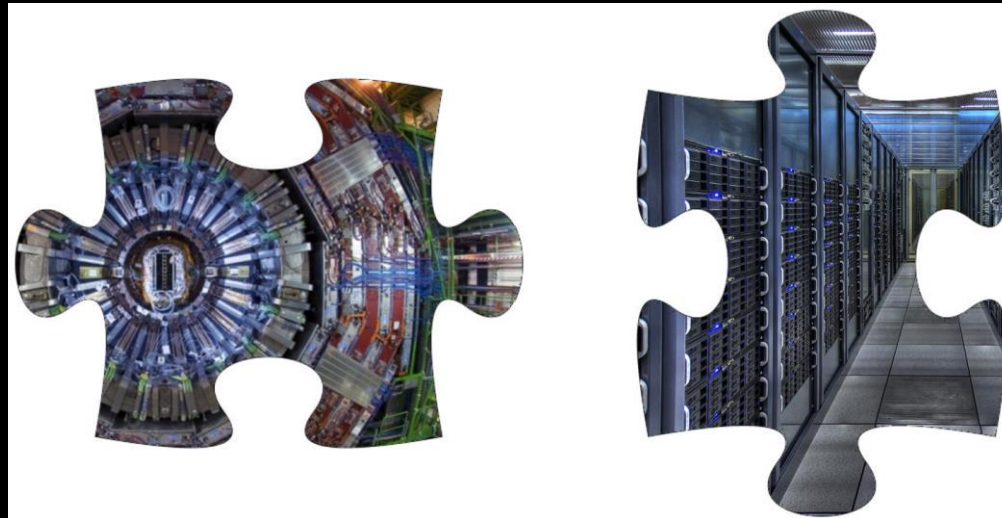


# WG2 – Codesign Kick-off Meeting



Tommaso Dorigo, Pietro Vischia

First researcher @ [INFN, Sezione di Padova](#)

Guest Professor @ [Luleå Techniska Universitet](#)

President @ [Universal Scientific Education and Research Network](#)

# WELCOME BACK !

We have let some months pass since the Amsterdam conference

In the meantime, our group has grown – at least on paper – but it is not clear yet if we can organize a concrete effort toward the goals we set

- Our mailing list eucaif-WG-Codesign includes **36 members**
  - But many generals, few soldiers...

Let us recap the reasons why we formed this group

# Three Objectives of WG2

- 1) **Identify existing design paradigms** for particle and astroparticle physics instruments which have become **obsolete in the AI era**, and assemble software strategies and research paths to **overtake them**
- 2) **Support the development of simulation tools** that constitute enablers of co-design approaches to holistic optimization for detector use cases in HEP, astro-HEP, nuclear and neutrino physics.
- 3) Understand physical limits of information generated by particle interactions in granular calorimeters and conditions for its lossless extraction, as a preliminary step toward the **AI-assisted hybridization of calorimeters and tracking detectors** into optimized variable-density systems.

Should we add / remove something ?

# Round of introductions

Let us go around the table to introduce ourselves to the rest of the group!

Please spend 3 minutes to let us know your name and position, your research interests and current involvement, your interest in EUCAIF and WG2 activities

# What is Co-Design?

Realizing that the achievement of a goal may require to tailor each part of a system to all others: **synergy**



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Enabling the simultaneous optimization of all parts, to maximize a global utility in a high-dimensional design space: **holistic optimization**



# What is Co-Design?

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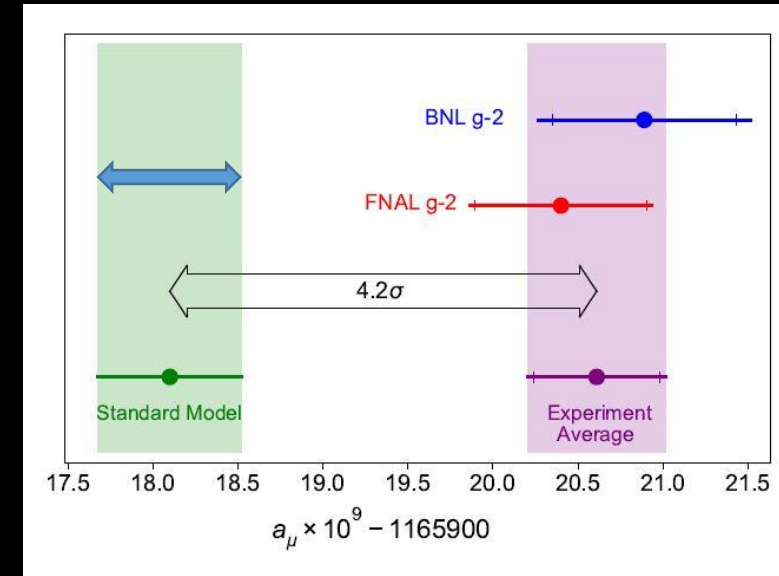
Bringing together diverse components, technologies, or expertise to create a unified and cohesive system, ensuring seamless interoperability and coordination: **integration**



# One Example of the Importance of Co-Design : MUonE

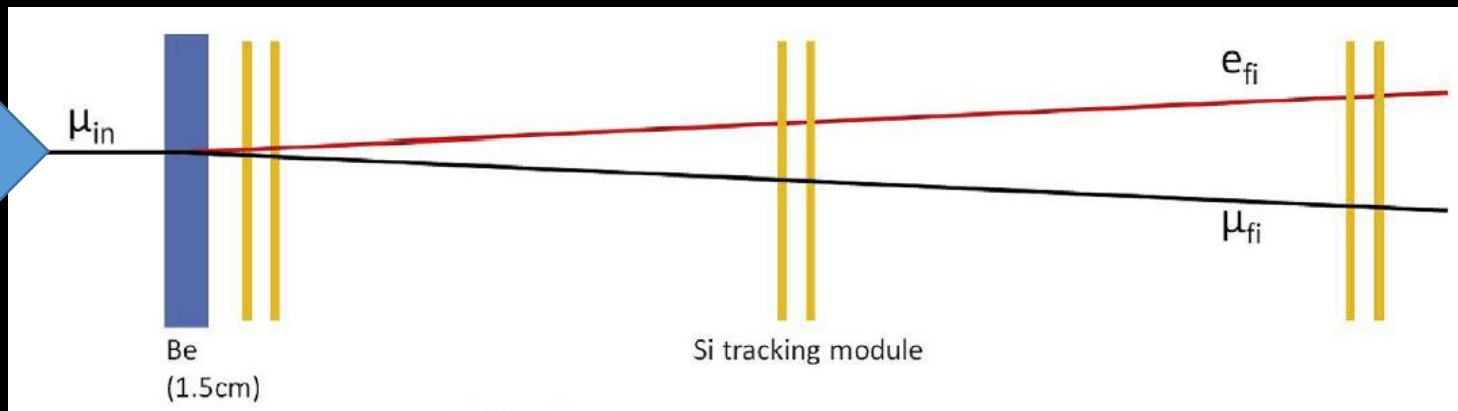
MUonE aims to determine with high precision the **probability of elastic muon-electron scattering**, as this number may reduce the theory systematics of the  **$g-2$  muon anomaly**

The experiment must be sensitive to the rate of interactions as a function of momentum transfer, with  **$10^{-4}$  precision**

