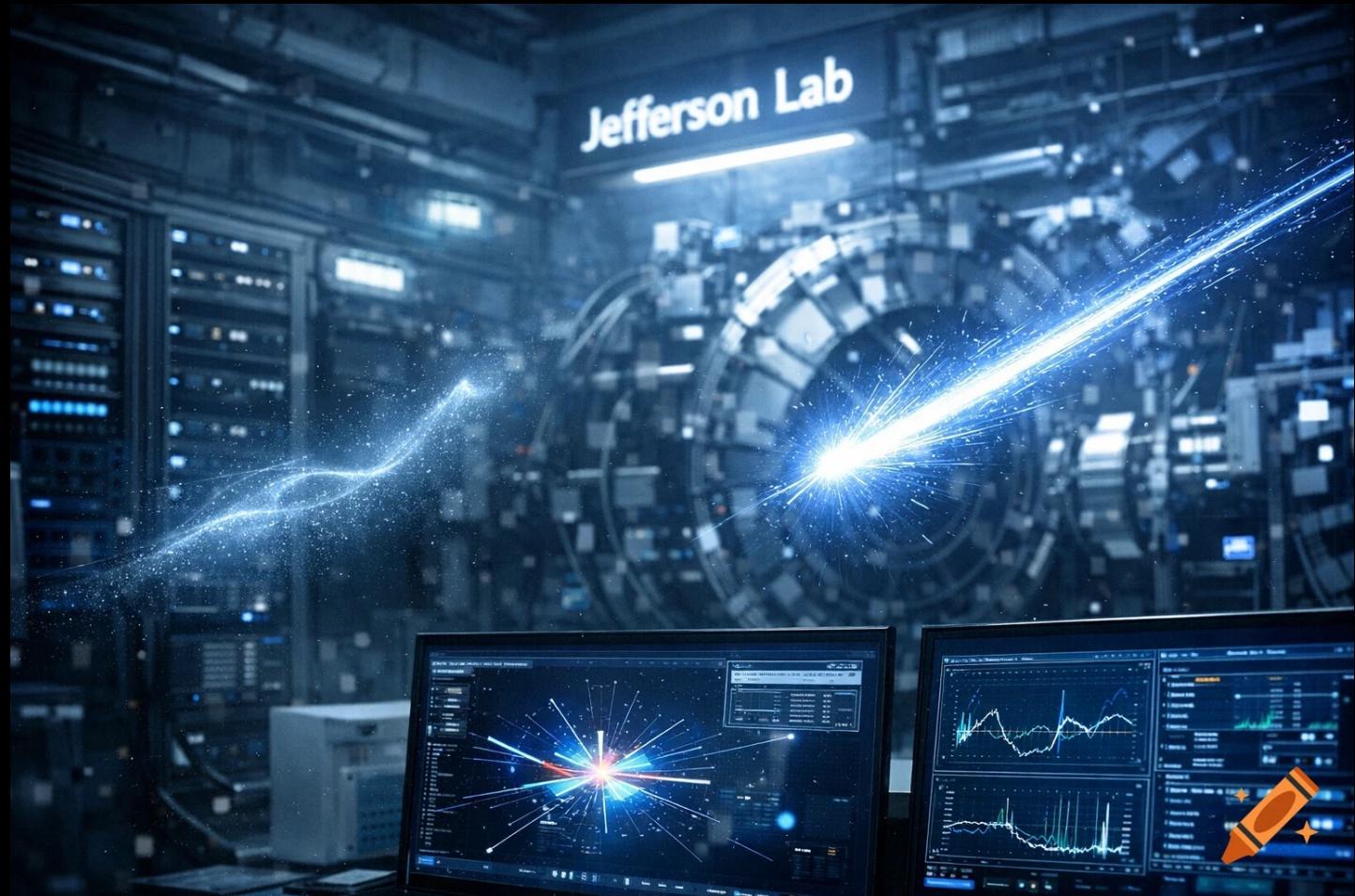


# Neutrino Measurements and Their Connection to Electron Beam Measurements From Facilities Like Jefferson Lab

Kate Scholberg,  
Duke University

JLab Hall A  
Collaboration  
Meeting  
January 22, 2026



craiyon.ai's concept of this talk title

# Two main areas I will discuss:

**Area 1: electron-nucleus scattering to inform understanding of neutrino-nucleus interactions, primarily for  $\nu$  oscillation physics (~GeV scale)**

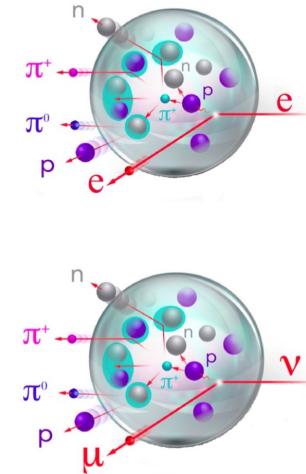
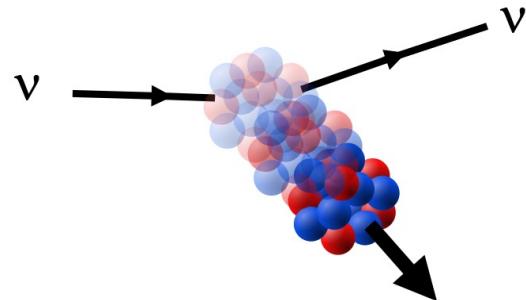


Image credit: J. Vidal



**Area 2: neutrino-nucleus elastic scattering for electroweak physics, BSM and nuclear structure, complementary to PVES (~10s of MeV scale)**

## But first... big picture of neutrino physics

# Science Drivers in Neutrino Physics



**Three-flavor paradigm:**  
filling in the remaining pieces



Hunting  
down  
**anomalies**



Searching  
for **BSM**  
physics



Understanding  
**astrophysics**  
and **cosmology**

# What do we know about neutrinos?

$$\begin{pmatrix} e \\ \nu_e \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mu \\ \nu_\mu \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \tau \\ \nu_\tau \end{pmatrix}$$

neutral partners  
to the charged leptons

- **They have mass and mix**

3 flavor states, 3 mass states  
describe flavor change

$$|\nu_f\rangle = \sum_{i=1}^N U_{fi}^* |\nu_i\rangle$$

- **The mass is tiny...** from lab experiments,  $\Sigma m < 2.4$  eV

3 masses

$m_1, m_2, m_3$   
(2 mass differences  
+ absolute scale)

signs of the  
mass differences  
matter

3 mixing angles

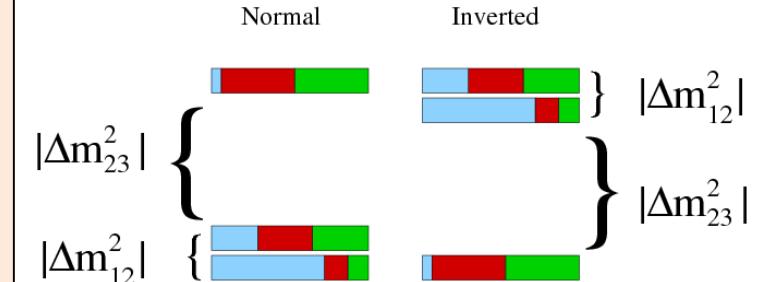
$\theta_{23}, \theta_{12}, \theta_{13}$

1 CP phase

$\delta$

(2 Majorana phases)

$\alpha_1, \alpha_2$



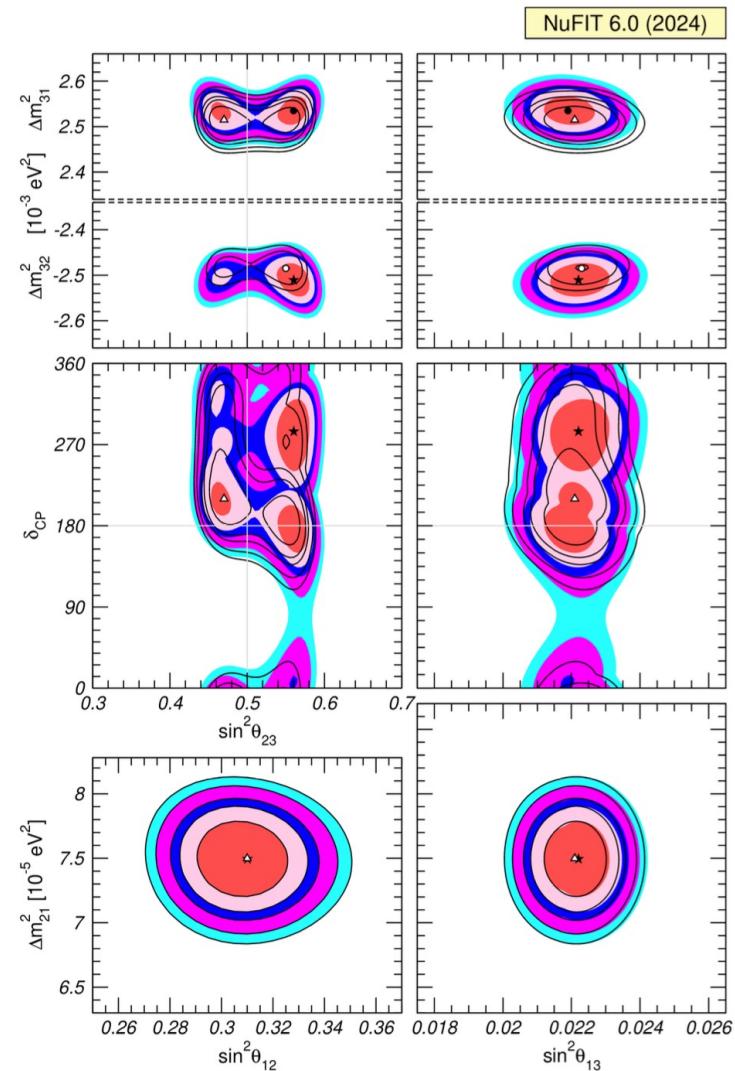
# The three-flavor picture fits the data well

## Global three-flavor fits to all data

	Normal Ordering (best fit)		Inverted Ordering ( $\Delta\chi^2 = 6.1$ )	
	bfp $\pm 1\sigma$	$3\sigma$ range	bfp $\pm 1\sigma$	$3\sigma$ range
$\sin^2 \theta_{12}$	$0.308^{+0.012}_{-0.011}$	$0.275 \rightarrow 0.345$	$0.308^{+0.012}_{-0.011}$	$0.275 \rightarrow 0.345$
$\theta_{12}/^\circ$	$33.68^{+0.73}_{-0.70}$	$31.63 \rightarrow 35.95$	$33.68^{+0.73}_{-0.70}$	$31.63 \rightarrow 35.95$
$\sin^2 \theta_{23}$	$0.470^{+0.017}_{-0.013}$	$0.435 \rightarrow 0.585$	$0.550^{+0.012}_{-0.015}$	$0.440 \rightarrow 0.584$
$\theta_{23}/^\circ$	$43.3^{+1.0}_{-0.8}$	$41.3 \rightarrow 49.9$	$47.9^{+0.7}_{-0.9}$	$41.5 \rightarrow 49.8$
$\sin^2 \theta_{13}$	$0.02215^{+0.00056}_{-0.00058}$	$0.02030 \rightarrow 0.02388$	$0.02231^{+0.00056}_{-0.00056}$	$0.02060 \rightarrow 0.02409$
$\theta_{13}/^\circ$	$8.56^{+0.11}_{-0.11}$	$8.19 \rightarrow 8.89$	$8.59^{+0.11}_{-0.11}$	$8.25 \rightarrow 8.93$
$\delta_{\text{CP}}/^\circ$	$212^{+26}_{-41}$	$124 \rightarrow 364$	$274^{+22}_{-25}$	$201 \rightarrow 335$
$\frac{\Delta m_{21}^2}{10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2}$	$7.49^{+0.19}_{-0.19}$	$6.92 \rightarrow 8.05$	$7.49^{+0.19}_{-0.19}$	$6.92 \rightarrow 8.05$
$\frac{\Delta m_{3\ell}^2}{10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2}$	$+2.513^{+0.021}_{-0.019}$	$+2.451 \rightarrow +2.578$	$-2.484^{+0.020}_{-0.020}$	$-2.547 \rightarrow -2.421$

$$\Delta m_{3\ell}^2 \equiv \Delta m_{31}^2 > 0 \text{ for NO and } \Delta m_{3\ell}^2 \equiv \Delta m_{32}^2 < 0 \text{ for IO.}$$

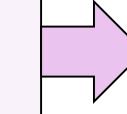
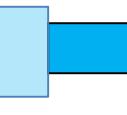
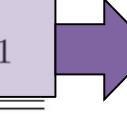
Esteban *et al.*, JHEP 12 (2024) 216, [2410.05380](#) [hep-ph]



Extensive flavor-change data from the Sun, reactors, atmospheric neutrinos & beams\*

\*Some experimental anomalies...hints of new states or interactions in the data ...?

# What do we *not* know about the 3-flavor paradigm?

	Normal Ordering (best fit)		Inverted Ordering ( $\Delta\chi^2 = 6.1$ )		IC24 with SK atmospheric data
	bfp $\pm 1\sigma$	$3\sigma$ range	bfp $\pm 1\sigma$	$3\sigma$ range	
$\sin^2 \theta_{12}$	$0.308_{-0.011}^{+0.012}$	$0.275 \rightarrow 0.345$	$0.308_{-0.011}^{+0.012}$	$0.275 \rightarrow 0.345$	
$\theta_{12}/^\circ$	$33.68_{-0.70}^{+0.73}$	$31.63 \rightarrow 35.95$	$33.68_{-0.70}^{+0.73}$	$31.63 \rightarrow 35.95$	
$\sin^2 \theta_{23}$	$0.470_{-0.013}^{+0.017}$	$0.435 \rightarrow 0.585$	$0.550_{-0.015}^{+0.012}$	$0.440 \rightarrow 0.584$	
$\theta_{23}/^\circ$	$43.3_{-0.8}^{+1.0}$	$41.3 \rightarrow 49.9$	$47.9_{-0.9}^{+0.7}$	$41.5 \rightarrow 49.8$	
$\sin^2 \theta_{13}$	$0.02215_{-0.00058}^{+0.00056}$	$0.02030 \rightarrow 0.02388$	$0.02231_{-0.00056}^{+0.00056}$	$0.02060 \rightarrow 0.02409$	
$\theta_{13}/^\circ$	$8.56_{-0.11}^{+0.11}$	$8.19 \rightarrow 8.89$	$8.59_{-0.11}^{+0.11}$	$8.25 \rightarrow 8.93$	
$\delta_{\text{CP}}/^\circ$	$212_{-41}^{+26}$	$124 \rightarrow 364$	$274_{-25}^{+22}$	$201 \rightarrow 335$	
$\frac{\Delta m_{21}^2}{10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2}$	$7.49_{-0.19}^{+0.19}$	$6.92 \rightarrow 8.05$	$7.49_{-0.19}^{+0.19}$	$6.92 \rightarrow 8.05$	
$\frac{\Delta m_{3\ell}^2}{10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2}$	$+2.513_{-0.019}^{+0.021}$	$+2.451 \rightarrow +2.578$	$-2.484_{-0.020}^{+0.020}$	$-2.547 \rightarrow -2.421$	

$\Delta m_{3\ell}^2 \equiv \Delta m_{31}^2 > 0$  for NO and  $\Delta m_{3\ell}^2 \equiv \Delta m_{32}^2 < 0$  for IO.

Is  $\theta_{23}$  non-negligibly greater or smaller than 45 deg?

poor knowledge

sign of  $\Delta m^2$  unknown (ordering of masses)

These questions can be answered by future osc expts

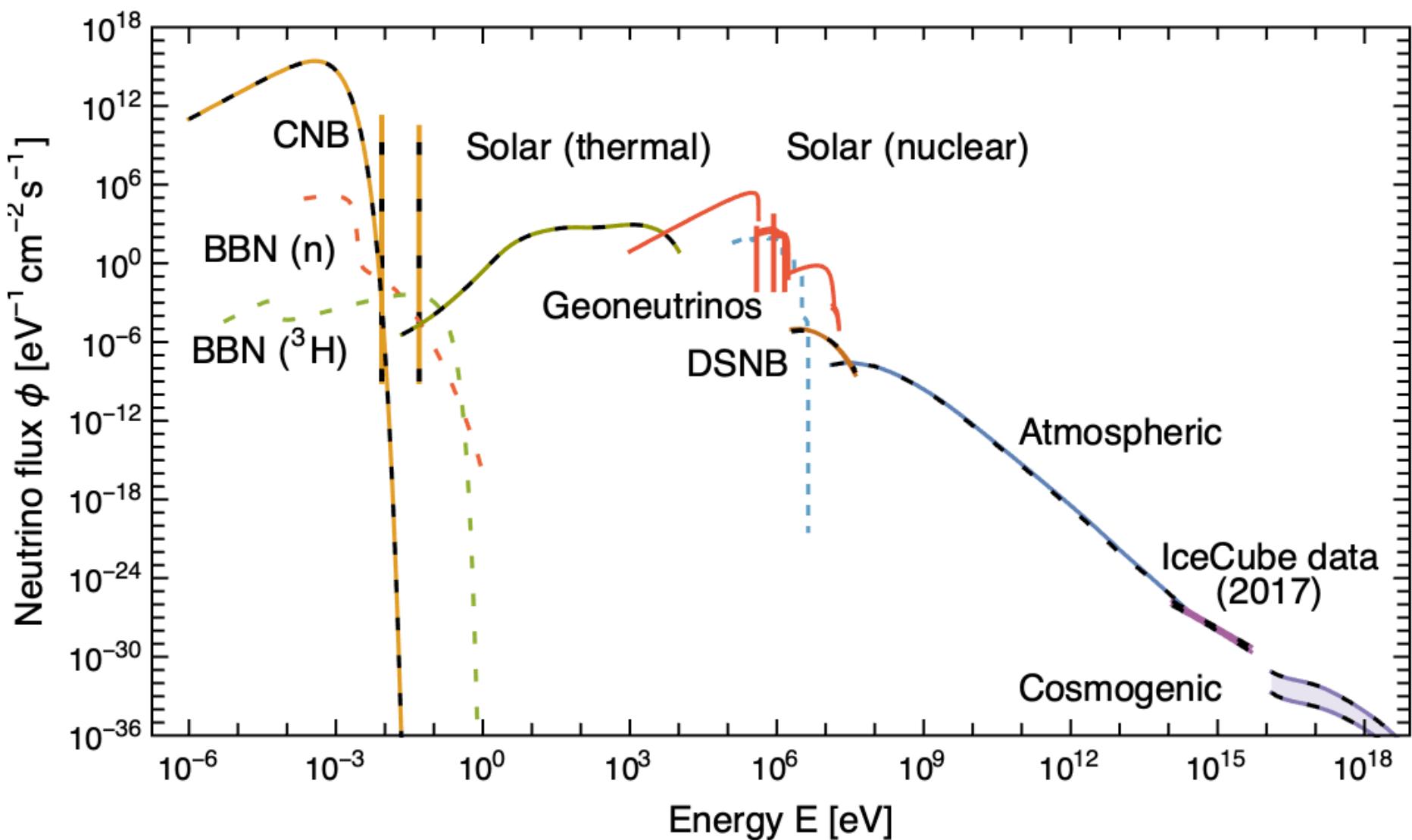
(long-baseline beams, reactors, astrophysical sources)

**Other unknowns:** (cannot answer w/osc expts)

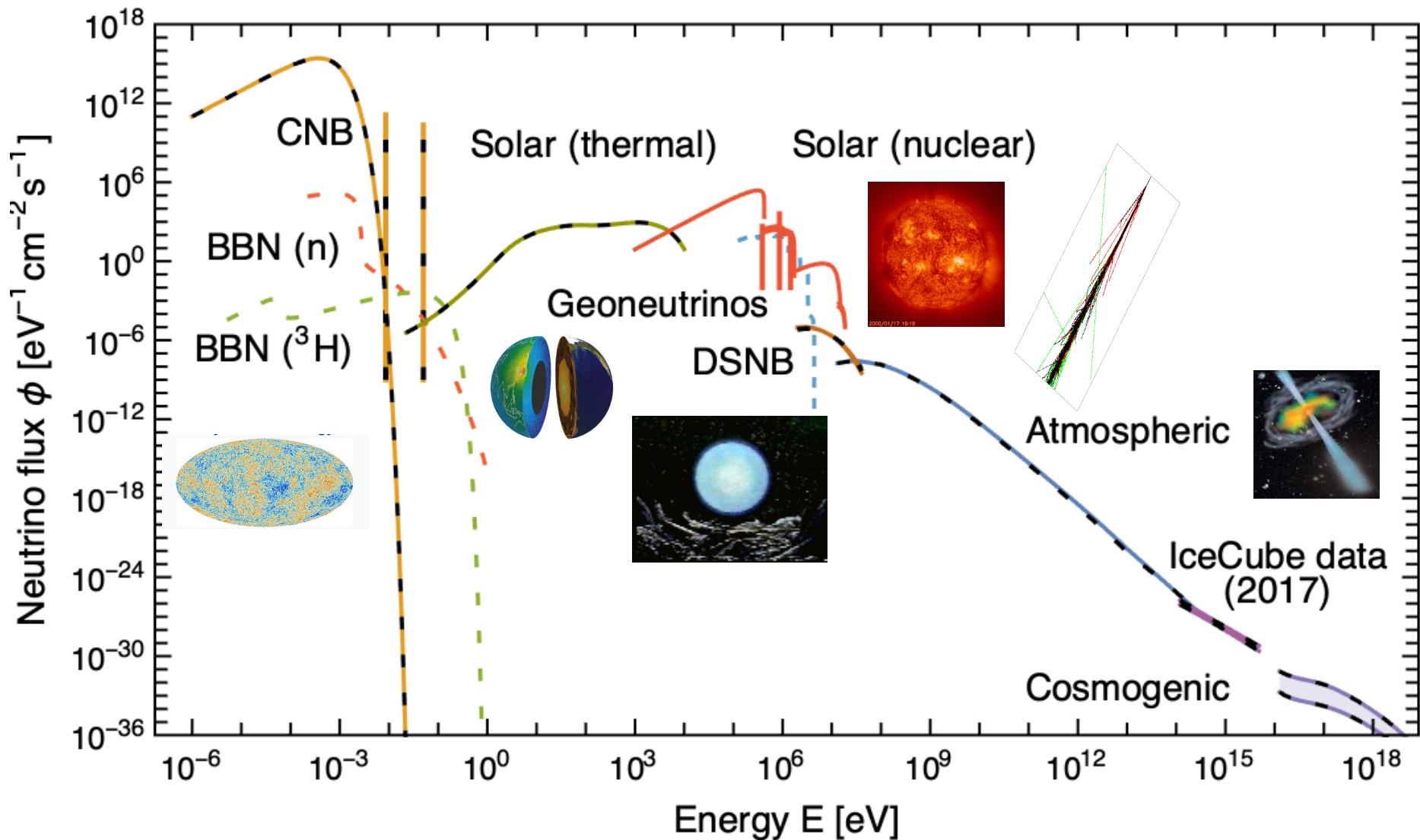
- absolute mass scale (kinematic endpoints & cosmology)
- Majorana vs Dirac nature ( $0\nu\beta\beta$ )

# Neutrinos pervade the Universe....

Grand Unified Neutrino Spectrum at Earth  
Edoardo Vitagliano, Irene Tamborra, Georg Raffelt. Oct 25, 2019. 54 pp.  
MPP-2019-205  
e-Print: [arXiv:1910.11878 \[astro-ph.HE\]](https://arxiv.org/abs/1910.11878) | [PDF](https://arxiv.org/pdf/1910.11878.pdf)

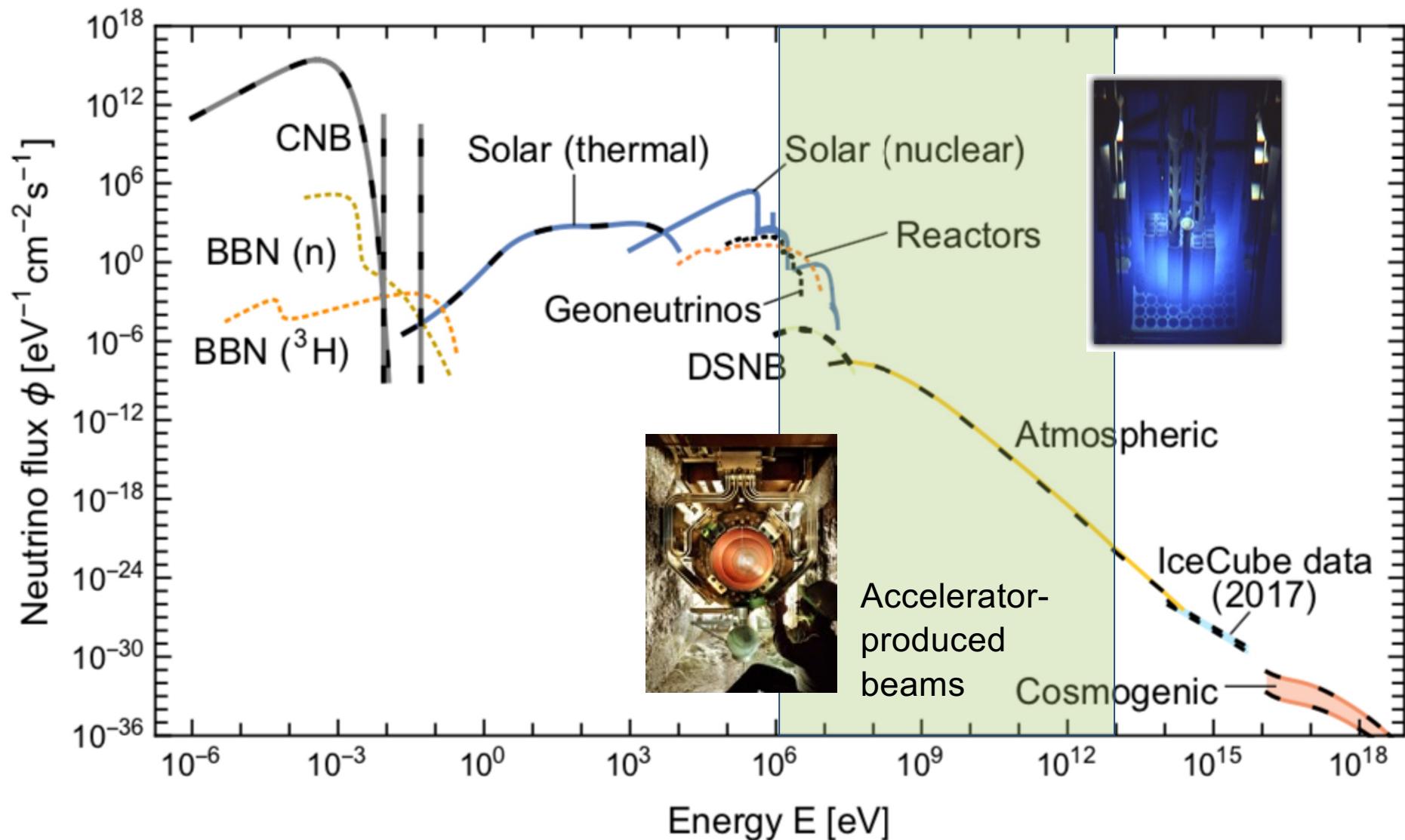


# Neutrinos from natural sources



- Information from deep inside astronomical objects
- Neutrino physics using well understood fluxes

