

DUNE: Physics and Supporting Software

Mathew Muether for the DUNE International Collaboration



XIV International Conference
on New Frontiers in Physics
17-31 July 2025, OAC, Kolymbari, Crete, Greece



WICHITA STATE
UNIVERSITY



Physics Goals

The DUNE design will enable precision measurements of neutrino oscillations and interactions providing



- Discovery sensitivity to CP violation, mass ordering, θ_{23} octant over a wide range of possible parameter values.



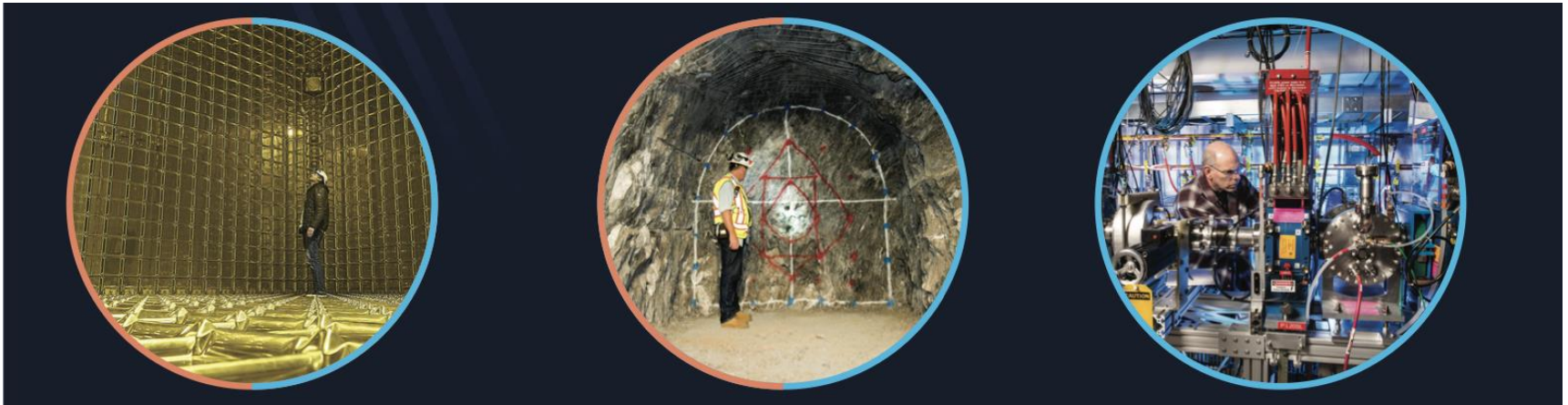
- Unambiguous, high-precision measurements of Δm^2_{32} , δ_{CP} , $\sin^2\theta_{23}$, $\sin^2 2\theta_{13}$ in a single experiment.



- Sensitivity to MeV-scale neutrinos, such as from a galactic supernova burst
- Low backgrounds for sensitivity to BSM physics including baryon number violation

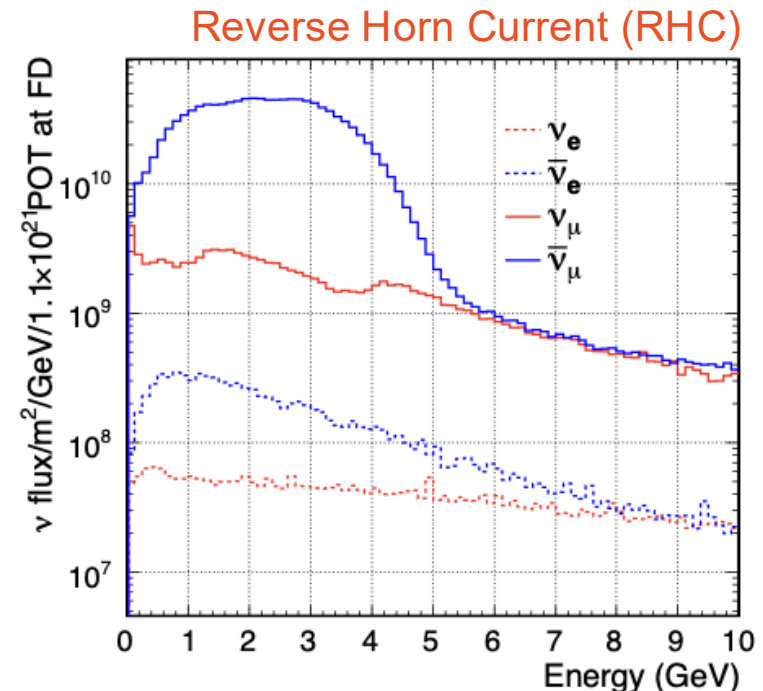
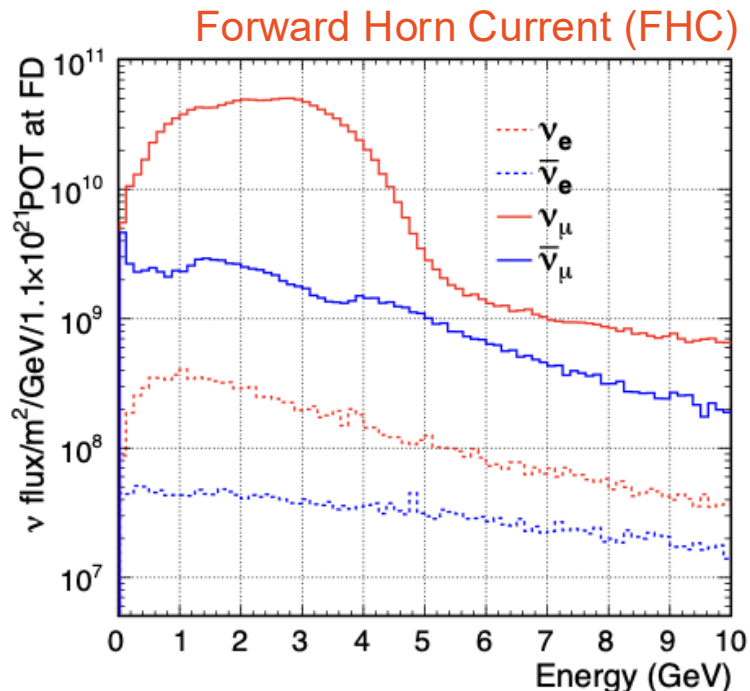
DUNE Design Requirements

- Long baseline (1300 km) and wideband beam
- High stats: intense beam + large far detector
- Precise energy reconstruction over broad E_ν range with state-of-the-art LAr TPCs
- Precise systematic control from near detector



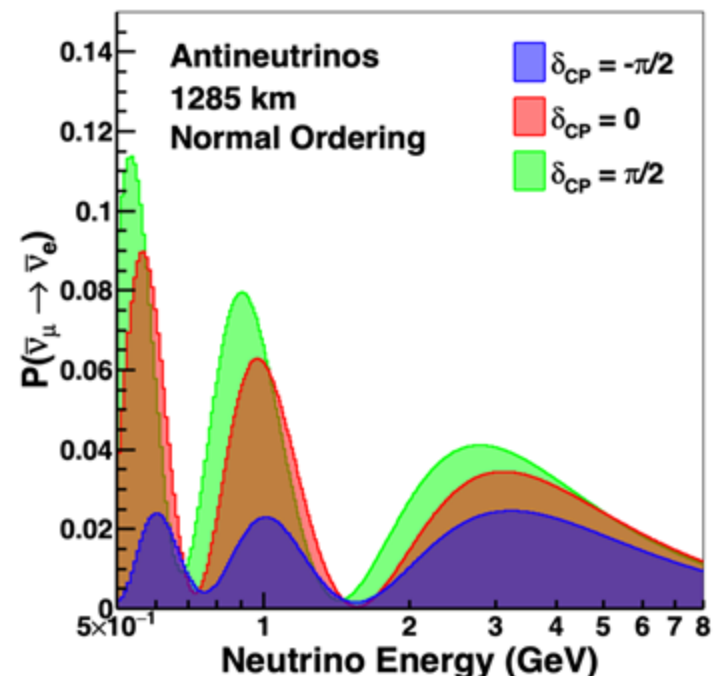
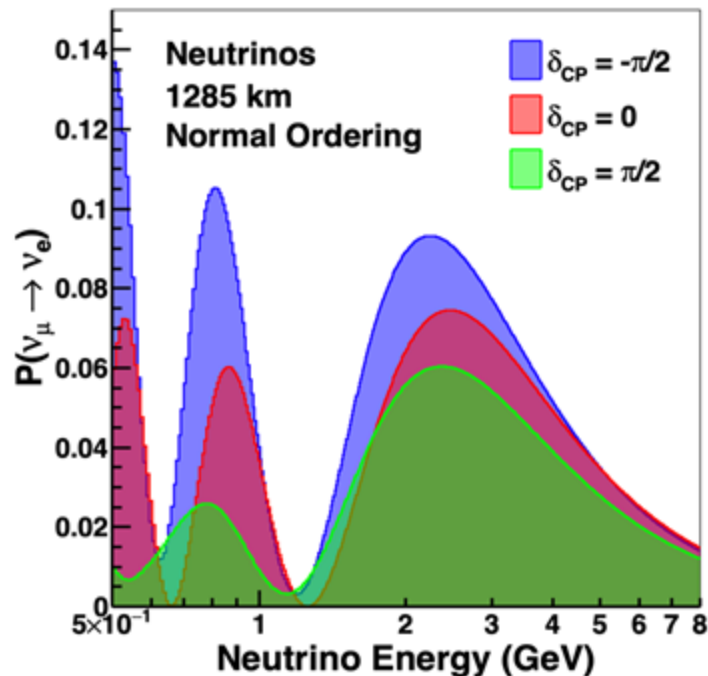
DUNE Design: Wideband Beam

- The (>2 MW) LBNF beam will provide neutrinos and antineutrinos with energies from 0-5+ GeV
- Simulated neutrino fluxes at the far detector are shown below.



