

# Cross Section Measurements (Detectors)

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NuSTEC 2024 Summer School

# Summary from Yesterday, Plan for today

- Particle Propagation through Materials
- Examples of detector technologies
- Today's lecture:
  - Segmented Active/Passive Detectors (leftover)
  - Hybrid Detectors (T2K's ND280, MINERvA)
  - Estimating Backgrounds, constraining with data
  - Estimating Efficiency, checking with data
  - The challenge of migrating from measurement to truth
  - From Inclusive to Exclusive Cross sections
  - If time allows: how to measure  $\bar{\nu} + p \rightarrow \mu^+ + n$

# Homework question #1:

- How far does a proton with 100MeV Kinetic Energy go in
  - Plastic Scintillator (could consider C alone)
  - Iron
  - Argon
- How far does a muon with 2000 MeV Kinetic Energy go in
  - Plastic Scintillator
  - Iron
  - Argon

# Homework question #1:

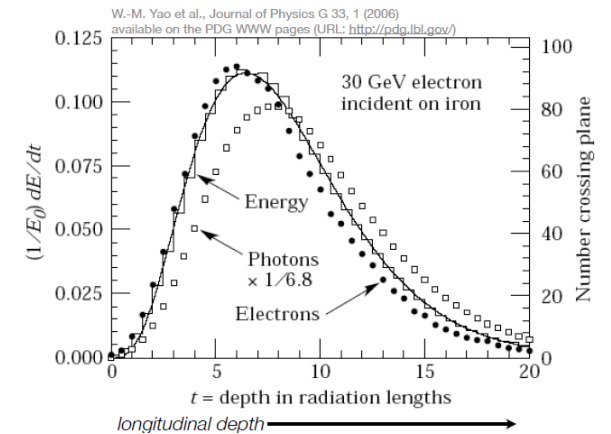
- How far does a proton with 100MeV Kinetic Energy go in
  - Plastic Scintillator (could consider C alone)
  - Iron
  - Argon
- How far does a muon with 2000 MeV Kinetic Energy go in
  - Plastic Scintillator
  - Iron
  - Argon

Target	Range (g/cm <sup>2</sup> )	Density (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	Range (cm)
C	8.67	0.92	9.4
H	3.63	0.08	47.2
Fe	11.3	7.90	1.4
Ar	10.9	1.40	7.8

Target	dE/dx (min) (MeV/g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	Density (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	dE/dx (MeV/cm)	Range (m)
Polystyrene	1.9	1.1	2.1	10
Fe	1.5	7.9	11.5	2
Ar	1.5	1.4	2.1	10

# Homework question #2:

- What is the shower max (in cm) for a 1GeV electron:
  - Plastic Scintillator
  - Iron
  - Argon
  - Lead
  
- What is the shower max (in cm) for a 2GeV electron:
  - Plastic Scintillator
  - Iron
  - Argon
  - Lead

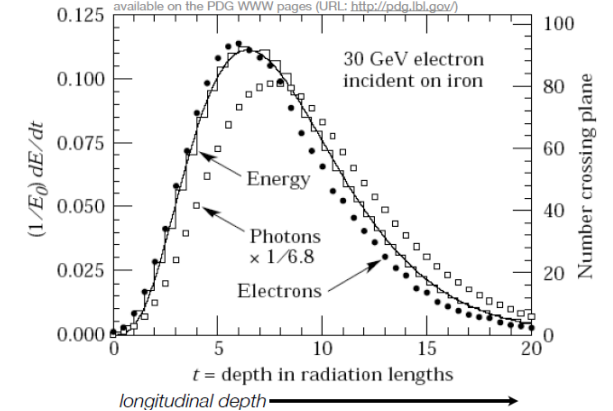


# Homework question #2:

- What is the shower max (in cm) for a 1GeV electron:

- Plastic Scintillator
- Iron
- Argon
- Lead

	Z	Ec (MeV)	X0	$\ln(1000/Ec)-0.5$	t_max (cm)
Plastic Scintillator	6	111	42	1.7	71.3
Iron	26	29	1.76	3.0	5.3
Argon	18	42	14	2.7	37.5
Lead	82	10	0.56	4.1	2.3

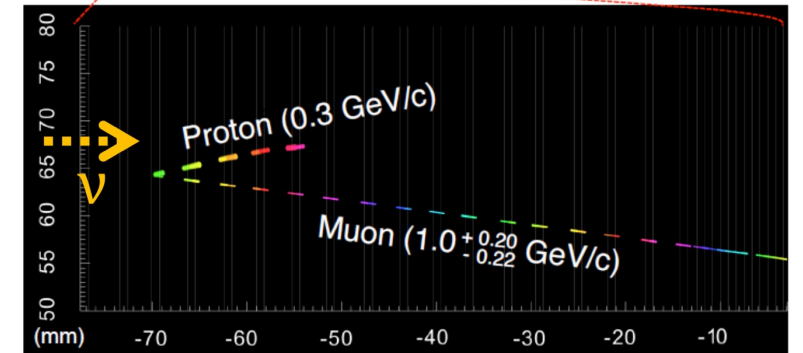
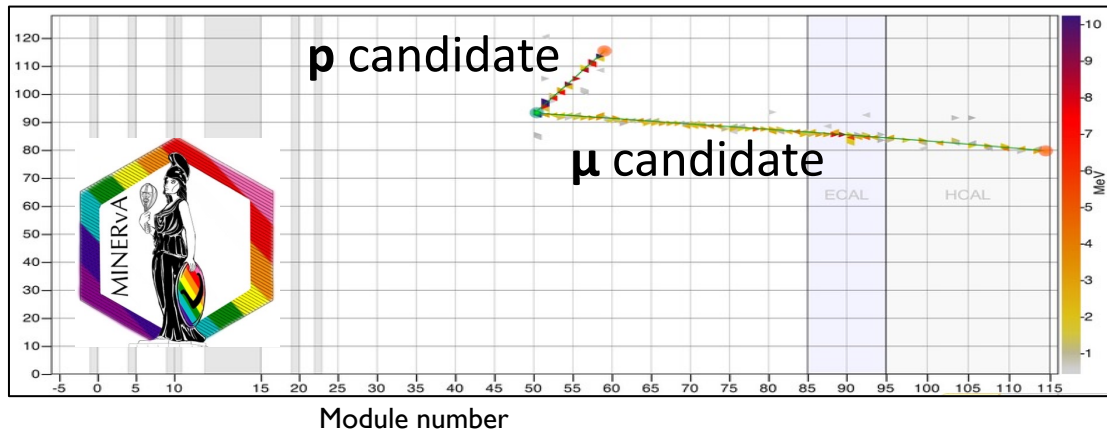
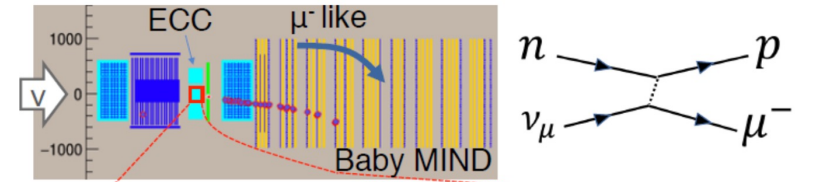
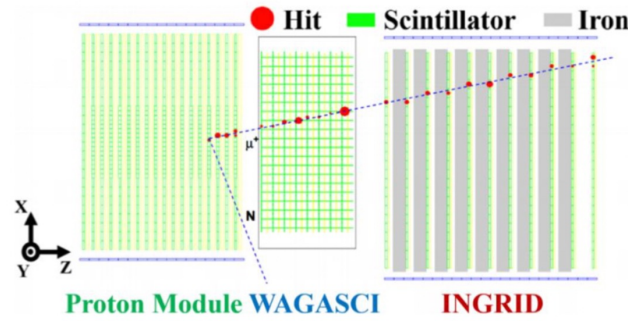
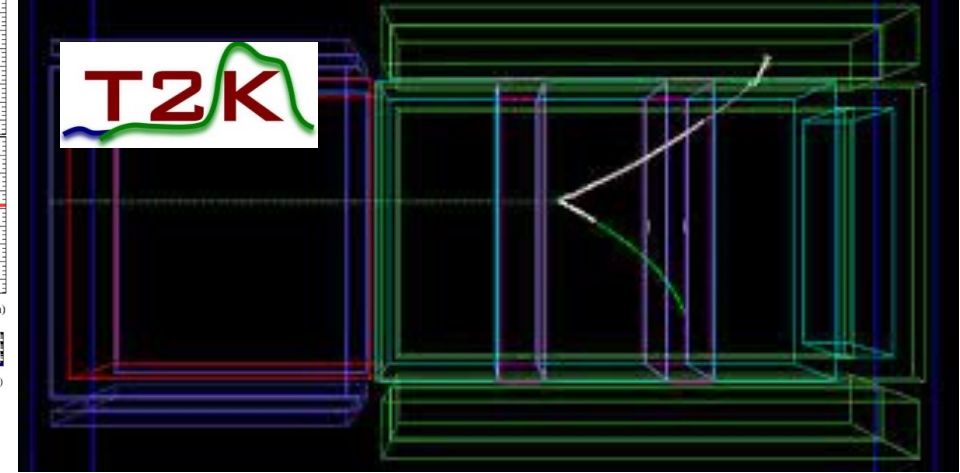
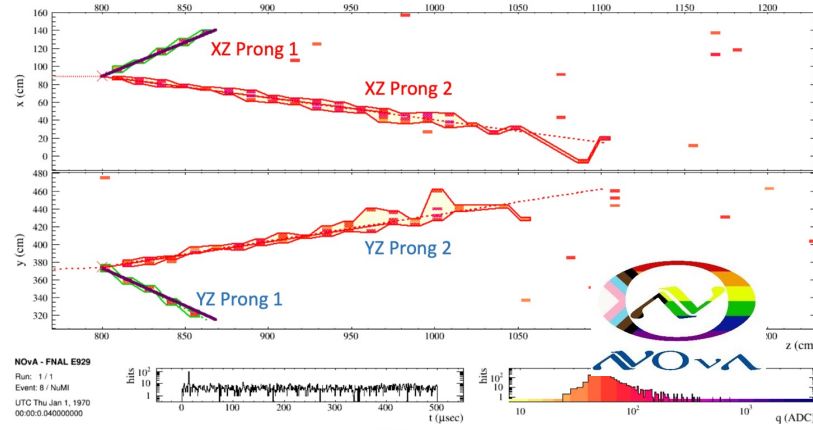
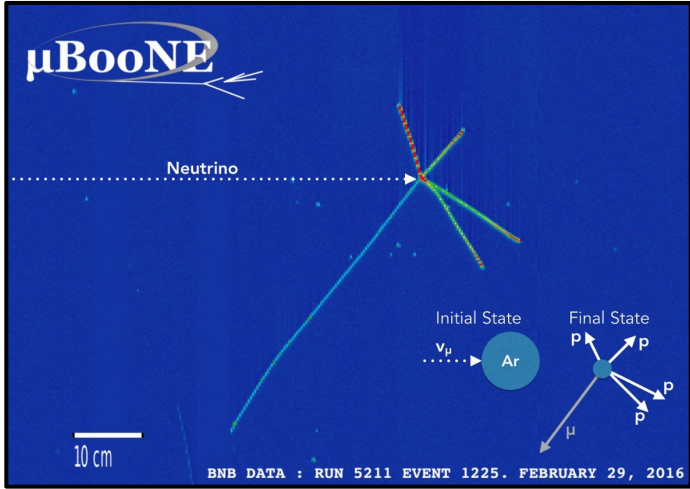


- What is the shower max (in cm) for a 2GeV electron:

- Plastic Scintillator
- Iron
- Argon
- Lead

	Z	Ec (MeV)	X0	$\ln(2000/Ec)-0.5$	t_max (cm)
Plastic Scintillator	6	111	42	2.4	100.4
Iron	26	29	1.76	3.7	6.5
Argon	18	42	14	3.4	47.2
Lead	82	10	0.56	4.8	2.7

# Neutrino Events at Some Experiments

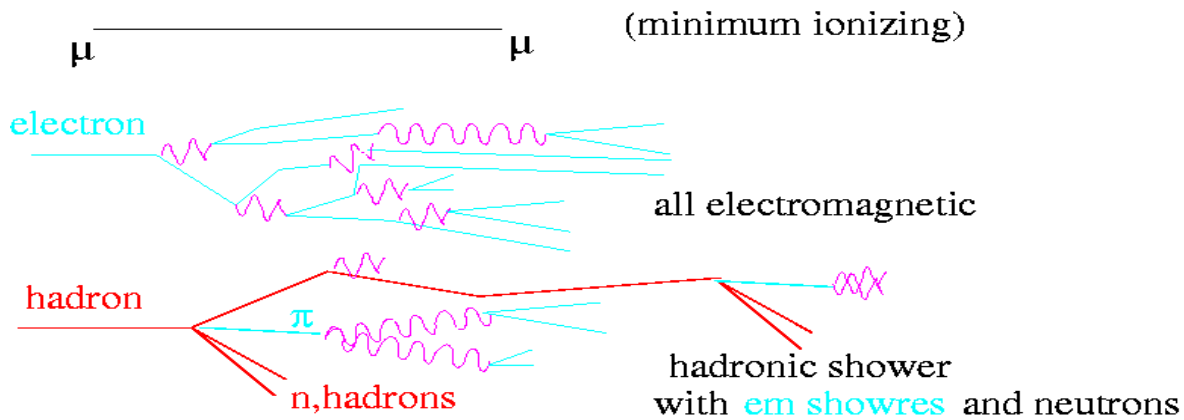


# Active/Passive Detectors





# From Fully Active to Sampling Detectors

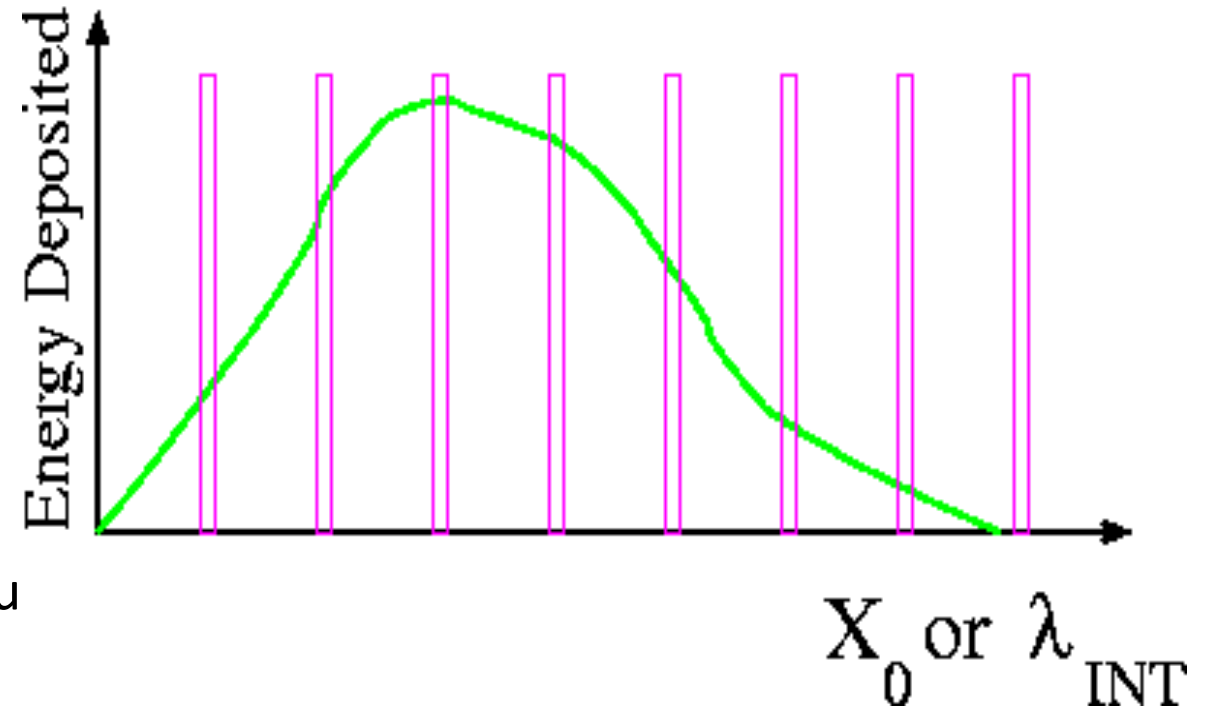


$$\frac{\delta E}{E} \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}, N = \text{samples}$$

$$\frac{\delta E(\text{hadron})}{E(\text{hadron})} \propto \sqrt{\frac{\lambda_{INT}}{N}}$$

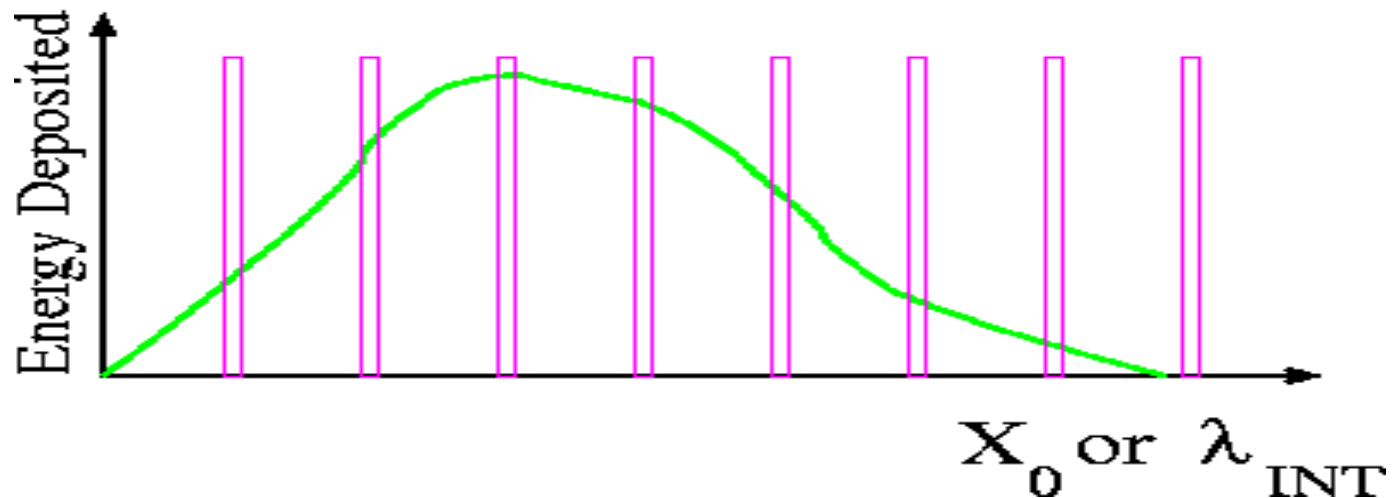
$$\frac{\delta E(\text{electron})}{E(\text{electron})} \propto \sqrt{\frac{X_0}{N}}$$

- Advantages to Sampling:
  - Cheaper readout costs
  - Fewer readout channels
  - Denser material can be used
    - More N, more interactions
    - Could combine emulsion with readout
  - Can use magnetized material!
- Disadvantages to Sampling
  - Loss of information
  - Particle ID is harder (except emulsion for tau final state)



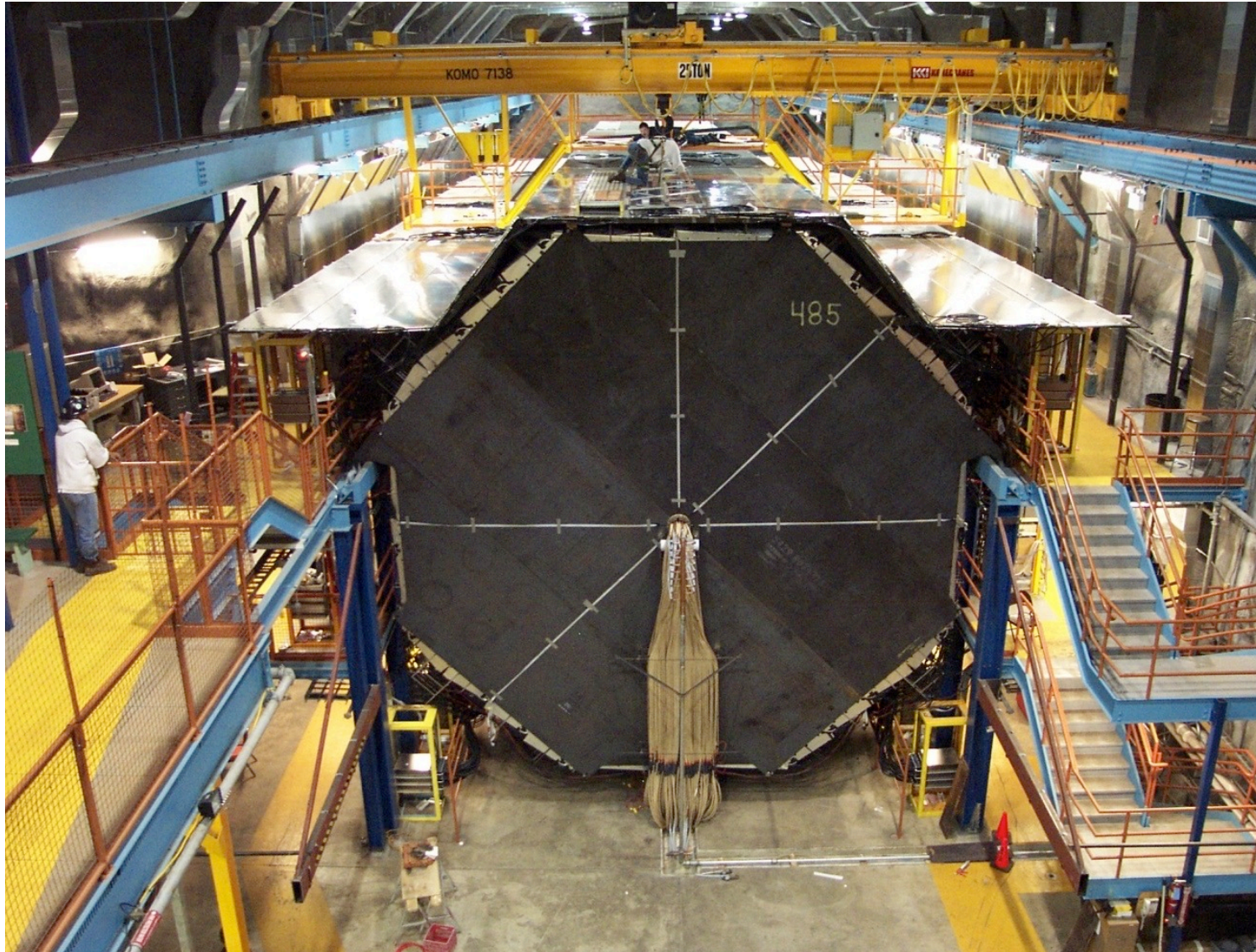
# Sampling calorimeters

- High Z materials:
  - mean smaller showers,
  - more compact detector
  - Finer transverse segmentation needed
- Low Z materials:
  - more mass/ $X_0$  (more mass per instrumented plane)
  - Coarser transverse segmentation
  - “big” events (harsh fiducial cuts for containment)



Material	$X_0$ (cm)	$\lambda_{INT}$ (cm)	Sampling ( $X_0$ )	$X_0$ (g/cm <sup>2</sup> )
L.Argon	14	83.5	0.02 (ICARUS)	20
Steel	1.76	17	1.4 (MINOS)	14
Scintillator	42	~80	0.13 (NO <sub>v</sub> A)	40
Lead	0.56	17	.2 (OPERA)	6

