

JUNO's Prospects for atmospheric neutrinos

06/07/2023 | Mariam Rifai on behalf of the JUNO collaboration

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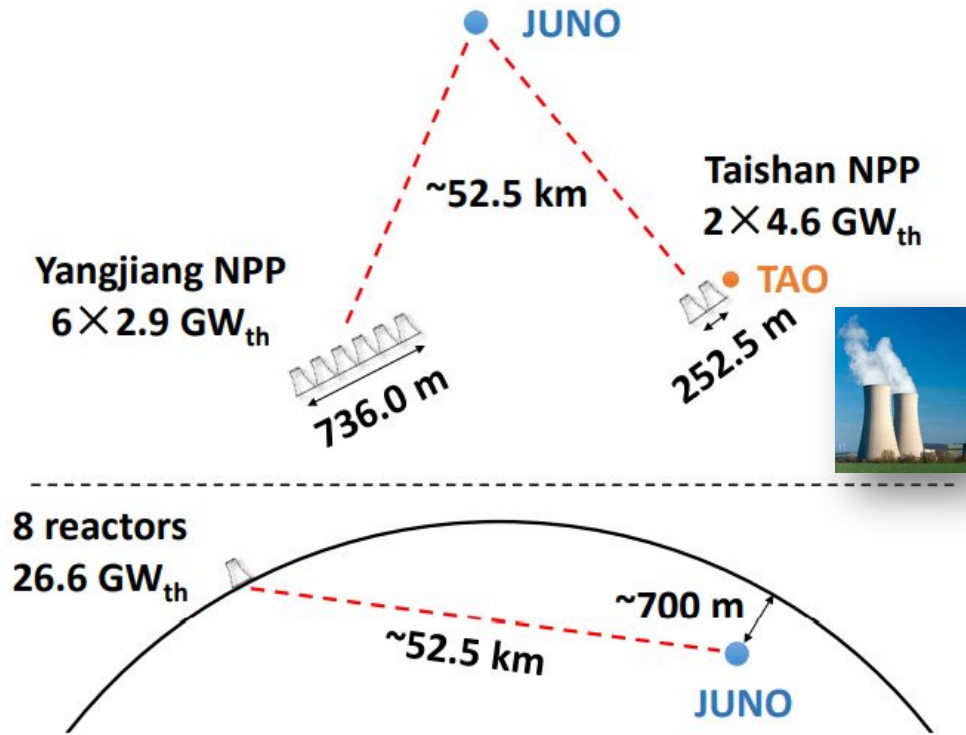
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Jiangmen Underground Neutrino Observatory:

JUNO is the first multi-kton liquid scintillator (LS) detector ever built, located in China.

Main goal: determination of the Neutrino Mass Ordering (NMO), 3σ in 6 years with reactor neutrinos



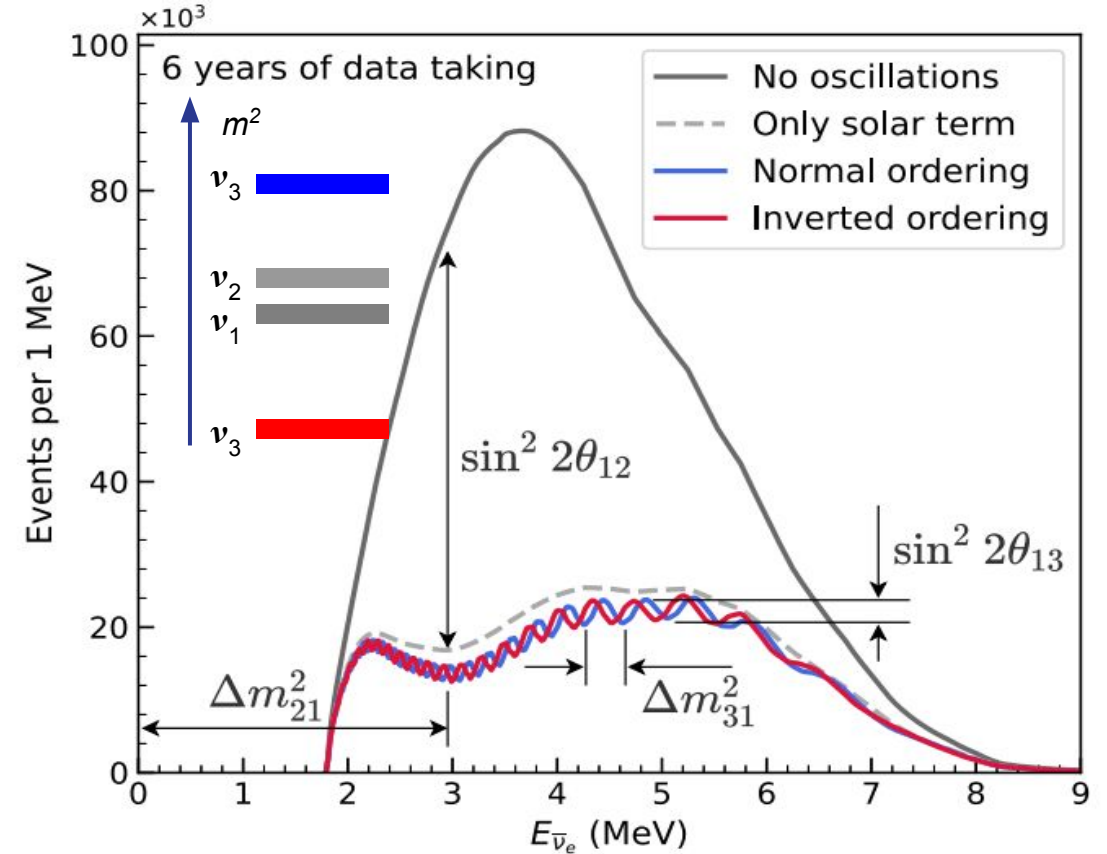
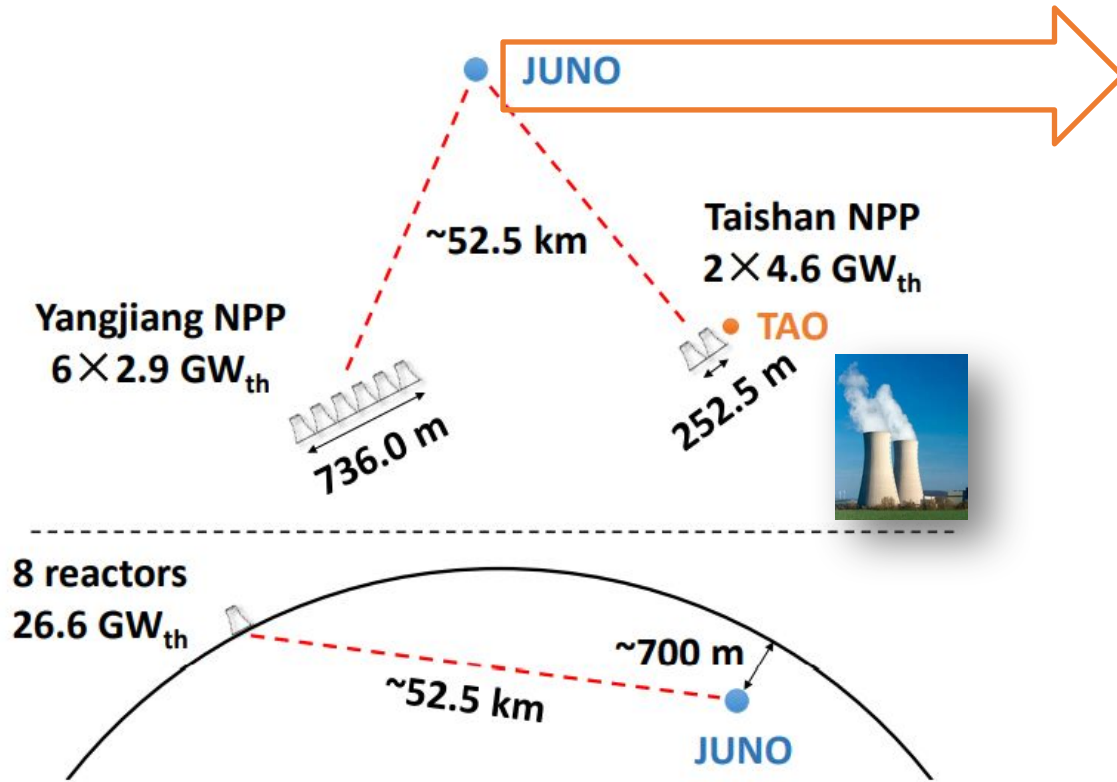
47 anti- ν_e /day after suppressing the cosmogenic backgrounds
vacuum oscillation pattern independent of δ_{CP} and θ_{23}

(matter effect contributes maximal $\sim 4\%$ correction at around 3 MeV, [arXiv:1605.00900](#), [arXiv:1910.12900](#))

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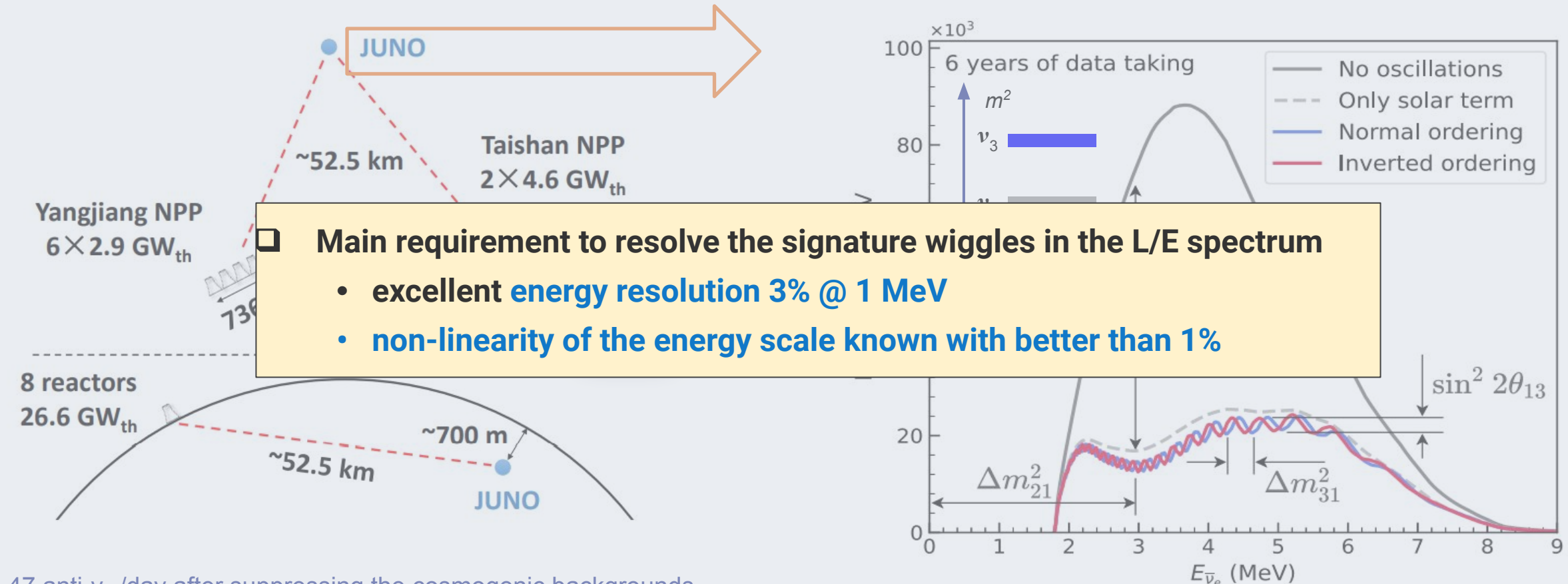
Reactor oscillated spectrum of electron anti-neutrinos spectrum detected by inverse beta decay IBD.

