
Collider Neutrinos

(results from FASER and SND@LHC)

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(INFN Bologna, SND@LHC Collaboration)

Motivation

Since the 1980s, before the LHC design phase, it was proposed to use the intense neutrino flux from pp collisions ($pp \rightarrow \nu X$)

However, only in the last decade, it was shown that the backgrounds in the real CERN's LHC are low enough for neutrino experiments.

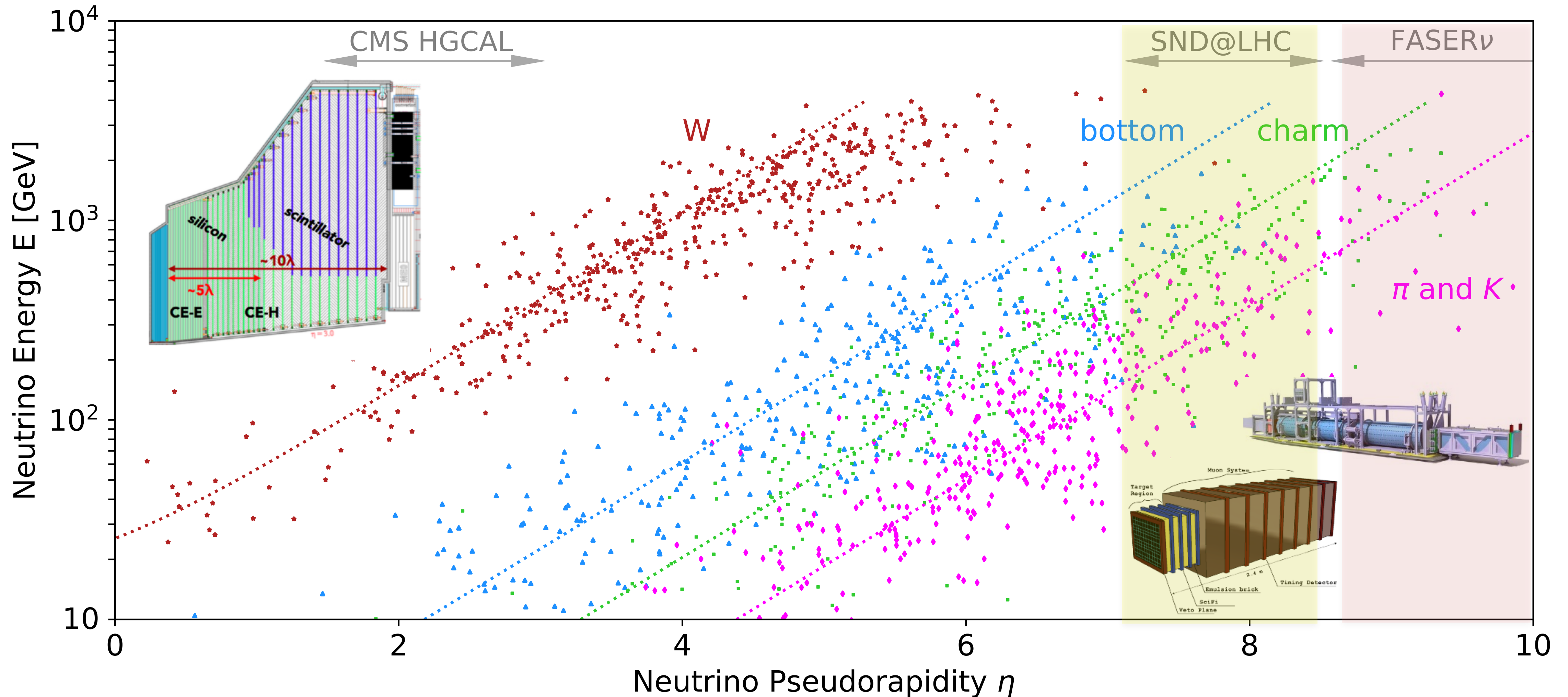
The collage features several documents:

- 1984:** CERN-TH-3892/84, "NEUTRINO AND MUON PHYSICS IN THE COLLIDER MODE OF FUTURE ACCELERATORS*") by A. De Rújula and R. Rückl.
- 1990:** "DETECTION OF THE TAU-NEUTRINO AT THE LHC" by Klaus Winter, CERN, Geneva, Switzerland.
- 1993:** "NEUTRINO PHYSICS AT LHC/SSC" by F. Vannucci, CERN/PPE/93-Ma.
- 2019:** "Physics potential of a neutrino experiment using LHC neutrinos" in J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys. 46 (2019) 115008 (19pp).
- 2020:** "Detecting and studying high-energy collider neutrinos at the LHC" by the FASER Collaboration in Eur. Phys. J. C (2020) 80:61.
- 2020:** "Further studies on neutrino physics prospects at the LHC" in J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys. 47 (2020) 125004 (18pp).

A central box at the bottom contains the text: "CERN's LHC is unique in providing high-energy neutrinos and measuring $pp \rightarrow \nu X$ in an unexplored domain".

High Energy Neutrinos from LHC pp collisions

P. Foldenauer,^{1,*} F. Kling,^{2,3,†} and P. Reimitz^{4,‡} arXiv:2108.05370v2 [hep-ph] 23 Dec 2021



Physics potential in new domains

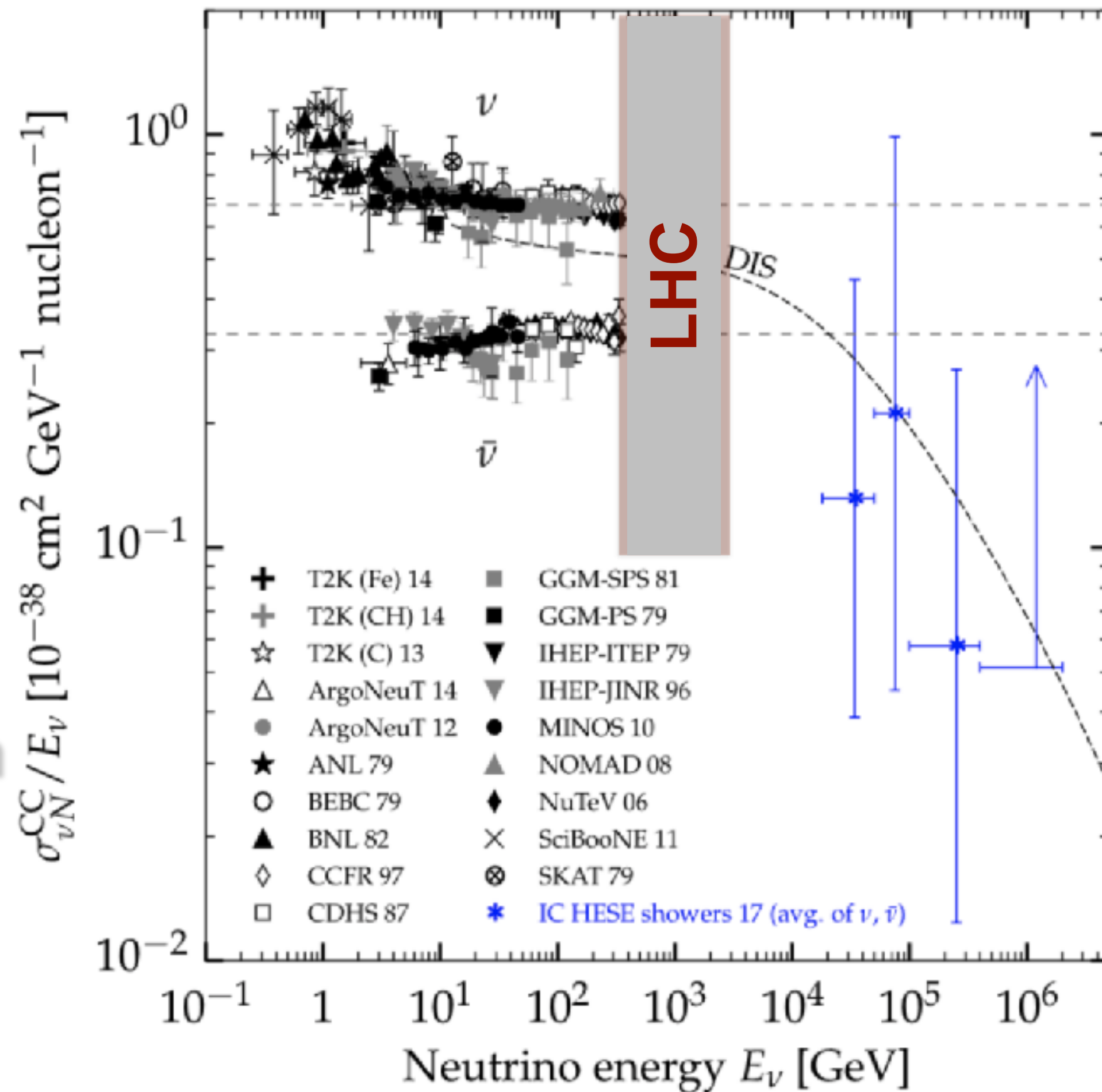
- ◆ all three flavour
 - ◆ it will be the largest sample of ν_τ

- ◆ Explore ν interactions at unprecedented lab energies

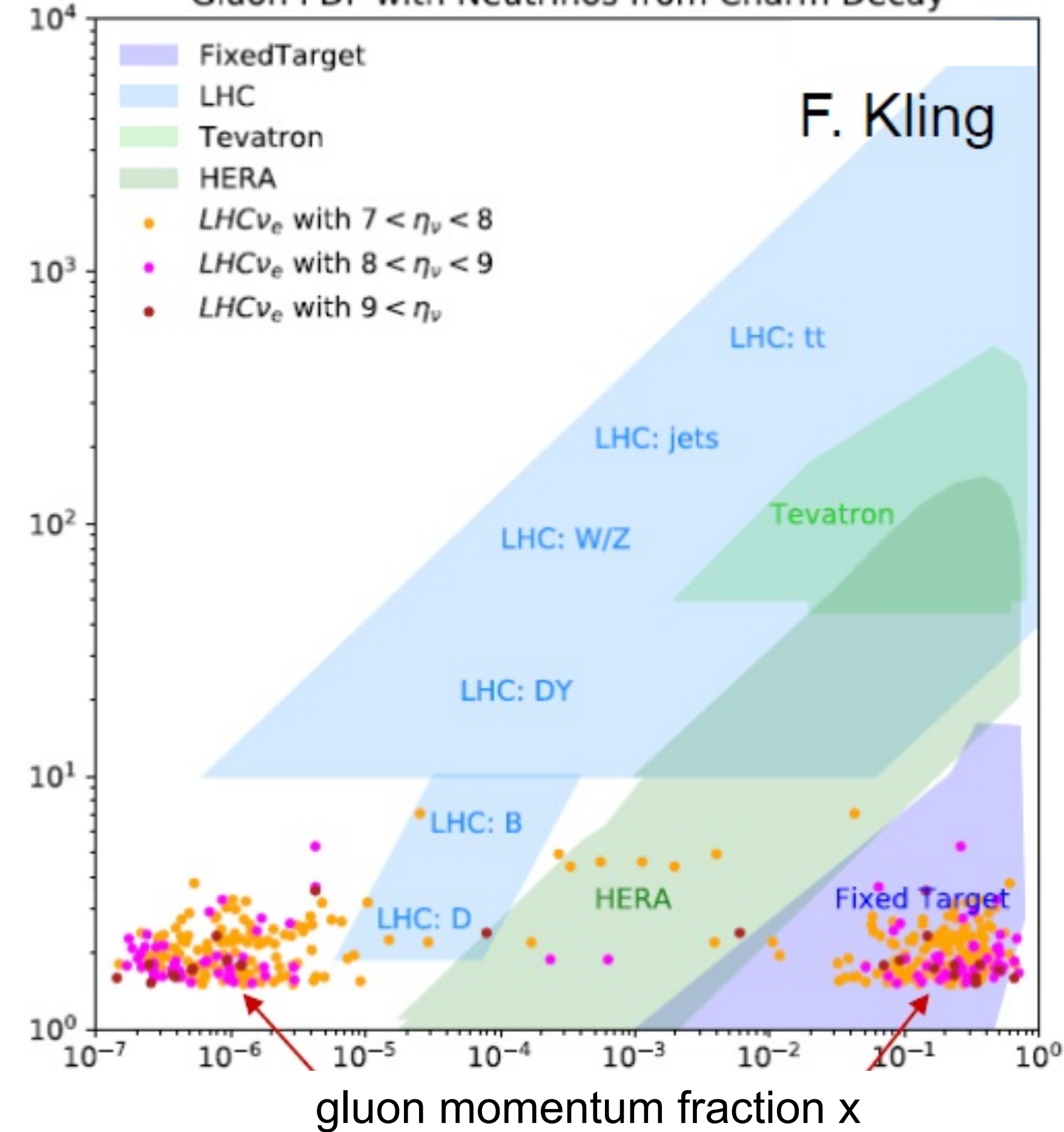
- ◆ ν_e from forward charm production; their rate constrain gluon PDF at very small x

- ◆ relevant for FCC and astroparticle exp.

Bustamante and Connoly, PRL 122 (2019)041101

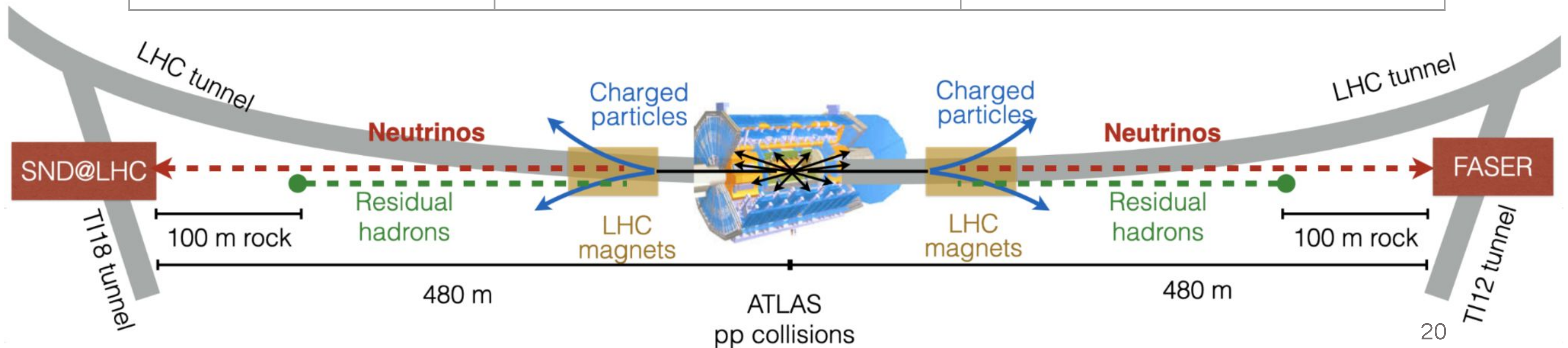


Gluon PDF with Neutrinos from Charm Decay



Two complementary LHC ν experiments

	SND@LHC	FASER
Location	Off-axis: $7.2 < \eta < 8.4$ Enhances charm parentage	On-axis: $\eta > 8.8$ Enhances statistics
Target	800 kg of tungsten	1100 kg of tungsten
Hybrid Detector technology	Emulsion vertex detector, electromagnetic and hadronic calorimeters	Emulsion vertex detector and spectrometer





17



both experiments
started to take data
in 2022

expected neutrino interactions in LHC Run3 (250 fb⁻¹)

Expected number of CC interactions in FASER ν with 250 fb⁻¹

Generators		FASER ν at Run 3		
light hadrons	charm hadrons	$\nu_e + \bar{\nu}_e$	$\nu_\mu + \bar{\nu}_\mu$	$\nu_\tau + \bar{\nu}_\tau$
EPOS-LHC	–	1149	7996	–
SIBYLL 2.3d	–	1126	7261	–
QGSJET 2.04	–	1181	8126	–
PYTHIAforward	–	1008	7418	–
–	POWHEG Max	1405	1373	76
–	POWHEG	527	511	28
–	POWHEG Min	294	284	16
Combination		1675 ⁺⁹¹¹ ₋₃₇₂	8507 ⁺⁹⁹² ₋₉₆₂	28 ⁺⁴⁸ ₋₁₂

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2402.13318>

SND@LHC

- Model neutrino production in pp collisions with **DPMJET**.
- Propagation to SND@LHC with **FLUKA** model of the LHC.
- GENIE neutrino interaction model.
- Neutrino interactions in SND@LHC / 250 fb⁻¹:

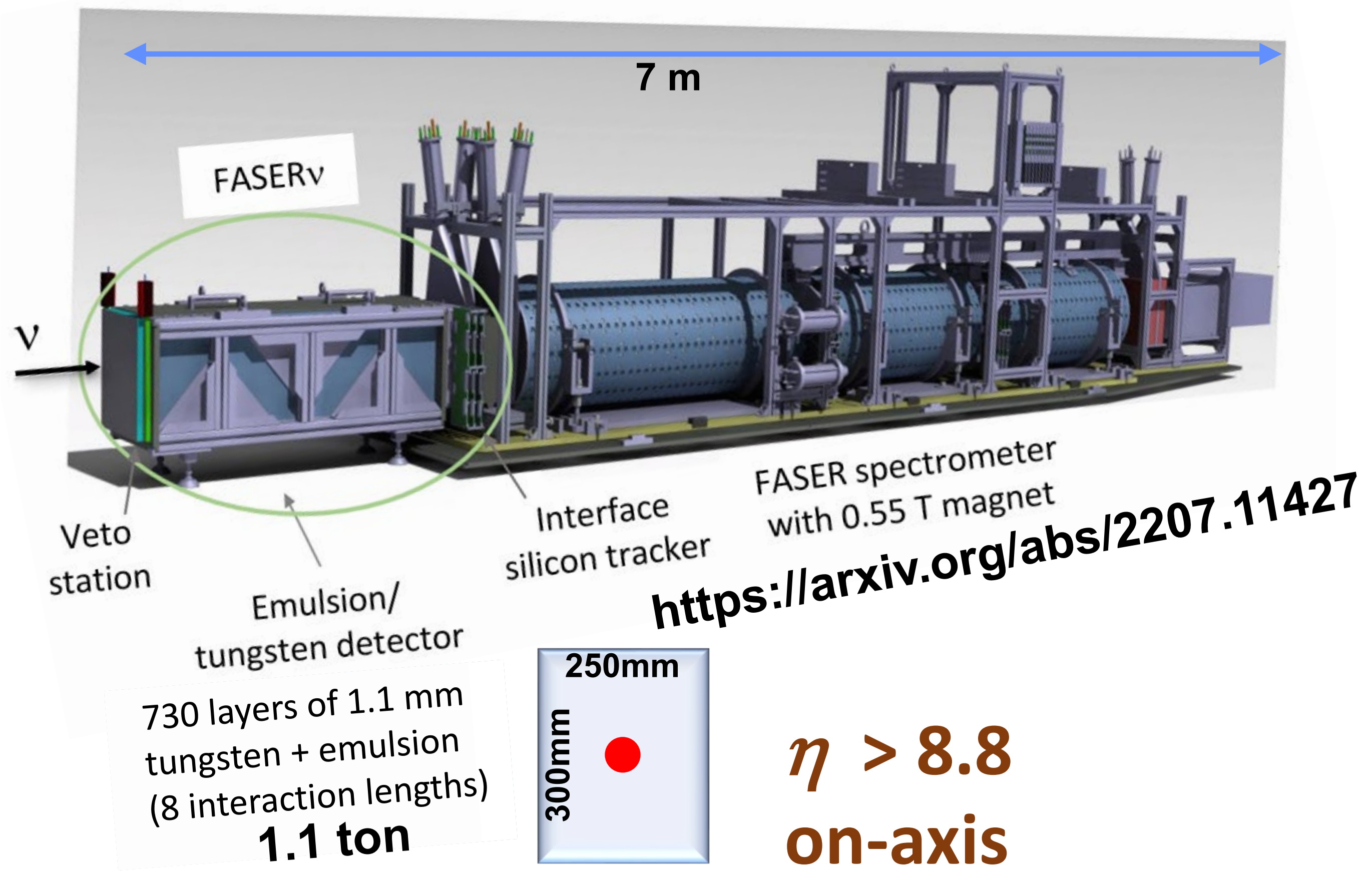
Flavour	Neutrinos in acceptance		CC neutrino interactions		NC neutrino interactions	
	$\langle E \rangle$ [GeV]	Yield	$\langle E \rangle$ [GeV]	Yield	$\langle E \rangle$ [GeV]	Yield
ν_μ	130	3.0×10^{12}	452	910	480	270
$\bar{\nu}_\mu$	133	2.6×10^{12}	485	360	480	140
ν_e	339	3.4×10^{11}	760	250	720	80
$\bar{\nu}_e$	363	3.8×10^{11}	680	140	720	50
ν_τ	415	2.4×10^{10}	740	20	740	10
$\bar{\nu}_\tau$	380	2.7×10^{10}	740	10	740	5
TOT		4.0×10^{12}		1690		555

both experiments expressed interest in taking data also in LHC Run4 (680 fb⁻¹)

FASER 2023

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS 131, 031801 (2023)

First Direct Observation of Collider Neutrinos with FASER at the LHC



M.Dallavalle, SM@LHC, Rome, May 2024

selection: no signal in Veto, interaction in target, track in spectrometer with $p > 100$ GeV

