

# Phenomenological Chiral Perturbation Theory for Neutrino Event Generators

Miša Toman, Mareen Hoppe, Joshua Isaacson, Zara Jones, Shirley Li

Coming soon to arXiv



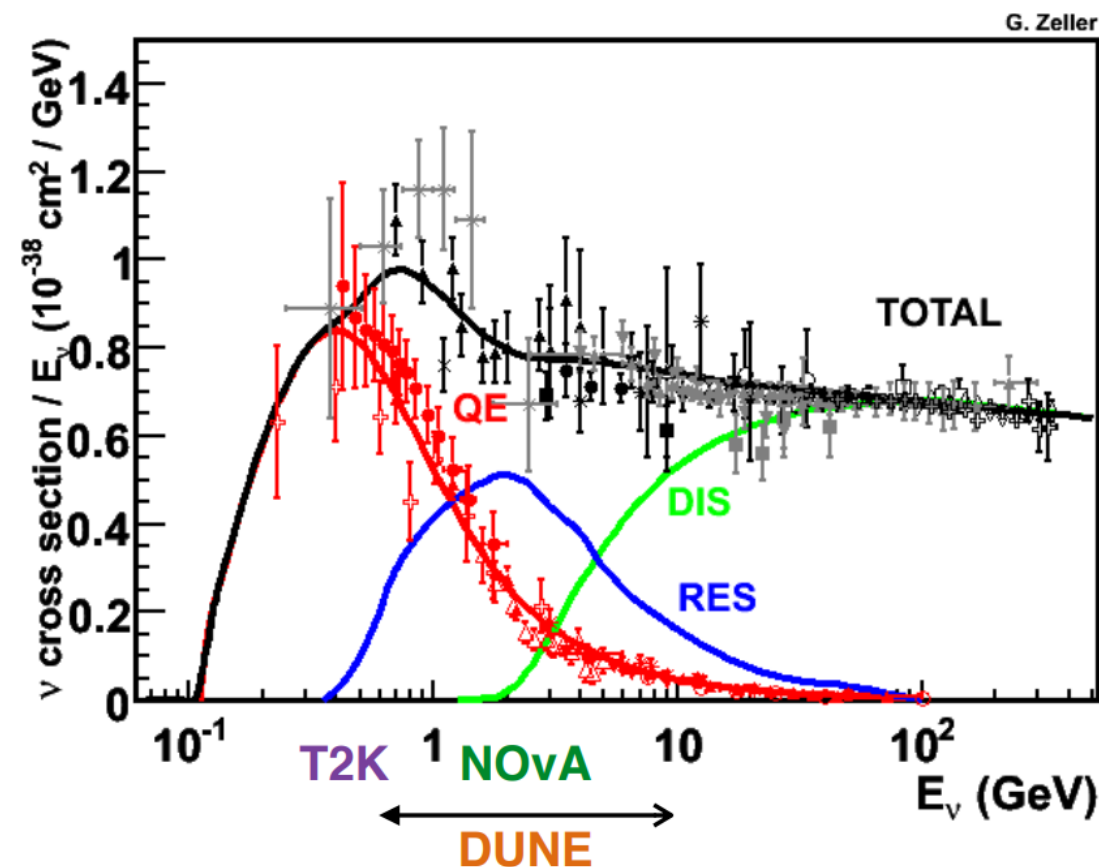
# Motivation

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- Neutrino experiments
  - T2K
  - NOVA
  - DUNE

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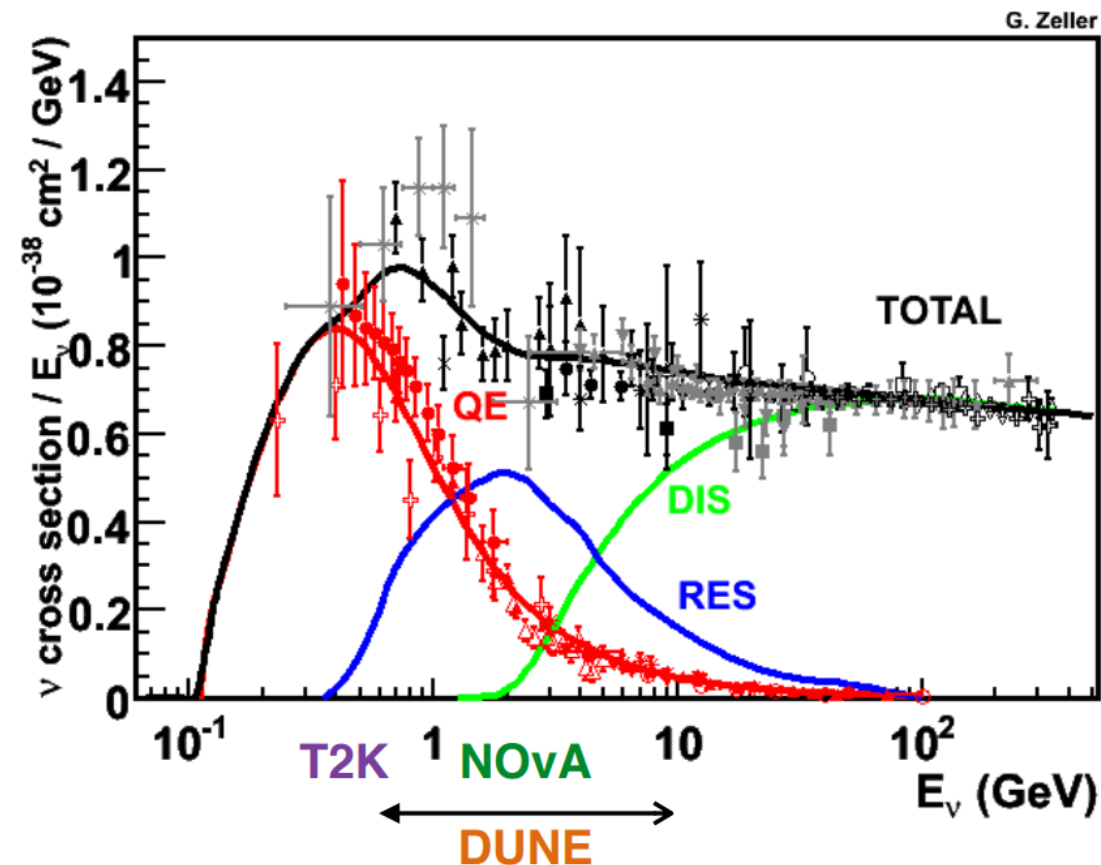
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J.A. Formaggio, G. Zeller, Reviews of Modern Physics, 84 (2012)

# Motivation

- Neutrino experiments
  - T2K
  - NOVA
  - DUNE
- Complex neutrino-nucleus interactions



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# Neutrino interaction landscape



100 MeV

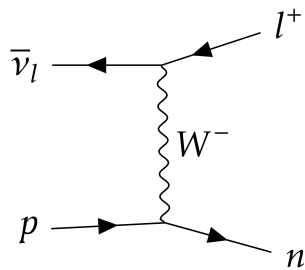
1 GeV

10 GeV

[J. A. Formaggio, G. P. Zeller 2012, From eV to EeV: Neutrino cross sections across energy scales](#)

# Neutrino interaction landscape

Quasi Elastic  
(QE)



100 MeV

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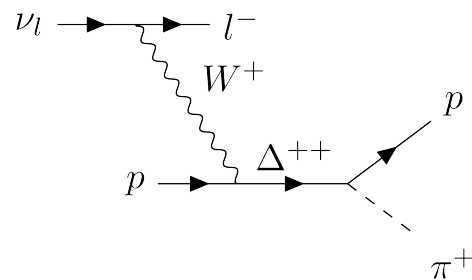
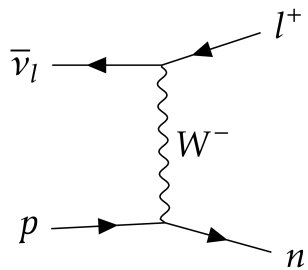
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Resonance production  
(RES)



