

# First Energy Calibration of SuperNEMO's Calorimeter using its Tracko-Calo Technology

Aguerre Xalbat, Koňářík Filip, Patrick Cheryl, Křížák Tomáš,  
on behalf of the SuperNEMO collaboration

## SuperNEMO - a full topological design to understand double-beta decay

### SuperNEMO specifications:

→ **Background:**  $< 10^{-4}$  events / (keV.kg.yr)

→ **Full kinematics of  $\beta\beta$  decays:**

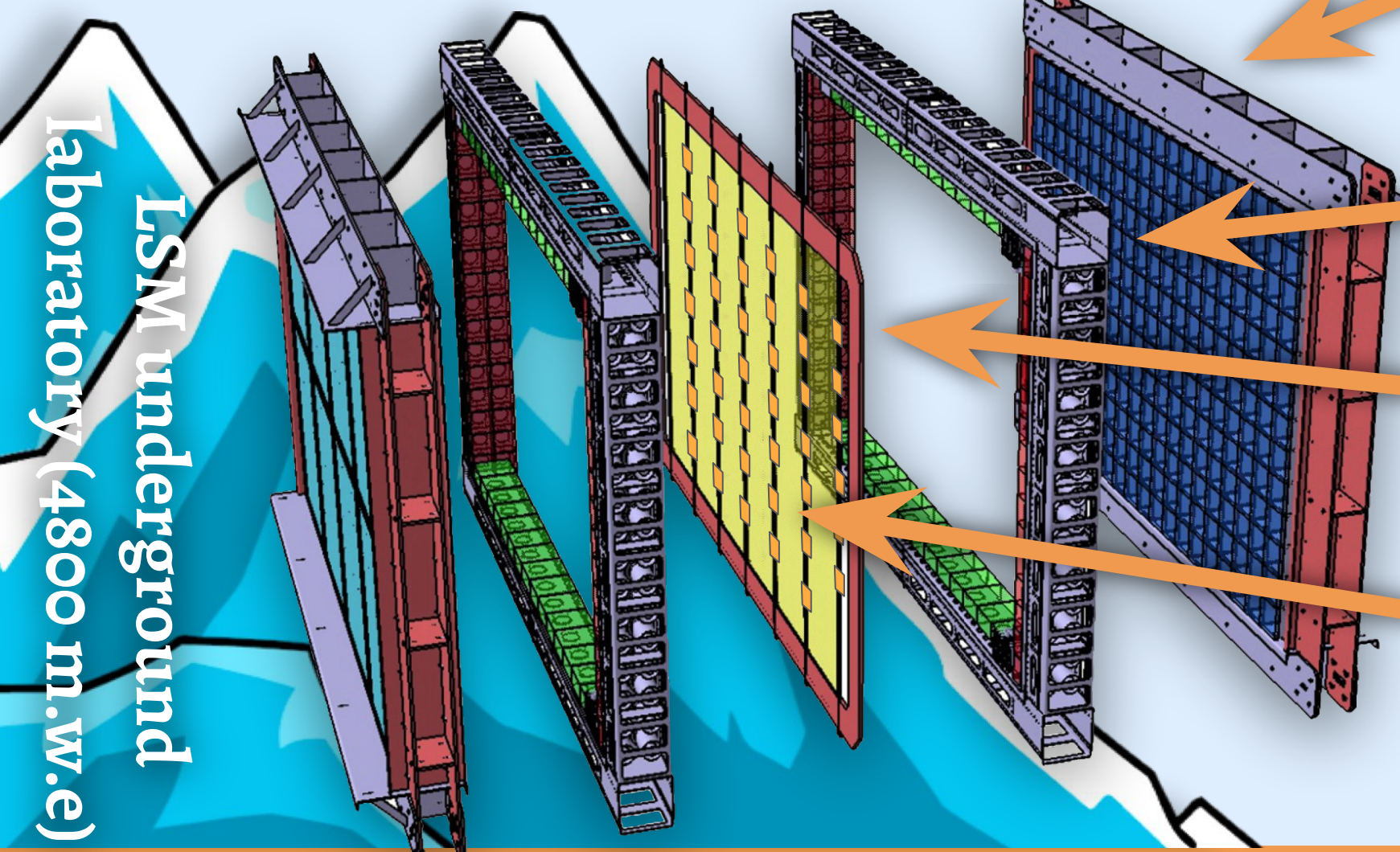
- ◆ Discriminate  $0\nu\beta\beta$  mechanisms
- ◆ Study of  $2\nu\beta\beta$  and decay to excited states
- ◆ Constrain the quenching of  $g_A$

**Calorimeter:** 712 optical modules (OM)  
- photomultiplier tubes and plastic scintillator

**Tracker:** wire chamber  
- 2034 Geiger cells

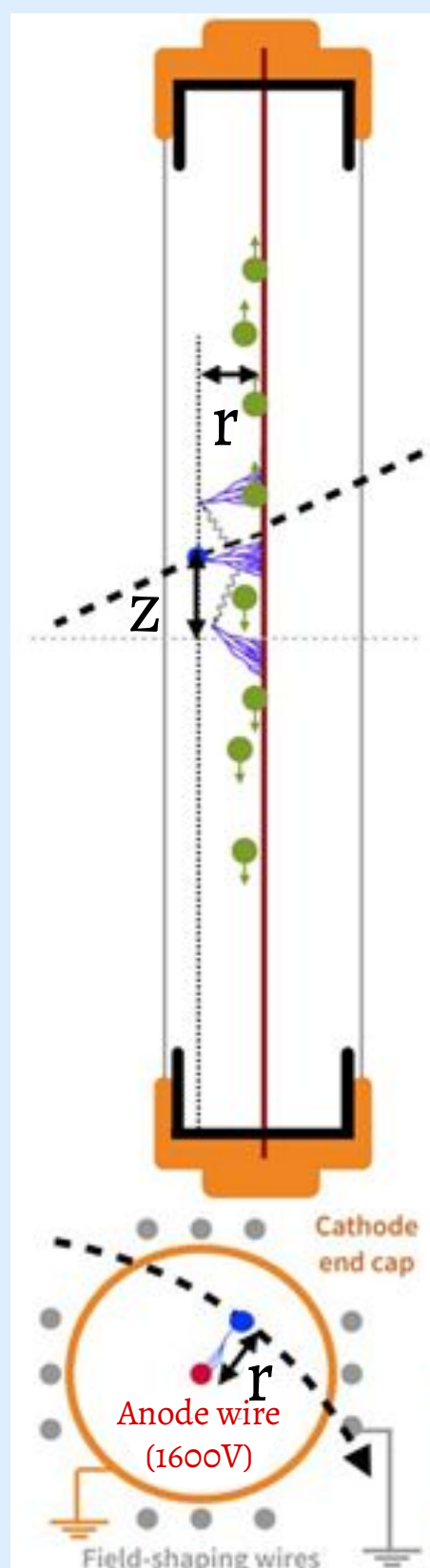
**$0\nu\beta\beta$  source foil:**  
6.11 kg of  $^{82}\text{Se}$

**Calibration system:**  
42 deployable point-like  $^{207}\text{Bi}$  sources

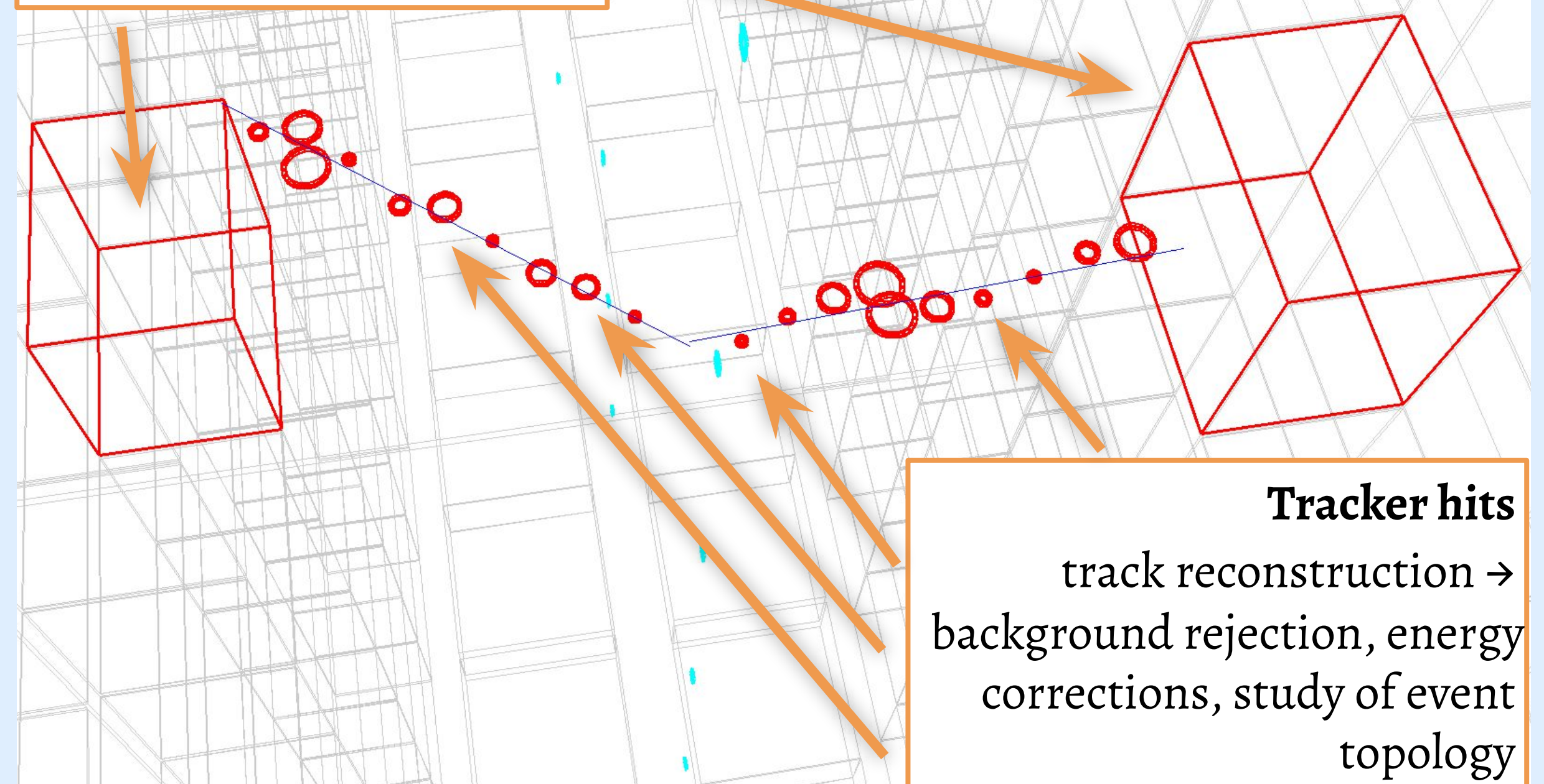


LSM underground laboratory (4800 m.w.e)

