

# Latest and Near-Future Highlights from DUNE

Alessandro Minotti – Università di Milano-Bicocca

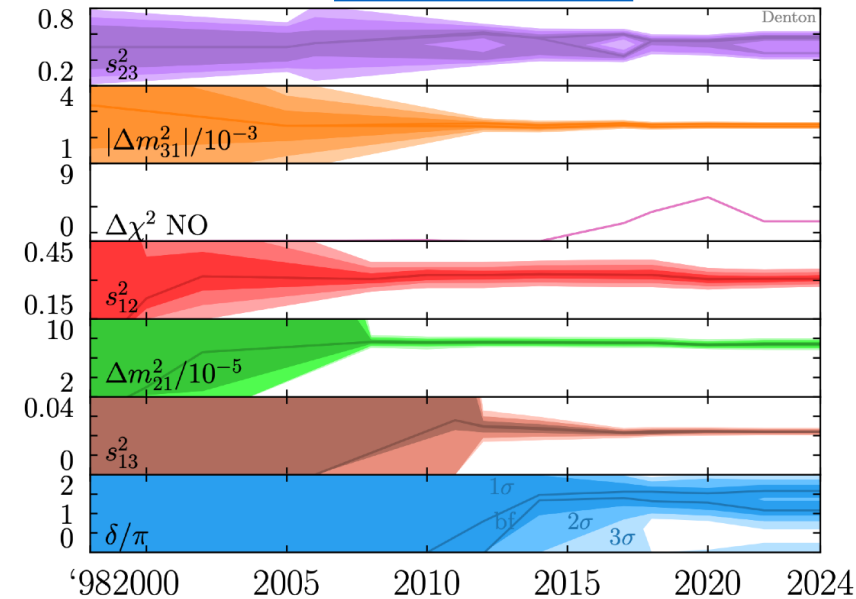
on behalf of the DUNE Collaboration



# Present and Future of Neutrino Physics

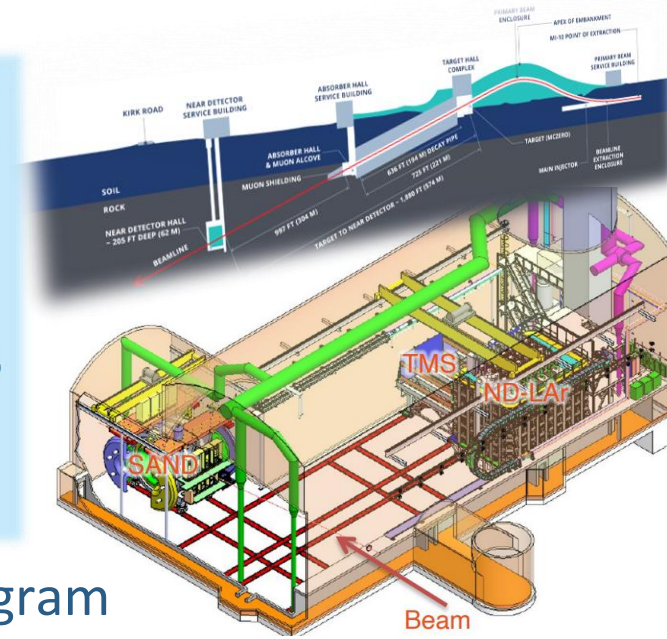
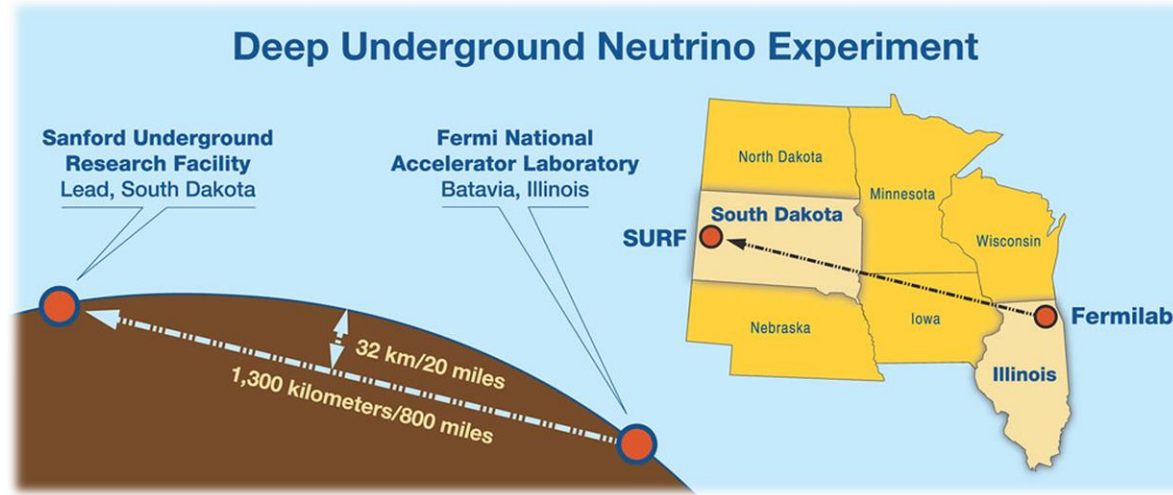
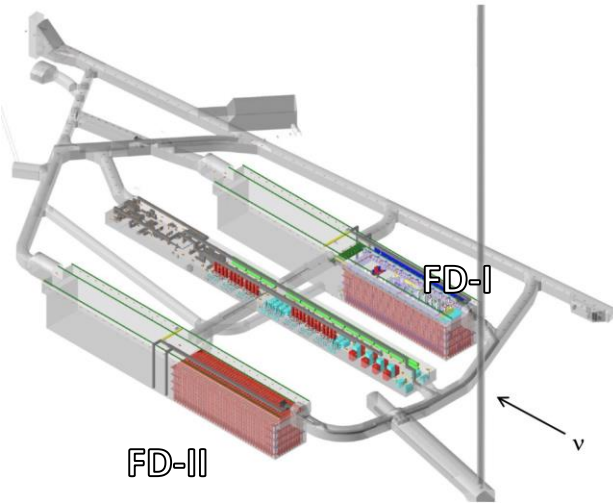
$$U_{PMNS} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c_{23} & s_{23} \\ 0 & -s_{23} & c_{23} \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{Atmospheric Sector}} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} c_{13} & 0 & s_{13} e^{-i\delta_{CP}} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -s_{13} e^{i\delta_{CP}} & 0 & c_{13} \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{Reactor/Accelerator Sector}} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} c_{12} & s_{12} & 0 \\ -s_{12} & c_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{Solar Sector}} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} e^{i\alpha_1/2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\alpha_2/2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{Majorana Phases}}$$

arXiv:2212.00809



- Neutrino physics is entering the precision era
  - The remaining parameters hold the key to break the Standard Model and unlock fundamental conundrums
    - CP-violation in the leptonic sector ( $\delta_{CP}$ )
    - Neutrino masses (nature, order, scale)
    - Octant of  $\vartheta_{23}$  ( $\vartheta_{23} \gtrless 45^\circ$ )
- ➔
- Matter-antimatter asymmetry
  - Mass scale problem
  - New fundamental symmetries

# The Deep–Underground Neutrino Experiment

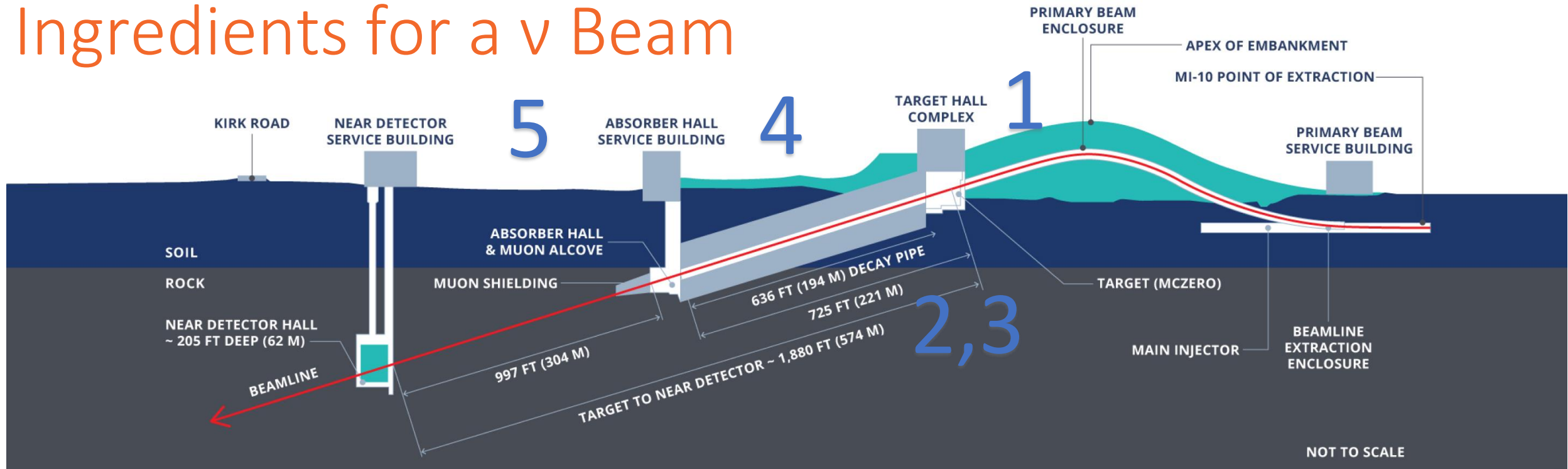


- A large mass, high precision, Deep-Underground accelerator Neutrino Experiment (DUNE)
  - Powerful wide-band  $\nu$  (and  $\bar{\nu}$ ) beam w/ long baseline  
*1.2 MW proton beam, upgradable to 2.4 MW*
  - Near detector complex for beam characterization  
*movable (NDLAr, TMS) + on-axis (SAND) detectors*
  - Huge far detector w/ superior PID capability  
*4 X 17kt total mass LArTPCs, 1.5 km underground*
- ..for a wide physics program
  - Discovery of lepton Yukawa sector missing parameters  
 *$\nu$  mass ordering, CP-violating phase  $\delta_{CP}$*
  - Measurement of PMNS parameters  
*octant of  $\vartheta_{23}$ ,  $\Delta m^2_{13}$ , precision measurement of  $\delta_{CP}$*
  - Physics with natural  $\nu$  sources  
*1<sup>st</sup> observation of HEP, galactic SN bursts & SNNB,  $\vartheta_{12}$*
  - BSM physics  
*neutrino anomalies, proton decay, dark matter, ...*

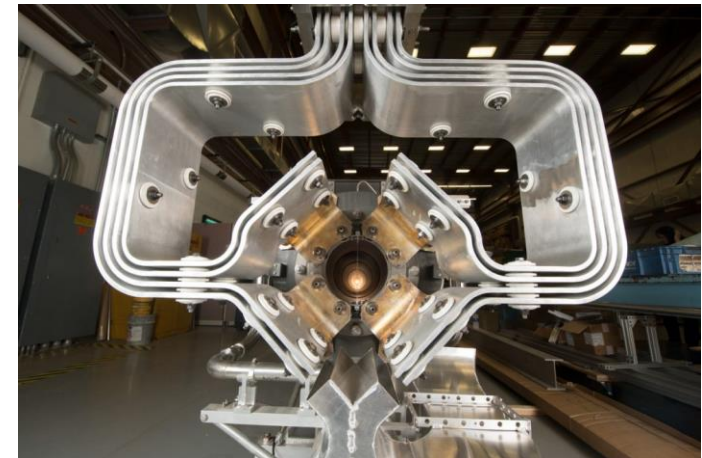
# The DUNE Experiment

A person wearing a white protective suit and a helmet stands on a scissor lift platform inside a large, yellow-lit tunnel. The tunnel's walls and ceiling are covered in a grid of yellow panels, with several circular openings visible in the ceiling. The person is positioned in the center of the frame, looking towards the camera. The overall atmosphere is industrial and brightly lit.

