

# Reconstruction with Photon Detectors in a Liquid Argon TPC

Stan Seibert  
University of Pennsylvania

LBNE Physics Workshop  
7/30/2012

# Motivations

- The move to the surface has made the far detector a very busy place.
- Cosmic ray flux:  $100 \mu/m^2/sec$
- Two 5 kton cryostat modules have a top surface area of  $650 m^2$ .  
*(Sides add extra, of course)*
- $\sim 90$  muons per  $1.4 ms$  TPC drift time
- $\sim 0.7$  muon per  $10 \mu s$  beam spill window

# Useful Numbers

Mostly based on  
docdb #3383-v31

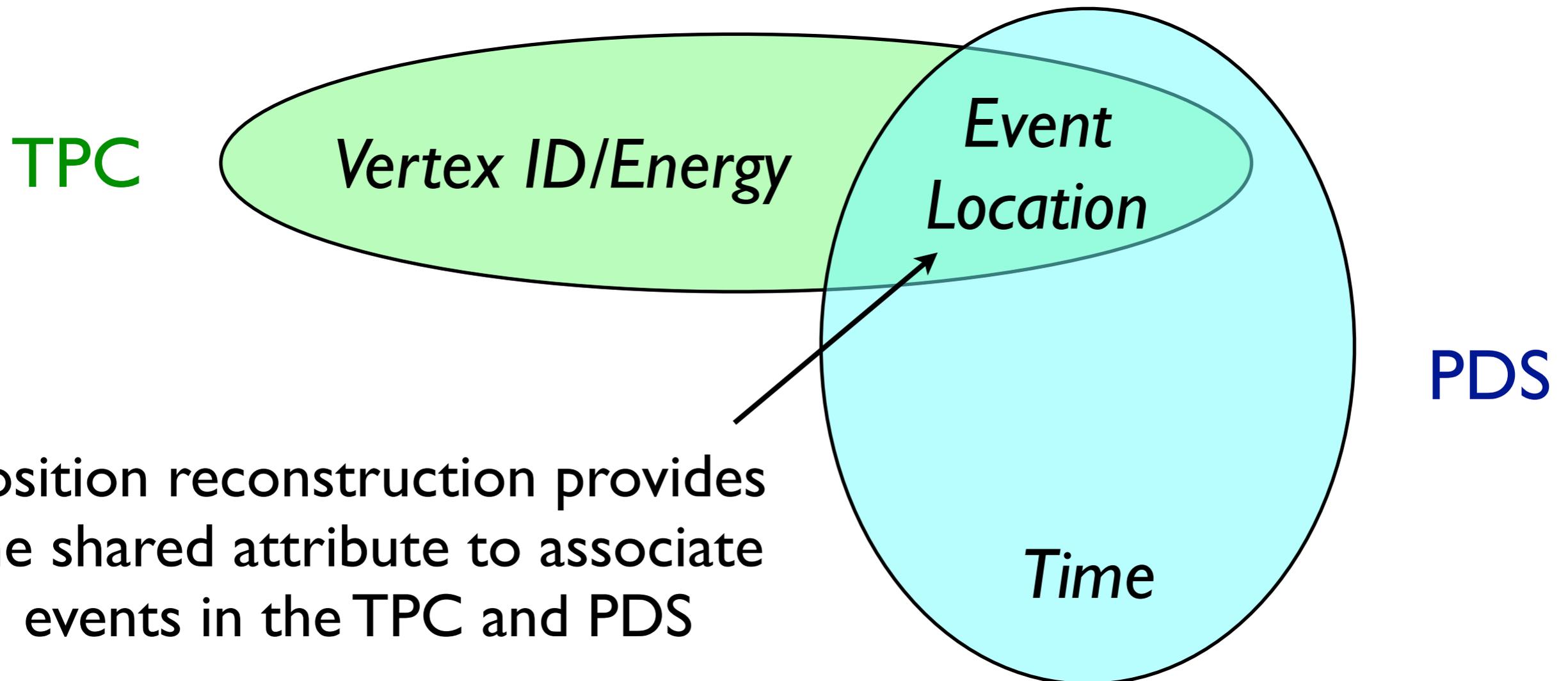
Energy loss for Minimum Ionizing Particle in LAr	2.12 MeV/cm
Average energy for a cosmic ray muon	5 GeV
Neutrino event energy	1-10 GeV
Average path length for a cosmic ray muon	23 m
# anode plane modules (2.5 m x 7 m)	2 (z) x 3 (y) x 10 (x) = 60
Expected # of cosmic rays per module <i>per TPC drift time</i>	~1-2
Expected # of cosmic rays per module <i>per beam spill</i>	~0.01

# Two Detectors in One

- A MIP produces  $\sim 27,000$  free electrons (after recombination) *and*  $\sim 20,000$  UV photons per MeV in liquid argon.
- Opportunity for two orthogonal detectors in one volume!
- Electrons have **good spatial resolution** and **poor temporal resolution**.  
(Wires are cheap, electron diffusion is low, but electron drift is slow)
- Photons have **poor spatial resolution** and **good temporal resolution**.  
(Photons are fast, but Rayleigh scattering is frequent and PMT coverage is expensive.)

# Best of Both Worlds

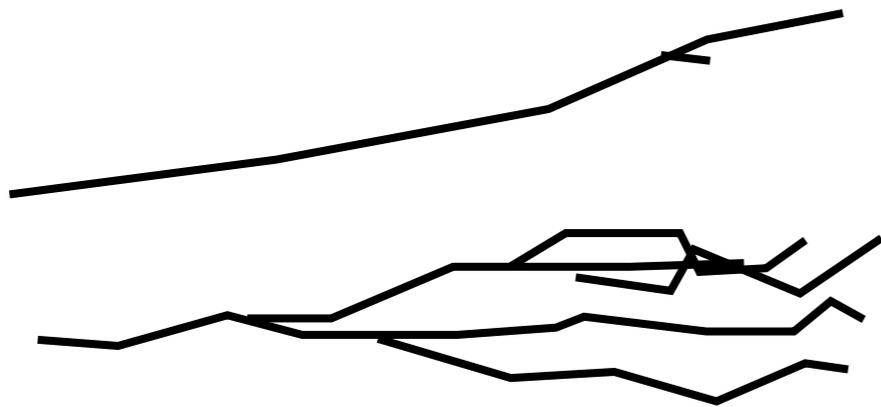
- Use the TPC for individual track/shower reconstruction, particle ID, and calorimetry.
- Use the photon detection system (PDS) to identify the **time** and rough location of each “event”.



Position reconstruction provides the shared attribute to associate events in the TPC and PDS

