

Future of neutrino interactions



Laura Munteanu (CERN)

XXXII International Conference on Neutrino Physics and Astrophysics

University of California, Irvine

26 June 2026

NEUTRINO '26

International Conference on Neutrino Physics and Astrophysics
June 22nd - 26th, 2026

UCI

Department of
Physics & Astronomy



~~Future of neutrino interactions~~

Future neutrino interaction measurements in the GeV regime



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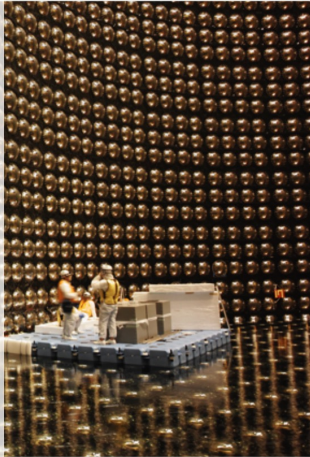
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Reasons to measure neutrino cross sections

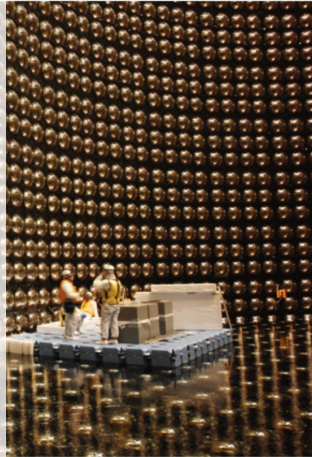
- ✓ One of the dominant **systematic uncertainty** at LBL programs
- ✓ Mismodeling nuclear effects can **bias** oscillation analysis
- ✓ Understand Standard Model effects (nuclear effects) to assess sensitivity to **BSM** signals
- ✓ Unique probe to learn about **nuclear structure**



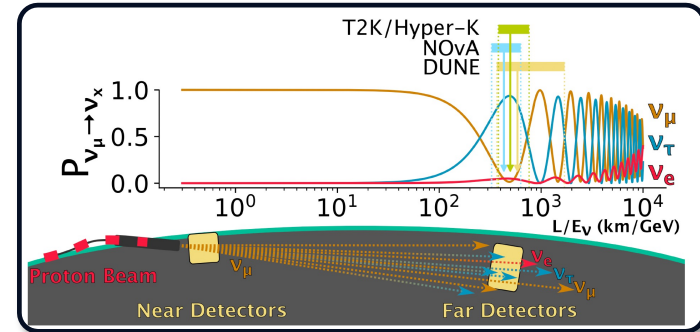
From J. Sobczyk's talk on Wednesday

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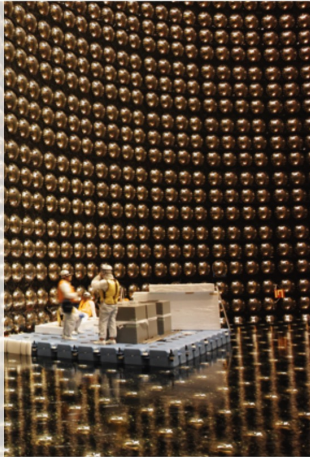


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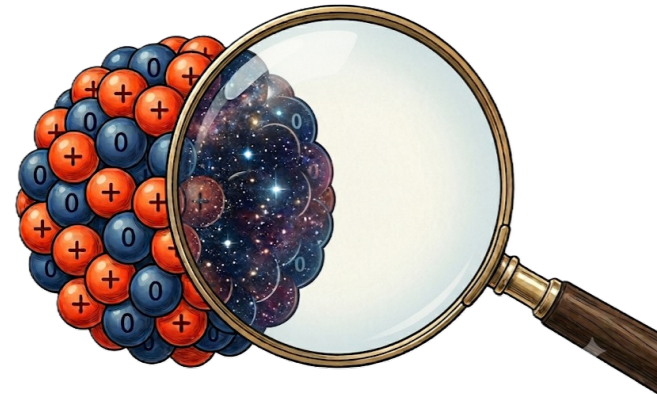
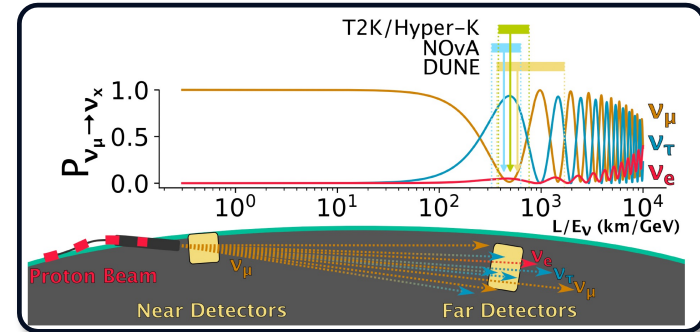


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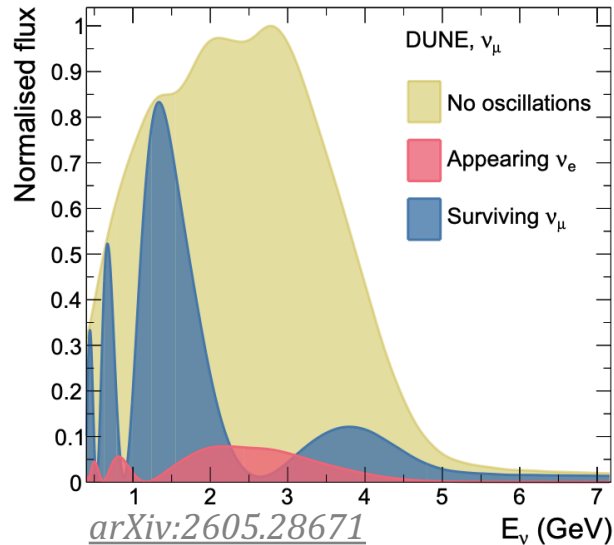
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(non-exhaustive list focused on LBL experiments)

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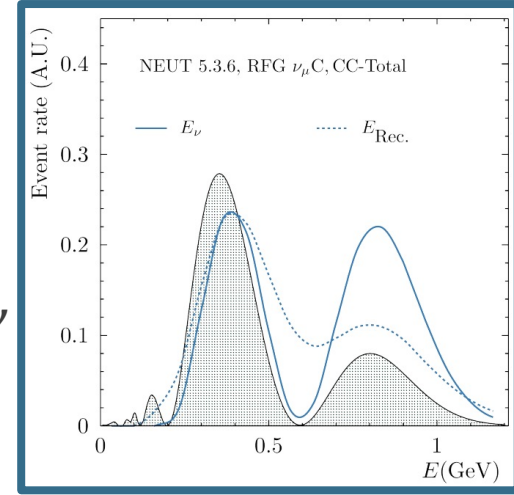
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What do we need to know about ν interactions?

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- **The energy dependence of the cross section**
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- **The relationship between true and reconstructed E_ν**
 - So we can measure the osc. probability reliably



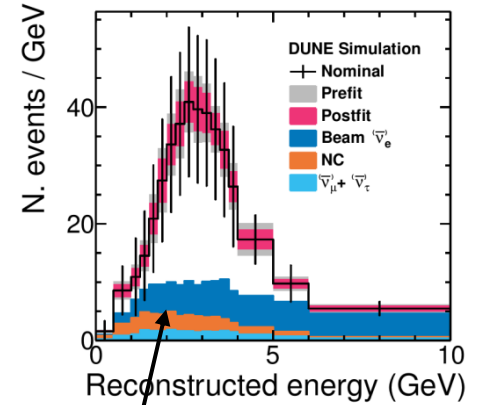
$$N_{\nu\beta}(E_\nu^{reco}) = P_{\nu\mu\rightarrow\nu\beta}(E_\nu^{true})\Phi(E_\nu^{true})\sigma(E_\nu^{true})\epsilon(E_\nu^{true})S(E_\nu^{true}, E_\nu^{reco}) \quad \beta = e, \mu$$

Energy smearing matrix

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Backgrounds to oscillation searches

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(non-exhaustive list focused on LBL experiments)

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- **For a very complete discussion of the impact of neutrino interactions uncertainties on oscillation experiments see**

[arXiv:2605.28671](https://arxiv.org/abs/2605.28671)

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How well do we know these things *(in 2026)*?

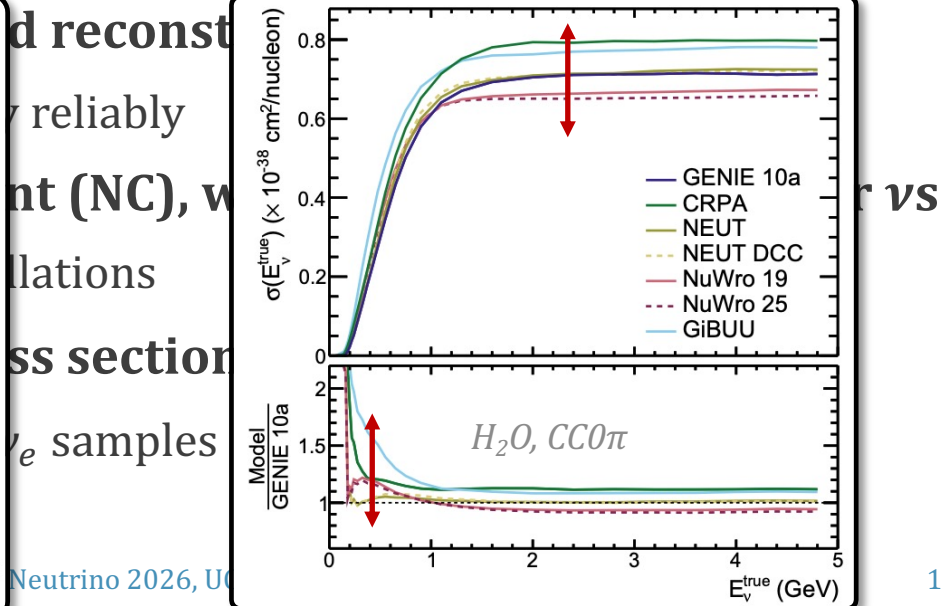
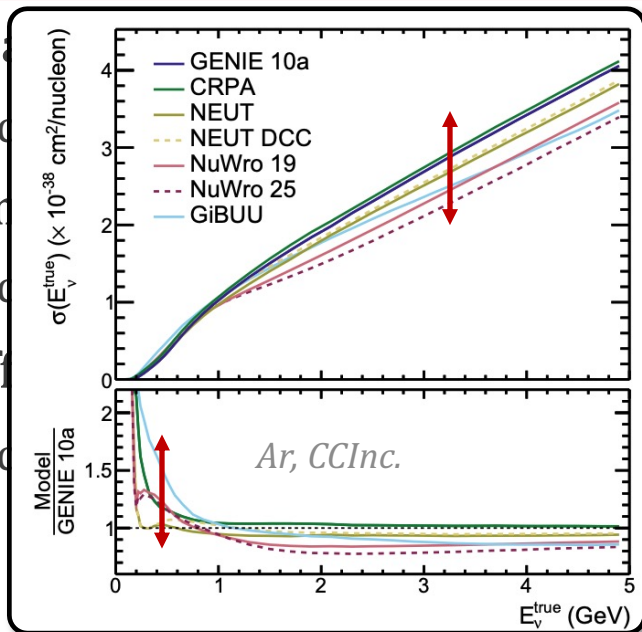
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How well do we know these things *(in 2026)*?

Model differences up to ~20%

- The energy dependence of the cross section
 - So we can extrapolate constraints from the ND to the FD

- The relative neutrino flux
- So we can constrain the flux
- The cross section for charged current (CC) interactions
- So we can constrain the flux
- The difference in cross sections for different neutrino flavors
- So we can constrain the flux

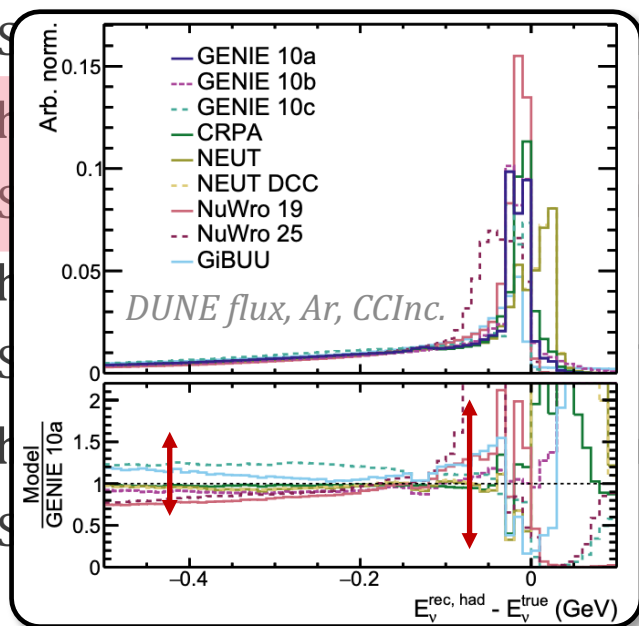


How well do we know these things *(in 2026)*?

Model differences due to different physics processes range from ~20% to ~50%

■ The energy

- S
- T
- S
- T
- S
- T
- S



ts from the ND

ue and recon

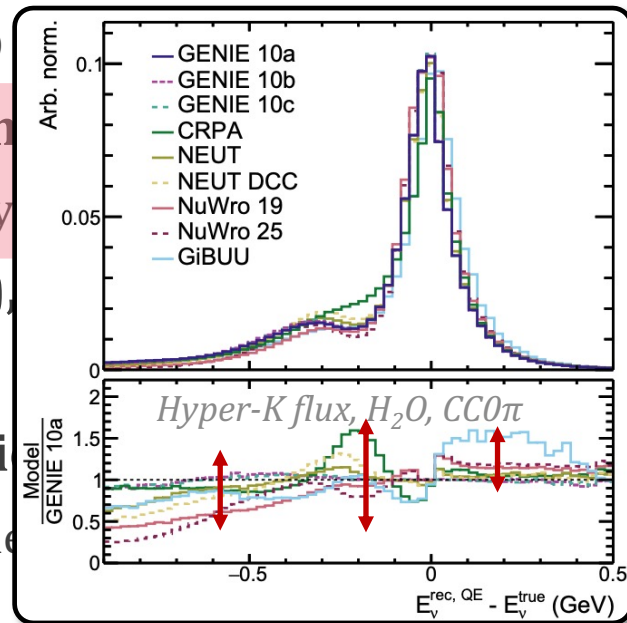
ability reliably

current (NC),

or oscillations

ν μ cross secti

nts to ν_e sample

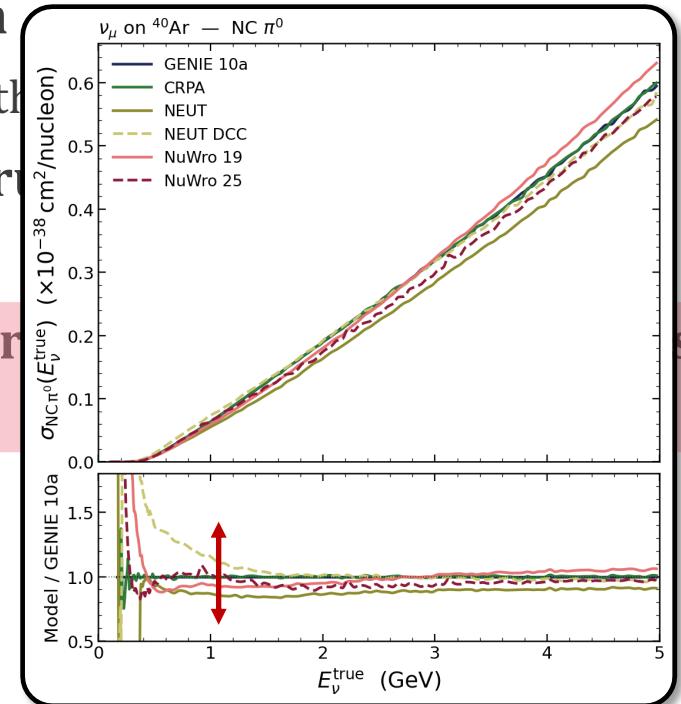


or vs

How well do we know these things (in 2026)?

Model differences from ~10% to ~50%

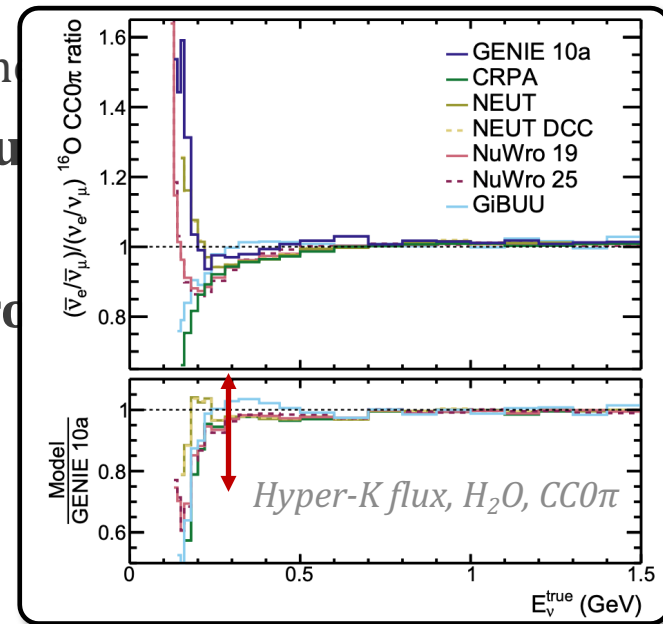
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How well do we know these things *(in 2026)*?

Differences of ~5% in region where e/μ mass ratio is impactful

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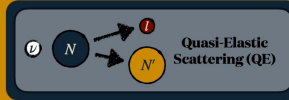
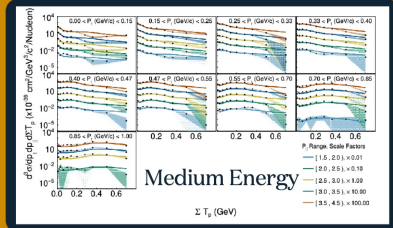
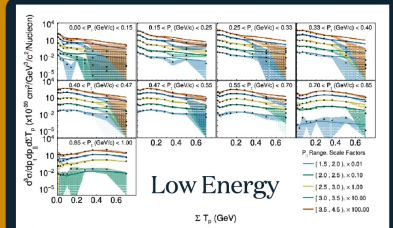
Let's measure some
cross sections!



Current cross-section measurements

From B. Ramson's *talk* on Wednesday

New Quasi-Elastic-like Scattering Result from MINERvA



Triple differential cross-section measurement with simple signal topology but across both energy ranges, differential in lepton kinematics and hadronic energy.

- General agreement in the majority of comparisons across both energies despite large discrepancy at high hadronic energy.
- **No generator accurately reproduces the low lepton transverse momentum shape. (Not Shown)**
- Mismodeling persists across beam energy in similar ways as lepton longitudinal energy, suggests mismodeling in energy transfer.

Preprint: arXiv:2606.00745 (May 2026)

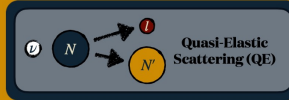
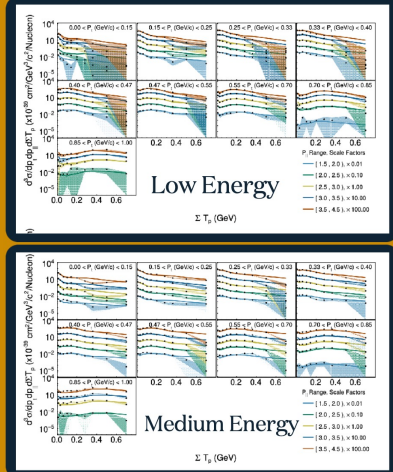
Increasingly differential measurements

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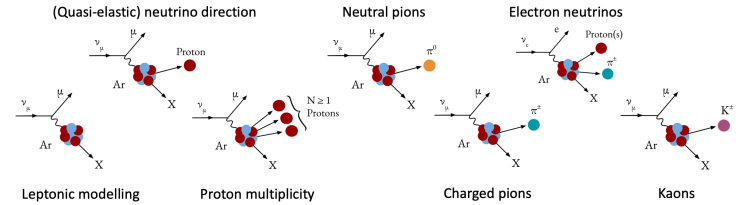
MicroBooNE providing crucial measurements on Argon

Expansive ν -Ar interaction measurement programme – 35 neutrino interaction papers to-date

- probe modelling essential for DUNE, across numerous final state topologies and interaction modes

This talk: high-level overview of our 10 most recent results

See dedicated posters for details!



Patrick Green | 24/06/2026

3

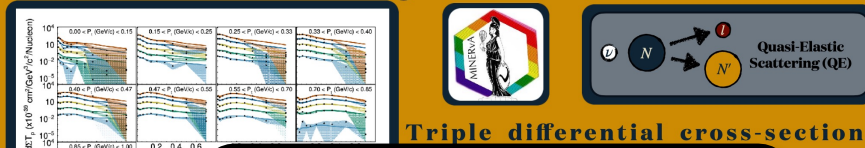
Trailblazing measurements

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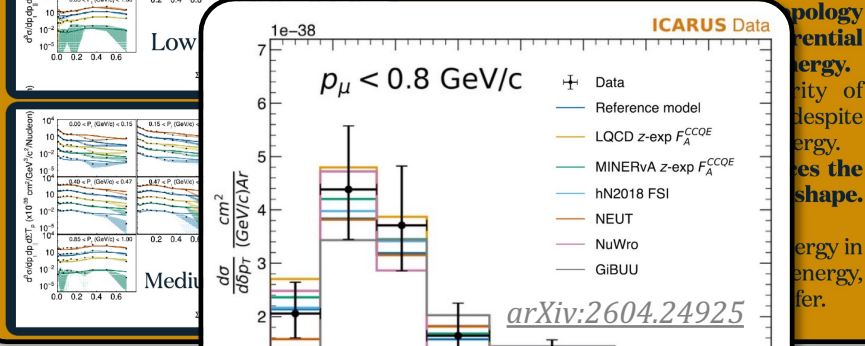
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Triple differential cross-section



Increasing

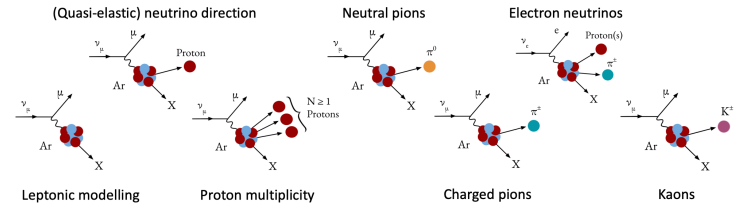
Higher energies on Ar

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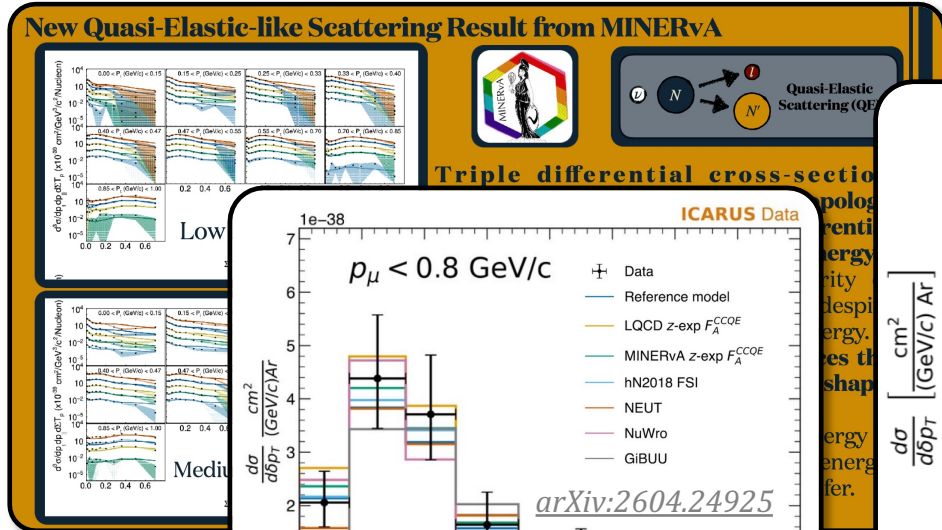
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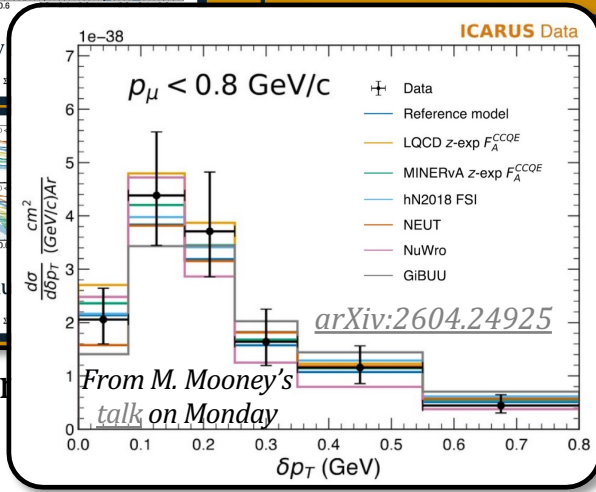
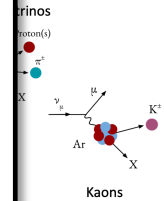
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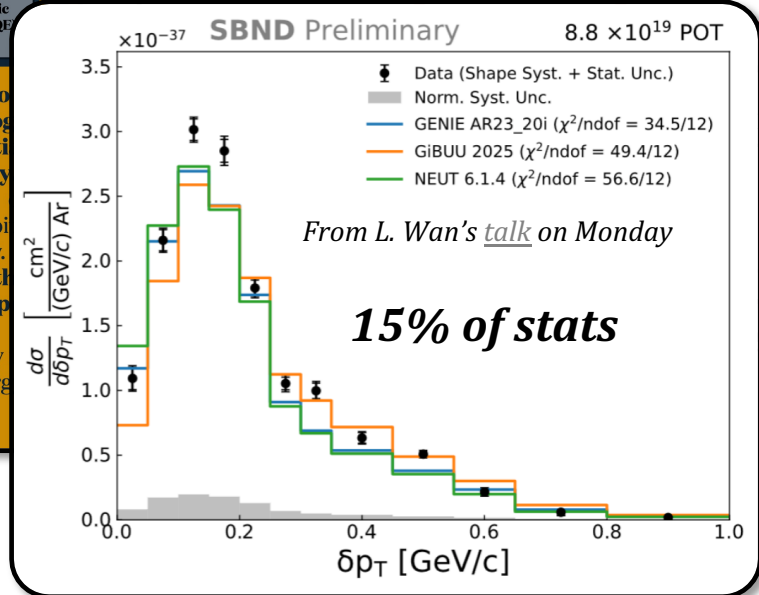
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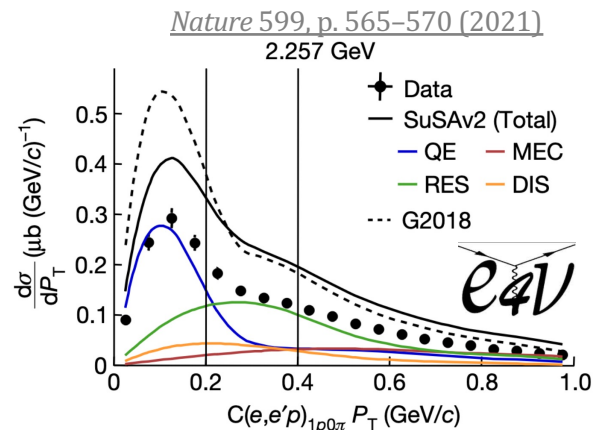
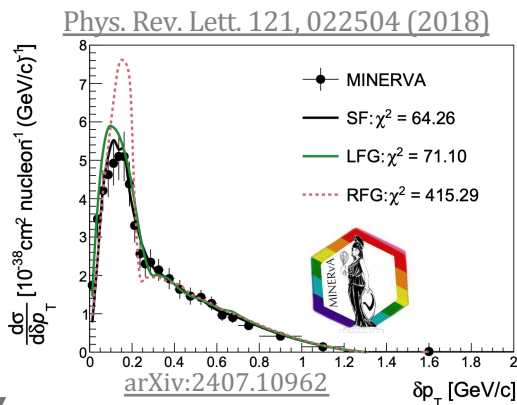
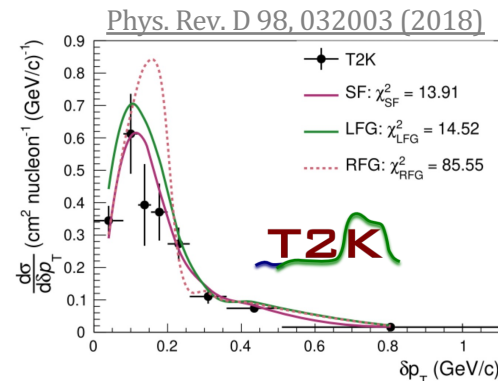
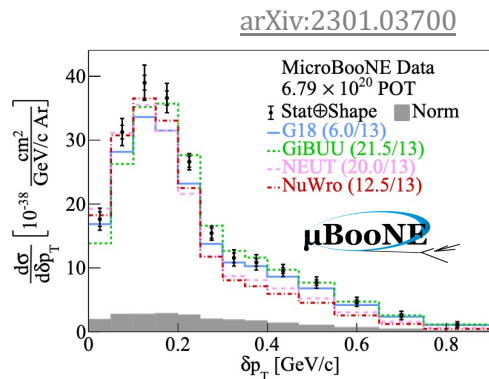


More statistics than ever before!