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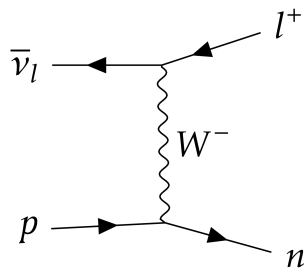
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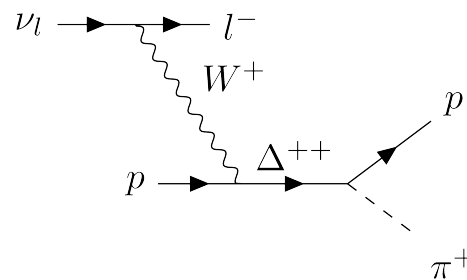
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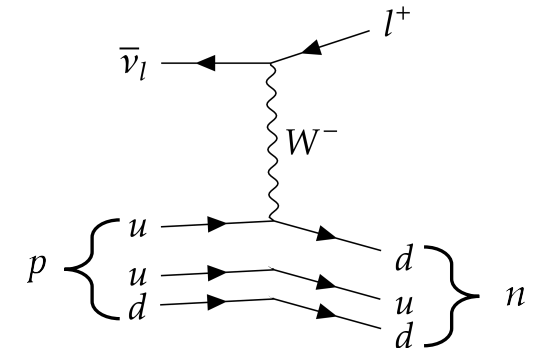
Deep Inelastic Scattering  
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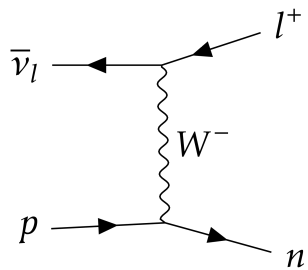
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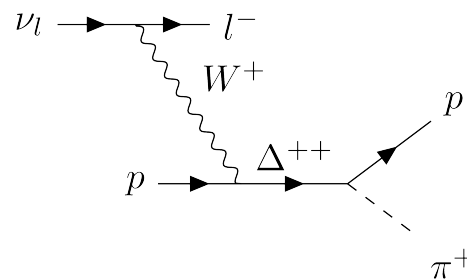
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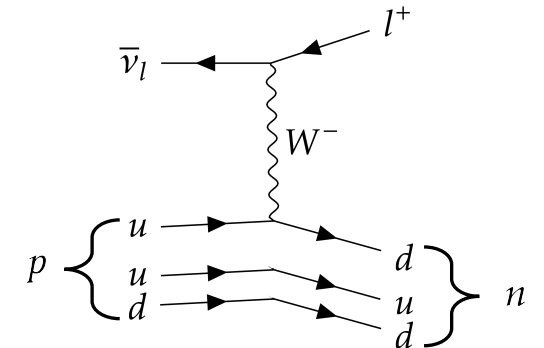
Meson Exchange  
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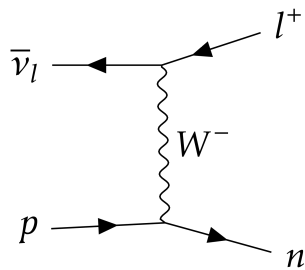
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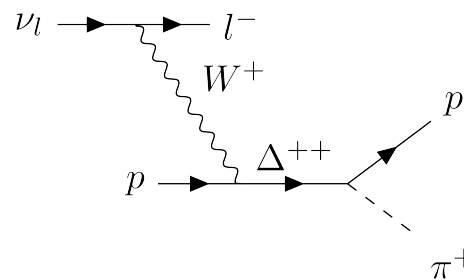
Deep Inelastic Scattering  
(DIS)

Meson Exchange  
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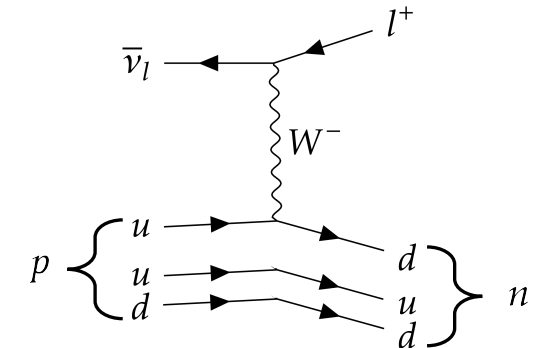
Shallow Inelastic Scattering  
(SIS)



100 MeV



1 GeV



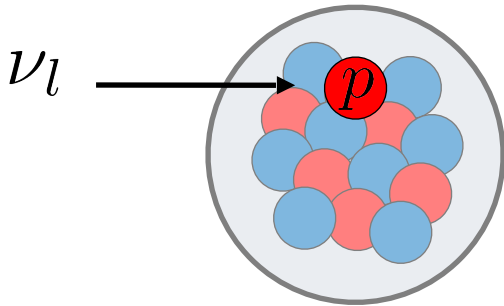
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# Neutrino-nucleus scattering event generation

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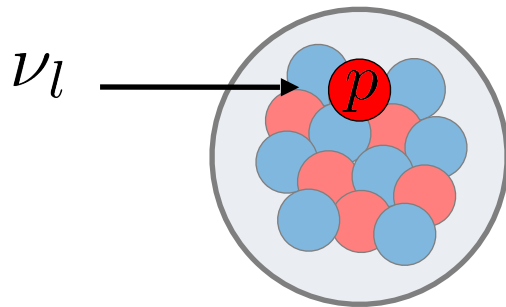
## Initial state modeling



- Momentum distribution
- Spectral function

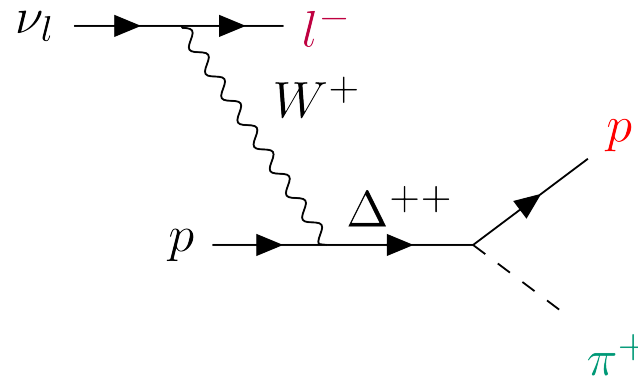
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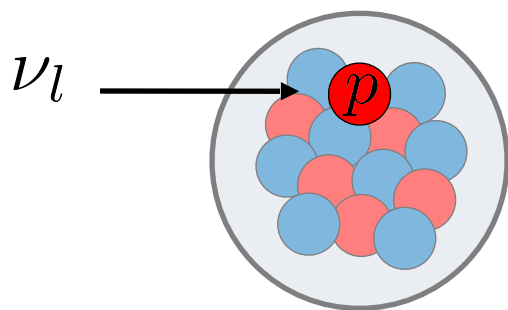
Hard Scattering Matrix Element



- QFT/QM calculation

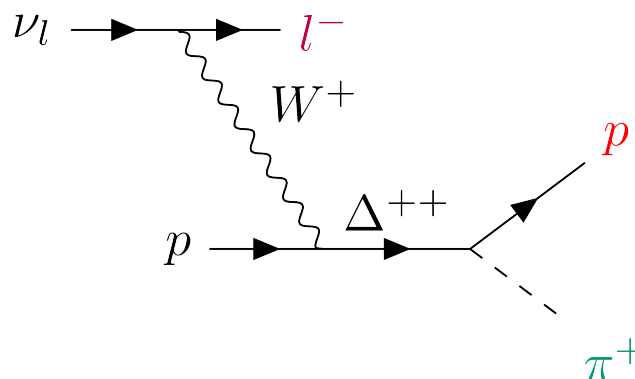
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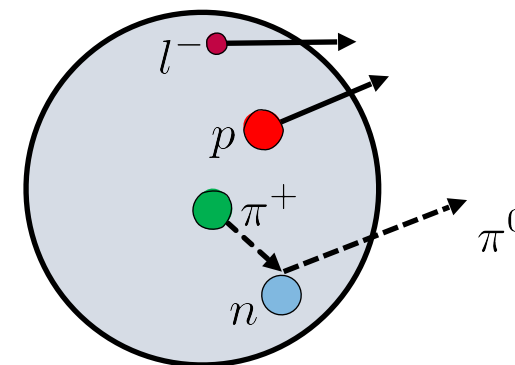
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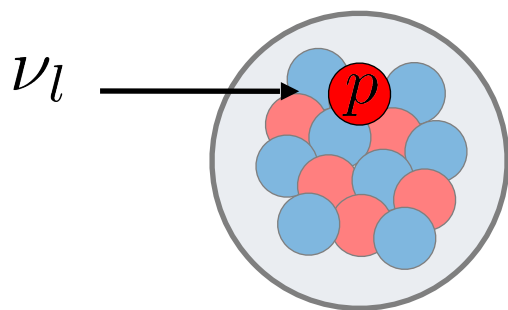
## Final State Interactions (FSI)



