

# New NOvA Results with 10 Years of Data

Jeremy Wolcott  
Tufts University

for the NOvA Collaboration



*But*  
FIRST

# Recent NOvA -T2K Joint Fit Results

Jeremy Wolcott  
Tufts University


for the NOvA & T2K  
Collaborations



# NOvA and T2K are complementary

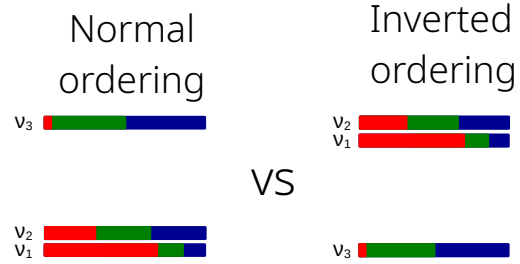
Interested in same PMNS physics...

①



Is  $\theta_{23} = 45^\circ$ ?  
Do  $\nu_\mu/\nu_\tau$  mix equally into  $\nu_3$ ?

Normal ordering      Inverted ordering



VS

Which way are the neutrino mass states ordered?

②

③

APS/Carin Cain



$\Delta P_{\nu\bar{\nu}} \propto \sin \delta_{CP}$

Do neutrinos exhibit CP violation?

... but explore with different experimental considerations

[NOvA & T2K are complementary]

# NOvA and T2K are complementary

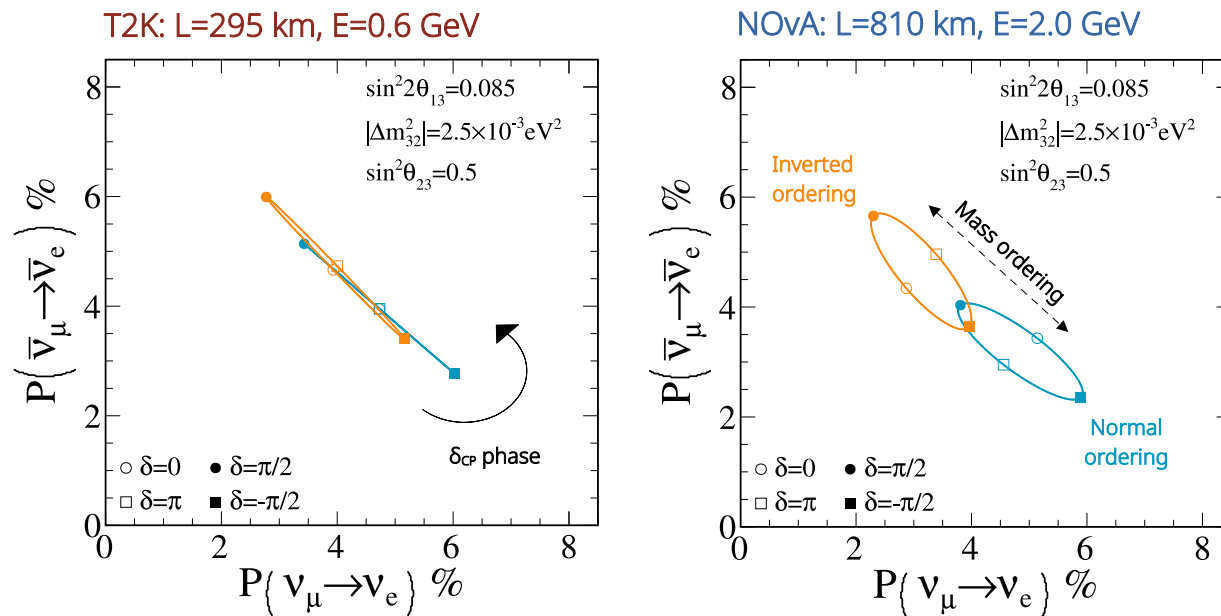
Compared to T2K\*, NOvA has **Higher  $E_\nu$**

\* See [previous talk](#) for more on T2K

# NOvA and T2K are complementary

Compared to T2K\*, NOvA has **Higher  $E_\nu$**   
(and a corresponding longer baseline)

## Larger matter effects



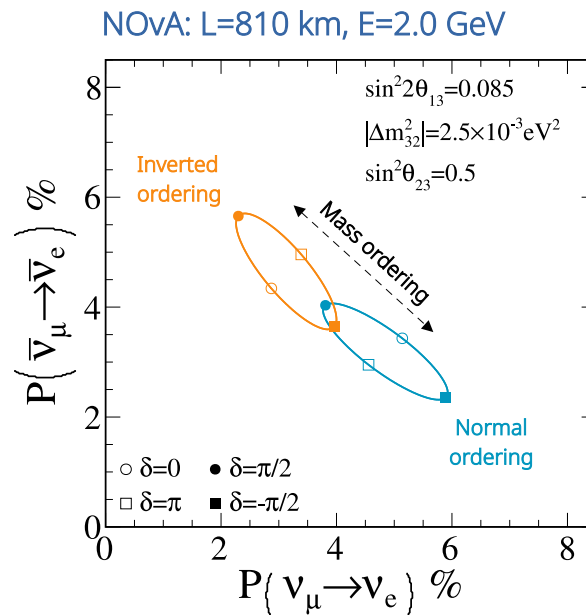
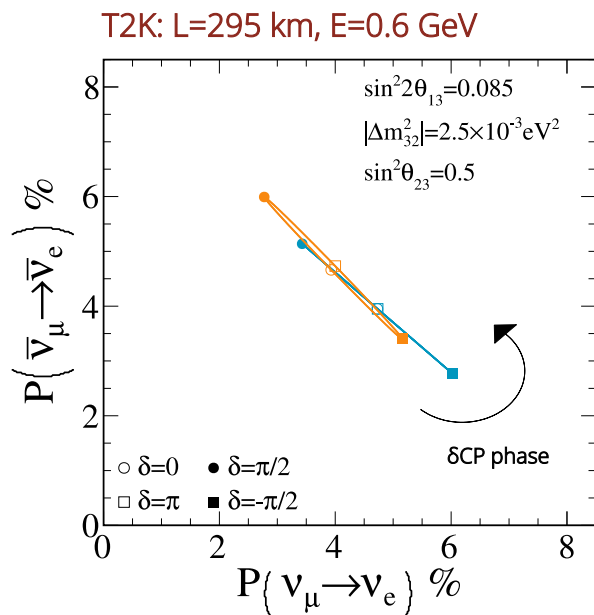
Stronger mass ordering sensitivity;  
more  $\delta_{CP}$  degeneracy

