



# MINERvA

Selected Recent Results:

$$\nu N \rightarrow "X"$$

EPS Conference on High Energy  
Physics  
Venice, Italy 5-12 July 2017

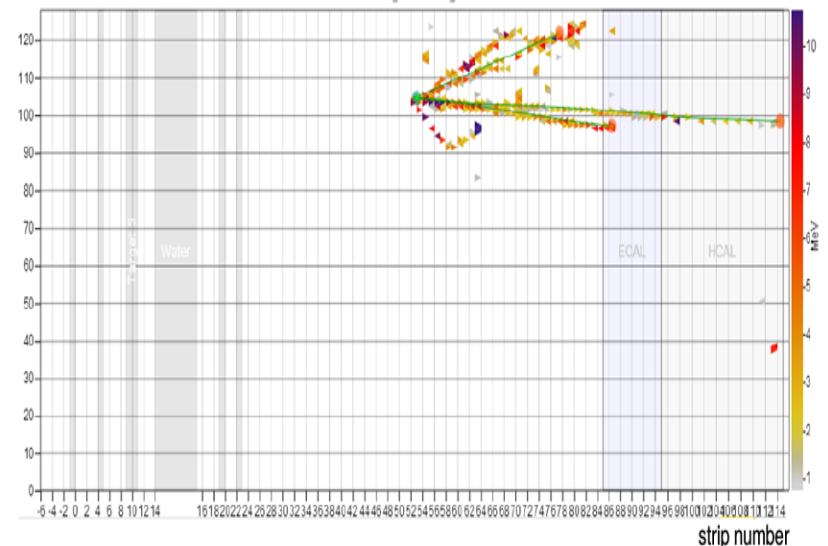
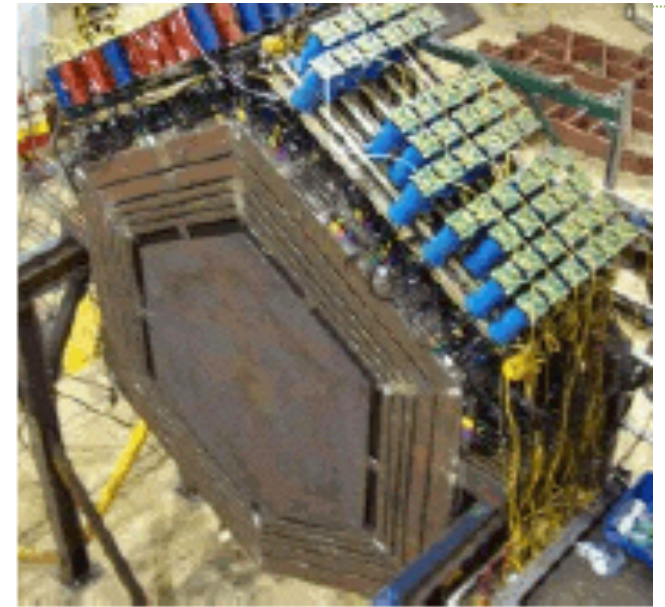
**Arie Bodek**

University of Rochester

Representing the MINERvA collaboration

6 Jul 2017, 12:15 15m

Room Casinò (Palazzo del Casinò)





# MINERvA Detector

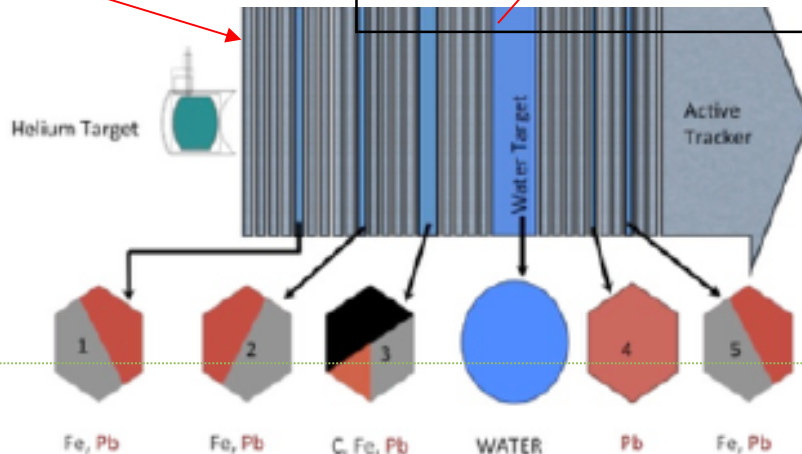
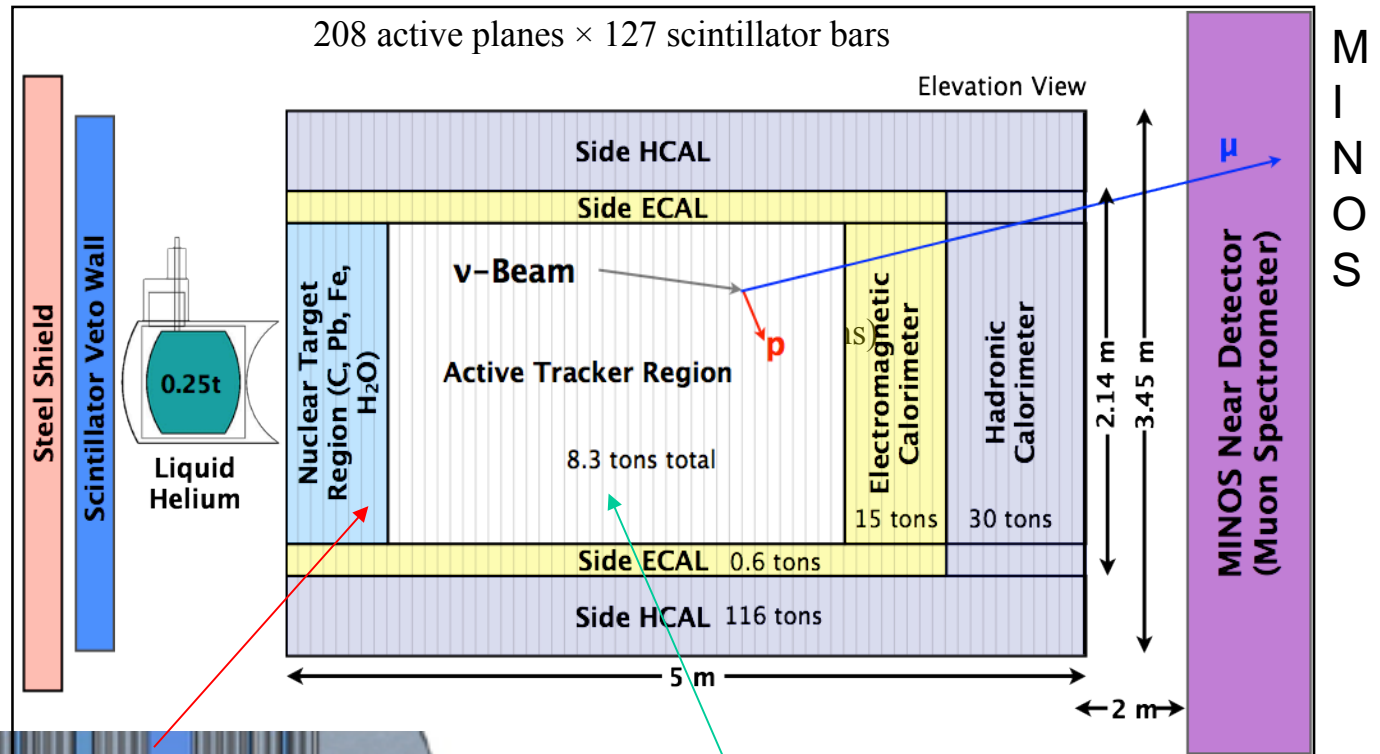
**Dedicated neutrino-nucleus cross-section experiment running at Fermilab in the NuMI beamline.** 120 modules of active tracker, targets, and calorimetry

- Low Energy Neutrinos

- High statistics

Also neutrino interactions on a variety of nuclei.

C, Fe, Pb, H<sub>2</sub>O

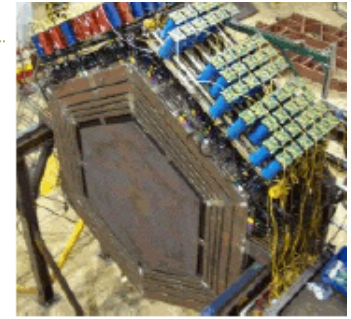


Fully active, high-Resolution, scintillator-strip, target-calorimeter-tracker

MINOS



# Motivation: $\nu$ cross-sections are poorly known



## • $\nu$ oscillations:

→ We are now in a period of precision neutrino oscillation measurements

$$P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\tau) = \sin^2(2\theta_{23}) \sin^2\left(\frac{1.27 \Delta m_{23}^2 L}{E_\nu}\right) \quad (\nu_\mu \text{ disappearance example})$$

→ **Oscillation probability depends on  $E_\nu$**

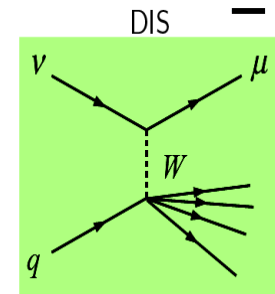
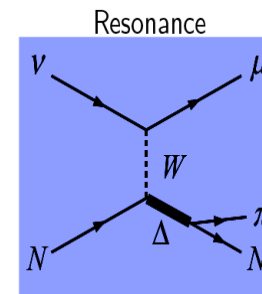
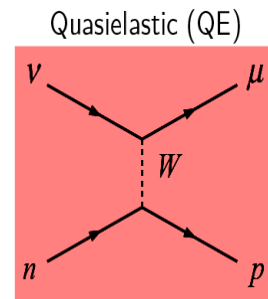
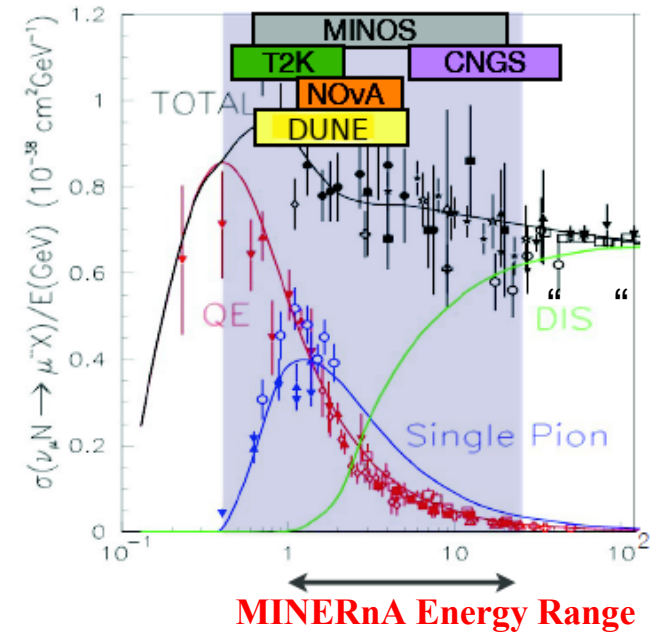
- However Experiments Measure visible energy  $E_{\text{vis}}$
- $E_{\text{vis}}$  depends on Flux,  $\sigma$ , detector response, interaction multiplicities, target type, particle type produced...