# Ingredients for a $\nu$ Beam

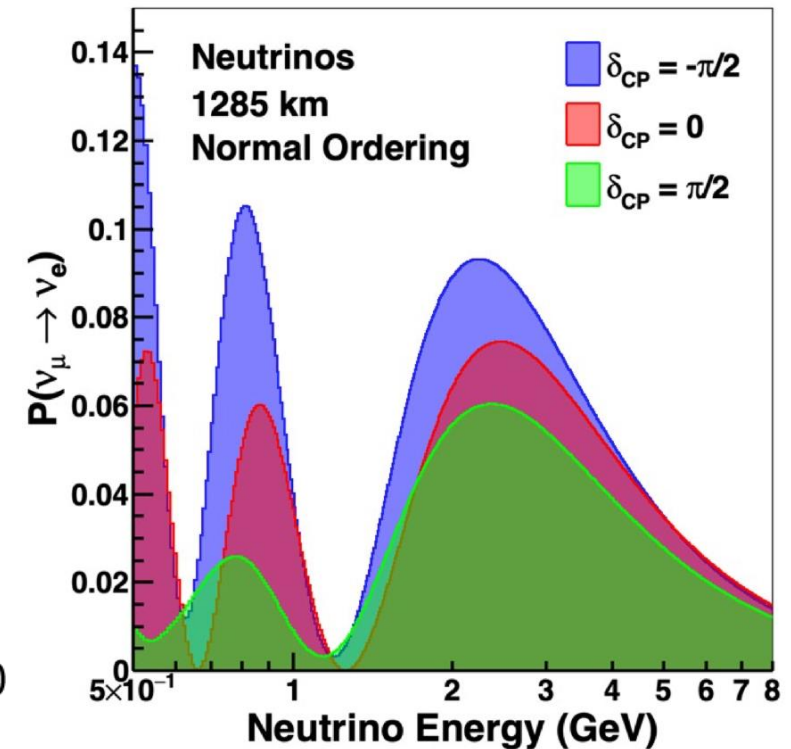
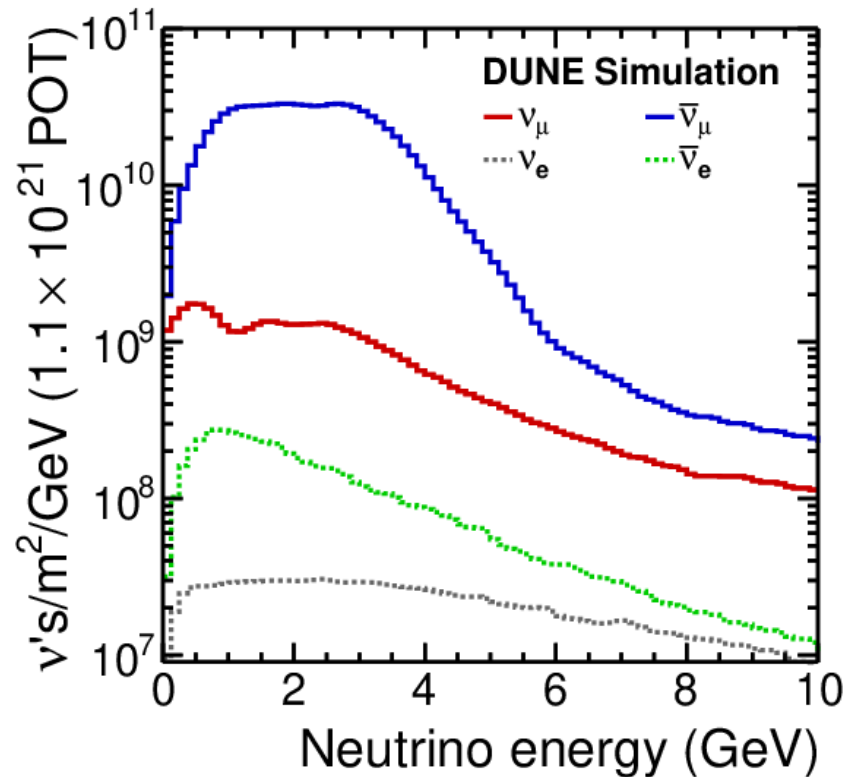
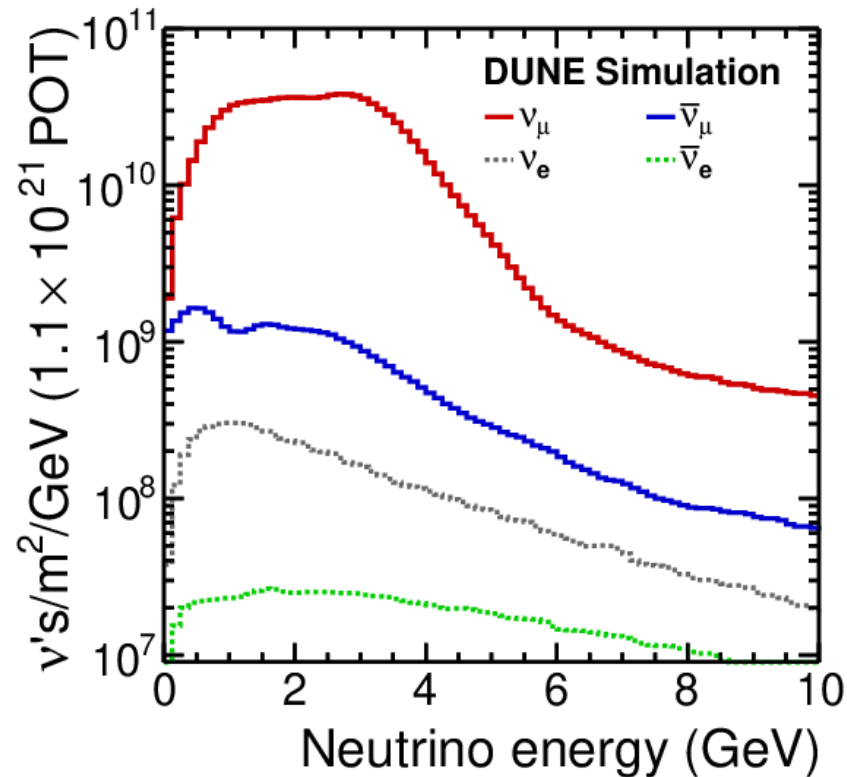


1. Point an intense (MW) proton beam towards SURF
2. Smash those high-energy ( $\sim 120$  GeV) protons onto a graphite target  $\rightarrow \pi, K$
3. Focus positive (negative)  $\pi, K$ , by means of a 1 MW focusing horn with forward (reverse) current polarity
4. Let them decay and absorb remaining charged particles ( $\mu$ )
5. You got an (anti)neutrino beam

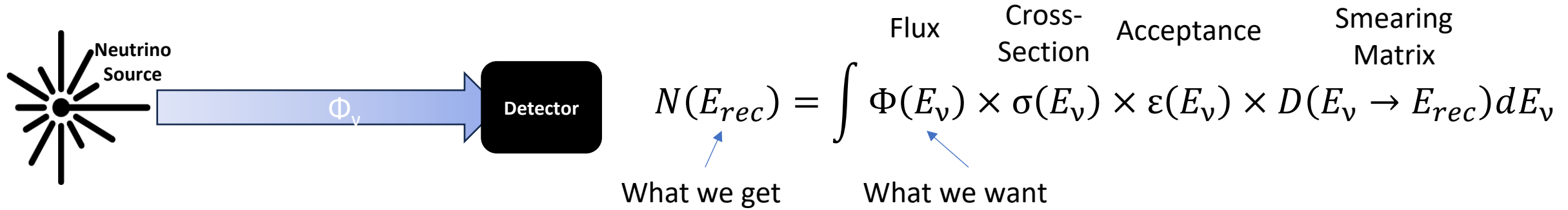


# The Long Baseline Neutrino Facility (LBNF)

- LBNF produces a pure, wide-band beam: energy covers two oscillation peaks
  - Slightly different dependence from the involved parameters in the two peaks → enhances sensitivity
- 1.2 MW and  $1.1 \times 10^{21}$  POT/year in Phase-I



# Purpose of a Near Detector



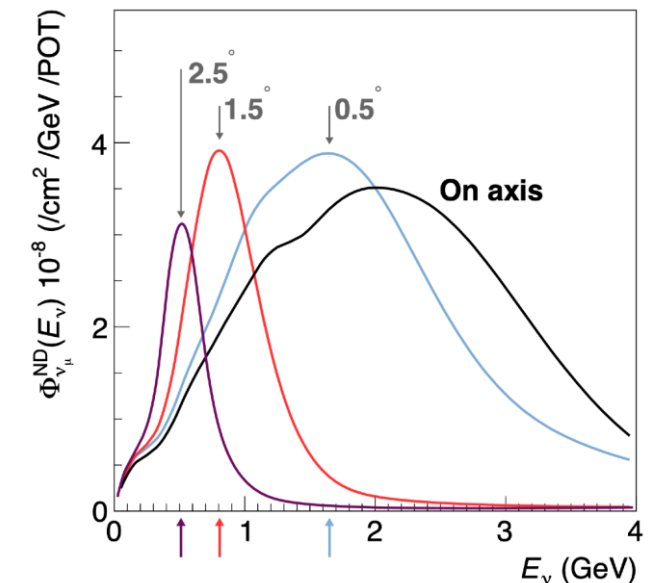
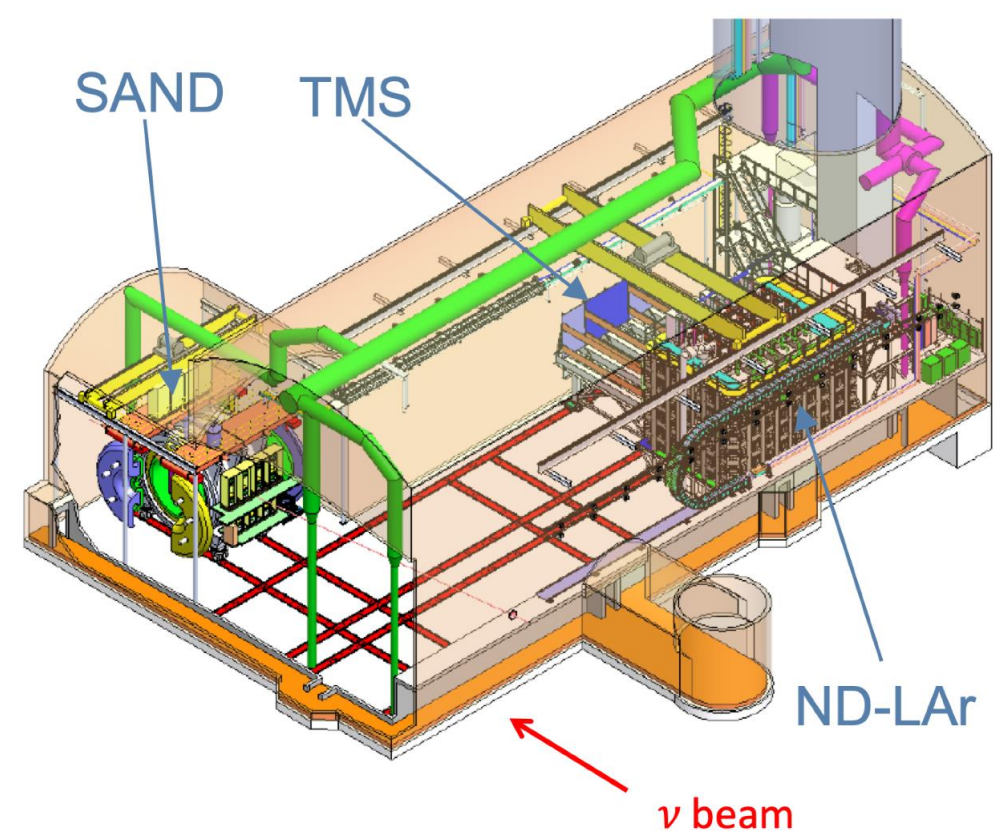
- Observed  $\nu$  rate is measured as a function of the reconstruction energy, which is connected to  $E_\nu$  by a smearing matrix (detector response, neutrino interactions)



- A near detector can constrain many of the systematic uncertainties related to the  $E_\nu$  extrapolation (beam flux and spectrum,  $\nu$ -Ar interaction and cross-section, detector response, beam fluctuations)
- Also, pursue an independent physics program (cross-section measurements, BSM searches)

