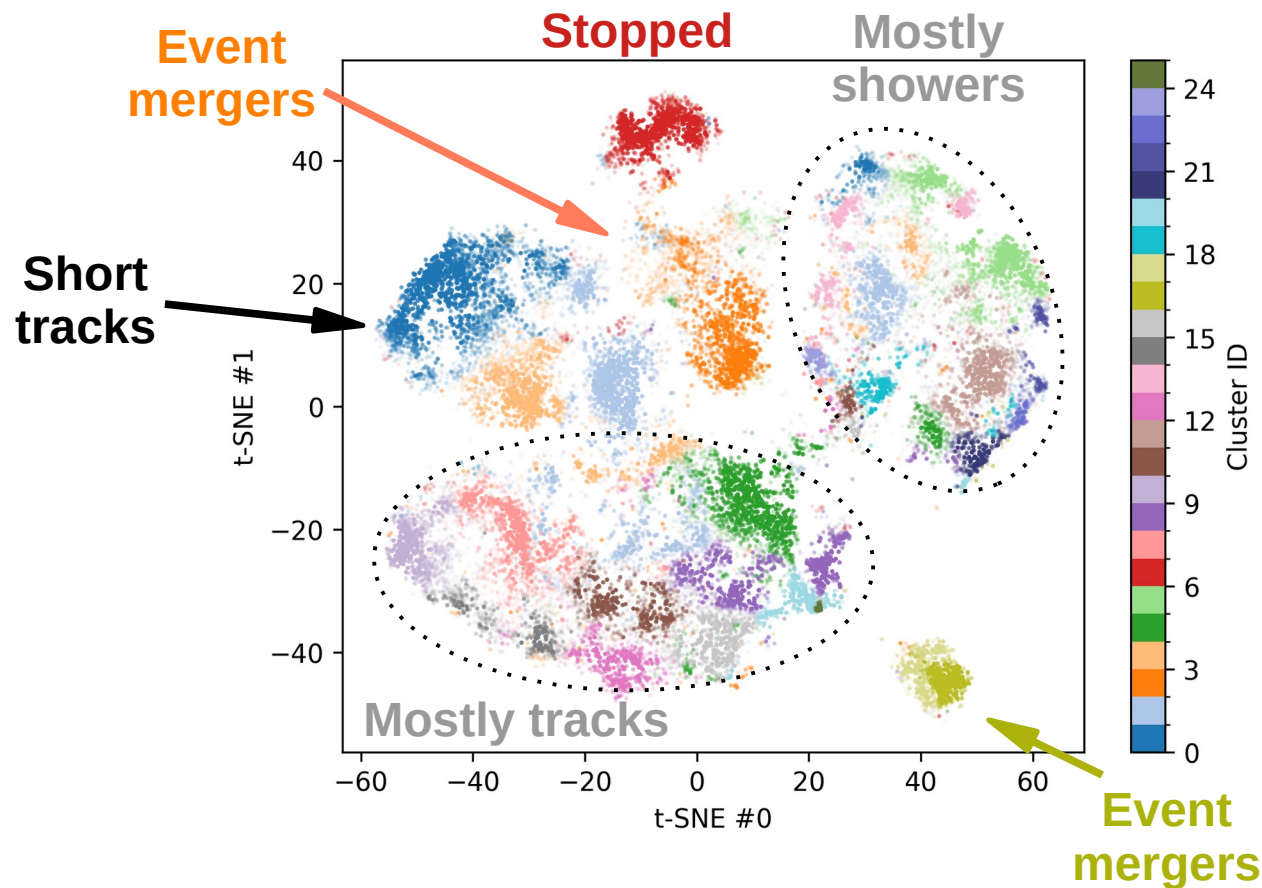
DUNE work in progress

#17 Data events



DUNE work in progress

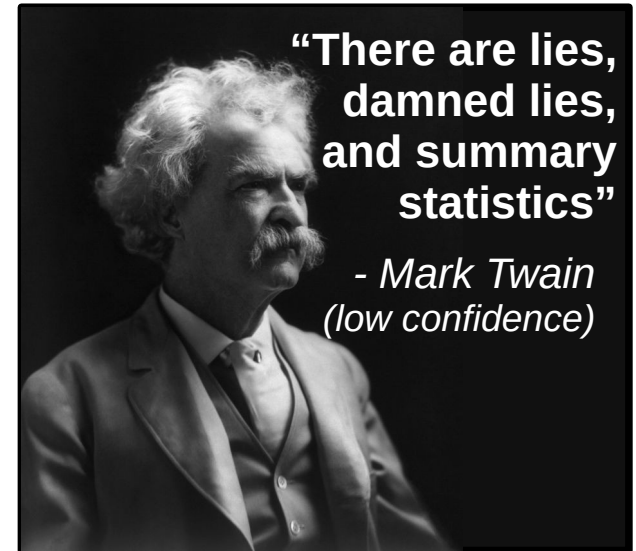
T-SNE for comparison



- 64D instance contrastive head output $\rightarrow$ 2D
- Colourscale from clustering head hard assignments