→  $E_{\text{vis}}$  not equal to  $E_\nu$

→ Appearance Oscillation Measurements:

- Large  $\Theta_{13}$  and CP violation - systematics important
- Need to understand backgrounds to  $\nu_e$  searches:

• **Need better measurements of Low energy (Few GeV)  $\nu_{\mu,e}$  &  $\bar{\nu}_{\mu,e}$  cross sections to improve models.**





# Recent Publications

- “Direct Measurement of Nuclear Dependence of Charged Current Quasielastic-like Neutrino Interactions using MINERvA” , arXiv:1705.03791
- “Measurement of the antineutrino to neutrino charged-current interaction cross section ratio on carbon” **Phys. Rev. D 95, 072009 (2017)**
- “Measurement of neutral-current  $K^+$  production by neutrinos using MINERvA” Submitted to: Phys.Rev.Lett., arXiv:1611.02224
- “Measurements of the Inclusive Neutrino and Antineutrino Charged Current Cross Sections in MINERvA Using the Low- $\nu$  Flux Method” **Phys. Rev. D 94, 112007 (2016)**
- “Neutrino Flux Predictions for the NuMI Beam” **Phys. Rev. D 94, 092005 (2016)**
- “First evidence of coherent  $K^+$  meson production in neutrino-nucleus scattering” Phys. Rev. Lett. 117, 061802 (2016)
- “Measurement of  $K^+$  production in charged-current  $\nu\mu$  interactions” Phys. Rev. D 94, 012002 (2016)
- “Cross sections for neutrino and antineutrino induced pion production on hydrocarbon in the few-GeV region using MINERvA” Phys. Rev. D 94, 052005 (2016).
- “Evidence for neutral-current diffractive neutral pion production from hydrogen in neutrino interactions on hydrocarbon” Phys. Rev. Lett. 117, 111801 (2016)
- “Measurement of Neutrino Flux using Neutrino-Electron Elastic Scattering” , **Phys. Rev. D 93, 112007 (2016)**
- “Measurement of Partonic Nuclear Effects in Deep-Inelastic Neutrino Scattering using MINERvA” , Phys. Rev. D 93, 071101 (2016).
- “Identification of nuclear effects in neutrino-carbon interactions at low three-momentum transfer” , **Phys. Rev. Lett. 116, 071802 (2016)**.
- “Measurement of electron neutrino quasielastic and quasielastic-like scattering on hydrocarbon at average  $E_\nu$  of 3.6 GeV” , Phys. Rev. Lett 116, 081802 (2016).
- “Single neutral pion production by charged-current anti- $\nu\mu$  interactions on hydrocarbon at average  $E_\nu$  of 3.6 GeV” , Phys.Lett. B749 130-136 (2015).
- “Measurement of muon plus proton final states in  $\nu\mu$  Interactions on Hydrocarbon at average  $E_\nu$  of 4.2 GeV” Phys. Rev. D91, 071301 (2015).
- “MINERvA neutrino detector response measured with test beam data” , Nucl. Inst. Meth. A789, pp 28-42 (2015).
- “Measurement of Coherent Production of  $\pi^\pm$  in Neutrino and Anti-Neutrino Beams on Carbon from  $E_\nu$  of 1.5 to 20 GeV” , Phys. Rev.Lett. 113, 261802 (2014).



# Data Collected and Expected Sample Sizes

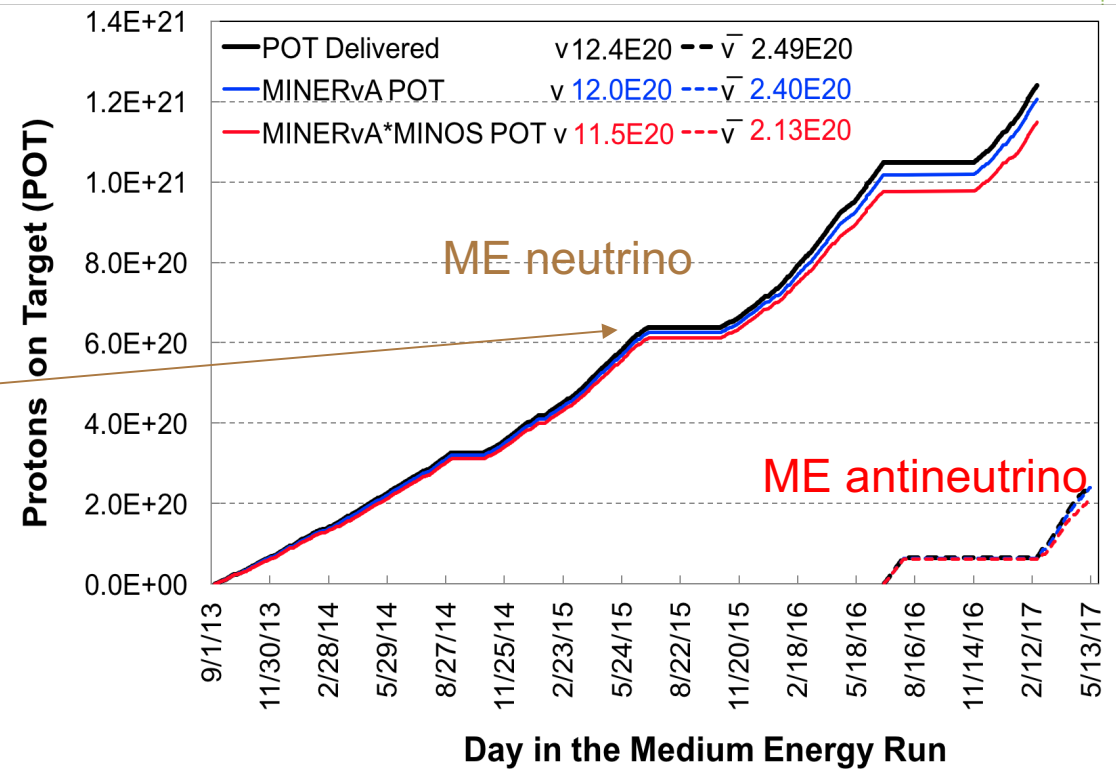
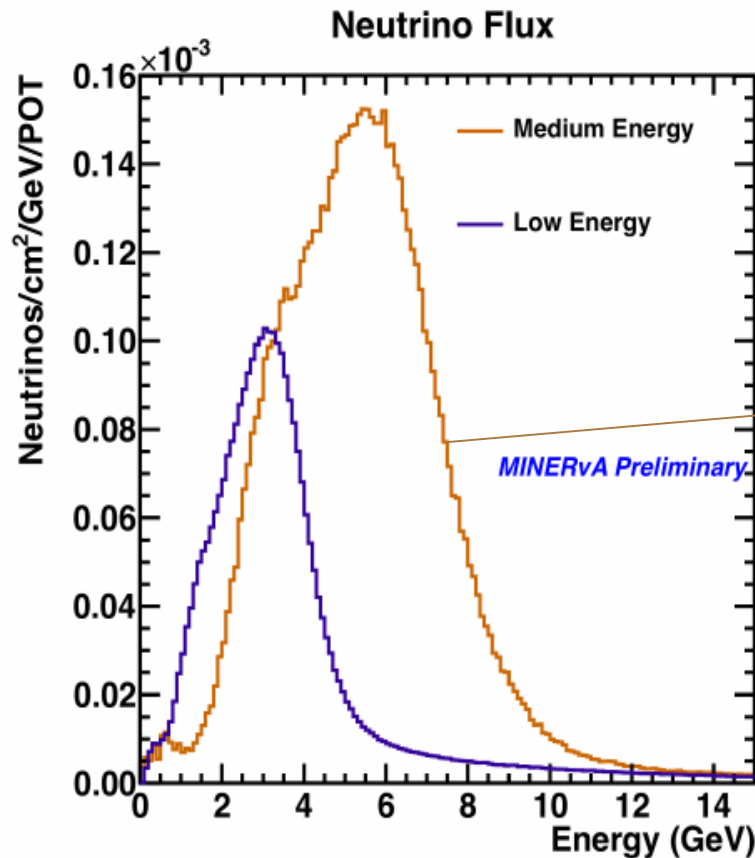
Both Medium Energy (ME) and Low Energy (LE) running:

→ LE >  $3.98 \times 10^{20}$  POT

→ ME >  $1.22 \times 10^{21}$  POT

Beam Power:  
LE  $\approx$  250kW.

Beam Power:  
ME  $\approx$  650kW.

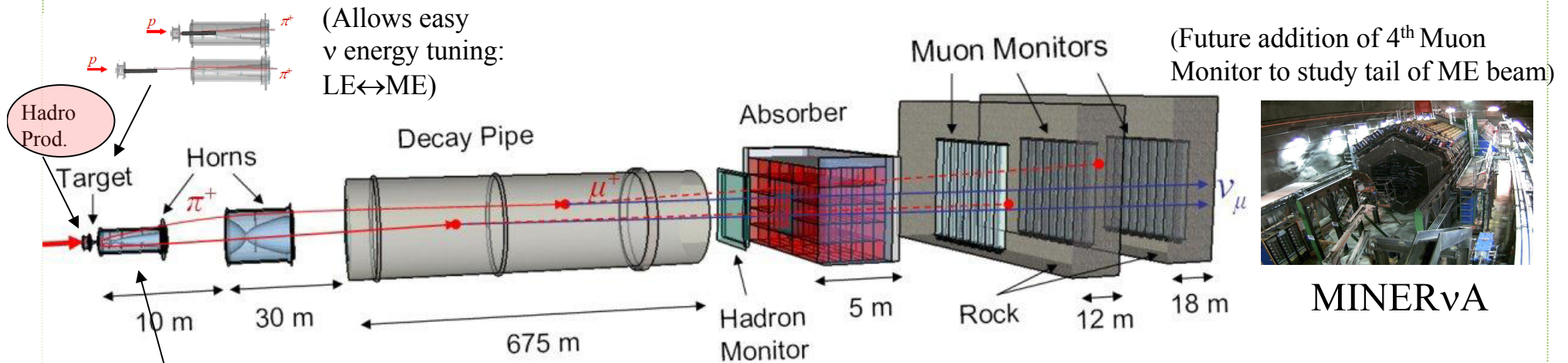
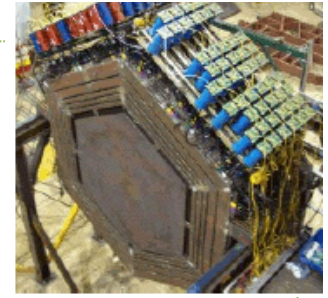


Low energy data taking completed in 2012 (neutrino and antineutrino)  
 Since 2013 running in Medium Energy mode, started antineutrino 2/17.



# Flux: NUMI (Horn) $\nu$ Beam

(Neutrinos at the Main Injector)



MINERvA

→ pions and kaons produced by a proton beam - focused by Magnetic horns - decay into muons and **neutrinos/antineutrinos**

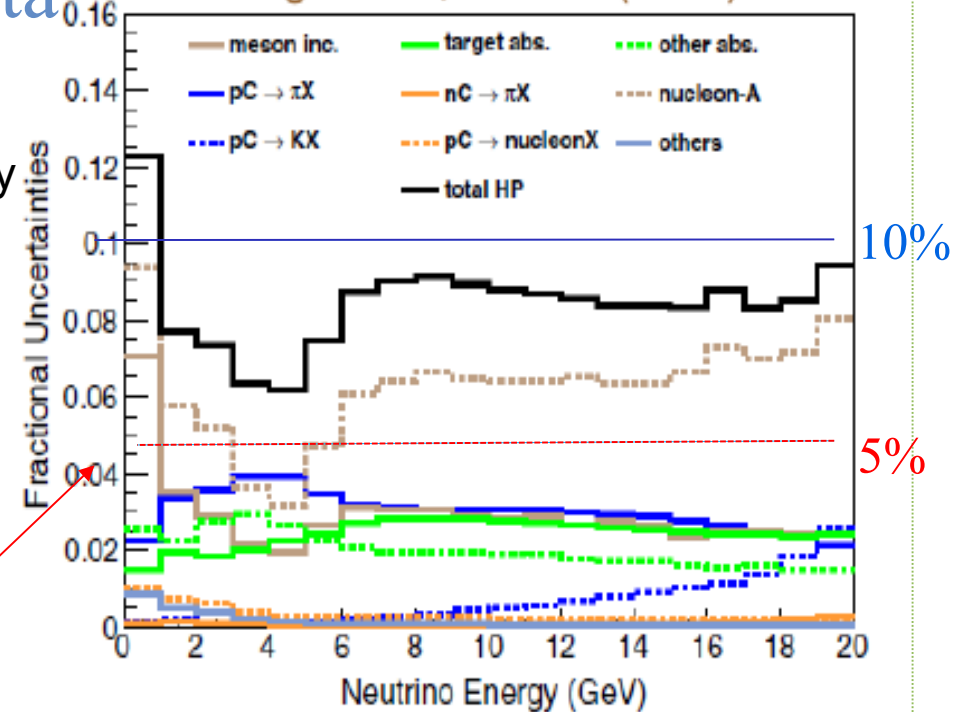
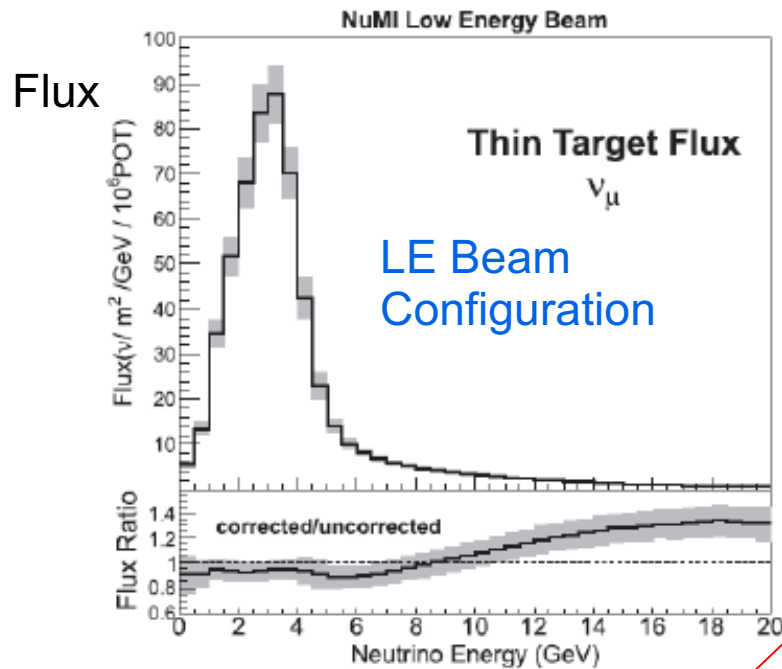
→ Good measurements of the production cross sections of pions and kaons are critical inputs to a precise flux prediction