DUNE Design: 1300km Baseline

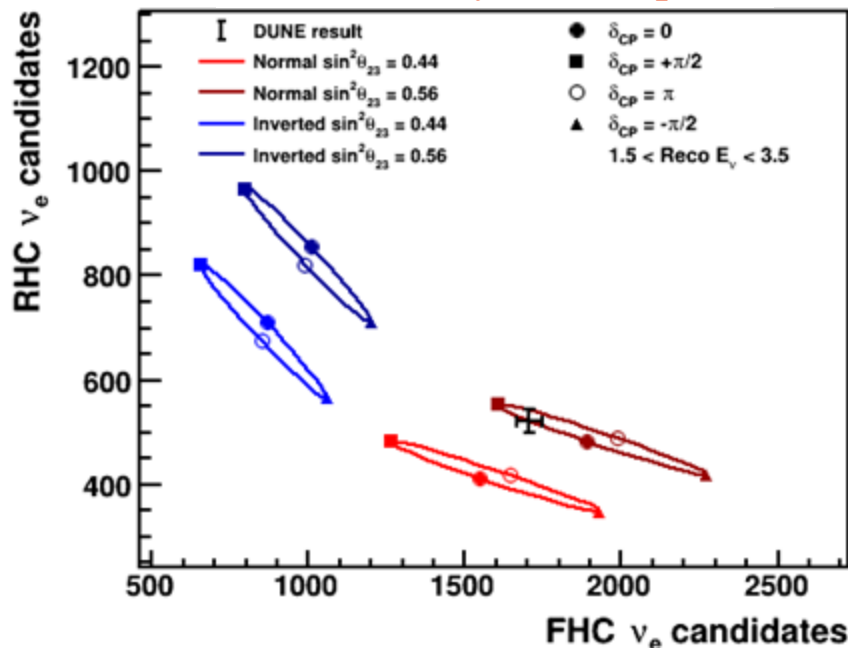
- The long baseline + wideband beam provide opportunity to unambiguously determine Mass ordering, δ_{CP} , θ_{23} octant from oscillation probability.
- DUNE has a unique ability to measure ν_e appearance as a function of L/E, over more than a full oscillation period



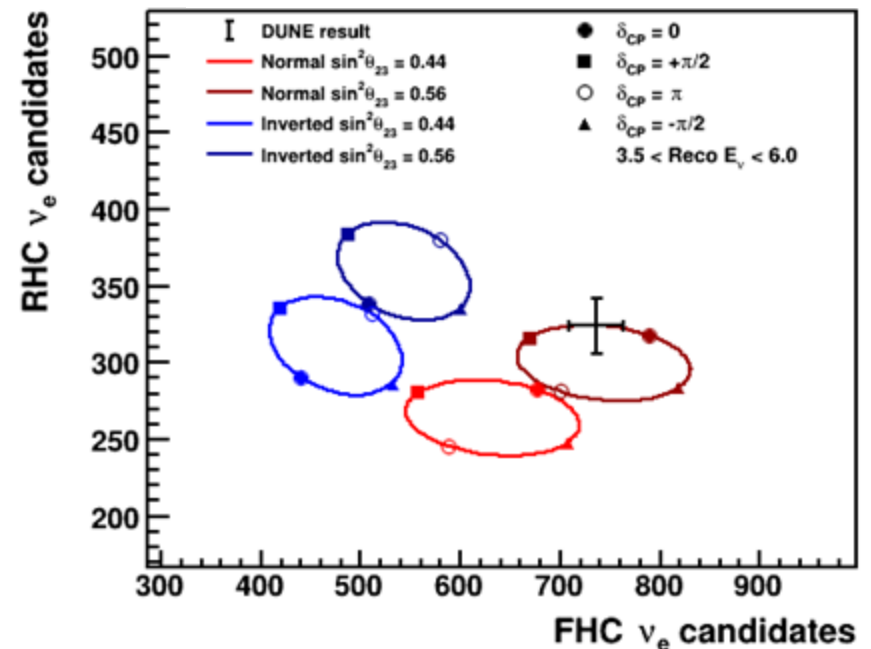
DUNE Design: High Statistics

- DUNE's long-term goal is four 17 kt Lar TPC FD modules in beam from 2.4 MW Fermilab proton beam providing few percent level statistical uncertainties.
- Power of high stats with wide band LBL shown in bi-event plots.

700 kt-MW-yrs, Flux peak

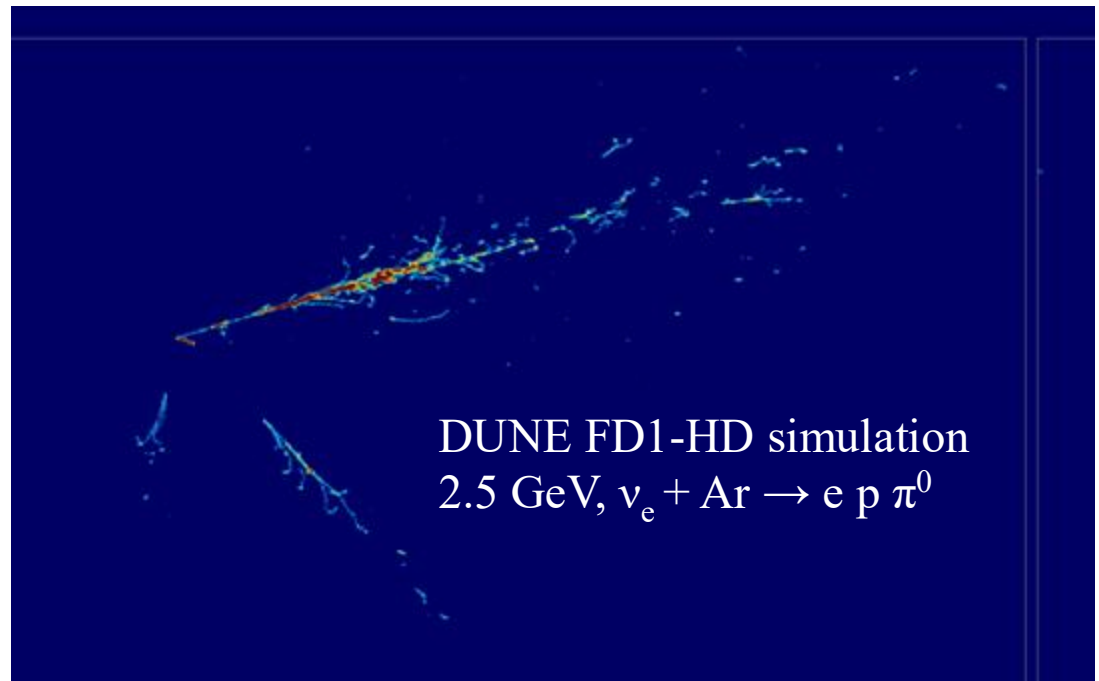
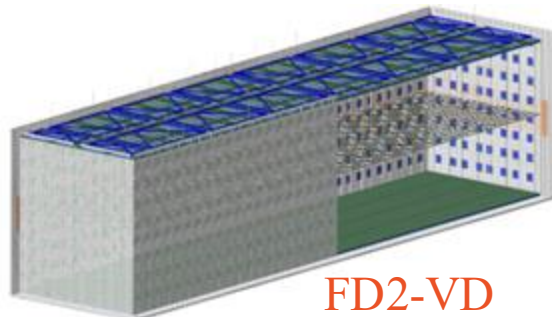
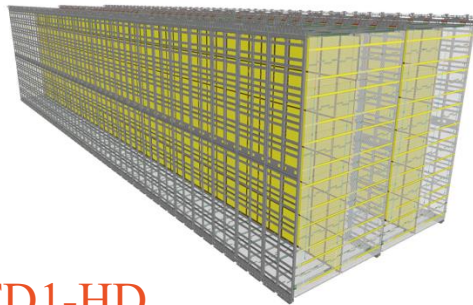


700 kt-MW-yrs, Higher energy



DUNE Design: Precision Reco

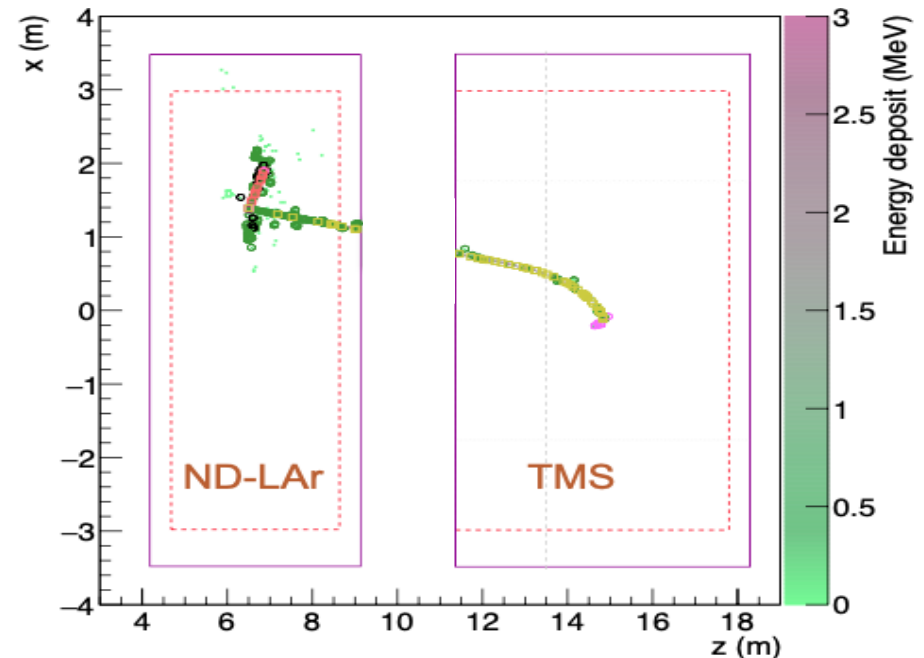
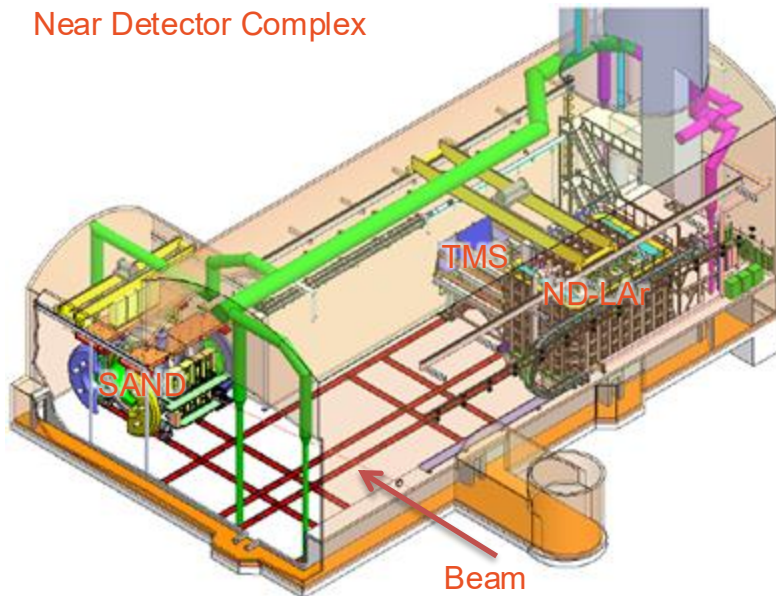
- The far detector must be able to identify flavor and reconstruct neutrino energy over the broad range over energies and interaction topologies provided by the beam.
- **LAr TPC** technologies fulfill both and scales to very large detector mass.
- DUNE will use a combination of horizontal drift and vertical drift modules.



