
The Nuclear Aspects of Neutrino Oscillation Experiments

The 61st International Winter Meeting on Nuclear Physics
Bormio, Italy
January 28th 2025

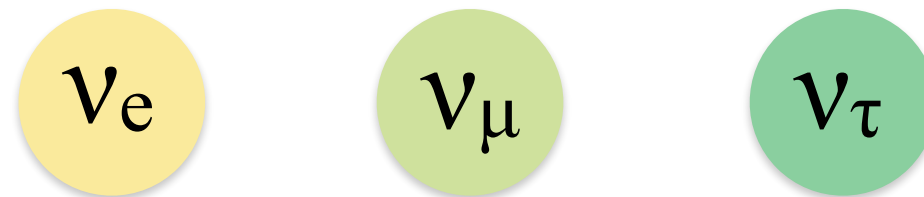
Adi Ashkenazi
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TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY

Neutrino Physics

The Neutrino sector might hint to physics beyond the Standard Model



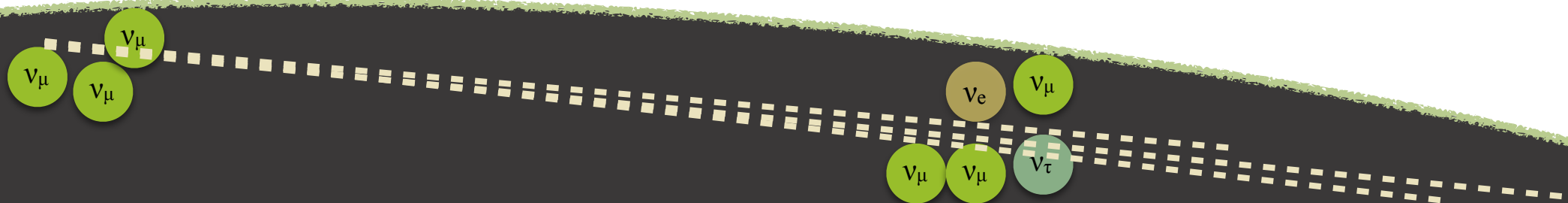
Neutrino oscillate from one flavour to another

Implying their mass and imposing many questions:

What is their mass ordering?

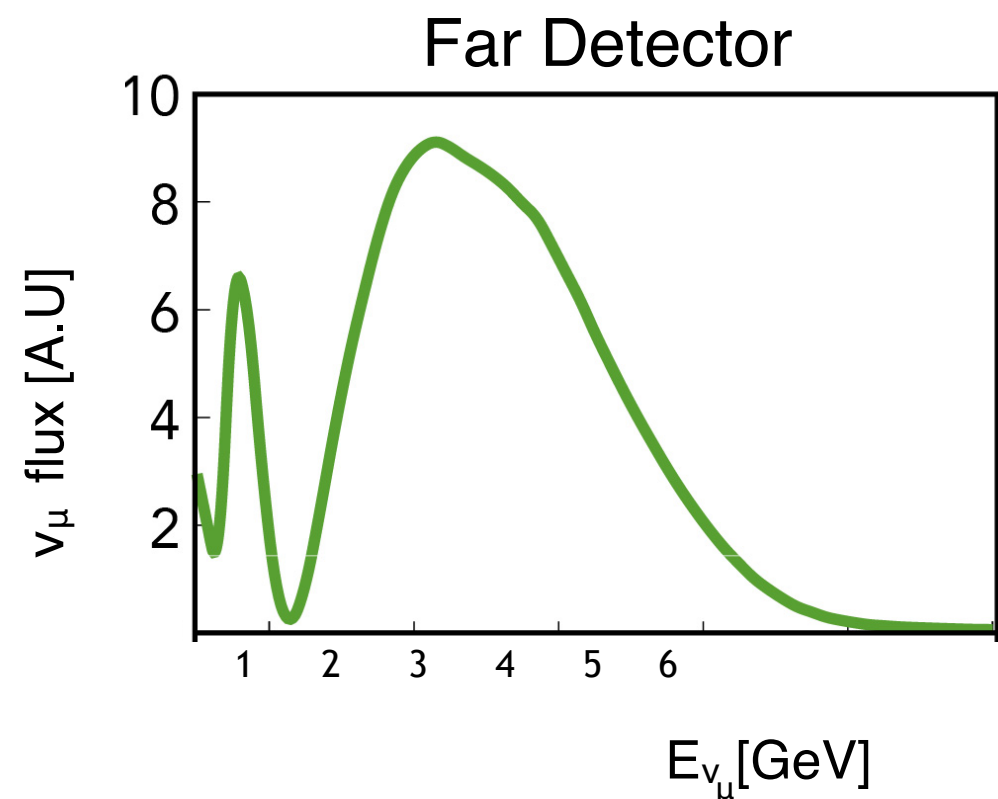
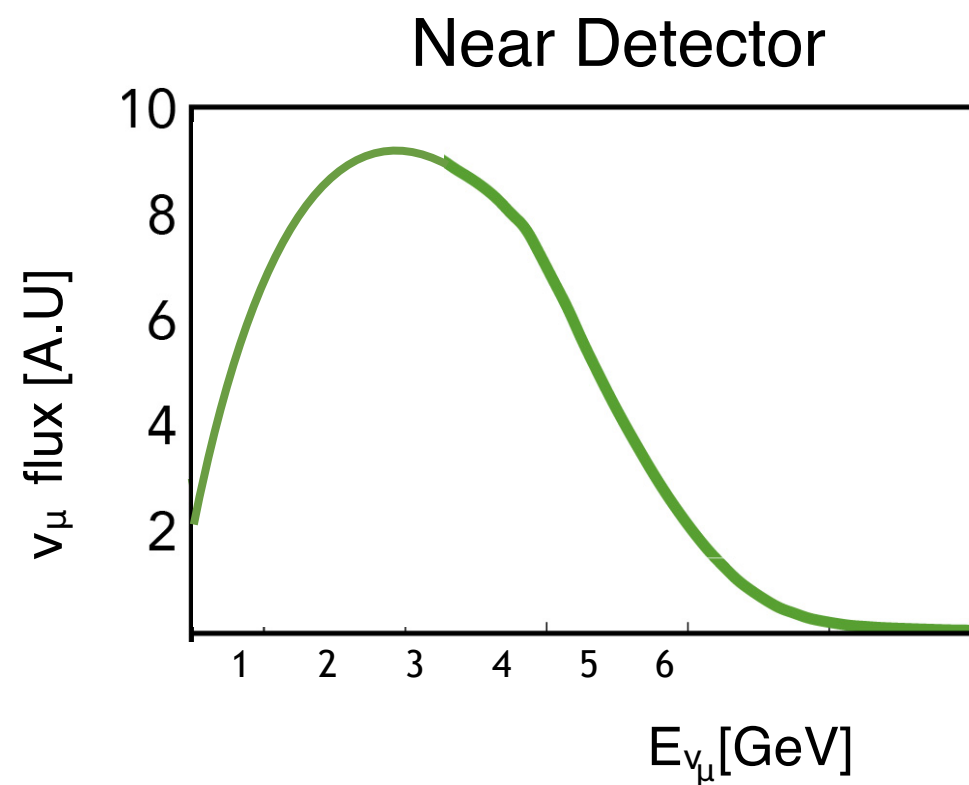
Is CP symmetry violated?

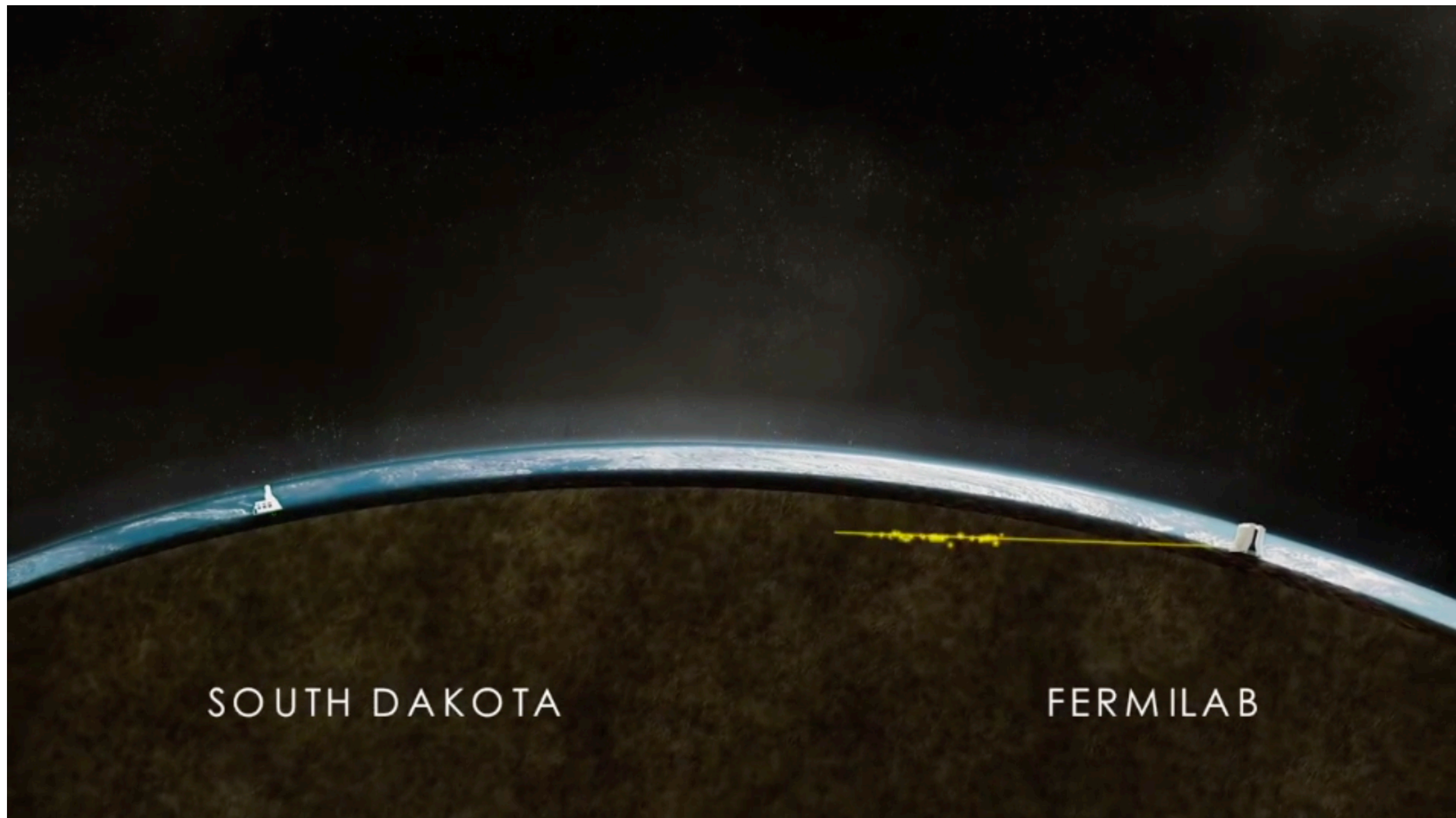
Are there more than the 3 light neutrinos?



The challenge - next generation high precision

Oscillation experiments aim to answer the CP nature and the mass ordering of neutrinos as well as search for new physics

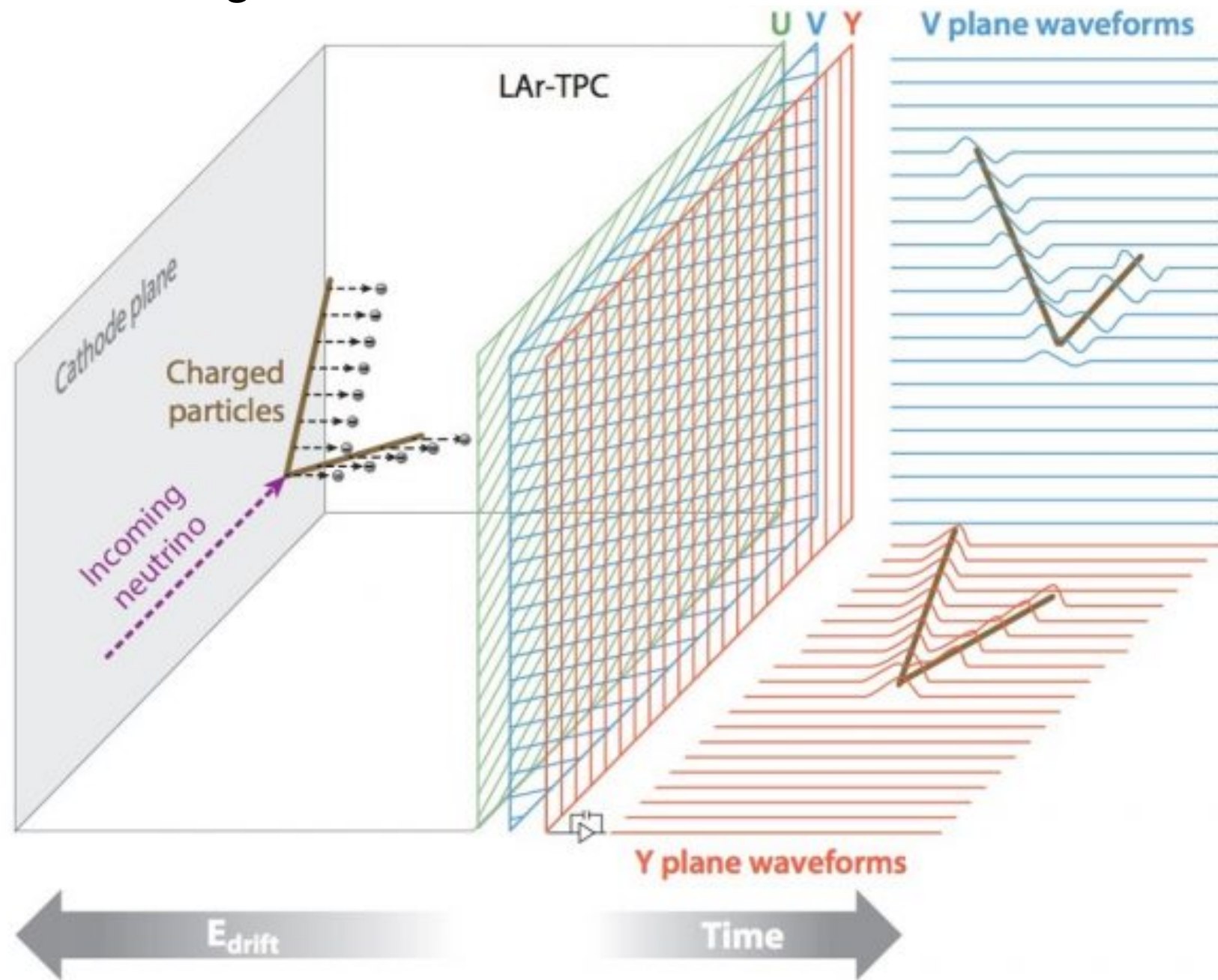




Long Baseline 1300 km, active mass ~ 70 kton
Sensitivity to: θ_{23} , θ_{13} , δCP , Mass ordering



LAr Time Projection Chamber Technology

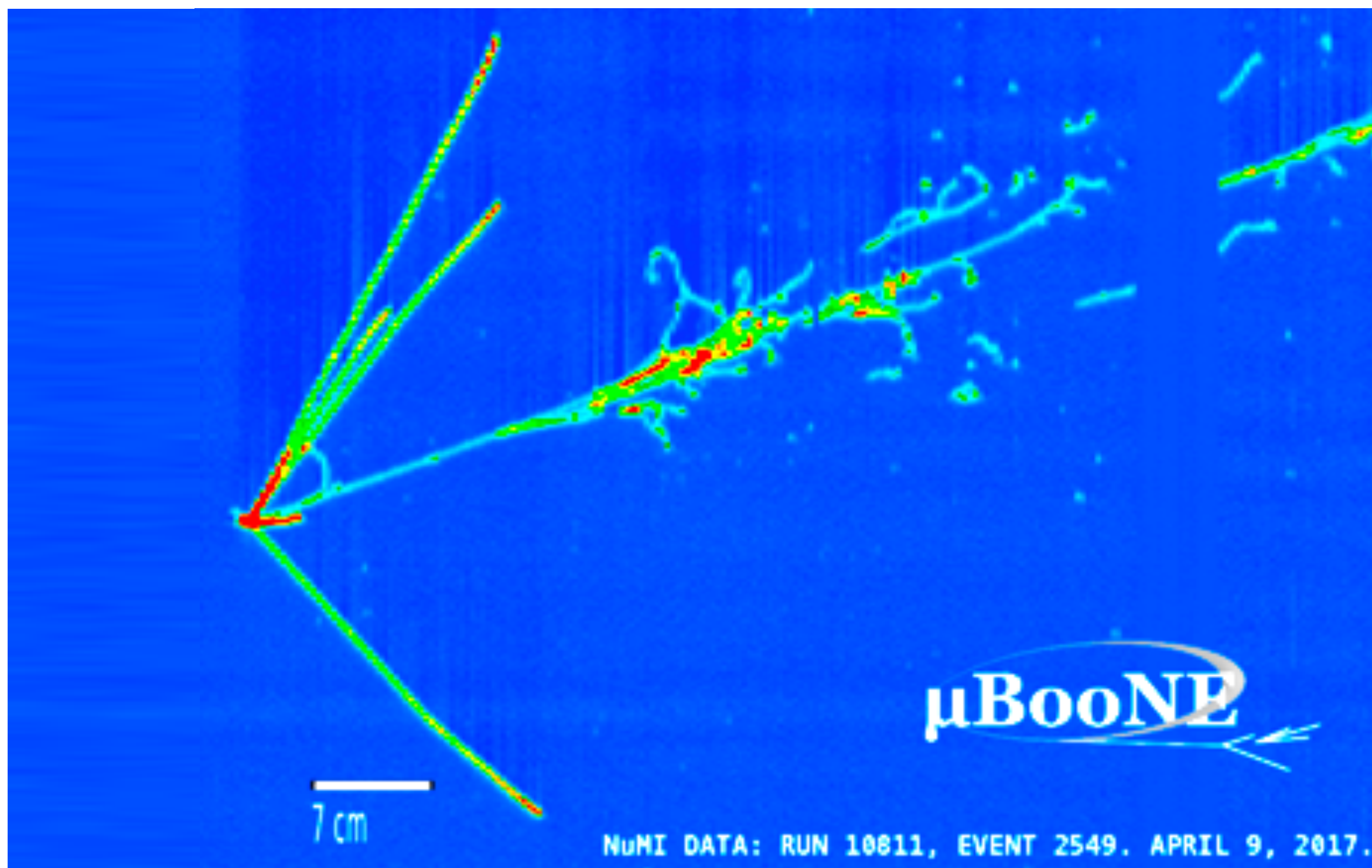


LAr Time Projection Chamber Active mass : 85 tons

Triggered by PMTs, 3 wire planes with 3 mm spacing

impeccable spatial resolution, calorimetric measurement





The challenge - next generation high precision

Incoming true flux

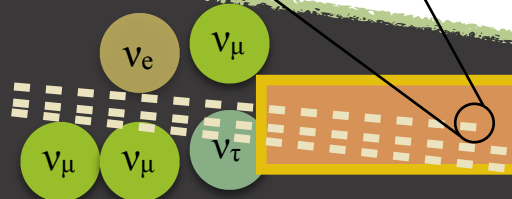
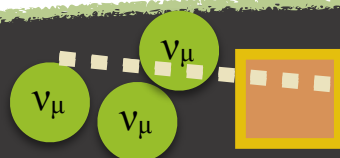
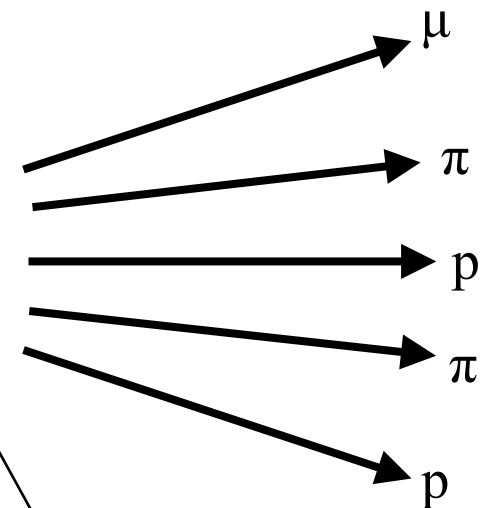
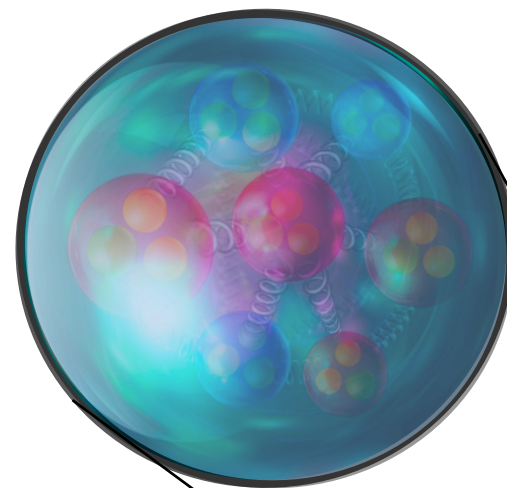
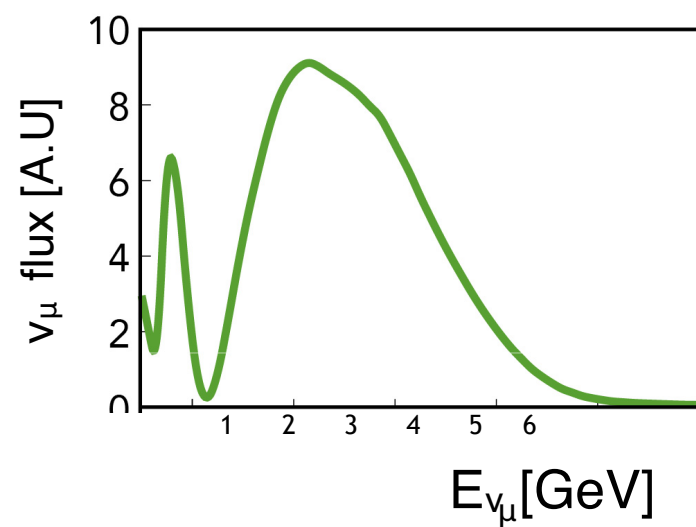
$$\int \Phi(E, L)$$