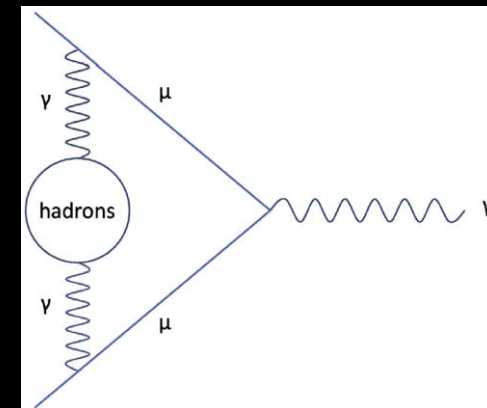


*Above: a long-standing anomaly in the Standard Model, the muon  $g-2$  value*

*Below: a muon-photon interaction, with a hadronic quantum loop*



*Above: layout of one of 40 1m-long MUonE stations, as per original design proposal*

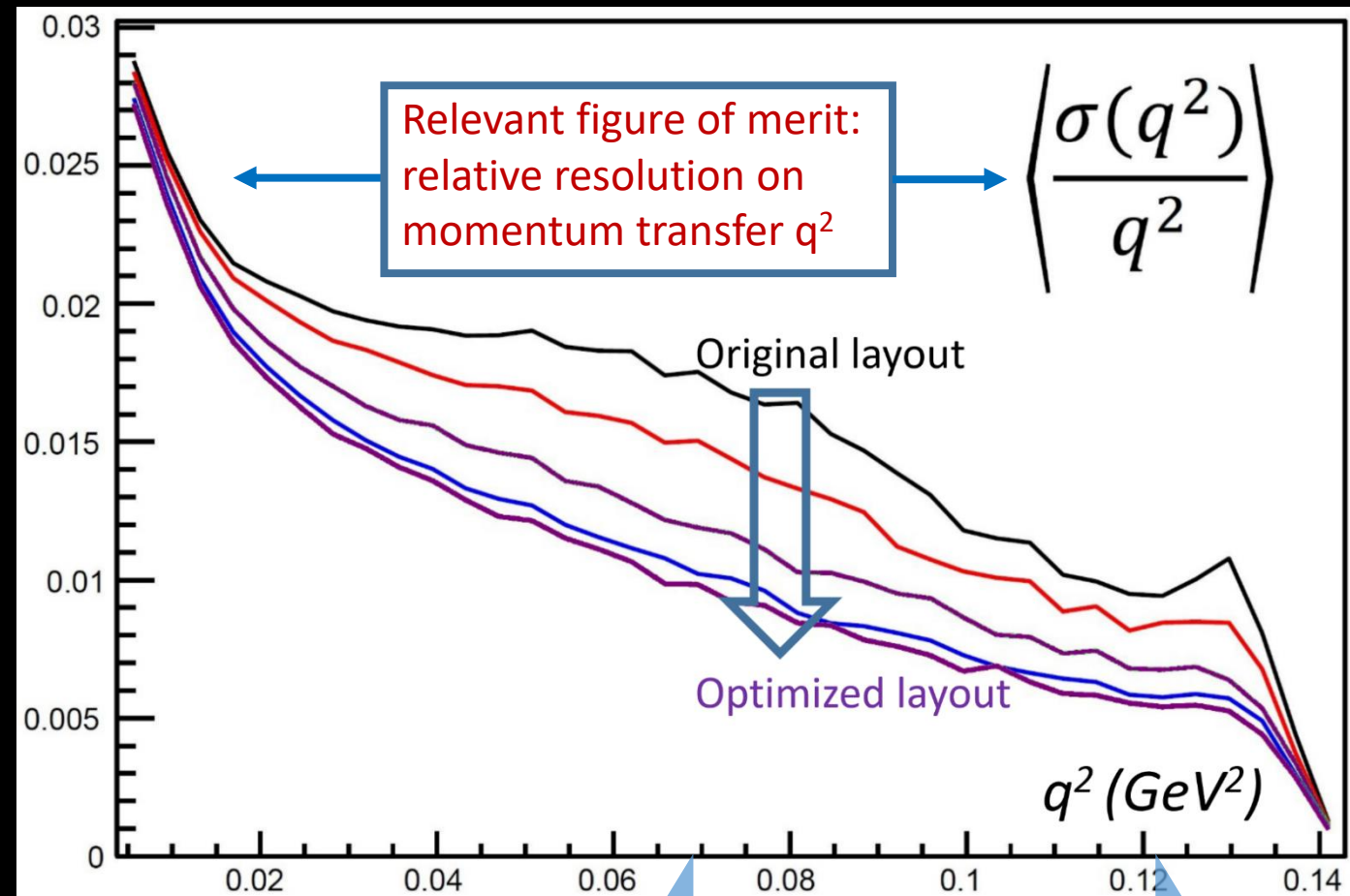




# MUonE Optimization

The original design of the MUonE stations was good, but it failed to use the constraining potential of the 3-particle vertex (a co-design exploitable!) and the strong dependence on geometry of  $q^2$  resolution (the relevant metric)

A factor of two (!) gain was achieved by discrete optimization scans



[T. Dorigo, Geometry Optimization of a Muon-Electron Scattering Experiment, Physics Open 4 \(2020\) 100022.](#)

# Scale of Optimization Problems in Physics and Elsewhere

Task	Number of parameters	Year	Status
Typical LHC new physics search	20-50	2012-	OK
<a href="#">MUnE detector station geometry</a>	20	2019-2020	OK
<a href="#">SWG0 Cherenkov tanks layout</a>	O(100)	2023-2024	In progress
AlexNet (for ImageNet challenge)	62,300,000	2012	OK
<a href="#">kNN for muon energy regression in granular calo</a>	66,000,000	2022	OK
ChatGPT 3.5	150,000,000,000	2023	OK
ChatGPT 4.0	1,700,000,000,000	2023	OK

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<a href="#">SWG0 Cherenkov tanks layout</a>	O(100)	2023-2024	In progress
<b>FDFLC</b> <b>(a future detector for a future large collider)</b>	<b>O(10,000)</b>	?	Not presently contemplated
AlexNet (for ImageNet challenge)	62,300,000	2012	OK
<a href="#">kNN for muon energy regression in granular calo</a>	66,000,000	2022	OK
ChatGPT 3.5	150,000,000,000	2023	OK
ChatGPT 4.0	1,700,000,000,000	2023	OK

# A Walk in the Jungle...

- We need new competences
  - The **detector experts community is largely not enthused by AI**
  - Some parts of the design decisions cannot, and will never, be automated
- 
- **Engage** computer scientists in our problems
  - Start easy, **prove** new technology by targeting low-hanging fruits
  - **Pursue** “human in the middle” approach



# Reminder: EUCAIF Conference, 16-20 June 2025

**6-20 June 2025, T Hotel, Cagliari, Sardegna, Italy**

We are happy to announce the second “European AI for Fundamental Physics Conference” (EuCAIFCon), which will be held in Cagliari, Sardinia, from 16 - 20 June 2025. The event aims to provide a platform for establishing new connections between AI activities across various branches of fundamental physics, by bringing together researchers that face similar challenges and/or use similar AI solutions. The conference will be organized “horizontally”: sessions are centered on specific AI methods and themes, while being cross-disciplinary regarding the scientific questions.

EuCAIFCon 2025 is organized by EuCAIF, and with the support of INFN Cagliari, the University of Cagliari and the University of Sassari. EuCAIF is a new European initiative for advancing the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Fundamental Physics. Members are working on particle physics, astroparticle physics, nuclear physics, gravitational wave physics, cosmology, theoretical physics as well as simulation and computational infrastructure.