153^{+12}_{-13} muon neutrino interactions

16 standard deviations above the background-only hypothesis

full 2022 data sample

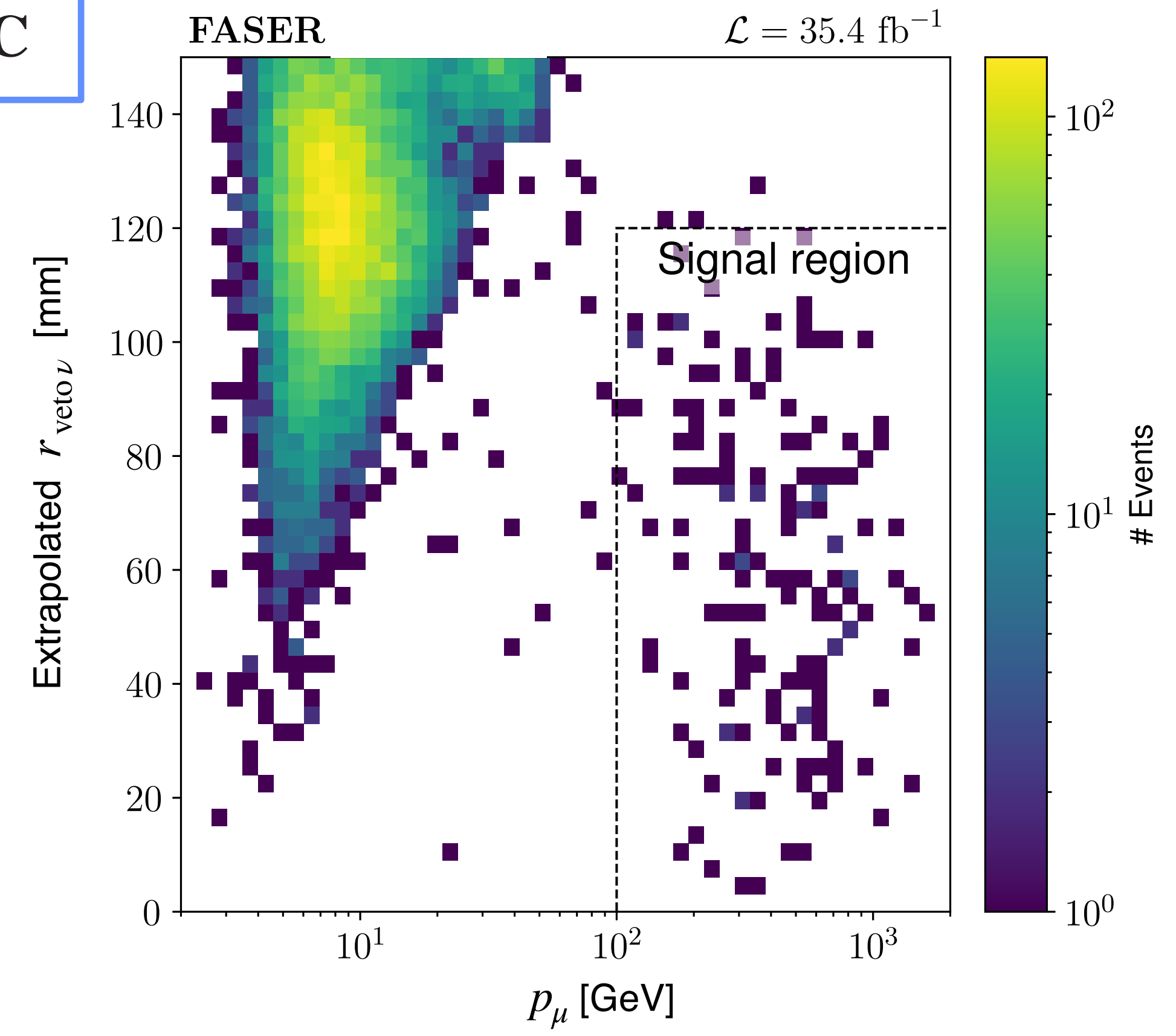
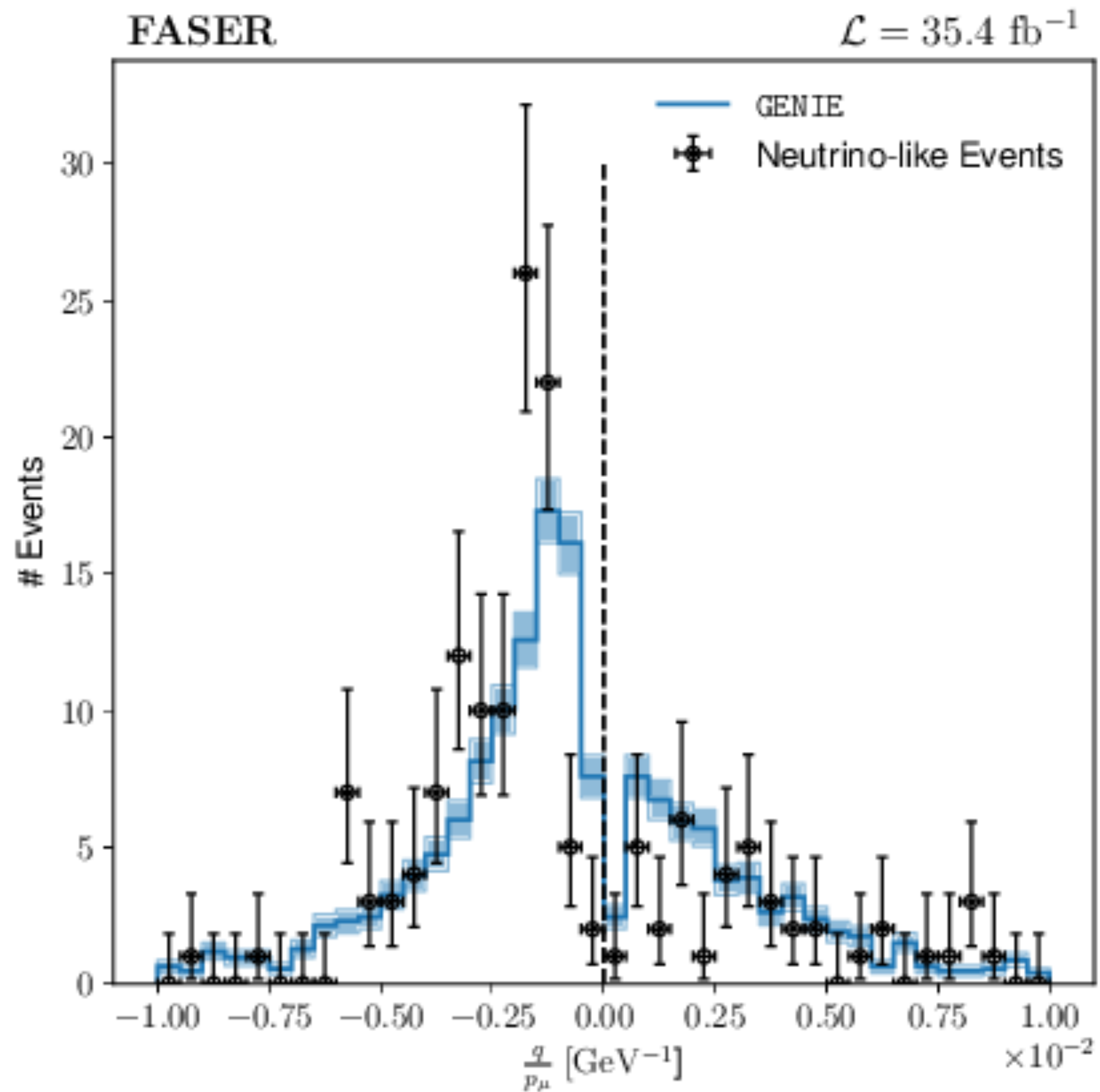


FIG. 2. The selected signal region in extrapolated radius $r_{\text{veto}\nu}$ and reconstructed track momentum p_μ is depicted. The region with lower momenta and larger radii is dominated by background events consisting of charged particles that miss the FASER ν scintillator station.

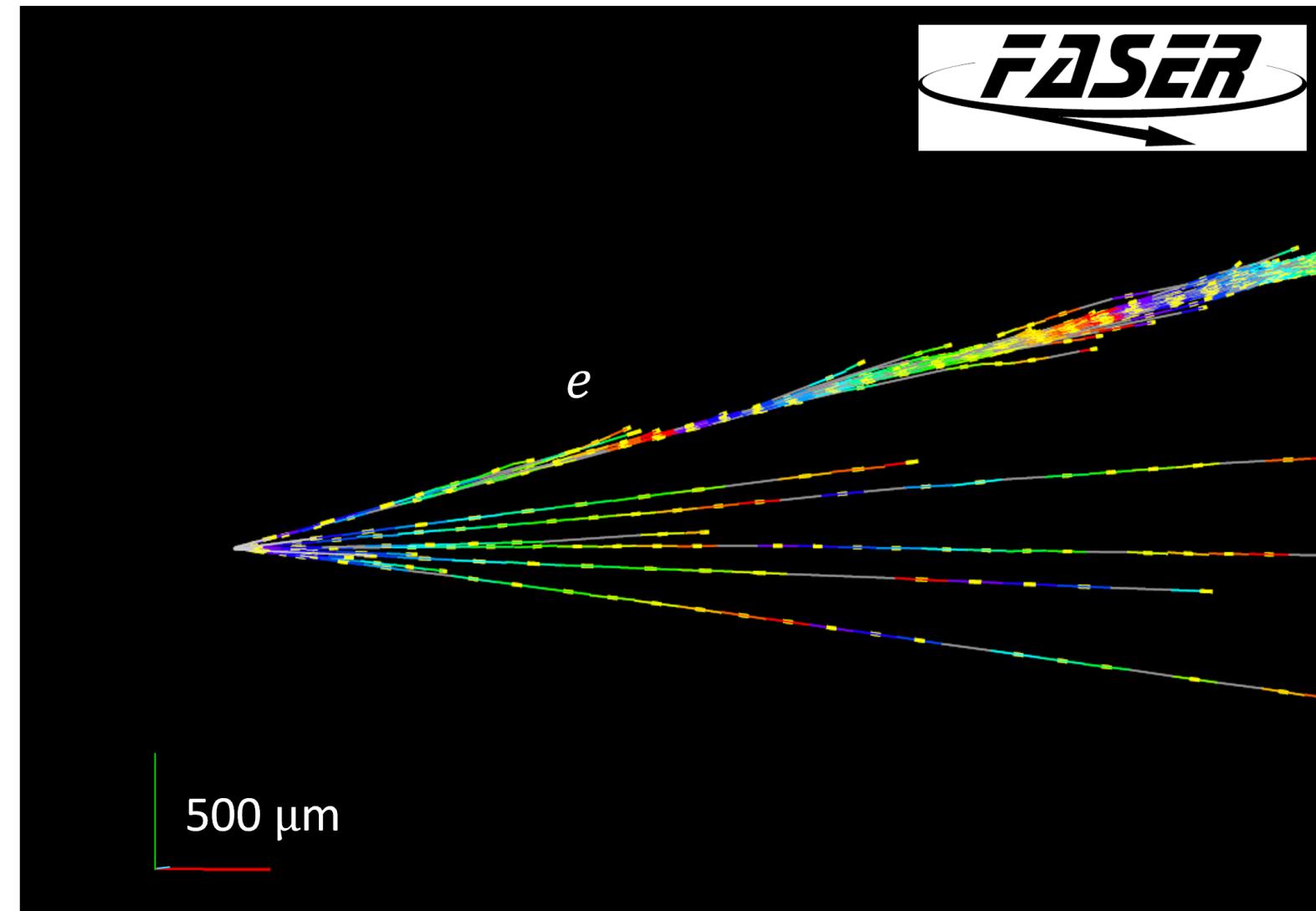
neutrino, anti-neutrino separation in FASER



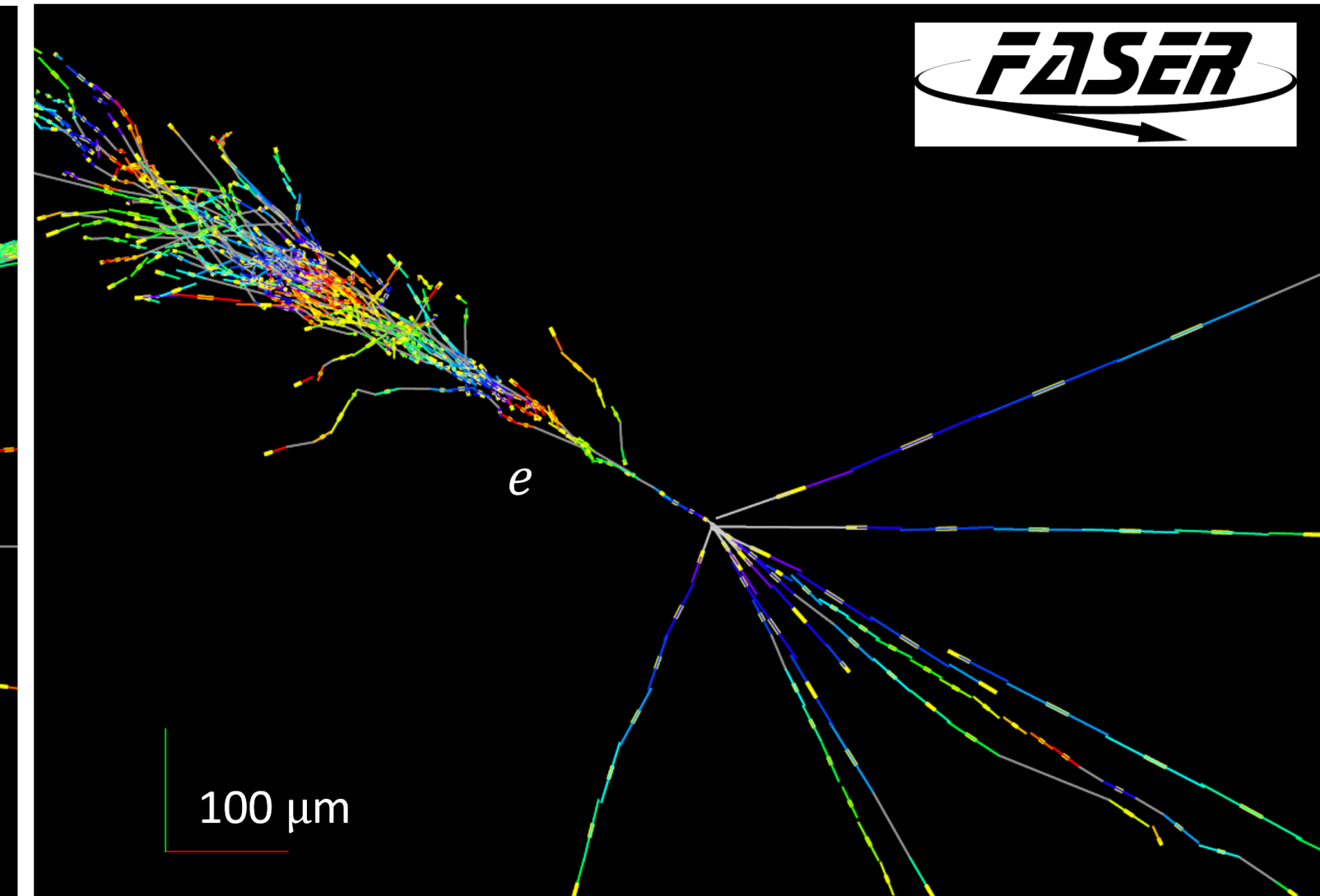
<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2403.12520.pdf>