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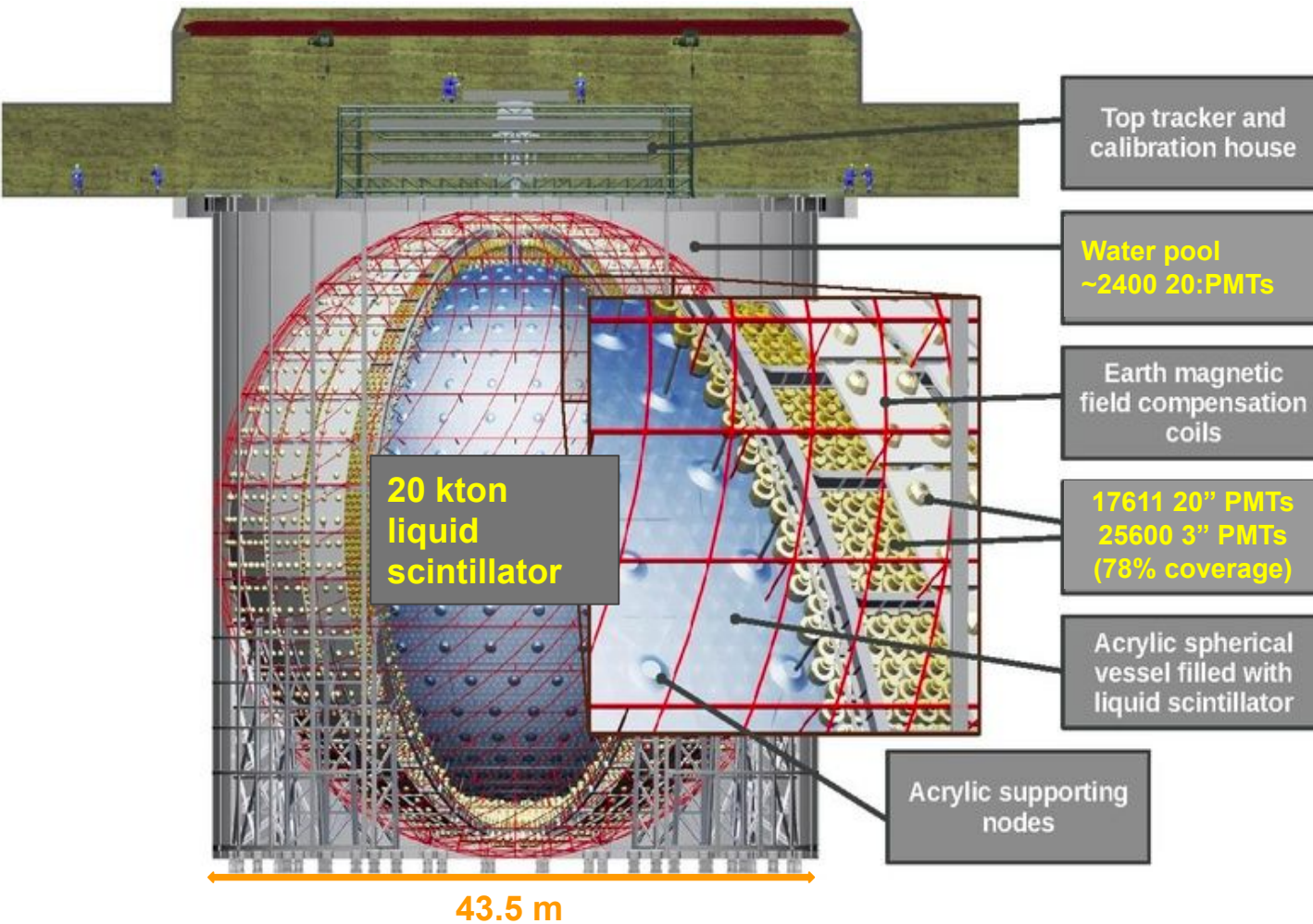


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JUNO Detector



20-inch and 3-inch PMTs interleaving

Large 20-inch PMTs

- large coverage (75%)
- high dark rate
- non-linearity at higher energies
- waveforms -> multiple hits with charge

Small 3-inch PMTs

- small coverage (3%)
- small dark rate, smaller non-linearity
- photon counting (no waveform)
- higher effective dynamic range

Reduce systematics using the 2 independent PMT systems

Physics Potential of JUNO

See Yury Malyshkin's talk

Reactor anti- ν



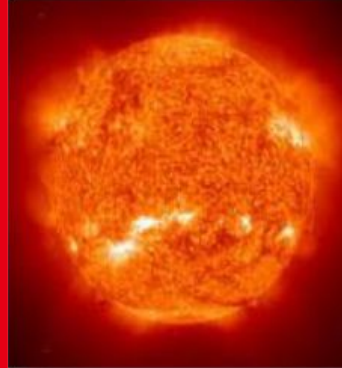
~47/day

Atmospheric ν



Several / day

Solar ν



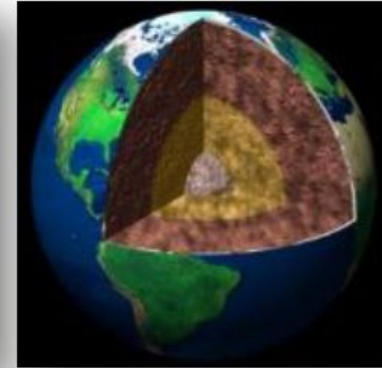
^8B : ~50/day
CNO: ~1000/day
 ^7Be : ~10000/day

Supernovae (SN) ν



Core Collapse SN
@ 10 kpc:
thousands in few sec.
Diffuse SN signal:
few / year

Geoneutrinos



~400 / year

+

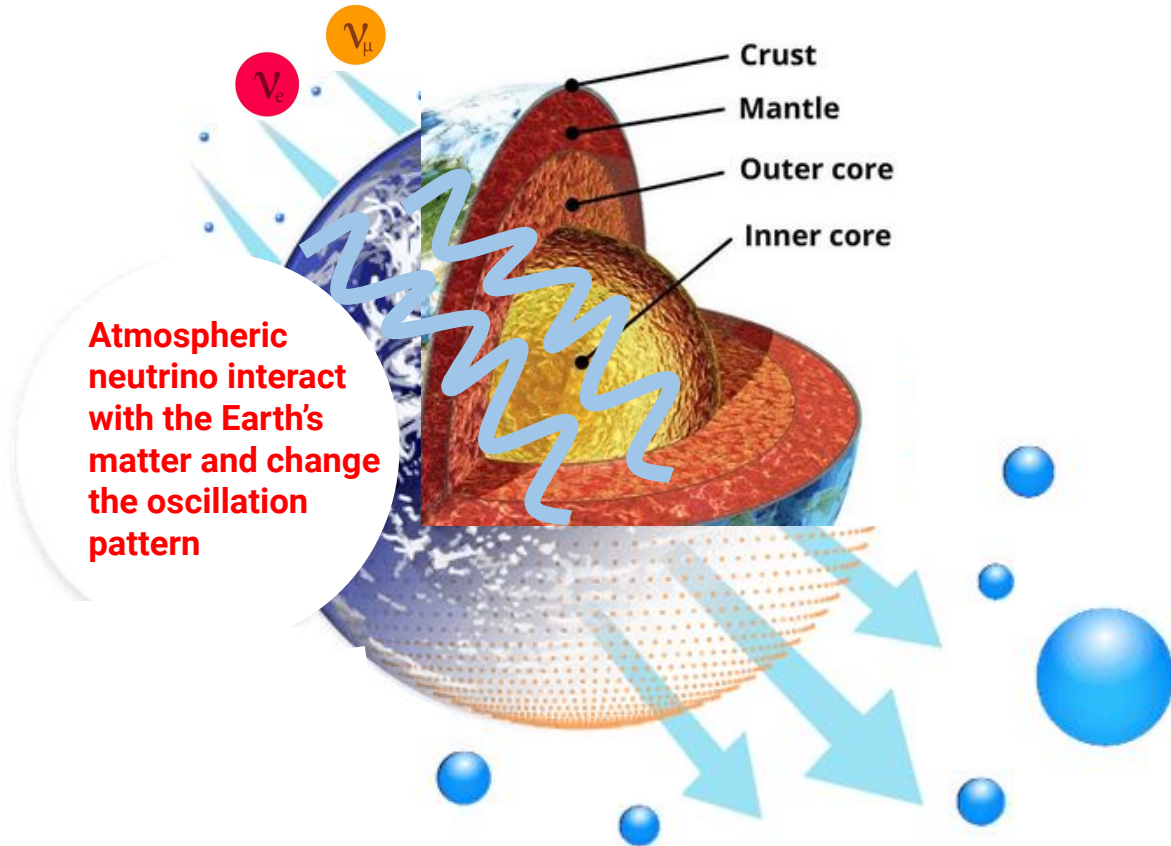


Proton decay
Neutrino magnetic moment
Sterile neutrinos
Non standard interactions
Lorentz invariance
Others

- A. Abusleme et al., [JUNO physics and detector](#), *Progr. Part. Nucl. Ph.* 123 (2022) 103927
- A. Abusleme et al., [JUNO sensitivity to \$^7\text{Be}\$, pep, and CNO solar neutrinos](#), submitted to *Journal of Cosmology and Astroparticle Physics*
- A. Abusleme et al., [JUNO Sensitivity on Proton Decay \$p \rightarrow \nu^+ K^+\$ Searches](#), submitted to *Chin. Phys. C*.
- J. Zhao et al., [Model Independent Approach of the JUNO \$^8\text{B}\$ Solar Neutrino Program](#), submitted to *APJ*.
- A. Abusleme et al., [Prospects for Detecting the Diffuse Supernova Neutrino Background with JUNO](#), *J. Cos. Astro. Phys.* 10 (2022) 033.
- A. Abusleme et al., [JUNO sensitivity to low energy atmospheric neutrino spectra](#), *Eur. Phys. J. C* 81 (2021) 887.
- Fengpeng An et al., [Neutrino physics with JUNO](#), 2016 *J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys.* 43 030401

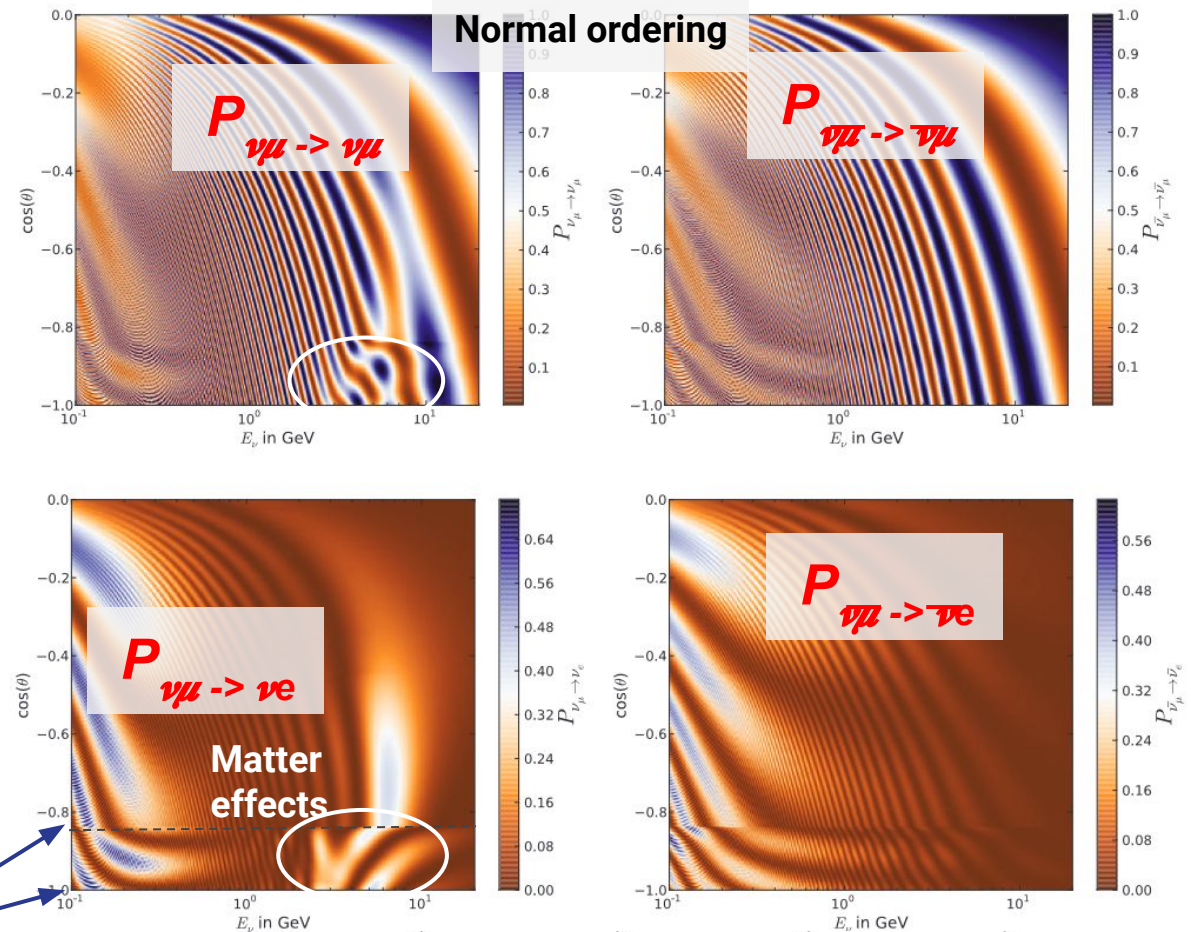
Atmospheric Neutrinos ... Matter effects

Oscillation probabilities in matter depends on **neutrino energy E** and **electron density N_e in matter**



<https://www-sk.icrr.u-tokyo.ac.jp/en/sk/neutrino/about/>

Neutrino physics with JUNO, J. Phys. G43:030401 (2016)



Sensitivity region to NMO:

- $E \sim [3, 10]$ GeV
- $\cos \theta [-1, -0.8]$

$$P_{NO}(\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta) \approx P_{IO}(\bar{\nu}_\alpha \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_\beta)$$

Atmospheric Neutrinos analysis in JUNO

- **Key Features:**
 - **15 events/day [100 MeV - 15 GeV]**
 - Large JUNO detector mass: 20 kton with 43.5 central detector diameter
 - **Detect fully contained atmospheric events up to 15 GeV**
 - Effective light yield: $\sim 10^4$ photons per MeV of electron energy scale equivalent
 - Attenuation length: >20 m @ 430 nm
 - **Excellent energy resolution**
 - Reduction of systematics thanks to the dual PMTs system.
- Precise measurements towards the **low energy region** which is still not covered by water Cherenkov experiments
 - **Data for improvement of the current theoretical model**
- JUNO detector will allow to investigate **the neutrino neutrino mass ordering and the θ_{23} octant.**

Published results

- **Measurement of energy spectra and flavor identification based on MC simulation**
 - *A. Abusleme et al., JUNO sensitivity to low energy atmospheric neutrino spectra, Eur. Phys. J. C 81 (2021) 887.*
- **Sensitivity to neutrino mass ordering based on toy MC analysis**
 - *Fengpeng An et al, Neutrino physics with JUNO, 2016 J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys. 43 030401*

Geant4 detector simulation for energy spectra and flavor identification (e/mu)

1. Neutrino interaction generation inside the detector:

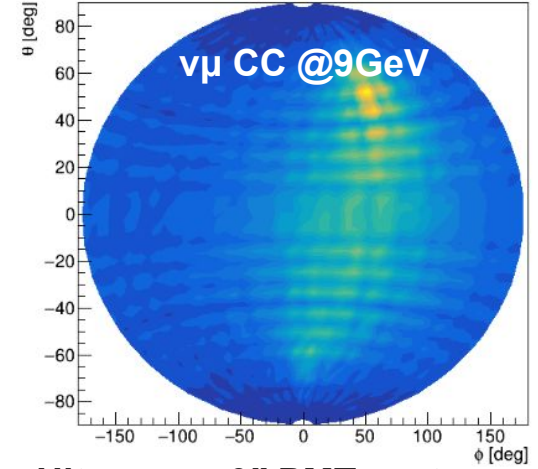
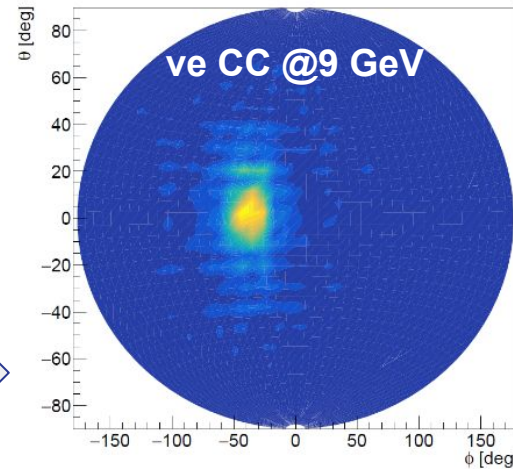
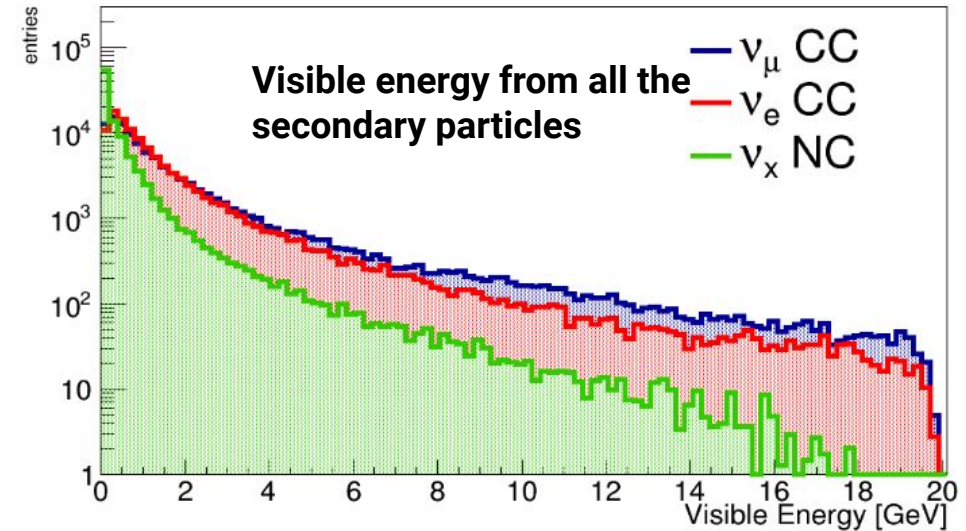
- Energy range: 100MeV - 20 GeV
- Statistics: $\sim 5y$ ν_e + ν_μ (and antineutrinos)
- Flux model: Honda Model (HKKM14)
- Software: GENIE Neutrino Monte Carlo Generator

1. Propagation of secondary particles

- **GEANT4 detector simulation**

2. Oscillation effects included (vacuum + matter)

Atmospheric neutrinos interacting inside JUNO can produce different final states.



Hitmap on 3" PMT system

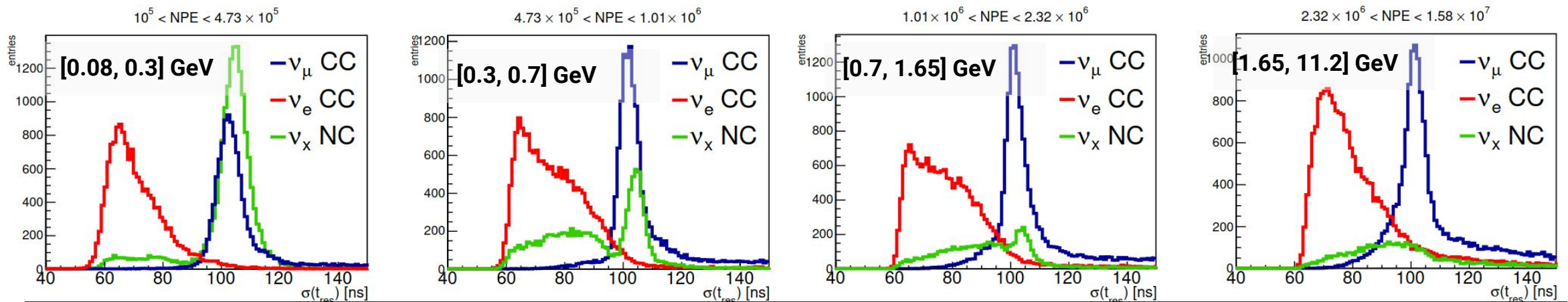
Flavor Identification: $\nu\mu$ and νe

- $\nu\mu$ CC interaction: event elongated in time because of μ ability to travel long distances and its late decay
- νe CC interaction: point-like event because of the short e track
- NC interaction: geometry of event depends on the particles produced

the time residual t_{res} , defined for each photo-electron (PE) on 3" PMT system, is a strongly flavor-dependent.

Flavor Identification based on t_{res} calculation, performed for different charge cut selection (NPE).

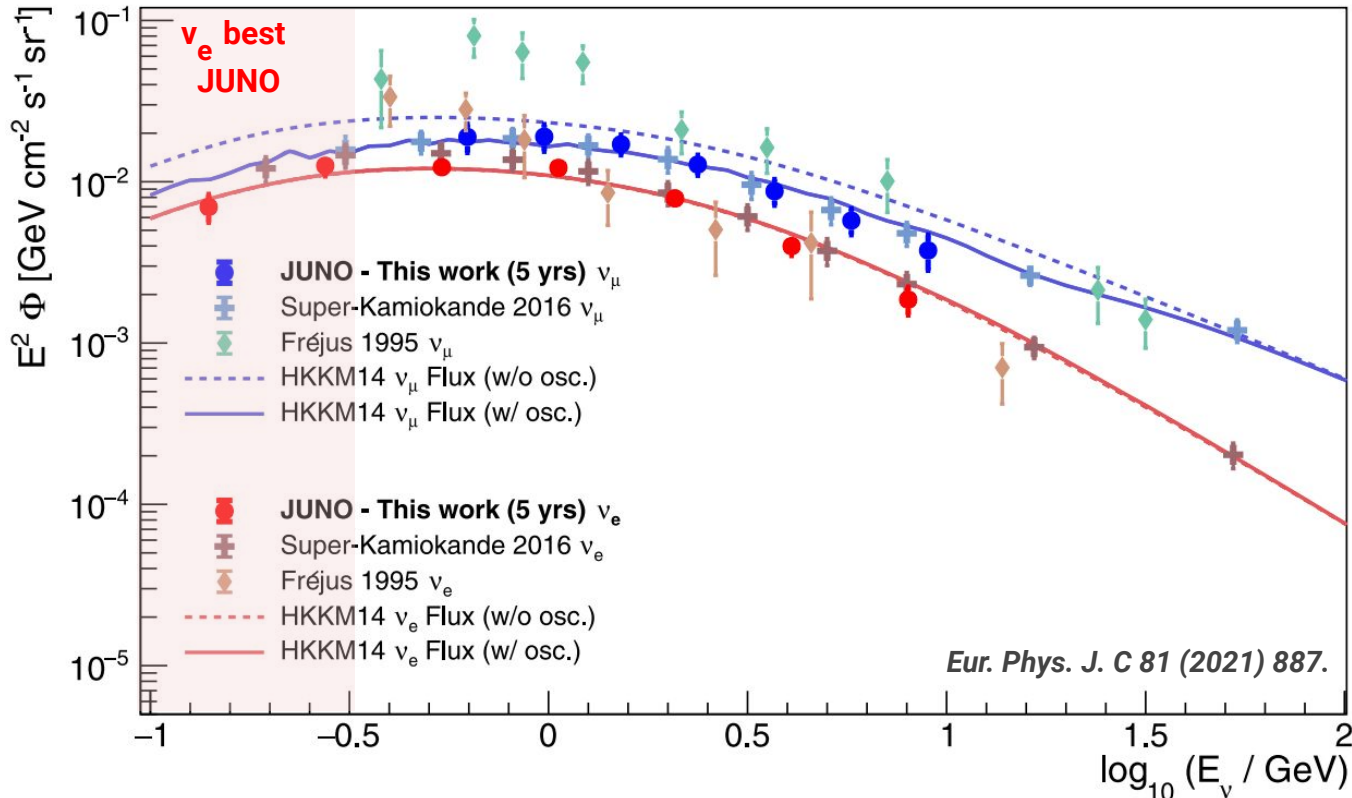
Relevant for the sensitivity region



JUNO is able to distinguish between the different neutrino flavors (νe from 0.1 GeV $\nu\mu$ from 0.3 GeV up 11.2 GeV) and interaction types (CC and NC).

Atmospheric Neutrino Energy Spectra in JUNO

Energy range for: ν_e [0.1, 11.2] and ν_μ [0.3, 11.2] GeV divided in 7 bins.