- Intra nuclear cascade (INC)

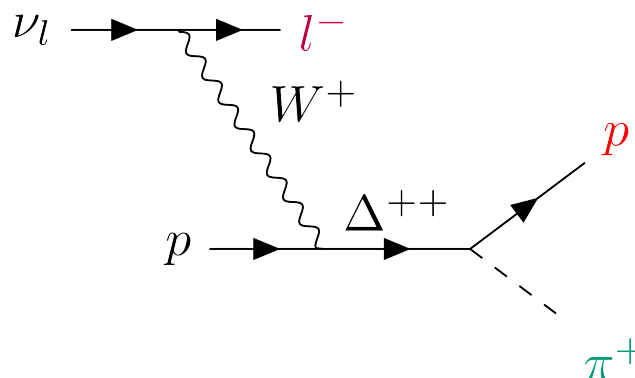
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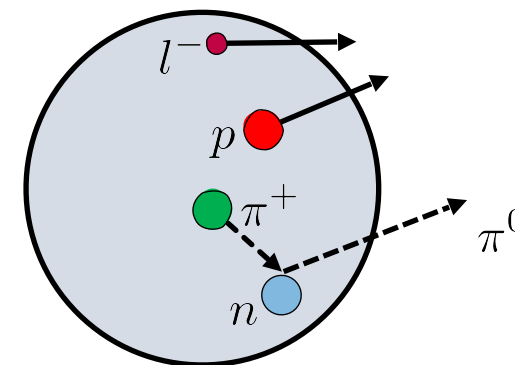
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- QFT/QM calculation

## Final State Interactions (FSI)



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1. [S. Dytman et al 2021, Comparison of validation methods of FSI](#)
2. [A. Nikolakopoulos et al 2024, FSI in neutrino-induced proton knockout from argon](#)

# Chiral Perturbation Theory (ChiPT)

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  - Delta resonances
  - Pions
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- Delta resonances

• $\Delta^-$	• $\Delta^0$	• $\Delta^+$	• $\Delta^{++}$	$I$	$J^P$
				$\frac{3}{2}$	$\frac{3}{2}^+$

- Pions

• $\pi^-$	• $\pi^0$	• $\pi^+$	$I$	$J^P$
			$1$	$0^-$

- Nucleons

• $n$	• $p$	$I$	$J^P$
		$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}^+$

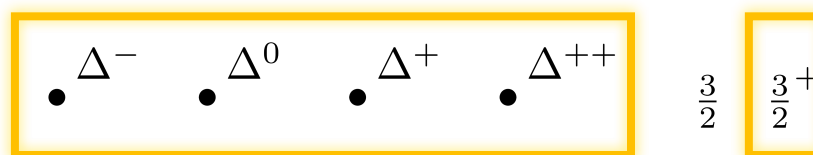
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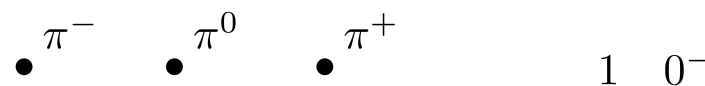
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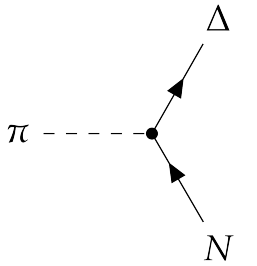
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- Isospin preserving

$$\mathcal{L}_{\pi N \Delta} \supset \frac{h}{f_{\pi} M_{\Delta}} \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \bar{\Delta}_{\mu\nu} \gamma_{\rho} \gamma_5 N \partial_{\sigma} \pi^a$$



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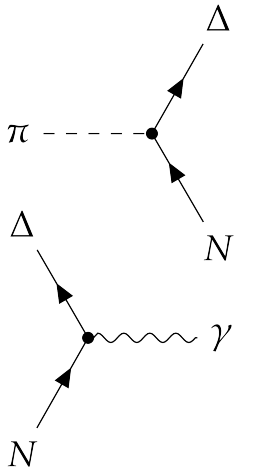
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$$\mathcal{L}_{\gamma N \Delta} \supset \frac{3e}{2M_N(M_N + M_{\Delta})} \bar{N} \left( i g_1 \tilde{F}_{\mu\nu} + g_2 \gamma_5 F_{\mu\nu} \right) \Delta^{\mu\nu}$$



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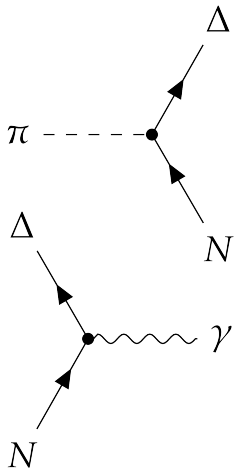
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- Vertices available in literature but not systematically used for neutrino event generation



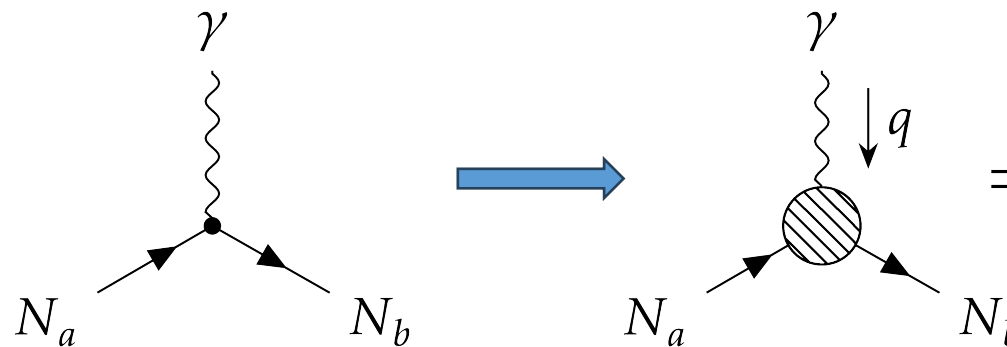
# Phenomenological ChiPT

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- Why phenomenological?

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- Why phenomenological?
- Systematically replace vertices with form factors



The diagram illustrates the replacement of a vertex in a nucleon-photon interaction. On the left, a vertex (black dot) connects an incoming nucleon line  $N_a$ , an outgoing nucleon line  $N_b$ , and a photon line  $\gamma$ . A blue arrow points to the right, where the vertex is replaced by a shaded circle. The photon line is now labeled with momentum  $q$ . To the right of this diagram is the mathematical expression for the form factor:

$$= e \left( F_1(Q^2) \gamma^\mu + F_2(Q^2) \frac{i \sigma^{\mu\nu} q_\nu}{2M_N} \right) \delta_{ab}$$

# Event generation with Achilles



[J. Isaacson, S. Höche, D. L. Gutierrez, N. Rocco, 2022 A novel event generator for the automated simulation of neutrino scattering](#)  
[J. Isaacson et al, 2022, ACHILLES: A novel event generator for electron- and neutrino-nucleus scattering](#)

# Event generation with Achilles

- **A CHicagoLand Lepton Event Simulator**

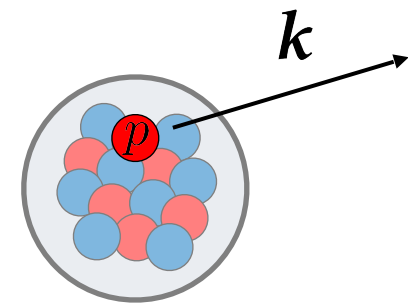


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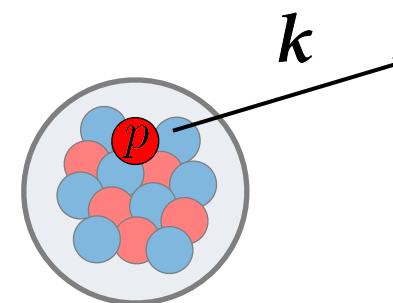


