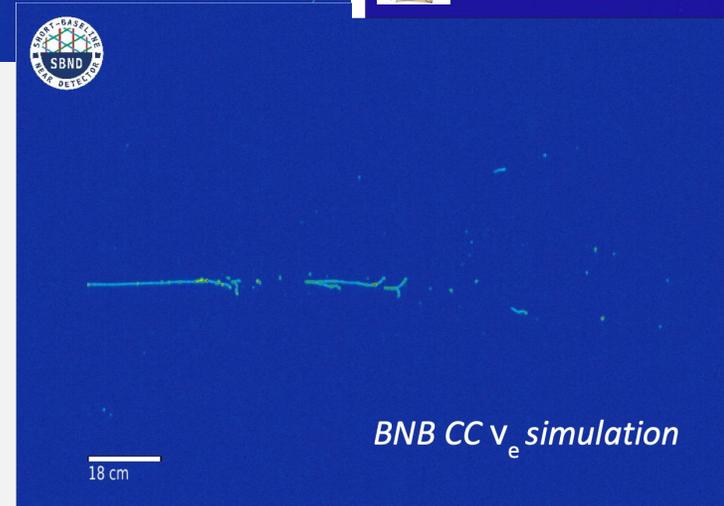
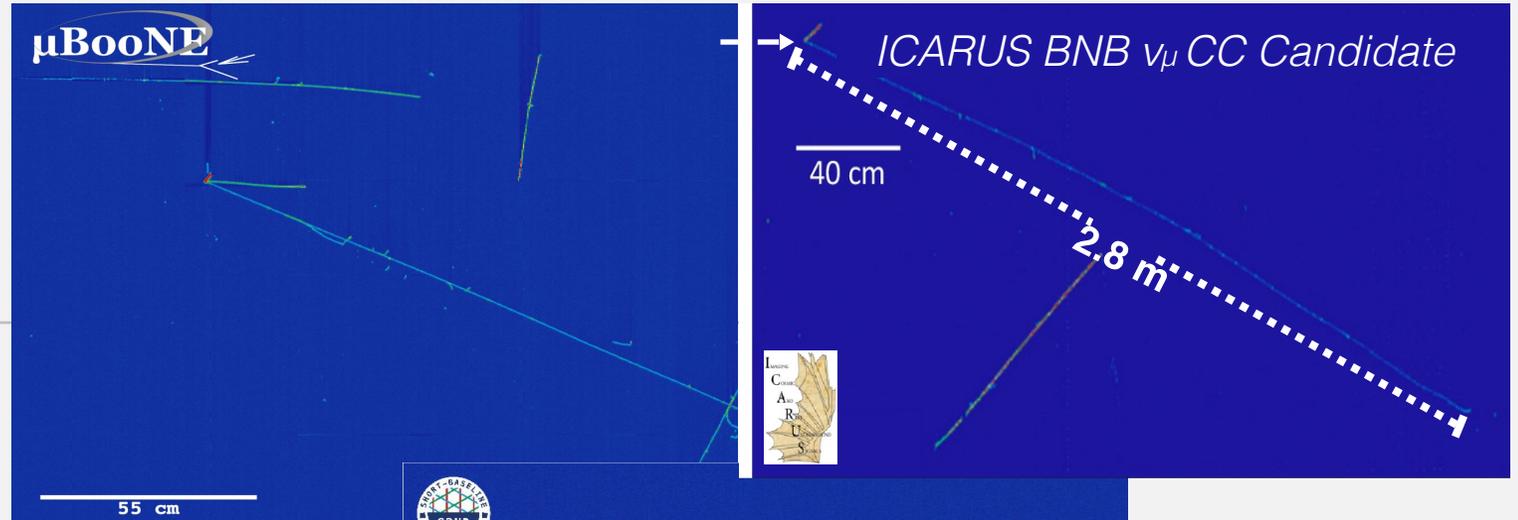




21-23 October 2022
Katowice
Europe/Warsaw timezone

Short-baseline program at Fermilab

Jaroslav Nowak
for the SBN Collaborations



Short-baseline results

The 3-(active) ν oscillation parameters have been measured with excellent precision by many experiments.

But questions remains un-answered:

- Are these active neutrinos their own anti-particle (**Majorana**)?
 - Jointly with δ_{CP} they could answer the matter/anti-matter asymmetry.
- Do more exotic **right-handle neutrinos (sterile)** exist ?

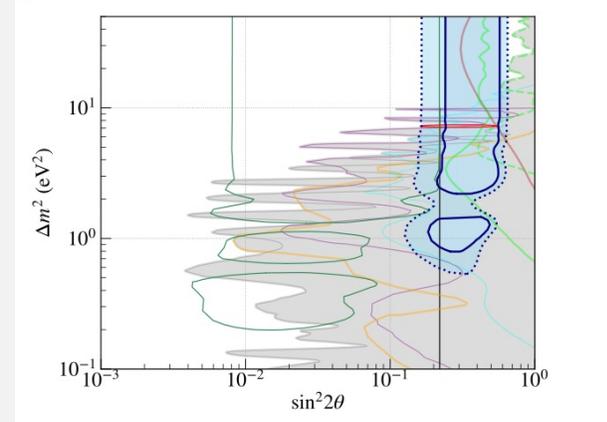
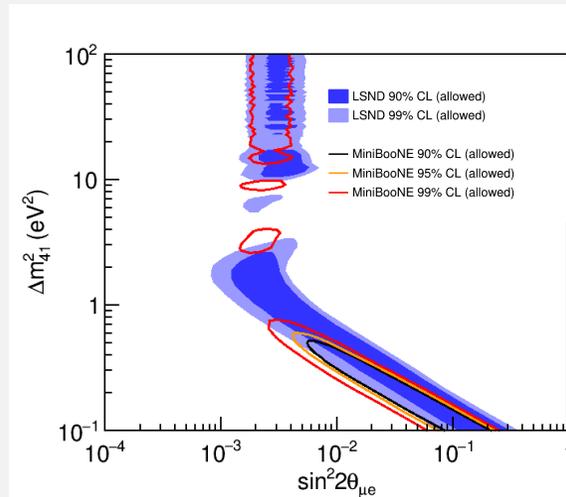
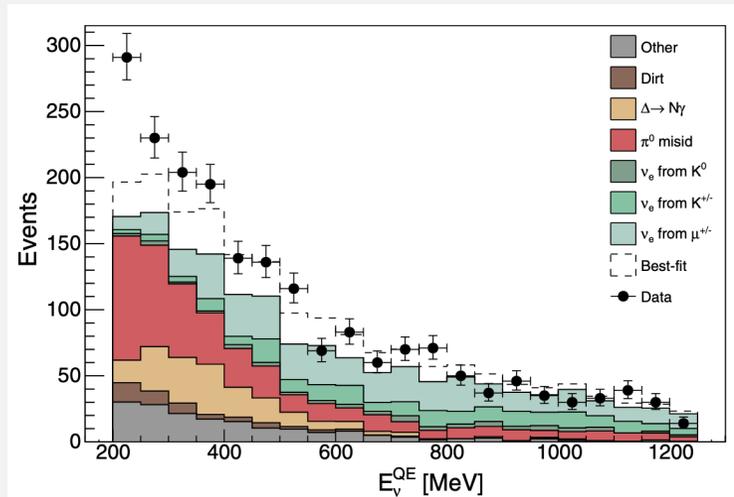
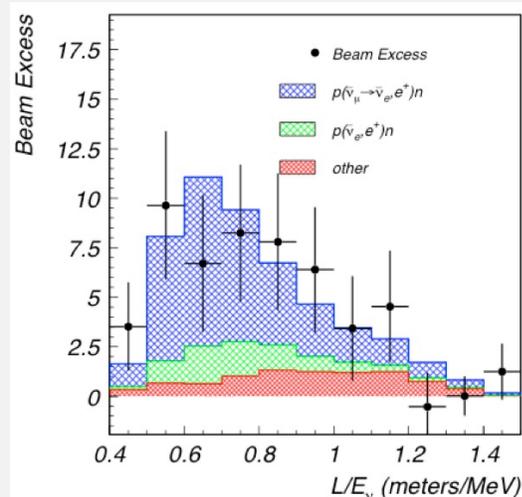
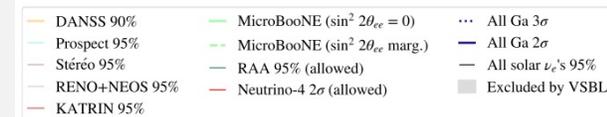
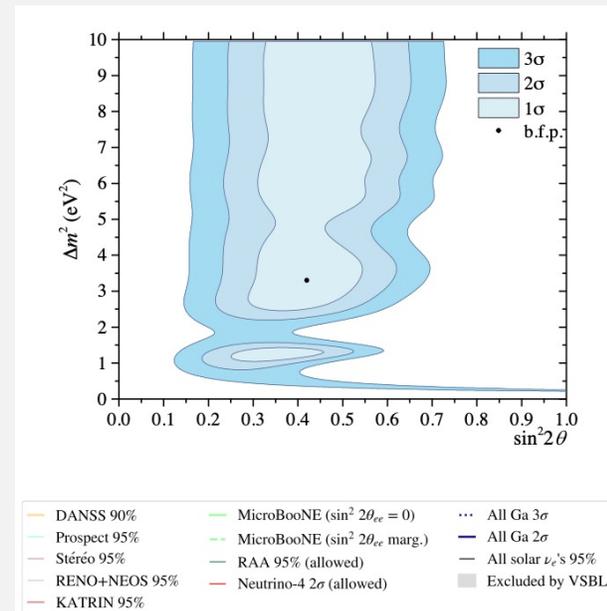
Observed experimental anomalies motivate the search of sterile neutrinos.

LSND

Phys. Rev. D 64, 112007

MiniBooNE

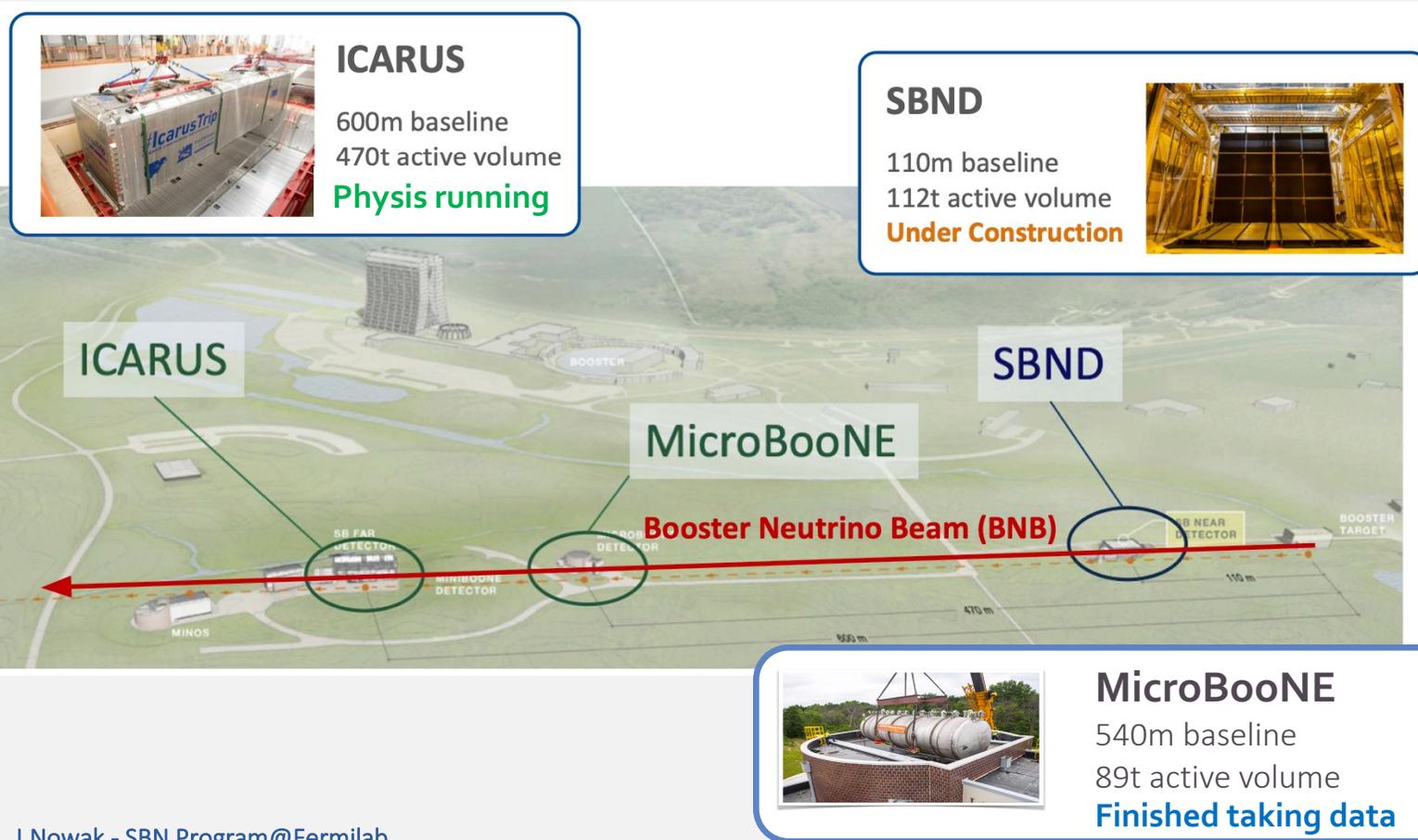
PHYS. REV. D 103, 052002 (2021)



□ If interpreted as ν_e appearance through a two-flavour neutrino oscillation, best fit $\Delta m^2 = 0.04 \text{ eV}^2$

The Short Baseline Neutrino Program at Fermilab

The role of SBN is to perform a robust measurement in the search of sterile neutrinos, while also provides a broad spectrum of other new physics beyond the standard model.

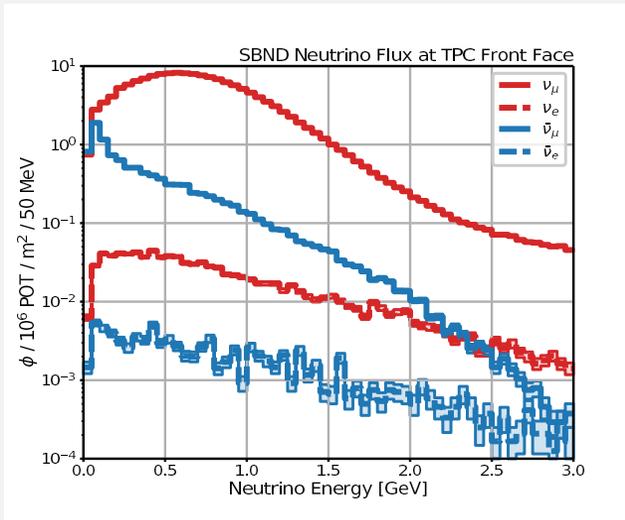


Our strategy to reduce uncertainties:

- Three detectors sampling the **same neutrino beam at different distances** (BNB)
- **Same nuclear target** (Ar) and **detector technology** (LArTPC: liquid argon time projection chambers)

Two Neutrino fluxes

- All SBN detectors are on-axis for the Booster Neutrino Beam



Neutrino flux at the SBND front face.