DUNE Design: Syst. Control

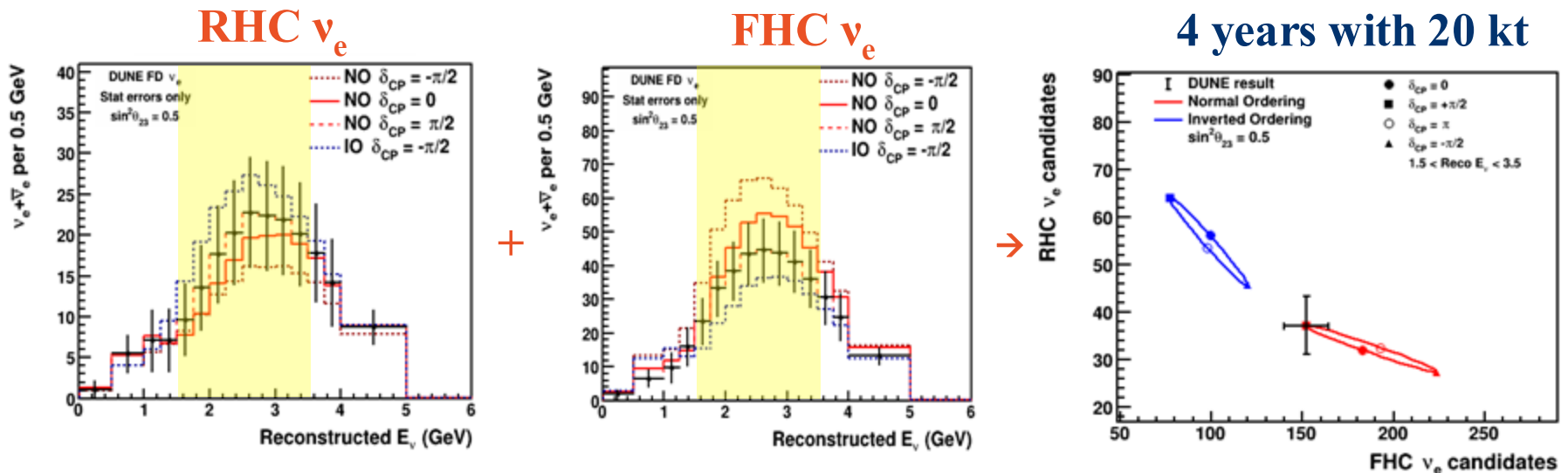
- DUNE Near Detector will measure the neutrino flux, neutrino interaction cross-section on Ar, and measure of LAr TPC response at few percent level.
- ND LAr is design similarly to FD with added modularity and pixelization to handle intense near source rate and sized to contain hadronic activity.
- Downstream systems measure muon momentum (TMS), flux (SAND) and provide additional interaction constraints .

Near Detector Complex



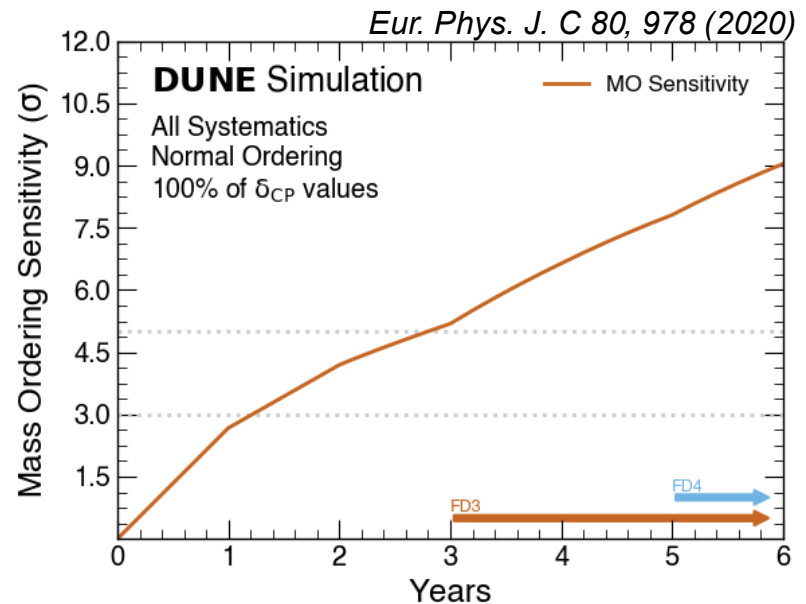
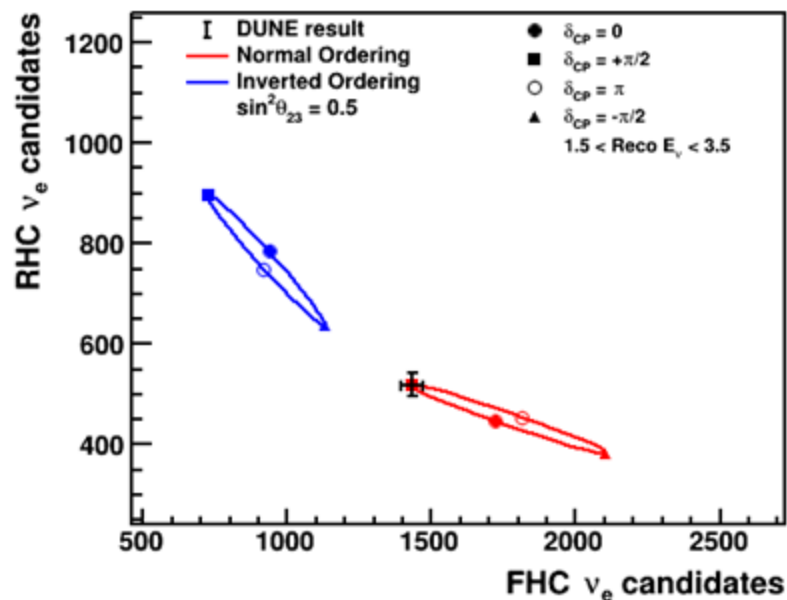
DUNE Physics: Mass ordering

- DUNE has unprecedented and unrivaled ability to definitively resolve the mass ordering independent of other experiments.
- 4 years of running with 2 FD modules in most conservative beam ramp to 1.2 MW provides clear discovery potential



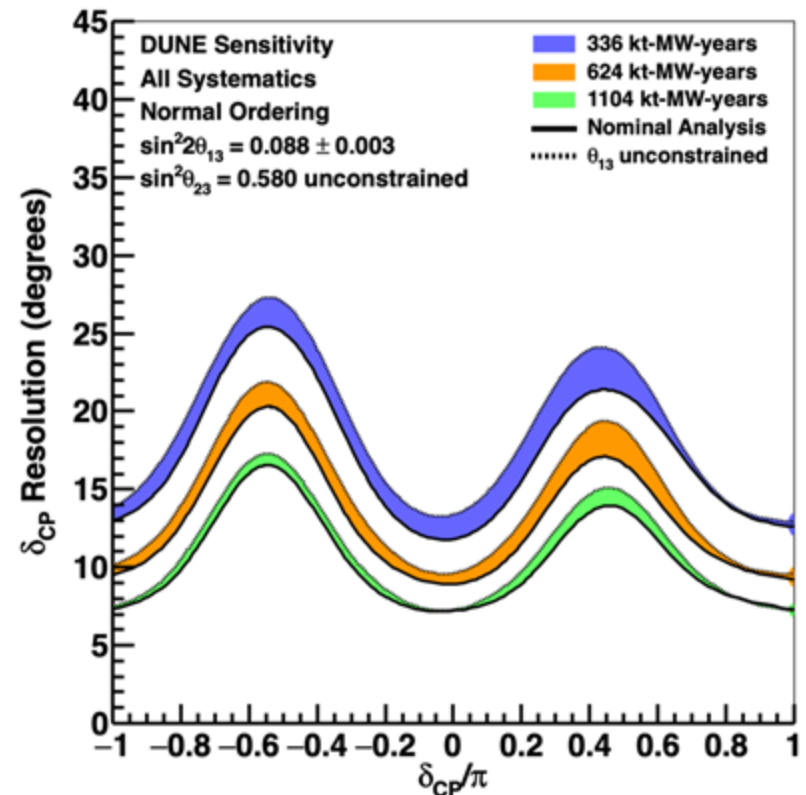
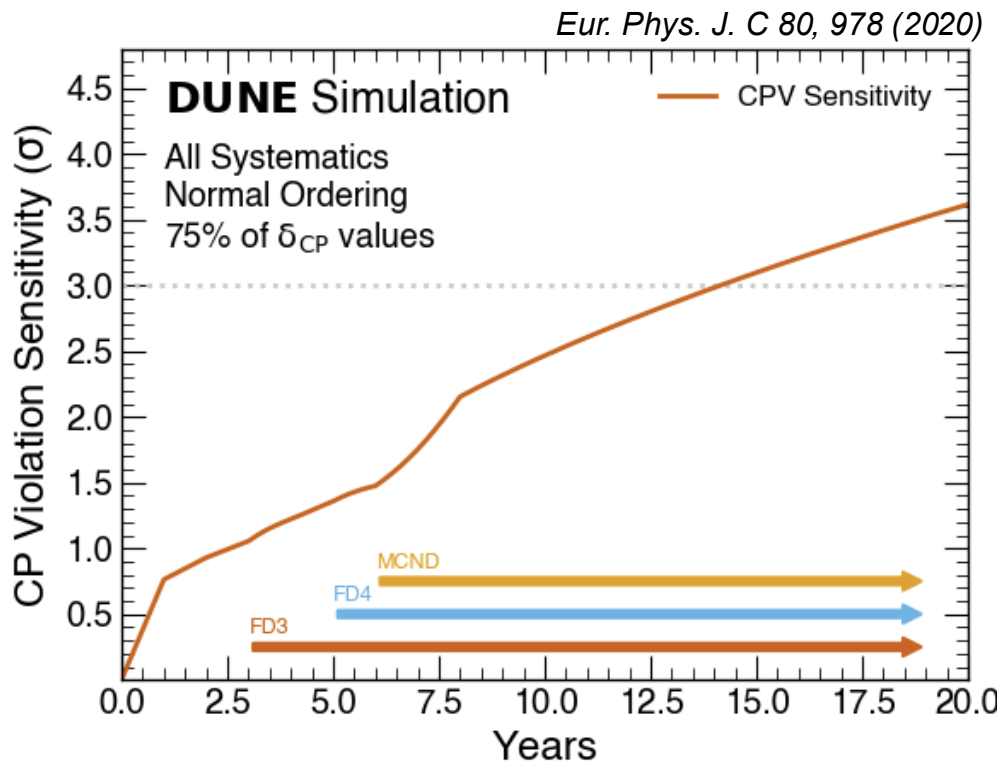
DUNE Physics: Mass ordering

- Statistics from 6 years of full DUNE with 2.4 MW (800 kt-MW-yr total exposure) exploits enormous NO vs IO differences.
- DUNE maintains ability to definitively resolve the mass ordering regardless of the values of other parameters



