

The novel neutrino nexus: SBND, JUNO, and DUNE

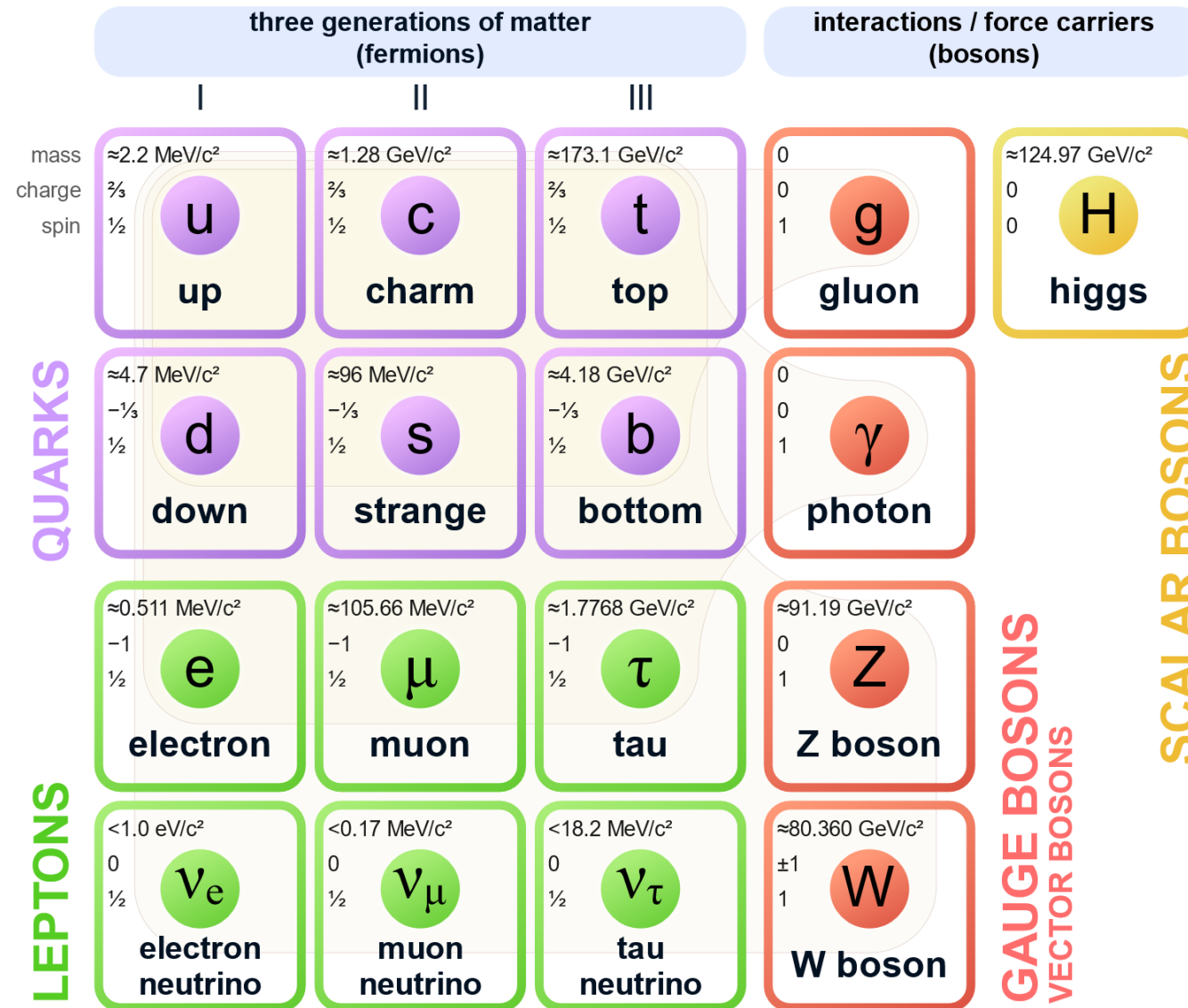
John Plows (U. of Liverpool)

Particle annual meeting

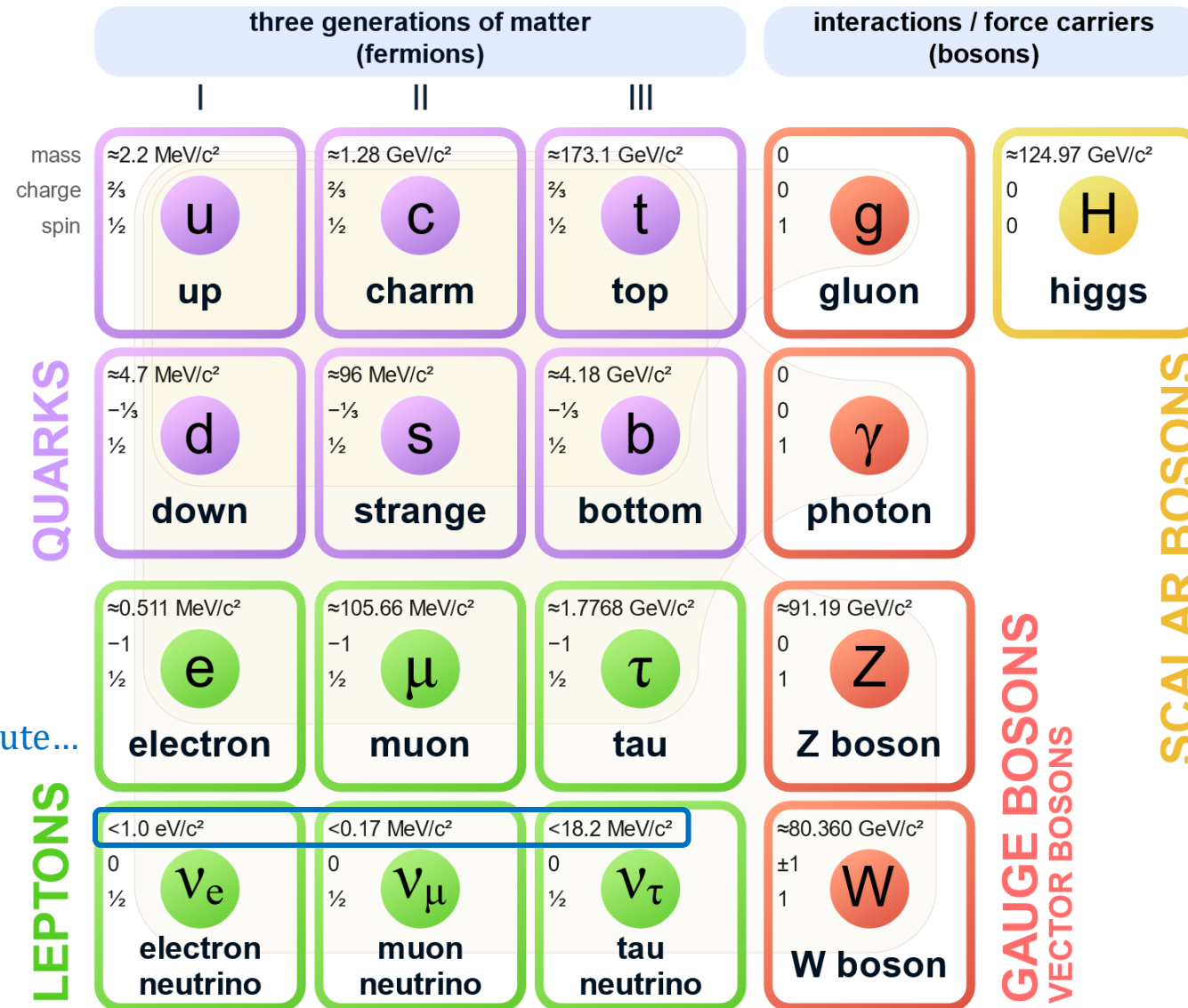
23/May/2024



Standard Model of Elementary Particles



Standard Model of Elementary Particles



Wait a minute...

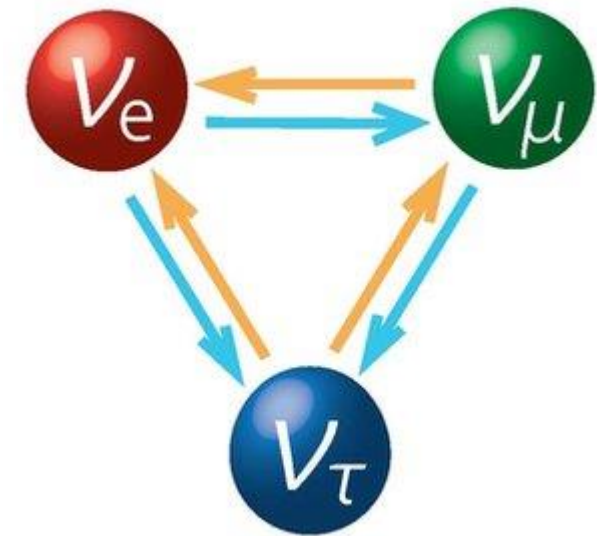
Open questions ??

- ? What is the neutrino mass hierarchy?
- ? Is there CP violation in the lepton sector?
- ? How do neutrinos interact with nuclei?
- ? Are neutrinos their own antiparticles?
- ? Where do neutrino masses come from?
 - ? Why are neutrinos so much lighter than charged leptons?
 - ? Can neutrinos provide a dark matter candidate?
- ? Can we measure the neutrino mass?

Open questions ??

- ? What is the neutrino mass hierarchy? ✓
- ? Is there CP violation in the lepton sector? ✓
- ? How do neutrinos interact with nuclei? ✓
- ? Are neutrinos their own antiparticles? ⚠
- ? Where do neutrino masses come from?
 - ? Why are neutrinos so much lighter than charged leptons? ✗
 - ? Can neutrinos provide a dark matter candidate? ⚠
- ? Can we measure the neutrino mass? ✗

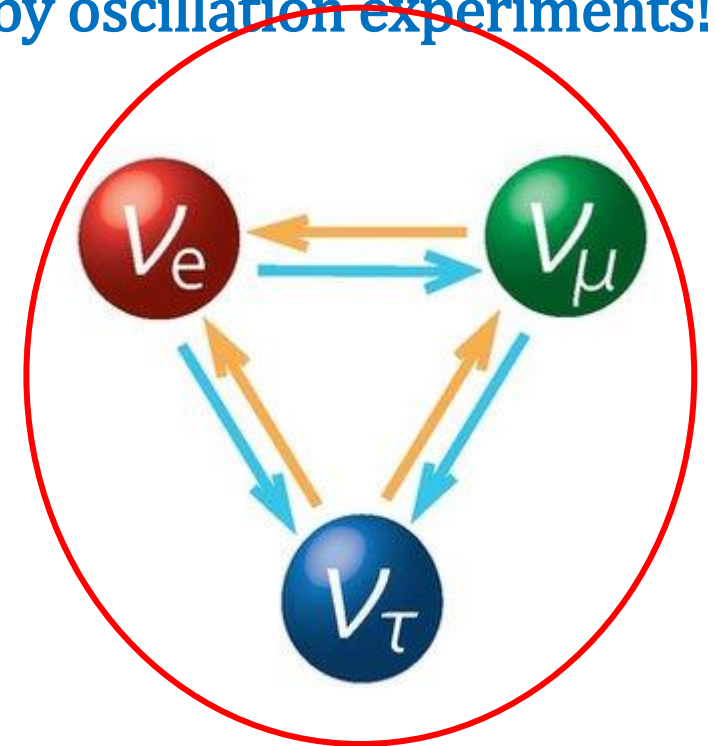
Almost all of these questions can be addressed by oscillation experiments!



Open questions ??

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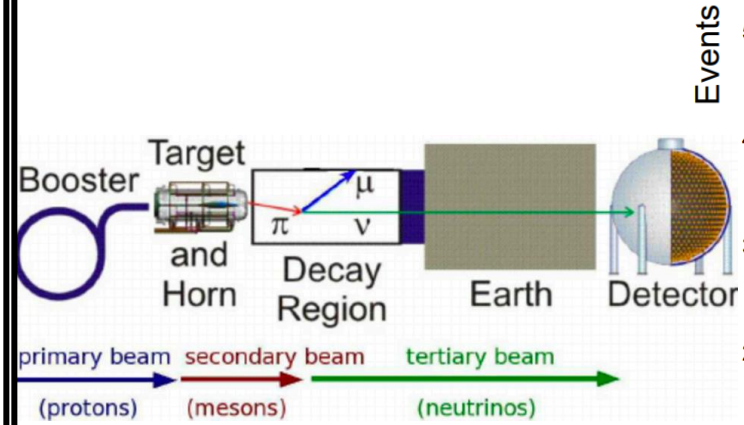
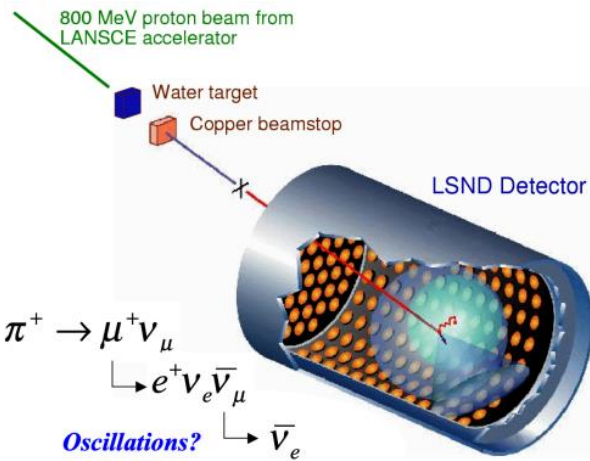
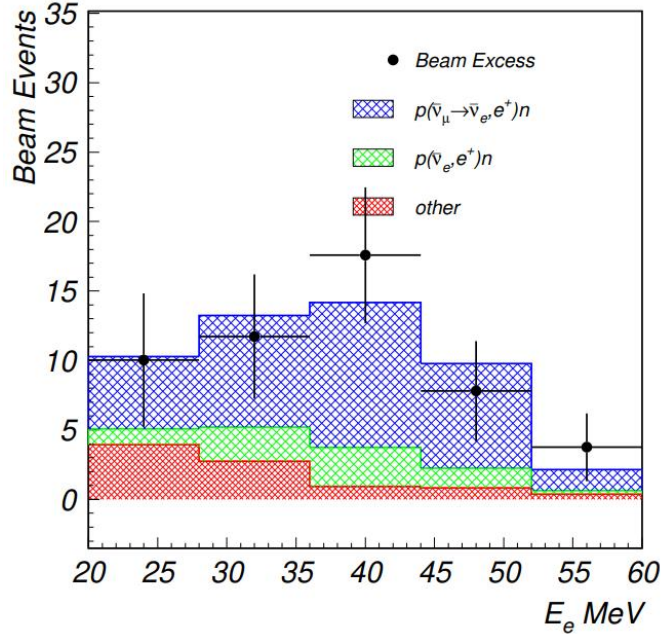
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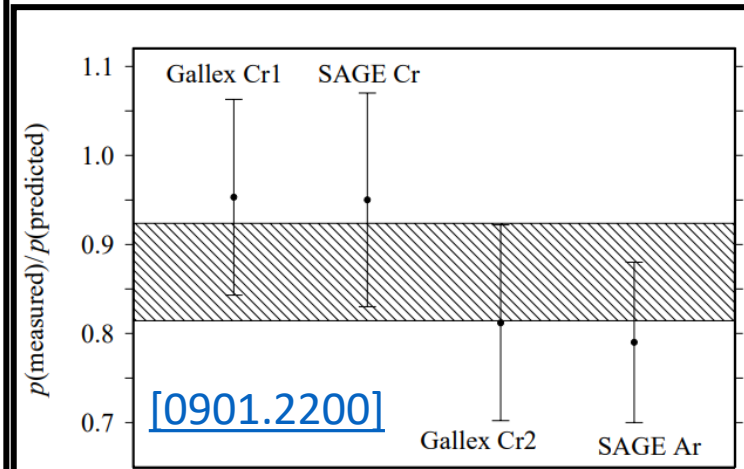
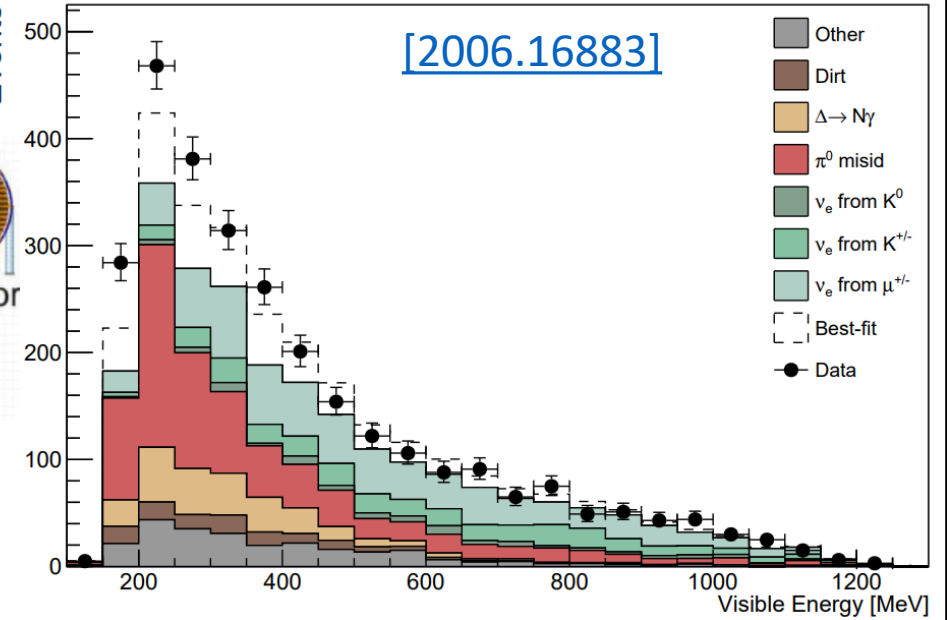
But is this the full picture...?

