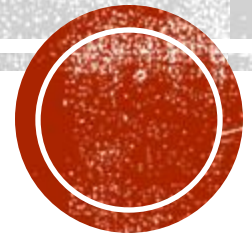


Monte Carlo Simulation and Differentiable Simulator in Particle Physics

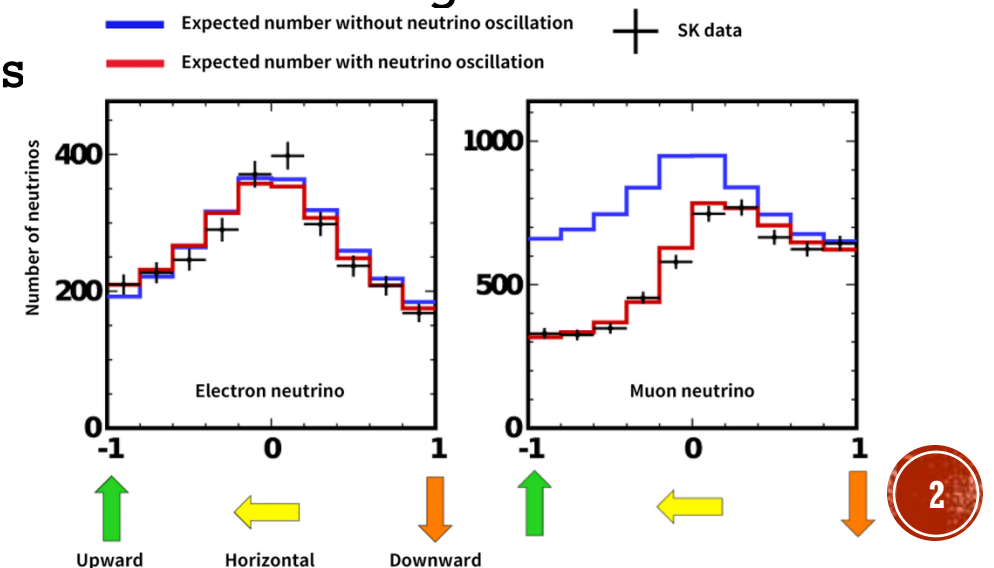
Ka Ming Tsui

kaming.tsui@ipmu.jp



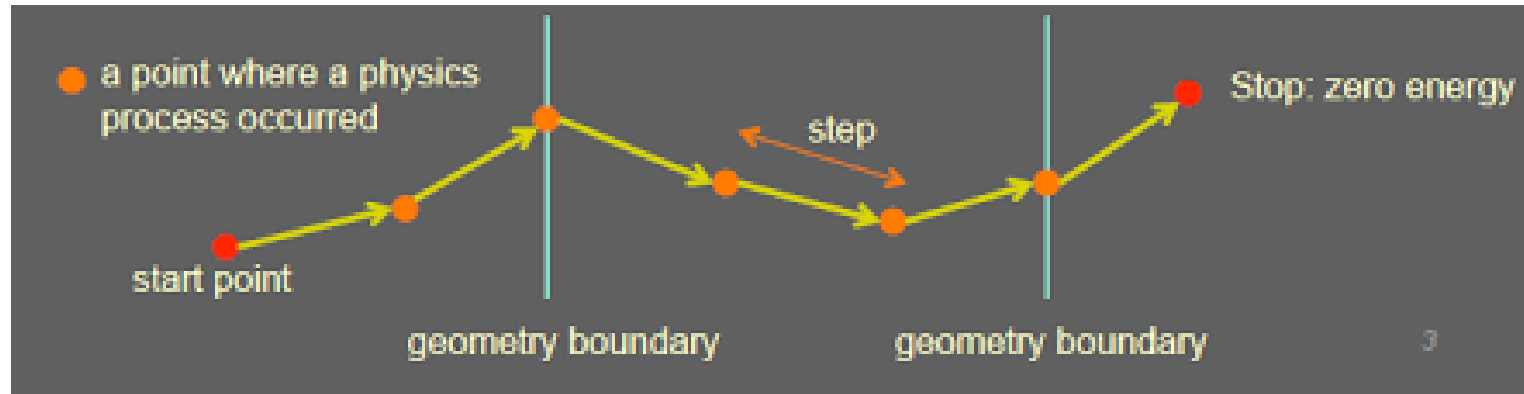
Why do we need simulation?

- Particle interactions are stochastic processes, analytic solutions are impossible
- Generate detector response with tunable parameters \leftrightarrow calibration
- Signal selection and background estimation
- Resolution, efficiency and acceptance of signal events
- Systematic uncertainties from inaccurate physics/detector modelling
- Produce training data for machine learning models
- Simulation vs. Real Data \rightarrow Physics measurements



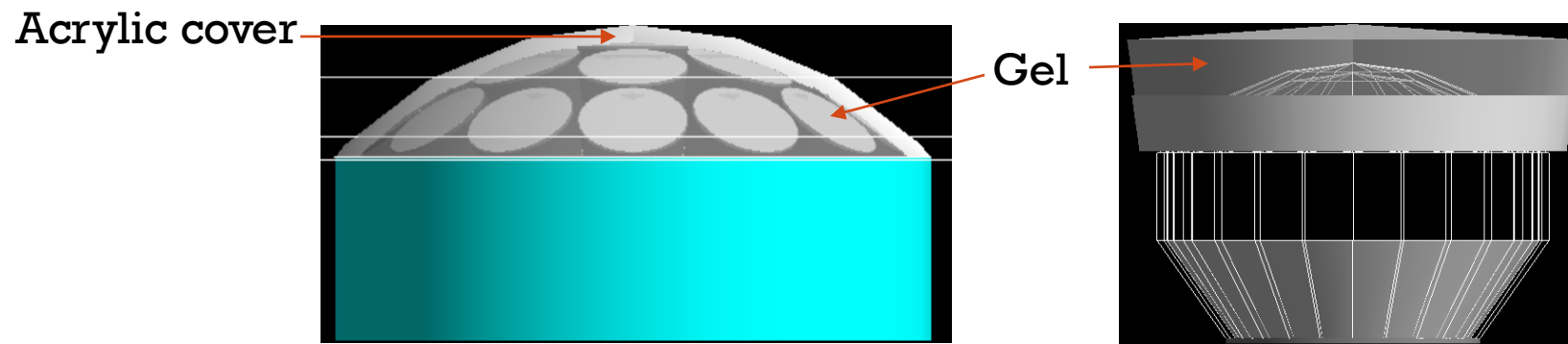
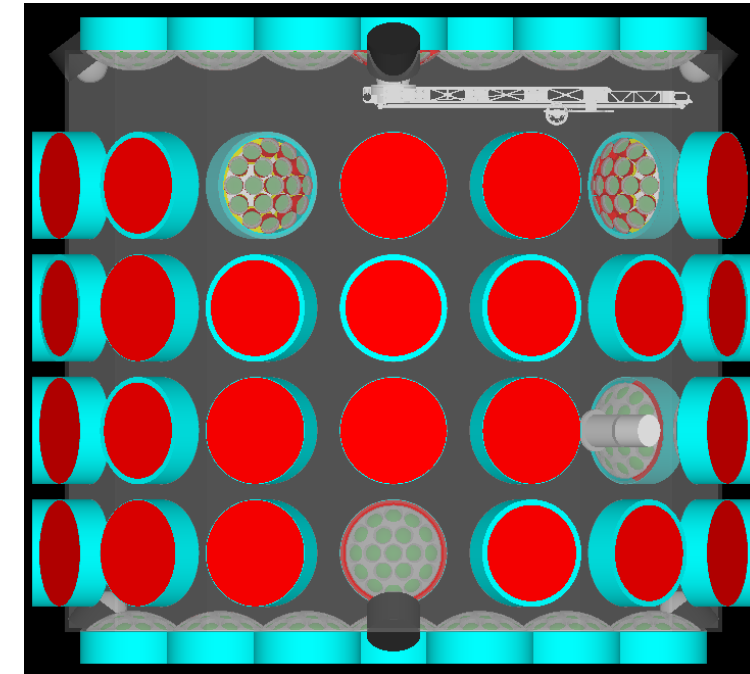
WCSim: Water Cherenkov detector Simulation

