

$\mu$ BooNE



# Recent Results *from* MicroBooNE

LIP-Lisbon Seminar  
December 16, 2021



Andy Mastbaum  
Rutgers University  
mastbaum@physics.rutgers.edu



# Recent Results *from* MicroBooNE

LIP-Lisbon Seminar  
December 16, 2021

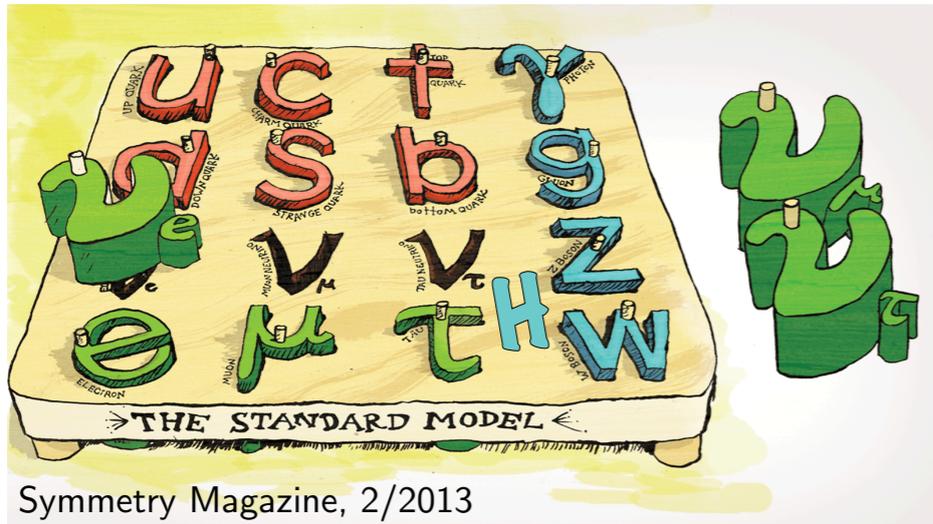


Andy Mastbaum  
Rutgers University  
mastbaum@physics.rutgers.edu



# Standard Model

## Three-Neutrino Oscillations



With massive neutrinos, flavor eigenstates of the weak interaction are related to mass eigenstates of the free-particle Hamiltonian:

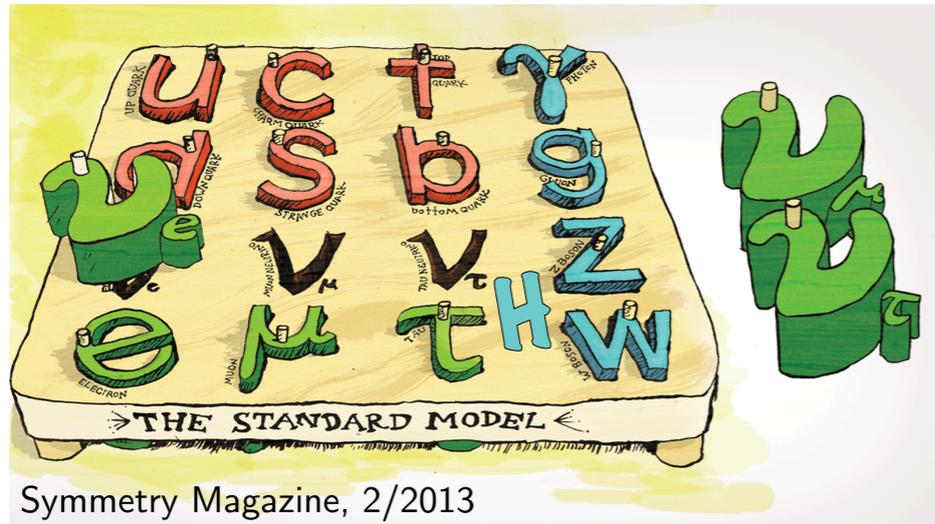
$$|\nu_\alpha\rangle = \sum_i U_{\alpha i}^* |\nu_i\rangle$$

Flavor eigenstates participating in weak interactions
Mass eigenstates  $\nu_1, \nu_2, \nu_3$

↖
Mixing matrix
↗

# Standard Model

## Three-Neutrino Oscillations



With massive neutrinos, flavor eigenstates of the weak interaction are related to mass eigenstates of the free-particle Hamiltonian:

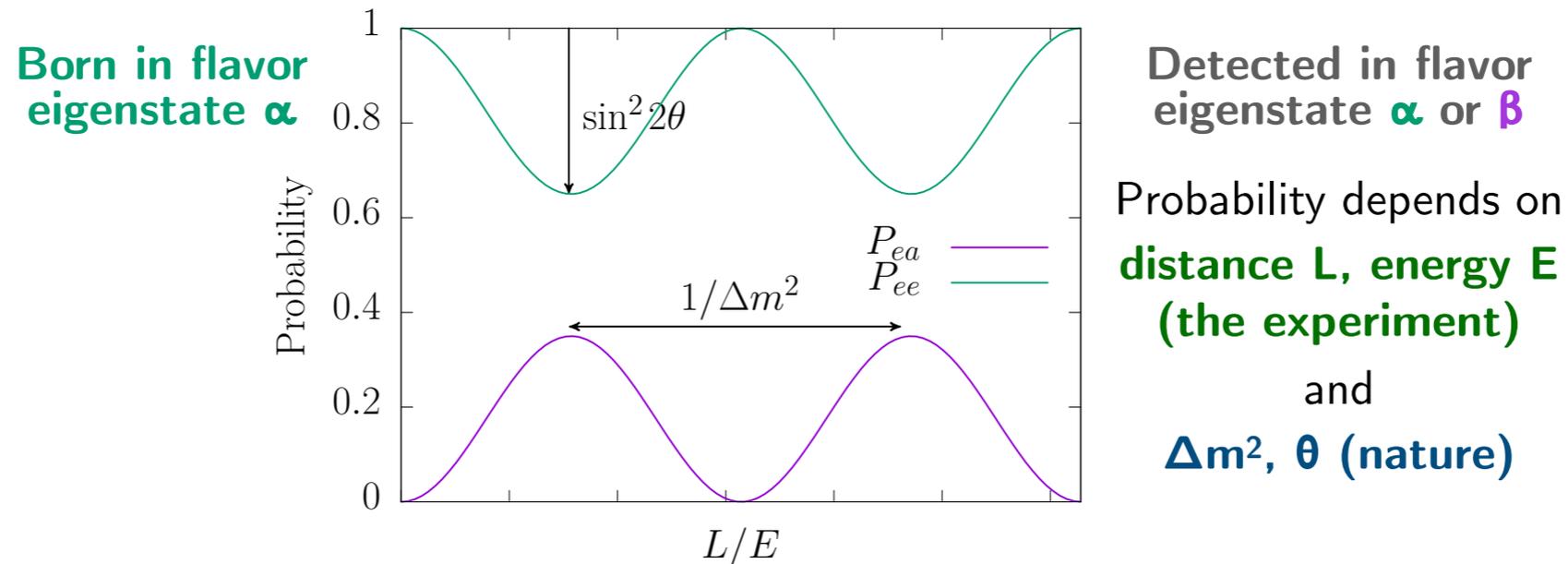
$$|\nu_\alpha\rangle = \sum_i U_{\alpha i}^* |\nu_i\rangle$$

Flavor eigenstates participating in weak interactions
Mass eigenstates  $\nu_1, \nu_2, \nu_3$

↙
Mixing matrix
↘

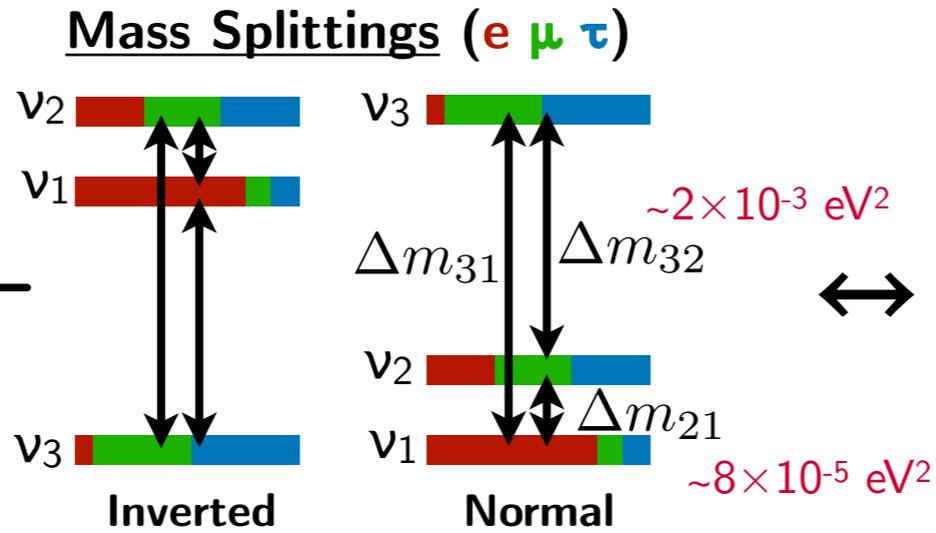
Simplified two-neutrino model:

$$P(\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\alpha) = 1 - \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2 \left( 1.27 \frac{\Delta m^2 [\text{eV}]^2 \cdot L [\text{km}]}{E_\nu [\text{GeV}]} \right)$$

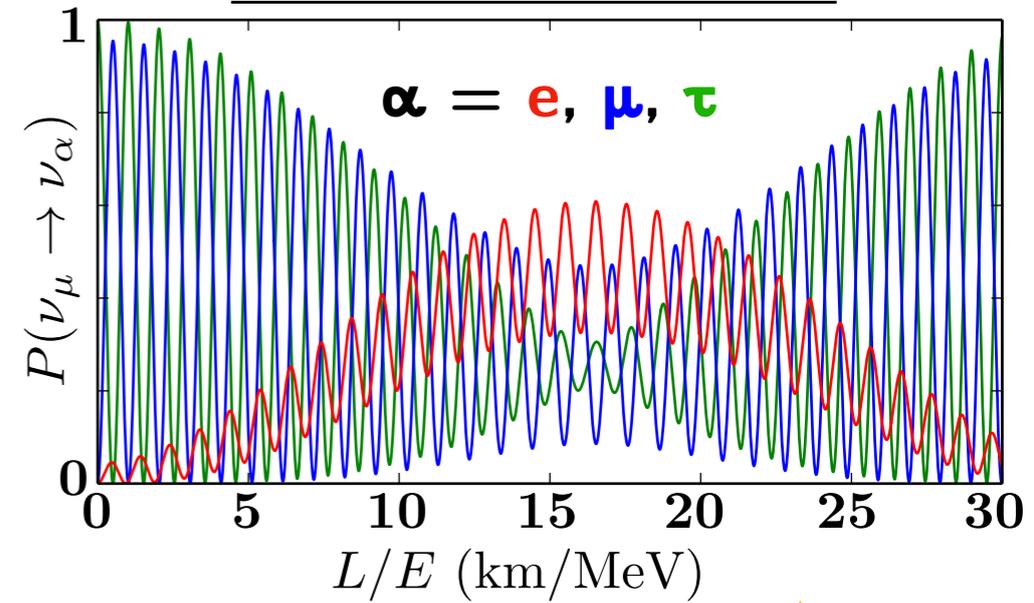


### Three Neutrinos with Mixing

$$|\nu_\alpha\rangle = \sum_i U_{\alpha i}^* |\nu_i\rangle +$$



### Oscillation Probabilities

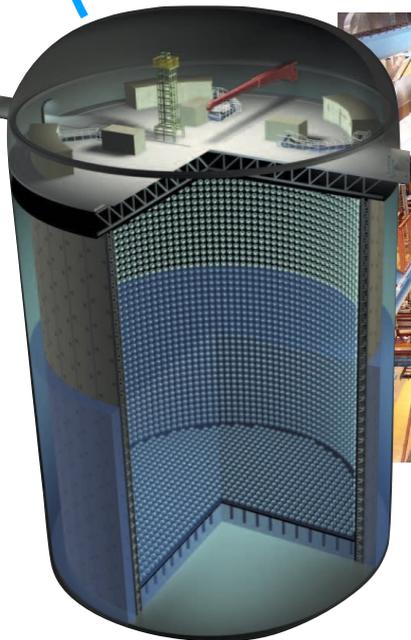


### Atmospheric & Accelerator

### Reactor

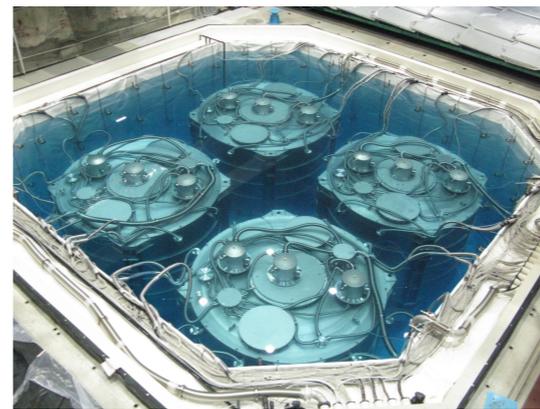
### Solar & KamLAND

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \theta_{23} & \sin \theta_{23} \\ 0 & -\sin \theta_{23} & \cos \theta_{23} \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta_{13} & 0 & \sin \theta_{13} e^{i\delta} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin \theta_{13} e^{-i\delta} & 0 & \cos \theta_{13} \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta_{12} & \sin \theta_{12} & 0 \\ -\sin \theta_{12} & \cos \theta_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

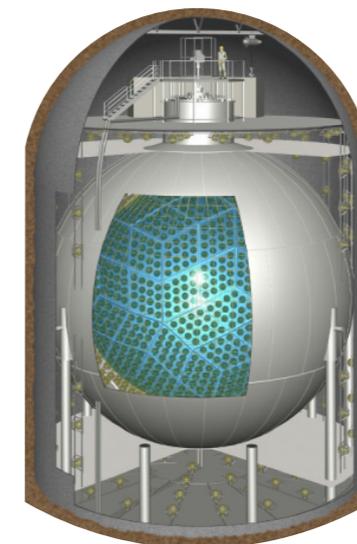


MINOS

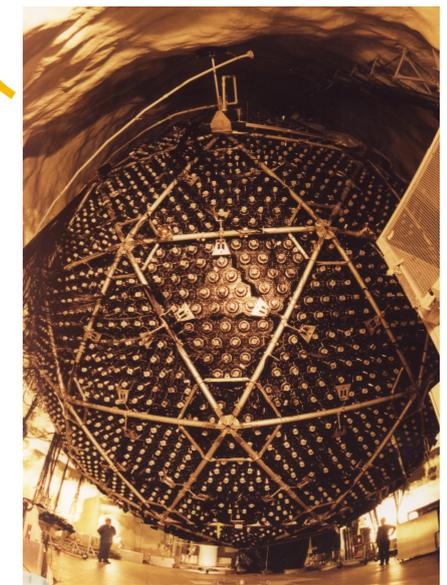
NOvA



Daya Bay



KamLAND

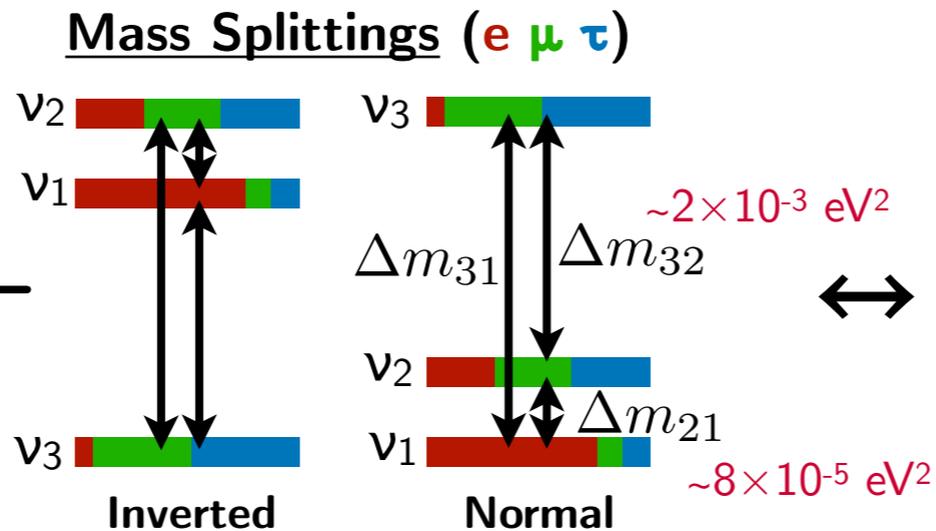


SNO

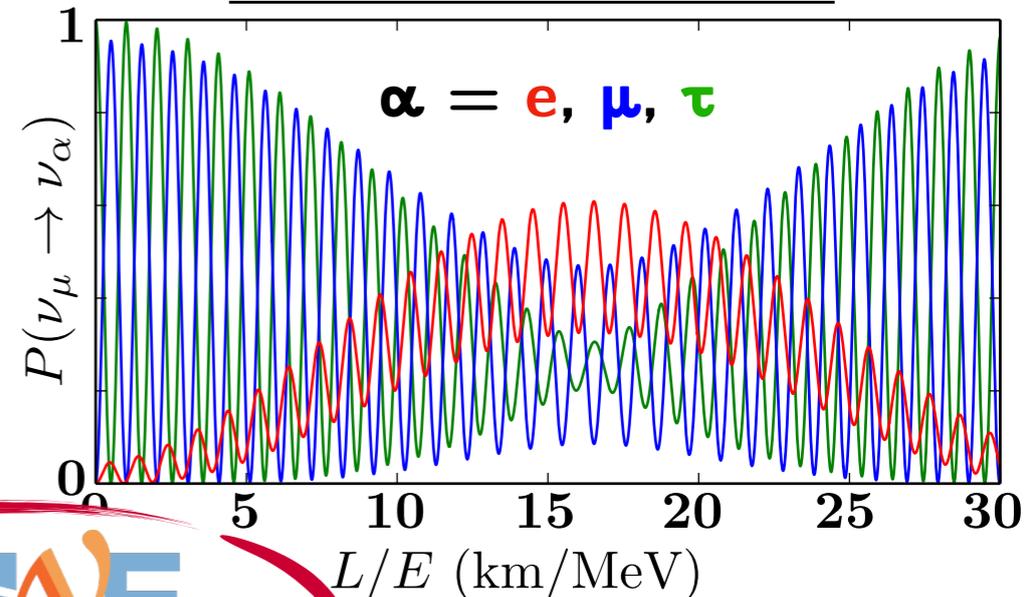
(and many more!)

### Three Neutrinos with Mixing

$$|\nu_\alpha\rangle = \sum_i U_{\alpha i}^* |\nu_i\rangle +$$



### Oscillation Probabilities

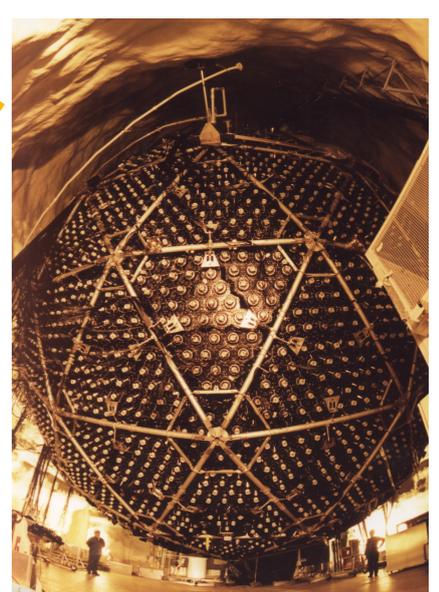
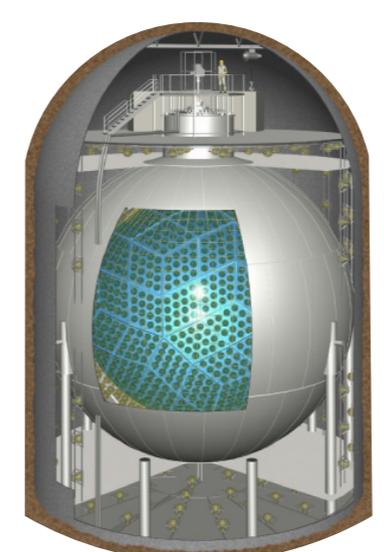
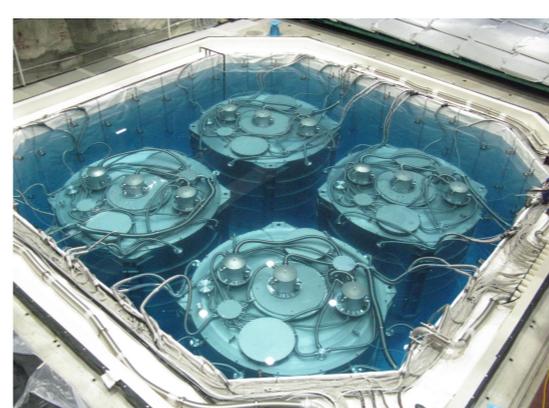
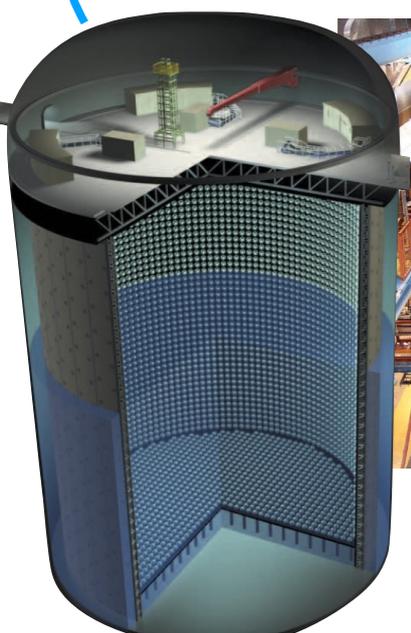


Atmospheric  
& Accelerator



Solar  
& KamLAND

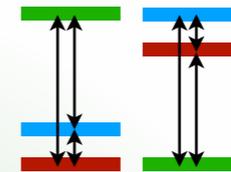
$$U = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \theta_{23} & \sin \theta_{23} \\ 0 & -\sin \theta_{23} & \cos \theta_{23} \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta_{13} & 0 & \sin \theta_{13} e^{i\delta} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin \theta_{13} e^{-i\delta} & 0 & \cos \theta_{13} \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta_{12} & \sin \theta_{12} & 0 \\ -\sin \theta_{12} & \cos \theta_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$



(and many more!)



Could *CP* violation in neutrino interactions explain the matter/antimatter asymmetry?



What is the ordering of the neutrino masses?

$$\nu \stackrel{?}{=} \bar{\nu}$$

Is the neutrino its own antiparticle?

## Standard Model Physics



## Beyond the Standard Model

What is the mass of the neutrino, and why is it so small?



Are there new interactions we could discover via neutrinos?

$$\nu_s$$

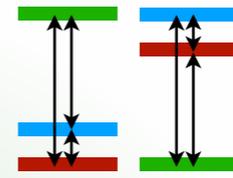
Are there additional neutrinos beyond the known three types?

These important questions demand unprecedented precision and novel detector technologies

Long Baseline



Could CP violation in neutrino interactions explain the matter/antimatter asymmetry?



Long Baseline

What is the ordering of the neutrino masses?

$$\nu \stackrel{?}{=} \bar{\nu}$$

Is the neutrino its own antiparticle?

### Standard Model Physics



### Beyond the Standard Model



Are there new interactions we could discover via neutrinos?

$$\nu_s$$

Are there additional neutrinos beyond the known three types?

What is the mass of the neutrino, and why is it so small?

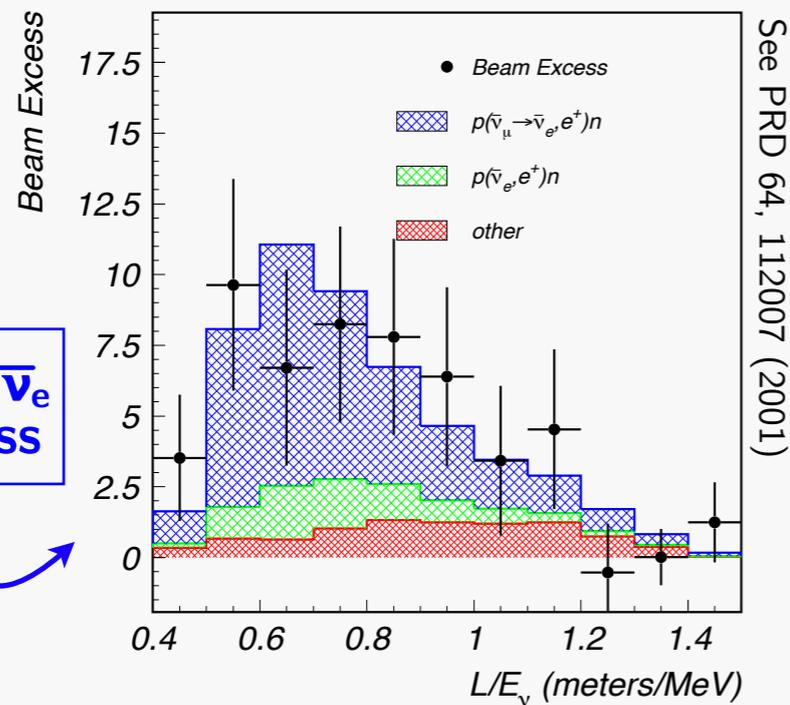
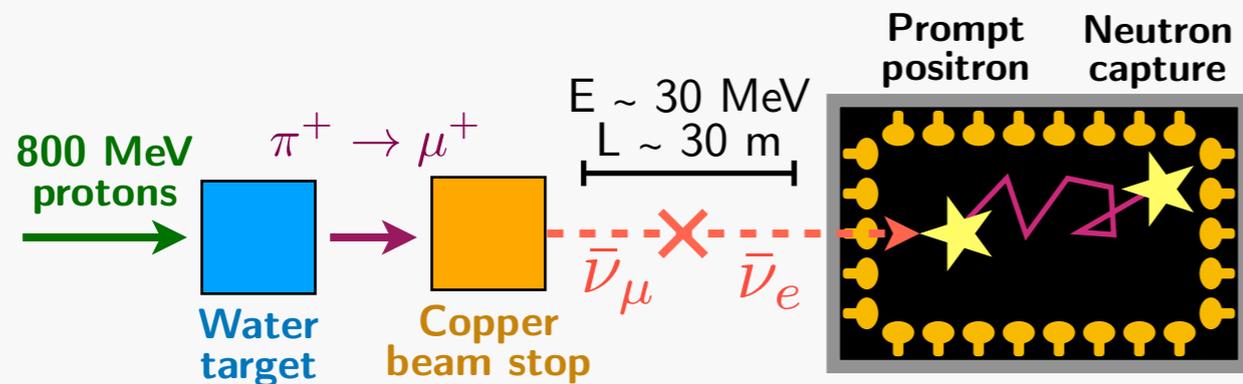
Long Baseline

Short Baseline

These important questions demand unprecedented precision and novel detector technologies

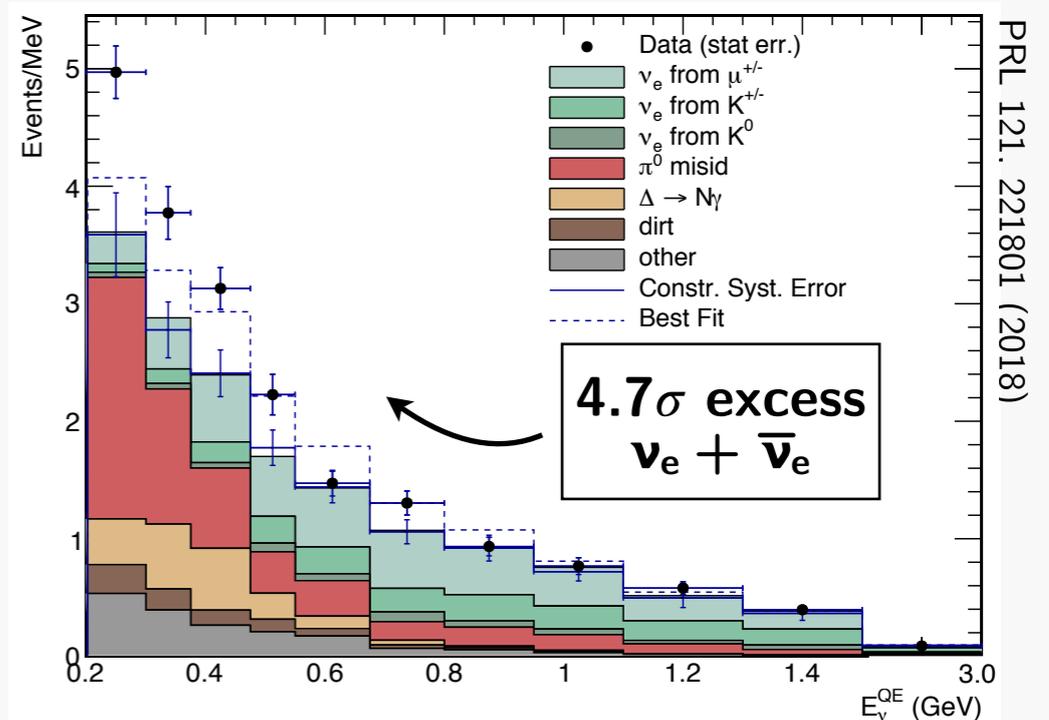
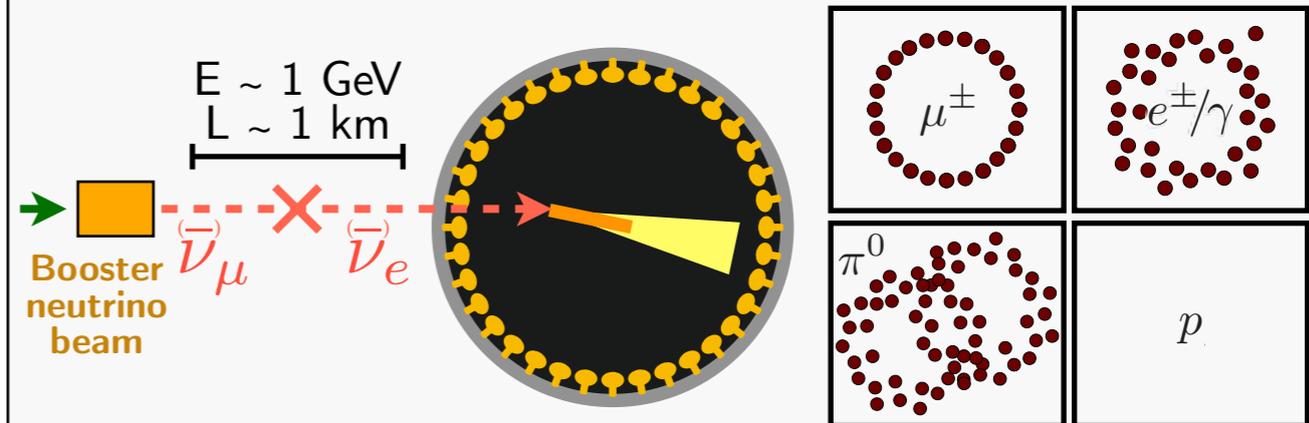
# Anomalies (Selected)

## Liquid Scintillator Neutrino Detector Los Alamos National Laboratory



Interpreted as oscillations, this implies  
 $\Delta m^2 \sim 1 \text{ eV}^2$ ,  $\sin^2 2\theta_{\mu e} \sim 0.26\%$

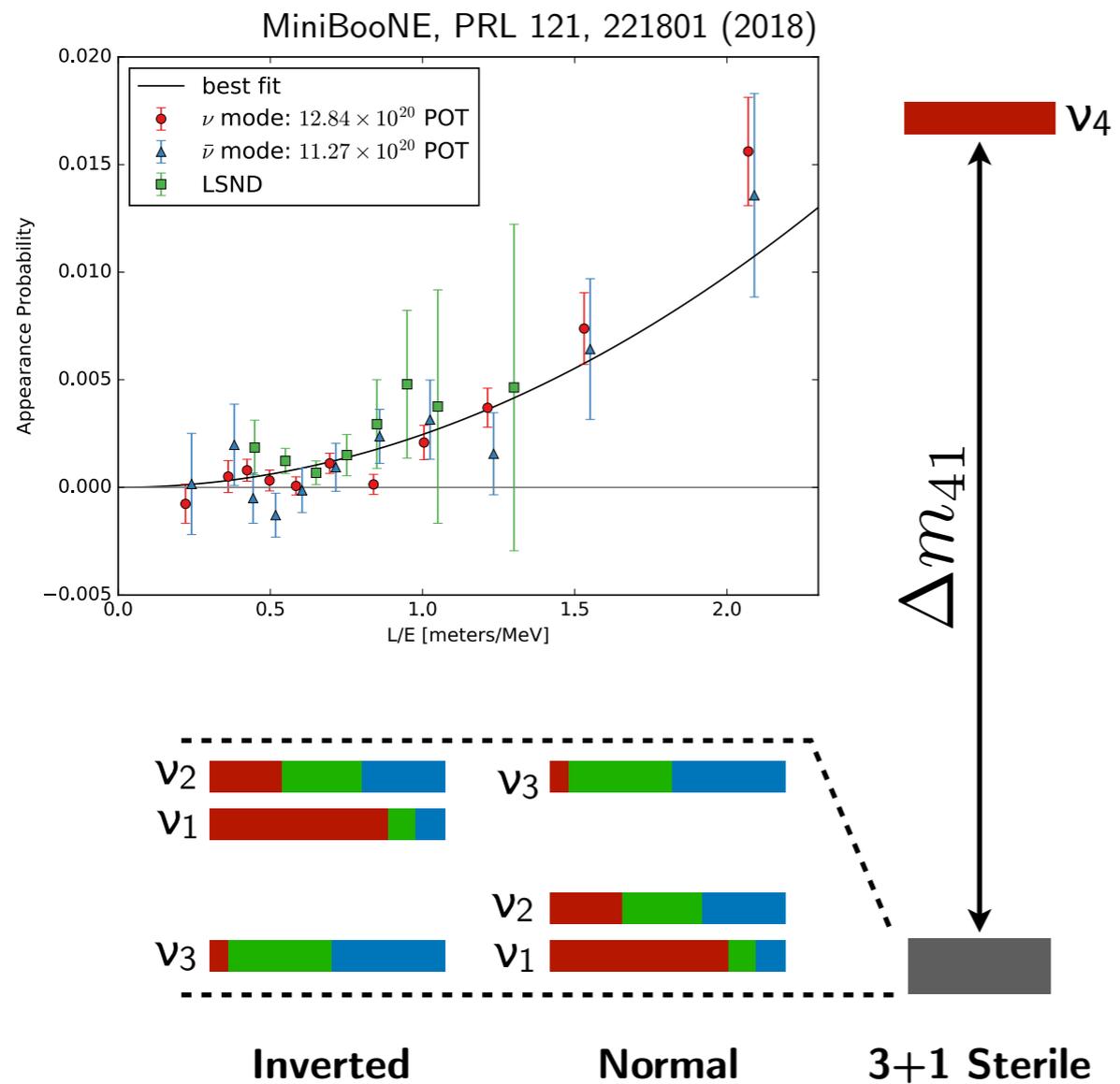
## MiniBooNE Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory



Consistent with LSND,  
 rise dubbed "Low Energy Excess"

