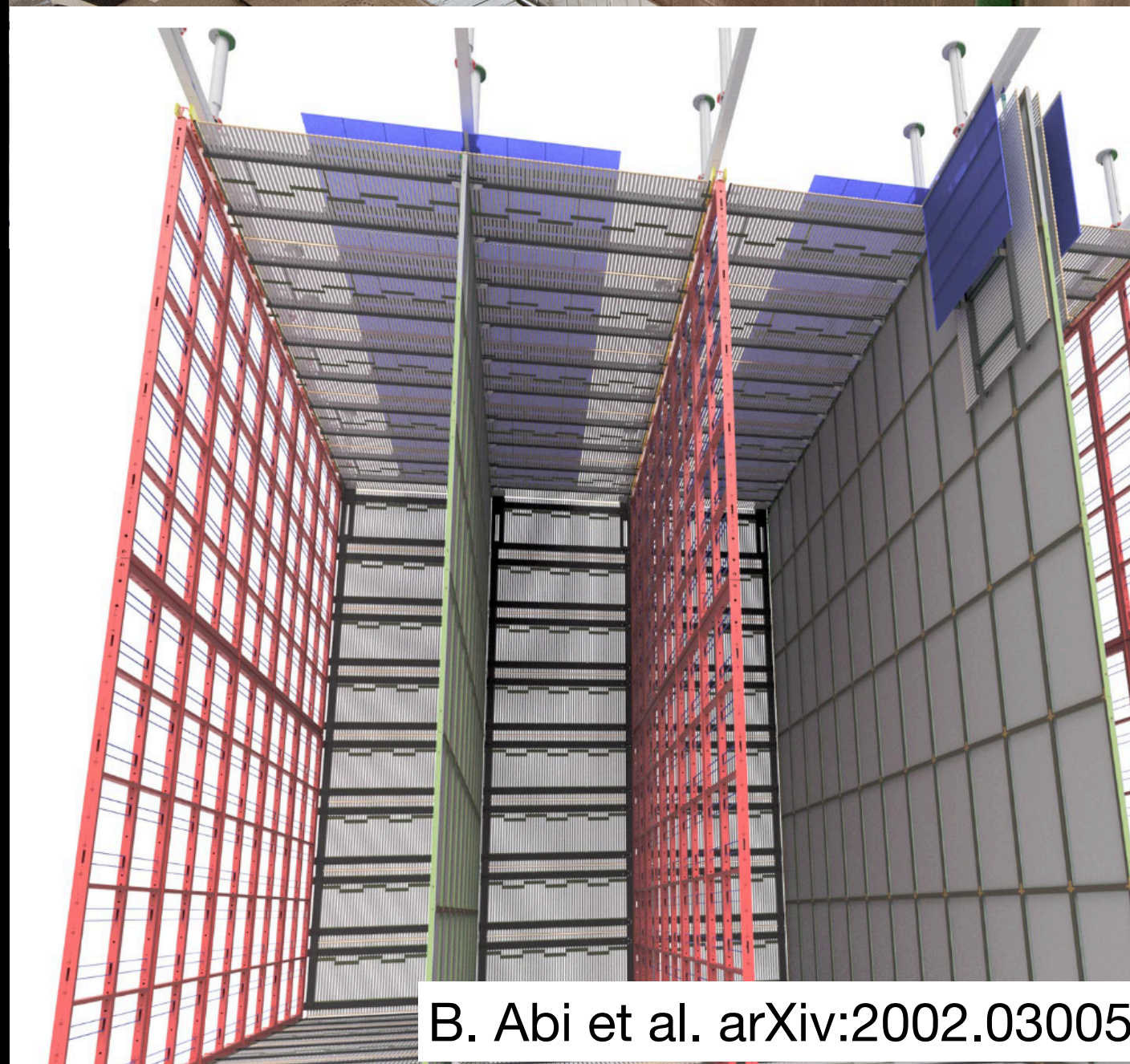


# Neutrino Hunting with Liquid Argon Neutrino Detectors at Fermilab



FNAL VMS



B. Abi et al. arXiv:2002.03005

 **Fermilab**

**DUNE**  
DEEP UNDERGROUND  
NEUTRINO EXPERIMENT

SHORT-BASELINE  
NEAR DETECTOR  
**SBND**



Bruce Howard  
7 November 2023

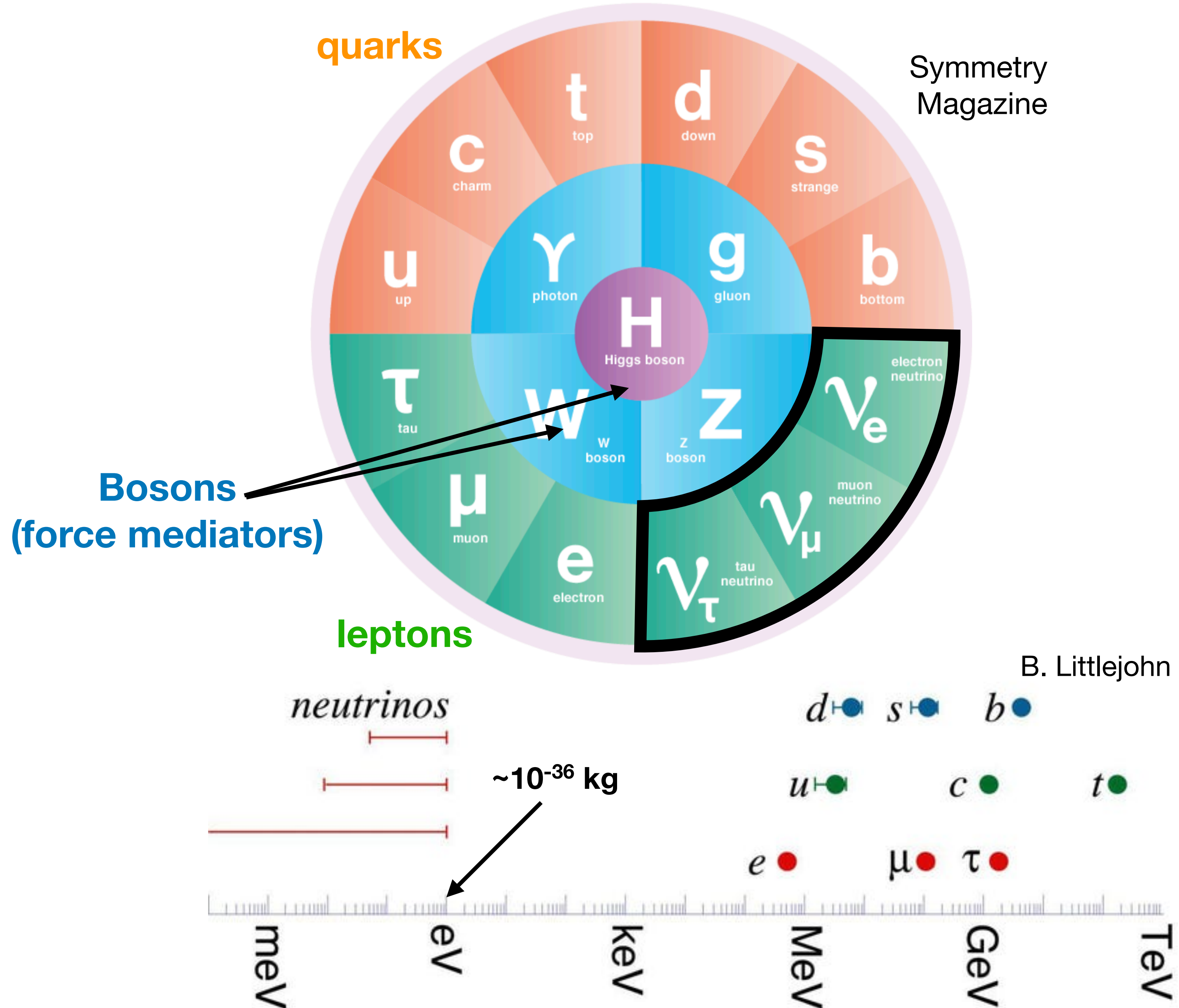
U Mississippi Colloquium

This manuscript has been authored by Fermi Research Alliance, LLC under Contract No. DE-AC02-07CH11359 with the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Science, Office of High Energy Physics.



# The “particle zoo”

- Nature has presented a set of subatomic particles that constitute the known makeup of Universe and/or can be exchanged during interactions of particles
  - Quarks, Leptons, Bosons
- Neutrinos:
  - Neutral leptons
  - Very** low mass,  $< \text{eV}$
  - Only interact via “weak force” (appropriate name)





# The neutrino

- First proposed in 1930 as a “desperate remedy” by Pauli
- Beta decay is the process by which a neutron in the nucleus decays to (it was thought at the time) a proton and an electron



- Available energy: **Mass(C-14) - [Mass(N-14) + Mass(e)]**
  - Apply conservation of energy and momentum
- Instead of a delta function of electron energy, a spectrum is seen
- Pauli proposes that a tiny, neutral particle could be emitted and not seen
  - **Two-body decay vs. three-body decay!**

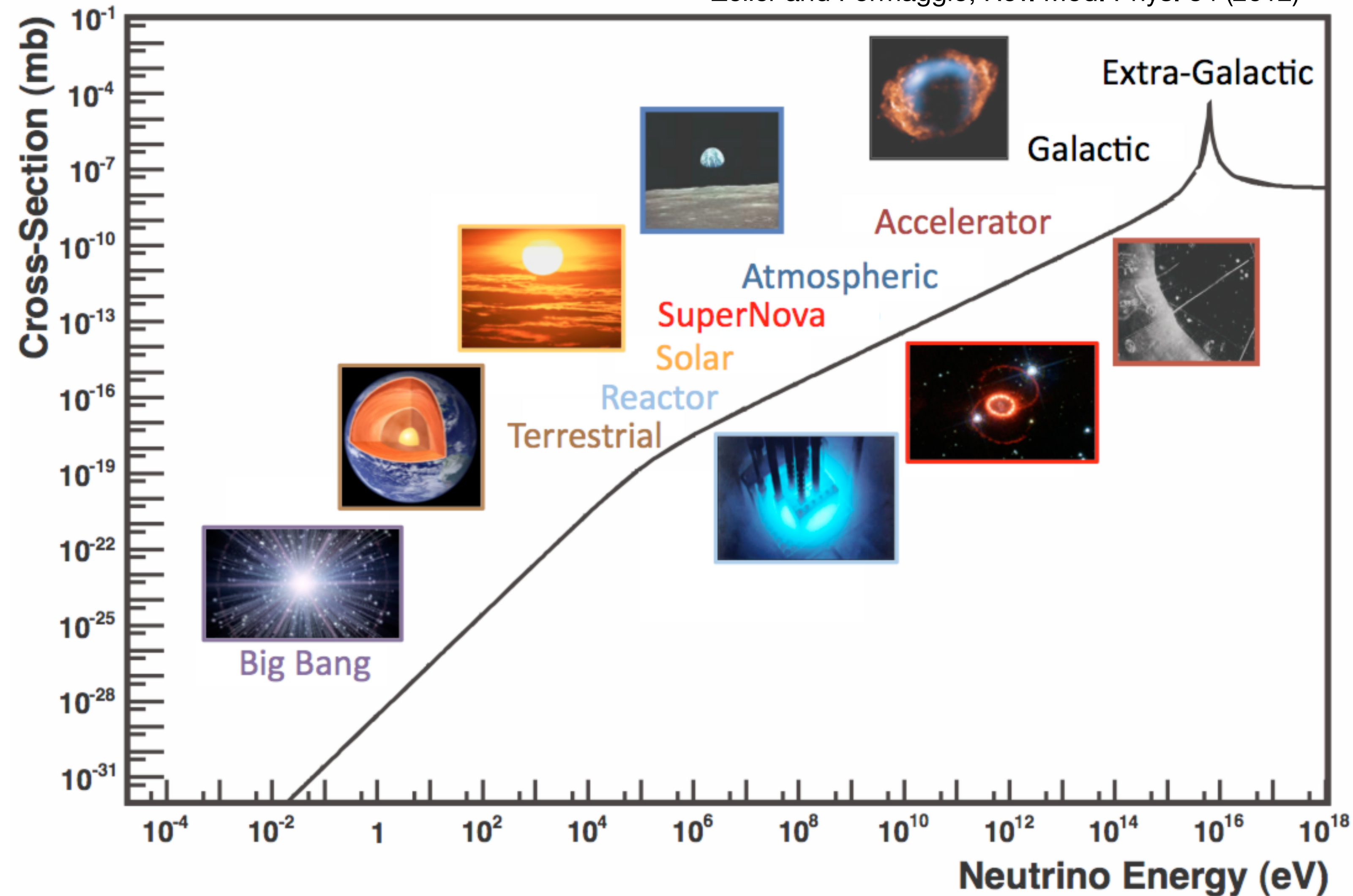




# The neutrino

- Only interact weakly: took decades to find
- 1950s:  $e$  coupled  $\nu$  found  $\nu_e$  (Reines, Cowan)
- 1960s:  $\nu_\mu$  (Brookhaven)
- Early 2000s,  $\nu_\tau$  observed for first time (Fermilab)
- Measurements show 3  $\nu$  flavors expected
- That ***could*** have been the whole story...

Zeller and Formaggio, Rev. Mod. Phys. 84 (2012)

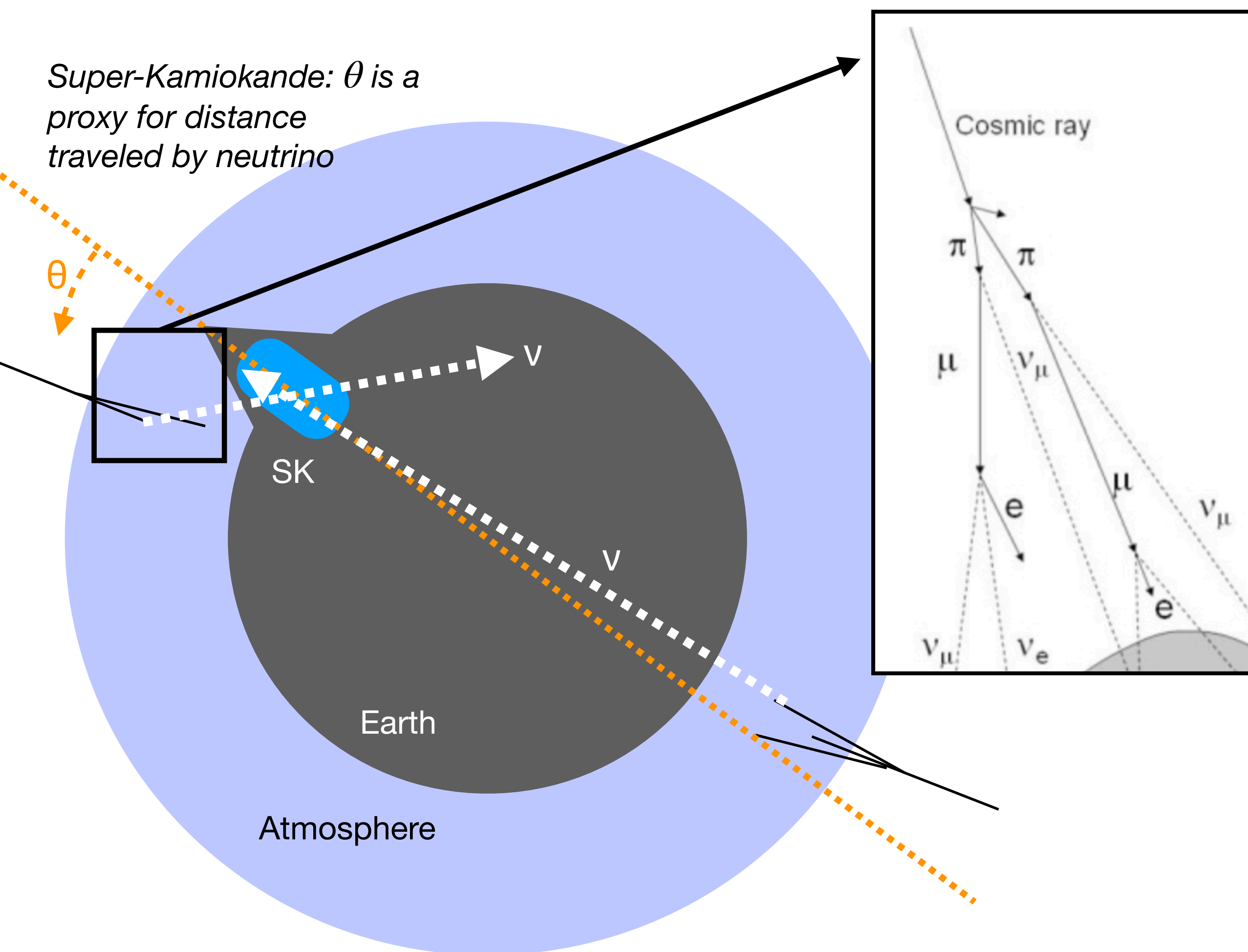


We know now that neutrinos come from many sources!

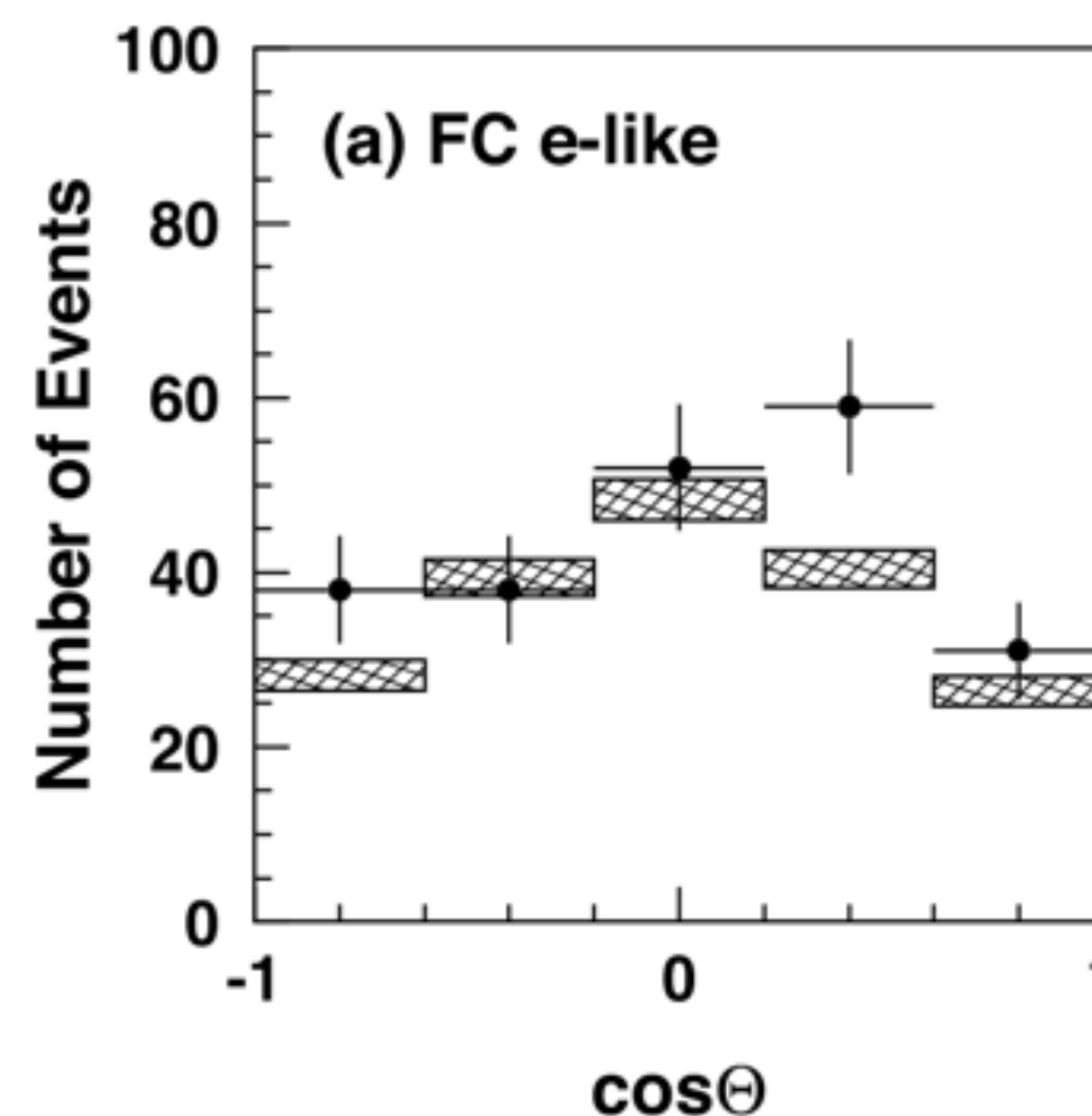


# The neutrino

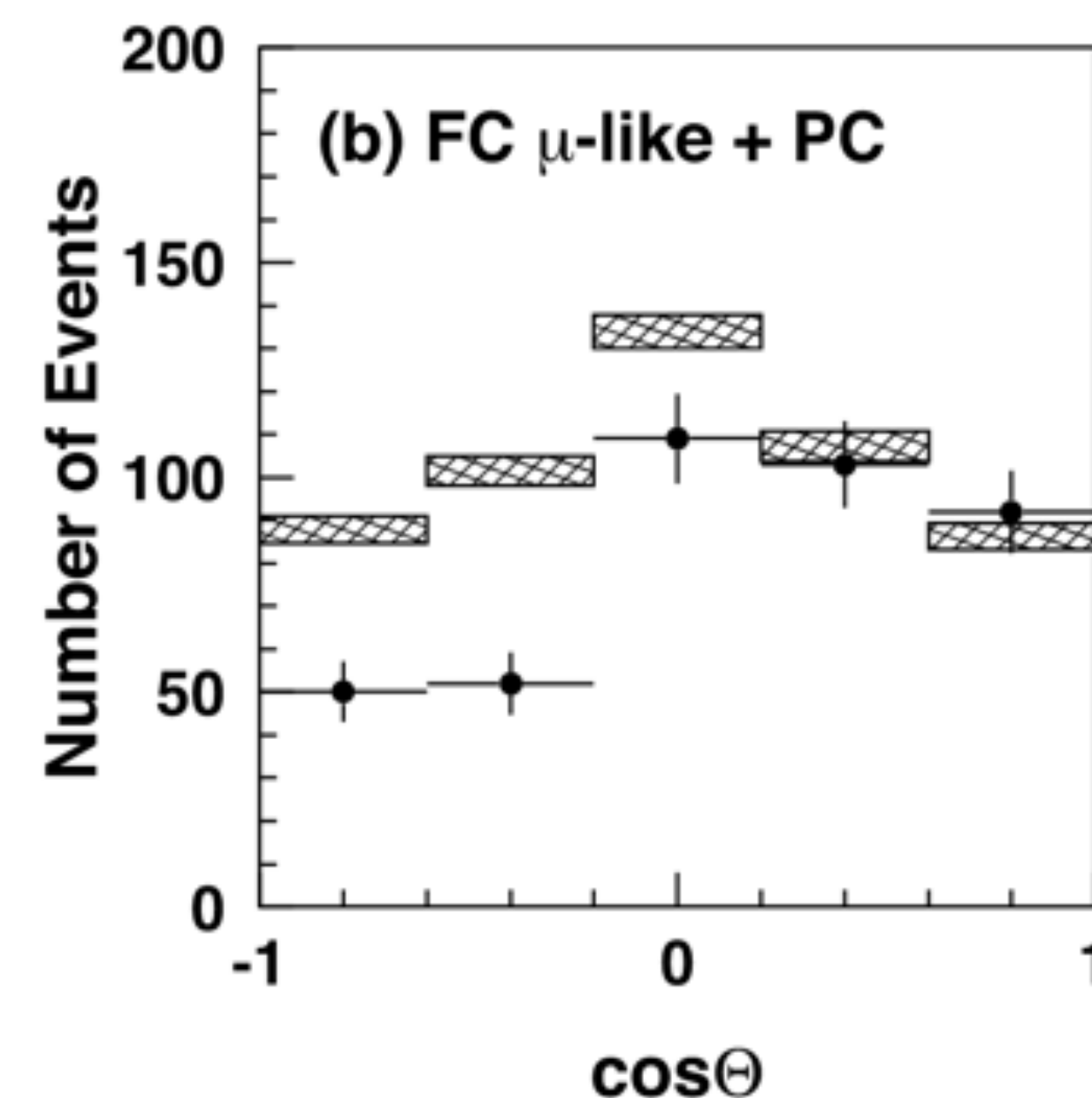
- Seminal work by Ray Davis to measure solar  $\nu$  yields continually came up short of expectation
- Followed by other experiments studying yields of different flavors: e.g. Super Kamiokande & SNO



*T. Kajita. Proc Jpn Acad Ser B Phys Biol Sci. 2010 86 (4) 303–321*



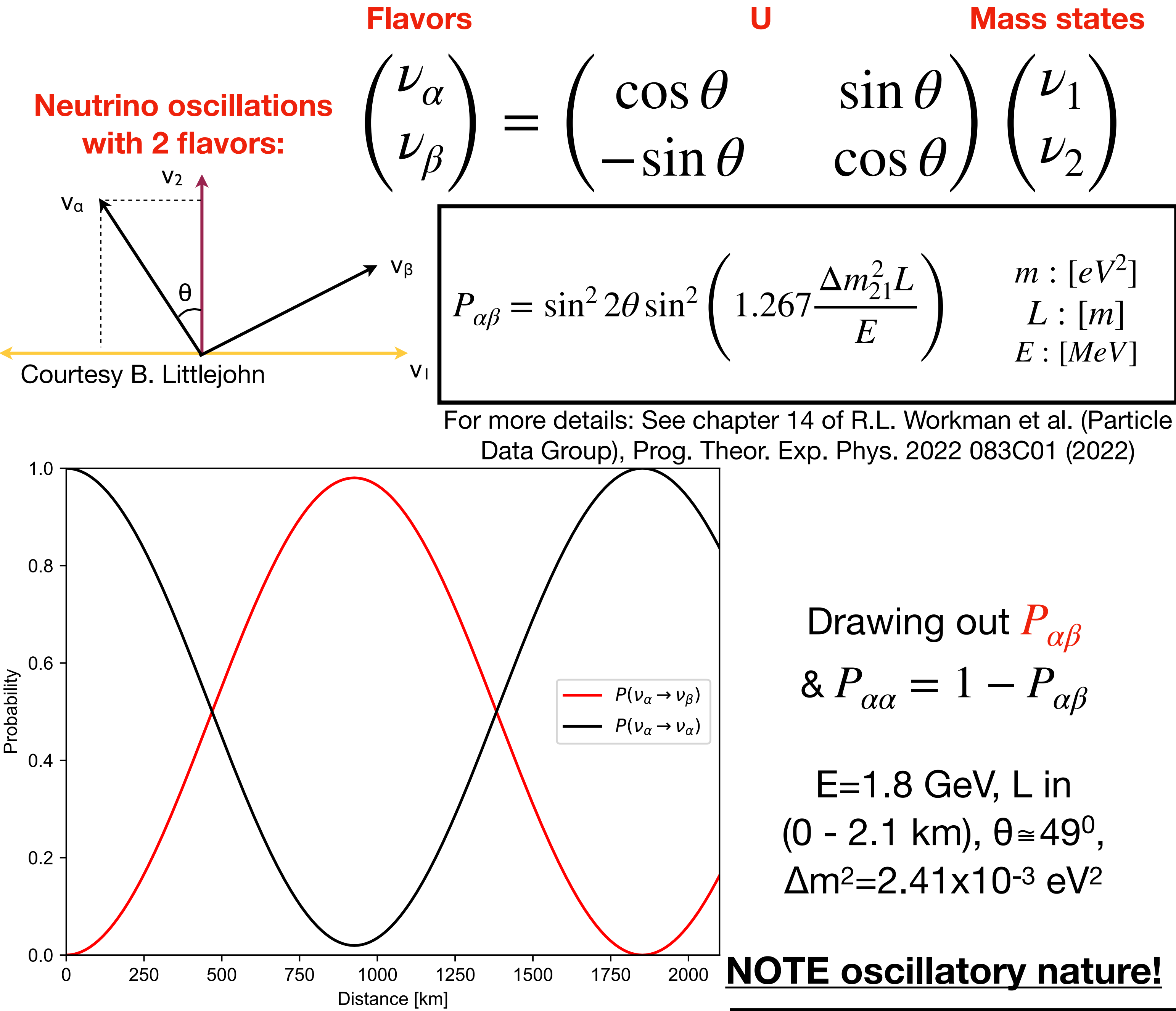
*Anomaly caused by oscillation in early Super-K data:  
T. Kajita, E. Kearns, M. Shiozawa  
Nuclear Phys B 908 (2016) 14-29*





# Neutrino oscillation

- From these we know that the deficit is both flavor ( $\nu_e, \nu_\mu, \nu_\tau$ ) dependent and distance (L) dependent, and it turns out to be energy dependent as well
- These are signatures of what's called “neutrino oscillation”
  - Quantum mechanical interference between flavors and mass states (eigenstates)
  - Neutrinos created/detected via coupling to flavors, but propagate as the mass states
- Mass difference  $10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$  and GeV  $\nu$ , this takes  $\sim 100\text{s}$  to  $\sim 1000\text{s}$  of km to be maximal  $\rightarrow$  “long baseline”





# Neutrino oscillation

- With 3 neutrino flavors:
  - Matrix now 3x3
  - Typically separated by which sources/ experiments more sensitive to
- 3 mixing angles, 2 mass differences (“splittings”) and ordering,  $\delta_{CP}$  parameter (switches sign for  $\nu$  vs  $\bar{\nu}$ )
- $\delta_{CP}$  : enhancement/deficit of one. If effect is large, could help answer why Universe is matter-dominated
- We need to set out to measure all these parameters precisely and investigate what nature is telling us!

Atmospheric (/Accelerator)

Reactor

Solar

$$U_{\text{PMNS}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c_{23} & s_{23} \\ 0 & -s_{23} & c_{23} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{13} & 0 & e^{i\delta_{CP}} s_{13} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -e^{i\delta_{CP}} s_{13} & 0 & c_{13} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{12} & s_{12} & 0 \\ -s_{12} & c_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

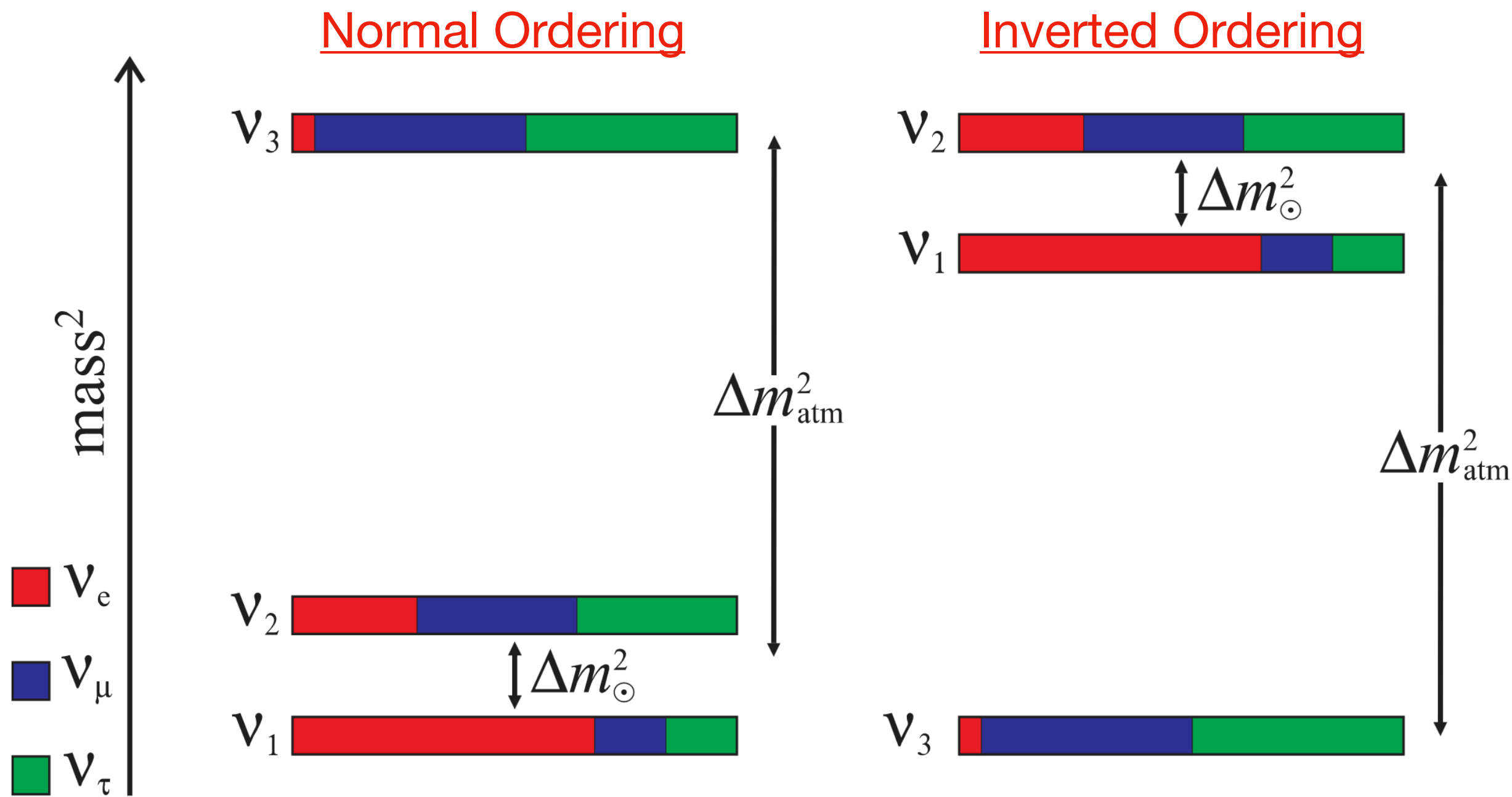
$\tan^2 \theta_{12}$  :  $\frac{\text{amount of } \nu_e \text{ in } \nu_2}{\text{amount of } \nu_e \text{ in } \nu_1}$

$\tan^2 \theta_{23}$  : ratio of  $\nu_\mu$  to  $\nu_\tau$  in  $\nu_3$

$\sin^2 \theta_{13}$  : amount of  $\nu_e$  in  $\nu_3$

C. Adams et al  
arXiv:1307.7335  
(LBNE Science Book)

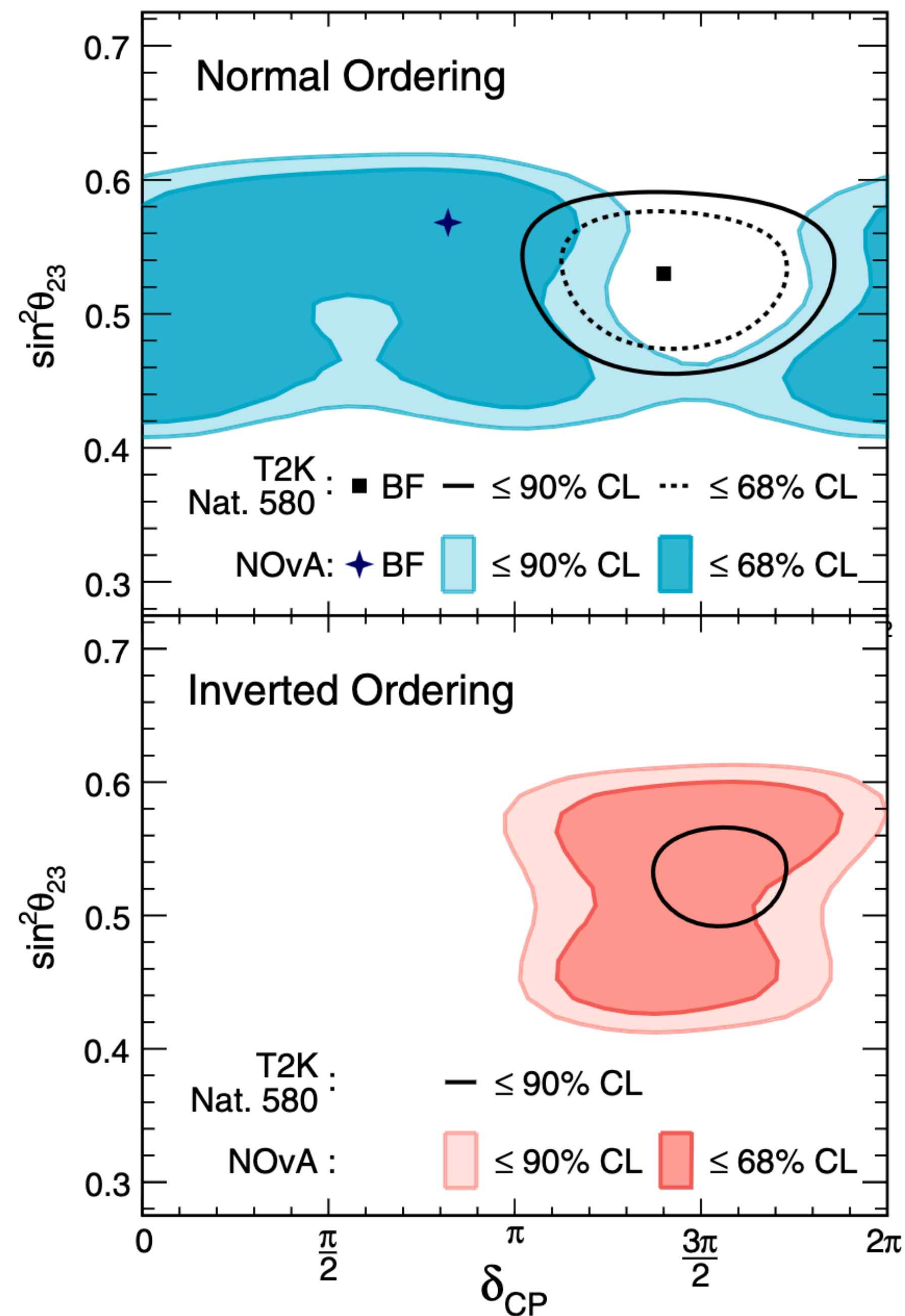
From E. Smith slides





# Neutrino oscillation

- Past decades have brought us long way
- Major open questions still, though:
  - **Some values need better study ( $\theta_{23}$  close to  $45^\circ$ , on which side?)**  
*Fully/precisely measure the mixing parameters!*
  - **Sign of  $\Delta m_{32}^2$ ? (We have  $\Delta m_{32}^2$ )**  
*Is  $m_3$  the lightest or heaviest?*
  - **Is  $\delta_{CP}$  different from 0?**  
*Do neutrinos & antineutrinos behave differently?*
  - **Do we see same parameters from experiments at very different regimes? (test assumptions)**  
*Is the 3 neutrino picture complete?*
- Need next generation to answer these definitively...



Portions of parameter space are ruled out, but still large swaths are open

**NOvA & more** M.A. Acero et al  
Phys Rev D 106, 032004 (2022)

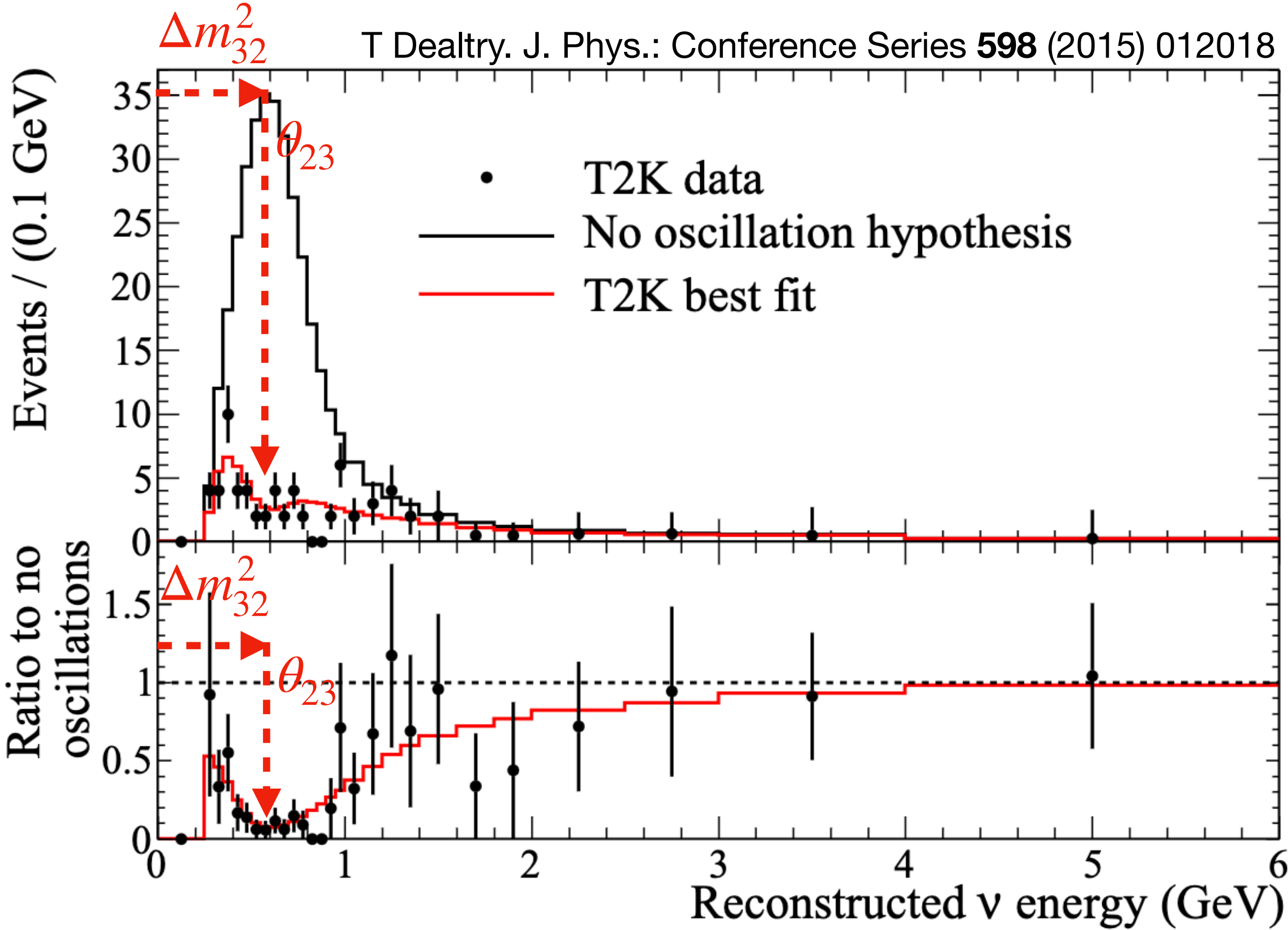


# Neutrino oscillation

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*Do neutrinos & antineutrinos behave differently?*
  - **Do we see same parameters from experiments at very different regimes? (test assumptions)**  
*Is the 3 neutrino picture complete?*
- Need next generation to answer these definitively...

At long baselines, looking for  **$\nu_\mu$  disappearance**  
approx. reduces to  $2\nu$

$$P_{\mu\mu} \sim \sin^2 2\theta_{23} \sin^2 \left( 1.267 \frac{\Delta m^2_{32} L}{E} \right)$$



$\nu_e$  appearance:

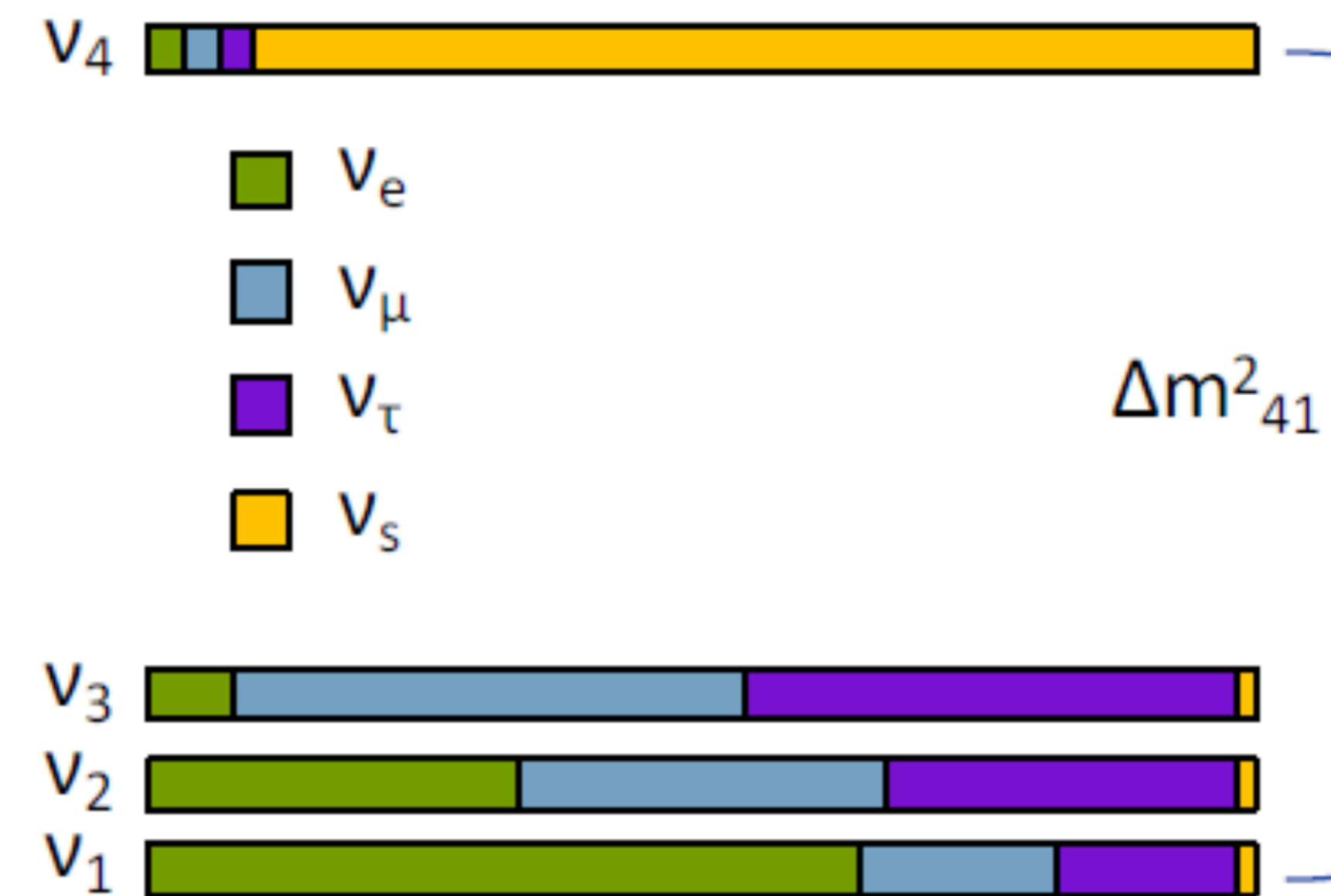
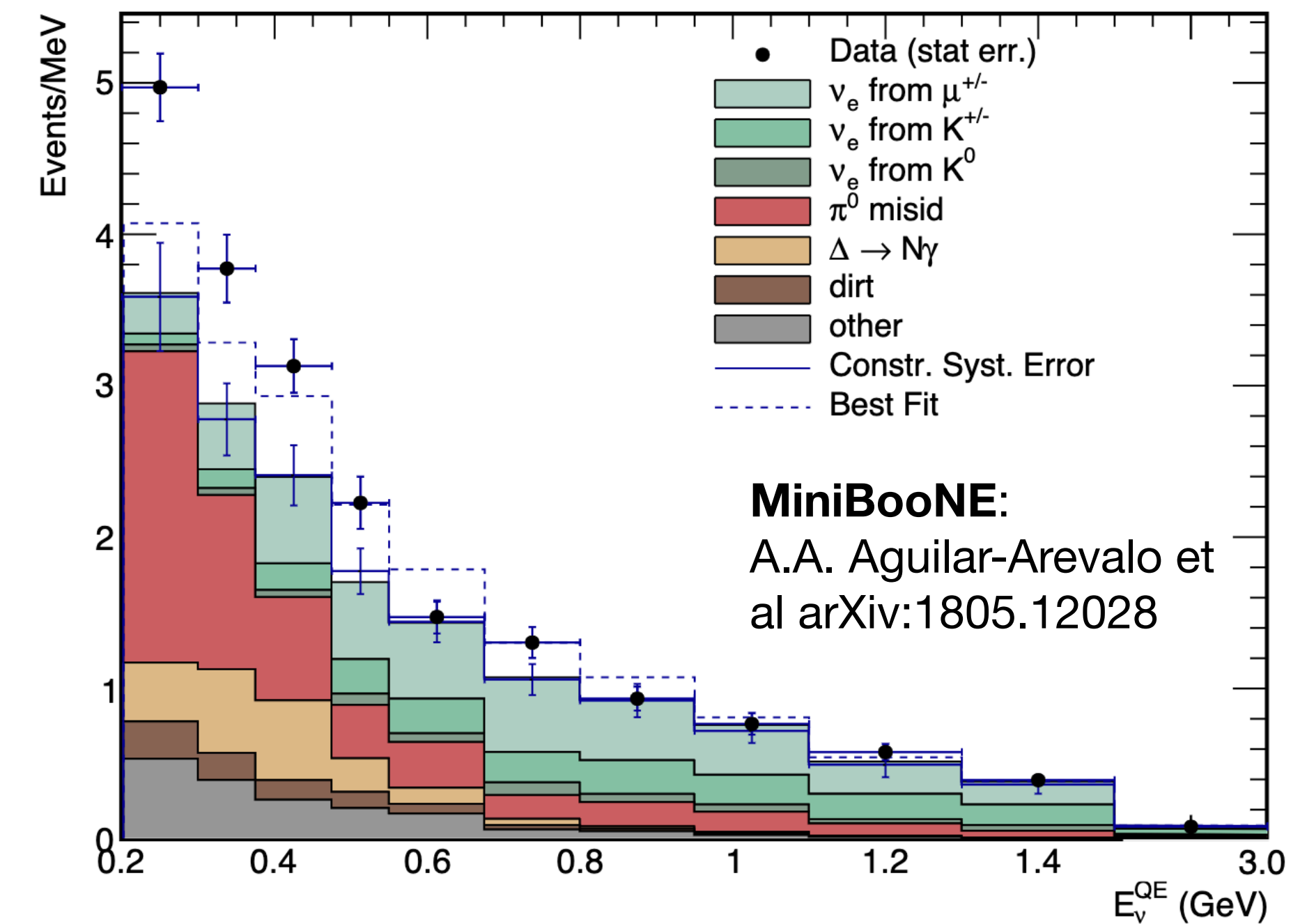
$$P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e) = P_{\text{atm}} + 2\sqrt{P_{\text{atm}} P_{\text{sol}}}(\cos \Delta_{32} \cos \delta_{CP} \mp \sin \Delta_{32} \sin \delta_{CP}) + P_{\text{sol}}$$

M.D. Messier. Nuclear Physics B 908 (2016) 151–160



# More than 3 neutrinos?

- Another open Q: **are there more than the 3 known  $\nu$ ?**
  - Think there should only be 3 lepton families, but:
  - Some experiments measured unexpected **excess** of  $\nu_e$  candidates (events with electron activity identified)
  - Standard oscillation: mass differences  $10^{-3}$  or lower.  
 **$\sim 100$ s MeV  $\nu$  @  $100$ s of  $m = \text{eV}$  scale  $\nu$ .**
    - Short distance effect = “**short baseline**”
  - So, if it is an “oscillation” like effect, is  $\nu_\mu$  oscillating to **sterile states** and then to  $\nu_e$  at short distances
  - Global program wishes to clarify picture or understand if it is alternative process
    - **SBN Program at Fermilab (later) aims to control backgrounds and utilizes multiple detectors**

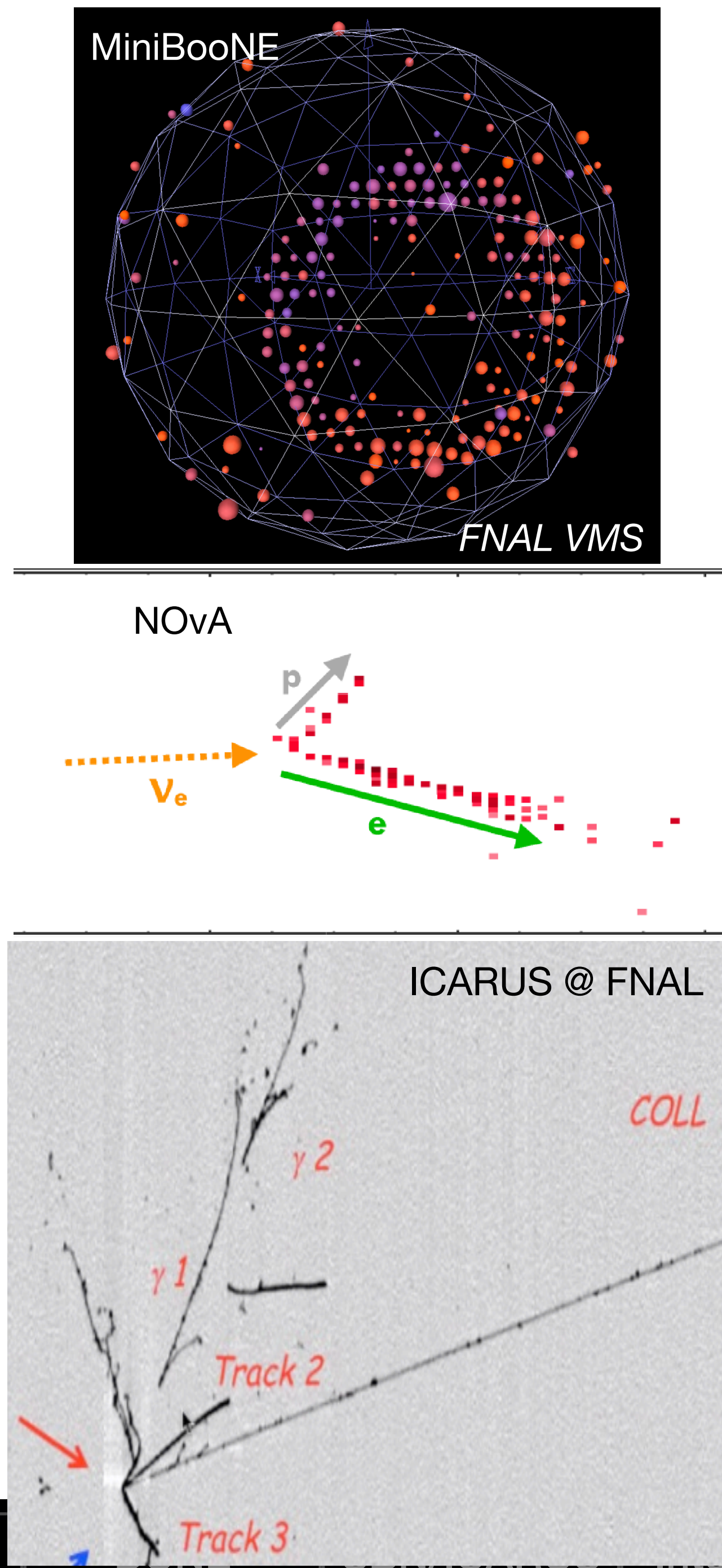
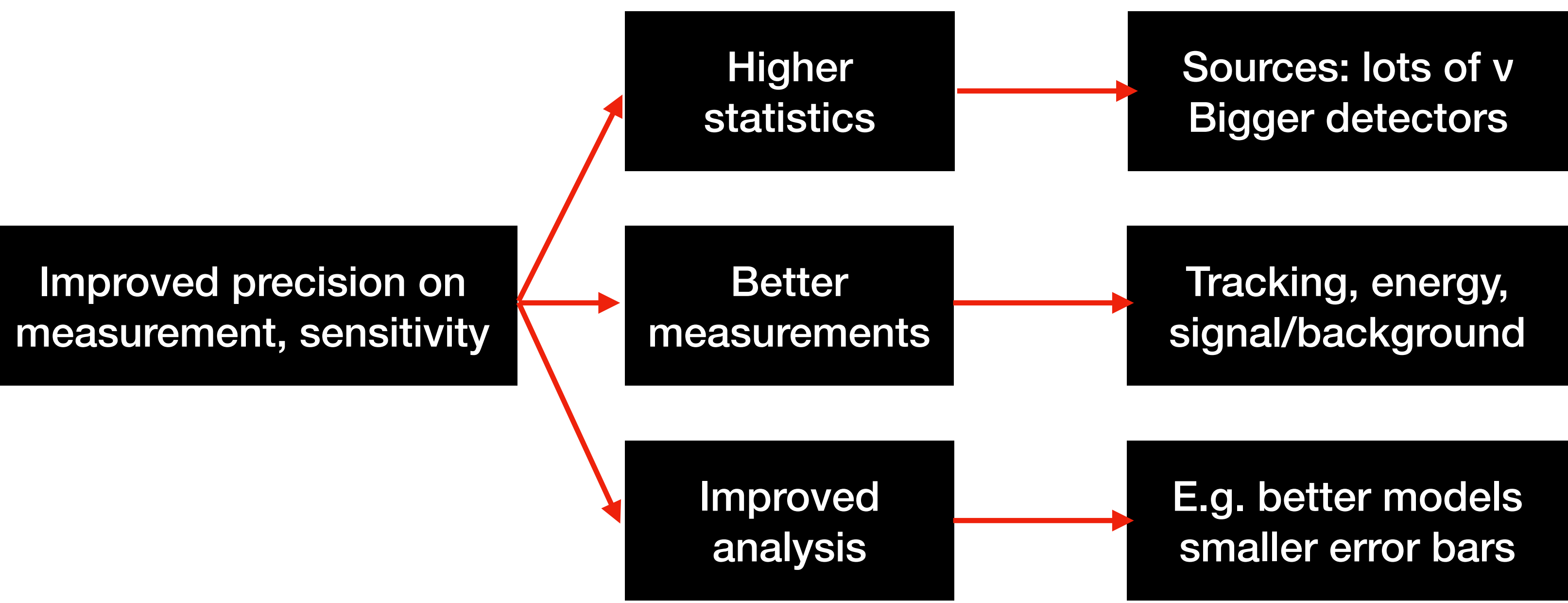


L. Cremonesi NNN2023 [sides](#)



# Addressing the Questions

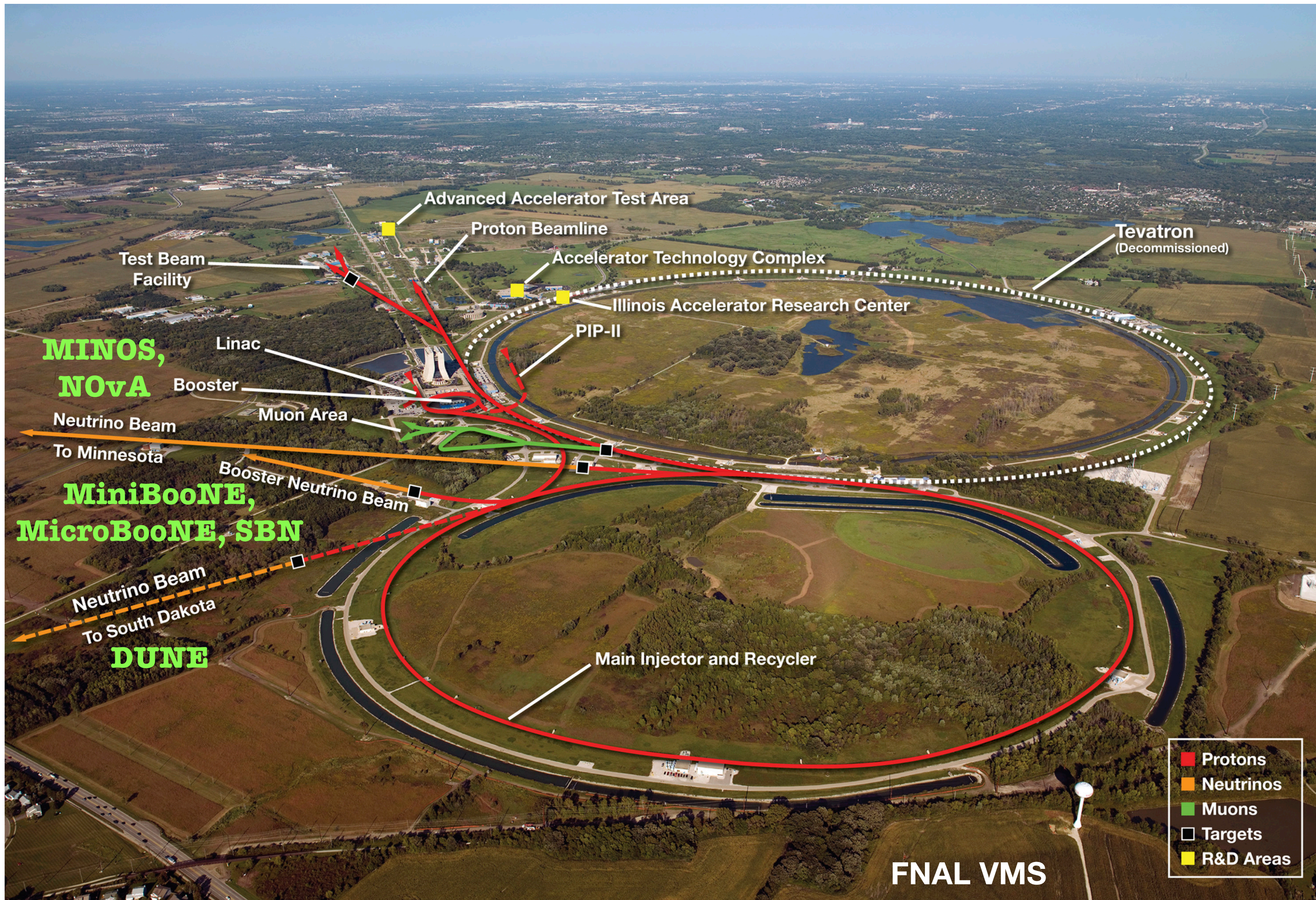
- In order to improve sensitivity of next generation experiments to address these questions, a few main categories of things needed: **high yield sources, powerful detectors, better analysis/models**



Increasing detail in event images



# Accelerator-based Neutrino Sources



Fermilab accelerator complex has 2 neutrino beam lines.

Booster Neutrino Beam (BNB): 8 GeV protons, sterile  $\nu$  searches

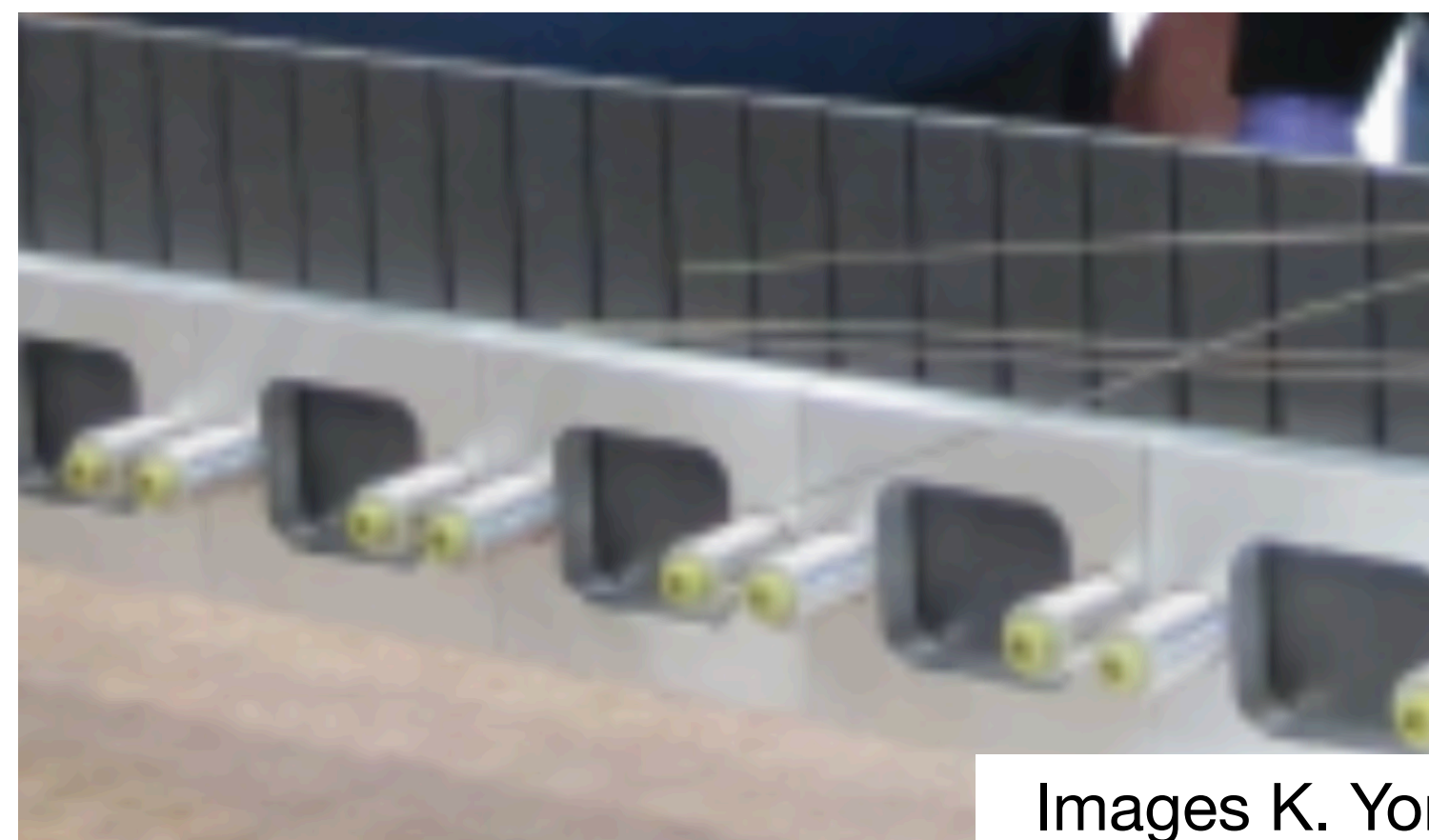
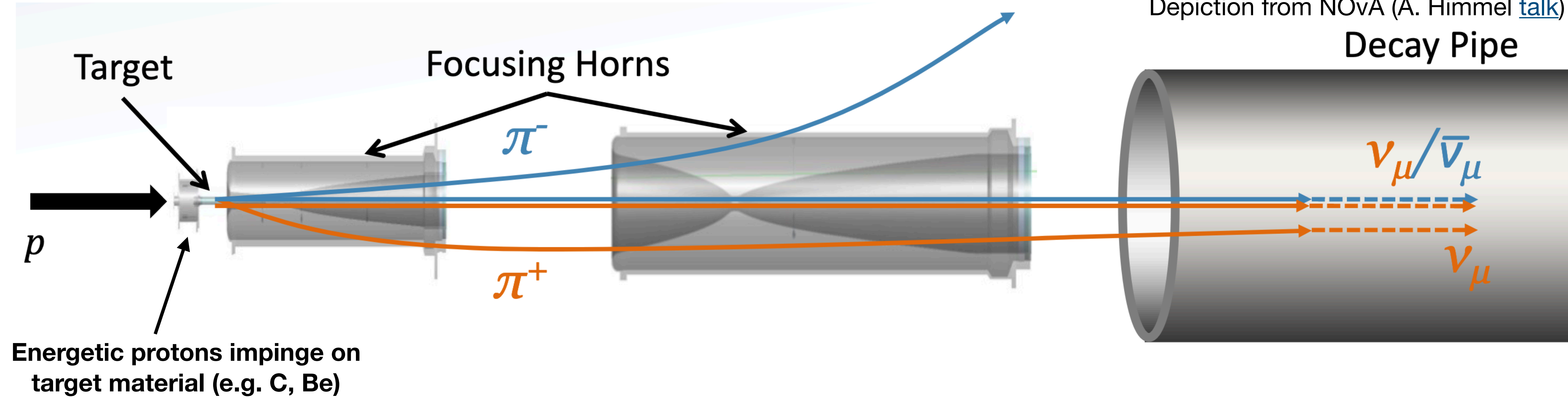
Neutrinos at the Main Injector (NuMI): 120 GeV protons,  $\nu$  oscillation

DUNE will use a new beamline being constructed. **Will be ~3x more powerful than NuMI (~2.4 MW vs typically 700kW)**



# Accelerator-based Neutrino Sources

Depiction from NOvA (A. Himmel [talk](#))

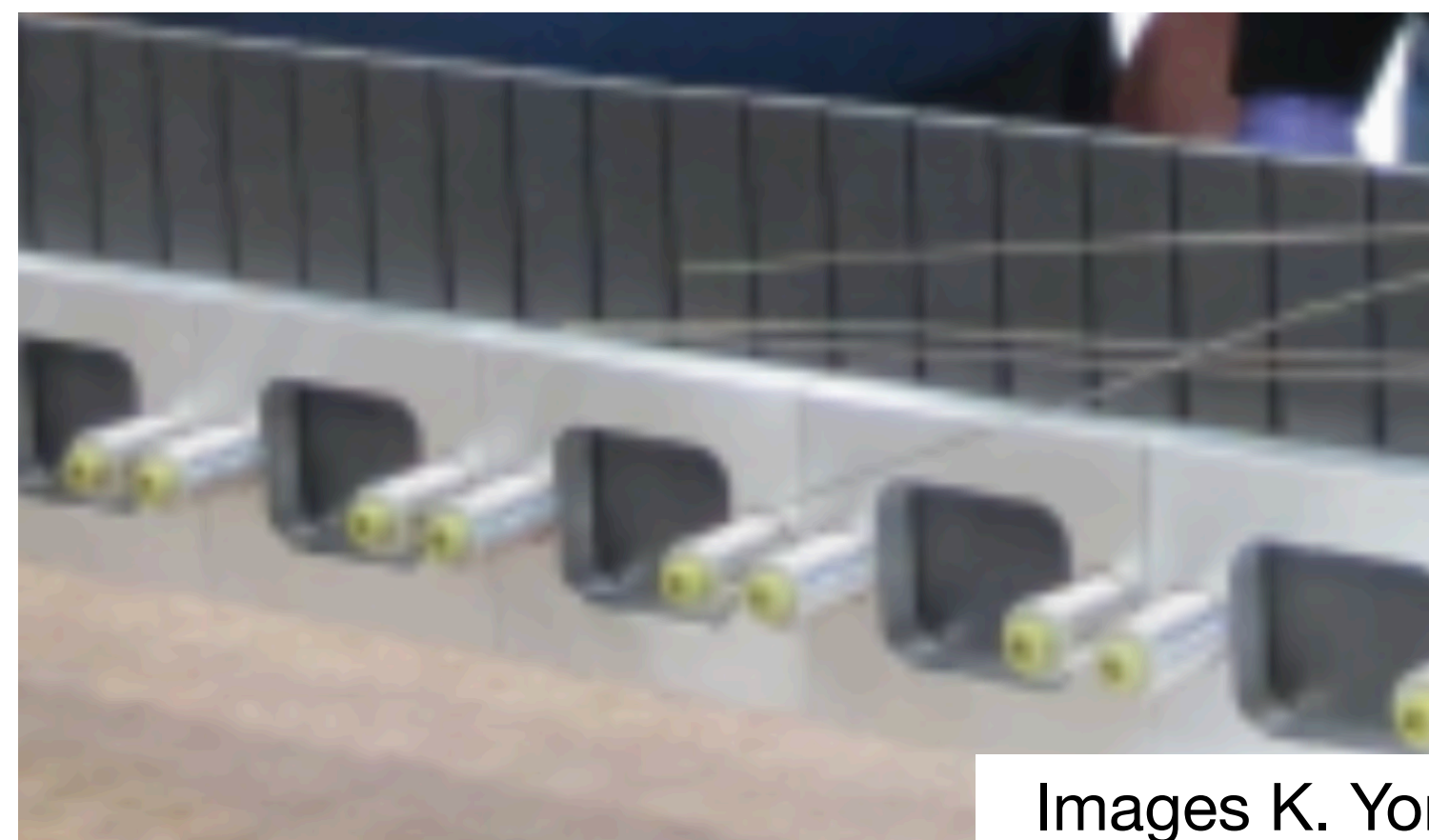
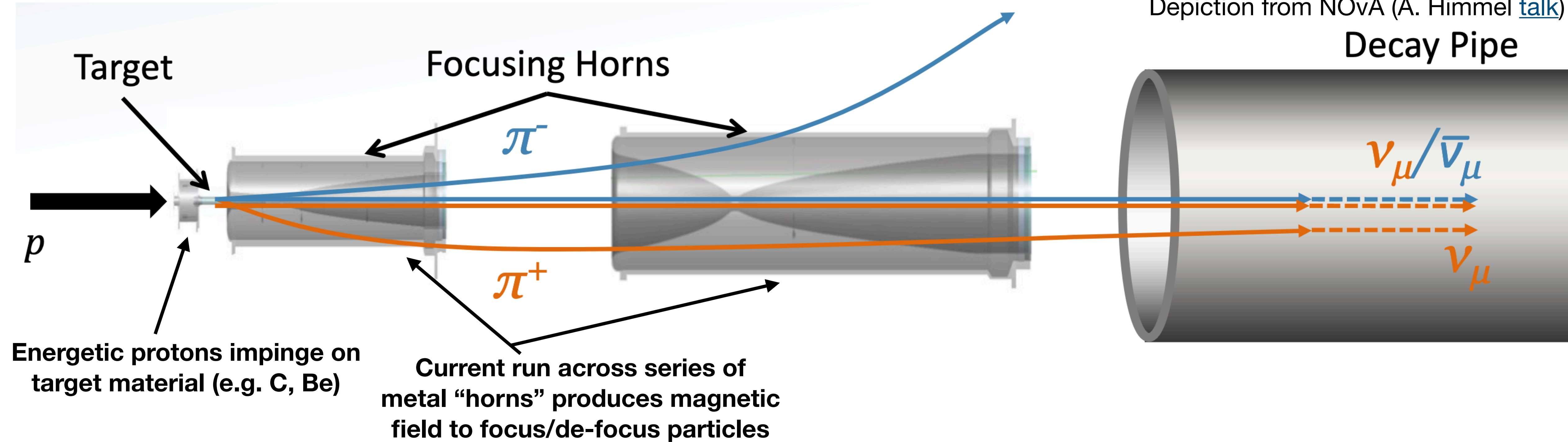


Images K. Yonehara [slides](#)



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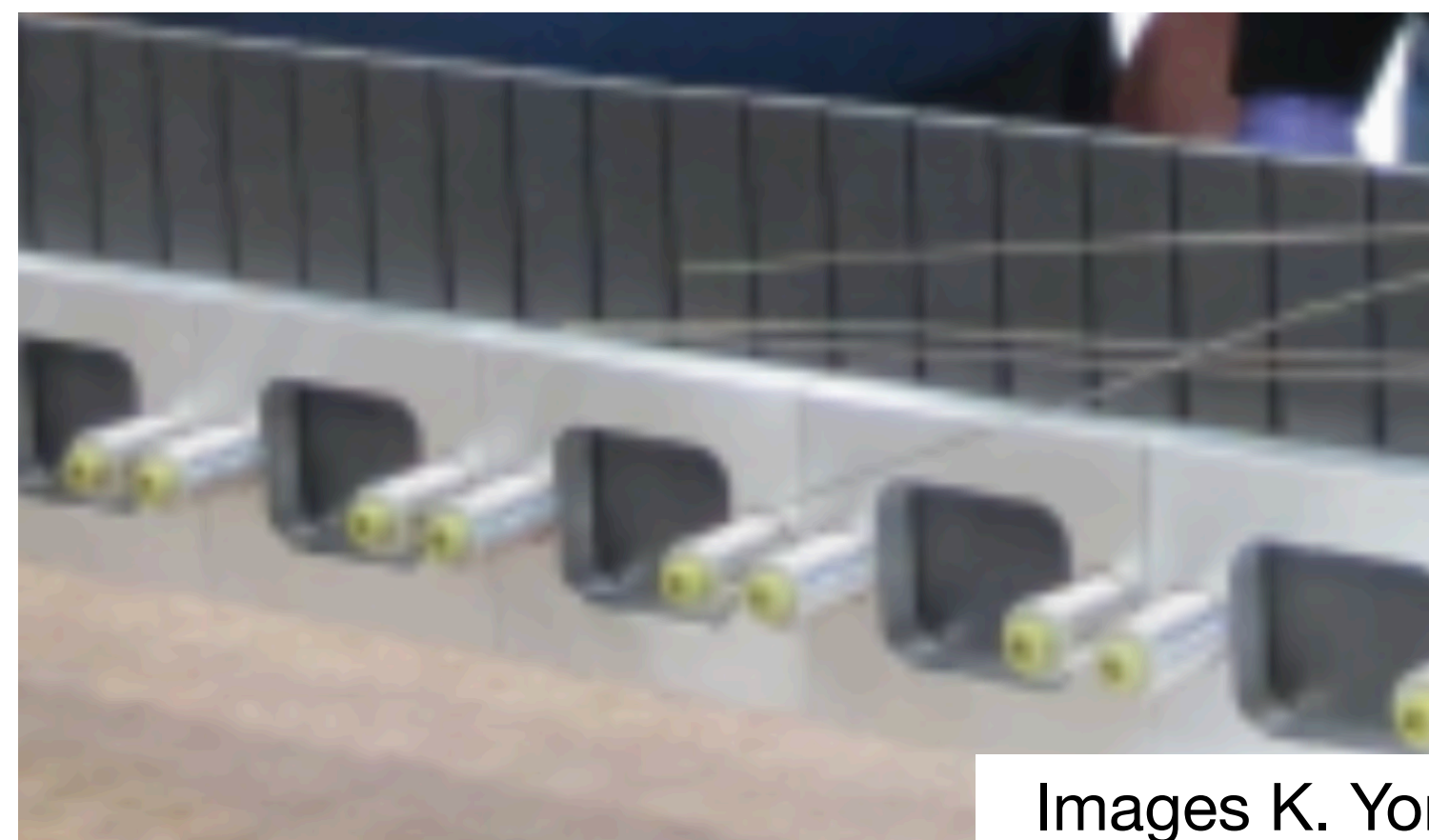
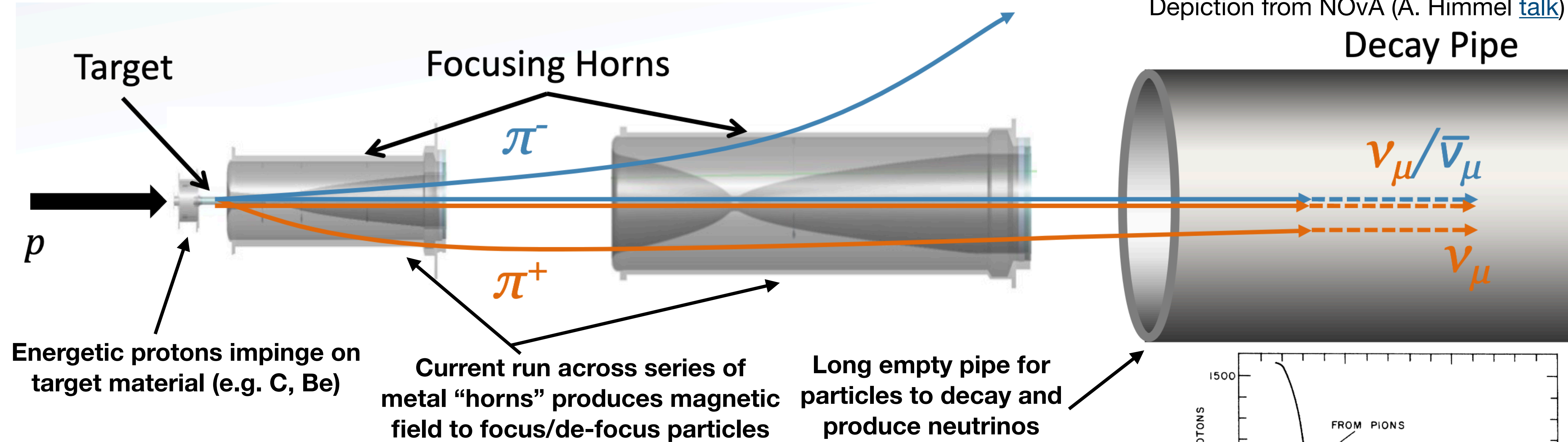


Images K. Yonehara [slides](#)

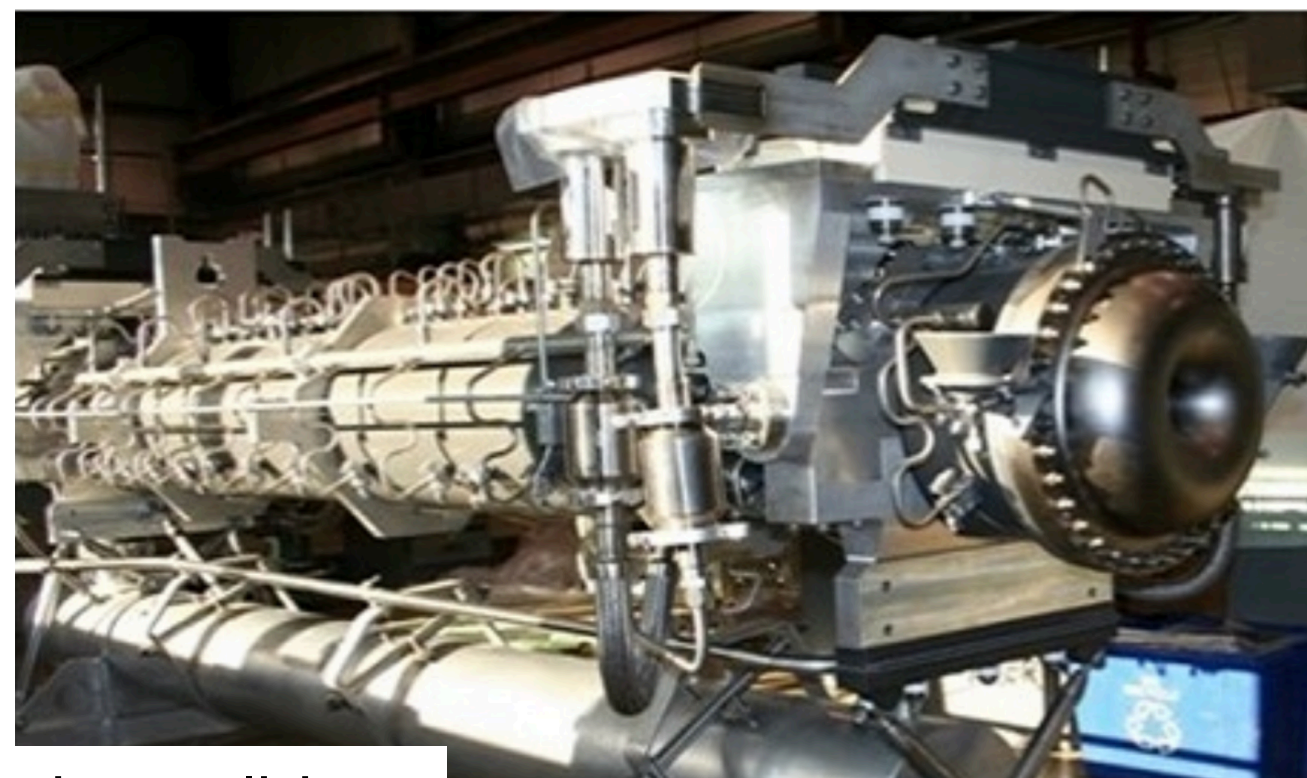


# Accelerator-based Neutrino Sources

Depiction from NOvA (A. Himmel [talk](#))



Images K. Yonehara [slides](#)



**Accelerator-produced neutrino sources used by the experiment which discovered  $\nu_\mu$  (1962)**

Danby et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. Vol 9, Number 1

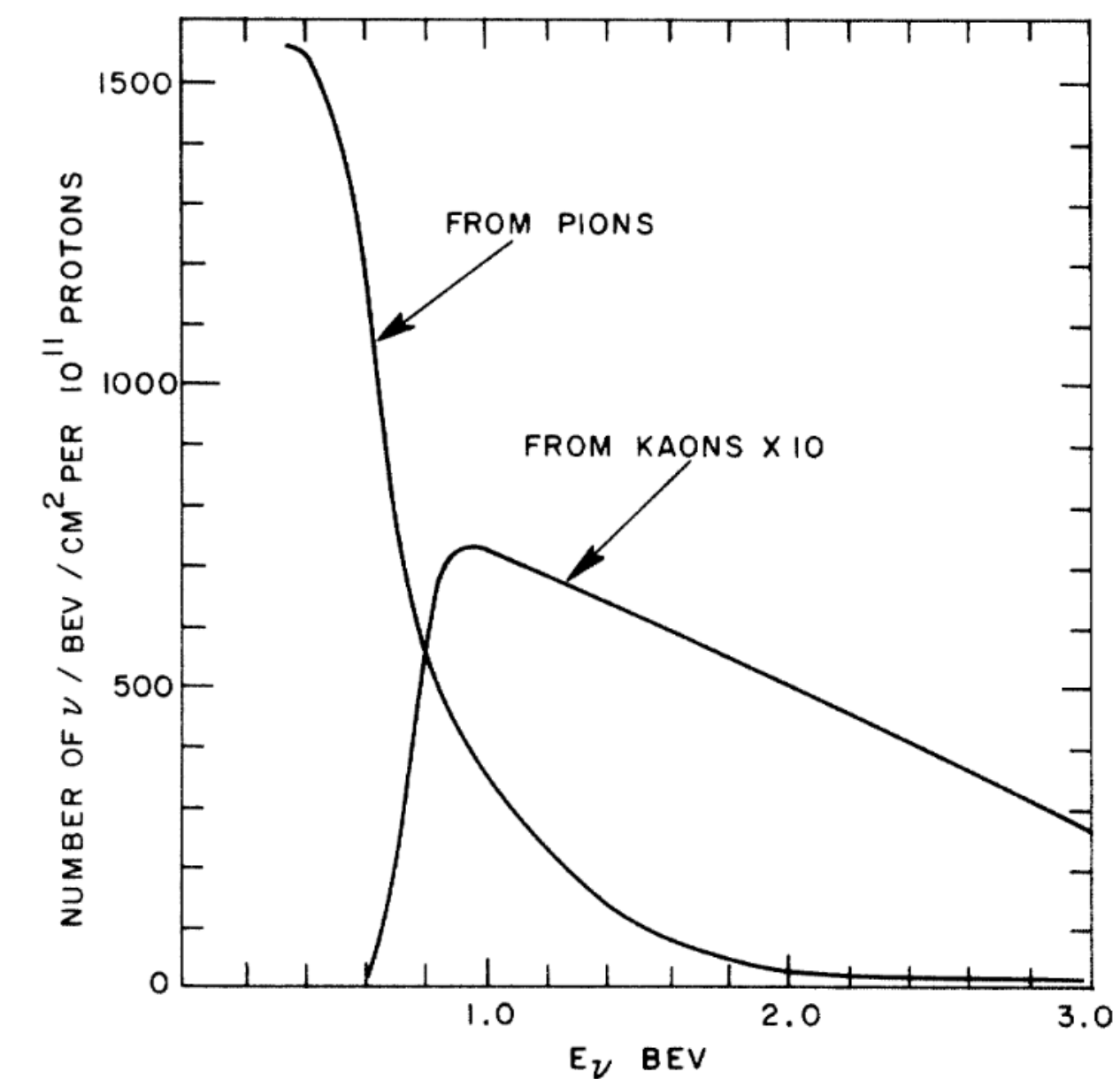
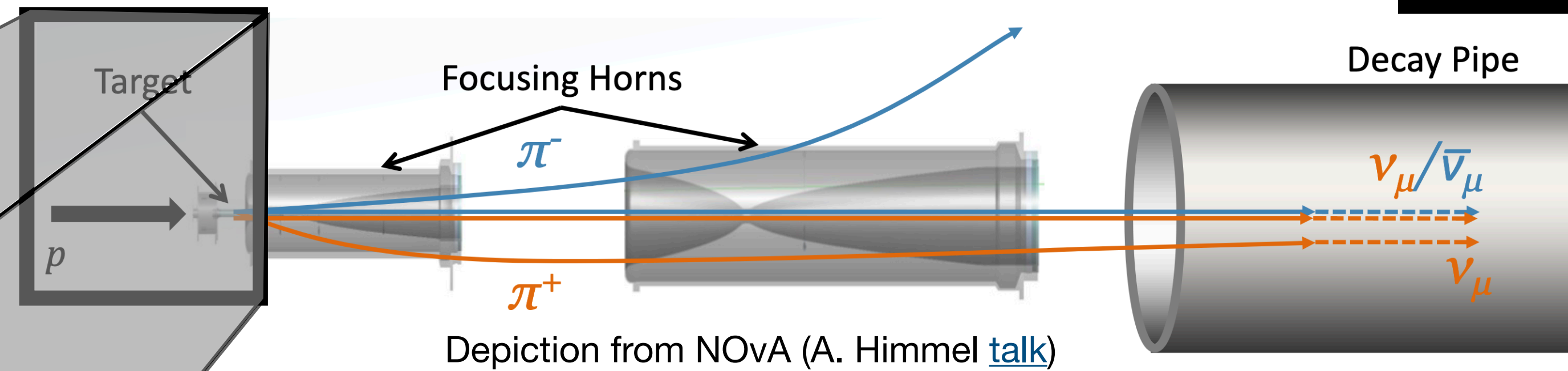


FIG. 2. Energy spectrum of neutrinos expected in the arrangement of Fig. 1 for 15-BeV protons on Be.



