



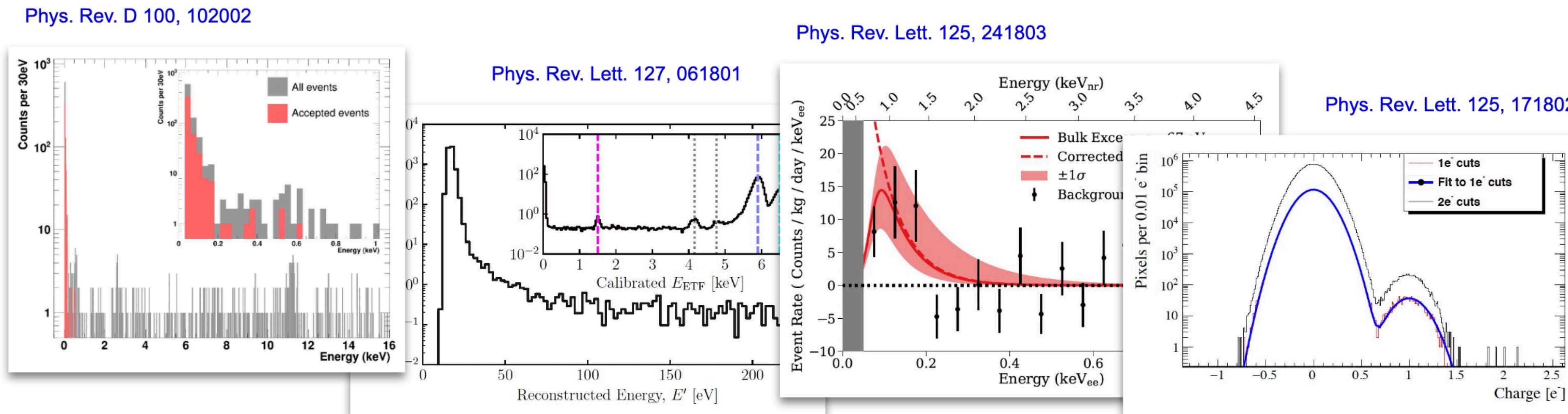
Discriminating the Low Energy Excess in DELight

Eleanor Fascione
30/09/2025



The Low Energy Excess

- A steeply rising background at low energies, expected to be observed in the LAMCALS
- How to reject this background?



D. Baxter and F. Wagner: EXCESS workshop: a community effort towards understanding low energy excesses

Initial Idea: Coincidence Discrimination

- First assumption (used for some preliminary sensitivity studies): we can reject a significant fraction of the LEE background using the fact that the quasiparticle (QP) signal from LHe events should be a distributed signal on many channels
- LEE events should occur on one sensor only (barring random coincidence)

Initial Idea: Coincidence Discrimination

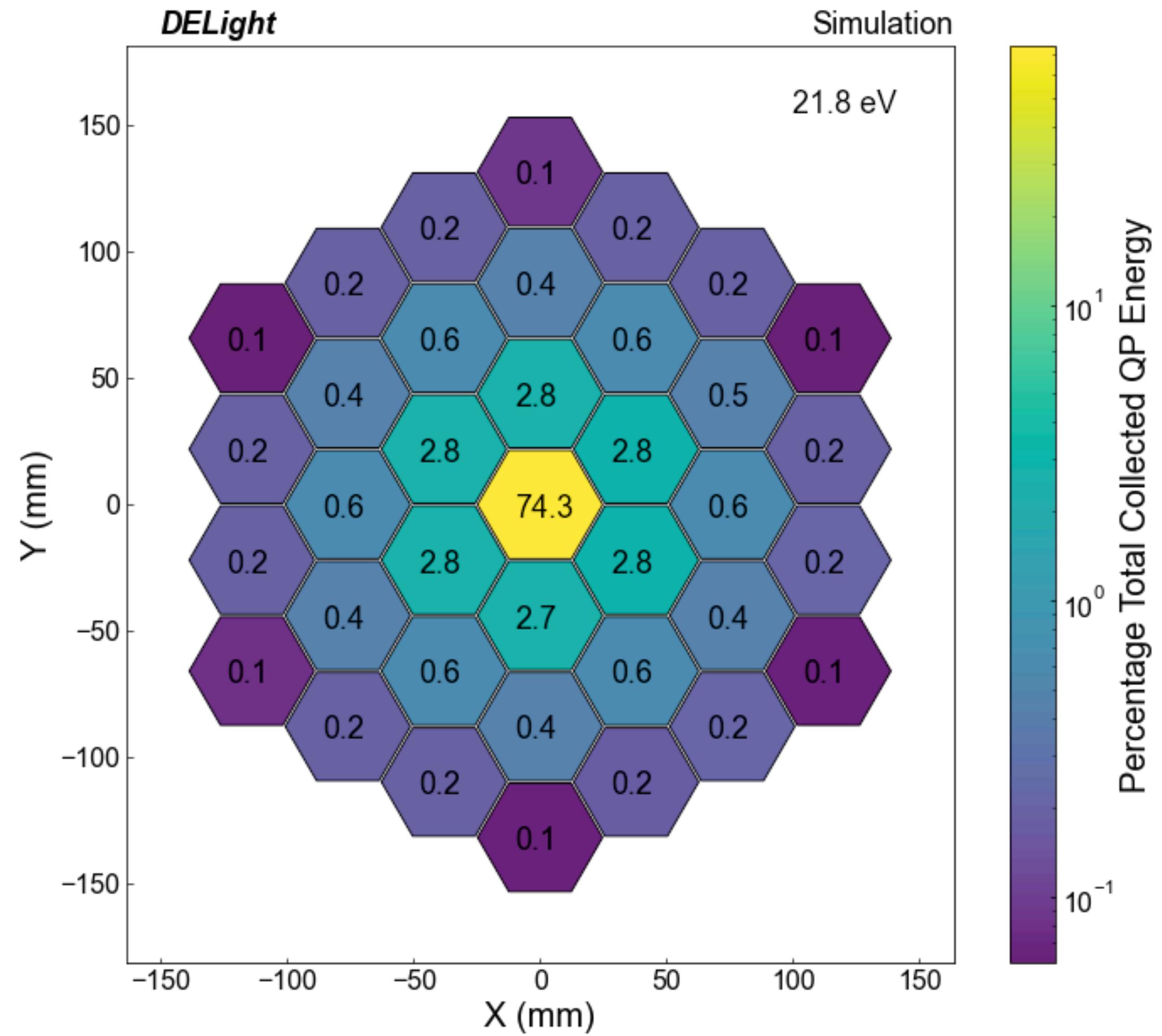
- First assumption (used for some preliminary sensitivity studies): we can reject a significant fraction of the LEE background using the fact that the quasiparticle (QP) signal from LHe events should be a distributed signal on many channels
- LEE events should o

With current pancake geometry

BAD ASSUMPTION!

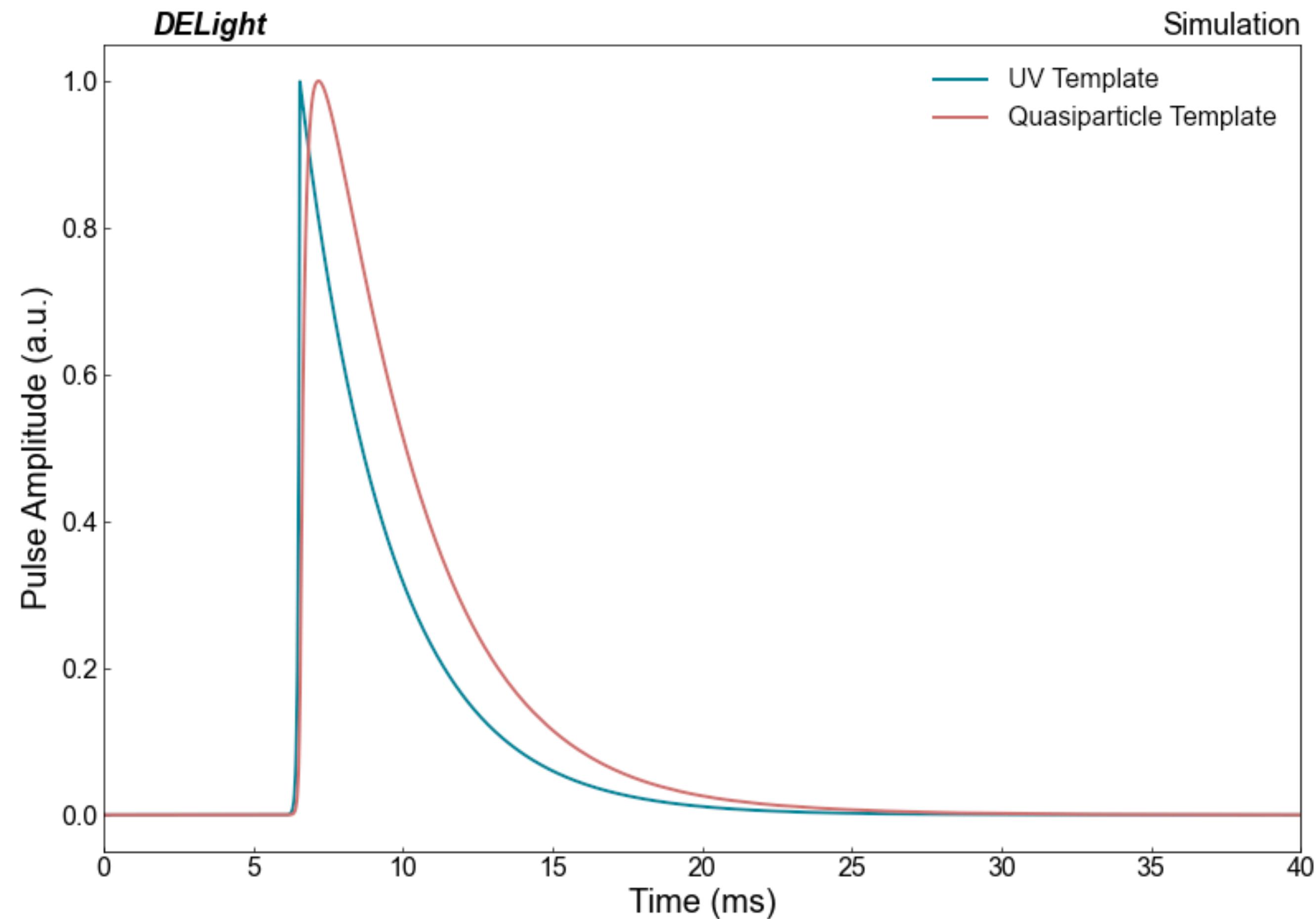
(random coincidence)

The Distributed Quasiparticle Signal



- Example: 100eV LHe event in centre
- Direct LAMCAL:
 $100\text{eV} \times 0.04 \times 20 \times 74\% = \sim 60\text{eV}$
QP collection Adsorption centre LAMCAL
efficiency gain collection
- Adjacent LAMCAL:
 $100\text{eV} \times 0.04 \times 20 \times 3\% = \sim 2.4\text{eV}$
- Example: 20eV LHe event
- Direct LAMCAL: $\sim 12\text{eV}$
- Adjacent LAMCAL: $\sim 0.5\text{eV}$