# Event Sacrifice

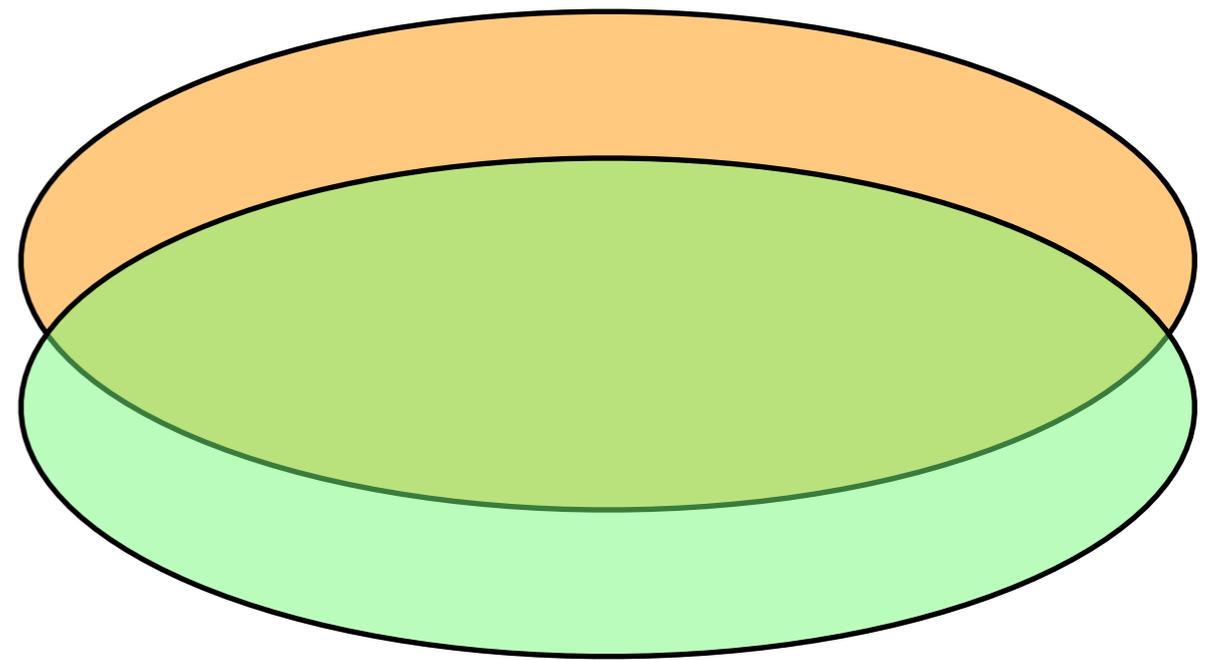
TPC



Events clearly resolved in space, but not in time

PDS

$t_0 = 4 \mu\text{s}$



$t_0 = 500 \mu\text{s}$

Events clearly resolved in time, but not in space

*Can't tell which one is the signal!*

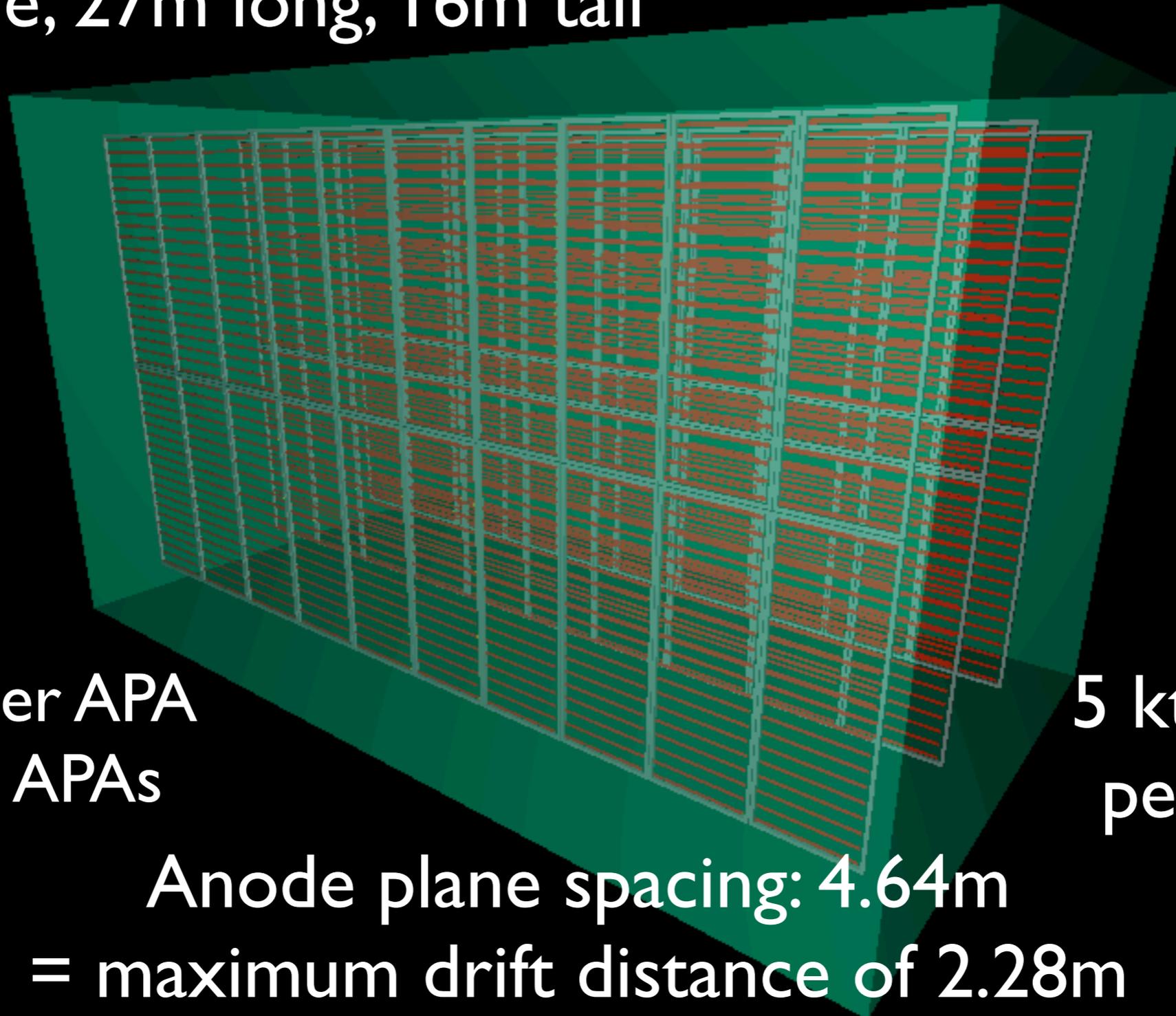
# Requirements Flow

- The position resolution of PDS reconstruction will impact signal acceptance.
- If two piled-up events in the TPC are close enough in space that they cannot be resolved by the PDS, then a unique time cannot be assigned to the tracks, and we will (probably) be forced to cut both.
- So, the cosmic ray rate + maximum background acceptance / signal sacrifice we can tolerate → *required position resolution of PDS* → *required optical properties of PDS system*.

# The Cryostat (for now)

*(Imagine Darth Vader quote here)*

16m wide, 27m long, 16m tall

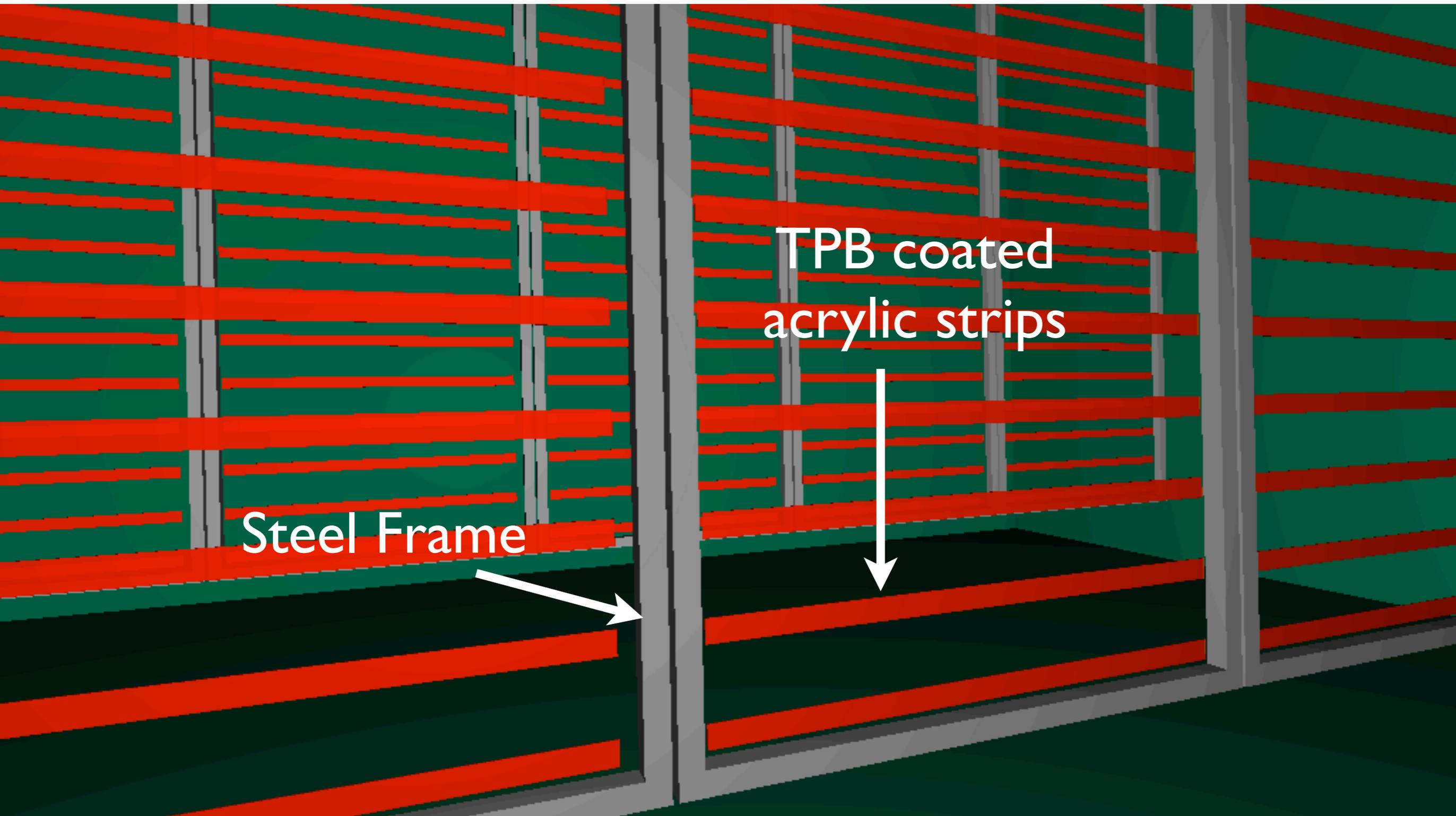


10 paddles per APA  
 $10 \times 3 \times 2 = 60$  APAs

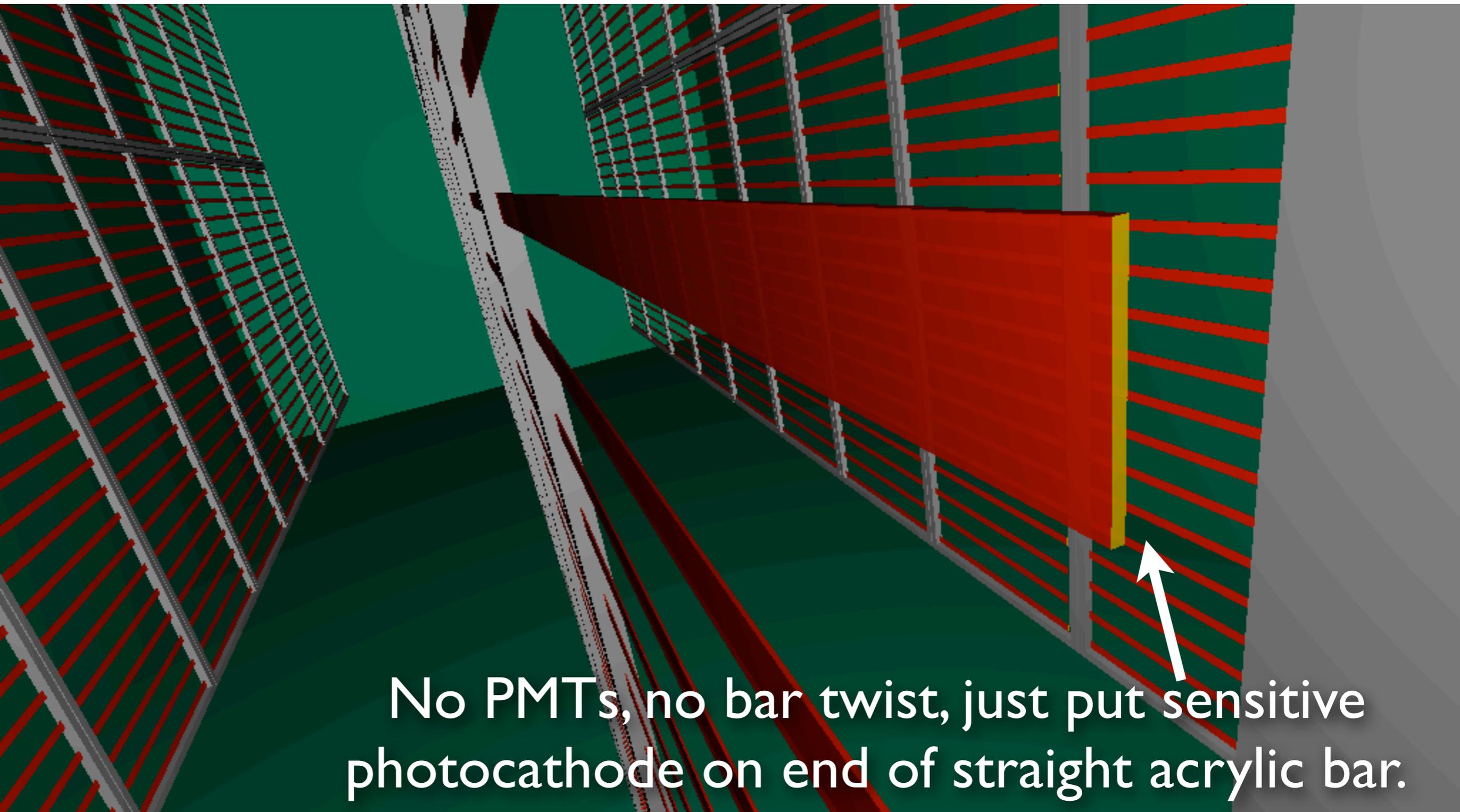
5 kton fiducial  
per cryostat

Anode plane spacing: 4.64m  
= maximum drift distance of 2.28m

# APA Up Close



# The Detector



No PMTs, no bar twist, just put sensitive photocathode on end of straight acrylic bar.

