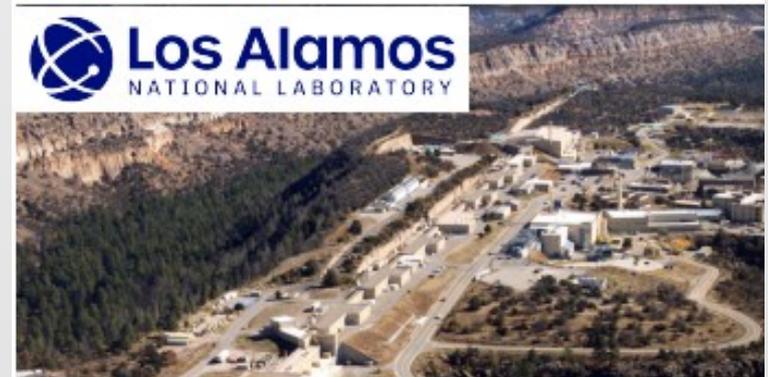


Calibration studies at the Coherent CAPTAIN-Mills Experiment Using Cosmogenic Muons and Michel Electrons

Cristian Macias Acevedo
Advisor: Alexis Aguilar-Arevalo
ICN-UNAM
for the CCM collaboration

RAPDyC2025, Pachuca, Hidalgo, May 21 2025



With support from projects PAPIIT-IN104723 and CONAHCYT-CF-2023-I-1169.



The University of Manchester

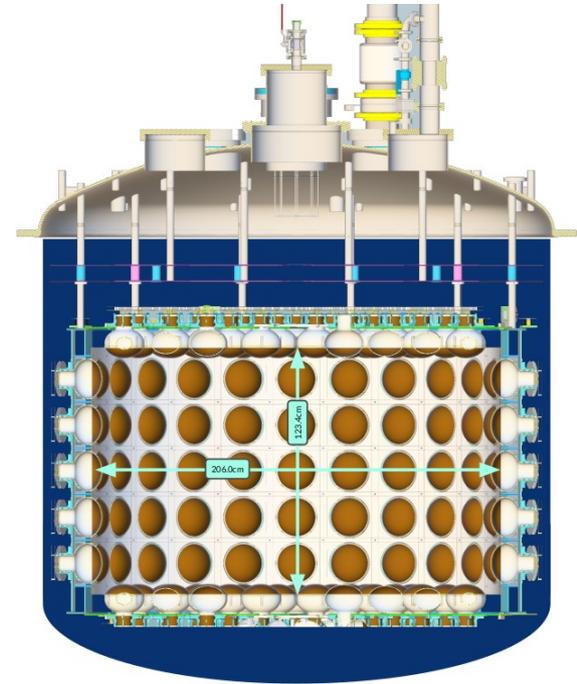


Outline

- Coherent CAPTAIN-Mills (CCM) detector.
- Physics at CCM.
- Energy Calibration: Cosmogenic muons and Michel electrons.
- Prospects.
- Summary.

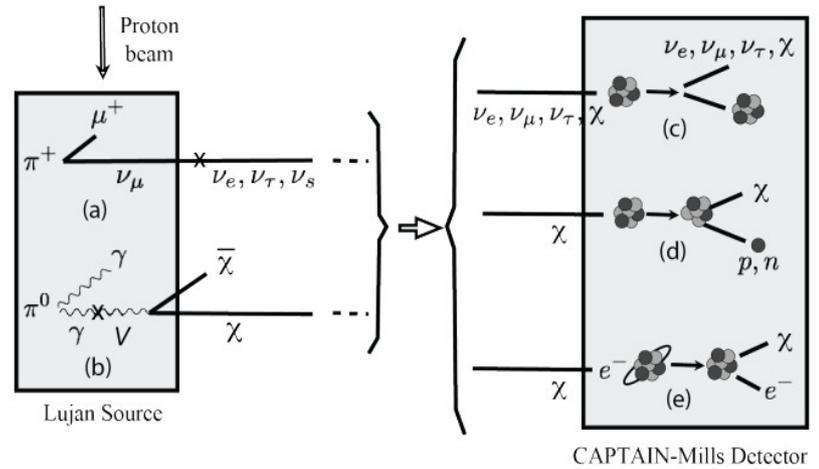
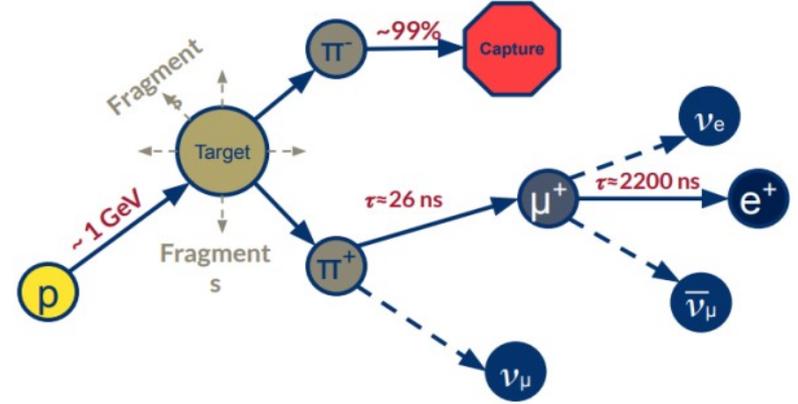
Coherent CAPTAIN-Mills (CCM) Detector