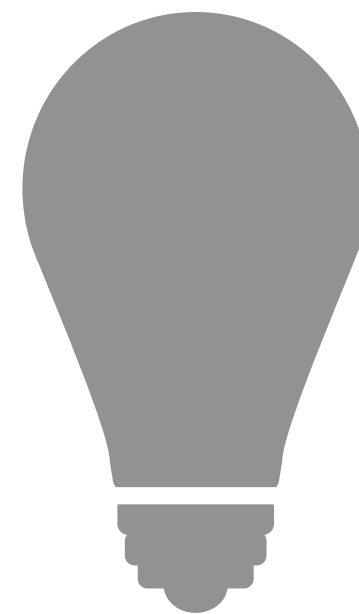
What do we mean when we say our beam is **700 kW** or **2.4 MW**?



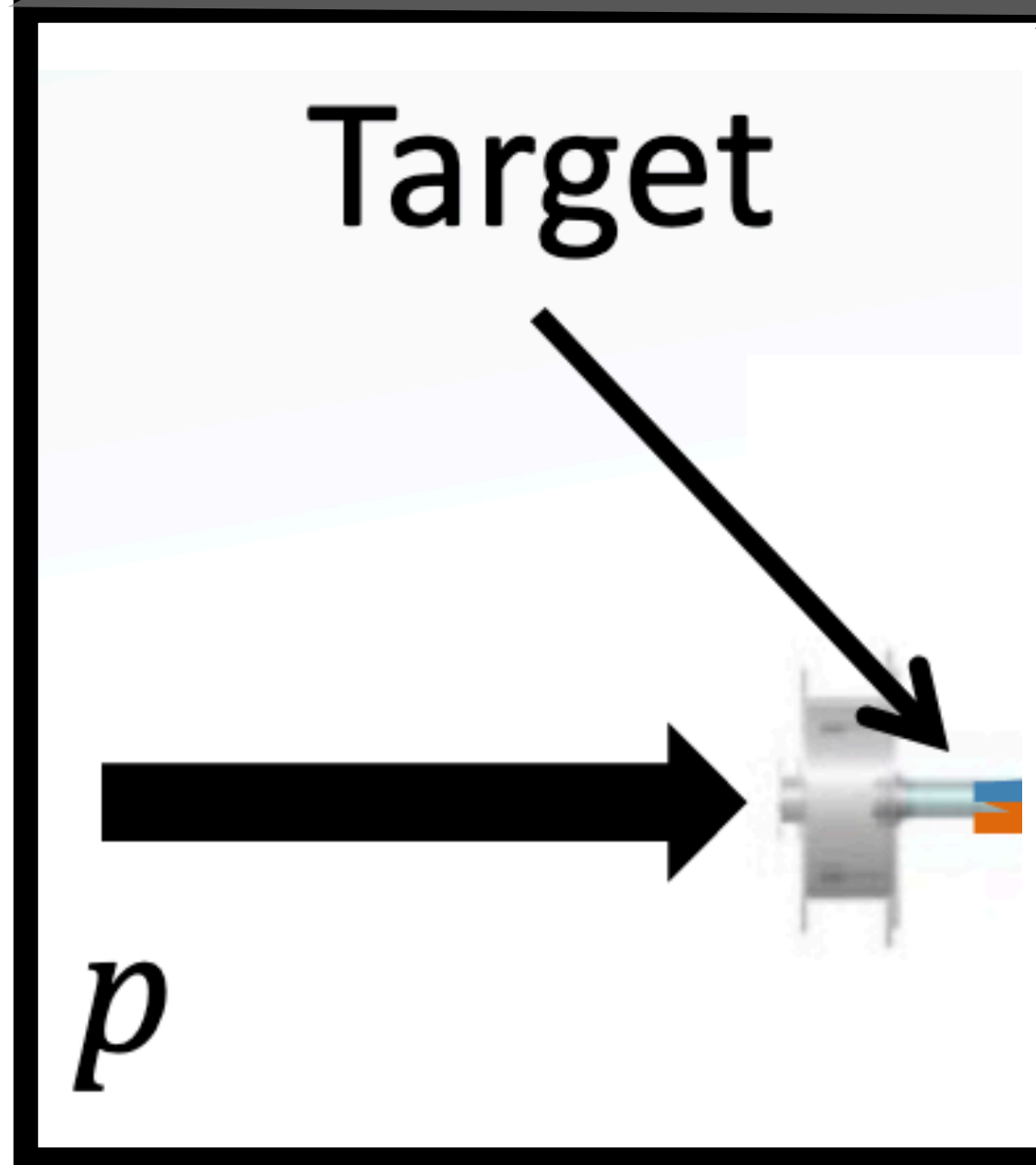
It's all about the yield of protons on the target, so relates to the “exposure” of the experiment and how many neutrinos we expect to see.

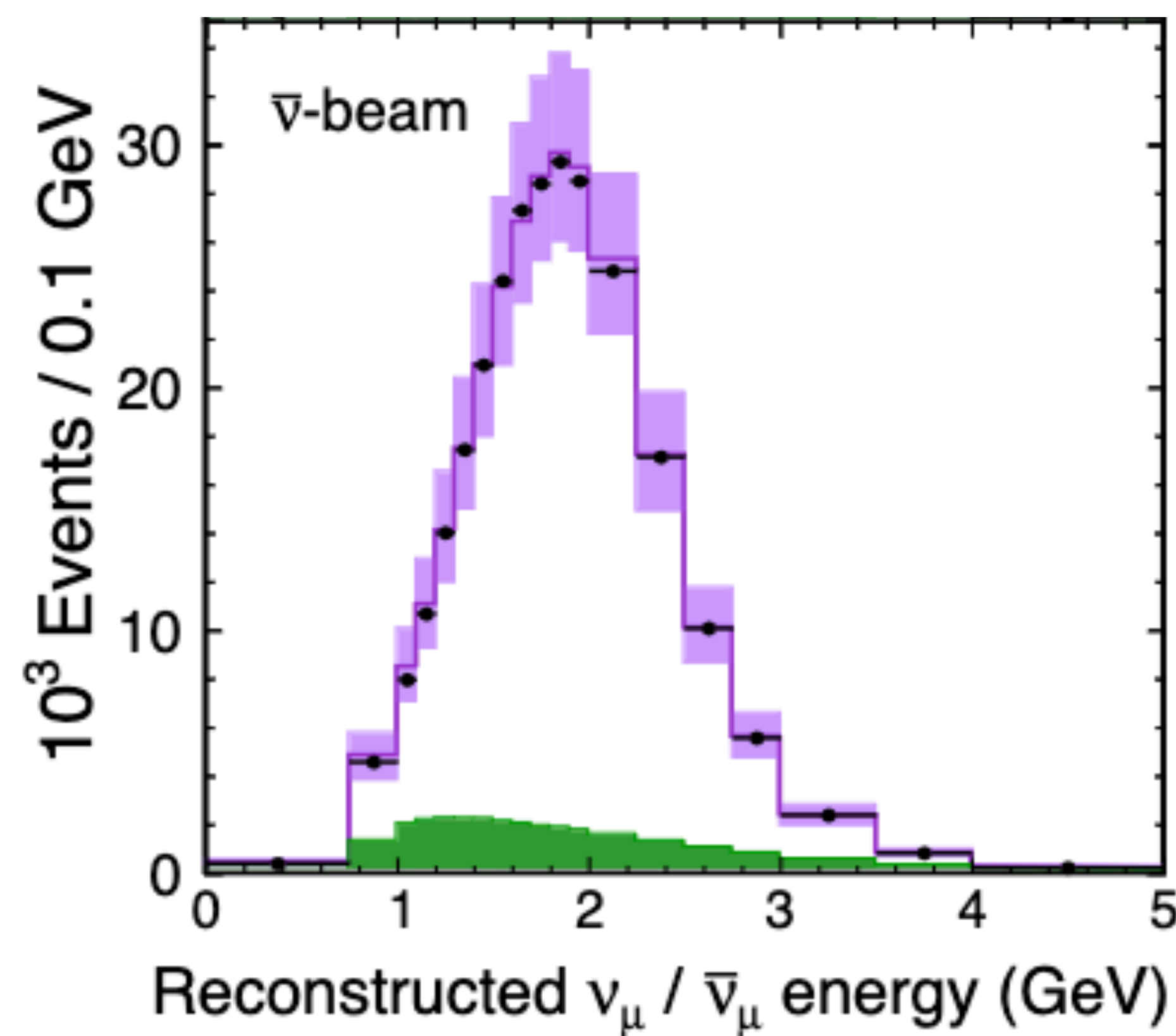
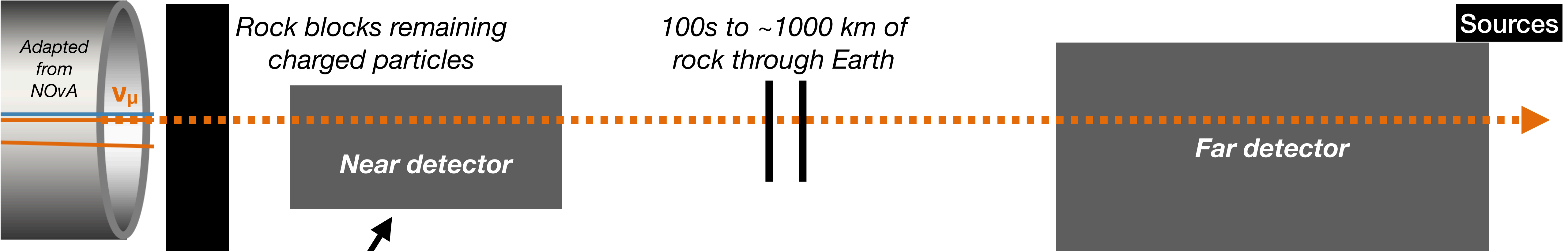
- \* Main injector accelerates protons to  $E = 120 \text{ GeV}$
- \* Each spill sends about  $5 \times 10^{13}$  protons to target
- \* Spills are about 1.2-1.3 seconds apart

$120 \text{ GeV} \sim 1.92 \times 10^{-8} \text{ J}$  so 1 spill is about  $9.61 \times 10^5 \text{ J}$   
Divide by 1.3 s  $\rightarrow$  **740 kW**



Lightbulb  $\sim 100 \text{ W} \rightarrow$  beam power  $\sim 7.4$  thousand bulbs!



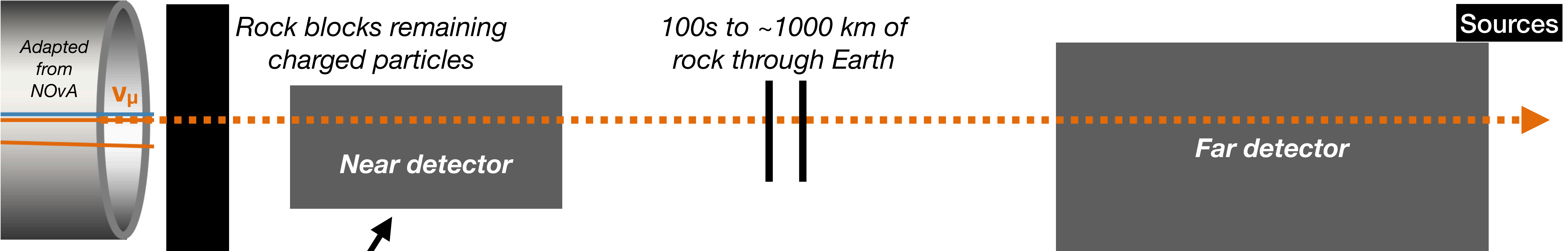


Can make corrections and adjustments to the prediction based on ND data to project (or extrapolate) to the FD

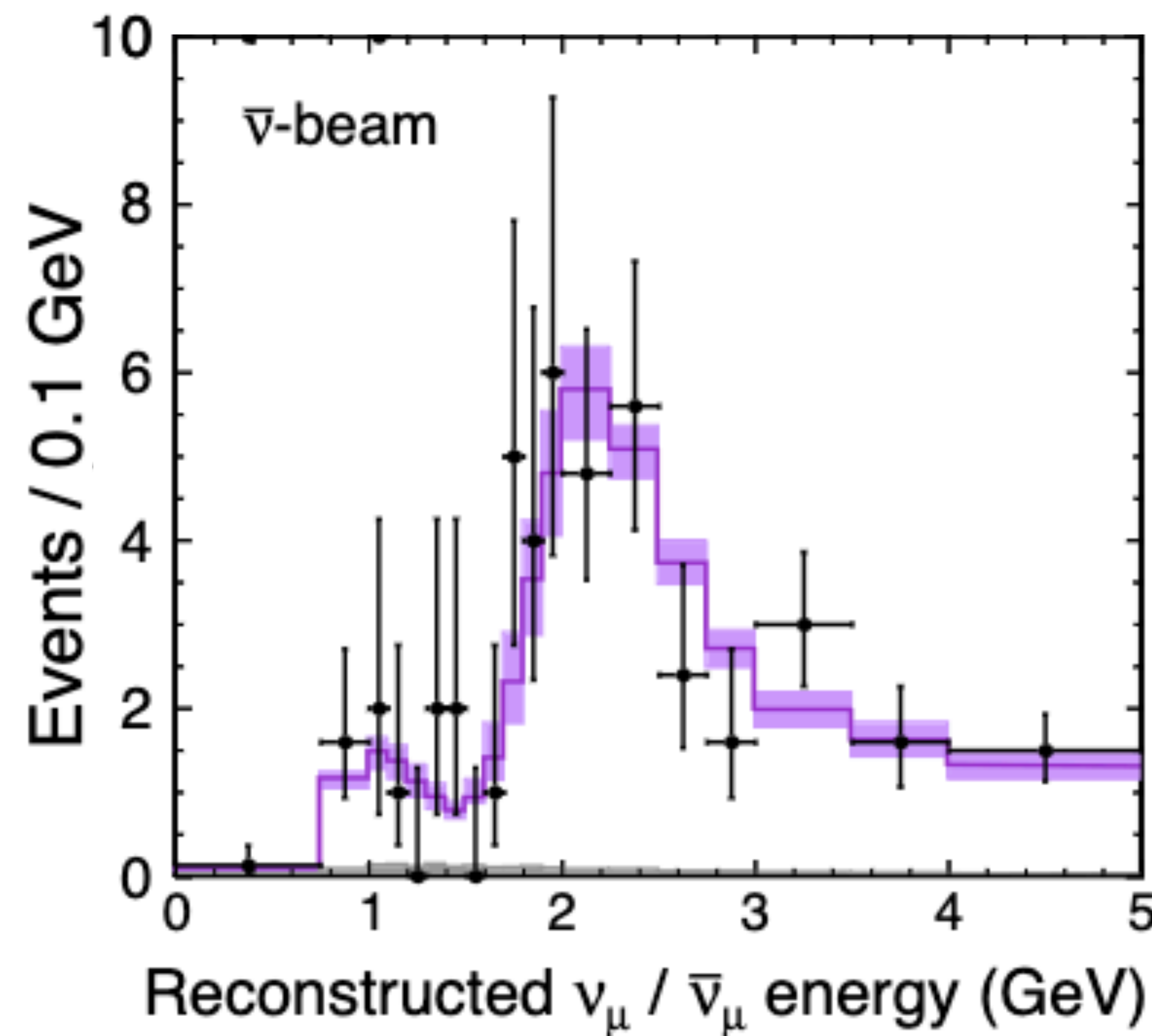
Adapted from

M. A. Acero et al.  
(NOvA). *Phys. Rev. Lett.*  
123, 151803 (2019).  
[arXiv:1906.04907](https://arxiv.org/abs/1906.04907)



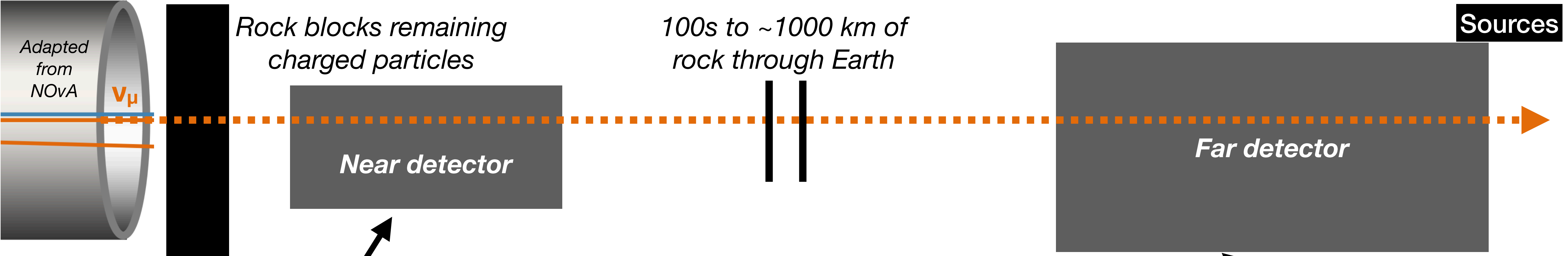


Characterize  $\nu_\mu$ ,  $\bar{\nu}_\mu$  and  $\nu_e$ ,  $\bar{\nu}_e$  components of beam



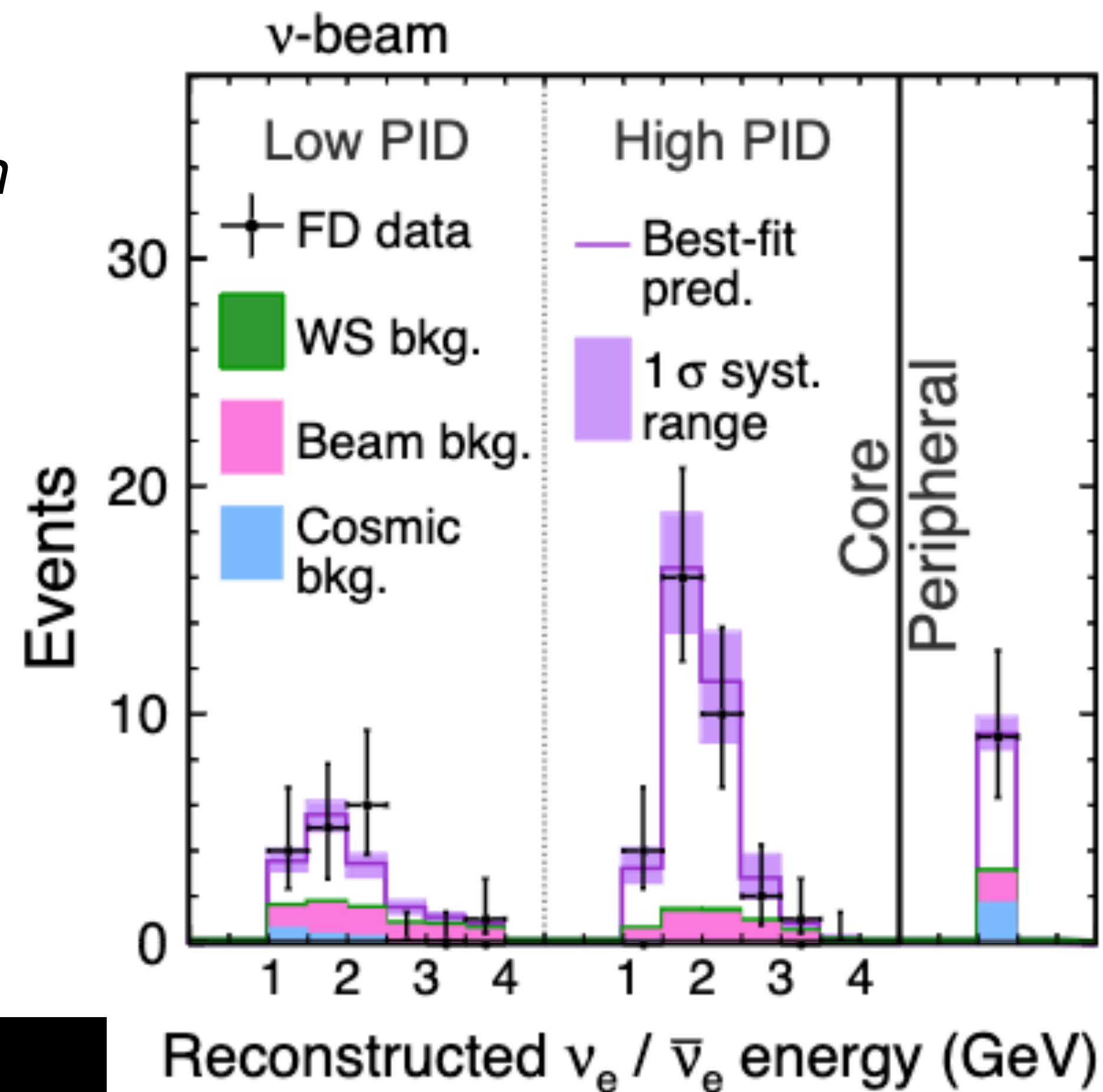
Measure impact of oscillation

Adapted from  
M. A. Acero et al.  
(NOvA). *Phys. Rev. Lett.*  
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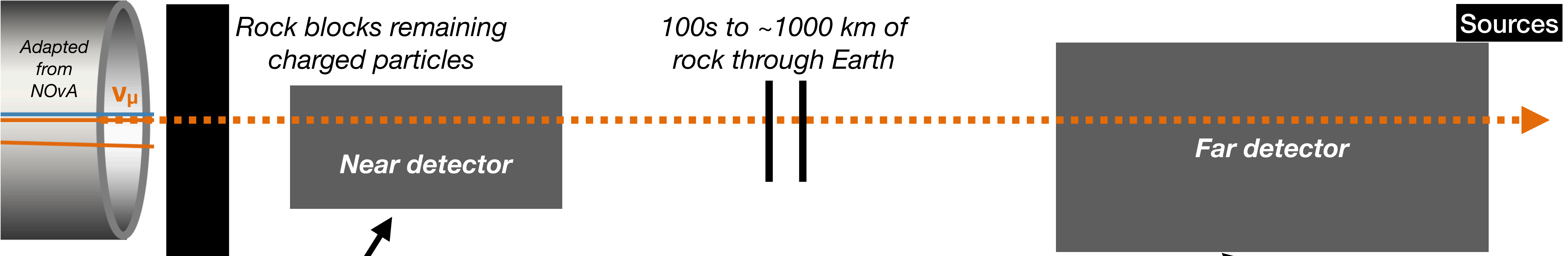
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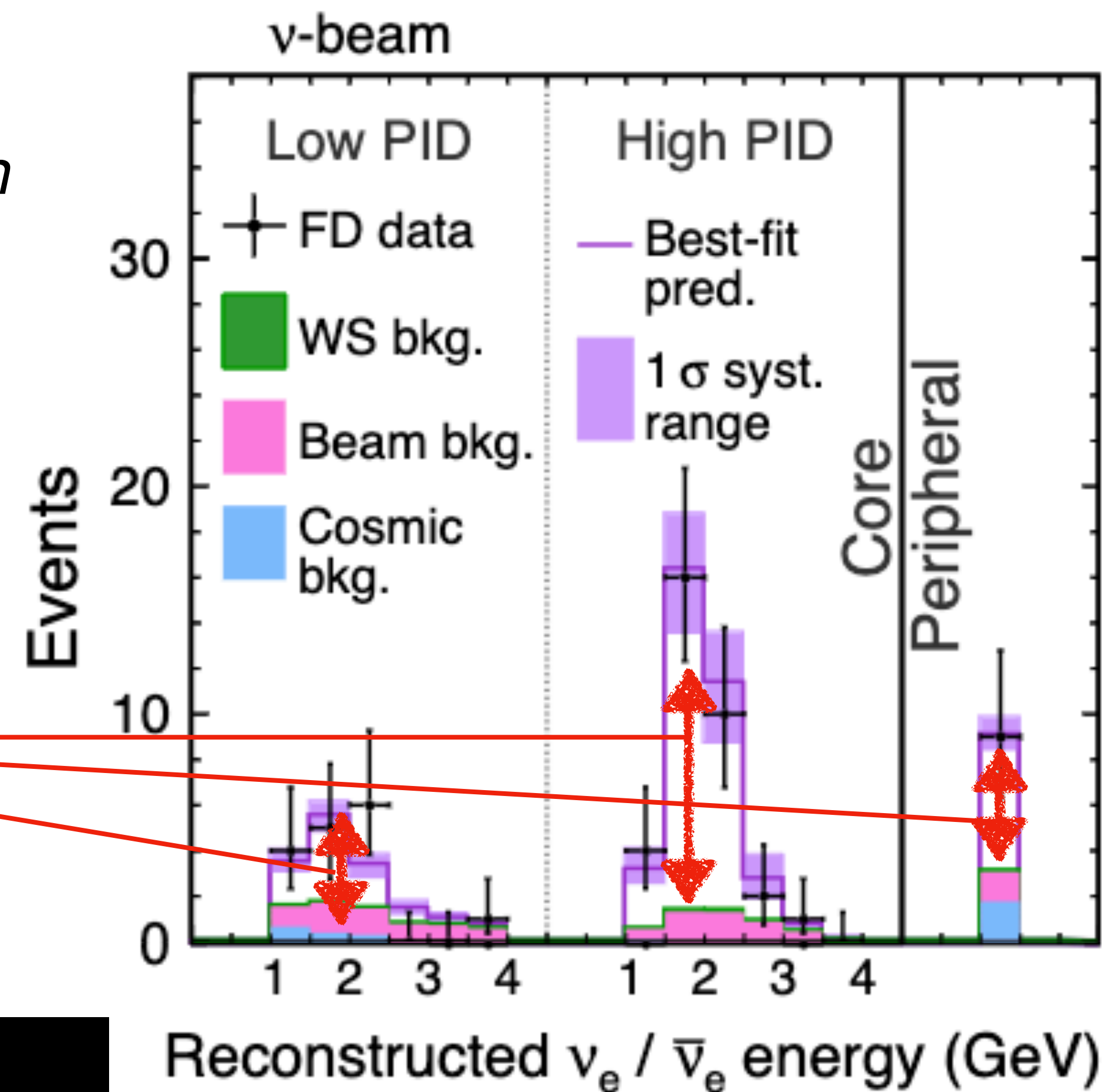




Characterize  $\nu_\mu$ ,  $\bar{\nu}_\mu$  and  $\nu_e$ ,  $\bar{\nu}_e$  components of beam

Measure impact of oscillation

Oscillation  
 $\nu_e$  appearance

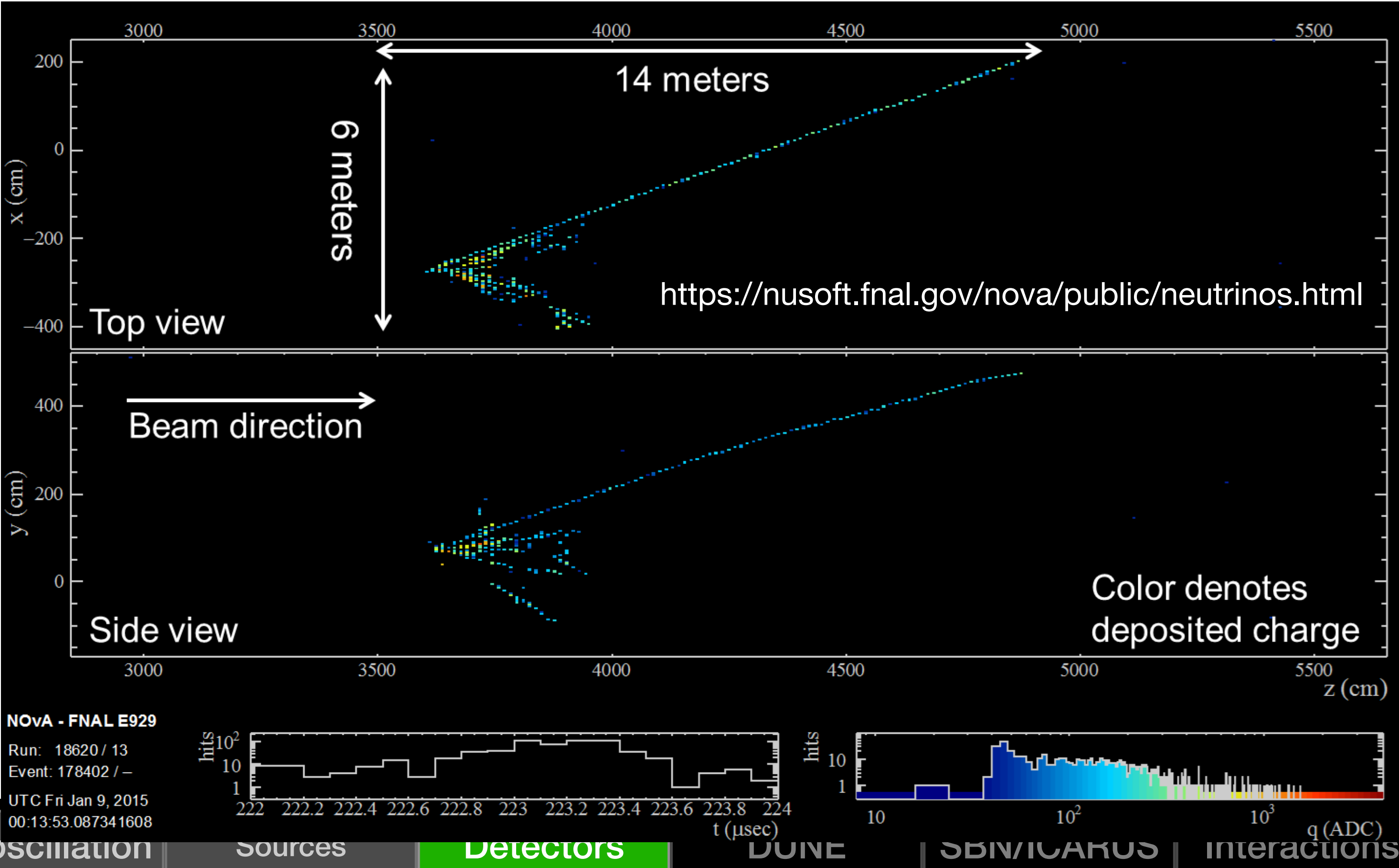
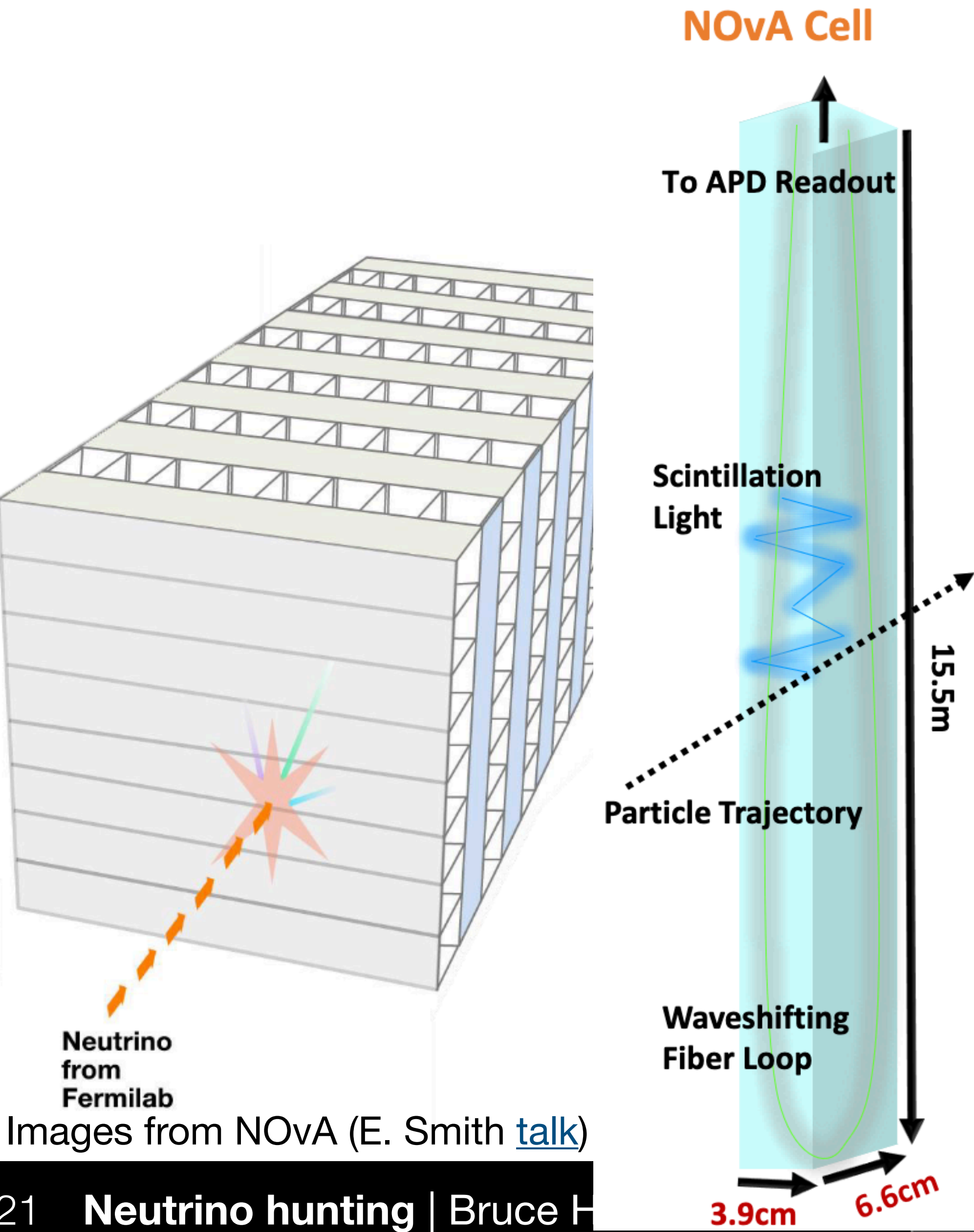


Adapted from  
M. A. Acero et al.  
(NOvA). *Phys. Rev. Lett.*  
123, 151803 (2019).  
arXiv:1906.04907

# Choice of Detector Medium/Type

A common detector functionality is “tracking calorimeter.”  
 NOvA is the current generation long-baseline oscillation experiment working with this type of detector.

*Cells few cm wide. What if we could improve capabilities?*

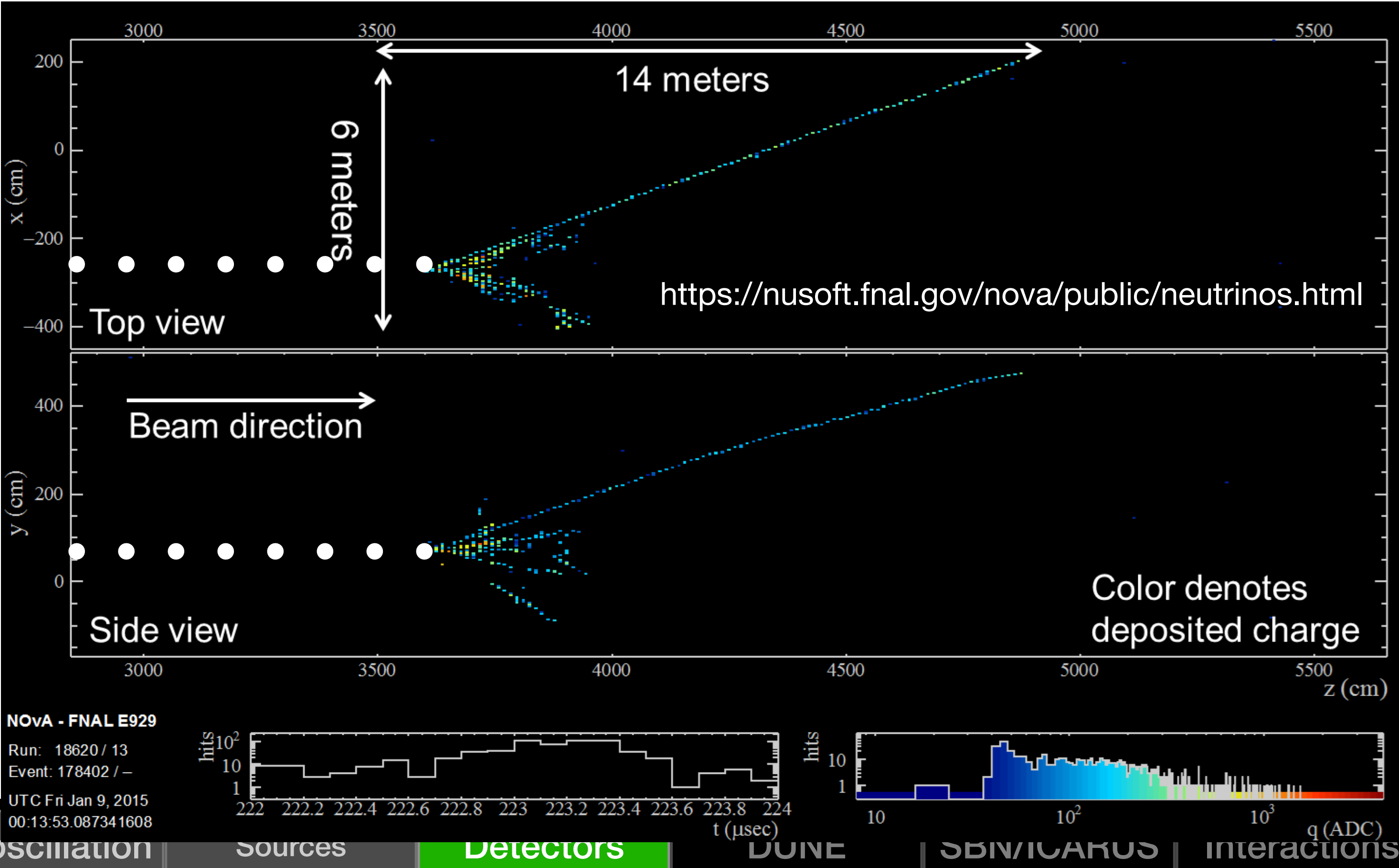
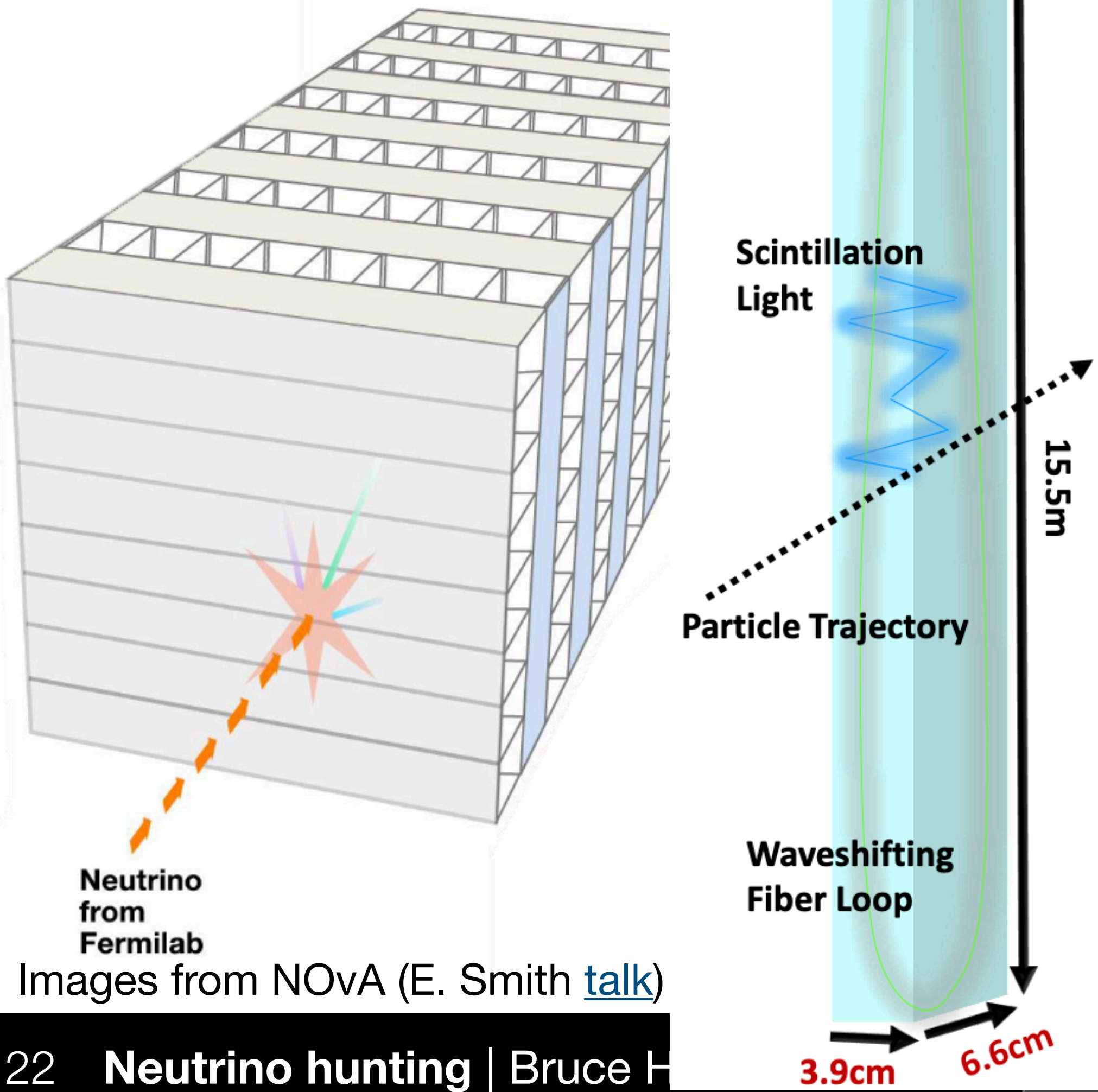




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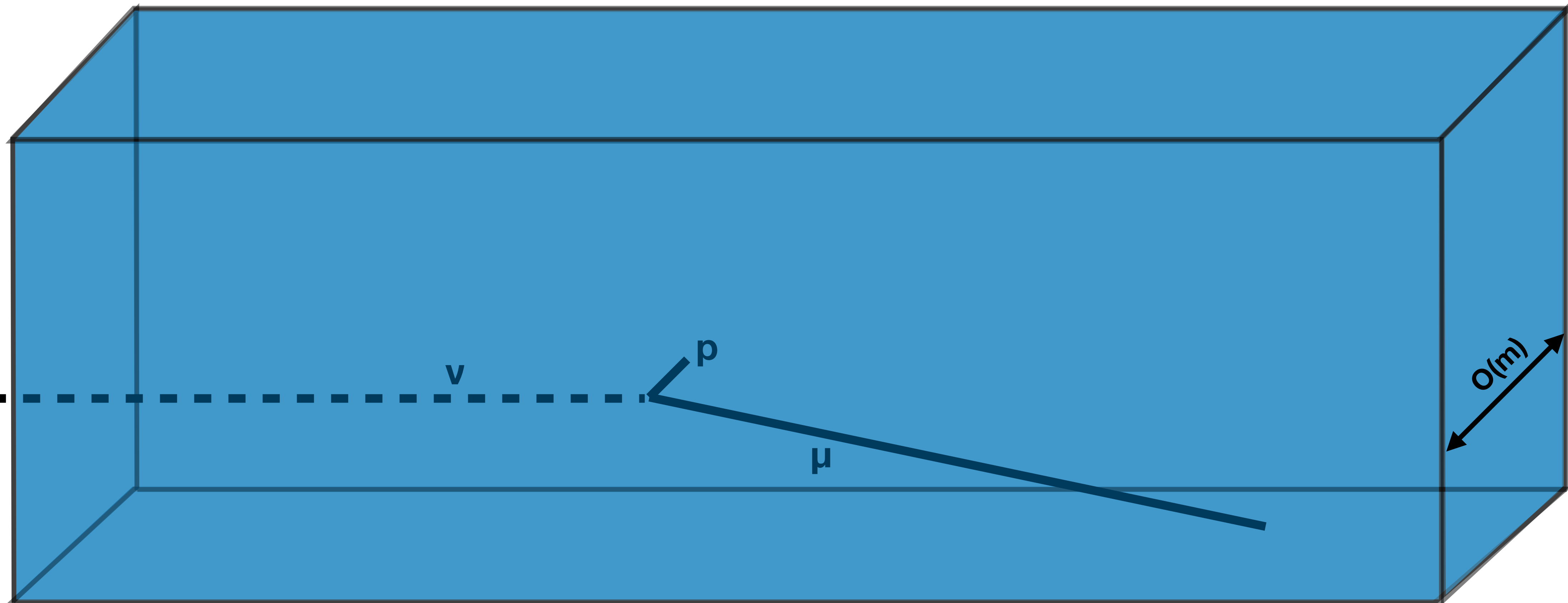
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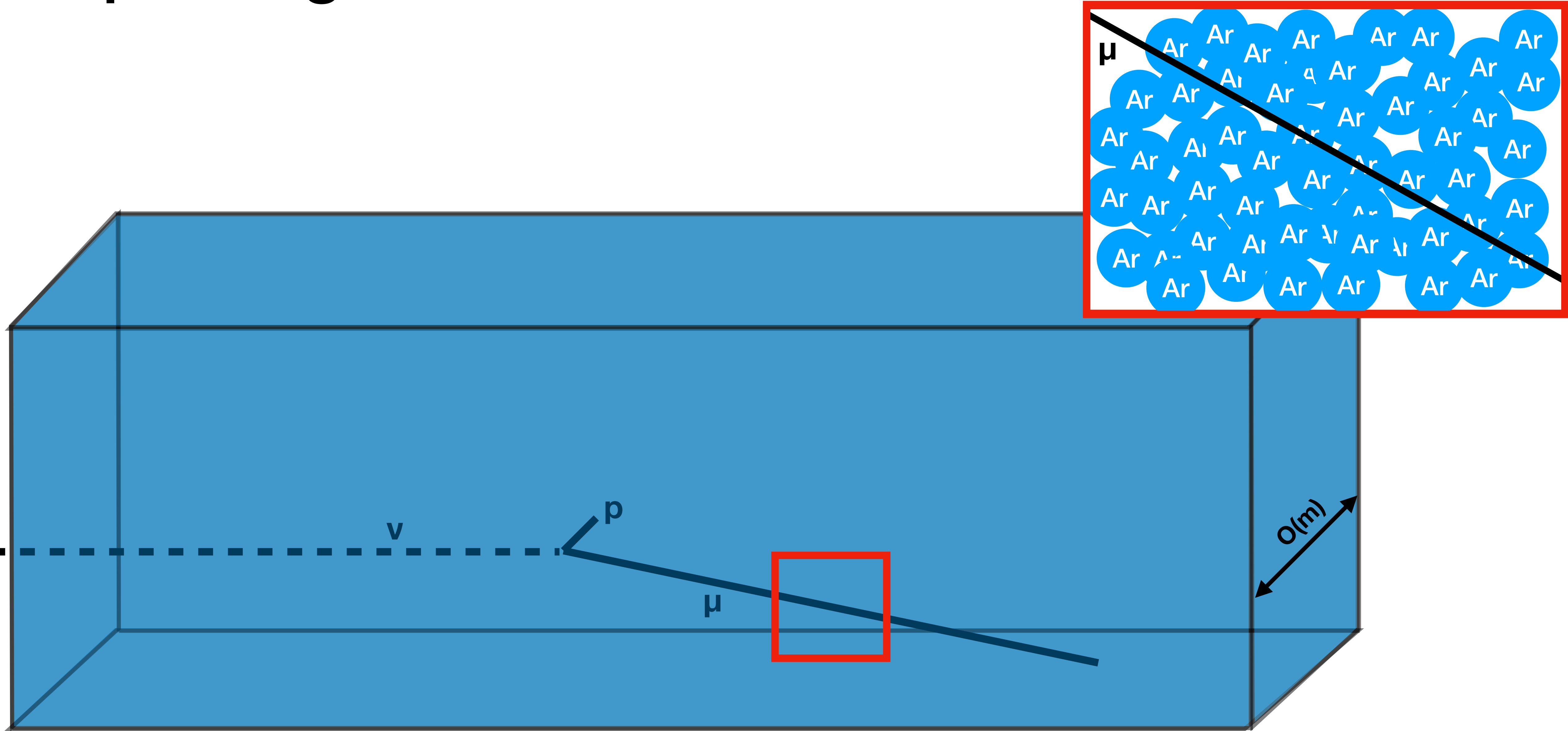
Images from NOvA (E. Smith [talk](#))

# Liquid Argon as Detector Medium



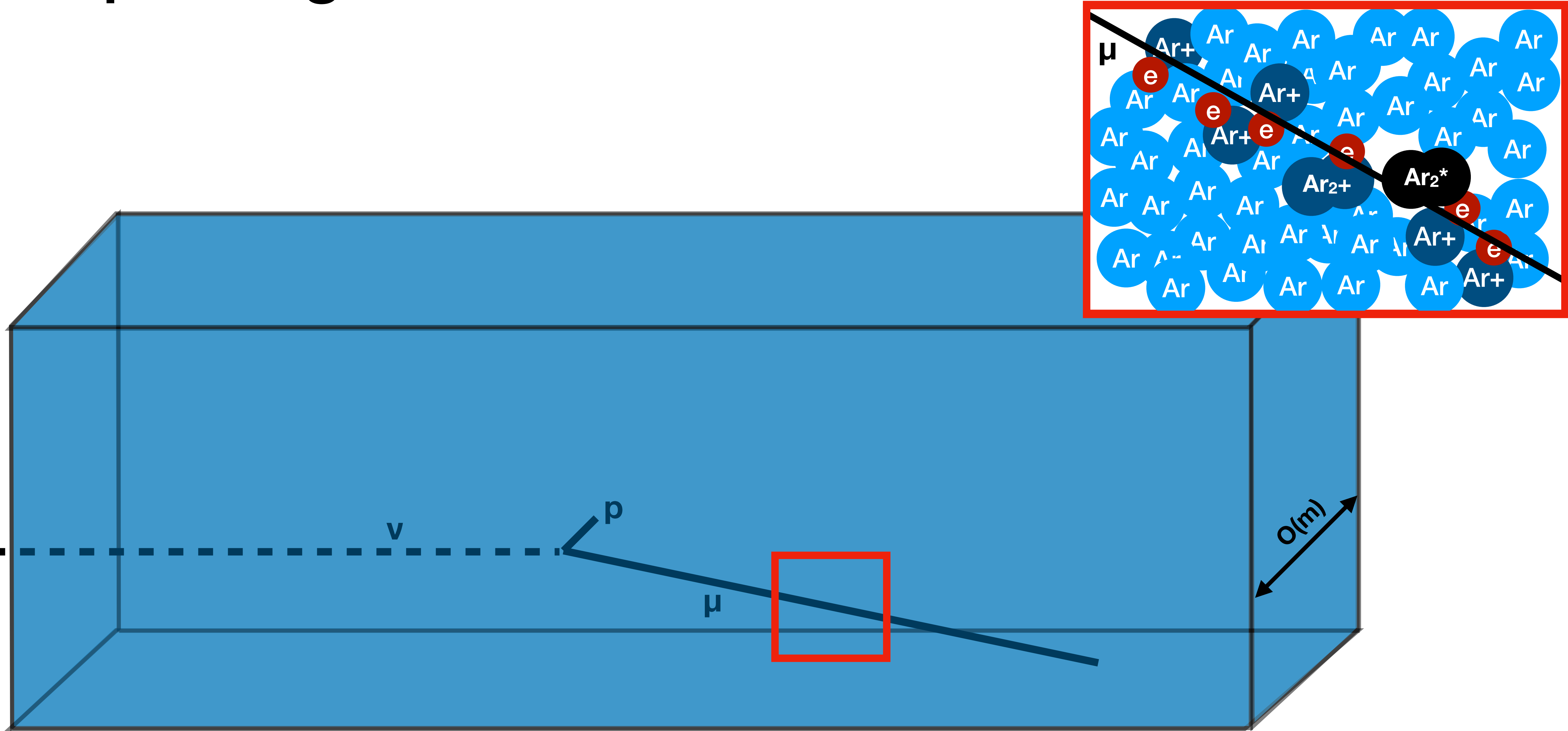


# Liquid Argon as Detector Medium



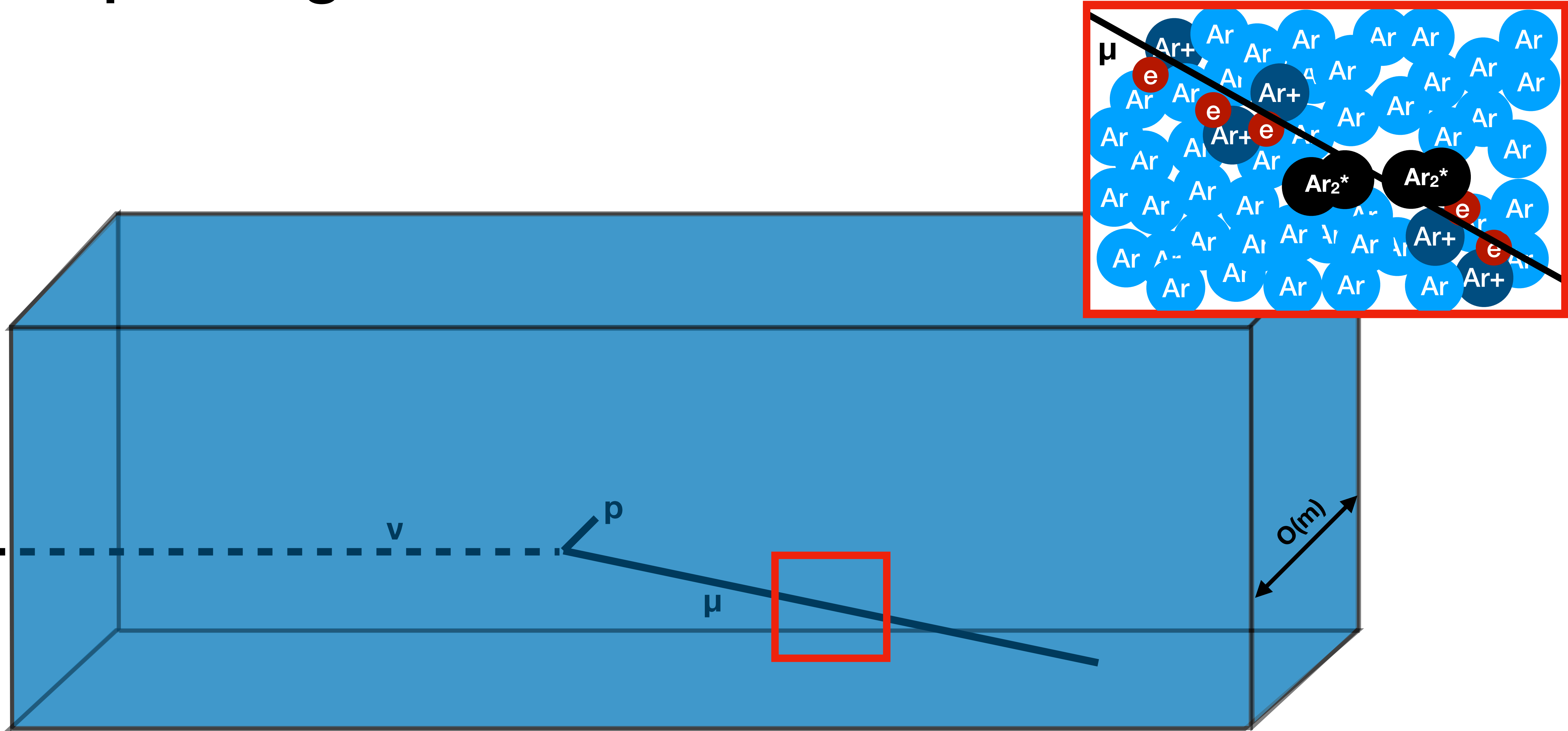


# Liquid Argon as Detector Medium



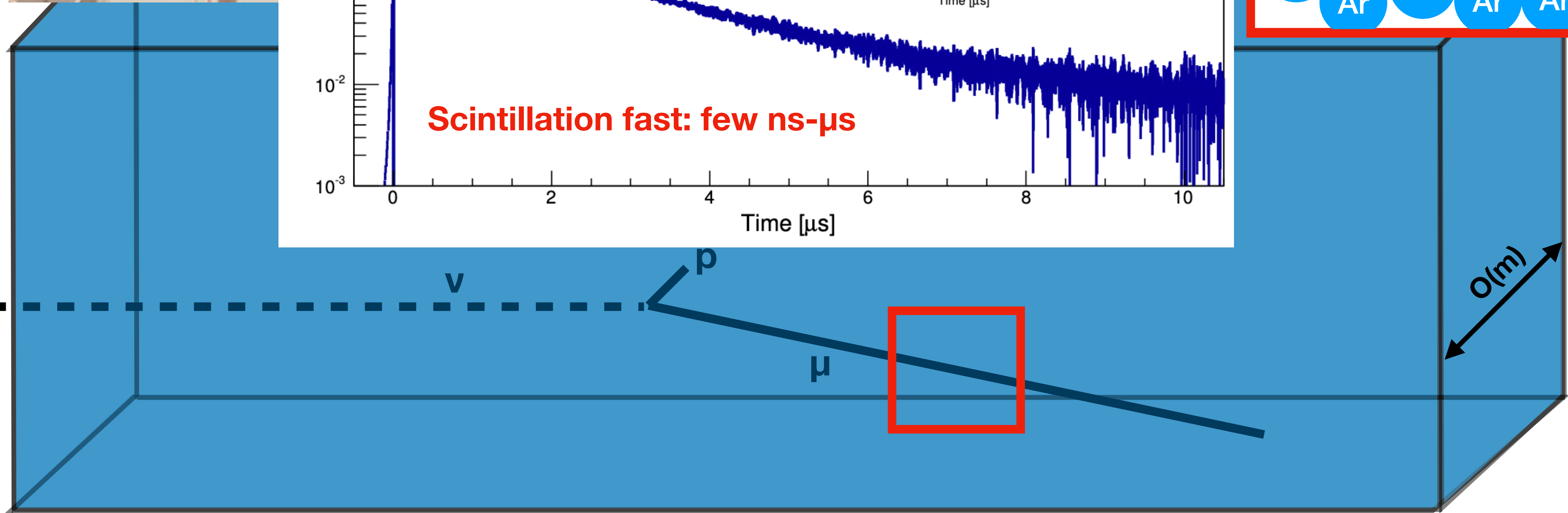
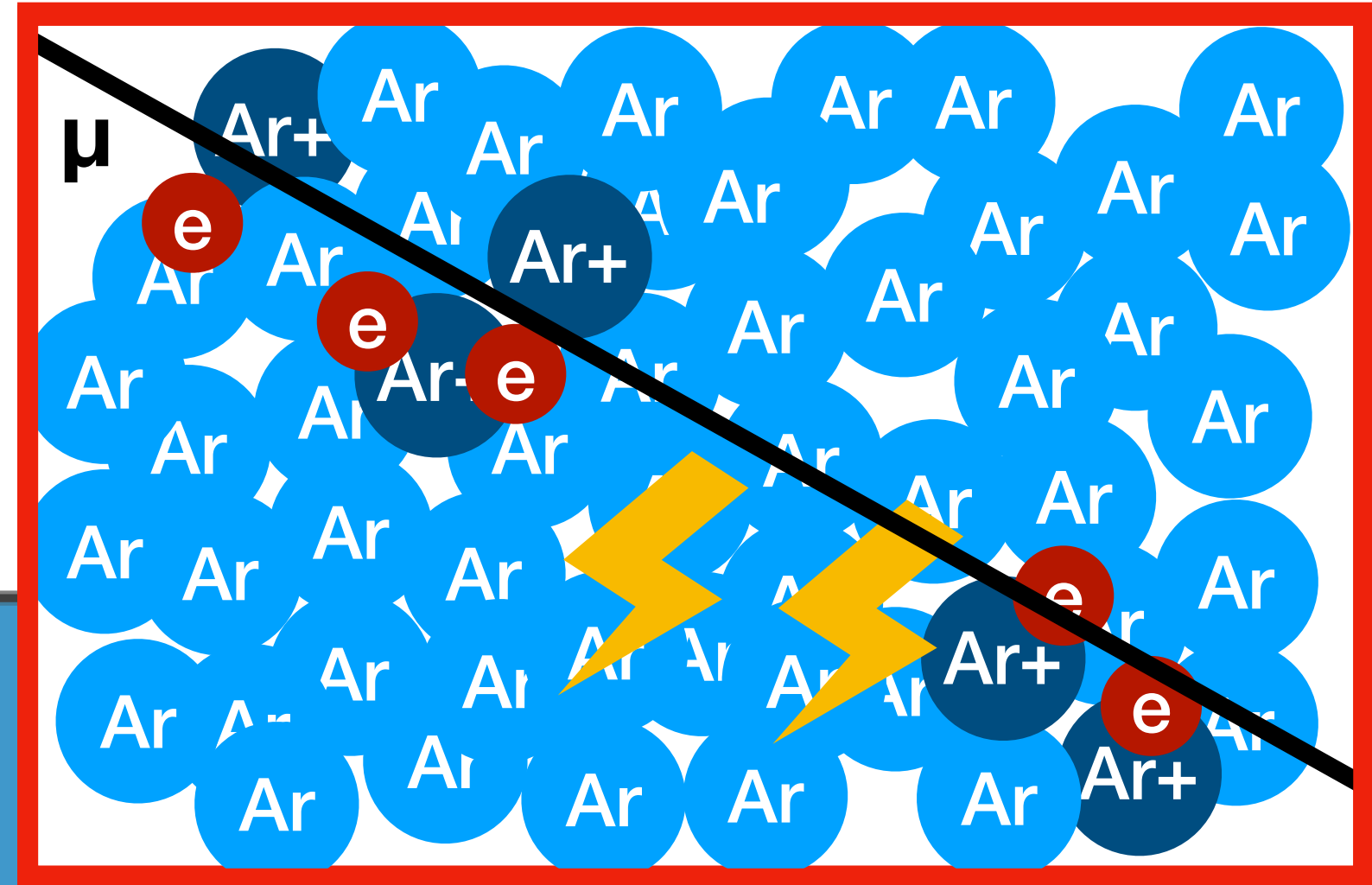
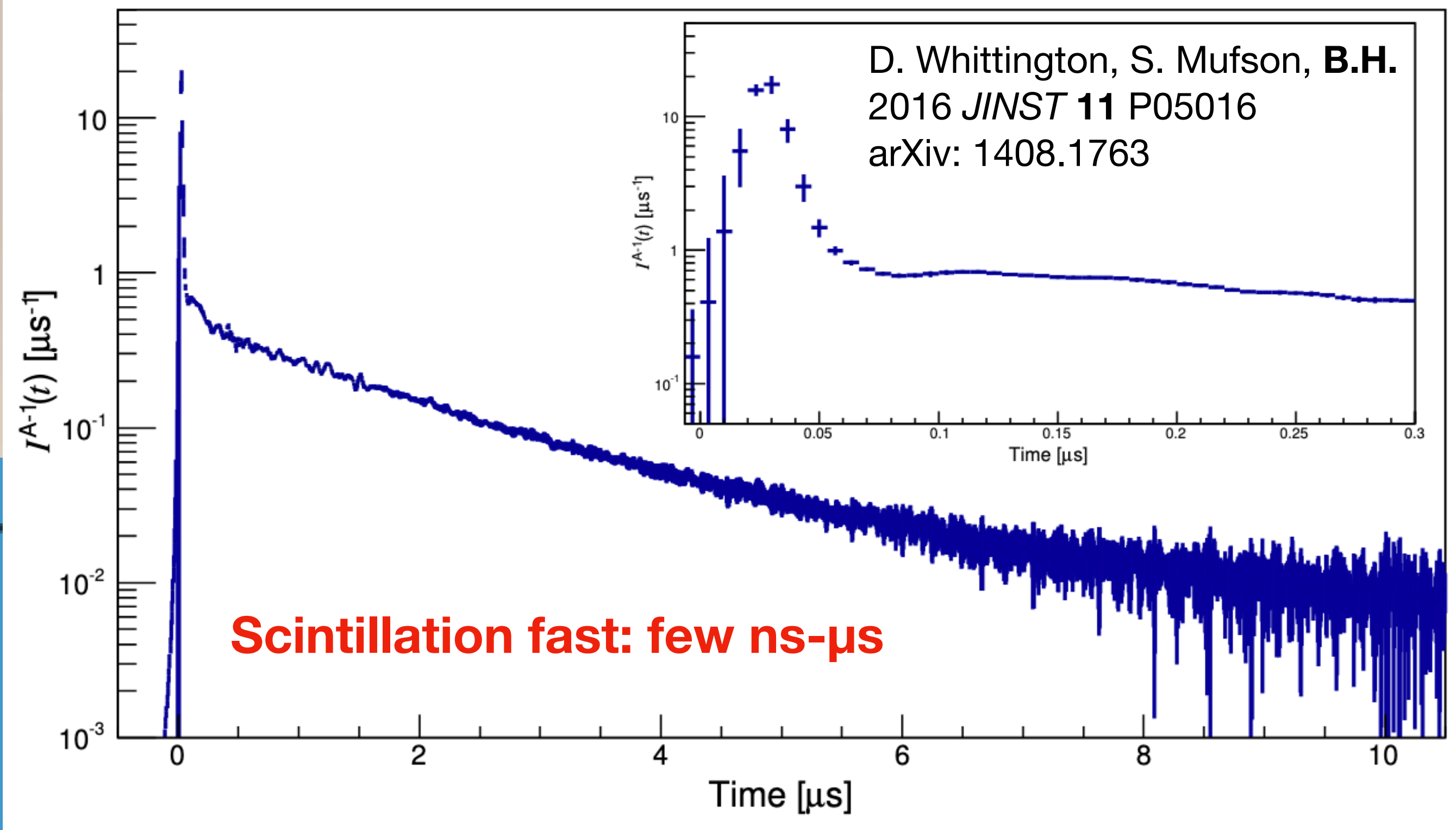


# Liquid Argon as Detector Medium





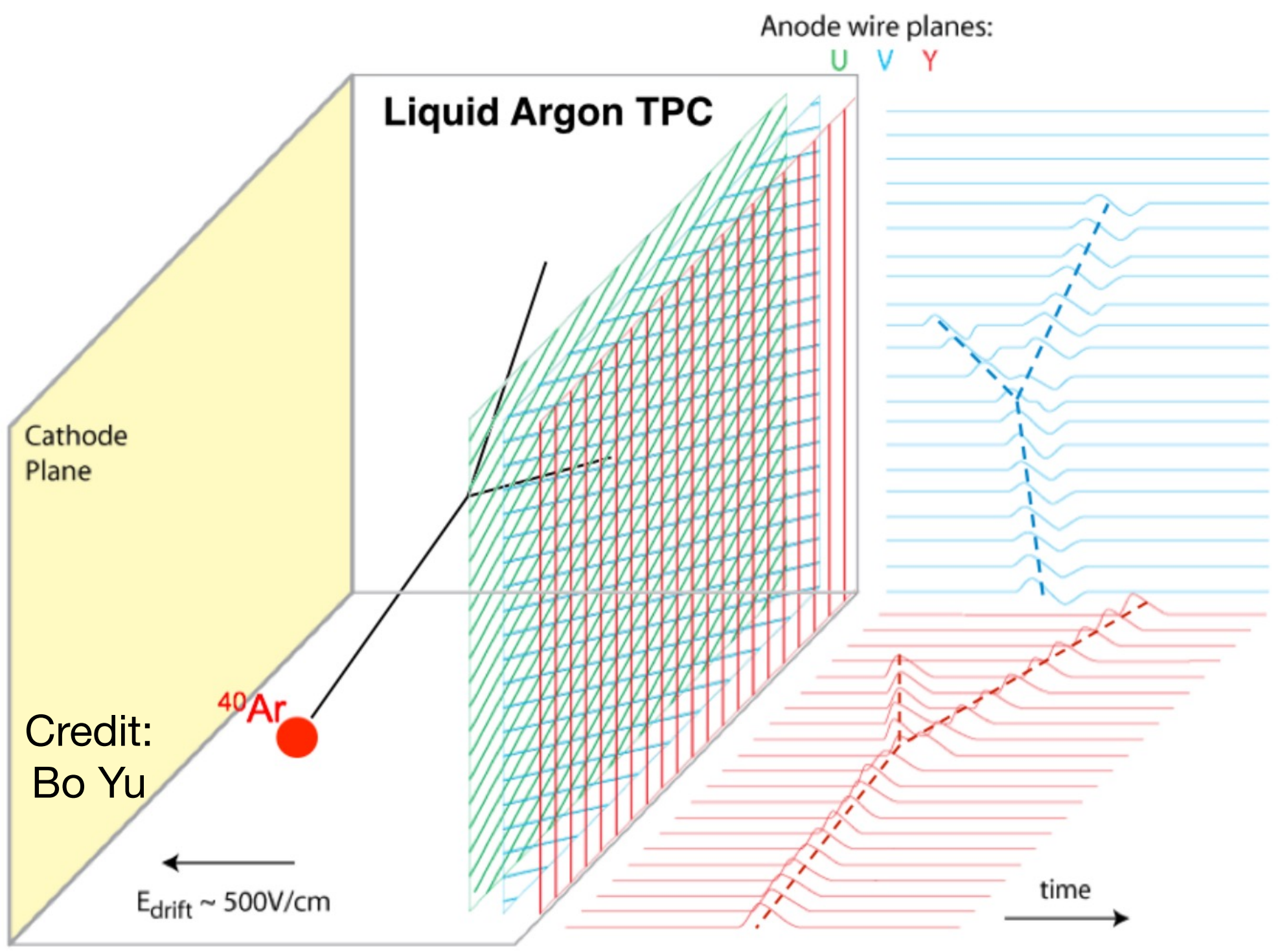
# Liquid Argon as Detector Medium



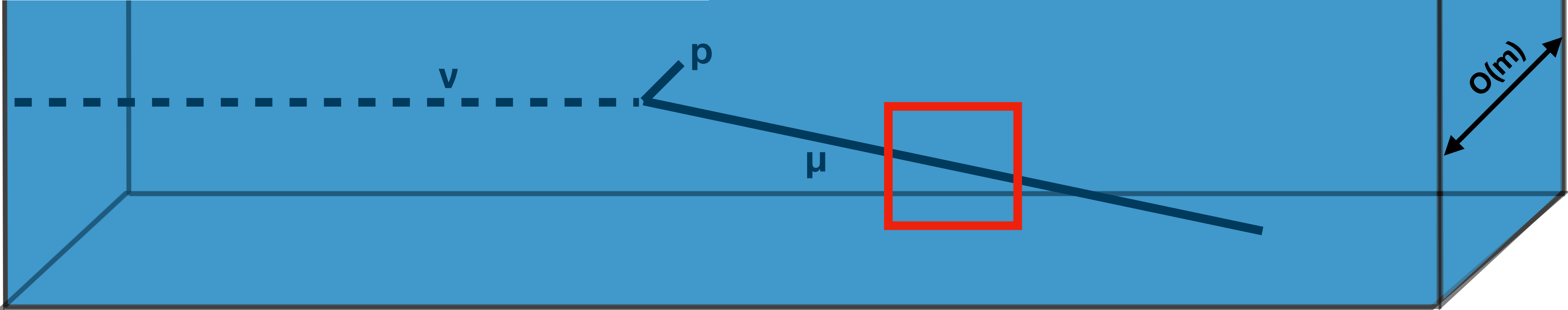
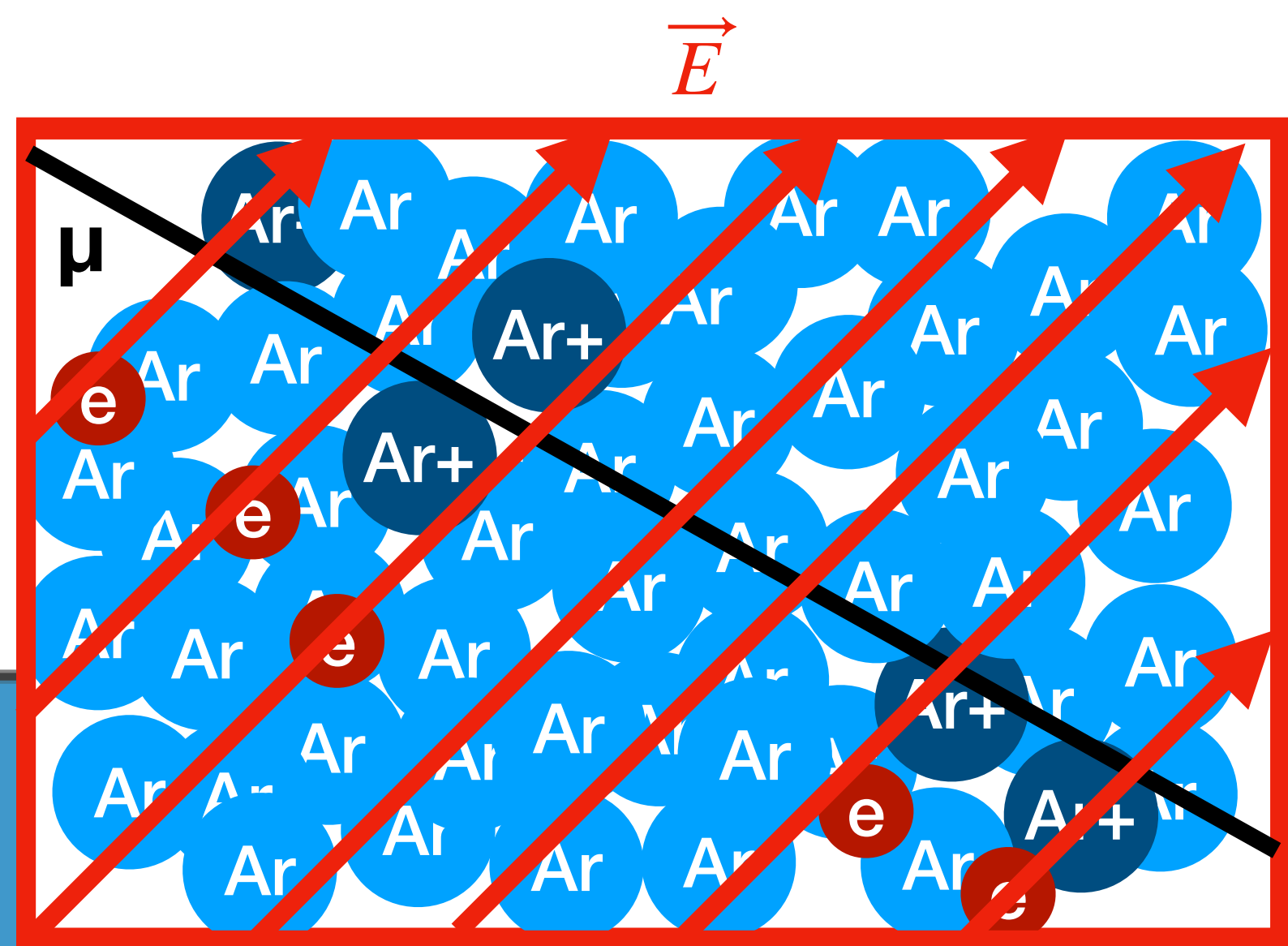
**Scintillation**  
**Fast (ns-μs)**  
**Vacuum Ultraviolet**



# Liquid Argon as Detector Medium



Ionization drift much slower:  
 $\sim 1.6 \text{ mm}/\mu\text{s}$  at  $E=500 \text{ V/cm}$



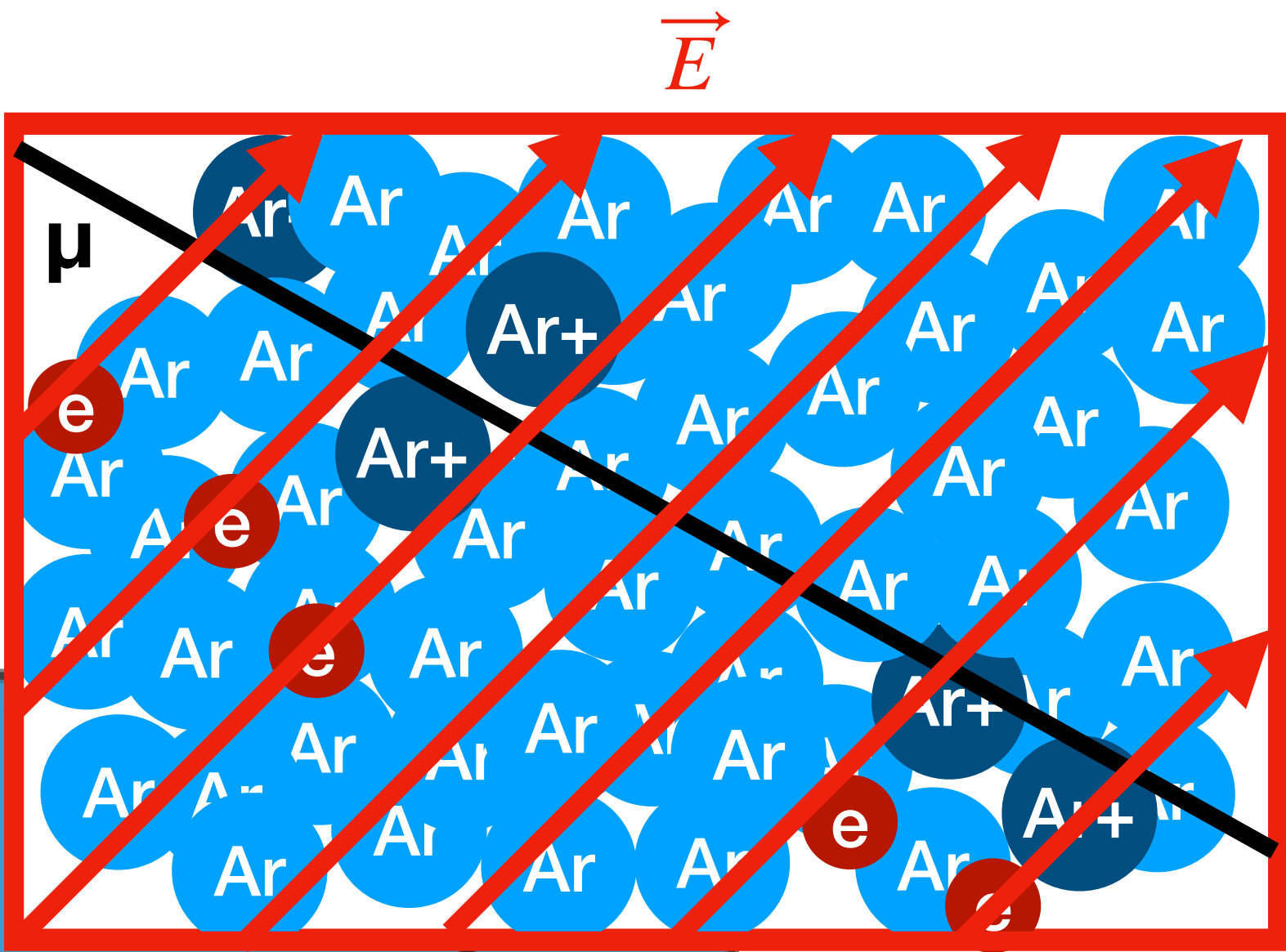
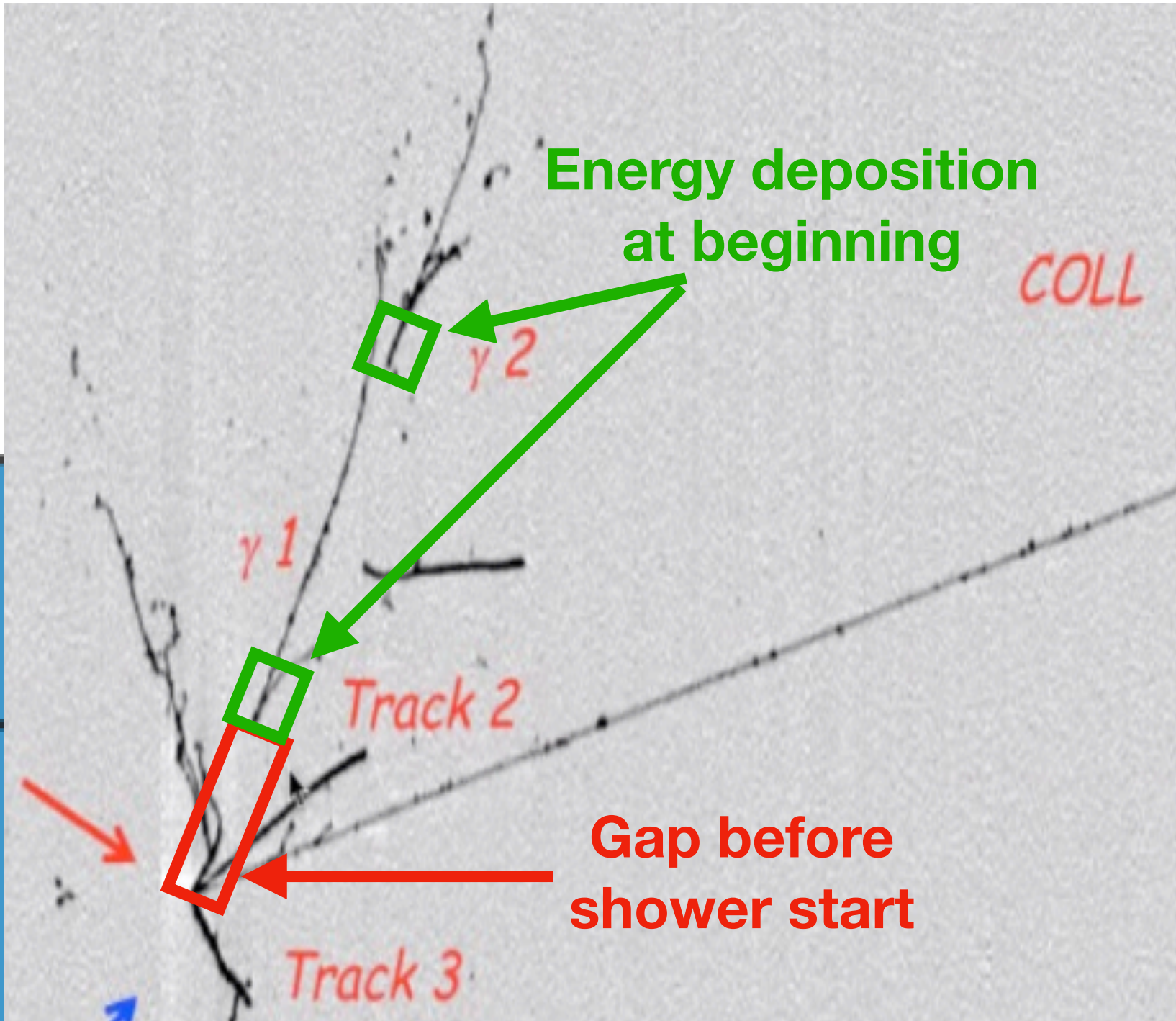
- Ionization
- Tracking (wires, others  $\sim \text{mm}$  apart)
- Charge proportional to energy
- $e/\gamma$  separation



