

# Muon Neutrino & Antineutrino Event Separation with Machine Learning at MicroBooNE

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# Outline

## Part I: Introduction

- CP Violation with Neutrinos
- Experimental Setup: MicroBooNE LArTPC
- Muon vs. Antimuon Separation - How?

## Part II: Event Selection Chain

- MicroBooNE & The NuMI Beam Exposure
- General Selection Cuts
- BDT Selection Cuts

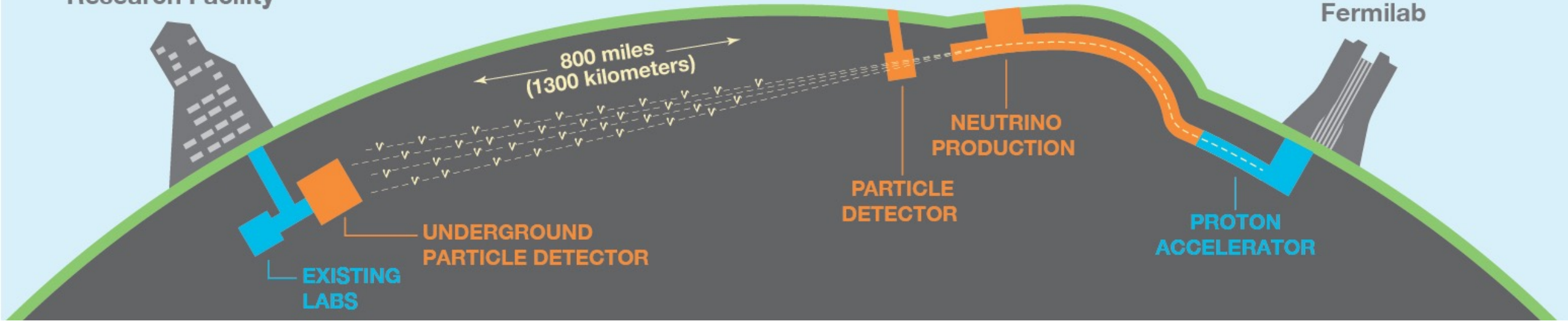
## Part III: Selected Samples

- Charged Current  $\nu_\mu$  Sample
- Charged Current  $\bar{\nu}_\mu$  Sample

# Part I: Introduction

# Introduction: CP Violation & Upcoming Experiments

Sanford Underground  
Research Facility



- The upcoming neutrino experiment DUNE aims to definitively measure the degree to which Charge-Parity (CP) symmetry is violated in the lepton sector of the Standard Model, using a **Liquid Argon Time Projection Chamber (LArTPC)**.
- It will do this using a neutrino beam, focused in **either neutrino or anti-neutrino mode**.

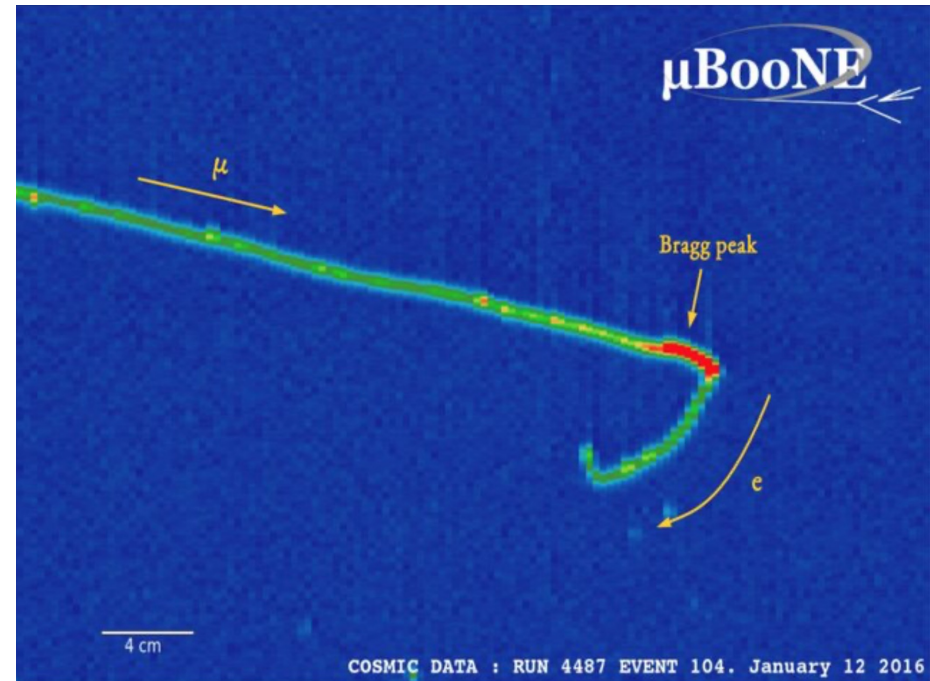
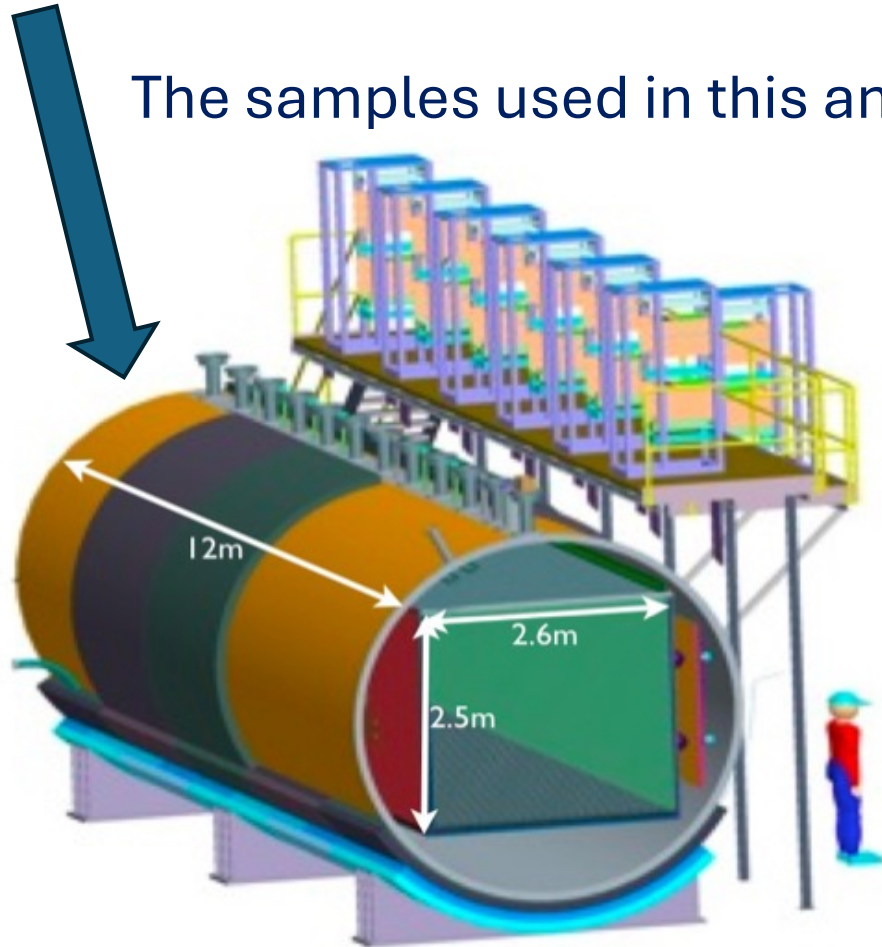
$$A_{CP} = \frac{P(\nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \nu_e) - P(\bar{\nu}_{\mu} \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e)}{P(\nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \nu_e) + P(\bar{\nu}_{\mu} \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e)}$$