# Steel/Scintillator Detector (MINOS)



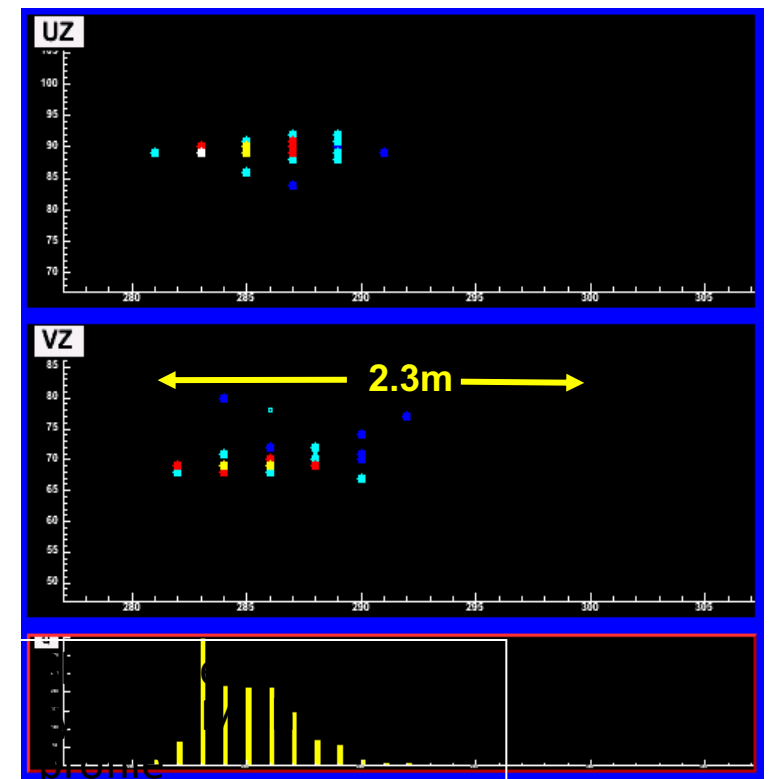
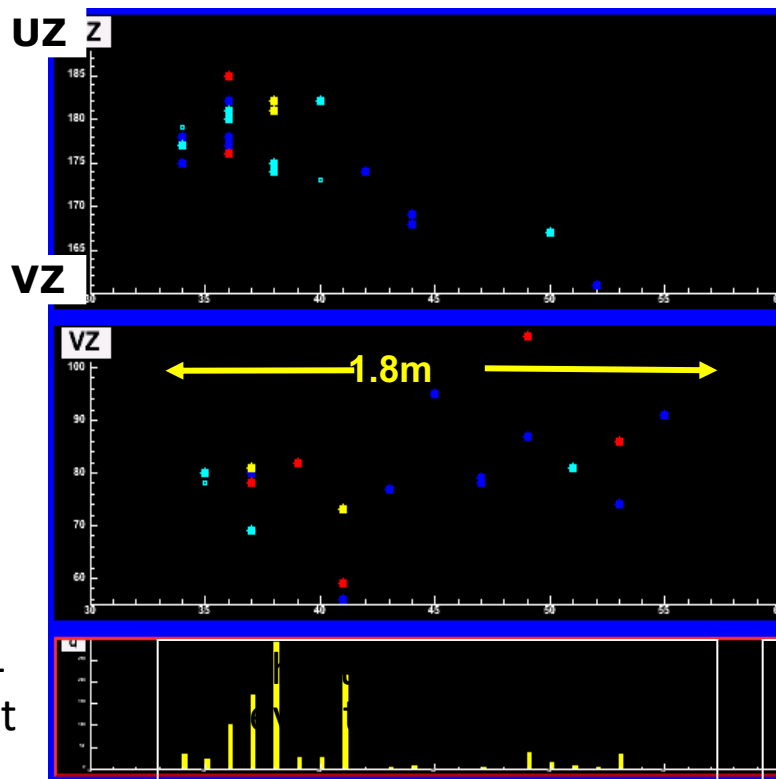
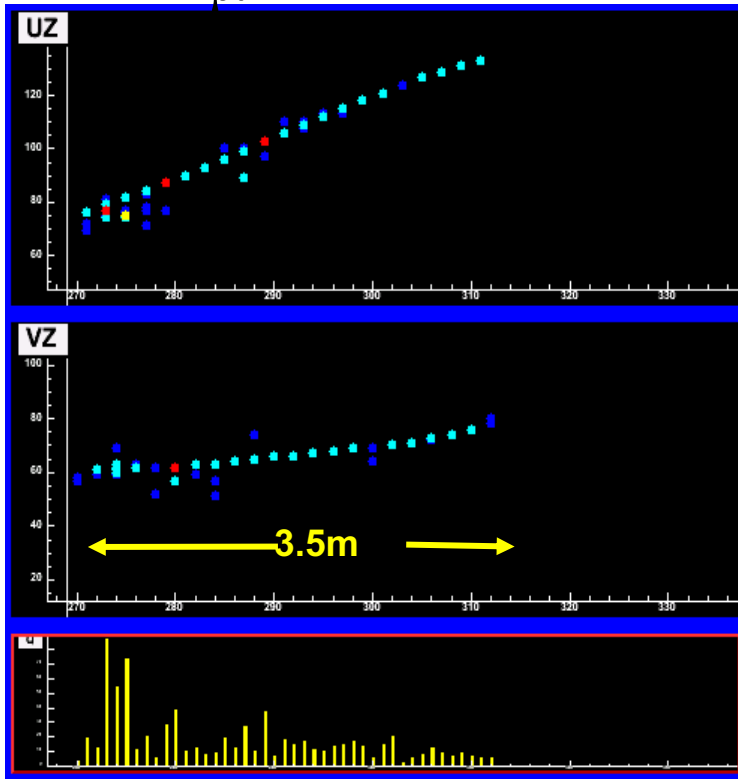
- 8m octagon steel & scintillator calorimeter
  - Sampling every 2.54 cm
  - 4cm wide strips of scintillator
  - 5.4 kton total mass
- 486 planes of scintillator
  - 95,000 strips

# MINOS Event Topologies

$\nu_\mu$  CC Event

NC Event

$\nu_e$  CC Event



$$E_\nu = E_{\text{shower}} + P_\mu$$

Shower energy resolution: 55%/VE

Muon momentum resolution: 6% range; 13% curvature

Cross Section Measurements (Detectors)

Courtesy Chris Smith, FNAL Seminar

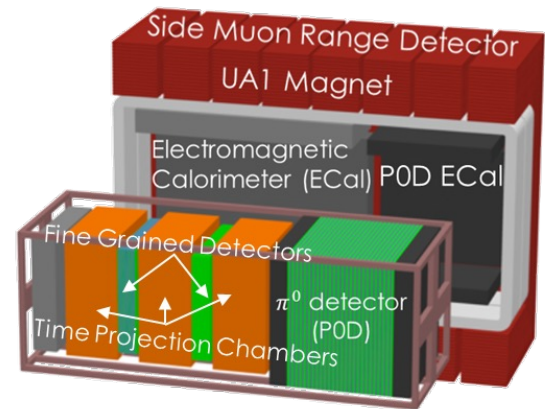
# (Oscillation) Detector Summary

Detector Technology	Largest Mass to Date (kton)	Event by Event Identification			+/-?	Ideal n Energy Range
		$\nu_e$	$\nu_\mu$	$\nu_\tau$		
LAR TPC	0.8	✓	✓		Not yet	huge
Water Cerenkov	50	✓	✓			<2GeV
Emulsion/Pb/Fe	0.27	✓	✓	✓		>.5GeV
Scintillator++	14	✓	✓			huge
Steel/Scint.	5.4		✓		✓	>.5GeV

# Cross Section Detectors

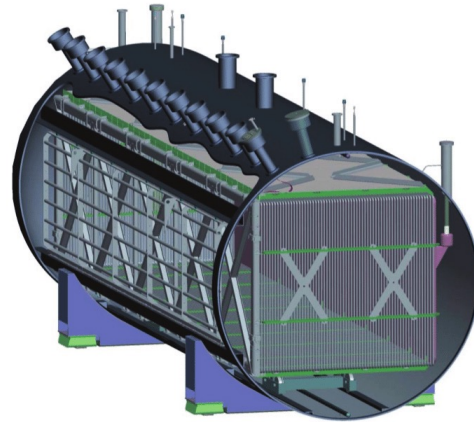
- Given the lengths of the muon tracks we saw earlier
- Given the intense beams close to where neutrinos are produced
- Will need to combine detector strategies to fit into allowed real estate for Near Detector Halls

# Experiments current releasing results (in 0.5-20GeV region)



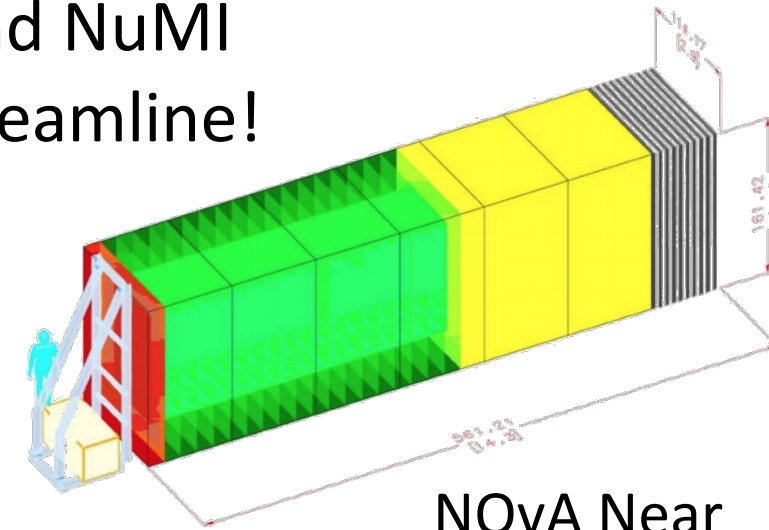
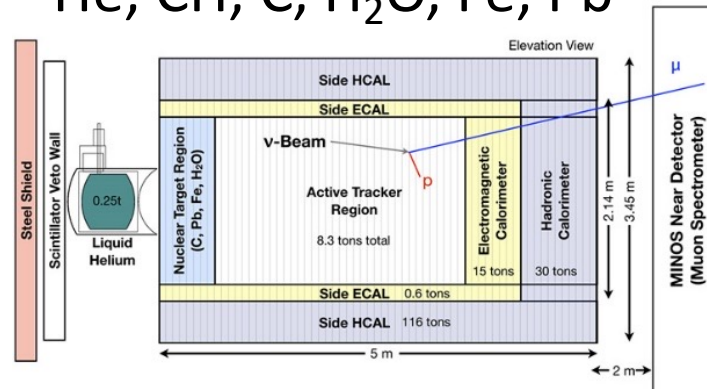
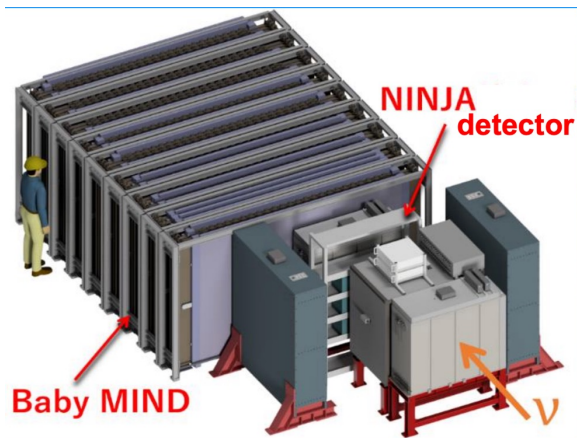
T2K Near  
Detector:  
CH, H<sub>2</sub>O

NINJA:  
CH, H<sub>2</sub>O, Fe



MINERvA:  
He, CH, C, H<sub>2</sub>O, Fe, Pb

MicroBooNE:  
Liquid Argon TPC  
Booster and NuMI  
(off axis) beamline!



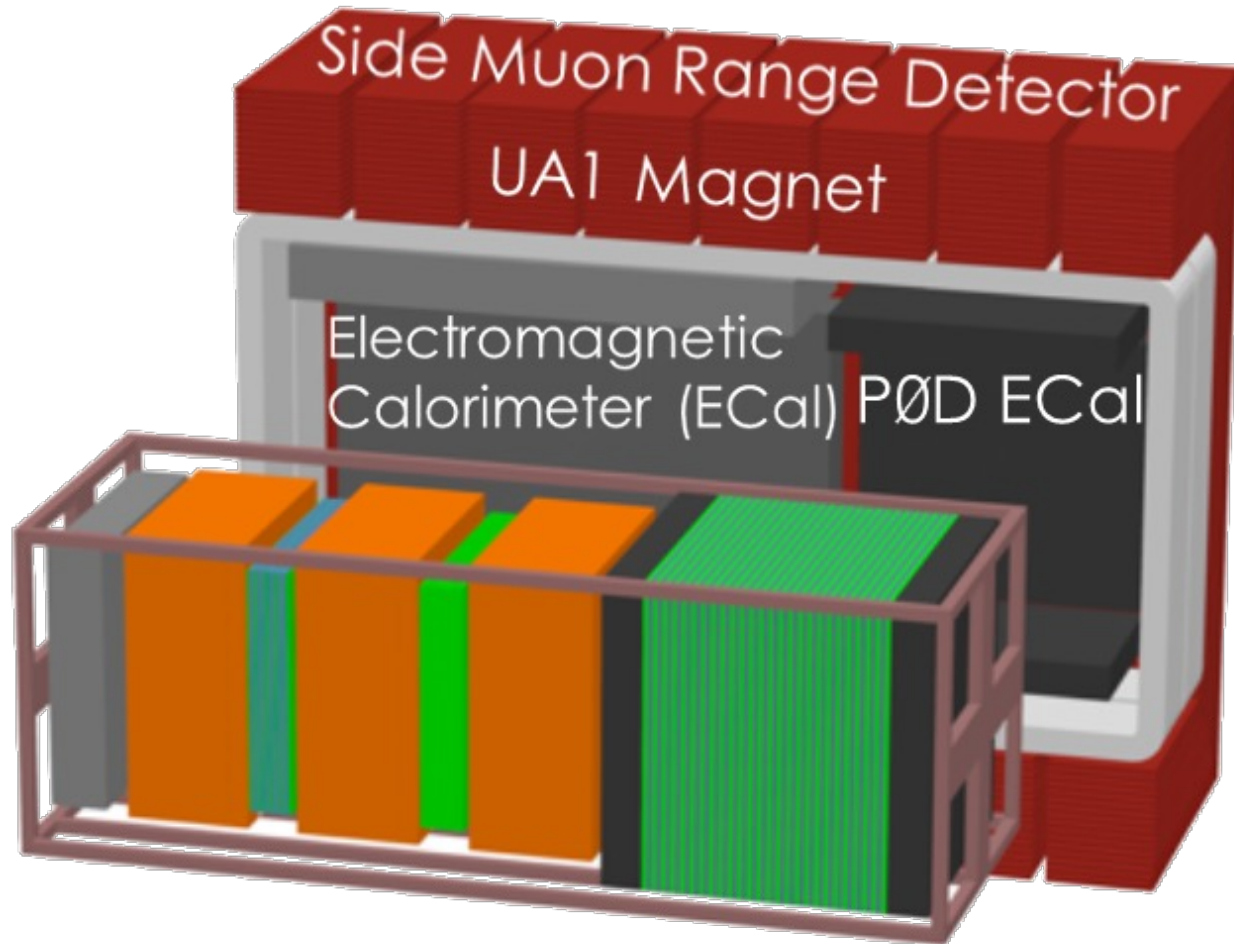
NOvA Near  
Detector: CH

# Modern Cross Section Experiments

Experiment	Beam Energy	Target Nucleus	B field?	Granularity	Status
COHERENT	25MeV, broad	CsI, Ar, ....	No	various	Data-taking
MINERvA	3.5GeV and 6GeV, broad band	He, CH, C, H <sub>2</sub> O, Fe, Pb	For muons only	1.6cm x3.3 cm triangles (scint)	Last data: 2019 Still analyzing
T2K (Wagasci)	600MeV	CH, H <sub>2</sub> O	Yes!	~few cm triangles + Gas TPC	Data-taking in 2023
NOvA	2GeV	CH	No	4cmx6cm (scint)	Data-taking in 2023
NINJA	700MeV	Pb, H <sub>2</sub> O	For muons only	Emulsion!	
MicroBooNE	600MeV (BNB) and 2GeV (NuMI)	Ar	No	3mm wire pitch	Data-taking ended in 2022 Still analyzing
ICARUS			No	3mm wire pitch	Data-taking in 2023
SBND			No	3mm wire pitch	Data-taking soon!



# T2K Near Detector

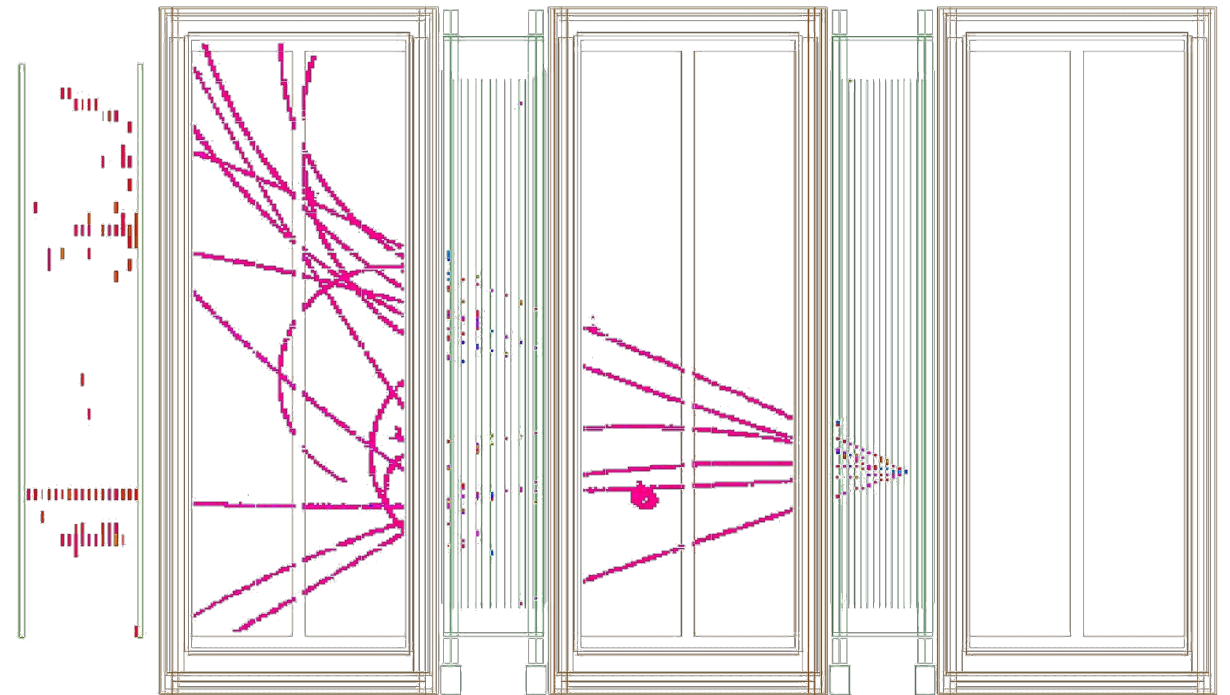


## Time Projection Chambers (TPC):

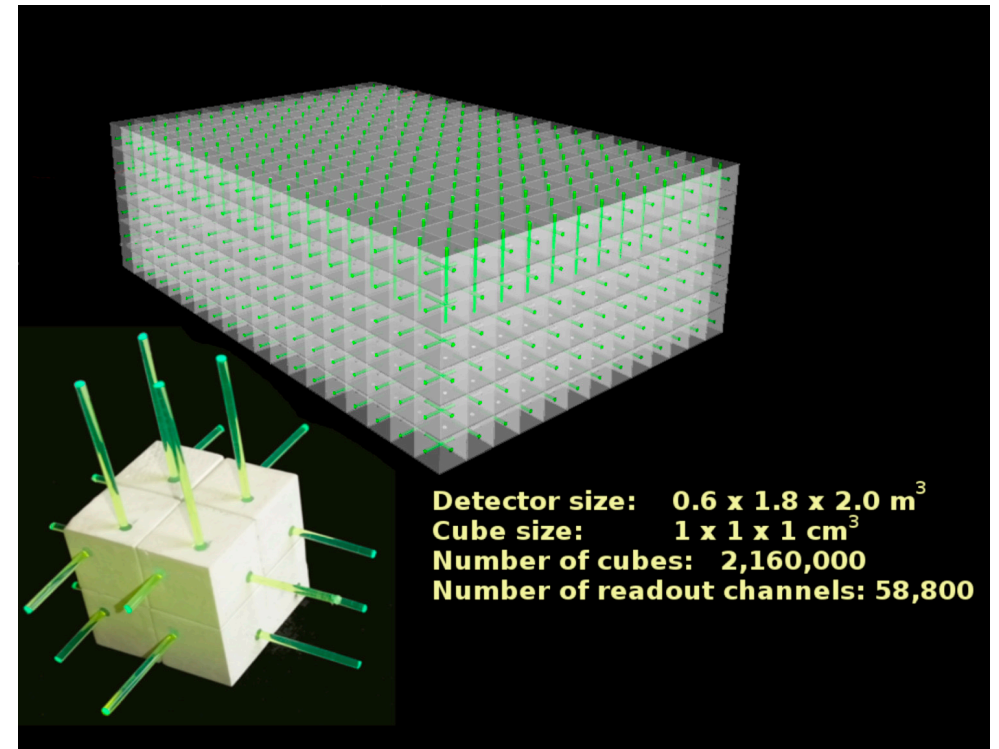
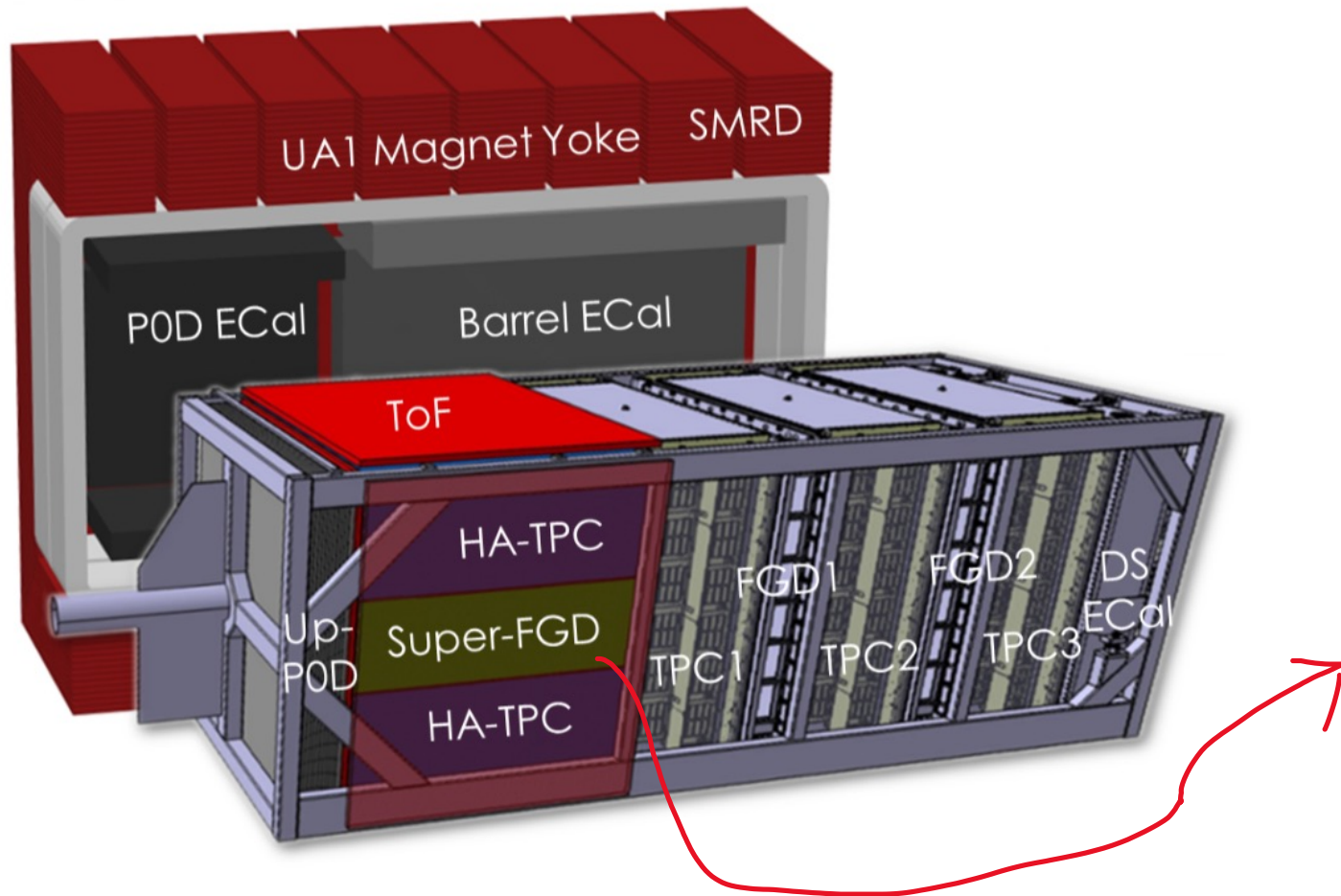
- Excellent tracking
- High-resolution charged-particle momenta
- Accurate particle ID

## Fine-Grained Detectors (FGD 1 & 2):

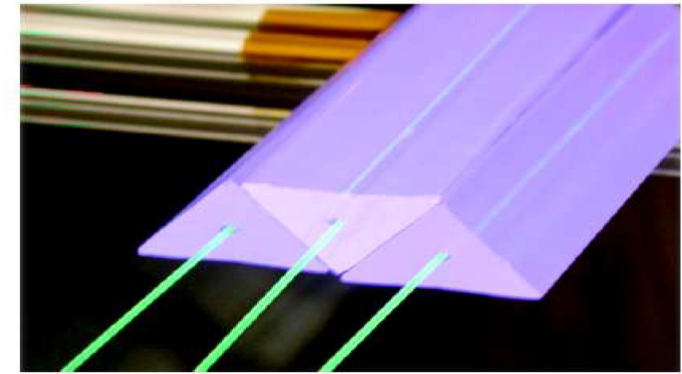
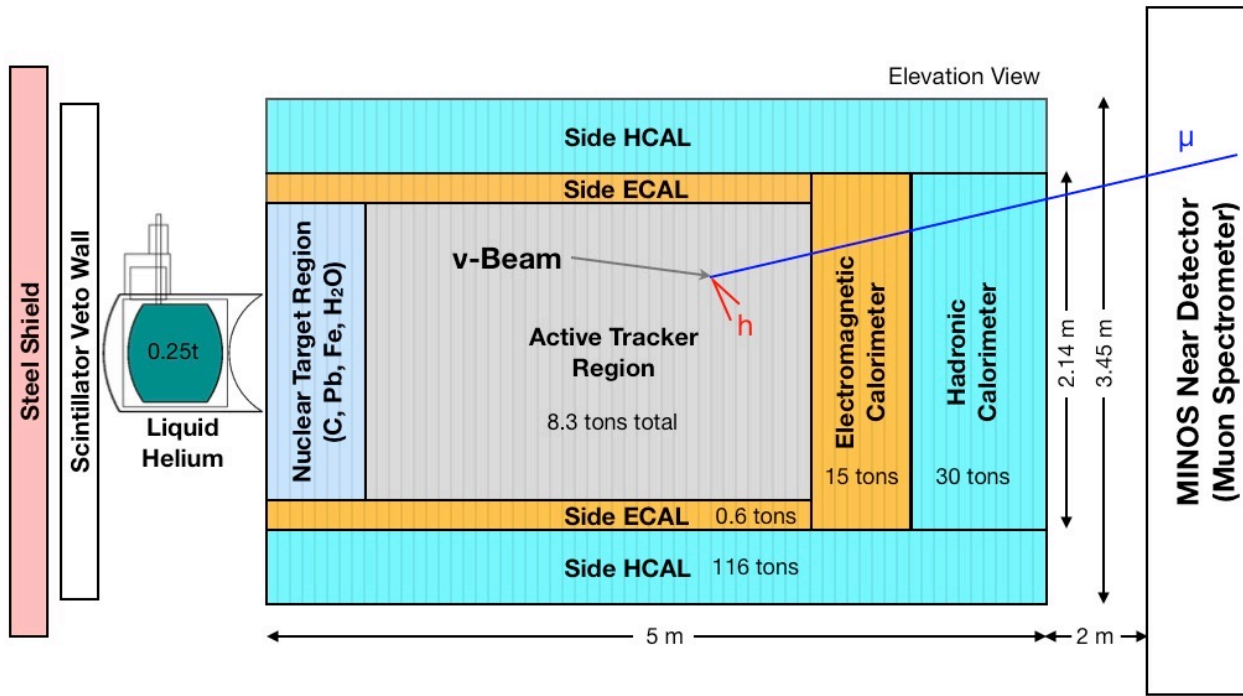
- CH scintillator tracker
- Target for  $\nu$
- FGD2 contains water



# Upgrade to original T2K Near Detector



# MINERvA Detector



*Nucl.Instrum.Meth.A* 743 (2014) 130 and beam test  
*Nucl.Instrum.Meth.A* 789 (2015) 28

- Core of detector was an active scintillator strip target, surrounded by calorimetry.
- Passive targets interspersed with scintillator upstream.
- Detector is mostly in trash cans now, but some has been recycled for DUNE tests.