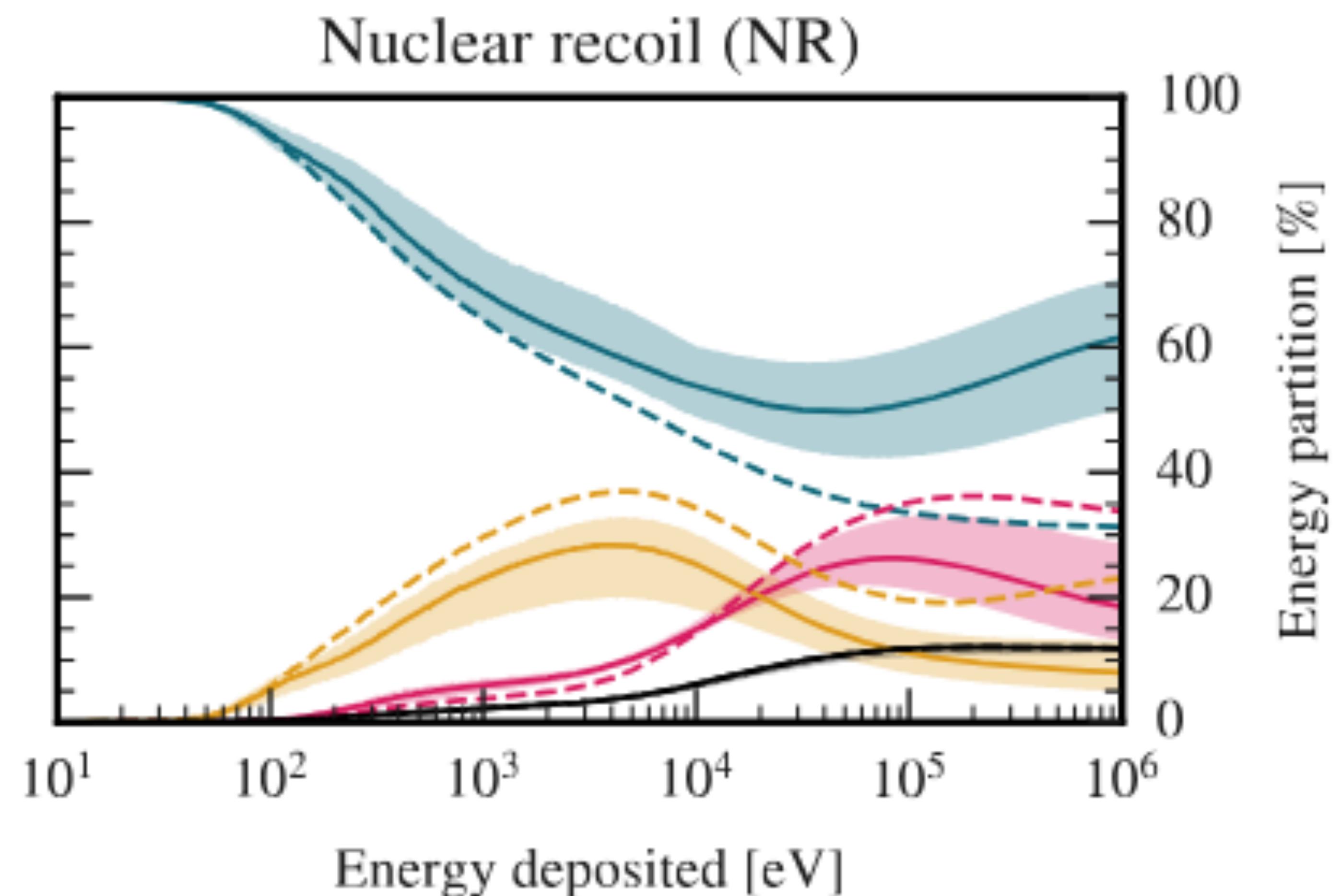
Pulse Shape Discrimination?



- May be able to use differences in pulse shape
- Assumption: LEE has same template as UV signal
- Pancake cell geometry QP template is quite similar
- Current template assumed for UV may not be appropriate for LAMCALs

LHe Events

- LHe signal events (nuclear recoils, NR) in the LEE range (below 200eV) deposit energy almost 100% into quasiparticles
- Only looking at the QP signal



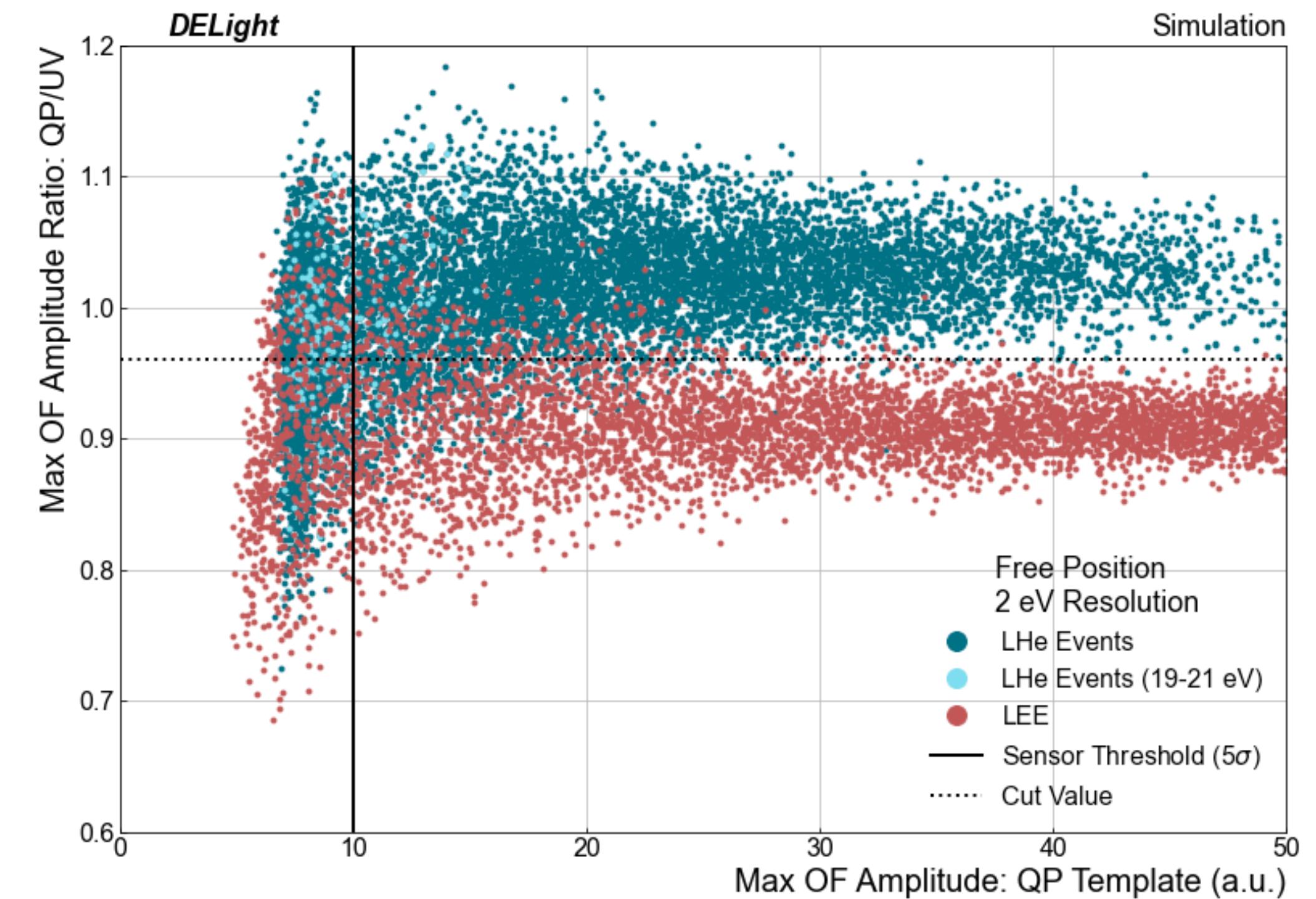
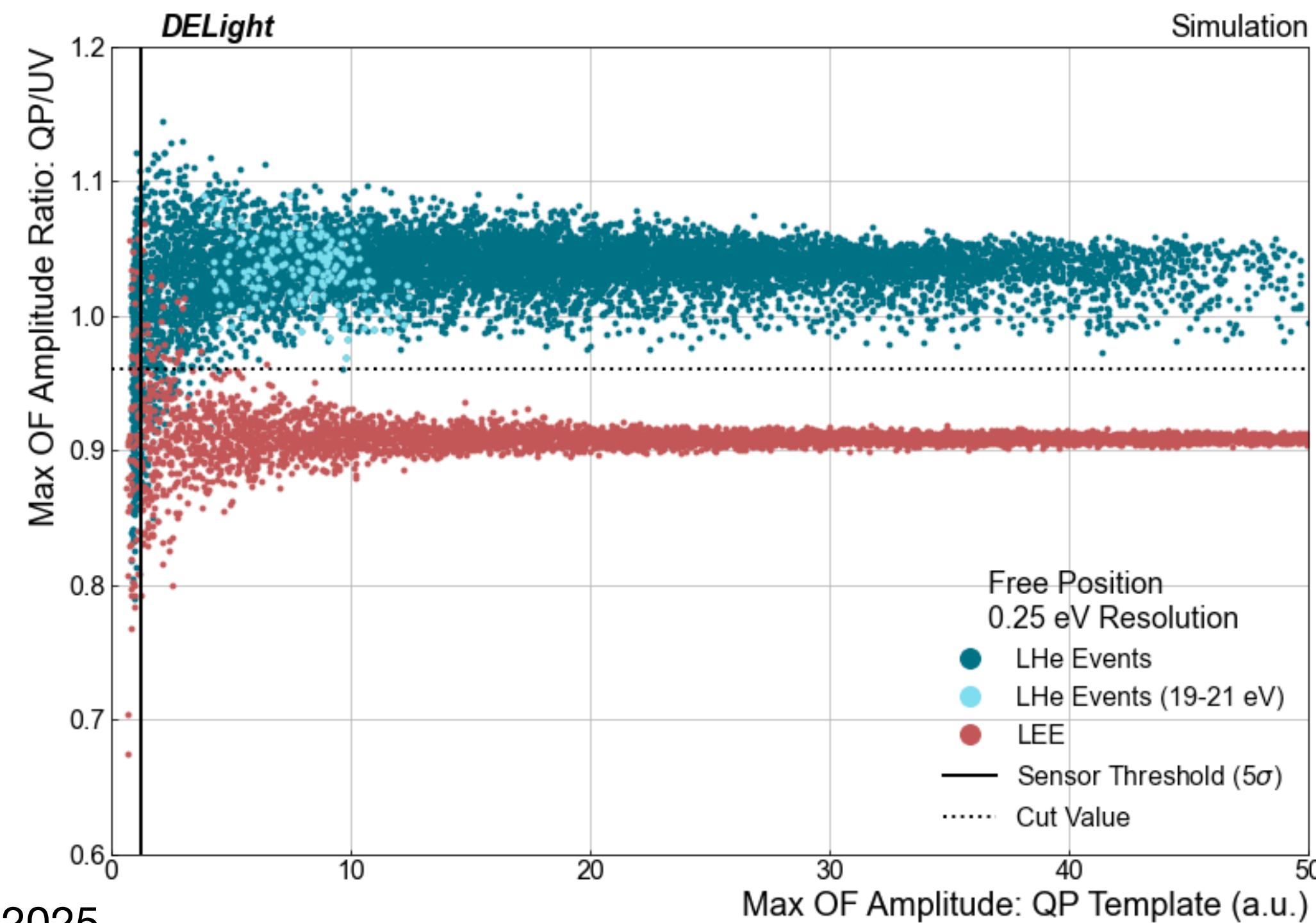
Simulation Overview

- Simulate two categories of events with random energies from 0 to 100eV
 - LHe: using trace simulator to generate QP signals on the vacuum channels for initial deposition E
 - LEE: UV template scaled by the event energy E
- Noise is added separately for different values of LAMCAL baseline resolution ranging from 0.25eV to 2eV to study the impact of the sensor resolution
- All events (LHe and LEE) are processed using OF with the QP template and also the UV template
 - For LHe events, each channel is processed (not the sum), and the maximum amplitude of the channels is taken as the energy estimator