- Located at Los Alamos National Lab.
- Detector of 7 ton fiducial LAr volume.
 - Covered by 200 8" PMTs
- 3 ton LAr active veto region
 - surround fiducial volume with 40 1" PMTs.
- Sensitive between ~ 10 KeV and ~ 600 MeV.



Physics at CCM

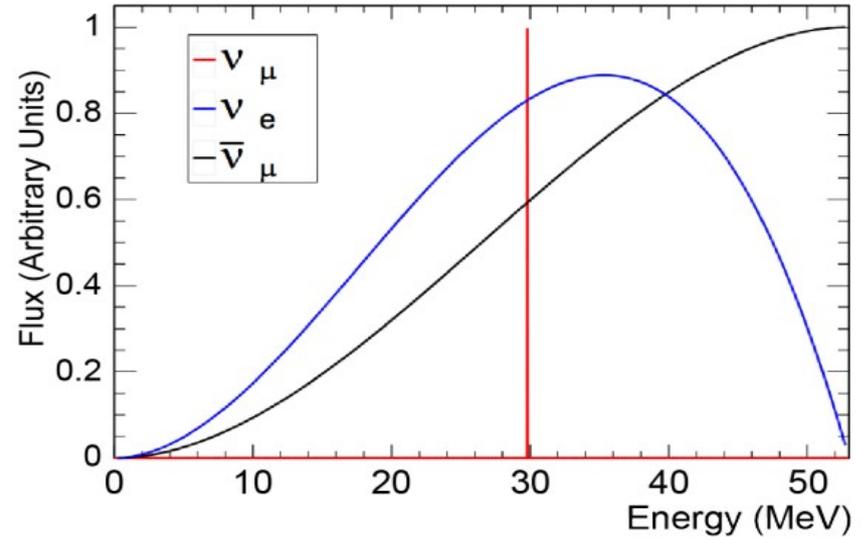
- Proton beam hits a tungsten target.
 - CCM is 90° off axis from the beam.
- An intense flux of: pions, gammas, muons, neutrinos and neutrons is formed.
- Ideal for dark-sector searches:
 - Axion-Like- Particles and MeV scale QCD axion (arXiv:2112.09979).
 - Light-dark-matter (arXiv:2105.14020).
 - Search for dark photons .
 - Leptophobic MeV-scale dark matter (arXiv:2109.14146).
- Optimal to CC and NC cross section measurements on Argon (see Marisol Chávez's talk this afternoon).
- Relevant energy scale 0-10 MeV.



Physics at CCM (Cont)

Calibration in the region of $E < 60$ MeV is relevant for:

- ν Argon cross sections $E_\nu < 52.8$ MeV
- Dark sector searches ($E_{\text{dep}} < 1\text{MeV}$)
- ALP search (1-10 MeV)

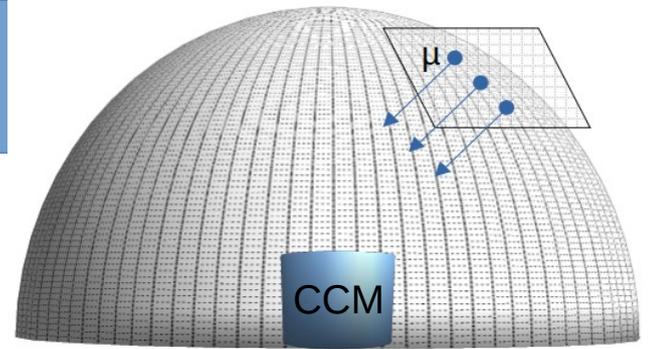


Energy spectra for individual neutrino species resulting from π^+ and μ^+ .