# The DUNE ND

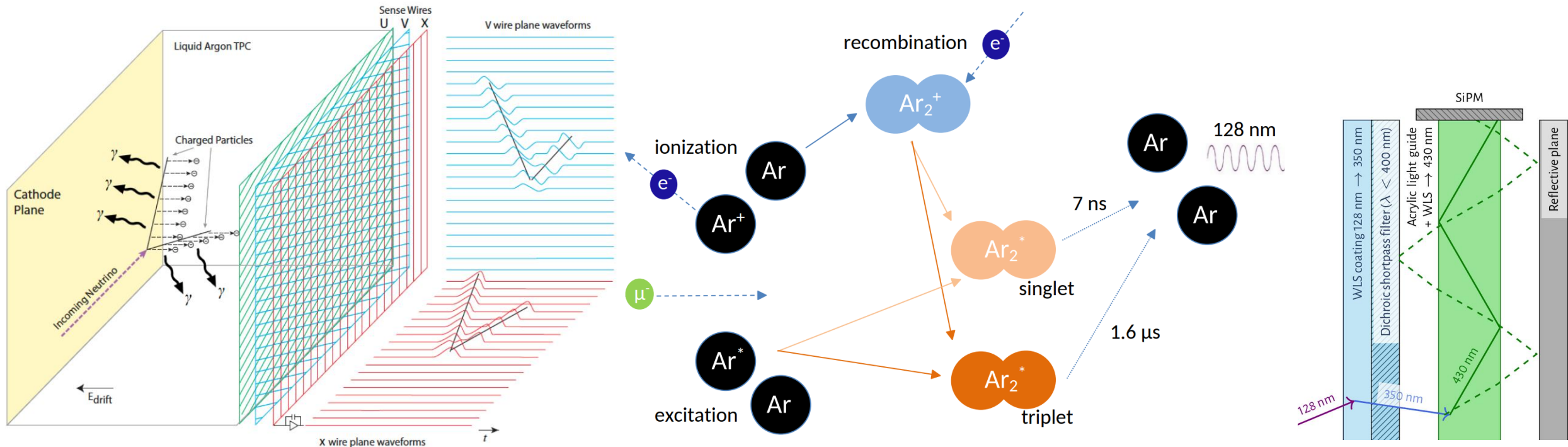
- Three detectors with complementary purposes
  - ND-LAr, same target technology as far detector to maximize ‘cancelation’ of systematics
  - TMS (then ND-Gar) for downstream tracking (PID, high-performance calorimetry)
  - SAND, on-axis magnetized detector for beam monitoring
- Neutrino Pile-up is a challenge
  - Pixelated readout (3D reconstruction)
  - Optical modularity (charge-light matching)
- PRIMS concept: detectors move on-off axis to match oscillated spectrum and construct an energy-dependent model of cross-section and response





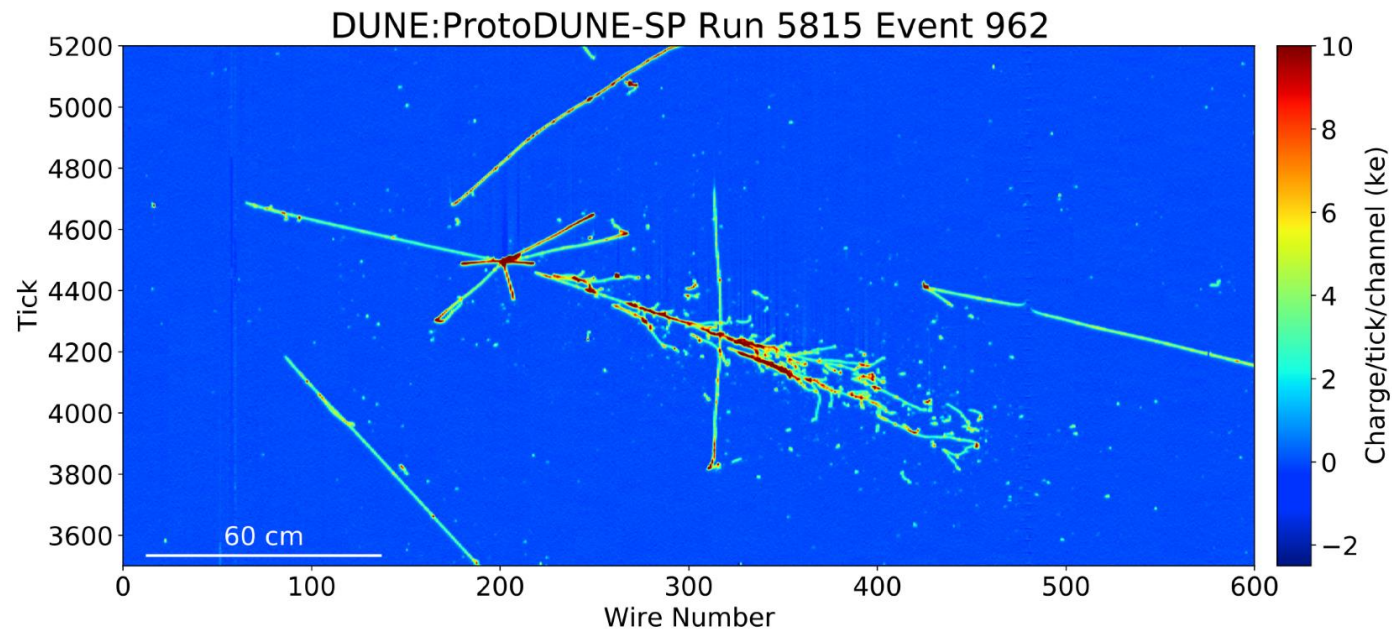
# The LArTPC

- A charged particle in liquid argon produces two signals, proportional to its energy deposit:
  - Free electrons; drifted from a cathode to an anodic readout (500 V/cm) inside a field cage
  - Luminescence VUV photons ( $\lambda = 128$  nm); shifted to UV, trapped and collected by photosensors
- A DUNE Far Detector LArTPC has two systems, one for each of these signals

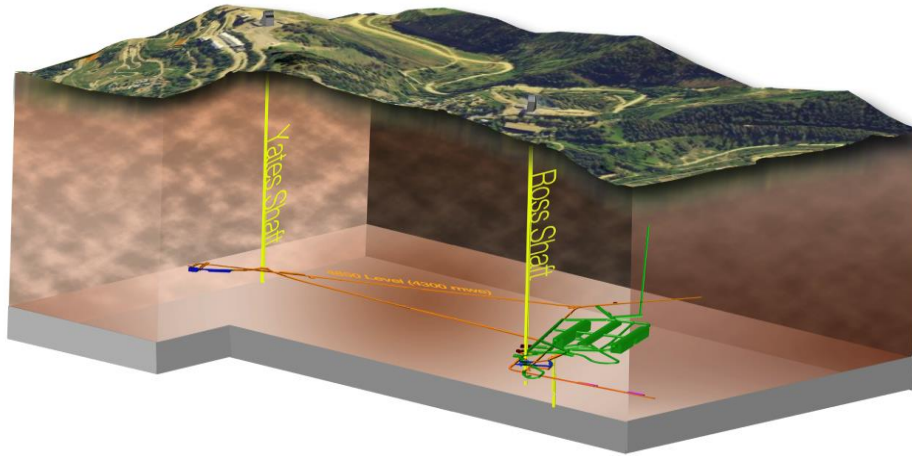


# A Song of Charge and Light

- The charge signal is the true force the LArTPC – visual tracks & showers, like an online cloud chamber
  - Good energy resolution (42k e/MeV) – 15-20% (10-15%) for quasi-elastic  $\nu_\mu$  ( $\nu_e$ ) interactions
  - Precise mm imaging – best available technology at the kt scale → PID via dE/dx (e/ $\mu$  & e/ $\gamma$  separation)
- LAr VUV light ( $\lambda = 128$  nm) is an independent (anticorrelated) signal
  - $\tau_{\text{fast}} = 7\text{ns}$  → provides event  $t_0$ , crucial for triggering/locating non-beam events
  - Can enhance calorimetry (40k photons/MeV) and has background rejection capabilities

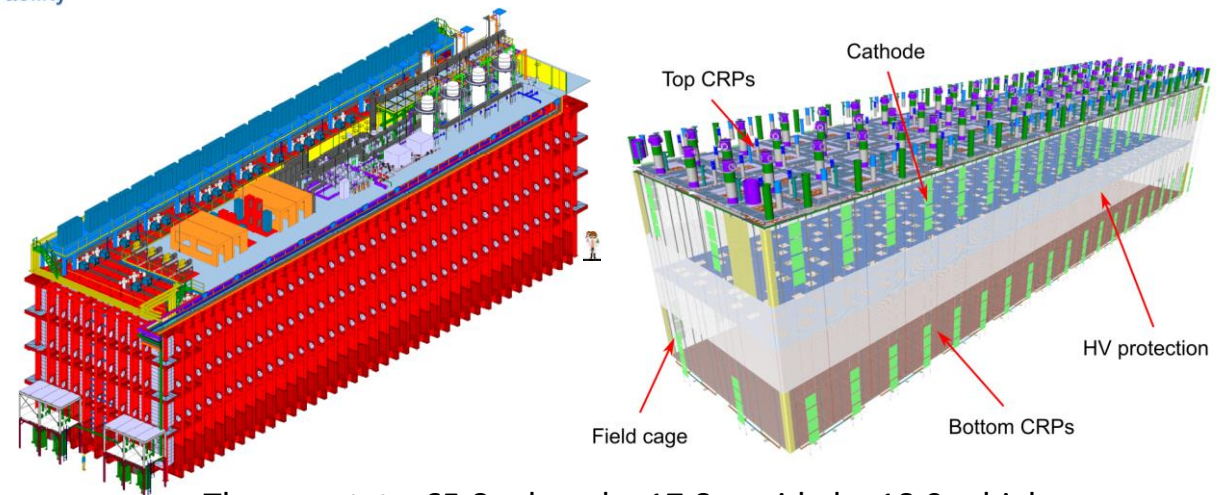
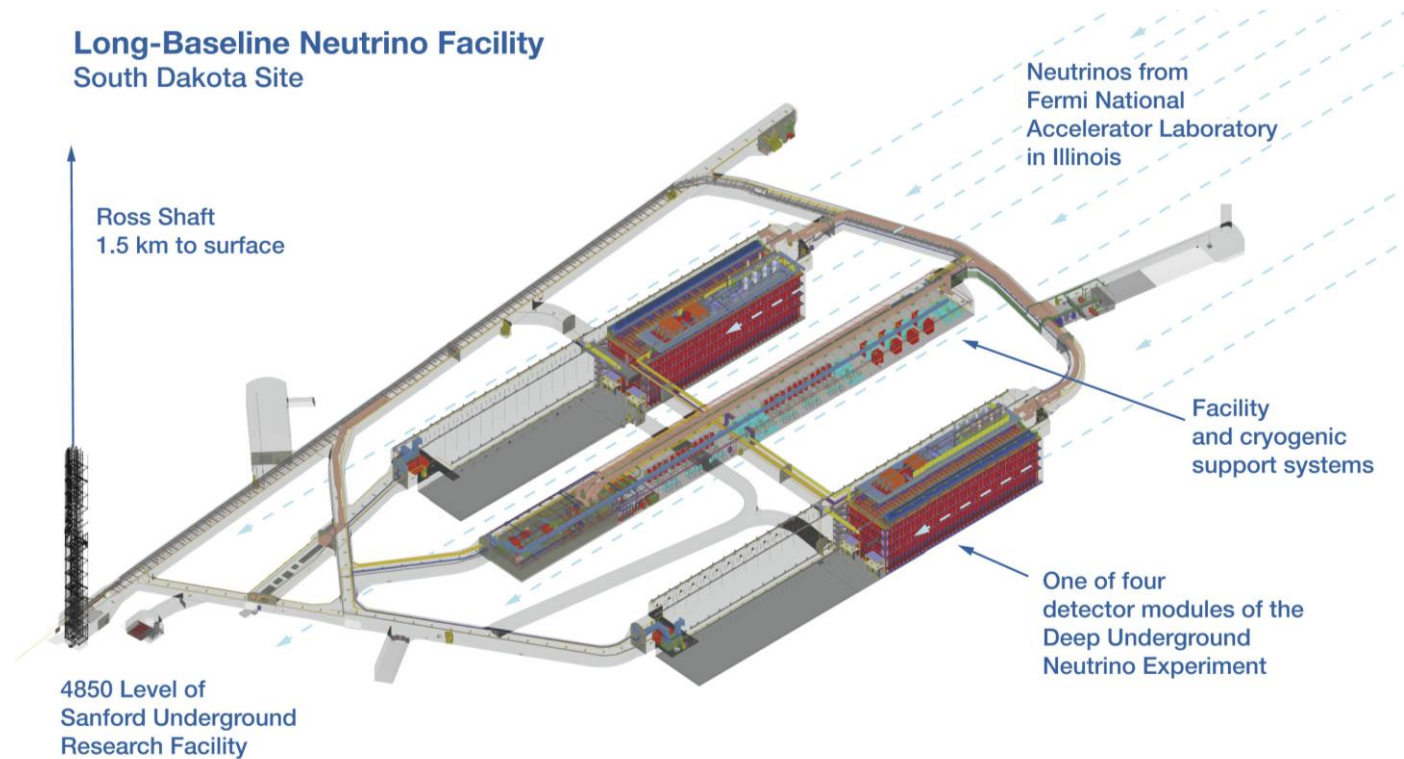