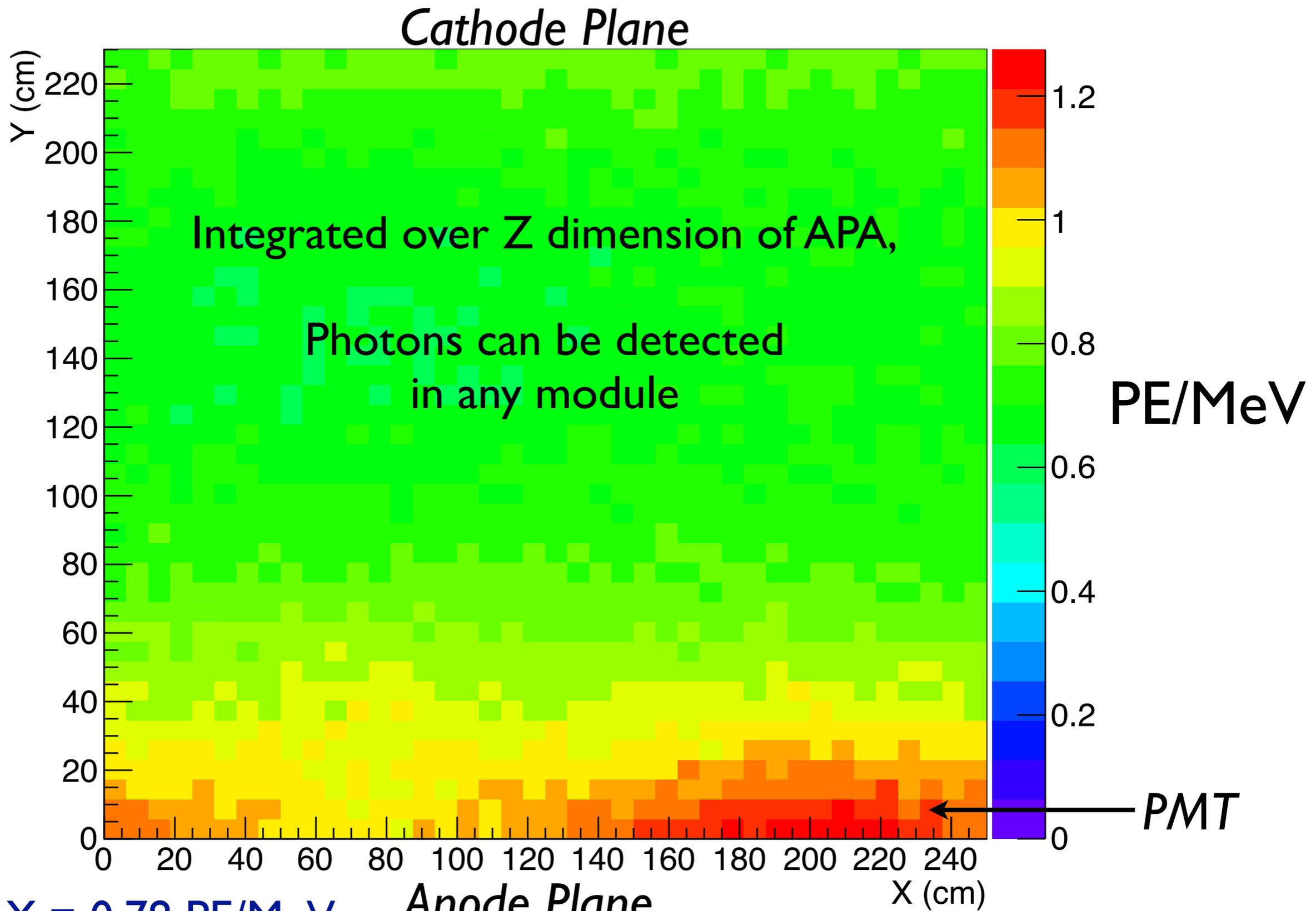
# Photon Simulation

- 19,800 UV photons (128 nm) per MeV deposited (this from CDR... LArSoft assumes 24,000, w/o E-field is 40,000)
- 90 cm Rayleigh scattering length @ 128 nm
- Full TPB re-emission spectrum, efficiency = 1.0
- Acrylic attenuation wavelength dependent (based on acrylic from MiniCLEAN)
- PMT QE wavelength dependent (based on cryogenic R5912-02-MOD PMTs from MiniCLEAN, but scaled up to 25% peak efficiency assumed in CDR)
- *No adiabatic twist to map end of light guide onto square PMT surface.*
- Effective photocathode area is same as CDR
- Steel reflectivity in UV (25%) and visible (50%) taken from LArSoft
- *No other optical obstructions in tank*

# Light Yield

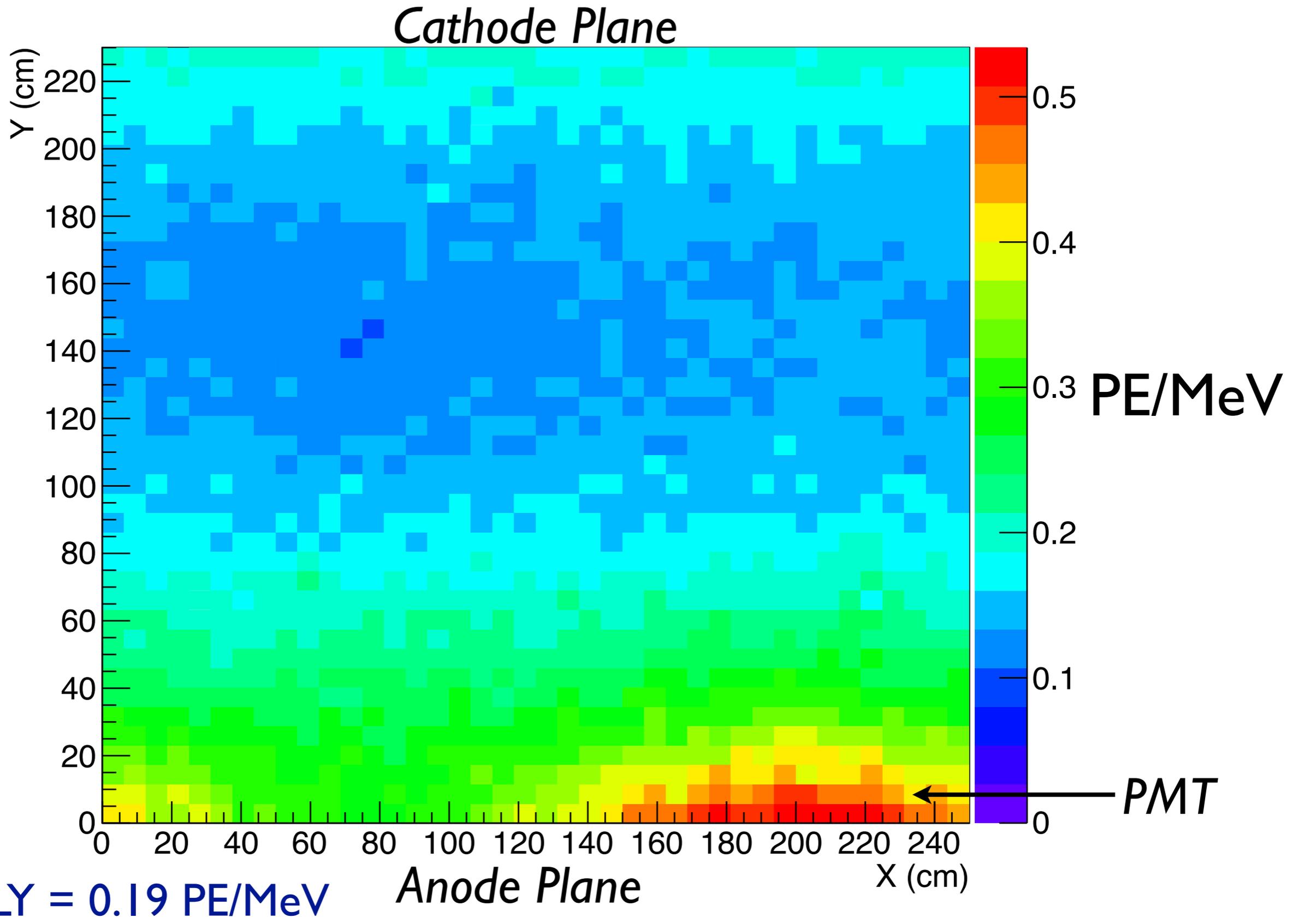
- Light yield will be one of the variables that controls reconstruction resolution. (*More photons = more information*)
- CDR estimates 0.2 photoelectrons per MeV using simple calculation that does not include absorption in liquid argon.
- LArSoft uses a 2 meter absorption length that comes from ICARUS. (*Note this is different than the Rayleigh scattering length, which is 90 cm @ 128 nm!*)
- Light yield depends significantly on absorption lengths in the argon, which is determined entirely by purity.
- $O_2$  is the primary concern for electron drift, but UV propagation also requires low  $N_2$  and  $H_2O$  contamination.