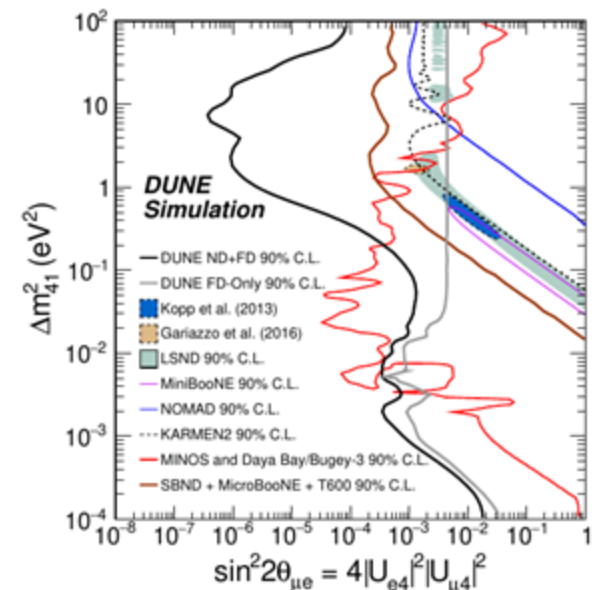
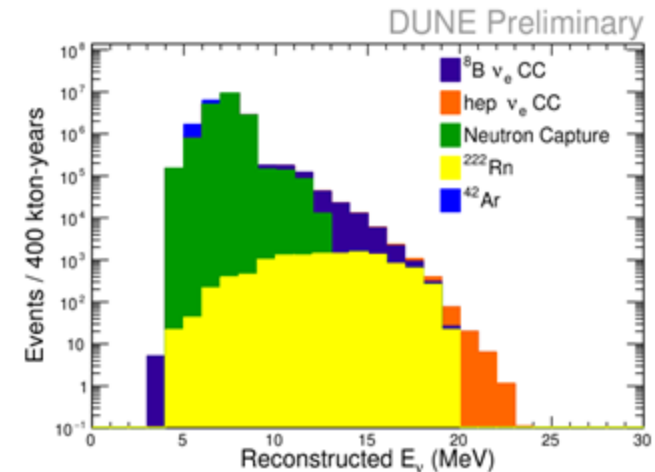
DUNE Physics: CP violation

- 3σ discovery potential for CP violation over $>75\%$ of δ_{CP} values
- $7\text{-}16^\circ$ resolution to δ_{CP} , *with external input for only solar parameters.*



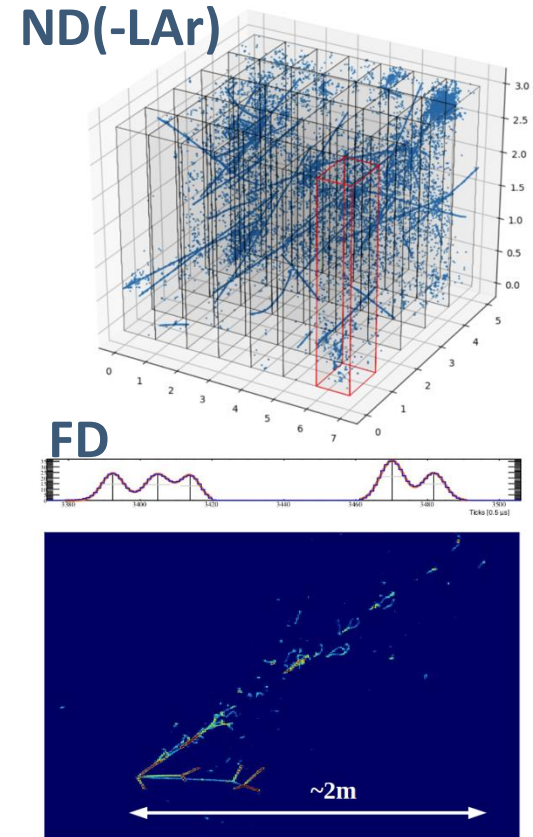
Additional Neutrino Physics

- DUNE will provide world-leading precision on Δm_{32}^2 and θ_{23} , including octant allowing direct testing of PMNS unitarity.
- MeV-scale Physics
 - Galactic SNB will produce 1000s of events
 - Sensitivity to solar neutrinos in study.
- Searches for NSI and sterile neutrinos.



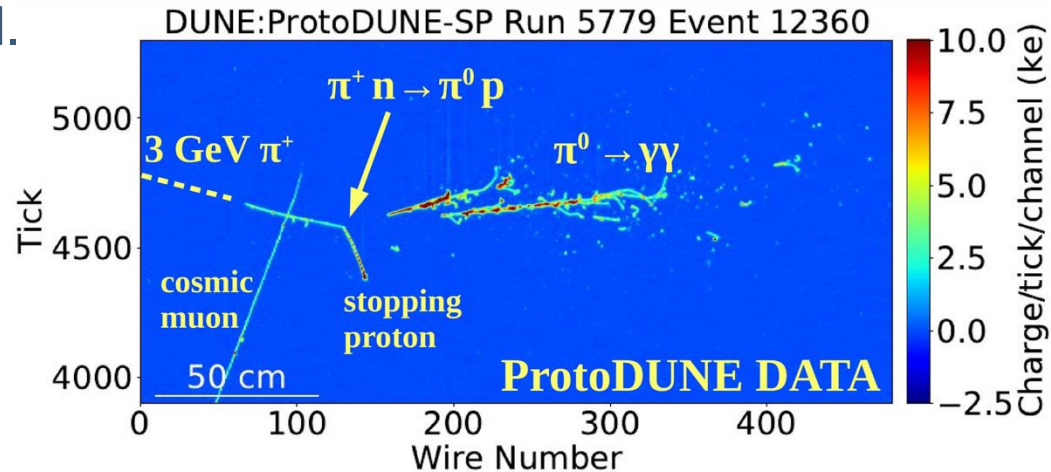
DUNE Reconstruction and Simulation

- DUNE's goals require handling disparate data streams:
 - **ND:** dense activity from 12M pixels, 5 MB /spill, \approx Hz
 - **FD beam:** 3M wires with digitized waveforms, \approx 5 GB/trigger
 - **FD supernova:** \approx 300 TB per module, \approx 1 trigger/month
- *Will need to process flexible and decomposable data groups*
- Generating faithful simulation at scale is crucial
- To achieve this, DUNE's computing infrastructure must support:
 - A mix of GPU and CPU heavy algorithms
 - Multi-language support: python, C++
 - Utilization of modern computing facilities efficiently – grid/HPC
- Significant progress has been made on these front and testing on our active prototypes is crucial for DUNE.



ProtoDUNE

- Phase I: 2018-2020
 - two (single and dual phase) 1-kt prototype LAr TPC detectors operated in a charged test beam at CERN.
- Phase II: Began in 2024
 - Will test final technical solutions for all FD-HD subdetectors. FD-VD tests are in progress.



First results on ProtoDUNE-SP liquid argon time projection chamber performance from a beam test at the CERN Neutrino Platform [2007.06722], JINST 15 P12004 2020

Design, construction and operation of the ProtoDUNE-SP Liquid Argon TPC [2108.01902], JINST 17 P01005 2022

Reconstruction of interactions in the ProtoDUNE-SP detector with Pandora [2206.14521], EPJC (2023) 83:618

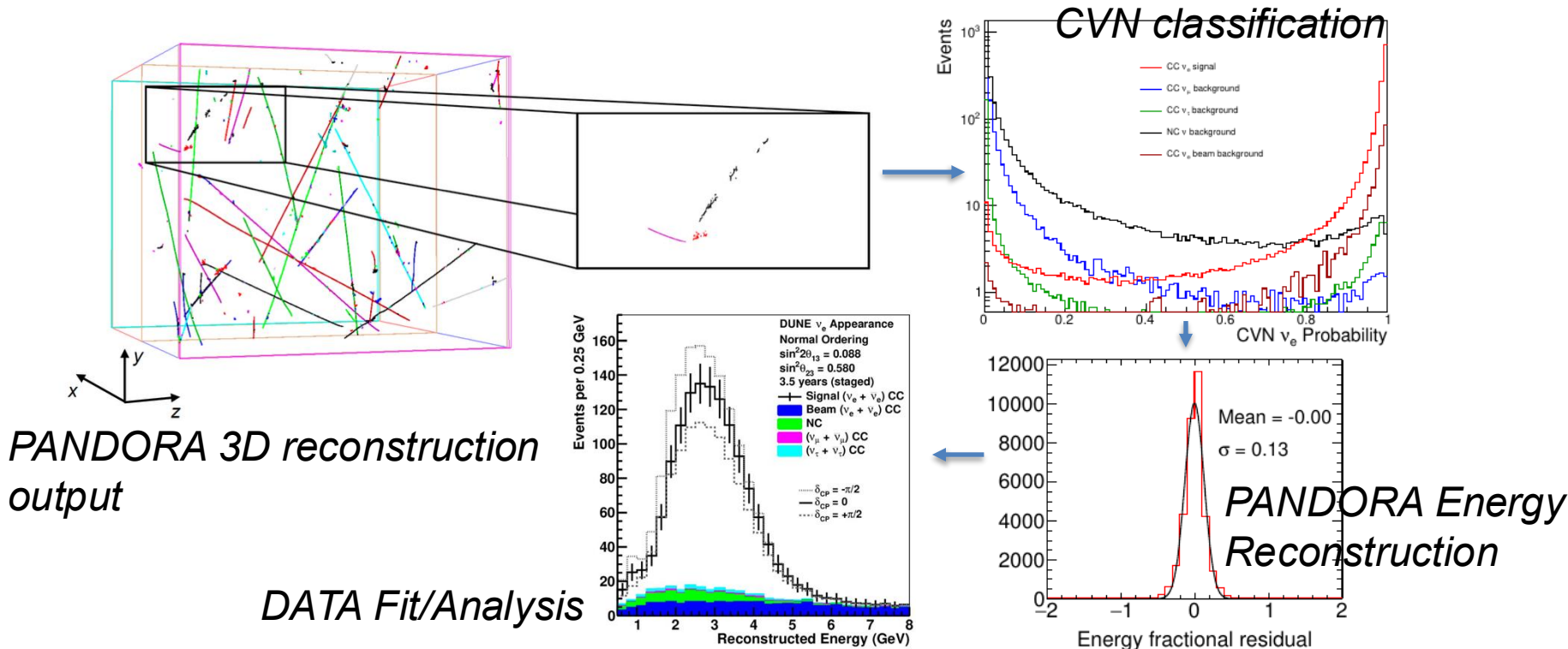
First Measurement of the Total Inelastic Cross-Section of Positively-Charged Kaons on Argon at Energies Between 5.0 and 7.5 GeV

and more!