Mean muon-neutrino energy: $\sim 0.8 \text{ GeV}$

Beam composition:

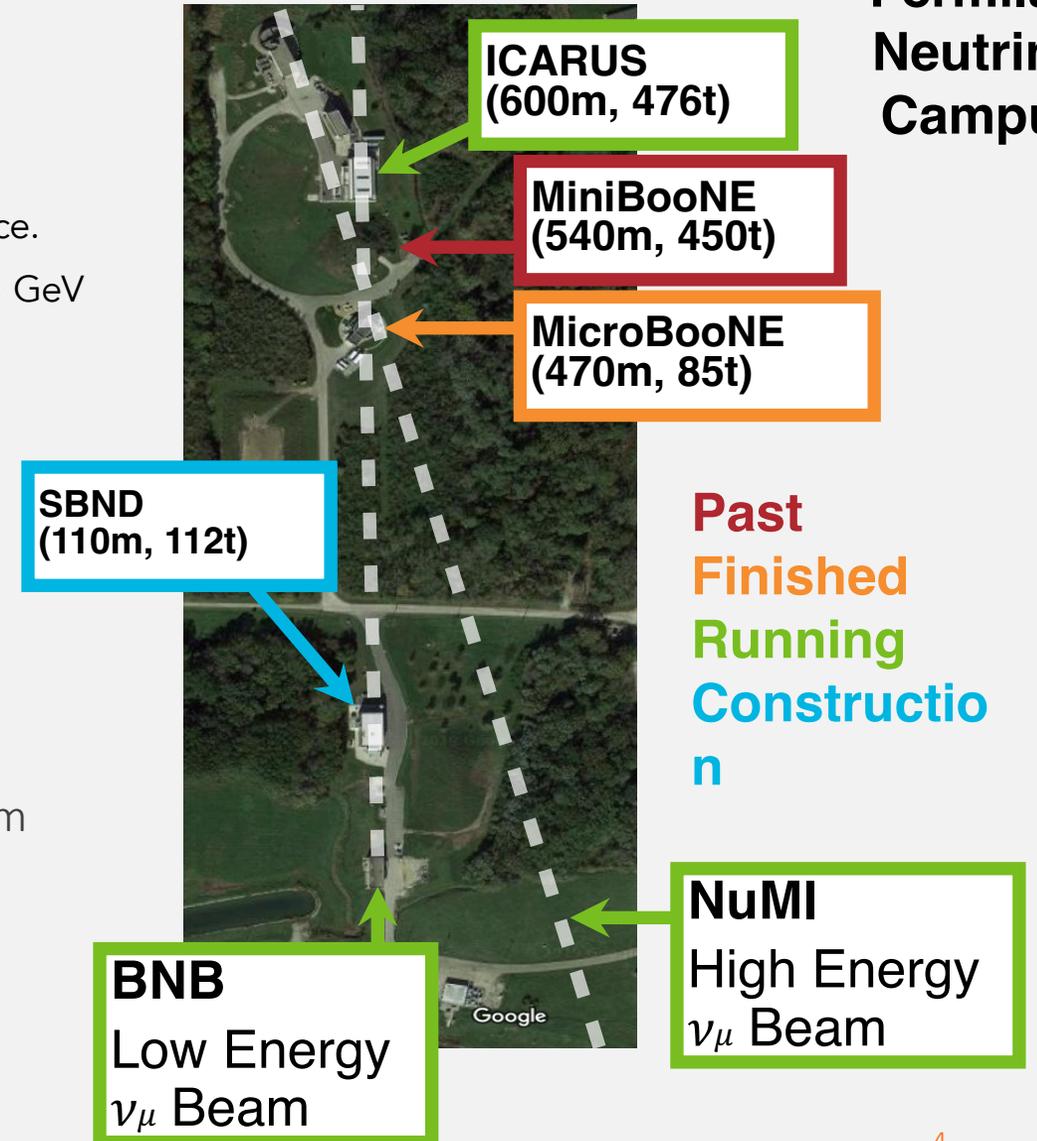
ν_μ (93.6%)

$\bar{\nu}_\mu$ (5.9%)

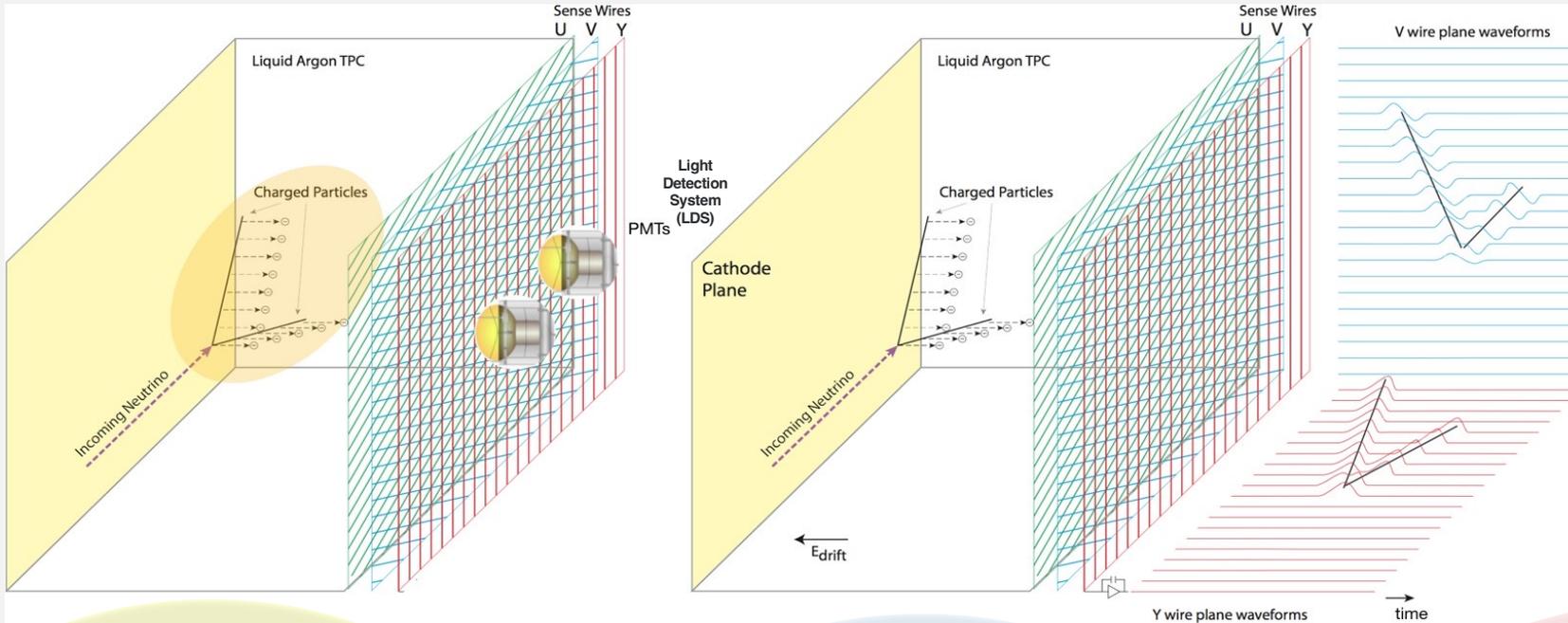
$\nu_e + \bar{\nu}_e$ (0.5%)

- Each of the detector is at different off-axis angle for the NuMI beam
 - Different compositions of the beam (ν_μ / ν_e)
 - Different energies of neutrinos

Fermilab
Neutrino
Campus



LArTPC at work



- 3D reconstruction with **mm resolution**.
- Excellent **particle identification** with dE/dx information.
- **Low energy thresholds**, sub-MeV to GeV.

Charged particles in LAr produce free ionization electrons and scintillation light

Ionization charge drifts in a uniform electric field towards the readout wire-planes

Digitized signals from the wires are collected [*time of the wire pulses gives the drift coordinate of the track and amplitude gives the deposited charge*]

*m.i.p. at 500 V/cm: $\sim 60,000 e/cm$
 $\sim 50,000 photons/cm$*

Electron drift time $\sim ms$

VUV photons propagate and are shifted into VIS photons

Scintillation light **fast** signals from LDSs give event timing

Data taking in 2023!

Near Detector: SBND

Short-Baseline Near Detector being assembled at Fermilab

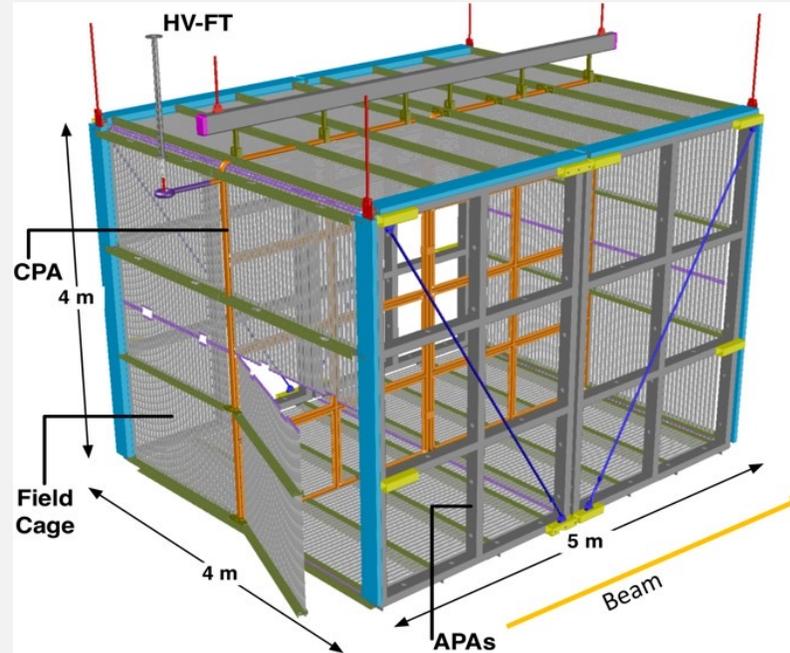
Two TPCs

112 tons of LAr

HV feedthrough



16 field shaping panels



11k wires across two planes



Cold electronics reduce noise



Cathode fitted w/ reflectors



High light collection eff



MicroBooNE detector

Proposal: 2007 (*addendum, 2008*)

Construction: 2010-2012

Installation & Commissioning: 2012-2015

Operations: 2015-2020

R&D Phase: 2021

Detector shutdown: 2022

Physics data analysis continues...

More than 50 publications
within the last 5 years

More than 75 public notes
sharing with the
community as we go

More than 50 PhDs
training experts in LArTPC
technology



Far Detector: ICARUS

TPC and PMTs

(2 out of 4 TPCs)



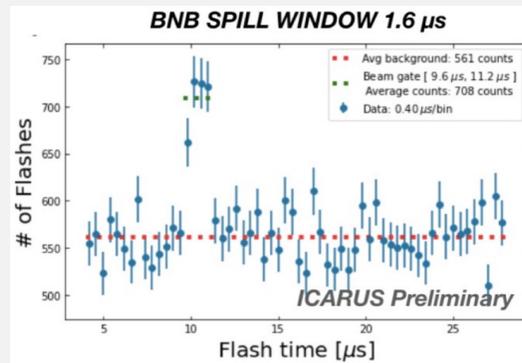
Cosmic Taggers



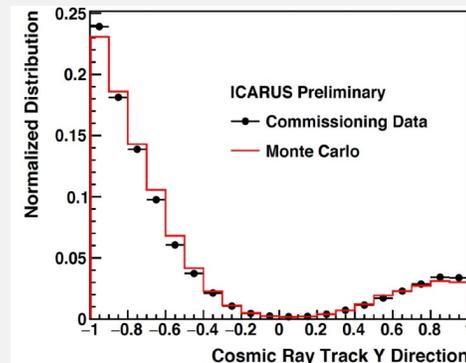
3 m Overburden



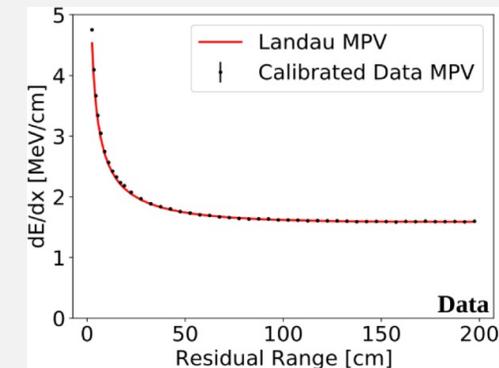
- ICARUS was originally deployed in Gran Sasso and exposed to the LGNS beam before moving to CERN to be refurbished for its run at Fermilab.
- Data taking started fall 2020, with stable noise & electron lifetime (>3 ms)



Commissioning

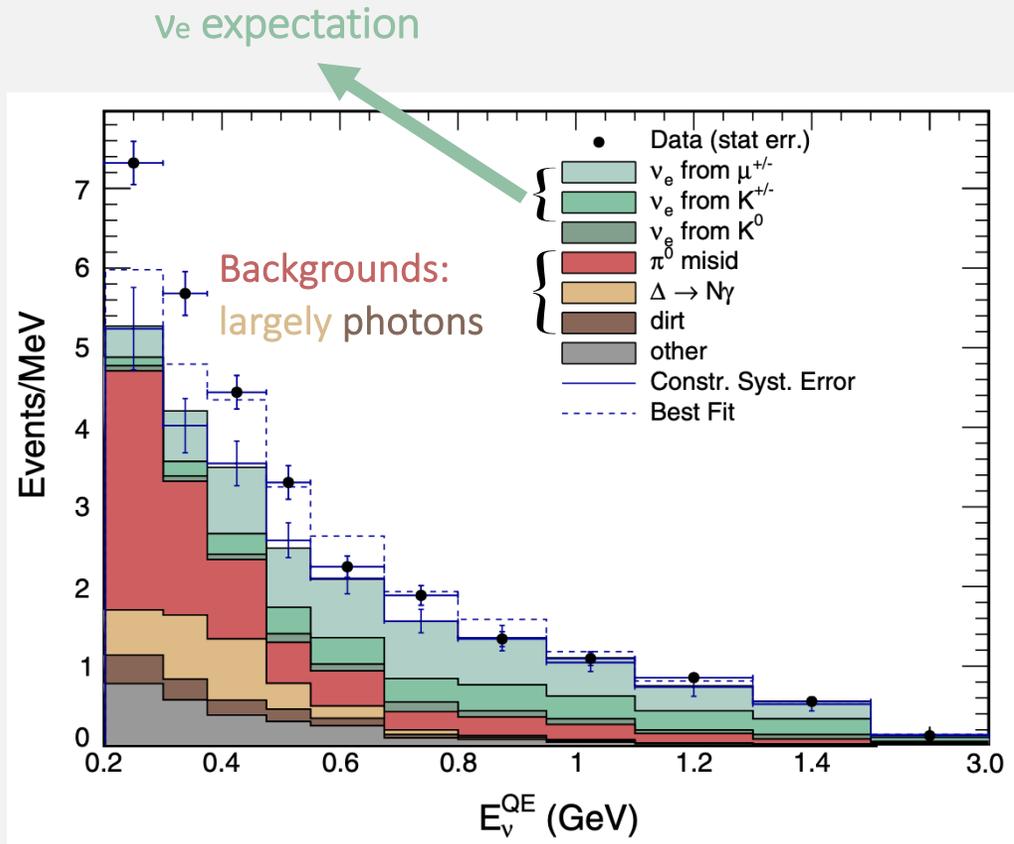


Data-to-MC Comparisons



Calibrations

The MiniBooNE low-energy excess (LEE)

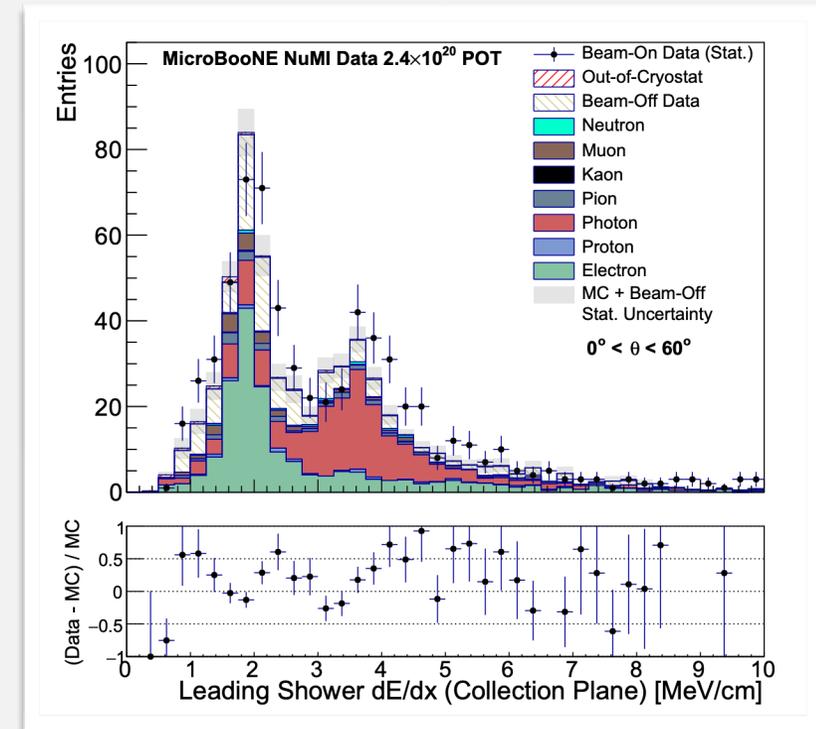
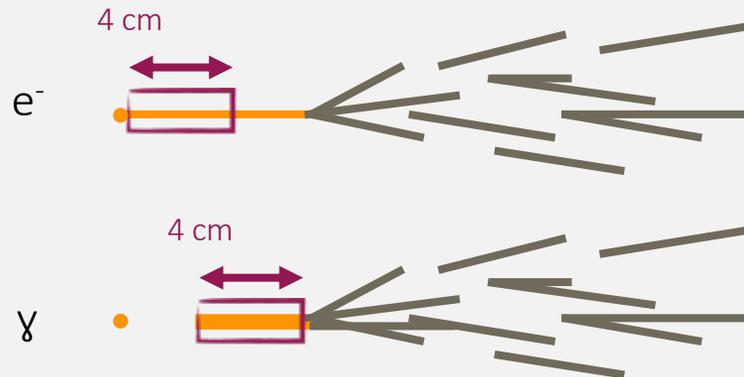
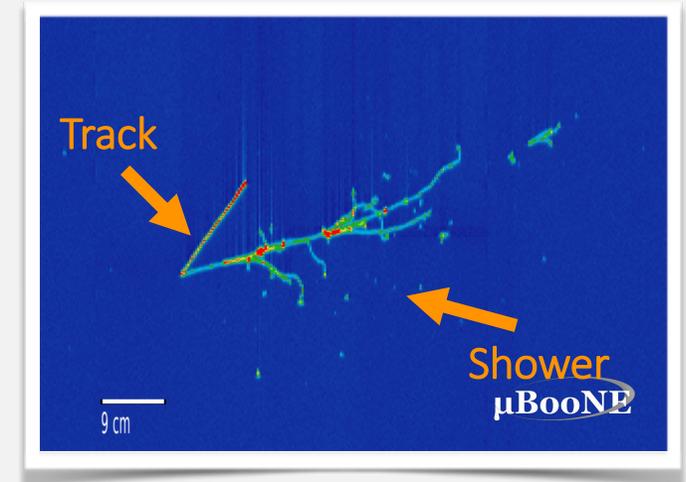


- 4.8 σ excess of measured ν_e and $\bar{\nu}_e$ over prediction, focused at low energy
- Consistent with prior results from the LSND experiment: combined significance of 6.1 σ
- Source of excess not known:
 - could be ν_e
 - photons look identical to electrons in MiniBooNE detector
 - or something else?