# New flux Prediction Incorporating Hadron Production Data

Aliaga et al., PRD94 (2016) 092005

fractional uncertainty



**Aim at ~5% errors for the ME flux with the addition of two constraints from in situ measurements ( $\nu_\mu - e$  Elastic Scattering, Low- $\nu$ )**

## Update to NuMI beamline simulation

### Includes:

- Focusing uncertainties
- Hadronic interactions
- Beamline absorption

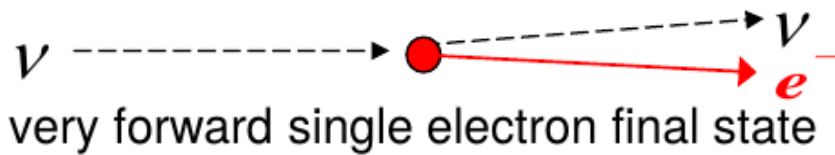
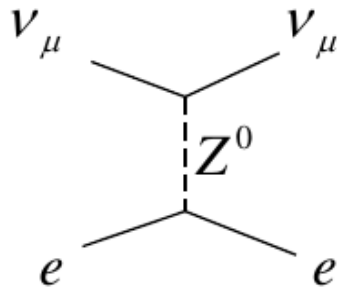
### And used the following hadro-production data to constrain the simulation:

- Thin target pion production (NA49 Expt)
- NuMI target pion production (MIPP Expt)



# First in situ flux constraint

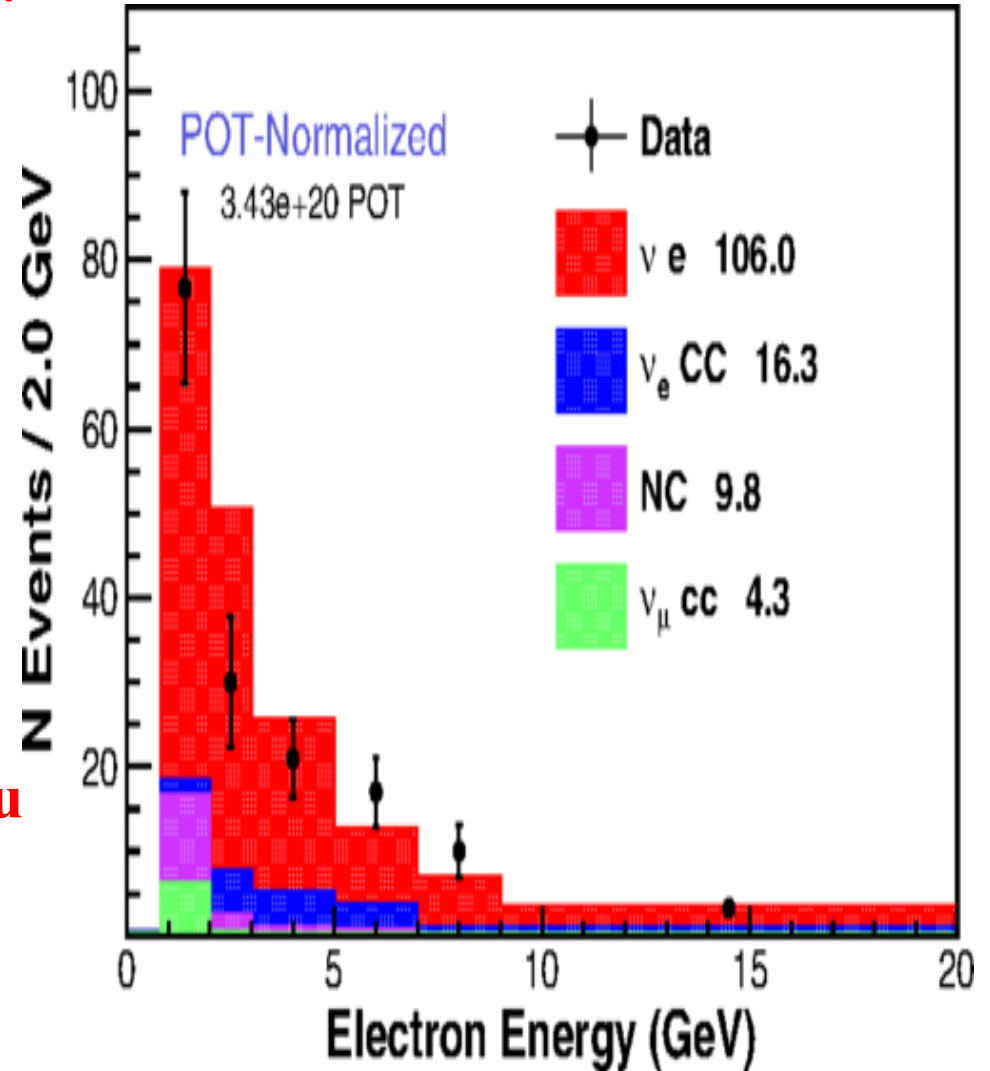
## $\nu_\mu - e$ Elastic Scattering



Park et al., PRD93 (2016) 112007

$\nu_\mu - e$  Elastic Scattering  
 – point like -  
 Cross section is known,

**~100 events in LE sample ~6% flux constraint (in situ measurement)**  
**– confirms previous hadro-production flux prediction**  
**(Many more events in ME running)**







## Second in situ Flux Constraints

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\nu} = A \left( 1 + \frac{B \nu}{A E_\nu} - \frac{C \nu^2}{A 2E_\nu^2} \right)$$

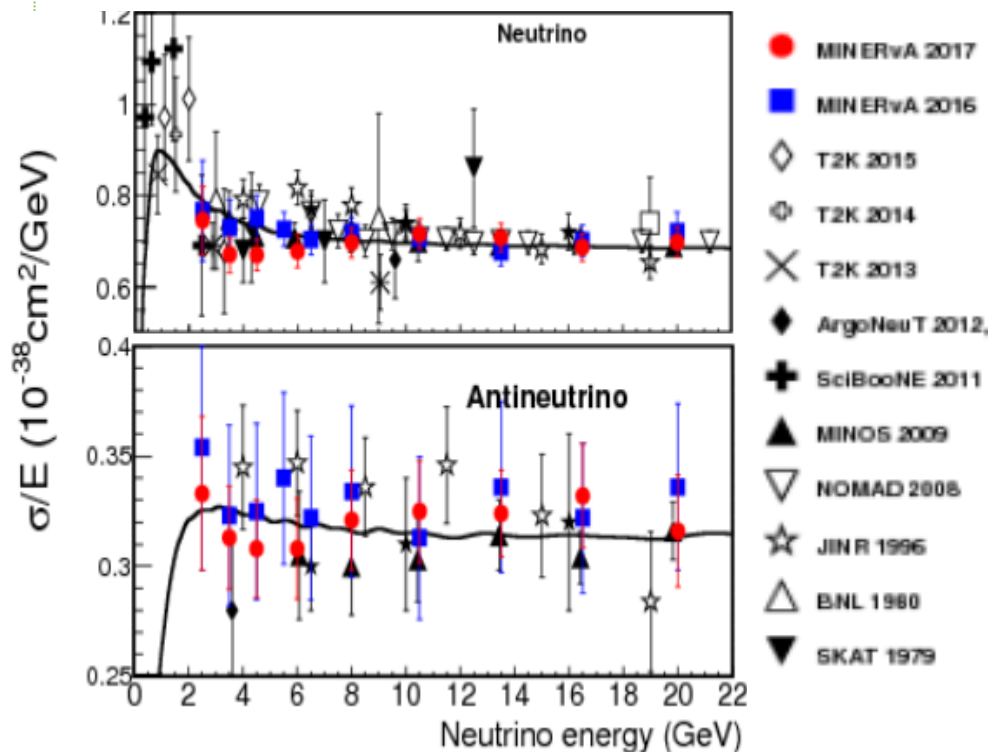
$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\nu} \sim \text{constant for low } \nu$$

## Low- $\nu$ (low hadronic energy)

• Gives a measurement of the flux shape (relative flux) Ref: Bodek et al EPJC 72, 1973 (2012)\_

Absolute Flux is normalized to other inclusive cross section measurements at high neutrino energies >20 GeV

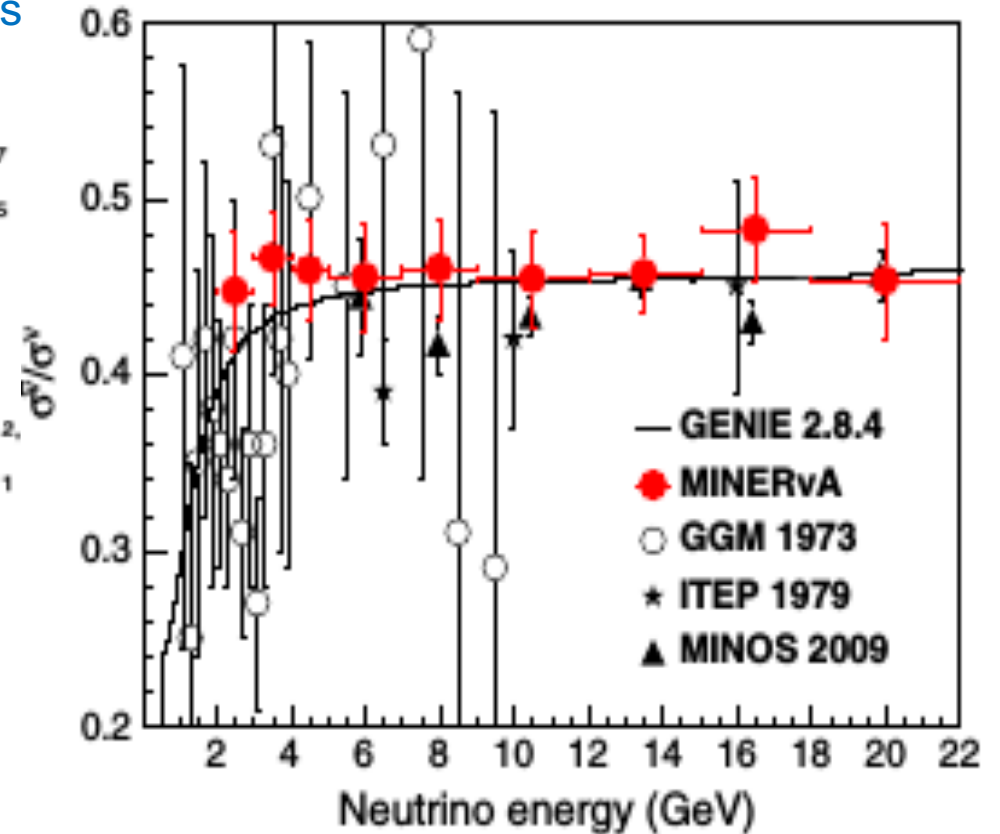
## Total neutrino and antineutrino cross sections



