



# MO sensitivity with Michel-e tagging on atmospheric neutrinos

Matteo Galli  
01 April 2026



DUNE France Meeting

# Physics case

Resonance (3-8) GeV for vertical up-going  $\nu_\mu/\bar{\nu}_\mu$

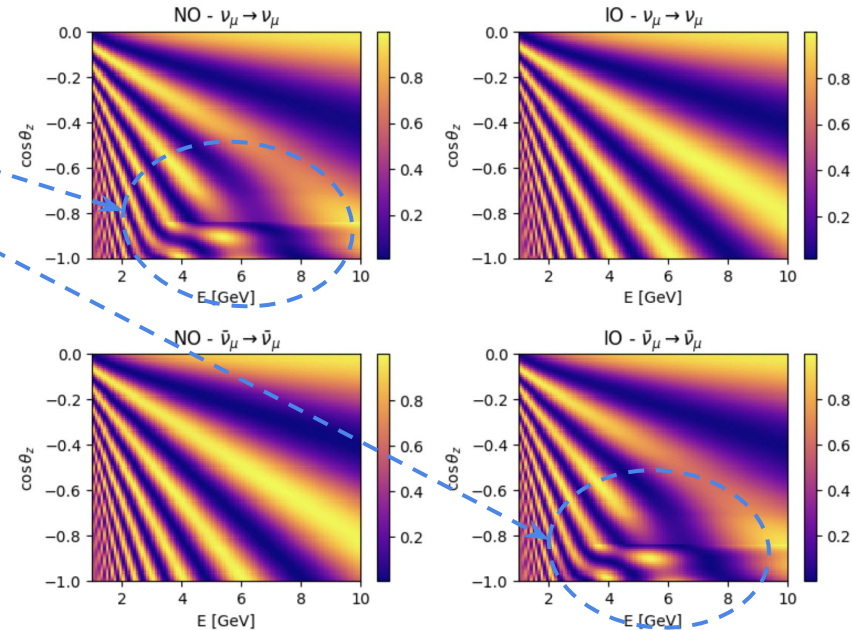
- for **neutrino** in **Normal Ordering**
- for **antineutrino** in **Inverted Ordering**

$\nu/\bar{\nu}$  discrimination allows DUNE improvement in sensitivity to **mass ordering**.

**$\mu$ -capture** method (tagging M-e events) could be use in DUNE to make this separation

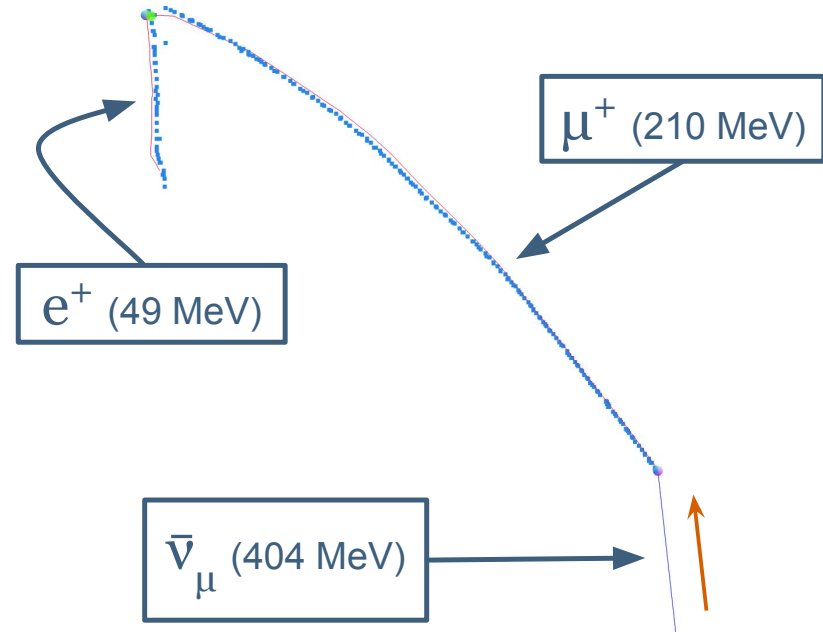
[[Phys.Rev.D 100 \(2019\) 9, 093004](#)]

- This method consists of discriminate **muon charge** using **Michel-e** to distinguish **decay events** from **non-decay events**
  - $\mu^+$  always decays in  $e^+$
  - $\mu^-$  can decay to  $e^-$  (~ 28%) or be captured on Argon nuclei (~72%)



- Goal:
  - Optimize the **tagging of Michel-e** events in atmospheric neutrino events
  - Evaluate impact of  $\nu_\mu$  separation on **Mass Ordering sensitivity**

- Strategy:
  - Selection of  **$\nu_\mu$  CC events**
  - Selection of the  **$\mu$  endpoint**
  - Search for **Michel-e hits** around the endpoint of the muon track
  - Evaluate the **Michel-e tagged** event sample



**Michel-e tagging**

# Michel-e tagging

Michel-e tagging based on:

- Hits inside a **circular region** around the muon endpoint
- **Number of hits** inside the selected region
- Average [CNN](#) **Michel score** of the hits inside the selected region

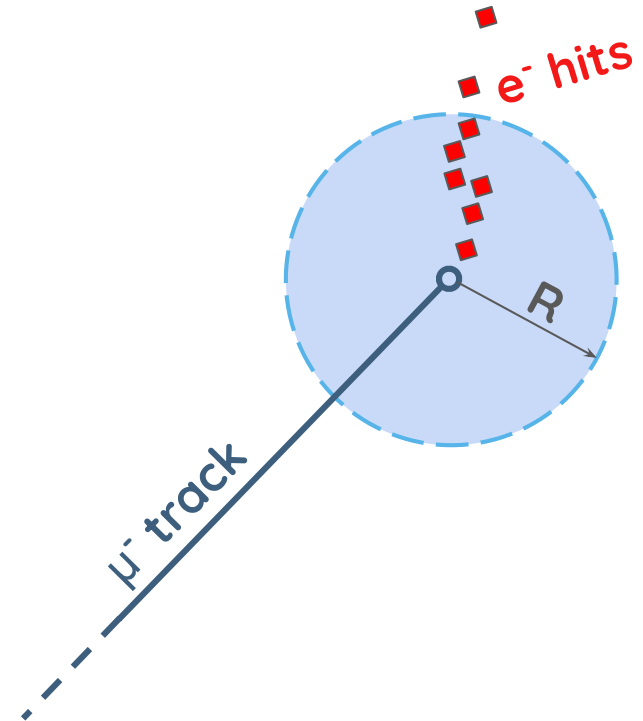
[\[Phys. Rev. D 107, 092012\]](#)

Study efficiency on:

## 1. Selected sample

- **True  $\nu_{\mu}$  CC** events
- Muon track with a **reconstructed endpoint** within 3 cm of the **true endpoint**

## 2. Overall atm production



# Selection of $\nu_{\mu}$ CC events

- Applying realistic event selection (using only **Reco** info)  
→ Allows studying **backgrounds** of the selected neutrino event sample
- **STEP 1**:  $\nu_{\mu}$  CC events selected with a CVN
  - For each event, the reconstructed flavor is selected as the flavor with the highest output score from the CVN
  - Fraction of **true flavor** in selected  $\nu_{\mu}$  CC events:
- **STEP 2**: Muon track
  - Selected as the longest track of the event
  - Applied recovery when the endpoint is not reconstructed correctly:
    - Broken tracks → endpoint reconstructed before the true one
    - Longer tracks → endpoint reconstructed after the true one

True flavor	Fraction
$\nu_{\mu}$ CC	80.8 %
$\nu_e$ CC	4.9 %
$\nu_{\tau}$ CC	2.3 %
NC	11.9 %

# Selection results with Reco informations

- STEP 3: Michel-e tagging.
  - Considering Hits inside a circular region of radius **R = 10 cm**
    - Number of hits: between **5** and **40** in the selected region
    - CNN Average Michel score > **0.2**

	<b>Efficiency</b> ( # selected $\nu_{\mu}CC$ / # true $\nu_{\mu}CC$ )	<b>Purity</b> ( # selected $\nu_{\mu}CC$ / # sel. evts. )
after STEP 1	87%	81%
after STEP 2	82%	81%