- Official simulation software in WCTE (CERN) and Hyper-Kamiokande (Japan)
- Geant4-based Monte-Carlo (MC) simulation software: full particle tracking from production to "dead"
- Basic ingredients
 - Geometry
 - Physics processes
 - Photomultiplier tube (PMT) electronic responses

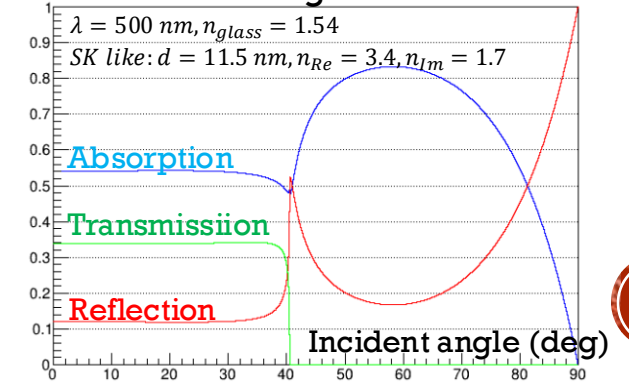


Geometry and material definition

- Pure water as target volume
 - Optimal Gadolinium (Gd) doping
 - Light absorption and scattering length from Super-Kamiokande (SK)
- Blacksheet to enclose detector
 - 10% reflectivity (Lambertian/diffuse)
- Central deployment system, beam pipe, camera housing
 - Reflective surfaces
- mPMT housing + gel + PMT glass cathode
 - Refractive indices and cathode thickness decides angular response



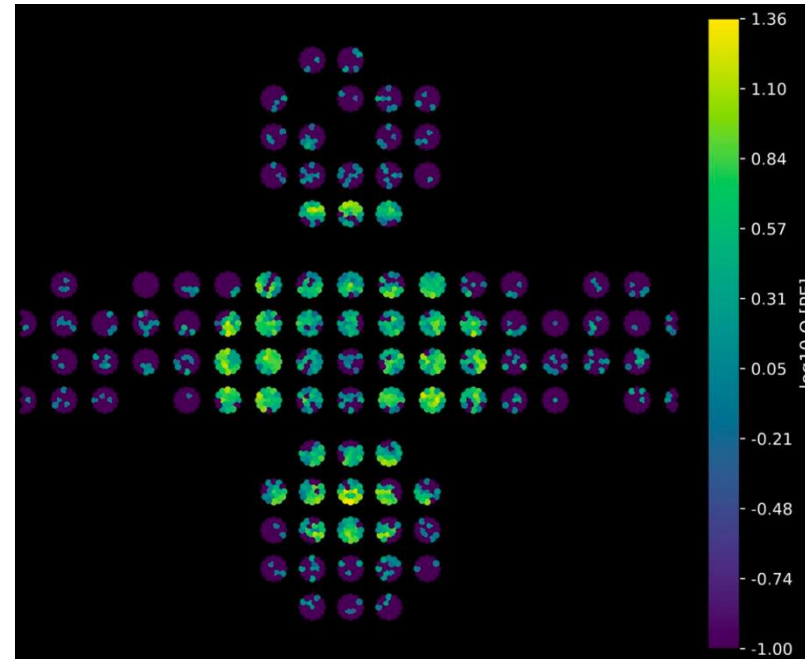
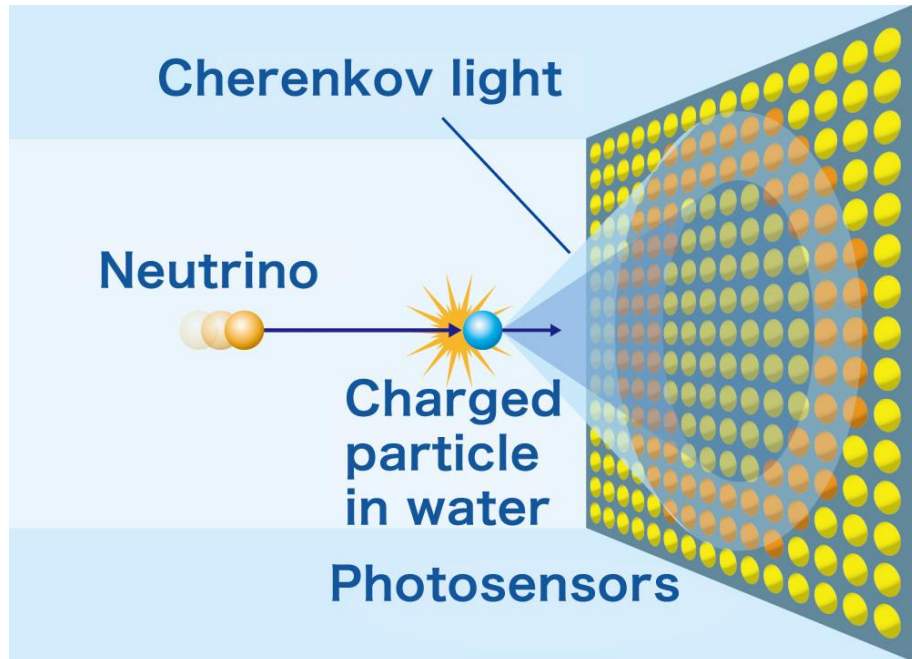
Photon reaching cathode surface



Physics processes

- GEANT4 default physics list FTFP_BERT(_HP)
 - Recommendation for collider physics and cosmic ray calibrations up to few tens of GeV
 - HP: high precision neutron models below 20 MeV
- Gd de-excitation gamma model
 - HP with photon evaporation model to enforce energy conservation, at the cost of distorting gamma energy spectrum
- Pion interaction model
 - Bertini intranuclear cascade model below 3GeV
 - cf. SK/T2K interfaces with NEUT cross sections used in FSI/SI
- **Optical photon propagation**

Water Cherenkov Detector principles



“T2K 2021 syst.”: [Phys. Rev. D 103, 112008](#)

| Error Source | % Error for CPV search |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| $\phi + \sigma$ (ND constrained) | 2.7 |
| $\phi + \sigma$ (ND unconstrained) | 1.2 |
| Nucleon removal energy | 3.6 |
| π re-interactions | 1.6 |
| $\sigma(\nu_e), \sigma(\bar{\nu}_e)$ | 3.0 |
| NC γ + other | 1.5 |
| SK far detector | 1.5 |
| Total | 6.0 |

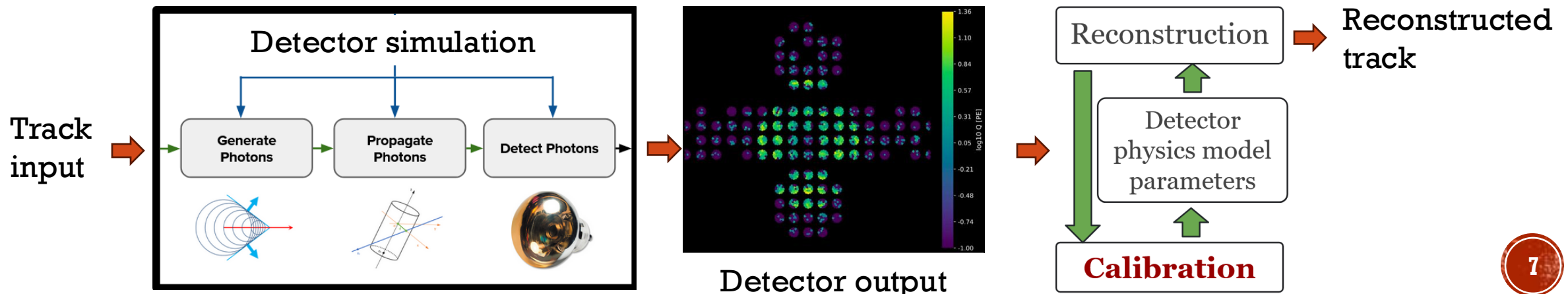
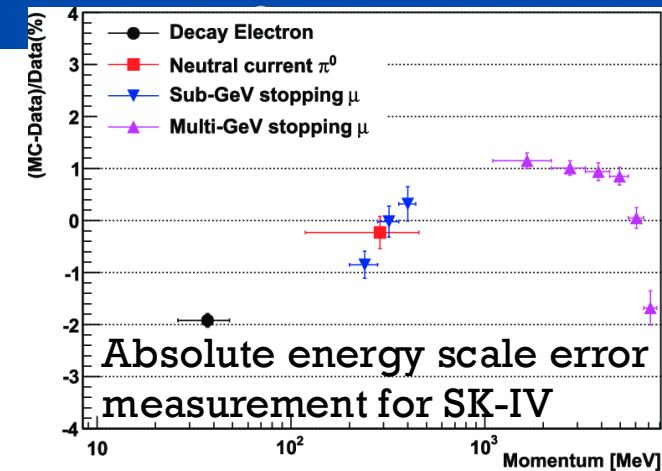
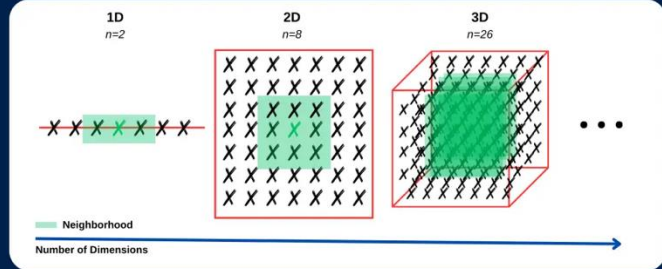
Goal for HK: 3%