# How to measure a Cross Section

- Golden Rule in Cross Section Measurements:

$$N_{\mu}(E_{\nu}) = \sigma(E_{\nu})\Phi_{\nu}(E_{\nu})\epsilon(E_{\nu})M$$

- More generally, consider an observable  $x$  that describes the interaction

$$N(x_{true}) = \int \frac{d\sigma(E_{\nu}, x_{true})}{dx_{true}} \Phi_{\nu}(E_{\nu})\epsilon(x_{true}, E_{\nu})M dx_{true}$$

- And no detector is perfect, so what we really measure is as a function of “ $N(x_{measured})$ ”, so there’s an additional step

# Quick word about units

$$N_{\mu}(E_{\nu}) = \sigma(E_{\nu})\Phi_{\nu}(E_{\nu})\epsilon(E_{\nu})M$$

- What are the units of the different components?
  - N: number of events, unitless
  - $\sigma$ : cross section, area per target (for neutrinos, usually  $\times 10^{-38}$  cm<sup>2</sup>)
  - $\Phi$ : flux, Neutrinos per unit area (for near detector location, cm<sup>-2</sup>)
    - example: NOvA reports\*:  $87\nu_{\mu}/\text{cm}^2/10^{10}$  POT or for  $10^{20}$  POT,  $10^{12}$   $\nu/\text{cm}^2$
  - $\epsilon$ : efficiency, unitless
  - M: "mass" must be "number of targets" : recall this is  $6.023 \times 10^{23}$  if your detector weighed 1 gram

# How to measure a cross section

- From the equation: 
$$N(x_{true}) = \frac{d\sigma(E_\nu, x_{true})}{dx_{true}} \Phi_\nu(E_\nu) \epsilon(x_{true}, E_\nu) M$$

$$N(x_{measured}) = \int U(x_{measured}, x_{true}) \frac{d\sigma(E_\nu, x_{true})}{dx_{true}} \times \Phi_\nu(E_\nu) \epsilon(x_{true}, E_\nu) M dx_{true}$$

U written this way is a “smearing” step that translates from the true quantity to a reconstructed quantity

Solving for  $d\sigma/dx$

$$\frac{d\sigma(E_\nu, x_{true})}{dx_{true}} = \frac{N(x_{measured}) U^{-1}(x_{measured}, x_{true})}{\Phi_\nu(E_\nu) \epsilon(x_{true}, E_\nu) M}$$

- And in real life, there are backgrounds: not every event you select is going to be the signal process you are looking for!
- Integrate over the entire flux to find:

$$\frac{d\sigma(x_{true})}{dx_{true}} = \frac{(N(x_{measured}) - B) U^{-1}(x_{measured}, x_{true})}{\int \Phi_\nu \epsilon(x_{true}) M \Delta x_{true}}$$

# Measuring Cross Sections: Simplify notation

- Remove subscript from true variables, but  $t$ =bin of  $x_{\text{true}}$ ,  $m$ =measured
- We'll write  $\phi$  but it really means “integrating over the flux”
- Switch from  $U^{-1}$  to  $U$  again just for simplicity, sometimes called “unfolding”

$$\frac{d\sigma(x_t)}{dx_t} = \frac{(N(x_m) - B(x_m)) U_{mt}}{\Phi_\nu \epsilon(x) M \Delta x}$$

- Deconstruct this piece by piece, from the easiest to the most complicated:



$$\frac{d\sigma(x_t)}{dx_t} = \frac{(N(x_m) - B(x_m)) U_{mt}}{\Phi_\nu \epsilon(x_t) M \Delta x}$$

- $B(x_m)$  : These are the backgrounds that are still in the event sample even after you make all your cuts.

- $B(x_m) = M \sum U^{mt-1} \frac{d\sigma_B(E_\nu, x_{true})}{dx_{true}} \Phi_\nu(E_\nu) \epsilon_B(x_{true}, E_\nu)$

- You could predict what this background is from your simulation, but that prediction may have a large uncertainty!

- Background Process Cross Section uncertainties (have to sum over all processes!)
- Flux uncertainties (have to Sum over all fluxes!)
- Have to smear back: is that smearing matrix the same for all backgrounds?



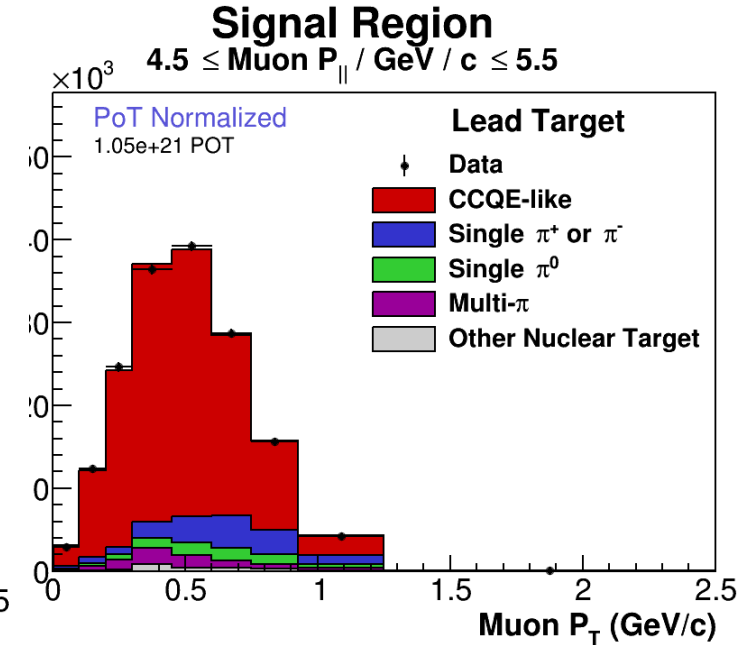
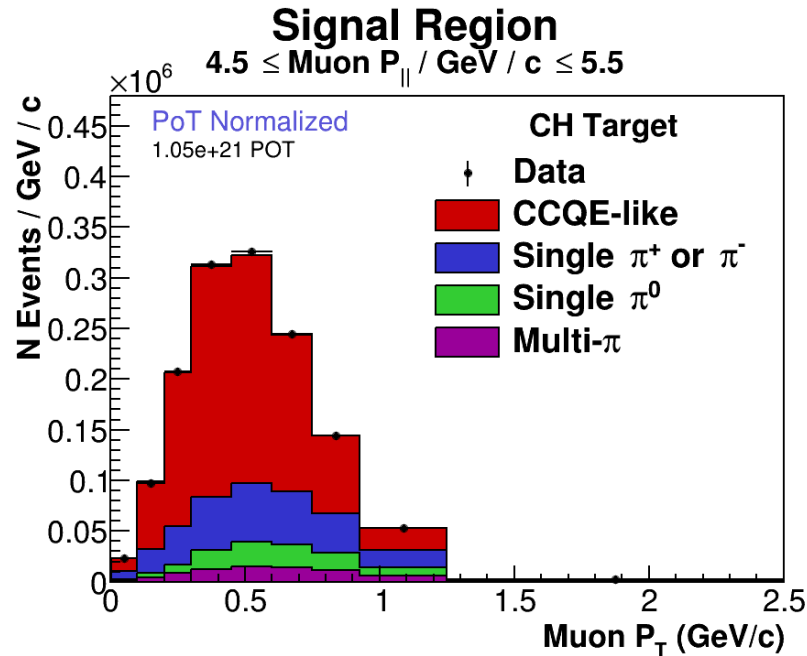
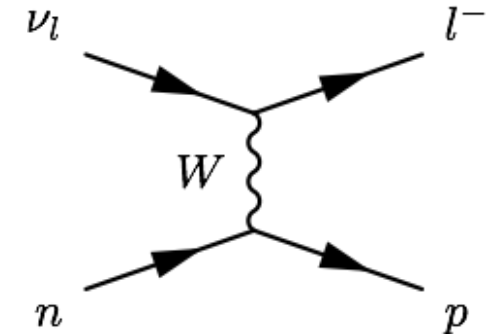
Signal



Background

# Using data to predict $B(x_m)$

- Quasi-elastic neutrino scattering should have an easily-identifiable signature: one muon and one proton
- Example from MINERvA: if you only require a muon ( $p > 1.5 \text{ GeV}/c$ )
- and NO other energy deposits far from the nucleus, here are the backgrounds:

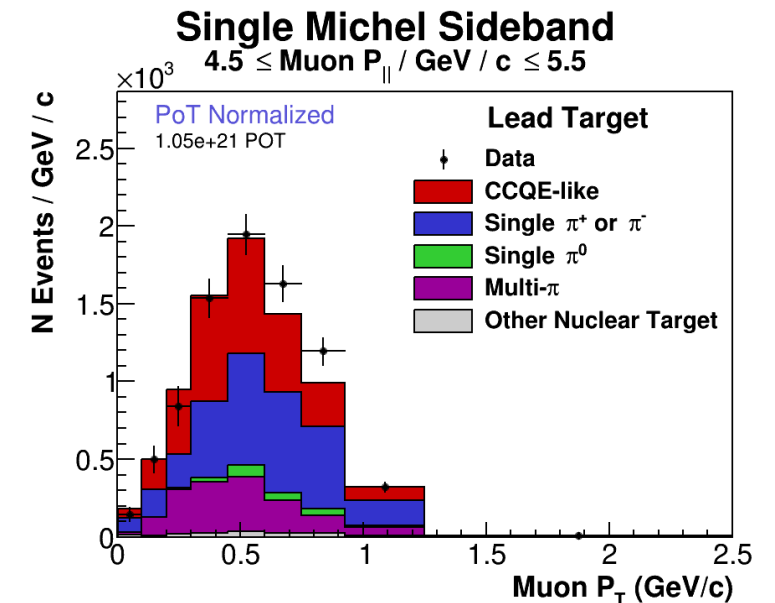
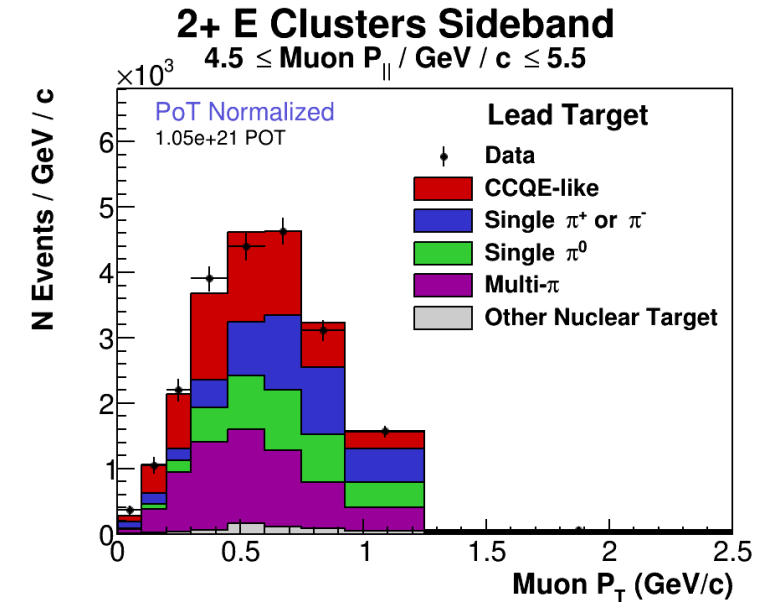


*Phys.Rev.Lett.* 130 (2023) 16, 161801

# Using Data to predict $B(x_m)$

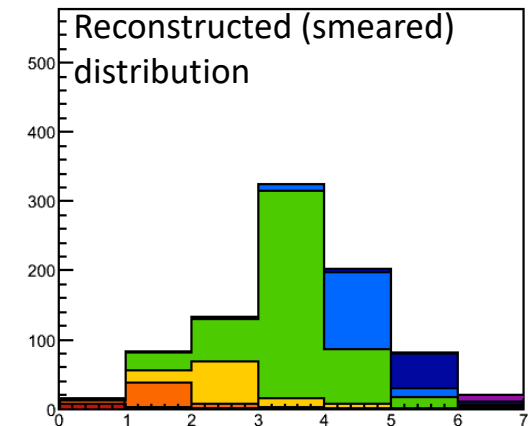
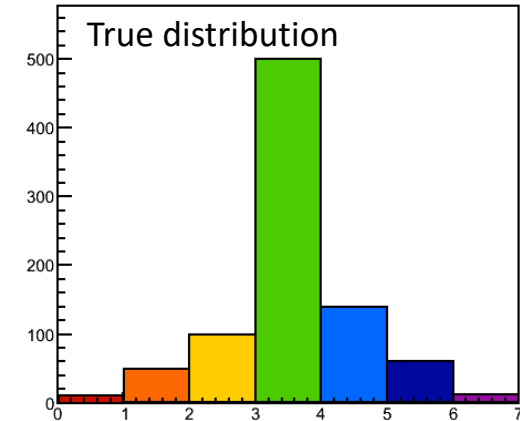
- Remember: the CCQE process is probably the best known neutrino-nucleus process, how could you trust your simulation to tell you the background levels?
- Solution: Use the data itself, but try to isolate each background by looking at the events you REMOVED from the signal process
- How to find events with  $\pi^+$ ?
- How to find events with  $\pi^0$ ?
- Remember, red is signal: can't always find event samples that have all one background, or no signal events in them...

*Phys.Rev.Lett.* 130 (2023) 16, 161801



$$\frac{d\sigma(x_t)}{dx_t} = \frac{(N(x_m) - B(x_m)) U_{mt}}{\Phi_{\nu E}(x_t) M \Delta x}$$

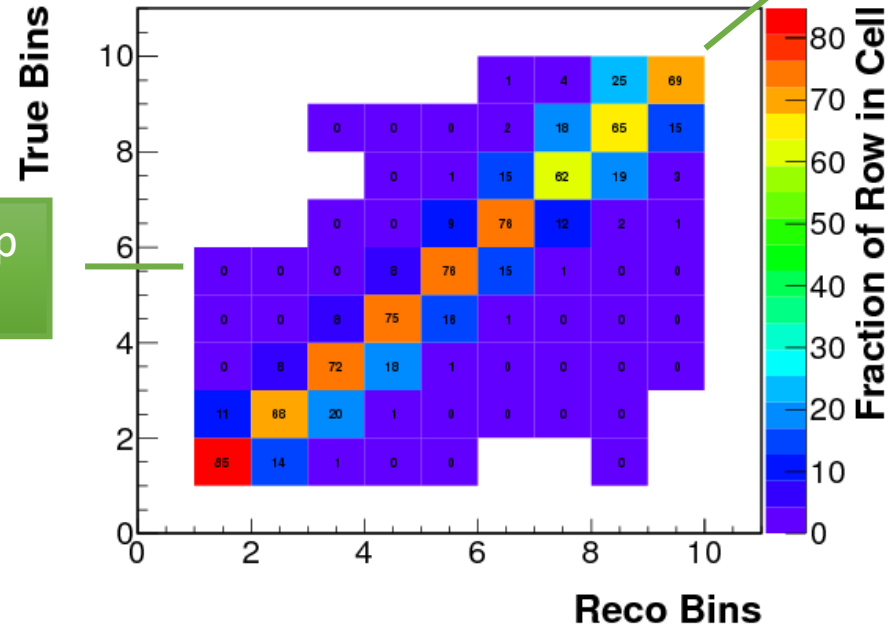
- $U_{mt}$ : This is the "unsmearing matrix" that takes you from the measured variable to the true variable
- We want to know, if an event is observed in bin  $m$ , **what bin did it really happen in?**
- In other words, what's the probability that an event **observed in bin  $m$  (measured)** actually **occurred in bin  $t$  (true)?**
- We can use our Monte Carlo to form a **migration matrix** indicating what fraction of events generated in each true bin  $\alpha$  were observed in each reconstructed bin  $j$
- If the detector has good resolution, the matrix should be **close to diagonal**



$$\frac{d\sigma(x_t)}{dx_t} = \frac{(N(x_m) - B(x_m)) U_{mt}}{\Phi_{\nu} \epsilon(x_t) M \Delta x}$$

“Migration Matrix”

Each row adds up to 100%

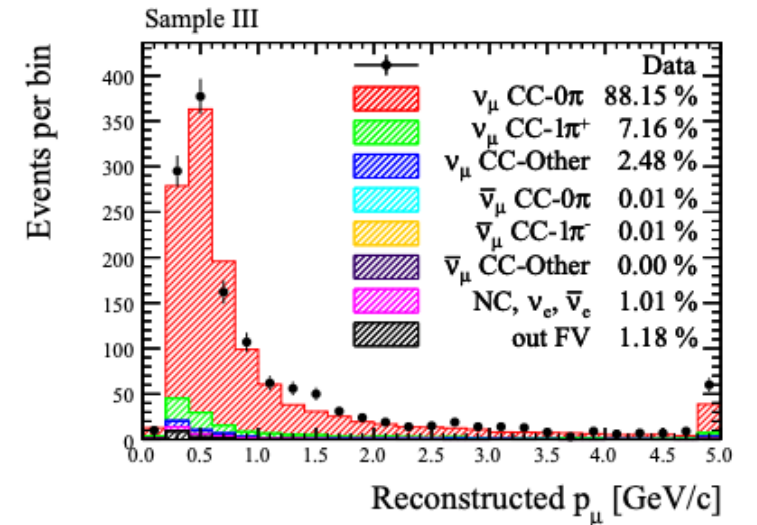
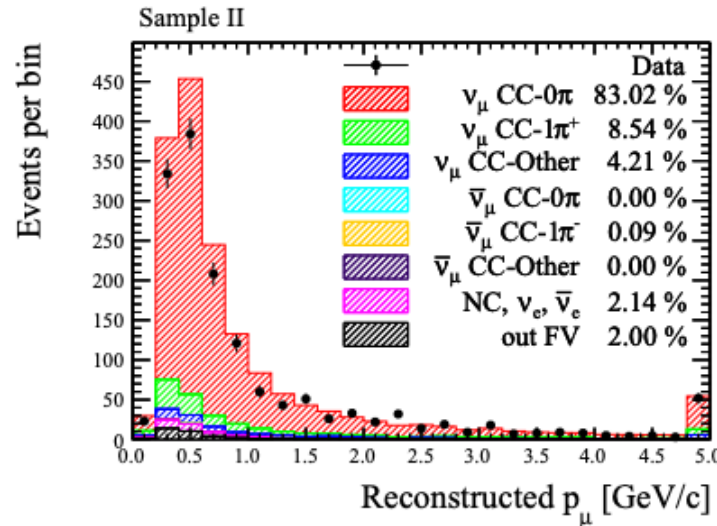
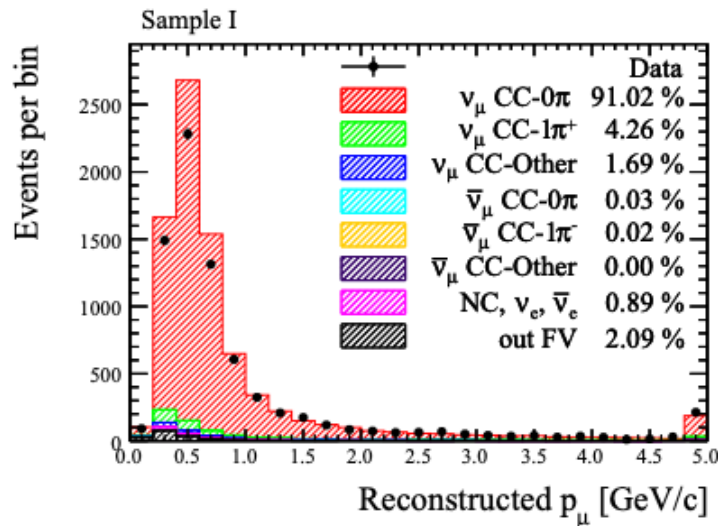
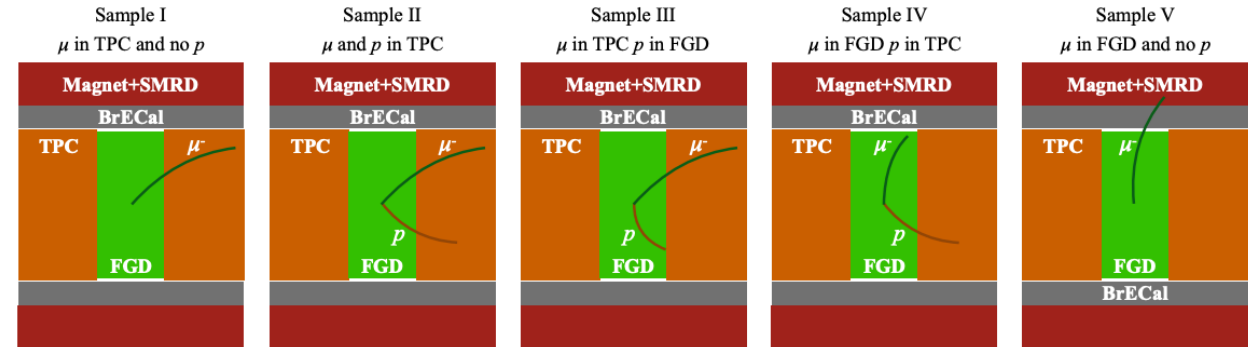


Diagonal corresponds to events reconstructed in the right bin

- To get the unsmearing matrix  $U_{tm}$ , you have to invert the migration matrix
- ...in theory. In practice, it often gives poor results and we often need to use a more sophisticated method

# T2K: Letting $U_{mt}$ vary

- T2K: Showing 3 out of 5 samples
- “CC0 $\pi$ ” Analysis for  $\nu_\mu$
- Try to get as many  $\mu$  as possible!



• *Phys.Rev.D* 101 (2020) 11, 112001

# T2K: Letting $U_{mt}$ vary

**Likelihood:**

$$\chi^2 \approx -2 \log \mathcal{L} = -2 \log \mathcal{L}_{\text{stat}} - 2 \log \mathcal{L}_{\text{syst}}$$

statistic term (Barlow-Beeston)

$$2 \sum_j^{\text{reco bins}} \left( \beta_j N_j^{\text{MC}} - N_j^{\text{obs}} + N_j^{\text{obs}} \log \frac{N_j^{\text{obs}}}{\beta_j N_j^{\text{MC}}} + \frac{\beta_j^2 - 1}{2\sigma_j^2} \right)$$

systematic term

$$(\vec{p} - \vec{p}_{\text{prior}}) \mathbf{V}_{\text{syst}}^{-1} (\vec{p} - \vec{p}_{\text{prior}})$$

Where:

Cross-Section      Flux      Detector

**Event prediction (as a function of models parameters):**

$$N_j^{\text{MC}} = \sum_i^{\text{true bins}} \left( c_i w_{ij}^{\text{sig}}(\vec{p}) N_{ij}^{\text{sig}} + w_{ij}^{\text{bkg}}(\vec{p}) N_{ij}^{\text{bkg}} \right)$$

• Jesus-Valls, NuINT 2022, and Phys.Rev.D 101 (2020) 11, 112001

7 June 2024

Cross Section Measurements (Detectors)

Reconstructed  $p_{\mu}$  [GeV/c]

# T2K: Letting $U_{mt}$ vary

- In order to incorporate systematic uncertainties on cross section model, T2K parameterizes the uncertainties and then lets them float in a fit that incorporates not only the signal region but also two control samples

Likelihood:

$$\chi^2 \approx -2 \log \mathcal{L} = -2 \log \mathcal{L}_{\text{stat}} - 2 \log \mathcal{L}_{\text{syst}}$$

$$2 \sum_j^{\text{reco bins}} \left( \beta_j N_j^{\text{MC}} - N_j^{\text{obs}} + N_j^{\text{obs}} \log \frac{N_j^{\text{obs}}}{\beta_j N_j^{\text{MC}}} + \frac{\beta_j^2 - 1}{2\sigma_j^2} \right)$$

Where:

$$\beta_j = \frac{1}{2} \left( -(N_j^{\text{MC}} \sigma_j^2 - 1) + \sqrt{(N_j^{\text{MC}} \sigma_j^2 - 1)^2 + 4N_j^{\text{MC}} \sigma_j^2} \right)$$

$$(\vec{p} - \vec{p}_{\text{prior}}) \mathbf{V}_{\text{syst}}^{-1} (\vec{p} - \vec{p}_{\text{prior}})$$

Cross-Section Flux Detector

Example:



Event prediction (as a function of models parameters):

$$N_j^{\text{MC}} = \sum_i^{\text{true bins}} \left( c_i w_{ij}^{\text{sig}}(\vec{p}) N_{ij}^{\text{sig}} + w_{ij}^{\text{bkg}}(\vec{p}) N_{ij}^{\text{bkg}} \right)$$

• Jesus-Valls, NuINT 2022, and Phys.Rev.D 101 (2020) 11, 112001

7 June 2024

Cross Section Measurements (Detectors)

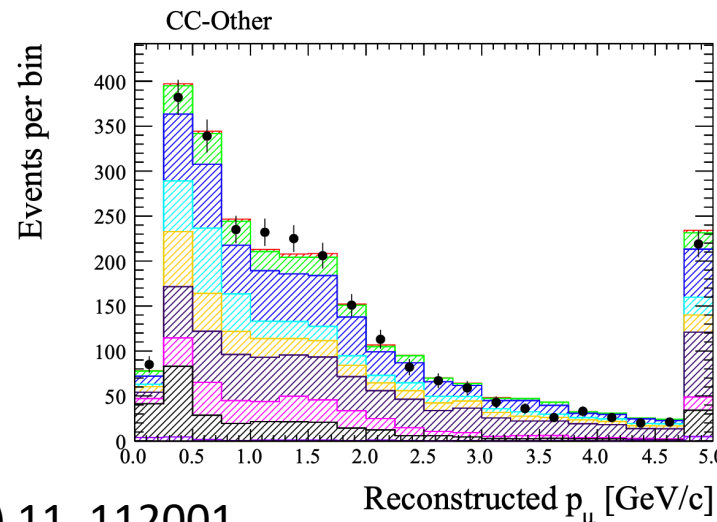
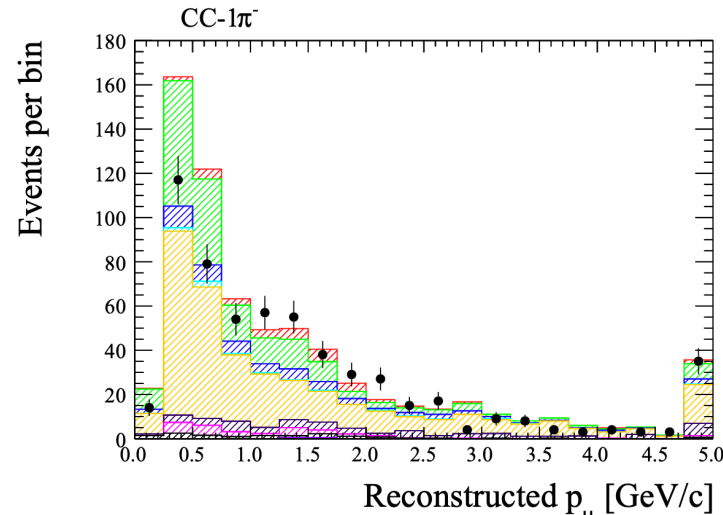


TABLE II. Prior values and errors of the cross section model parameters used in this analysis.