# MicroBooNE Detector & Run 3 Flux



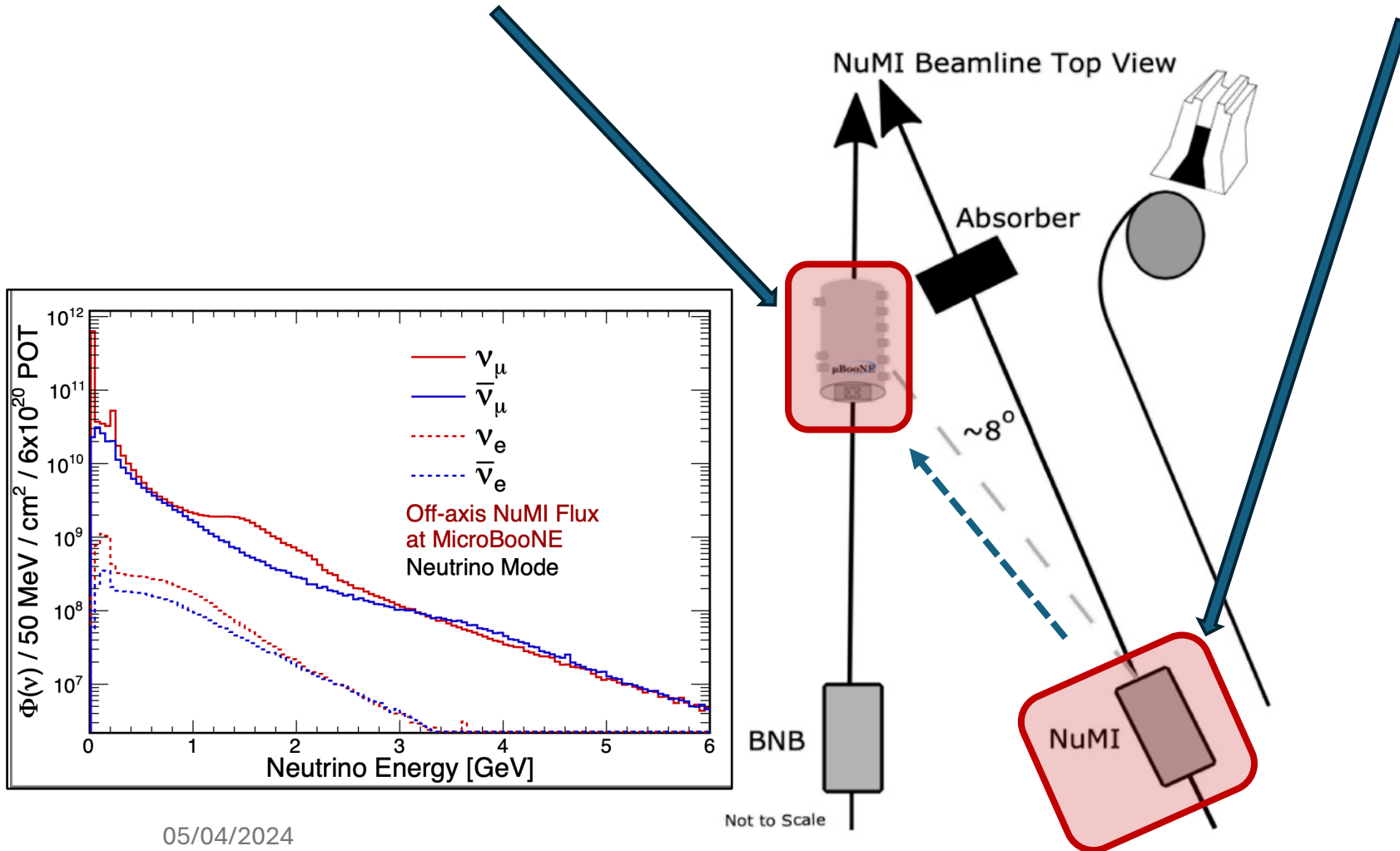
MicroBooNE is another large ( $\sim 10 \times 2.5 \times 2.5 \text{ m}^2$ ) Liquid Argon Time Projection Chamber

The samples used in this analysis correspond to the **Run 3 Flux (2017 – 2018)**



# MicroBooNE & The NuMI Beam

- The **MicroBooNE detector** is a ground-level Liquid Argon Time Projection Chamber (LArTPC) that observes neutrinos at an **off-axis exposure** to the **Neutrino at the Main Injector (NuMI) beam**.

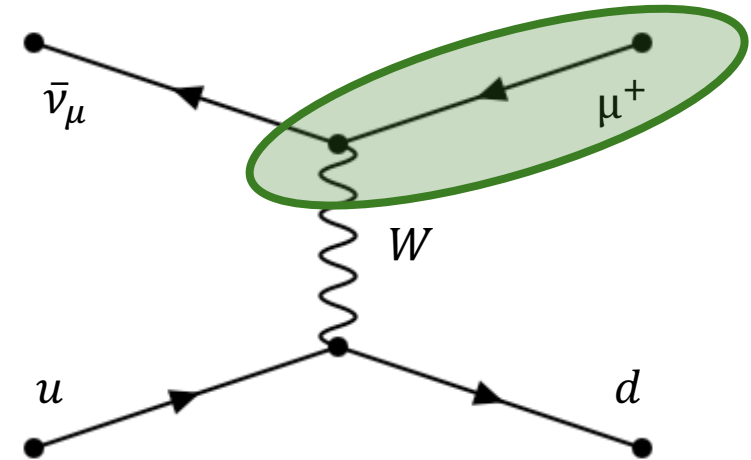
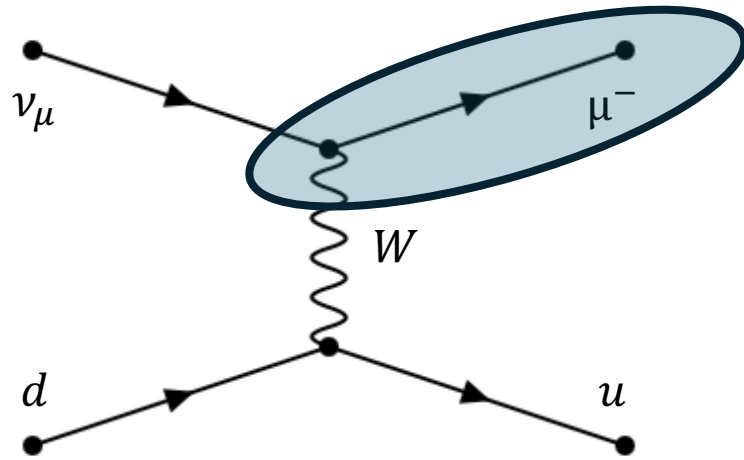


## μBooNE

- Largest  $\nu - Ar$  dataset to date
- **Ground-Level:** Large exposure to cosmic contamination
- **Off-Axis:** Significant mixture of  $\nu/\bar{\nu}$ , regardless of beam polarity

# Tricky Bit: CC $\nu_\mu$ and CC $\bar{\nu}_\mu$ Separation

- This is a challenging task, since the resulting  $\mu^+$  and  $\mu^-$  leptons, in the absence of a magnetic field, behave in essentially the same way in liquid argon.

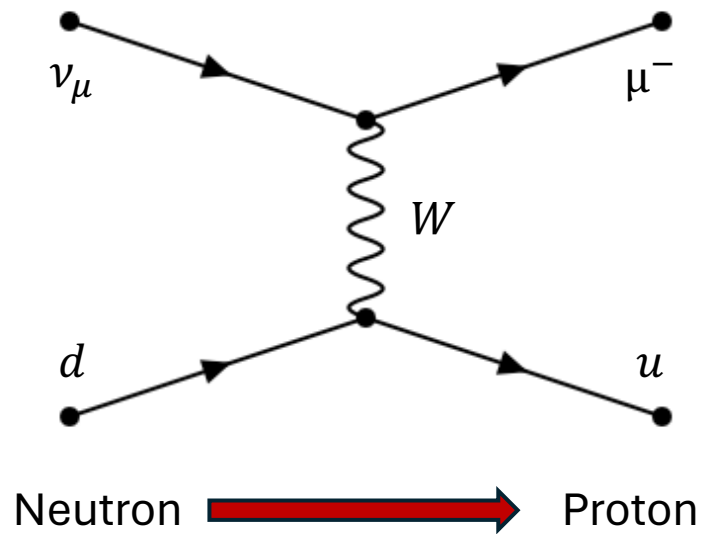


- However, we may have a few potential handles on this:
  1. Number of proton tracks
  2. Muon Absorption
  3. Angular Dependence

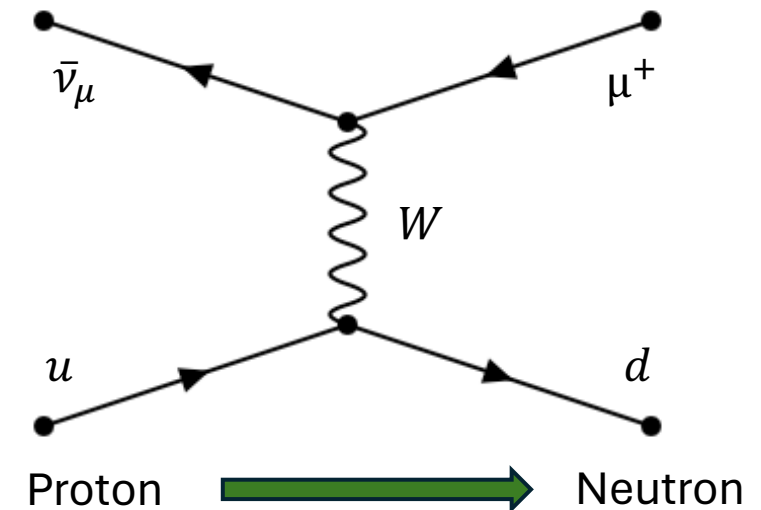
# Handle 1: Additional Proton Track

In the Charged-Current Quasi-Elastic (CCQE) regime, we expect to **see an additional proton track for  $\nu_\mu$** , but none for the  $\bar{\nu}_\mu$ .