Modelling Input

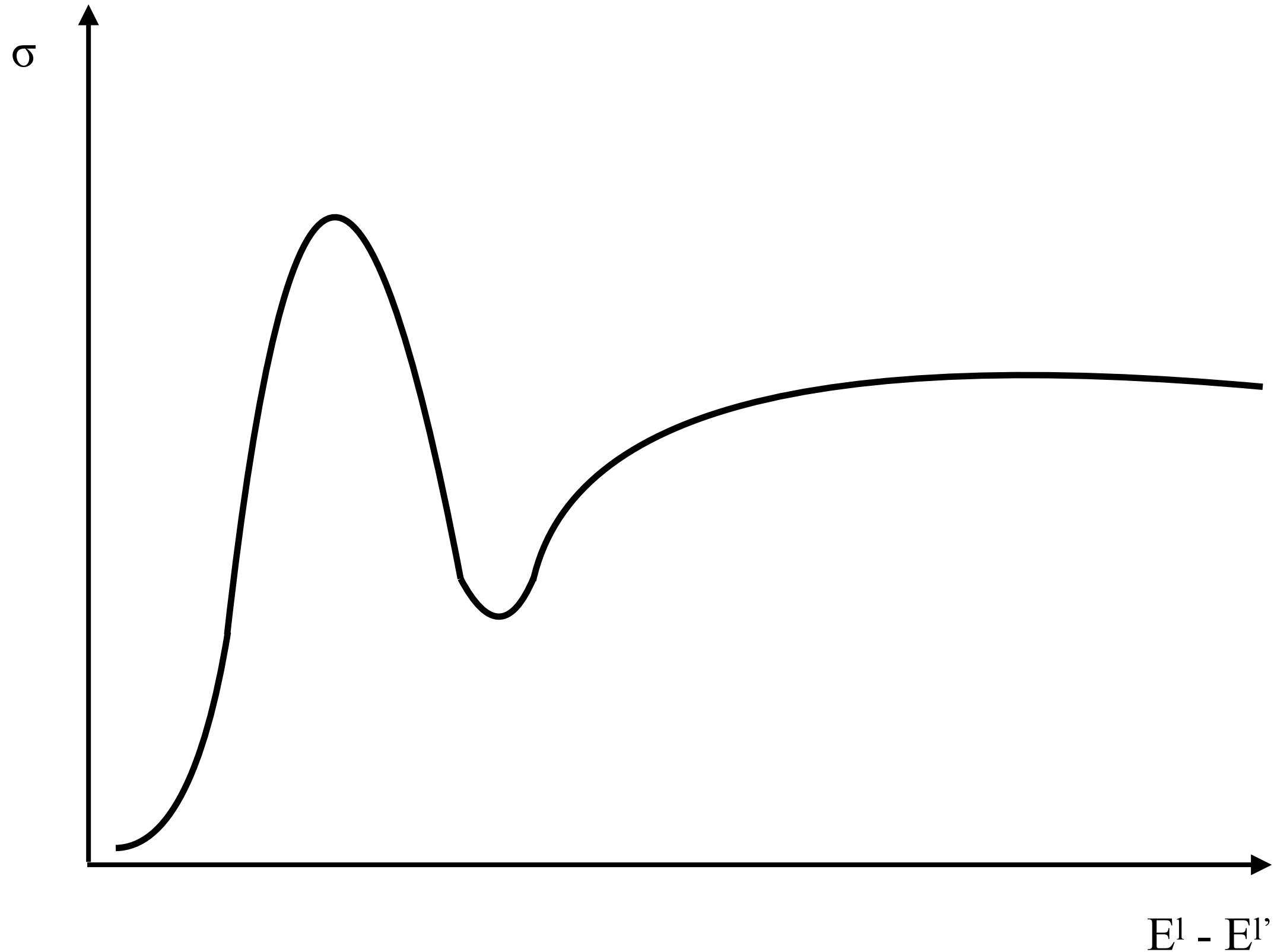
$$\sigma(E) f_{\sigma}(E, E_{rec}) dE$$

Measurement

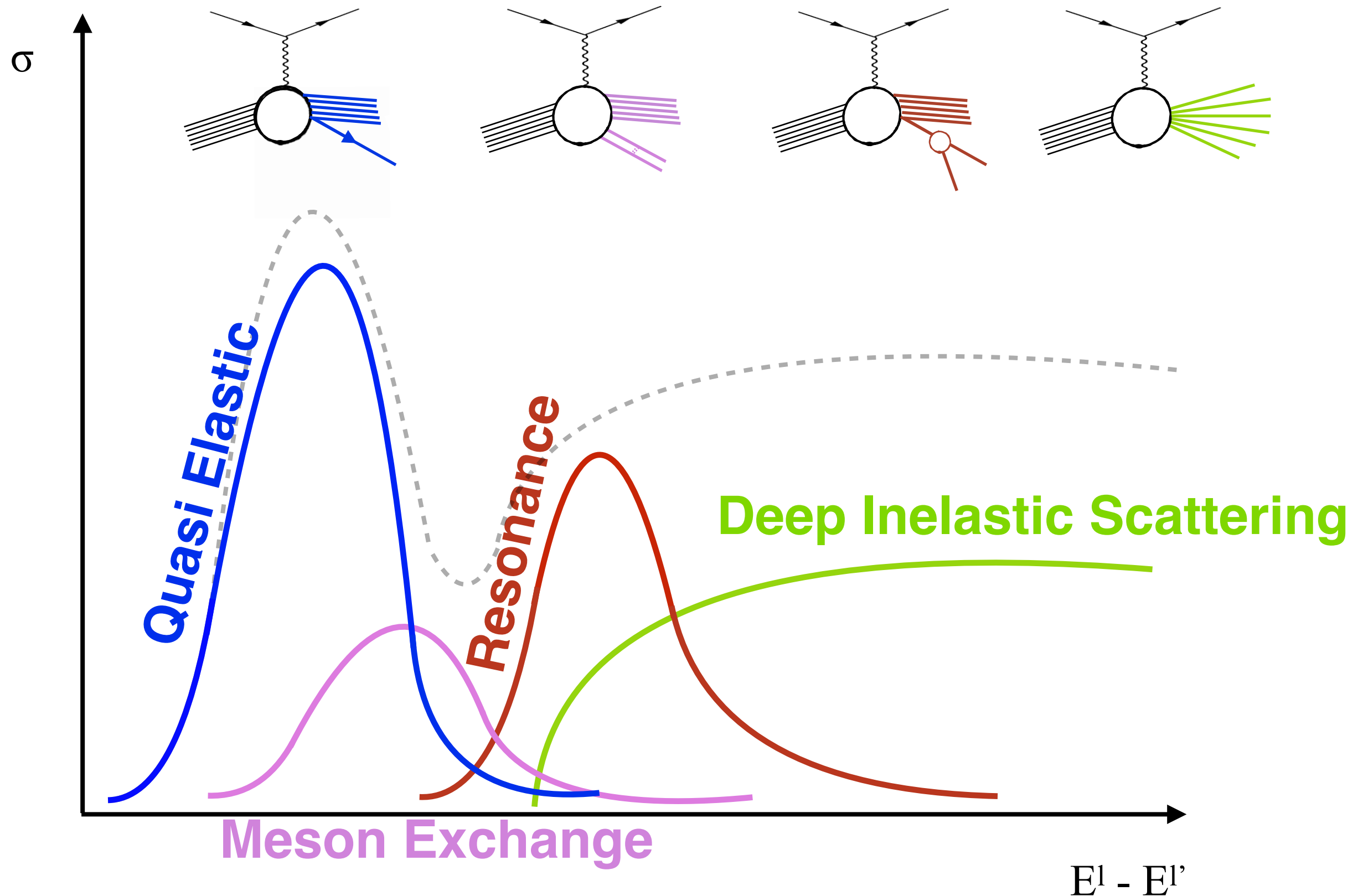
$$\propto N(E_{rec}, L)$$



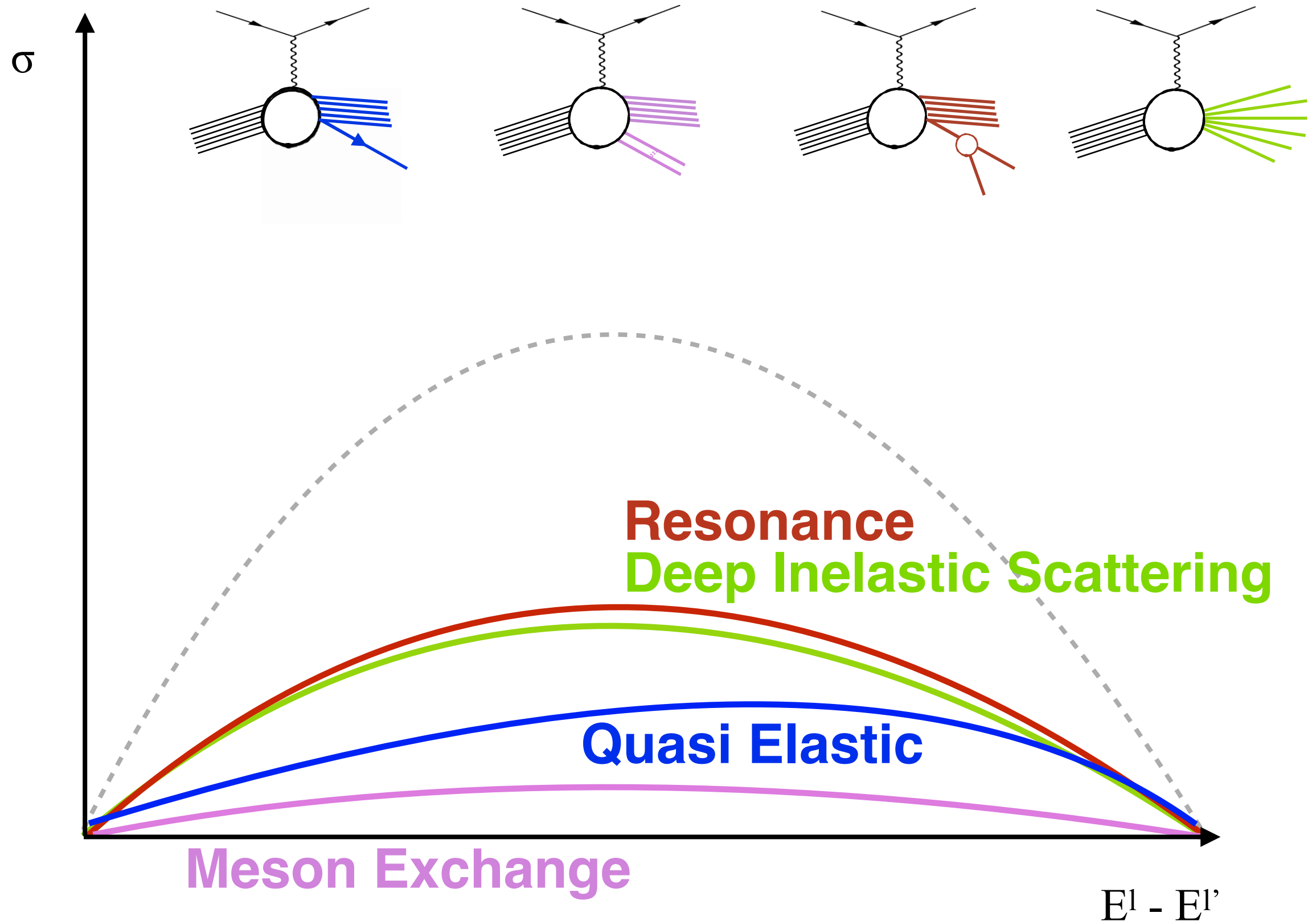
E Reconstruction Requires Interaction Modelling



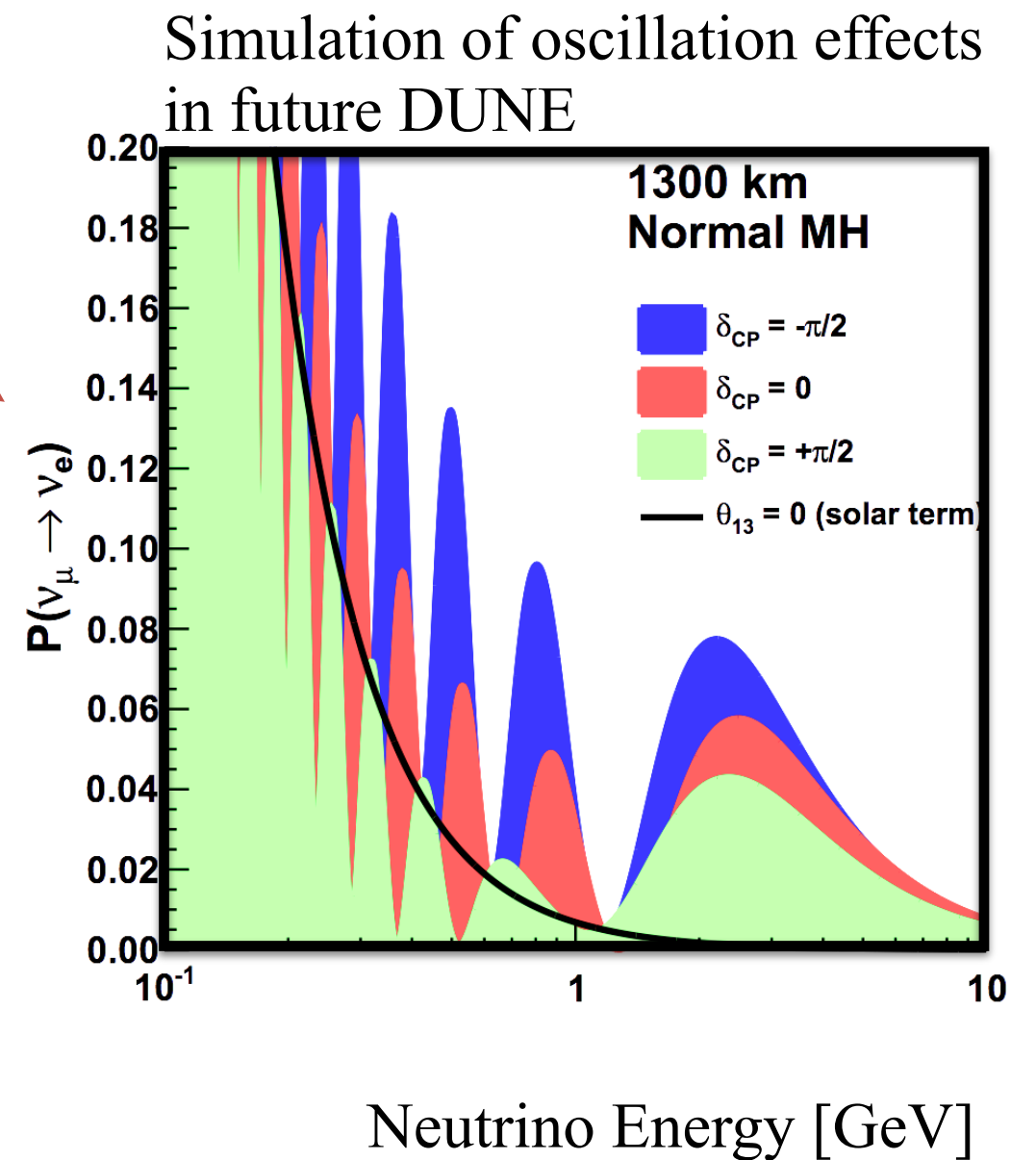
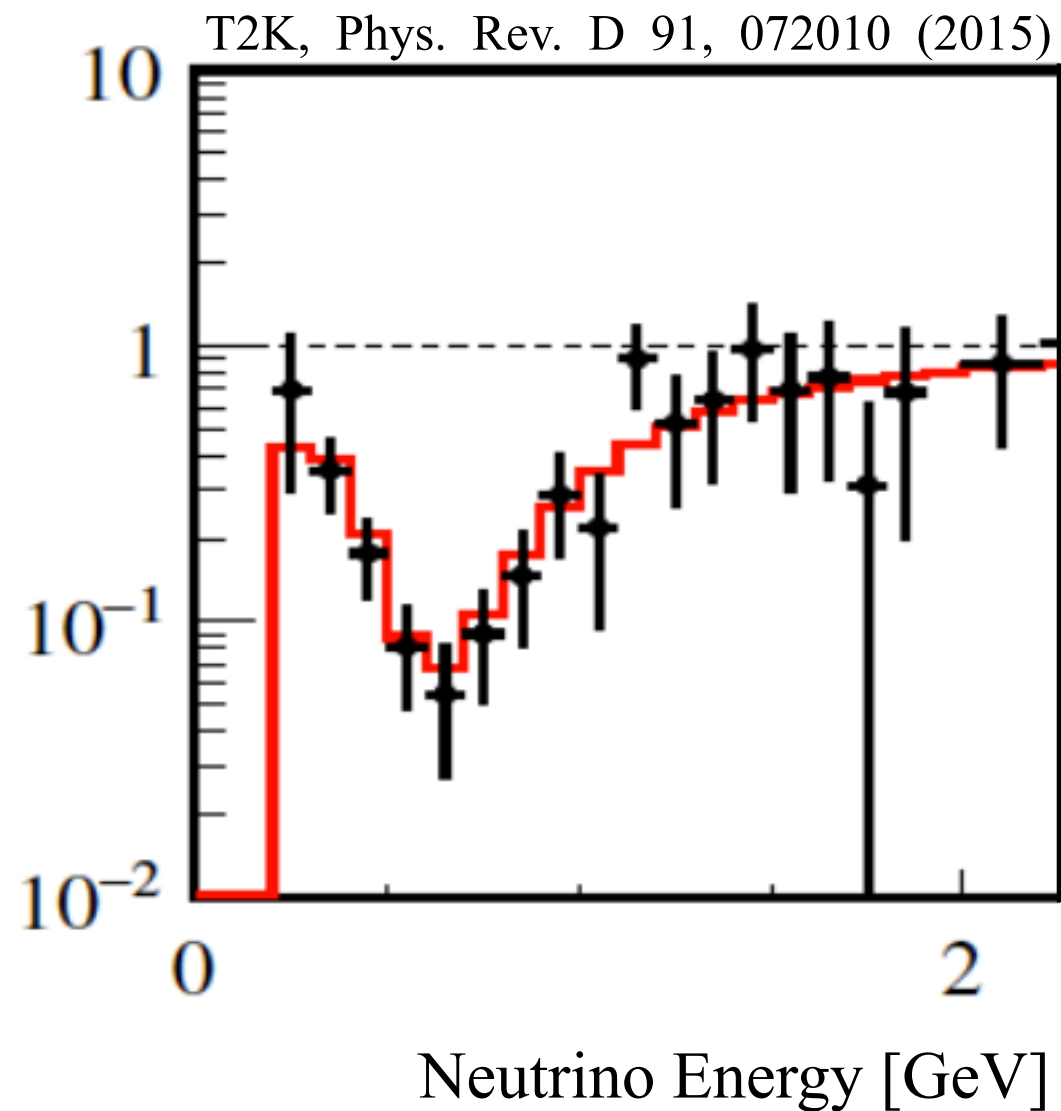
E Reconstruction Requires Interaction Modelling



ν Reconstruction Requires Interaction Modelling

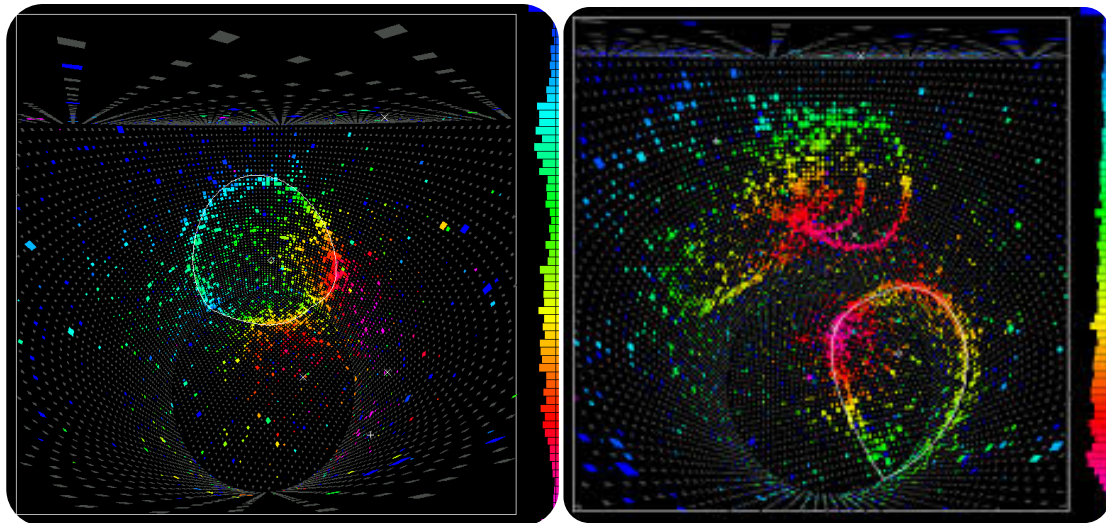


The challenge - next generation high precision



Incoming Energy Reconstruction

QE-like events

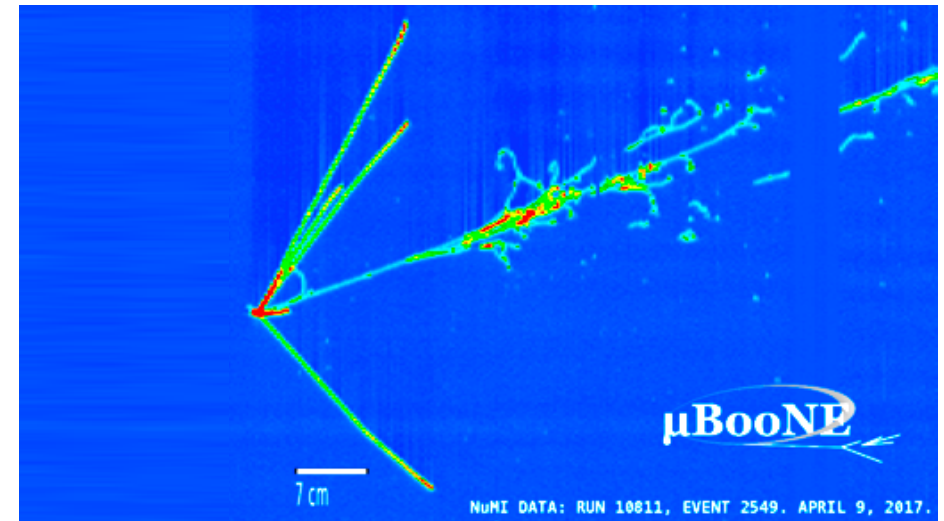


Cherenkov detectors:

Assuming QE interaction

Using lepton only

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



Tracking detectors:

Calorimetric sum

Using All detected particles

$$E_{\text{cal}} = E_l + E_p^{\text{kin}} + \epsilon$$

[1p0π]

