

Pion Production At MINERvA:

Overview of Results from the Low Energy NuMI Beam Configuration

Aaron Bercellie

On Behalf of the MINERvA Collaboration

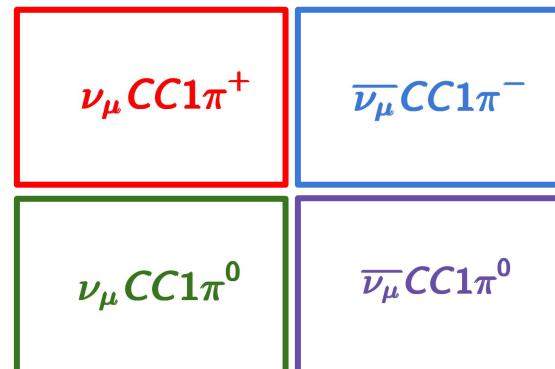
NuINT 2018

October 16, 2018



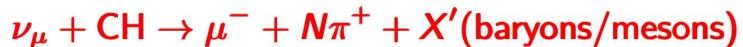
Pions in the Low Energy Beam

- With our latest measurement of $\overline{\nu_\mu}CC1\pi^-$, MINERvA has measured all single pion production channels on scintillator
 - Discrepancies between data and GENIE in all channels
- Quick overview for this talk:
 - Single pion production channels and how MINERvA measures them
 - Comparisons between kinematic distributions of each channel
 - NUISANCE Pion Tune with MINERvA Data



The four incoherent single pion production channels

$$\nu_\mu CC1\pi^+, \nu_\mu CCN\pi^+$$



Phys.Rev.D **92** (2015) 092008

Phys.Rev.D **94** (2016) 052005

$$\overline{\nu_\mu} CC1\pi^-$$



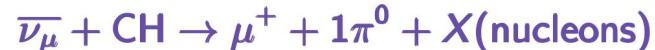
In preparation

$$\nu_\mu CC1\pi^0$$



Phys.Rev.D **96** (2017) 072003

$$\overline{\nu_\mu} CC1\pi^0$$



Phys.Lett.B **749** (2015) 130-136

Phys.Rev.D **94** (2016) 052005

- These results were taken using the low energy beam configuration
 - All plots for the **N π^+** results are in the backup slides

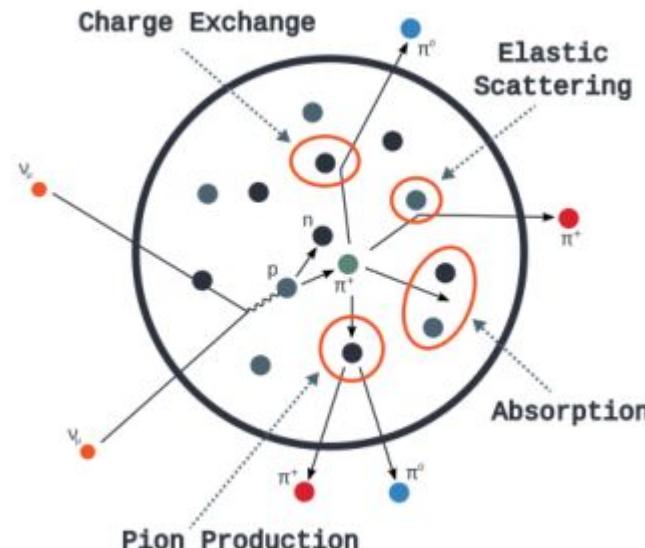


Why measure all four incoherent single pion production channels

- Difficult to disentangle nucleon and nuclear effects
- For example, final state interactions (FSI) can migrate between charged pion and neutral pion events

$$\nu_\mu CC1\pi^+ \leftrightarrow \nu_\mu CC1\pi^0$$

- Discrepancies in one channel may show up in the other
- Initial nuclear state cares about ν_μ vs $\bar{\nu}_\mu$ modes



from T. Golan

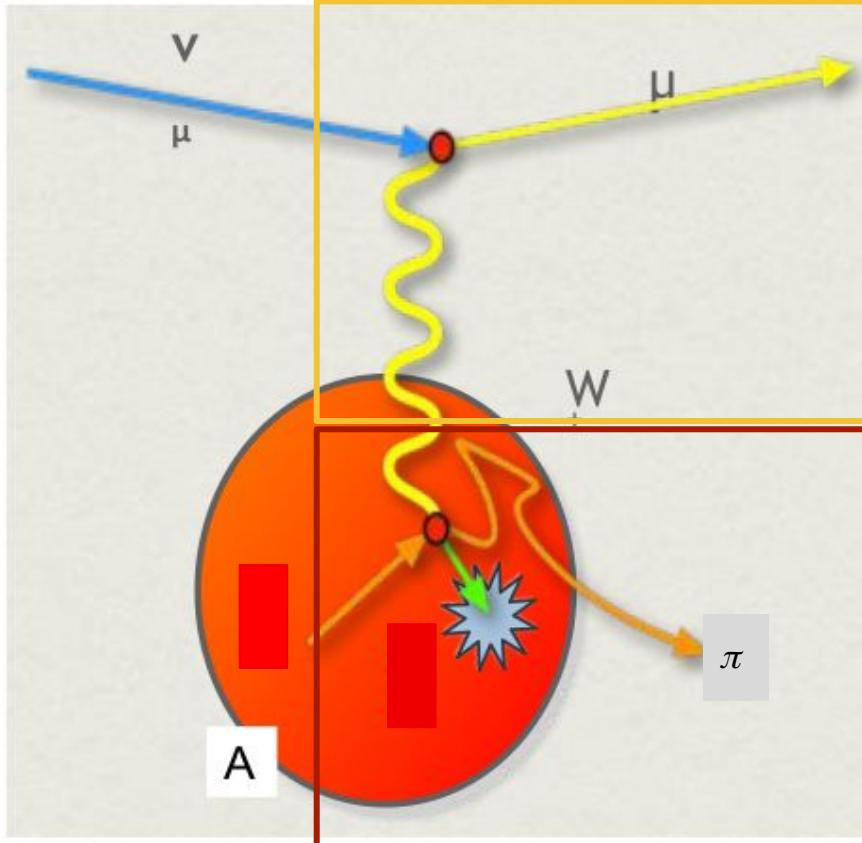


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Looking at muons and pions



Muon

- Provides information on the initial state of the nucleons within the nucleus

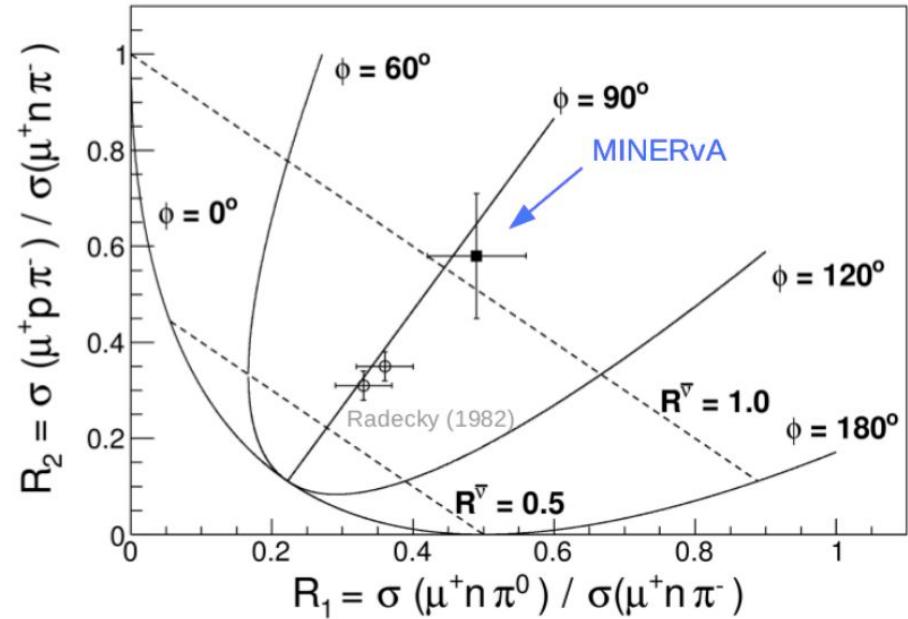
Pion

- Undergoes final state interactions within the nucleus
- By comparing to muon kinematics, allows isolation of final state effects



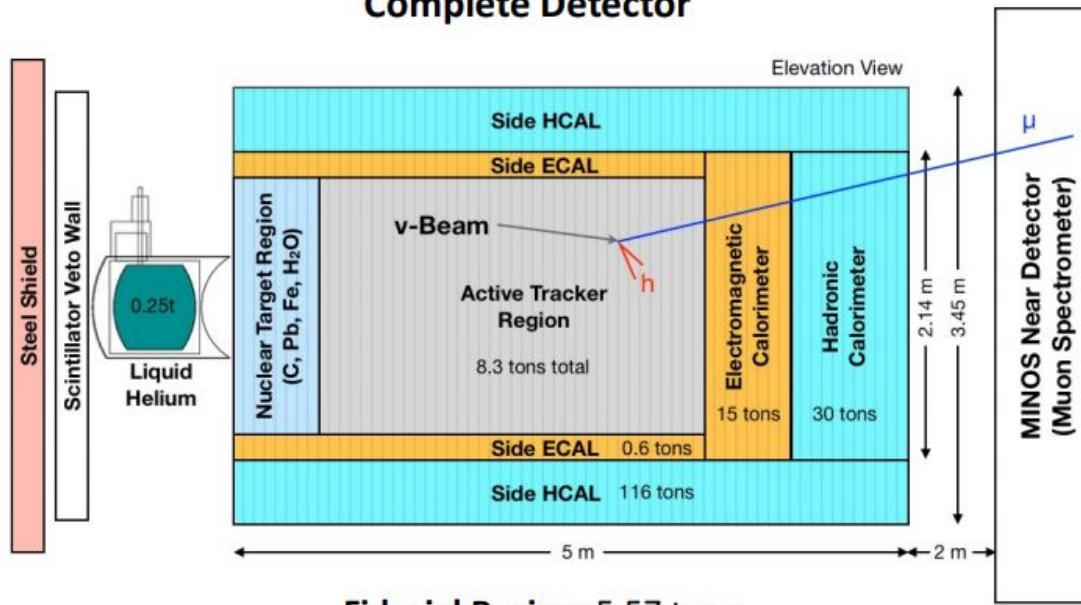
Measurement of isospin amplitudes

- Can decompose different channels into nucleon level cross sections
- Allows us to find the relative strength and phase between the amplitudes of isospin $I = 1/2, 3/2$



MINERvA Detector

Side View
Complete Detector

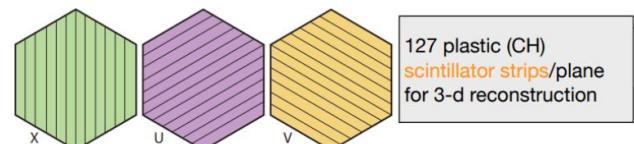
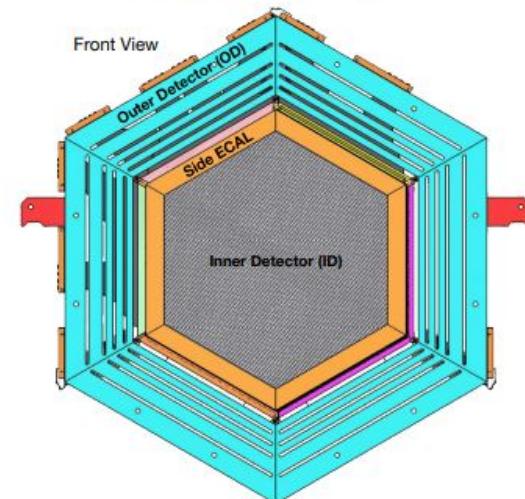


Fiducial Region: 5.57 tons

Nucl. Instrum. Methods Phys. Res., Sect. A 743, 130 (2014).

Nucl. Instrum. Methods Phys. Res., Sect. A 789, 28 (2015).

Front View
Single Module



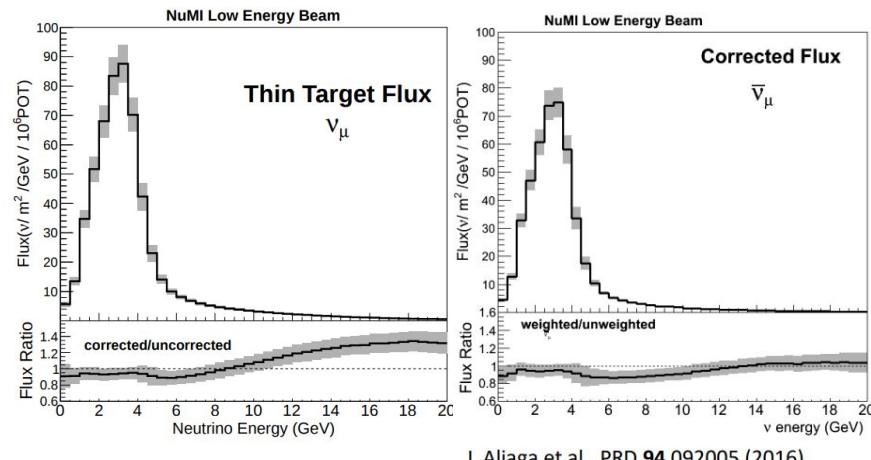
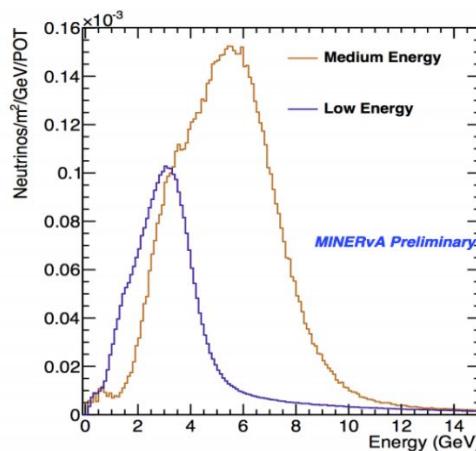
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MINERvA Low Energy Flux

- From 2005-2012 (2010-2012 full detector), MINERvA received both neutrino and antineutrinos from the NuMI beamline in low energy mode
 - 4×10^{20} protons on target
- Improved our prediction of flux using simulation tuned to world hadron production data as well as in situ measurements (low nu method, neutrino electron scattering)
 - Deepika Jena will be giving a talk about the MINERvA flux in the medium energy era



L.Aliaga et al., PRD 94 092005 (2016)