# New Physics?

## 3+1 (N?) sterile neutrinos?

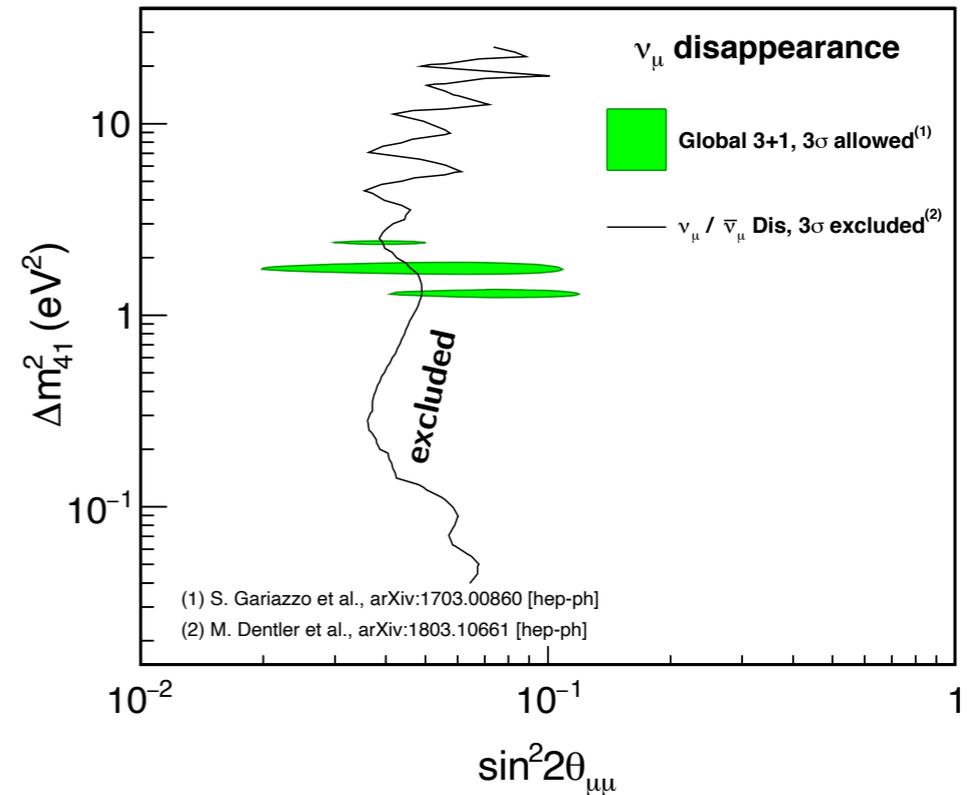
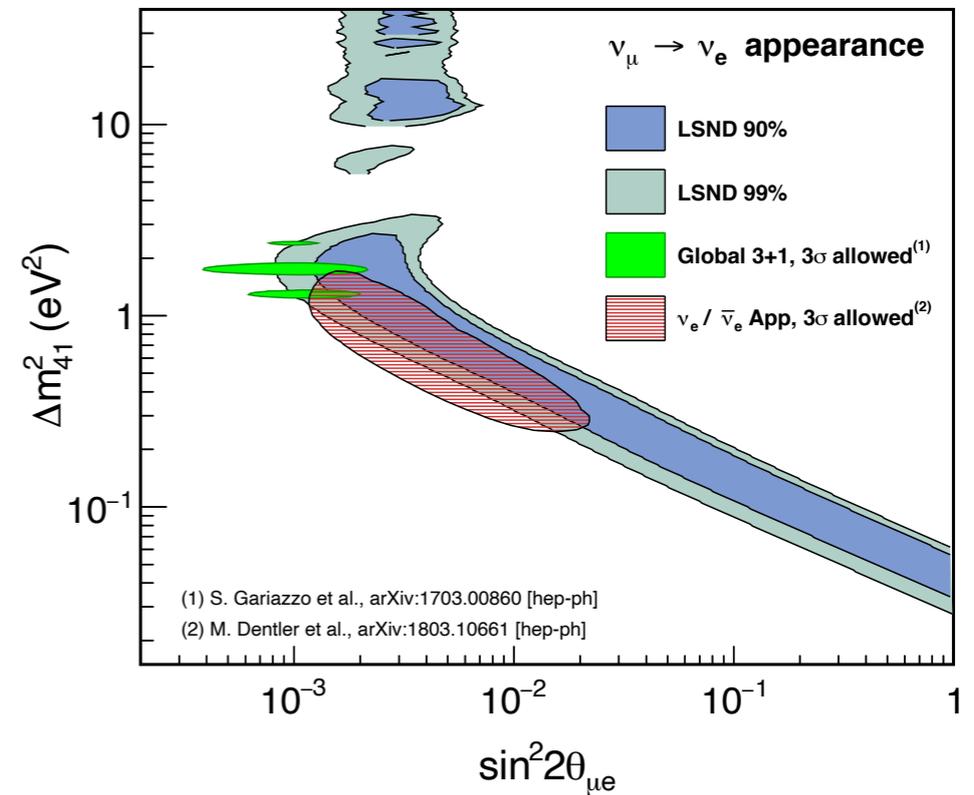
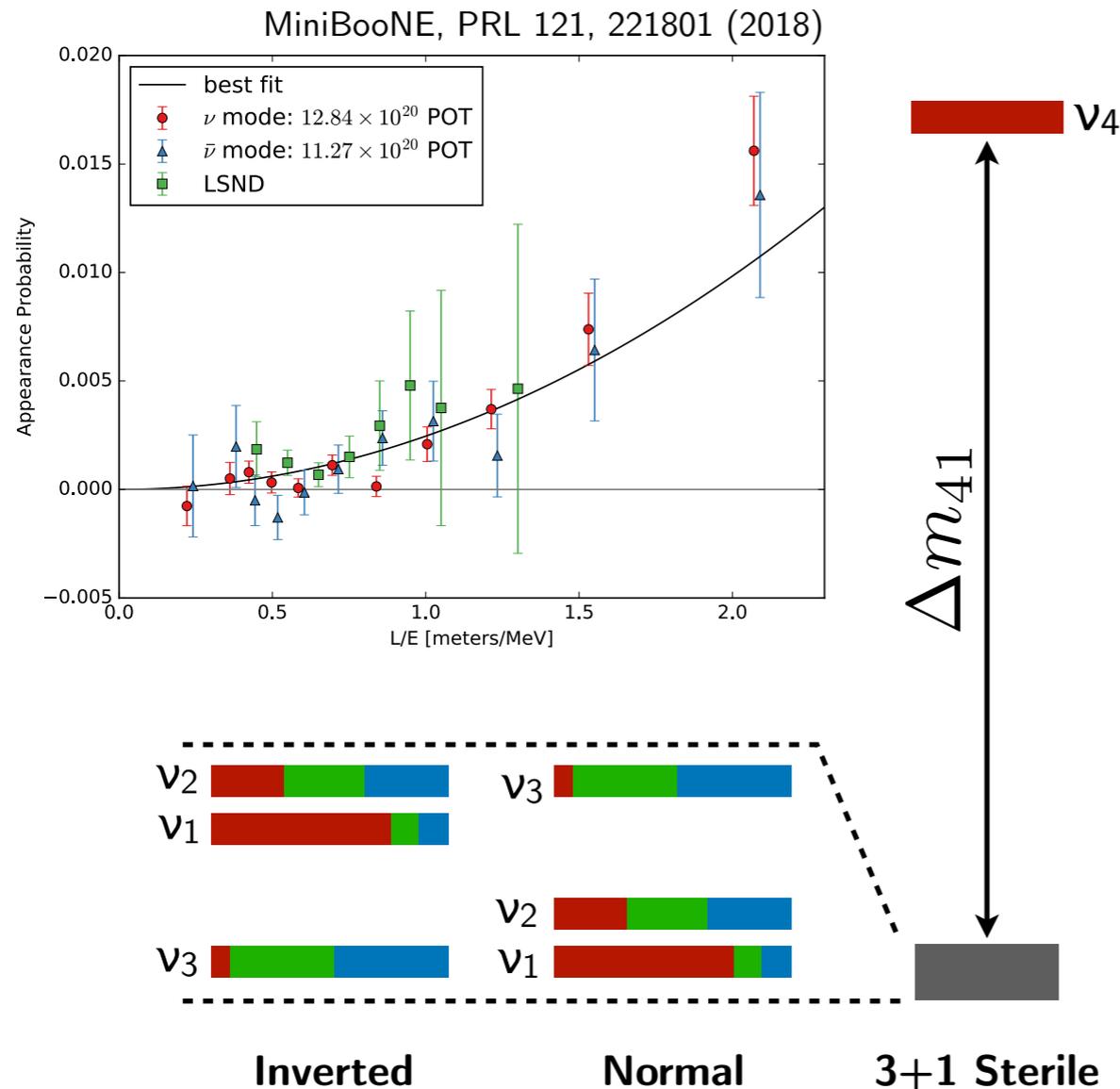


Flavor transitions via this new mixing:

$$P_{\alpha\beta} = 4|U_{\alpha 4}|^2|U_{\beta 4}|^2 \sin^2 \left( 1.27 \frac{\Delta m_{41}^2 L}{E} \right)$$

# New Physics?

## 3+1 (N?) sterile neutrinos?



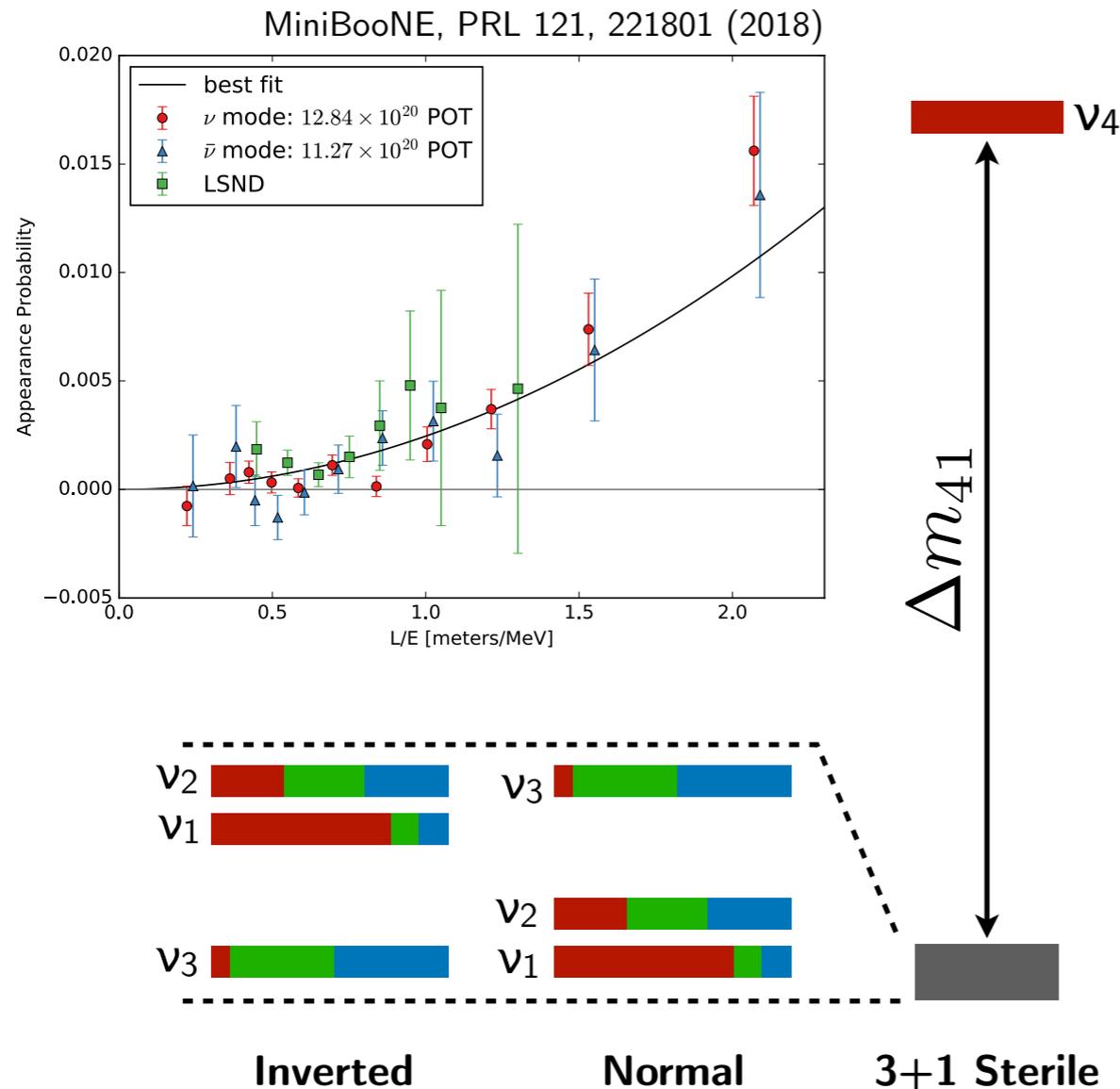
Significant tension among results in different, related signal channels

Flavor transitions via this new mixing:

$$P_{\alpha\beta} = 4|U_{\alpha 4}|^2|U_{\beta 4}|^2 \sin^2 \left( 1.27 \frac{\Delta m_{41}^2 L}{E} \right)$$

# New Physics?

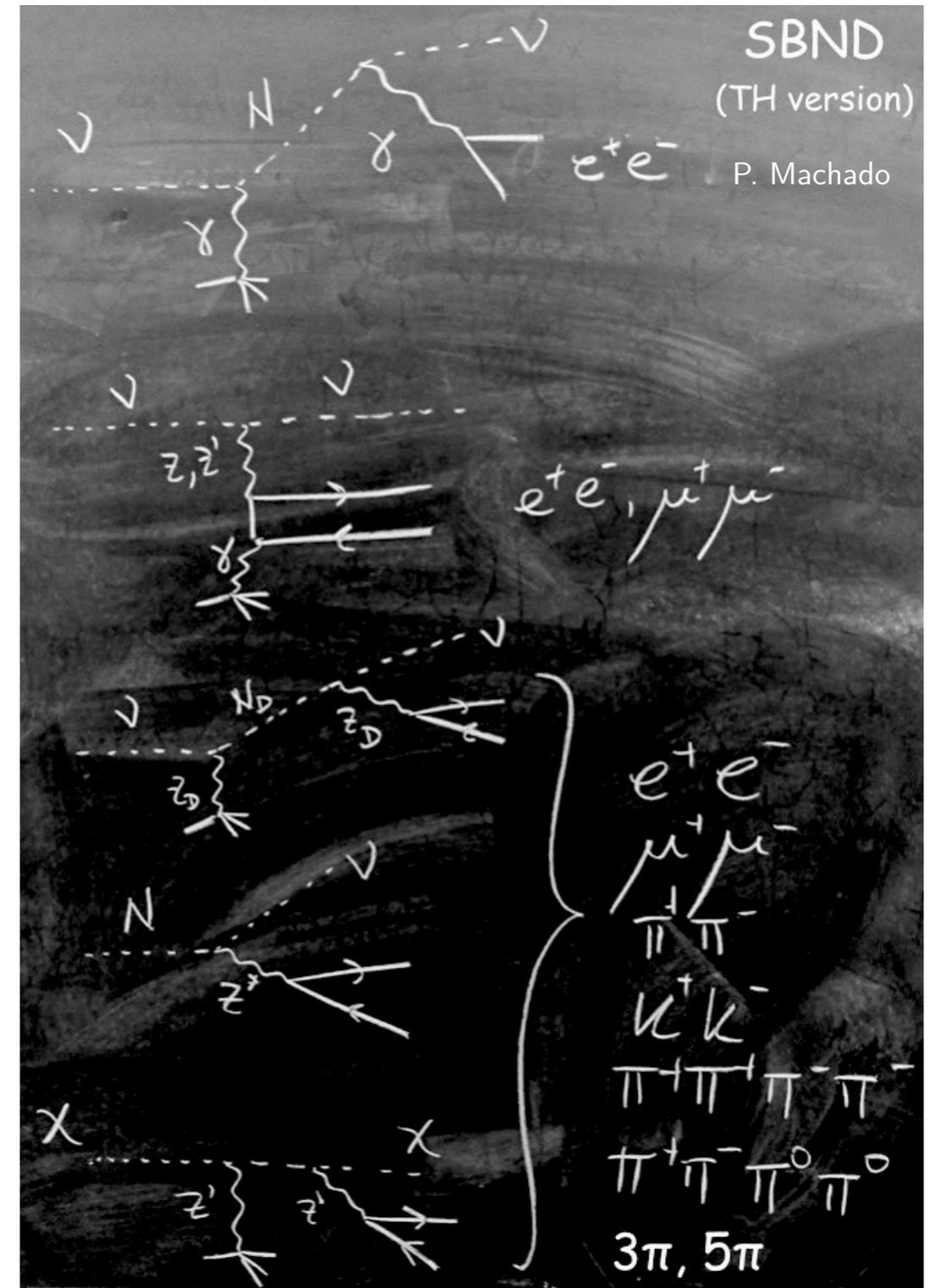
## 3+1 (N?) sterile neutrinos?



Flavor transitions via this new mixing:

$$P_{\alpha\beta} = 4|U_{\alpha 4}|^2|U_{\beta 4}|^2 \sin^2 \left( 1.27 \frac{\Delta m_{41}^2 L}{E} \right)$$

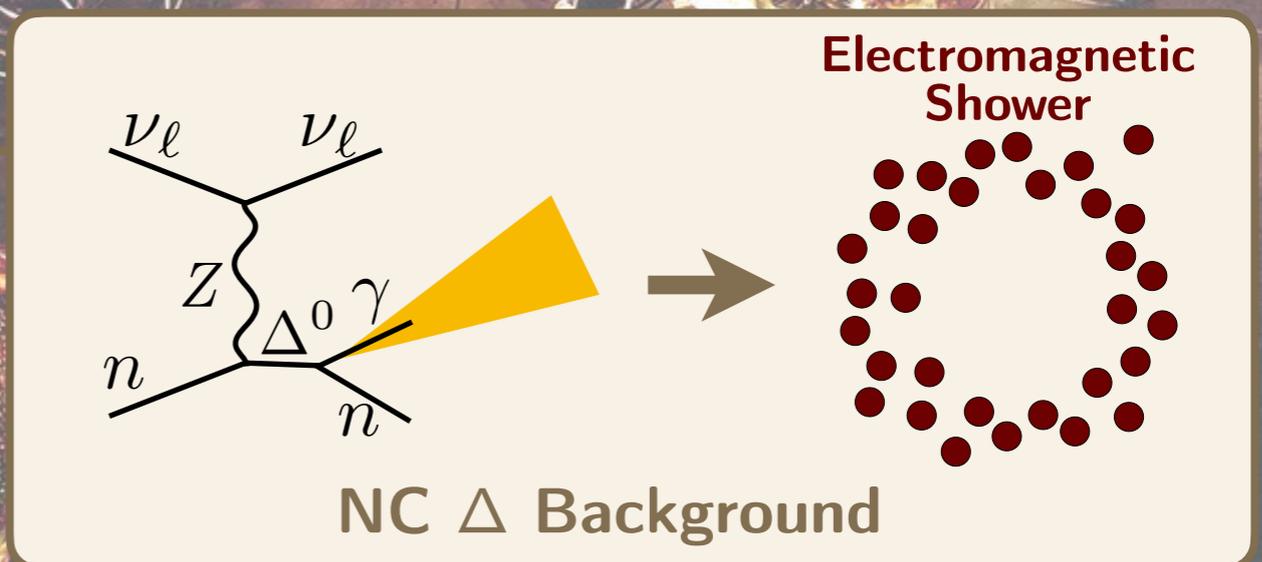
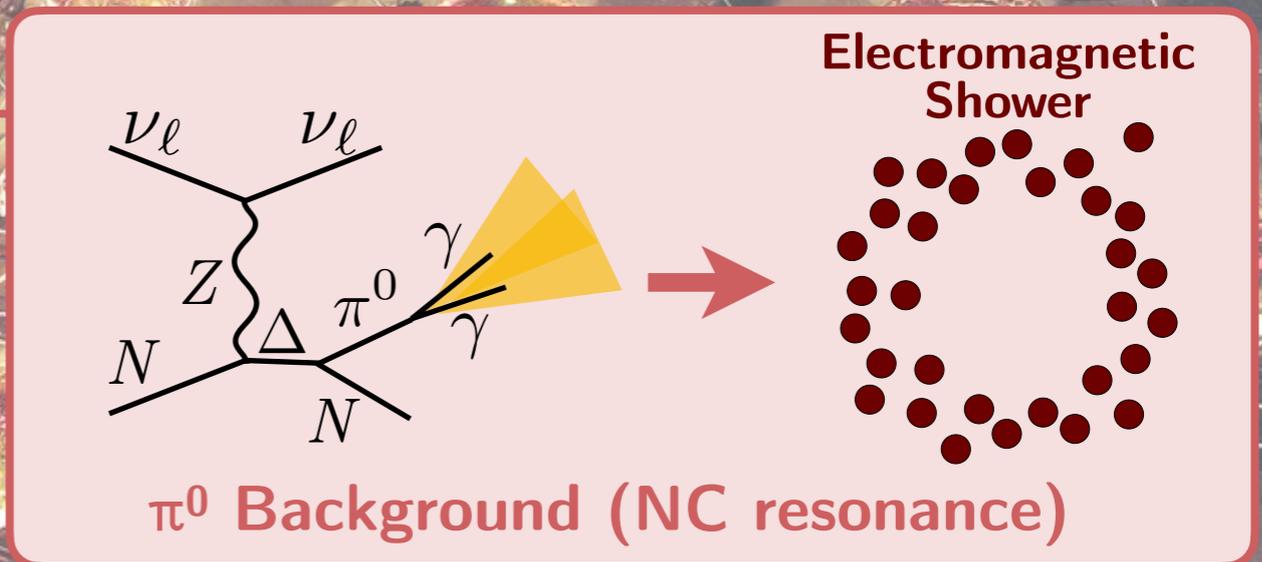
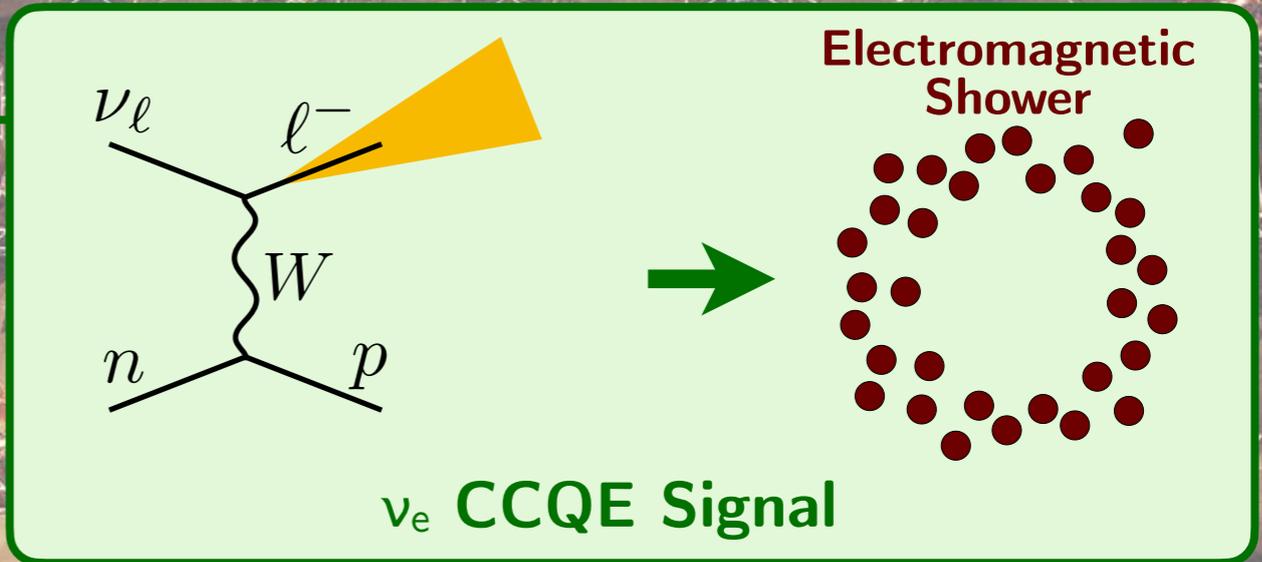
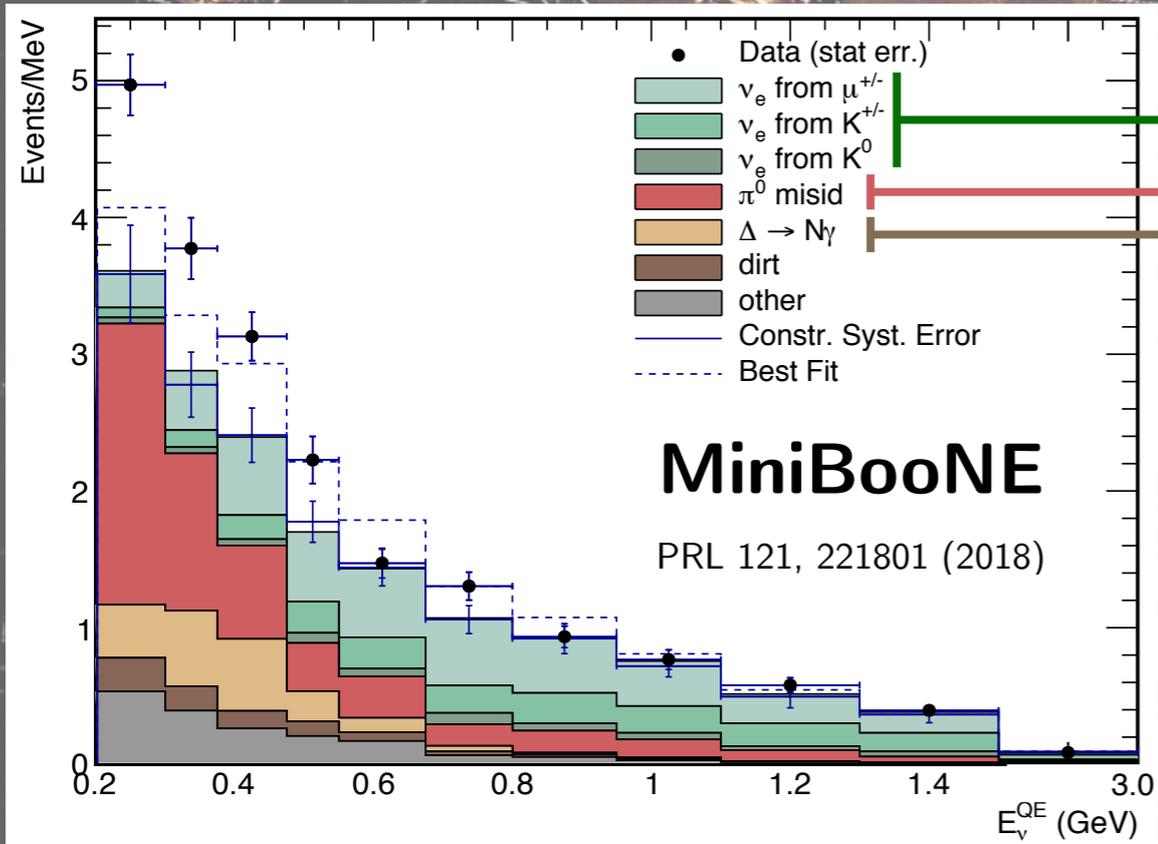
## Other new physics scenarios?





**MiniBooNE**  
Fermilab

Image: MiniBooNE Collaboration



**Electron excess** Sterile neutrinos?  
Something else?

**Photon excess**  $\Delta \rightarrow N\gamma$ ?  $\pi^0$  mis-ID?  
Something else?

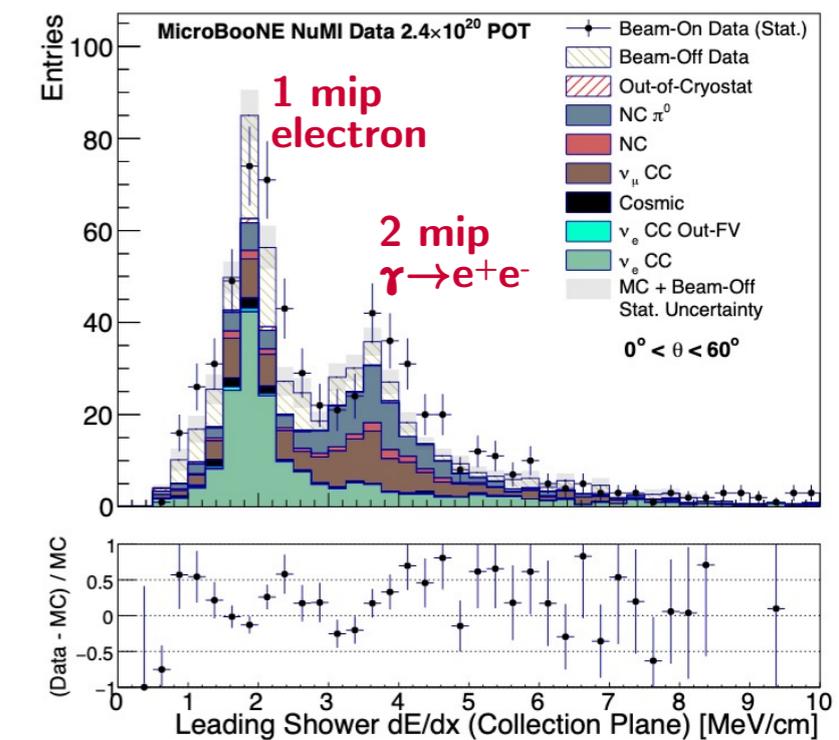
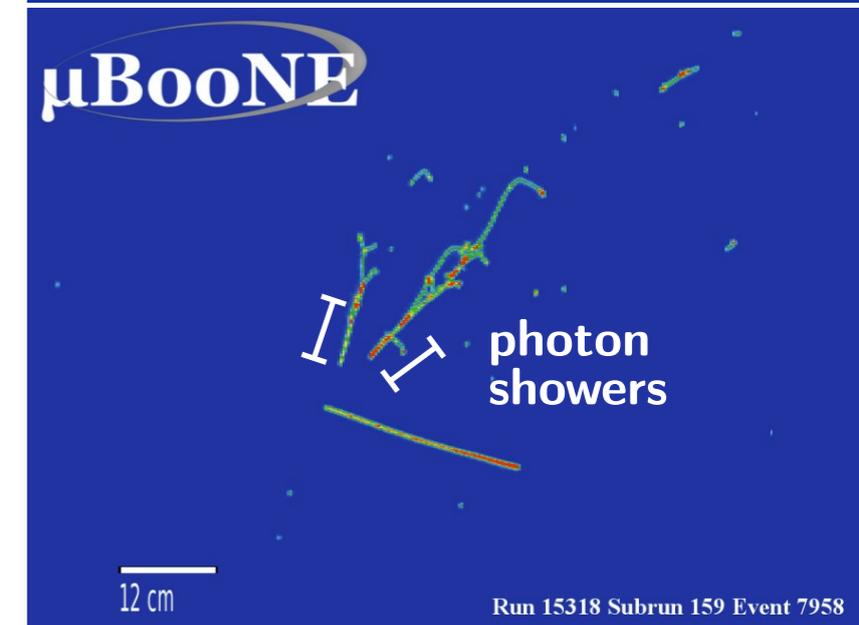
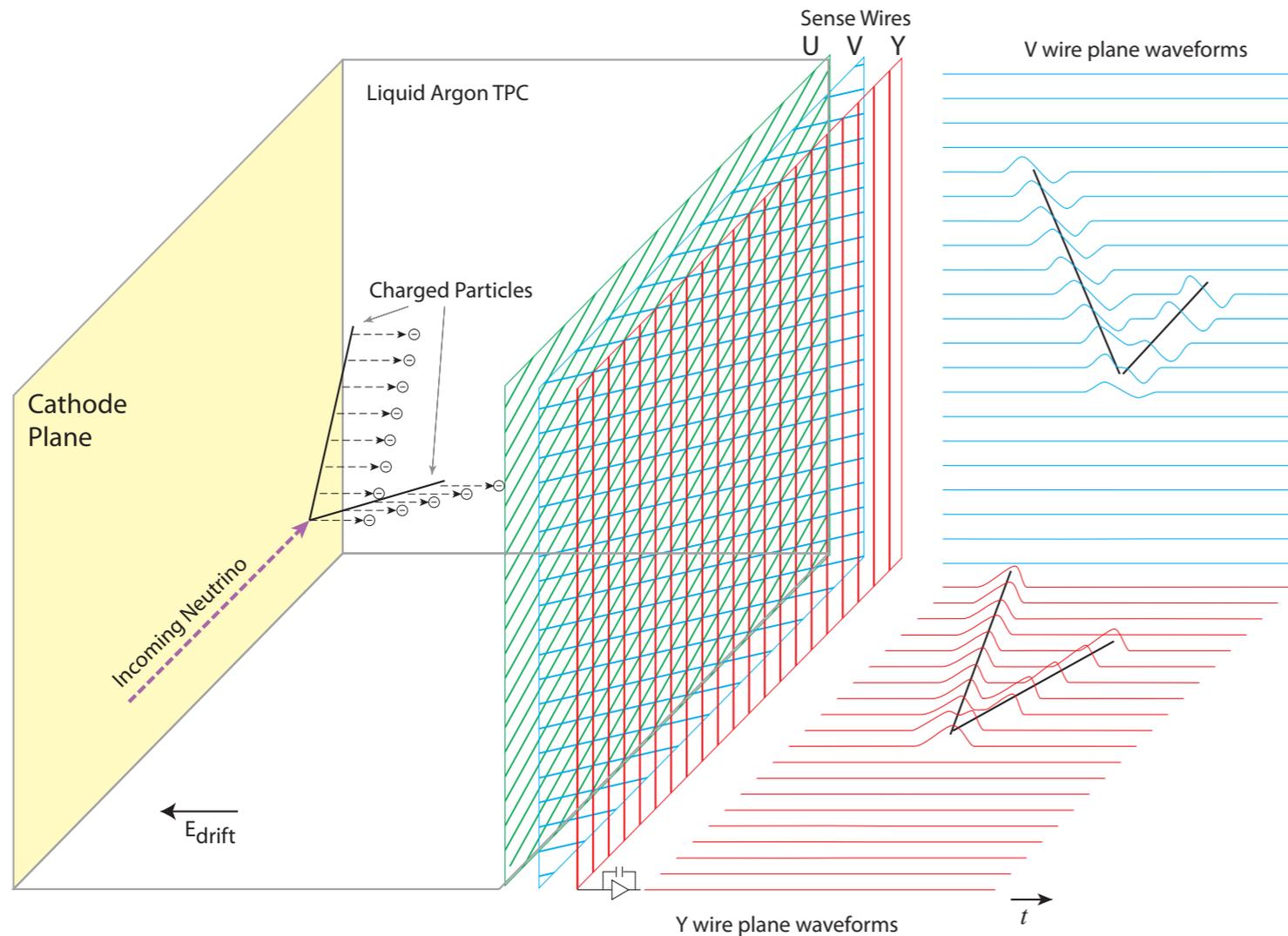
We need improved  
*event topology information*

# Liquid Argon TPCs

## Precision Neutrino Instrumentation

### LAr Time Projection Chambers

- Detailed 3D imaging of neutrino interactions
- Calorimetric energy reconstruction
- Vertex &  $dE/dx$  electron/photon discrimination