ν_e CC
candidate

rotated view

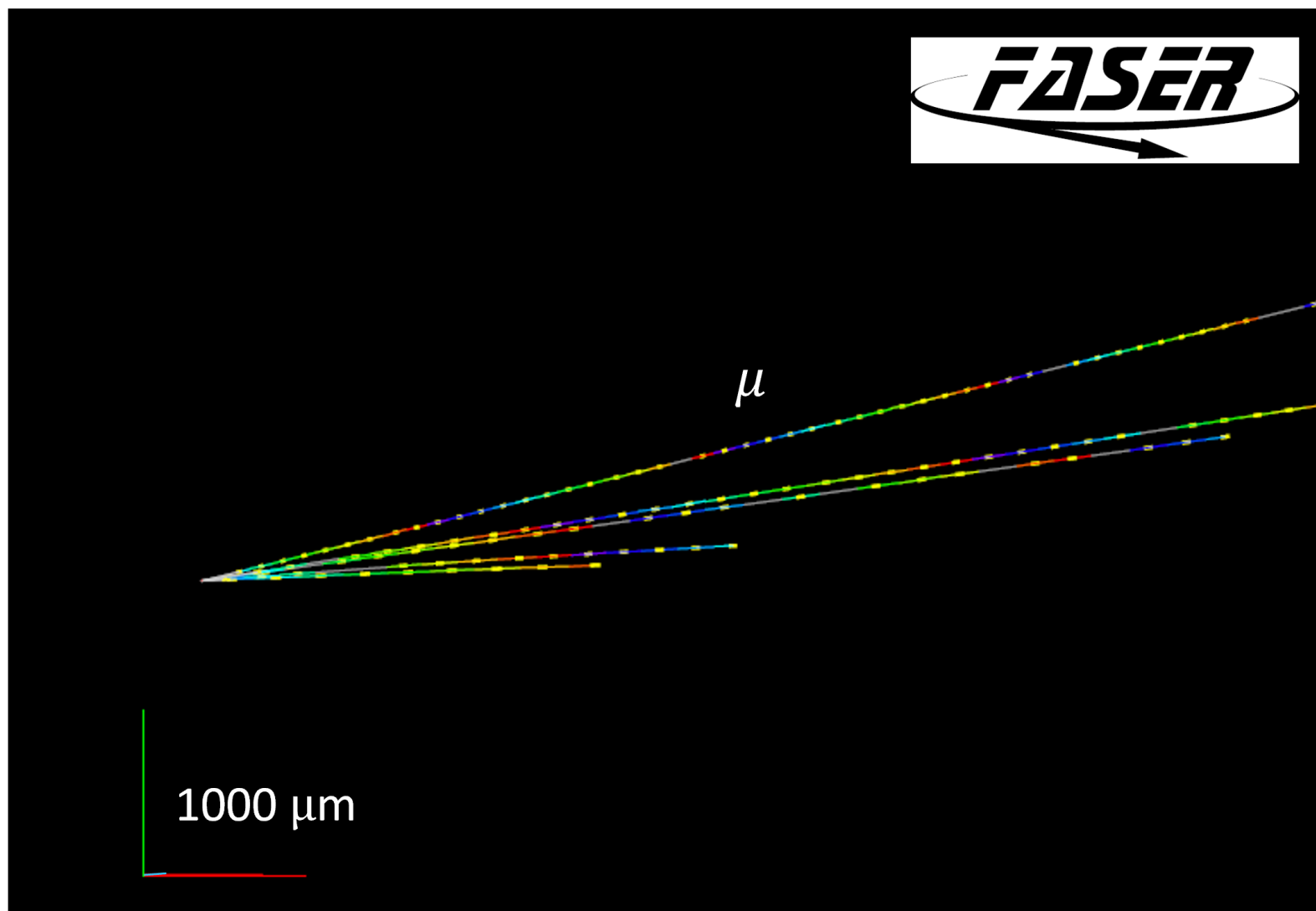


beam view

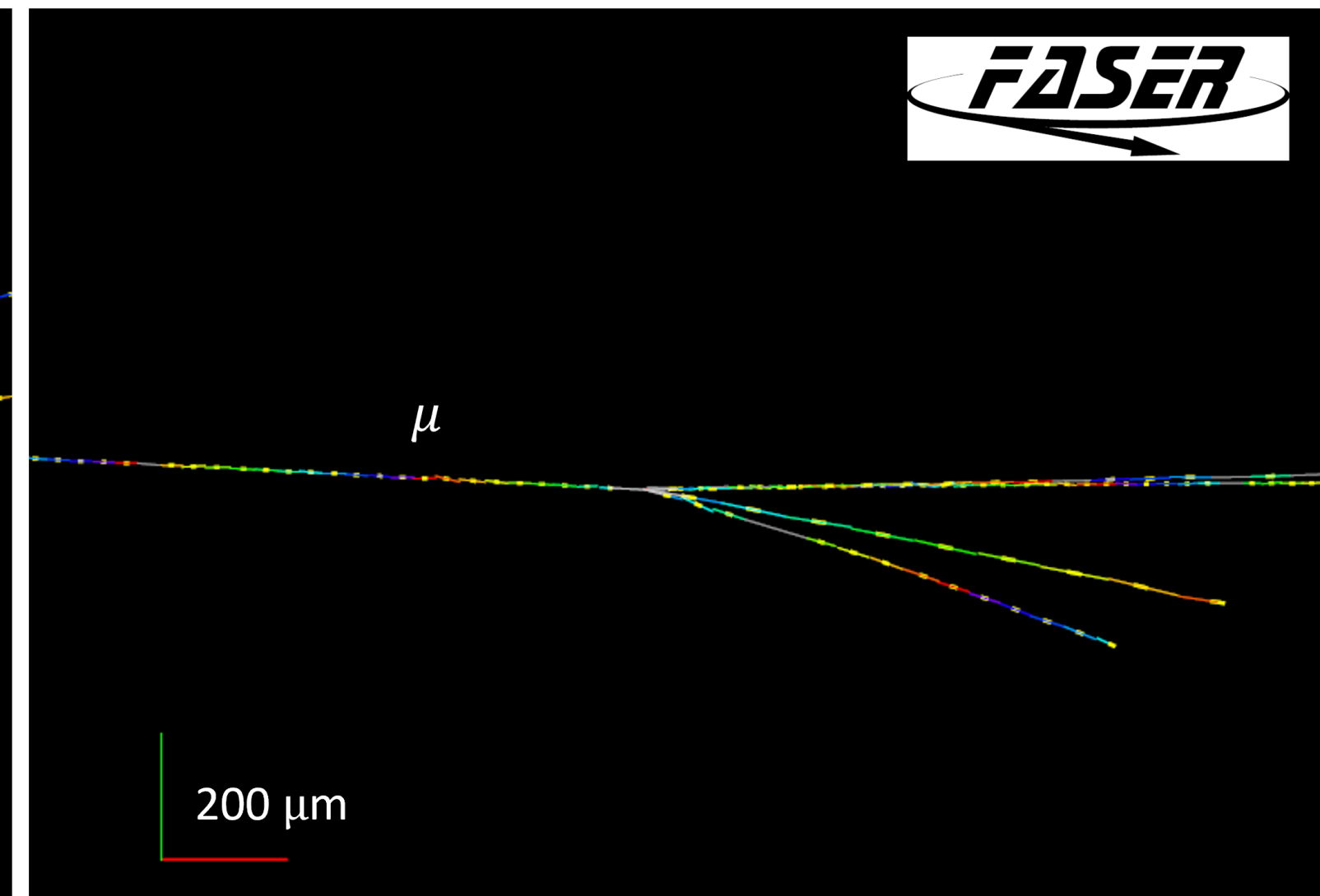


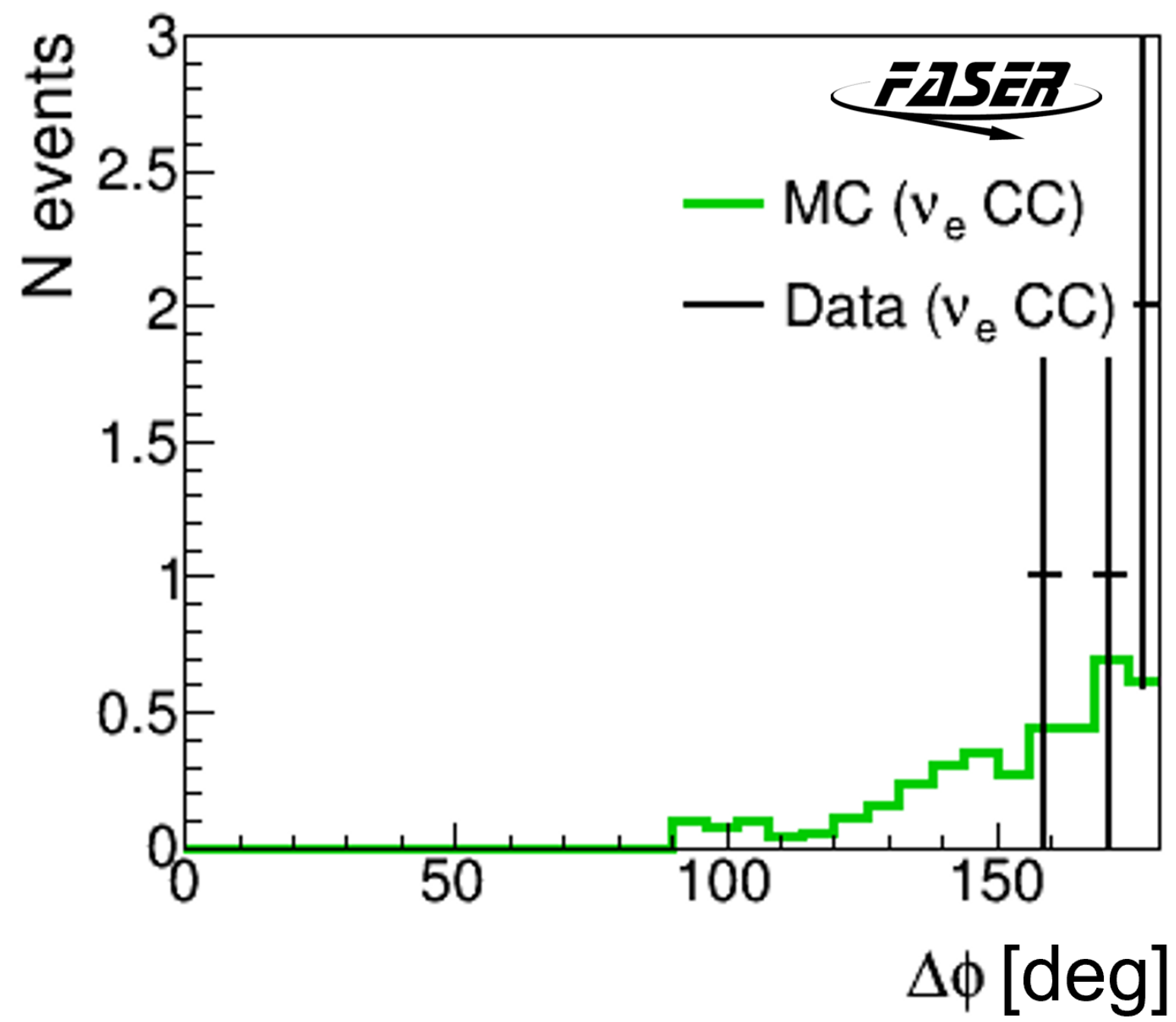
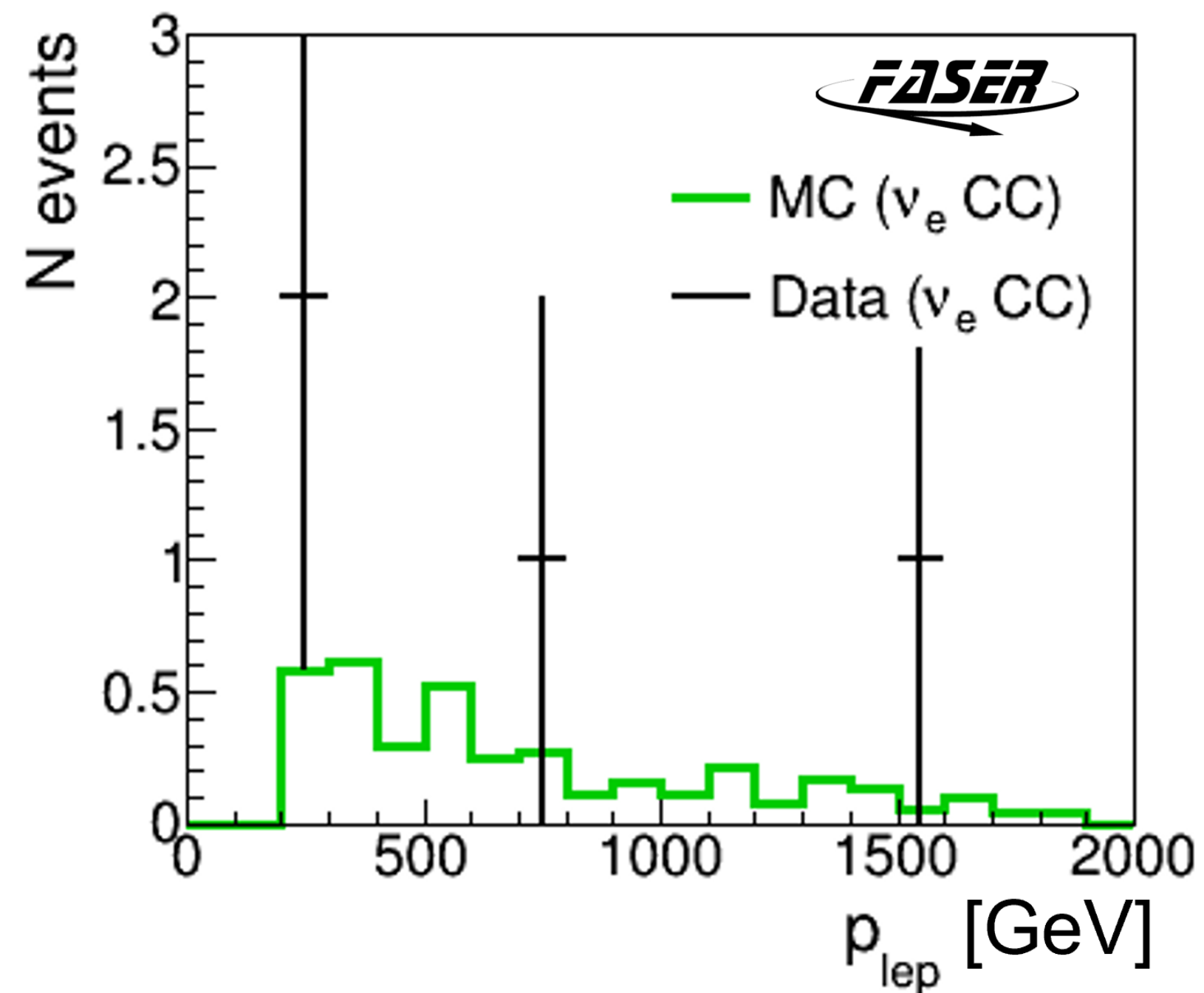
ν_μ CC
candidate

rotated view

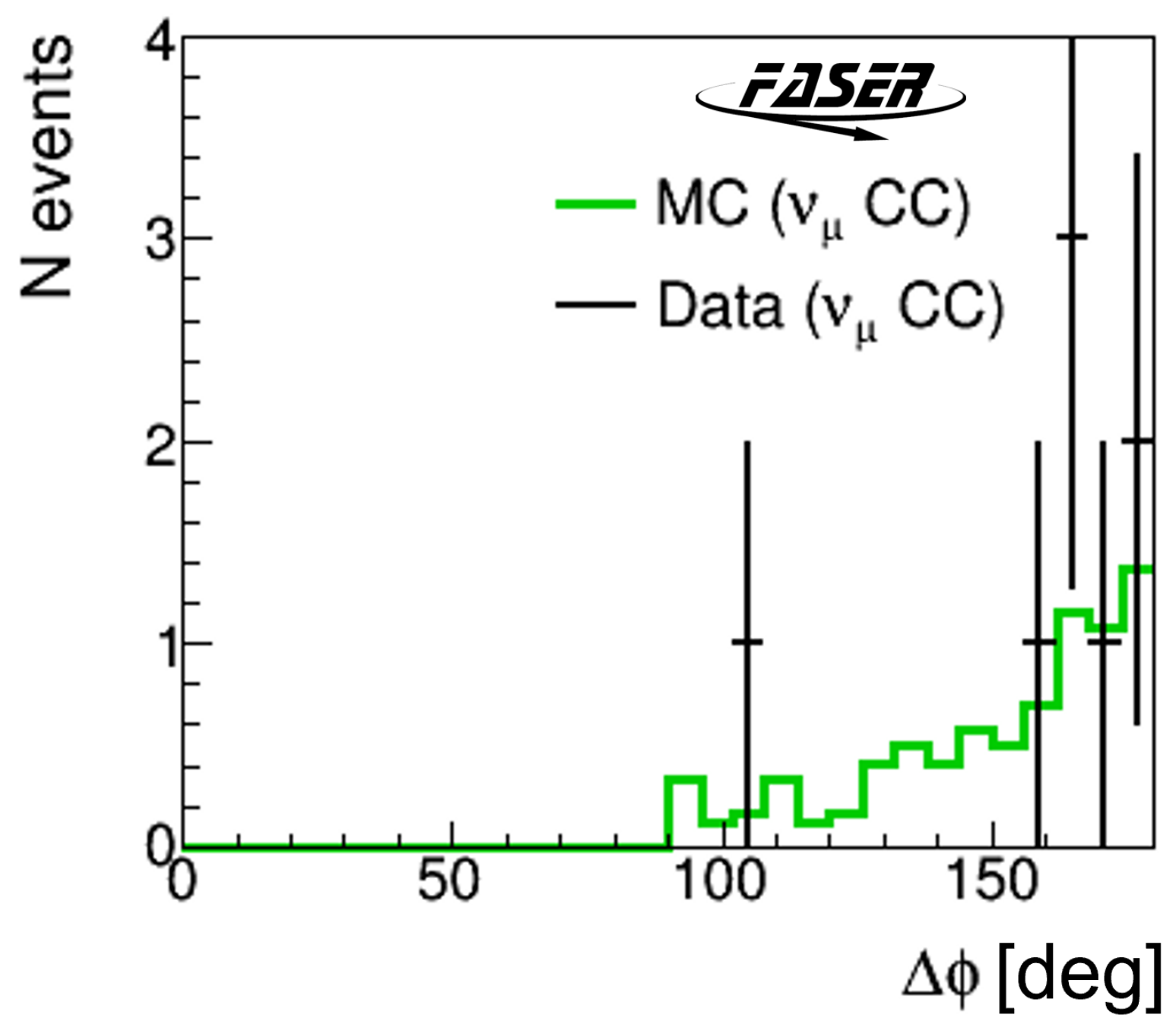
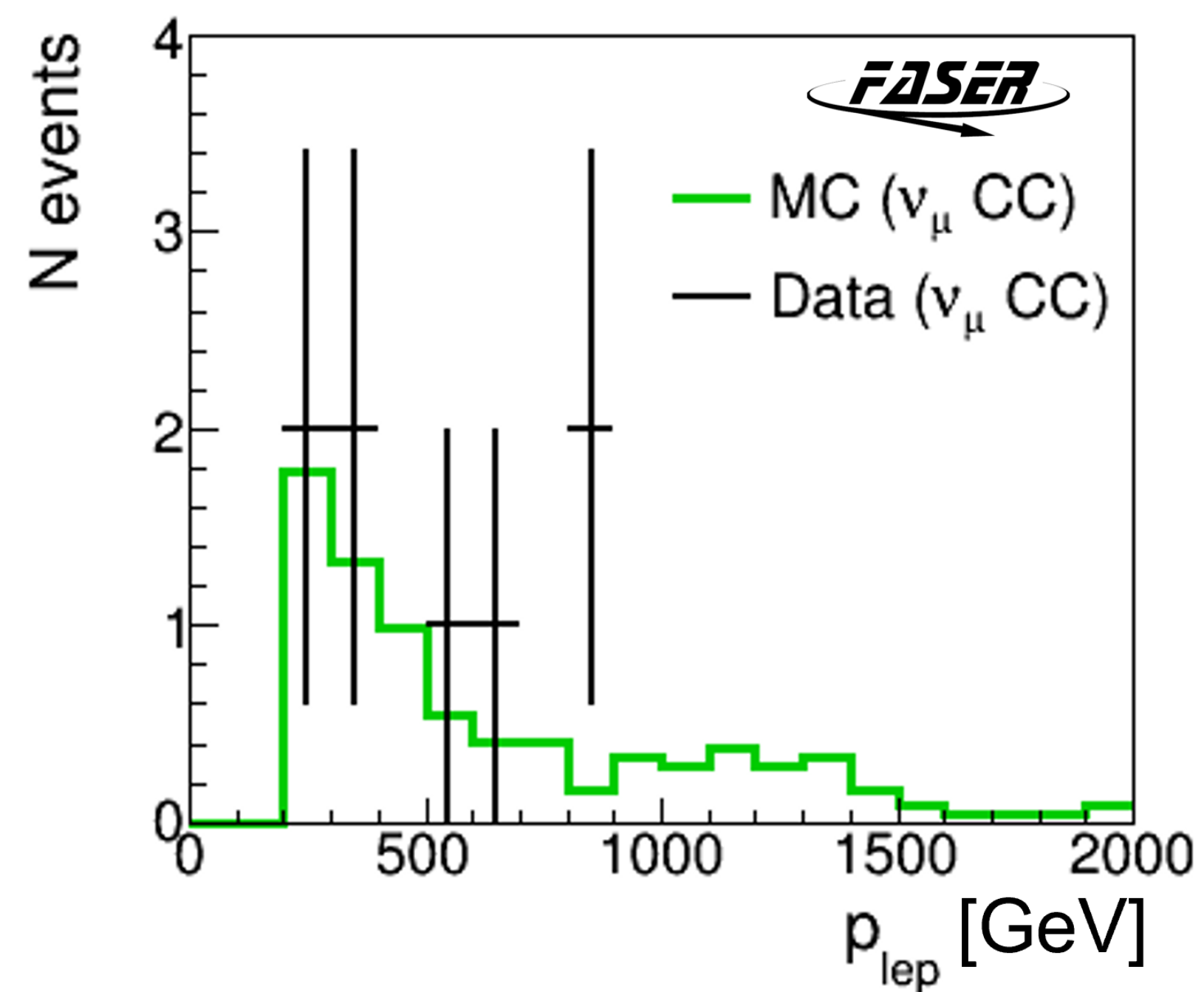


beam view





$\Delta\phi$ between
high-E charged lepton and
remaining particle system



First Measurement of the ν_e and ν_μ Interaction Cross Sections at the LHC

with FASER's Emulsion Detector

	background	expected	observed	significance
ν_e CC	$0.025^{+0.015}_{-0.010}$	1.1-3.3	4	5.2σ
ν_μ CC	$0.22^{+0.09}_{-0.07}$	6.5-12.4	8	5.7σ

<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2403.12520.pdf>

results from 128.6 Kg of the target
integrating 9.5 fb^{-1} in 2022

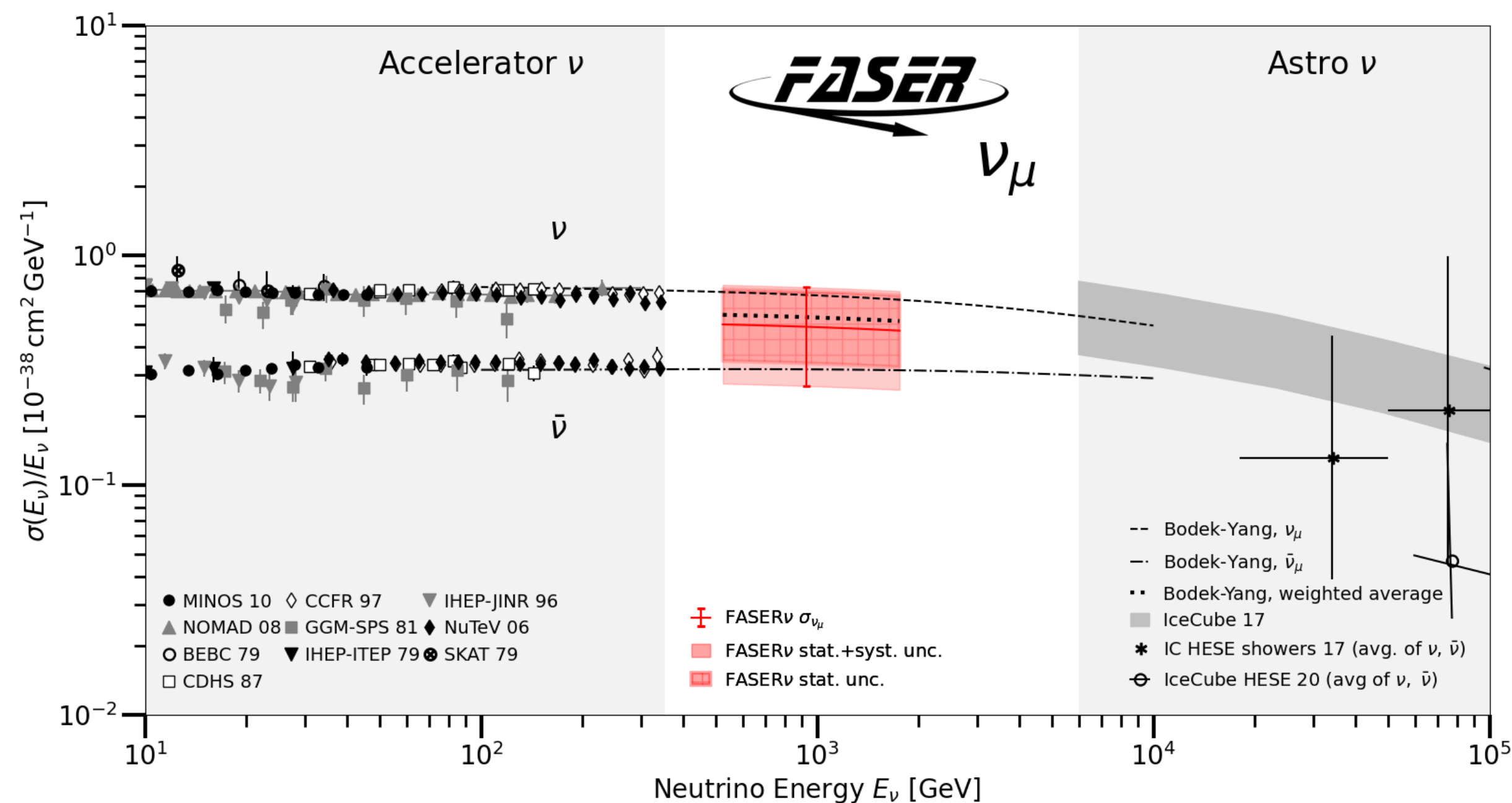
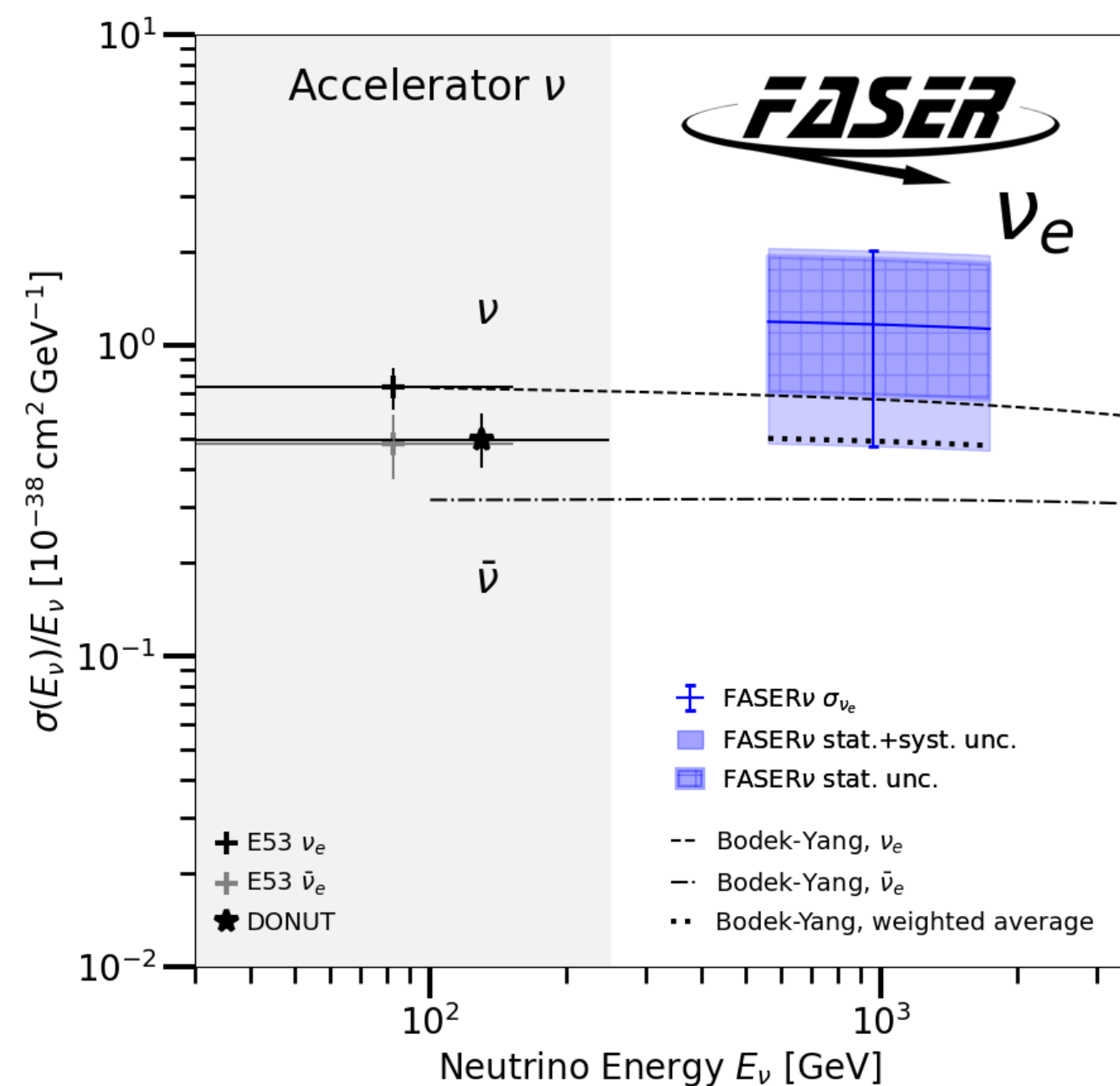


Figure 13: The measured cross section per nucleon for ν_e (left) and ν_μ (right). The dashed contours labelled “Bodek-Yang” are cross sections predicted by the Bodek-Yang model, as implemented in GENIE.