\* See [previous talk](#) for more on T2K

# NOvA and T2K are complementary

Compared to T2K\*, NOvA has **Higher  $E_\nu$**

## Larger matter effects



Stronger mass ordering sensitivity;  
more  $\delta_{CP}$  degeneracy

## Also...

- More antineutrinos
- More final-state pions

(see overflow slides)

\* See [previous talk](#) for more on T2K

# NOvA and T2K are complementary

Compared to T2K\*, NOvA uses  
**a different experimental approach**

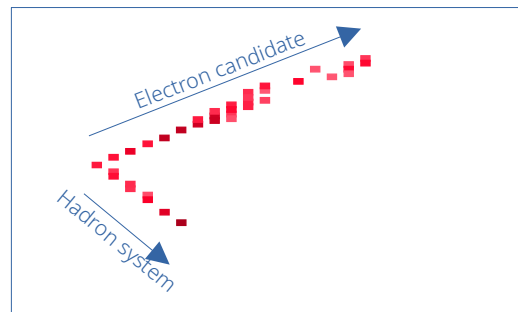
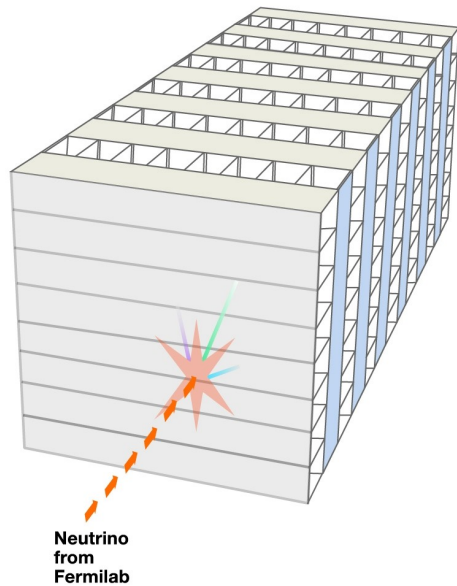
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# NOvA and T2K are complementary

Compared to T2K\*, NOvA uses  
**a different experimental approach**

NOvA

active scintillator calorimeters



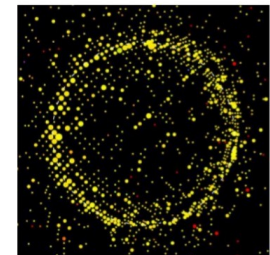
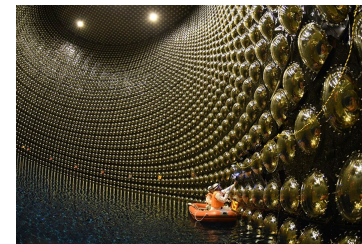
see significant energy from both  
lepton and hadron systems:  
"calorimetric"  $E_\nu$  reconstruction