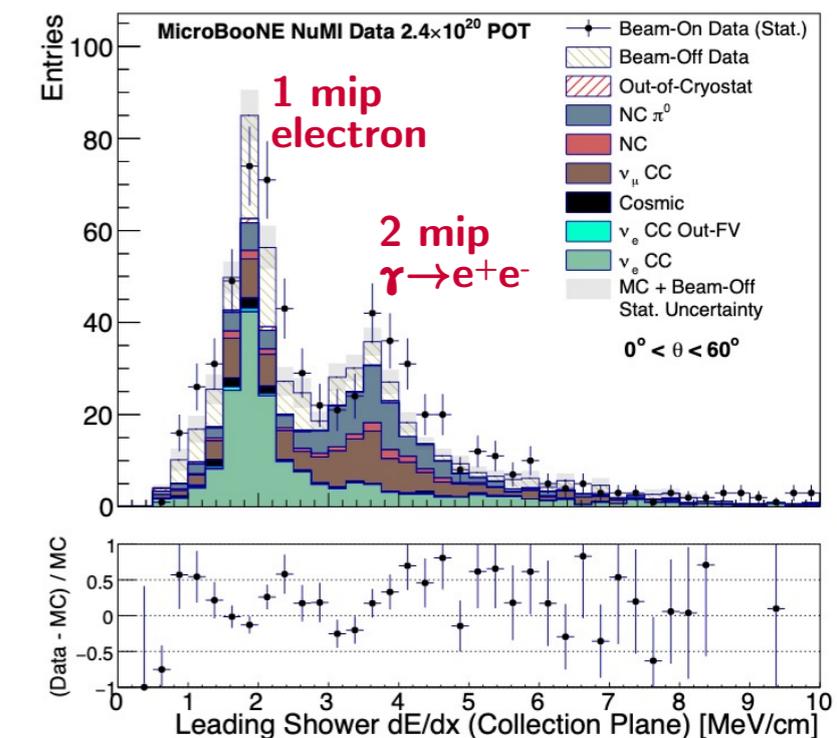
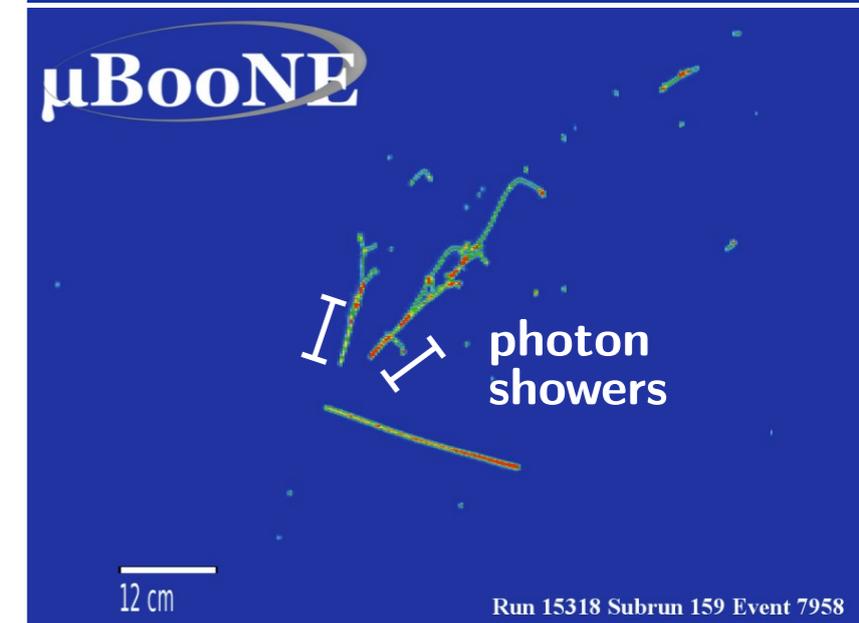
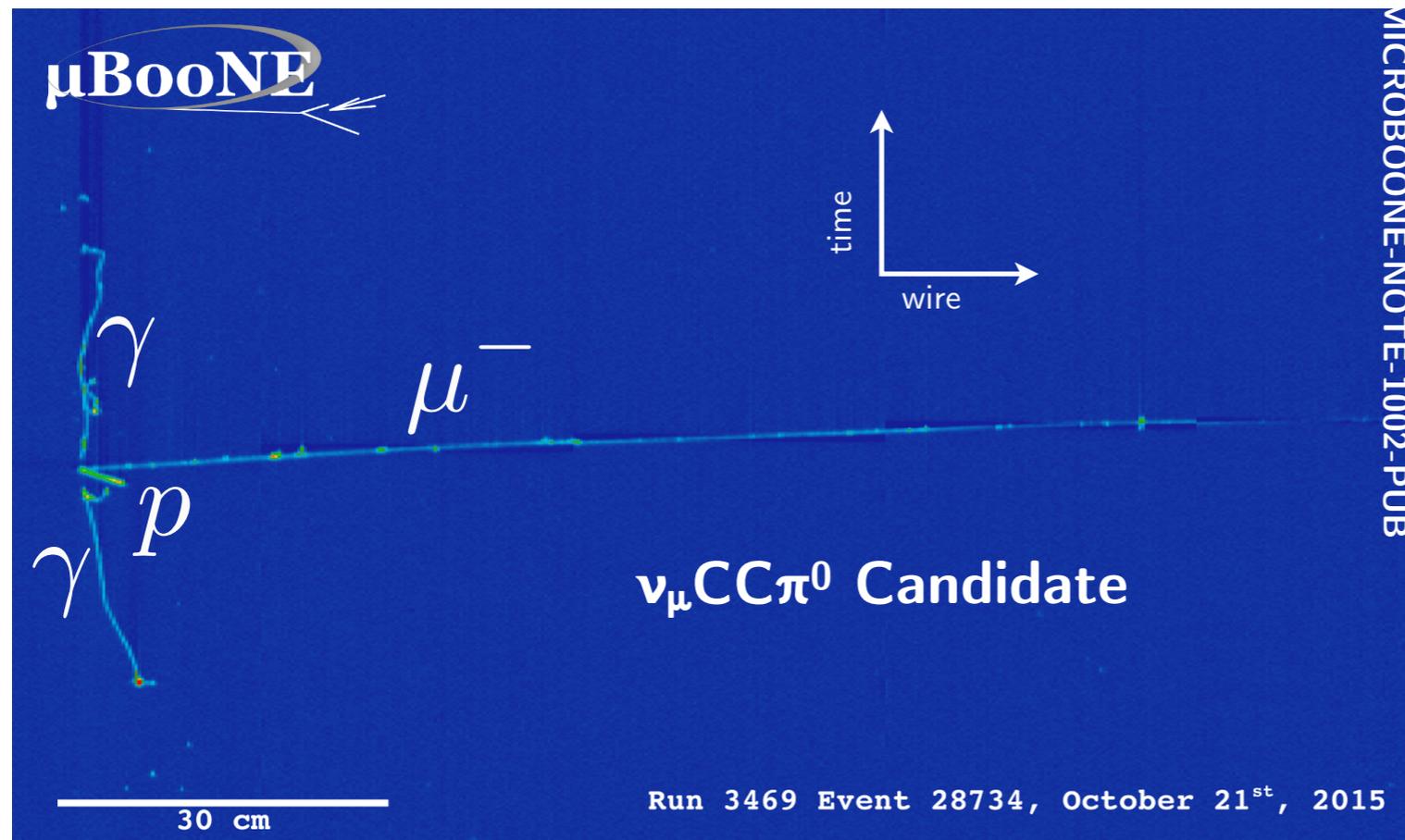


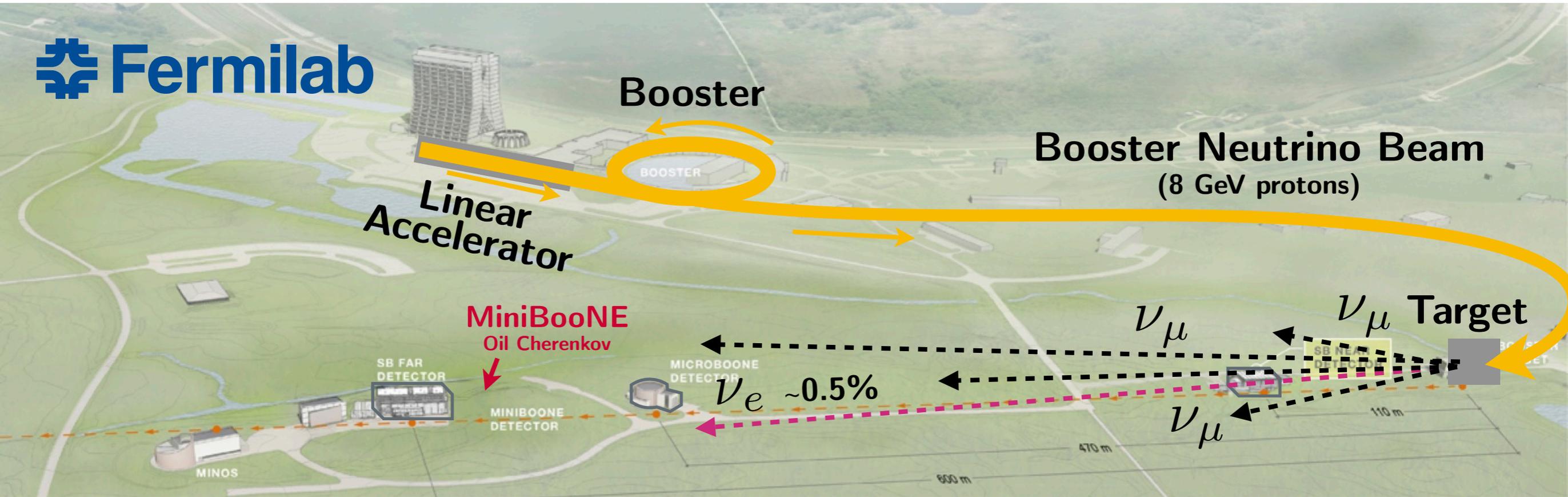
# Liquid Argon TPCs

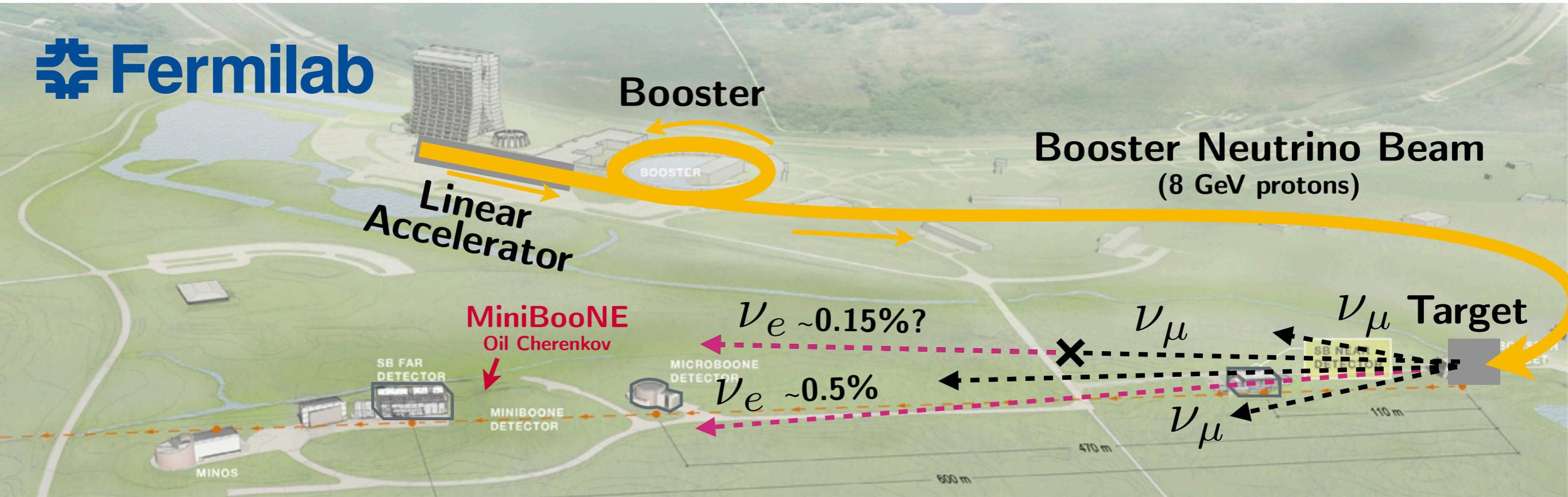
## Precision Neutrino Instrumentation

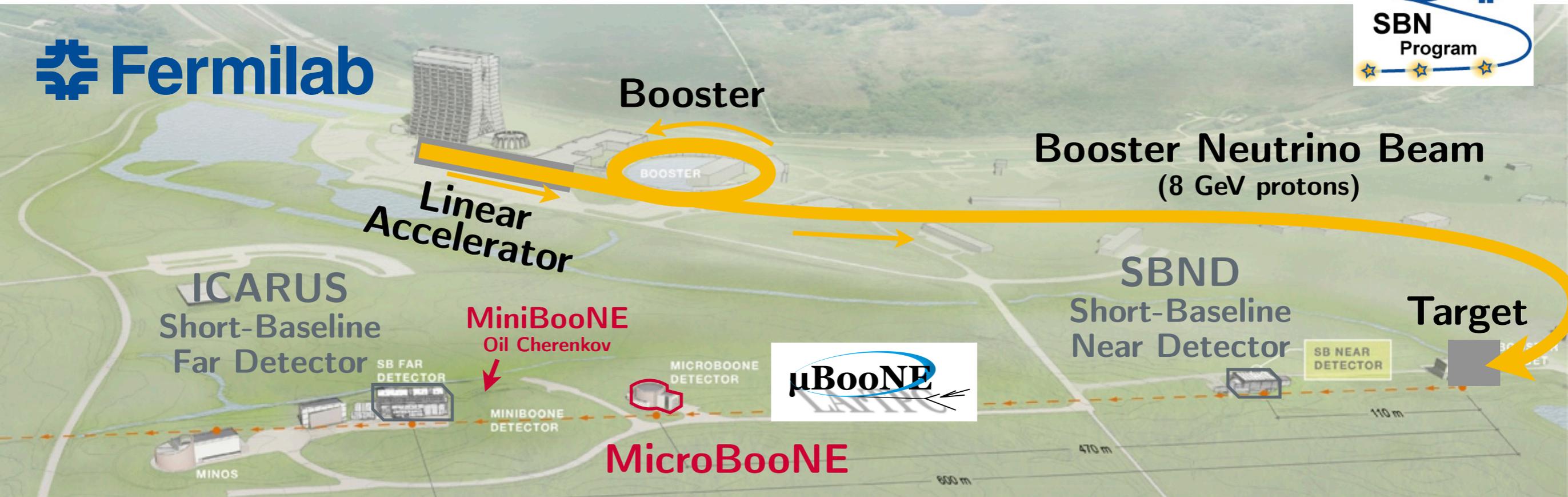
### LAr Time Projection Chambers

- Detailed 3D imaging of neutrino interactions
- Calorimetric energy reconstruction
- Vertex &  $dE/dx$  electron/photon discrimination





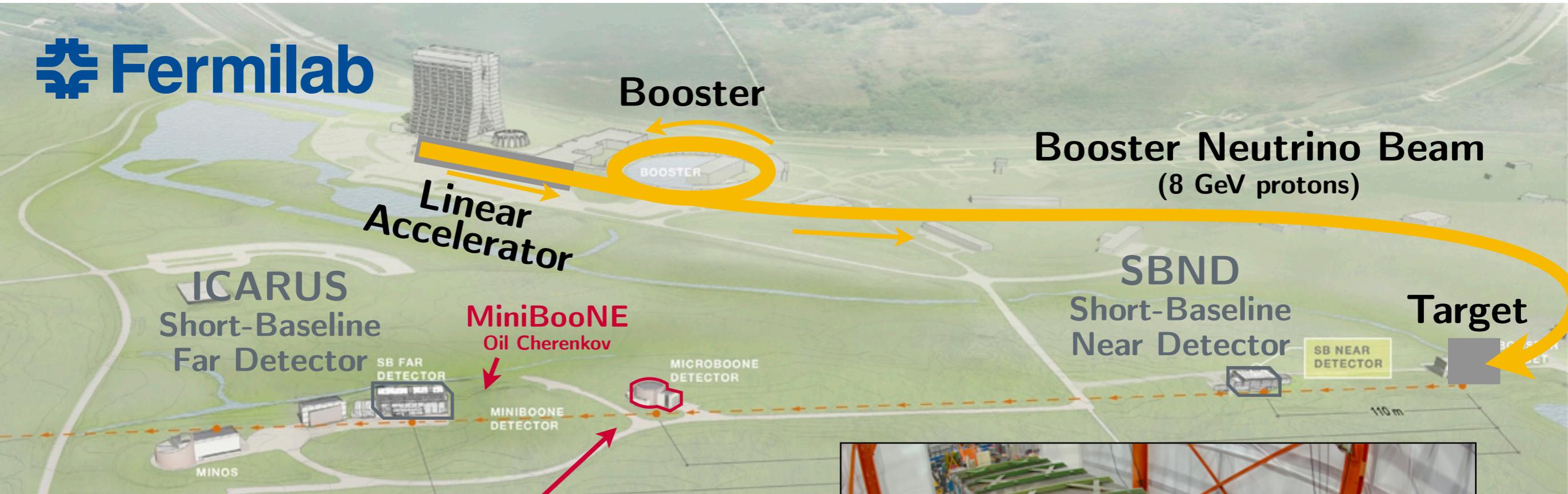




LArTPCs at multiple baselines in the Fermilab Booster Neutrino Beam

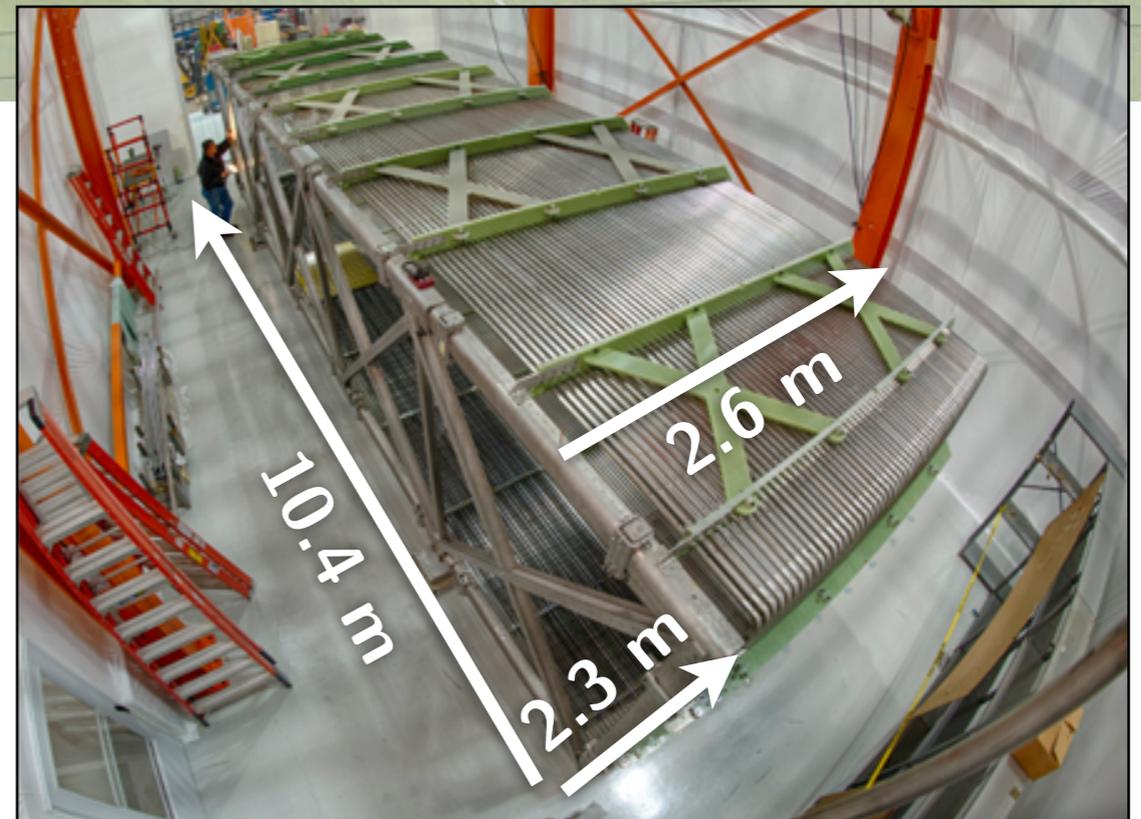
# MicroBooNE

Addressing the MiniBooNE Excess



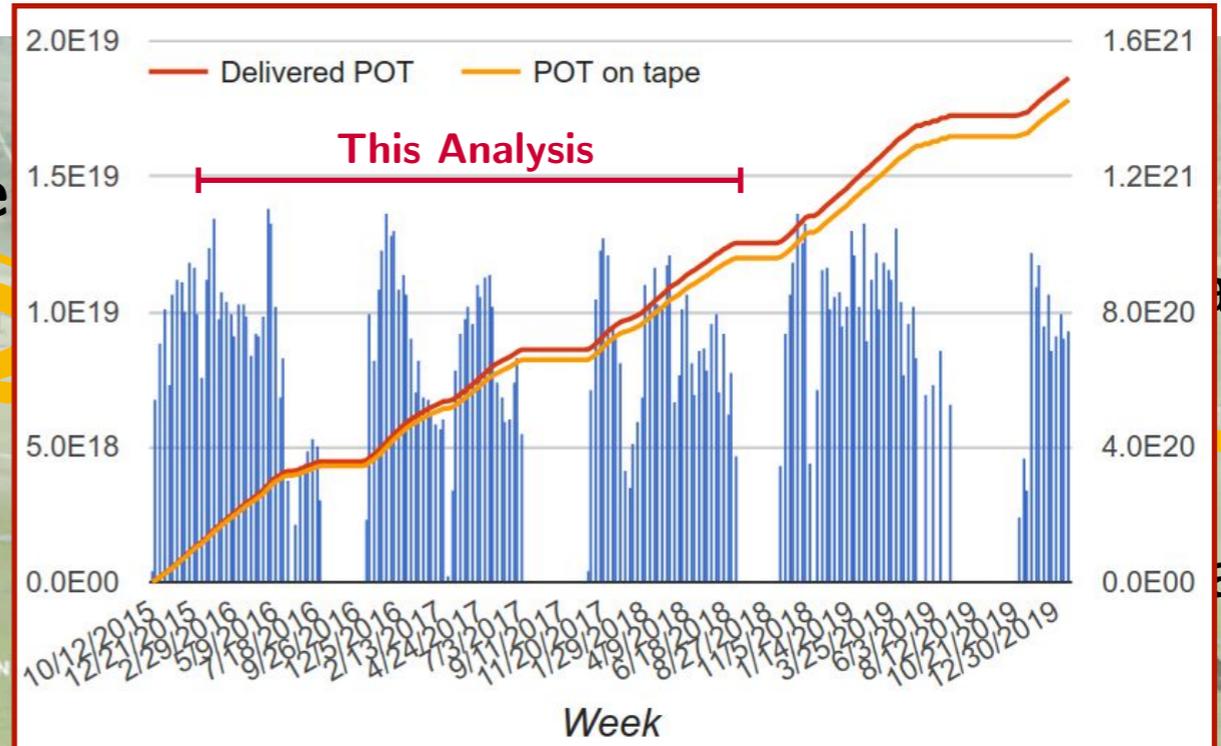
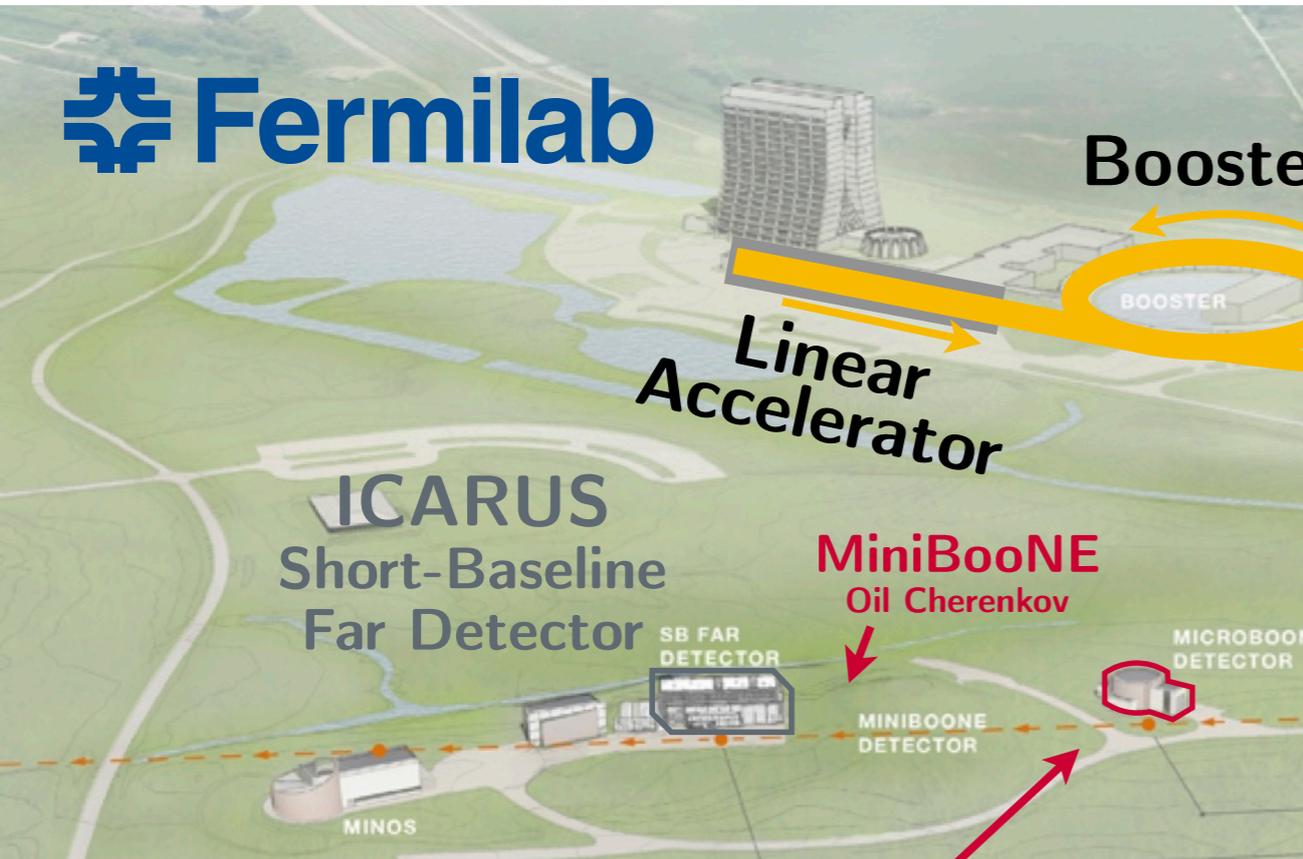
## MicroBooNE Liquid Argon TPC

- 85 tons instrumented LAr mass
- Running Oct 2015 — Oct 2021
- *What did MiniBooNE see?*



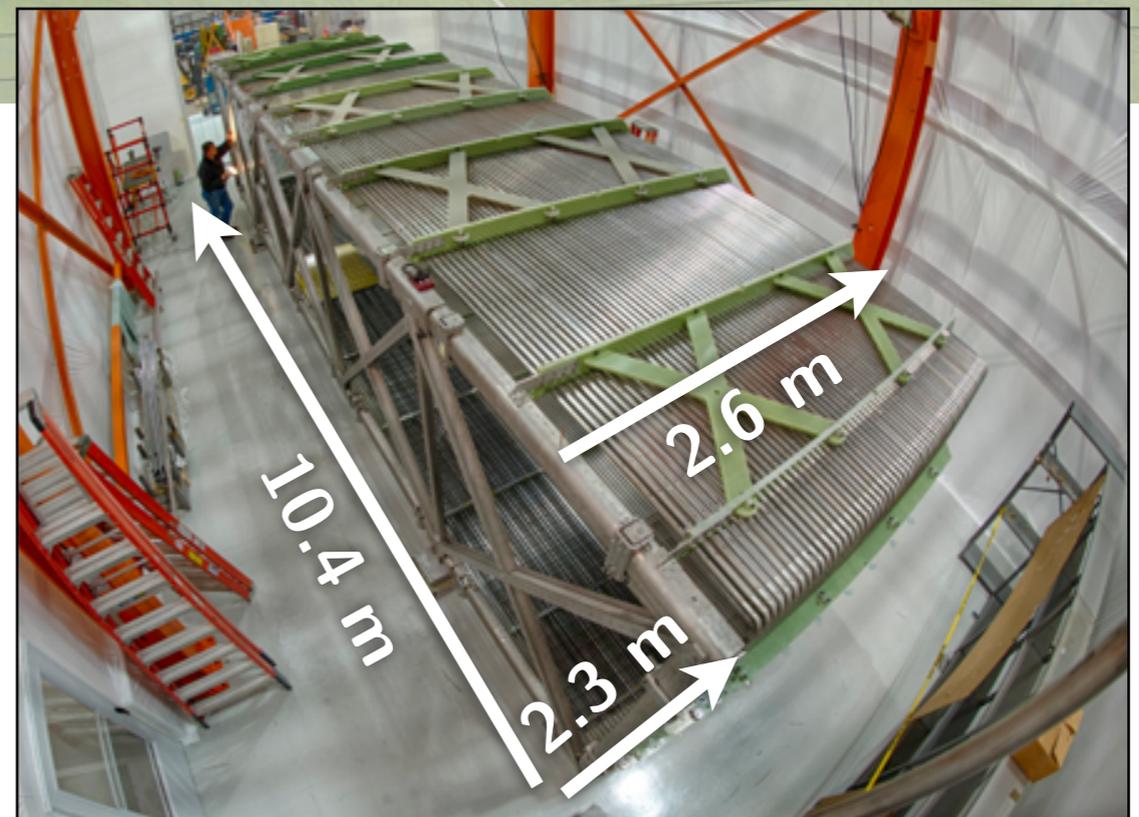
# MicroBooNE

Addressing the MiniBooNE Excess



## MicroBooNE Liquid Argon TPC

- 85 tons instrumented LAr mass
- Running Oct 2015 — Oct 2021
- *What did MiniBooNE see?*



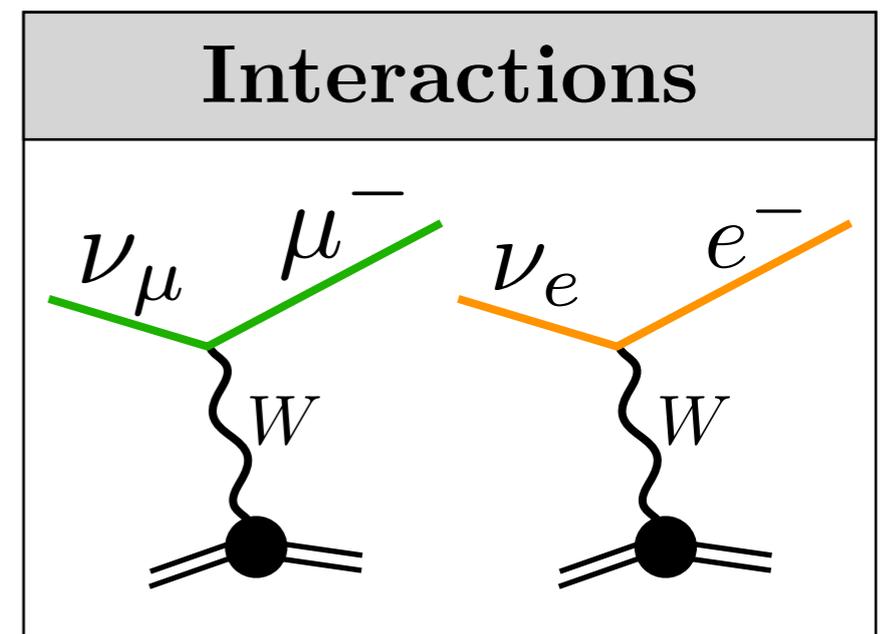
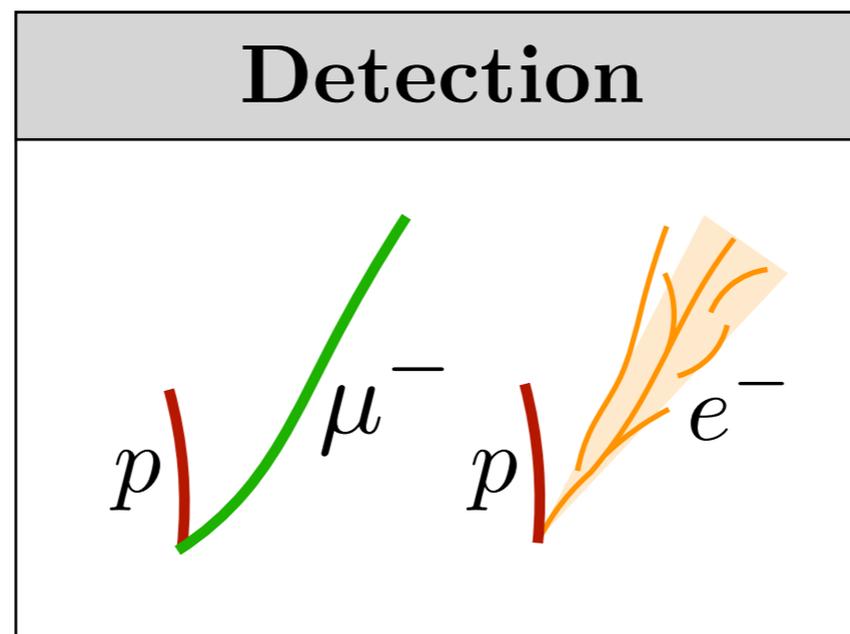
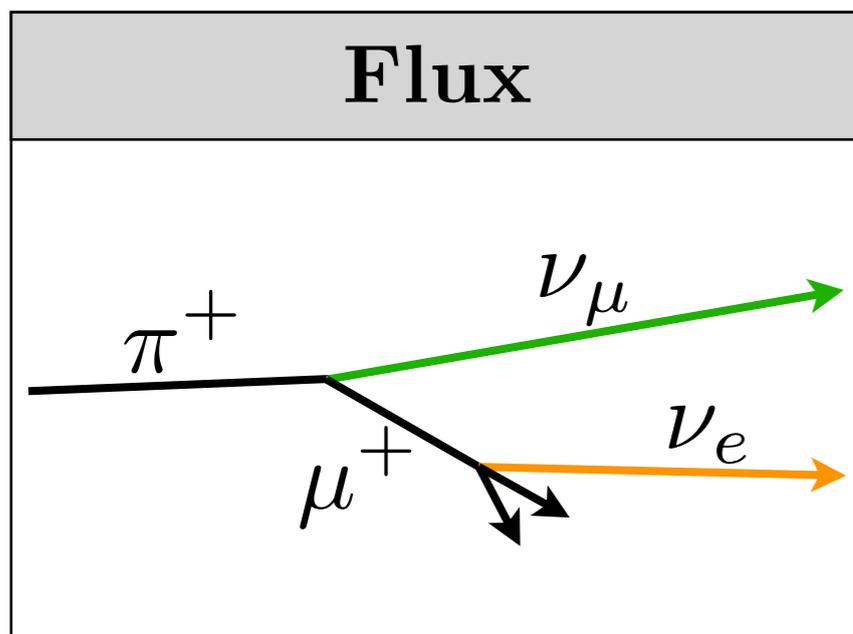
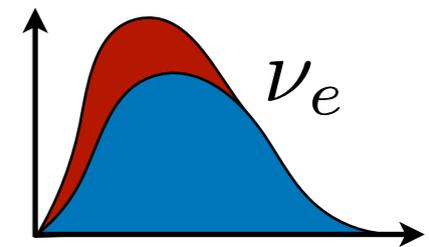
# The Ingredients

Leveraging Correlations to Minimize Systematics



A key to MicroBooNE's single-detector measurement is using high-statistics events to constrain intrinsic backgrounds

For an electron-like excess, e.g., we are looking for a small excess of  $\nu_e$  interactions on top of the 0.5% intrinsic to the beam



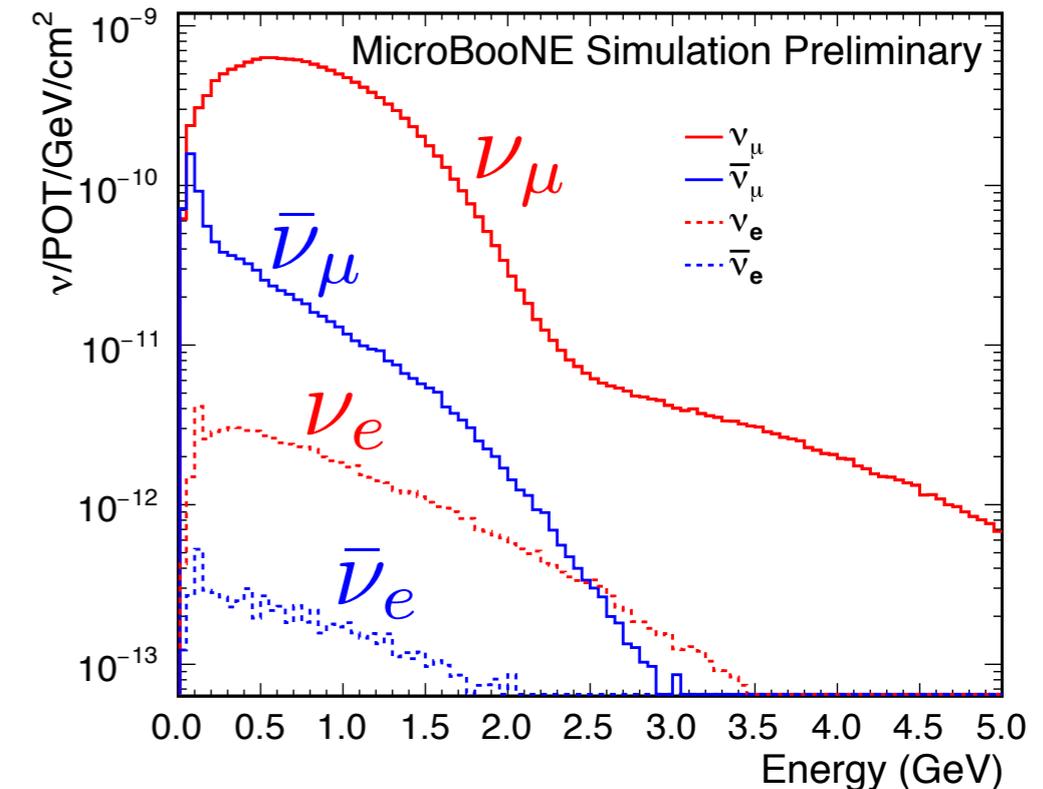
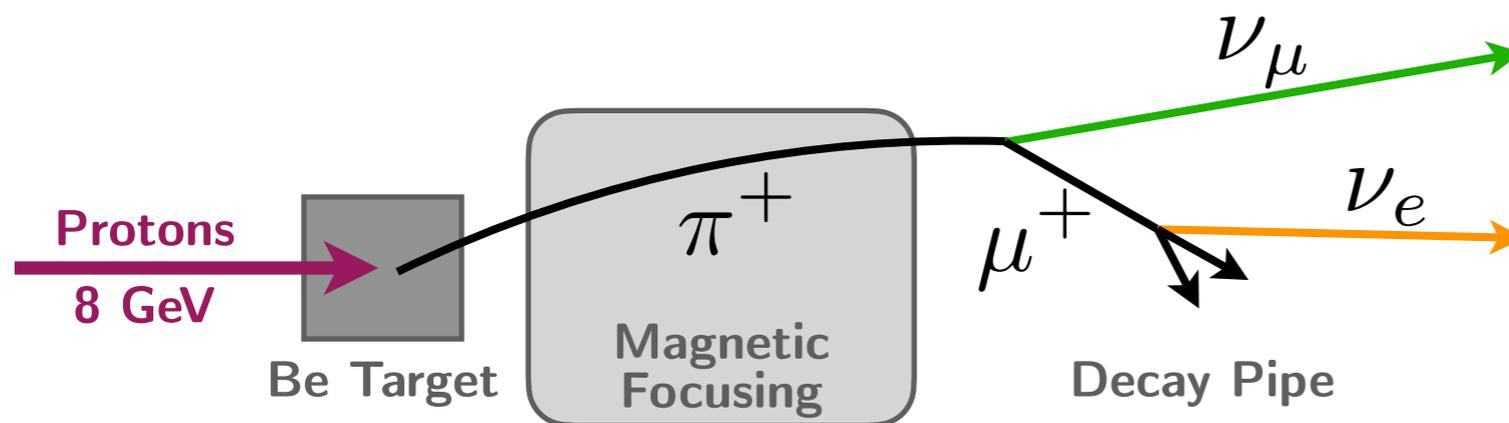
# Neutrino Flux