Outlook

- Investigated using unsupervised clustering for event exploration
- Qualitative assessment:
 - Clear clusters of different “event types”
 - Including some interesting surprises
 - All generally sensible
- But, quantitative metrics are a challenge, lots of trial and error involved
- **Method improvements**: improved clustering techniques exist, refined architecture/augmentations, 3D images...
- **Physics improvements**: move to neutrino-scattering simulation
- Suggestions very welcome!

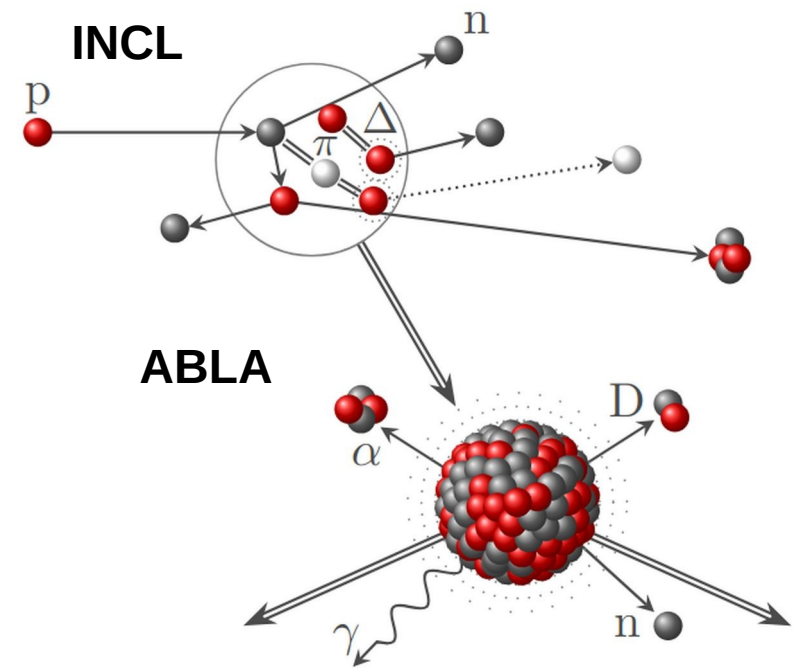
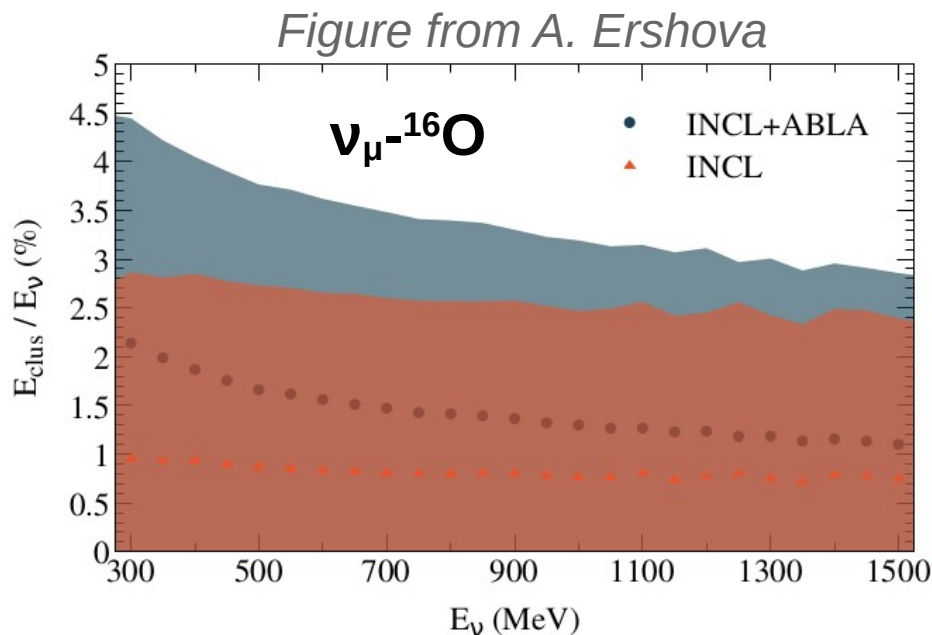


Questions?