Amplitude Ratio

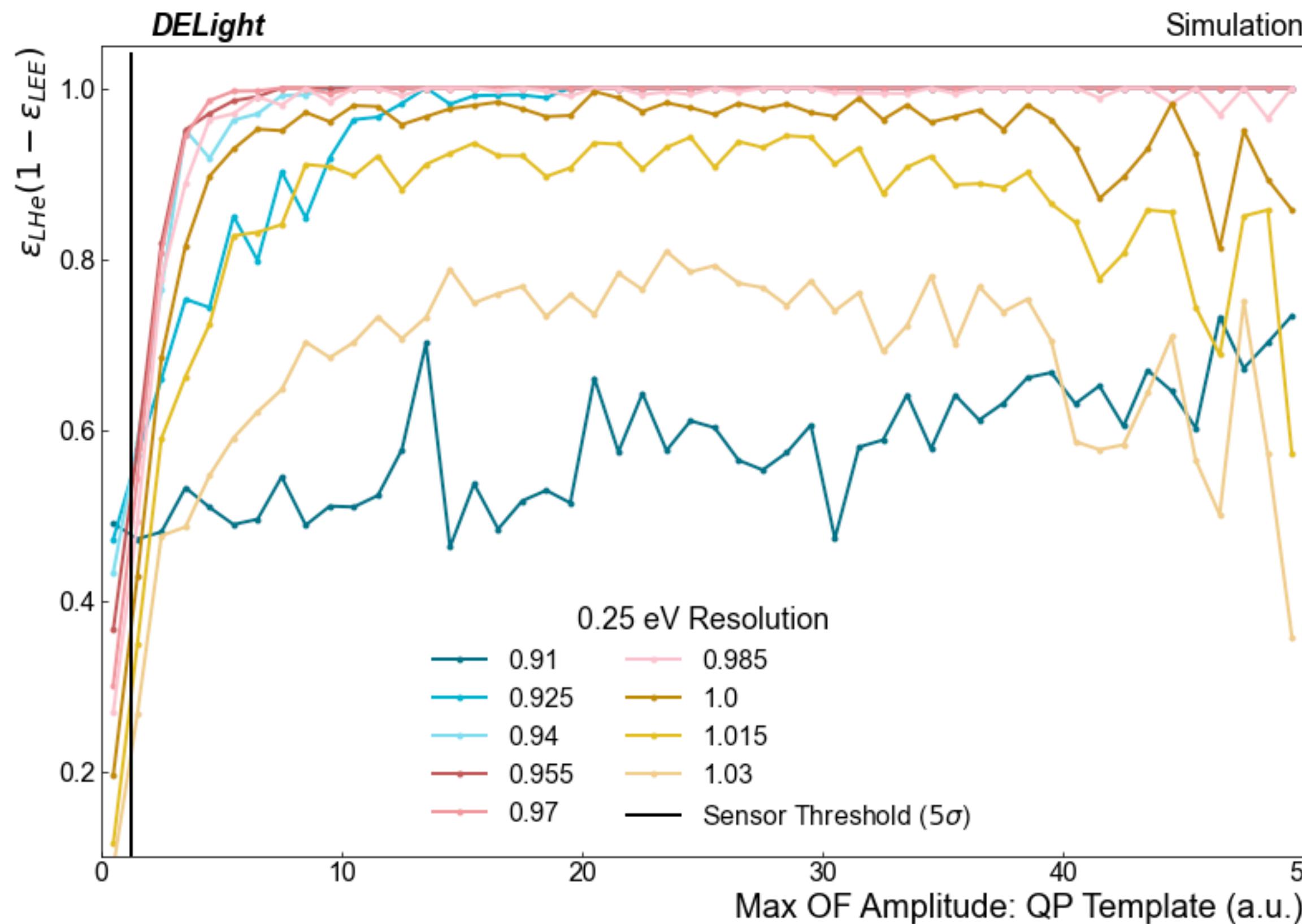
QP:UV Template OF Amplitude Ratio

- QP template well describes the QP events, but not the LEE events (and vice versa for the UV template)
- This is very clear in the ratio of the OF amplitudes from each template



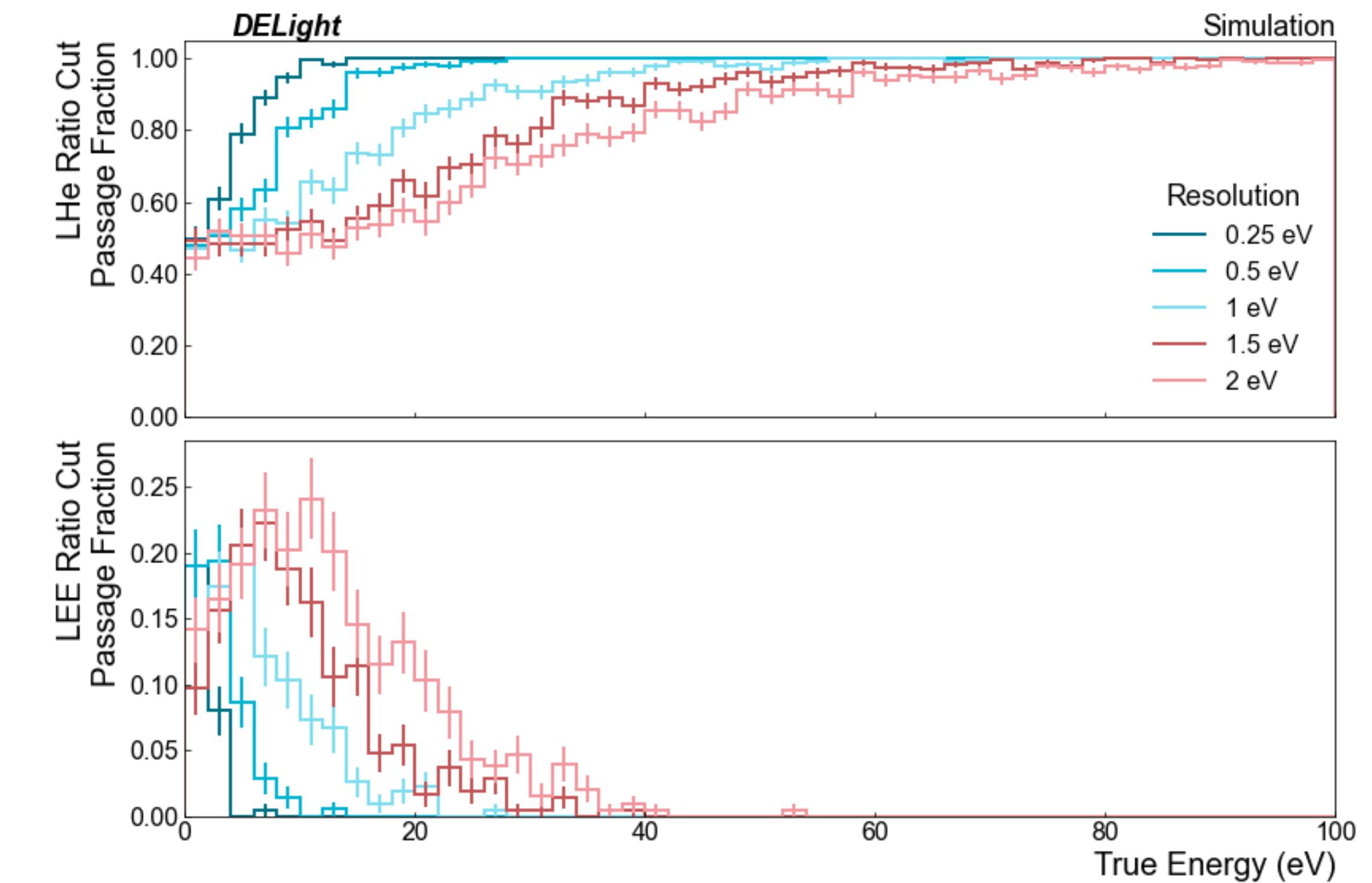
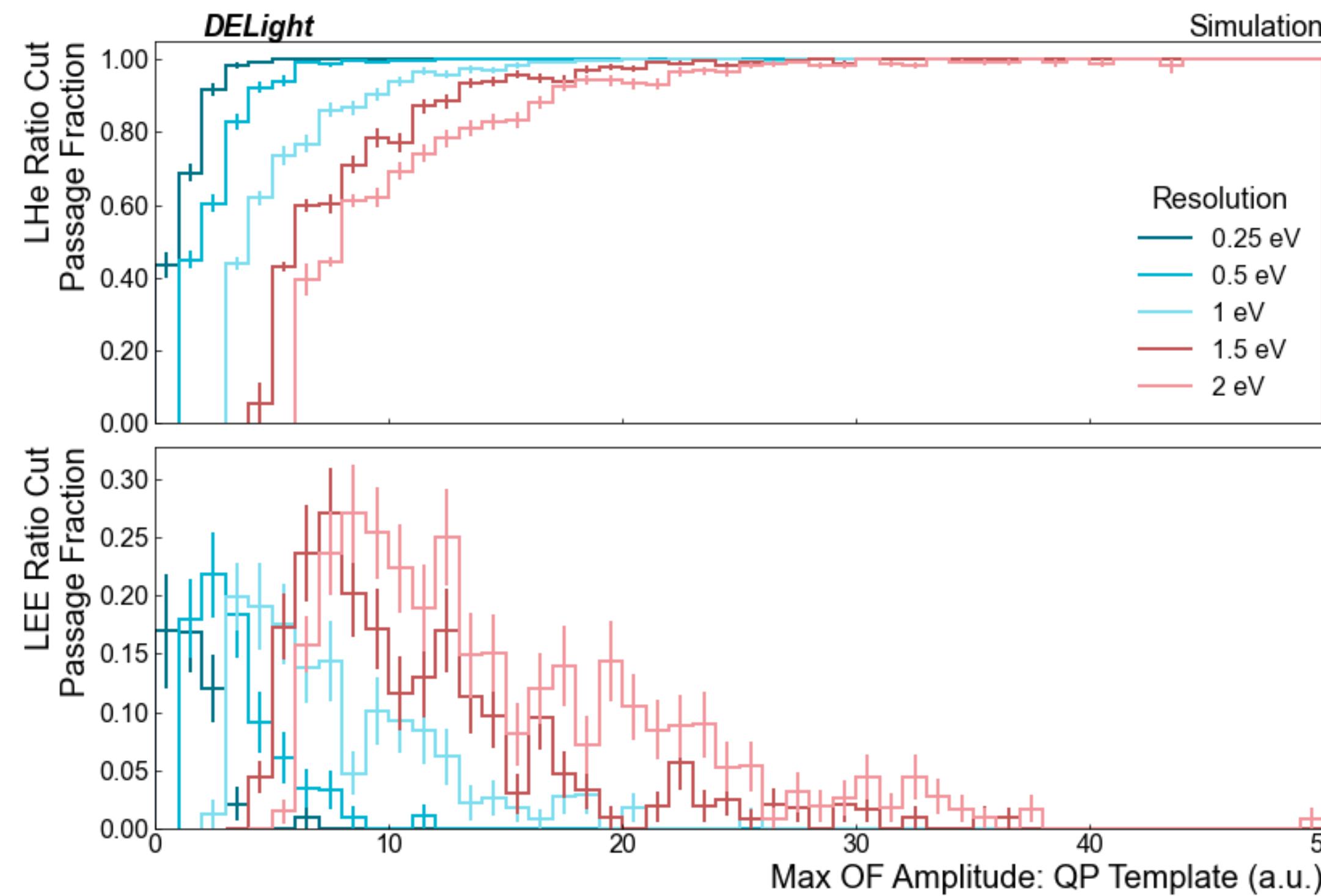
QP:UV Template OF Amplitude Ratio - Choosing Cut Value

- Cut value set based on passage fractions/efficiencies ε → want to maximize $\varepsilon_{LHe}(1 - \varepsilon_{LEE})$