Based on unfolding probabilistic method:

$$\boxed{P(E)^{\nu_\alpha}} = P(E|NPE)^{\nu_\alpha} \cdot \boxed{P(NPE)^{\nu_\alpha}} \quad \alpha = e, \mu$$

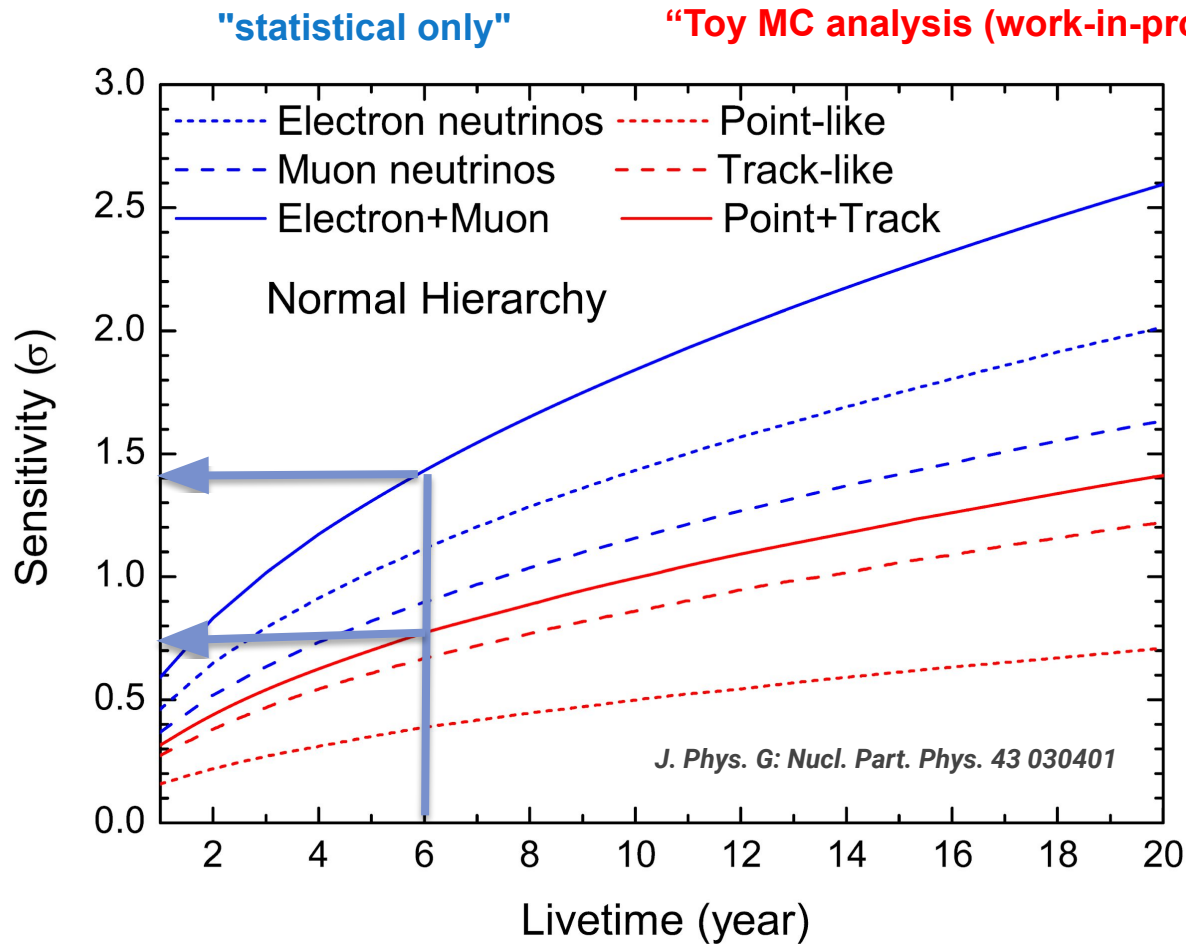
Unfolded spectrum Detector observable

NPE: number of photo-electron detected by 20" PMTs

Atm. energy spectrum based on Geant4 detector simulation

Energy spectrum can be measured within a 25% uncertainty in 5 yrs of detector lifetime.

Sensitivity to neutrino mass ordering (NMO)



JUNO sensitivity on NMO:
 0.75 ~1.4 σ (atmospheric only) @ ~6 yrs exposure,
 based on toy MC simulation.

- To be combined with the 3σ in 6 yrs with reactor neutrinos

Current Analysis!

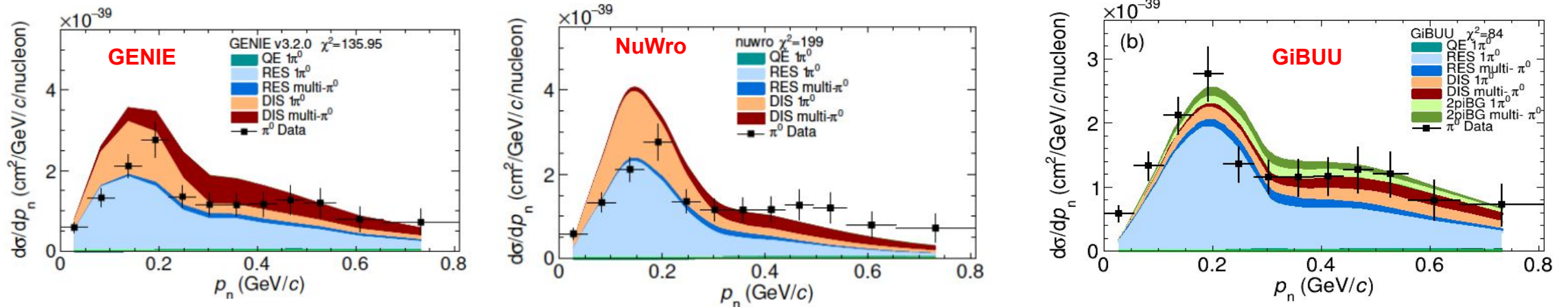
1. Considering different neutrino generator models: GENIE, NuWro, GiBUU
2. Developing further reconstruction techniques for energy and directionality
3. Flavor identification based on machine learning approach

Neutrino Interaction Model in LS

DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.6774990

To check reconstruction robustness and estimate systematic uncertainties, different generators (GENIE, NuWro, and GiBUU) is being implemented in JUNO.

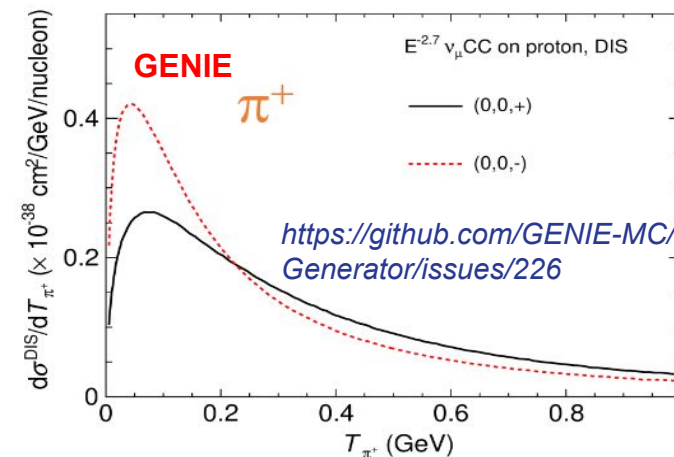
1. Validation physics w.r.t to transverse Kinematic imbalance



Cross sections in p_n from previous MINERvA measurement compared to the different neutrino generator models.

Channel: Neutrino-Induced Charged-Current Neutral Pion $\text{CC}\pi^0$

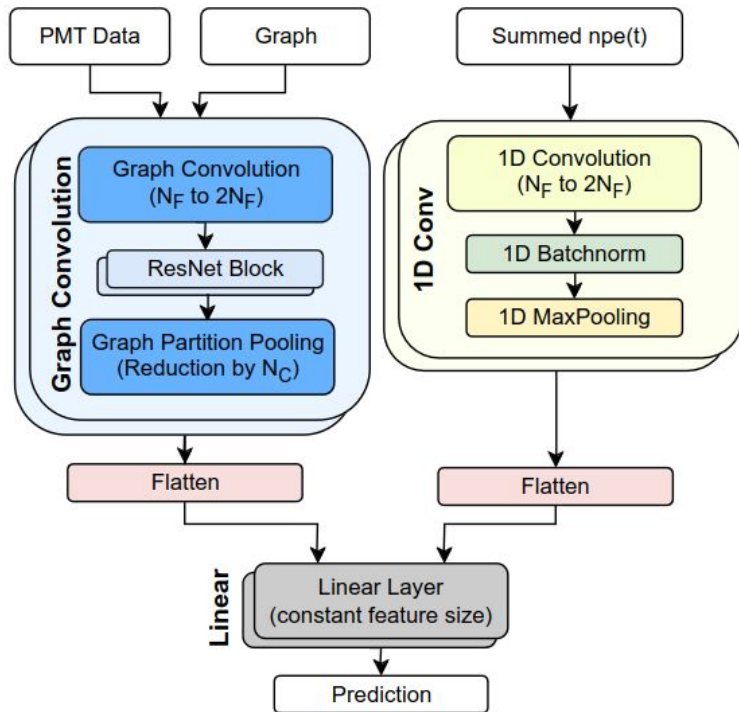
2. Improving generator: fixing GENIE AGKYLowW (DIS) and aka directionality bug



Energy Reconstruction: Graph Convolutional Network

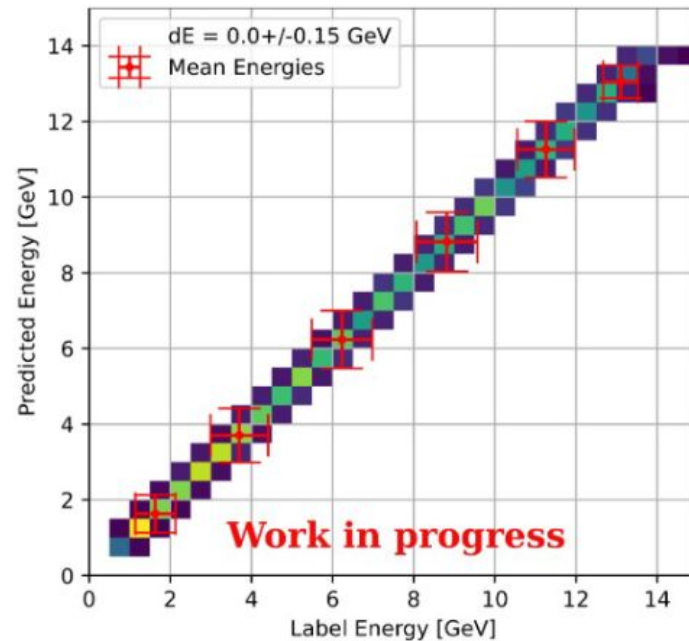
DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.6804861

Idea: Use convolution on charge (npe) detected by PMTs and on detector surface to reconstruct the energy of charged current atmospheric neutrino events.

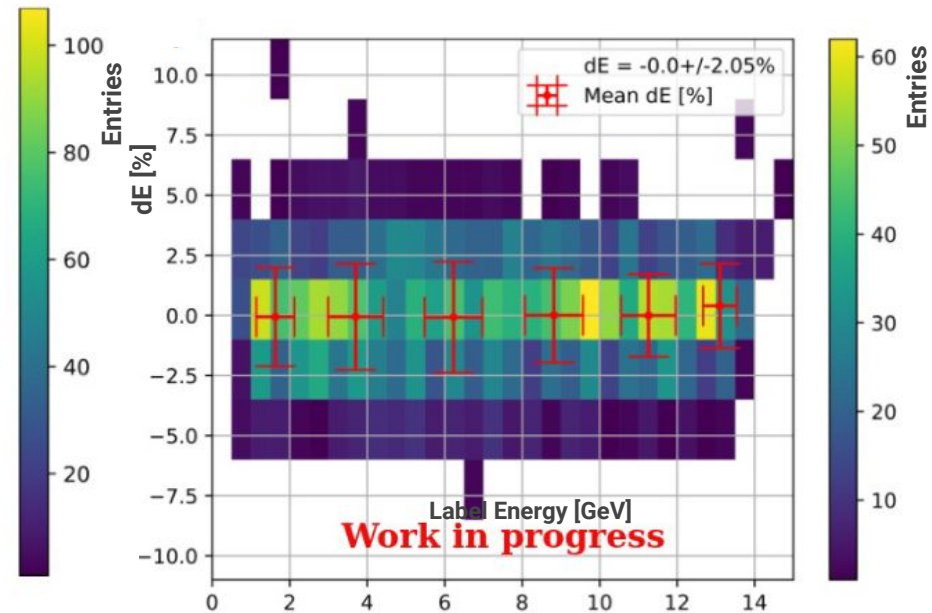


Inputs:

- "Graph": first hit time and total number of photo-electron detected per large PMT
- "test data": summed of number of photo-electron over time per Event



Reconstructed energy vs MC visible energy.

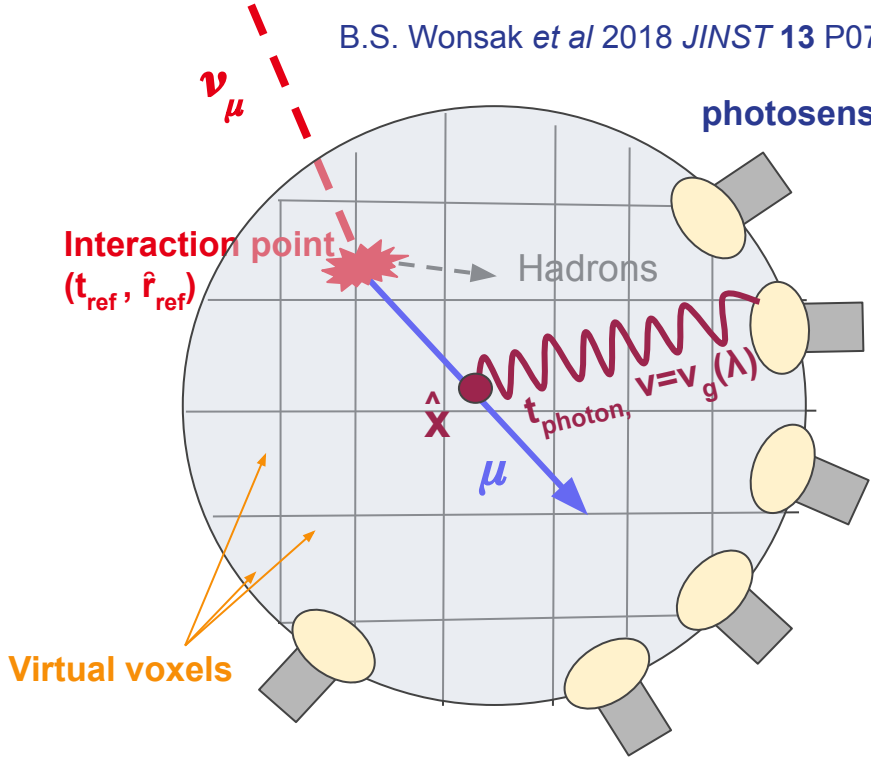


$$dE [\%] = \frac{(E_{\text{label}} - E_{\text{prediction}})}{E_{\text{label}}} \cdot 100$$

No bias and ~2% energy resolution.