**& functionally equivalent detectors**

shared uncertainties mostly cancel

T2K

water Cherenkov FD



$\nu_e$ -like

see only lepton energy:  
"kinematic"  $E_\nu$  reconstruction

**Hybrid gas TPC &  
scintillator tracker ND**

ND+FD shared uncertainties explicitly  
fitted & constrained via model

\* See [previous talk](#) for more on T2K

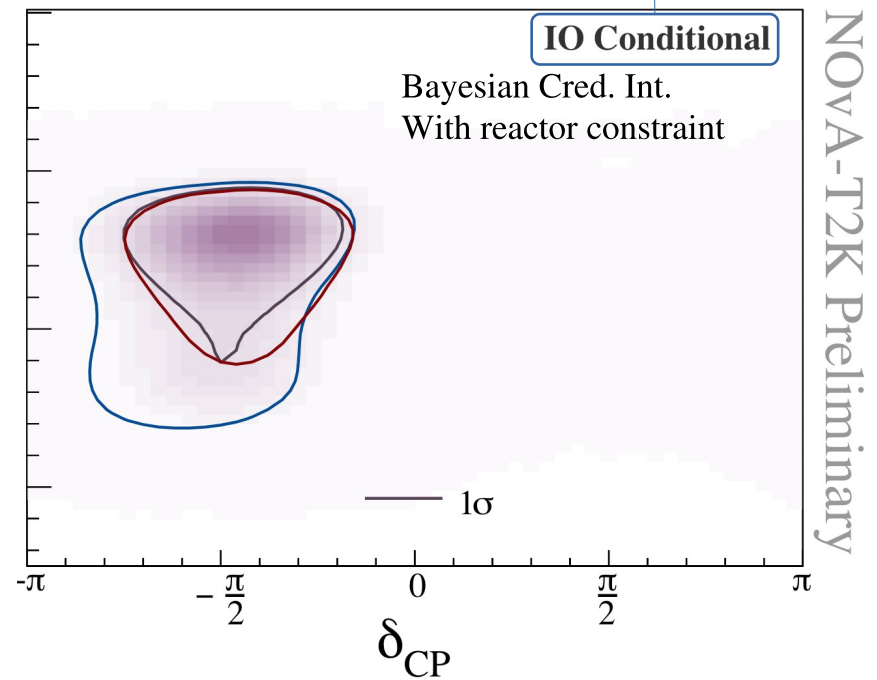
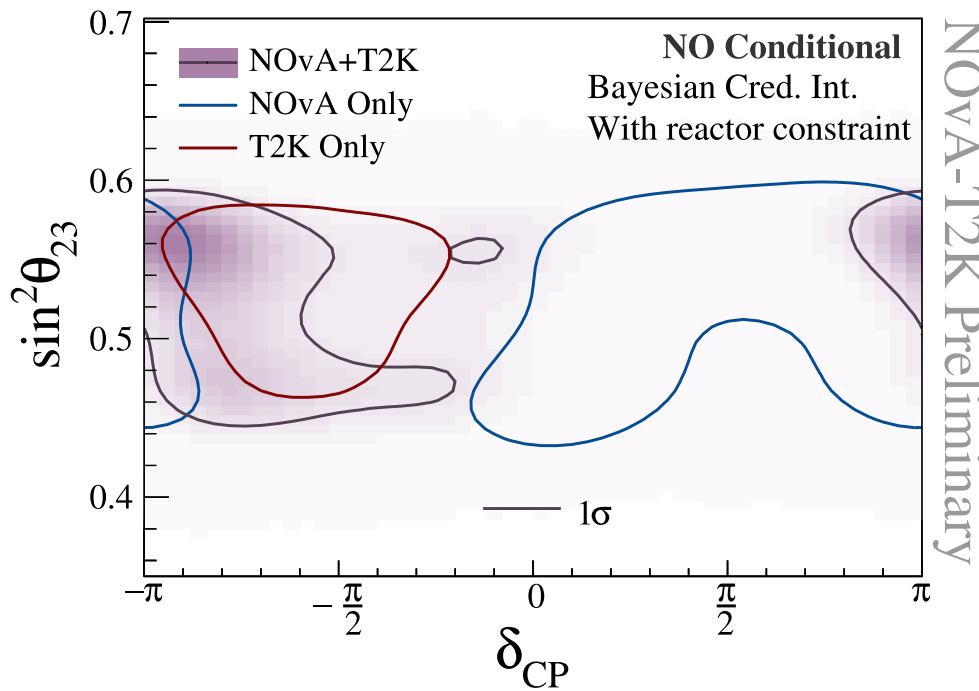


# NOvA-T2K joint fit: PMNS parameters

NOvA only: [Phys. Rev. D106, 032004 \(2022\)](#)

T2K only: [Eur. Phys. J. C83, 782 \(2023\)](#)

“assuming IO is true”  
(does not include relative probability of IO vs. NO)

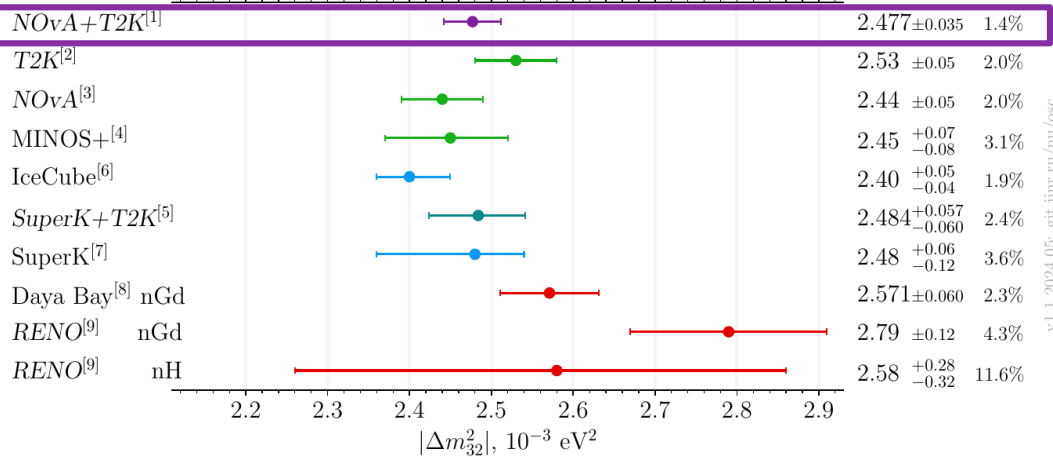


Joint fit splits the difference b/w NOvA-only & T2K-only in NO;  
improves constraint in IO

# NOvA-T2K joint fit: takeaways

Advancing the precision frontier on  $|\Delta m^2_{32}|$   
 <2% measurement!

