



**UCL**

# **New results from NOvA**

**UCL HEP seminar  
January 19, 2018**

**Chris Backhouse**



# Neutrino oscillations

## The NOvA experiment

### $\nu_{\mu}$ disappearance

symmetries in neutrino mixing

### $\nu_e$ appearance

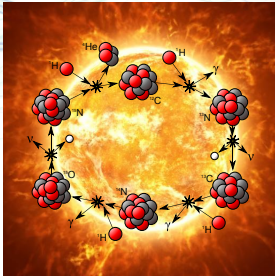
neutrino mass ordering

CP-violation

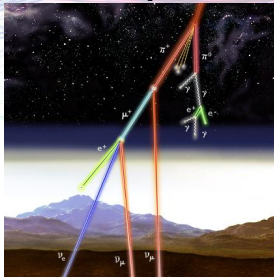
## Future

# Neutrinos are everywhere

Solar



Atmospheric



**FACT:** about 65 million neutrinos pass through your thumbnail every second.

Reactor



Supernova



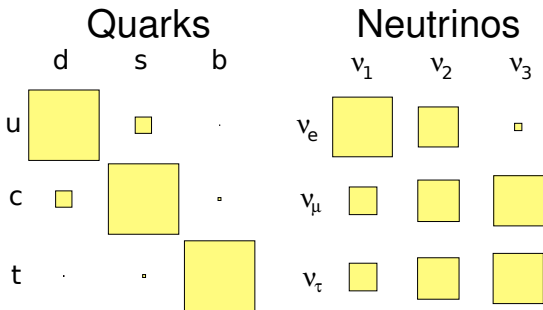
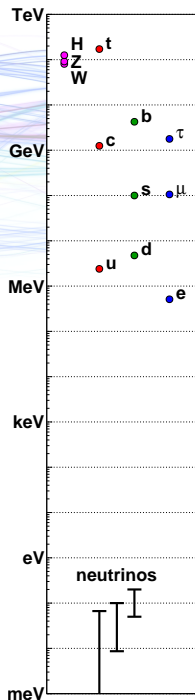
- ▶ Second most abundant particle in the universe
- ▶ But we know almost nothing about them
- ▶ Only interact via the weak force
- ▶ Need powerful sources and huge detectors

# Neutrinos are unique

- ▶ Far lighter than the quarks and charged leptons
- ▶ May get their masses by a different mechanism

$$m_{EW}^2 / m_\nu \sim 10^{15} \text{ GeV} \sim m_{GUT}$$

- ▶ Very different mixing structure to quarks



# Neutrino flavour mixing



- ▶ Neutrinos mix, just like the quarks

$$|\nu_\alpha\rangle = \sum_i U_{\alpha i}^* |\nu_i\rangle$$

$$i = 1, 2, 3 \quad \alpha = e, \mu, \tau$$

- ▶ PMNS matrix.  $\sim$ CKM matrix for leptons
- ▶ Unlike the quarks, mixings are large

# Neutrino oscillations



$$|\nu_\alpha\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\nu_1\rangle + |\nu_2\rangle)$$

# Neutrino oscillations



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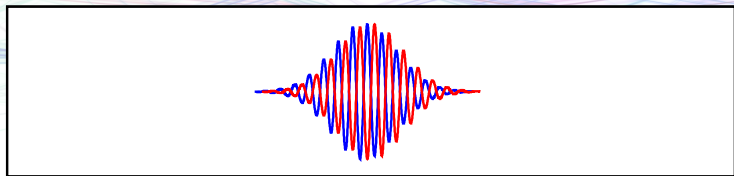


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$$m_2 > m_1$$



# Neutrino oscillations

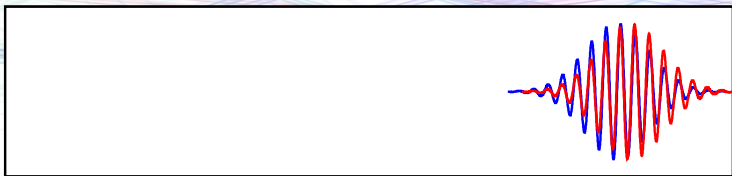


$$|\nu_\alpha\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\nu_1\rangle + |\nu_2\rangle)$$

$$|\nu_\beta\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\nu_1\rangle - |\nu_2\rangle)$$

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# Neutrino oscillations



$$|\nu_\alpha\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\nu_1\rangle + |\nu_2\rangle)$$

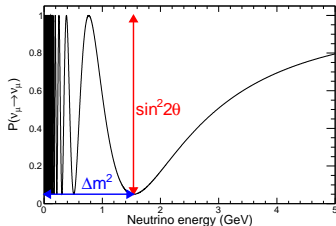
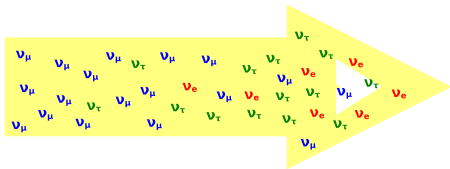
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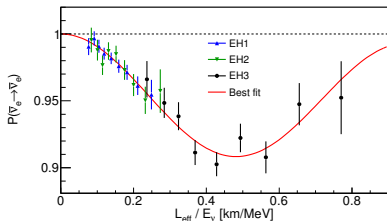
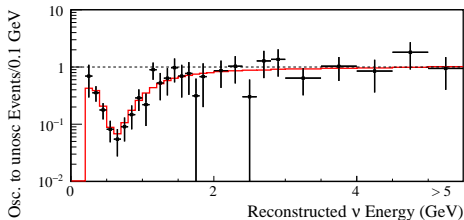
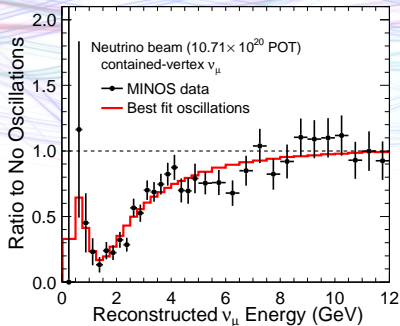
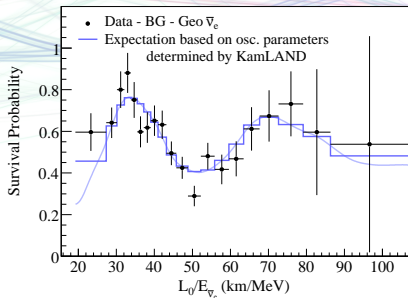
# Neutrino oscillations



$$|\nu_\alpha\rangle = \cos\theta|\nu_1\rangle + \sin\theta|\nu_2\rangle \quad \rightarrow \quad P(\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\alpha) = 1 - \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2\left(\frac{\Delta m^2 L}{4E}\right)$$



# Oscillation structure



# Current world knowledge

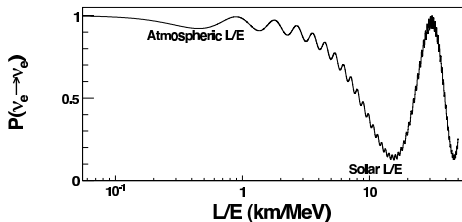
$$U = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c_{23} & s_{23} \\ 0 & -s_{23} & c_{23} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_{13} & 0 & s_{13}e^{-i\delta} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -s_{13}e^{i\delta} & 0 & c_{13} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_{12} & s_{12} & 0 \\ -s_{12} & c_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Delta m_{32}^2 \sim \theta_{23} \sim 45^\circ \quad 2.5 \times 10^{-3} \text{eV}^2$$

$$\theta_{13} \sim 8.5^\circ$$

$$\delta_{CP} = ?$$

$$\theta_{12} \sim 33^\circ \quad \Delta m_{21}^2 \sim 7.5 \times 10^{-5} \text{eV}^2$$



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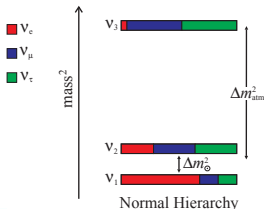
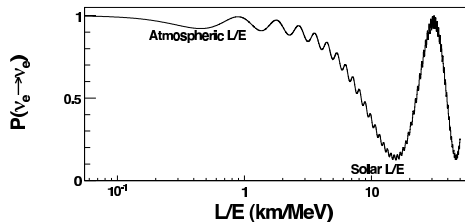
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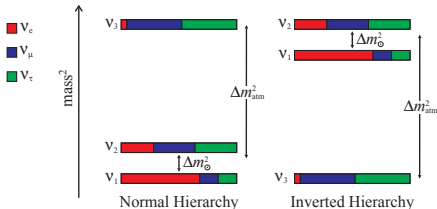
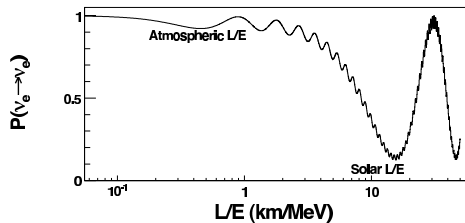
$$\Delta m_{32}^2 \sim \pm 2.5 \times 10^{-3} \text{eV}^2$$

$$\theta_{13} \sim 8.5^\circ$$

$$\delta_{CP} = ?$$

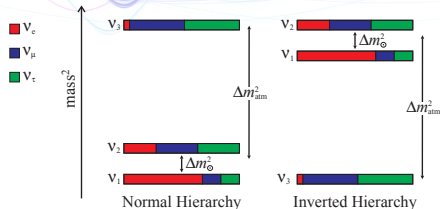
$$\theta_{12} \sim 33^\circ$$

$$\Delta m_{21}^2 \sim 7.5 \times 10^{-5} \text{eV}^2$$



# Open neutrino questions

- ▶ Dirac or Majorana?
  - ▶ Is  $\bar{\nu}$  just a right-handed  $\nu$ ?
- ▶ Absolute masses
- ▶ Ordering of the mass states
- ▶  $CP$ -violation?
  - ▶ Do  $\nu$  and  $\bar{\nu}$  oscillations differ?
- ▶ Random mixing parameters, or patterns?





# What do we need?

- ▶ Requirements for neutrino oscillation experiment
  - ▶ High power neutrino source
  - ▶ Large detector
  - ▶ Good resolution of signal from background
  - ▶ Good control of systematic uncertainties

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- ▶ Requirements for neutrino oscillation experiment
  - ▶ High power neutrino source
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  - ▶ Good resolution of signal from background
  - ▶ Good control of systematic uncertainties
  
- ▶ For mass ordering and CP-violation
  - ▶ Both disappearance ( $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\mu$ ) and appearance ( $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$ ) modes
  - ▶ Long baseline
  - ▶ Ability to study neutrinos and antineutrinos

# The NOvA collaboration

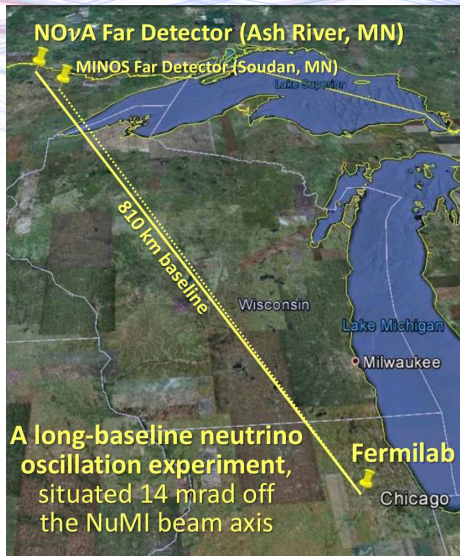


**47 institutions, 7 countries, over 200 collaborators**

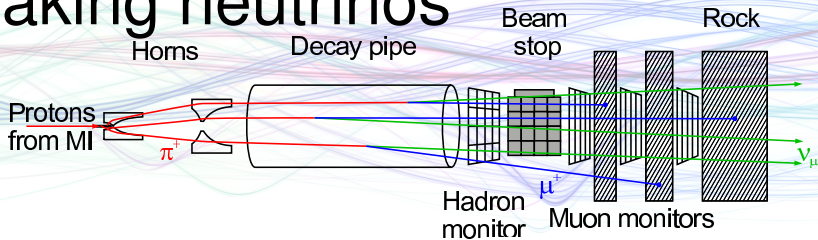
Argonne, Atlantico, Austin, Banaras Hindu, Caltech, CUSAT, Czech Academy of Sciences, Charles, Cincinnati, Colorado State, Czech Technical University, Dallas, Delhi, Dubna, Fermilab, Goias, IIT-Guwahati, Harvard, Houston, IIT-Hyderabad, Hyderabad, Illinois Institute of Technology, Indiana, Iowa State, Irvine, Jammu, Lebedev, Michigan State, Minnesota-Twin Cities, Minnesota-Duluth, INR Moscow, NISR, Panjab, Pittsburg, South Alabama, SDMT, South Carolina, SMU, Stanford, Sussex, Tennessee, Tufts, UCL, Virginia, Wichita State, William and Mary, Winona State.