## Flux Modeling & Uncertainties

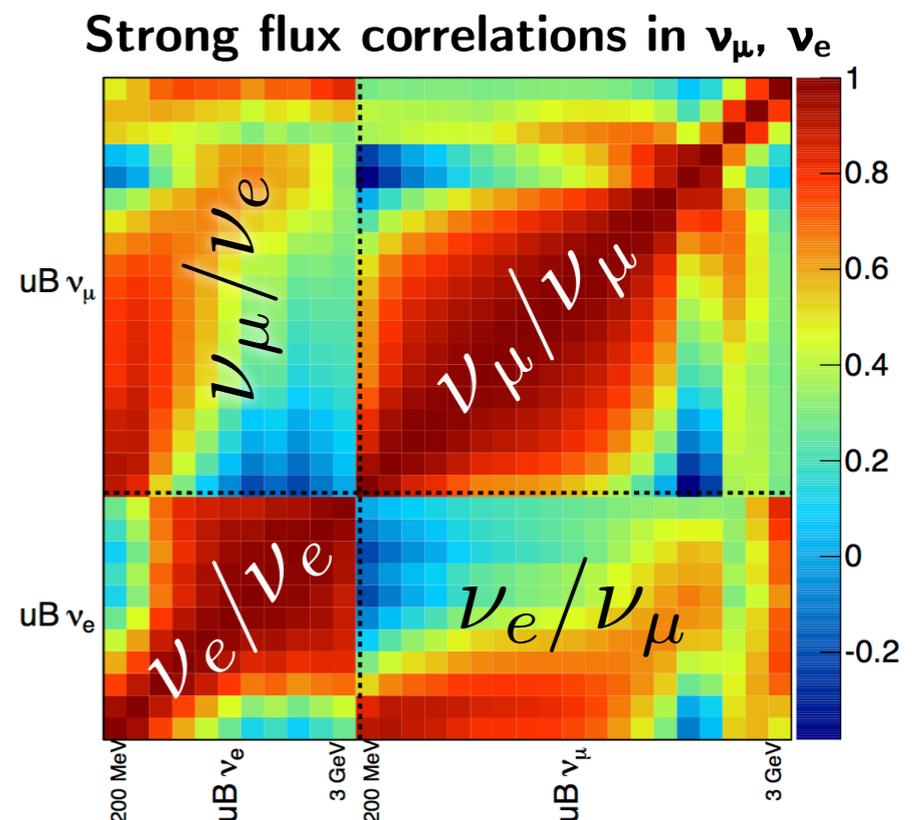


MicroBooNE Public Note 1031

- Fermilab Booster Neutrino Beam
  - 8 GeV protons on a Be target
  - Primarily a  $\nu_\mu$  beam, with 0.5%  $\nu_e$



- MiniBooNE-based flux uncertainties
  - Beamline modeling in Geant4
    - $\pi$ ,  $K$  production (HARP, SciBooNE)
    - $\pi$ , nucleon interactions
  - ~12% integral flux uncertainty
- Leverage strong  $\nu_\mu/\nu_e$  correlations  $\rightarrow$

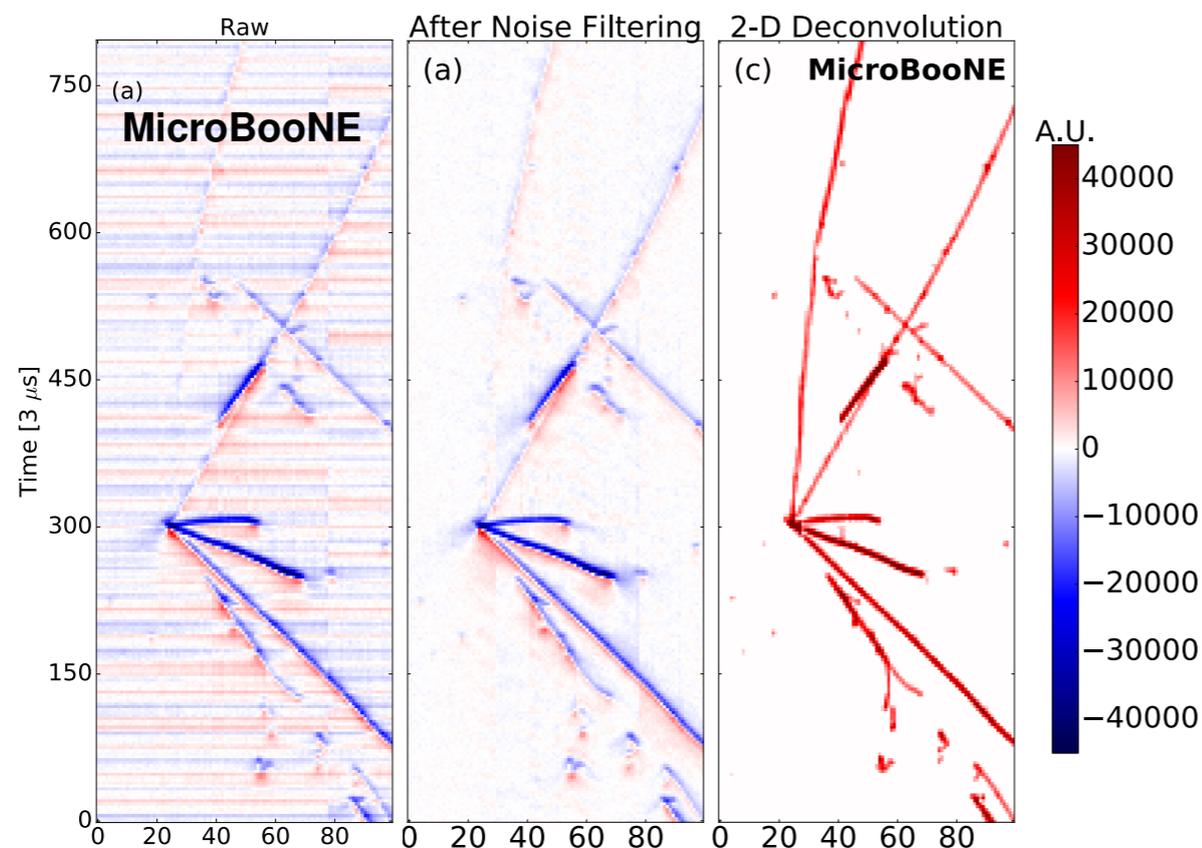


# Detector Modeling



Detailed modeling of particle propagation, electron drift & detector response, and photon propagation

## 1. Signal processing (MicroBooNE, JINST 13 P07007, 2018 and JINST 13 P07007, 2018)

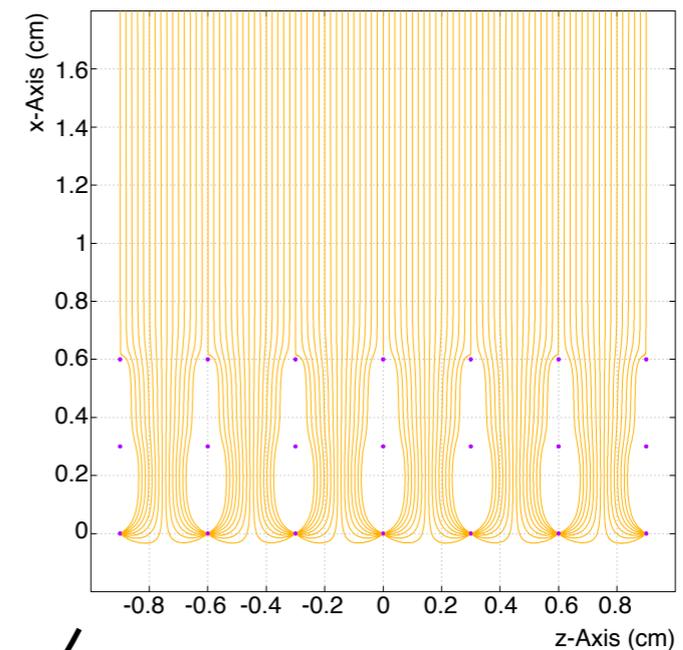


Raw  
Data

Software  
Noise  
Filtering

Improved  
Signal  
Response

2D field simulation  
for electron trajectories



State of the art *data-driven* modeling of LArTPC response, improving efficiency and particle identification

# Detector Modeling



Detailed modeling of particle propagation, electron drift & detector response, and photon propagation

1. **Signal processing** (MicroBooNE, JINST 13 P07007, 2018 and JINST 13 P07007, 2018)
2. **Response Calibration** *or* How Things Go Wrong

## Electric Field

Field distortions due to ion buildup

## Electron Recombination

Electron loss due to ion recombination

## Electron Diffusion

Transverse & longitudinal spread during drift

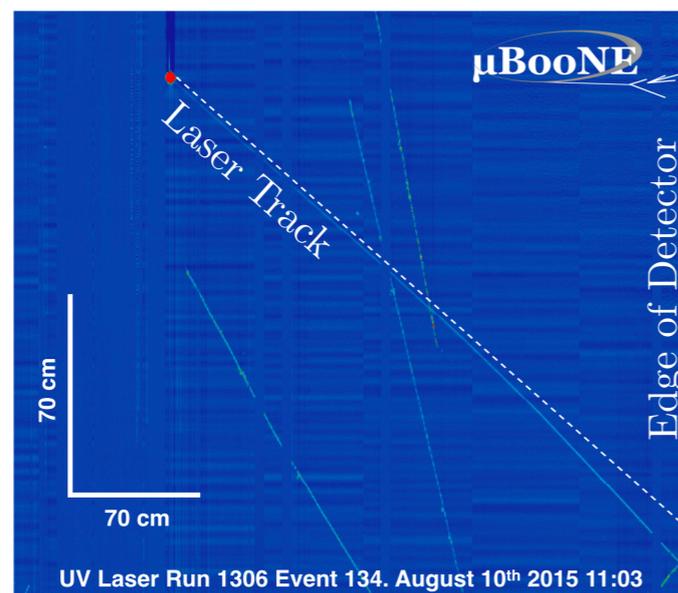
## Electron Attenuation

Electron loss due to Ar impurities

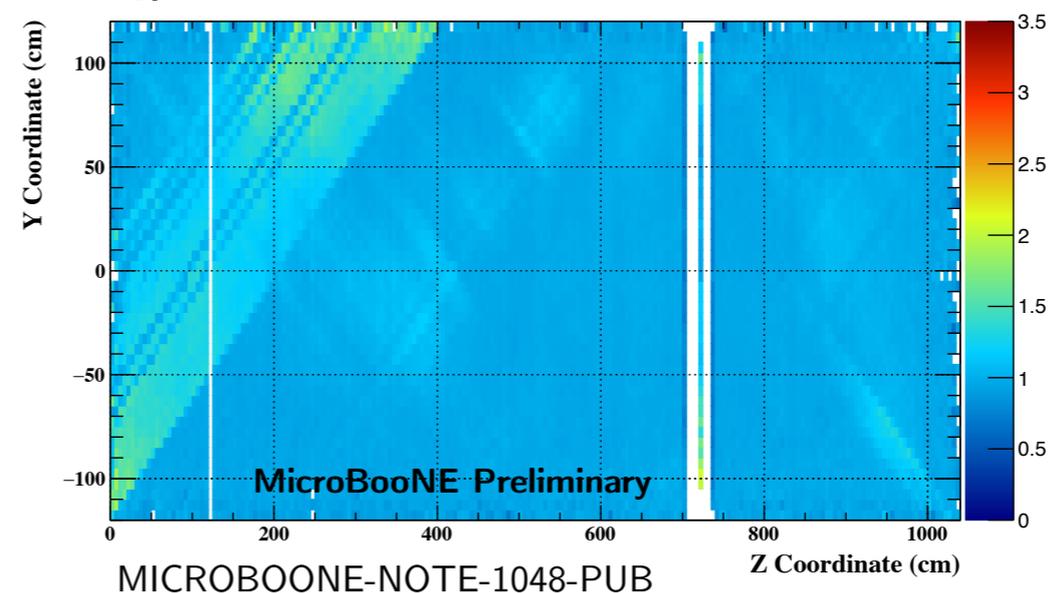
## $dQ/dx$ Response

High-level energy response calibration

### *In Situ* Laser System



### $dQ/dx$ Calibration with Cosmic Muons



# Detector Modeling

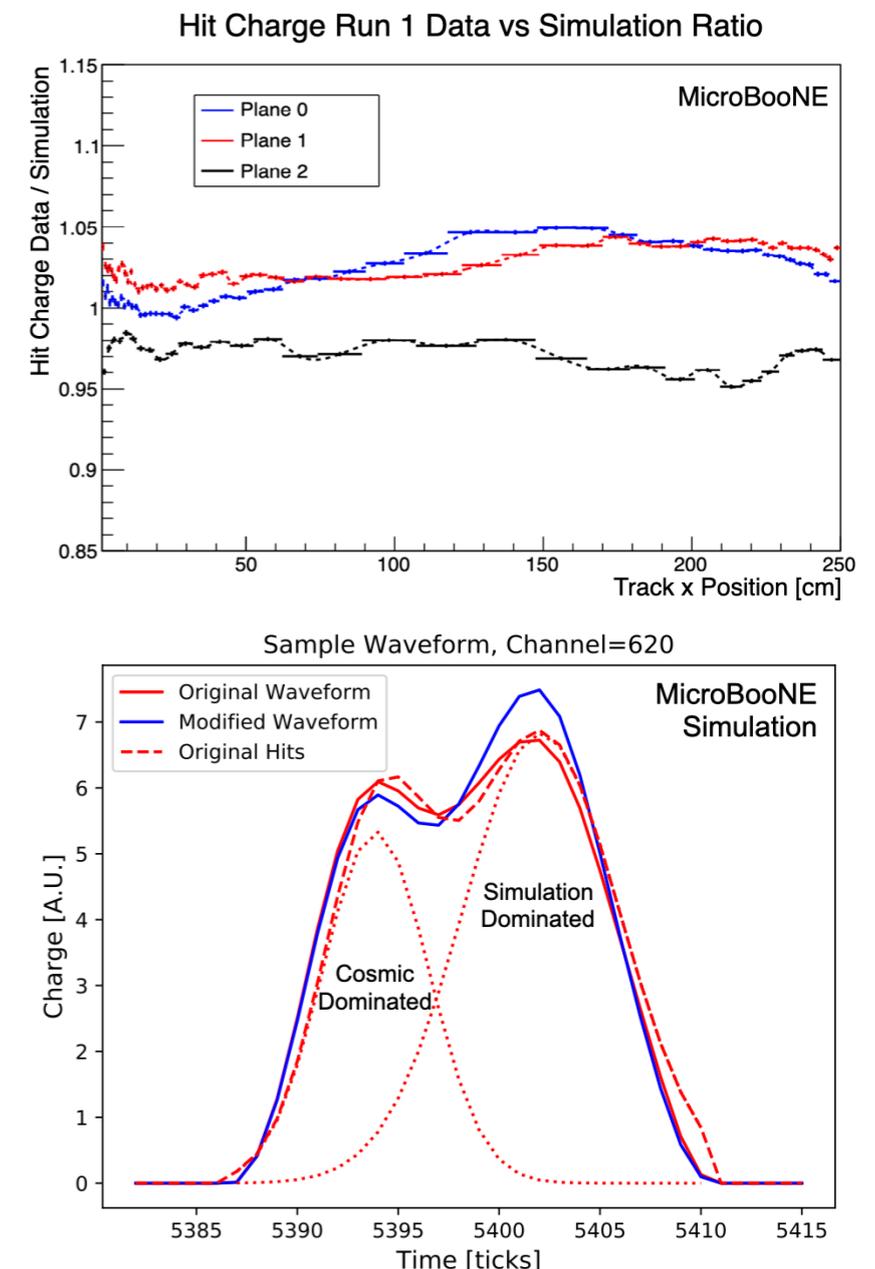
Detailed modeling of **particle propagation, electron drift & detector response, and photon propagation**

Diffusion: JINST 16, P09025 (2021)  
Space charge: JINST 15, P12037 (2020)  
Signal model: JINST 12, P08003 (2017); JINST 13, P07006 & P07007 (2018)  
TPC Cal: JINST 15, P03022 (2020)  
E Field: JINST 15, P07010 & P12037 (2020)  
EM Showers: JINST 15, P02007 (2020), arxiv:2110.11874  
Protons: arxiv:2109.02460 (accepted to JHEP)

1. **Signal processing** (MicroBooNE, JINST 13 P07007, 2018 and JINST 13 P07007, 2018)
2. **Response Calibration** *or* How Things Go Wrong
3. **Systematic Uncertainties**

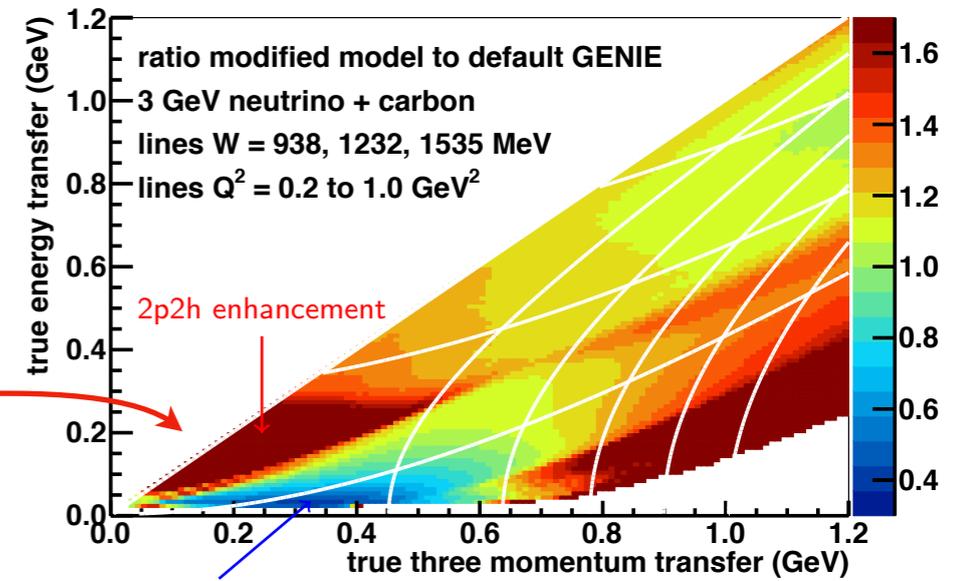
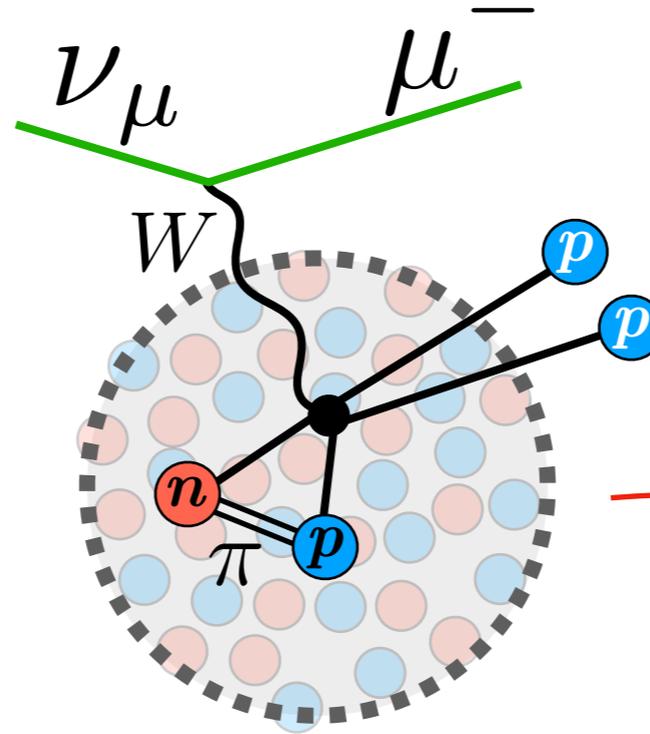
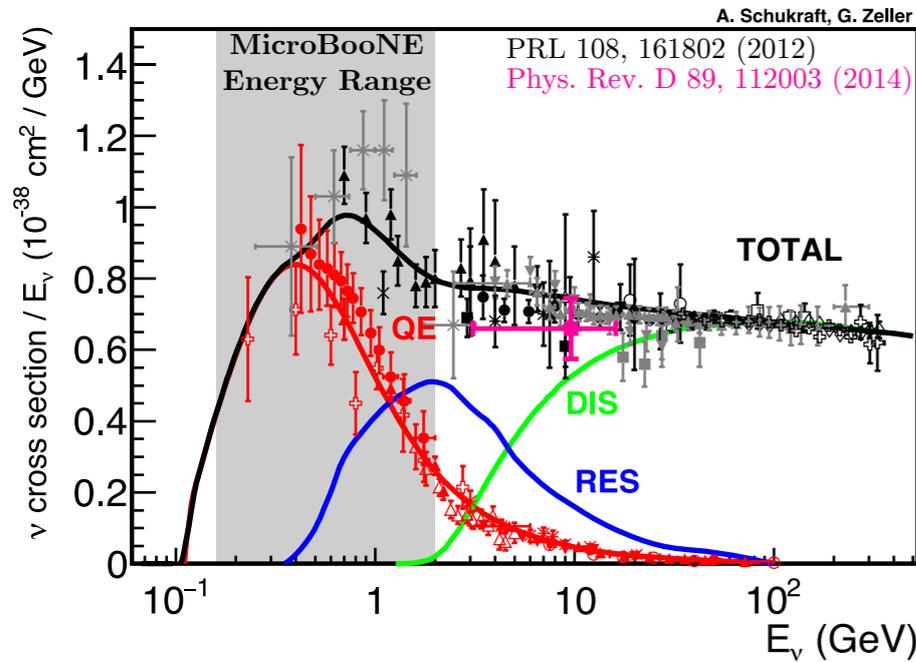
- Highest precision measurements yet performed with LArTPC technology
- Many subtle and correlated effects in the detector response model
- **A novel approach:** Capture waveform-level data/ MC differences in response as a function of  $x$ ,  $yz$ , angles, etc. as a correction and residual modeling systematic
- Augment with light, G4, and other systematics

arxiv:2111.03556, submitted to *EPJC*



# Neutrino Interactions

## Interaction Modeling & Uncertainties



P. Rodrigues (MINERvA), FNAL JETP 12/15

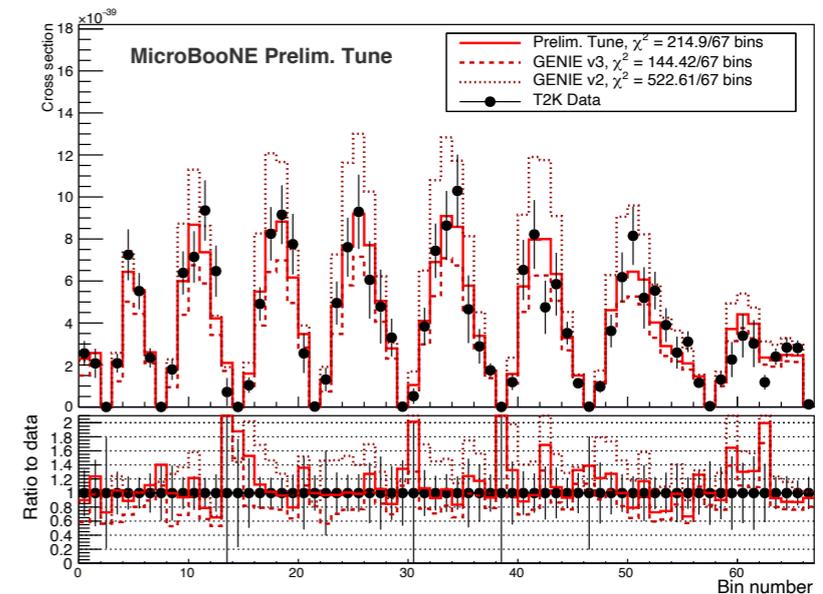
Searching for possible new physics in a regime with poor *a priori* constraints (ν-Ar interactions at 200 MeV)

Nuclear physics effects

e.g. interactions with correlated nucleon pairs (*2p2h*, or MEC)

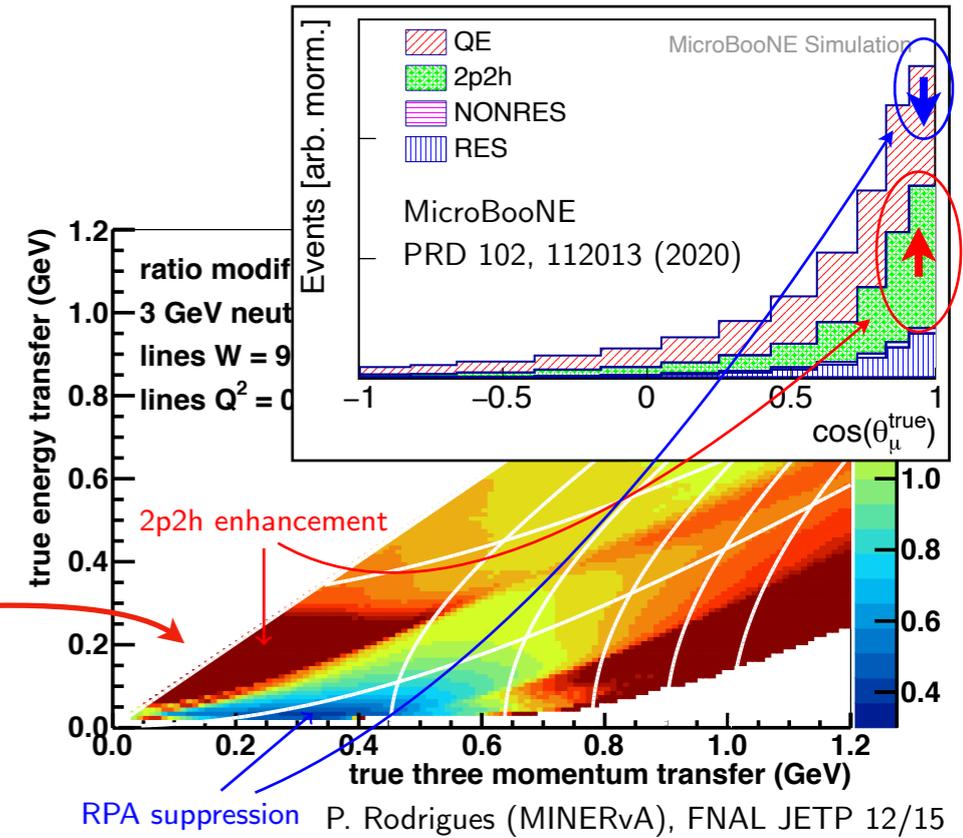
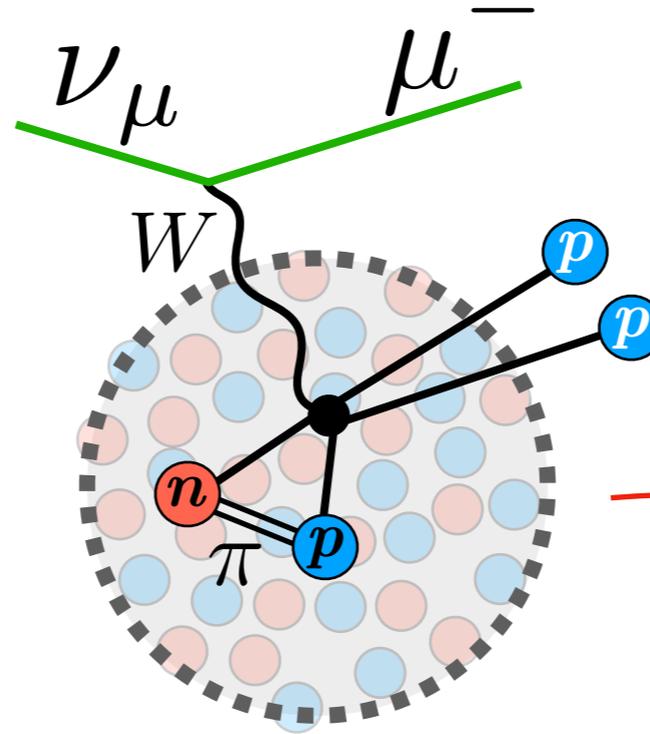
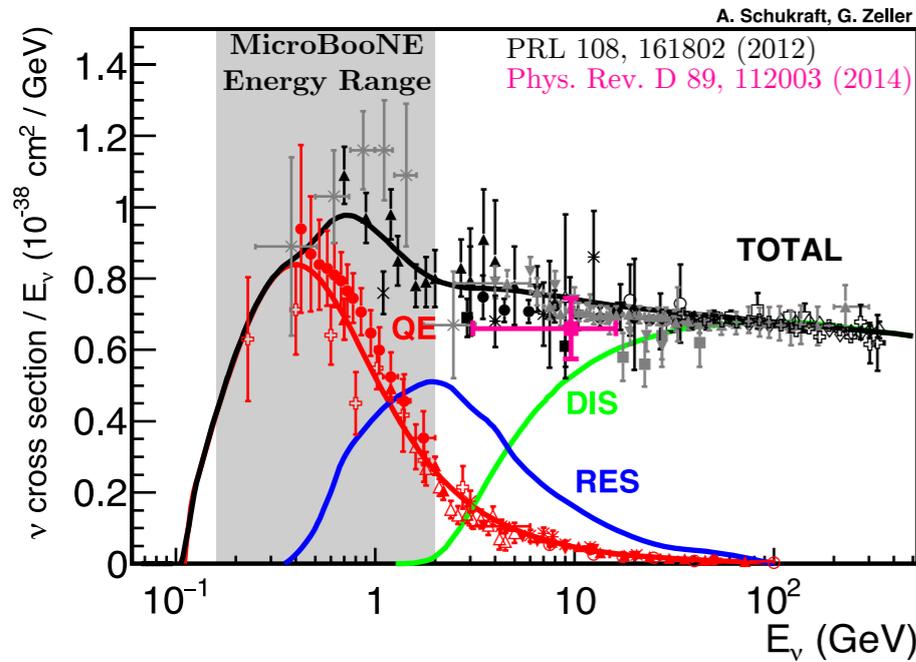


- Pioneered the use GENIE version 3
- Latest theory-driven modeling
- New tunes including T2K CC0π data
- Tuning & uncertainties for the most important model degrees of freedom
- arxiv:2110.14028, submitted to PRD



# Neutrino Interactions

## Interaction Modeling & Uncertainties

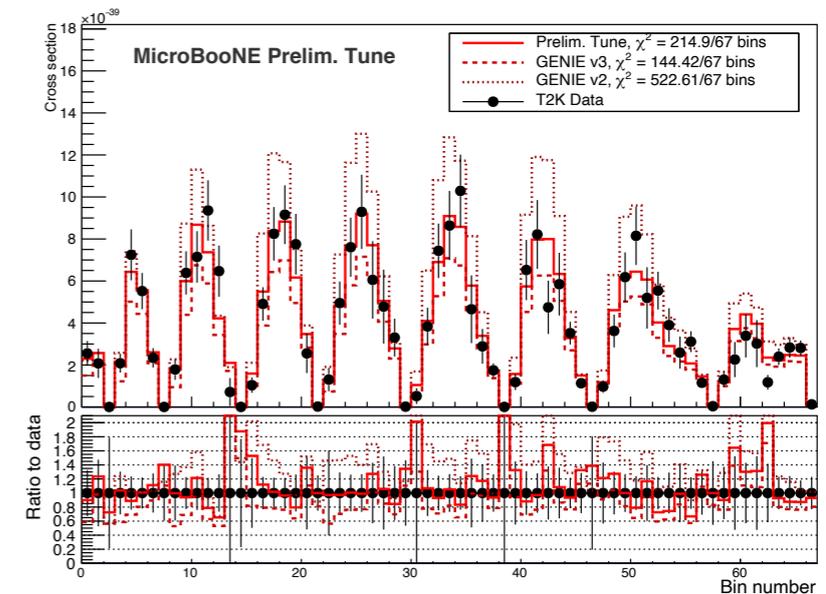


Searching for possible new physics in a regime with poor *a priori* constraints (ν-Ar interactions at 200 MeV)

Nuclear physics effects  
e.g. interactions with correlated nucleon pairs (*2p2h*, or MEC)



- Pioneered the use GENIE version 3
- Latest theory-driven modeling
- New tunes including T2K CC0π data
- Tuning & uncertainties for the most important model degrees of freedom
- arxiv:2110.14028, submitted to PRD