And yet...

Atomic number

Energy



And yet...

No model is able to describe global neutrino scattering measurements

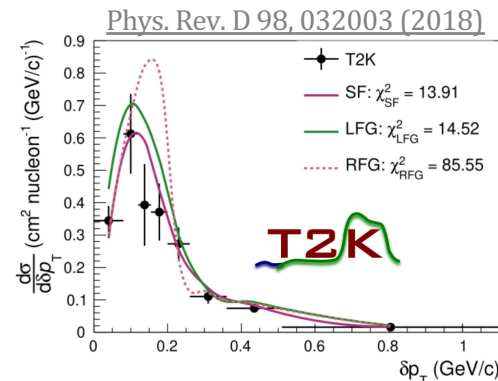
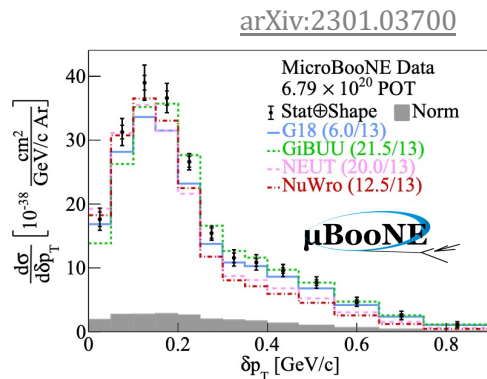
See *Phys.Rev.D 111 (2025) 3,3* for a quantitative analysis

Our ν measurements tell us that all the models are wrong but not how to fix them

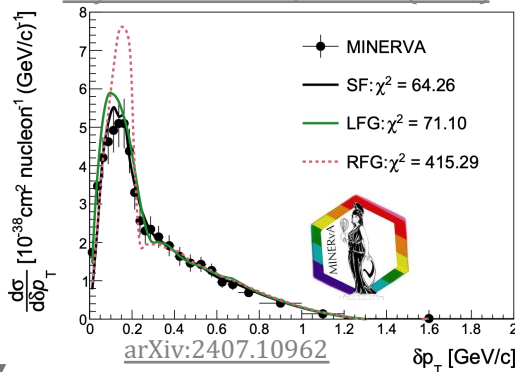


26.06.2026

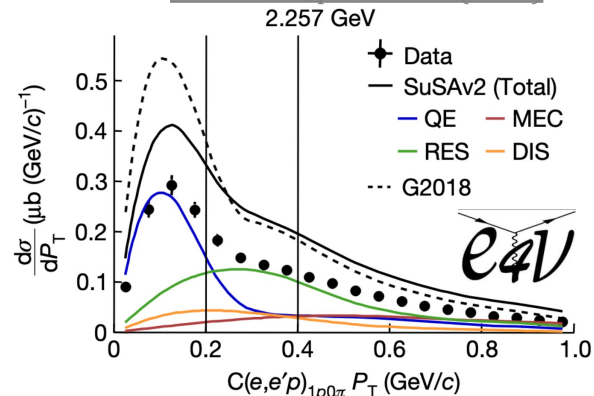
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Phys. Rev. Lett. 121, 022504 (2018)



Nature 599, p. 565–570 (2021)



Laura Munteanu - Neutrino 2026, UC Irvine

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So what have we established?

- We need to know fine details of neutrino cross sections
- Generator/model spread is concerningly large
- No model is able to describe global neutrino scattering measurements
 - Across energies, targets (C, Ar, O) or species



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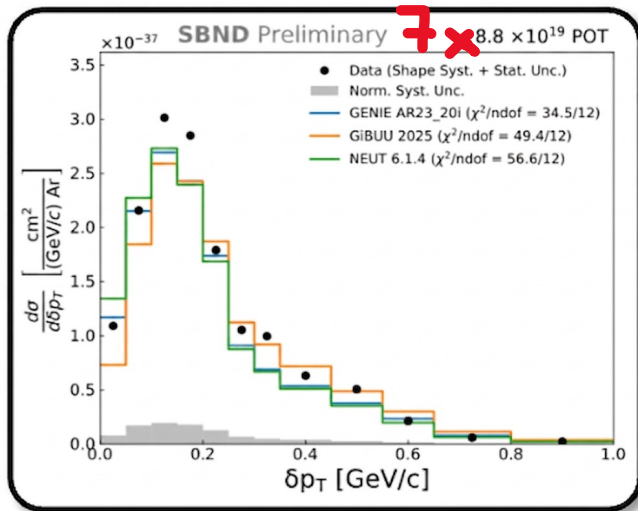
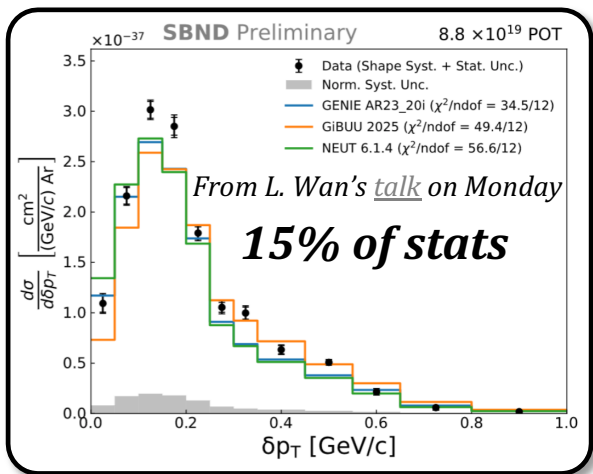
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The (near) future of cross-section measurements

■ More stats

- Useful for quantitative constraints down the line



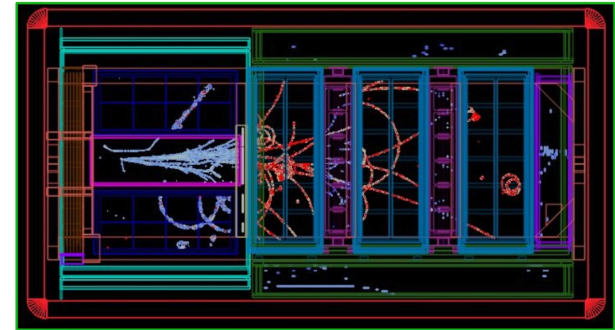
Artist's rendition of
high stats SBND
measurement



The (near) future of cross-section measurements

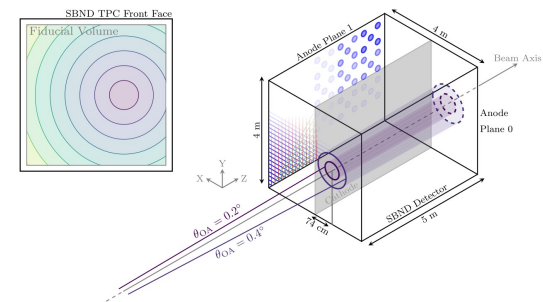
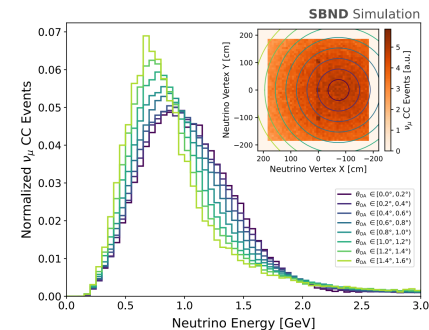
- More stats
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- **Improved detector technologies**
 - Open up new regions of phase space

From S. King's [talk](#) on Tuesday



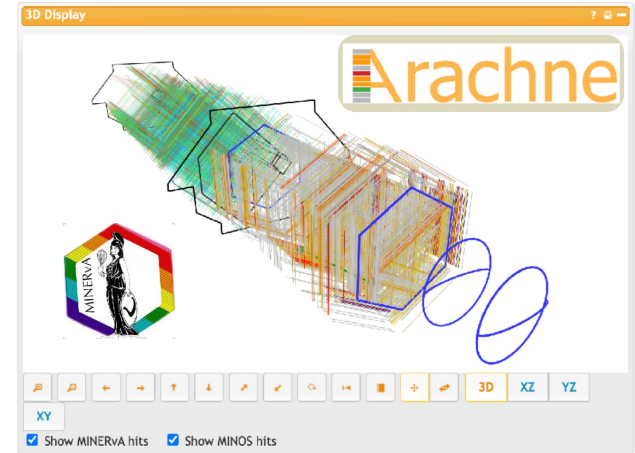
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- More stats
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- Improved detector technologies
 - Open up new regions of phase space
- New analysis methods
 - Notably, results from SBND-PRISM
- **Continued analysis of existing data**
 - MicroBooNE, MINERvA and others
 - Make your own cross-section measurement with the MINERvA open data product! <https://minerva.fnal.gov/opendata/>



The (near) future of cross-section measurements

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Will these help us answer *everything* we need to know?

Probably not...

MINERvA open data

product! <https://minerva.fnal.gov/opendata/>

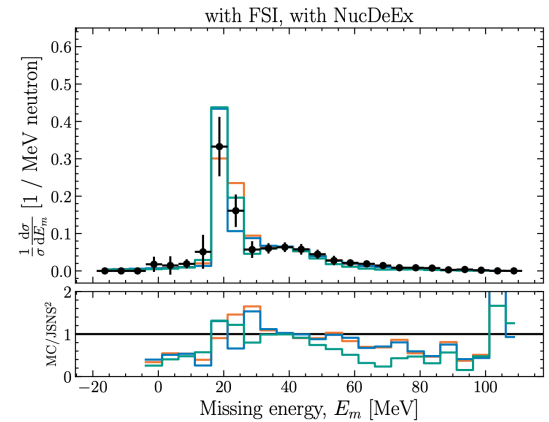
Why is it so difficult?

Fundamental issue: We do not know the neutrino energy or the neutrino flux

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Phys. Rev. Lett. 134, 081801
arXiv:2601.14831
arXiv:2603.03210

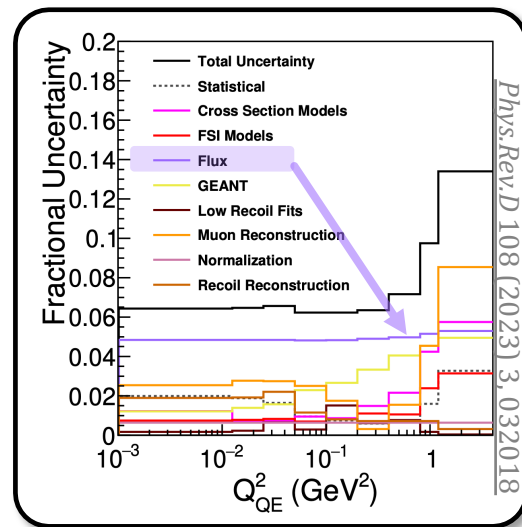
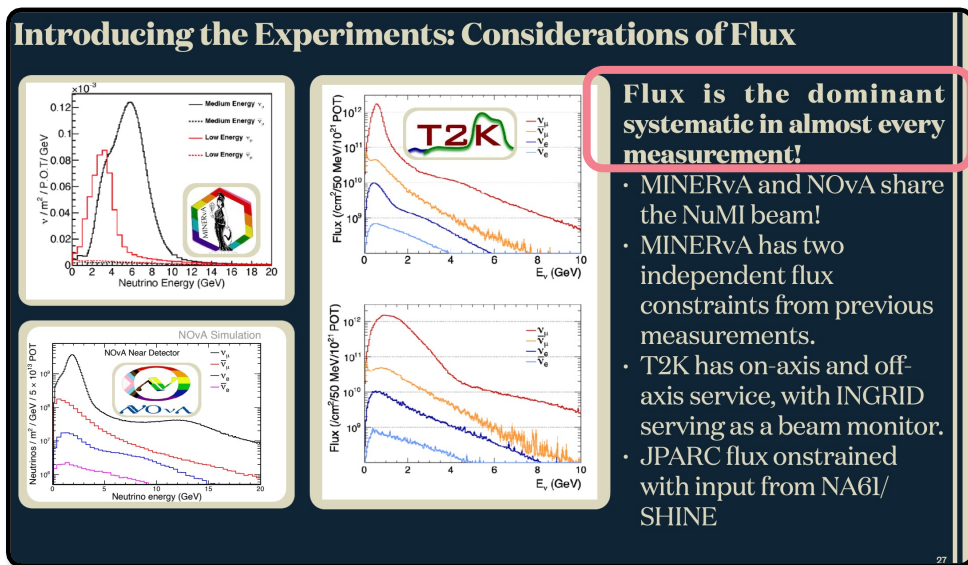


**with few exceptions such as pion and kaon decay at rest*

Why is it so difficult?

Fundamental issue: We do not know the neutrino energy or the neutrino flux

➤ Introduces large systematic uncertainties

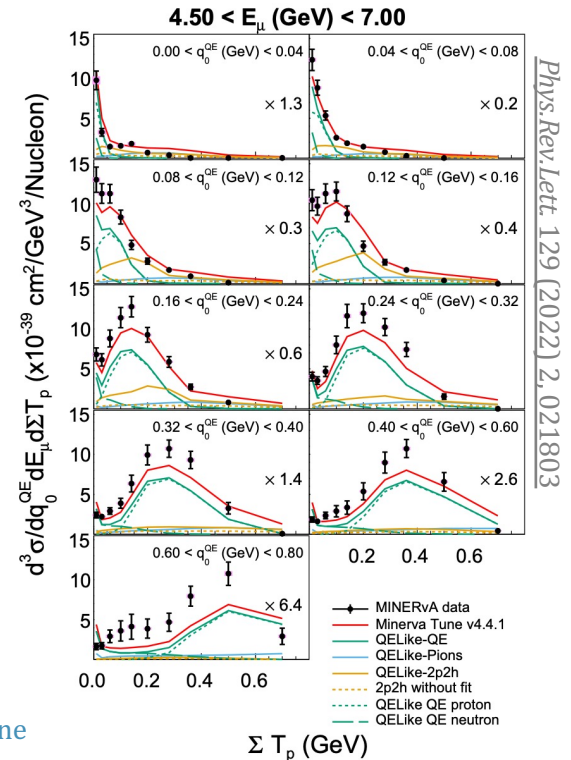


From B. Ramson's talk on Wednesday

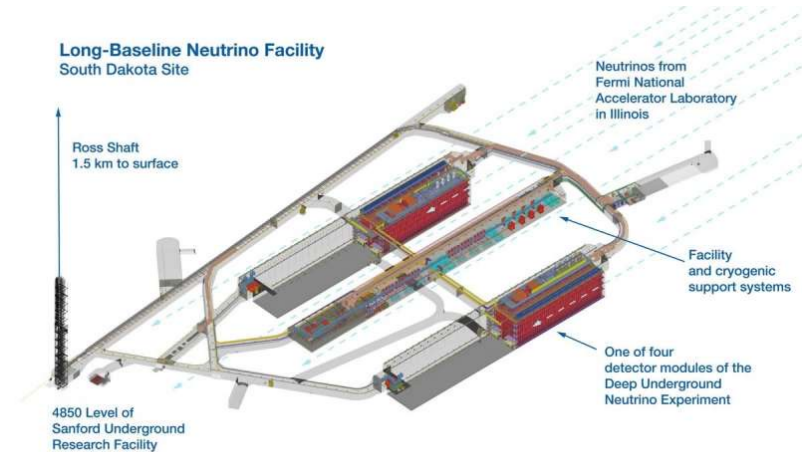
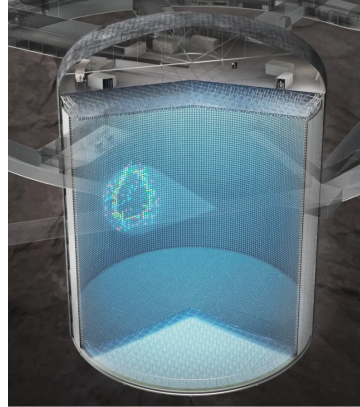
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Fundamental issue: We do not know the neutrino energy or the neutrino flux

- Introduces large systematic uncertainties
- Cross-section features become degenerate

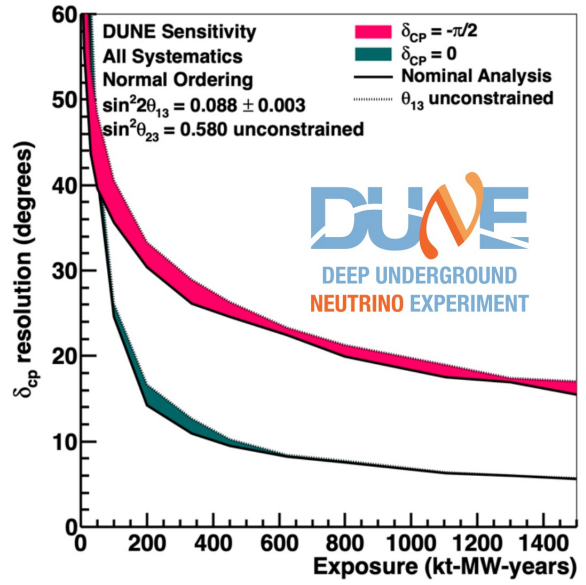


What will neutrino cross-section measurements look like in the Hyper-K and DUNE era?

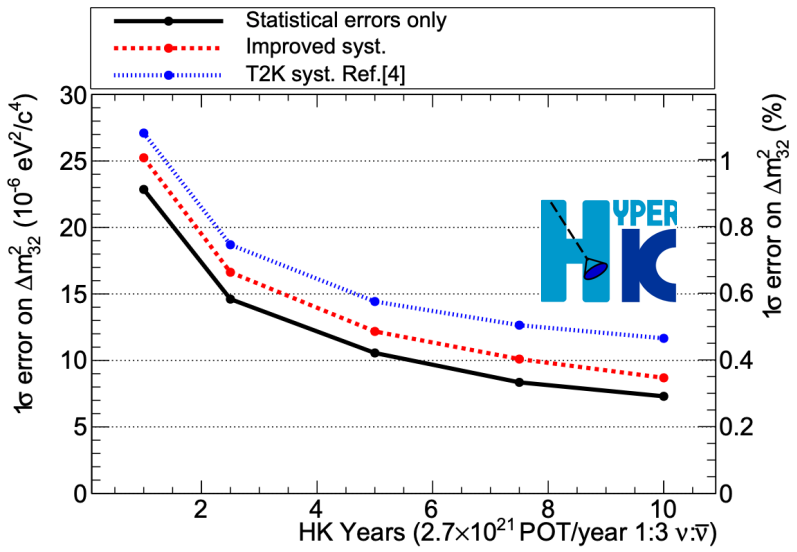


How precise is “precise”?

Possible definition: to reach precision measurement goals

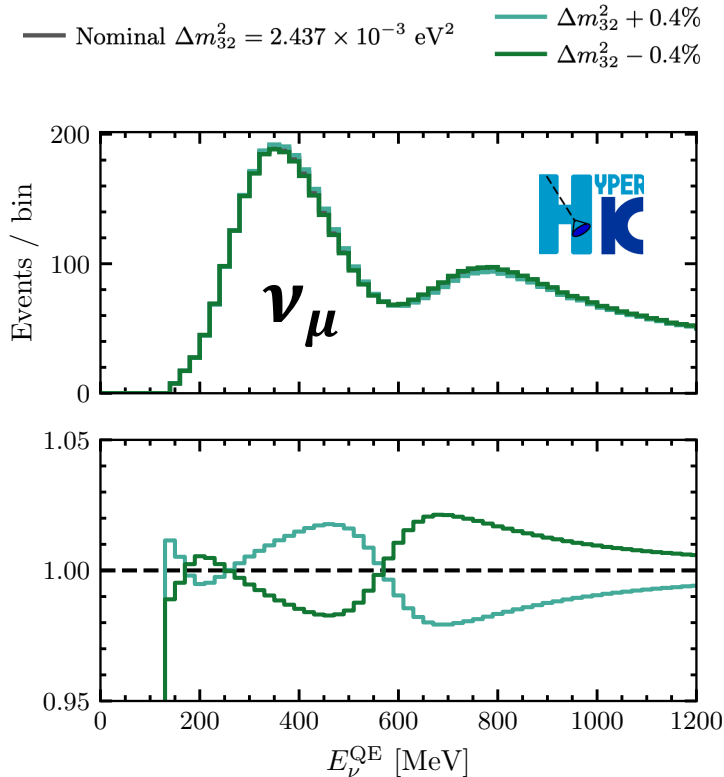
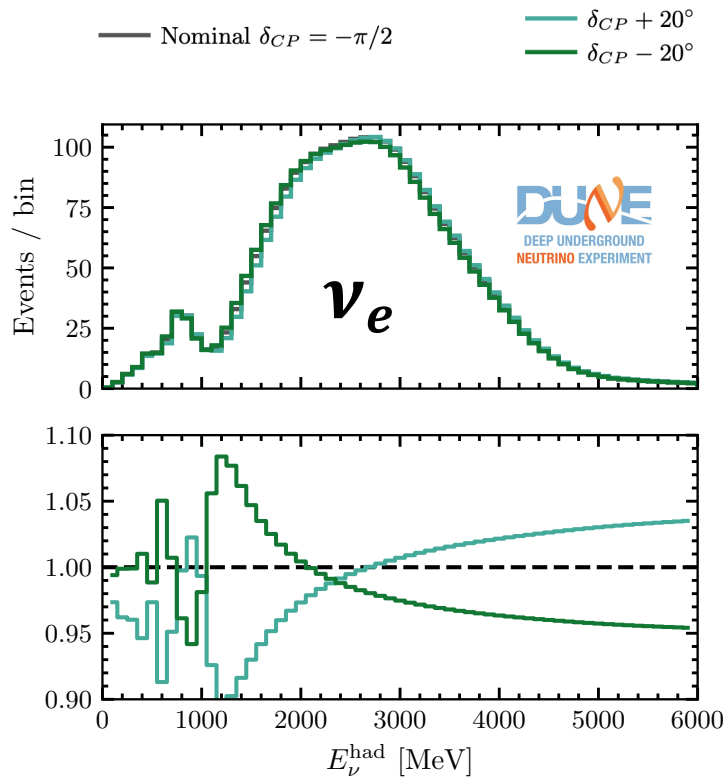


$\sim 20^\circ$ if $\delta_{CP} = -\pi/2$

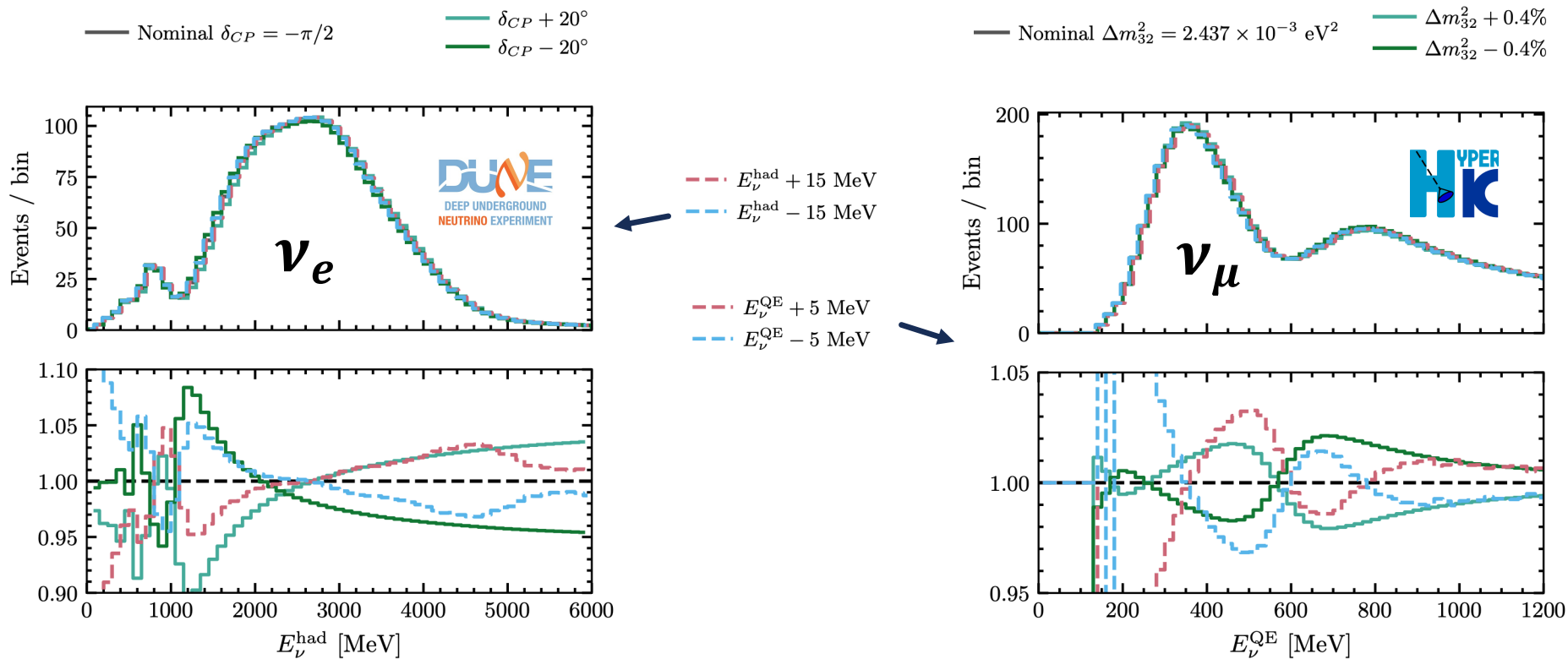


$\sim 0.5\%$ on Δm^2_{32}

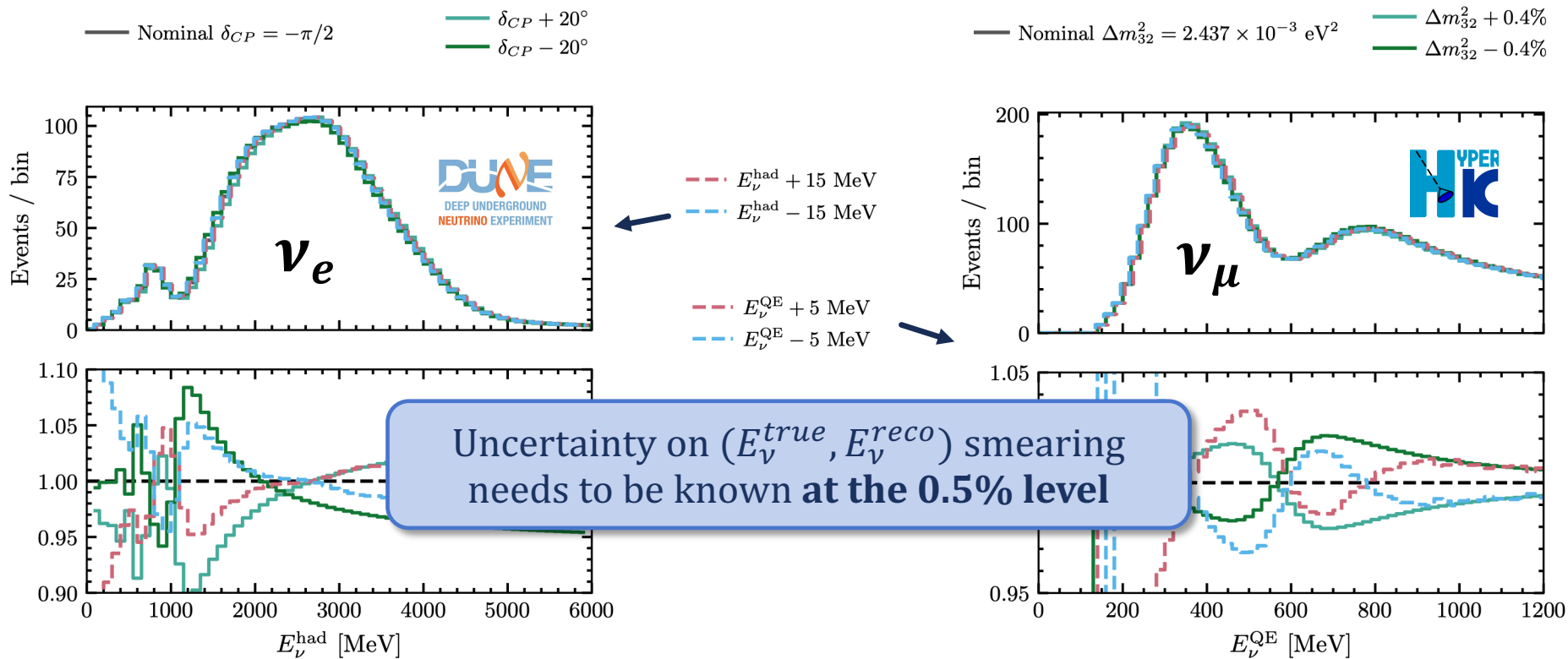
How precise is “precise”?