Cosmogenic Muon Simulation

- Injection of Muons.
- Energies depositions in fiducial volume.
- Michels simulation.
- CCM Simulation.

Injection of Muons



- Simulation based on Geant4.
- Generator contain the following features:

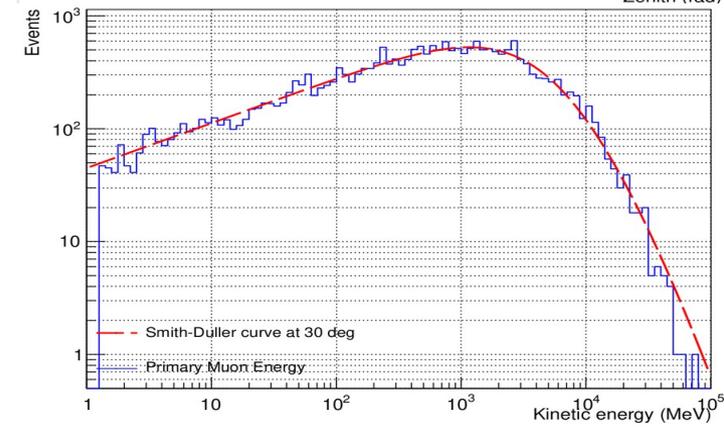
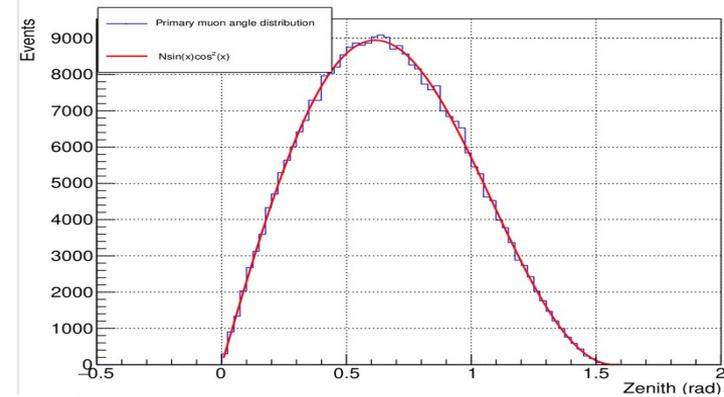
- Muon Initial position based on a geometrical construction

- Monoenergetic intensity profile

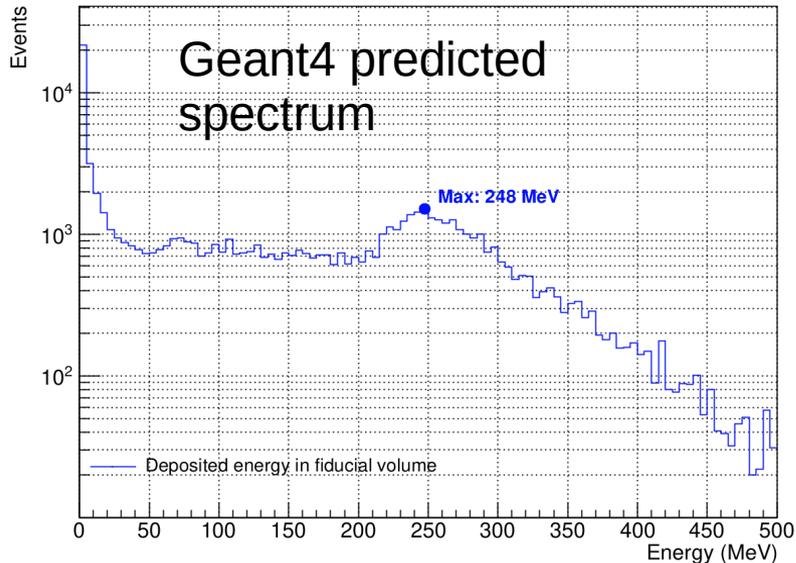
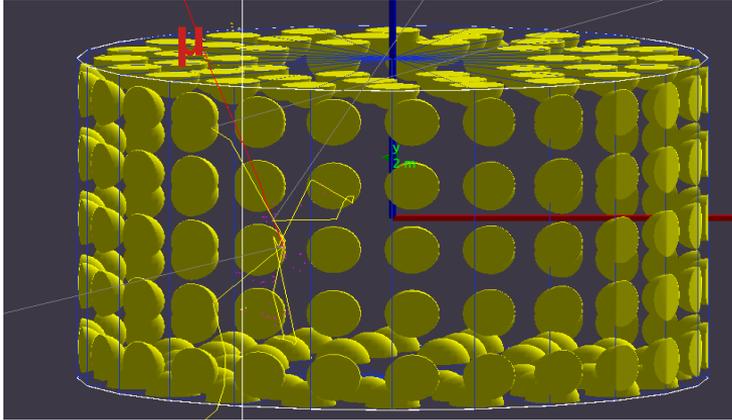
$$\frac{dN}{dAdtd\Omega} = I_0 \cos^2(\theta)$$