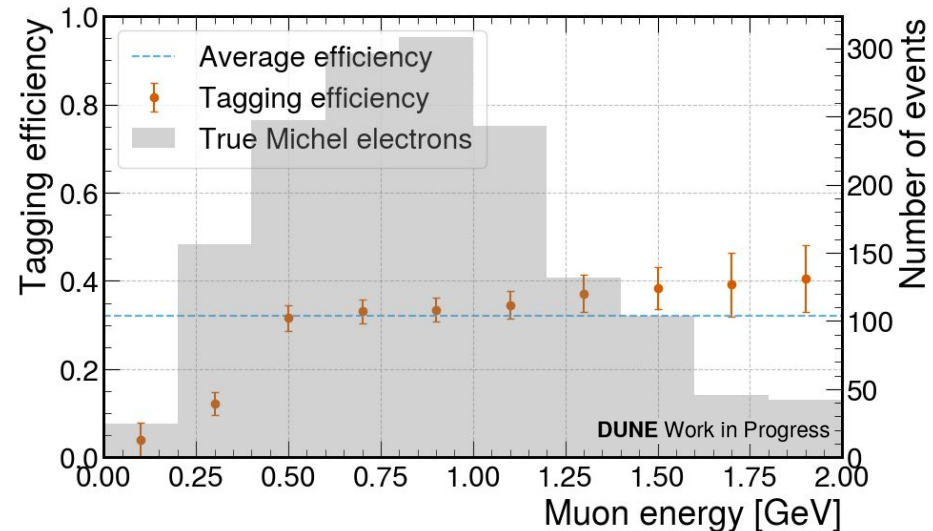
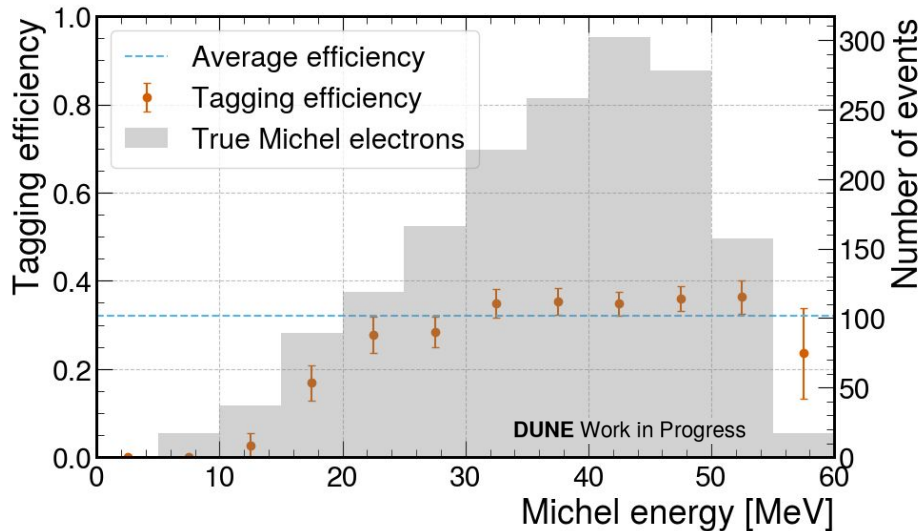
	<b>Efficiency</b> ( # selected M-e / # true M-e )	<b>Purity</b> ( # selected M-e / # sel. evts. )
after STEP 3	32%	90%

# Michel-e tagging stability

Results in Michel-e event tagging using selection based on **reco events**:

- Tagging **efficiency**: = **32%**

Dependence on the **energy** of the **Michel-e** and of the **muon**

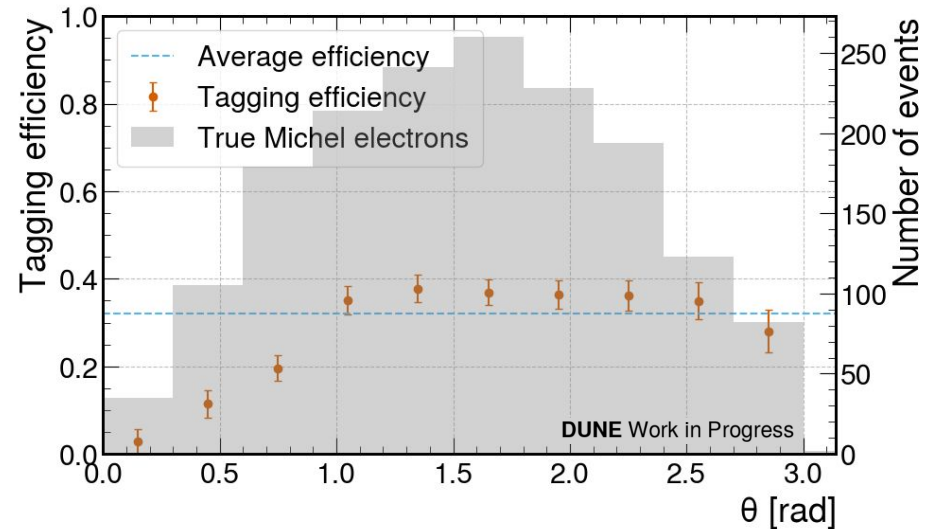
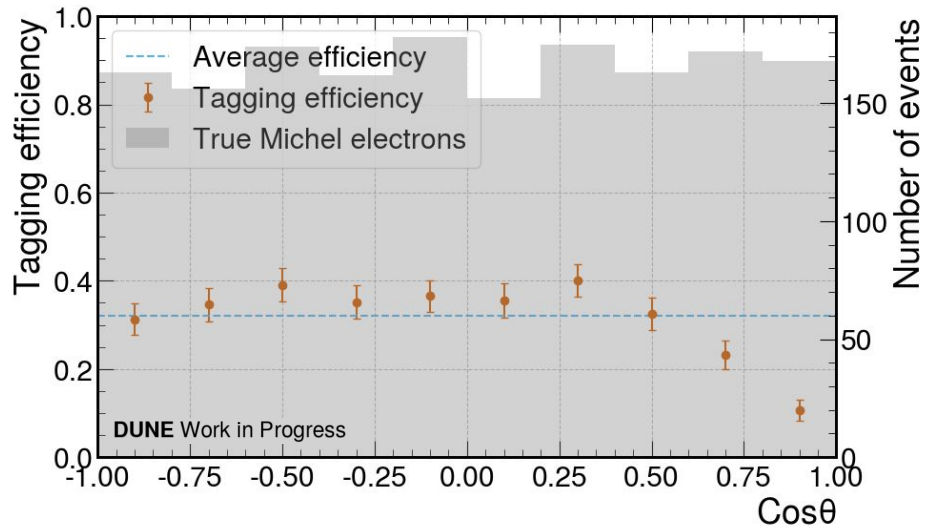
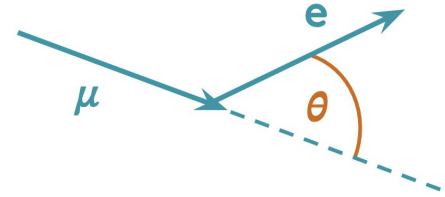