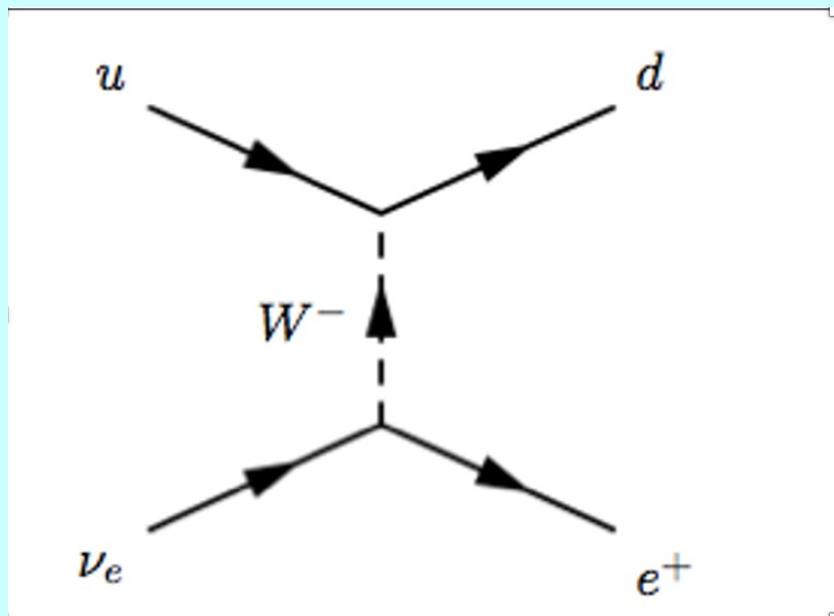
# Neutrinos from artificial sources



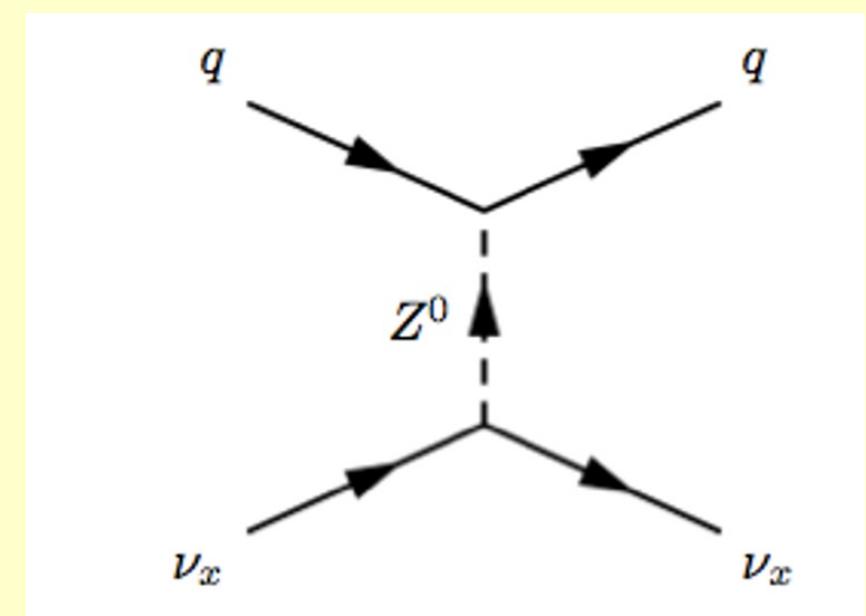
To do physics, **need to understand neutrino interactions w/ matter**  
over many orders of magnitude

# Neutrino Interactions with matter in the SM

## Charged Current (CC)



## Neutral Current (NC)



Cares about  $\nu$  flavor  
→ lepton in final state  
has same flavor as  $\nu$   
(must be kinematically allowed)

flavor-blind

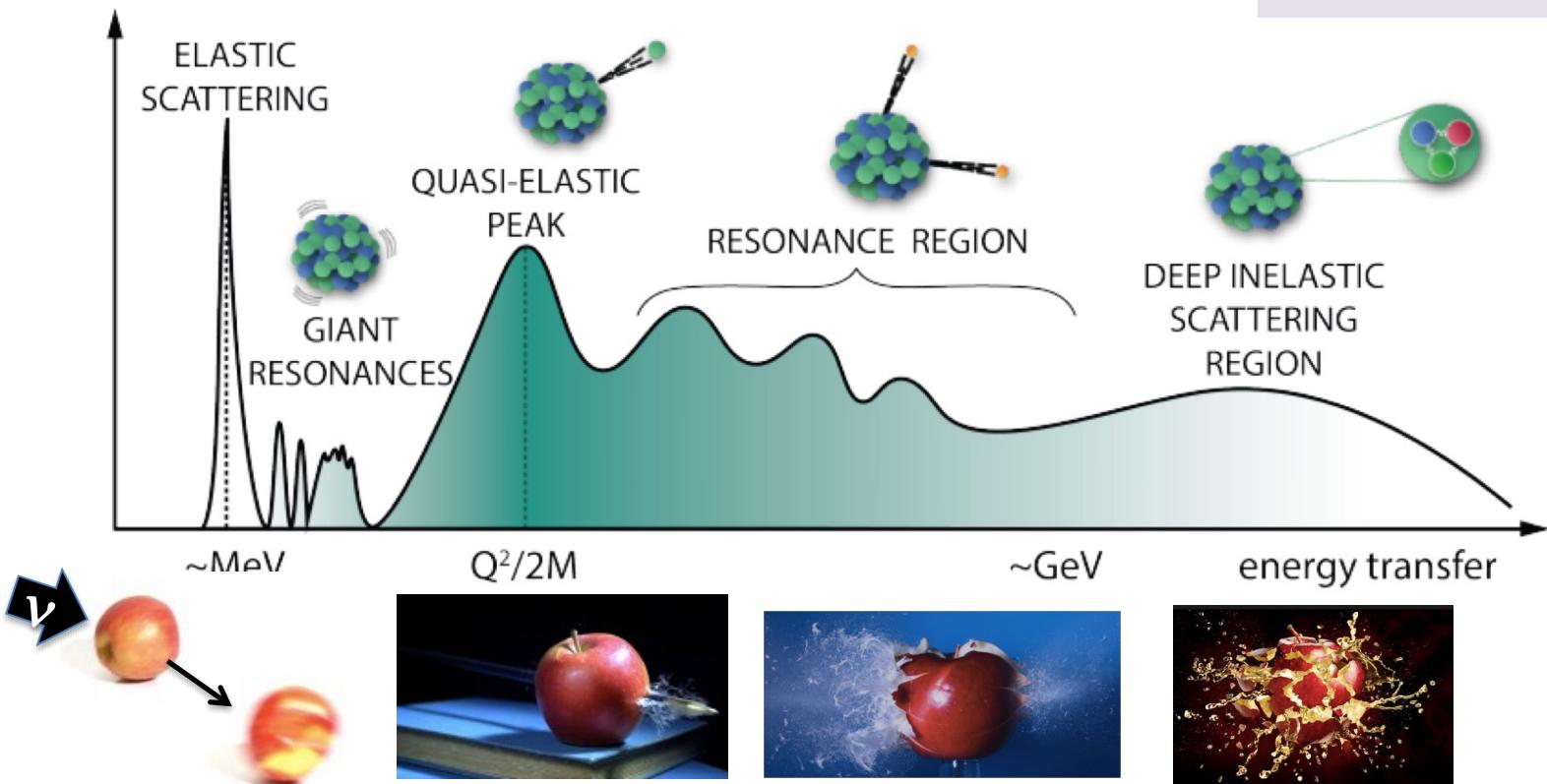
# Neutrino Interactions with Nuclei

Coherent elastic neutrino-nucleus scattering

Interactions with nuclei, minimally disruptive of the nucleus

Interactions with nucleons inside nuclei, often disruptive, hadroproduction

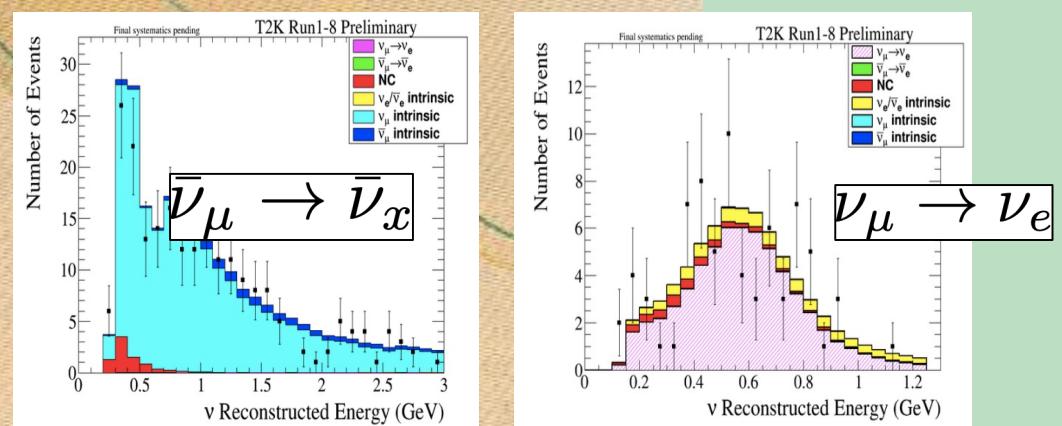
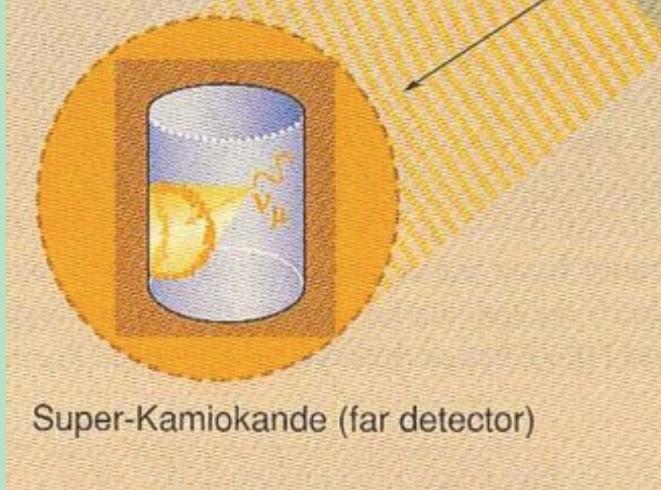
Deep Inelastic Scattering



The outstanding neutrino oscillation questions can be answered with  $\sim$ few GeV neutrinos over long ( $\sim$ 100-1000 km) baselines



Look for energy-dependent flavor appearance or disappearance at far site



# Long-baseline neutrino oscillation experiments

Past



**K2K**

KEK to Kamioka  
250 km, 5 kW



**MINOS (+)**

FNAL to Soudan  
734 km, 400+ kW



**CNGS**

CERN to LNGS  
730 km, 400 kW



Current



**NOvA**

FNAL to Ash River  
810 km, 400-900+ kW



**T2K**

J-PARC to Kamioka  
295 km, 380-830 kW  $\rightarrow$  >1 MW



Future



**LBNF/DUNE**

FNAL to Homestake

1300 km, 2-2.4 MW tunable



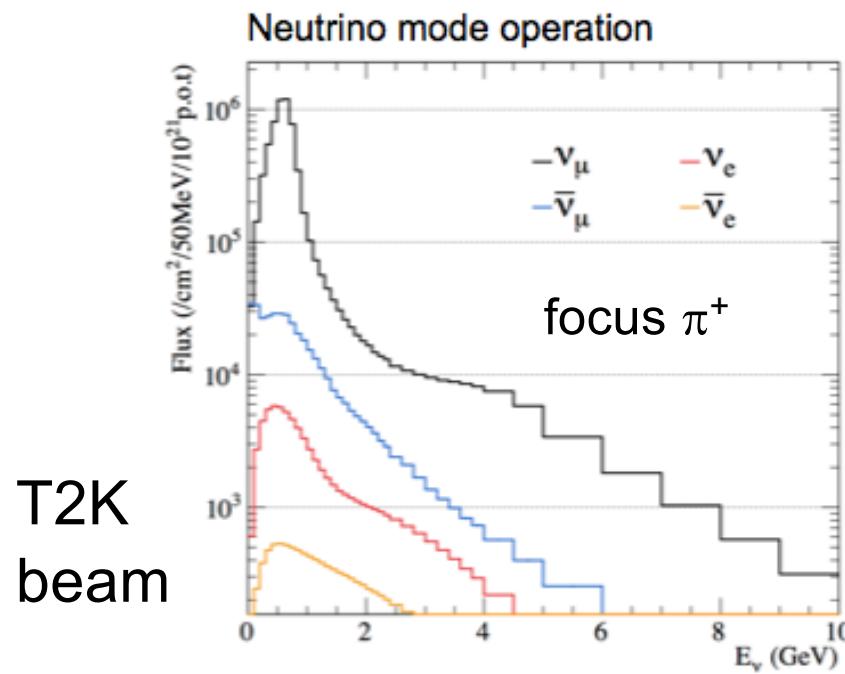
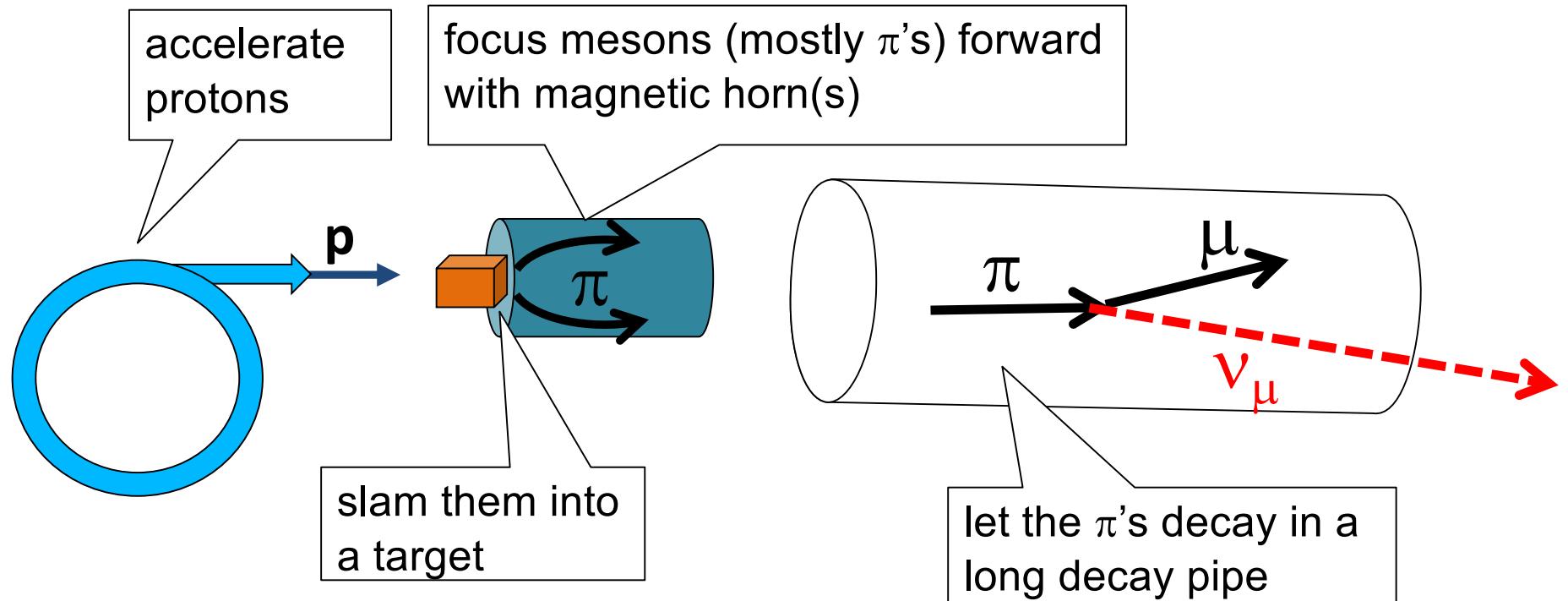
**Hyper-K**

J-PARC to Kamioka  
295 km, 750 kW  
 $\rightarrow$  1.3 MW



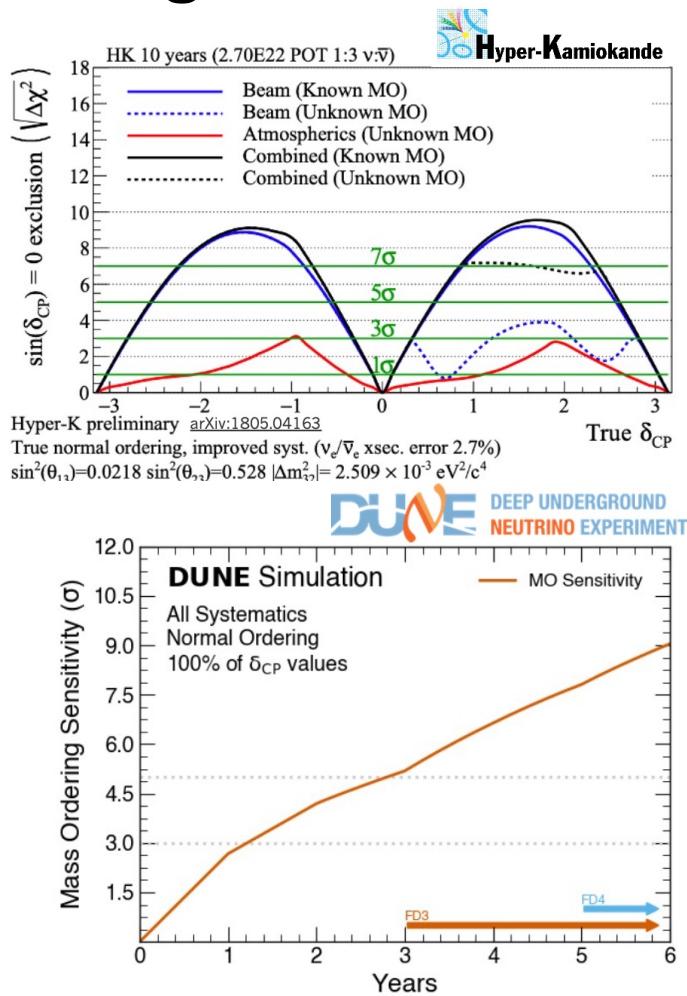
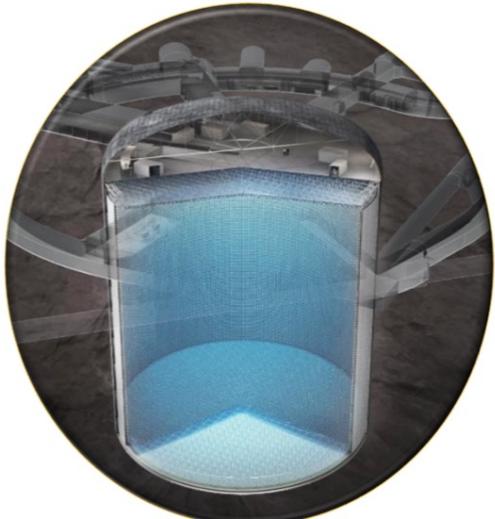
+ ESSvSB  
+ farther future  
nu factories...

# These make use of $\sim$ GeV neutrinos from $\pi$ decay in flight



Non-negligible uncertainties on flux normalization and spectrum...

# Next-generation long-baseline beam experiments



- both can also use atmospheric neutrinos\*
- both have suite of diverse near detectors
- both will measure precision 2-3 parameters
- both have broad non-oscillation physics programs

## Water Cherenkov

- 187 kt water
- Cavern completed
- Excellent CPV but CPV/MO degeneracy

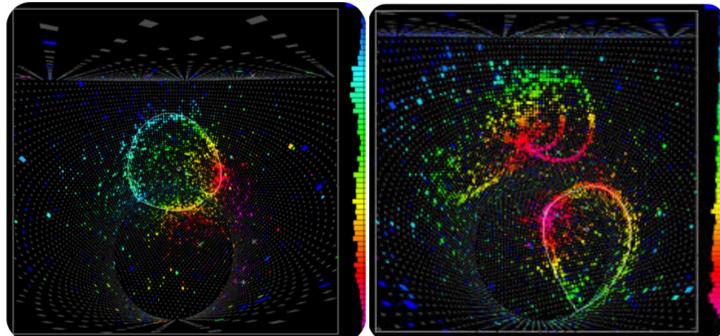
## Liquid Argon TPC

- 20-40 kt LAr
- Cavern completed
- Excellent MO sensitivity

\* Also KM3NeT, IceCube atmnuS

# Neutrino event reconstruction (energy, flavor)

## Water Cherenkov



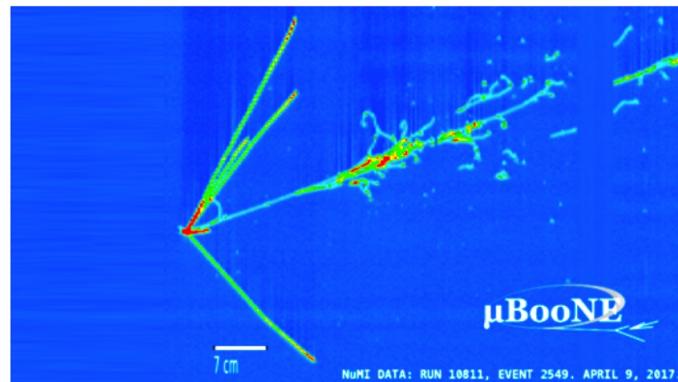
Heavy final-state particles  
lost due to Cherenkov threshold

Emphasis on QE interactions  
(just lepton in final state)

$$E_{QE} = \frac{2M\epsilon + 2ME_l - m_l^2}{2(M - E_l + |k_l| \cos \theta_l)}$$

In all cases, **understanding of (exclusive and inclusive) ν interaction cross-sections differential in energy and angle** matters for interpretation

## Liquid Argon TPC



Better calorimetric final-state  
particle reconstruction

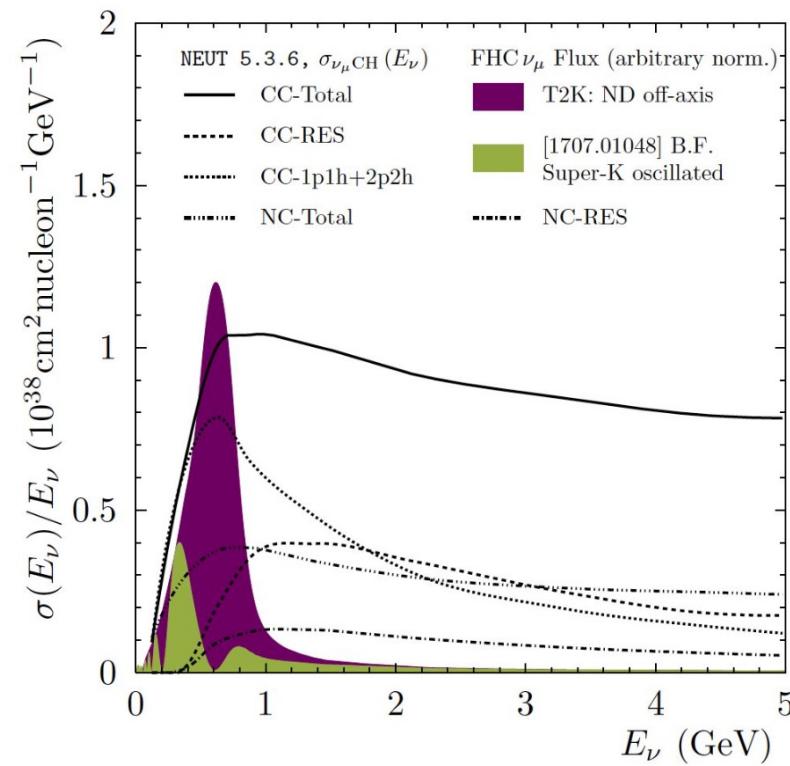
$$E_{\text{cal}} = E_l + E_p^{\text{kin}} + \epsilon_{[1p0\pi]}$$

$\epsilon$  is the nucleon separation energy  $\sim 20$  MeV

Oscillation depends on true  $\nu$  energy...