Missing data: nuclear de-excitation

- Liege intranuclear cascade (INCL) +ABLA nuclear de-excitation model
- Significant fraction of E_ν goes to very low energy cluster production
- Energy loss to clusters increases with nuclear size (only ^{16}O shown)

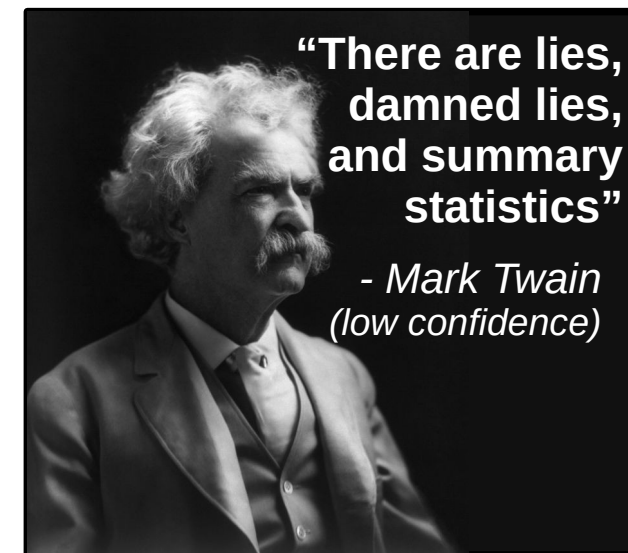


- Bias to both Hyper-K and DUNE energy reconstruction...
- No available data constraints, limited theory inputs, but a major impact

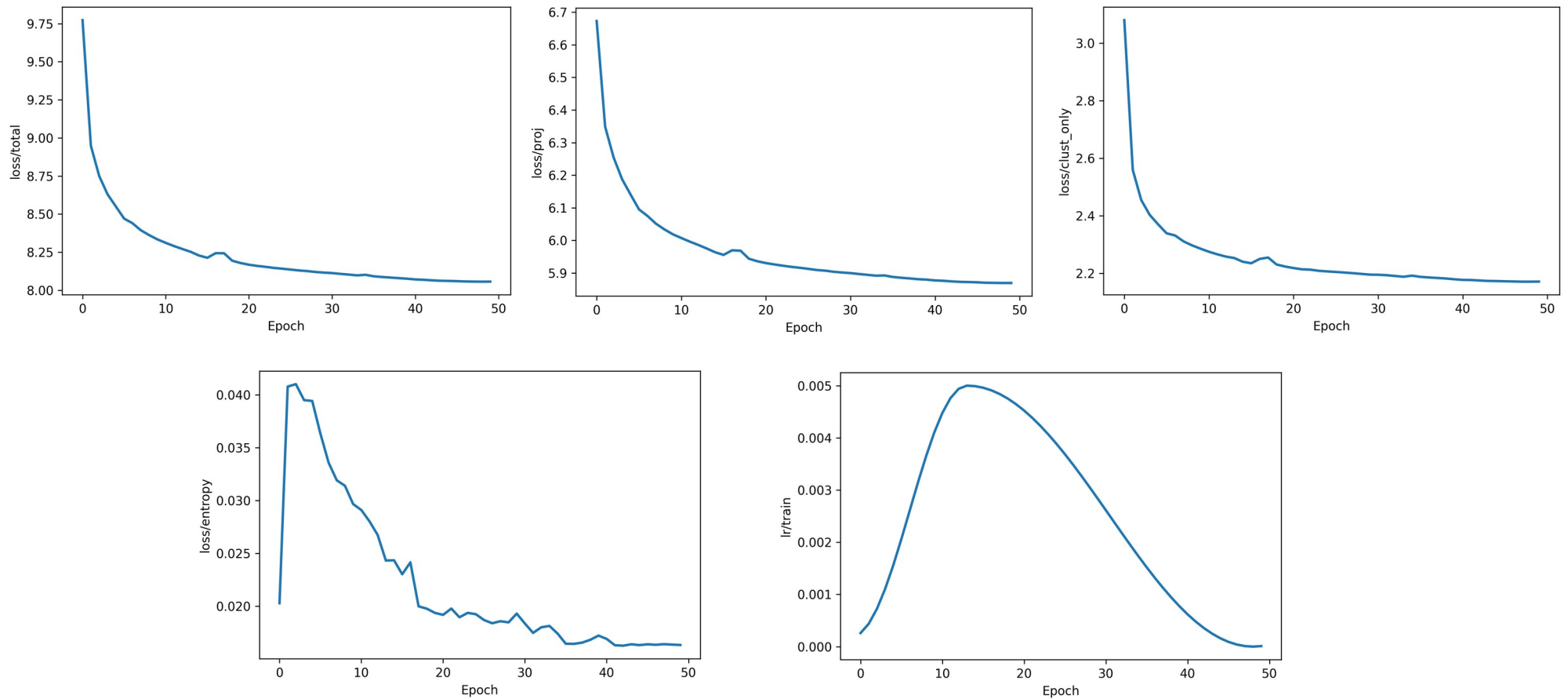
[Phys. Rev. D108, 112008](#)
[Phys. Rev. D106, 032009](#)

Assessing clustering performance

- There are many tunable hyper parameters, the most important are:
 - The augmentations used
 - The number of clusters
 - Strength of entropy term
 - Temperatures in the two NT-Xent contributions to the loss
- But, *quantitative* tuning of these is difficult. Unlabeled cluster quality metrics exist, but can give misleading results:
 - Weak augmentations improve all metrics... because the model learns angular information
 - Small N. clusters perform better on all cluster separation metrics → but qualitatively fail completely
- Ideas welcome...