- Traditionally use MC simulations tuned with calibration data to generate observables with which we use to analyze real physics data → Hard but necessary to reduce **detector uncertainties to <1%**

Detector Physics Modeling: Challenges

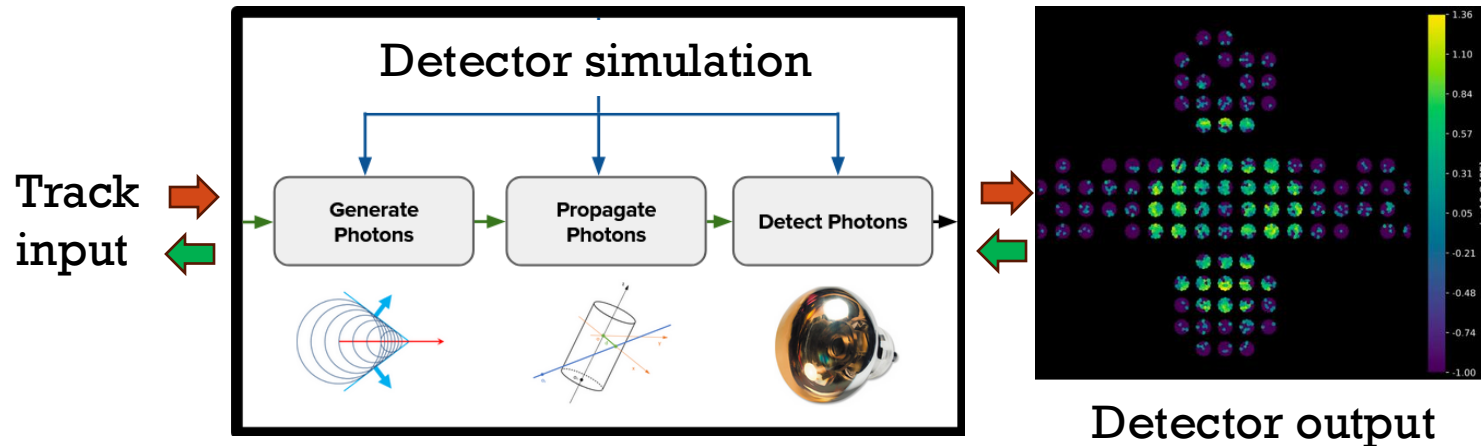
- **Quality** due to limitation in the traditional calibration
 - "one-by-one" (sequential) parameter calibration assumes weak/no correlations
 - Non-optimizable routines (e.g. look-up tables)
 - Not directly minimizing the "data-simulation discrepancy" metrics
- **Speed** for modeling a large and complex detectors without loss of quality
 - Seconds to minutes per event prevents high statistics $O(10^9)$ simulations
 - Faster = can unlock new analysis techniques (e.g. simulation-based inference)
- **Resources** for software development and maintenance
 - Same detector physics, separate software (simulation vs. calibration/reconstruction)

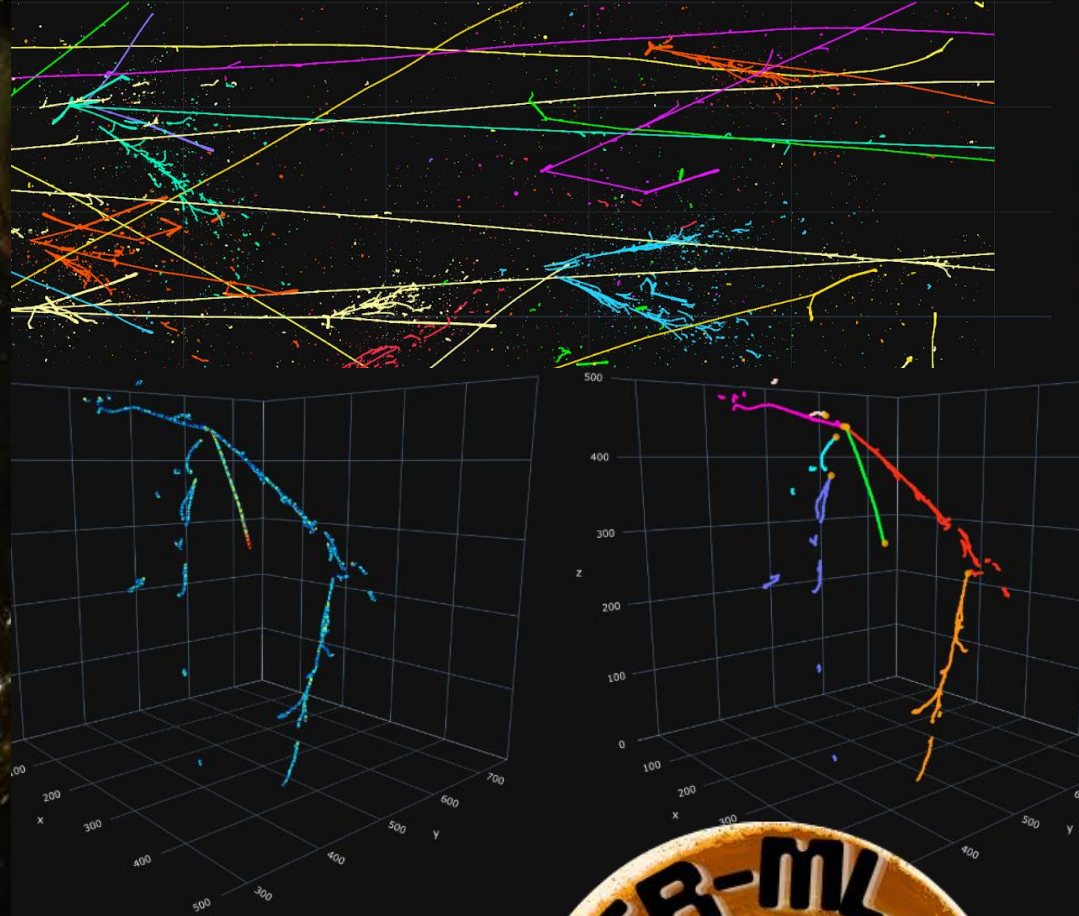
Curse of Dimensionality Example



Proposal: Differentiable Detector Simulator (DDSim)

- **Automation of physics model tuning (via backpropagation)**
 - **“End-to-end”**: gradient-based optimization using calibration and physics datasets
 - **Interpretable**: analytical physics models for well-understood physics
 - **Flexible**: neural representations to incorporate complex features in real data
 - **Fast**: utilization of modern computing accelerators (e.g. GPUs)
- Proof of concept: **Differentiable Optical Detector Simulation**
 - OpticSiren, LUCiD