→ must reconstruct  $\nu$  energy from observed final state particles

The game is to compare observed  $\nu$  flavor and energy spectrum at near and far sites (observable is wiggles as a function of L and E)



K. Mahn,  
Snowmass  
Neutrino  
Colloquium

$$N_{FD}^{\alpha \rightarrow \beta}(E_{reco}) = \sum_i \phi_\alpha(E_{true}) \times \sigma_\beta^i(E_{true}) \times P_{\alpha\beta}(E_{true}) \times \epsilon_\beta(E_{true}) \times R_i(E_{true}; E_{reco})$$

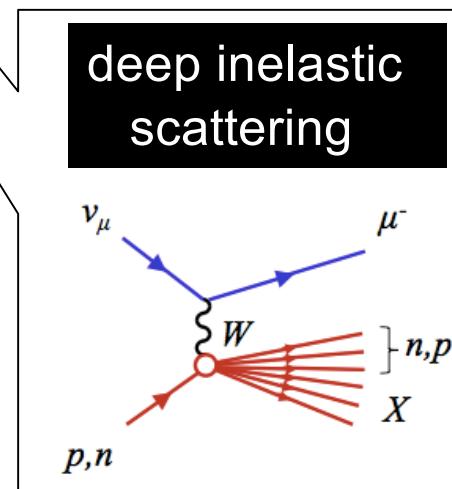
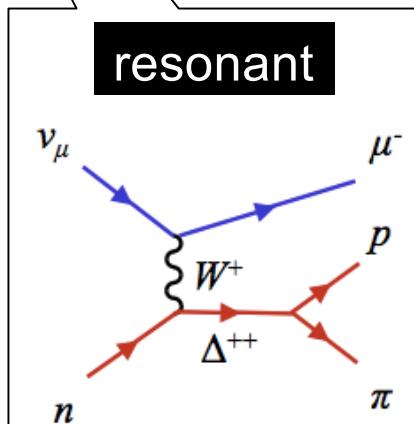
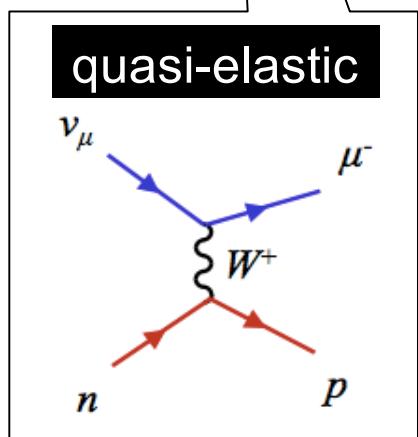
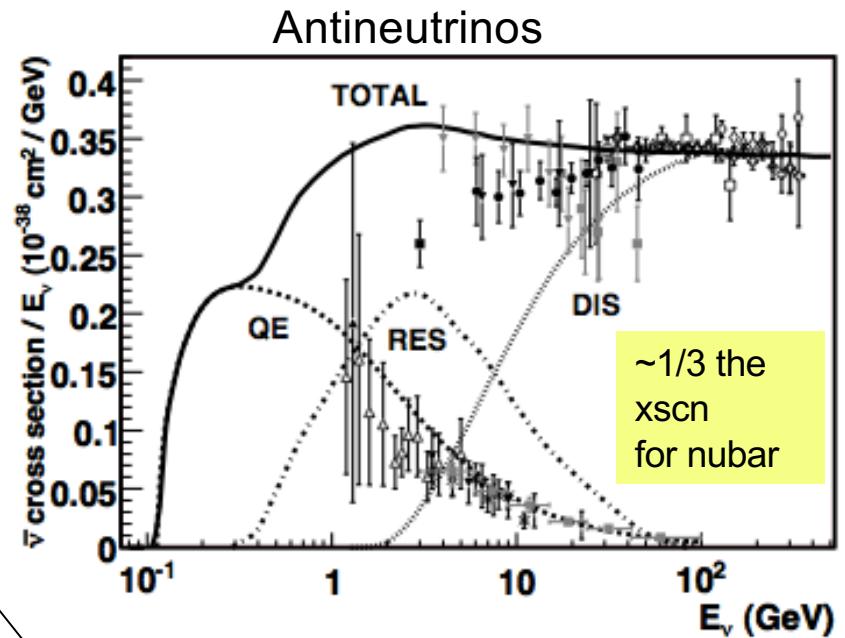
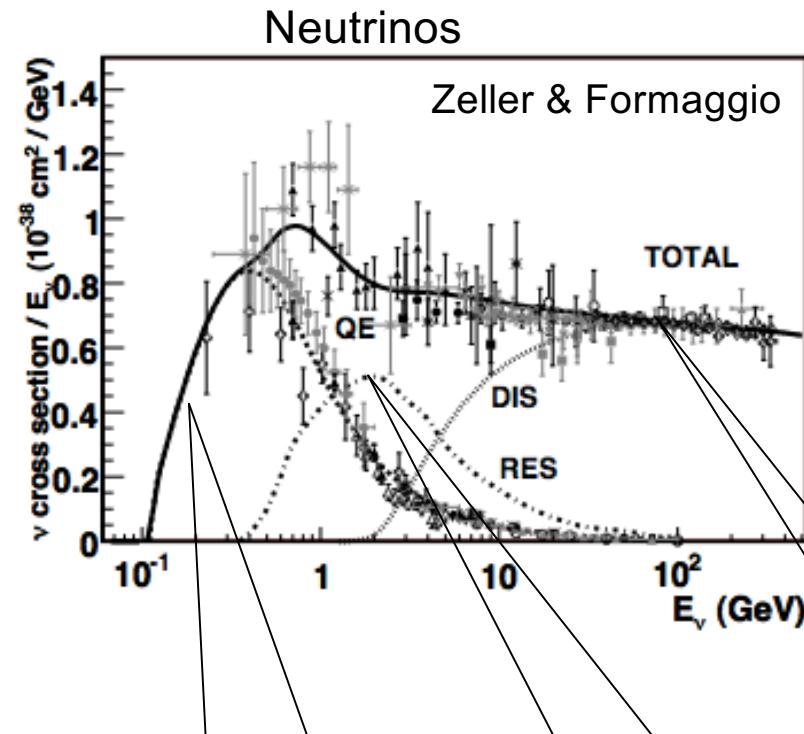
It's *critically important* to understand neutrino interactions with nuclei for interpretation of oscillation experiments

(there are near detector tricks to mitigate uncertainties, but it's hard to get away from needing good understanding)

# Interactions of neutrinos in the few-GeV range

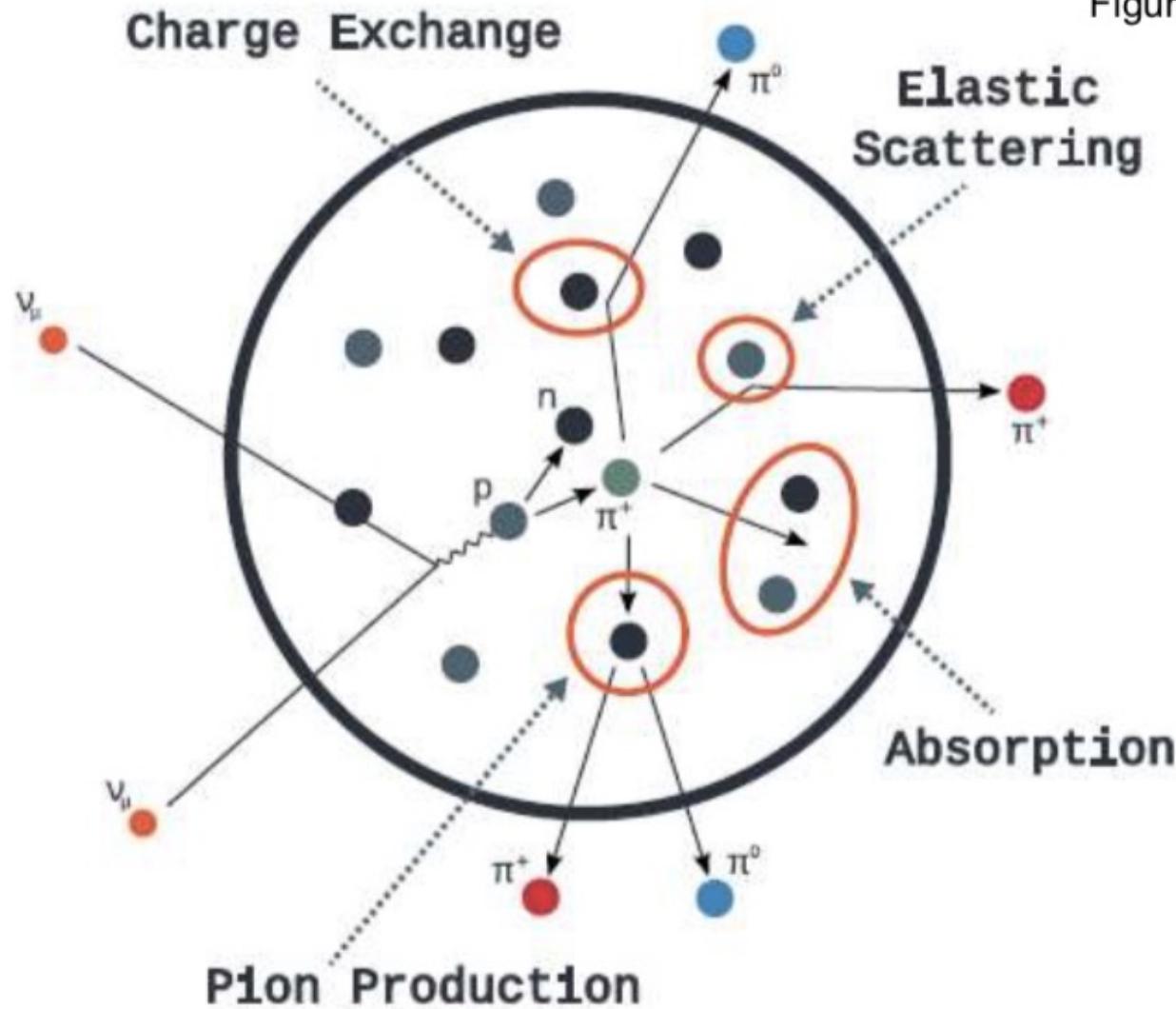


scattering off nucleons, but can blow up the nucleus & create new particles



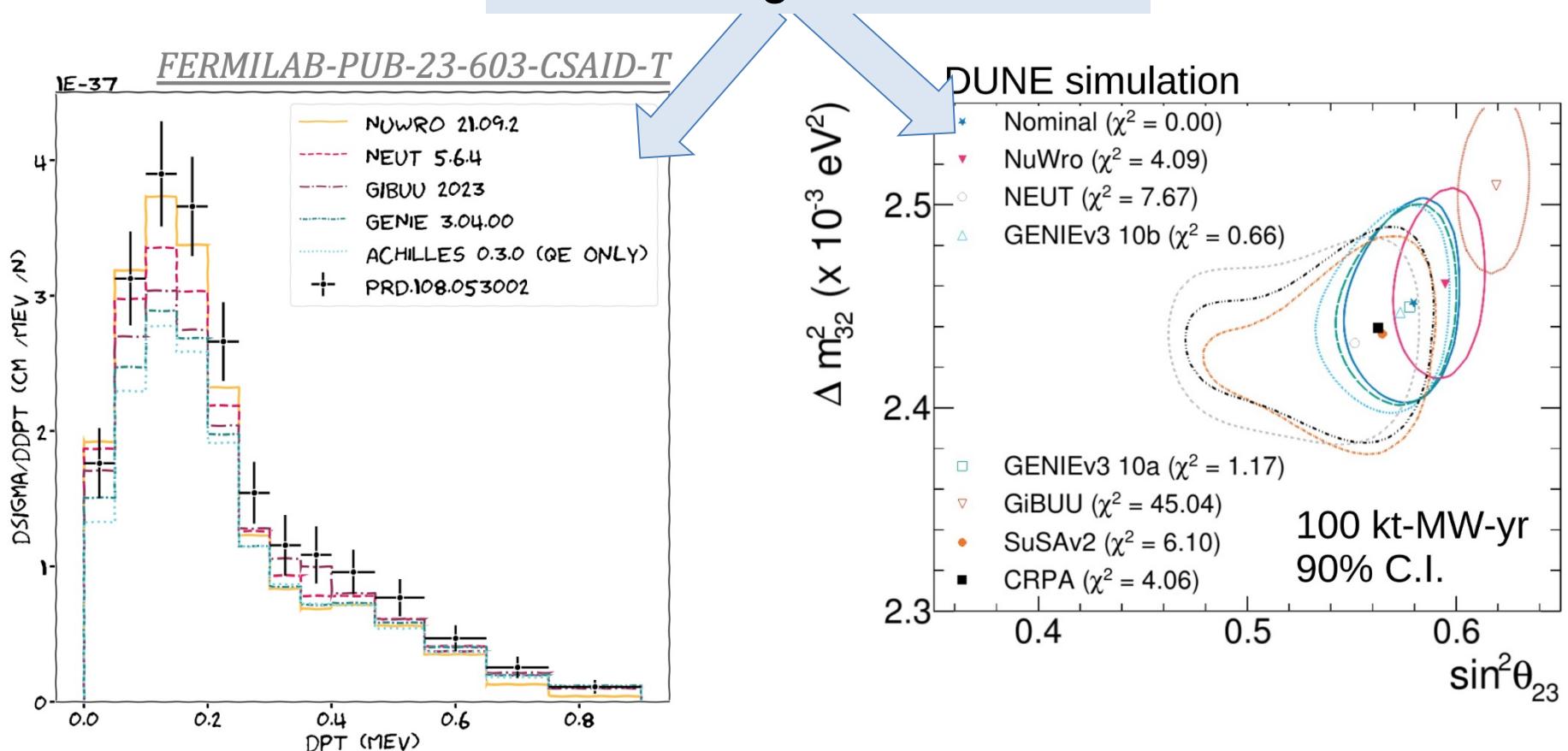
For neutrino-nucleus interactions in this regime  
have **final-state interactions** matter

Figure by Tomasz Golan



# Cross section uncertainties are limiting for oscillation parameter fits

Effect of different neutrino interaction generators



Example from J. Wolcott, NuInt 2025

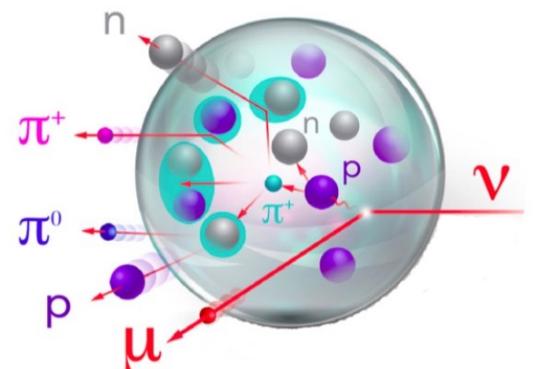
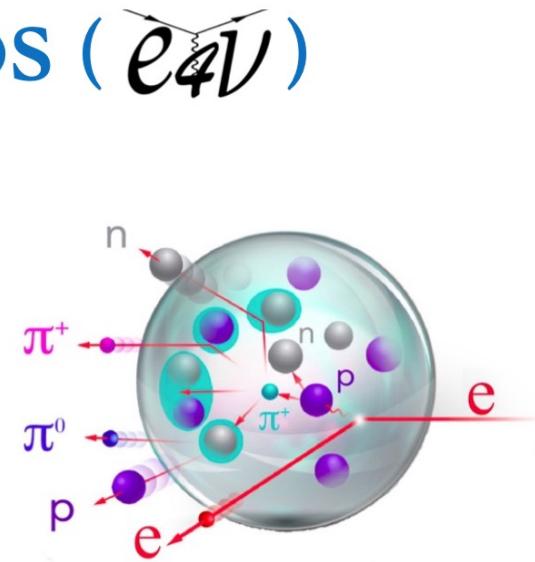
# Electrons for neutrinos ( $e4\nu$ )

- Same nuclear ground state
- Same Final State Interactions(FSI)
- Similar interactions with nuclei
  - CC weak current [vector + axial]
    - $j_\mu^\pm = \bar{u} \frac{-ig_W}{2\sqrt{2}} (\gamma^\mu - \gamma^\mu \gamma^5) u$
  - EM current [vector]
    - $j_\mu^{em} = \bar{u} \gamma^\mu u$

Useful to constrain  $\nu - A$  model uncertainties

- Monochromatic beam
- High statistics

Useful to test energy reconstruction methods

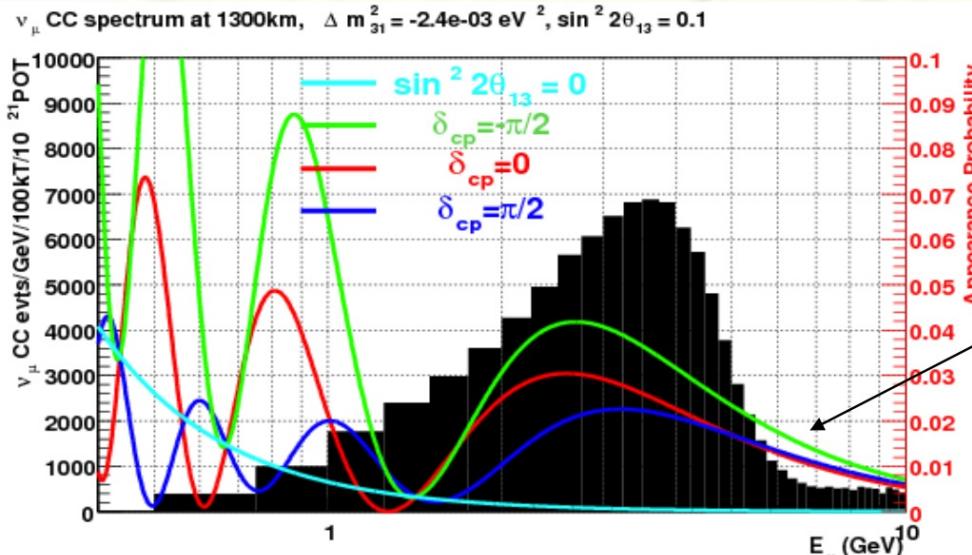


# Electron scattering experiments relevant for neutrino cross sections

Collaborations	Kinematics	Targets	Scattering	Publications
<b>E12-14-012 (JLab)</b> (Data collected: 2017)	$E_e = 2.222 \text{ GeV}$ $\theta_e = 15.5, 17.5,$ $20.0, 21.5$ $\theta_p = -39.0, -44.0,$ $-44.5, -47.0$ $-50.0$	Ar, Ti Al, C	$(e, e')$ $(e, e'p)$	Phys. Rev. C <b>99</b> , 054608 Phys. Rev. D <b>105</b> 112002
<b>e4nu/CLAS (JLab)</b> (Data collected: 1999, 2022)	$E_e = 1, 2, 4, 6 \text{ GeV}$ $\theta_e > 5$	H, D, He, C, Ar, $^{40}\text{Ca}$ , $^{48}\text{Ca}$ , Fe, Sn	$(e, e')$ $e, p, n, \pi, \gamma$ in the final state	Nature <b>599</b> , 565 Phys. Rev. D <b>103</b> 113003
<b>A1 (MAMI)</b> (Data collected: 2020) (More data planned)	 $E_e = 1.6 \text{ GeV}$	H, D, He C, O, Al Ca, Ar, Xe	$(e, e')$ 2 additional charged particles	
<b>LDMX (SLAC)</b> (Planned)	 $E_e = 4.0 \text{ GeV}$ $\theta_e < 40$		$(e, e')$ $e, p, n, \pi$ in the final state	
<b>eALBA</b> (Planned)	 $E_e = 500 \text{ MeV}$ - few GeV	C, CH Be, Ca	$(e, e')$	

Adaptation from Proceedings of the US Community Snowmass2021  
[arXiv:2203.06853v1 \[hep-ex\]](https://arxiv.org/abs/2203.06853v1)

# Relevant coverage for DUNE oscillation physics

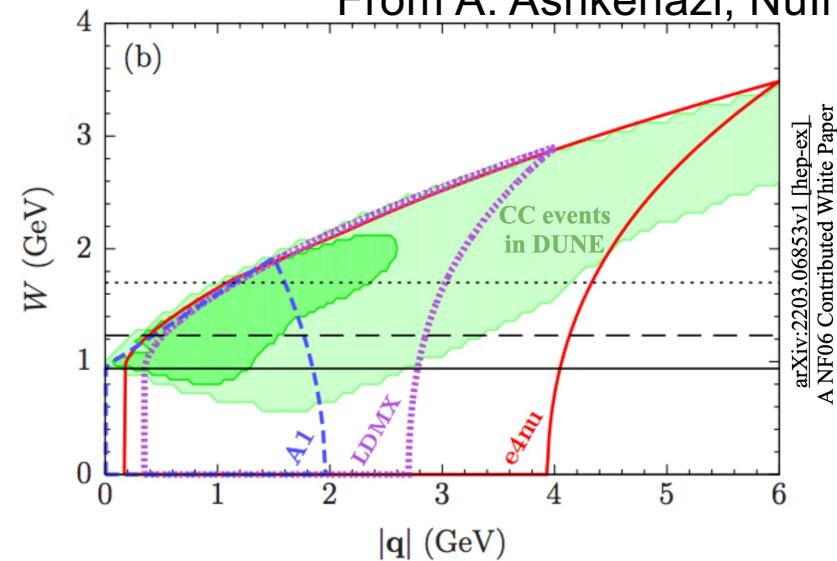
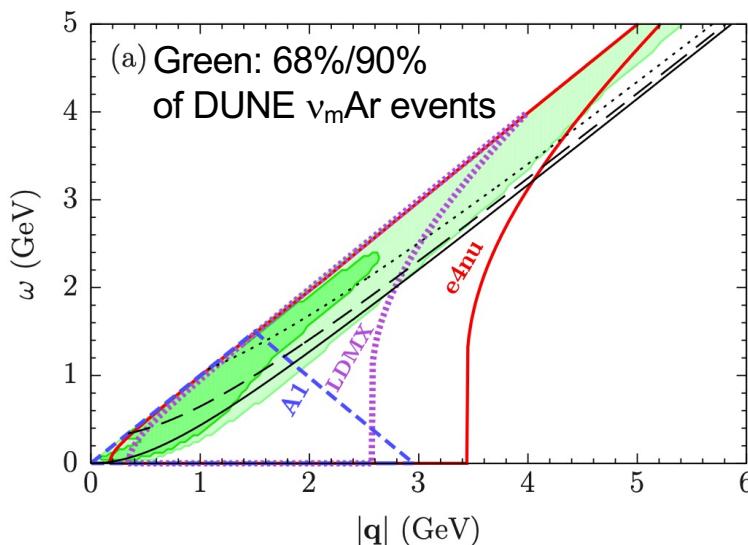


Cross sections needed in few GeV range for CPV

$$P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e) \simeq \sin^2 \theta_{23} \sin^2 2\theta_{13} \sin^2 \left( \frac{\Delta m_{32}^2 L}{4E} \right) \left( 1 + \frac{4\sqrt{2} G_F n_e E}{\Delta m_{31}^2} (1 - 2 \sin^2 \theta_{13}) \right) \quad \text{Leading term}$$

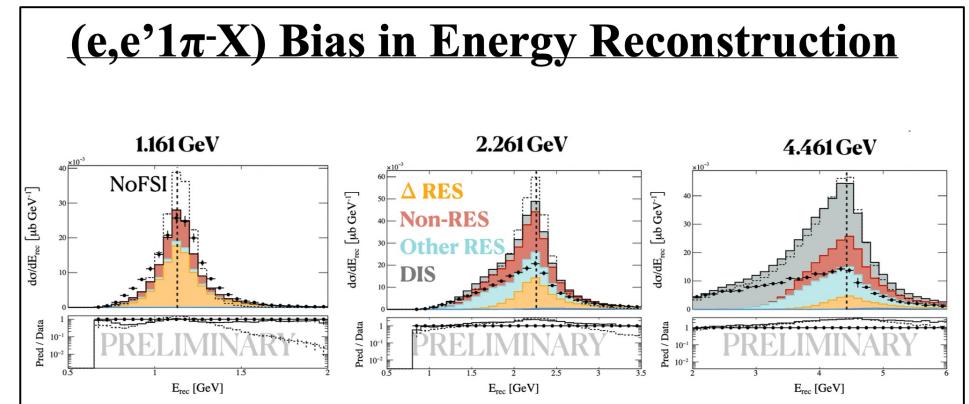
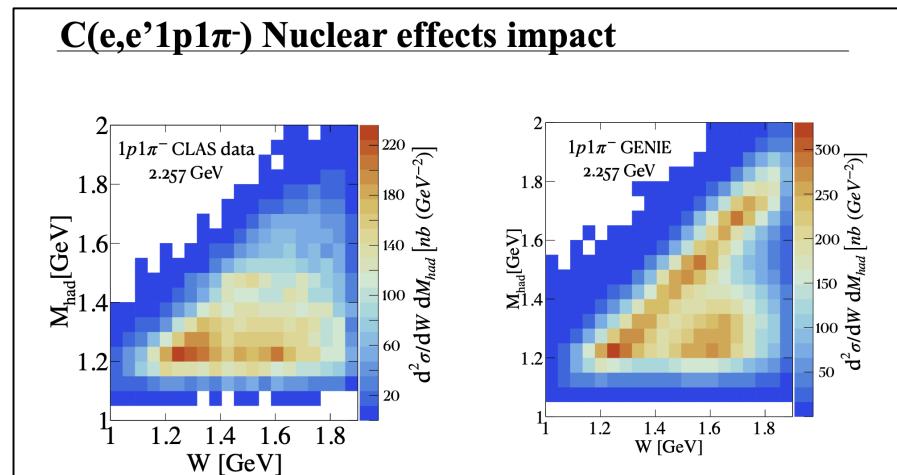
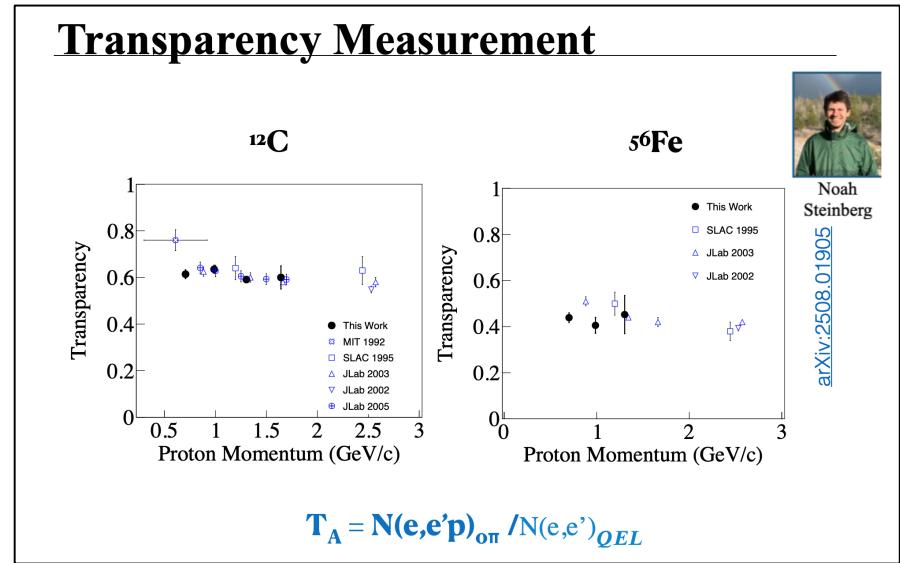
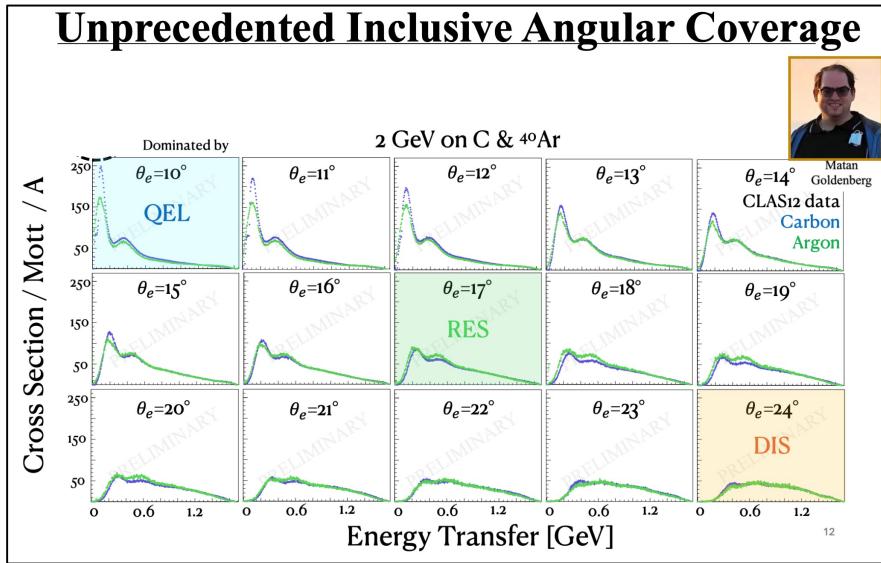
$$- \sin 2\theta_{12} \sin 2\theta_{23} \sin 2\theta_{13} \cos \theta_{13} \sin \delta \sin \left( \frac{\Delta m_{32}^2 L}{4E} \right) \sin \left( \frac{\Delta m_{31}^2 L}{4E} \right) \sin \left( \frac{\Delta m_{21}^2 L}{4E} \right) \quad \text{CP violating term}$$