Enter anomalies

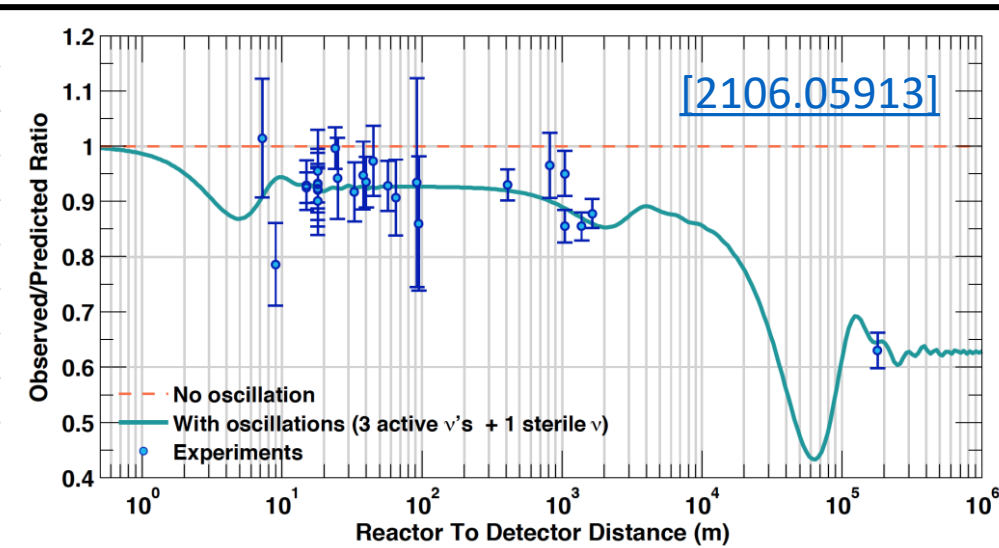
[hep-ex/0104049]



[2006.16883]

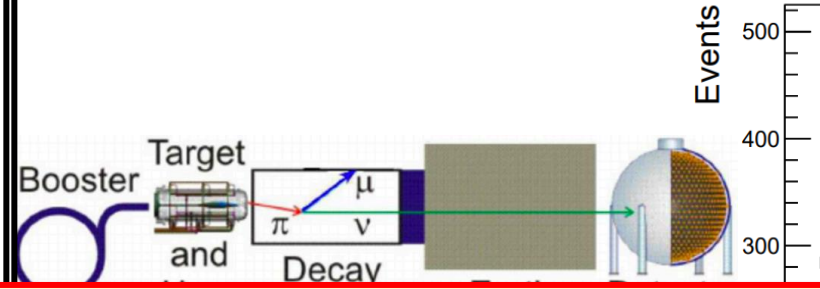
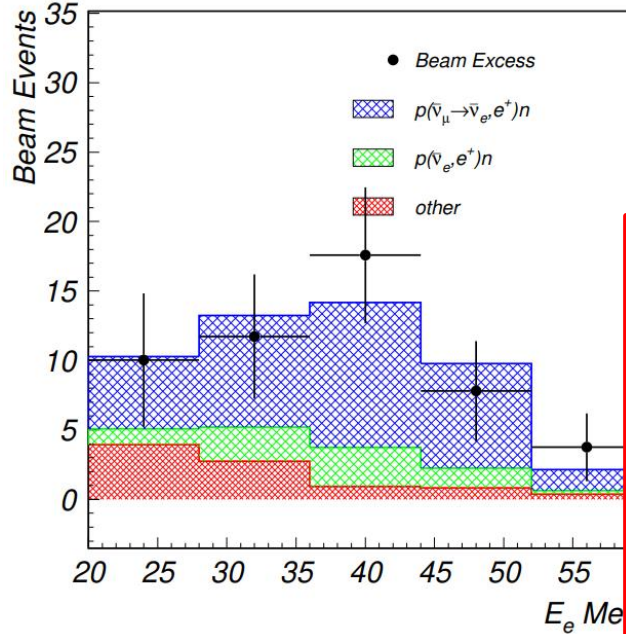


[2106.05913]

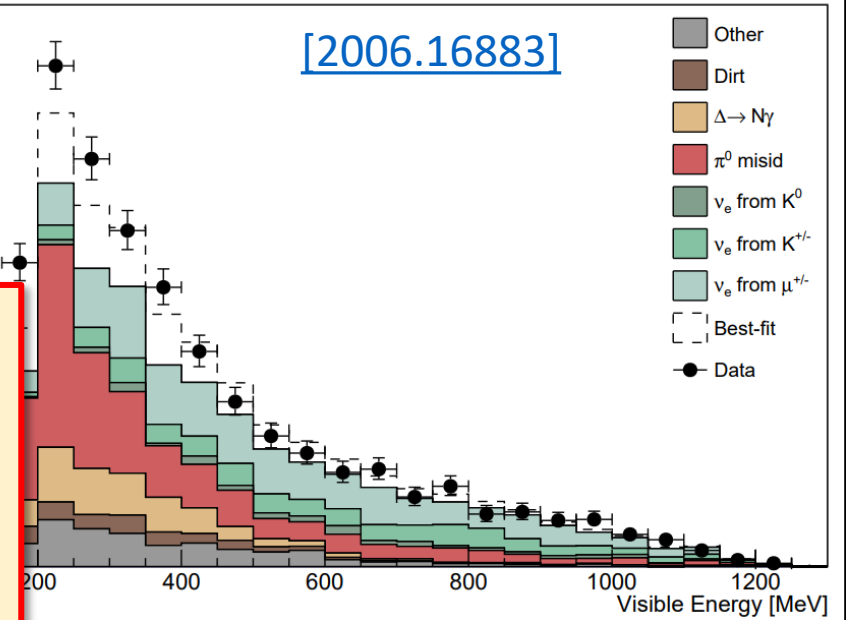


Enter anomalies

[hep-ex/0104049]

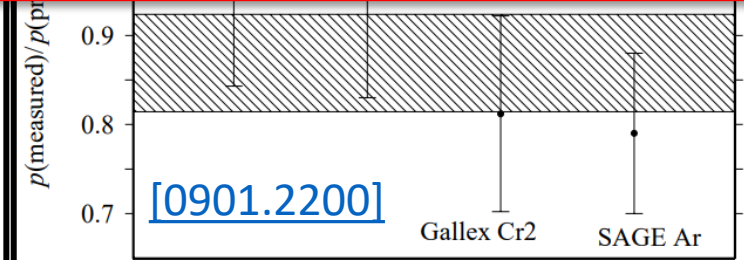
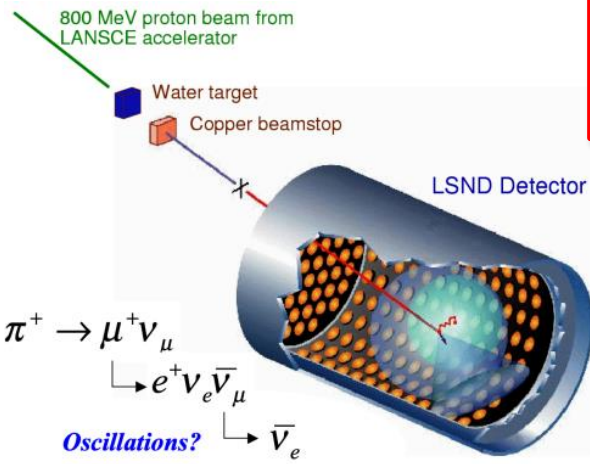


[2006.16883]

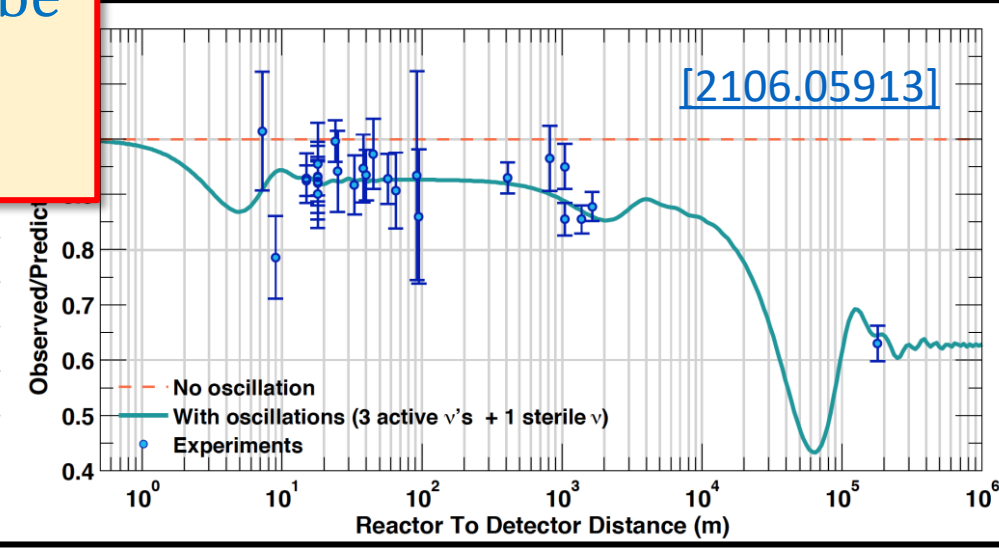


Can be interpreted (minimally) in the scenario of a 3+1 (3+N) neutrino oscillation framework

The “extra” neutrino(s) must be sterile and light ($\Delta m_{N1}^2 \sim \mathcal{O}(1 \text{ eV}^2)$)

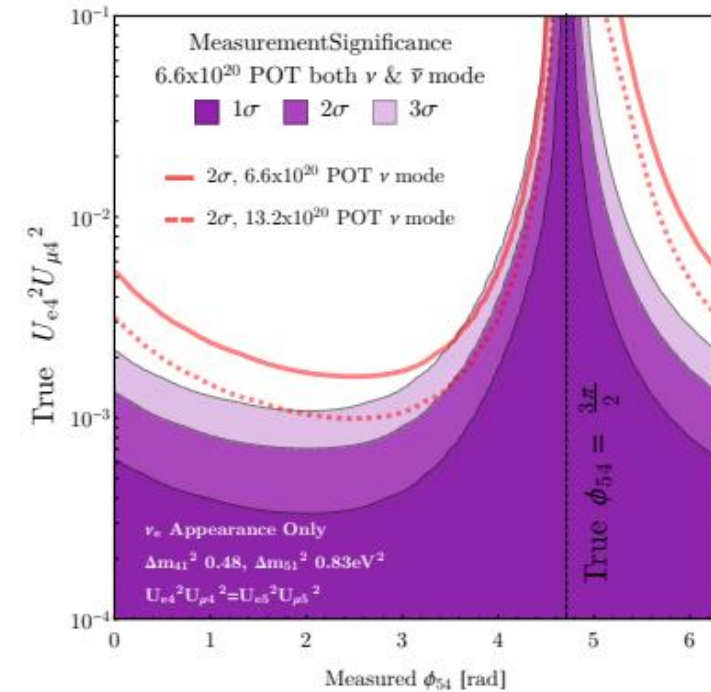


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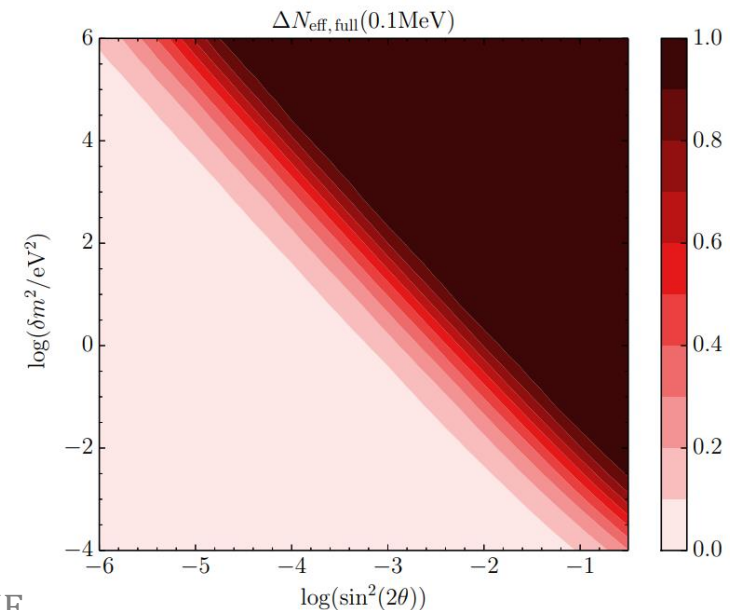


Sterile neutrinos would **revolutionise our understanding of particle physics**

- Definitive proof the Standard Model is incomplete
 - ν MSM ([\[hep-ph/0503065\]](#)) predicts **3+3 model** with one light and two quasi-degenerate heavy neutrinos
 - Hint for **neutrino mass mechanism** (type-I seesaw)
- Breaks the three-flavour oscillations! (re-interpret limits on δ_{CP} -- **not necessarily zero if we don't see CPV in active neutrino sector**)
 - Extra CP-violating phases from extra degrees of freedom!
- Far-reaching consequences in cosmology (dark matter candidate, can source matter - antimatter asymmetry)



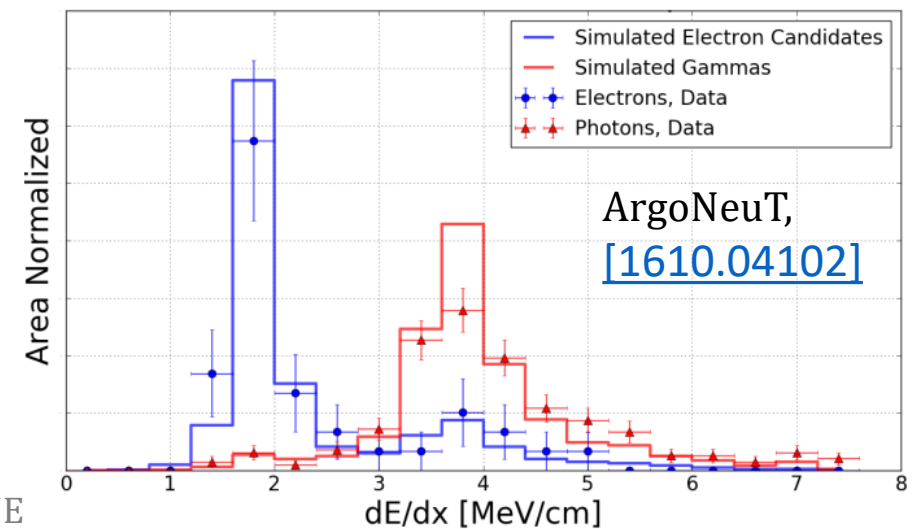
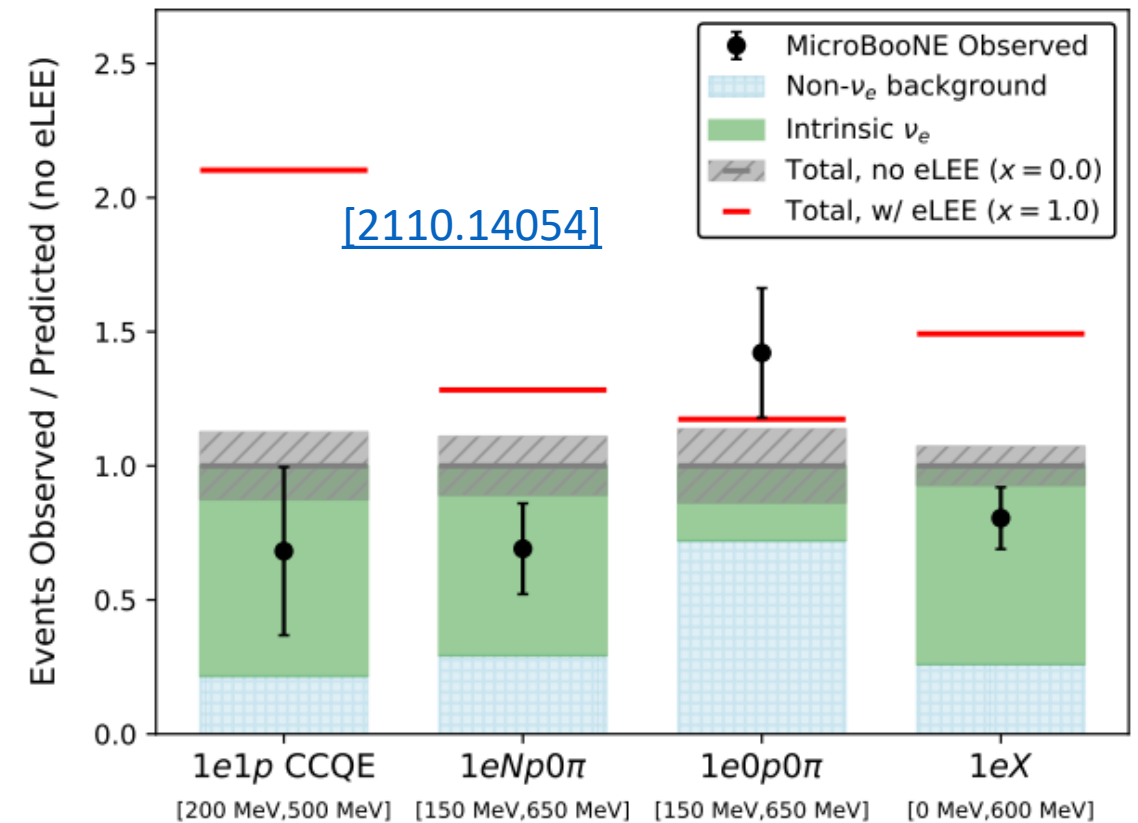
[\[1702.01758\]](#)



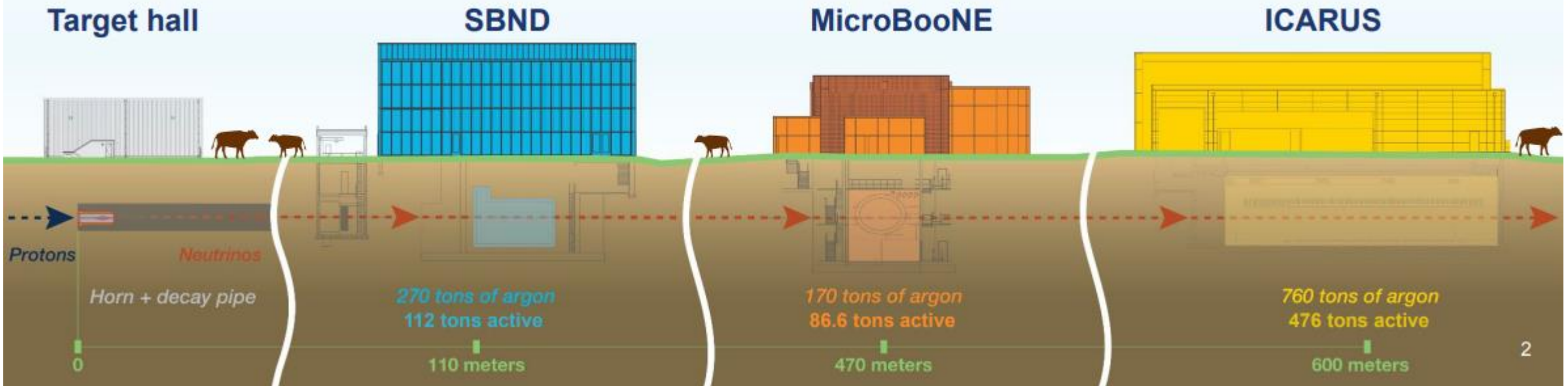
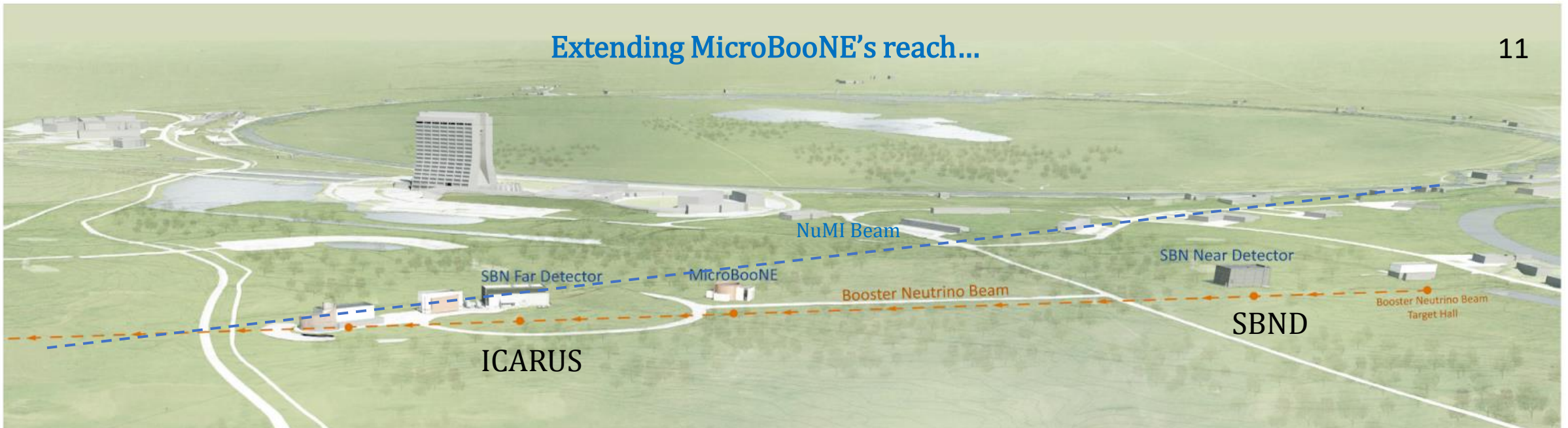
[\[1506.05266\]](#)

Possible, but *likely*?