# Liquid Argon as Detector Medium



R. Acciarri et al.  
arXiv:1503.01520

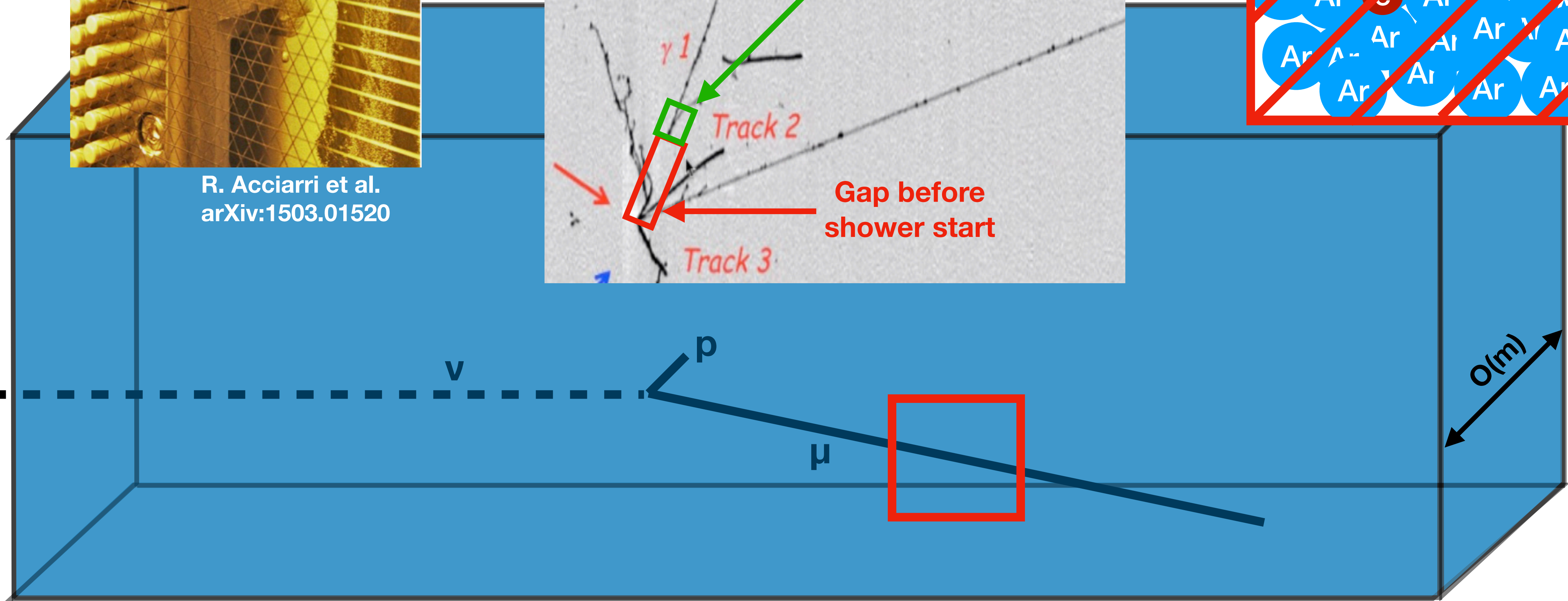


**Ionization**

**Tracking**  
(wires, others  
~mm apart)

**Charge**  
proportional  
to energy

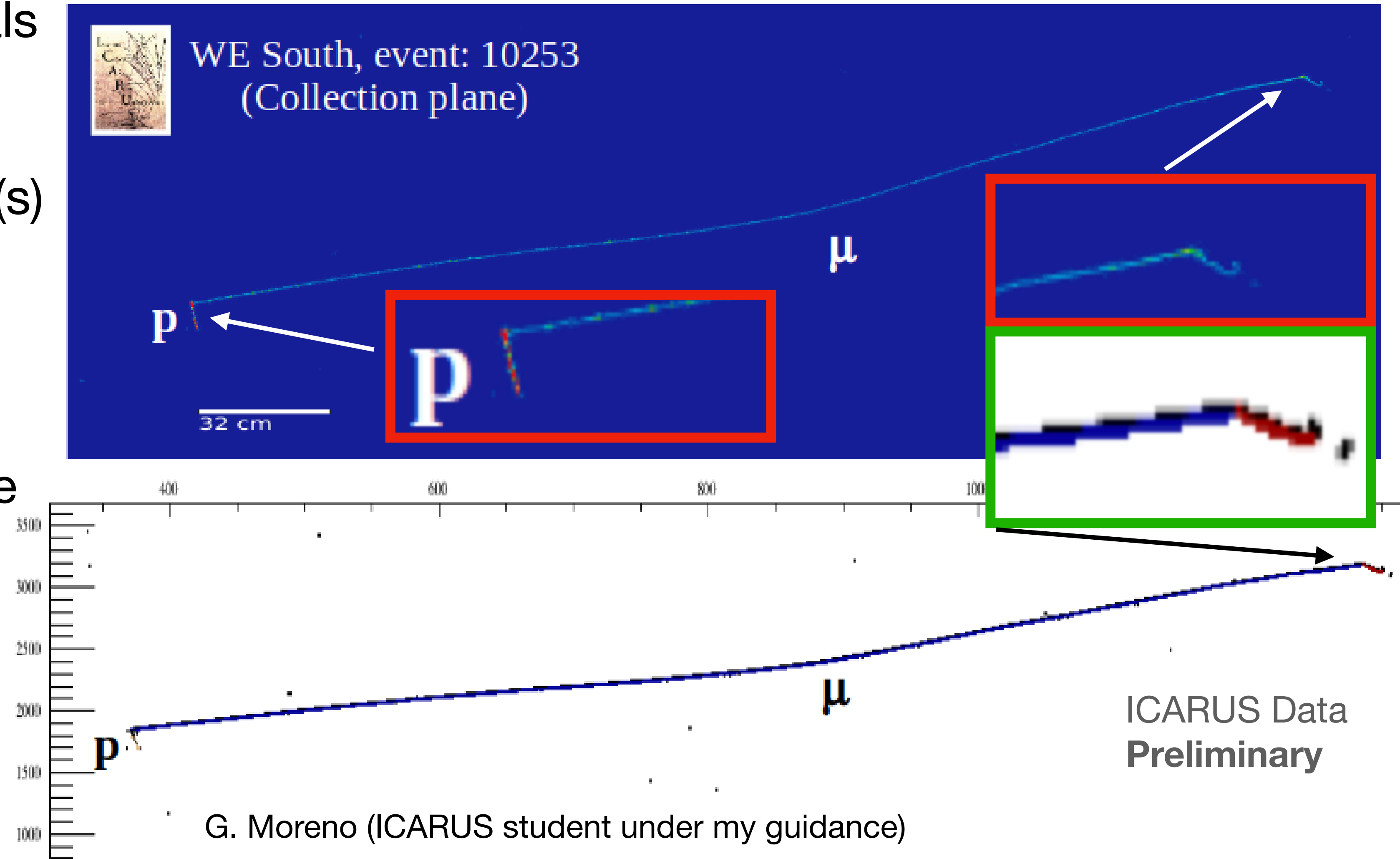
**e/γ separation**





# Reconstructing signals

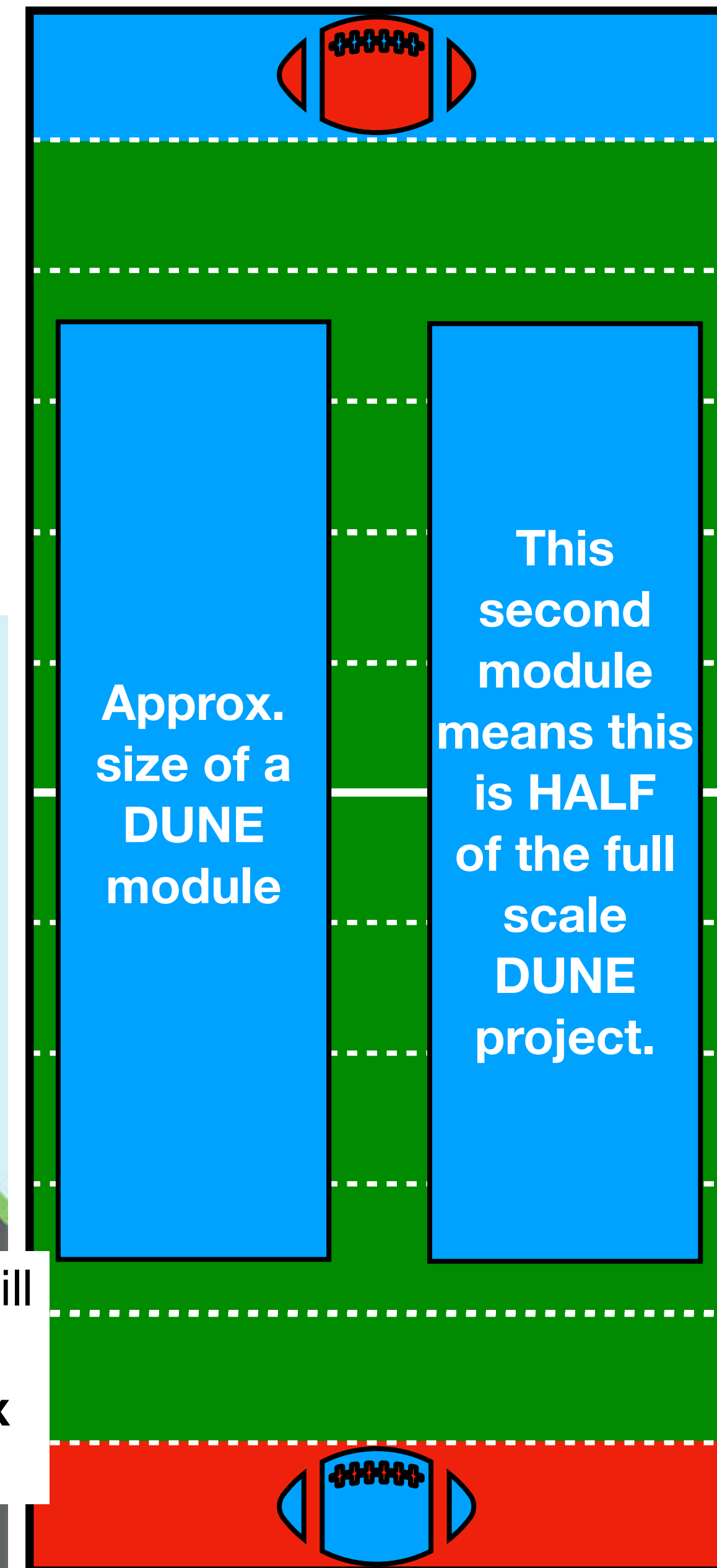
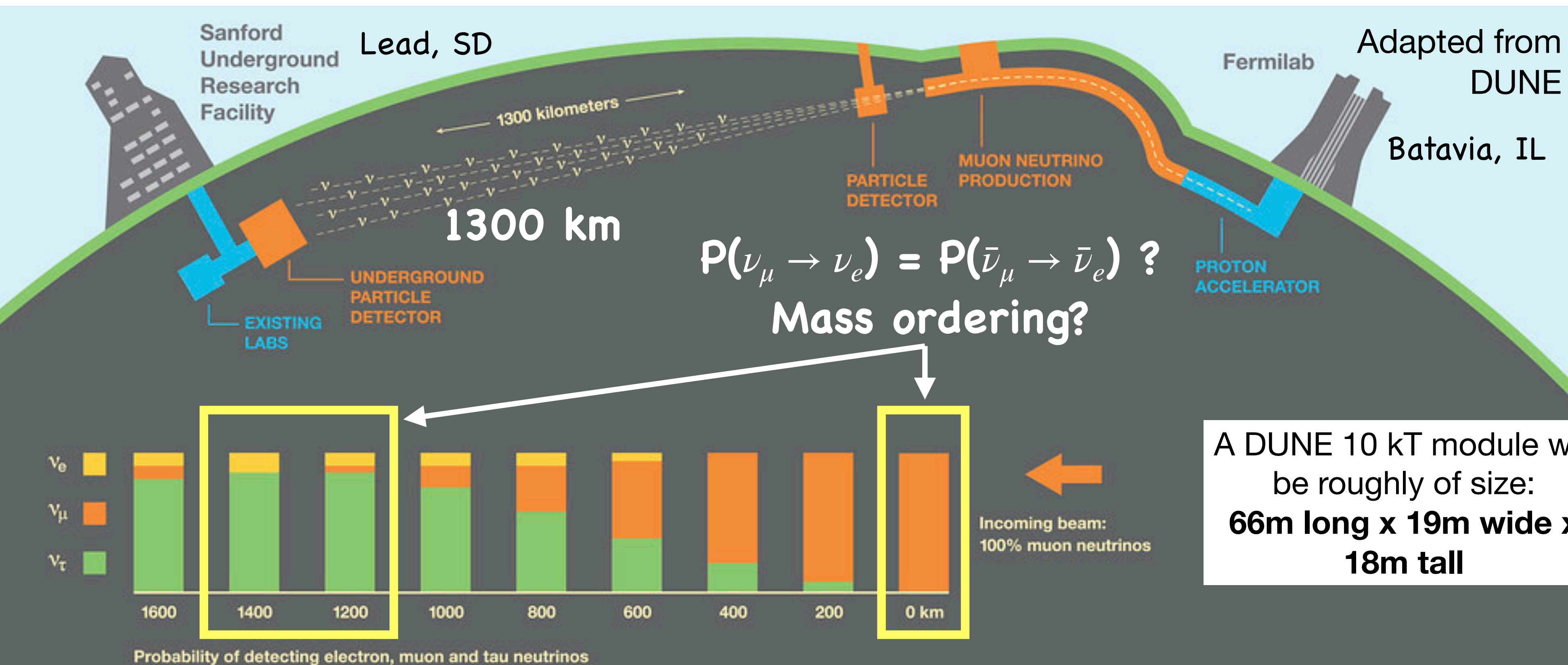
- Reconstruction: taking signals from elements of detector (e.g. wires) & building understanding of interaction(s)
- E.g. TPC reco in ICARUS w/ *Pandora*: commonly used in LAr TPCs
- Using ICARUS as example due to my involvement in TPC reconstruction there





# DUNE

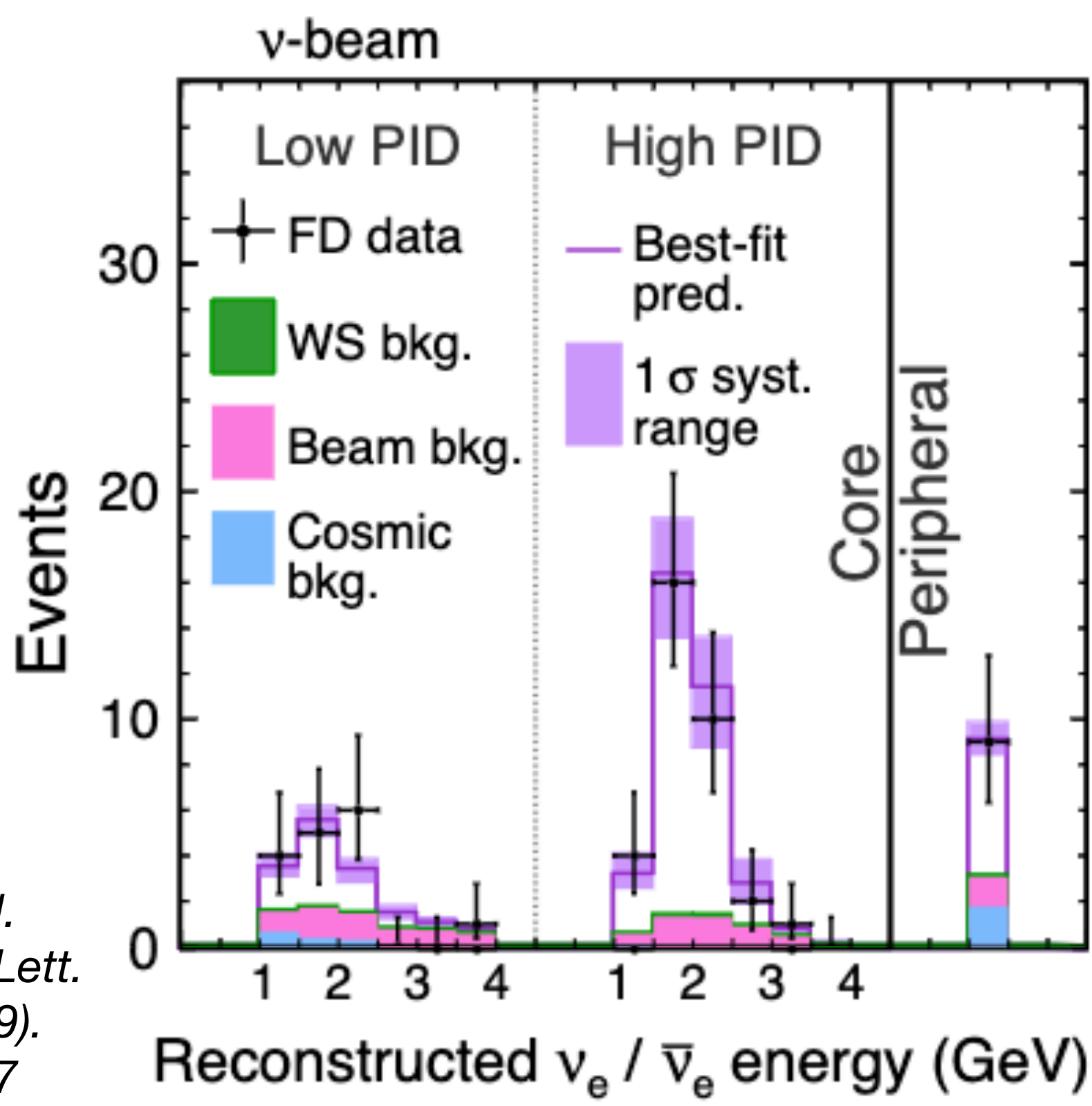
- Will address questions in  $\nu$  oscillation (and highly sensitive to other physics too)
- DUNE far detector will employ largest ever LAr TPC detectors, up to 40 kT of LAr: compare to NOvA far detector ~14 kT total



# DUNE

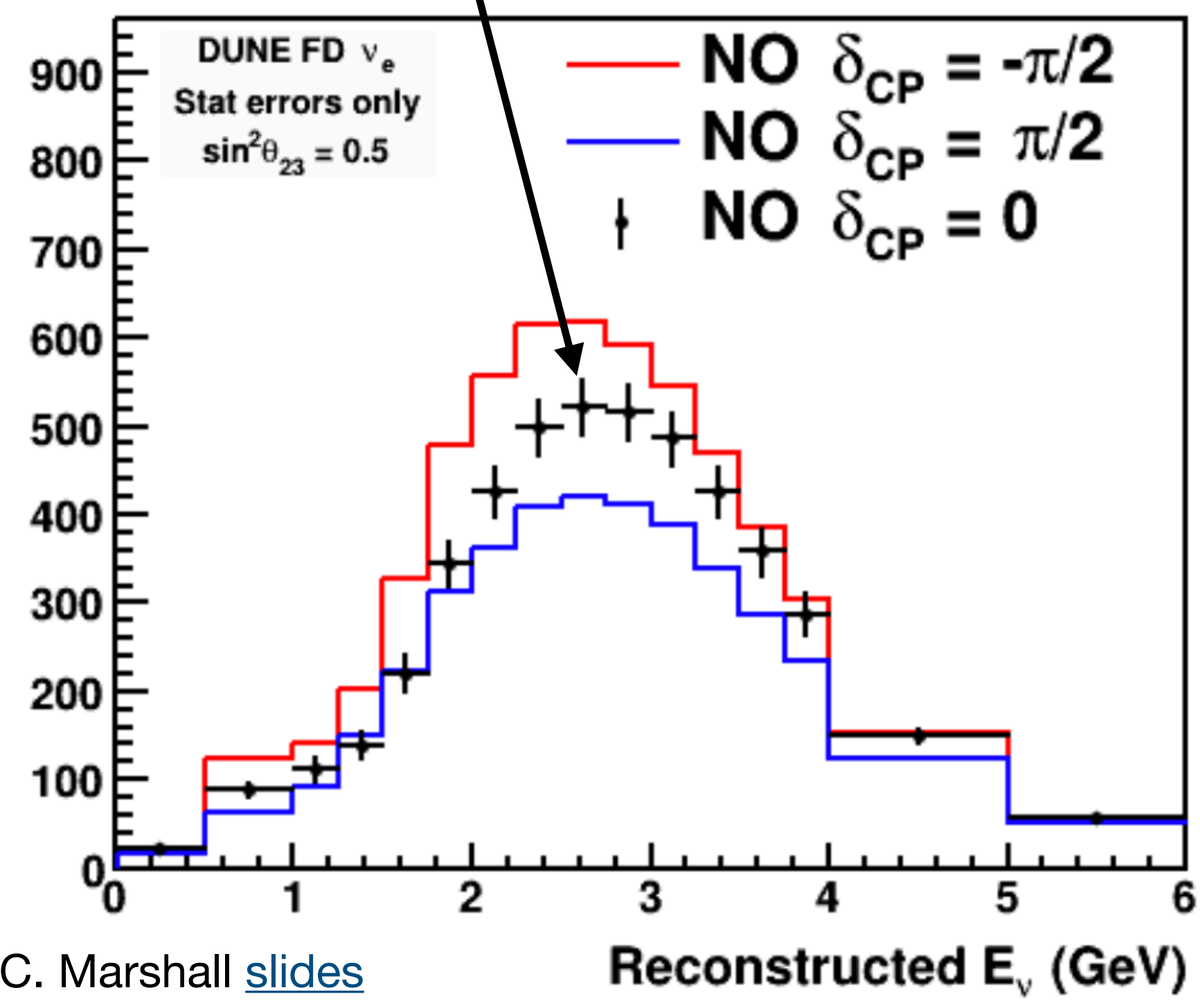
- Will use improvements in beam and detector technology to make large advancements in oscillation analysis

Error bars here are statistical. We have lots of leverage in measurement here, as long as error bars on the measurement don't get too large!



Reminder of a typical NOvA result with 10s-100  $\nu_e$

What a future DUNE appearance measurement might look like



Adapted from

M. A. Acero et al.  
(NOvA). Phys. Rev. Lett.  
123, 151803 (2019).  
arXiv:1906.04907

C. Marshall [slides](#)



# DUNE in next few years

- DUNE is rapidly progressing:
  - Excavation of caverns ongoing in South Dakota preparing for installation of first two 10kT modules
  - Plan is for the first two 10 kT modules to be installed over second half of **2020s** with beam and Near Detector installed for **2031**

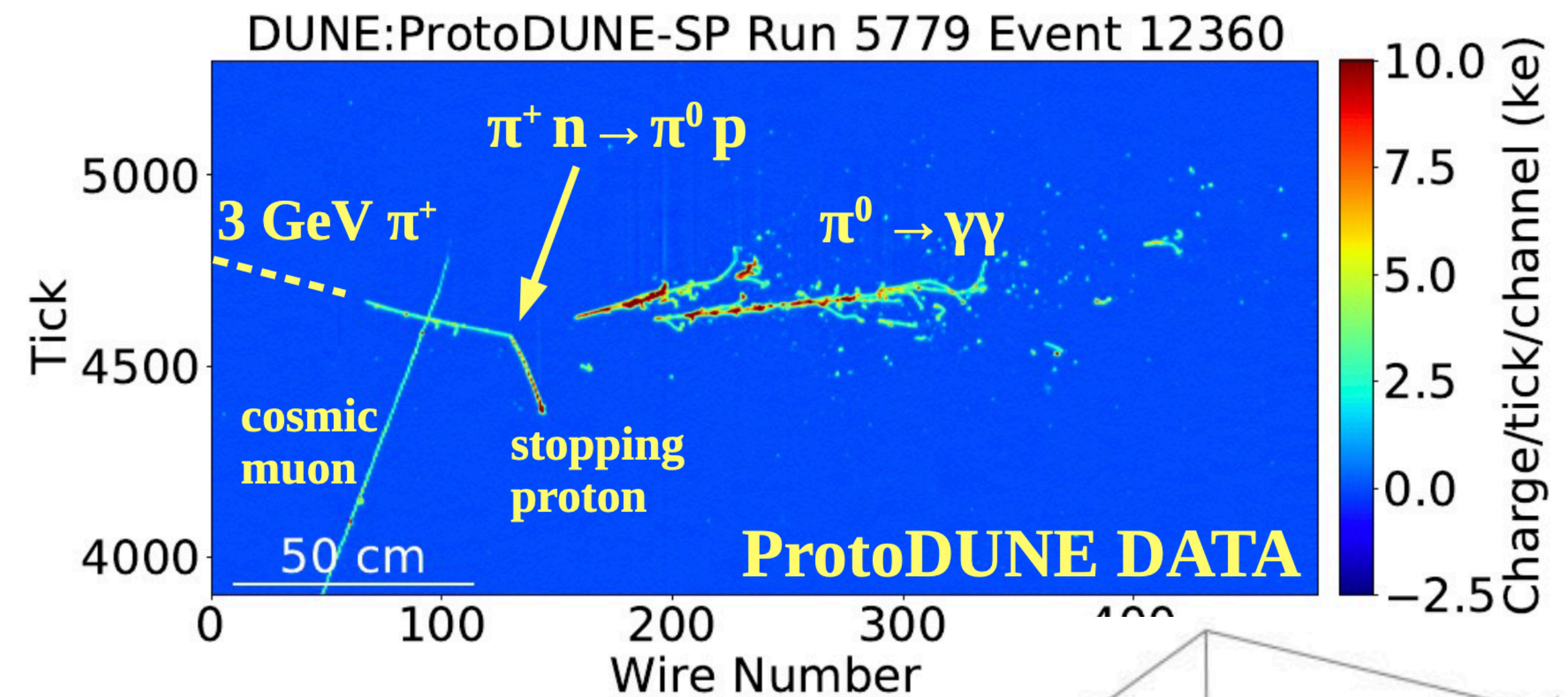
Image from C. Marshall NuFact [slides](#)





# DUNE in next few years

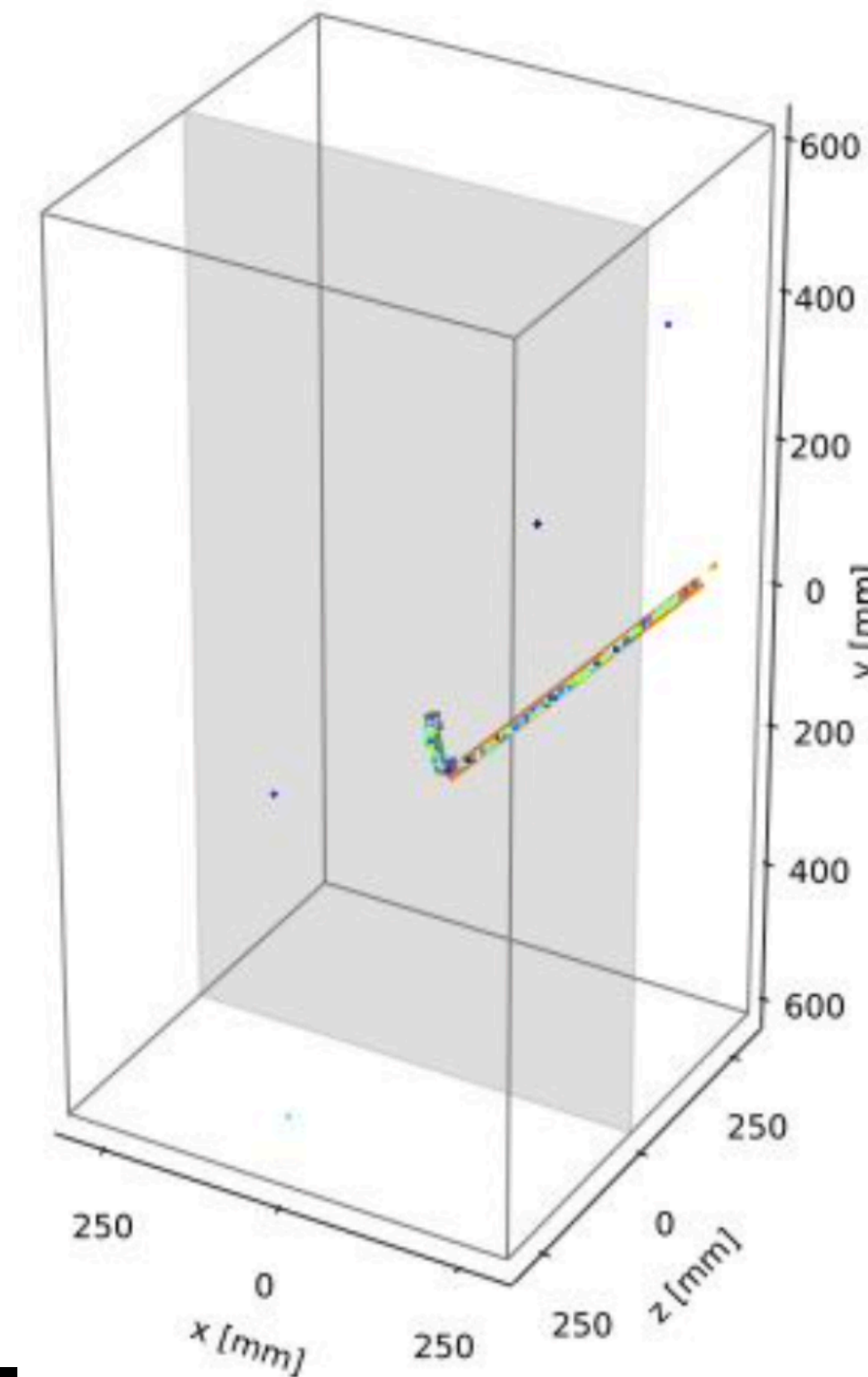
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  - Excavation of caverns ongoing in South Dakota preparing for installation of first two 10kT modules
  - Plan is for the first two 10 kT modules to be installed over second half of **2020s** with beam and Near Detector installed for **2031**
- Meanwhile, analysis of data from Far Detector style modules in a test beam at CERN (“ProtoDUNE”) is ongoing, as are preparations for another run
- Also prototype detector runs will soon take place at FNAL, such as a prototype of the LAr TPC Near Detector



From C. Marshall NuFact [slides](#)

ND-LAr prototype data event

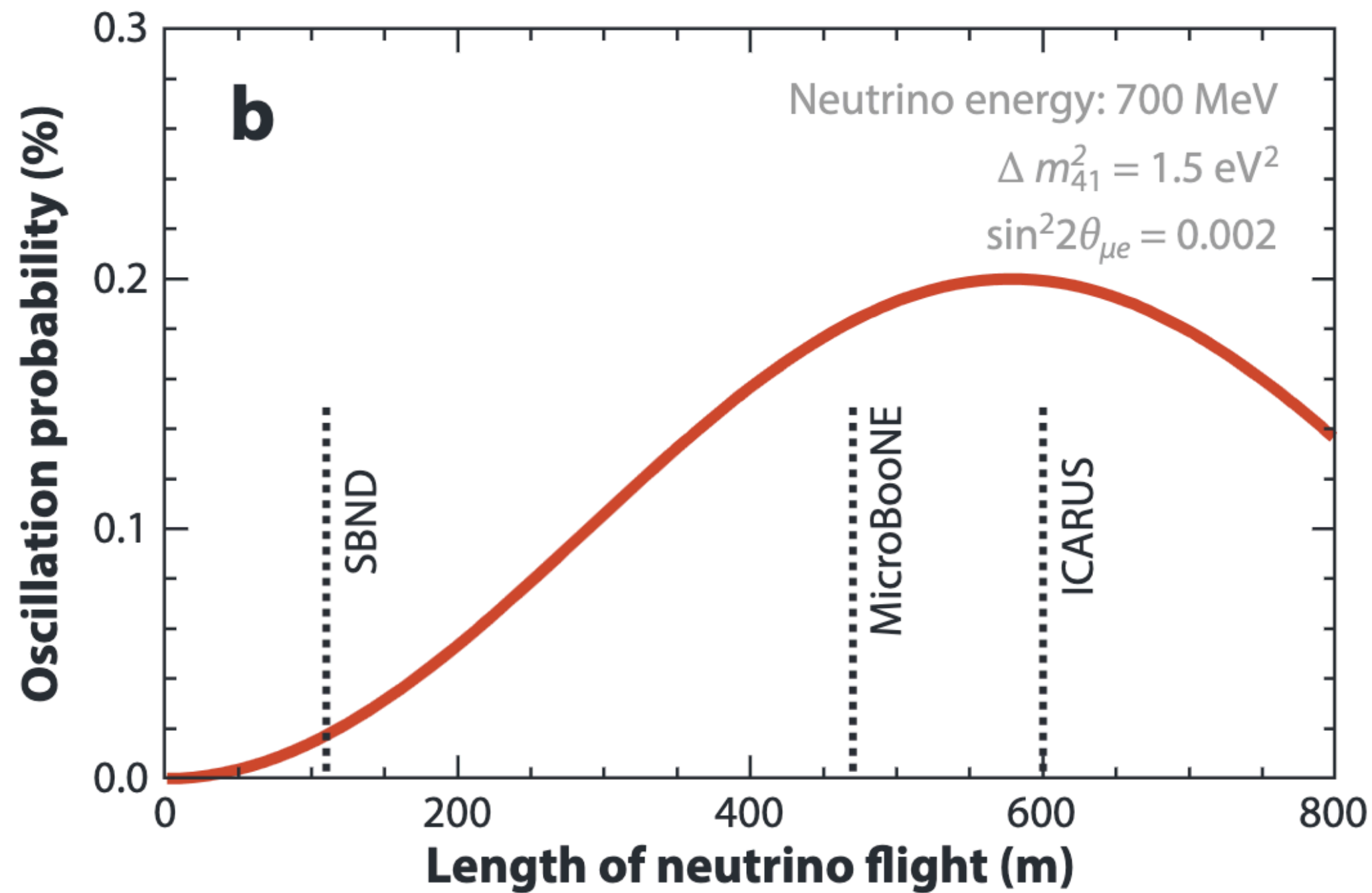
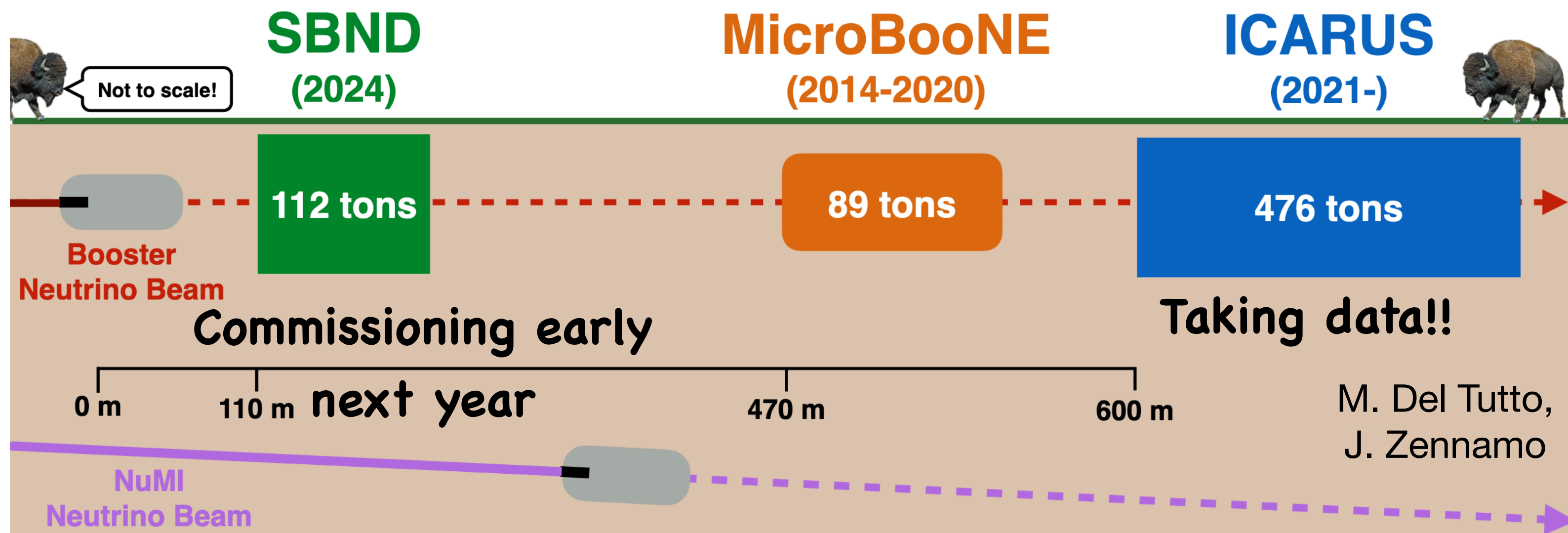
(Z. Hulcher [slides](#))





# SBN Program

- Short Baseline Neutrino program at FNAL, 3 LAr TPC detectors along BNB beam: **SBND** and **ICARUS** will be running at the same time
- Allows study like long-baseline, but for short-baseline anomaly
  - SBND=near det, ICARUS=far det
  - Main capability to study both  $\nu_\mu$  disappearance &  $\nu_e$  appearance, and more

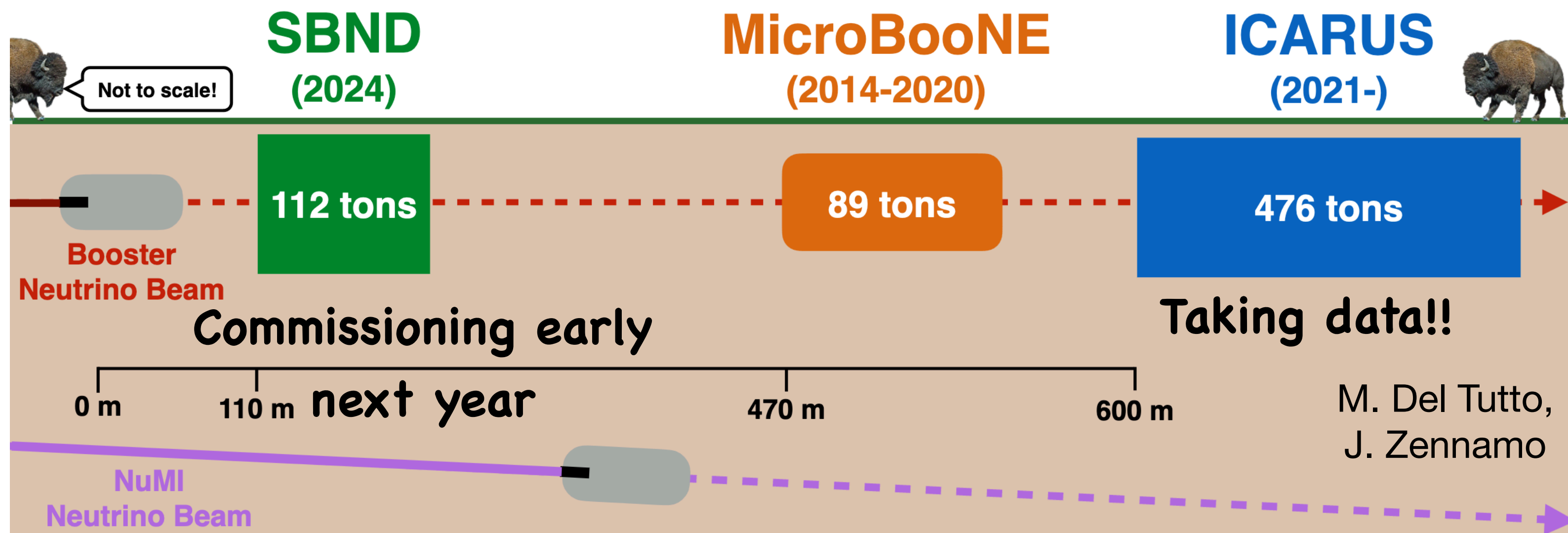


P. Machado, O. Palamara, D. Schmitz. Annu. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci. (2019). doi: 10.1146



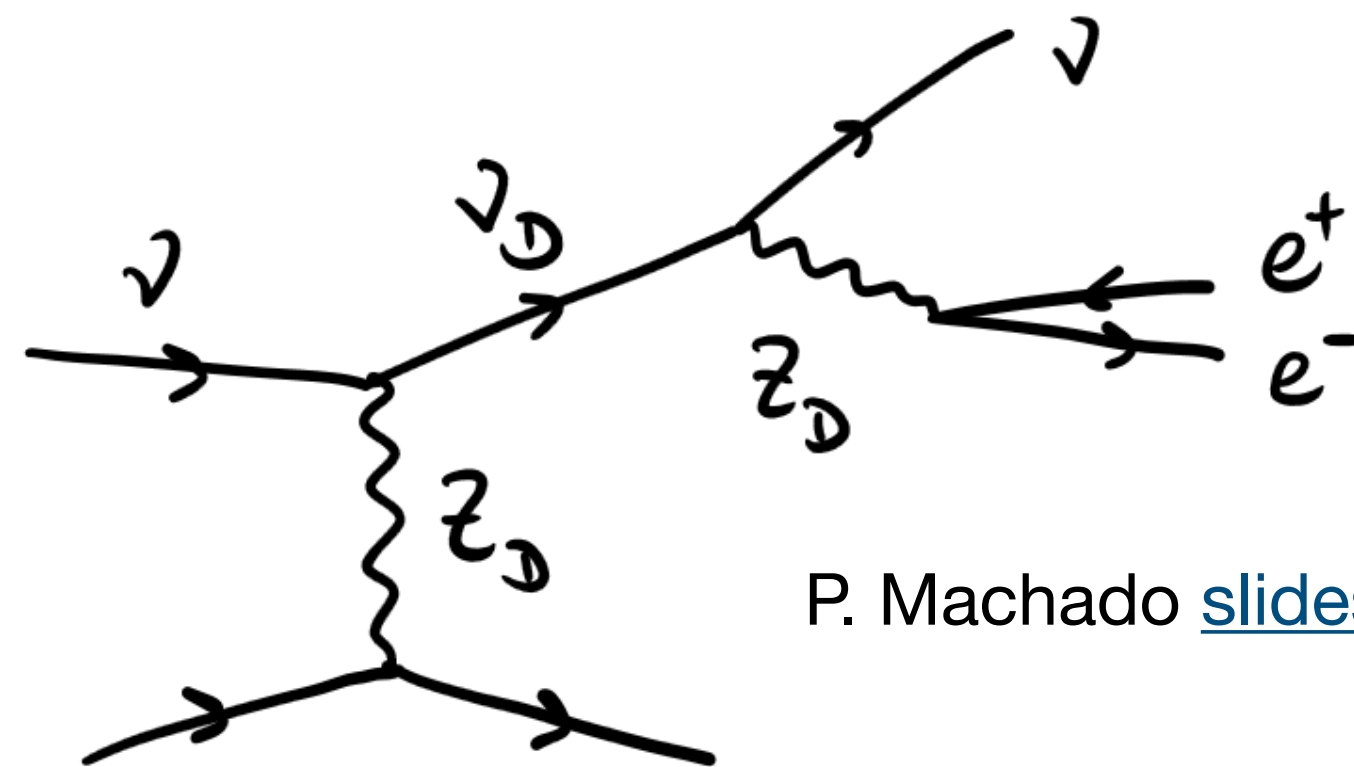
# SBN Program

- If the anomaly isn't driven by sterile neutrinos, then what?
  - Could be a poorly constrained background: but SBN aims to improve this already
  - Could be poorly constrained decay processes: but MicroBooNE already investigated such a case
  - **Could be other new physics?**
    - Models proposed that would lead to an e-like signature in MiniBooNE besides sterile that LAr TPCs may give the sensitivity to discover



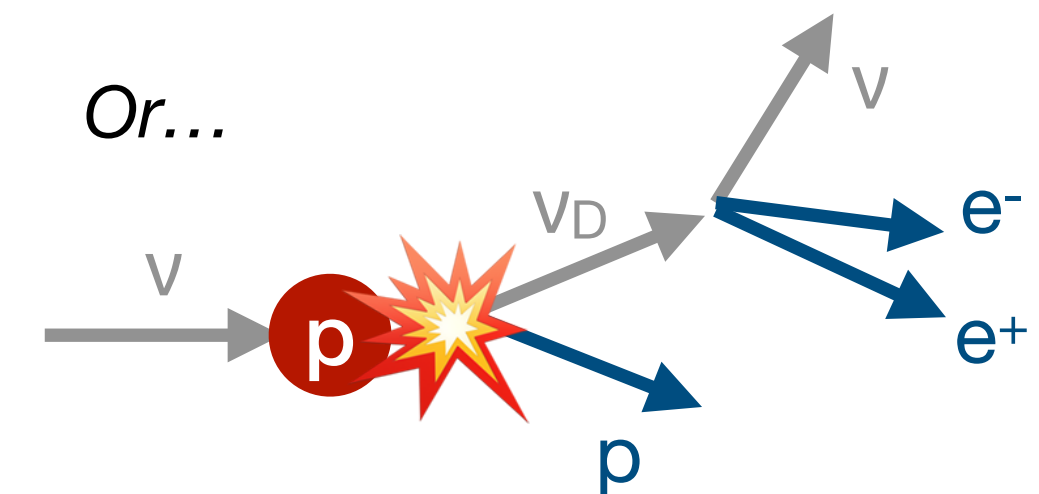
## Model in a nutshell

Dark neutrinos with heavy  $Z_D$



P. Machado [slides](#)

*In case you like Feynman diagrams*

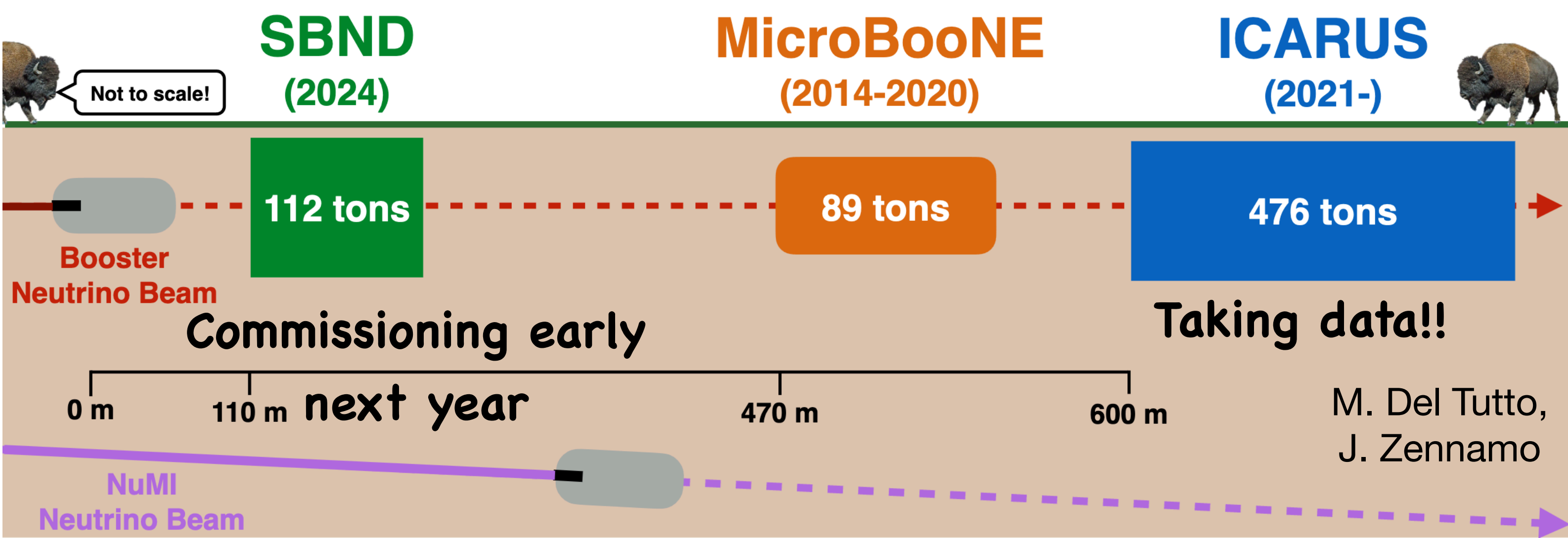


Or...



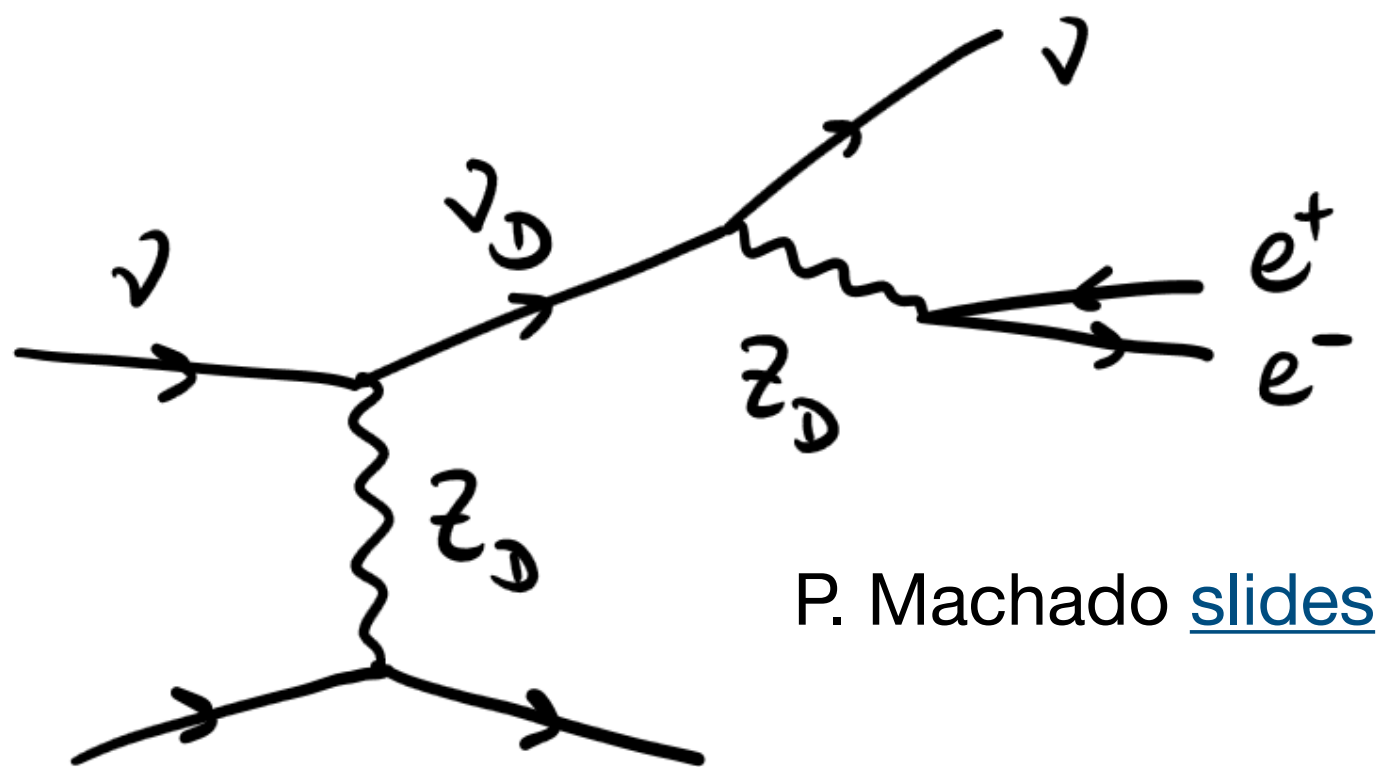
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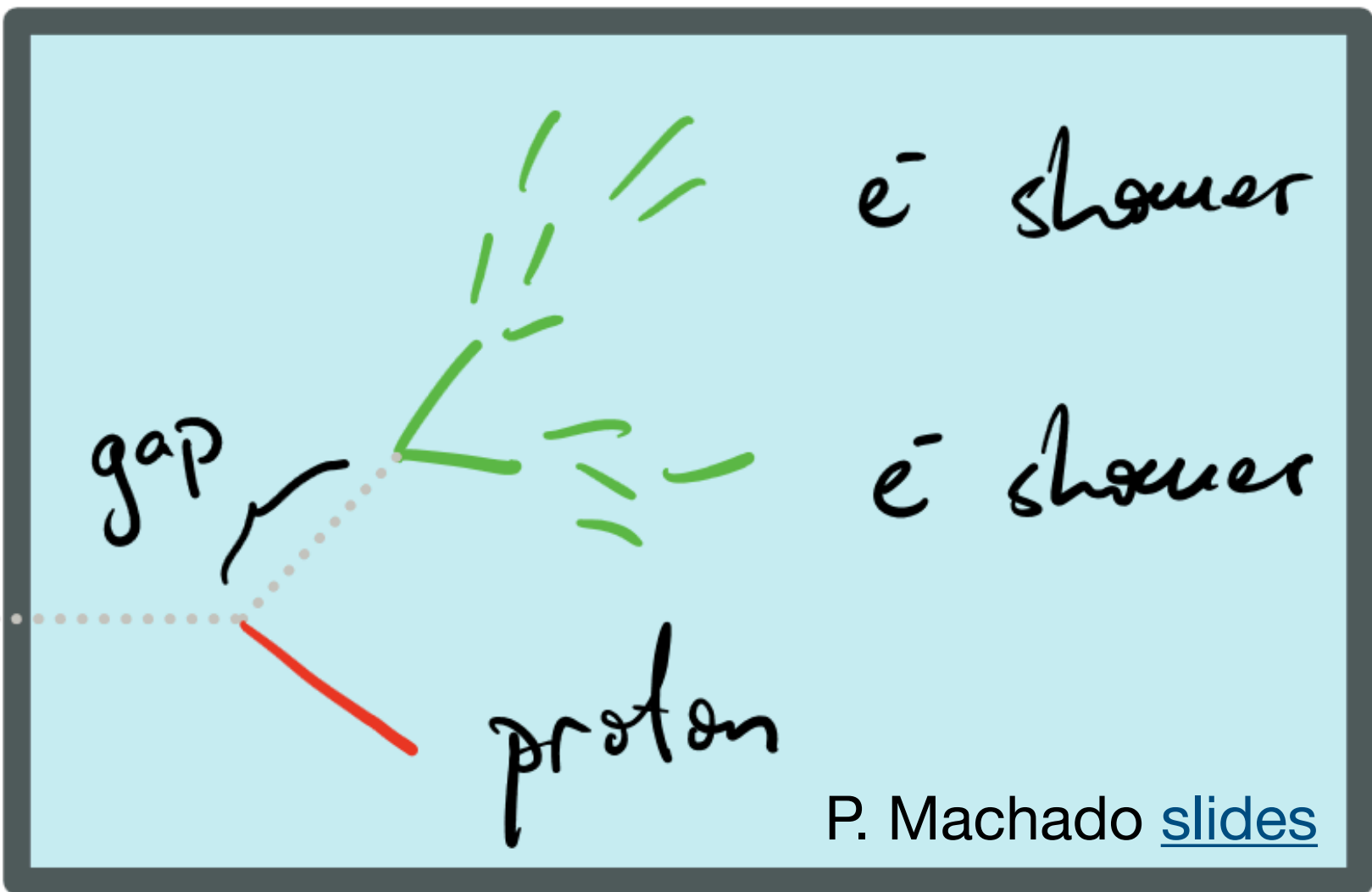
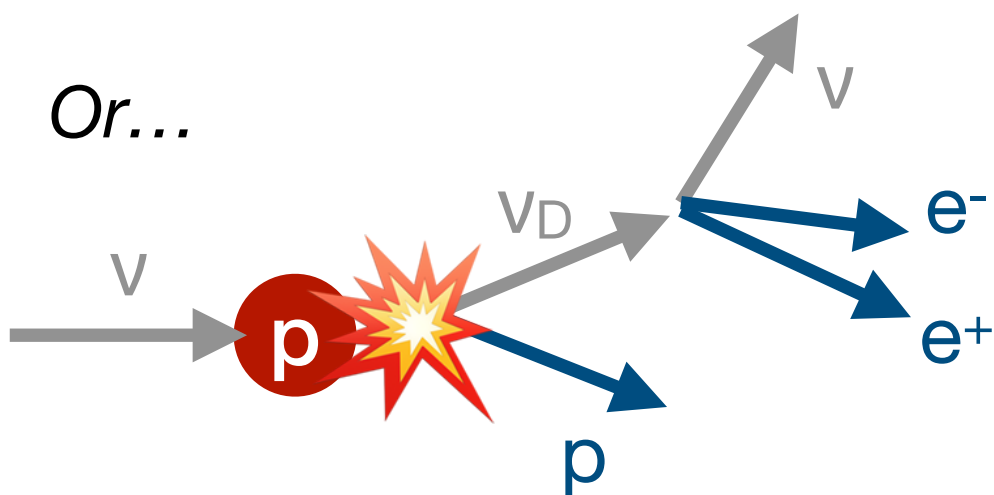
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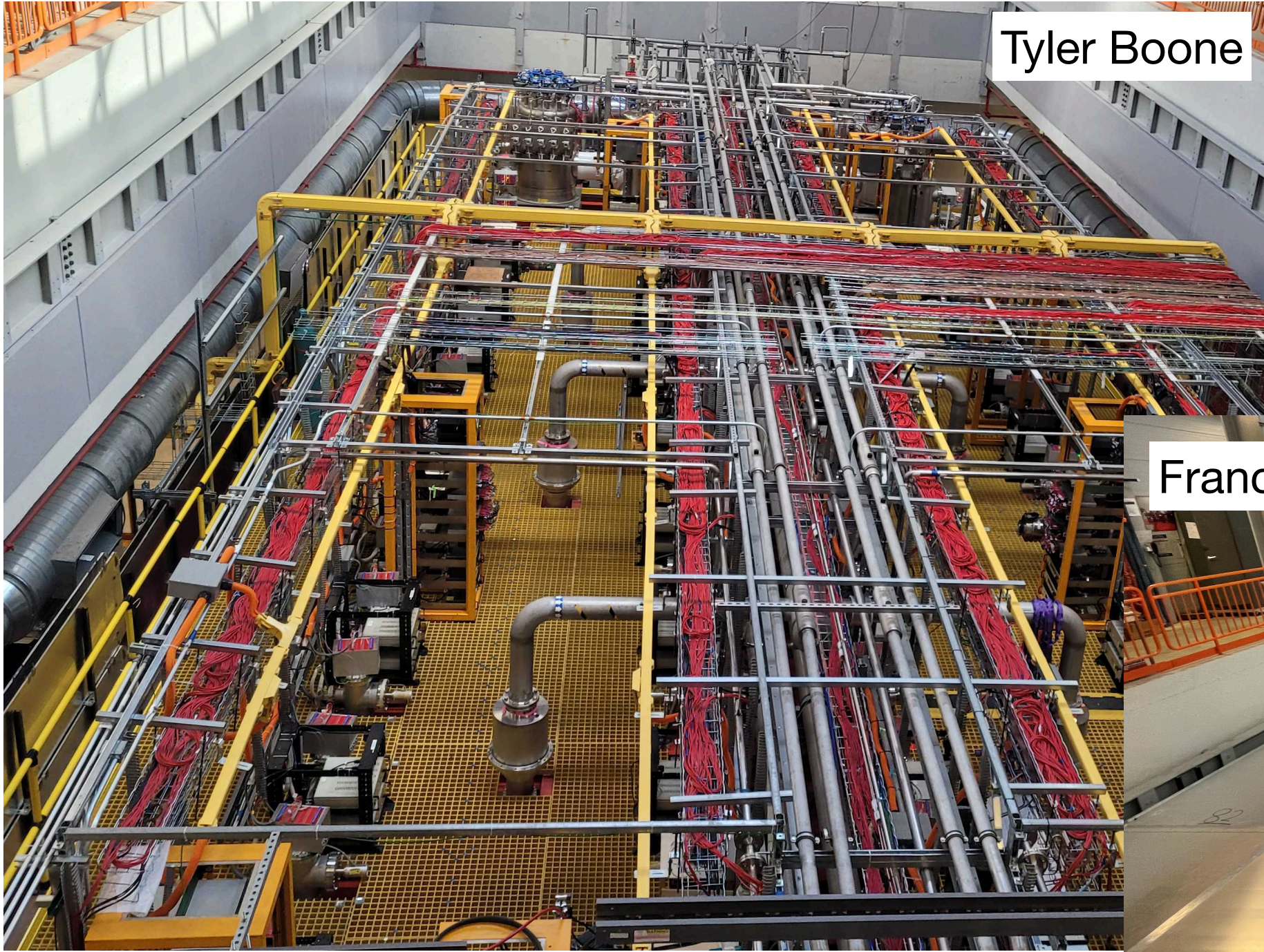
And in our detector this would look like:





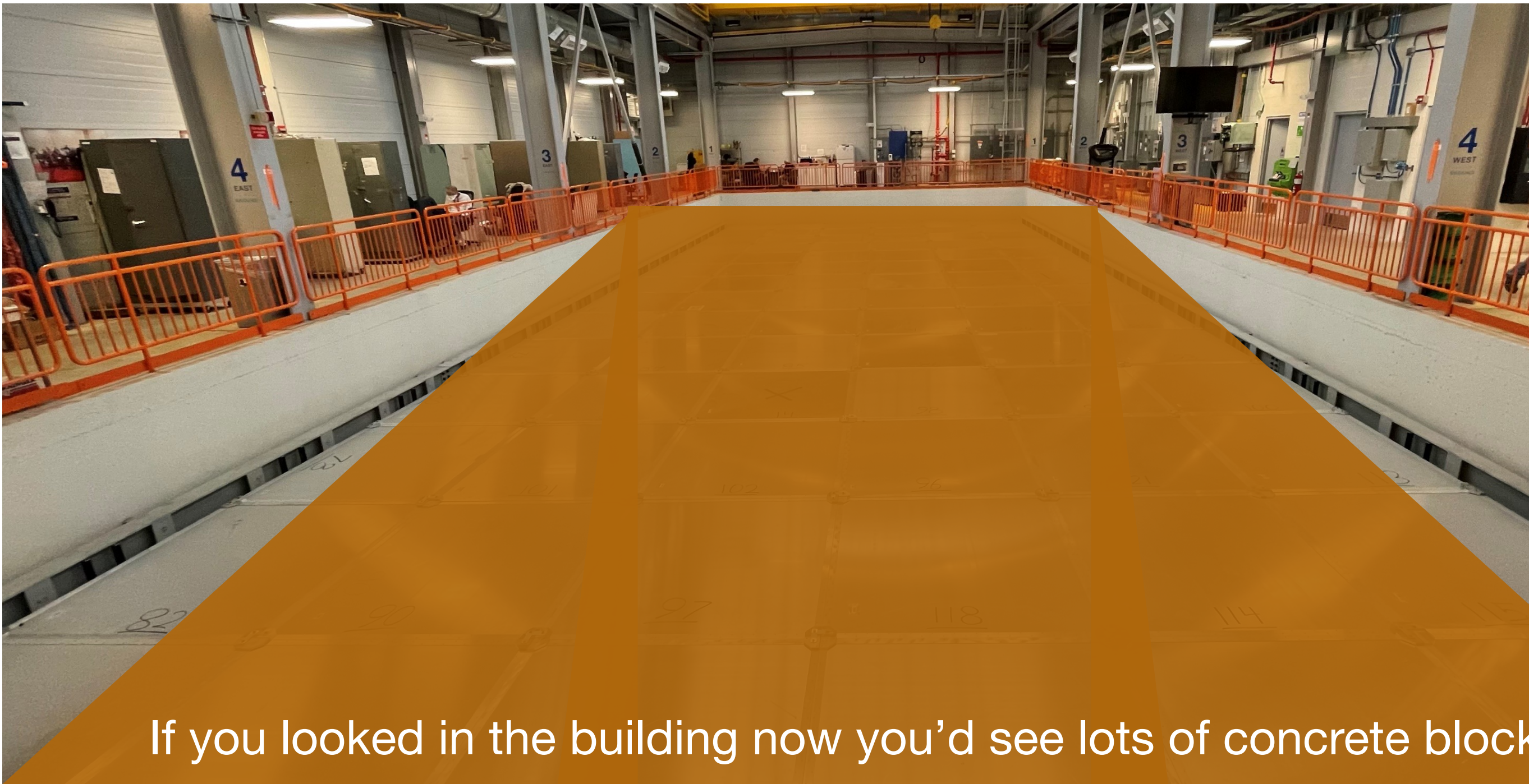
# ICARUS @ FNAL

- 760 t LAr (0.760 kT): 476 t active volume with 2 modules, each 19.6 x 3.6 x 3.9 m<sup>3</sup>: each with two 1.5 m wide TPCs
- 360 PMTs: trigger, match w/ other systems: ID beam activity
- Cosmic ray tagging system: reject cosmics:
  - Also combo of CRT + PMT with timing info, and overburden



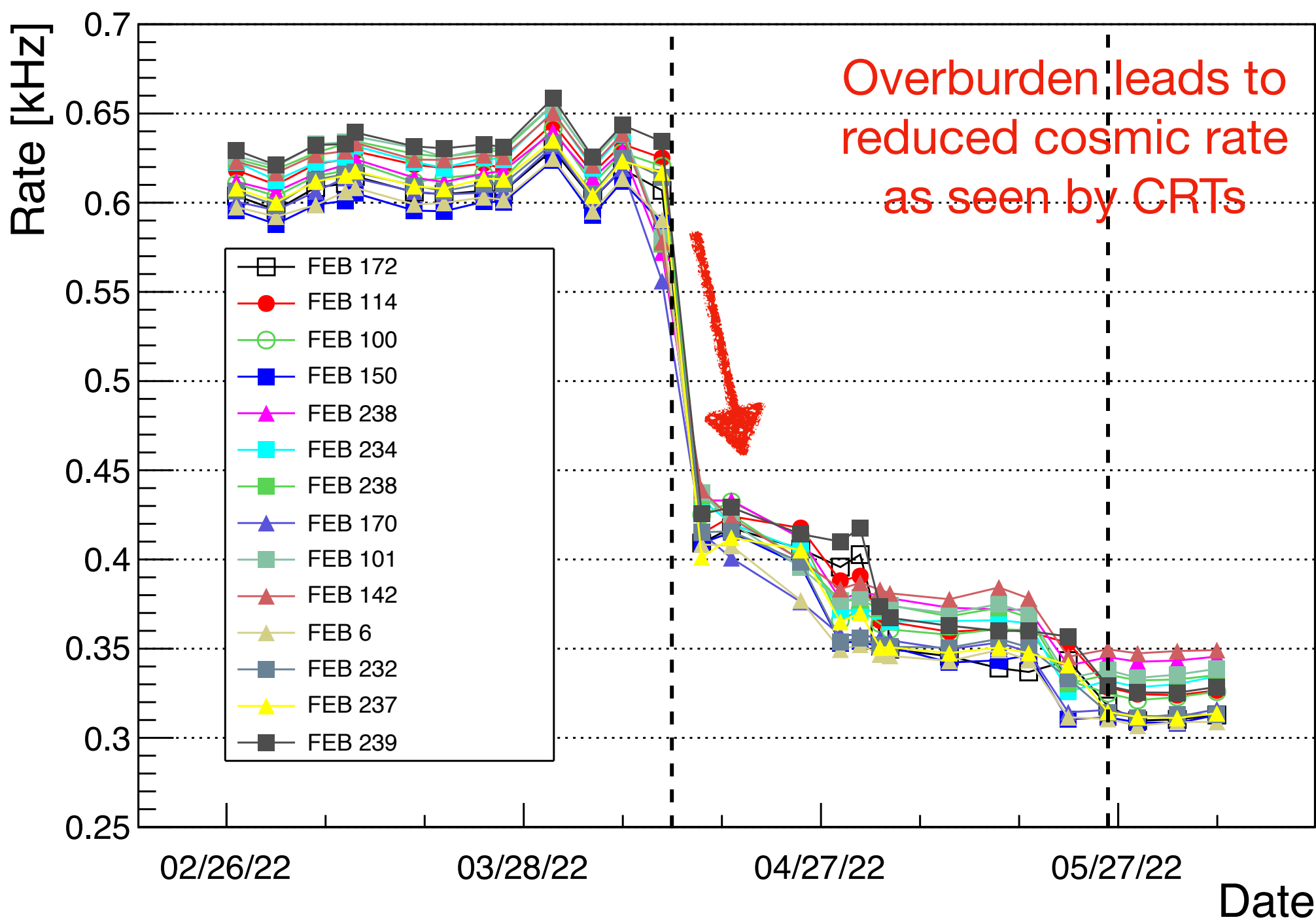


# ICARUS @ FNAL



If you looked in the building now you'd see lots of concrete blocks!

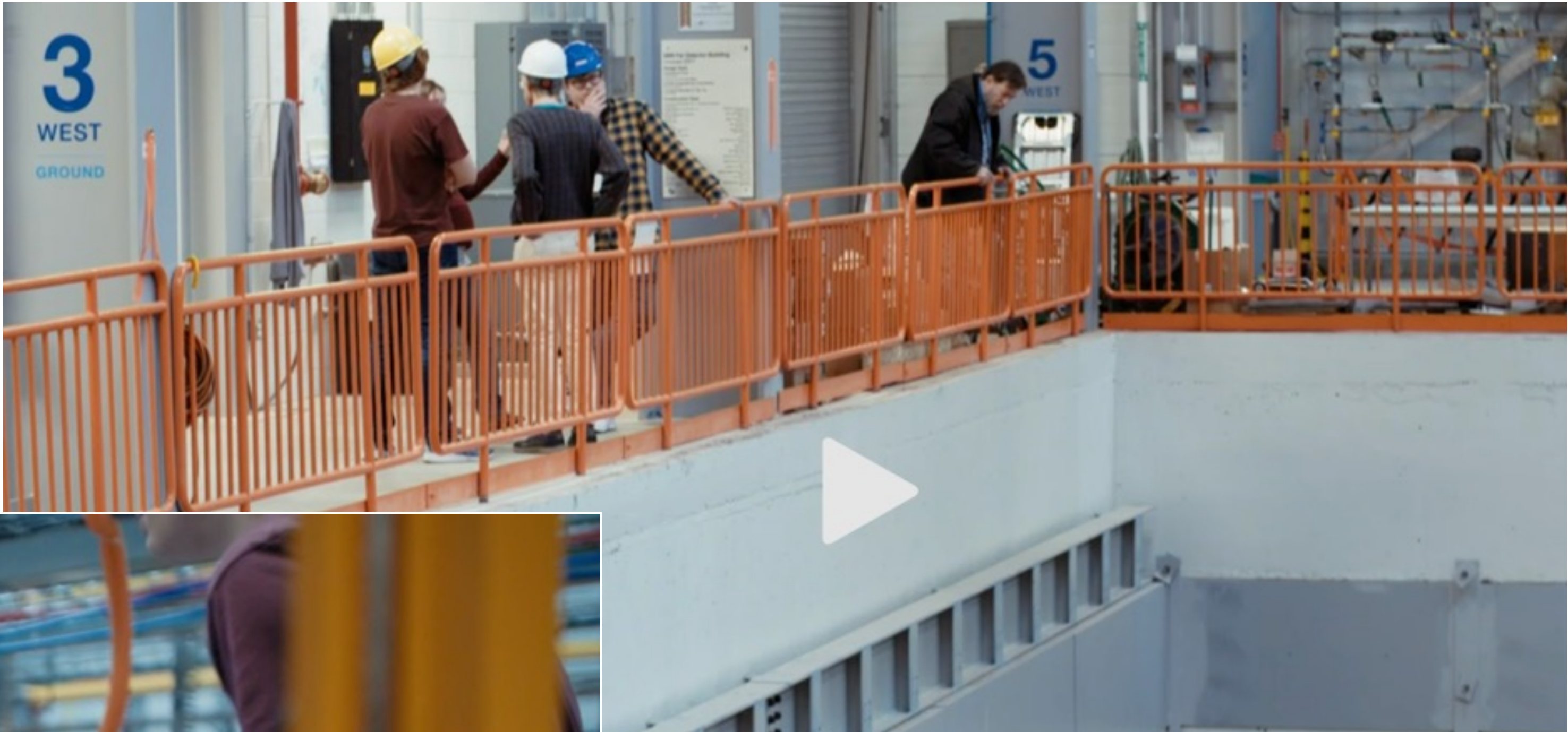
An overburden to reduce cosmic rate...





# ICARUS @ FNAL

- And it turns out that sometimes when you work on a cool new program and detector area, you might end up in B-roll of a public science documentary... 🎥



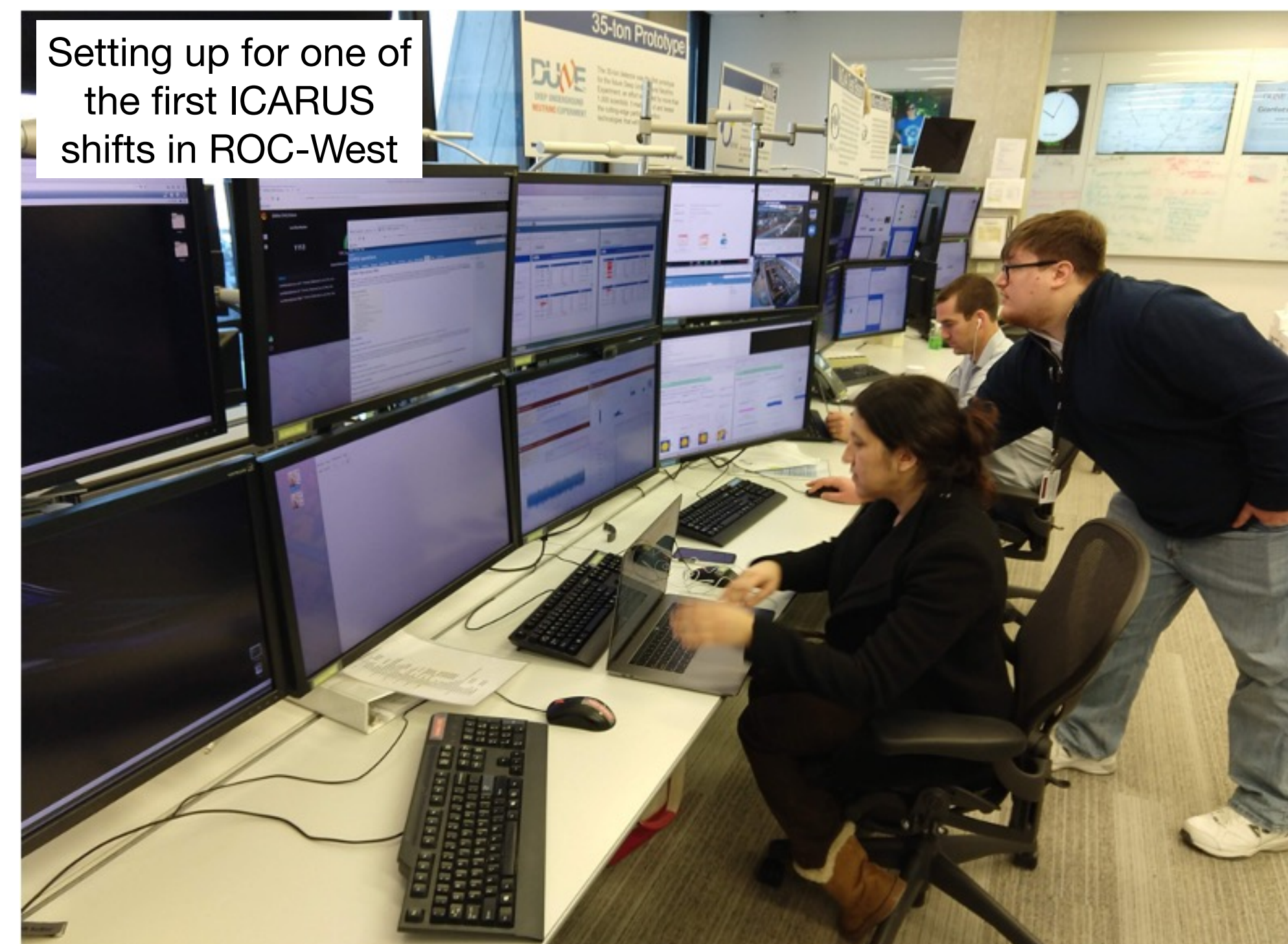
Screenshots from NOvA  
Particles Unknown (PBS)



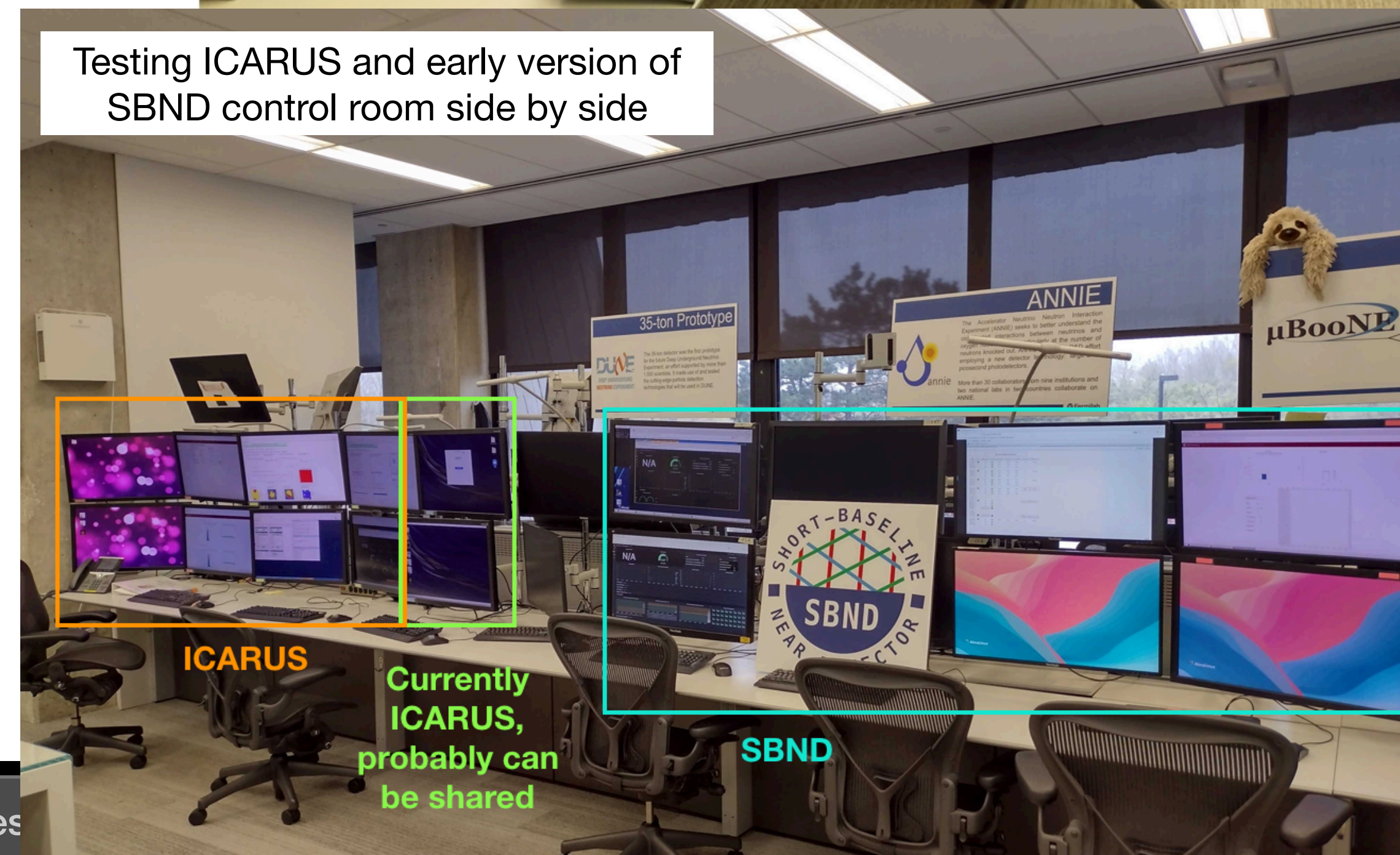
# Bringing ICARUS online

- Started 24/7 shifts at start of filling in Feb 2020: after 1 month, forced to move continue remote
- Following the fill, remote shifts continued and some additional installation tasks took place (e.g. installation of top CRT and overburden)
- Shifts now allowed back in ROC-West but
  - On, SBND we are now preparing for first operations including shifts and we are setting up in a way that enables local and remote shifts
- *For time I will not go much into it here, but would be happy to talk to folks about this. We should use the experiences of ICARUS and now SBND to guide and improve upon when bringing DUNE detector(s) online*

Setting up for one of the first ICARUS shifts in ROC-West



Testing ICARUS and early version of SBND control room side by side



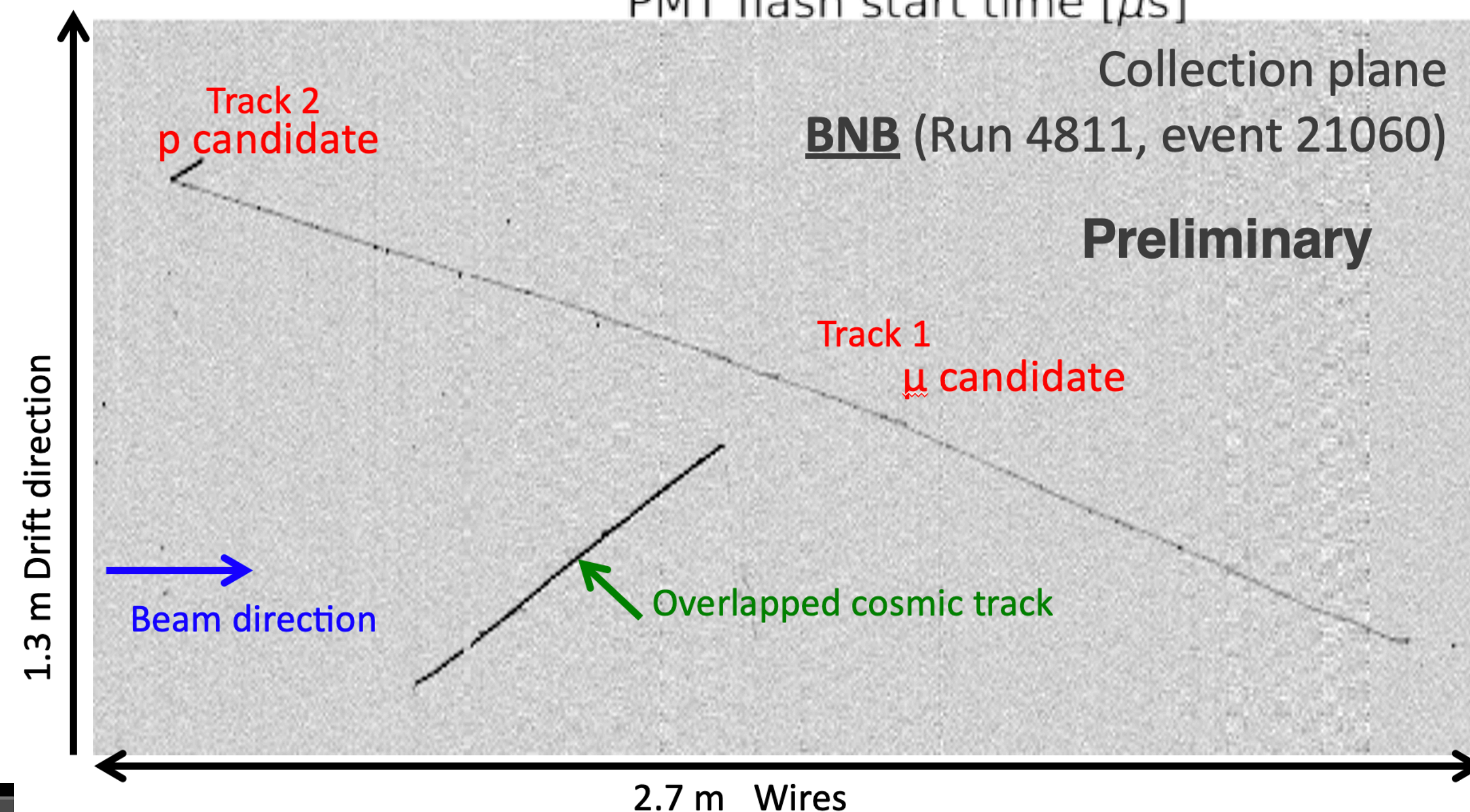
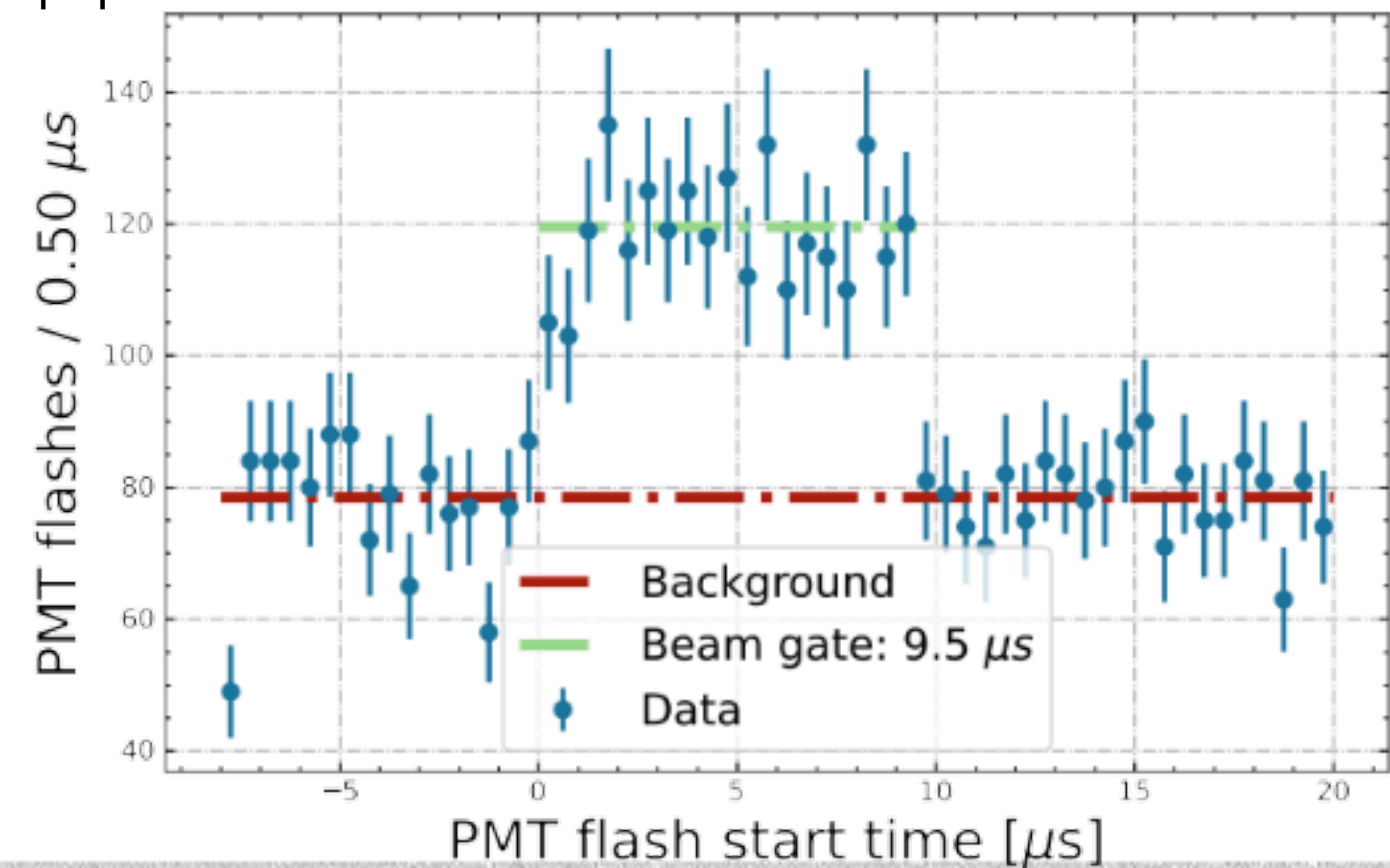


# Bringing ICARUS online

- The different subsystems have undergone a set of commissioning & characterization studies to detail their performance:
  - *P. Abratenko et al, Eur. Phys. Journal C* **83**, 467 (2023)
- Few examples here of timing plots from PMT and a hand-scanned neutrino candidate that was one of the first ones found in ICARUS @ Fermilab.