# LY in a Module: 100m Absorption

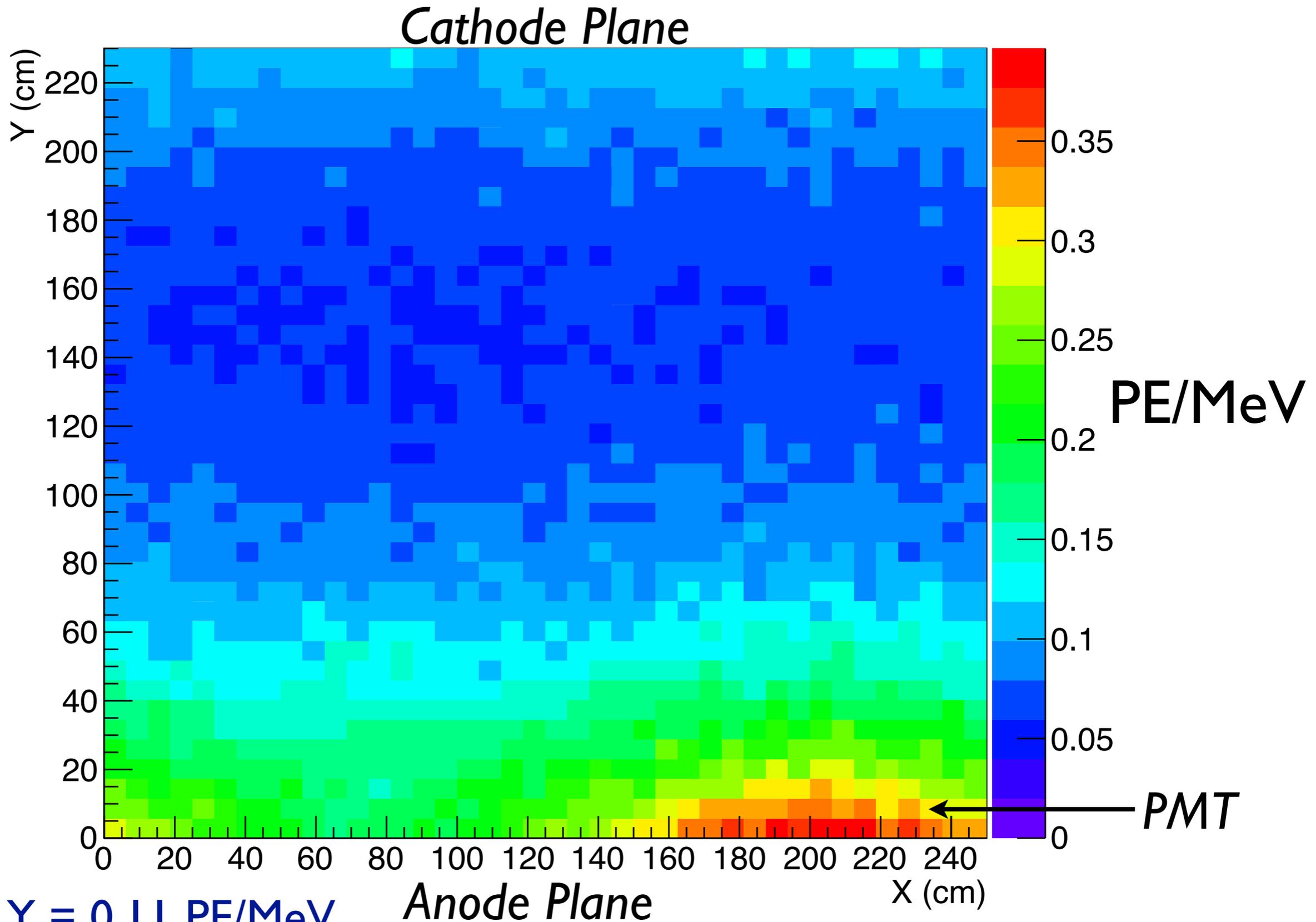


Average LY = 0.78 PE/MeV

# LY in a Module: 3m Absorption



# LY in a Module: 2m Absorption



# Absorption vs. TPB Coverage

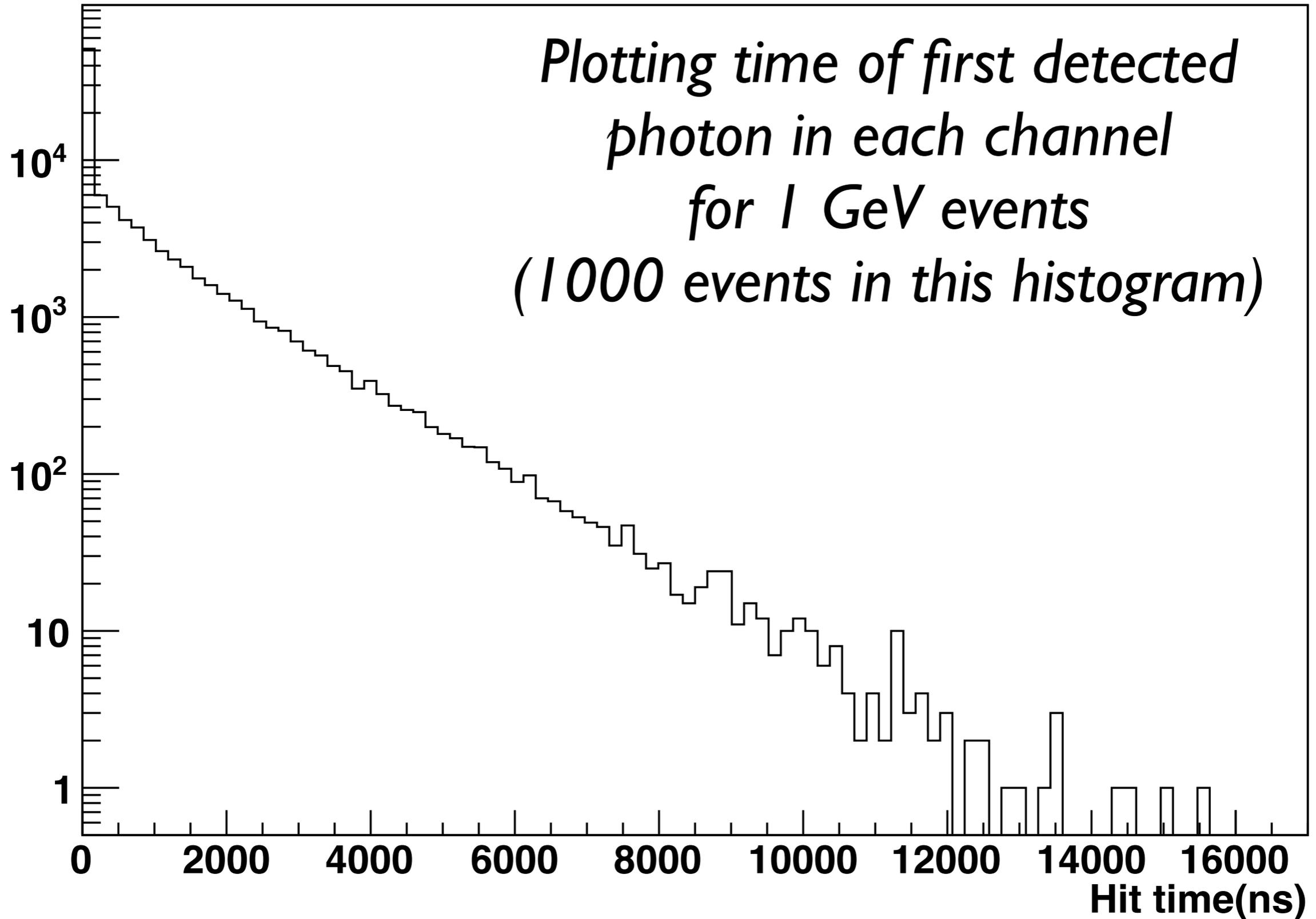
- Absorption lengths have a big effect on overall light yield.
- Longer absorption lengths increase light yield, but also de-localize the photons.
- This leads to increased probability of pileup of photons produced in one module in other modules. Noise floor from  $^{39}\text{Ar}$  increases, etc.
- Modest absorption lengths + more TPB coverage increases light yield in a way that more directly improves reconstruction.
- More TPB coverage costs more, so will need to balance these effects.

**How can we do  
reconstruction in the PDS?**

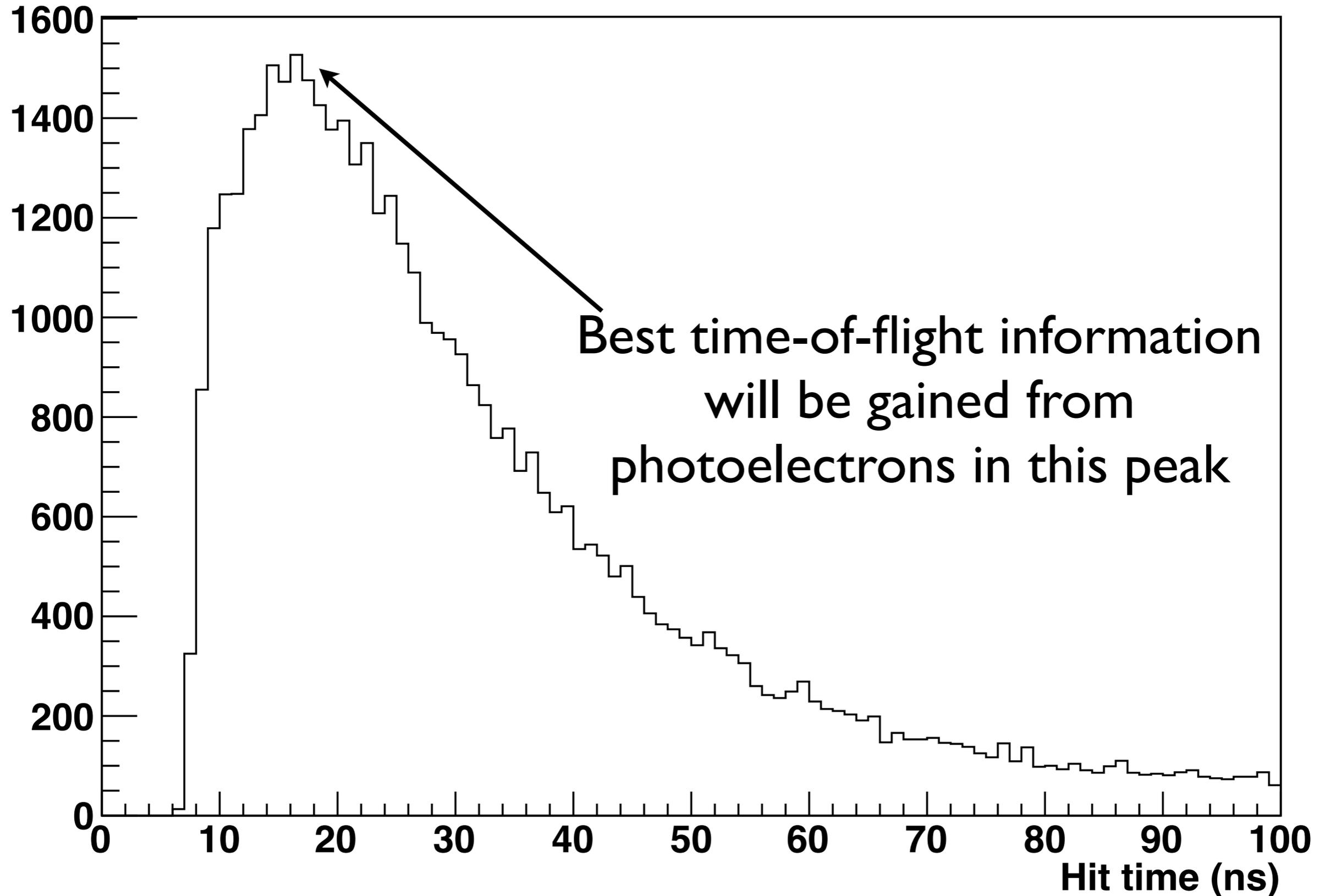
# Time “Reconstruction”

- Finding the time of each event is the primary job of the PDS.
- Complicated by two factors:
  - Only 30% of the scintillation light is produced with a 6-12 ns time constant, the remaining 70% of the light is produced with a 1500 ns time constant.
  - The Rayleigh scattering length in liquid argon is 90 cm @ 128 nm, so the UV path length can be much longer than the straight-line distance from the event to the TPB surface.
- Complications are mitigated by two other factors:
  - Nearby light guides detect multiple photons, so the probability of seeing an early photon in those PMTs is higher than 30%.
  - UV absorption means the photons you are most likely to see have traveled the shortest distance, i.e. the fewest scatters.