CIDeR-ML Collaboration



SCHOOL OF SCIENCE
THE UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO



東京理科大学
TOKYO UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE



Institute of
SCIENCE TOKYO



UNIVERSITY
OF MINNESOTA



Stanford
University



Tufts
UNIVERSITY

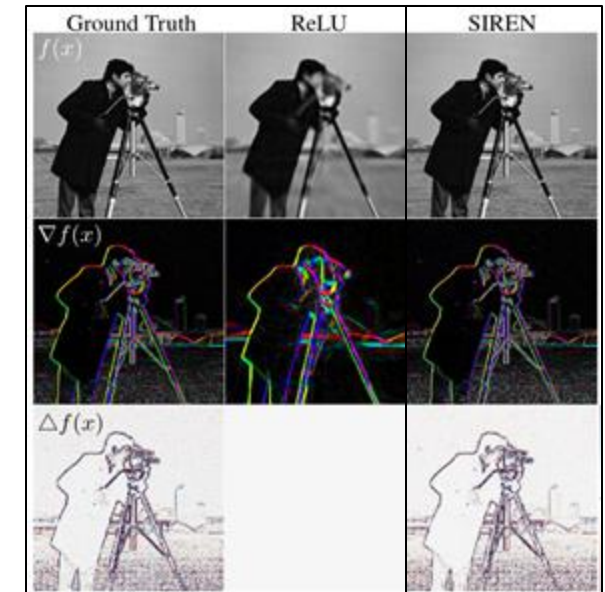


OpticSiren

- **Differentiable surrogate model for Optical processes**
- **~ Look-up Table**: a database of per-PMT photon “visibility” for binned positions/directions
 - Scales poorly for a large detector
 - Created with simulation. Difficult to tune with data
- **Siren**: fully connected deep neural network with sinusoidal activations
 - Implicitly defined, continuous, differentiable signal representations
 - “smooth” = model the underlying physics gradient
 - Optimizable directly on real calibration dataset!

Siren

Sinusoidal Representation Network

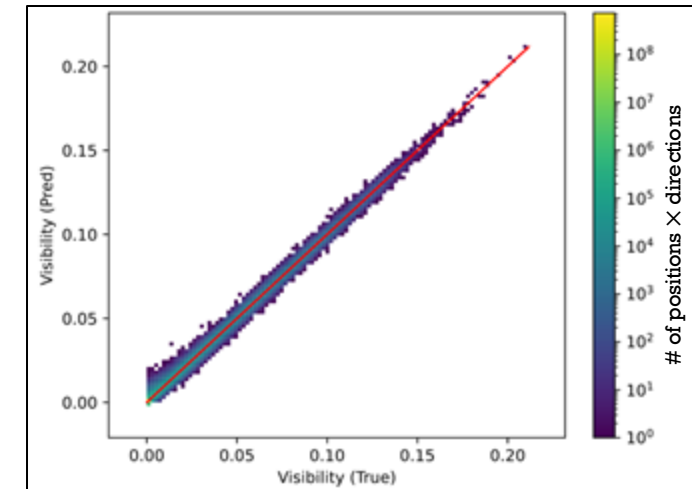
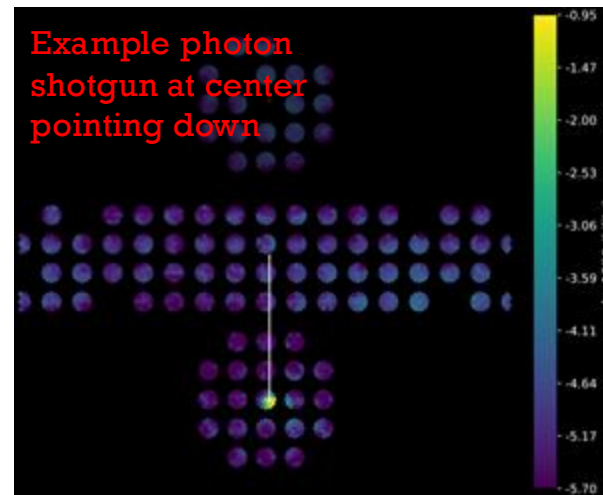
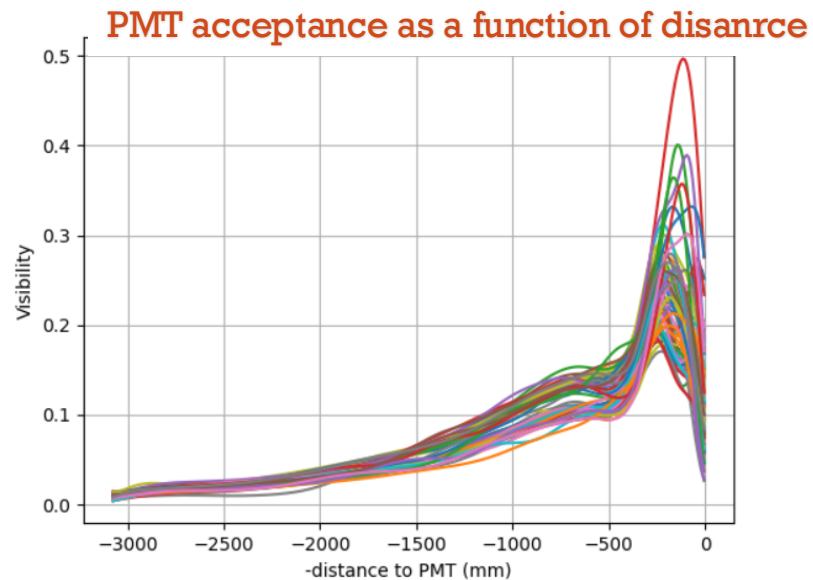


Can better represent underlying distributions and their derivative compared to other networks

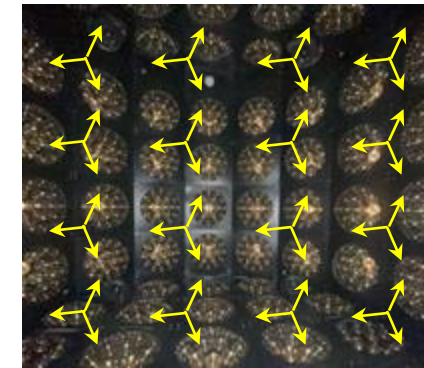
Training and validation

- Demonstration in WCTE (cylinder of length ~ 3 m)
- Simulate PMT response (~ 2000) with WCSim for $O(1M)$ photon starting position \times direction
→ Look-up table as training data
 - Spatial/angular resolution matched with PMT spacing

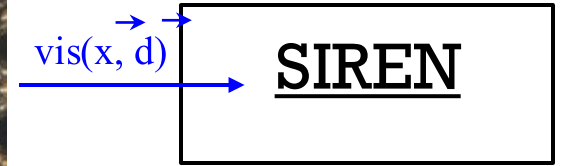
- Direct check of physical behavior



visibility: probability of observing 1 photon from some position in detector



Conventional photon libraries are discrete and sampled



Provides continuous and differentiable photon library

Photon Propagation

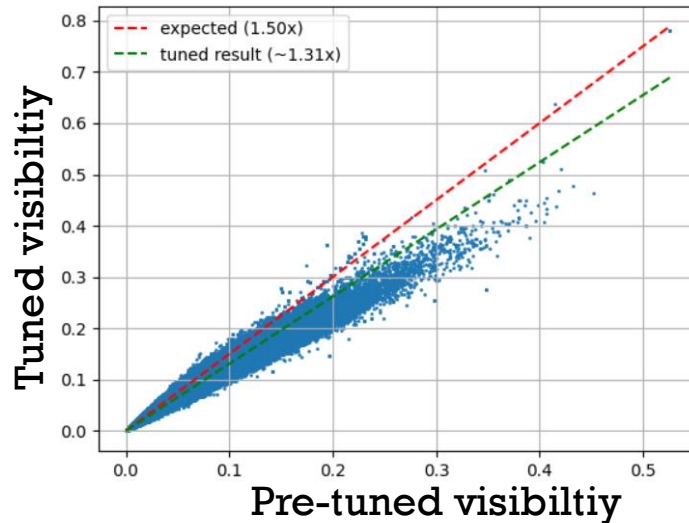
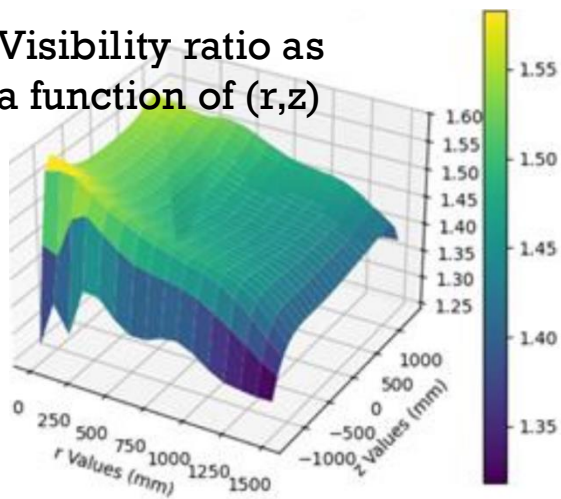
Calibration