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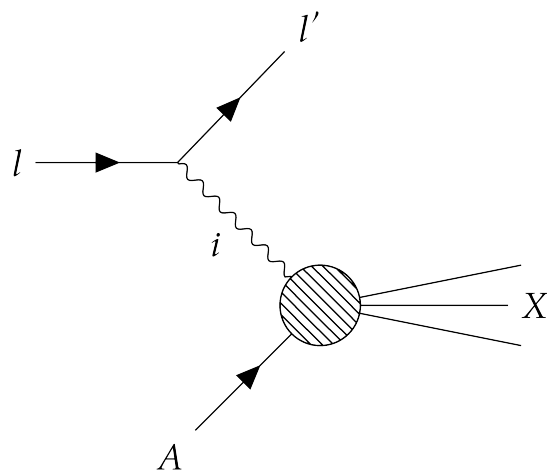
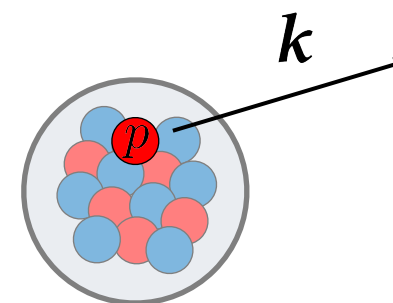
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$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \propto \left| \sum_{i=\gamma, Z, W} L_{\mu}^{(i)} W^{(i)\mu} \right|^2$$

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- Complementary approach: ChiPT  $N, \pi, \Delta$

[J. Isaacson et al, 2026, Single pion-production and pion propagation in Achilles](#)  
[L. Darme, C. Degrande et al UFO - The Universal FeynRules Output](#)

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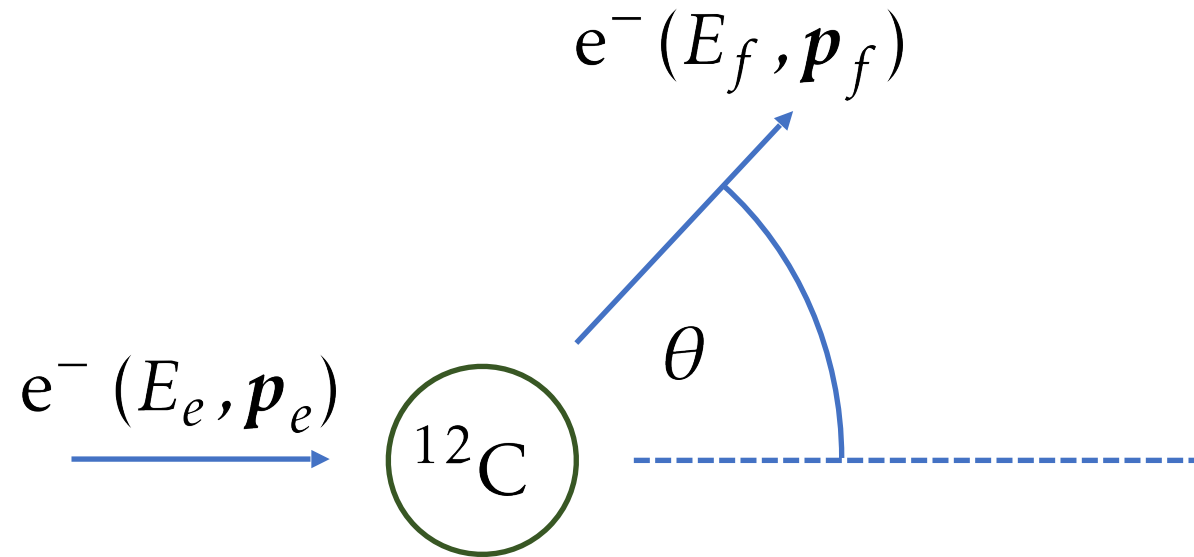
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- UFO to Achilles interface

# Results (work in progress)





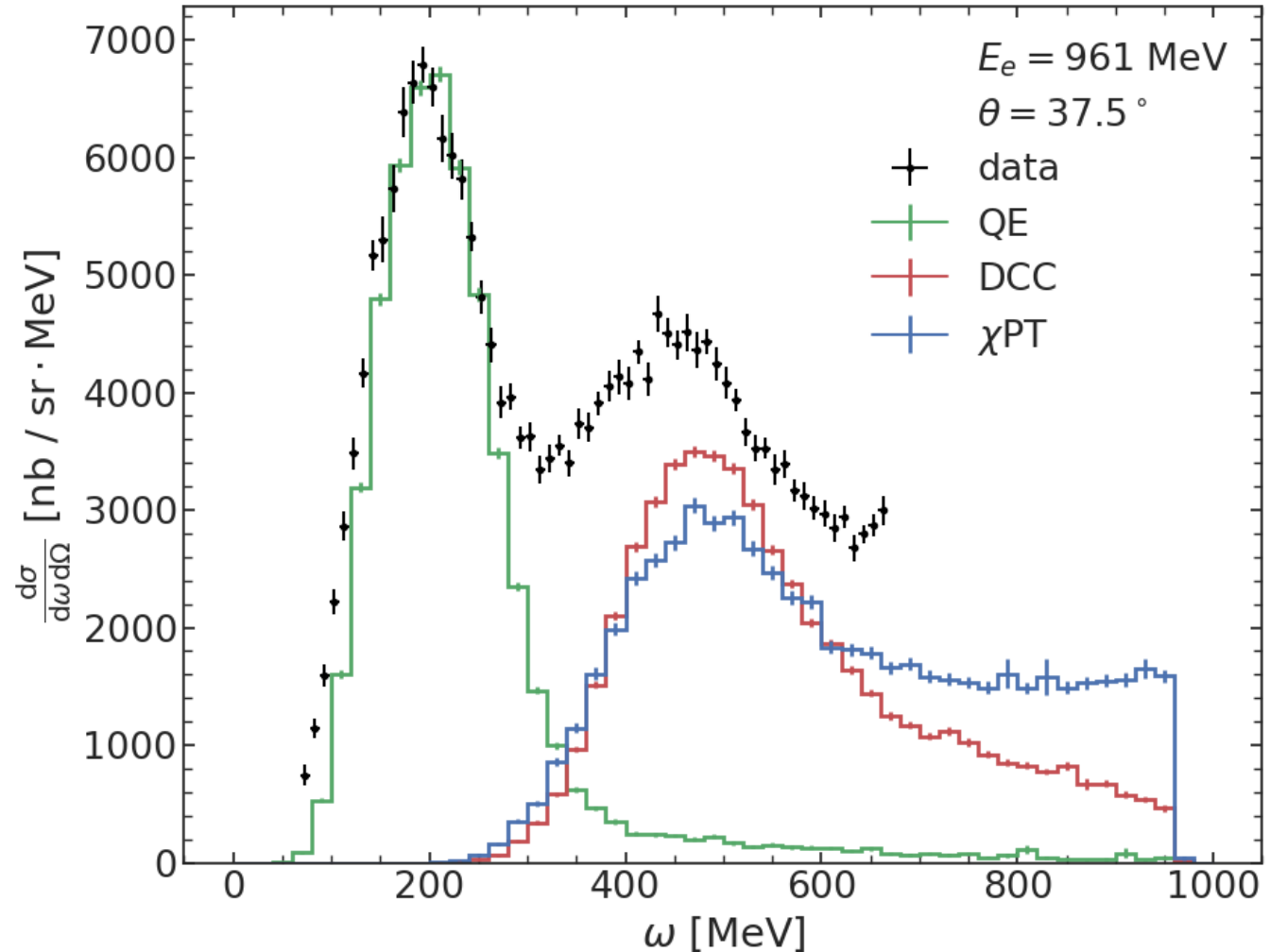
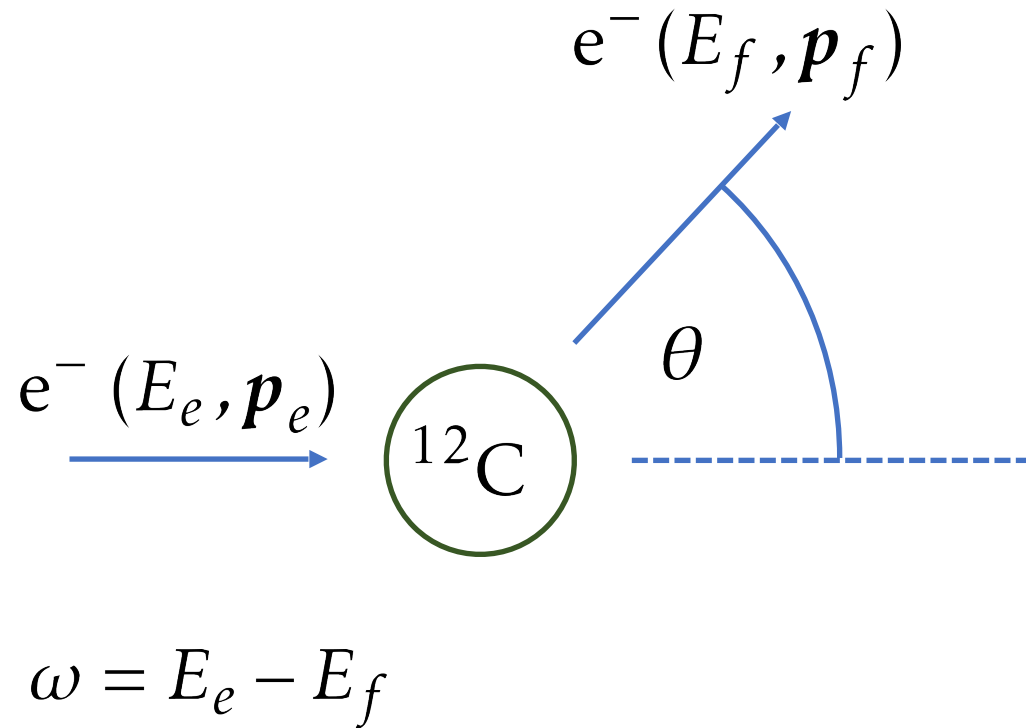
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$$\omega = E_e - E_f$$