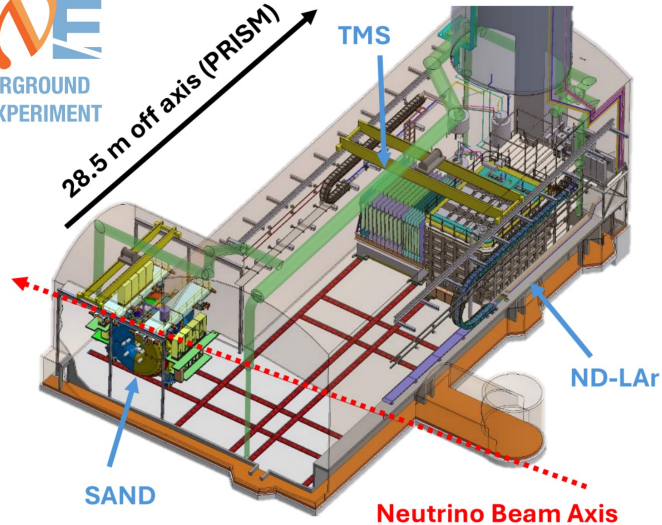
How precise is “precise”?



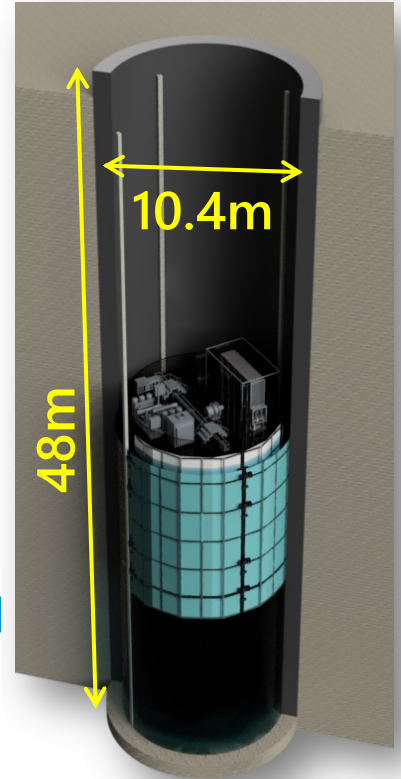
How precise is “precise”?



In-situ measurements with near detectors

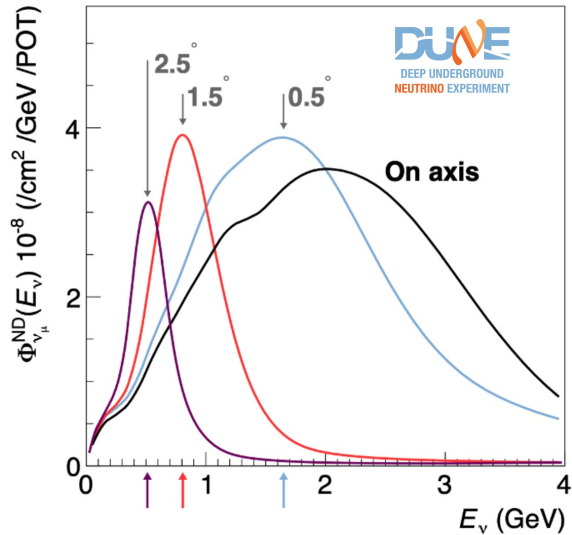


~150 t LAr + 1.3-2.4 MW beam



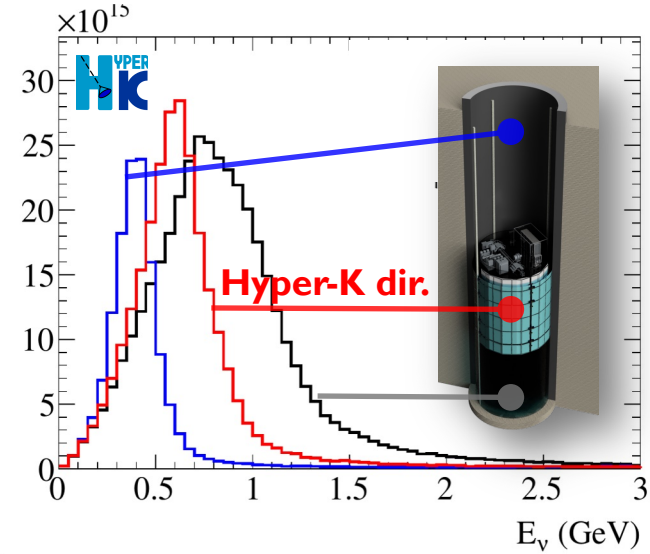
~110 t water + 1.3 MW beam

Interactions through the PRISM

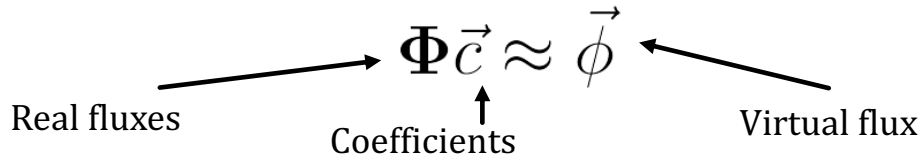


Large interaction rates
at different fluxes in the
same beam

Adds in information about
true neutrino energy



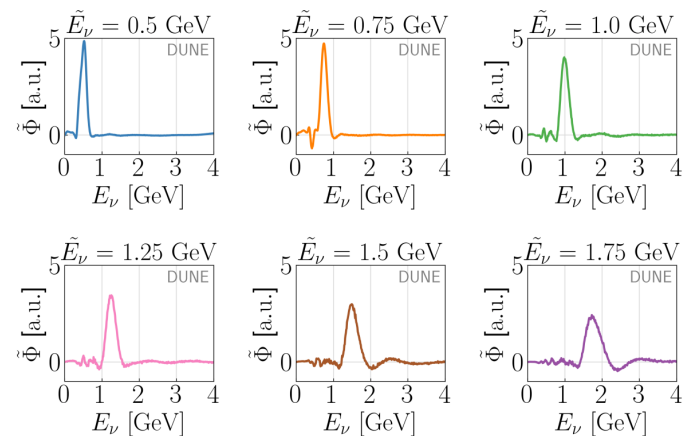
Off-axis fluxes can be combined to produce arbitrary shapes:



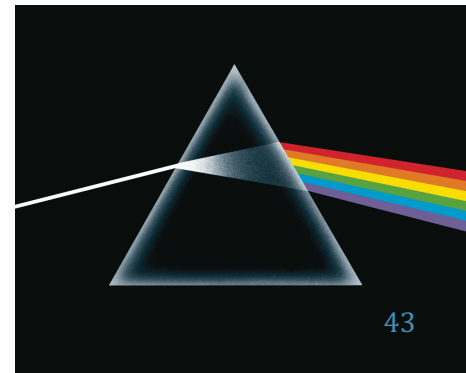
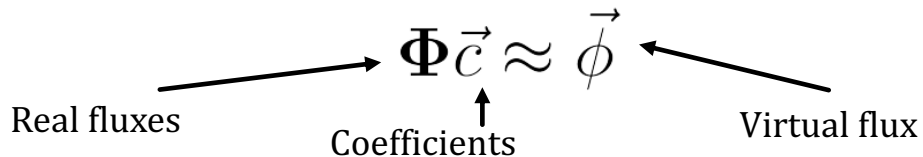
Interactions through the PRISM

arXiv:2509.07664

Can be used to obtain
quasi-monoenergetic
neutrino fluxes!



Off-axis fluxes can be combined to produce arbitrary shapes:

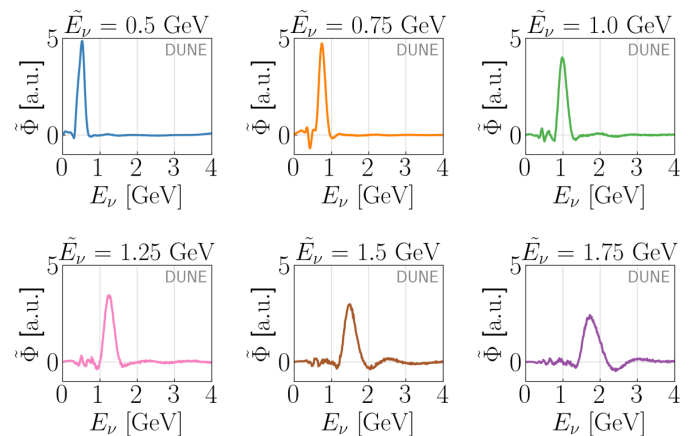
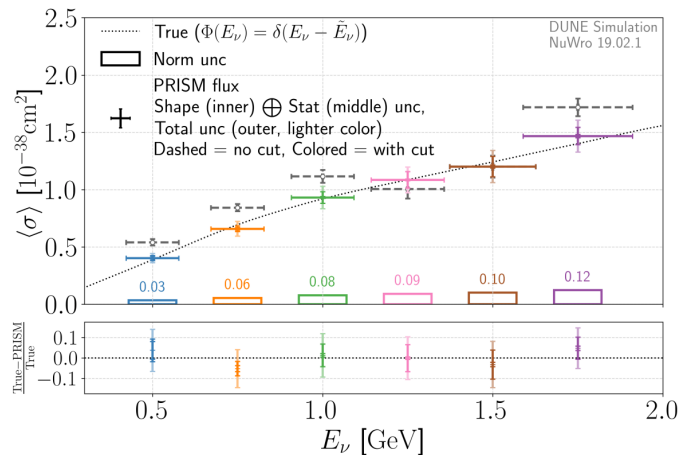


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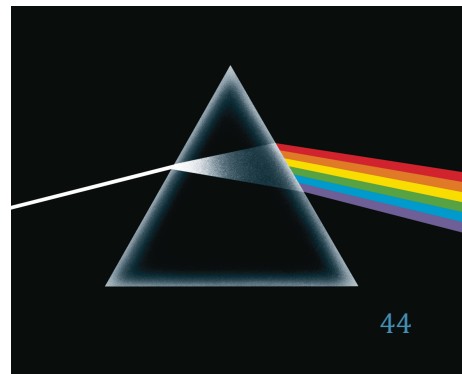
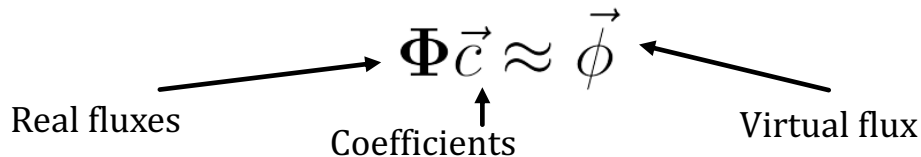
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Can be used to obtain **quasi-monoenergetic** neutrino fluxes!

With ~ 2.5 years of DUNE ND data σ_{tot}^{CC} known at $\sim 10\%$



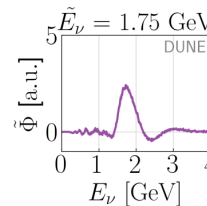
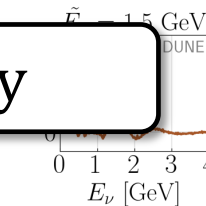
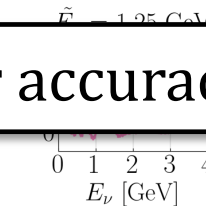
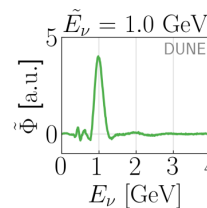
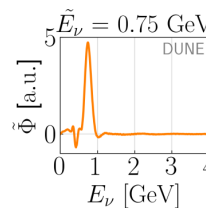
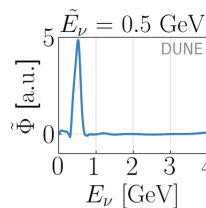
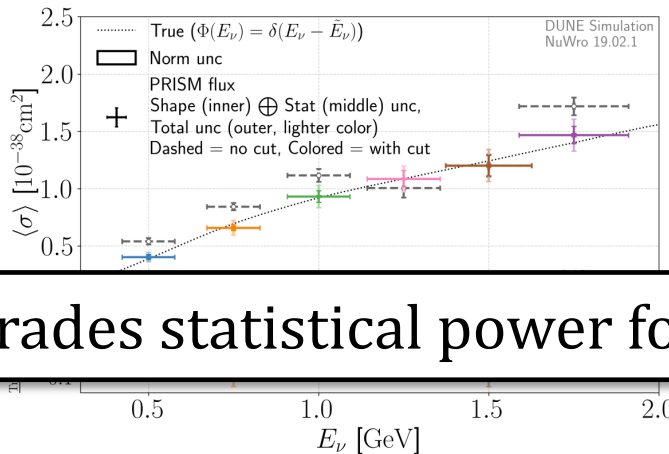
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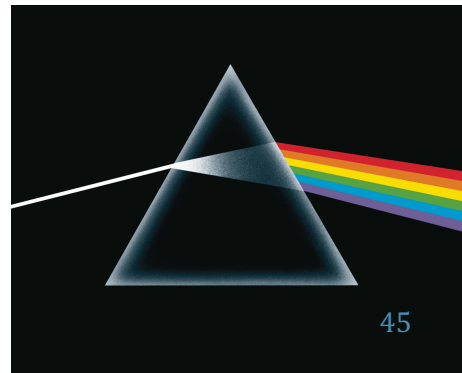
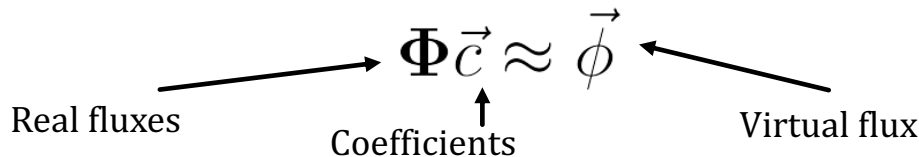
Can be used to obtain **quasi-monoenergetic** neutrino fluxes!



Trades statistical power for accuracy

With ~ 2.5 year DUNE ND data σ_{tot}^{CC} known at $\sim 10\%$

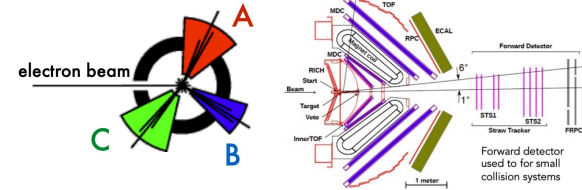
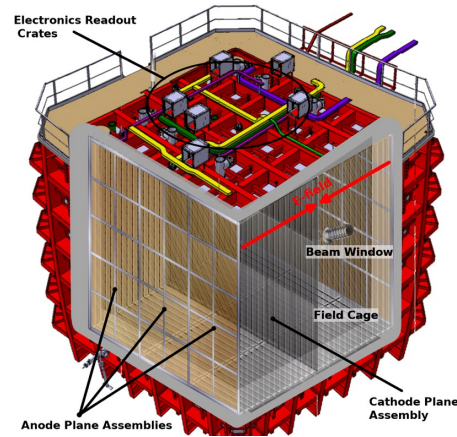
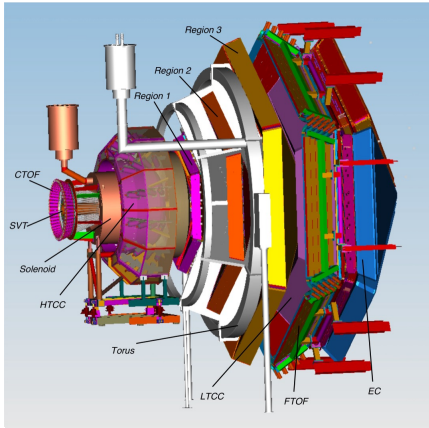
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Getting a little help from our friends

Electron and hadron scattering experiments will provide us with useful constraints to constrain nuclear effects

Major advantages: known probe energies, high statistics



+ other facilities such as MAMI/MESA, HADES@FAIR(GSI)...

 Preparing new measurements with CLAS6 and CLAS12 data

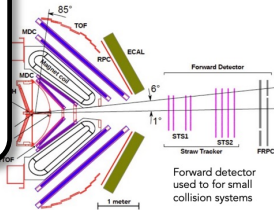
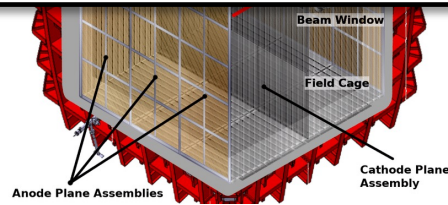
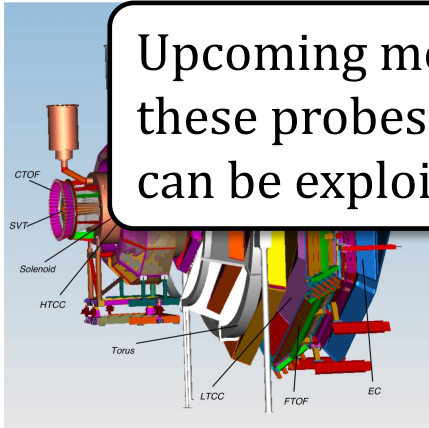
Proton- and pion-Ar scattering measurements from protoDUNE

Getting a little help from our friends

Electron and hadron scattering experiments will provide us with useful constraints to constrain nuclear effects

Major advantages: known probe energies, high statistics

Upcoming measurements (*especially differential ones*) with these probes will be crucial to build better models which can be exploited by DUNE and HK near detectors



Preparing new measurements with CLAS6 and CLAS12 data

Proton- and pion-Ar scattering measurements from protoDUNE

+ other facilities such as MAMI/MESA, HADES@FAIR(GSI)...

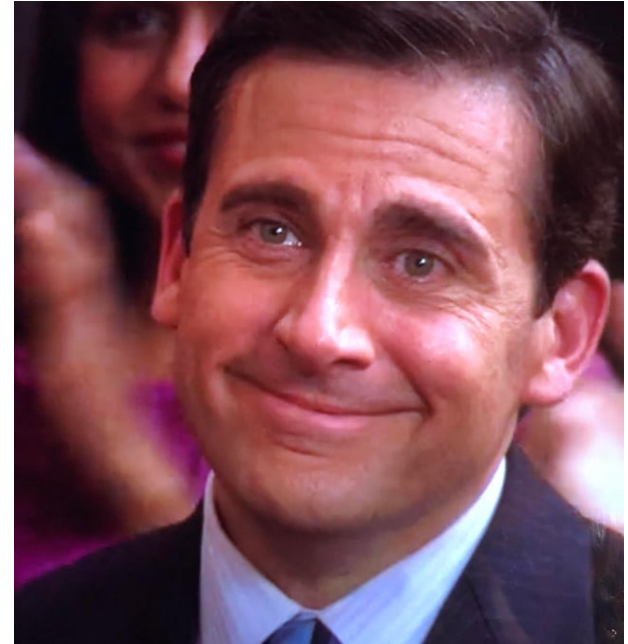
What we have to look forward to

Measurements from SBND + precise measurements from T2K ND280 + continued analysis of MicroBooNE, ICARUS, MINERvA, NOvA, ANNIE data

VERY high statistics near detectors
(notably NDLAr)

Usage of PRISM techniques

Electron and hadron scattering measurements



Is this enough?

Measurements from SBND + precise measurements from T2K ND280 + continued analysis of MicroBooNE, ICARUS, MINERvA, NOvA, ANNIE data

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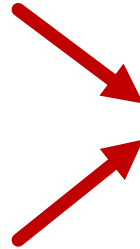
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High statistics but we *still* do not know the neutrino energy

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High statistics but we *still* do not know the neutrino energy

Accuracy at the cost of statistical power

Is this enough?

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VERY high statistics near detectors
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Usage of PRISM techniques

Electron and hadron scattering measurements

High statistics but we *still* do not know the neutrino energy

Accuracy at the cost of statistical power

No axial information

Is this enough?

Measurements from SBND + precise measurements from T2K continued analysis of MicroBoONE, ICARUS, MINERvA, NOvA

VERY high statistics near threshold (notably NDLa)

Usage of PRISM techniques

Electron and hadron scattering measurements



High statistics but we *still* do not know the neutrino energy

High energy at the cost of high cal power

→ No axial information

Is this enough?

Measurements from SBND + precise measurements from T2K ND280 + continued analysis of MicroBooNE, ICARUS MINERvA, NOvA, ANNIE data

High statistics but we still do

This *might* be enough but requires a **truly collective effort** + significant **theoretical developments**

Usage of PRISM techniques

Accuracy at the cost of statistical power

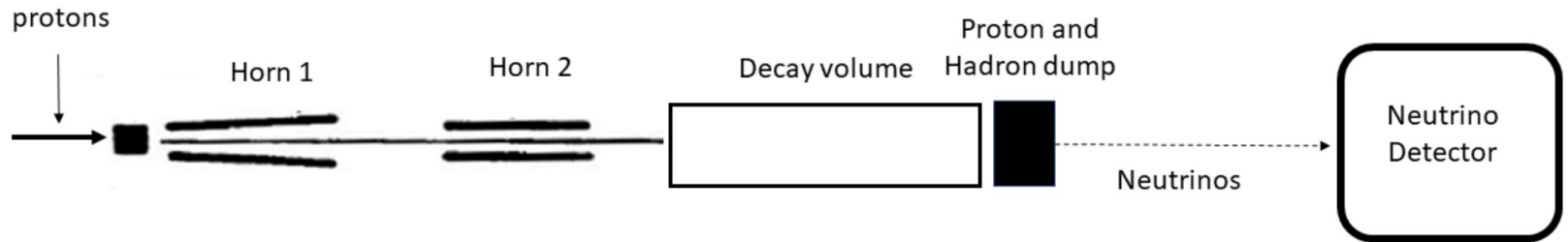
Electron and hadron scattering measurements

No axial information



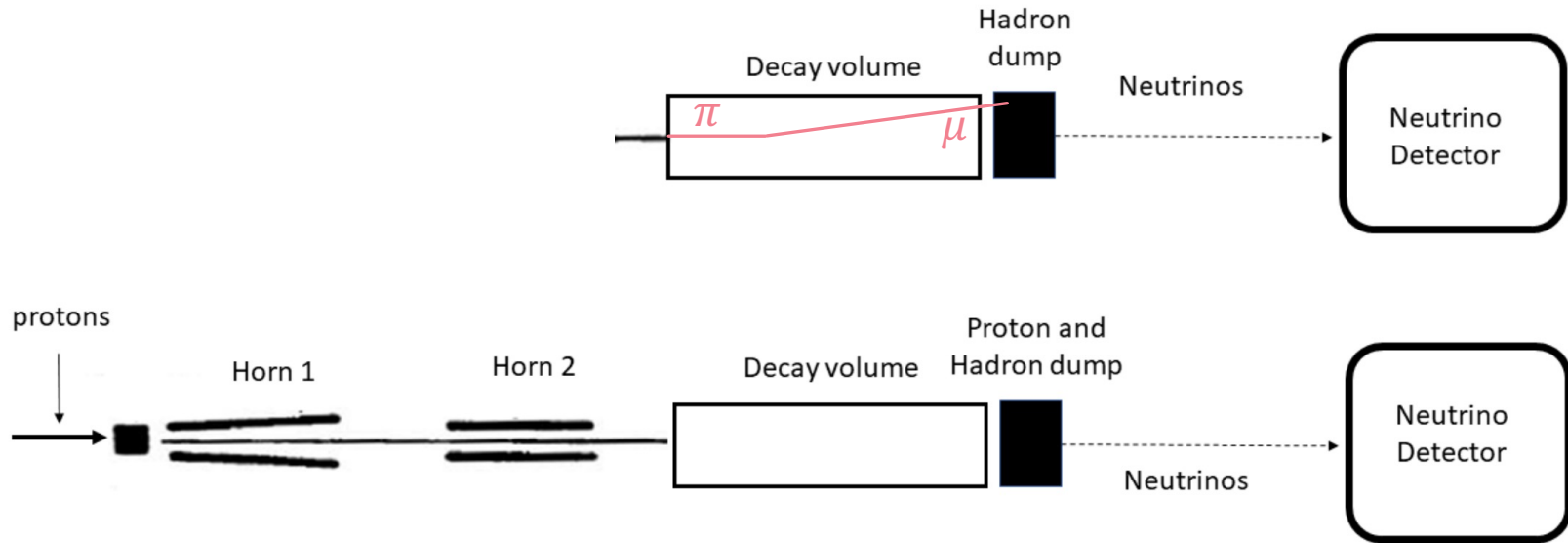
A new frame of thought

Rethinking how to make a neutrino beam



Rethinking how to make a neutrino beam

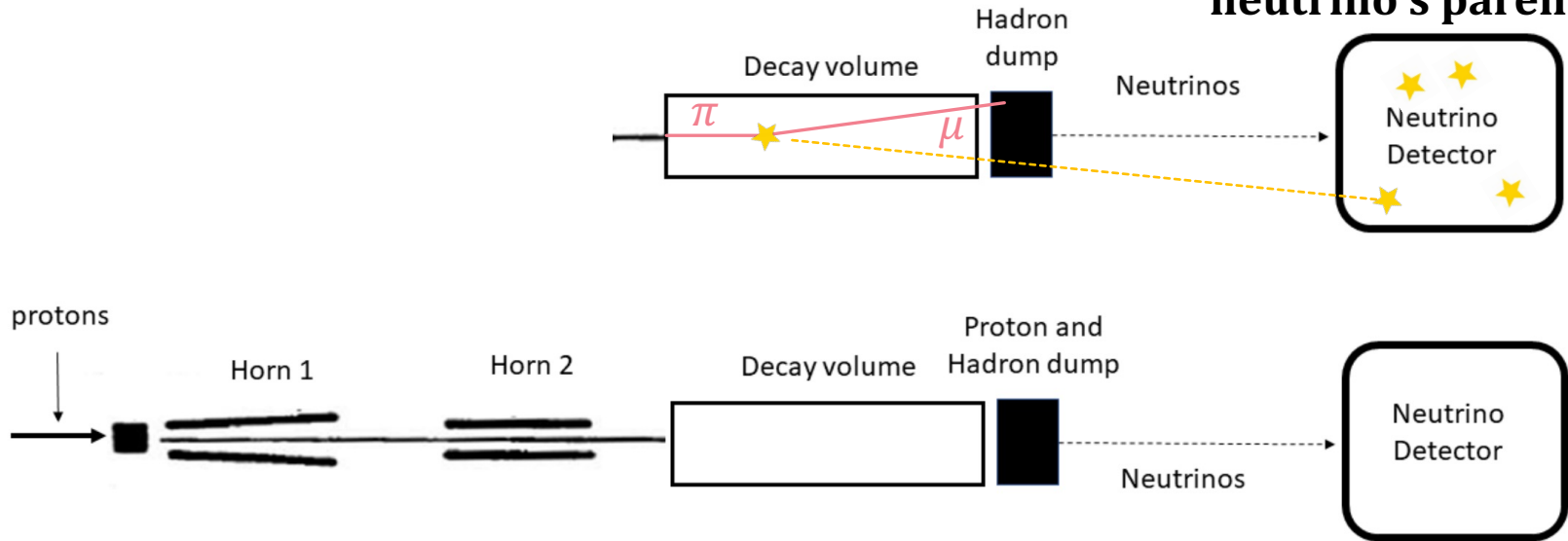
What if we could see what we produce?