Parameter	Prior	Error
$M_A^{QE}$ (GeV/c <sup>2</sup> )	1.2	0.3
$p_F^C$ (MeV/c)	217	30
$E_B^C$ (MeV)	25	9
2p2h $\nu$	1	1
2p2h $\bar{\nu}$	1	1
$C_A^5$ (GeV/c <sup>2</sup> )	1.01	0.12
$M_A^{Res}$ (GeV/c <sup>2</sup> )	0.95	0.15
$I_{1/2}$	1.3	0.2
DIS Multiple pion	0.0	0.4
CC Coherent on C	1.0	1.0
CC-1 $\pi$ $E_\nu < 2.5$ GeV	1.0	0.5
CC-1 $\pi$ $E_{\bar{\nu}} < 2.5$ GeV	1.0	1.0
CC-1 $\pi$ $E_\nu > 2.5$ GeV	1.0	0.5
CC-1 $\pi$ $E_{\bar{\nu}} > 2.5$ GeV	1.0	1.0
CC Multiple $\pi$	1.0	0.5
CC-DIS $\nu$	1.0	0.035
CC-DIS $\bar{\nu}$	1.0	0.065
NC Coherent	1.0	0.3
NC Other	1.0	0.3
Pion production	0.0	0.5
Pion absorption	0.0	0.41
Pion quasi-elastic int. for $p_\pi < 500$ MeV/c	0.0	0.41
Pion quasi-elastic int. for $p_\pi > 400$ MeV/c	0.0	0.34
Pion charge exchange for $p_\pi < 500$ MeV/c	0.0	0.57
Pion charge exchange for $p_\pi > 400$ MeV/c	0.0	0.28



$$\frac{d\sigma(x_t)}{dx_t} = \frac{(N(x_m) - B(x_m)) U_{mt}}{\Phi_\nu \epsilon(x) M \Delta x}$$

- $\Phi_\nu$ : Flux [neutrinos/cm<sup>2</sup>]
- Usually the cross section is reported assuming you've integrated over all neutrino energies: so  $\Phi$  really means
- $\Phi_\nu = \frac{\int dE_\nu \Phi_\nu(E_\nu)}{\int dE_\nu}$
- For the rare cases where neutrino energy is measurable

Total Cross Section: 
$$\sigma(E_\nu) = \frac{(N(E_\nu) - B(E_\nu)) U_{mt}}{\Phi_\nu(E_\nu) \epsilon(E_\nu) M}$$

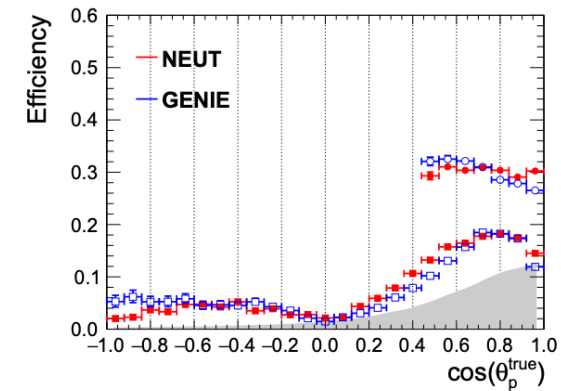
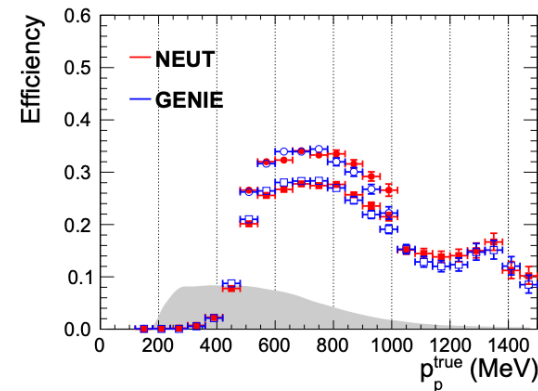
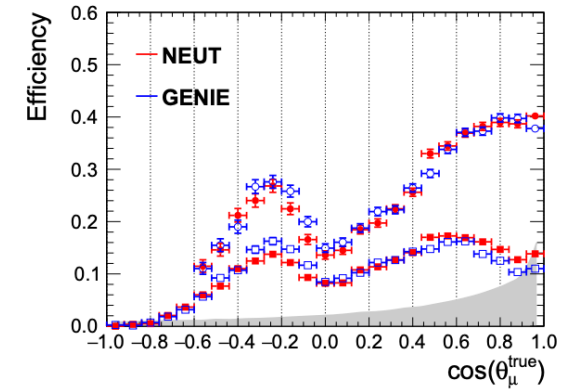
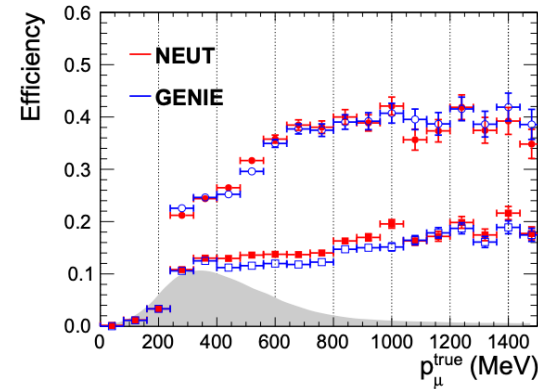
$$\frac{d\sigma(x_t)}{dx_t} = \frac{(N(x_m) - B(x_m)) U_{mt}}{\Phi_\nu \epsilon(x_t) M \Delta x}$$

- $\epsilon(x_t)$ : Efficiency [unitless]
- The fraction of signal events that you retain after making all the analysis cuts to remove your backgrounds
- In truth, this efficiency may depend not only on  $x_t$  but also on neutrino energy, and remember you're integrating over the flux

$$\epsilon(x_t) = \frac{\int \epsilon(x_t, E_\nu) \Phi_\nu dE_\nu}{\int \Phi_\nu dE_\nu}$$

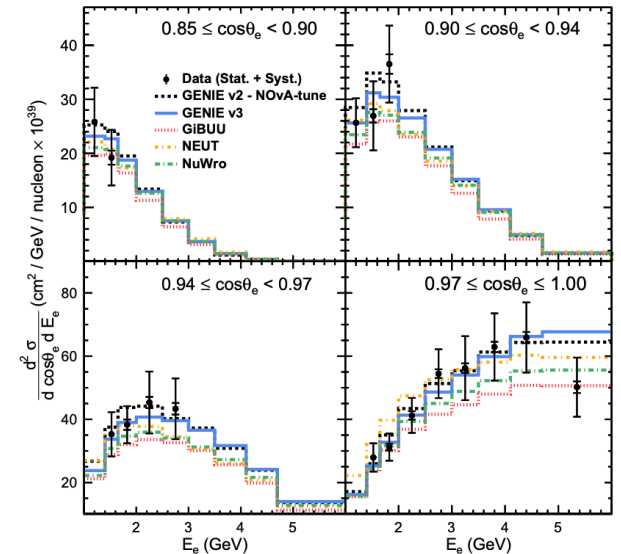
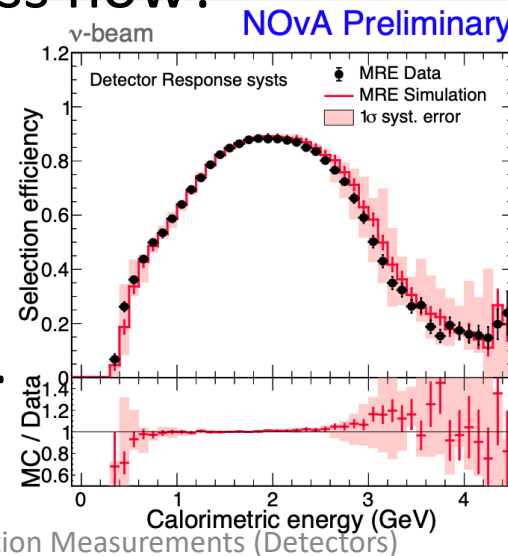
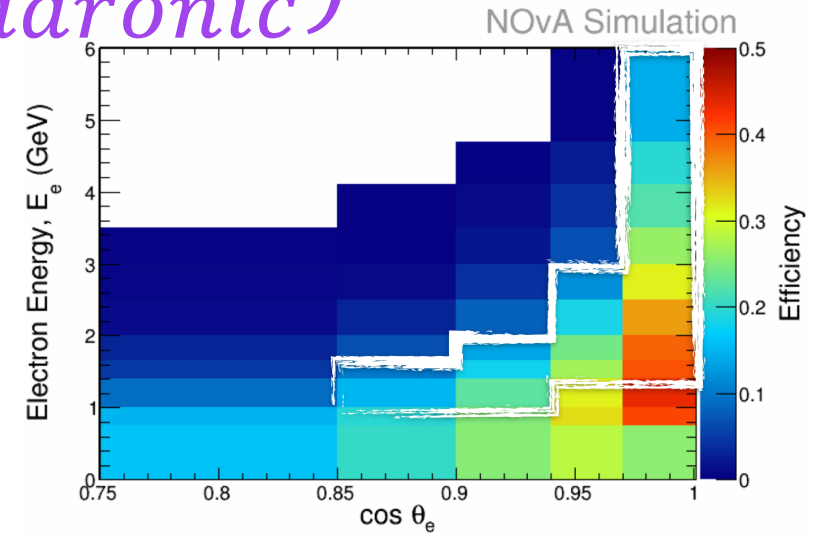
One way to check: Compare efficiencies from different generators

- (Ref: T2K, *Phys.Rev.D* 98 (2018) 3, 032003)



# NOvA: Using Data to test $\epsilon(E_{hadronic})$

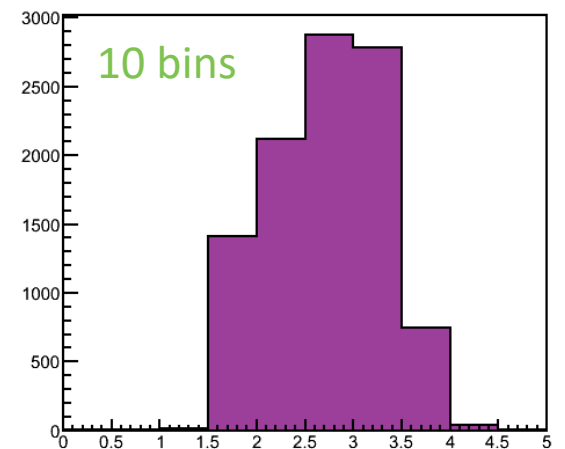
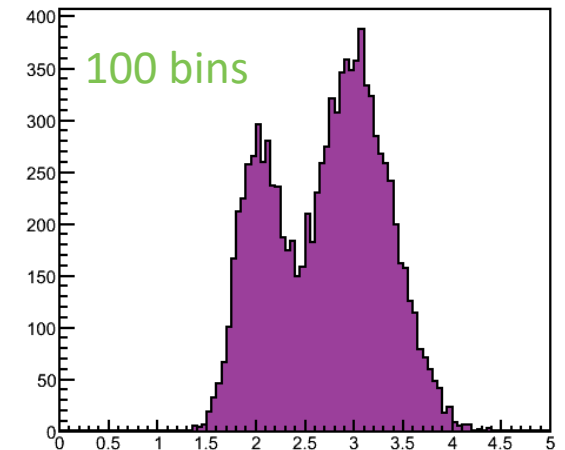
- NOvA has produced first double differential cross section for electron neutrino charged current inclusive scattering
- Use Boosted Decision Tree to identify electrons
- How do they know that they model the efficiency of the BDT correctly given uncertainties in hadron energy? Use the Data! Can you guess how?
- “Muon Removal” Technique: remove muon from  $\nu_\mu$  CC data events, add electron at same angle and energy, then measure efficiency, and compare to the efficiency for original simulation.



Phys.Rev.Lett. 130 (2023) 5, 051802

$$\frac{d\sigma(x_t)}{dx_t} = \frac{(N(x_m) - B(x_m)) U_{mt}}{\Phi_{\nu} \epsilon(x) M \Delta x}$$

- $\Delta x$ : Bin width [units of whatever x is]
- How wide should this bin width be?
- The more bins you have, easier to distinguish features of the distribution
- The more bins you have, the worse the statistics are in each bin
- BUT...Depends on your resolution: if you can't measure something to better than  $\delta$ , you shouldn't pick bins that are  $\delta/10$ !



Break, now that we've discussed every term in

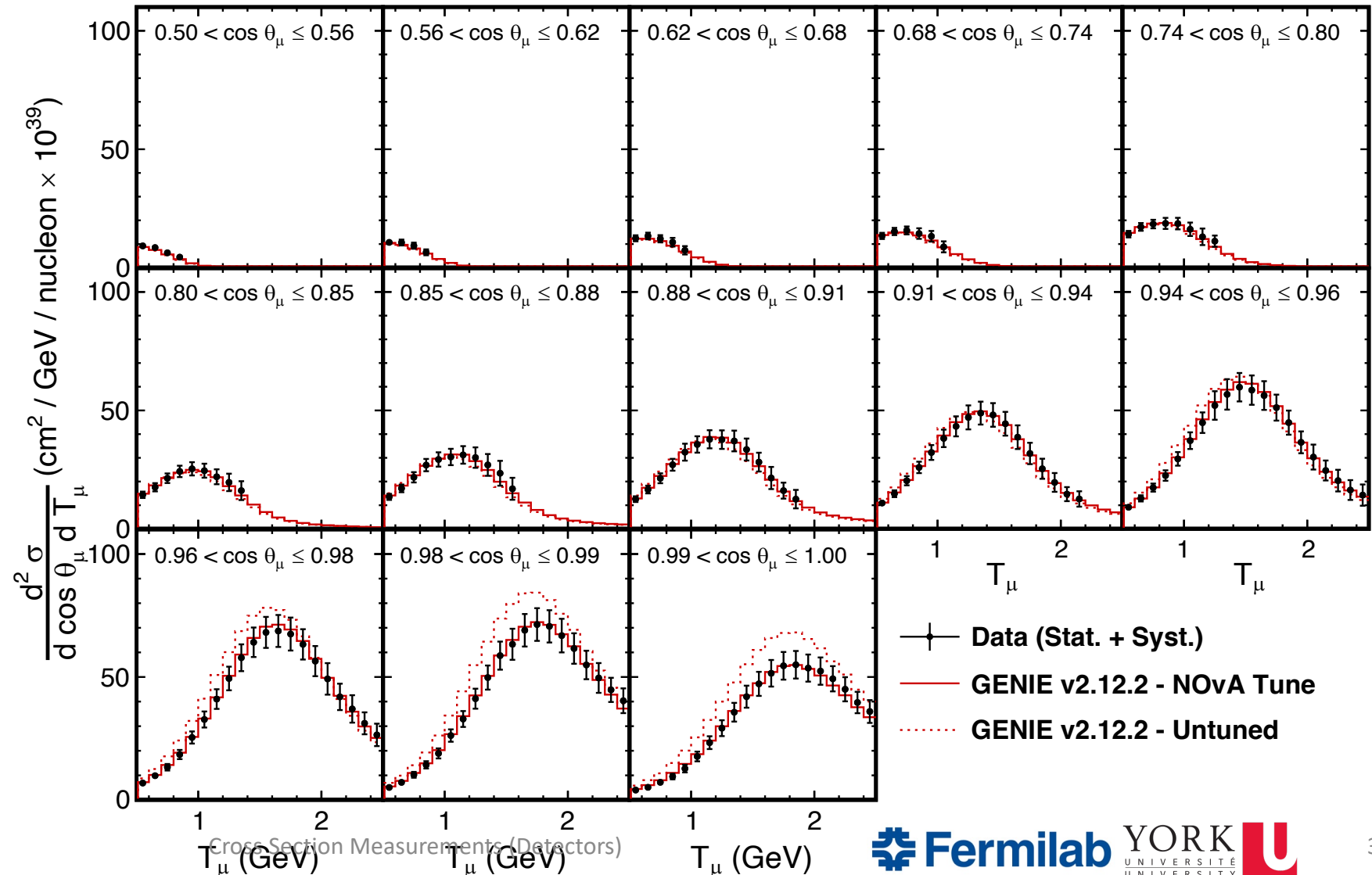
$$\frac{d\sigma(x_t)}{dx_t} = \frac{(N(x_m) - B(x_m)) U_{mt}}{\Phi_\nu \epsilon(x) M \Delta x}$$

# Easiest Cross Section to measure: “Inclusive Charged Current Interactions”

- Say you want to measure total Charged Current neutrino cross section
- What cuts would you use to isolate your signal?
  - Require a muon-like energy or an electron-like energy
  - If you have a magnetic field, might be able to cut on charge of final state lepton
- What are your backgrounds?
  - Antineutrino interactions (low if you have a B field)
  - Neutral Current Interactions
    - For muon neutrinos:  $\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ (+\nu_\mu)$
    - For electron neutrinos:  $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$  and recall that  $\gamma$  might look like electrons in your detector
- Easiest Observables to measure: Muon Kinetic Energy (T) and angle ( $\theta$ ) w/rt Neutrino beam

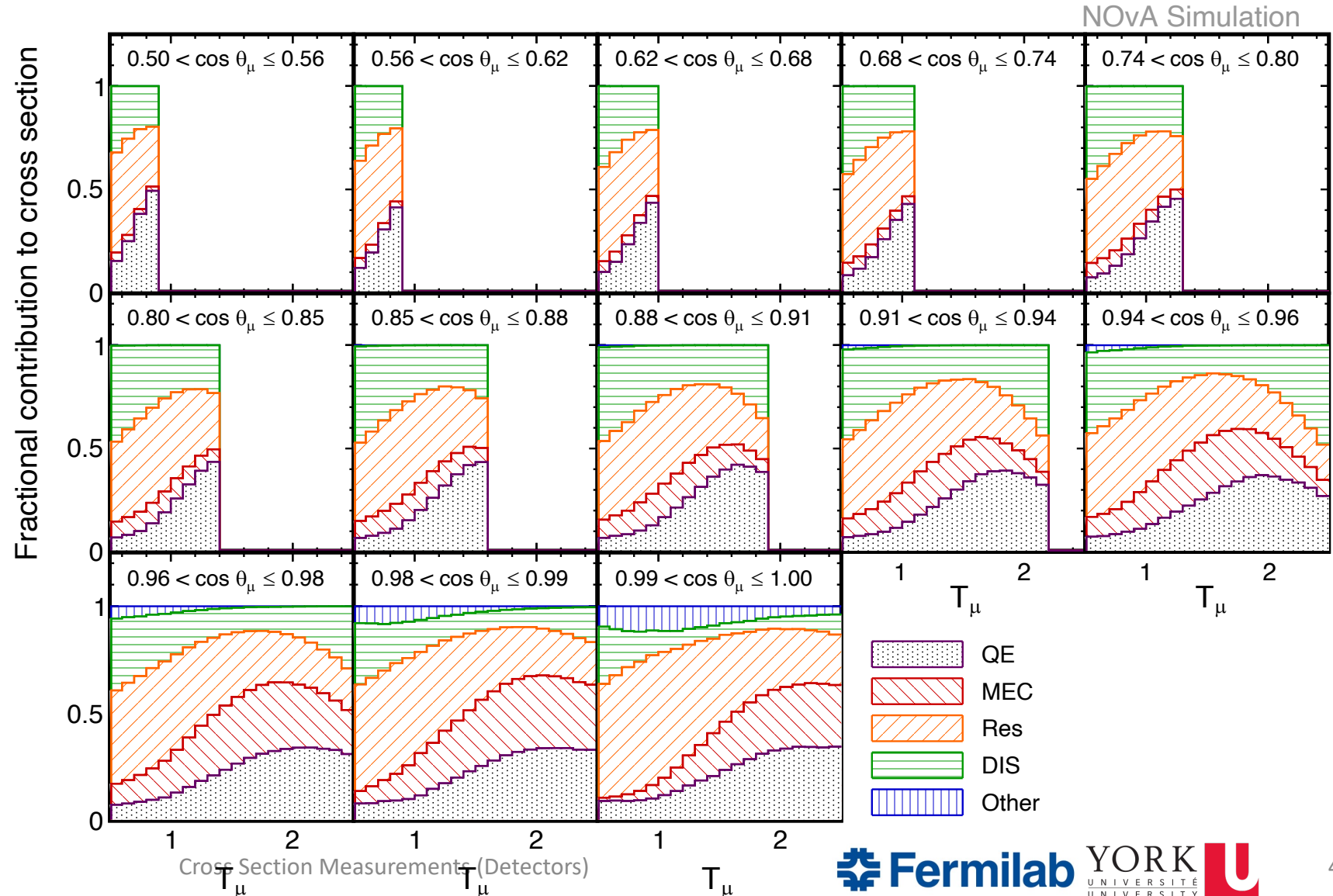
# One example of Inclusive Cross Section Result

- NOvA  $\nu_\mu$  CC Cross Section Result, vs. muon kinematics
- *Phys.Rev.D* 107 (2023) 5, 052011
- Even for a narrow range of neutrino energy (like NOvA) any one kinematic region still has a range of interactions that contribute.



# The Catch with Inclusive Cross Sections

- NOvA  $\nu_\mu$  CC Cross Section Result, vs. muon kinematics
- *Phys.Rev.D* 107 (2023) 5, 052011
- Even for a narrow range of neutrino energy (like NOvA) any one kinematic region still has a range of interactions that contribute.