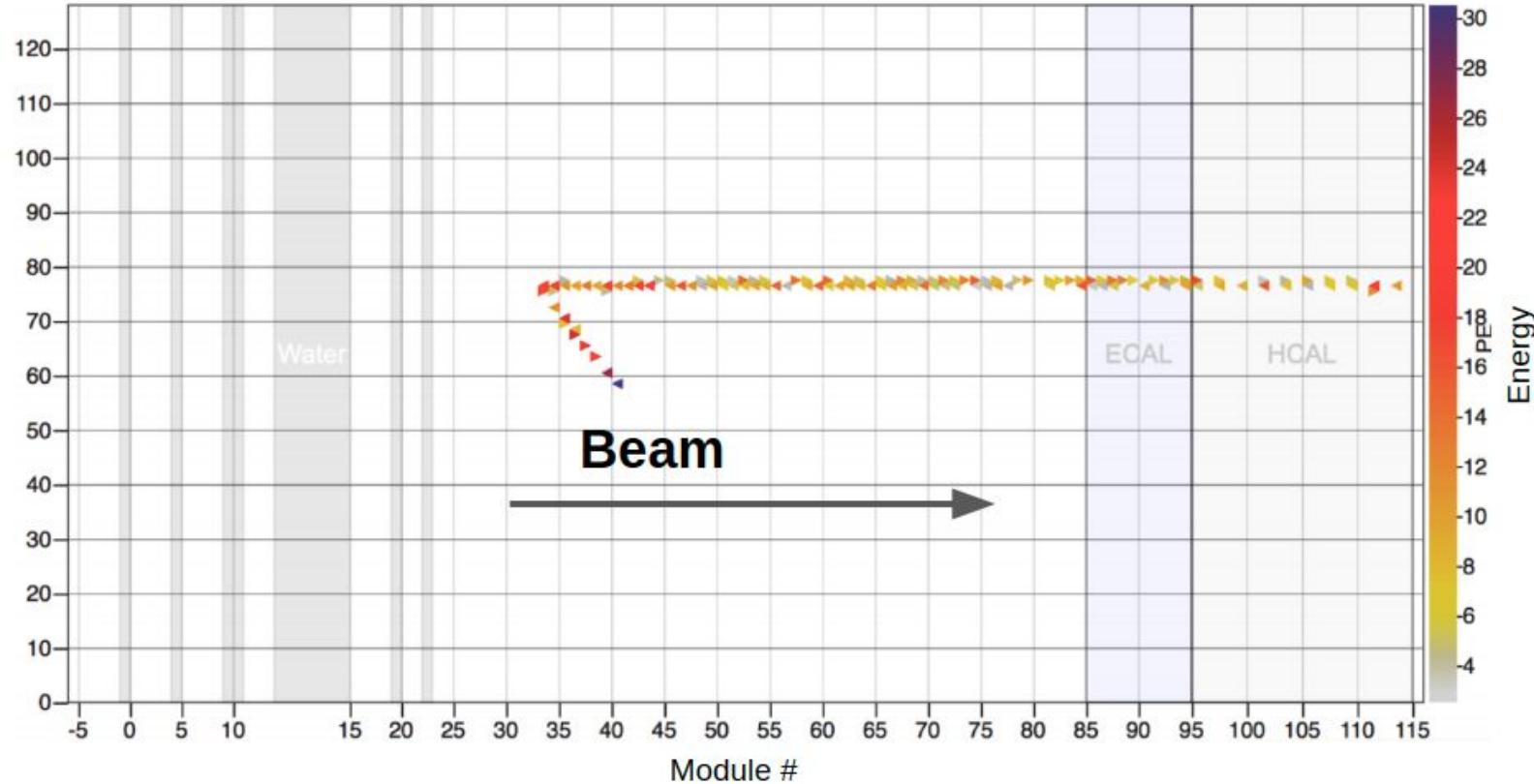


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Arachne Display of MINERvA Event



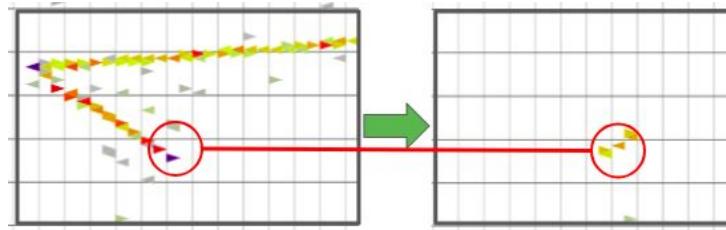
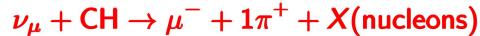
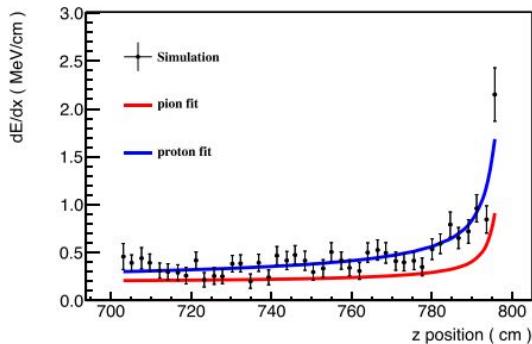
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π^\pm Pion Reconstruction

- dE/dx profile of track consistent with π^\pm
- Momentum found from dE/dx fit (by range)



- Ability to see charged pions in MINERvA has energy thresholds $\sim[50,300]$ MeV
 - Tracking requirements, pion interactions
- π^- typically absorbed into nucleus
 - Hard to tag with Michel electron, difficult to reconstruct momentum

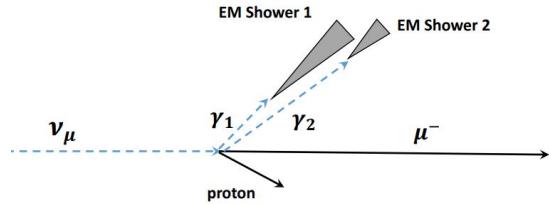


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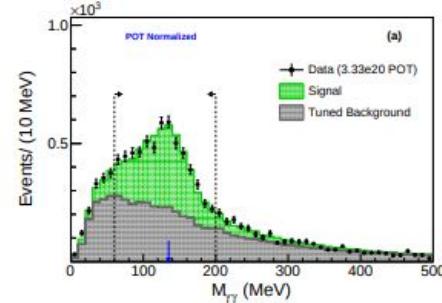
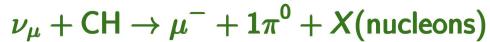
π^0 Pion Reconstruction

- Has two photon candidates
- Photon conversion distance from interaction vertex > 15 cm (> 14 cm for most energetic γ)
- Energy found calorimetrically, energy distribution fitted to invariant mass peak



Invariant π^0 Mass

$$M_{\gamma\gamma}^2 = 2E_{\gamma_1}E_{\gamma_2}(1 - \cos(\theta_{\gamma\gamma}))$$



- Easier to see additional nucleons due to clearer vertex
- Large energy thresholds $\sim [0, 1000]$ MeV

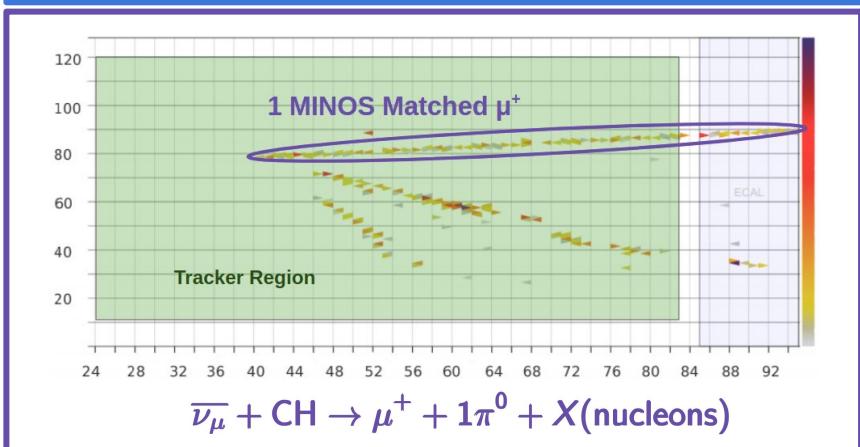
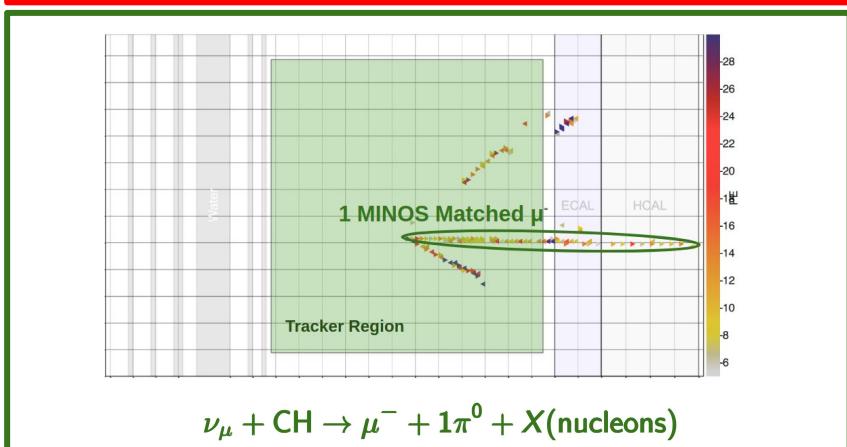
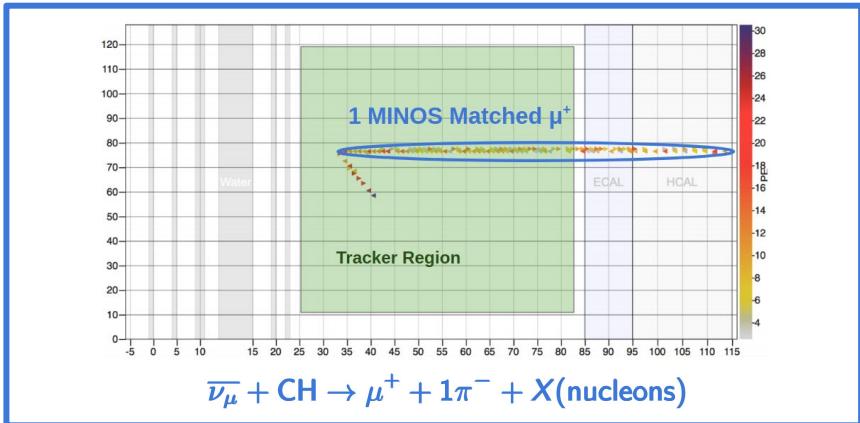
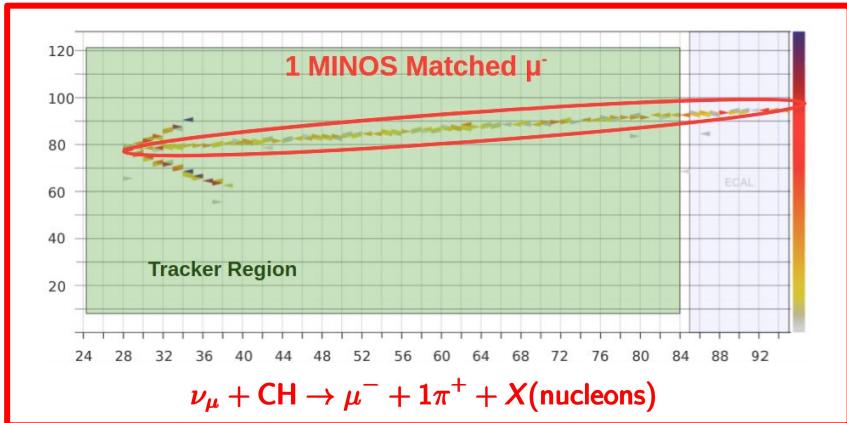