■ Blue MINERvA LE 2016

● Red MINERvA LE 2017

L. Ren et al(MINERvA) PRD95 (2017) 072009

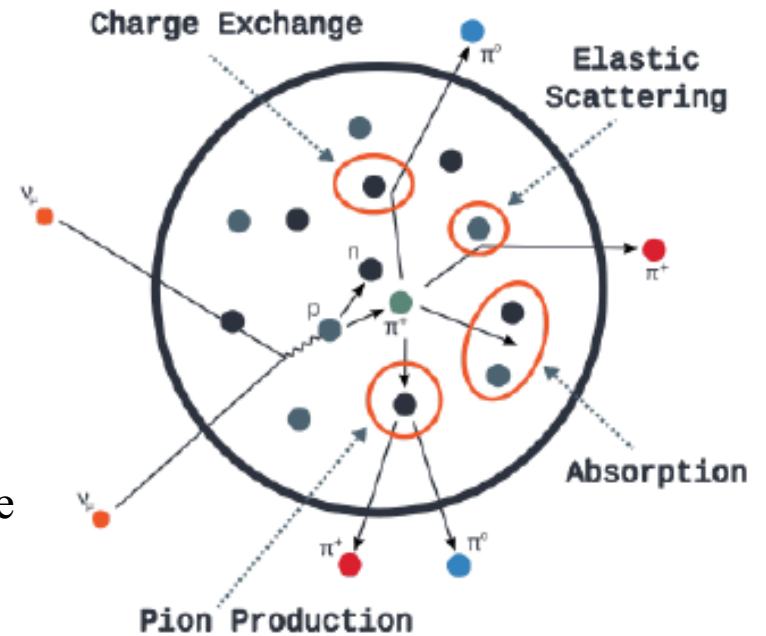
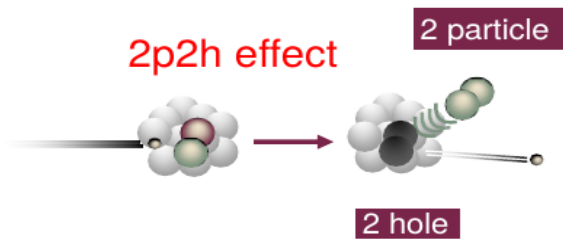
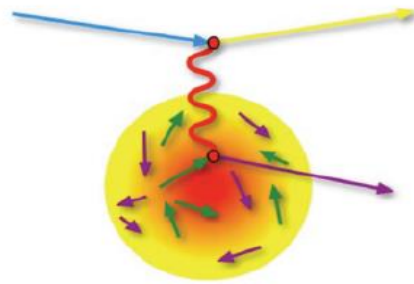


Minerva has performed the first good measurement of the antineutrino cross sections for  $E_\nu < 4$  GeV.



# Nuclear Physics Complications

## SRC, 2p2h, MEC, RPA FSI

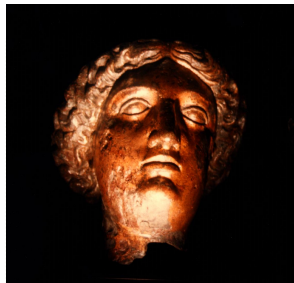


- Long range correlations – calculated using the Random Phase Approximation, (RPA) (a charge screening nuclear effect at low Q)
- There are short range correlations (SRC) 20% observed in electron scattering experiments, Scattering off a pair of correlated nucleons (quasi-deuterons) results in 2p2h final state (2 particles 2 holes) – binding energy is larger

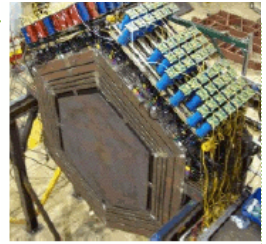
● 2p2h also from Meson Exchange Currents (MEC) which is another process. (increases QE cross section) (increase is primarily in the transverse cross section)

**$\nu$  interactions occur INSIDE the nucleus:**

- Produced particles have to exit out of the nucleus to be observed \*\*
- Final state interactions (FSI)



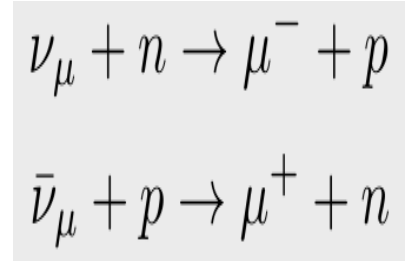
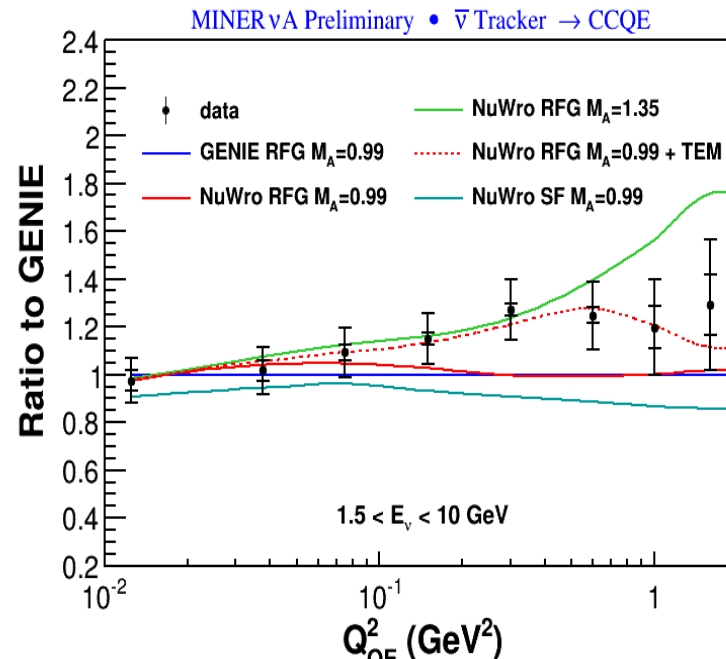
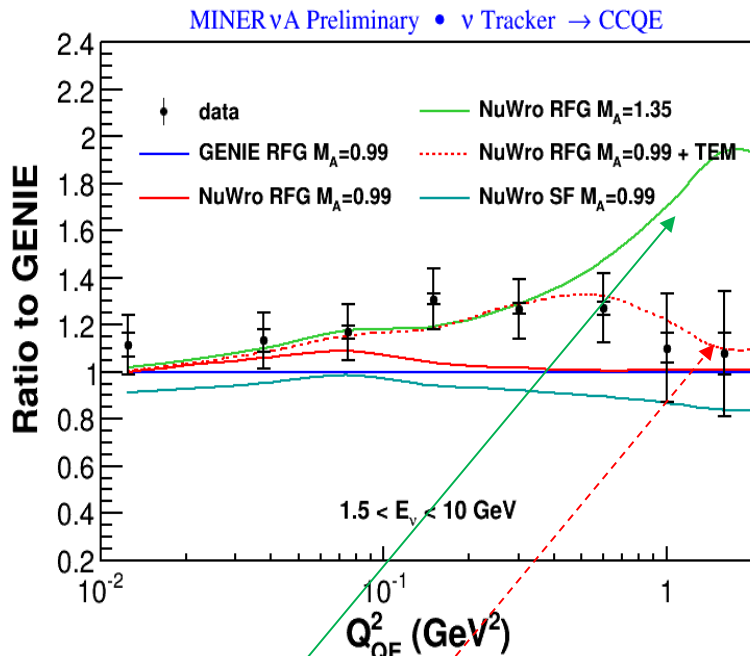
# CCQE: $Q^2$ dist. comparison to models



$$Q_{QE}^2 = -m_l^2 + 2E_\nu^{QE}(E_l - \sqrt{E_l^2 - m_l^2} \cos\theta_l) \quad Q^2 \text{ (muon)}$$

## CCQE neutrinos

## CCQE antineutrinos



Used as the  
**“Standard Candle”**  
 disappearance  
 signal channel in  
 oscillations  
 experiments:

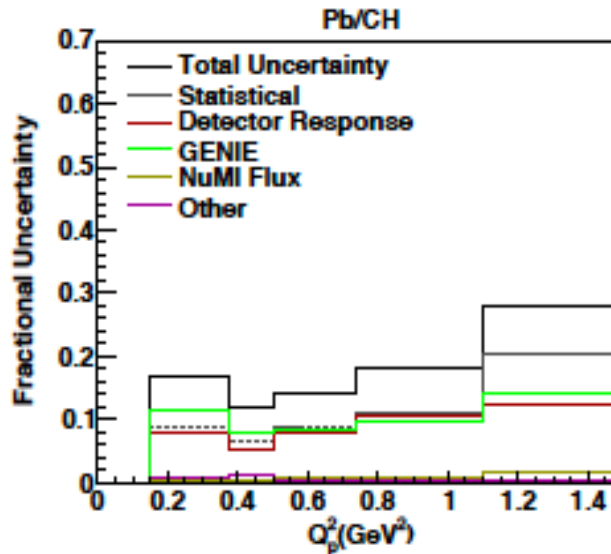
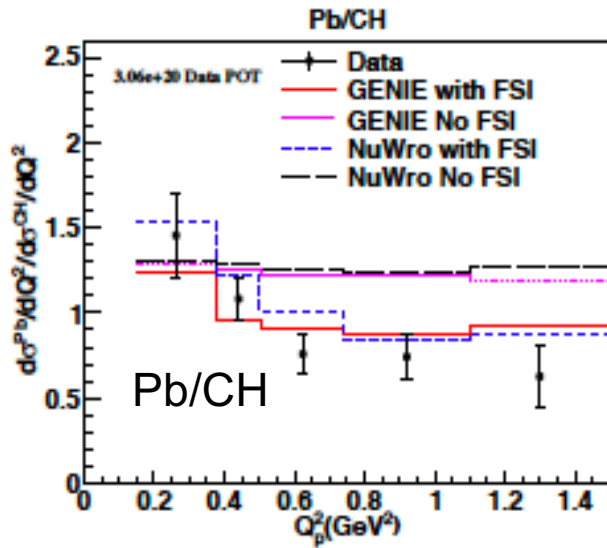
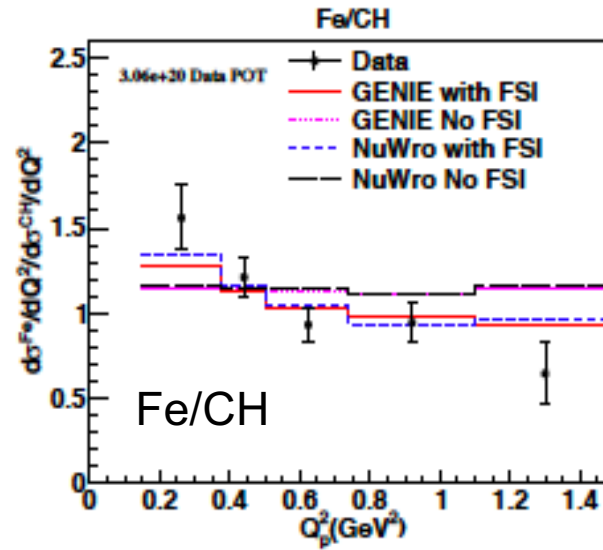
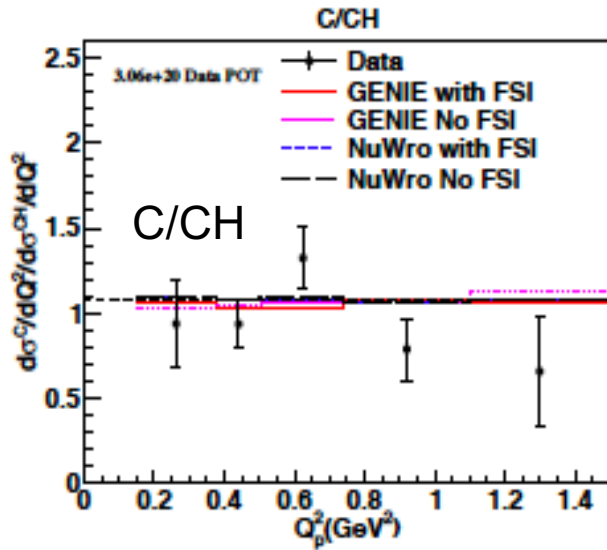
Both results prefer models with additional interactions involving multi-nucleons  $\rightarrow$  More later

- **$M_A = 1.35$** : Fit to MiniBooNE data
- **TEM(dotted)**: Transverse Enhancement Model  
 $\rightarrow$  Empirical model based on **electron scattering** data (best description)- **2p2h final stste**
- **GENIE**: Independent nucleons in mean field
- **SF: (spectral function)** More realistic nucleon momentum-energy relation

NuWro: Golal, Juszczak, Sobczyk PhysRevC.86.015505  
 TEM: Bodek, Budd, Christy Eur. Phys. J. C 71 (2011) 1726

$Q_p^2$  is sensitive to FSI effects.  $Q_p^2 = (M_n - \epsilon_B)^2 - M_p^2 + 2(M_n - \epsilon_B)(T_p + M_p - M_n + \epsilon_B)$ ,

Modify CCQE GENIE model to include 2p2h (Valecia model). Now look at the  $Q^2$  distribution of the final state proton  $Q_p^2$  for QE like events for various nuclei. arXiv:1705.03791

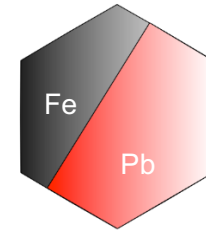
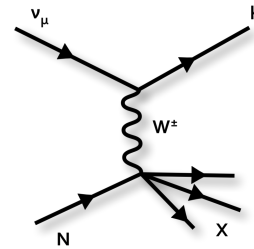


Effect of FSI clearly seen in the data.