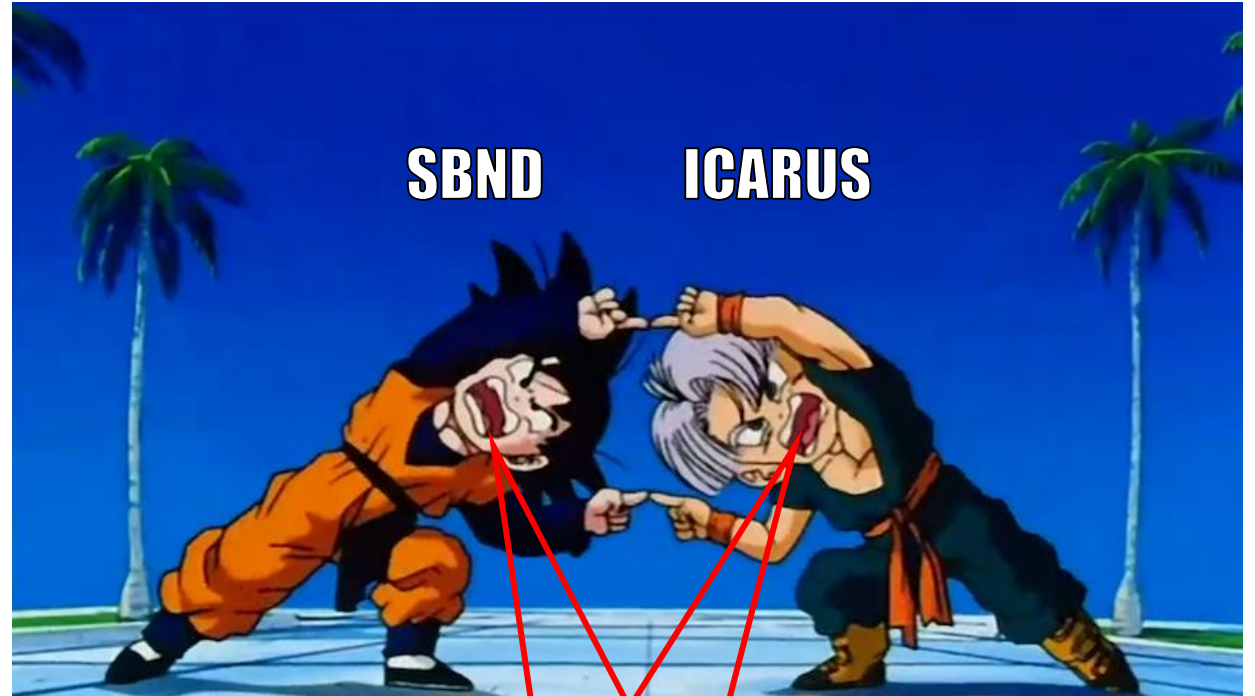
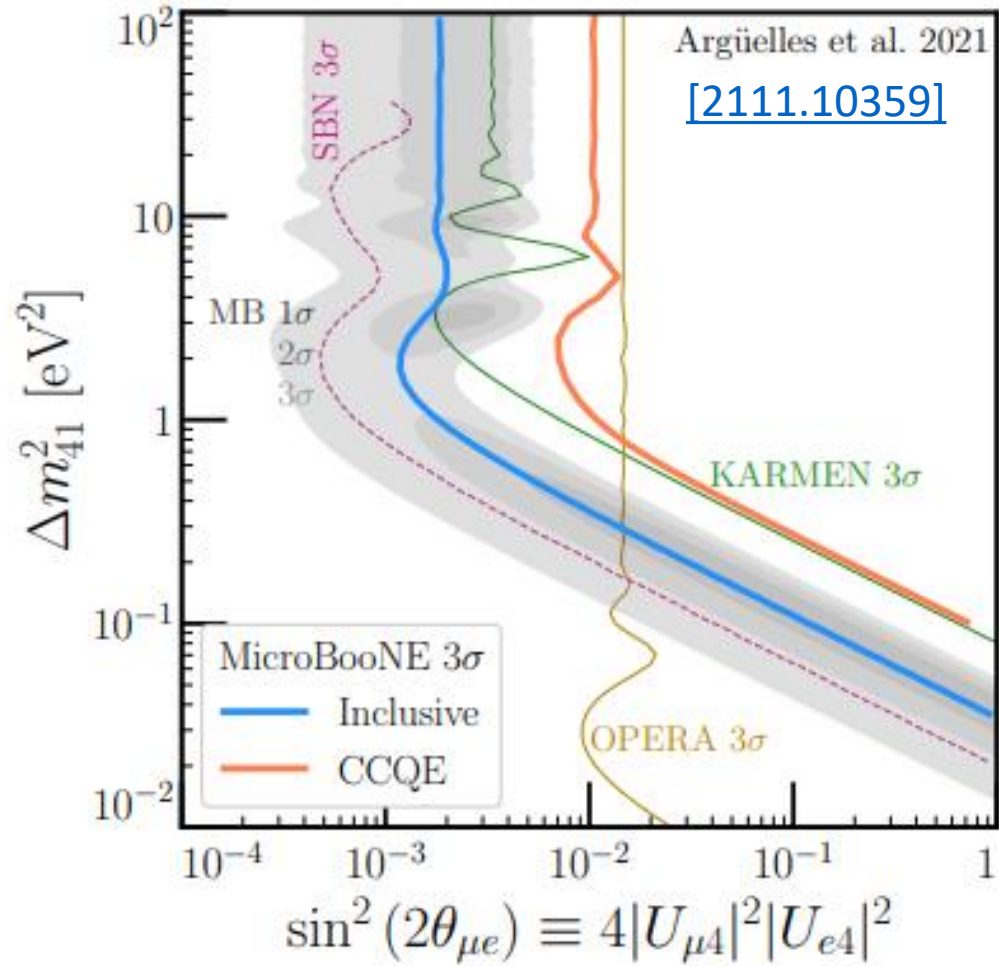
- MicroBooNE (LAr technology) at BNB \Rightarrow \sim same L/E_ν as MiniBooNE
 - LAr better at reconstructing e, γ and differentiating these signals (Čerenkov rings from e, γ extremely difficult to distinguish)
- Found **no evidence of MiniBooNE excess**
 - This **does not rule out** the sterile neutrino (see e.g. [\[2111.10359\]](#))
- **Alternative explanations?**
 - Modification to “3+1” scenario? (3+1 already disfavoured by MiniBooNE)
 - Mis-identification of signal events at MiniBooNE?
 - Mis-modelling of backgrounds?
 - Exotic physics?



Extending MicroBooNE's reach...



SBN programme reach

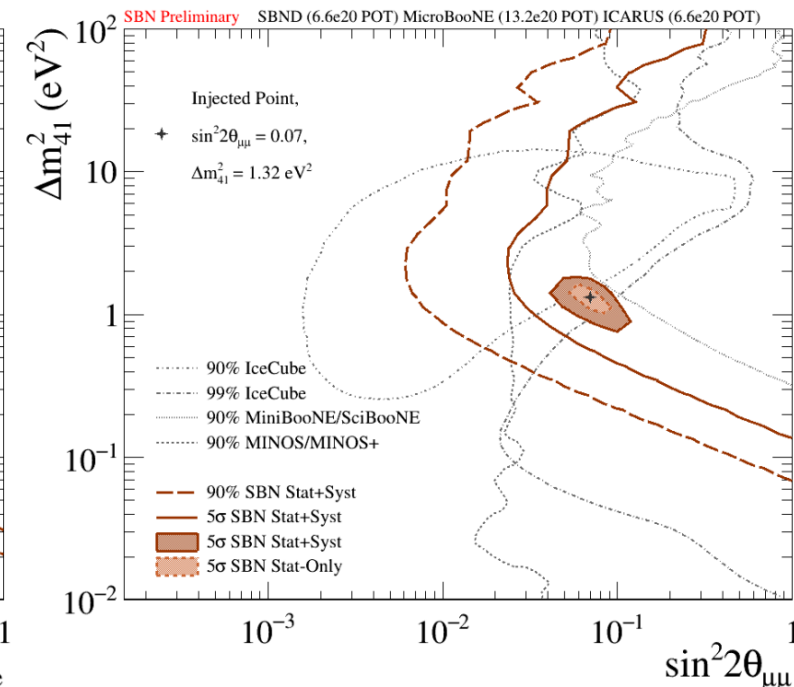
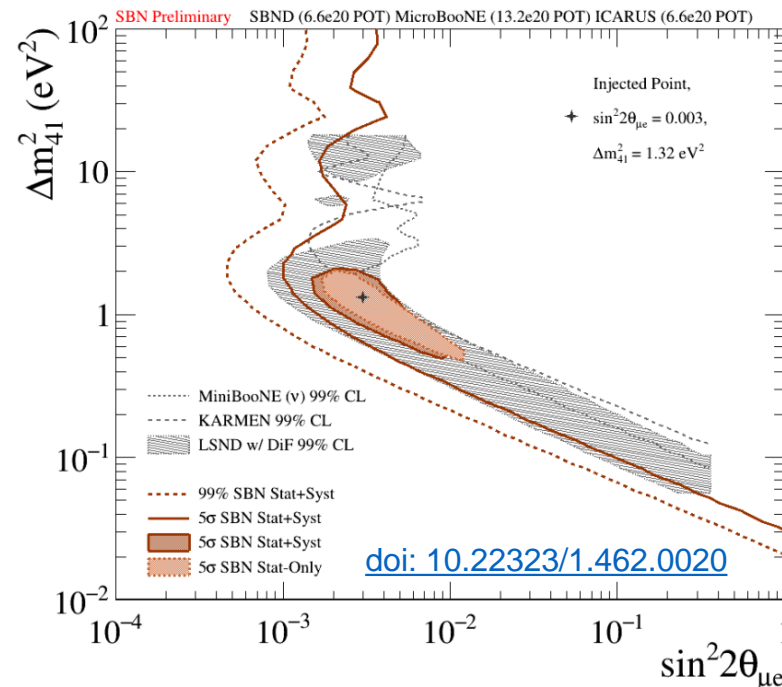
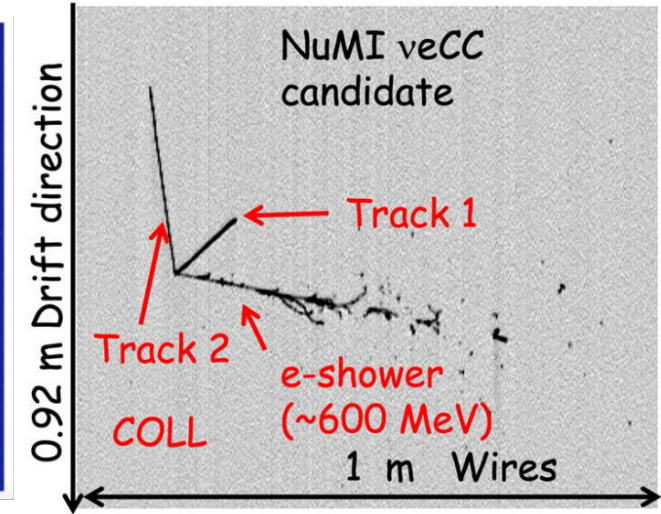
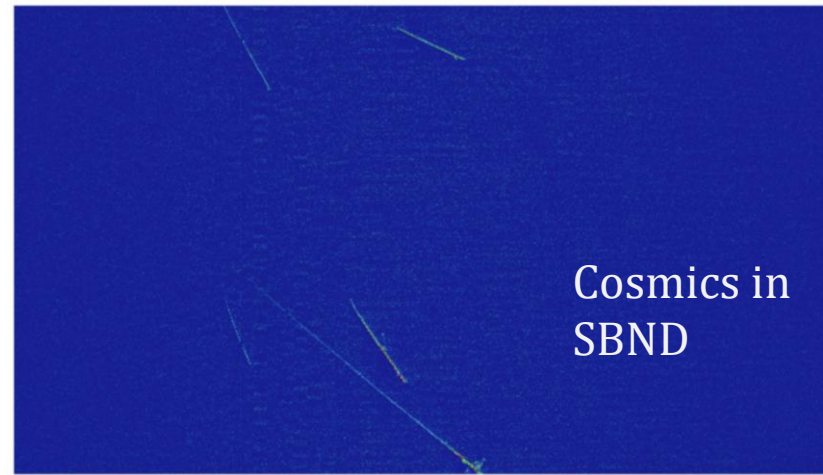


Sterile is not dead yet!

SBND measures the **unoscillated** spectrum and performs **high-precision interaction measurements**
ICARUS measures the **oscillated** spectrum

A tale of two detectors

- SBND (in progress) and ICARUS (started data-taking 2021) are same material and same beamline as μ BooNE
- SBND projected rate of $\sim 10^{21}$ POT / year over 3-4 years
 - Extreme statistics for neutrino-argon interactions
 - Excellent test bed for exotic physics beyond the SM
- ICARUS also sensitive to off-axis NuMI beam
 - Sensitive to low-energy ν_e



The SBN programme has **3 main physics goals**:

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1. Accept or rule out **definitively** the **short-baseline anomalies**
2. Precisely measure **neutrino-argon interactions** in preparation for next-generation long-baseline experiments (**DUNE**)
3. Search for exotic signatures **beyond the Standard Model**
4. Characterise the **performance of LAr** detectors for DUNE

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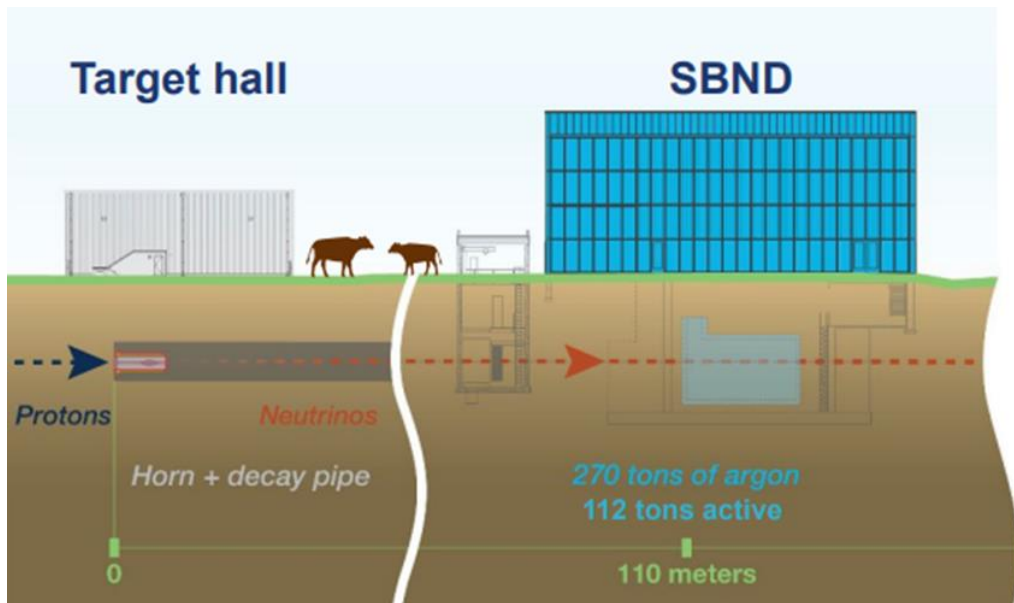
SBND input crucial

2. Precisely measure **neutrino-argon interactions** in preparation for next-generation long-baseline experiments (**DUNE**) **SBND high statistics**

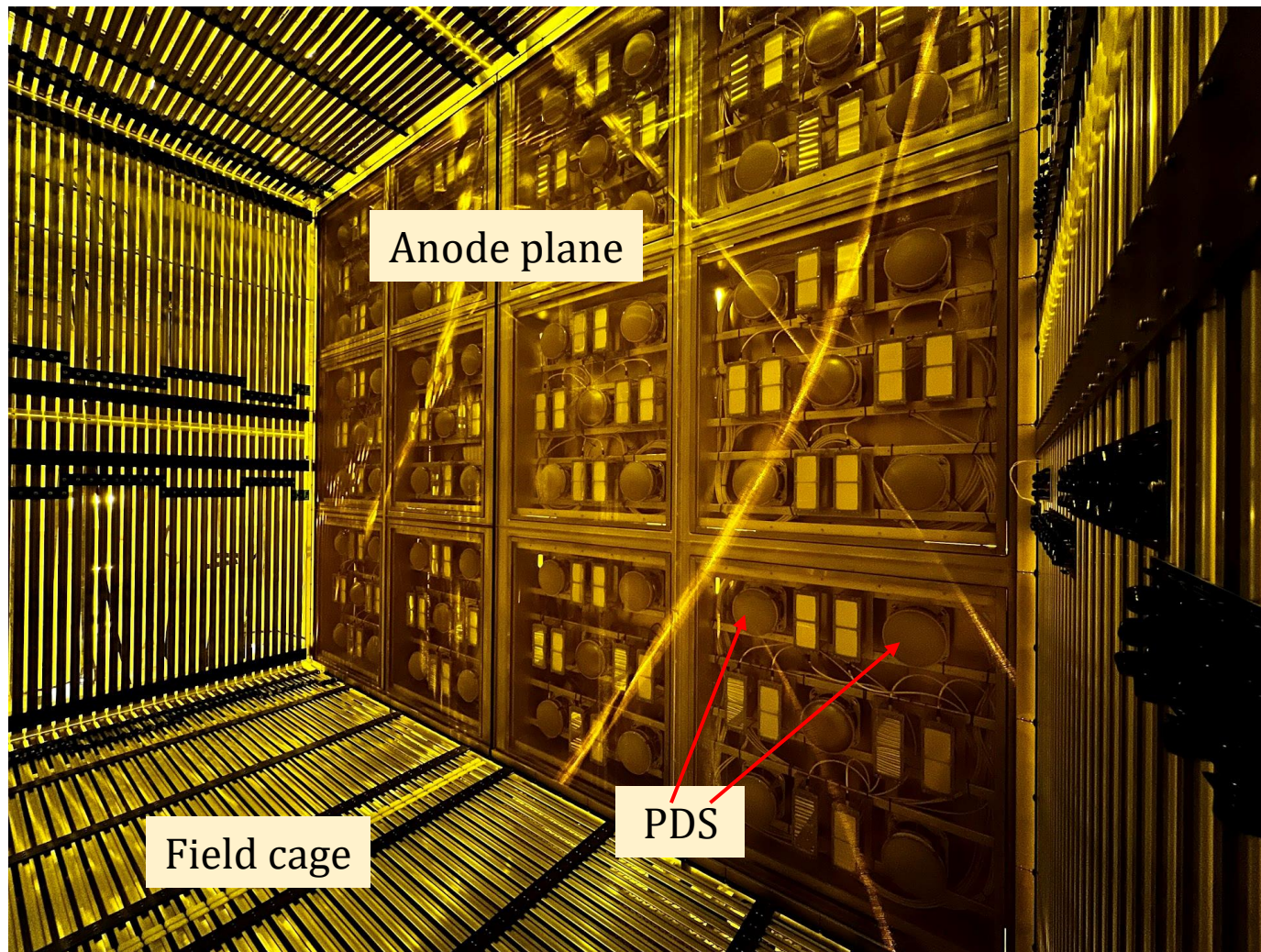
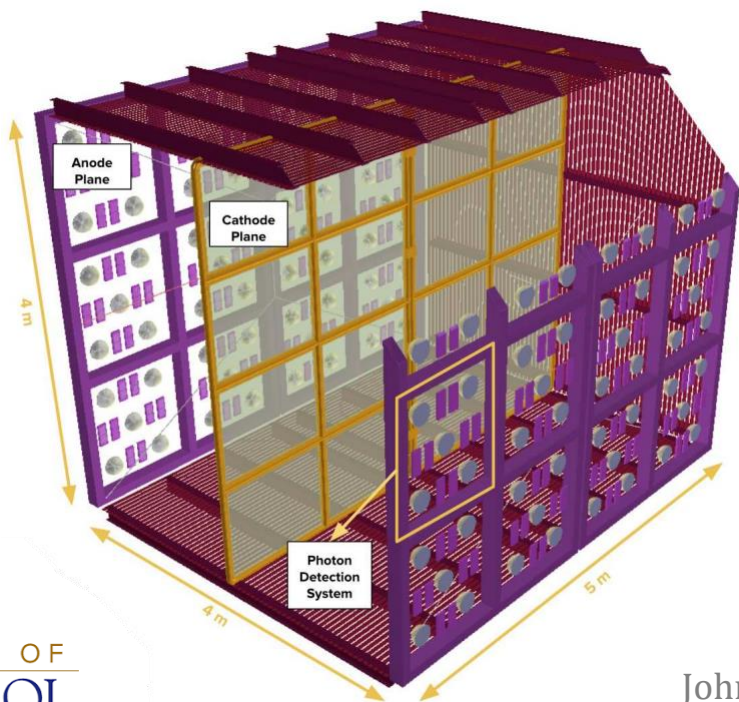
3. Search for exotic signatures **beyond the Standard Model**