# The DUNE FD Complex



- 4 chambers, each can host a 17 kt LArTPC ( $\geq 10$  kt fiducial volume, 40kt total)
- Possibility to mix different types of detector
- Phase-I foresees 2 different LArTPC
  - FD-I – horizontal drift
  - FD-II – vertical drift
- 2 additional modules (& upgraded ND) in Phase-II

## Long-Baseline Neutrino Facility South Dakota Site

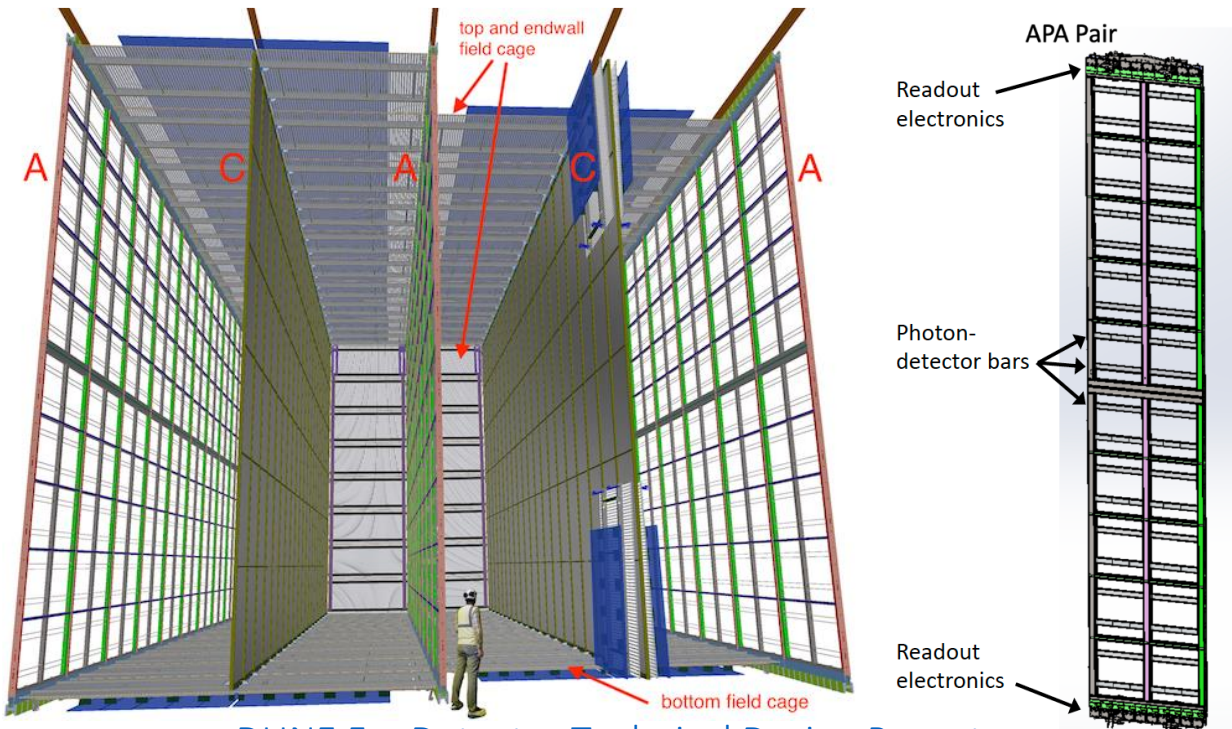


The cryostats: 65.8m long by 17.8m wide by 18.9m high

# FD-I and -II

- Horizontal drift – well-established technology

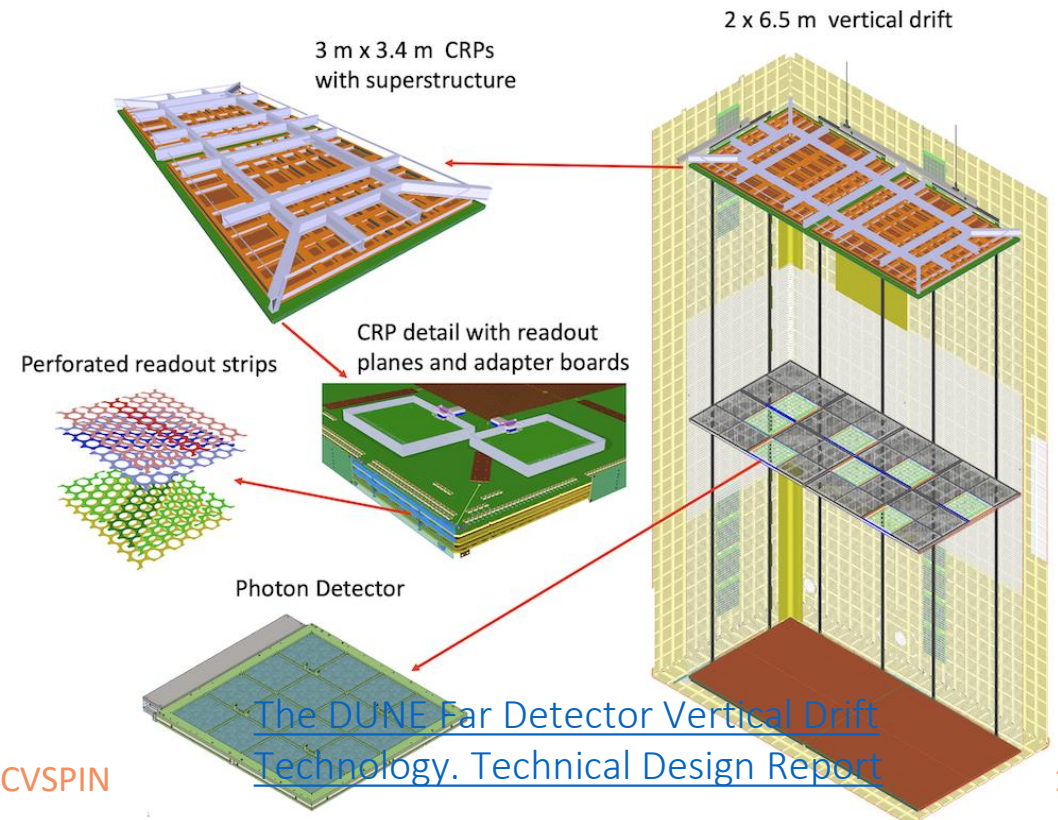
- 150 6 X 2.3m<sup>2</sup> Anode Plane Assembly (APA) with wire charge readout
- 1500 X-ARAPUCA light trap bars inside APAs
- 4 X 3.5m drift (180 kV, 500 V/cm, 1.6mm/μs)



DUNE Far Detector Technical Design Report

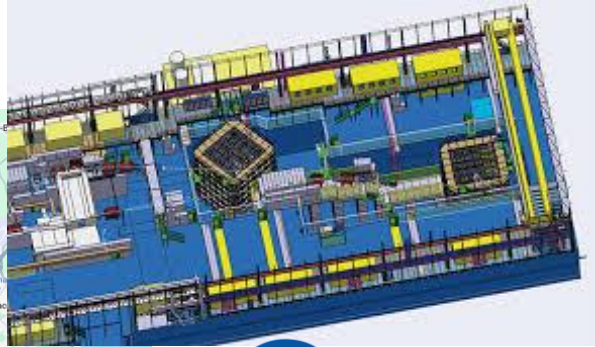
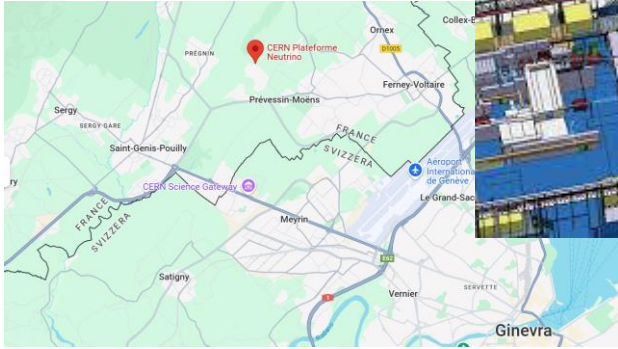
- Vertical drift – cheaper, simpler, longer drift

- 160 3 X 3.4m<sup>2</sup> Charge Readout Planes (CRP)
- 750 X-ARAPUCA modules inside the cathode (with power-over fiber) and on the field cage, Xe doping?
- 2 X 6.5m drift (294 kV, 450 V/cm)



The DUNE Far Detector Vertical Drift Technology. Technical Design Report

# The CERN Prototypes



- Two 6 X 6 X 6 m<sup>3</sup> Module-0 at the CERN Neutrino Platform, CERN hadronic beam in the North Area
- ProtoDUNE Phase-I (2016-20)
  - Successfully demonstrated the horizontal drift technology, reaching or exceeding DUNE specifications
  - Several analyses ongoing (h-Ar cross-sections, calibrations, detector response)
- ProtoDUNE Phase-II (2020-)
  - Two modules, an upgraded horizontal and a vertical drift, constructed
  - Run-II of the HD ended last Friday! Run-I for the VD starting in early 2025 (with transferred argon)



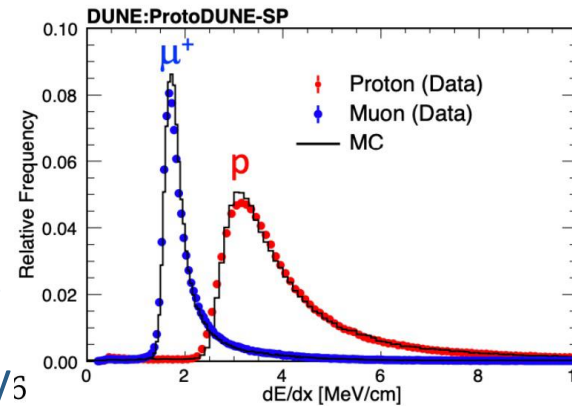
**ProtoDUNE-HD**

**ProtoDUNE-VD**

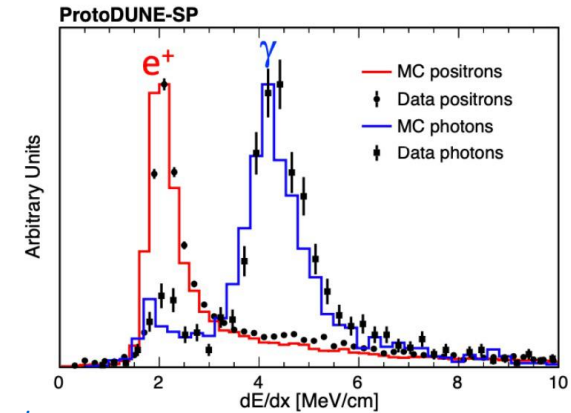
# Highlights of ProtoDUNE Runs

- Beam (0.3-7 GeV hadrons,  $4 \times 10^6$  triggers) & cosmics collected in ProtoDUNE-HD (formerly -SP)