# NOvA 10,000ft view

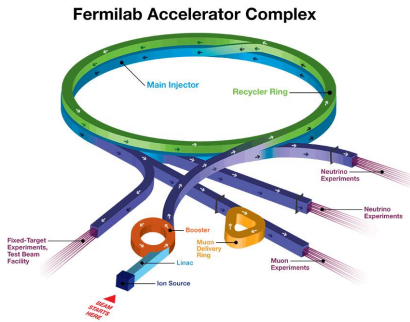
- ▶  $\nu_\mu$  beam from Fermilab, IL
- ▶ Detector 810km away in MN
- ▶ Smaller detector onsite to measure flux before oscillations
  - ▶  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\mu$       ▶  $\bar{\nu}_\mu \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_\mu$
  - ▶  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$       ▶  $\bar{\nu}_\mu \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e$
- ▶ Precision measurements of  $|\Delta m_{32}^2|$  and  $\theta_{23}$
- ▶ Determine the mass hierarchy
- ▶ Search for  $\sin \delta_{CP} \neq 0$

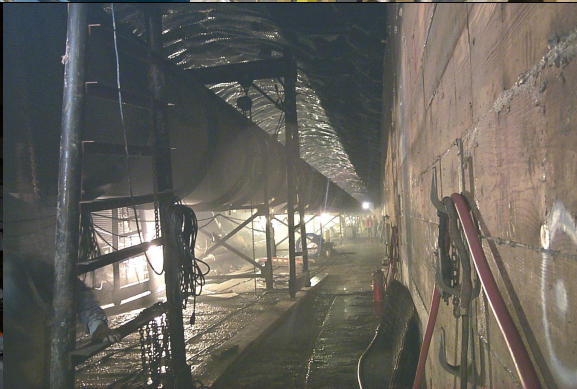
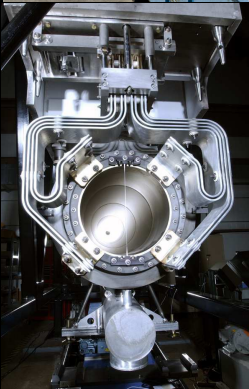
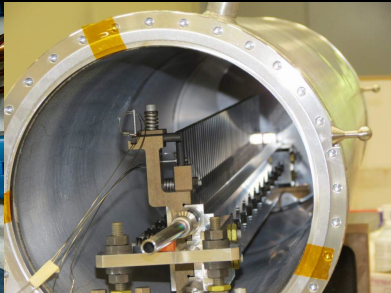


# Making neutrinos



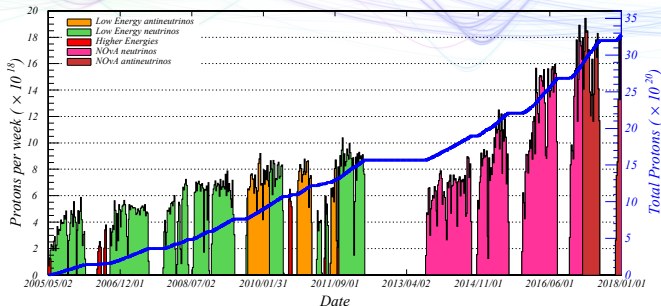
- ▶ 120 GeV protons from Main Injector
- ▶ Strike graphite target
- ▶ Produce mainly  $\pi^\pm$  and  $K^\pm$
- ▶ Focused by two magnetic horns
- ▶ Allow us to select charge sign for a neutrino or antineutrino beam
- ▶ 675m decay-pipe:  $\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ + \nu_\mu$
- ▶ Muons absorbed by rock





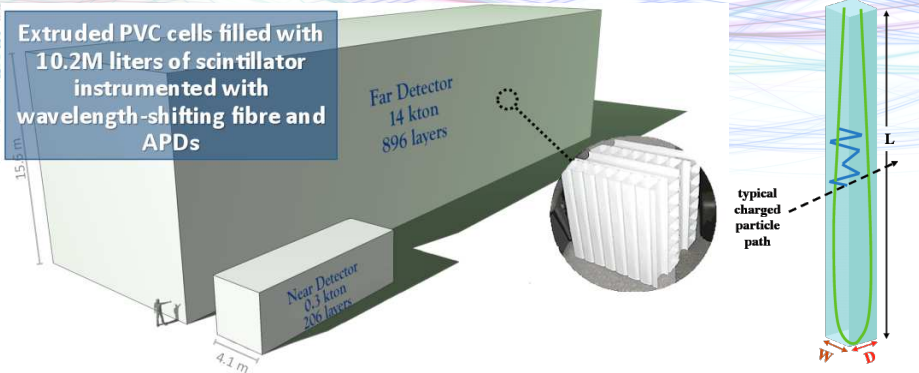
# NuMI performance

- ▶ World's highest power neutrino beam
- ▶ 700kW design power since June 2016,  $\sim 4 \times 10^{13}$  protons / pulse

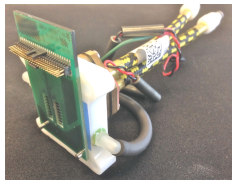


- ▶ These results use data from Feb 6 2014 to Feb 20 2017
- ▶ Beam power ramping up, detector under construction at start
- ▶  $8.85 \times 10^{20}$  POT equivalent, about 1.5 years of nominal running

# Detector technology



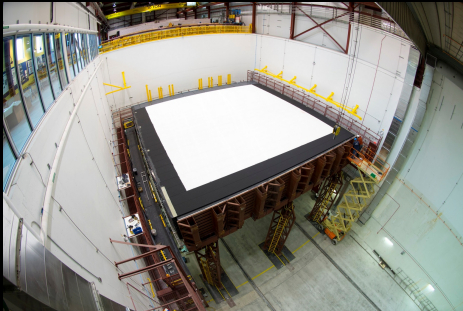
- ▶ 64% liquid scintillator by mass
- ▶  $4 \times 6$  cm resolution, two views for 3D reco.
- ▶ 344,000 channels in 14 kton FD, on surface
- ▶ 300 ton ND, underground at FNAL





# Assembly

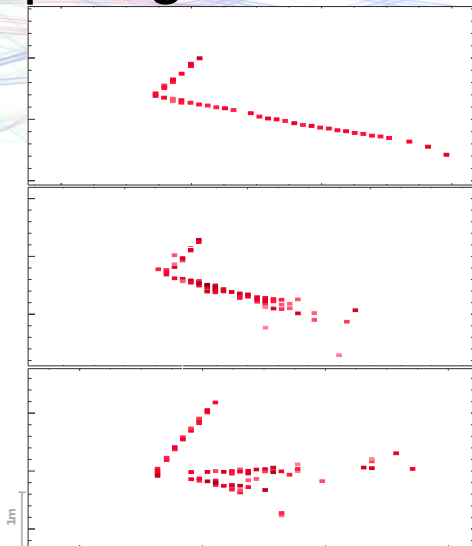




# Near Detector

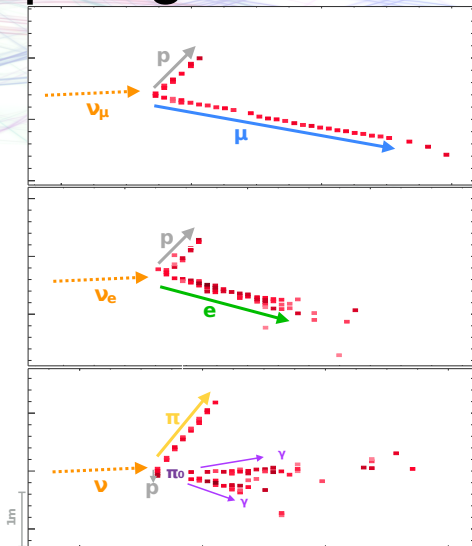


# Event topologies



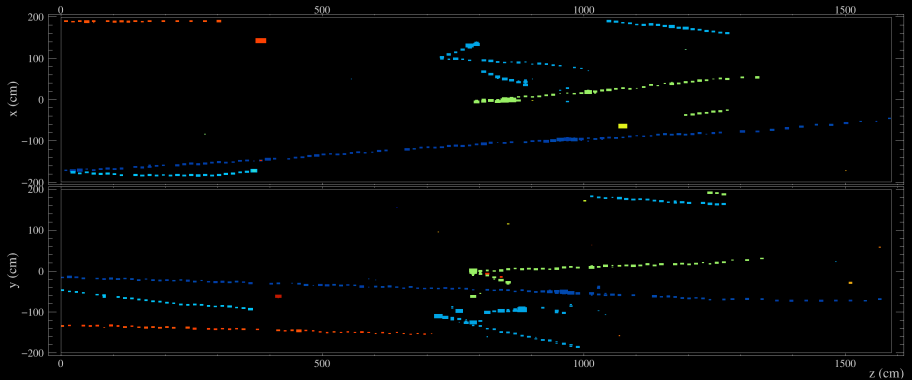
- ▶ Very good granularity, especially considering scale
- ▶  $X_0 = 38\text{cm}$  (6 cell depths, 10 cell widths)

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# ND neutrinos



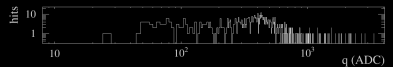
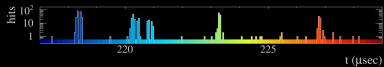
NOvA - FNAL E929

Run: 10407 / 1

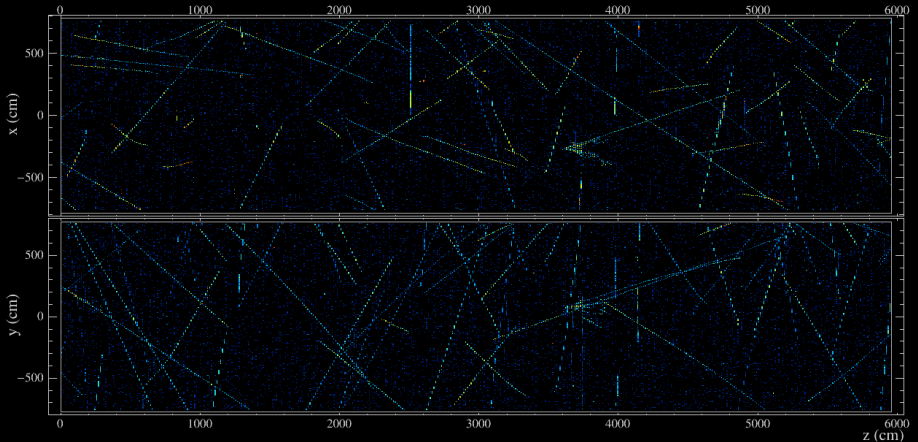
Event: 27950 / --

UTC Thu Sep 4, 2014

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# FD neutrinos



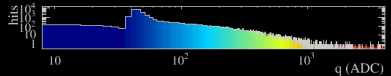
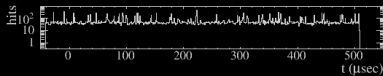
## NOvA - FNAL E929