From A. Ashkenazi, NulInt 2025



Good relevant kinematic coverage with existing electron-beam facilities

# Examples of electron scattering measurements used to inform and tune neutrino event generators

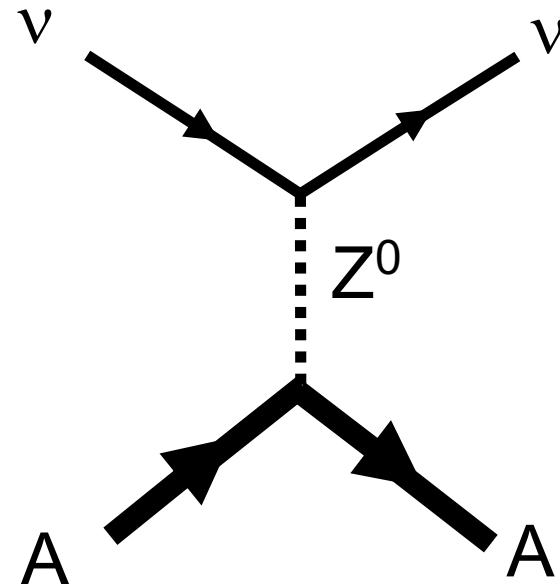
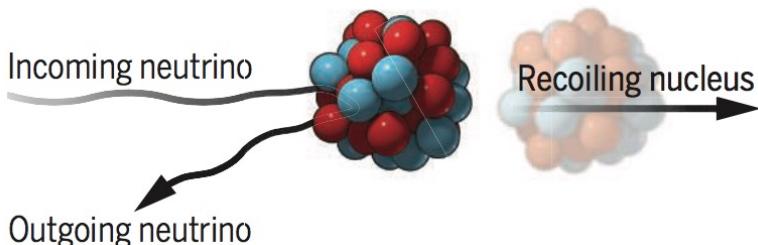


Among many: from J. Vidal, Neutrino 2025; A. Ashkenazi, NuInt 2025

# Topic 2: Coherent elastic neutrino-nucleus scattering (CEvNS)

$$\nu + A \rightarrow \nu + A$$

A neutrino smacks a nucleus via exchange of a  $Z$ , and the nucleus recoils as a whole; **coherent** up to  $E_\nu \sim 50$  MeV



Nucleon wavefunctions in the target nucleus are **in phase with each other** at low momentum transfer

For  $QR \ll 1$  , [total xscn]  $\sim A^2 * [\text{single constituent xscn}]$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dT} \sim \frac{G_F^2 M}{2\pi} \frac{Q_W^2}{4} F^2(Q) \left( 2 - \frac{MT}{E_\nu^2} \right)$$

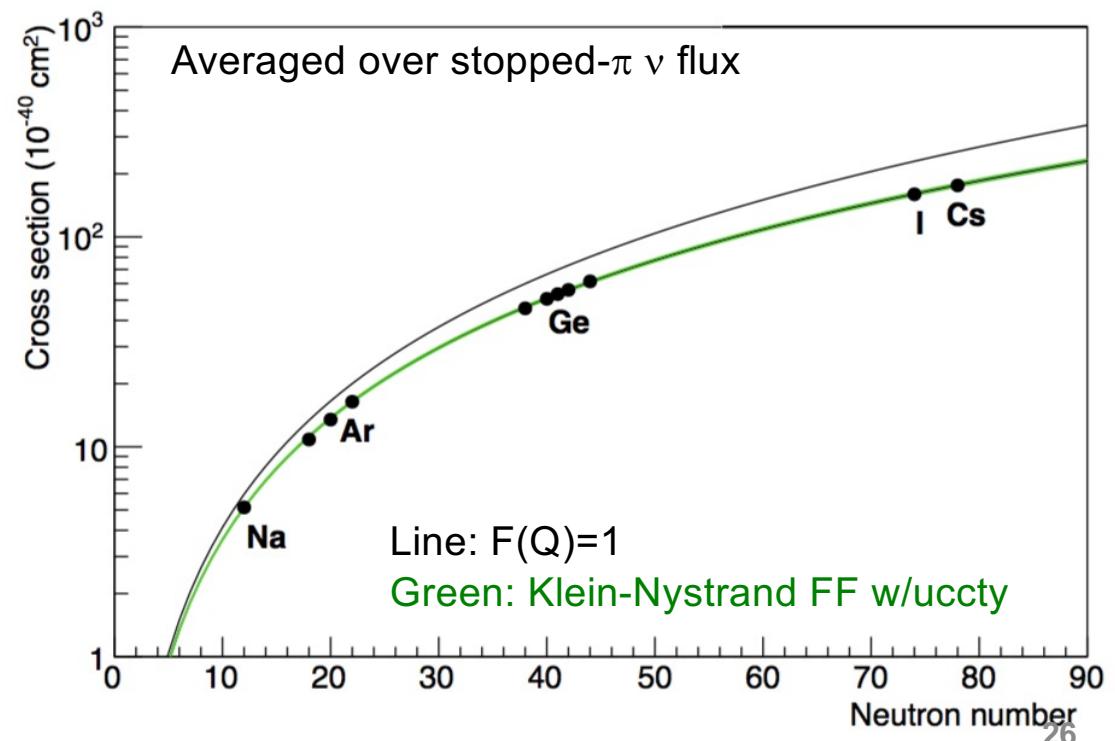
$E_\nu$ : neutrino energy  
 $T$ : nuclear recoil energy  
 $M$ : nuclear mass  
 $Q = \sqrt{2MT}$ :  
 momentum transfer

weak  
nuclear  
charge

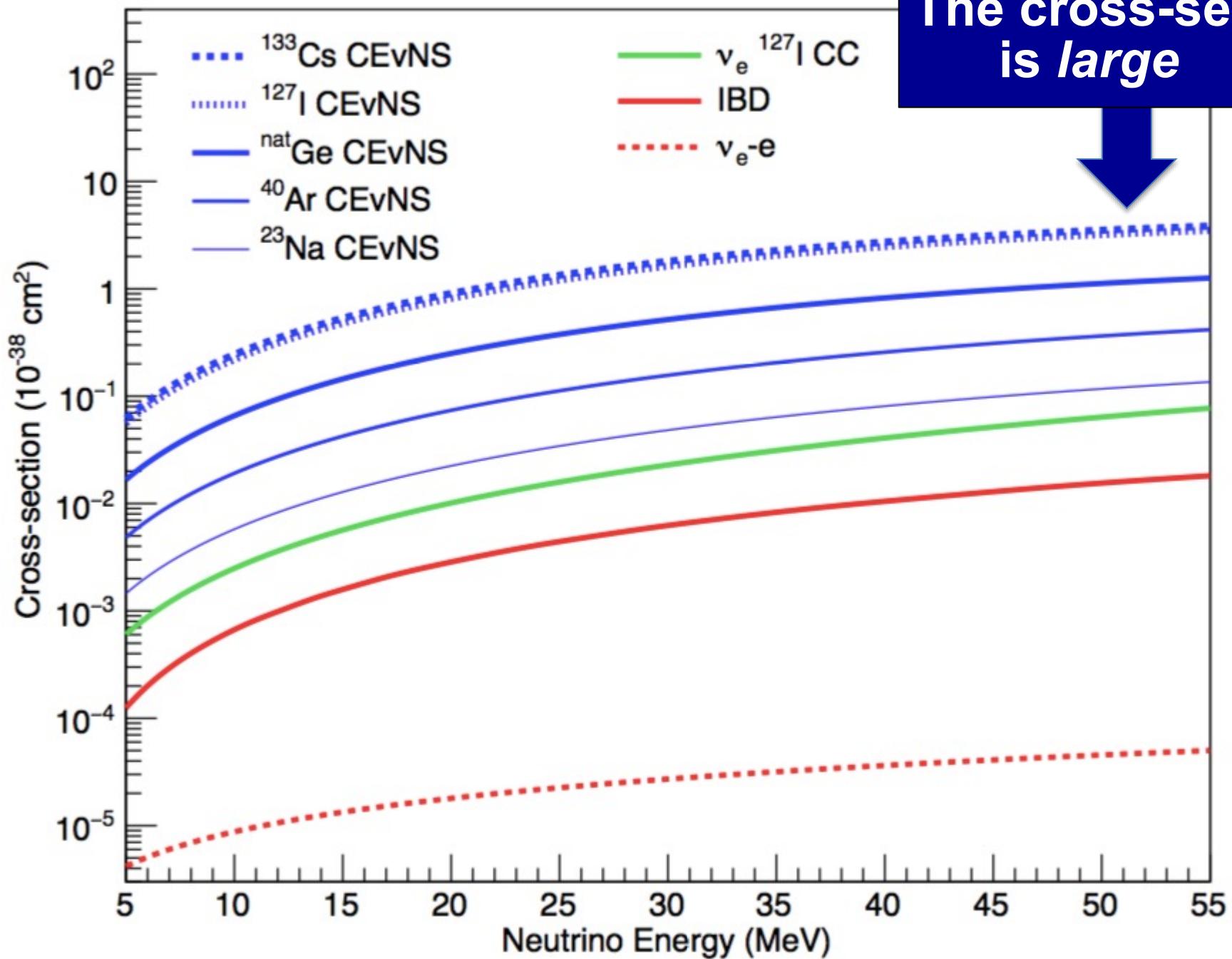
Form factor:  $F=1 \rightarrow$  full coherence

$$Q_W = (1 - 4 \sin^2 \theta_W) Z - N$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d\sigma}{dT} \propto N^2$$



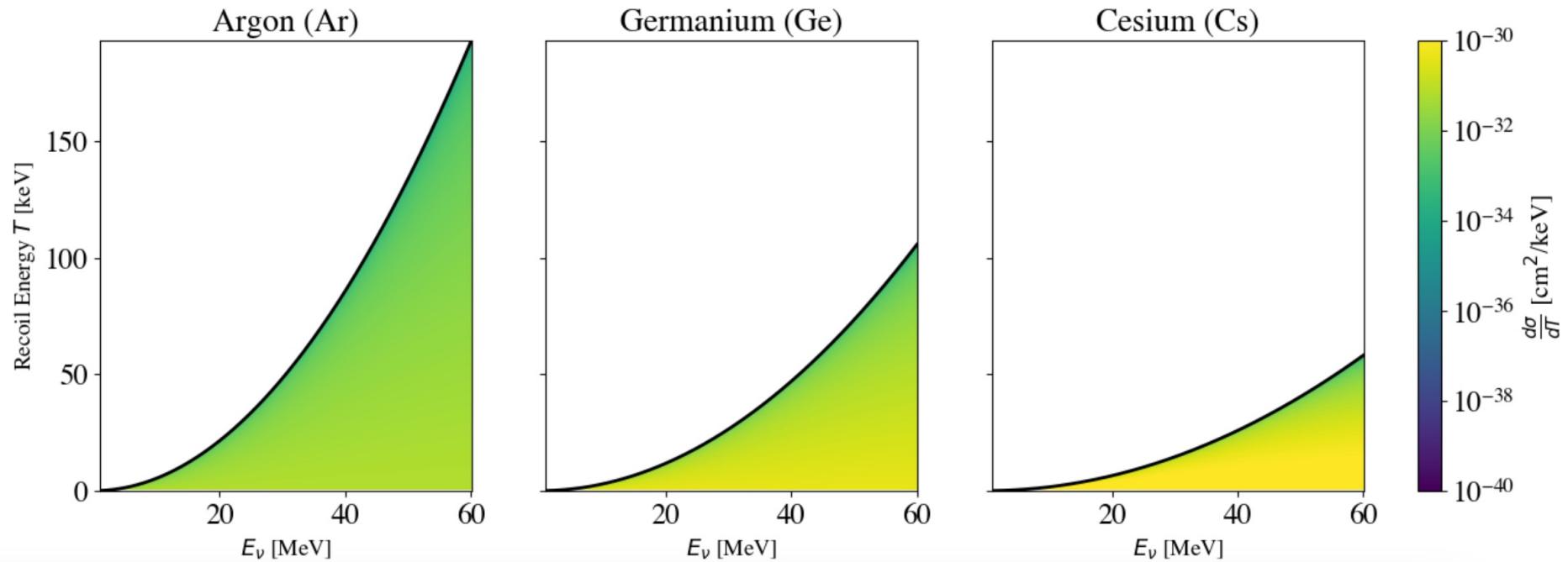
The cross-section  
is *large*



**Large cross section** (by neutrino standards) but hard to observe due to **tiny nuclear recoil energies**:

Nuclear recoil energy spectra

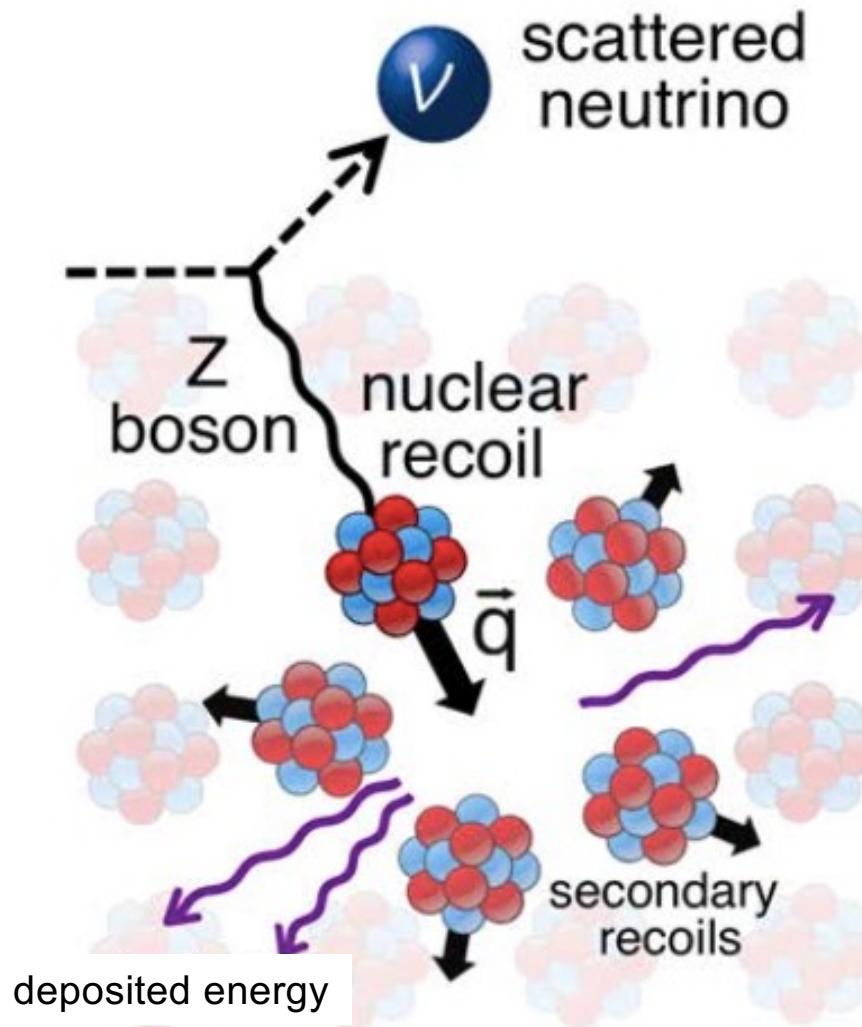
$$\frac{d\sigma}{dT} \simeq \frac{G_F^2 M}{2\pi} \frac{Q_W^2}{4} F^2(Q) \left( 2 - \frac{MT}{E_\nu^2} \right)$$



**Few to ~tens of keV recoils** in the regime where CEvNS dominates.  $E_\nu < \sim 50$  MeV

The only experimental signature:

tiny energy deposited by nuclear recoils in the target material



→ **WIMP dark matter detectors** developed over the last ~decade are sensitive to ~ keV to 10's of keV recoils

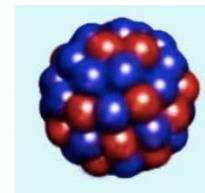
# CEvNS: what's it good for?

① So  
② Many !  
③ Things  
(not a complete list!)

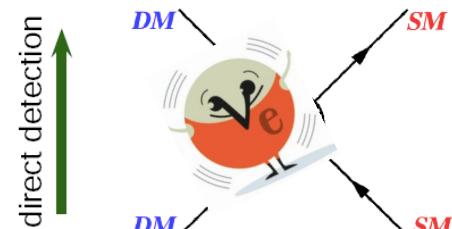
CEvNS as a **signal**  
for signatures of *new physics*



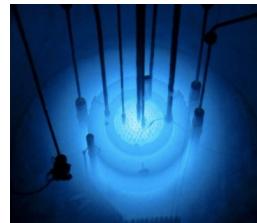
CEvNS as a **signal**  
for understanding of “old” physics



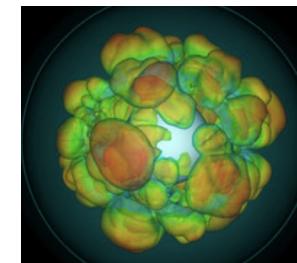
CEvNS as a **background**  
for signatures of new physics



CEvNS as a **signal** for *astrophysics*



CEvNS as a **practical tool**



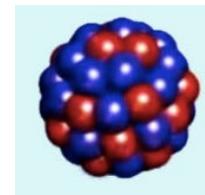
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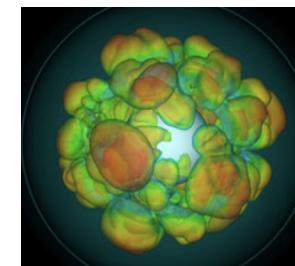
CEvNS as a **background**  
for signatures of new physics



CEvNS as a **signal** for *astrophysics*



CEvNS as a **practical tool**



# CEvNS cross section in the Standard Model

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dT} = \frac{G_F^2 M}{\pi} F^2(Q) \left[ (G_V + G_A)^2 + (G_V - G_A)^2 \left(1 - \frac{T}{E_\nu}\right)^2 - (G_V^2 - G_A^2) \frac{MT}{E_\nu^2} \right]$$

$E_\nu$ : neutrino energy

$T$ : nuclear recoil energy

$M$ : nuclear mass

$Q = \sqrt{2MT}$ : momentum transfer

$G_V, G_A$ : SM weak parameters

vector  $G_V = g_V^p Z + g_V^n N$ ,

axial  $G_A = g_A^p (Z_+ - Z_-) + g_A^n (N_+ - N_-)$

$g_V^p = 0.0298$
$g_V^n = -0.5117$
$g_A^p = 0.4955$
$g_A^n = -0.5121$

dominates

small for most nuclei, zero for spin-zero

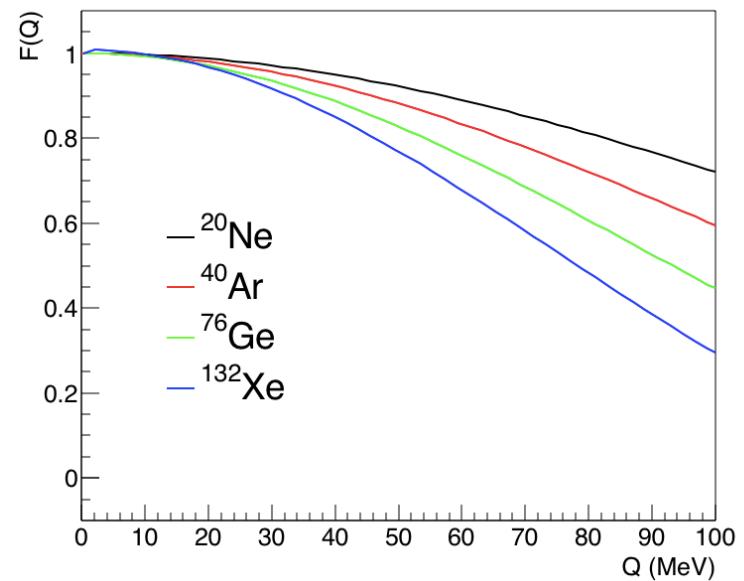
$$\frac{d\sigma}{dT} = \frac{G_F^2 M}{2\pi} \frac{Q_W^2}{4} F^2(Q) \left( 2 - \frac{MT}{E_\nu^2} \right)$$

SM electroweak  
in here

nuclear physics in here,  
with  $\sim$ percent uncertainties

$$Q_W = (1 - 4 \sin^2 \theta_W) Z - N$$

- In the context of the SM,  
measure  $\sin^2 \theta_W$  at low Q
- Look for anomalies in rate,  
N or Q distribution  
to search for BSM

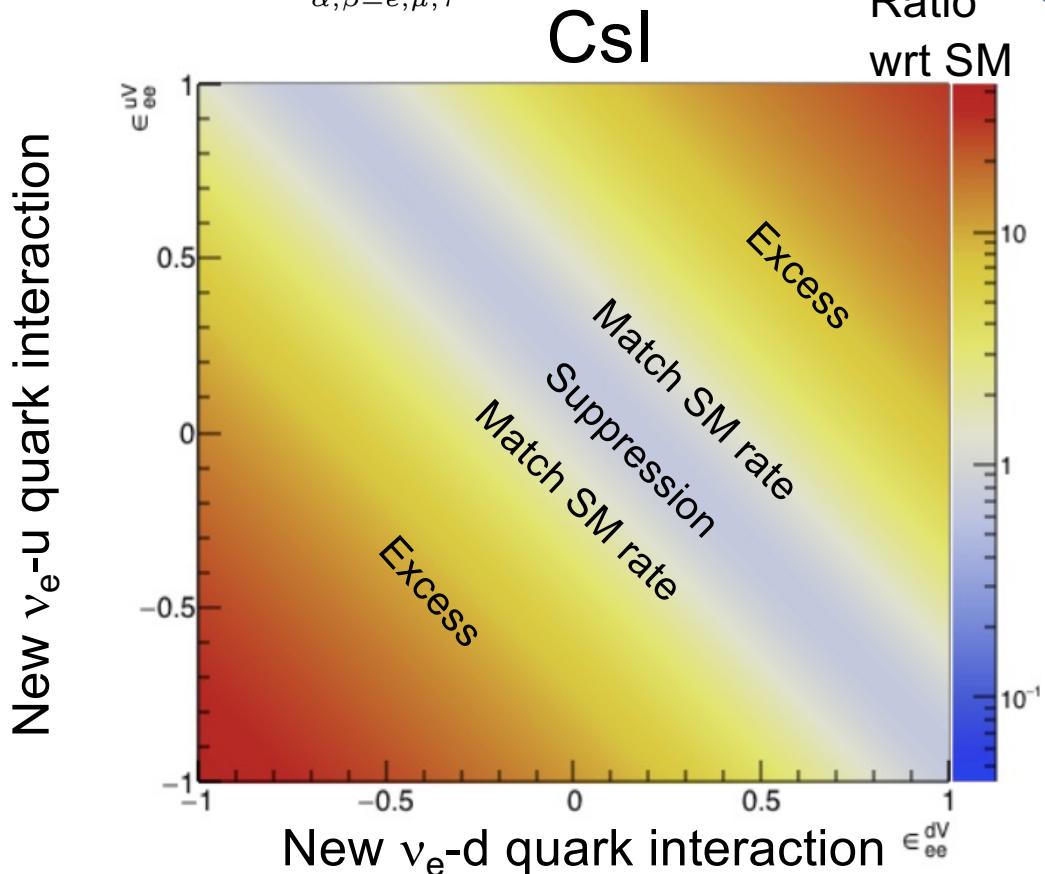


- Bigger suppression for  
for larger Q and  
larger nucleus

# Non-Standard Interactions of Neutrinos:

## new interaction **specific to $\nu$ 's**

$$\mathcal{L}_{\nu H}^{NSI} = -\frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} \sum_{\substack{q=u,d \\ \alpha,\beta=e,\mu,\tau}} [\bar{\nu}_\alpha \gamma^\mu (1 - \gamma^5) \nu_\beta] \times (\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{qL} [\bar{q} \gamma_\mu (1 - \gamma^5) q] + \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{qR} [\bar{q} \gamma_\mu (1 + \gamma^5) q])$$



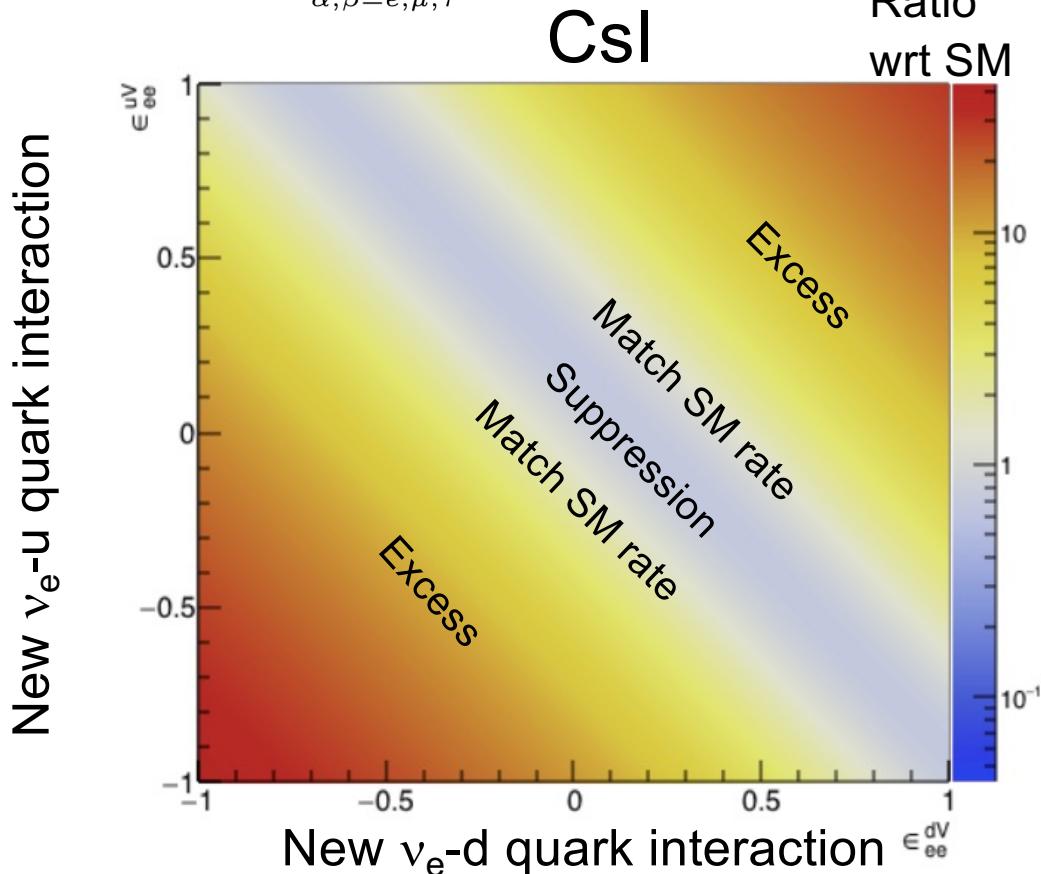
If these  $\varepsilon$ 's are ~unity, there is a new interaction of ~Standard-model size... many not currently well constrained

For heavy mediators, expect ***overall scaling*** of CEvNS event rate, depending on  $N, Z$

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If these  $\varepsilon$ 's are ~unity, there is a new interaction of ~Standard-model size... many not currently well constrained

For heavy mediators, expect ***overall scaling*** of CEvNS event rate, depending on  $N, Z$

Observe less or more CEvNS than expected?  
...could be beyond-the-SM physics!