Rethinking how to make a neutrino beam

What if we could *see* what we produce?

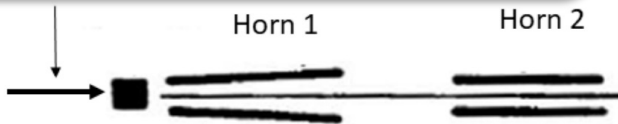
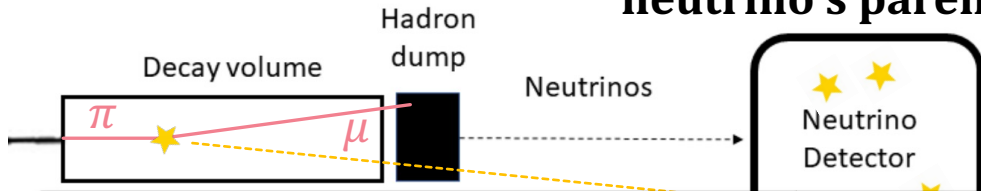
And find each interacting neutrino's parents?



Rethinking how to make a neutrino beam

What if we could see what we produce?

And find each interacting neutrino's parents?



...Wait but neutrino interaction cross-sections are tiny...

To see 1 neutrino in 100 tons of material I would need

- $\sim 10^{13}$ pions, each producing a neutrino
- To distinguish each pion!

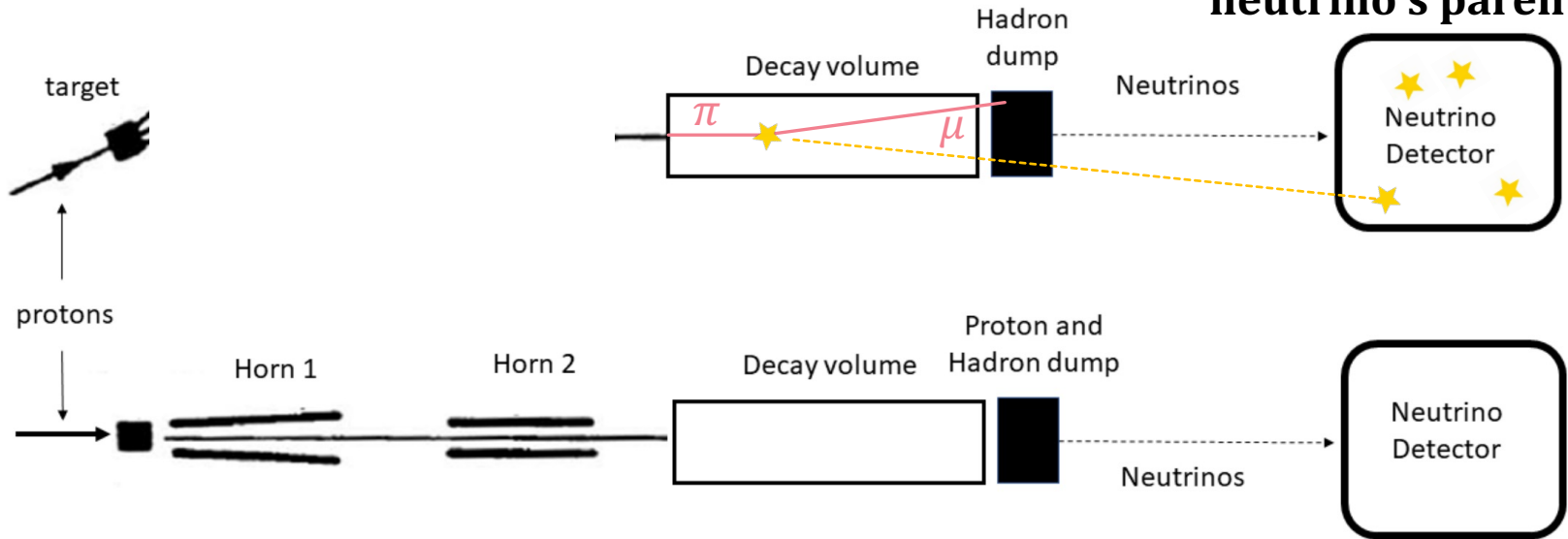
Need a slowly beam which is extracted *slowly*

Rethinking how to make a neutrino beam

Use a less intense beam

What if we could see what we produce?

And find each interacting neutrino's parents?

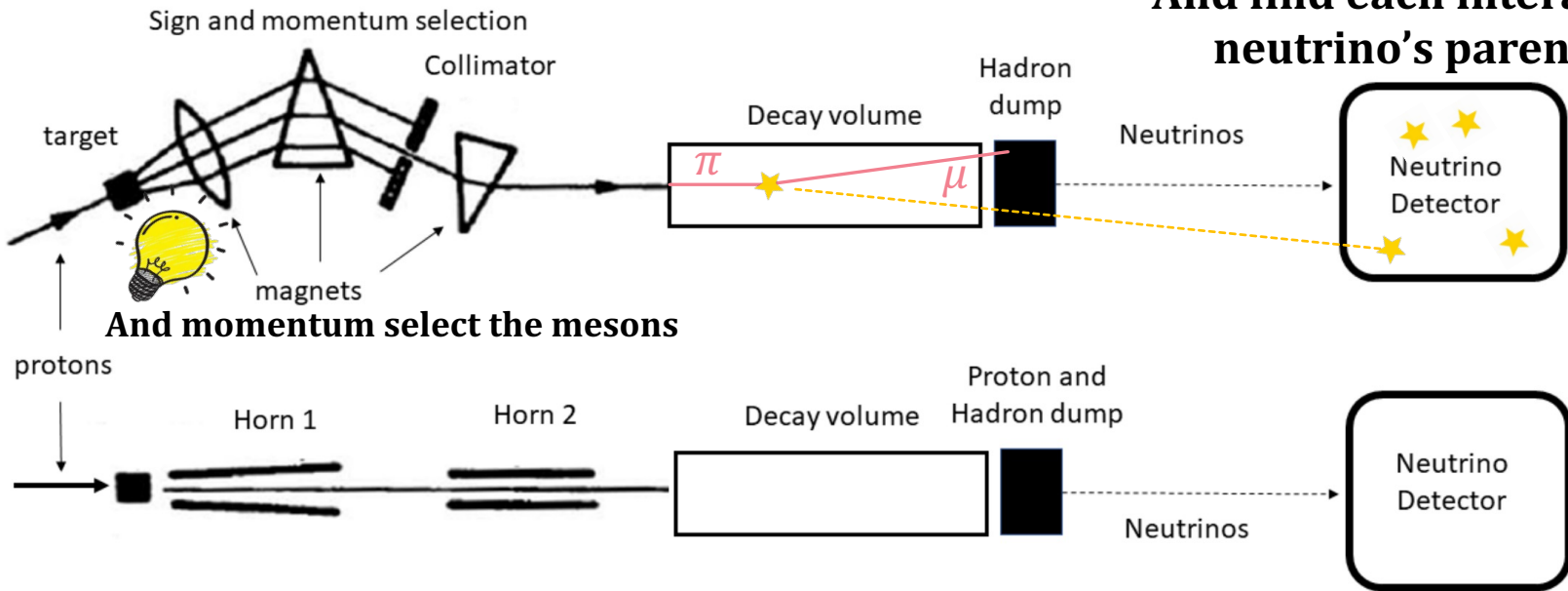


Rethinking how to make a neutrino beam

Use a less intense beam

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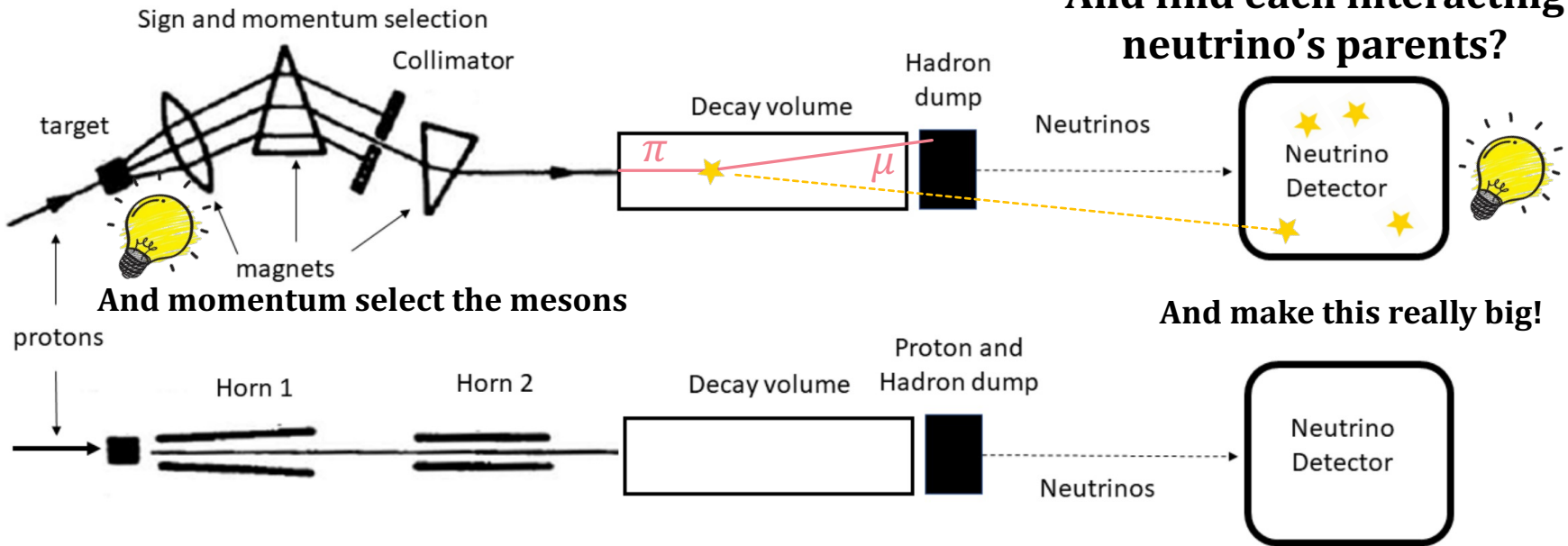


Rethinking how to make a neutrino beam

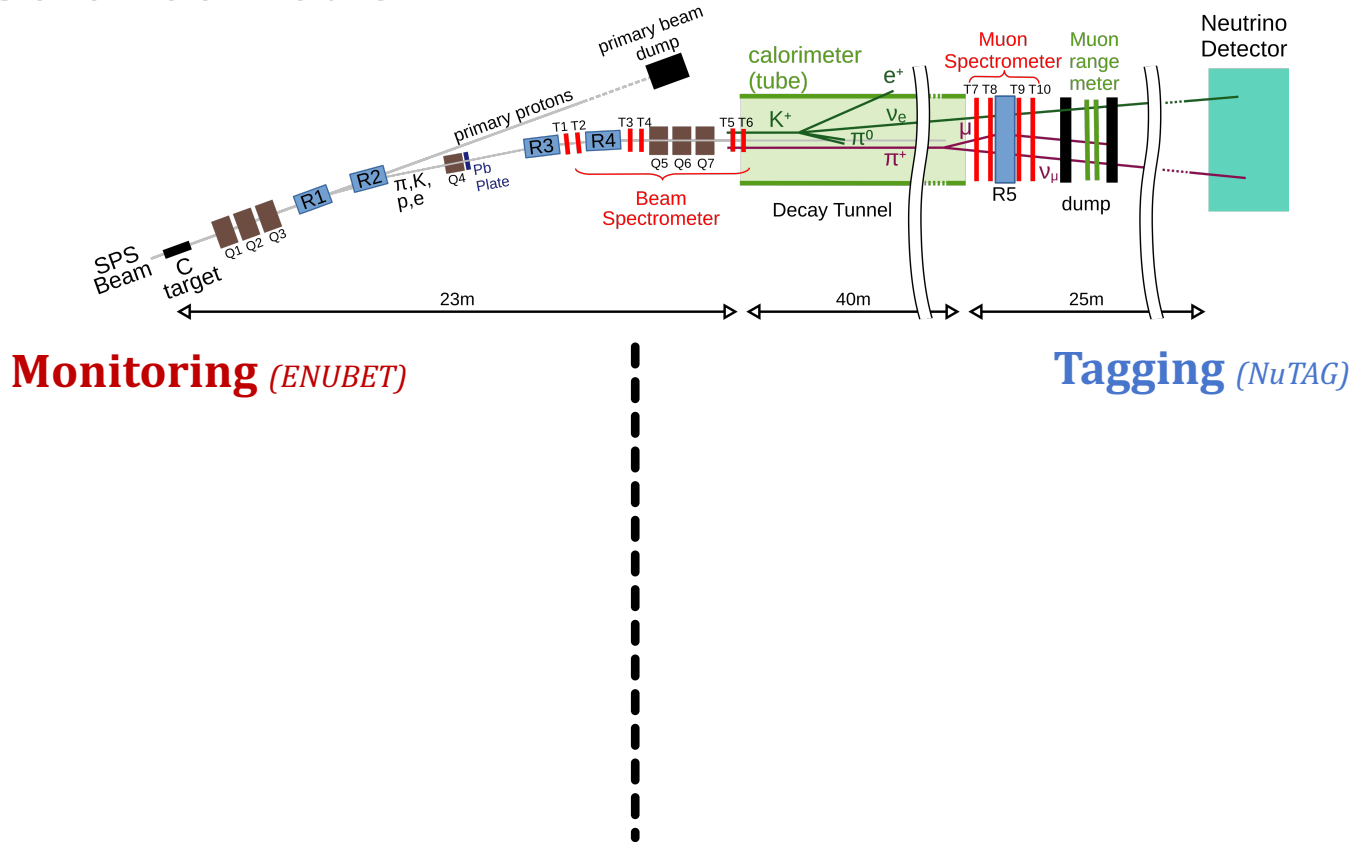
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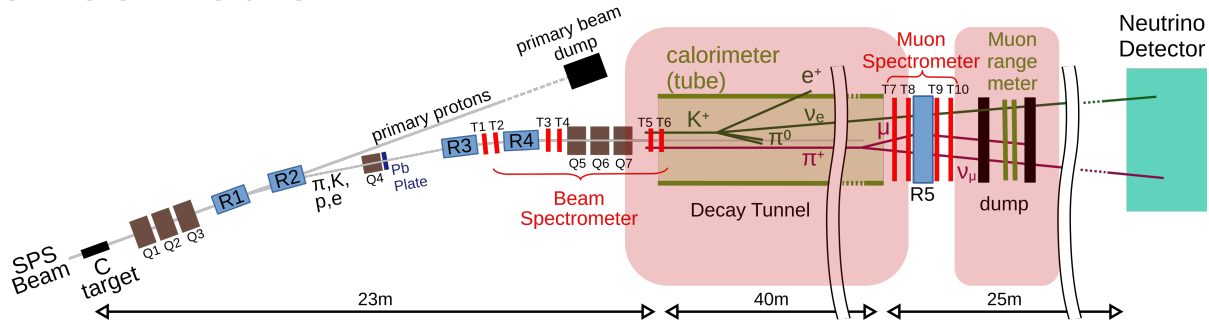
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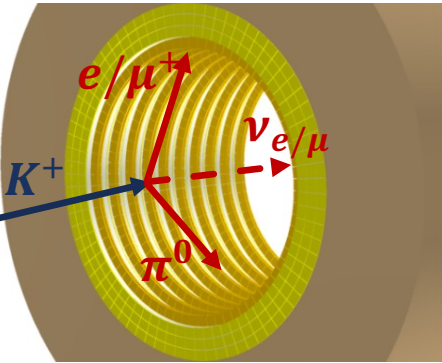
Not science fiction!



Not science fiction!



Monitoring (ENUBET)

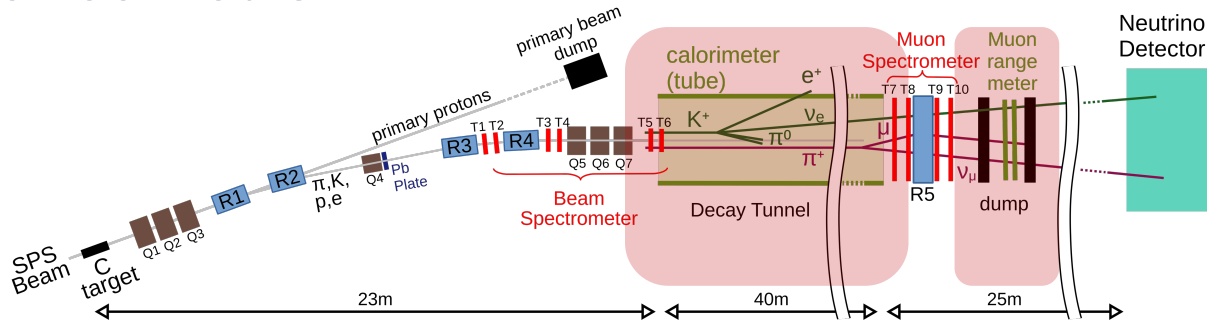


Performance of a section of the decay tunnel tested at CERN T9 Test Beam facility under NP06/ENUBET

Eur. Phys. J. C **83**, 964 (2023)

Tagging (NuTAG)

Not science fiction!



Monitoring (ENUBET)

Tagging (NuTAG)

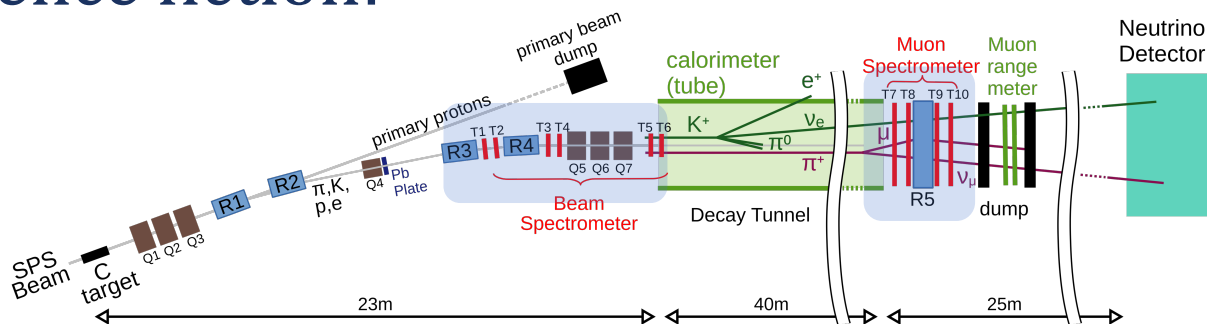


Neutrino flux uncertainties <1%

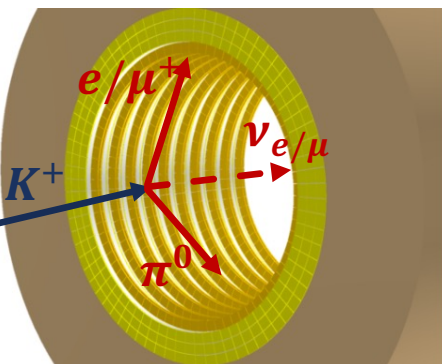
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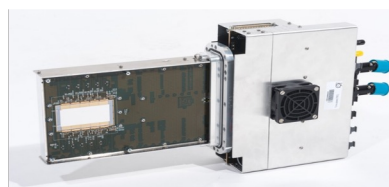
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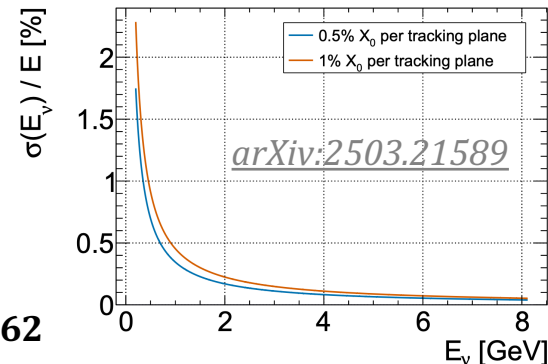
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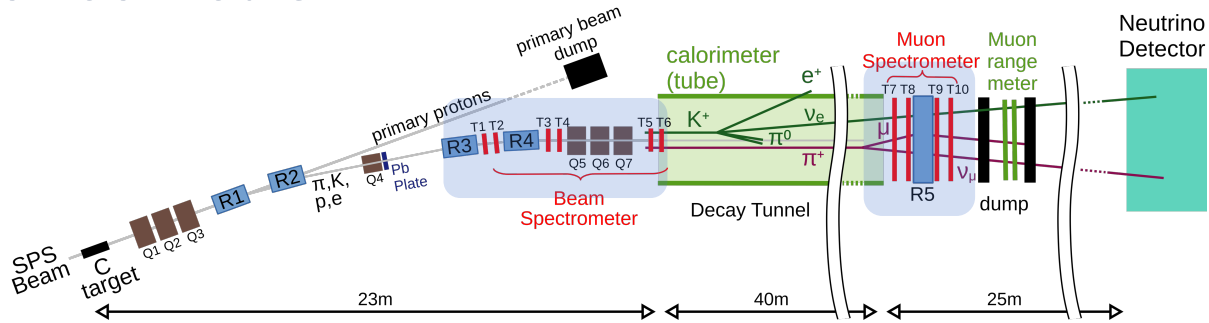


Phys.Lett.B 863 (2025) 139345

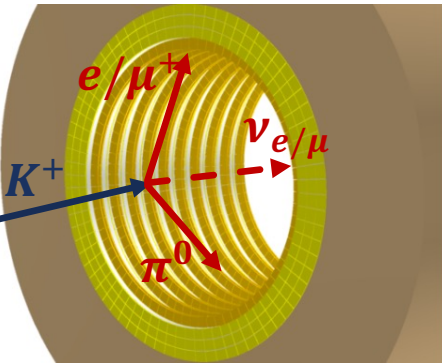
A first tagged neutrino candidate observed by NA62



Not science fiction!



Monitoring (ENUBET)



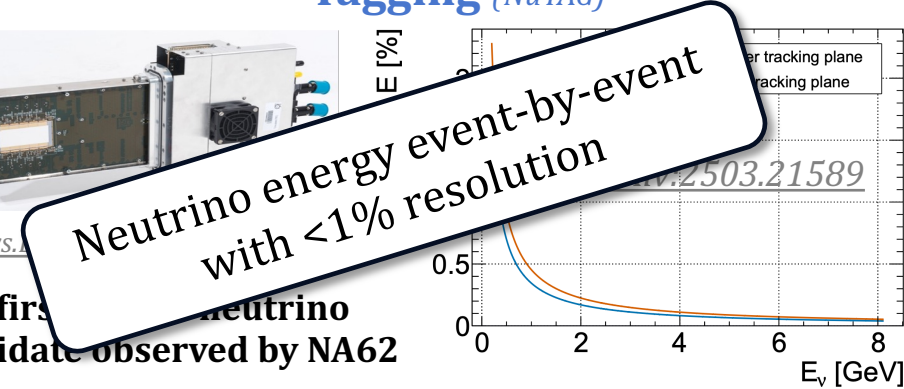
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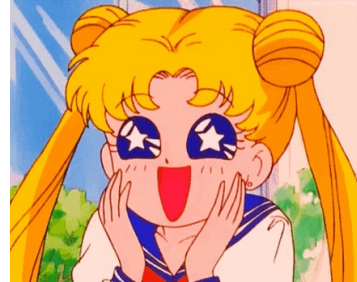
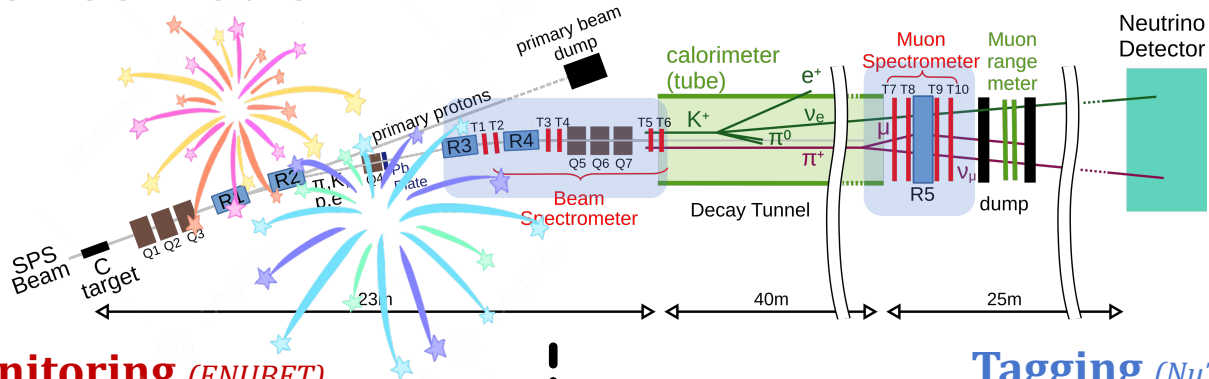
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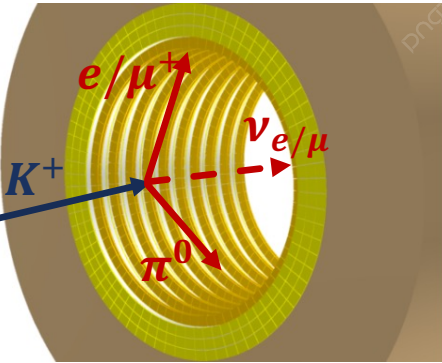
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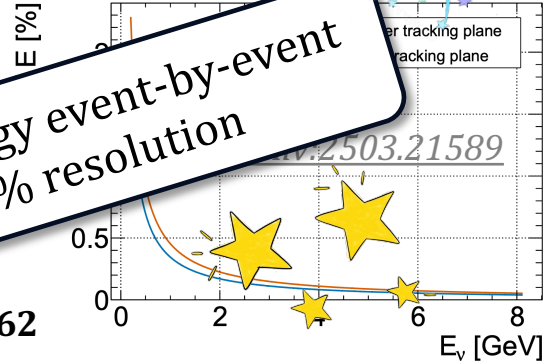
Eur. Phys. J. C **83**, 964 (2023)

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A first neutrino candidate observed by NA62

Neutrino energy event-by-event with <1% resolution





Fundamental issue: We do not know the neutrino energy or the neutrino flux

~~Fundamental issue: We do not know the neutrino energy or the neutrino flux~~



~~Fundamental issue: We do not know the neutrino energy or the neutrino flux~~



What do we need to know about ν interactions?