Directionality: **topological reconstruction**

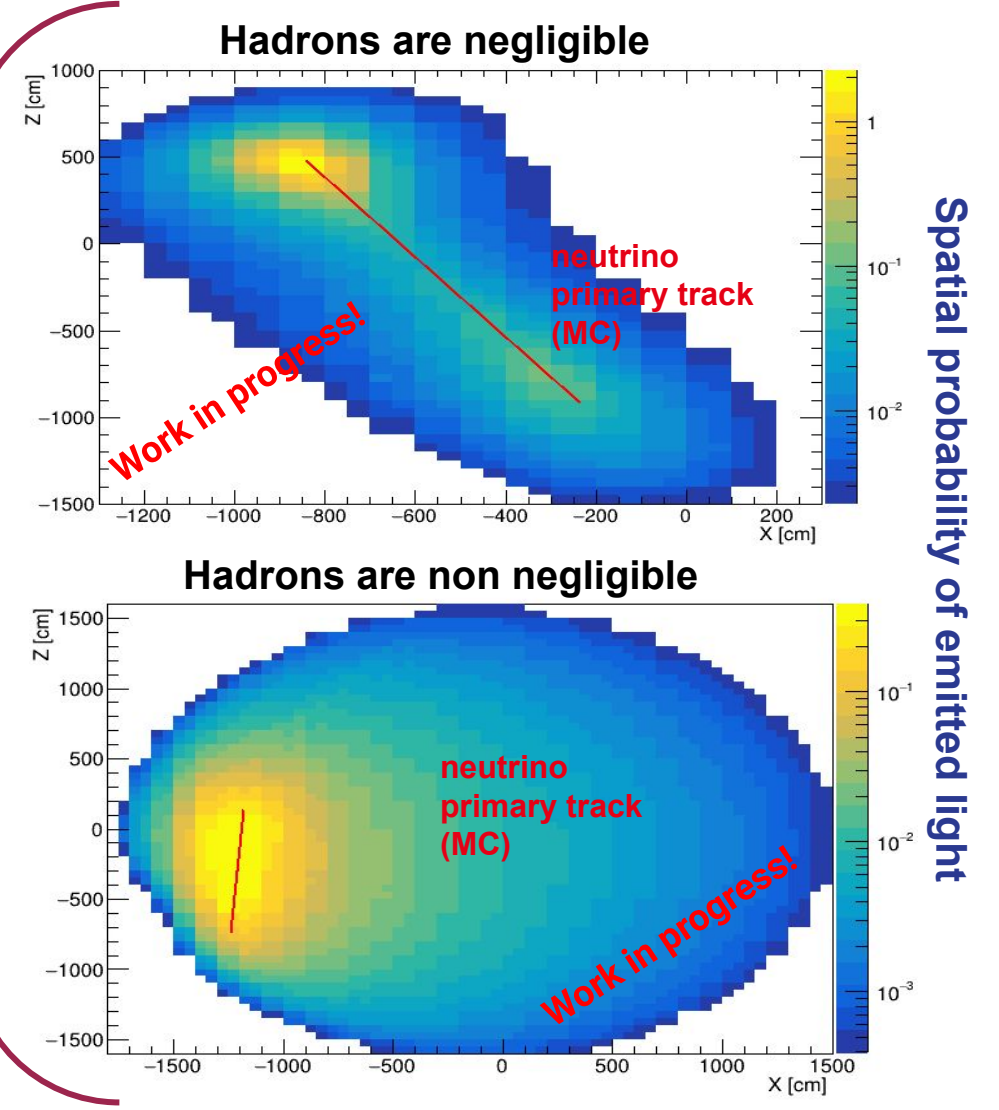
B.S. Wonsak *et al* 2018 *JINST* 13 P07005



$$\hat{t}(x) = t_{ref} \pm \frac{|\hat{x} - \hat{r}_{ref}|}{c_0} + \frac{|\hat{r}_j - \hat{x}|}{v_g}$$

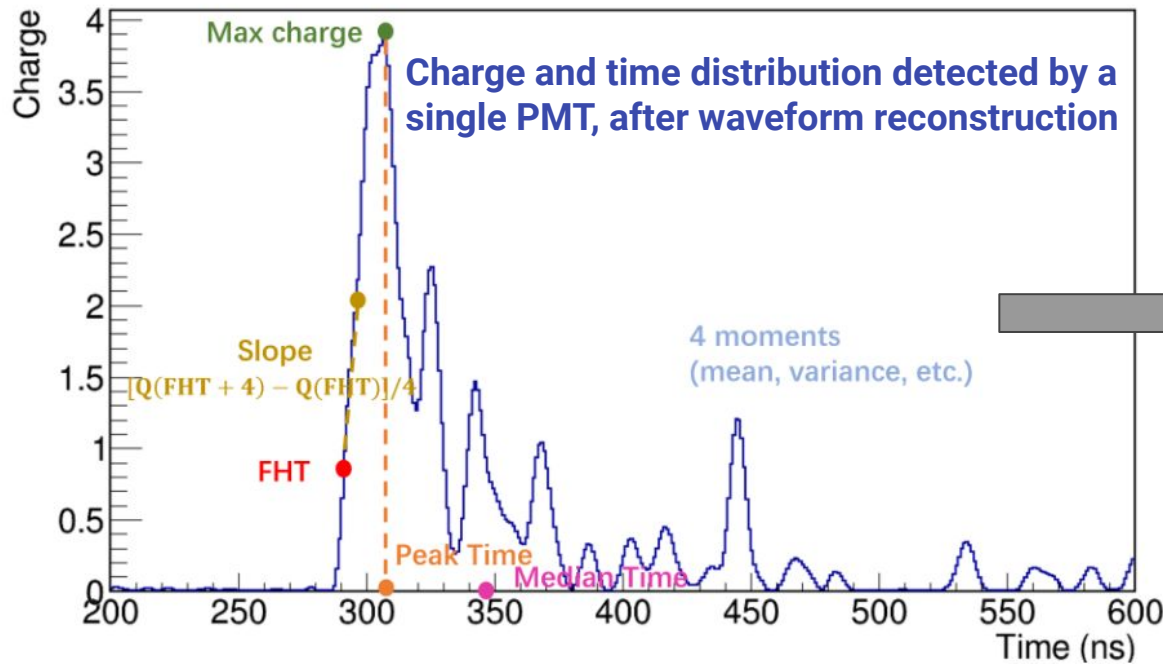
t_{ref}
 $t_{particle}^{\mu/e}$
 t_{photon}

Direction reconstruction of atmo events

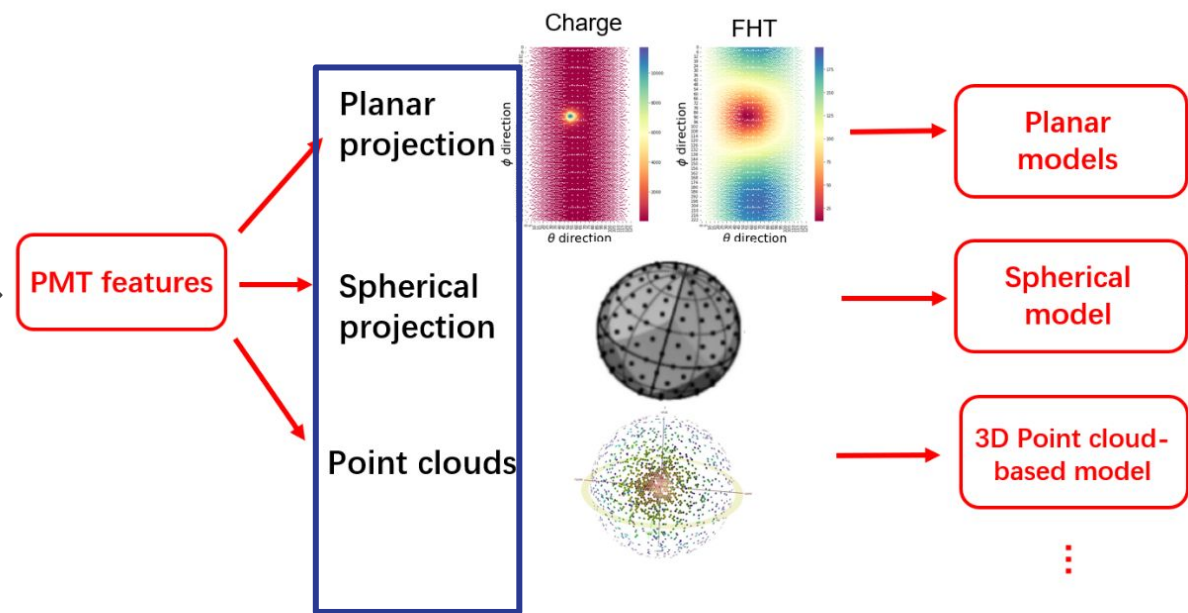


Directionality and flavor identification: machine learning based

Features extracted from each PMT's waveform reflect the event's topological structure and carry information about the event's direction, flavor types.



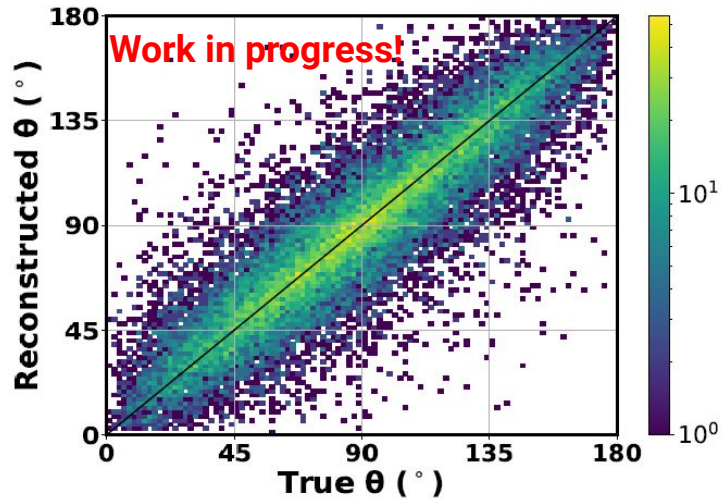
waveform reconstruction based on deconvolution method



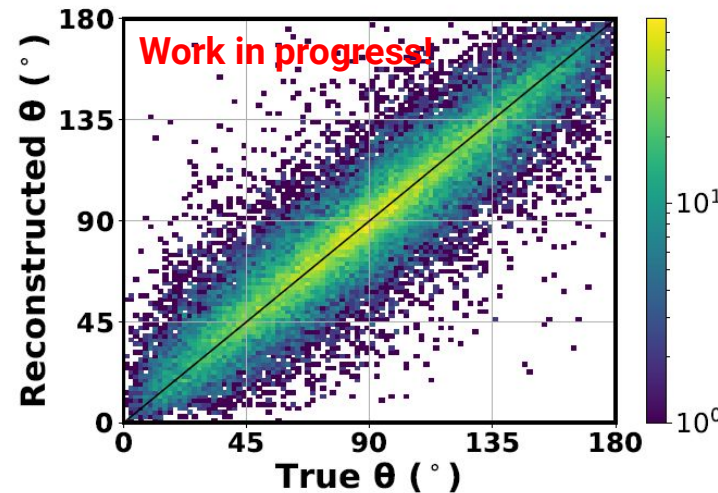
3 categories of machine learning methods have been evaluated.