See paper for more details!

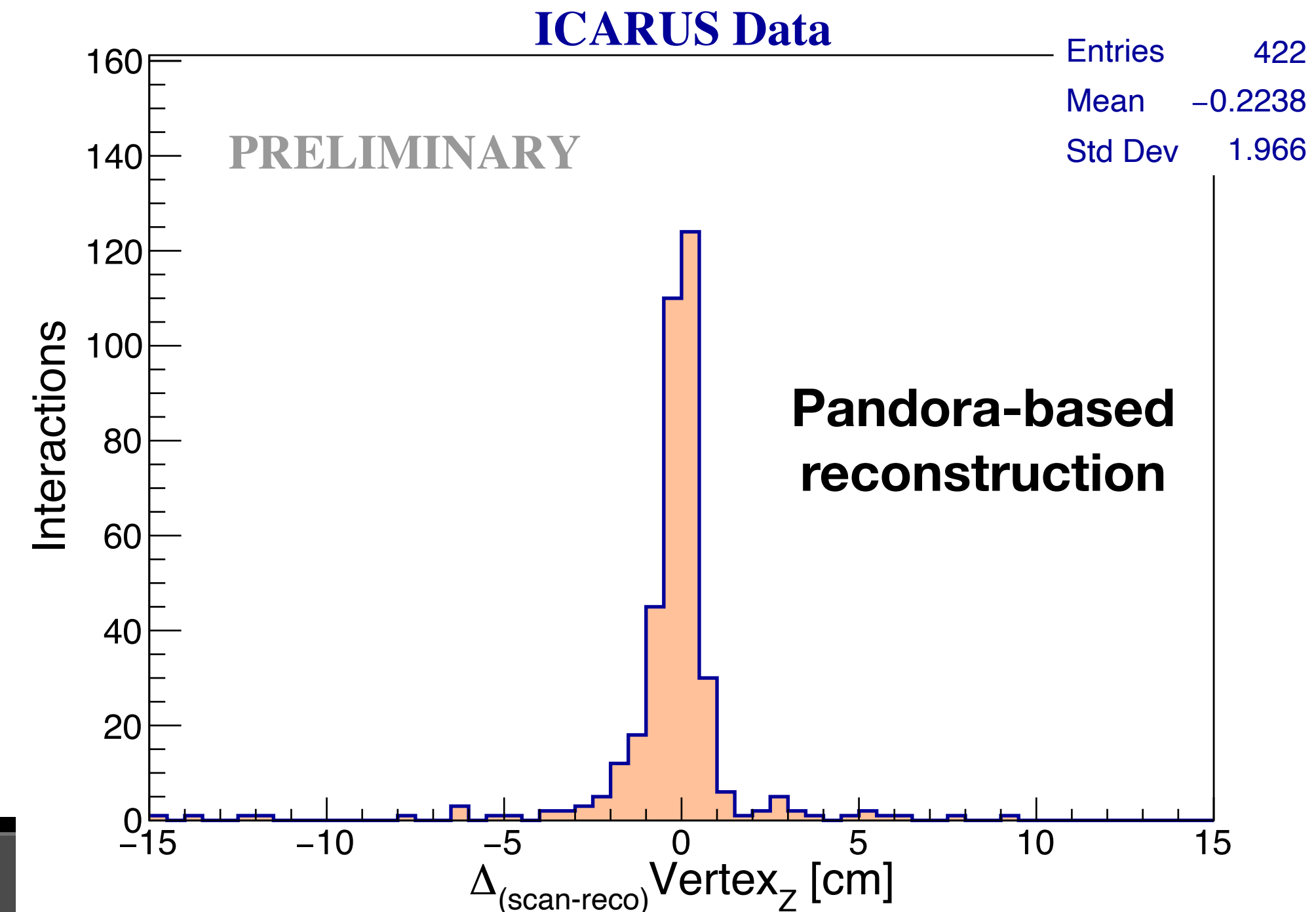
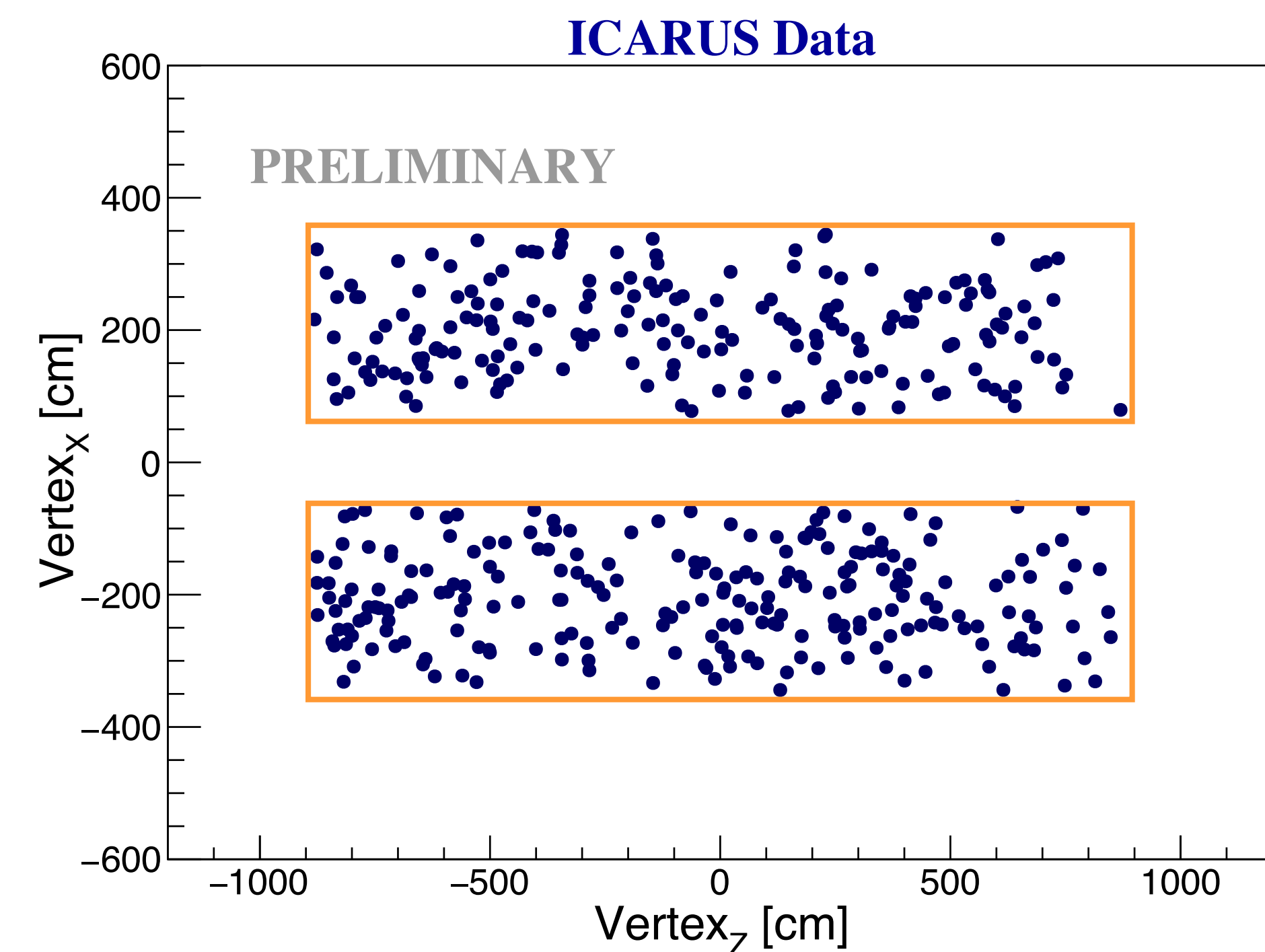
NuMI



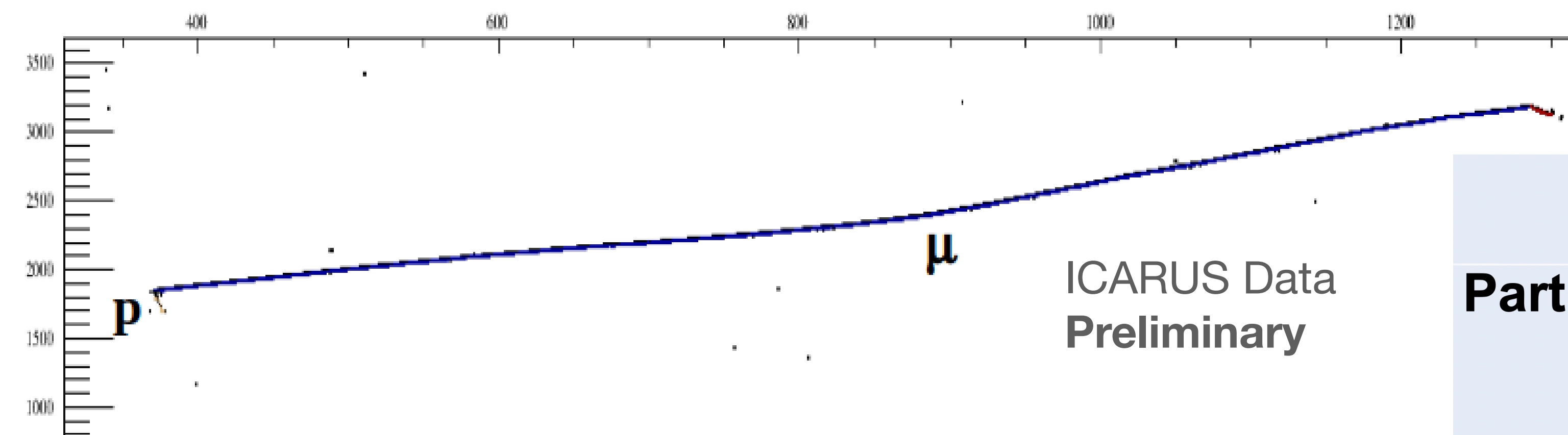
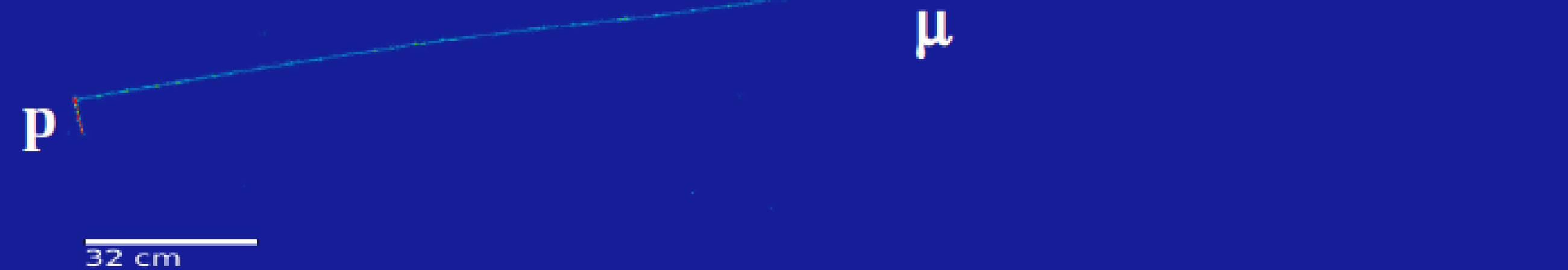
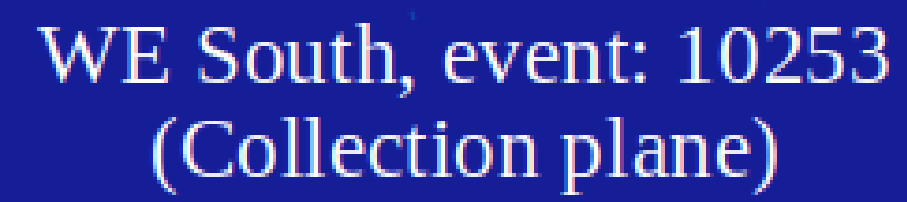


# Bringing ICARUS online

- Use simulated samples of events, cosmic data, etc. to investigate the reco chain: validating & improving performance
  - Coordination w/ **hand-scanning** effort has provided very useful set of candidates to explore
  - Enabled also to check quality and ID areas needing improvement
- We have had vibrant group of interns, students, postdocs who contribute to the necessary studies and work to improve performance. Two reconstruction pathways in use:
  - Pandora-based reconstruction using the Pandora Pattern Recognition package (used in MicroBooNE/DUNE as well)
  - Also a group in ICARUS developing ML-based reconstruction
- The reconstruction effort is necessary in enabling the collaboration to do all the physics measurements!



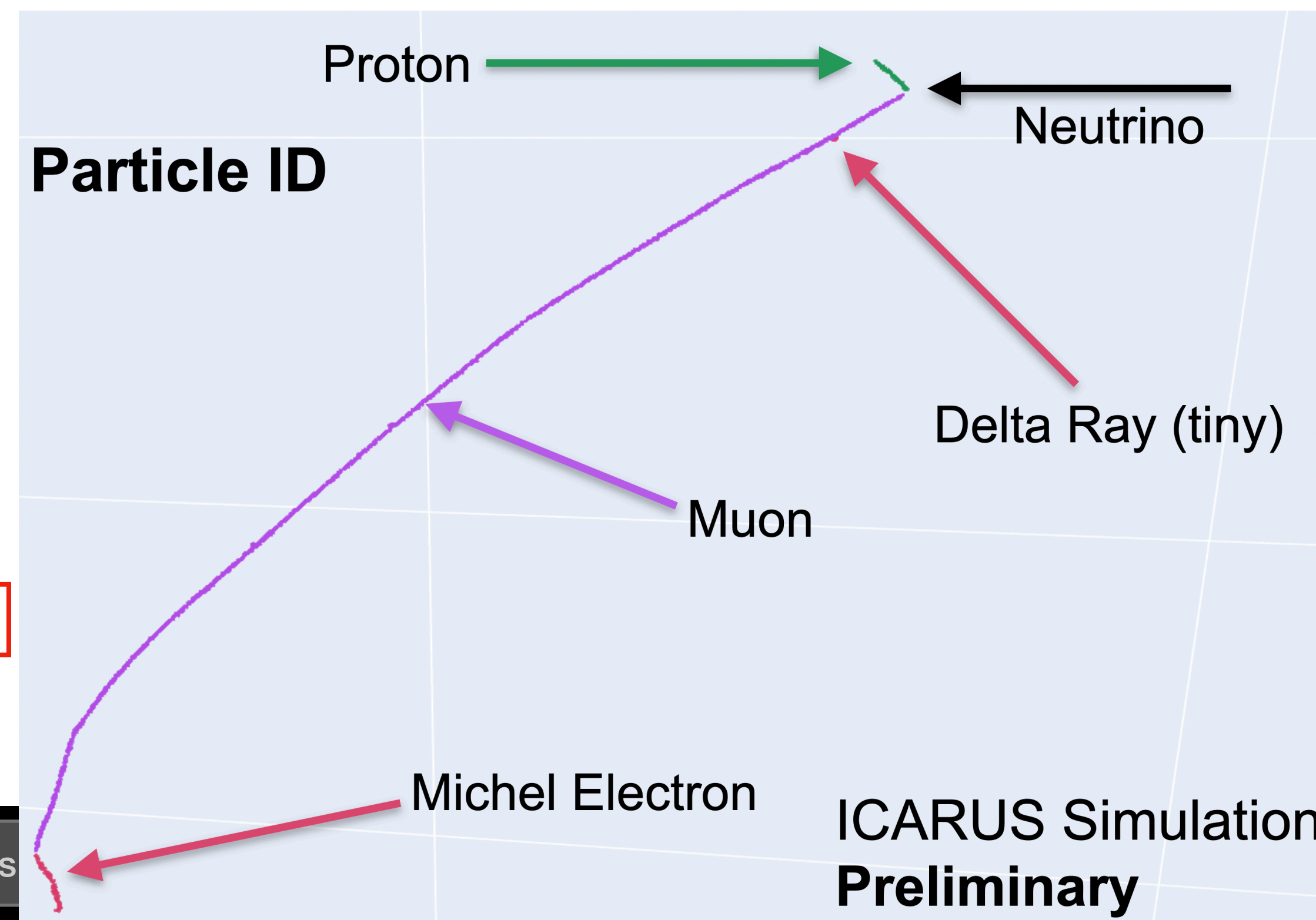




# ICARUS Data Preliminary

<https://github.com/PandoraPFA>

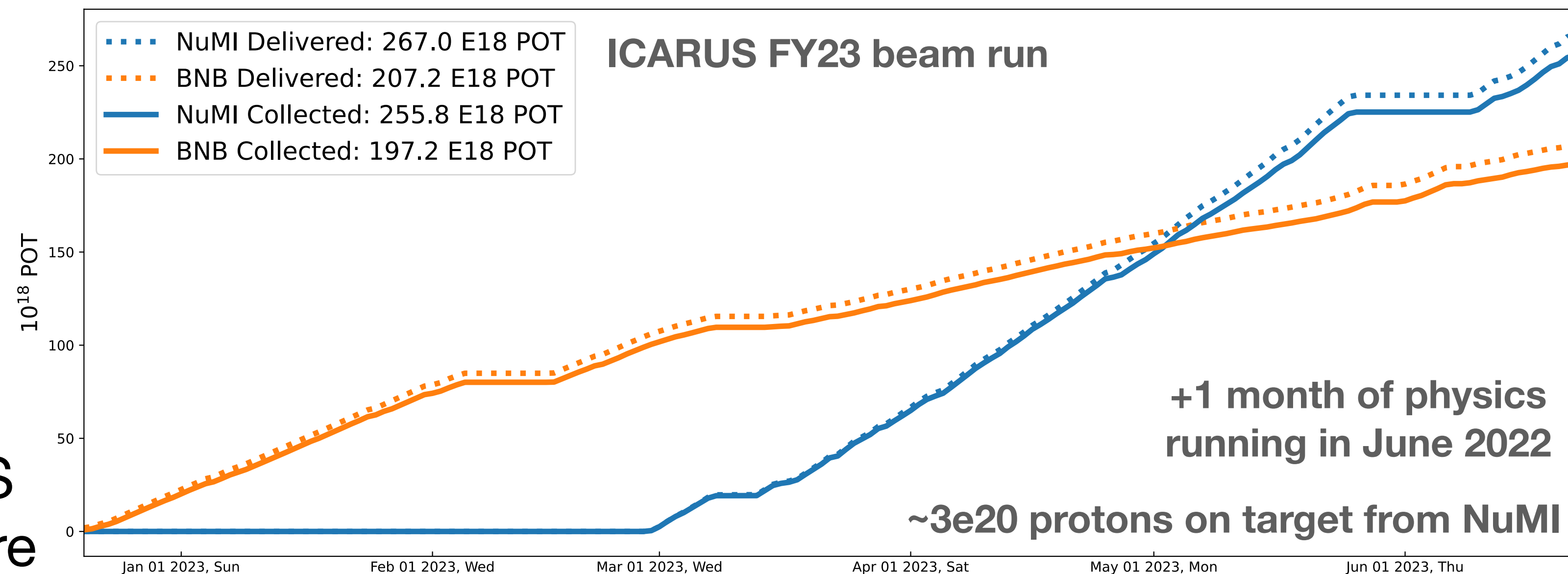
[https://github.com/DeepLearnPhysics/lartpc\\_mlreco3d](https://github.com/DeepLearnPhysics/lartpc_mlreco3d)





# Bringing ICARUS online

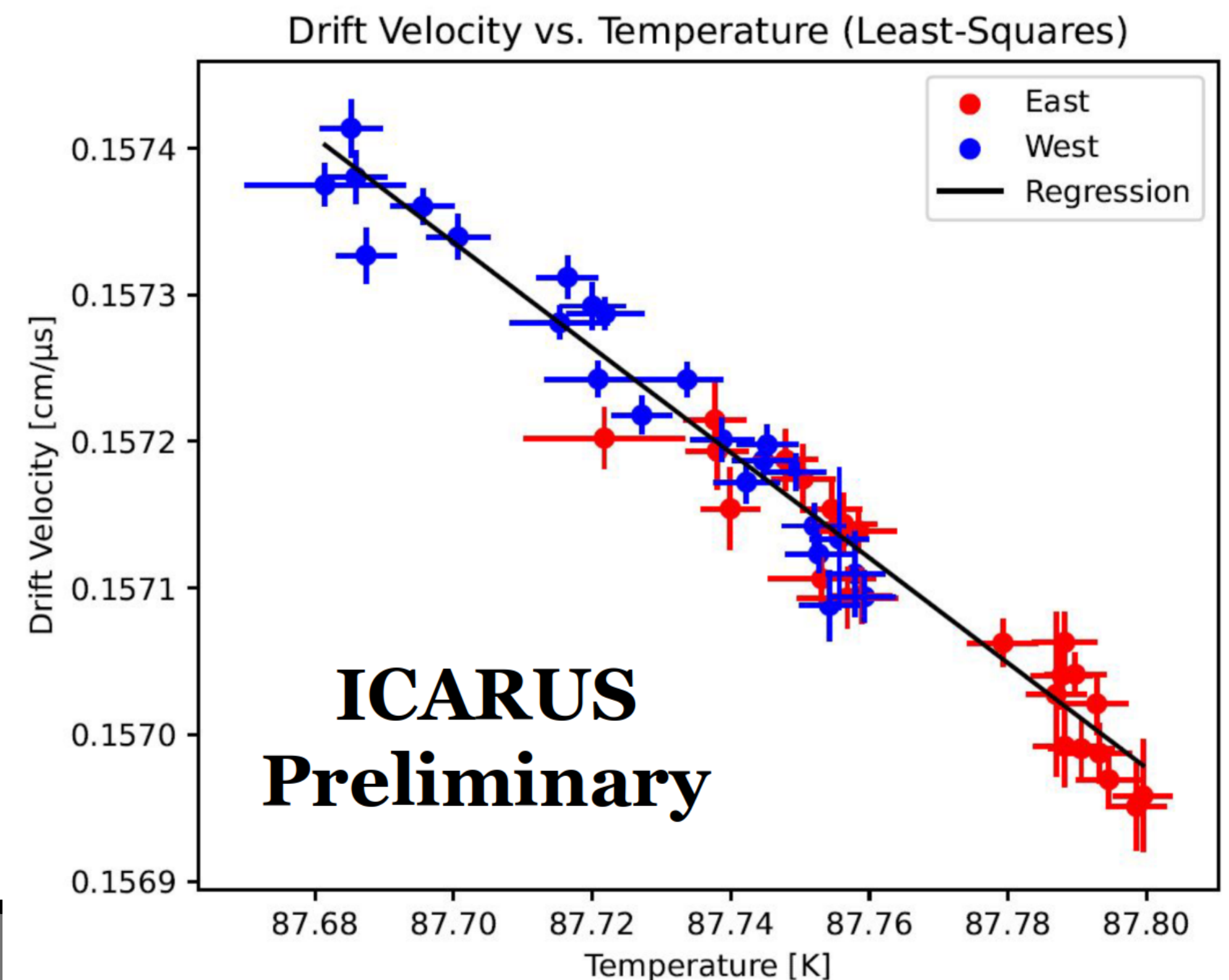
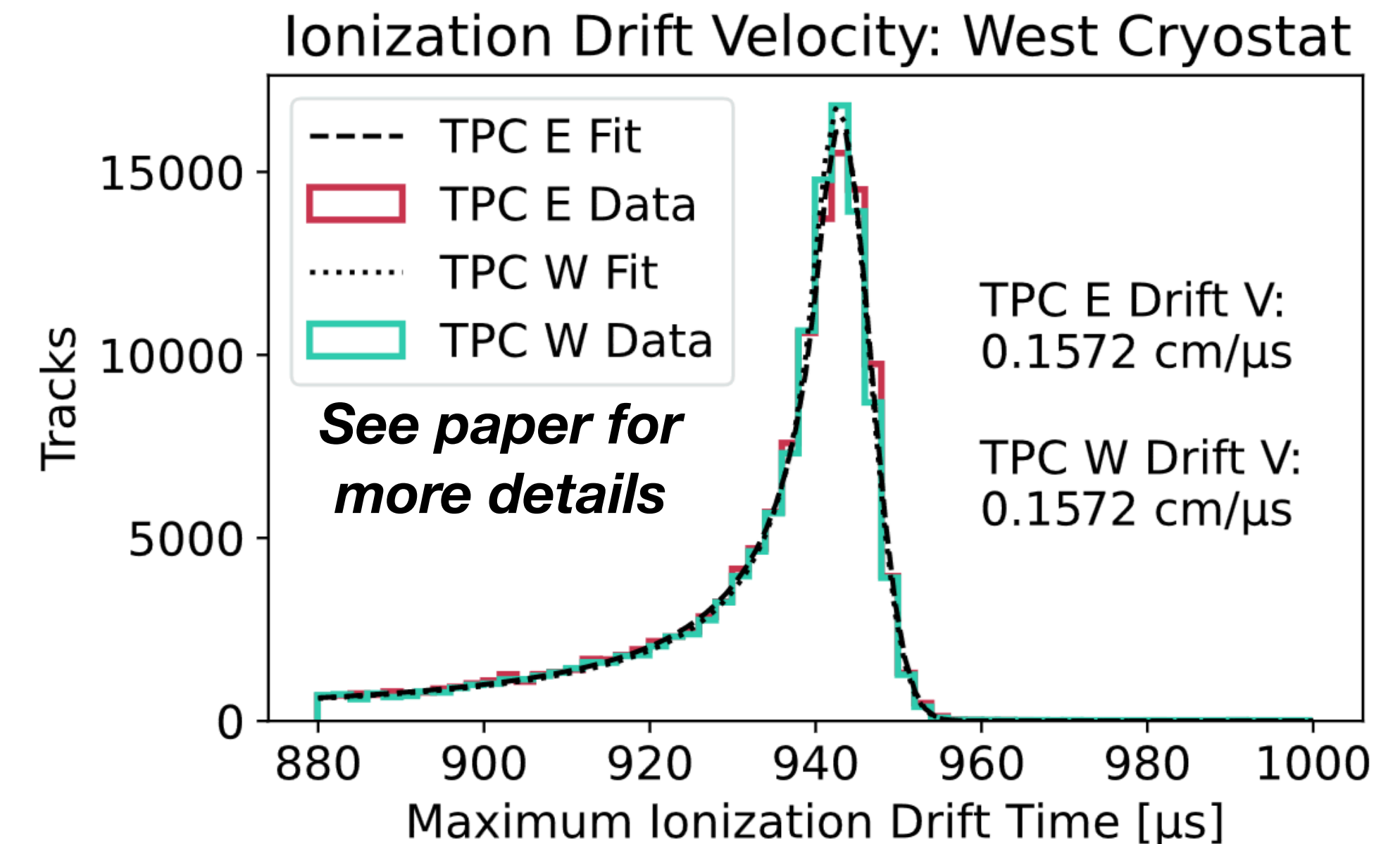
- Following the period of commissioning and final installations, completed in June 2022, we entered physics data-taking operations
  - Now have ~1 year of data and are actively pursuing first sets of physics results
- **SBND expected to take data starting next year**, though ICARUS is pursuing a single-detector  $\nu_\mu$  disappearance measurement in meantime
- But, what can we do w/ the SBN detectors to prepare for next generation (e.g. DUNE):
  - For one, **experience with operating and analyzing data from LAr TPCs**
  - Also, **uncertainties related to  $\nu$  interactions** will be a leading uncertainty in DUNE as it is now: ICARUS & SBND will be great help here





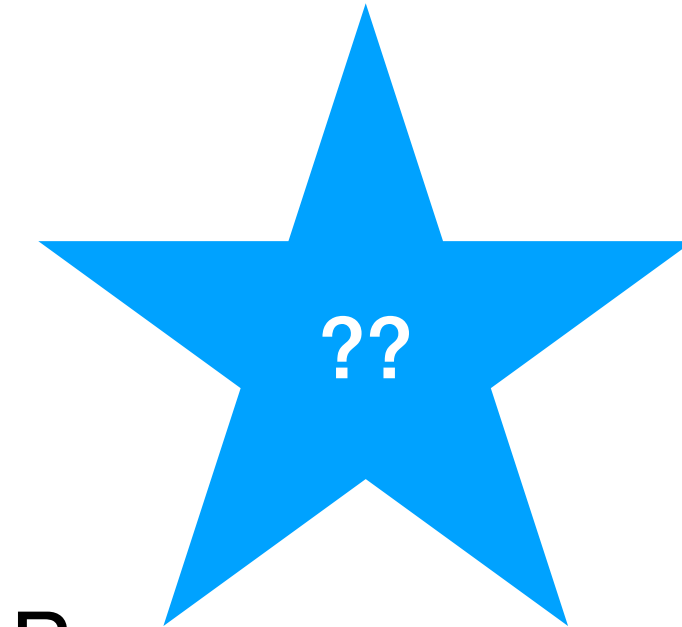
# ICARUS Detector Physics

- Calibration group not only making energy scale calibrations but also using data to study and better understand the physics of LAr TPC operation
- As an example of recent progress:
  - Drift velocity measured in the TPCs and appears in the EPJC article previously mentioned
  - Also, electron drift velocity in the TPC depends on LAr microphysics ( $T$ ,  $\rho$ , etc.): a study was performed
    - Pressure sensors in detector are used to understand temperature
  - Many other studies: if there is an angular dependence of the particle trajectory with argon ion-electron recombination, diffusion of electrons as they travel to the wires, etc.

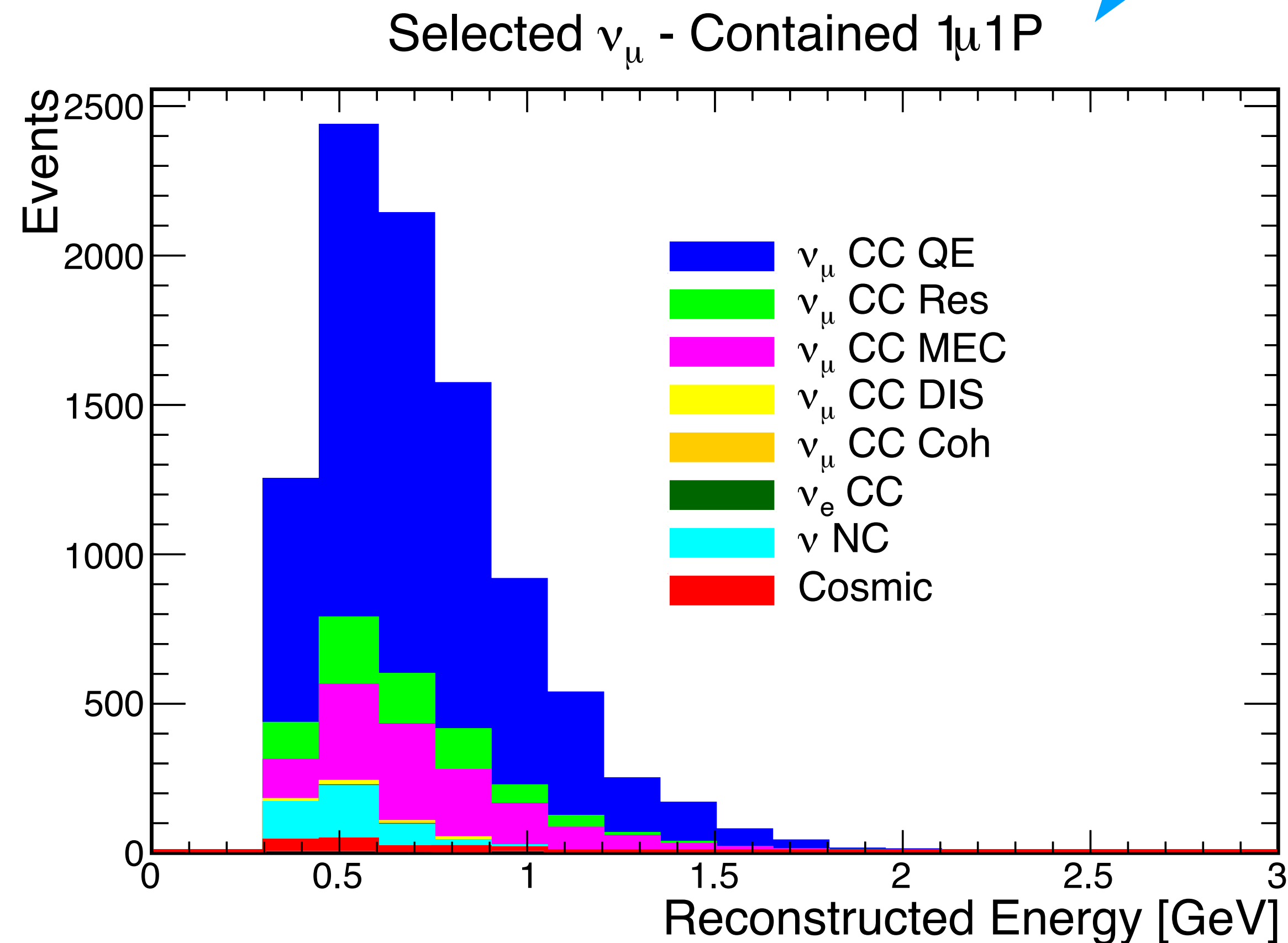




# Progress toward oscillation analysis



- Working towards analysis with the data in hand or expected, will go over some of them now...
- An anticipation is that there could be a muon neutrino disappearance measurement first from the SBN program in advance of an appearance search
  - Targeting relatively high purity: containment & matching with other subsystems (e.g. PMTs)
  - Contained  $1\mu+1p$  should prioritize cleaner events where energy reconstruction would be expected to perform better early on
  - Work ongoing to perform analyses with both Pandora-based & ML Reco-based selections
  - Matching of PMTs to cosmic ray taggers promising to filter exiting  $\nu$  from entering cosmics (using  $\Delta t$ )



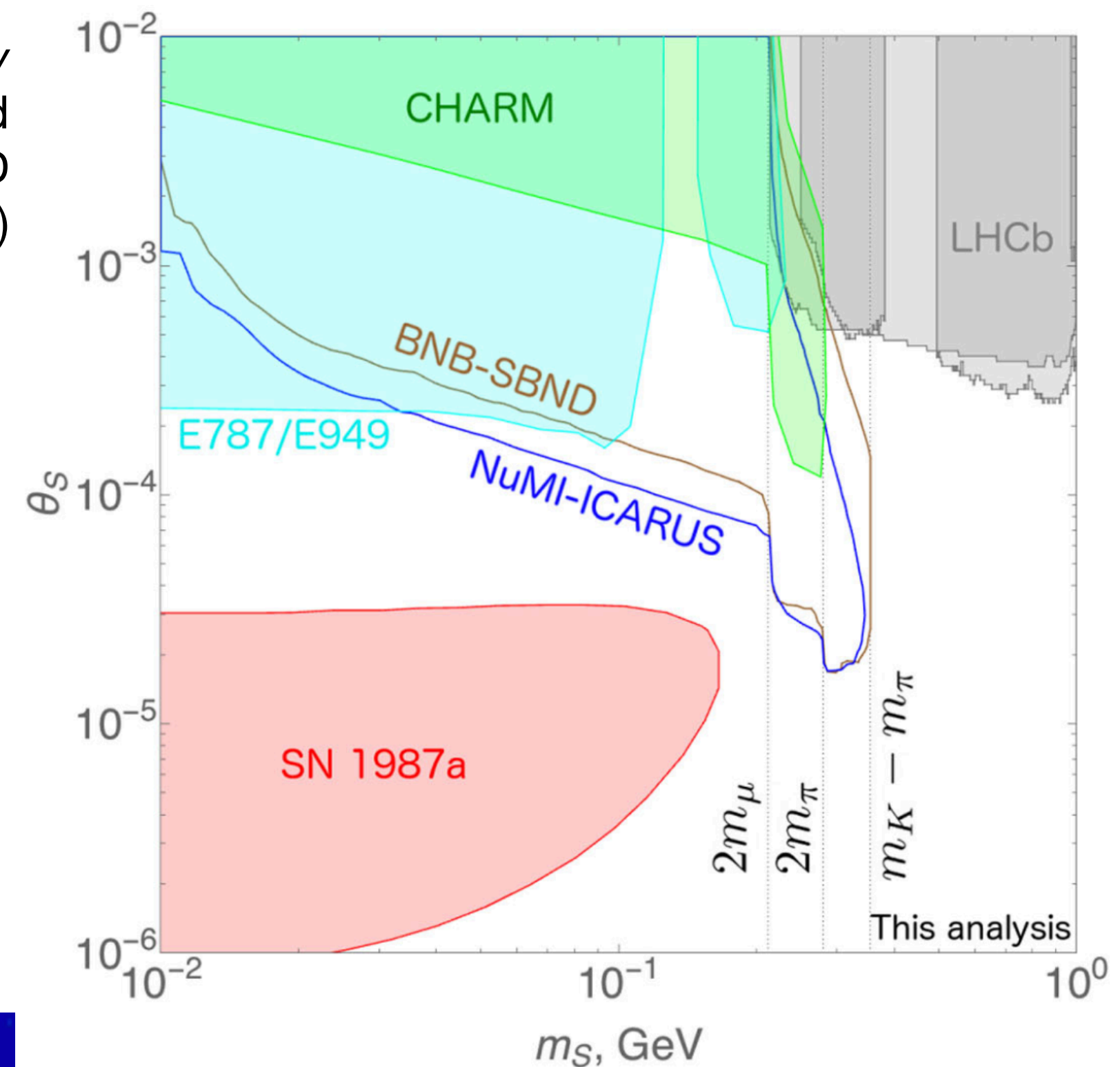
Showing plot from Pandora reco-based selection



# NuMI BSM searchers

- As powerful beam off-axis and using LAr TPC tracking & calorimetry, also searching for Beyond Standard Model processes especially using NuMI beam at ICARUS
  - Enhanced by pointing capability, e.g. pointing back to target or beam dump
  - Looking for light dark matter
  - Also Higgs portal scalars, other “long lived particles” - Look via searches to  $l, \bar{l}$  pair
- Early analysis on Higgs portal scalar to  $\mu, \bar{\mu}$  is well on the way. Number of others are progressing

Phenom. study by  
Batell, Berger, and  
Ismail. Phys. Rev. D  
**100**, 115039 (2019)



Higgs Portal  
Scalar Decay

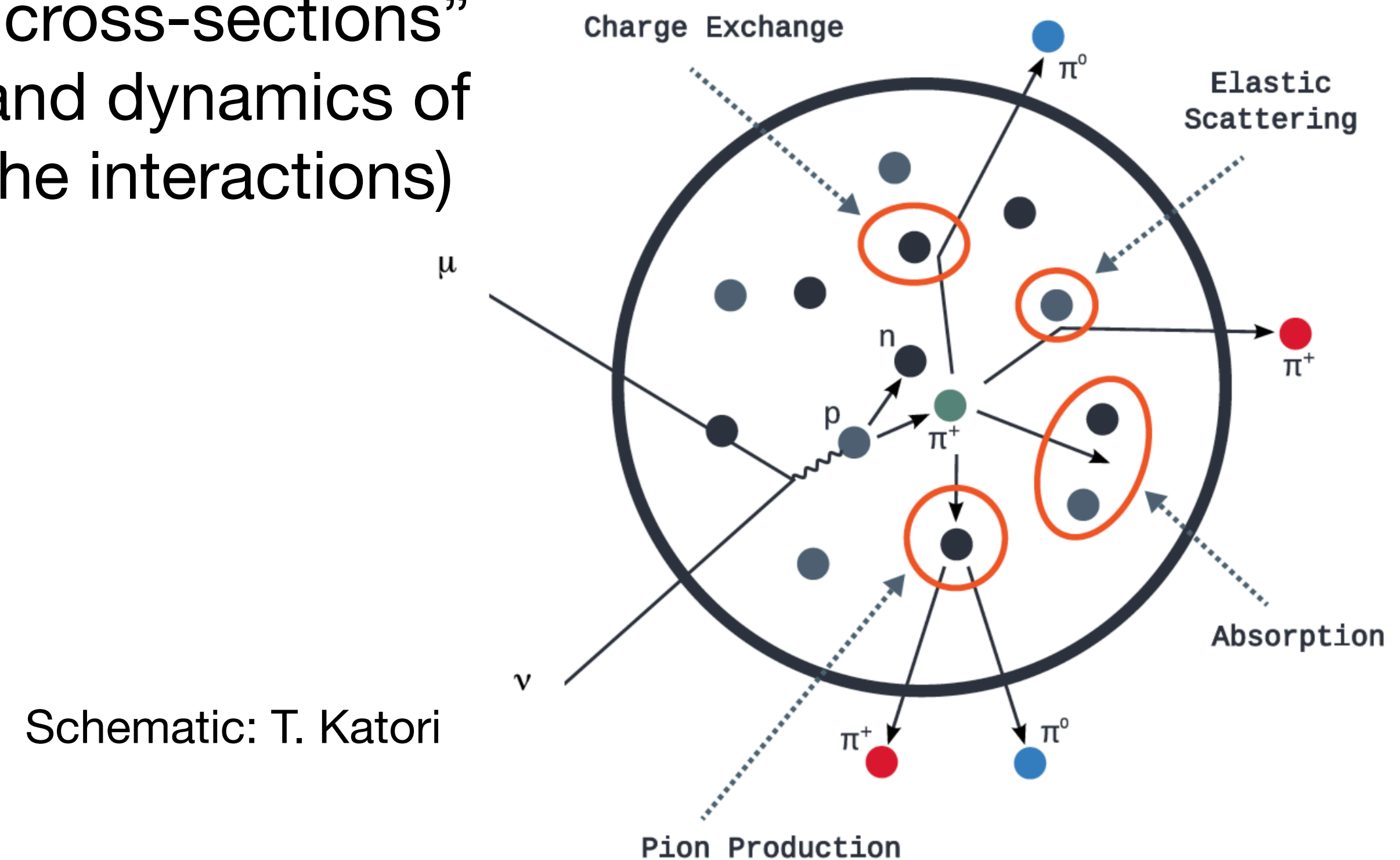
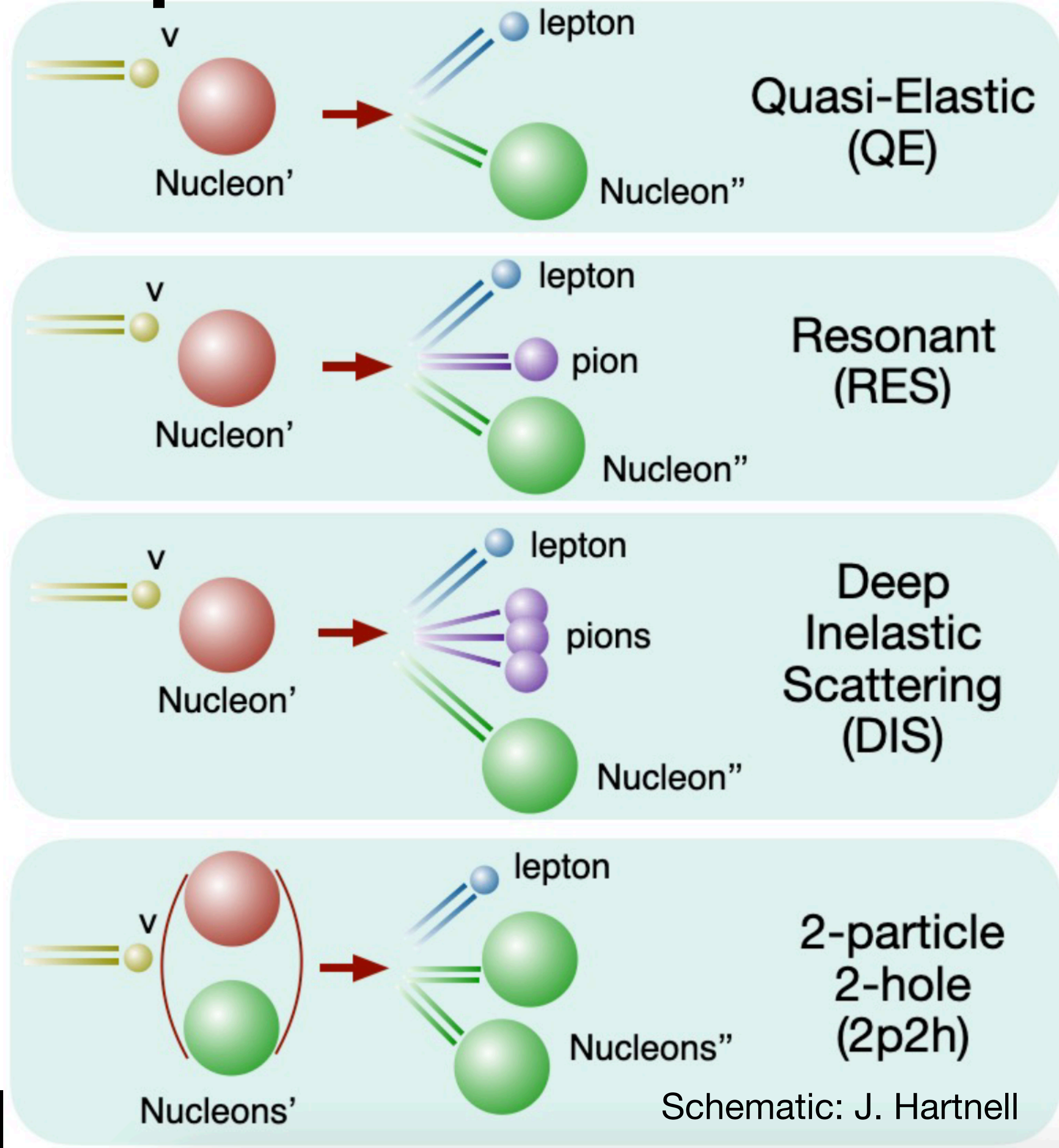
17 cm

ICARUS MC  
Event Display  
 $S \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$



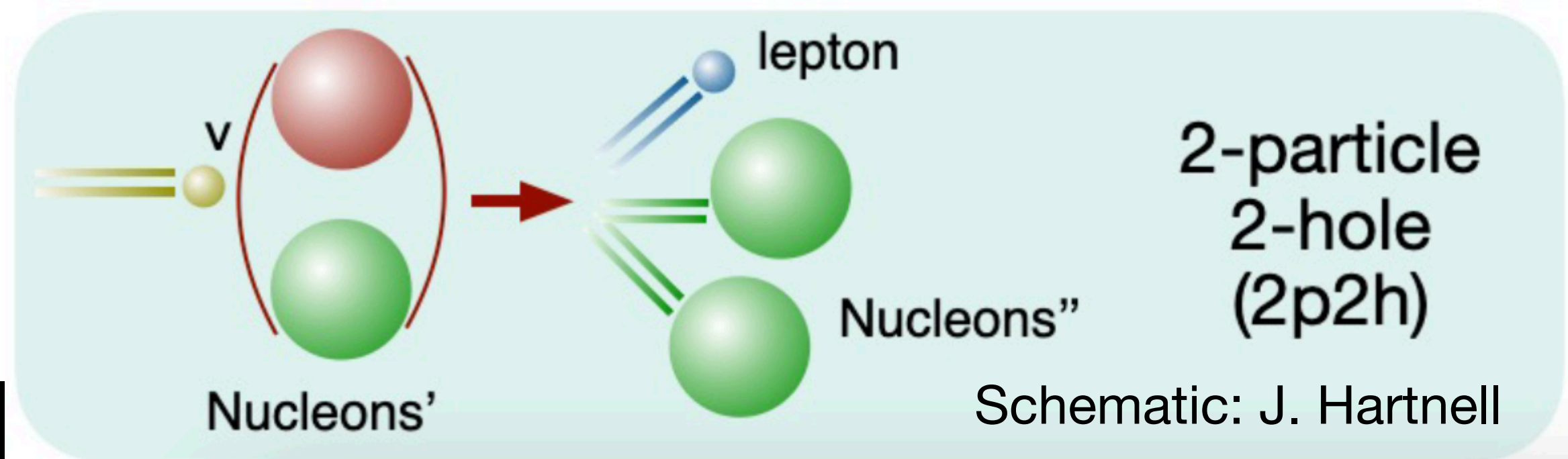
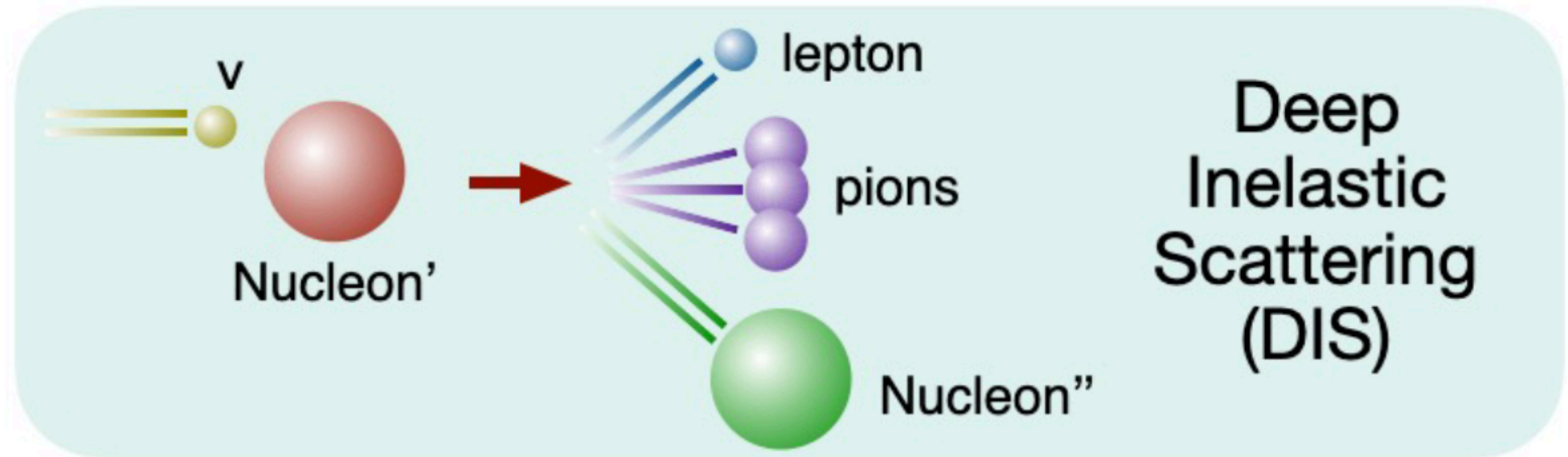
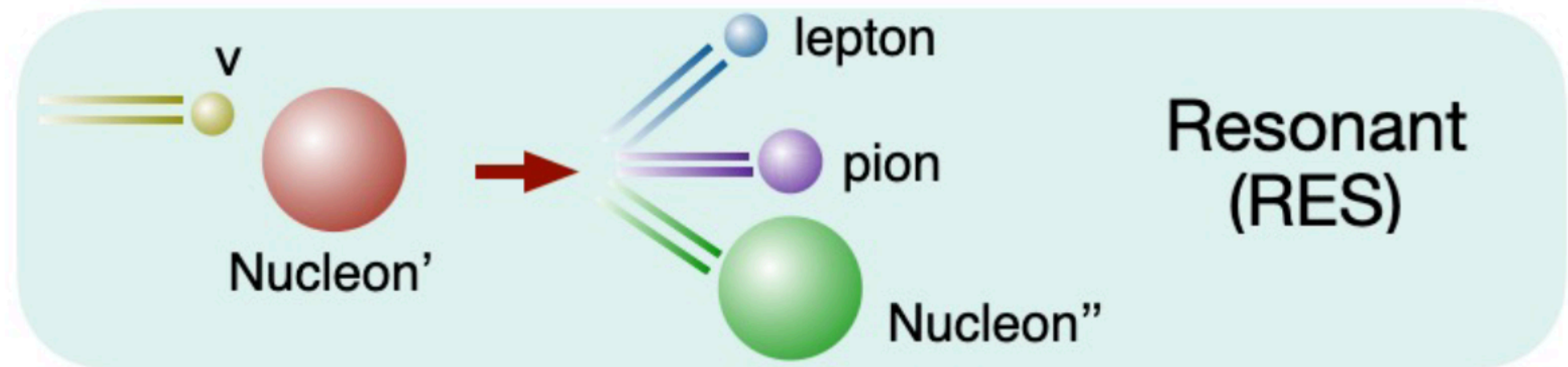
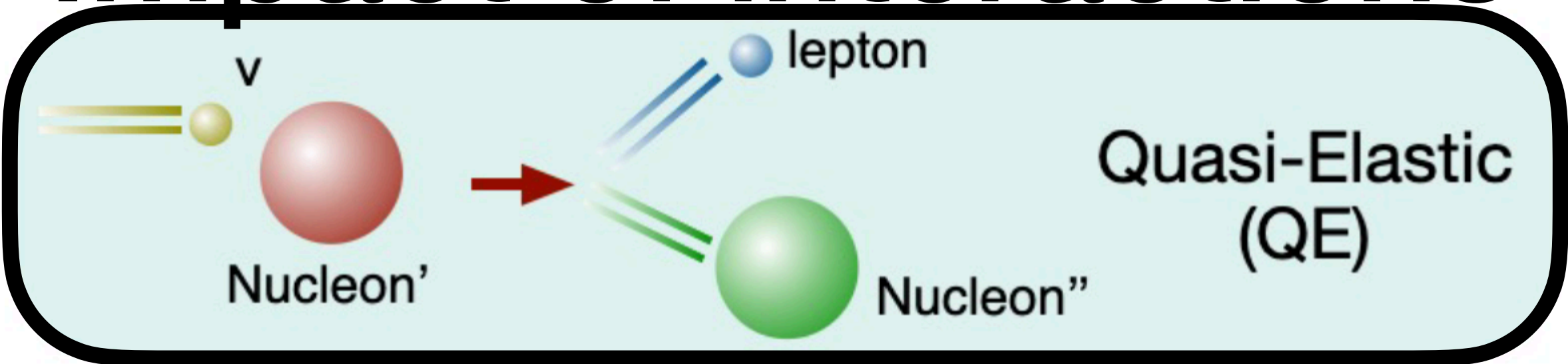
# Impact of interactions

- Oscillation goes as  $L/E$ : we know  $L$  and really need to measure **E**
- But we don't see the neutrino itself in our detector, only products of its interactions
  - Estimate  $E$  from energy of the products we **see**
  - Number of intricacies... we rely on our models of what happens and how often (i.e. neutrino “cross-sections” and dynamics of the interactions)

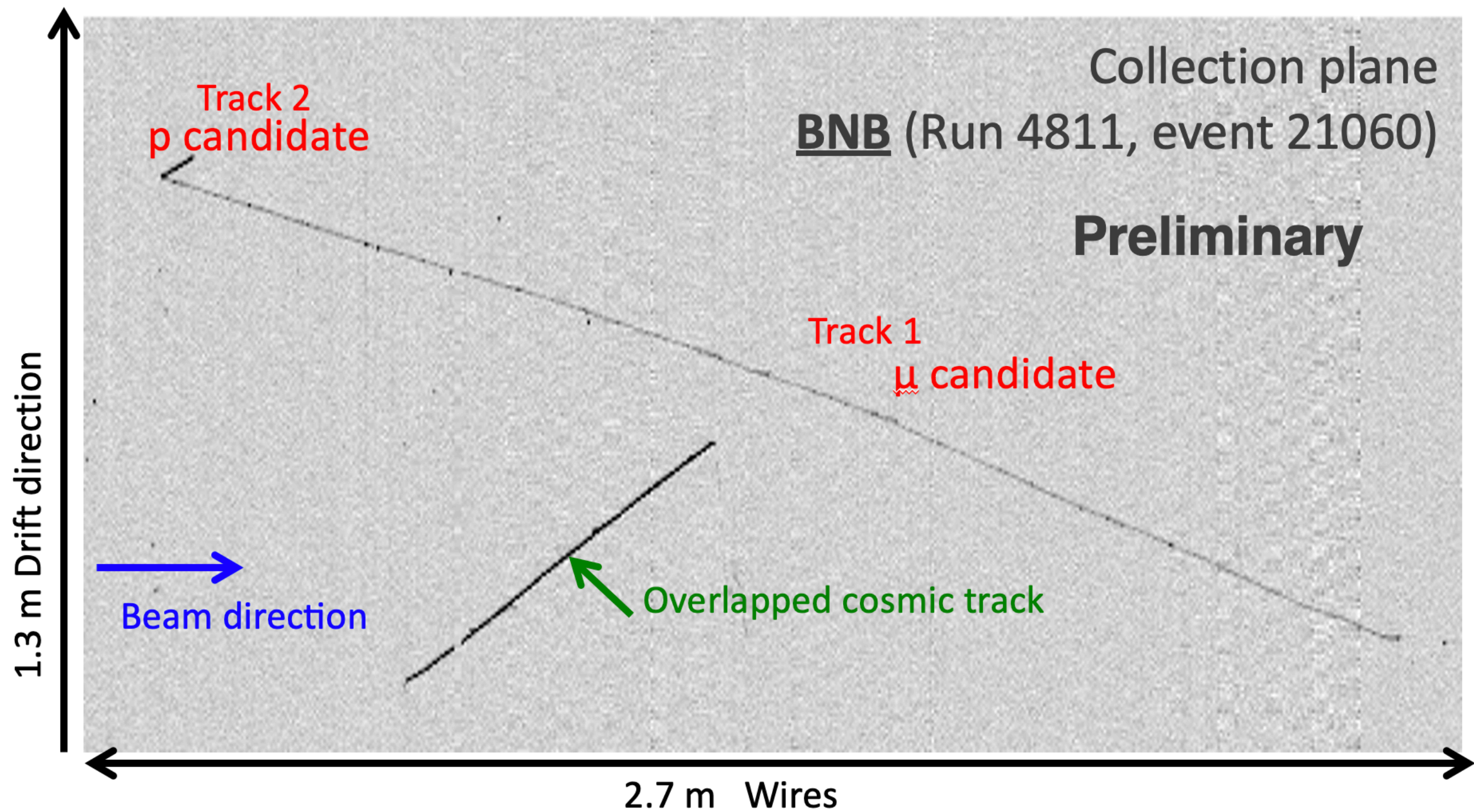




# Impact of interactions

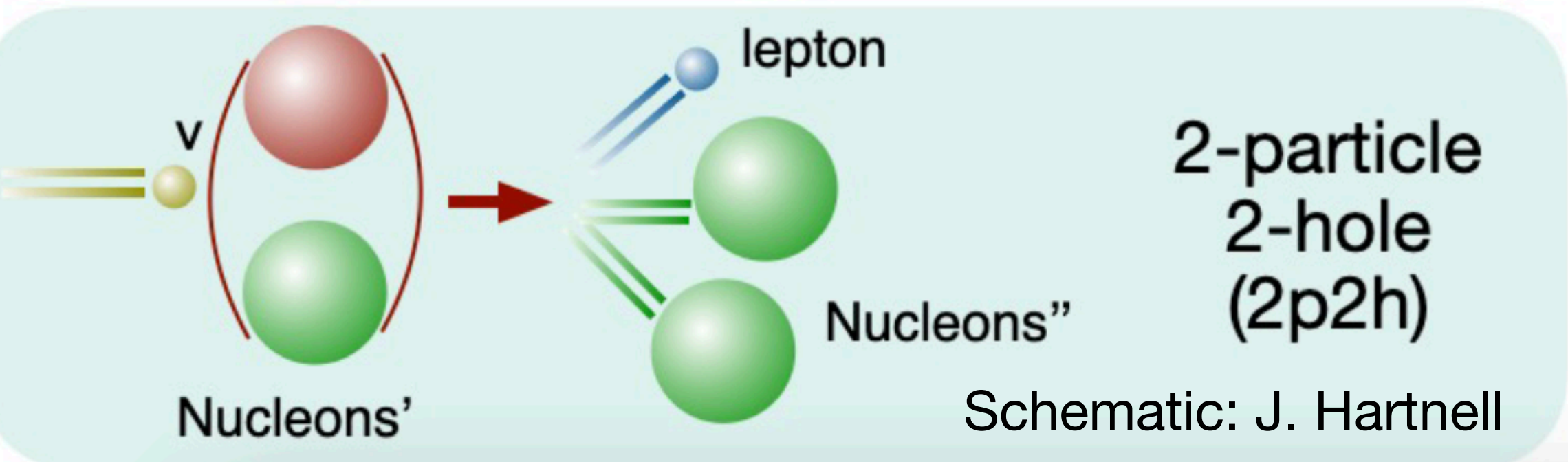
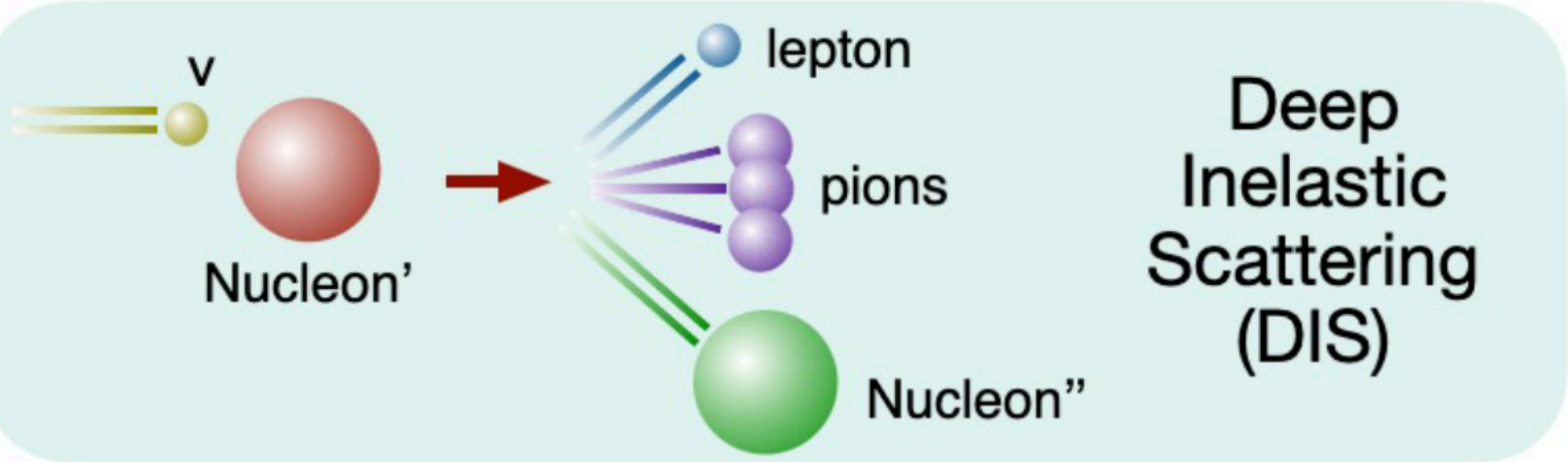
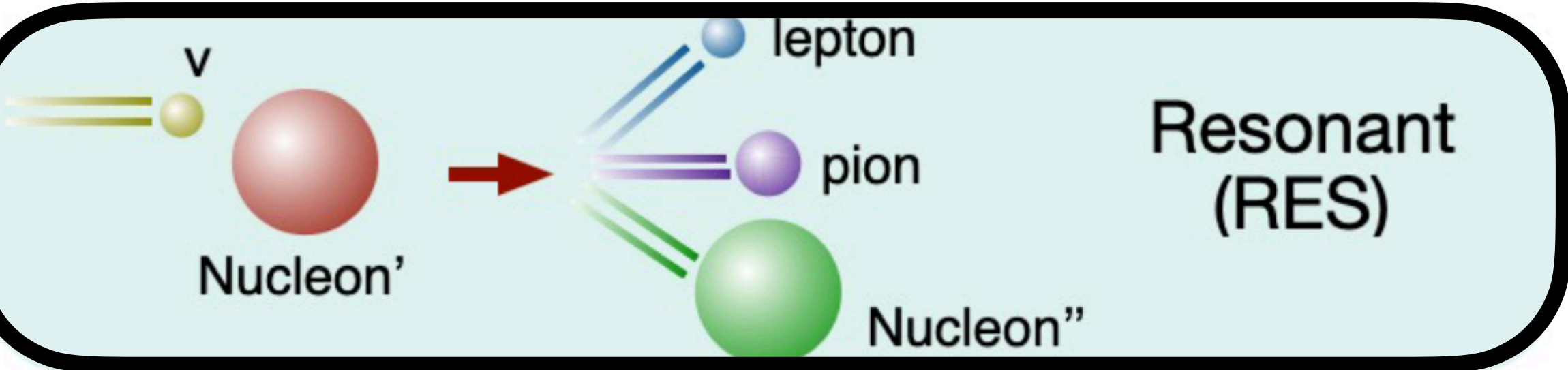
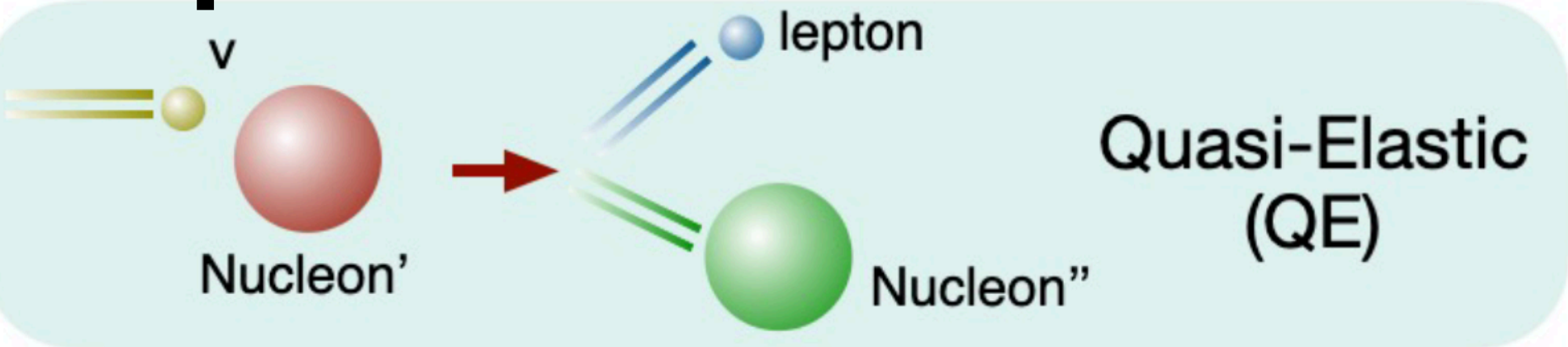


A QE-like event in ICARUS!

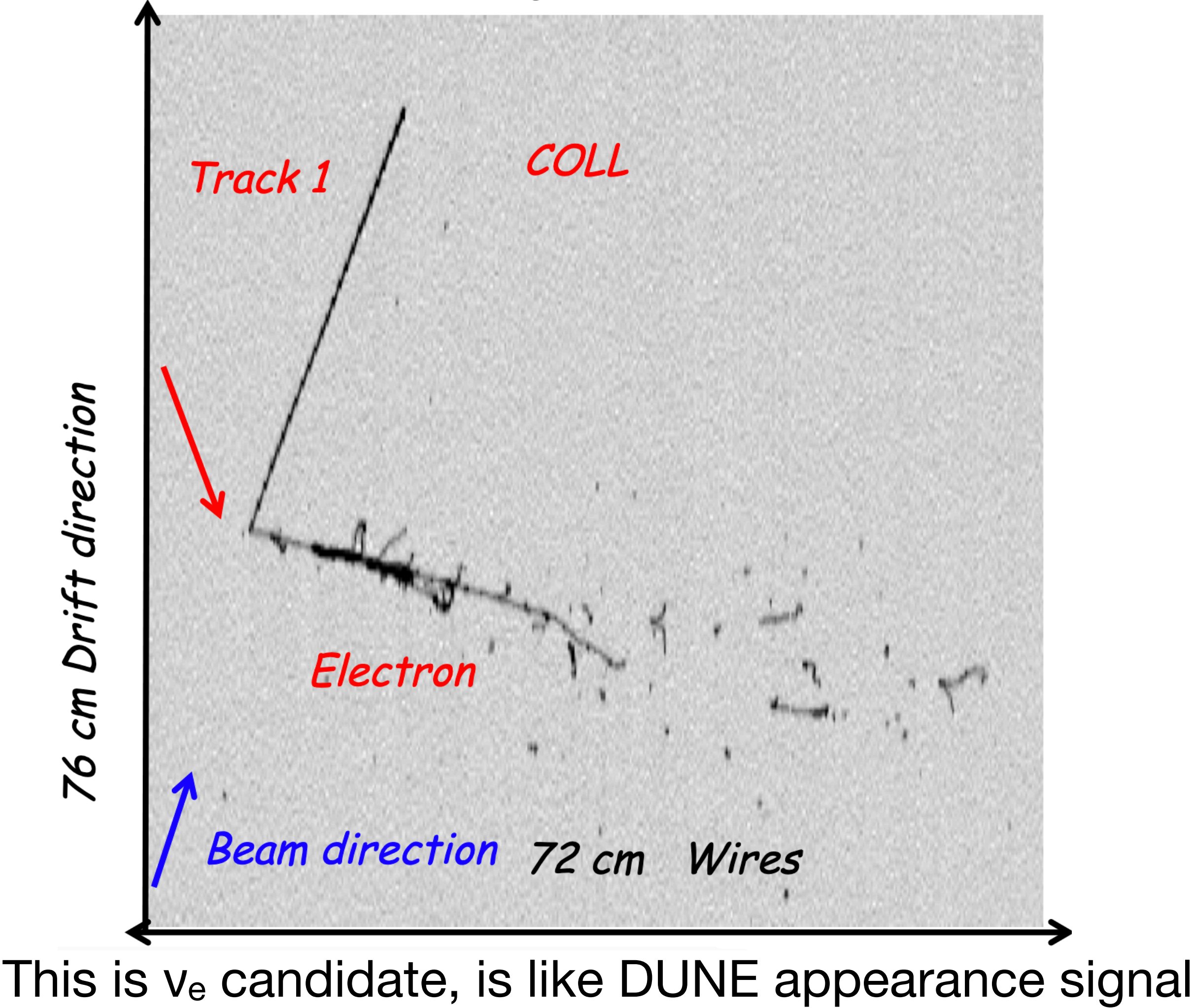




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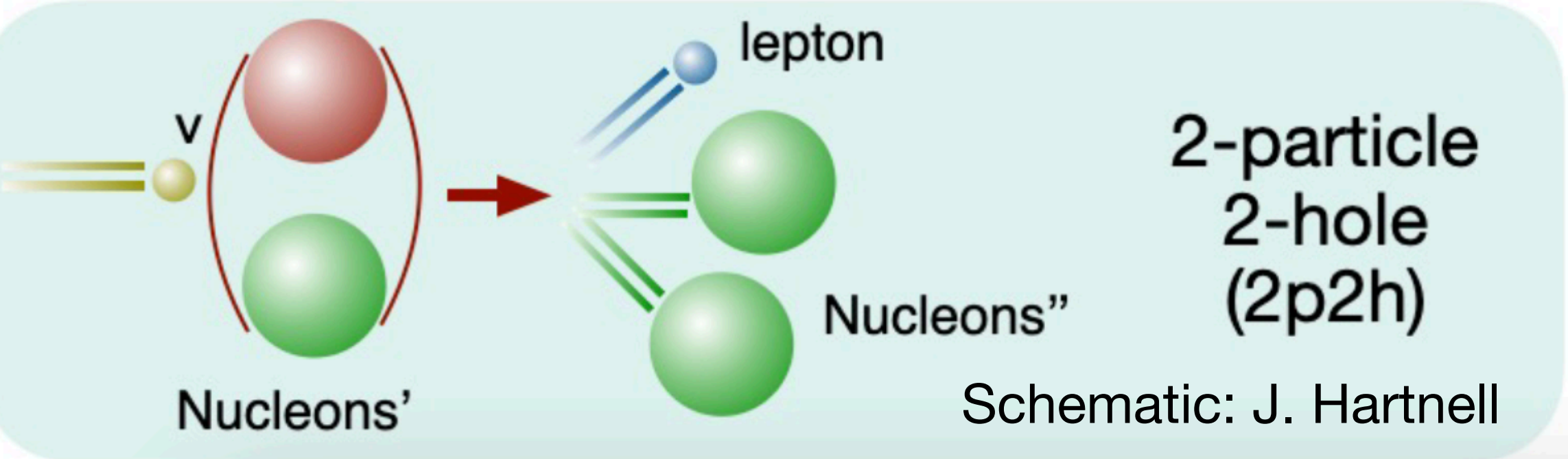
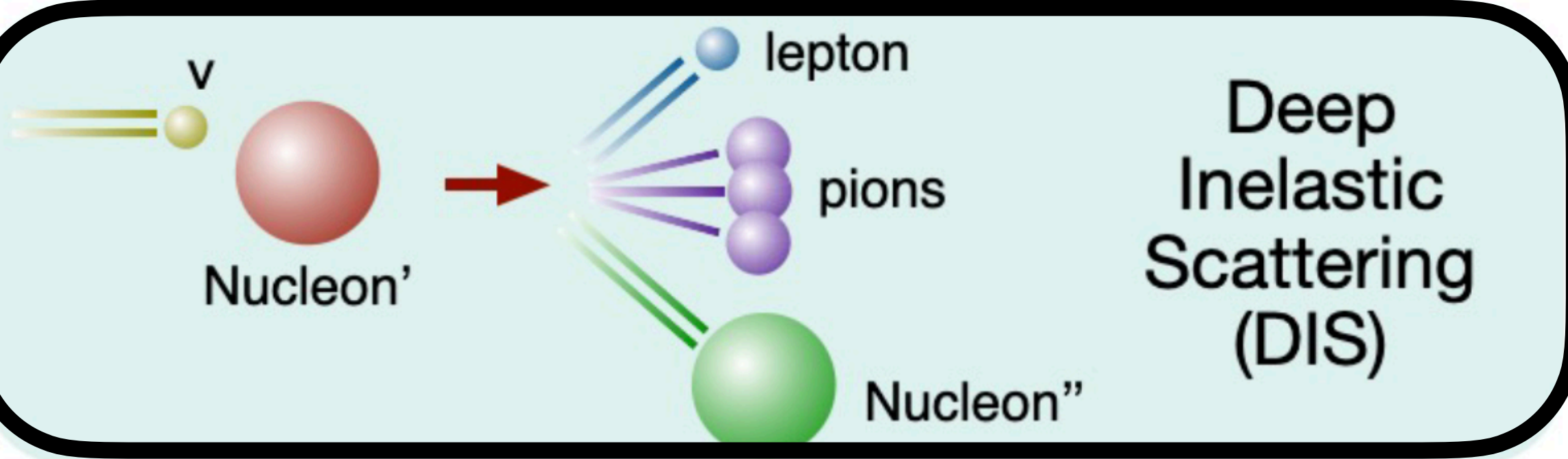
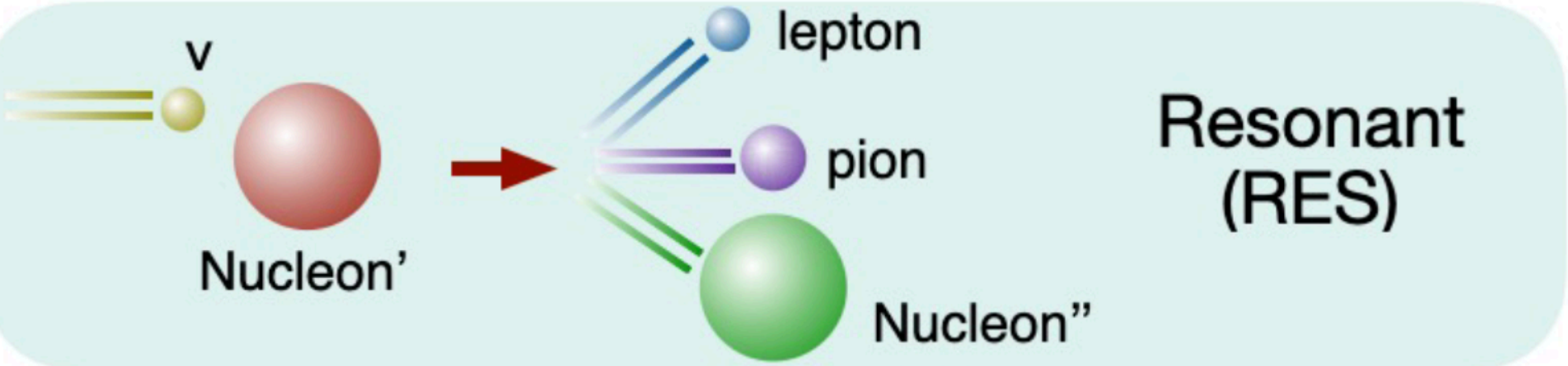
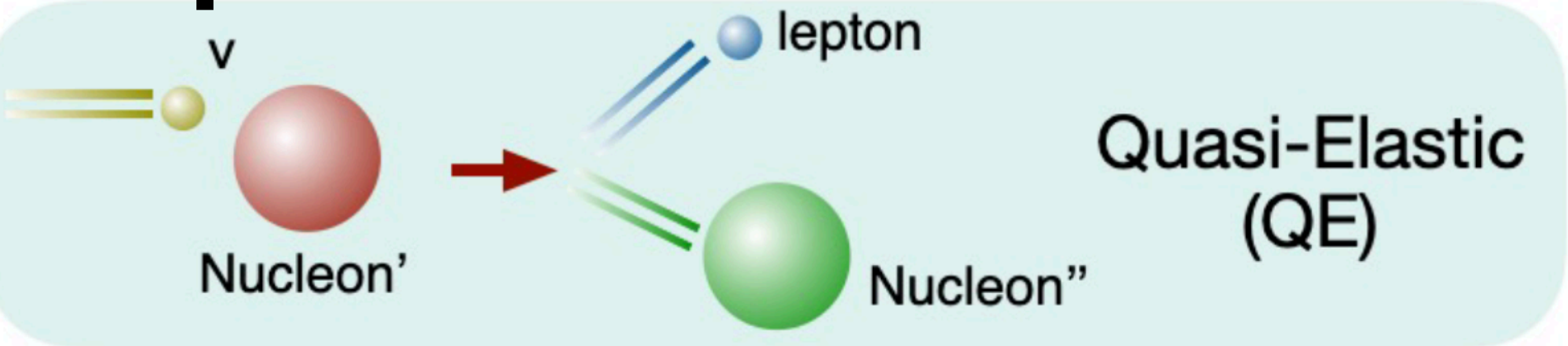


A resonant-like event in ICARUS  
(assuming track is a pion)