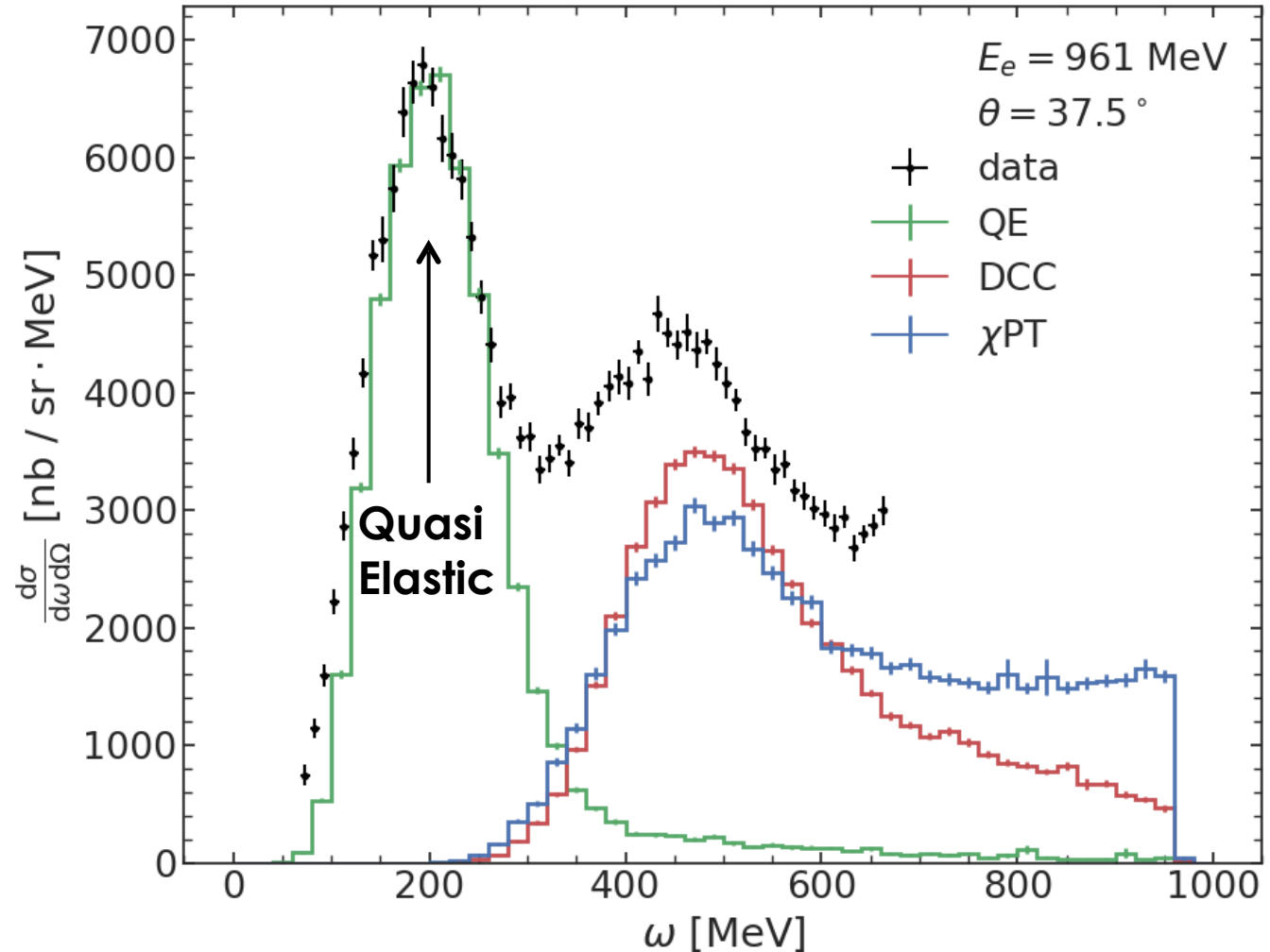
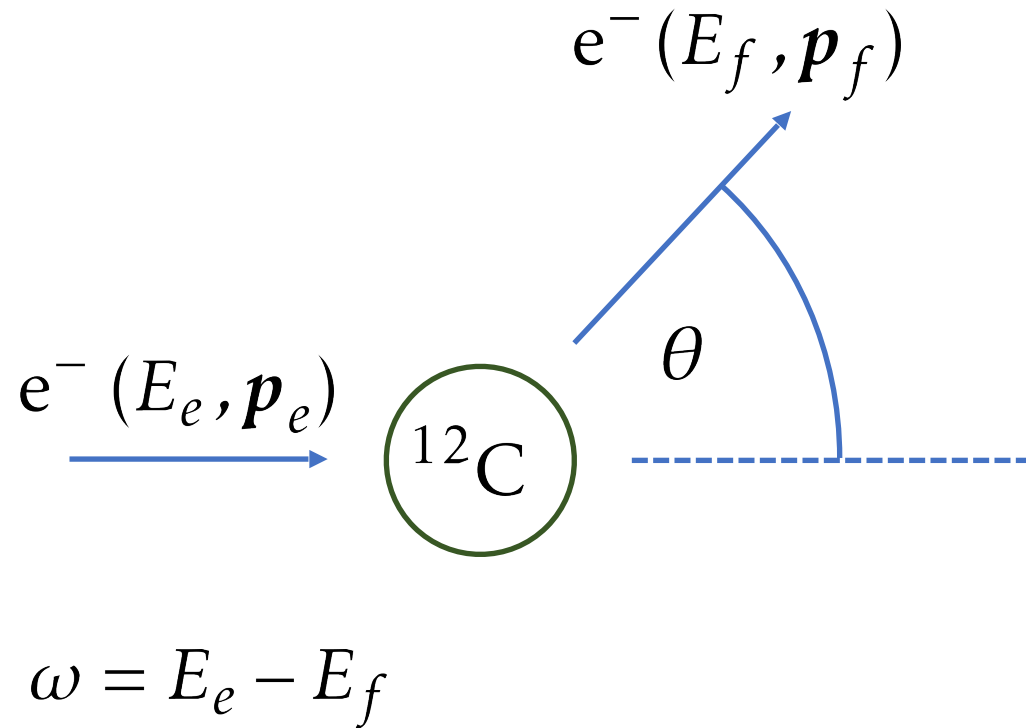