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS 131, 031802 (2023)

full 2022 data sample

very clean interactions in the inner fiducial volume of the target (signal acceptance 7.5%)

Observation of Collider Muon Neutrinos with the SND@LHC Experiment

	background	observed	significance
ν_μ CC	$0.086^{+0.038}_{-0.038}$	8	6.8σ

$7.2 < \eta < 8.4$
off-axis

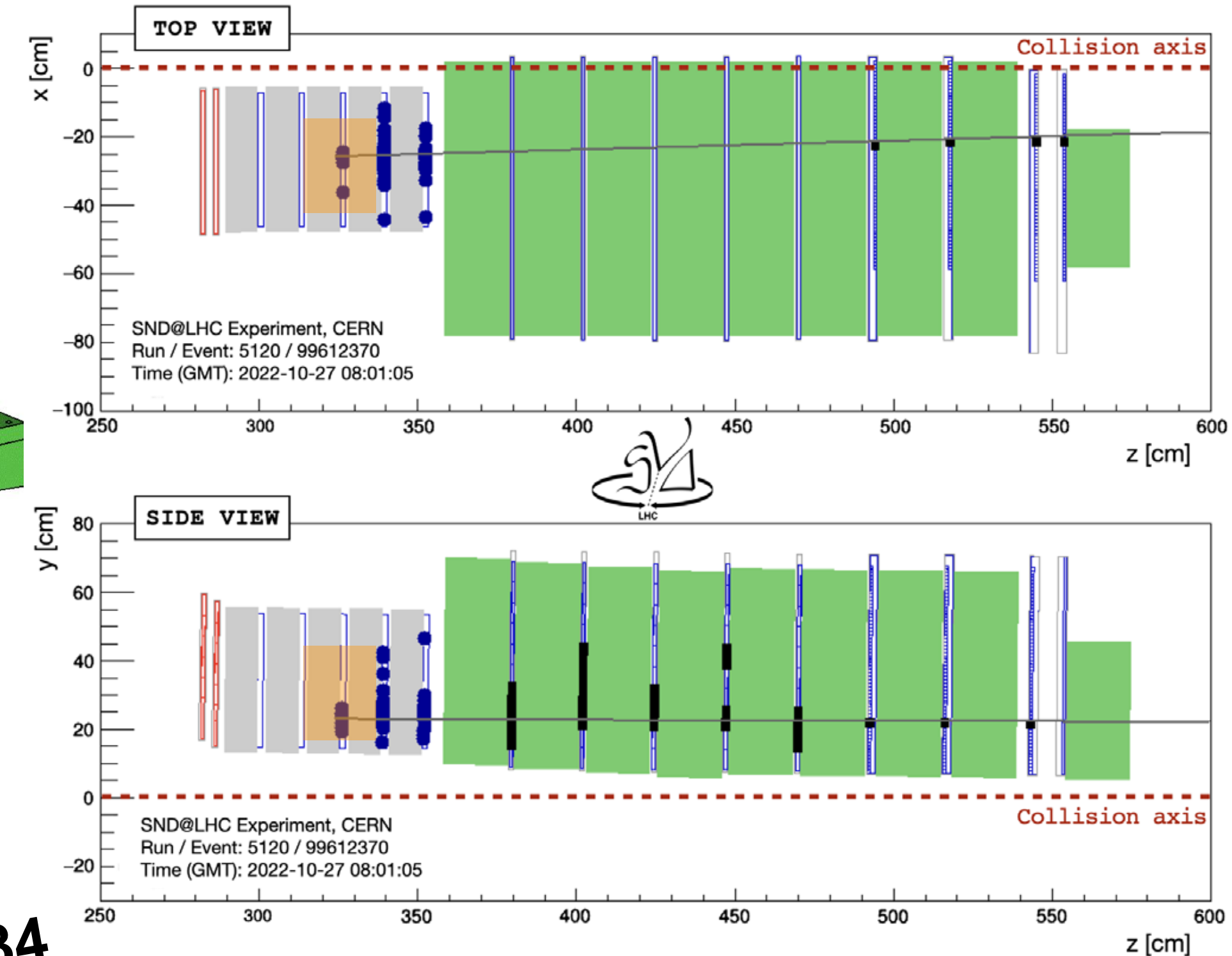
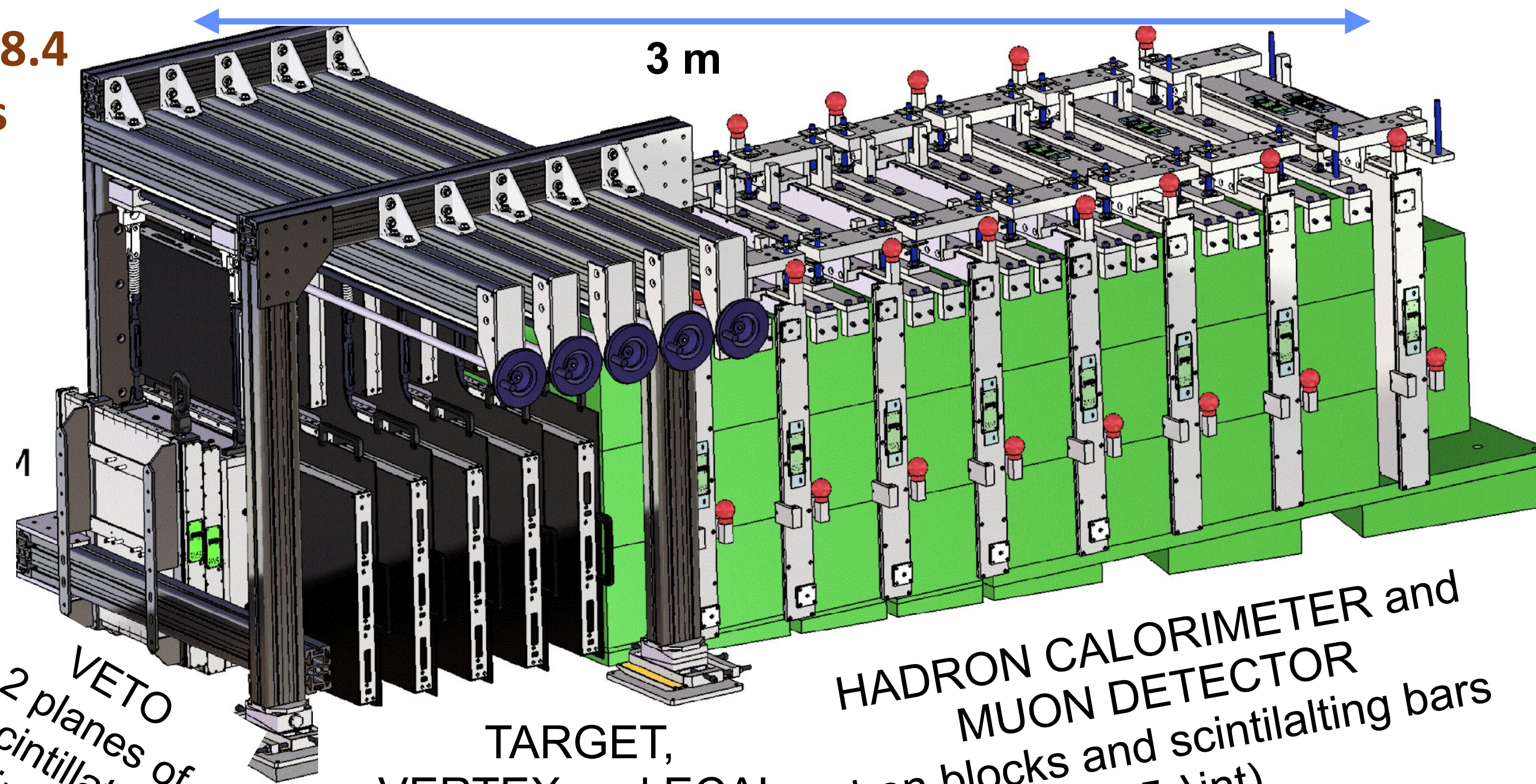


FIG. 2. Display of a ν_μ CC candidate event. Hits in the SciFi, and hadronic calorimeter and muon system are shown as blue markers and black bars, respectively, and the line represents the reconstructed muon track.

M.Dallavalle, SM@LHC, Rome, May 2024



● Beam collision axis

TARGET,
VERTEX and ECAL
295 layers of 1mm W +
emulsion in 5 walls,
interleaved with X-Y
Scifi Stations
(3 lint, 84 X0)
0.83 ton

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2210.02784>

	background	observed	significance
ν_μ CC	$0.25^{+0.06}_{-0.06}$	32	12σ

(C.Vilela at the 58th Recontres de Moriond, QCD, April 2024)

New this year
Updated analysis with 2023 data and extended fiducial volume.

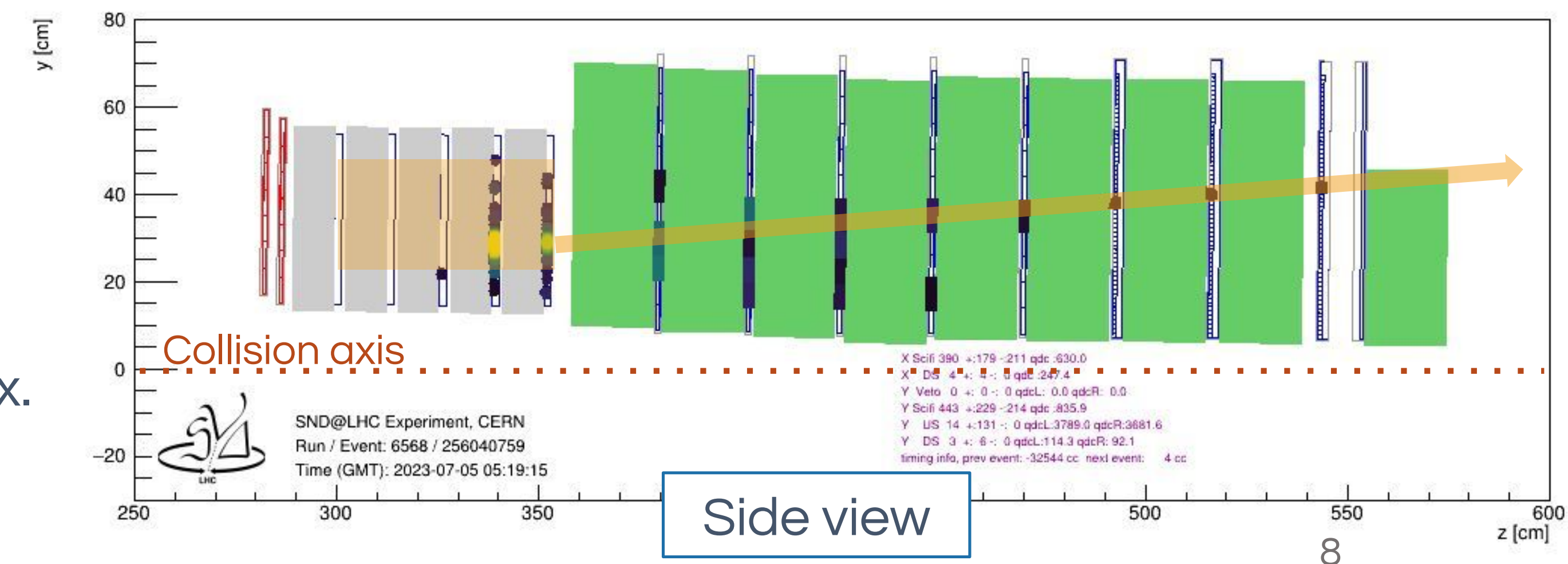
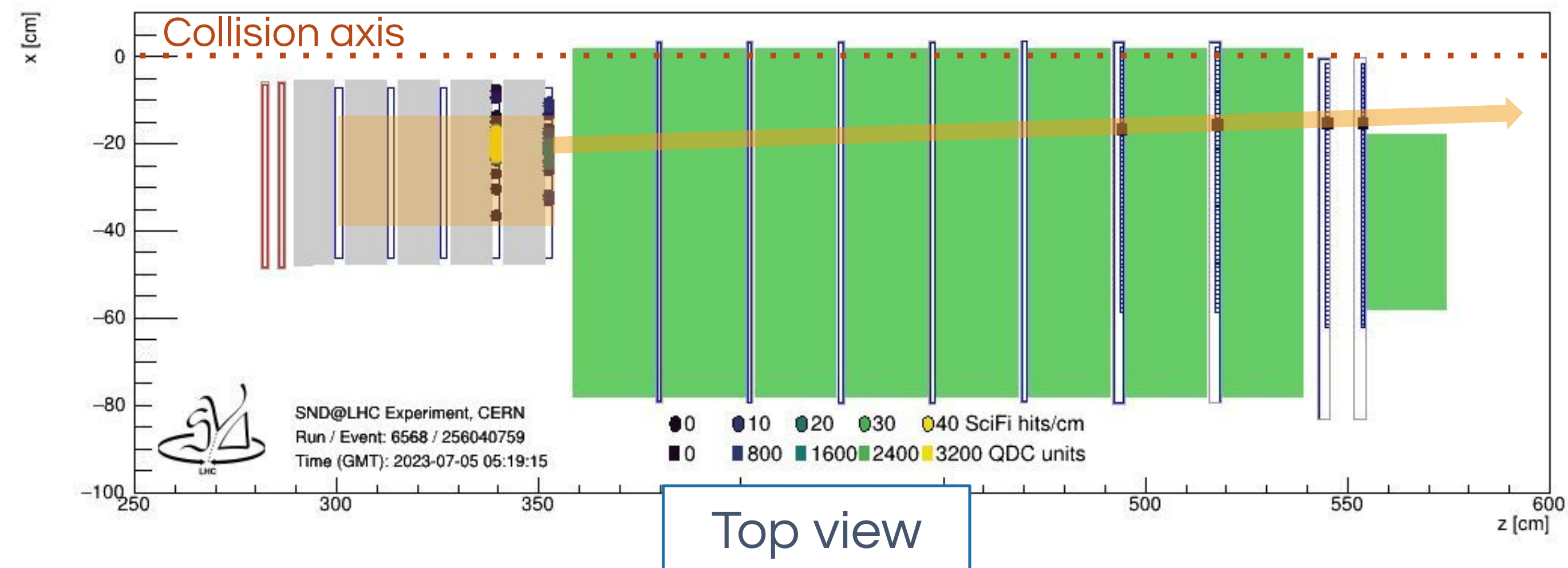
Event selection

Fiducial volume

- Reject events in first wall.
 - Previously used only walls 3 and 4.
- Reject side-entering backgrounds.
- Signal acceptance: 18%
 - Up from 7.5%.

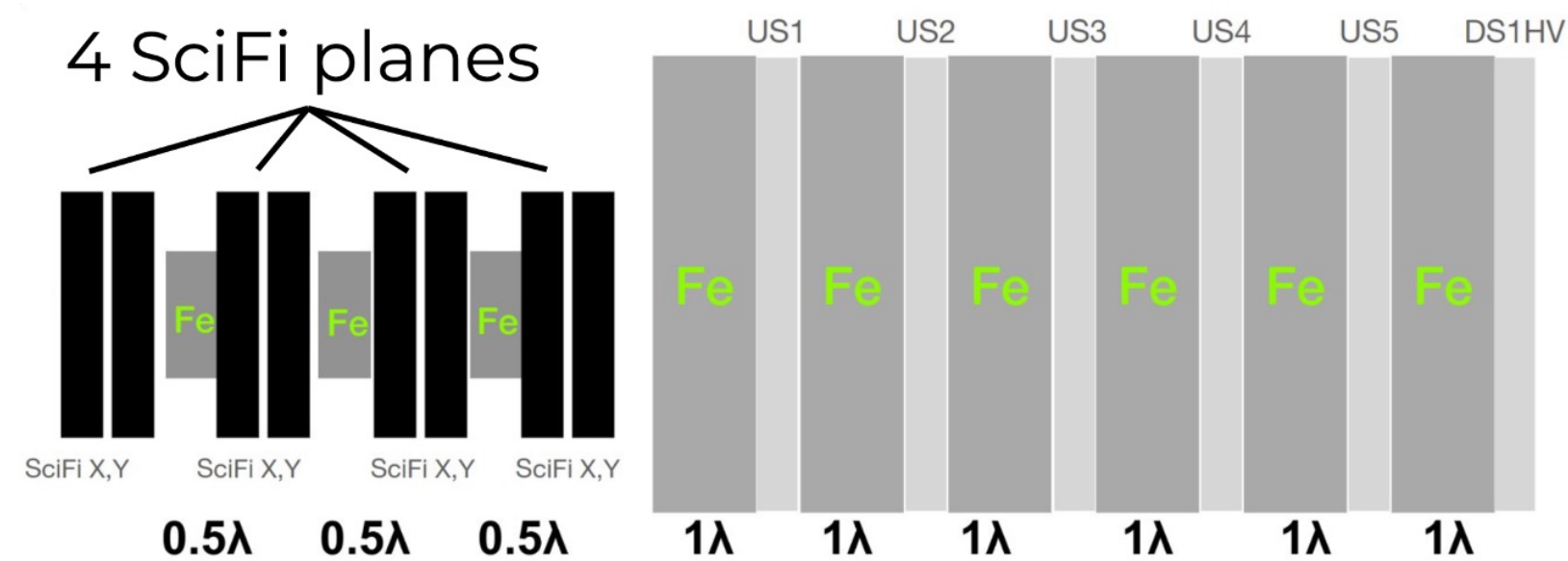
Muon neutrino identification

- Large scintillating fibre detector activity.
- Large HCal activity.
- One muon track associated to the vertex.
- Signal selection efficiency: 35%

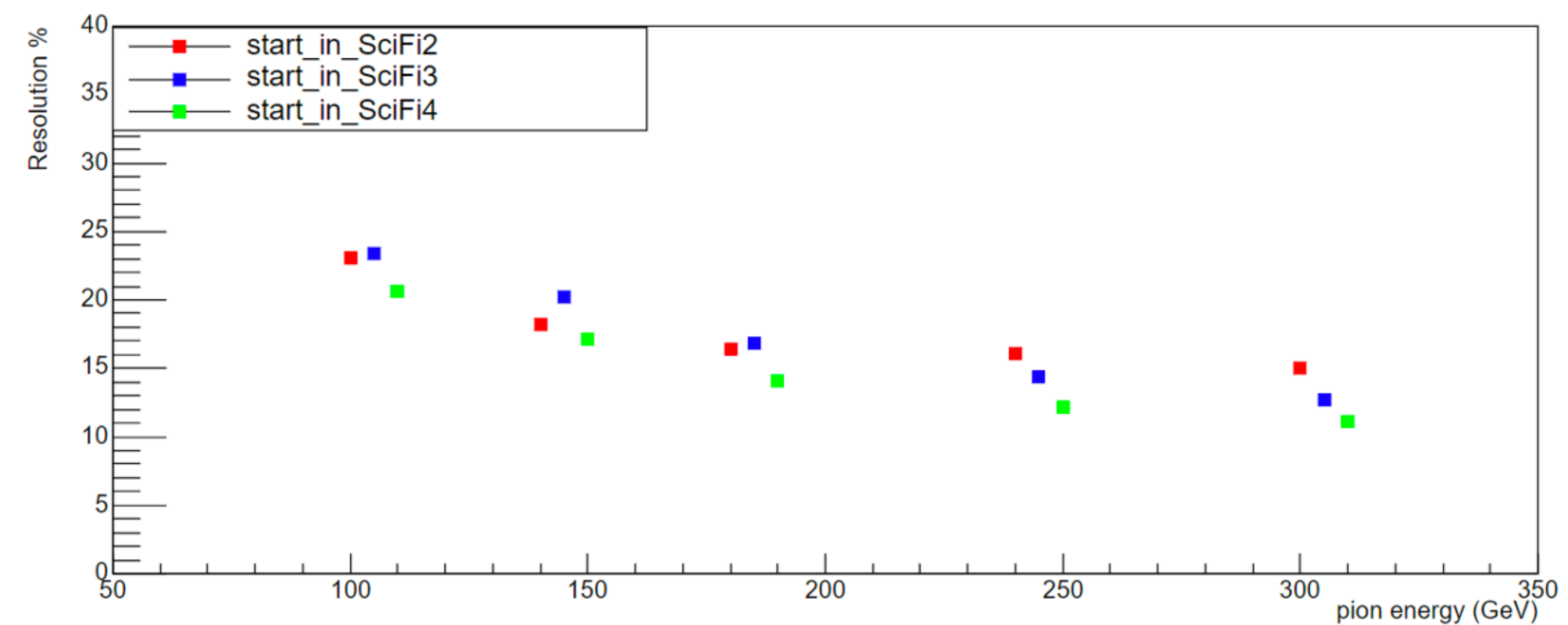
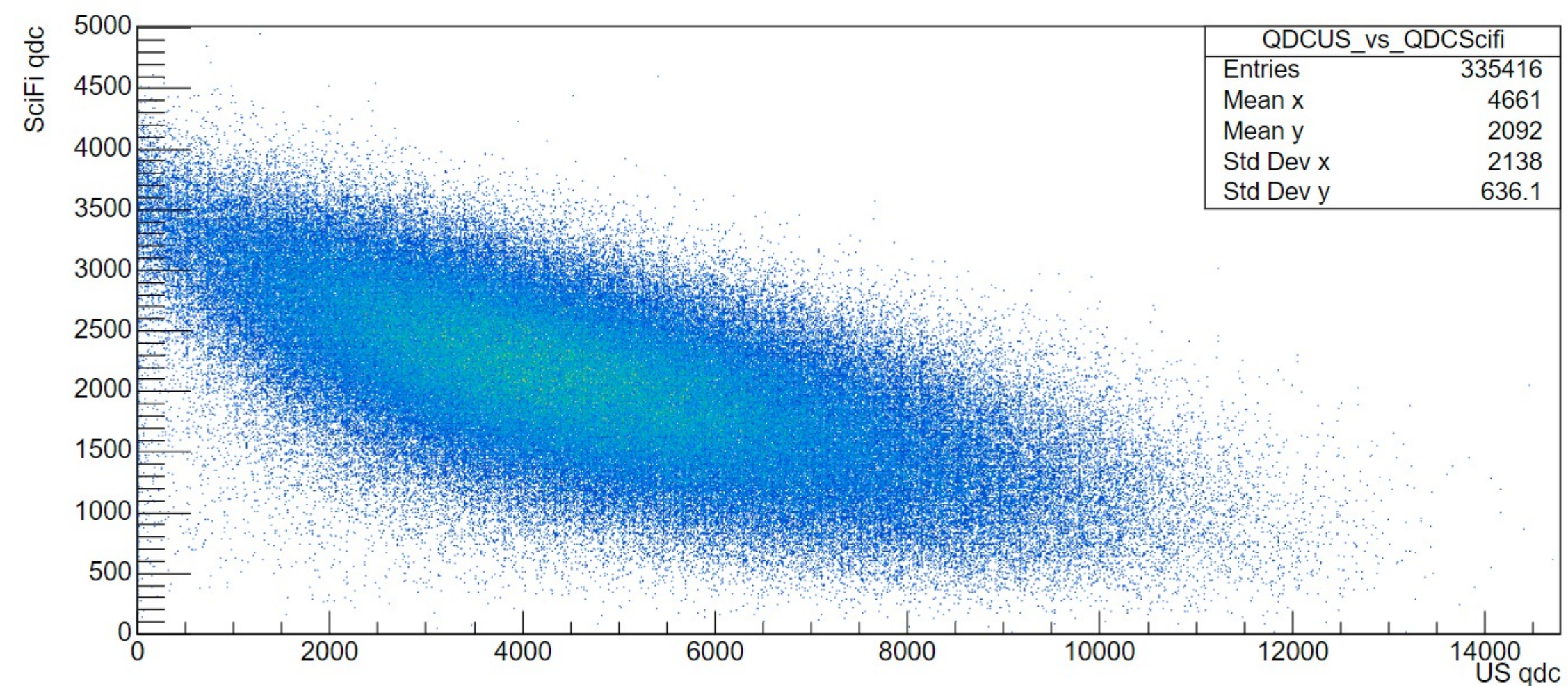
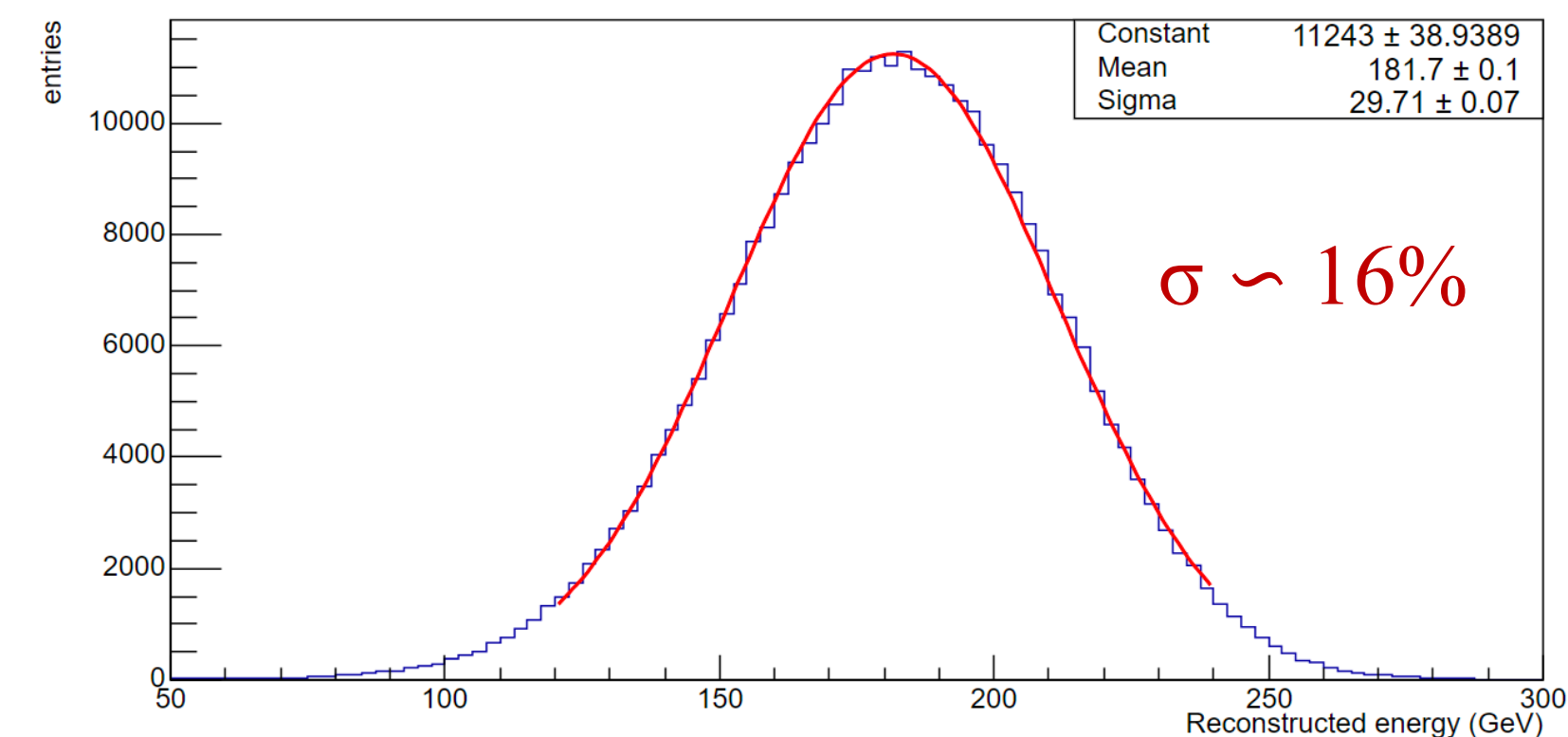