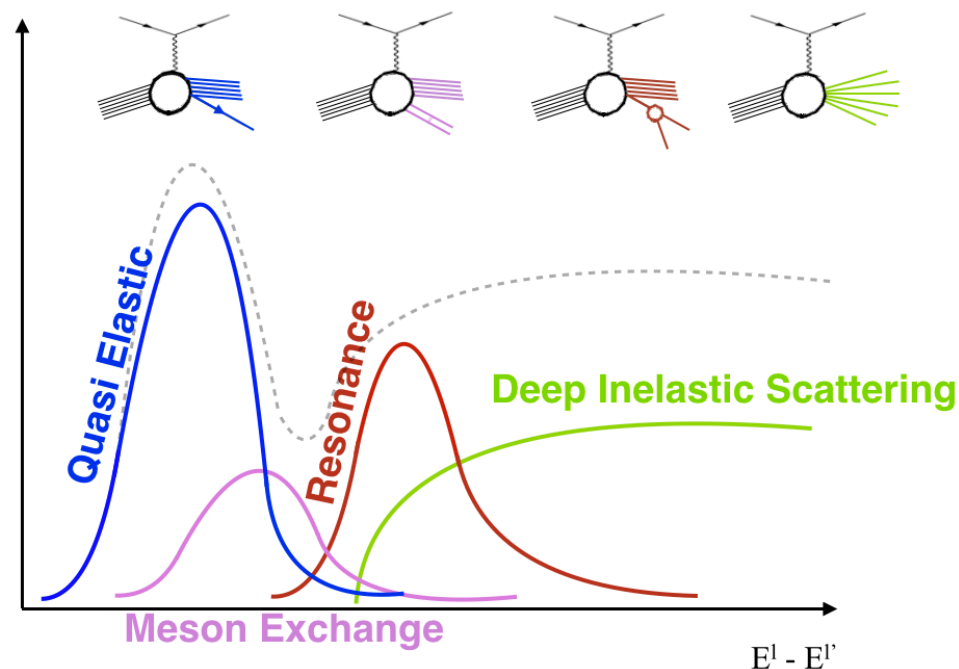
ϵ is the nucleon separation energy ~ 20 MeV

Lepton-Nucleus Interaction Modelling - Need constraints

Neutrino event generators simulating νA interaction



and more



Factorisation of

- Initial state
- Each interaction mechanism separately
- Final State Interactions

Empirical or semi classical models
with many free parameters

The challenge - next generation high precision

$$N(E_{rec}, L) \propto \int \Phi(E, L) \sigma(E) f_{\sigma}(E, E_{rec}) dE$$

Measurement

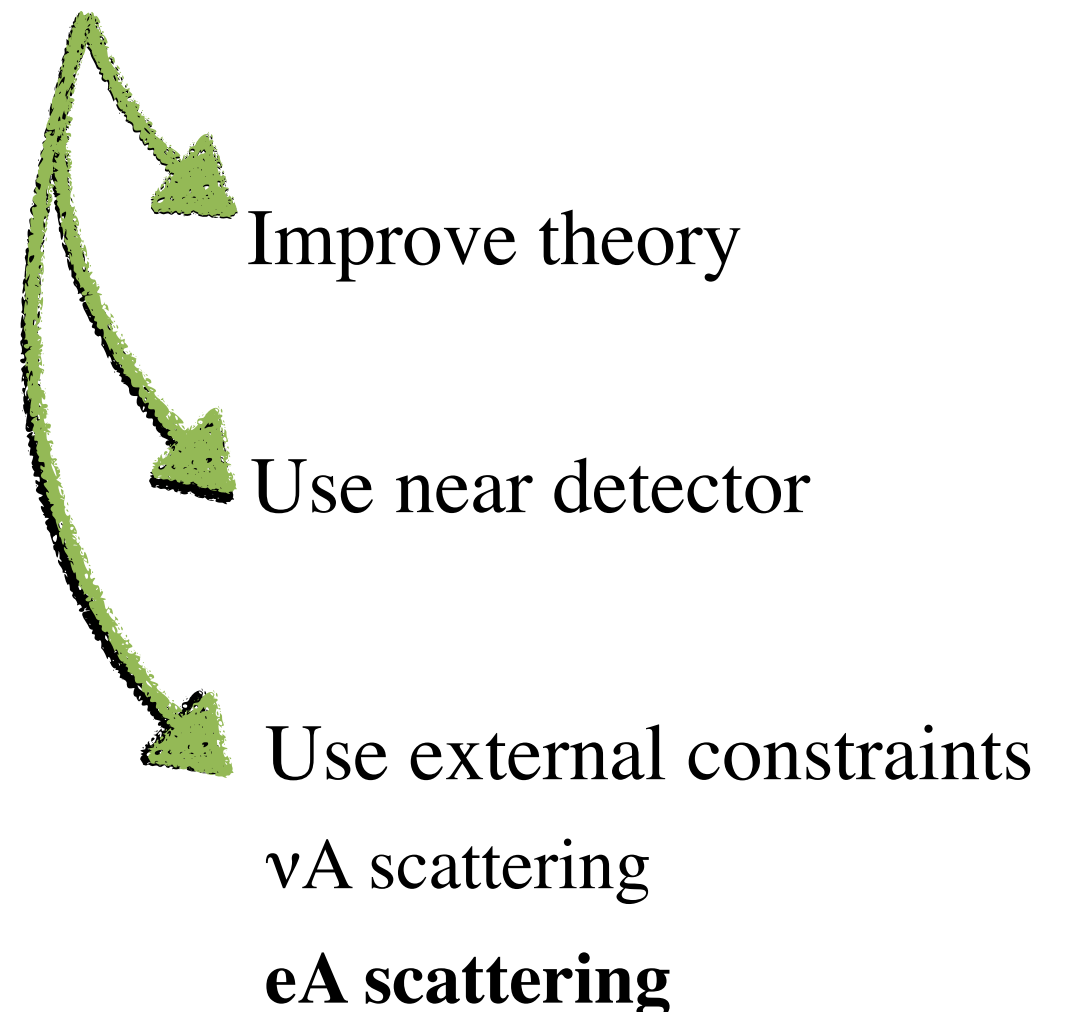
Incoming true flux Modelling input

The challenge - next generation high precision

$$N(E_{rec}, L) \propto \int \Phi(E, L) \sigma(E) f_{\sigma}(E, E_{rec}) dE$$

Measurement

Incoming true flux Modelling input



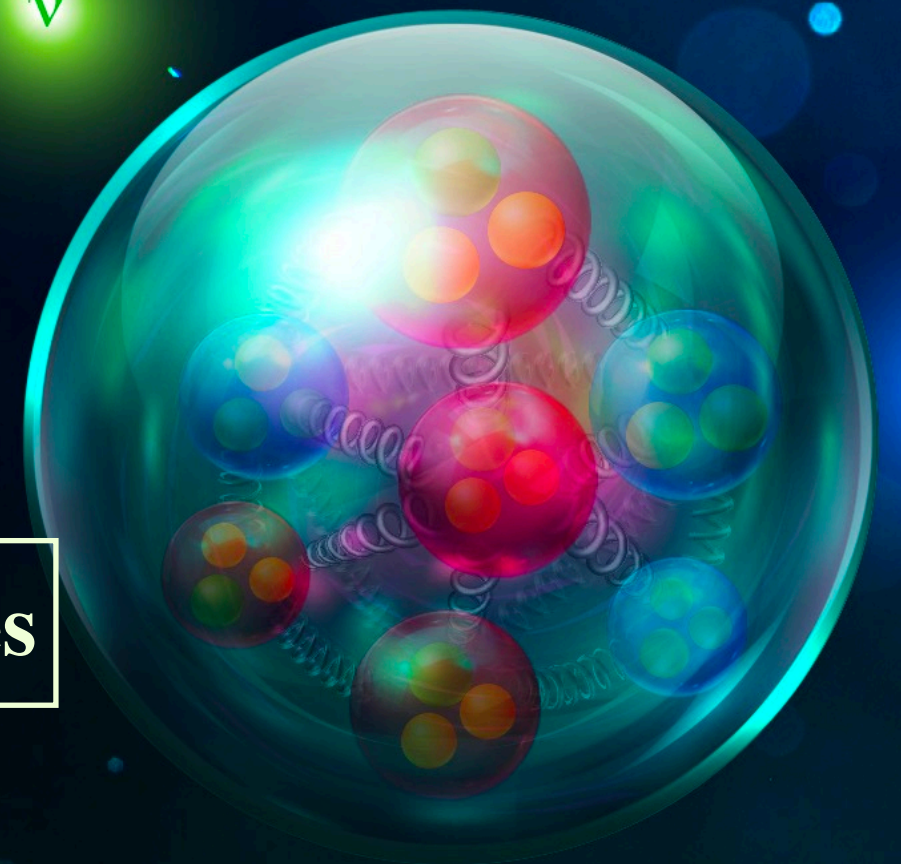


Why electrons?

Electrons and Neutrinos have:

- **Identical initial nuclear state**
- **Same Final State Interactions**
- **Similar interactions**
(vector vs. vector + axial)

Useful to constrain model uncertainties





Why electrons?

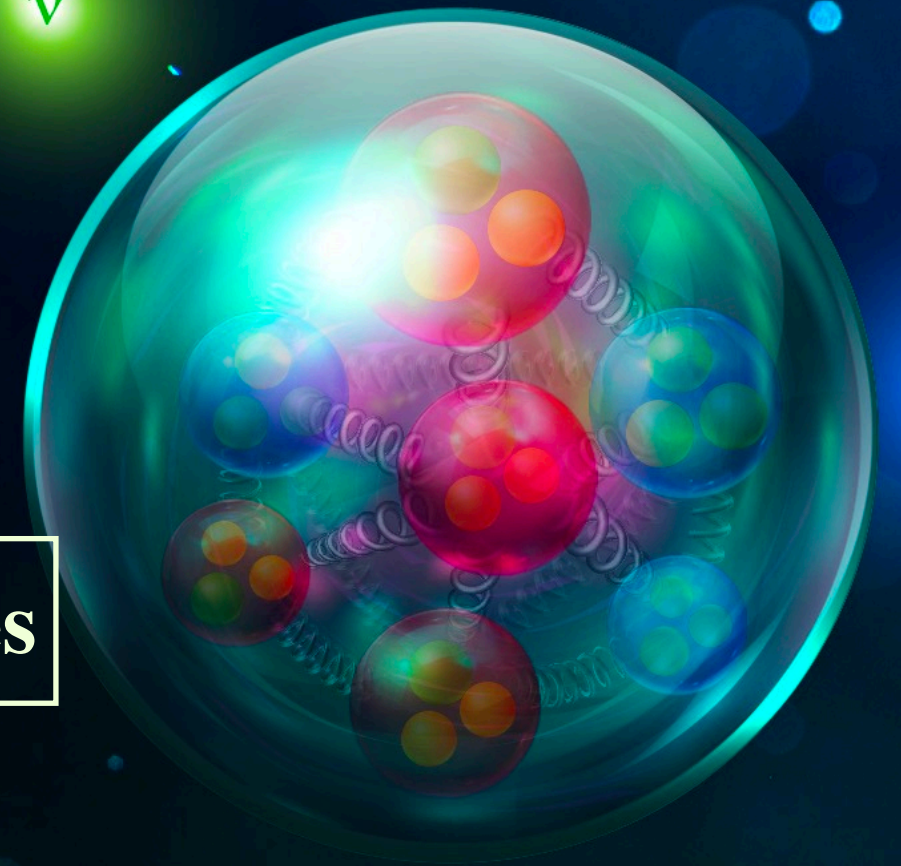
Electrons and Neutrinos have:

- **Identical initial nuclear state**
- **Same Final State Interactions**
- **Similar interactions**
(vector vs. vector + axial)






Useful to constrain model uncertainties

Electrons have known energies

Useful to test incoming energy reconstruction methods

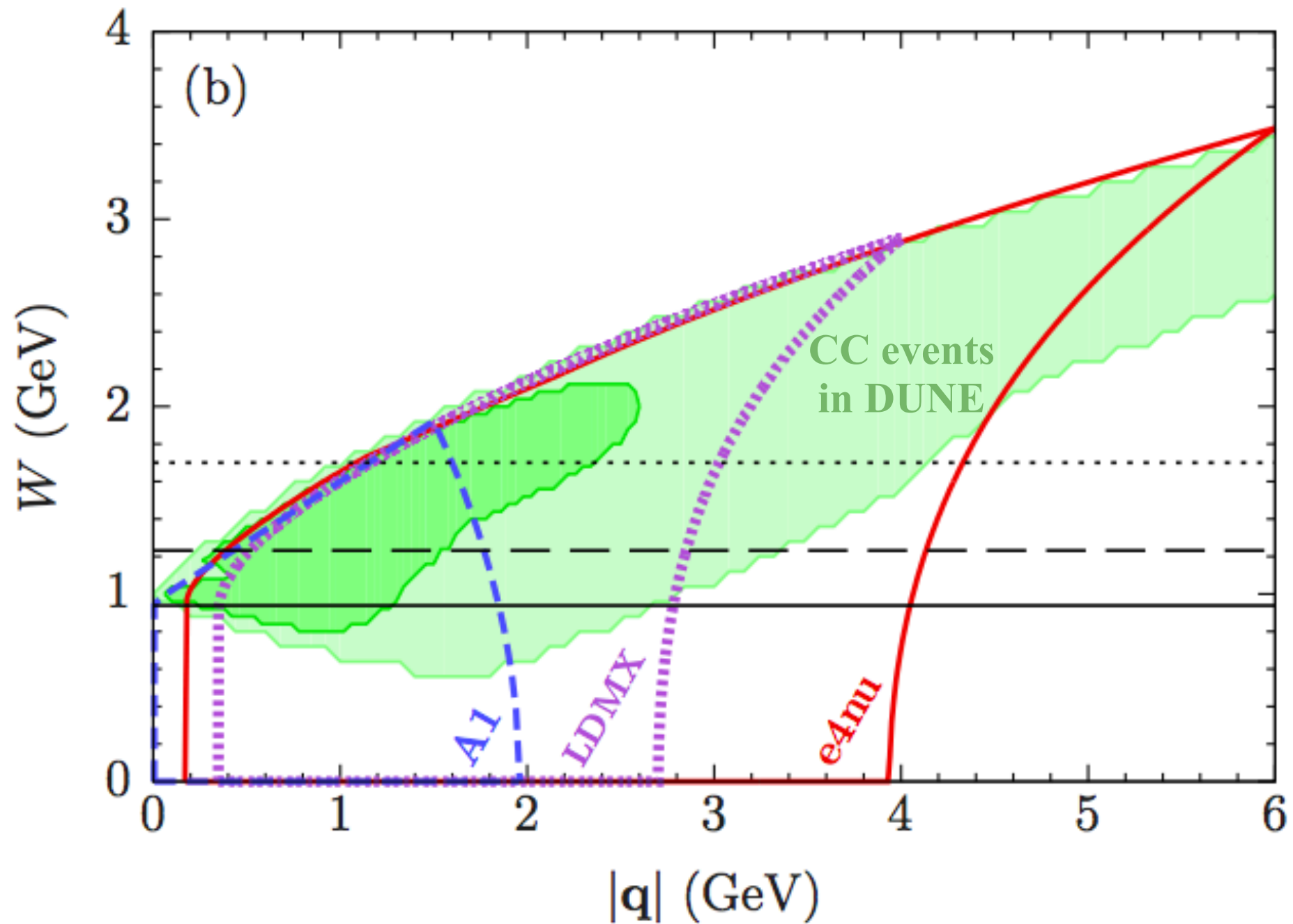


Complementary efforts

Collaborations	Kinematics	Targets	Scattering	Publications
E12-14-012 (JLab) (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 99 , 054608 Phys.Rev.D 105 112002
e4nu/CLAS (JLab) (Data collected: 1999, 2022) 	$E_e = 1, 2, 4, 6 \text{ GeV}$ $\theta_e > 5$	H, D, He, C, Ar, ^{40}Ca , ^{48}Ca , Fe, Sn	(e, e') e, p, n, π, γ in the final state	Nature 599 , 565 Phys.Rev.D 103 113003
A1 (MAMI) (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	
LDMX (SLAC) (Planned) 	$E_e = 4.0 \text{ GeV}$ $\theta_e < 40$		(e, e') e, p, n, π in the final state	
eALBA (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)

e4v and DUNE

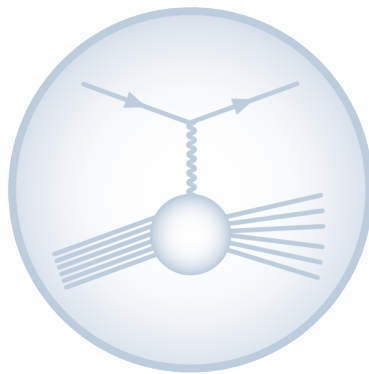


arXiv:2203.06853v1 [hep-ex]
A NFO6 Contributed White Paper

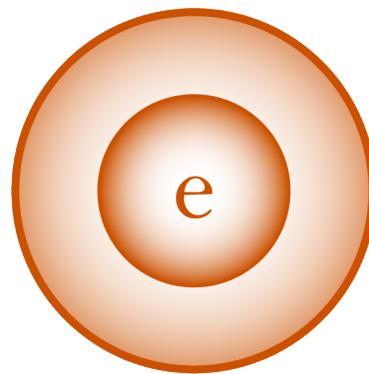
e4v demonstrate best coverage.

The only effort with data already taken and expected exclusive measurements.

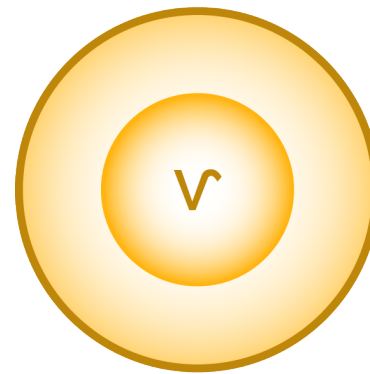
e4v Getting Ready for DUNE



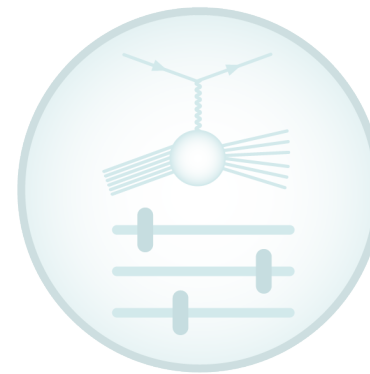
Model
Unification



Electron
Scattering Data

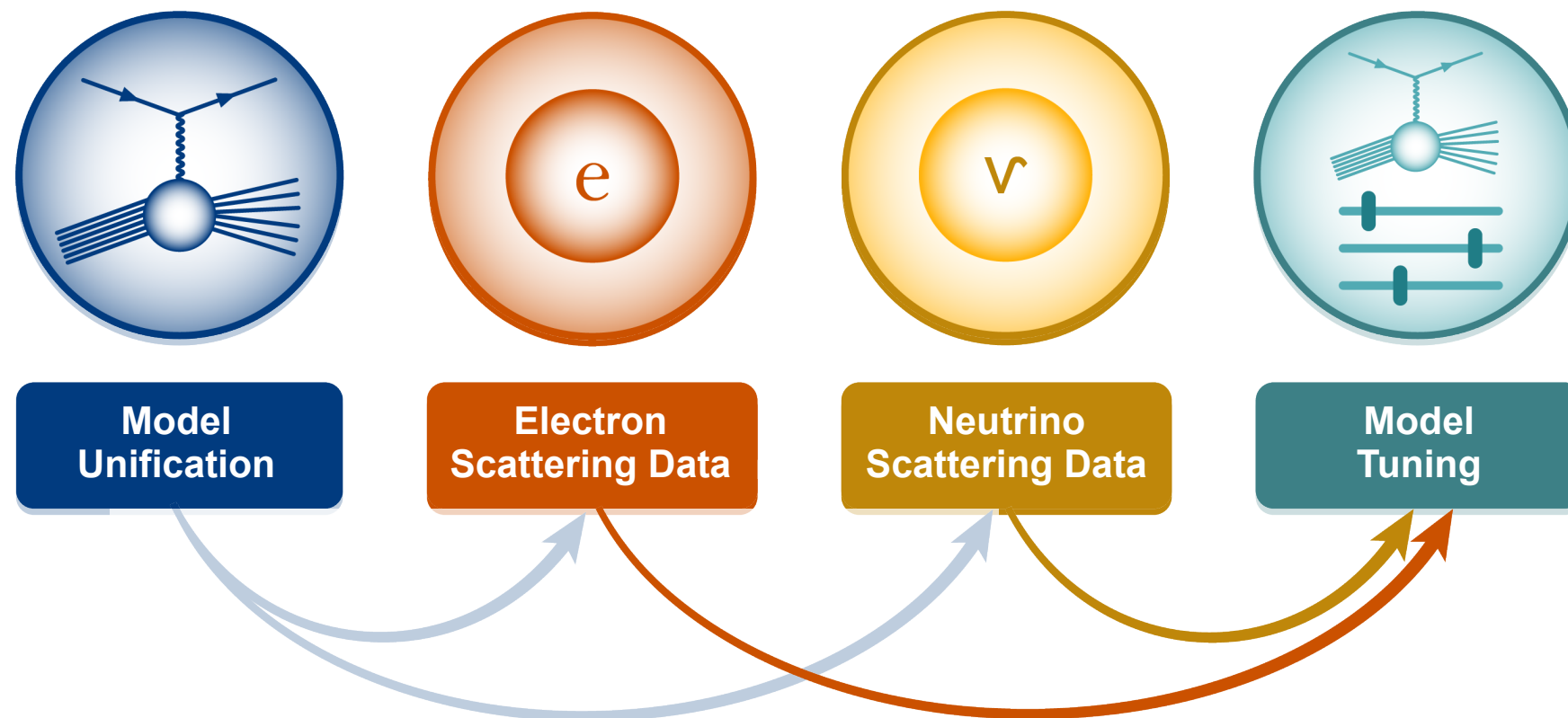


Neutrino
Scattering Data

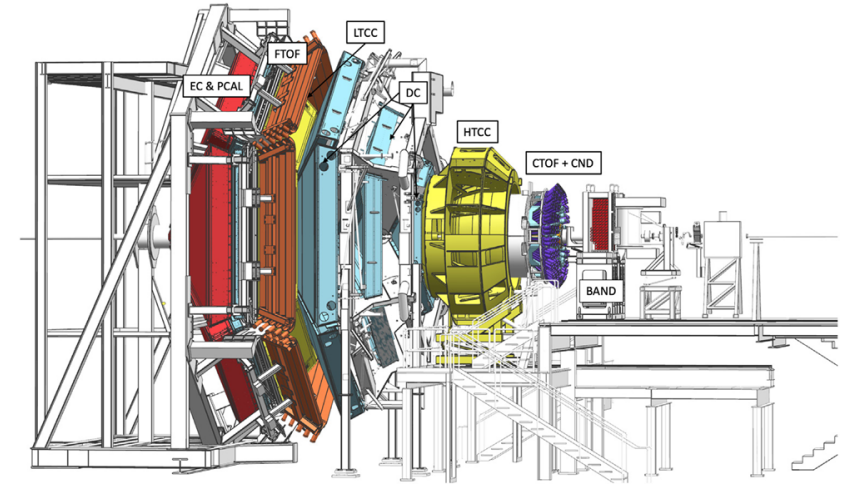
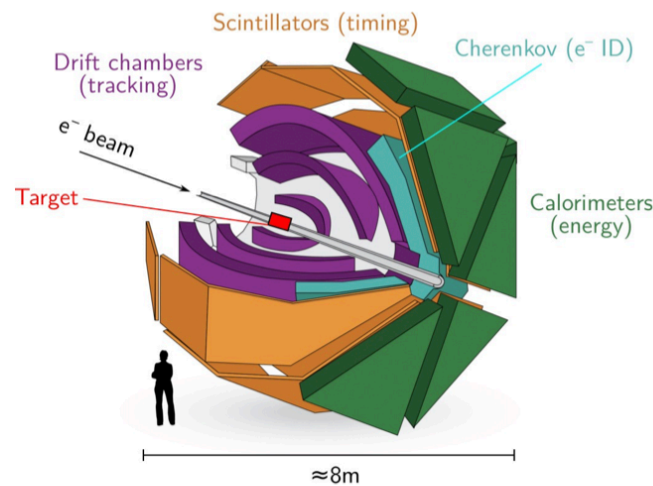


Model
Tuning

e4v Getting Ready for DUNE



Hadron production with CLAS



CLAS

CLAS12

Run years

1996-2013

2017 - ?