Run: 18620 / 13

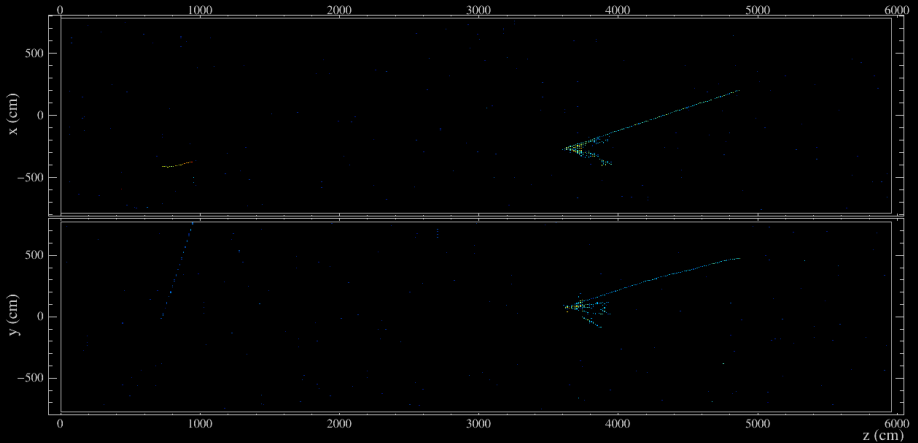
Event: 178402 / --

UTC Fri Jan 9, 2015

00:13:53.087341608



# FD neutrinos



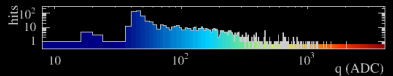
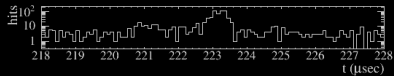
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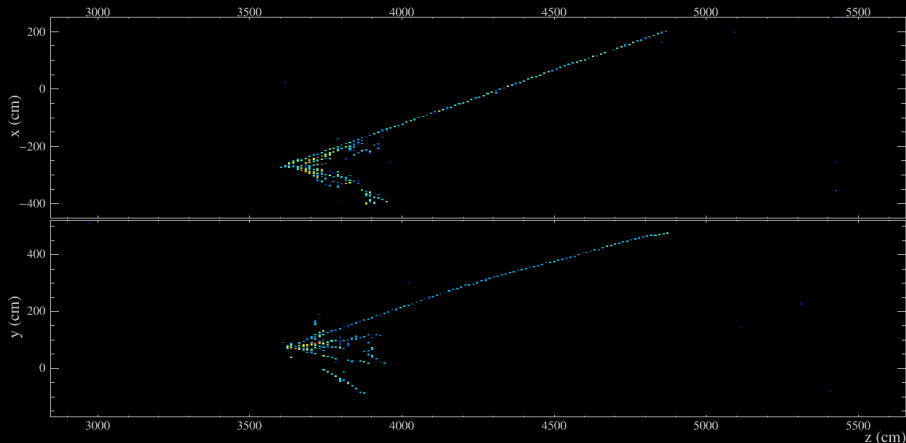
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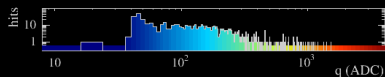
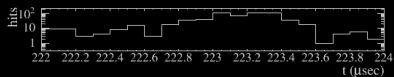
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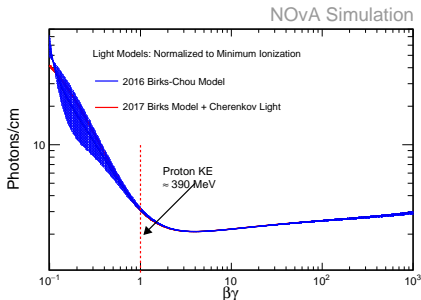
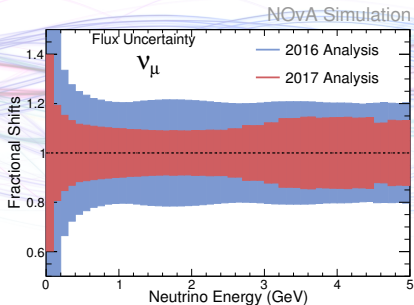
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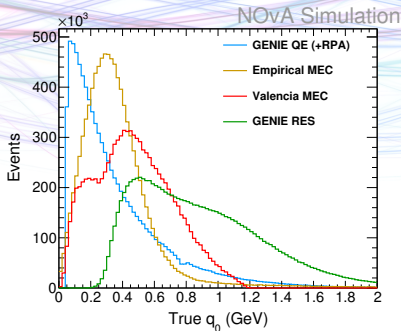
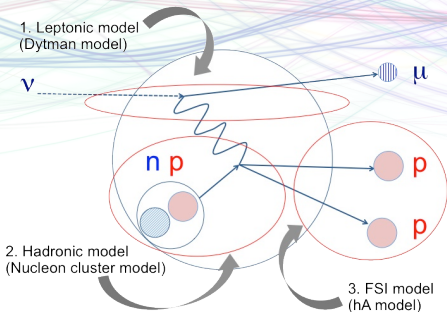
# What's new?

- ▶ 50% additional data
- ▶ Data-driven flux estimates from MINERvA<sup>1</sup>
- ▶ Retuned cross-section model
- ▶ Detector sim. improvements ( $E_{\text{res}} : 7\% \rightarrow 9\%$ )
- ▶ Using computer vision classifier for all analyses
- ▶ Analysis improvements
  - ▶ Resolution binning for  $\nu_{\mu}$
  - ▶ “Peripheral” sample for  $\nu_e$



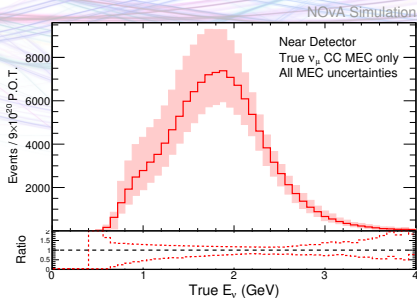
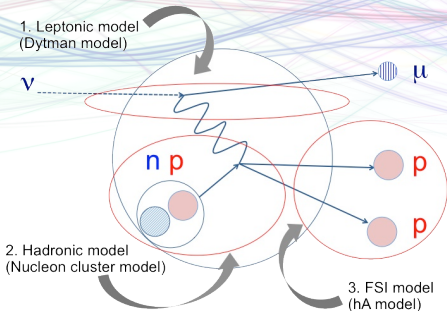
<sup>1</sup> Phys. Rev. D94 (2016) 092005

# Nuclear correlations



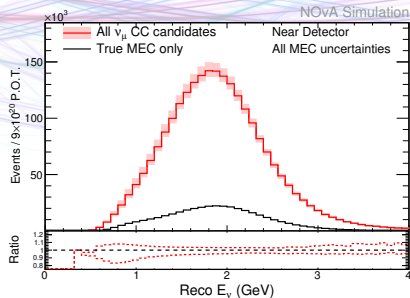
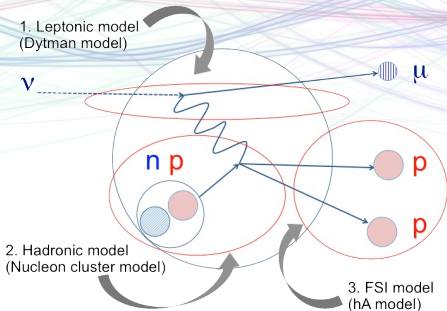
- ▶ ND data reveals some data/MC disagreement in  $E_{\text{had}}$  spectrum
- ▶ Inter-nucleon correlations a hot topic in neutrino xsecs currently
- ▶ Evidence for extra “MEC” component from NOvA, MINERvA, etc
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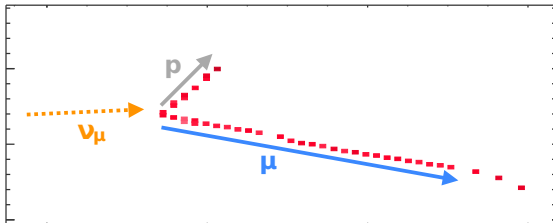
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# Principle of the $\nu_\mu$ measurement

- ▶ Separate  $\nu_\mu$  CC interactions from backgrounds
  - ▶ Long muon track with distinctive  $dE/dx$  easy to spot
- ▶ Extrapolate observed ND spectrum to make FD unosc. prediction
- ▶ Measure shape of  $\nu_\mu$  deficit in the FD

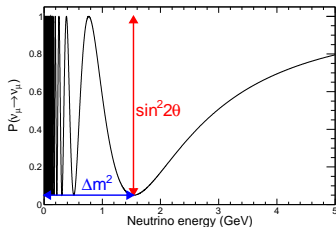


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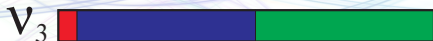
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- ▶ Two flavor approx. works well here
- ▶  $P_{\mu\mu} \approx 1 - \sin^2 2\theta_{23} \sin^2 \left( \frac{\Delta m_{32}^2 L}{4E} \right)$
- ▶  $\theta_{23} \approx 45^\circ \rightarrow$  almost all  $\nu_\mu$  expected to disappear at oscillation max.



# Mixing patterns

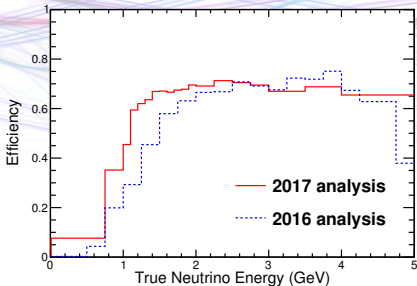
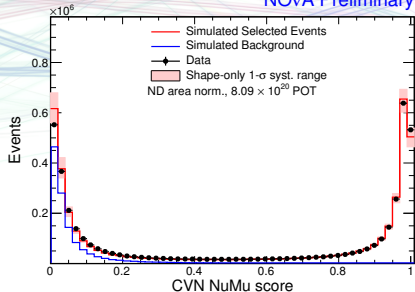


- ▶ Only a small fraction of  $\nu_e$  in  $|\nu_3\rangle$  ( $\sin^2 2\theta_{13}$ )
- ▶ The remainder is split  $\sim 50/50$   $\nu_\mu/\nu_\tau$  ( $\sin^2 \theta_{23}$ )
- ▶ Accident? Or a sign of underlying structure?
  
- ▶ Is  $\theta_{23}$  exactly  $45^\circ$ ?
- ▶ If not, is it...
  - ▶  $< 45^\circ$  ( $|\nu_3\rangle$  more  $\nu_\tau$ , like the quarks)
  - ▶  $> 45^\circ$  ( $|\nu_3\rangle$  more  $\nu_\mu$ , unlike quarks)



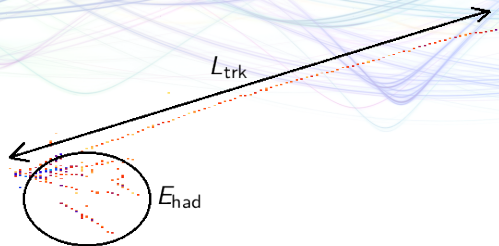
# Selecting muon neutrinos

NOvA Preliminary



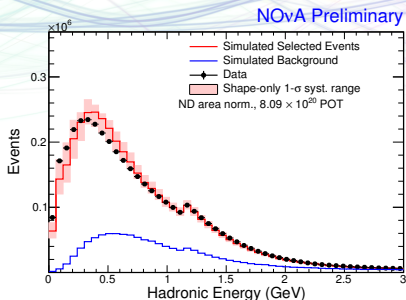
- ▶ Selecting  $\nu_\mu$  CC relatively easy – long  $\mu$  track, characteristic  $dE/dx$
- ▶ Occasionally a  $\pi^\pm$  from an NC event can be confused
- ▶ Use same convolutional neural network (“CVN”) as for  $\nu_e$  selection
- ▶ Also have to reject cosmic rays, use containment, dir. and size
- ▶ Factor  $10^5$  from  $10\mu\text{s}$  spill window vs 1Hz beam,  $10^7$  from cuts
- ▶ 93% pure FD  $\nu_\mu$  CC sample, 11% higher efficiency than prev. sel.