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Event Selection

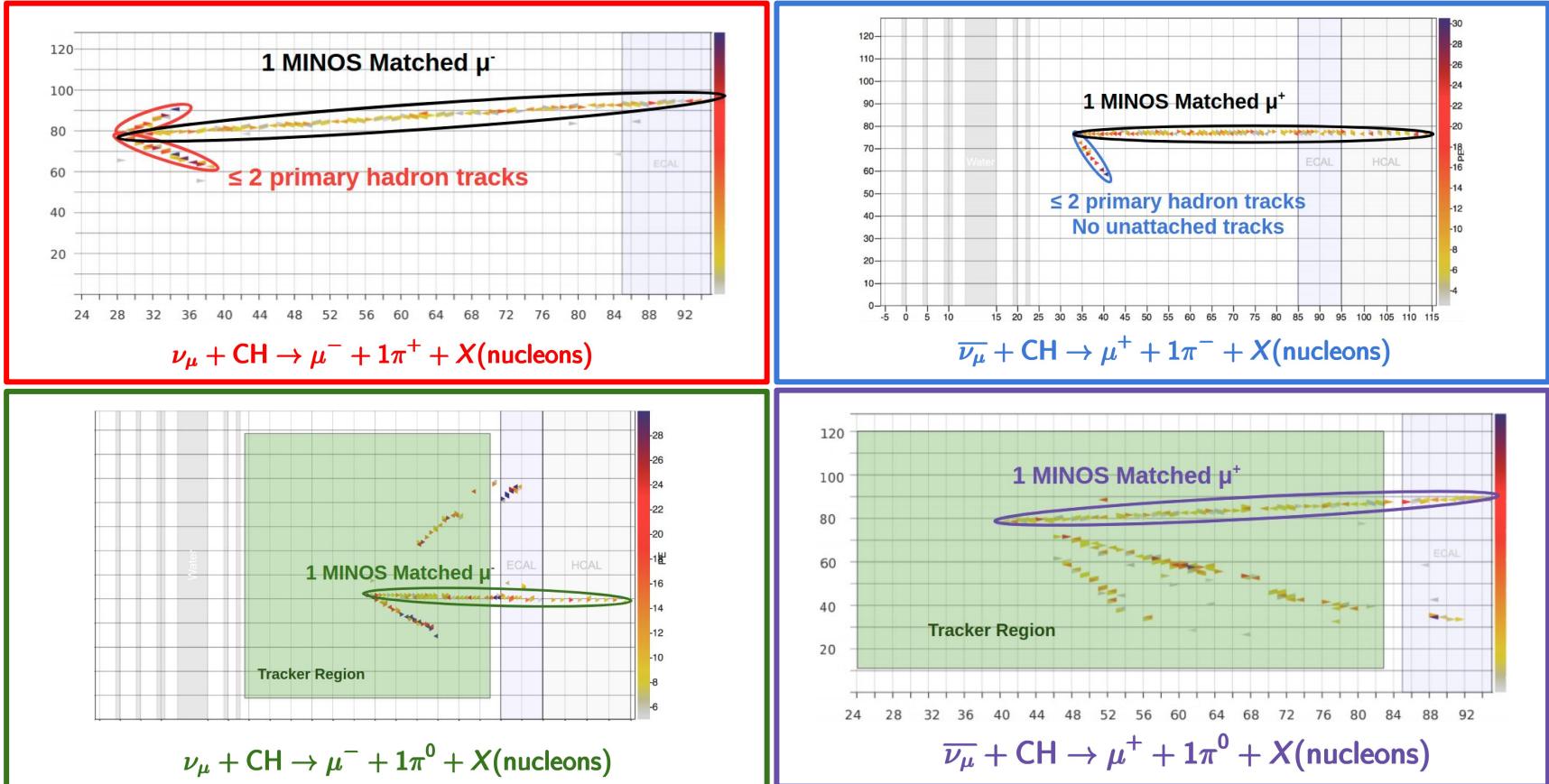


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Event Selection

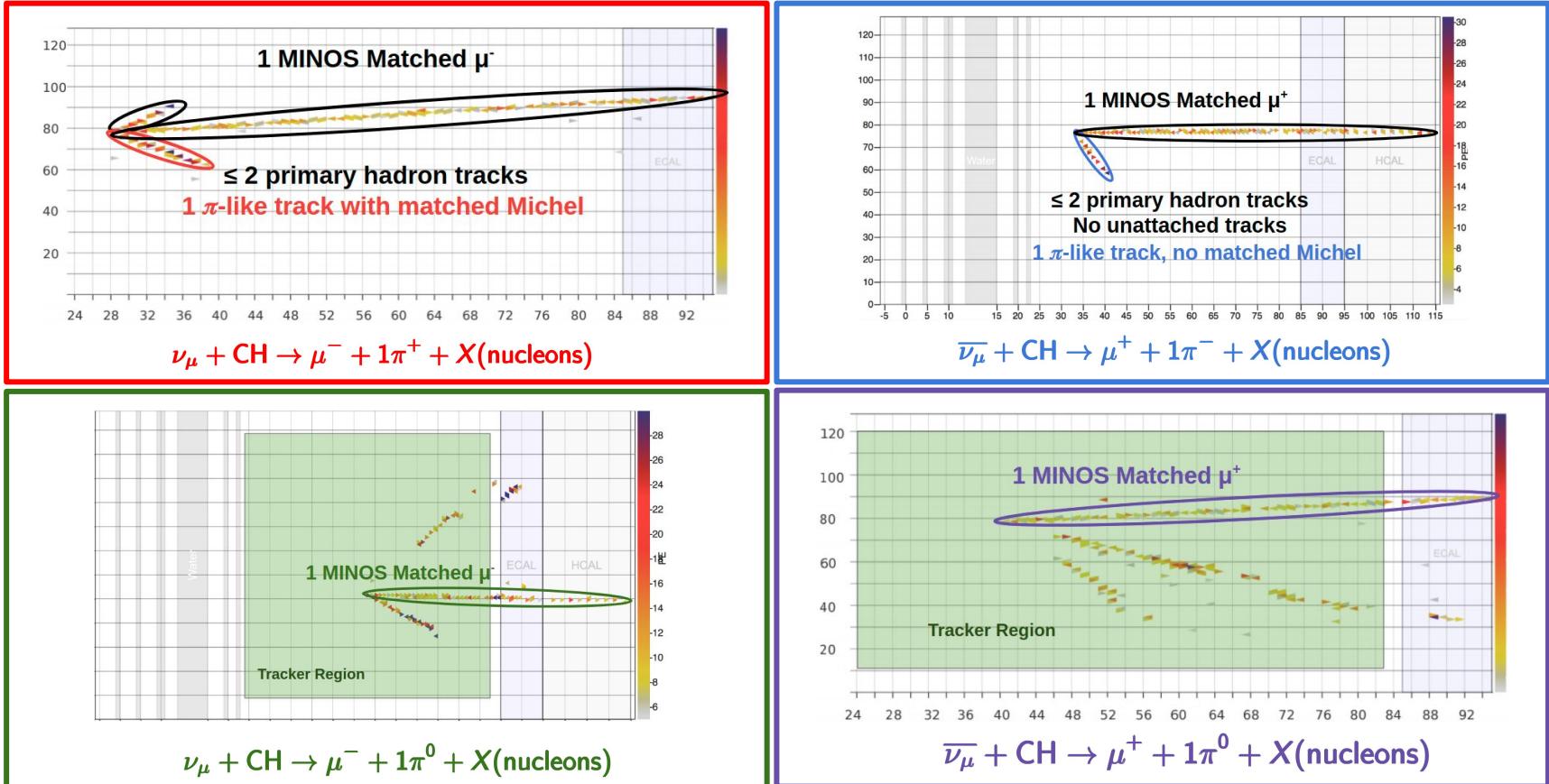


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Event Selection

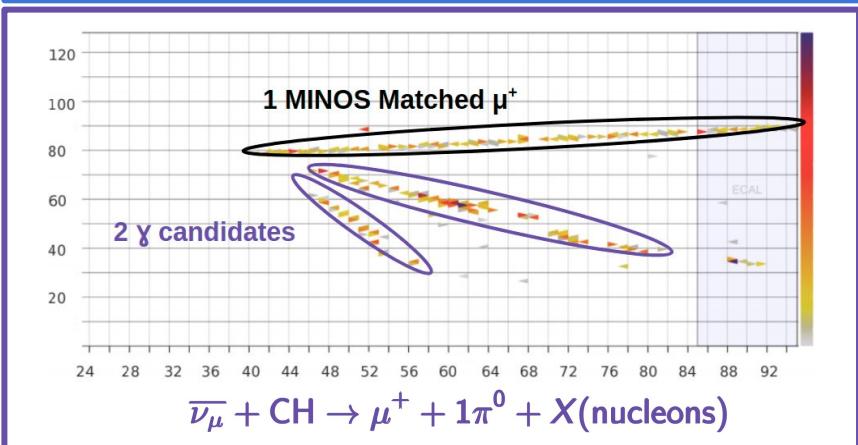
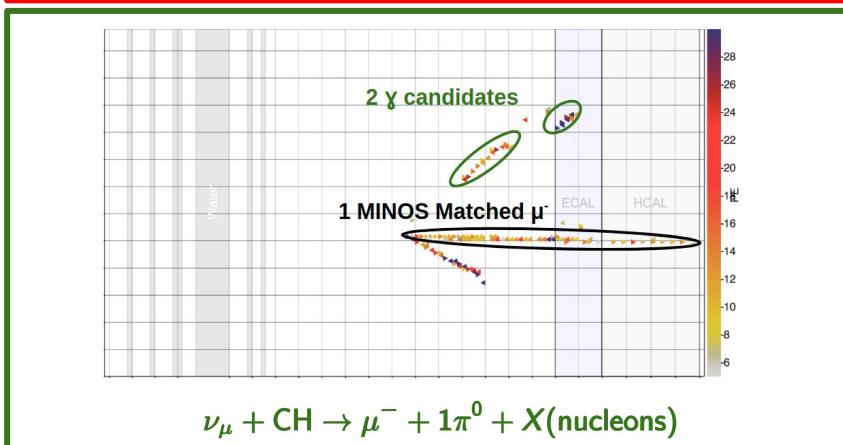
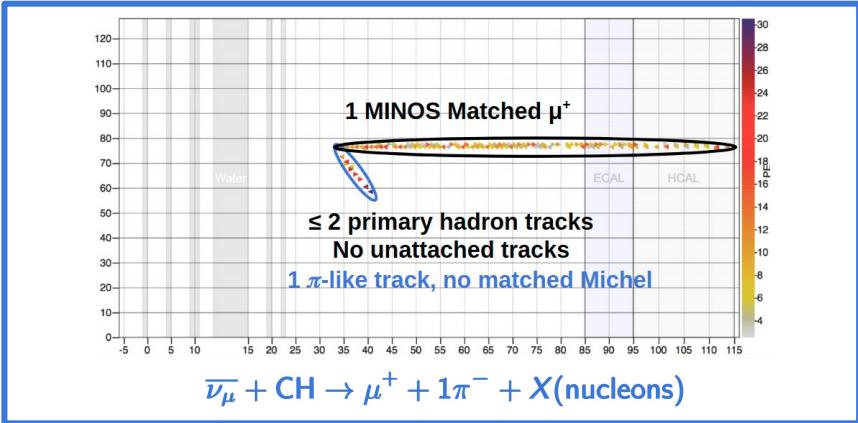
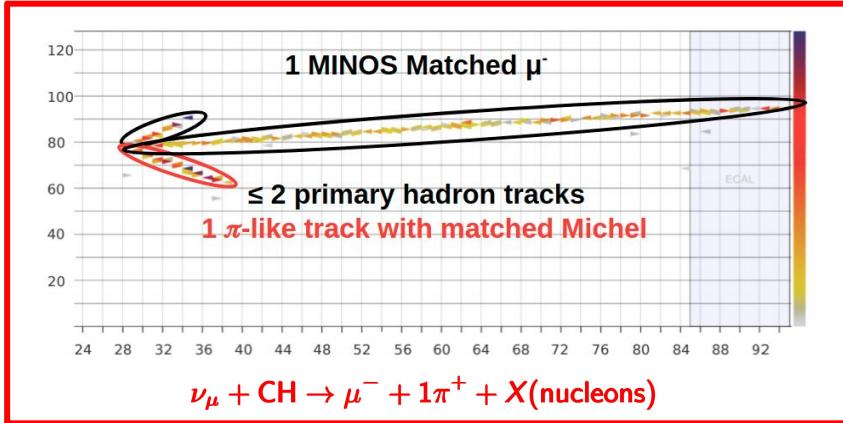


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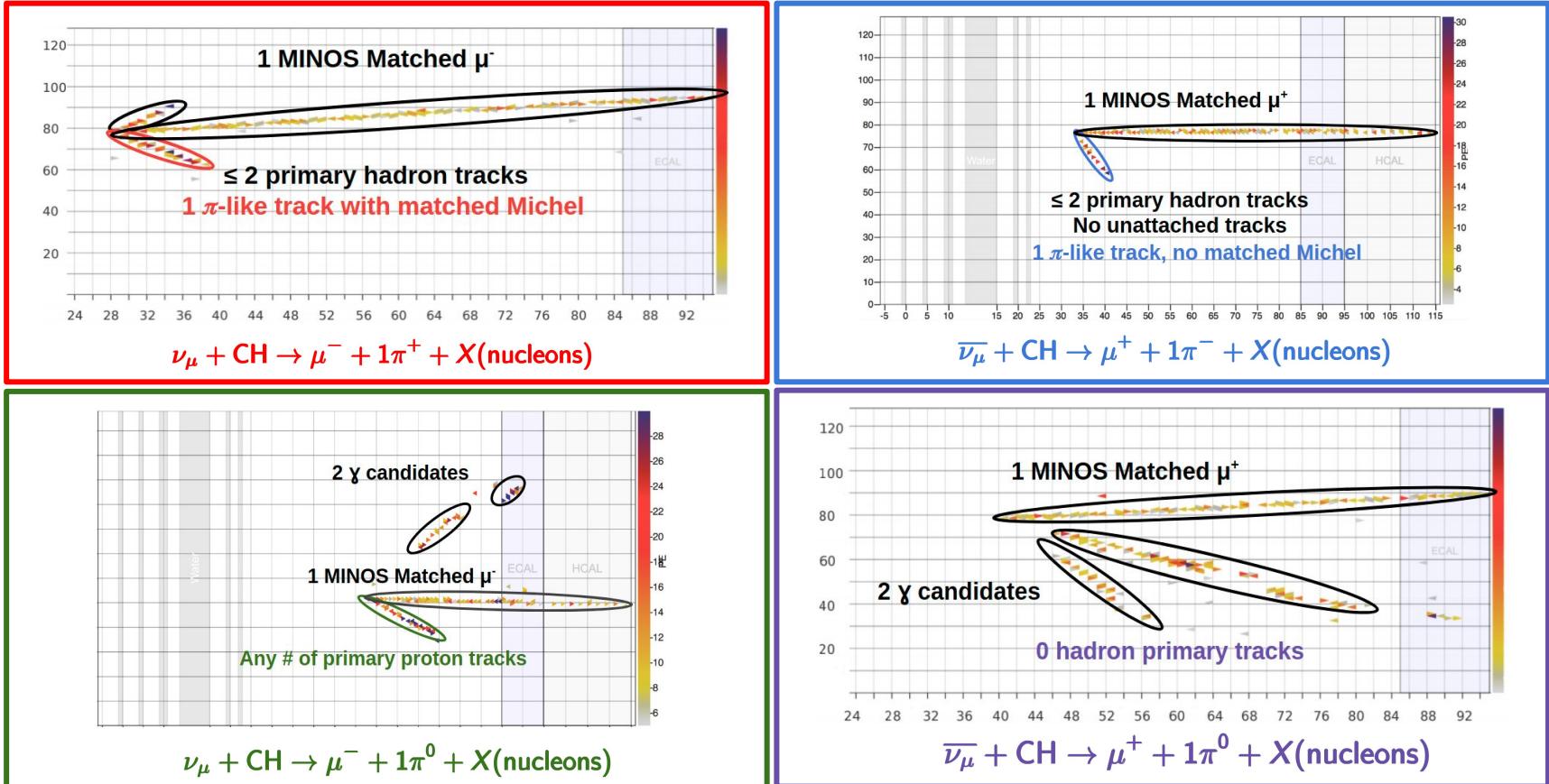
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Event Selection



Event Selection



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Kinematic Definition

$$Q^2 = 2E_\nu(E_\mu - p_\mu \cos(\theta_{\mu\nu})) - m_\mu^2$$

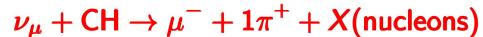
- Four momentum transfer
- Primarily relies on muon kinematics
- Neutrino energy is typically the muon energy + calorimetric hadronic energy

$$W_{exp}^2 = -Q^2 + m_N^2 + 2m_N E_H \quad (m_N = \text{nucleon mass})$$

- Invariant hadronic mass



Event Selection and Phase Space



$$E_\nu = E_\mu + E_H \quad (E_H \text{ determined calorimetrically})$$

- Reconstructed $E_\nu \in [1.5, 10] \text{ GeV}$
- $1\pi^+$: $W < 1.4 \text{ GeV}$
- $N\pi^+$: $W < 1.8 \text{ GeV}$



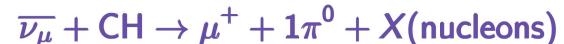
$$E_\nu = E_\mu + E_{\pi^0} + \sum T_p + E_{vtx} + E_{extra}$$