- High  $\epsilon_{\text{reco}}$  ( $\sim 100\%$ ) & beam particle ID ( $\sim 80\%$ ), excellent  $e/\gamma$  and  $\mu/p$  separation
- First measurement of K-Ar inelastic cross-section
- Xenon doping run (20 ppm) to test light yield increase
- ARAPUCA established as photon detection technology



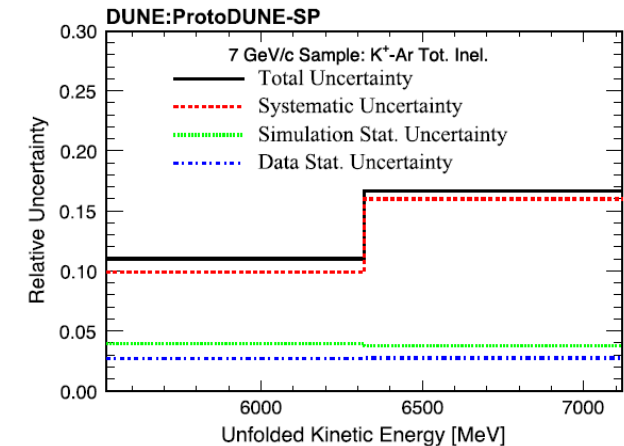
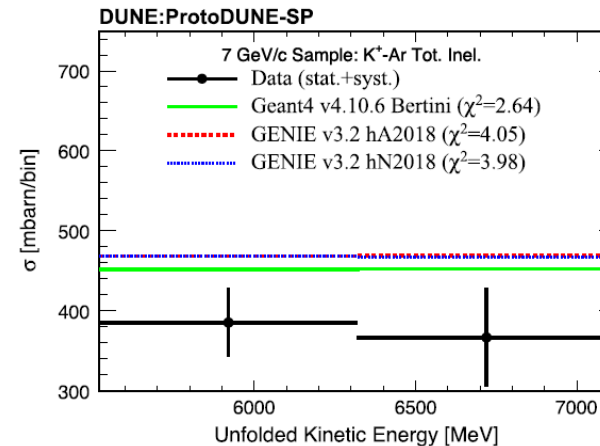
[Abud, A et al 2023 EPJC 83, 618](#)



- Current Phase-II establishing Module-0(s)

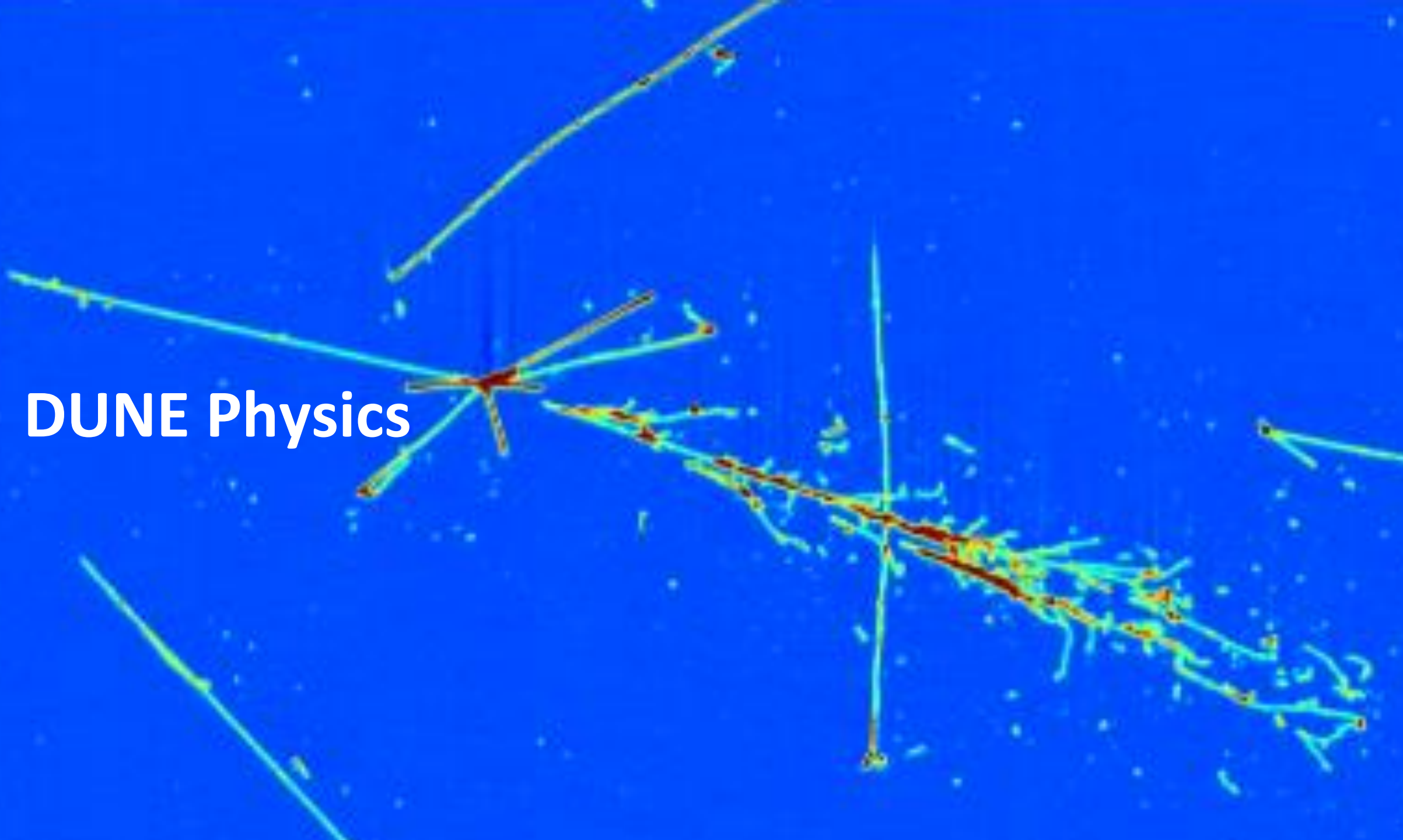
- Underpinned DUNE FD final designs with production and methods
- Beam data will allow to complete/improve hadron cross-section measurements on Argon

[B. Abi et al 2020 JINST 15 P12004](#)



[Abud, A. et al 2024 PRD, 110\(9\), 092011.](#)

# DUNE Physics





# Long-Baseline Oscillation Physics

- $\nu_\mu$  oscillation in matter is sensitive to matter effect,  $\delta_{CP}$ , octant of  $\vartheta_{23}$  → can measure all these parameters, but the effects mix up!
- Long-baseline and high statistics are crucial to break current degeneracy
  - DUNE takes advantage of the longest (1300 km) baseline in accelerator neutrino history
  - $\nu_e$  &  $\bar{\nu}_e$  yields are order of magnitude increases relative to NOvA, T2K
  - Control of systematics is crucial (ND)

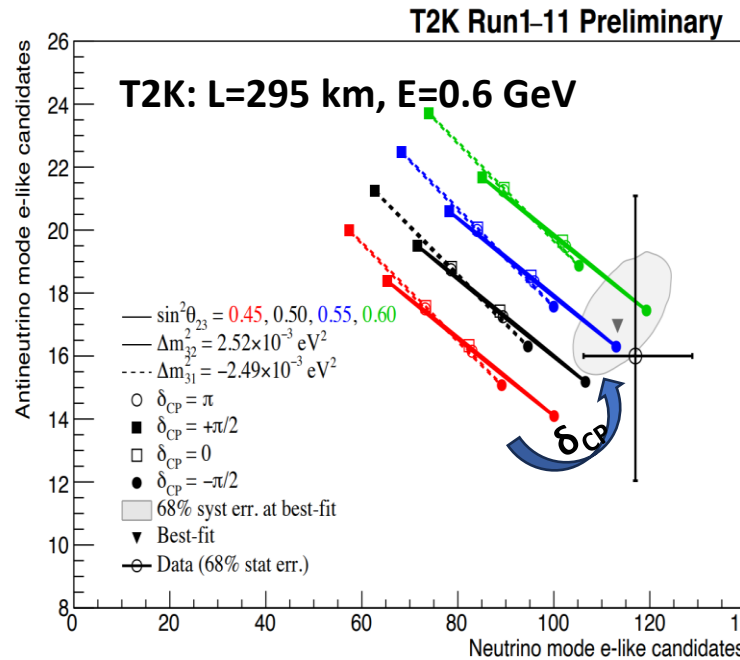
$$P(\bar{\nu}_\mu \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e) \simeq \sin^2 \theta_{23} \sin^2 2\theta_{13} \frac{\sin^2(\Delta_{31} - aL)}{(\Delta_{31} - aL)^2} \Delta_{31}^2 + \sin 2\theta_{23} \sin 2\theta_{13} \sin 2\theta_{12} \times \frac{\sin(\Delta_{31} - aL)}{(\Delta_{31} - aL)} \Delta_{31} + \frac{\sin(aL)}{(aL)} \Delta_{21} \cos(\Delta_{31} \pm \delta_{CP}) + \cos^2 \theta_{23} \sin^2 2\theta_{12} \frac{\sin^2(aL)}{(aL)^2} \Delta_{21}^2$$

Coherent forward scattering on  $e^-$  ( $a = G_F N_e / 2$ )

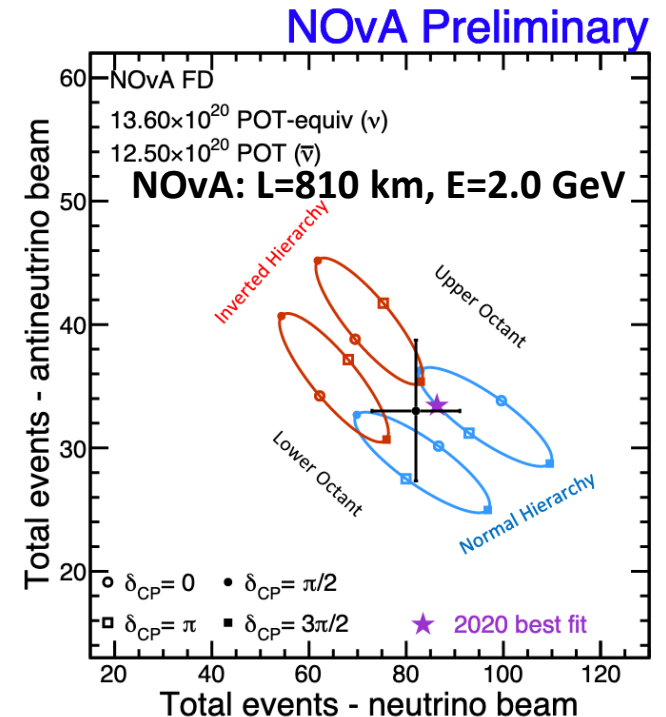
CP violation ( $\delta_{CP}$ )