# Other new physics results in a *distortion of the recoil spectrum* (Q dependence)

## BSM Light Mediators

SM weak charge

Effective weak charge in presence  
of light vector mediator Z'

$$Q_{\alpha, \text{SM}}^2 = (Z g_p^V + N g_n^V)^2$$



$$Q_{\alpha, \text{NSI}}^2 = \left[ Z \left( g_p^V + \frac{3g^2}{2\sqrt{2}G_F(Q^2 + M_{Z'}^2)} \right) + N \left( g_n^V + \frac{3g^2}{2\sqrt{2}G_F(Q^2 + M_{Z'}^2)} \right) \right]^2$$

specific to neutrinos  
and quarks

e.g. arXiv:1708.04255

## Neutrino (Anomalous) Magnetic Moment

e.g. arXiv:1505.03202,  
1711.09773

$$\left( \frac{d\sigma}{dT} \right)_m = \frac{\pi \alpha^2 \mu_\nu^2 Z^2}{m_e^2} \left( \frac{1 - T/E_\nu}{T} + \frac{T}{4E_\nu^2} \right)$$

Specific  $\sim 1/T$  upturn  
at low recoil energy

## Sterile Neutrino Oscillations

$$P_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\alpha}^{\text{SBL}}(E_\nu) = 1 - \sin^2 2\theta_{\alpha\alpha} \sin^2 \left( \frac{\Delta m_{41}^2 L}{4E_\nu} \right)$$

“True” disappearance with baseline-dependent Q distortion

e.g. arXiv: 1511.02834,  
1711.09773, 1901.08094

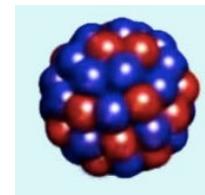
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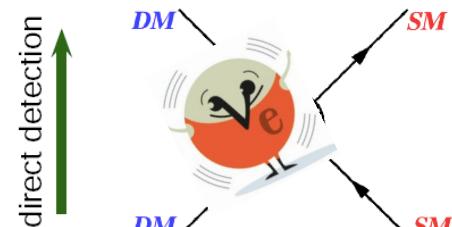
CEvNS as a **signal**  
for signatures of *new physics*



CEvNS as a **signal**  
for understanding of “old” physics



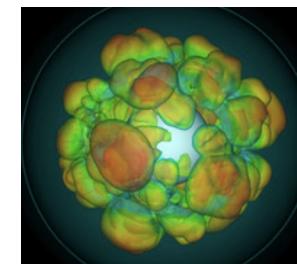
CEvNS as a **background**  
for signatures of new physics



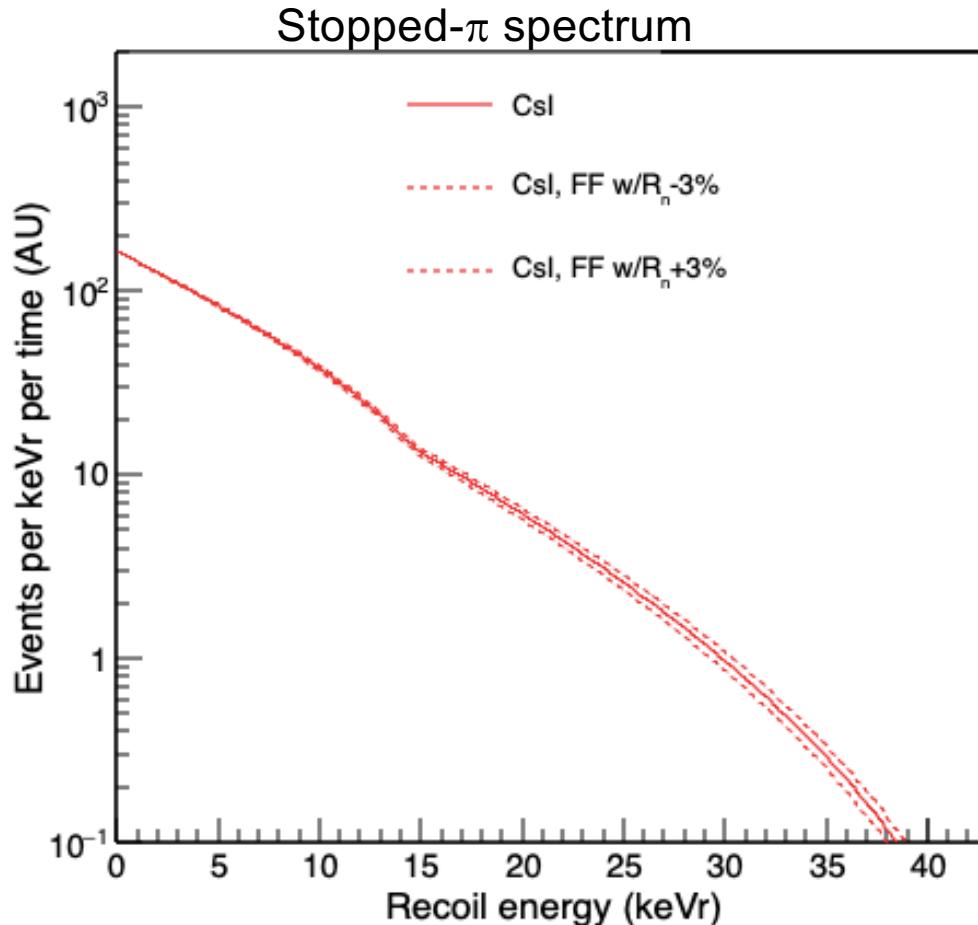
CEvNS as a **signal** for *astrophysics*



CEvNS as a **practical tool**



# What can we learn about nuclear physics with CEvNS?

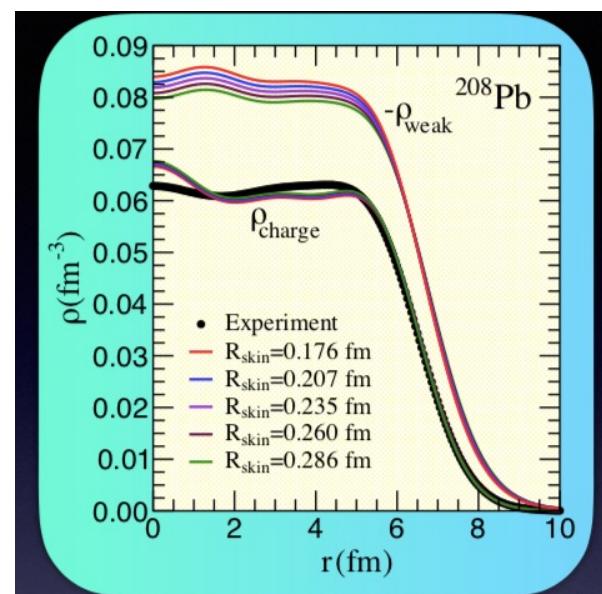


Neutron radius and “skin” ( $R_n - R_p$ )  
relevant for understanding of  
neutron star EOS

P S Amanik and G C McLaughlin 2009  
*J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys.* 36 015105

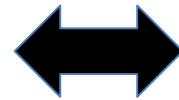
K. Patton et al., *Phys. Rev. C* 86 (2012) 024612

Observable is  
**recoil spectrum shape**  
(Q-dependent suppression)



So: if you are hunting for BSM physics  
as a distortion of the recoil spectrum  
... **uncertainties in the form factor are a nuisance!**

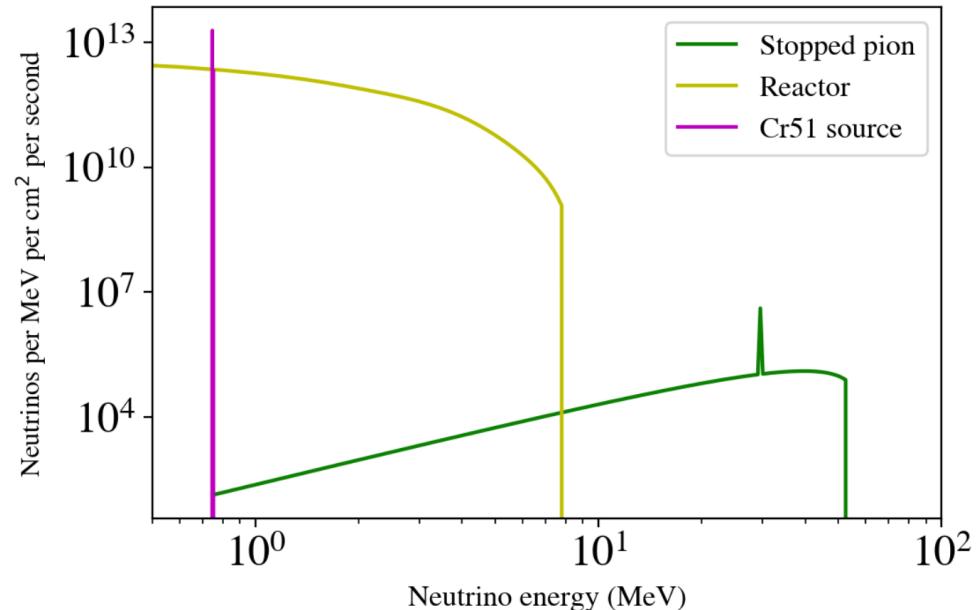
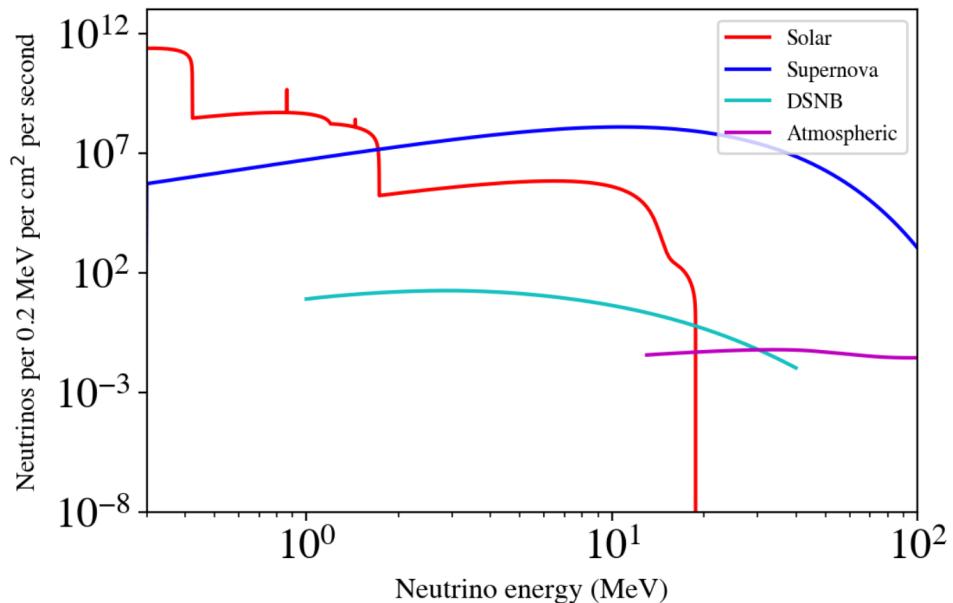
There are degeneracies in the observables between  
“old” (but still mysterious) physics



and “new” physics

At current level of precision,  
form factor shape is **not a dominant effect**  
... but we will need to think carefully about  
how to disentangle these effects for the longer term

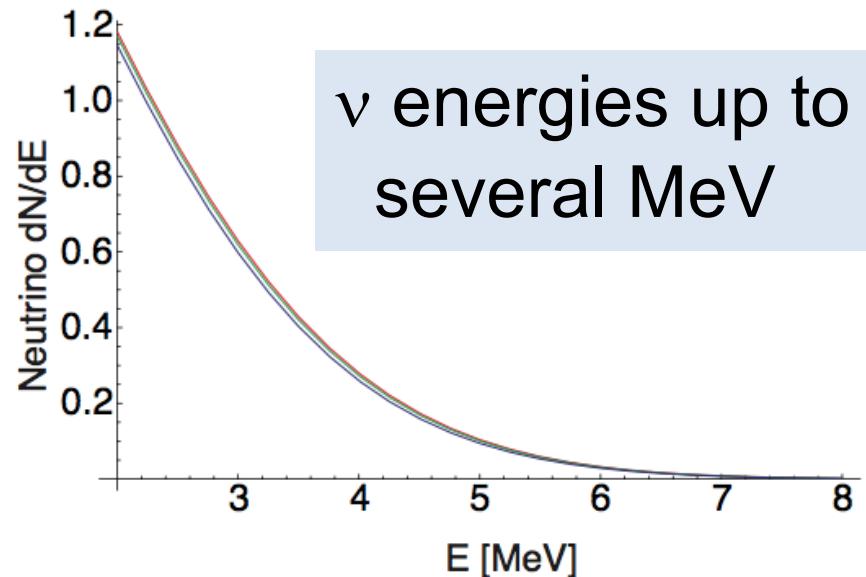
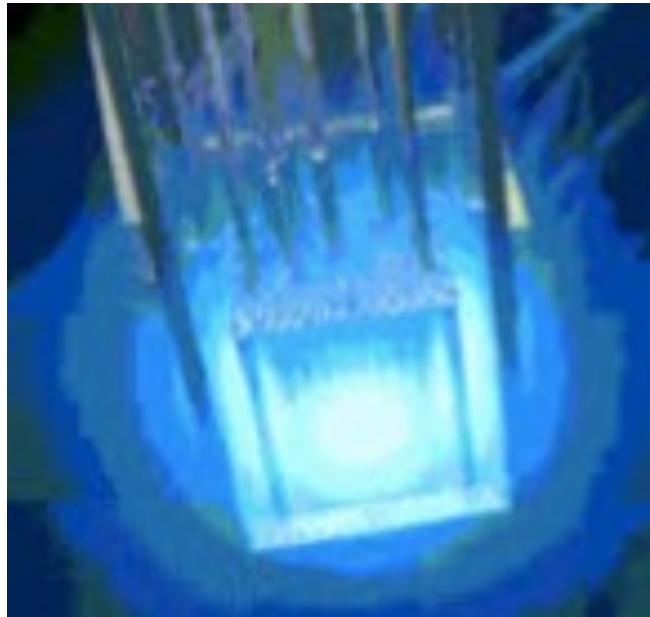
# Neutrino sources for CEvNS, below $\sim 100$ MeV



Physics motivations for both wild & tame  $\nu$ 's:

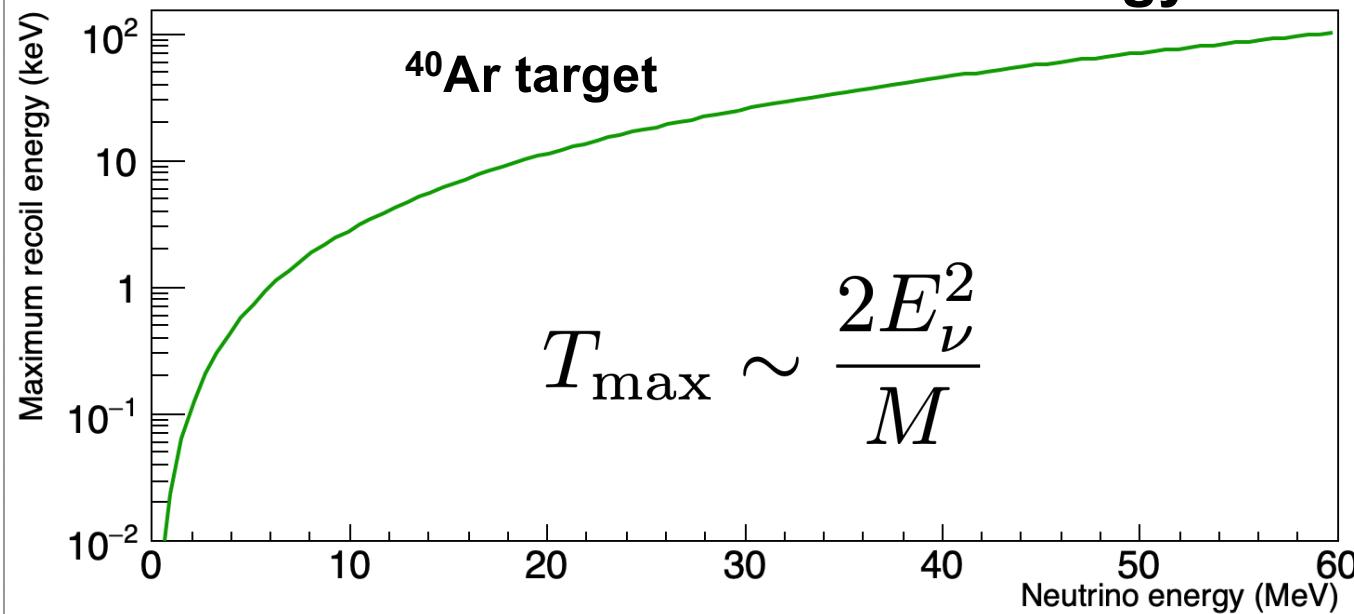
- 3-flavor parameters
- BSM
- astrophysics & cosmology
- nuclear physics

# Neutrinos from nuclear reactors



- $\bar{\nu}_e$ -bar produced in fission reactions (one flavor)
- **huge fluxes possible:**  $\sim 2 \times 10^{20} \text{ s}^{-1}$  per GW
- several CEvNS searches past, current and future at reactors, but **recoil energies < keV** and backgrounds make this very challenging

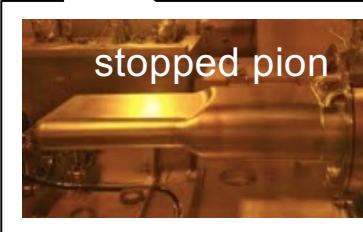
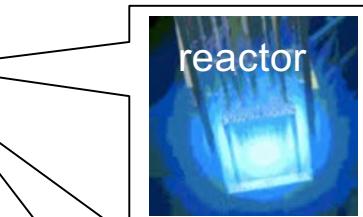
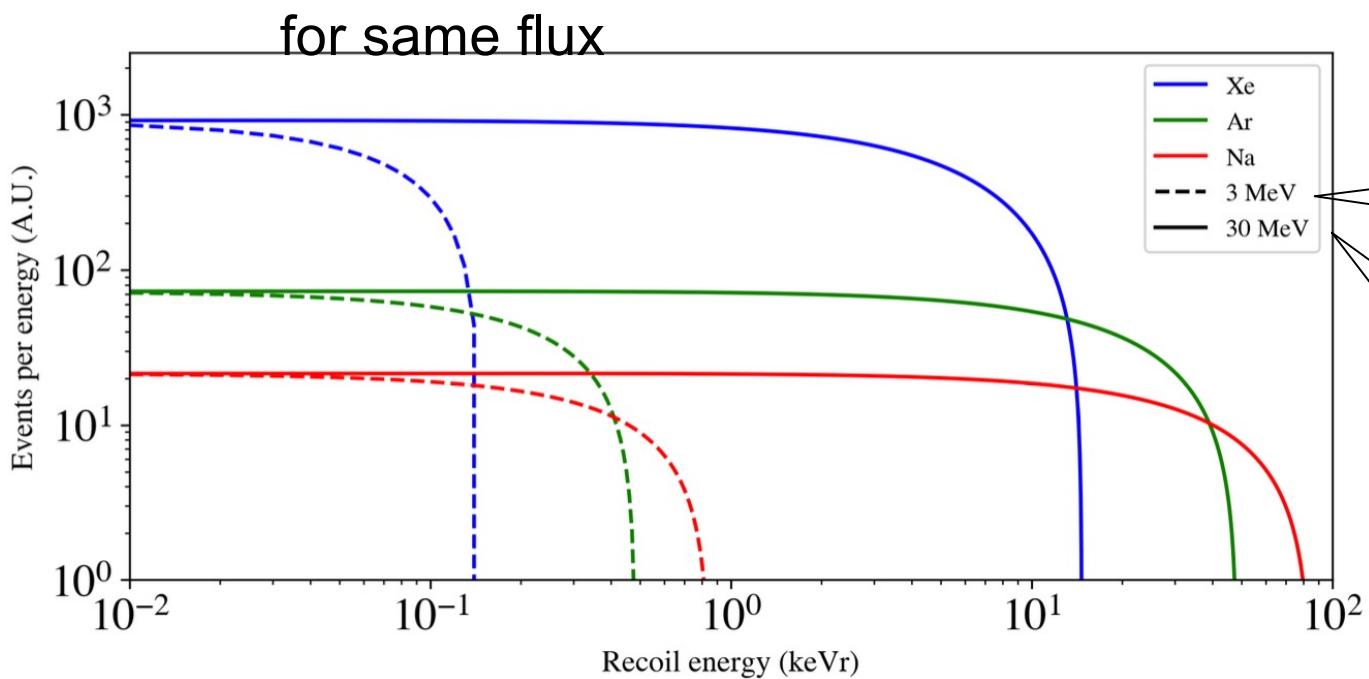
# Both cross-section and maximum recoil energy increase with neutrino energy:



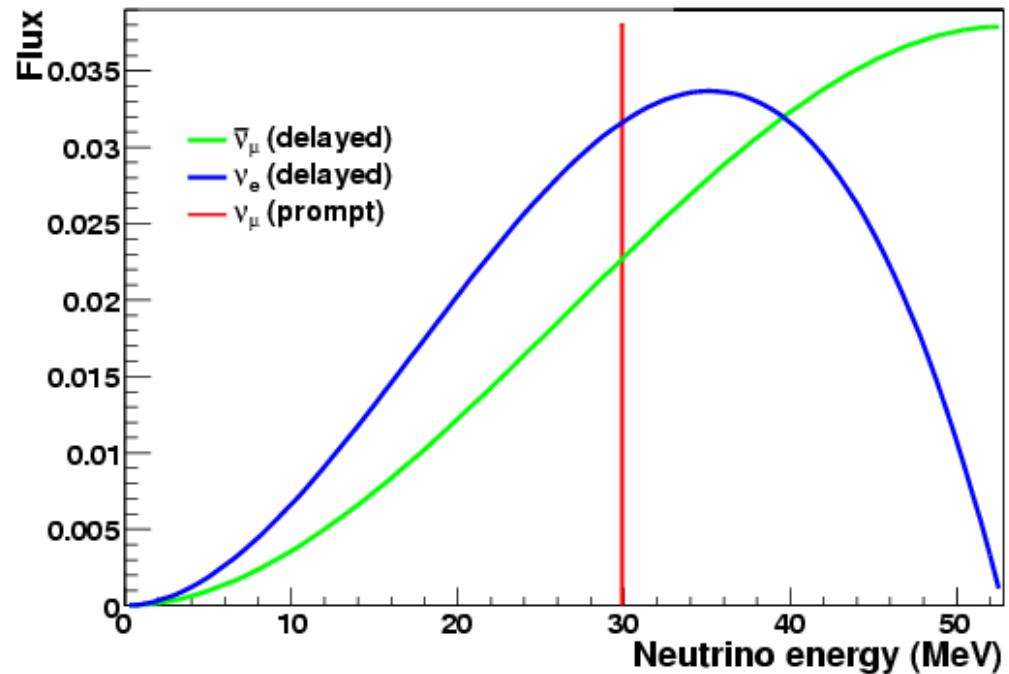
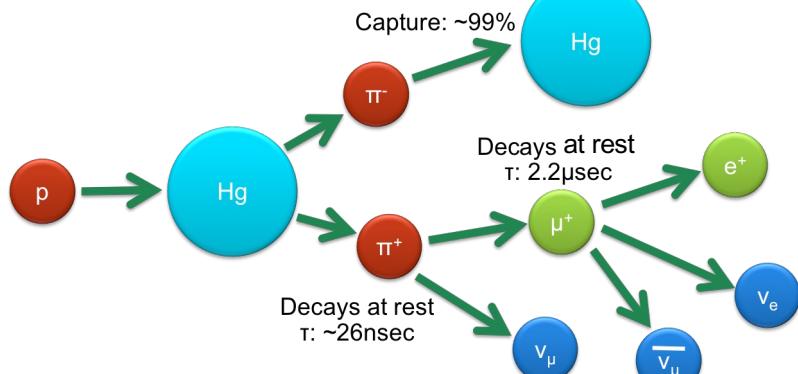
Want energy as large as possible while satisfying coherence condition

$$Q \lesssim \frac{1}{R}$$

( $\sim 50$  MeV for medium A)