- Reconstructed $E_\nu \in [1.5, 20] \text{ GeV}$
- Invariant π^0 mass $\in [60, 200] \text{ MeV}/c^2$
- $W < 1.8 \text{ GeV}$



$$E_\nu = E_\mu + E_H \quad (E_H \text{ determined calorimetrically})$$

- Reconstructed $E_\nu \in [1.5, 10] \text{ GeV}$
- $W < 1.8 \text{ GeV}$



$$E_\nu = E_\mu + E_H \quad (E_H \text{ determined calorimetrically})$$

- Reconstructed $E_\nu \in [1.5, 10] \text{ GeV}$
- Invariant π^0 mass $\in [75, 195] \text{ MeV}/c^2$
- $W < 1.8 \text{ GeV}$

$$Q^2 = 2E_\nu(E_\mu - p_\mu \cos(\theta_{\mu\nu})) - m_\mu^2$$

$$W_{exp}^2 = -Q^2 + m_N^2 + 2m_N E_H \quad (m_N = \text{nucleon mass})$$

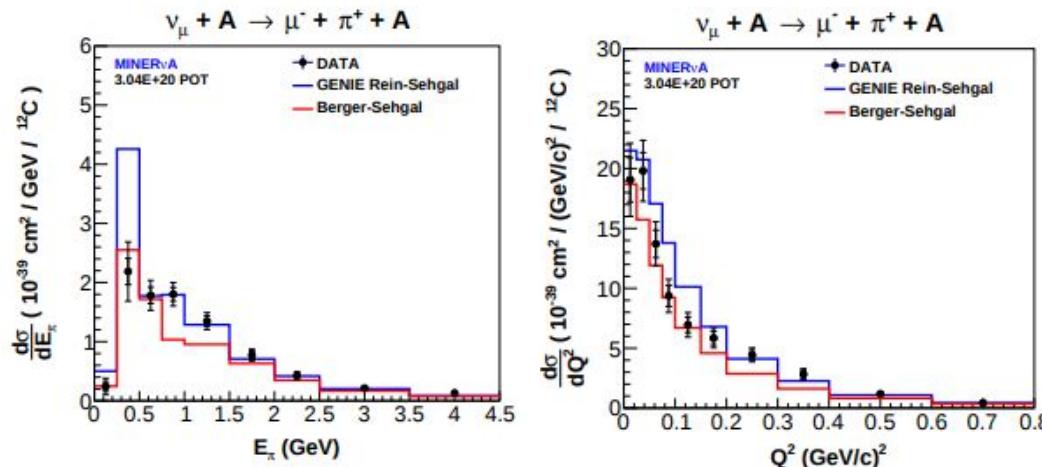
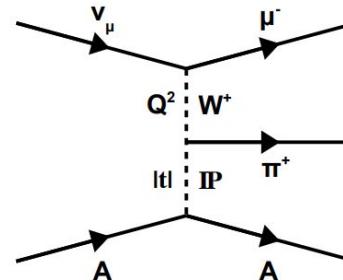


Coherent Pion Production

- MINERvA has also published results on neutrino and antineutrino induced coherent pion production
- Data shows preference for the Berger-Seghal over GENIE's Rein-Seghal model
 - **Rein-Seghal:** $A^{1/3}$ scaling, uses elastic π -nucleon scattering data
 - **Berger-Seghal:** $A^{2/3}$ scaling, uses elastic π -C scattering data
 - NEUT RS prediction was poor at low E_π
- Berger-Seghal has been implemented in GENIE
- Coherent pion production provides an important contribution at low Q^2 for π^\pm channels
 - MINERvA has scaled simulation at low E_π to MINERvA data, which suppresses $Q^2 \sim 0.1 \text{ GeV}^2$

Phys. Rev. D97 (2018) 032014

Phys. Rev. Lett. 13 (2014) 261802



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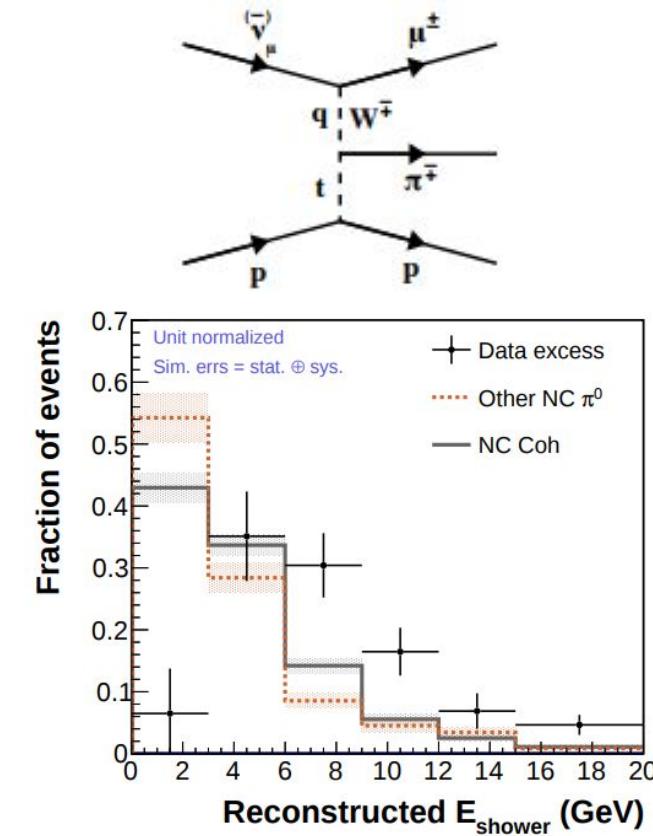
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High Energy Diffractive π^0

Phvs. Rev. Lett. 117 (2016) 111801

- In electron neutrino analyses, found an excess of events with photon like showers
- These events are most consistent with high energy charged current diffractive π^0 production
- Production channel is missing in GENIE
 - Therefore, our GENIE predictions are missing a sample of neutral pions with $E_\pi > 2$ GeV at low Q^2



Simulation Software

- **GENIE Event Generator v2.8.4 with Tuning** simulates neutrino interactions
- **GEANT v9.4.2p02** simulates particle propagation through matter

	GENIE 2.8.4	NuWro v17.01
Resonance	Rein Seghal ($W < 1.7$ GeV)	$\Delta(1232)$ w/ Rarita Schwinger
Non-Resonant	Scaled Bodek-Yang	Scaled Bodek-Yang
Nuclear Model	Relativistic Fermi Gas	Local Fermi Gas
No Pauli blocking for res production		
FSI Model	Effective Cascade	Salcedo-Oset, Full Cascade

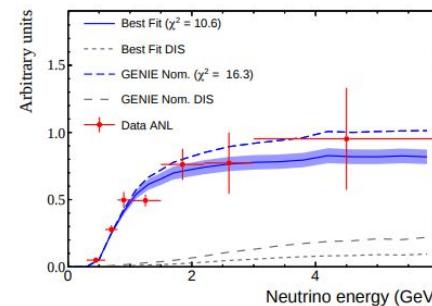
- **Resonance Models**
 - **GENIE:** Rein-Seghal with modern baryon-resonance parameters
 - No resonance interference, no lepton mass
 - **NuWro:** Explicit $\Delta(1232)$ with background added incoherently as a fraction of DIS



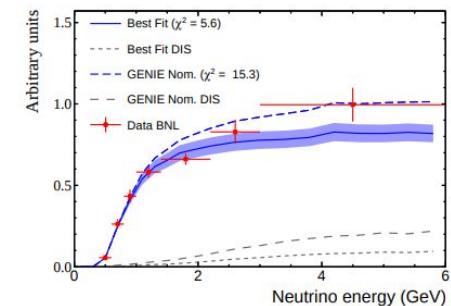
Refinements to GENIE v2.8.4

- Recent analyses have led to tuning that improves GENIE v2.8.4 ability to fit to MINERvA and external data
 - MnvGENIE-v1: Tune to Deuterium Data** (C. Wilkinson, P. Rodrigues & K. McFarland Eur.Phys.J. C76 (2016) no.8, 474.)
 - Reanalysis of ANL/BNL data on single pion production on deuterium
 - Primary effect is a reduction of non-resonant pion production
 - Leads to better agreement for CCInclusive analyses
 - For MINERvA tunes, we scaled the default GENIE $\nu_\mu(\bar{\nu}_\mu)$ non-resonant pion production rate by 0.43 ± 0.04 (0.50 ± 0.50)

Model	GENIE default	ANL/BNL Tune
M_A^{RES} [GeV]	1.12 ± 0.22	0.94 ± 0.05
NormRES [%]	100 ± 20	115 ± 30
NonRES1 π [%]	100 ± 50	43 ± 4



(a) ANL E_ν

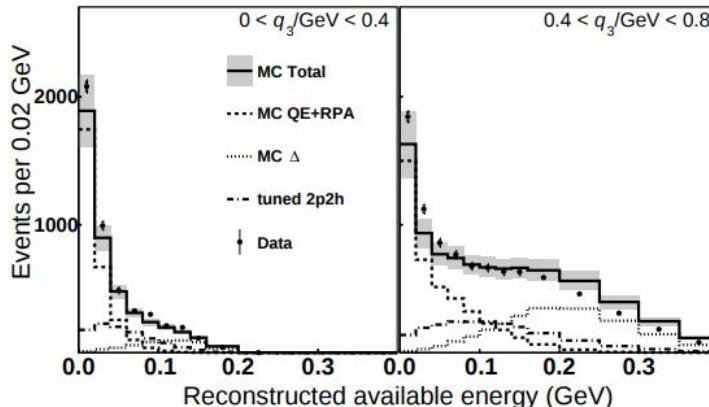


(b) BNL E_ν



Further Refinements to GENIE v2.8.4

- **MnvGENIE-v1: Added a sample of CCQE-like 2p2h events tuned to MINERvA data**
 - Using the Valencia model prediction for 2p2h, reweighted events in (q_0, q_3) space to MINERvA data
 - Negligible effect on the pion production analyses
 - Valencia model, Phys. Rev. D **88**, 113007 (2013).
 - MINERvA-Tuned, Phys. Rev. Lett. **120**, 221805 (2018).

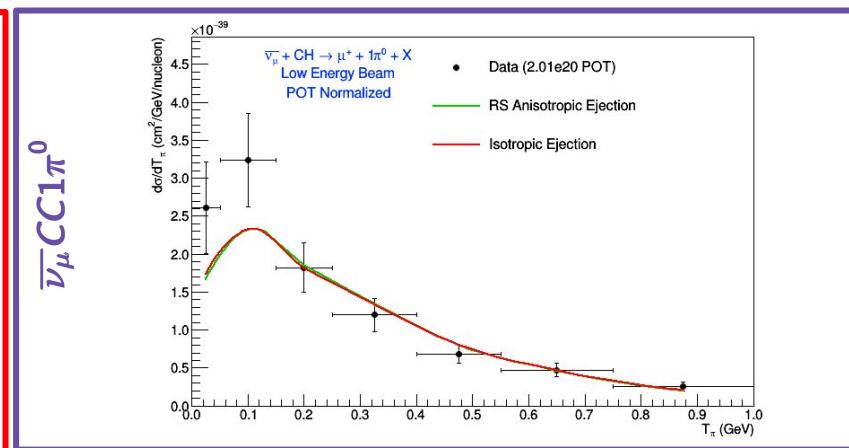
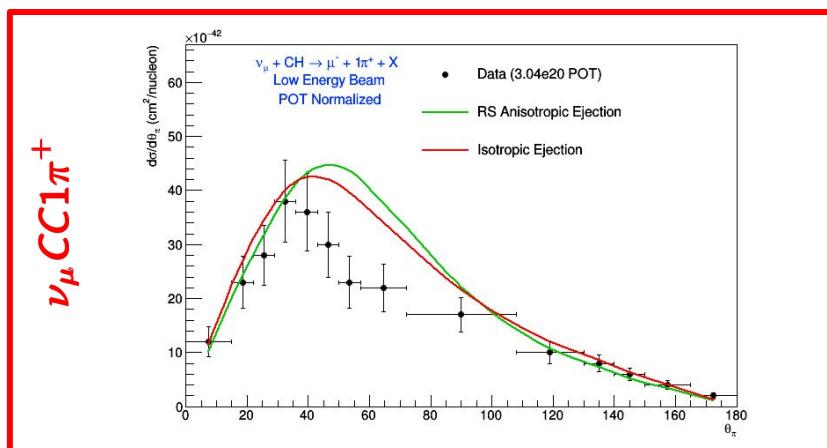


- **MnvGENIE-v1.1: Reweighted CC coherent scattering model to match with MINERvA measurements**
 - The outline of this tune was previously described in slide 19
 - Phys. Rev. D 97, 032014 (2018).



Important Caveat

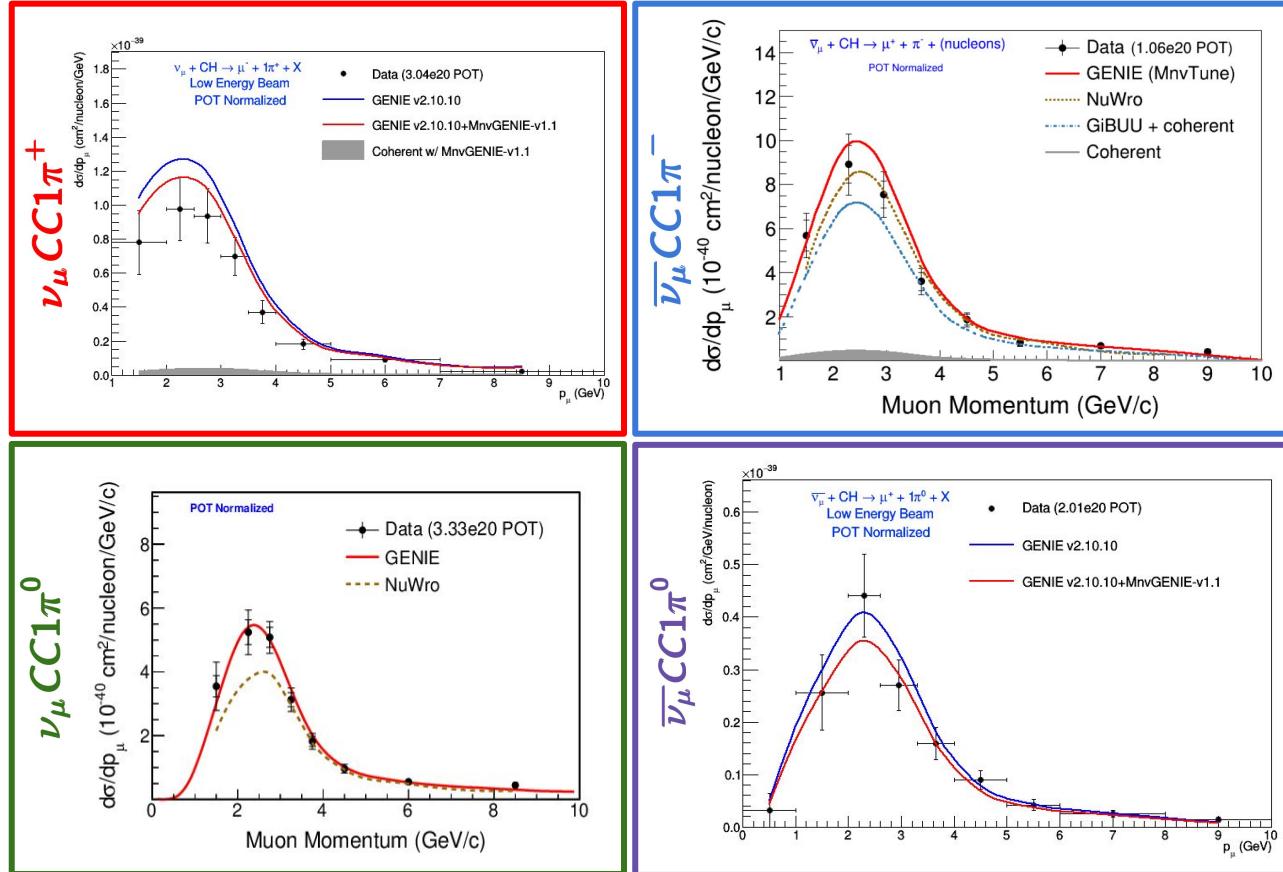
- Two channels: $\nu_\mu CC1\pi^+$ and $\bar{\nu}_\mu CC1\pi^0$ use GENIE v2.10.10 w/ MnvGENIE-v1.1
 - Only difference between v2.8.4 and v2.10.10 is the anisotropy of the $\Delta(1232)$ decay
 - v2.8.4: Δ^{++} decays anisotropically using 50% of the RS prediction, all other Δ decay isotropically
 - v2.10.10: all Δ decay isotropically
 - The difference between angular decay is small
 - Deuterium data prefers anisotropic decay, but all models shown today try to use isotropic decay