QP:UV Template OF Amplitude Ratio Passage Fraction

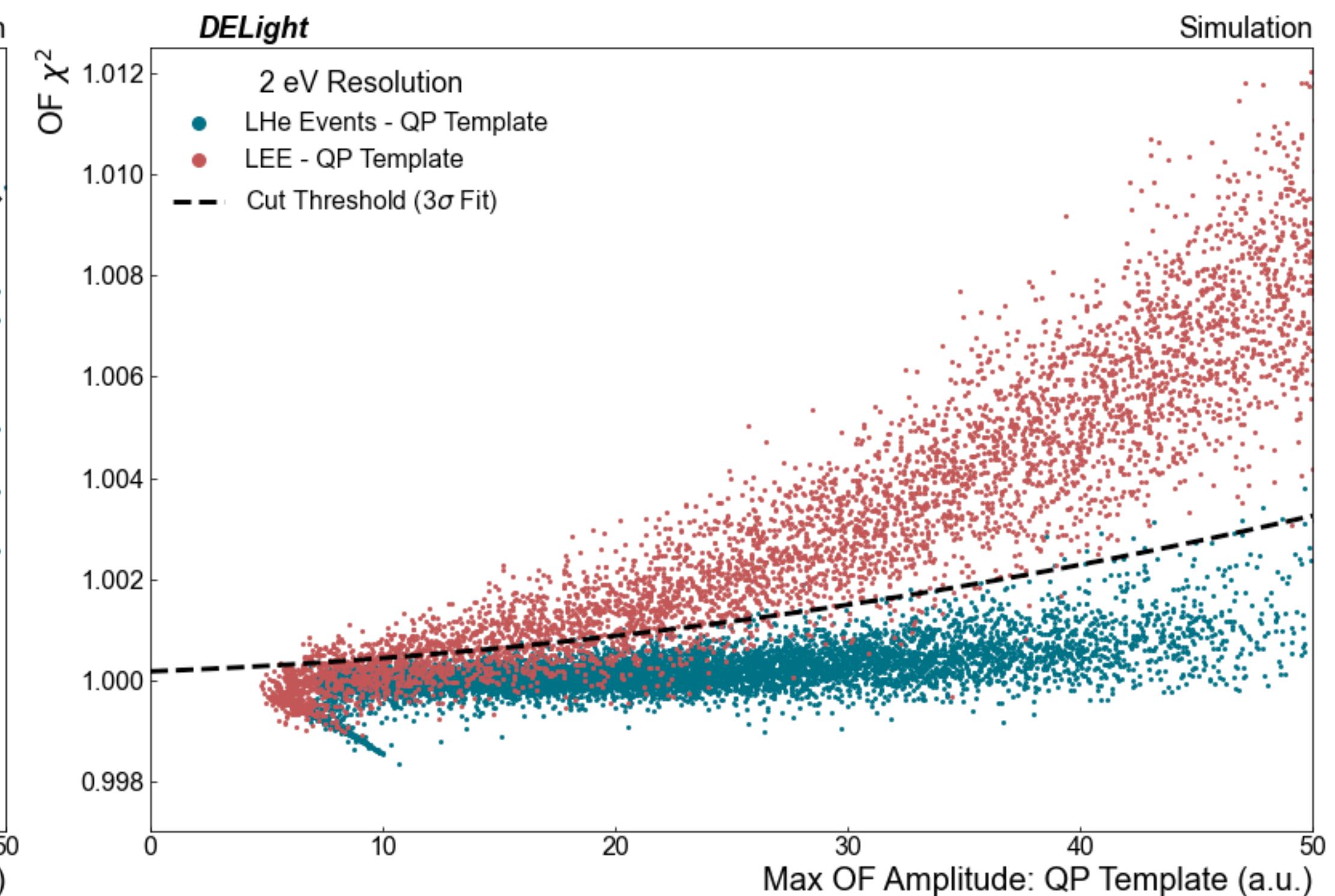
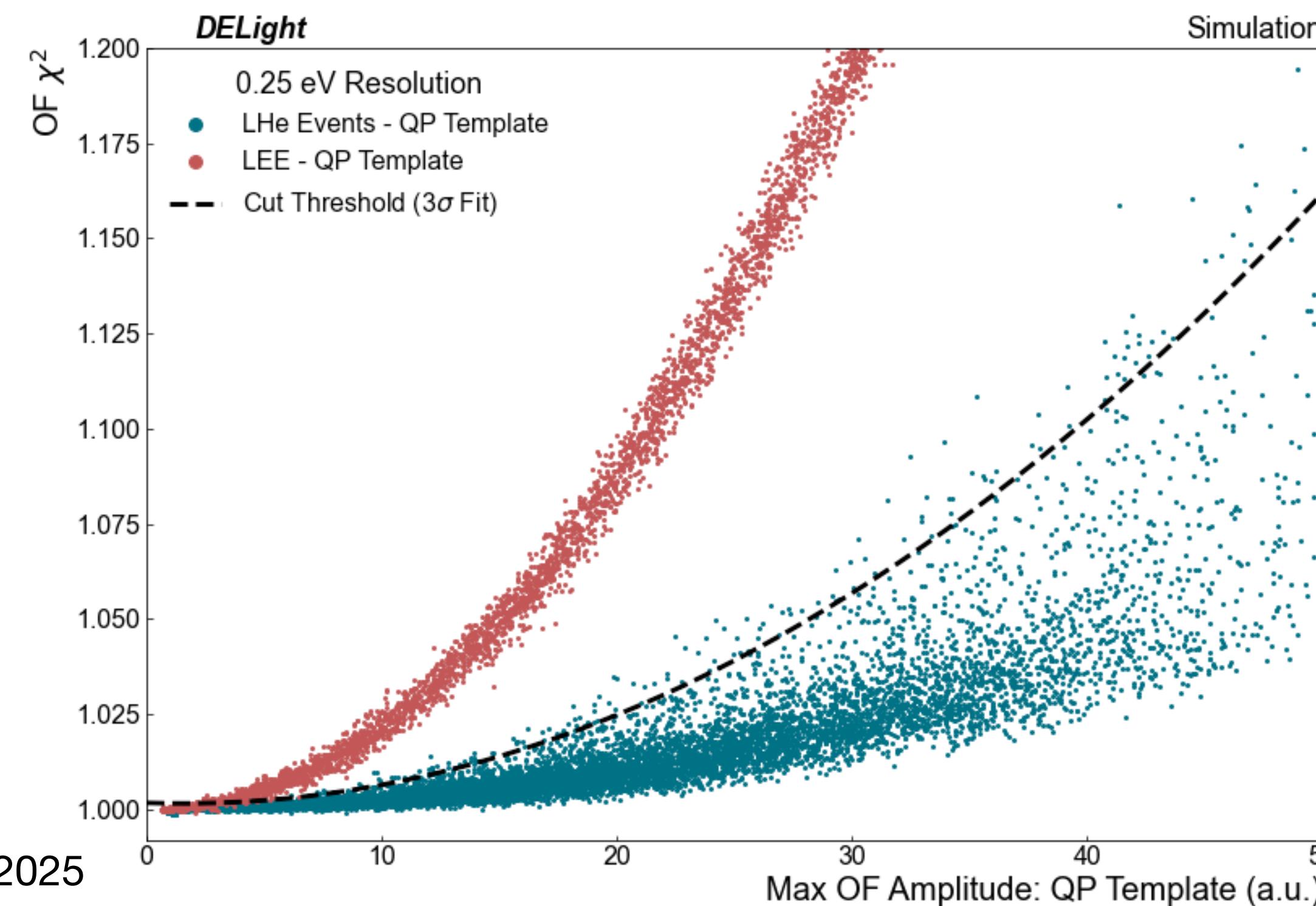
- Passage fractions for each event category as a function of the QP energy estimator (left) and the true event energy (right)



Chi2

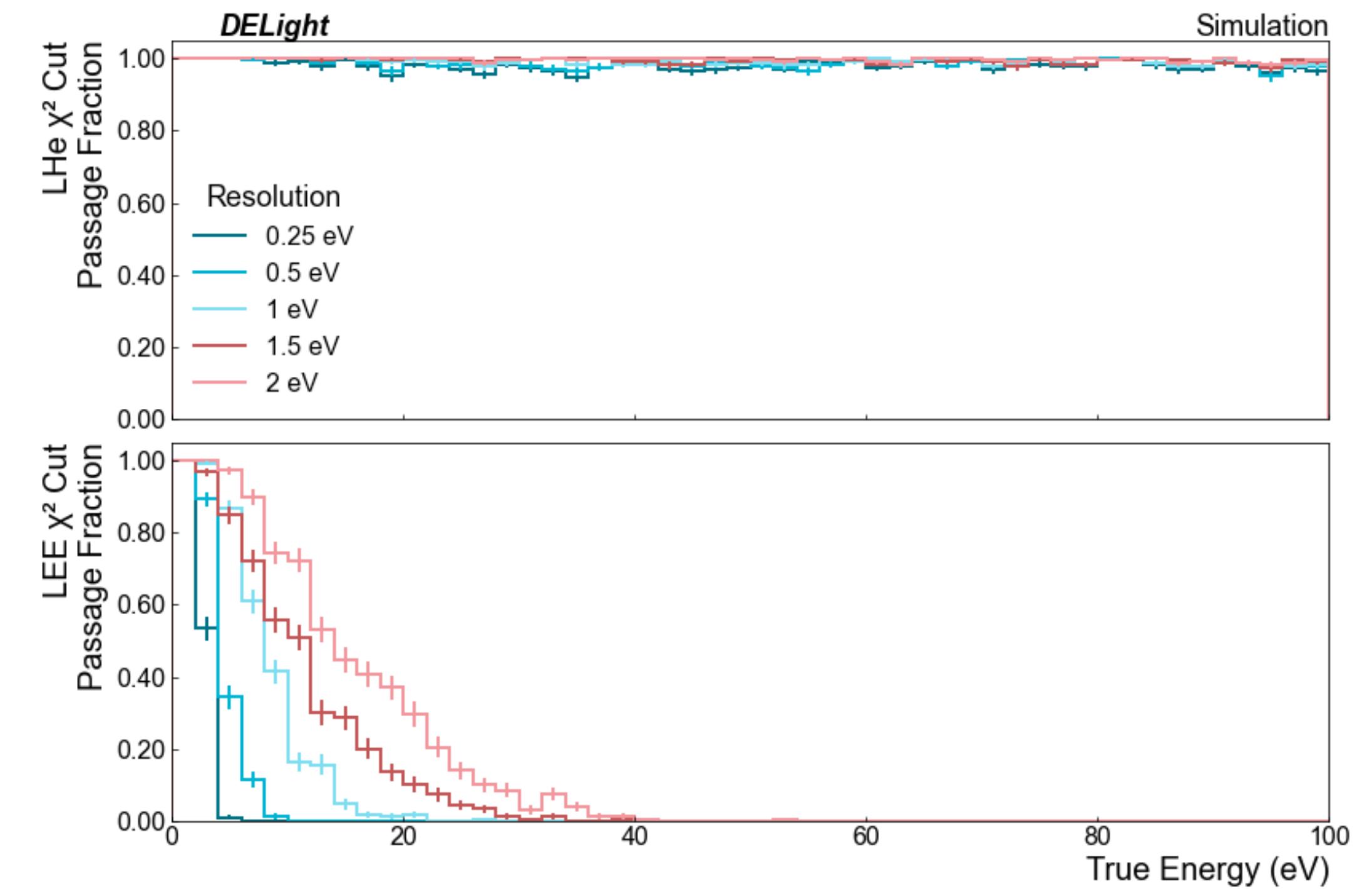
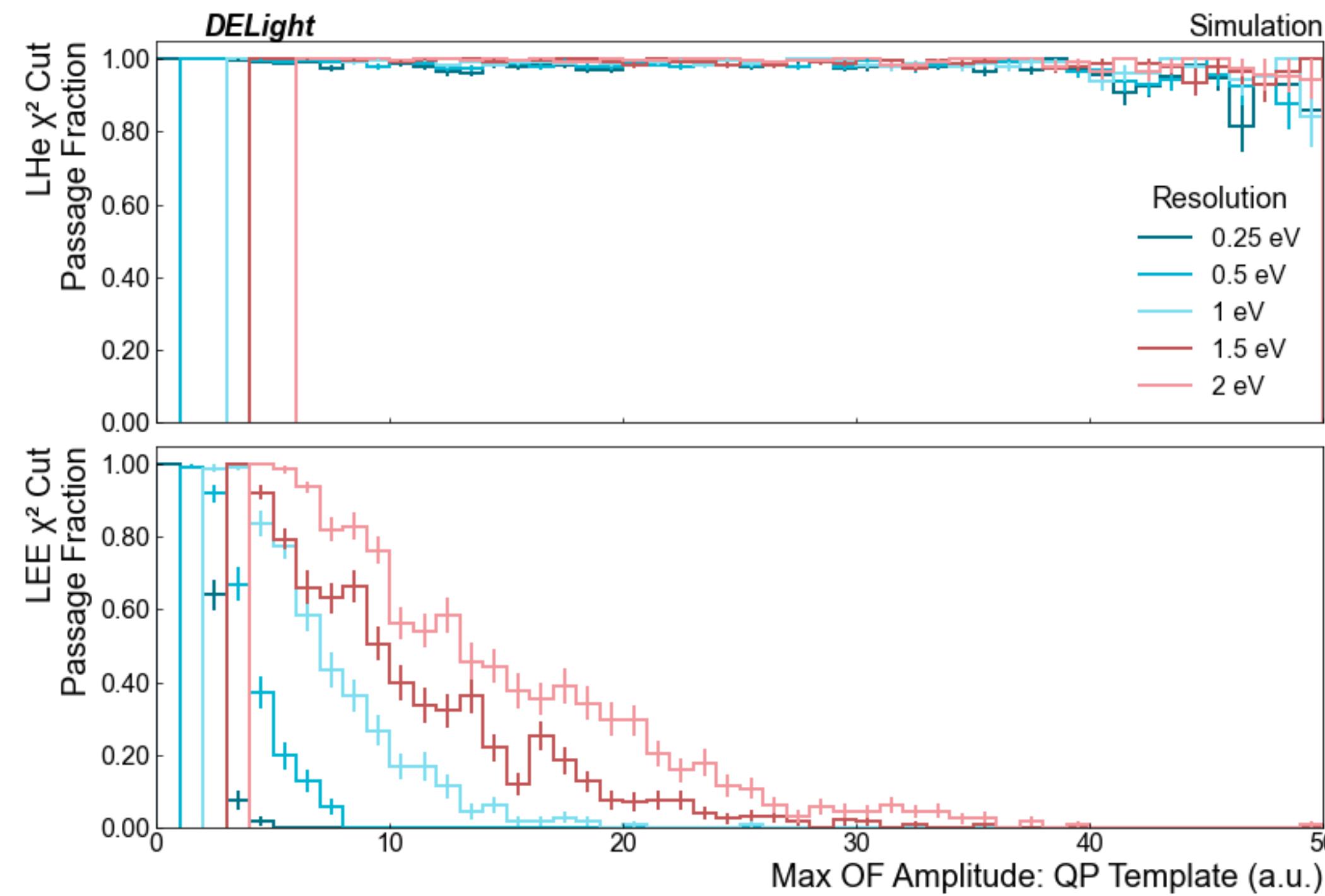
Chi2 Cut