## Important dates:

Opening abstract submission (Mon, 6 Jan 2025)

Opening registration (Mon, 3 Feb 2025)

**Closing abstract submission (Sun, 16 Feb 2025)**

Abstract acceptance notification (Fri, 28 Feb 2025)

**Closing early bird registration (Mon, 31 Mar 2025)**

Closing registration (Sat, 31 May 2025)

**Conference (Mon-Fri, 16-20 June 2025)**

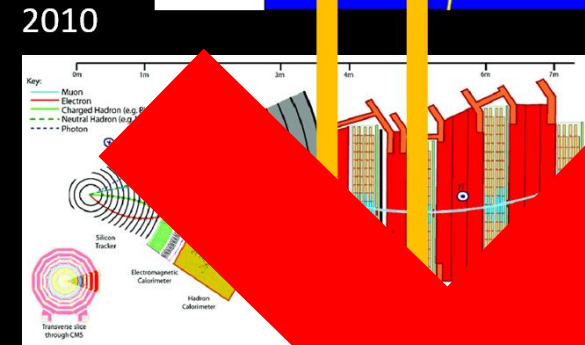
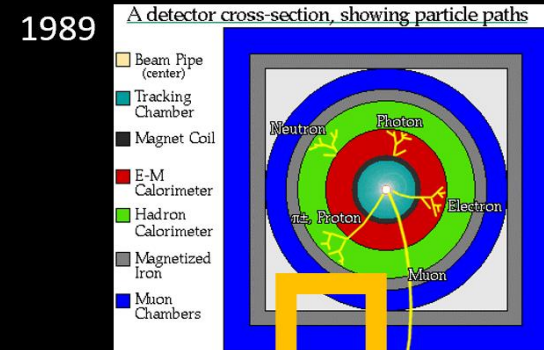


For more details see <https://eucaif.org> and <https://agenda.infn.it/event/43565/>

# Recent work: Exploring the limits of Calorimetry

One good example of non-evolution in fundamental science: the design of collider detectors

Clearly something we should try and direct forces to overcome!



2050?

JO'H!

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In connection with the DRD6 group activities, we are exploring the boundary of information extraction from granular calorimeters

1) Can we do **particle ID** in a highly-granular calorimeter?

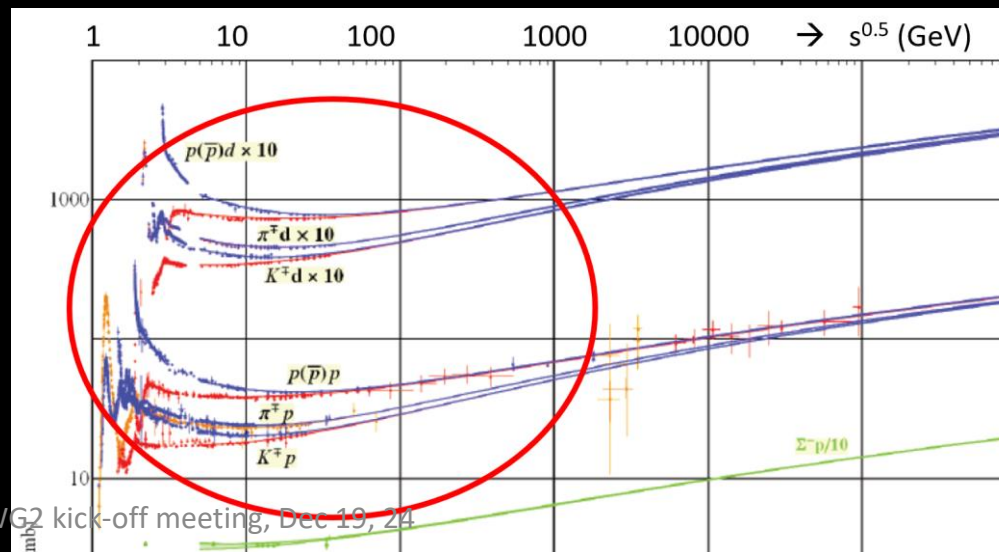
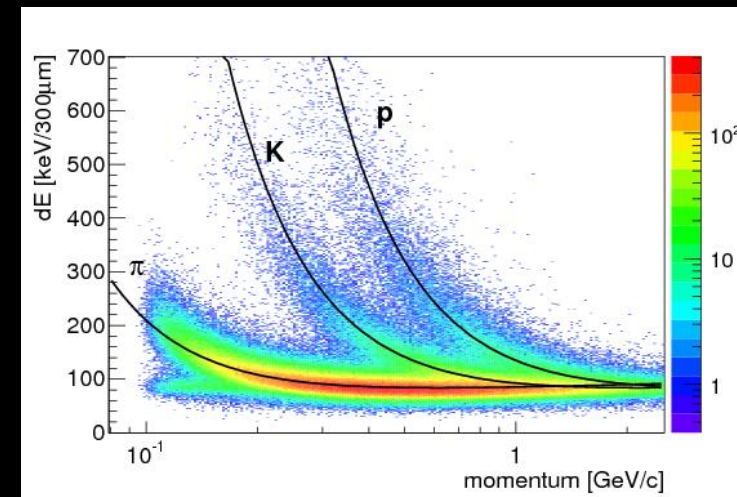
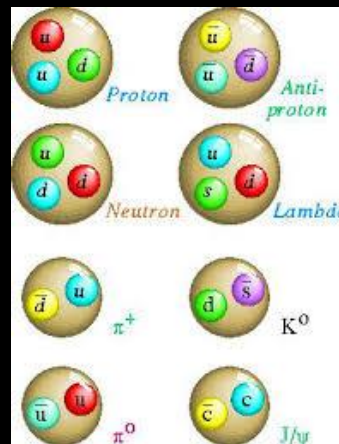
- What is the largest cell size that retains that information?

2) Can we **overcome granularity** by having a neuromorphic readout and local processing using **nanophotonics**?

3) Can we **hybridize a tracker and a calorimeter**, learning the optimal layout with a diffusion model?

Studies within group  
INFN/UOV/LTU/KIT/RPTU/Lund:

Abhishek, M. Awais, M. Aehle, L. Chen, Abhijit Das, A. de Vita, TD, N. Gauger, R. Keidel, J. Kieseler, E. Lupi, A. Mikkelsen, F. Nardi, XT. Nguyen, M. Pizzocarò, K. Schmidt, J. Wilmore, F. Sandin, P. Vischia



Hadrons are different, and their interactions could in principle distinguish them!