## Neutrino



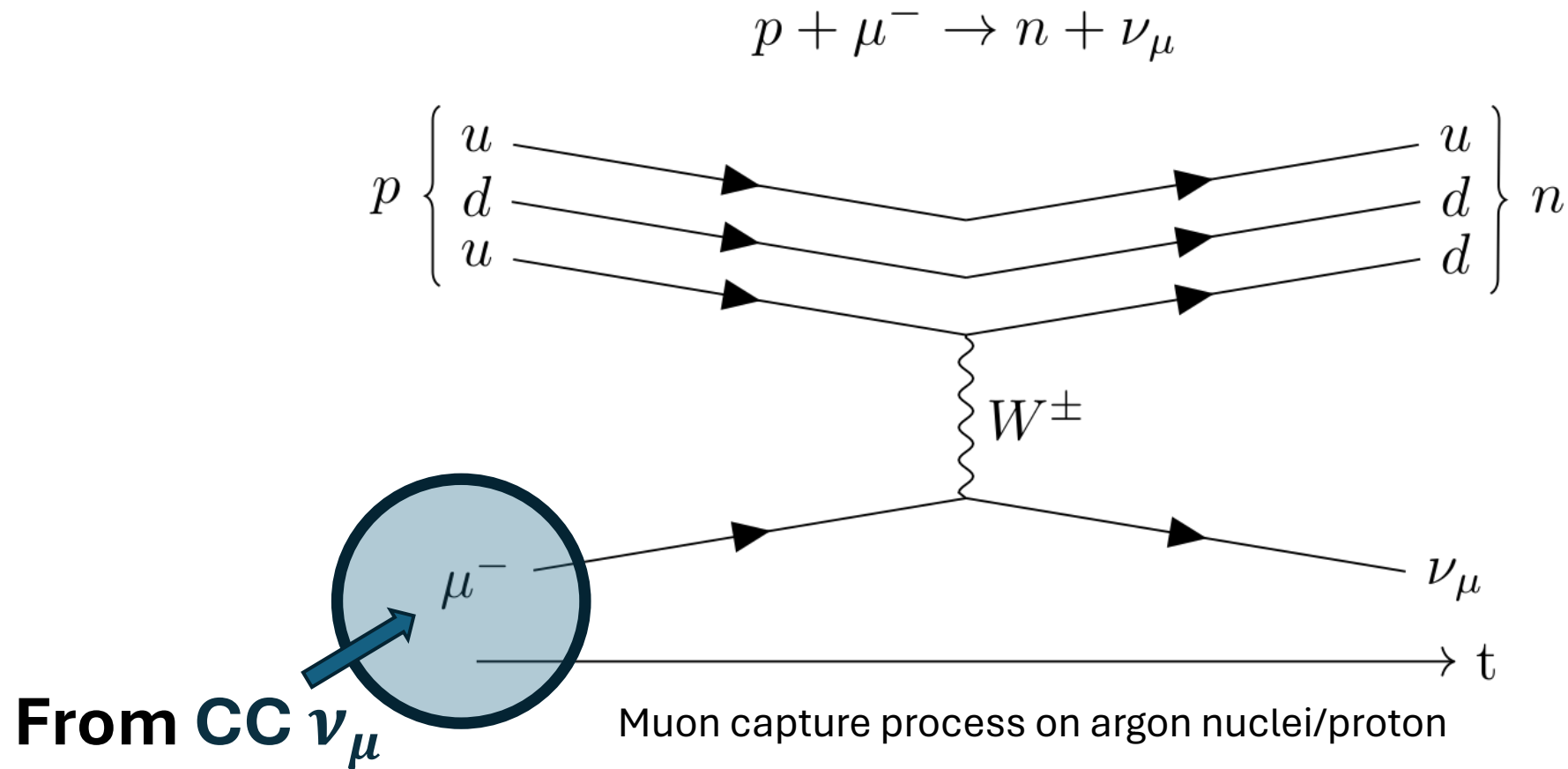
## Antineutrino





# Handle 2: Muon Absorption

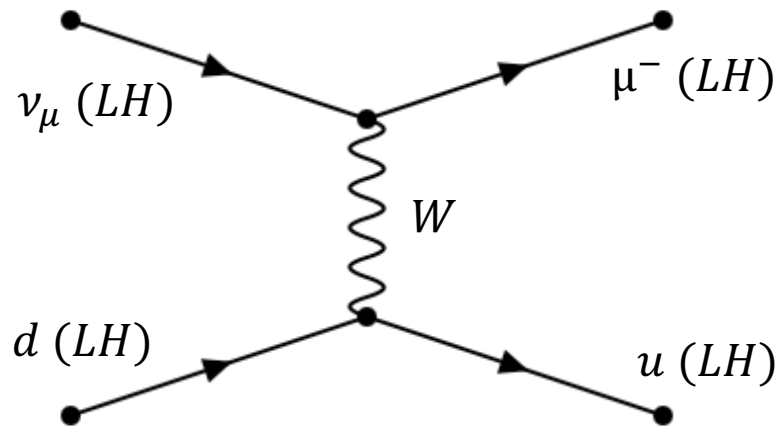
For muons stopping in the detector, around **75%  $\mu^-$  will be absorbed**, whereas **no  $\mu^+$  are absorbed**.



# Handle 3: Angular Dependence

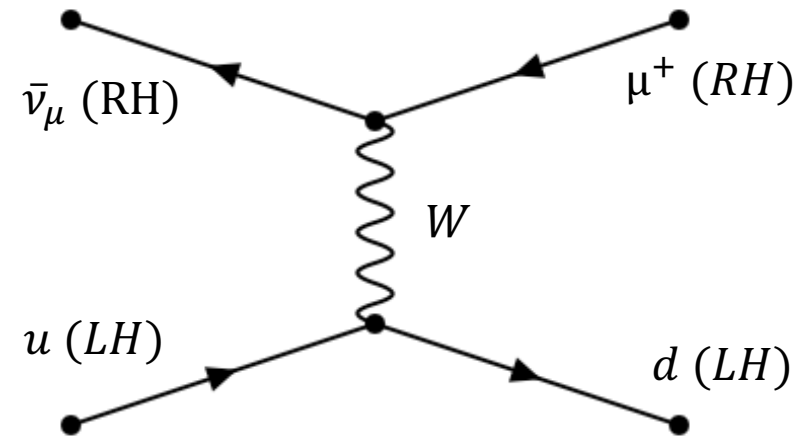
From helicity considerations, the cross section for the neutrino interaction is **independent of lepton polar angle  $\theta$**  whereas the anti-neutrino process is  **$\theta$ -dependent** and favors forward-going leptons.

## Neutrino



$$\frac{d\sigma_\nu}{d\Omega} = \frac{G_F^2 \hat{S}}{4\pi^2}$$

## Antineutrino



$$\frac{d\sigma_{\bar{\nu}}}{d\Omega} = \frac{G_F^2 \hat{S}}{16\pi^2} (1 + \cos \theta)^2$$

# Part II: Event Selection Chain

# Overall Selection Chain

## General Selection Cuts:

Reconstructed Neutrino & Optical Trigger

Muon-like Track

Energy Cut 200 MeV

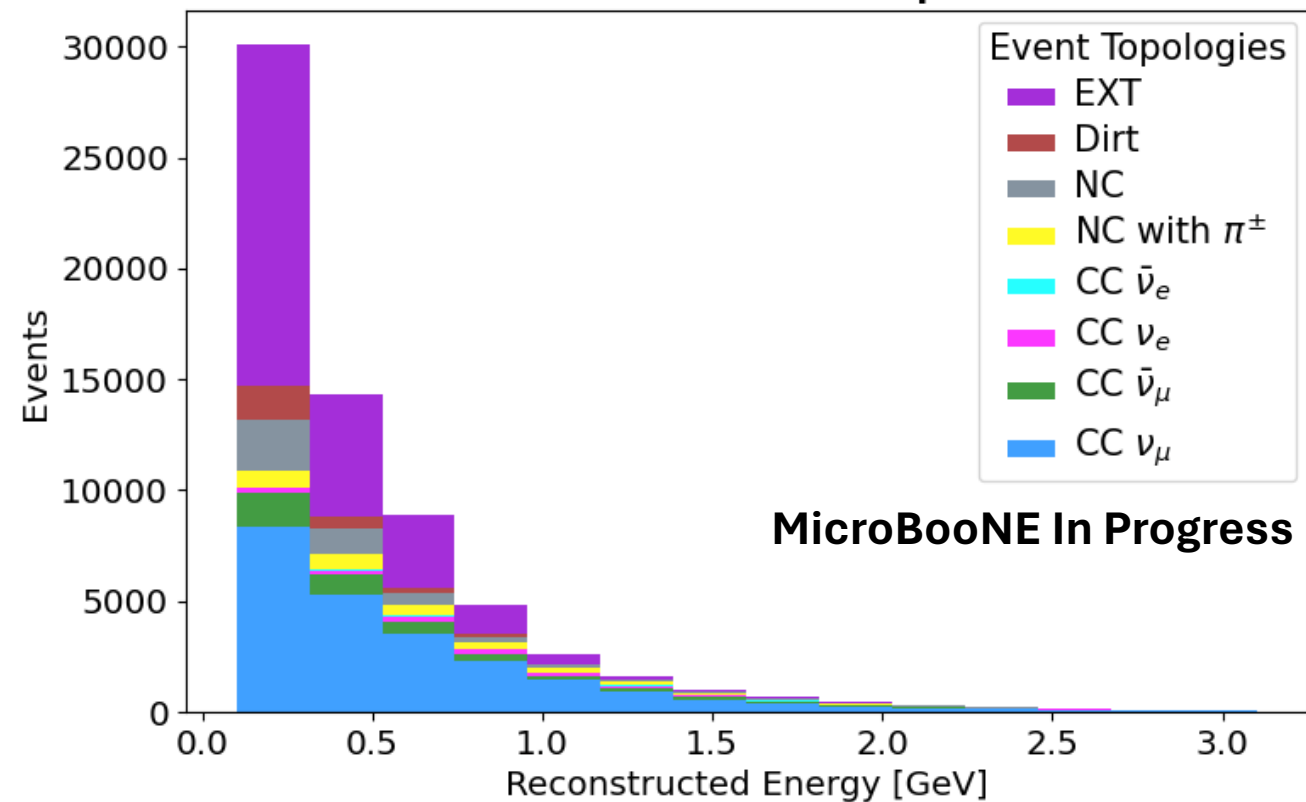
## Machine Learning Cuts (BDT):