- The chi2 of the QP template fit is also a strong indicator of the difference in pulse shape
- 3σ of the distribution taken and fit with polynomial for energy-dependent cut value



Chi2 Cut Passage Fraction

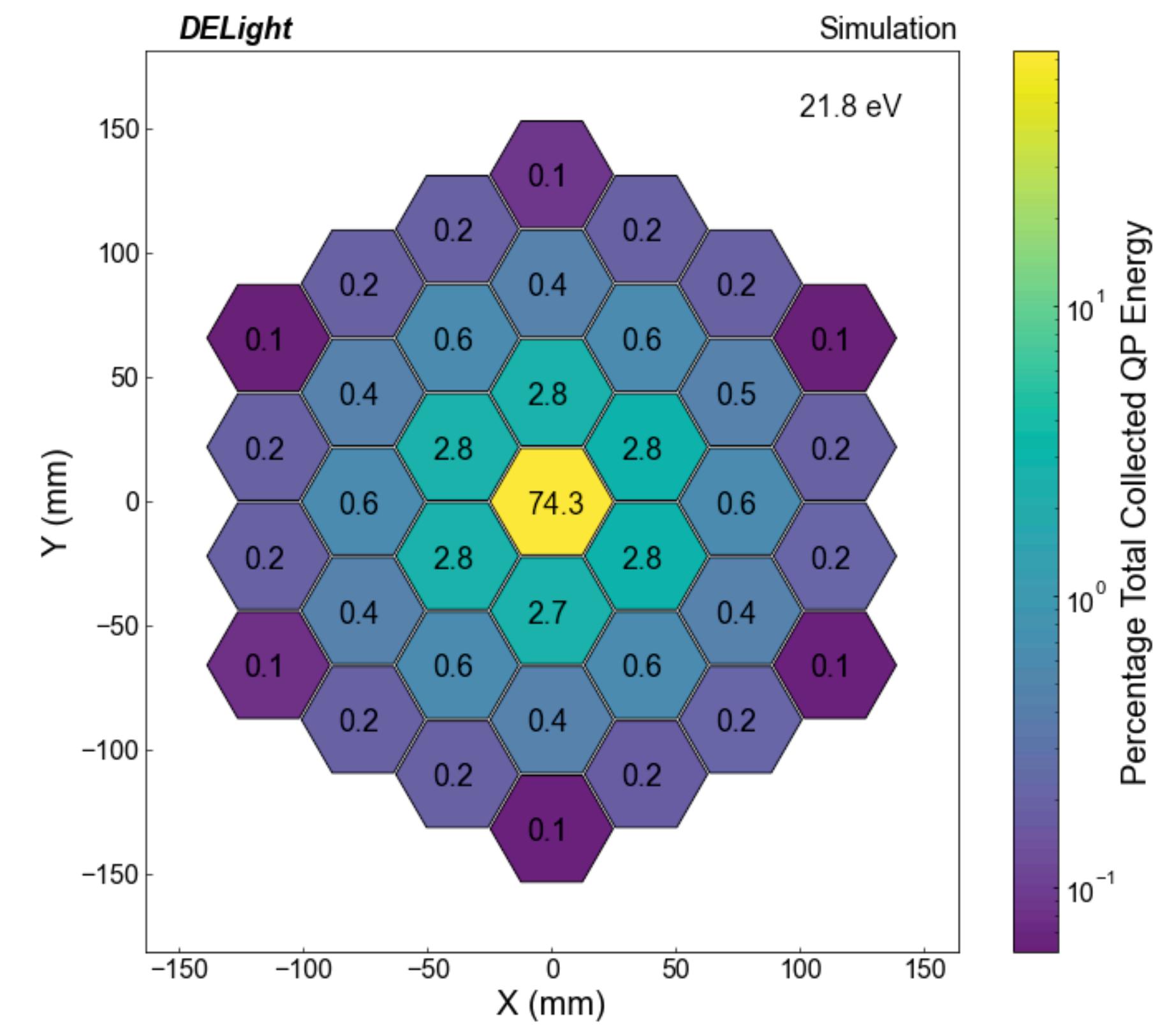
- By construction, LHe passage fraction is roughly constant
- Don't remove as many LEE events at low energy as ratio cut, but also don't remove LHe events



Nearest Neighbours

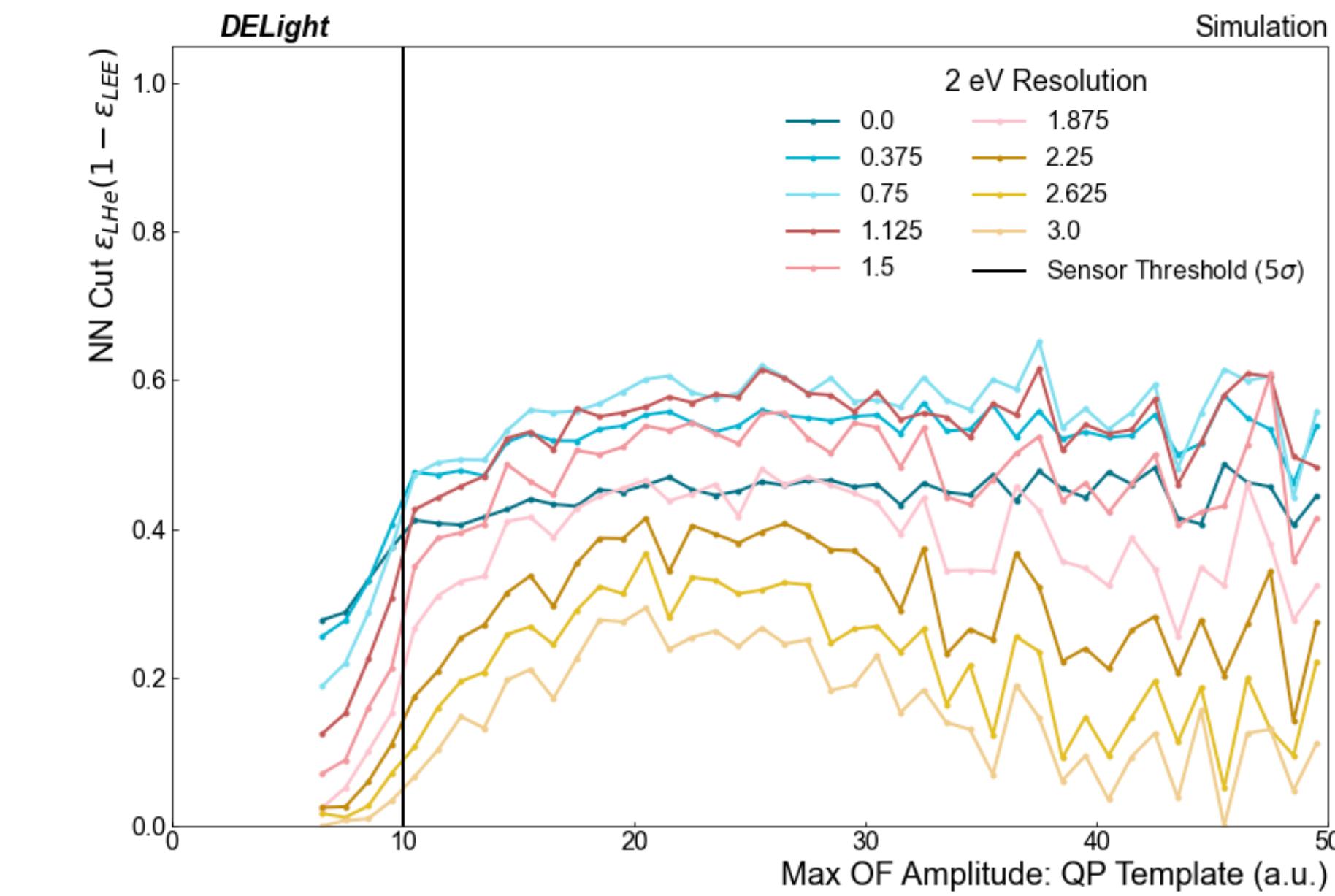
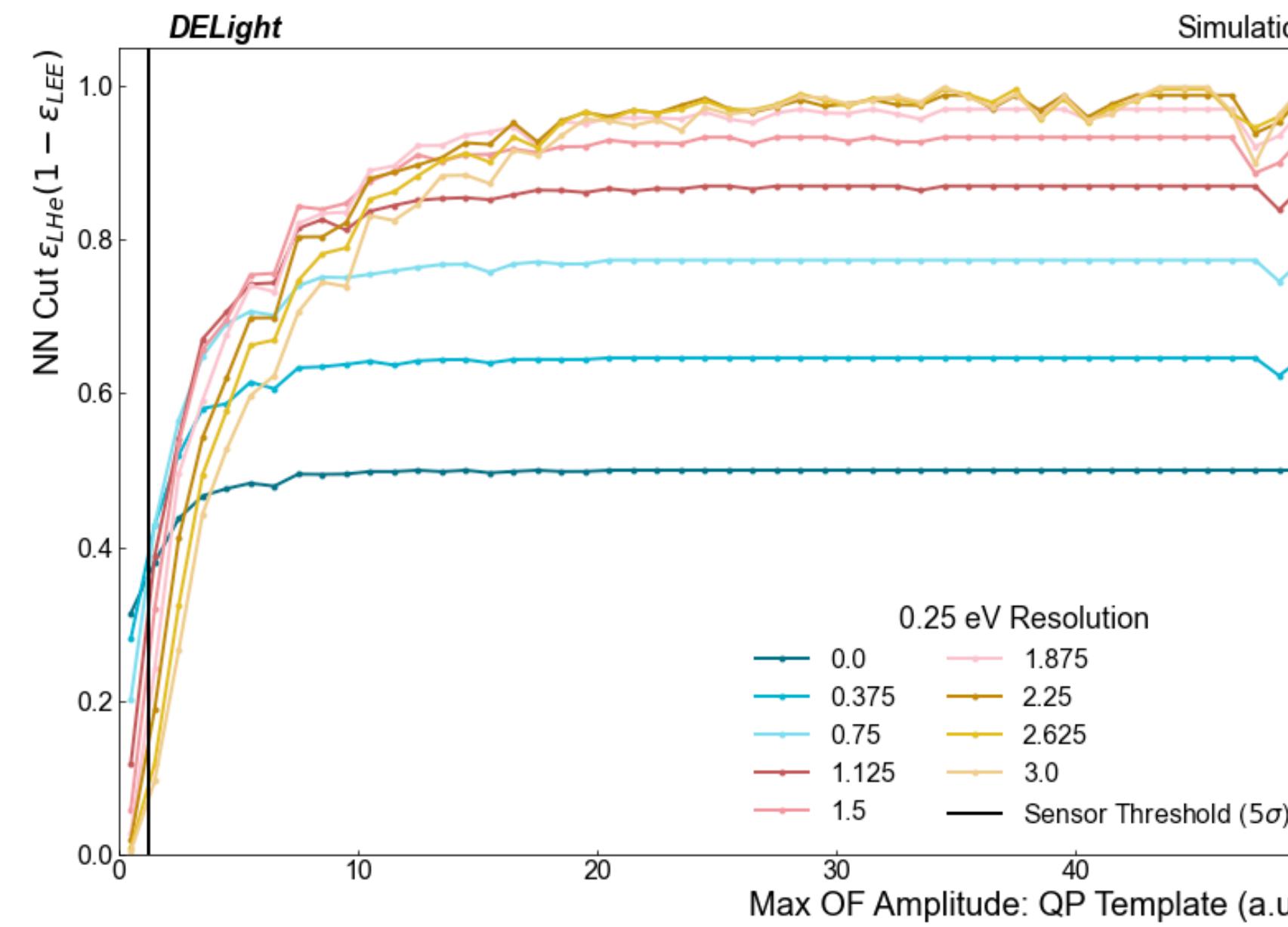
LEE Nearest Neighbours Cut