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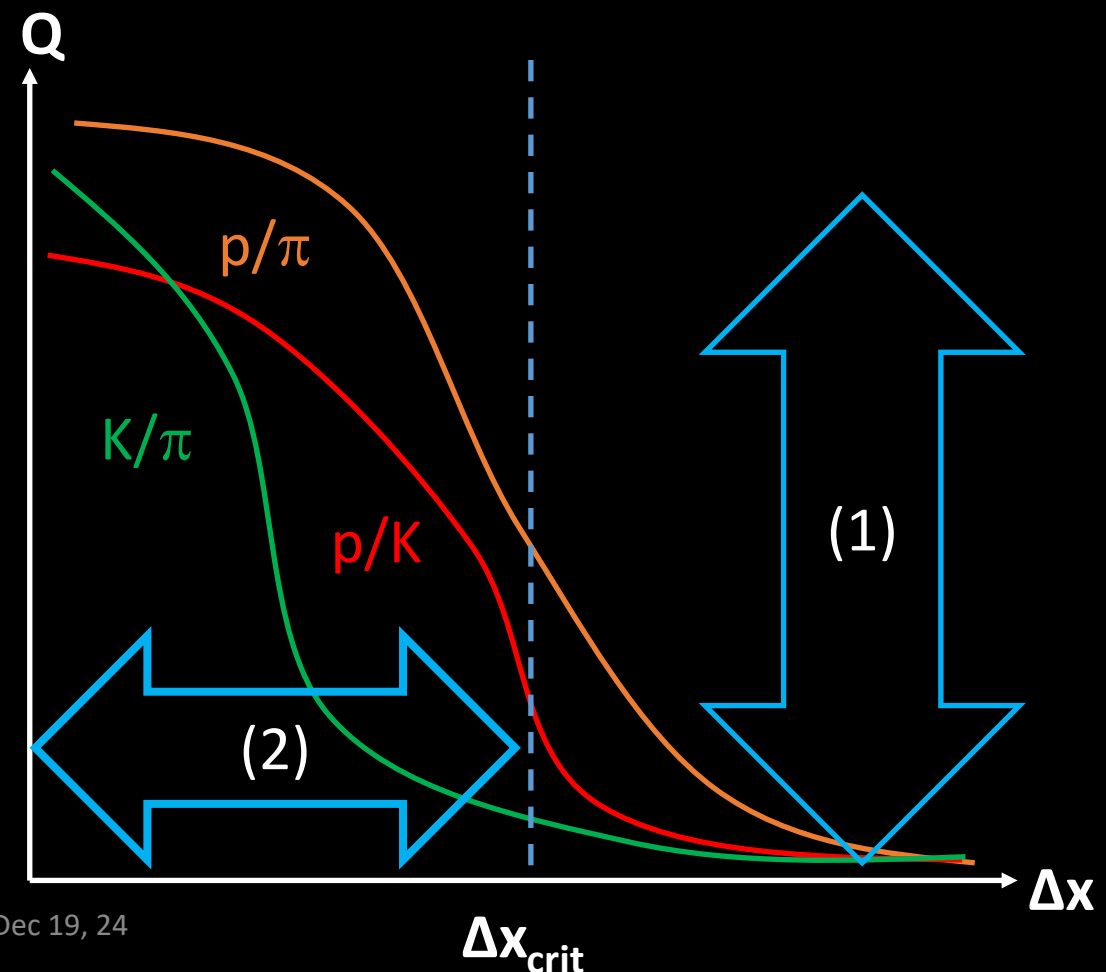
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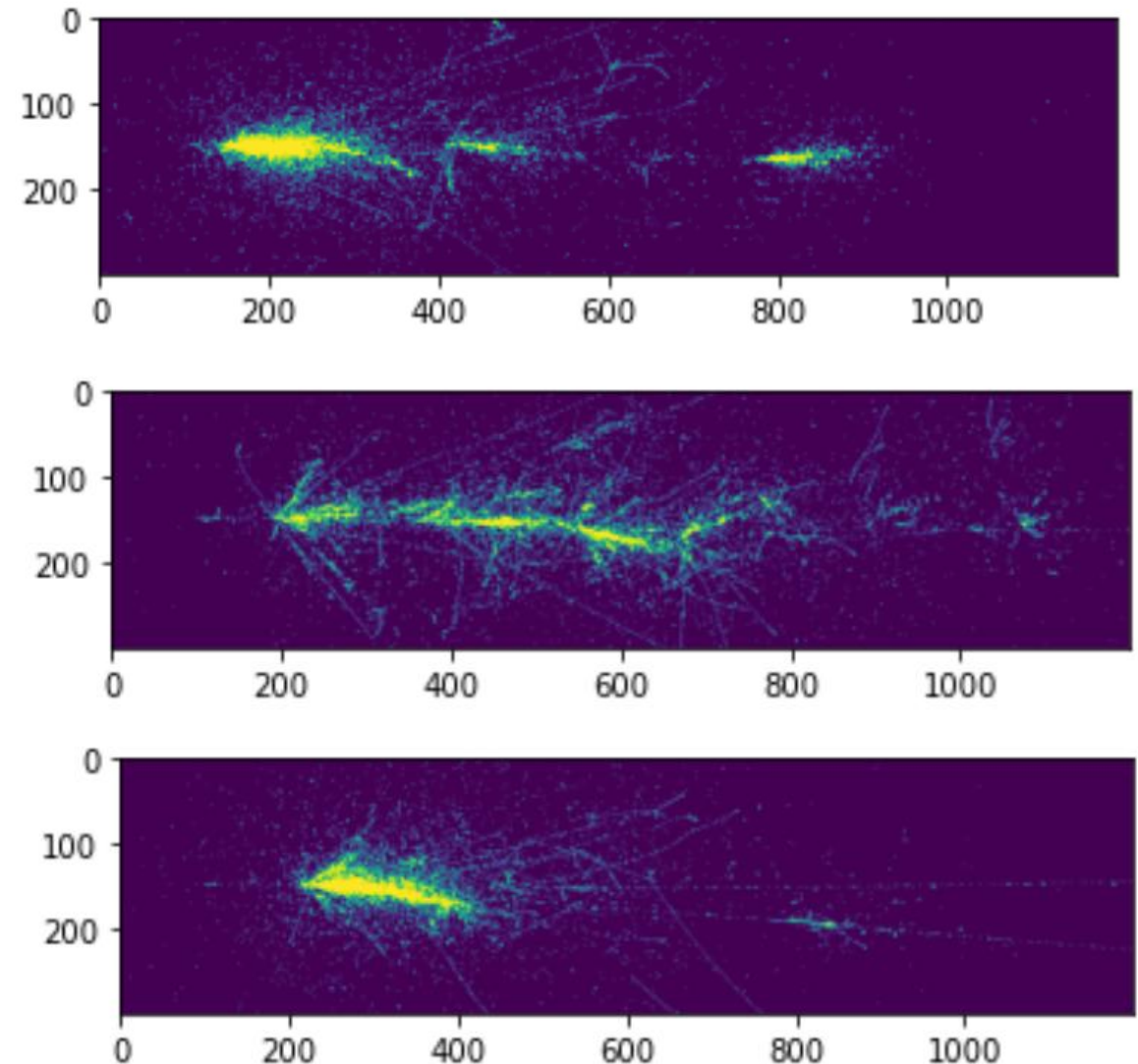
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100 GeV Proton, kaon, pion energy deposits



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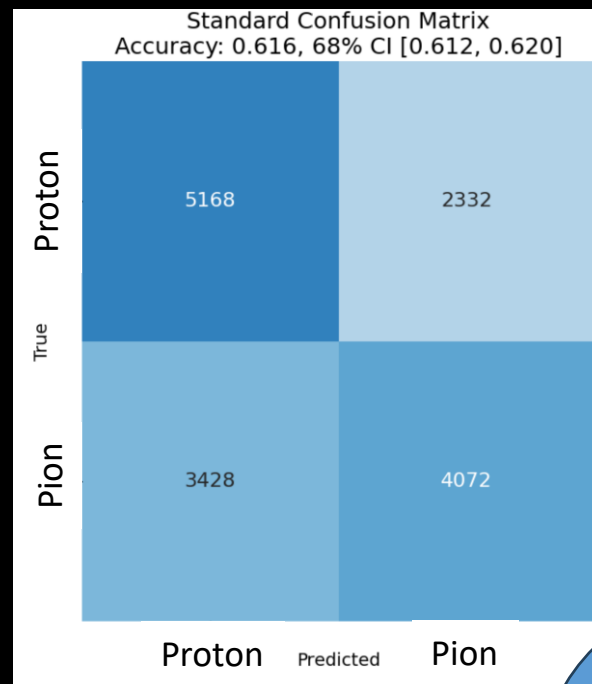
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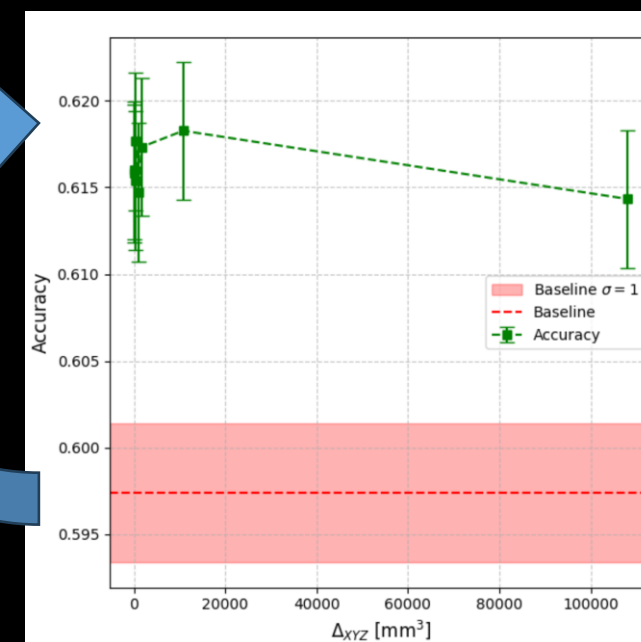
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Discrimination up to 65% between protons and pions @ 100 GeV

How does it degrade with cell size?