# $\nu_\mu$ energy estimation



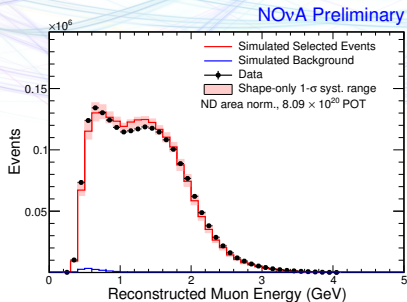
- ▶ Estimate energy of selected events to trace out osc. structure
- ▶ Known muon  $dE/dx \rightarrow E_\mu = f(L_{trk}) \sim k \times L_{trk}$
- ▶ Hadronic part of the event estimated calorimetrically
- ▶  $E_\nu = f(L_{trk}) + E_{had}$

# $\nu_\mu$ energy estimation



(30%)

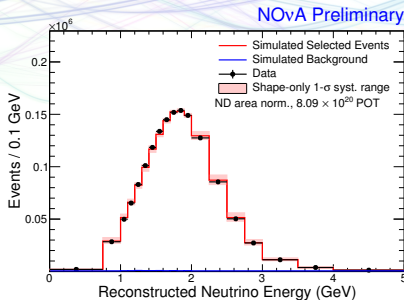
+



(3%)

- ▶ Good data/MC agreement for muon neutrino selected events
- ▶ Hadronic scale uncertainty 5%

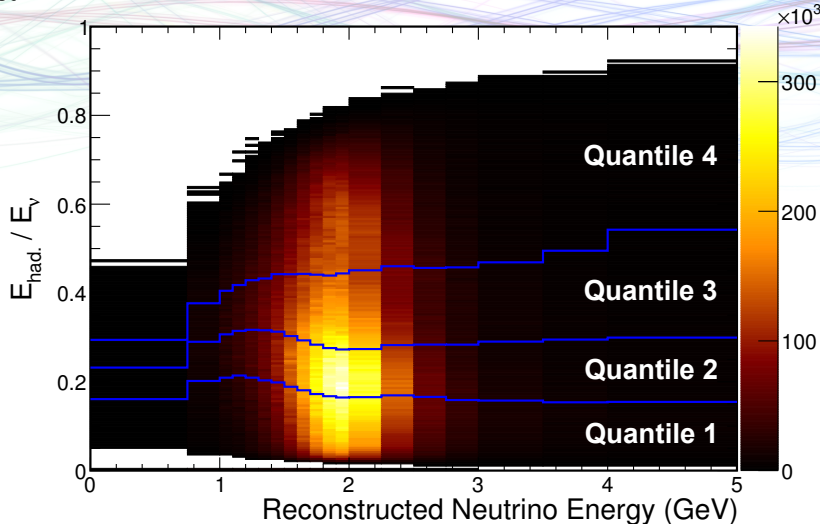
# $\nu_\mu$ energy estimation



(9%)

- ▶ Good data/MC agreement for muon neutrino selected events
- ▶ Hadronic scale uncertainty 5%

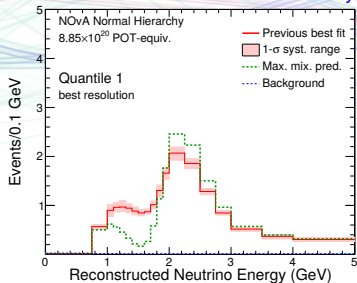
# $\nu_\mu$ resolution bins



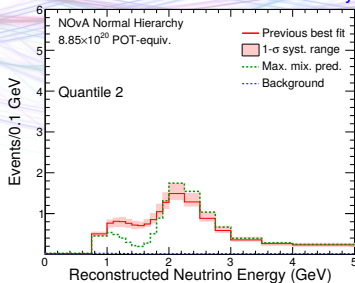
- ▶ Bin into 4 equal quantiles by hadronic energy fraction
- ▶ Energy resolution varies from  $\sim 6\%$  to  $\sim 12\%$  between bins

# $\nu_\mu$ resolution bins

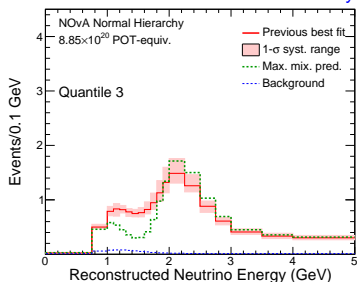
NOvA Preliminary



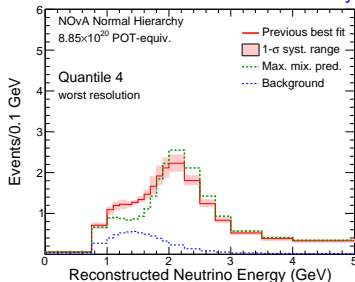
NOvA Preliminary



NOvA Preliminary

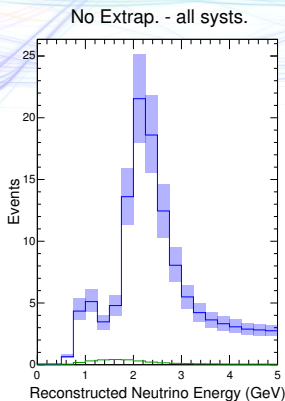
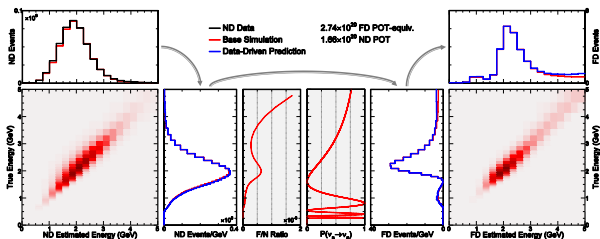


NOvA Preliminary



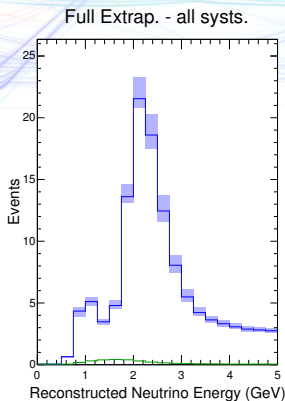
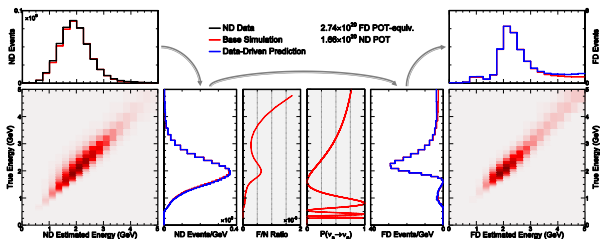
# Extrapolation procedure

- ▶ Translate ND observations to true energy
- ▶ Transport to far detector and oscillate
- ▶ Smear back to reco energy
- ▶ Cosmics prediction from out-of-time data



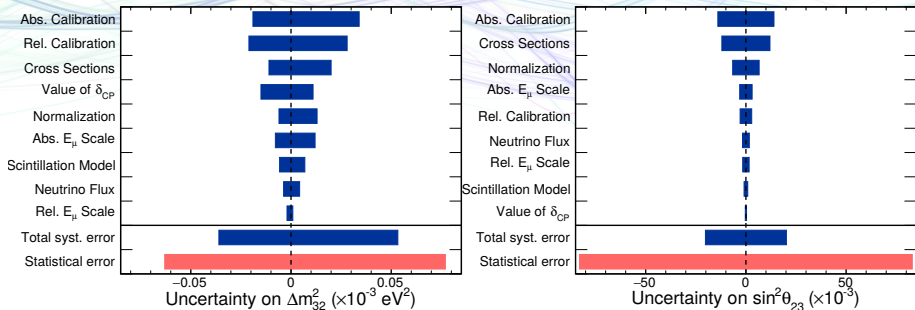
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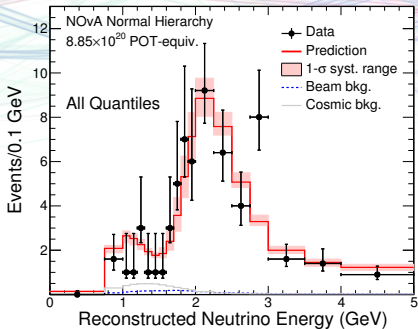
# $\nu_\mu$ systematics



- ▶ Evaluate systematics by replacing nominal MC by shifted versions
- ▶ Hard work here means we're still stats limited
- ▶ Calibration and cross-section (MEC) systematics largest

# $\nu_\mu$ disappearance results

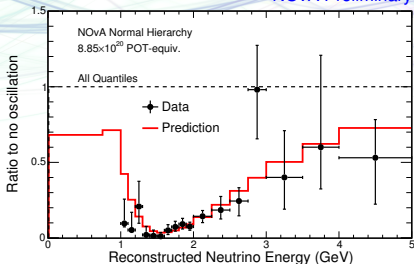
NOvA Preliminary



- ▶ Expect 763 FD  $\nu_\mu$  CC events with no oscillation
- ▶ Observe 126 (inc. 3.4 beam bkg. and 5.8 cosmic)

# $\nu_{\mu}$ disappearance results

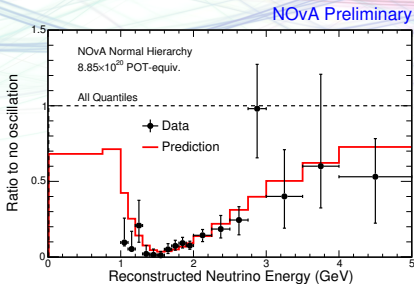
NOvA Preliminary



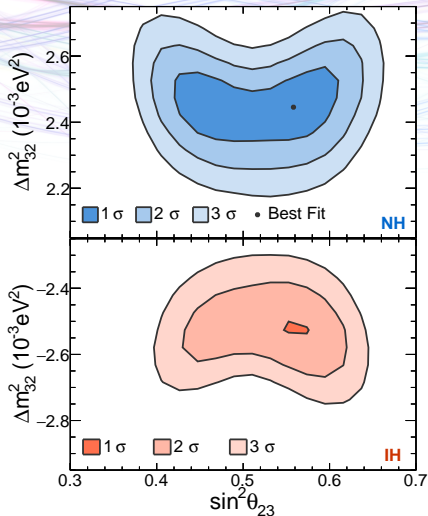
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# $\nu_\mu$ disappearance results

NOvA Preliminary



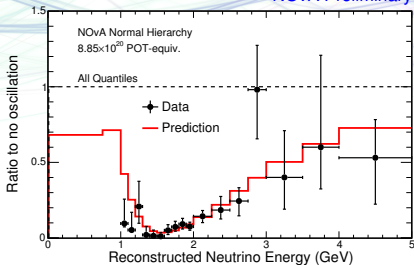
- ▶ Expect 763 FD  $\nu_\mu$  CC events with no oscillation
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$$\Delta m_{32}^2 = (2.44 \pm 0.08) \times 10^{-3} \text{eV}^2 \text{ (NH)}$$
$$\sin^2 \theta_{23} = 0.56_{-0.03}^{+0.04} \text{ or } 0.48_{-0.04}^{+0.04}$$

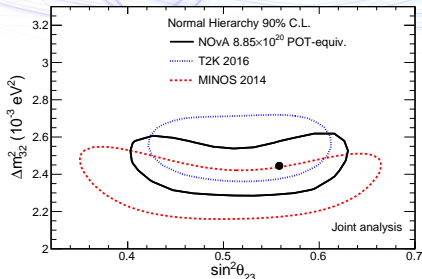
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NOvA Preliminary

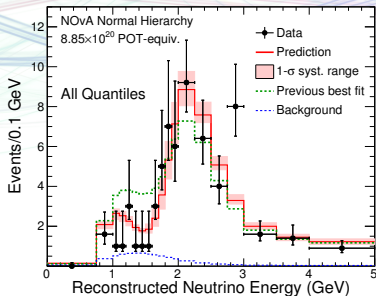


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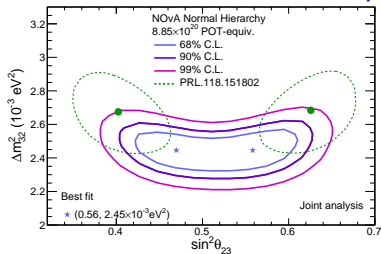
$$\sin^2 \theta_{23} = 0.56^{+0.04}_{-0.03} \text{ or } 0.48^{+0.04}_{-0.04}$$

# Changes from previous result

NOvA Preliminary

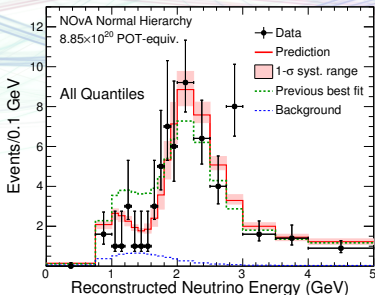


NOvA Preliminary



# Changes from previous result

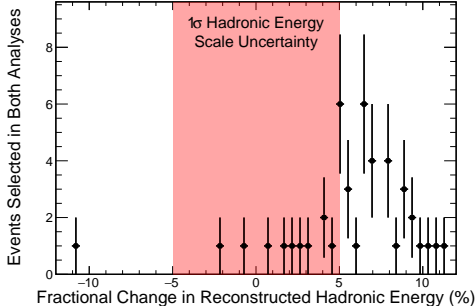
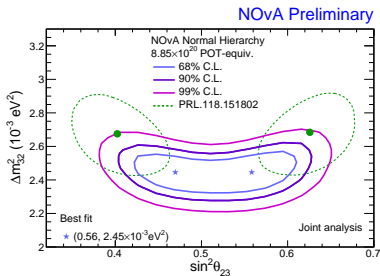
NOvA Preliminary



## ► New simulation

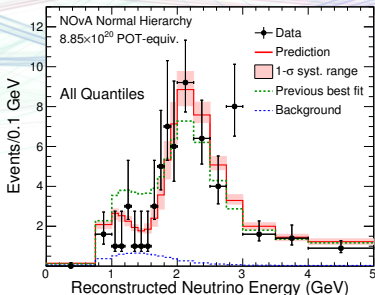
- Some effect from decreased  $E_{\text{res}}$
- $\langle 70 \text{ MeV} \rangle$  shift in energies → expect (observe) 0.5 (3) events migrating out of dip region