Luminosity

Targets

C & Fe

H, D, C, (O), ⁴⁰Ar and more

Beam Energy

1.1, 2.2, 4.4 GeV

(1), 2, 4, 6 GeV

Electron acceptance

$\theta_e > 15^\circ$

$\theta_e > 5^\circ$

Solid angle coverage

$\sim 2\pi$

$\sim 3\pi$

Magnetic field

V

V

Particle thresholds

150 (300) MeV/c for (p/)

200 (400) MeV/c for (p/n)²³

Events

$\sim 10\text{M C(e,e')} \text{ events}$

$\sim 100\text{M } ^{40}\text{Ar (e,e')} \text{ events}$



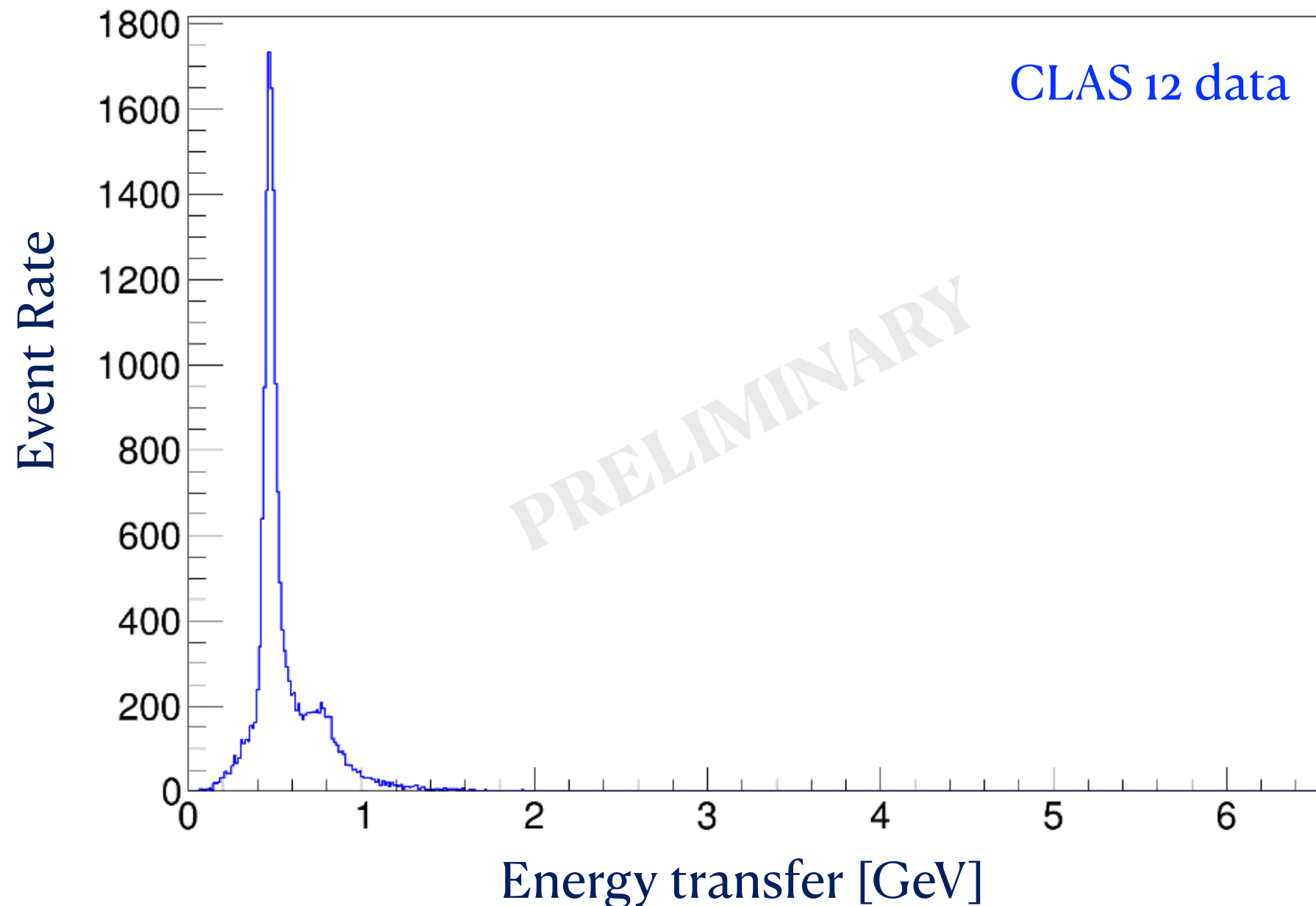
Data

Towards new Inclusive results on Ar

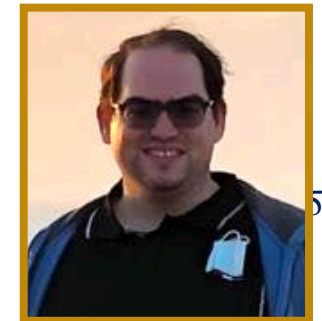
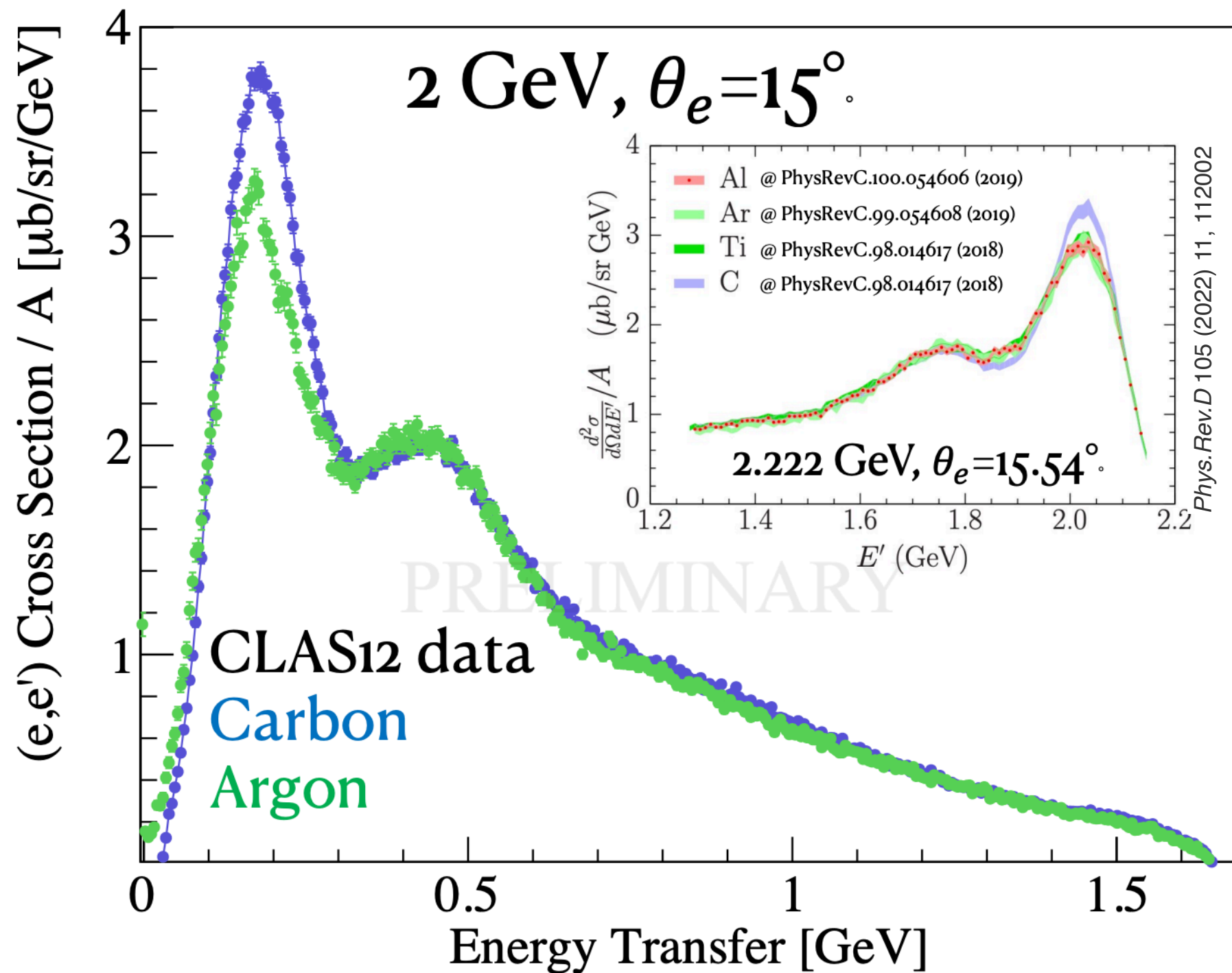
${}^2\text{H}$ at 6GeV
 $\theta_e \in [10.5, 39.5]^\circ$ with 1° steps



Matan
Goldenberg



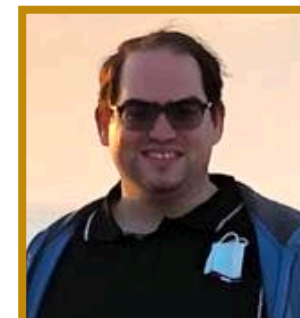
Towards new Inclusive results on C, Ar



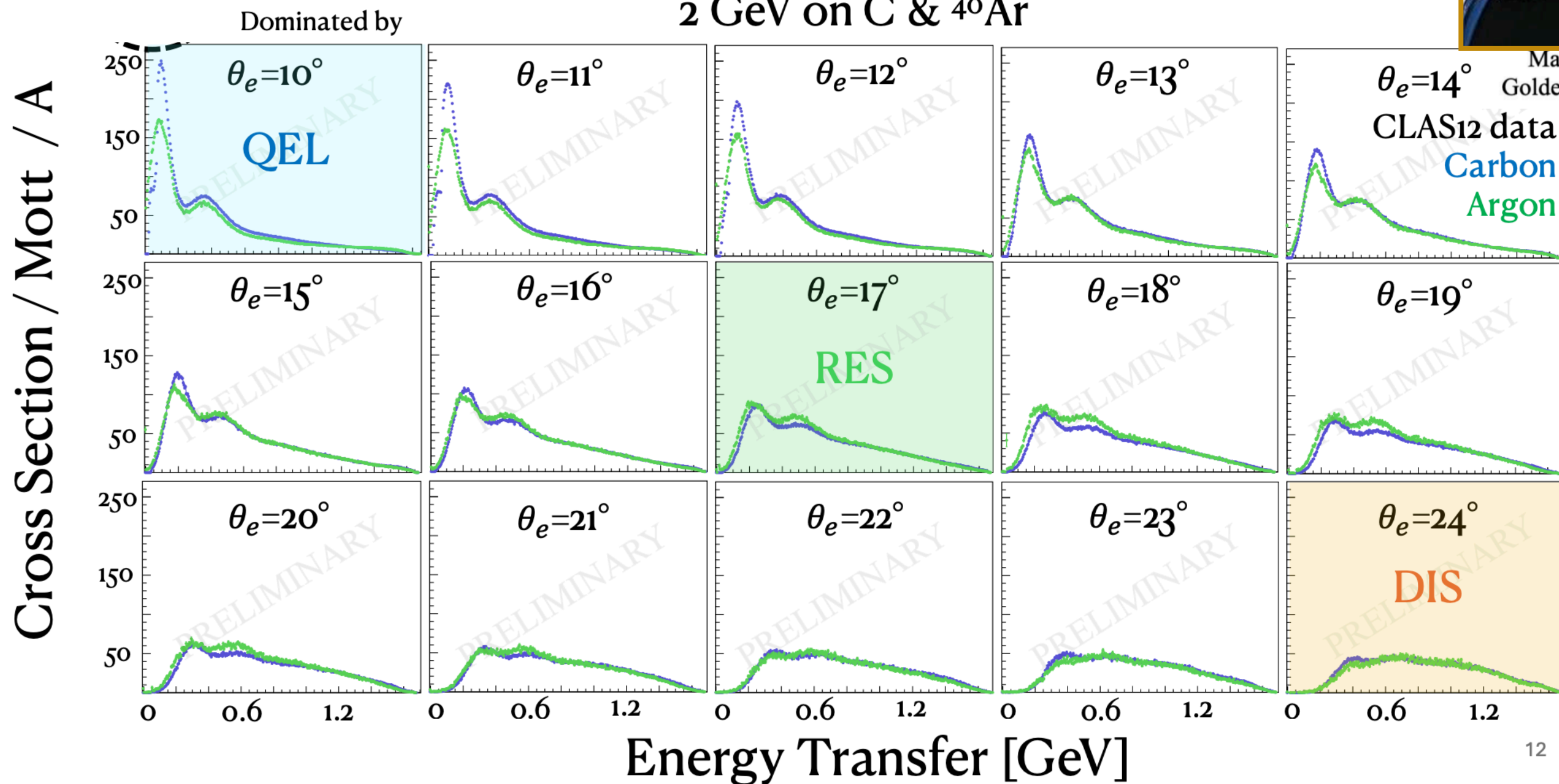
$\theta_e \in [17.5, 18.5]^\circ$

$5, 14.5]^\circ$

Unprecedented Inclusive Angular Coverage



Matan Goldenberg



12

$e4V$ 1p0 π Event Selection

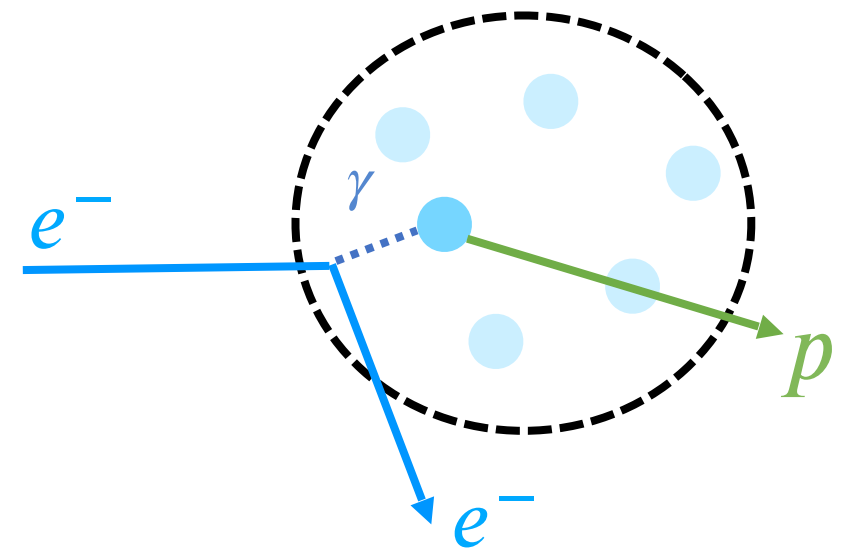
Focus on Quasi Elastic events:

1 proton above 300 MeV/c

no additional hadrons above detection threshold:

150 MeV/c for $P_{\pi^{+/-}}$

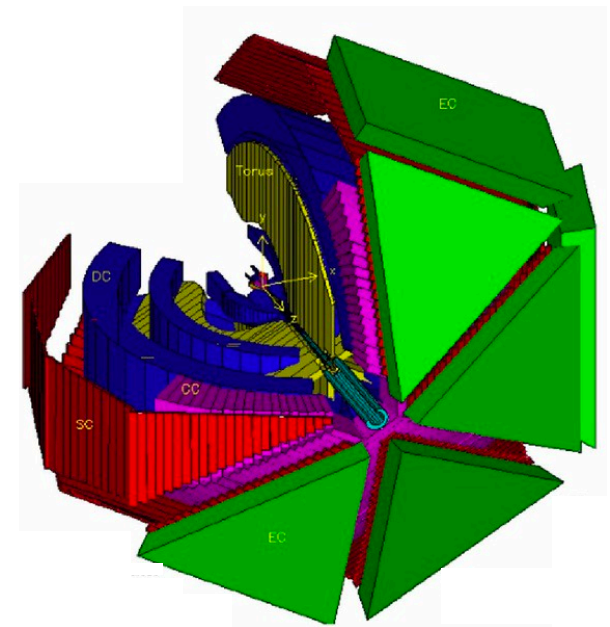
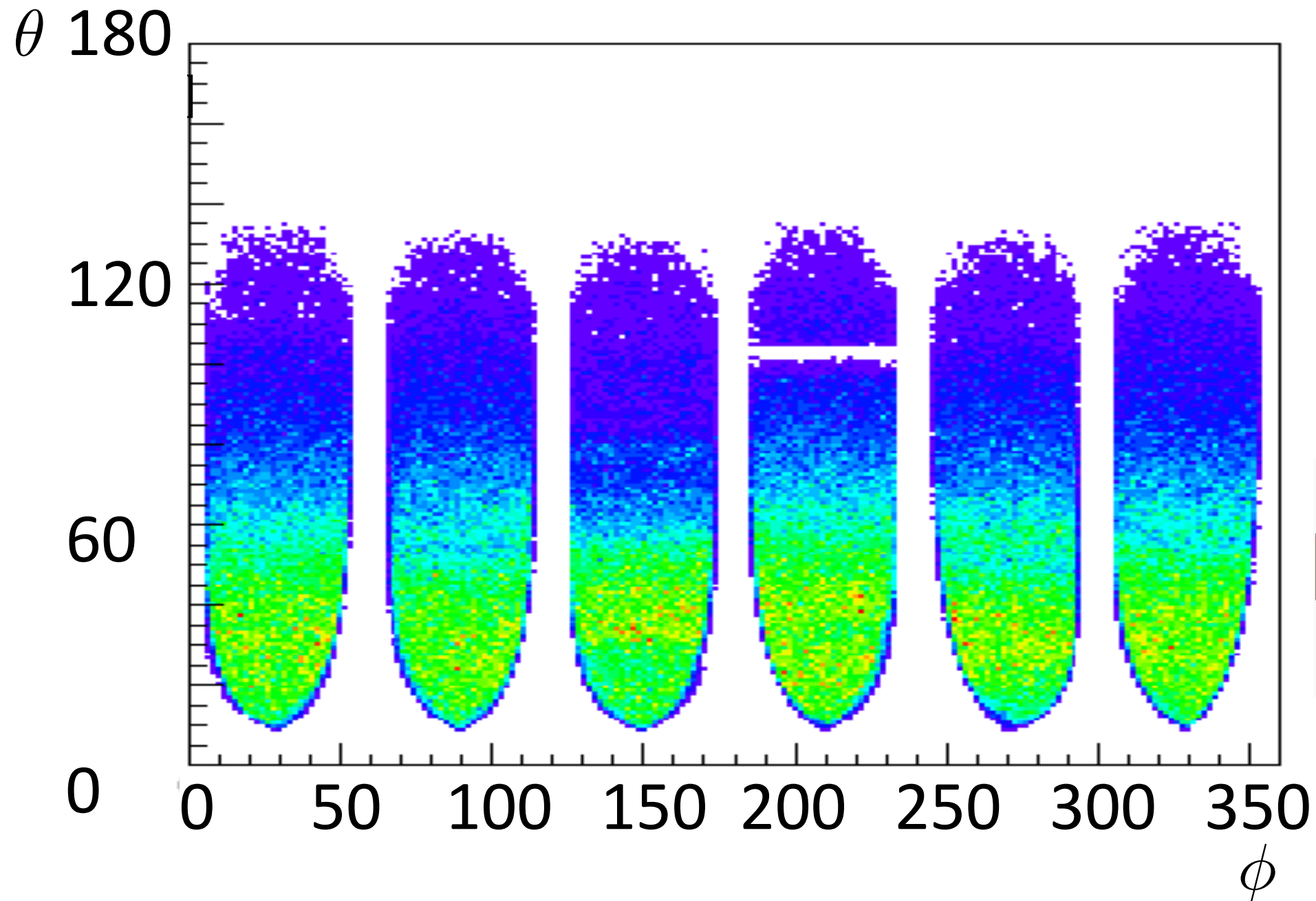
500 MeV/c for P_{π^0}