Muon Momentum

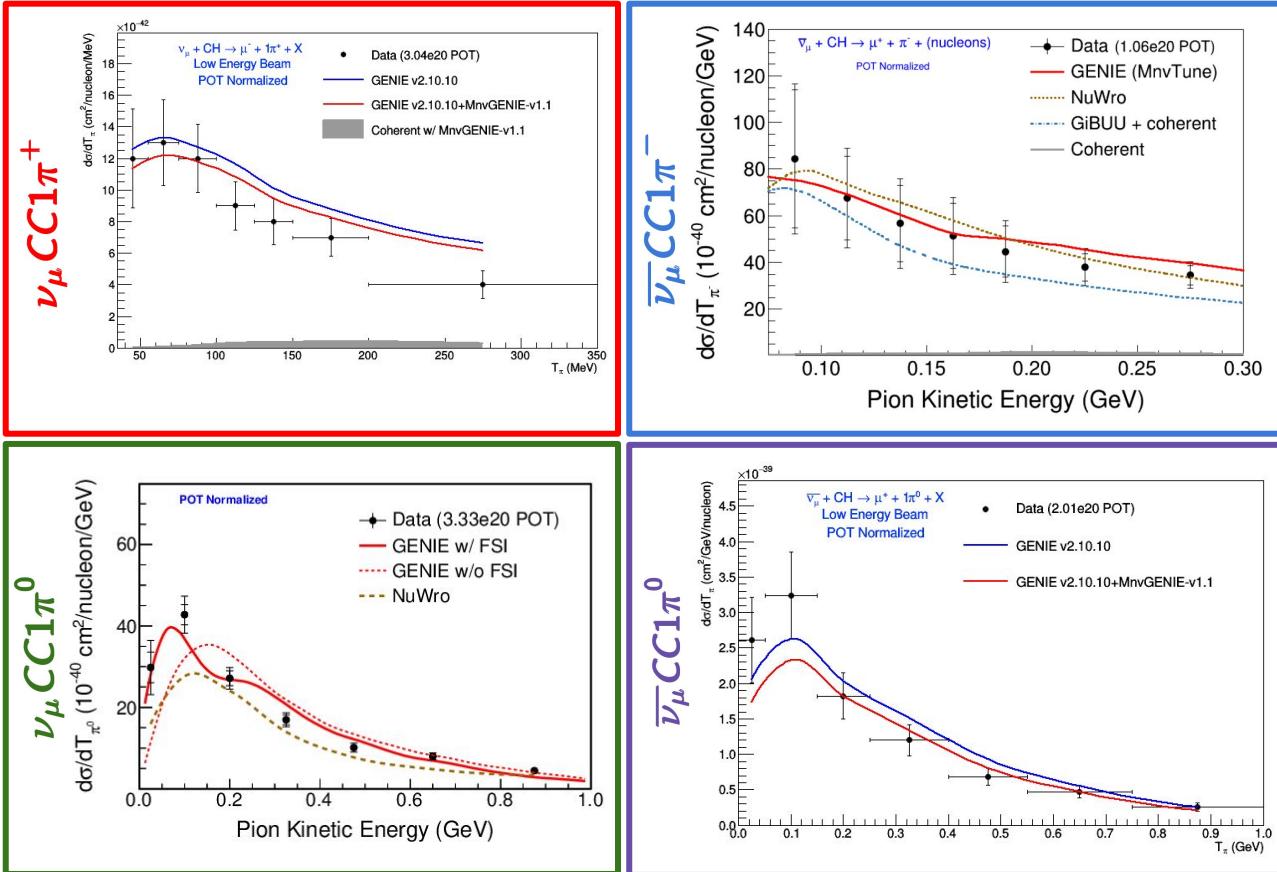
- For the following slides, the key curve is the solid red line, which is GENIE+MnvGENIE-v1.1
- MINERvA data has good shape agreement to the GENIE prediction in muon momentum
- GENIE overpredicts $CC1\pi^\pm$ production, but it seems to do well for $CC1\pi^0$ production
- NuWro has better agreement for charged pion production, but it underestimates neutral pion production
- FSI causes normalization losses in π^\pm , gains in π^0

References for plots on slide 3



Pion Kinetic Energy

- GENIE w/ FSI has better agreement here than GENIE w/o FSI
 - Inelastic scattering is the primary cause of the hump at low kinetic energy
- Overall, GENIE underestimates at low T_{π} , and overestimates at higher T_{π}



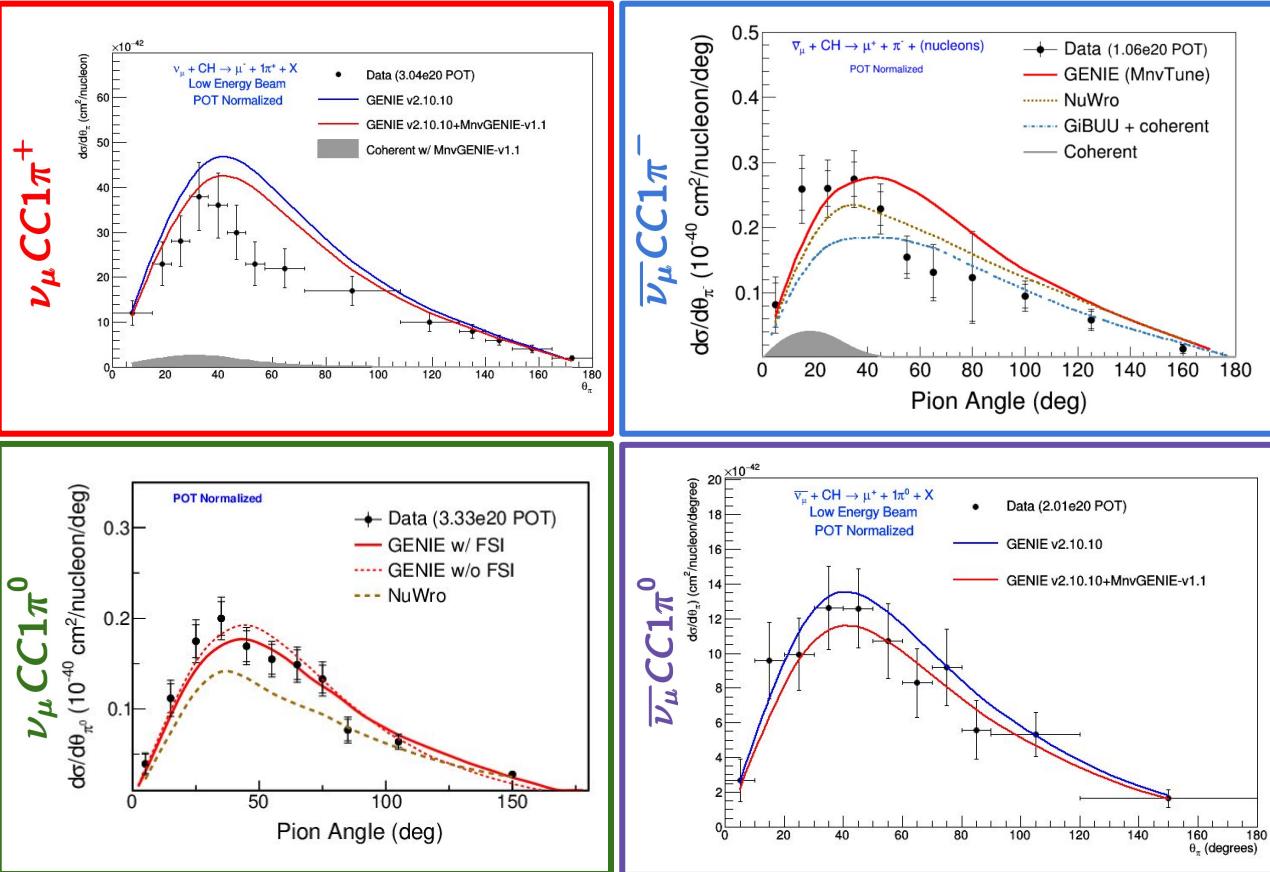
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Pion Production Angle

- All channels show a preference for more forward going pions
 - Acceptance for charged and neutral pions is very different



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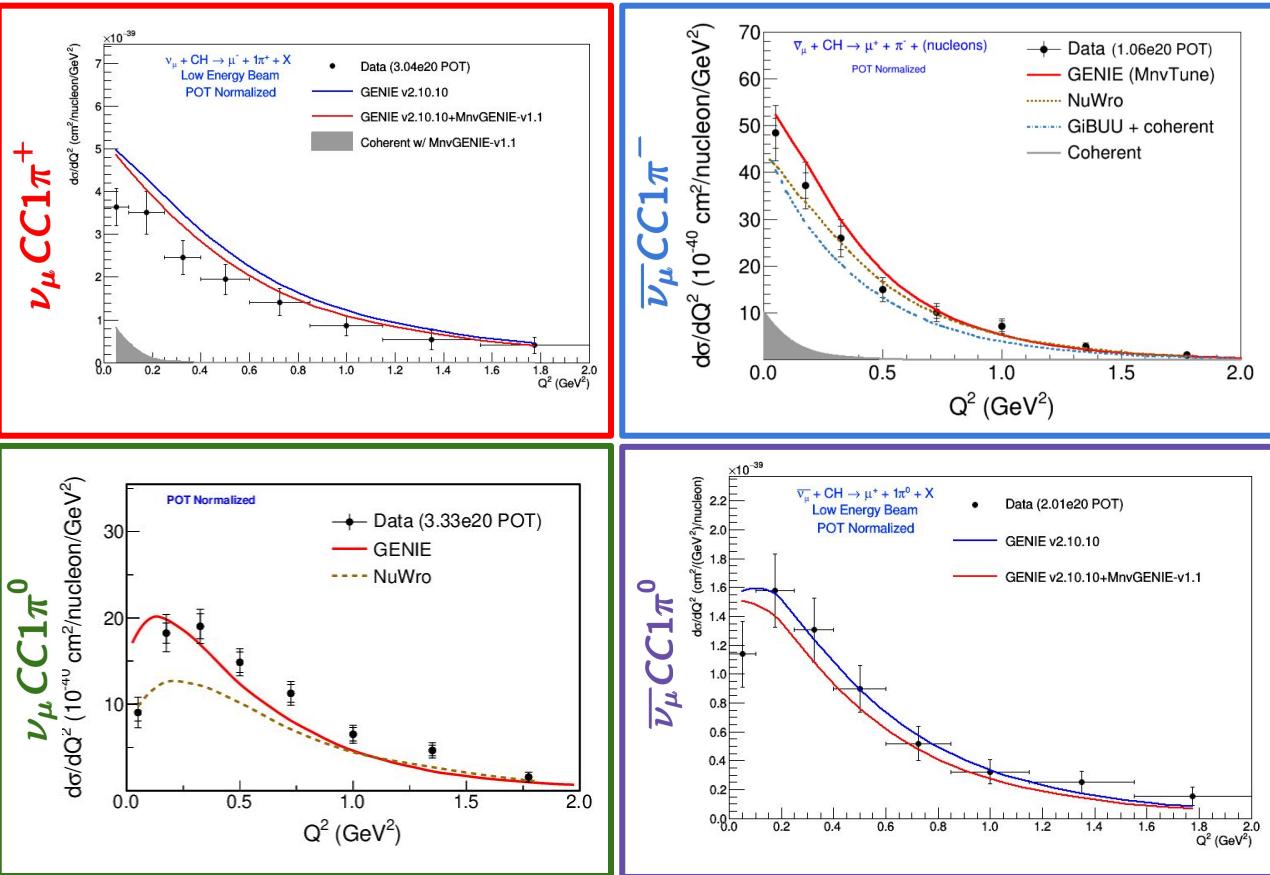
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Q^2

$$Q^2 = 2E_\nu(E_\mu - p_\mu \cos(\theta_{\mu\nu})) - m_\mu^2$$

- Deficit of pion production at low Q^2 in $\text{CC1}\pi^0$ channels
- Due to the low Q^2 contribution from coherent pion production, there doesn't seem to be a significant deficit for the $\text{CC1}\pi^\pm$ channels
- The lack of a turnover in data for the $\text{CC1}\pi^\pm$ channels points to a process that provides events at low Q^2



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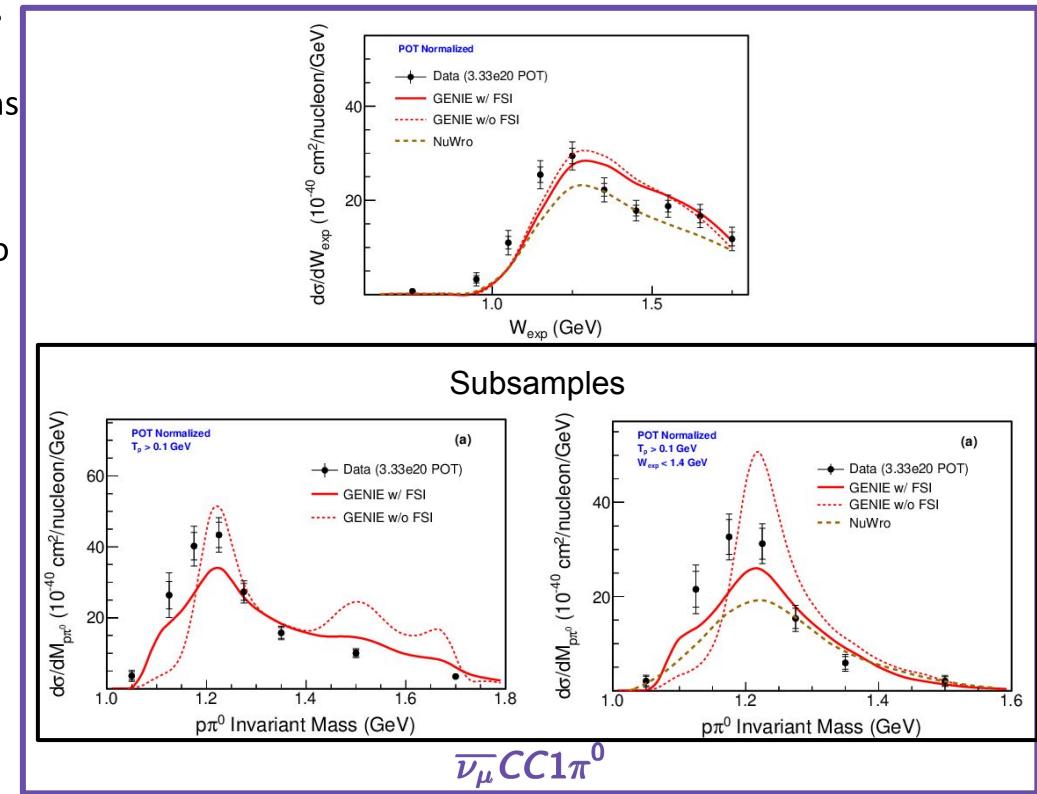
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$\Delta(1232)$ Peak

$$W_{\text{exp}}^2 = -Q^2 + m_N^2 + 2m_N E_H \quad (m_N = \text{nucleon mass})$$

- Currently, we only have differential cross sections for W in the $\bar{\nu}_\mu CC1\pi^0$ mode
 - We are working on equivalent cross sections for other channels
- MINERvA sees a shift in the pion spectra to lower values, which looks to be consistent with a shift to higher W in the delta peak
 - Shifts in Q^2 may induce a shift of 10 MeV
 - Possibly resonant/non-resonant interference that is absent from model
- In the $\bar{\nu}_\mu CC1\pi^0$ analysis, we had two enriched subsamples, where it is more accurate to call W the invariant mass of $p\pi^0$
 - $p\pi^0$ ($W < 1.8$ GeV)
 - Data shows a $\Delta(1232)$ peak more pronounced than either generator
 - $\Delta^+(1232)$ enhanced region ($W < 1.4$ GeV)
 - Low prediction at Δ peak with both generators



So what have we done to account for these discrepancies?