- 1) Cosmic Removal
- 2) General Neutrino Background

## CC $\nu_{\mu}$ & CC $\bar{\nu}_{\mu}$ Separation

# NuMI Beam at MicroBooNE: Run3b Exposure

MicroBooNE Run3b Selection Sample: POT: 4.576e+20



**EXT = Cosmic**

**Dirt = External Interaction**

## Signal Definition

- CC  $\nu_\mu$  or CC  $\bar{\nu}_\mu$
- Interaction vertex contained within detector
- True neutrino energy above 200 MeV

(Blue & Green Contributions)

## Purity:

$$(\text{CC } \nu_\mu + \text{CC } \bar{\nu}_\mu) / (\text{CC } \nu_\mu + \text{CC } \bar{\nu}_\mu + \text{Backgrounds})$$

## Efficiency:

$$(\text{CC } \nu_\mu + \text{CC } \bar{\nu}_\mu) / (\text{CC } \nu_\mu + \text{CC } \bar{\nu}_\mu \text{ (Before Cuts)})$$

Efficiency	Purity
83.4%	15.7%

**Reconstructed Energy** = Summed reconstructed energy for the event, from Pandora reconstruction framework.

# General Selection Chain Outline

$\nu$

- We first require a single reconstructed neutrino!
- We also require matching optical trigger from detector

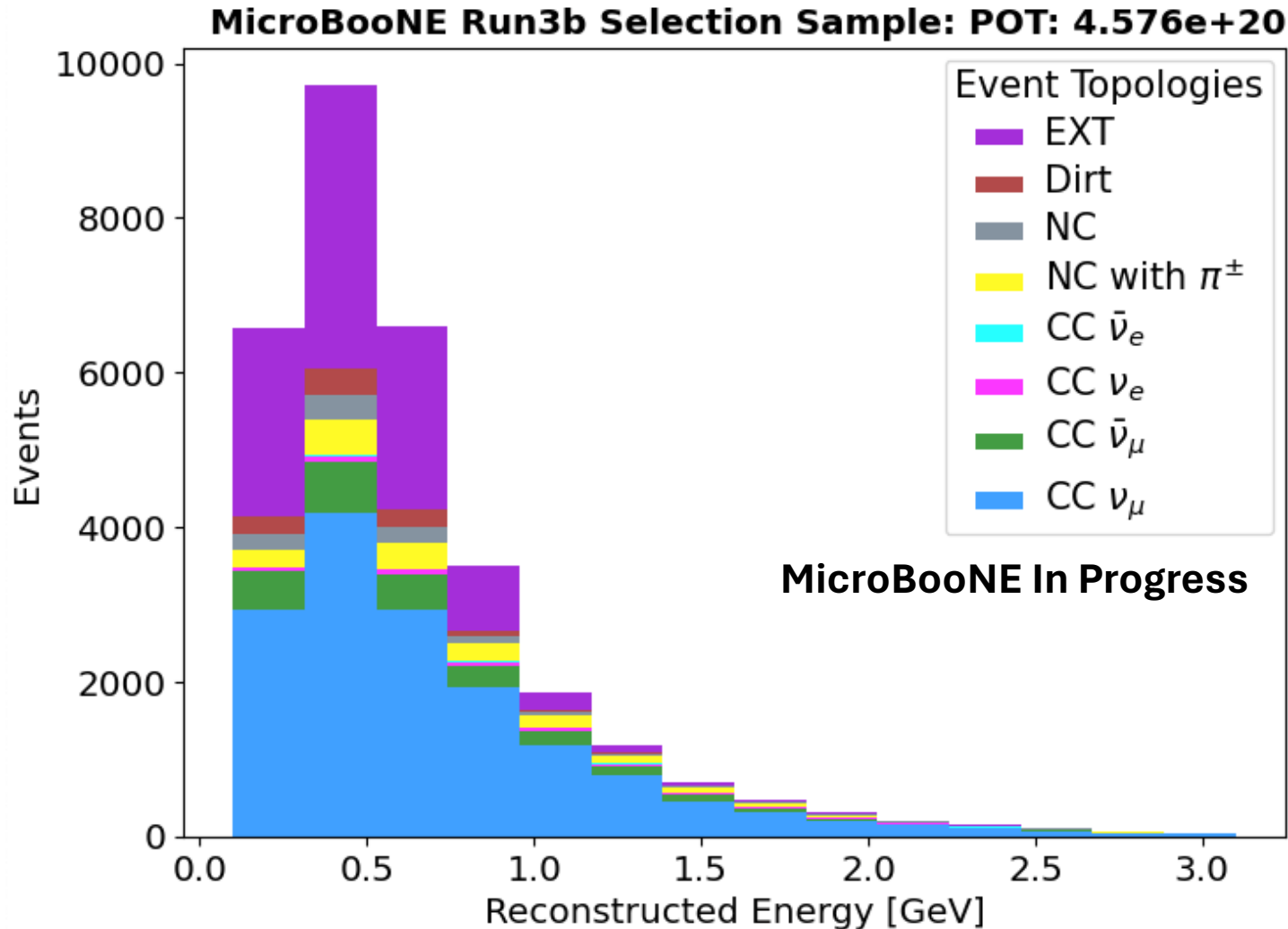
$\mu$

- Require a reconstructed muon-like track

$E$

- We apply a threshold cut of 200 MeV in reconstructed energy to benefit from the best reconstruction performance.

# General Selection Cuts: Current Sample



Efficiency	Purity
41.8% (↓ 41.6%)	50.6% (↑ 34.9%)

We have a purity-improved sample reconstructed well enough for further analysis.