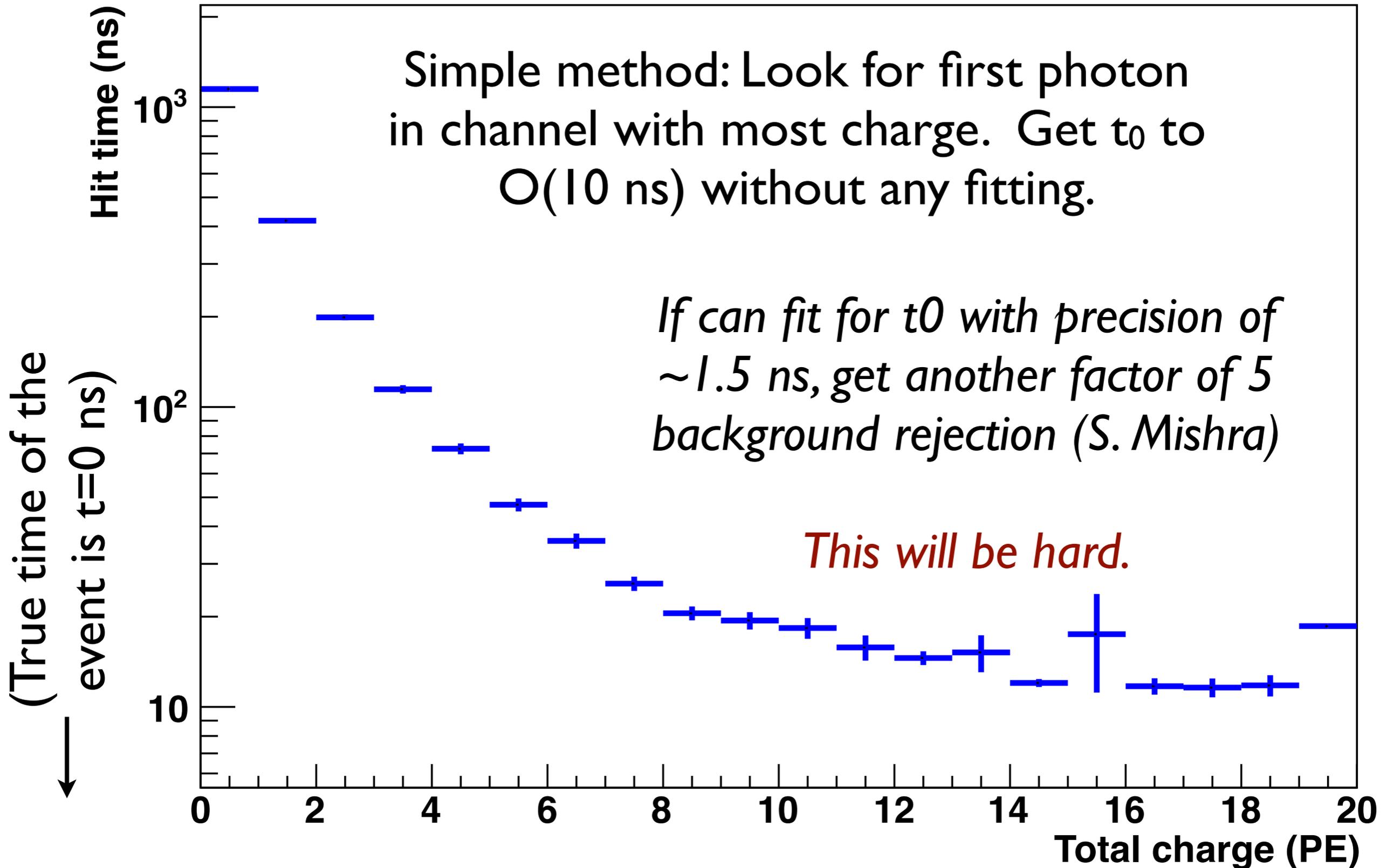
# Time Distribution



# Time Distribution: Early



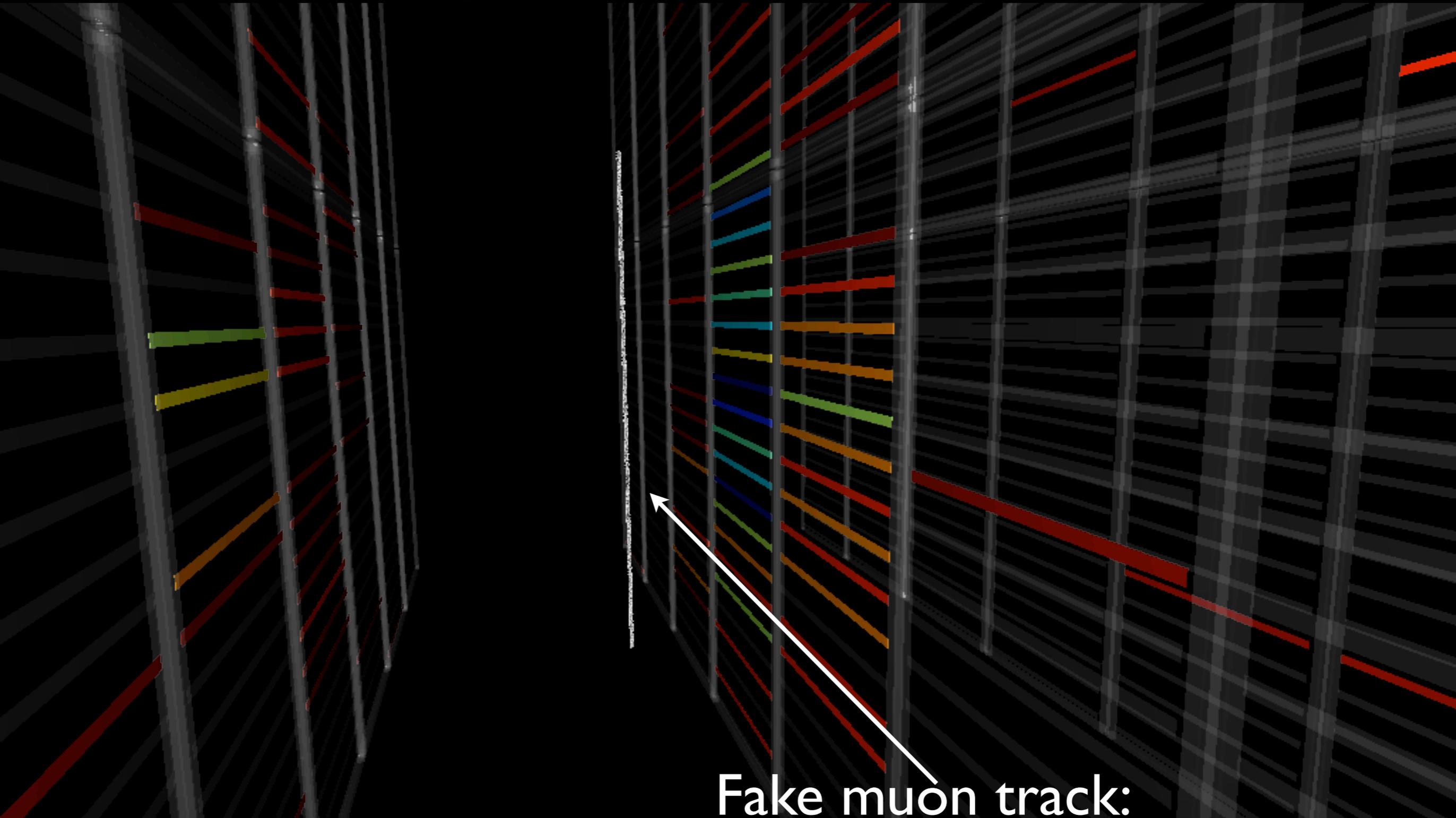
# Time vs. Charge



# Position Reconstruction

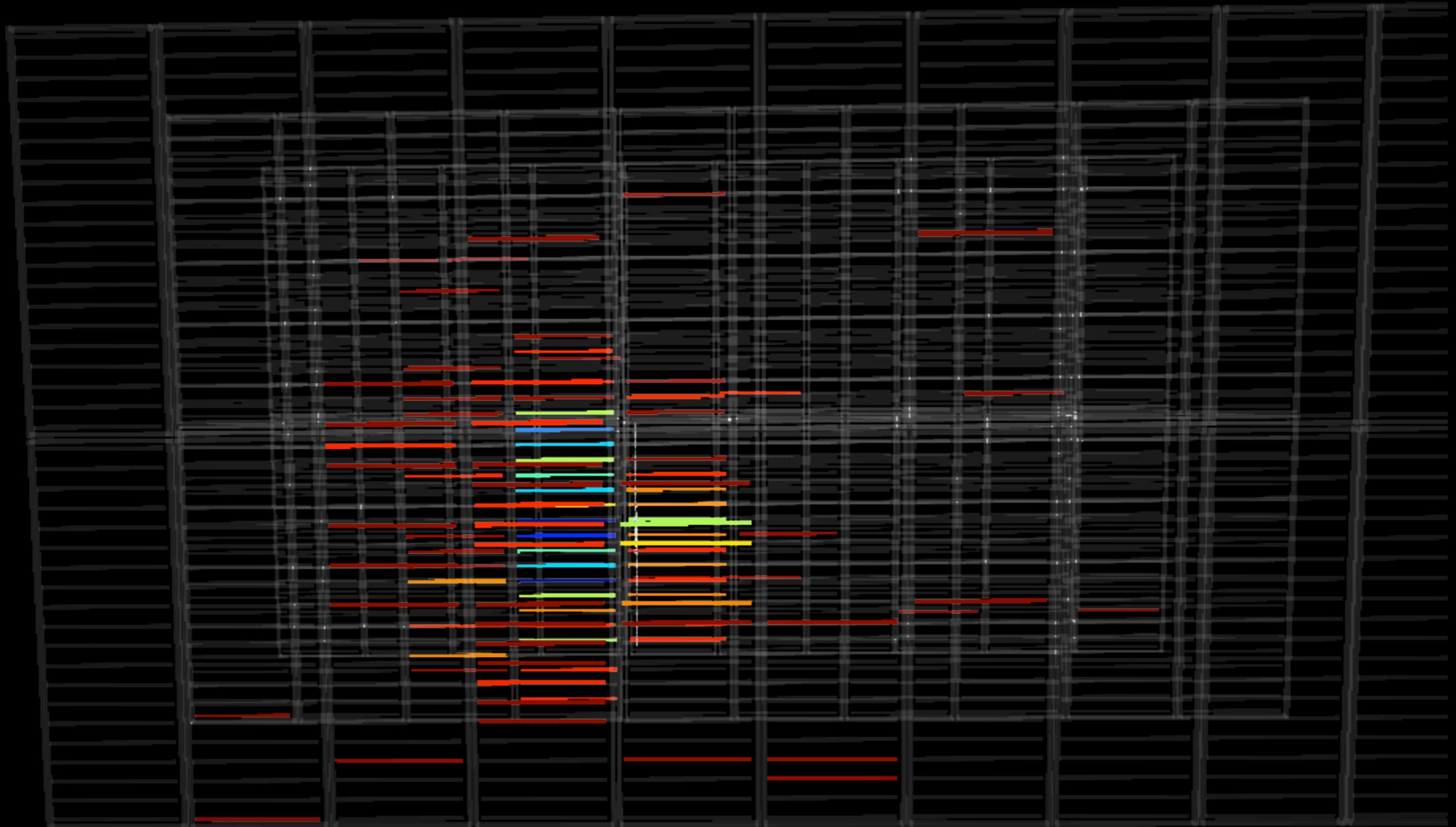
- Position reconstruction lets us link each  $t_0$  to a specific collection of tracks in the TPC.
- Made difficult by two factors:
  - Short (6 ns) and long scintillation (1500 ns) time constants really smear out time-of-flight constraints on position.  
(Comparison: It takes photons 9 nanoseconds to traverse the 2.3 m drift distance, assuming no scatters.)
  - Rayleigh scattering scrambles the photon paths, complicating methods to estimate the time PDF for each channel.
- Hit pattern and charge are easier to predict, and should significantly constrain the position as well.