- The quasiparticle signal on the sensors surrounding the LAMCAL directly above the event location is small - but may be distinguishable from noise when considering the sum of the channels
- Cut on OF0 of the summed traces of channels surrounding the channel with max amplitude



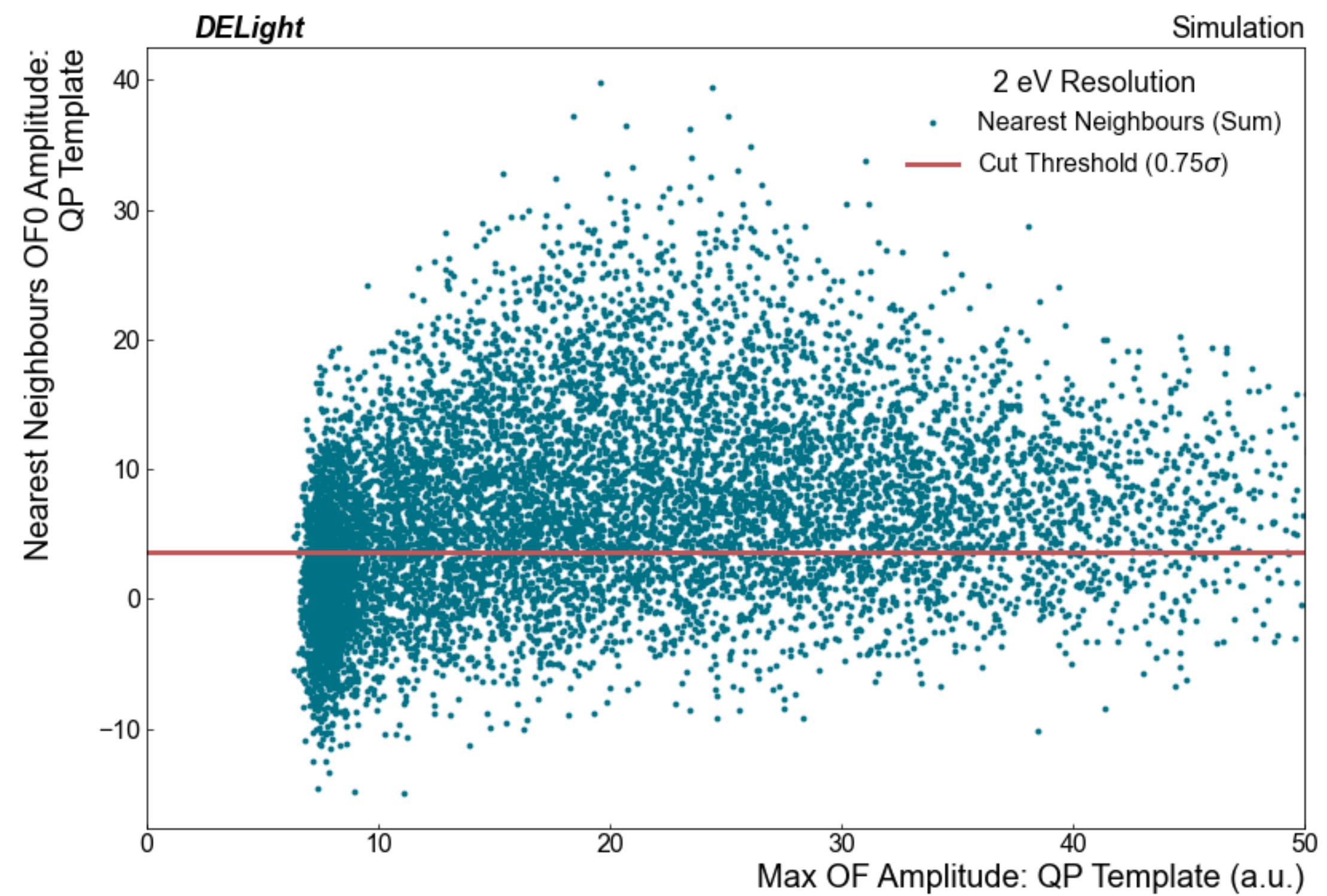
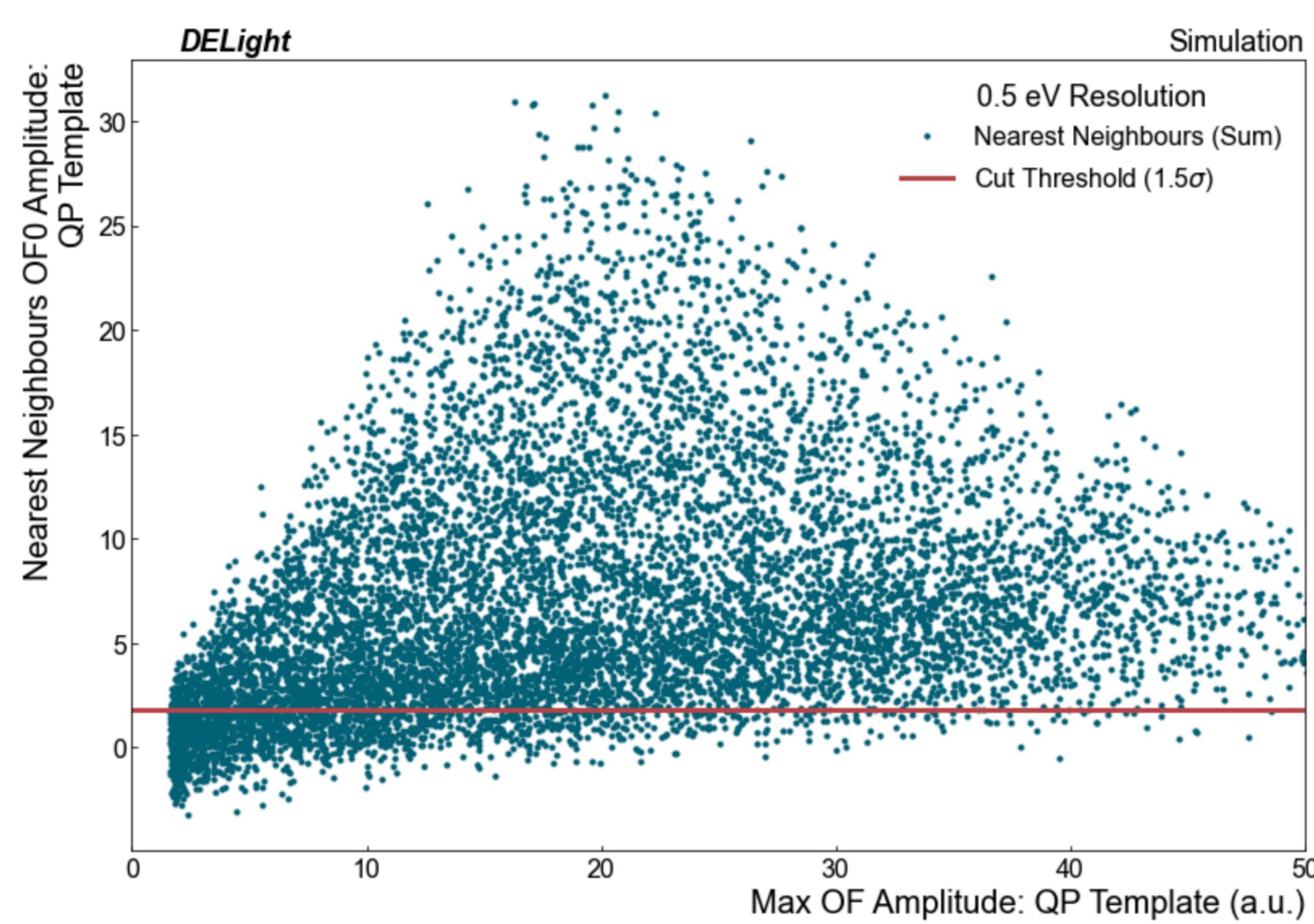
LEE Nearest Neighbours Cut

- Cut value depends on resolution
- Passage fraction of LEE events is constant in energy (expected signal is just gaussian noise on the surrounding channels)