[Phys. Rev. D 103, 052002](#)

LArTPC STRENGTH: electrons and photons

- Electrons and photons produce showers in LArTPCs
- Distinguish using dE/dx at start of shower and start point

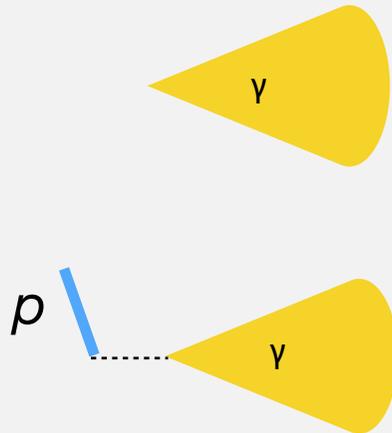


MicroBooNE first investigation of the MiniBooNE low-energy excess

Photon search

Target $\Delta \rightarrow N\gamma$:

$1\gamma 0p$ and $1\gamma 1p$



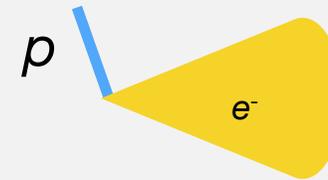
[Phys. Rev. Lett. 128, 111801](#)

Electron searches

[Phys. Rev. Lett. 128, 241801](#)

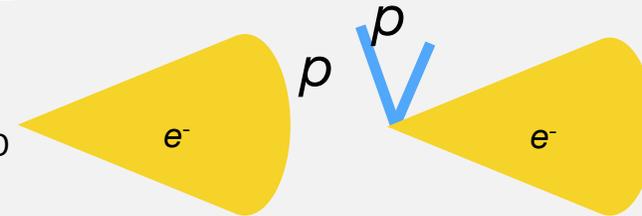
[Phys. Rev. D 105, 112003](#)

CCQE-like: $1e1p$



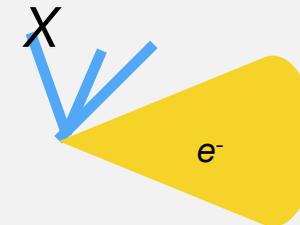
[Phys. Rev. D 105, 112004](#)

CC0 π :
 $1e0p$ and $1eNp$



[Phys. Rev. D 105, 112005](#)

Inclusive: $1eX$

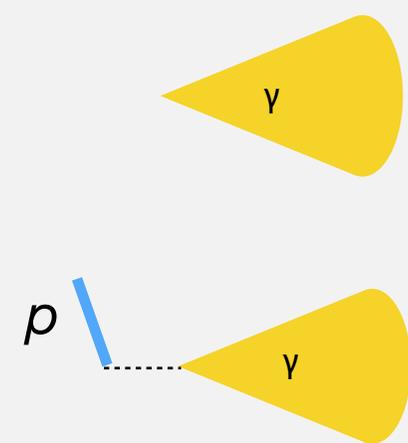


First investigation of the MiniBooNE low-energy excess

Photon search

Target $\Delta \rightarrow N\gamma$:

$1\gamma 0p$ and $1\gamma 1p$



The diagram shows two decay channels for a target nucleon (N). In the first, a nucleon line (represented by a blue line) ends at a yellow cone labeled γ . In the second, a nucleon line (blue) enters a yellow cone labeled γ from the left, with a dashed line indicating the continuation of the nucleon line.

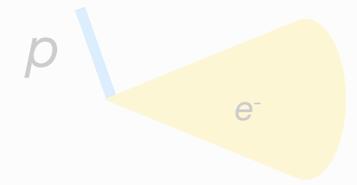
[Phys. Rev. Lett. 128, 111801](#)

Electron searches

[Phys. Rev. Lett. 128, 241801](#)

[Phys. Res. D 105, 112003](#)

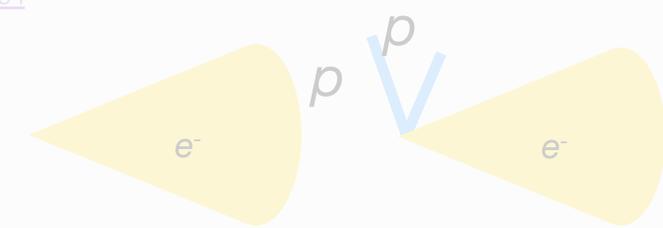
CCQE-like: $1e1p$



The diagram shows a blue line labeled p entering a yellow cone labeled e^- .

[Phys. Res. D 105, 112004](#)

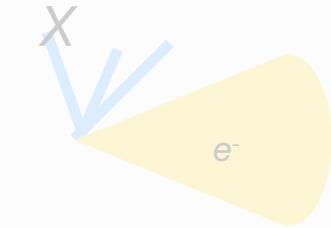
CC0 π : $1e0p$ and $1eNp$



The diagram shows two decay channels. The first shows a blue line labeled p entering a yellow cone labeled e^- . The second shows a blue line labeled p entering a yellow cone labeled e^- from the left, with another blue line labeled p exiting the cone to the right.

[Phys. Res. D 105, 112005](#)

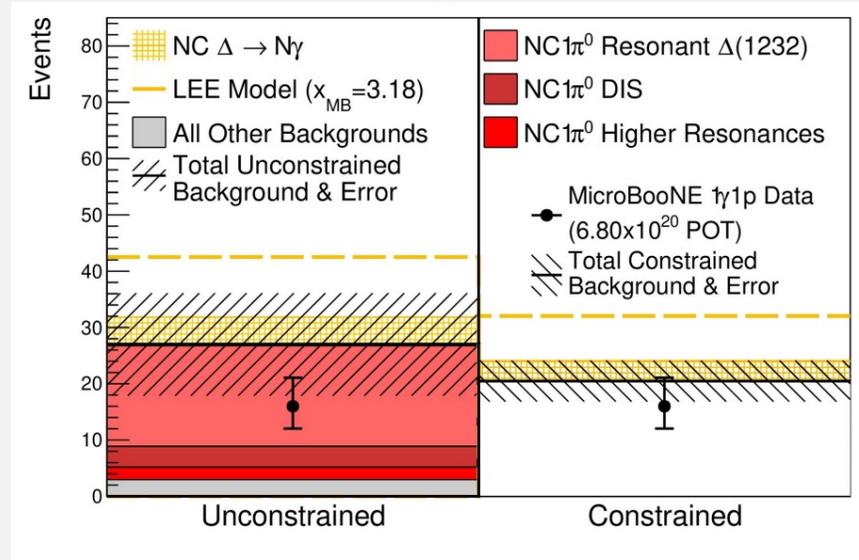
Inclusive: $1eX$



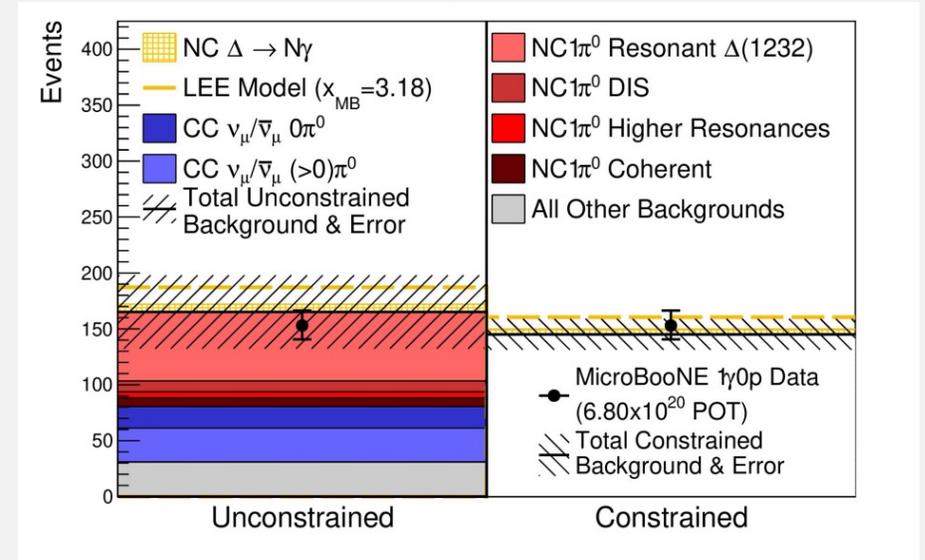
The diagram shows a blue line labeled X entering a yellow cone labeled e^- from the left, with two other blue lines exiting the cone to the right.

NC- Δ single photon search

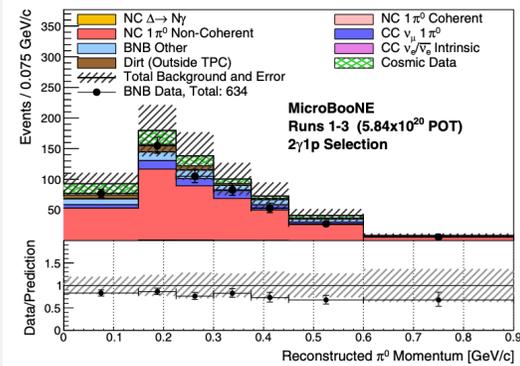
π^0 -rich sample
 \rightarrow constraint on
backgrounds in
signal region



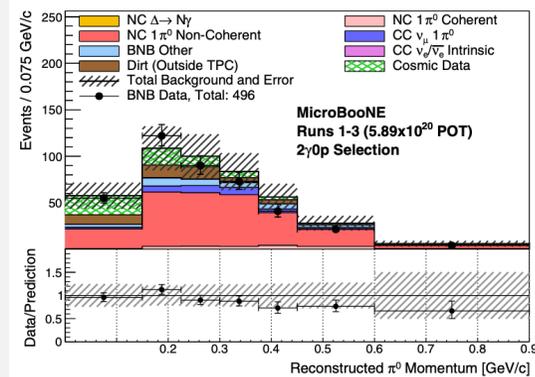
1 γ 1p



1 γ 0p



2 γ 1p



2 γ 0p

No evidence of an excess in either sample
Reject $\Delta \rightarrow N\gamma$ x3.18 increase as explanation
of excess at 94.8% CL

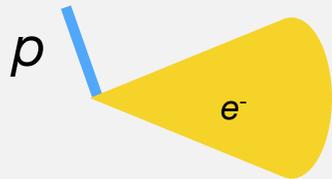
ν_e SEARCH

Electron searches

[Phys. Rev. Lett. 128, 241801](#)

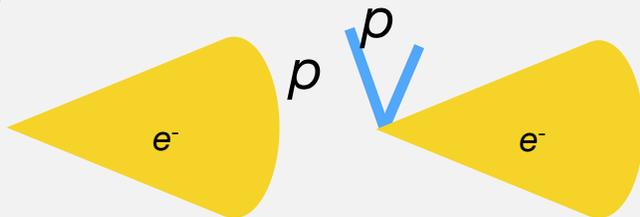
[Phys. Rev. D 105, 112003](#)

CCQE-like: $1e1p$



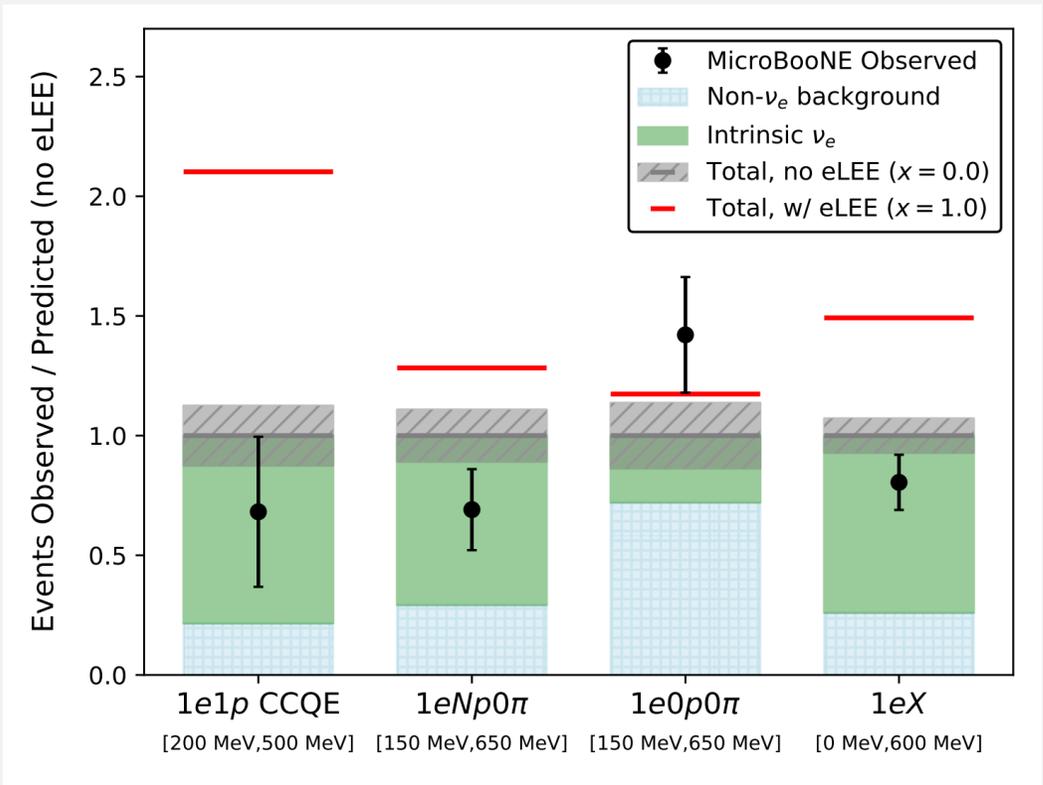
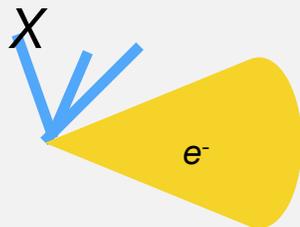
[Phys. Rev. D 105, 112004](#)

CC0 π :
 $1e0p$ and $1eNp$



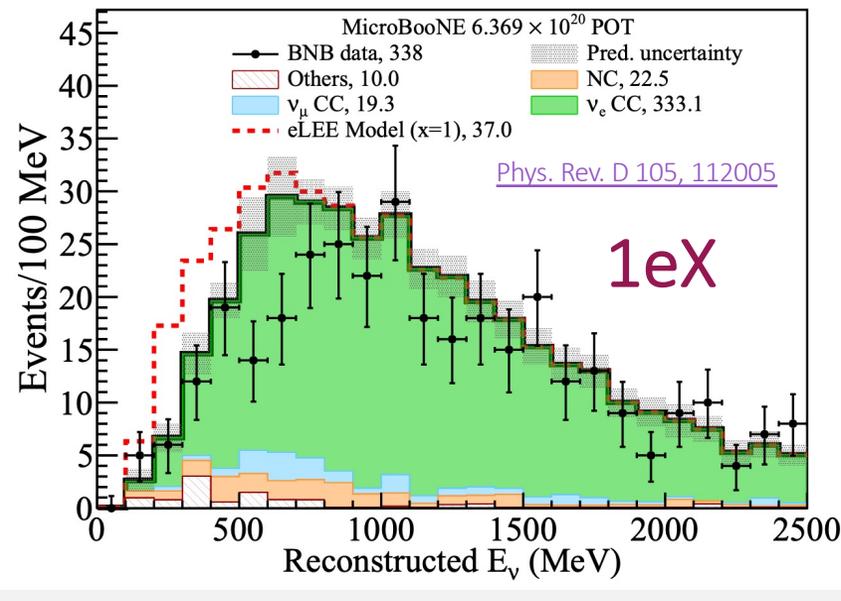
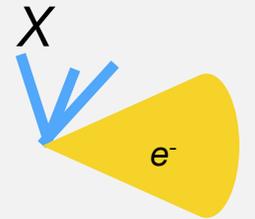
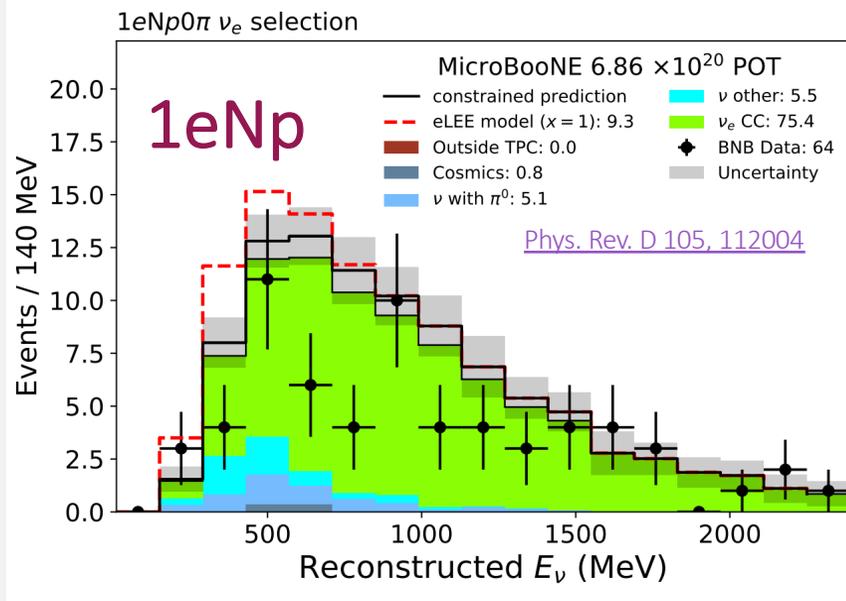
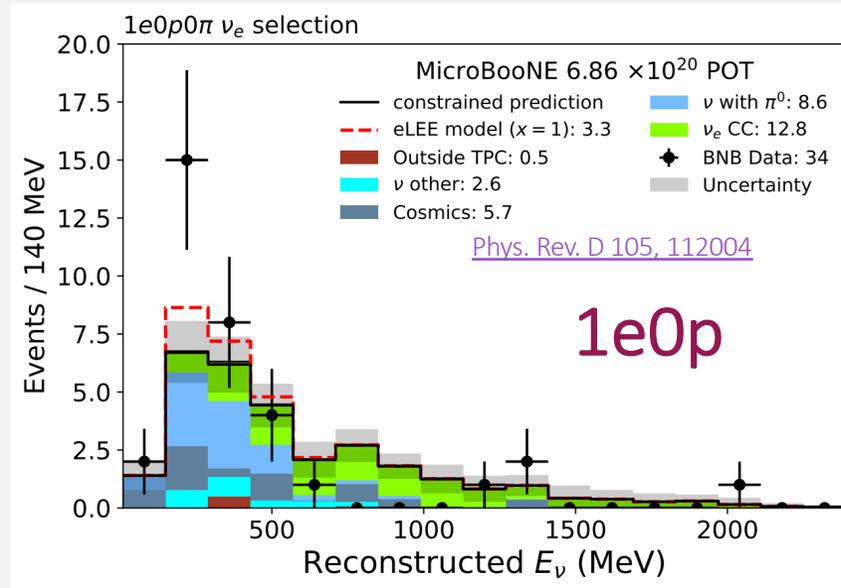
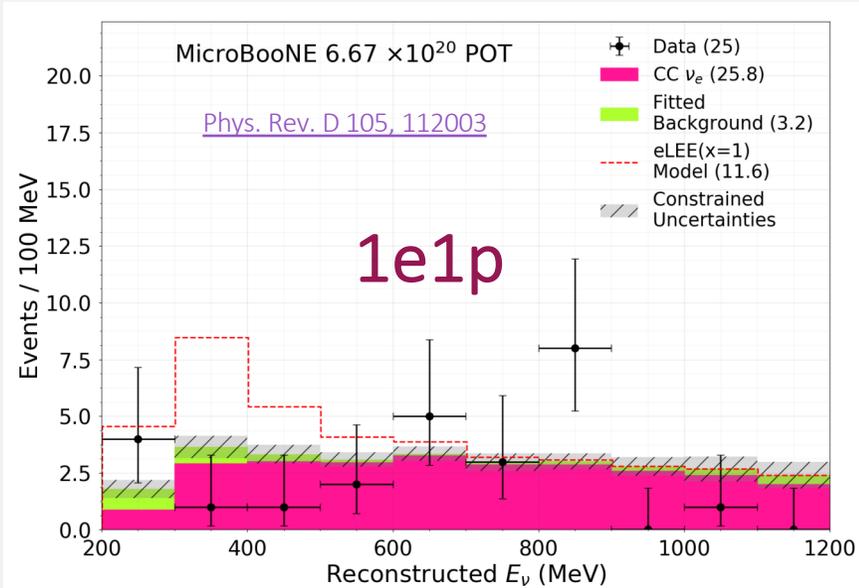
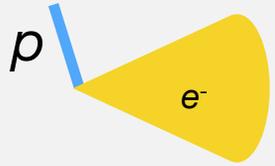
[Phys. Rev. D 105, 112005](#)