# Example: GeV “muon”



Fake muon track:  
20 million scintillation photons, 4.7 m long

# Event Charge

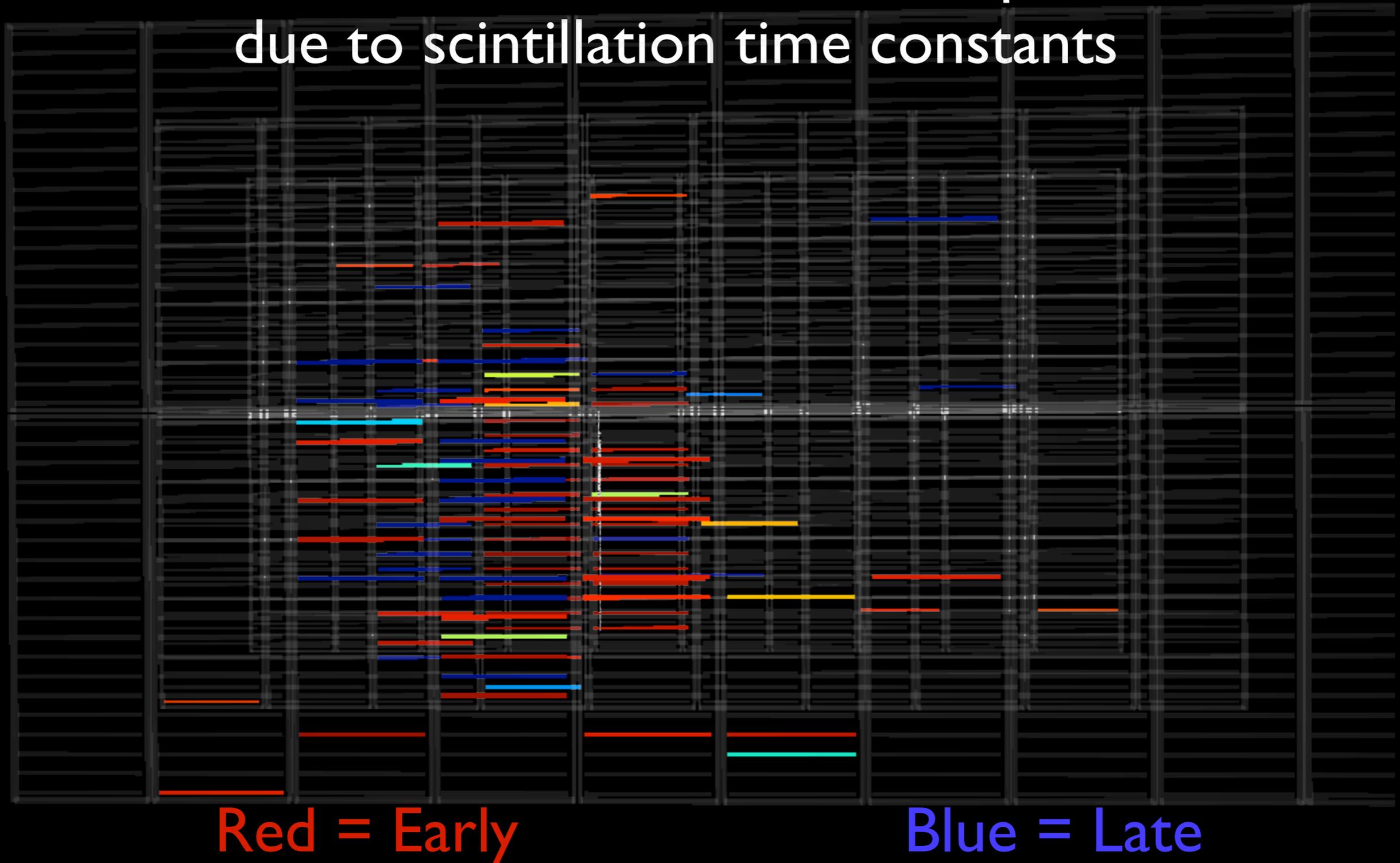


Red = 1 photoelectron

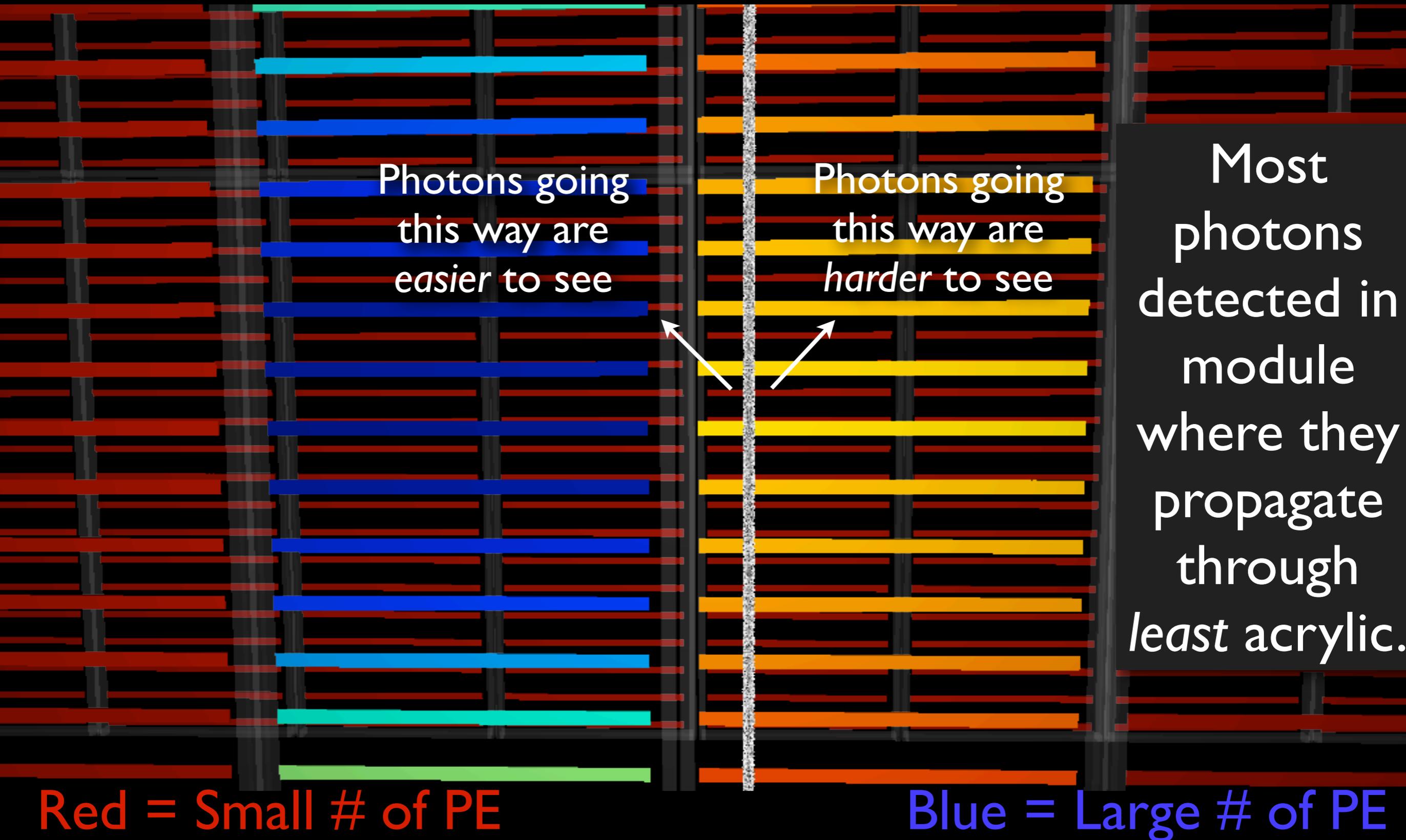
Blue = ~20 photoelectrons

# Event Time

Photon times are all over the place  
due to scintillation time constants



# Expected Charge: Near Side



# Expected Charge: Far Side

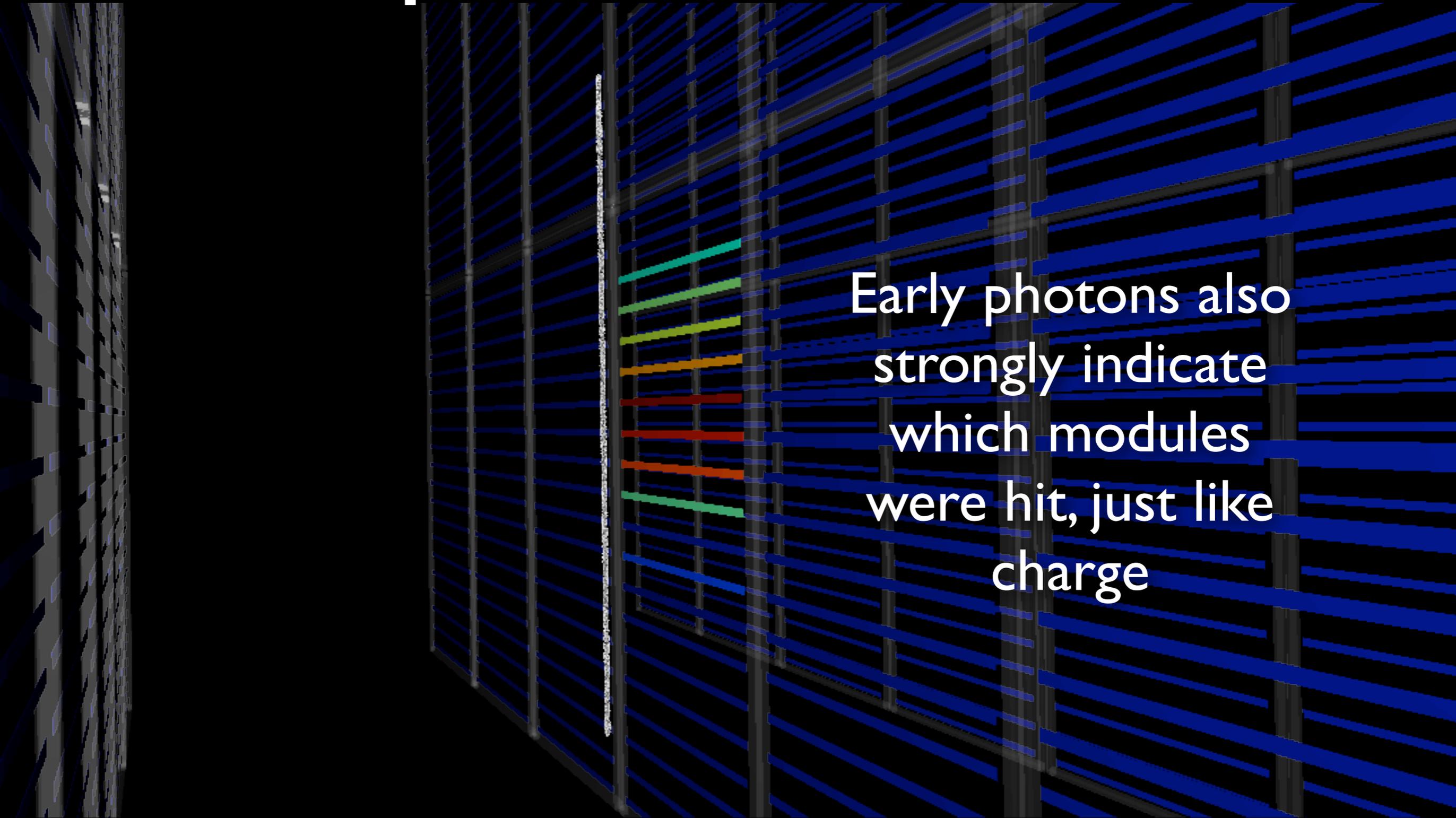
APAs are far enough apart that you get very little on the far side