# Using both Lepton and Hadron Information

- Let's say you have measured the following quantities:

- Final lepton charge and momentum 3-vector: can determine  $p_{lep}$ ,  $E_{lep}$ ,  $\theta_{lep}$
- Total hadronic energy

(**pretend** you can see all of it, even the neutron energy)  $E_{had}$

- Can define a few quantities:

- Estimated Neutrino Energy  $E_\nu = E_{lep} + E_{had}$

- Estimated Momentum Transfer (squared) to the nucleus:

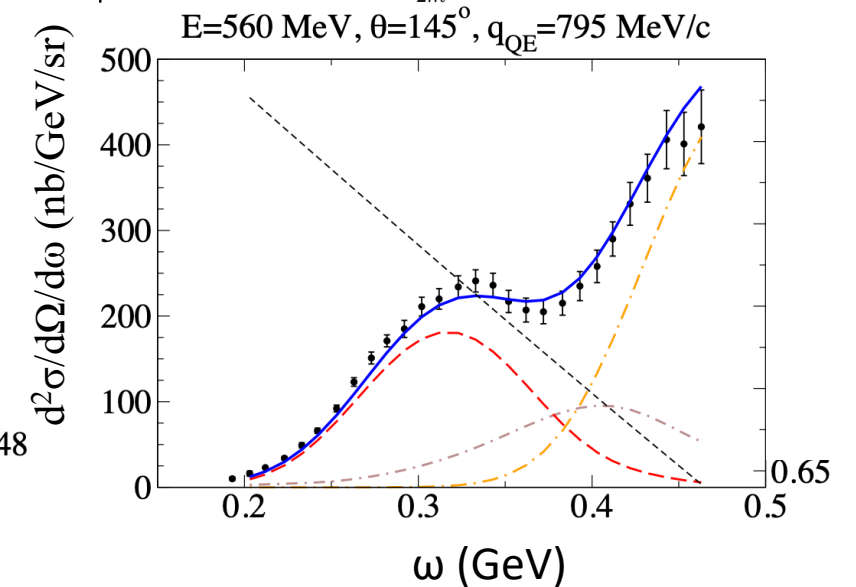
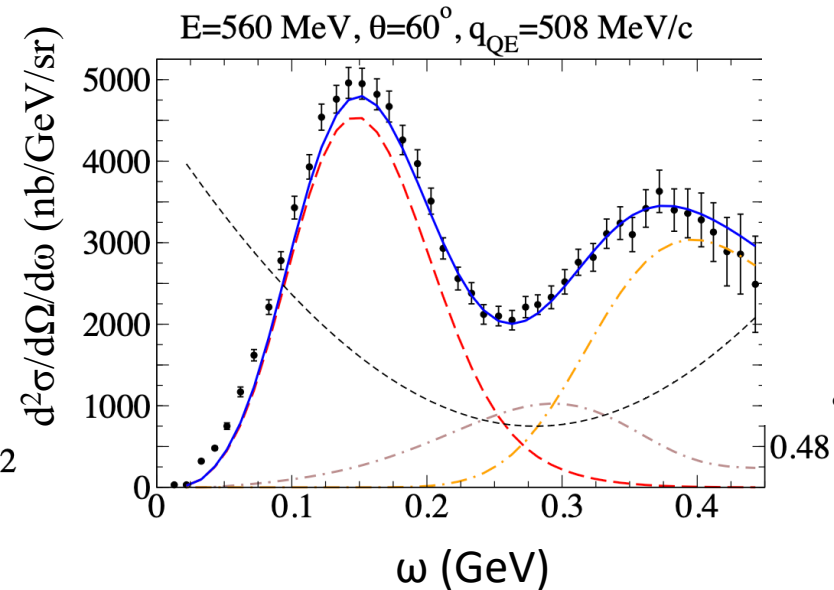
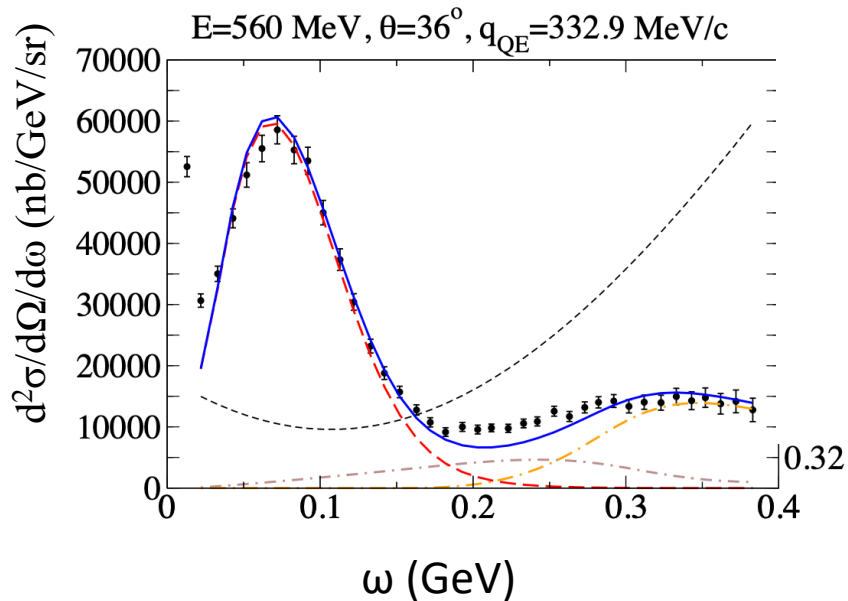
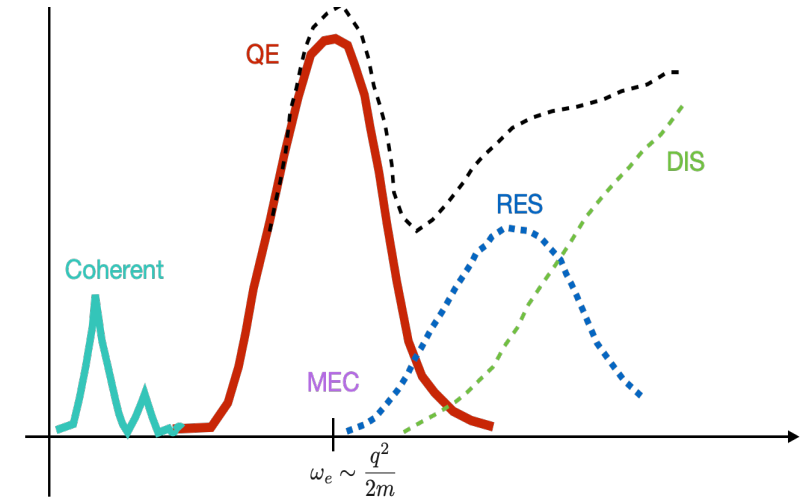
(remember,  $W$  is virtual)  $-q^2 = Q^2 = 2 E_\nu (E_\mu - p_\mu \cos \theta_\mu) - M_\mu^2$

- Estimated Energy transferred to the nucleus =  $\omega = E_{had}$

- 3-momentum transferred to the nucleus:  $Q^2 + \omega^2 = q_3^2$

# Neutrino Observables w/hadrons & leptons

- Remember this picture from  $e^-$  scattering:  $e^-$  beam (energy  $E$ ) comes in, scatters, you measure the outgoing electron energy distribution ( $E'$ ) at some angle, and  $\omega = E - E'$



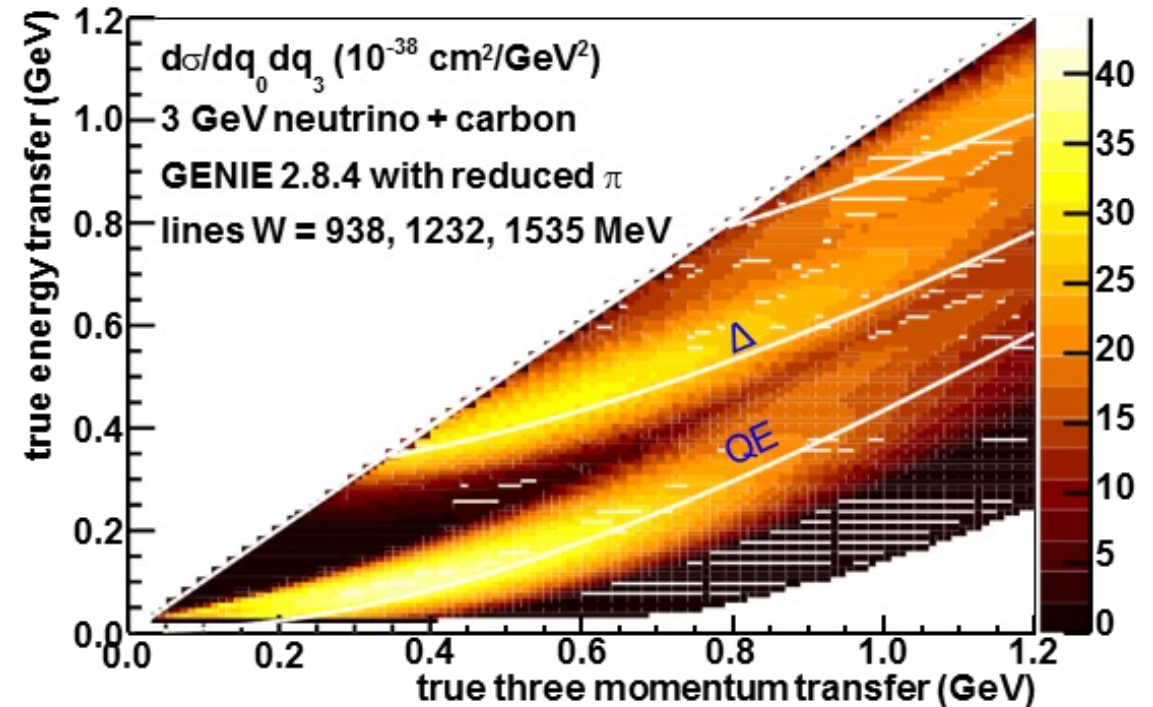
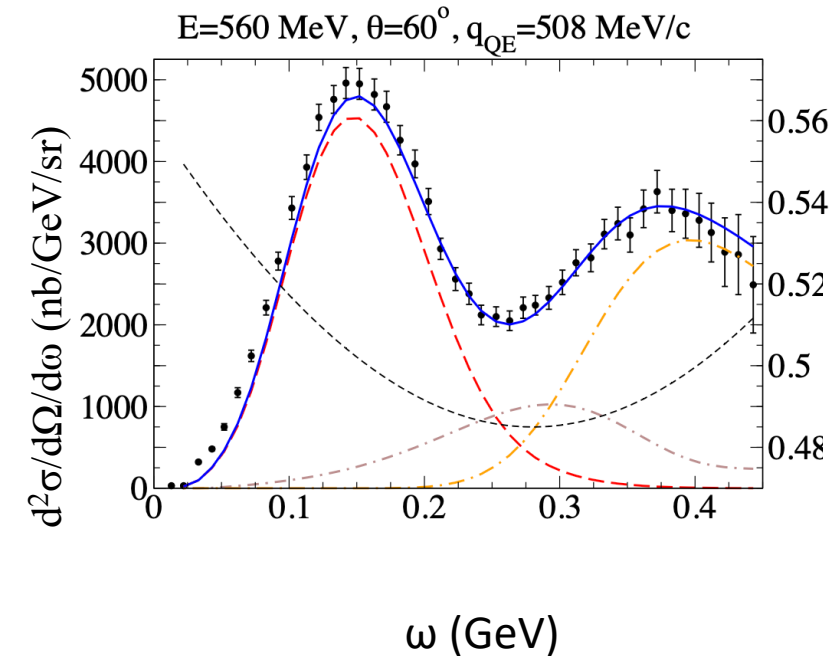
# Neutrino Observables w/hadrons & leptons

- Translating this picture to Neutrino Scattering

Graphics courtesy R. Gran

Initial and Final  
Electron energy and  
angle define a 3-  
momentum transfer

For neutrinos:  
True Energy  
transfer:  $\omega$   
True 3-momentum  
transfer:  $Q^2 + \omega^2 = q_3^2$



# Proxy for True Energy transfer to Hadronic system: “Available Energy” (answer to HW#4)

- Visible in scintillator (and argon)
- $\pi^{+-}$  deposit their kinetic energy, but not their mass
- $\pi^0$  deposit their total energy
- Protons: deposit total kinetic energy
- Neutrons: deposit very little.
- “Available energy”: sum of visible energy

Example from MINERvA at right,  
3.3cm plastic granularity

Similar in spirit to  $\sim 3$ cm wire pitch Liquid Argon (but different density, Z)

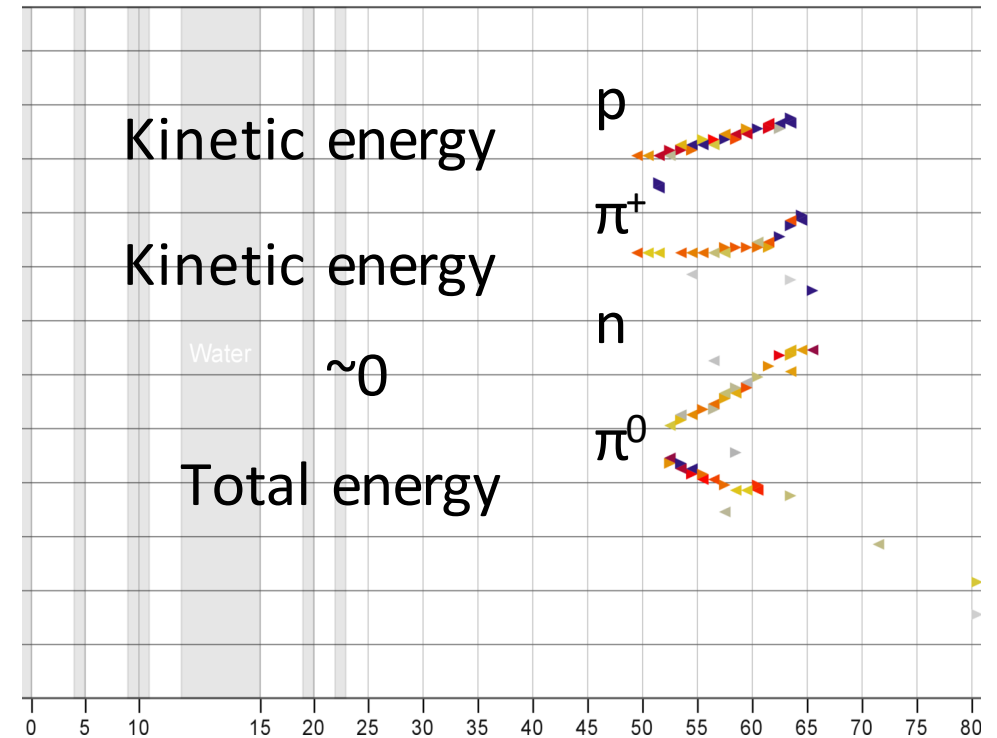
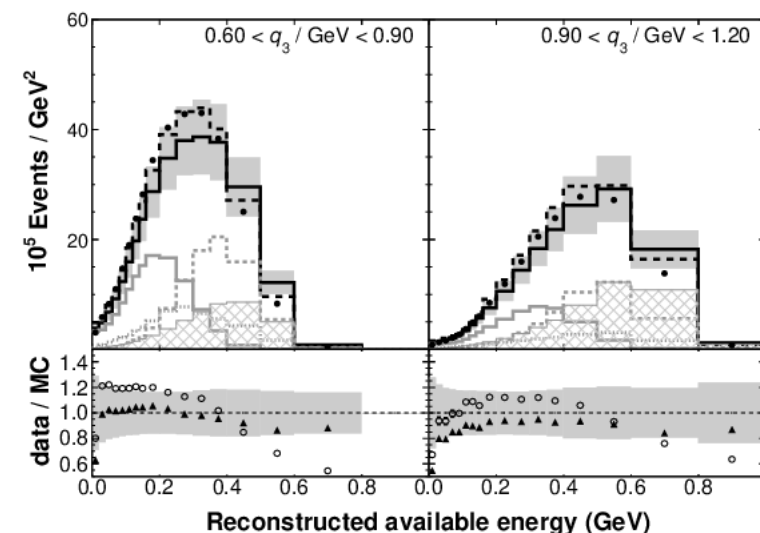
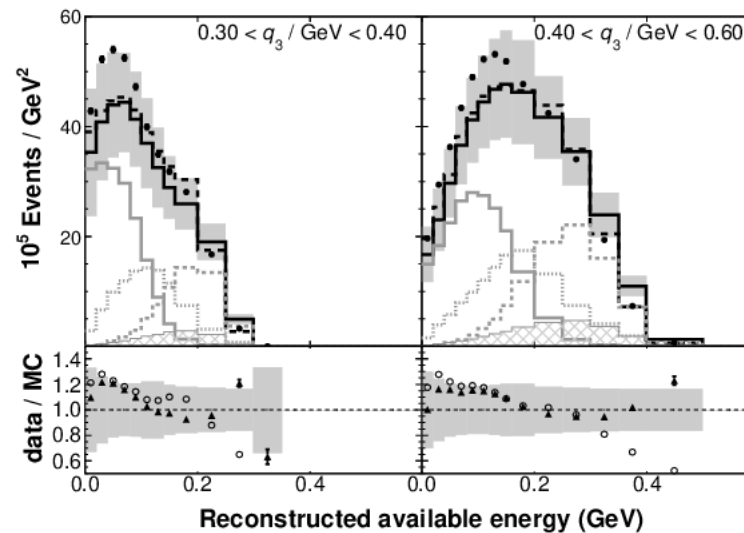
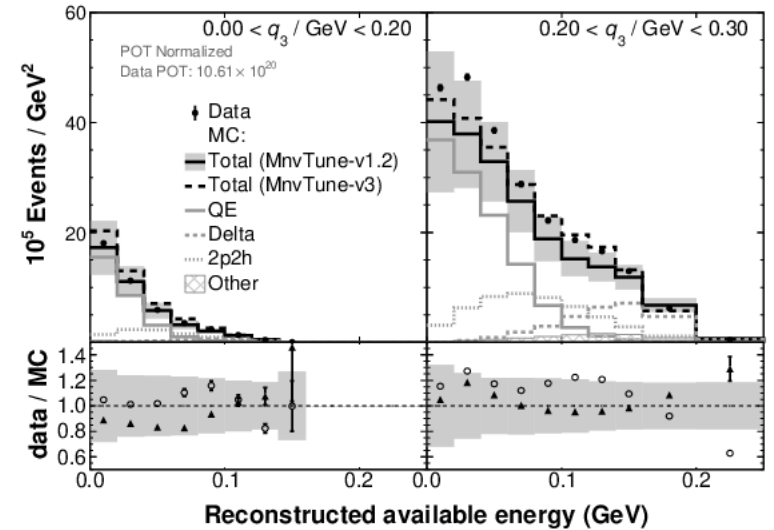
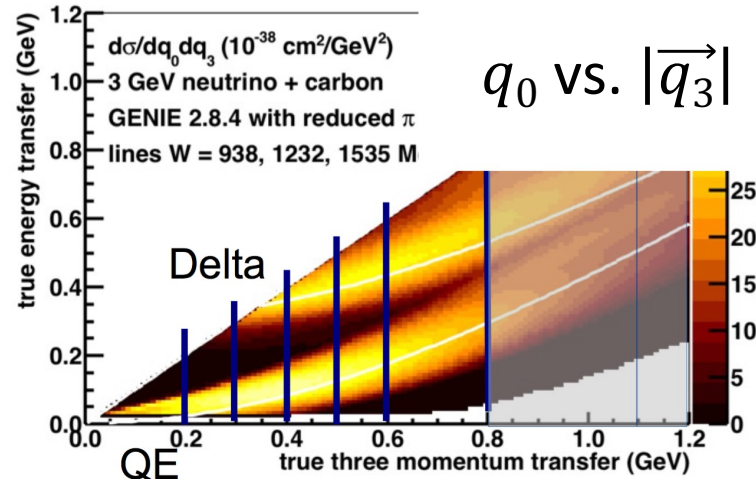


Figure courtesy P. Rodrigues

# What does the Data Look like in this space?

- Look at inclusive sample of events as function of energy AND momentum transferred
- Showing event distributions, but cross sections were extracted
- Cross sections were also extracted from these distributions
- Available Energy: “visible” energy in scintillator
- Unfolding this was tricky!

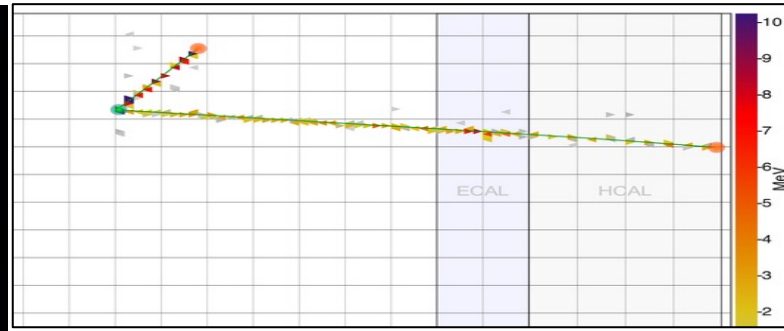
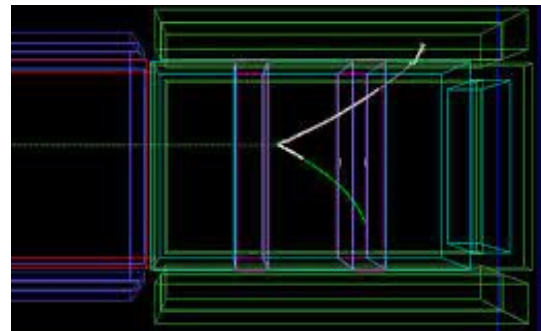
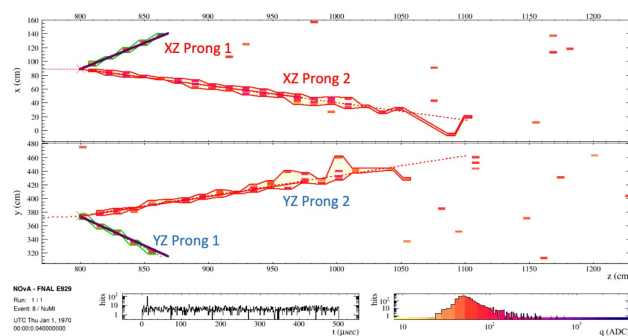
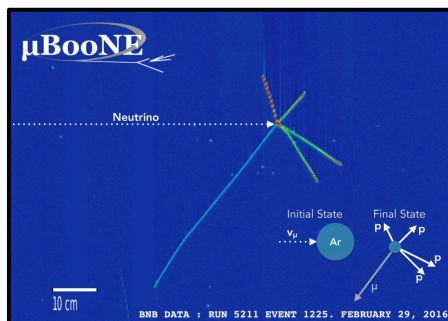
M. Ascencio et al,  
*Phys.Rev.D* 106 (2022) 3, 032001



Cross Section Measurements (Detectors)

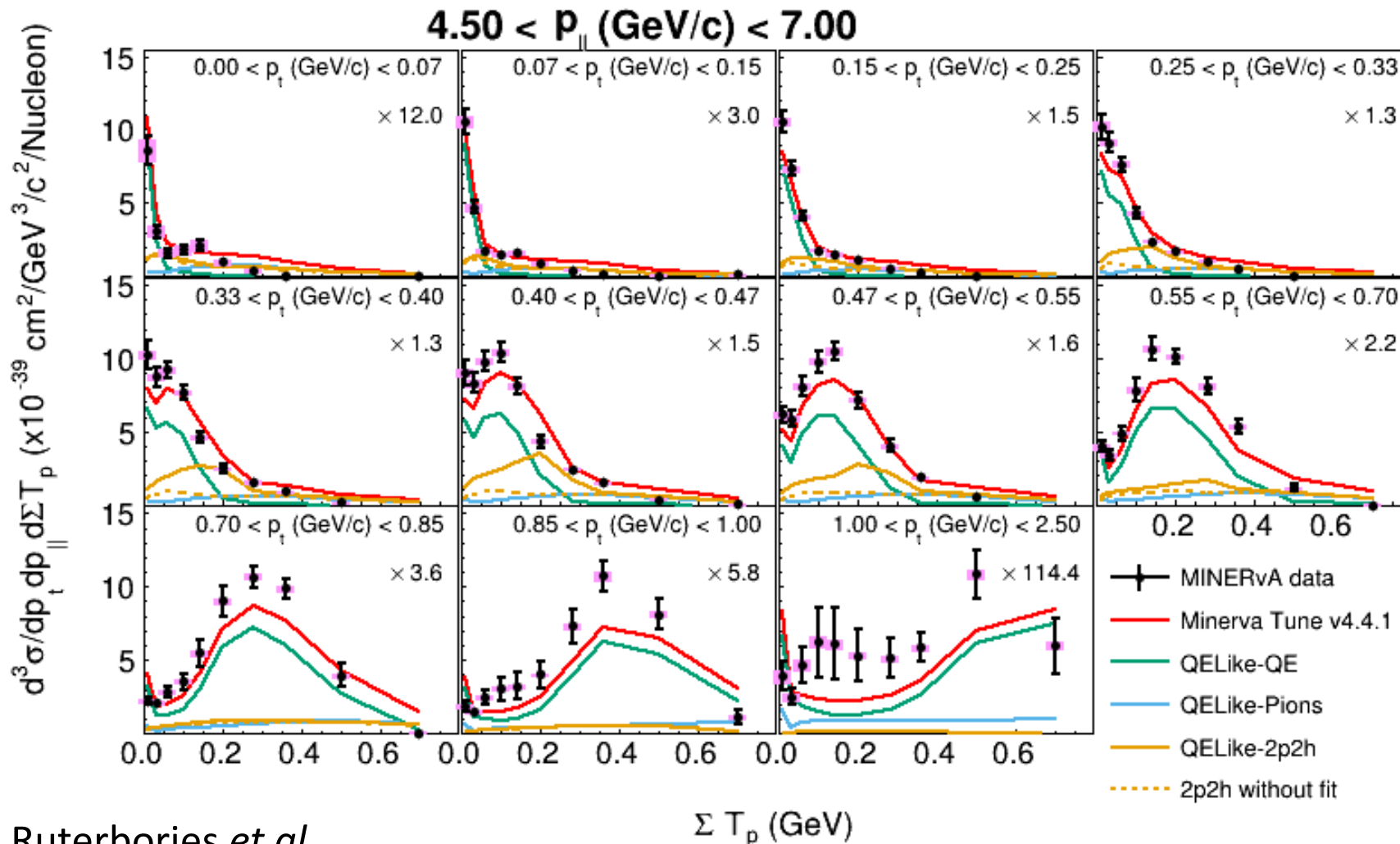
# From Inclusive to Exclusive

- From these event displays, you know we can do better to isolate processes and look at only one (set of) final states



- How would you isolate events that are quasielastic?
  - Require one lepton (of the correct charge if possible)
  - Do you require a proton track? Or do you only require NO pion tracks?
  - What about Michel Electrons: what if you didn't see a pion track but you saw a tiny em-like shower right near the vertex?