- Simulating pion production correctly requires that we improve our nucleon and nuclear models
 - Data on “free nucleons” (meaning deuterium) is limited
 - GENIE’s resonance model has a deficiency: there is no interference between non-resonant and resonant production
 - Electron scattering community believes Rein-Seghal does not describe resonance production well
 - Electron scattering uses MAID model which gets satisfactory results for non-resonant production.
 - Difficult to test versions with an axial piece with neutrinos
 - When discrepancies are found, it will be hard to disentangle whether these effects are **nucleon** or **nuclear** (FSI, initial state nuclear model)
- Still, in order to understand the discrepancy between model and MINERvA data, NUISANCE was used to tune pion production parameters in GENIE
 - This tune only looked at muon and pion kinematics
 - No Q^2 fit
 - Unfortunately, the recent $\overline{\nu}_\mu CC1\pi^-$ result could not be included in the fit in time for this talk

NUISANCE is a flexible framework in which neutrino interaction generators can be validated and/or empirically tuned to data

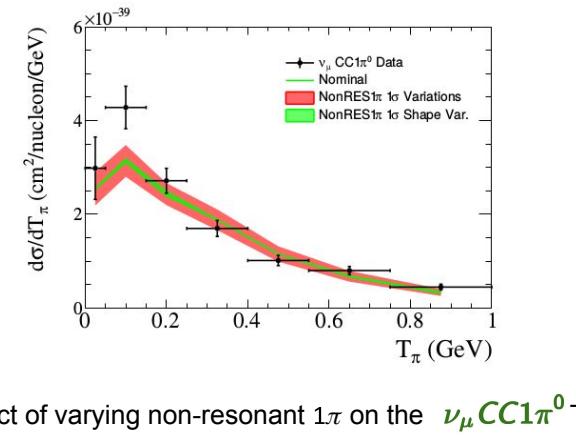
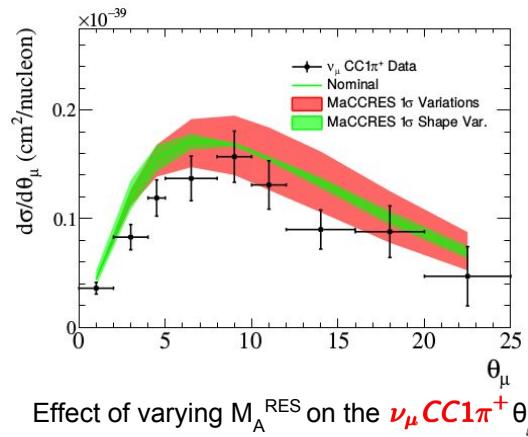
The following tunes come from Patrick Stowell’s work with the MINERvA collaboration.

(Publication in progress)



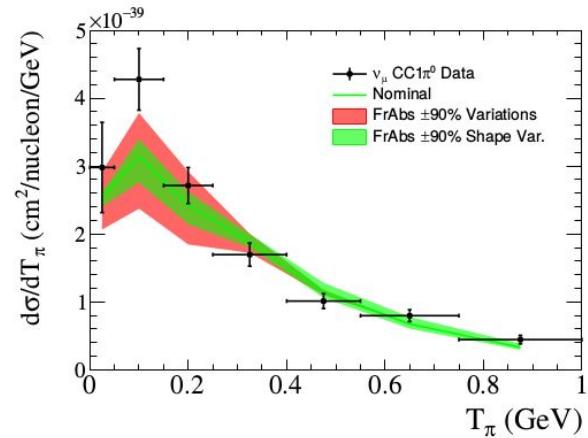
Rein-Seghal Tune

- GENIE has several parameters related to the pion production models
 - Form factors related to the Rein Seghal model (M_A^{RES} , Normalization)
 - Scaling for non-resonant 1π or 2π production
- Studied the effects of different nuclear and resonance models in GENIE (ie. LFG, Berger-Seghal, among others)
 - Changes normalization, but little change in shape
 - Used default Rein-Seghal implementation in GENIE for this study
- Fitted the model to both MINERvA and deuterium data
- The joint fit of all data sets does not produce a strong pull in either form factors or non-resonant terms

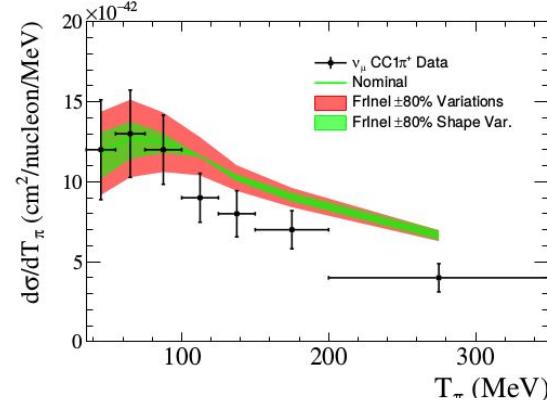


FSI Tuning

- While GENIE has several FSI related parameters, the study focused on two in particular due to the other having either strong prior constraints or little effect on the MINERvA MC
 - **FrAbs:** Pion absorption
 - **FrInel:** Inelastic scattering
- These parameters could not be varied at the same time
 - Varied individually and studied their behaviors
- In the joint fit of all data sets, both FSI parameters prefer the nominal
- To get any significant shape difference, the parameters need to be varied by +/- 3 σ
- Points to either the need for strong FSI pulls or the need for other parameters that have more freedom to cover discrepancies in T_π and θ_μ



Effect of varying FrAbs on the T_π $\nu_\mu CC1\pi^0$ distribution

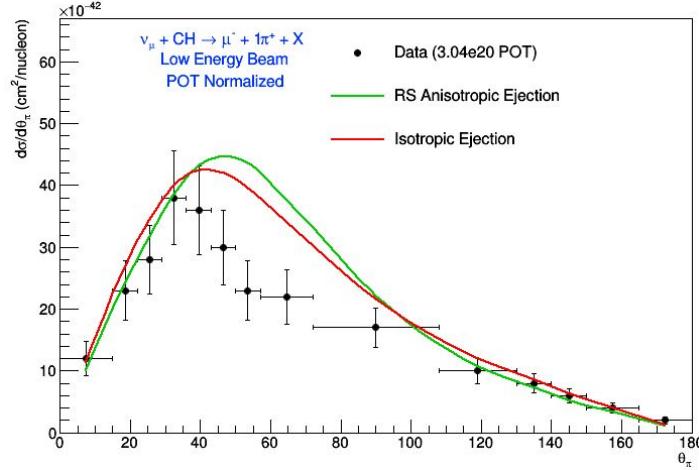
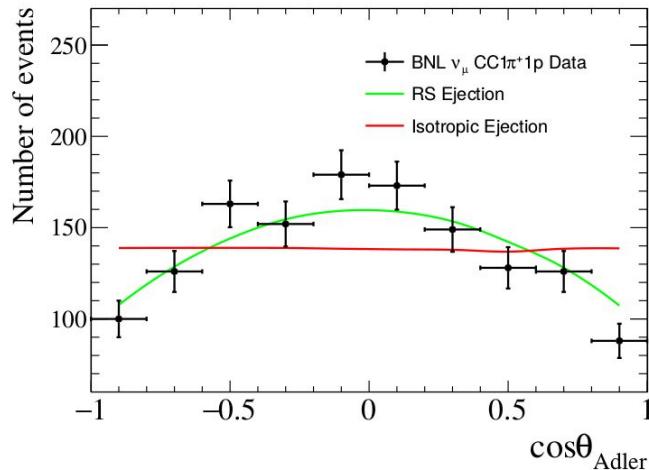


Effect of varying FrAbs on the T_π $\nu_\mu CC1\pi^+$ distribution



Tuning the Angular Ejection

- Can adjust pion angular ejection with **Theta- π** parameter
 - Allows for continuous reweighting between default anisotropic RS prediction and isotropic decay in rest frame
- Deuterium data prefers anisotropic emission
- Joint fit prefers isotropic emission, which improves agreement with MINERvA data
 - This perhaps says more about FSI than emission



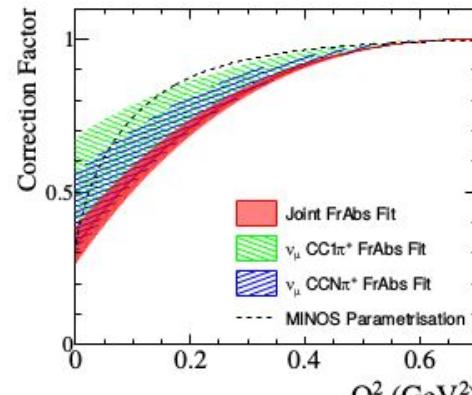
Ad-hoc Q^2 Suppression

- Several other experiments see discrepancies in low Q^2 and θ_μ distributions (MiniBooNE, MINOS)
 - MINOS introduced a suppression function tuned to Δ enriched sidebands that improved agreement to RES and RES-to-DIS enhanced samples
- MINERvA tried something similar with a different suppression function
 - π^0 production prefers strong low Q^2 suppression
 - π^+ production prefers smaller suppression
 - Charged coherent pion production partly fills the suppression at low Q^2

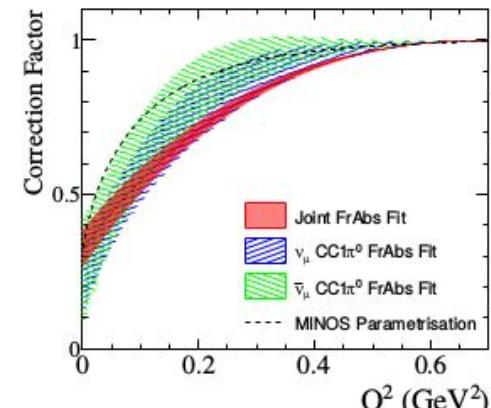
$$R(Q^2 < x_m) = \frac{R_1(x - x_2)(x - x_m)}{(x_1 - x_2)(x_1 - x_m)} + \frac{R_2(x - x_1)(x - x_m)}{(x_2 - x_1)(x_2 - x_m)} + \frac{(x - x_1)(x - x_2)}{(x_m - x_1)(x_m - x_2)}$$

$$W(Q^2) = 1 - (1 + R_1 + R(Q^2)(1 - R_1))^2$$

$$x_1 = 0.0 \text{ GeV}^2; x_2 = 0.35 \text{ GeV}^2; x_m = 0.7 \text{ GeV}^2$$



$CC1\pi^+$ Suppression Curve

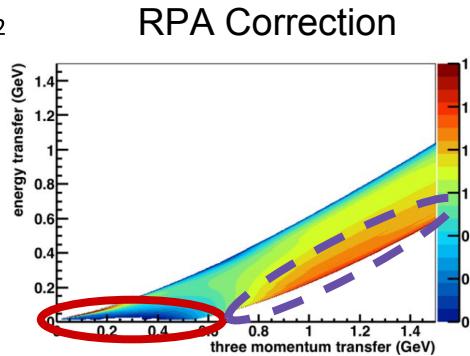


$CC1\pi^0$ Suppression Curve



Should we use RPA predictions for pion interactions?