- Fine-tuning with (fake) calibration data
 - Fixed isotropic light sources: “overfit” around the given positions
 - On going work on cosmics → span whole detector

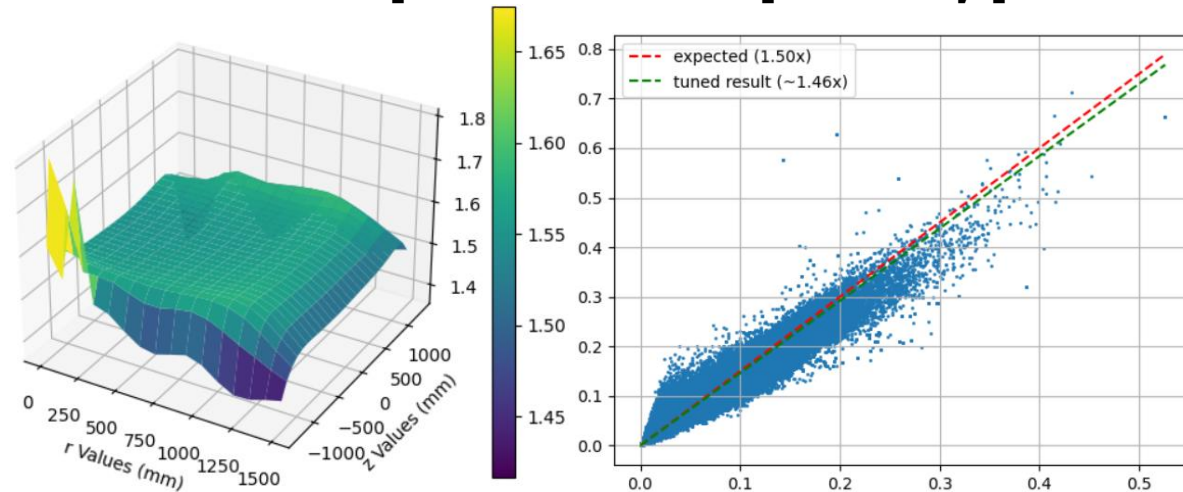
Fake calibration data with charge $\times 1.5$

Case 1: 3 isotropic sources at (0,0,0), (0,0,-1m), (0,0,1m)

Visibility ratio as a function of (r,z)

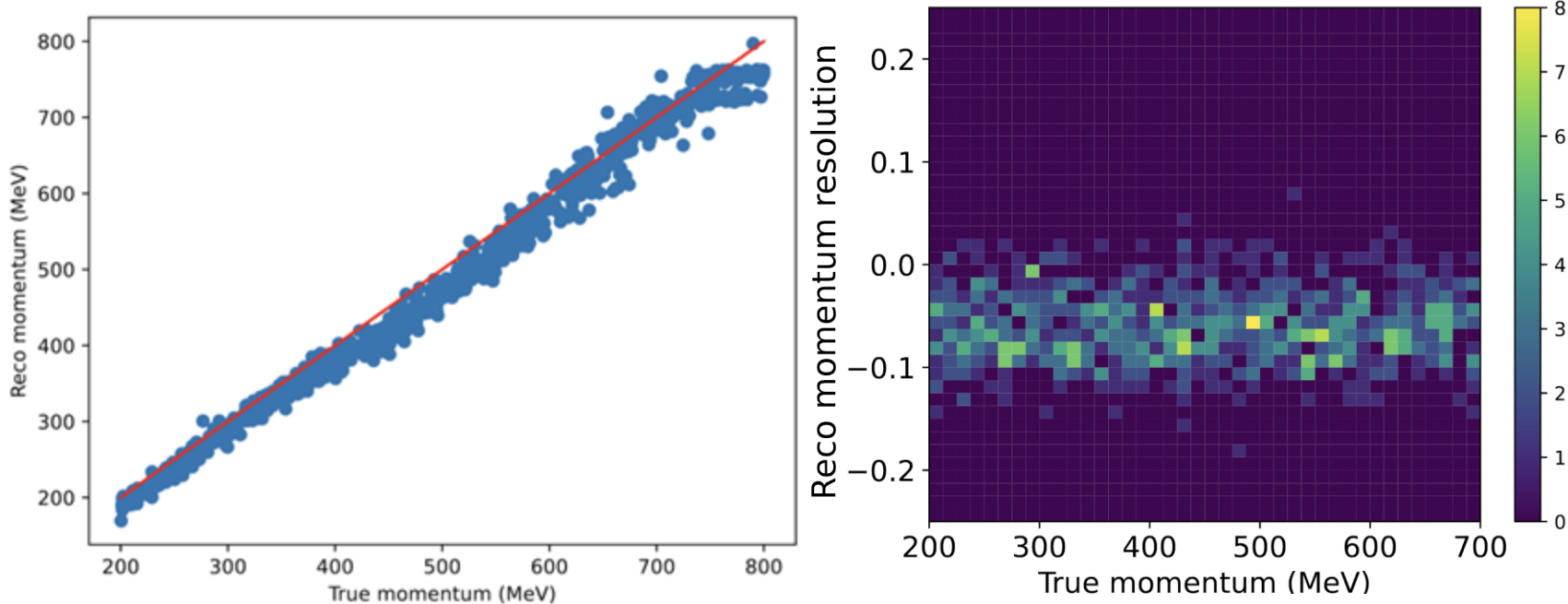


Case 2: 126 isotropic sources at 14 z-pos \otimes 9 xy-pos



Reconstruction

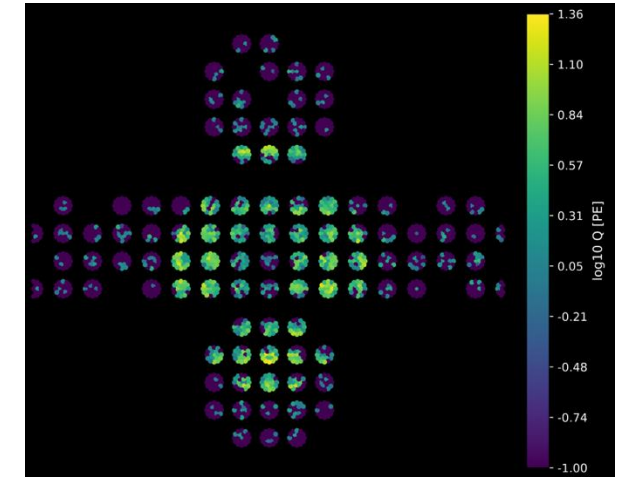
- Connect the **OpticSiren** with another differentiable model of Cherenkov photon production (Cherenkov Siren)
→ optimization of track parameters
- Muon momentum reconstruction with **OpticSiren**, on WCTE MC data