Background Subtraction

Different interaction lead to multi-hadron final states

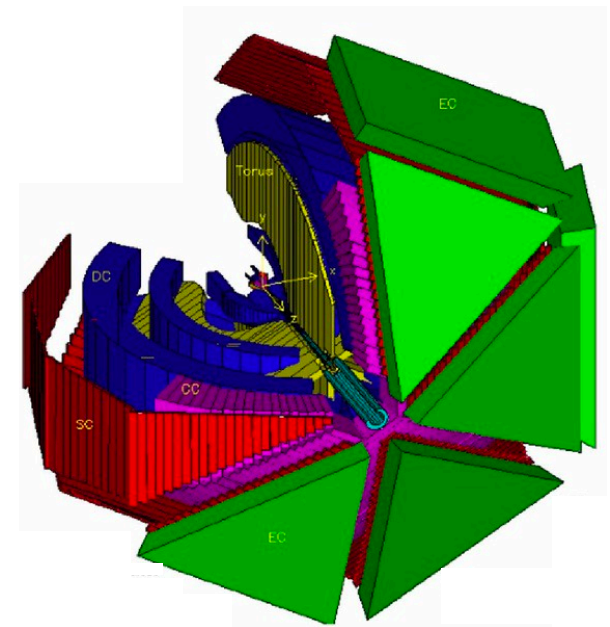
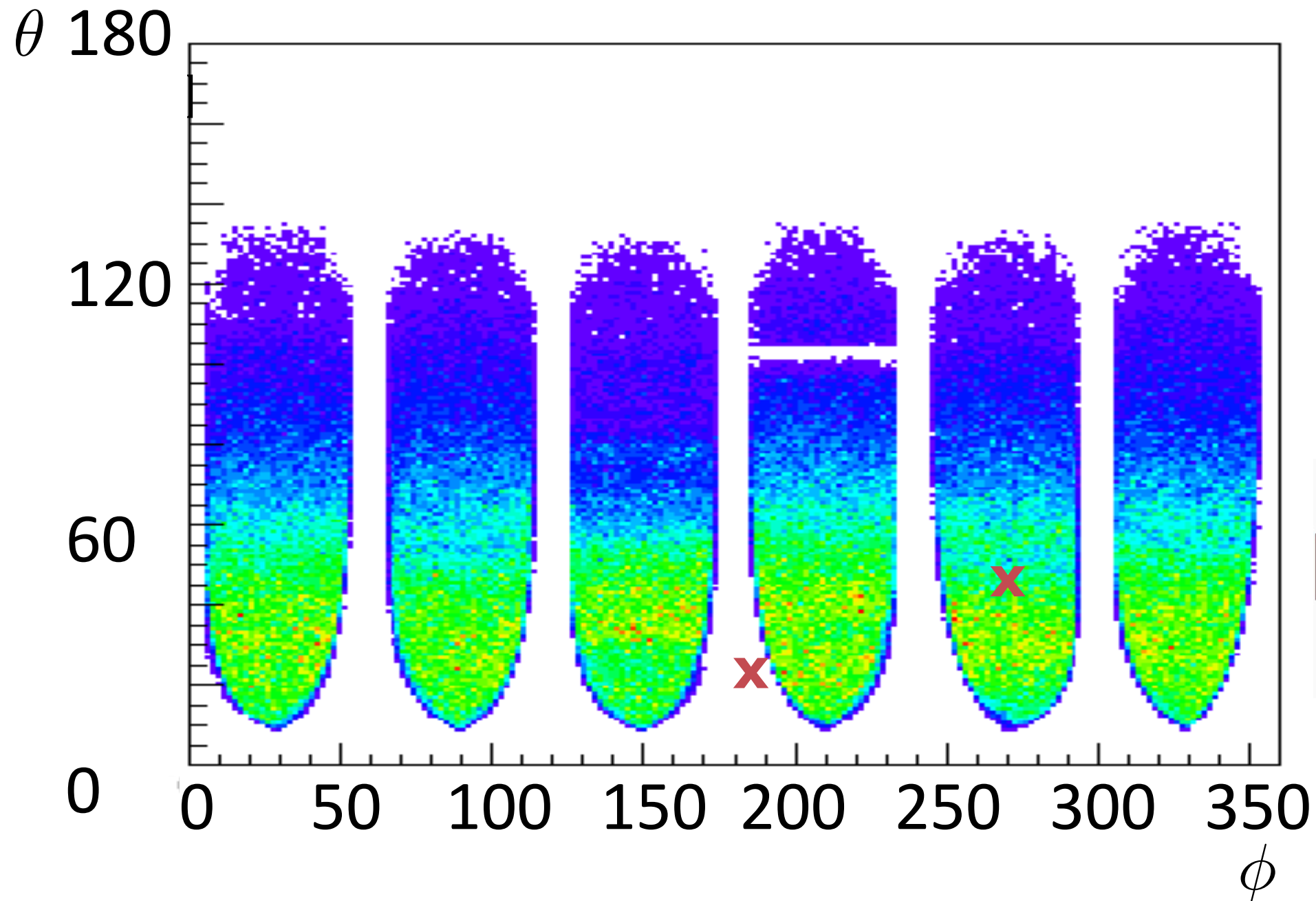
Gaps can make them loop like QE-like events with outgoing $1\mu 1p$



Background Subtraction

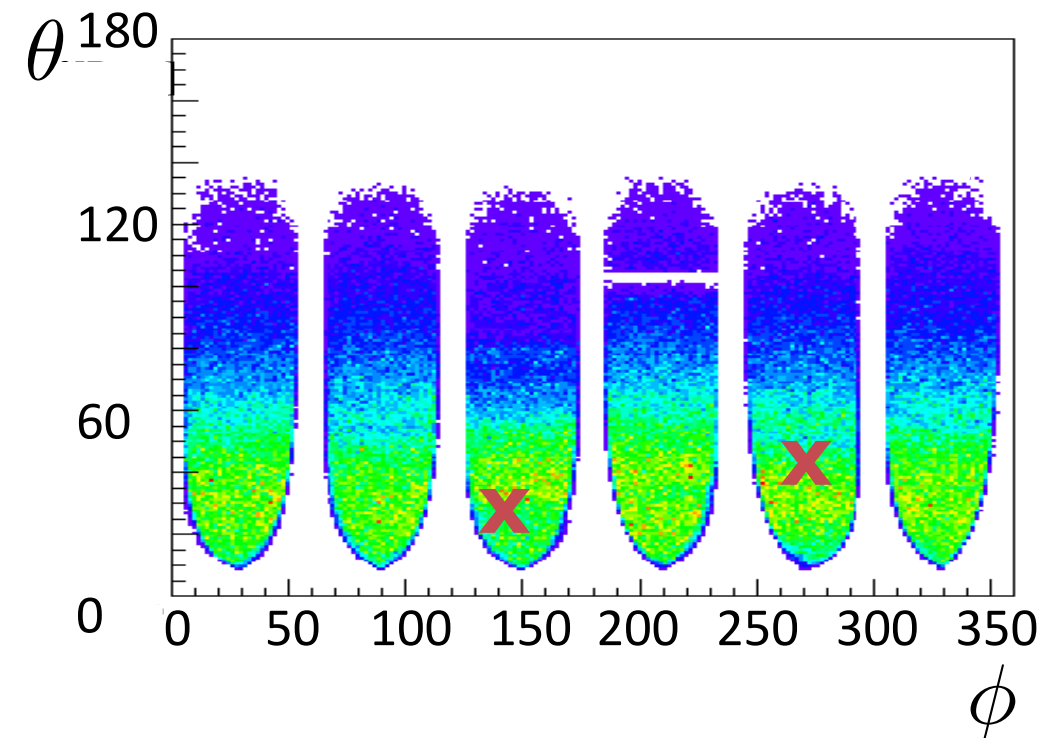
Different interaction lead to multi-hadron final states

Gaps can make them look like QE-like events with outgoing $1\mu 1p$



Data Driven Background Subtraction

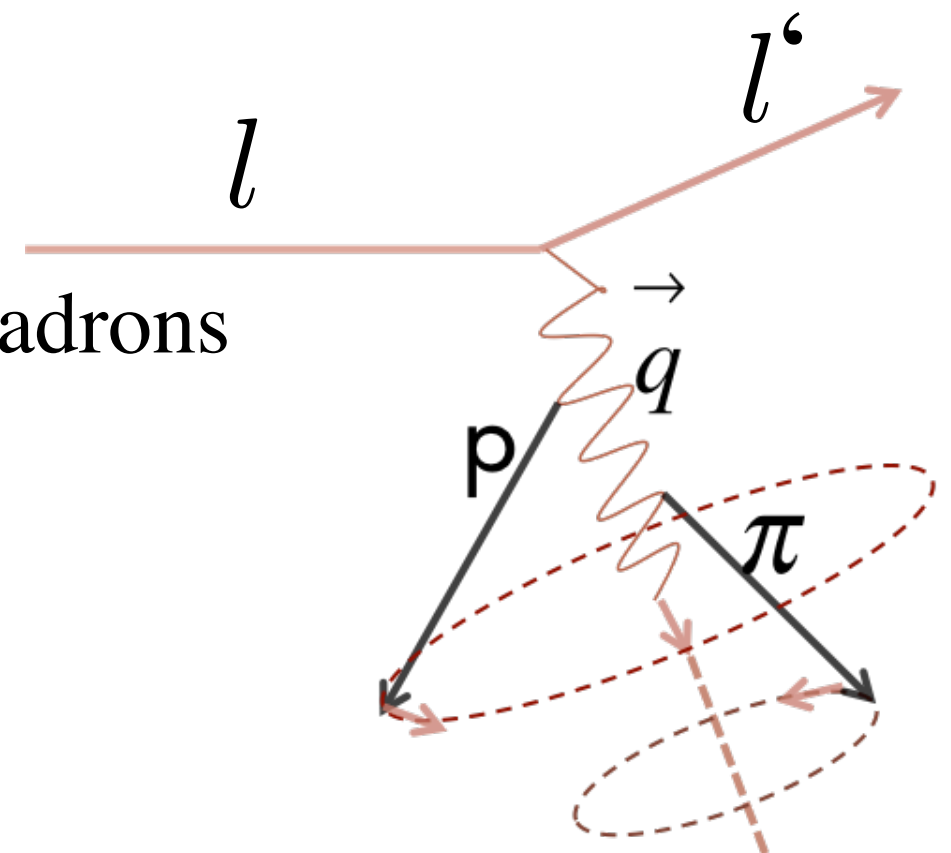
- Using measured $(e,e'p\pi)$ events
- Rotate p,π around \mathbf{q}
- Determine event acceptance
- Subtract $(e,e'p\pi)$ contribution



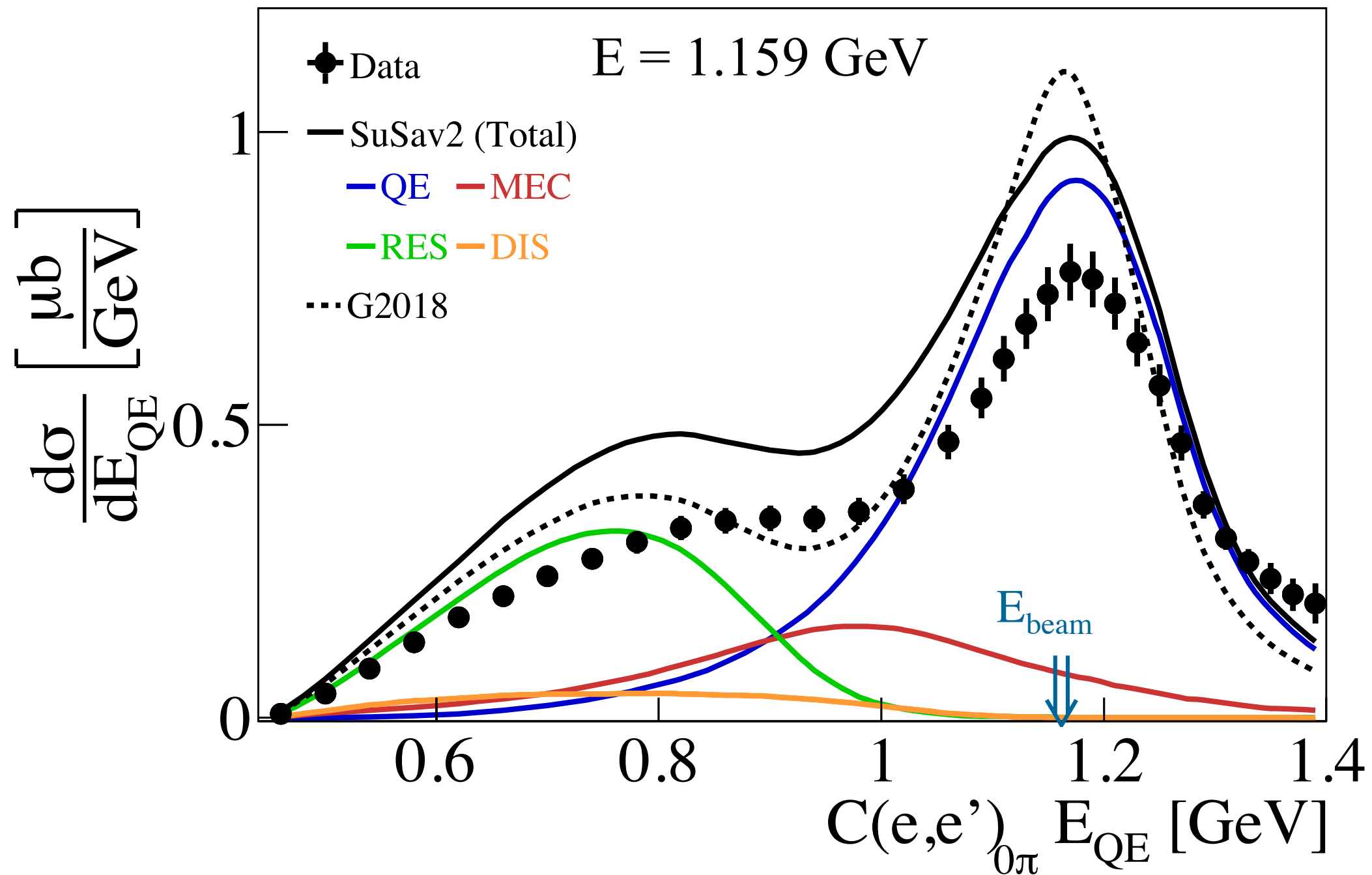
- Same for final states with more than 2 hadrons



Julia
Tena Vidal



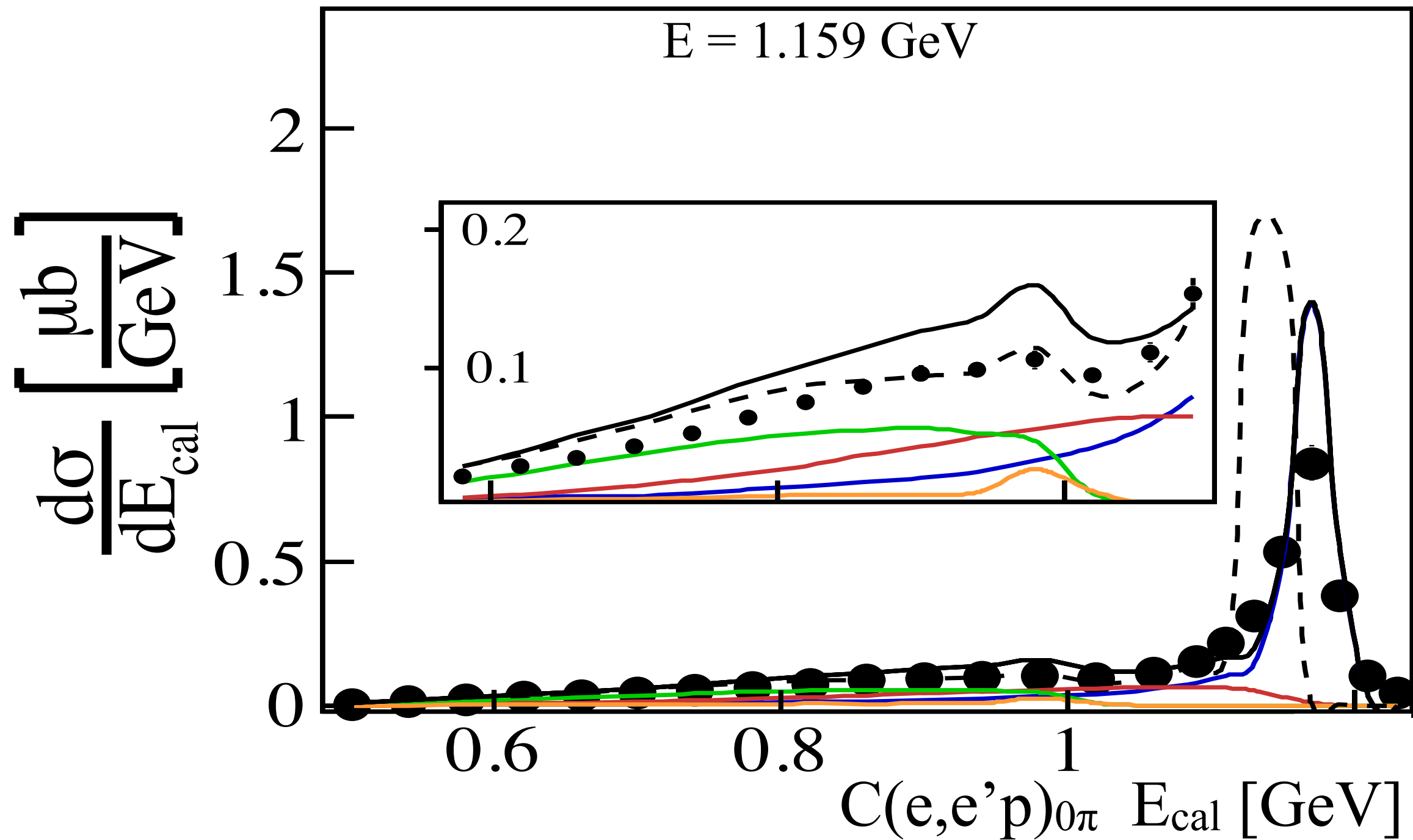
Inclusive Energy Reconstruction



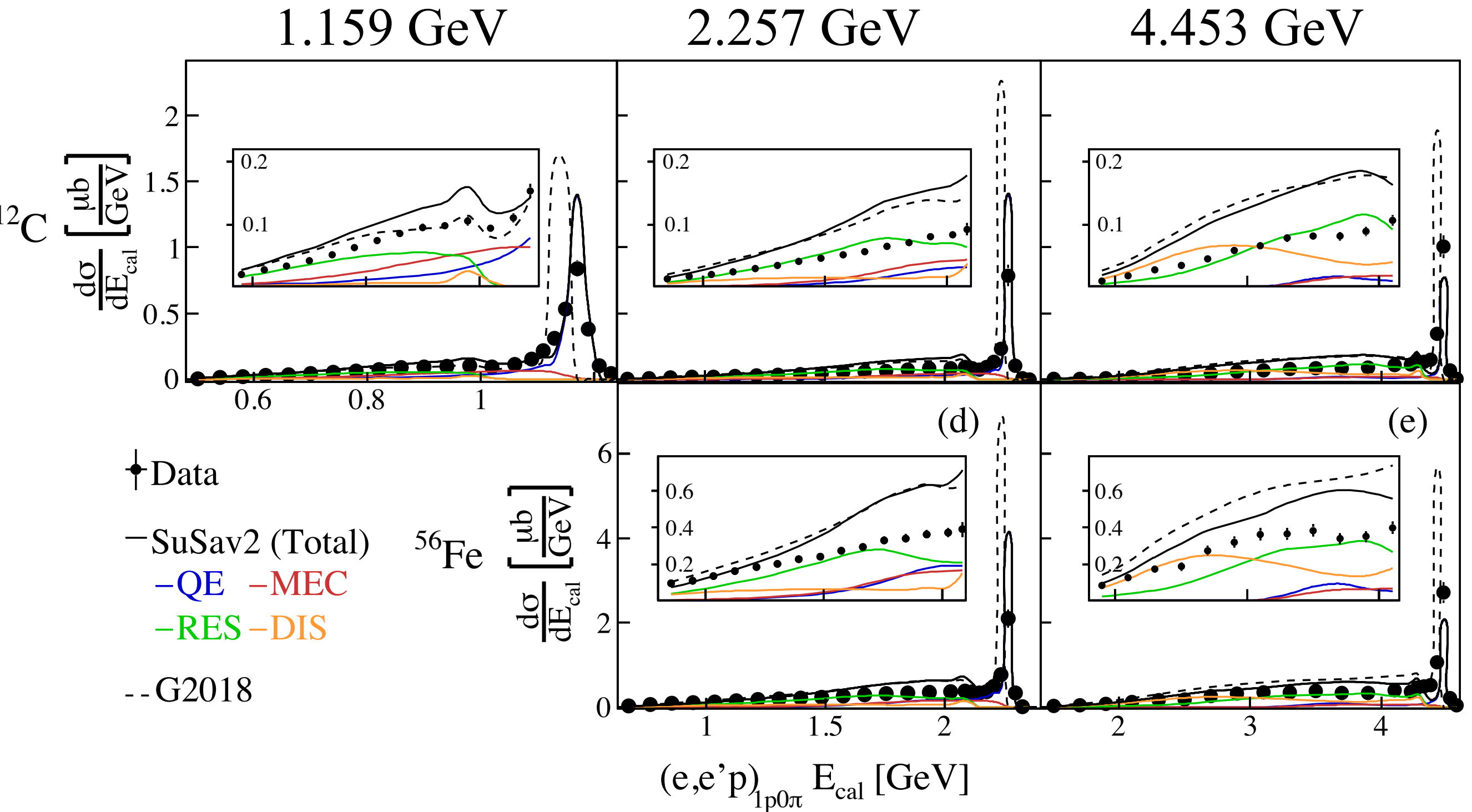
Nature **599**, 565 (2021)