## Outstanding Tasks

1. Cosmic (EXT) Removal
2. General Neutrino Background Removal
3. CC  $\nu_\mu$  and  $\bar{\nu}_\mu$  Separation

# Overall Selection Chain

## General Selection Cuts:

Reconstructed Neutrino & Optical Trigger  
Muon-like Track  
Energy Cut 200 MeV

## Machine Learning Cuts (BDT):

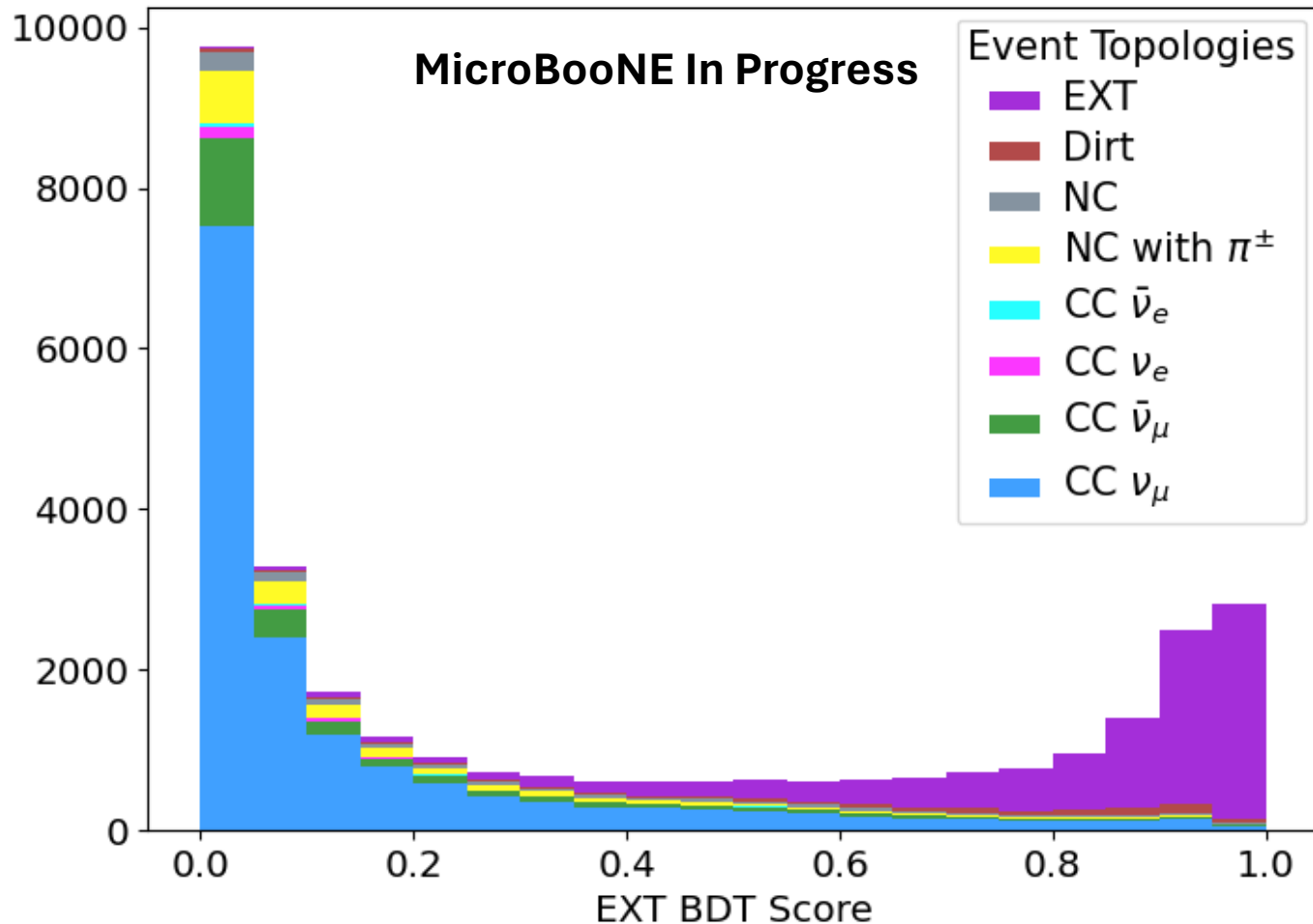
- 1) Cosmic Removal
- 2) General Neutrino Background

## CC $\nu_{\mu}$ & CC $\bar{\nu}_{\mu}$ Separation

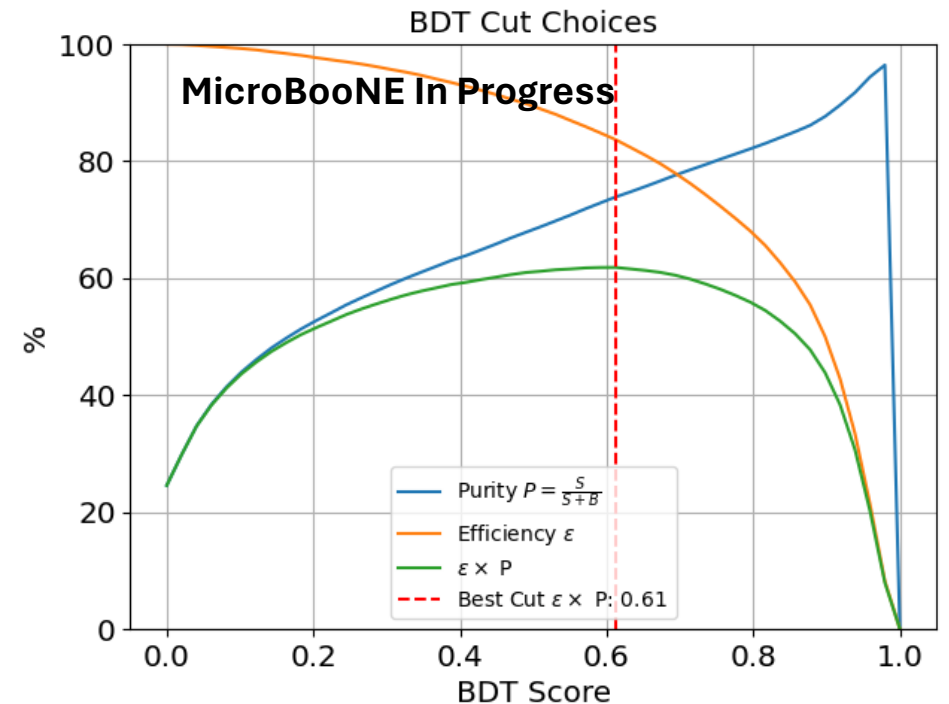


# EXT BDT: Cosmic Removal

EXT (Cosmic) BDT Scores

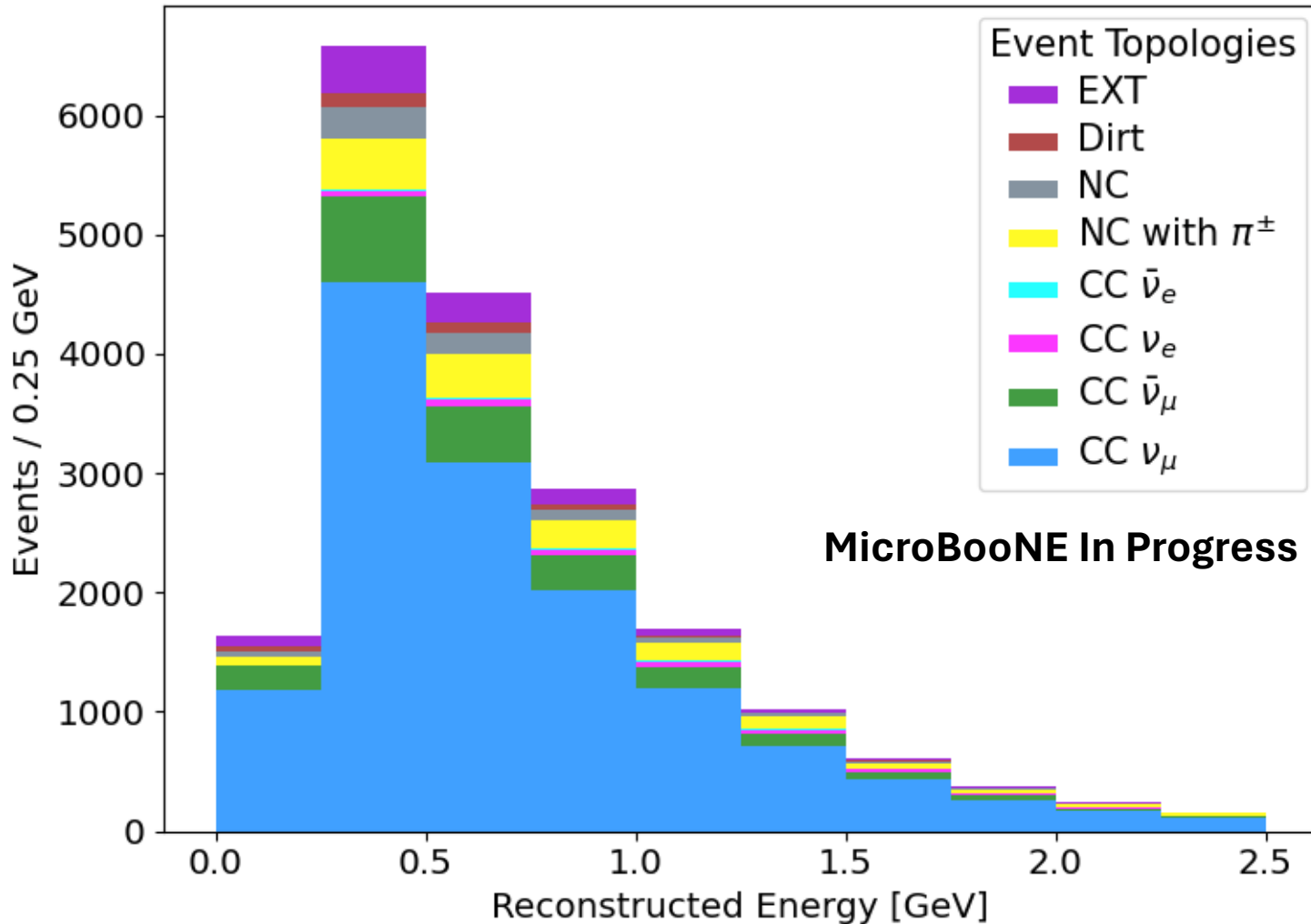


- We have a model that has good separation power, and the choice of cut is easy to define using the  $\epsilon \times P$  metric.