# New vocabulary: Quasielastic-like

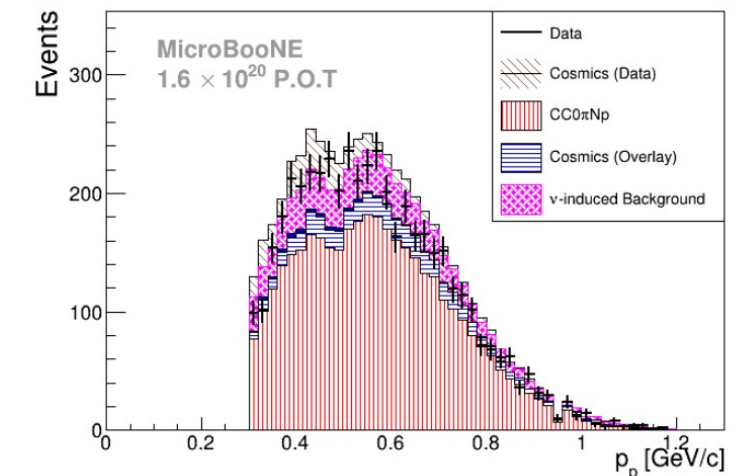
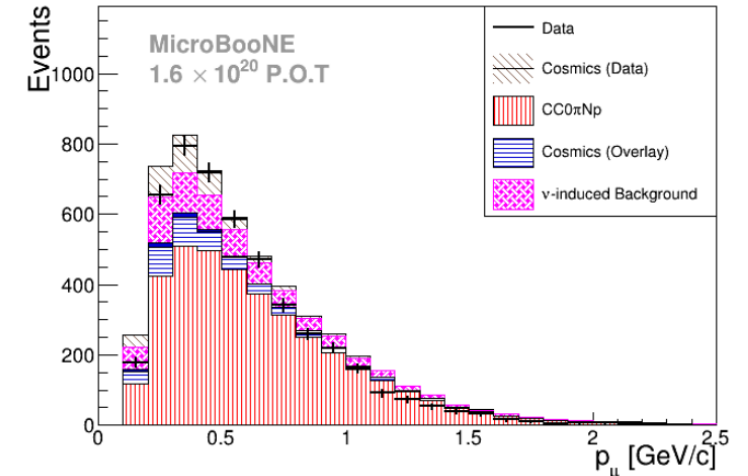


- After subtracting backgrounds, MINERvA has enough statistics to bin QE-like events along 3 axes: muon kinematics AND hadron energy
- Many processes contribute to "CC0 $\pi$ "
  - CCQE
  - 2p2h
  - Resonance+ $\pi$  absorption
  - DIS
- Lots of discrepancies with the model

# Different Detectors will have different cuts

- MicroBooNE example:  $\nu_{\mu}$  CC0 $\pi$  Cross section
- Event with muon and proton candidate
- Leading Muon candidate has  $p > 100 \text{ MeV}/c$
- Leading Proton candidate has  $p < 1.2 \text{ GeV}/c$ 
  - Proton candidate has to be shorter than muon candidate

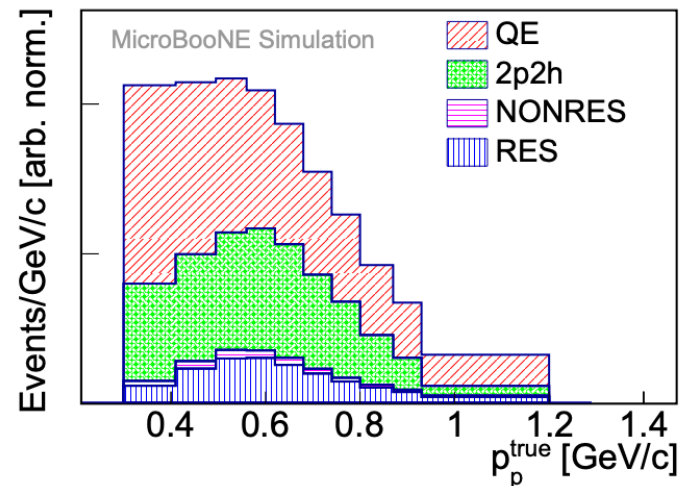
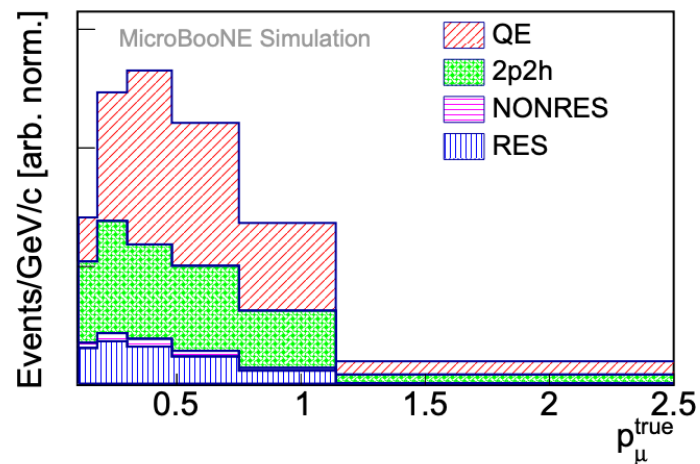
• *Phys.Rev.D* 102 (2020) 11, 112013





# CCQE versus “CCQE-like” versus “CC0 $\pi$ ”

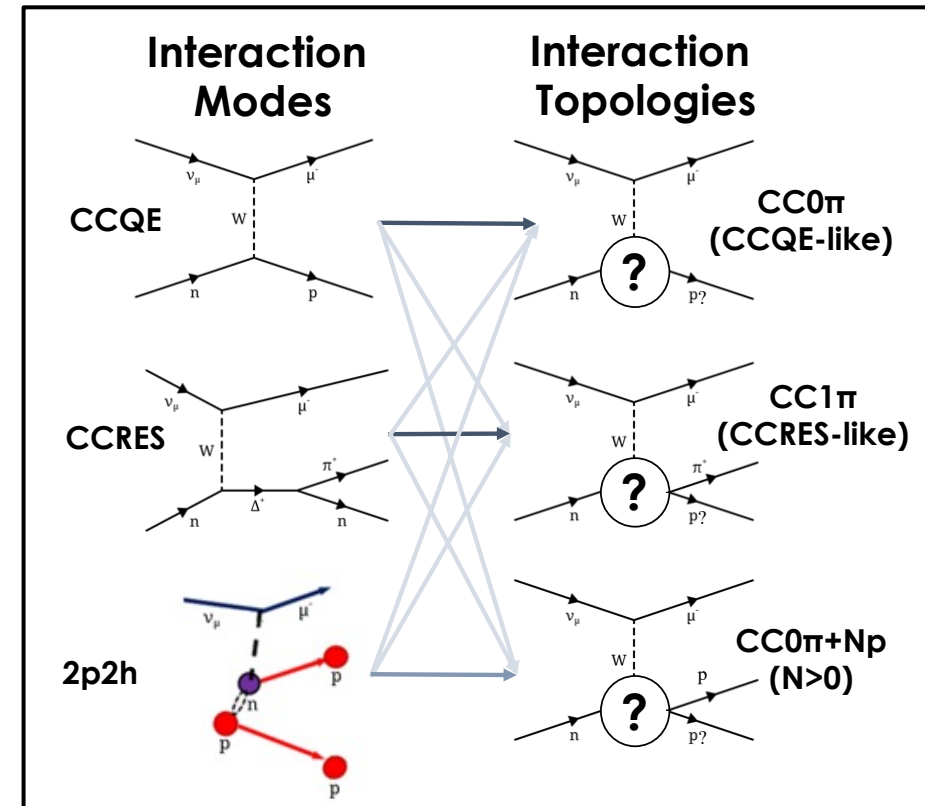
- Since so many other processes can look like a CCQE event even if you have a perfect detector, we have defined a new term
- How would you make a CCQE-like event that is not CCQE?
- Example from MicroBooNE: breakdown of signal events after background subtraction:



• *Phys.Rev.D* 102 (2020) 11, 112013

# Have to map on to Cross Section Models

- Quasielastic Scattering
- 2p2h (correlated nucleon pairs) Scattering
- Resonant Pion Production ( $\Delta$ 's, etc.)
- Continuum Pion Production
- Coherent Pion Production
- Shallow Inelastic Scattering (?)
- Deep Inelastic Scattering
- Plus models for initial and final state effects



S. Dolan, INSS 23

# QE-like processes and Unfolding Neutrino Energy

- Solution to Homework #3: QE assumption, solve for Neutrino Energy

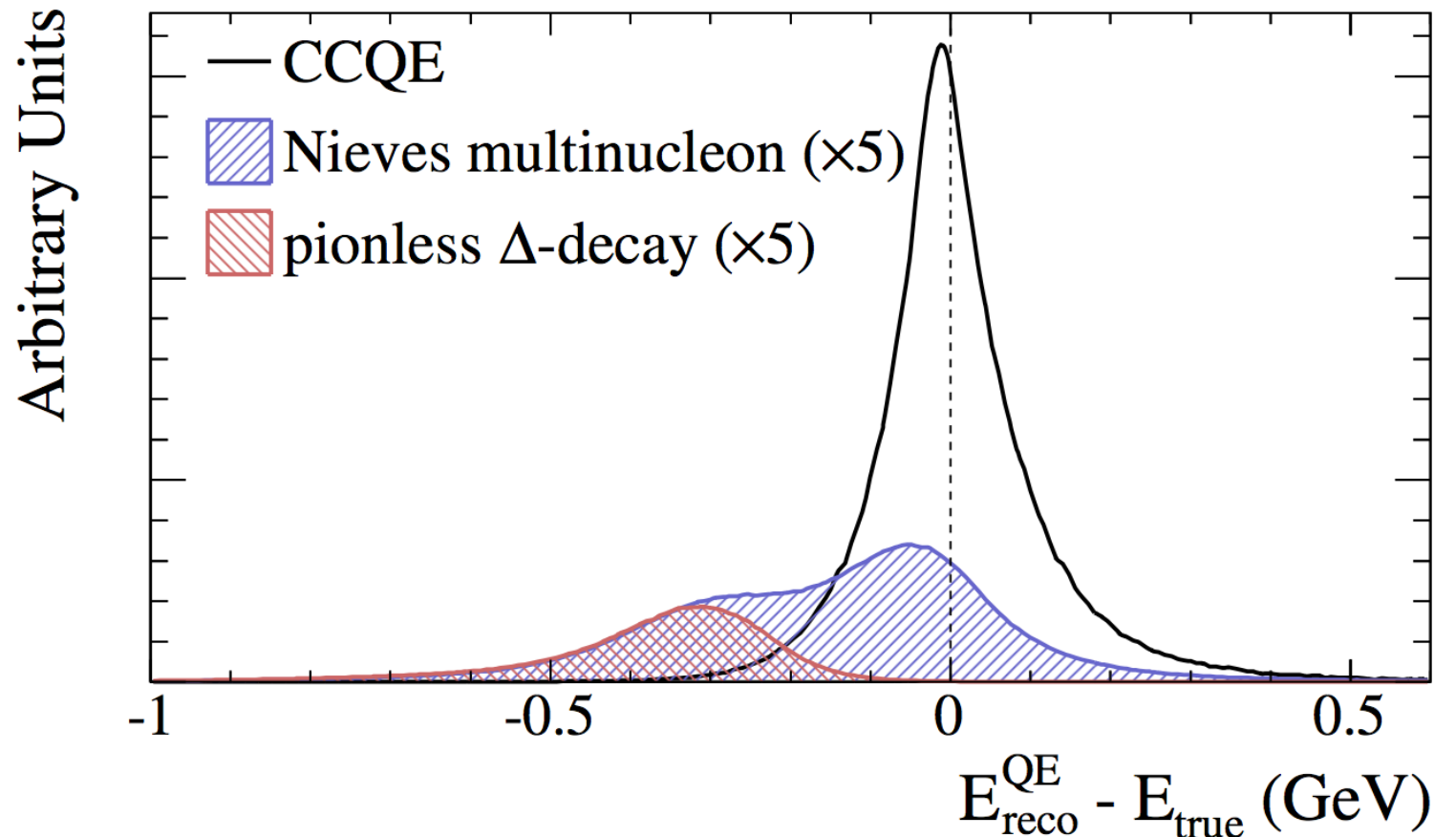
$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbb{P}_\nu + \mathbb{P}_n &= \mathbb{P}_p + \mathbb{P}_\ell && \text{4-vector equation} \\
 \mathbb{P}_\nu - \mathbb{P}_\ell &= \mathbb{P}_p - \mathbb{P}_n \\
 m_\nu^2 + m_\ell^2 - 2(E_\nu E_\ell - p_\nu p_\ell \cos\theta) &= \\
 m_p^2 + m_n^2 - 2(E_p E_n - p_p p_n \cos\theta) & \\
 m_\ell^2 - 2E_\nu(E_\ell - p_\ell \cos\theta) &= \\
 m_p^2 + m_n^2 - 2E_p m_n & \\
 E_p &= E_\nu + m_n - E_\ell
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 m_\ell^2 - 2E_\nu(E_\ell - p_\ell \cos\theta) &= m_p^2 + m_n^2 - 2m_n \\
 & \quad (E_\nu + m_n - E_\ell) \\
 2m_n E_\nu - 2E_\nu(E_\ell - p_\ell \cos\theta) &= \\
 m_p^2 + m_n^2 - m_\ell^2 - 2m_n^2 + 2m_n E_\ell &
 \end{aligned}$$

$$E_\nu = \frac{m_p^2 - m_n^2 - m_\ell^2 + 2m_n E_\ell}{2(m_n + p_\ell \cos\theta - E_\ell)}$$

# What if you were to unfold to Neutrino Energy?

- The energy resolution you get using this formula (or ANY FORMULA) depends on what you assume about the events that pass all your cuts
- Plot at right is for T2K, one of their earliest oscillation papers
- *Phys.Rev.Lett.* 112 (2014) 18



Moral of this story: Big model dependence in unfolding to Neutrino Energy

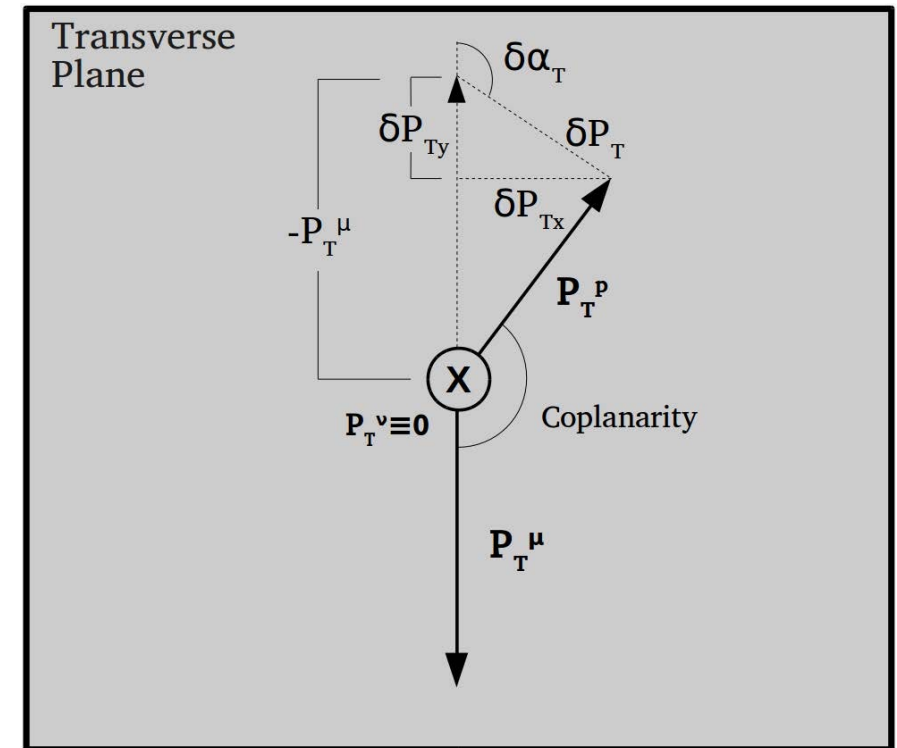
# New Neutrino Observables: Transverse Kinematic Imbalance (TKI)

- If you know you're starting with a neutrino, and you see a muon and a proton in the final state, you can calculate kinematics in the plane transverse to the neutrino direction if you measure 3-vector of both final state particles, and you are SURE they are a muon and a proton

$$\delta p_T = |\delta \mathbf{p}_T| = |\mathbf{p}_T^\mu + \mathbf{p}_T^p|,$$

$$\delta \alpha_T = \arccos \left( -\frac{\mathbf{p}_T^\mu \cdot \delta \mathbf{p}_T}{p_T^\mu \delta p_T} \right),$$

$$\delta \phi_T = \arccos \left( -\frac{\mathbf{p}_T^\mu \cdot \mathbf{p}_T^p}{p_T^\mu p_T^p} \right).$$



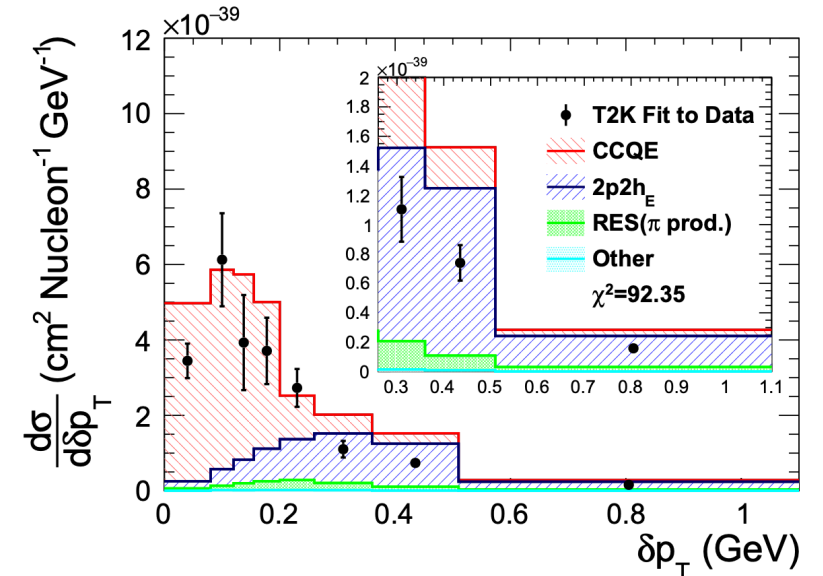
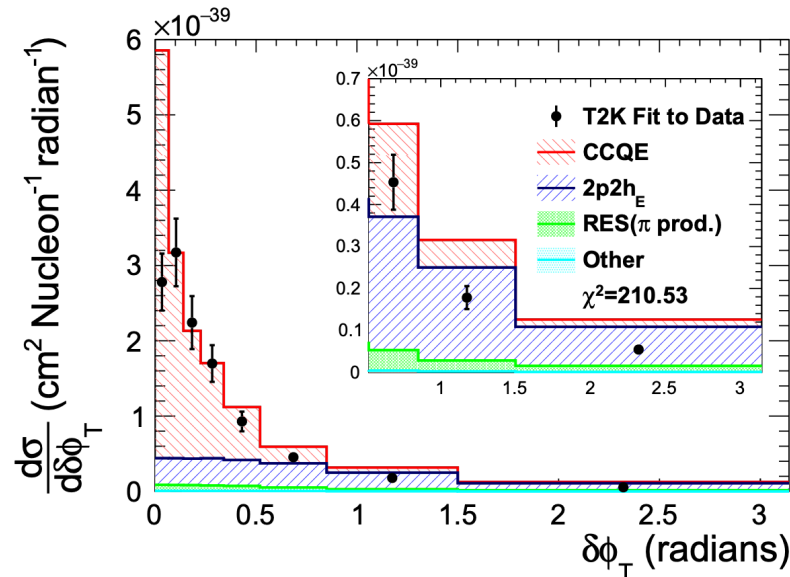
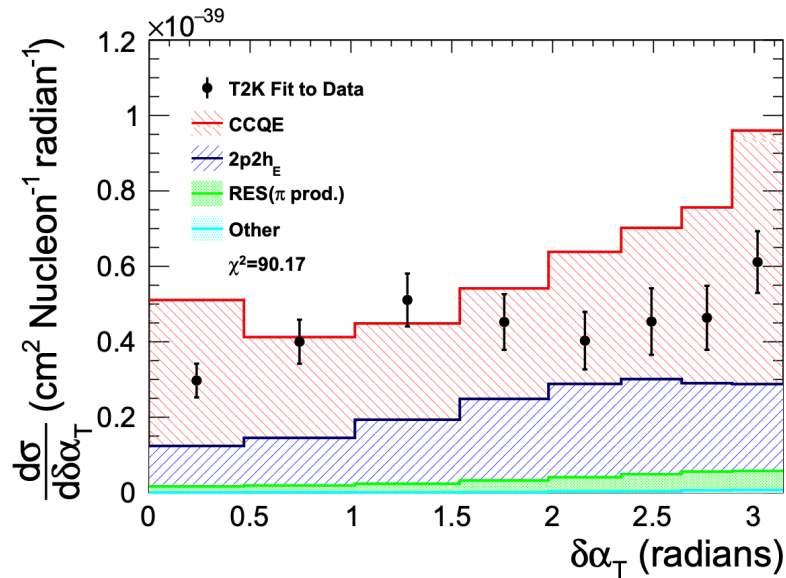
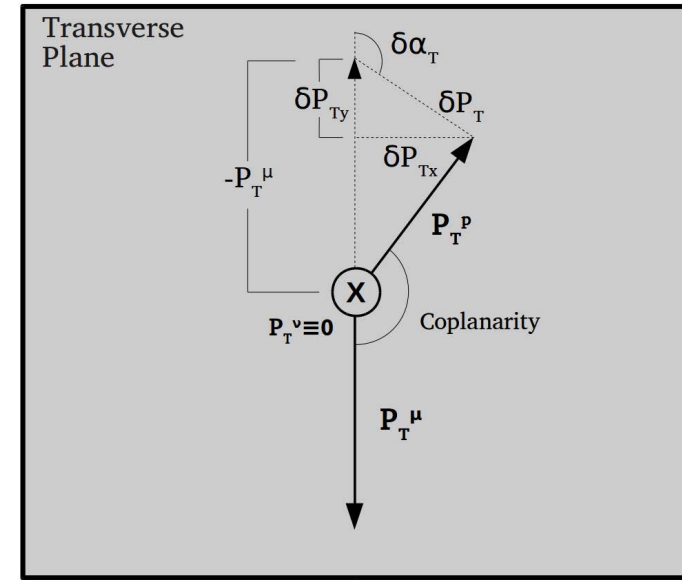
$$P_n \equiv \sqrt{\delta P_T^2 + \delta P_L^2}$$

Phys. Rev. C **94**, (2016) 015503

Cross Section Measurements (Detectors)

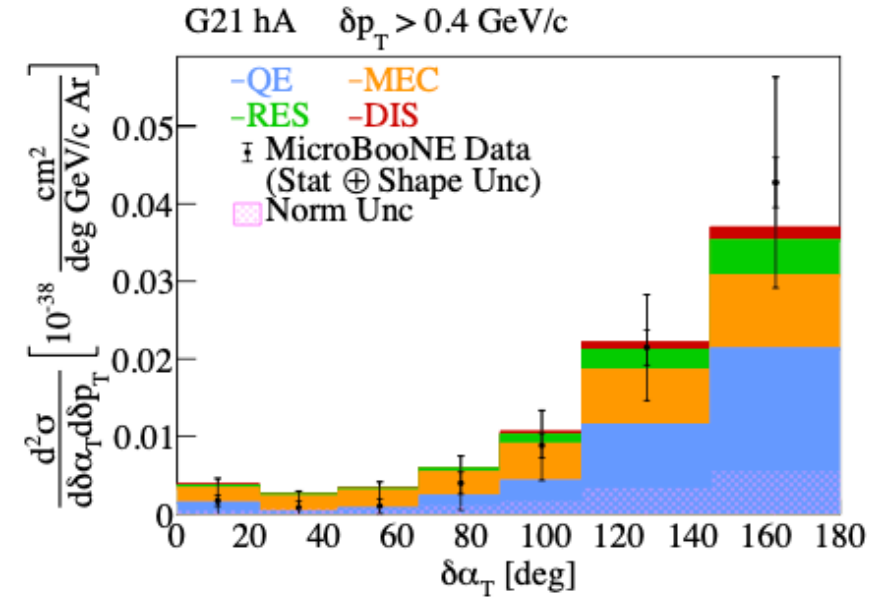
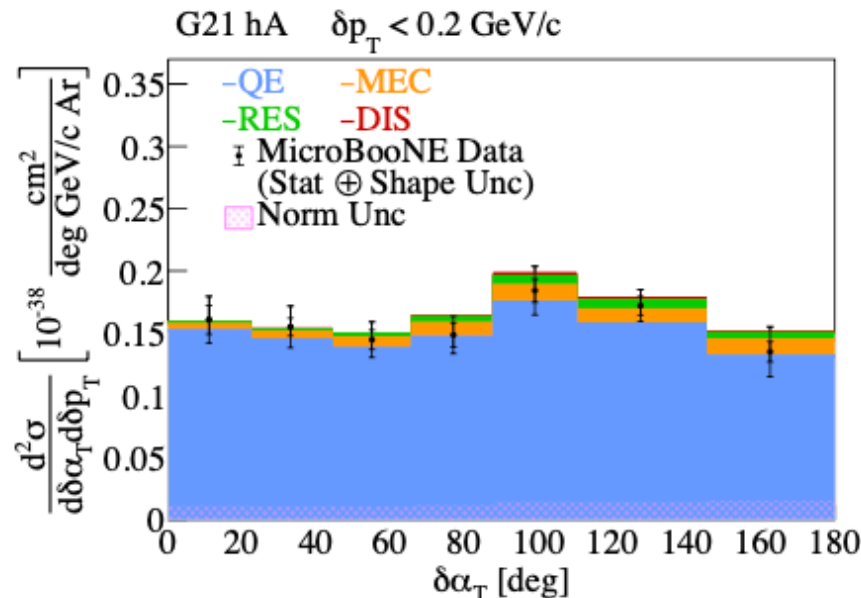
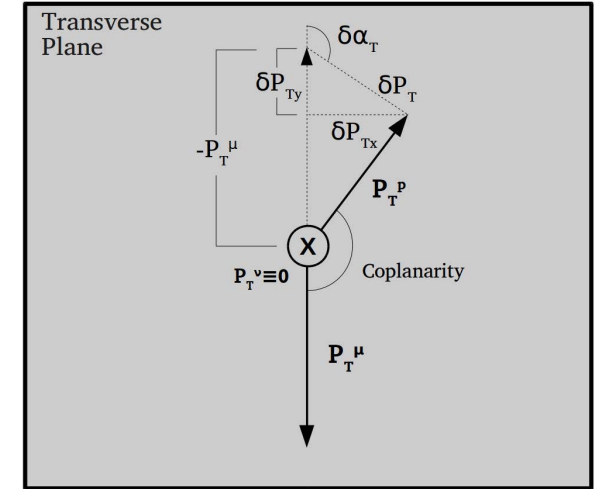
# New Neutrino Observables: Transverse Kinematic Imbalance (TKI)

- Hopefully all these different variables will give you a consistent story about what all the different quasielastic-like processes might be there in your data (T2K, *Phys.Rev.D* 98 (2018) 3, 032003)