- Energy sampling following Smith-Duller parametrization.

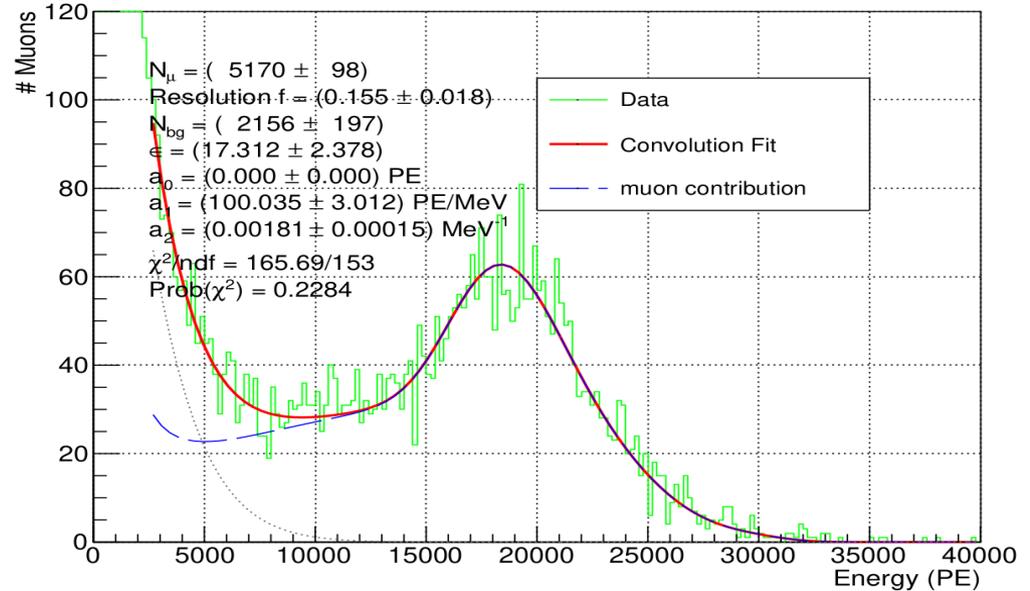
$$\frac{dN}{dAd\Omega dt dE_\mu}(E_\mu, \theta) = \frac{AE_\pi^{-k} P_\mu \lambda_\mu b j_\pi}{E_\pi \cos(\theta) + b j_\pi}$$