### Geiger cell



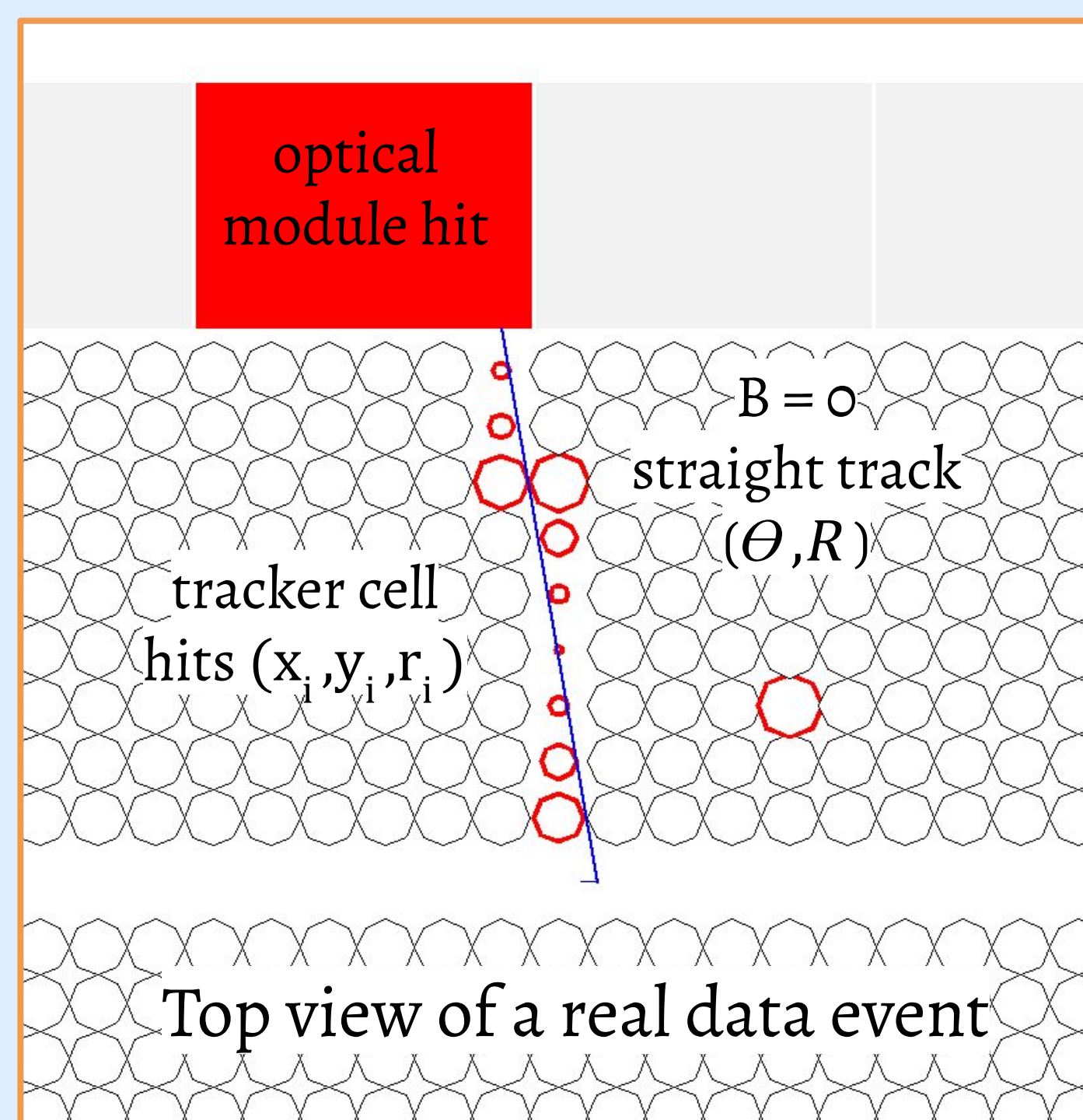
**Calorimeter hits energy measurement**



**Tracker hits**  
track reconstruction → background rejection, energy corrections, study of event topology

## Particle Track Reconstruction

- Geiger cell:  
→ height of the passing particle  
→ distance  $r_i$  to the vertical anode wire
- **circular tracker hits**  $(x_i, y_i, r_i)$
- reconstruction in horizontal plane is done using **Legendre transform**
- hits described in Legendre space by their tangent lines  $(\theta, R)$
- intersection of Legendre images = reconstructed track



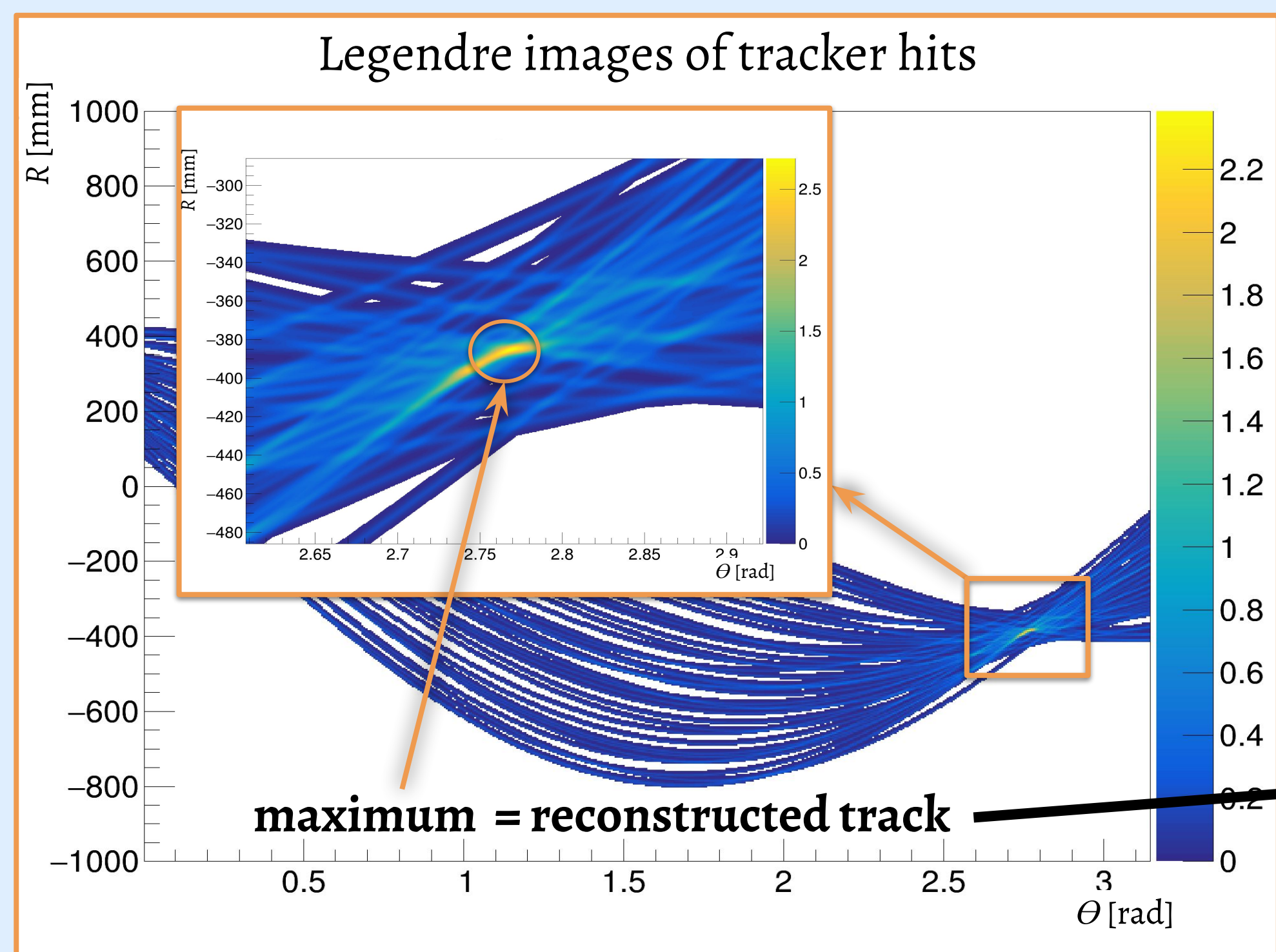
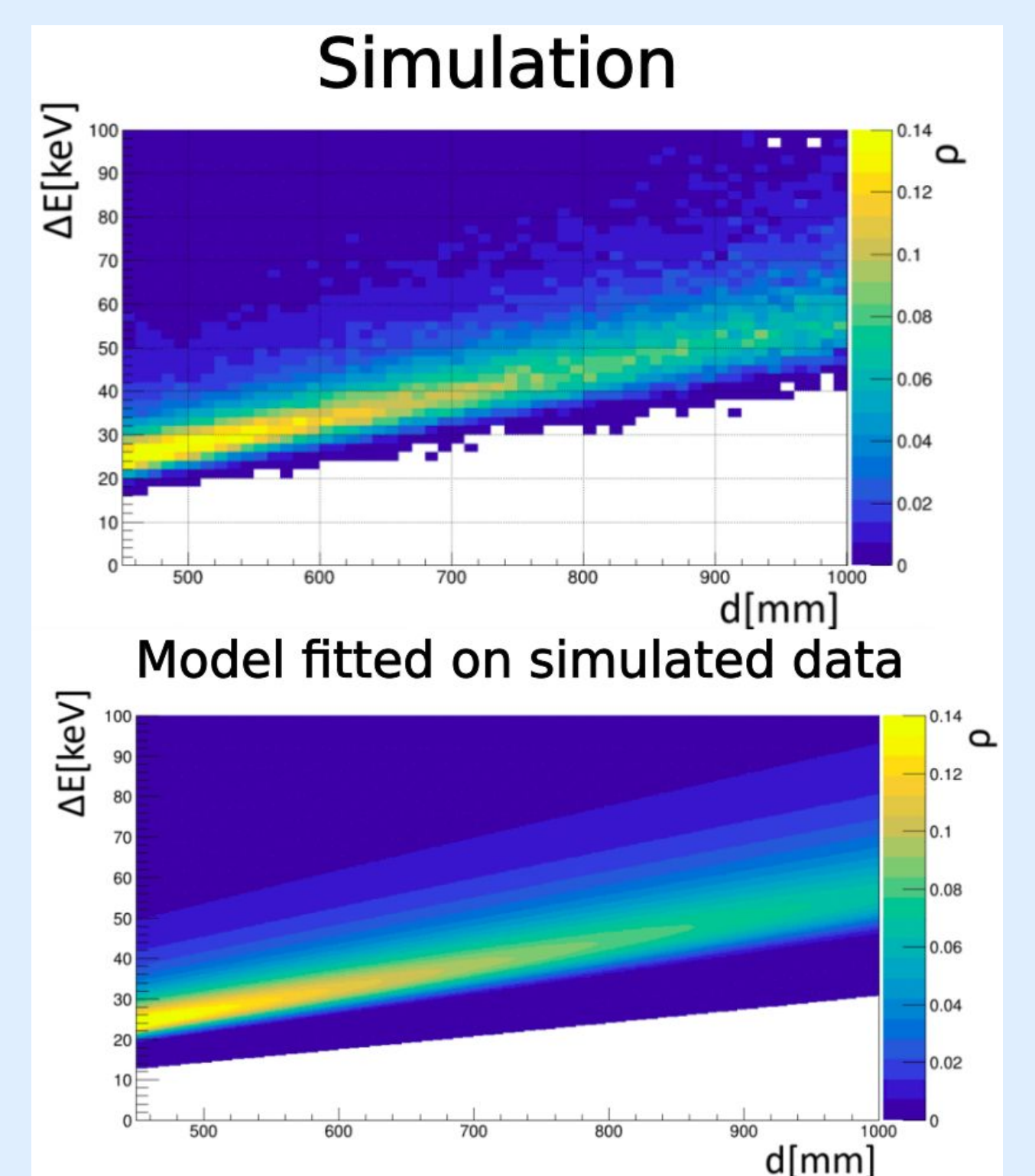
Top view of a real data event