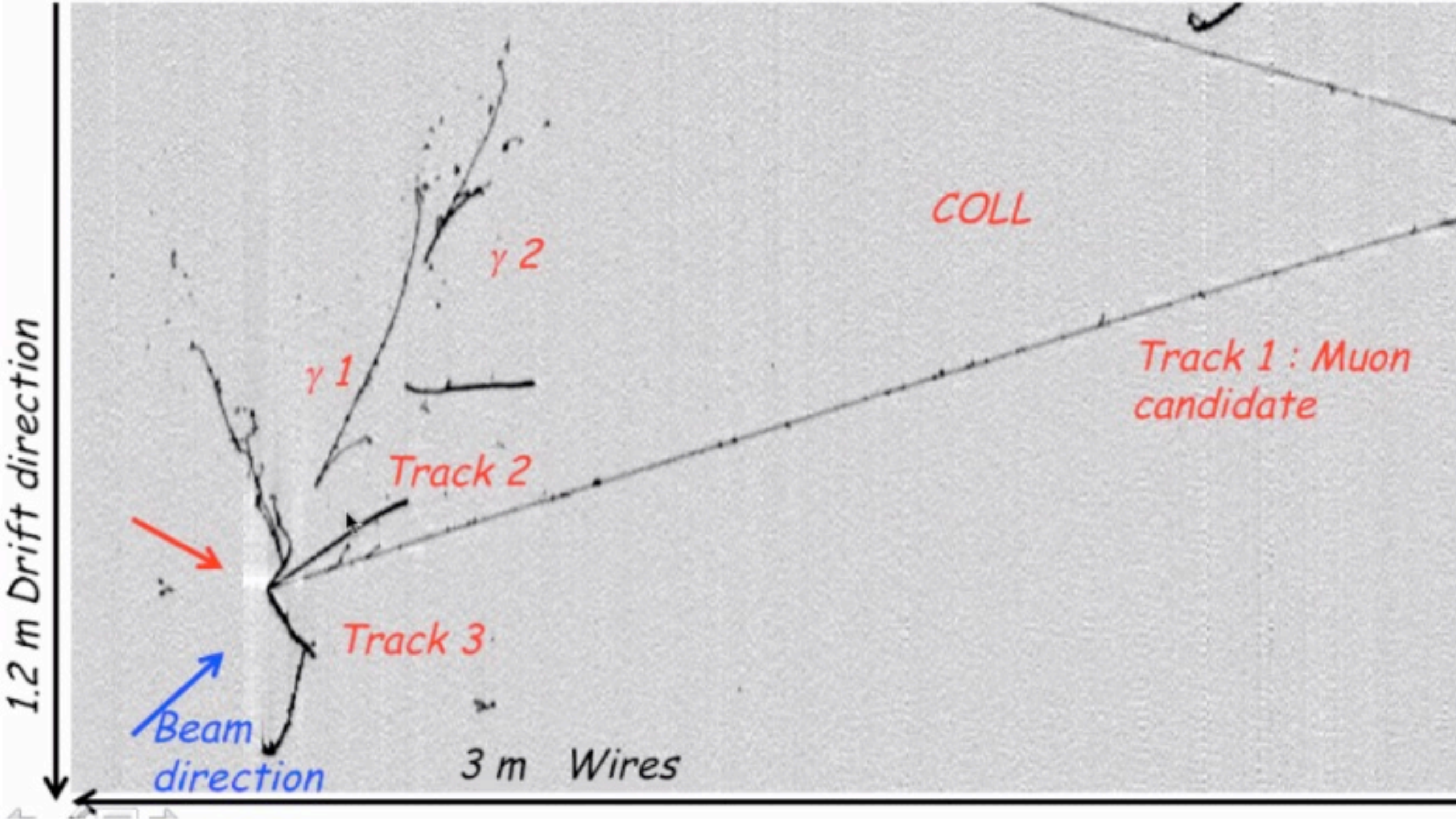




# Impact of interactions

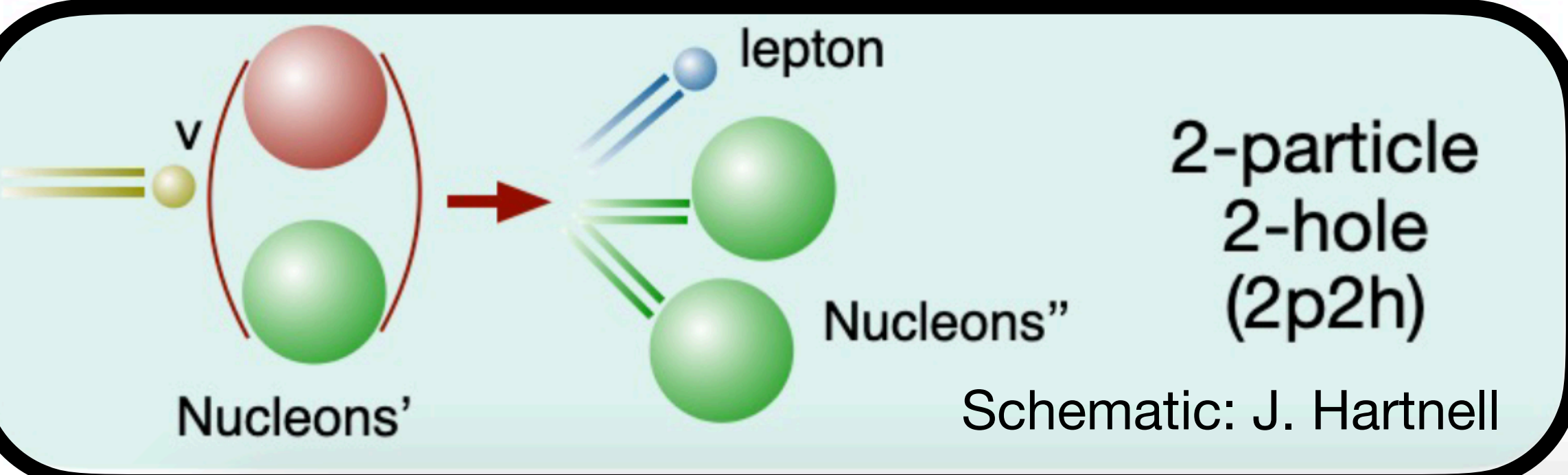
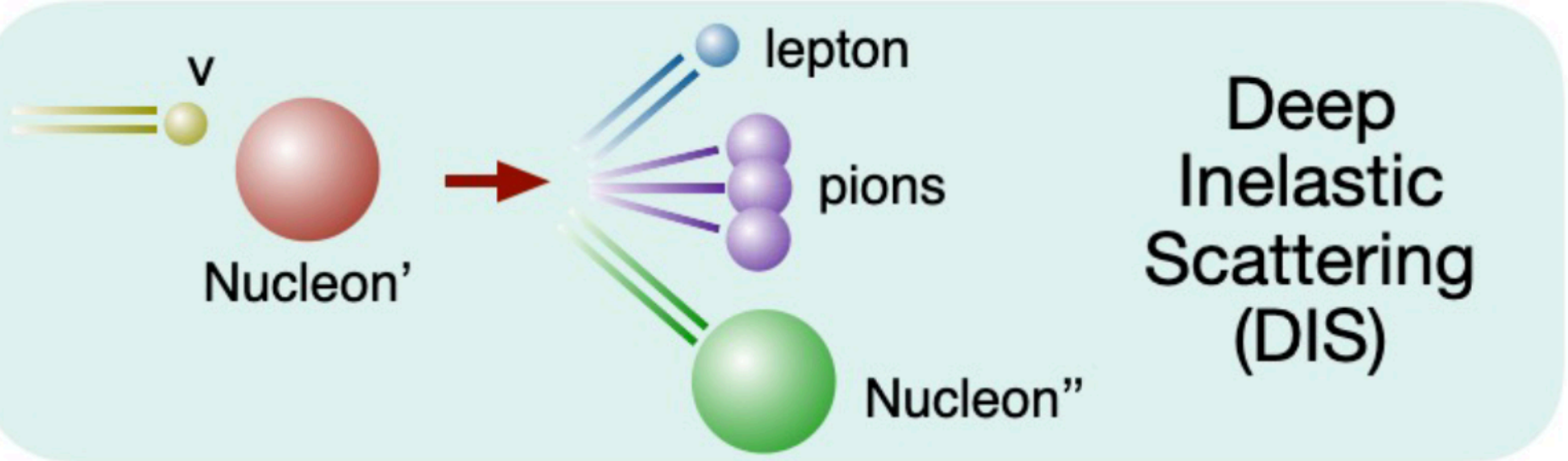
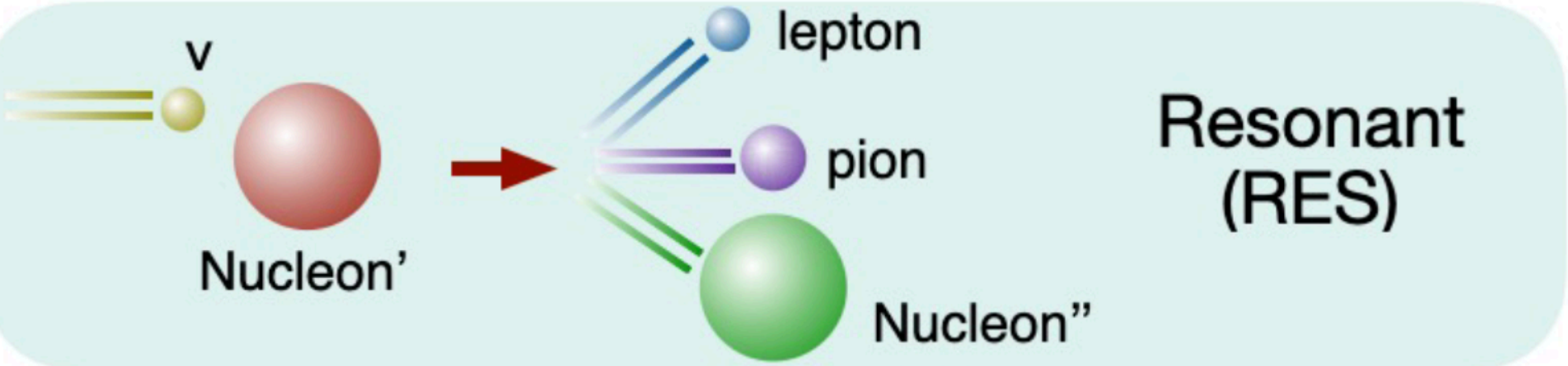
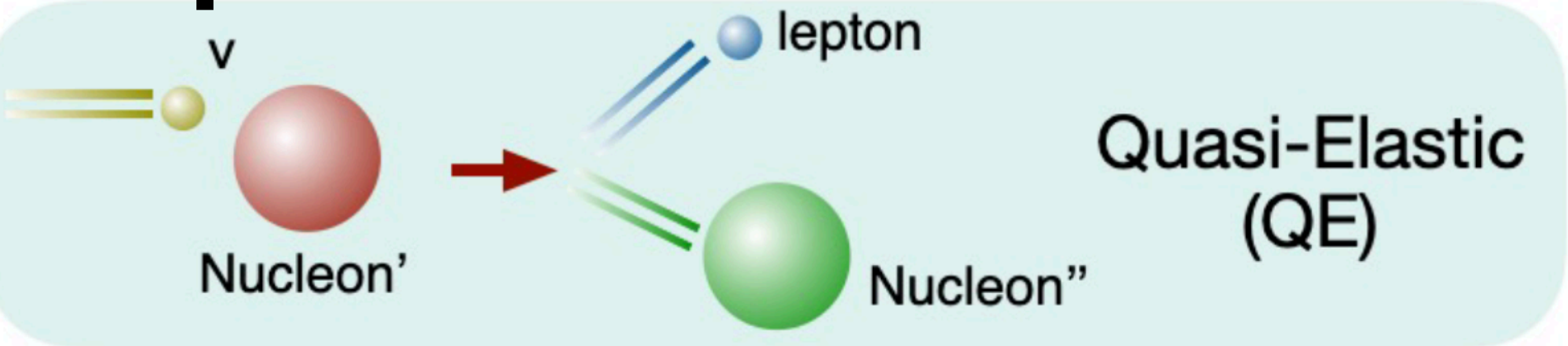


A possible inelastic scattering candidate in ICARUS

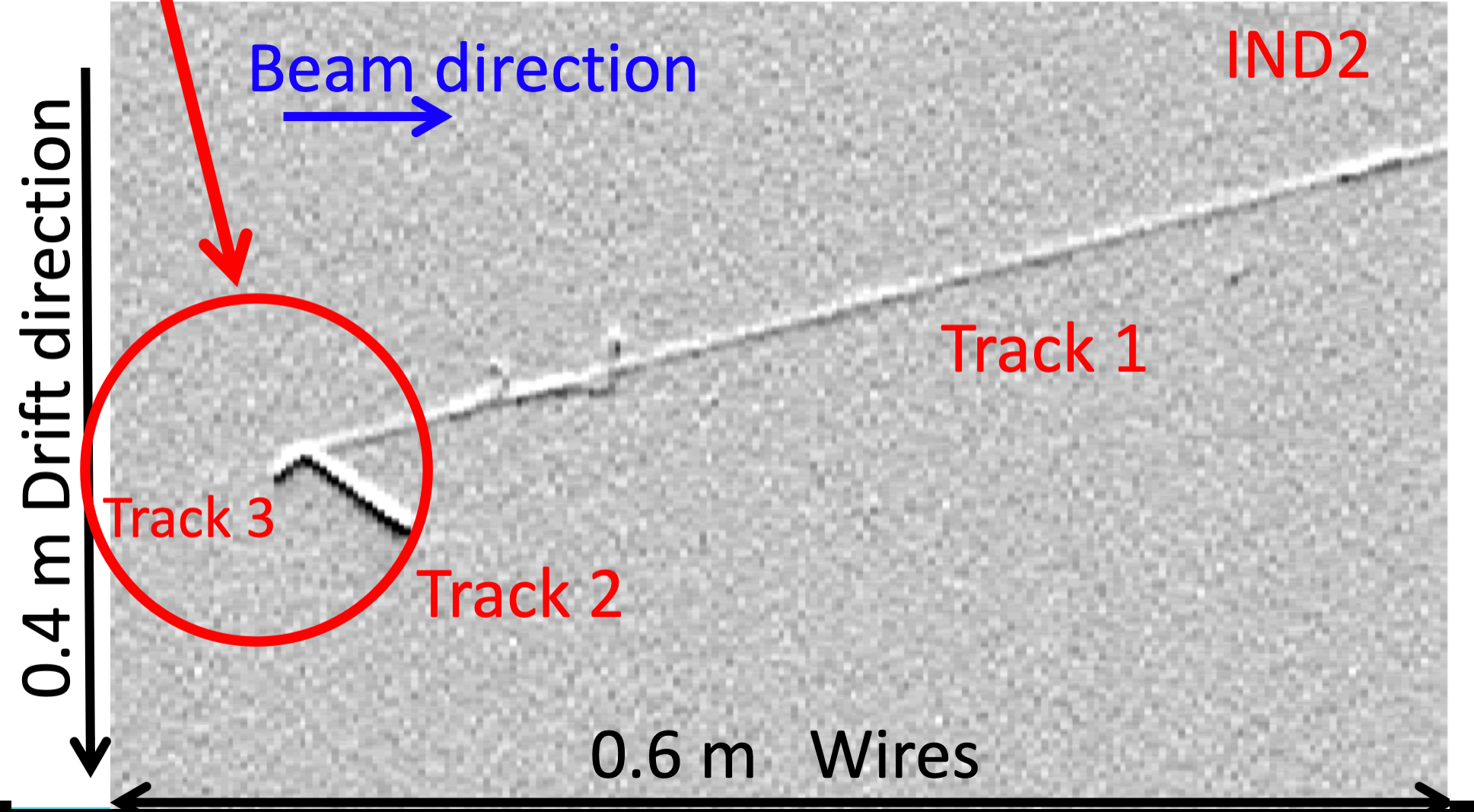
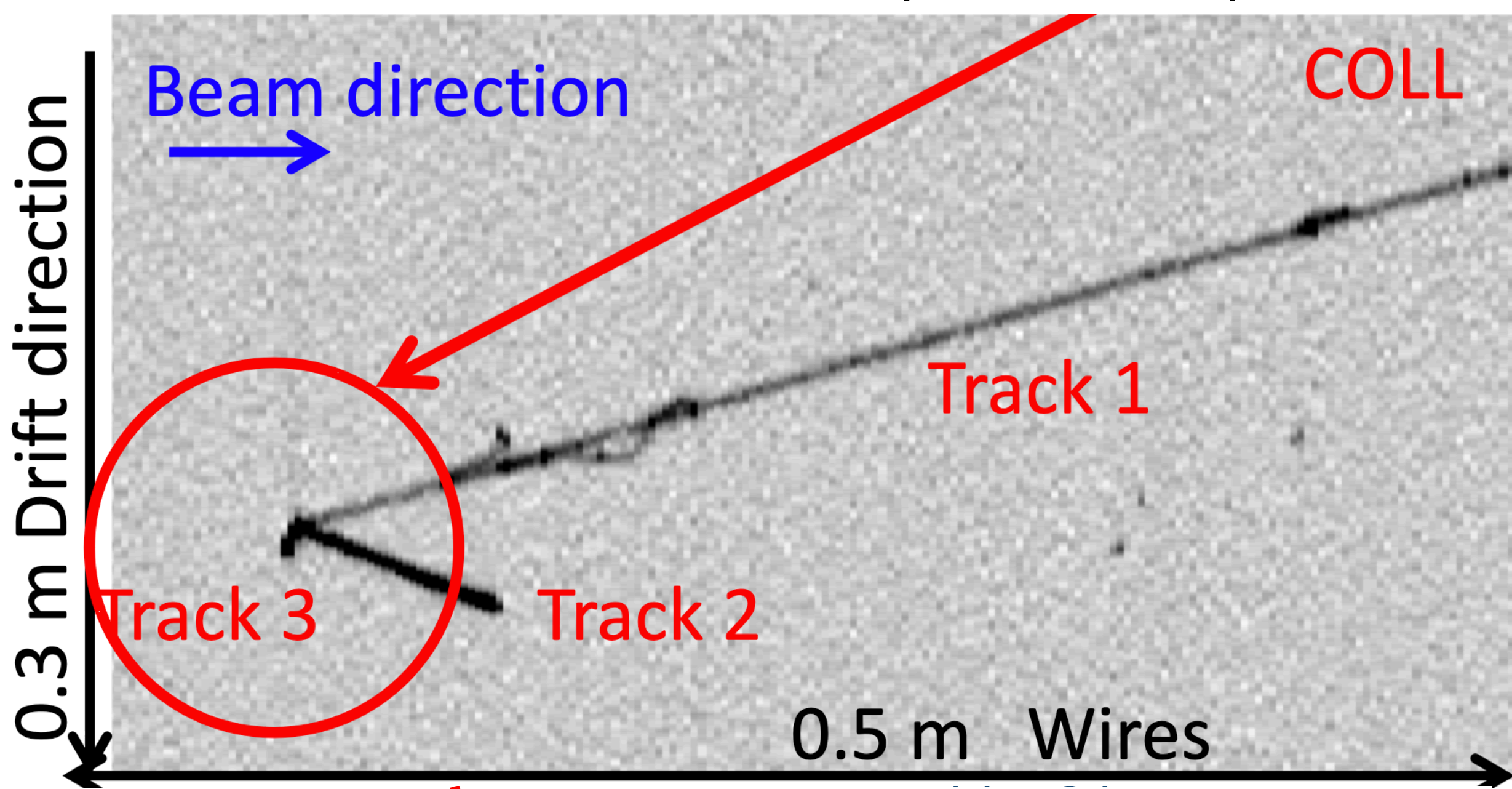




# Impact of interactions



Interaction in ICARUS w/ 2 proton-like particles





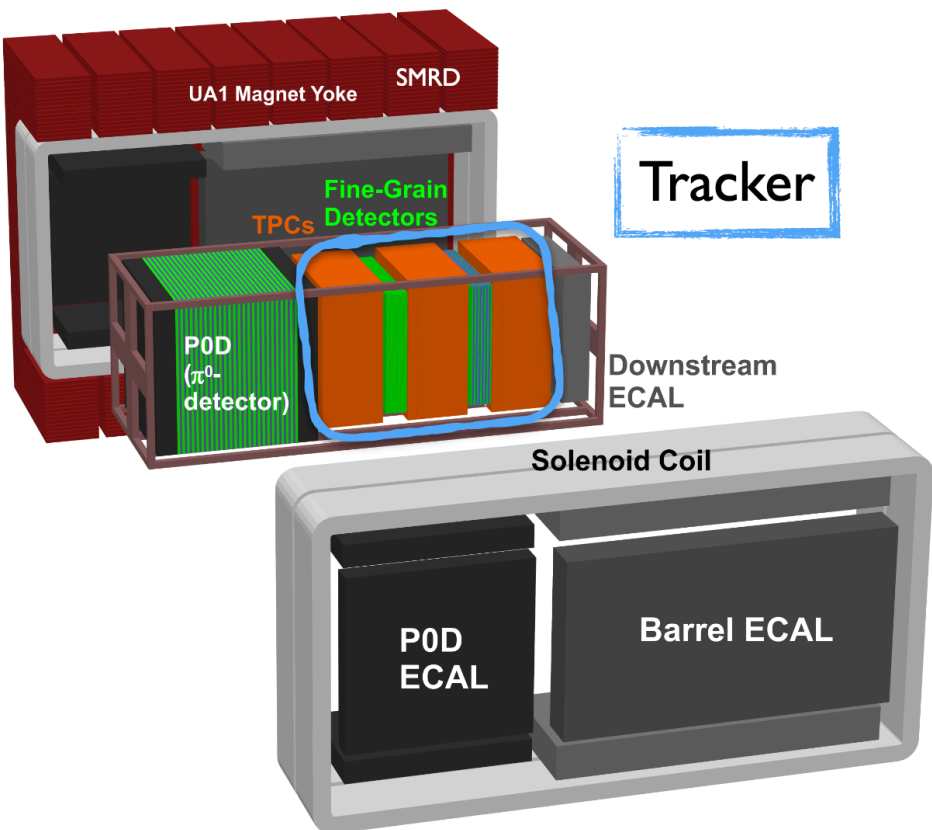
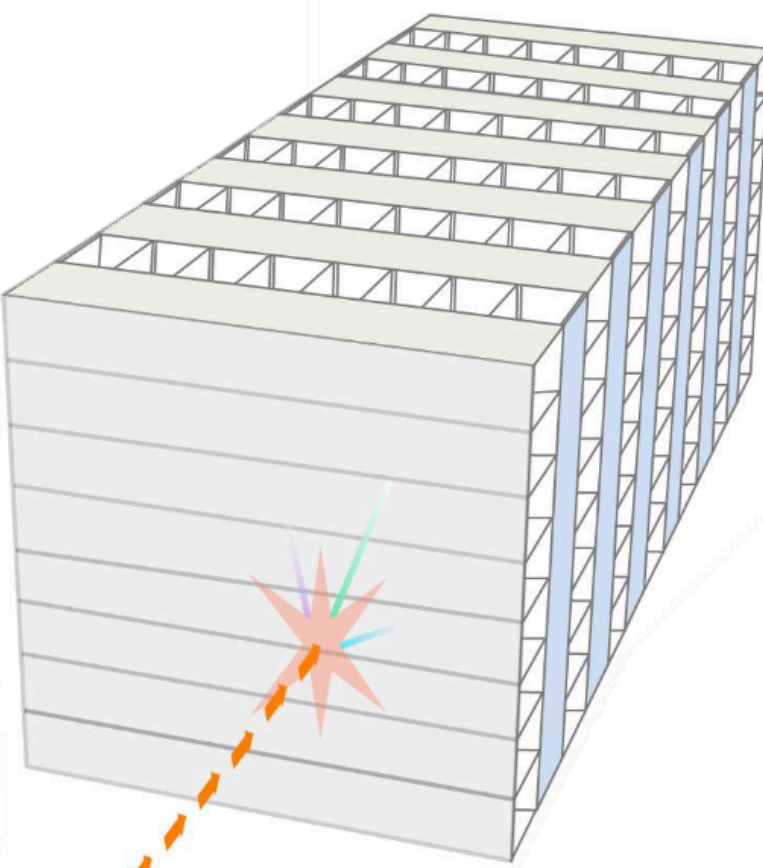
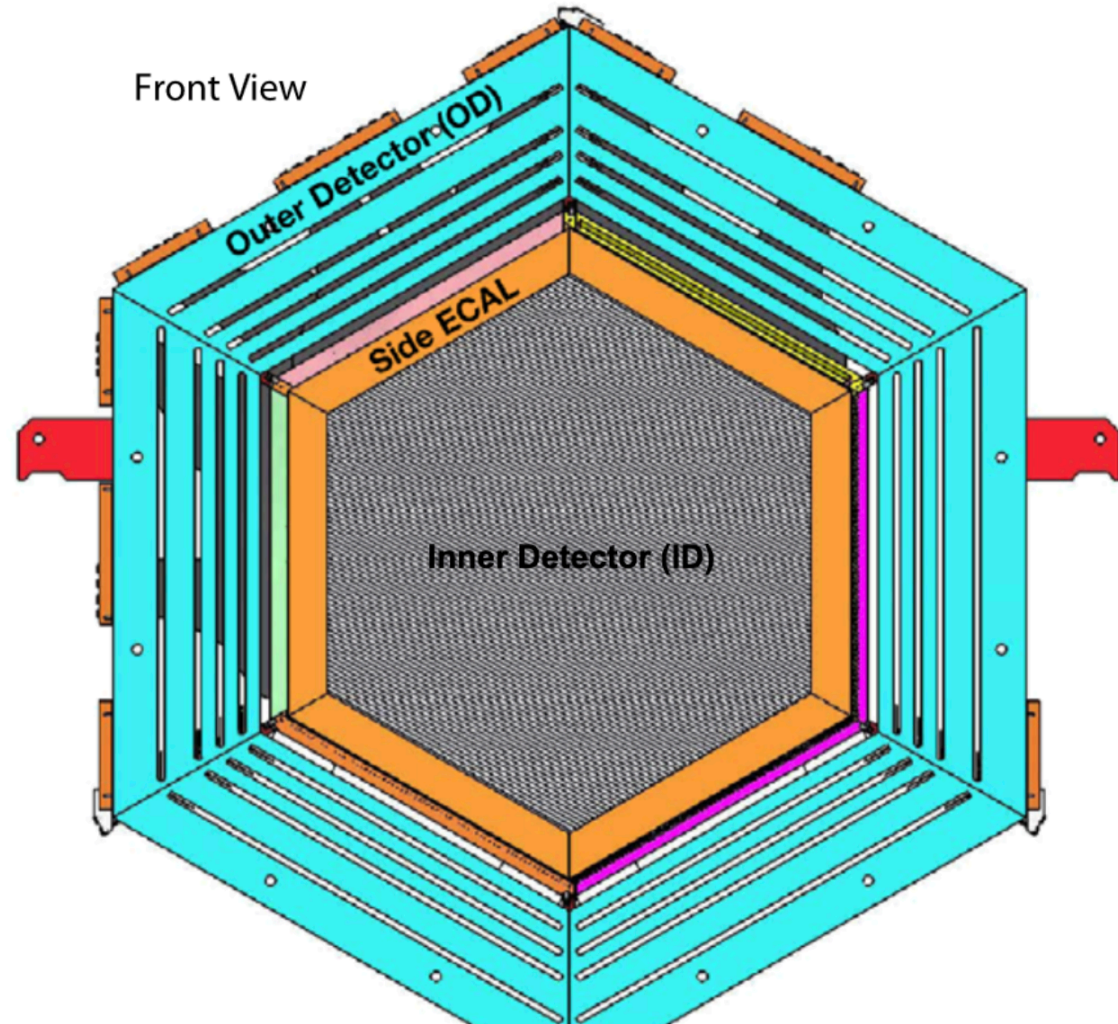
# Impact of interactions

- In recent years a number of experiments are measuring interactions to put current models to test & drive new developments

**MINERvA:** NIM A 743 (2014) 130–159

**NOvA** (E. Smith [talk](#))

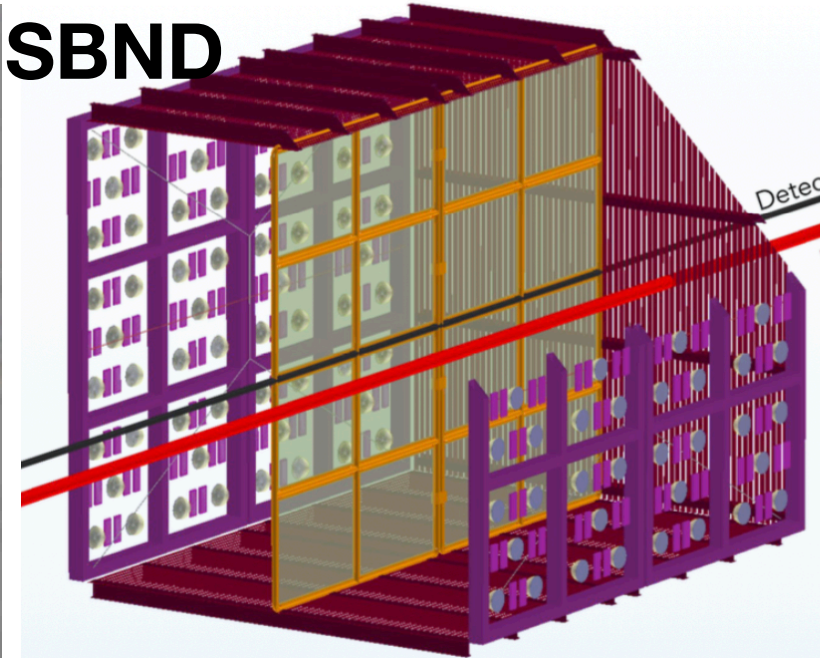
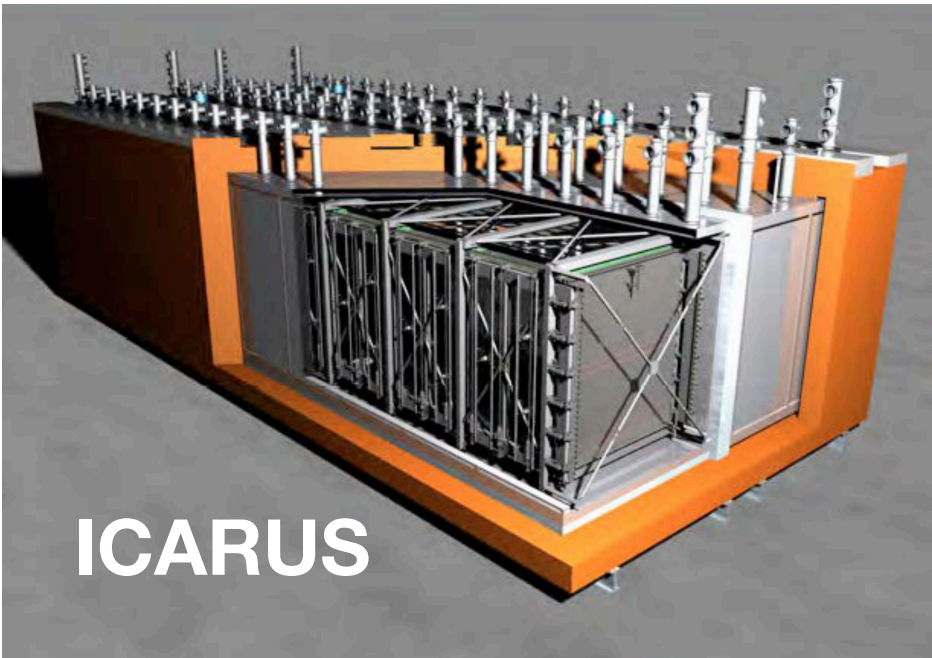
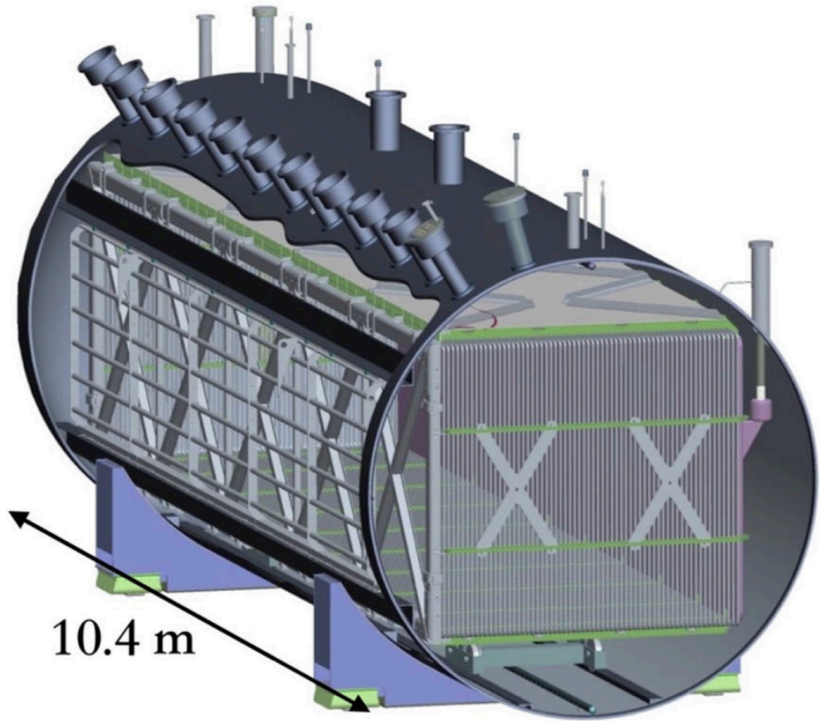
**T2K** (L. Magaletti [talk](#))



**++ ICARUS & SBND:**  
More measurements on Ar!

**MicroBooNE:**  
Eur. Phys. J. C  
(2019) 79:673

**v-Ar !!**

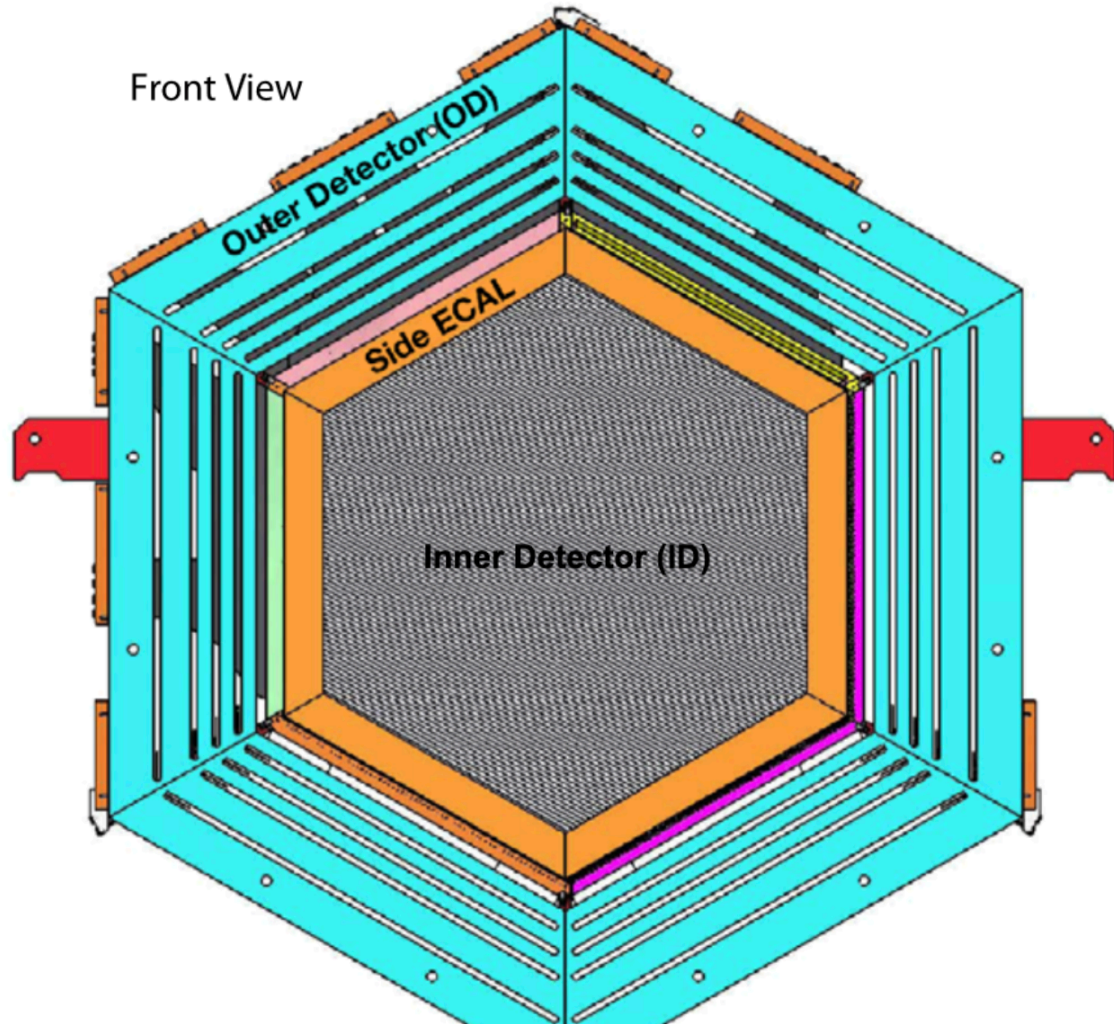




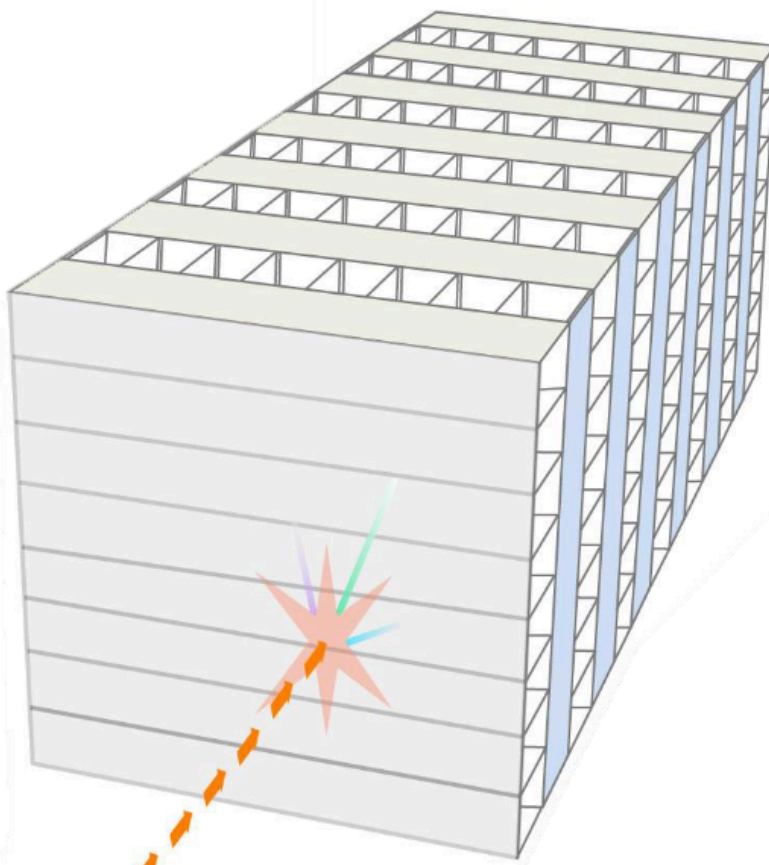
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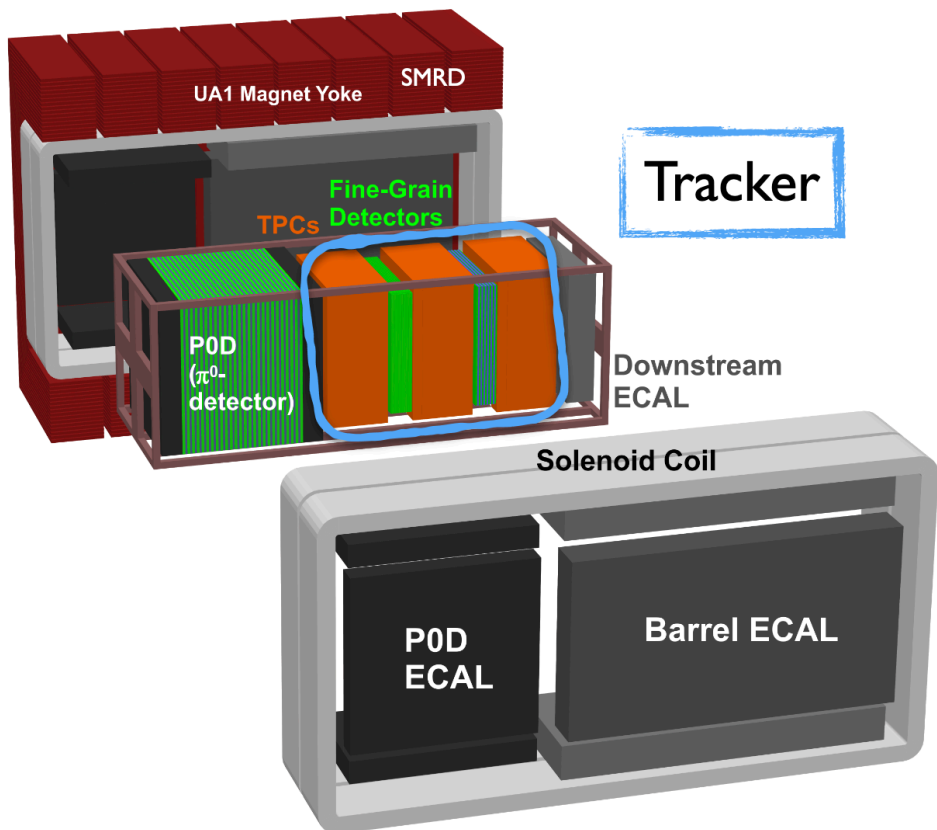
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**NOvA** (E. Smith [talk](#))



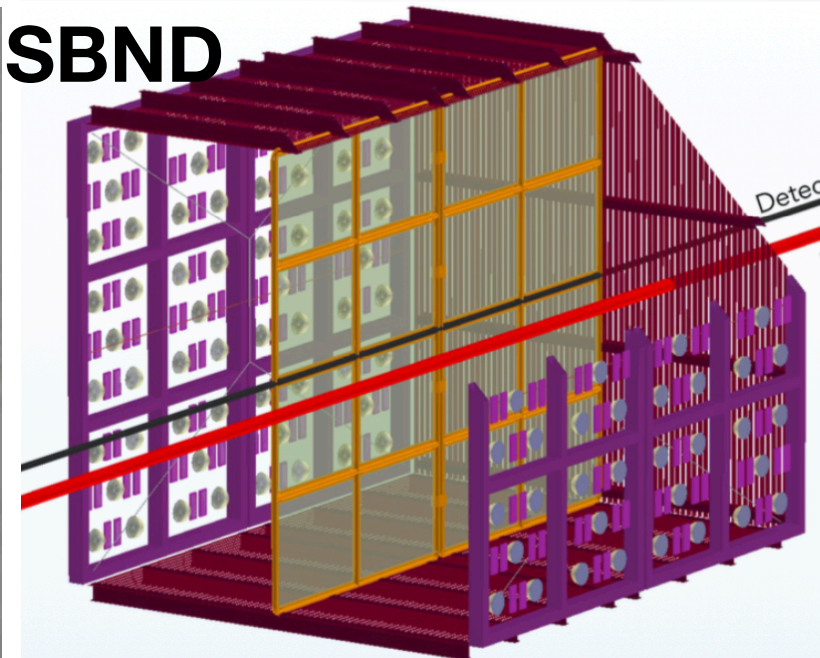
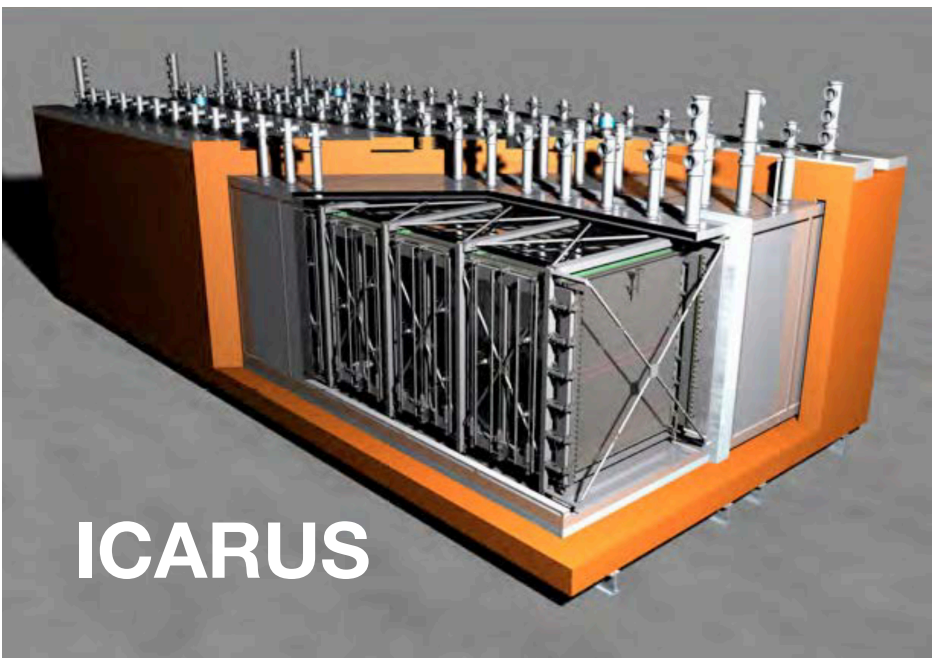
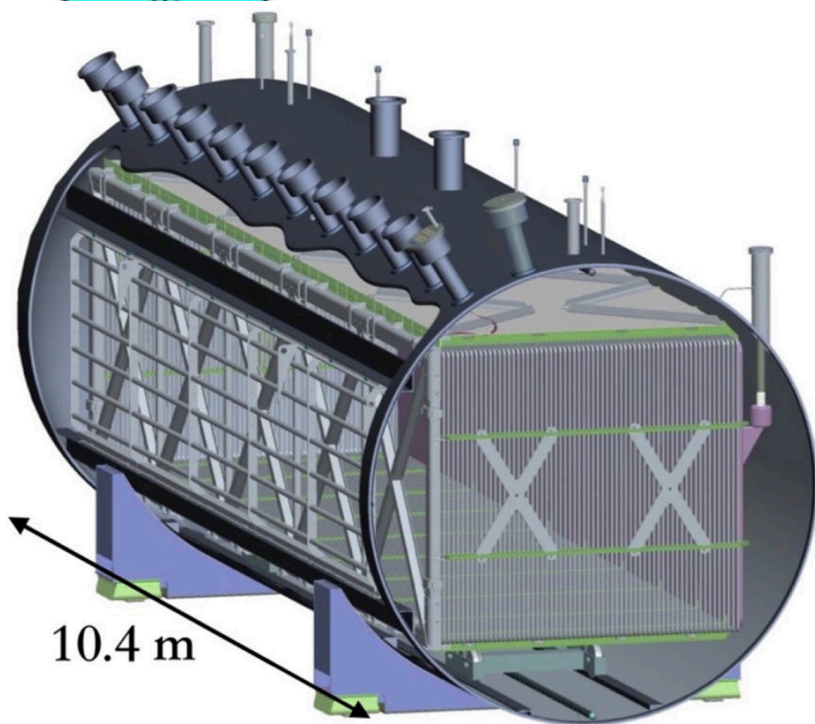
**T2K** (L. Magaletti [talk](#))



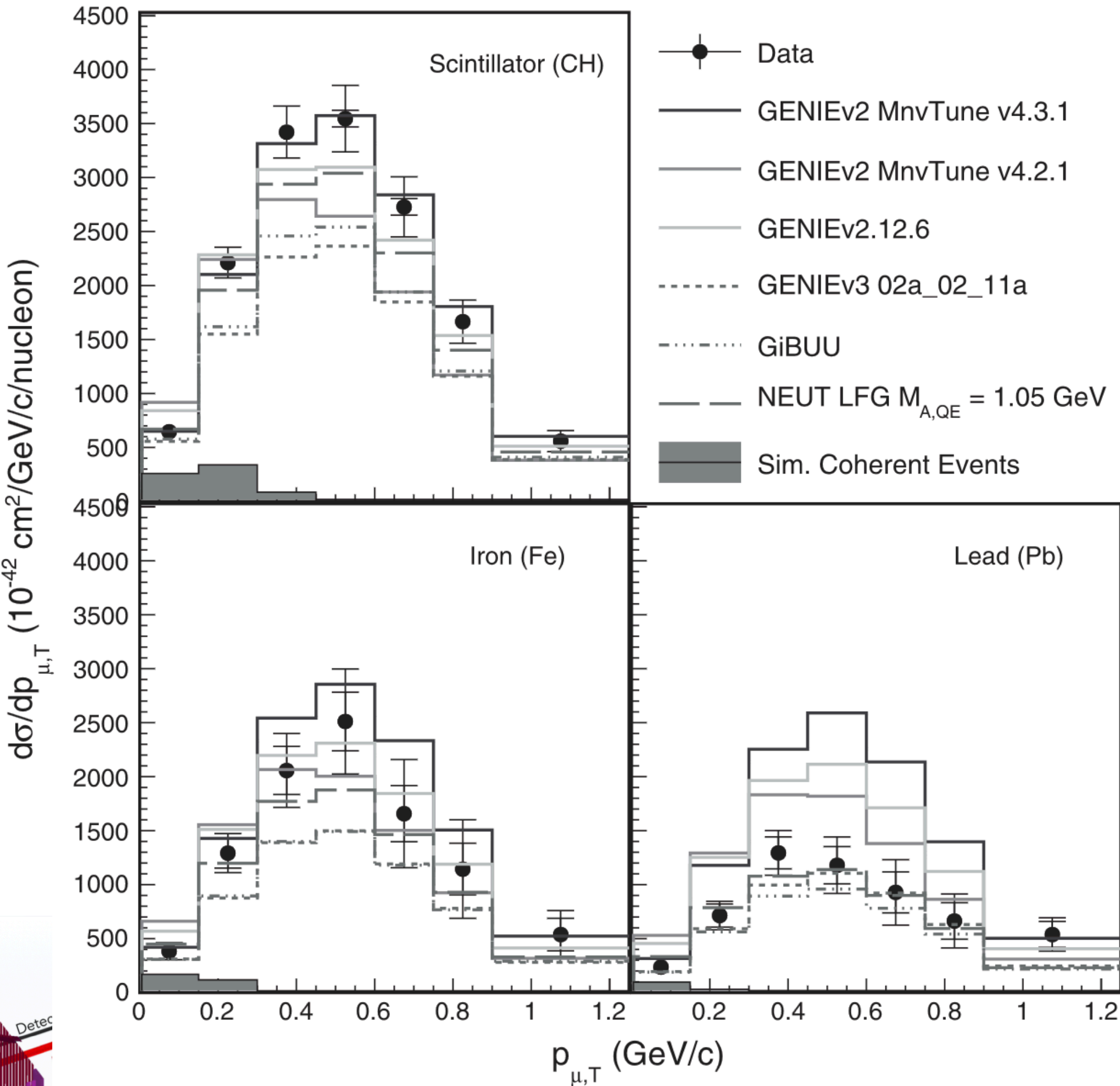
**++ ICARUS & SBND:**  
**More measurements on Ar!**

**MicroBooNE:**  
Eur. Phys. J. C  
(2019) 79:673

**$\nu$ -Ar !!**



*Unfortunately, at present there is plenty of disagreement between our models and data... Need more and better measurements driving and validating model developments*



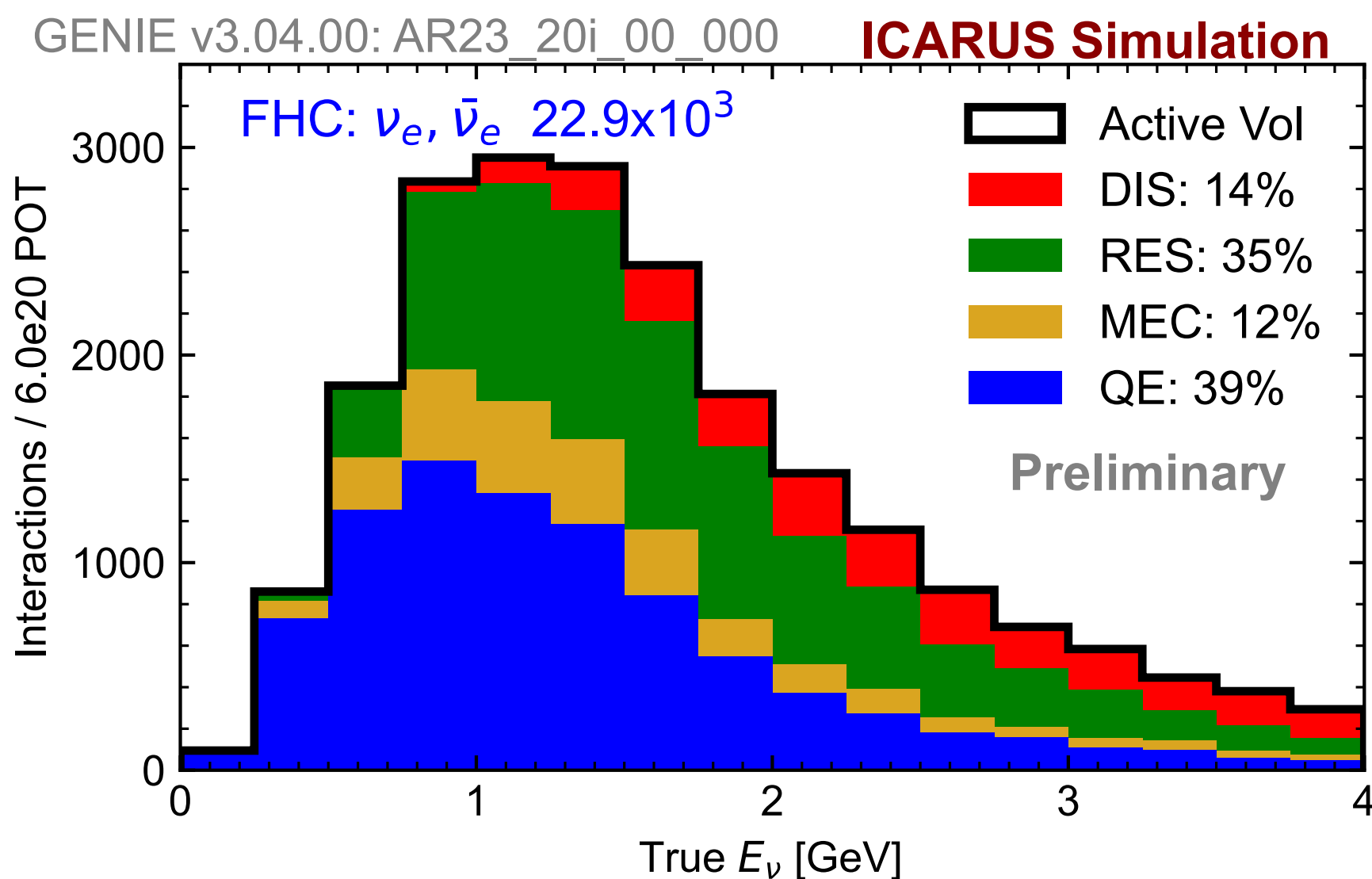
*Transverse momentum of muon from MINERvA measurement studying muon neutrino interactions producing  $\mu$  & charged  $\pi$*

A. Bercellie et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. **131**, 011801 (2023)

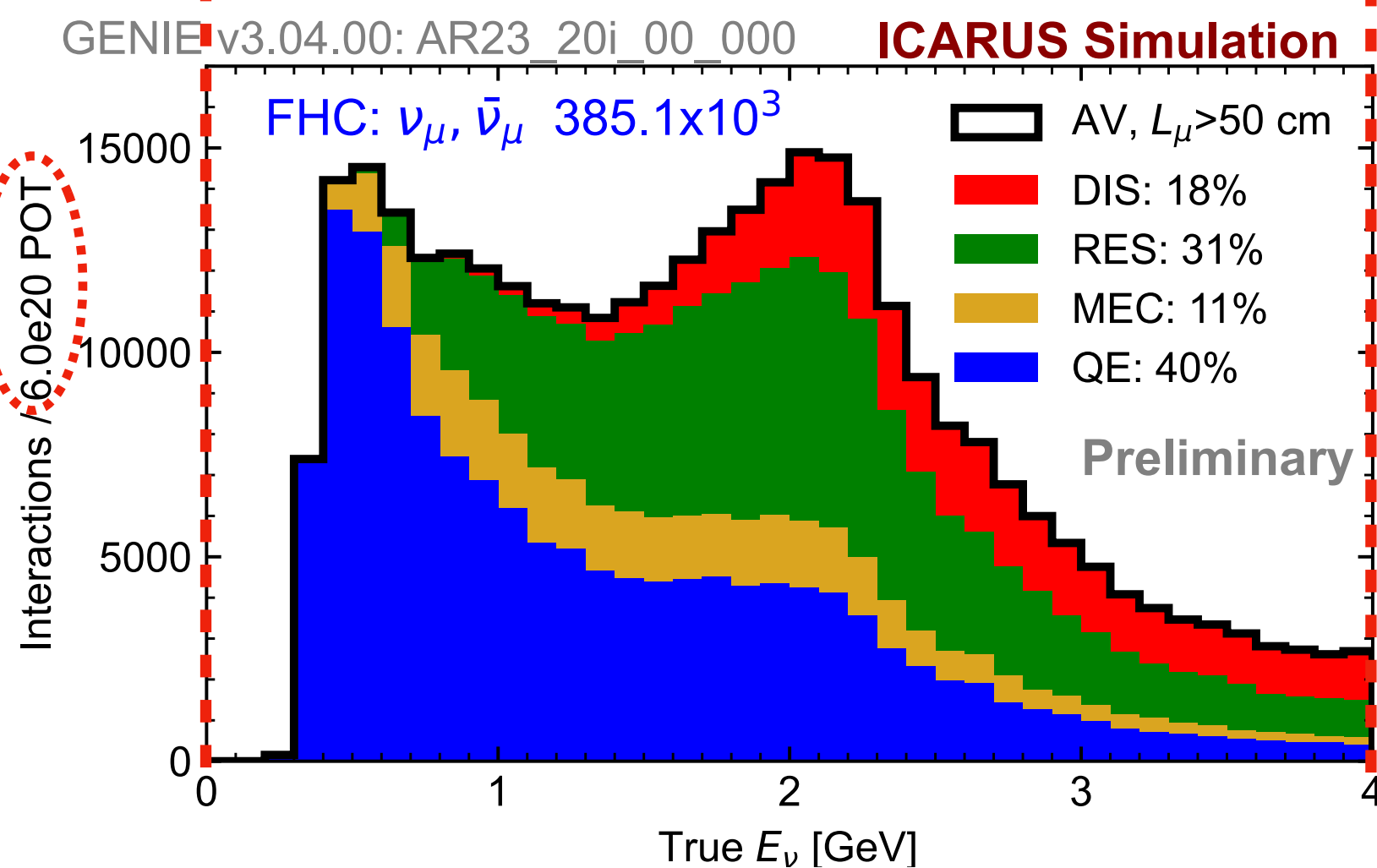
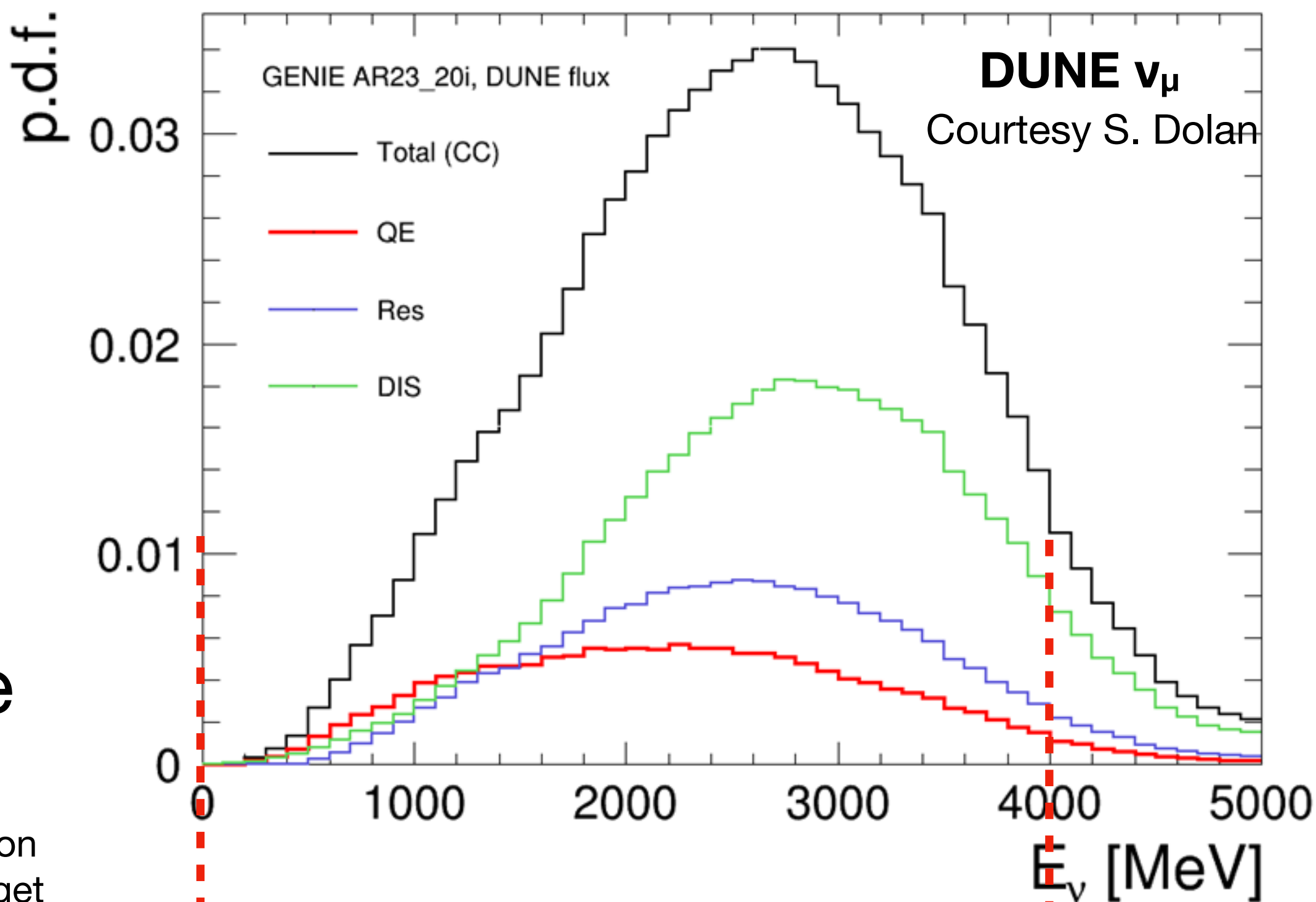


# Studying interactions w/ ICARUS

- ICARUS sees NuMI  $\nu$ : few deg. off-axis, ~800m from target: overlaps significant part of DUNE
- Using these  $\nu$  to perform interaction studies & cross-section measurements:
  - Conducting first study with  $\nu_\mu, \bar{\nu}_\mu$  on next slide and aim to conduct many more
  - Also significant amount of  $\nu_e, \bar{\nu}_e$



Rough expectation  
of protons on target  
for 1 year



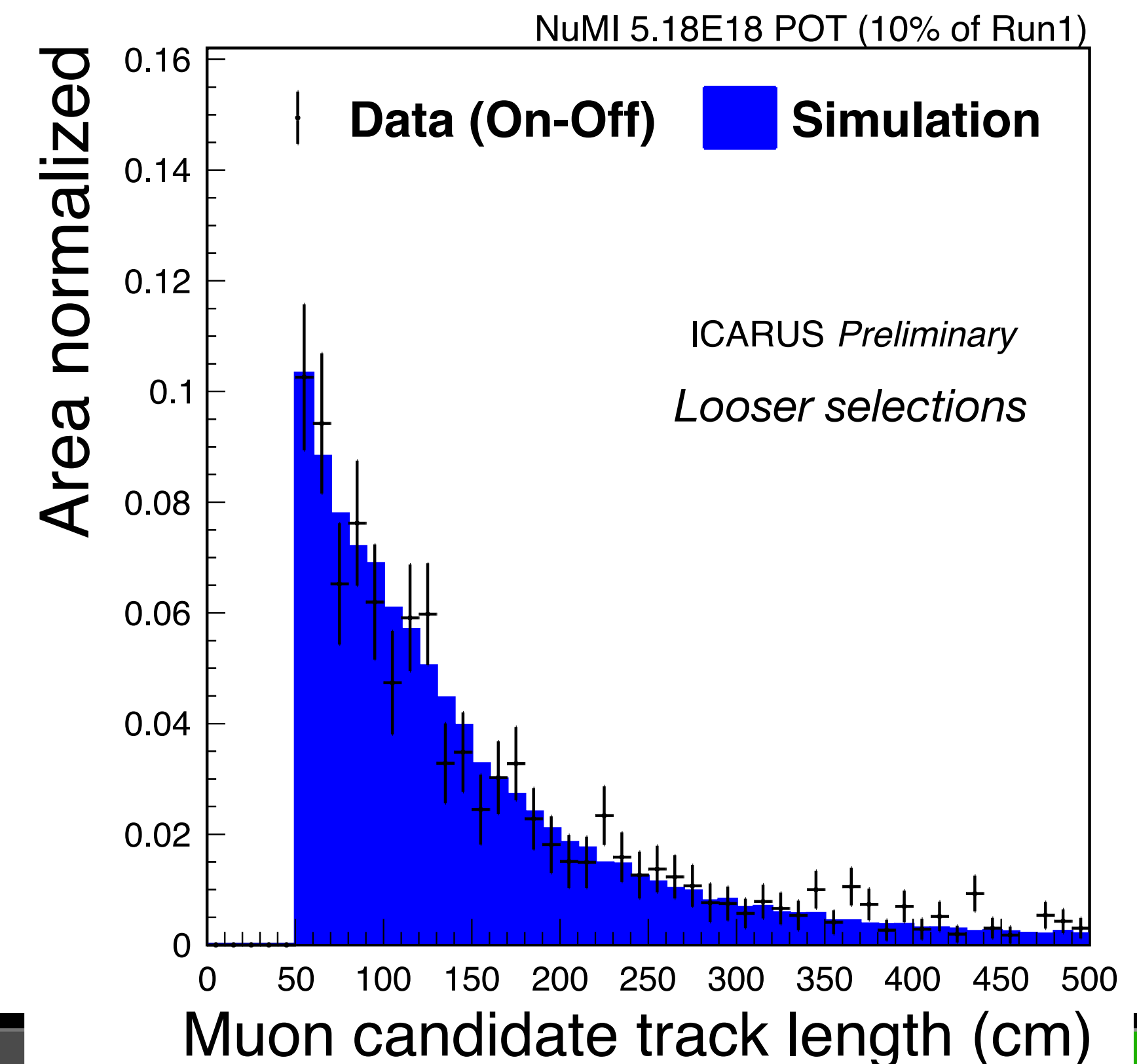
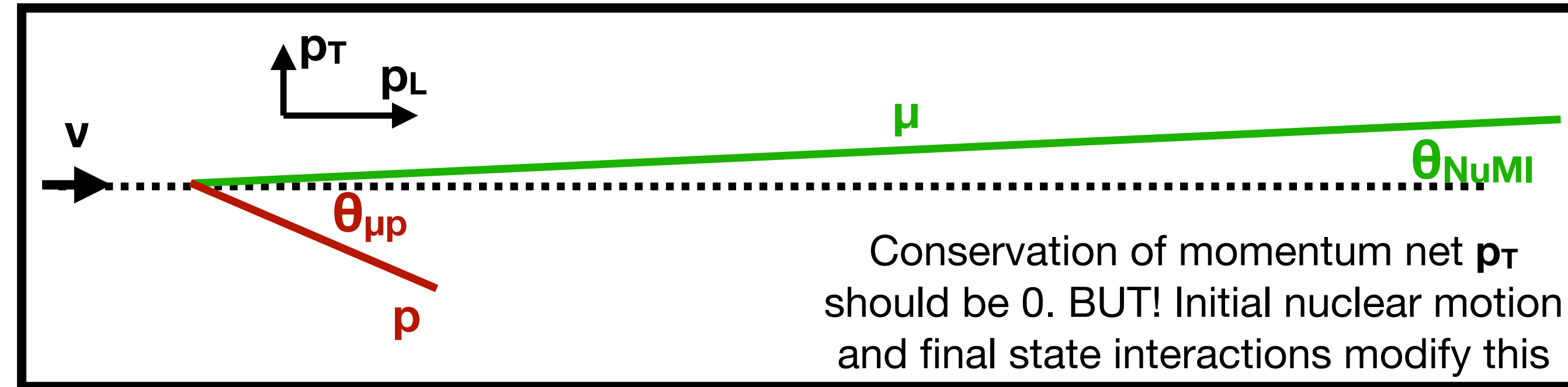
SBN and DUNE now using unified base  
model for event simulation!



# Studying interactions with ICARUS

- Actively progressing towards first analysis targeting a cross-section for events with no pions (enhanced in QE, 2p2h)
  - Should be somewhat “cleaner” events as first target but still interesting physics
- Initial looks at some observables w/ data to study properties & selections promising:
  - Data/MC on  $\mu$  and  $p$
  - Data-Data comparisons of a somewhat different selection but validating idea of cosmic removal and  $\nu$  signal

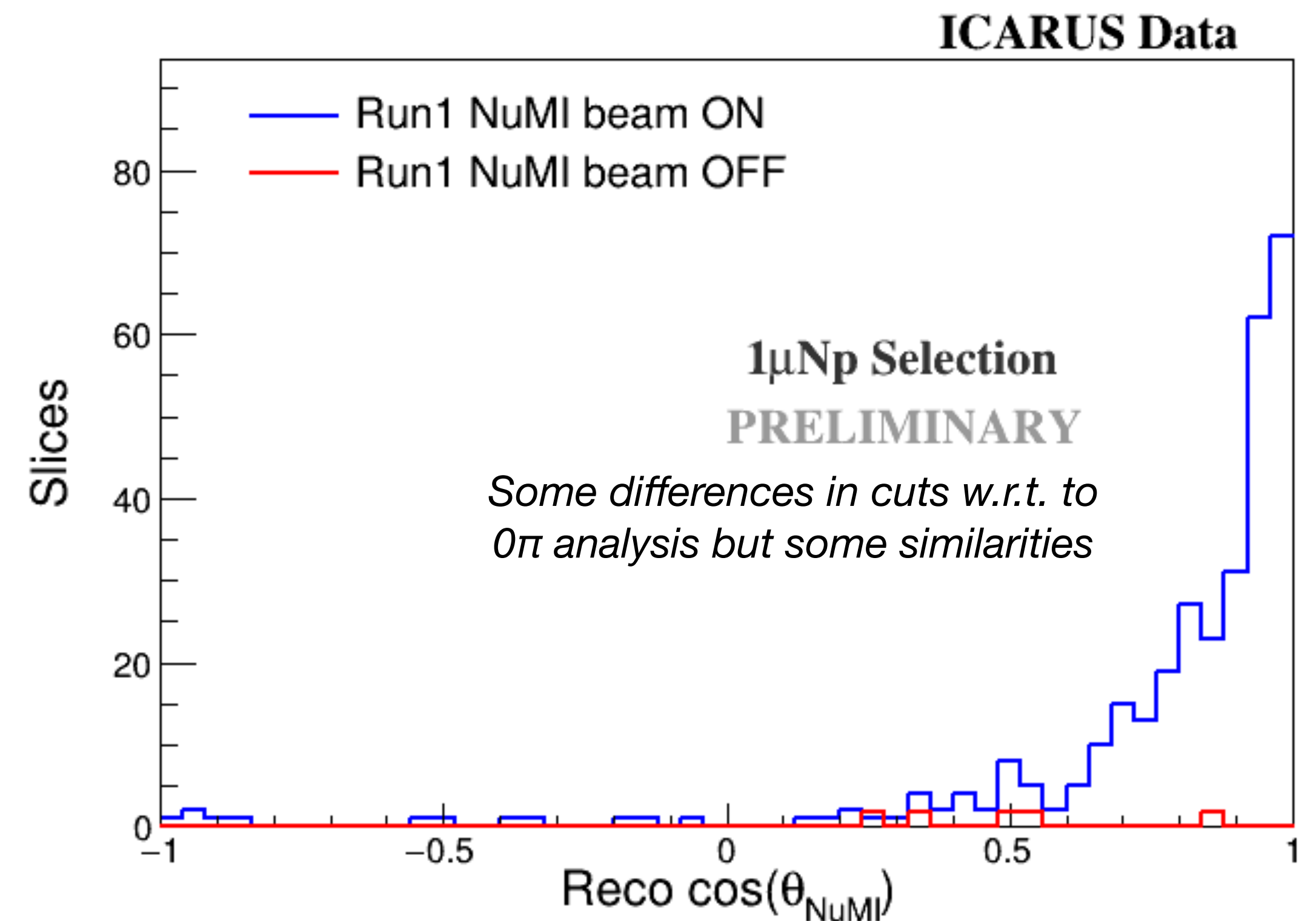
(Some) variables of interest:





# Studying interactions with ICARUS

- Should not just study  $\nu$ -Ar interactions in “vacuum” but **using and feeding back into community tools**:
  - Unified **interaction simulation base model between SBN detectors and DUNE**
  - Use of **interaction uncertainties framework initially from DUNE**: can feed back/add new items to this based on our findings
  - **Neutrino flux** correction/uncertainty uses framework from NuMI experiments (**NOvA and MINERvA**)
  - **Particle re-interaction** uncertainties based on work from other experiments **DUNE and MicroBooNE**
  - **Fit & cross-section calculation** performed with tool produced for near detector fitting in T2K (Japanese current-generation long-baseline experiment)
- Analysis well under way, **targeting results next year**





1930: Neutrinos proposed to explain  $\beta$  decay spectrum

1950s:  $\nu$  discovered

1960s:  $\nu_\mu$  discovered

1990s: neutrino oscillation discovered

2000s/2010s: possible hints at  $>3$  neutrinos in anomalies

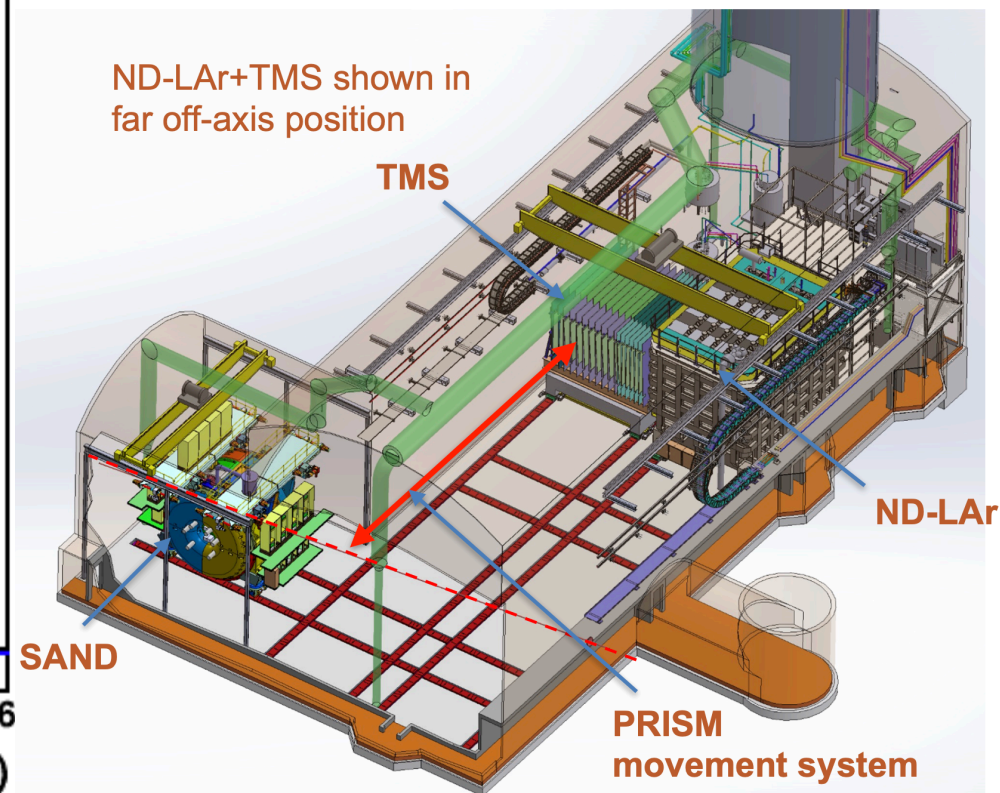
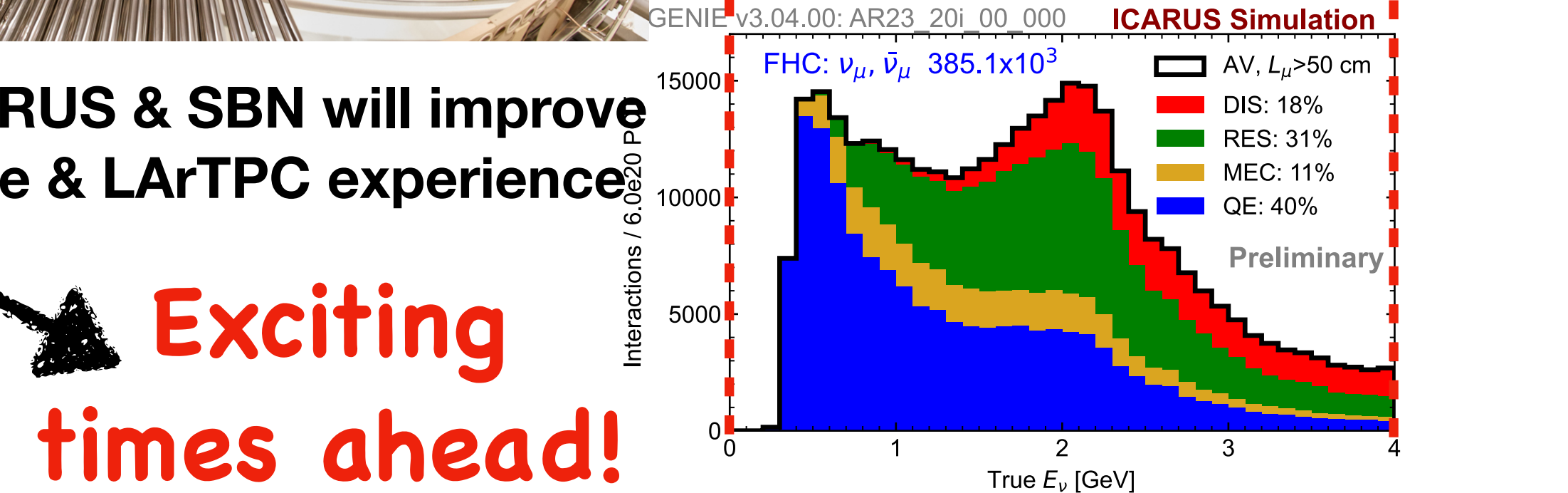
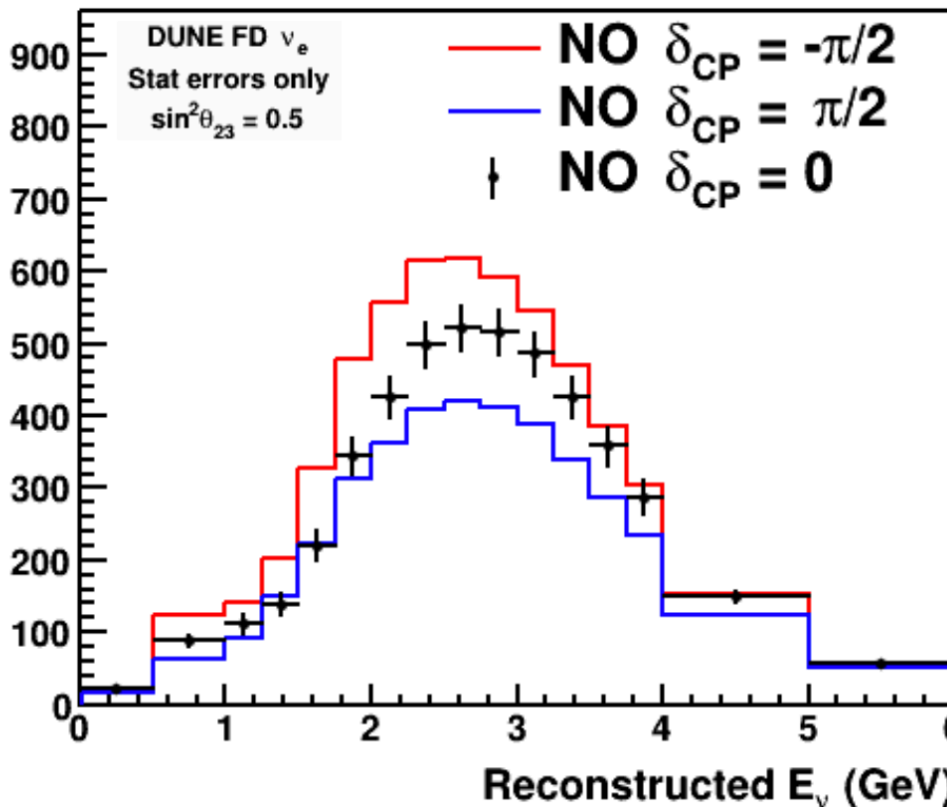
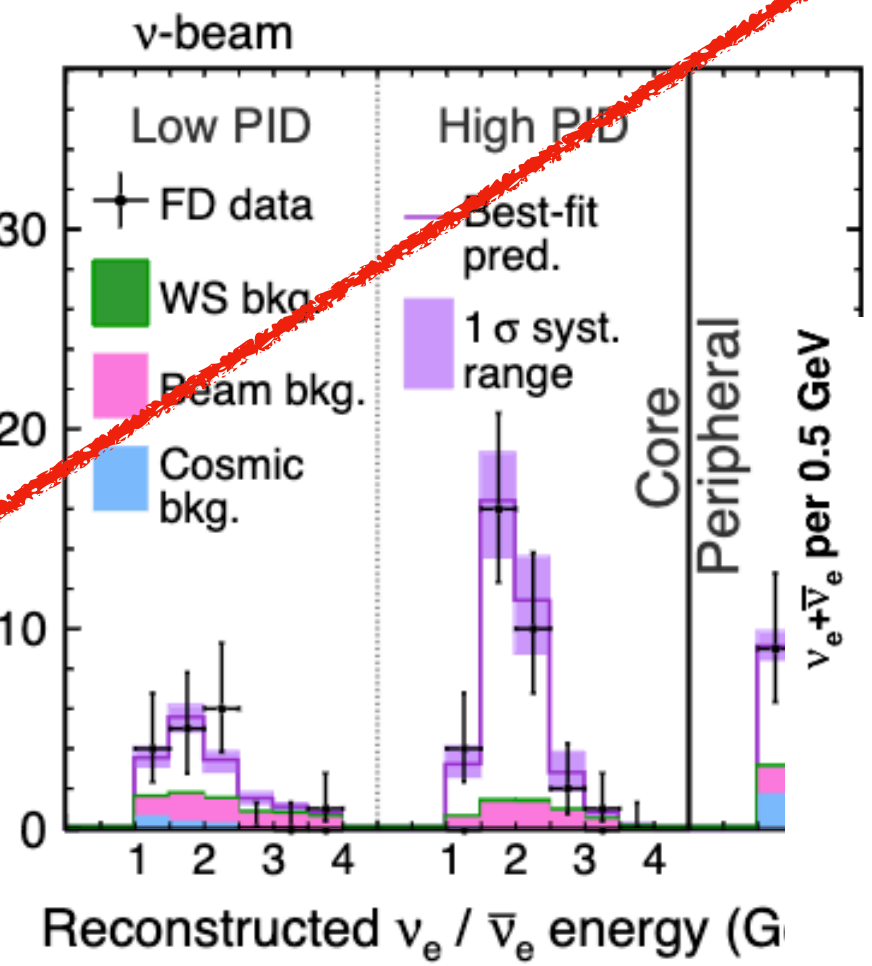
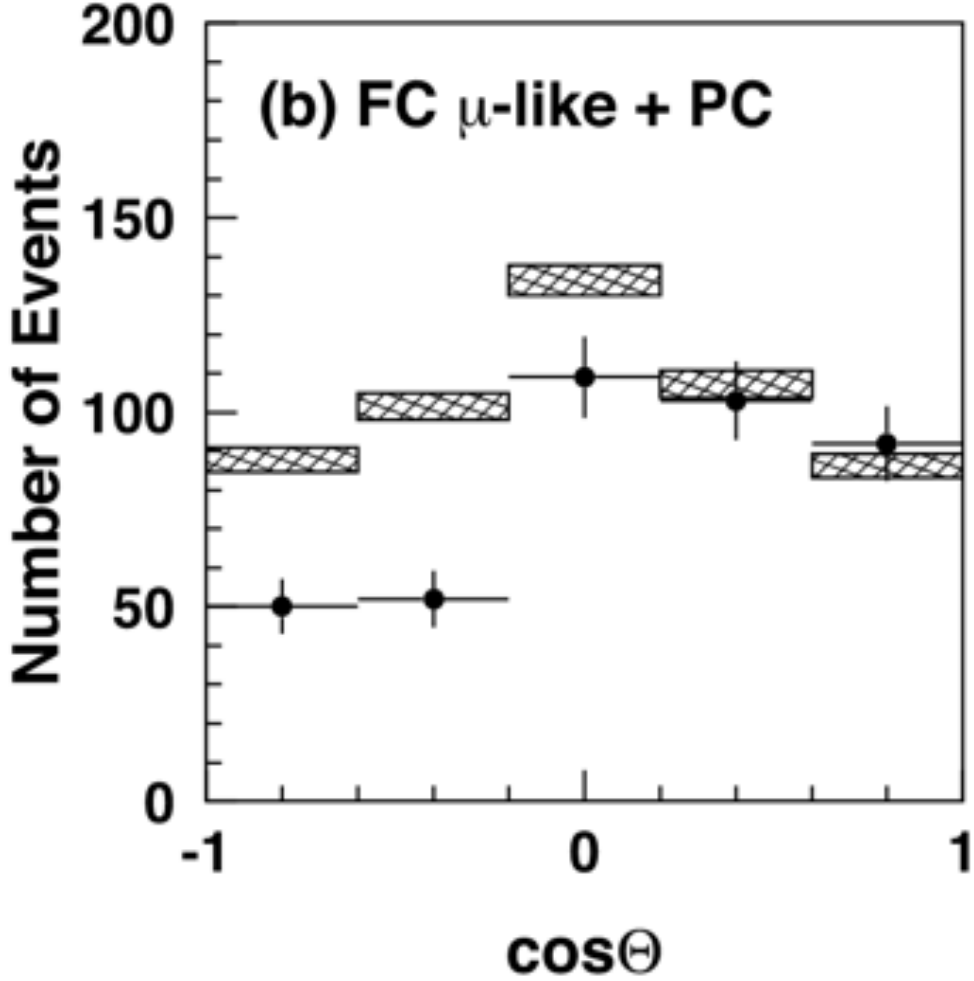
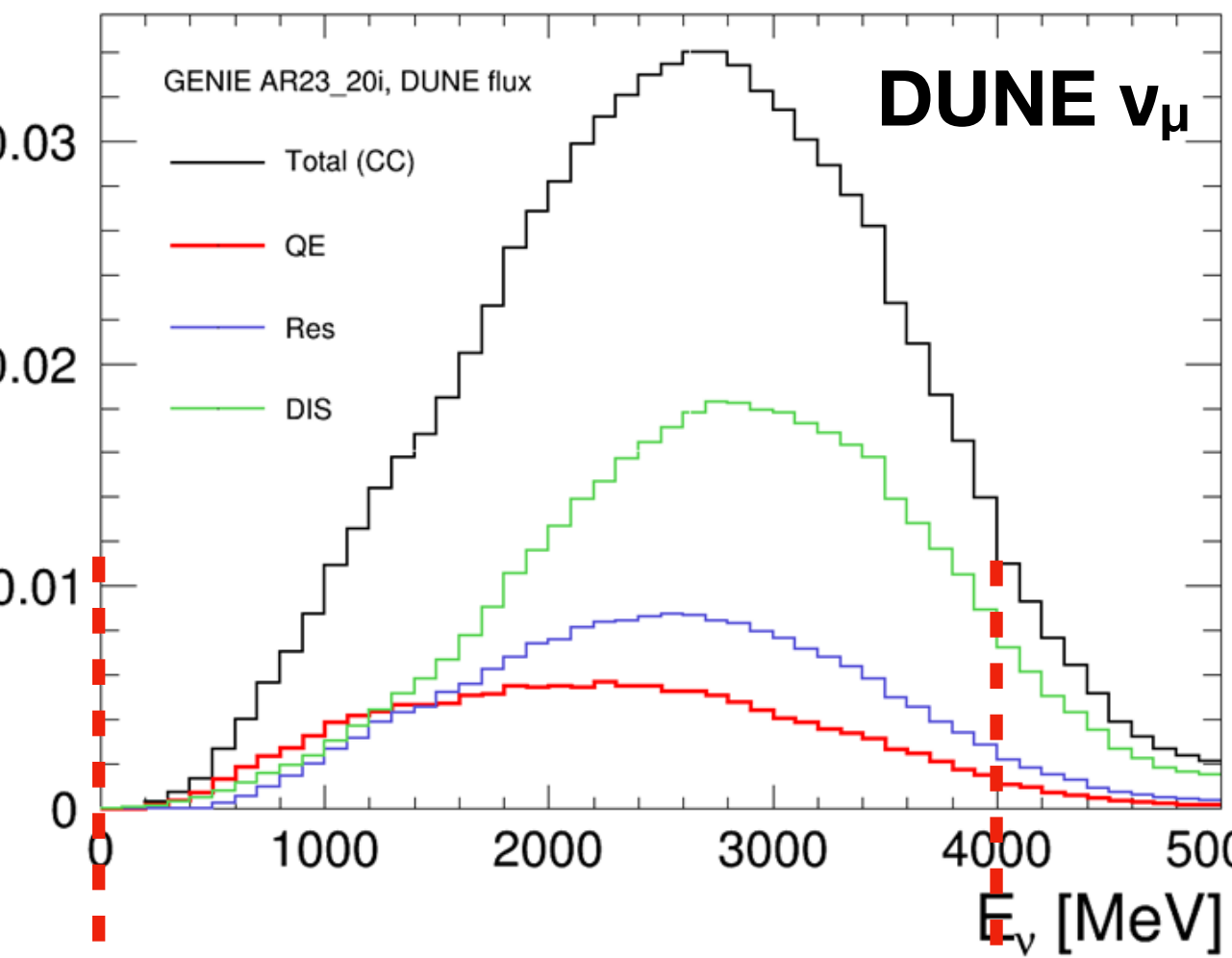
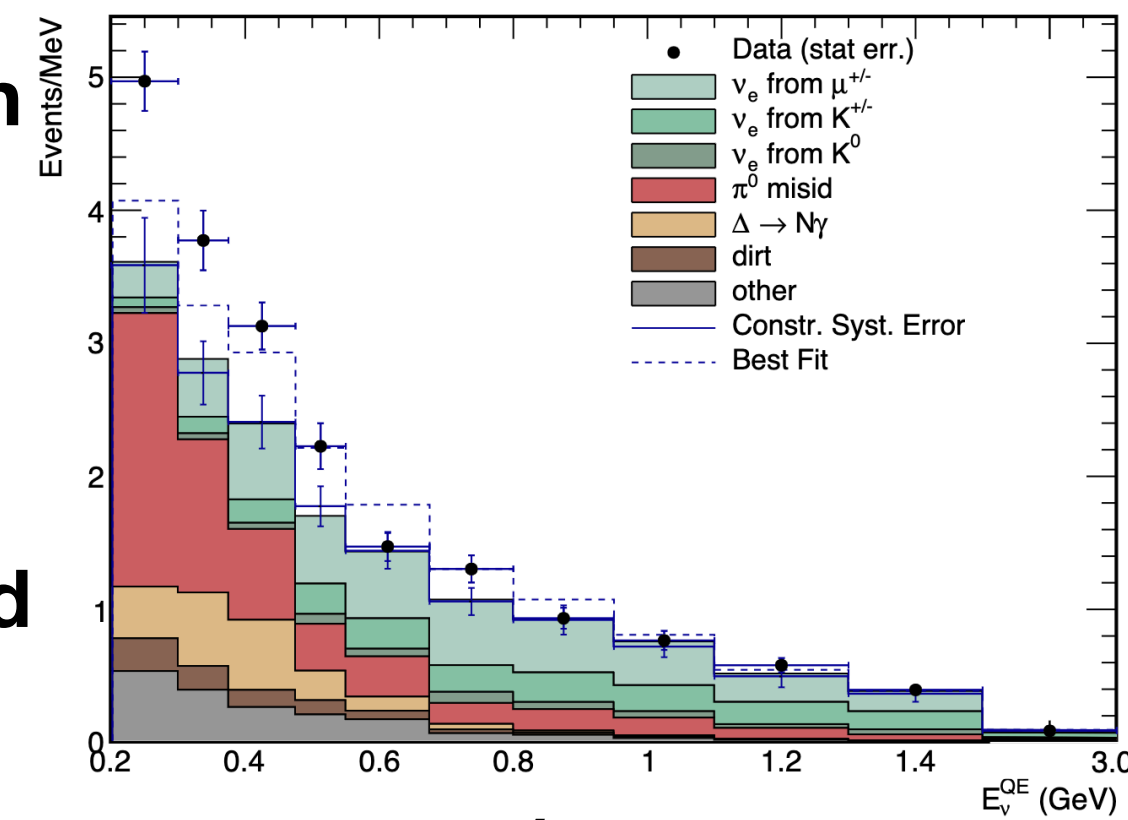
2010s/2020s: osc expts probe parameter space w/ better precision, but still more to learn:

2020s: ICARUS & SBN will improve picture & LArTPC experience

2030s: Next generation will produce precise osc results

Exciting times ahead!