# Stopped-Pion ( $\pi$ DAR) Neutrinos



$$\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ + \nu_\mu$$

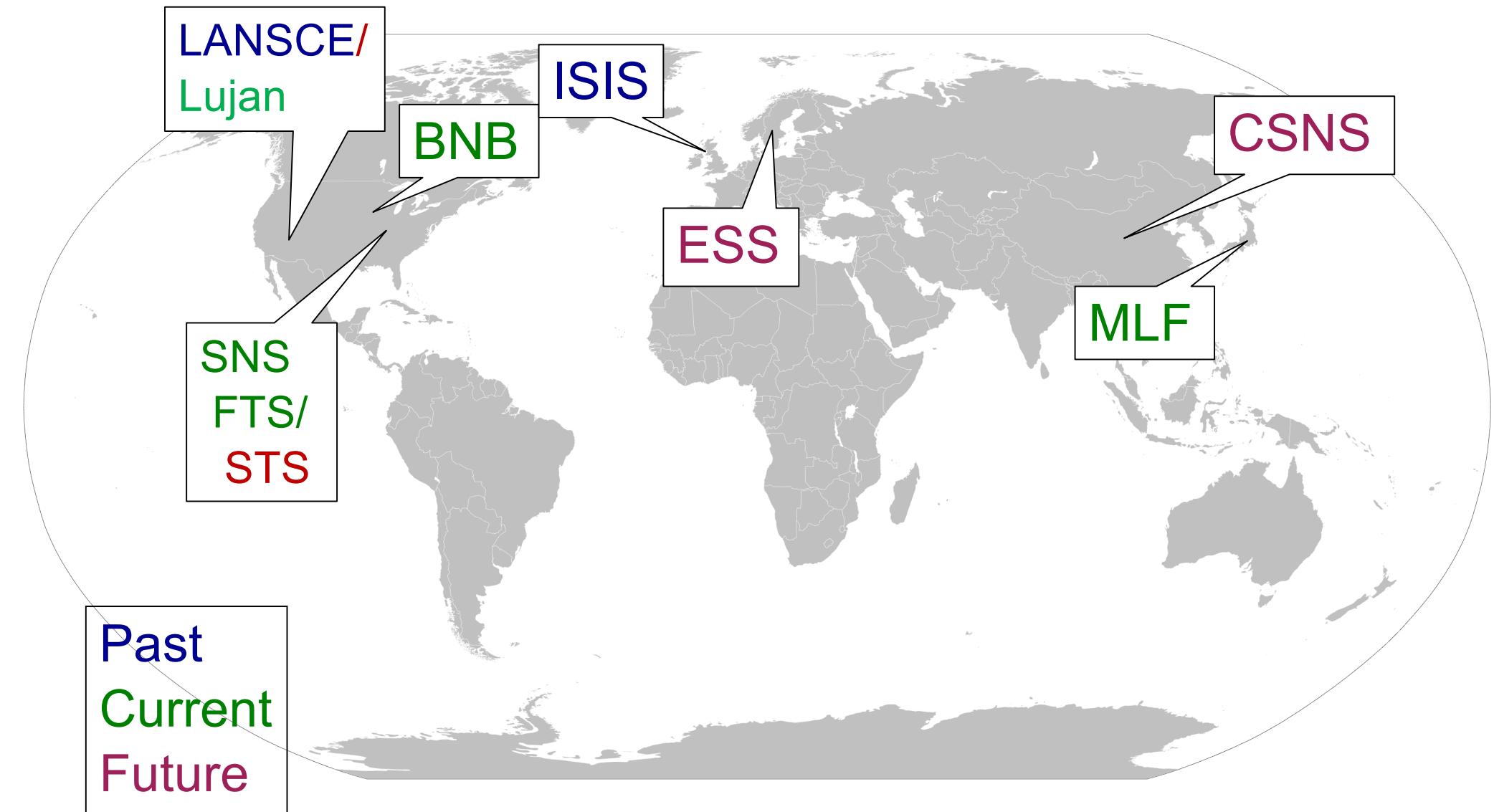
2-body decay: monochromatic 29.9 MeV  $\nu_\mu$   
PROMPT

↓

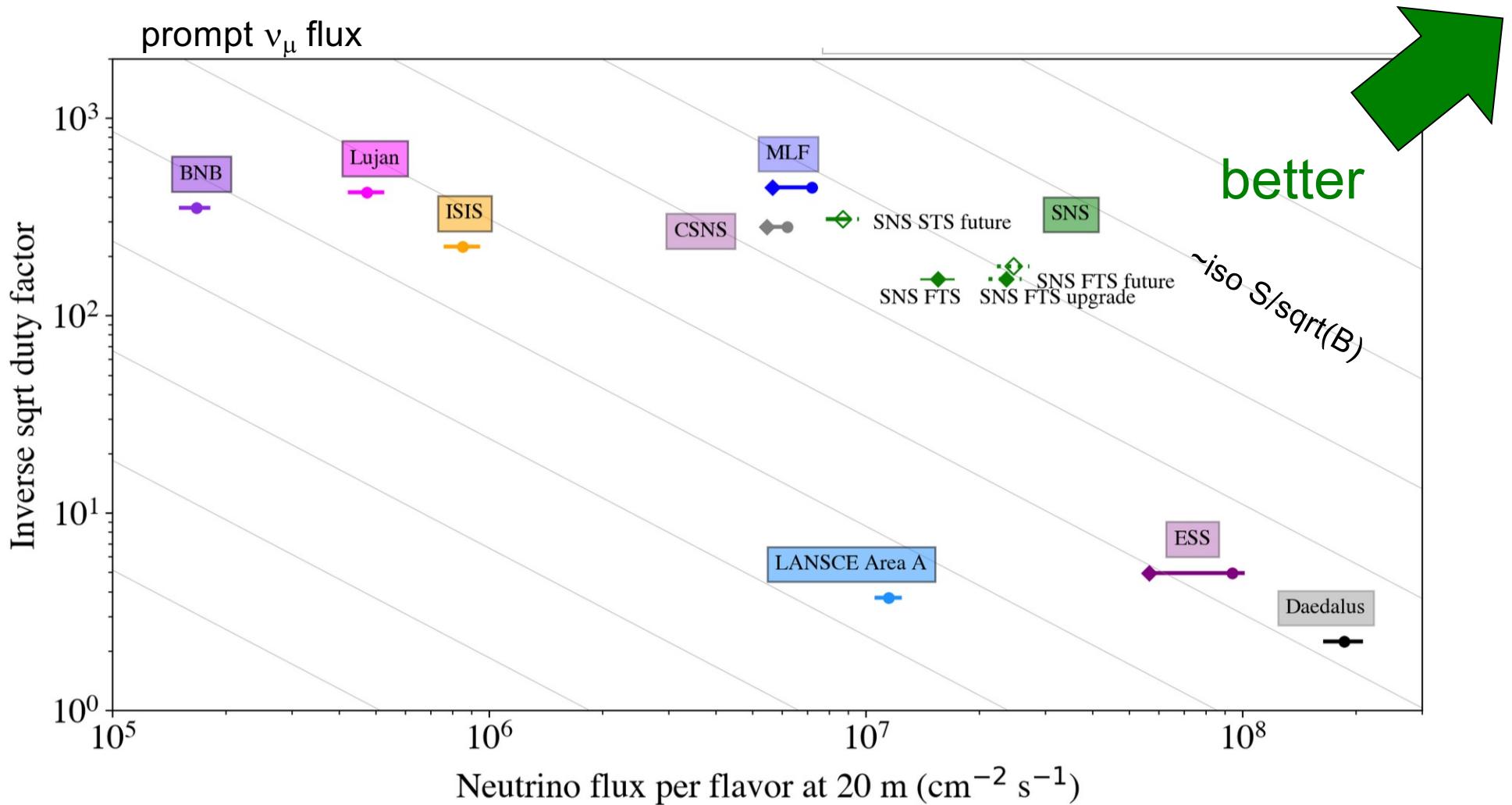
$$\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ + \bar{\nu}_\mu + \nu_e$$

3-body decay: range of energies  
between 0 and  $m_\mu/2$   
DELAYED (2.2  $\mu\text{s}$ )

# Stopped-Pion Neutrino Sources Worldwide



# Comparison of stopped-pion $\nu$ sources



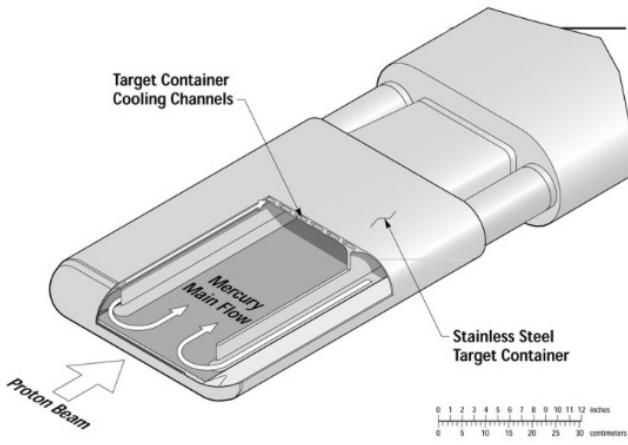
rough figure of merit:  $\sim \text{flux}/\sqrt{\text{duty cycle}}$  ( $\sim S/\sqrt{B}$ )  
[does not capture all relevant characteristics]

[could add JLab beam dump to this plot!]



# Spallation Neutron Source

Oak Ridge National Laboratory, TN



Proton beam energy: 0.9-1.3 GeV  
Total power: 0.9-1.9 MW (increasing)  
Pulse duration: 380 ns FWHM  
Repetition rate: 60 Hz  
Liquid mercury target

**The neutrinos are free!**

# The COHERENT collaboration

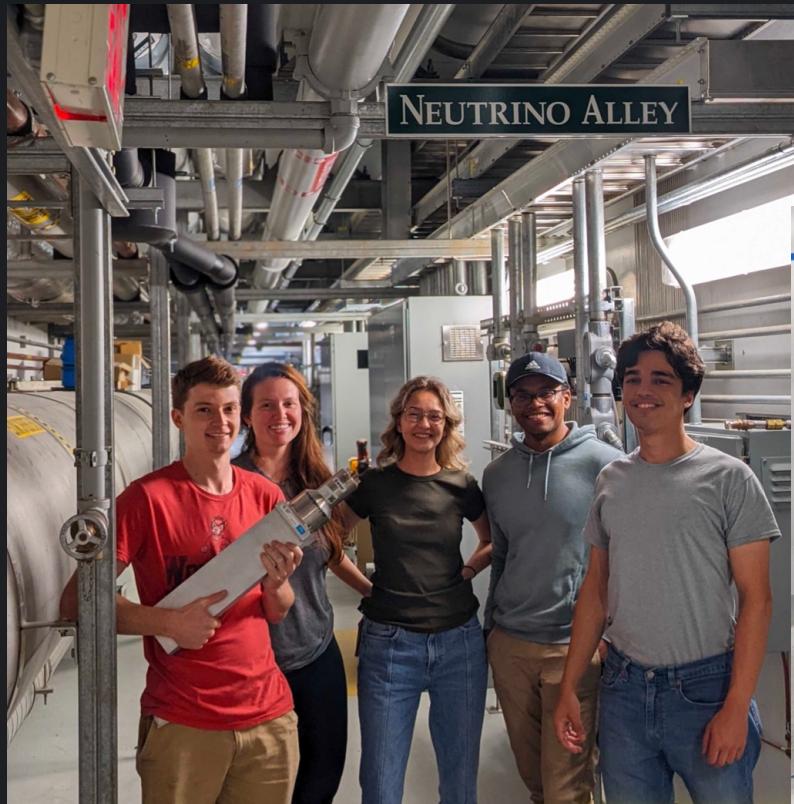
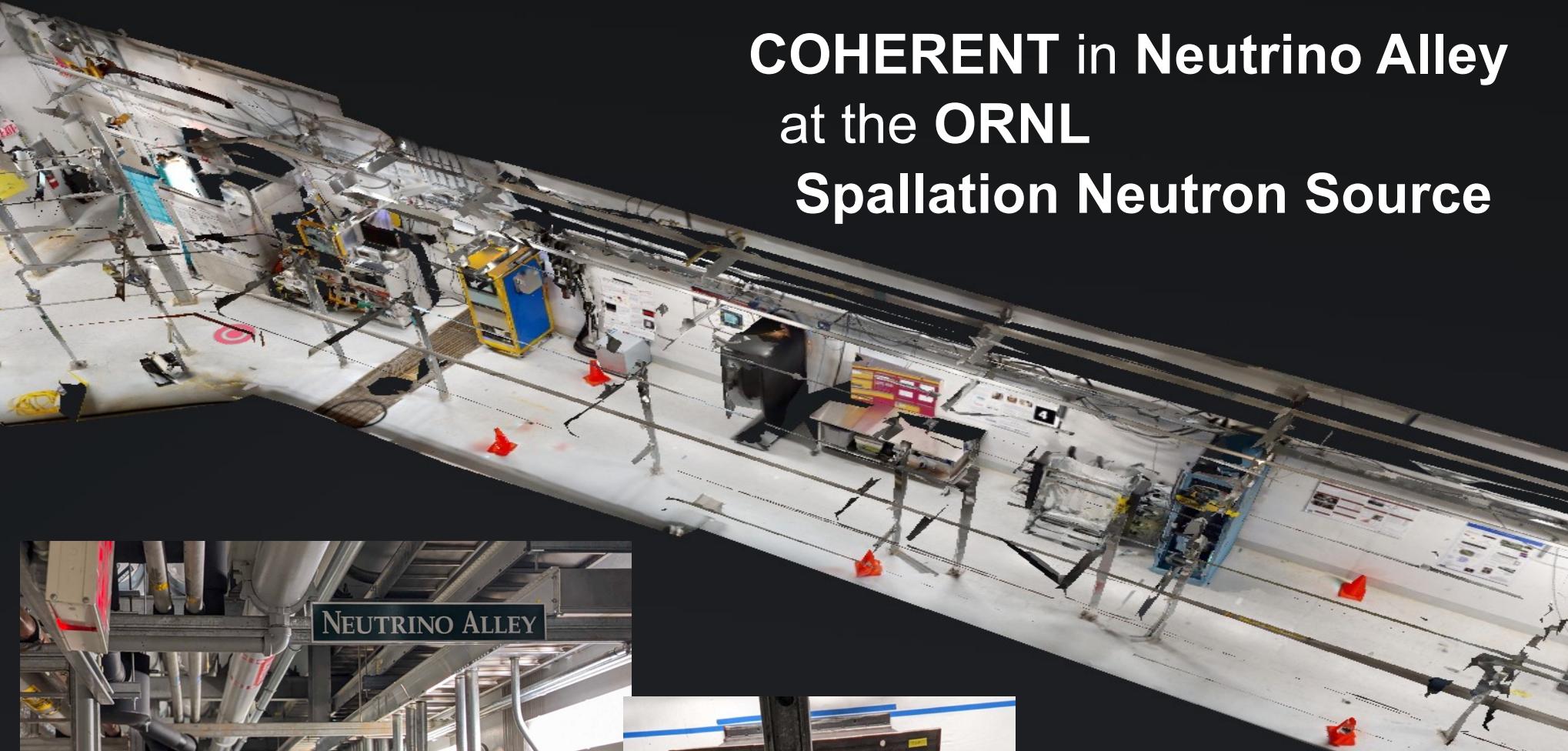
<http://sites.duke.edu/coherent>



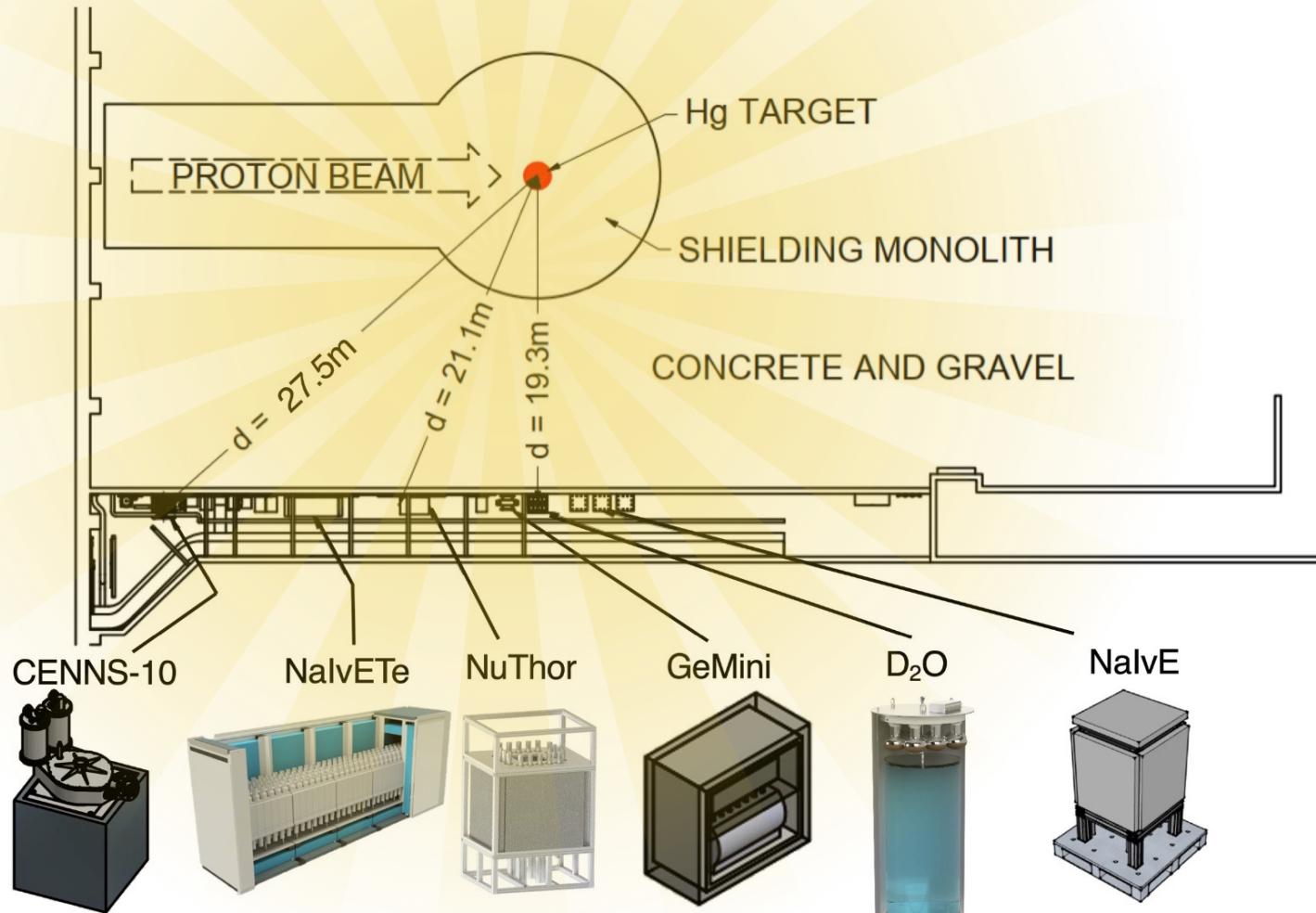
~100 members,  
25 institutions  
5 countries



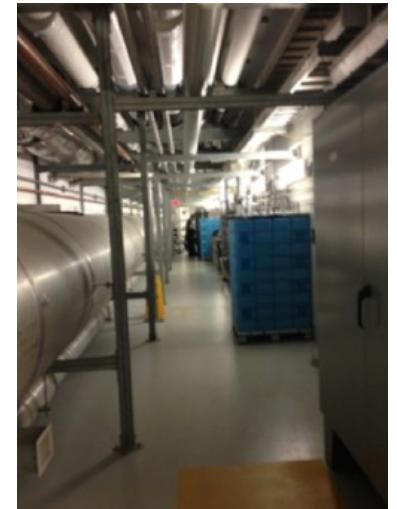
# COHERENT in Neutrino Alley at the ORNL Spallation Neutron Source



# Siting for deployment in SNS basement (measured neutron backgrounds low, ~ 8 mwe overburden)

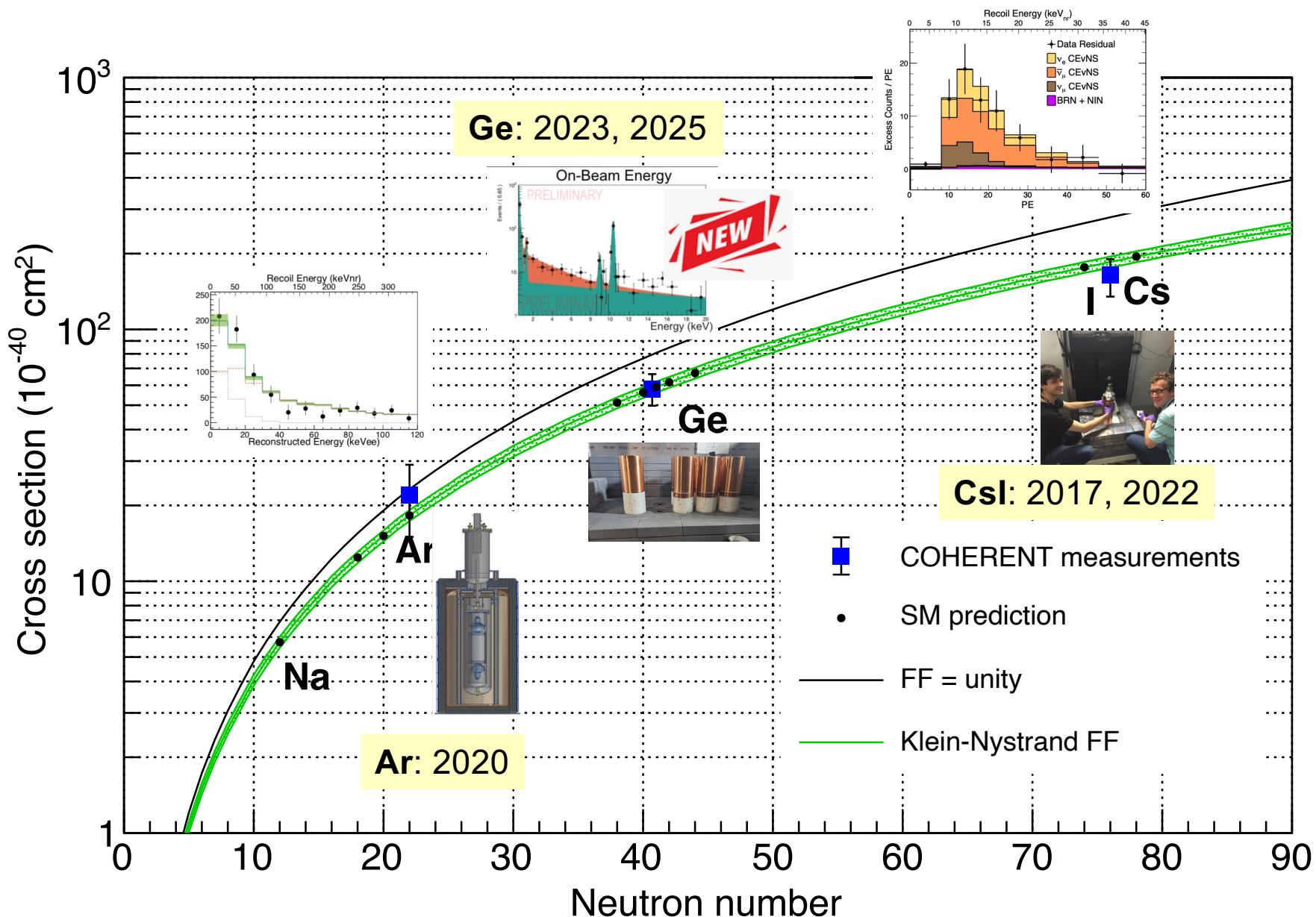


View looking  
down “Neutrino Alley”



Isotropic  $\nu$  glow from Hg SNS target

# Measurements in 3 targets from COHERENT



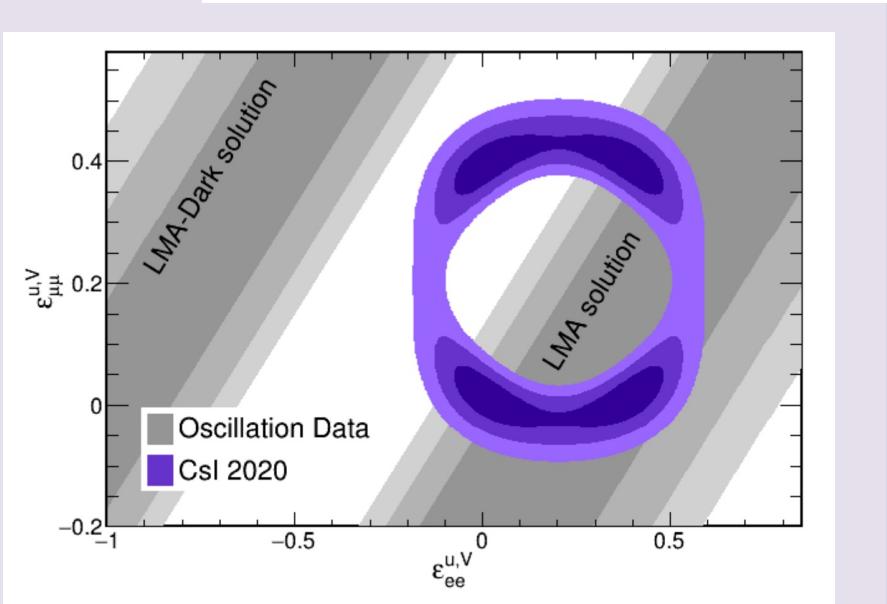
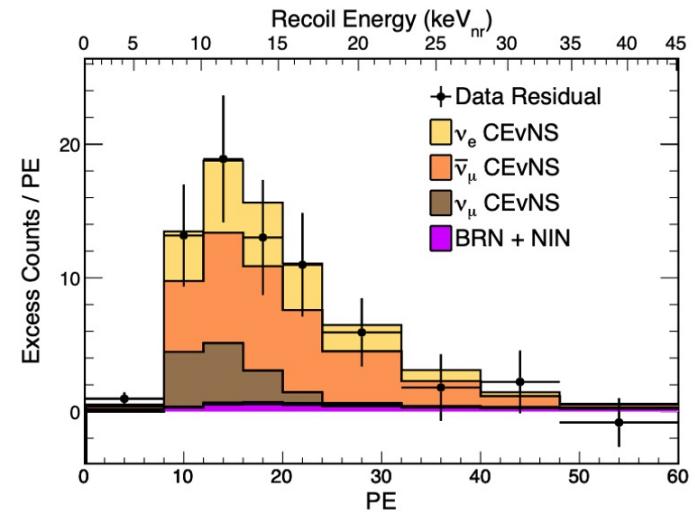
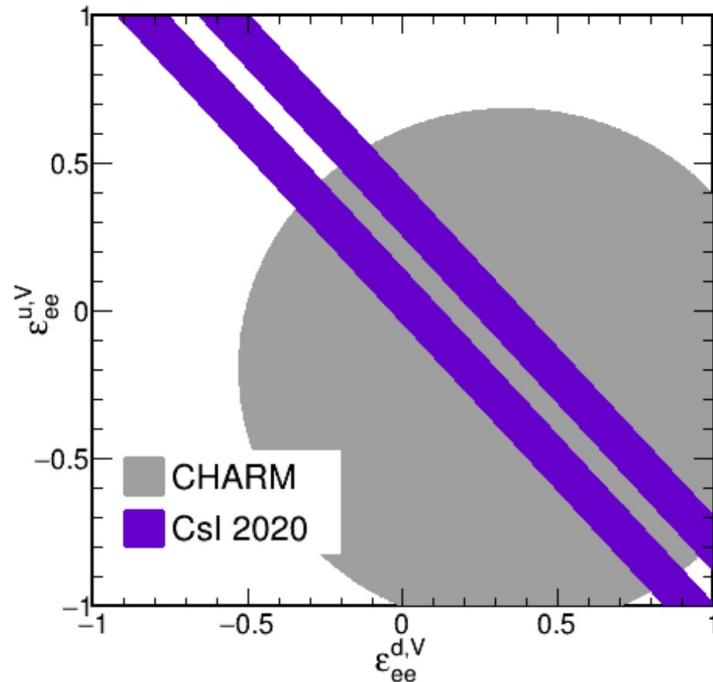
# Example physics interpretations from COHERENT CsI CEvNS