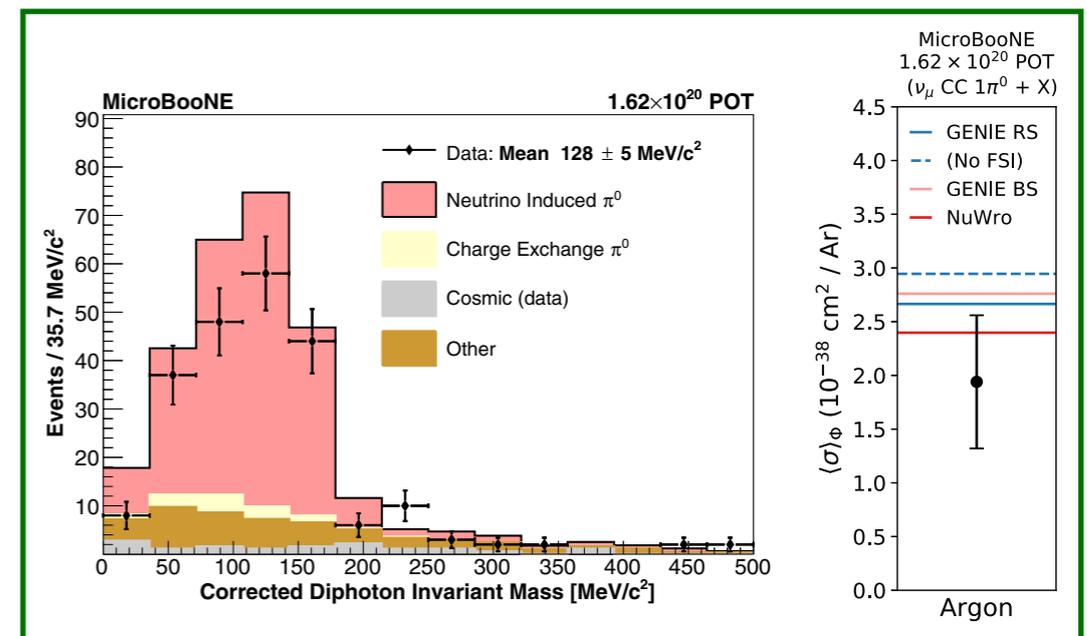
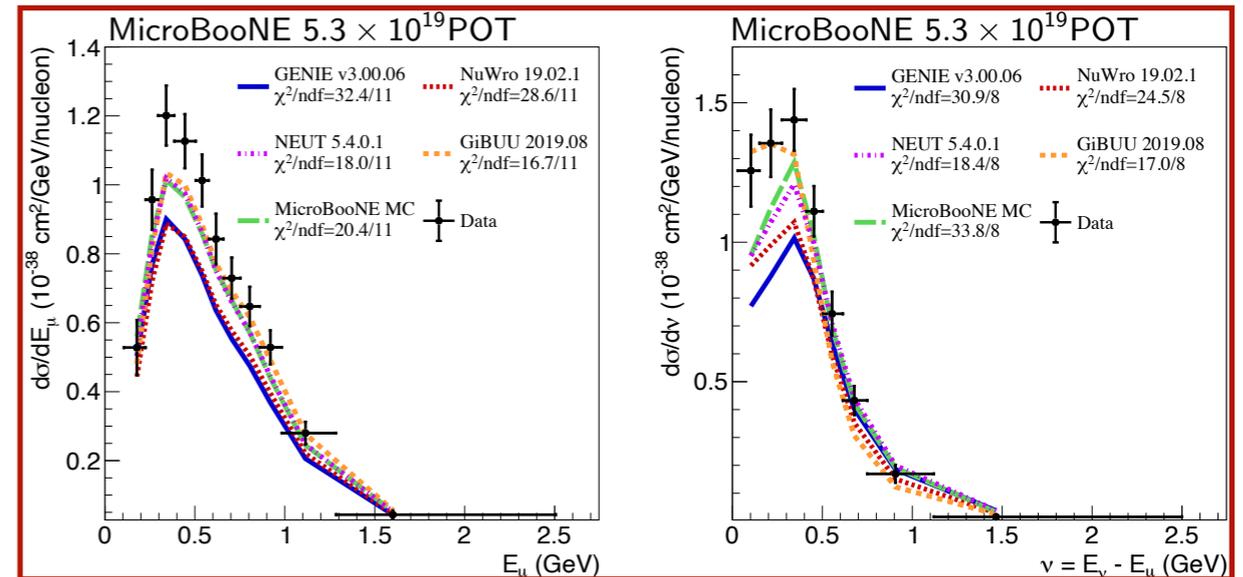
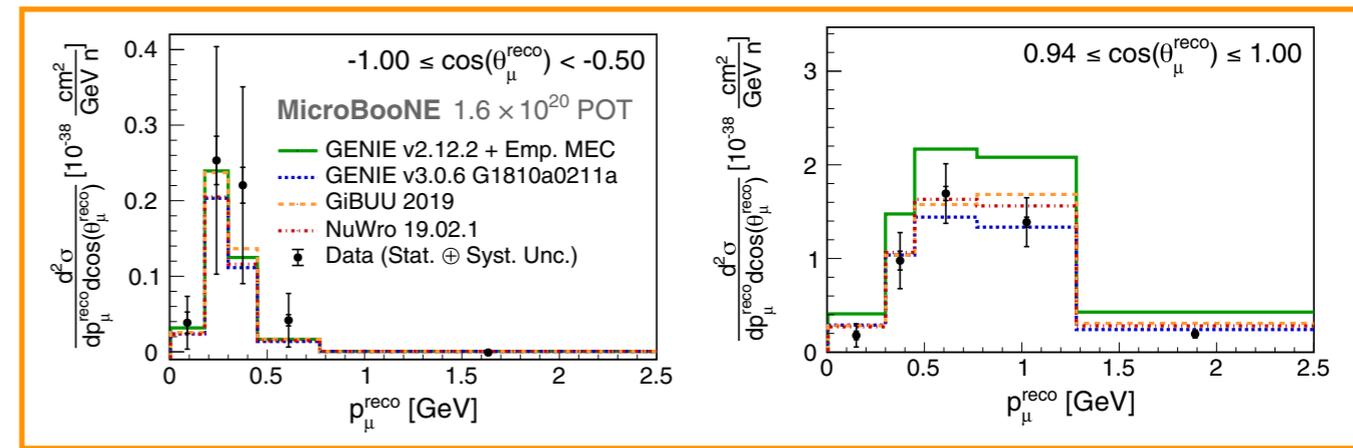


# Neutrino Interactions



## Selected Cross Section Results

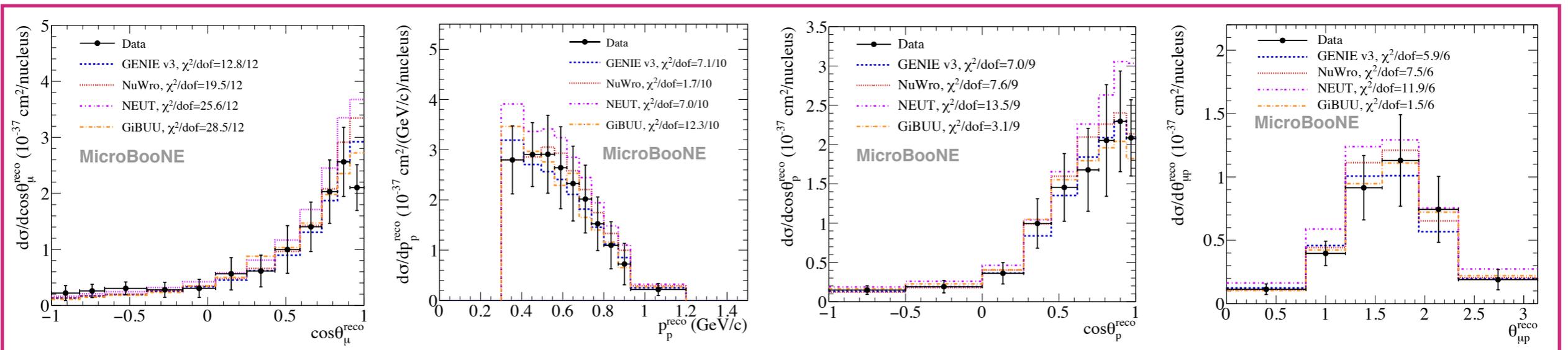
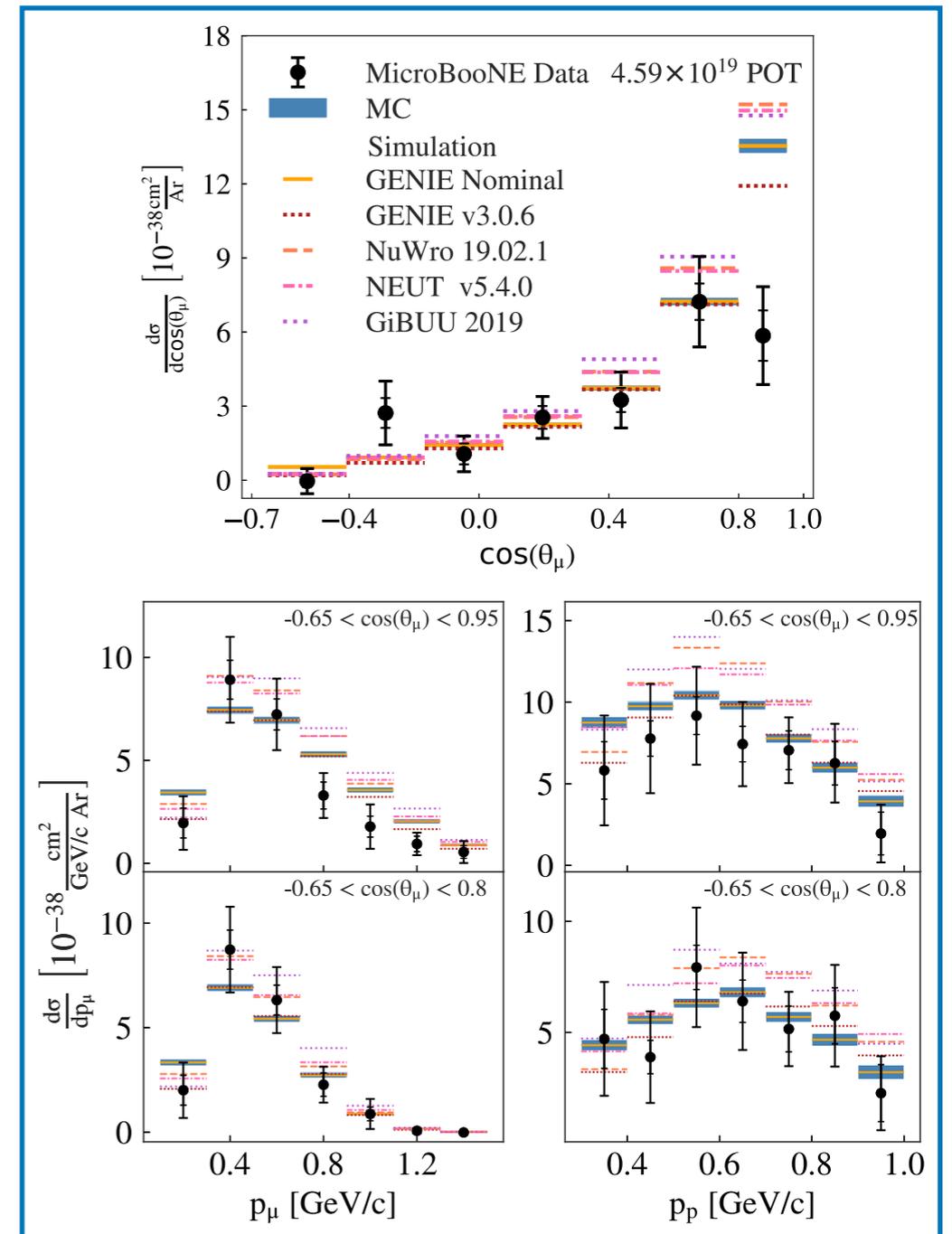
- $\nu_\mu$ -Argon CC Inclusive
- PRL 123 13, 131801 (2019)
- Double-differential ( $p_\mu$ ,  $\cos\vartheta_\mu$ ) cross section with  $4\pi$  angular coverage
- Suppression at high  $\cos\vartheta_\mu$  favors newer models with low- $Q^2$  RPA suppression
- Energy-dependent CC Inclusive
- arXiv:2110.14023, sub. to PRL
- High-statistics measurement of  $\nu_\mu$  CC inclusive: total  $\sigma$  & vs.  $E_\mu$  and  $\nu$
- Updated uncertainty modeling
- $\nu_\mu$  CC  $\pi^0$  production
- Phys. Rev. D 99 9, 091102 (2019)
- Probes  $A$  dependence in FSI modeling
- Electromagnetic shower reconstruction



# Neutrino Interactions

## Selected Cross Section Results: Protons

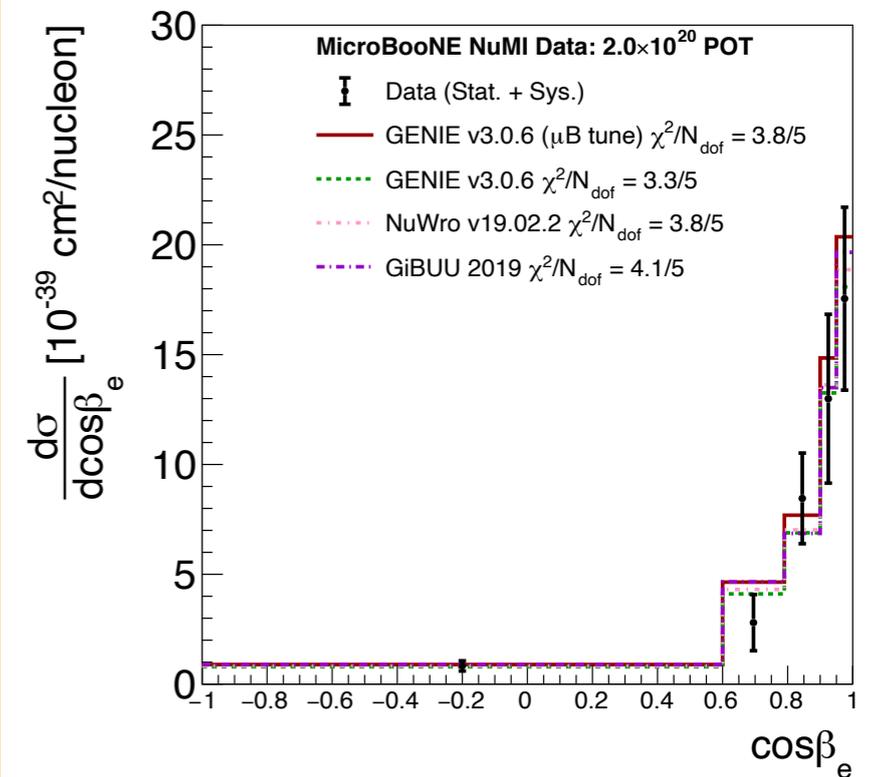
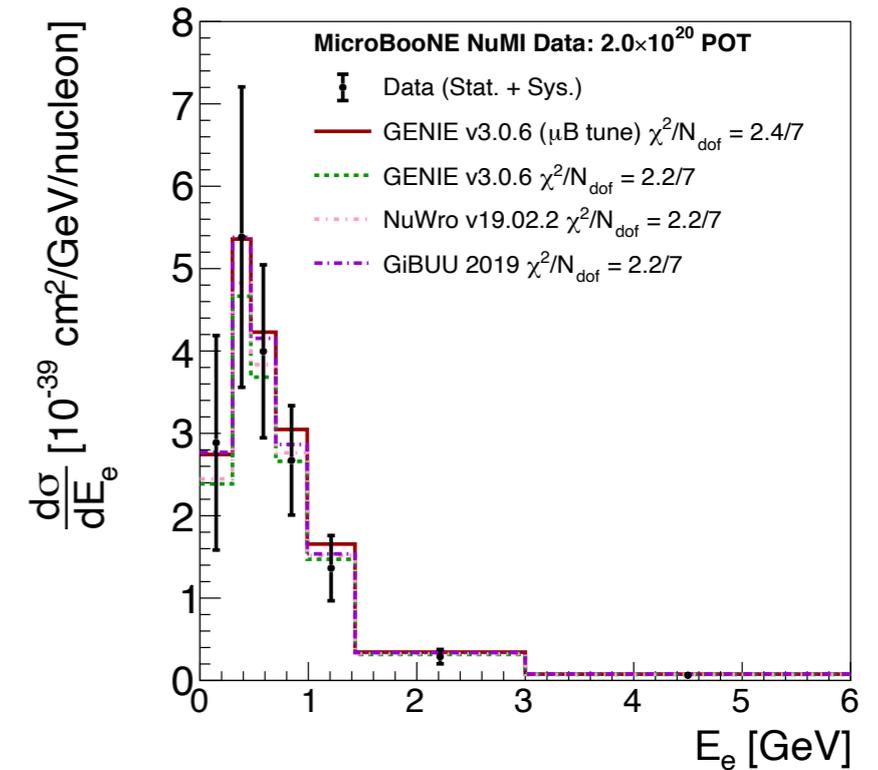
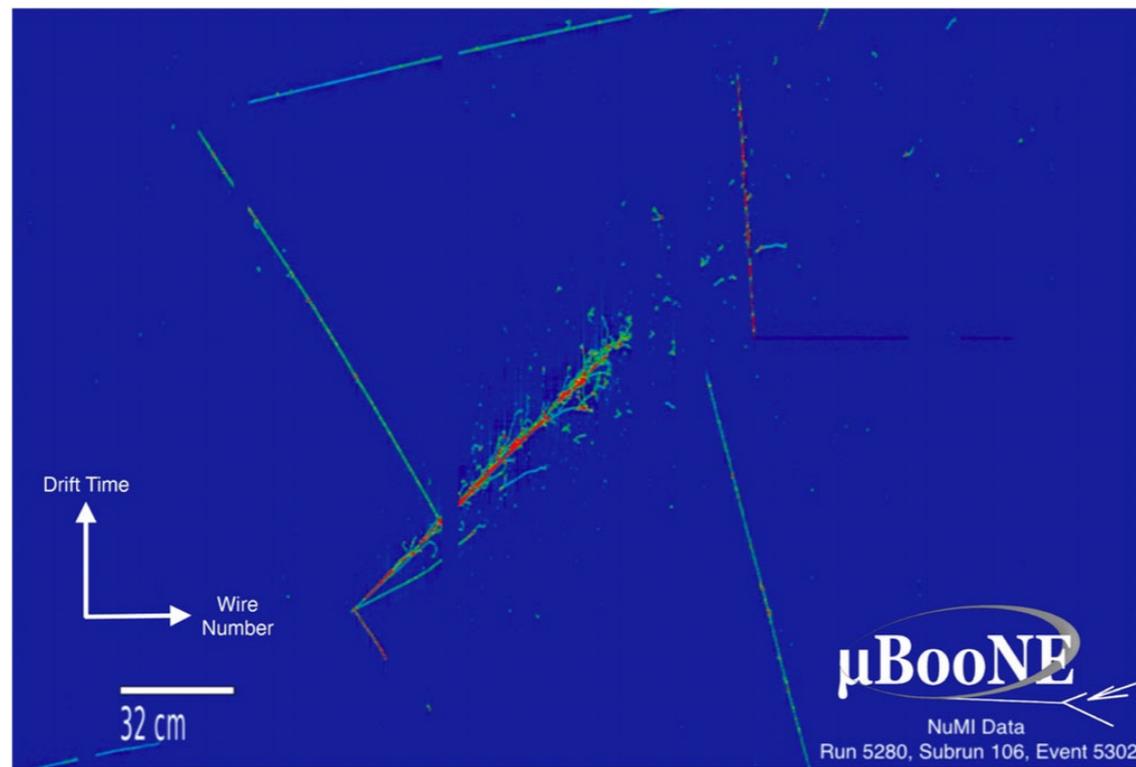
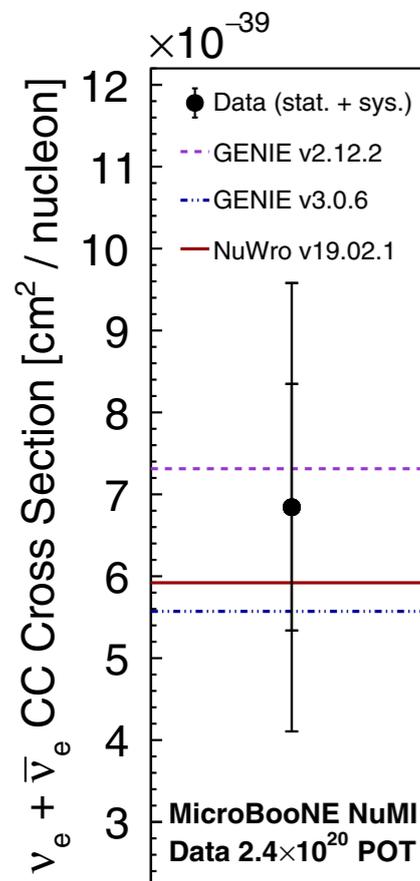
- $\nu_\mu$  CC quasielastic-like ( $1\mu 1p$ )
  - Phys. Rev. Lett. 125 20, 201803 (2020)
  - High-purity exclusive CCQE selection
  - 81% CCQE purity using  $\Delta\varphi_{\mu p}$  coplanarity and transverse momentum  $p_T < 350$  MeV/c
- $\nu_\mu$  CC  $1\mu 0\pi Np$ 
  - Phys. Rev. D 102, 112013 (2020)
  - 1D differential in  $p_\mu, p_p, \vartheta_\mu, \vartheta_p, \vartheta_{\mu p}$
  - Model comparisons in hadronic kinematics
  - Phase space matching detector response:  $p_\mu > 100$  MeV/c, leading  $p_p$  300–1200 MeV/c



# Neutrino Interactions

## Cross Sections: NuMI Electron Neutrinos

- $\nu_e$  CC Inclusive with the NuMI beam
- Separate, off-axis beam,  $\sim 5\%$   $\nu_e$  contribution
- Flux-integrated
  - PRD 104, 052002 (2021)
- Differential ( $E_e, \cos\beta_e$ )
  - arxiv:2109.06832 (submitted to PRL)



# MicroBooNE



2017 ↓ 2018 ↓ 2019 ↓ 2020 ↓ 2021

## Over 40 papers covering:

- Detector R&D, modeling, & calibration
- Analysis & reconstruction techniques
- Neutrino cross sections
- Beyond the Standard Model searches
- First Low-Energy Excess results

- First Measurement of Energy-dependent Inclusive Muon Neutrino Charged-Current Cross Sections on Argon with the MicroBooNE Detector
- Wire-Cell 3D Pattern Recognition Techniques for Neutrino Event Reconstruction in Large LArTPCs: Algorithm Description and Quantitative Evaluation with MicroBooNE Simulation
- New Theory-driven GENIE Tune for MicroBooNE
- Search for an anomalous excess of inclusive charged-current  $\nu_\mu$  interactions in the MicroBooNE experiment using Wire-Cell reconstruction
- Search for an anomalous excess of charged-current  $\nu_\mu$  interactions without pions in the final state with the MicroBooNE experiment
- Search for an anomalous excess of charged-current quasi-elastic  $\nu_\mu$  interactions with the MicroBooNE experiment using Deep-Learning-based reconstruction
- Search for an Excess of Electron Neutrino Interactions in MicroBooNE Using Multiple Final State Topologies
- Electromagnetic Shower Reconstruction and Energy Validation with Michel Electrons and  $\pi^0$  Samples for the Deep-Learning-Based Analyses in MicroBooNE
- Search for Neutrino-Induced Neutral Current  $\Delta$  Radiative Decay in MicroBooNE and a First Test of the MiniBooNE Low Energy Excess Under a Single-Photon Hypothesis
- First Measurement of Inclusive Electron-Neutrino and Antineutrino Charged Current Differential Cross Sections in Charged Lepton Energy on Argon in MicroBooNE
- Calorimetric classification of track-like signatures in liquid argon TPCs using MicroBooNE data
- Search for a Higgs portal scalar decaying to electron-positron pairs in the MicroBooNE detector
- Measurement of the Longitudinal Diffusion of Ionization Electrons in the MicroBooNE Detector
- Cosmic Ray Background Rejection with Wire-Cell LArTPC Event Reconstruction in the MicroBooNE Detector
- Measurement of the Flux-Averaged Inclusive Charged-Current Electron Neutrino and Antineutrino Cross Section on Argon using the NuMI Beam and the MicroBooNE Detector
- Measurement of the Atmospheric Muon Rate with the MicroBooNE Liquid Argon TPC
- Semantic Segmentation with a Sparse Convolutional Neural Network for Event Reconstruction in MicroBooNE
- High-performance Generic Neutrino Detection in a LArTPC near the Earth's Surface with the MicroBooNE Detector
- Neutrino Event Selection in the MicroBooNE Liquid Argon Time Projection Chamber using Wire-Cell 3D Imaging, Clustering, and Charge-Light Matching
- A Convolutional Neural Network for Multiple Particle Identification in the MicroBooNE Liquid Argon Time Projection Chamber
- Measurement of Differential Cross Sections for Muon Neutrino Charged Current Interactions on Argon with Protons and No Pions in the Final State with the MicroBooNE Detector
- The Continuous Readout Stream of the MicroBooNE Liquid Argon Time Projection Chamber for Detection of Supernova Burst Neutrinos
- Measurement of Space Charge Effects in the MicroBooNE LArTPC Using Cosmic Muons
- First Measurement of Differential Charged Current Quasi-Elastic-Like Muon Neutrino Argon Scattering Cross Sections with the MicroBooNE Detector
- Vertex-Finding and Reconstruction of Contained Two-track Neutrino Events in the MicroBooNE Detector
- Search for heavy neutral leptons decaying into muon-pion pairs in the MicroBooNE detector
- Reconstruction and Measurement of  $O(100)$  MeV Electromagnetic Activity from Neutral Pion to Gamma Gamma Decays in the MicroBooNE LArTPC
- A Method to Determine the Electric Field of Liquid Argon Time Projection Chambers Using a UV Laser System and its Application in MicroBooNE
- Calibration of the Charge and Energy Response of the MicroBooNE Liquid Argon Time Projection Chamber Using Muons and Protons
- First Measurement of Inclusive Muon Neutrino Charged Current Differential Cross Sections on Argon at  $E_{\nu} \sim 0.8$  GeV with the MicroBooNE Detector
- Design and Construction of the MicroBooNE Cosmic Ray Tagger System
- Rejecting Cosmic Background for Exclusive Neutrino Interaction Studies with Liquid Argon TPCs: A Case Study with the MicroBooNE Detector
- First Measurement of Muon Neutrino Charged Current Neutral Pion Production on Argon with the MicroBooNE detector
- A Deep Neural Network for Pixel-Level Electromagnetic Particle Identification in the MicroBooNE Liquid Argon Time Projection Chamber
- Comparison of Muon-Neutrino-Argon Multiplicity Distributions Observed by MicroBooNE to GENIE Model Predictions
- Ionization Electron Signal Processing in Single Phase LArTPCs II: Data/Simulation Comparison and Performance in MicroBooNE
- Ionization Electron Signal Processing in Single Phase LArTPCs I: Algorithm Description and Quantitative Evaluation with MicroBooNE Simulation
- The Pandora Multi-Algorithm Approach to Automated Pattern Recognition of Cosmic Ray Muon and Neutrino Events in the MicroBooNE Detector
- Measurement of Cosmic Ray Reconstruction Efficiencies in the MicroBooNE LAr TPC Using a Small External Cosmic Ray Counter
- Noise Characterization and Filtering in the MicroBooNE Liquid Argon TPC
- Michel Electron Reconstruction Using Cosmic Ray Data from the MicroBooNE LArTPC
- Determination of Muon Momentum in the MicroBooNE LAr TPC Using an Improved Model of Multiple Coulomb Scattering
- Convolutional Neural Networks Applied to Neutrino Events in a Liquid Argon Time Projection Chamber
- Design and Construction of the MicroBooNE Detector

(Plus over 60 Technical Notes)  
<https://microboone.fnal.gov/public-notes/>

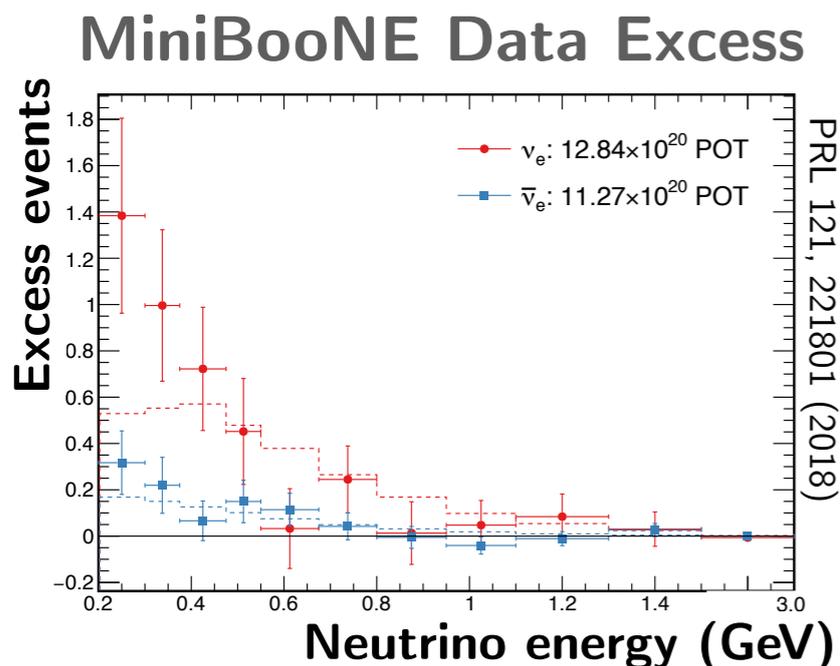
# MicroBooNE

## Addressing the MiniBooNE Excess



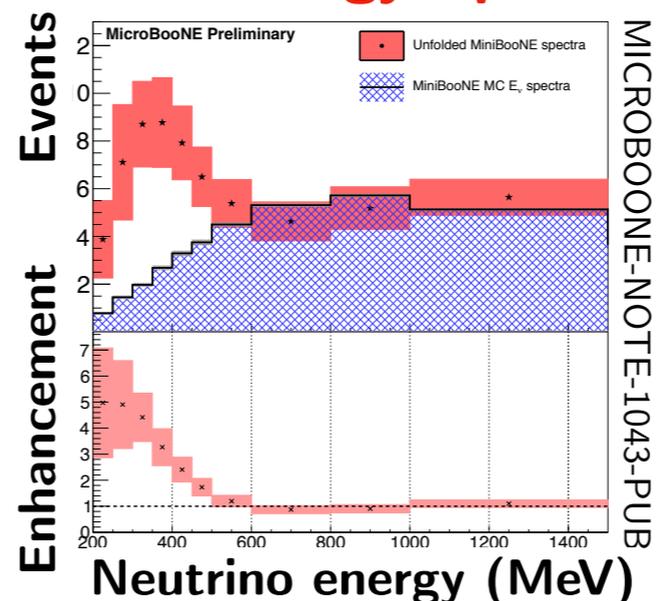
Questions: Is MicroBooNE's data compatible with...

- Background expectations?
- Short-baseline neutrino oscillations?
- The MiniBooNE Excess
  - An electron-like excess:  $\nu_e$  CCQE?
  - A photon-like excess: NC  $1\gamma$ ?
  - Other interpretations?



MC  
Unfolding  
(CCQE  
Hypothesis)

### Neutrino Energy Spectrum



Simulation  
& Selection

MicroBooNE  
Sensitivity &  
Significance

# MicroBooNE



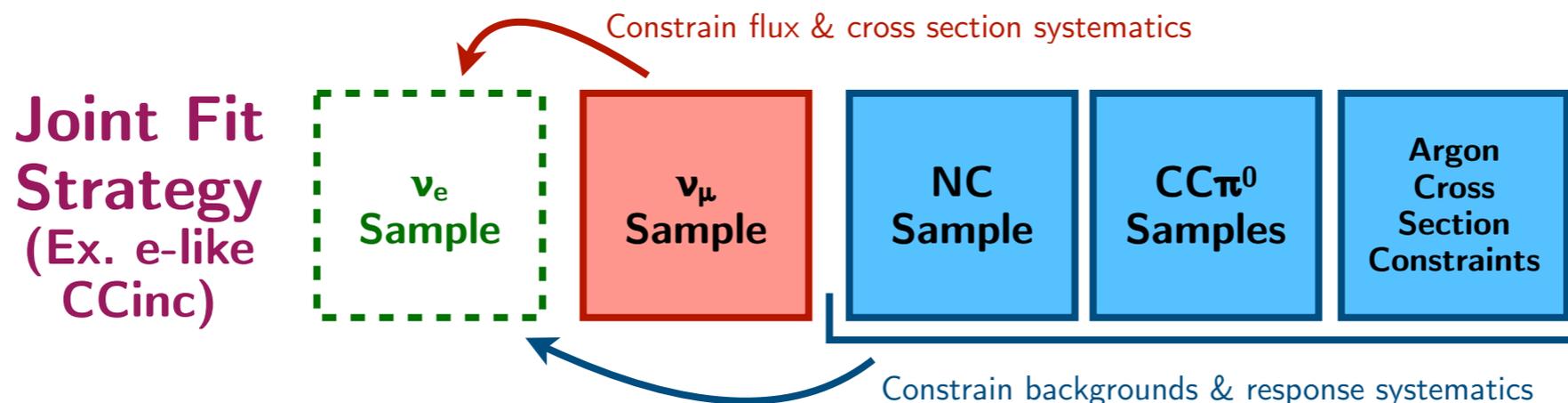
## Addressing the MiniBooNE Excess

### A Staged Blind Analysis:



G. Karagiorgi, Neutrino 2020

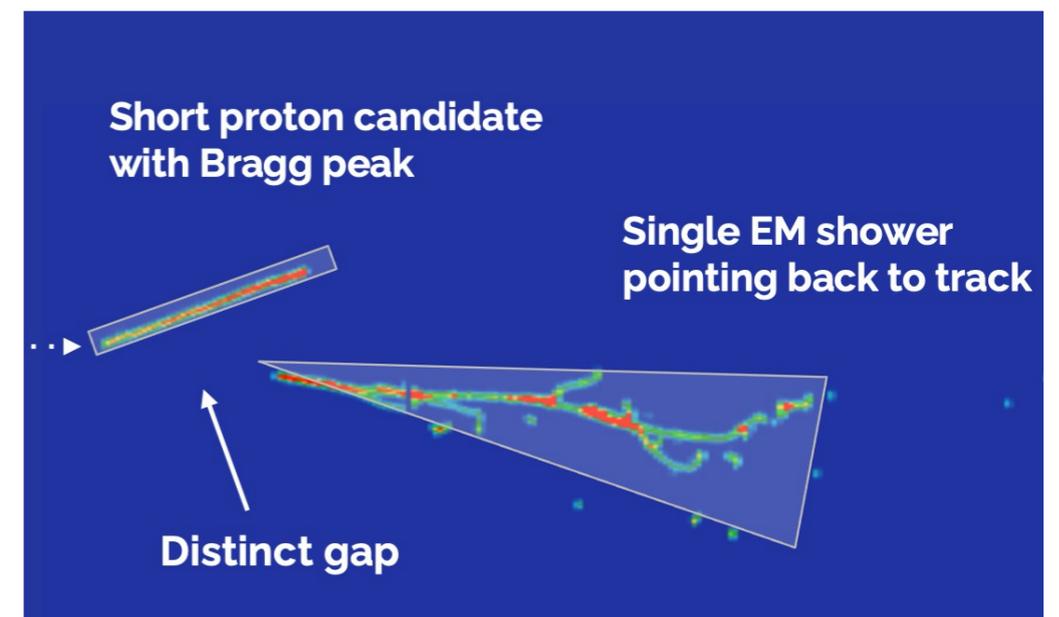
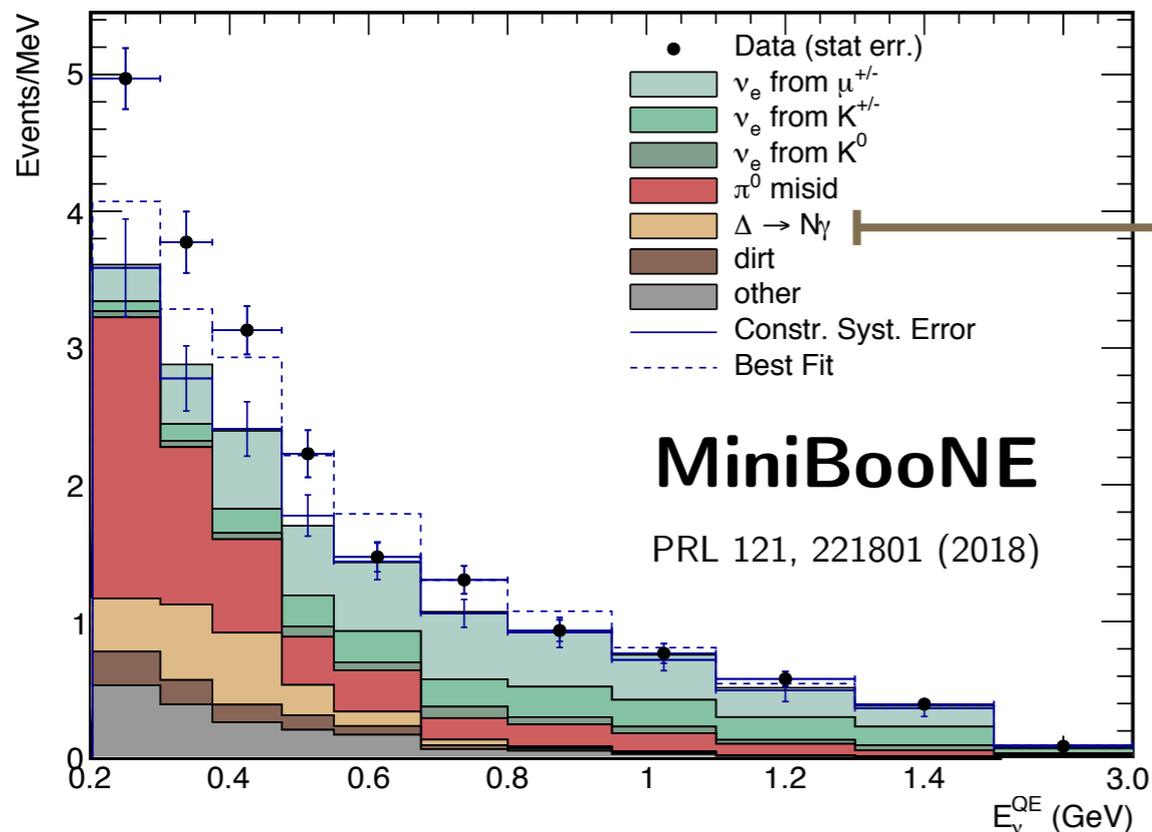
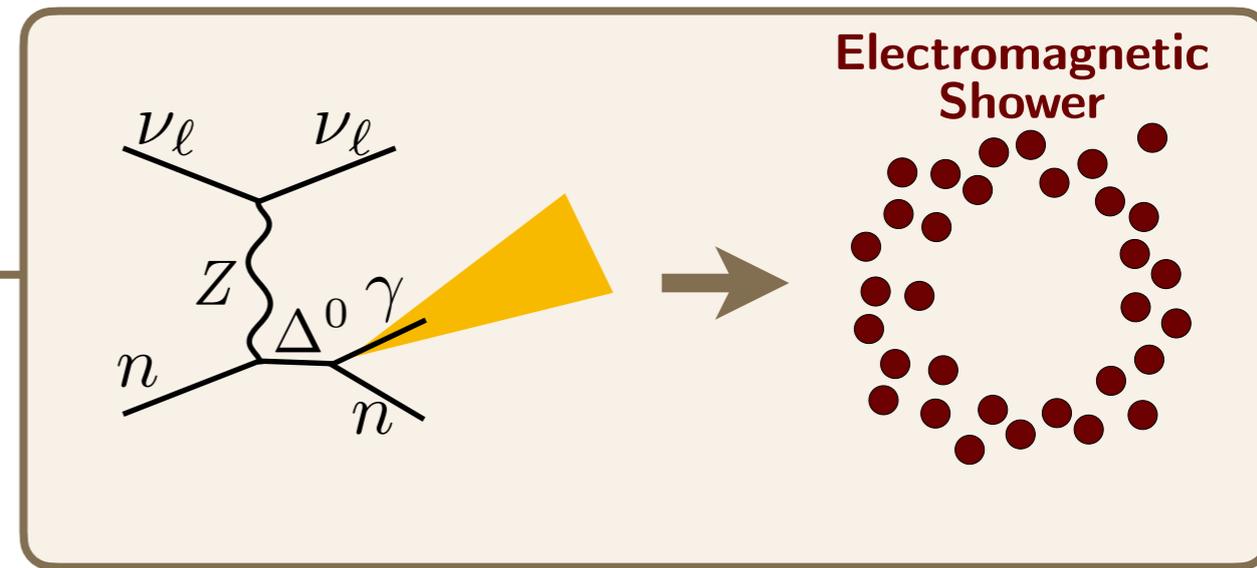
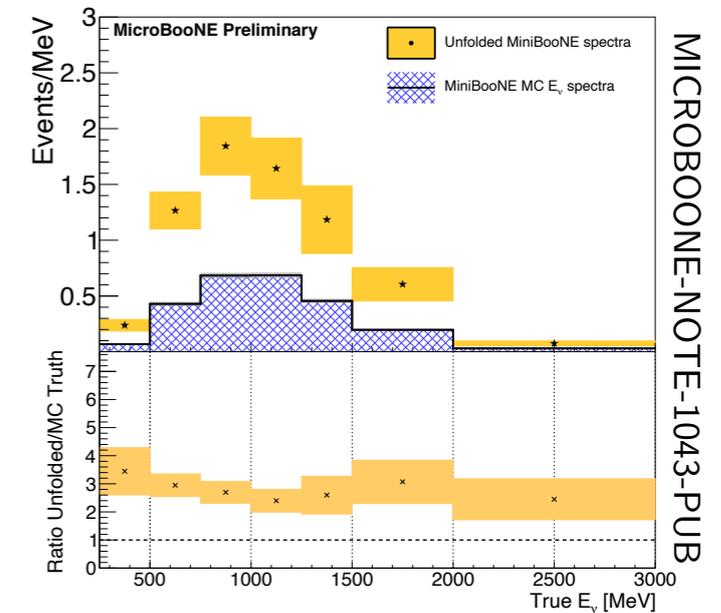
- **Staged blind analysis** — far and near energy/PID sidebands leading to the signal box
  - All analyses reviewed and "frozen" prior to unblinding
  - Developed on MC & ~3% data ( $5 \times 10^{19}$  POT), applied to  $7 \times 10^{20}$  POT (of  $15 \times 10^{20}$  POT total)
- **Multiple complementary event reconstruction techniques** and **final states** (e/ $\gamma$ )
  - Photon-like ( $\Delta \rightarrow N\gamma$ ) excess, using Pandora-based reconstruction
  - Electron-like excess in CC0 $\pi$ , Pandora-based reconstruction
  - Electron-like excess with QE-like  $1\ell 1p$ , Deep-Learning reconstruction
  - Electron-like excess in CC inclusive, using tomographic (WireCell) 3D reconstruction