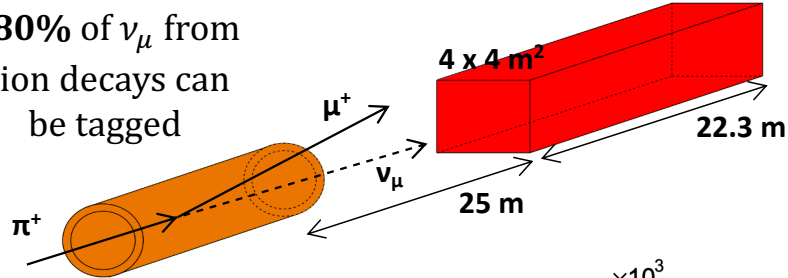
(non-exhaustive list focused on LBL experiments)

- **The energy dependence of the cross section**
 - So we can extrapolate constraints from the ND to the FD
- **The relationship between true and reconstructed E_ν**
 - So we can measure the osc. probability reliably
- **The contribution of neutral current (NC), wrong-sign or wrong-flavor ν s**
 - So we can model backgrounds for oscillations
- **The difference between ν_e/ν_μ cross section**
 - So we can apply our ν_μ constraints to ν_e samples

How can nuSCOPE answer these?

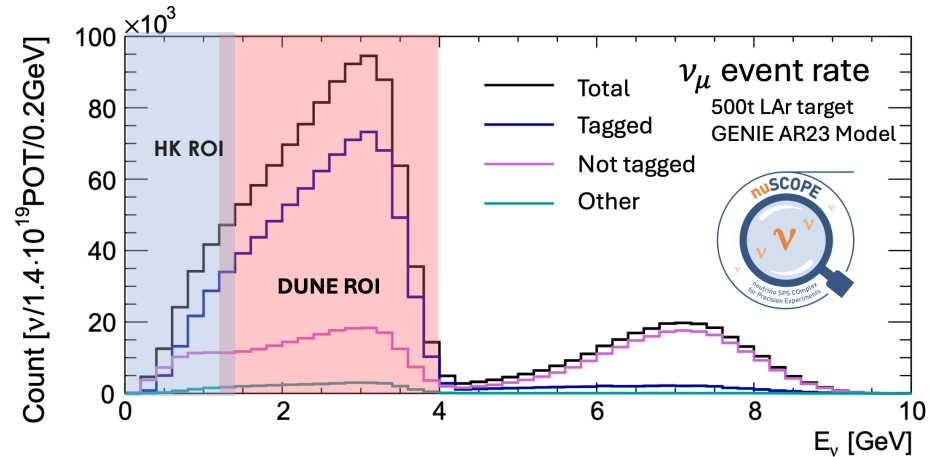
Reference setup 500t of LAr/100t of water

~80% of ν_μ from pion decays can be tagged



With 1.4×10^{19} POT in 5 years expect:

- **Monitored events:** 1M ν_μ CC /500t Ar
12k ν_e CC
- **Tagged events:** ~760,000 tagged ν_μ CC/500t Ar
~140,000 tagged ν_μ CC/100t H₂O



What do we need to know about ν interactions?

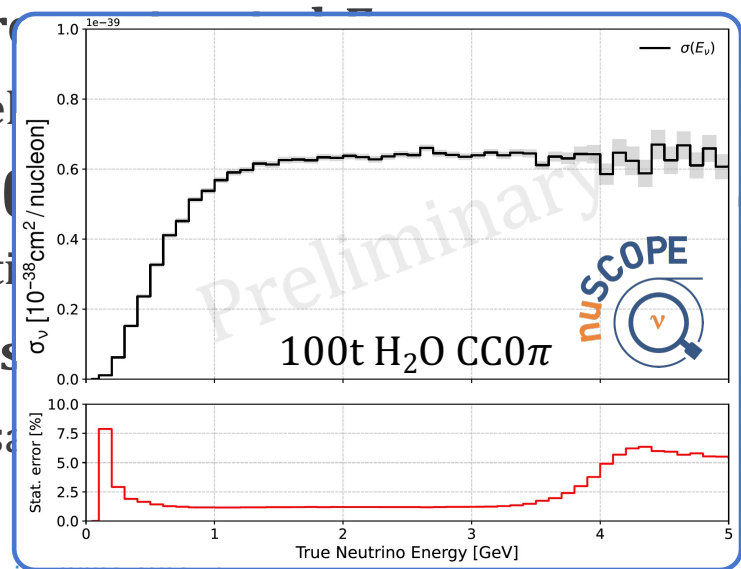
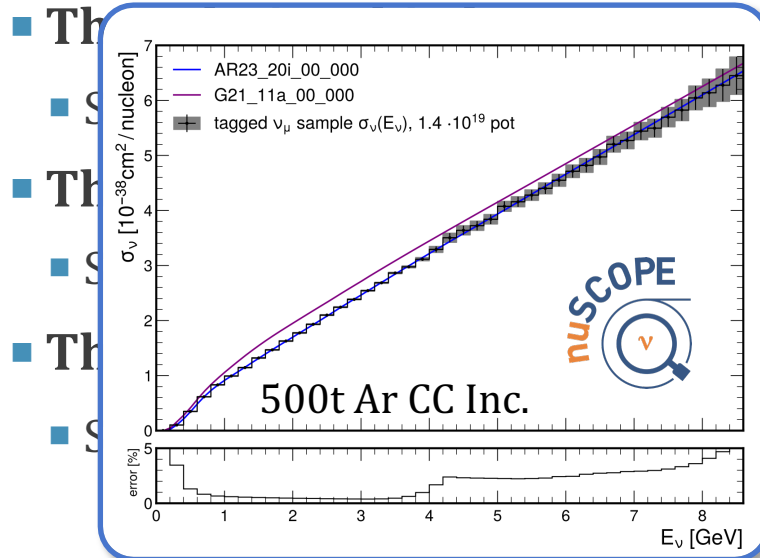
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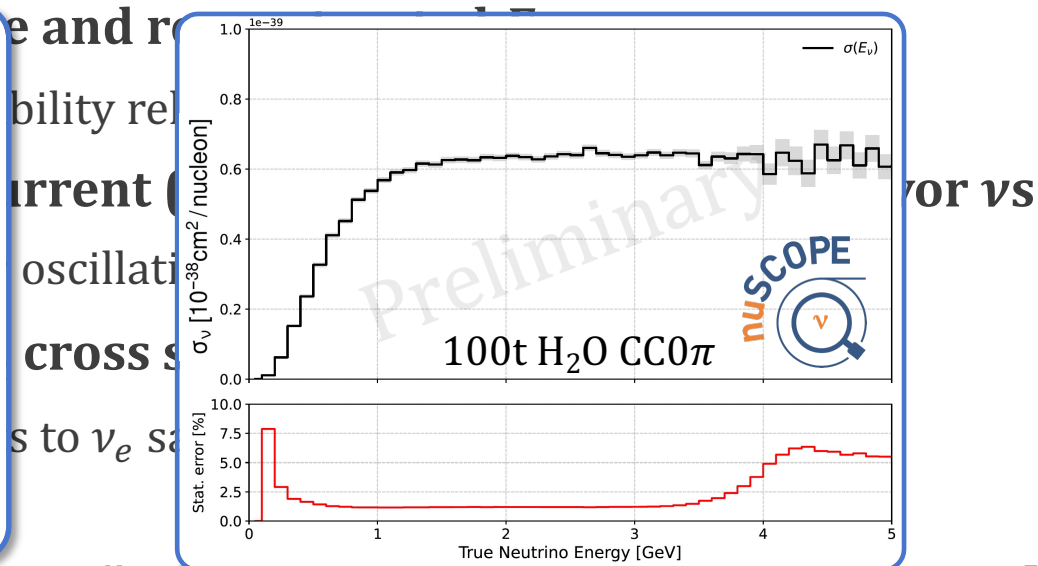
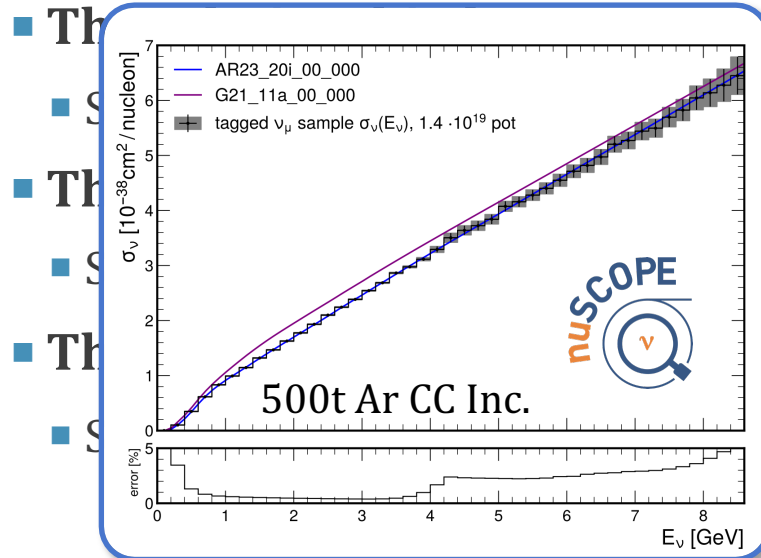
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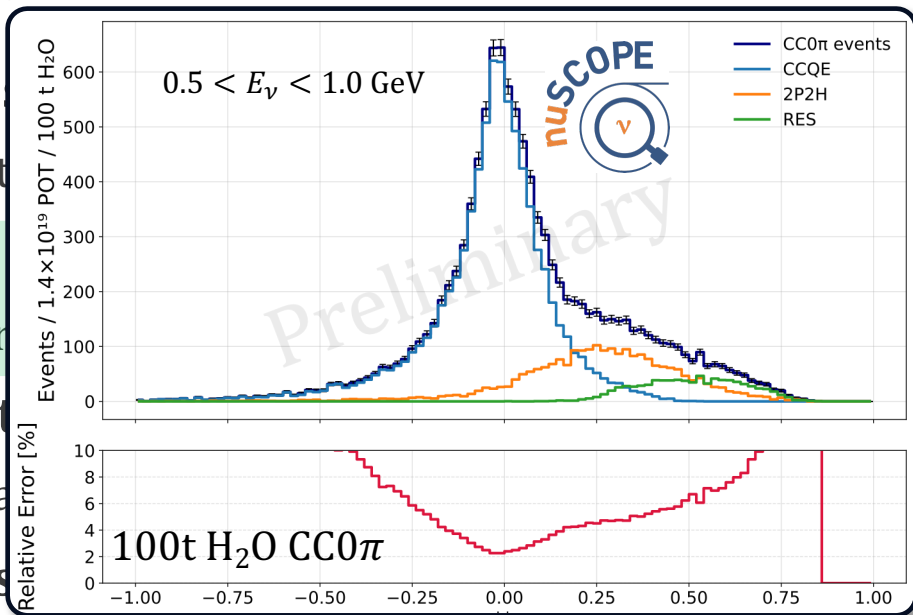
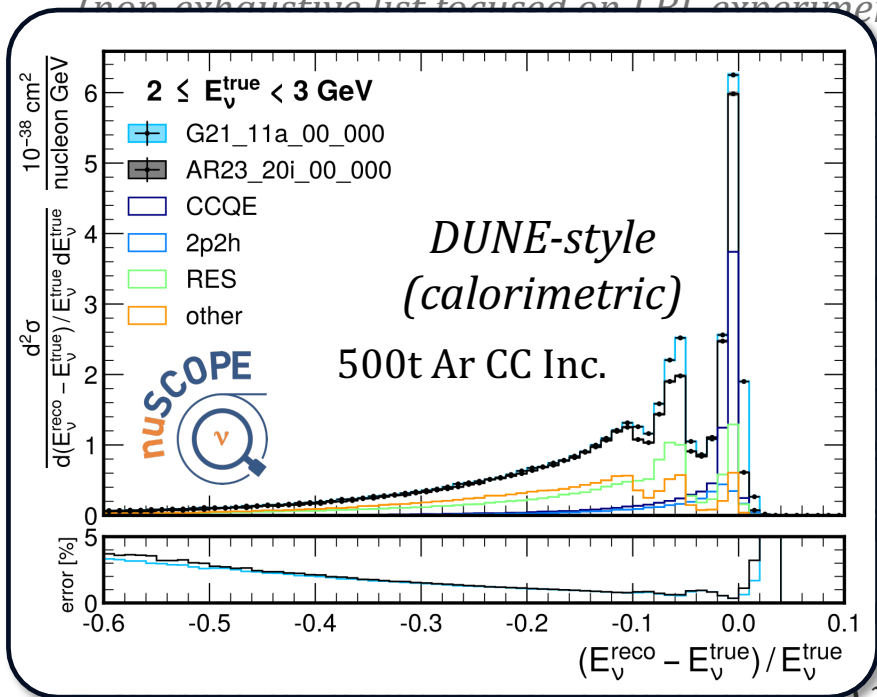
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What do we need to know about ν interactions?

(non-exhaustive list focused on LPL experiments)



so we can apply our ν_μ constraints to ν_e samples

What do we need to know about ν interactions?

(non-exhaustive list focused on LBL experiments)

- **The energy dependence of the cross section**

- So we can extrapolate constraints from the ND to the FD



- **The relationship between true and reconstructed E_ν**

- So we can measure the osc. probability reliably



- **The contribution of neutral current (NC), wrong-sign or wrong-flavor ν s**

- So we can model backgrounds for oscillations

- **The difference between ν_e/ν_μ cross section**

- So we can apply our ν_μ constraints to ν_e samples

What do we need to know about ν interactions?

(non-exhaustive list focused on LBL experiments)

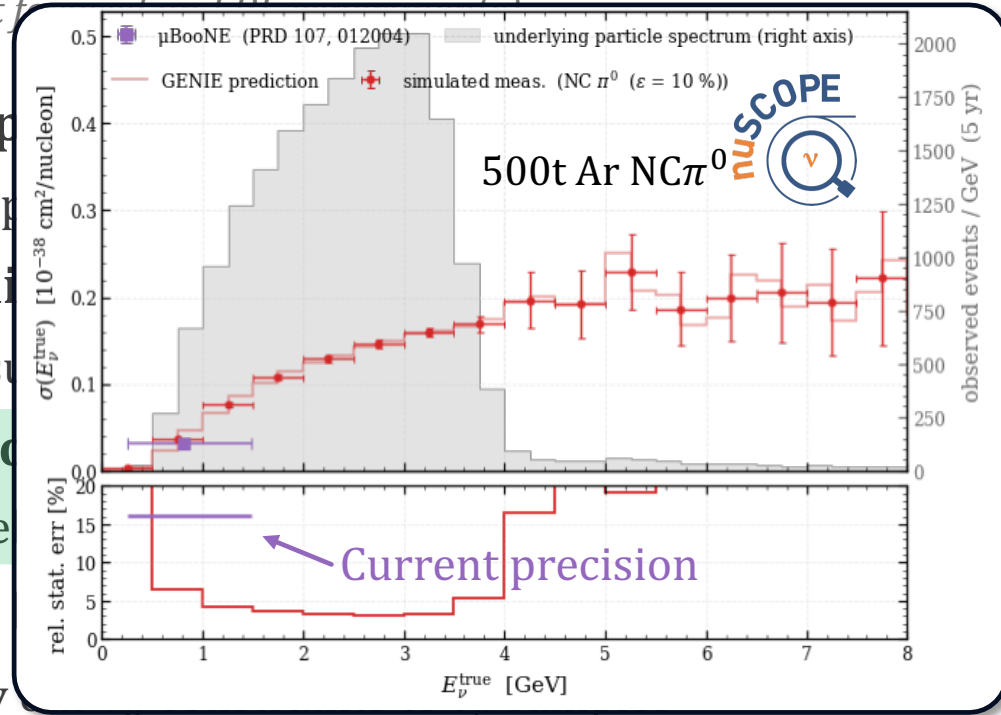
- **The energy dependence of the cross section**
 - So we can extrapolate constraints from the ND to the FD
- **The relationship between true and reconstructed E_ν**
 - So we can measure the osc. probability reliably
- **The contribution of neutral current (NC), wrong-sign or wrong-flavor ν s**
 - So we can model backgrounds for oscillations
- **The difference between ν_e/ν_μ cross section**
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What do we need to know about ν interactions?

(non-exhaustive list for ν interactions)




- The energy dependence of $\sigma(E_\nu)$
 - So we can extrapolate to lower energies
- The relationship between $\sigma(E_\nu)$ and E_ν
 - So we can measure $\sigma(E_\nu)$ at higher energies
- The contribution of different interaction channels
 - So we can model $\sigma(E_\nu)$ at lower energies
- The difference between $\sigma(E_\nu)$ and $\sigma(E_\nu)$
 - So we can apply $\sigma(E_\nu)$ to different neutrino flavors



wrong-flavor vs

What do we need to know about ν interactions?

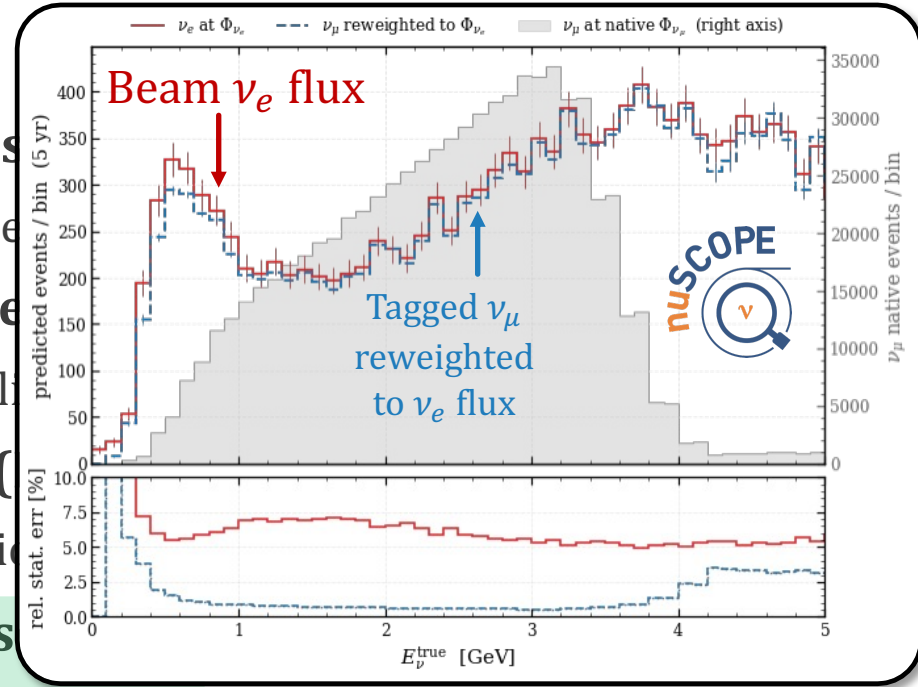
(non-exhaustive list focused on LBL experiments)

- **The energy dependence of the cross section**
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(non-exhaustive list focused on LBL experiments)





- **The energy dependence of the cross section**
 - So we can extrapolate constraints from the
- **The relationship between true and reconstructed energy**
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- **The contribution of neutral current (NC)**
 - So we can model backgrounds for oscillation
- **The difference between ν_e/ν_μ cross sections**
 - So we can apply our ν_μ constraints to ν_e sample



$$\frac{\sigma_{\nu_\mu}}{\sigma_{\nu_e}} = 0.971 \pm 0.0078 \quad (\mathbf{0.801\%})$$





What do we need to know about ν interactions?

(non-exhaustive list focused on LBL experiments)

- **The energy dependence of the cross section**
 - So we can extrapolate constraints from the ND to the FD 
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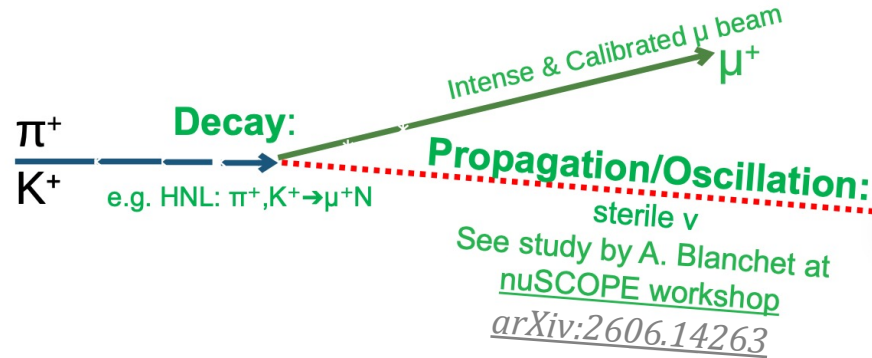
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 - So we can apply our ν_μ constraints to ν_e samples 

A very broad physics program

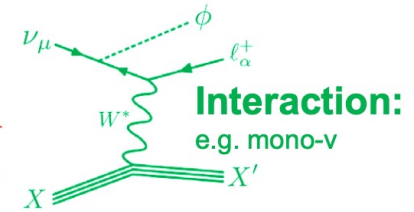
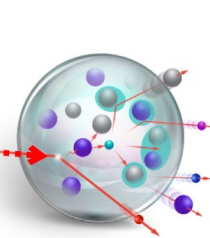
Beyond Standard Model



Kaon Physics
ultra rare decay exploiting large stats

Neutrino Interactions

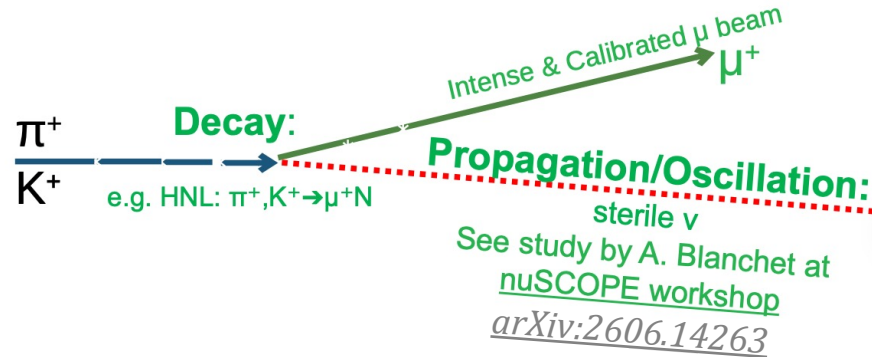
large ν interaction samples.
flux knowledge, energy resolution



Nuclear Physics/QCD
repeat electron scattering exp. but with ν as probe
access axial structure...

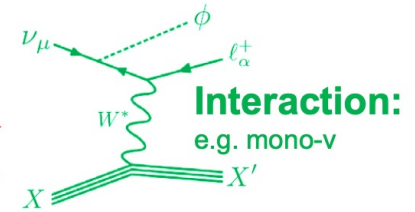
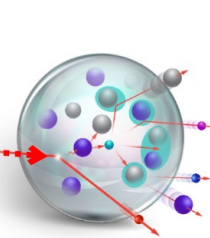
A very broad physics program

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Neutrino Interactions

large ν interaction samples.
flux knowledge, energy resolution



Kaon Physics
ultra rare decay exploiting large stats



<https://nuscope.web.cern.ch/>

Nuclear Physics/QCD
repeat electron scattering exp. but with ν as probe
access axial structure...

Recent feature article in CERN Courier



Summary

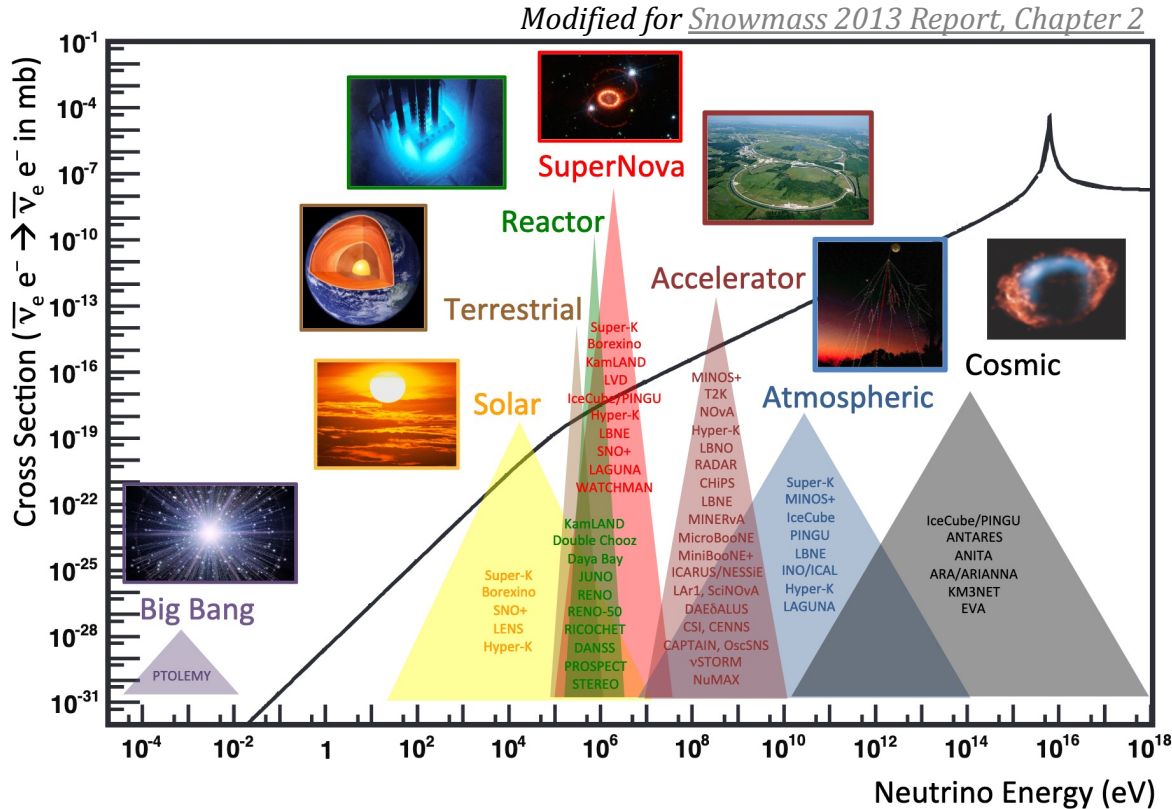
- Next-generation neutrino oscillation experiments require precise descriptions of neutrino-nucleus interactions
- Current model disagreement is large and no single model can describe all the measurements
- Next-generation experiments rely on a variety of approaches to reach required precision – requires a concerted effort from different communities
- nuSCOPE – a change of paradigm in neutrino beam creation may help bring neutrino-nucleus interactions into sharper focus

Thank you for your attention!