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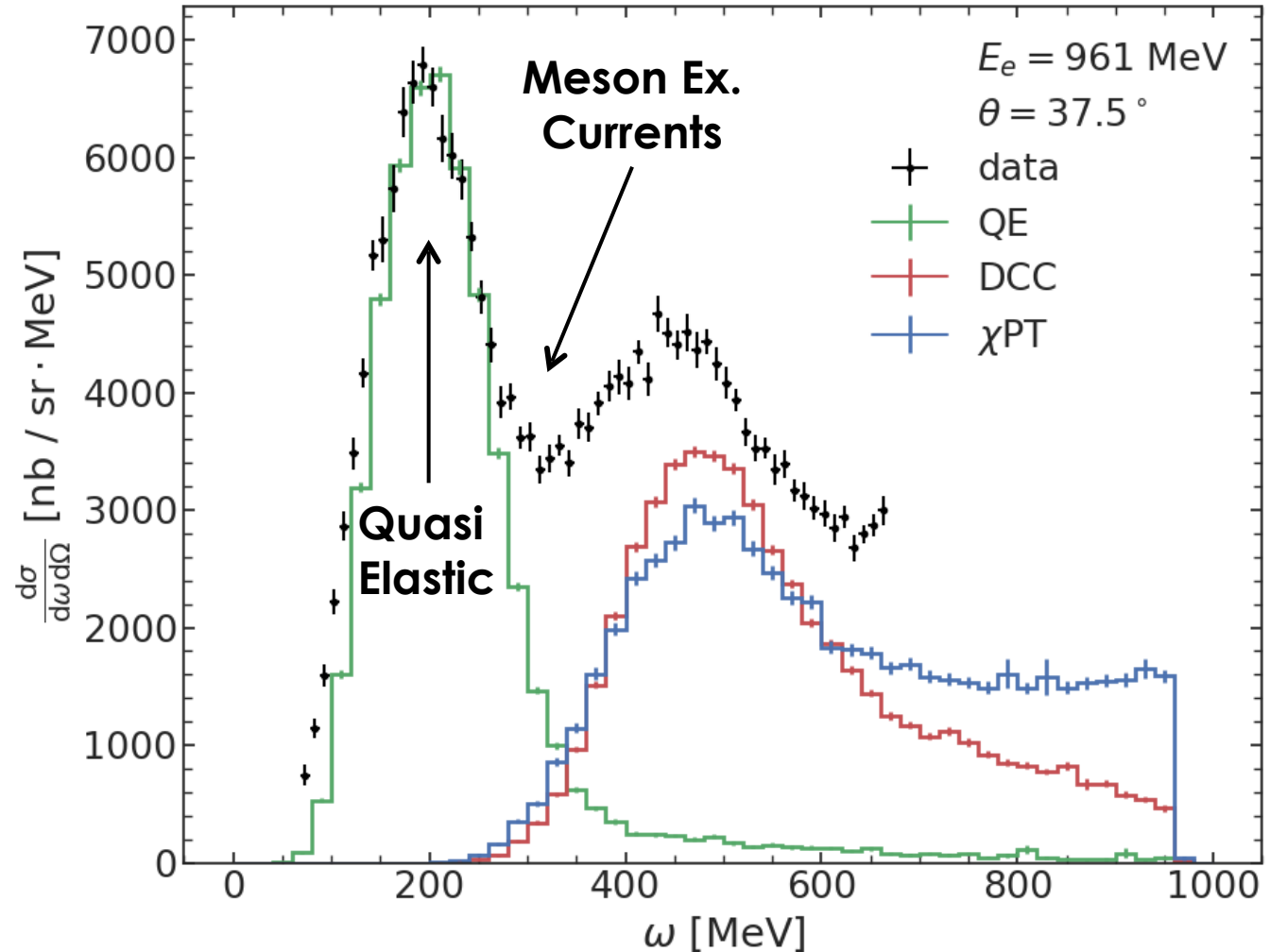
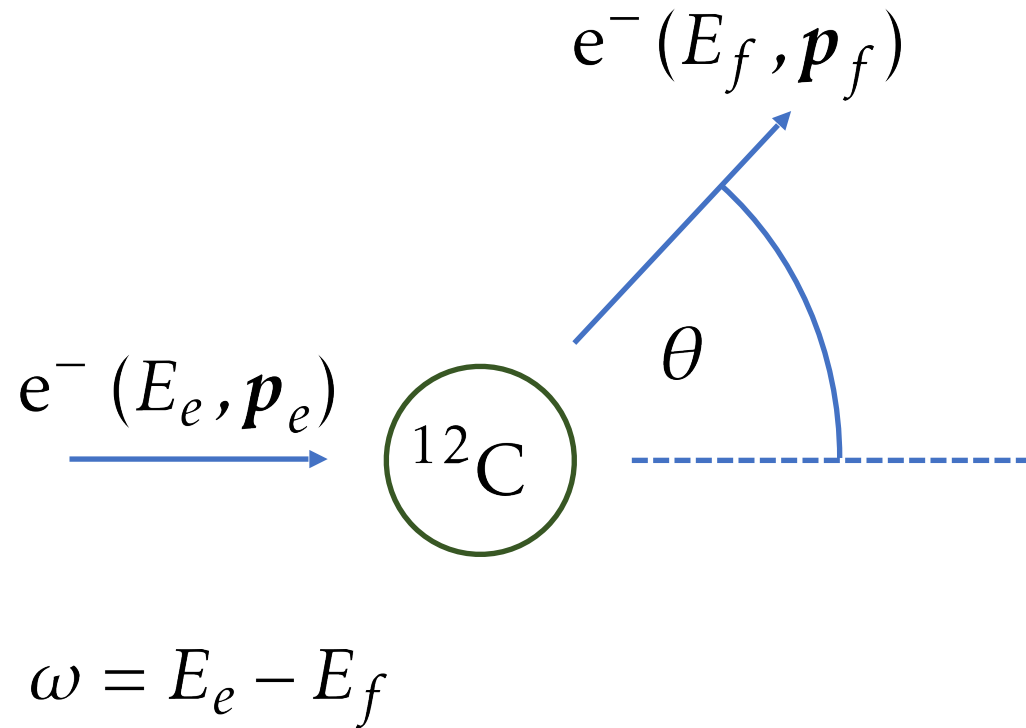