# Single Photon Search

## Neutral Current Single Photon Production

- NC  $\Delta(1232) \rightarrow N\gamma$  production
- Unmeasured in neutrino scattering, T2K limit  $\sim 100\times$  prediction (J.Phys.G 46, 08LY01 (2019))
- Indirect constraint in MiniBooNE: theory and in situ  $\pi^0$  measurement
- Flat enhancement  $\times 3.18$  could explain the MiniBooNE excess



# Single Photon Search

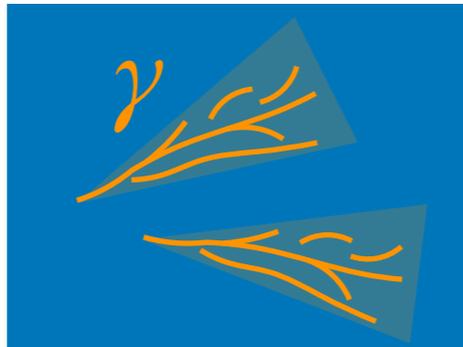
## Neutral Current Single Photon Production

- Signal search in  $1\gamma 1p$  and  $1\gamma 0p$
- 5 (3) BDTs trained for background ID
- $2\gamma 1p$  and  $2\gamma 0p$  constrain  $\pi^0$  background  $\rightarrow$
- GENIE v3.0.6: Berger-Sehgal resonance model with updated tuning to  $\nu$ -A data
- Pandora event reconstruction (EPJC 78, 82 (2018))

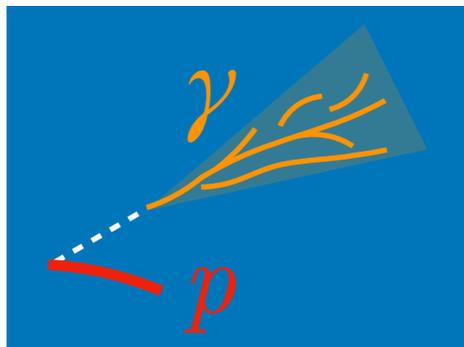
$1\gamma 0p$



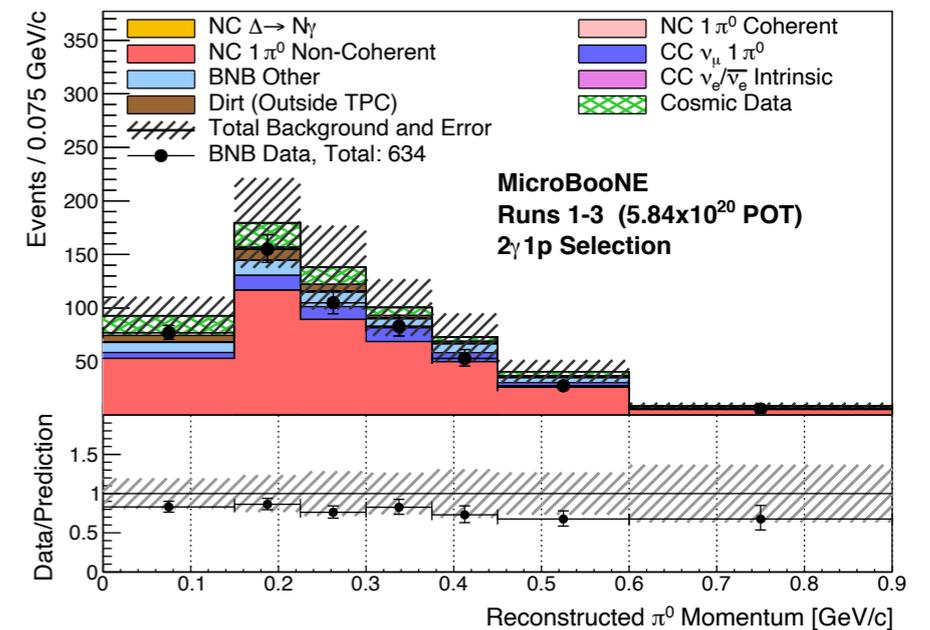
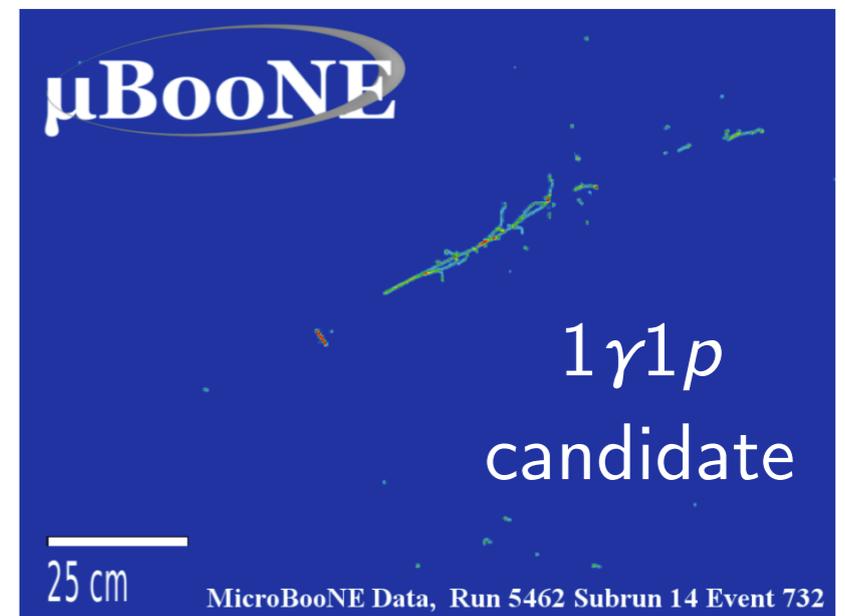
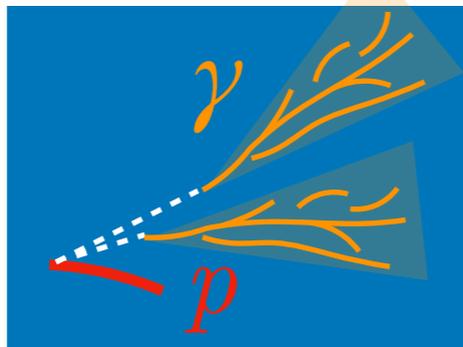
$2\gamma 0p$



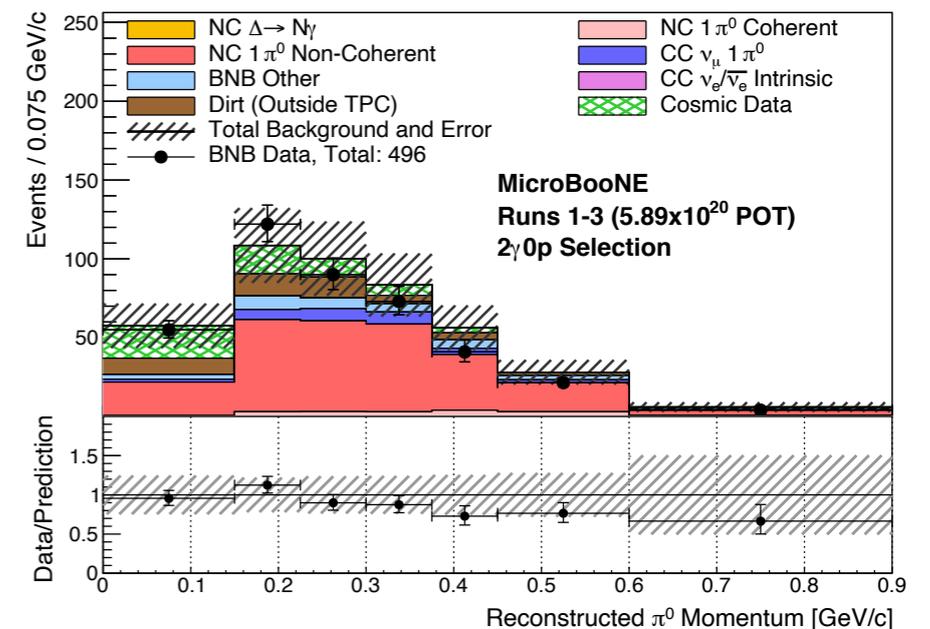
$1\gamma 1p$



$2\gamma 1p$

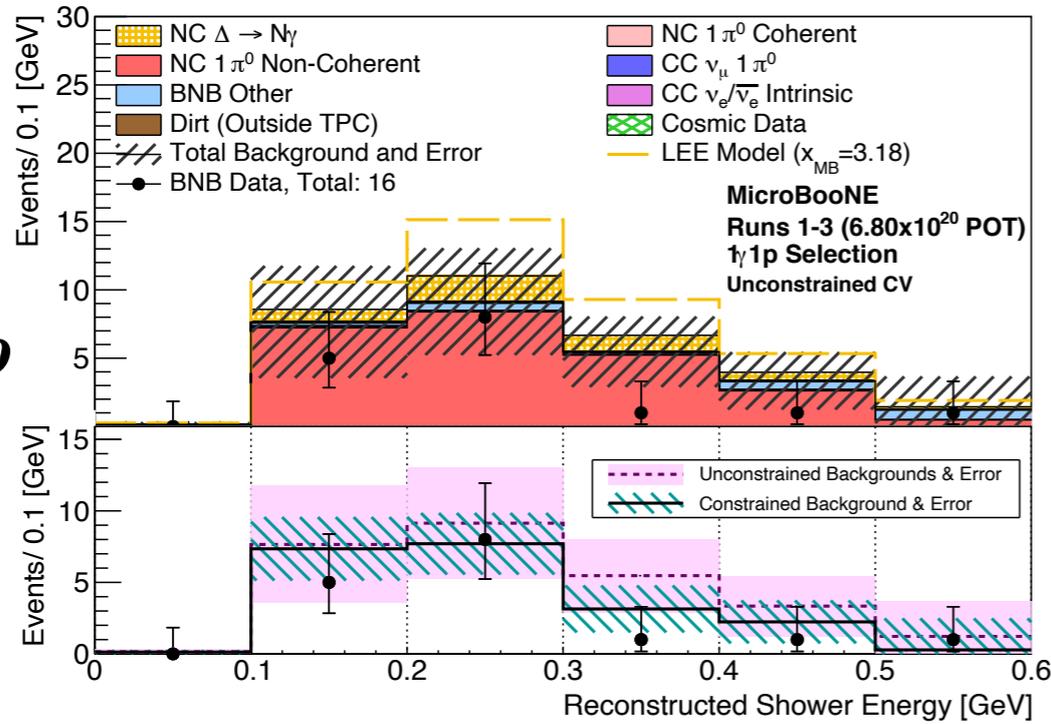


(a)

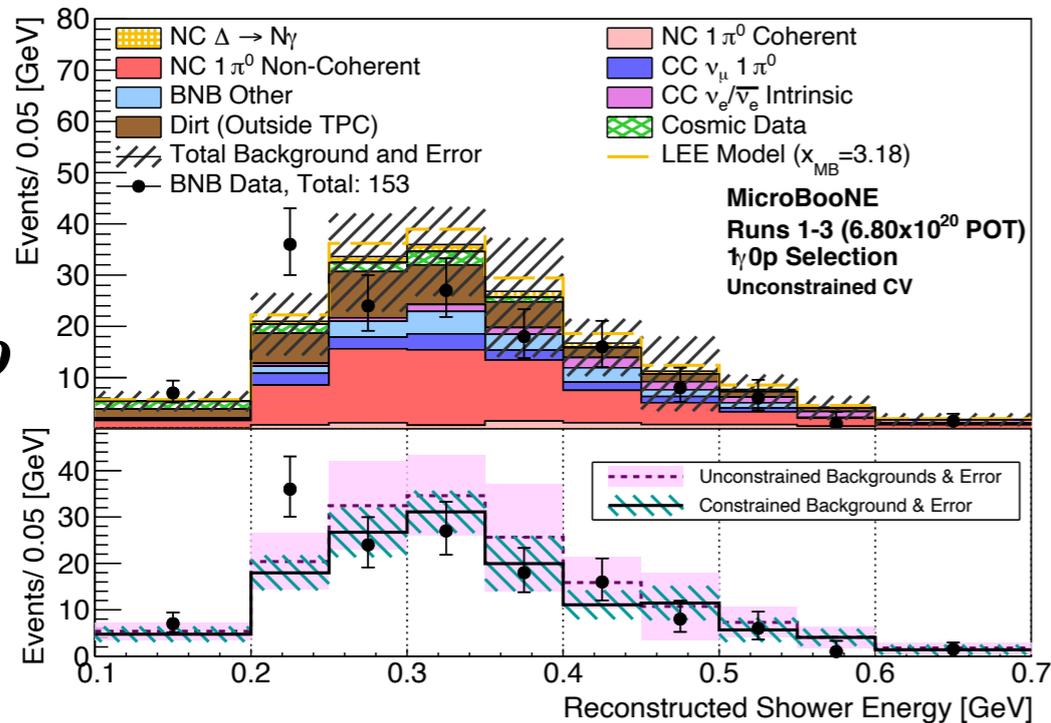


# Single Photon Search Results

$1\gamma 1p$

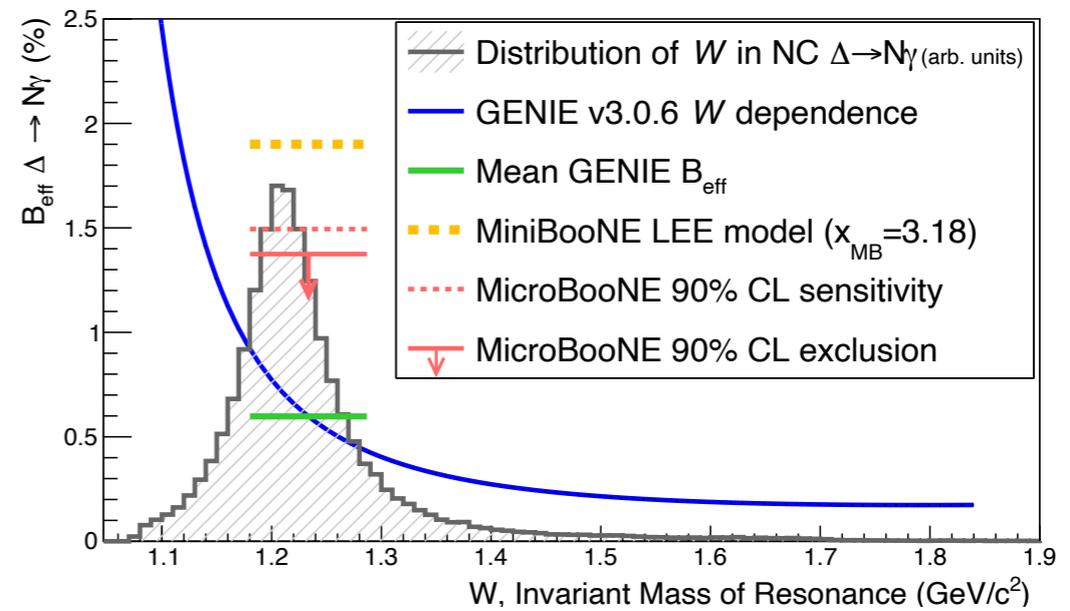


$1\gamma 0p$



**Measurements disfavor the  $\Delta \rightarrow N\gamma$  hypothesis as the sole explanation of the MiniBooNE anomaly at the 94.8% CL**

Null result  $\rightarrow$  50 $\times$  improvement in upper limit on the effective BR for this mode

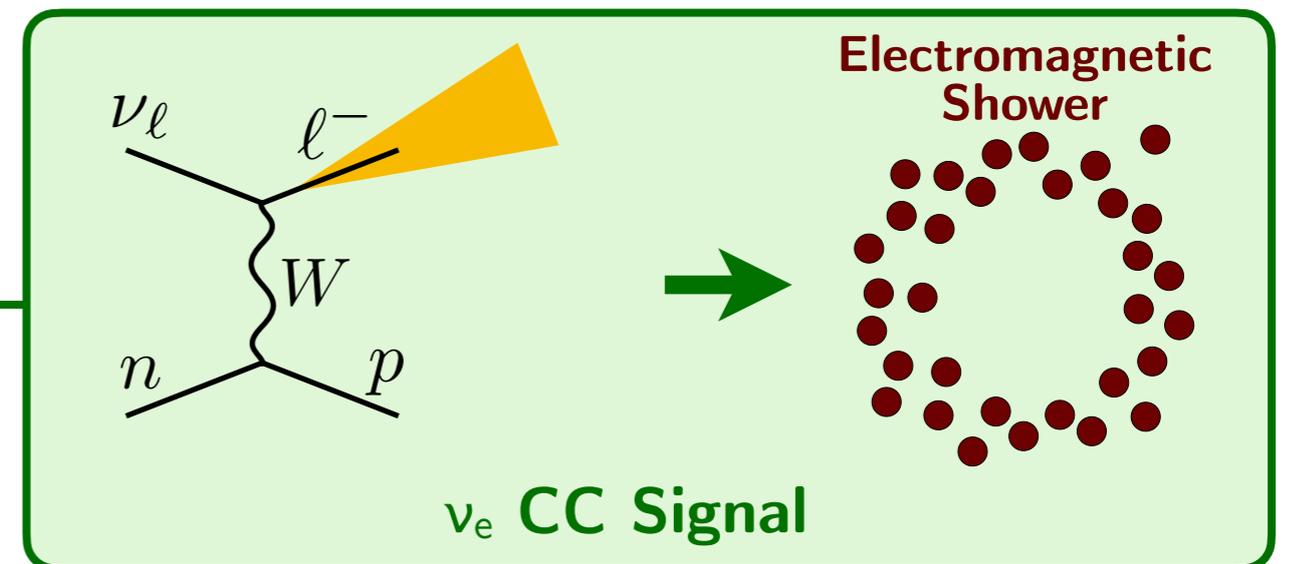
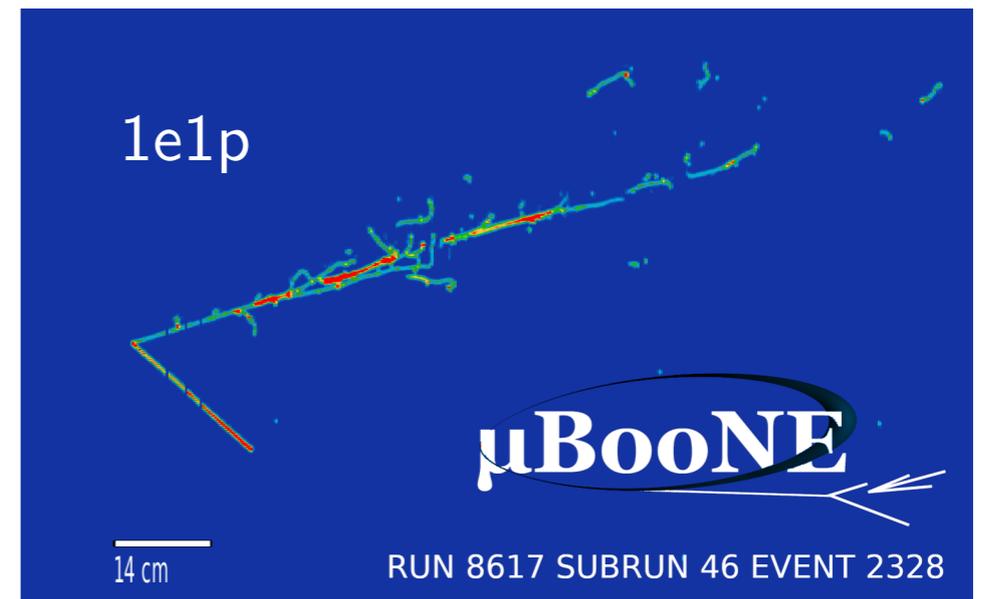
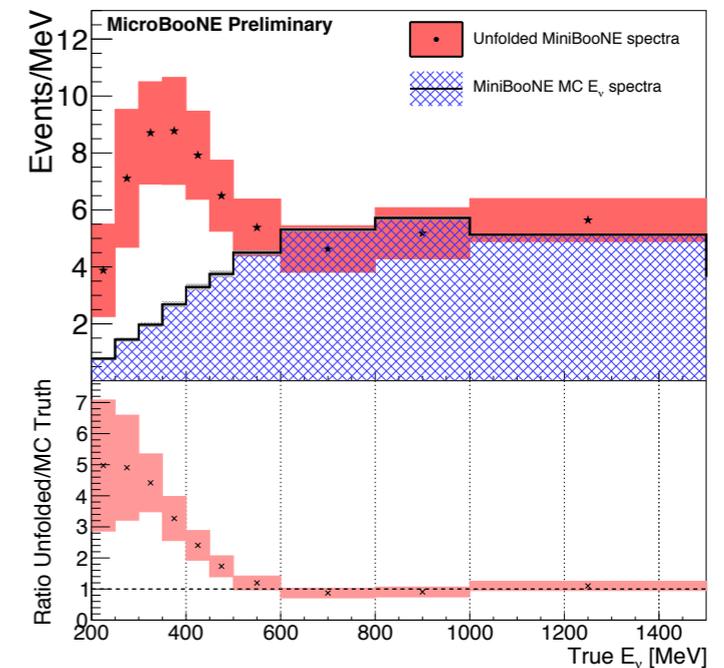
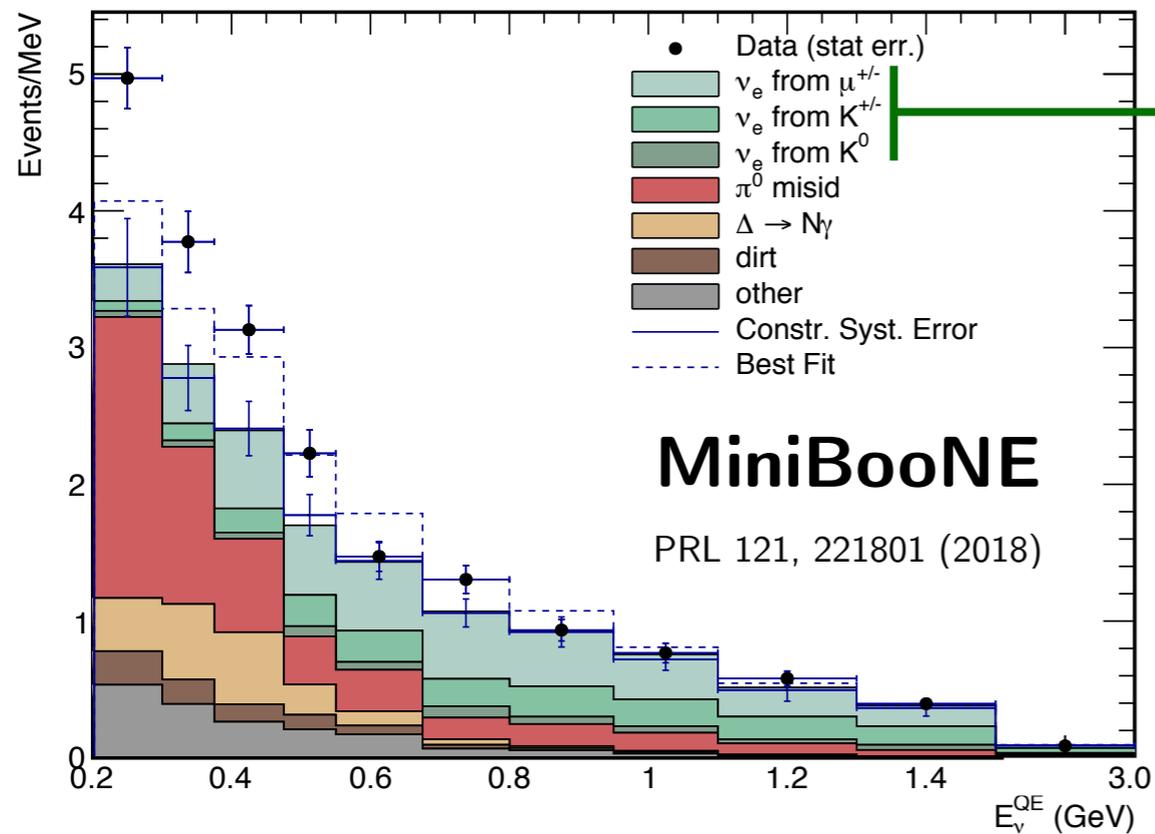


arxiv:2110.00409, submitted to *Phys. Rev. Lett.*

# Electron Search

## $\nu_e$ -like Interactions

- Energy-dependent  $\nu_e$  rate enhancement
- Three complementary search channels
  - **CCQE-like:** Clean two-body kinematics
  - **CC0 $\pi$ :** MiniBooNE-like, kinematics-free
  - **CC inclusive:** High efficiency, little dependence on hadronic modeling
- GENIE v3.0.6 + QE tuning with T2K



# Electron Search

## $\nu_e$ -like Interactions

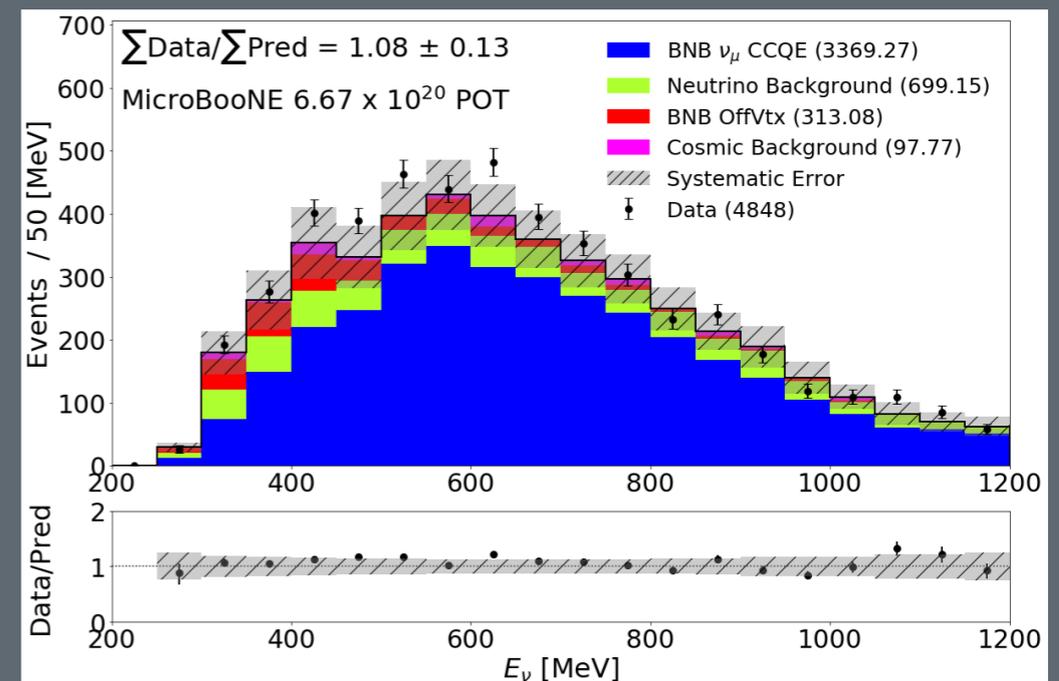
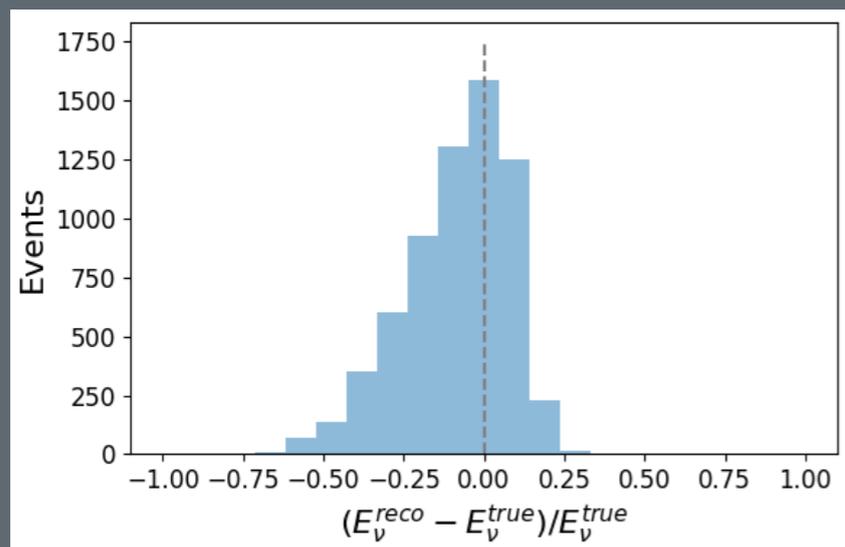
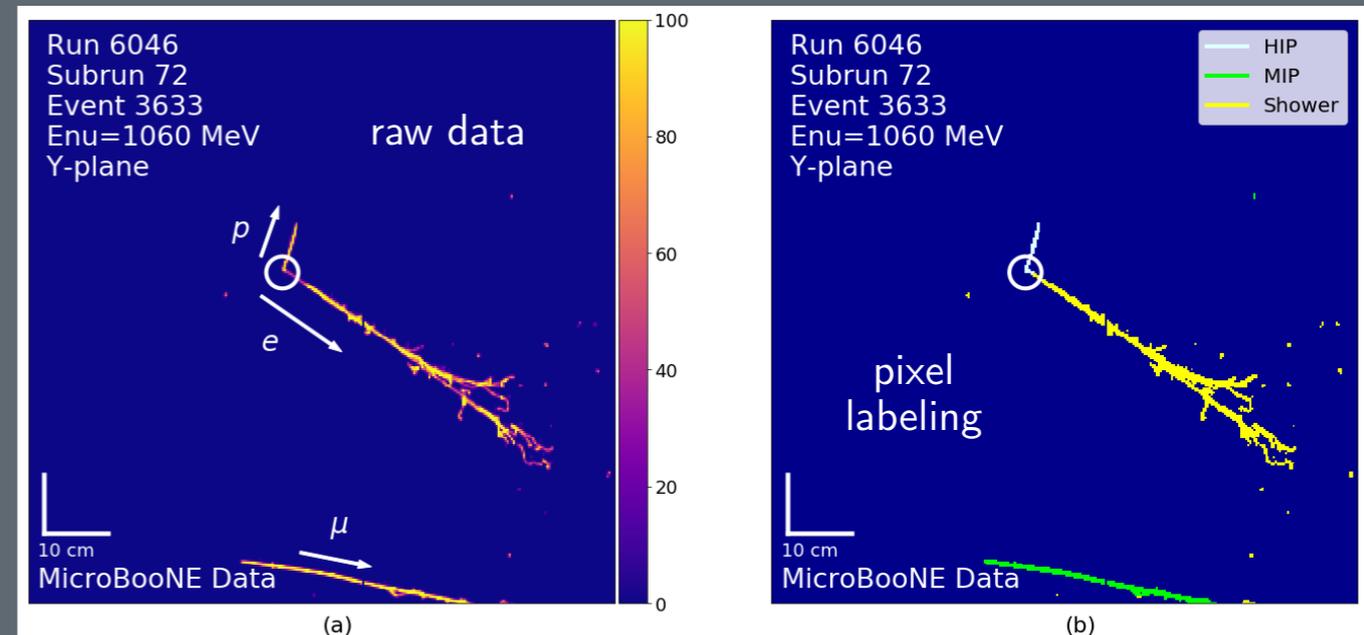
Shower reco: arxiv:2110.11874  
 Pixel tagging: PRD 103, 052012 (2021)  
 Particle ID: PRD 103, 092003 (2021)  
 Vertexing: JINST 16, P02017 (2021)  
 LArTPC reco: PRD 99, 092001 (2019)

### CCQE-Like

- Deep Learning-based reconstruction
- 1e1p with kinematic selection to achieve 75% purity in CCQE events
- Focus on precision in the dominant interaction at BNB energies
- Constrain with high-stats  $\nu_\mu$  CCQE

### CC Pionless

### CC Inclusive



arxiv:2110.14080, submitted to *PRD*

# Electron Search

## $\nu_e$ -like Interactions

$\pi^0$  reco: JINST 15, P02007 (2020)  
 Cosmic tag: JINST 14, P04004 (2019)  
 Particle ID: arxiv:2109.02460  
 Pandora reco: EPJC 78 1, 82 (2018)