You are here



# Summary & Conclusions

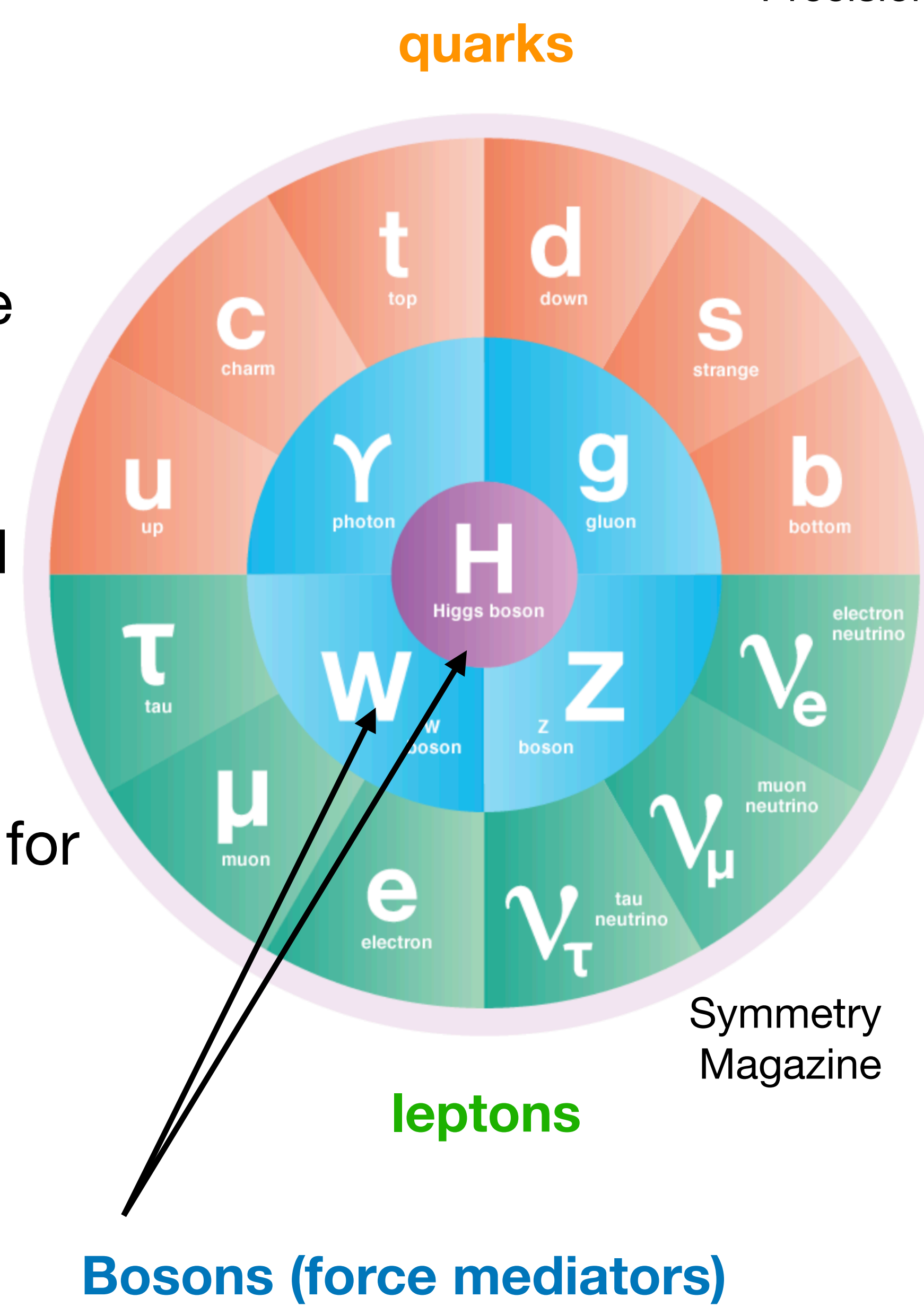


# Backups

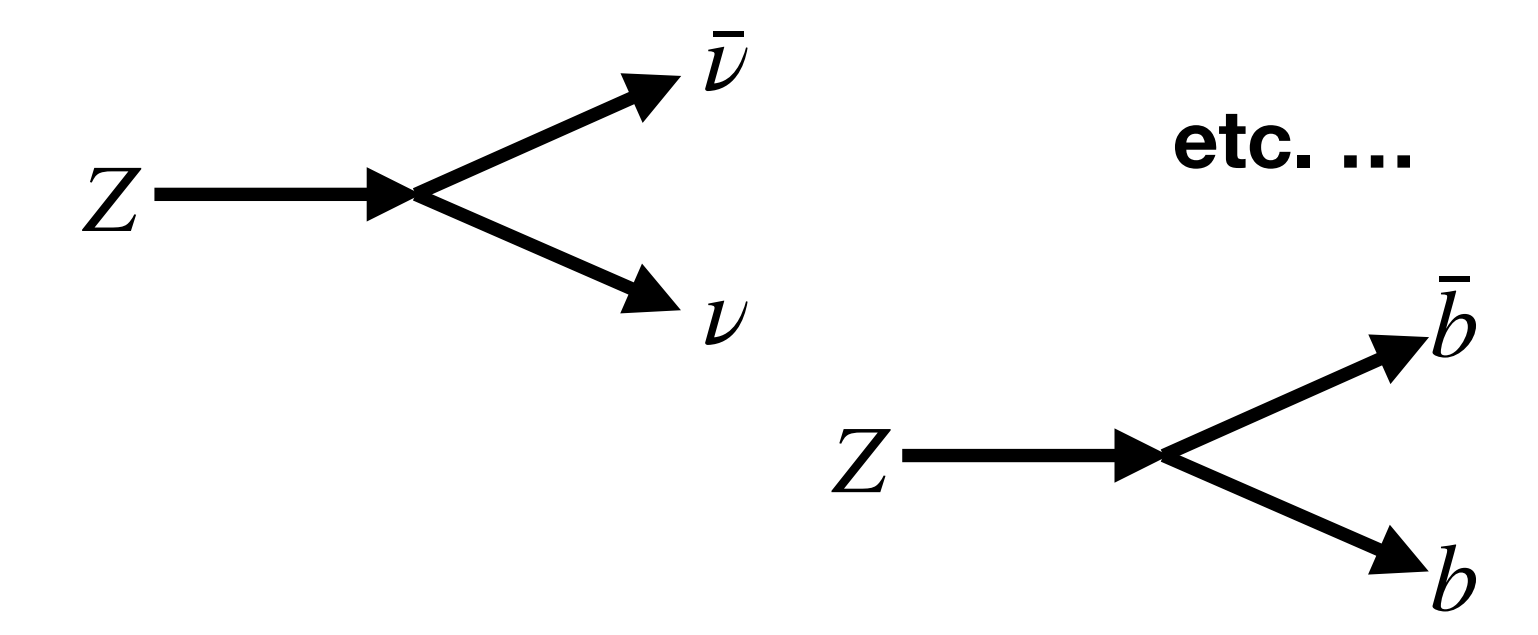
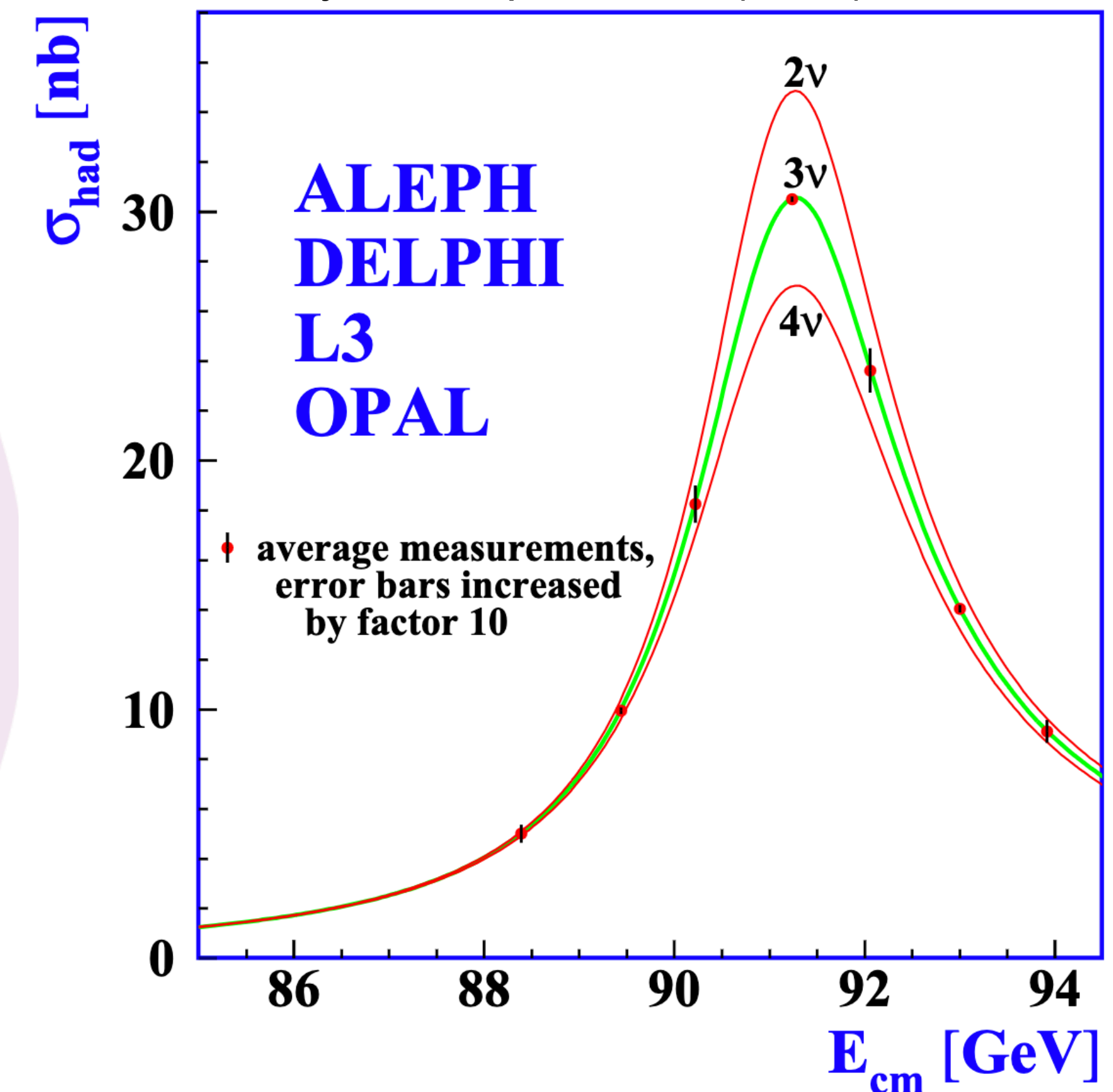


# The neutrino

- Nearly massless, neutral, and only interact via the “weak force” (appropriate name): took time to discover them in nature
- 1950s:  $e$  coupled  $\nu$  found  $\nu_e$  (Reines, Cowan)
- 1960s:  $\nu_\mu$  (Brookhaven)
- Early 2000s,  $\nu_\tau$  observed for first time (Fermilab)
- Measurements show 3  $\nu$  flavors expected
- That **could** have been the whole story...



“Precision electroweak measurements on the Z resonance”  
 Physics Reports **427** (2006) 257 – 454





# Neutrino oscillation

- From these we know that the deficit is both flavor ( $\nu_e, \nu_\mu, \nu_\tau$ ) dependent and distance (L) dependent, and it turns out to be energy dependent as well
- These are signatures of what's called "neutrino oscillation"
  - Quantum mechanical interference between flavors and mass states (eigenstates)
  - Neutrinos created/detected via coupling to flavors, but propagate as the mass states

**Flavors**  

$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_\alpha \\ \nu_\beta \end{pmatrix}$$

**U**  

$$= \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

**Mass states**  

$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

**Neutrino oscillations with 2 flavors:**

$$\begin{aligned} \nu_\alpha &= \cos \theta \nu_1 + \sin \theta \nu_2 \\ \nu_\beta &= -\sin \theta \nu_1 + \cos \theta \nu_2 \end{aligned}$$

$$P_{ab} = P(\nu_a \rightarrow \nu_b) = |\langle \nu_a | \nu_b(t) \rangle|^2$$

$$P_{\alpha\beta} = \left| \sum_{i=1}^2 \sum_{j=1}^2 U_{\alpha i}^* U_{\beta j} \langle \nu_j | \nu_i(t) \rangle \right|^2$$

**QM time evolution:**  $e^{(E_2-E_1)t/\hbar}$

**Energy of mass state:**  $E_2 = \sqrt{m_2^2 + p_2^2} = p_2 \sqrt{1 + \frac{m_2^2}{p_2^2}} \sim E + \frac{m_2^2}{2E}$

Taylor expand and  $p_2 \sim p_1 \sim E$

$\rightarrow e^{\frac{(m_2^2 - m_1^2)t}{2E}} = e^{\frac{\Delta m_{21}^2 L}{2E}}$ 

$(L = vt, \quad v \sim c \rightarrow 1)$   
 natural units

$$P_{\alpha\beta} = \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2 \left( 1.267 \frac{\Delta m_{21}^2 L}{E} \right)$$

$m : [eV^2]$   
 $L : [m]$   
 $E : [MeV]$

For more details: See chapter 14 of R.L. Workman et al. (Particle Data Group), Prog. Theor. Exp. Phys. 2022 083C01 (2022)



# Neutrino oscillation

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- These are signatures of what's called “neutrino oscillation”
  - Quantum mechanical interference between flavors and mass states (eigenstates)
  - Neutrinos created/detected via coupling to flavors, but propagate as the mass states
- In plot, have an oscillatory effect for mass splitting  $10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$ . For GeV  $\nu$ , this takes  $\sim 100\text{s}$  to  $\sim 1000\text{s}$  of km to be maximal  $\rightarrow$  “**long baseline**”

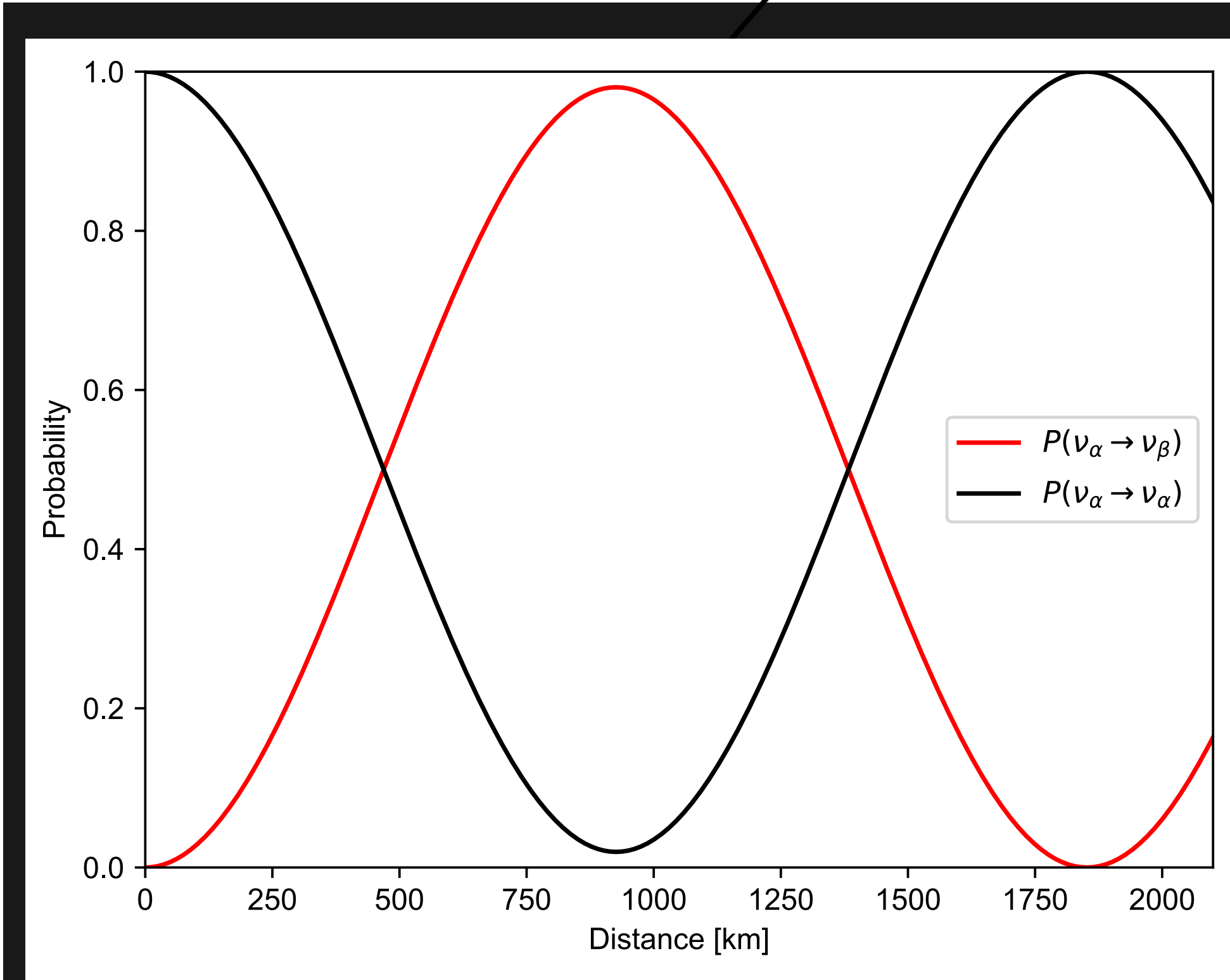
Flavors

U

Mass states

Neutrino oscillations with 2 flavors:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_\alpha \\ \nu_\beta \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \end{pmatrix}$$



Drawing out  $P_{\alpha\beta}$  and  $P_{\alpha\alpha} = 1 - P_{\alpha\beta}$ :

Fixed E (1.8 GeV)

L in range 0 - 2.1 km

$\theta \cong 49^\circ$

$\Delta m^2 = 2.41 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$

**NOTE the oscillatory nature!**

See PDG

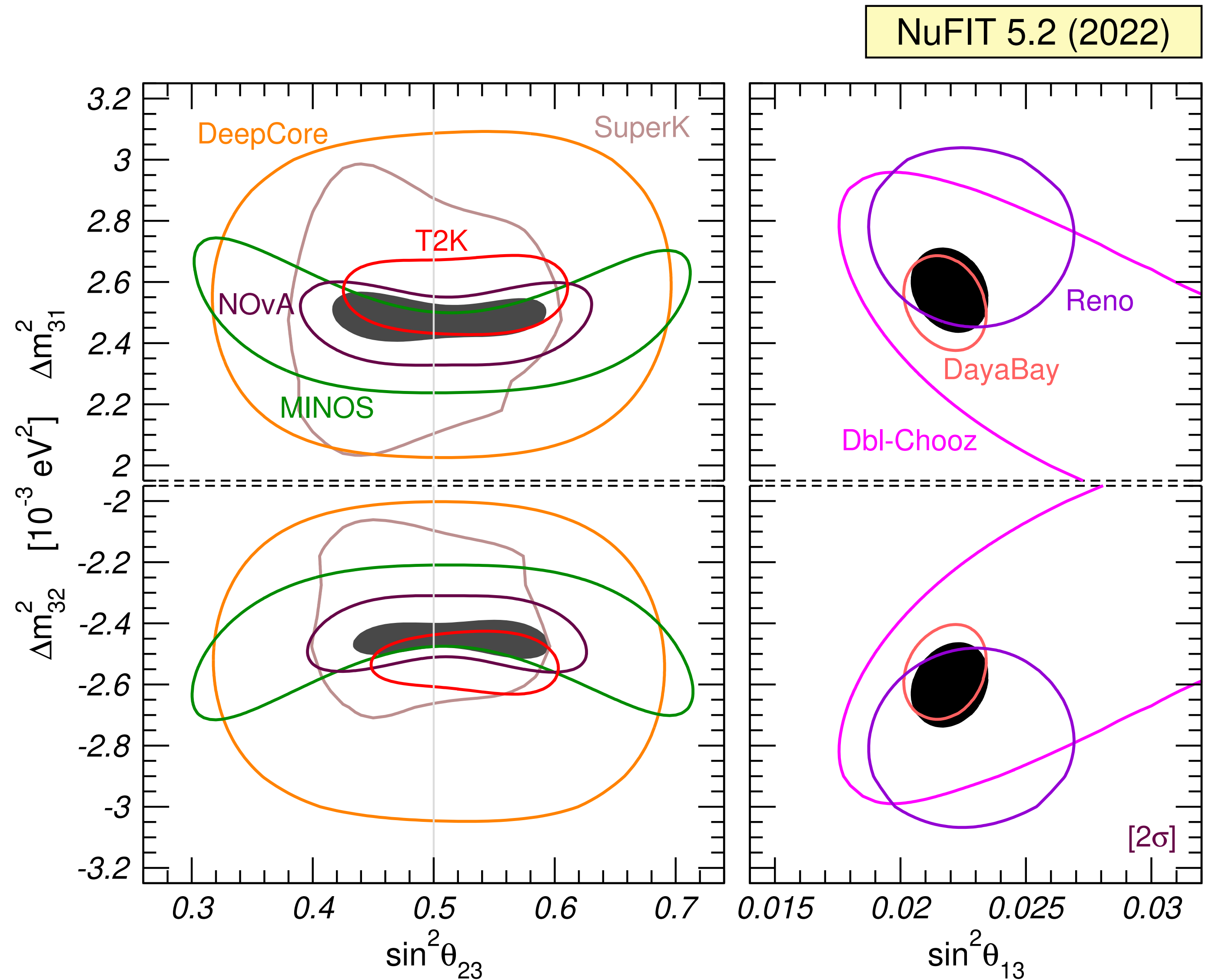
$$P_{\alpha\beta} = \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2 \left( 1.267 \frac{\Delta m_{21}^2 L}{E} \right)$$

$m : [\text{eV}^2]$   
 $L : [\text{m}]$   
 $E : [\text{MeV}]$



# Neutrino oscillation

- Past decades have brought us long way
- Major open questions still, though:
  - **Some values need better study ( $\theta_{23}$  close to  $45^\circ$ , on which side?)**  
*Fully/precisely measure the mixing parameters!*
  - **Sign of  $\Delta m_{32}^2$ ? (We have  $\Delta m_{32}^2$ )**  
*Is  $m_3$  the lightest or heaviest?*
  - **Is  $\delta_{CP}$  different from 0?**  
*Do neutrinos and antineutrinos behave differently?*
  - **Do we see same parameters from experiments at very different regimes? (test assumptions)**  
*Is the 3 neutrino picture complete?*
- Need next generation to answer these definitively...



JHEP 09 (2020) 178, NuFIT 5.2 (2022), [www.nu-fit.org](http://www.nu-fit.org)



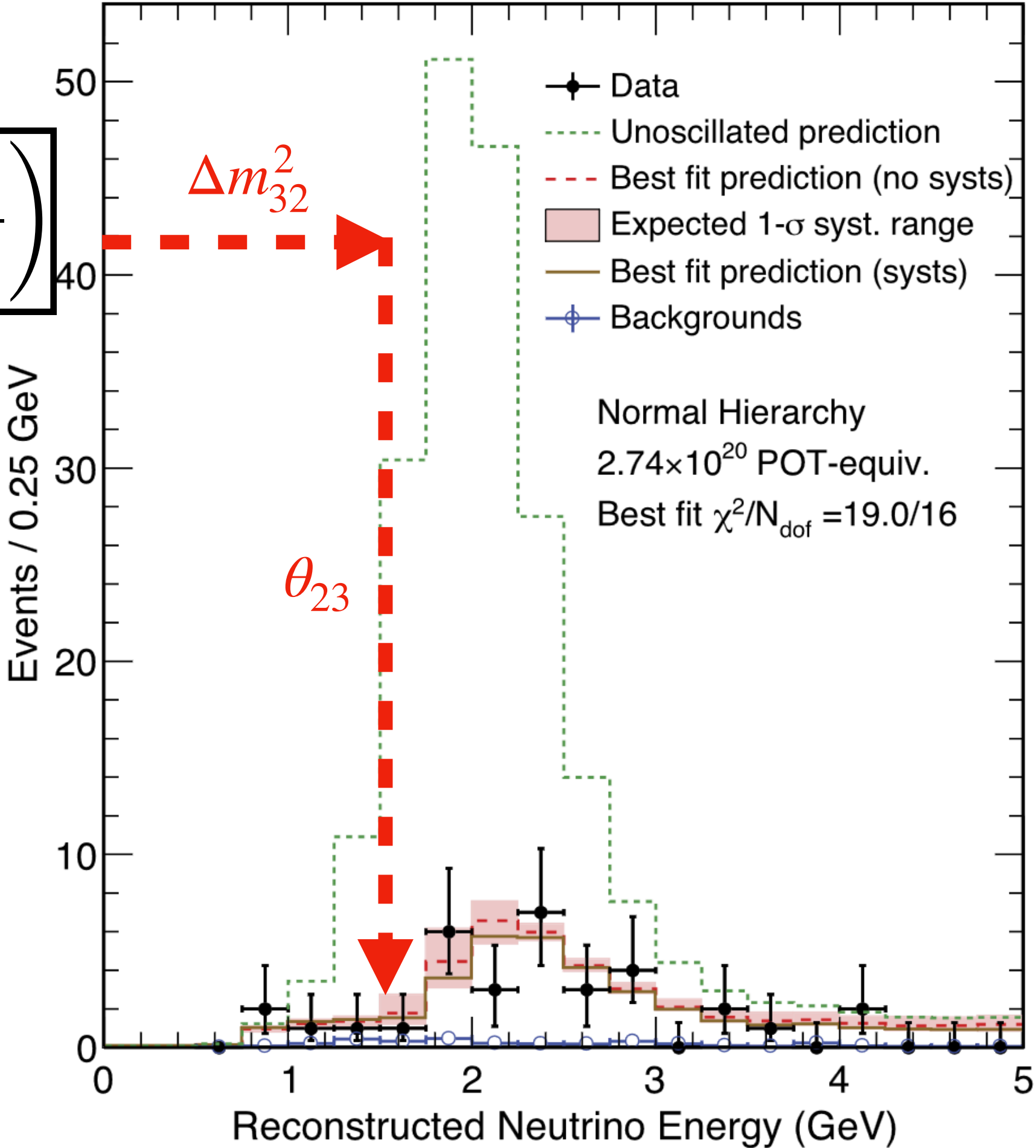
# Neutrino oscillation

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*Do neutrinos and antineutrinos behave differently?*
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*Is the 3 neutrino picture complete?*
- Need next generation to answer these definitively...

$$P_{\mu\mu} \sim \sin^2 2\theta_{23} \sin^2 \left( 1.267 \frac{\Delta m^2_{32} L}{E} \right)$$

At long baselines, looking for  $\nu_\mu$  disappearance approx. reduces to  $2\nu$

Figure from: M.D. Messier. Nuclear Physics B 908 (2016) 151–160



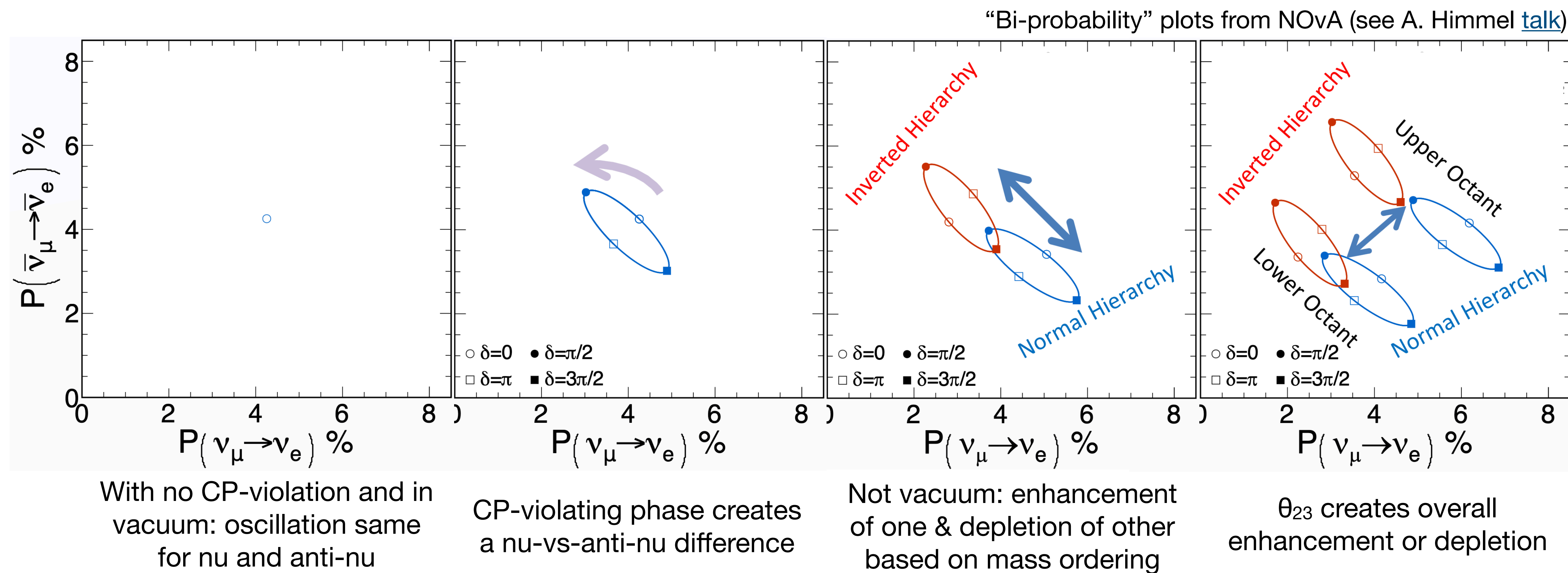
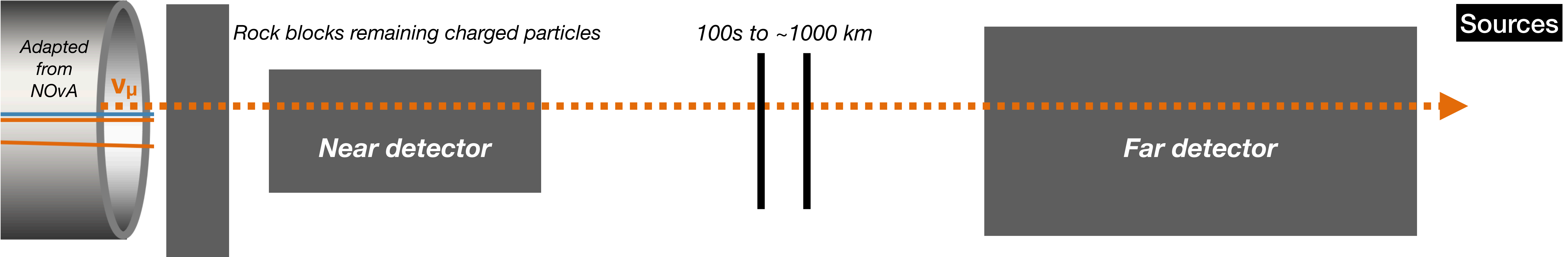
M.D. Messier. Nuclear Physics B 908 (2016) 151–160

$$P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e) = P_{\text{atm}} + 2\sqrt{P_{\text{atm}} P_{\text{sol}}} (\cos \Delta_{32} \cos \delta_{CP} \mp \sin \Delta_{32} \sin \delta_{CP}) + P_{\text{sol}}$$

$$\sqrt{P_{\text{atm}}} = \sin \theta_{23} \sin 2\theta_{13} \frac{\sin(\Delta_{31} - aL)}{\Delta_{31} - aL} \Delta_{31}, \quad \Delta_{32} \simeq \Delta_{31} = \frac{1.27 \Delta m^2_{32} L}{E} \simeq 1.1$$

$$\sqrt{P_{\text{sol}}} = \cos \theta_{23} \sin 2\theta_{12} \frac{\sin(aL)}{aL} \Delta_{21}, \quad \Delta_{21} = \frac{1.27 \Delta m^2_{21} L}{E} \simeq 0.04,$$

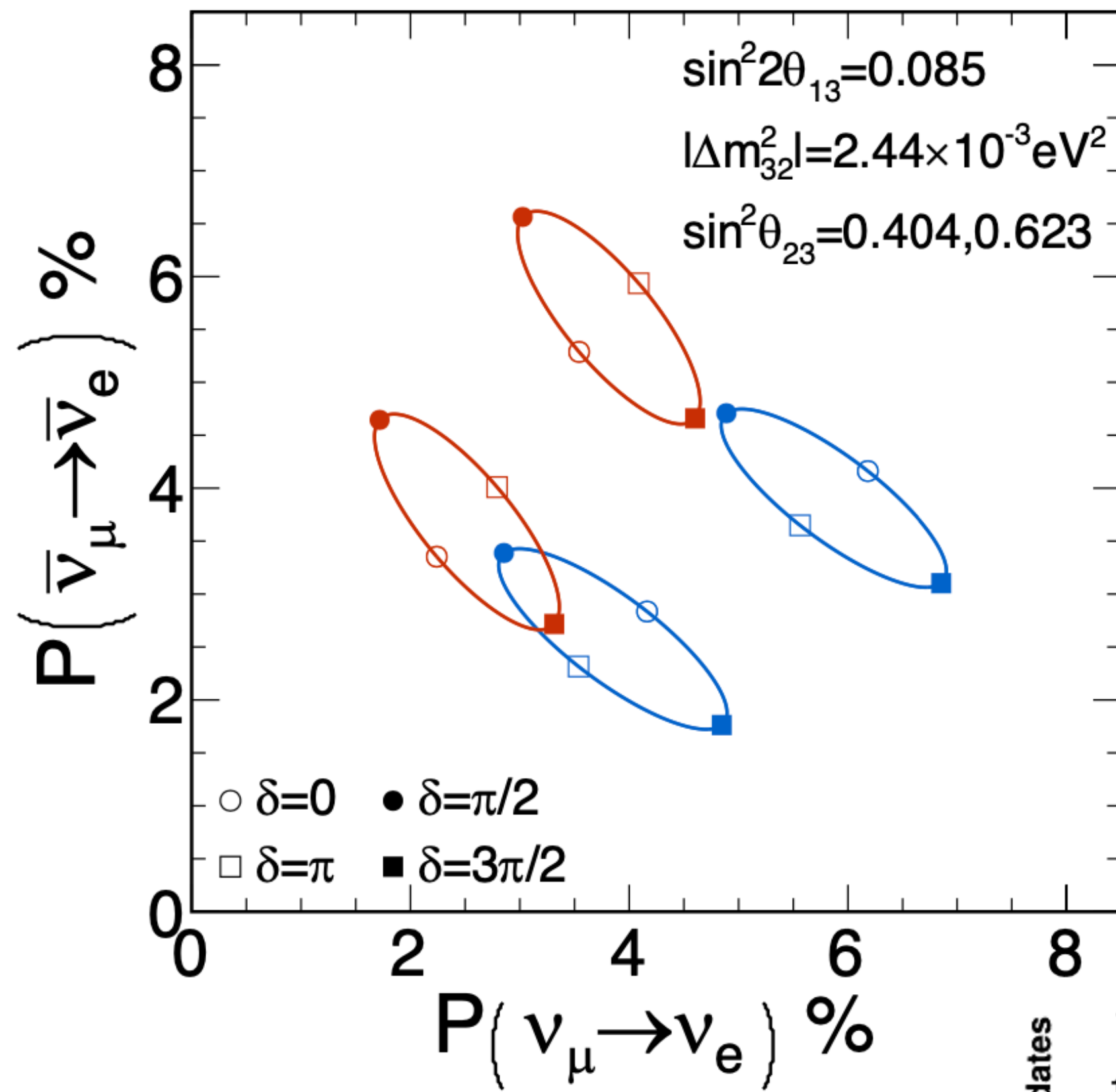






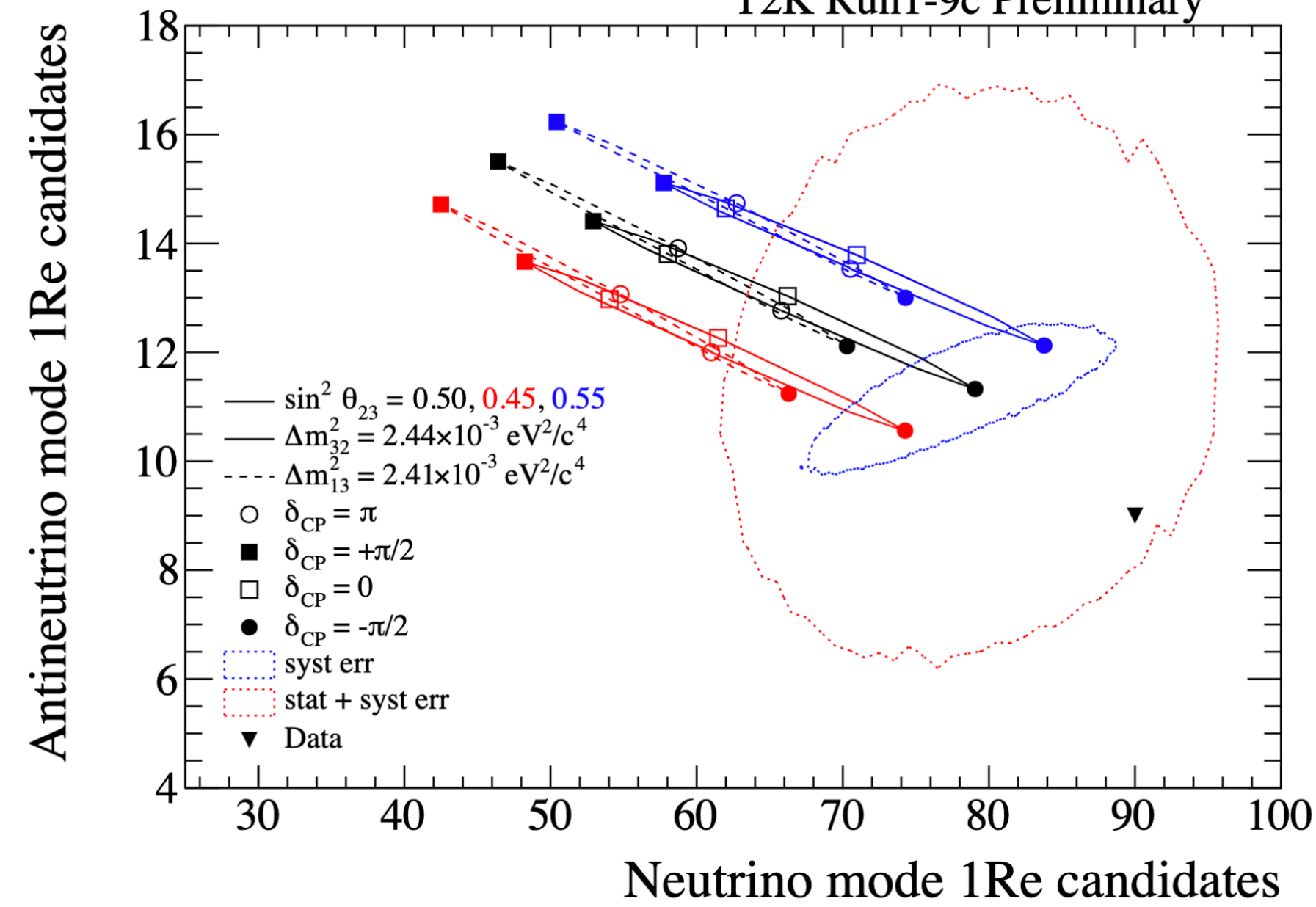
## From NOvA

NOvA: L=810 km, E=2.0 GeV

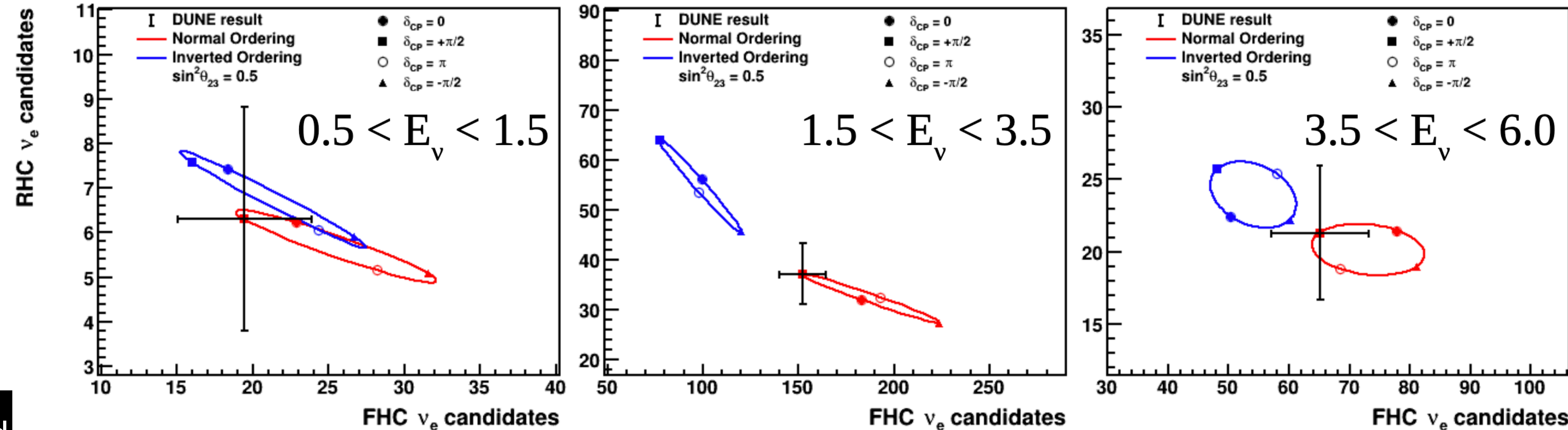


## From T2K

T2K Run1-9c Preliminary



## From DUNE, slices of neutrino energy

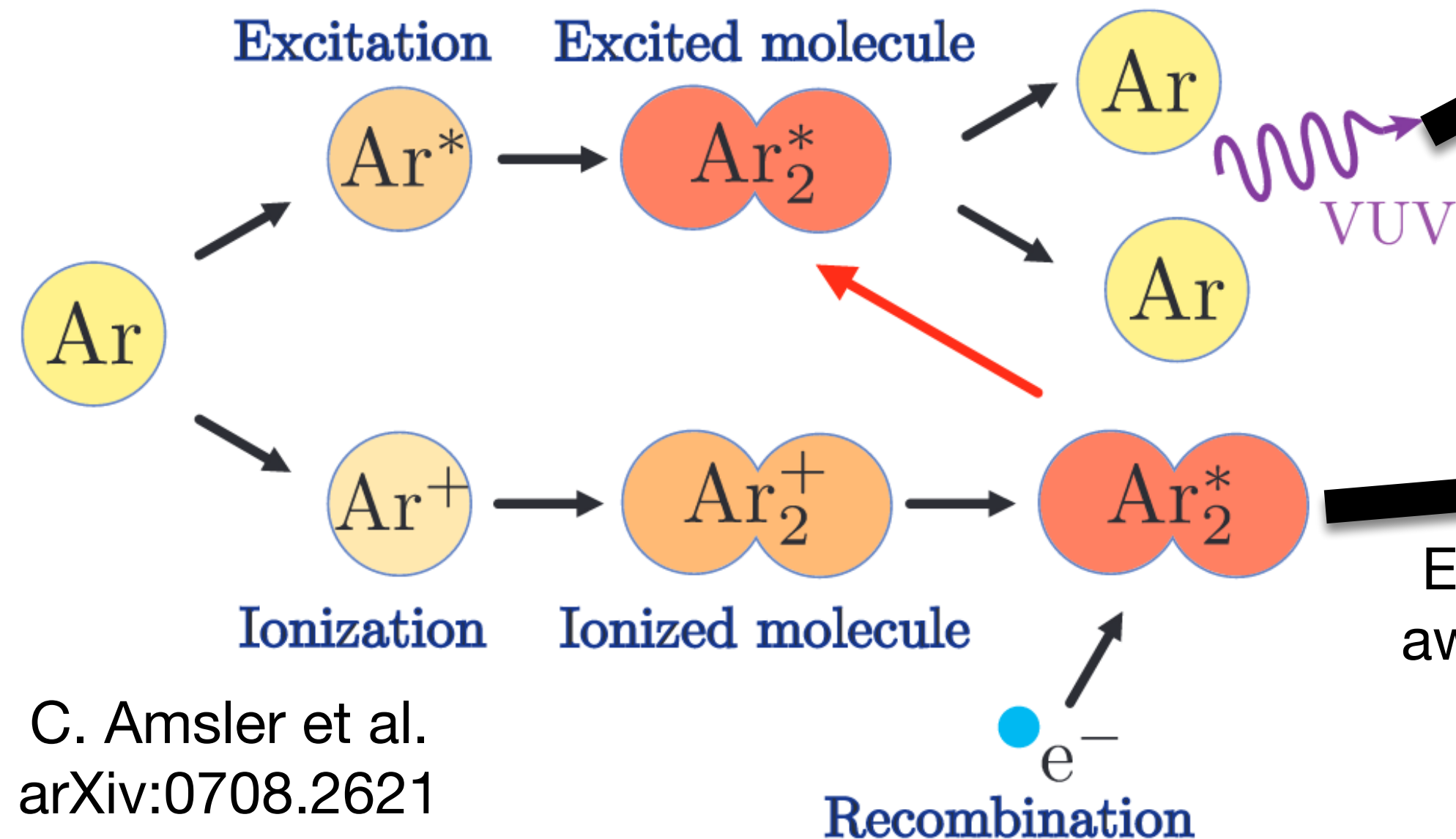




# Liquid Argon as Detector

- Liquified nobles: copious signal in passage of charged particles, both in form of light (scintillation) & charge (ionization):
  - LAr common (cheap among viable nobles)
  - A way of sensing ionization is to apply E field

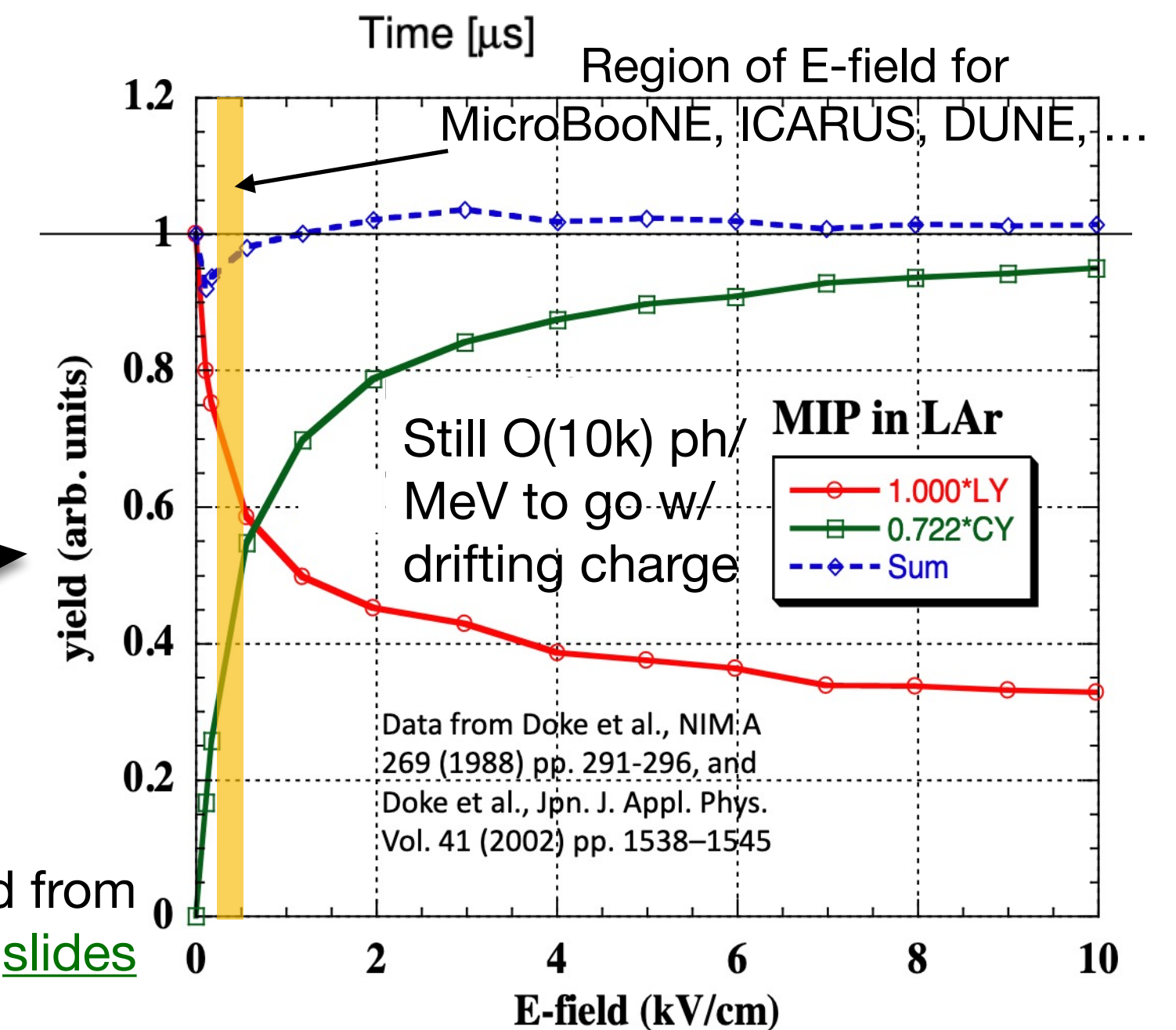
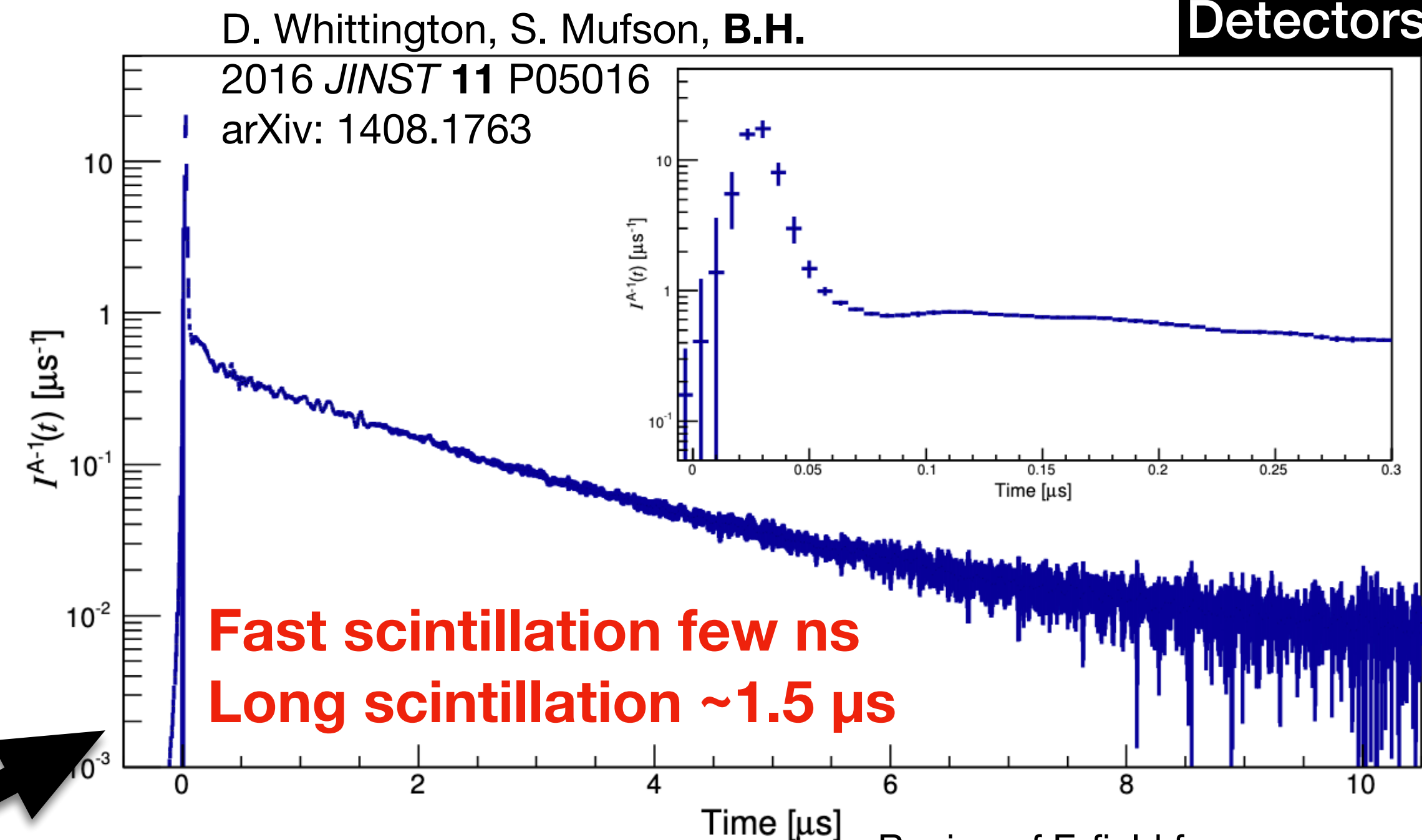
Few different paths to excite Ar dimers, lead to scintillation



C. Amsler et al.  
arXiv:0708.2621

Scintillation production happens on 2 timescales

E field pulls ionization away, reducing amount of recombination

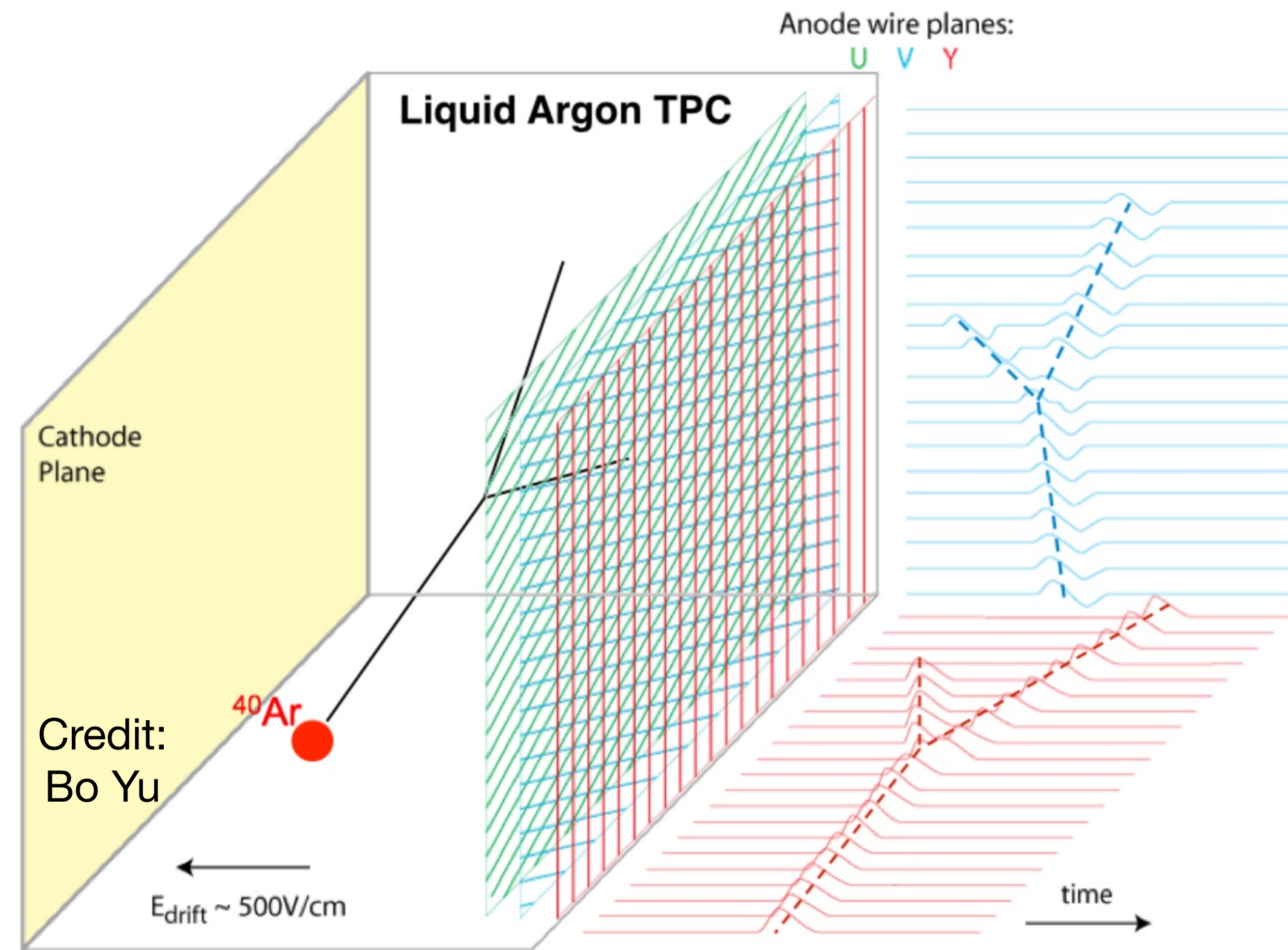


Adapted from M. Szydagis [slides](#)

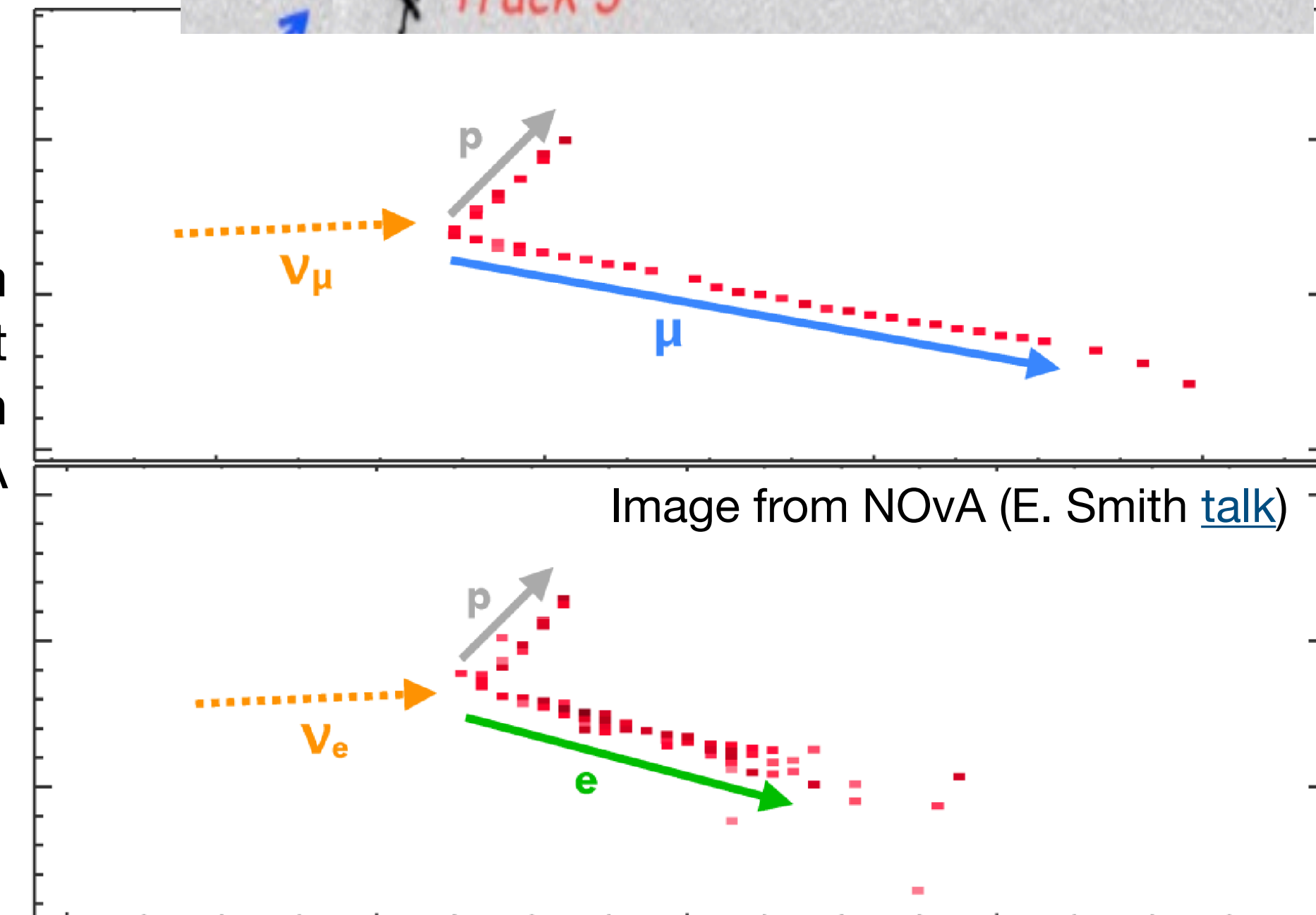
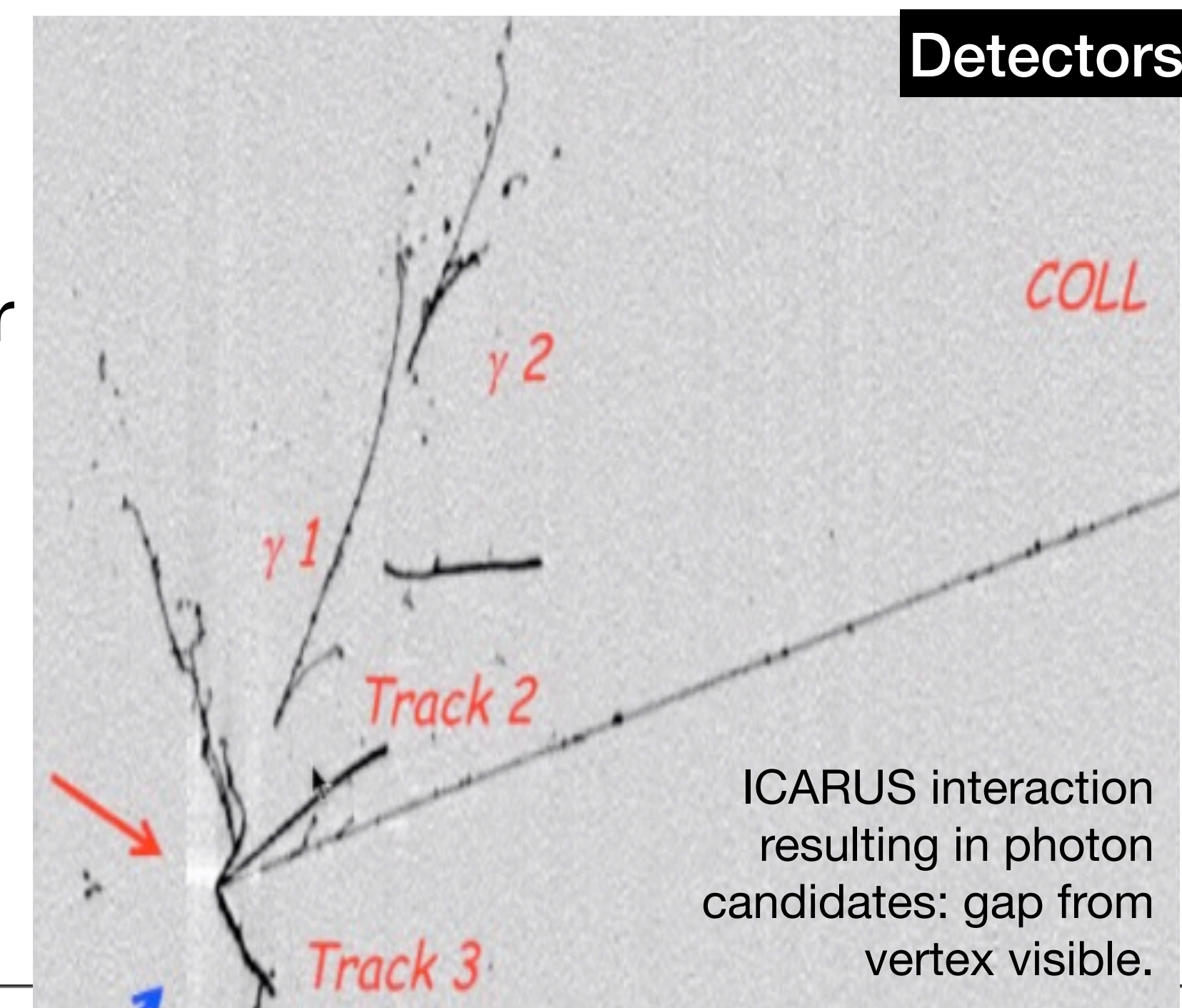


# LAr Time-Projection Chamber

- LAr TPC: mechanism for utilizing powerful signals achievable with LAr
- E-field drifts ionization to wires to measure tracks/showers: wires w/ mm spacing yield fine tracking resolution
- Strength proportional to energy deposition
- **Precision measurements,  $e$ - $\gamma$  separation ability**



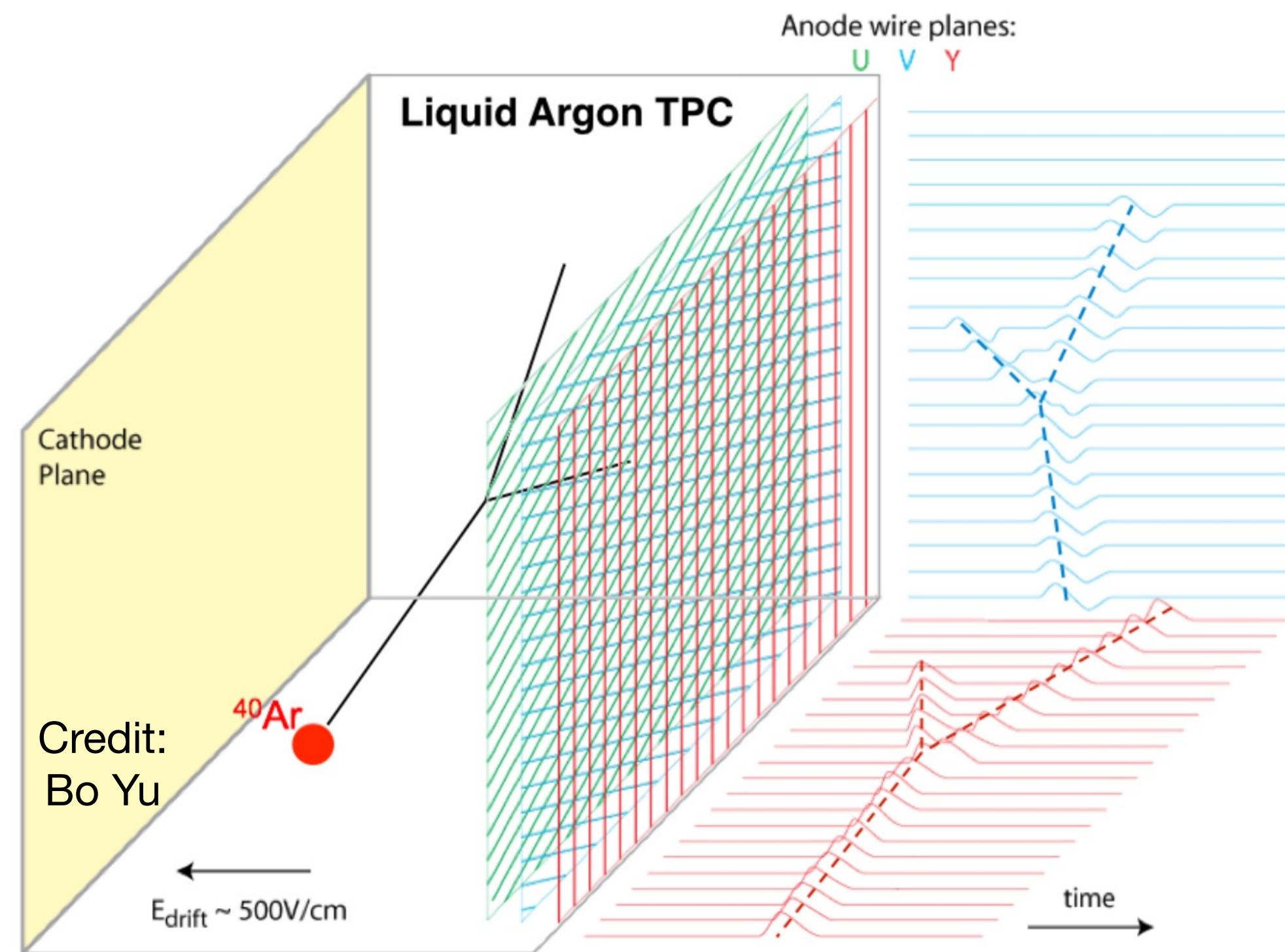
Compare event images from ICARUS (top) to current generation oscillation experiment NOvA





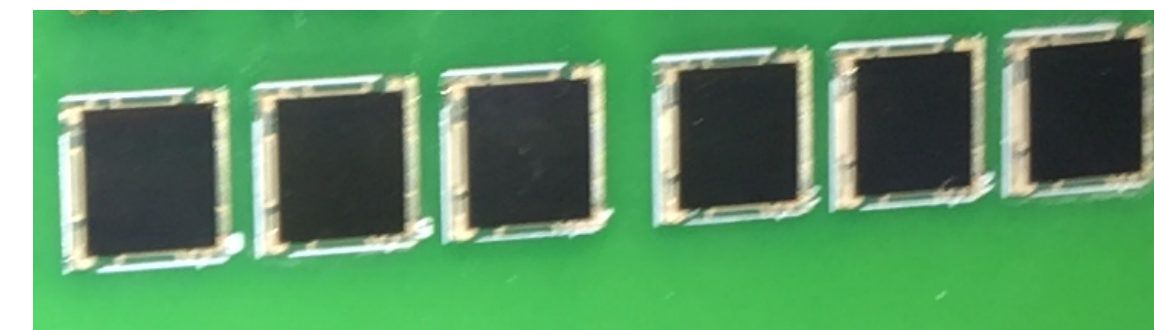
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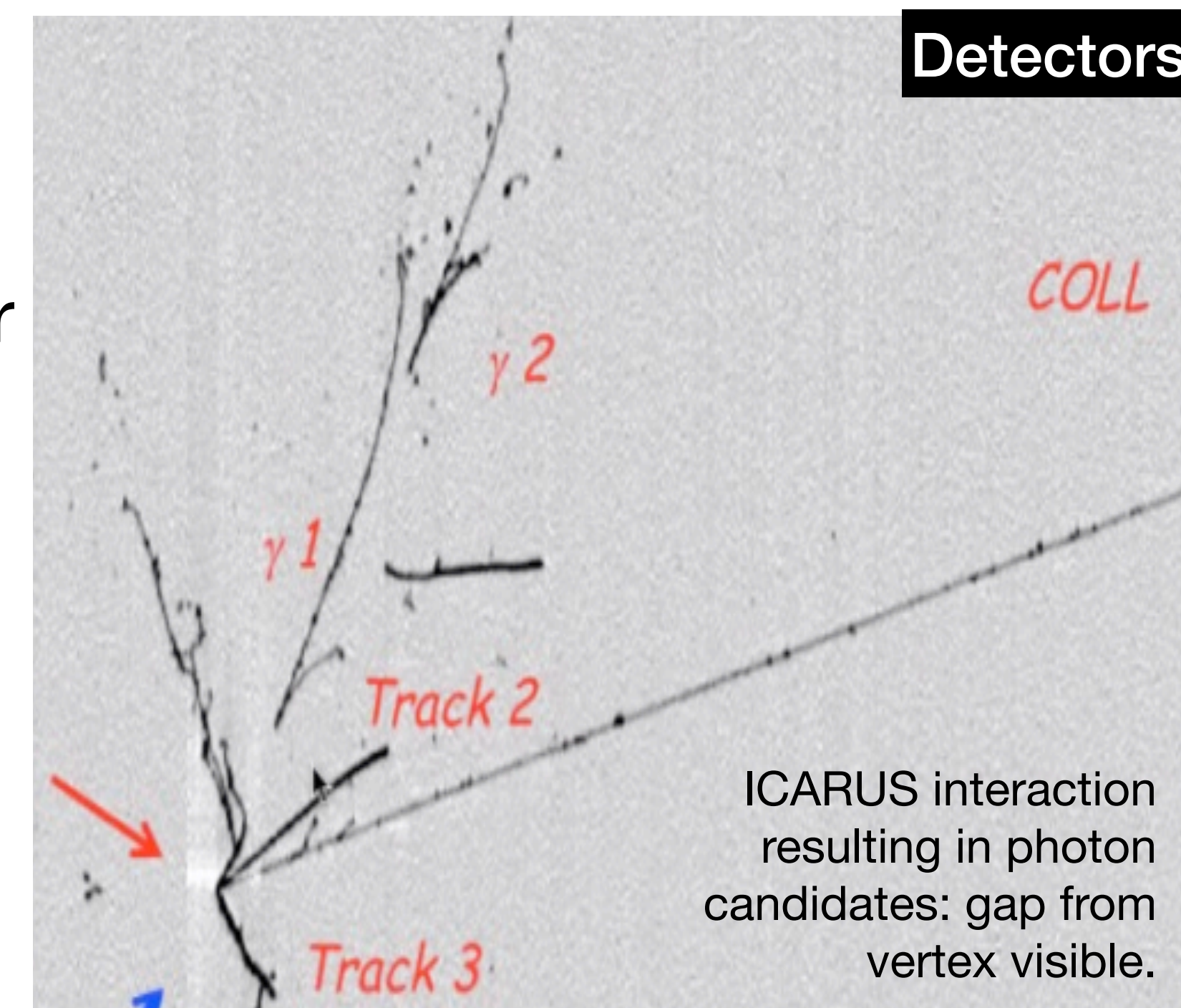


Credit:  
Bo Yu

“Traditional” photon detection in LAr TPC: PMT with TPB, from ICARUS image



6x6 mm<sup>2</sup> silicon photomultipliers (SiPMs) arranged in line. These are optical SiPMs, but (V)UV sensitive SiPM options also now exist.