NOvA Preliminary



# Changes from previous result

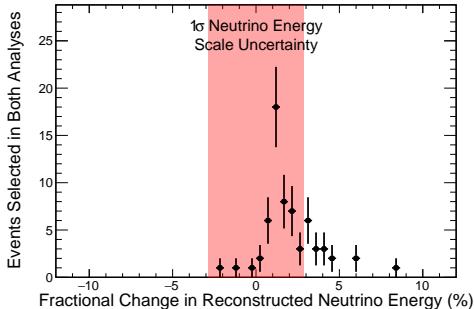
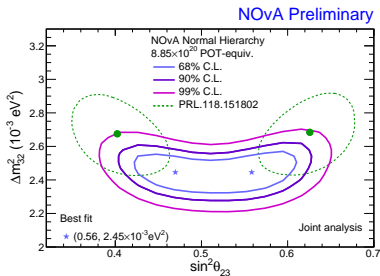
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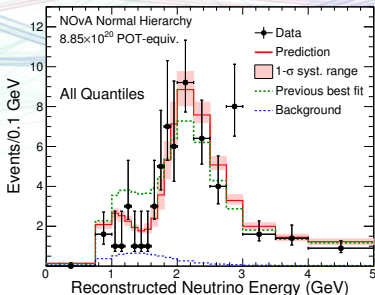
NOvA Preliminary



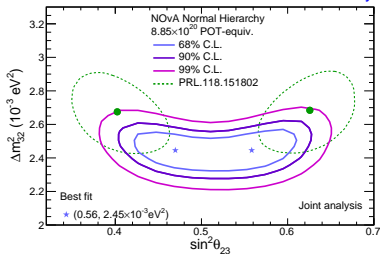


# Changes from previous result

NOvA Preliminary



NOvA Preliminary



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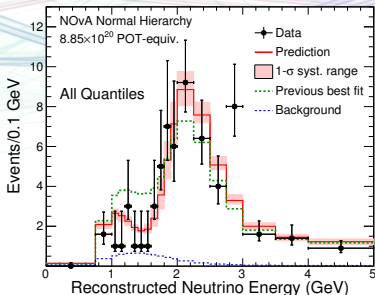
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## ► New selection and analysis

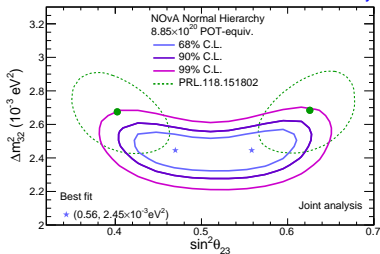
- 5% of mock experiments have a larger change, mostly driven by low selection overlap (especially cosmics)

# Changes from previous result

NOvA Preliminary



NOvA Preliminary



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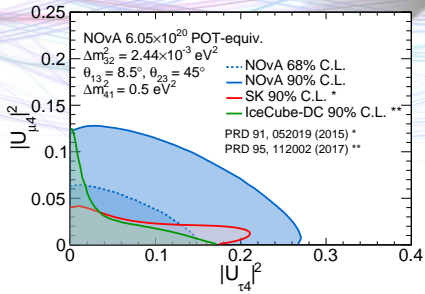
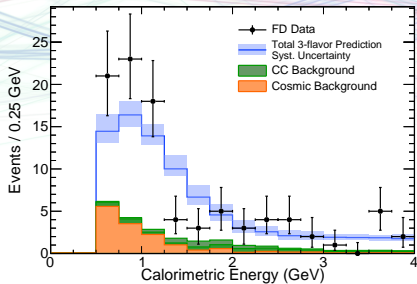
## ► New selection and analysis

- 5% of mock experiments have a larger change, mostly driven by low selection overlap (especially cosmics)

## ► New data

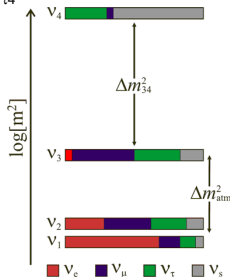
- New  $2.8 \times 10^{20}$  POT of data prefers maximal mixing

# Aside: sterile neutrinos



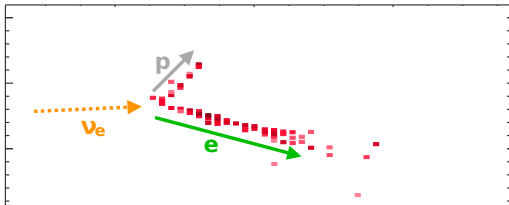
- ▶ Are all the disappearing  $\nu_\mu$  going to  $\nu_e$  or  $\nu_\tau$ ?
- ▶ Might some fraction be oscillating to a 4th, sterile, state?
- ▶ Would expect a depletion of NC events at FD
- ▶ Expect  $83.5 \pm 9.7(\text{stat}) \pm 9.4(\text{syst})$  see 95
- ▶ Set limits on  $U_{\mu 4}$  and  $U_{\tau 4}$

Phys. Rev. D 96, 072006 (2017)



# Principle of the $\nu_e$ measurement

- ▶ Separate  $\nu_e$  CC interactions from beam backgrounds
  - ▶ Harder problem than  $\nu_\mu$  CC selection
- ▶ Evaluate remaining backgrounds in ND
  - ▶ Intrinsic beam  $\nu_e$
  - ▶ Neutral currents
  - ▶  $\nu_\mu$  CC – mostly oscillates away
- ▶ An excess in the FD is the sign of  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$  oscillations



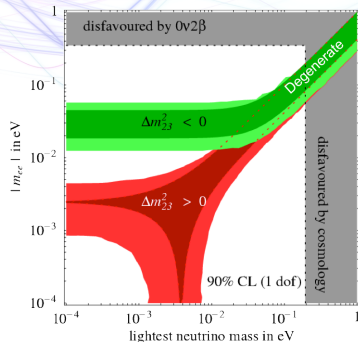
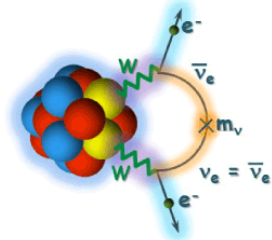
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- ▶ An excess in the FD is the sign of  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$  oscillations
- ▶  $P_{\mu e} \approx \sin^2 2\theta_{13} \sin^2 \theta_{23} \sin^2 \left( \frac{\Delta m_{32}^2 L}{4E} \right) + f(\text{sign}(\Delta m_{32}^2)) + f(\delta_{CP})$
- ▶  $\theta_{13}$  only  $8.5^\circ$  degrees, most  $\nu_\mu$  go to  $\nu_\tau$  instead
- ▶ Sensitive to mass ordering (“hierarchy”),  $\delta_{CP}$  and  $\theta_{23}$  octant



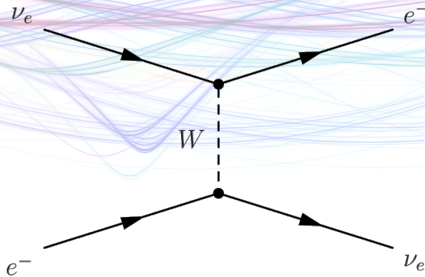
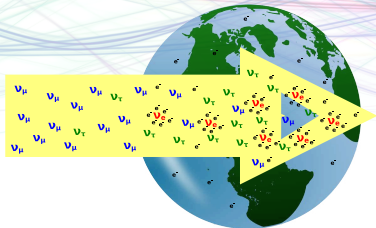
# Why hierarchy?

- ▶ Is the electron-like state lightest?
- ▶ *i.e.* Does the pattern of the masses match the charged leptons?

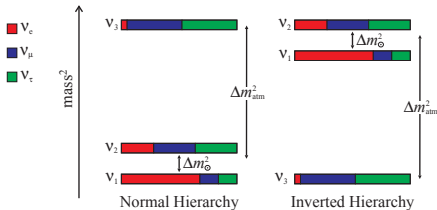


- ▶ Are neutrinos Majorana particles ( $\nu = \bar{\nu}$ )?
- ▶ Observation of  $0\nu\beta\beta$  would be proof they are
- ▶ Impact of **IH** determination: lack of  $0\nu\beta\beta$  implies Dirac nature

# Matter effects

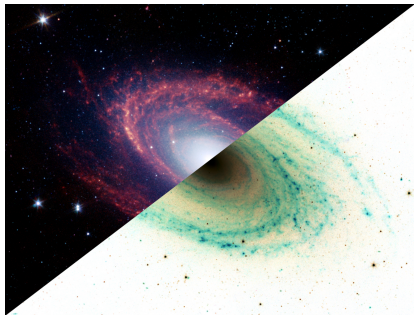


- ▶ Electrons in the Earth drag on the “electron” neutrino states
- ▶ Sign of the effect opposite for antineutrinos and for NH/IH



# Neutrino/antineutrino symmetry

- ▶ Does  $P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e) = P(\bar{\nu}_\mu \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e)$ ?
- ▶ Insight into fundamental symmetries of the lepton sector
- ▶ “CP violation” – described by oscillation parameter  $\delta_{CP}$



- ▶ Why is the universe not equal parts matter and antimatter?
- ▶ Need ppb early universe asymm.
- ▶ Existing CP-violation insufficient
- ▶ “*Leptogenesis*”: generate  $\nu/\bar{\nu}$  imbalance, transfer to baryons

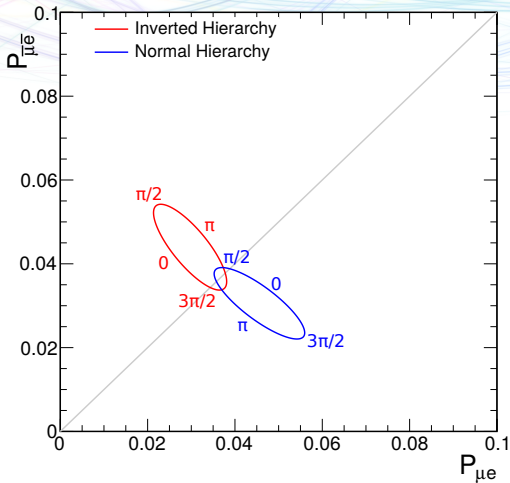
- ▶ Require neutrino **appearance** experiment to discover



# Principle of the $\nu_e$ measurement

- ▶ To first order, NOvA measures  $P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e)$  and  $P(\bar{\nu}_\mu \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e)$  evaluated at 2GeV

- ▶ These depend differently on  $\text{sign}(\Delta m_{32}^2)$  and  $\delta_{CP}$

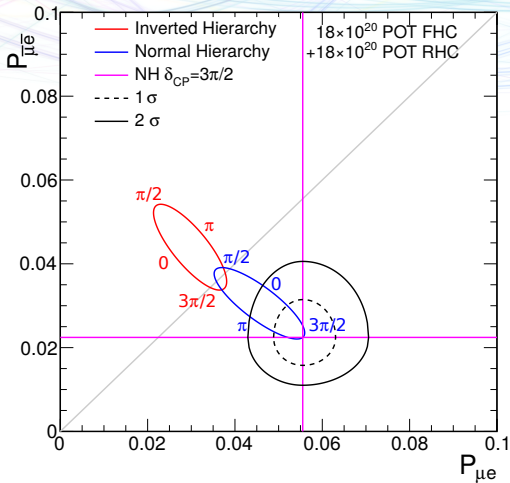


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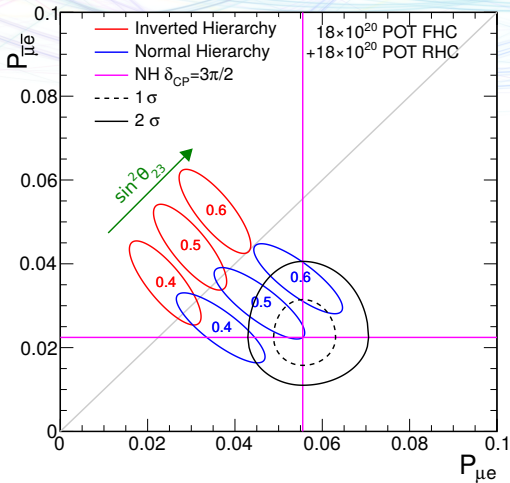
- ▶ These depend differently on  $\text{sign}(\Delta m_{32}^2)$  and  $\delta_{CP}$