SND@LHC calibration of hadron energy measurement

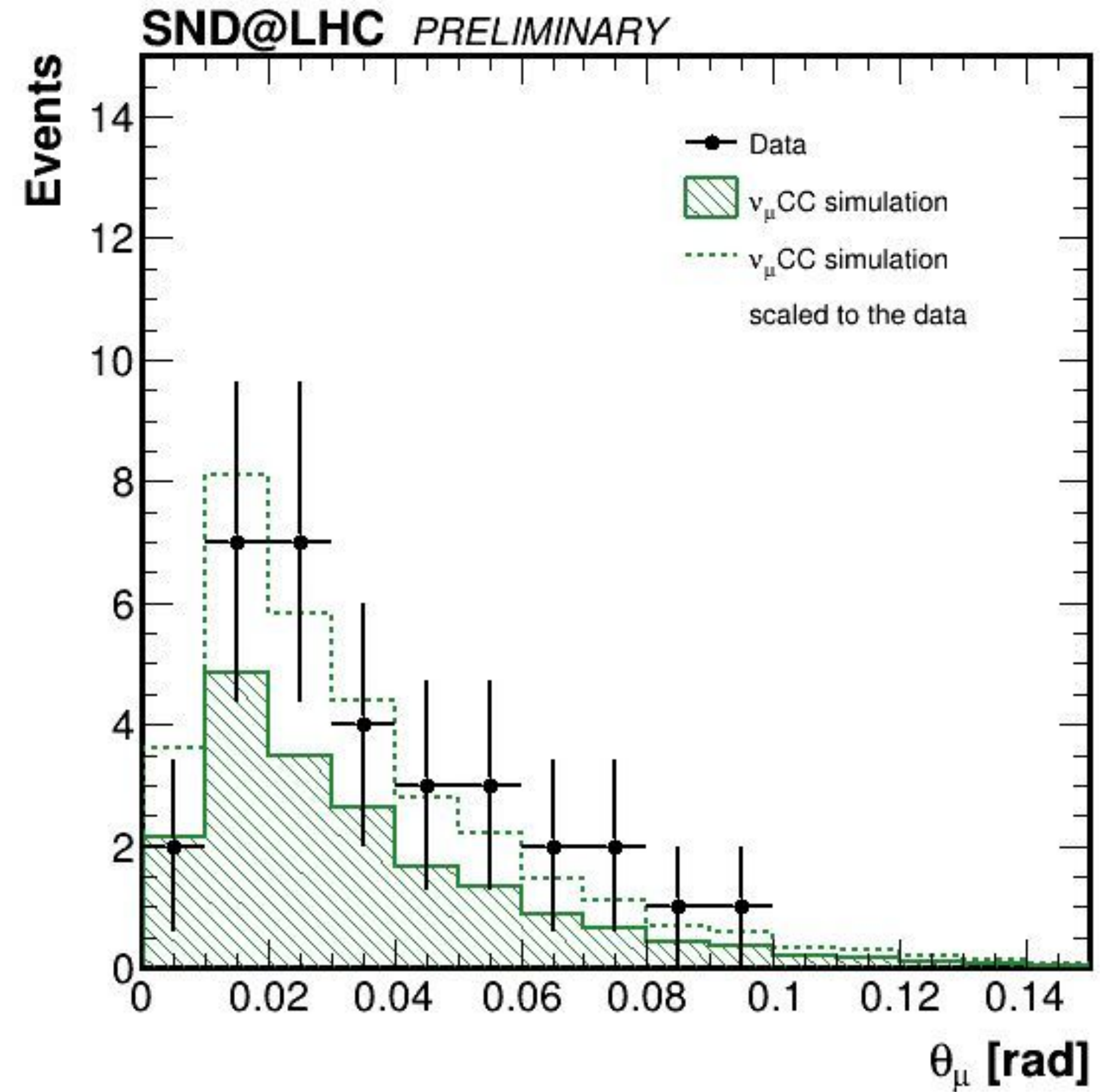
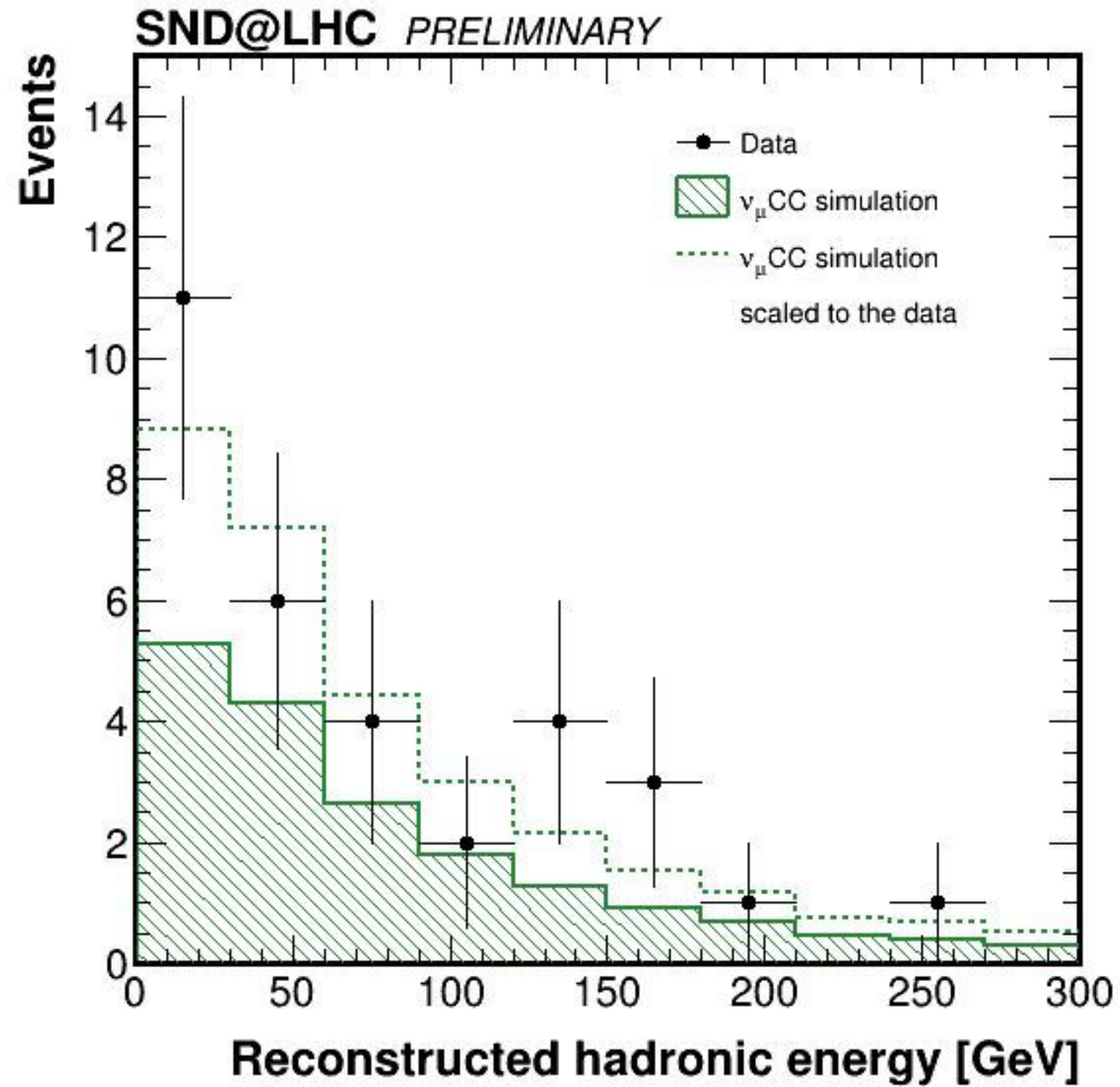
- ◆ in summer 2023 with hadron beams from SPS



Reconstructed energy for 180 GeV π



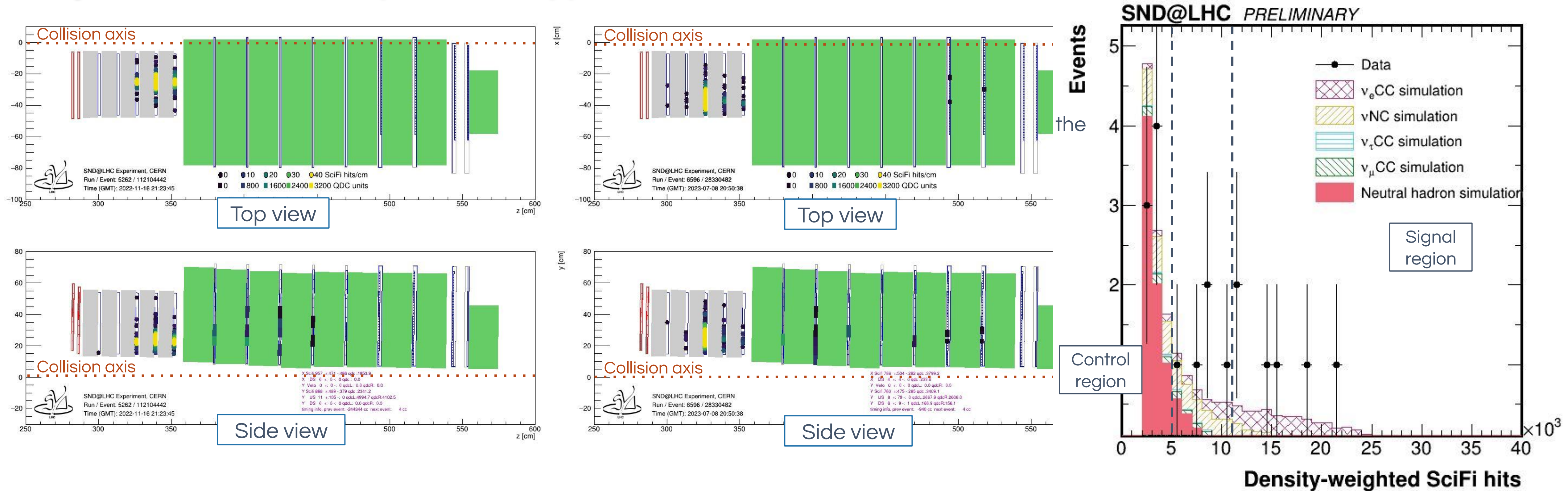
SND@LHC new ν_μ results 2024



Next: determination of hadronic shower direction will allow for complete reconstruction of event kinematics and measurement of incoming neutrino energy

0μ events SND@LHC

ν_e CC interactions (+ ν_τ CC 0μ) and Neutral Currents



	background	observed	significance
0μ	$0.13^{+0.04}_{-0.04}$	6	5.8σ

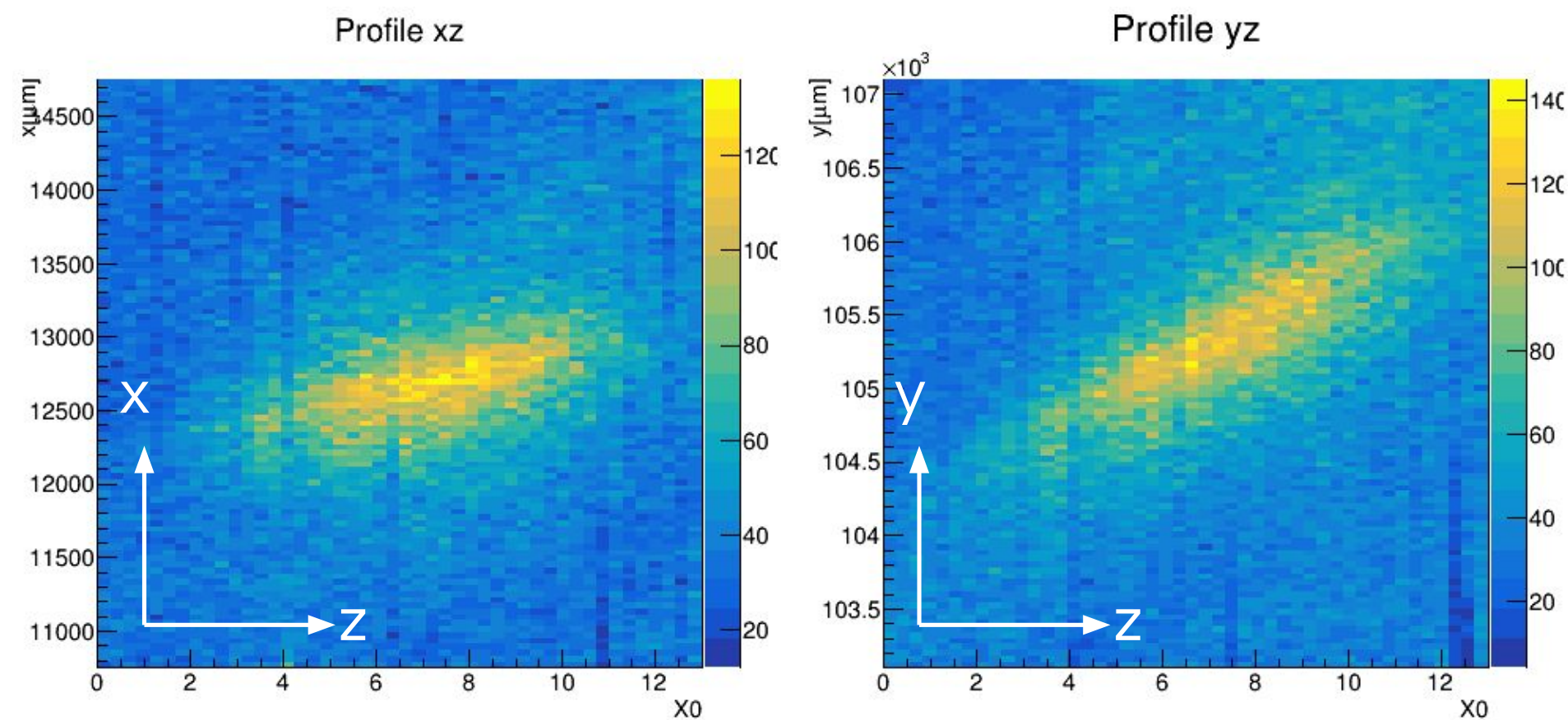
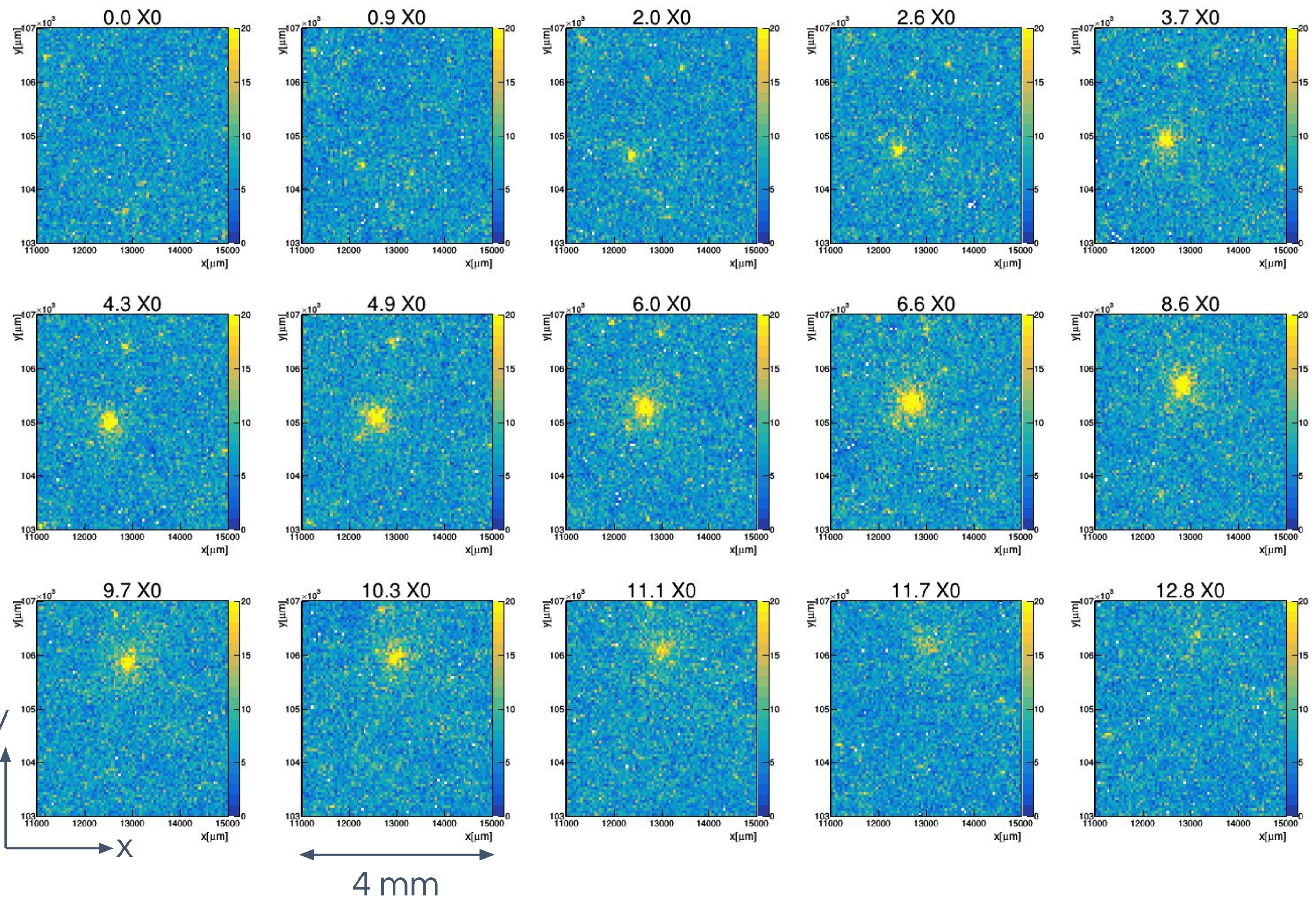
ν_e CC observation in emulsions

Strategy

- Identify regions of high track density in the emulsions.
- Consistent with the expectation of electromagnetic shower development.
- Search for neutral vertices associated to identified showers.

Status

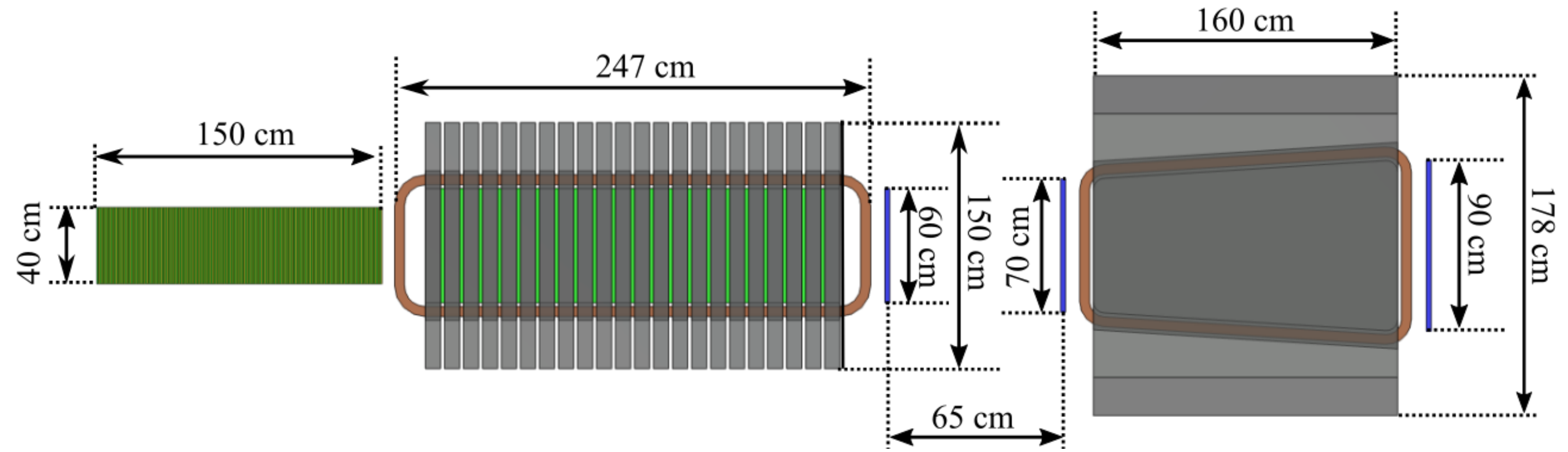
- Electromagnetic shower patterns identified.
- Vertex association ongoing.