Appraisal of PID  
information gain  
from granularity

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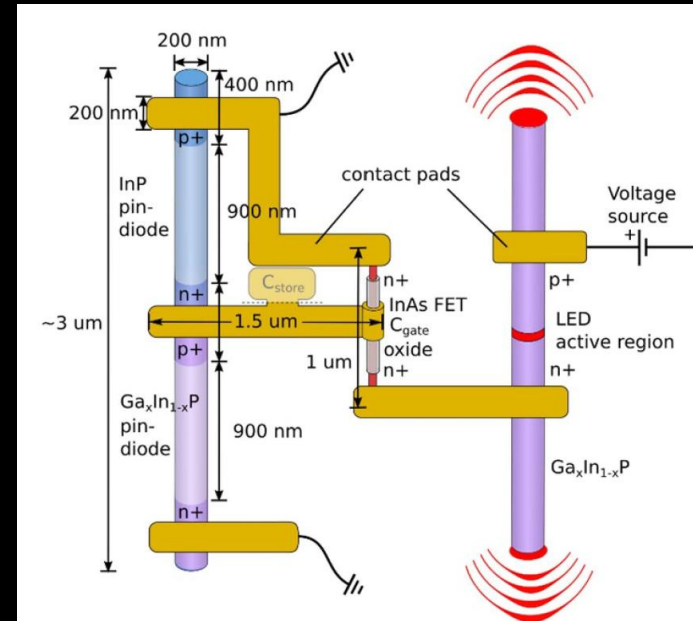
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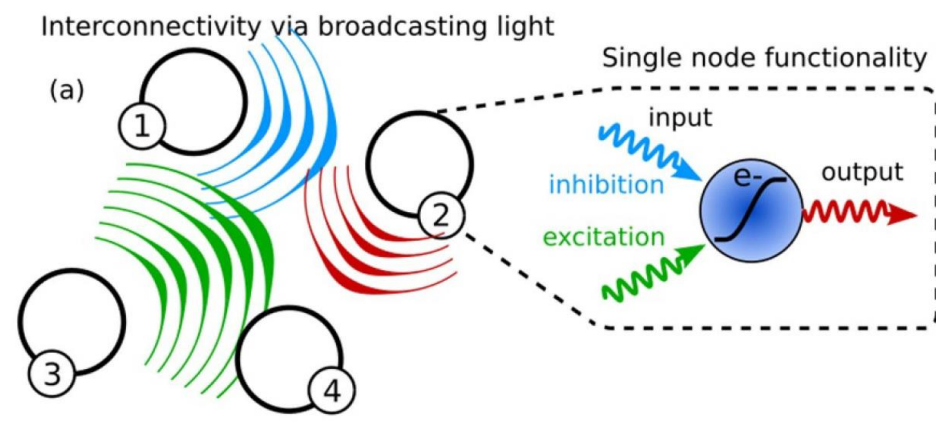
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Light-activated and light-emitting nanowires can be used as elements of reservoir computing in a neuromorphic system



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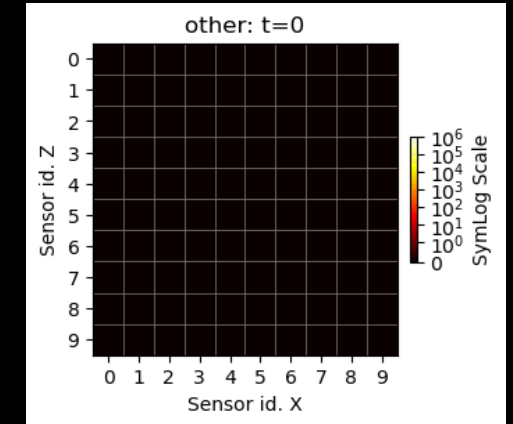
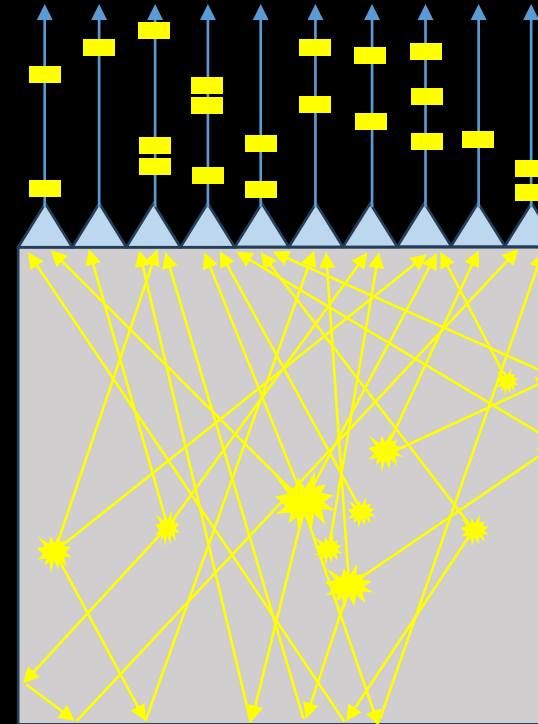
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200 ps-sampled time of arrival of photons to receptors

Read out scintillator block through array of nanowire receptors, directly coupled to **neuromorphic network** learning energy patterns

→ **Native photonics**, no amplification!

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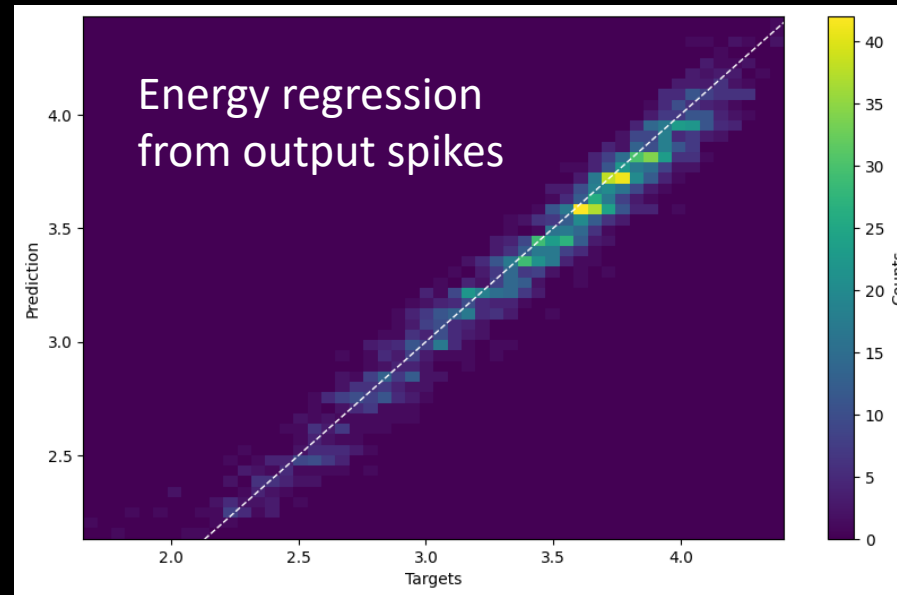
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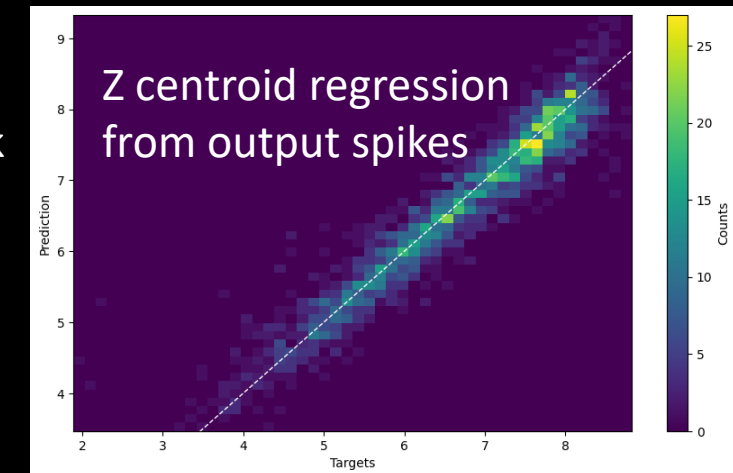