- ▶ Ultimately constrain to some region of this space

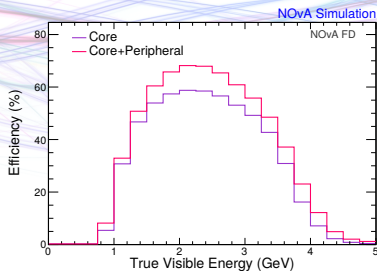
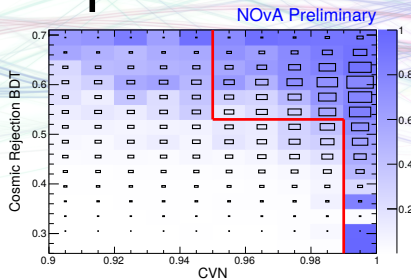


# Principle of the $\nu_e$ measurement

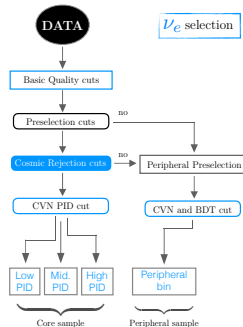
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- ▶ These depend differently on  $\text{sign}(\Delta m_{32}^2)$  and  $\delta_{CP}$
- ▶ Ultimately constrain to some region of this space
- ▶  $P$  also  $\propto \sin^2 \theta_{23}$



# Peripheral sample

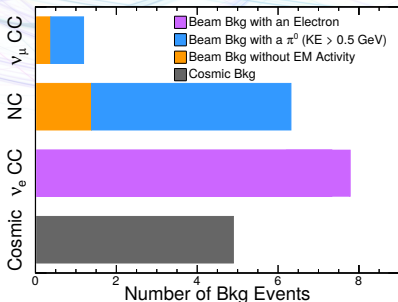
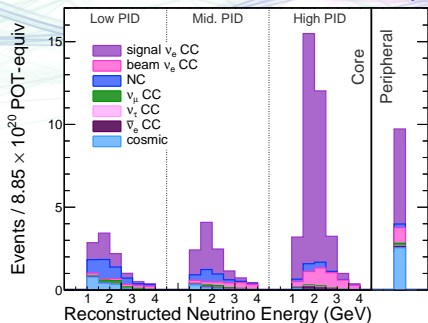


- ▶ Events that fail containment and cosrej cuts given a second chance
- ▶ Require high CVN score plus specialized cosmic rejection BDT
- ▶ Equivalent to 16% more exposure



# Sample composition

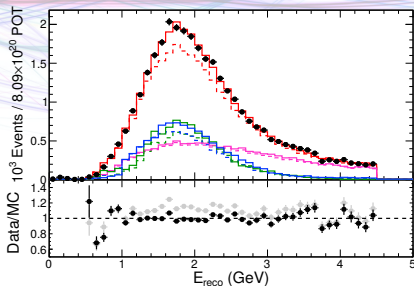
NOvA Preliminary



- ▶ Break spectrum down into 3 PID bins (low to high purity)
- ▶ Plus additional peripheral sample
- ▶ Backgrounds predominantly have EM activity:  
 $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$  or intrinsic beam  $\nu_e$

# Making FD bkg prediction

- ▶ Use ND data to predict three FD background components
  - ▶ Beam  $\nu_e$  CC
  - ▶ NC
  - ▶  $\nu_\mu$  CC



- ▶ Can separate statistically:
- ▶  $\nu_e/\nu_\mu$  share common  $\pi^+/K^+$  ancestors
- ▶  $\mu$  in  $\nu_\mu$  CC events leaves decay electron
- ▶ Beam  $\nu_e$   $\uparrow$ 1%, NC  $\uparrow$ 20%,  $\nu_\mu$  CC  $\uparrow$ 10%
- ▶ Extrapolate 3 components for FD prediction

# Event count expectations

$P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e)$	More	Less
Hie.	NH	IH
$\delta_{CP}$	$\sim \frac{3\pi}{2}$	$\sim \frac{\pi}{2}$
$\theta_{23}$	$> 45^\circ$	$< 45^\circ$

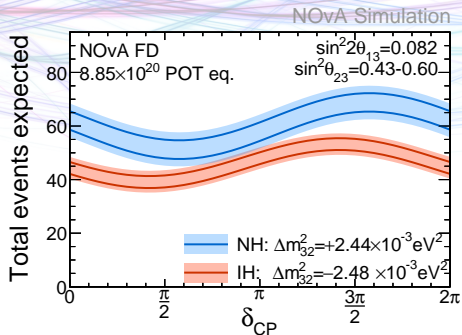
## Signal prediction

NH $\frac{3\pi}{2}$	IH $\frac{\pi}{2}$	for $\theta_{23} = 45^\circ$
48	20	$\pm 9\%$ syst.

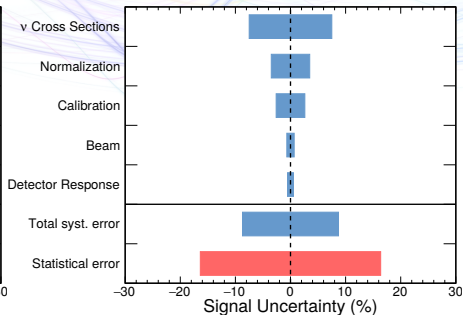
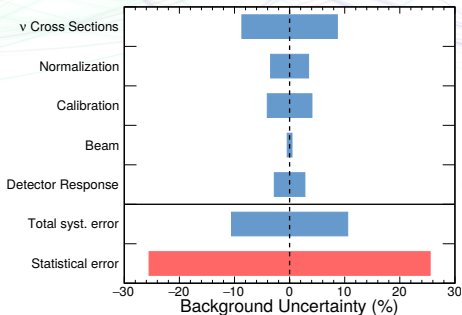
## Background components

Total bkg	NC	beam $\nu_e$	$\nu_\mu$ CC	$\nu_\tau$ CC	cosmics	
20.5	6.6	7.1	1.1	0.3	4.9	$\pm 10\%$ syst.

Essentially independent of oscillation parameters



# $\nu_e$ systematics

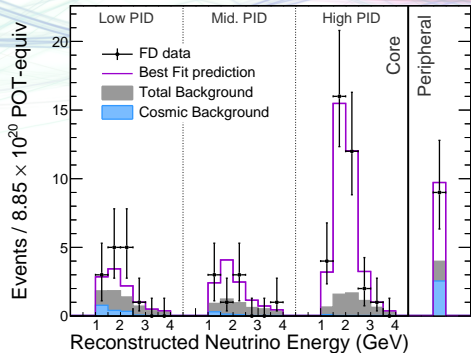


- Dominated by statistics and then cross sections (MEC shape)

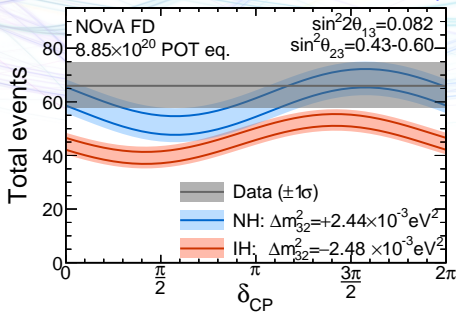


# $\nu_e$ appearance results

NOvA Preliminary



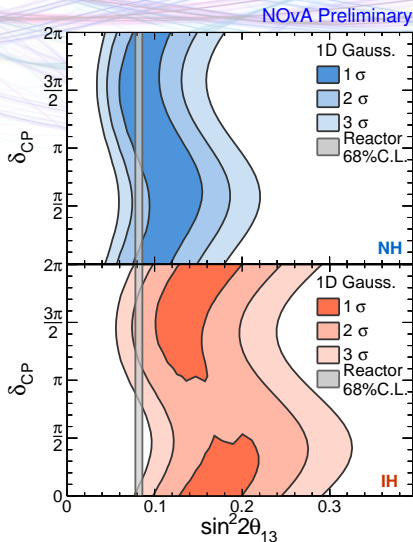
NOvA Preliminary



- ▶ Observe **66** events passing  $\nu_e$  selection
- ▶ On 20.5 background
- ▶ Towards the higher end of expectations

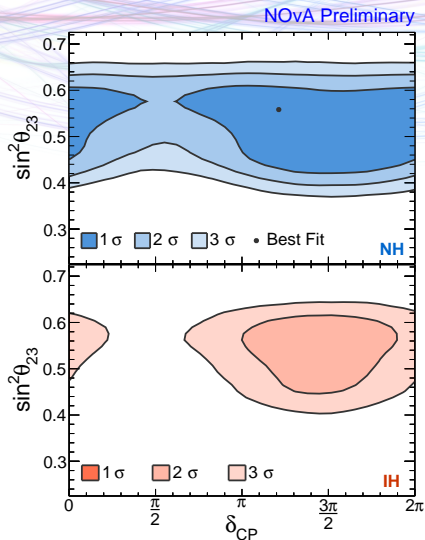
# $\nu_e$ fit results

- ▶ Joint fit from  $\nu_\mu$  and  $\nu_e$  spectra
- ▶ Constrain  $\theta_{13}$  to reactor avg.  
 $\sin^2 2\theta_{13} = 0.082 \pm 0.005$



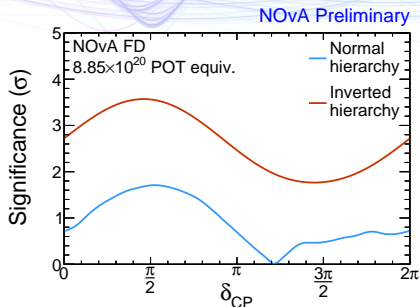
# $\nu_e$ fit results

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 $\delta_{CP} \sim 3\pi/2$



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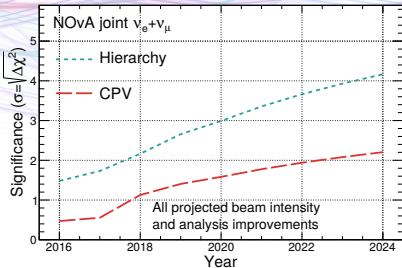
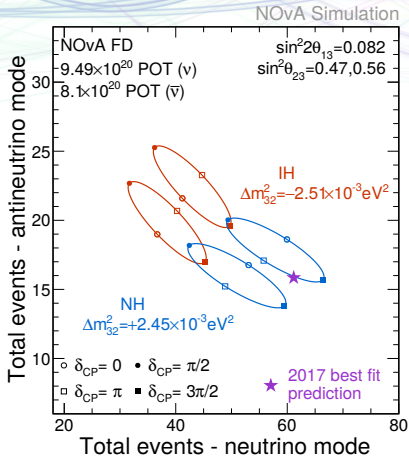
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- ▶ Prefer NH and (weakly)  
 $\delta_{CP} \sim 3\pi/2$
- ▶ IH disfavoured at  $2\sigma$  level



# NOvA future sensitivity

Normal  $\delta_{CP}=3\pi/2$ ,  $\sin^2\theta_{23}=0.500$   
 $\Delta m_{32}^2=2.45\times 10^{-3}\text{eV}^2$ ,  $\sin^2 2\theta_{13}=0.082$

NOvA Simulation



- ▶ Currently favoured values avoid ambiguous region
- ▶ Will release large sample ( $\sim 7 \times 10^{20}$  POT) of antineutrino data in June
- ▶  $4\sigma$  hierarchy measurement by end of experiment?

# Conclusion

- ▶ Muon neutrino disappearance now compatible with maximal
- ▶ Very competitive measurement of  $\Delta m_{32}^2$
- ▶  $\nu_e$  appearance favours NH,  $\delta_{CP} \sim 3\pi/2$
- ▶ IH at  $\delta_{CP} = \pi/2$  disfavoured at  $>3\sigma$ , approaching  $2\sigma$  IH rejection
- ▶ Syst. reductions from testbeam this year
- ▶ Opening large sample of antineutrinos at Neutrino 2018
- ▶ Stay tuned!



[www-nova.fnal.gov](http://www-nova.fnal.gov)

Thank you!