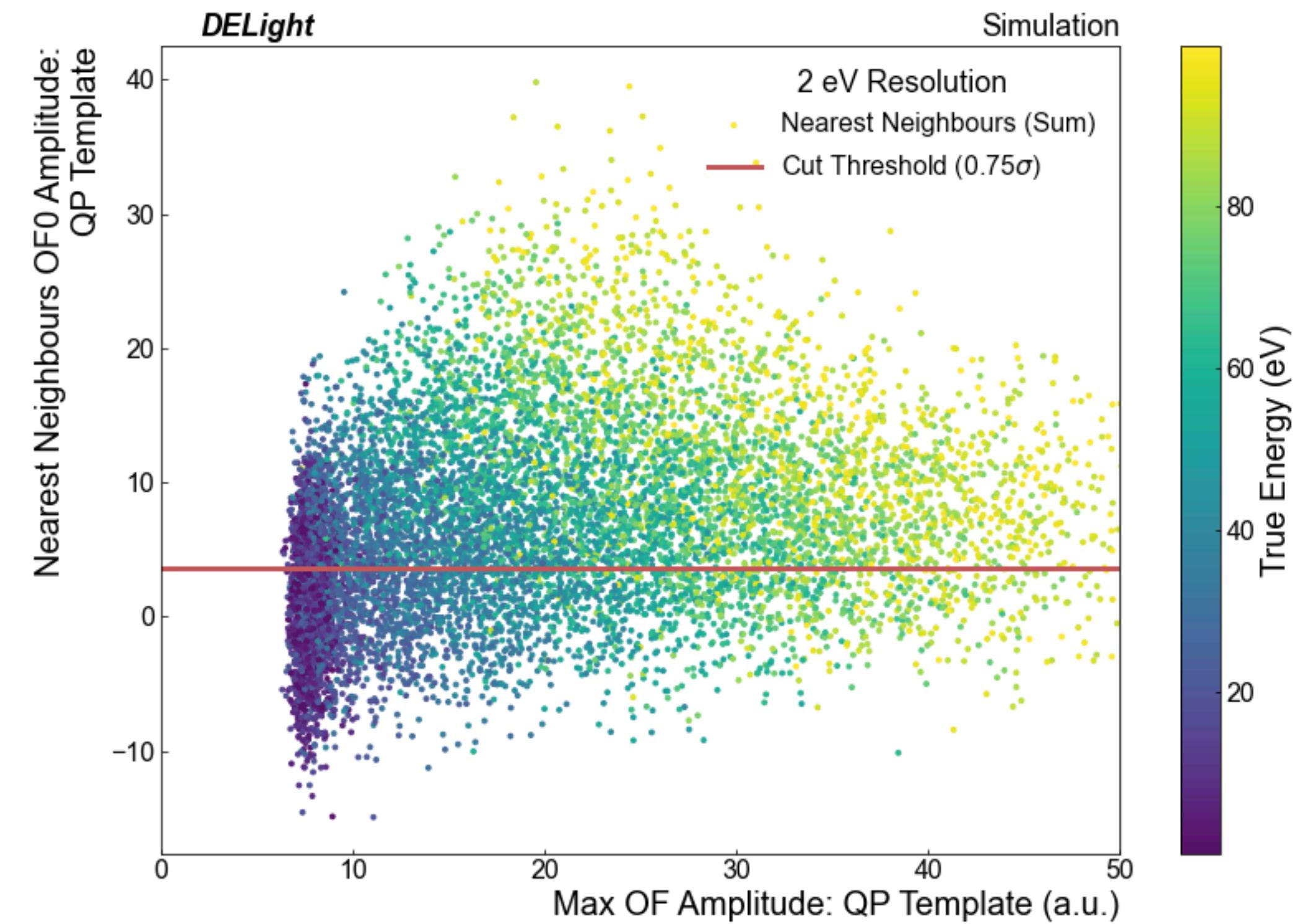
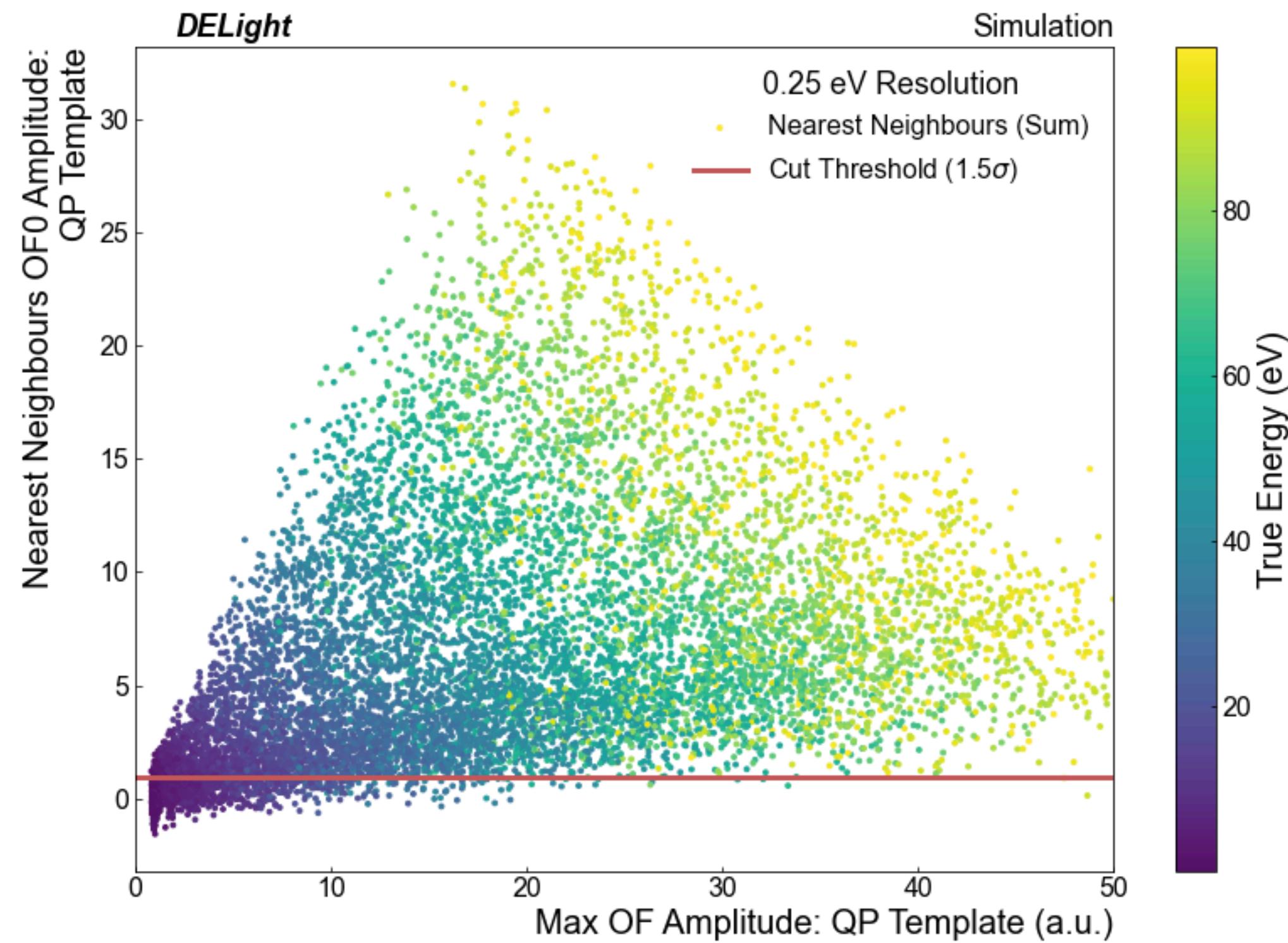
LEE Nearest Neighbours Cut: Distribution

- Distribution of the nearest neighbour signal as a function of the maximum QP amplitude. Cut position marked



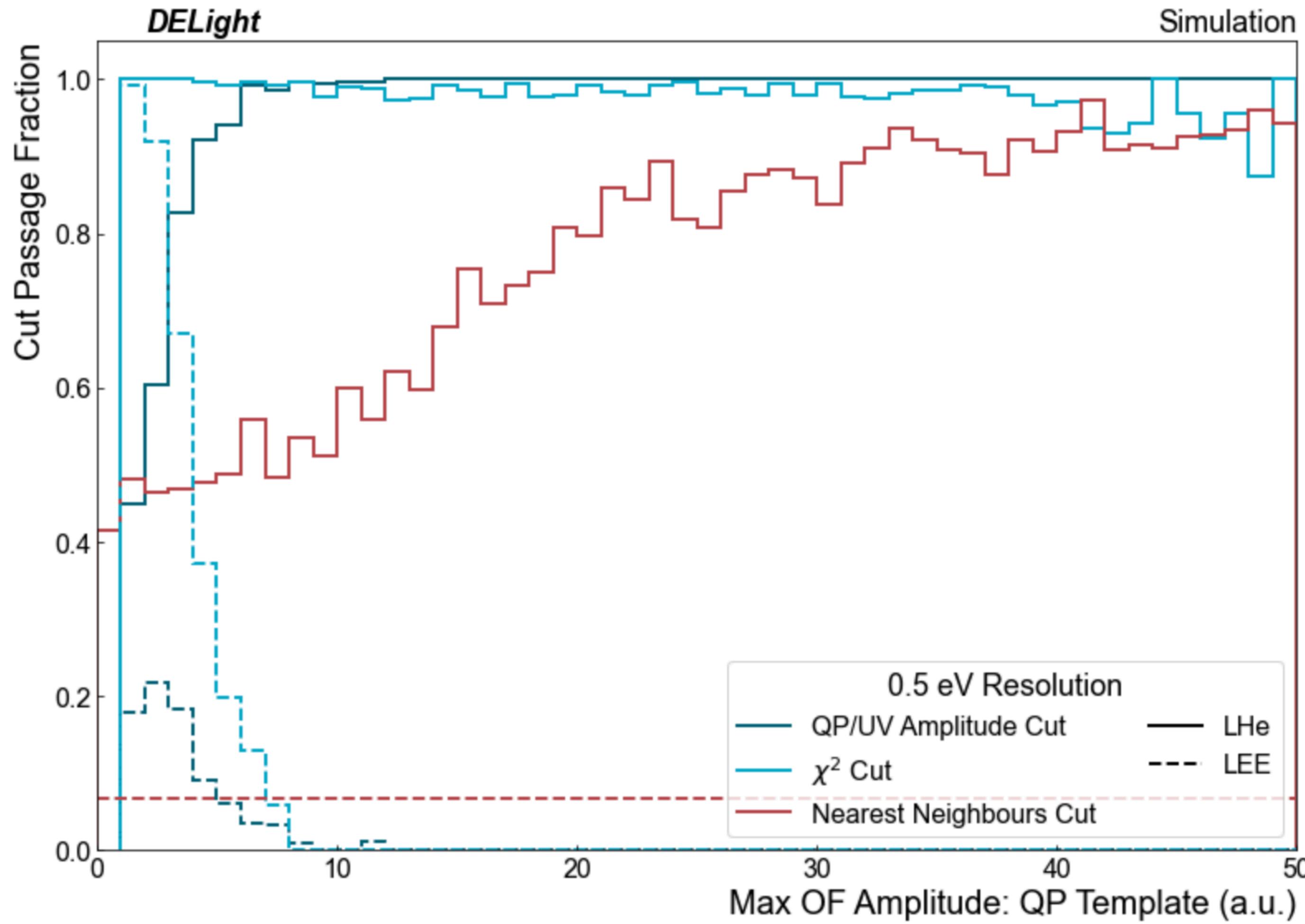
LEE Nearest Neighbours Cut: Distribution