[2408.00582], PRD 110 092011 (2024)

LAr Reconstruction Status

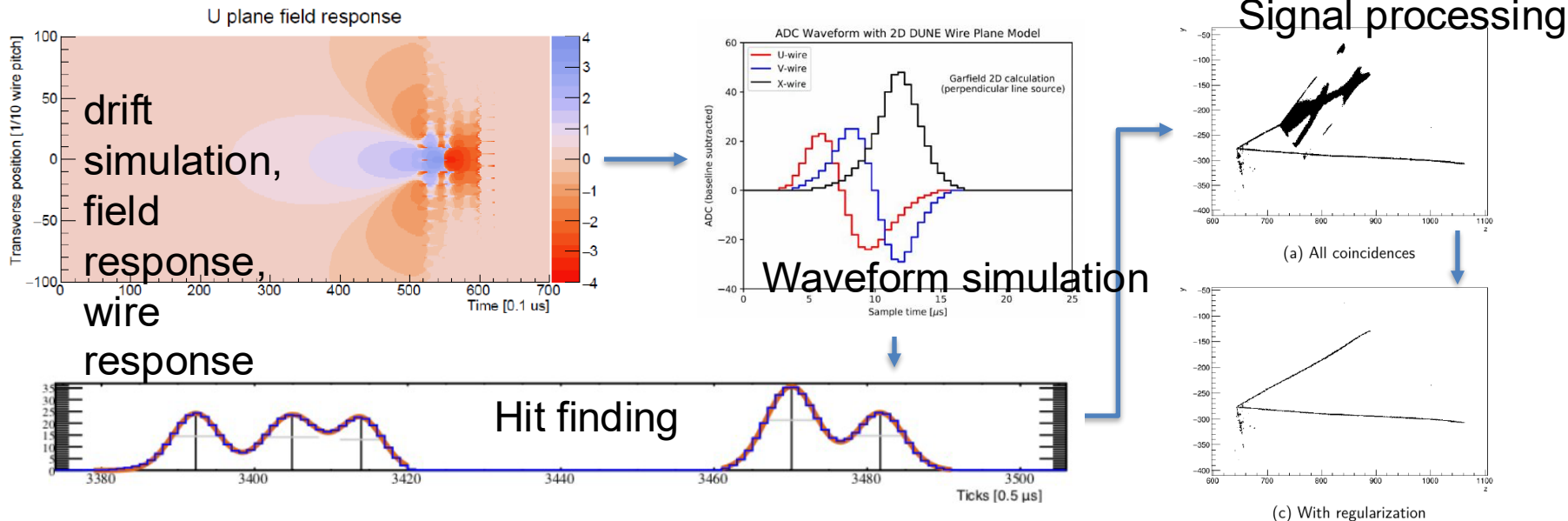
- Traditional reconstruction techniques via PANDORA tested on ProtoDUNE.
- Convolutional neural networks to reconstruct & classify events.
- Output to standard ROOT trees or CAF in DUNE format.



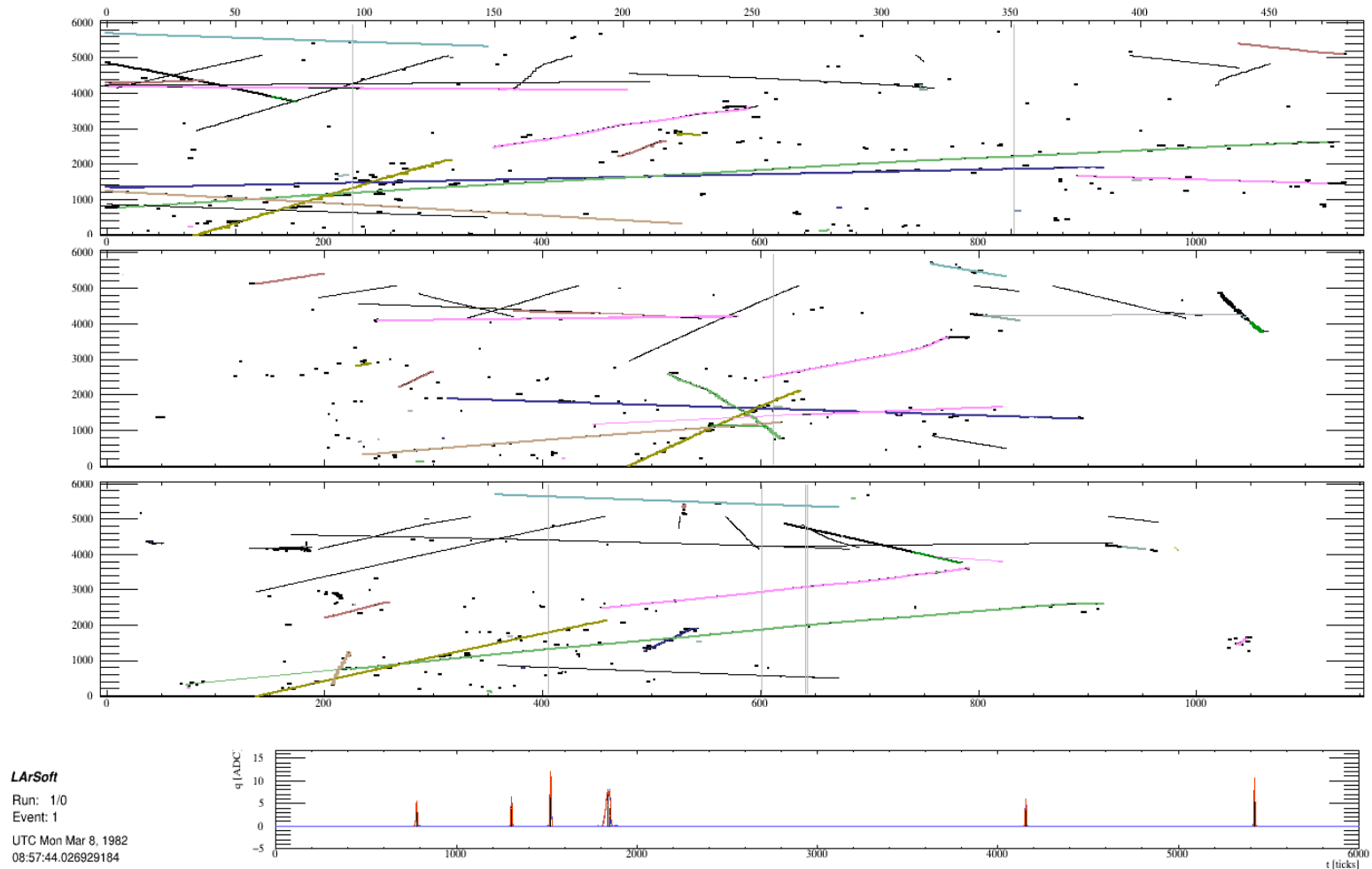
Far Detector Sim/Reco Status



- Vertical and horizontal drift detector supported by LArSoft.
 - ART-Based framework for LArTPC Sim and Reco.
 - Supporting SBN, and ProtoDUNE programs.
- LArTPC specific Simulation and Reconstruction Toolkit.
 - Scintillation photon propagation and detection.
 - Low-energy drift electrons, signal induction and wire response via Wire-Cell Toolkit (WCT).



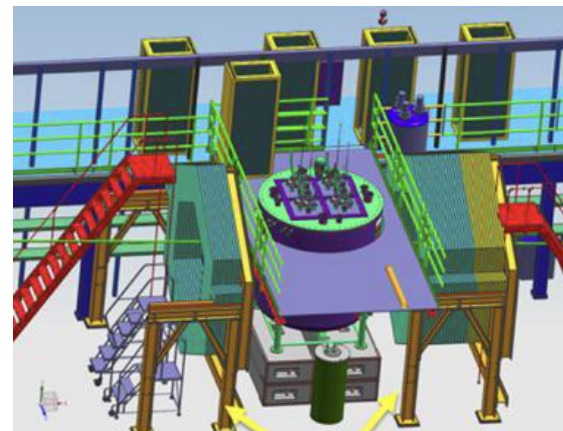
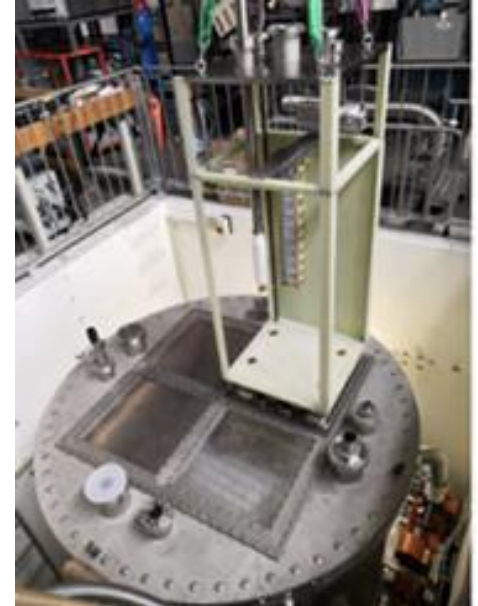
LArSoft Simulation and Reco in PD



Example reconstructed data display produced with LArSoft. One APA's worth of simulated data are shown. Reconstructed hits and tracks are displayed in the top three panels.

ND 2x2 Demonstrator at FNAL

- Four LArTPC modules were built and operated in LAr in Bern with a total of $\sim 330\text{k}$ pixel channels
- Operation of 2x2 ND-LAr in NuMI Neutrino Beam began in 2024
 - Four TPC modules installed in former location of MINOS-ND
 - Includes upstream/downstream trackers, repurposed from MINERvA
 - $1\text{E}19$ protons of targets (POT) \rightarrow 10k neutrinos/day
- Goals: Demonstrate reconstruction with natively 3D readout in a neutrino beam with similar event rate to



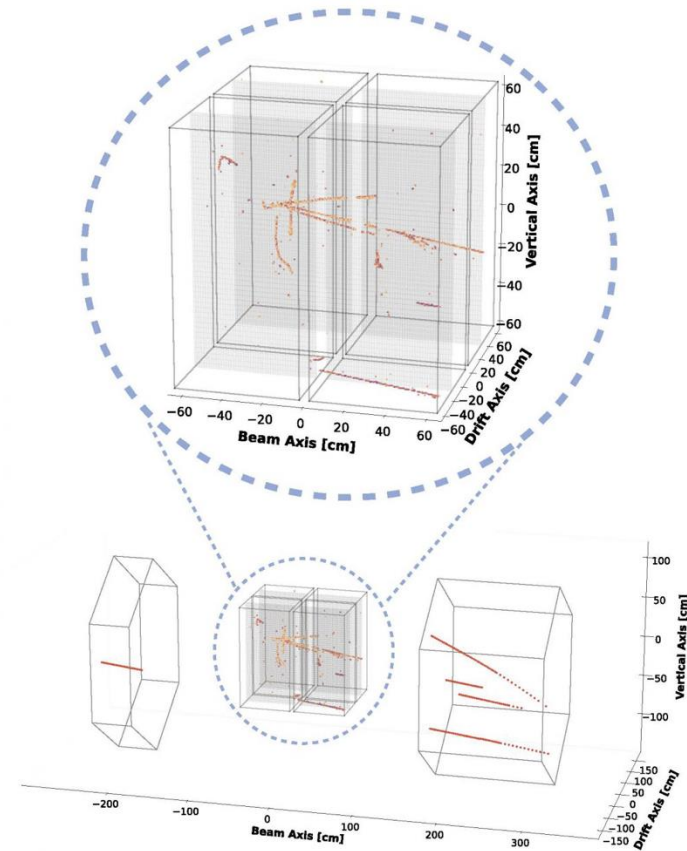
2x2 Simulation and Reco

- 2x2 simulations and reconstruction are advancing.
 - Pixelated LAr detector simulation is inherently parallelizable
 - Well matched to GPUs
 - Testing Deep-learning based Reconstruction toolkit SPINE. (arXiv:2102.01033)
 - Tracking matching with muon tracker will give experience like ND-Lar +TMS