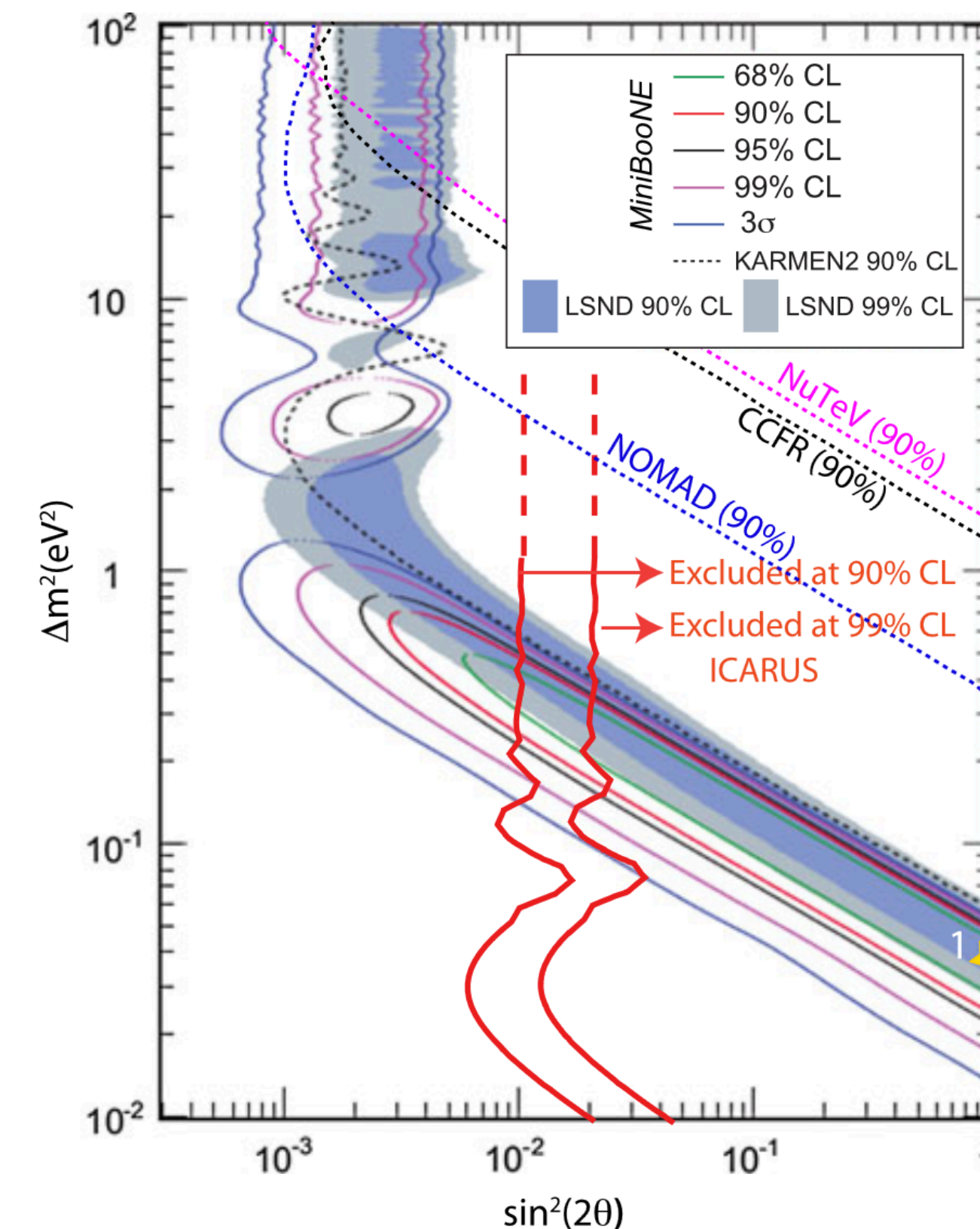
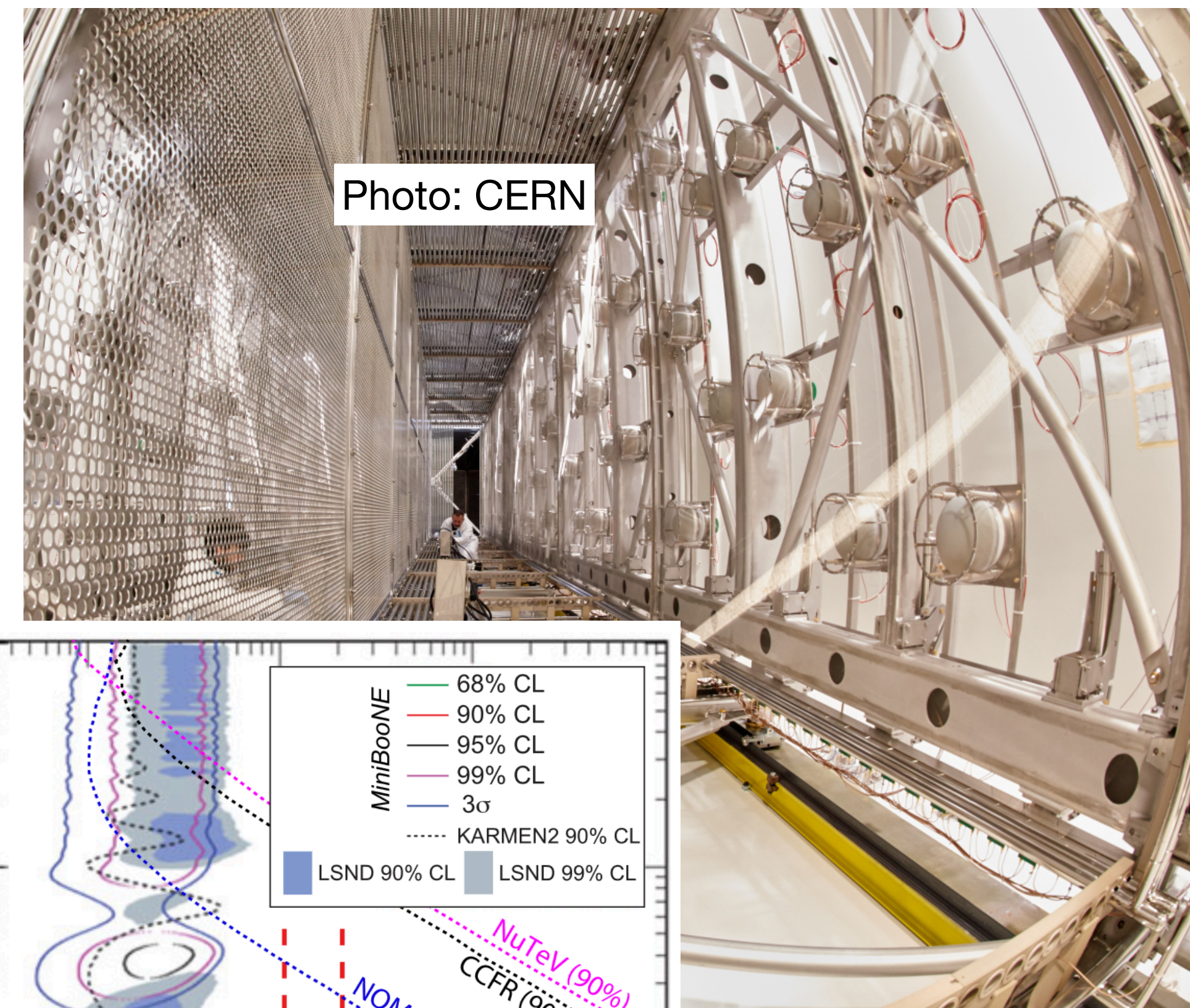


- Scintillation detection provides prompt signal capable of adding additional info about interaction, provide trigger, cosmic veto, etc.
- Possibility to use both light and charge to do best measurements



# ICARUS & History of LArTPC

- 1970s: ideas of TPC (D. Nygren, 1974), LAr as calorimeter (W. Willis & V. Radeka, 1974), & LAr TPC (C. Rubbia, 1977)
- 1985: ICARUS collaboration works to realize LAr TPC
- By mid 1990s: work and tests were being done with progressively larger prototypes
- 2001: technical commissioning run of T600 module conducted in Pavia, Italy
- 2010-2013: T600 module operated in nu beam from CERN: Gran Sasso (LNGS), Italy
- Mid 2010s: T600 module at CERN for upgrades
- 2017: ICARUS moved to FNAL
  - First large LAr TPC, still one of largest in operation
- Late 2020s: next-gen oscillation experiment DUNE will comprise 10s of kilotons of LArTPC detectors



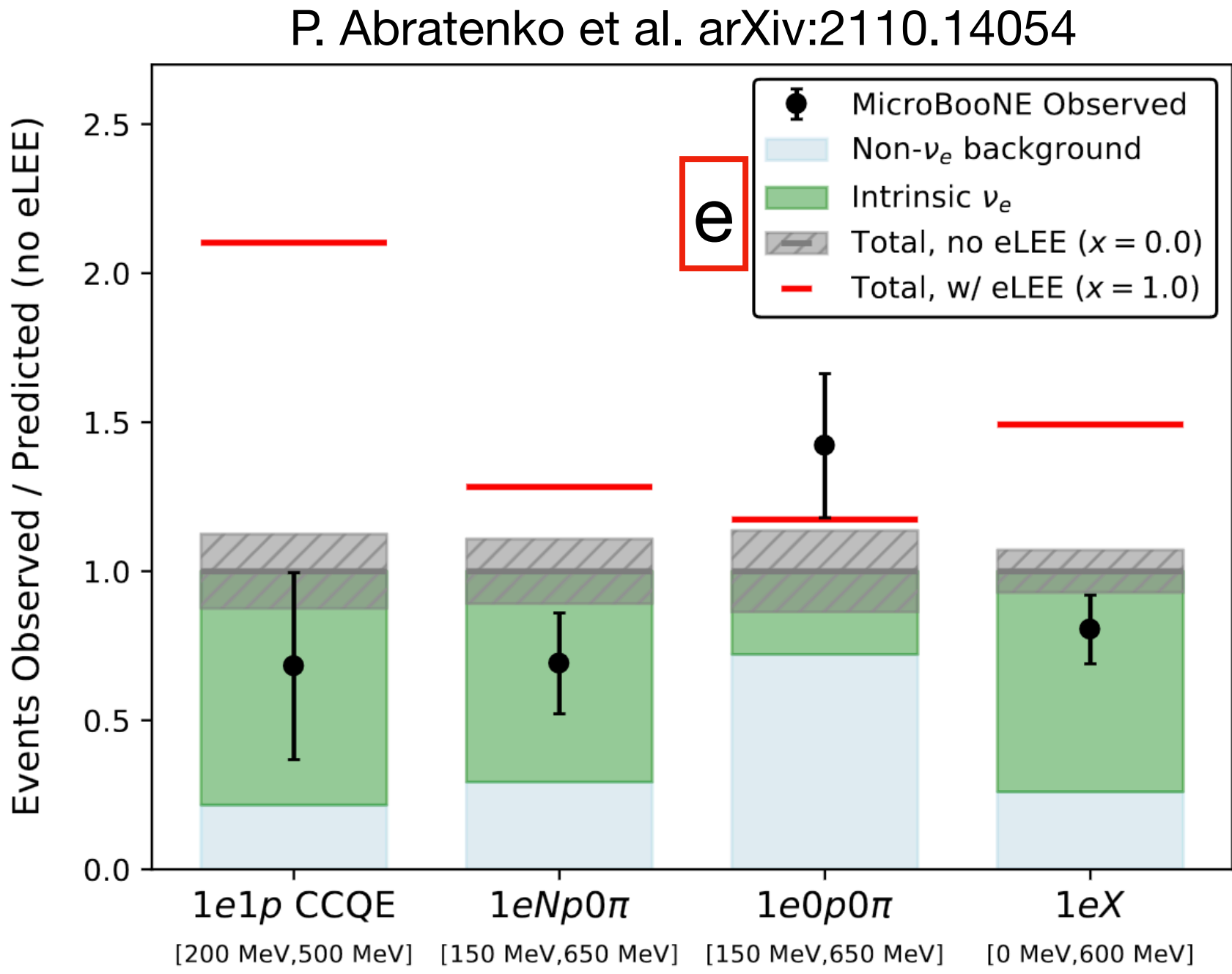
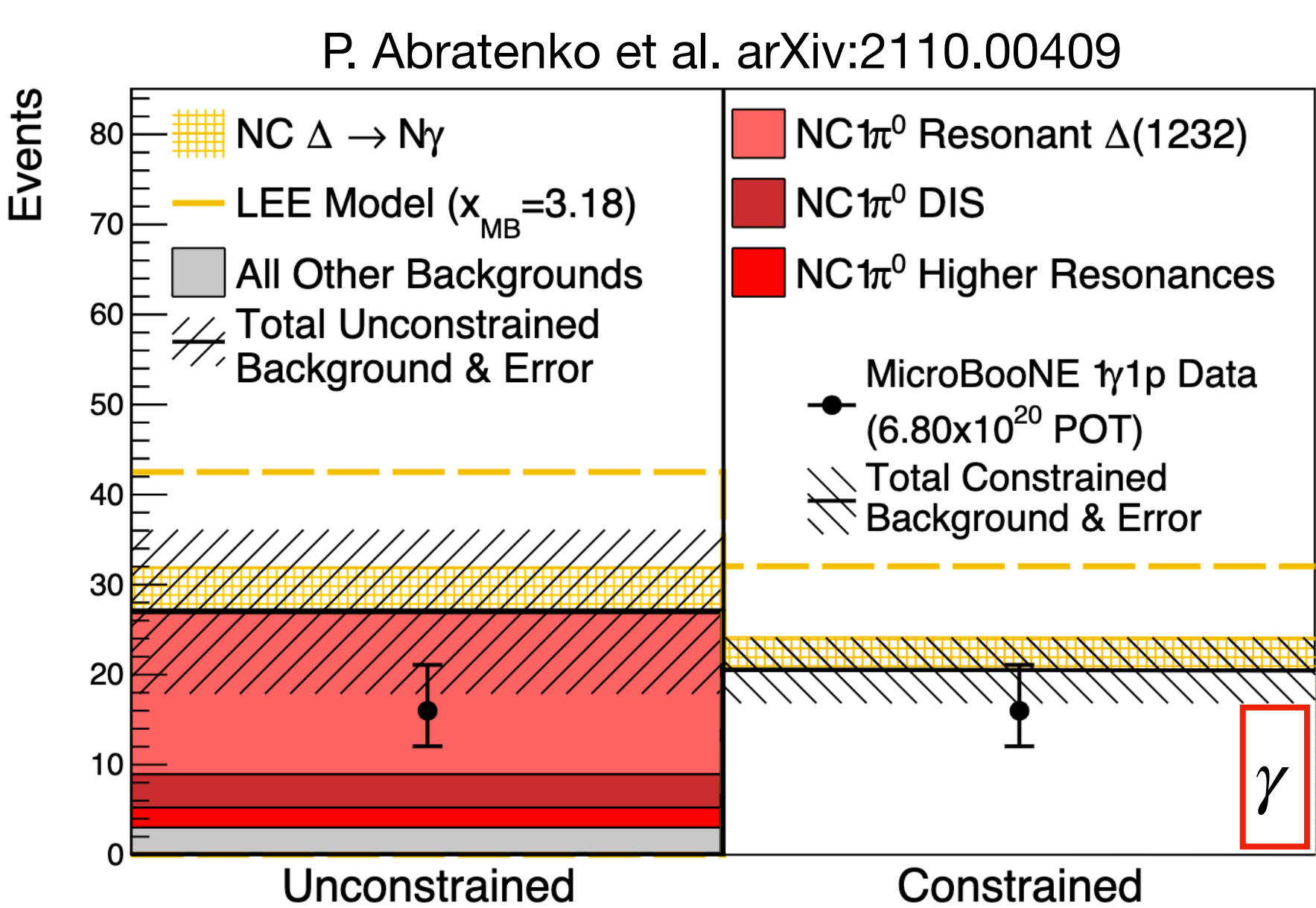
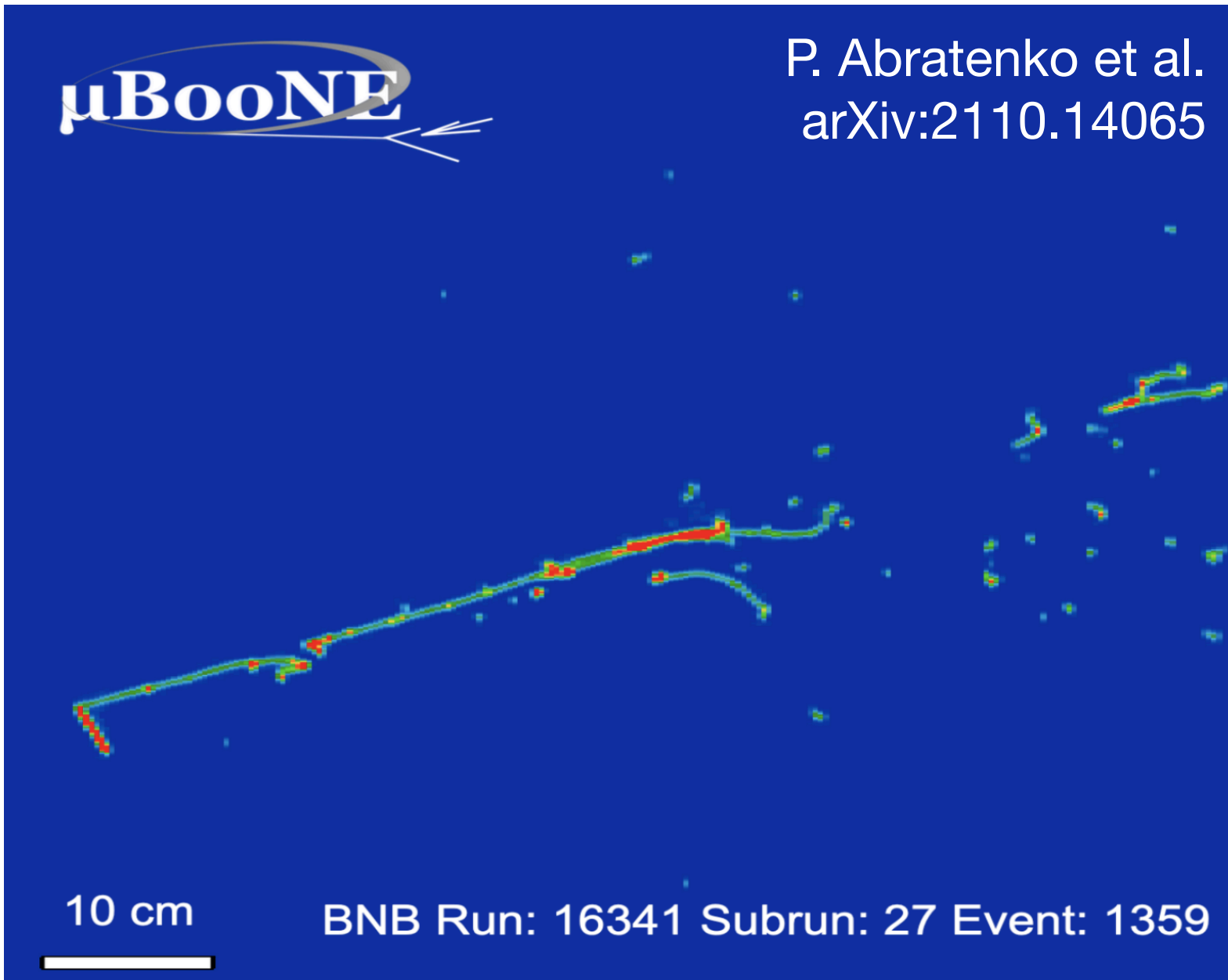
## ICARUS at LNGS

M. Antonello et al.  
Eur. Phys. Journal  
C **73**, 2345 (2013)



# LAr TPCs as Powerful Neutrino Detectors

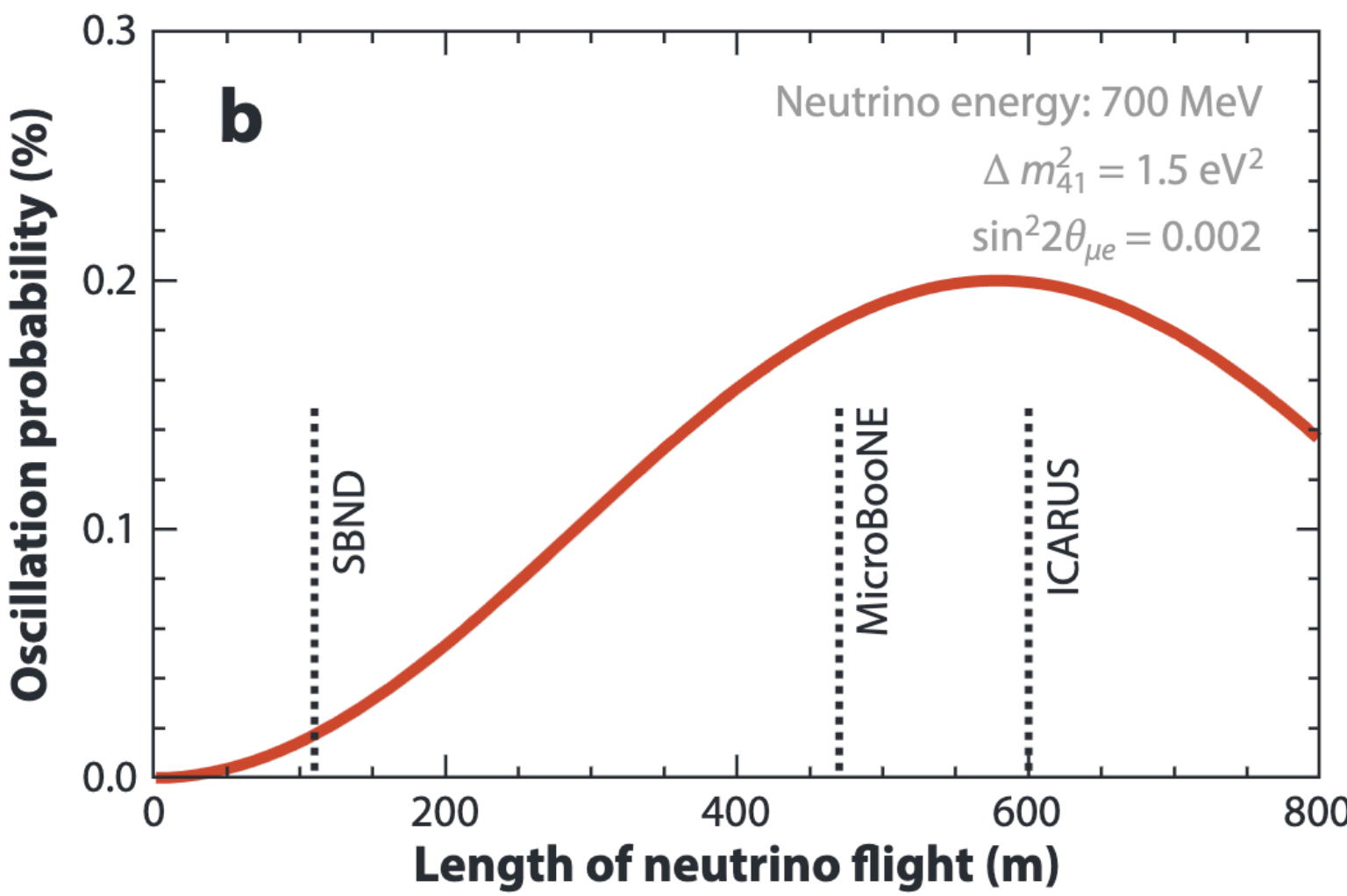
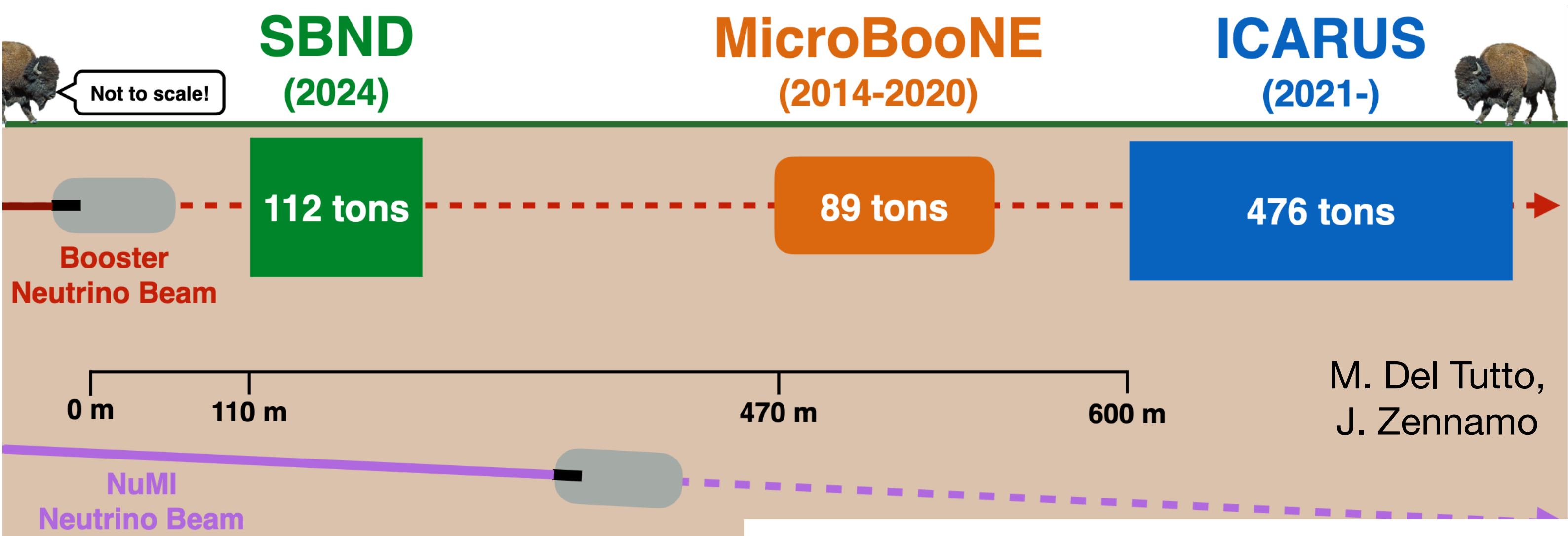
- A lot of work developing technology & understanding operations, properties, and offline processing/analysis w/ such detectors:
  - Build-up to current/upcoming experiments w/ LAr TPCs
  - But also, already some important sterile neutrino-related results. In addition to ICARUS at LNGS on last slide, MicroBooNE has released a number of results



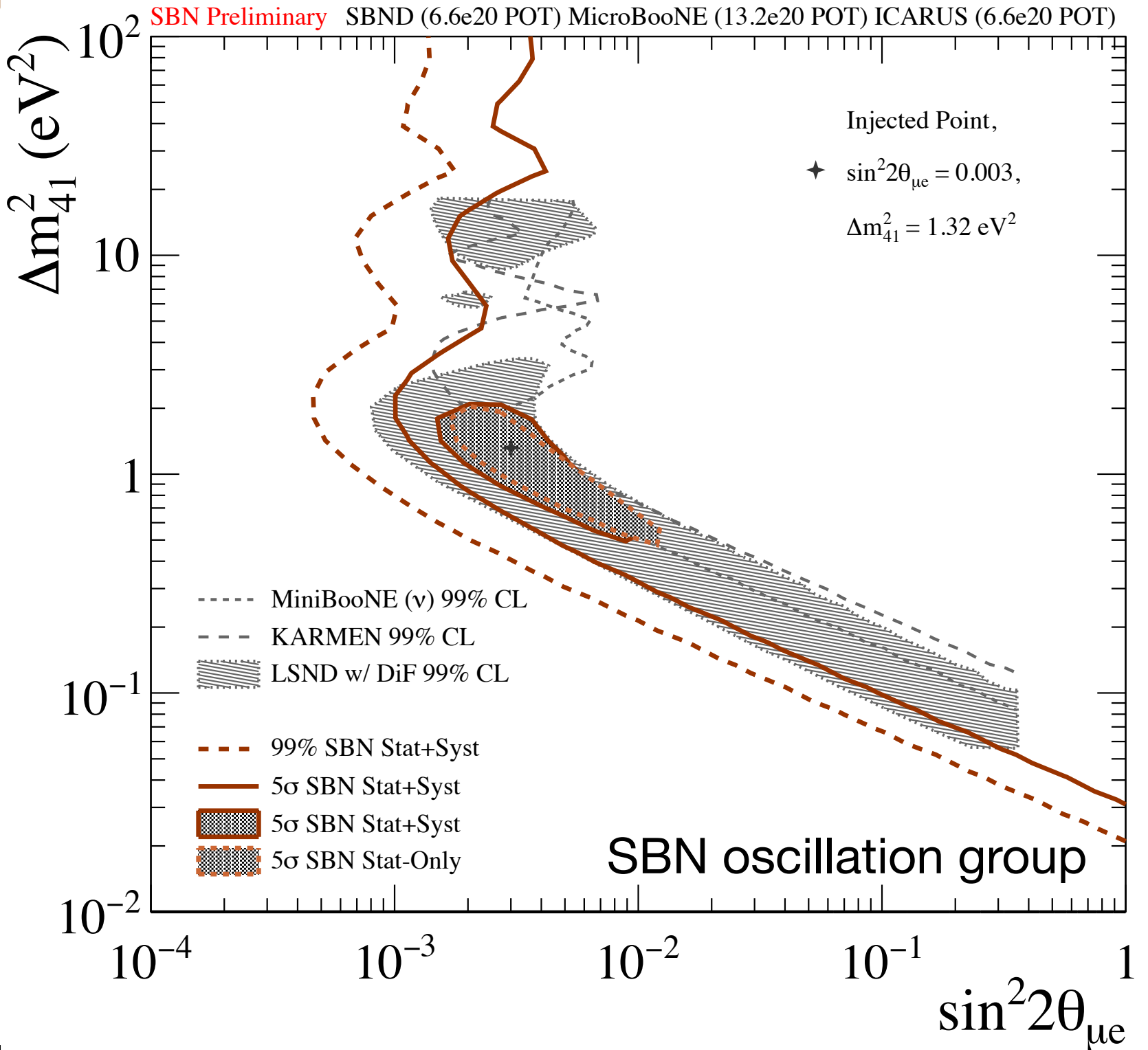


# SBN Program

- Short Baseline Neutrino program at FNAL, 3 LAr TPC detectors along BNB beam
- Allows oscillation measurement like long-baseline, 3-flavor studies
  - SBND=near det, ICARUS=far det
  - Main capability to study both  $\nu_\mu$  disappearance &  $\nu_e$  appearance
  - Can also probe  $\nu_e$  disappearance (intrinsic beam component, or NuMI off-axis at ICARUS)



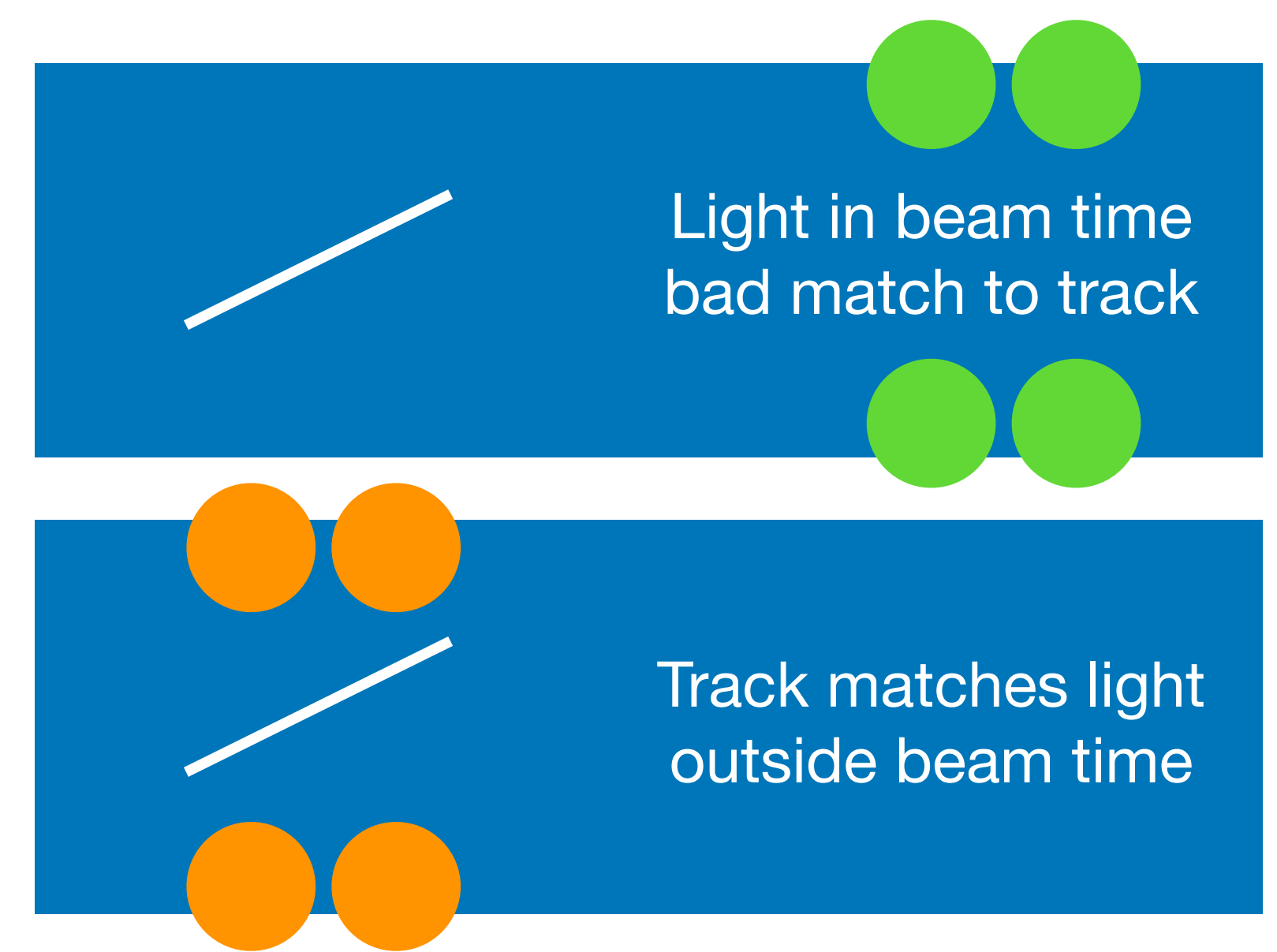
Possible oscillation signature under a set of parameters. P. Machado, O. Palamara, D. Schmitz. Annu. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci. (2019). doi: 10.1146



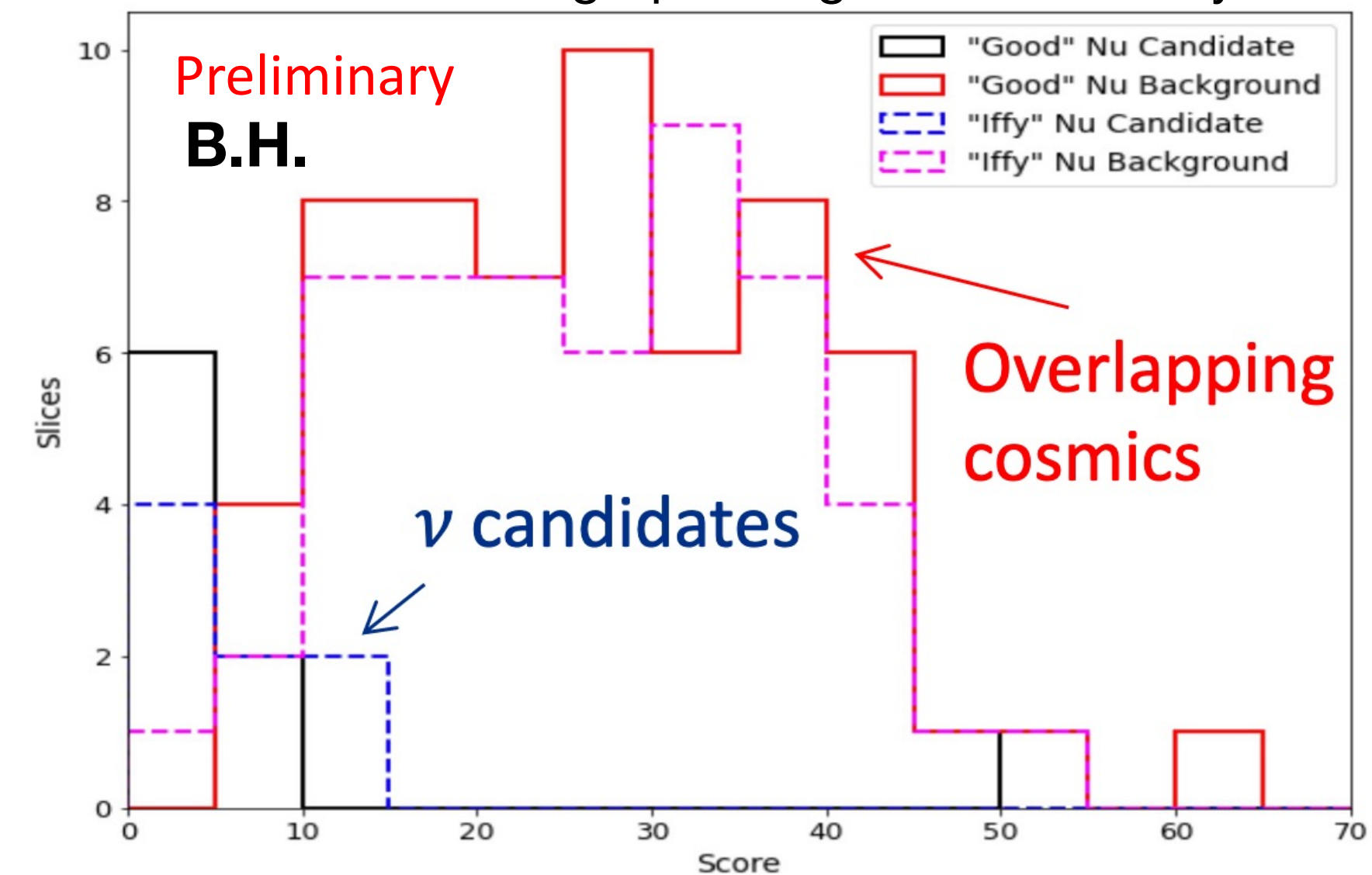


# Cosmic Mitigation in ICARUS

- The PMT-TPC matching is often called “flash matching” and is an attempt to either associate given TPC objects with its appropriate flash (or vice-versa) to better understand the interaction, its time relative to the beam window, etc.
- Multiple avenues being explored to do this:
  - One such version utilized in the joint SBN framework returns for each reconstructed TPC object a “score” to the best-matched light cluster (goodness of match to template) and the approximate time of that light
  - In investigating the event reconstruction with commissioning data, was able to make a preliminary look at this tool during commissioning using a few hand-scanned neutrino candidates



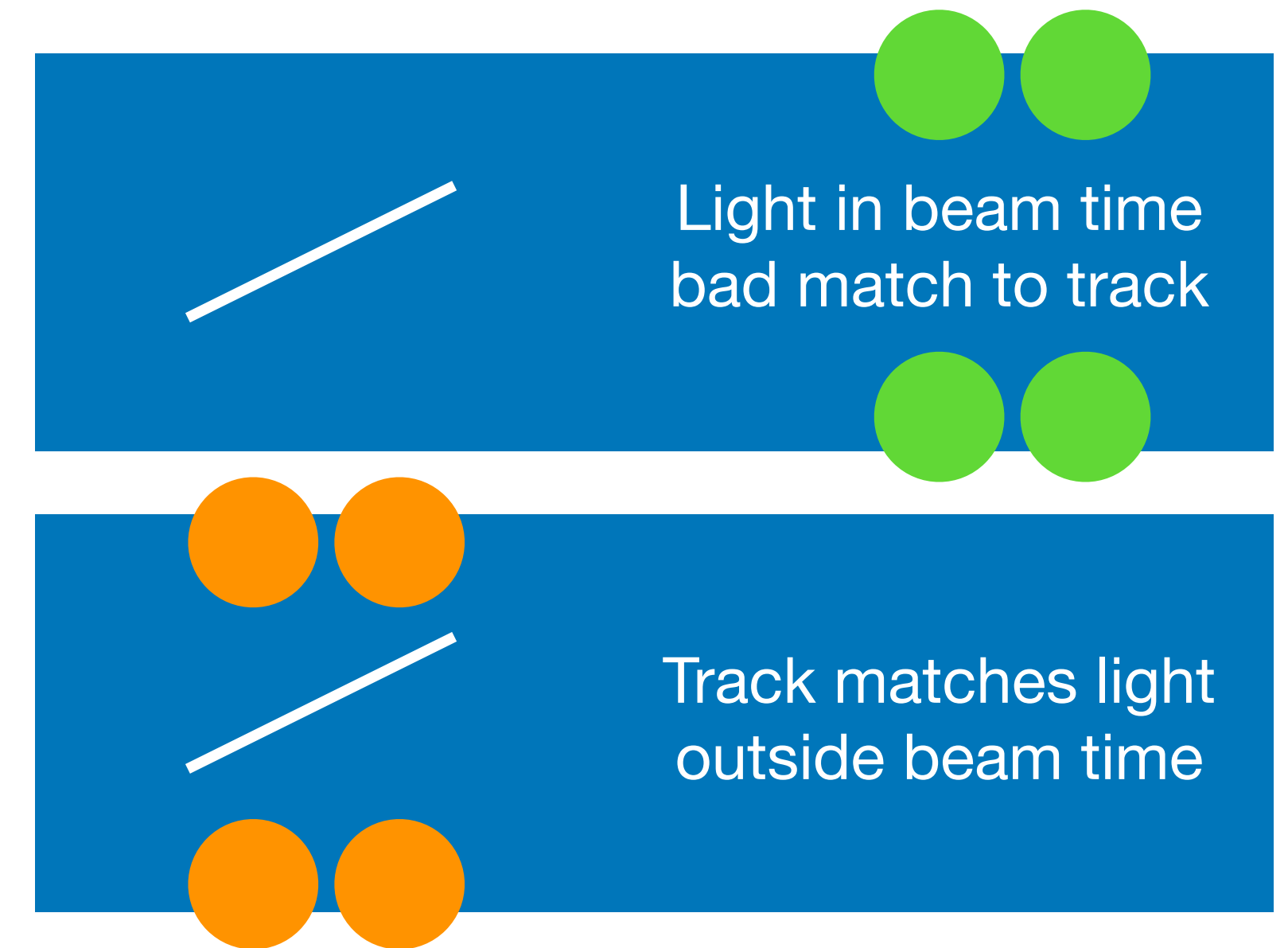
Early look I made with a few hand-scanned events from commissioning: will talk more about commissioning/operating ICARUS shortly



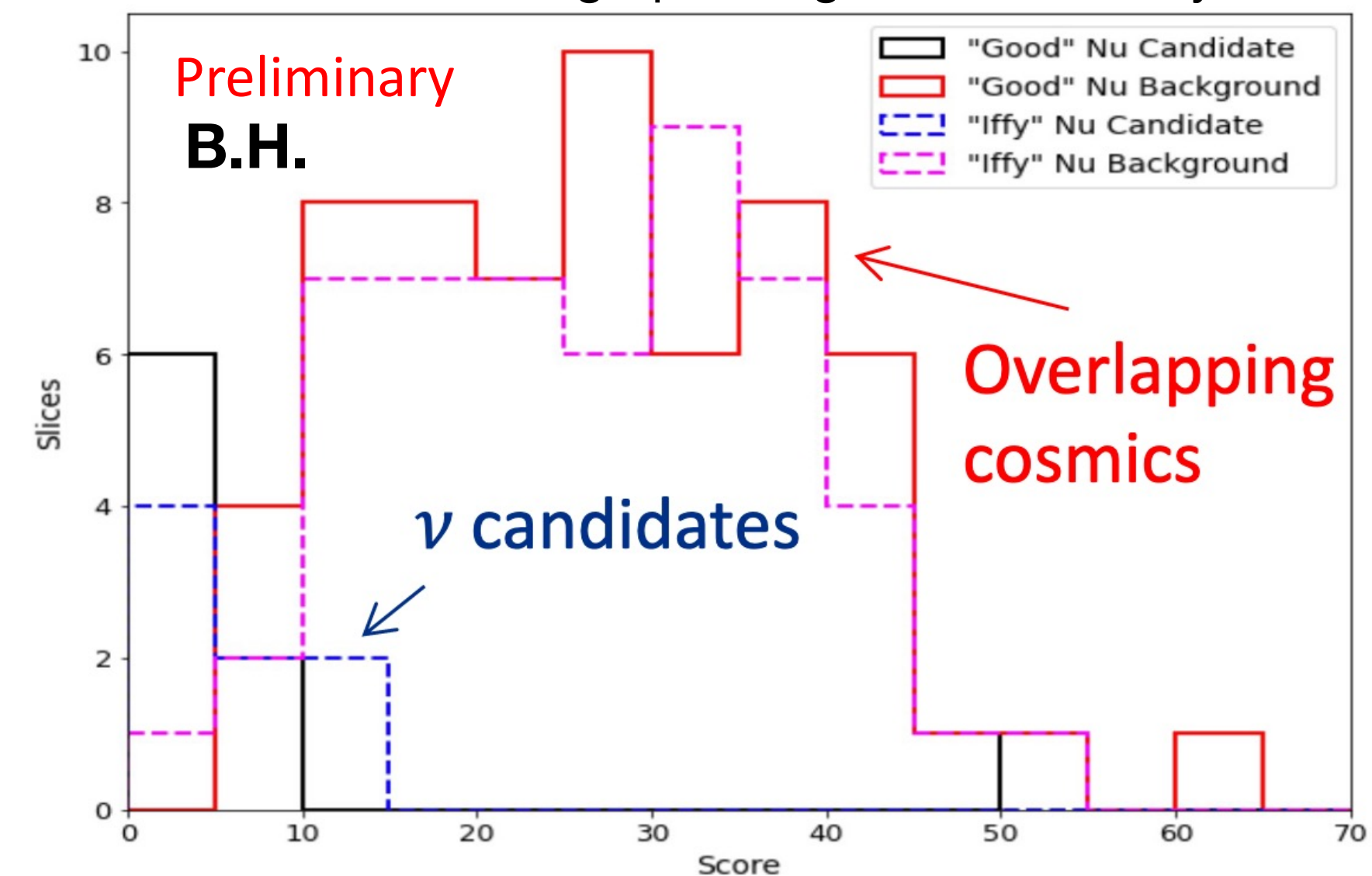
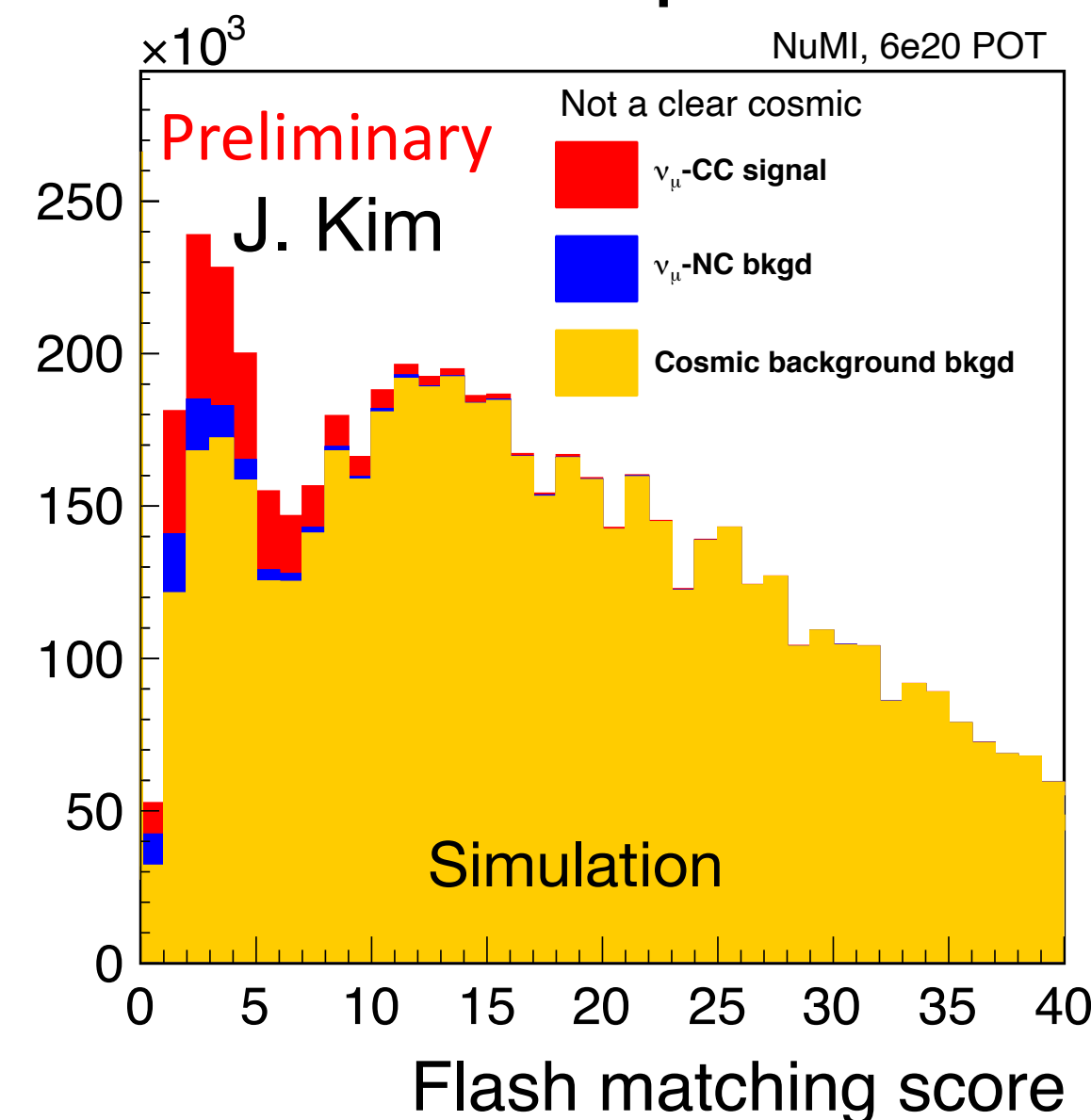


# Cosmic mitigation in ICARUS

- The PMT-TPC matching is often called “flash matching” and is an attempt to either associate given TPC objects with its appropriate flash (or vice-versa) to better understand the interaction, its time relative to the beam window, etc.
- Multiple avenues being explored to do this matching:
  - One method being used in the SBN program compares reconstructed interactions in the TPC to light clusters and finds its best match and gives the time of that light cluster and a “score” of the match based on simulated templates
  - Another method under investigation uses many-to-many matching of the charge & light clusters (drawing from the MicroBooNE experience)
  - Also, simpler but not model dependent is doing barycenter based matching

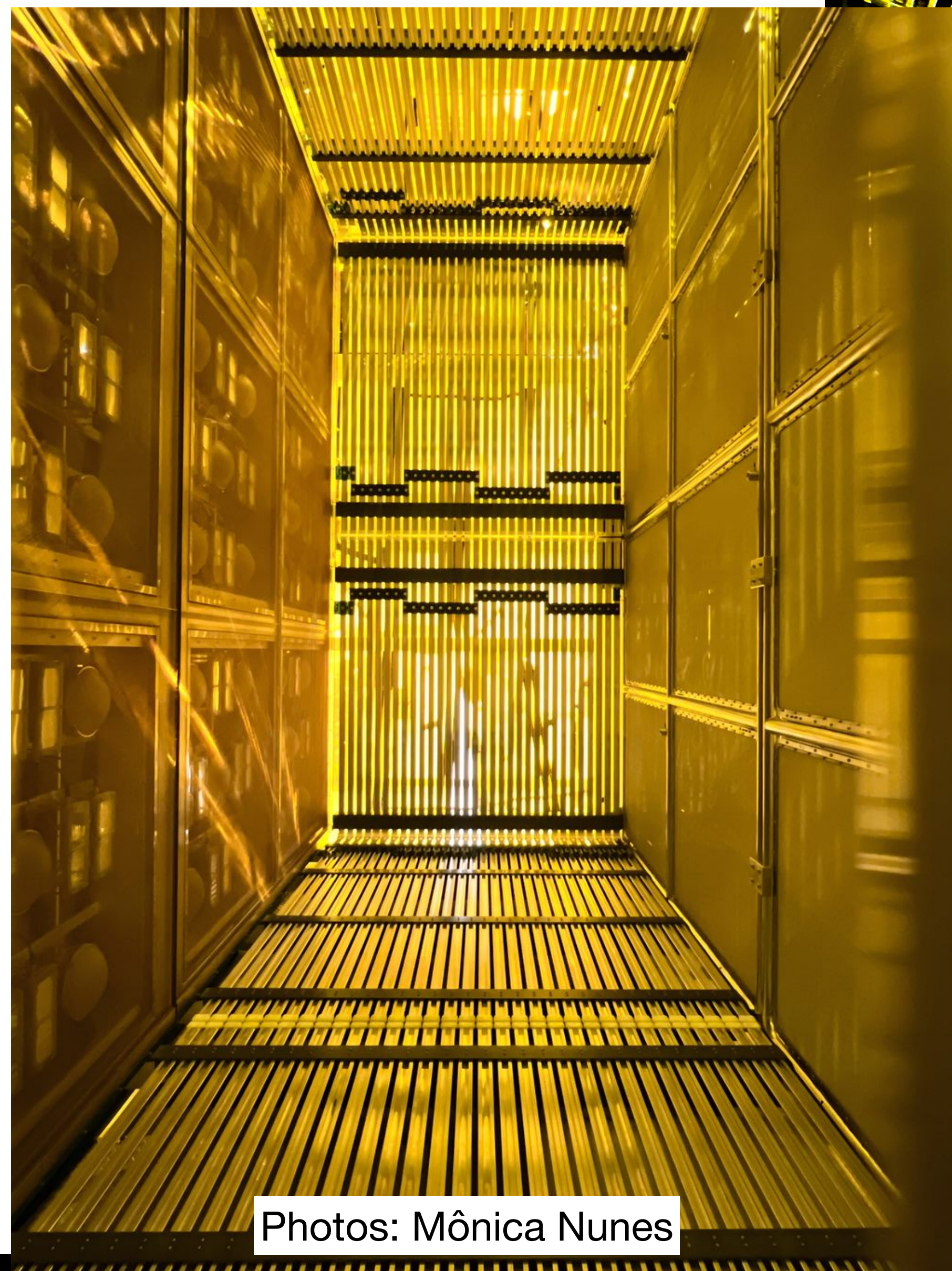


Early look I made with a few hand-scanned events from commissioning: will talk more about commissioning/operating ICARUS shortly

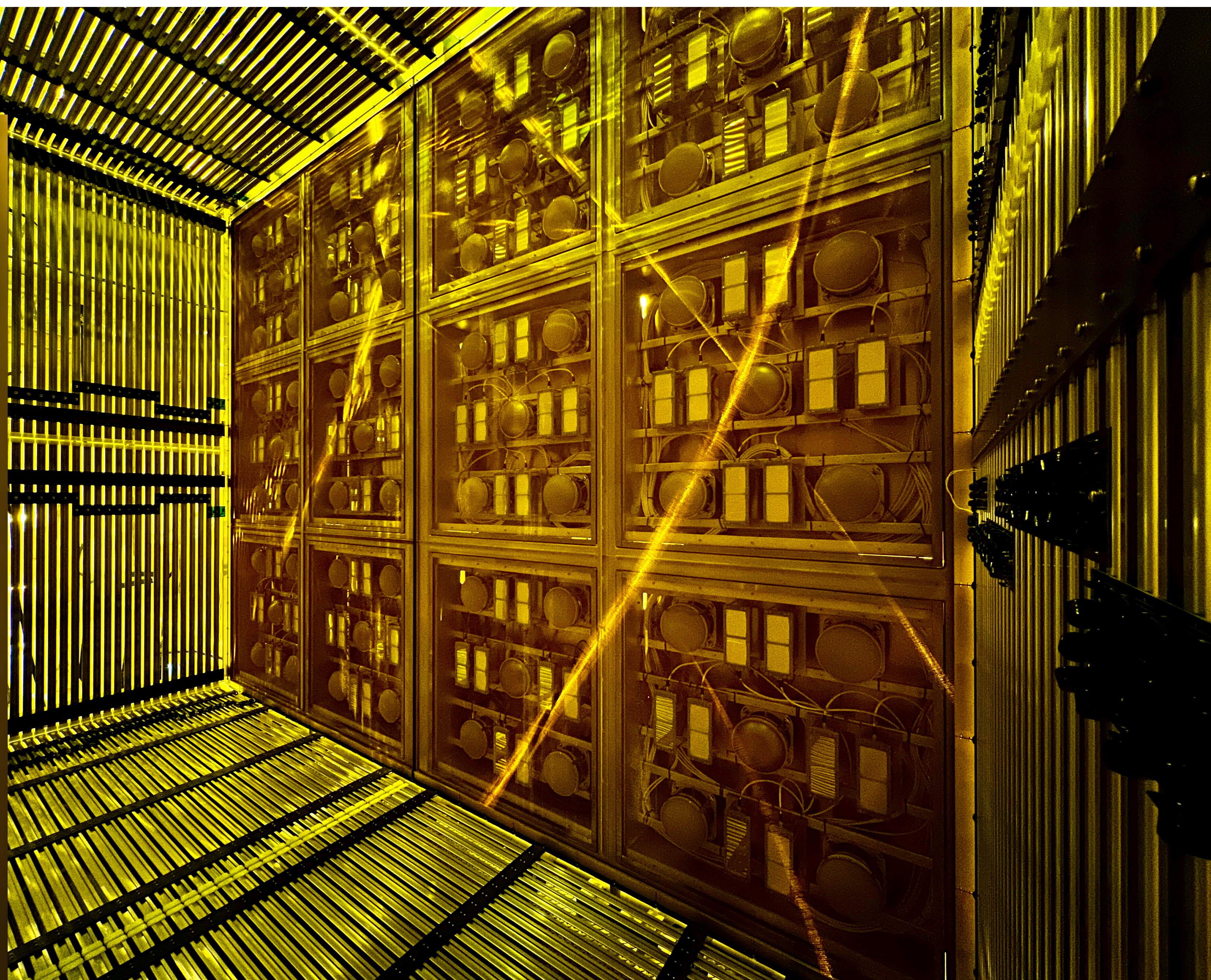




# SBND @ FNAL

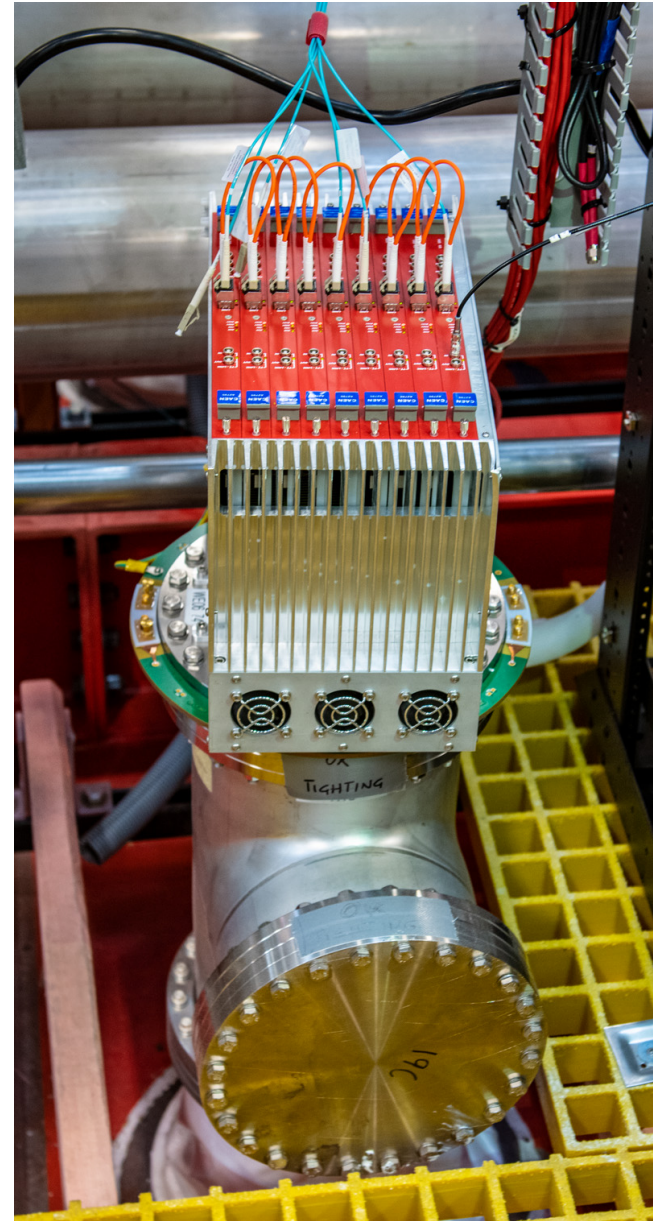


Photos: Mônica Nunes



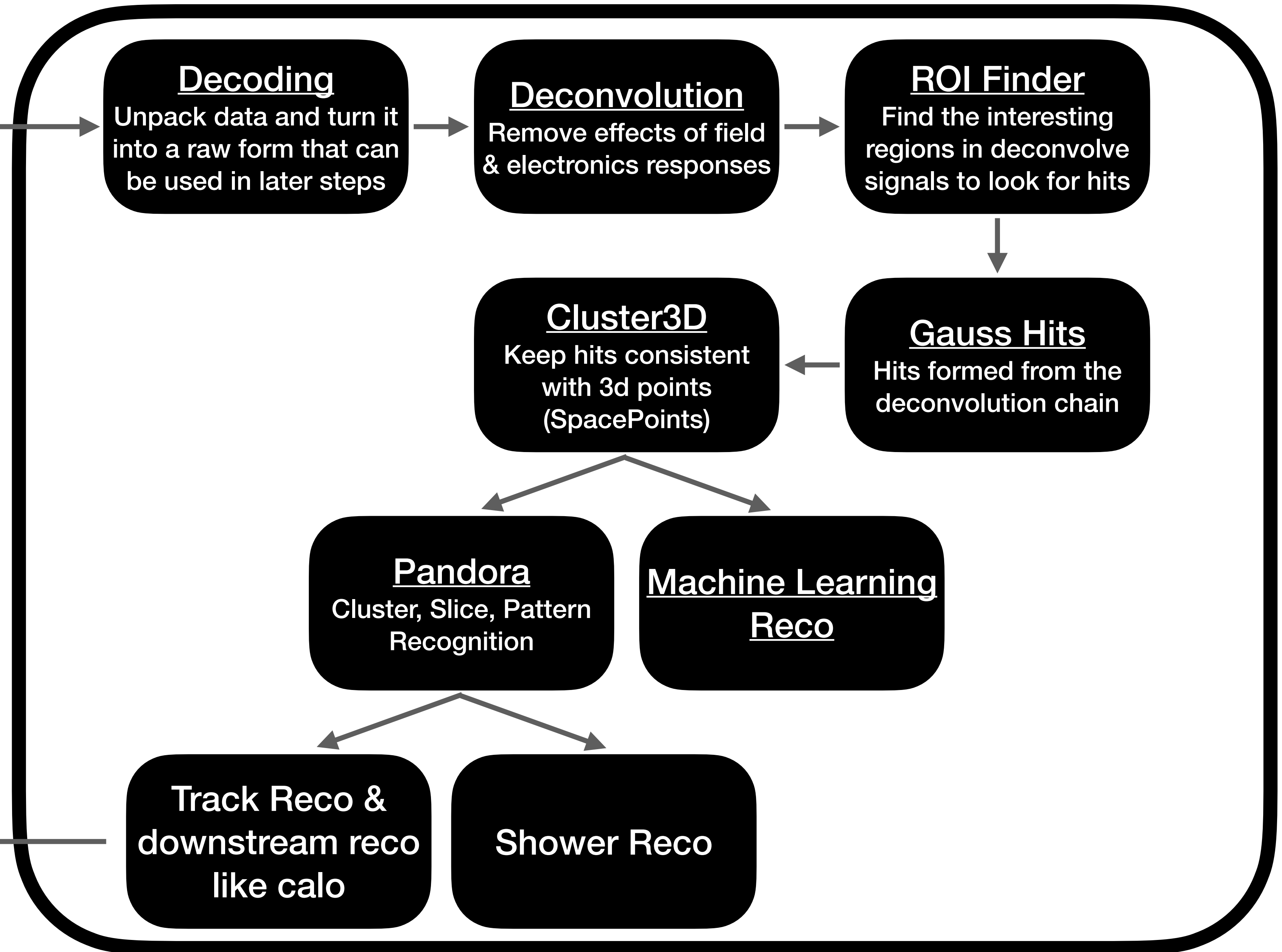


# ICARUS TPC Reco



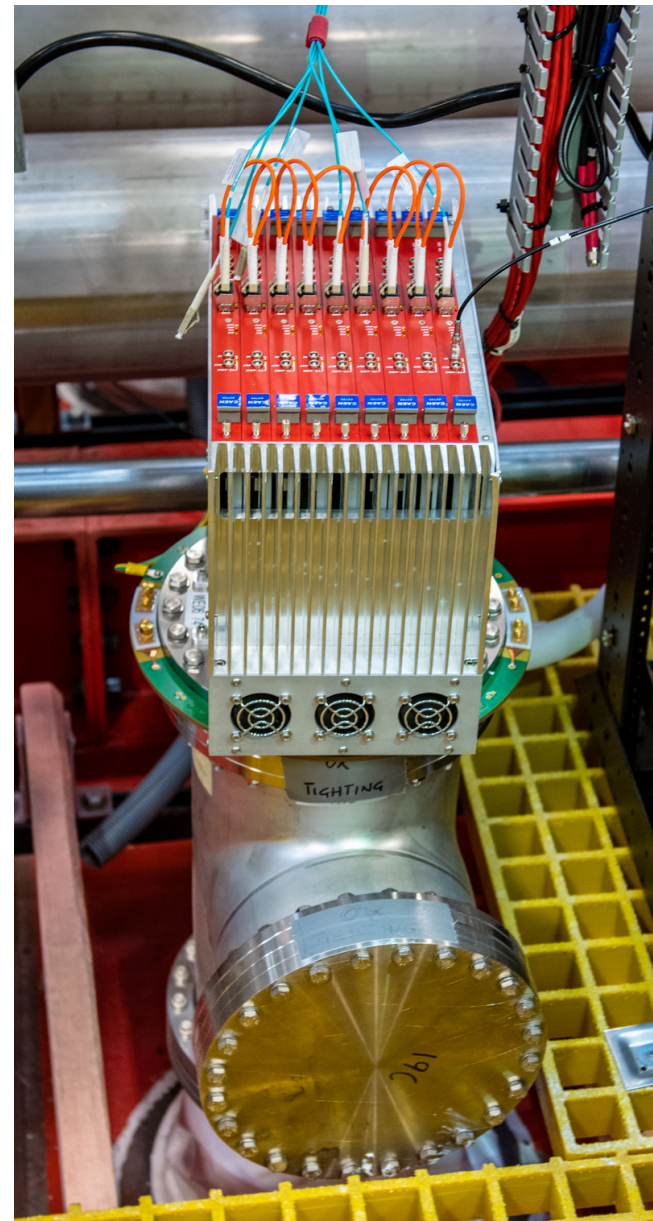
FNAL VMS

**ANALYSIS**



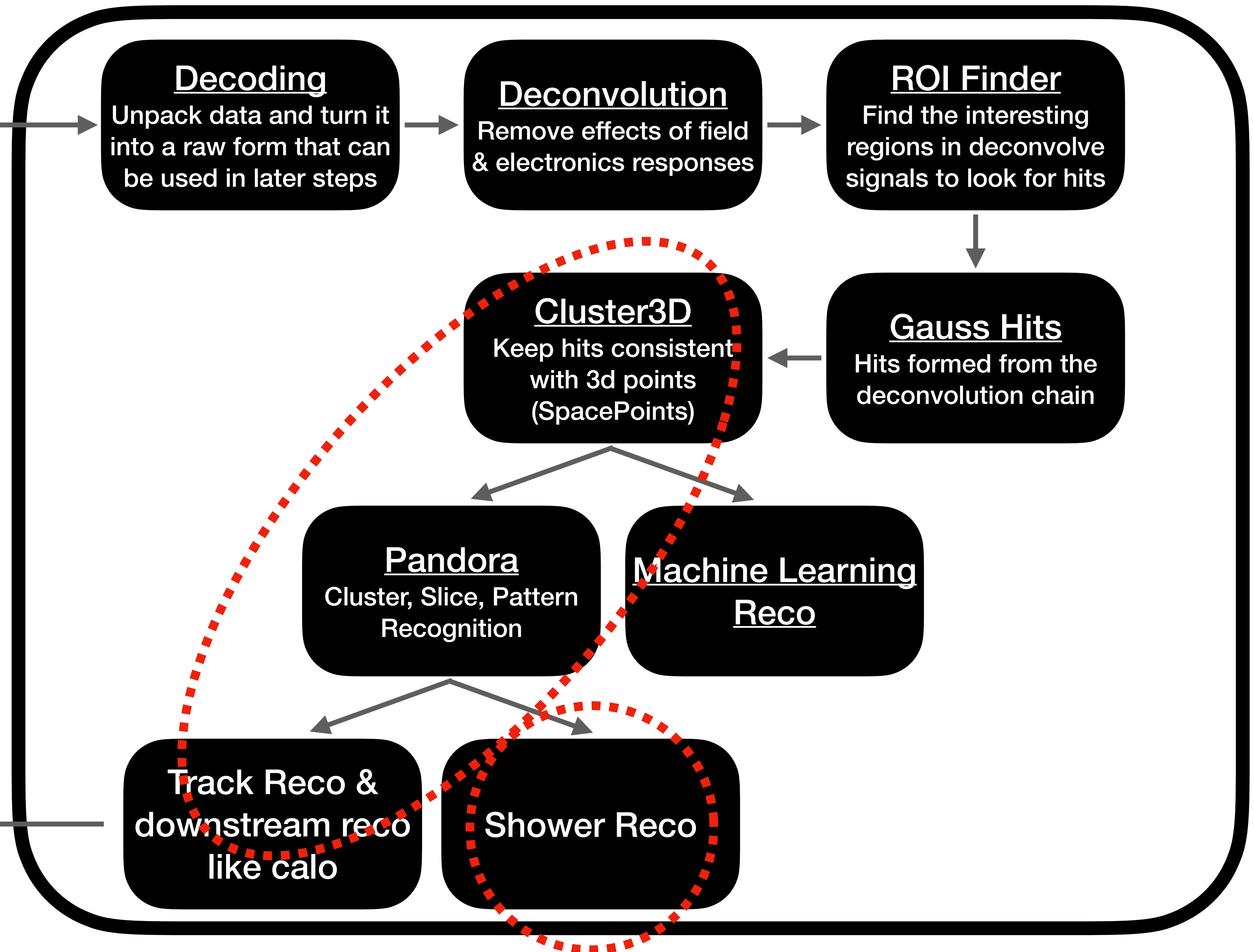


# ICARUS TPC Reco



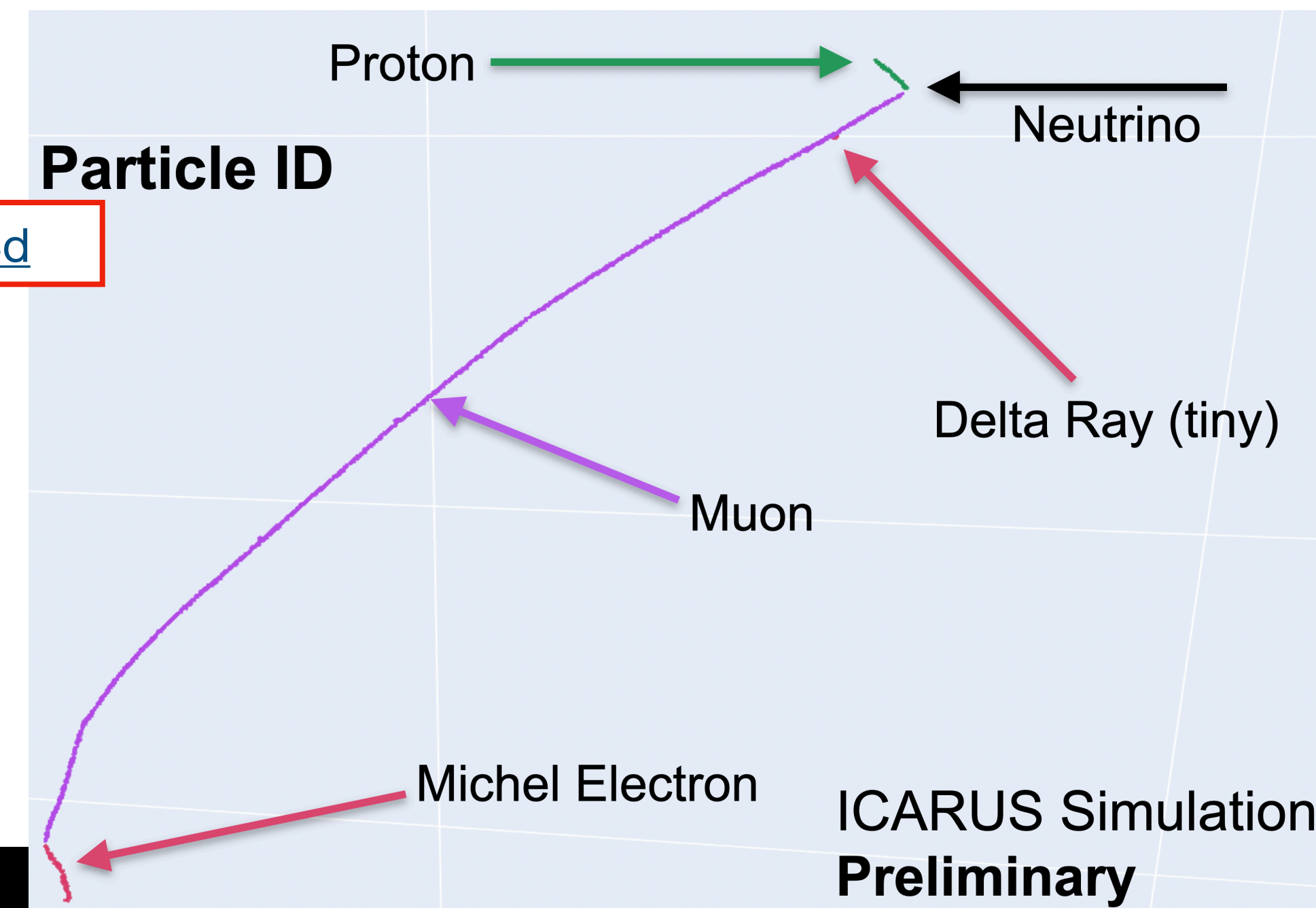
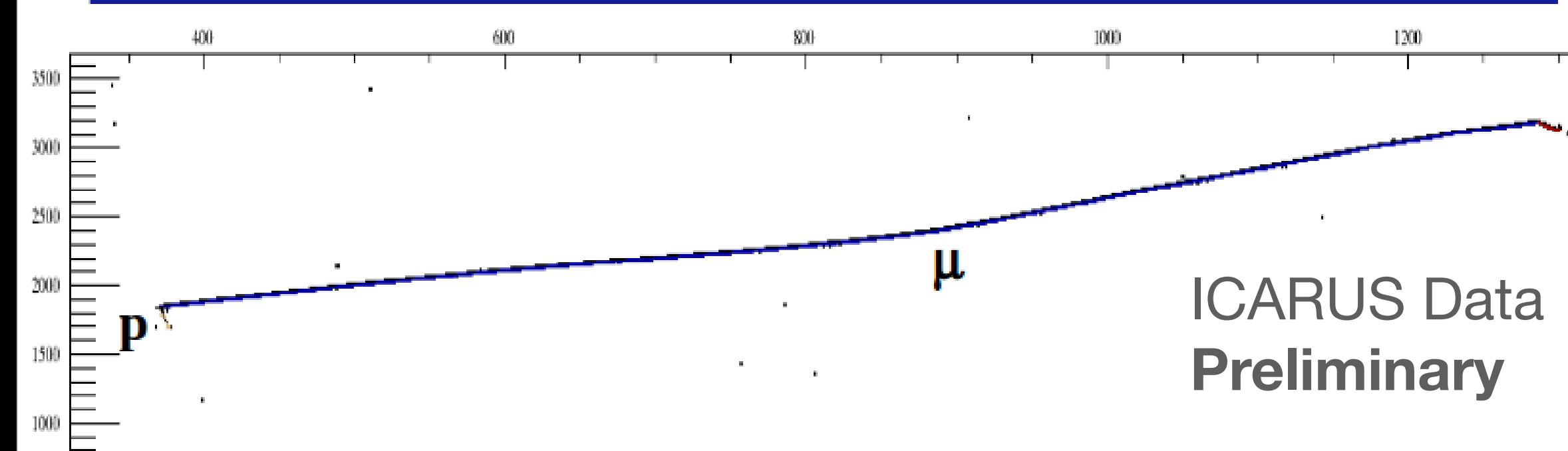
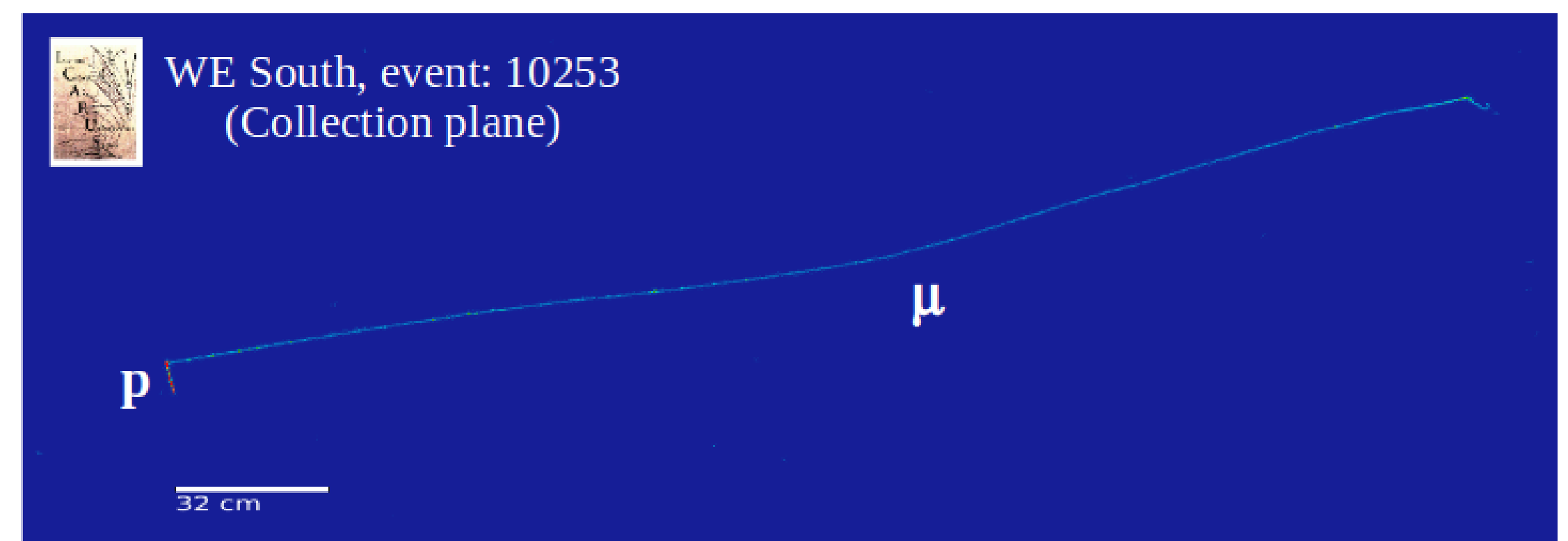
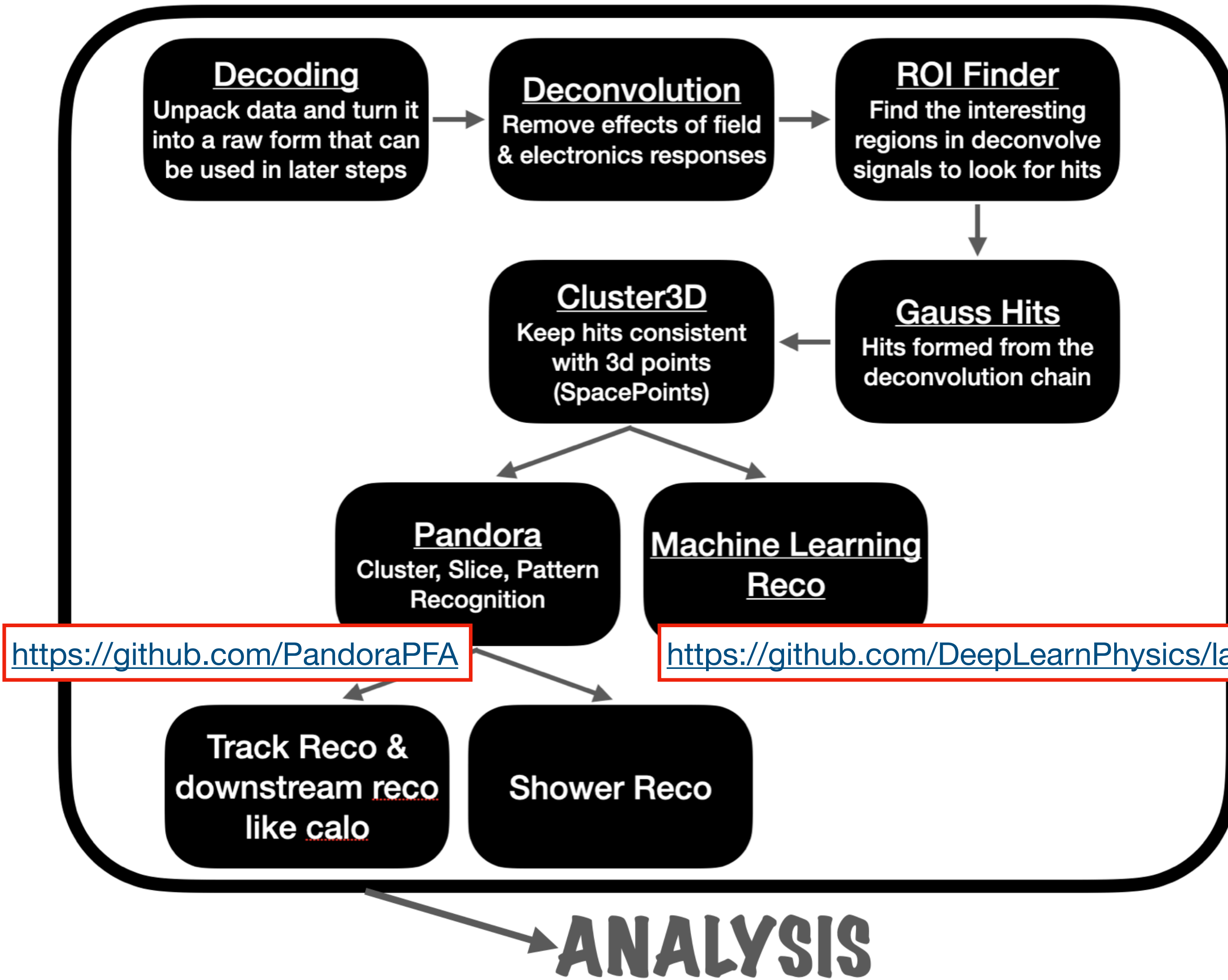
FNAL VMS

**ANALYSIS**





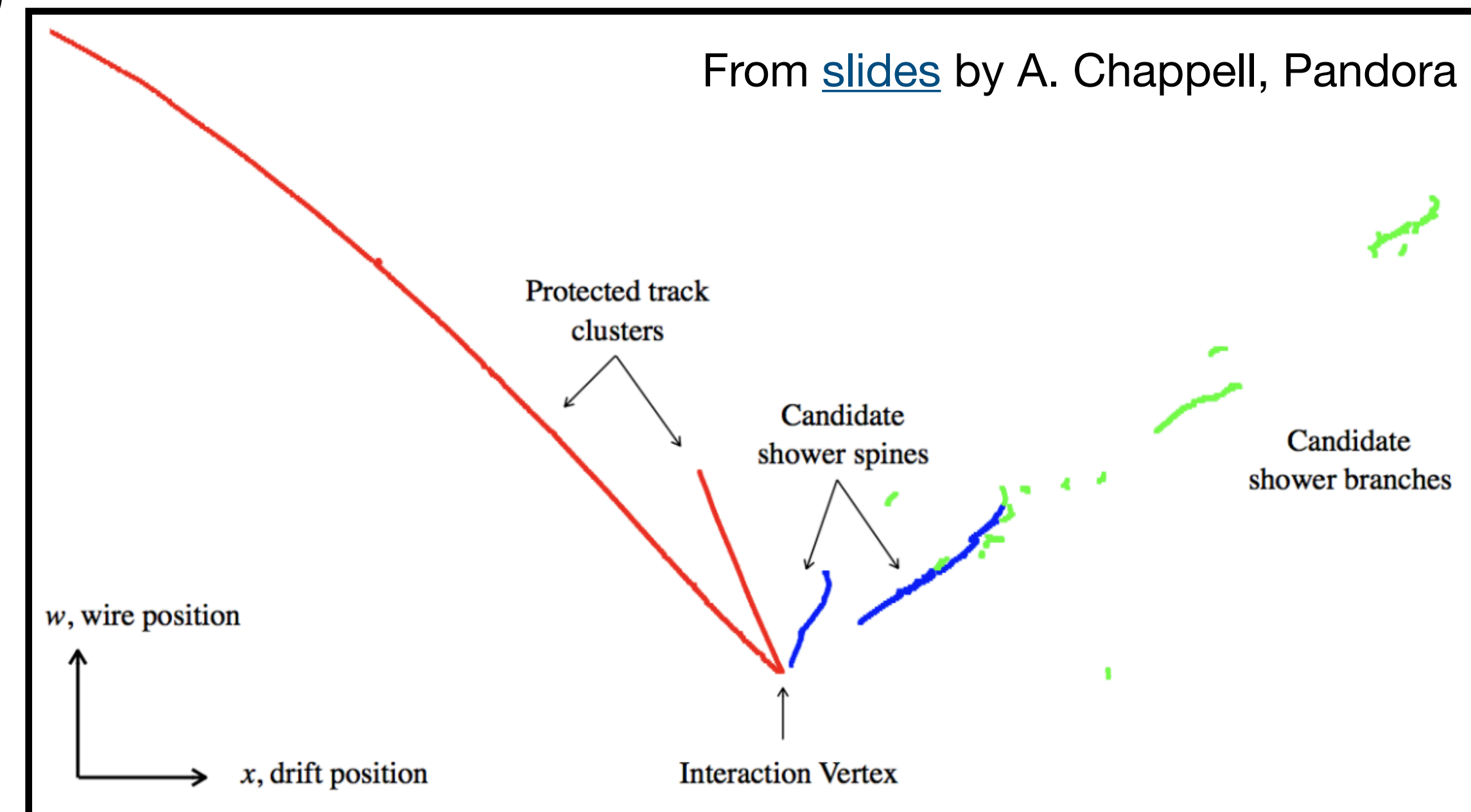
# TPC Reconstruction





# ICARUS TPC Reco

- The default ICARUS/SBN reco pathway has been using Pandora multi-algorithm pattern-recognition kit (<https://github.com/PandoraPFA>) which has established interface in LArSoft framework (<https://larsoft.org/>) commonly used in LAr TPCs
  - Clusters objects together into reco particles in 3D, joining together across planes
  - Reconstructs vertex (common point where  $\nu$  interacted and particles originate)
  - Forms particle hierarchy (parent/child particles)
  - Classifies particles track-like (e.g.  $\mu$ ,  $p$ ,  $\pi^\pm$ ,  $K^\pm$ ) or shower-like (e.g.  $e$ , photon)
- Series of algorithms that one can alter/extend, change which to use (add, remove, modify), etc.
  - Can thus work to improve output, explore deep learning algorithms (either in Pandora or by deferring decisions downstream), etc.