Supplementary material

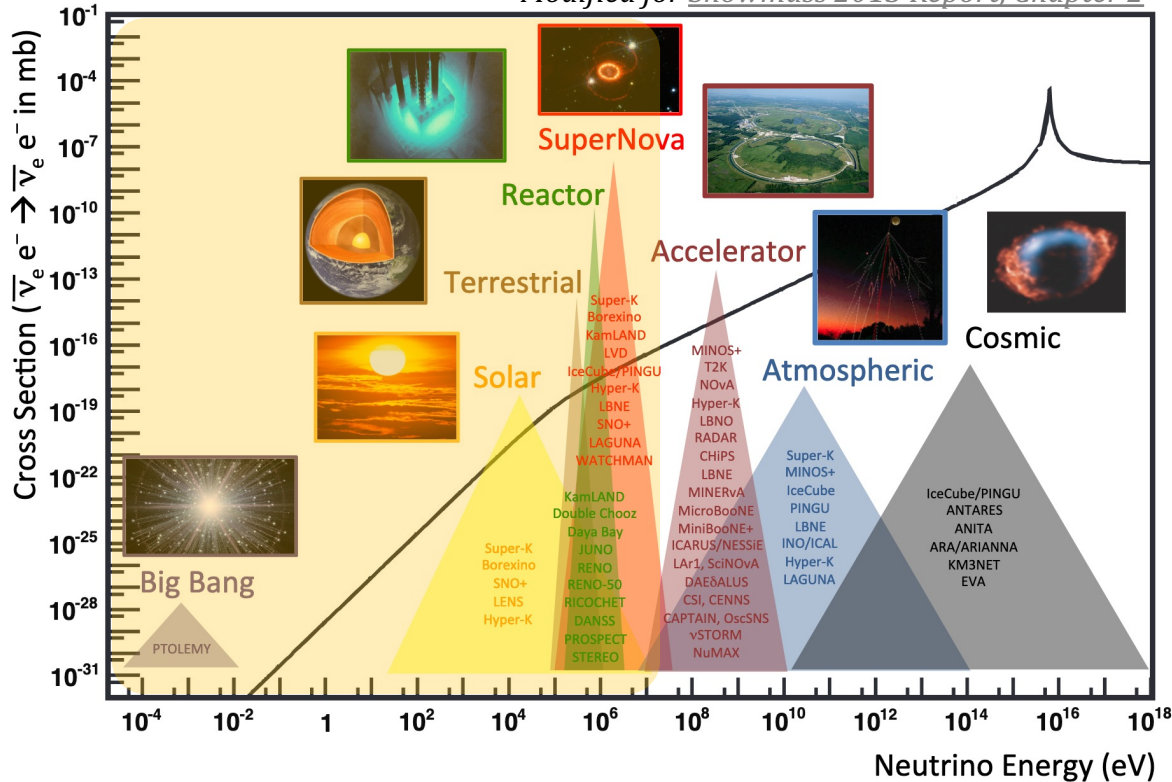
What I will not talk about (but is still very important!!)



What I will not talk about (but is still very important!!)

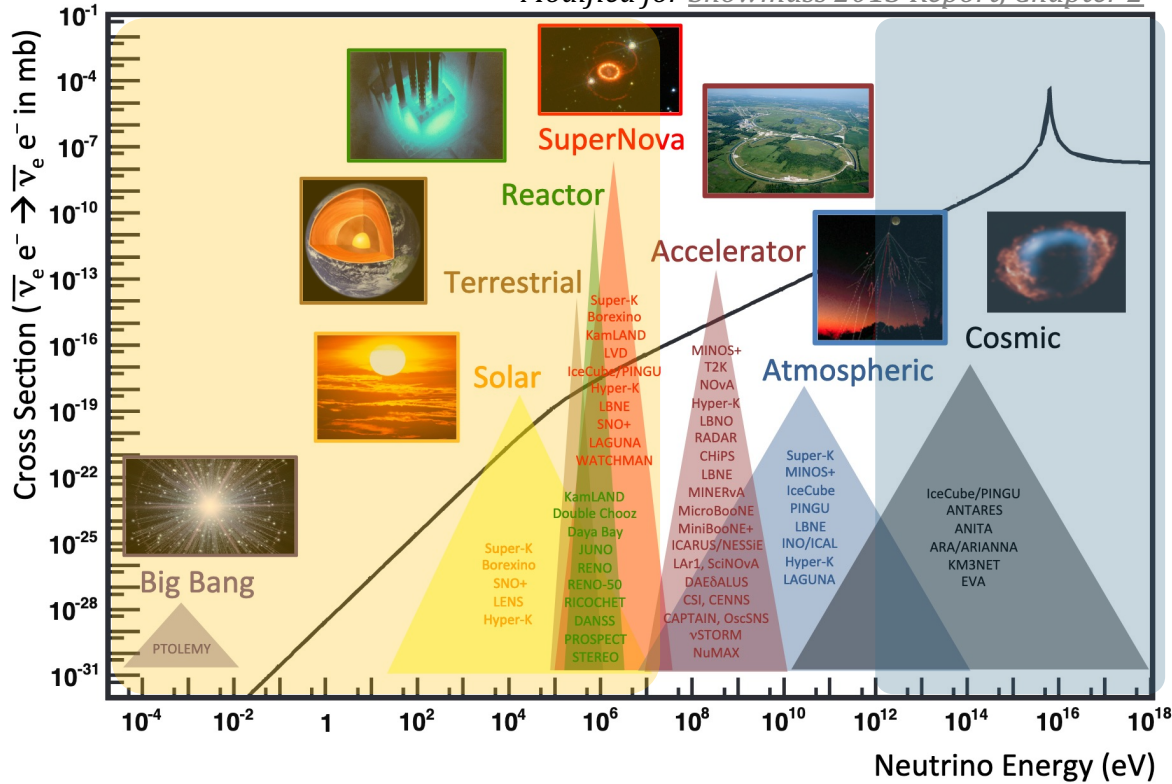
Modified for *Snowmass 2013 Report, Chapter 2*

Covered in talks on Monday afternoon
(notably CEvNS)



What I will not talk about (but is still very important!!)

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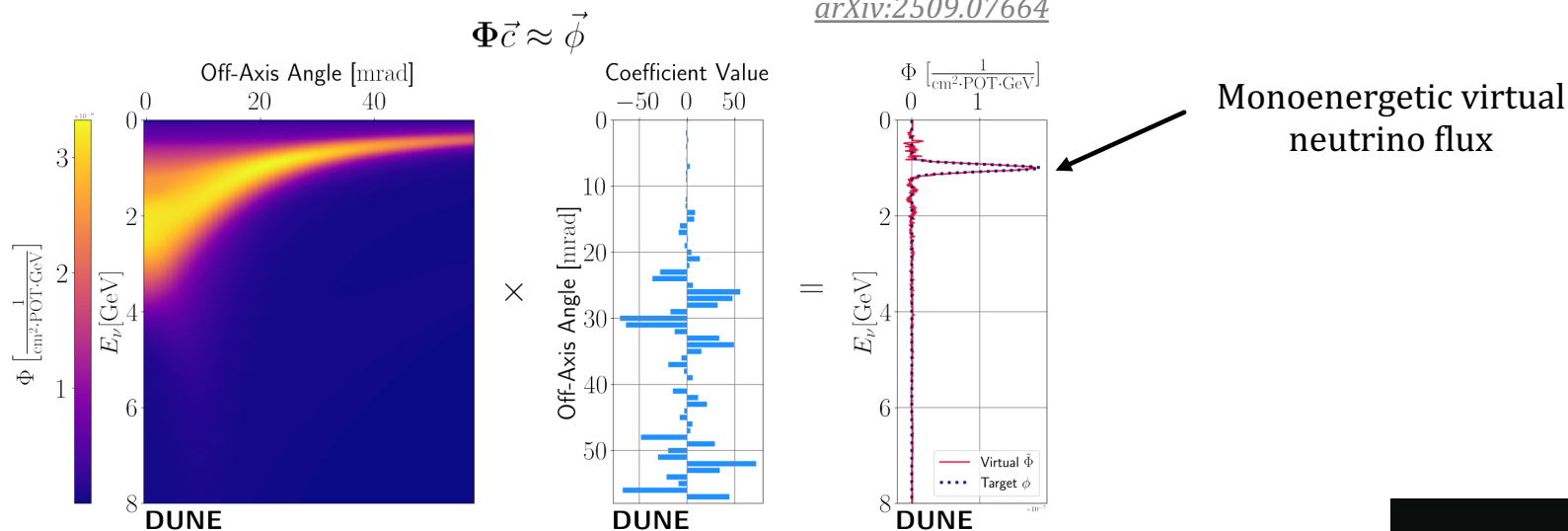


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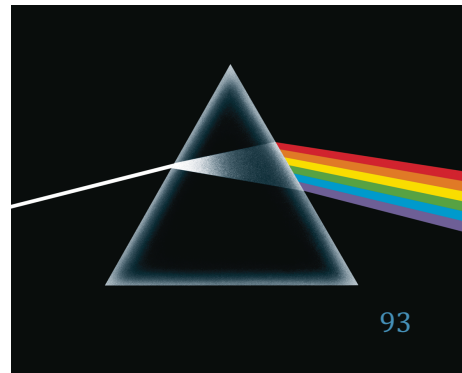
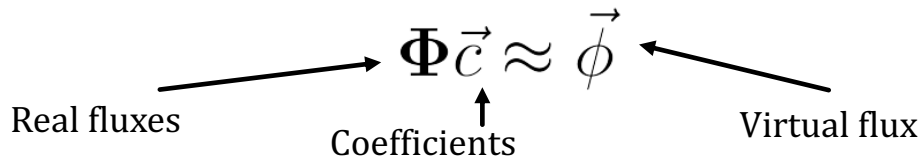
Covered in talks on Friday morning
(notably LHC neutrinos)

Interactions through the PRISM

[arXiv:2509.07664](https://arxiv.org/abs/2509.07664)



Off-axis fluxes can be combined to produce arbitrary shapes:

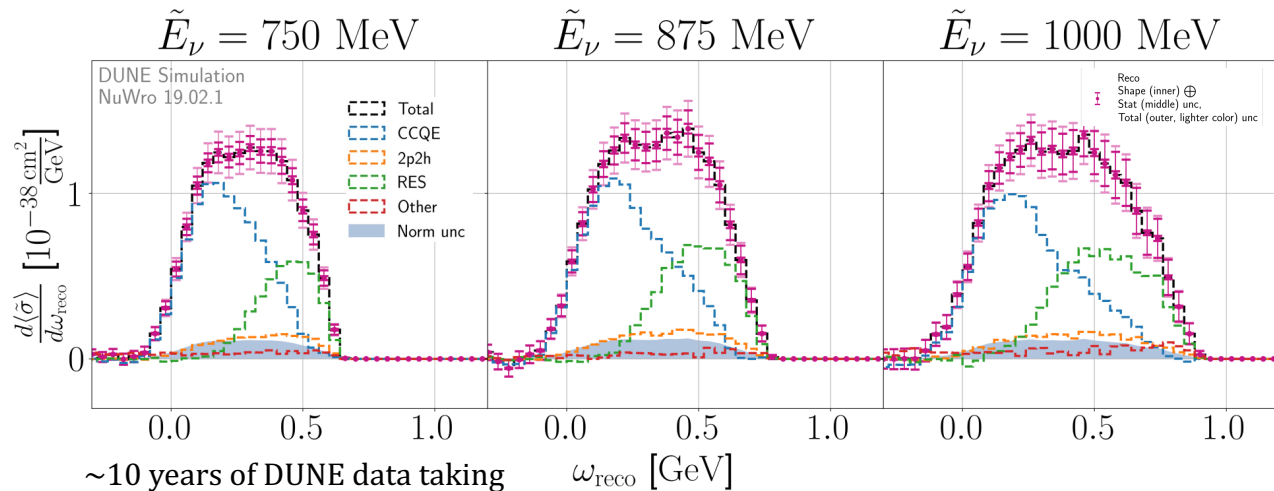


Interactions through the PRISM

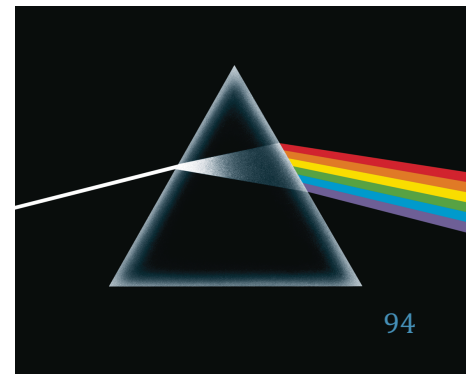
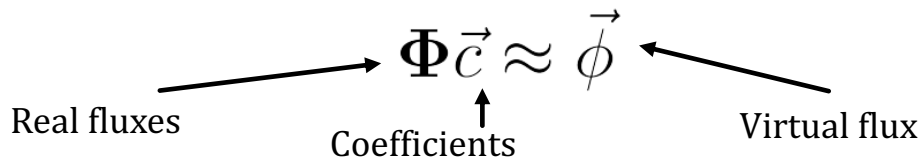
arXiv:2509.07664

With ~ 2.5 years of
DUNE ND data
 σ_{tot}^{CC} known at $\sim 10\%$

But becomes **statistically limited** for differential measurements



Off-axis fluxes can be combined to produce arbitrary shapes:

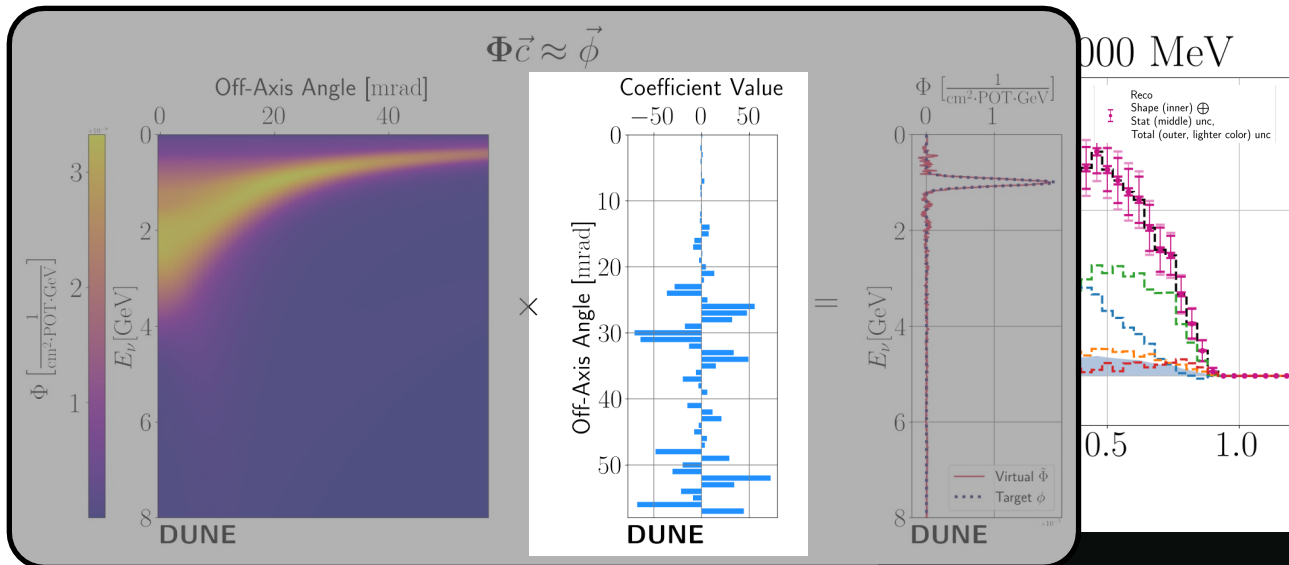


Interactions through the PRISM

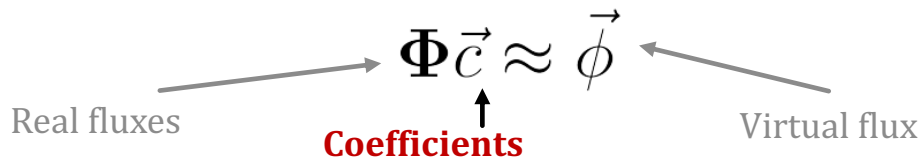
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With ~2.5 years of
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But becomes **statistically limited** for differential measurements



Off-axis fluxes can be combined to produce arbitrary shapes:



What do we (not) know about neutrino interactions?

Unknown unknowns



Known unknowns

(non-exhaustive)

Hadron transport inside the nucleus

$\nu/\bar{\nu}$ differences

Impact of nuclear potential

C/O/Ar/Fe/etc. differences

Relative contributions of different channels

Hadronization

...

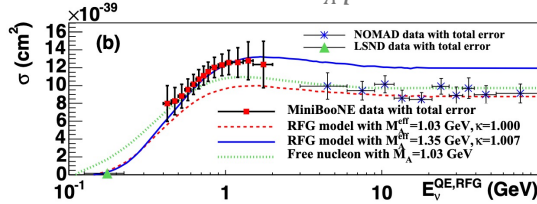
...

...

What do we (not) know about neutrino interactions?

Unknown unknowns

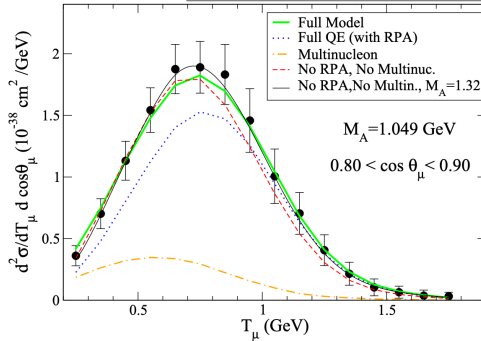
MiniBooNE M_A puzzle



Phys.Rev.D 81 (2010) 092005

Phys.Lett.B 707 (2012) 72-75

Multinucleon interactions (2p2h) + nuclear screening (RPA)



Known unknowns

(non-exhaustive)

Hadron transport inside the nucleus

$\nu/\bar{\nu}$ differences

Impact of nuclear potential
C/O/Ar/Fe/etc. differences

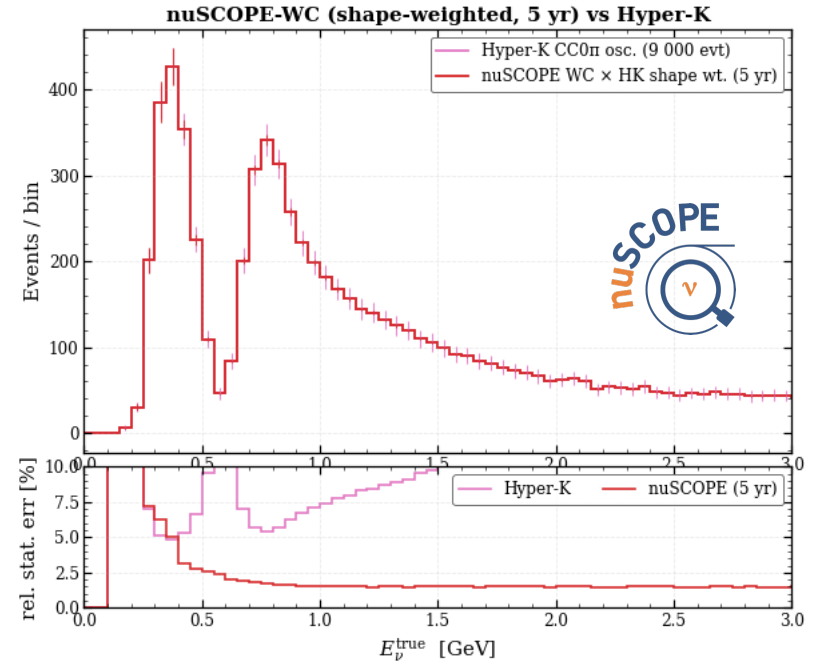
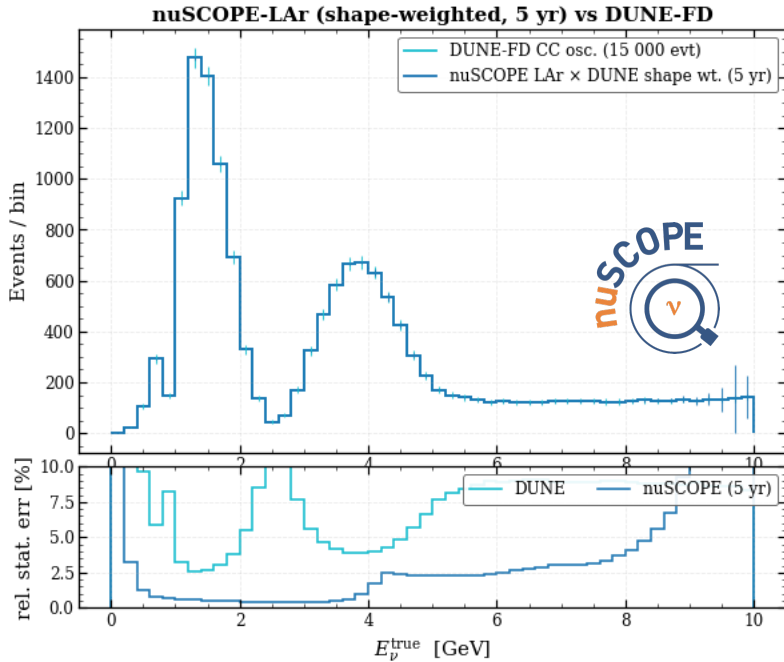
Relative contributions of different channels

Hadronization

...
...
...

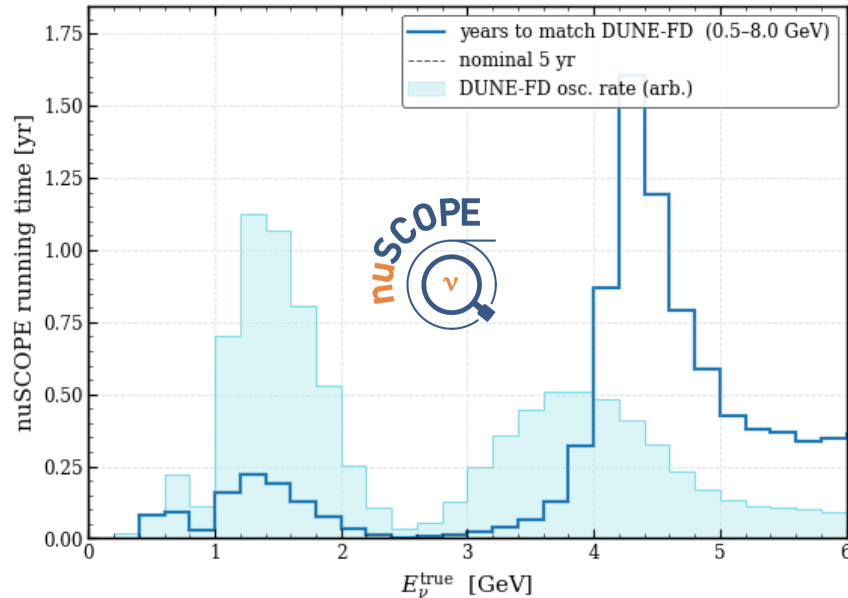
Previous unknown unknowns become known unknowns!

When can nuSCOPE make these constraints?

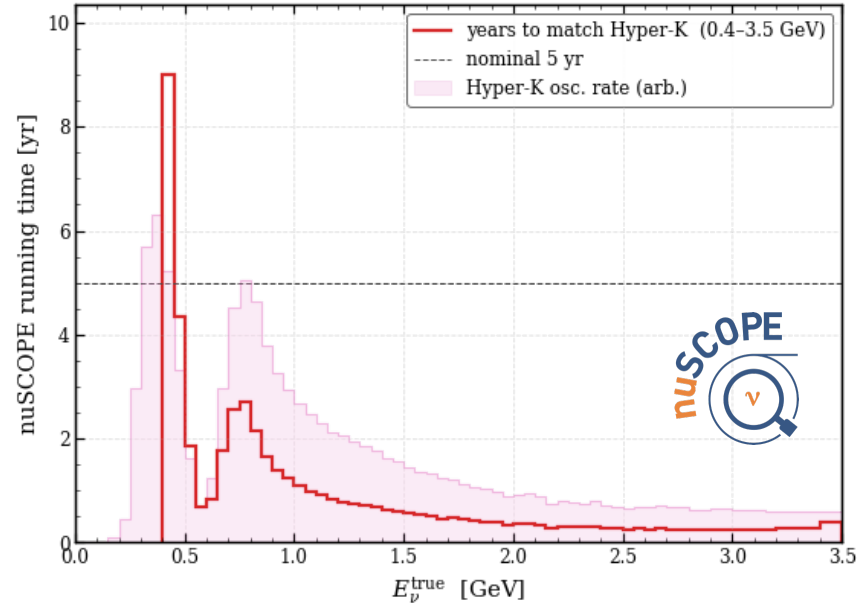


Statistical power of nuSCOPE 5 years (1.4×10^{19} POT) data taking reweighted to DUNE and Hyper-K predicted oscillated event rates after ~ 10 years

When can nuSCOPE make these constraints?