Data calls for additional refinements in the modeling of FSI Fe and Pb in neutrino MC generators,

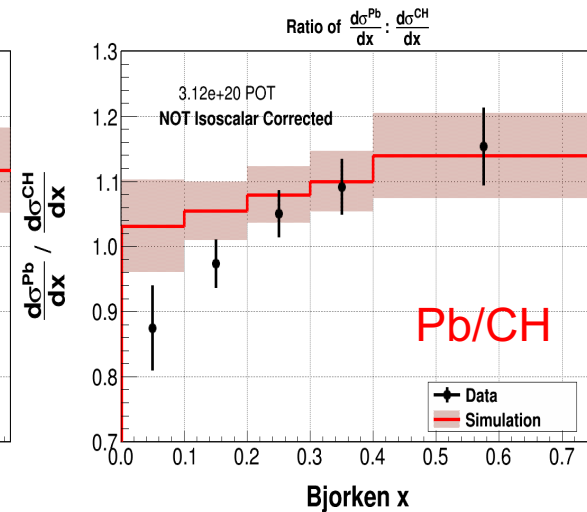
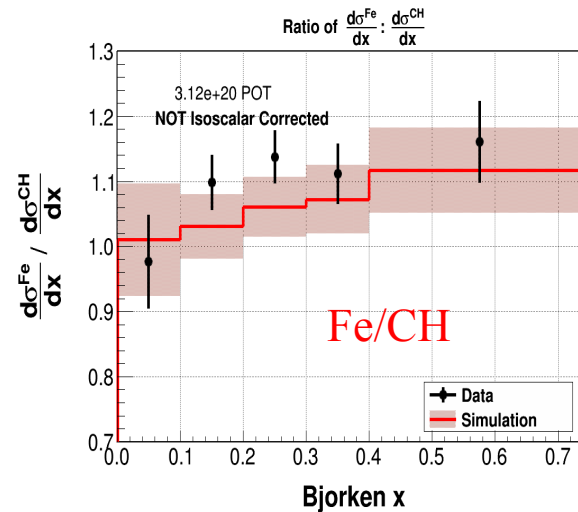
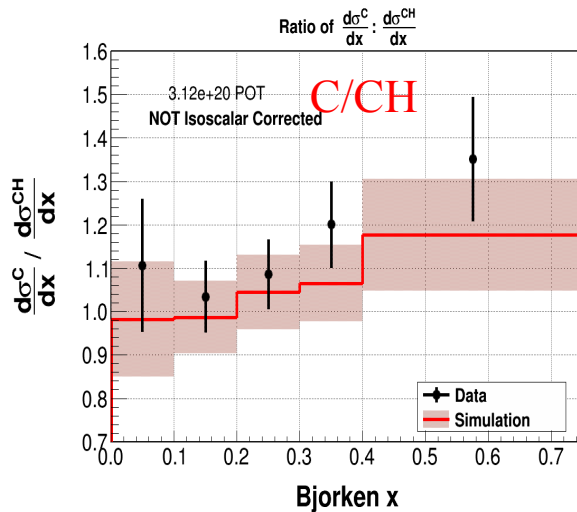


# A dependence CC DIS Inclusive:

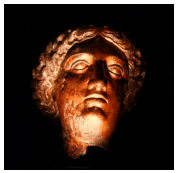


- *Divide C, Fe, Pb cross sections by scintillator (CH) cross section*
  - Each nucleus divided by a statistically independent scintillator measurements
  - Scintillator measurement is specific for each target type: use the same transverse area
  - The ratio of cross sections reduces errors by factor of 2 (~5%):

Mousseau et al., PRD93 (2016) 071101



- Deficit at low x in Pb indicates additional nuclear shadowing than presently in models (Genie 2.6.2) needed (prediction based on electron scattering data – Vector)
- As function of  $E_\nu$  (@LE): No tension between MINERvA data and GENIE simulations



# Selected Data to Model Comparisons

Poorly modeled nuclear effects for the QE and  $\Delta$  processes, such as interactions with correlated nucleon pairs (2p2h) result in an inaccurate mapping  $E_{\text{vis}} \rightarrow E_{\nu}$ .

- **MINERvA data indicate that there is a need for additional processes with multiple nucleons in the final state**, such as Meson Exchange Currents (MEC - 2p2h with higher binding), leading to energy transfer between the QE and  $\Delta$  peaks (Note that both: Enhanced cross section (Transverse Enhancement/MEC) and SRC have been observed in electron scattering experiments)
- **Reported on studies of nuclear effects** such as FSI and shadowing.
- **The QE cross section at low energy transfer is small**: Consistent with the effects of long range nucleon-nucleon correlations, such as charge screening computed using the Random Phase Approximation (RPA) technique.
- See list of publications for other topics.
- **More results are forthcoming**: Medium Energy (ME) data with increased kinematic coverage ( $W$  and  $Q^2$ )



# Back-ups



# Overview

- MINERvA will and has precisely studied neutrino interactions in the 1-20 GeV region:
  - Using a fine-grained, high-resolution active target calorimeter/tracker
  - Using the high flux NuMI beam in multiple energy configurations.
- MINERvA is improving our knowledge (and models) of:
  - $\nu_{CC}$  Interactions
  - Neutrino cross sections at low energy, low  $Q^2$ .
  - A-Dependence in neutrino interactions (Targets He, C, Fe, Pb and H<sub>2</sub>O)
- These results will help lower systematic errors in neutrino oscillation experiments.
- Next: Higher statistics Medium Energy (ME) data with increased kinematic coverage ( $W$  and  $Q^2$ )



# MINERvA Collaboration



~ 65 Particle, nuclear and theoretical physicists from 21 Institutions:



Aligarh Muslim University  
Centro Brasileiro de Pesquisas Fisicas  
Fermilab  
University of Florida  
Universite de Geneva  
Universidad de Guanajuato  
Hampton University  
Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts  
University of Minnesota at Duluth  
University of Mississippi  
Otterbein University

Universidad Nacional de Ingenieria  
Potificia Universidad Catolica del Peru  
University of Pennsylvania  
University of Pittsburgh  
University of Rochester  
Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey  
Universidad Tecnica Federico Santa Maria  
Tufts University  
College of William and Mary  
University of Wroclaw



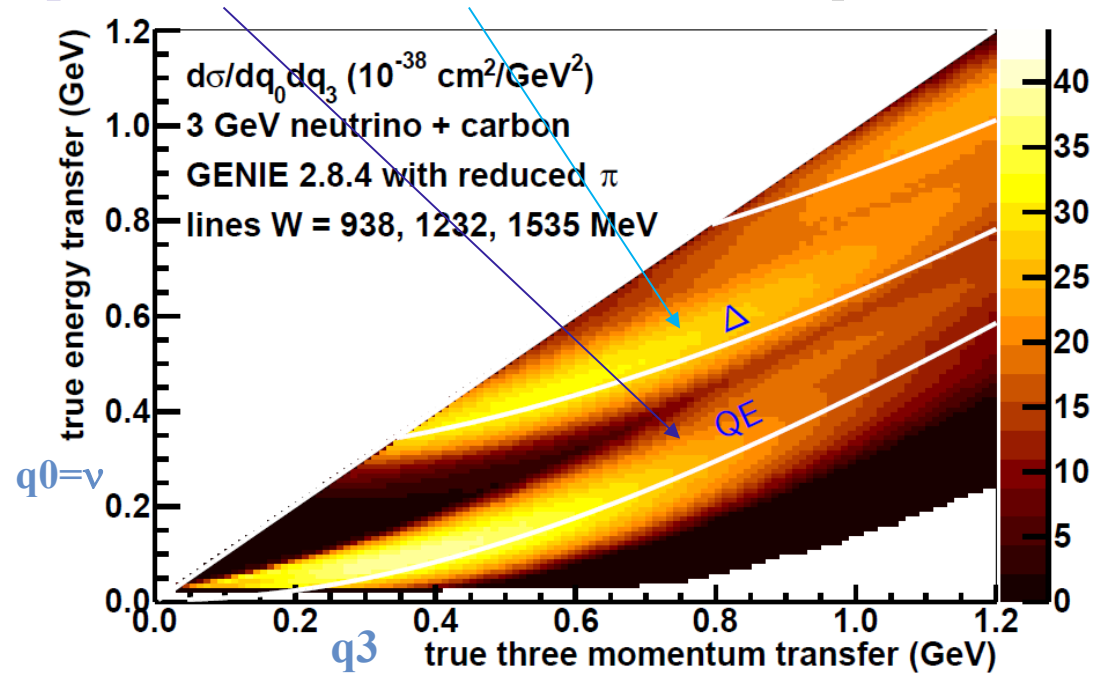
## Nuclear effects in neutrino-carbon Interactions at low three-momentum transfer. $q_0 = \nu$ , vs $q_3$

- The observed hadronic energy in charged-current  $\nu_\mu$  interactions is combined with muon kinematics to *permit separation* of the **quasi-elastic** and  **$\Delta$  (1232) resonance** processes:

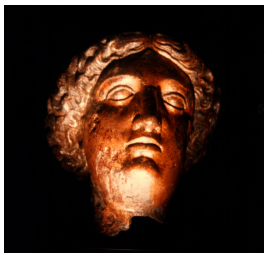
$$E_\nu = E_\mu + q_0$$

$$Q^2 = 2E_\nu(E_\mu - p_\mu \cos \theta_\mu) - M_\mu^2$$

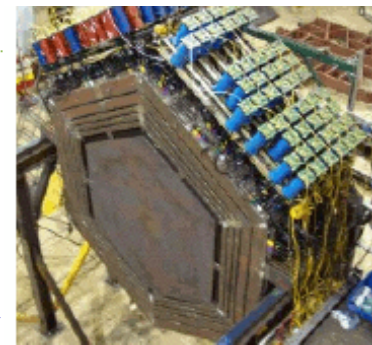
$$q_3 = \sqrt{Q^2 + q_0^2}$$



- We observe a small cross section at very low energy transfer that matches the expected *screening effect of long-range nucleon correlations*. computed using the Random Phase Approximation (RPA) technique.
- Additional cross section in the kinematic region between the quasi-elastic and  $\Delta$  resonance processes is needed to describe the data. (e.g. MEC 2p2h – larger binding)



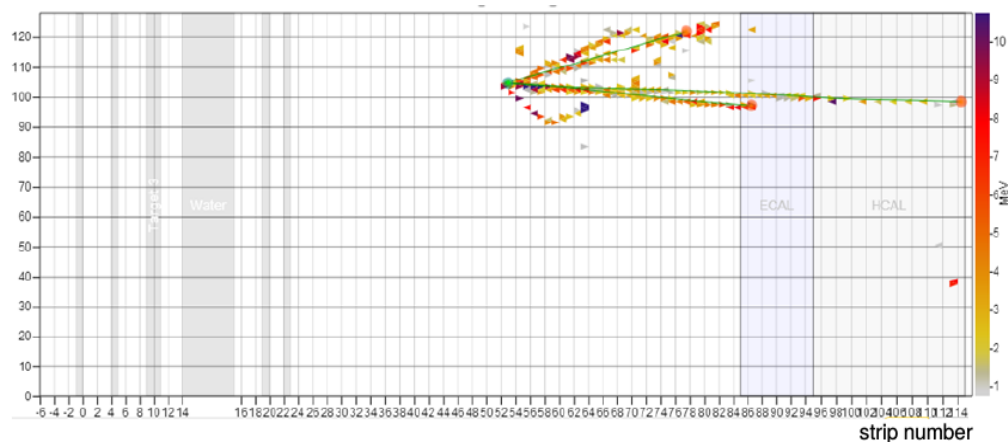
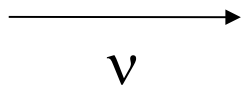
# Detector Capabilities