Inverted mass ordering



v1.1 2024.05. git:jhar.ru/nu/osc

[1] KEK IPNS seminar, FNAL JETP seminar

[5] arXiv:2405.12488

[9] RENO @ Neutrino 2020 [10.5281/zenodo.3959697]

[2] Eur. Phys. J. C83, 782 (2023)

[6] arXiv:2405.02163

[3] Phys. Rev. D106, 032004 (2022)

[7] Phys. Rev. D109, 072014 (2024)

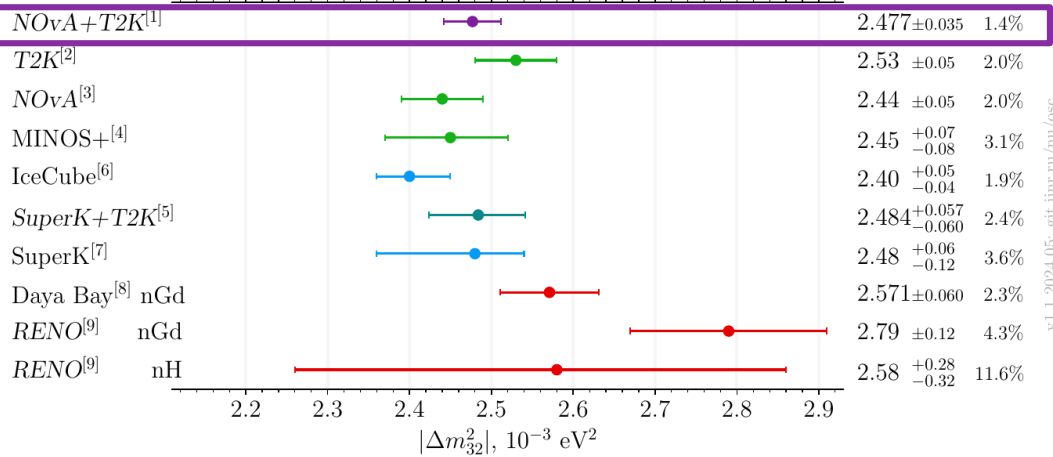
[4] Phys. Rev. Lett. 125, 131802 (2020)

[8] Phys. Rev. Lett. 130, 161802 (2023)

# NOvA-T2K joint fit: takeaways

Advancing the precision frontier on  $|\Delta m_{32}^2|$   
 <2% measurement!

Inverted mass ordering



v1.1 2024.05; git:jhar.ru/nu/osc

Mild preference for Inverted Ordering  
 but influenced by  $\theta_{13}$  constraint

NOvA+T2K only	NOvA+T2K + 1D $\theta_{13}$	NOvA+T2K + 2D ( $\theta_{13}, \Delta m_{32}^2$ )
IO (71%)	IO (57%)	NO (59%)

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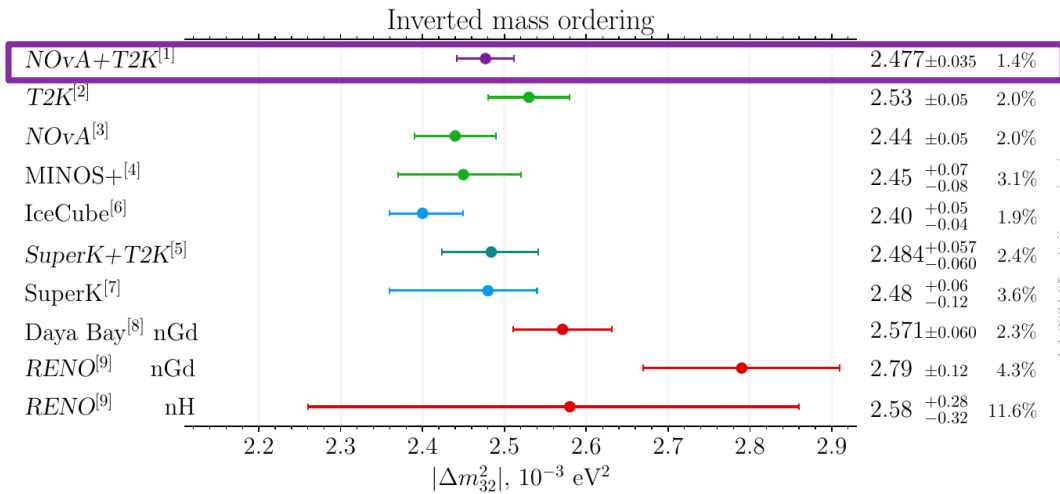
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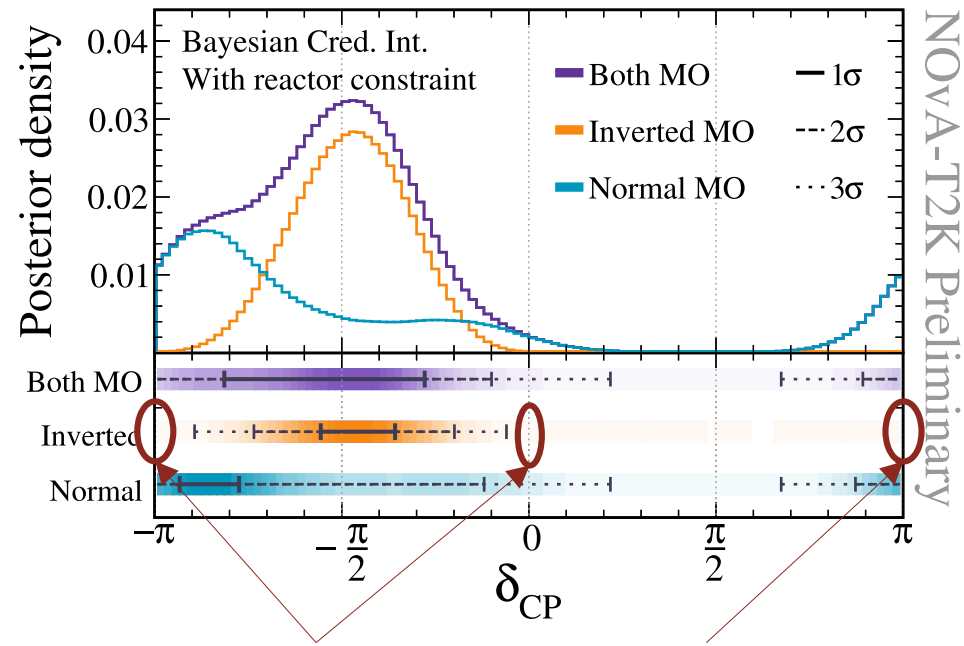
# NOvA-T2K joint fit: takeaways