# EXT BDT Cosmic Cut: Current Sample

MicroBooNE Run3b - EXT Cleaned Sample: NuMI Run 3b MC



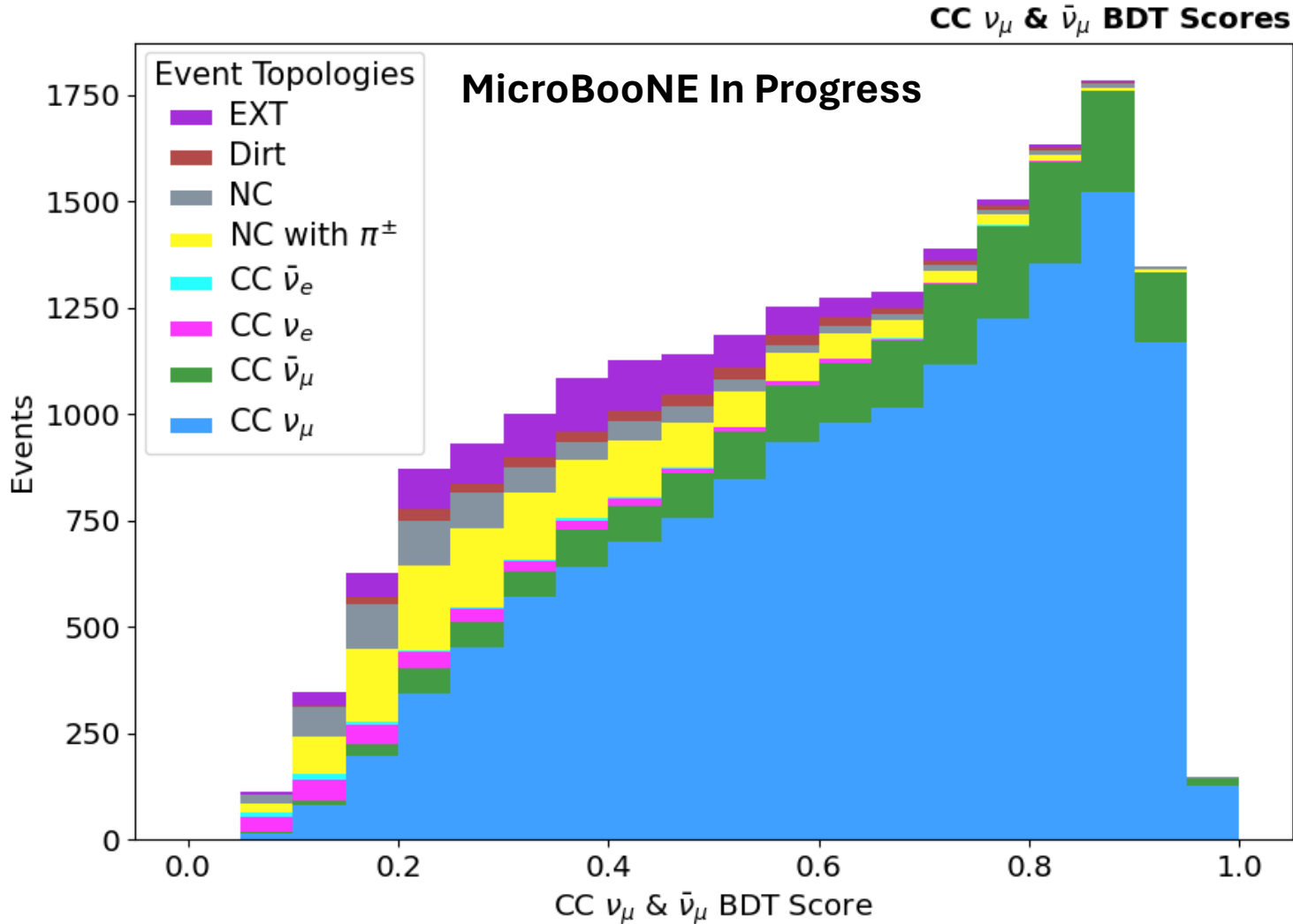
Efficiency	Purity
39.0% ( $\downarrow$ 2.8%)	76.6% ( $\uparrow$ 26.0%)

We have a sample cleansed of **cosmic** impurities.

## Outstanding Tasks

- ~~1. Cosmic (EXT) Removal~~
2. General Neutrino Background Removal
3. CC  $\nu_\mu$  and CC  $\bar{\nu}_\mu$  Separation

# BGD BDT: Neutrino Background Removal



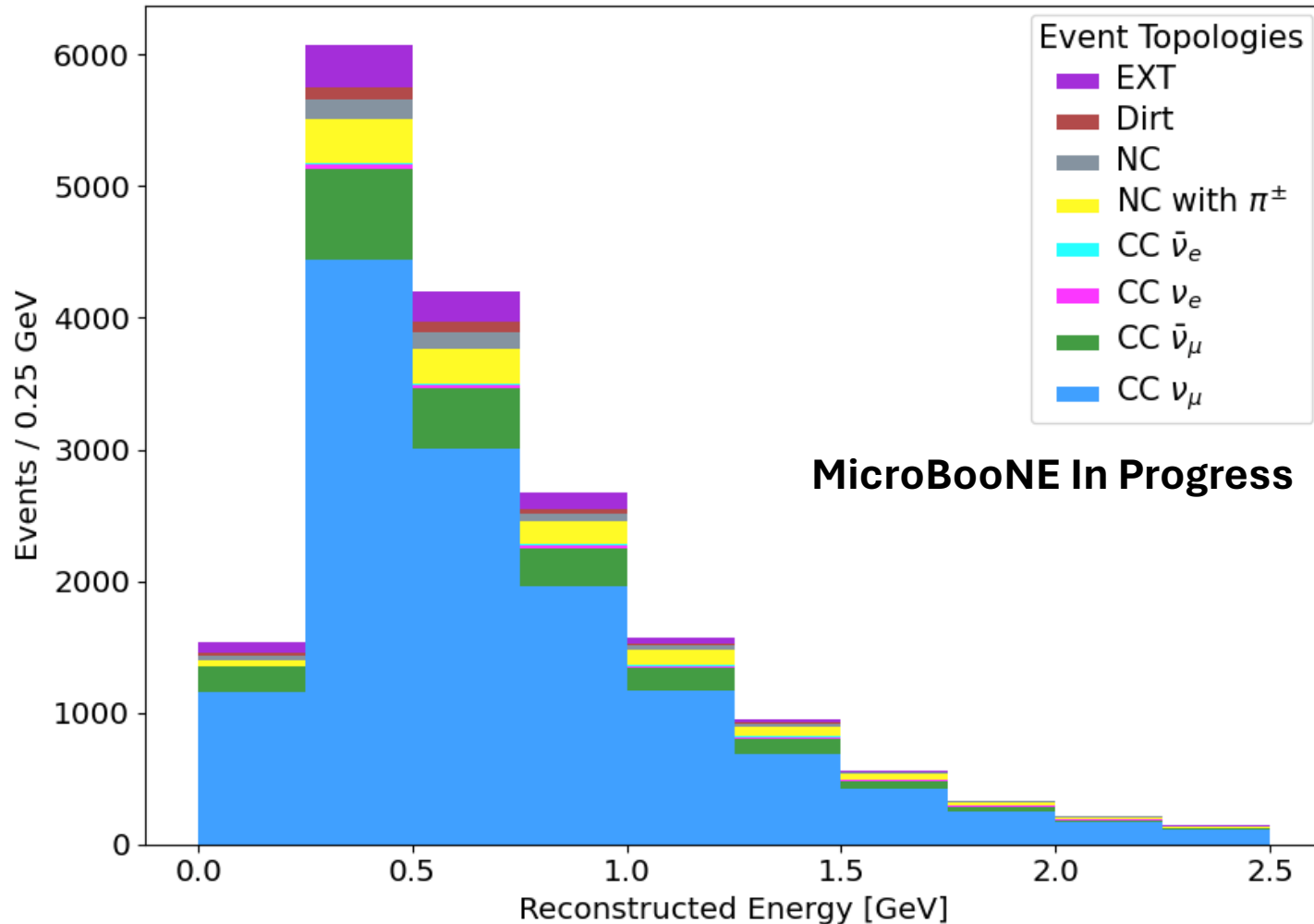
## Observations

Remaining EXT and Neutral Current (NC) events with pions are majority of background. It is difficult to train a model to perfectly separate these backgrounds from our signal.

**Cut at 0.25**, according to our metric, keeping everything above that score.

# BGD BDT Background Cut: Current Sample

MicroBooNE Run3b - Background Cleaned Sample: NuMI Run 3b MC vs. Data



We have a sample cleansed of general background impurities.

We have removed 30% of NC events and further 10% of EXT.