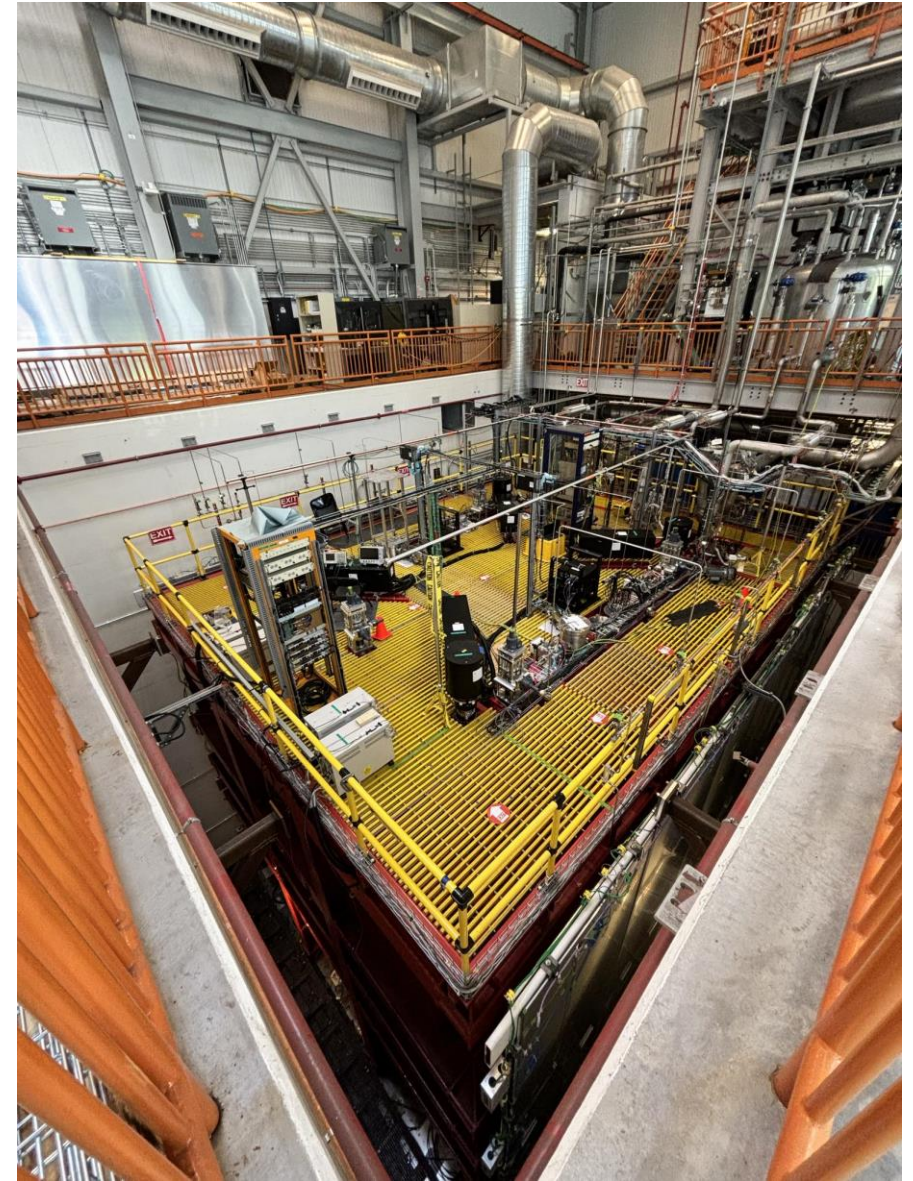
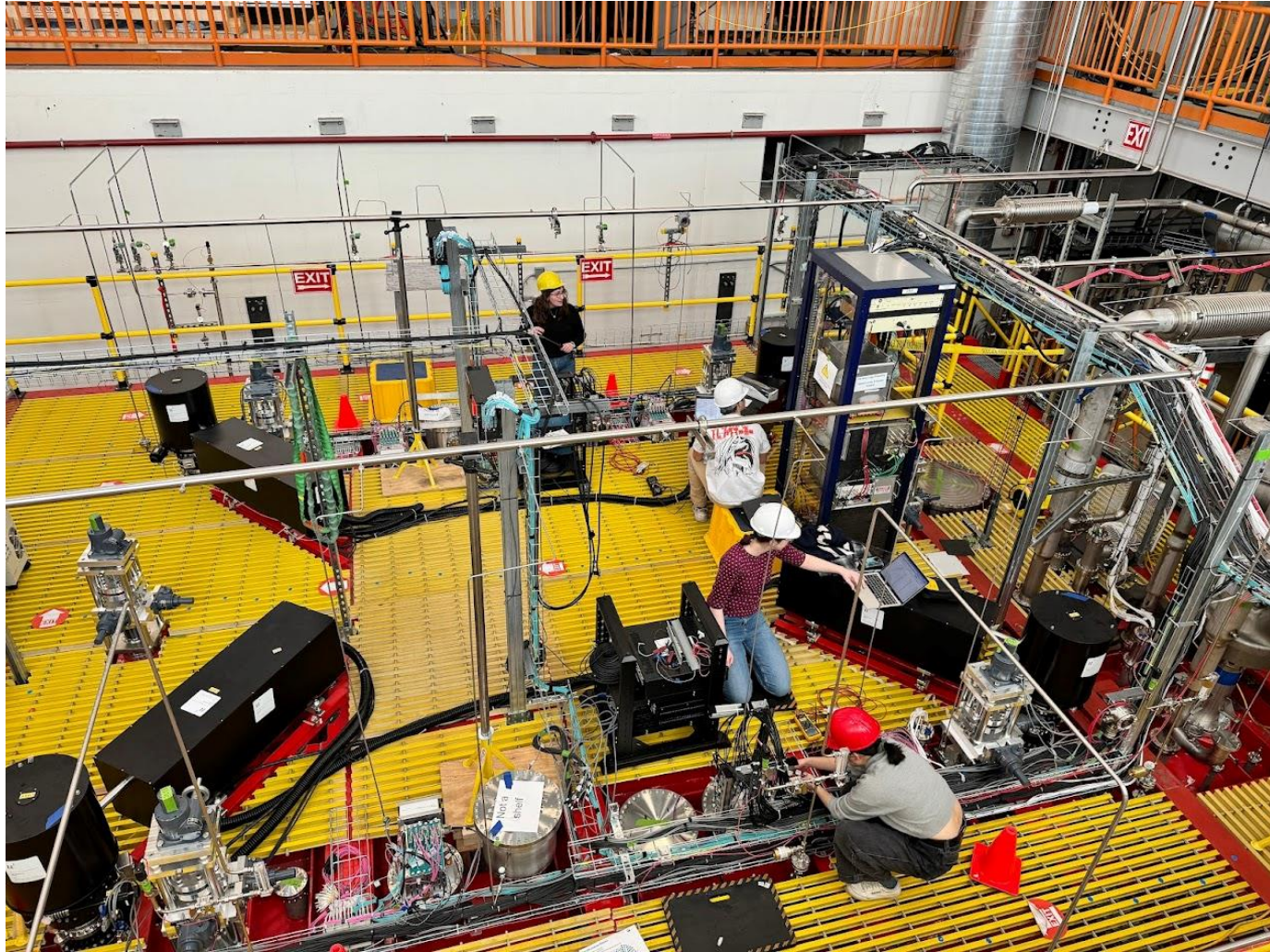
SBND high statistics and low background

4. Characterise the **performance of LAr** detectors for DUNE



4x4x5 m³
112 ton LAr
active





Liverpool at SBND

Academics:

- Costas Andreopoulos (IB)
- Christos Touramanis
- Kostas Mavrokoridis

Research staff:

- David Payne
- Marco Roda
- John Plows

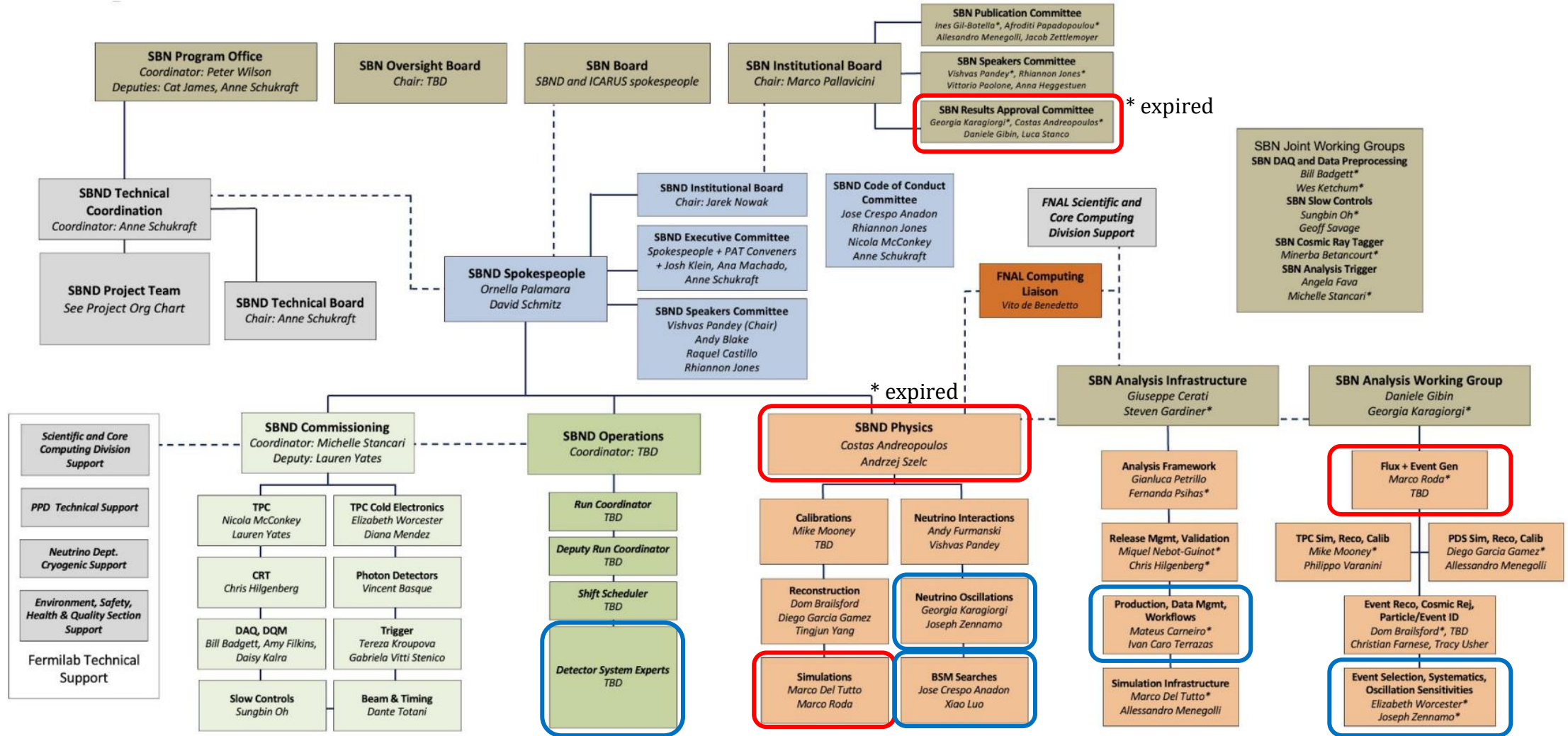
PhD students:

- Beth Slater
- Liam Jones (incoming!)

Making **key contributions** in:

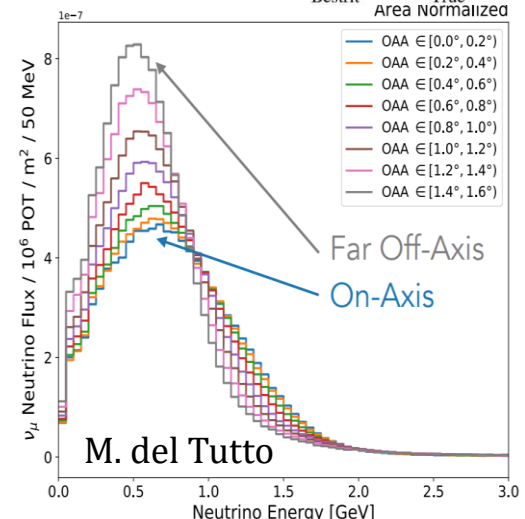
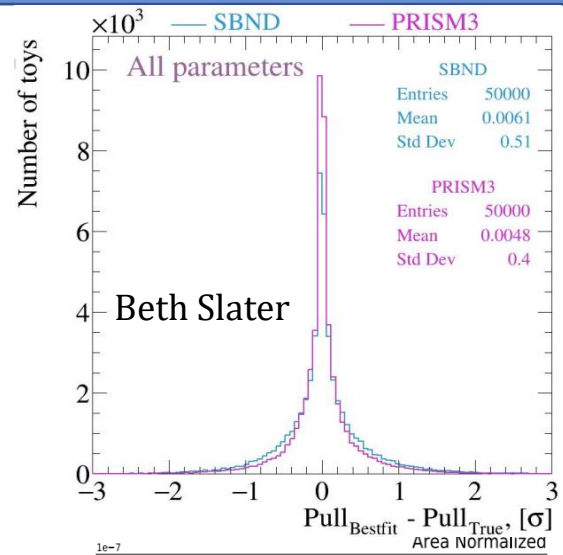
- Oscillation analyses (VALOR group -- Costas, Beth, John)
- Neutrino interaction simulations (Marco)
- Flux simulations (Marco)
- BSM simulations (John)
- Expert detector operations (David, Beth)

Liverpool has recently maintained leadership in **key SBND roles** and keeps **presence** in many groups!

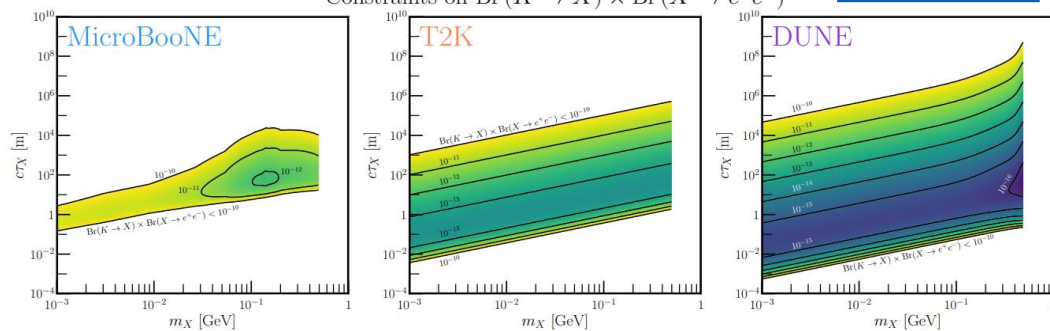


Status and plans for near future

- SBND is almost ready to take data and will be a **key physics driver in the next few years**
- There is much potential for physics exploitation here!
 - Examine **sensitivity using SBND-PRISM concept**
 - Improve systematics using PRISM (flux gets narrower as $\theta \uparrow$)
 - Develop machinery to **constrain systematics + flux using data**
 - Similar as in T2K case, especially break syst / flux degeneracies
 - Develop and cross-check in-house model-dependent BSM simulation with **model-independent exotic-particle generator**
 - Develop **tuned predictions for neutrino-argon scattering using SBND**
- Support detector on-site with experts
 - David currently on LTA (18 months total)
 - John hoping to do short-term secondment to work on calibration
 - Travel funding by INTENSE, PROBES, SENSE grants + URA
- All this to be within ~ 5 years from now, **first data arriving this year!**

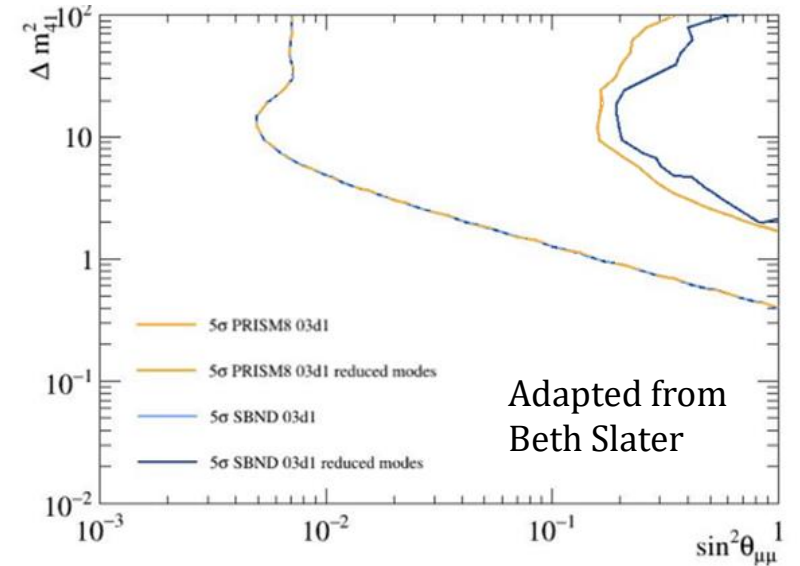


Constraints on $\text{Br}(K \rightarrow X) \times \text{Br}(X \rightarrow e^+e^-)$ [\[2304.11189\]](#)