Phys. Rev. Lett. 129 (2022) 8, 081801 · e-Print: [2110.07730](https://arxiv.org/abs/2110.07730) [hep-ex]

## Weak Mixing Angle

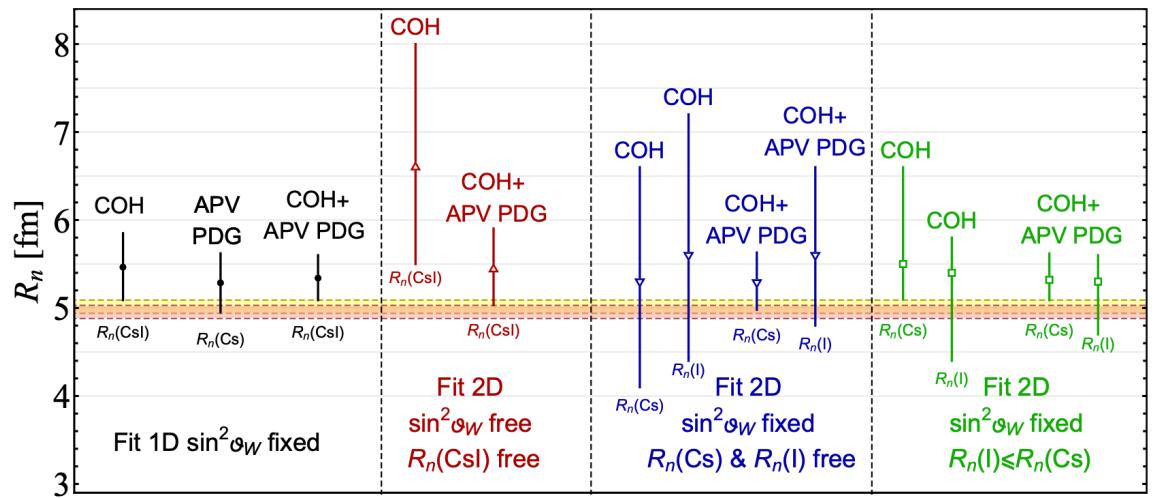
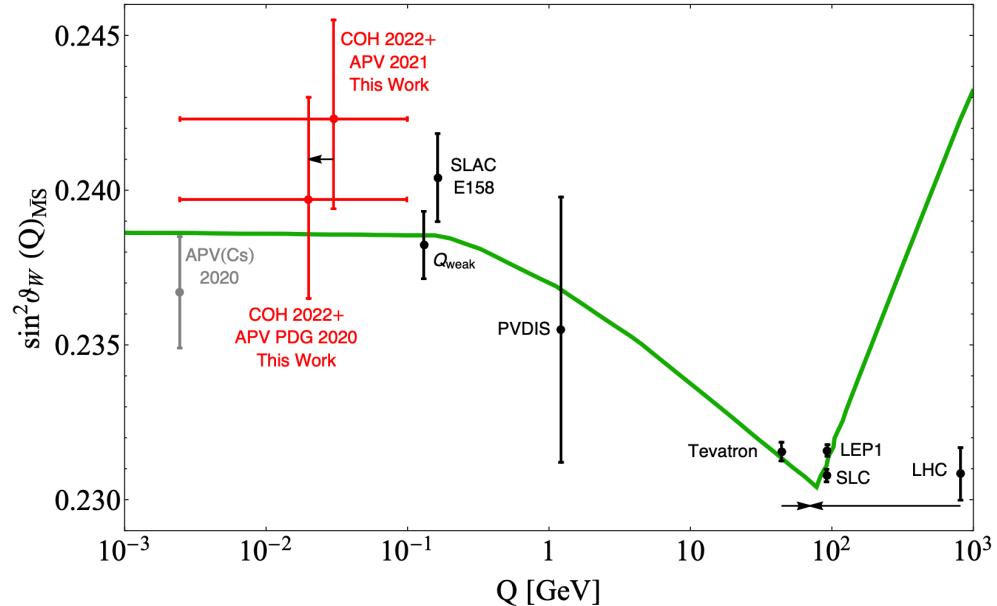
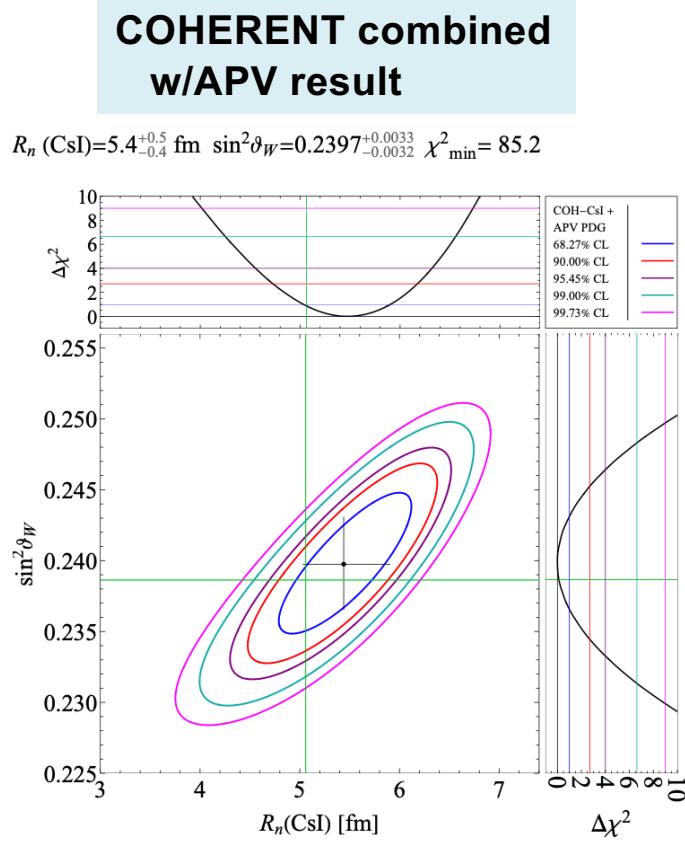
$$\sin^2 \theta_W = 0.220^{+0.028}_{-0.026}$$

## NSI constraints

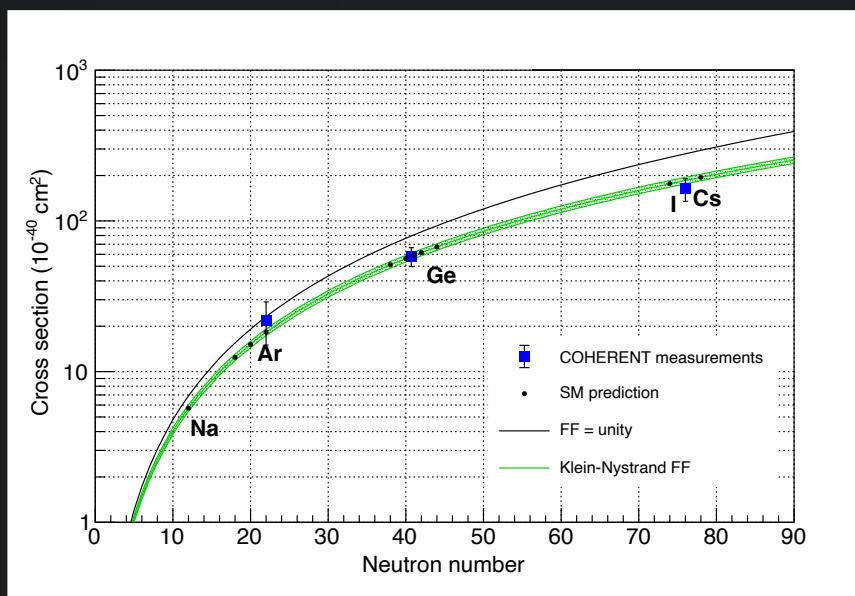
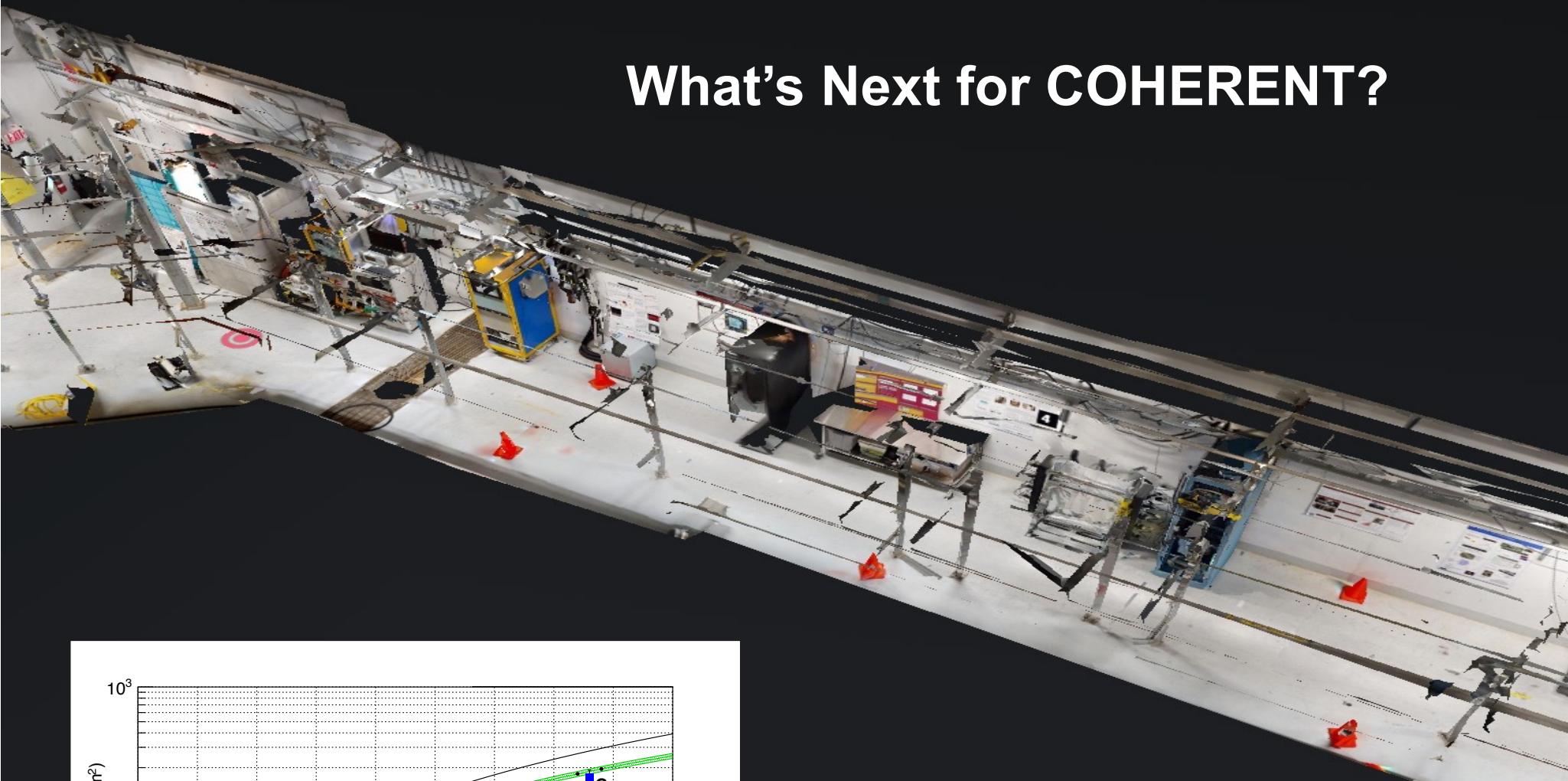


# WMA and Neutron Radius from COHERENT CsI data

: Eur.Phys.J.C 83 (2023) 7, 683 · e-Print: 2303.09360 [nucl-ex]

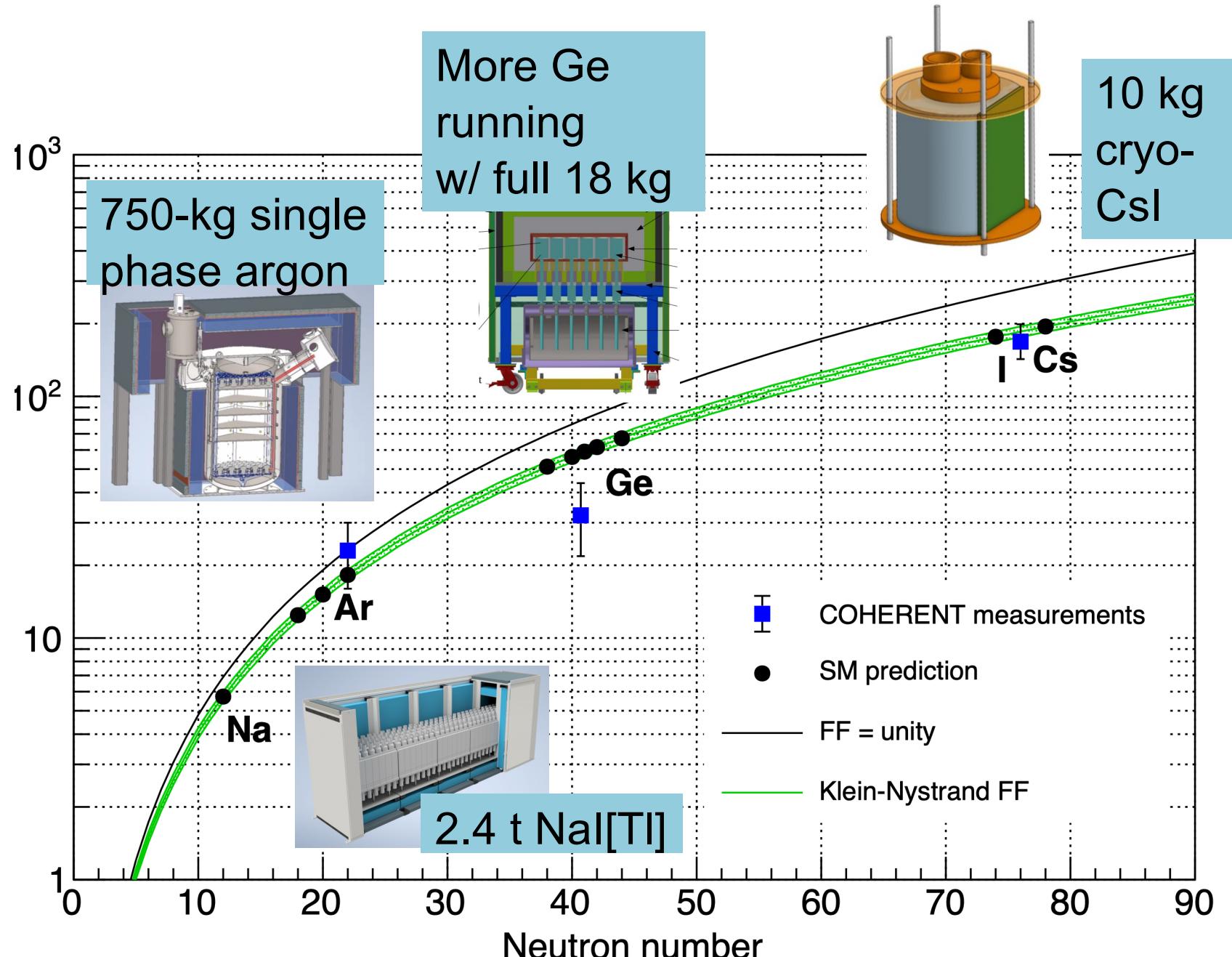


# What's Next for COHERENT?



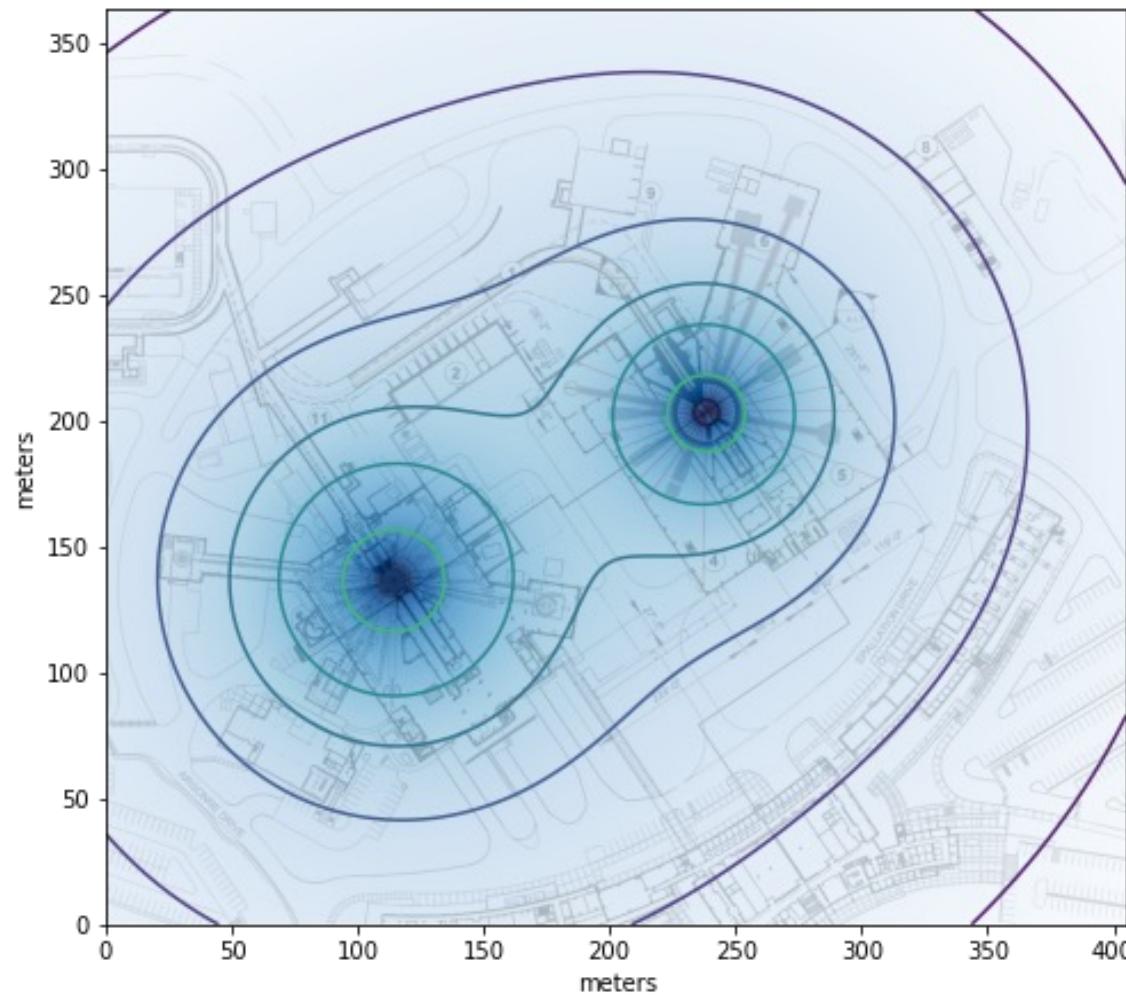
Three down!  
But still more  
to go!

# Ongoing CEvNS in Neutrino Alley



(... and more inelastics)

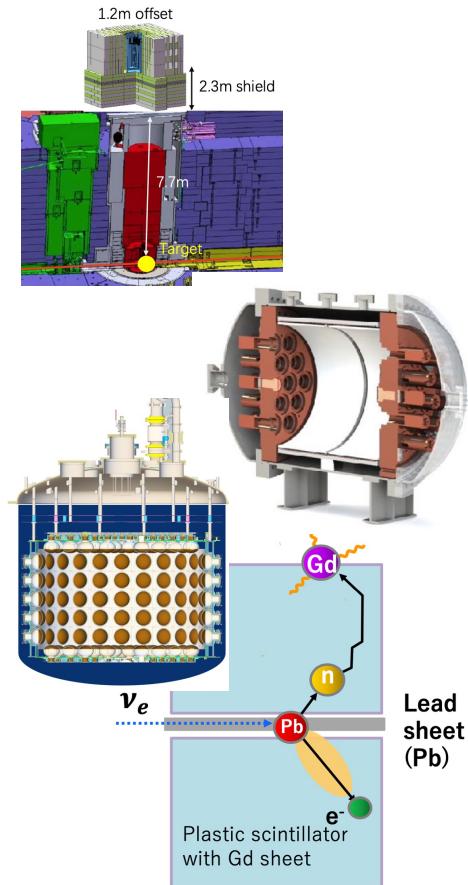
SNS power upgrade to 2 MW underway,  
Second Target Station upgrade to 2.8 MW ~2030's



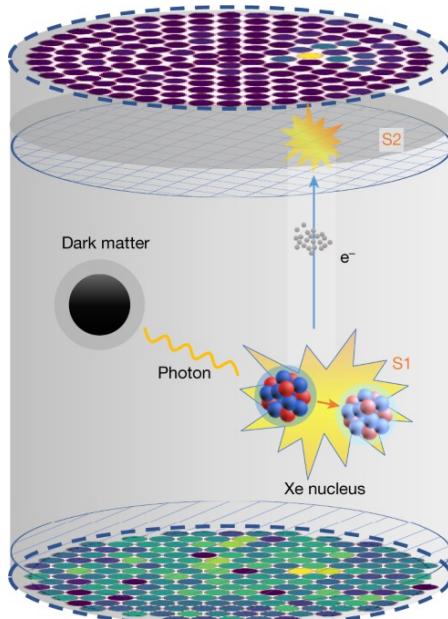
Many exciting possibilities for  $\nu$ 's + DM!