## Electron Energy Loss Correction

- electrons lose energy while passing through tracker → influences calibration
- using tracker, electron's track length can be measured → **lost energy can be estimated** using suitable model

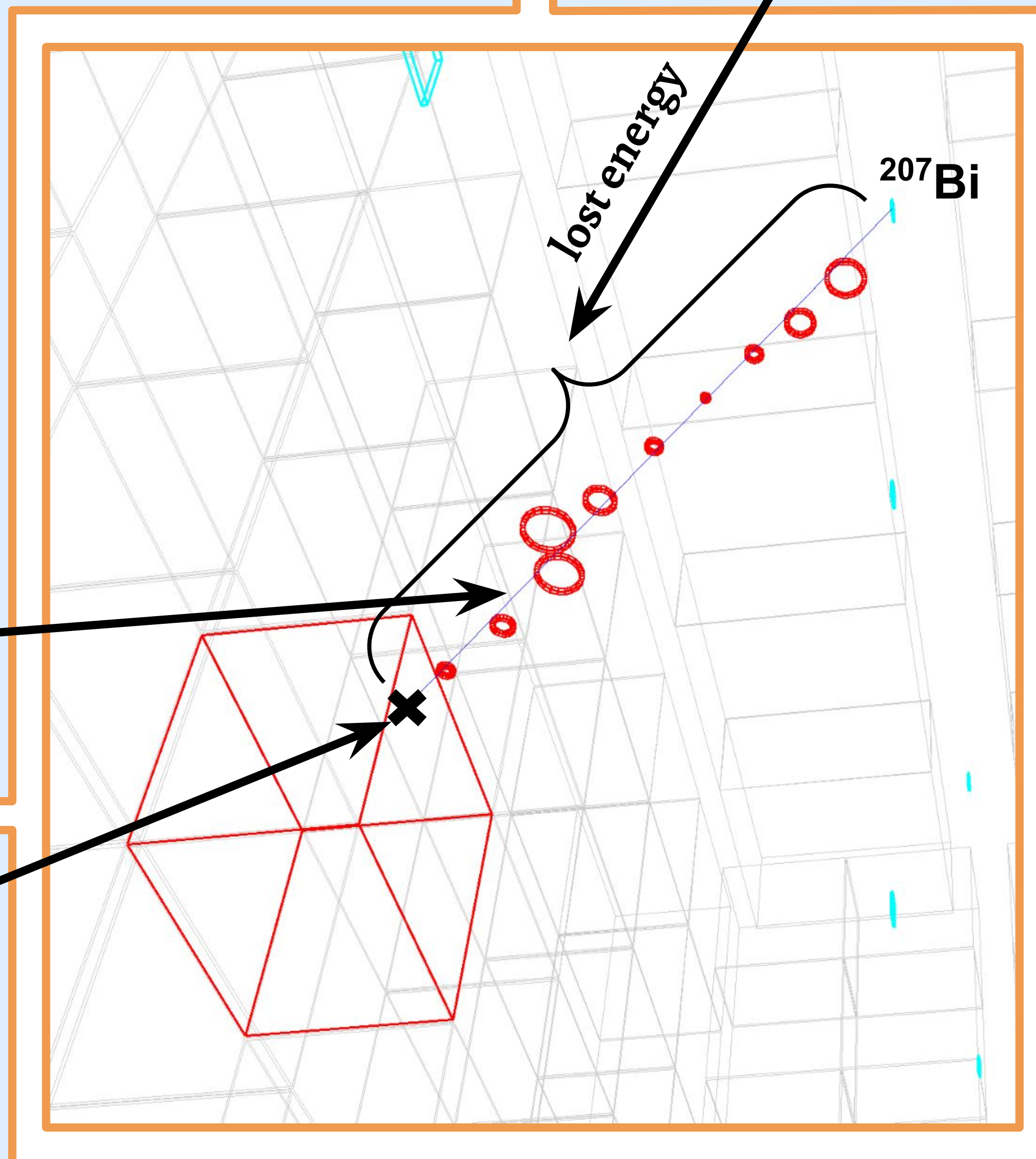
Energy loss model based on **Landau distribution**

probability of losing energy  $\Delta E$   
track length  
 $\rho(\Delta E; d, E_f)$   
energy at the end of the track