# Michel-e tagging stability

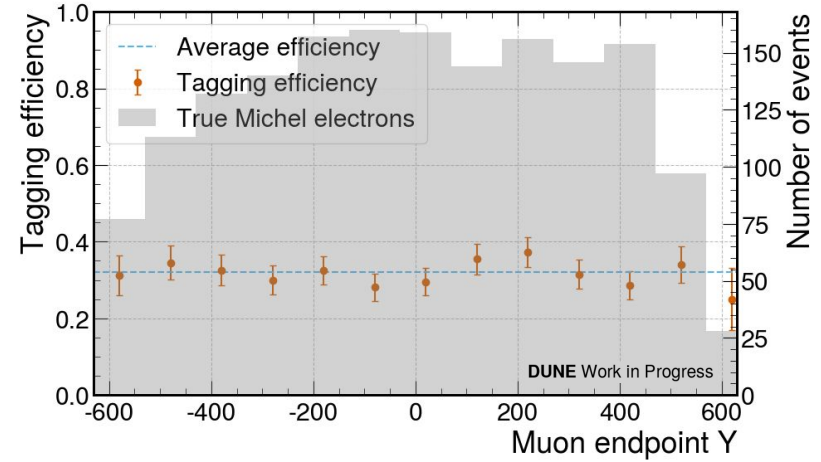
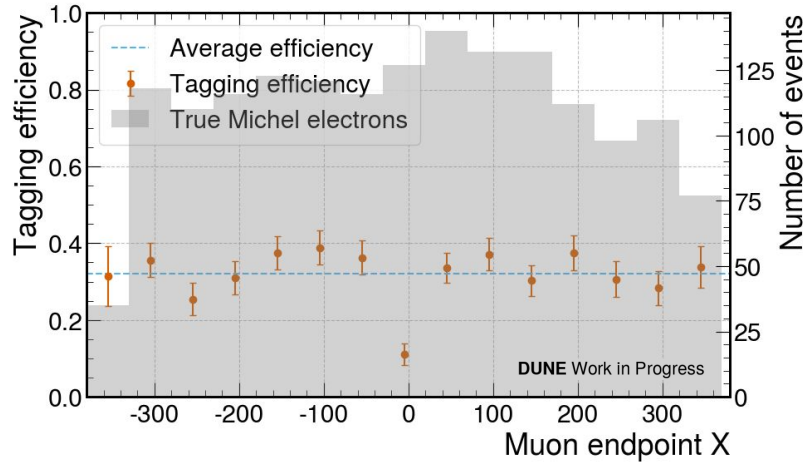
Results in Michel-e event tagging using selection based on **true  $\nu_\mu$  CC** events:

- Tagging **efficiency**: = **32%**

Depending on the **angle** between **muon** and **Michel-e**



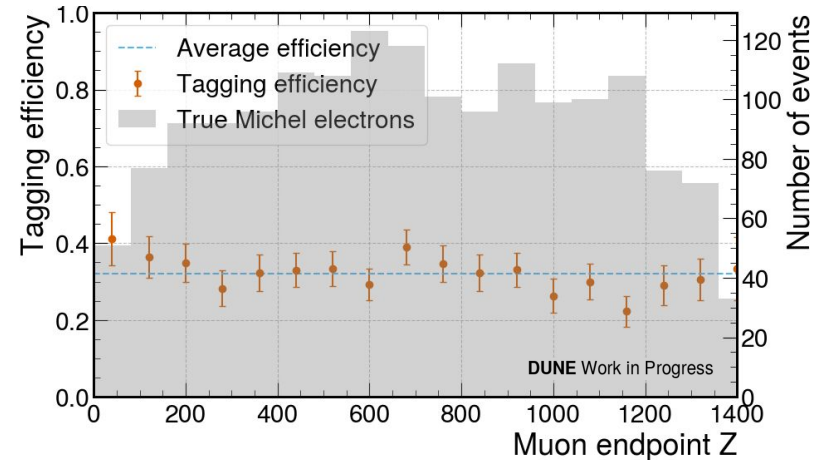
# Michel-e tagging stability



Results in Michel-e event tagging using selection based on **true  $\nu_{\mu}$  CC** events:

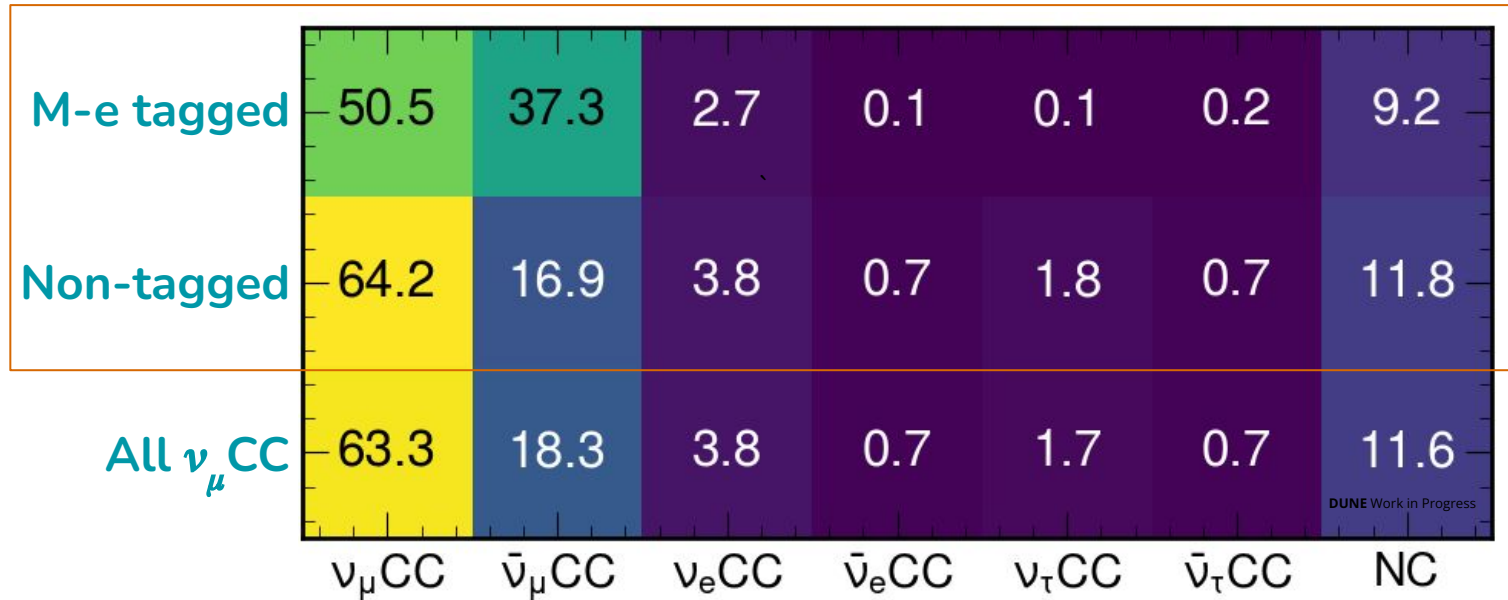
- Tagging **efficiency**: = **32%**

Dependence on the **muon endpoint position**



From the final Michel-e events sample → **event backgrounds**

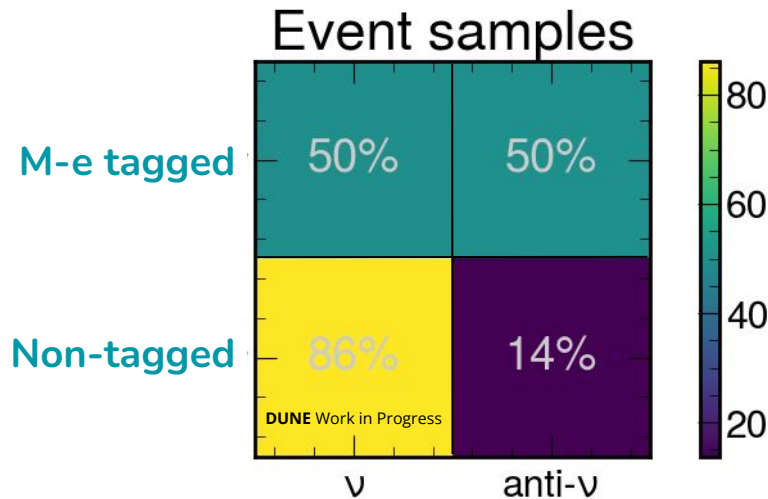
- Fraction of **true flavor** in:
  - Michel-e tagged events
  - Non-tagged events



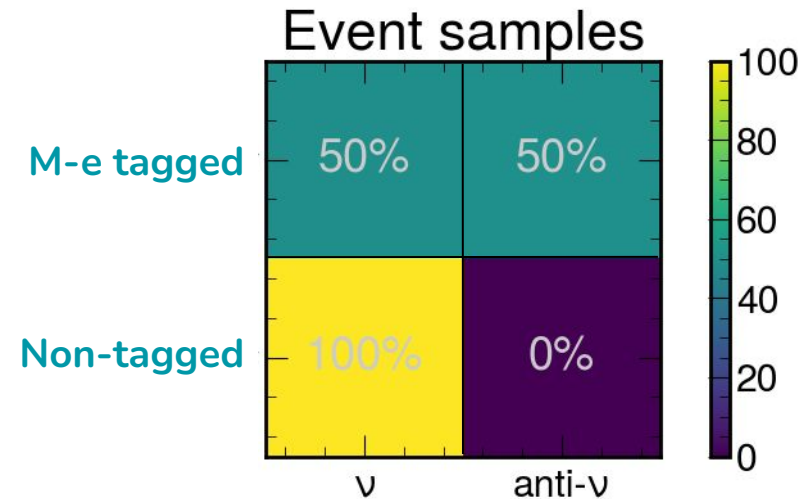
# Impact on sensitivity to Mass Ordering