Energy depositions in fiducial volume



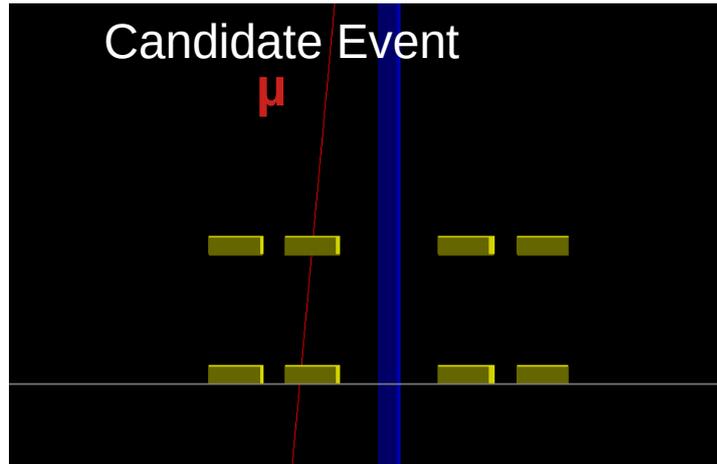
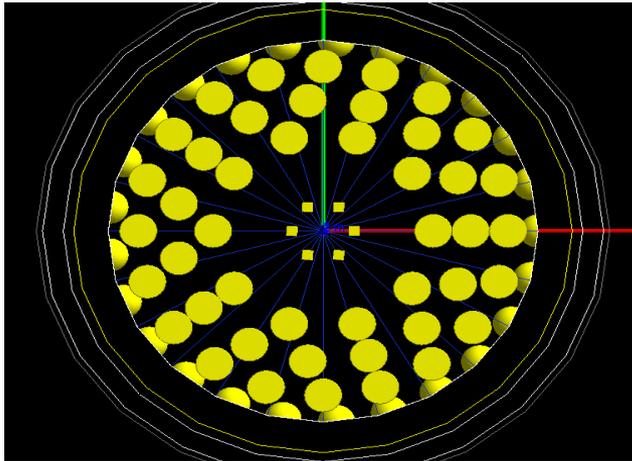
- Energy reconstruction using the Geant4 predicted energy deposition.
- 2021 data taking by looking Pre-Beam window (background measurements).



- Fit to experimental spectrum involving:
 - Effects on random fluctuations (in average).
 - non-linearity response.
- Expected rate at Los Alamos: $\sim 105 \text{ m}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}\text{sr}^{-1}$.

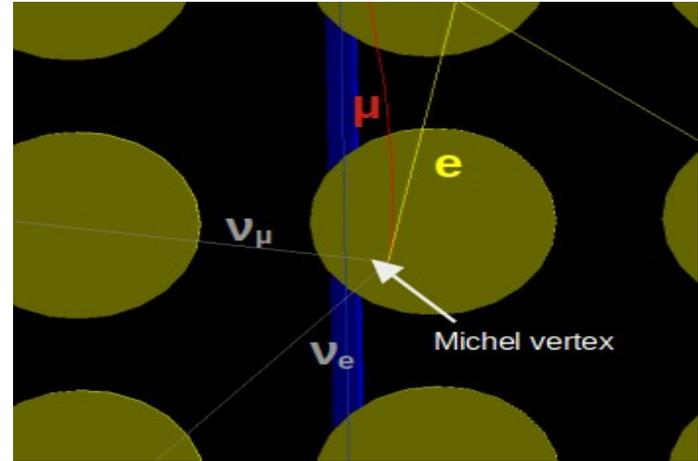
Michels Simulation ($\mu \rightarrow e + \nu_e + \nu_\mu$)

- Signal by electron (or positron) in the range of $\sim [0, 60]$ MeV.
- Approach of the simulation:
 - Selecting cosmic muons that activate the pair of cosmic watcher detectors (developed by MIT team).
 - Expected 0.0926 Michels per Muons tagged by CWs.

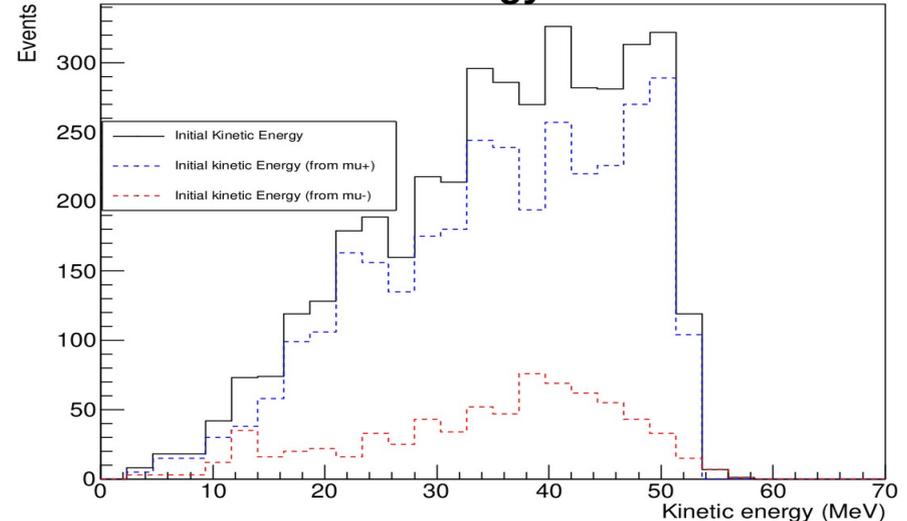


Michels Simulation (Cont)