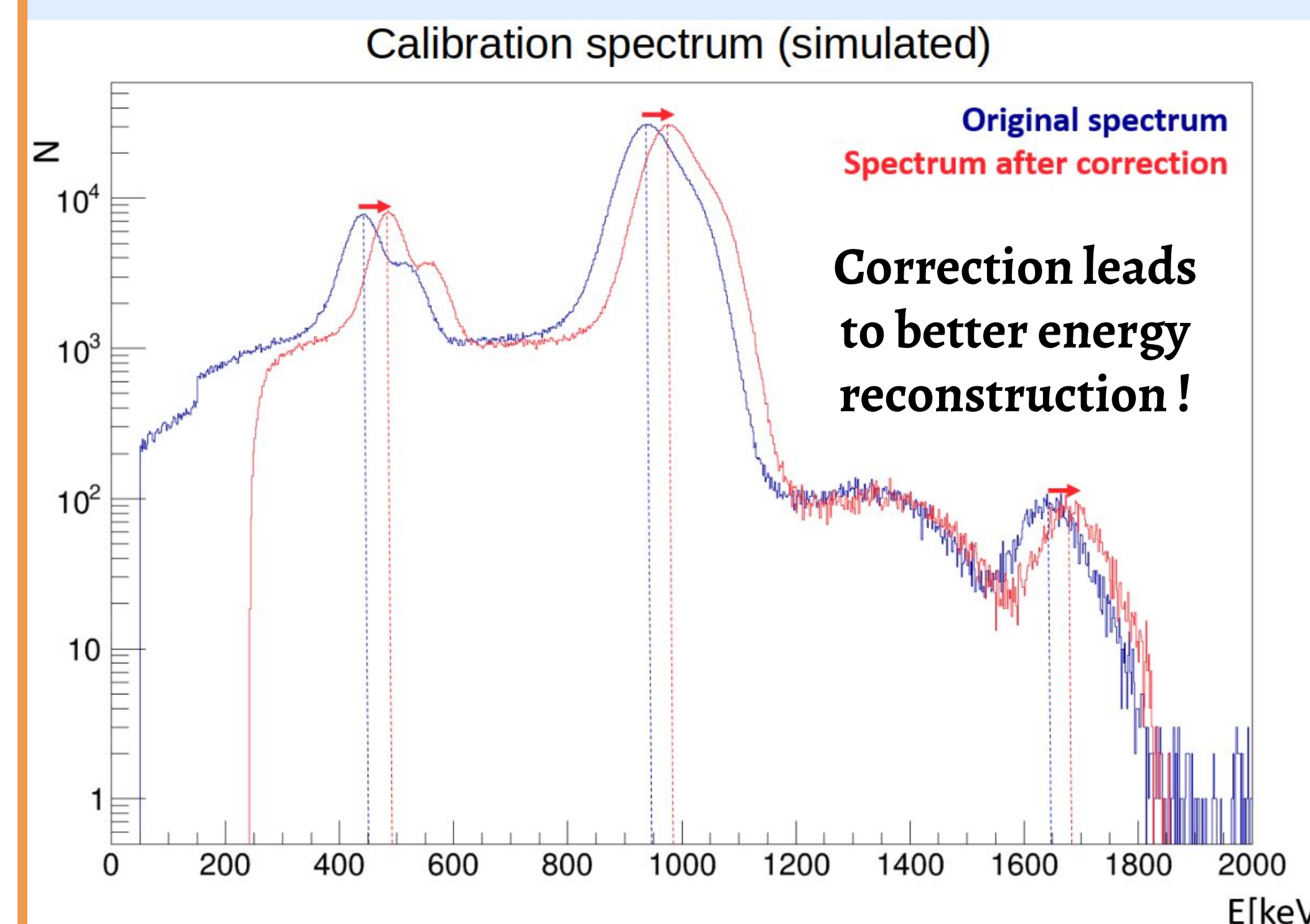


Legendre images of tracker hits

maximum = reconstructed track



lost energy  
 $^{207}\text{Bi}$

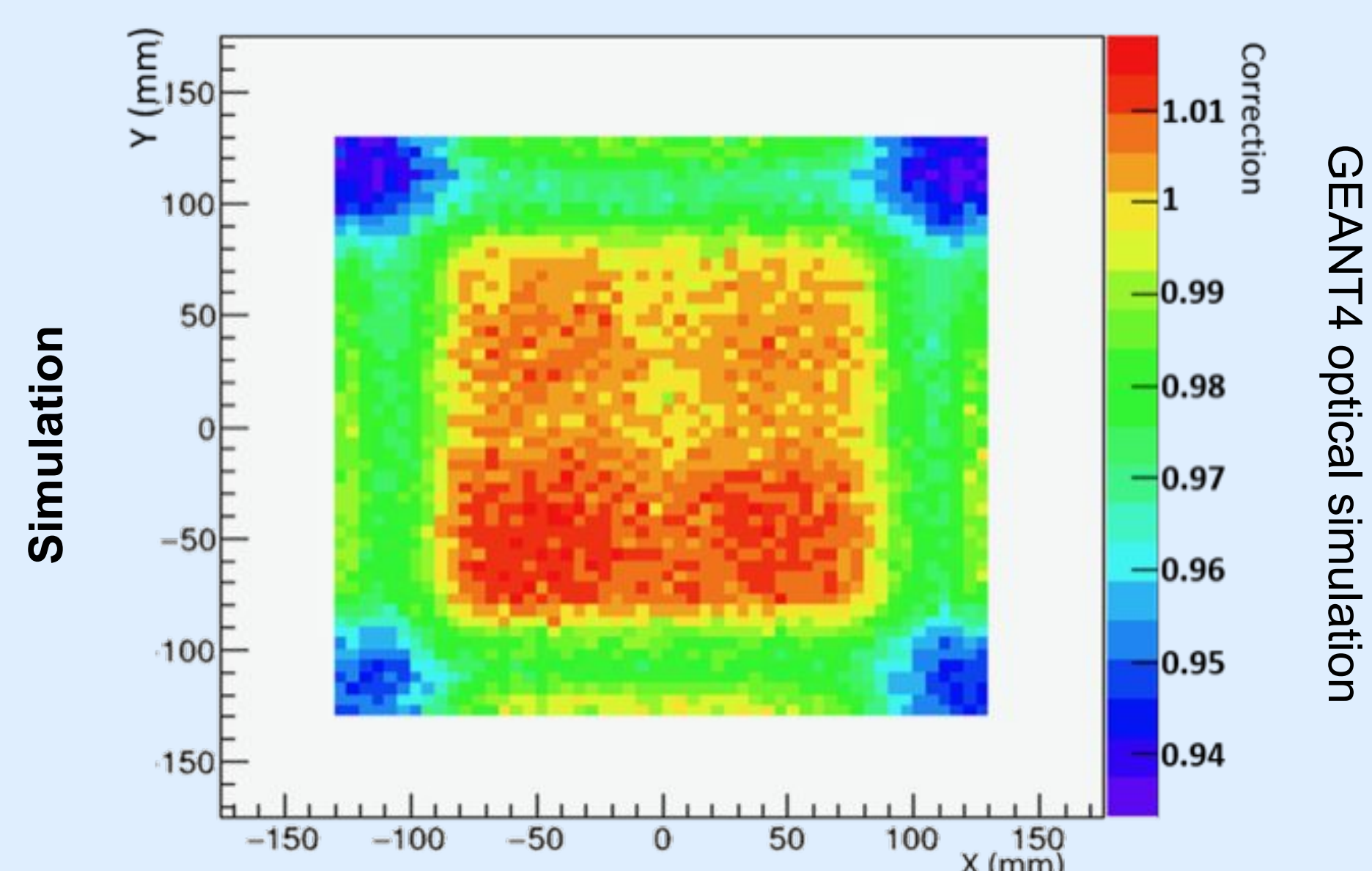


Calibration spectrum (simulated)

Original spectrum  
Spectrum after correction  
**Correction leads to better energy reconstruction!**

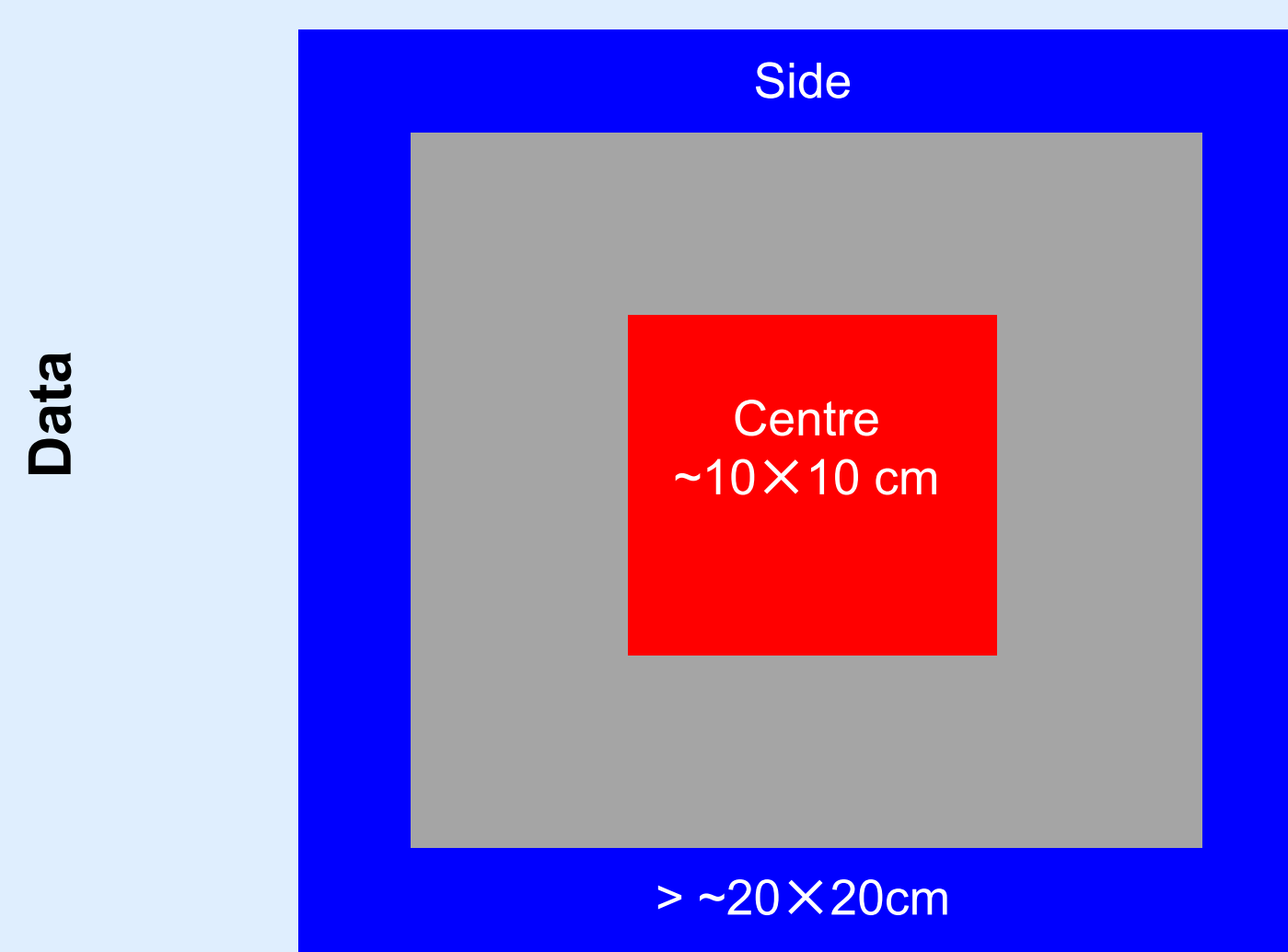
## Scintillator Response Non-uniformity

The point where the electron hits an optical module can decrease **light collection** by up to 10%



GEANT4 optical simulation

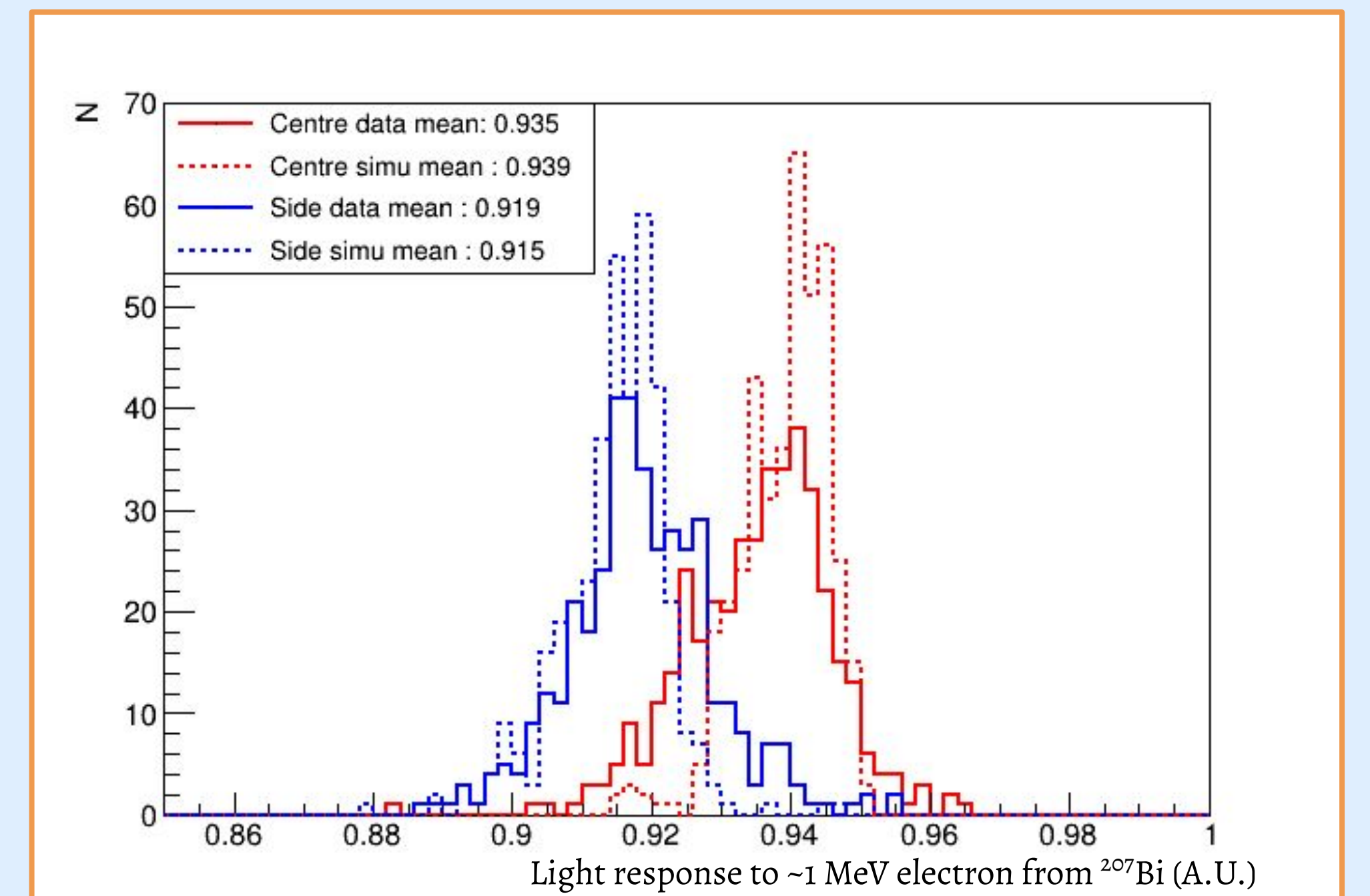
Front face of a scintillator



Data

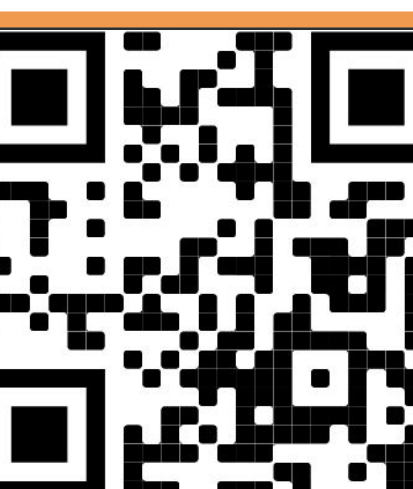
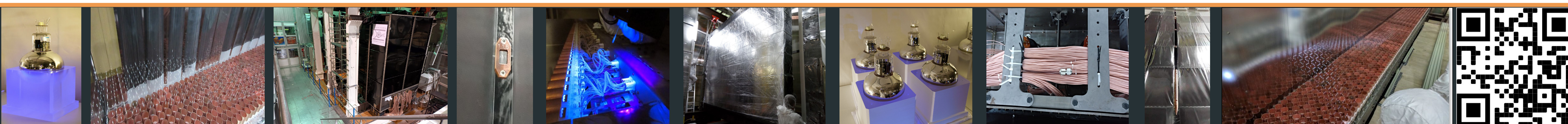
Centre  
~10x10 cm

> ~20x20cm



As expected, **better light collection on the centre than the side**

Simulation **completely compatible** with data!