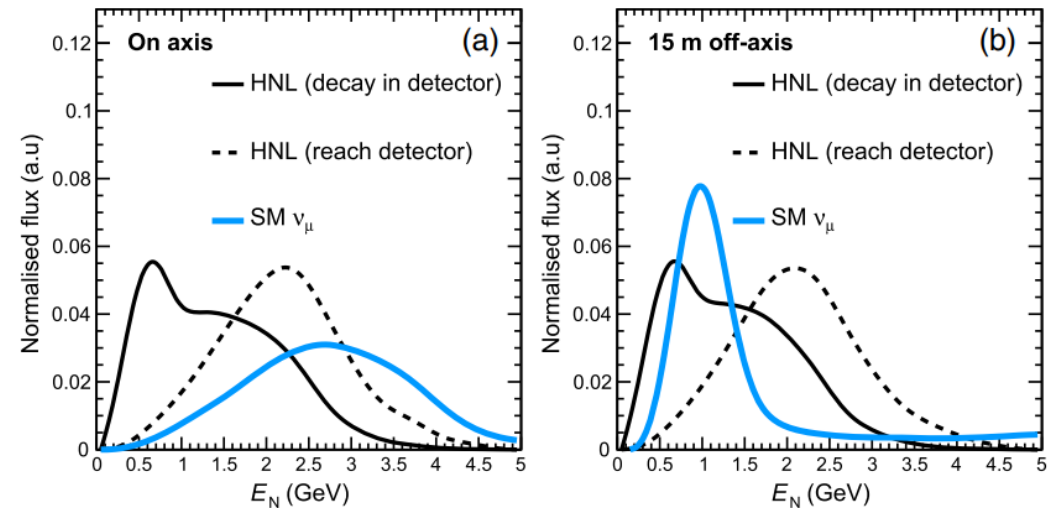
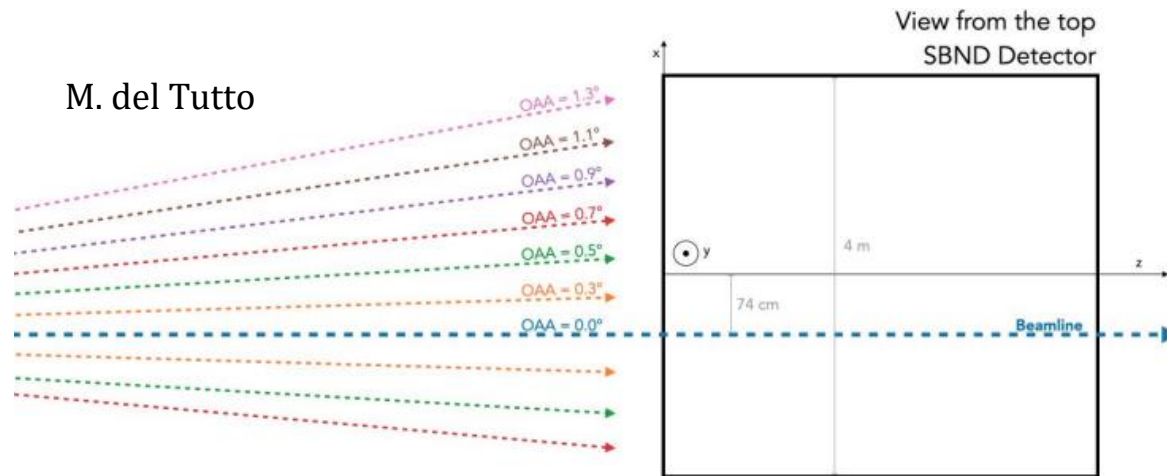
PRISM concept

- Flux shape **changes with off-axis angle**
 - Peaks at lower energy, harder spectrum
- SBND spans up to $\sim 1.6^\circ$ off axis ($\sim 3\text{m}$ at 110 m baseline)
- **Handle to break flux / cross-section syst degeneracy**
- **Constrains backgrounds for BSM searches**



[2211.10210] (DUNE ND)

M. del Tutto



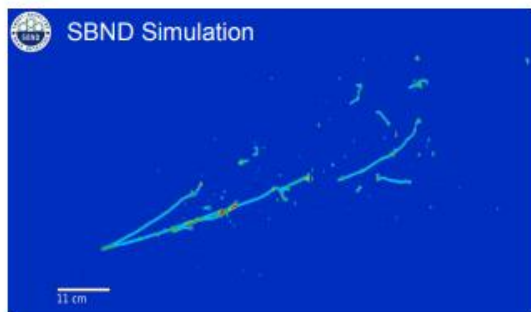
BSM signatures in SBND

R. Jones, [Status of SBND, ICHEP 2022](#)

✓ = realisation of LLP

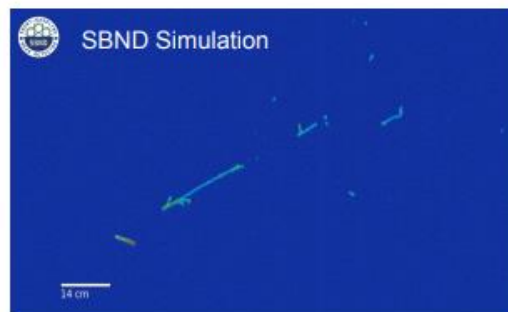


Dark Neutrinos



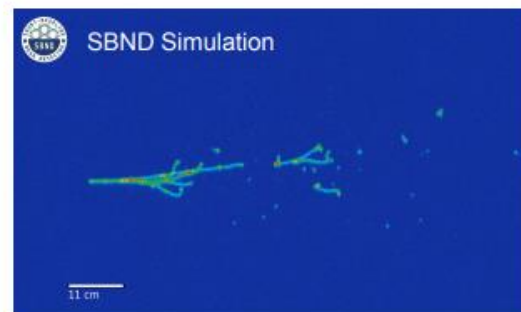
e^+e^- pair with or w/o hadronic activity

Transition Magnetic Moment



Photon shower and hadronic activity

Axion-like Particles ✓

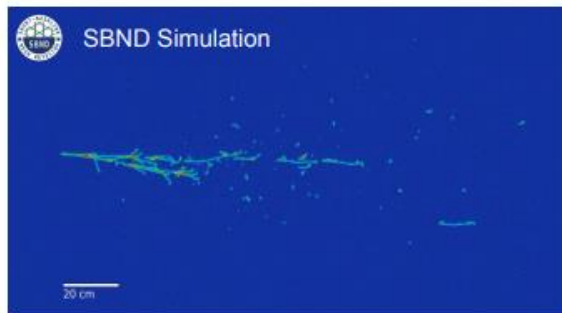


High-energy e^+e^- or $\mu^+\mu^-$

Example signatures and event displays for various BSM scenarios

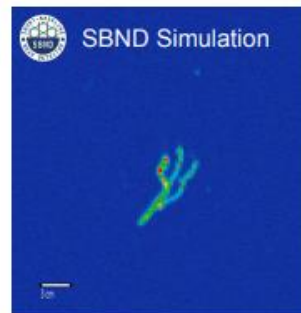
Not an exhaustive list
Some diagram credit: Pedro Machado
Slide credit: Marco Del Tutto

Heavy Neutral Leptons ✓



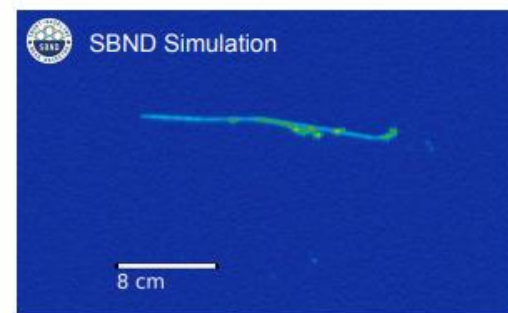
e^+e^- , $\mu^+\mu^-$ or $\mu\pi$

Higgs Portal Scalar ✓



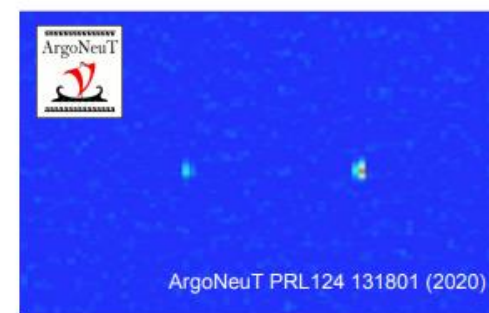
e^+e^- or $\mu^+\mu^-$, no hadronic activity

Light Dark Matter ✓



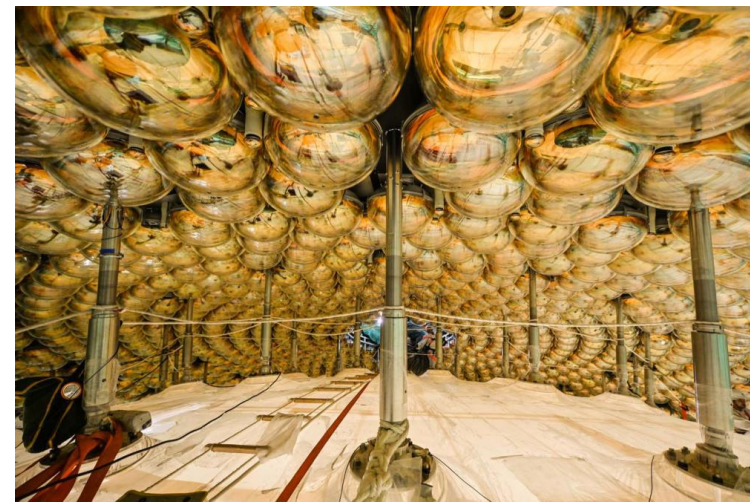
Electron scattering

Millicharged Particles ✓



Blips/faint tracks

Meanwhile, across the pond...

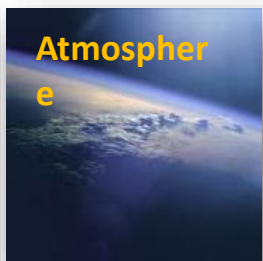


JUNO - A multi-purpose observatory



Reactor

~60 IBDs per day



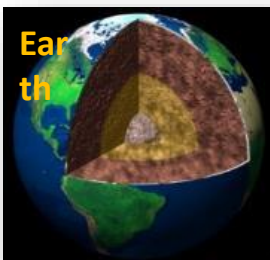
Atmosphere

Several per day



Solar

Hundreds per day



Earth

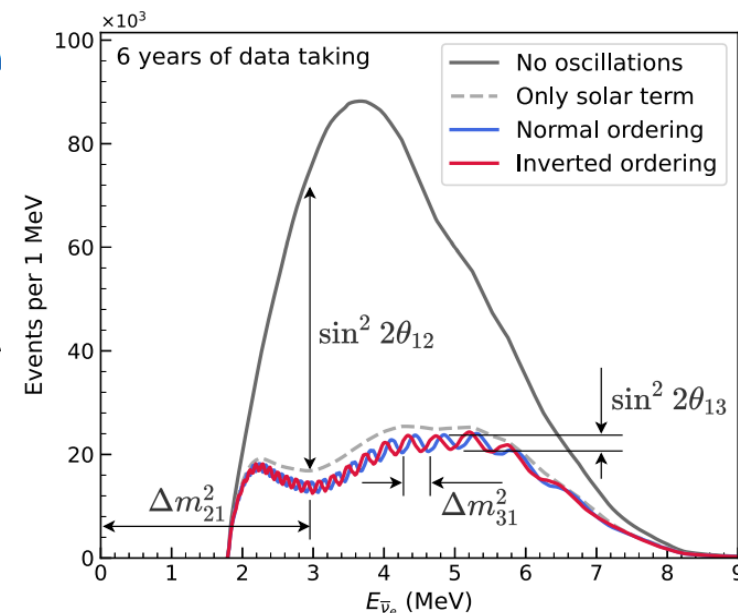
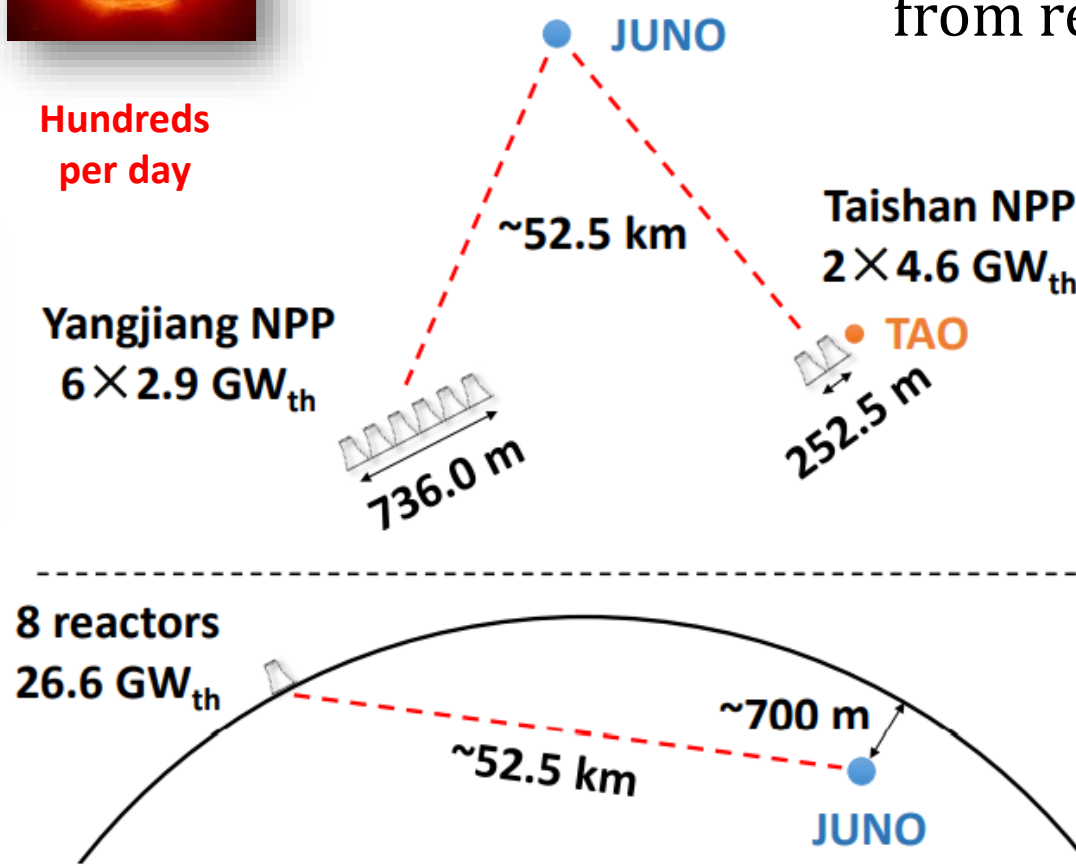
Several IBDs per day



Supernova

~5000 IBDs for CCSN @10 kpc

A complementary programme to determine the mass ordering from reactors... and more!

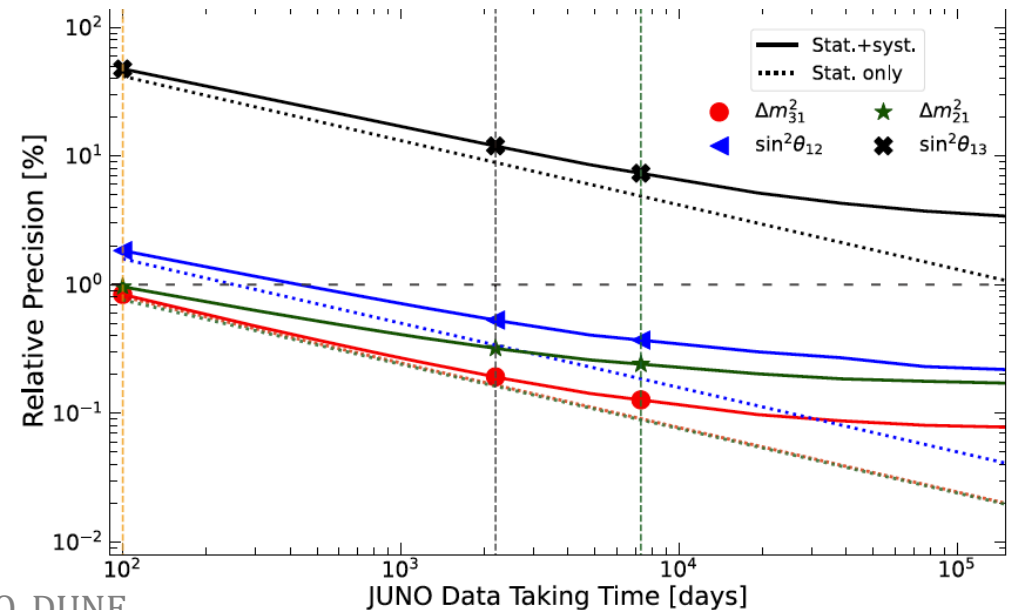
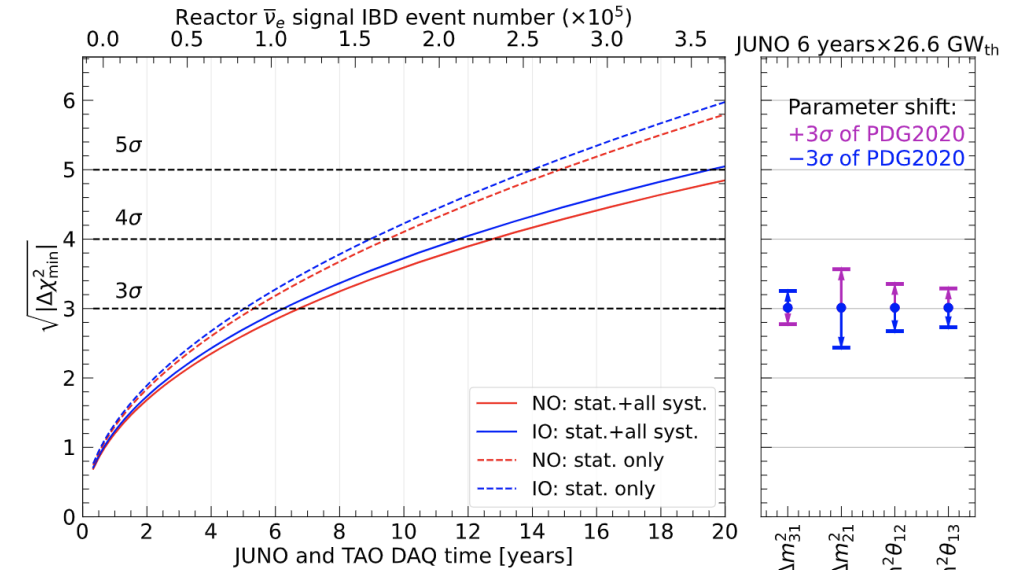


JUNO overview

[2104.02565]

• JUNO goals:

- Determine mass ordering (expected $\sim 3\sigma$ with 6 yr running on reactor data)
- Measure 3-flavour oscillation parameters with **high precision** ($\sin^2 \theta_{12}, \Delta m_{21}^2, |\Delta m_{32}^2|$ 0.6% or better with 6 yr reactor data)
- Detect **burst supernova neutrinos**
- **First detection** of diffuse supernova neutrino background (DSNB)
- Contribute to studies of **solar / atmospheric neutrinos + geoneutrinos**
- Set limit on **nucleon decay / BSM**
- Test **Majorana (?) nature** with neutrinoless double-beta decay



Liverpool @ JUNO

- Currently have observer status
 - Looking to upgrade to full membership in next few months!
- Academics:
 - Costas Andreopoulos (VALOR, atmospheric analysis, physics simulations)
- Students:
 - Liam Jones (ML based reconstruction)
 - Yaoqi Cao (co-supervised, @ Warwick -- physics simulations)
- Travel funding by Royal Society
 - Request has been made to STFC for extra travel funds + contribution to common fund
- Looking to enhance links with sister campus at XJT-LU

Liverpool @ JUNO

27

- Currently have observer status
 - Looking to upgrade to full membership in next few months
- Academics:
 - Costas Andreopoulos
 - Mass ordering and atmospheric analyses position us for early DUNE analyses with atmospheric!
 - First physics of DUNE : atmospheric
- Students:
 - Liam Jones (ML based reconstruction)
 - Yaoqi Cao (co-supervised, @ Warwick -- physics simulations)
- Travel funding by Royal Society
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But then...