## Outstanding Tasks

1. ~~Cosmic (EXT) Removal~~
2. ~~General Neutrino Background Removal~~
3. CC  $\nu_\mu$  and  $\bar{\nu}_\mu$  Separation

Efficiency	Purity
37.9% (↓ 1.1%)	80.3% (↑ 3.7%)

# Overall Selection Chain

## General Selection Cuts:

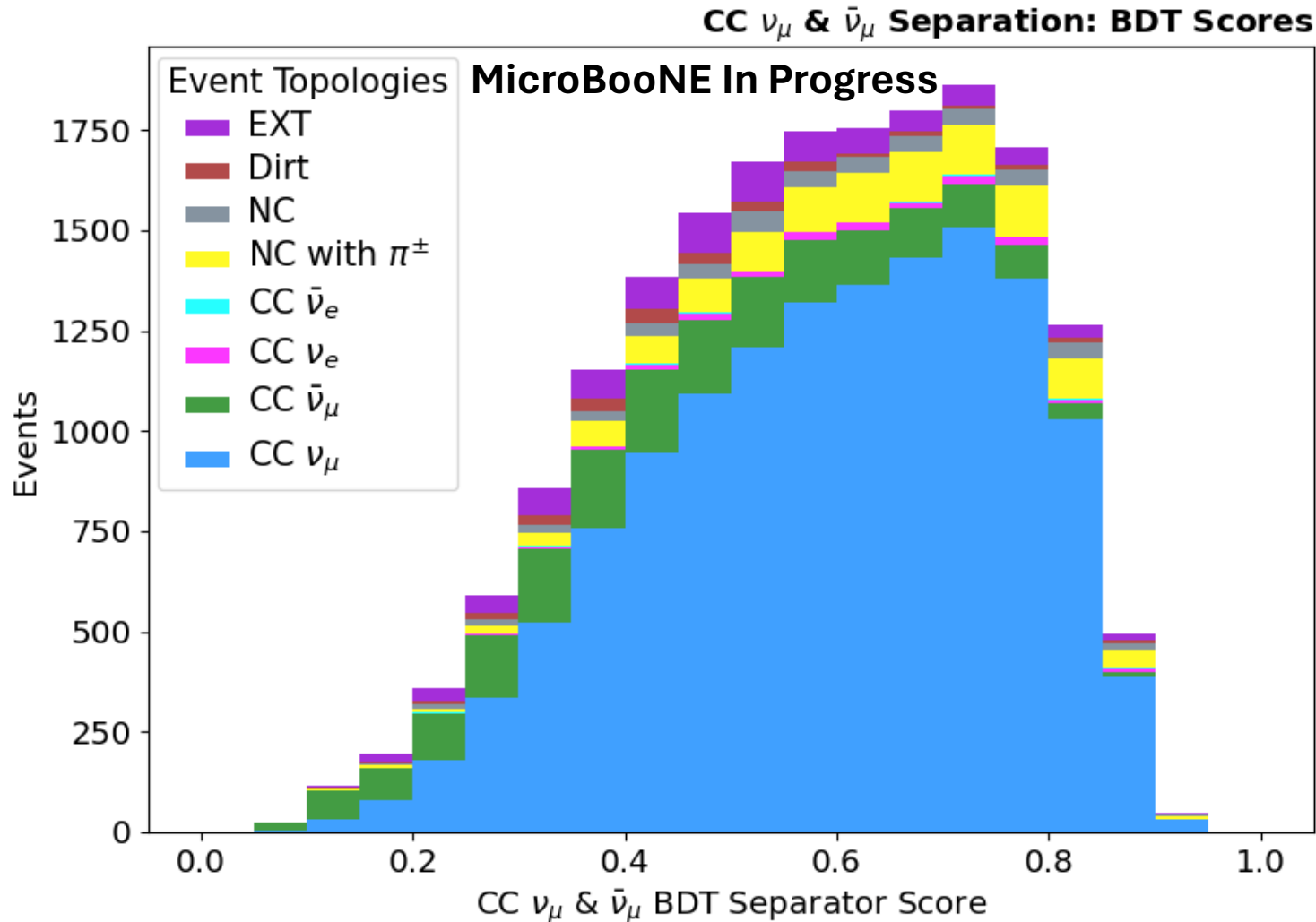
Reconstructed Neutrino & Optical Trigger  
Muon-like Track  
Energy Cut 200 MeV

## Machine Learning Cuts (BDT):

- 1) Cosmic Removal
- 2) General Neutrino Background

CC  $\nu_{\mu}$  &  
CC  $\bar{\nu}_{\mu}$   
Separation

# NU BDT: CC $\nu_\mu$ and $\bar{\nu}_\mu$ Separation



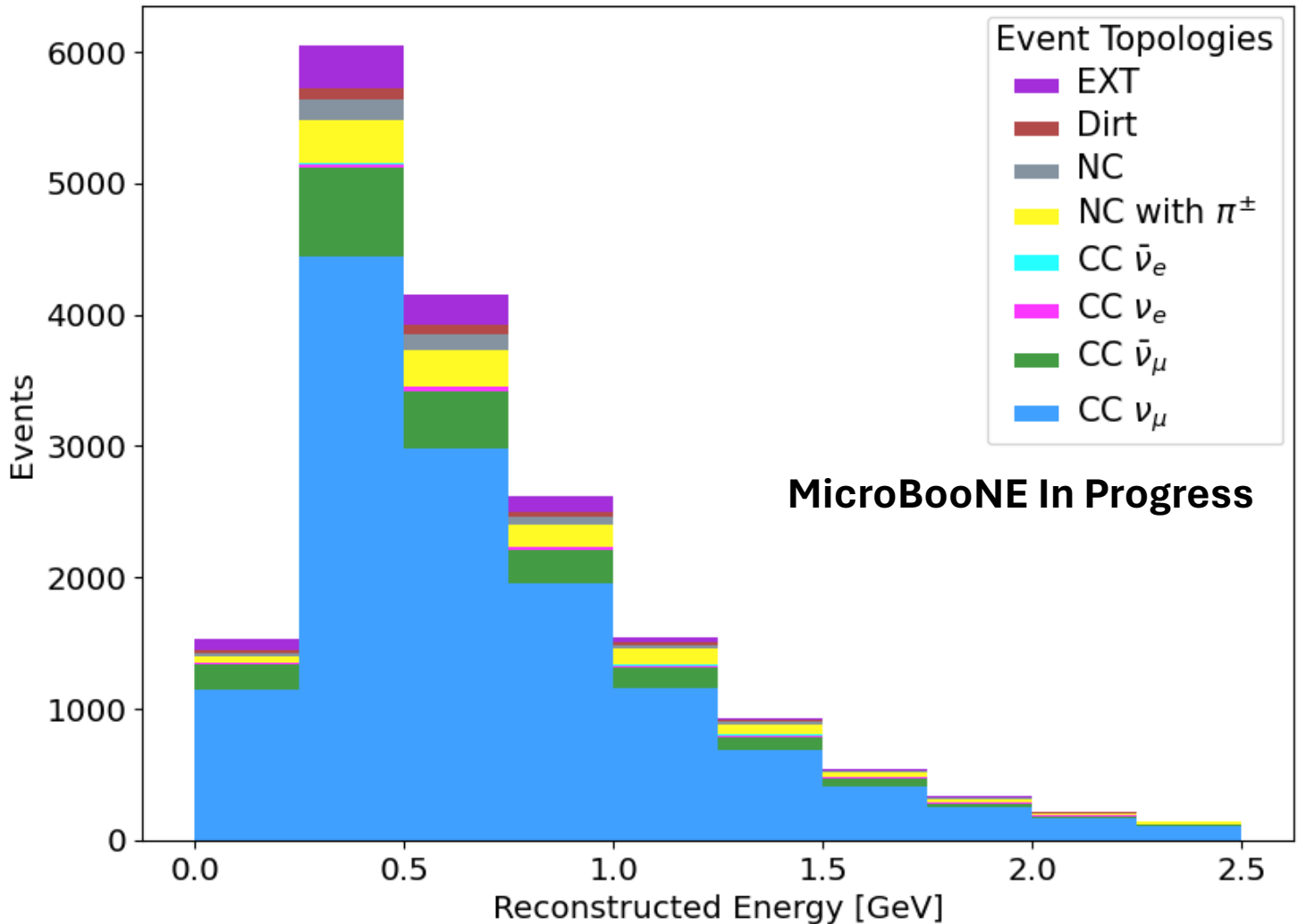
## Observations

- Given that we should have enough statistics, we make the cut with the  $\epsilon \times \mathbf{P}$  metric once more, informing us to cut at 0.18 which obtains a relatively clean sample of CC  $\bar{\nu}_\mu$ .