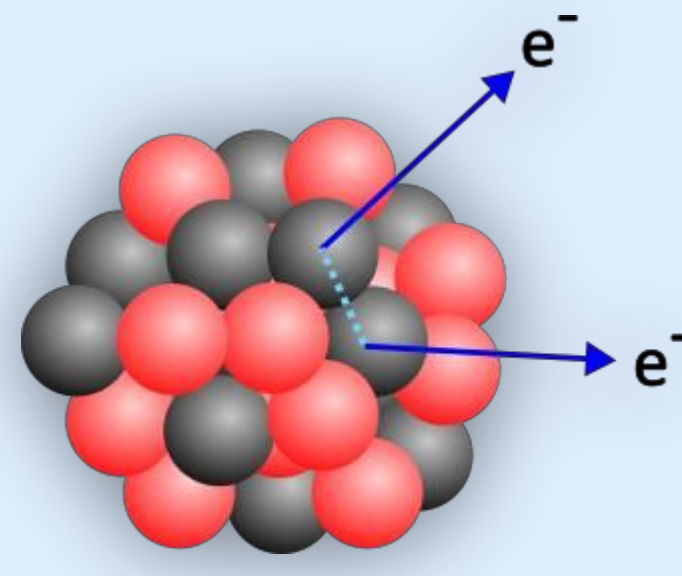




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## SuperNEMO Demonstrator's search for $0\nu\beta\beta$



Possible answer for various questions:

- Neutrino = antineutrino ?
- Neutrino mass = ?
- Lepton number violation?
- Leptogenesis?

### SuperNEMO specifications:

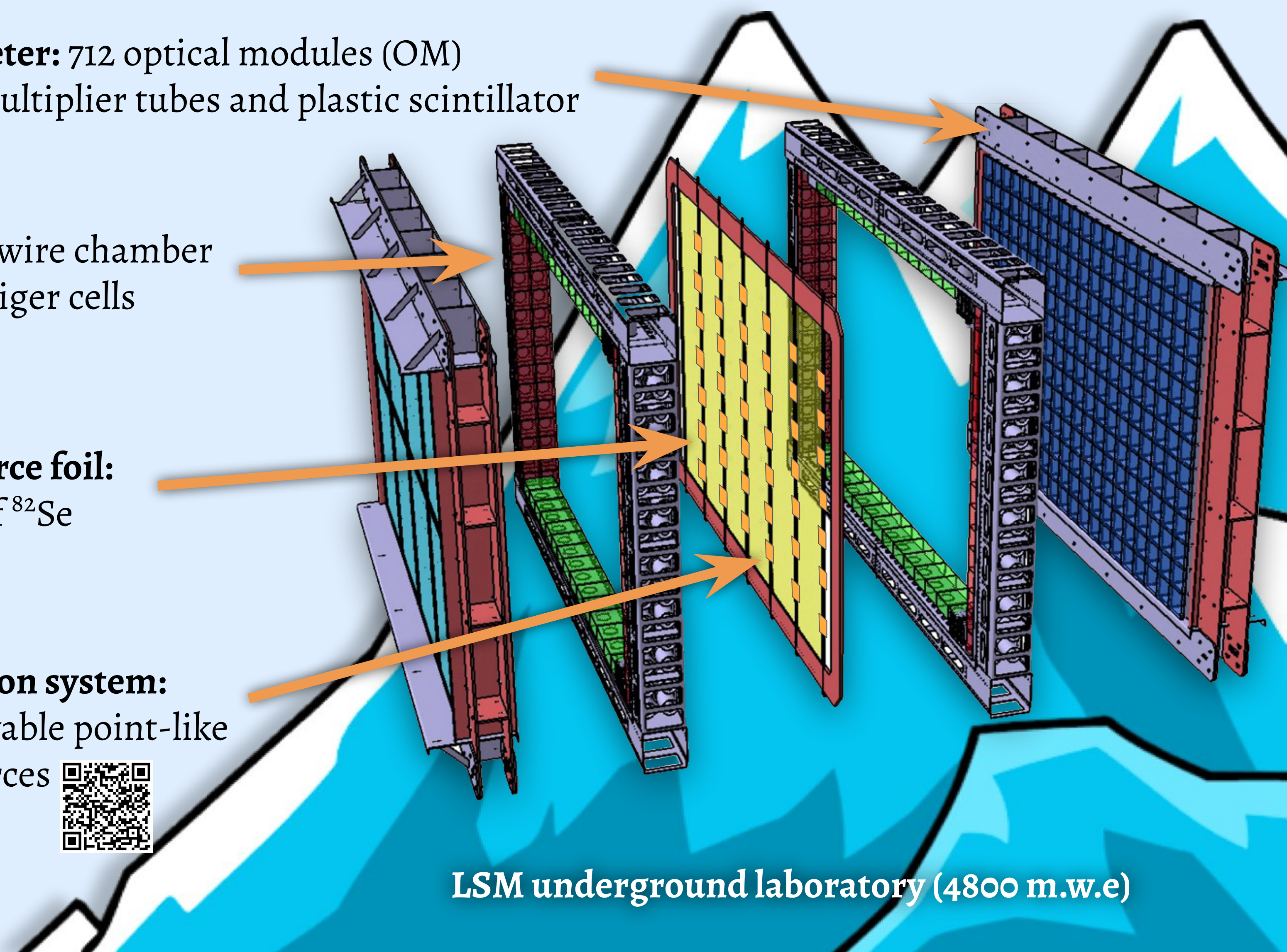
- **Background:**  $< 10^{-4}$  events / (keV.kg.yr)
- **Full kinematics of  $\beta\beta$  decays:**
  - ◆ Discriminate  $0\nu\beta\beta$  mechanisms
  - ◆ Study of  $2\nu\beta\beta$  and decay to excited states
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**Calorimeter:** 712 optical modules (OM)  
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**Tracker:** wire chamber  
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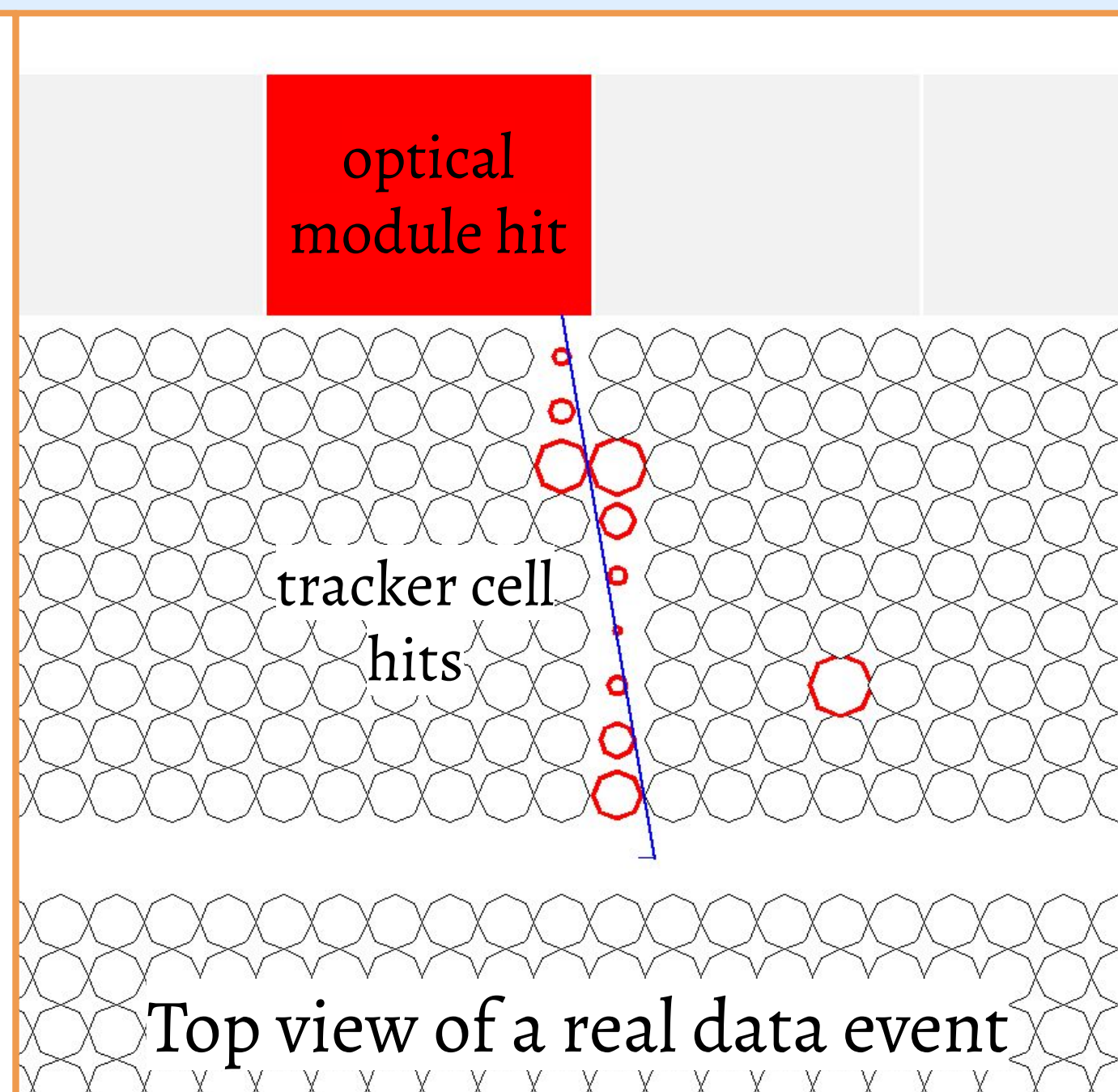
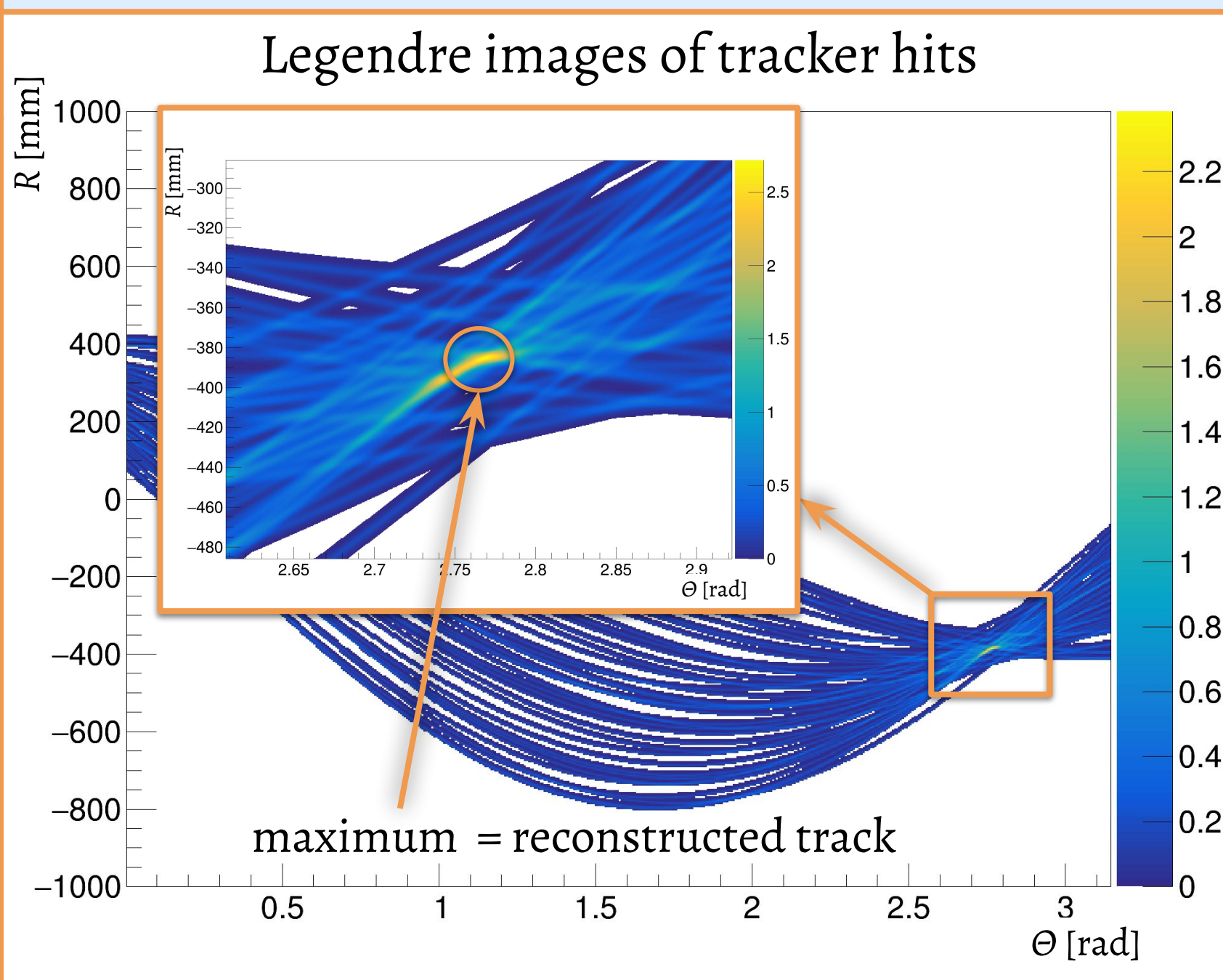
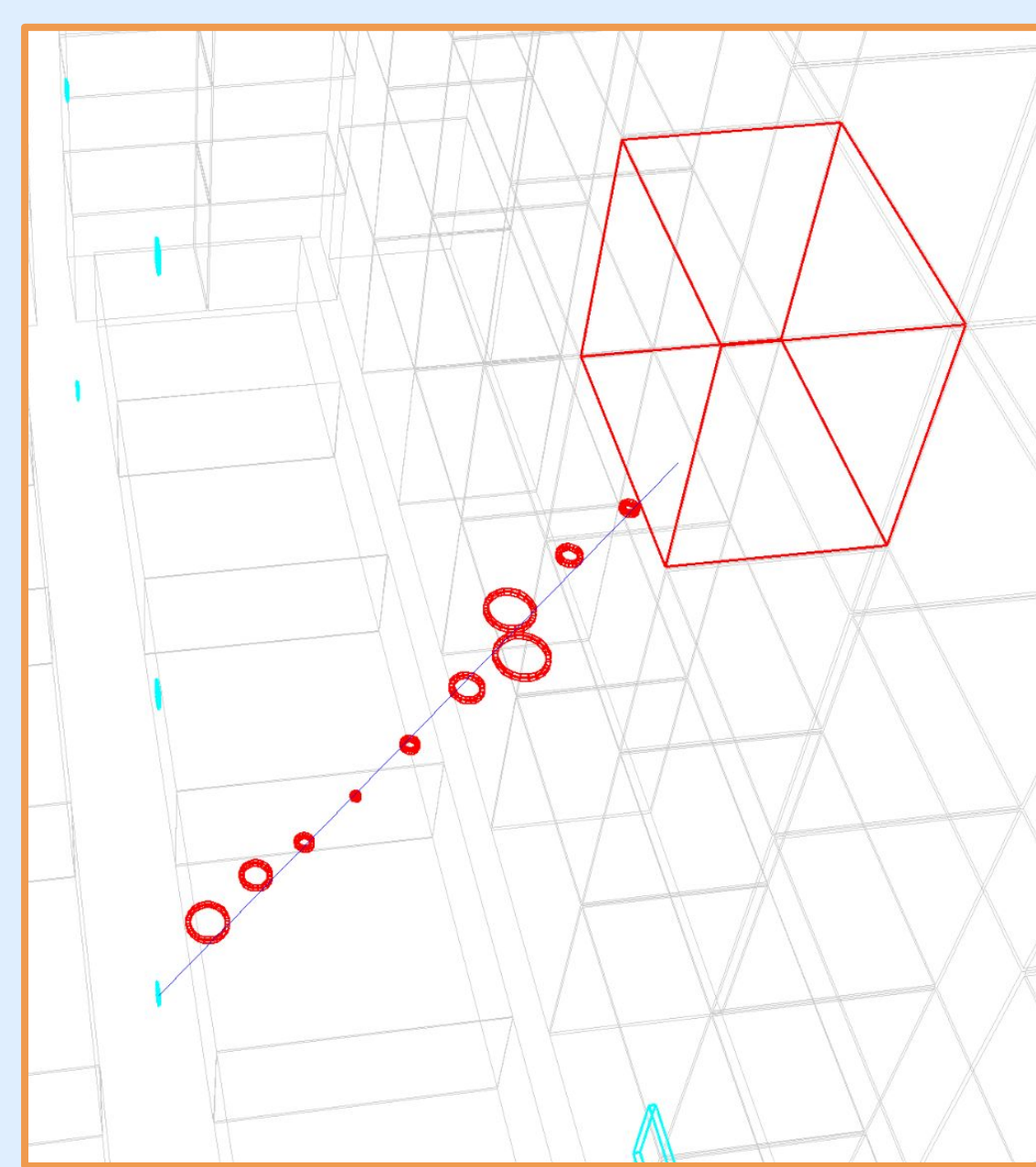
**$\beta\beta\nu$  source foil:**  
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**Calibration system:**  
42 deployable point-like  $^{207}\text{Bi}$  sources