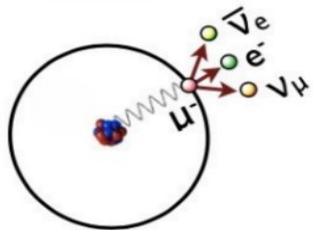
- Activating the physical processes in Geant4 that handle the decay of μ^+ or μ^- .
- Michel creation in LAr:
 - 100% decay in free of μ^+
 - About 25% decay in orbit of μ^- (75% muon nuclear capture, no electron signal).



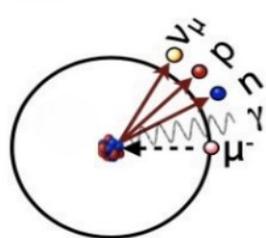
Vertex kinetic energy Michel distribution



Decay in Orbit

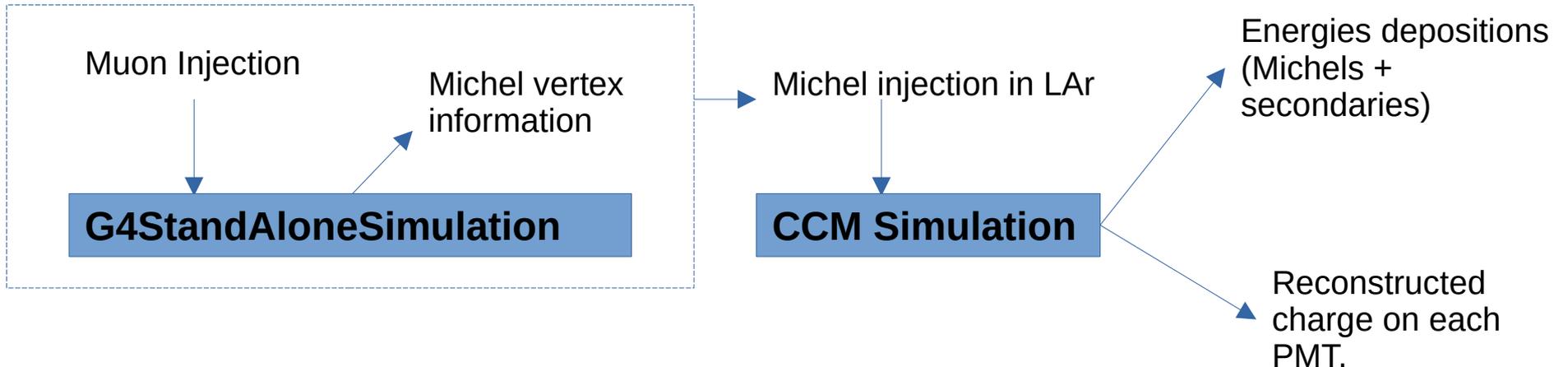


Muon Capture



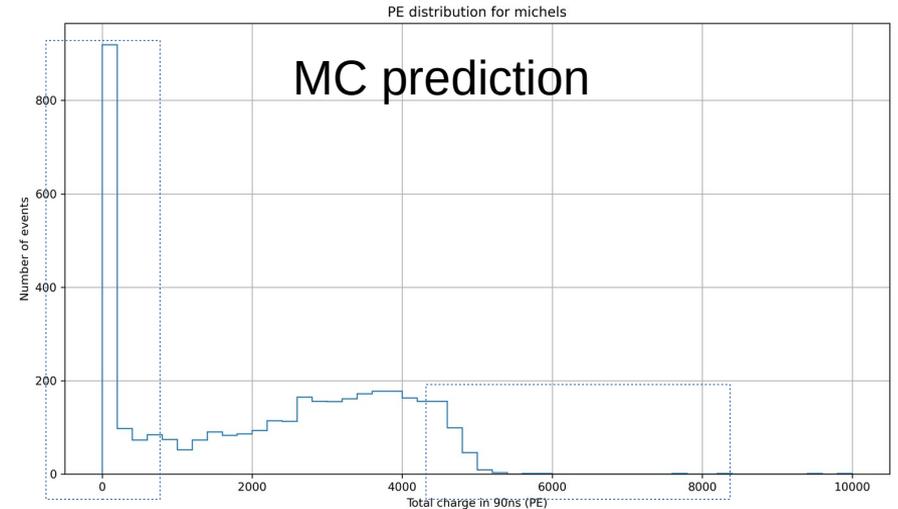
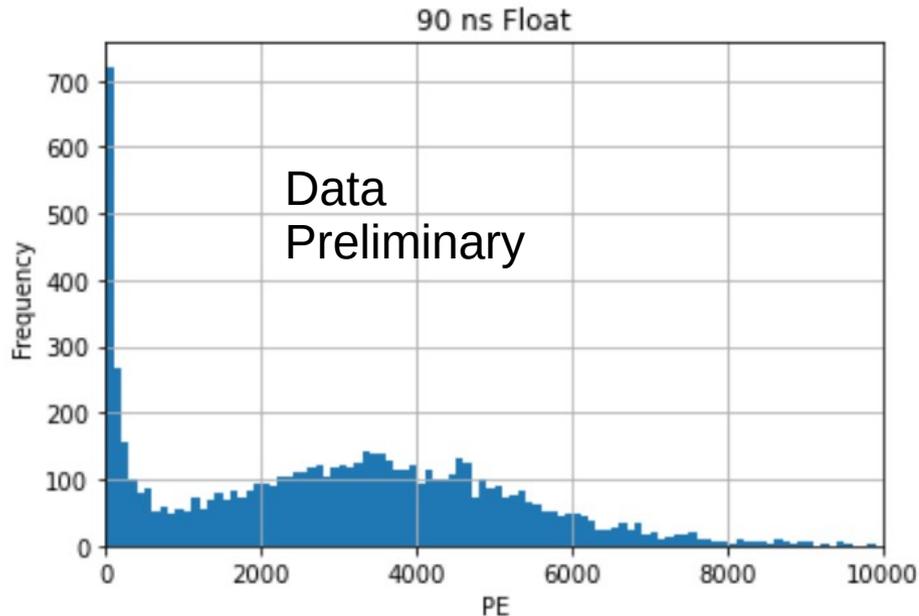
CCM Simulation

- Use IceTray software.
- CCM has been developing a Geant4-based simulation with detailed photon propagation in LAr.
- So far, we have connected the information of “StandAloneMuon” simulation with CCM framework.



CCM Simulation (Cont)

- Preliminary results show good qualitative agreement with data. Discrepancies under investigation.
- CCM simulation scaled to match low energy peak features.



- High energy missing events, possible reconstruction effects.
- Low energy peak mainly due to Michels created in the veto region.

Prospects

- Include more general injectors of Cosmogenic particles (MCEq, CRY).
- Process recent cosmic muon data, monitor high energy [100-600] MeV calibration and rate.
- Implementing the complete version of Michel simulation in the CCM framework.