Inclusive: $1eX$



Three high-purity analyses reject ν_e interactions as sole source of excess at $>97\%$ CL

ν_e SEARCH



Both initial hypotheses rejected

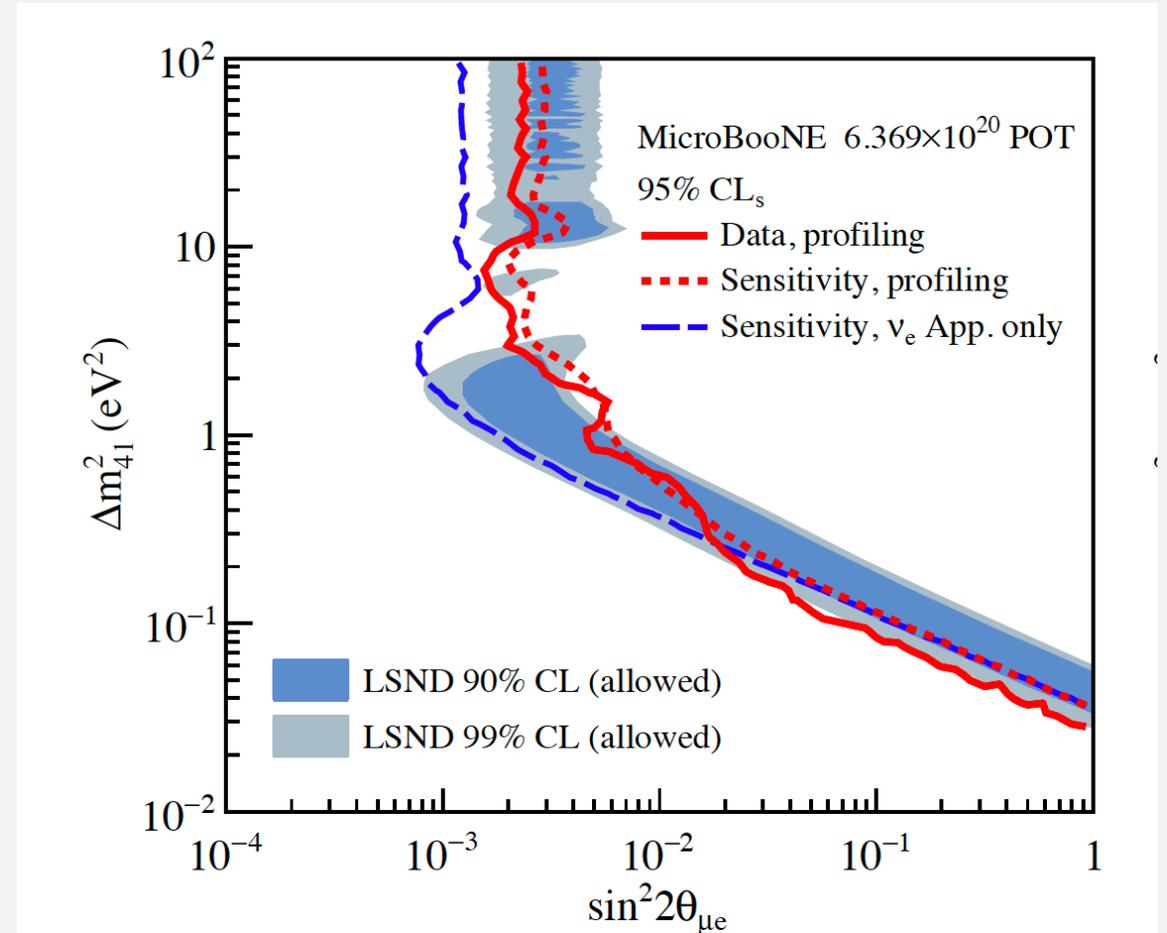
- Single photon from $\Delta \rightarrow N\gamma$:
- Single electrons

The future searches will include

- Other 1 γ events
- e^+e^- events

Oscillation hypothesis

- What does this mean for the sterile neutrino hypothesis?
- We haven't seen evidence of an excess \rightarrow place constraints on oscillation phase space for a new neutrino flavour.



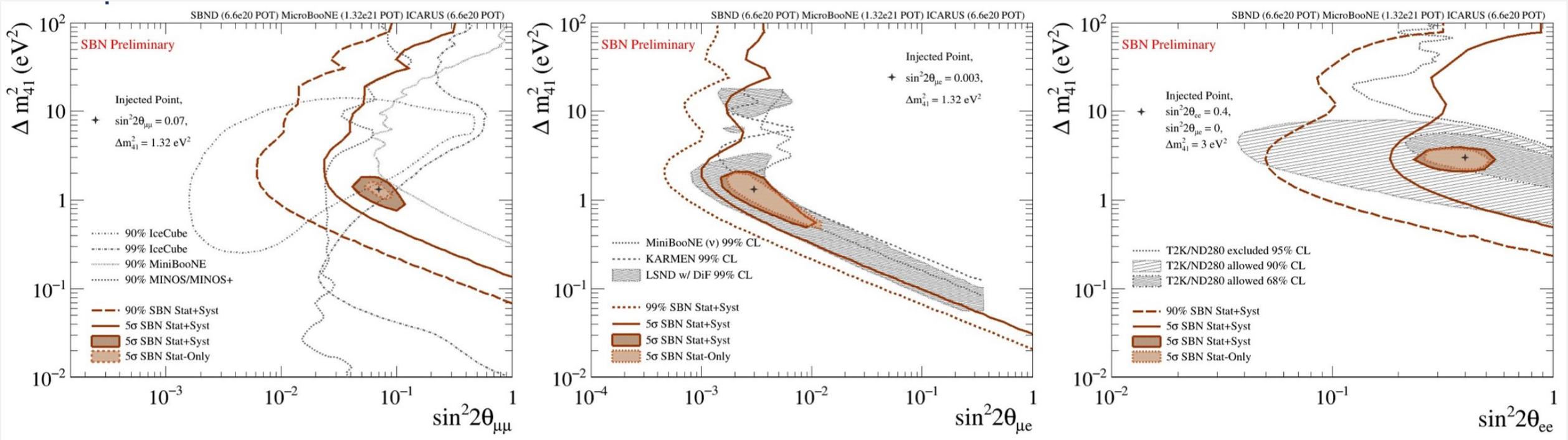
Upcoming BNB + NuMI analysis will be sensitive to full LSND allowed regions

SBN Sterile Neutrinos Sensitivities

ν_μ disappearance

ν_e appearance

ν_e disappearance

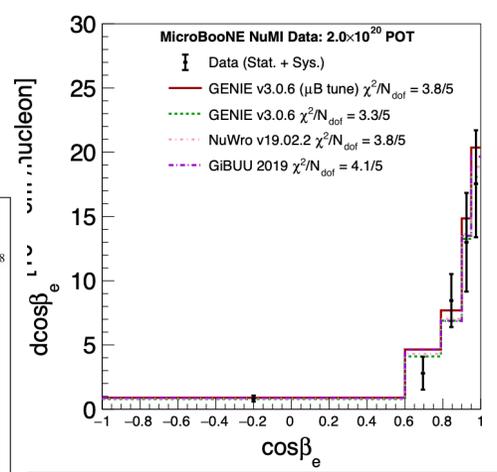


In two/three sterile oscillation channels, SBN will be sensitive to the parameter space favored by previous measurements at the **5σ confidence level**.

Complementary measurements in different modes: important for **interpretation in terms of sterile neutrino oscillation**.

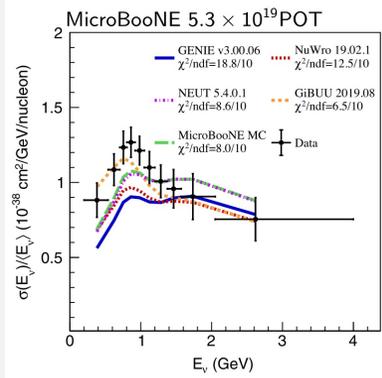
Cross section program

ν_e CC inclusive



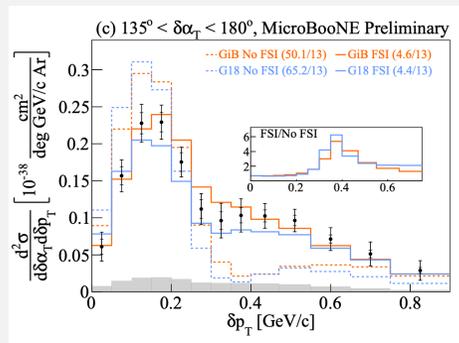
Phys. Rev. D 105, L051102 (2022)

ν_μ CC inclusive



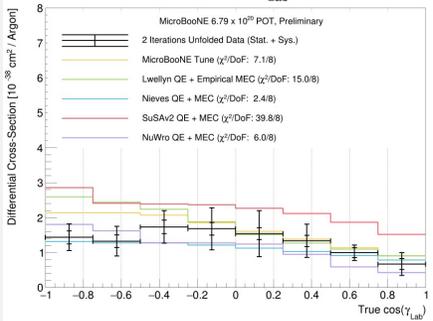
Phys. Rev. Lett. 128, 151801 (2022)

ν_μ CC0 π 1 p Transverse Variables

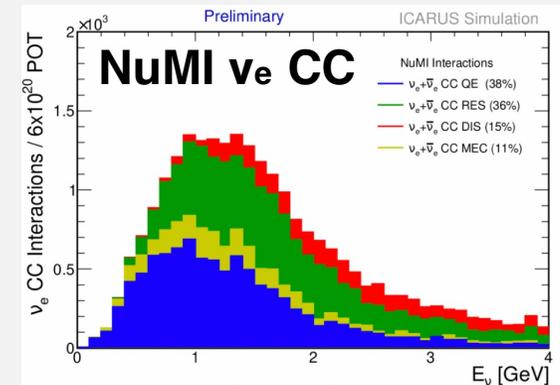
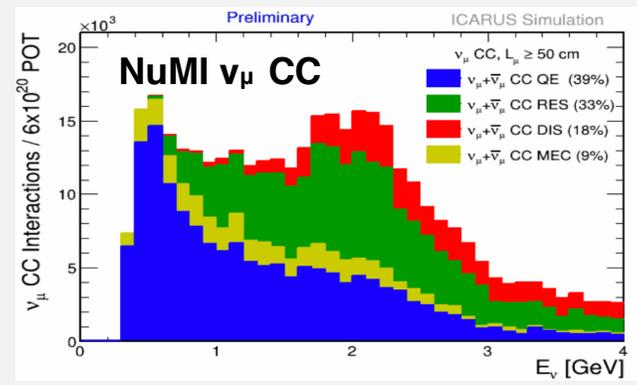


MICROBOONE-NOTE-1117-PUB

ν_μ CC0 π 2 p True $\cos(\gamma_{Lab})$

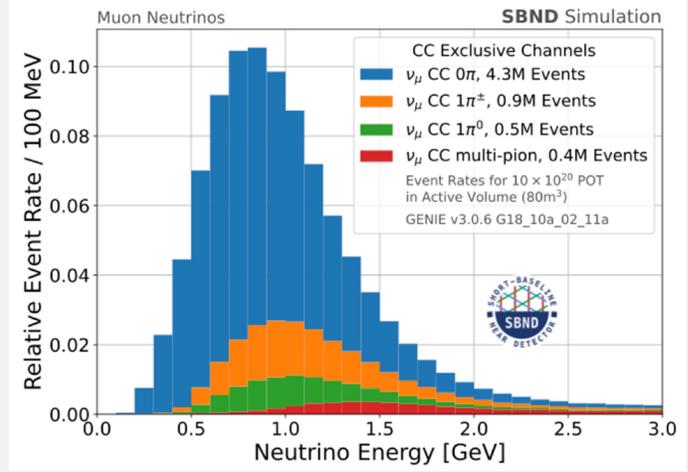


MICROBOONE-NOTE-1108-PUB



ICARUS is exposed to the off-axis (6°) NuMI neutrino beam

- This leads to a strong enhancement in the ν_e content of the beam
- 5% in NuMI vs. 0.5% in BNB



High-statistics measurements of exclusive final states, rare processes, and tests of ν -Ar models

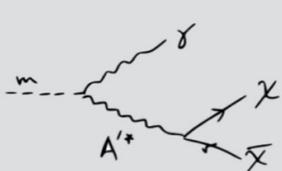
Uncertainties in neutrino scattering modelling drives uncertainties for oscillation measurement

More exotic searches

SBN can search for a very broad of physics simultaneously

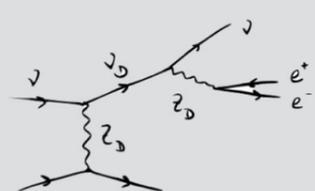
A non-exhaustive list of new physics BSM searches at SBN

Light Dark Matter



Romeri Kelley Machado PRD 2019

Dark Neutrinos



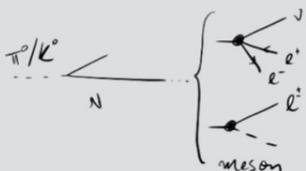
Bertuzzo Jana Machado Zukanovich PRL 2018, PLB 2019
Arguelles Hostert Tsai PRL 2019
Ballett Pascoli Ross-Lonegarn PRD 2019
Ballett Hostert Pascoli PRD 2020

Millicharged Particles



Magill, Plestid, Pospelov, Tsai, PRL 2019
Harnik Liu Palamara, JHEP 2019

Heavy Neutral Leptons



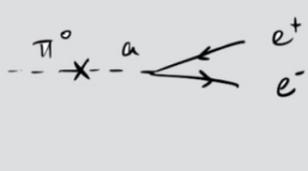
Ballett Pascoli Ross-Lonegarn JHEP 2017
Kelly Machado PRD 2021