Ultra-fast and energy-efficient detection and computation !

Exploit time structure of produced information

Can regress total energy deposited in calorimeter block as well as moments of energy distribution

→ Image showers without having to segment device!



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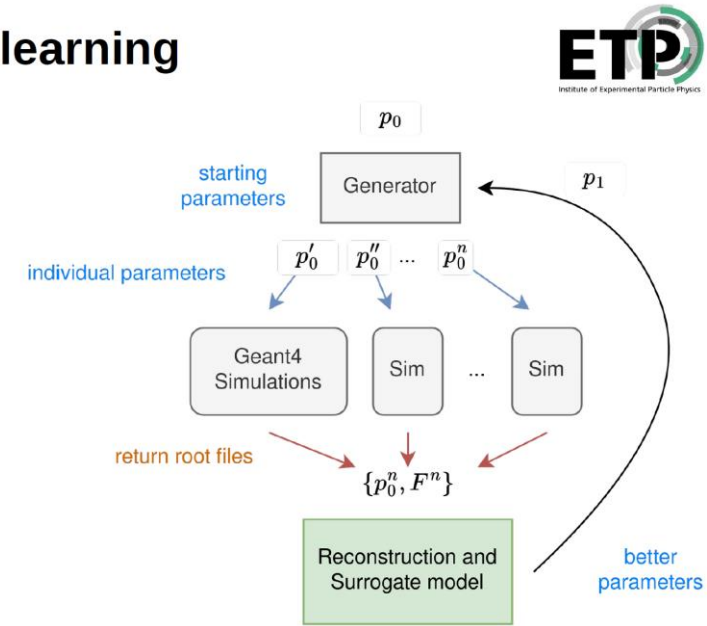
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## Workflow of sampling and learning

- Sample inside a small region of parameter space
- Compute detector performance for each configuration
- Train the Surrogate model
- Optimize the parameters based on the Surrogate's prediction
- New predicted parameters are the mean of the next iteration
- Repeat until converged



Work by **Kylian Schmidt** (under supervision of **J. Kieseler**)

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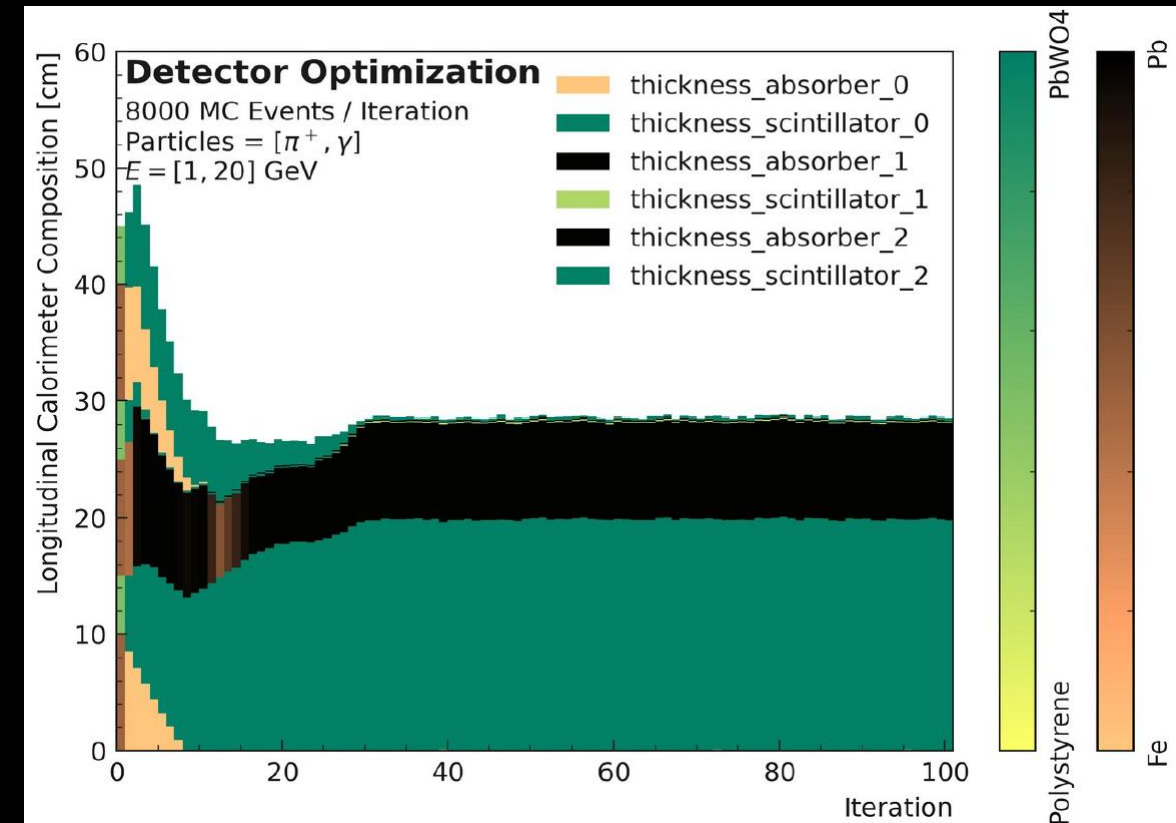
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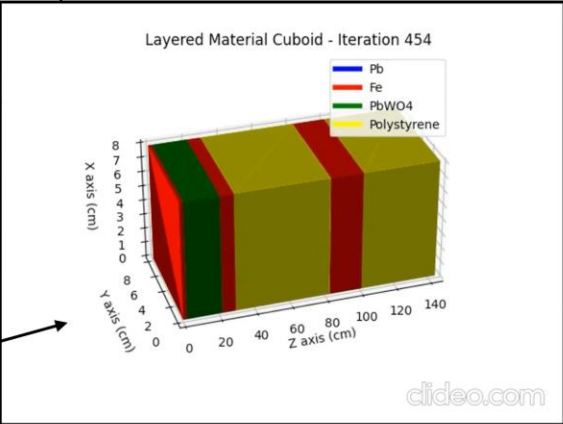
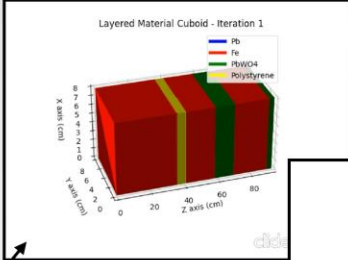
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 Yes.