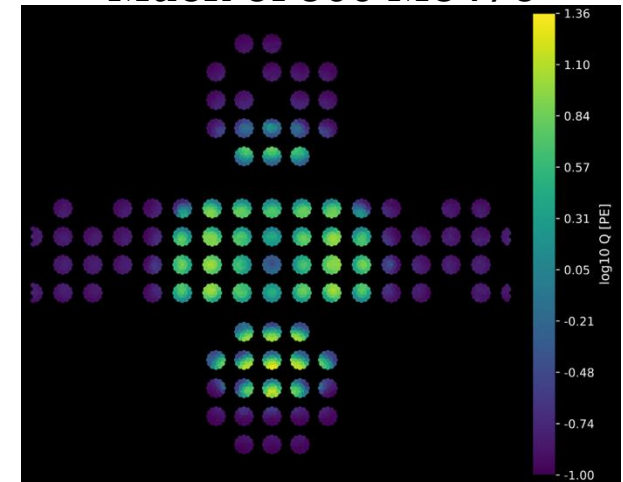
2.7% momentum resolution (assuming fixed position & direction, bias-corrected, but **charge only**), relative to:

- ResNet (WatChMaL, charge+time): **2.5%**
- Traditional likelihood (fiTQun, charge+time): **~4%**

MC



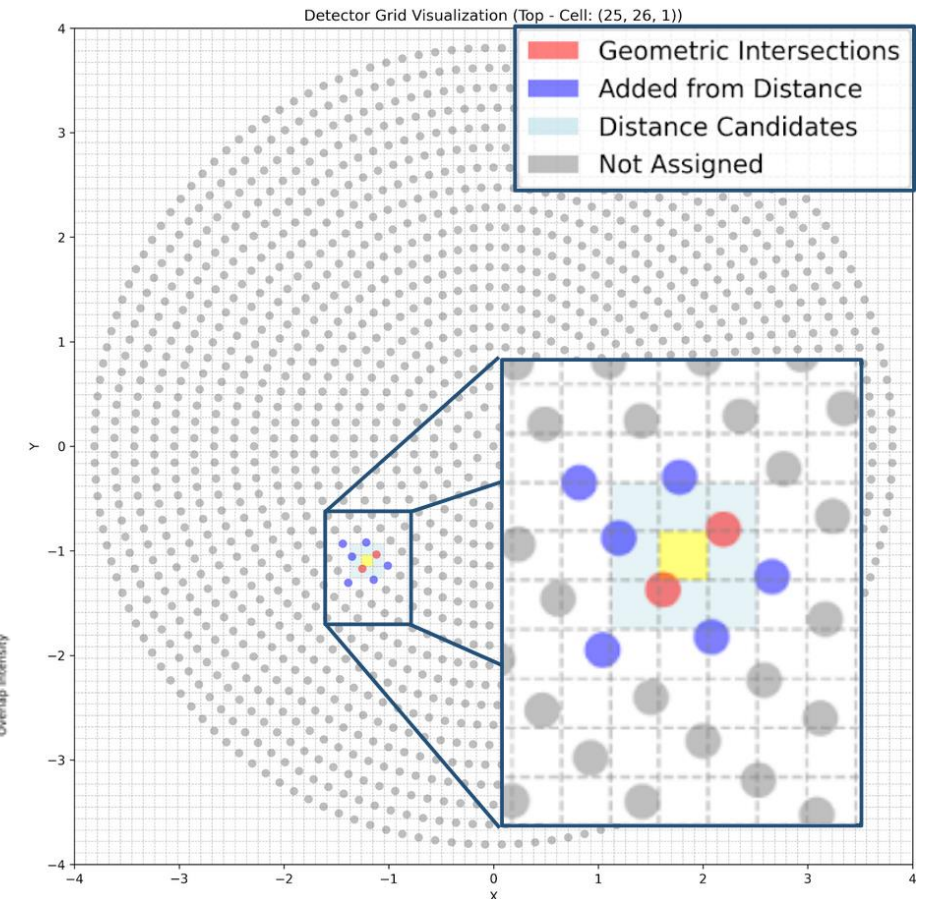
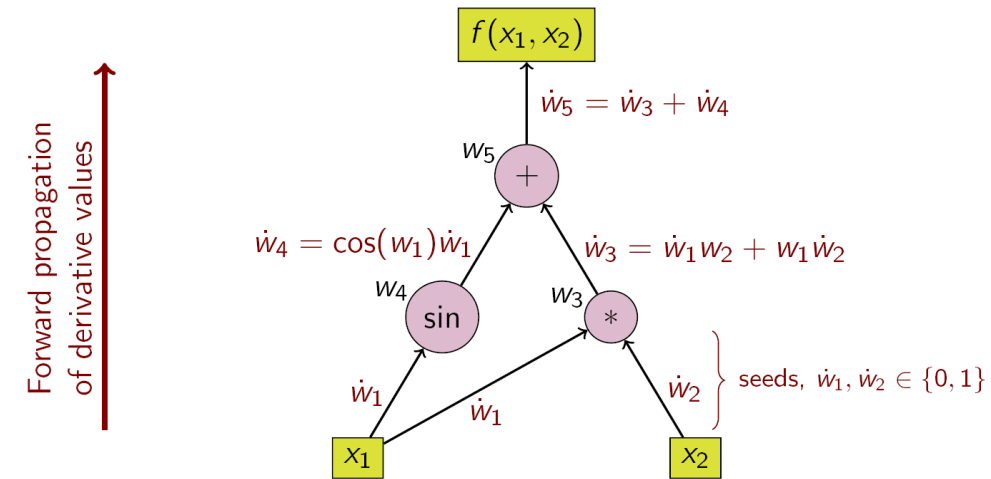
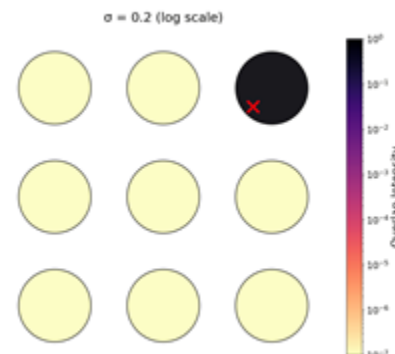
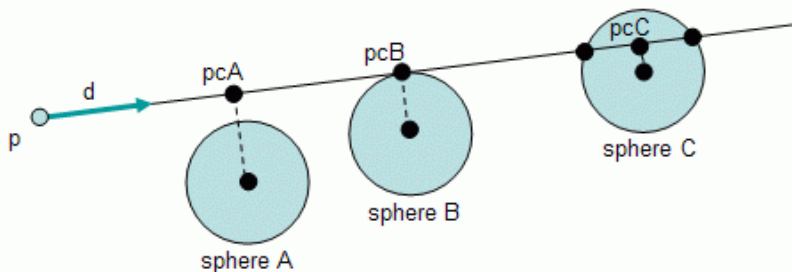
Muon of 500 MeV/c