## Particle track reconstruction

- each Geiger cell measures height of the passing particle and the distance to the anode wire → **circular tracker hits**
- no external magnetic field → **trajectory is a straight line tangent to the hits**
- reconstruction in horizontal plane is done using **Legendre transform**
- hits described in Legendre space by their tangent lines
- intersection of Legendre images = reconstructed track



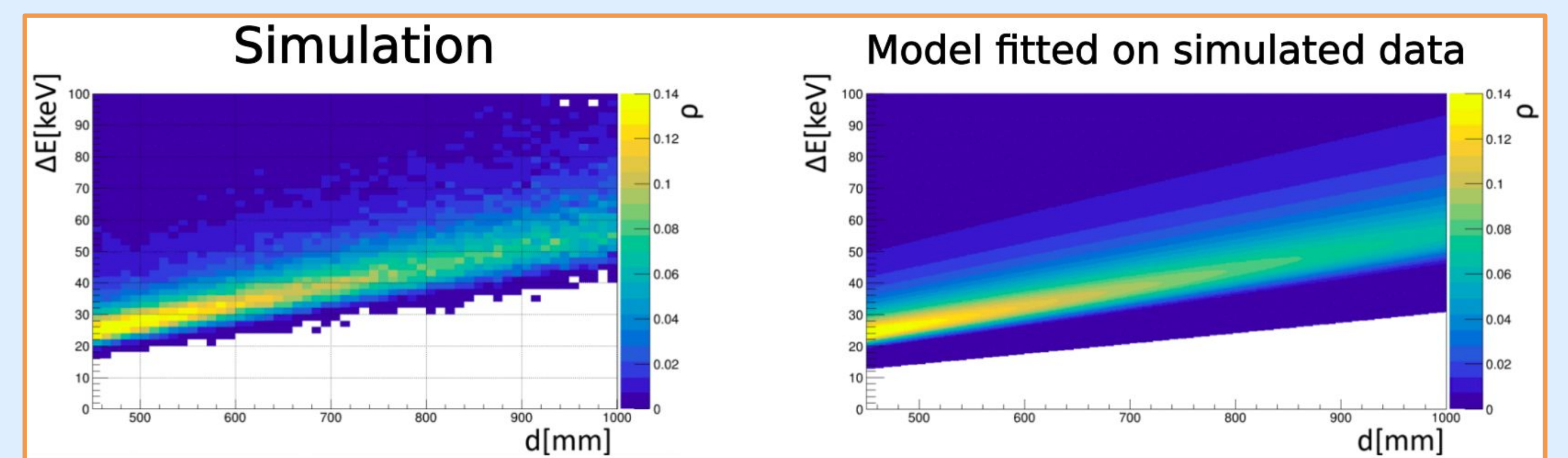
## $e^-$ energy loss correction

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- using tracker, electron's track length can be measured → **lost energy can be estimated** using suitable model