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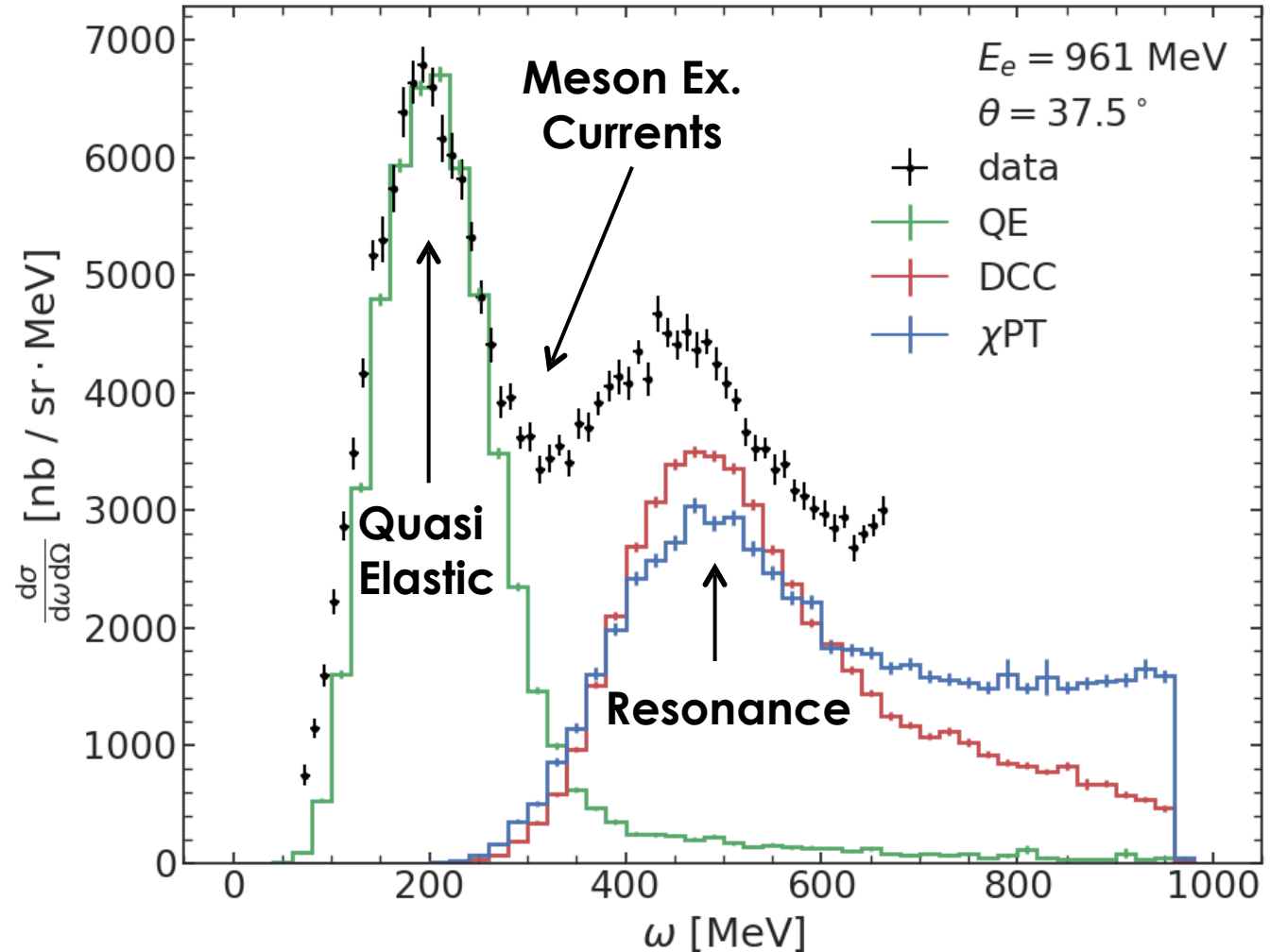
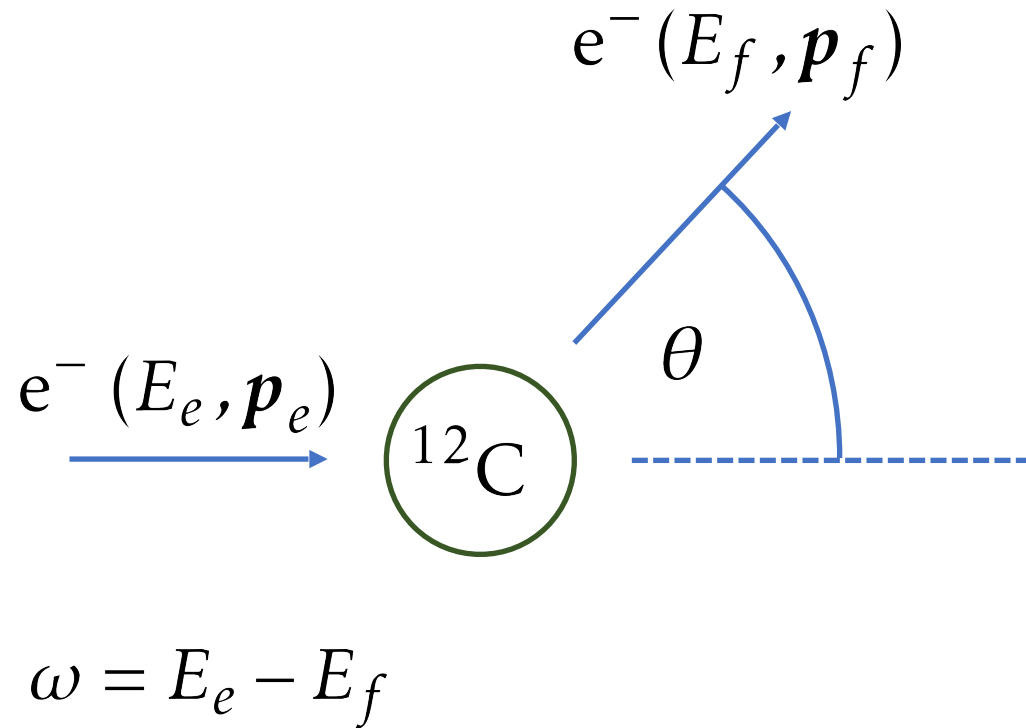


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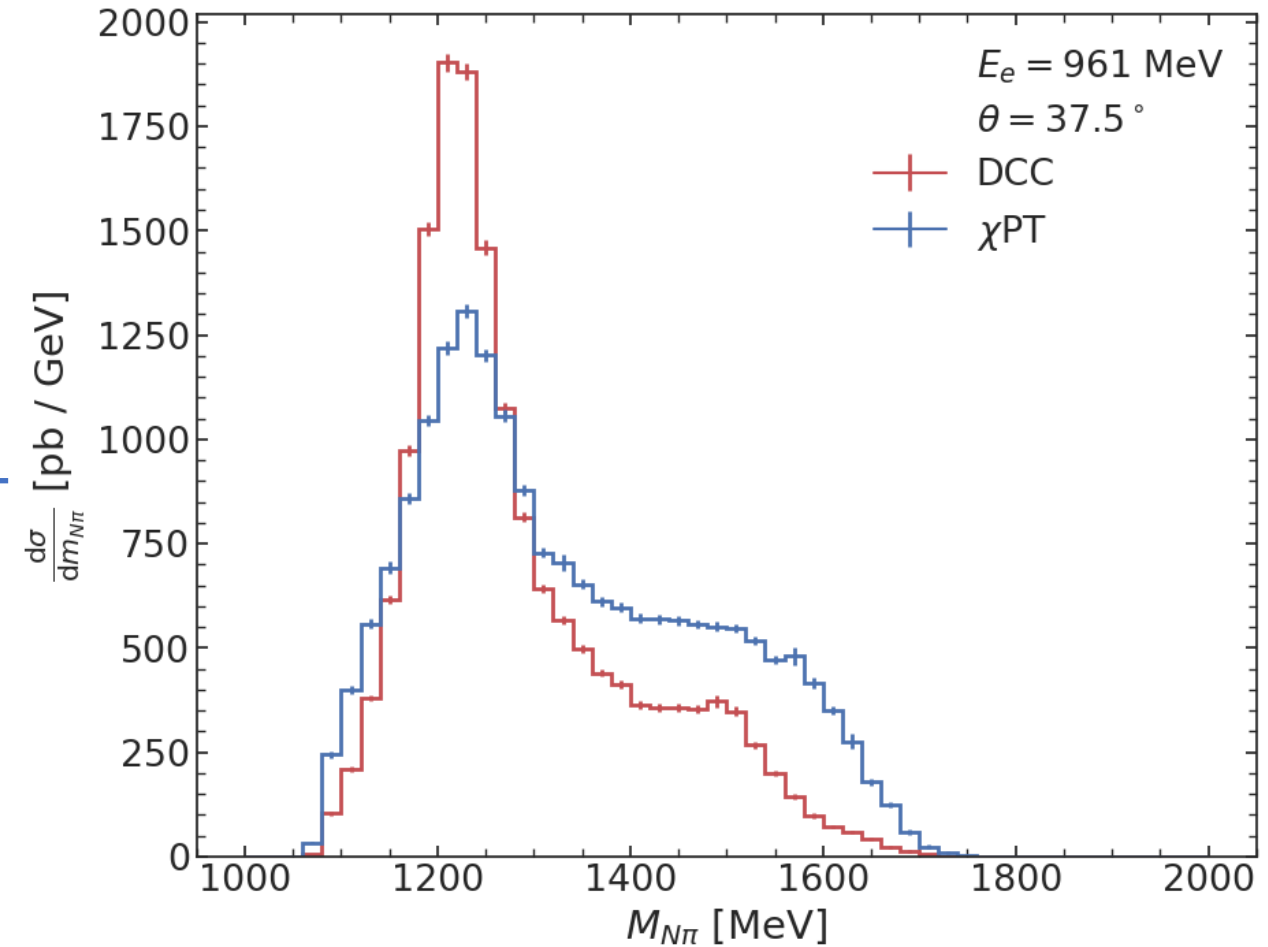
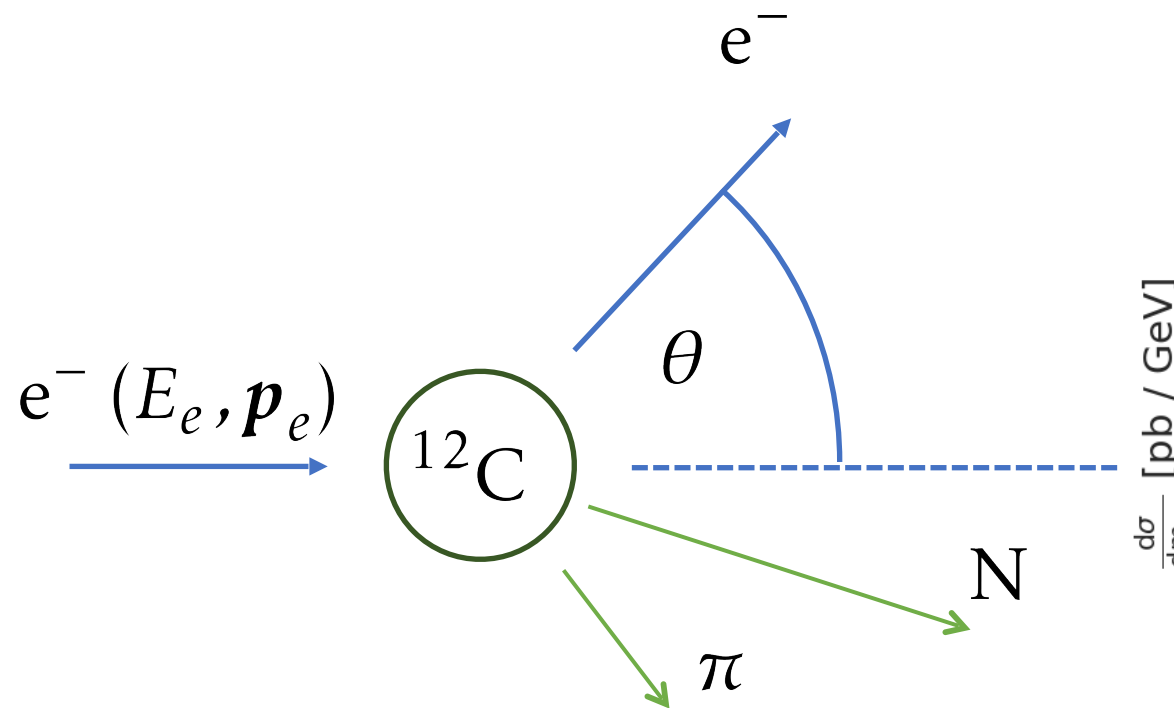