Directionality and flavor identification: machine learning based

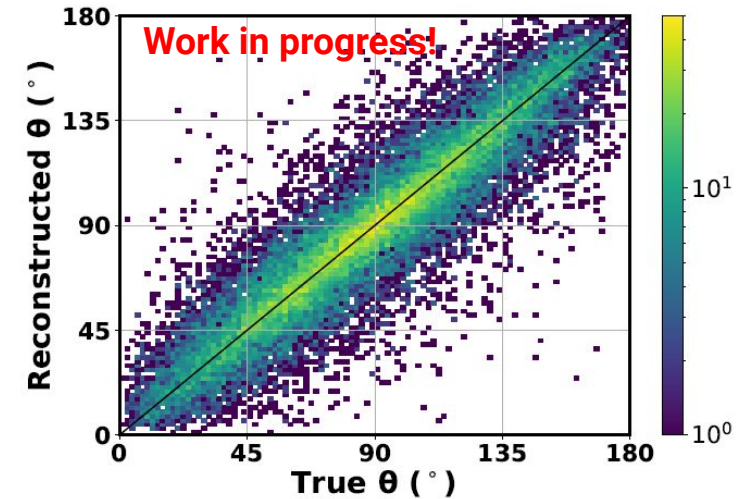
EfficientNetV2



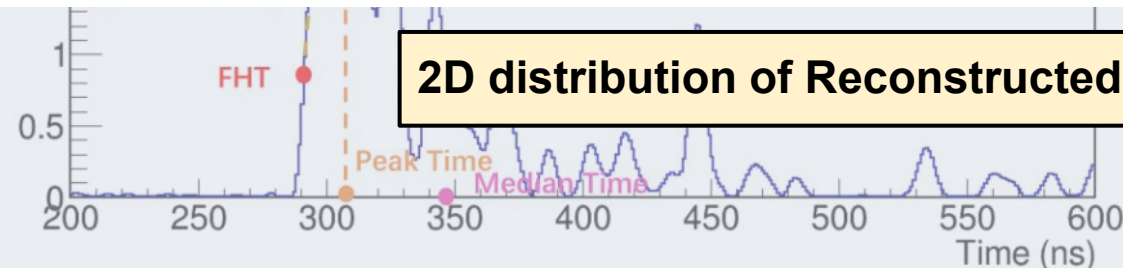
DeepSphere



PointNet++



2D distribution of Reconstructed θ VS True θ in all energies.

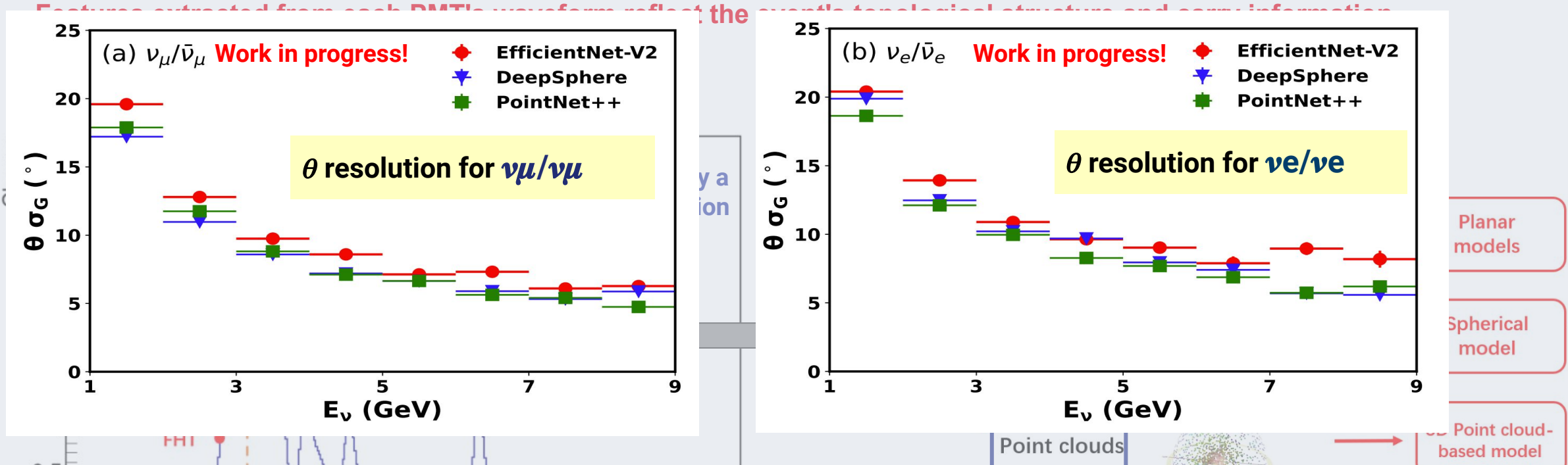


waveform reconstruction based on deconvolutional method

3D Point cloud-based model

3 categories of machine learning methods have been evaluated

Directionality and flavor identification: machine learning based



The direction resolution is less than 10 deg in the sensitivity energy region [3, 10] GeV.

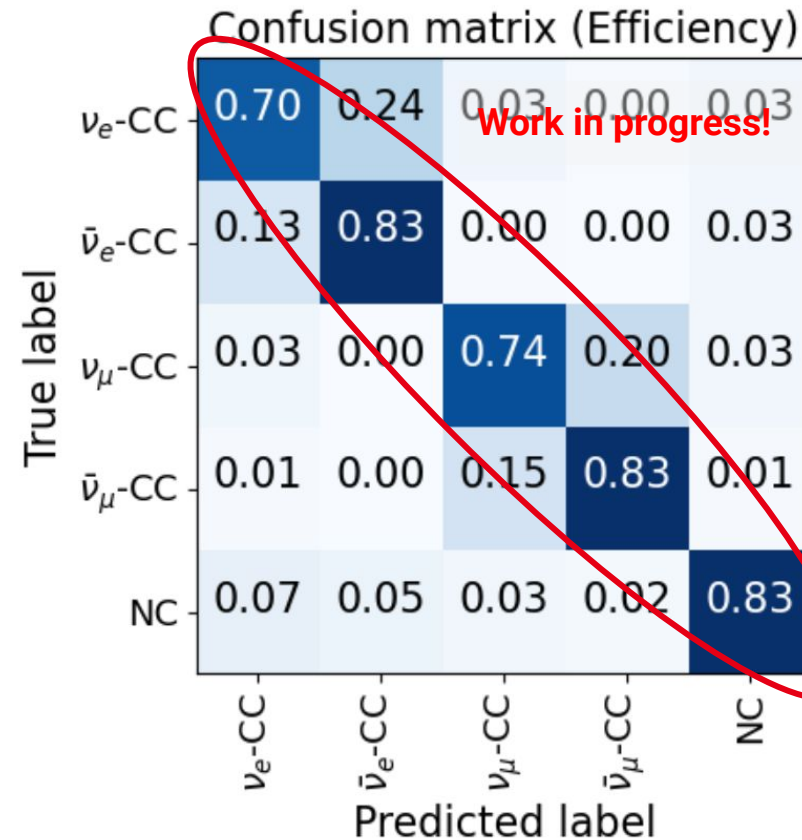
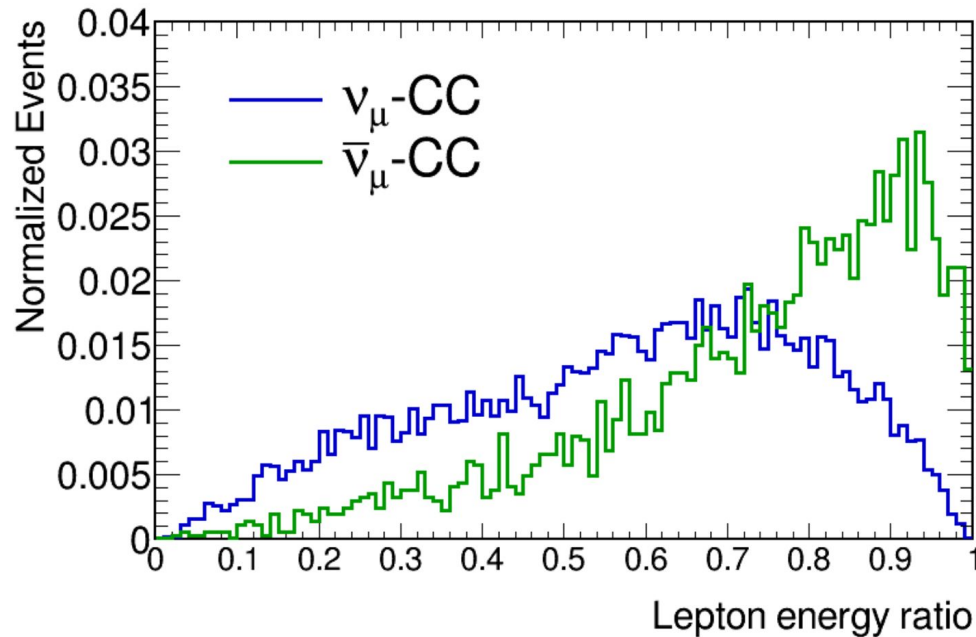
waveform reconstruction based on deconvolutional method

3 categories of machine learning methods have been evaluated

Directionality and flavor identification: machine learning based

Extra physics inputs has been added to the ML approach: lepton energy ratio, neutron multiplicity ...

Results

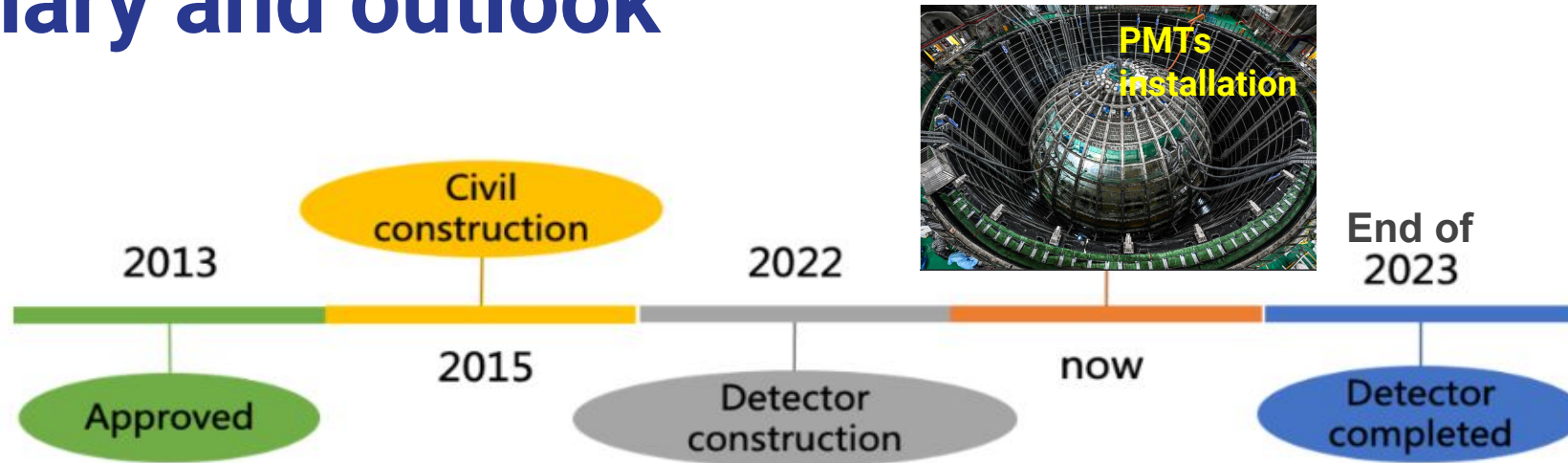


$$\text{Efficiency} = \frac{N_{true}^i}{\sum_i N_{true}^i}$$

Result obtained without considering the electronic effect of the detector.

More than 70 % of the different neutrino flavors will be correctly classified in JUNO.

Summary and outlook



JUNO has potential to measure the atmospheric neutrino spectra

- Advantages: low energy threshold and fine energy resolution
- Sub – GeV to multi – GeV energy range
- First measurement with a LS – based detector, 15 events/day
- Low $O(100 \text{ MeV})$ threshold - backgrounds for rare events searches and benchmark for theoretical models
- Energy spectrum can be measured within a 25% uncertainty in 5 yrs of detector lifetime

Ongoing!

Different machine learning and conventional reconstruction techniques under development.

More realistic sensitivity study to NMO via atmospheric neutrinos.

Joint analysis with atmospheric neutrinos in order to enhance the sensitivity of JUNO to NMO.