Red = Small # of PE

Blue = Large # of PE

# Expected Hit Time



Red = Early

Blue =  $>50$  ns

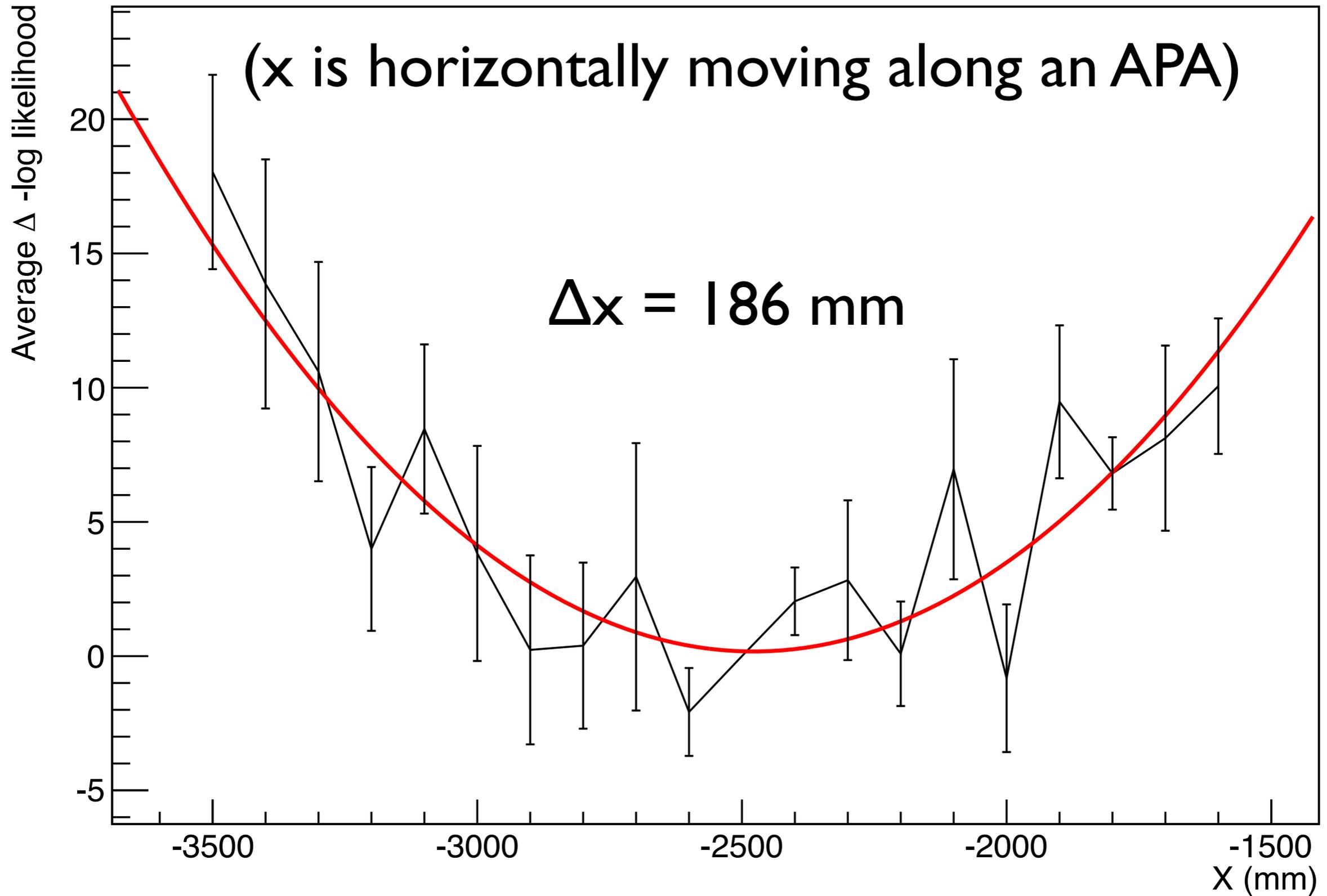
# Likelihood Scans

- First attempt to reconstruct the position and direction of a simple track.
- This likelihood is using hit pattern *only*.
- Currently using the excruciatingly slow (in this detector) live Monte Carlo technique from Chroma.
- We will not do this for a real fitter (*each detected photon requires simulating  $10^5$  photons!*), but we will still use the Monte Carlo to generate lookup tables for the real fitter.

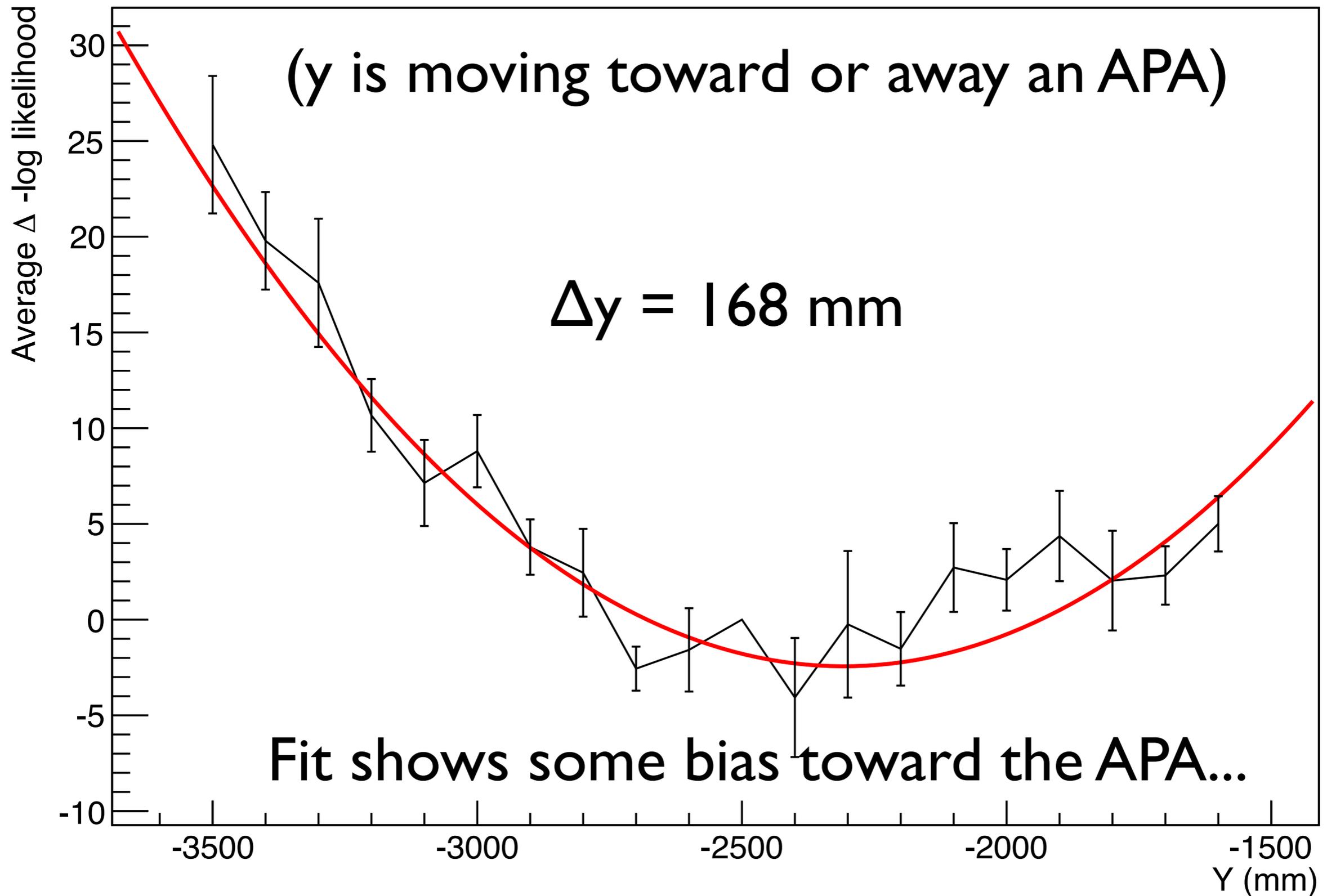
# Test Case

- All events are  $\sim 700$  MeV straight tracks starting from (-2500 mm, -2500 mm, 0 mm), going down 4.7 meters.
- (This is actually a too long of a track for a 700 MeV muon, but I didn't discover I had the energy loss wrong until too late to redo everything.)
- Assuming we know the energy and length of the track already, *how well can we estimate the position of the starting point and the direction in a 1D scan?*
- Constrained 1D scans only give a *lower bound* on the final uncertainty that we can achieve in each parameter once we float all the free parameters.
- Each plot is the average of the likelihood scans of 9 events.