$$\Delta_{ij} = \Delta m_{ij}^2 \frac{L}{E_\nu}$$

12/12/2024

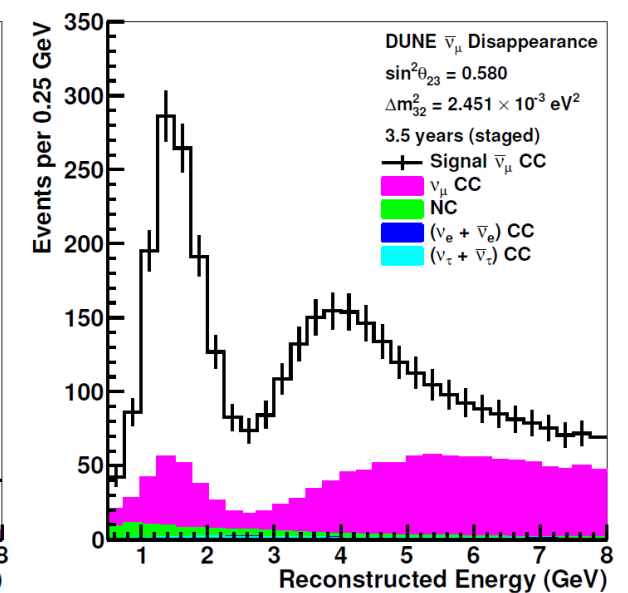
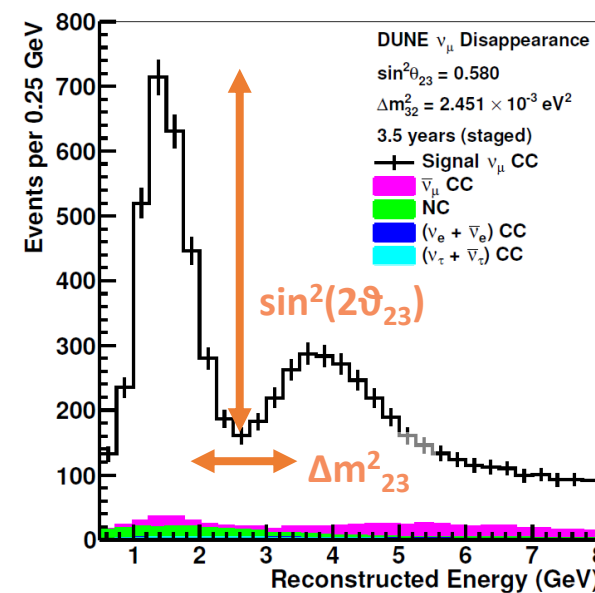
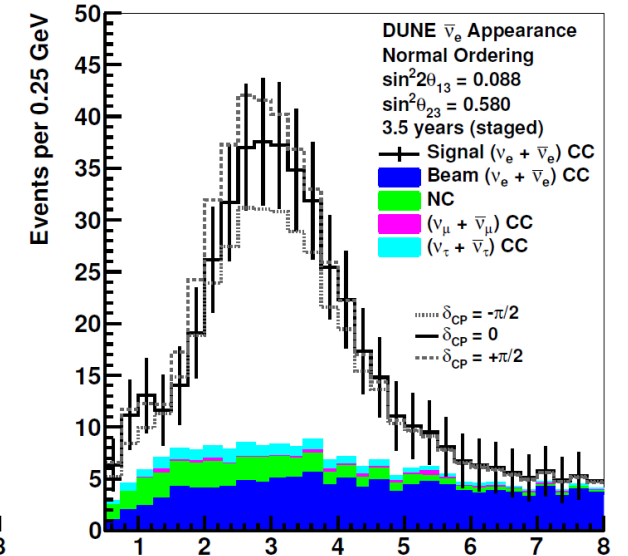
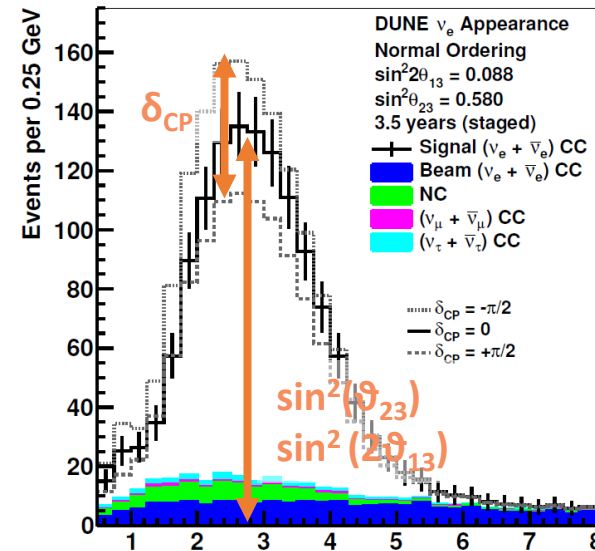


Highlights from DUNE @ BCVSPIN



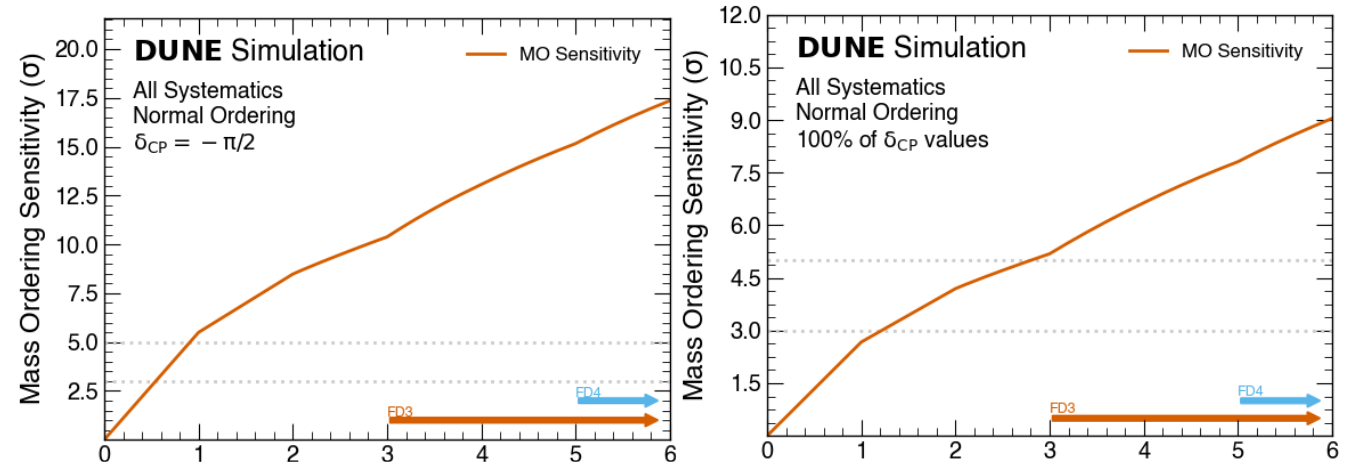
# Oscillation Physics in DUNE

- High flux between oscillation min (1.27 GeV) & max (2.54 GeV); coverage of 2<sup>nd</sup> max (0.80 GeV)
- If  $\delta_{CP} \simeq -\pi/2$ , DUNE will measure an enhancement (reduction) in  $\nu_e(\bar{\nu}_e)$  appearance
- If the mass ordering is normal, DUNE will measure a much larger enhancement (reduction) in  $\nu_e(\bar{\nu}_e)$  appearance
- Different parameters affect spectra in different ways  $\rightarrow$  handle on resolving degeneracies
- If new physics is present, there may be no combination of mass ordering,  $\delta_{CP}$ , and  $\theta_{23}$  that fits data

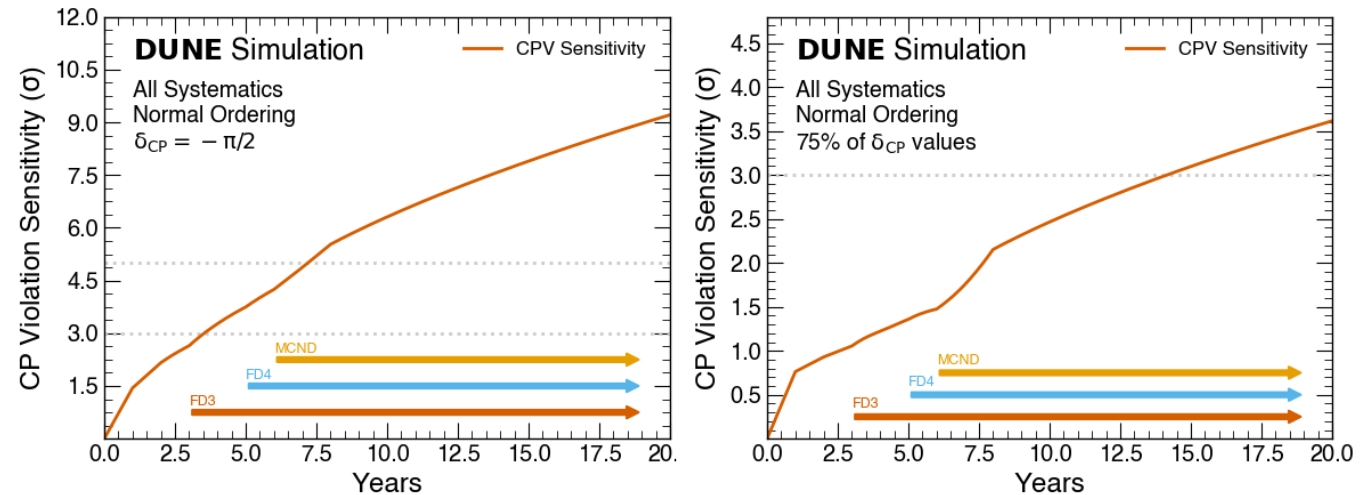


# Sensitivity to Oscillation Parameters

- Sensitivity goals depend on nature kindness
- For best-case scenarios, DUNE has
  - $> 5 \sigma$  mass ordering sensitivity after 1 year
  - $> 3 \sigma$   $\delta_{CP}$  sensitivity in 5 years
- For worse-case scenarios, DUNE has
  - $> 5 \sigma$  mass ordering sensitivity in 3 years
- In the long run, DUNE can establish CPV over 75% of  $\delta_{CP}$  values at  $> 3 \sigma$

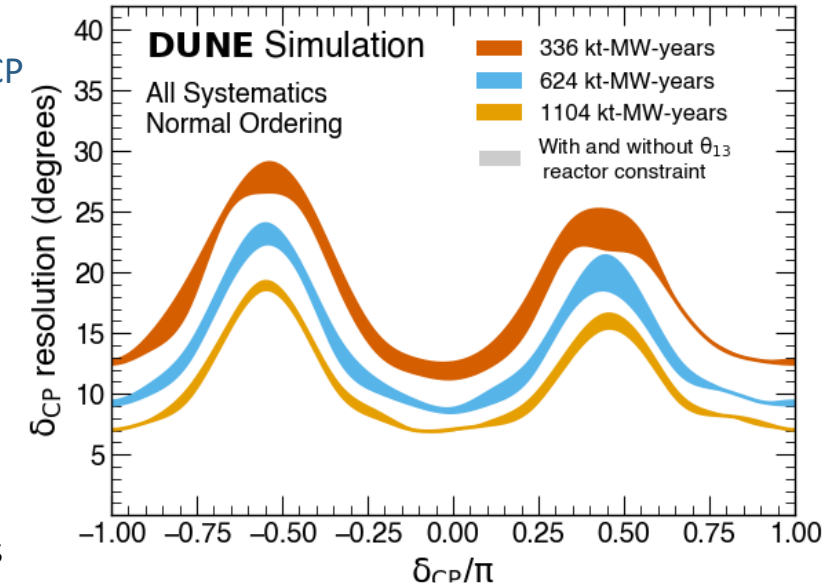


[Eur. Phys. J. C 80, 978 \(2020\)](#)