DDSim

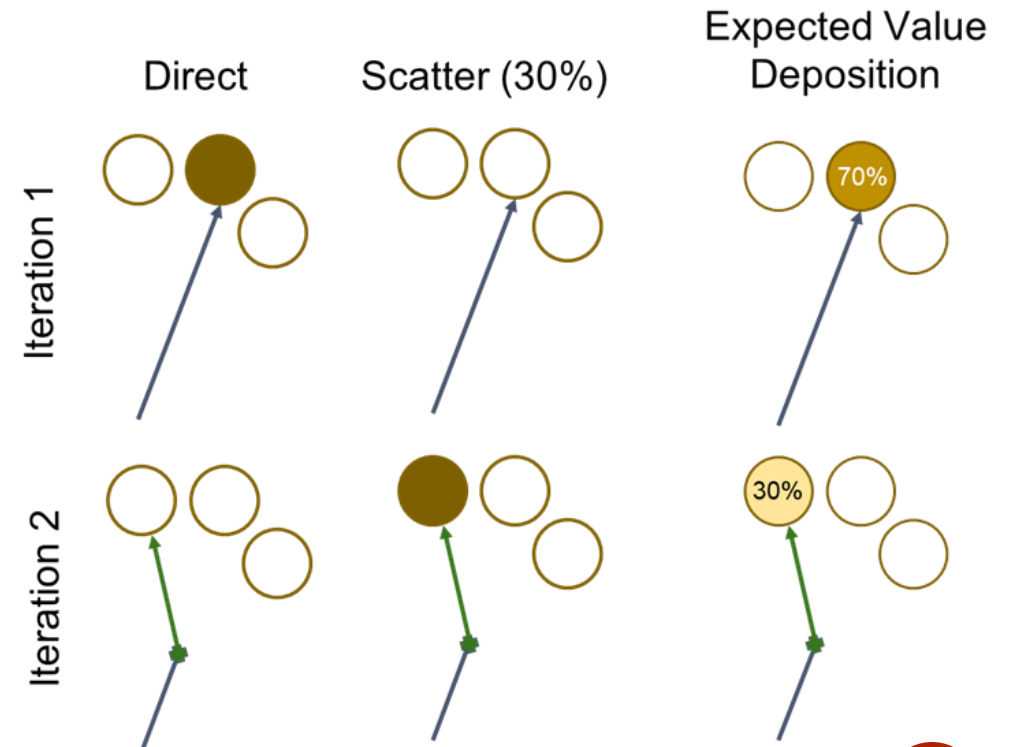
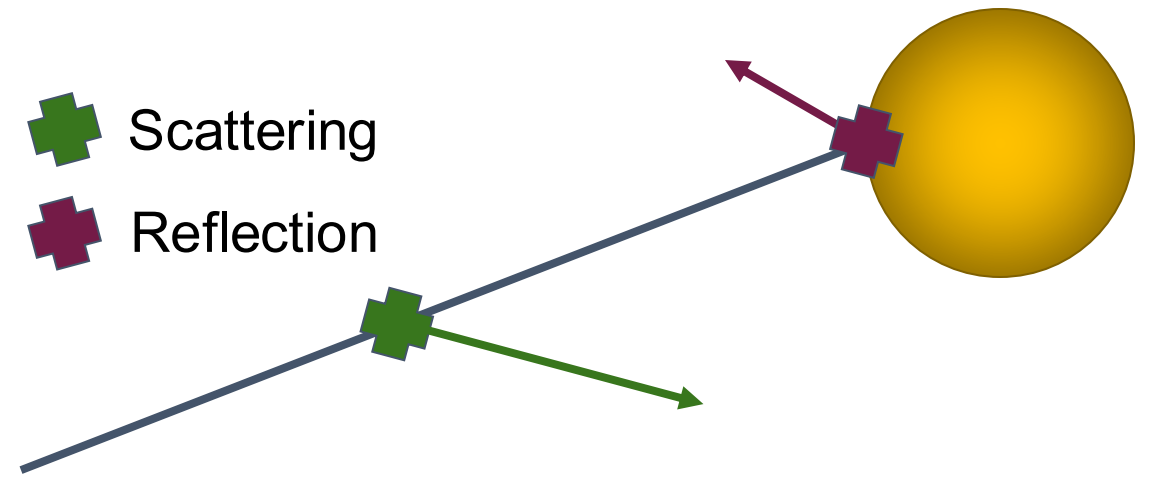
LUCID

- Light-transport Unified Calibration Inference & Differentiable detector simulation
- JAX based parallelized automatic differentiation
- Model independent ray tracing
 - Input: photon starting positions, directions, intensities
 - Find ray sphere intersection with Cylindrical grid-based acceleration structure
 - First pass: Quick check for cylinder wall or cap intersection
 - Second pass: Use grid system to identify relevant PMTs
 - Final pass: Detailed intersection calculations only for candidate PMTs
 - Acceleration from $O(10k) \rightarrow O(10)$ checks
 - Distribute photon weights based on proximity



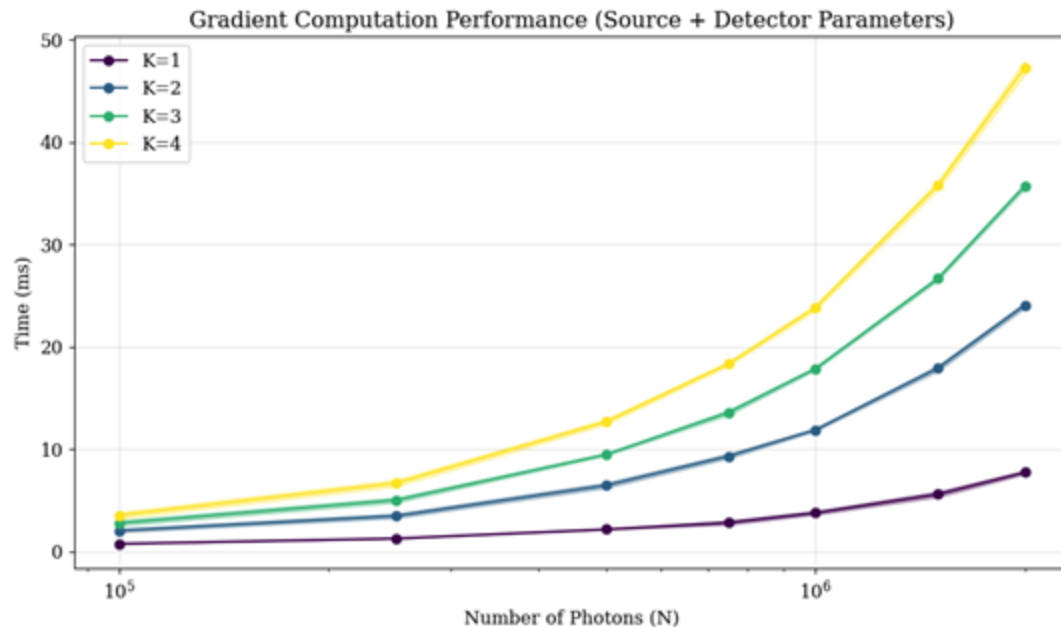
LUCID

- Attenuation based on total travel distance
- Reflection and Scattering
 - Simulate N photons over K bounces (interactions)
 - Ray tracing of direct hits
 - Sampling reflection and scattering paths
 - $P_{\text{reach}} = \exp(-\text{distance}/\lambda_s)$
 - $P_{\text{detect}} = P_{\text{reach}} \times (1 - \text{reflection_rate})$
 - $P_{\text{reflect}} = P_{\text{reach}} \times \text{reflection_rate}$
 - $P_{\text{scatter}} = 1 - P_{\text{reach}}$
 - Backward propagation with straight through estimator
 - Update intensity: $I \times (P_{\text{reflect}} \times A_{\text{reflect}} + P_{\text{scatter}} \times A_{\text{scatter}})$

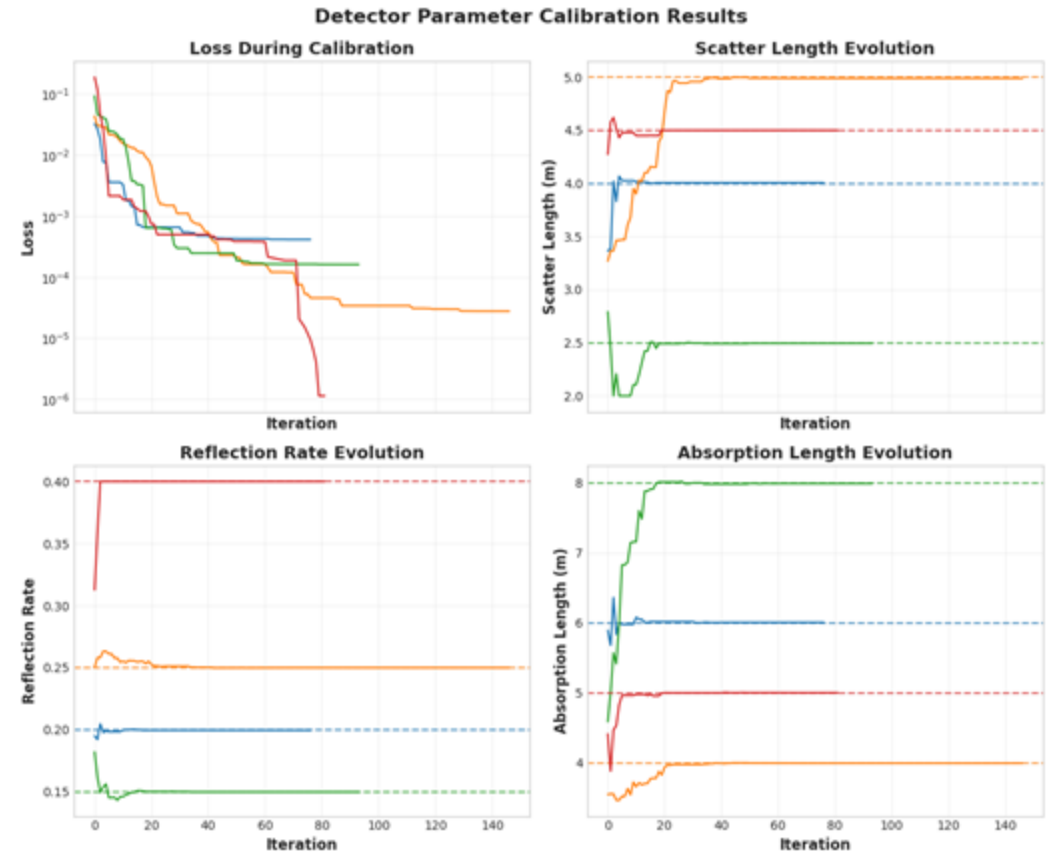


LUCID

- For $K = 4$ bounces on an A100 GPU, 1M photons takes:
 - 10ms for the forward
 - 25ms for forward + gradients