# Part III: Selected Samples

# Resulting Sample: CC $\nu_\mu$ Selection

MicroBooNE CC  $\nu_\nu$  Selected Sample: NuMI Run 3b MC



MicroBooNE In Progress

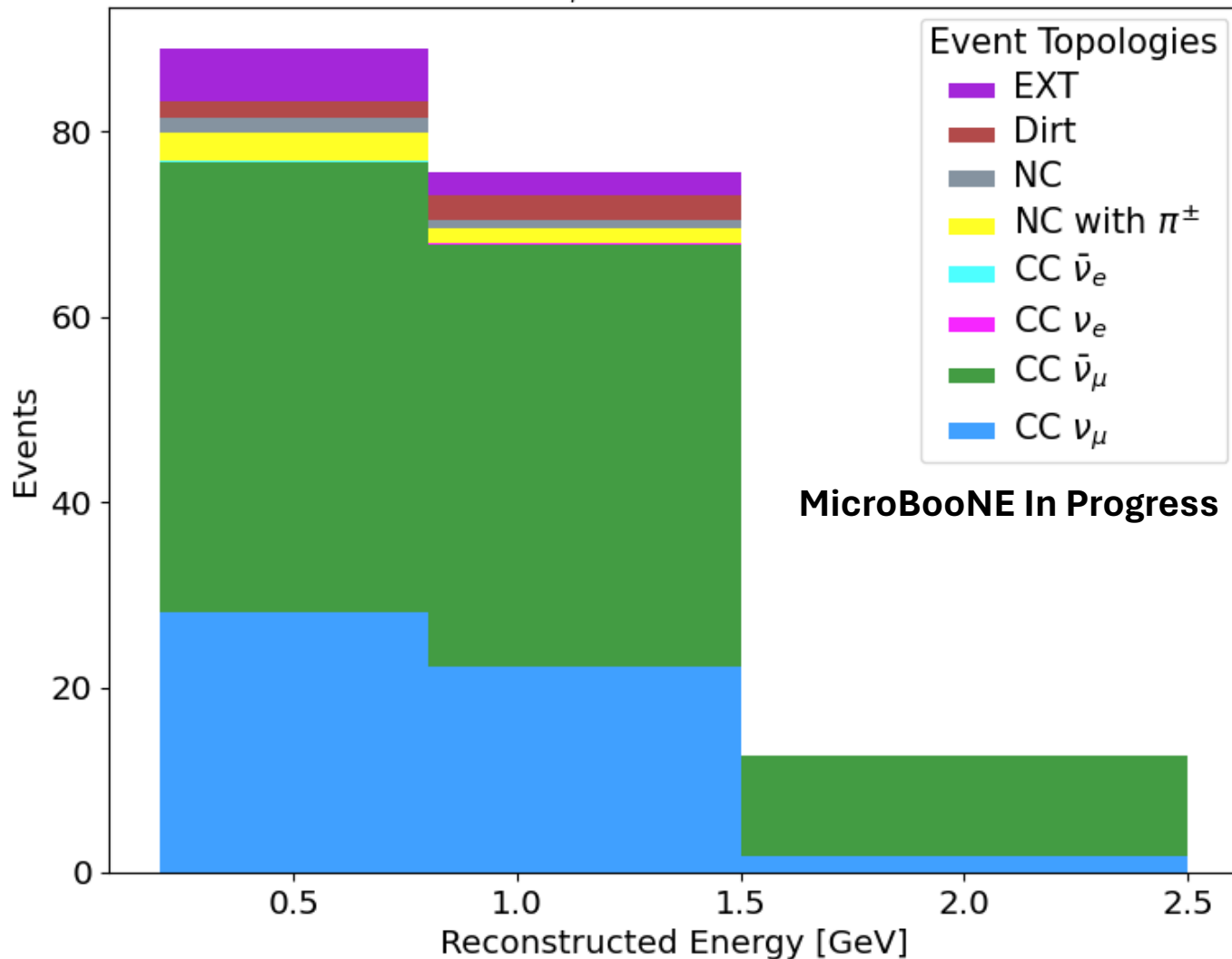
- Application of all general selection cuts, and the three BDT model cuts results in the following sample of approximately **13500 selected CC  $\nu_\mu$  events**

Efficiency	Purity
39.9%	70.4%



# Resulting Sample: CC $\bar{\nu}_\mu$ Selection

MicroBooNE CC  $\bar{\nu}_\mu$  Selected Sample: NuMI Run 3b MC



- Application of all general selection cuts, and the three BDT model cuts results in the following sample of around **150 selected CC  $\bar{\nu}_\mu$  events**
- Sample is 56.2% pure in CC  $\bar{\nu}_\mu$ , but only 1.4% efficient!

Efficiency	Purity
1.4%	56.2%

# Summary

- A selection chain using the **XGBoost BDTs** has been developed to select samples of CC  $\nu_\mu$  & CC  $\bar{\nu}_\mu$  events from the run3b NuMI data at MicroBooNE.
- The main CC  $\nu_\mu$  & CC  $\bar{\nu}_\mu$  separator model achieves a statistical separation, and we were able to extract the required samples for further analysis.

# Thank you!

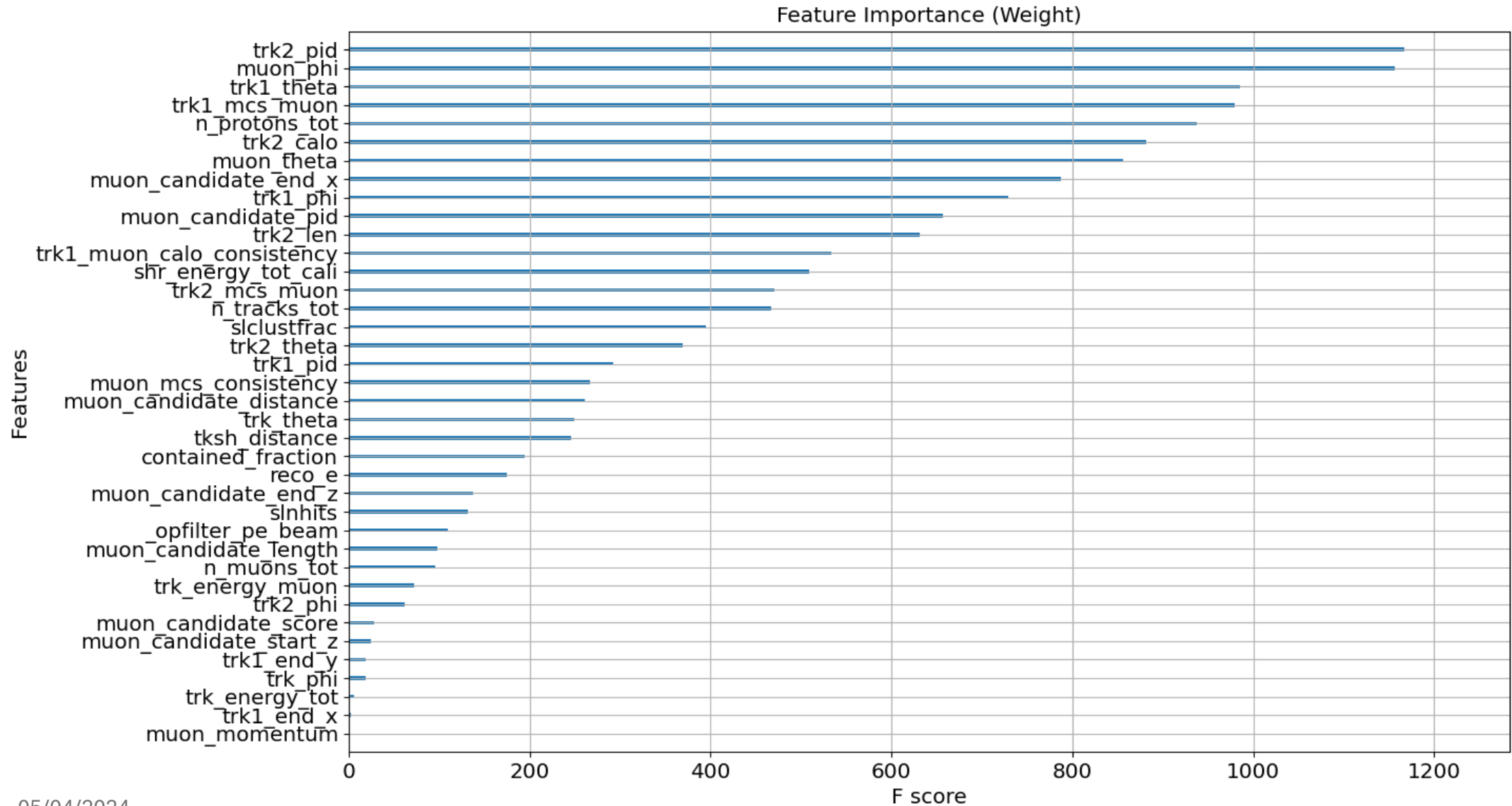
## Related IOP Talks

Marina Guzzo's Work: [Electron Neutrino & Antineutrino Separation](#)

Holly Parkinson's Talk: [“Understanding the Off-Axis Flux of Neutrinos from Neutral Kaons”](#)

# Back Up Slides

# Muon and Antimuon Separator: Variable Importance



# BDT Variables