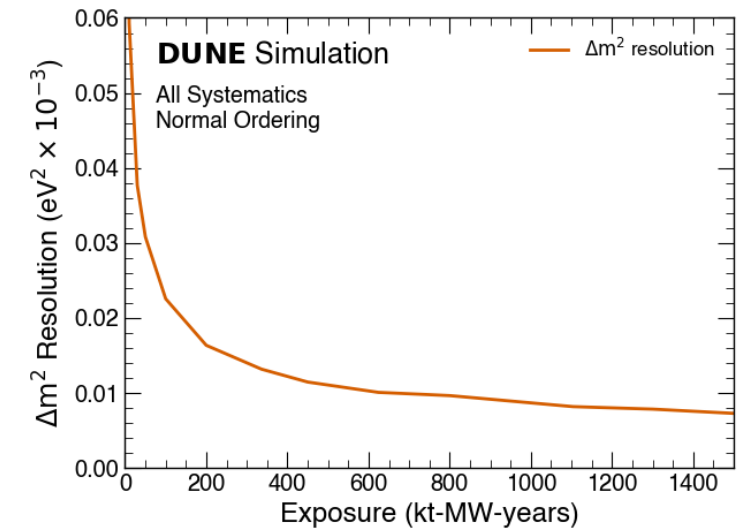
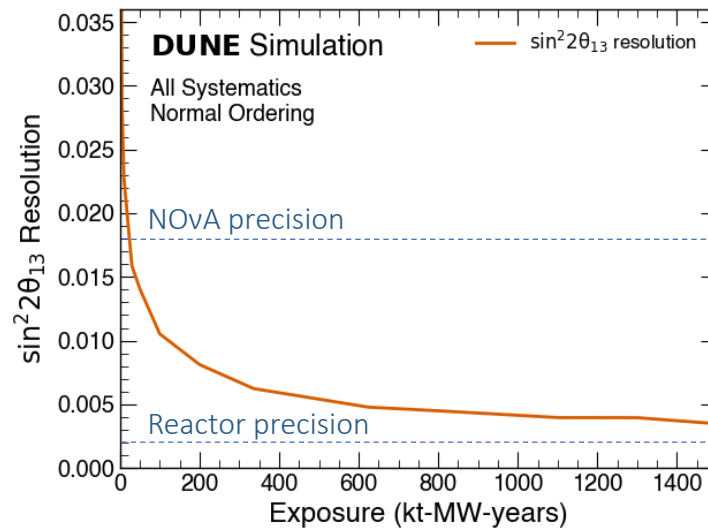
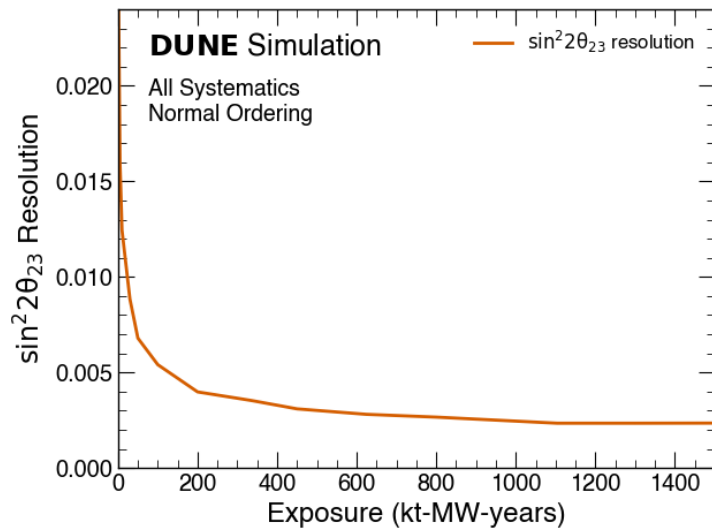


# Precision Measurement of Oscillation Parameters

- Best precision for  $\delta_{CP}$  in the 6-16° range, & the most ‘interesting’  $\delta_{CP}$
- World leading precision for  $\Delta m^2_{23}$ ,  $\vartheta_{23}$ , and  $\vartheta_{23}$  for accelerator neutrino experiments
  - Sub-percent precision, DUNE is in the game for the PMNS precision era
  - Comparison with reactor measurements especially powerful to unveil new physics

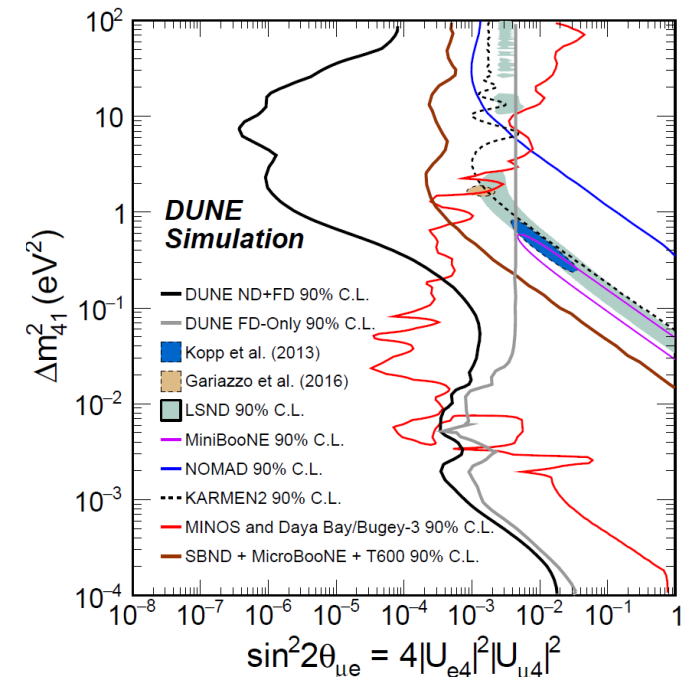
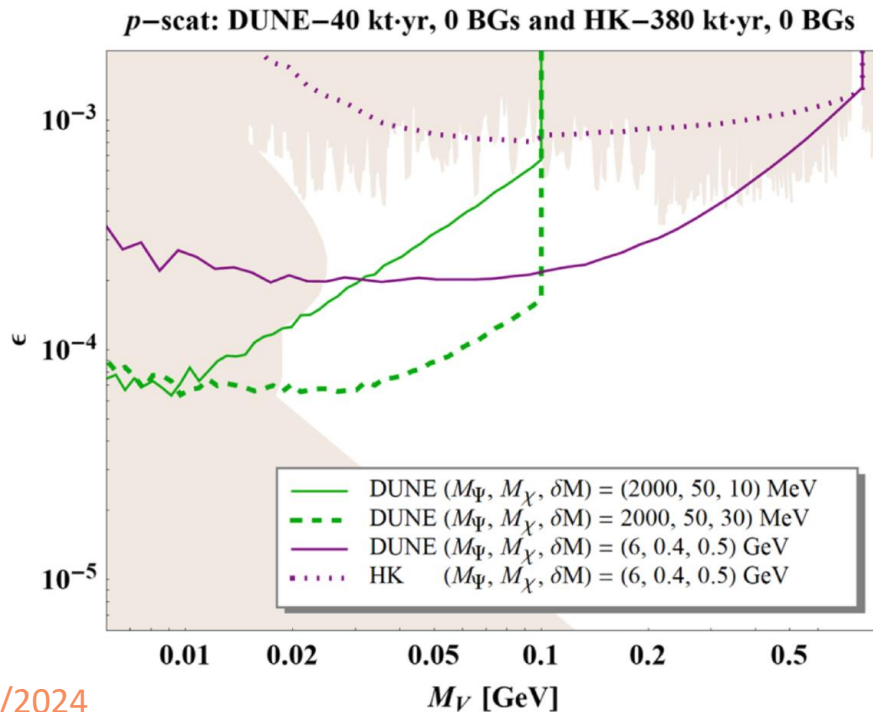


336 kt-MW-y  $\approx$  7 years, 1104 kt-MW-y  $\approx$  15 years



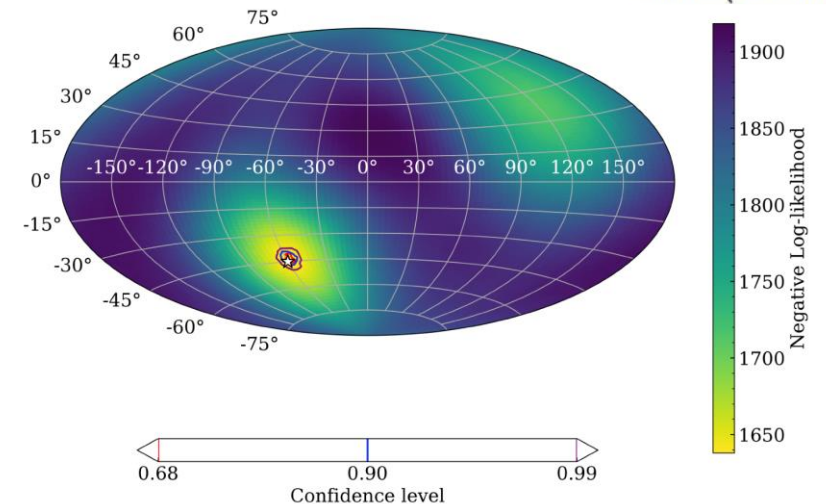
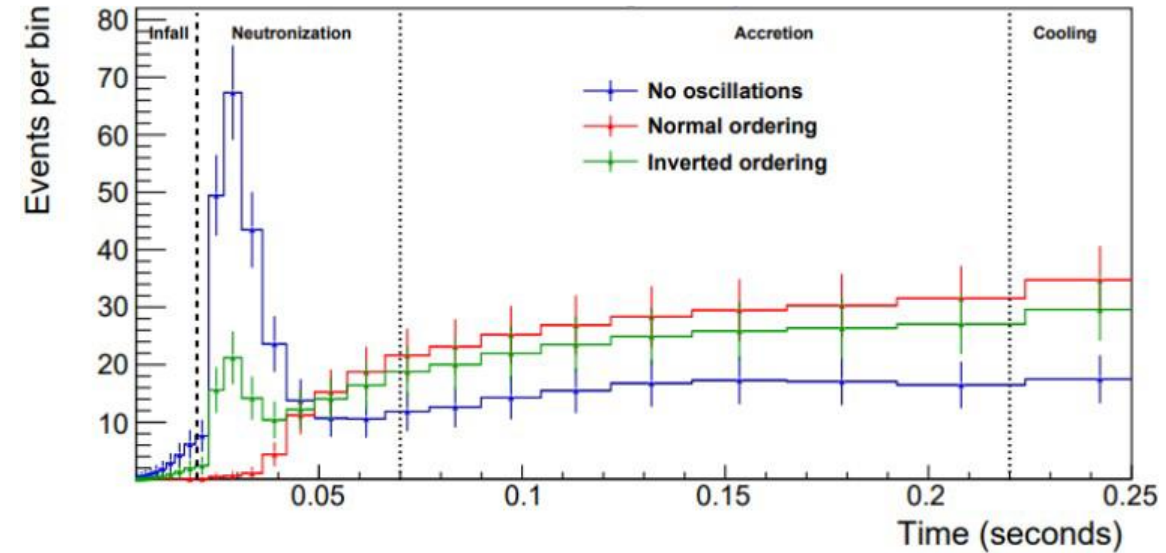
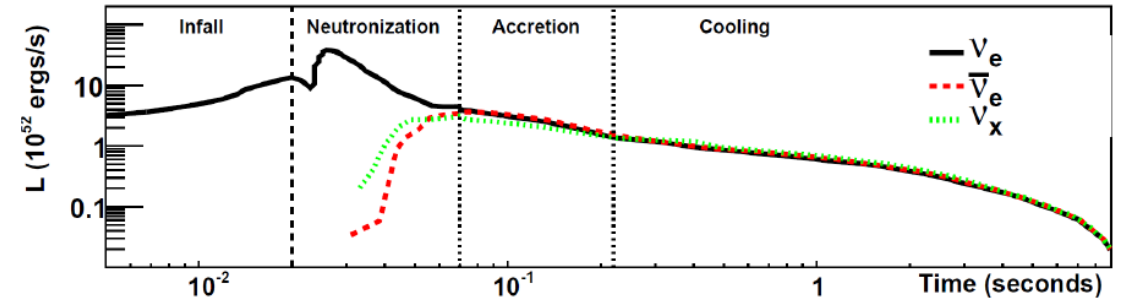
# BSM Searches

- Huge mass, low threshold and directionality in FD → sensitive to other rare processes
  - E.g., proton decay (best channel  $p \rightarrow k\bar{\nu}$ )
- Broad L/E range covered at both ND and FD → new physics (BSM oscillations, CPT violation, NSI)
- High-intensity  $\nu$  beam → exotic physics @ ND (light DM, HNL), BSM contributions to  $\nu$  interactions