DUNE - Highlights from the past 12 months

29

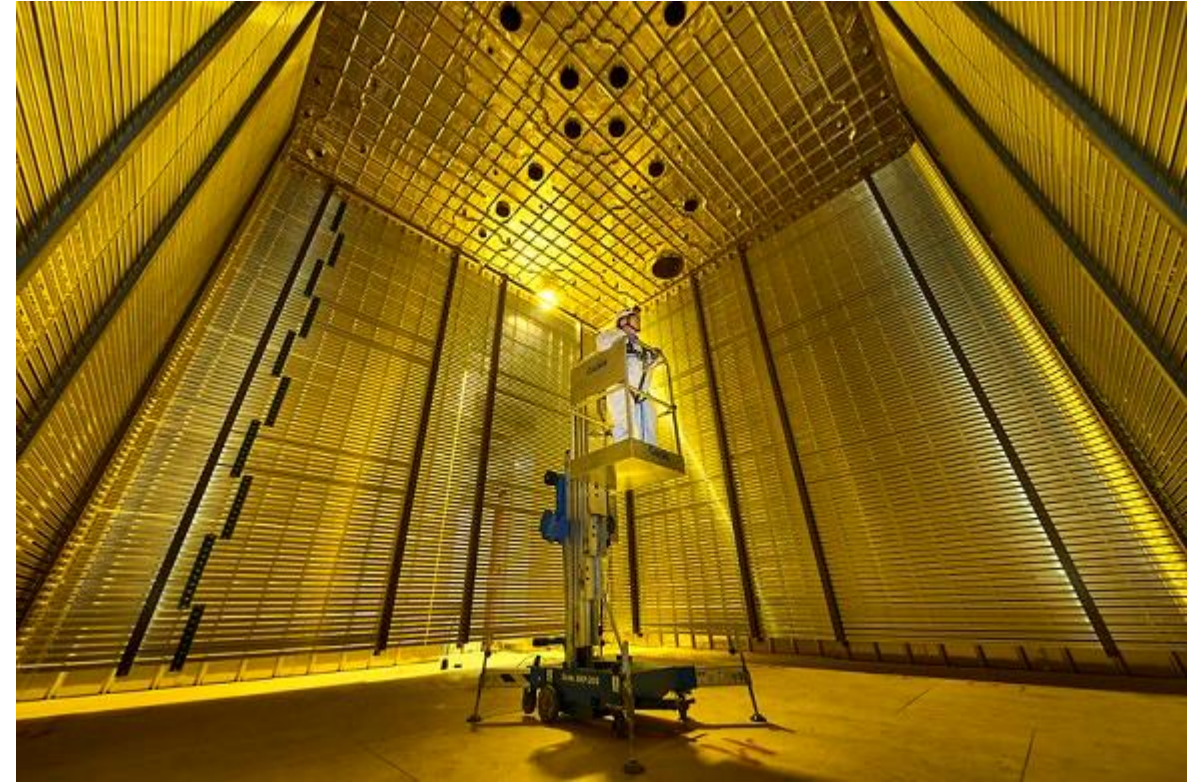
- Underground excavation at SURF completed: 800,000 tons of rock moved to surface, 5,000 m³ concrete poured underground, 1,000,000 person-hours of work without any “lost time incident”.
- First cryostat iron is en route in the Atlantic; second one in production.
- P5 gave DUNE Phase I completion highest priority (Recommendation 1).
- First cryostat installation underground begins in 2025.



Liverpool @ DUNE

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- Academics:
 - Christos Touramanis (APA Consortium leader, DUNE executive board, DUNE FD technical board, ProtoDUNE-2)
- Research staff:
 - Marco Roda (ProtoDUNE-2 operational monitoring, PDS control software)
 - Carlos Chavez (in charge of winder robots)
 - Krishanu Majumdar (APA database developer + process software support)
 - John Plows (BSM simulation development)
- Technicians:
 - David Sim (winder head mechanics)
 - Matthew Brown (CERN support for APA integration)



Liverpool maintains **high responsibility for construction** of far detector components!
2 of the 3 APA Factory physicists
STFC-Daresbury: **full responsibility for APA delivery**

Future plans

- New ProtoDUNE run from mid-June (NP04 full and HV nominal, very good purity) -- **same hardware / software as in FD**
 - Christos on LTA at CERN
 - Marco from beginning of JUNE until end September
 - Move argon to vertical-drift NP02 incl. long commissioning
- DAQ - < 2 yr for final development + installation in 2026 Q3
 - Funding to be approved by STFC to 2027
- Deliver 137 APA detectors (Nov 2027 onwards)
 - 8 complete, 4 built
 - 4 highly capable winders, with 5th being commissioned
 - Production lines July 2024, January 2025 commissioning
 - Building construction database for APA building operation and data logging + improving winder speeds + QA processes

Summary



- Multiple contributions across **wide experimental landscape**
- **SBND - excellent imaging, rich sterile + BSM reach**
 - Expecting **5 σ test** of light sterile neutrino hypothesis in SBN!
 - Extreme rate of data means **high-precision** interaction programme for DUNE
 - Liverpool analyses continue to prepare ground for eventual data taking / physics exploitation in short term
- **JUNO - broad experimental outlook**
 - Becoming more closely affiliated with JUNO
 - Preparing oscillation framework for atmospheric analyses in medium term
- **DUNE - continuing expert construction and DAQ work**
 - Crucial contributions aligning with P5 recommendations

Backup

Summary of the short-baseline neutrino anomalies

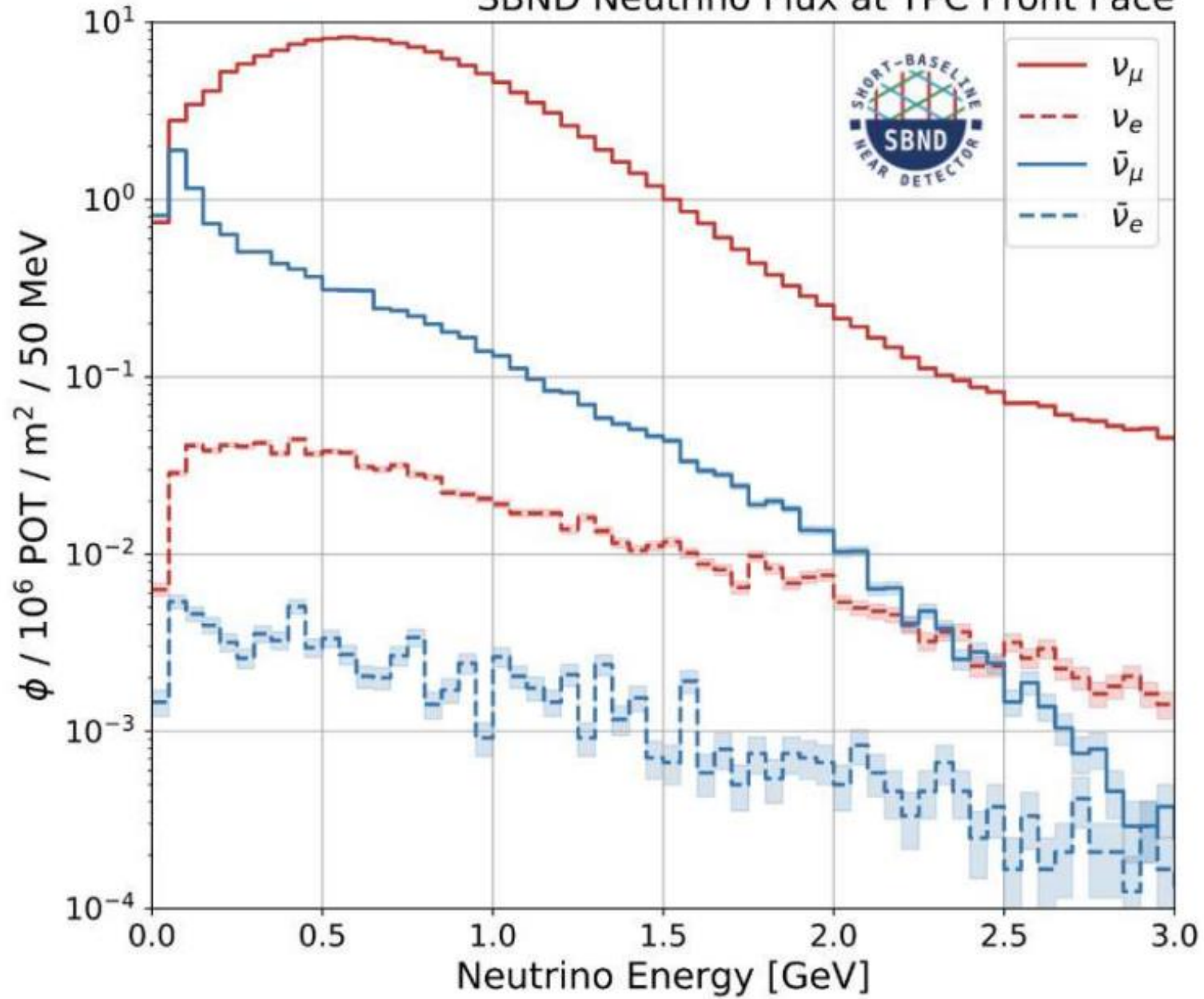
[1903.04608]

Four main ‘anomalies’ have been observed in neutrino experiments at short-baseline, consistent with the mixing of the standard neutrinos with a fourth, non-weakly-interacting ‘sterile’ species – the data could be indicating a heavier, mostly-sterile mass state with mass splittings $\Delta m_{43}^2 \approx \Delta m_{42}^2 \approx \Delta m_{41}^2 \sim \mathcal{O}(1 \text{ eV}^2)$.

- **LSND:** Stopped pion source with a detector optimized to probe $\bar{\nu}_e$ via inverse beta decay. A 3.8σ excess of events over backgrounds was observed, compatible with $\bar{\nu}_\mu \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e$ oscillations with $L/E \approx 1 \text{ m/MeV}$ (19).
- **MiniBooNE:** Accelerator neutrino source with the capability of producing a dominant ν_μ or $\bar{\nu}_\mu$ beam. Excesses of $\nu_e(\bar{\nu}_e)$ events in $\nu_\mu(\bar{\nu}_\mu)$ mode were observed over backgrounds, amounting to a $4.5\sigma(2.8\sigma)$ discrepancy from expectations. The observed excesses are found to be compatible with LSND within a sterile neutrino framework (6).
- **The ‘Reactor anomaly’:** A reevaluation of the $\bar{\nu}_e$ fluxes from nuclear reactors with improved theoretical uncertainties led to a deficit in many past experiments in the total number of events with respect to theoretical expectations at the 3σ level (22, 23). The size of these theoretical uncertainties has been under debate (24). More recently, some spectral features have been observed consistent with sterile neutrino oscillations with $\Delta m^2 \sim \text{eV}^2$ (25, 26).
- **The ‘Gallium anomaly’:** An overall deficit in the number of ν_e events from radioactive sources (27, 28) with respect to theoretical expectations (29) at the 3σ level was seen during calibration runs of solar neutrino experiments (30, 31, 32).

Category	Model	Final state	LEE signal properties			References
			energy dist.	angular dist.	timing	
Flavor transitions	SBL oscillations	e^-	✓	✓	✓	Reviews and global fits [22–24, 53, 54]
	SBL oscillations with invisible sterile decay	e^-	✓	✓	✓	[55, 56]
	SBL oscillations with anomalous matter effects	e^-	✓	✓	✓	[57–62]
	neutrino-flavor-changing bremsstrahlung	e^-	✓	–	✓	[63]
Decays in flight	SBL oscillations with visible sterile decay	e^-	✓	✓	✓	[64–68]
	heavy neutrino decay	$\gamma / e^+e^- / \gamma\gamma$	✓	✗	✗	[69, 70]
Scattering	neutrino-induced upscattering	$\gamma / e^+e^- / \gamma\gamma$	✓	✗	✓	DS [36–41, 71–73], TMM [74–84]
	dark particle-induced upscattering	$\gamma / e^+e^- / \gamma\gamma$	✓	✗	✓	[85]

[\[2308.02543\]](#)





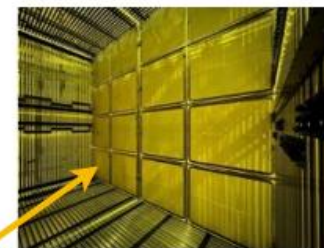
SBND Detector Overview

TPC

Active mass is 112 t
Active volume is $4 \times 4 \times 5 \text{ m}^3$



Cold (89 K) Electronics
pre-amplify and digitize
TPC wire signals

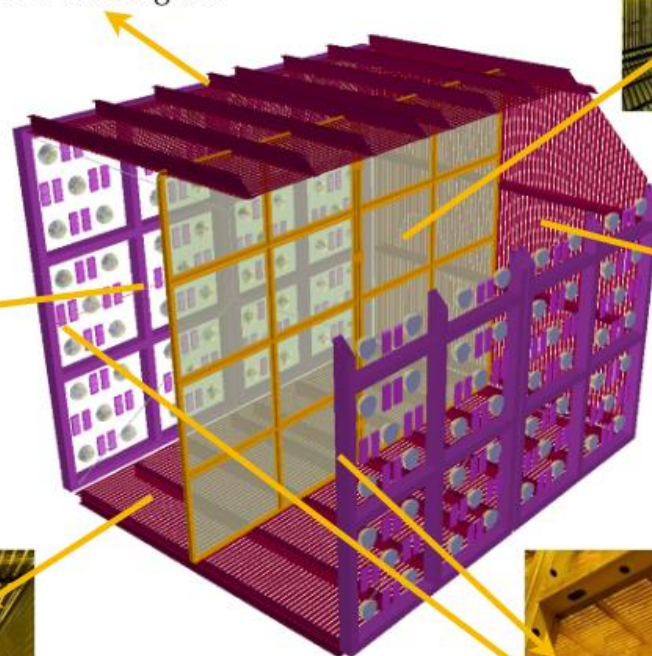


Cathode Plane at -100 kV
divides the detector into two
drift volumes

Drift distance is 2 m,
max. drift time is $\sim 1.28 \text{ ms}$



TPC East

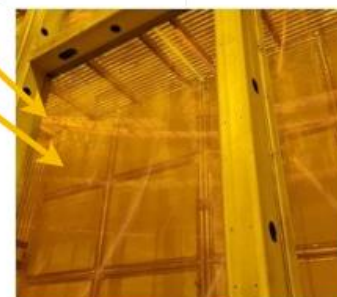


TPC West

Field Cage wraps around
the two TPCs to step down
the voltage and ensure a uniform
electric field of 500 V/cm

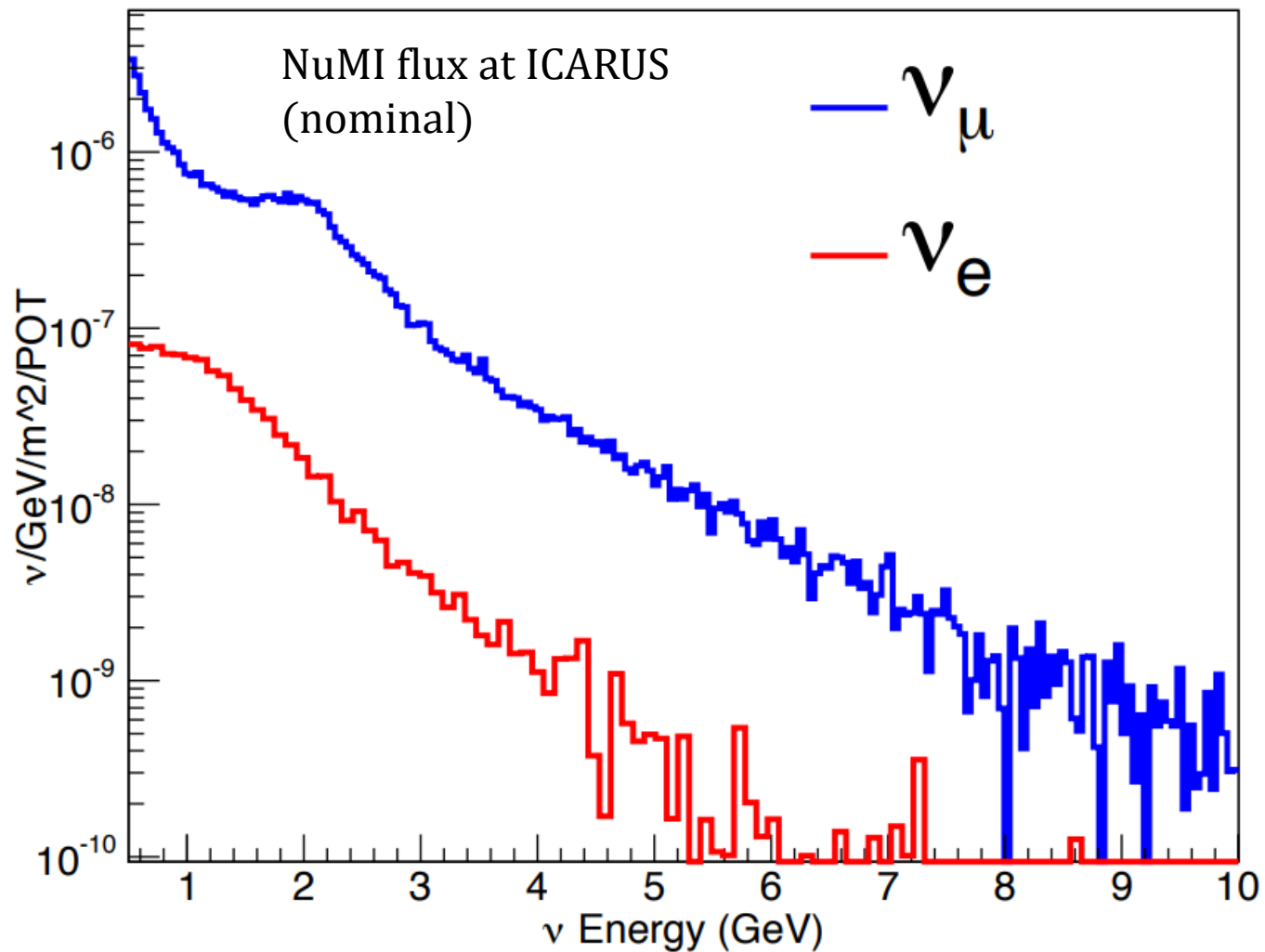


Figure adapted from from
Michelle Stancari ([docdb-30064](#))

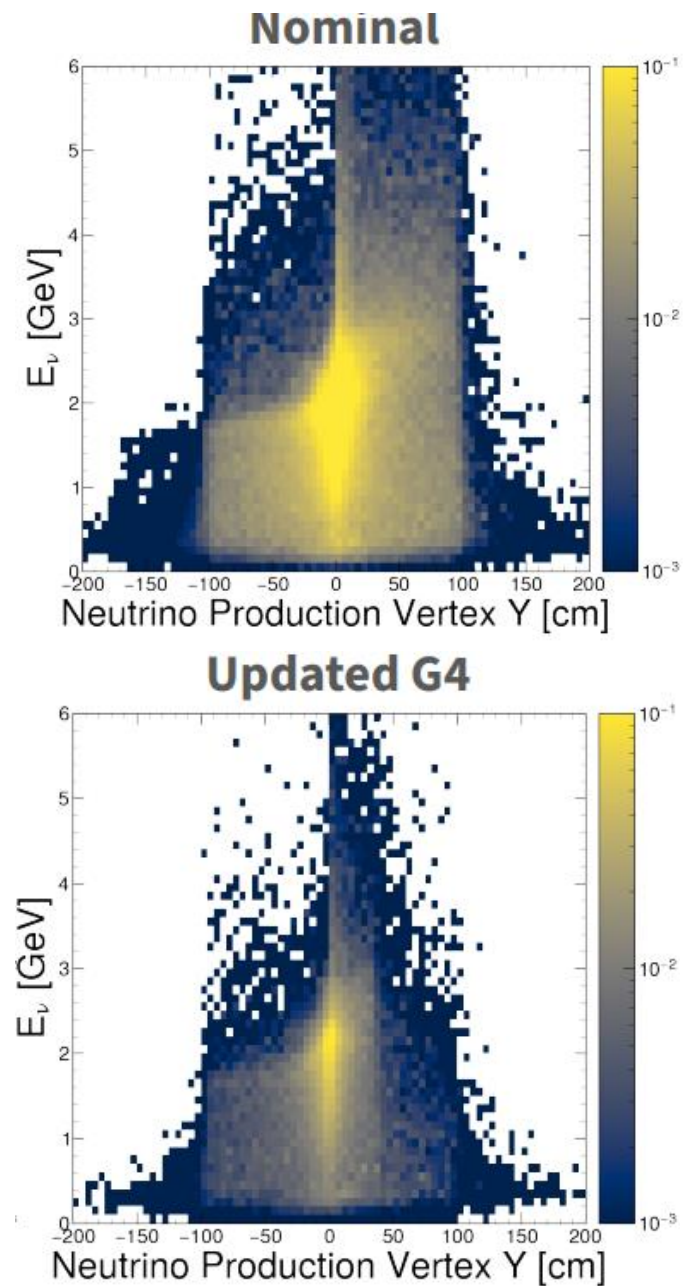


Anode Plane on either side,
each with three wire planes
with 3 mm wire spacing and
different angle per plane