Higgs Portal Scalar



Pat Wilczek 2006
Batell Berger Ismail PRD 2019
MicroBooNE 2021

Axion-like Particles



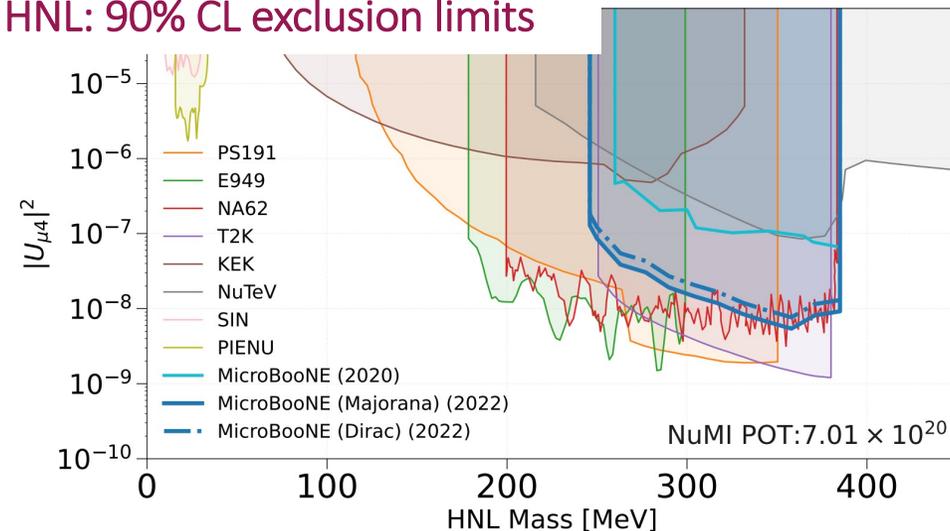
Kelly Kumar Liu PRD 2021
Brdar et al PRL 2021

Image credit to Marco del Tutto and Pedro Machado

J.Nowak - SBN Program@Fermilab

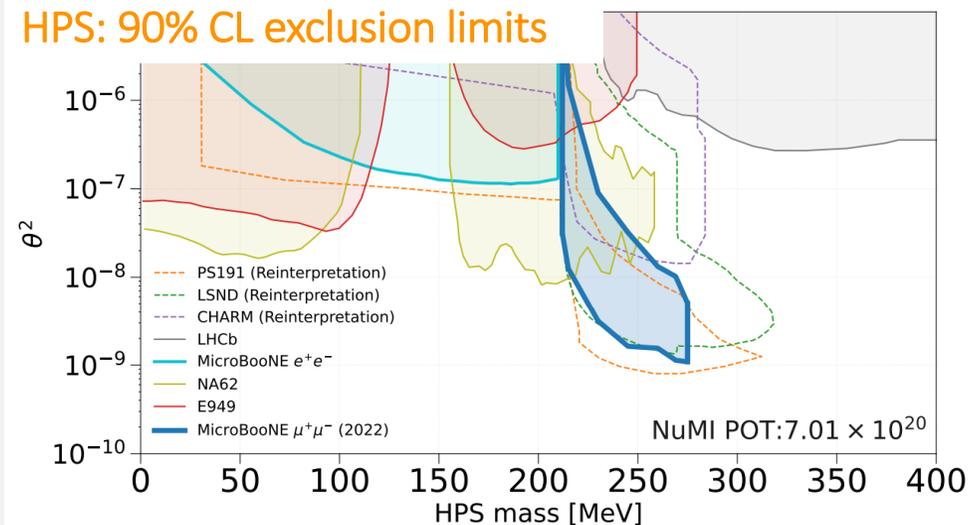
Search for heavy neutral lepton (HNL) decays to $\mu^\pm\pi^\pm$

HNL: 90% CL exclusion limits



Search for Higgs portal scalar (HPS) decays to $\mu^+\mu^-$

HPS: 90% CL exclusion limits



Summary

- MicroBooNE detailed initial investigations into MiniBooNE anomaly show **no evidence for an excess** in pure ν_e and $N\Delta$ 1γ channels \rightarrow the answer is more complicated
- SBND is finishing detector assembly, and ICARUS has started its physics running
- Stay tuned as the ICARUS and SBND join MicroBooNE in results for world-leading ν -Ar cross-section measurements and searches for New Physics.

ICARUS Collaboration



MicroBooNE Collaboration



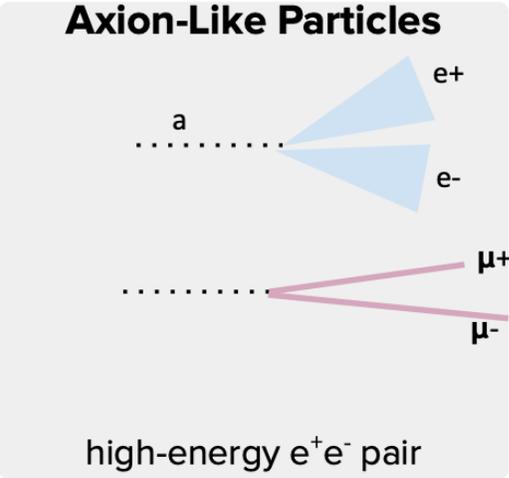
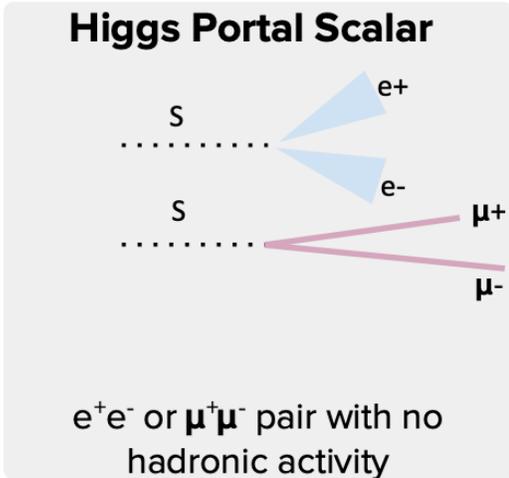
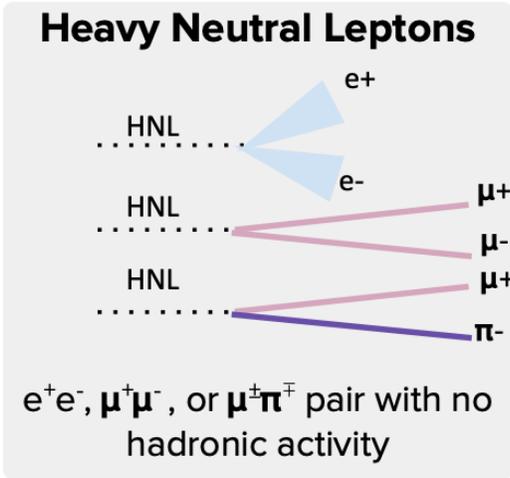
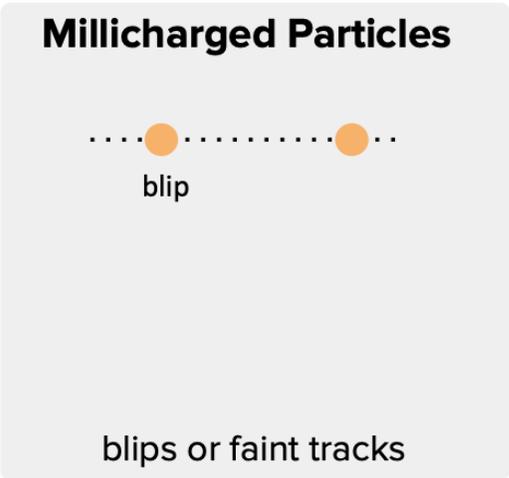
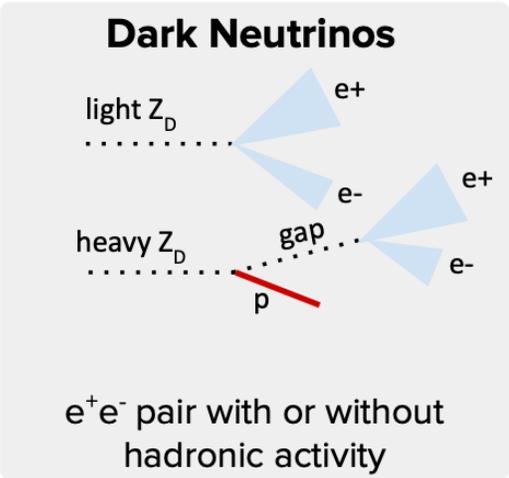
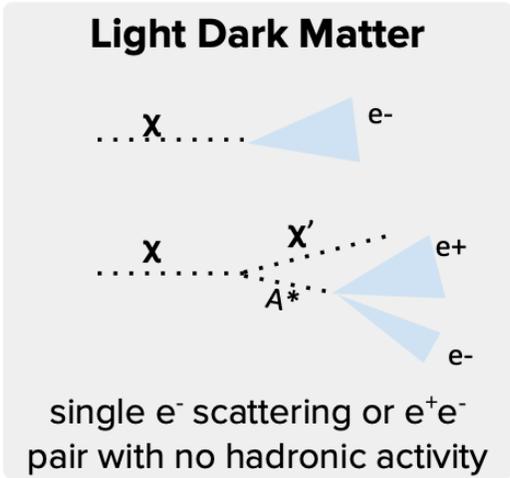
SBND Collaboration



Backup slides

More exotic searches

Topological (detectable) signatures:



(the main backgrounds are neutrino-argon interactions!)

Image credit to Supraja Balasubramanian

Charged-current Inclusive measurements

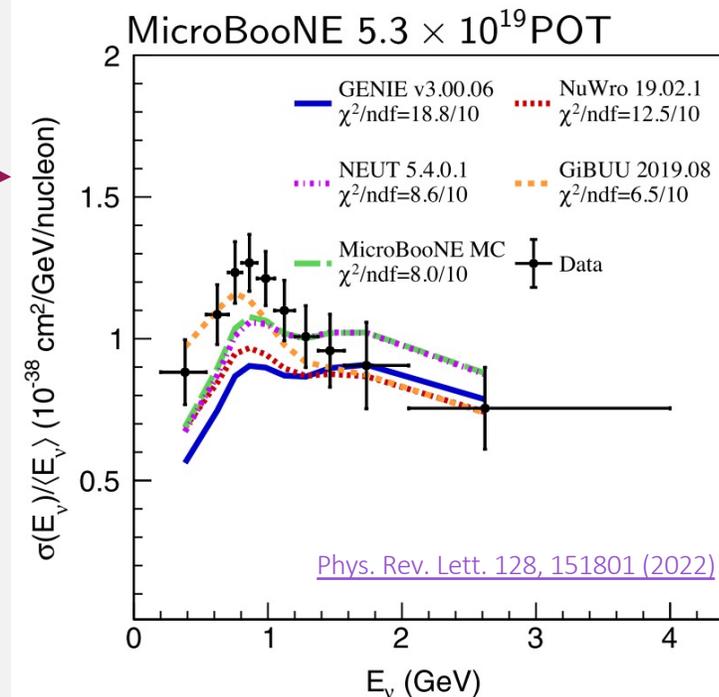
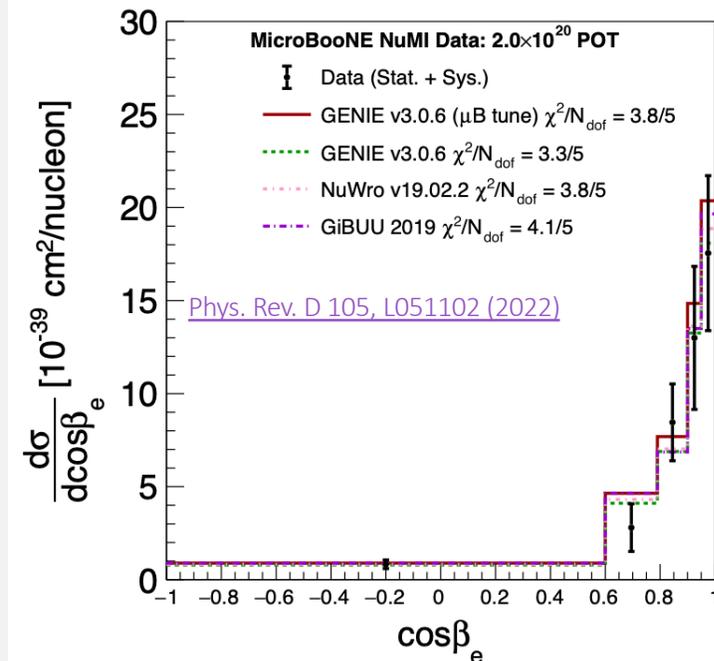
ν_e CC inclusive

- first measurement on argon as a function of scattering angle and electron energy
- excellent overall test of neutrino-nucleus generator

ν_μ CC inclusive

- first measurement on argon as a function of neutrino energy and energy transfer
- enabled by extensive validation of missing energy model
- stringent test of hadronic part of the interaction

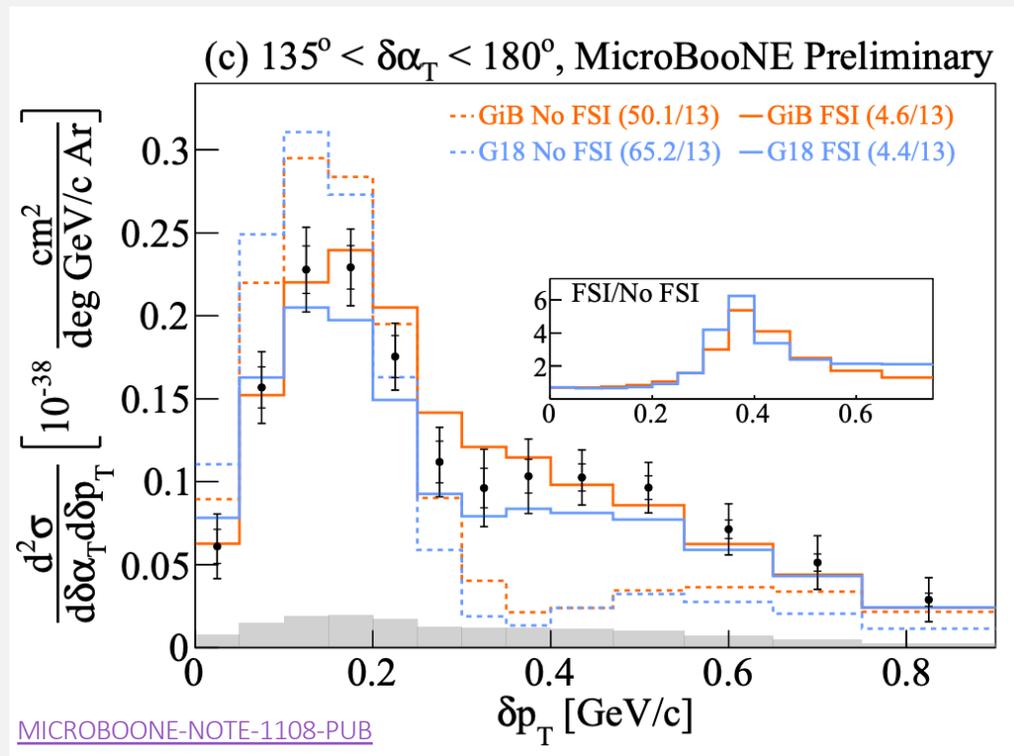
More to come: higher statistics, multi-differential



Exclusive channels, differential cross-sections

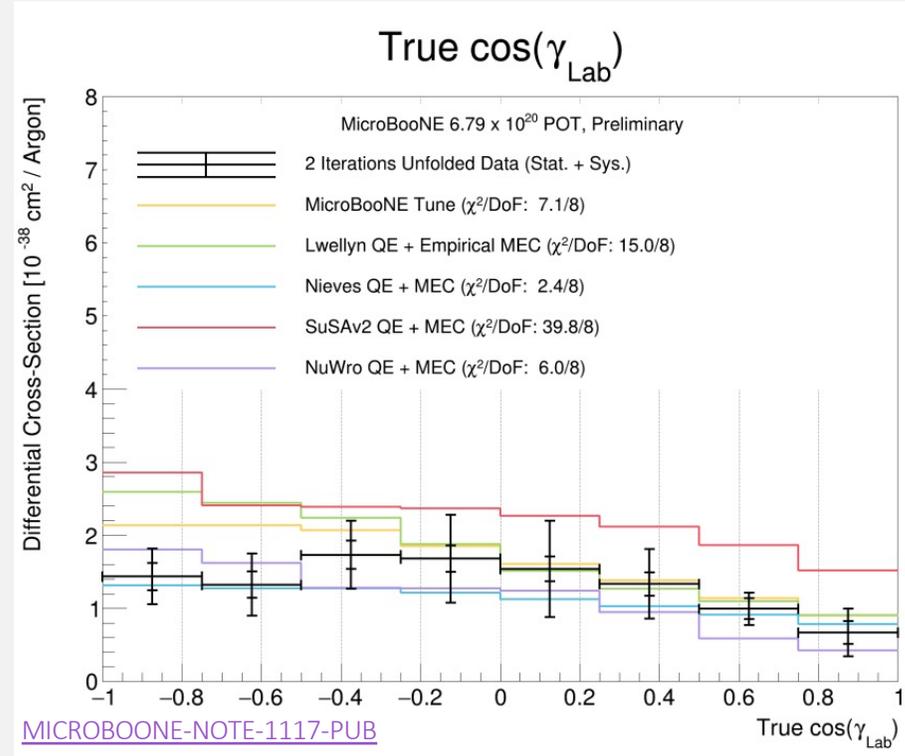
ν_μ CC0 π 1p Transverse Variables

- first double-differential cross section in these variables on argon
- especially sensitive to nuclear effects



ν_μ CC0 π 2p

- first ever direct measurement of 2-proton cross section
- dominated by 2p2h/MEC processes



Neutral current neutral pion production

Important background to ν_e searches in LArTPCs
(MicroBooNE and future experiments: DUNE, SBN)

➤ $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ looks like ν_e if one photon missed