- Different particles (electromagnetic and hadronic)
  - Short showers
  - Deep showers
- All with energies between 1 and 20 GeV
- Material cost <50k CHF
- Length <180 cm
- Start with a **horrible** configuration
- After a few hundred iterations: a **very reasonable** configuration with significantly better performance (and close to real-world detector designs)



clideo.com

See presentation by J. Kieseler at 4<sup>th</sup> MODE Workshop, Valencia Sep 24



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4) Can we differentiate Geant4?

Studies within group  
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arXiv > physics > arXiv:2407.02966

Physics > Computational Physics

[Submitted on 3 Jul 2024]

## Efficient Forward-Mode Algorithmic Derivatives of Geant4

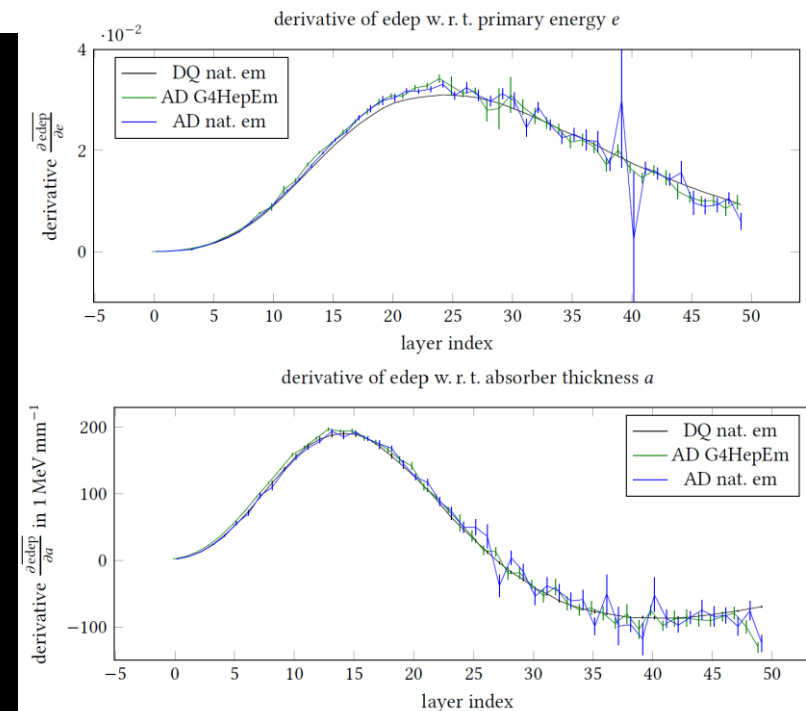
Max Aehle, Xuan Tung Nguyen, Mihály Novák, Tommaso Dorigo, Nicolas R. Gauger, Jan Kieseler, Markus Klute, Vassil Vassilev

We have applied an operator-overloading forward-mode algorithmic differentiation tool to the Monte-Carlo particle simulation toolkit Geant4. Our differentiated version of Geant4 allows computing mean pathwise derivatives of user-defined outputs of Geant4 applications with respect to user-defined inputs. This constitutes a major step towards enabling gradient-based optimization techniques in high-energy physics, as well as other application domains of Geant4.

This is a preliminary report on the technical aspects of applying operator-overloading AD to Geant4, as well as a first analysis of some results obtained by our differentiated Geant4 prototype. We plan to follow up with a more refined analysis.

Subjects: Computational Physics (physics.comp-ph)  
Cite as: arXiv:2407.02966 [physics.comp-ph]  
(or arXiv:2407.02966v1 [physics.comp-ph] for this version)  
<https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2407.02966>

EM part of a shower's energy deposition emulated with AD code



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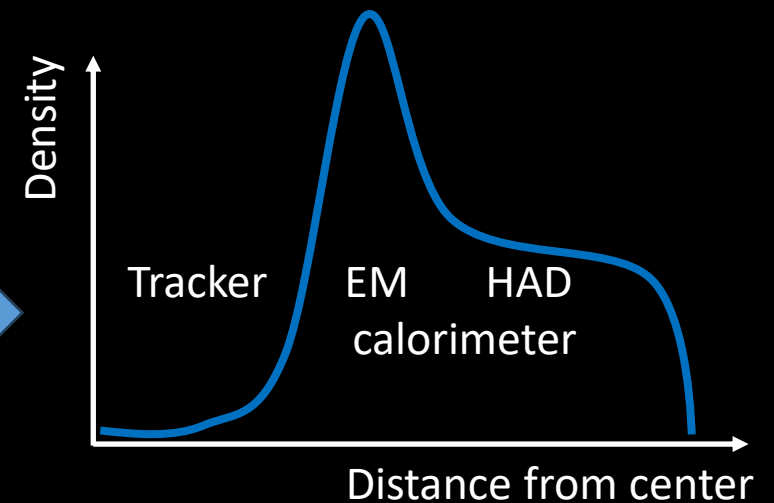
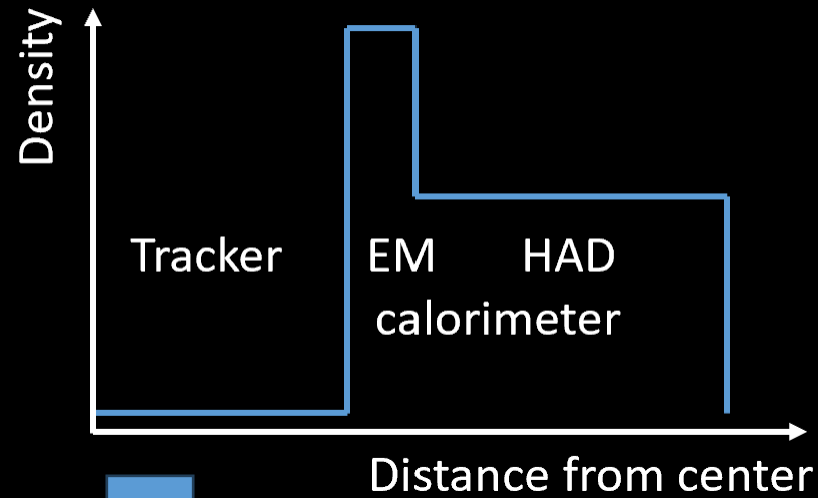
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4) Can we differentiate Geant4?

5) **Can we hybridize a tracker and a calorimeter**, learning the optimal layout with a diffusion model?

(Current work with A. de Vita, J. Kieseler, and K. Schmidt)



# In Summary

The community should invest resources at all levels to

- **Foster** co-design studies
- **Facilitate** collaboration with computer scientists
- **Push** toward development of trustable differentiable Monte Carlos and suitable surrogates
- **Integrate** AI in workflows of design strategies
- **Consider** what information-extraction capabilities will be there in 20 years, and adapt detector design to them

**Funding agencies should support these activities**, and push toward the incorporation of this new transforming technology in the design activities for new experiments. It does not happen overnight – strategic decisions must be taken

**EUCAIF-WG2-CODESIGN should be a container of all activities we generate to reach the above goals**



# Two Proposals: **1) NC for Calorimetry**

The study of neuromorphic readout for calorimeters, possibly employing reservoir learning, qualifies as a co-design topic, and

- It constitutes a blue-sky research topic where we do not need to “belong” to some pre-defined collaboration or experiment
- It looks promising as a new technology
- It employs innovative concepts (nano-photonics, neuromorphic computing)

Goals:

- Short-medium term: Explore the design space, determine show-stoppers, evolve to a workable solution, optimize system
- Produce article describing results
- Eventually prepare for prototyping on hardware

## 2) Using drones to study atmospheric showers

One of the main limiting factors in ground-based detection of cosmic rays is the determination of the shower core ( $X_{\max}$ ).

Drones can now fly for weeks at a time at very high altitude (10-20km), and carry 300kg of payload or more.