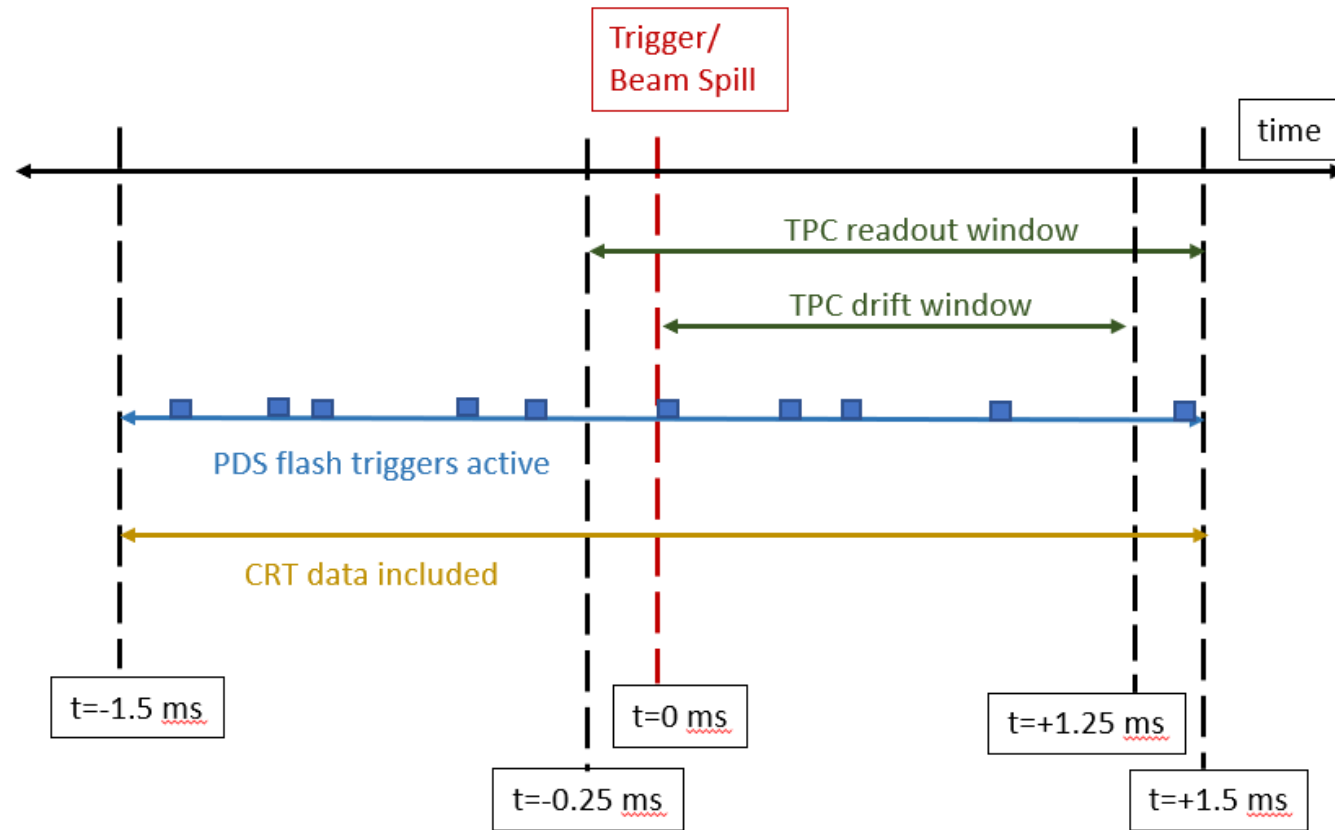
Total of 11,260 wires



Updates to NuMI flux in progress



Anatomy of a SBND event



2023/02/28

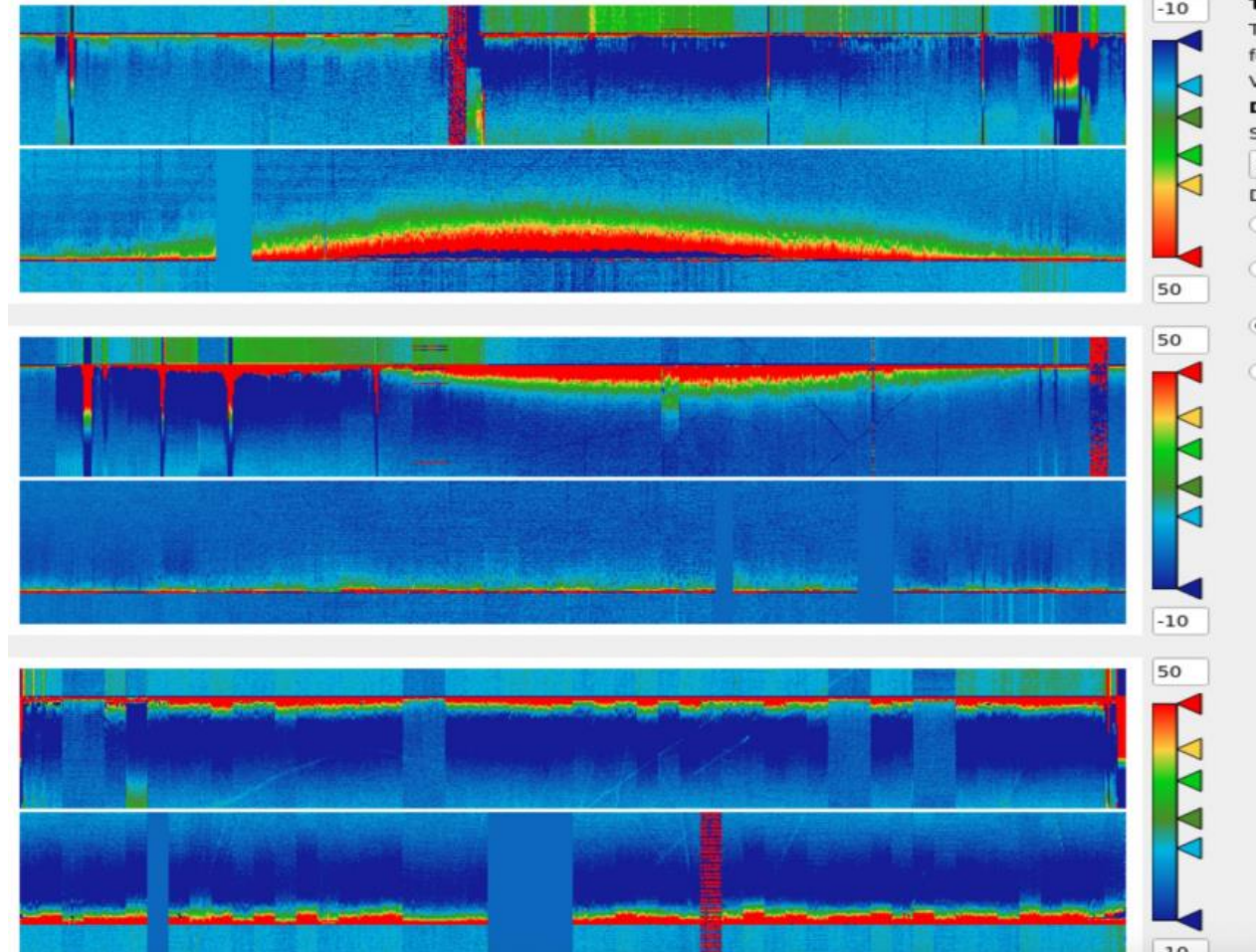
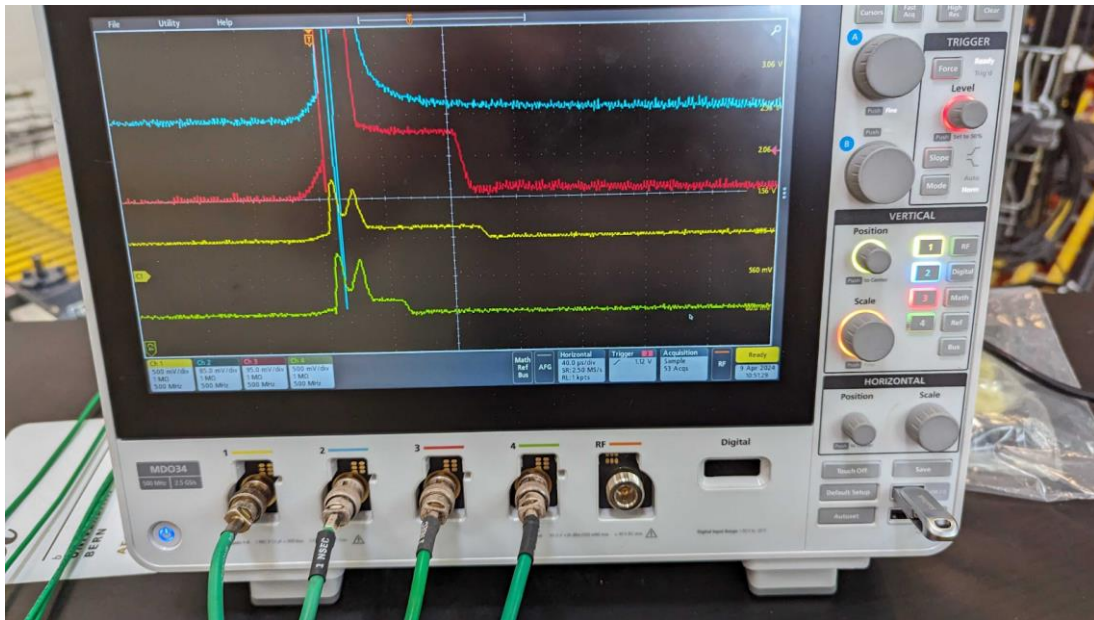
Michelle Stancari | Detector Commissioning

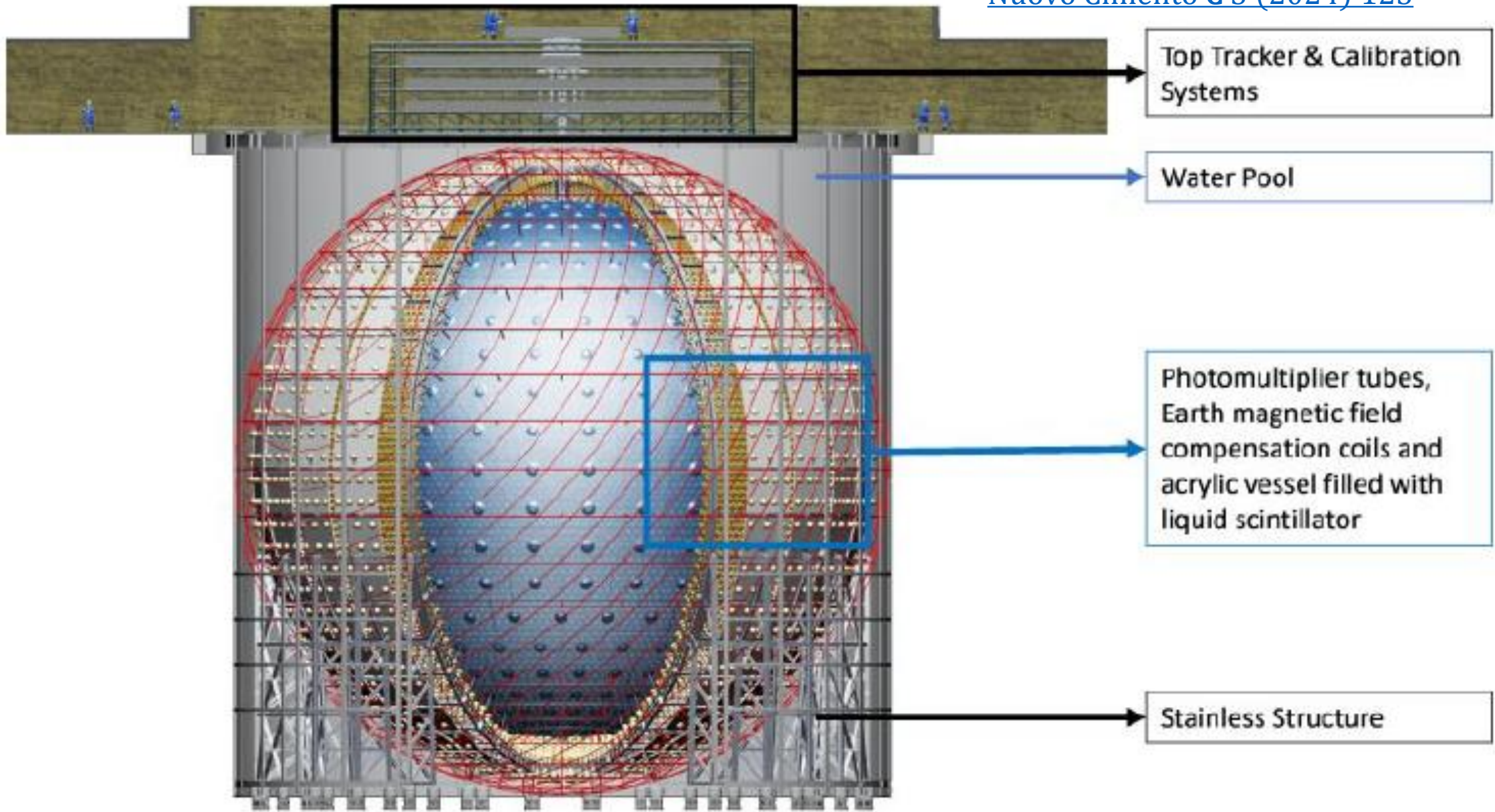
What is a sunset event?

Simultaneously observed

- Large signal in every channel of the TPC readout (8 streaming to oscilloscopes)
- Spike in cathode current
- Spike in SWbottom Field Cage module voltage/current monitoring
- A burst of noise in OFF PMTs
- Large light signal (on top of noise burst) in ON PMTs
- Digital corruption in the TPC wire data

Observed during TPC ramp-up, investigating electric field of field-cage to correct -- small delay!

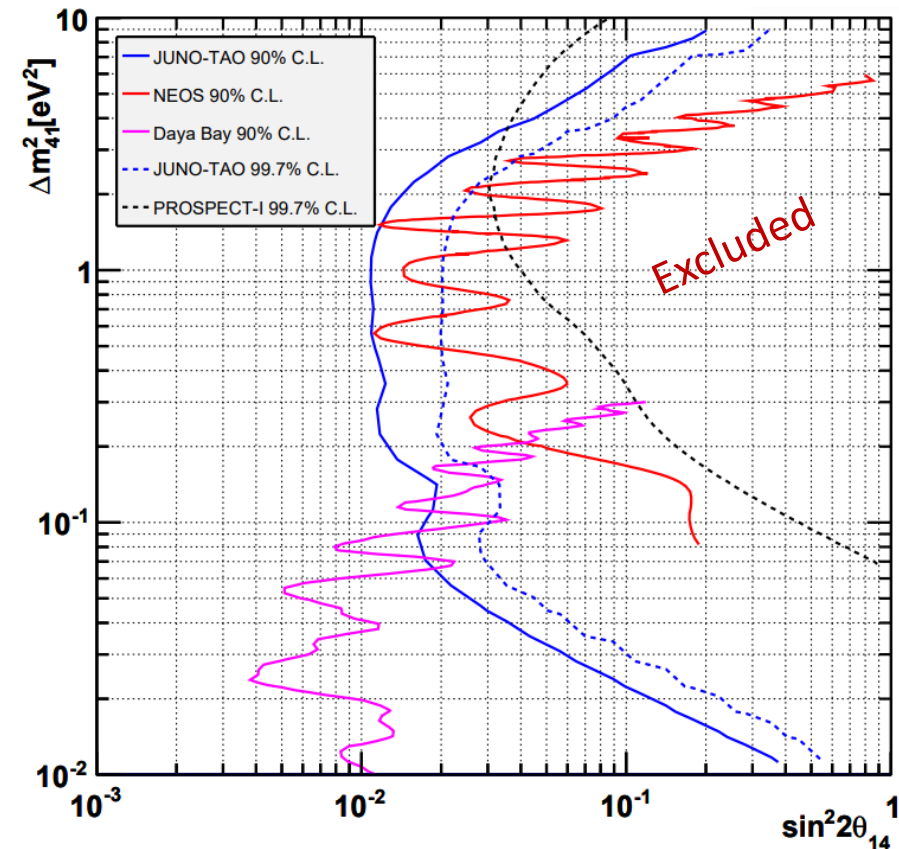
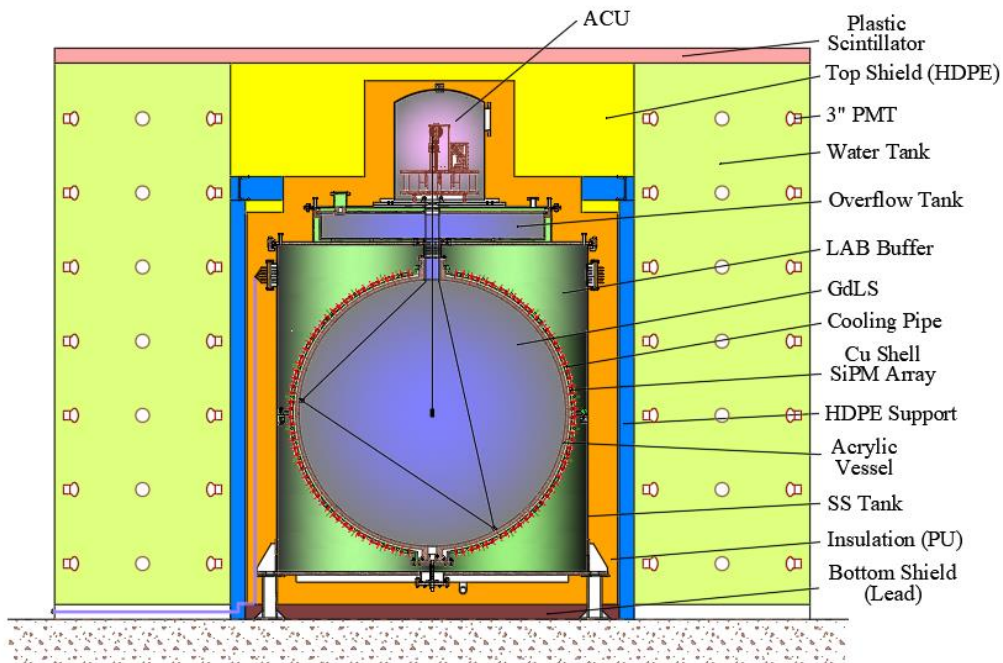