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

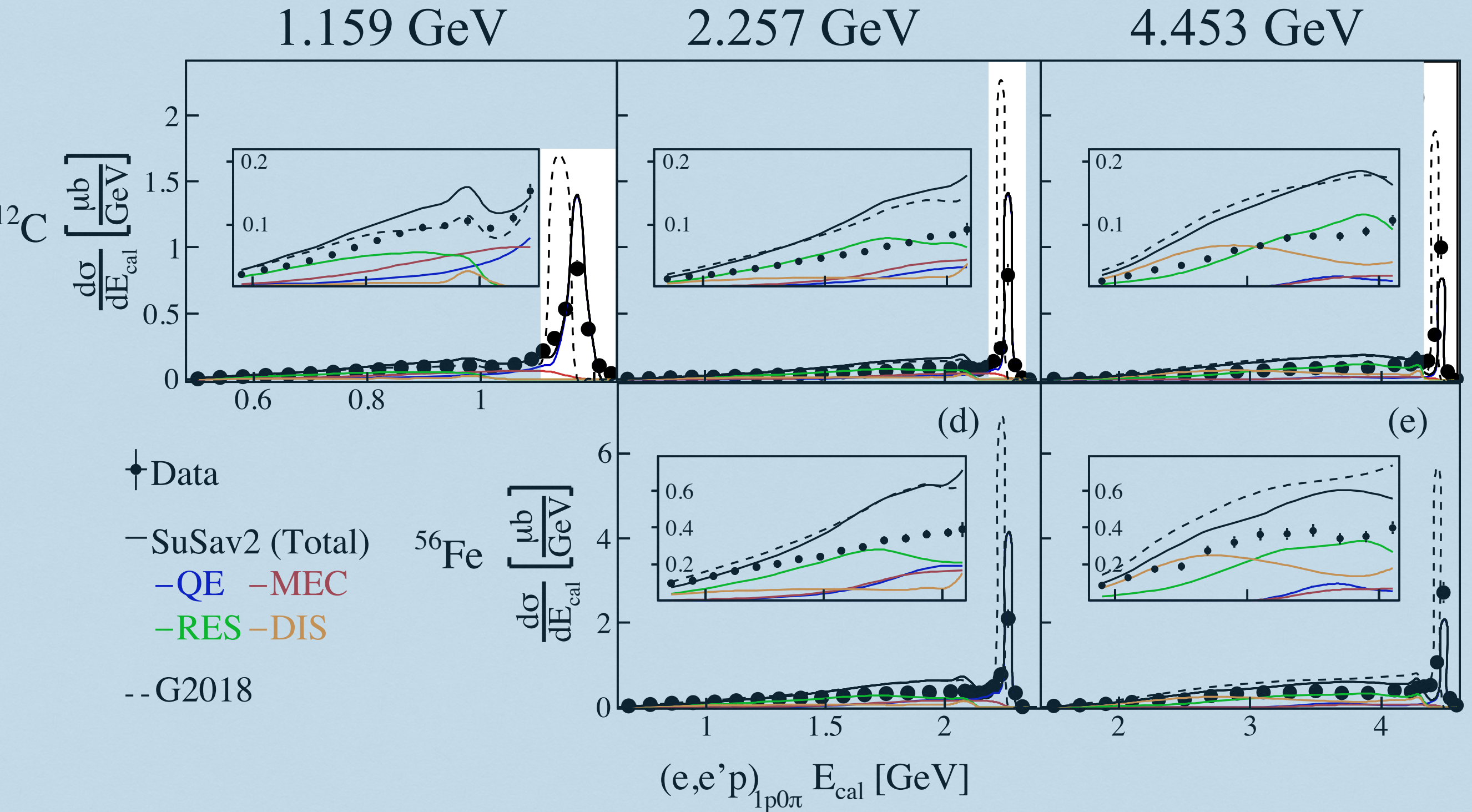
Reconstructed Calorimetric Energy



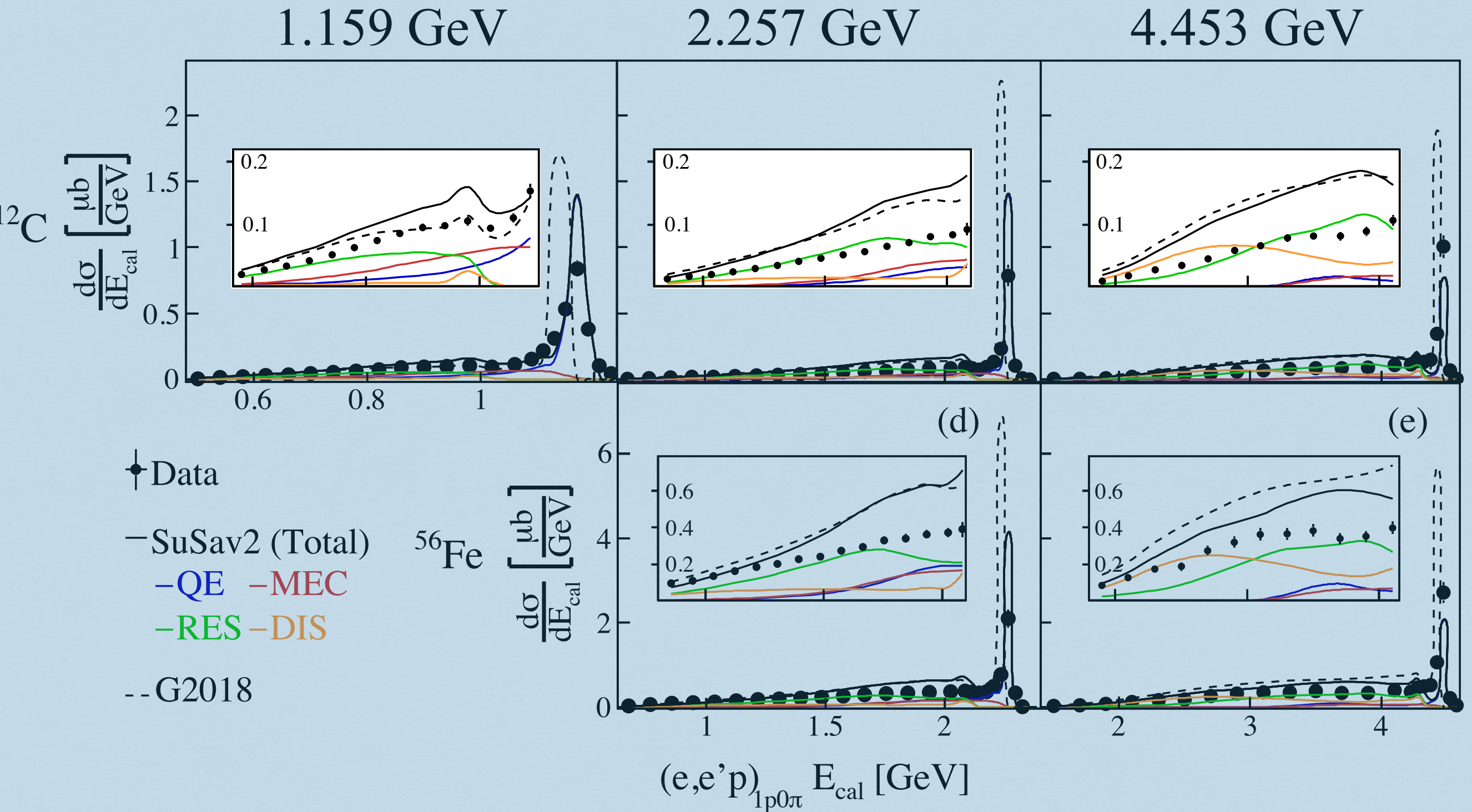
Reconstructed Calorimetric Energy



Reconstructed Calorimetric Energy

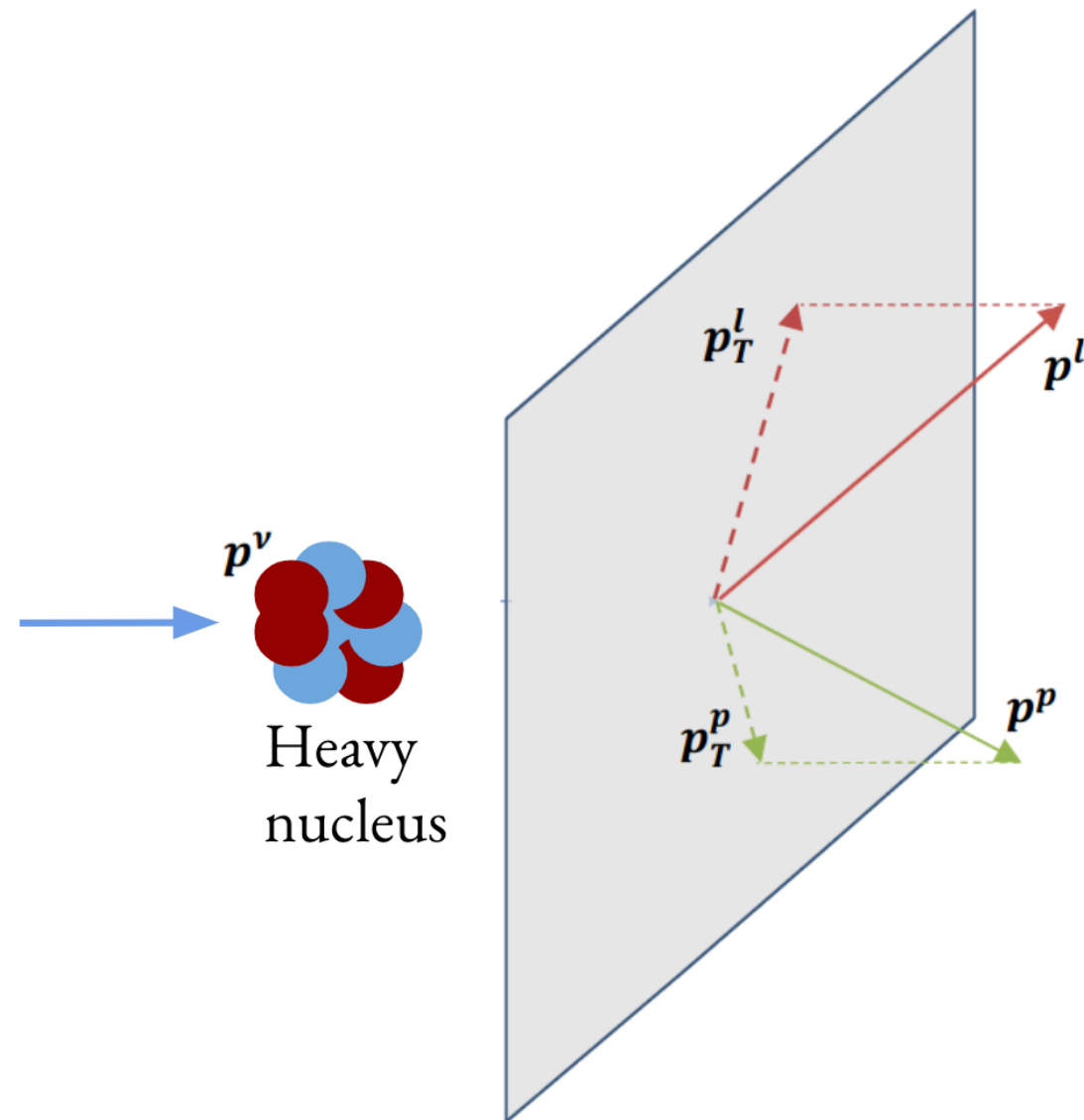


Reconstructed Calorimetric Energy



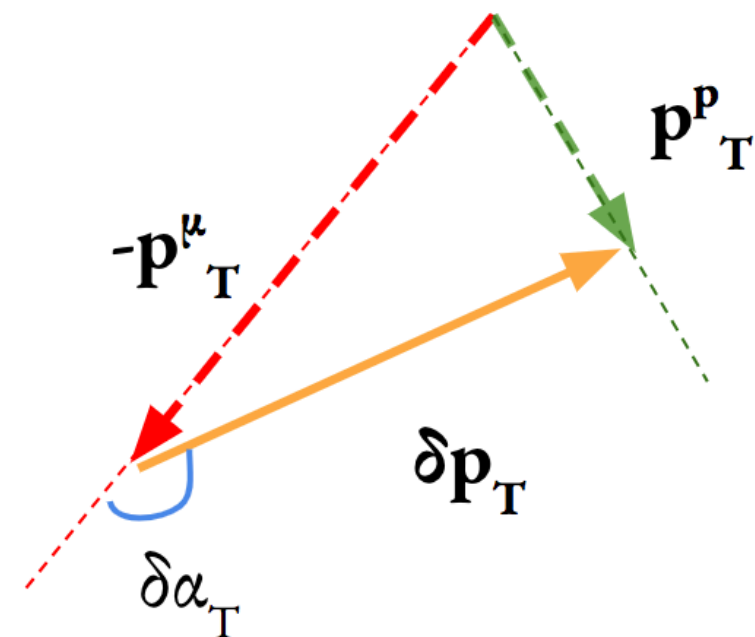
Focusing on different reaction mechanisms

Standard Transverse Variables



$$\vec{P}_T = \vec{P}_T^{e'} + \vec{P}_T^p$$

Sensitive to
hit nucleon momentum

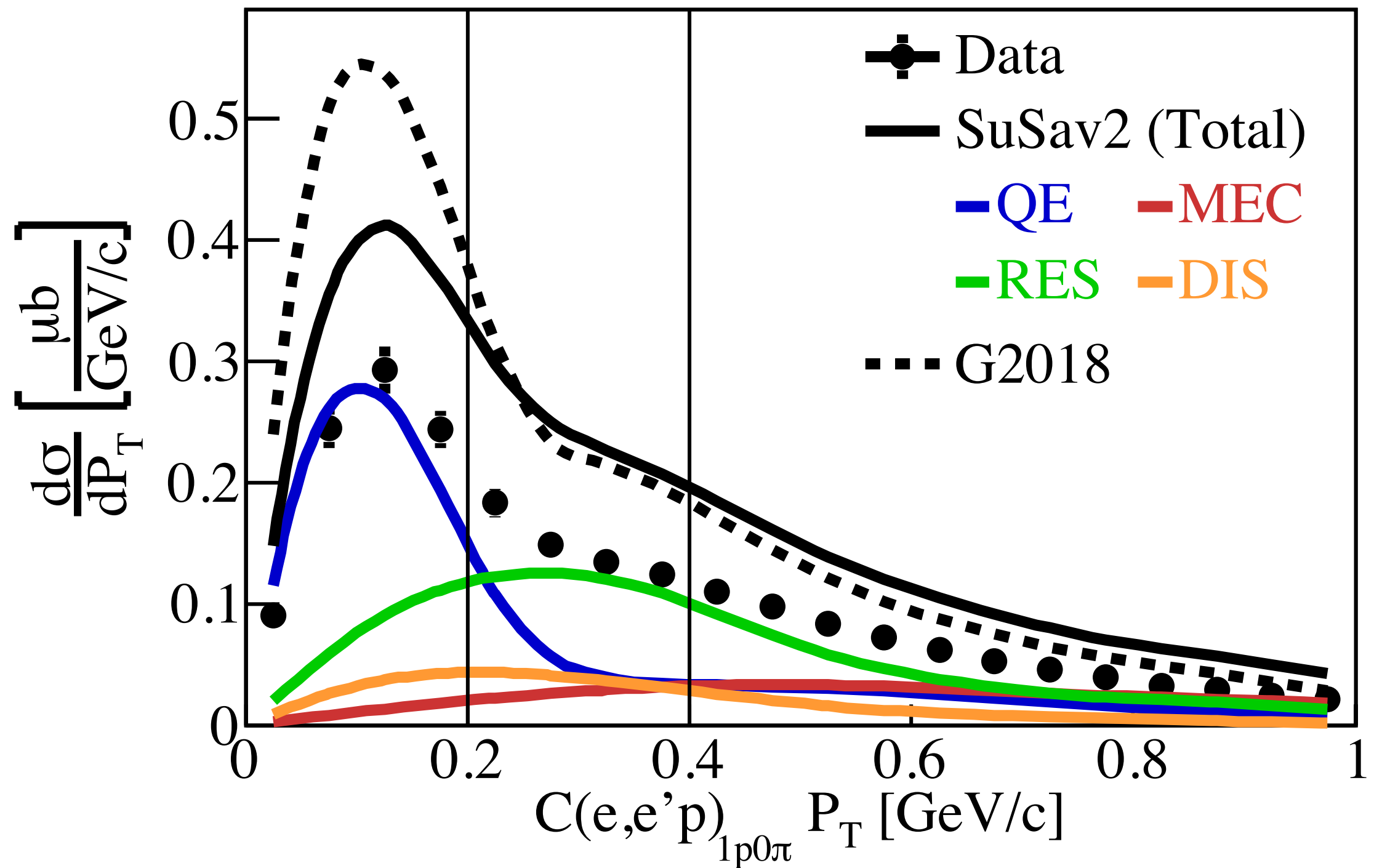


$$\delta \alpha_T$$

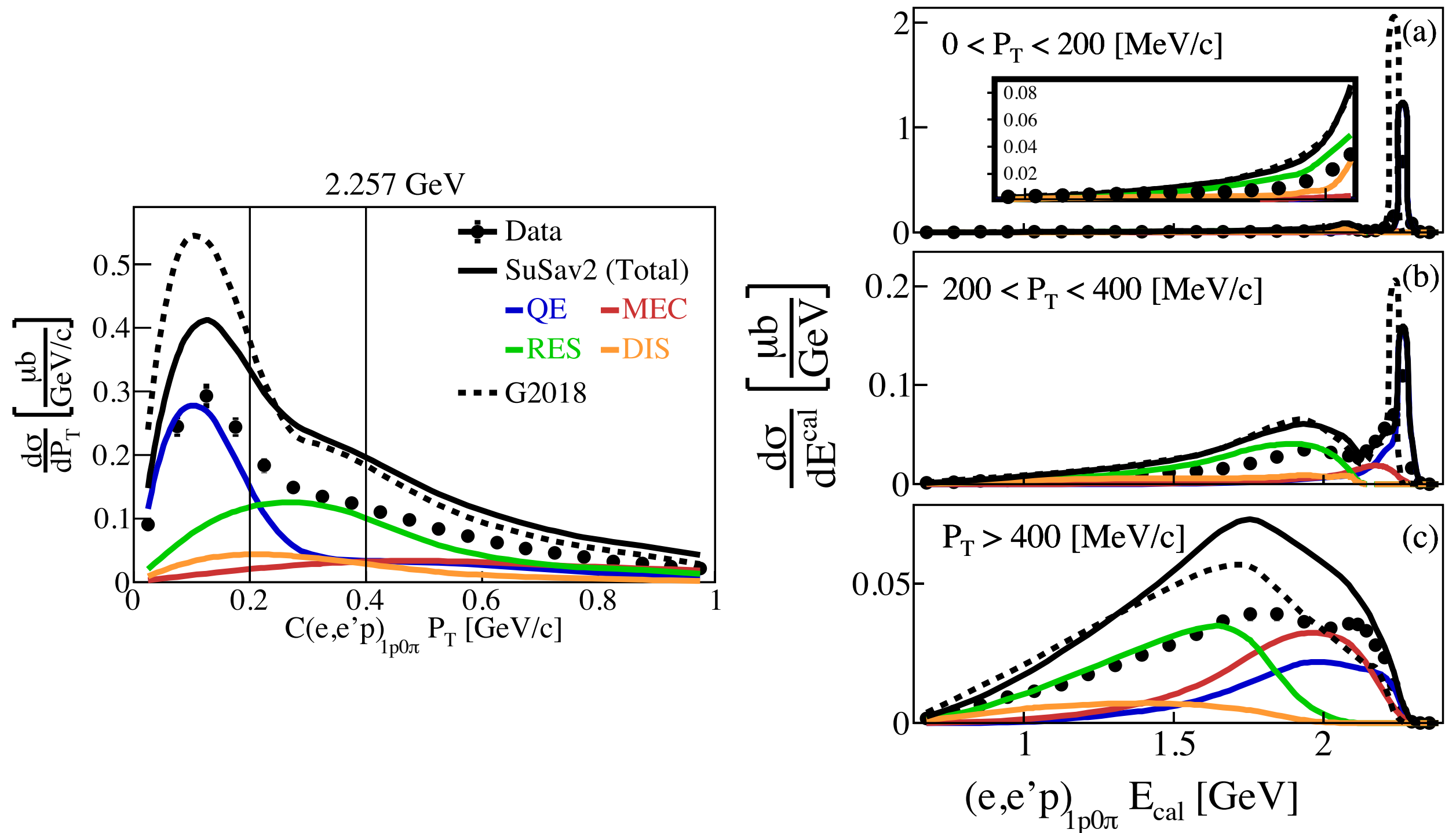
Sensitive to
Final State Interactions (FSI)

Transverse missing momentum

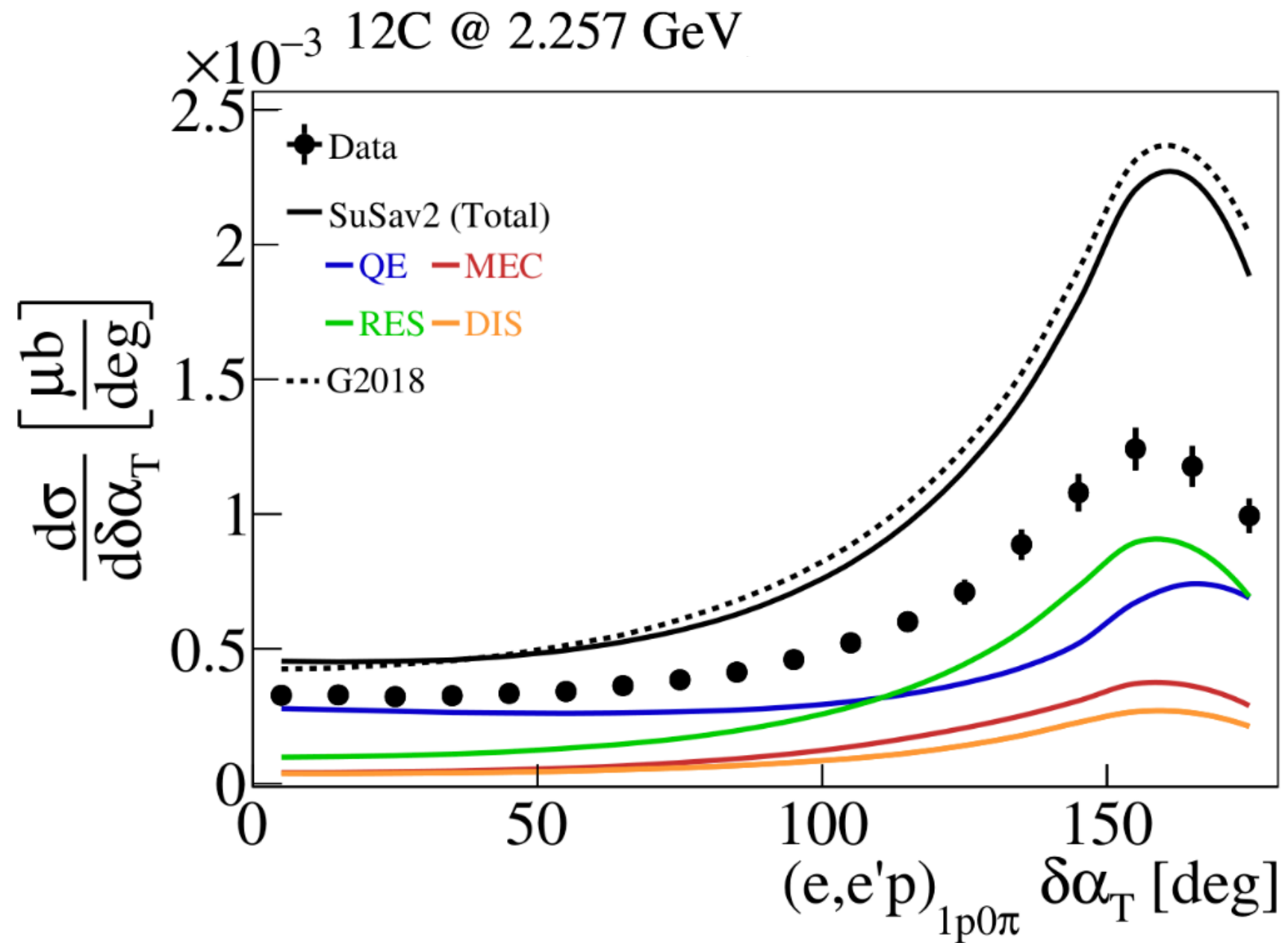
2.257 GeV



p_T sensitivity to interaction mechanisms



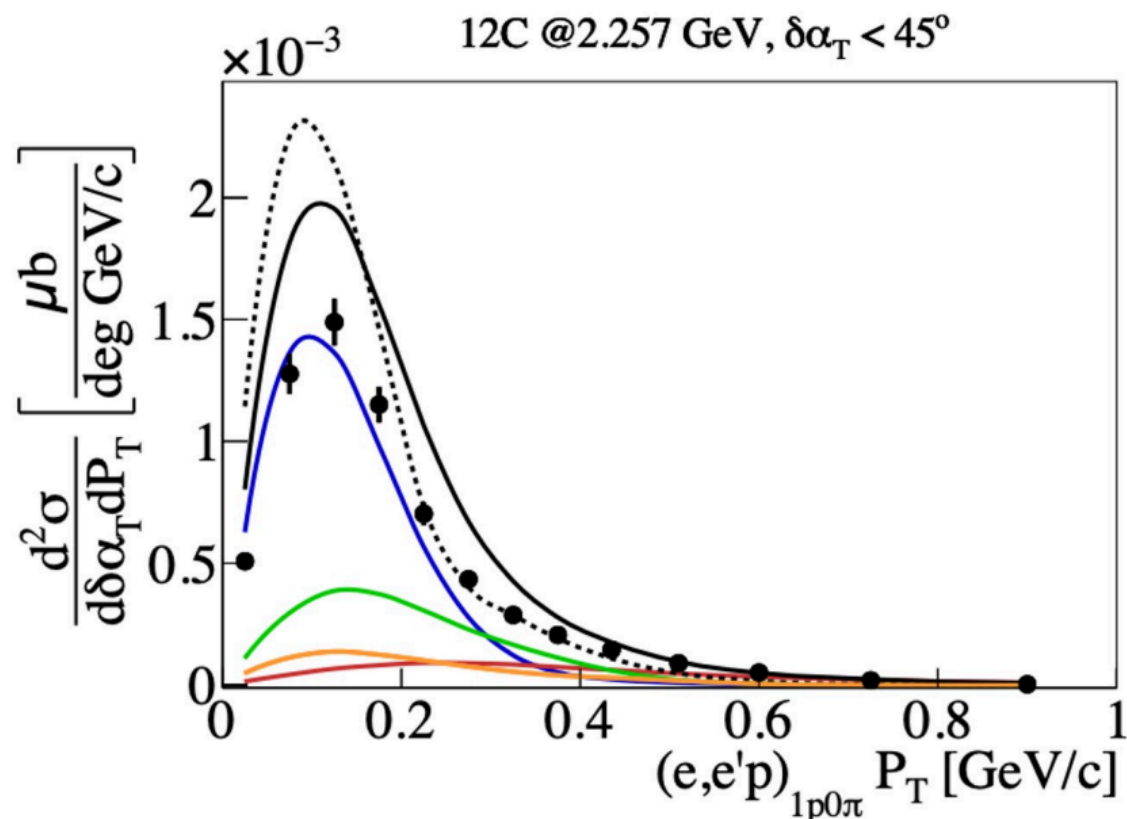
Transverse Kinematic Variables - $\delta\alpha_T$