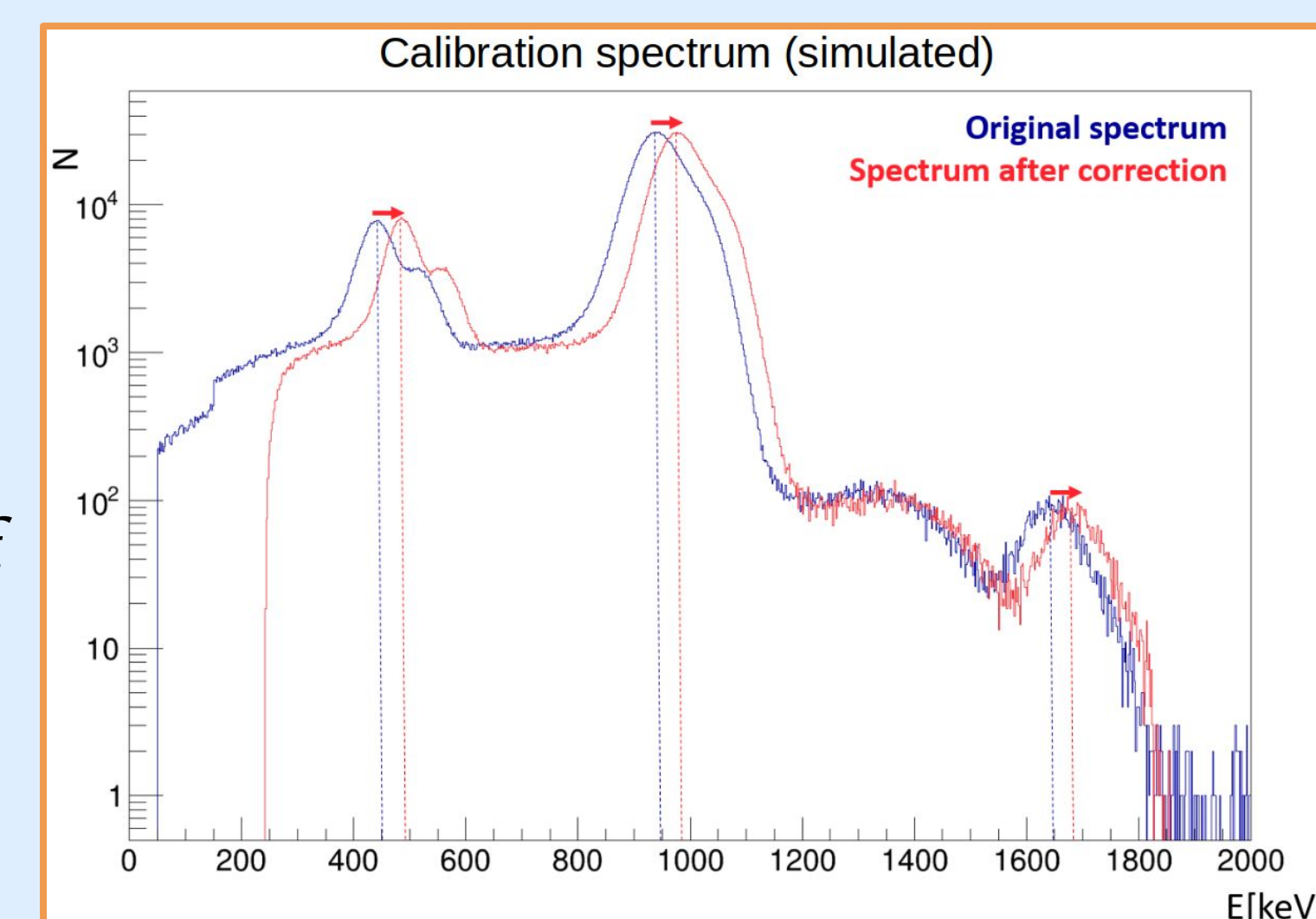
Energy loss model based on **Landau distribution**

$$\rho(\Delta E; d, E_f)$$

probability of losing energy  $\Delta E$       track length  $d$       energy at the end of the track  $E_f$



We can add estimated  $\Delta E$  to measured energy of each electron:

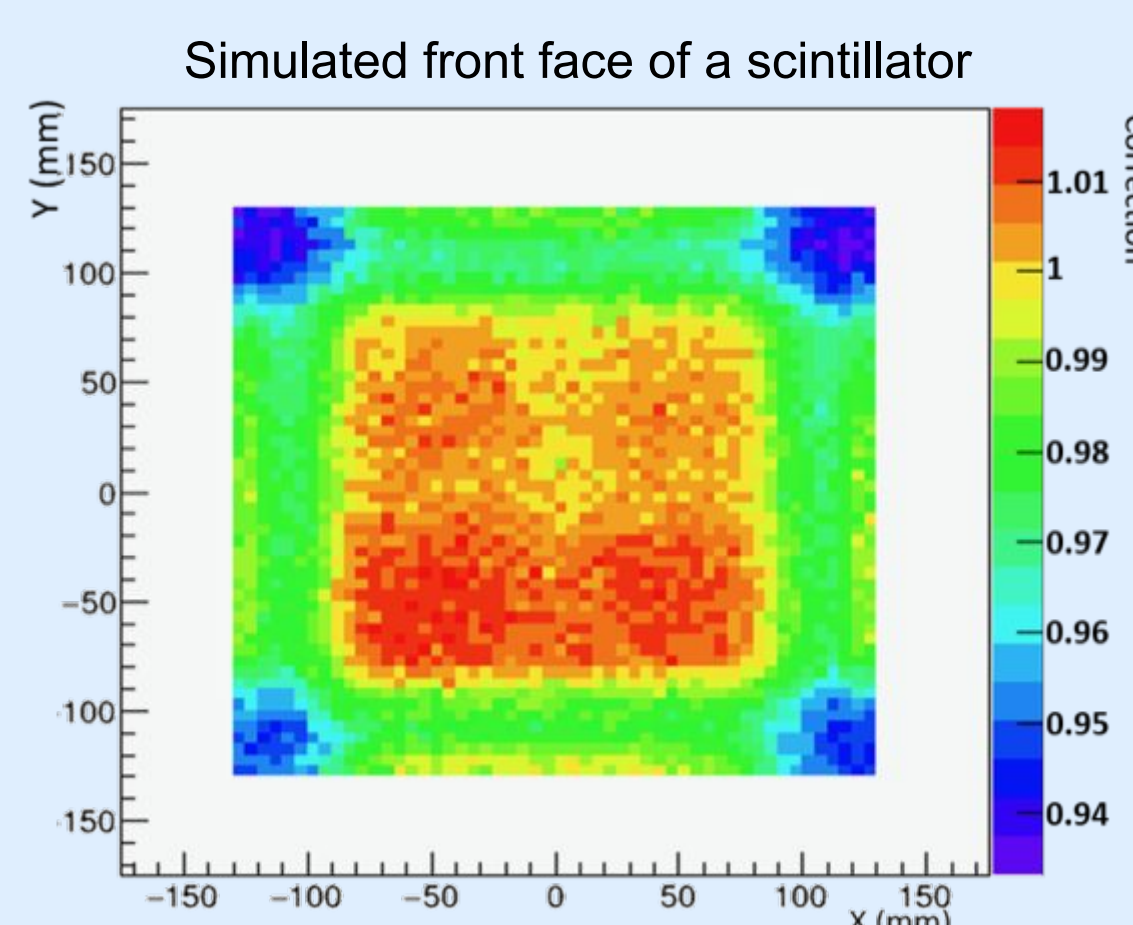


**Better energy reconstruction**

## Scintillator response non-uniformity

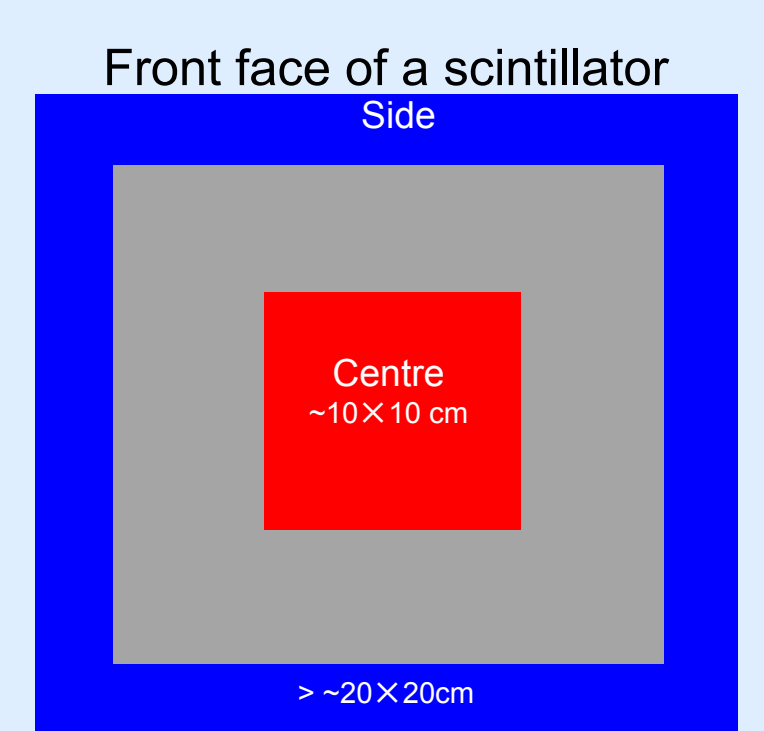
- Different photomultiplier **light collection** in function of the **impact point of the  $e^-$**  on the scintillator:
  - $e^-$  in the **centre** of the scintillator → relatively **more light**
  - $e^-$  in the **corner** of the scintillator → relatively **less light**

Prediction with Geant4 optical simulation  
→ Maximal difference of ~10% on the light collection