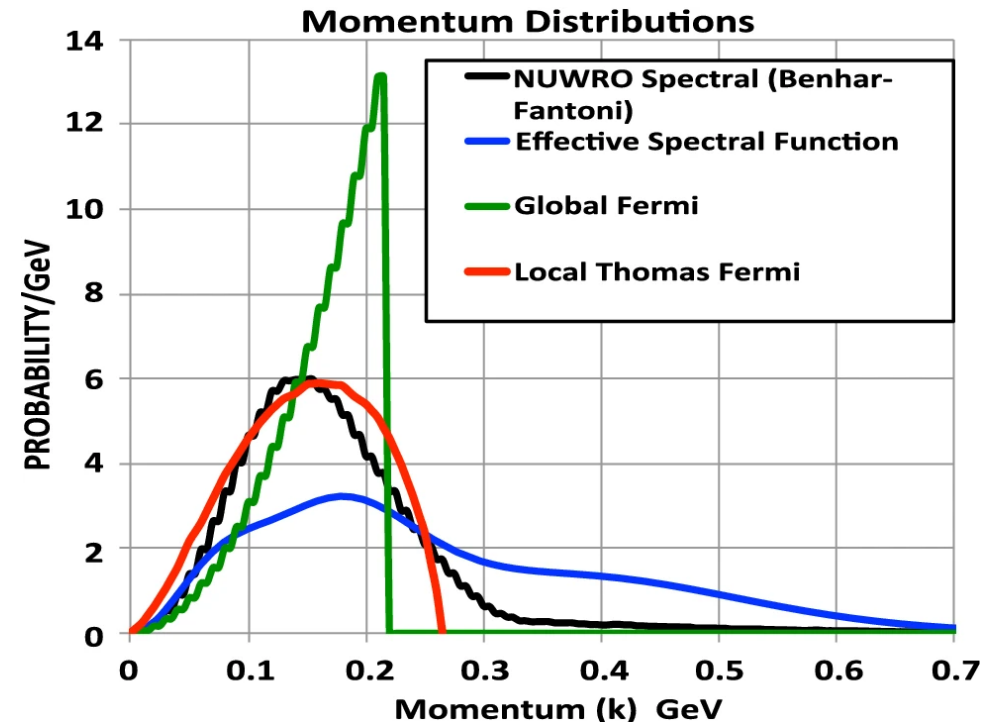
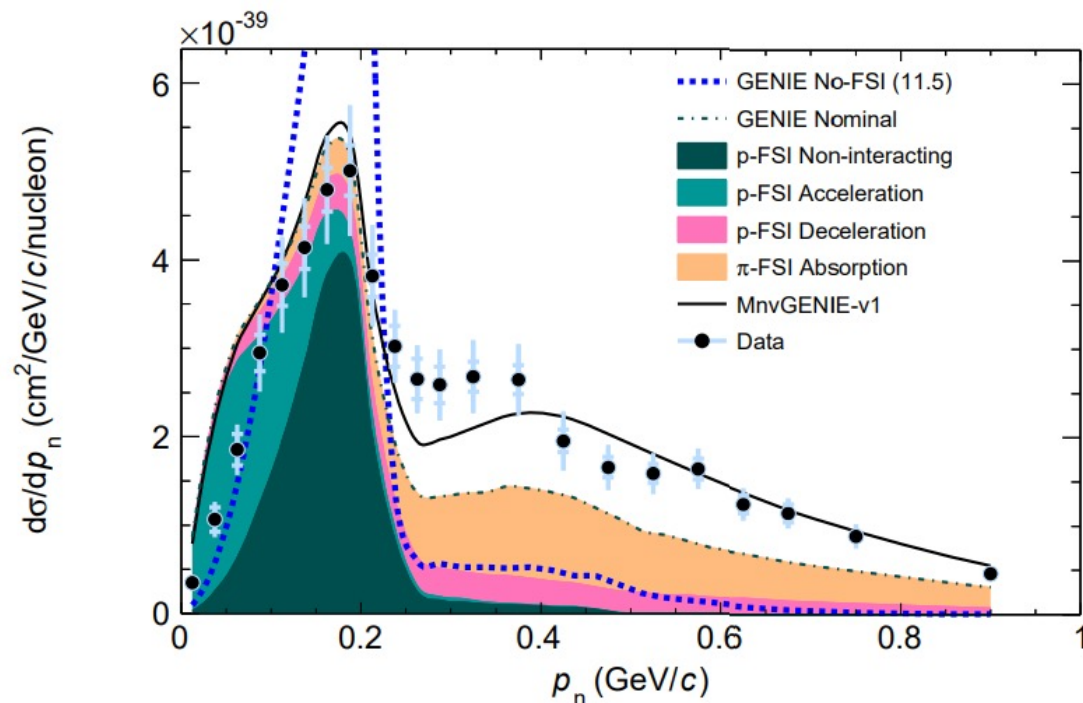
# MicroBooNE: Looking at TKI in 2 dimensions

- MicroBooNE split these distributions up into “QE-rich” samples and “everything else” samples
- Plus: Another tool of the trade: “Fake Data Studies”
  - Put in different interaction models see if your procedure extracts predictions from the new model or the one in your unfolding matrix



# “Initial Nucleon Momentum” as observable?

- Another “transverse kinematic imbalance variable”: if you assume conservation of momentum for events with a final state proton and muon, can calculate the initial nucleon momentum



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

Cross Section Measurements (Detectors)



# Challenges

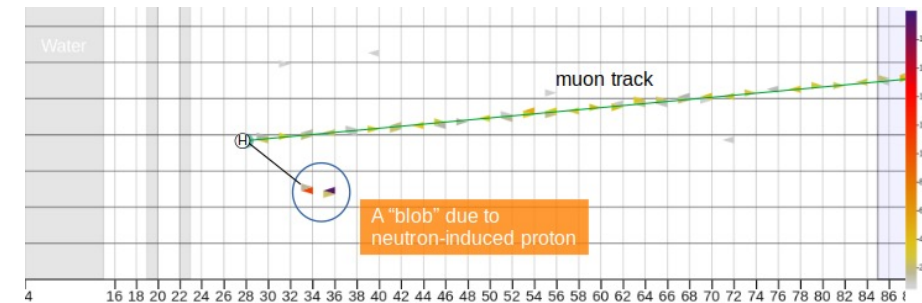
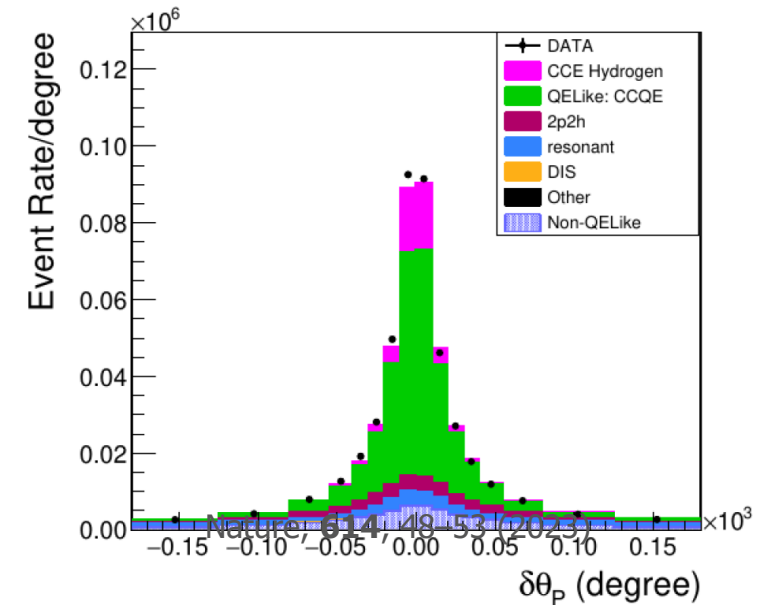
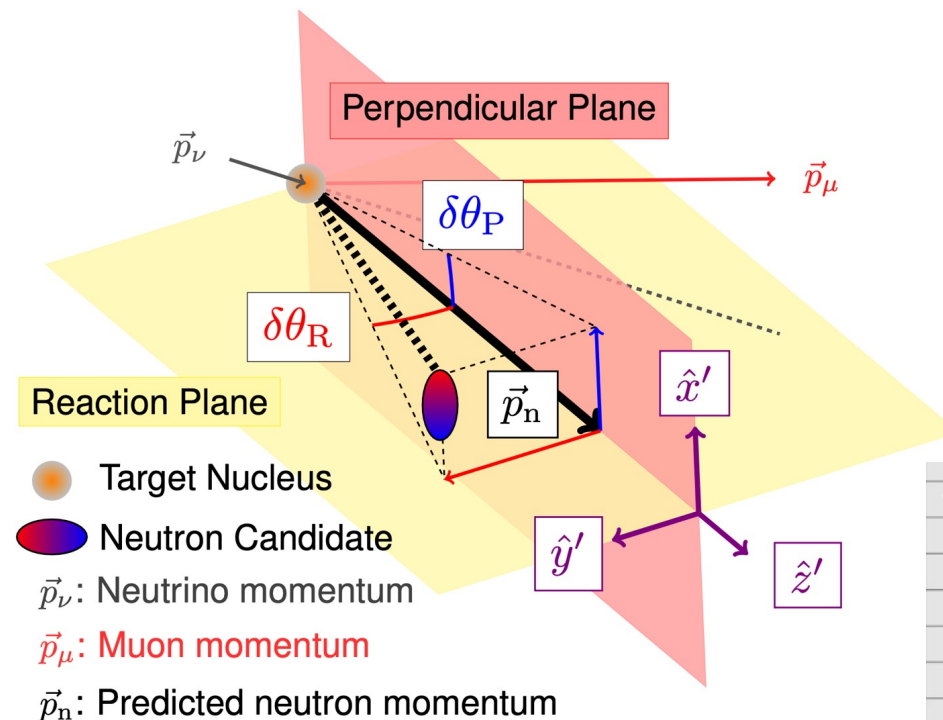
- Goal: make measurements that can constrain models
- Why is this difficult?
  - Given the **flux**, you never know precisely what neutrino energy you have for any one event
  - Given the analysis cuts to **isolate the signal** you are trying to find, the detector limitations mean you may have backgrounds in your sample
  - Given detector limitations you never know precisely what energy you missed from neutrons
  - If that's not bad enough, there's also the fact that nuclear effects can make one process look like another even if your detector was perfect

If only we could measure a cross section on H first...

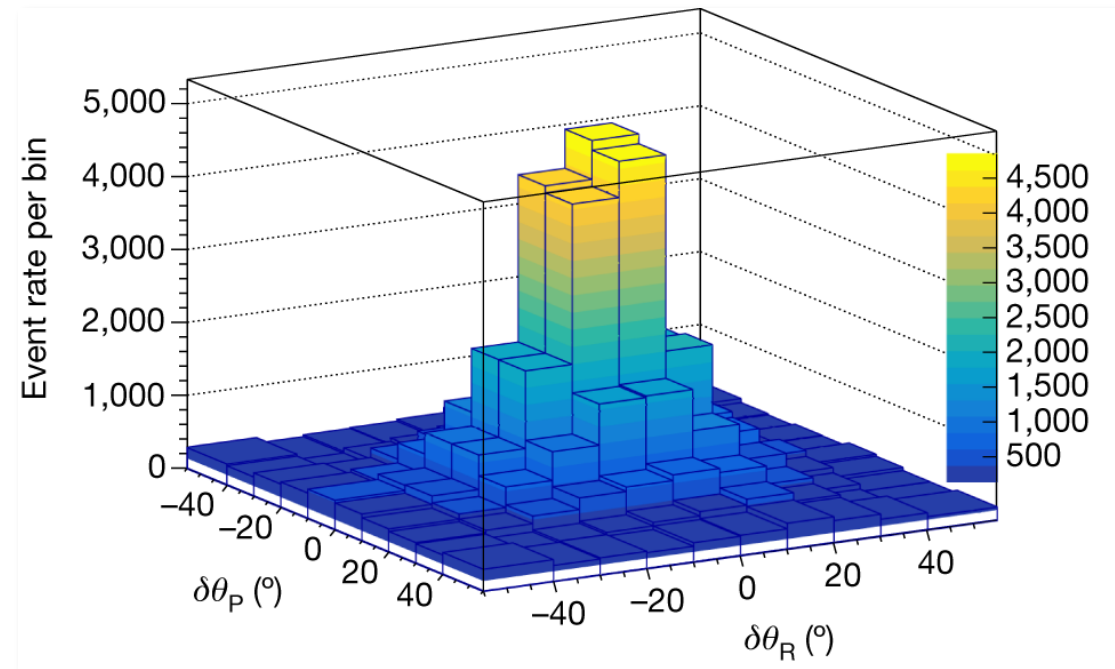
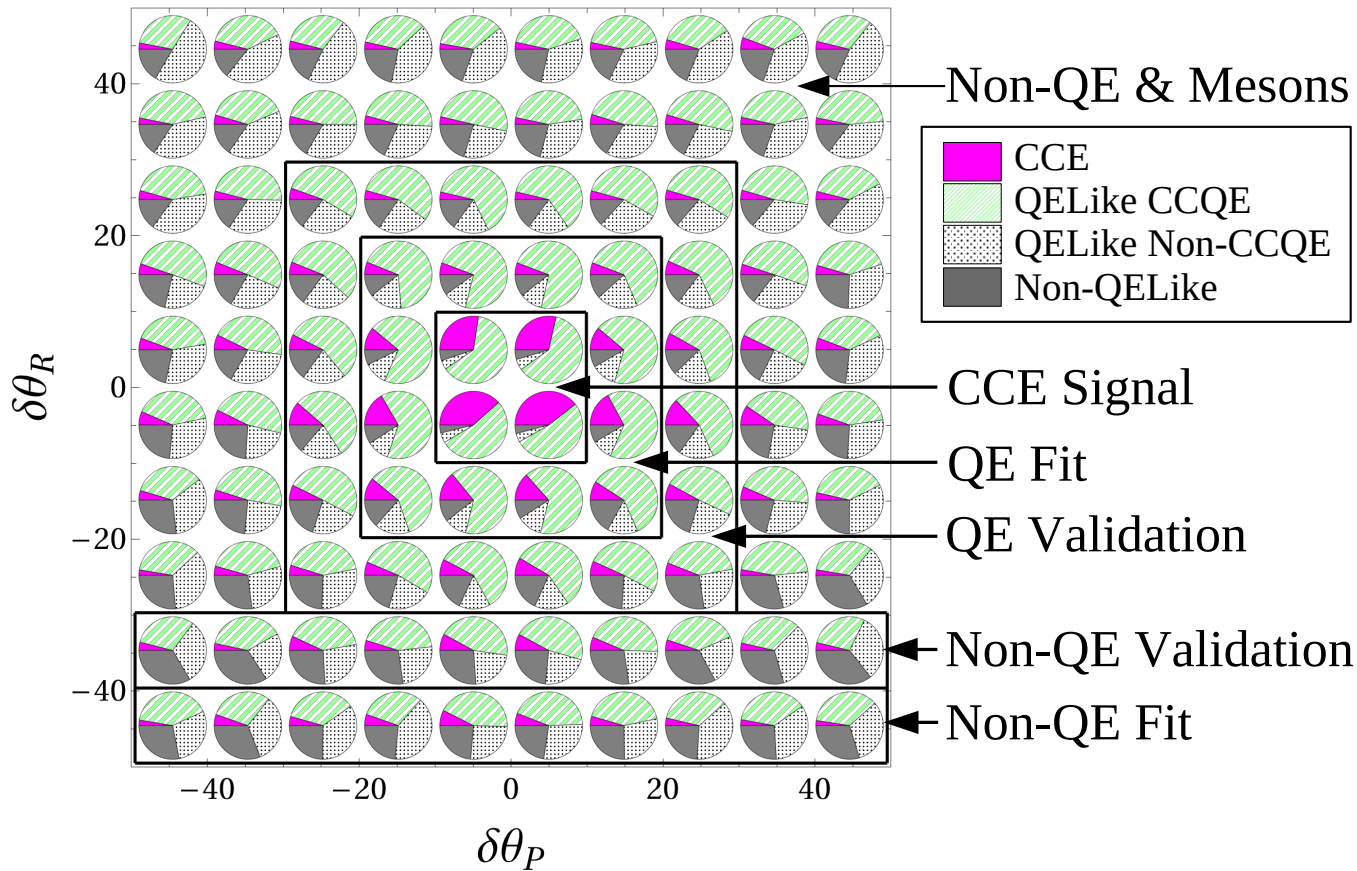
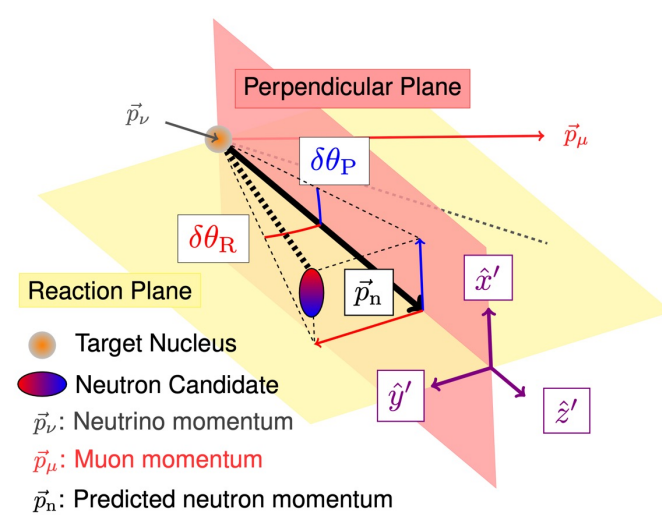
# Using what you've learned to see H by itself

- Consider antineutrino QE-like scattering:

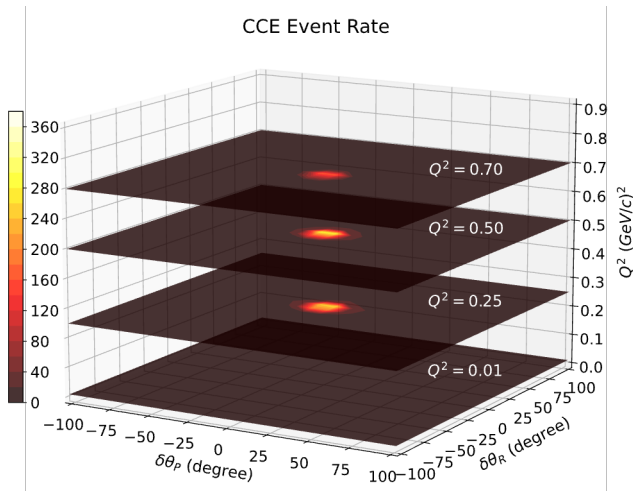
- $\bar{\nu}_\mu + p \rightarrow \mu^+ + n$
- If you have a plastic target, you have C and H
- If you are trying to measure CCQE on H, then CCQE on C is a background
- Use nuclear effects to isolate H!



# When life gives you lemons... make lemon meringue pie

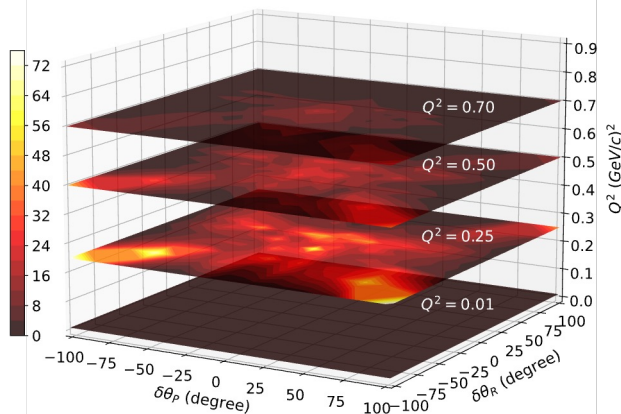


# Different Reactions populate different regions

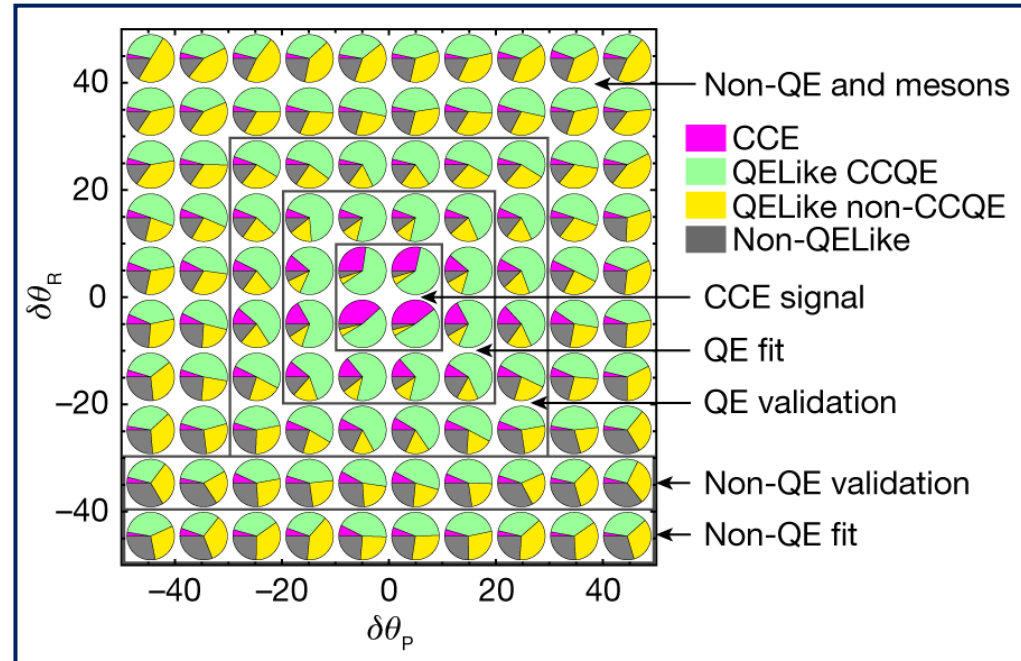


**SIGNAL: Elastic on H**

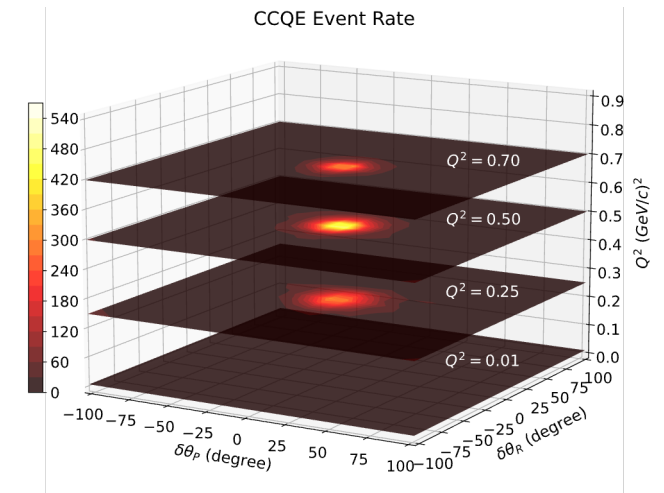
QELike 2p2h Event Rate



**Background: QELike 2p2h**

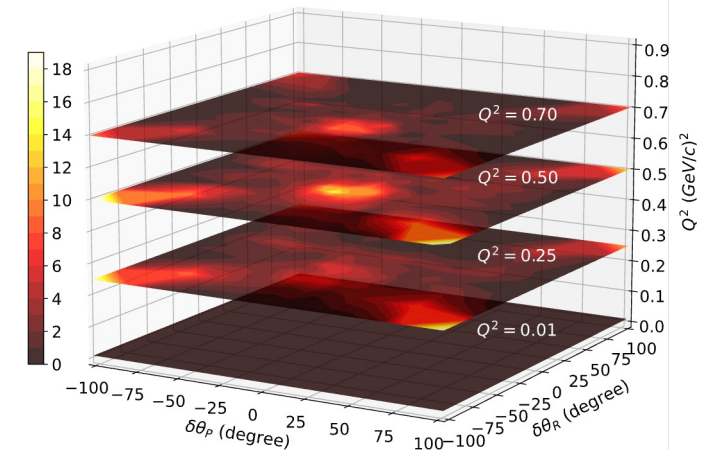


**Regions of the 2D angular distribution used to fit the backgrounds proportion in the signal region.**



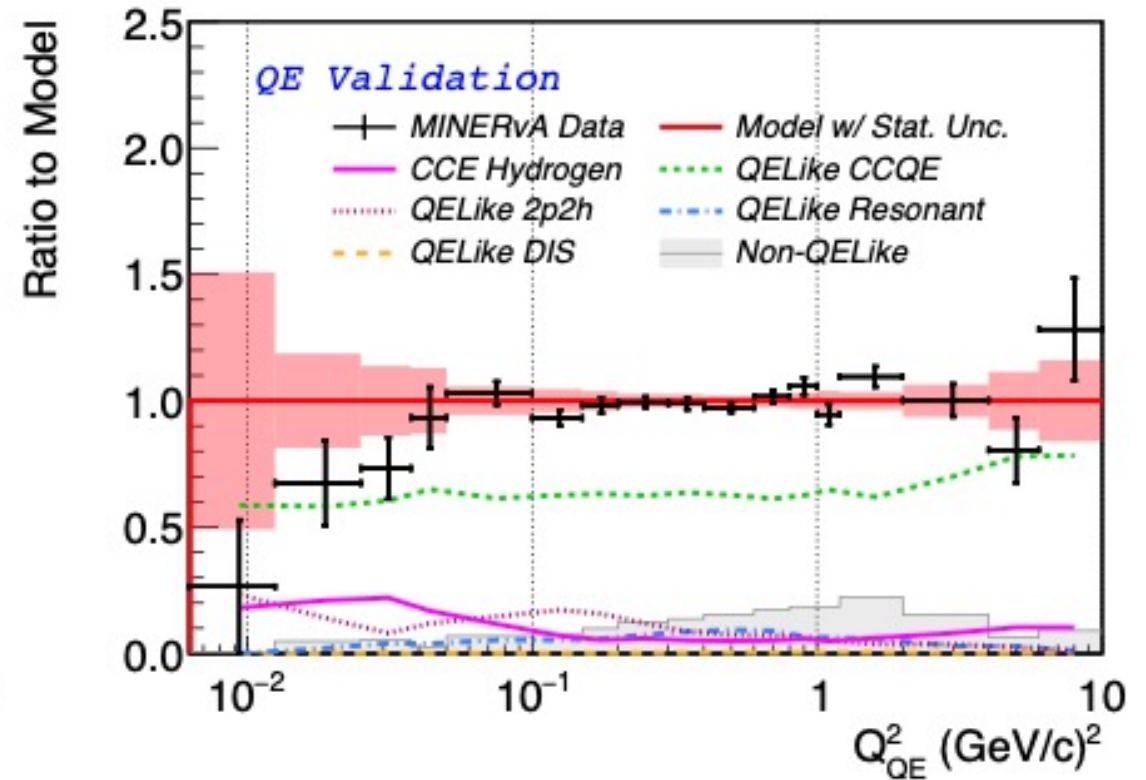
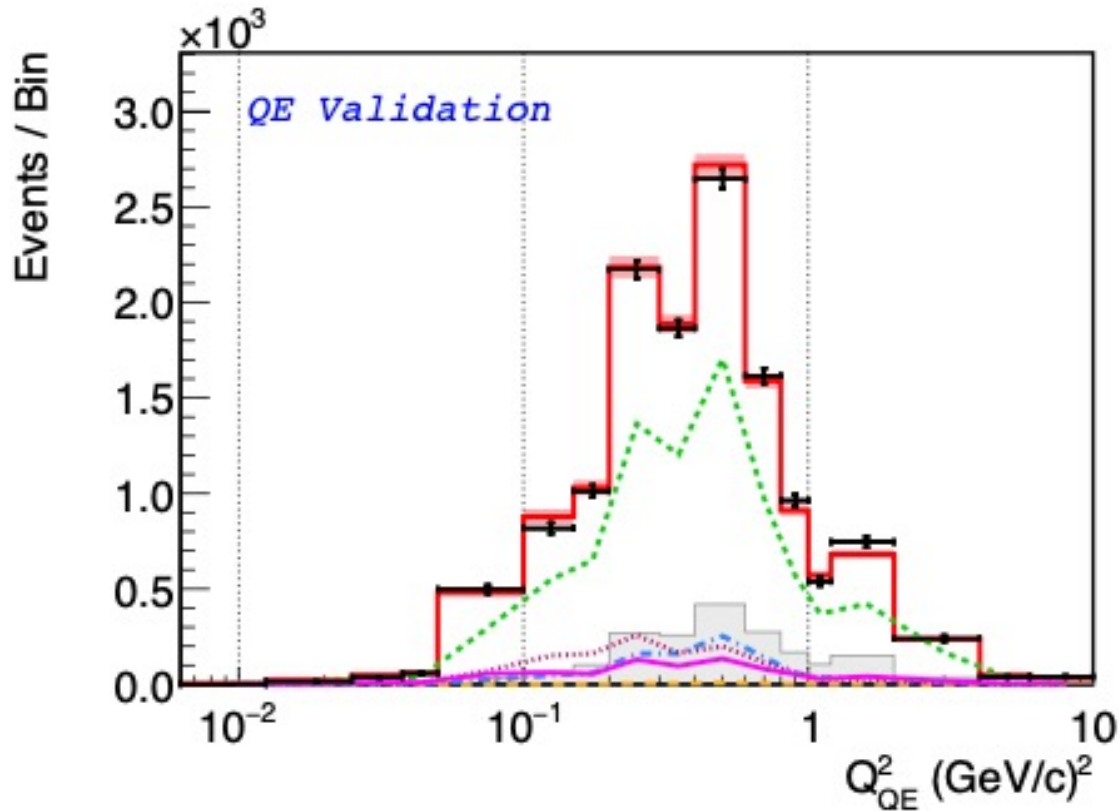
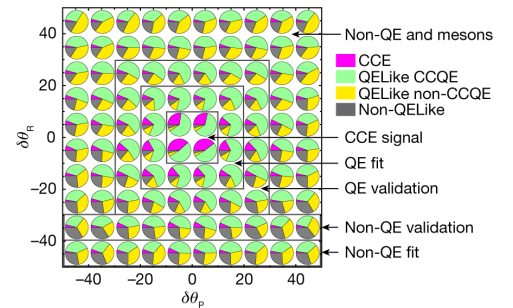
**Background: QELike CCQE (on C)**