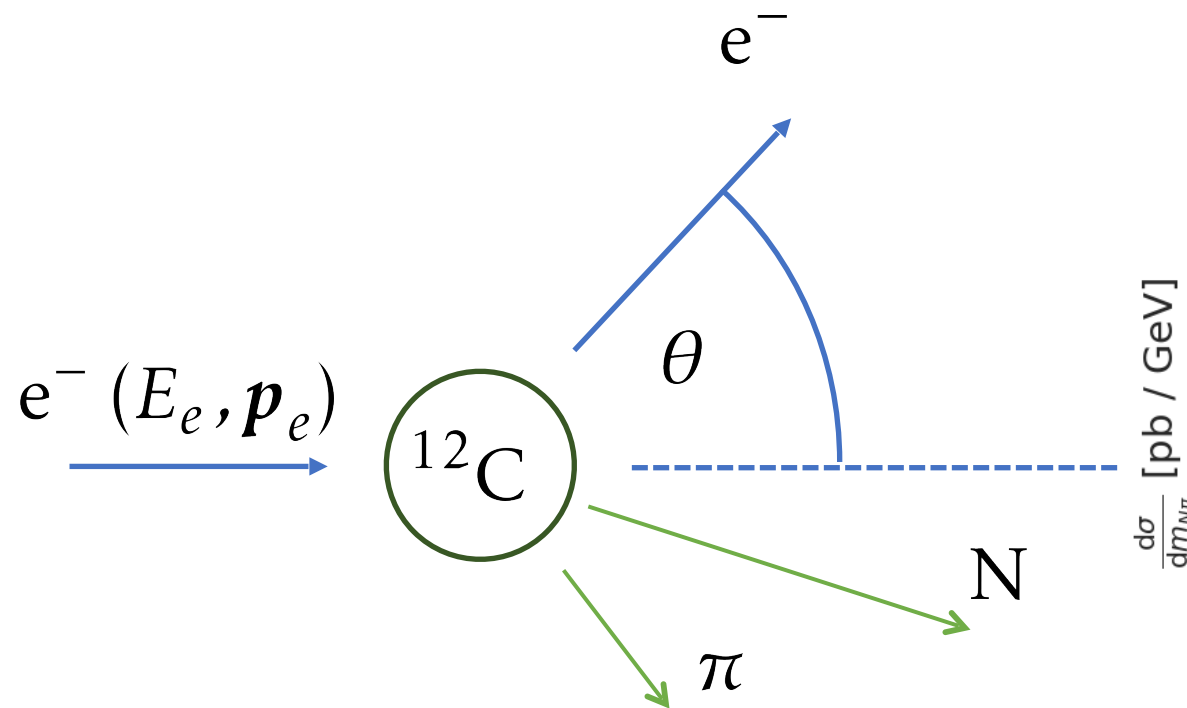
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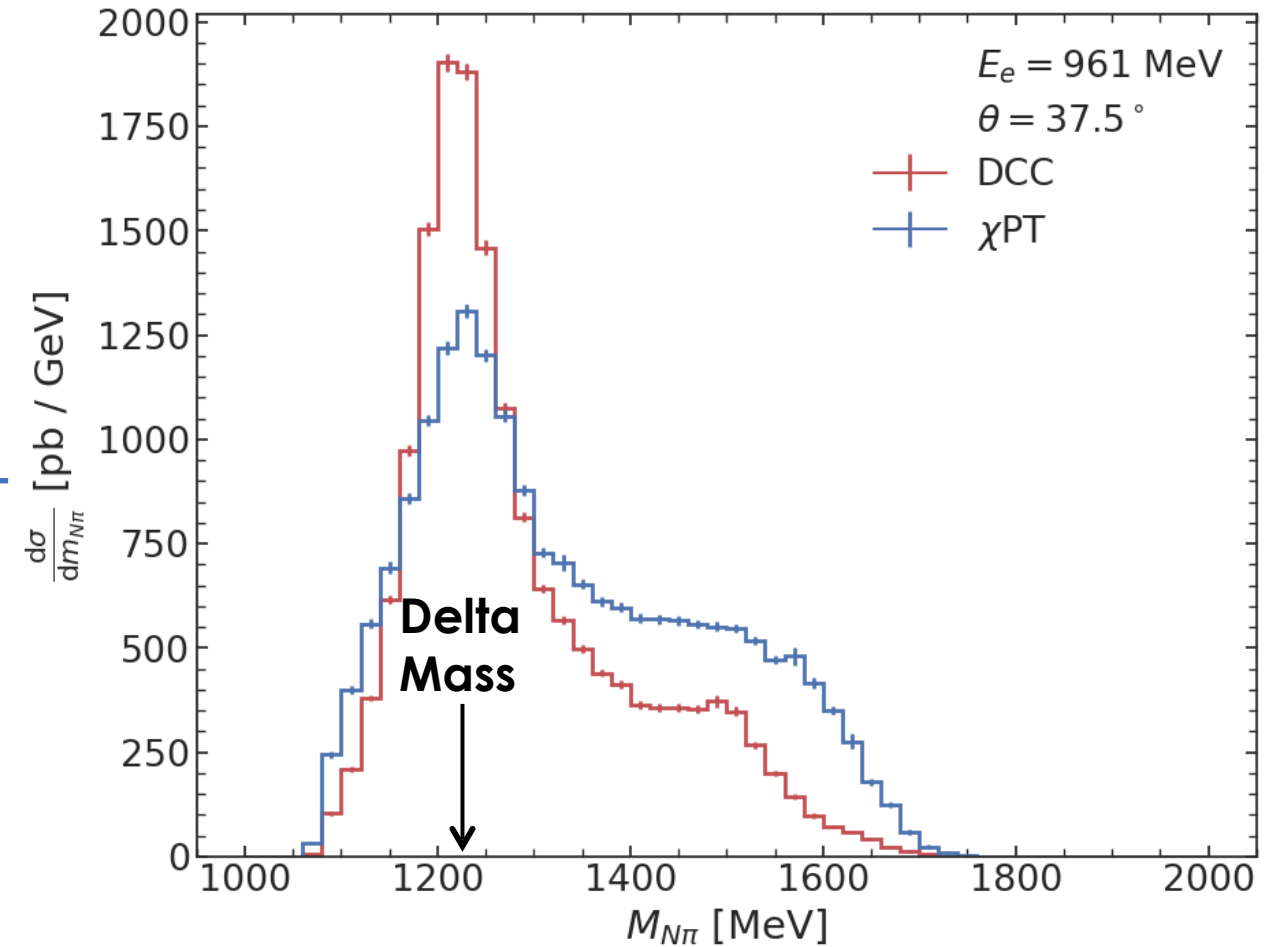
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$$M_{N\pi}^2 = (p_N + p_\pi)^2$$



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- In the future add more resonances & form factors
- Goals:
  - Predict single pion production in neutrino experiments
  - Software package for the community

Thank you!