SND@LHC upgrade for LHC Run4

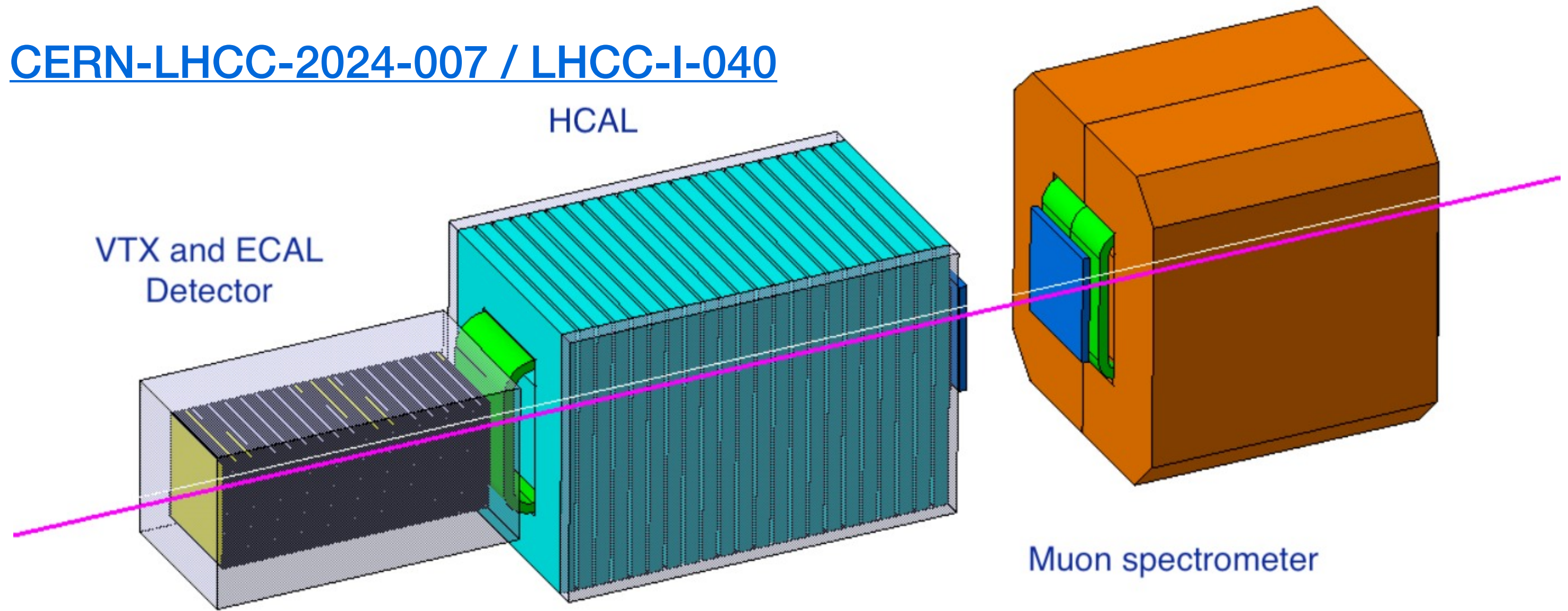
(AdvancedSND)

- ◆ slightly closer to the collision axis $\eta > 7.9$
- ◆ a new target of 2 tons with up to 120 layers of tungsten and silicon detectors to replace emulsions
- ◆ tenfold increase in statistics
- ◆ improved spectrometer capabilities, to separate neutrino and anti-neutrino CC interactions
- ◆ possibility of triggering the ATLAS event read-out when a neutrino is tagged in AdvSND



AdvSND Letter of Intent:

[CERN-LHCC-2024-007 / LHCC-I-040](#)



CONCLUSIONS

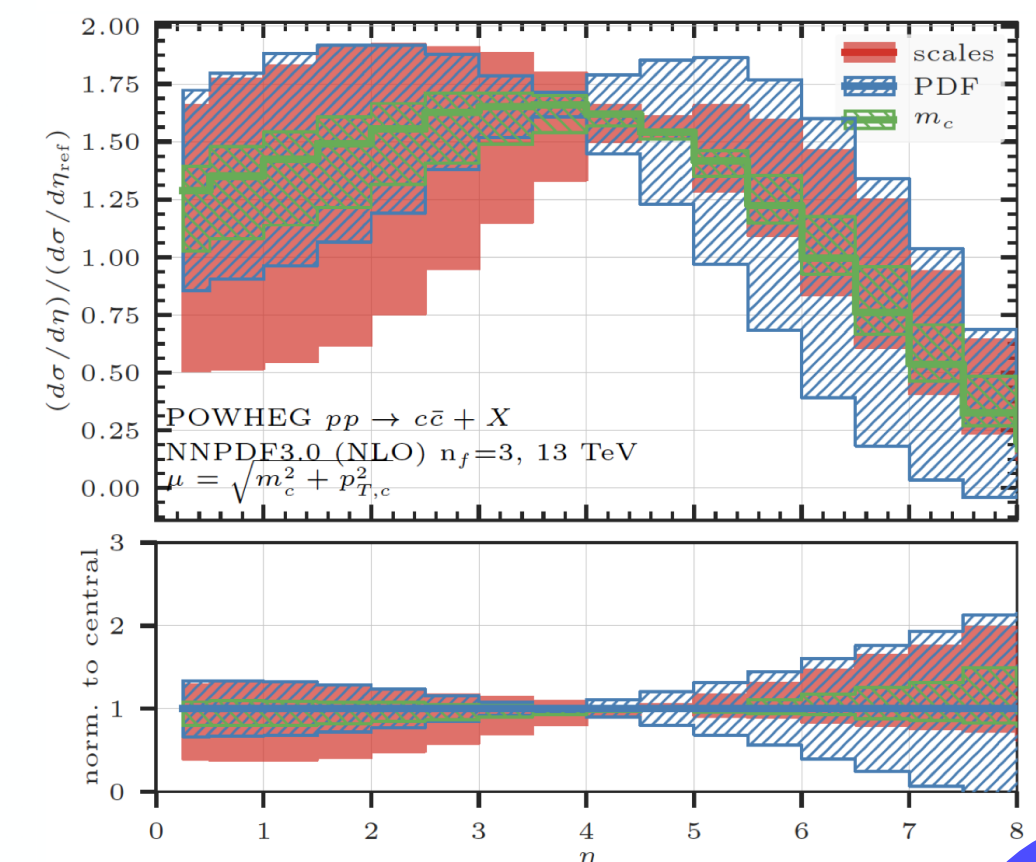
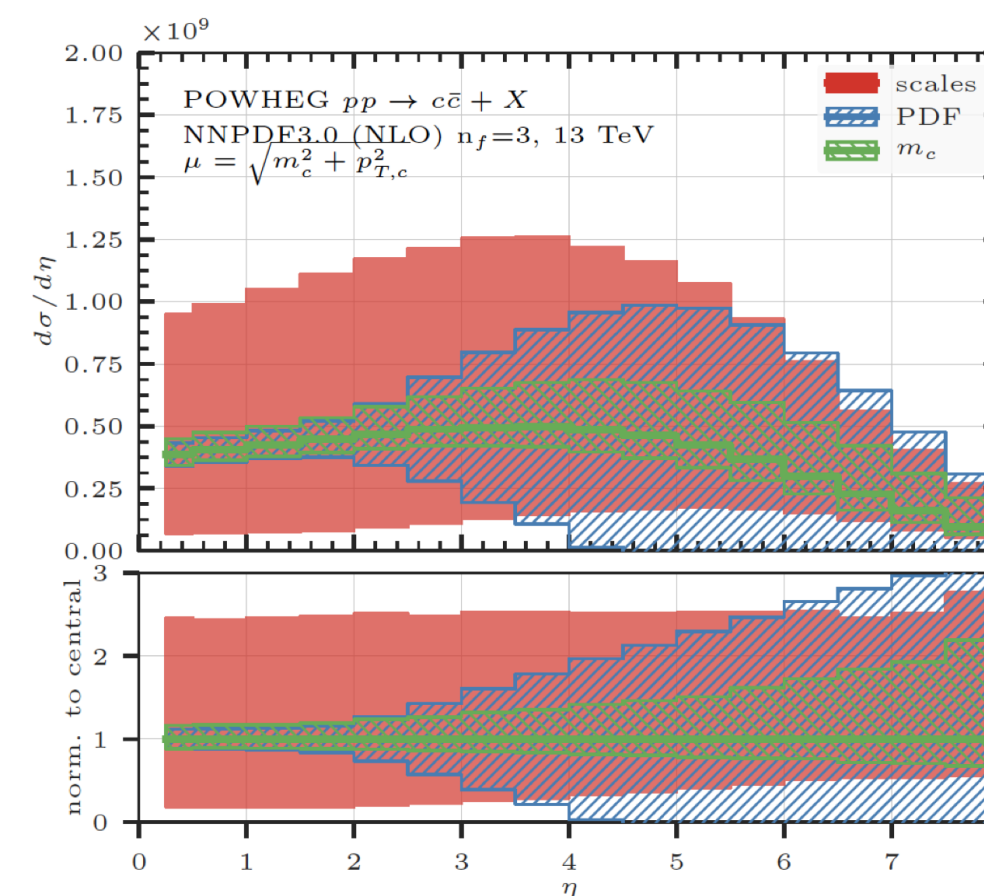
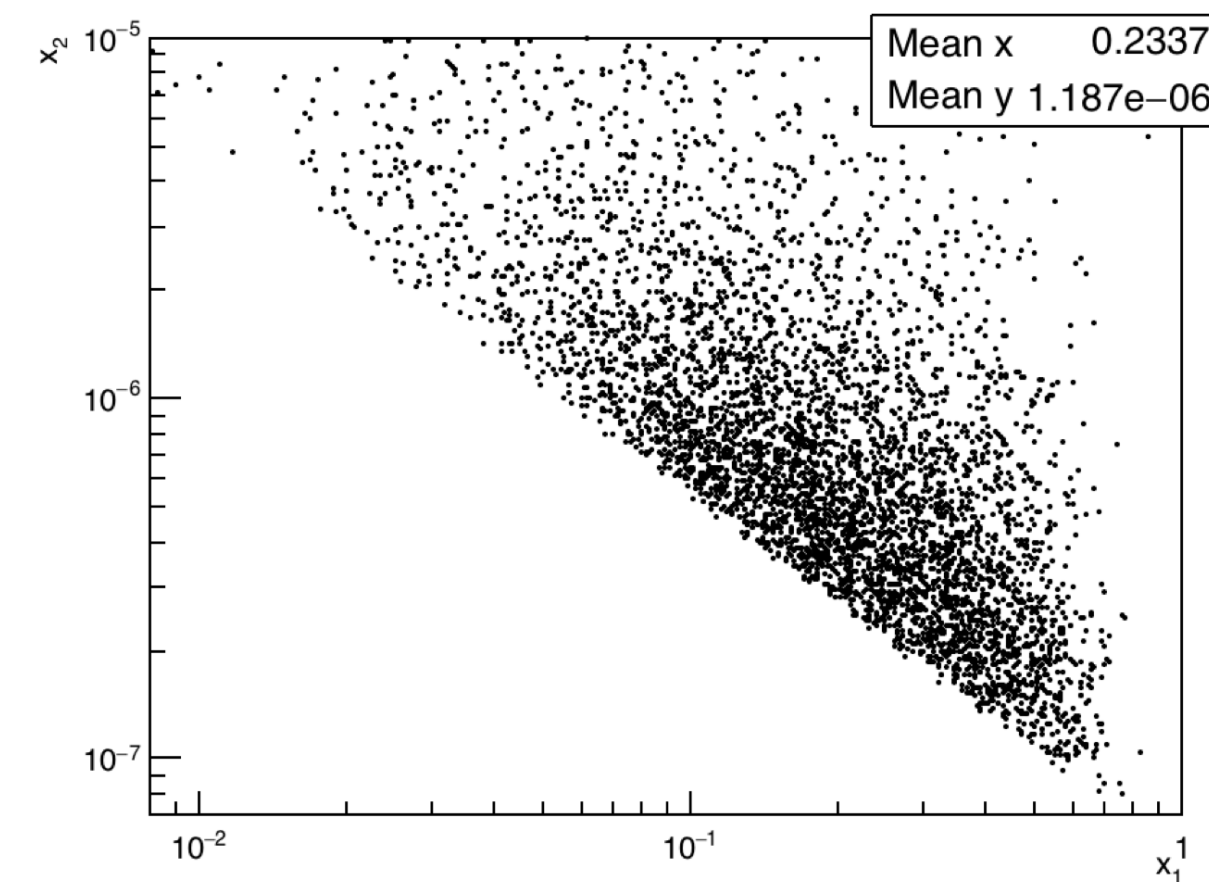
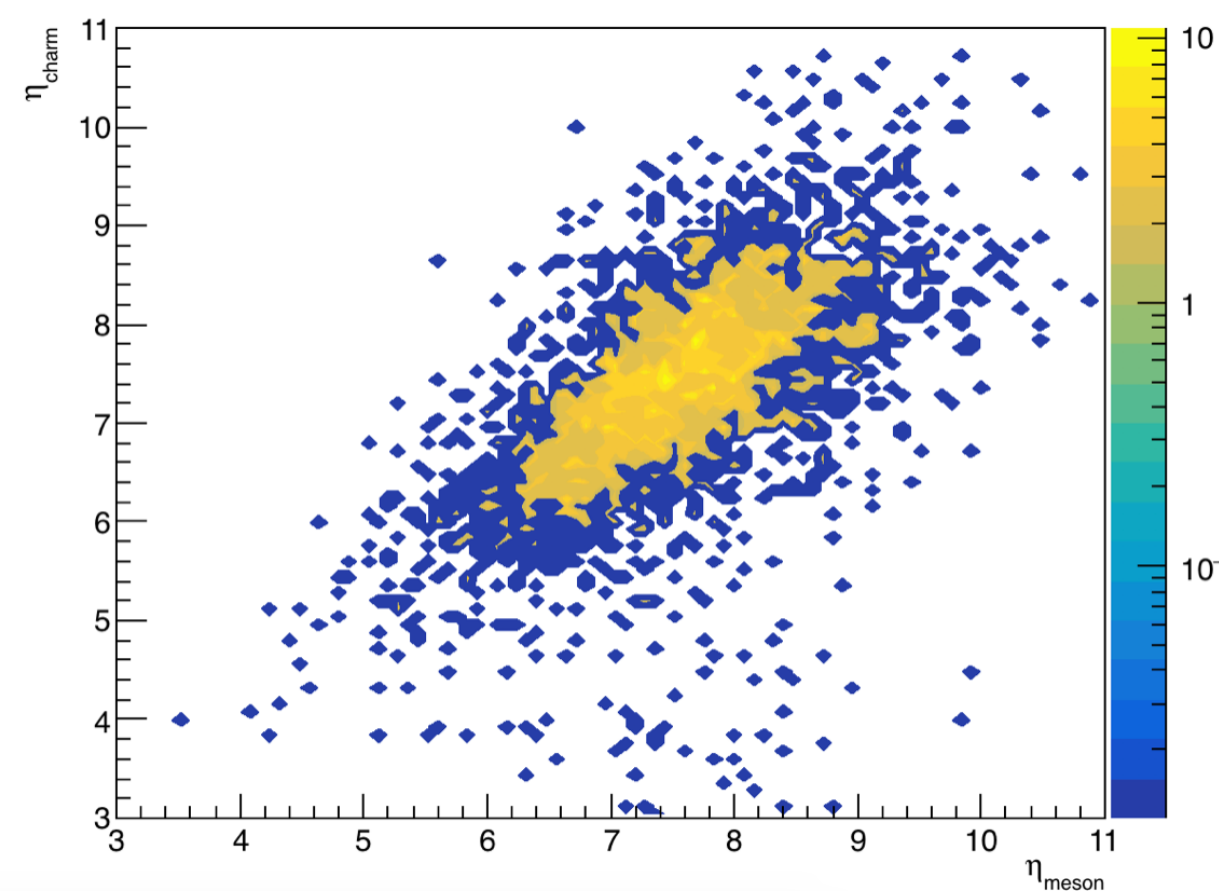
- ◆ Since 2022 two experiments study very forward ν_e , ν_μ , ν_τ from LHC collisions ($pp \rightarrow \nu X$):
 - SND@LHC in $7.2 < \eta < 8.4$, FASER in $\eta > 8.8$
 - those neutrinos expand the Physics reach of LHC:
 - carry information on parton fractional momenta down to 10^{-6} and can constrain QCD uncertainties
 - allow for studying νN interactions for all three flavors at energies in the E_ν TeV range
- ◆ the experiments already collected 70 fb^{-1} in 2022-23 and will collect 250 fb^{-1} by the end of LHC Run3
- ◆ First measurements are coming out:
 - both experiments neatly detected ν_μ and ν_e events over a negligible background
 - FASER has performed a first measurement of $\nu_\mu N$ and $\nu_e N$ CC interaction cross sections
- ◆ the experiments plan to continue data taking also in HL-LHC

additional material

Neutrino physics: QCD

[LHCC-P-016] [M. V. Garzelli, SND@LHC open session 16/06/2022]

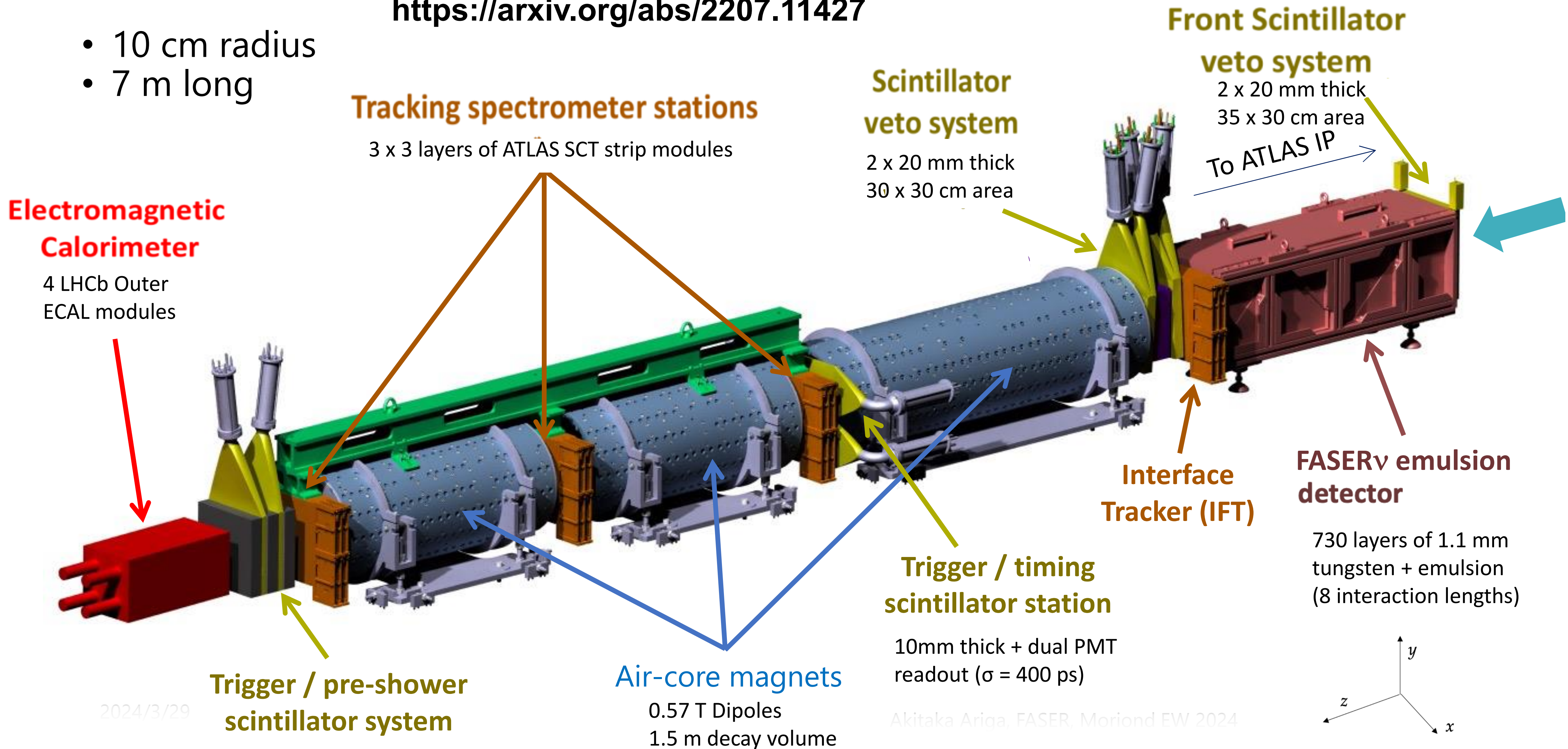
- measurement of the charmed hadrons can be translated into measurement of the corresponding open charm production
 - angular correlation between charmed hadron and parent charm
- charm production at LHC dominated by gluon-gluon scattering
- average lowest momentum fraction accessible at SND@LHC $\sim 10^{-6}$
 - here, gluon PDF completely unknown, theory work ongoing on resummation
- constrain PDF with SND@LHC data
 - taking ratio of cross-sections at different energies/rapidities reduces scale uncertainty [JHEP 11 (2015) 009]
 - use LHCb measurement in $\eta < 4.5$, $\sqrt{s} = 7, 13$ TeVs [Nucl. Phys. B871 (2013) 1-20] [JHEP 03 (2016) 159]



FASER detector

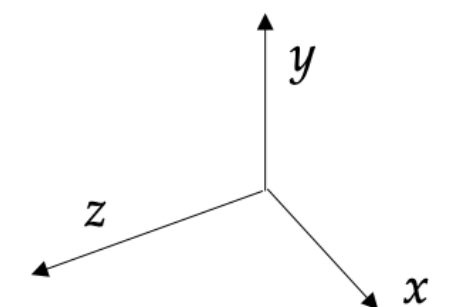
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2207.11427>