QELike Resonant Event Rate



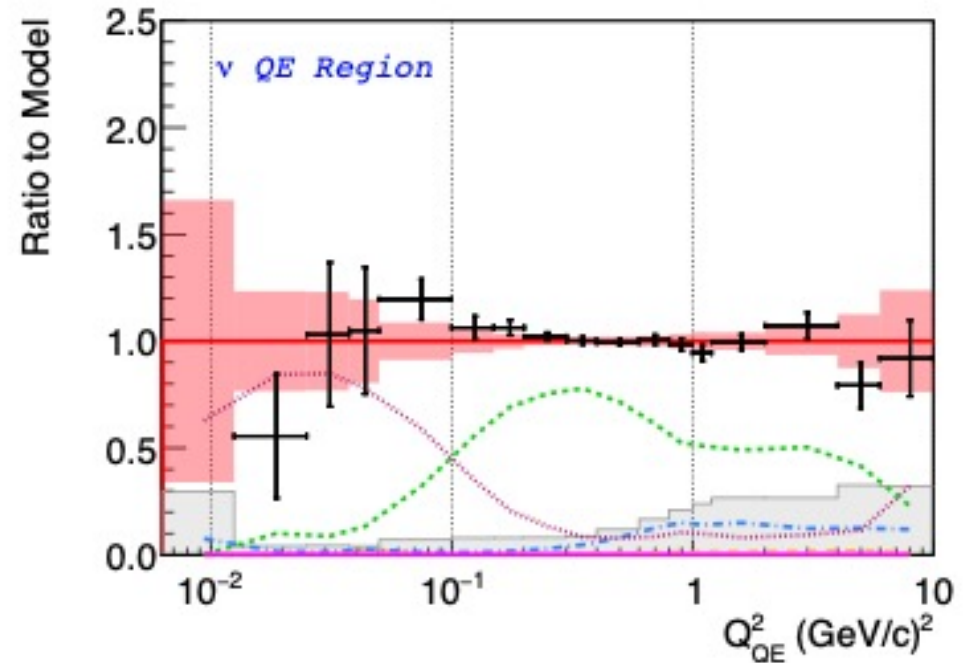
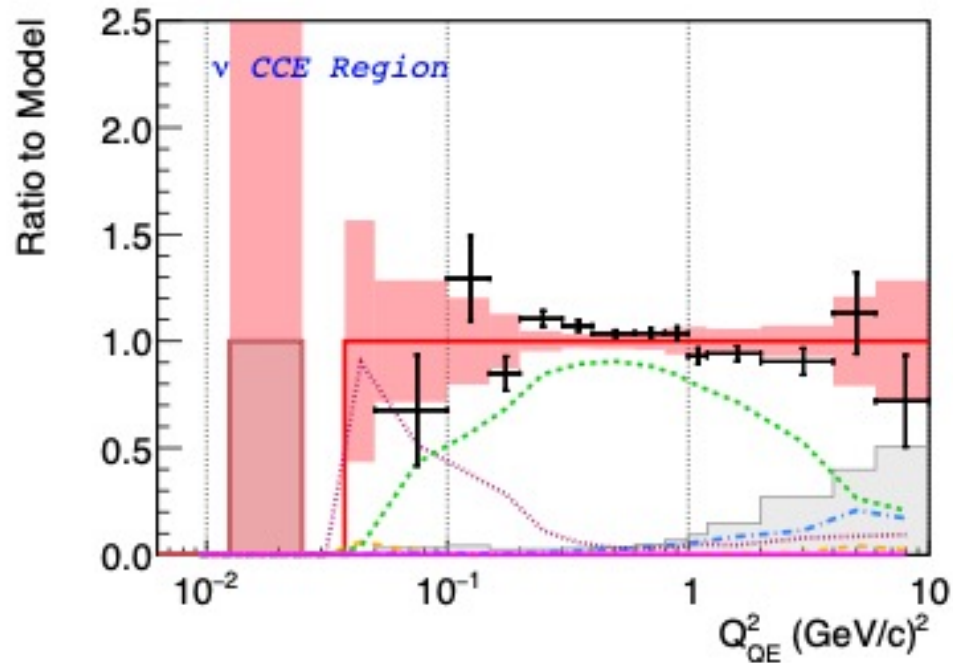
**Background: QELike Resonant**

# Validating the Background Prediction



- CCQE is the dominant background. Small 2p2h, inelastic (absorbed), and Non-QELike contributions. The fitted model are well constrained by data.

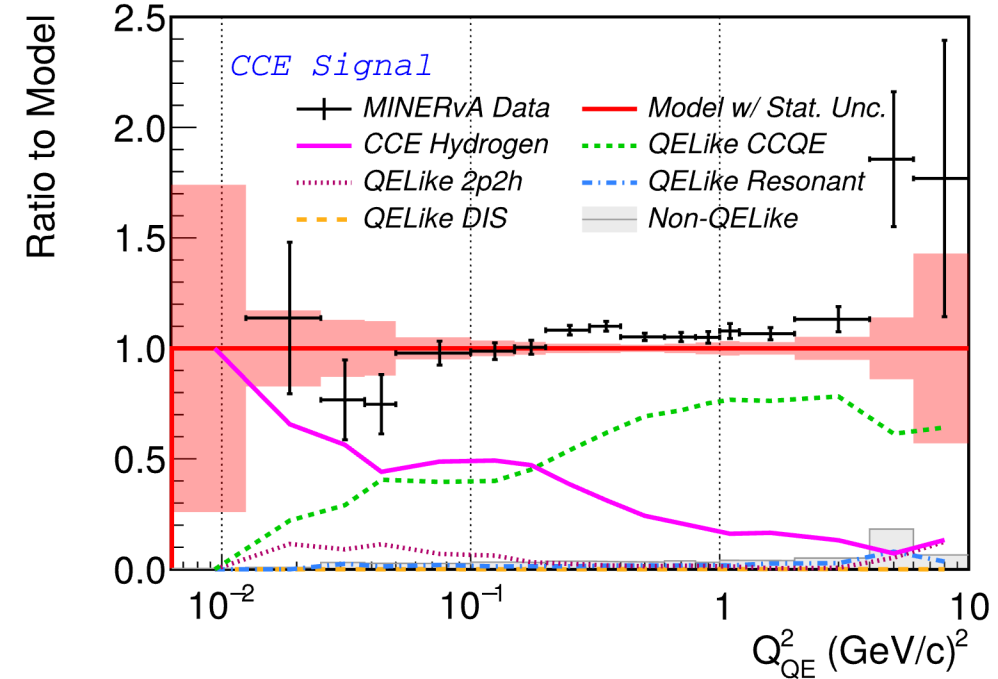
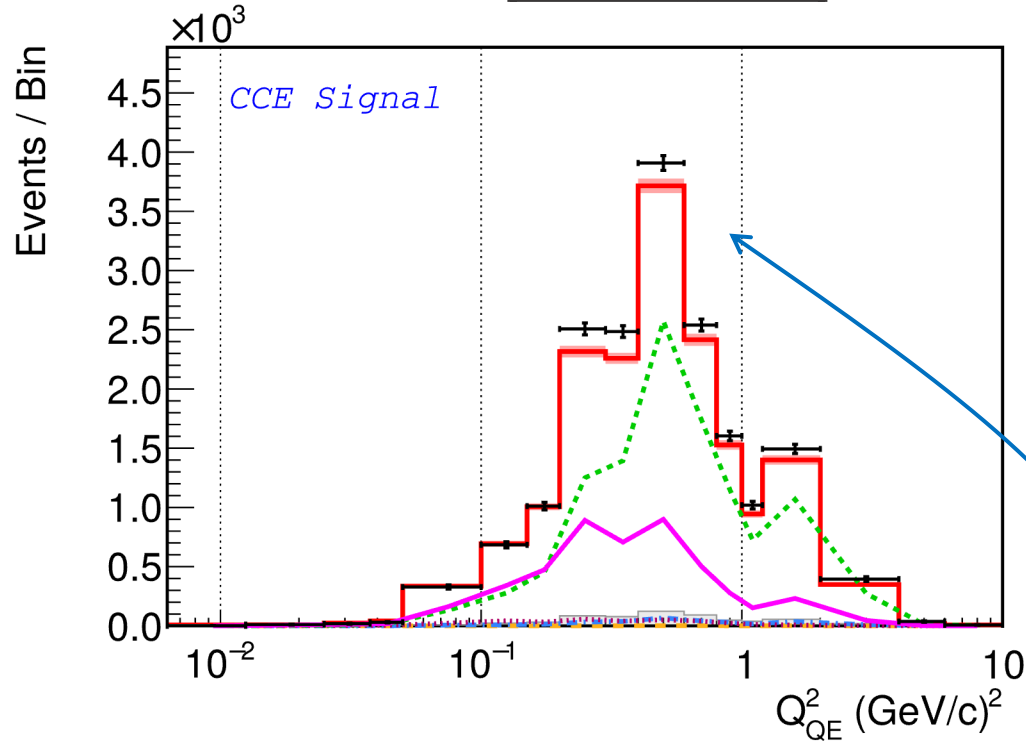
# Another test: Neutrino Beam $\nu_{\mu} + n \rightarrow \mu^{-} + p$



- Recipe: select events with trackable protons in a neutrino sample. Different final states and available kinematics. Apply same fitting mechanism. Data and MC mostly agree within uncertainty. Data and MC mostly agree. Disagreement can be explained by  $2p2h$  uncertainty.

# Cross-section Extraction

[Nature 614, 48–53]



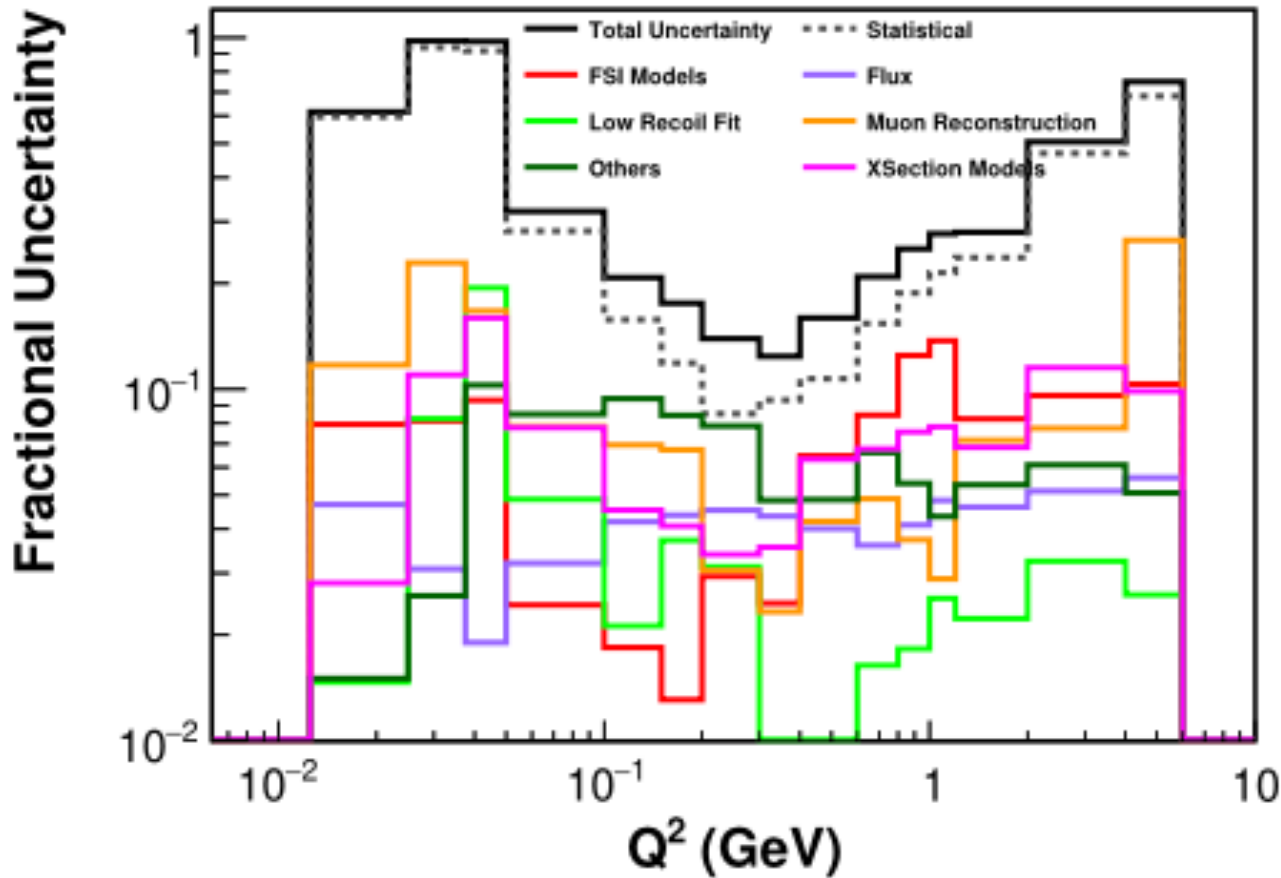
Ingredients:

- Unfolding matrix and efficiency from Data and Simulation studies
- Flux from models and data measurements ( $\nu e \rightarrow \nu e$ )
- Number of Hydrogen targets from the detector assay.
- **Measured signal** from data – predicted background

$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{dQ^2}\right)_i = \frac{\sum_j U_{ji} (N_j^{\text{data}} - N_j^{\text{bkg-pred}})}{\Phi N_H \epsilon_i (\Delta Q^2)_i}$$



# Uncertainties in the Axial Form Factor Cross-Sections



- Dominated by statistical uncertainty after the background subtraction.

Systematic uncertainties from residuals of background subtraction

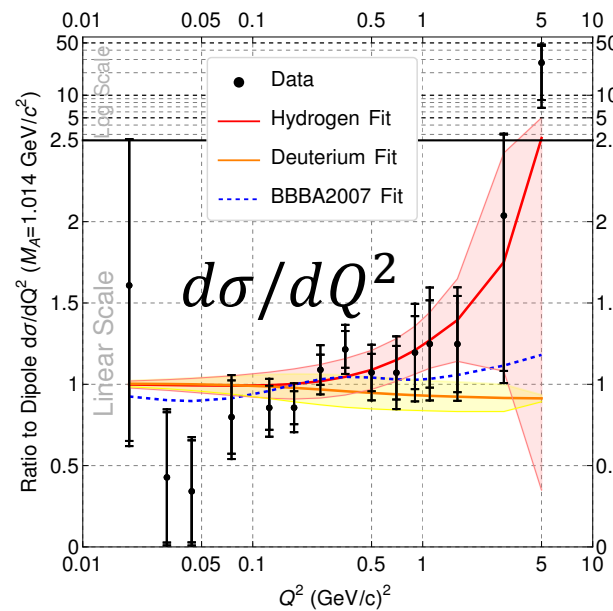
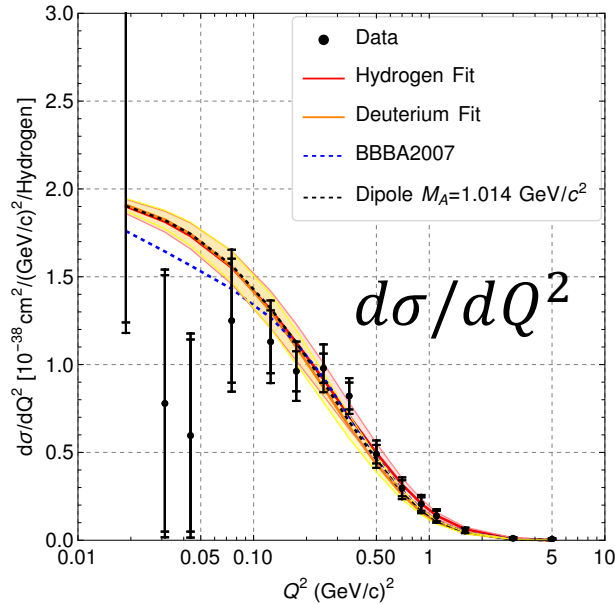
Particle responses in the “other” category, dominated by neutron systematics.

Always  
ask  
to see  
uncertainties!

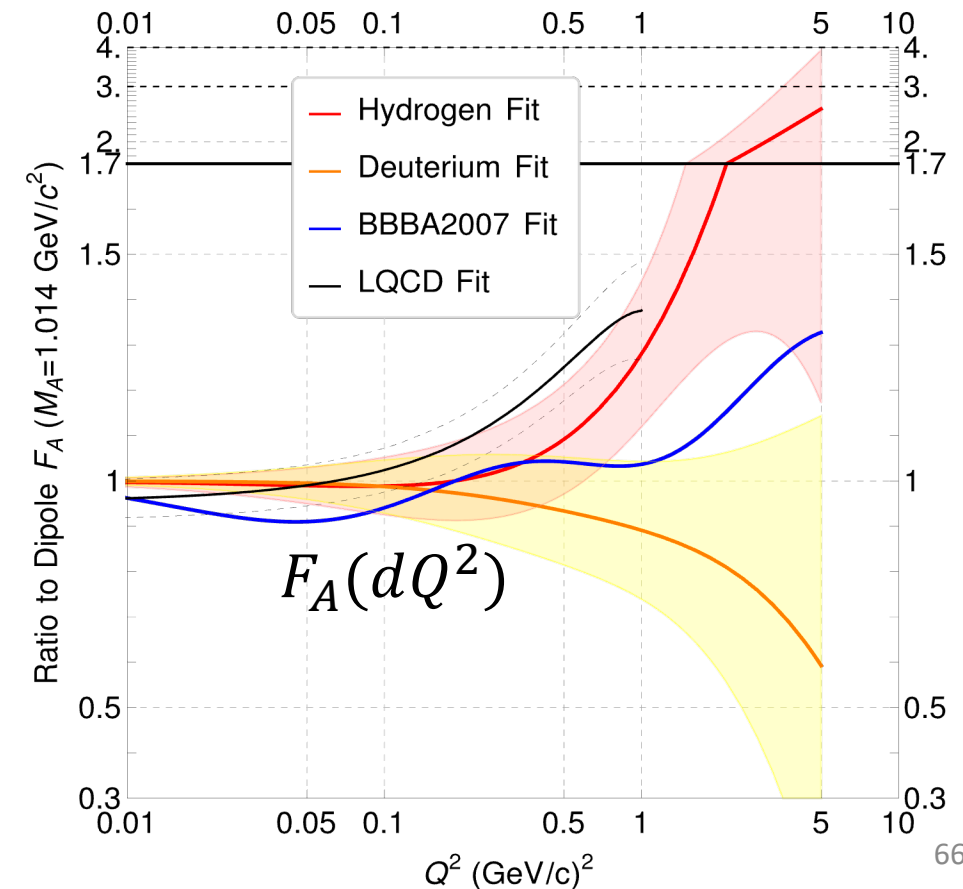


# Free Nucleon Axial Form Factor

- MINERvA found  $\sim 5800$  such events on a background of  $\sim 12500$ .
- Shape is not a great fit to a dipole at high  $Q^2$ .
- LQCD prediction at high  $Q^2$  is close to this result, but maybe not at moderate  $Q^2$ .



Cross Section Measurements (Detectors)



# How to summarize this field?

- Want to cover “current cross sections” but...
- Consider the various combinations: 6x4x5x6

Interaction
Inclusive Scattering
CC $0 \pi$ Production
CC $1\pi^+$ Production
CC $1\pi^0$ Production
CC Shallow or Deep Inelastic Scattering
Rare Channels ( $\nu$ -e, coherent scattering)

Flavour, Helicity
$\nu_\mu$
$\bar{\nu}_\mu$
$\nu_e$
$\bar{\nu}_e$

Target Nucleus
CH
H <sub>2</sub> O
H, He, C, Pb
Ar
Pb

Observable ( $x_m$ )
Lepton Kinematics
$Q^2$
$q_0$ vs $q_3$
Proton Kinematics
Pion Kinematics
Transverse Kinematic Imbalance variables (many)
“Neutrino Energy”

Number of Dimensions
1
2
3

# Summary of This Lecture

$$\frac{d\sigma(x_t)}{dx_t} = \frac{(N(x_m) - B(x_m)) U_{mt}}{\Phi_\nu \epsilon(x_t) M \Delta x}$$

- So many interactions, so little time!
- Measuring Cross Sections all use the same formula
- Challenges with making a robust measurement
  - Flux
  - Detector
  - Cross section
- Clever ideas of new observables and ways to reduce backgrounds are yours to discover!
- All the tricks we've figured out to isolate different effects in Quasielastic interactions, we have to figure out for pion production!

# Backup Slides

$$\frac{d\sigma(x_t)}{dx_t} = \frac{(N(x_m) - B(x_m)) U_{mt}}{\Phi_\nu \epsilon(x) M \Delta x}$$

- **M: "Mass" [nucleons]** Sounds easy, right?
- Cross sections are usually reported "per nucleon" so...
- BUT, it depends on what cross section you are trying to measure: are you trying to measure something "per nucleon"?
- What if you are measuring something that (in principle) only happens on neutrons? (i.e.  $\nu_\mu + n \rightarrow \mu^- + p$ )
- What if you are measuring something that (in principle) only happens on protons? (i.e.  $\bar{\nu}_\mu + p \rightarrow \mu^+ + n$ )

# Full Disclosure on calculating “M”

- For Liquid Argon detector, it’s very pure so you can be sure the nucleus that is struck is Ar
- For Water, at least at Super-K or Hyper-K those detectors are very pure H<sub>2</sub>O
- But scintillator-based detectors may not always be all CH or CH<sub>2</sub>: for example NOvA:

Element	Mass [kg]	Nucleon Count	Mass Fraction
H	3814.5	$2.28 \times 10^{30}$	0.108
C	23650	$1.41 \times 10^{31}$	0.667
O	1050	$6.30 \times 10^{29}$	0.030
Cl	5690	$3.40 \times 10^{30}$	0.161
Ti	1140	$6.81 \times 10^{29}$	0.032
Other	95	$5.7 \times 10^{28}$	0.003

• *Phys.Rev.D* 107 (2023) 11, 112008

NOvA Image: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nuclphysb.2016.04.027>

7 June 2024

Cross Section Measurements (Detectors)



# Observables in Quasielastic Interactions

- If you have a quasielastic interaction, *and* the initial nucleon is at rest, you can estimate the neutrino energy and momentum transfer from the lepton kinematics ALONE
- This is how T2K makes its (most precise) oscillation measurements!
  - Require ONLY one lepton in the final state
  - Require conservation of energy and momentum

• You may hear from Stephen and Luke why this is a problem, but it's still an observable

• Just don't call it true energy if you are scattering off a big nucleus!

$$E_{\nu}^{QE} = \frac{m_n^2 - (m_p - E_b)^2 - m_{\mu}^2 + 2(m_p - E_b)E_{\mu}}{2(m_p - E_b - E_{\mu} + p_{\mu} \cos \theta_{\mu})}$$

$$Q_{QE}^2 = 2E_{\nu}^{QE} (E_{\mu} - p_{\mu} \cos \theta_{\mu}) - m_{\mu}^2,$$