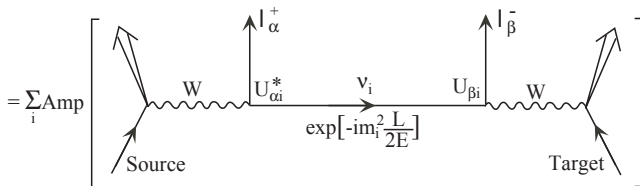
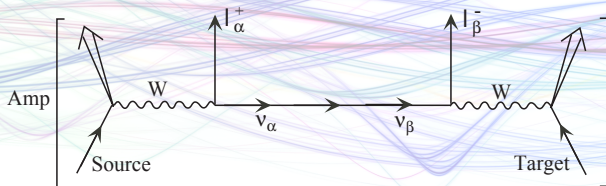
Backup



# Particle physics confidence levels

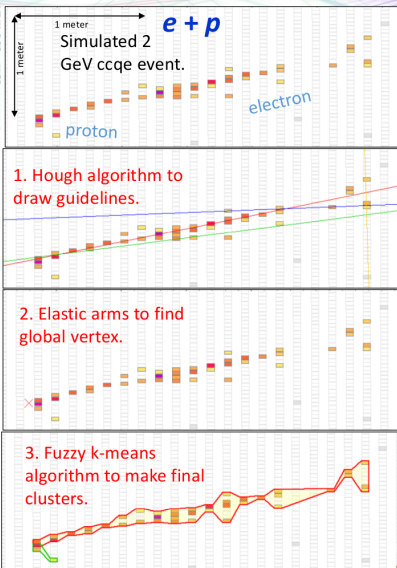
Significance	Confidence level
$1\sigma$	68.3%
$2\sigma$	95.5%
$3\sigma$	99.7%
$4\sigma$	99.994%
$5\sigma$	99.99994%

# Neutrino oscillations



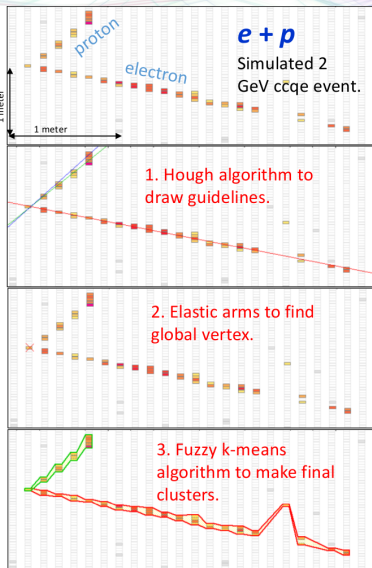
$$P_{\alpha\beta} = \left| \sum_i U_{\alpha i}^* e^{-im_i^2 L / 2E} U_{\beta i} \right|^2$$

# Event reconstruction



- ▶ First cluster hits in space and time
- ▶ Start with 2-point Hough transform
  - ▶ Line-crossing are vertex seeds
- ▶ ElasticArms finds vertex
- ▶ Fuzzy  $k$ -means clustering forms prongs
- ▶  $\nu_\mu$  analysis uses a Kalman filter to reconstruct any muon track

# Event reconstruction



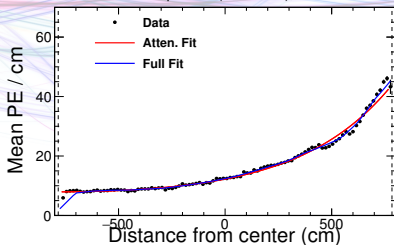
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# Calibration and energy scale

- ▶ Response varies substantially along cell due to light atten.
- ▶ Use cosmic ray muons as a standard candle to calibrate 300,000 channels individually
- ▶ Use  $dE/dx$  near the end of stopping muon to set abs. scale

NOvA Preliminary

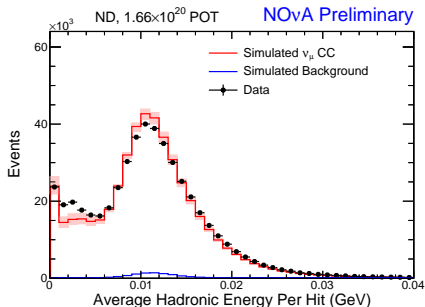
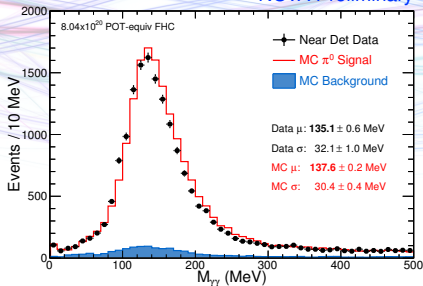
FD cosmic data - plane 2 (horizontal), cell 376



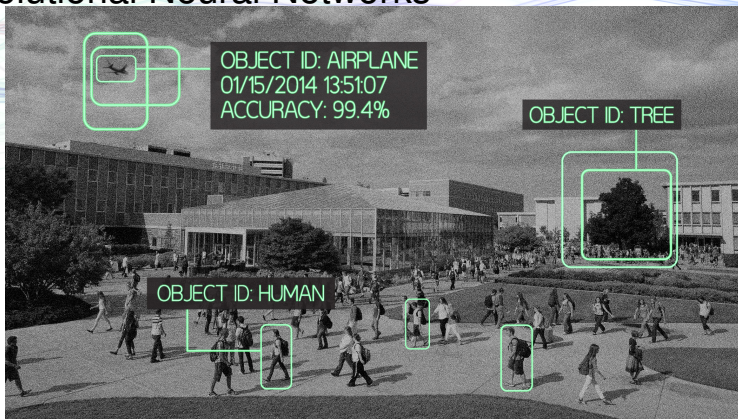
# Calibration and energy scale

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- ▶ Use  $dE/dx$  near the end of stopping muon to set abs. scale
- ▶ Multiple calibration x-checks
  - ▶ Beam muon  $dE/dx$
  - ▶ Michel energy spectrum
  - ▶  $\pi^0$  mass peak
  - ▶ Hadronic energy/hit
- ▶ Take 5% abs. and rel. errors on energy scale



# Convolutional Neural Networks



- ▶ Recent advances in machine learning/computer vision
- ▶ Achieving near-human performance on image classification tasks
- ▶ Why not classify event-displays?
- ▶ **CNN** – deep neural network, inputs are the pixels of the image
- ▶ Take advantage of translational invariance → convolutions

# Convolutional Neural Networks

$$\frac{1}{8} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & +8 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Edge-detection  
kernel



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# Convolutional Neural Networks

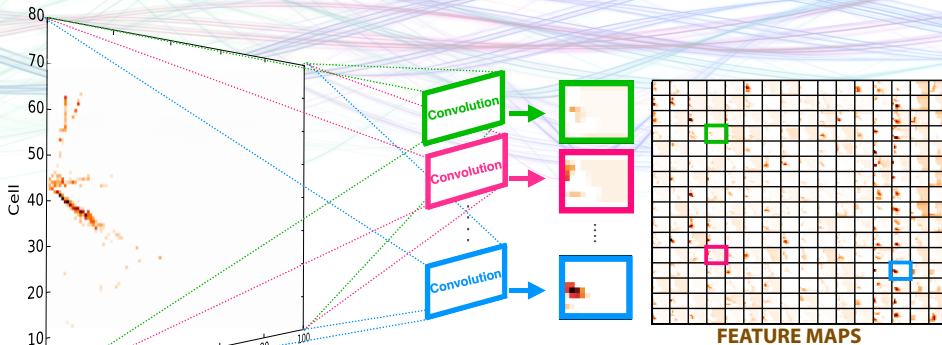
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Edge-detection  
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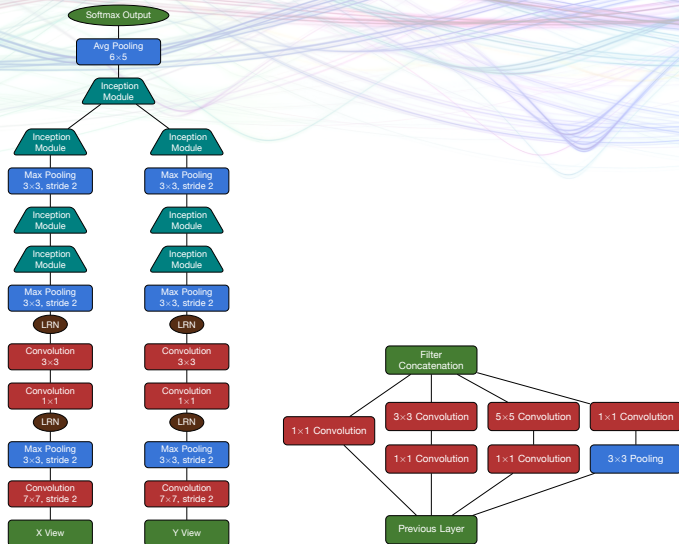
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# Convolutional Neural Networks

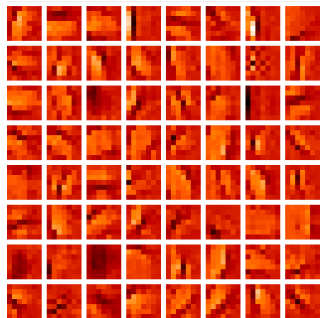
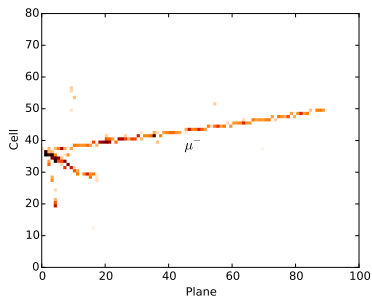


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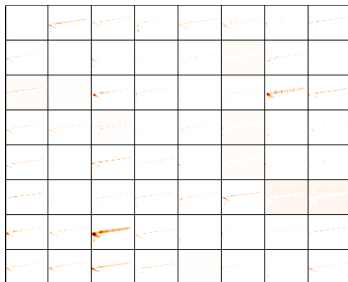
# CVN architecture



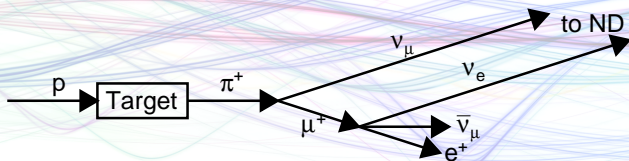
# CVN example



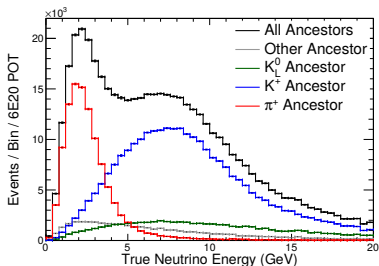
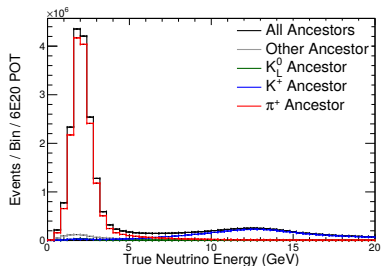
==



# ND decomposition – beam $\nu_e$

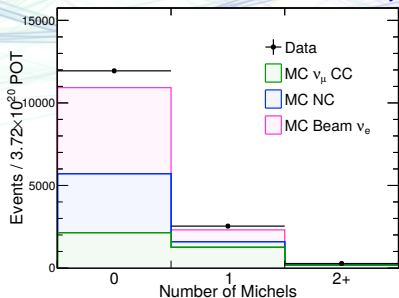


- ▶ Low- $E$   $\nu_\mu$  and  $\nu_e$  trace back to the same  $\pi^+$  ancestors

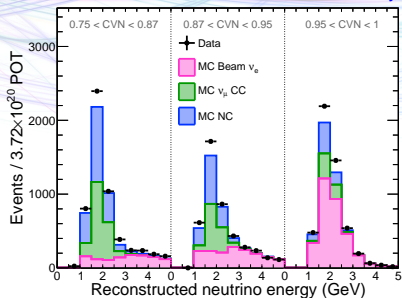


# ND decomposition – Michels

NOvA Preliminary



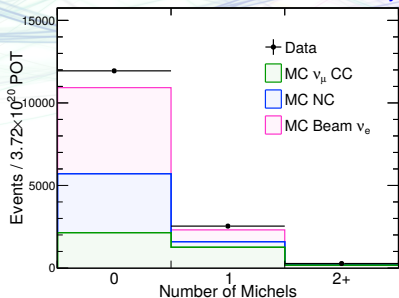
NOvA Preliminary



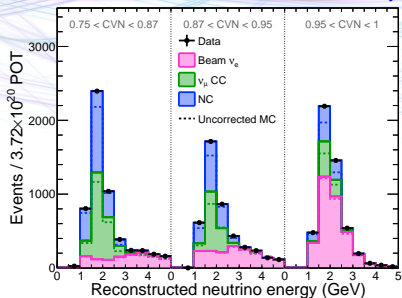
- ▶  $\nu_\mu$  CC background events have Michel electron from muon decay
- ▶ Also produced in  $\nu_e$  CC and NC by pions, but  $\nu_\mu$  have  $\sim 1$  more
- ▶ Fit observed  $N_{\text{michel}}$  spectrum in each bin by varying components
- ▶  $\nu_e$  and NC near-degenerate, fix  $\nu_e$  to parent-reweight estimate