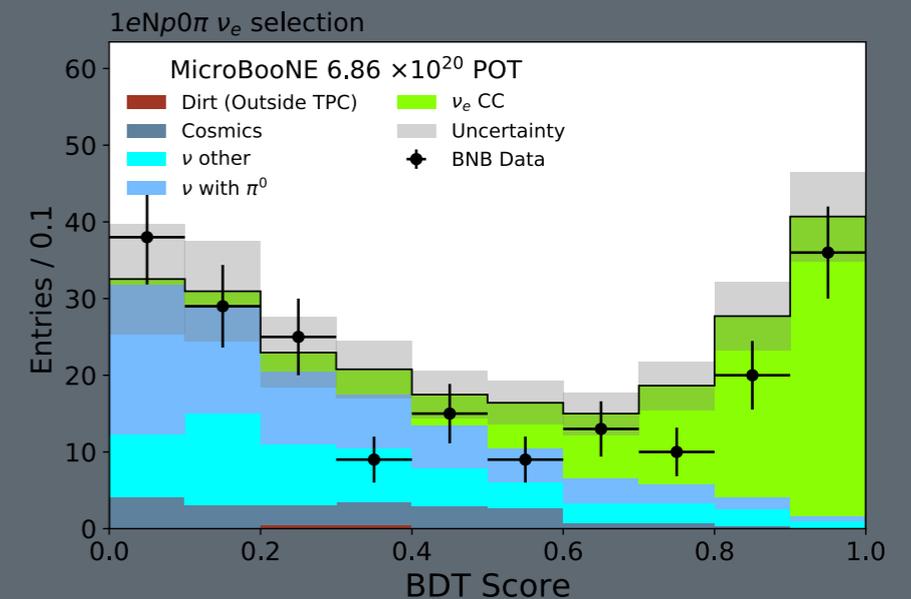
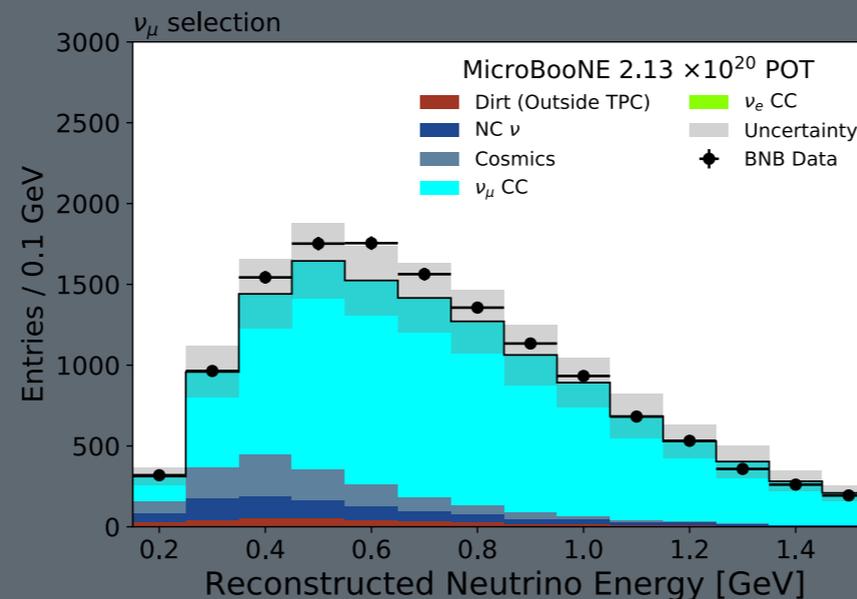
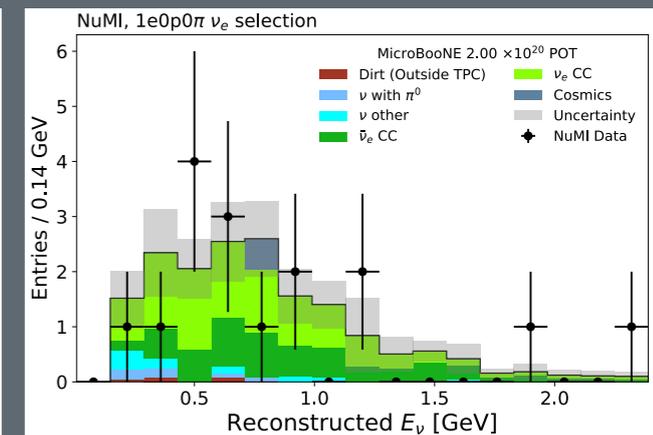
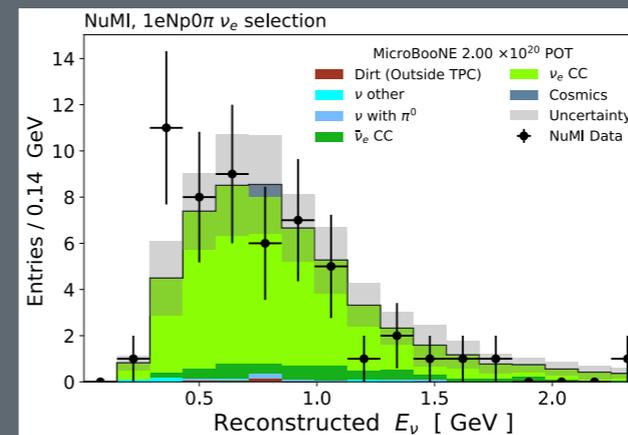
CCQE-Like

CC Pionless

CC Inclusive

- Pandora particle flow reconstruction
- CC0 $\pi$  signal topology
  - No particles above MiniBooNE's Cherenkov threshold
- BDT-based selection for 0p and Np
- Validated with independent NuMI beam sample, constrained with  $\nu_\mu$

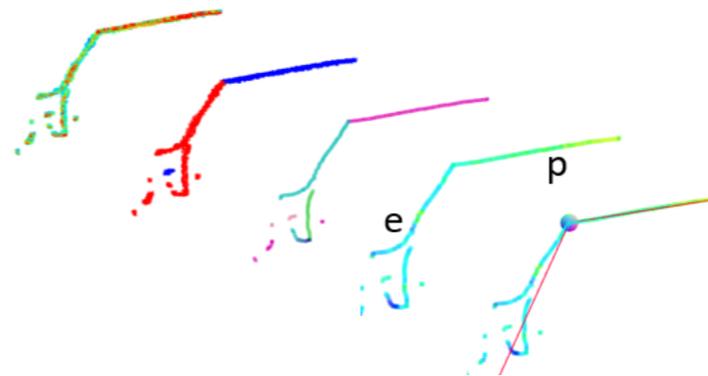
arxiv:2110.14065, submitted to *PRD*



# Electron Search

$\nu_e$ -like Interactions

Pattern recognition: arxiv:2110.13961  
 Cosmic tag: PRAp. 15, 064071 (2021)  
 Selection: JINST 16, P06043 (2021)  
 WireCell reco: JINST 13, P05032 (2018)

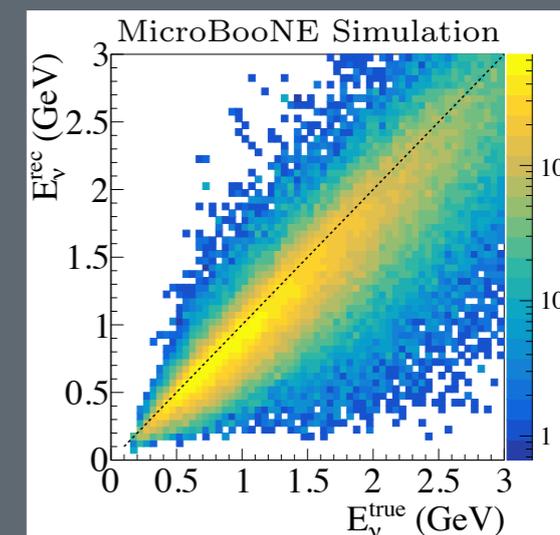
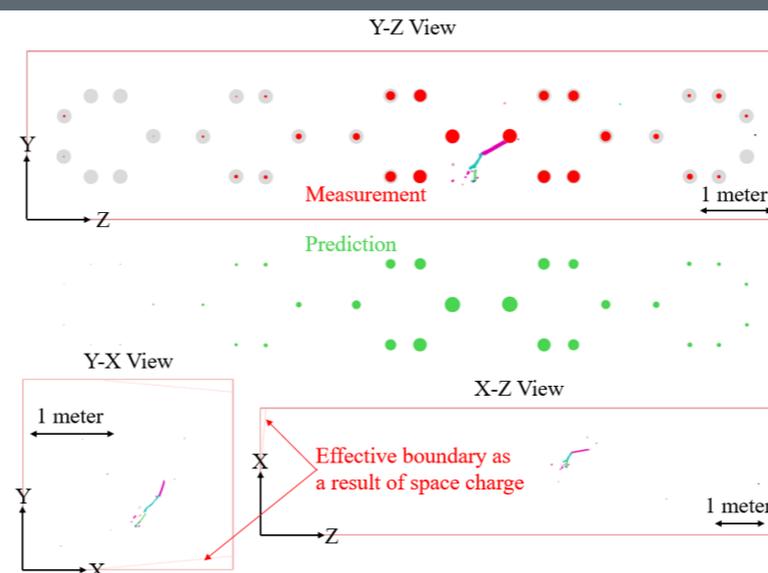
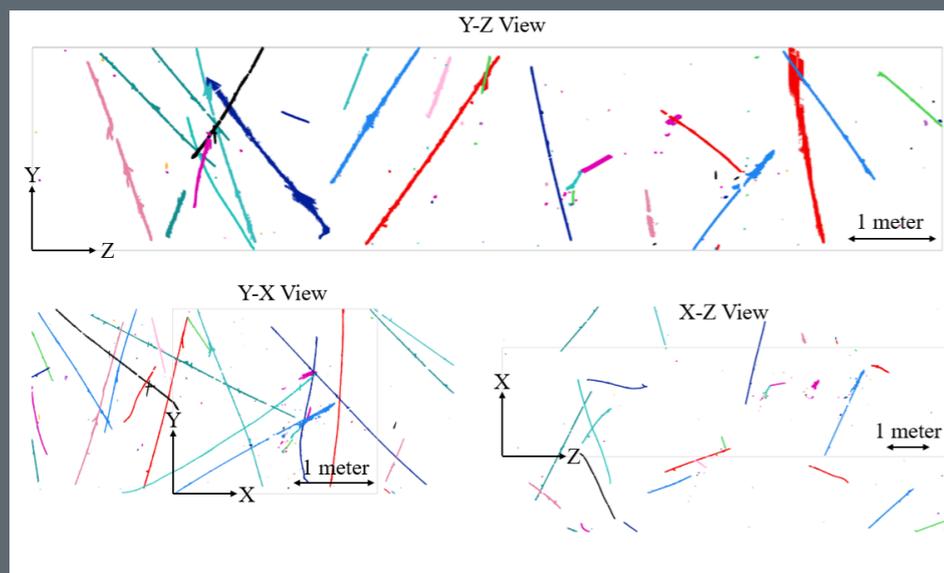
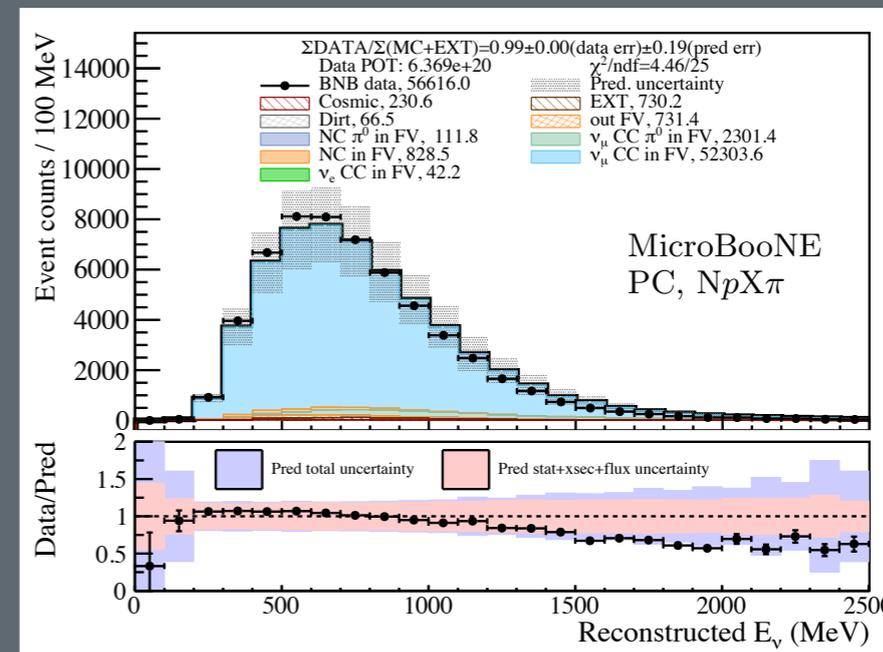


CCQE-Like

CC Pionless

CC Inclusive

- WireCell tomographic reconstruction
- Inclusive selection signal topology
  - High efficiency, seeing all  $\nu_e$
- Simultaneous 7-sample fit: FC/PC for  $CC\nu_e/CC\nu_\mu/CC\pi^0$  plus  $NC\pi^0$
- BDT-based background rejection



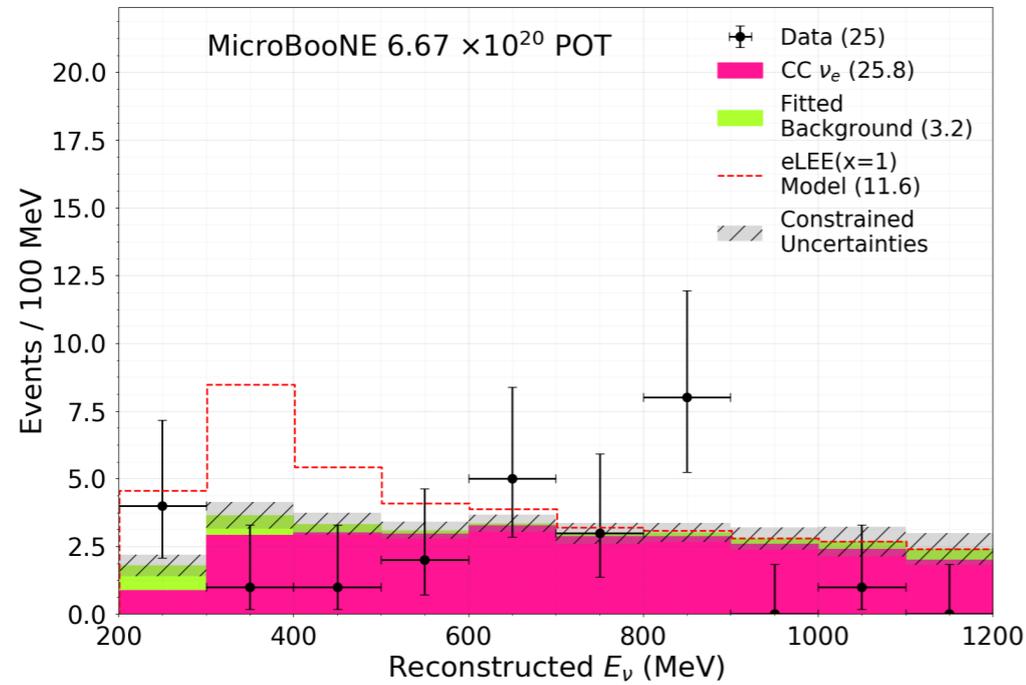
(c)  $\nu_e$  CC candidates, FC

arxiv:2110.13978, submitted to *PRD*

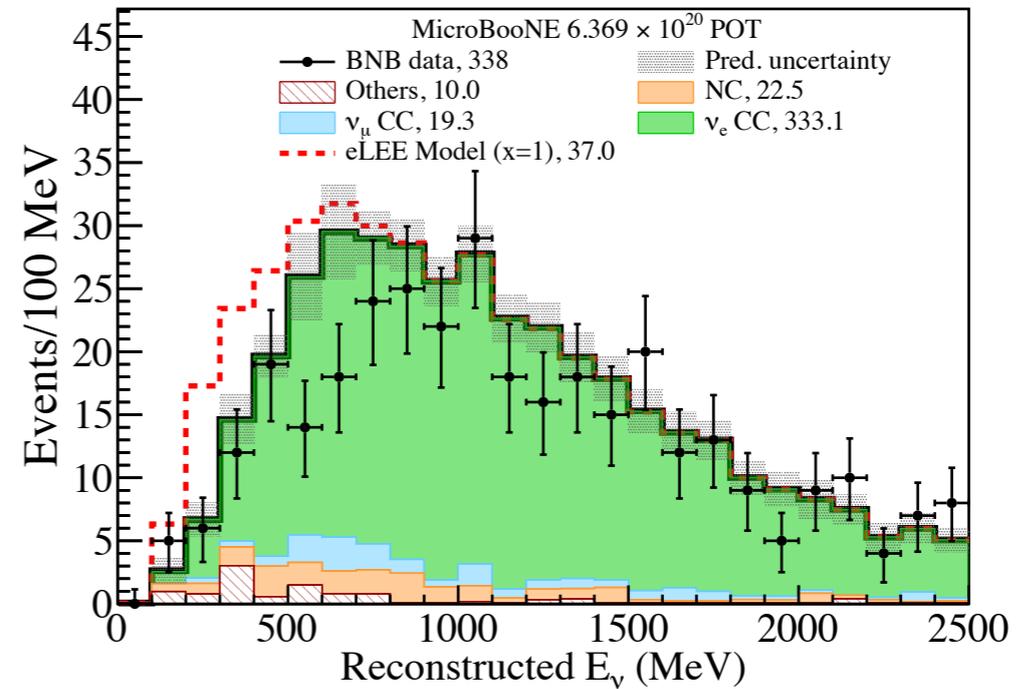
# Electron Search

## $\nu_e$ -like Interactions: Results

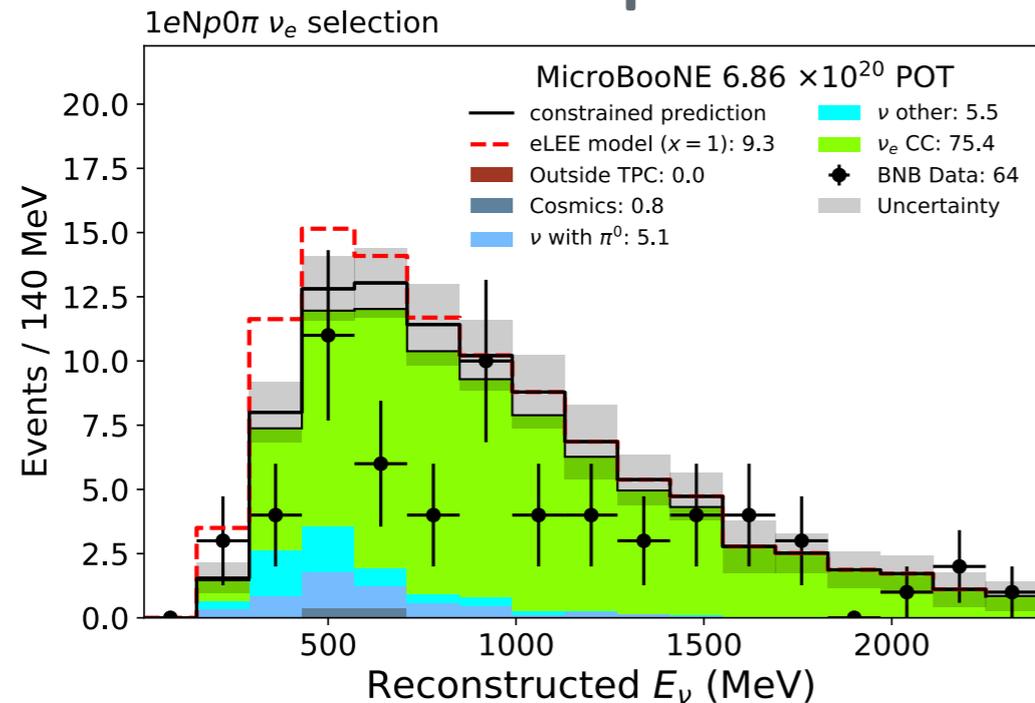
### CCQE-Like (1e1p)



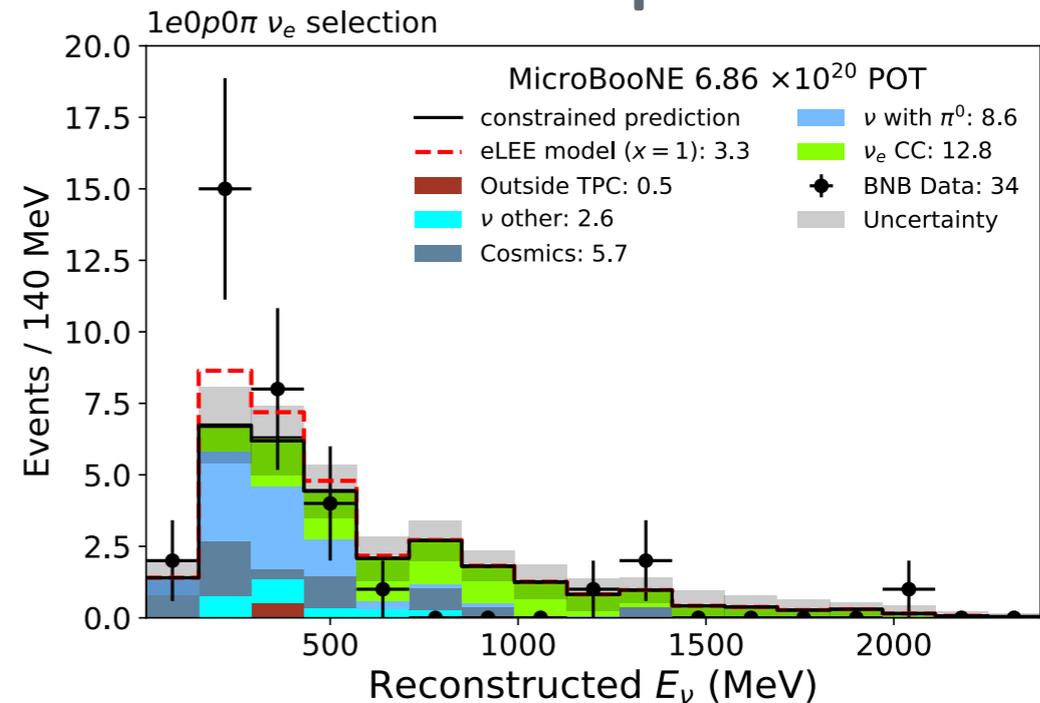
### CC Inclusive



### CC0 $\pi$ Np



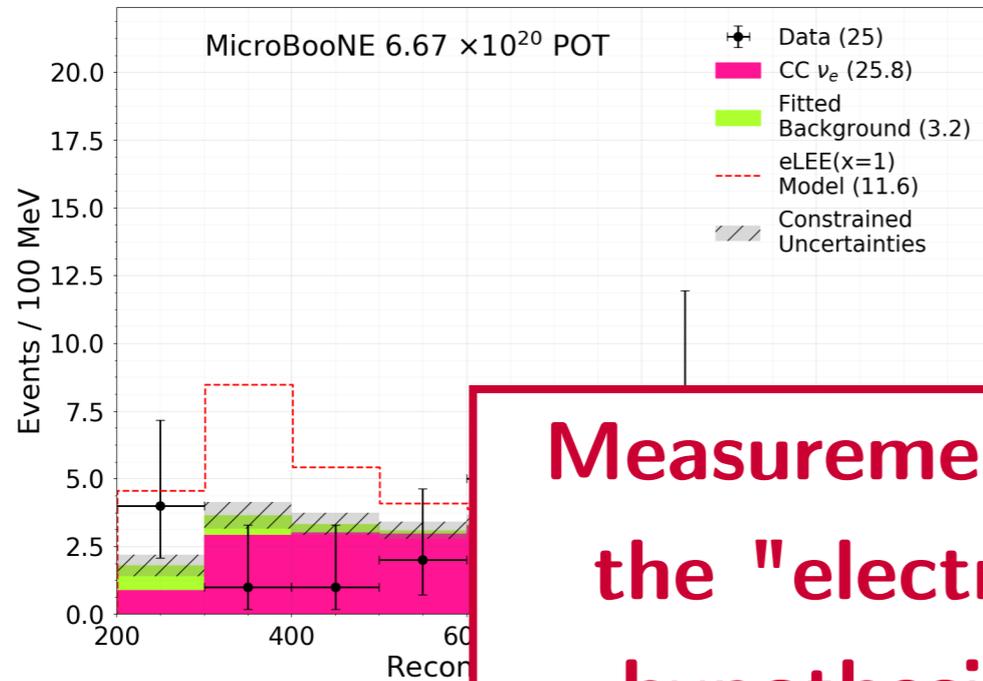
### CC0 $\pi$ 0p



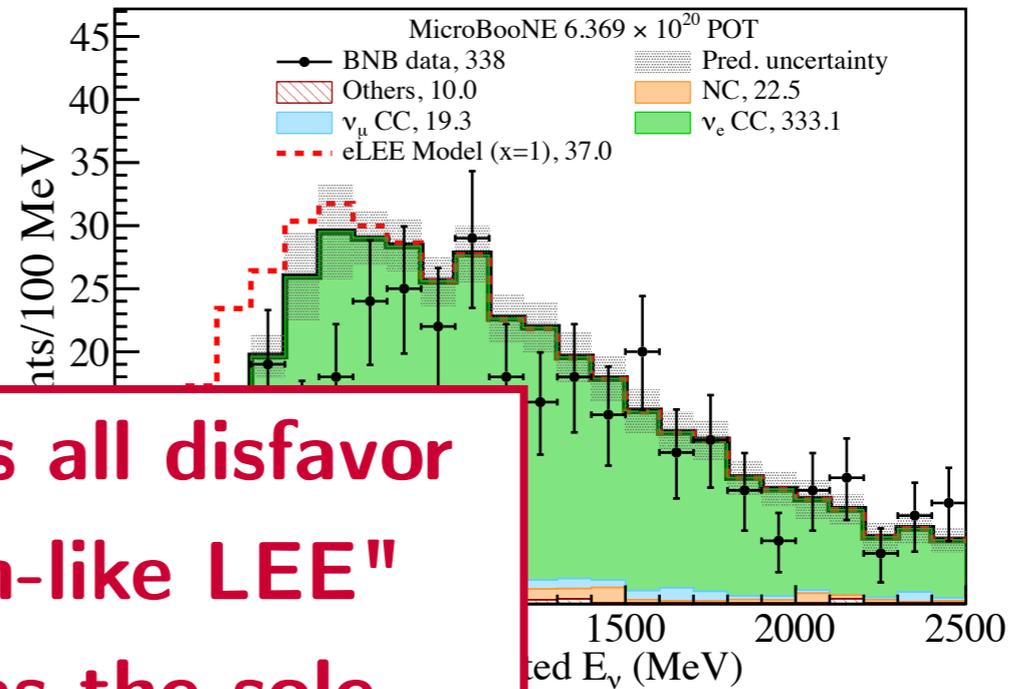
# Electron Search

## $\nu_e$ -like Interactions: Results

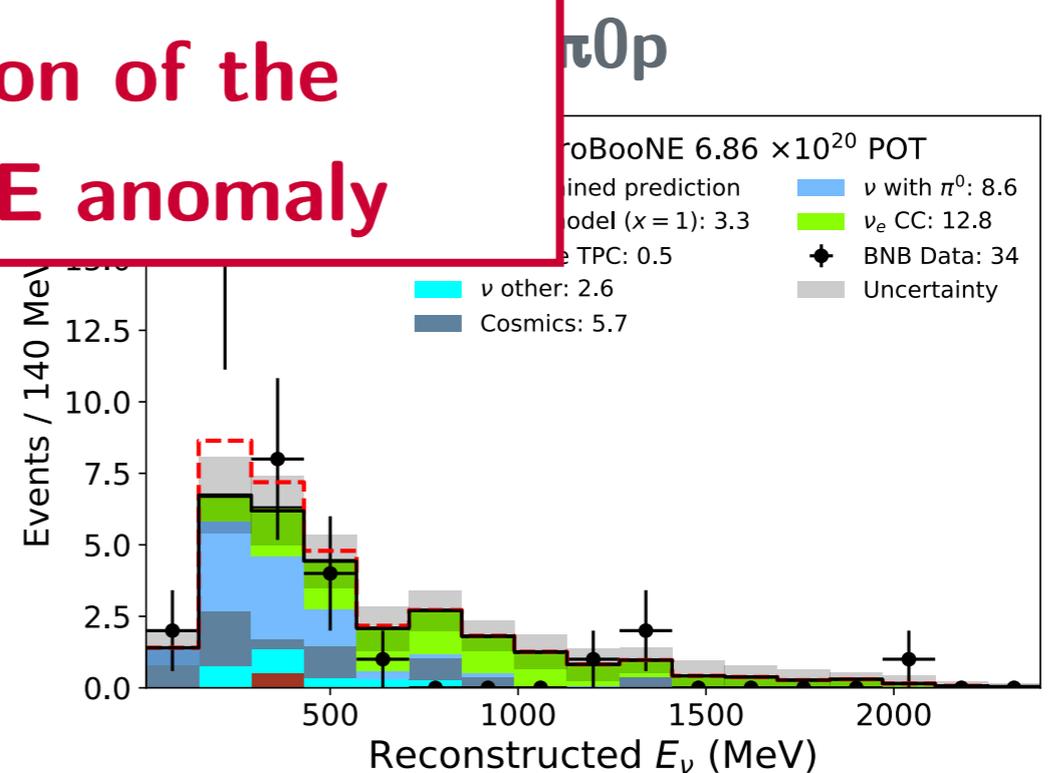
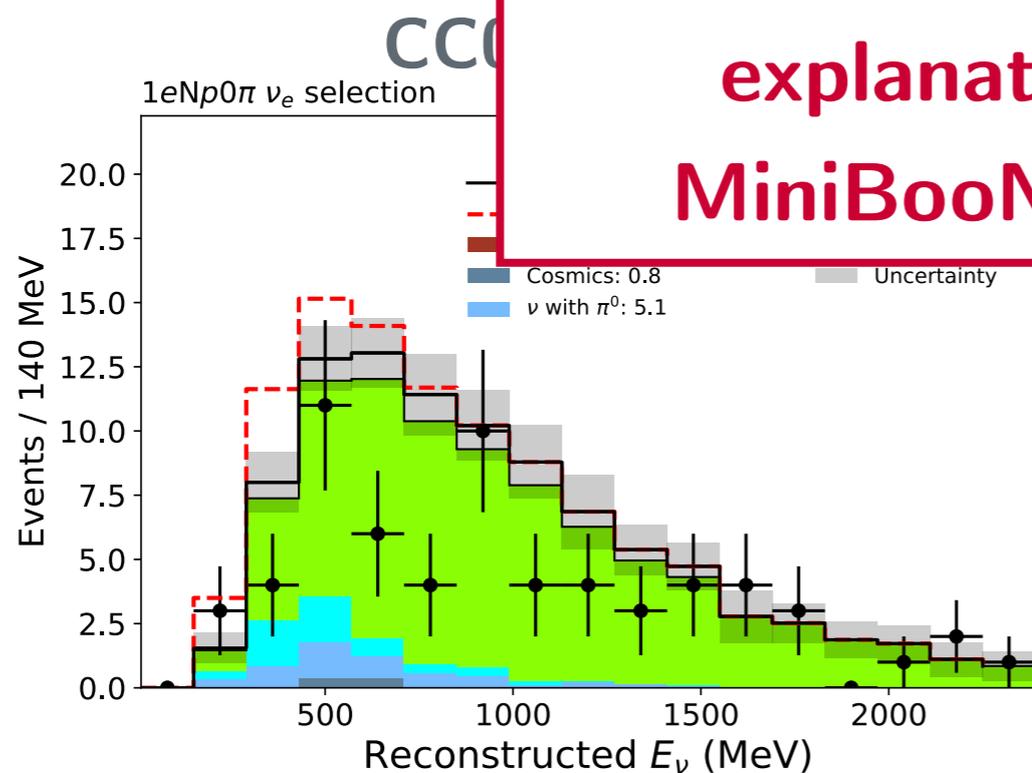
### CCQE-Like (1e1p)



### CC Inclusive

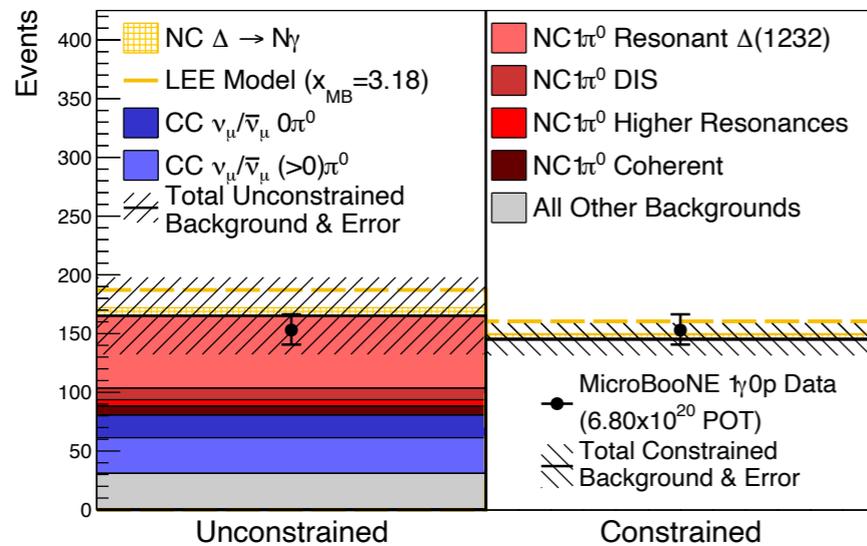
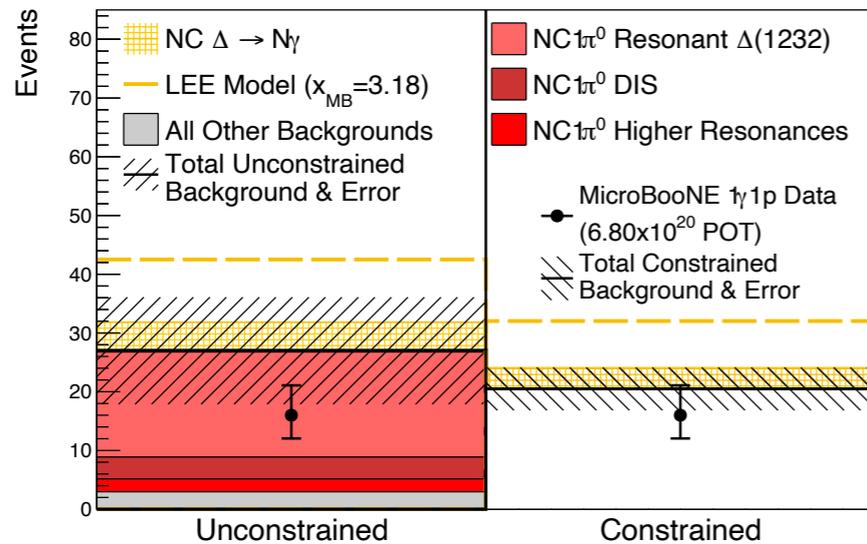