Advancing the precision frontier on  $|\Delta m_{32}^2|$   
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IO (71%)	IO (57%)	NO (59%)



CP-conserving points are *outside*  
 3σ intervals in IO  
 Expect CPV if ordering is inverted

[1] KEK IPNS seminar, FNAL JETP seminar

[5] arXiv:2405.12488

[9] RENO @ Neutrino 2020 [10.5281/zenodo.3959697]

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[8] Phys. Rev. Lett. 130, 161802 (2023)

# NOvA+T2K summary & outlook

- NOvA & T2K's **first joint results**:
  - Yield **strong constraint on  $\Delta m^2_{32}$**
  - Weakly prefer IO or NO depending on which reactor constraint is applied
  - **Strongly favor CP violation in Inverted Ordering**
- Collaborations in active discussion about **joint fit next steps**

POSTER | 463. Results from the Joint NOvA-T2K Analysis  
Kathryn Sutton (Caltech)  
6/18/24, 5:30 PM

**[more detail also available in Feb. 16, 2024 results seminars]**

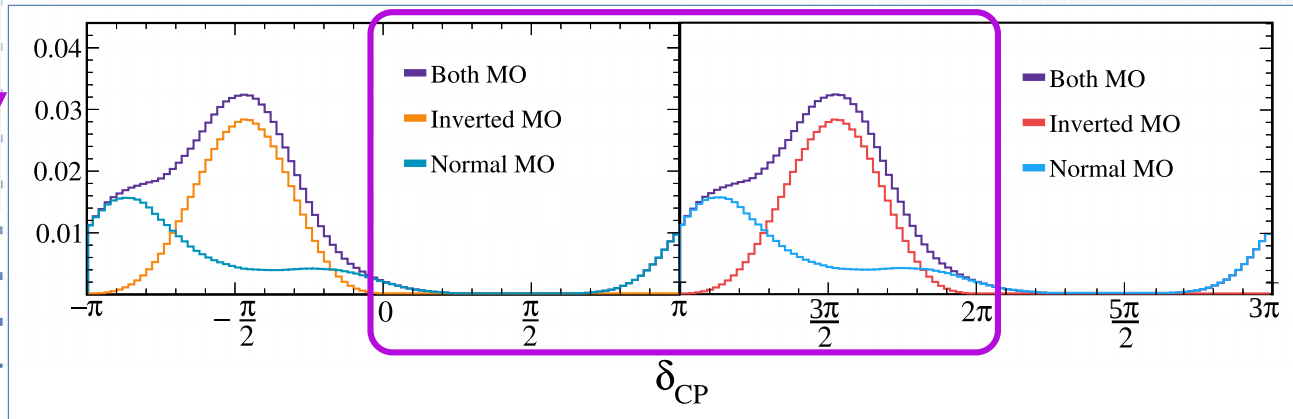
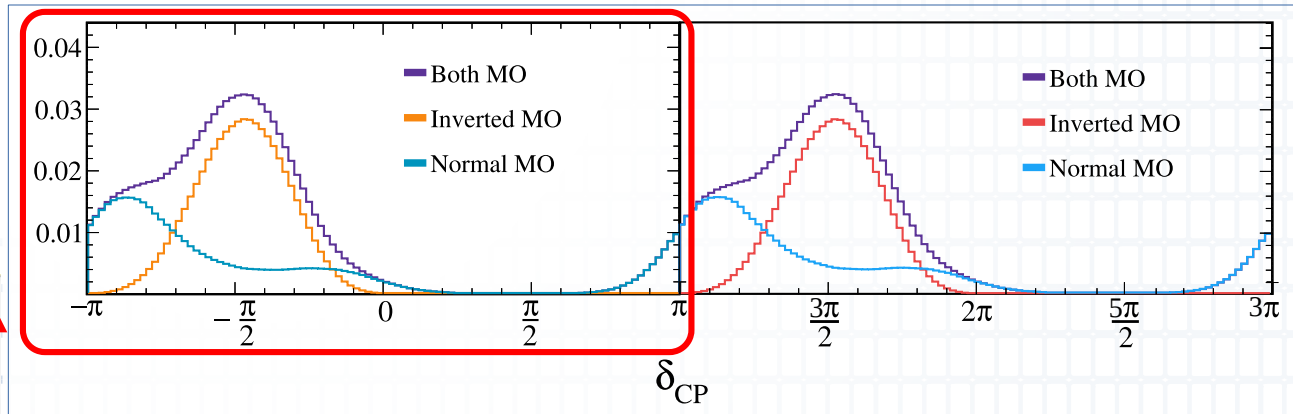
Edward Atkin, KEK IPNS seminar