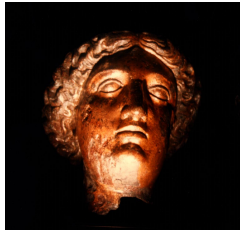


- Scintillator strip target calorimeter with Good tracking resolution
- Calorimetry for both charged hadronic particles and EM showers
  - MINERvA detector's hadronic energy response was measured using a dedicated test beam experiment at the Fermilab Test Beam Facility (FTFB)
- Timing information (few ns resolution) - untangle multiple  $\nu$  interactions in same spill, decays
- Containment of events from neutrinos up to several GeV (except muon)
- Muon energy and charge measurement from MINOS

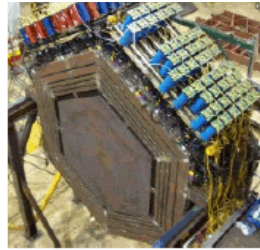
- Particle ID from  $dE/dx + \text{energy} + \text{range}$

- But no charge determination except muons entering MINOS



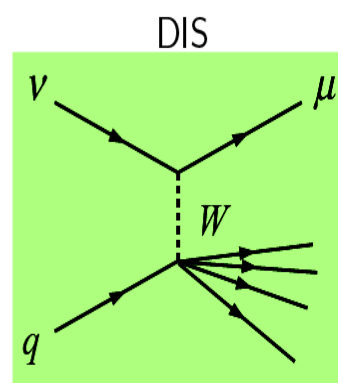
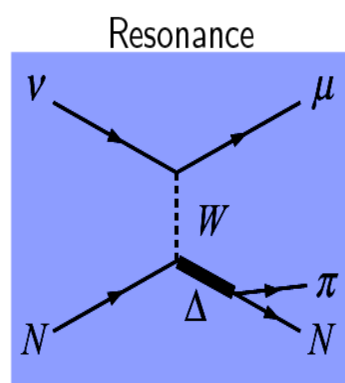
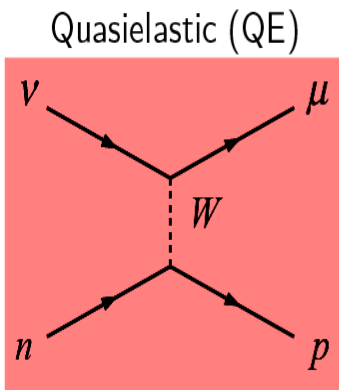
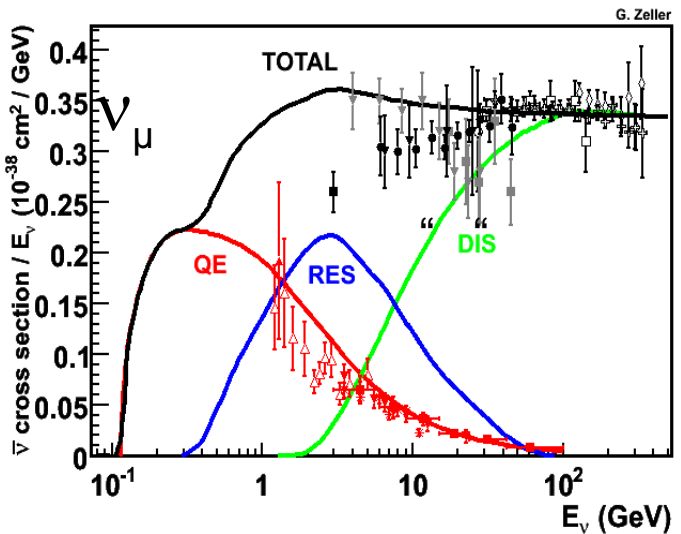
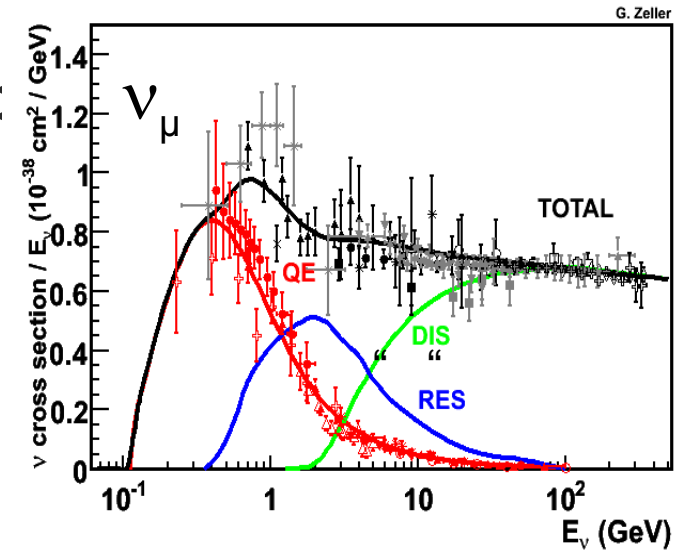


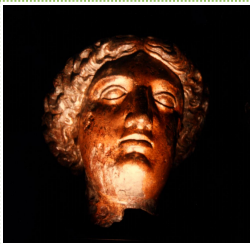
# Motivation



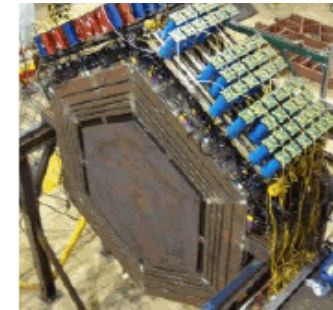
Rev. Mod. Phys. 84, 1307–1341  
(2012)  
(includes MiniBooNE results)

- Existing data between 1-20 GeV limited:
- Mainly bubble chamber data
- Wide band neutrino beams
  - Low statistics samples
  - Large uncertainty on flux.
  - Limited target types



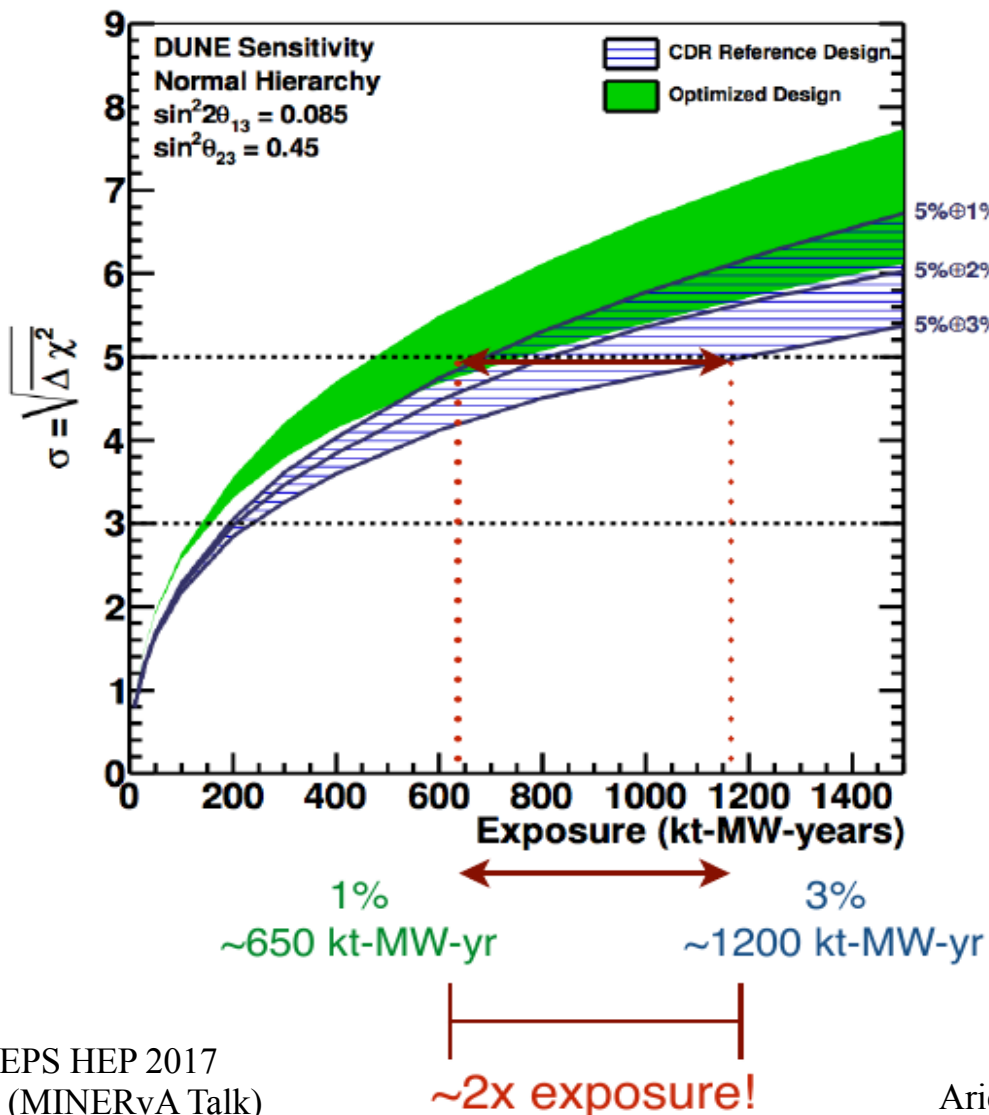


# Motivation: poorly known cross-sections



DUNE CDR, arXiv:1512.06148

50% CP Violation Sensitivity



▣ We are now in a period of precision neutrino oscillation measurements

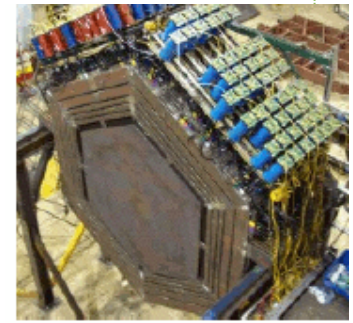
▣ Can't ignore systematics uncertainties: Systematic errors due to neutrino interaction cross sections are a significant fraction of the total error

▣ Need better models (generators) based on high precision data

▣ → **Enter MINERvA**

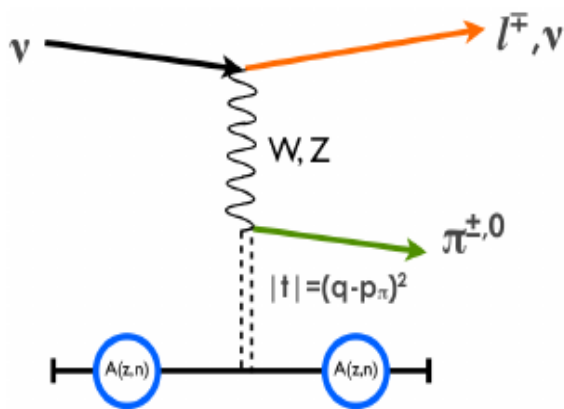


# Flux: Absolute Cross-section Errors

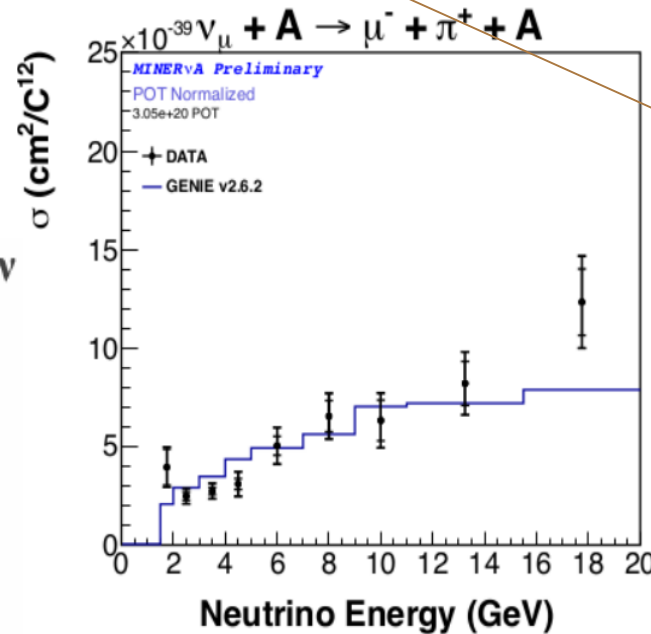


- MINERvA Statistical errors are expected to be small.
- The total error on absolute cross section measurements are dominated by the systematic error on the determination of the neutrino **flux**:

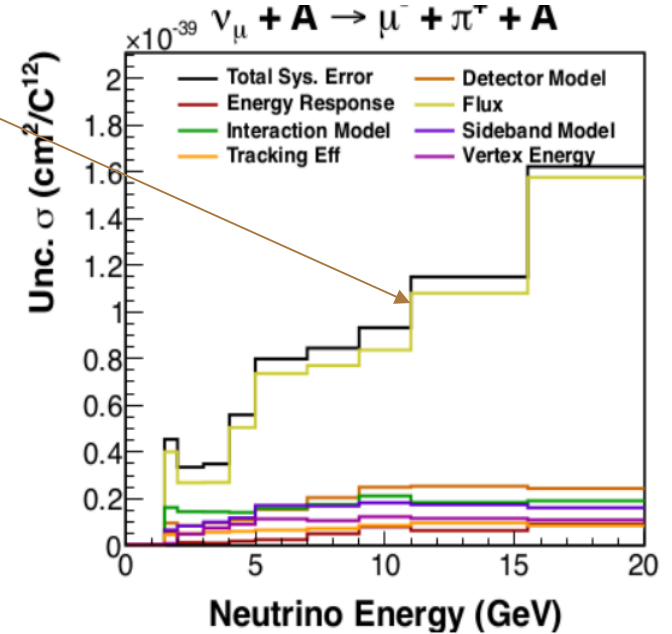
**Example: Coherent  $\pi^\pm$  production.**  
PRL 113, 261802 (2014)



Cross section  
(note vertical scale)



Cross section uncertainty  
(note vertical scale)





# Second in situ Flux Constraints:

## LOW- $\nu$ (low hadronic energy)

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\nu} = A \left( 1 + \frac{B \nu}{A E_\nu} - \frac{C \nu^2}{A 2E_\nu^2} \right)$$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\nu} \sim \text{constant for low } \nu$$

- low hadronic recoil energy
- A, B, and C depend on integrals over structure functions
- **Gives a measurement of the flux shape**

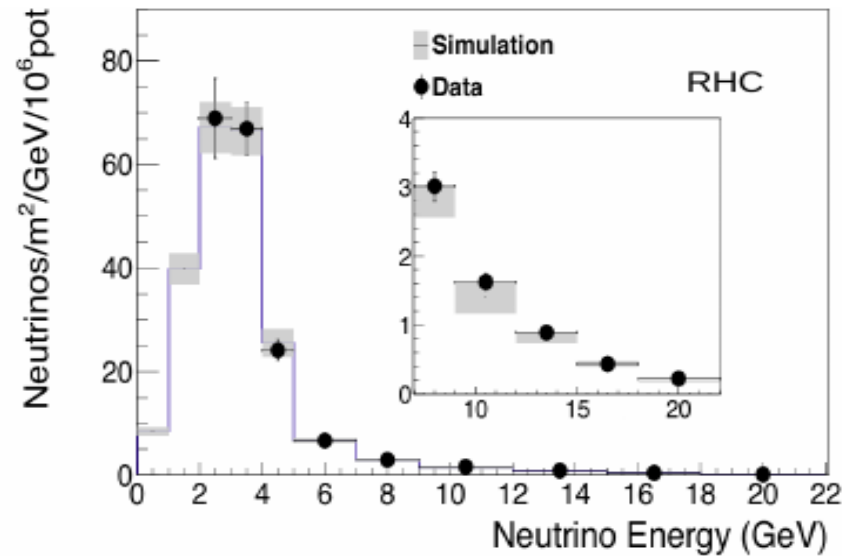
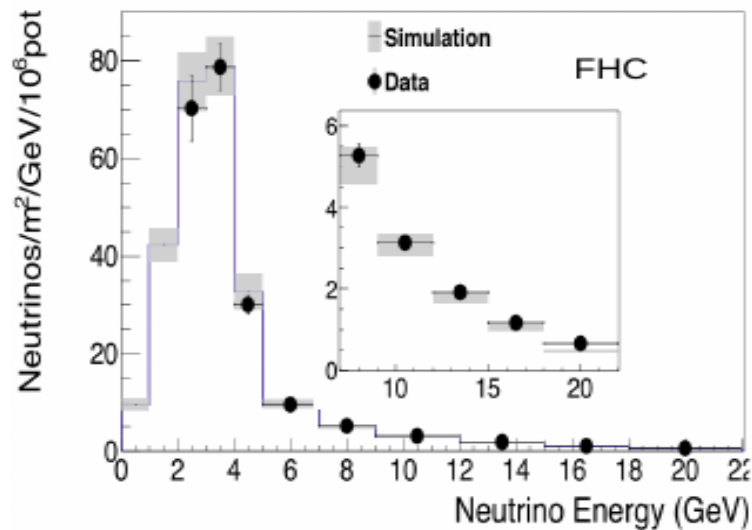
Ref: Bodek et al EPJC 72, 1973 (2012)\_

L. Ren et al., (MINERvA) PRD95 (2017) 072009

LOW- $\nu$  is only a measurement of relative flux

$\nu_\mu$

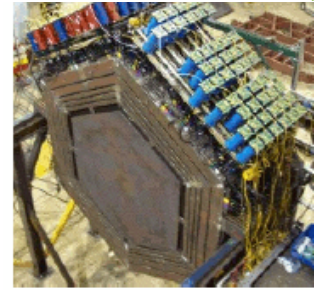
$\bar{\nu}_\mu$



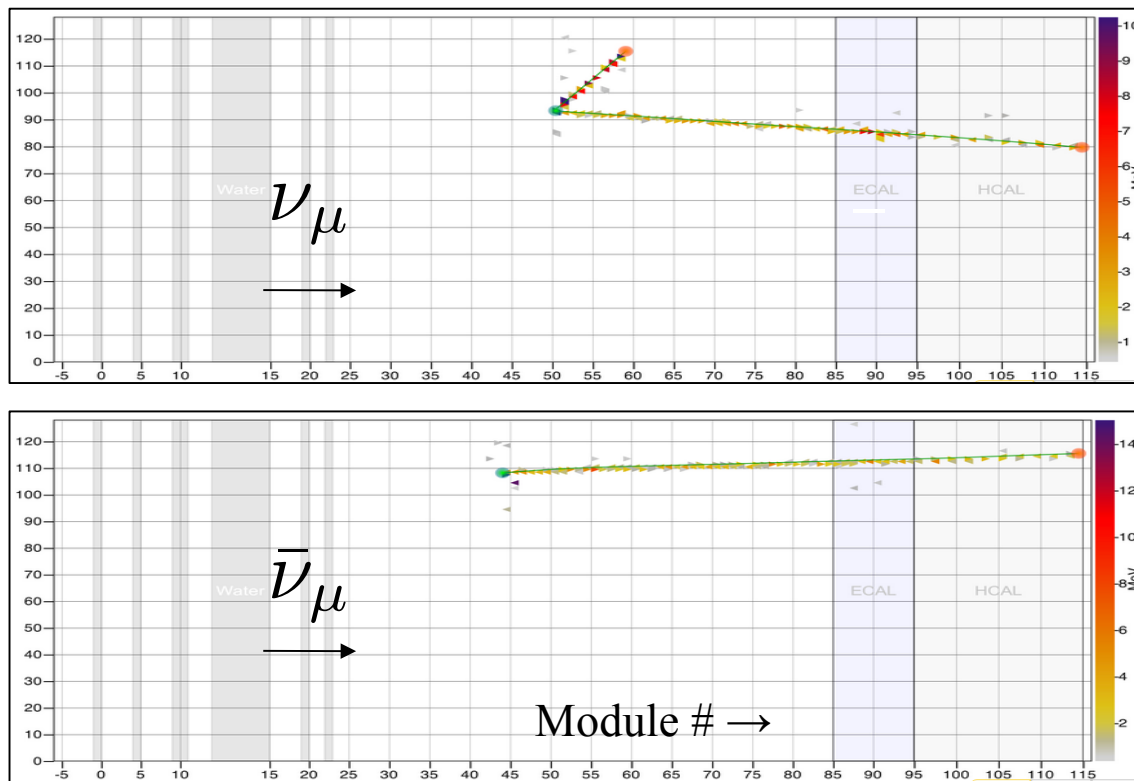
Flux is normalized to inclusive cross section from other measurements at high neutrino energy.



# $\nu(\bar{\nu})$ CC Quasi-Elastic Scattering (CCQE):

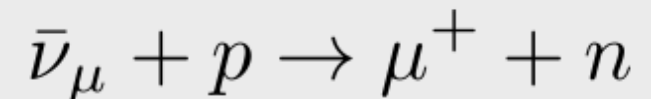
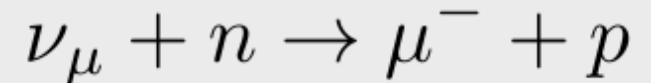


- Used as the “**Standard Candle**” disappearance signal channel in oscillations experiments: --> Assumed to be a “**clean**” experimental signature

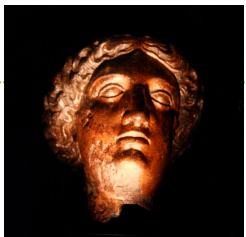


Hit Energy in MeV

Charged Current (CC)