MC vs. (e,e'p) Transverse Variables

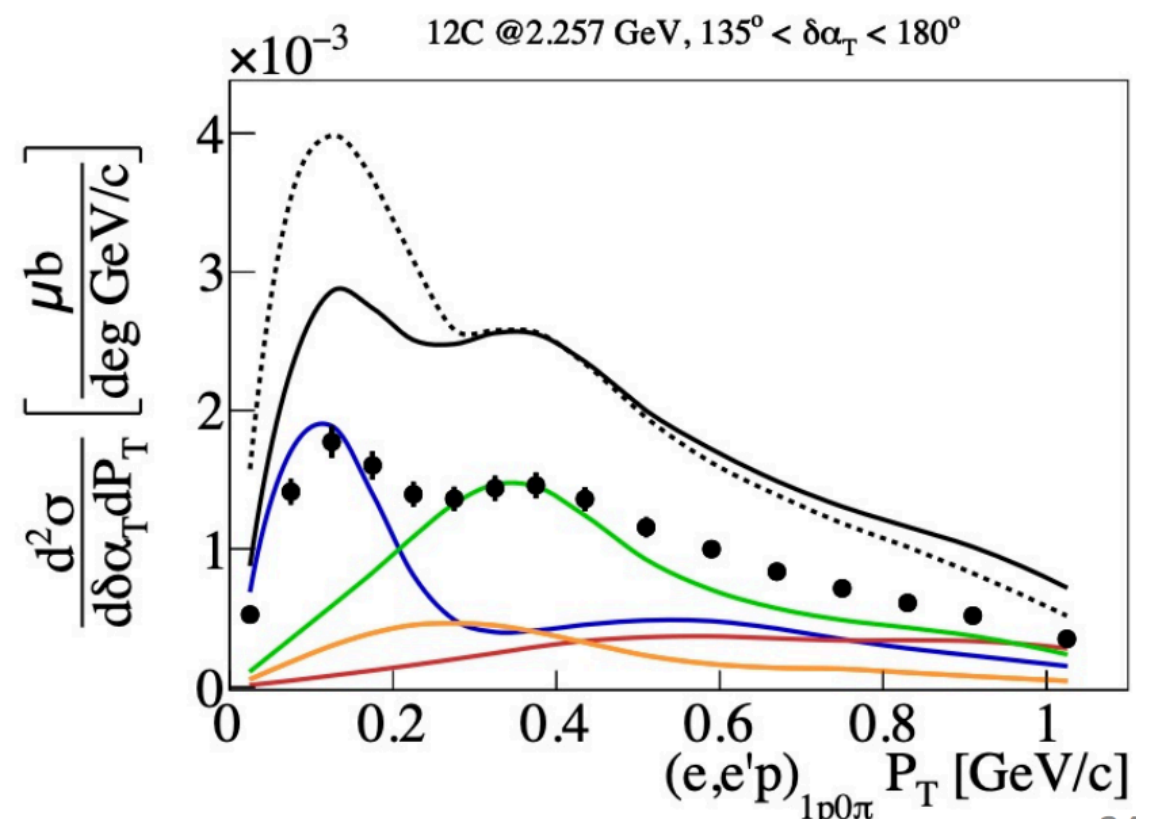
Low $\alpha_T < 45^\circ$

QE enhanced region



High $135^\circ < \alpha_T < 180^\circ$

Non QE contributions

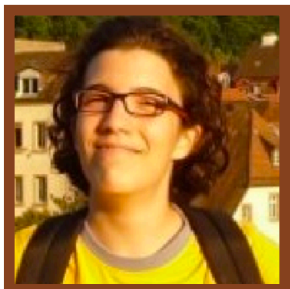


MC vs. (e,e'p) Transverse Variables

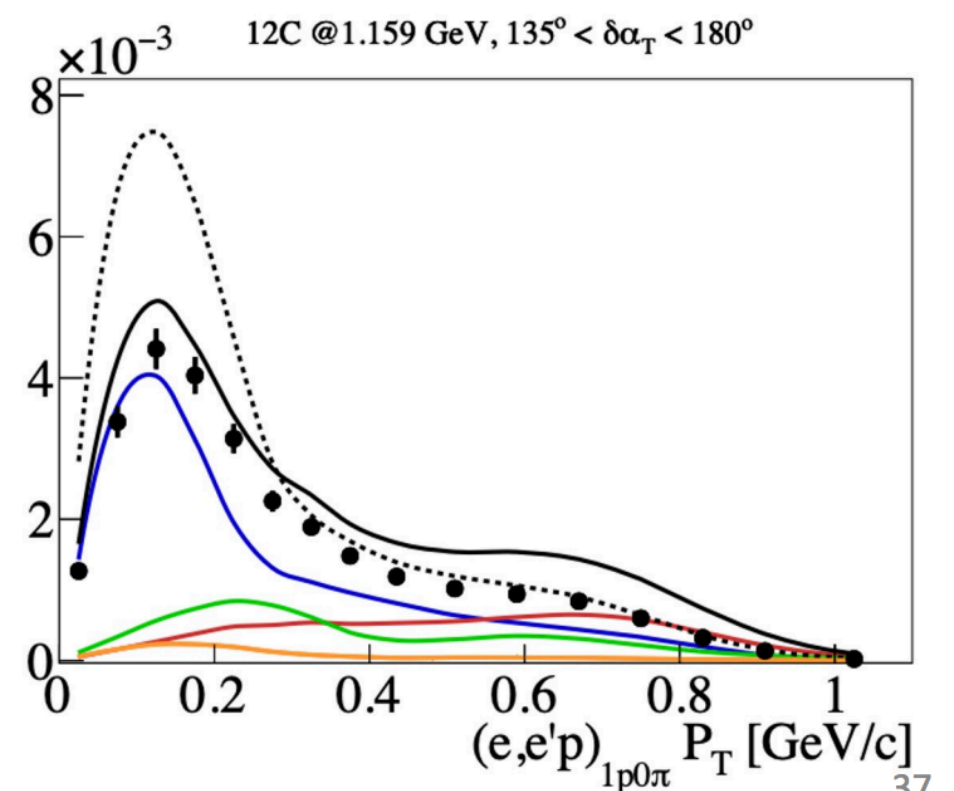
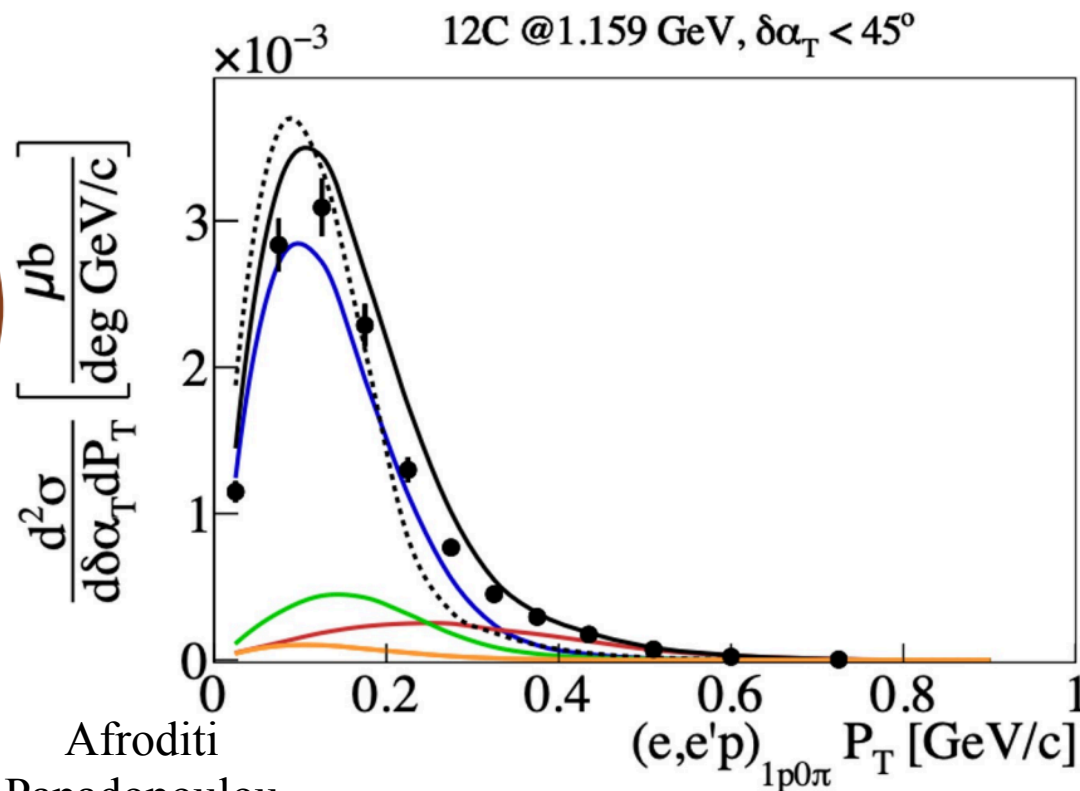
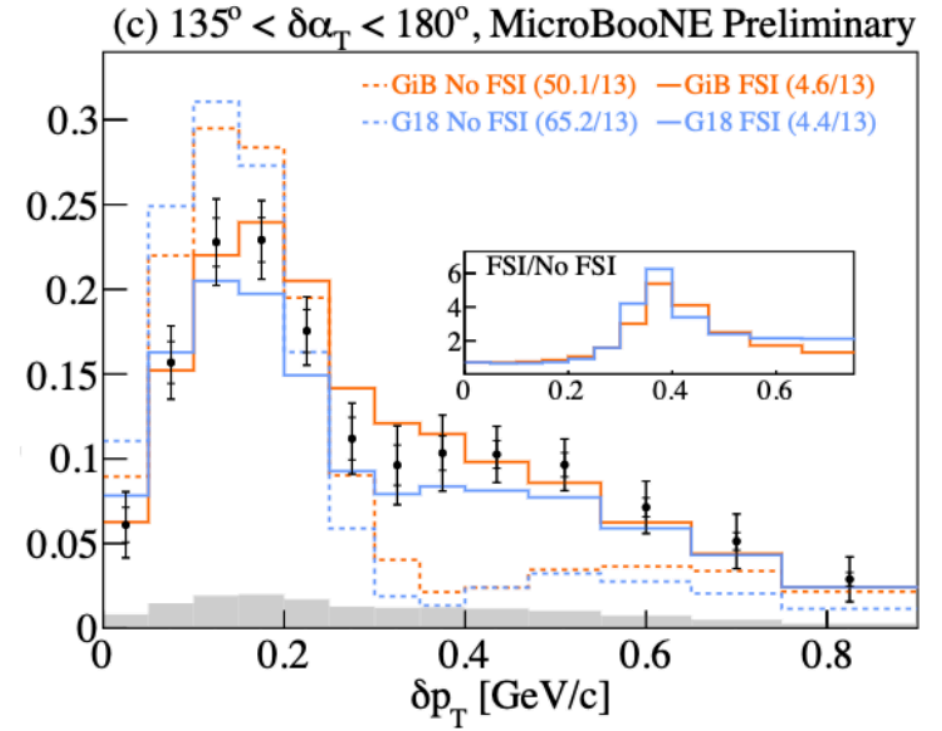
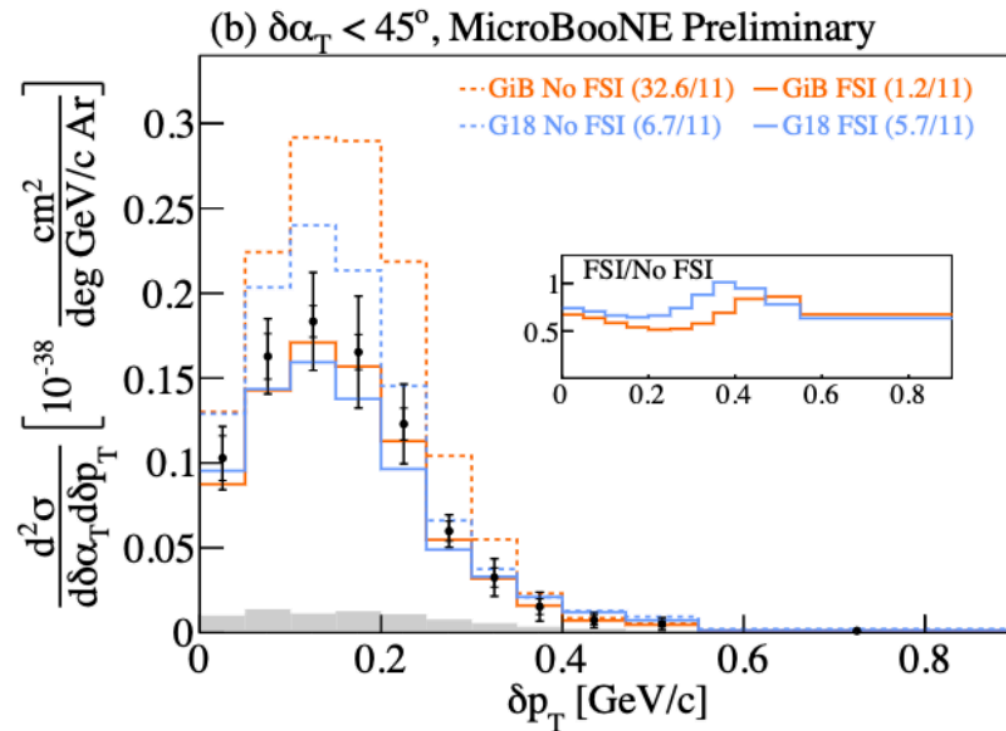
μBooNE



e4V

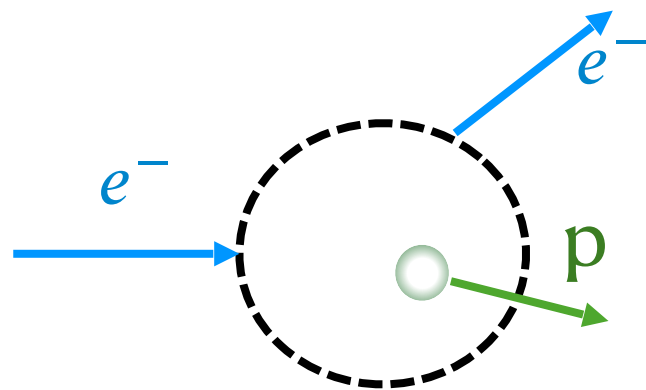


Afroditi
Papadopoulou
@ ANL

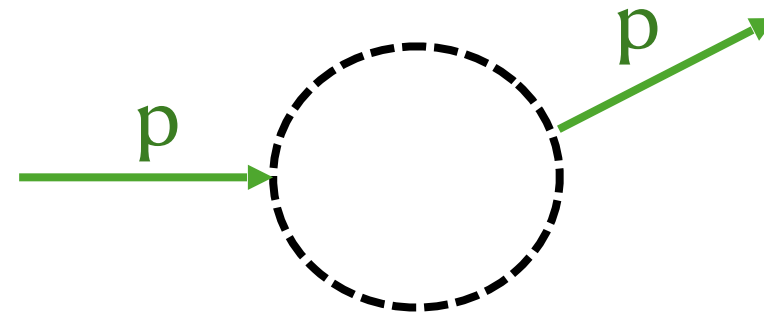


arXiv:2301.03700 [hep-ex]

Transparency Measurement



Transparency



h-A data



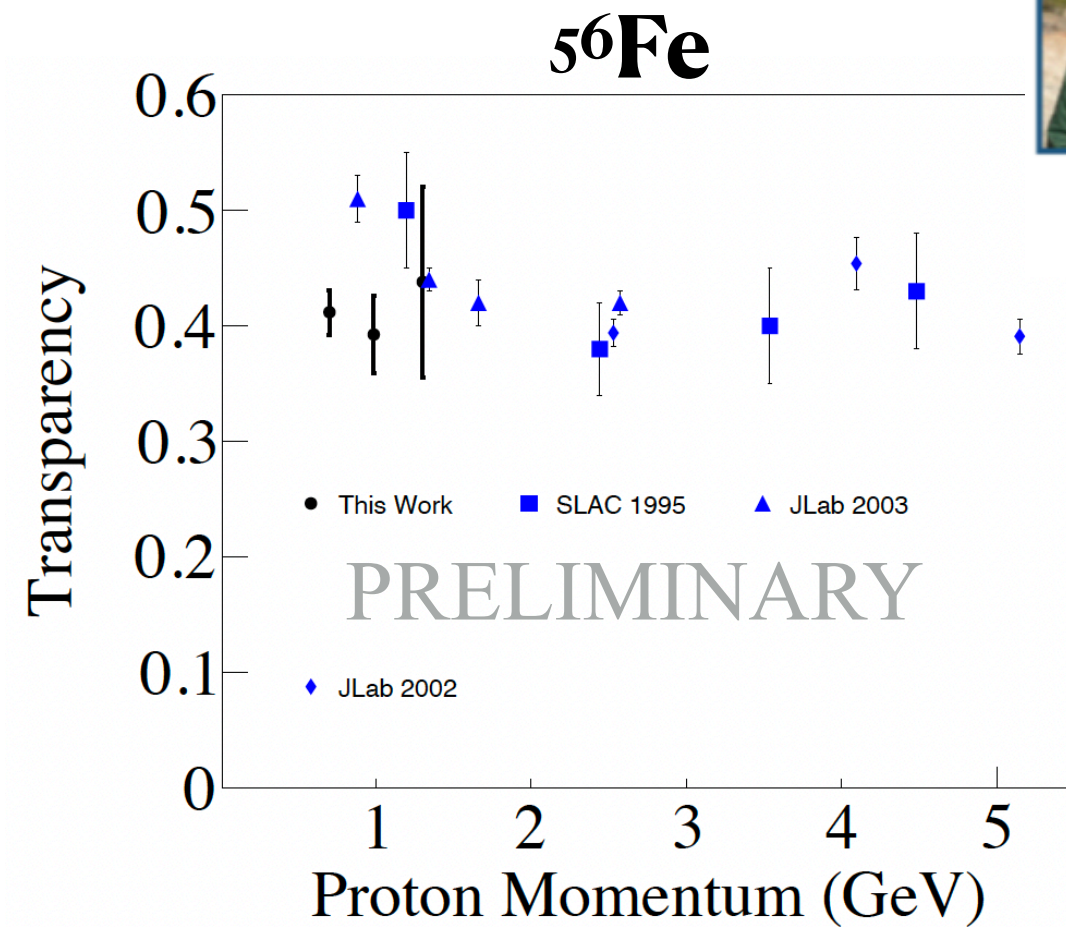
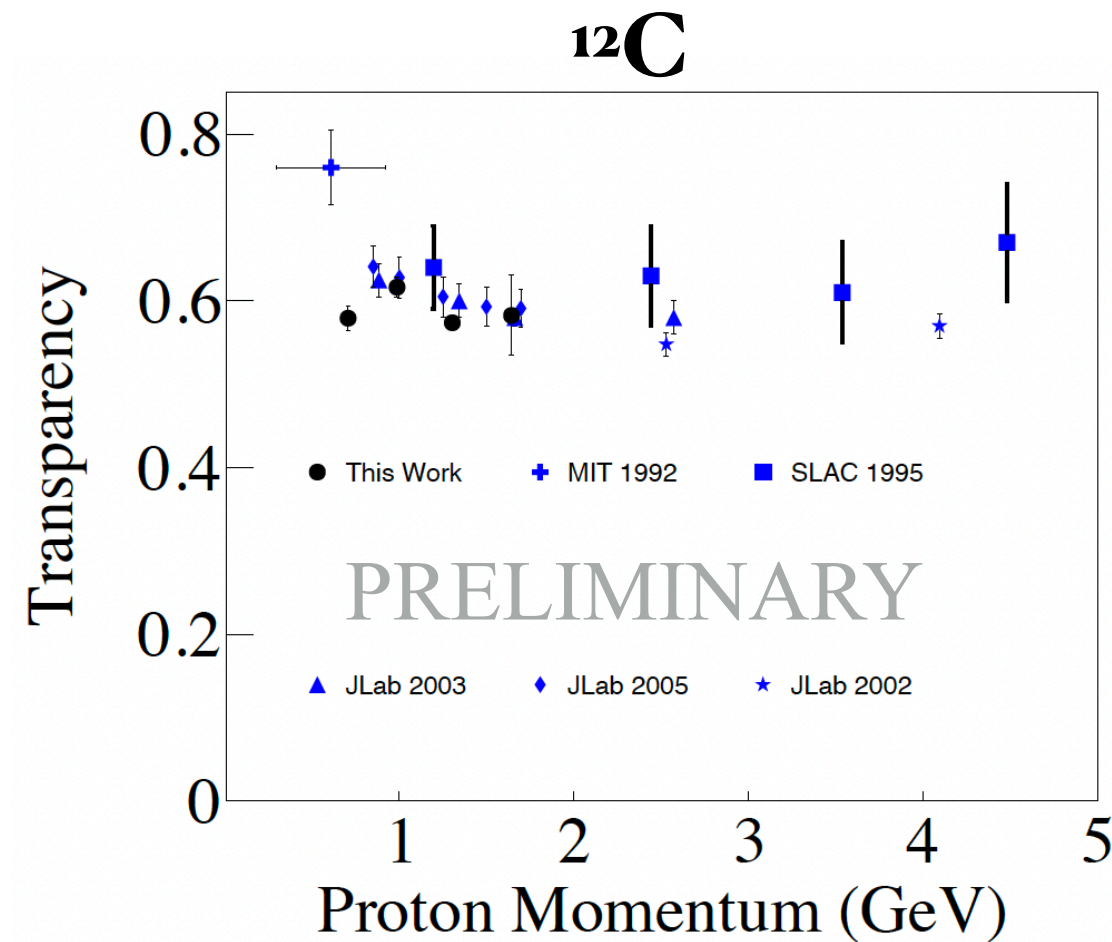
Noah
Steinberg

- Probability that a struck proton leaves the nucleus without significant re-scattering
- Complement to hadron nucleus interaction
- Study proton FSI similarly to neutrino scattering

Sensitive to both FSI and nuclear structure (PRD **104** 053006 (2021))