- There is a similar deficiency at low Q^2 in $CC0\pi$
 - Apply the Valencia RPA multinucleon effect to CCQE events
 - Primarily a suppression in energy transfer, not Q^2
- Seems flawed to shift Valencia model to Δ region
 - Includes several nuclear corrections
 - Also, fundamentally flawed to move a low q_0 process into the pion region, which requires a significant q_0 transfer
 - But, the real effect could have interesting shape in (q_0, q_3) space
 - Prediction helpful

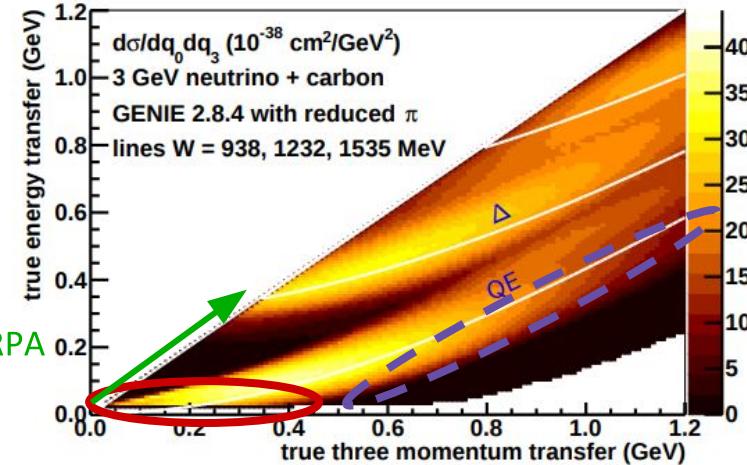


Energy Transfer q_0

$$q_0 = E_\nu - E_\mu$$

Momentum Transfer q_3

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



Conclusions

- MINERvA has measured all four charged current pion production channels in $\Delta(1232)$ dominated samples off of carbon in our low energy beam
 - We have uncovered important discrepancies between simulation and data in charged pion and neutral pion production, particularly in low Q^2
 - Current framework does not give enough tools to cover these discrepancies
- It seems that MINERvA has a decent understanding of coherent pion production. Working on effective A scaling
 - Diffraction pion production is tougher, will require more effort
- Theory can improve the situation with the nucleon model
 - We are happy to work with generator developers
 - Many thanks to NUISANCE developers
- Medium energy beam results coming soon!
 - More POT, more flux, higher statistics
 - Will allow us to look at heavier nuclei

This material is based upon work supported by U.S. Department of Energy award DE-SC-0008475



Thank you



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Backup Slides



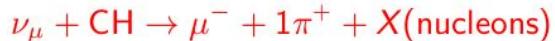
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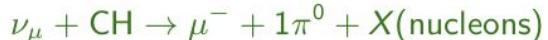


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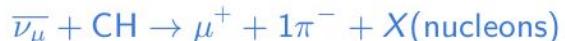
Additional Event Selection



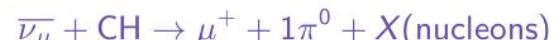
- No matched michels
 - Interaction vertex, showers, track endpoints
- $E_{\text{vtx}} = \text{unassociated hits} < 9\text{cm}$ of interaction vertex
- Photon conversion distance $> 14 \text{ cm}$
- Energy in nuclear targets $< 20 \text{ MeV}$
- Non-track + vertex energy $\in [50 \text{ MeV}, 2.5 \text{ GeV}]$



- No matched michels
 - Interaction vertex, showers, track endpoints
- Photon conversion distance $> 15 \text{ cm}$
- $E_{\text{vis}} \in [80 \text{ MeV}, 2 \text{ GeV}]$

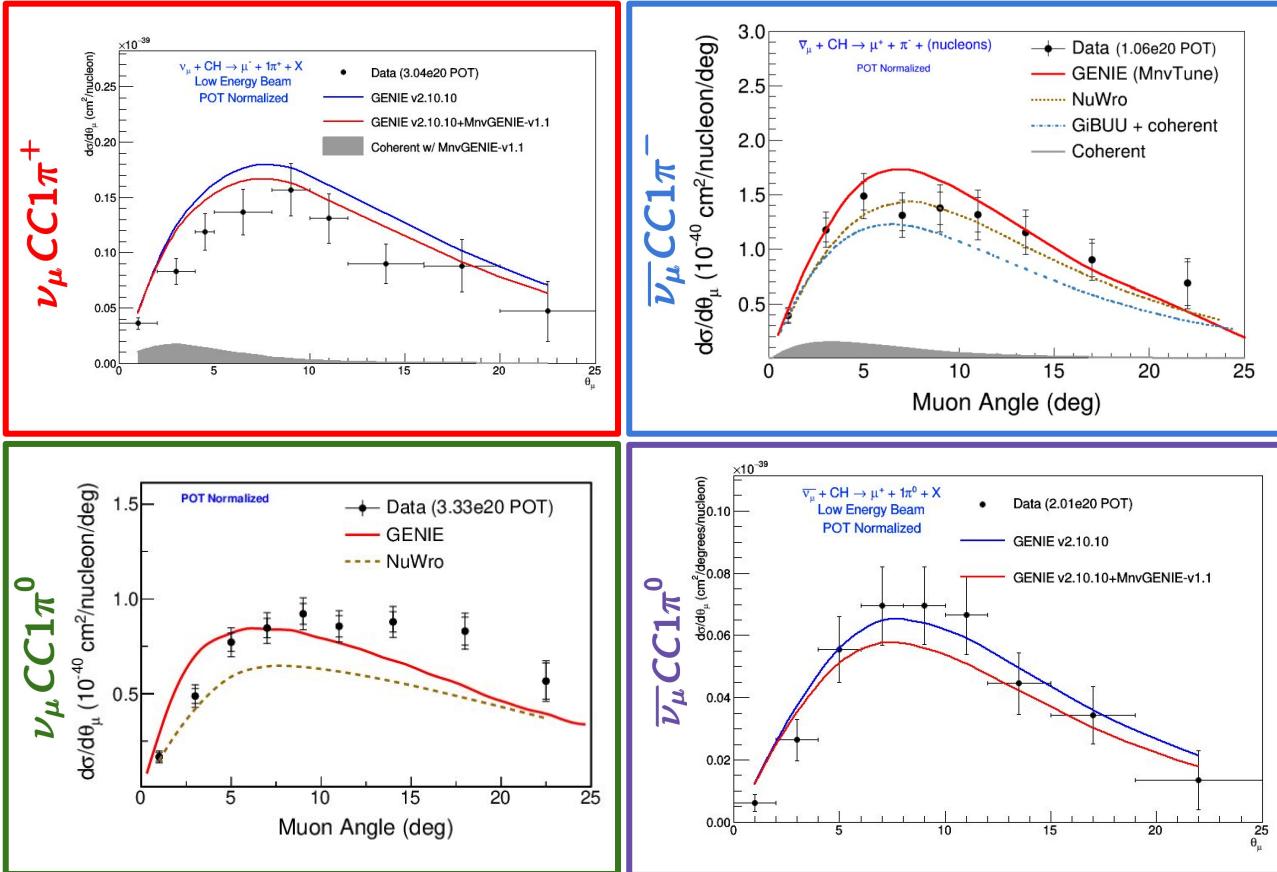


- No matched michels
 - Interaction vertex, showers, track endpoints



Muon Production Angle

- Due to the MINOS match requirement, MINERvA acceptance for $\theta_\mu < 25^\circ$
- For $\text{CC}1\pi^0$ production, GENIE overestimates $\theta_\mu < 5^\circ$



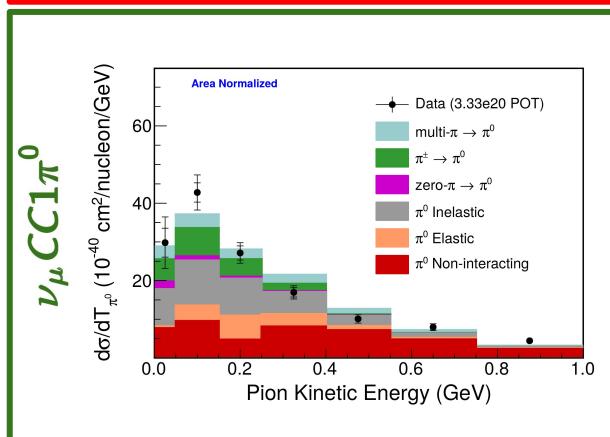
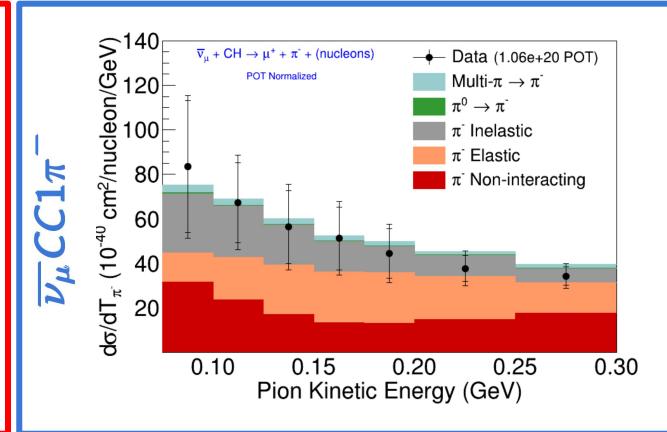
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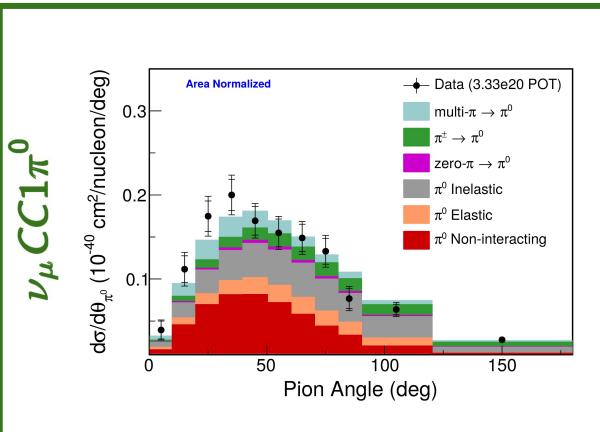
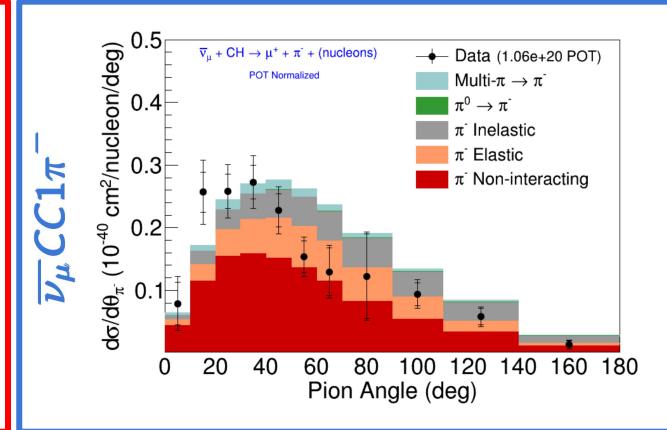
Pion Kinetic Energy with FSI

- There are no FSI plots using GENIE 2.8.4 + MnvGENIE-v1.1 for the $\nu_\mu CC1\pi^+$ and $\bar{\nu}_\mu CC1\pi^0$ channels
- Neutral pion result is area normalized, charged pion result is POT normalized

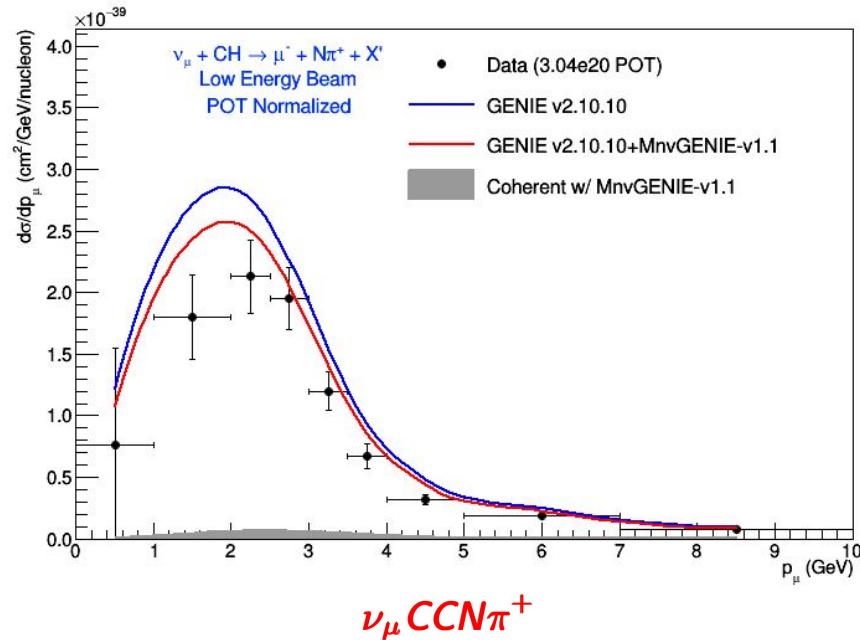
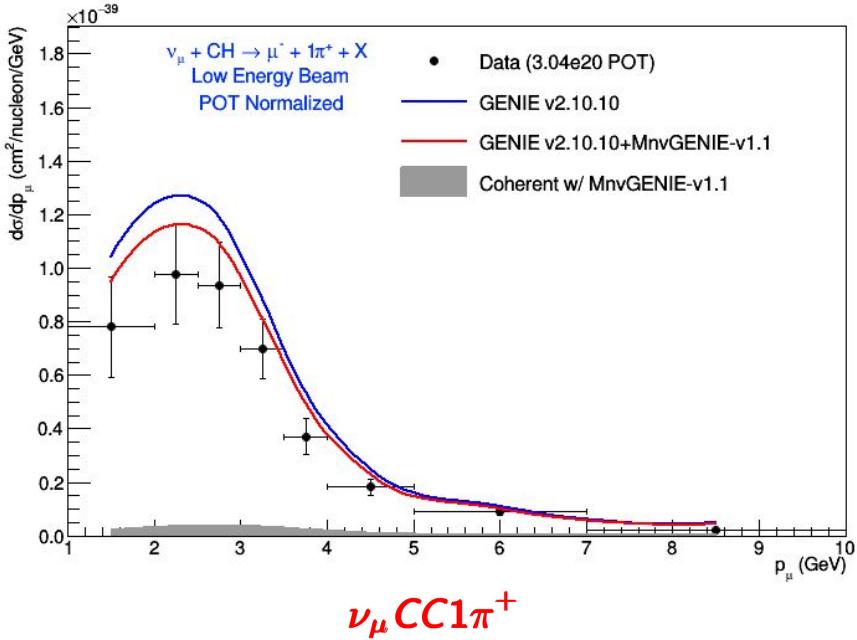


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$\nu_\mu CC1/N\pi^+$ Muon Momentum



References for plots on slide 3

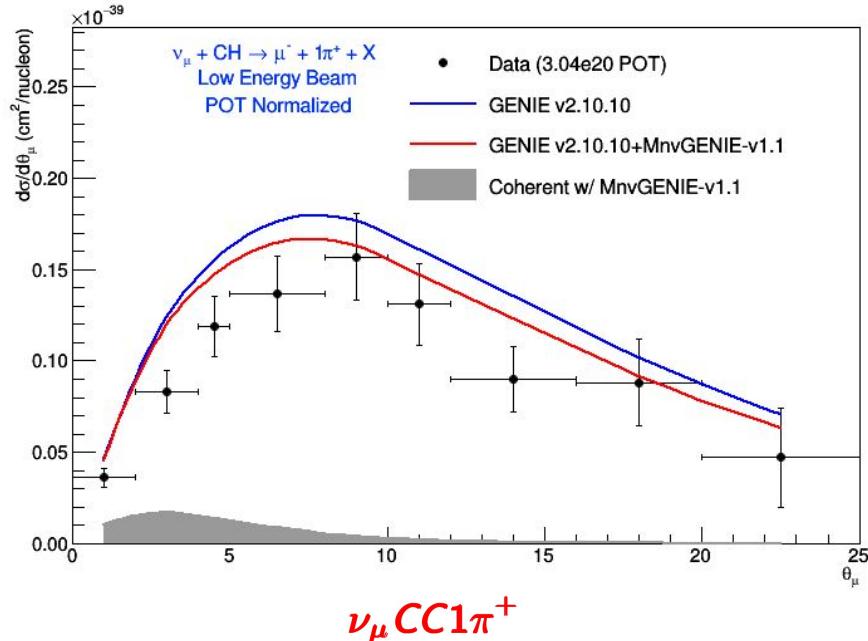


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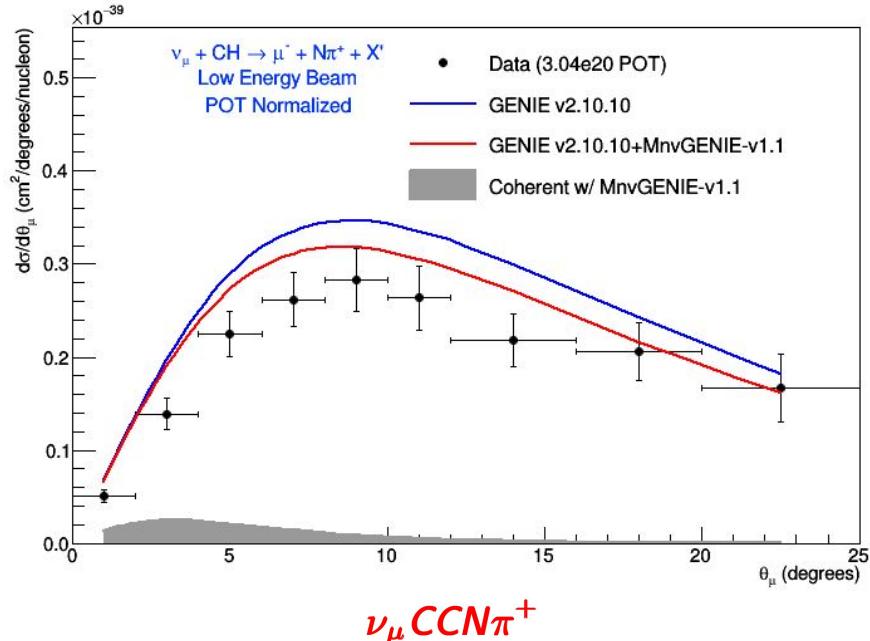
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$\nu_\mu CC1/N\pi^+$ Muon Production Angle