**Measurements all disfavor the "electron-like LEE" hypothesis as the sole explanation of the MiniBooNE anomaly**

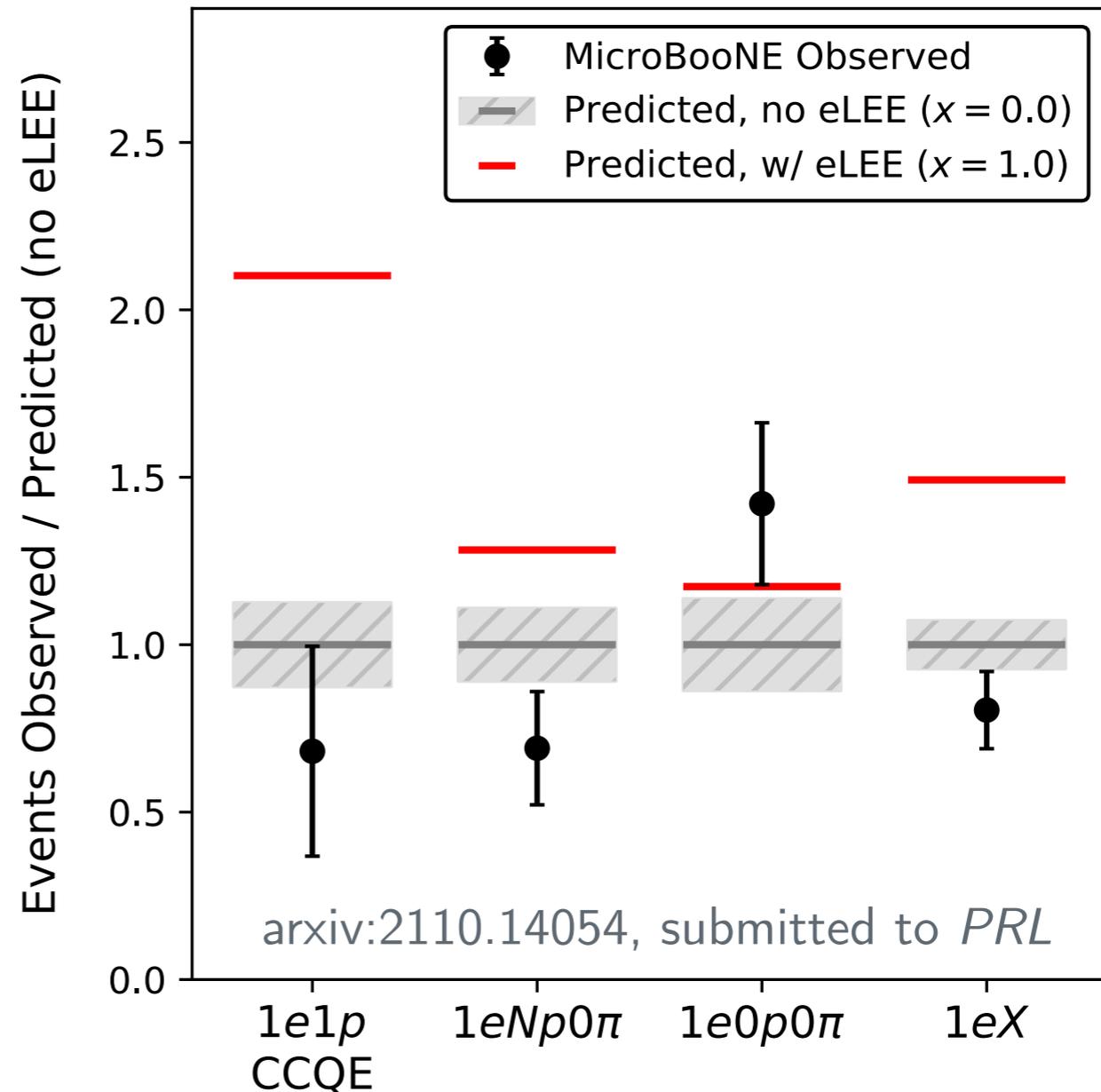


# Results

## Single Photon like $\gamma$ LEE

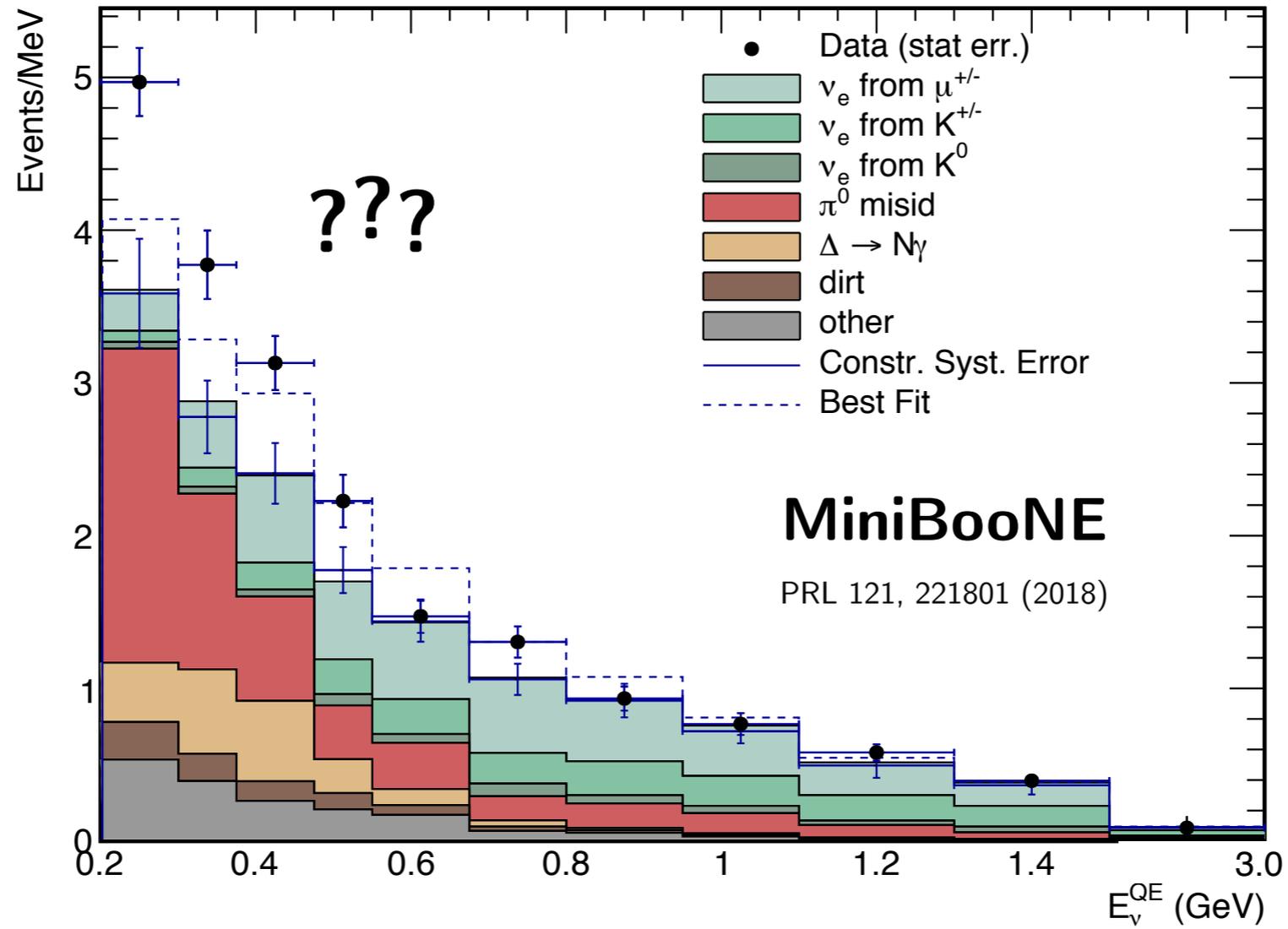


## $\nu_e$ Electron-like eLEE



Rates in agreement with (or below) prediction  $\rightarrow$  disfavor these hypotheses at 95% ( $\gamma$ LEE) and  $>97\%$  confidence (eLEE CCQE, CC $0\pi(0+N)p$ , CCInc)

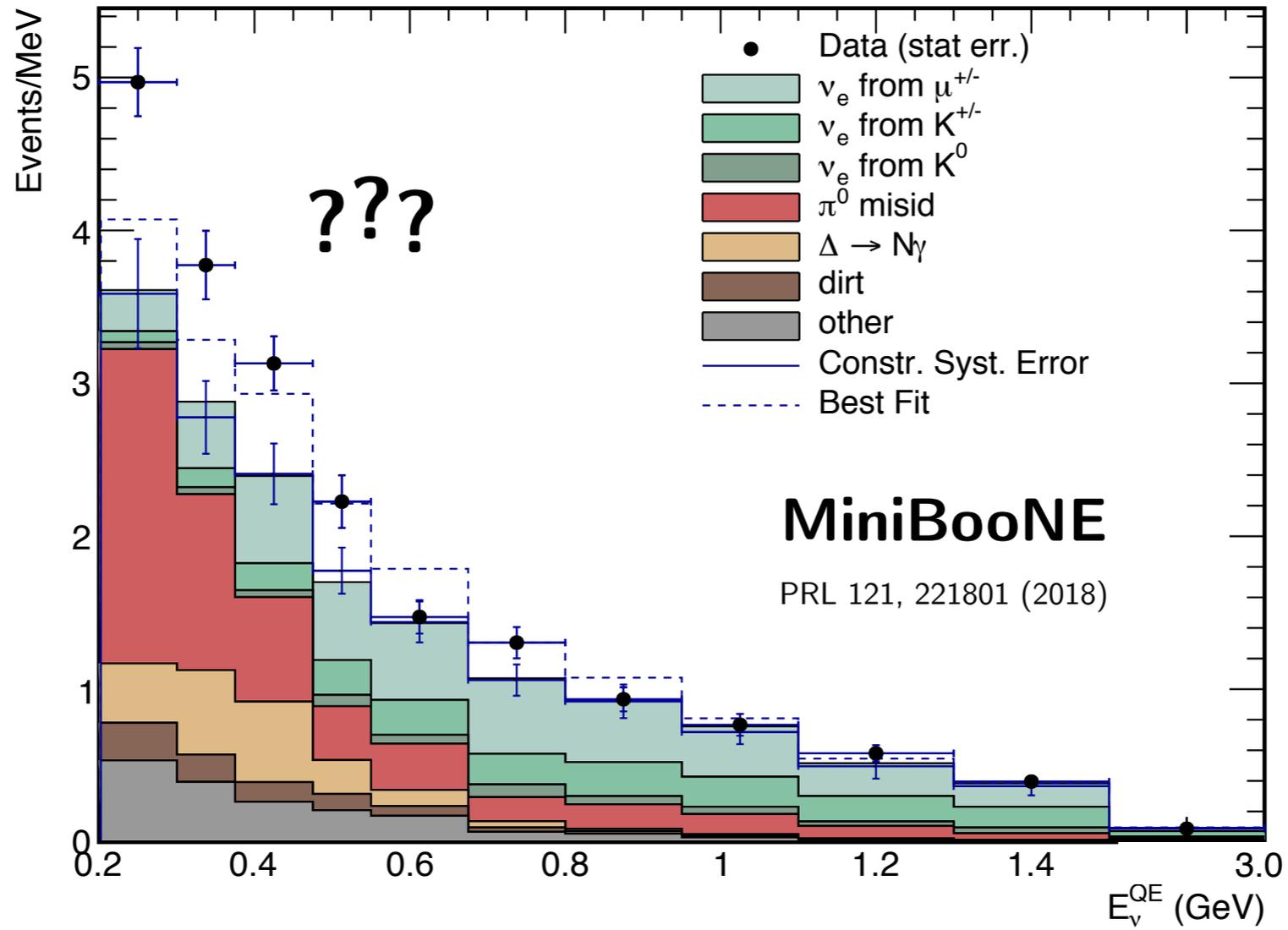
# Beyond the Excess



# Beyond the Excess

Decays to asymmetric  $e^+e^-$ ?

Other new physics?



???

Very different kinematics in e.g. single  $\gamma$  or hadrons?

Decays to boosted  $e^+e^-$ ?

A rich theory landscape!

# Beyond the Excess

## Additional Search Channels

Already started probing with first LEE results

Reco topology Models	1e0p	1e1p	1eNp	1eX	e <sup>+</sup> e <sup>-</sup> + nothing	e <sup>+</sup> e <sup>-</sup> X	1γ0p	1γ1p	1γX
eV Sterile ν Osc	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Mixed Osc + Sterile ν	✓ <sub>[7]</sub>	✓ <sub>[7]</sub>	✓ <sub>[7]</sub>	✓ <sub>[7]</sub>			✓ <sub>[7]</sub>		
Sterile ν Decay	✓ <sub>[13,14]</sub>	✓ <sub>[13,14]</sub>	✓ <sub>[13,14]</sub>	✓ <sub>[13,14]</sub>			✓ <sub>[4,11,12,15]</sub>	✓ <sub>[4]</sub>	✓ <sub>[4]</sub>
Dark Sector & Z' *	✓ <sub>[2,3]</sub>				✓ <sub>[2,3]</sub>	✓ <sub>[2,3]</sub>	✓ <sub>[1,2,3]</sub>	✓ <sub>[1,2,3]</sub>	✓ <sub>[1,2,3]</sub>
More complex higgs *					✓ <sub>[10]</sub>	✓ <sub>[10]</sub>	✓ <sub>[6,10]</sub>	✓ <sub>[6,10]</sub>	✓ <sub>[6,10]</sub>
Axion-like particle *					✓ <sub>[8]</sub>		✓ <sub>[8]</sub>		
Res matter effects	✓ <sub>[5]</sub>	✓ <sub>[5]</sub>	✓ <sub>[5]</sub>	✓ <sub>[5]</sub>					
SM γ production							✓	✓	✓

\*Requires heavy sterile/other new particles also

Included in these searches:



Now under development:

Overlapping e<sup>+</sup>e<sup>-</sup>



Overlapping e<sup>+</sup>e<sup>-</sup>



Highly asymmetric e<sup>+</sup>e<sup>-</sup>

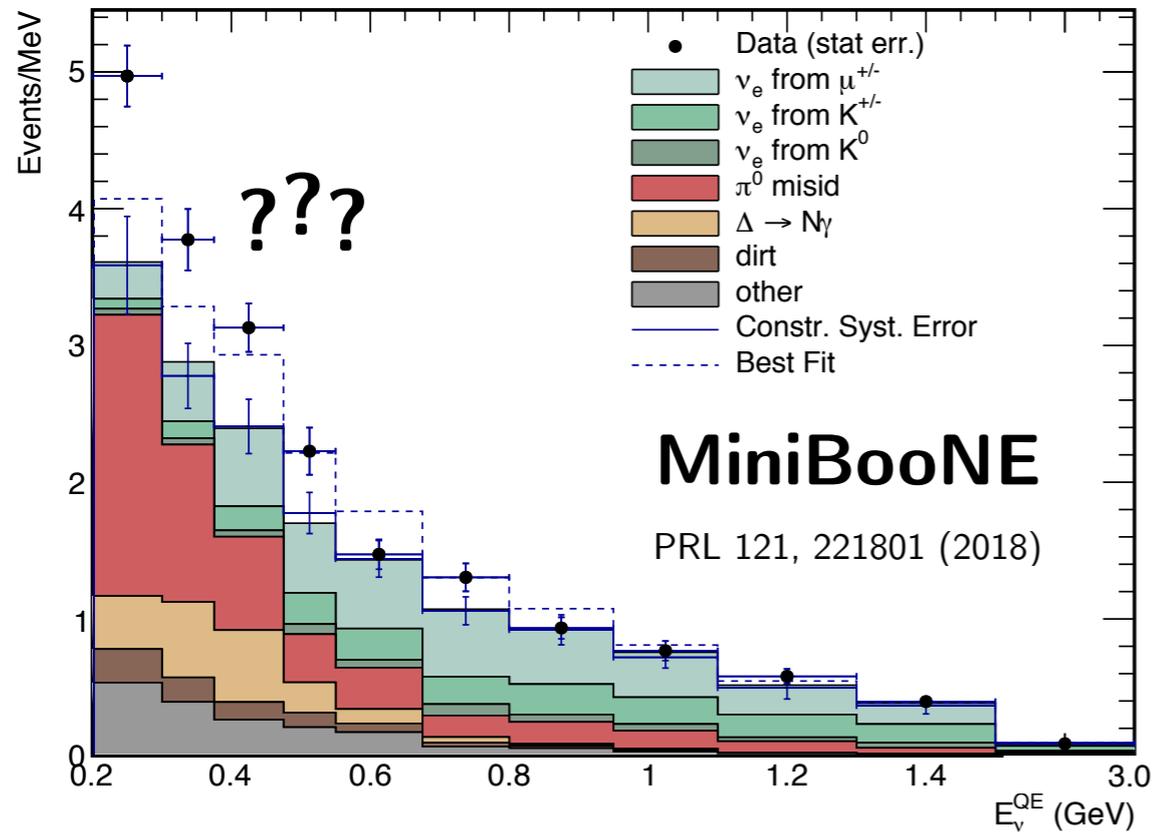


Highly asymmetric e<sup>+</sup>e<sup>-</sup>



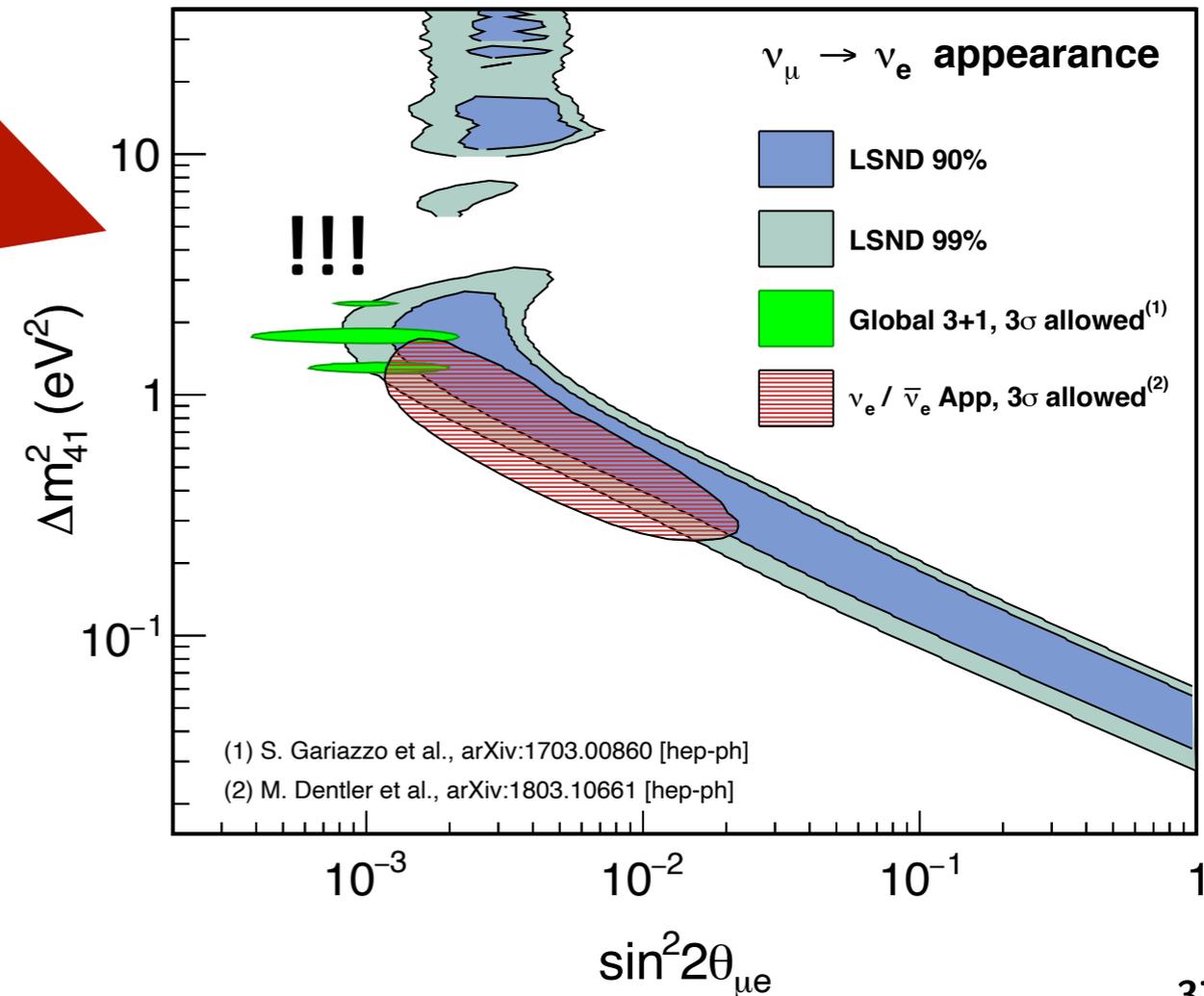
# Beyond the Excess

## Probing the Sterile Neutrino Anomalies



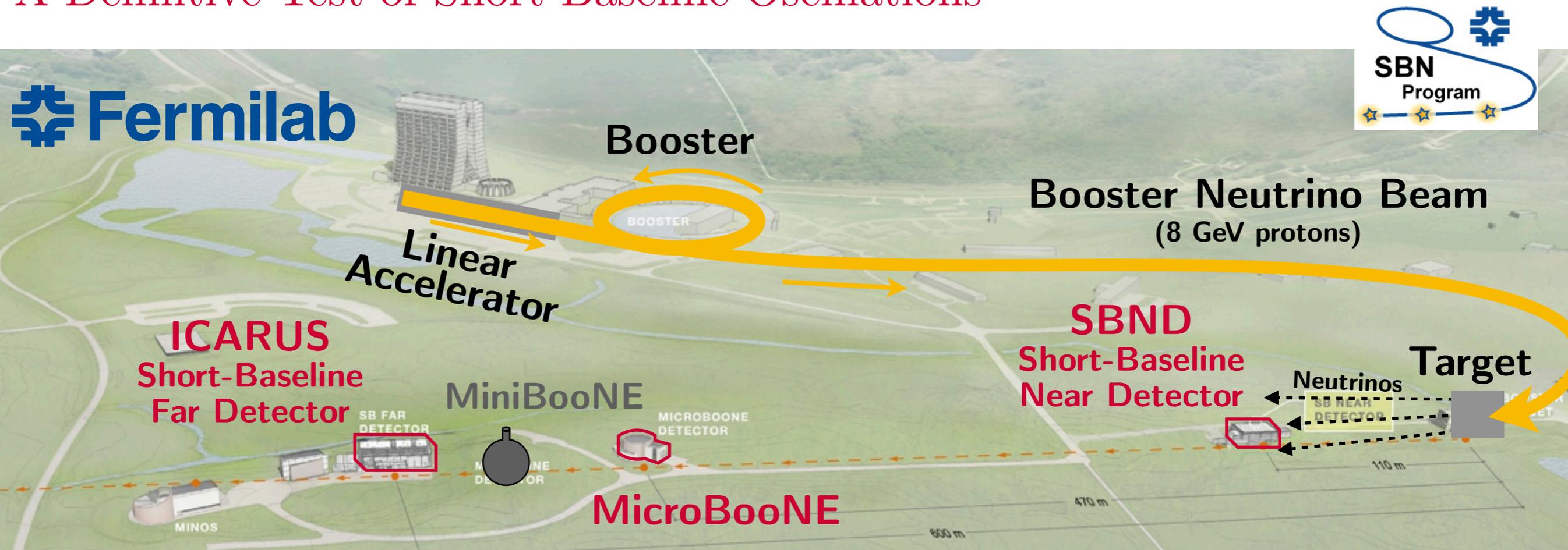
From understanding the origin of the MiniBooNE Low-Energy Excess...

...to comprehensively addressing the still-allowed parameter space for eV-scale sterile neutrino oscillations



# The Short-Baseline Neutrino Program

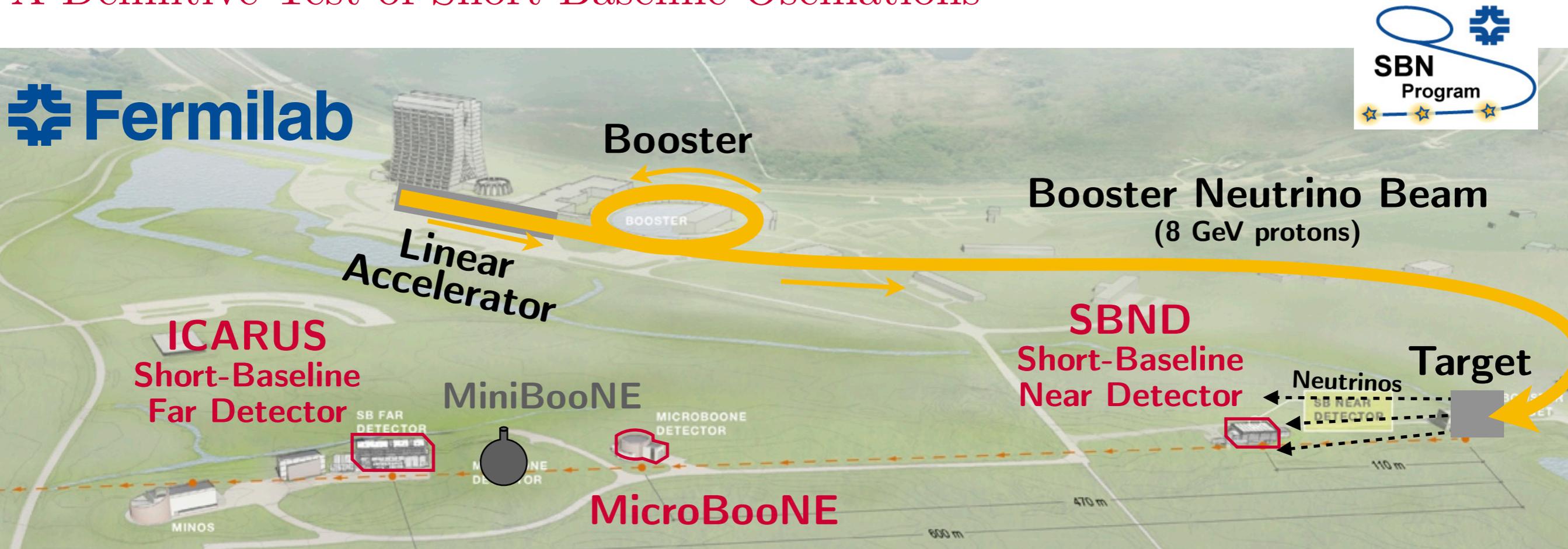
A Definitive Test of Short-Baseline Oscillations



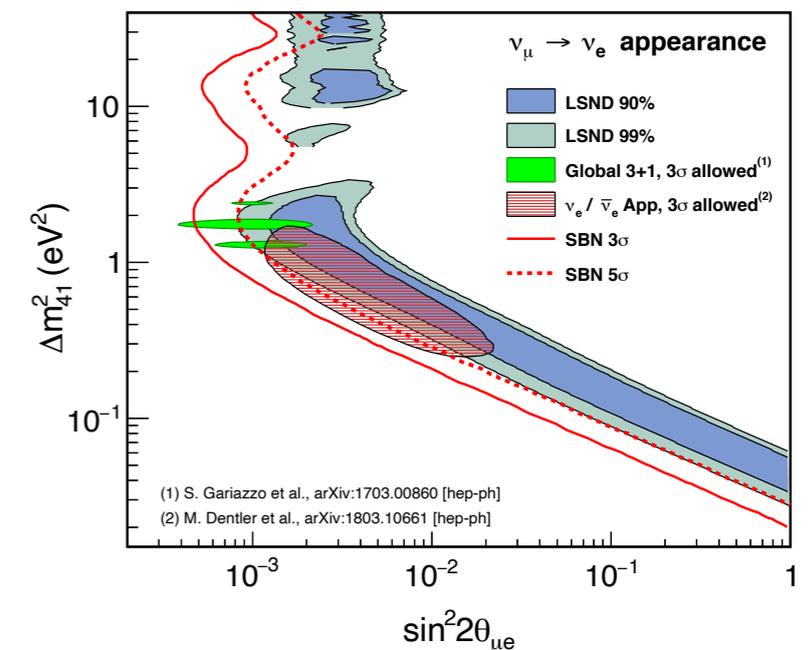
- Three LArTPCs in the Fermilab Booster Neutrino Beam
- $5\sigma$  test of LSND-allowed oscillations using three baselines
- Simultaneous  $\nu_\mu$  disappearance and  $\nu_e$  appearance searches
- Vast BNB event statistics in SBND, 110 m from the target
- Larger NuMI event statistics in ICARUS
- Precision neutrino cross sections, detector R&D  $\rightarrow$  DUNE!

# The Short-Baseline Neutrino Program

A Definitive Test of Short-Baseline Oscillations



- Three LArTPCs in the Fermilab Booster Neutrino Beam
- $5\sigma$  test of LSND-allowed oscillations using three baselines
- Simultaneous  $\nu_\mu$  disappearance and  $\nu_e$  appearance searches
- Vast BNB event statistics in SBND, 110 m from the target
- Larger NuMI event statistics in ICARUS
- Precision neutrino cross sections, detector R&D  $\rightarrow$  DUNE!



# Summary

## Key Takeaways

### 1. No excesses found in NC $\Delta \rightarrow N\gamma$ or $\nu_e$

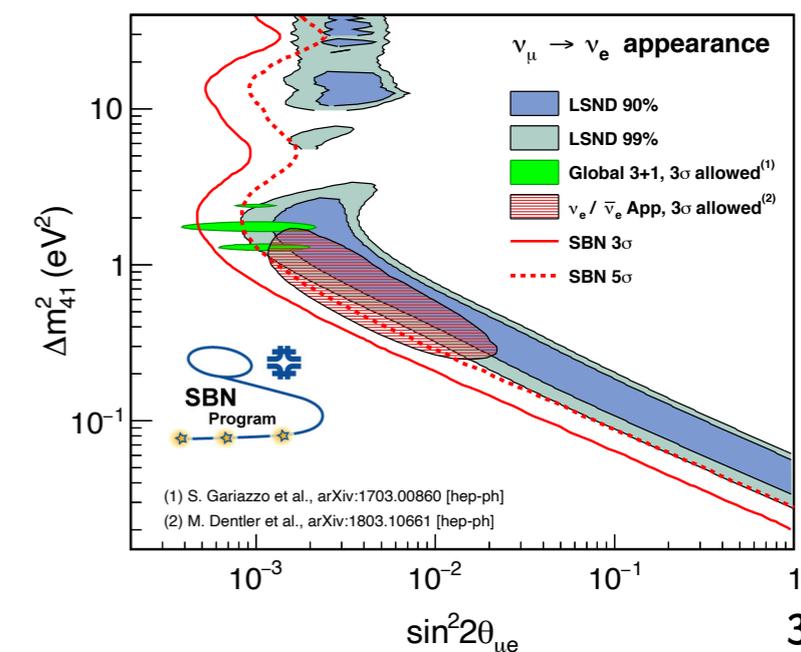
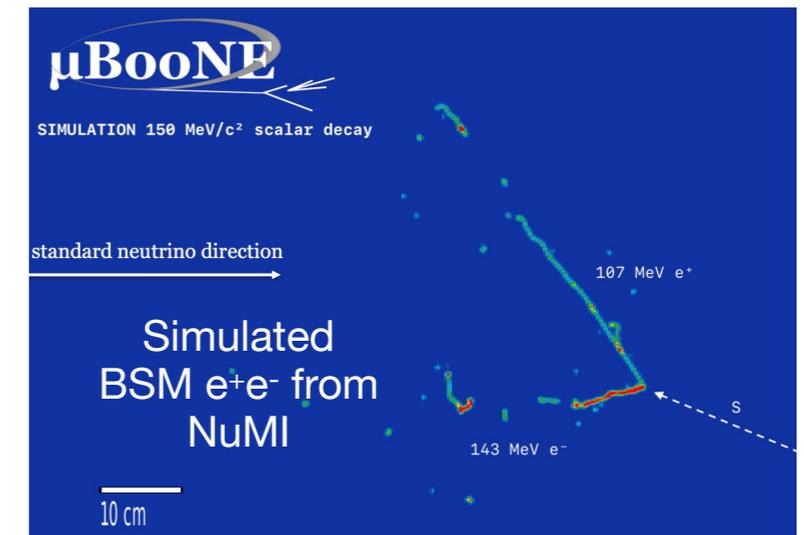
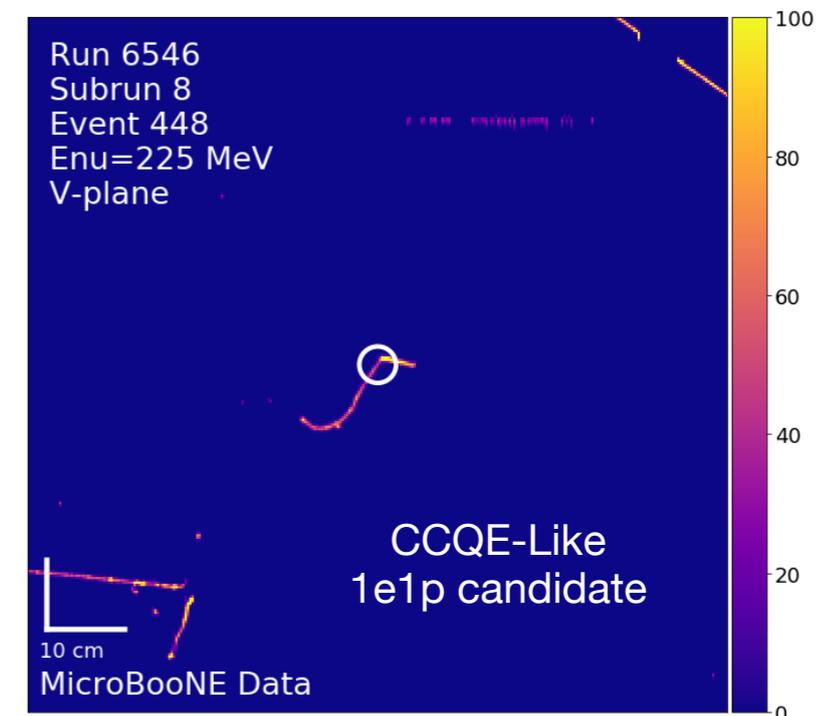
- Studied leading hypotheses for one of the most significant anomalies in neutrino physics
- Multiple complementary search channels

### 2. A rich landscape remains to be studied

- The MiniBooNE anomaly remains!
- Higher statistics in MicroBooNE ( $\sim 2\times$ )
- Broader range of signatures now underway

### 3. Exciting future at the SBN & beyond

- Dramatically expanded reach with SBN
- Future LArTPC analysis at DUNE
- MicroBooNE's extensive analysis, reco, & systematics work supports these program



# Thank You!

## Questions?

CCQE-Like eLEE: arxiv:2110.14080 ( $\rightarrow$ PRD)  
CC0 $\pi$  eLEE: arxiv:2110.14065 ( $\rightarrow$ PRD)  
CCInc eLEE: arxiv:2110.13978 ( $\rightarrow$ PRD)  
All eLEE: arxiv:2110.14054 ( $\rightarrow$ PRL)  
NC  $\Delta \rightarrow N\gamma$   $\gamma$ LEE: arxiv:2110.00409 ( $\rightarrow$ PRL)





# Evolving Theory Landscape

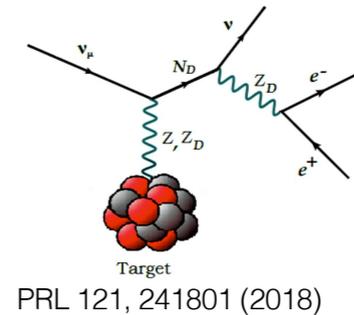
Motivated by attempts to explain the new MiniBooNE results as well as other experimental data; eg.,  $\nu_e$  appearance but no  $\nu_\mu$  disappearance (*Caution: not an exhaustive list!*)

- Decay of O(keV) Sterile Neutrinos to active neutrinos
  - [13] Dentler, Esteban, Kopp, Machado *Phys. Rev. D* 101, 115013 (2020)
  - [14] de Gouvêa, Peres, Prakash, Stenico *JHEP* 07 (2020) 141
- New resonance matter effects
  - [5] Asaadi, Church, Guenette, Jones, Szec, *PRD* 97, 075021 (2018)
- Mixed O(1eV) sterile oscillations and O(100 MeV) sterile decay
  - [7] Vergani, Kamp, Diaz, Arguelles, Conrad, Shaevitz, Uchida, *arXiv:2105.06470*
- Decay of heavy sterile neutrinos produced in beam
  - [4] Gninenko, *Phys.Rev.D*83:015015,2011
  - [12] Alvarez-Ruso, Saul-Sala, *Phys. Rev. D* 101, 075045 (2020)
  - [15] Magill, Plestid, Pospelov, Tsai *Phys. Rev. D* 98, 115015 (2018)
  - [11] Fischer, Hernandez-Cabezudo, Schwetz, *PRD* 101, 075045 (2020)
- Decay of upscattered heavy sterile neutrinos or new scalars mediated by Z' or more complex higgs sectors
  - [1] Bertuzzo, Jana, Machado, Zukanovich Funchal, *PRL* 121, 241801 (2018)
  - [2] Abdullahi, Hostert, Pascoli, *Phys.Lett.B* 820 (2021) 136531
  - [3] Ballett, Pascoli, Ross-Lonergan, *PRD* 99, 071701 (2019)
  - [10] Dutta, Ghosh, Li, *PRD* 102, 055017 (2020)
  - [6] Abdallah, Gandhi, Roy, *Phys. Rev. D* 104, 055028 (2021)
- Decay of axion-like particles
  - [8] Chang, Chen, Ho, Tseng, *Phys. Rev. D* 104, 015030 (2021)
- A model-independent approach to any new particle
  - [9] Brdar, Fischer, Smirnov, *PRD* 103, 075008 (2021)

Produces true **electrons**

Produces true **photons**

Produces **e<sup>+</sup>e<sup>-</sup>** pairs



- Many of these models predict more complex final states (e<sup>+</sup>e<sup>-</sup>) and/or differing levels of hadronic activity

→ *The hadronic state is becoming increasingly more important as a model discriminator*

- We are fortunate that LArTPCs are sensitive to these possibilities