JUNO Construction status

PMTs installation

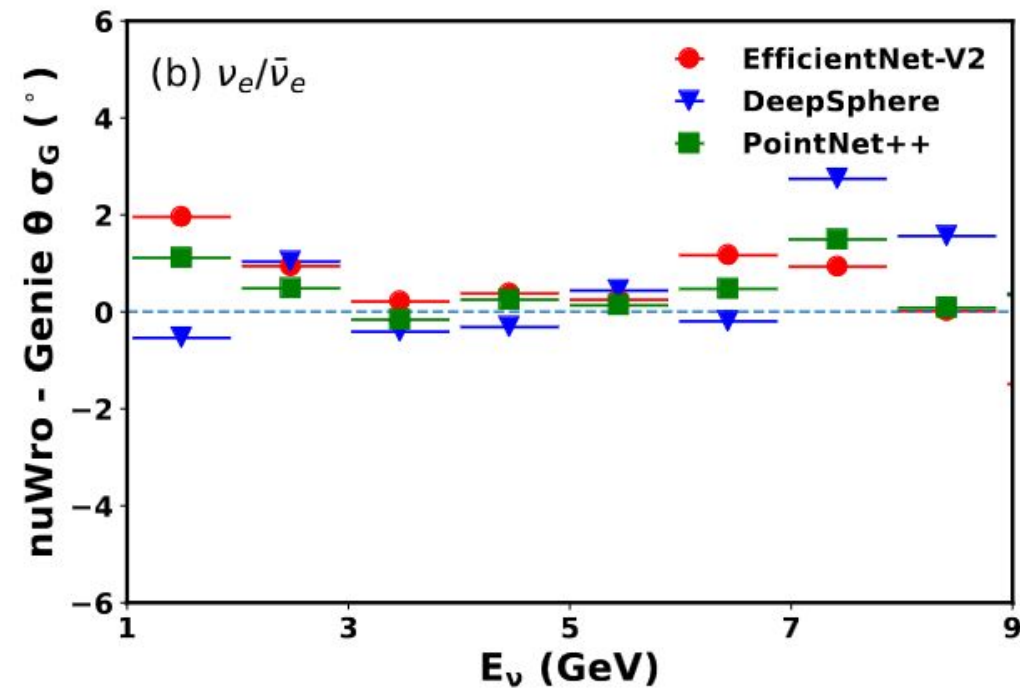
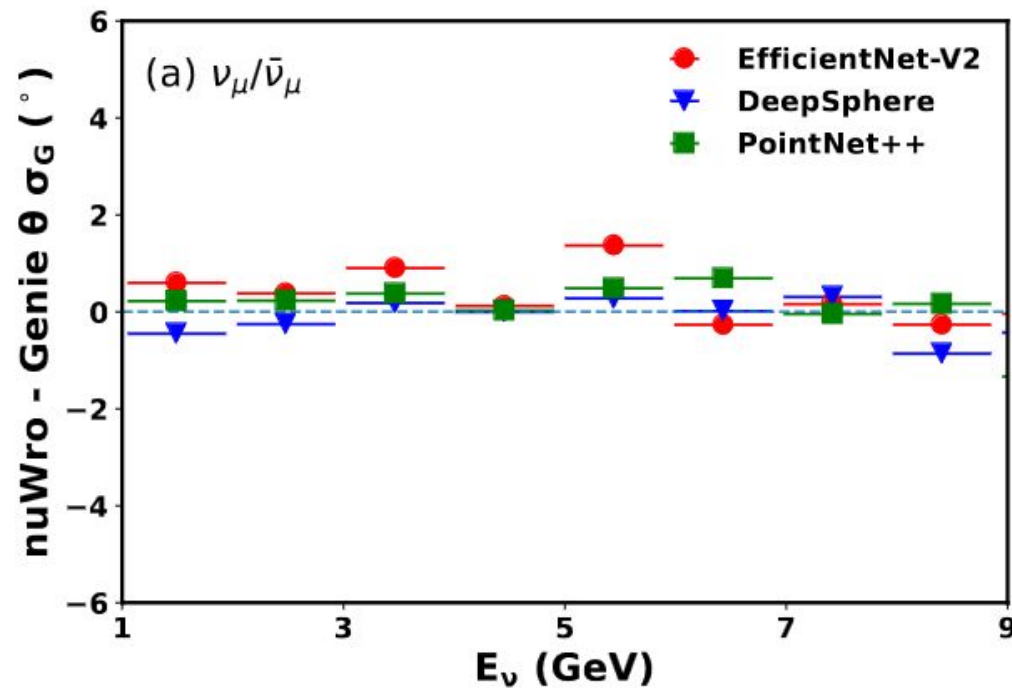
Construction to be completed in 2023.

April 2023

Back up

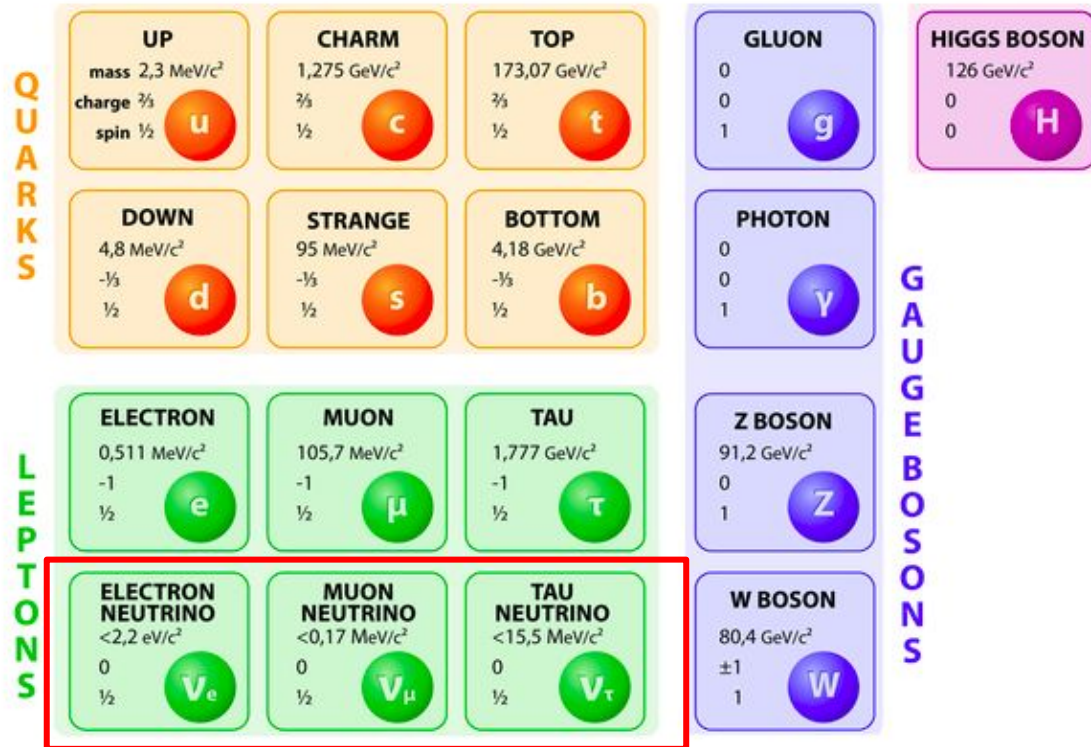
On going! Study the effects of different generator on the directionality reconstruction performance

- The difference in the θ resolutions obtained from ν_μ and $\bar{\nu}_\mu$ CC samples simulated by NuWro and GENIE using different ML models as functions of incoming neutrino energy.



Neutrino Basics

STANDARD MODEL OF ELEMENTARY PARTICLES



- Originally, in the Standard Model neutrinos have exactly zero mass, all neutrinos are left-handed and all antineutrinos are right handed
- Discovery of neutrino oscillation** (from atmospheric and solar neutrino experiments) (Nobel Prize 2015) **leads to a non-zero neutrino mass.**
- Non-zero mass requires at least a minimal extension of the Standard Model;

- No electric charge = no elmag interactions
- No color = no strong interactions
- Only weak interactions = very small cross sections of interactions with matter**
- Difficult to detect
 - Large detectors
 - Underground laboratories
 - Extreme radio-purity

Neutrino Oscillation Physics

$\alpha = e, \mu, \tau$
 Flavour eigenstates
 INTERACTIONS

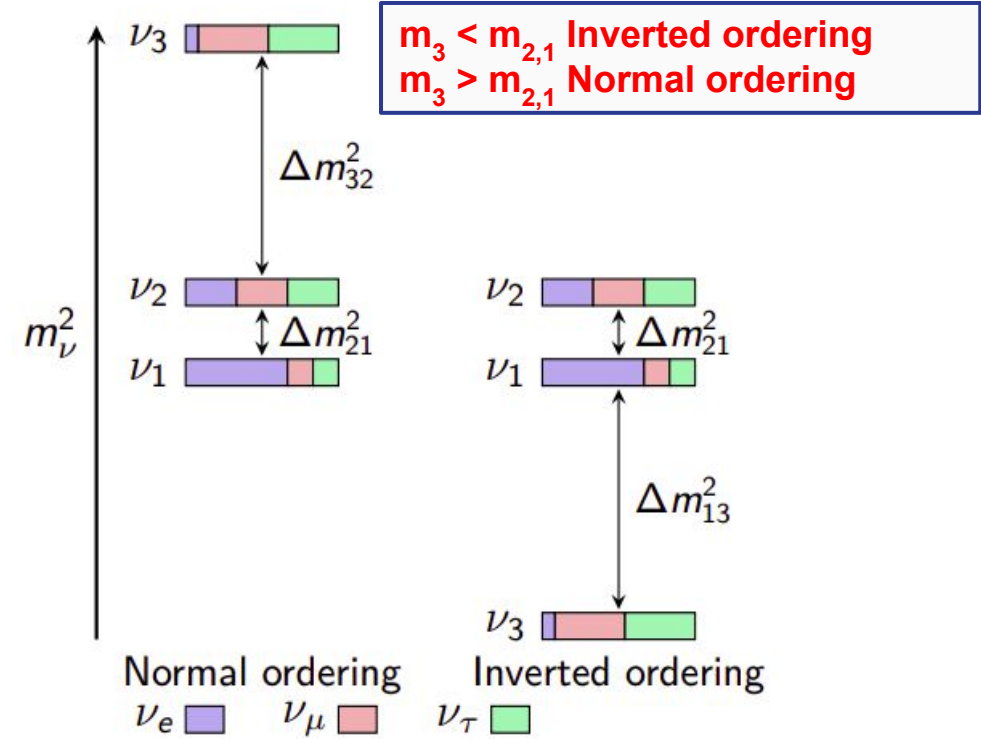
$$|\nu_\alpha\rangle = \sum_{i=1}^3 U_{\alpha i} |\nu_i\rangle$$

$i = 1, 2, 3$
 Mass eigenstates
 PROPAGATION

Primary Goals of Neutrino Physics: measure the oscillation parameters of the PMNS matrix

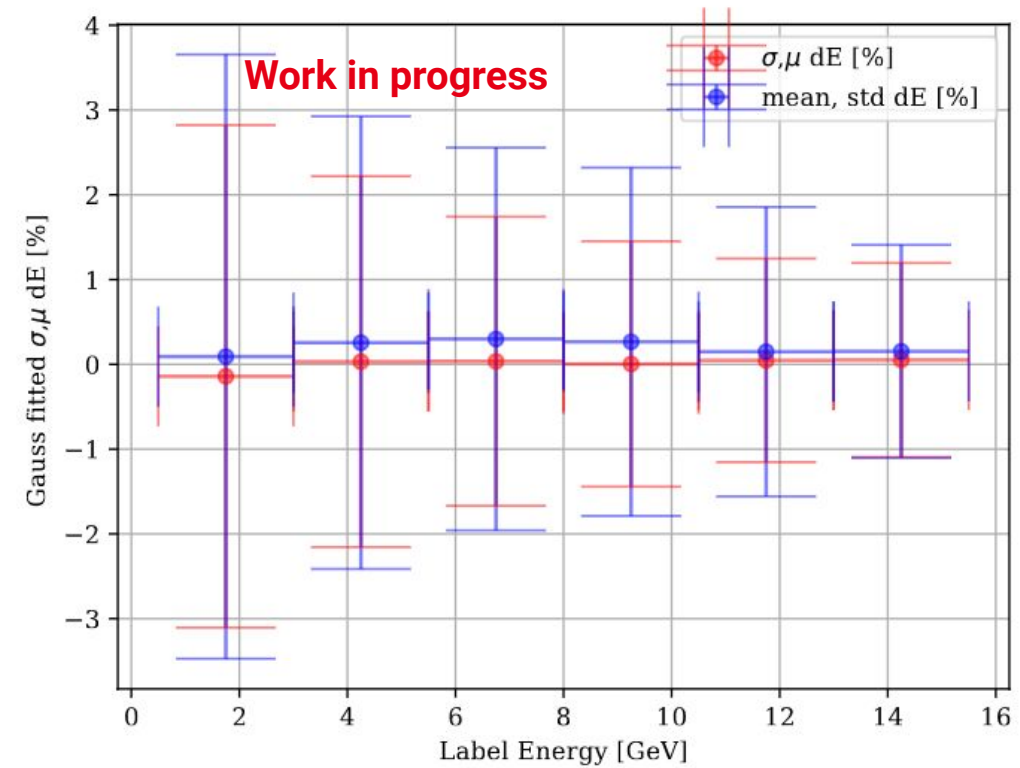
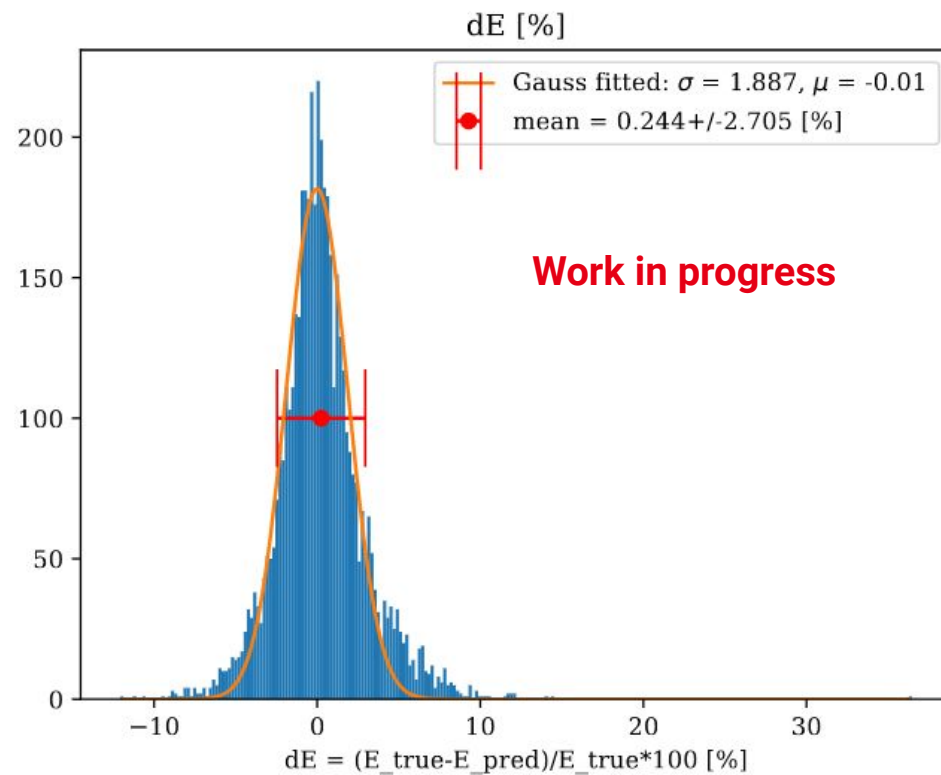
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & & \\ & c_{23} & s_{23} \\ & -s_{23} & c_{23} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{13} & & s_{13}e^{-i\delta} \\ & 1 & \\ -s_{13}e^{i\delta} & & c_{13} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{12} & s_{12} & \\ -s_{12} & c_{12} & \\ & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