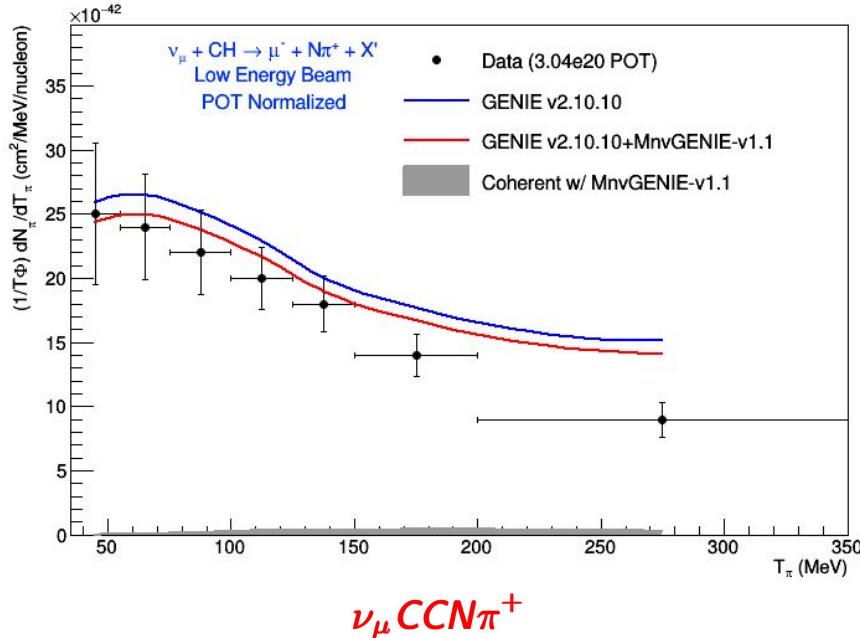
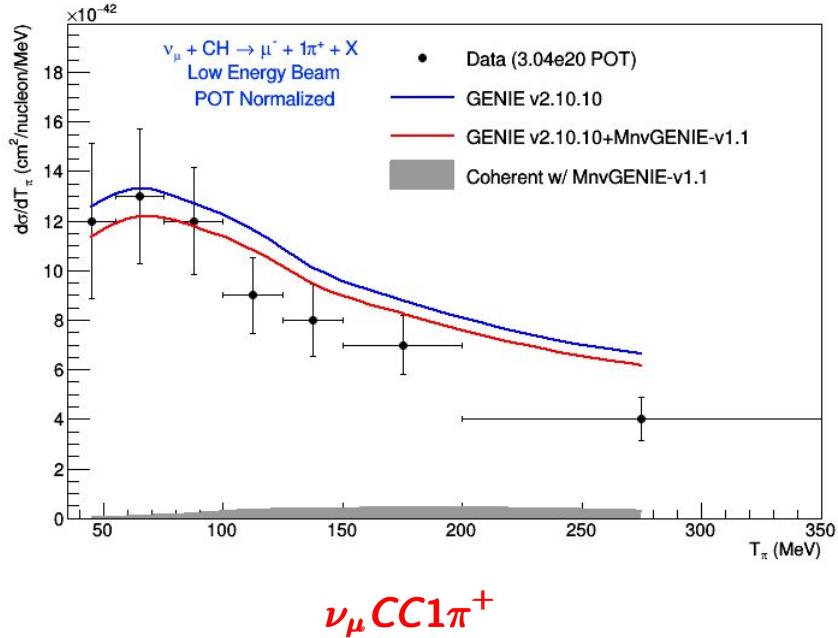
$\nu_\mu CC1\pi^+$



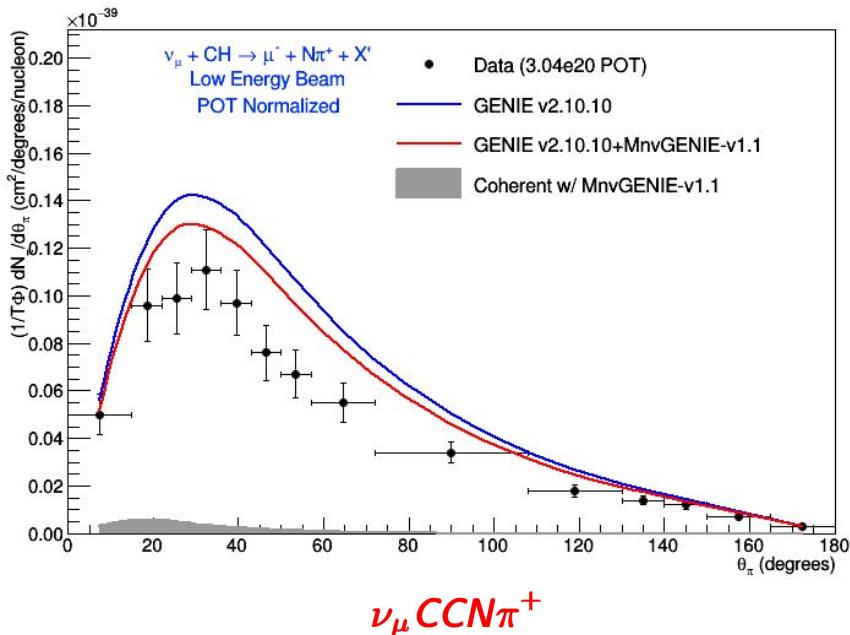
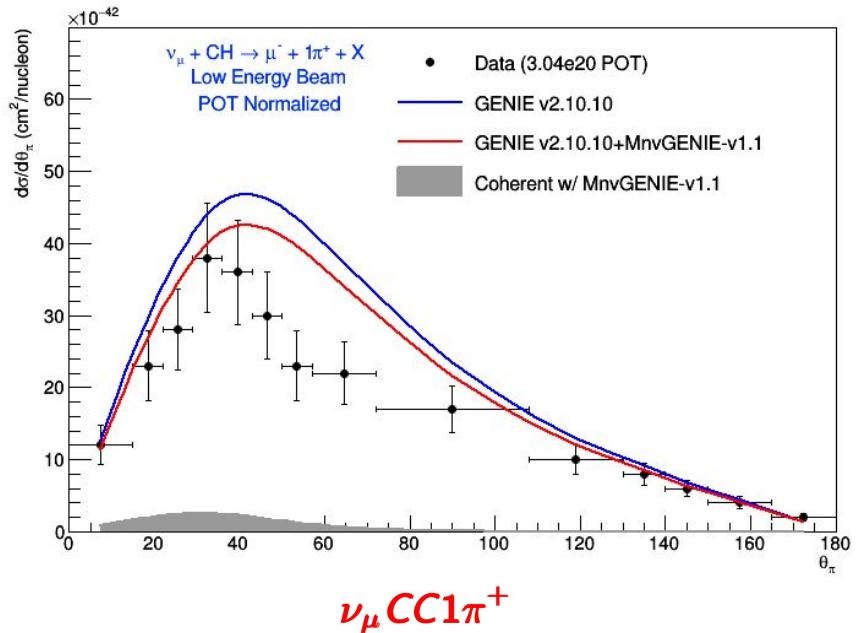
$\nu_\mu CCN\pi^+$



$\nu_\mu CC1/N\pi^+$ Pion Kinetic Energy

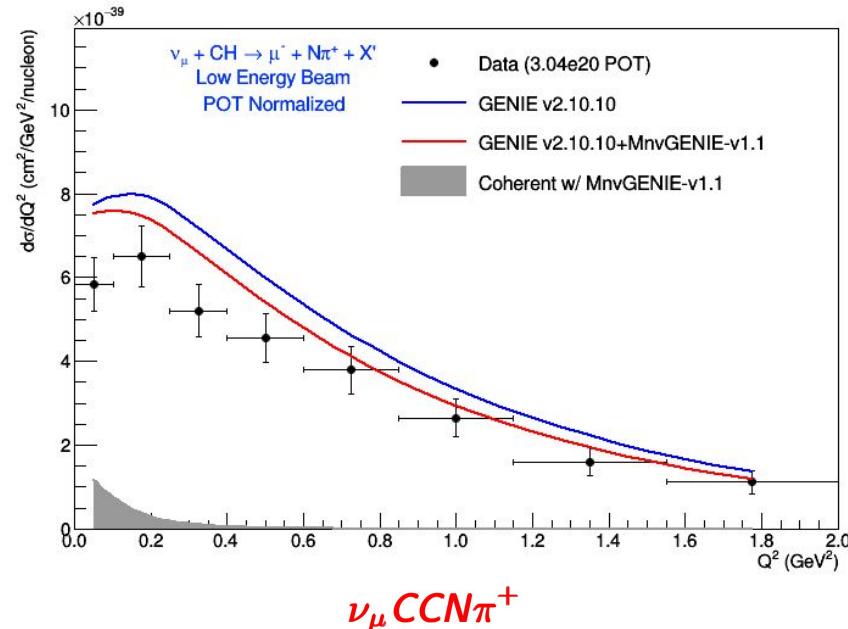
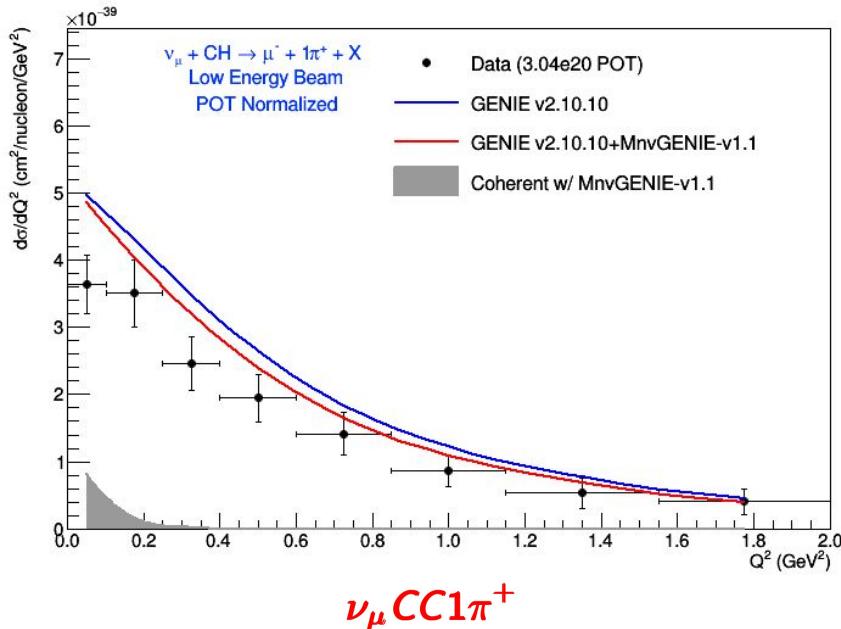


$\nu_\mu CC1/N\pi^+$ Pion Production Angle



Q^2

$$Q^2 = 2E_\nu(E_\mu - p_\mu \cos(\theta_{\mu\nu})) - m_\mu^2$$



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$\chi^2/\#$ of bins of Data vs GENIE 2.10.10 + MnvGENIEv1.1

Kinematic	$\nu_\mu CC1\pi^+$	$\nu_\mu CCN\pi^+$	$\nu_\mu CC1\pi^0$	$\bar{\nu}_\mu CC1\pi^0$	$\bar{\nu}_\mu CC1\pi^-$
p_μ	17.08/8	24.54/9	35.86/8	6.59/9	8.9/8
θ_μ	30.95/9	18.74/9	160.06/9	13.31/9	9.9/9
T_π	18.07/7	31.55/7	173.28/7	12.56/7	1.8/7
θ_π	80.11/14	29.76/14	130.25/11	5.45/11	32.0/11
Q^2	15.36/8	14.57/8	111.52/8	12.15/8	8.3/8
W_{exp}	N/A	N/A	141.88/10	N/A	N/A

- Caution when using these χ^2 to determine goodness of fit. The covariance matrices may not be fully complete



Measurement of isospin amplitudes

- The recent $\overline{\nu_\mu} CC1\pi^-$ result can decompose its signal sample into nucleon level cross sections using a vertex energy fit to find overall rate

$$\overline{\nu_\mu} n \rightarrow \mu^+ n \pi^-$$

$$\overline{\nu_\mu} p \rightarrow \mu^+ p \pi^-$$

- Also, the $\overline{\nu_\mu} CC1\pi^0$ result has an exclusive nucleon reaction channel

$$\overline{\nu_\mu} p \rightarrow \mu^+ n \pi^0$$

- It is then possible to find the relative strength and phase between the amplitudes of isospin $I = 1/2, 3/2$

$$\langle |A_3|^2 \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \sigma(\mu^+ n \pi^-)$$

$$\langle |A_1|^2 \rangle = \frac{3}{4} \left(\sigma(\mu^+ n \pi^0) + \sigma(\mu^+ p \pi^-) - \frac{1}{3} \sigma(\mu^+ n \pi^-) \right)$$

$$\langle \Re(A_3^* A_1) \rangle = \frac{3}{8} \left(\sigma(\mu^+ p \pi^-) - 2\sigma(\mu^+ n \pi^0) + \frac{1}{3} \sigma(\mu^+ n \pi^-) \right)$$

$$R^{\bar{\nu}} = \left(\langle |A_1|^2 \rangle / \langle |A_3|^2 \rangle \right)^{1/2}$$

$$\cos \phi^{\bar{\nu}} = \langle \Re(A_3^* A_1) \rangle / \langle |A_1|^2 \rangle^{1/2} \langle |A_3|^2 \rangle^{1/2}$$