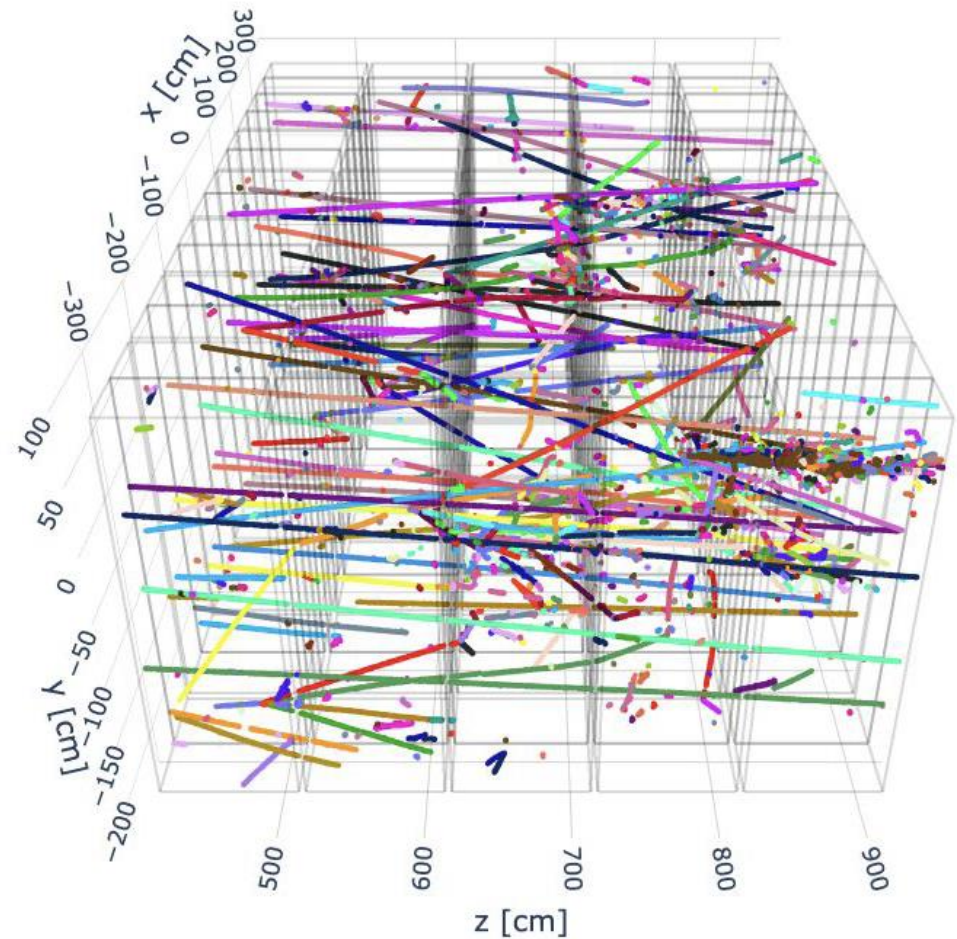
DUNE DEEP UNDERGROUND
NEUTRINO EXPERIMENT

2024-07-11 19:52:24 UTC



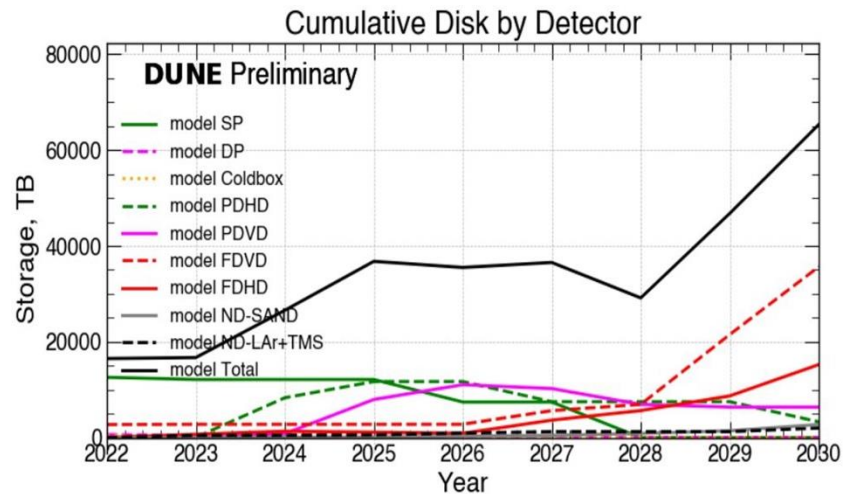
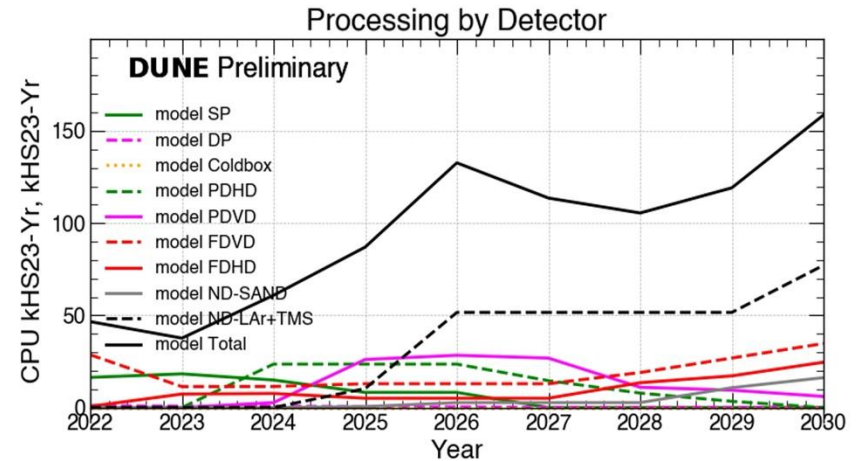
ND Sim and Reco

- Recent production of 1.2 K full spill ND LAr + TMS events are allowing us to test these systems at full scale and begin to understand performance.
 - This spill has ~30 in-fiducial interaction and ~100 through going muons.
- Effort are also in progress to utilize PANDORA for the ND.



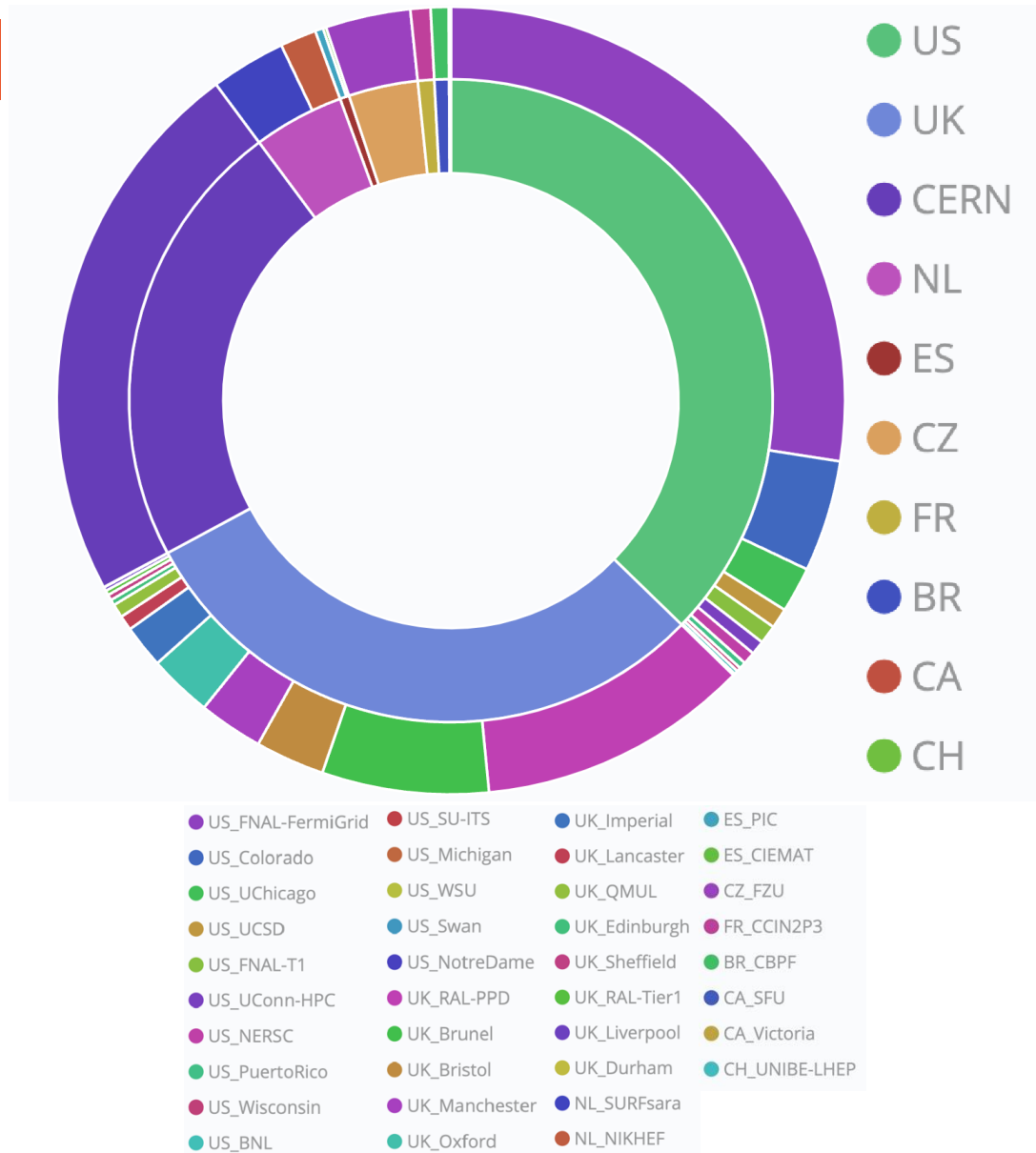
Computing I

- Based on current simulation, prototype experience, and performance from regular Data Challenges DUNE Computing is modeling computing resource demand and building systems to handle data transfer, cataloging, and processing.