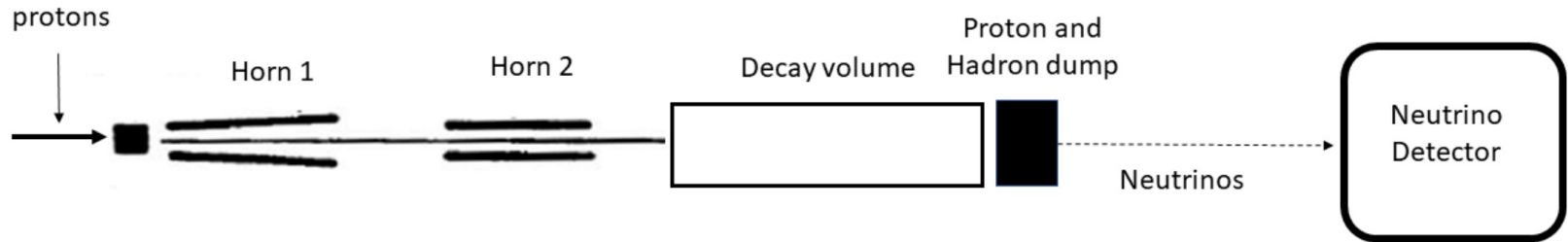
Can provide informative constraints in the region of the oscillation maxima of DUNE **almost immediately** once operation starts



Can provide informative constraints in the region of the oscillation maximum of Hyper-K **within ~1 year** once operation starts

Rethinking how to make a neutrino beam

Conventional neutrino beams



Rethinking how to make a neutrino beam

Conventional neutrino beams

“Employ the most intense proton accelerator at your disposal”

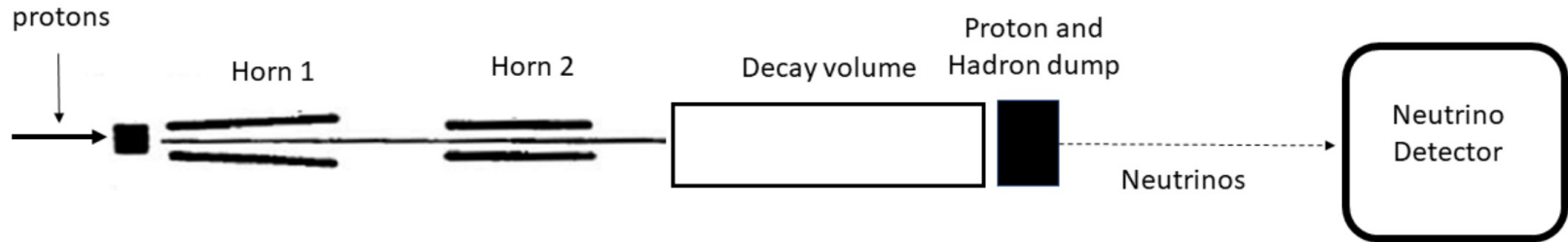
“Focus as many pions/kaons as possible”

Pros:

Large yield of pions per proton-on-target (pot)

Drawbacks:

Lack of control on neutrino energy



Rethinking how to make a neutrino beam

Conventional neutrino beams

“Employ the most intense proton accelerator at your disposal”

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Drawbacks:

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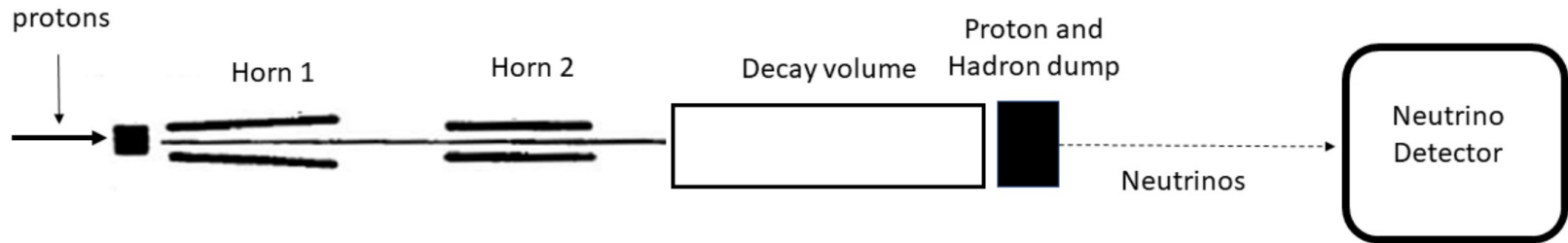
Large yield of pions per proton-on-target (pot)

Lack of control on neutrino energy

“Eliminate any material along the beamline in the decay tunnel”

Large number of neutrinos from pion decay

Coarse beam diagnostics



Rethinking how to make a neutrino beam

Conventional neutrino beams

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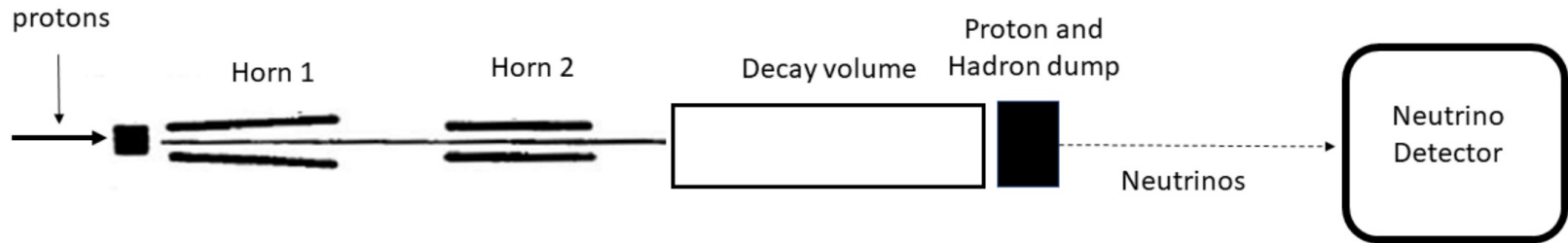
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Coarse beam diagnostics

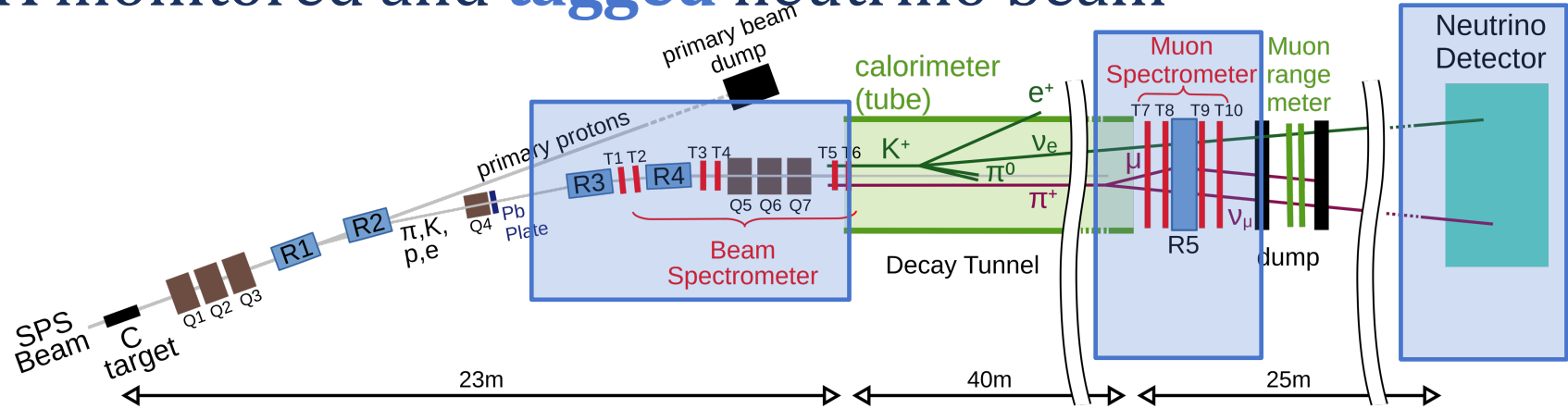
“Build the largest possible neutrino detector”

Large statistics of neutrino interaction events (CC and NC)

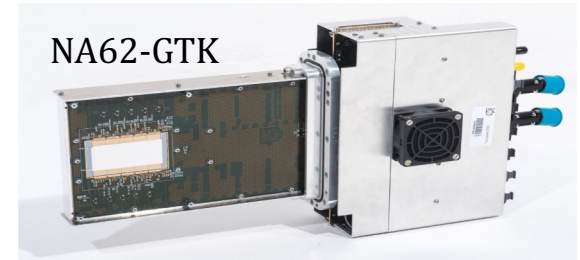
Limited precision in the final state reconstruction



A monitored and **tagged** neutrino beam



- State-of-the-art **silicon detectors** to track incoming mesons and outgoing muons
- **Unique association** between each neutrino interacting in the detector with its parents

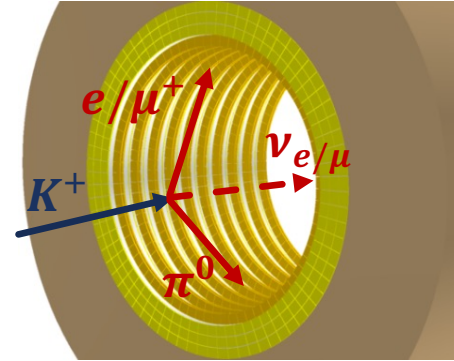
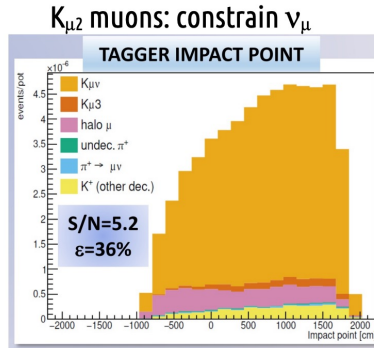
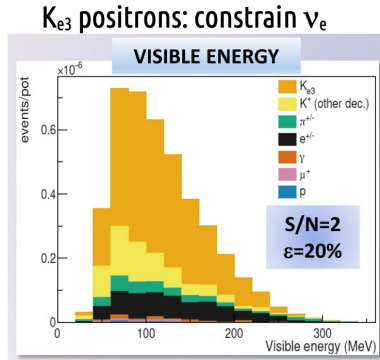


[Phys.Lett.B 863 \(2025\) 139345](#)

A first tagged neutrino candidate observed by NA62

What does nuSCOPE bring to the table?

Monitored beam: $\sim 1\%$ flux uncertainties



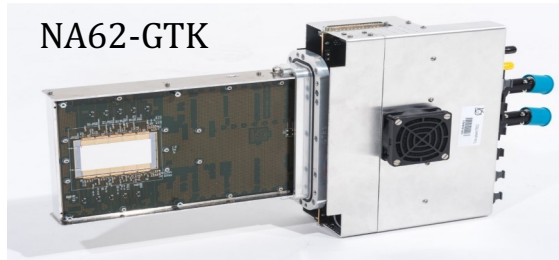
Performance of a section of the decay tunnel tested at CERN T9 Test Beam facility under NP06/ENUBET
[Eur. Phys. J. C 83, 964 \(2023\)](#)

Lepton distributions from calorimeter and tagger
(see [slides](#) from A. Longhin)

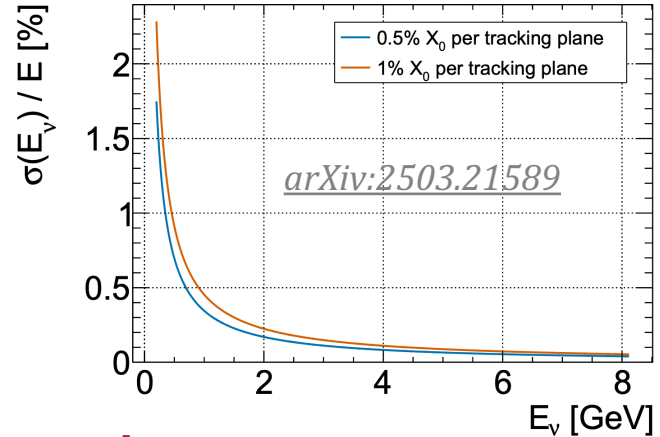
What does nuSCOPE bring to the table?

Monitored beam: $\sim 1\%$ flux uncertainties

Neutrino tagging: measure neutrino energy event-by-event



Phys.Lett.B 863 (2025) 139345

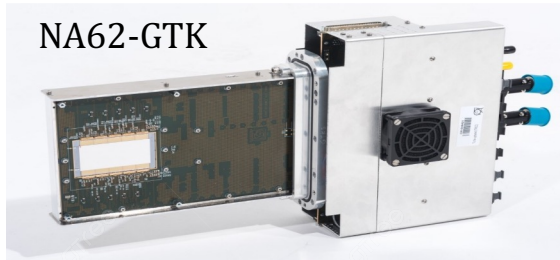
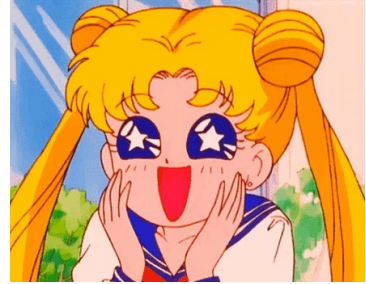


It is possible to measure neutrino energy event-by-event with $<1\%$ resolution

What does nuSCOPE bring to the table?

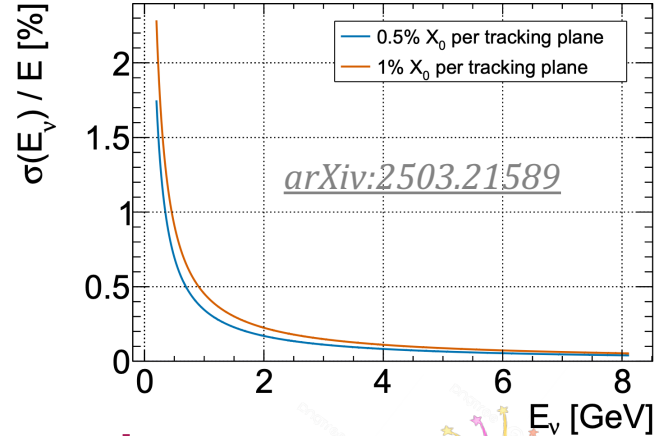
Monitored beam: $\sim 1\%$ flux uncertainties

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NA62-GTK

Phys.Lett.B 863 (2025) 139345



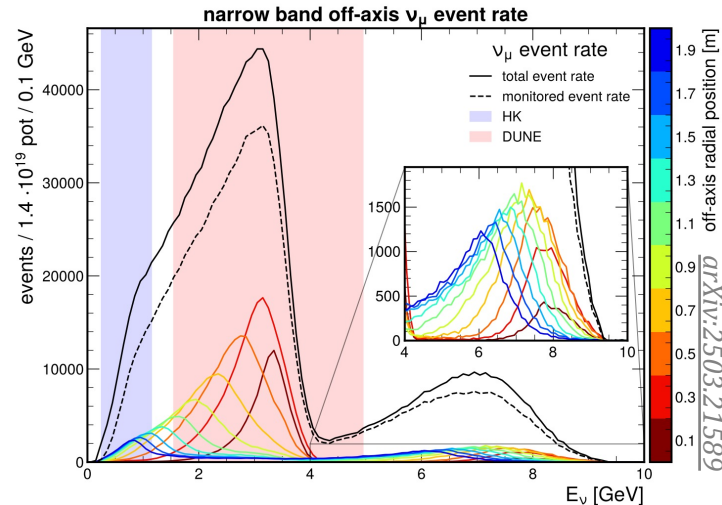
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What does nuSCOPE bring to the table?

Monitored beam: $\sim 1\%$ flux uncertainties

Neutrino tagging: measure neutrino energy event-by-event

Wide range of energies: covers both **DUNE** and **HK** regions of interest



What does nuSCOPE bring to the table?

Monitored beam: $\sim 1\%$ flux uncertainties

Neutrino tagging: measure neutrino energy event-by-event

Wide range of energies: covers both DUNE and HK regions of interest

This relies on:

- Slow extraction beam, low intensity (10^{13} protons/9.6s spill)
- Large detectors - $O(1kt)$ - close to decay tunnel
- Excellent beamline ($O(10 - 100)$ ps) and detector ($O(1)$ ns) timing resolution



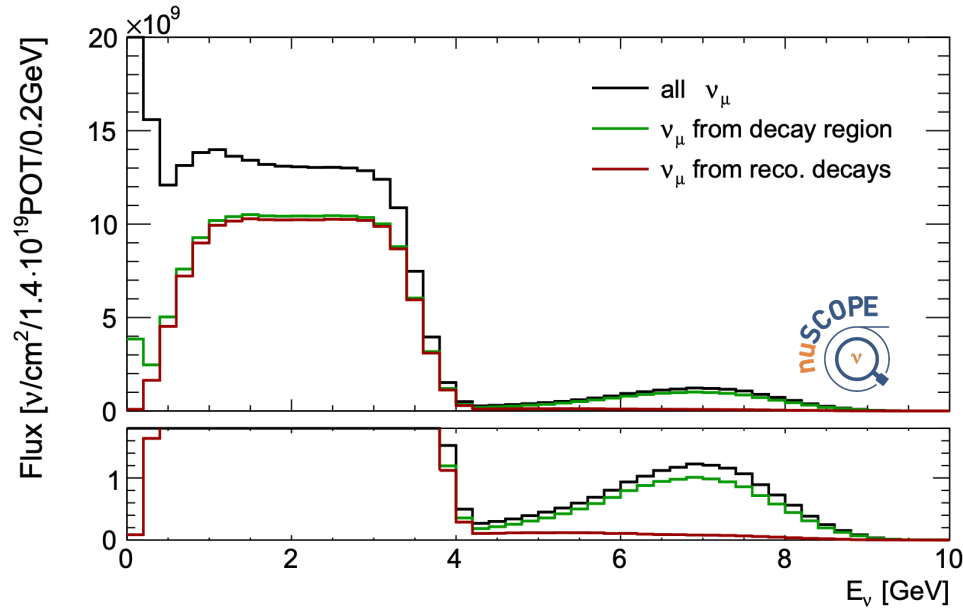
Examples of measurements nuSCOPE can make

See [arXiv:2503.21589](https://arxiv.org/abs/2503.21589) for more details

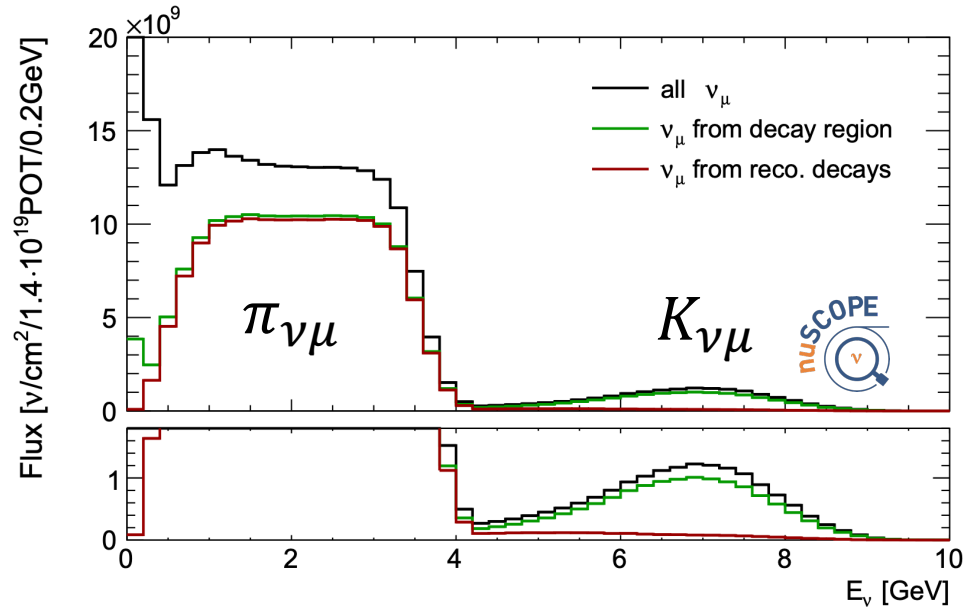
*Studies done assuming 1.4×10^{19} POT
(5 years of running, POT to ensure compatibility with fixed target experiments e.g. SHiP)*

Sensitivity studies led by **Filippo Bramati** (LAr), **Mara Pripon** (water)

Neutrino flux

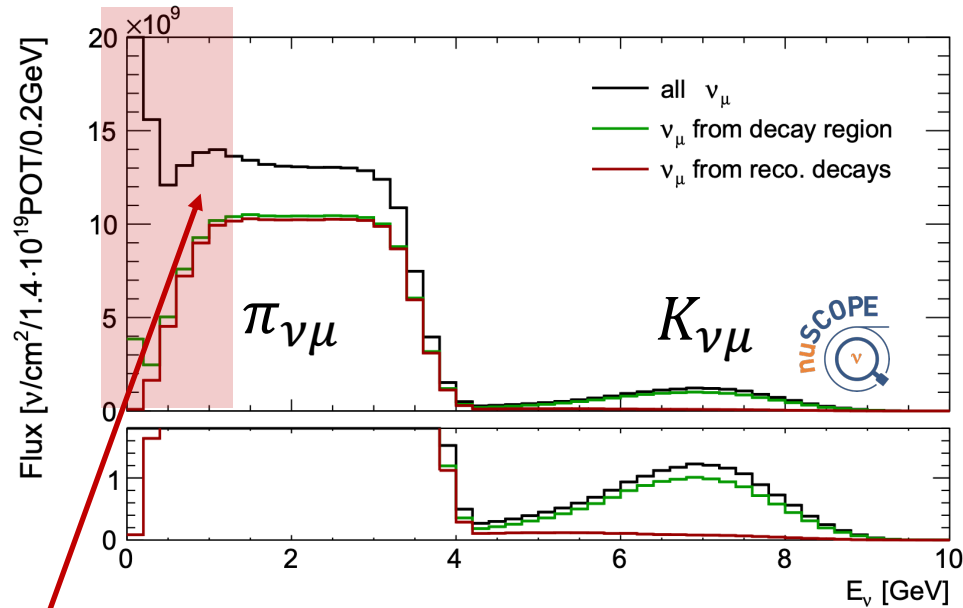


Neutrino flux



Kinematics of π and K decays with
~monoenergetic beam allow for a clear
separation of the two contributions

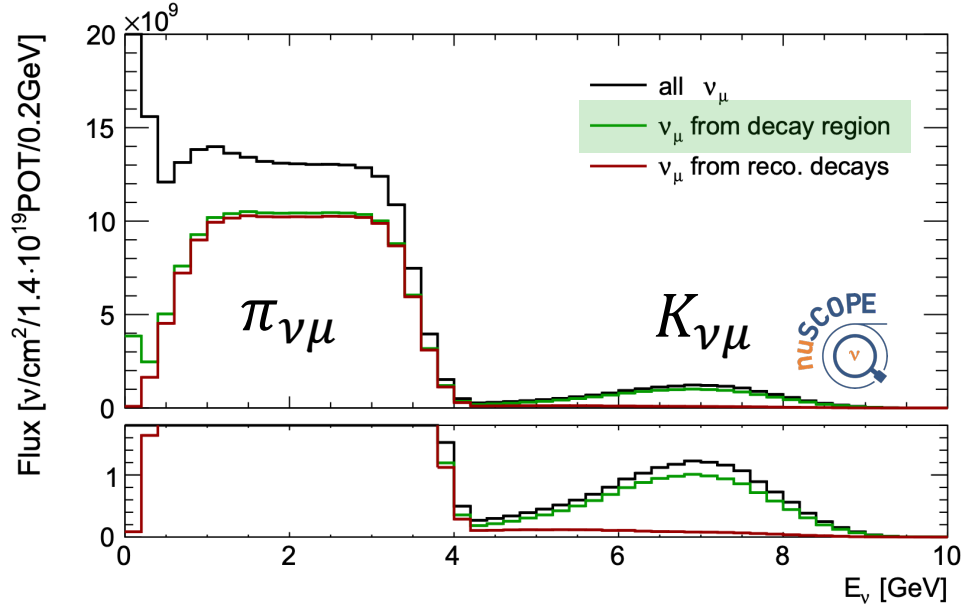
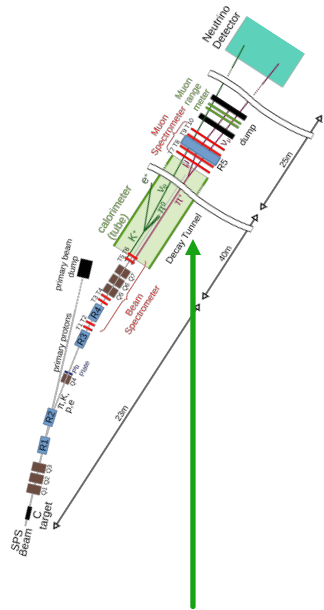
Neutrino flux



“Contamination” from low energy neutrinos produced from target region and proton dump

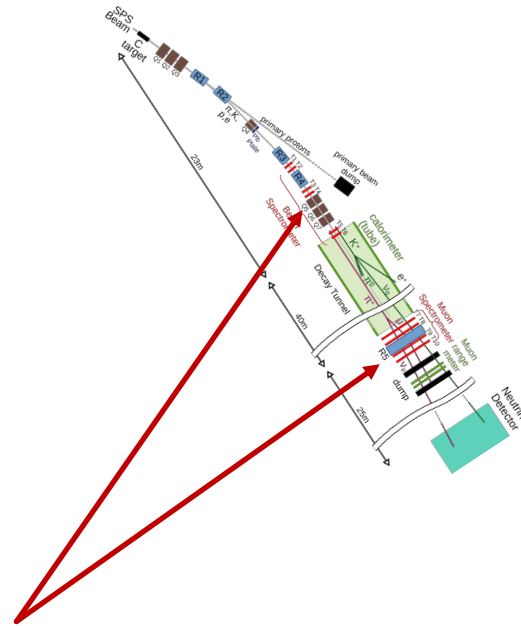
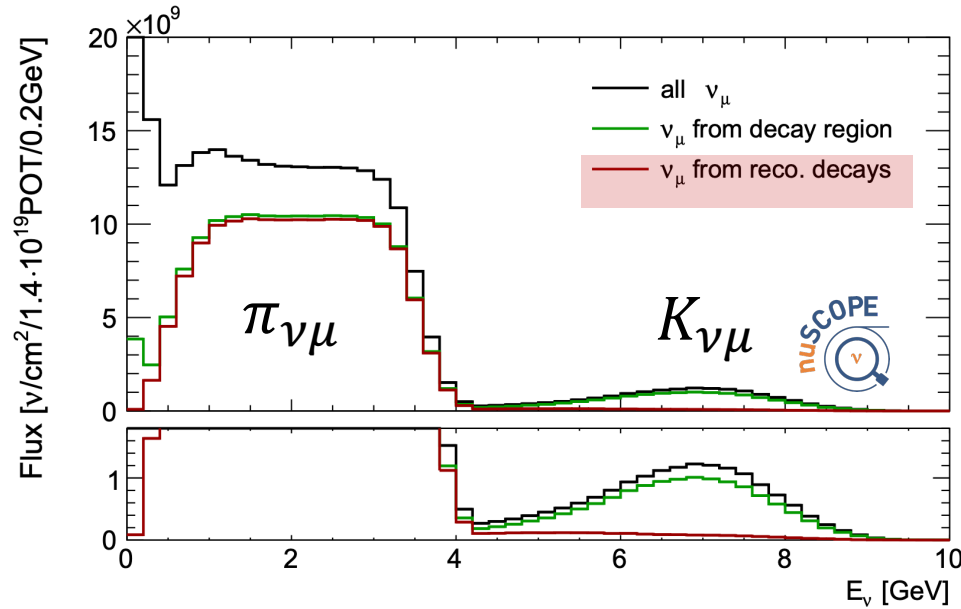
In practice it is heavily suppressed by the low cross-section

Neutrino flux



Monitored neutrinos (inside decay tunnel)
<1% flux uncertainties

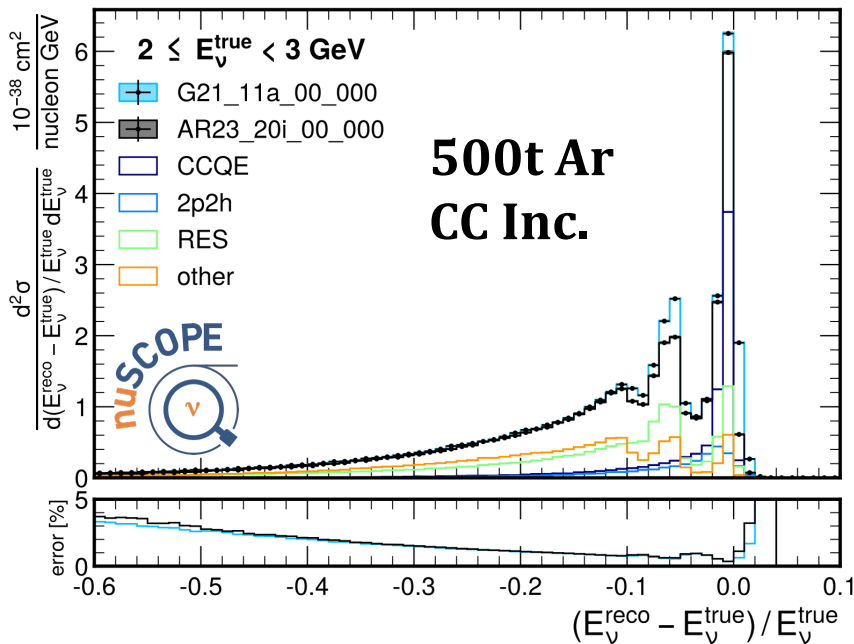
Neutrino flux



Monitored neutrinos (inside decay tunnel)
<1% flux uncertainties

Tagged neutrinos (inside decay tunnel)
<1% resolution on neutrino energy
event-by-event