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NOvA Preliminary



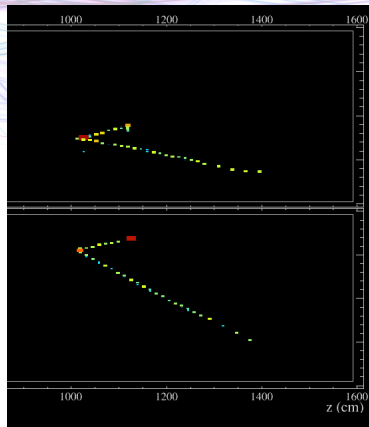
NOvA Preliminary



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## $\nu_e$ selection efficiency – MRE

- ▶ EM showers should be well modelled
- ▶ Any  $\nu_e$  signal efficiency differences coming from the hadronic side?
- ▶ Remove muon from clear  $\nu_\mu$  CC events in ND, replace with simulated shower

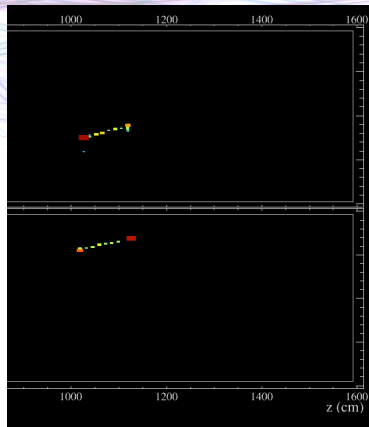


- ▶  $\mathcal{O}(1\%)$  efficiency difference to select MRE data/MC events



## $\nu_e$ selection efficiency – MRE

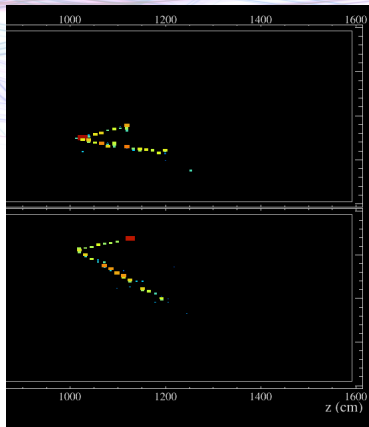
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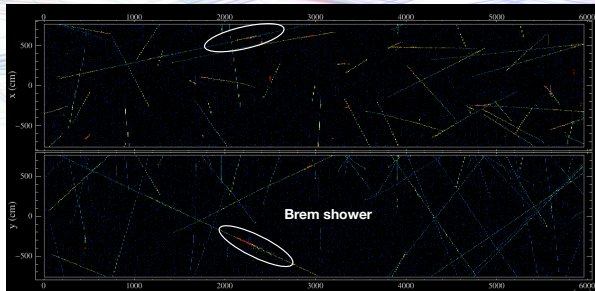
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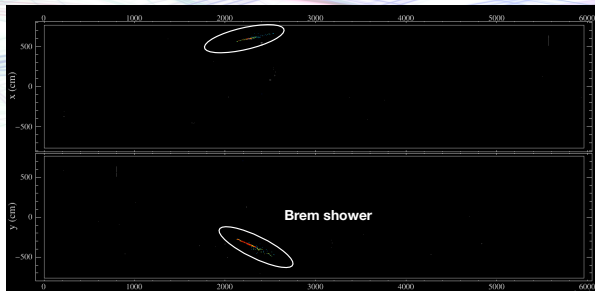
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## $\nu_e$ selection efficiency – EM activity

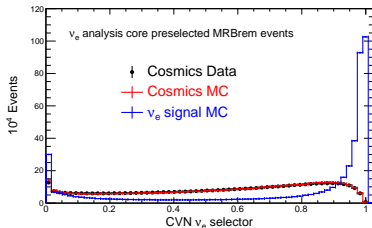


- Find FD data cosmic rays w/ brems

# $\nu_e$ selection efficiency – EM activity



- ▶ Find FD data cosmic rays w/ brems
- ▶ Remove  $\mu$  leaving pure EM activity
- ▶ Run through PID in data and MC
- ▶ Very good agreement



# Evolution of $\nu_\mu$ result

## $\nu_\mu$ Result- Comparison To Previous Result

50 

A. Radovic, JETP January 2018

Our previous result\*:

**2.6 $\sigma$**

*Our rejection of maximal mixing has moved from 2.6 $\sigma$  to 0.8 $\sigma$ . This change in the character of our result comes from a few key changes which I'll break down below.*

New simulation & Calibration:

$\sim 1.8\sigma$

*Driven by updates to energy response model. Drop to 2.3 $\sigma$  expected due to new energy resolution. Additionally we have  $<70 \text{ MeV}>$  shift in our hadronic energy response. This energy shift would be expected to move 0.5 events out of the "dip" region. However it instead pushes 3 "dip" events past a bin boundary.*

New selection and analysis:

$\sim 0.5\sigma$

*For combined analysis changes 5% of pseudo-experiments in a MC study had this size shift or larger. This probability is driven by a low expected overlap in background events, and to second order the addition of resolution bins.*

Full dataset:

$\sim 0.4\sigma$

Full dataset\*:

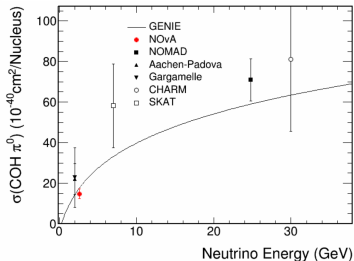
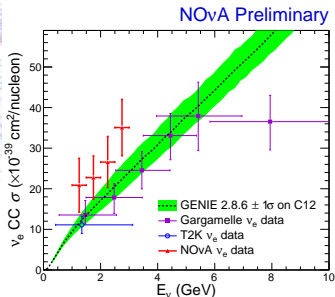
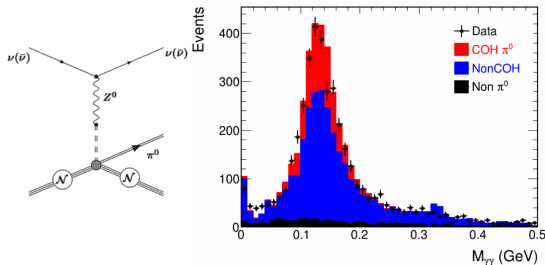
**0.8 $\sigma$**

*New,  $3 \times 10^{20}$  POT, data prefers maximal mixing.*

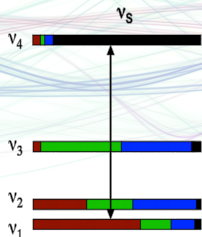
\*Feldman-cousins corrected significance.

# Cross-sections

- ▶ Neutrino cross-sections poorly known
- ▶ Learn about nuclear physics
- ▶ Interpretation of other experiments
- ▶ Important for precision future
- ▶ High powered beam, fine-grained ND
- ▶ Many channels to study

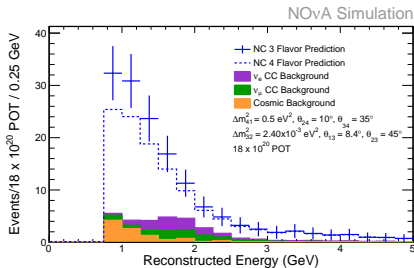


# Sterile neutrinos



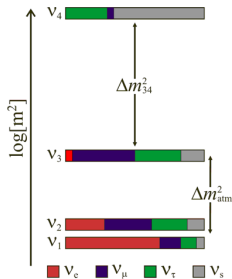
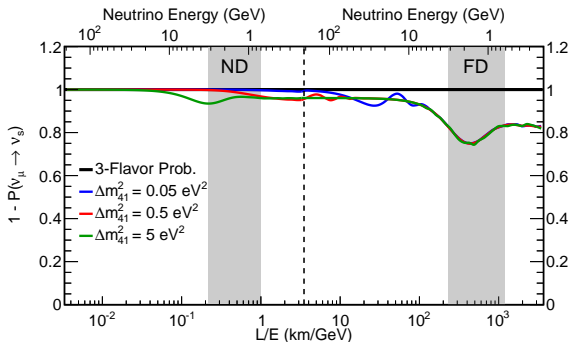
- ▶ More than the standard three neutrino states?
- ▶ There can only be three light “active” flavors
- ▶ “Sterile” neutrinos natural in some models

- ▶  $\nu_\mu$  disappearance isn't entirely to  $\nu_s$ , we see  $\nu_e$  appear, OPERA sees  $\sim$  expected number of  $\nu_\tau$
- ▶ Could be a smaller admixture. Wouldn't interact even by NC, look for a deficit in FD and ND
- ▶ Hints for  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$  at a small rate over short  $L$ , look in ND



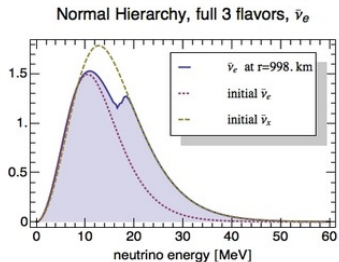
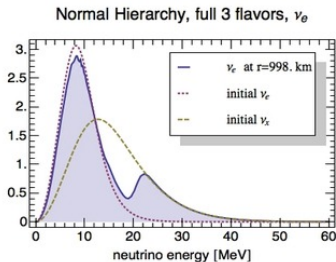
# Principle of the NC measurement

- ▶ Where do those  $\nu_\mu$  go?
- ▶ Do any oscillate to a sterile state? ( $\nu_s$ )
- ▶ NC spectrum unaffected by oscillations among active flavours
- ▶ Select NC events in ND, extrapolate to FD prediction
- ▶ Count NC events in FD, compare to prediction
- ▶ Fix  $\Delta m_{41}^2 = 0.5 \text{ eV}^2$ , rapid osc in FD, minimal in ND

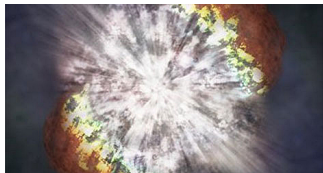




# Supernova neutrinos

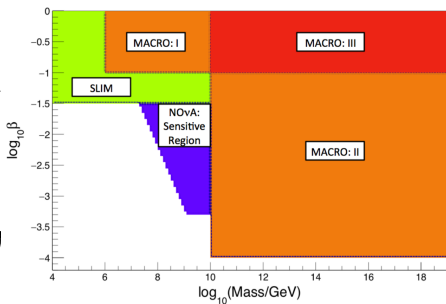
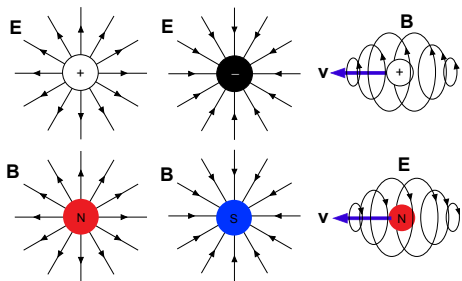


- ▶ Last (near)galactic supernova SN1987a
- ▶ 19  $\nu$ s observed (Kamiokande and IMB)
- ▶ Detectors have improved a lot, expect 1000s of events
- ▶ Low  $E$  for NOvA, hook into SNEWS
- ▶ Astrophysical and  $\nu$  information
- ▶ Expected rate “few / century”

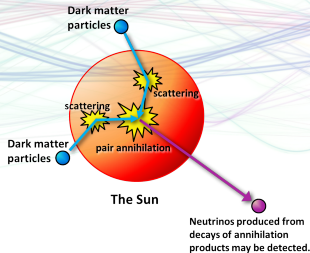


# Monopole search

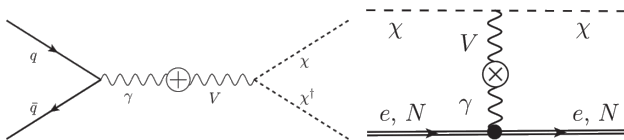
- ▶ Magnetic monopole would produce straight track with high  $dE/dx$
- ▶ High mass monopole would travel notably slowly
- ▶ Large detector on surface  $\rightarrow$  lower mass range



# Dark matter



- ▶ DM annihilation in sun produces neutrinos visible in the detector
- ▶ High cosmic ray rate → look for upward events at night
- ▶ Same directional sensitivity used for atmospheric neutrinos



- ▶ Light dark matter could be produced in the target by the beam
- ▶ Interact in the Near Detector
- ▶ Sensitive to mass range below threshold of direct-detection expts