First $\text{NC}\pi^0$ measurement on argon with $\langle E_\nu \rangle \sim 1$ GeV

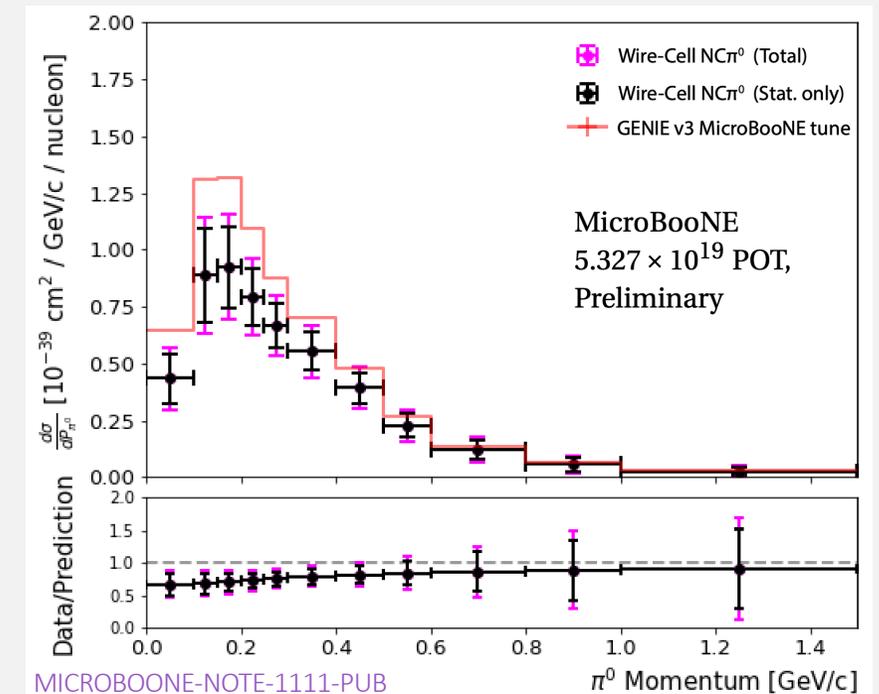
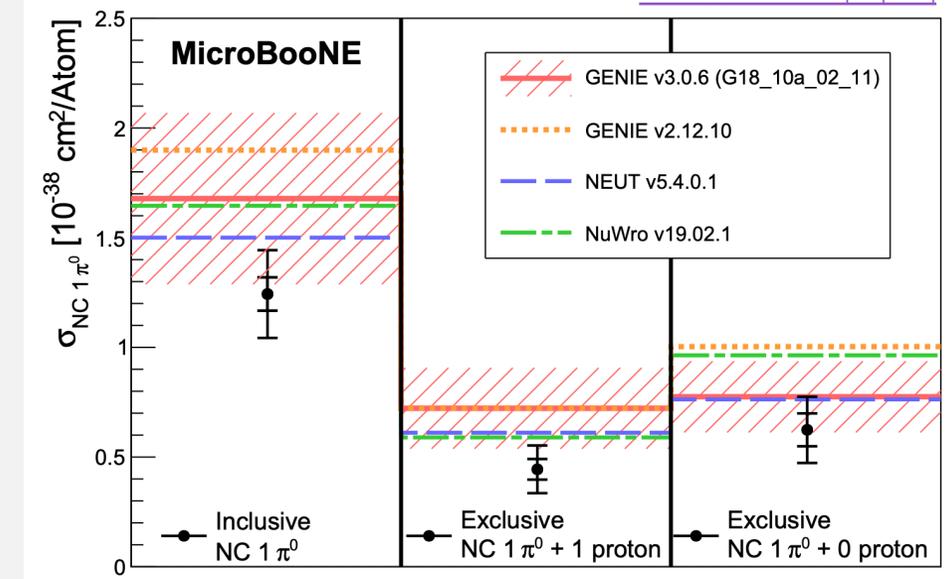
➤ separated into 0p and 1p channels

➤ deficit observed compared to all models

Differential cross-section measurement well under way

➤ current result limited by statistics (only few % of available data used)

$\text{CC}\pi^0$ measurement in progress, along with more rare searches e.g. hyperon production



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Searching for new physics

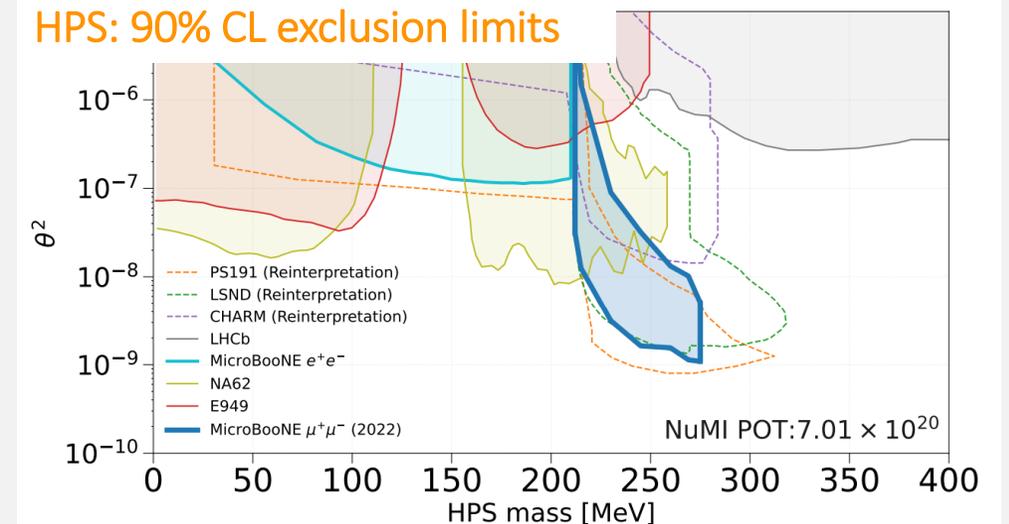
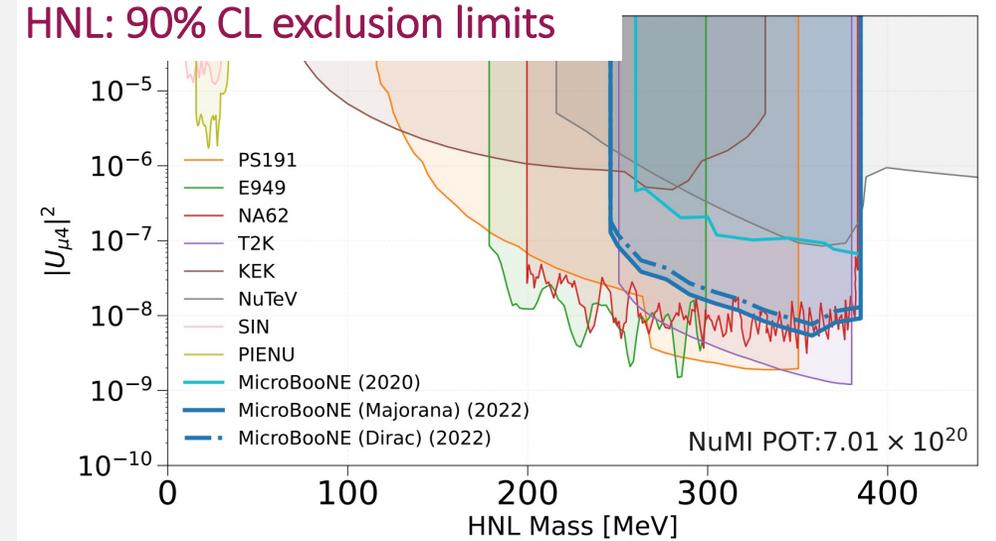
SEARCHING FOR OTHER NEW PHYSICS SIGNATURES

Search for heavy neutral lepton (HNL) decays to $\mu^\pm\pi^\pm$

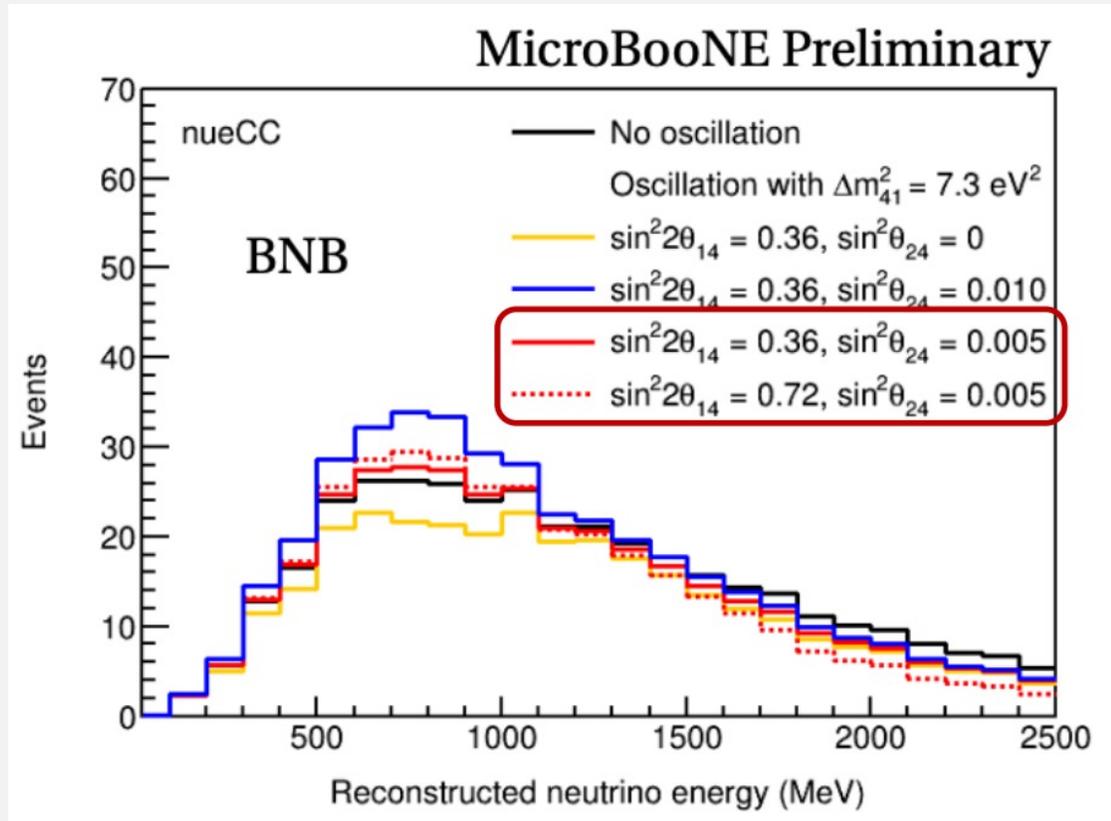
- similar sensitivity to NA62
- order of magnitude improvement on previous MicroBooNE results

Search for Higgs portal scalar (HPS) decays to $\mu^+\mu^-$

- complementary to previous e^+e^- MicroBooNE search
- First constraints on scalar-Higgs mixing angle θ in this mass range from a dedicated experimental search



Oscillation parameter degeneracy



ν_e disappearance

ν_e appearance

$$N_{\nu_e} = N_{\text{intrinsic } \nu_e} P_{\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_e} + N_{\text{intrinsic } \nu_\mu} P_{\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e}$$

$$= N_{\text{intrinsic } \nu_e} \left[1 + (R_{\nu_\mu/\nu_e} \sin^2 \theta_{24} - 1) \sin^2 2\theta_{14} \sin^2 \frac{\Delta m_{41}^2 L}{4E} \right]$$

Cancellation if $\sin^2 \theta_{24} = R_{\nu_e/\nu_\mu}$ (ratio of ν_e to ν_μ in beam)

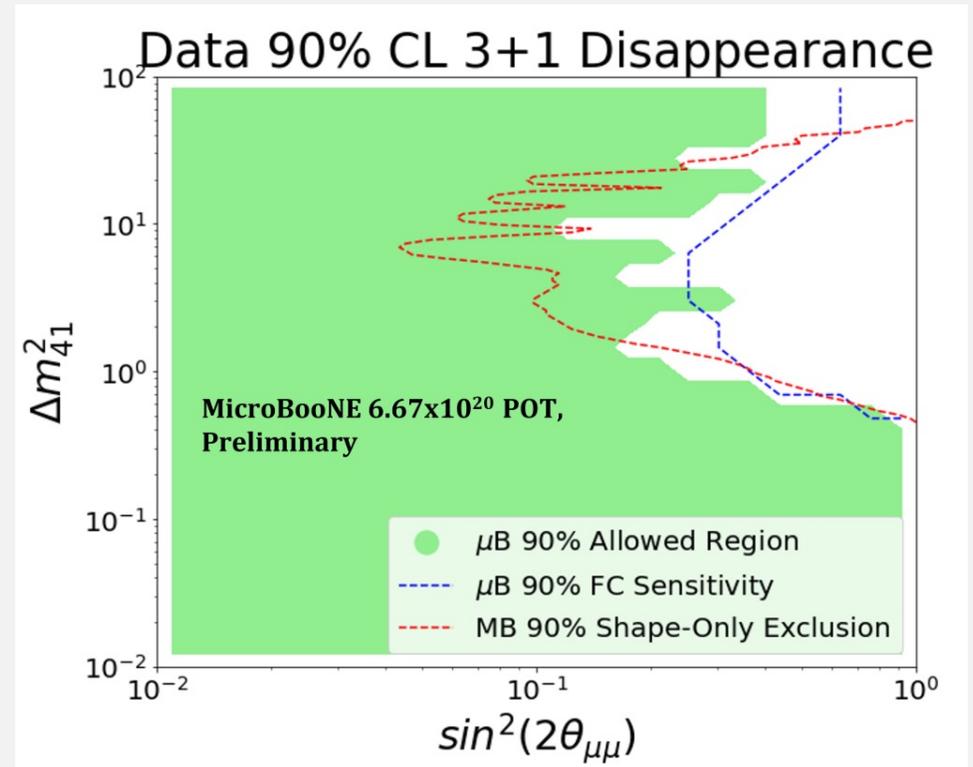
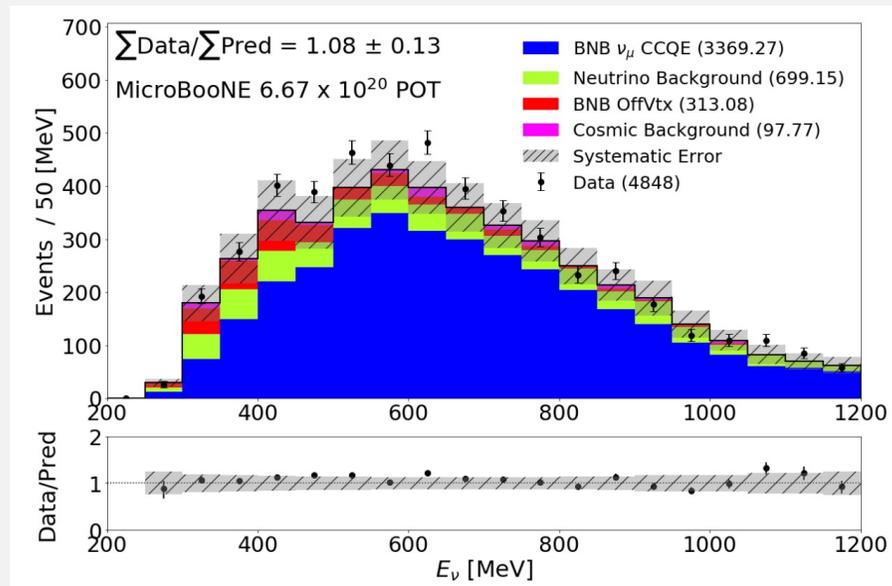
→ about 0.005 in BNB

→ about 0.04 in NuMI

1 μ 1 p disappearance exclusion limits

- Use **1 μ 1 p sample** (98% pure ν_μ) to search for **ν_μ disappearance** in BNB
- Data consistent with no oscillation \rightarrow set Feldman-Cousins **exclusion limits**

[MICROBOONE-NOTE-1106-PUB](#)

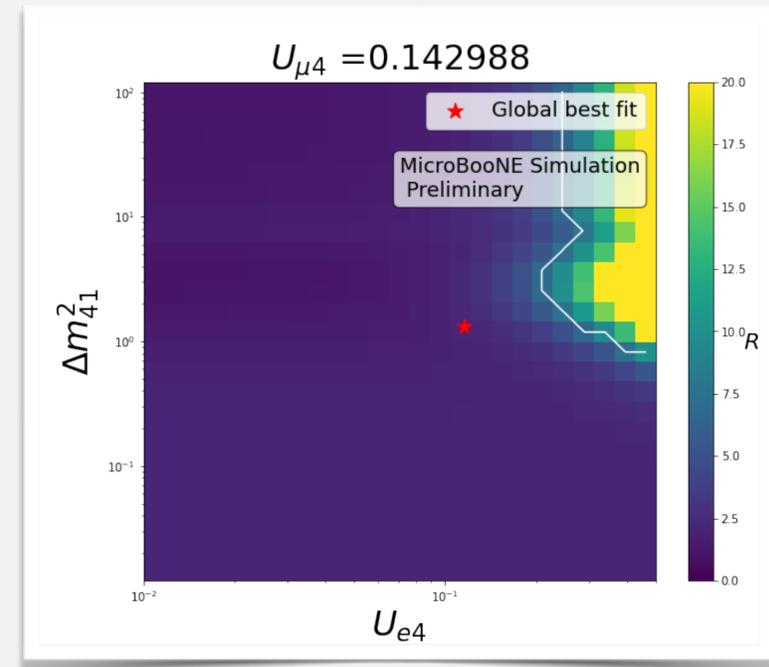
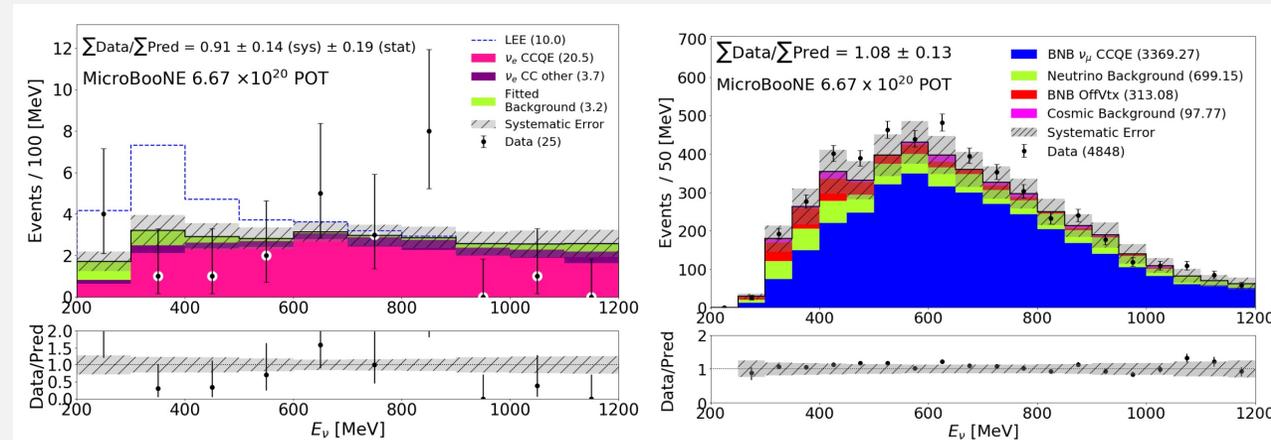


Future 3+1 1e1p and 1 μ 1p oscillation analysis

Full 3+1 analysis (as done for inclusive selection) also in progress using 1e1p and 1 μ 1p samples

Exclusion sensitivity (assuming no oscillation) using Wilks' theorem has been found

Feldman-Cousins treatment in progress for full oscillation results- coming soon!