Strong need for new data, especially at low proton momentum

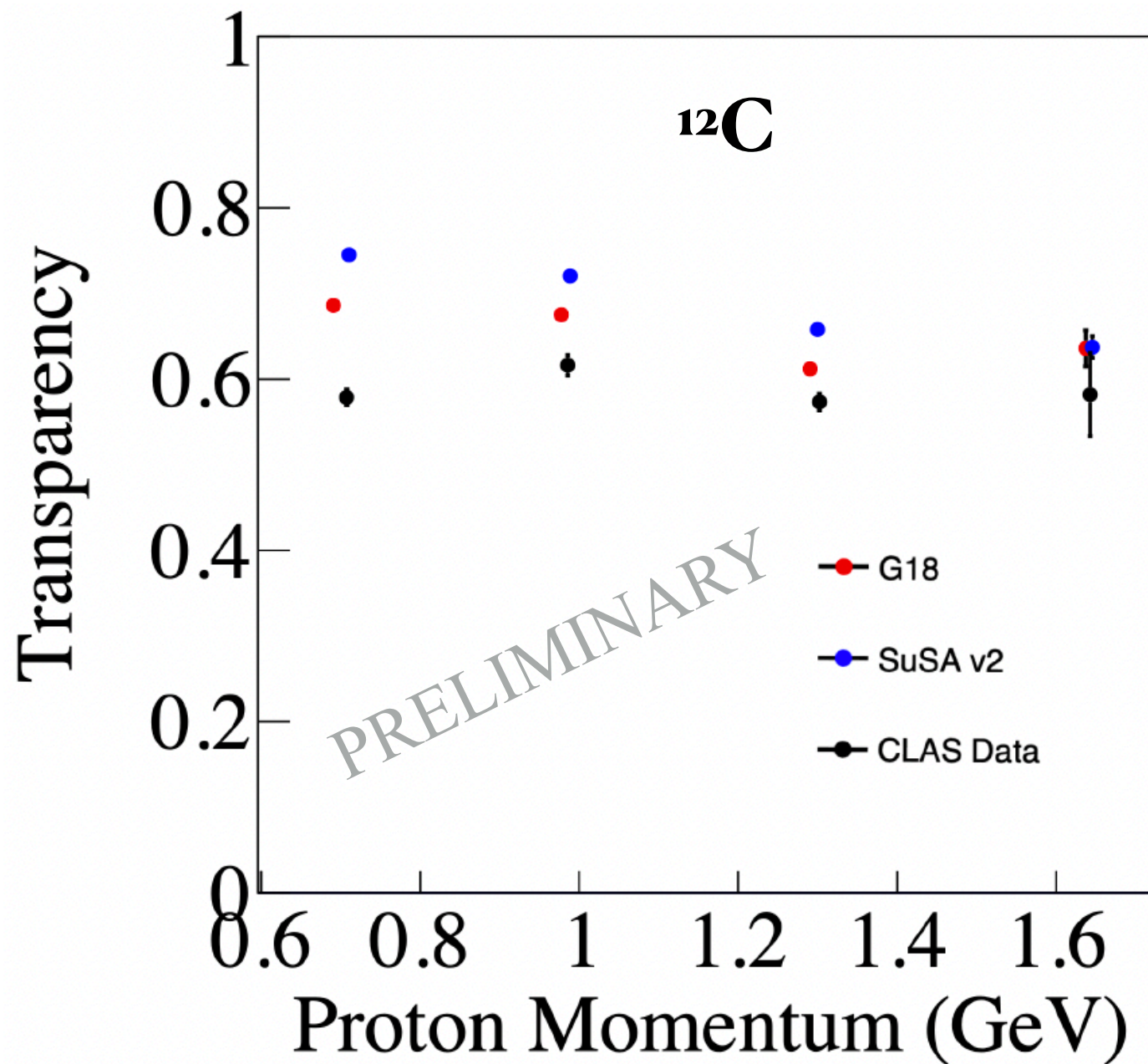
Transparency Measurement



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$$T_A = N(e,e'p)_{o\pi} / N(e,e')_{QEL}$$

Transparency Measurement



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Steinberg

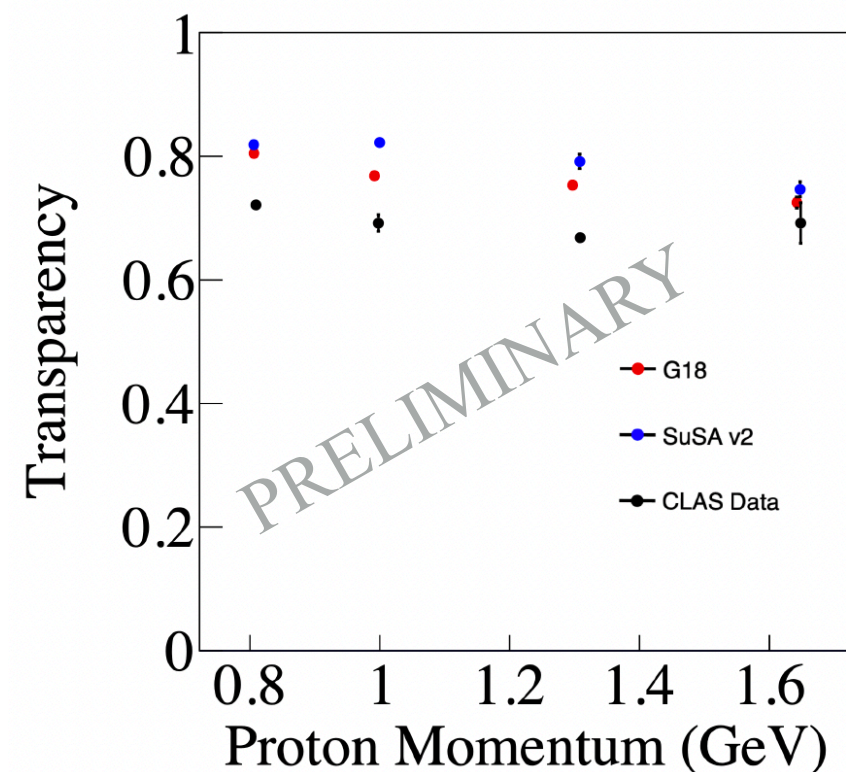
$$T_A = N(e,e'p)_{o\pi} / N(e,e')_{QEL}$$

Transparency Measurement

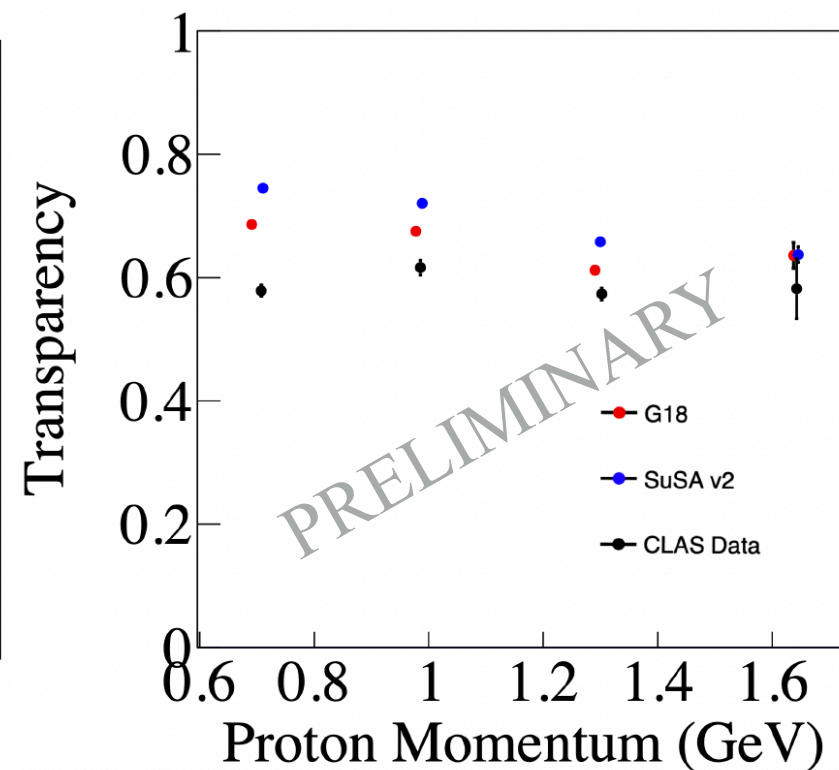


Noah
Steinberg

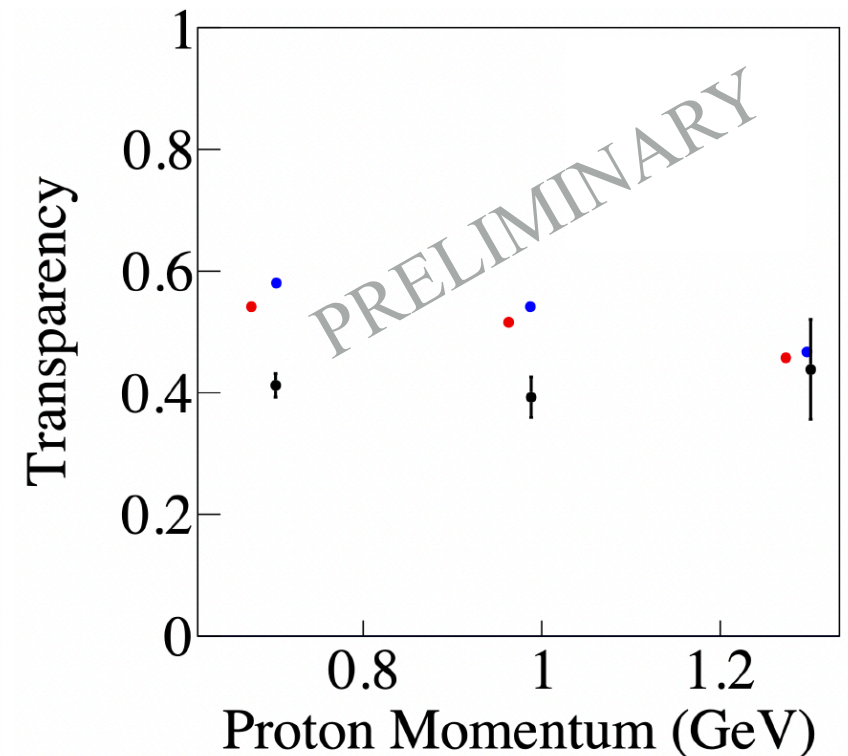
^4He



^{12}C



^{56}Fe



Presenting first measurement on He
Transparency decreases with A

Future Plans

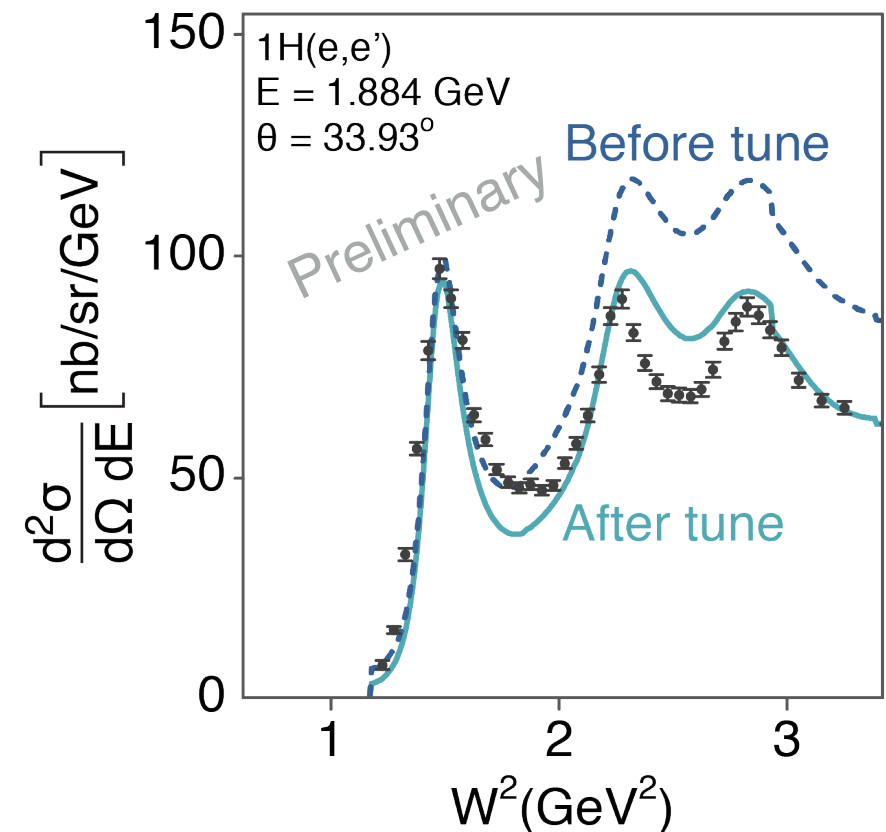
Working on:

New dataset including Argon

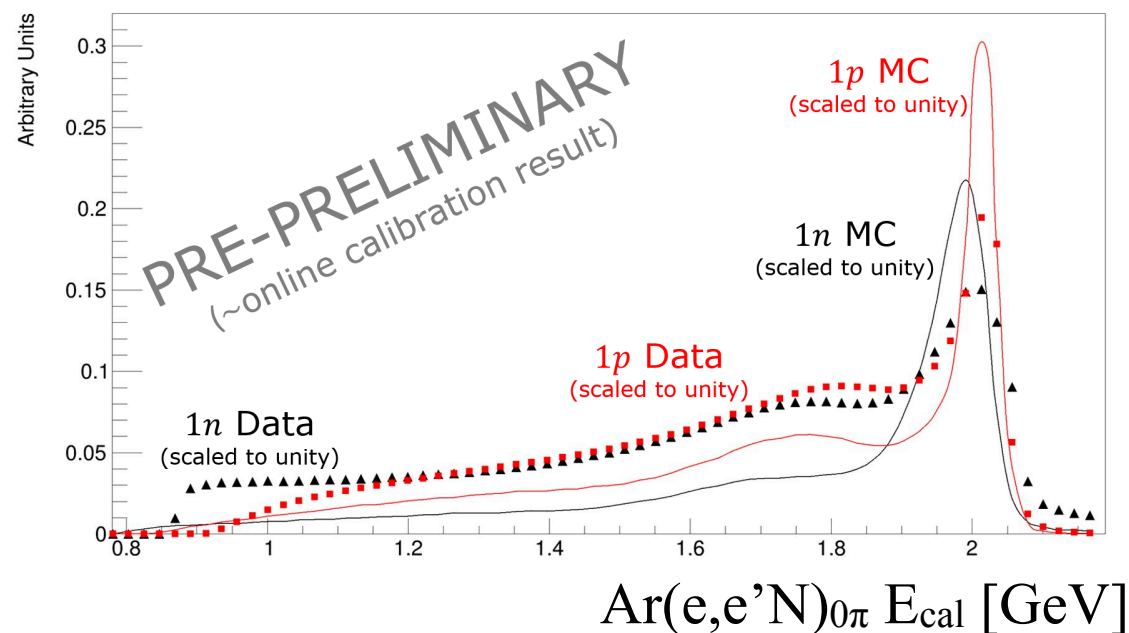
Multi differential analysis

Pion production

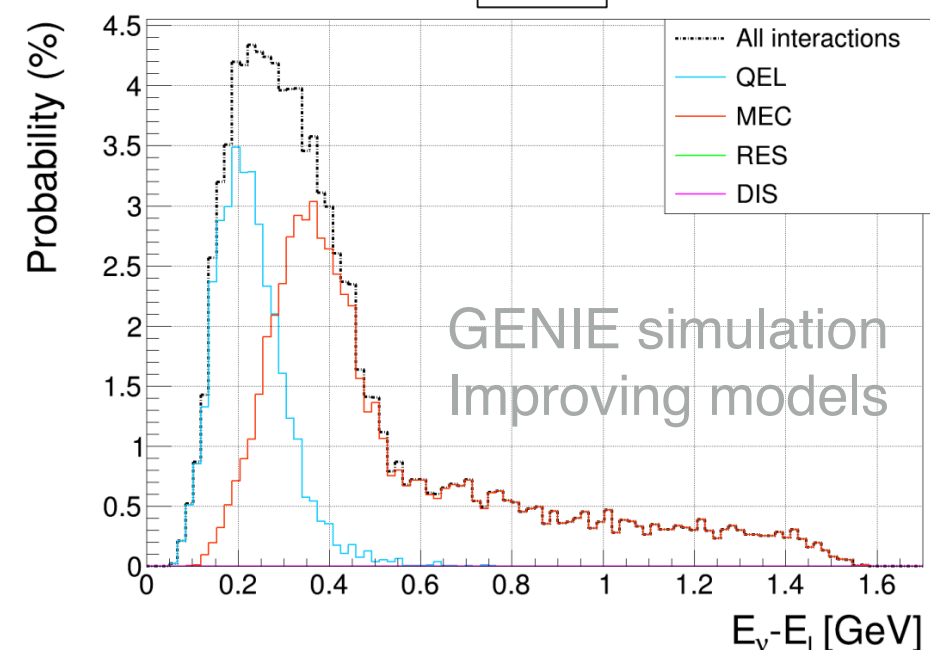
Two nucleon final state



Julia
Tena Vidal

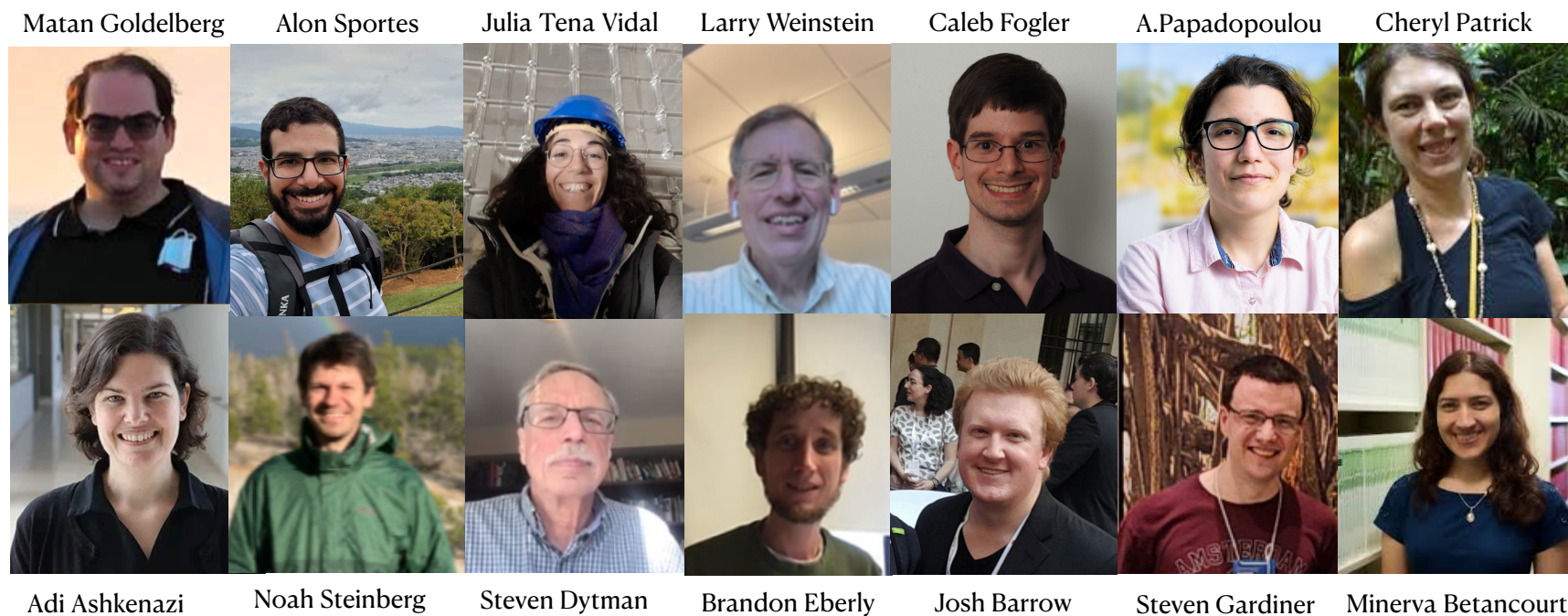


Joshua
Barrow



Alon
Sportes

The $e4\nu$ Collaboration



We're hiring

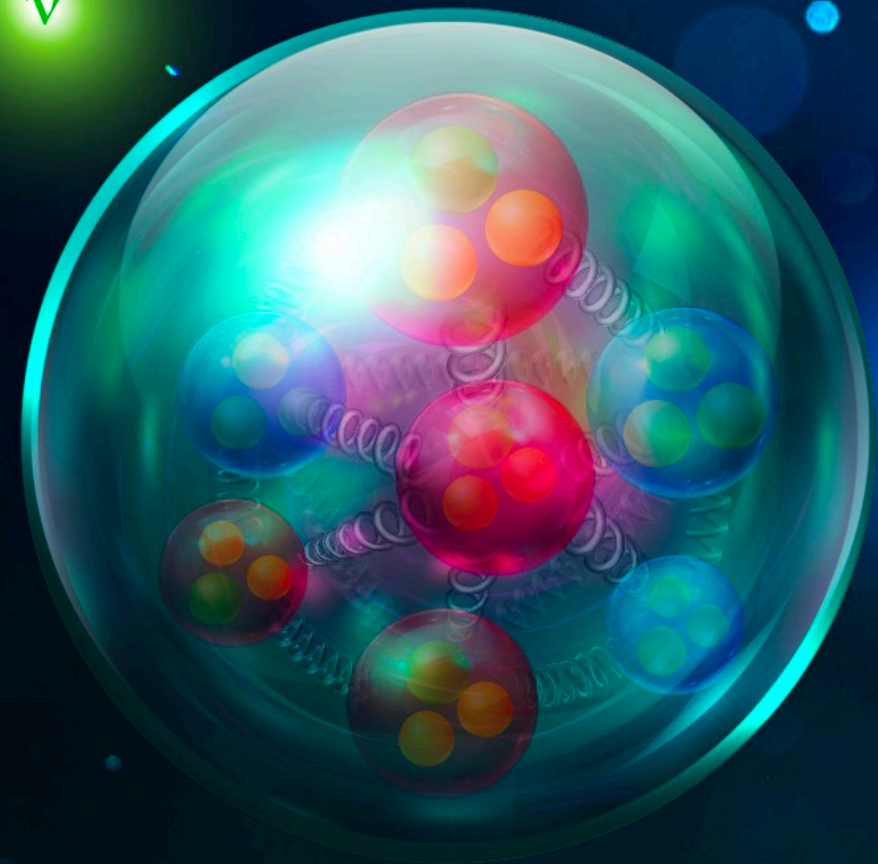
If interested contact: adishka@tauex.tau.ac.il

Summary

ν A interaction uncertainties limit oscillation parameters extraction

Showing first use of semi-exclusive eA data to ν
explore ν A uncertainties

Data/model disagreement even for electron
QE-like events, and in the various background
signatures.



Time to utilize these datasets to constrain or models and get ready for the coming
exciting years

Thank you for your attention