- 10 cm radius
- 7 m long



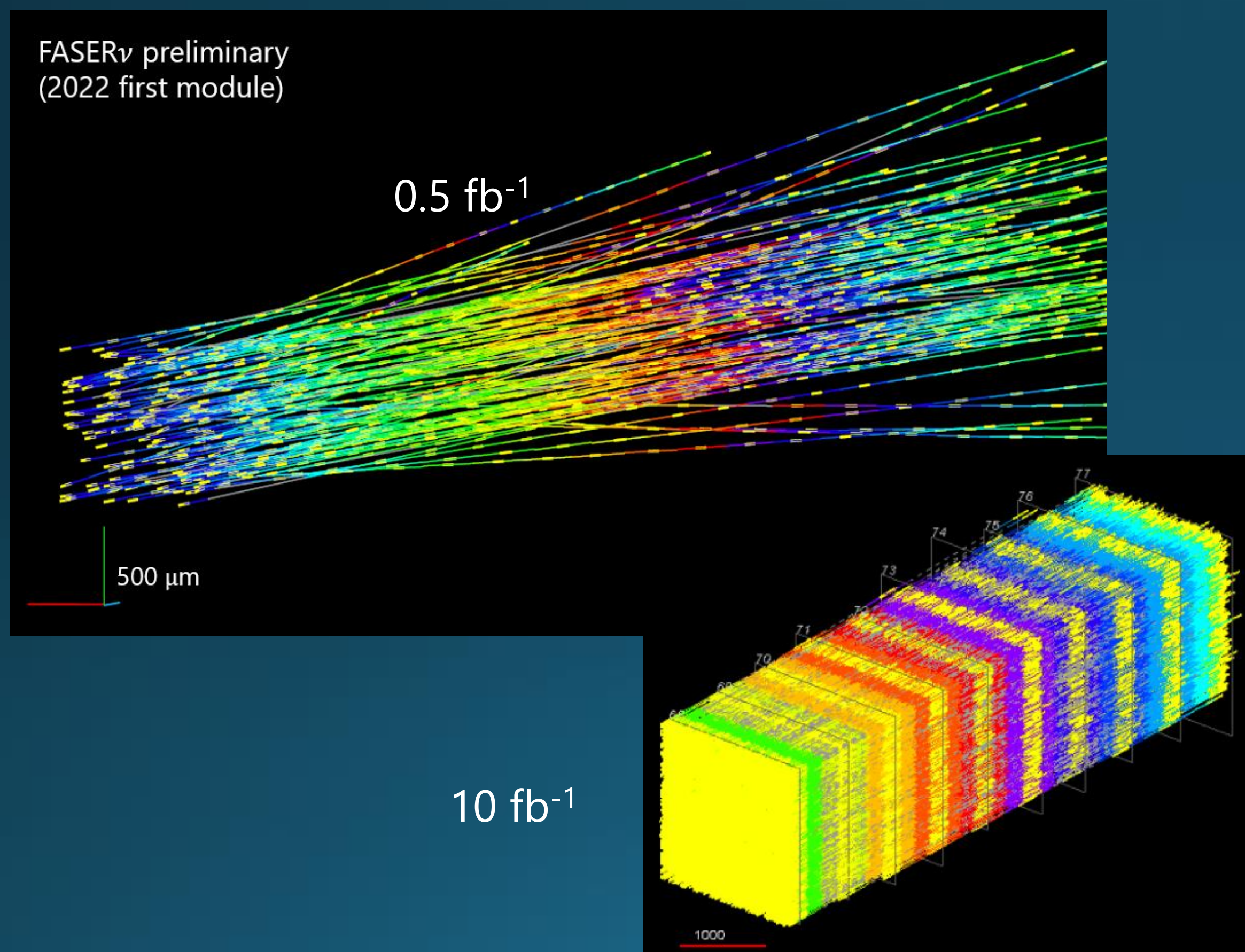
2024/3/29

Akitaka Ariga, FASER, Moriond EW 2024

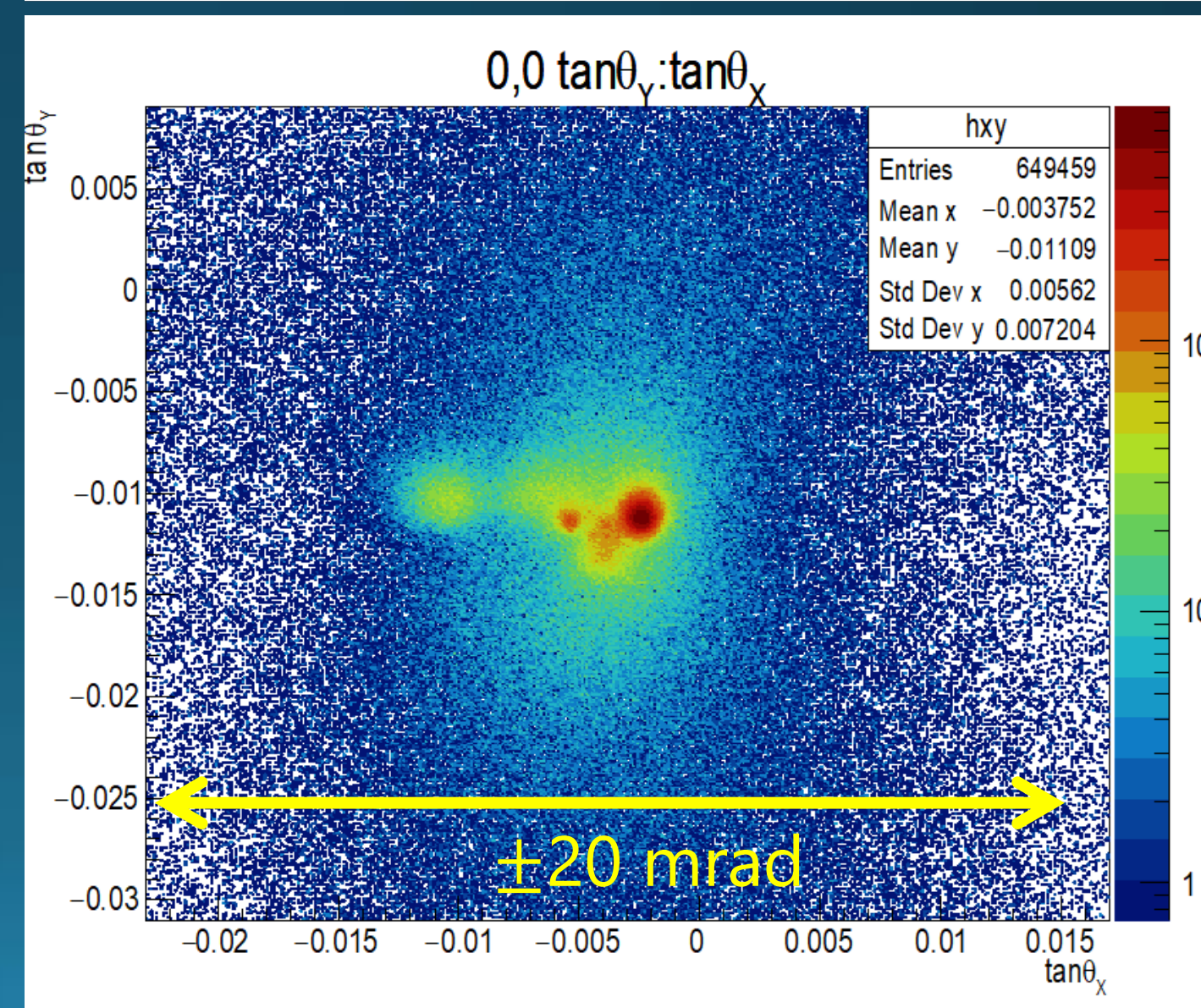
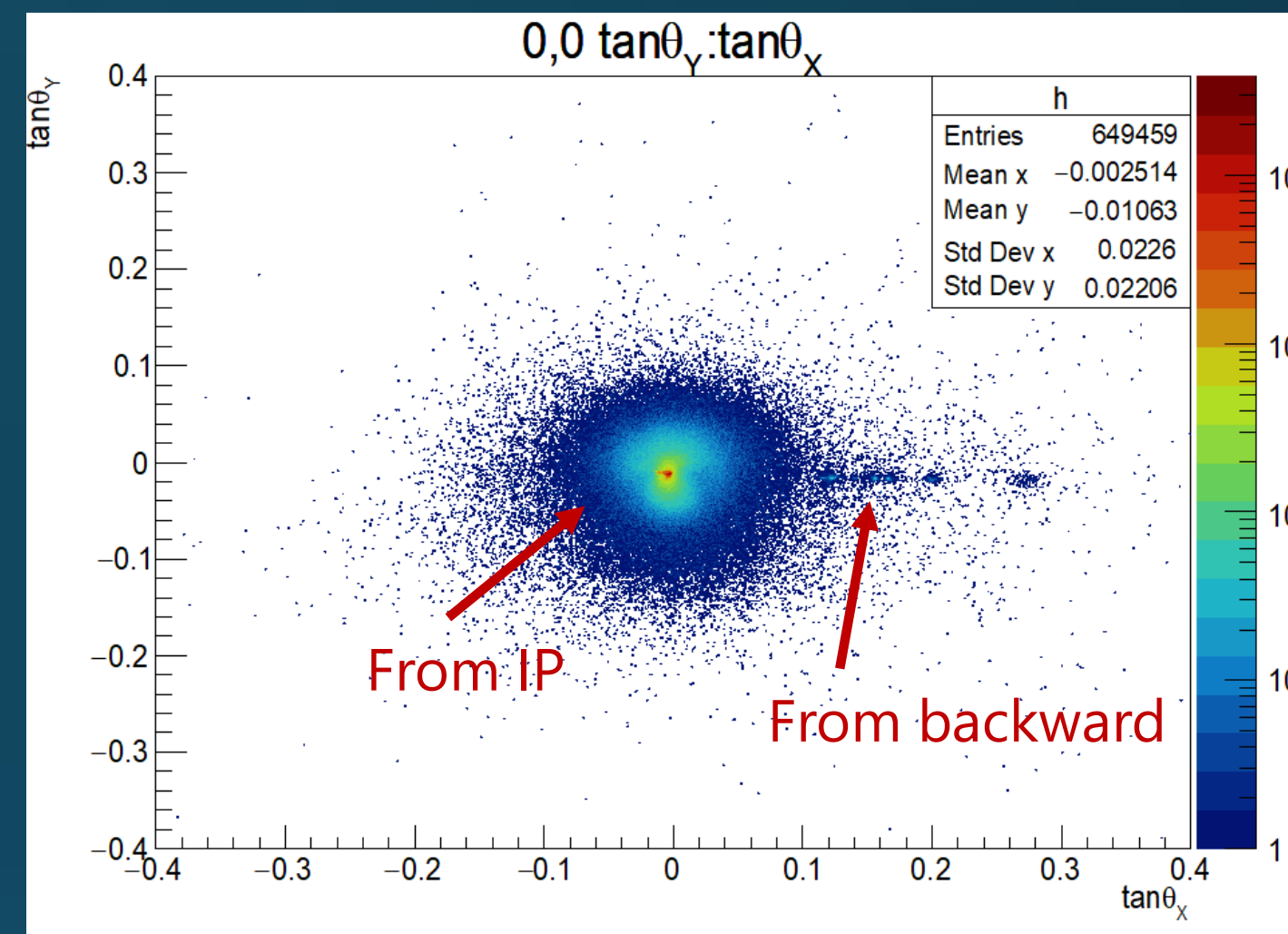


Muons at FASER site

- Muons brings rich info to validate beamline simulation
- Eventually we could validate hadron production models at p - p collisions



Angular distribution (Data)

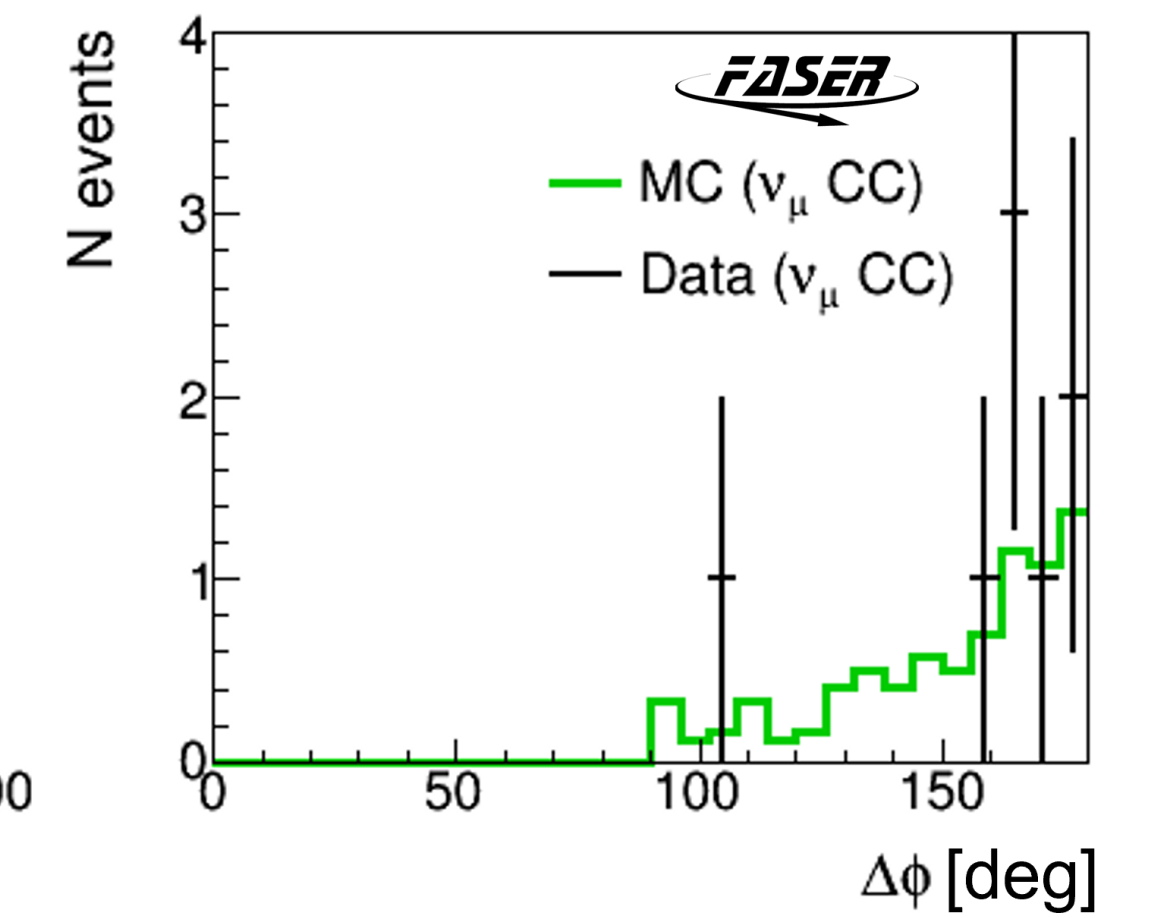
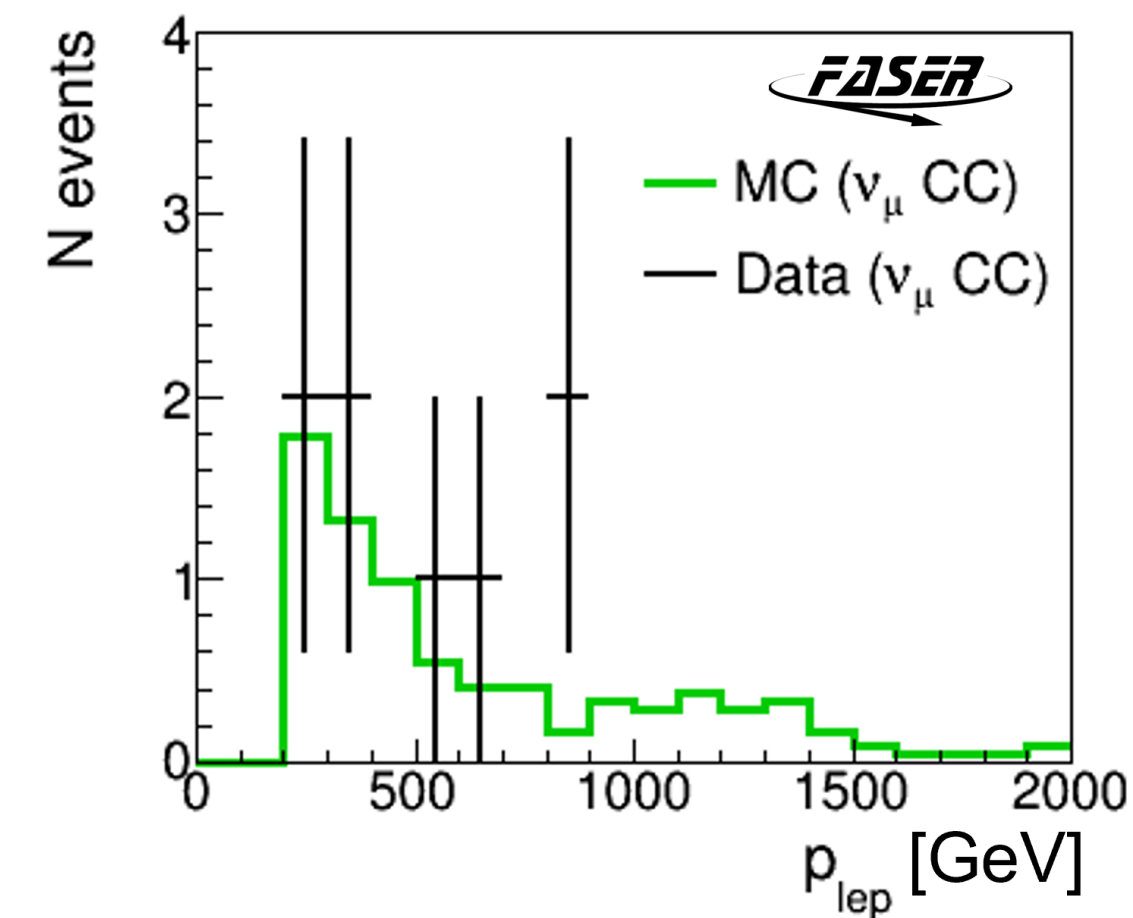
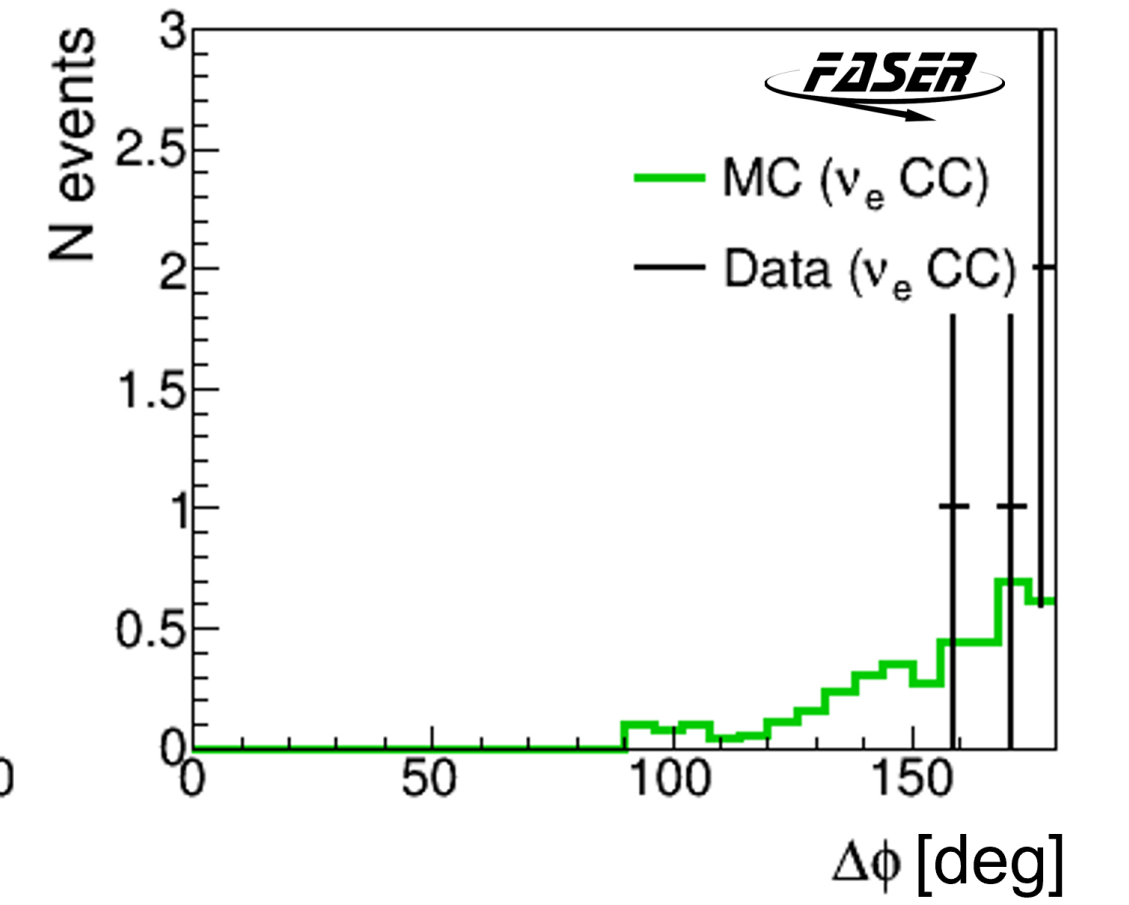
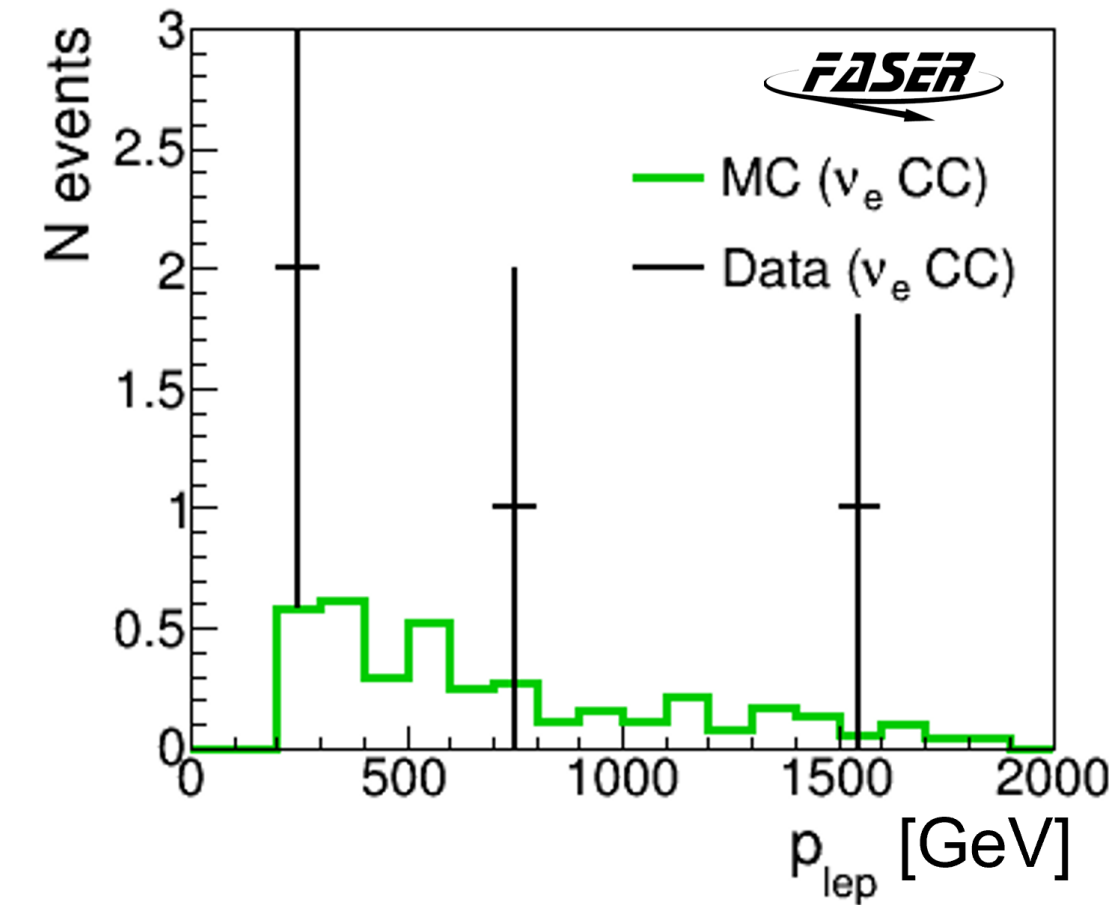


FASER
preliminary

Table 3: The number of MC reconstructed events of neutral-hadron interactions satisfying the ν_e and ν_μ CC event selection. The scaling factor shows the ratio of the data luminosity to the MC luminosity.