# Other Experiments at Stopped-Pion Sources

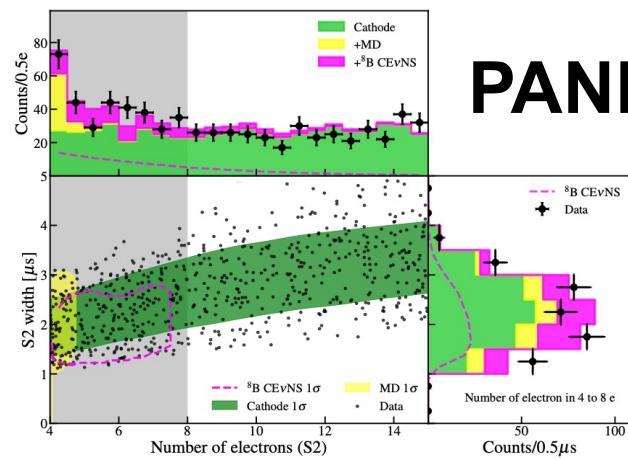
Facility	Country	Experiment(s)
China Spallation Neutron Source	China	CLOVERS
European Spallation Source	Sweden	NuESS (several)
Lujan, LANL	USA	Coherent Captain Mills
Materials and Life Science Facility, J-PARC	Japan	JSNS <sup>2</sup> , DArVeX [not CEvNS]
Spallation Neutron Source, ORNL	USA	COHERENT, (EOS)



# Dark matter experiments starting to descend through the neutrino "fog" (or "glare")

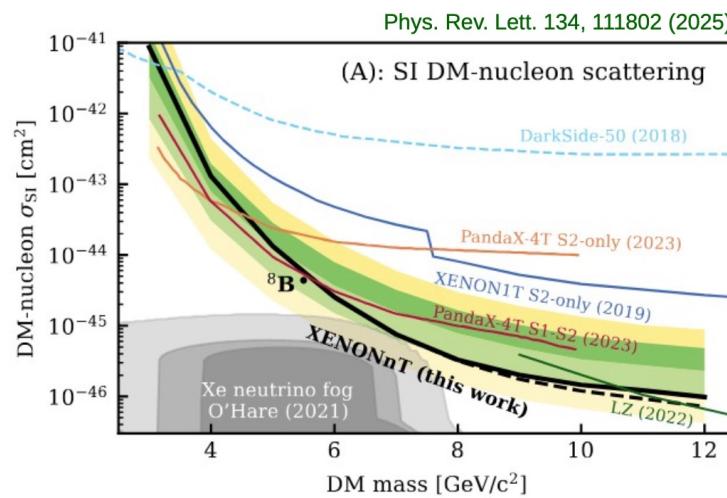


Dual-phase  
low-energy  
TPCs

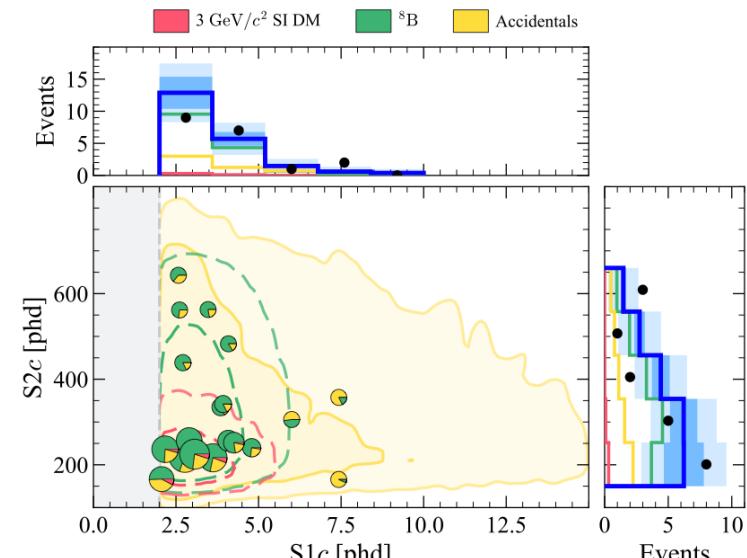


PANDA-X

**Solar v CEvNS  
in three DM  
experiments**



**XENONnT**



[arXiv:2512.08065v2](https://arxiv.org/abs/2512.08065v2)

# Many experiments worldwide in the game

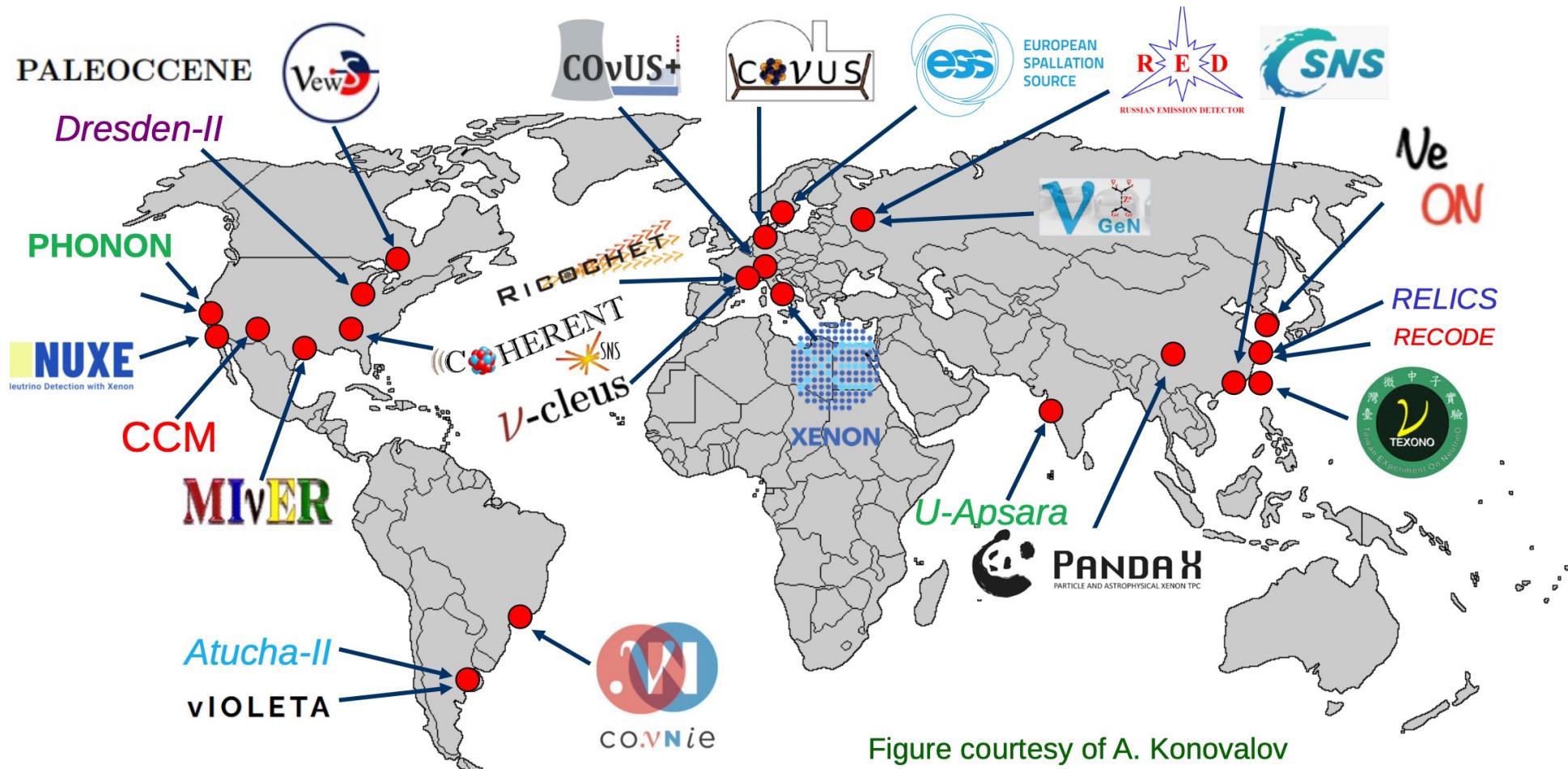


Figure courtesy of A. Konovalov

# Reactor CEvNS experiments with measurements (signal or limits)

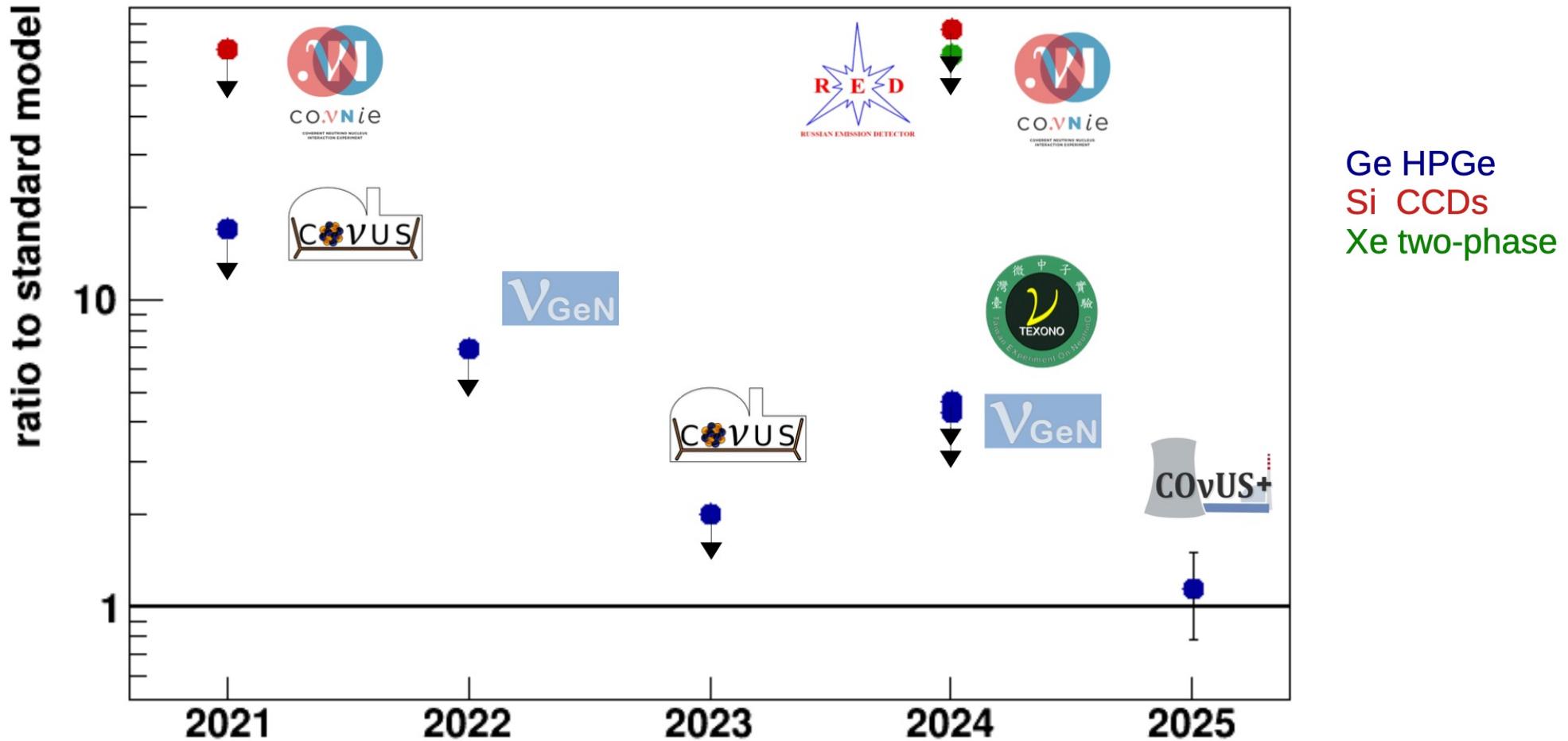
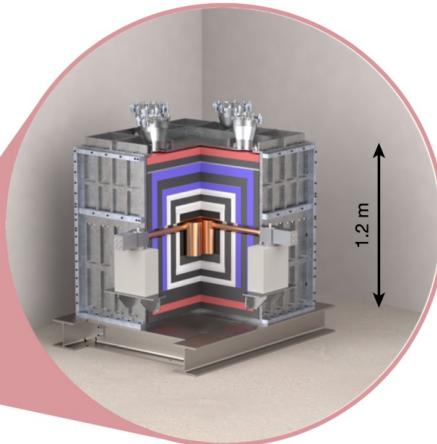
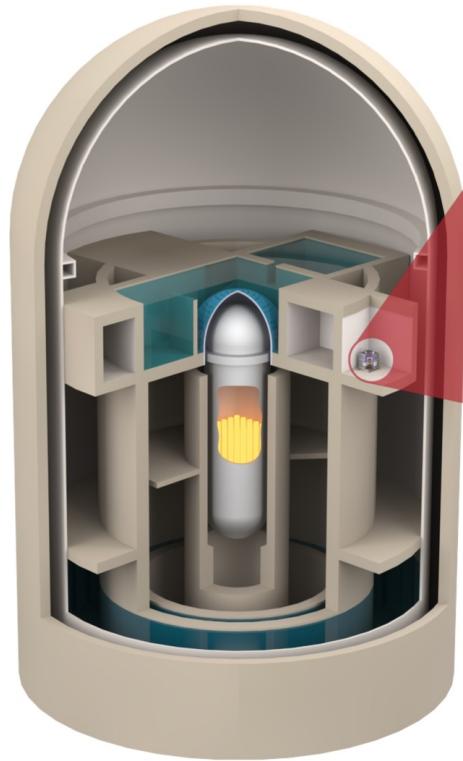


Figure from J. Hakenmüller

# And reactor CEvNS has finally been seen!

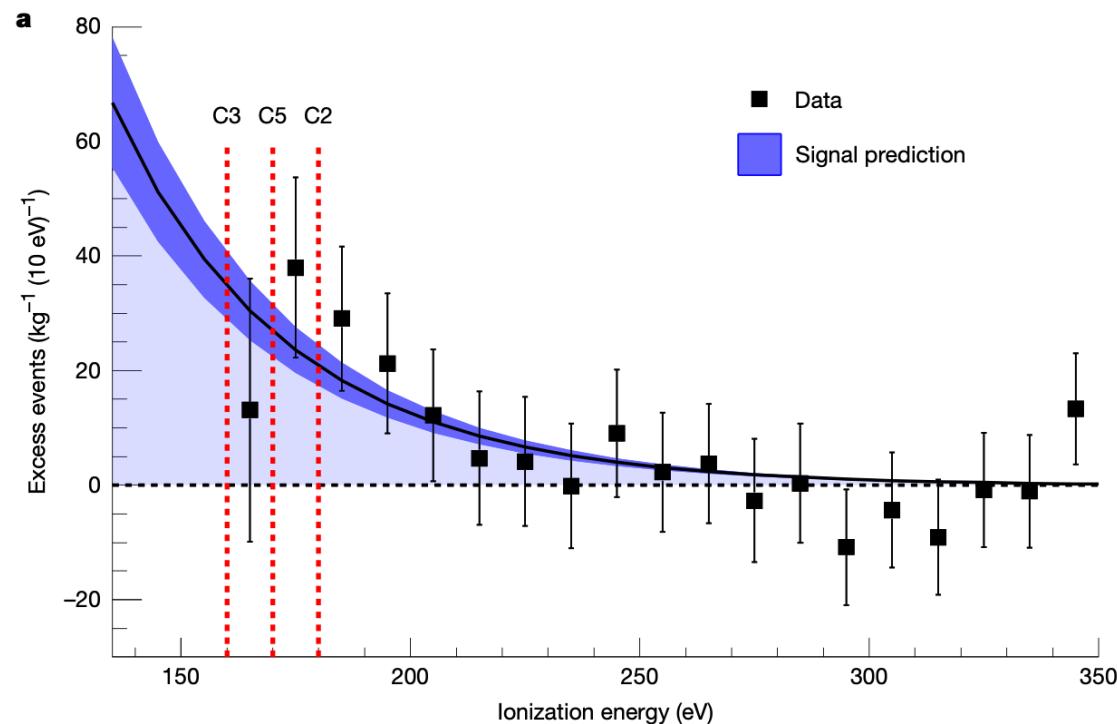


## CONUS+

4 ~1kg HPGe detectors  
3.7 $\sigma$  measurement

Nature 643, 1229–1233 (2025)

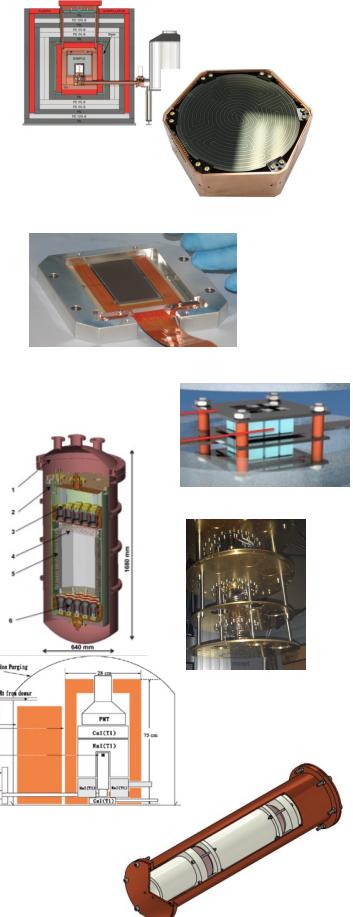
Ratio to SM:  
1.14+0.36



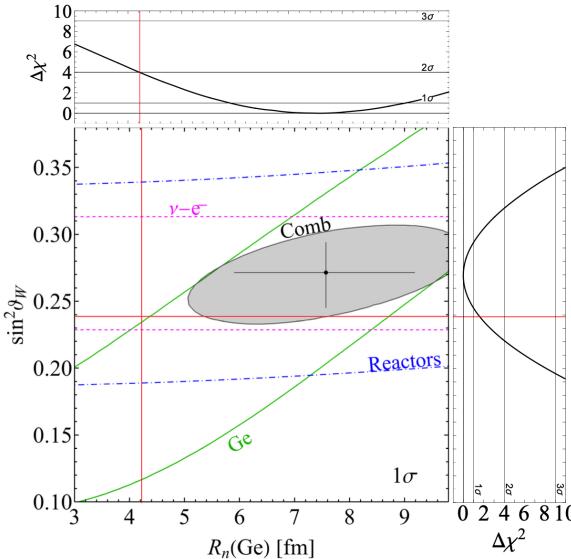
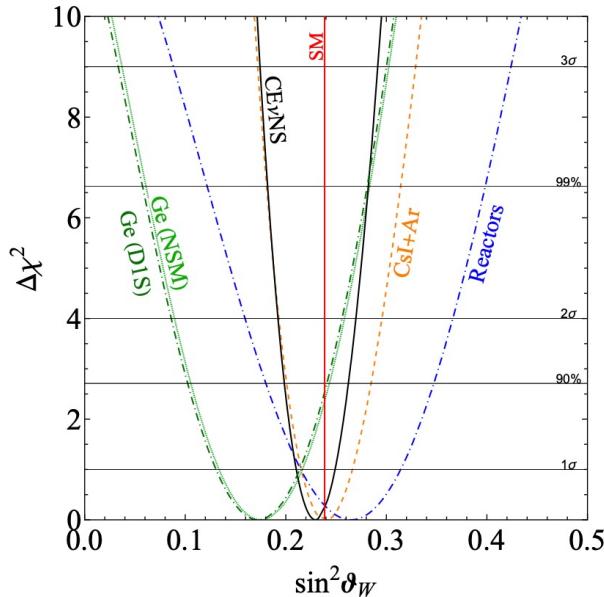
# Many technologies in play, going for low threshold

Experiment	Distance to core ( m )	max. $\nu$ flux ( $\text{cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ )	Target nuclei	$E_{nr}$ recoil best (eff.) (keVr)	Status
<b>Semiconductor</b>					
CONUS+ [80]	20.7	$1.5 \cdot 10^{13}$	Ge	0.9 (>95%)	running
NuGeN [122]	11.1 <sup>(***)</sup>	$4.4 \cdot 10^{13}$	Ge	1.6 (90%)	running
CONNIE [83]	30	$7.8 \cdot 10^{12}$	Si	0.24 (15%)	running
CONUS [121]	17.1	$2.3 \cdot 10^{13}$	Ge	1.2 (20%)	finished
TEXONO [123]	28	$6.4 \cdot 10^{12}$	Ge	1.1 (30%)	finished
NCC-1701 [125]	10.4	$4.8 \cdot 10^{13}$	Ge	1.1 (0%)	finished
RECODE [129]	~25	$\sim 1.0 \cdot 10^{13}$	Ge	0.9 <sup>(**)</sup>	comm.
Atucha II [130]	12	$2.3 \cdot 10^{13}$	Si	0.44 (45%)	comm.
<b>Cryogenic bolometers</b>					
NUCLEUS [92]	72, 102	$3.0 \cdot 10^{12}$	W, Ca Al, O	0.02 <sup>(**)</sup>	comm.
RICOCHET [136] <sup>(*)</sup>	8.8	$1.1 \cdot 10^{12}$	Ge, Zn	0.01 <sup>(**)</sup>	comm.
<b>Noble gas/liquid</b>					
RED-100 [89]	19	$1.4 \cdot 10^{13}$	Xe, Ar	2 (15%)	running
RELICS [132]	~25	$\sim 1.0 \cdot 10^{13}$	Xe	0.6-1.4 <sup>(**)</sup>	comm.
<b>Scintillating crystals</b>					
NEON [78]	23.7	$8.1 \cdot 10^{12}$	Na, I	2, 6 <sup>(**)</sup>	running

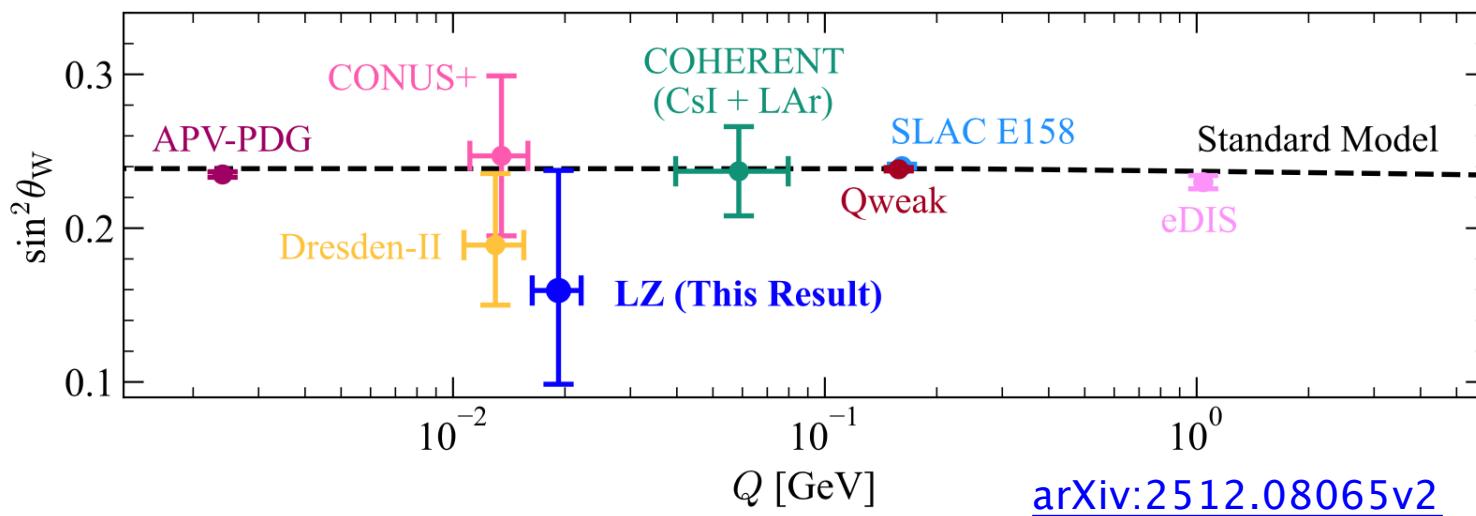
+ directional recoils (CYGNUS), mineral detection (PALEOCCENE), supernova (RES-NOVA) and more...



# More interpretation with new data rolling in



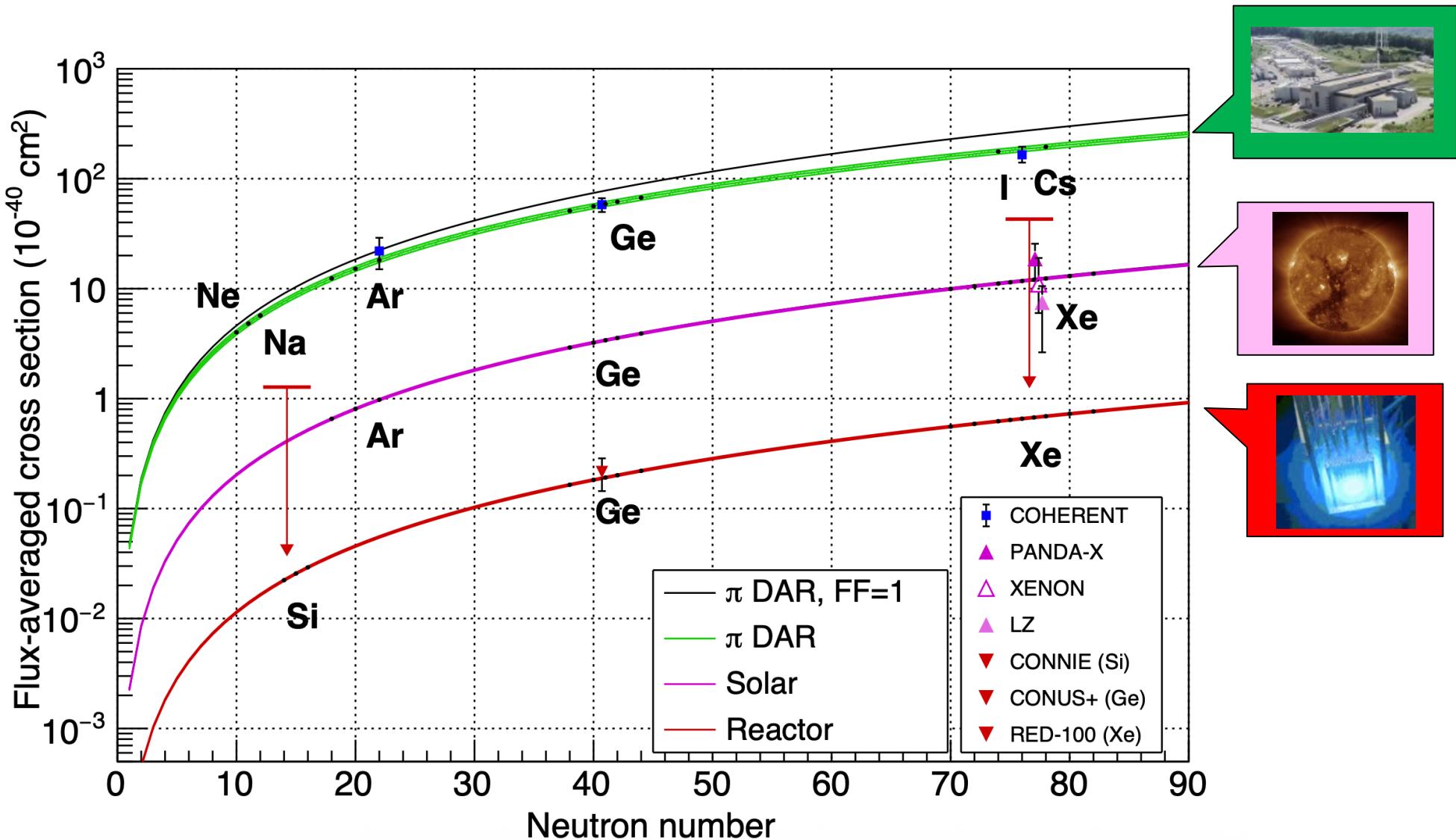
*Phys.Lett.B 869 (2025) 139856 · e-Print: 2506.13555 [hep-ph]*



Including  
LZ  
data

[arXiv:2512.08065v2](https://arxiv.org/abs/2512.08065v2)

# Worldwide CEvNS status



"Best" measurement for each target/source combination

# Summary

**Area 1: electron-nucleus scattering to inform understanding of neutrino-nucleus interactions, primarily for  $\nu$  oscillation physics**



Data under analysis to improve event generator tuning & reduce uncertainties

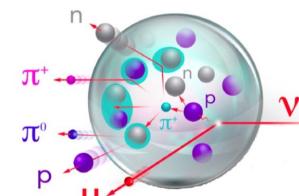
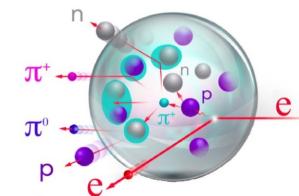
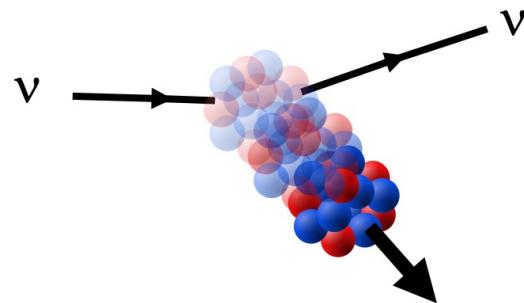
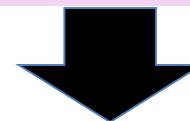


Image credit: J. Vidal



**Area 2: neutrino-nucleus elastic scattering for electroweak physics, BSM and nuclear structure, complementary to PVES**



Rich program of CEvNS experiments w/ initial  $R_n$ ,  $\sin^2\theta_W$  measurements; not (yet) as precise as PVES but different approach

And more connections out there...!

# **Extras/Backups**