Zoya Vallari, FNAL JETP seminar

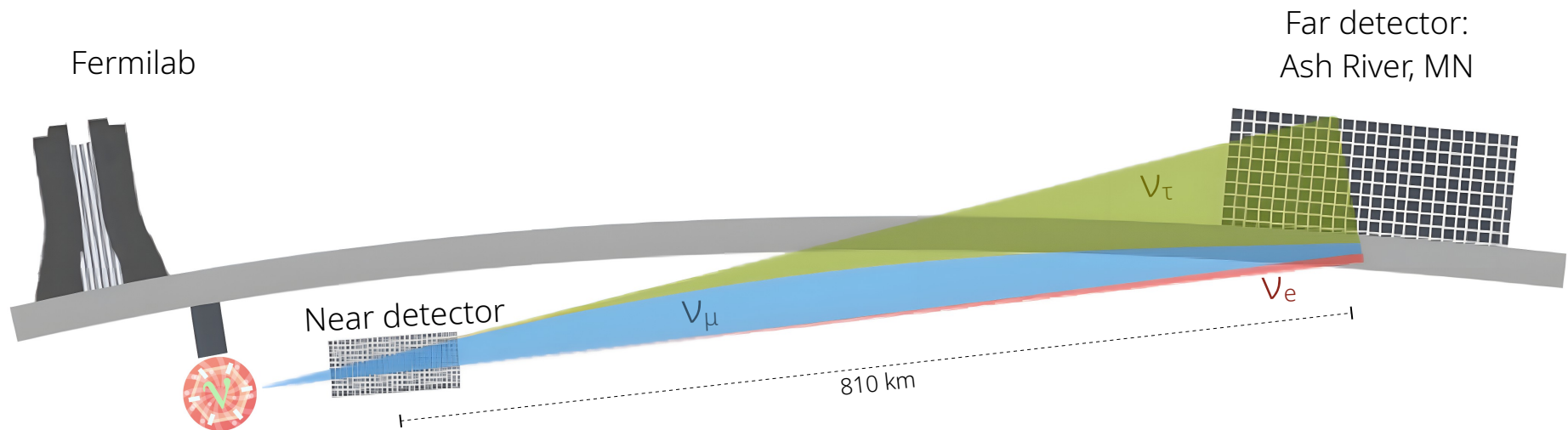
# New NOvA Results

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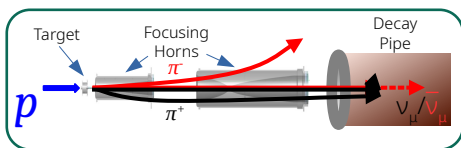
<b>T2K experiment status and plans</b>	<i>Claudio Giganti</i>
Milano	11:10 - 11:35
<b>Recent NOvA-T2K Joint Fit Results</b>	
<b>New neutrino oscillation results from NOvA with 10 years of data</b>	
<i>Jeremy Wolcott</i>	
<b>3 nu current global analysis</b>	<i>Mariam Tórtola</i>
Milano	12:00 - 12:30



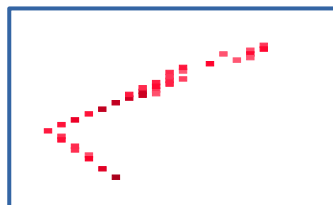
# Anatomy of NOvA measurement



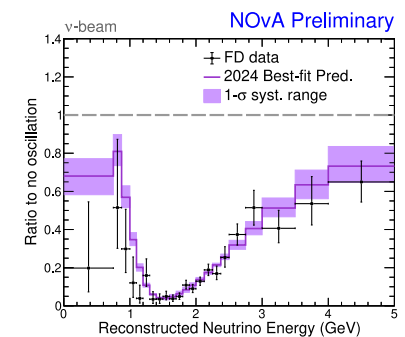
1. Make a beam of  $\nu_\mu$



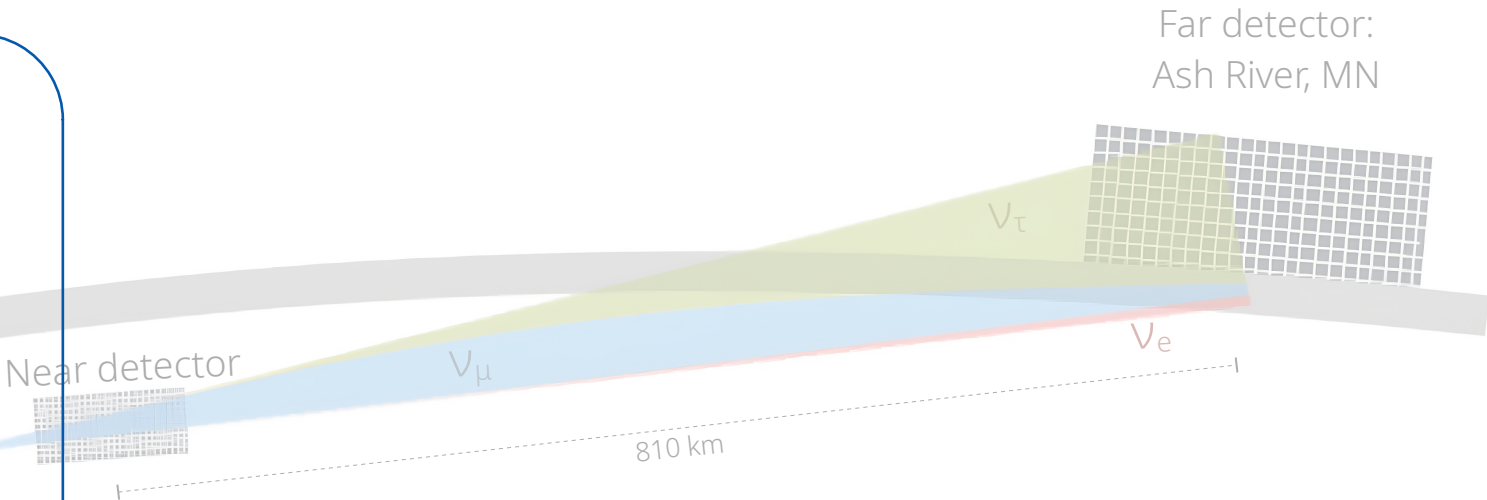
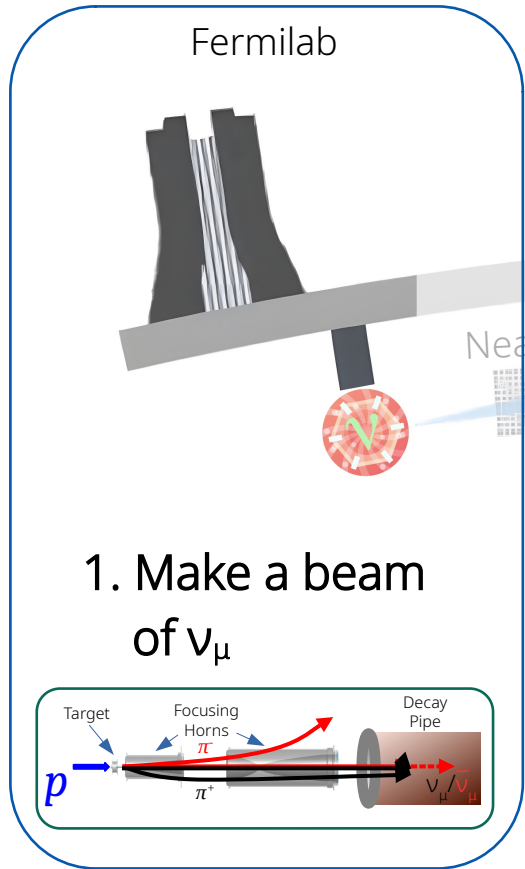
2. Select  $\nu_\mu$  and  $\nu_e$  candidates at both detectors