atmospheric Reactor Solar



Determination of the Mass Ordering is relevant to the neutrino oscillation tomography

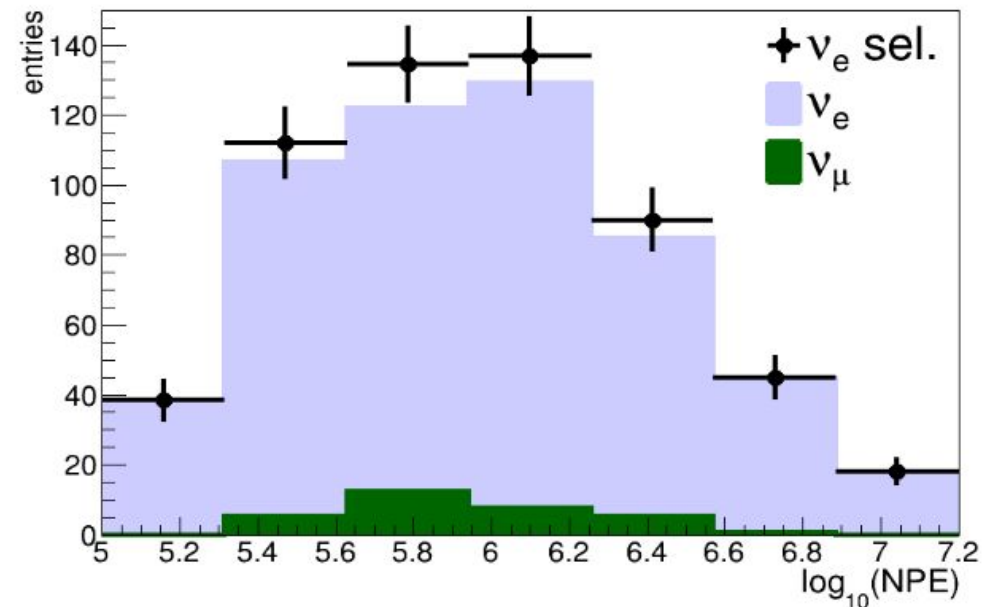
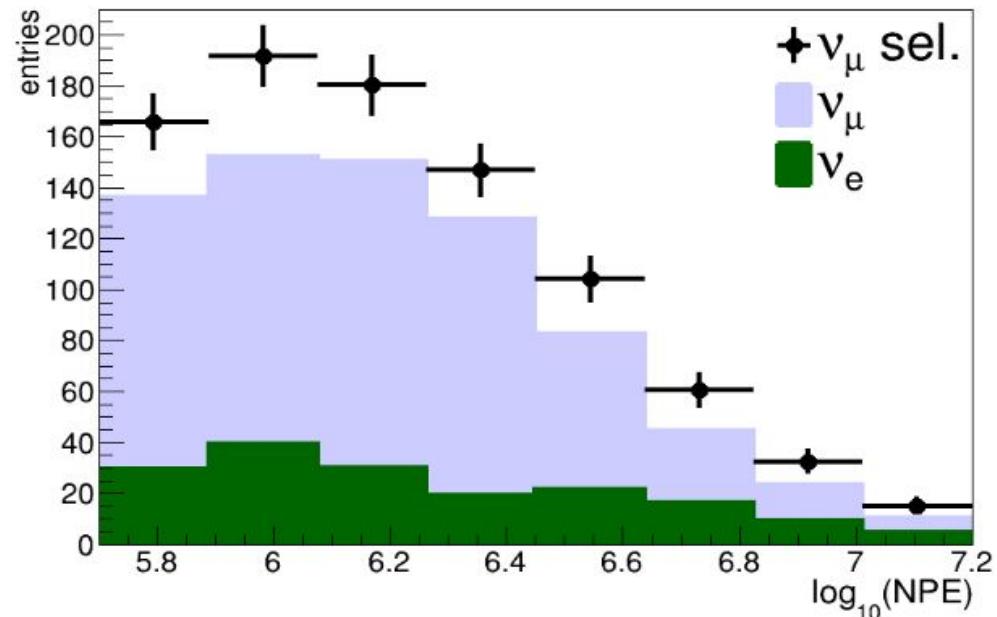
Energy reconstruction



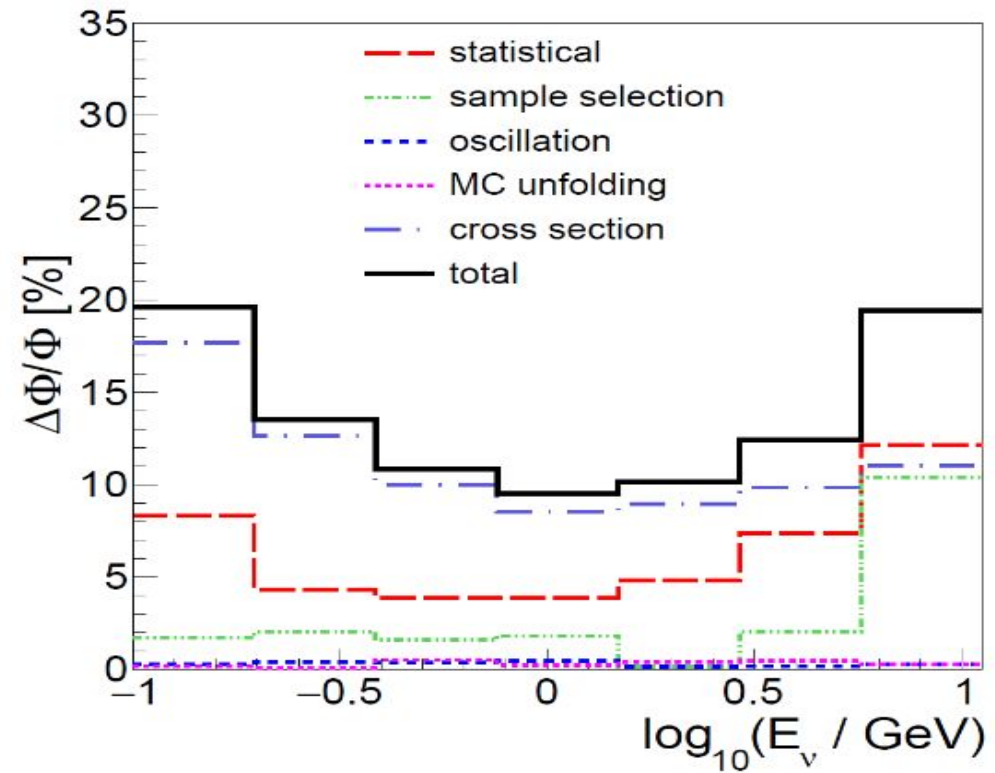
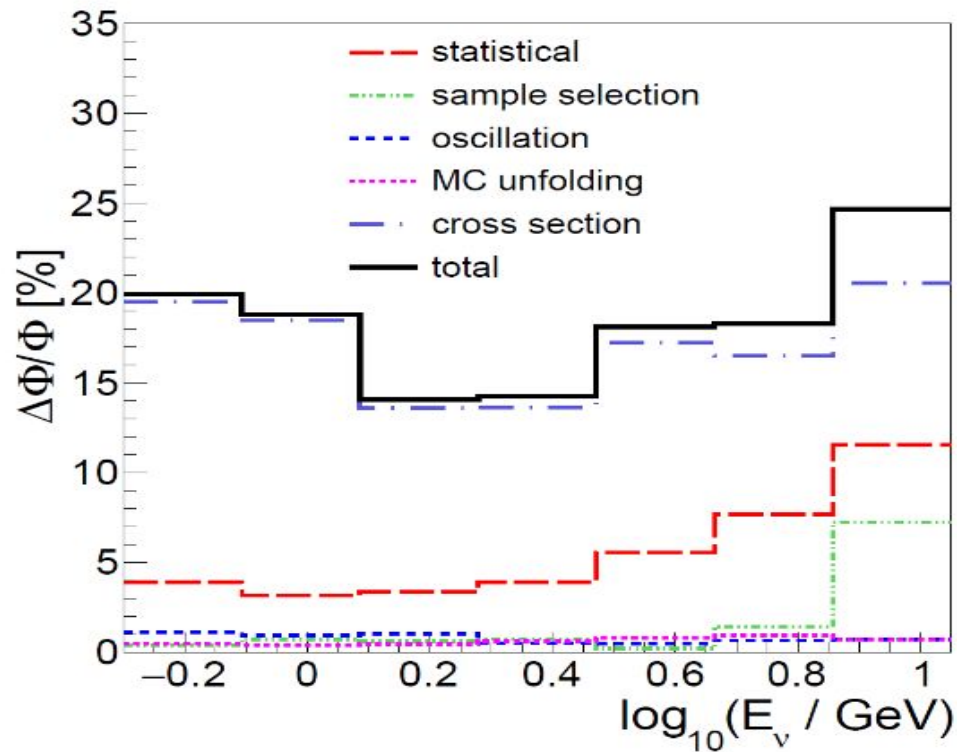
Energy Spectrum Reconstruction

- Unfolding probabilistic method to extract the energy spectrum from detector observables
- Based on Iterative Bayesian Unfolding
 - G. D'Agostini, Nucl.Instrum.Meth.A 362 (1995) 487-498. arXiv:1010.0632

~5 yrs of detector lifetime MC events have been generated as real data



Systematic Uncertainty



Total uncertainty between 10 – 25%

- Dominant contribution from cross – section

Neutrino Oscillation ... Matter effects

Schrodinger equation: $i \frac{d}{dt} \nu_f = (U \frac{M^2}{2E} U^T + V) \nu_f$ *With...* $M^2 = \text{diag}(m_1^2, m_2^2, m_3^2)$
and ... $V = \text{diag}(2^{1/2} G_f N_e, 0, 0)$

Two flavor approximation: Matter effects is proportional to L

- Vacuum:** $P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e) \approx \sin^2(2\theta_{31}) \sin^2(2\theta_{23}) \sin^2 \frac{\Delta m_{atm}^2 L}{4E}$
 - Matter effect:** $P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e) \approx \sin^2(2\theta_M) \sin^2(2\theta_{23}) \sin^2 \frac{\Delta m_M^2 L}{4E}$
- $\Delta m_M^2 = \Delta m_{atm}^2 \cdot \xi$
 $\sin 2\theta_M = \sin \frac{2\theta}{\xi}$

$$\xi = \sqrt{\sin^2(2\theta_{31}) + \left(\cos(2\theta_{13}) - \frac{A_{cc}}{\Delta m_{atm}^2} \right)^2}$$

$$A_{cc} = \pm 2\sqrt{2} \cdot G_F E_\nu N_e$$

+: **neutrino** neutrino energy **Electron density**
 -: **antineutrino**

Resonance energy can be described as:

$$E_\nu = \frac{\Delta m_{31}^2 \cos 2\theta_{13}}{2\sqrt{2} G_F N_e} = 32.1 \text{ GeV} \frac{g/\text{cm}^3}{\rho} \frac{0.5}{Y_e} \frac{\Delta m_{31}^2}{2.43 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2} \cos 2\theta_{13}$$