**M-e** and **non-M-e** samples, tagged with Michel-e, using:

With  $\epsilon^t = 0.52$ , purity=1



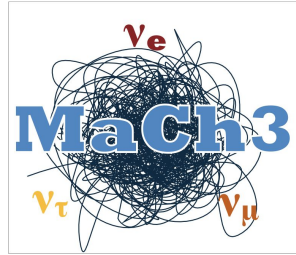
Perfect tagging:  $\epsilon^t = 1$ , purity=1



MO sensitivity increases because **non-Michel-e** sample is enriched in **neutrinos**

MaCh3 analysis framework:

- Oscillation analysis based on Markov Chain Monte-Carlo
- Get posterior distribution for oscillation parameters



Features of the fit:

- Input files: atmospheric neutrinos
- exposure: 400 kt yrs
- Not including systematics

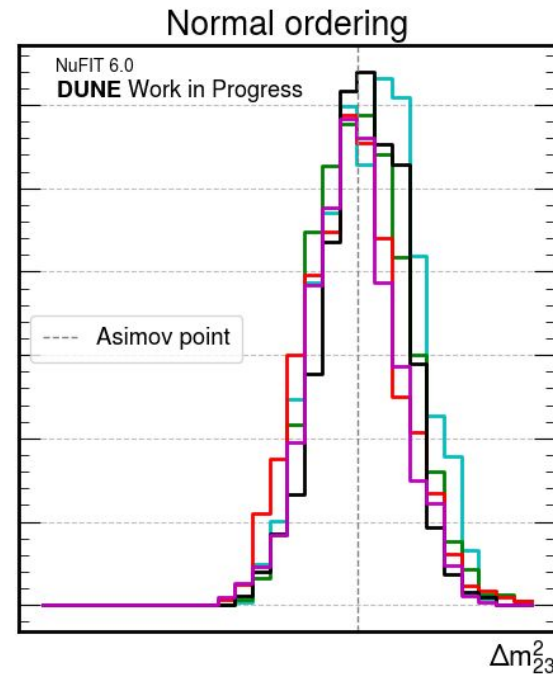
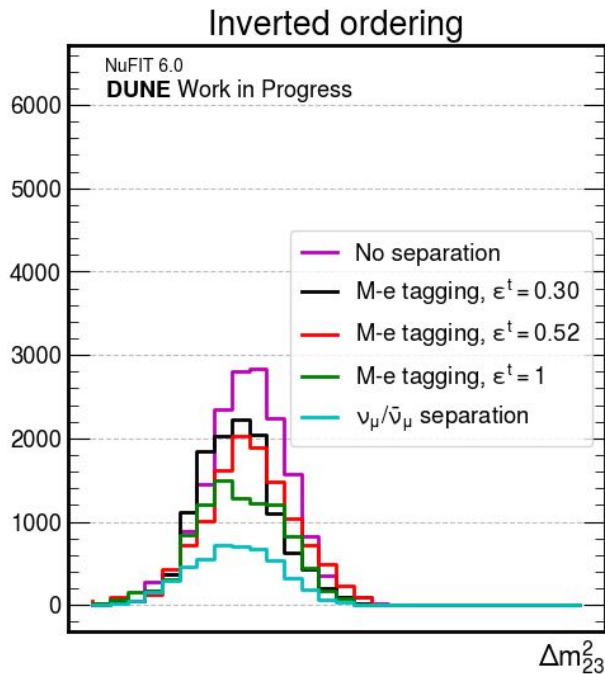
Taking in account  $(\nu_e + \bar{\nu}_e)$  sample +  $(\nu_\mu + \bar{\nu}_\mu)$  splitted in **5 ways**:

1. **No**  $\nu_\mu/\bar{\nu}_\mu$  separation
2. **Perfect**  $\nu_\mu/\bar{\nu}_\mu$  separation
3. Perfect M-e tagging  $\epsilon^t = 1$ , no backgrounds
4. M-e tagging  $\epsilon^t = 0.52$  + backgrounds
5. M-e tagging + realistic event selection  $\epsilon = 0.32$  + backgrounds