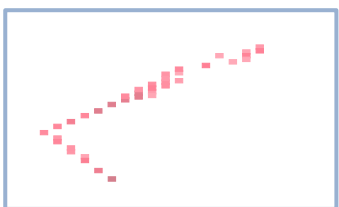
3. Interpret  $E_\nu$  distributions



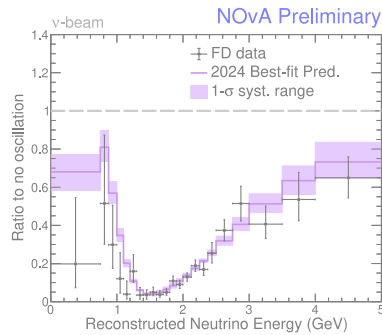




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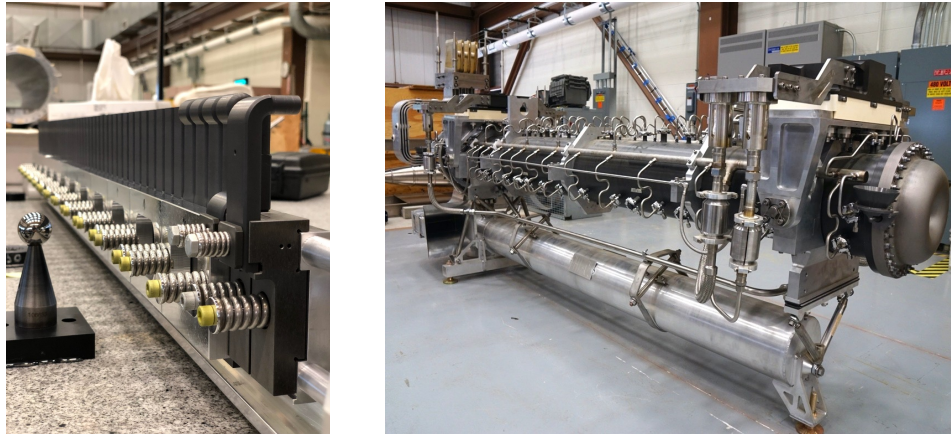


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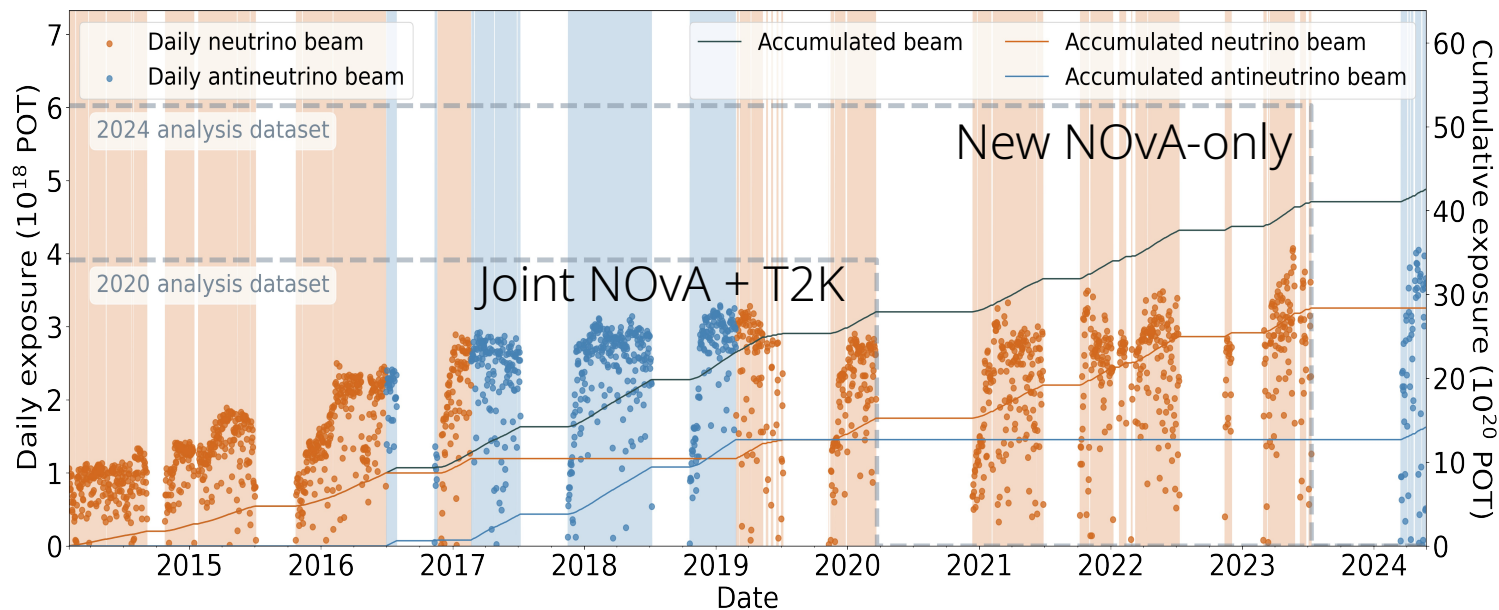
# The NuMI neutrino beam