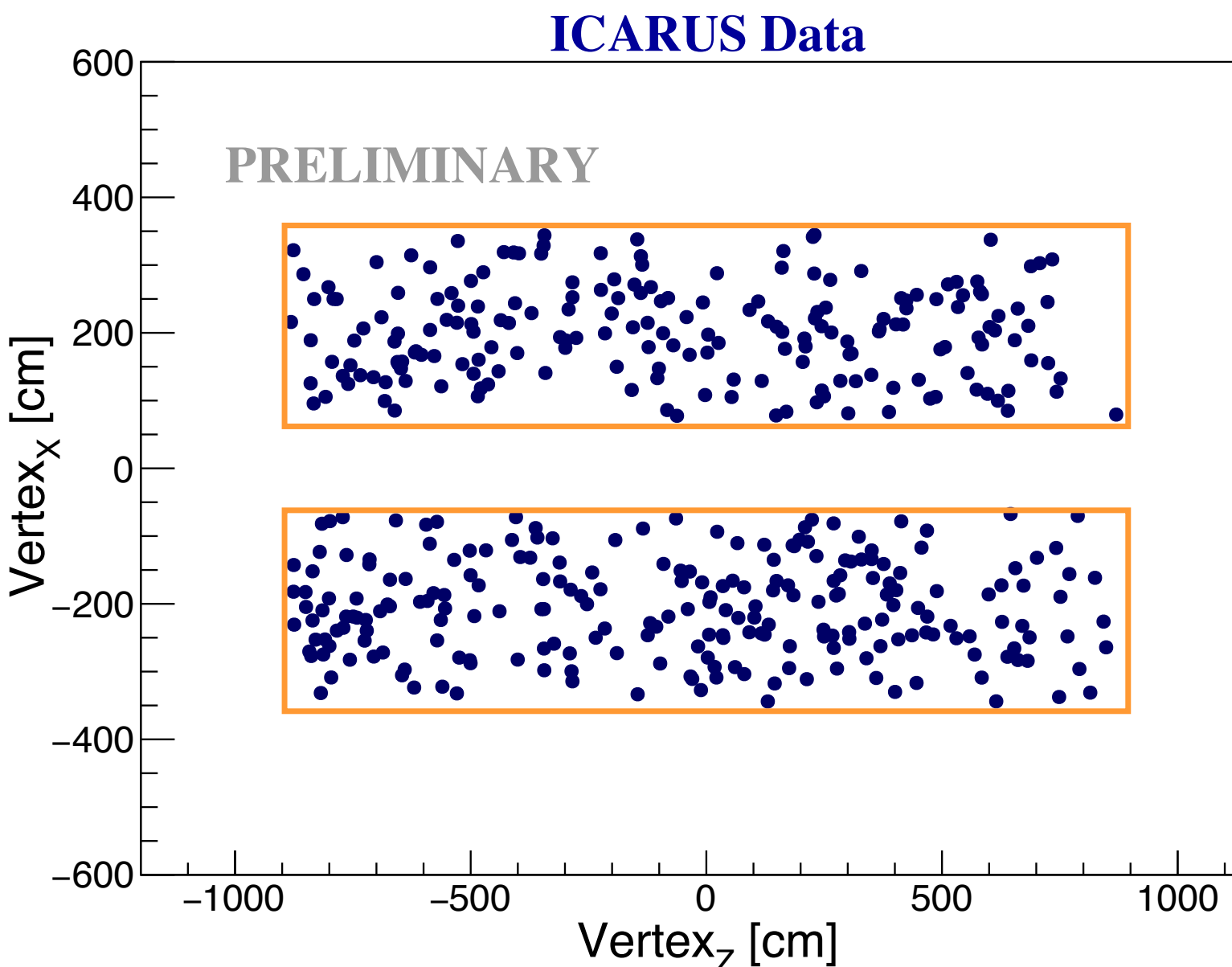
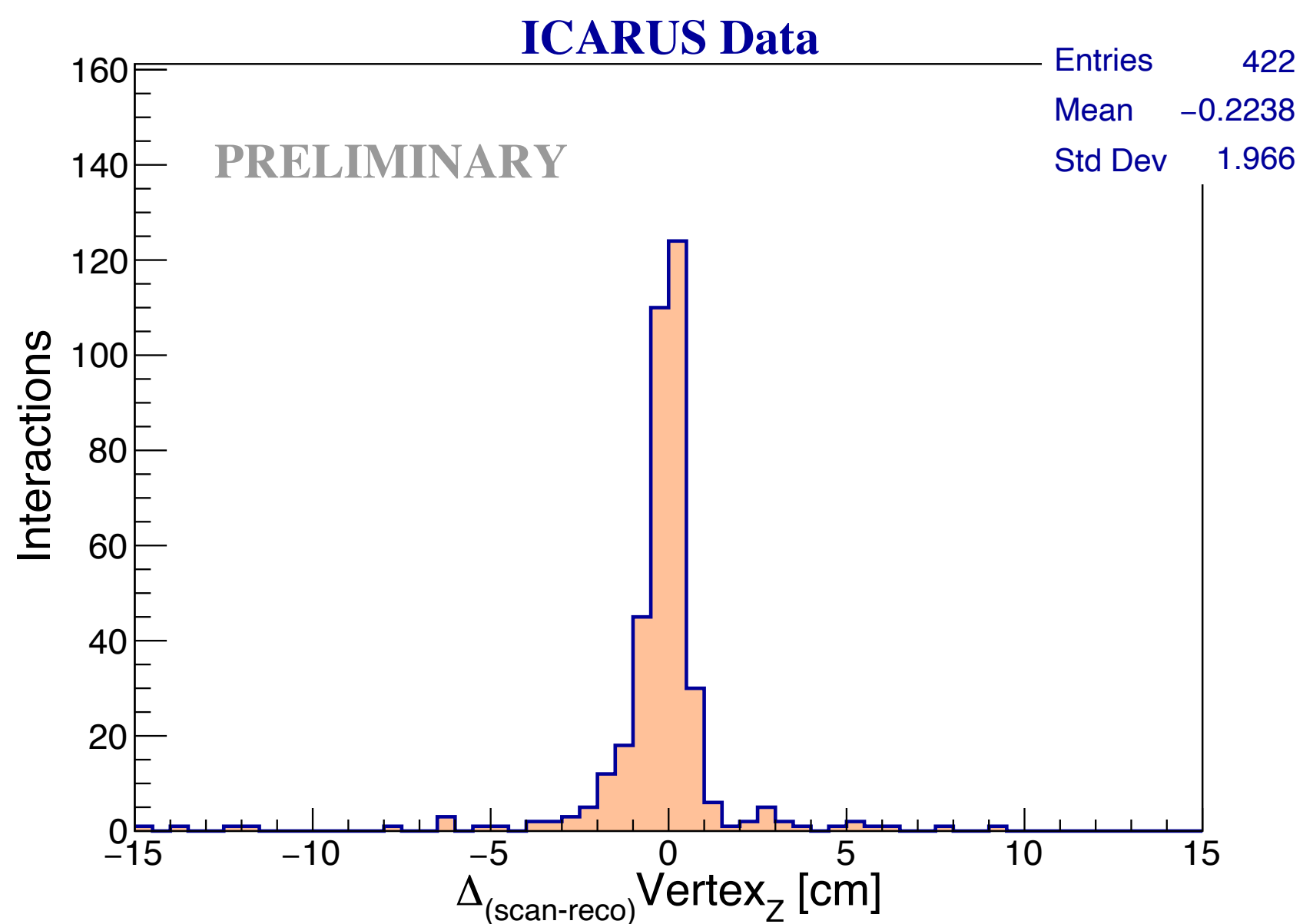
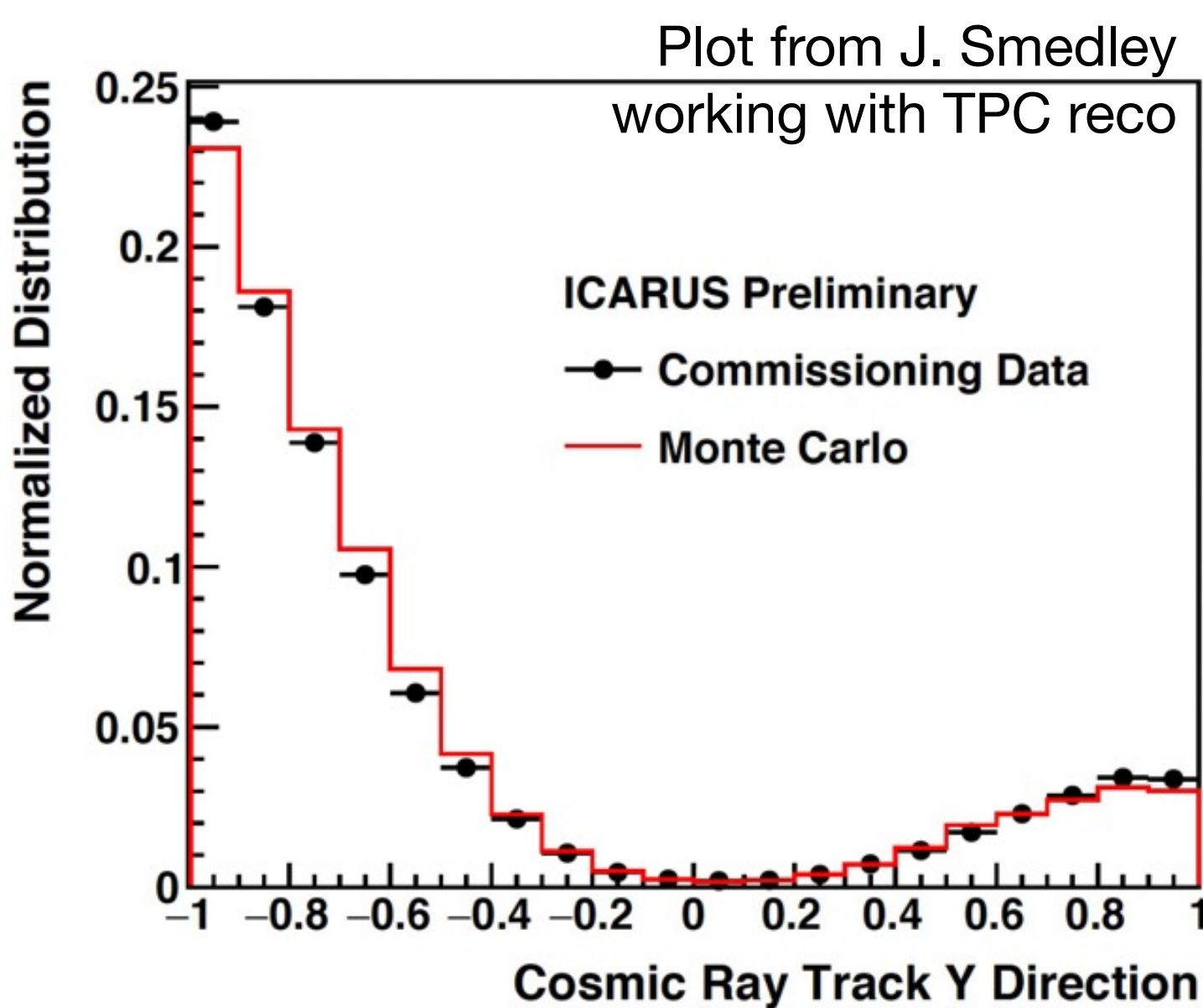
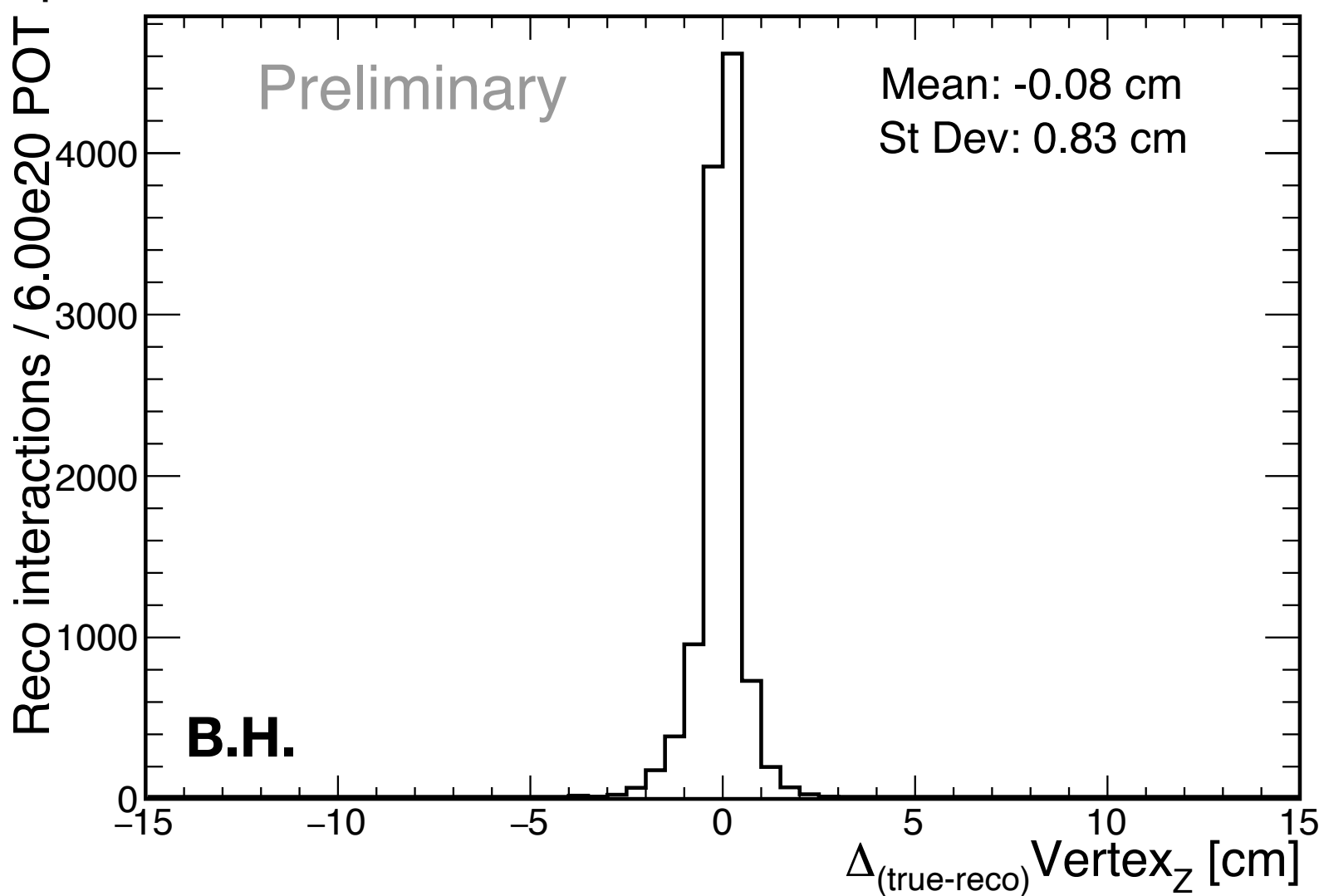




# ICARUS TPC Reco

- Use sim & data to understand quality of reco, **identify areas needing improvement, and then work to address them**
- We have had vibrant group of interns, students, postdocs who contribute to the necessary studies and work
- Examples of activity in the group:
  - Evaluating reco w/ events from hand-scan (G. Moreno, M. Artero)
  - data/MC plot (J. Smedley)
  - Improving reco capability/performance (next slide)

Set of MC events with a muon and proton that pass some cuts on reconstruction. **ICARUS Simulation**

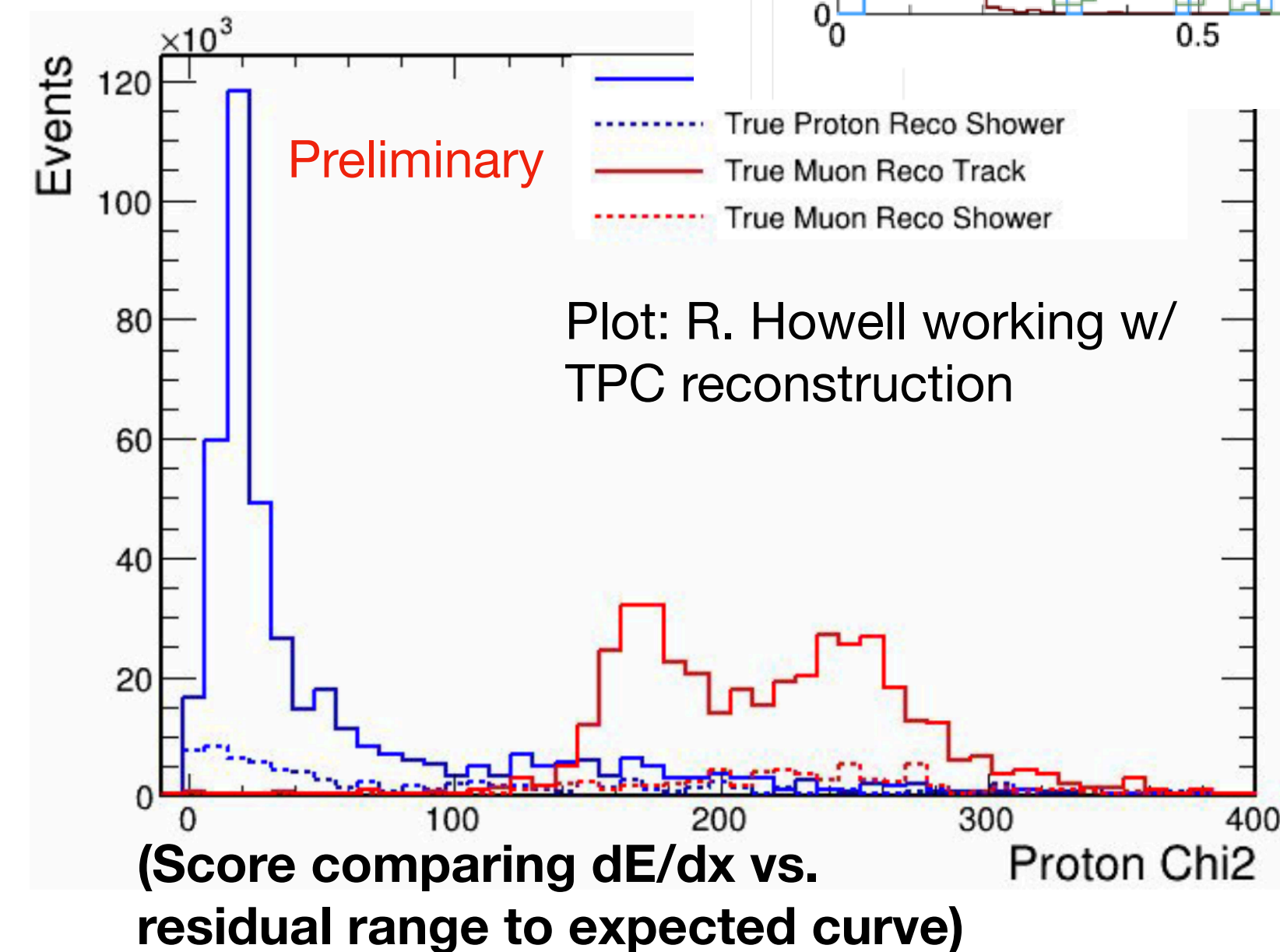
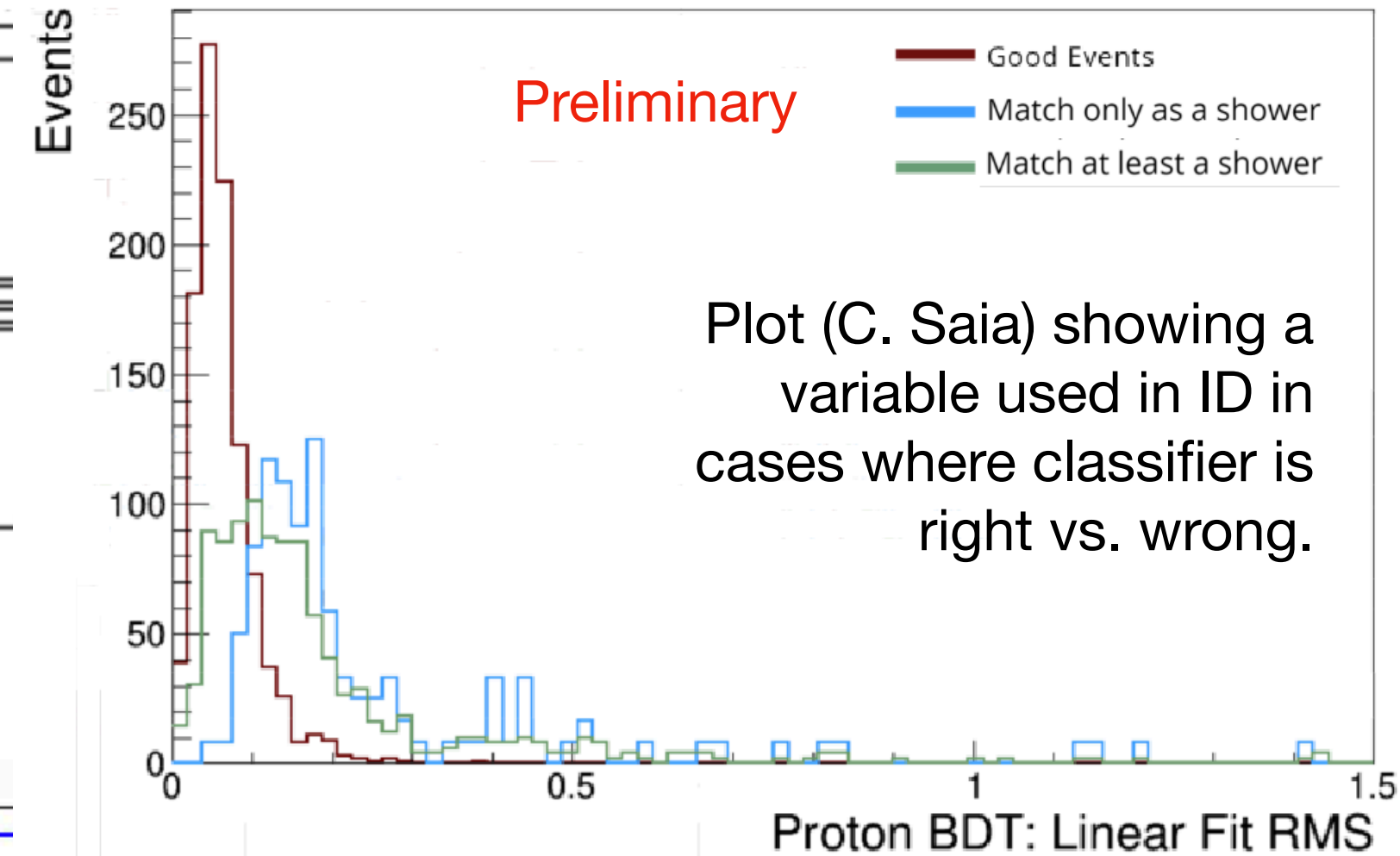
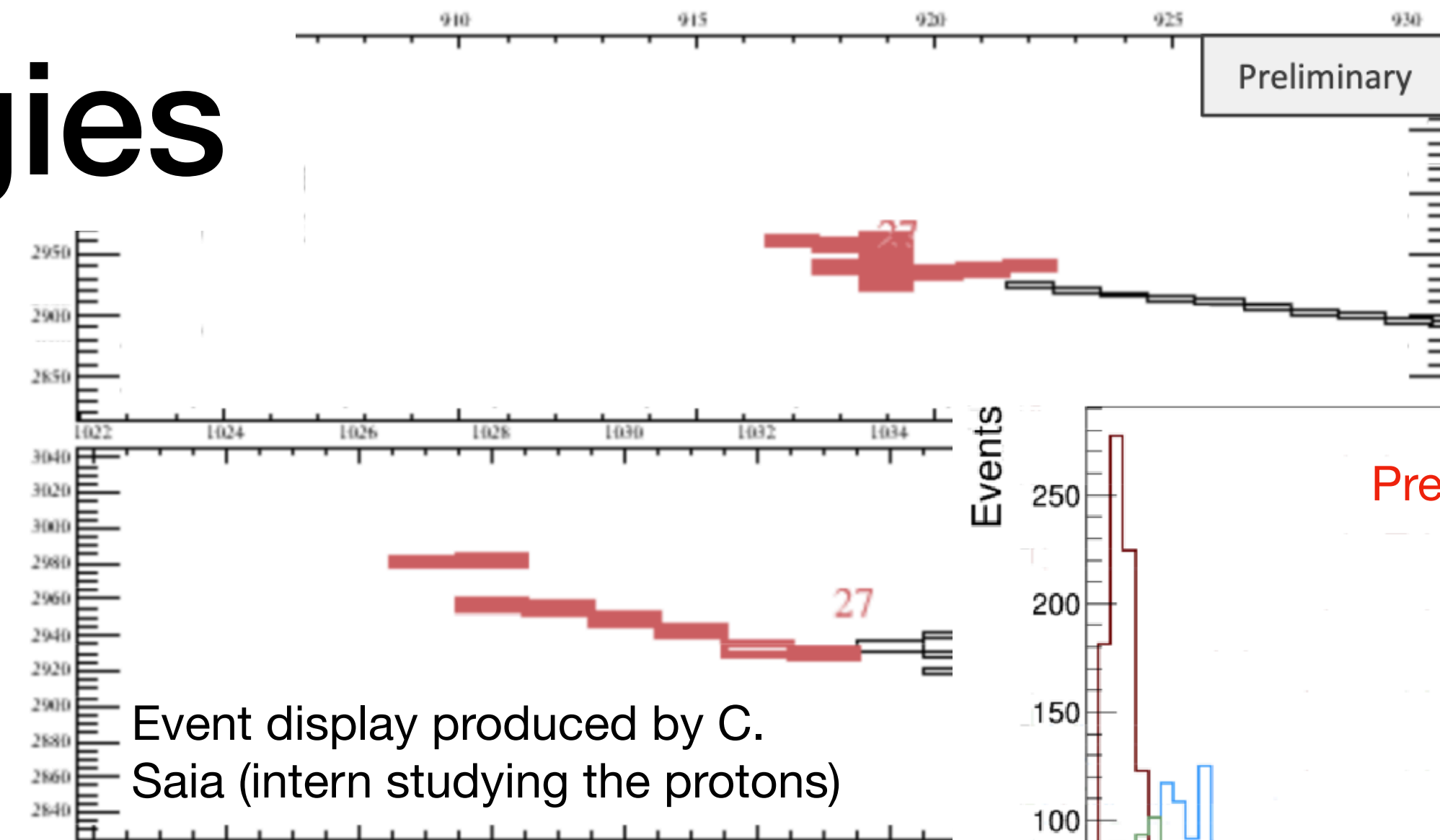


Plots from G. Moreno investigating a set of hand scanned DATA events for similar reconstruction quality checks (Note that some of the same signal and reco quality cuts not made here.)



# Addressing Pathologies

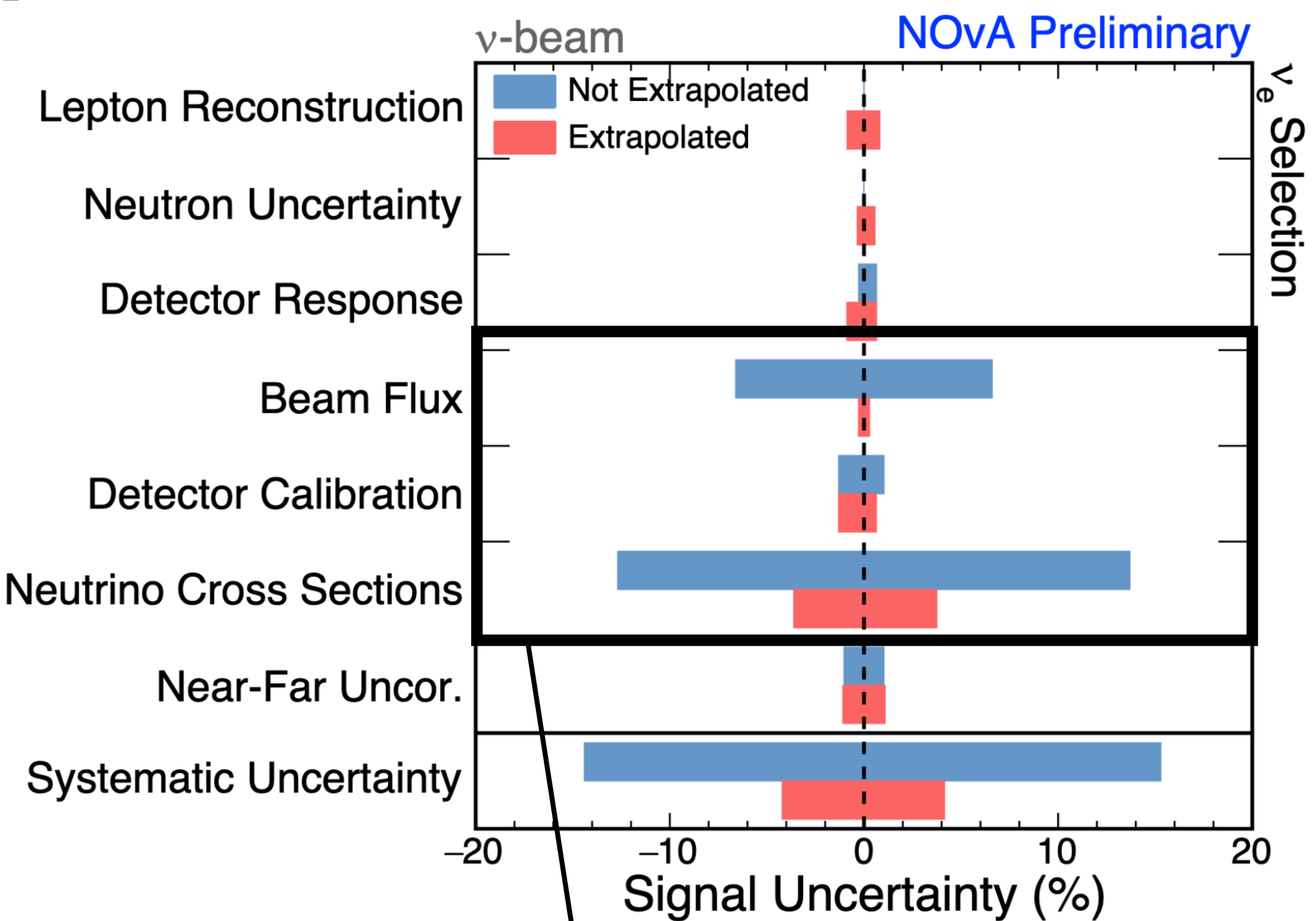
- Sometimes reco can get tricked by protons and mis-classify as showers. We worked to address:
  - We added to Pandora & our analysis files to **enable saving feature variables** used in track-shower identification
    - In Pandora: available for others!
  - Try **track AND shower fit**, save both (R. Howell)
  - Intern (C. Saia) worked to study mis-classification and look at analysis files with the changes
- **More options at analysis time** to investigate and hopefully recover some misclassified particles
  - Additional tuning of reco, signal processing, etc. will hopefully improve classification as well
  - Also **enables investigating deep-learning based classifiers** (e.g. protoDUNE, Eur. Phys. Journal C **82**, 903 (2022))



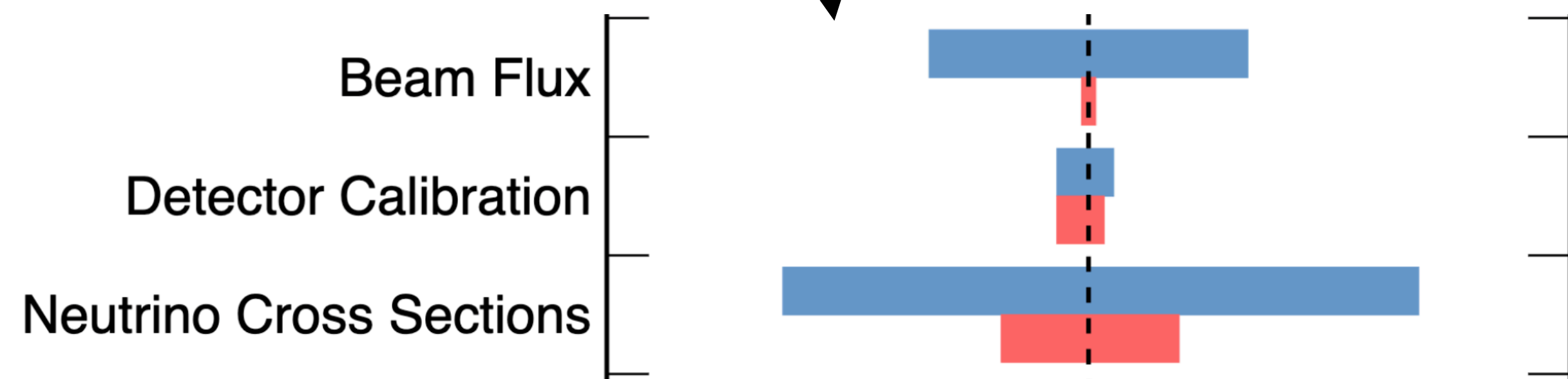
Saving both hypotheses allows one to use particle ID in analysis.



# Impact of interactions

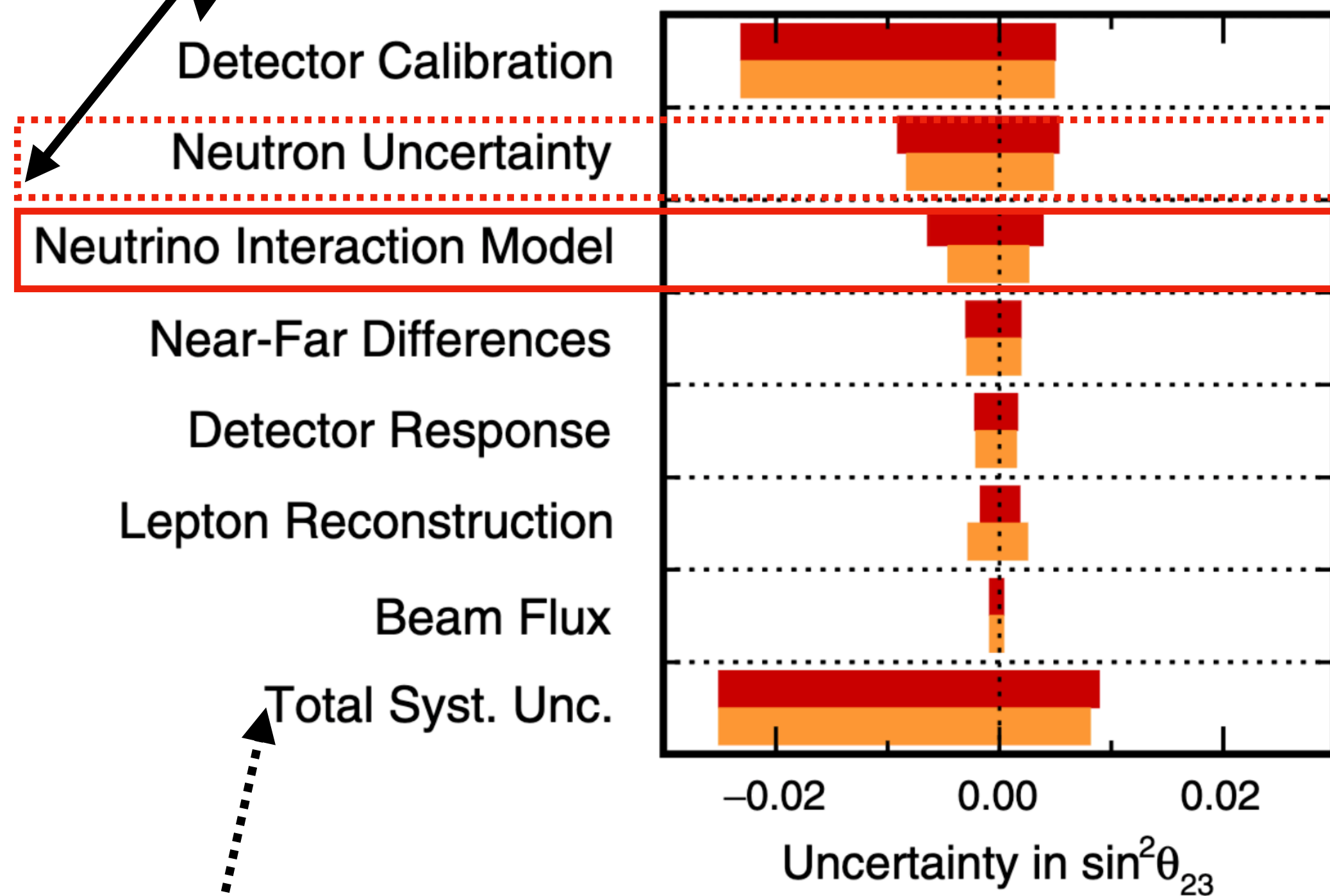


E. Cataño-Mur  
NNN23 slides



Different detector type but also this is partly covered by “experience”

Really need to improve here, also **DUNE** different medium so need more measurements with Ar



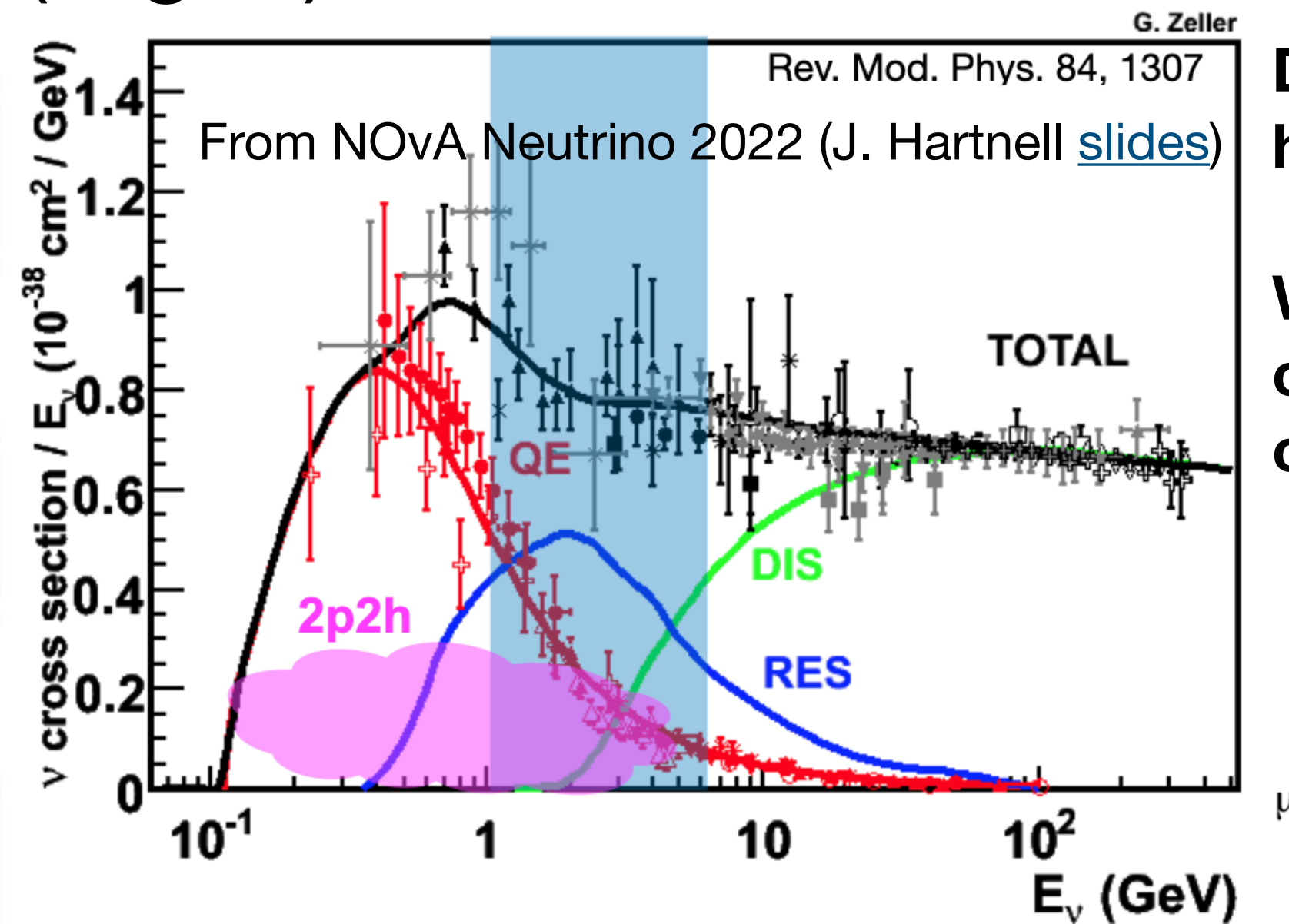
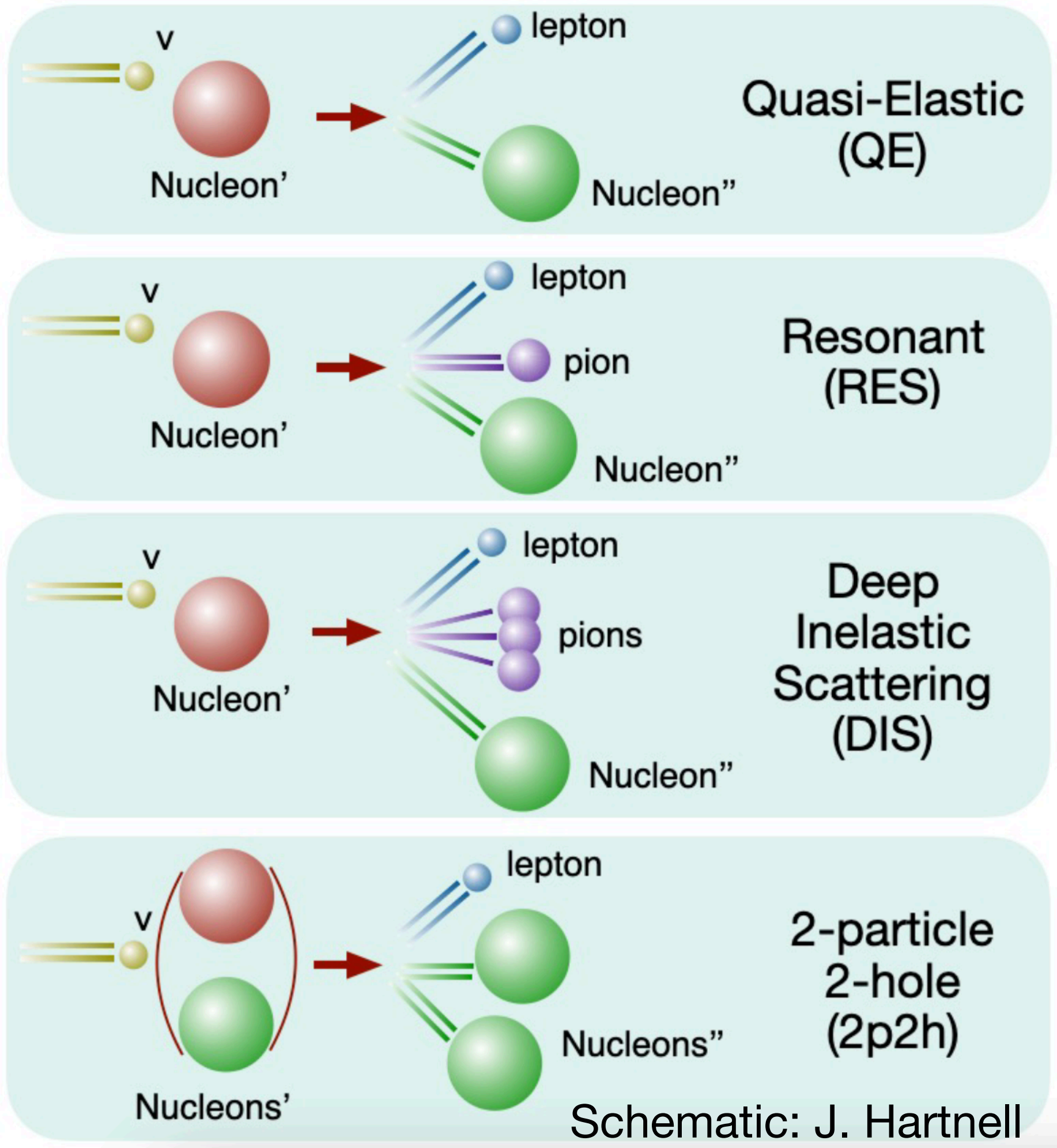
**DUNE** will have significantly higher statistics

NOvA: M.A. Acero et al Phys Rev D 106, 032004 (2022)



# Impact of neutrino interactions/cross-sections on DUNE

- Also what we see in the detector can be a complicated “mess” of the neutrino interaction on a nuclear target (Argon)

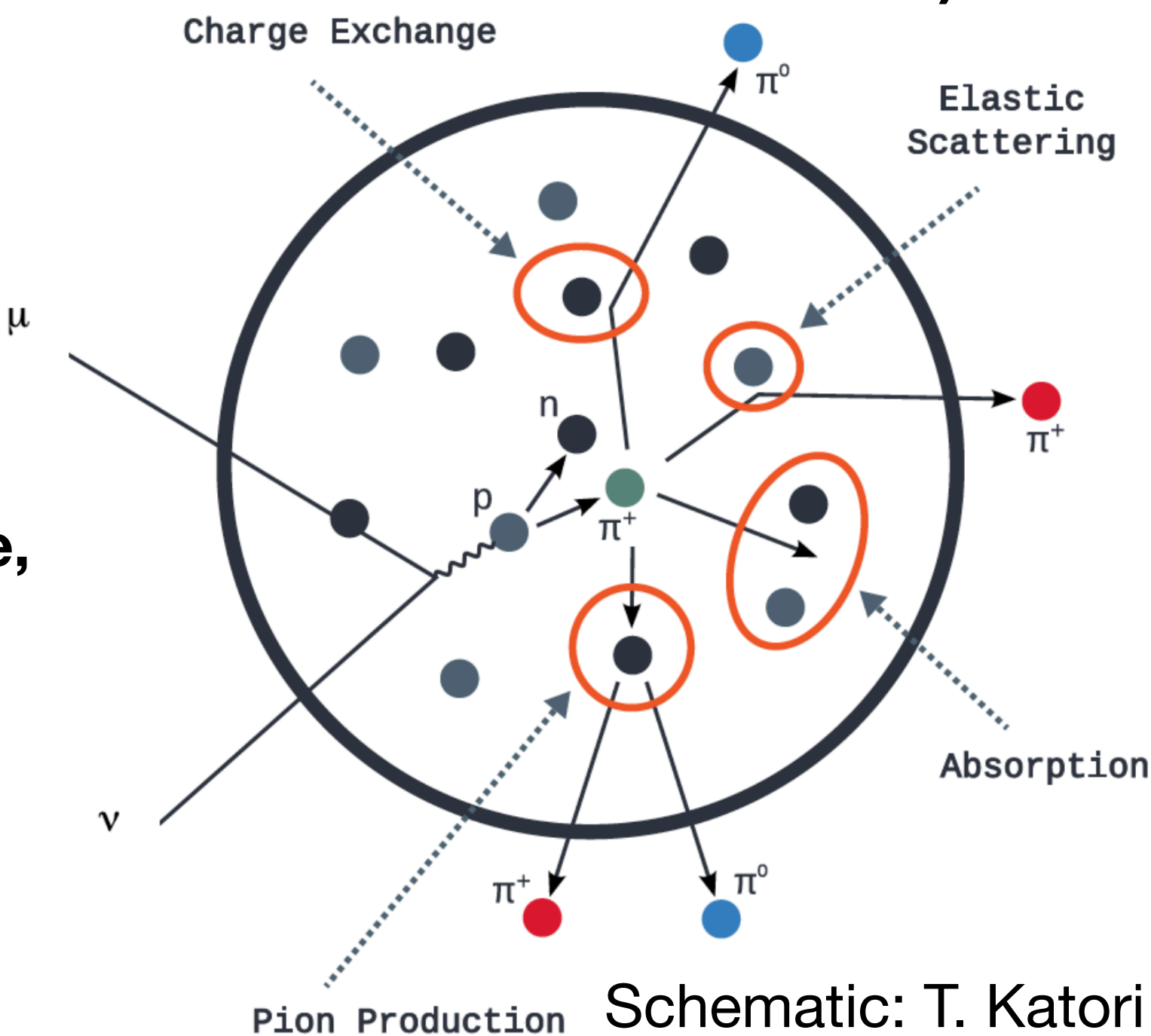


Particles/yields expected depend on mode, therefore so does the energy resolution.

Especially modes w/ neutral particles like (e.g. anti- $\nu$  interactions and 2p2h).

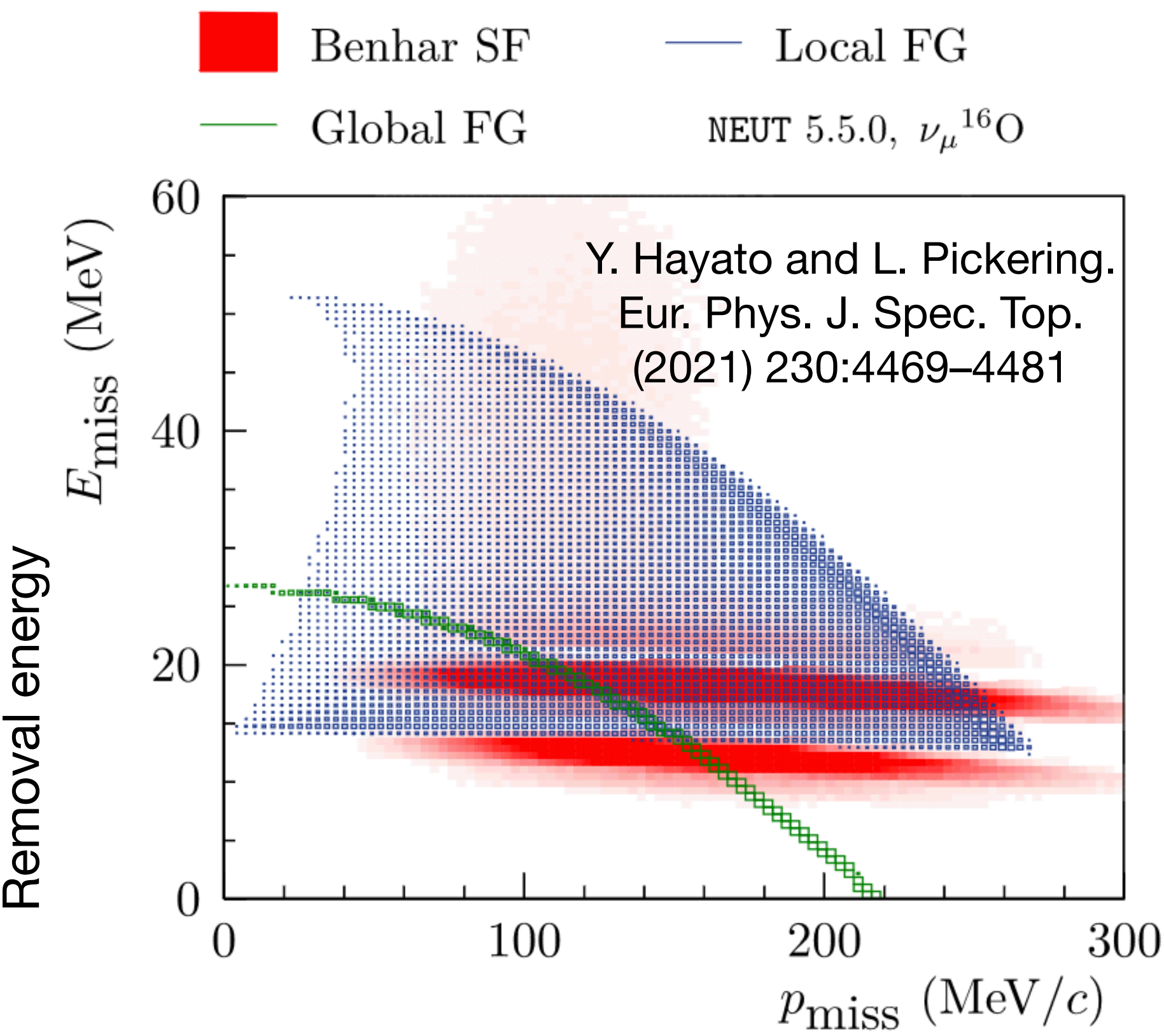
Due to nuclear medium, particles may have “Final State Interactions” (FSI).

We may either alter the energy we see, or miss particles entirely (absorption, or reduction to below thresholds)





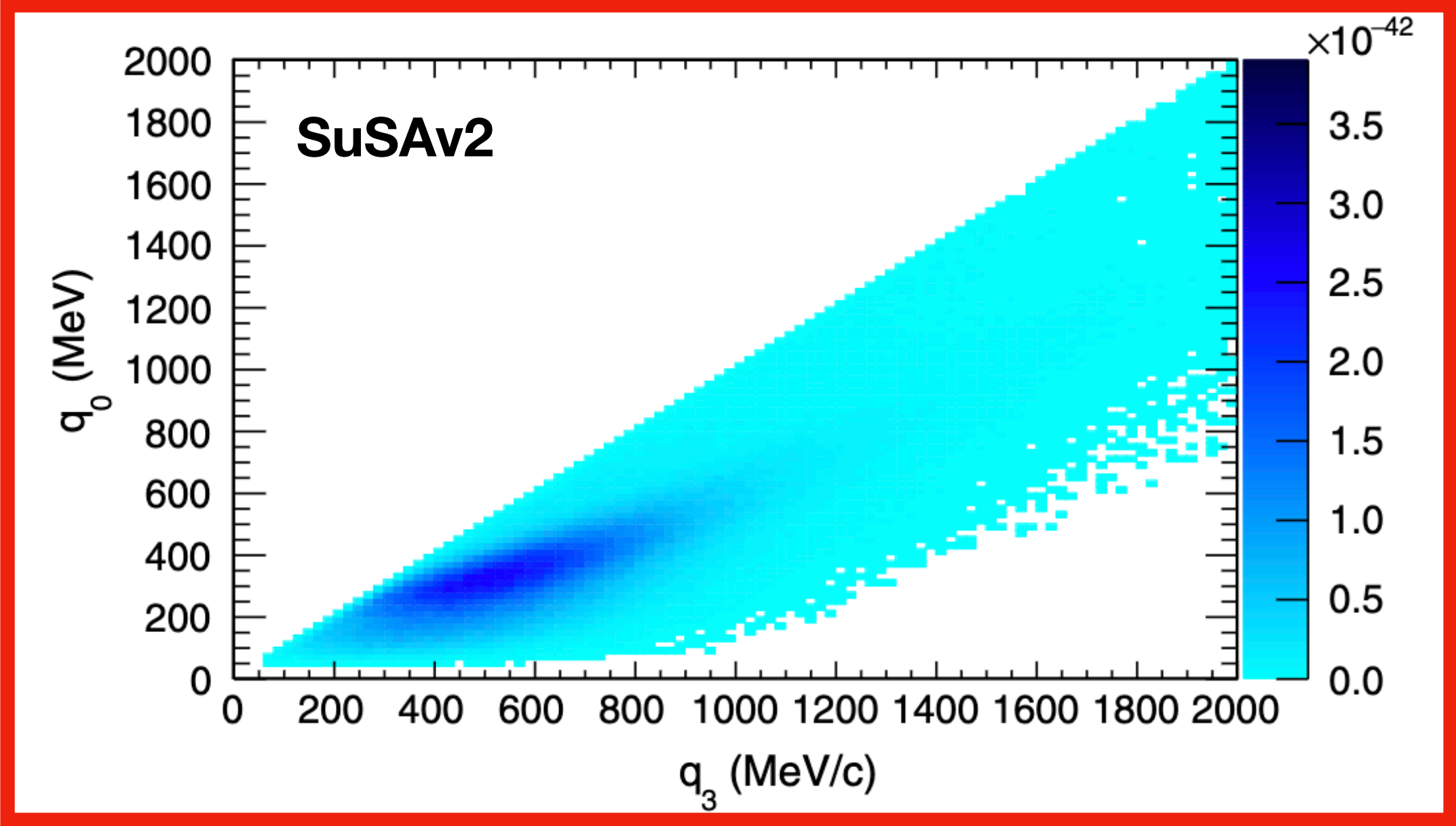
GENIE version



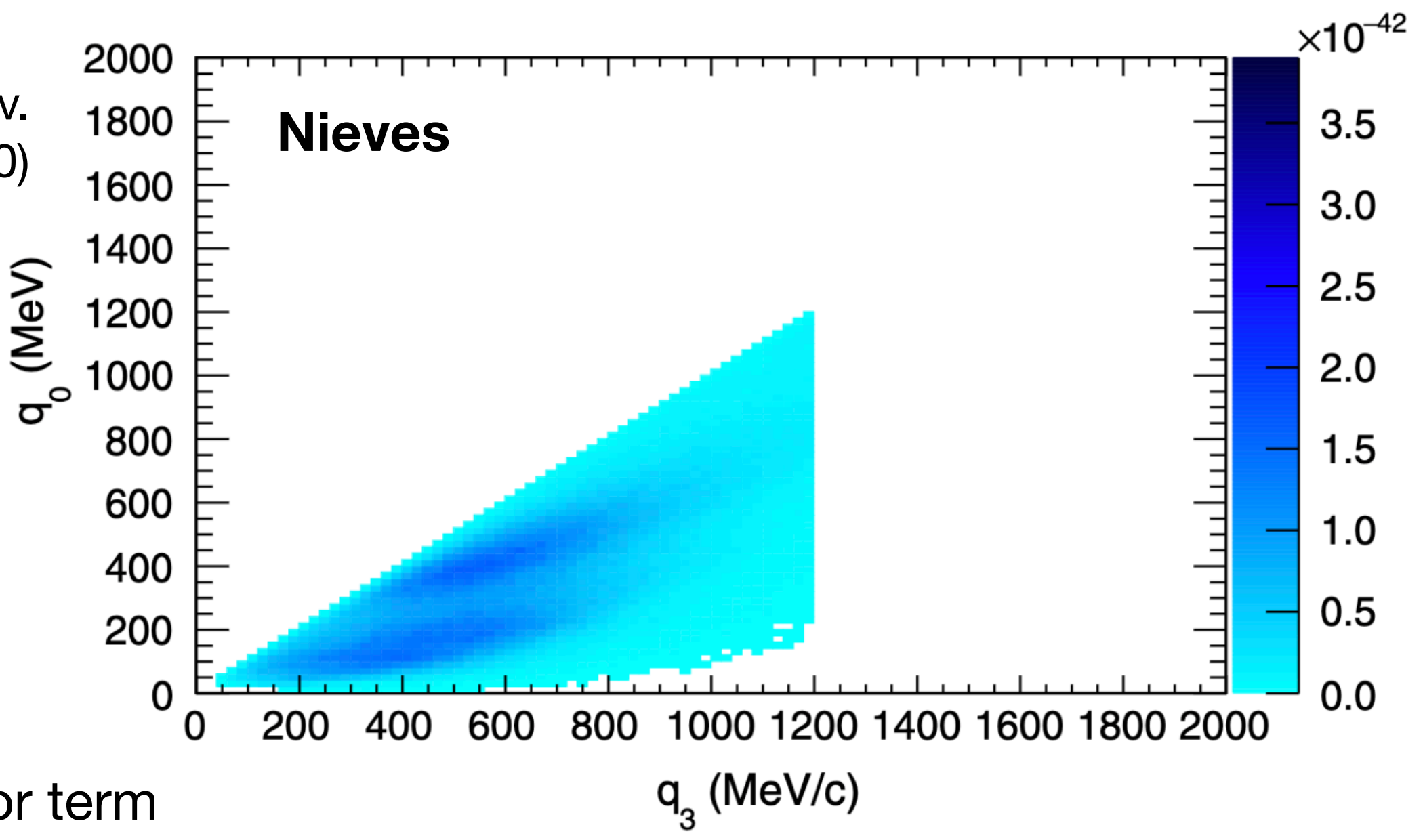
Fermi motion

Our GENIE version is more like the Local Fermi Gas model here but with a short range correlations tail extending below 15 MeV Emiss

2p2h cross-sections



S. Dolan et al. Phys. Rev. D 101, 033003 (2020)



We also have switched to the Z expansion formulation of the CCQE axial form factor term (was a dipole term previously with e.g. an “axial mass” term) — more free parameters.



M.F. Carneiro et al  
(MINERvA), Phys Rev Lett  
**124**, 121801 (2020)

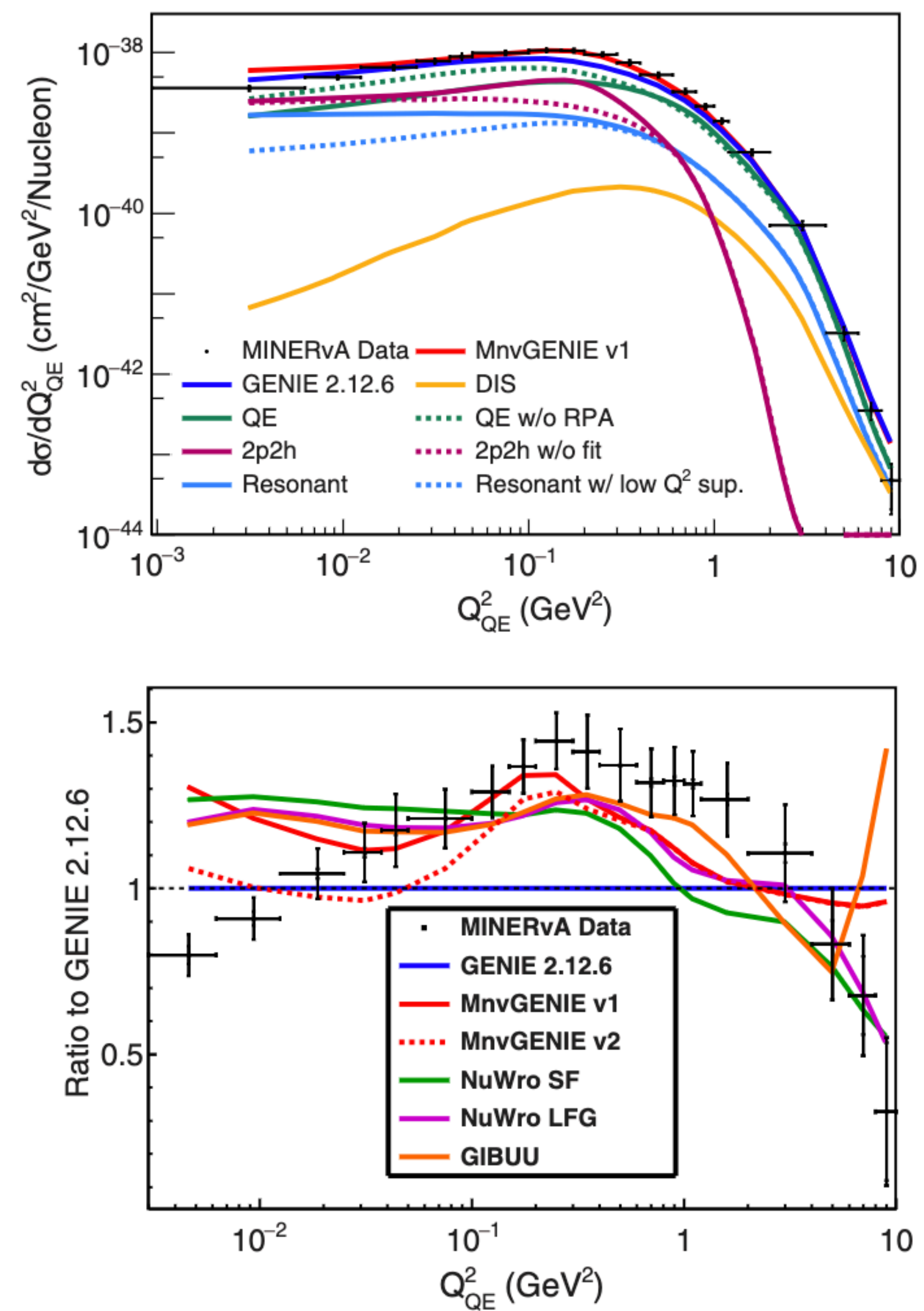
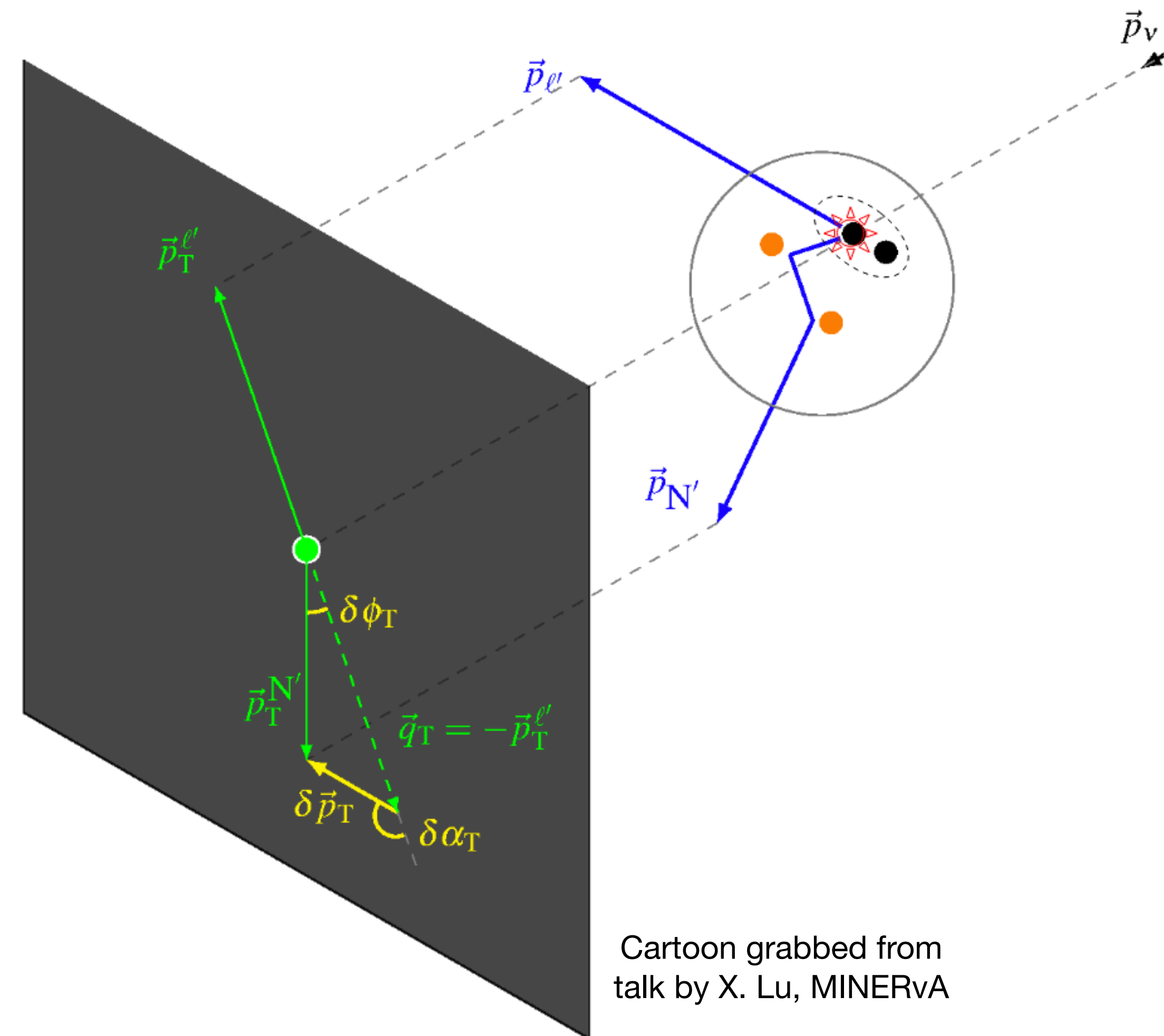


FIG. 5. Top: Differential cross section as a function of  $Q^2$ . Bottom: Generator predictions compared to data. All are plotted as ratio to the predictions of unmodified GENIE 2.12.6.



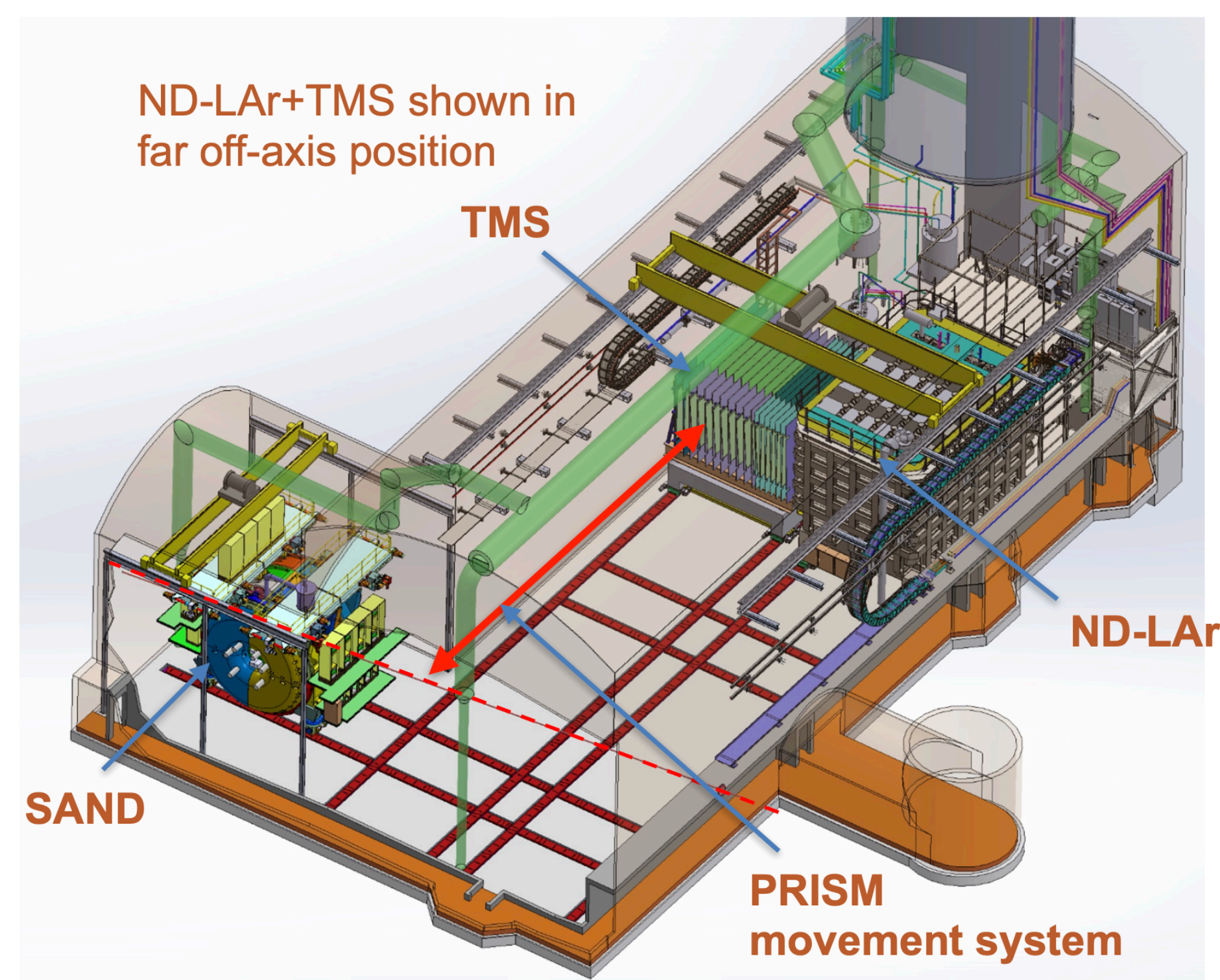
## Cartoon of transverse kinematic imbalance





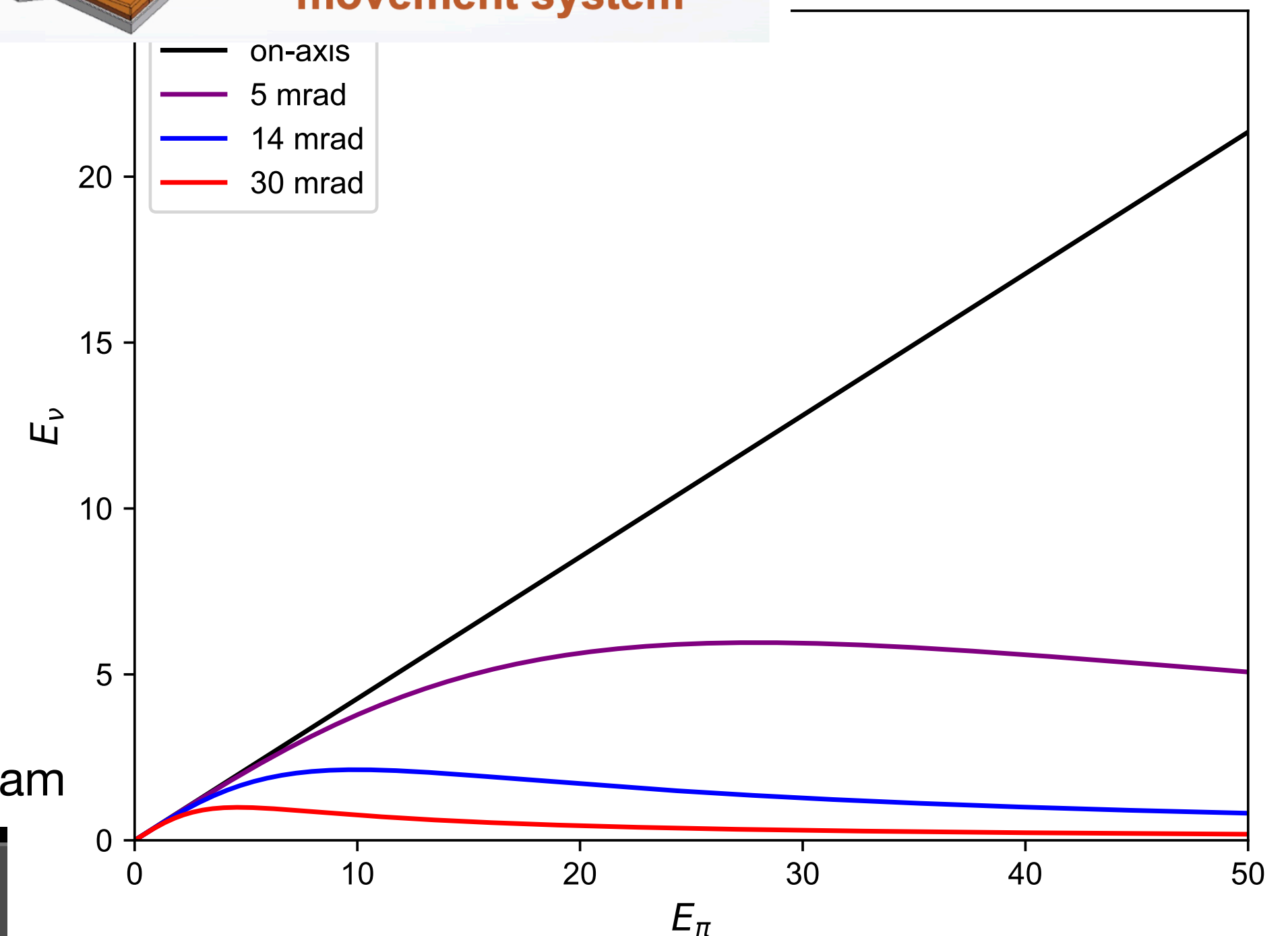
# DUNE

- Needs own capable Near Detector: characterize  $\nu$  flux, perform more measurements/model developments w/ unprecedented statistics, etc.
- Ultimate plan comprises of **multiple detectors** including LAr TPC and a Gas Argon TPC
- High pileup: pixelated readout for LAr TPC portion instead of wires
- GAr: less dense Ar  $\rightarrow$  low E particles travel further  $\rightarrow$  lower thresholds for e.g. protons
- Capability to move parts **off-axis**



Schematic of DUNE Near Detector (H. Tanaka [slides](#))

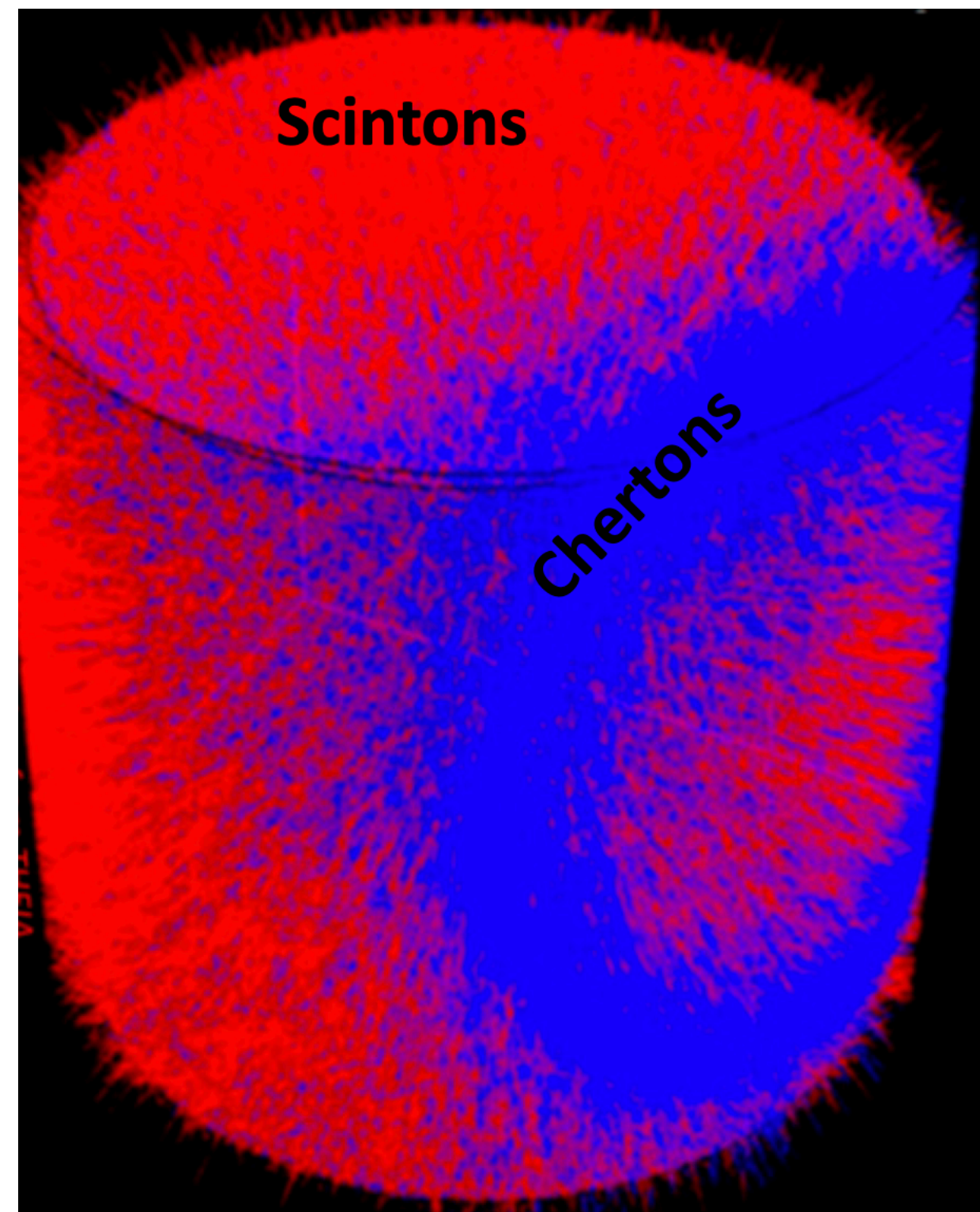
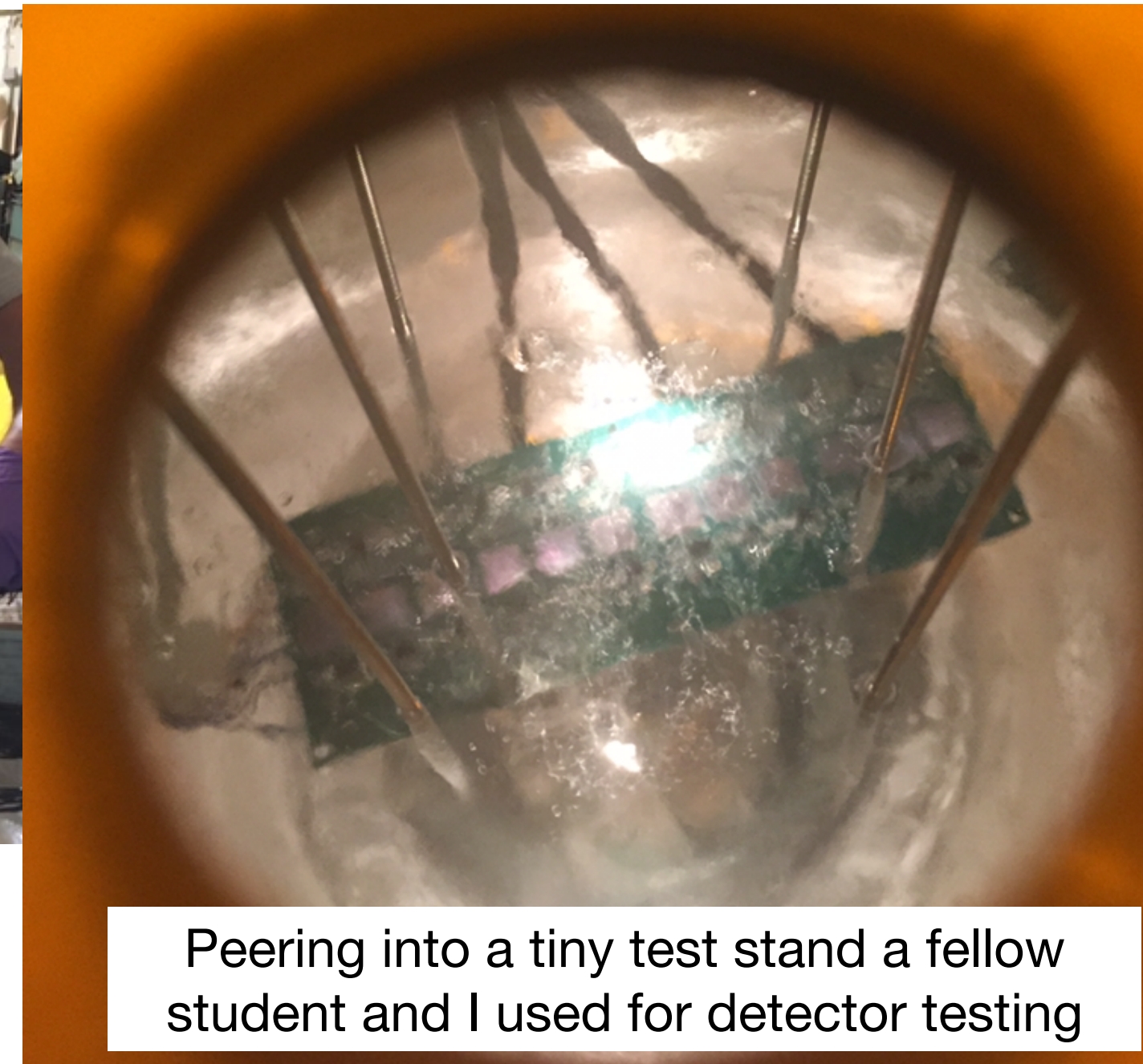
Neutrino energies change at different angles from the beam





# DUNE

- Though building on a few decades of LAr TPC prototyping and operations, DUNE is really pushing forward the detector type
- R&D to improve and solve unique needs in many areas
- Examples:
  - ND pixelated readouts: smaller space / channel
  - FD scintillation detectors
  - “Module of Opportunity”: 4th module of 10kT can be different tech to provide complimentary and/or extended reach



Idea of one Module of Opportunity:  
WbLS with THEIA

M. Wurm [slides](#)