## Normal Ordering oscillation parameters

→ testing the ability to discard IO

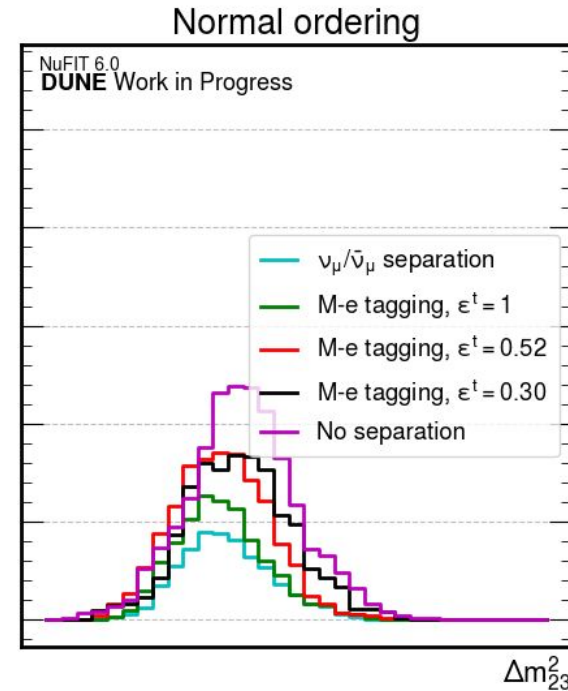
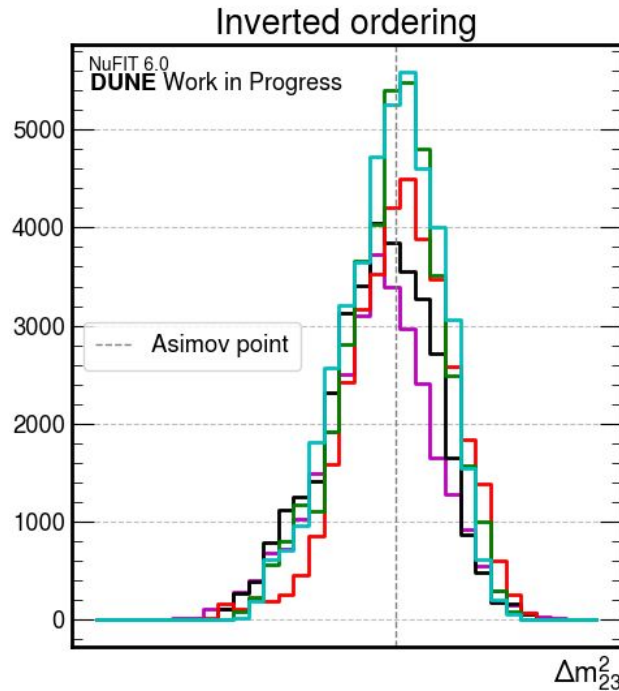
1. No  $\nu_\mu/\bar{\nu}_\mu$  separation
2. Perfect  $\nu_\mu/\bar{\nu}_\mu$  separation
3. M-e tagging  $\epsilon^t = 1.0$
4. M-e tagging  $\epsilon^t = 0.52$
5. M-e event sel.  $\epsilon = 0.30$



## Inverted Ordering oscillation parameters

→ testing the ability to discard NO

1. No  $\nu_\mu/\bar{\nu}_\mu$  separation
2. Perfect  $\nu_\mu/\bar{\nu}_\mu$  separation
3. M-e tagging  $\epsilon^t = 1.0$
4. M-e tagging  $\epsilon^t = 0.52$
5. M-e event sel.  $\epsilon = 0.30$



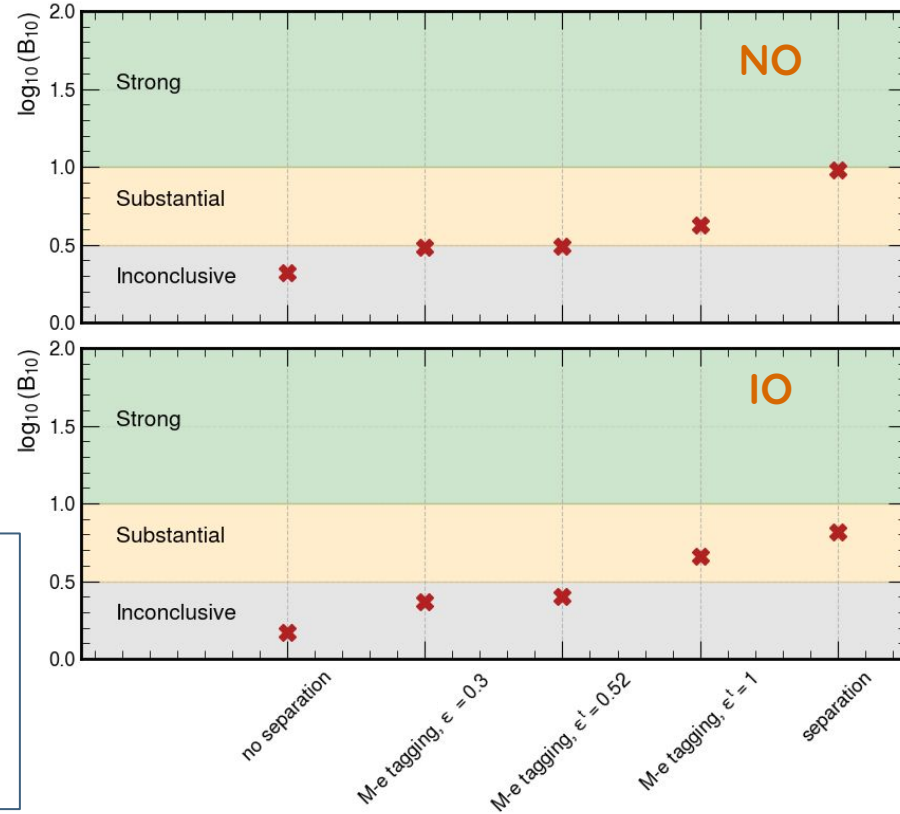
- Bayes factor ( $B_{10}$ )  $\rightarrow$  how much data favors  $H_1$  over  $H_0$