### First study of the non uniformity on SuperNEMO's final configuration

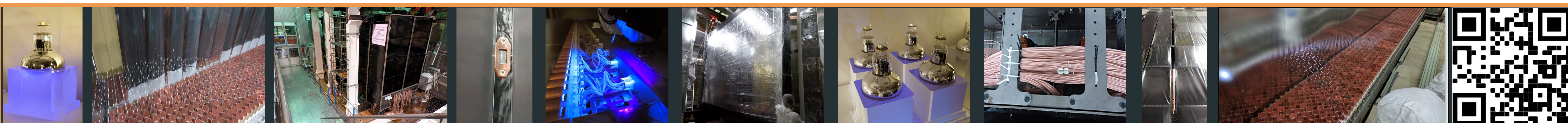
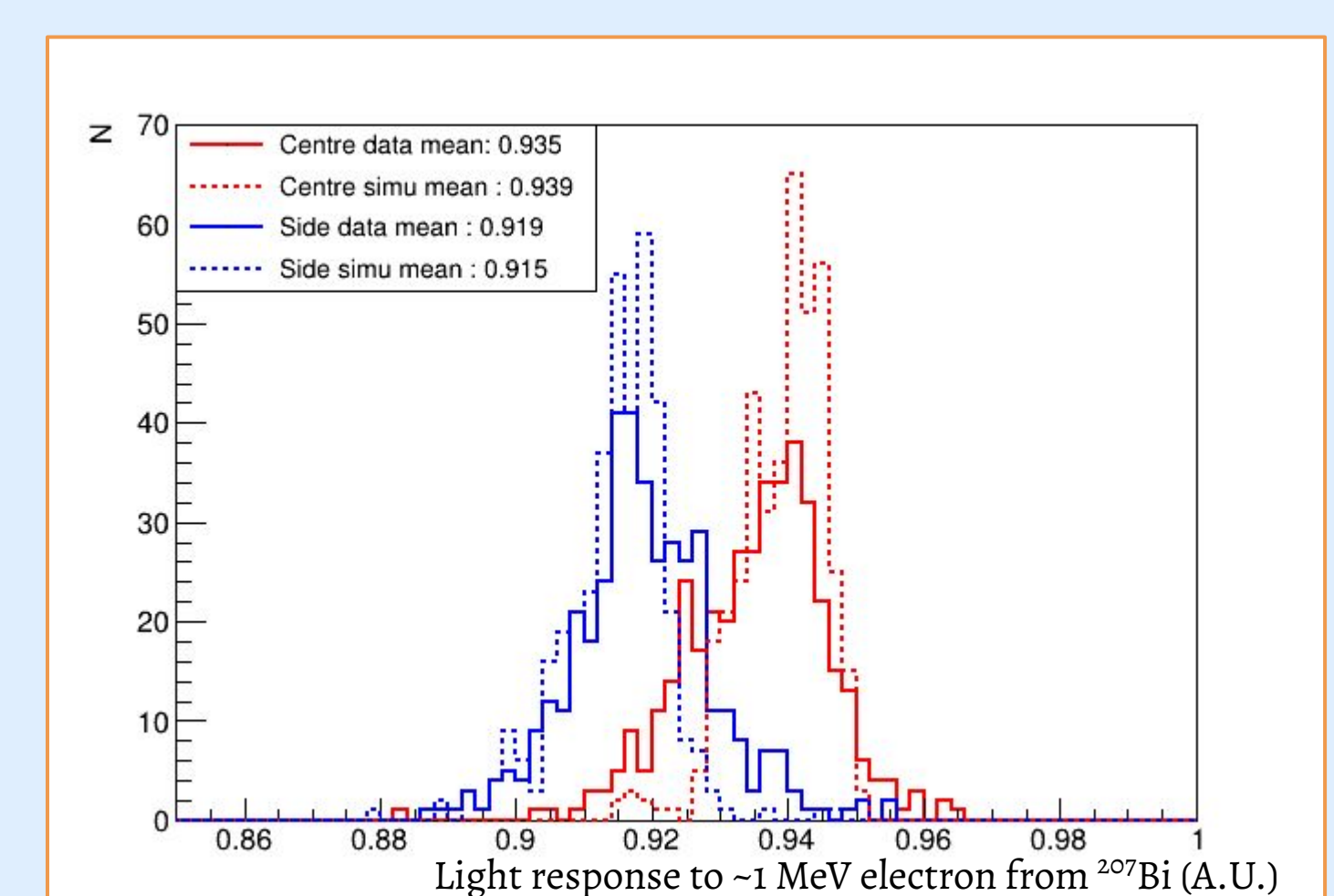
- Data selected into two areas with respect to the scintillator face :
- **Centre:**  $< 10$  cm from the centre
  - **Side:**  $> 20$  cm from the centre



As expected, **better light collection on the centre than the side**

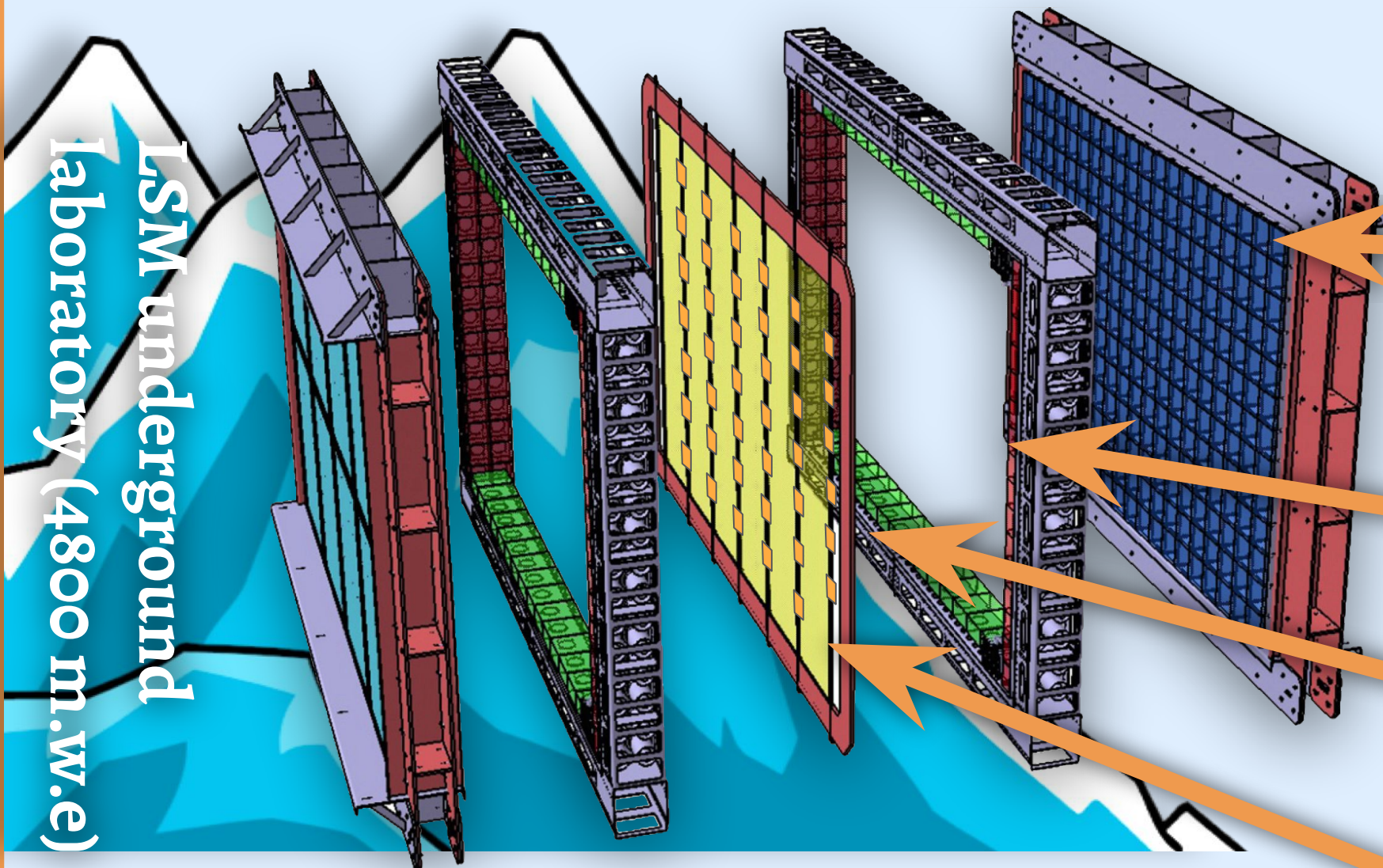
Simulation **completely compatible** with data!

More detailed study to come!





## SuperNEMO Demonstrator's Search for Neutrinoless Double Beta Decay ( $0\nu\beta\beta$ )



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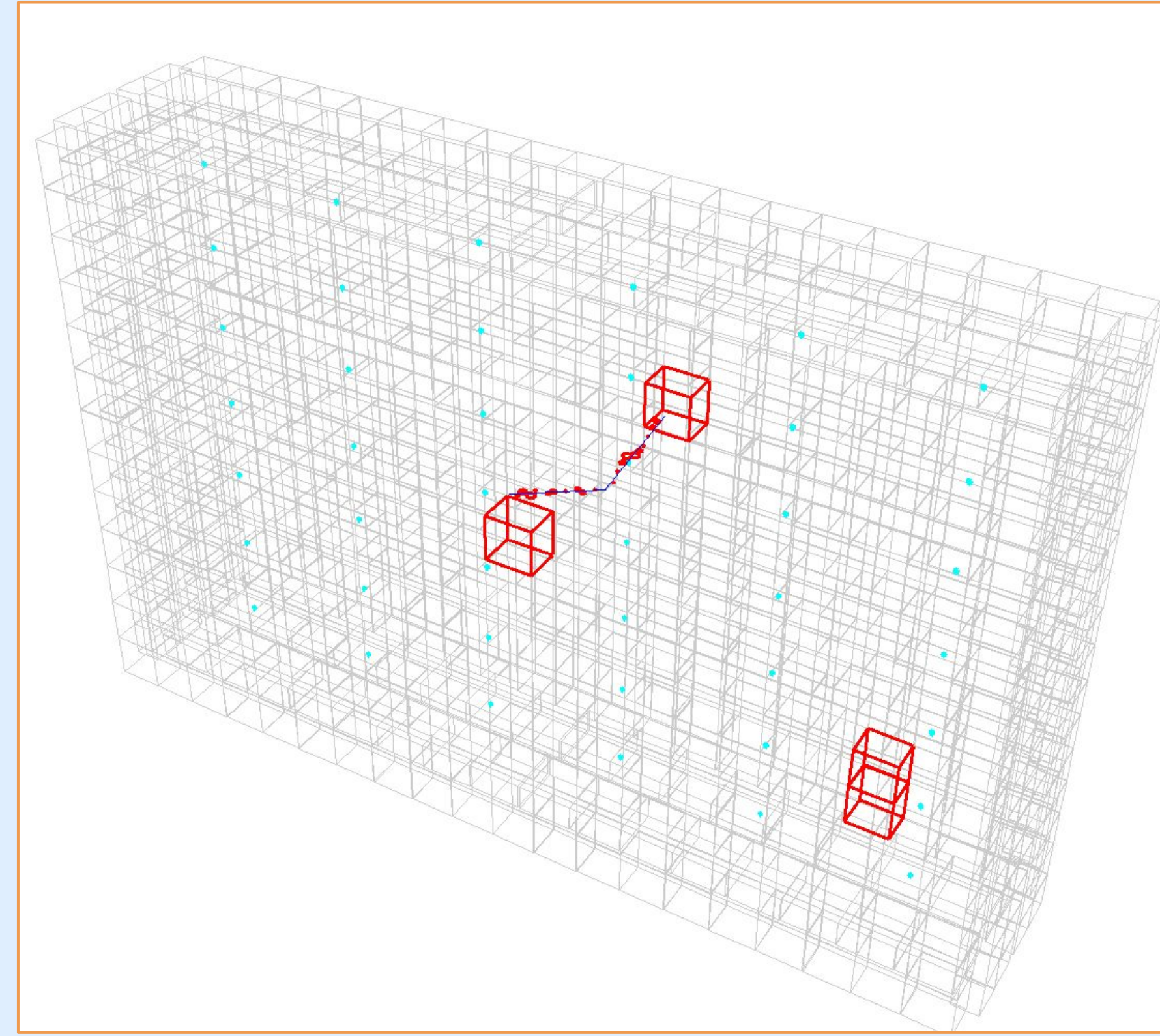
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track length

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energy at the end of the track