What does this mean?

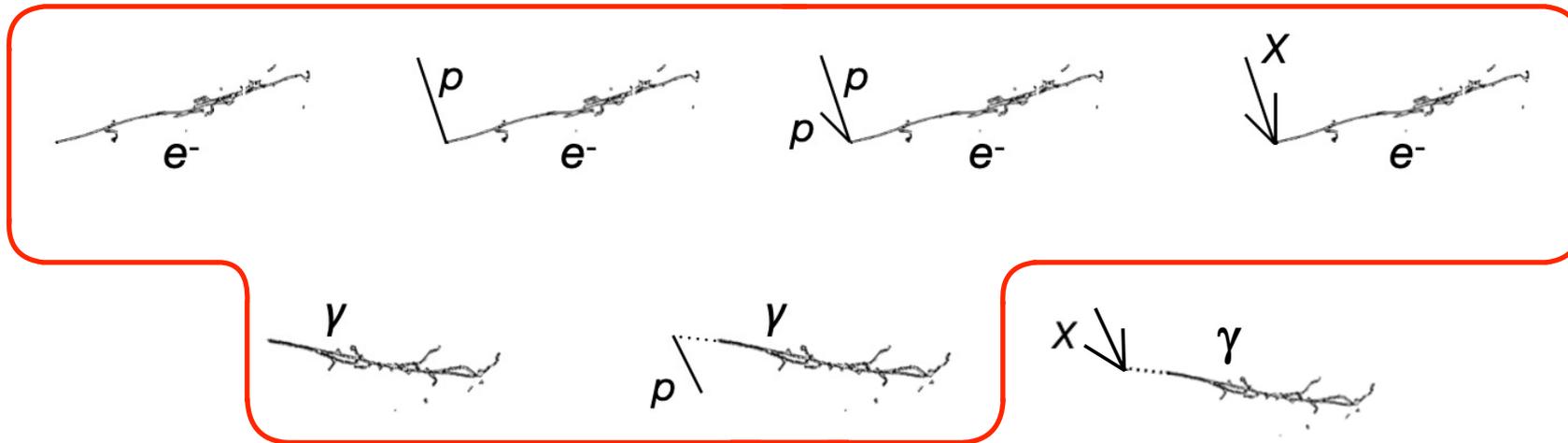
- Decay of O(keV) Sterile Neutrinos to active neutrinos
 - [13] Dentler, Esteban, Kopp, Machado *Phys. Rev. D* 101, 115013 (2020)
 - [14] de Gouvêa, Peres, Prakash, Stenico *JHEP* 07 (2020) 141
 - New resonance matter effects
 - [5] Asaadi, Church, Guenette, Jones, Szelc, *PRD* 97, 075021 (2018)
 - Mixed O(1eV) sterile oscillations and O(100 MeV) sterile decay
 - [7] Vergani, Kamp, Diaz, Arguelles, Conrad, Shaevitz, Uchida, *arXiv:2105.06470*
 - Decay of heavy sterile neutrinos produced in beam
 - [4] Gninenko, *Phys.Rev.D*83:015015,2011
 - [12] Alvarez-Ruso, Saul-Sala, *Phys. Rev. D* 101, 075045 (2020)
 - [15] Magill, Plestid, Pospelov, Tsai *Phys. Rev. D* 98, 115015 (2018)
 - [11] Fischer, Hernandez-Cabezudo, Schwetz, *PRD* 101, 075045 (2020)
 - Decay of upscattered heavy sterile neutrinos or new scalars mediated by Z' or more complex higgs sectors
 - [1] Bertuzzo, Jana, Machado, Zukanovich Funchal, *PRL* 121, 241801 (2018)
 - [2] Abdullahi, Hostert, Pascoli, *Phys.Lett.B* 820 (2021) 136531
 - [3] Ballett, Pascoli, Ross-Lonergan, *PRD* 99, 071701 (2019)
 - [10] Dutta, Ghosh, Li, *PRD* 102, 055017 (2020)
 - [6] Abdallah, Gandhi, Roy, *Phys. Rev. D* 104, 055028 (2021)
 - Decay of axion-like particles
 - [8] Chang, Chen, Ho, Tseng, *Phys. Rev. D* 104, 015030 (2021)
 - A model-independent approach to any new particle
 - [9] Brdar, Fischer, Smirnov, *PRD* 103, 075008 (2021)
-
- Produces True **Electrons**
- Produces True **Photons**
- Produces **e⁺e⁻** pairs

Caution: not an exhaustive list!
This is meant to be representative only

More information: see [P. Machado, Fermilab PAC, November 2021](#)

What does this mean?

MicroBooNE's first LEE results



Overlapping e^+e^-



Overlapping e^+e^-



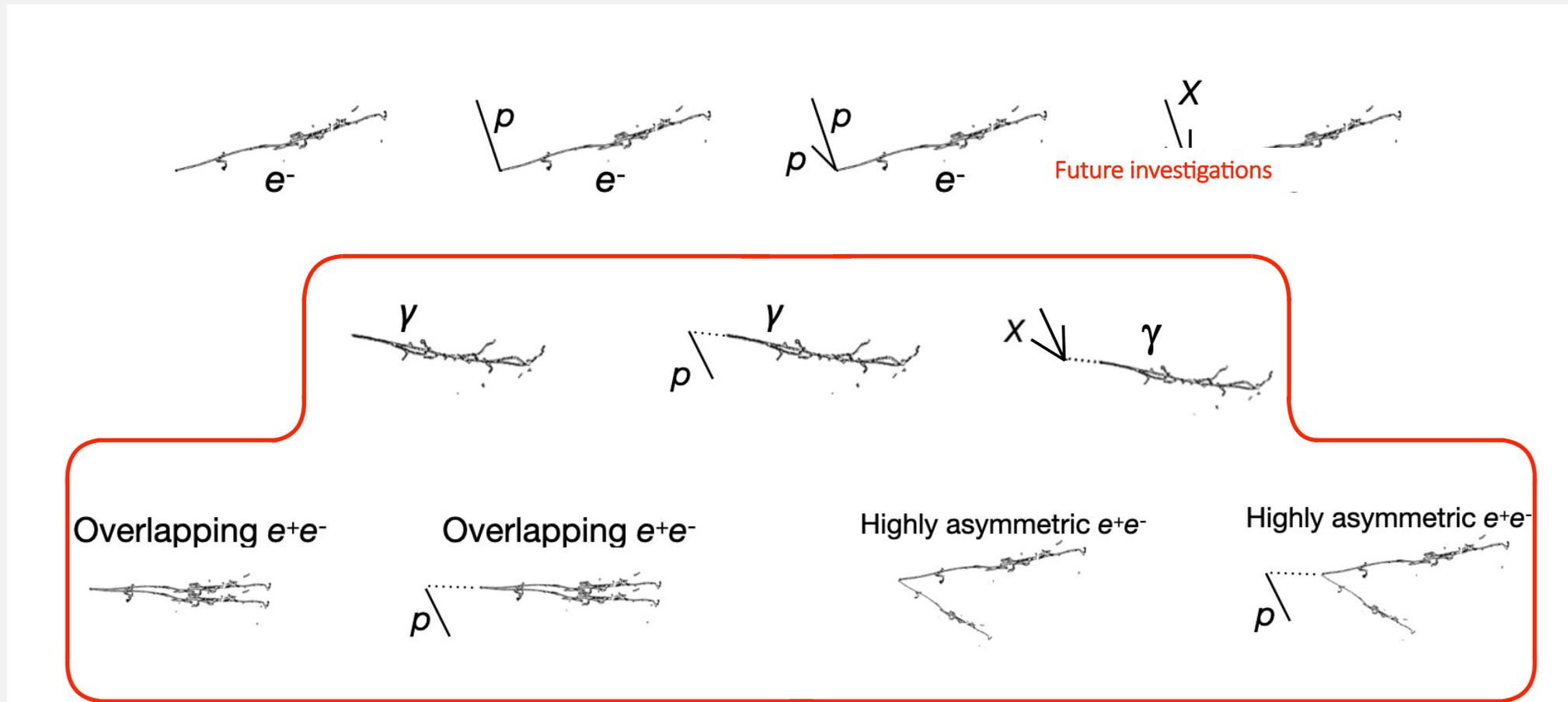
Highly asymmetric e^+e^-



Highly asymmetric e^+e^-

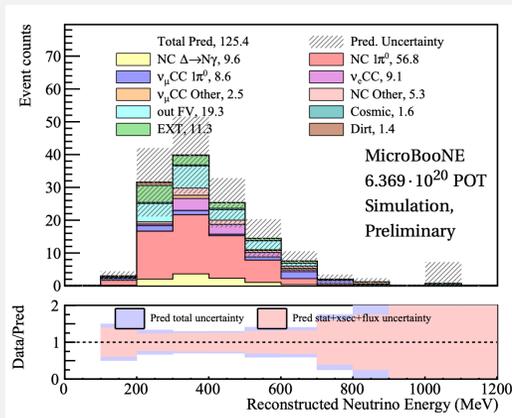


Future investigations

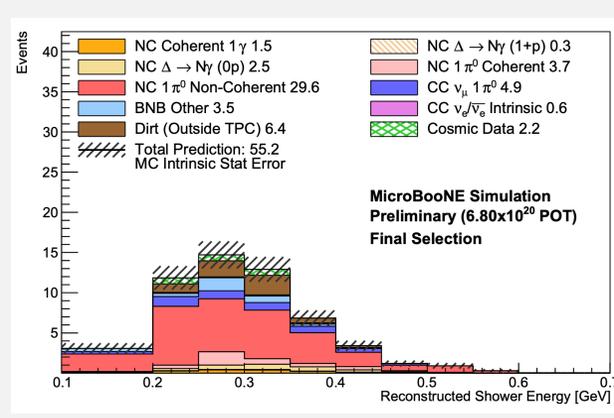


Future investigations

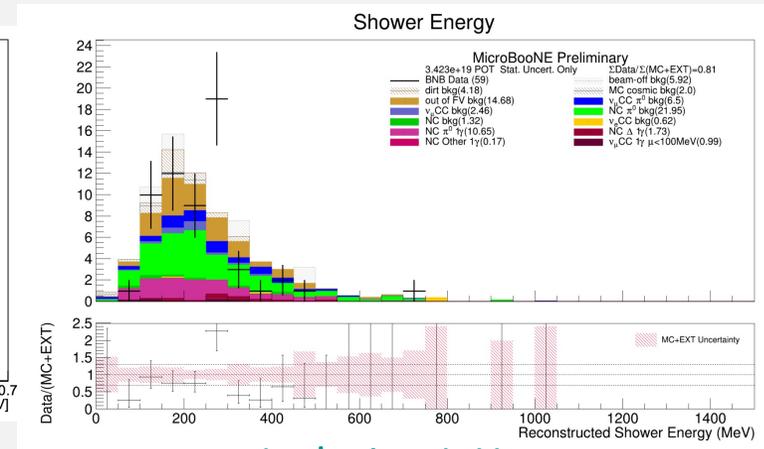
- Further investigations will expand photon-like searches and investigate e^+e^- final states- some preliminary results shown below:
 - **Further investigation of NC Δ model**: independent reconstruction, more sensitivity to potential excess in $1\gamma 0p$ channel
 - **NC-Coherent 1γ targeted search**: forward-going photons with no visible hadronic energy
 - **Inclusive 1γ search**: generic test of single photon production
- Even more on the way!



1γ0p



Coh-1γ0p



Inclusive 1γX

Future investigations

Further investigation into $N\Delta 1\gamma$ model:

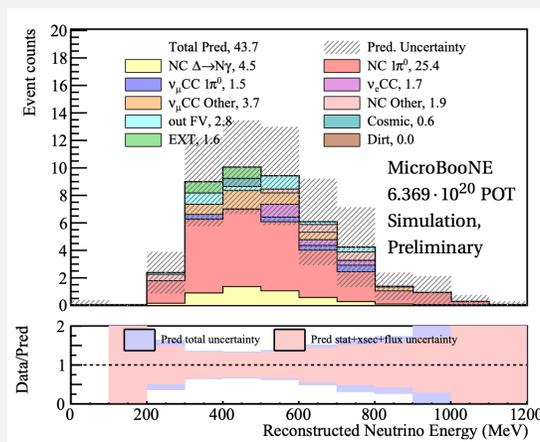
- ❑ Independent reconstruction
- ❑ Larger phase space (including charged pions and multiple protons)
- ❑ More sensitive to potential excess in $1\gamma 0p$ channel

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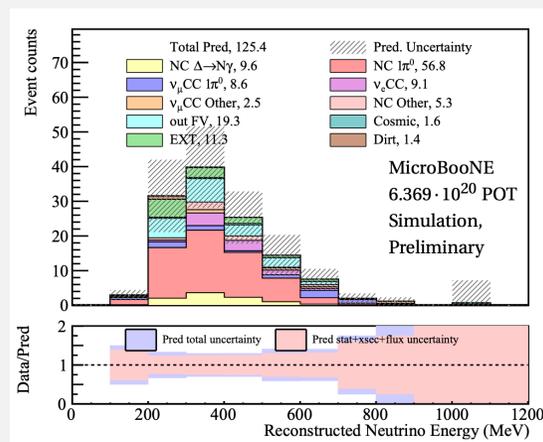
[MICROBOONE-NOTE-1103-PUB](#)

Coherent-like single γ search:

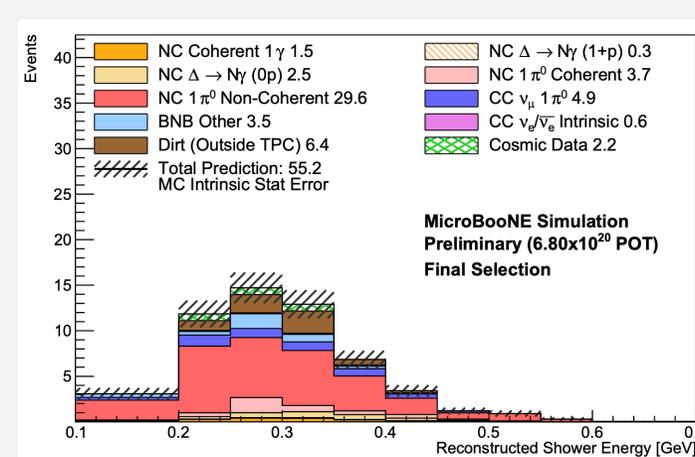
- Focus on forward-going photons with no visible hadronic energy
- More sensitive to potential excess in forward-going and $1\gamma 0p$ channel