$$B_{10} = \frac{P(D|H_1)}{P(D|H_0)}$$

- M-e tagging method less sensitive to perfect separation but can make a decisive contribution
- There is still room for improvement in reconstruction and selection.

As a complementary study:

- Krittika** is evaluating M-e tagging's impact on MO using [fast-osc-feedback](#)



# ProtoDUNE HD data/MC comparison

- Goal: estimate uncertainty on efficiency
  - can be used as a systematic in the study of oscillation parameters
- Sample:
  - ProtoDUNE HD cosmic **data** from this [list](#)
  - Stopping muons from **Beam + Cosmics simulation**

ProtoDUNE-HD Good Cosmic Runs [\[edit\]](#)

Contact: Jake Calcutt

**TPC & DAPHNE @ 176kV & 7.8mV/fc** [\[edit\]](#)

118 Runs:

Run Number	Raw File Count	Trigger Primitive File Count
27979	5992	730
27980	16344	1996
27997	4440	590
28009	488	80
28011	552	90
28014	96	14
28016	7032	873
28024	1505	224

Generators: Beam + Cosmics

This includes the updated APA1 collection plane field response. However, due to an oversight, this includes on SCE-off simulation.

### 2025 MC Production Datasets

Beam Momentum	Metacat scope:dataset
-5 GeV	hd-protodune:hd-protodune__pdhd_mc_2025a__full-reconstructed__10_10_04d01__standard_reco_protodunehd_MC__pdhd_5GeV_h4input_cosmics__out1__-5GeV_v1_official
-1 GeV	hd-protodune:hd-protodune__pdhd_mc_2025a__full-reconstructed__10_10_04d01__standard_reco_protodunehd_MC__pdhd_1GeV_h4input_cosmics__out1__-1GeV_v1_official
5 GeV	hd-protodune:hd-protodune__pdhd_mc_2025a__full-reconstructed__10_10_04d01__standard_reco_protodunehd_MC__pdhd_5GeV_h4input_cosmics__out1__5GeV_v1_official
1 GeV	hd-protodune:hd-protodune__pdhd_mc_2025a__full-reconstructed__10_10_04d01__standard_reco_protodunehd_MC__pdhd_1GeV_h4input_cosmics__out1__1GeV_v1_official

- Sample of stopping muons
  - **Jérémy** has already done a great job on ProtoDUNE for this purpose
  - Two analyzers as a starting point (seems not many changes are needed)
- Selection on charge information
  - Apply my selection to tag Me events
  - Compare results respect the two samples
- Selection on light information
  - **Shu** is developing a study on Me light response
  - Idea is to combine my **charge selection** with his **light selection**

Cut	Efficiency (MC)	Efficiency (DATA)
$t_{1st} \in [120, 130]$	69574/74930 (92.9%)	7009/8284 (84.6%)
$\frac{I_{2nd}}{I_{1st}} \in [0.13, 0.4]$	37334/69574 (53.7%)	2334/7009 (33.3%)
$1.0 < I_{2nd}$	26085/37334 (69.9%)	1042/2334 (44.6%)
$(I_{2nd}, X)$	25658/26085 (98.4%)	955/1042 (91.7%)
$0.07 < r_{2nd}$	20691/25658 (80.6%)	660/955 (69.1%)
$\frac{I_{3rd}}{I_{2nd}} < 0.6$	17169/20691 (83.0%)	594/660 (90.0%)
$0.7 < (I_{2nd} - I_{3rd})$	15907/17169 (92.6%)	550/594 (92.6%)
$X > 30 \cup X < -100$	15004/15907 (94.3%)	502/550 (91.3%)
Total Efficiency	15004/71520 (21.0%)	502/7987 (6.3%)



## Summary:

- Michel-e tagging
  - Performed only on well-reconstructed  $\nu_{\mu}$  CC events (e=0.52)
  - With realistic selection on atm production, incl. backgrounds (e=0.32)
- Performed first study with **MaCh3** considering **M-e event selection and tagging**
  - M-e tagging significantly **improves the rejection** of the wrong mass ordering

## Ongoing:

- Test the Michel-e selection on **ProtoDUNE HD cosmic data vs MC**
  - In this moment -> testing modules on data
  - Combined different studies

**Thank you!**