- Perform bump searches in Michel and cosmic muon regions.

Summary

- Implementing a simple model for the injection of cosmogenic muons we can predict the spectrum in the pre-beam region of CCM data, considering a model that involve Gaussian fluctuations and non-linearity detector response.
- A Geant4 simulation based on the characterization of Michels electrons show a good correspondence to the observed PE spectrum.
- Prospects for a more precise Monte Carlo implementation is still in progress.

Thank you for listening

Backup

Energy reconstruction

$$F(E_a) = \frac{1}{dE_a/dE_v} \int_0^{E_{max}} N_\mu F_\mu(E_d) \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{(E_v - E_d)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

$$\sigma = f \sqrt{E_0 E_v}$$

Gaussian response

$$E_a = a_0 + \frac{a_1 E_v}{1 + a_2 E_v}$$

Non-linearity response

Muon Minus Decay in Orbit

$$\lambda_{LAr}^{\mu^-} = \lambda_{DIO} + \lambda_{capt}$$

$$B_{DIO} = \frac{\lambda_{DIO}}{\lambda_{LAr}^{\mu^-}} \quad \text{Branching Ratio}$$

$$\lambda_{DIO} = R_H \lambda_{Free}, \quad R_H \approx 1 - (\alpha Z)^2$$

- In LAr $R_H \approx 0.99$ by theoretical predictions given 25% probability of DIO.
- Independent tests in Geant4 show good correspondence with deviations around $\sim 1\%$.

Fit to Michel Spectrum