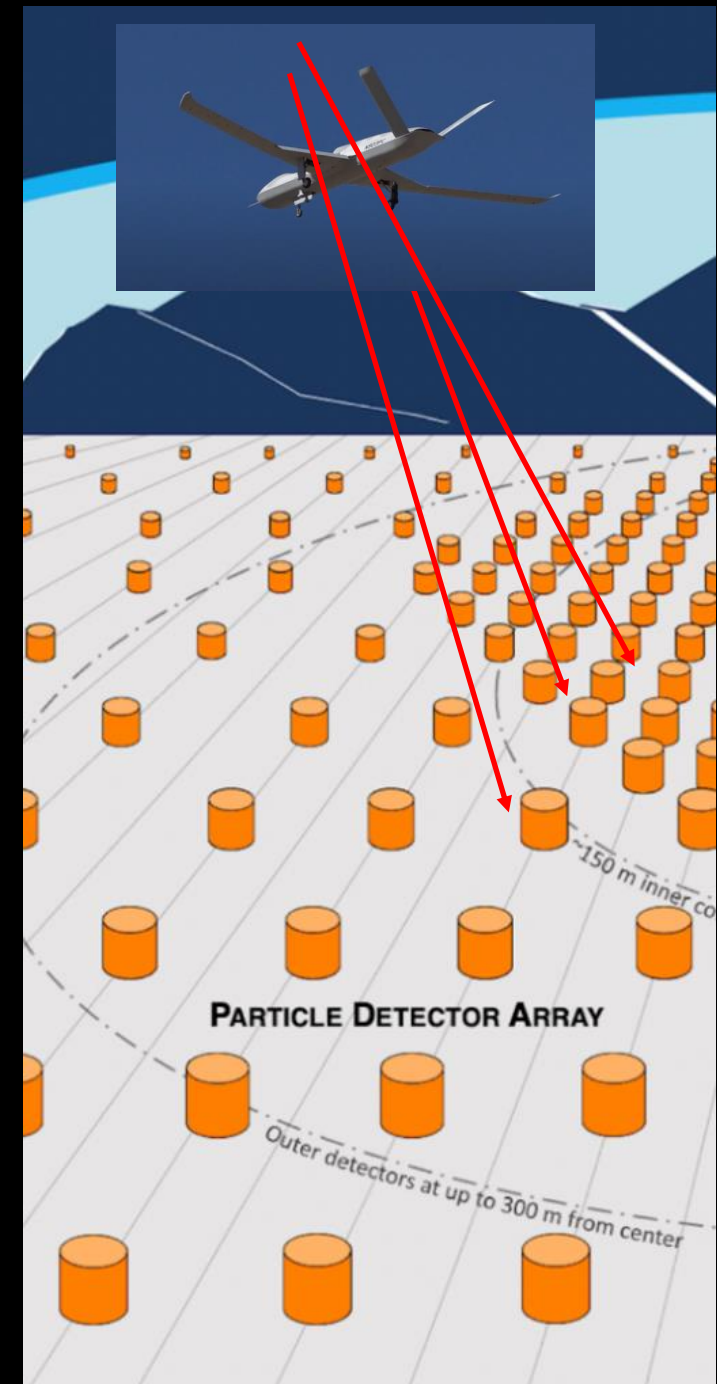


# A mouthful of applications!

Coupling a planned or existing array on the ground (e.g. SWGO, HAWK, LHAASO...) with drone-carried detectors could

- improve p/nucleus discrimination
- reduce E uncertainty
- strongly improve angular resolution
- The system would be fast to “align” toward transient localized emitters, enhancing the capability of the ground based instrument and of networks of multimessenger experiments
- Cosmic shower composition studies could be boosted by this technology
- Refine models of air showers

The drone-ground array synergy could revolutionize cosmic ray research, providing insights into particle astrophysics and the atmosphere’s role in high-energy phenomena



# Other Co-Design study ideas

Let us add other ideas to compile a list of possible projects that can be aggregators of work we can coalesce a collaboration around...

# The Survey

Let us look at the survey we created to collect information on our members' interests, personpower, and availability

	Areas	Status	PM involv. (PM)	Other PM
M. Koppel	HEP, B, HI-HEP, DET	PD	1-2	-
A. Giammanco	HEP, Muography	Staff	0.5-1	4-12
T. Golling	HEP, DET, Tracking, Calorim.	Staff	0.5-1	>12
T. Belias	HEP, NUCL, DET, HI-HEP	Staff	2	1-3
M. Tosi	HEP, Tracking, DET	Staff	-	
W. Stummer	HI-HEP, Accelerators	PD	-	-
K. Potamianos	HEP, Tracking, Pheno	Staff	0.5-1	1-3
S. Caron	HEP, Astro, GW, Pheno	Staff	-	-
C. Weniger	GW, Cosmology	Staff	<0.5	-
P. Vischia	HEP, Pheno, Astro, Calorim.	Staff	1-2	1-3
T. Dorigo	HEP, Astro, Calorimeters	Staff	2-3	4-12



Thank you for your time!

# Backup

# Optimal for What?

The reason why detectors are complex is not only that the studied physics is complex: Science is a demanding job.

*We want to study everything and do it better than previously*

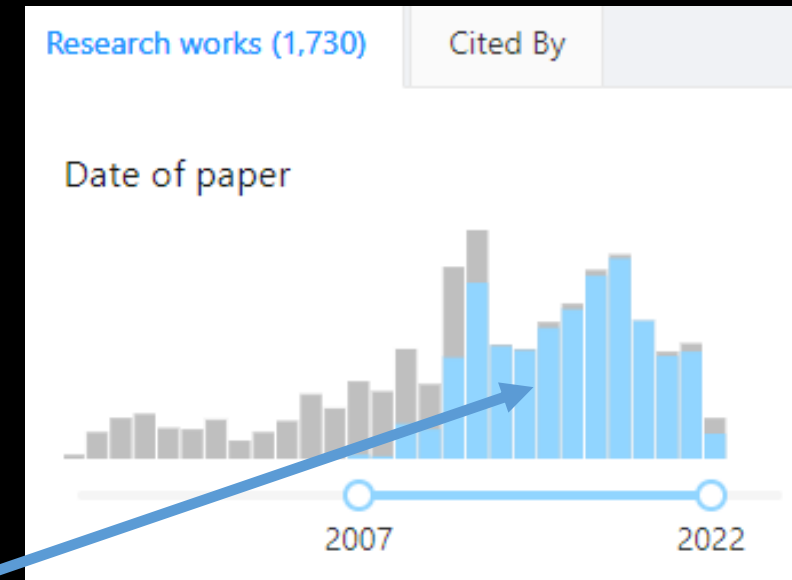
CMS has over 4000 members, who use the data for a LARGE number of *different measurements and searches...*

So, what does it mean for a detector to be *optimal*?

**What loss function** do we aim to minimize?

**Does it make sense to speak of an experiment-wide utility function?**

Concerning the last question: **I will convince you that it does**



# Recipe for a Perfect Dinner



We are not alien to confidently taking complex decisions in a **multi-objective space**. We actually do it routinely...  
Of course, we are not deterred by knowing that the exact form of **our optimization target is arbitrary**

# Recipe for a Perfect Trigger

Similarly, we are actually *used* to create multi-target optimization strategies, e.g. when we allocate resources for the trigger menu of a collider detector.

Consider CDF, Run 1 (1992-96): taking in a rate of 300 kHz of proton-antiproton collisions and having to select 50 Hz of writable data **created some of the most heated scientifically-driven, rationally motivated, painfully well argued, and littered with 4-letter words debates I ever listened to**

The top quark had to be discovered, but it was not the only goal of the experiment...