$1\gamma Np (N \geq 1)$



$1\gamma 0p$

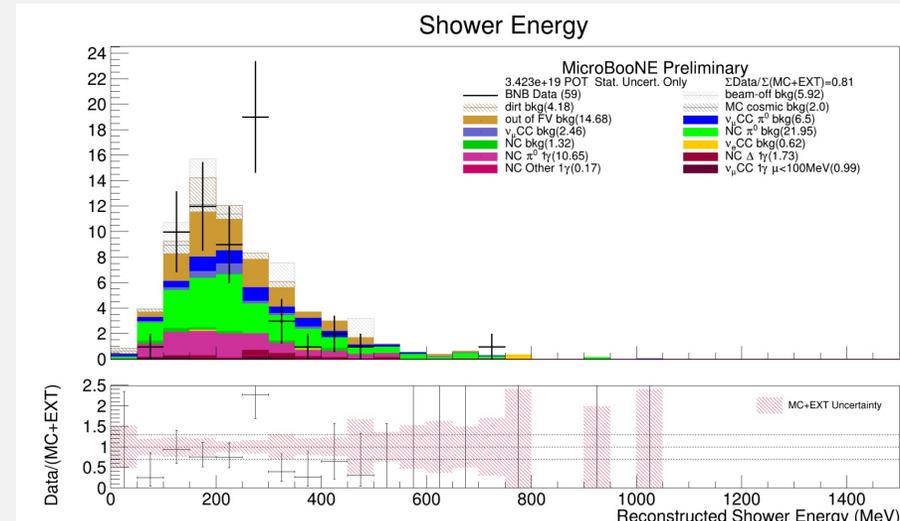
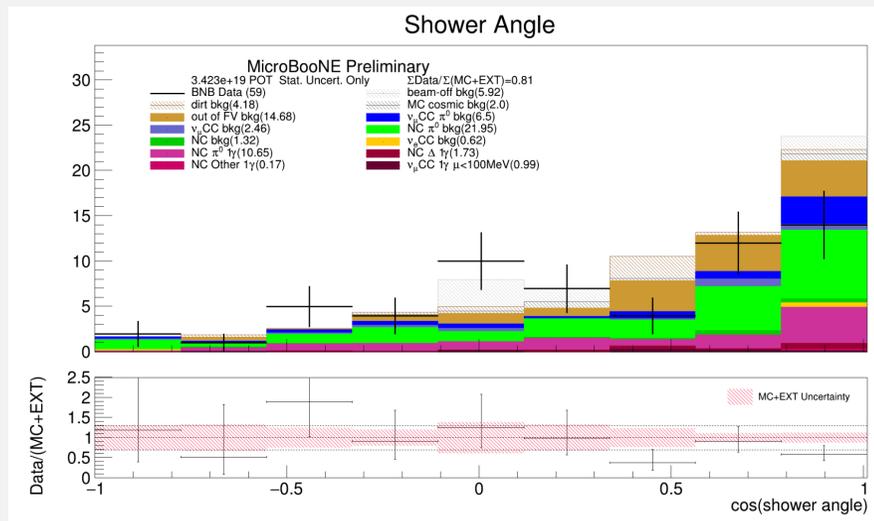


Coh- $1\gamma 0p$

Future investigations

Inclusive single γ selection

- ❑ Broader search beyond specific NC Δ model
- ❑ Inclusive signal definition: no electrons and exactly one photon with $KE > 20$ MeV. No muons with $KE > 100$ MeV, but any number of hadrons allowed
- ❑ Generic test of Standard Model prediction for single-photon events



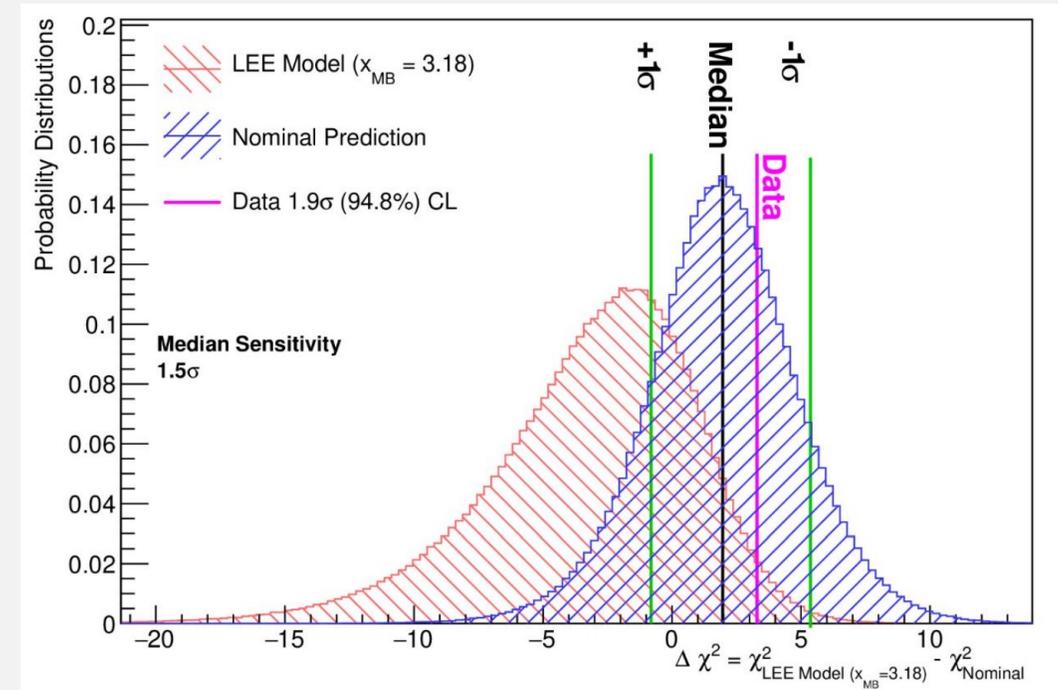
Single photon search

- Simple hypothesis test: use combined Neyman-Pearson χ^2 as test statistic

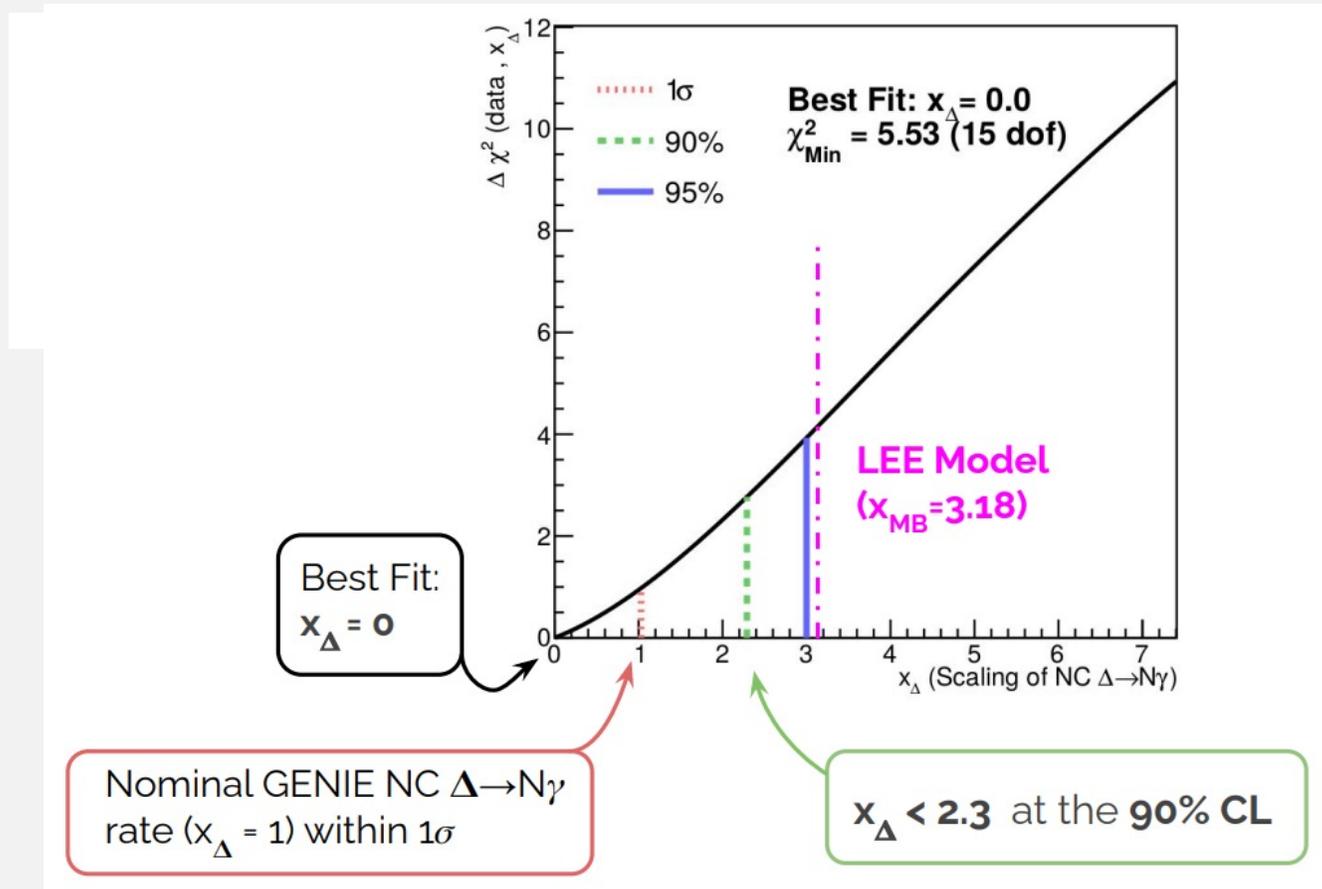
[Nucl. Inst. Meth. A 961 \(2020\) 163677](#)

- Data consistent with nominal $\Delta \rightarrow N\gamma$ prediction
- Data **rejects LEE model hypothesis** in favour of nominal prediction at **94.8% CL**

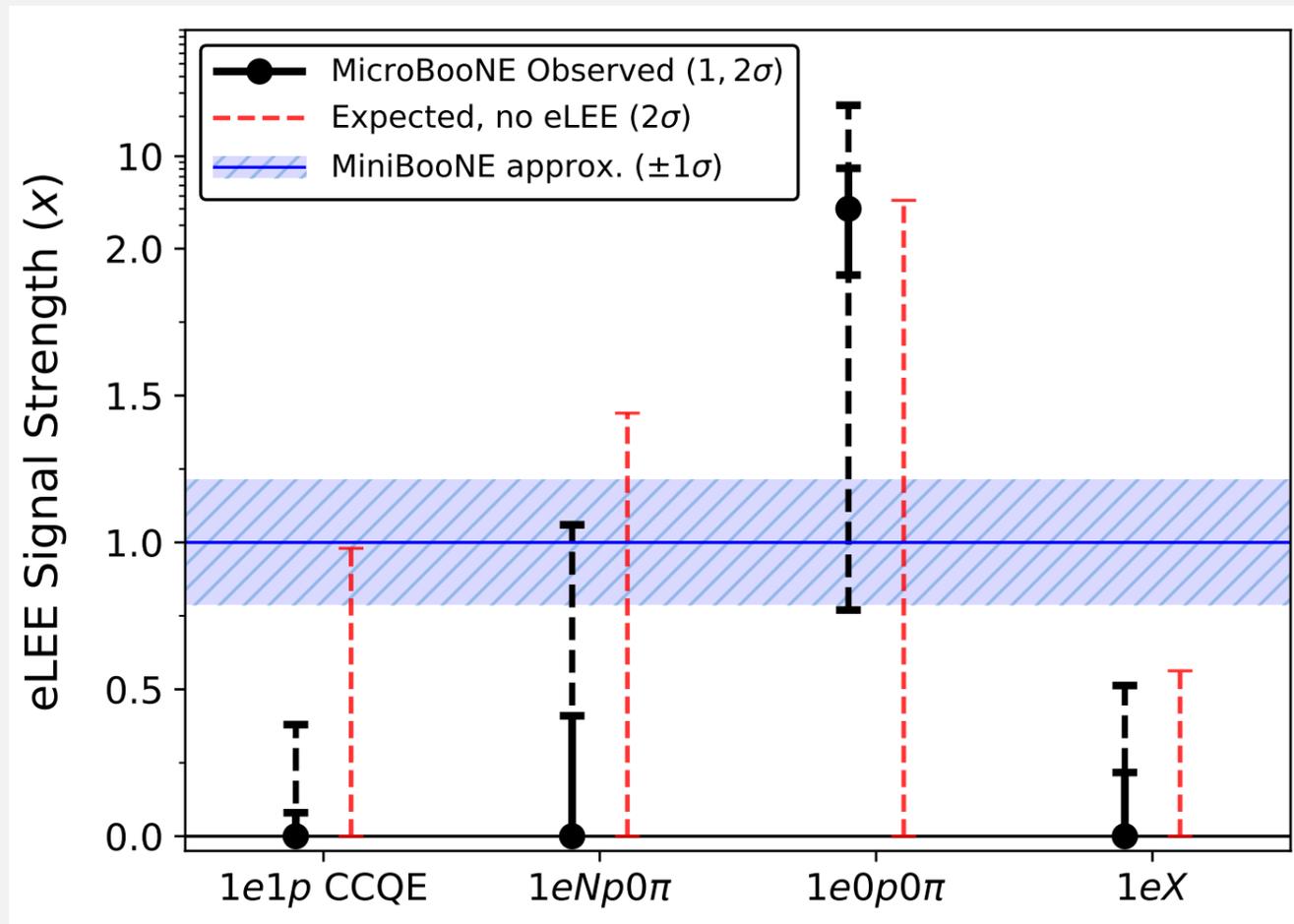
[arXiv:2110.00409 \[hep-ex\]](#)

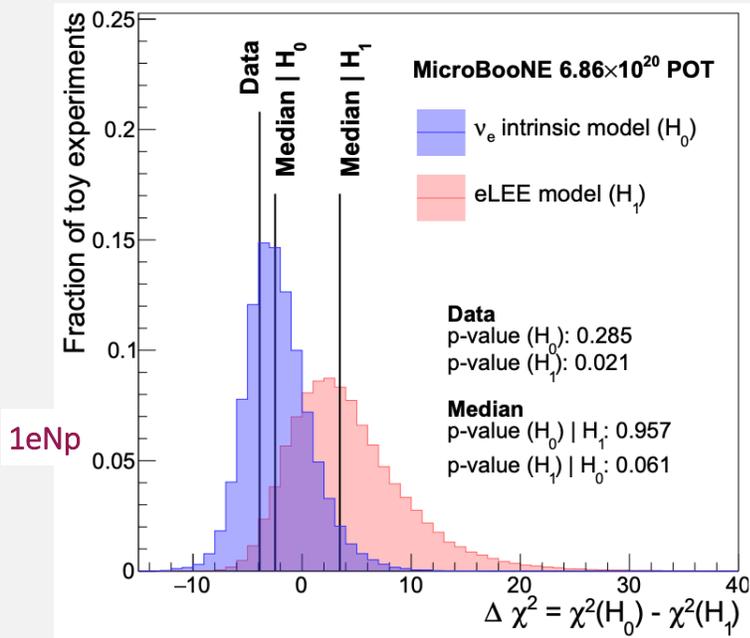
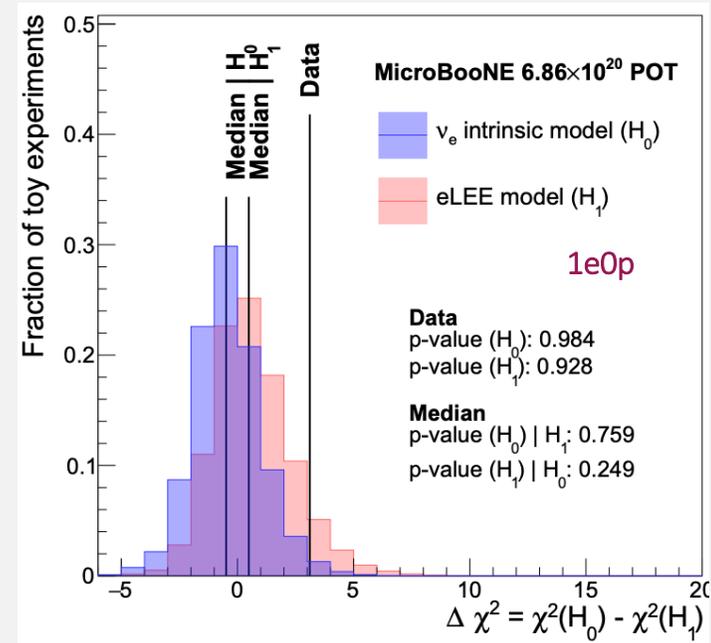
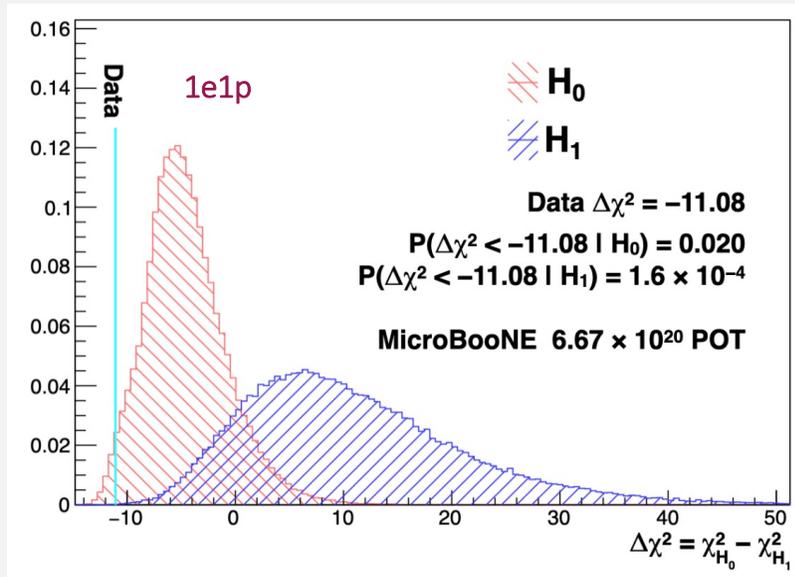


single photon search



Slide credit: Mark R-L





assuming eLEE_{x=0} hypothesis is true