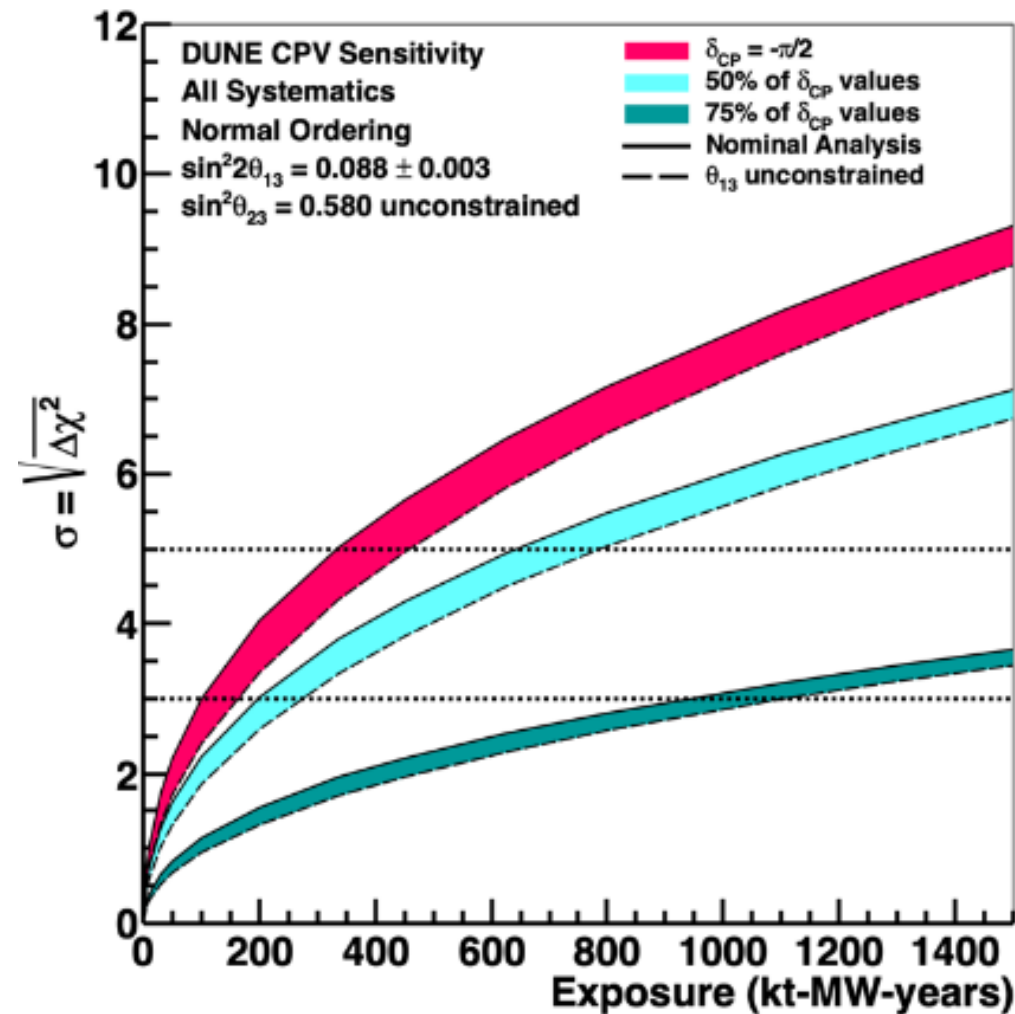
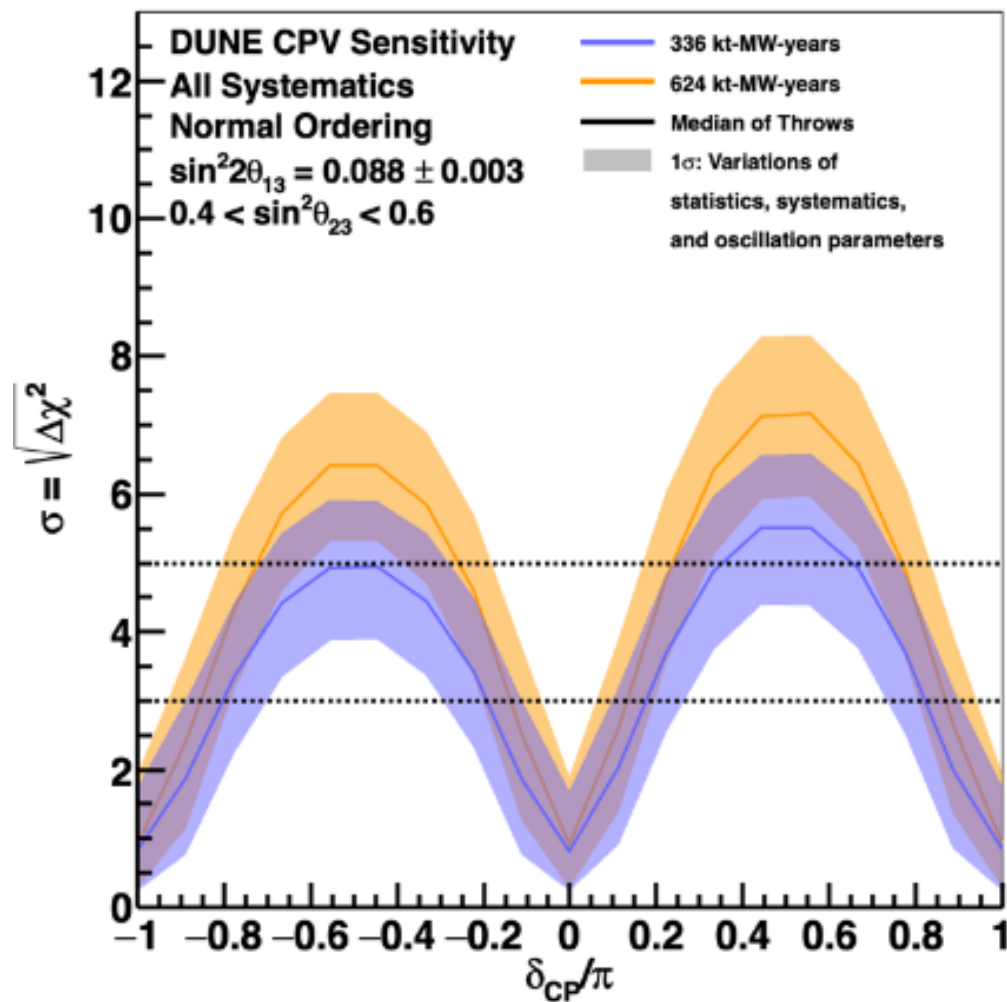
Taishan Antineutrino Observatory (TAO)

Goals: [\[2005.08745\]](#)

1. Measure the reactor antineutrino spectrum with unprecedented energy resolution and see its fine structure for the first time.
2. Provide a reference spectrum for JUNO, other experiments, and nuclear databases
3. Search for light sterile neutrinos
4. Make improved measurements of isotopic yields & spectra



DUNE CPV sensitivity (3-flavour)



Snowmass summary, [\[2203.06100\]](#)

•Beyond ProtoDUNE

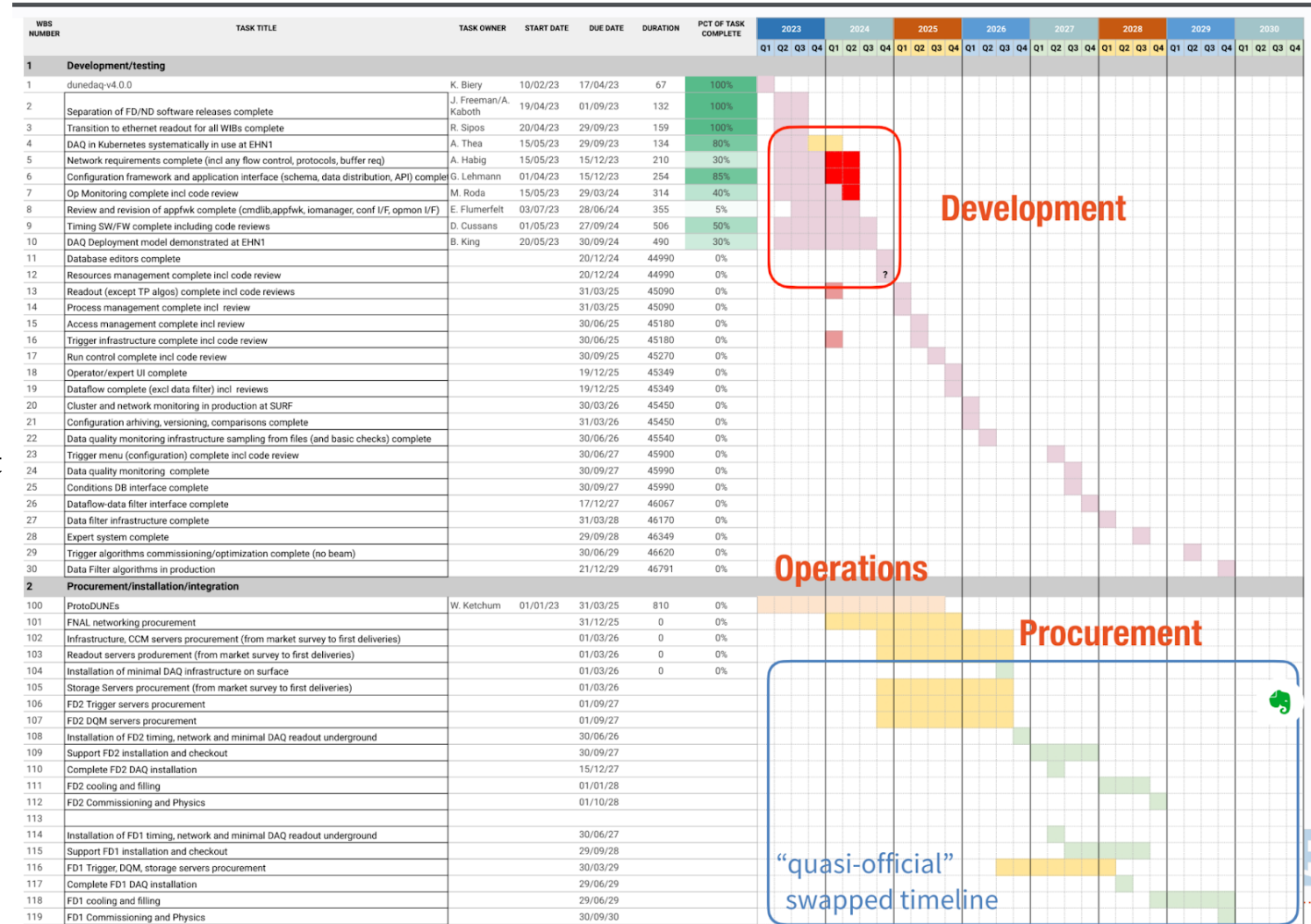
- < 2 years for the final development of the DAQ
- Installation starts in 2026 Q3

•Liverpool responsibility

- Operational Monitoring
 - Current main effort
 - Expected to be completed by next year
 - Possible slip due to ProtoDUNE's support
- Supervisor system
 - To ensure high uptime for Supernova analyses
- DQM
 - After the previous parts are completed

•DAQ funding to be approved by STFC

- To cover up to 2027
- At the moment we are running on bridge funding

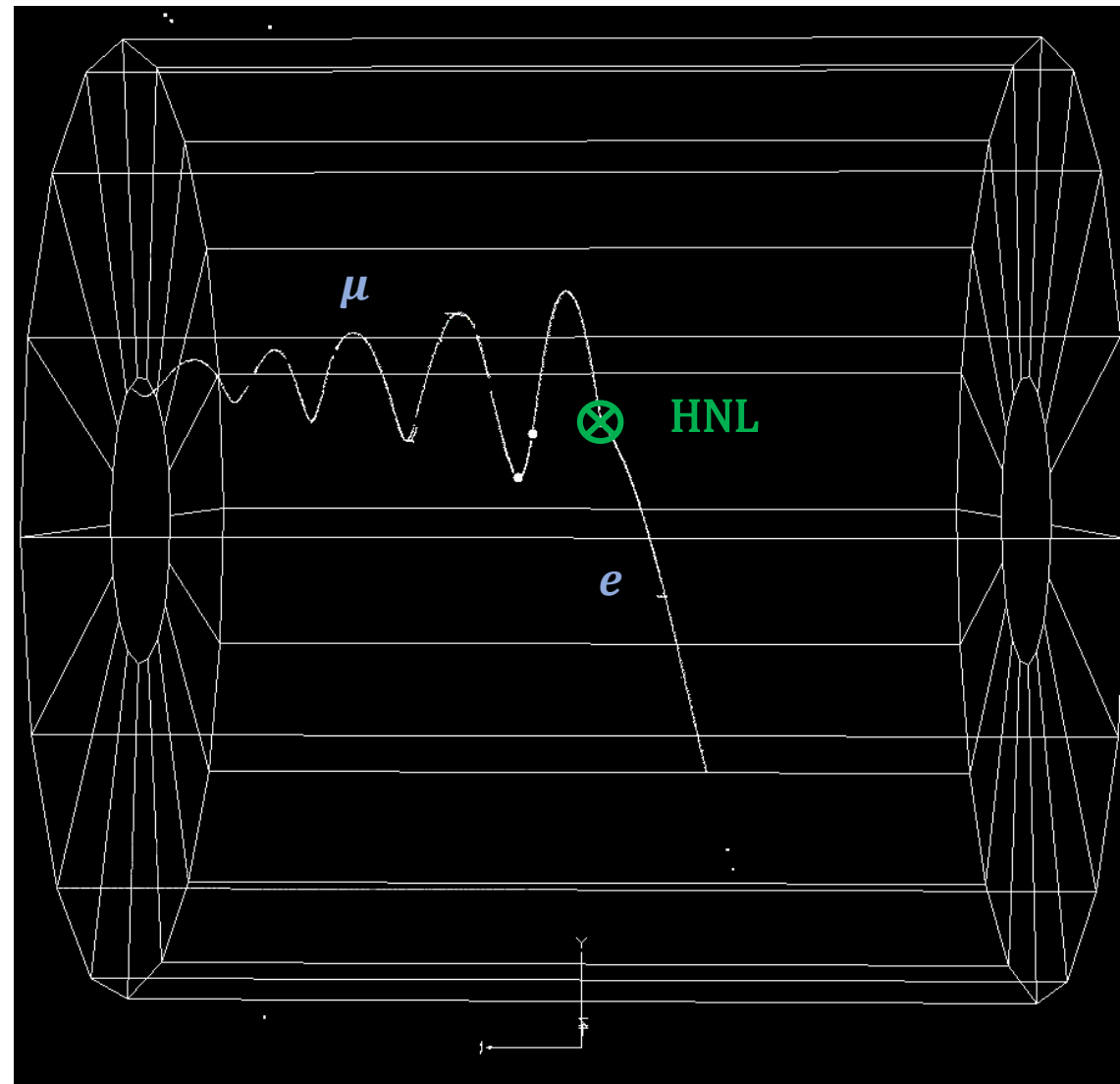
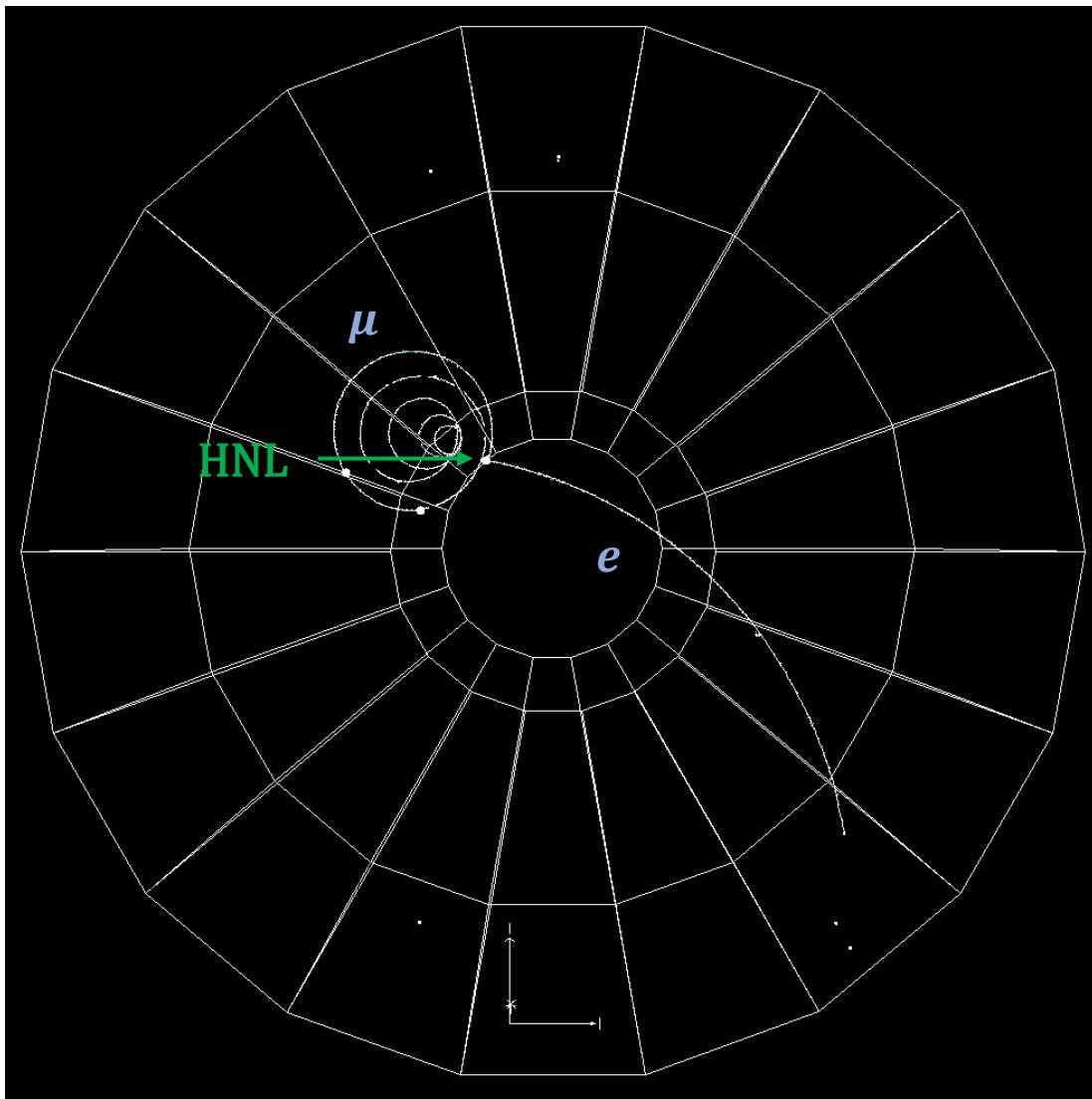


[Planning Workshop] I [14.05.24]

DUNE plan to completion

45

- A dedicated Task Force analysed the risks for the two Far Detectors timeline and recommended to first complete the cryostat for FD2-VD (vertical drift with CRP readout).
- The aim is to have the first FD operating in 2029, the second FD in 2030, neutrino beam and Near Detector in 2031. First main physics will be atmospheric neutrinos.
- DUNE Phase II “Re-envisioned” by P5:
 - Fermilab Main Ring upgrade (ACE-MIRT) to cycle faster and provide 2.1 MW proton beam before 2035.
 - Far Detector 3, LAr similar to FD2.
 - More Capable Near Detector (GAR TPC with ECAL inside magnetic field) at a slightly longer timescale.
- HEPAP Facilities Subpanel outcome:
 - Phase I, ACE-MIRT, FD3 “Absolutely Central” for science and “Ready to initiate construction” technically (highest rankings).
 - MCND “Absolutely Central” & “Significant scientific/engineering challenges remain”.



$$N_4(1 \text{ GeV}) \rightarrow \nu_e(353 \text{ MeV}) + \mu^-(200 \text{ MeV}) + e^+(447 \text{ MeV})$$