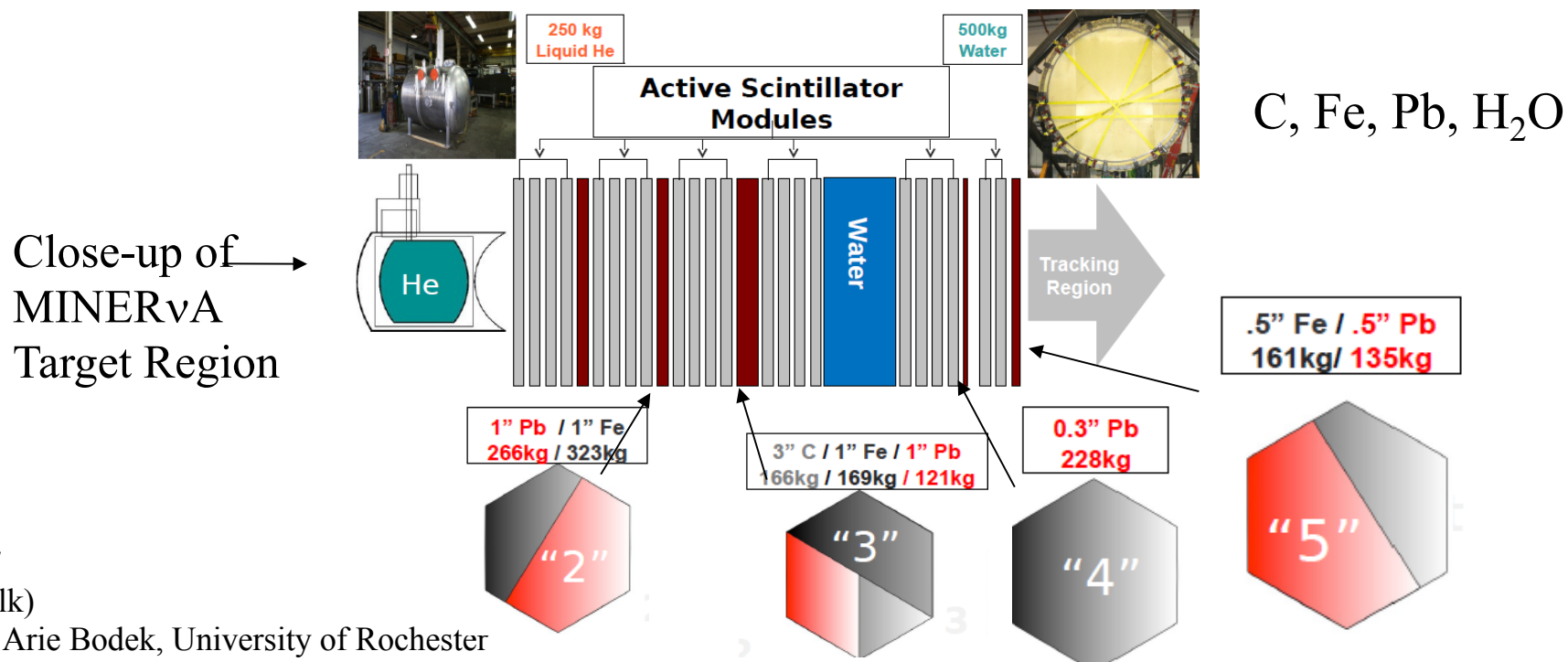




# A-dependence of CC $\nu$ Cross Section

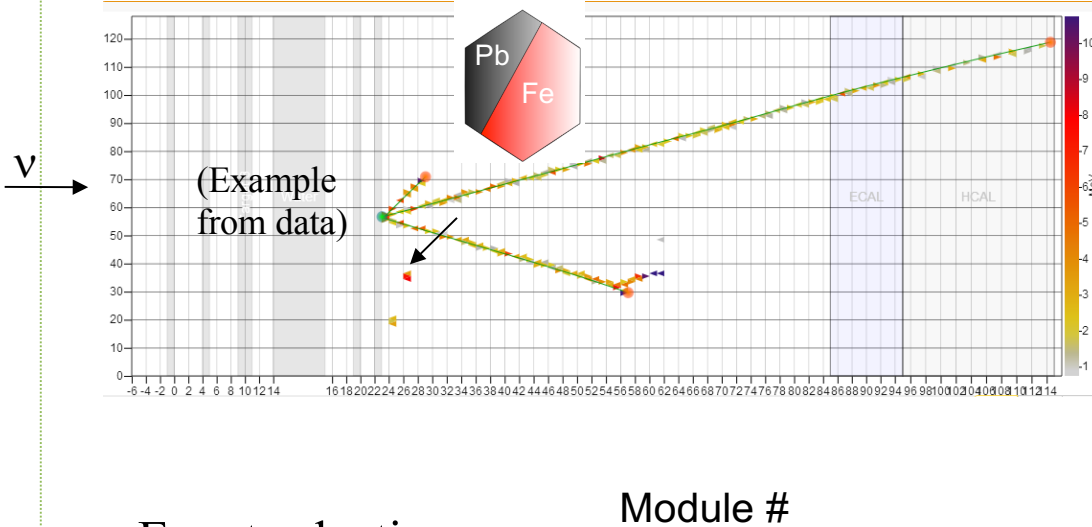
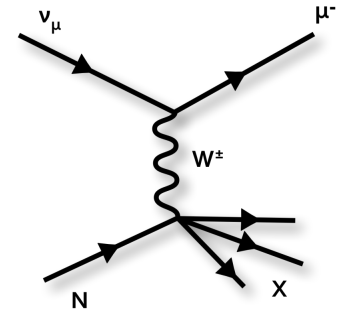
Neutrino Oscillation experiments need unbiased measurement of neutrino energy:

- **Different Experiments use Different Heavy Nuclear Targets (need mass!):**
  - Carbon, Water, Argon (now) and previously Iron, Lead, Calcium.
- **Nuclear effects are not small in neutrino scattering:**
  - $E_{\text{Visible}} \neq E_{\text{True}}$  and Interaction Rate can be target dependent
- **Neutrino interaction models do not simulate these effects well**
  - A dependence provides a check on nuclear models

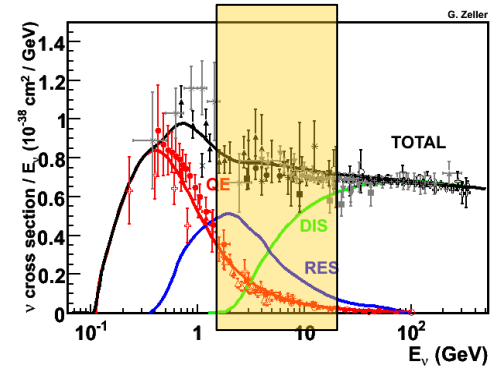




# CC $\nu$ Inelastic (DIS) Inclusive:



MINOS matched Muon  
 (Requiring a MINOS match somewhat reduces our energy coverage – If sign of muon not critical can use range and extend our coverage)



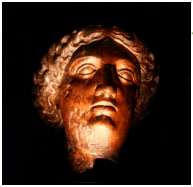
- Event selection:
  - Muon must be matched in the downstream magnetized MINOS Near Detector (ND)
  - Vertex in passive nuclear target

$$E_\nu = E_\mu + E_{had} \quad (\text{Muon momentum and charge from MINOS ND} + \text{Sum of visible energy, weighted by amount of passive material})$$

- Muon angle needed for other kinematic variables:

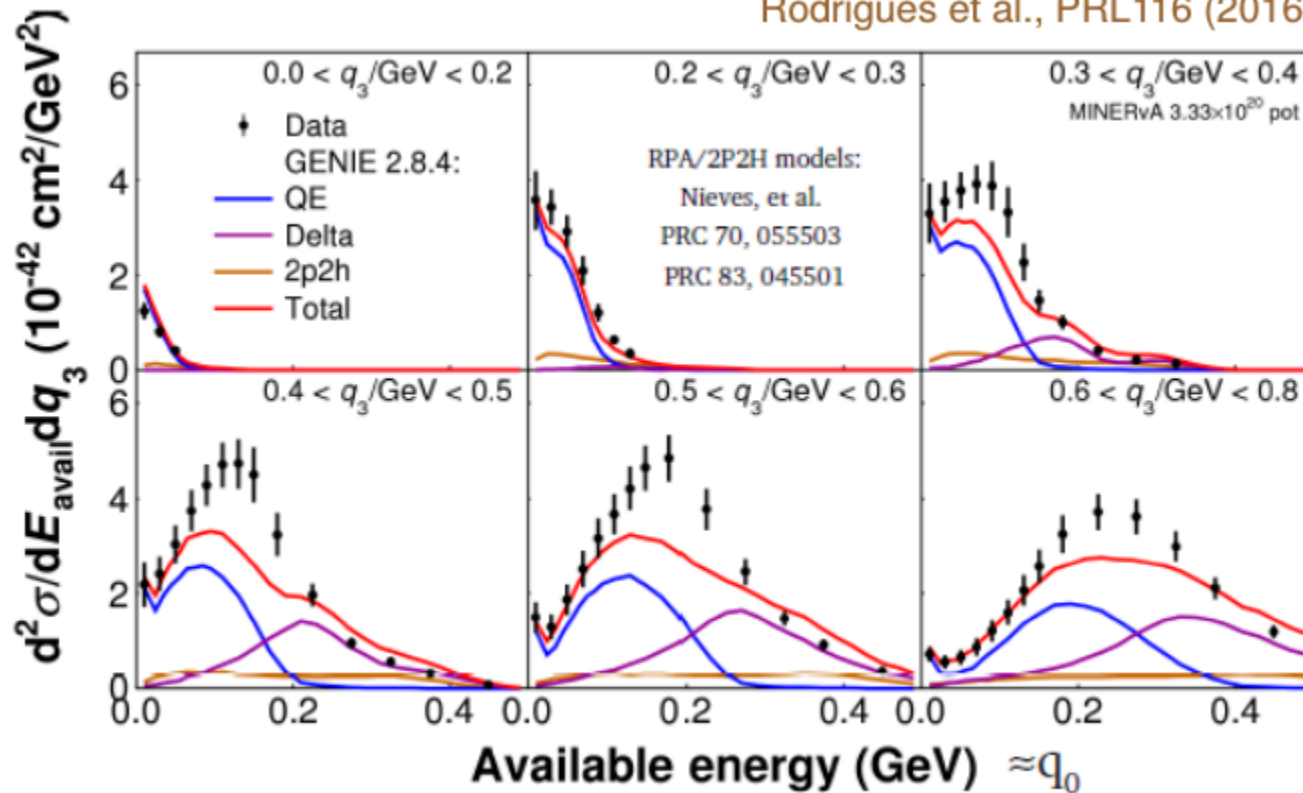
$$Q^2 = 2E_\nu (E_\mu - p_\mu \cos(\theta_\mu)) \quad x = \frac{Q^2}{2M\nu} \quad y = E_{had}/E_\nu \quad \nu = E_\nu - E_\mu$$

**DIS sample:  $Q^2 > 1.0 \text{ GeV}^2$  and  $W > 2.0 \text{ GeV}$**



# $\nu_\mu$ CCQE data in the $(q_0 - q_3)$ plane

Rodrigues et al., PRL116 (2016) 071802



$$E_{\text{avail}} = \sum p \text{ and } \pi^\pm \text{ K.E.} + \text{total energy of all other particles except } n$$

- Adding in models RPA= Random Phase Approximation (a charge screening nuclear effect) and MEC 2p2h processes improves agreement in some regions, but not all...

(Phys. Rev. C 83, (2011), Phys. Rev. C 70, 055503 (2004), Phys. Rev. D 88, 113007 (2013) (Valencia Model))

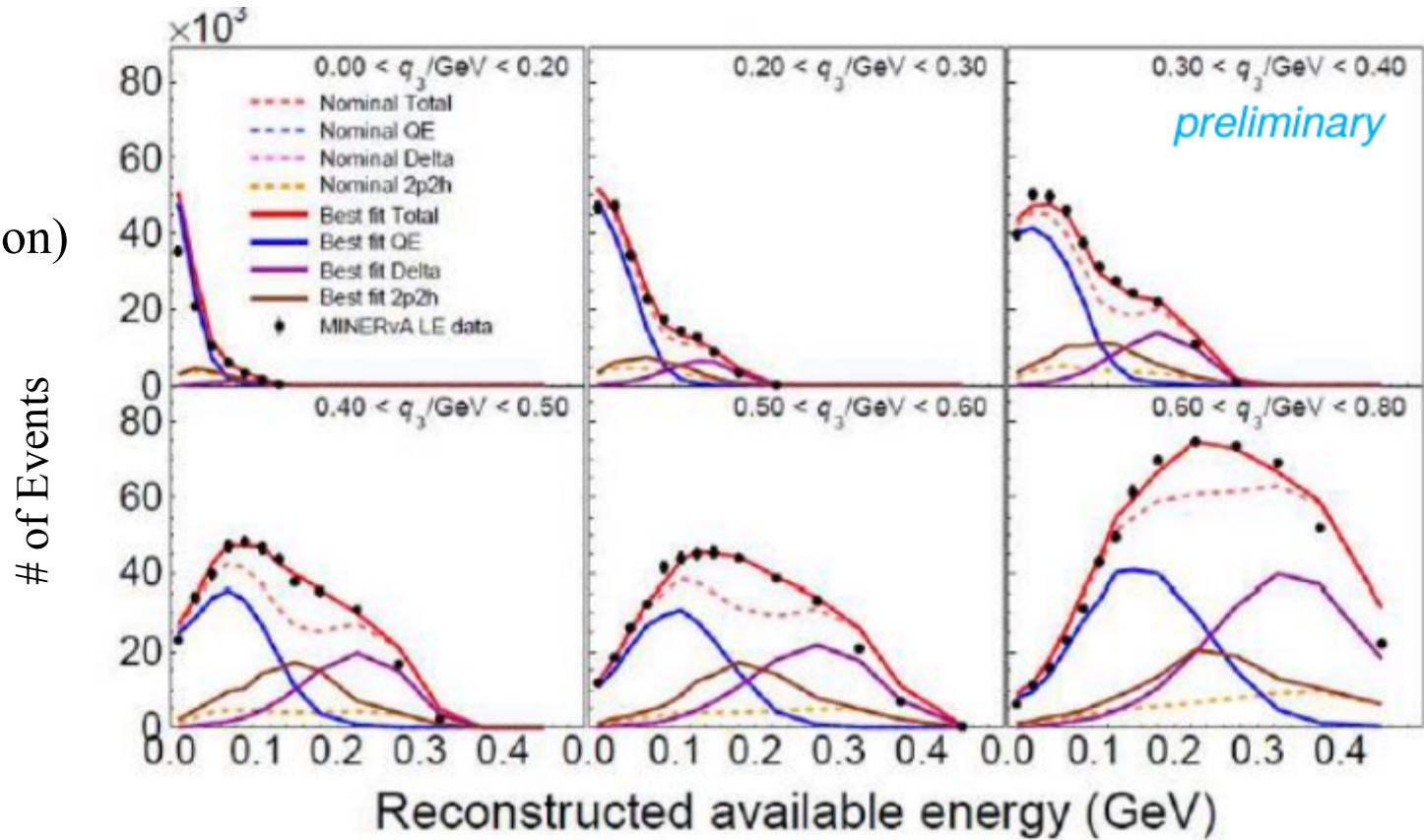
- **Note: Excess in similar kinematic region to excess in anti-neutrino CCQE**



# Now Add Re-weighted 2p2h Contribution

(Fit a 2D Gaussian in true ( $q_0$ ,  $q_3$ ) as a re-weighting function)

(Does not effect true QE or resonant production)



Nice Agreement!