→ Same plots, event energy indicated by colour

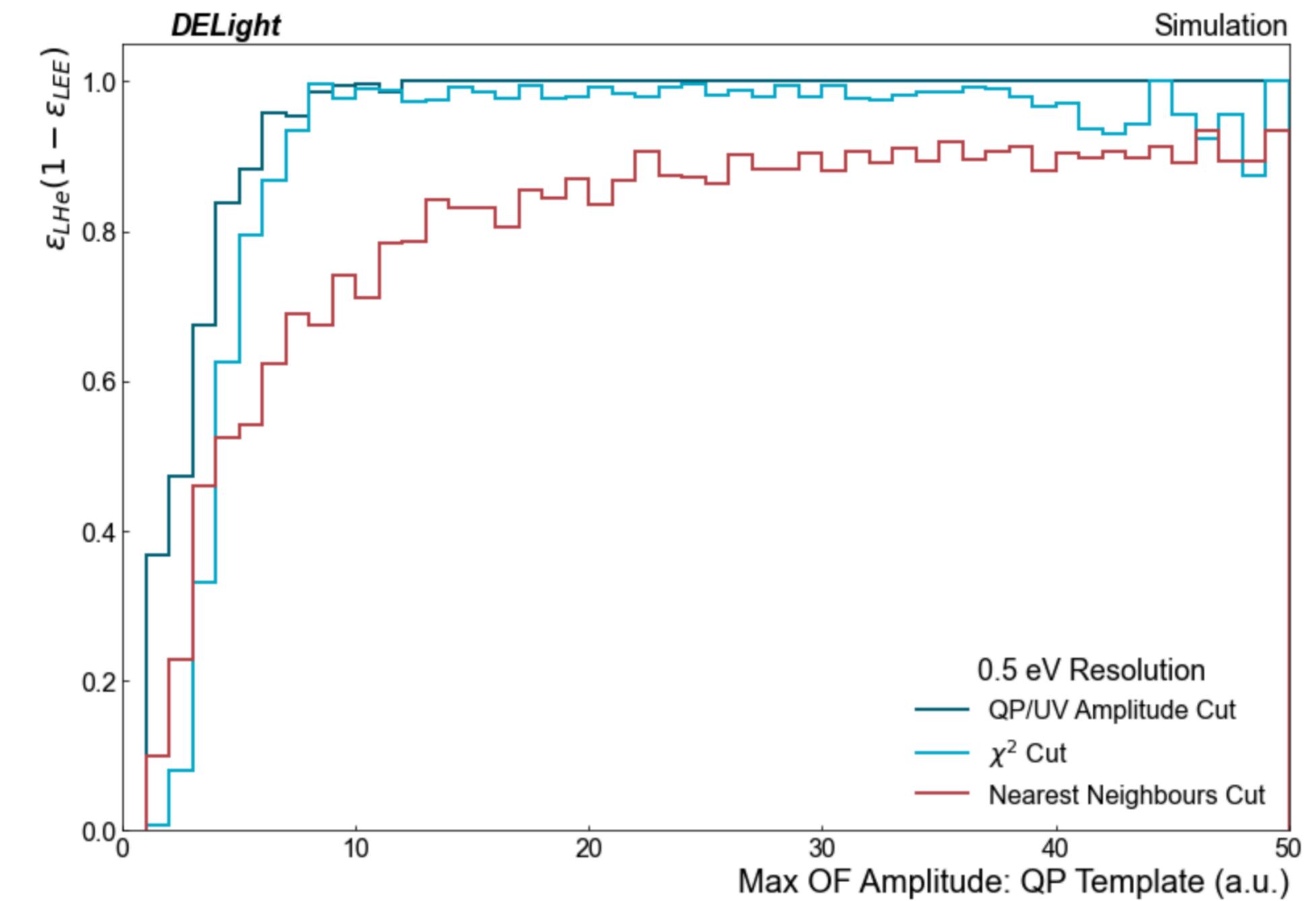


Summary

LEE Cut Summary

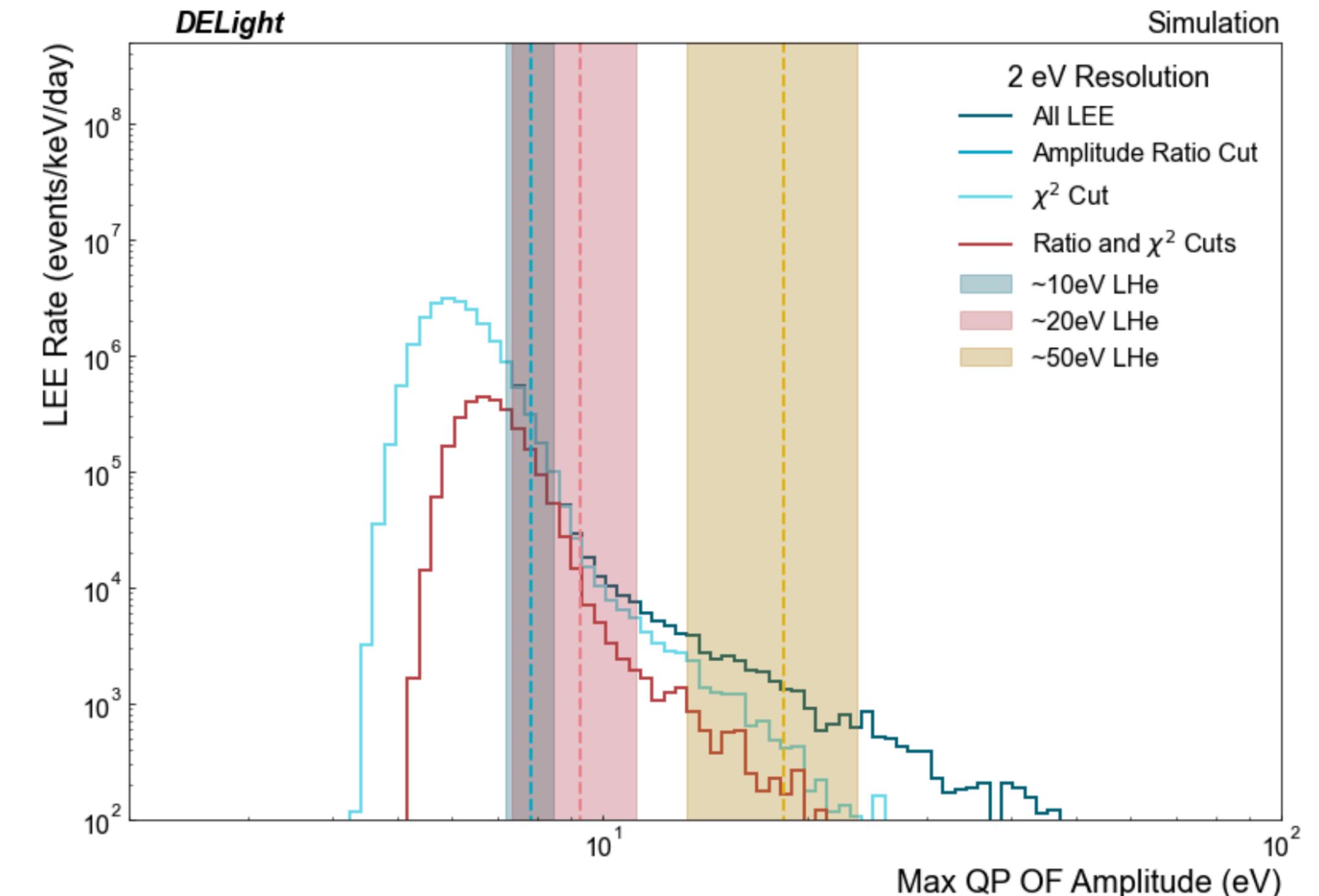
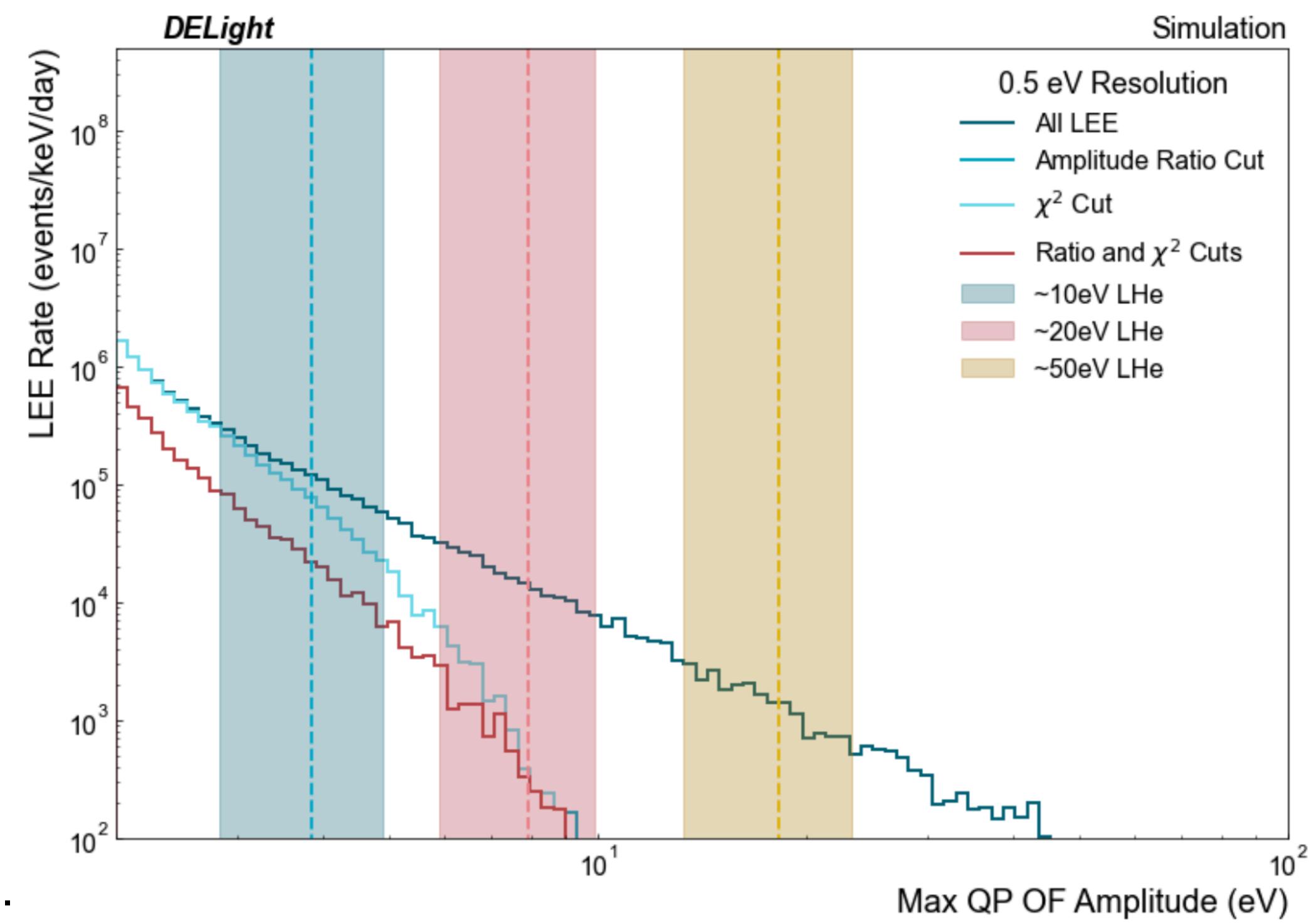


→ Chi2 and amplitude cuts perform better than NN cut, but are highly pulse shape dependent



Impact of Cuts on LEE

- Shape of LEE taken from CRESST measurement [SciPost Phys. Proc. 12, 013 (2023)]
- Impact of cuts at certain LHe event energies depends completely on sensor resolution
- Y axis scale is arbitrary, and plots do not show impact on LHe events.



Conclusions

- Different avenues for reducing the impact of the LEE:
 - Cuts: pulse shape (chi2, amplitude ratio) and signal distribution (nearest neighbours)
 - Measurement of the LEE without LHe volume - constrain background in PLR limits
- Current caveats:
 - Are LEE events in LAMCALs truly like UV signal?
 - What is the LAMCAL pulse shape?
- Need input from P2

Conclusions

- Different avenues for reducing the impact of the LEE:
 - Cuts: pulse shape (chi2, amplitude ratio) and signal distribution (nearest neighbours)
 - Measurement of the LEE without LHe volume - constrain background in PLR limits
- Current caveats:
 - Are LEE events in LAMCALs truly like UV signal?
 - What is the LAMCAL pulse shape?
 - Need input from P2

Analysis note in progress!