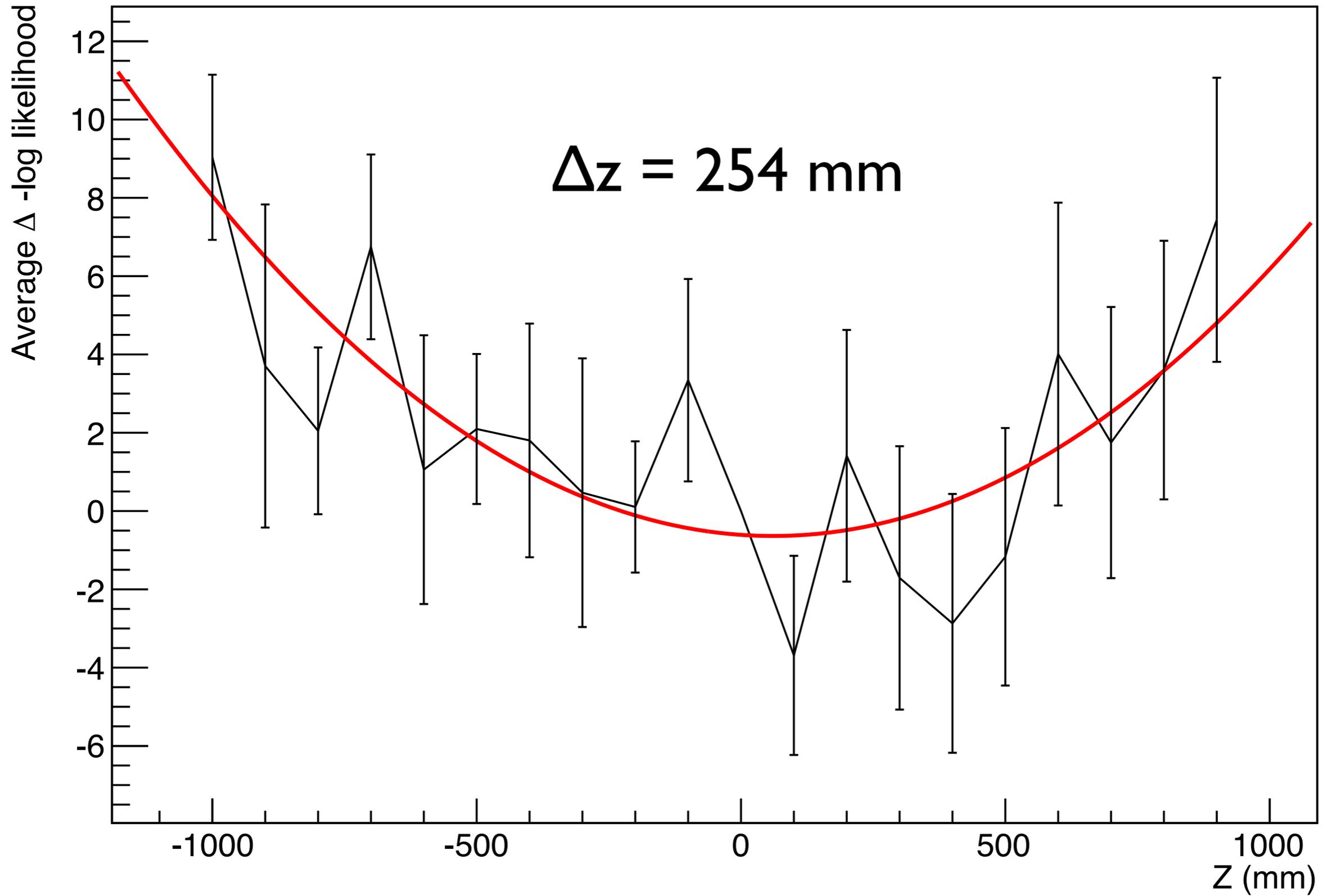
# X Scan



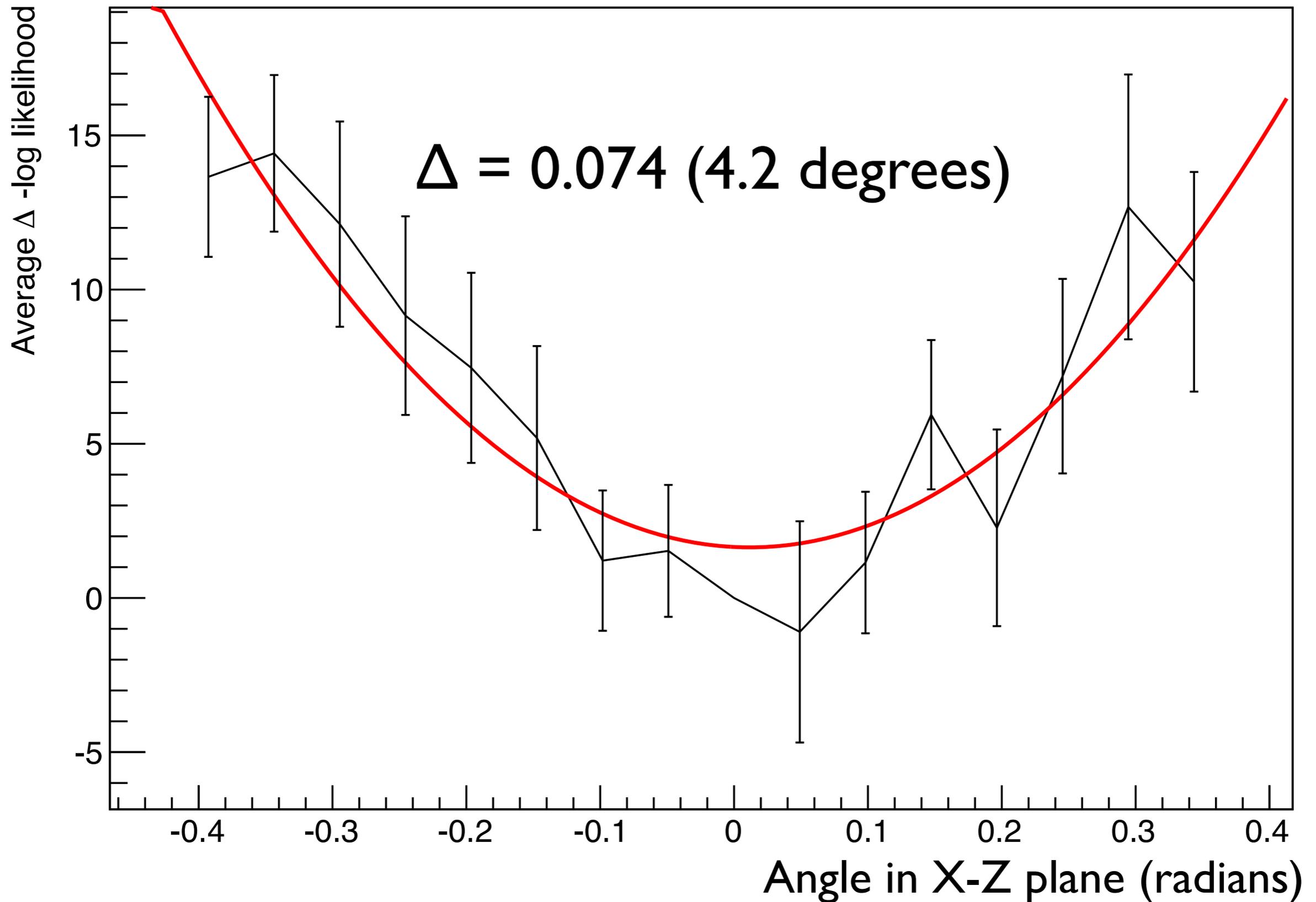
# Y Scan



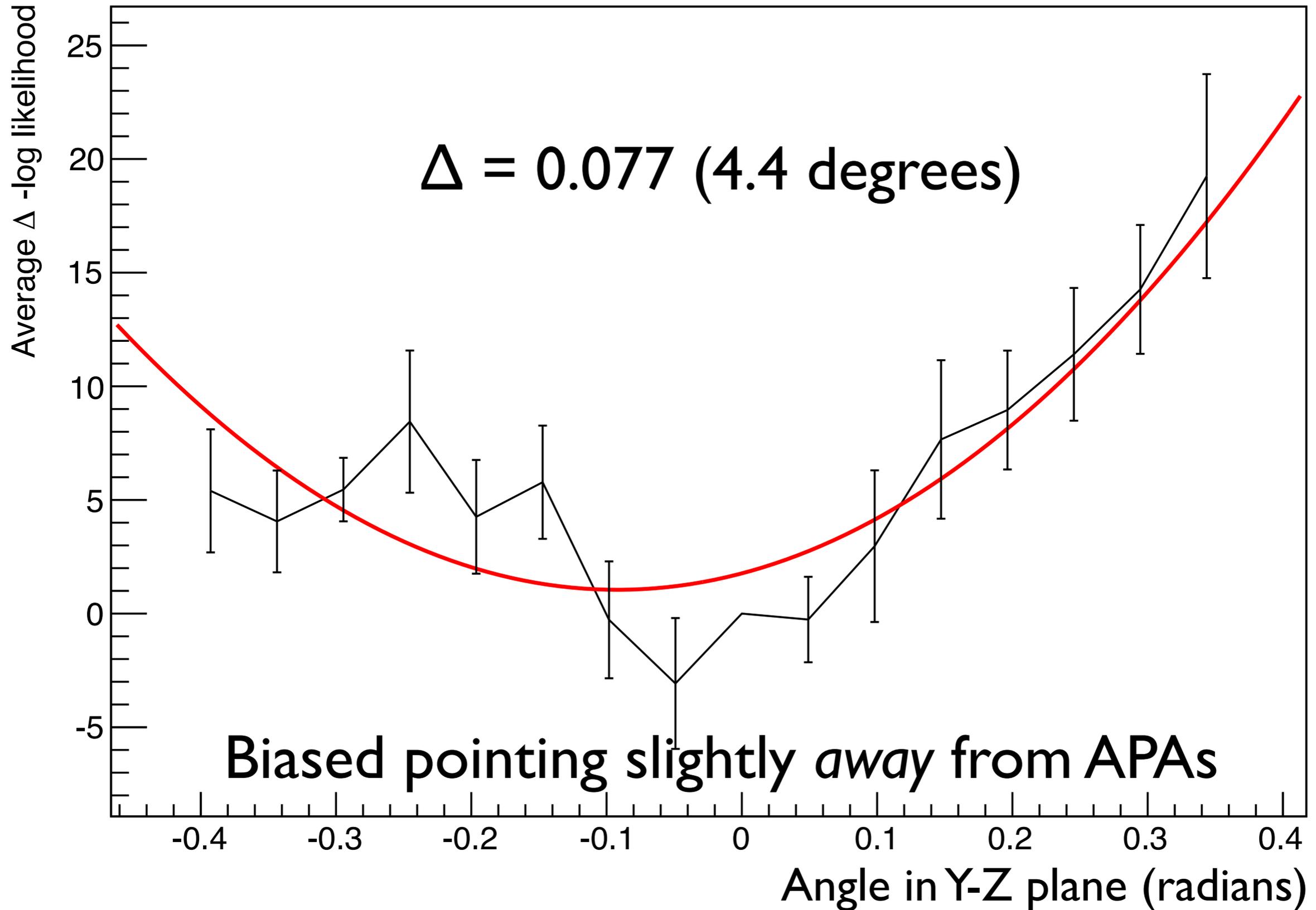
# Z Scan



# X-Z Angle Scan



# Y-Z Angle Scan



# What Does It Mean?

- Due to the geometry of the APAs, our information about each dimension is very different.
- Clearly the likelihood space is behaving oddly as the event moves you toward or away from the APAs.
- Indication that Rayleigh scattering and absorption are going to tend to pull events toward the APAs?
- Really need to see what happens when we let energy vary as at the same time as the other parameters. Likely to be highly covariant with the Y direction.
- Definitely want a faster likelihood function than pure Chroma.

# Short / Medium Term

- Implement simple and fast time and position reconstruction algorithms.
- Time is relatively simple: Use the “early photons are on high charge channels” technique.
- Speeding up the a hit pattern/charge based likelihood for position:
  - Build a 4D lookup table for # of PE seen by each channel per MeV deposited at a point: [x, y, z, PMT ID #]  
(Only 3.5 MB for a 1 meter grid in the cryostat.)
  - Can create a likelihood function that interpolates this table along a track to figure out the expected # of PE for each PMT.
- Start running these algorithms on simple, synthetic tracks from Chroma. Characterize resolution as function of light yield.

# Long Term

- Plug Chroma into LArSoft as a fast photon Monte Carlo option. (Coordinated with other alternative Monte Carlo options being discussed.)
- Use LArSoft as an event generator of realistic tracks and showers for PDS reconstruction.
- Run reconstruction on signal events piled up with cosmic rays and assess signal sacrifice vs. background leakage.
- Feed light yield requirements back to photon detection system working group to ensure physics goals are met.

# Conclusions

- Near-surface operation escalates the PDS system from an enabler of non-beam physics to a critical background rejection tool.
- The TPC and PDS have orthogonal capabilities, but given the cosmic ray rate, *events from each system can only be associated if the PDS can perform rudimentary position reconstruction.*
- Position resolution in the PDS determines the level of signal sacrifice due to pileup, and sets the required light yield.
- Full optical simulations suggest that the light yield assumed in the CDR is achievable if we can maintain *> 3 meter* absorption lengths in the liquid argon (or *double* the TPB coverage).
- In the short term, we can build a simple table-based reconstruction algorithm to study position resolution vs. light yield.
- Long term we can connect the fast simulation to LArSoft and look at realistic signal + background pileup.