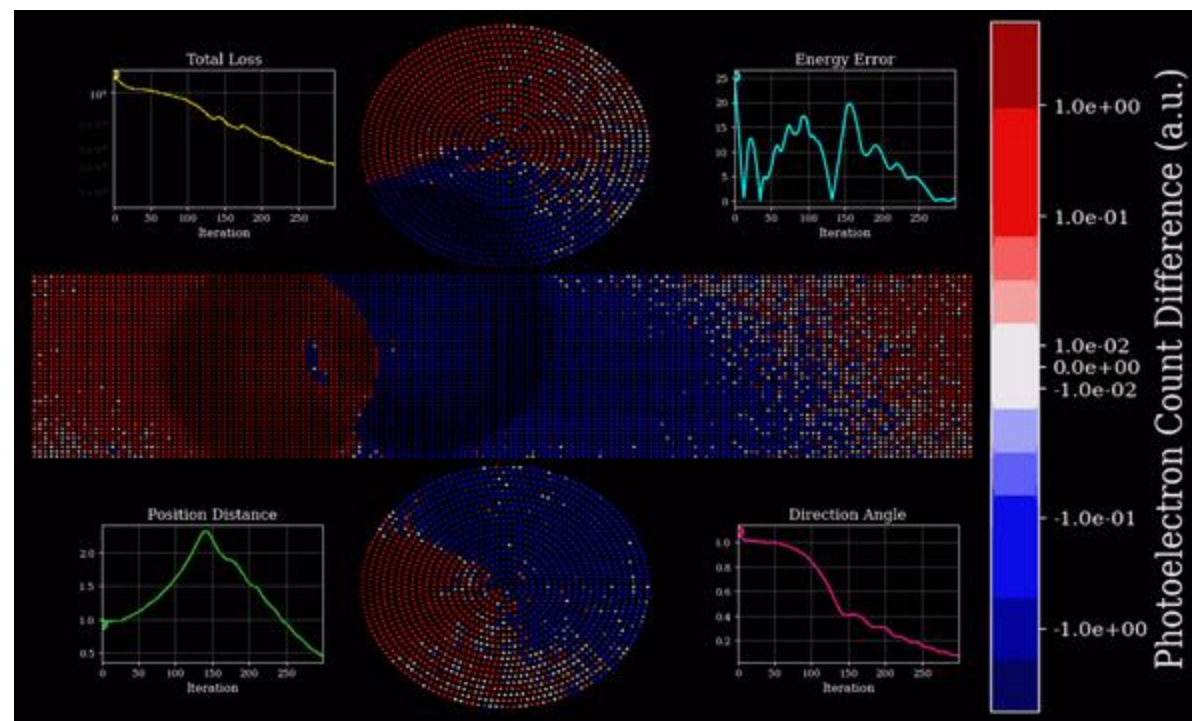
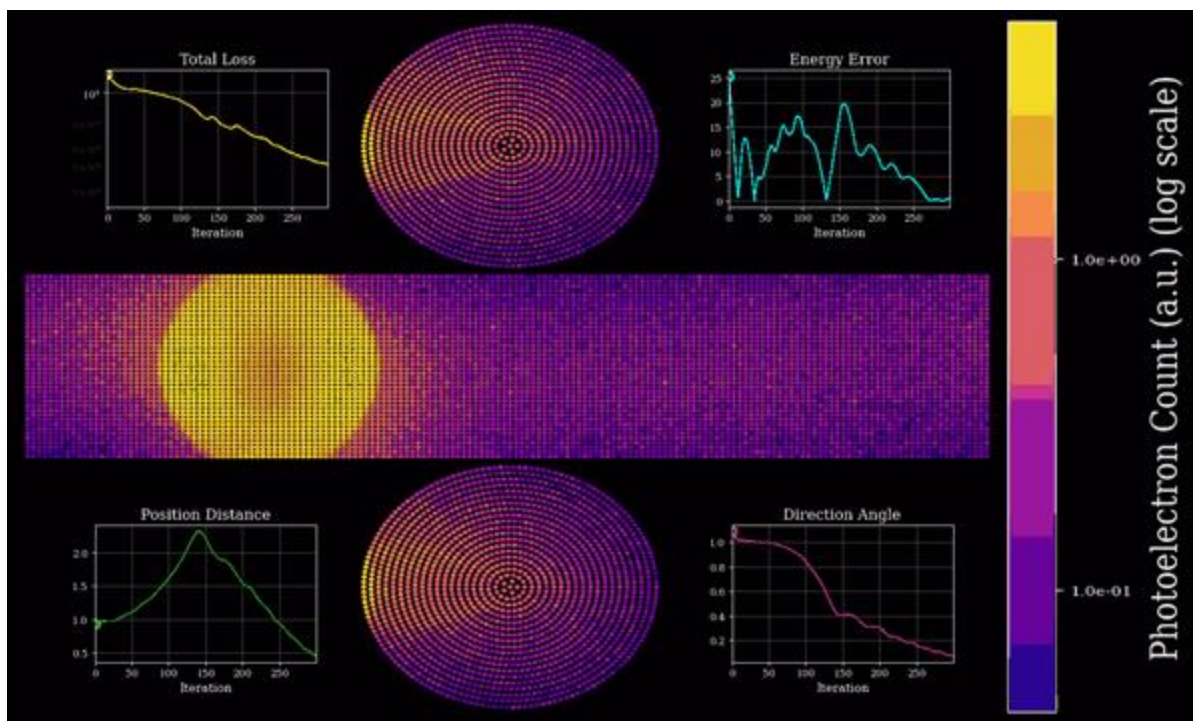
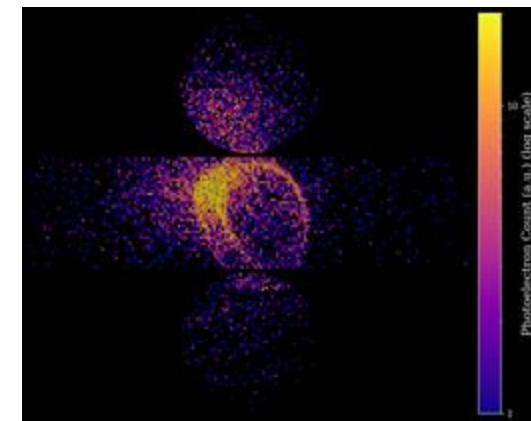


- Calibration with an isotropic photon source
 - Now testing with $O(1000)$ PMT eff. params.



LUCID

- Connect LUCID with Cherenkov Siren
→ optimization of track parameters
- Muon full reconstruction with **LUCID**



Summary

- MC simulation requires lots of efforts to setup and tune
 - Calibration performance not ideal
 - Computation speed prohibits high statistics studies
- Future long-baseline neutrino oscillation experiments will become systematics limited
 - New near detector technologies will mitigate flux+interaction systematics
→ Reducing detector systematics becomes crucial
- Differentiable detector simulator (DDSim) proof of concept demonstrated for both water Cherenkov and liquid argon detectors
 - Already competitive performance with current traditional algorithms
- Ongoing developments to improve performance and speed of the DDSim
- Aiming for applications to real data (WCTE, DUNE ND prototypes) this FY