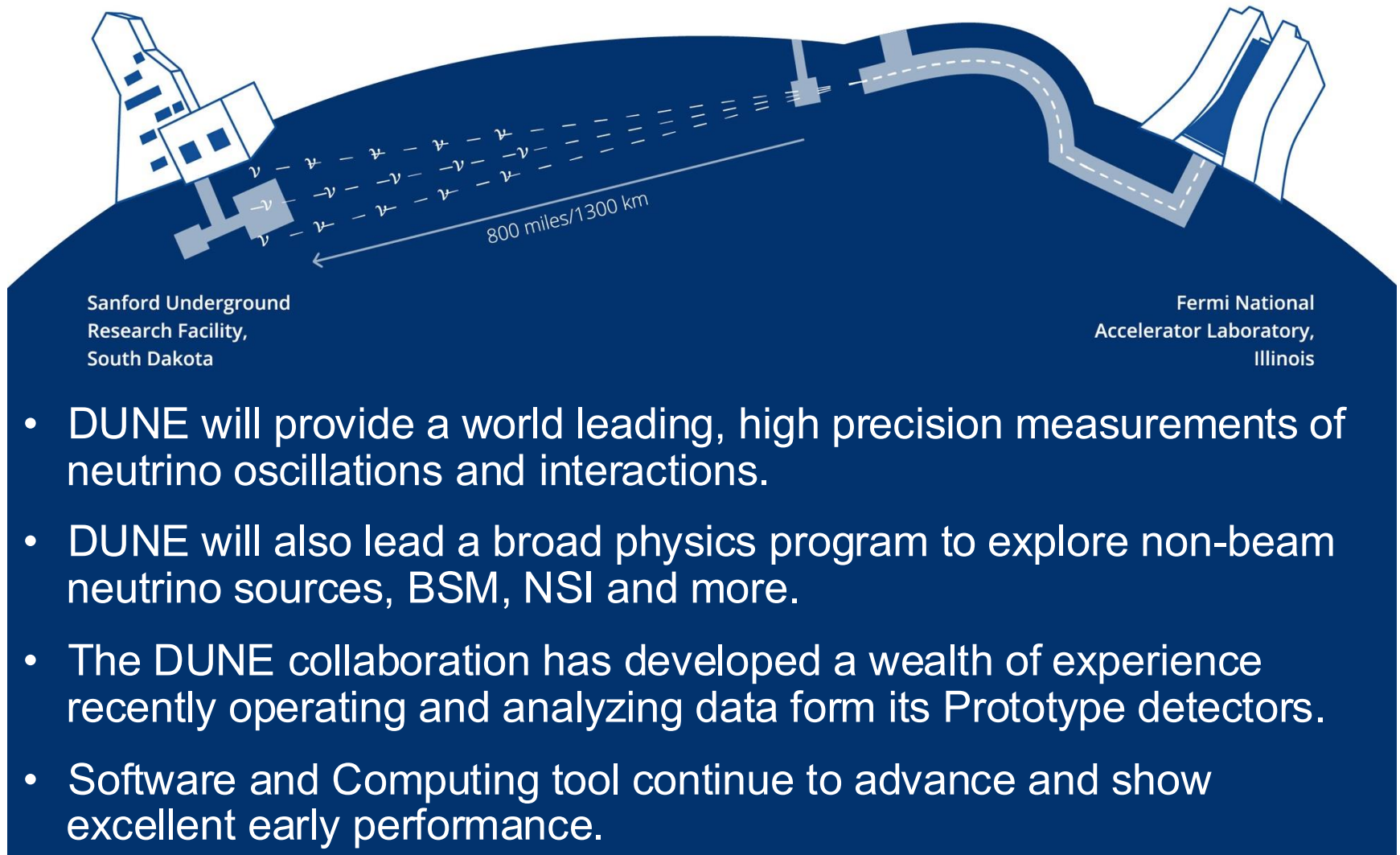


Computing II

- DUNE is also gaining valuable experience deploying jobs on a wide variety of compute sites around the world.
- Development has begun on an updated production offline framework to better fit the need of the collaboration.



Conclusions



Thank you for your attention.

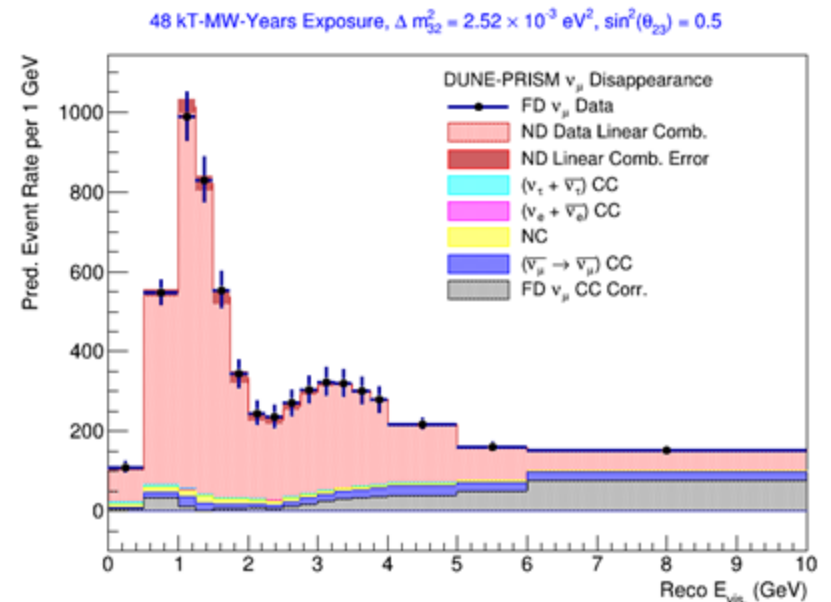
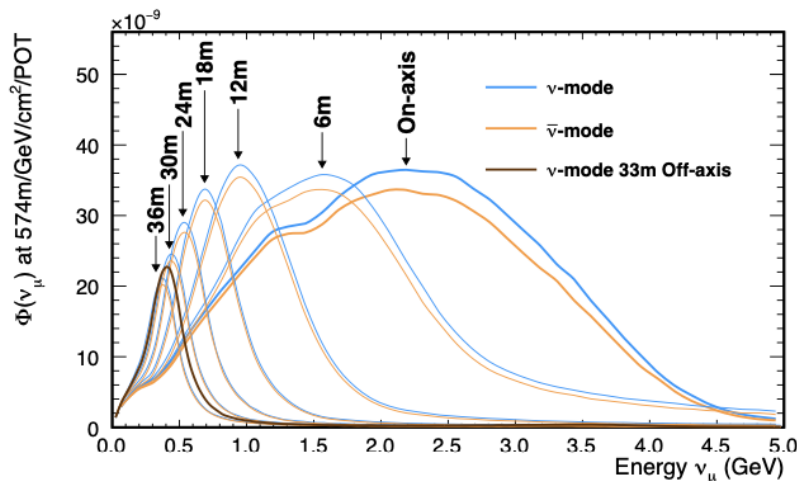


DUNE: >1300 scientists and engineers from 37 countries and growing

BACKUP

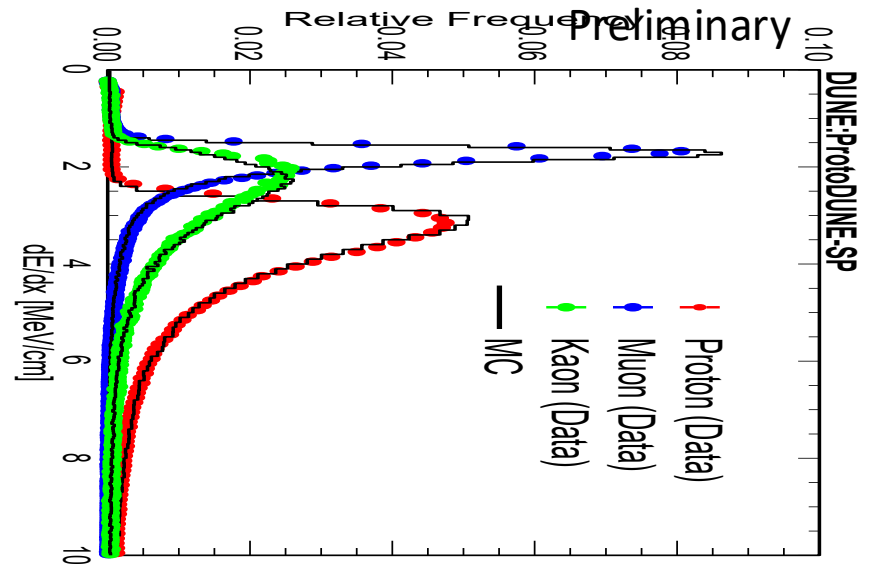
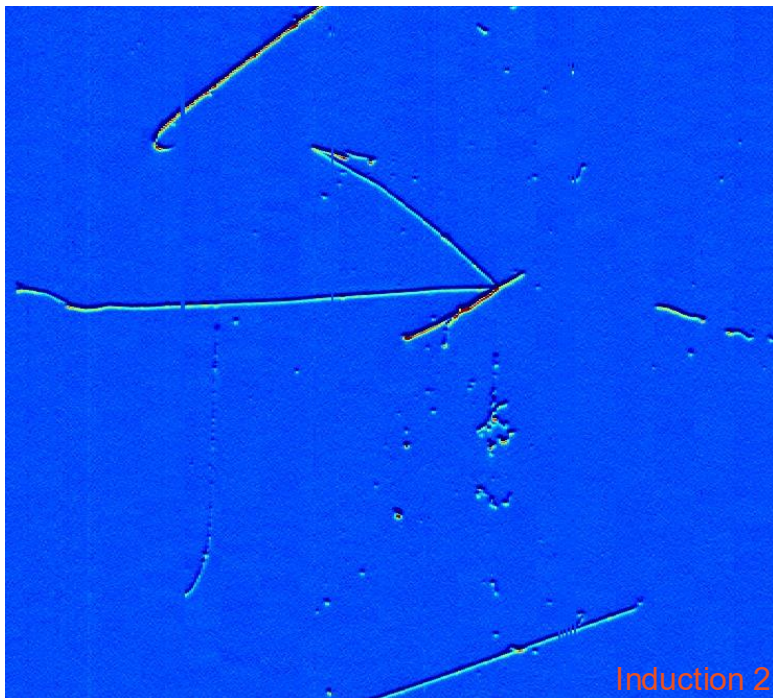
DUNE Design: PRISM

- ND-LAr + Spectrometer can be moved off-axis to enhance flux at lower energies.
- These samples allow one to build a linear combination to match FD *oscillated* spectra and build analysis with minimal interaction modeling.