Hadron type	K_L	n	Λ
Events simulated ($E_h > 200$ GeV)	13497	13191	13902
Events selected as ν_e CC	0	0	0
Events selected as ν_μ CC	6	11	5
Scaling factor (data/MC)	1/232	1/256	1/423

Hadron type	K_S	\bar{n}	$\bar{\Lambda}$
Events reconstructed ($E_h > 200$ GeV)	7113	5827	5368
Events selected as ν_e CC	1	0	0
Events selected as ν_μ CC	3	3	4
Scaling factor (data/MC)	1/436	1/569	1/630

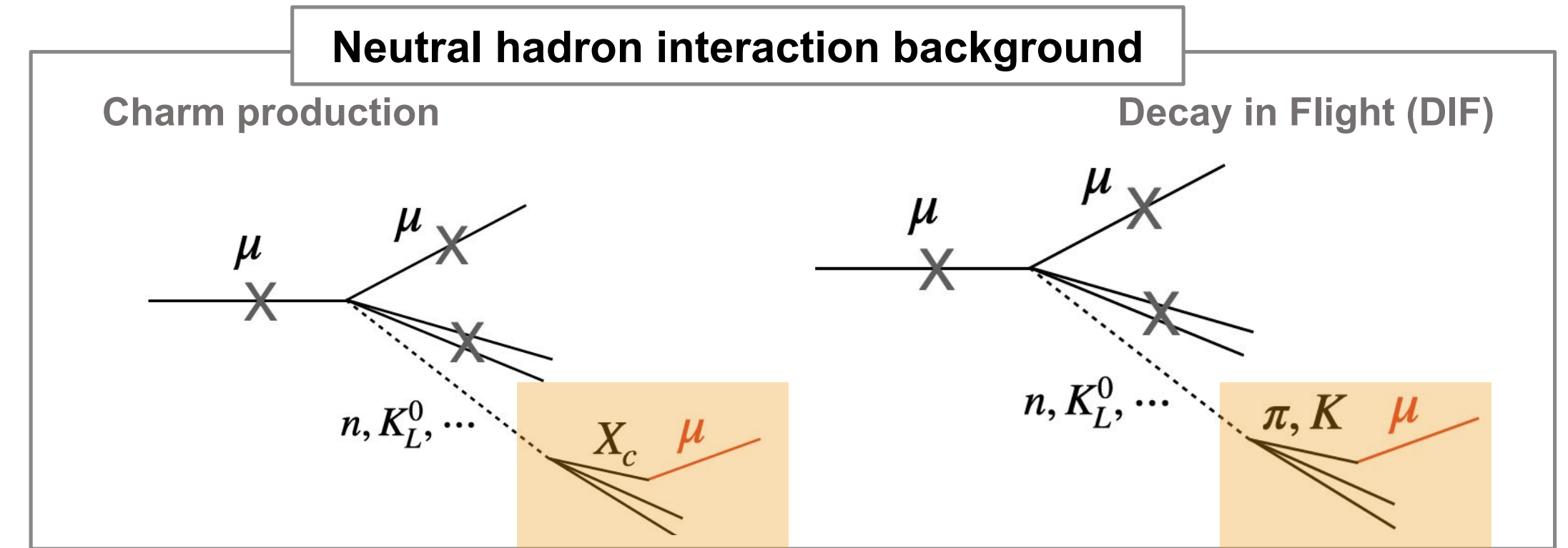


$\Delta\phi$ between lepton and hadronic system

Muon flux measurement

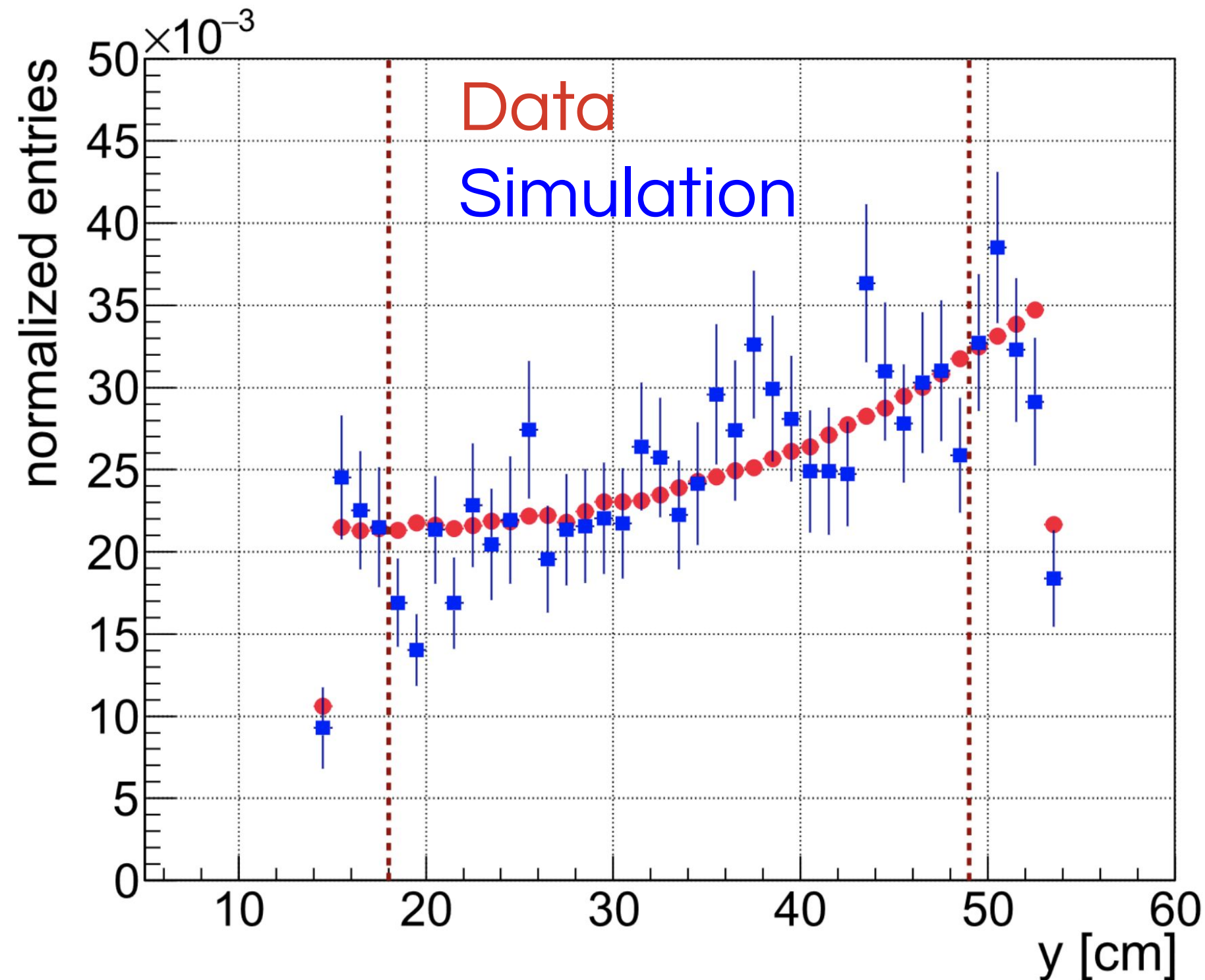
Eur. Phys. J. C (2024) 84: 90

- Backgrounds to neutrino signals in SND@LHC are mainly due to muon interactions in the tunnel walls.
- Precise measurements of the muon flux allow for validating and constraining our background model.



:= within SND@LHC acceptance

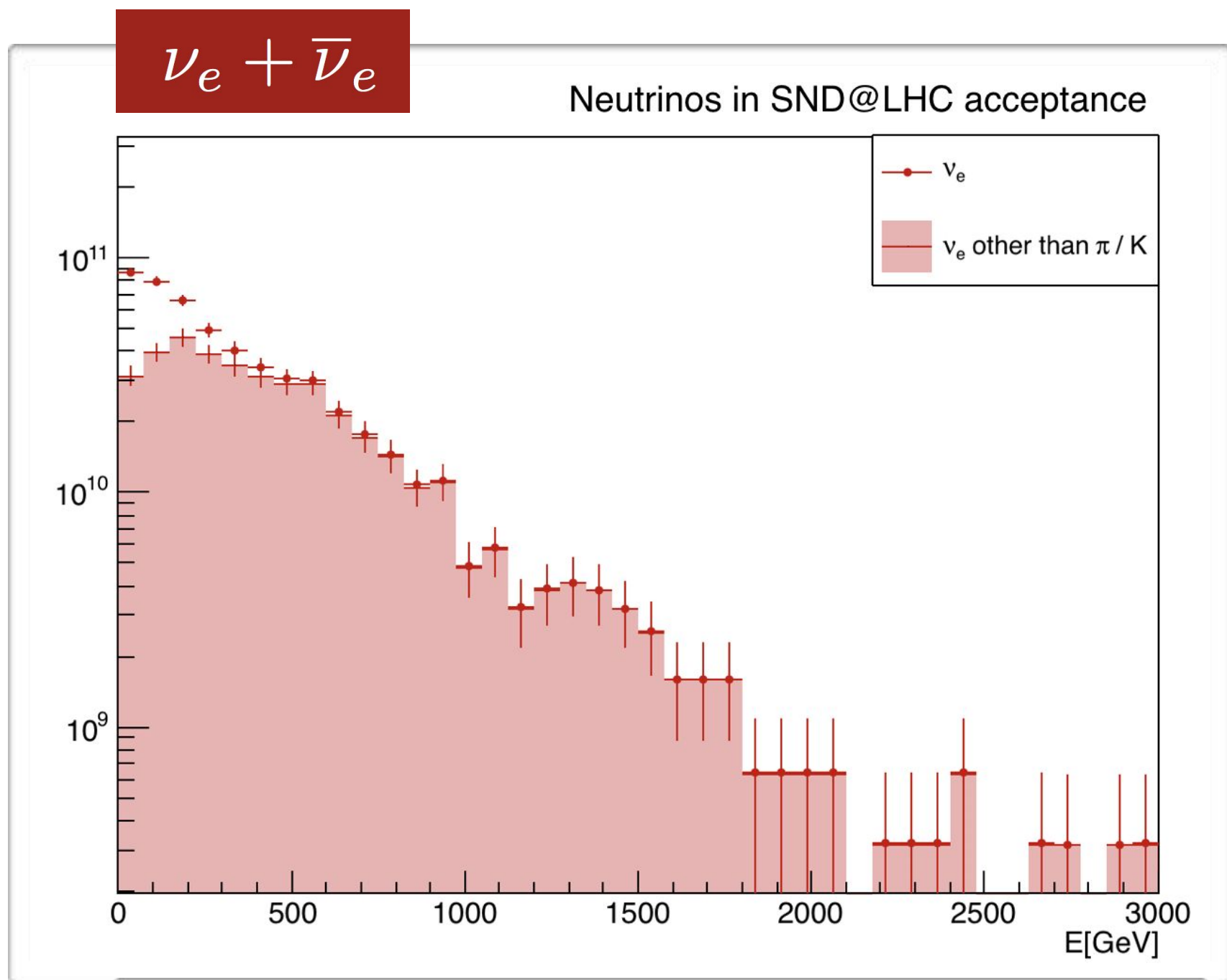
System	Muon flux [10^4 fb/cm ²] same fiducial area
SciFi	$2.06 \pm 0.01(\text{stat.}) \pm 0.12(\text{sys.})$
DS	$2.02 \pm 0.01(\text{stat.}) \pm 0.08(\text{sys.})$



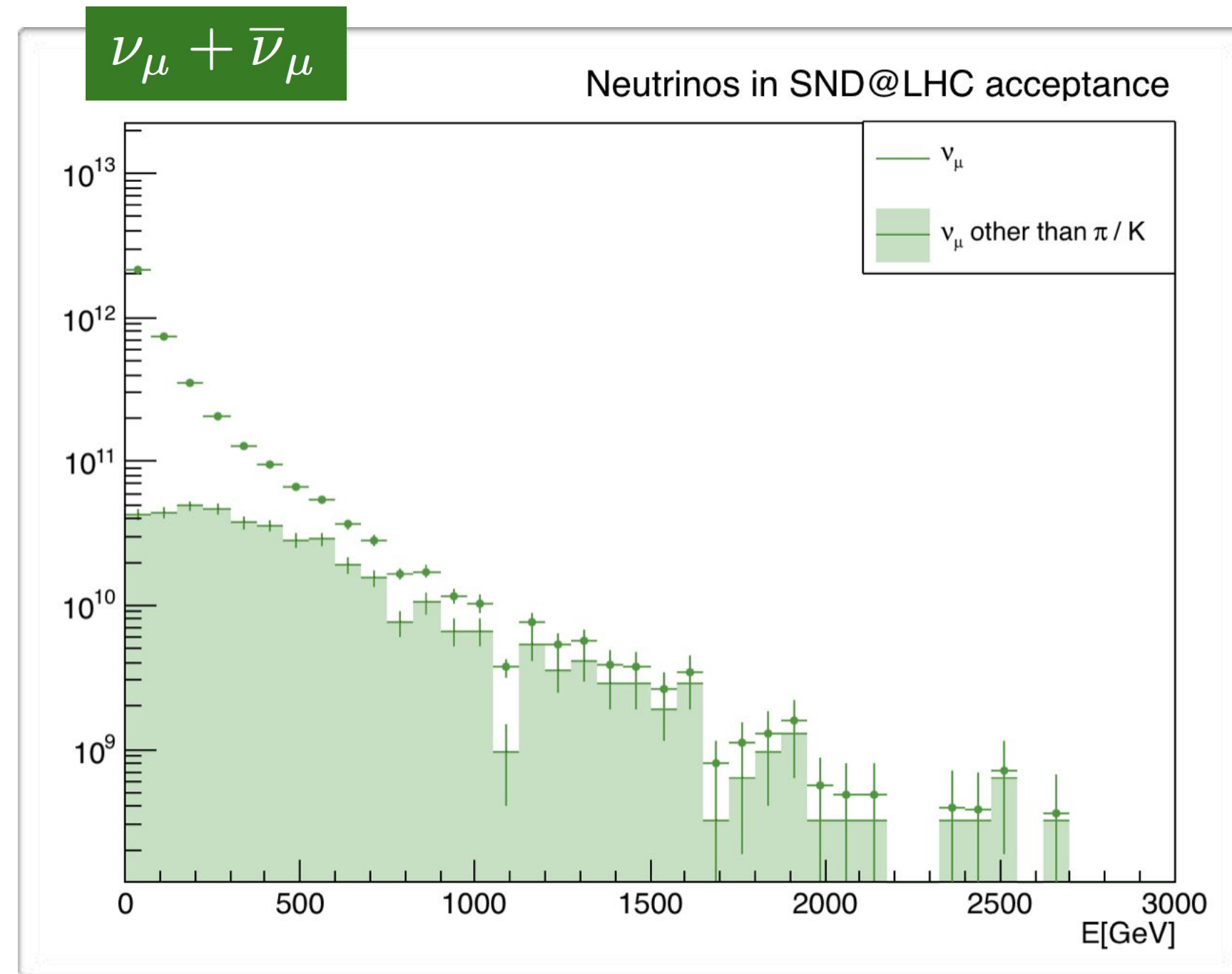
- Measurements with the SciFi tracker, downstream muon system and emulsion detectors give consistent results.

Lepton Flavour Universality tests

- Charm hadron decays contribute to the flux of all three types of neutrinos at SND@LHC.
- The detector has excellent flavour identification capabilities.
- Unique opportunity to test lepton flavour universality with neutrinos.
 - Take ratios of event rates: ν_e/ν_τ and ν_e/ν_μ .



$$R_{13} = \frac{N_{\nu_e + \bar{\nu}_e}}{N_{\nu_\tau + \bar{\nu}_\tau}} = \frac{\sum_i \tilde{f}_{c_i} \tilde{B}r(c_i \rightarrow \nu_e)}{\tilde{f}_{D_s} \tilde{B}r(D_s \rightarrow \nu_\tau)}$$

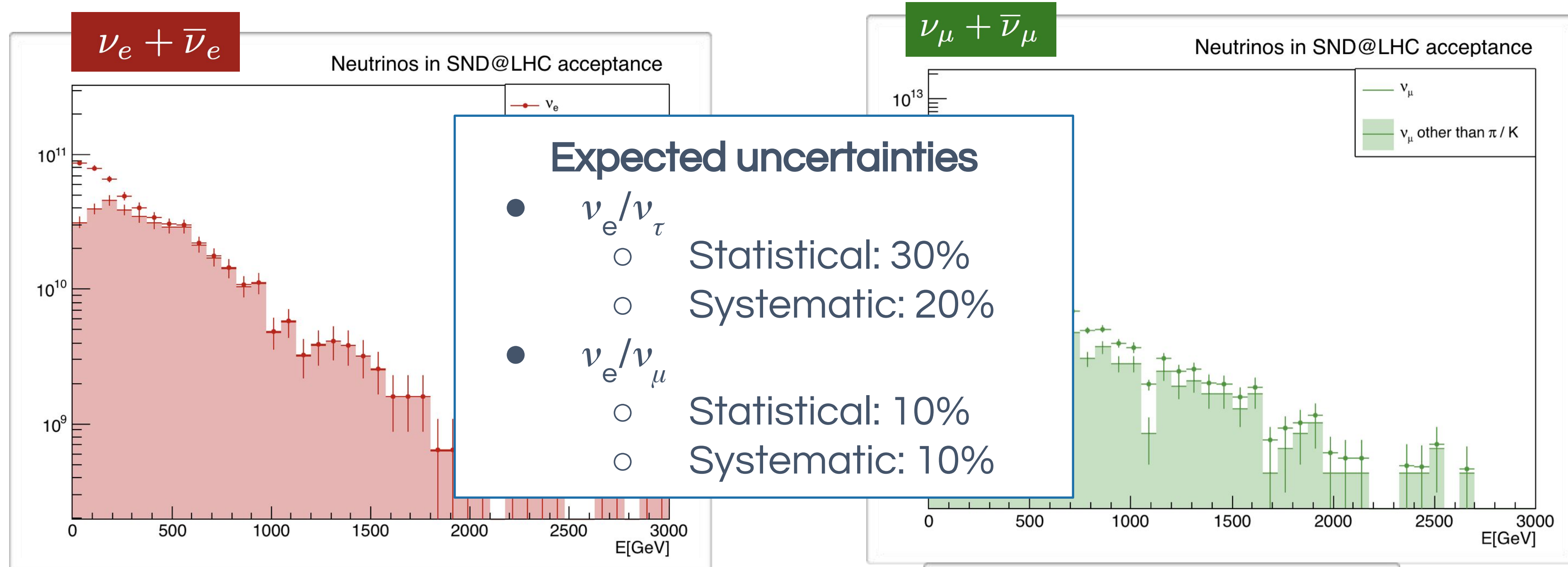


$$R_{12} = \frac{N_{\nu_e + \bar{\nu}_e}}{N_{\nu_\mu + \bar{\nu}_\mu}} = \frac{1}{1 + \omega_{\pi/k}}$$

— π/K contamination

Lepton Flavour Universality tests

- Charm hadron decays contribute to the flux of all three types of neutrinos at SND@LHC.
- The detector has excellent flavour identification capabilities.
- Unique opportunity to test lepton flavour universality with neutrinos.
 - Take ratios of event rates: ν_e/ν_τ and ν_e/ν_μ .



$$R_{13} = \frac{N_{\nu_e + \bar{\nu}_e}}{N_{\nu_\tau + \bar{\nu}_\tau}} = \frac{\sum_i \tilde{f}_{c_i} \tilde{B}r(c_i \rightarrow \nu_e)}{\tilde{f}_{D_s} \tilde{B}r(D_s \rightarrow \nu_\tau)}$$

$$R_{12} = \frac{N_{\nu_e + \bar{\nu}_e}}{N_{\nu_\mu + \bar{\nu}_\mu}} = \frac{1}{1 + \omega_{\pi/k}} \quad \text{--- } \pi/K \text{ contamination}$$

Flavour	ν in acceptance		CC DIS		NC DIS	
	All	not from π/K	All	not from π/K	All	not from π/K
ν_μ	8.6×10^{13}	8.2×10^{12}	1.2×10^5	3.3×10^4	3.6×10^4	1.0×10^4
$\bar{\nu}_\mu$	7.0×10^{13}	9.6×10^{12}	4.4×10^4	1.8×10^4	1.6×10^4	6.5×10^3
ν_e	1.3×10^{13}	9.1×10^{12}	4.2×10^4	3.6×10^4	1.3×10^4	1.1×10^4
$\bar{\nu}_e$	1.3×10^{13}	9.2×10^{12}	1.9×10^4	1.7×10^4	7.0×10^3	6.1×10^3
ν_τ	7.3×10^{11}	7.3×10^{11}	2.1×10^3	2.1×10^3	6.7×10^2	6.7×10^2
$\bar{\nu}_\tau$	9.4×10^{11}	9.4×10^{11}	1.2×10^3	1.2×10^2	4.6×10^2	4.6×10^2
Tot	1.8×10^{14}	3.8×10^{13}	2.3×10^5	1.1×10^5	7.3×10^4	3.5×10^4

Table 10: Number of neutrinos in the Target acceptance, CC DIS and NC-DIS neutrino interactions, assuming 3000 fb⁻¹, as estimated with DPMJET+FLUKA and GENIE generators.

AdvSND Letter of Intent:

[CERN-LHCC-2024-007 / LHCC-I-040](#)