Training plots



5 million events, ~10 hours on 4 A100s

What is the CNN encoder structure?

To paraphrase: “ChatGPT please make this code dump into a nice table showing the model structure”:

Visual / Table summary

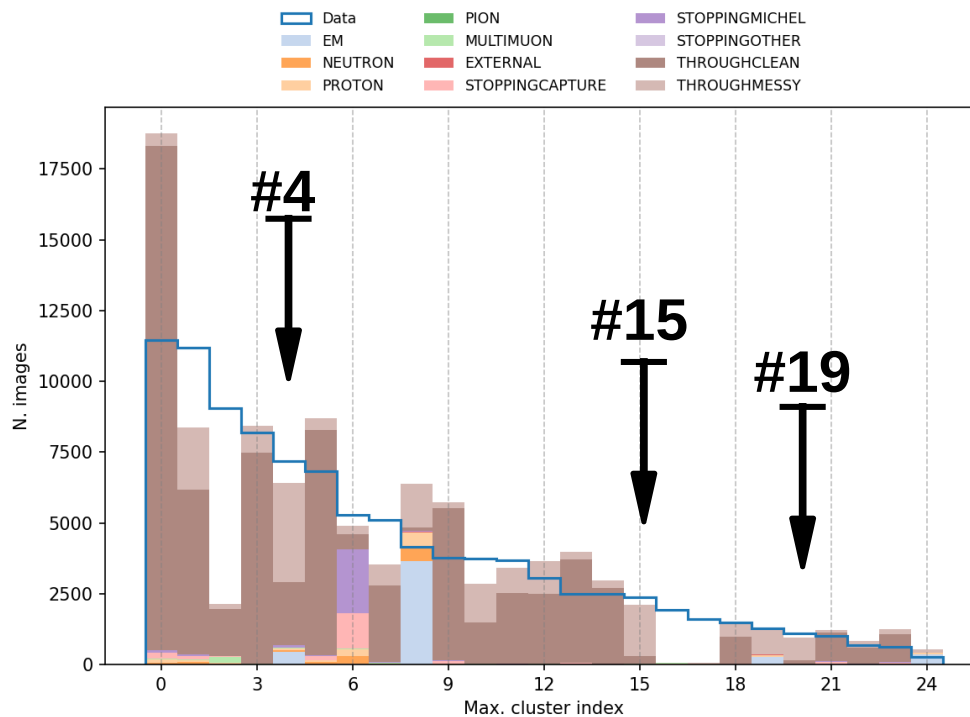
Stage	Operation	Channels	Spatial size (HxW)	Notes
Input	Sparse tensor	1	768×256	—
Block 1	Conv3×3 (stride 2), 2×Conv3×3	48	384×128	Initial downsample
Block 2	Conv3×3 (stride 2), 2×Conv3×3	96	192×64	—
Block 3	Conv3×3 (stride 2), 2×Conv3×3 + BN	192	96×32	—
Block 4	Conv3×3 (stride 2), 2×Conv3×3 + BN	192	48×16	—
Block 5	Conv3×3 (stride 2), 2×Conv3×3 + BN	192	24×8	—
Block 6	Conv3×3 (stride 2), 2×Conv3×3 + BN	192	12×4	Output features

Augmentation procedure

Series of operations which randomly:

- Zero out blocks of varying size:
 - 0–50 blocks of 5–10 x 5–10 pixels
 - 500–2000 blocks of 1–3 x 1–3 pixels
- Mirror image in x/y both in-place and globally
- Image shear in x and y (Gaus, $\sigma = 0.1$)
- Rotation (Gaus, $\sigma = 6^\circ$)
- Grid distortion:
- Scale image (Gaus, $\sigma = 10\%$)
- Scale all + individual charges:
 - +/-2% on the raw charge (Q)
 - +/-2% after taking $\log_{10}(1+Q)$
- Splat onto regular grid
- *Semi*-random crop to 768x256

Clustering results: the good again



- “Messy” through-going tracks are mostly sensibly grouped together
- The additional separation in data seems sensible, simulation labels very coarse