Calibration of detector energy response



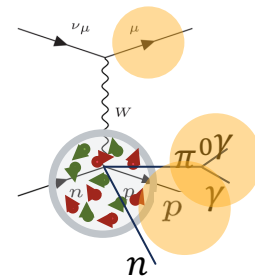
Can measure the **difference between true and reconstructed neutrino energy**

$$E_{\nu}^{\text{reco}} = E_{\mu} + \sum_{i=\pi^{\pm}, p} T_i + \sum_{i=\pi^0, \gamma} E_i$$

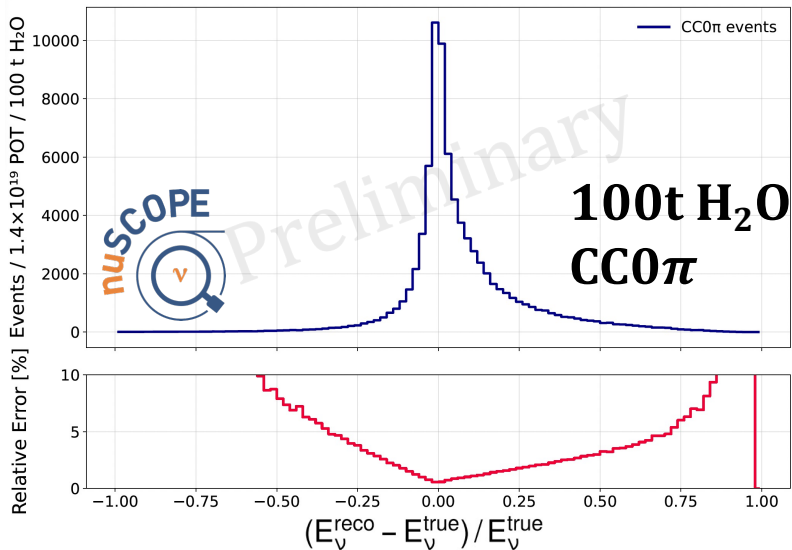
“visible” energy using calorimetric method (like DUNE, NOvA, MINERvA)

Measures the amount of invisible energy carried away by neutrons and neutrinos

Calibrate out nuclear effects



Calibration of detector energy response



Can measure the **difference between true and reconstructed neutrino energy**

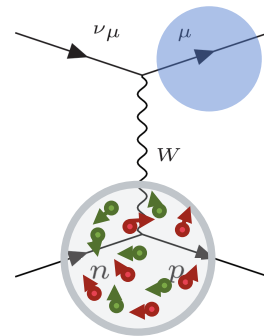
$$E_\nu^{QE} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{m_\ell^2 + (m_N^{eff})^2 - m_{N'}^2 - 2E_\mu m_N^{eff}}{E_\ell - |\vec{p}_\ell| \cos \theta_\ell - m_N^{eff}},$$

$$m_N^{eff} = m_N - E_b,$$

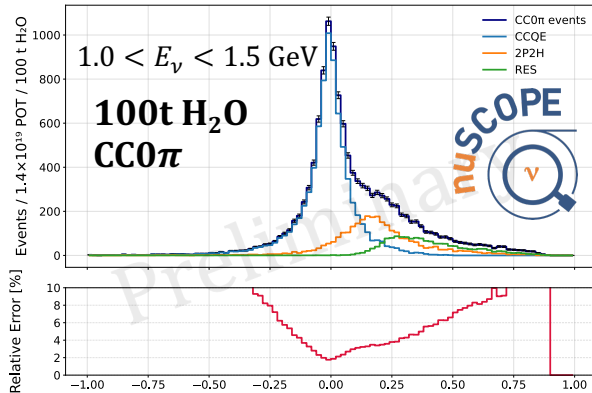
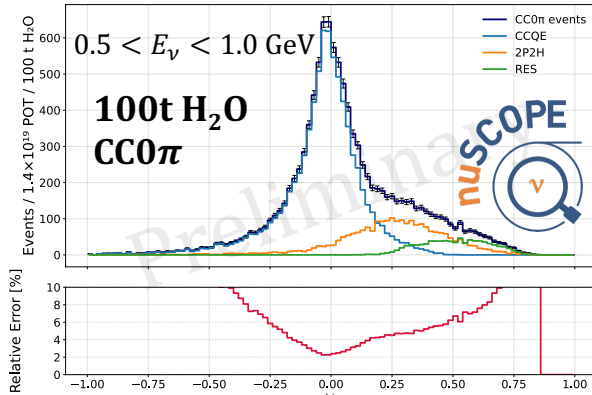
“QE” energy using kinematic reconstruction (T2K/SK/HK)

Measures the neutrino energy bias due to Fermi motion, npnh, FSI...

Calibrate out nuclear effects



Calibration of detector energy response



Can measure the **difference between true and reconstructed neutrino energy**

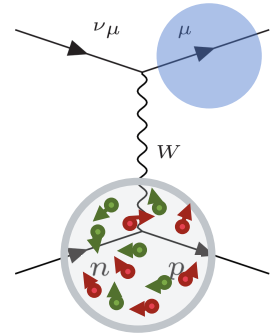
$$E_\nu^{QE} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{m_\ell^2 + (m_N^{eff})^2 - m_{N'}^2 - 2E_\mu m_N^{eff}}{E_\ell - |\vec{p}_\ell| \cos \theta_\ell - m_N^{eff}},$$

$$m_N^{eff} = m_N - E_b,$$

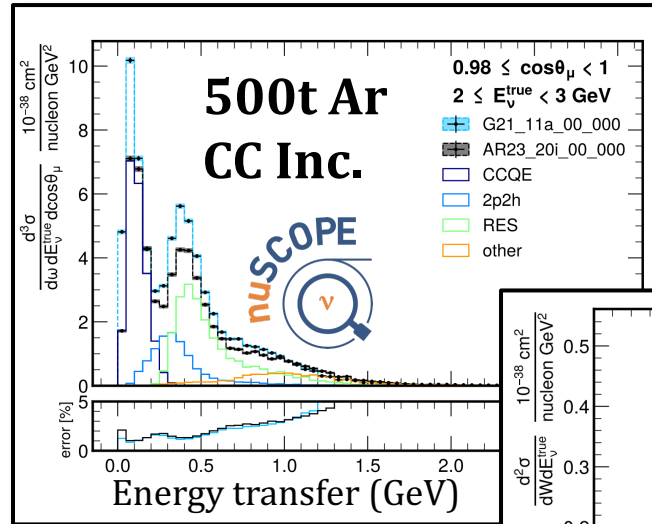
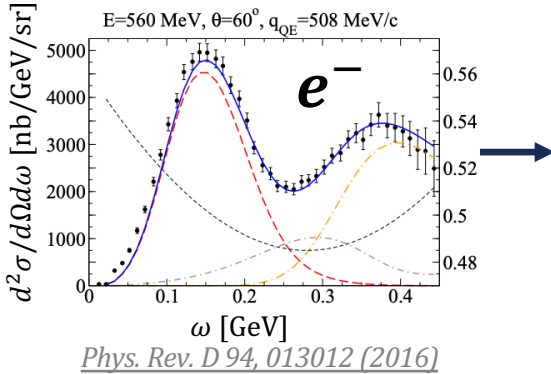
“QE” energy using kinematic reconstruction (T2K/SK/HK)

Measures the neutrino energy bias due to Fermi motion, npnh, FSI...

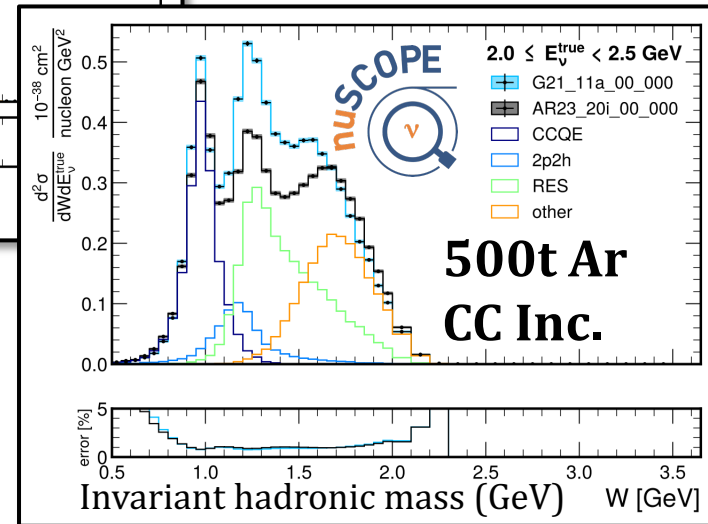
Calibrate out nuclear effects



Electron scattering-like measurements with neutrinos

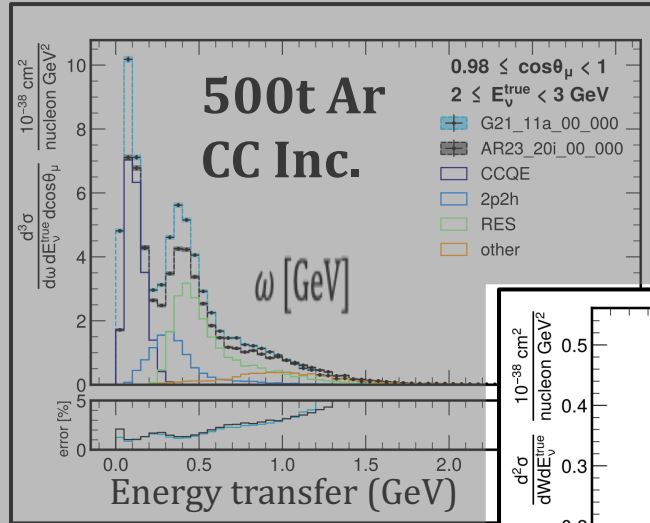
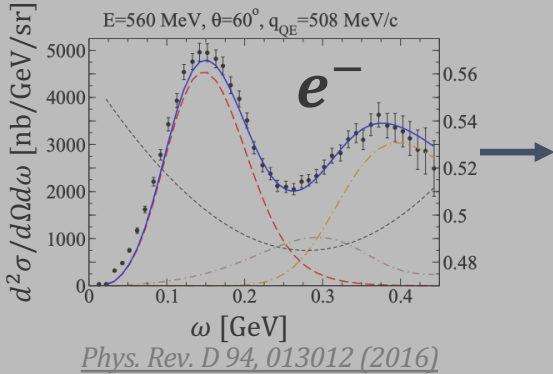


Now possible with neutrinos!

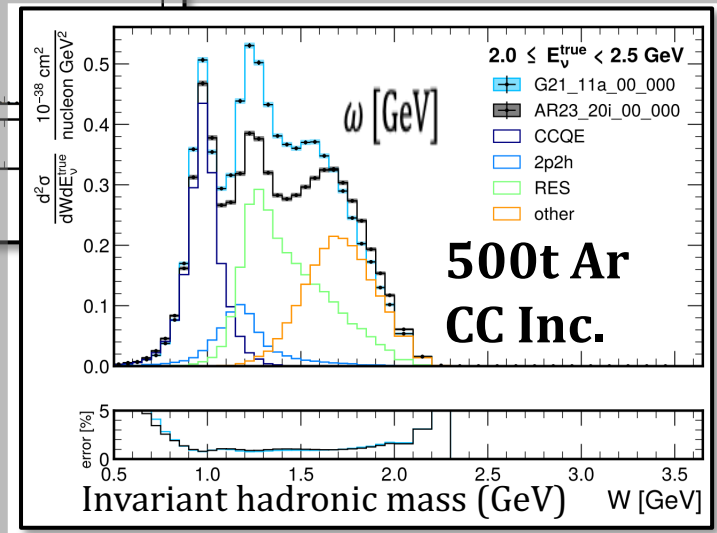


Gives access to fundamental nuclear physics processes

Electron scattering-like measurements with neutrinos

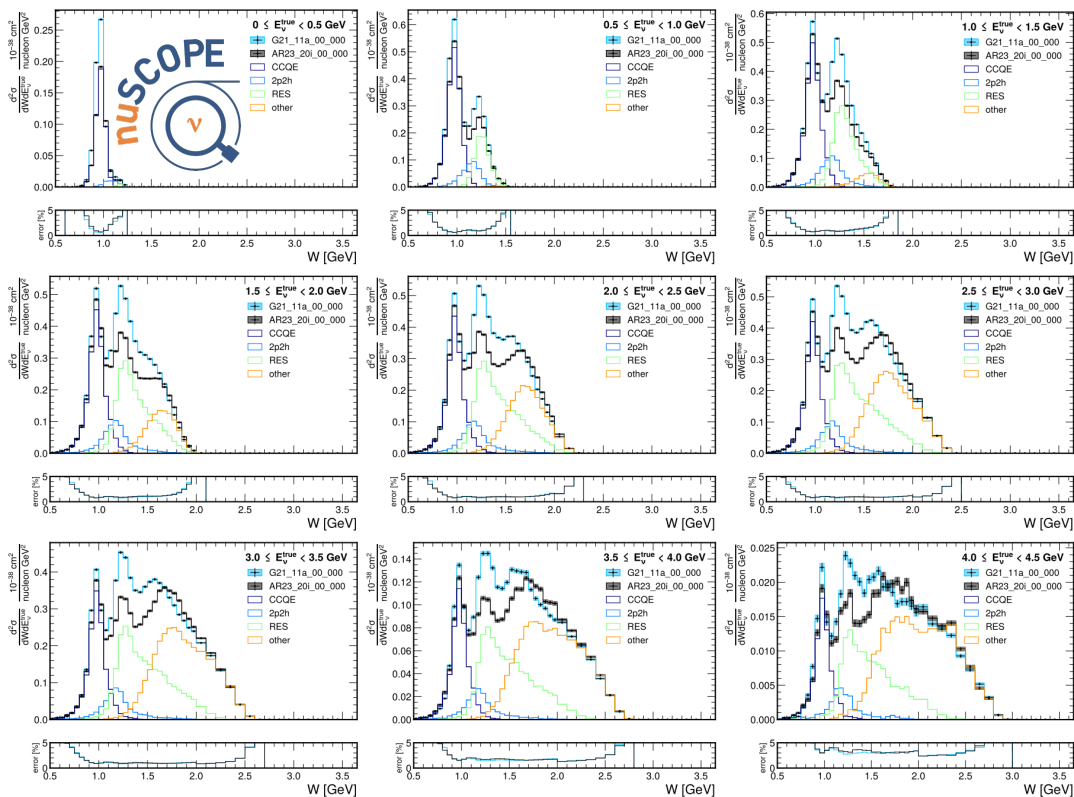


Now possible with **neutrinos!**

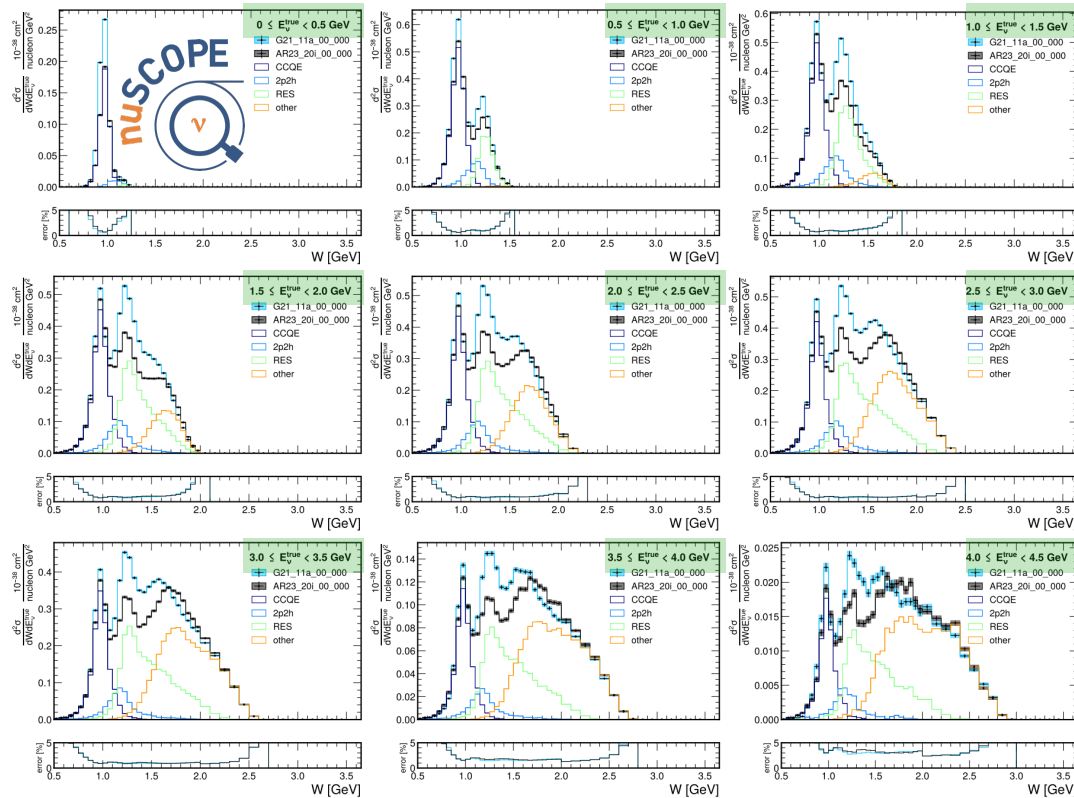


Gives access to fundamental nuclear physics processes

Electron scattering-like measurements with neutrinos

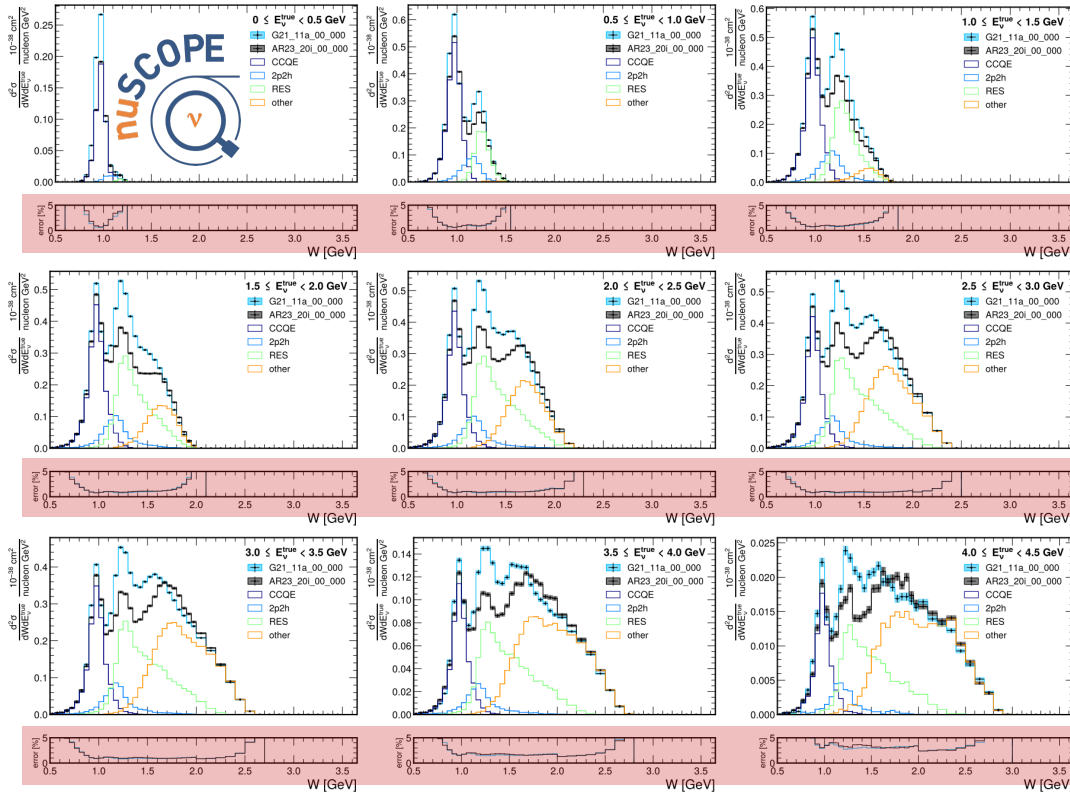


Electron scattering-like measurements with neutrinos



High statistics for multi-differential measurements (here as a function of E_{ν})

Electron scattering-like measurements with neutrinos



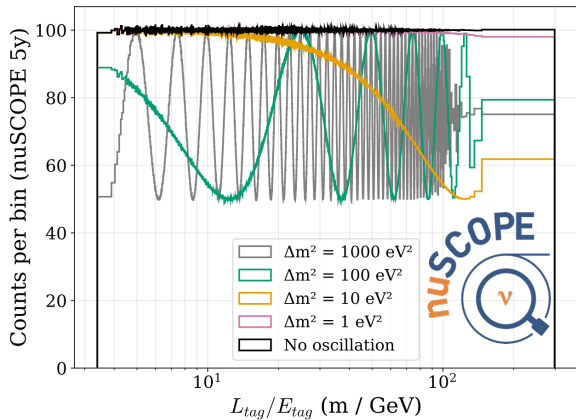
High statistics for multi-differential measurements (here as a function of E_{ν})

(\lesssim) 1% level statistical uncertainties

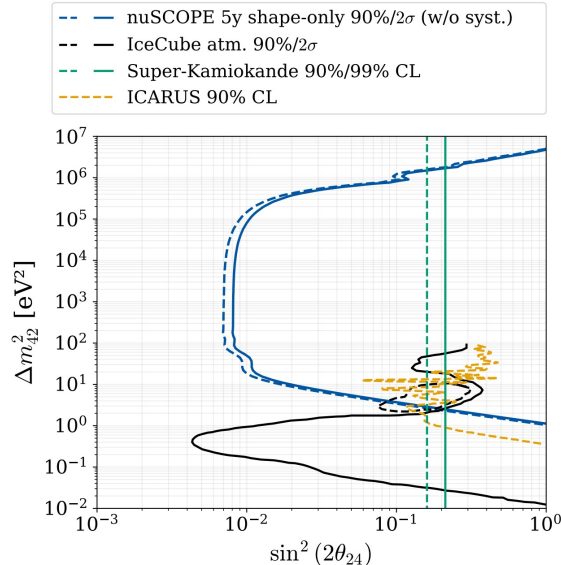
Beyond cross-section measurements

Short-baseline oscillations

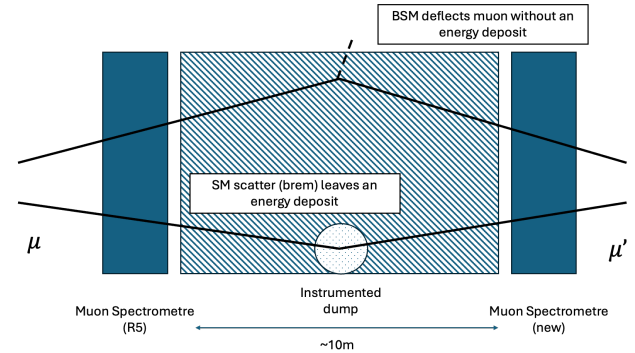
- ✓ **Neutrino energy** known with **<1%** uncertainty event-by-event
- ✓ **Precise** neutrino detector (\sim mm) to determine L
- ✓ Known neutrino **flavor**



[arXiv:2606.14263](https://arxiv.org/abs/2606.14263)



Muon/pion/kaon beam physics



- ✓ Expect 10^{16} muons in 5 years
- ✓ Can enable searches for dark matter (e.g. via missing energy)

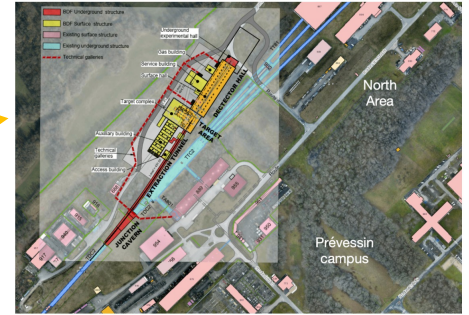
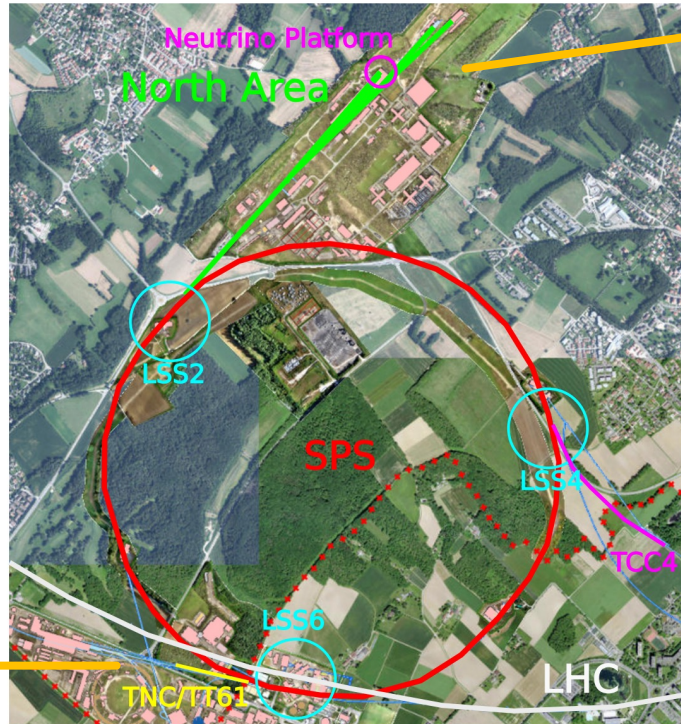
Paper in preparation (in collab. with R. Plestid and Y. Soreq)

Possible implementation at CERN

Feasibility studies conducted by CERN Accelerator & Technology Sector – **2 sites identified**

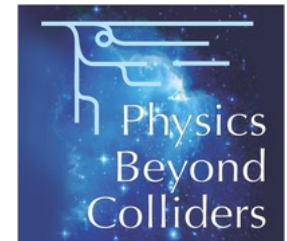
Proton sharing is compatible with other fixed target experiments (e.g. SHiP)

Meyrin (LSS6)



North Area (ECN4)

Feasibility studies ongoing under the umbrella of **Physics Beyond Colliders**



Status and next steps

- In 2024-2025 we submitted an input to the ESPPU process (and now feature in the [Physics Briefing Book!](#))
 - Focused on beamline design and preliminary physics sensitivities, mainly cross-section measurements
- We held a successful workshop & kick-off collaboration meeting at CERN in [Oct. 2025](#) and a proto-collaboration meeting in [May 2026](#)
 - Focused on neutrino detector design, physics studies & inputs for EoI
- We are preparing a more sophisticated simulation and reconstruction framework and exploring further physics studies
- Plan to submit a EoI to CERN SPSC before end of the year

Synergies: why should you care?

Comprehensive effort with **lots of opportunities**

- Accelerator studies
- Beamline detectors/instrumentation
 - E.g. **Silicon trackers** taking inspiration from LHCb-VELO & new R&D for HiLumi LHC
 - Need to cope with event rates of 20 GHz!
- Neutrino detector
 - We need a **fast** neutrino detector !
 - High coverage **photo-detection system**
 - **Containment** and design optimization
- Collaboration with **nuclear theory** community