Initial ProtoDUNE Results

- First beam events: **low noise** on all three planes with S/N ratio > 10 in all cases.
- **Stable running** throughout operations, dE/dx distributions for protons, muons, and kaons shows good performance.
- ProtoDUNE shows the fundamental **DUNE technology works and will scale!**



DUNE Plans and Installation

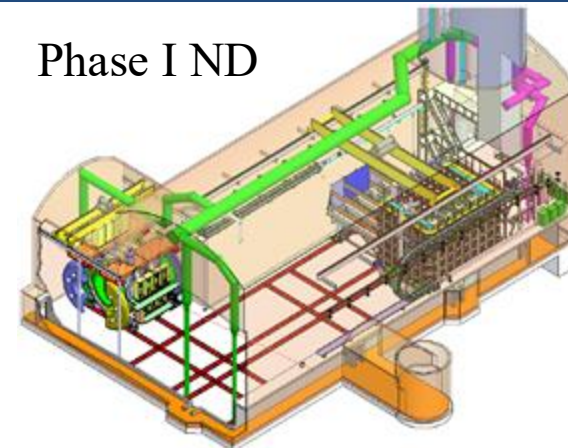
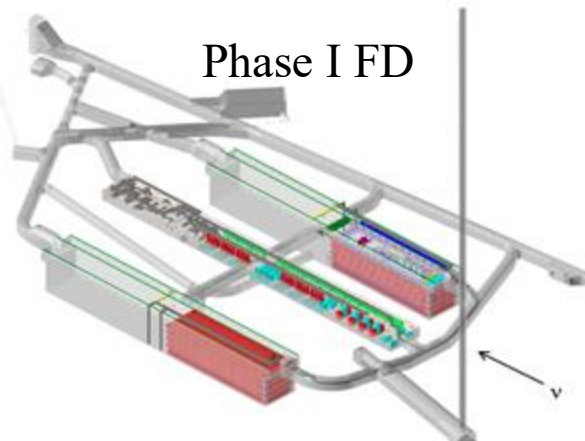
- DUNE construction is phased to provide continuous progress toward physics goals beginning this decade.

Phase I

- Ramp to 1.2 MW beam intensity
- Two 17kt (10kt fid.) LAr TPC FD modules. One HD on VD.
- Near detector: ND-LAr + TMS (steel/scint. range stack) + SAND
- Moveable to enable PRISM

Phase II Upgrades

- Proton beam increase to 2.4 MW
- Four 17kt LAr TPC FD modules
- TMS Upgraded to ND-Gar to provide enhanced ND interaction physics capabilities.



DUNE Plans and Installation

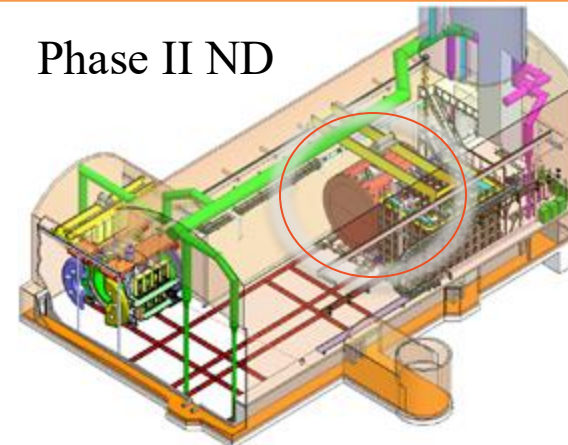
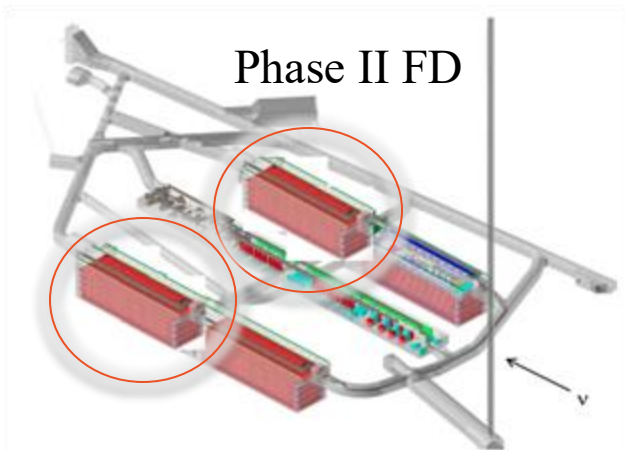
- DUNE construction is phased to provide continuous progress toward physics goals beginning this decade.

Phase I

- Ramp to 1.2 MW beam intensity
- Two 17kt (10kt fid.) LAr TPC FD modules. One HD on VD.
- Near detector: ND-LAr + TMS (steel/scint. range stack) + SAND
- Moveable to enable PRISM

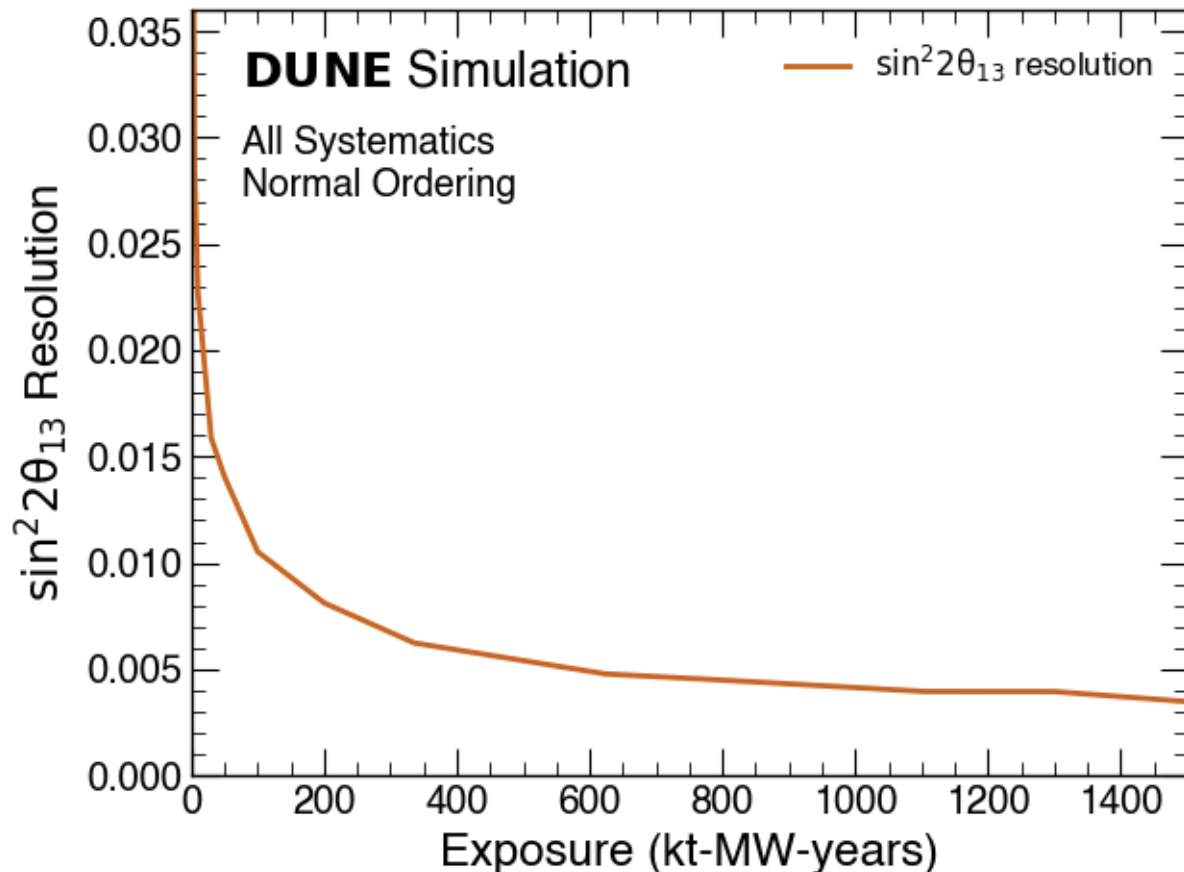
Phase II Upgrades

- Proton beam increase to 2.4 MW
- Four 17kt LAr TPC FD modules
- TMS Upgraded to ND-Gar to provide enhanced ND interaction physics capabilities.

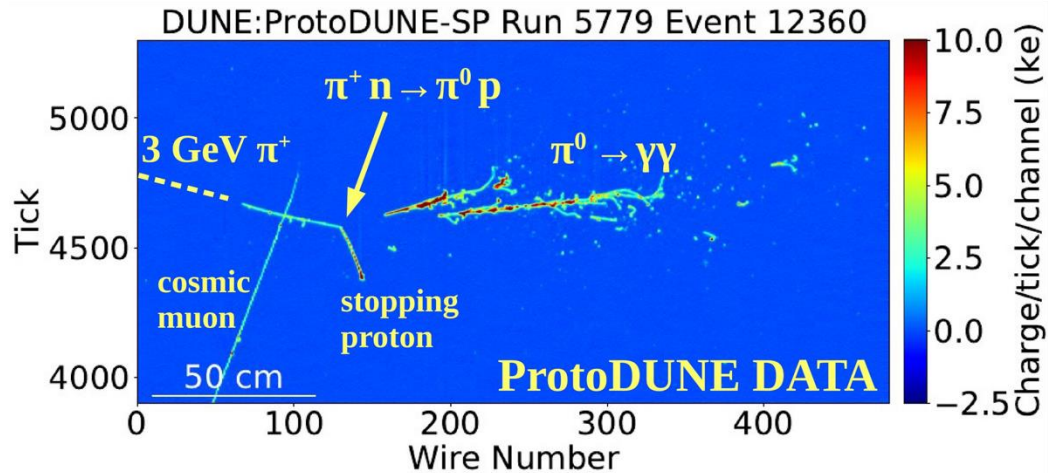


θ_{13} Resolution

World-leading precision (for long-baseline experiment) in θ_{13} → comparisons with reactor measurements are sensitive to new physics



ProtoDUNE Studies



First results on ProtoDUNE-SP liquid argon time projection chamber performance from a beam test at the CERN Neutrino Platform [2007.06722], JINST 15 P12004 2020

Design, construction and operation of the ProtoDUNE-SP Liquid Argon TPC [2108.01902], JINST 17 P01005 2022

Reconstruction of interactions in the ProtoDUNE-SP detector with Pandora [2206.14521], EPJC (2023) 83:618

First Measurement of the Total Inelastic Cross-Section of Positively-Charged Kaons on Argon at Energies Between 5.0 and 7.5 GeV

and more!

[2408.00582], PRD 110 092011 (2024)

- Many studies are in progress with publication of physics results expected soon including:
 - **Pionic charge-exchange events (below)** – yields neutral pions, standard candle for electromagnetic energy scale
 - **Michel electrons** – standard candle for low-energy electron energy scale