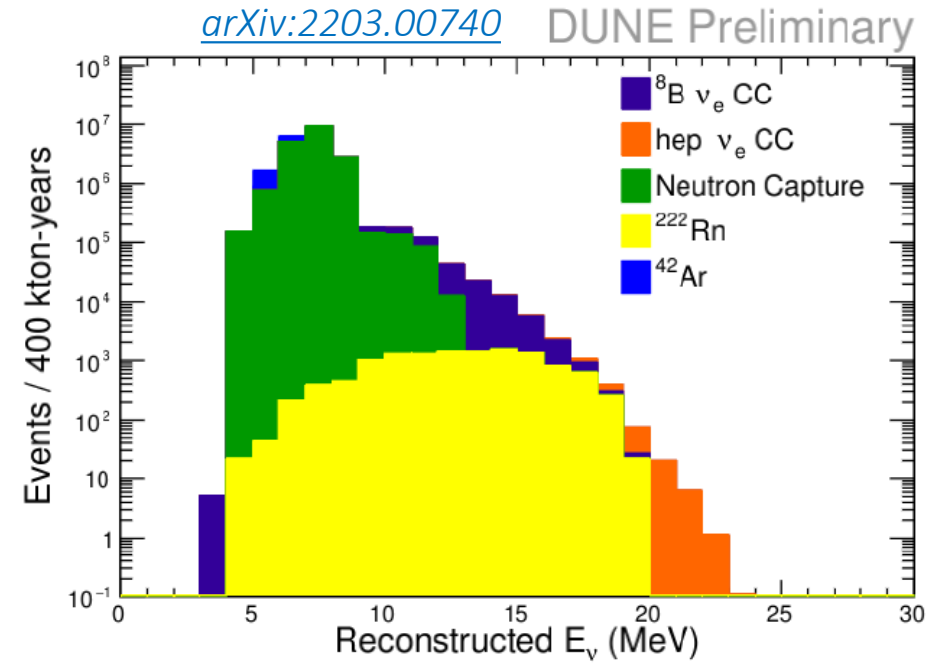
# Supernovae

- SN explosion in the center of the MilkyWay
  - $O10^3$  neutrinos in the FD over a few tens of seconds
  - Energy spectrum peaked around 10 MeV, up to 30MeV
- LAr detectors sensitive to the  $\nu_e$  component
  - DUNE uniquely positioned to study the neutronization burst (first few tens of milliseconds)  $\rightarrow$  mass ordering
- Evolution of the (flavor-dependent) flux & spectrum can be sensitive to astrophysical properties of the supernova and its progenitor
- Pointing resolution of better than  $5^\circ$  (from  $\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_x$ )

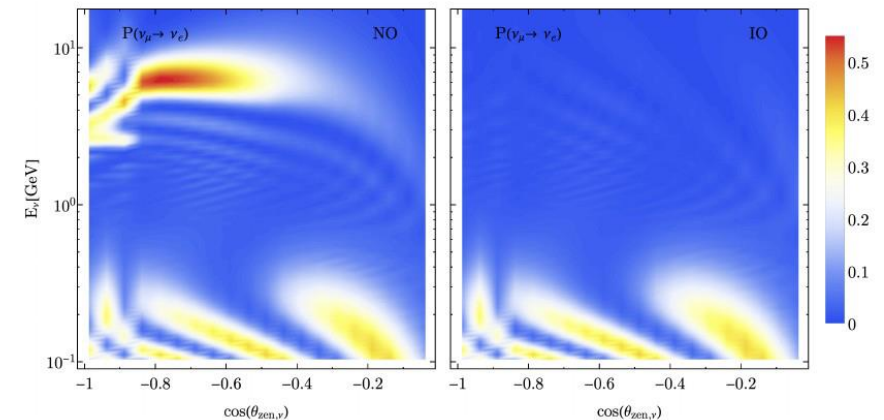


# Other Natural Sources

- Solar neutrinos
  - Good sensitivity to  $^8\text{B}$  neutrinos and discovery potential for hep
  - Can improve day-night asymmetry measurements
  - Background is the main challenge, capability for low-energy physics can be expanded in FD-III,IV
- Atmospheric neutrinos
  - Improved angular resolution with reconstructed hadrons
  - Can combine in the oscillation analysis
- FD-I,II alive before the beam, an opportunity to explore these physics

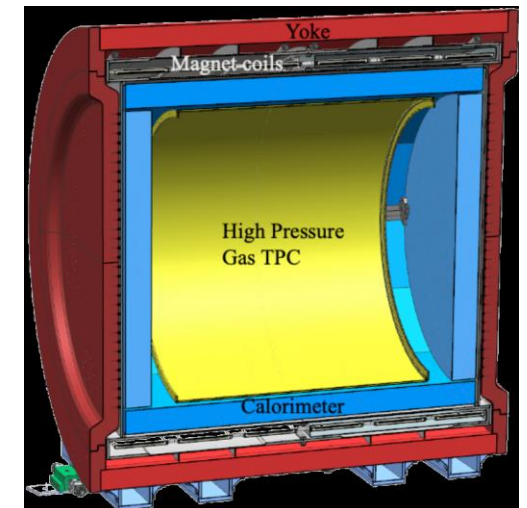
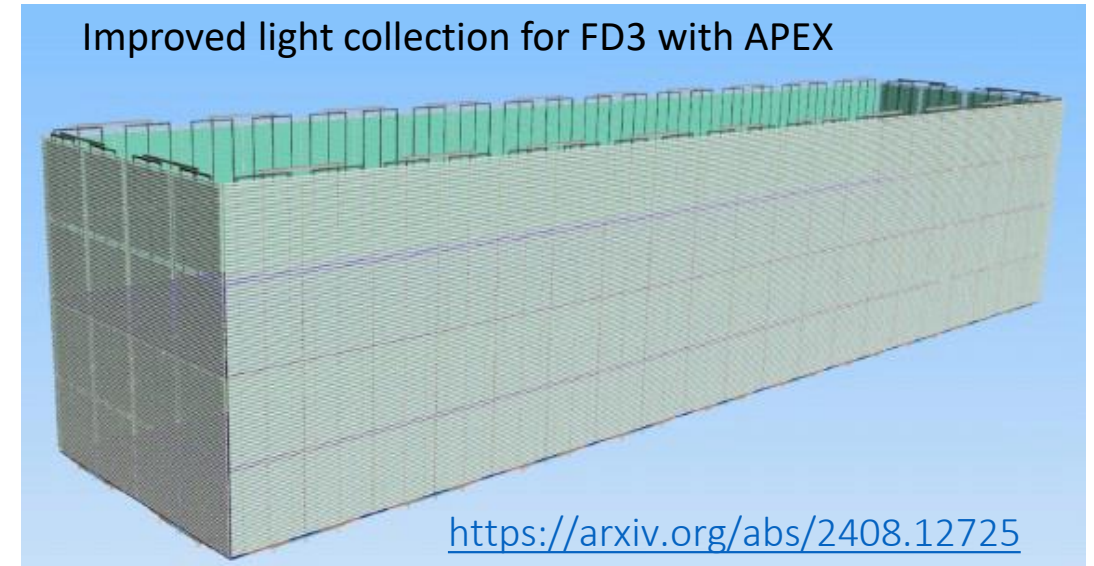


[Phys. Rev. X 13, 041055 \(2023\)](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevX.13.041055)



# Phase-II of DUNE

- Two additional modules (40kt total fiducial volume)
  - VD is the baseline design for the Phase II FD modules
  - Phased construction allows to reap off technological developments to expand the physics reach of DUNE (solar and supernova neutrinos, DM, etc.)
  - Pursuing improvements to light collection for FD3
  - For FD4 (the “Module of Opportunity”) more ambitious designs are being considered (pixel readout, integrated charge-light readout, low backgrounds, Xe doping, non-LAr options, etc.)
- More capable Near Detector (ND-GAr) – repurposed KLOE solenoid & ECAL
  - Magnetized high-pressure gaseous argon TPC surrounded by ECAL and  $\mu$  tagger
  - B field and the ECAL allow for PID and momentum/sign reconstruction
  - Low tracking threshold and uniform acceptance





# Going Low in Energies

- Strong drive within DUNE to exploit FD Modules 3 and 4 to extend low-energy physics program

- Improved solar  $\nu$  and SN physics, SN CEvNS, even  $0\nu\beta\beta$  ( $^{136}\text{Xe}$  doping) and WIMP searches
- All possible in upgraded FD modules w/o losing sensitivity to neutrino mixing parameters

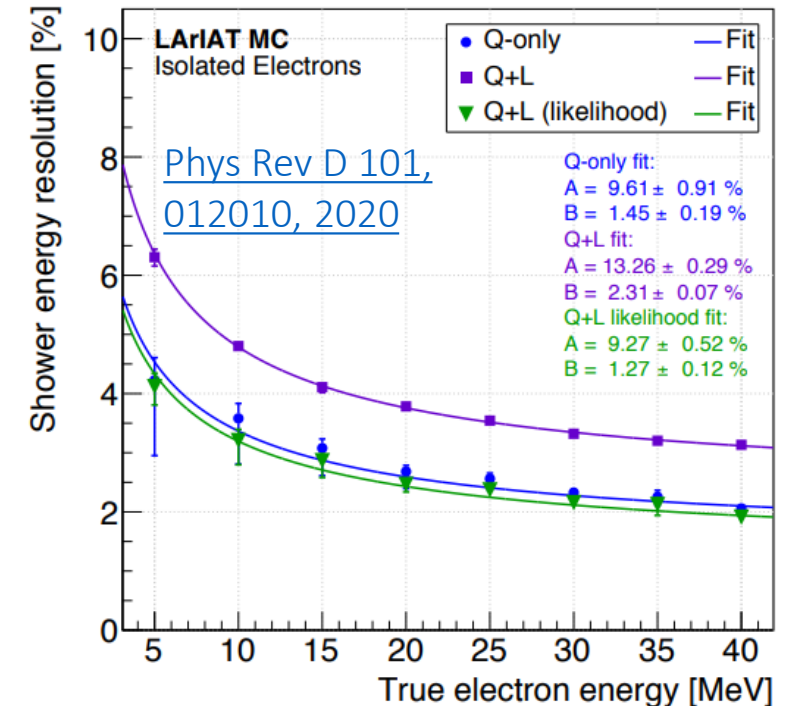
[arxiv:2203.08821](https://arxiv.org/abs/2203.08821)

[arxiv:2203.14700](https://arxiv.org/abs/2203.14700)

[arxiv:2203.07501](https://arxiv.org/abs/2203.07501)

- These extensions take advantage of enhanced PDS (trigger, PID, calorimetry) → vigorous R&D and design/simulation programs

- Lower threshold wrt baseline DUNE design (10 MeV →  $\mathcal{O}$  100 keV)
- Rejection of background ( $n$ ,  $Rn$ ,  $^{42}\text{Ar}$ ,  $^{39}\text{Ar}$ ) is a major challenge, can be achieved via topology and PSD
- Better  $E_{\text{res}}$  via charge + light calorimetry (i.e. with ARAPUCA-style modules and novel VUV SiPMs that are under study)





# DUNE Timeline

- Far site excavation is complete!
- 'Til mid-2025 Building & infrastructure works
- 2025-26 cryostat structure installation (recently arrived from CERN)
- 2026-27 far detector installation
- 2028 Purging and Ar filling
- Early 2029 First physics at the far detector
- 2031 Beam physics with ND and two FD modules (total fiducial mass of 20 kt, 1.2 MW beam)
- 2032 One more FD module, for total fiducial mass of 30 kt
- 2034 Another FD module, for total fiducial mass of 40 kt
- 2037 Upgrade to a 2.4 MW beam

# The DUNE Collaboration

- Over 1400 collaborators from over 200 institutions in over 30 countries and CERN
- We meet three times a year (CERN, Fermilab, +1 institution)



<https://www.dunescience.org/>  
<https://lbnf-dune.fnal.gov/>

# Conclusions

- DUNE is a next-generation long-baseline neutrino oscillation experiment and neutrino observatory
- It has the potential to deliver ground-breaking results, like the unambiguous determination of the neutrino mass hierarchy, the discovery of CP violation in the leptonic sector, and many more
- DUNE rich scientific programme includes neutrinos of astrophysical origin, as well as BSM searches, both at its ND and FD
- An active large-scale prototype program at CERN validated the technology for the first two, and potentially all four far detectors
- Meanwhile, a rich R&D program is focused on expanding DUNE physics for Phase-II
- DUNE physics starts in this decade, so stay tuned!

An aerial photograph of a traditional Nepalese temple complex, likely in Kathmandu. The scene is dominated by a large, multi-tiered pagoda with a golden spire on the right side. To the left, there is a prominent stone dome structure. The buildings are constructed with red brick and feature intricate carvings. In the background, a range of blue mountains stretches across the horizon under a clear, bright blue sky. A small bird is visible in flight in the upper left quadrant. The overall atmosphere is one of historical grandeur and cultural heritage.

Thank you  
Grazie