MW capable target, horn installed in 2019-2020



## Approaching megawatt beam!

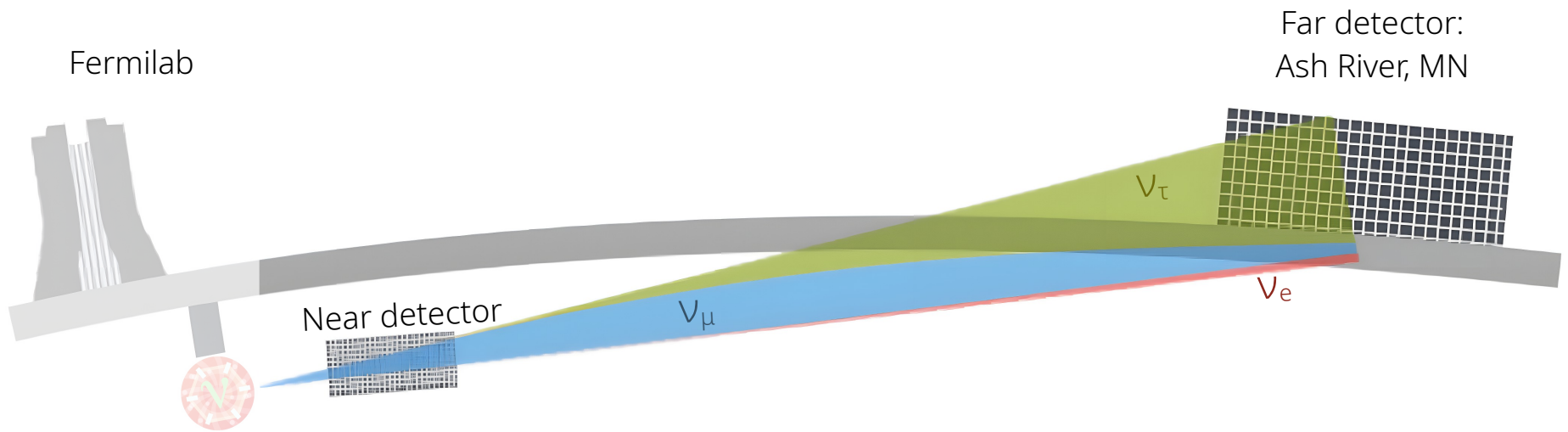
- Typically ~900 kW
- Record 959 kW



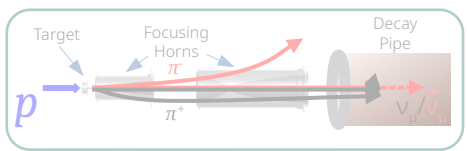
**2014-2023:**  
10 years of beam  
to NOvA!

**This analysis:**  
**+96% neutrino  
beam**

$\nu$ :  $26.61 \times 10^{20}$  POT  
 $\bar{\nu}$ :  $12.50 \times 10^{20}$  POT

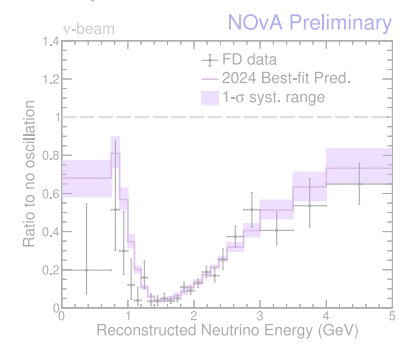


1. Make a beam of  $\nu_\mu$

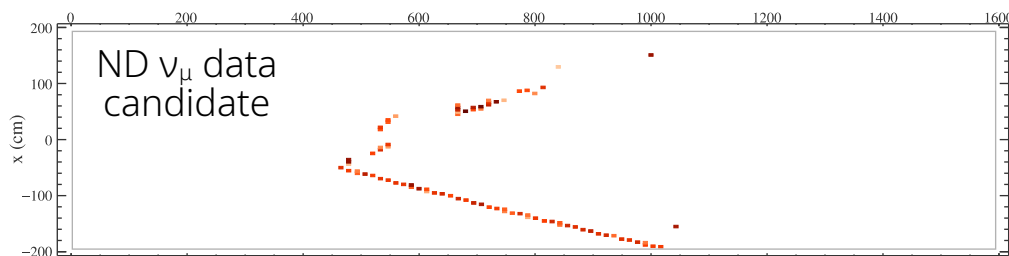


2. Select  $\nu_\mu$  and  $\nu_e$  candidates at both detectors

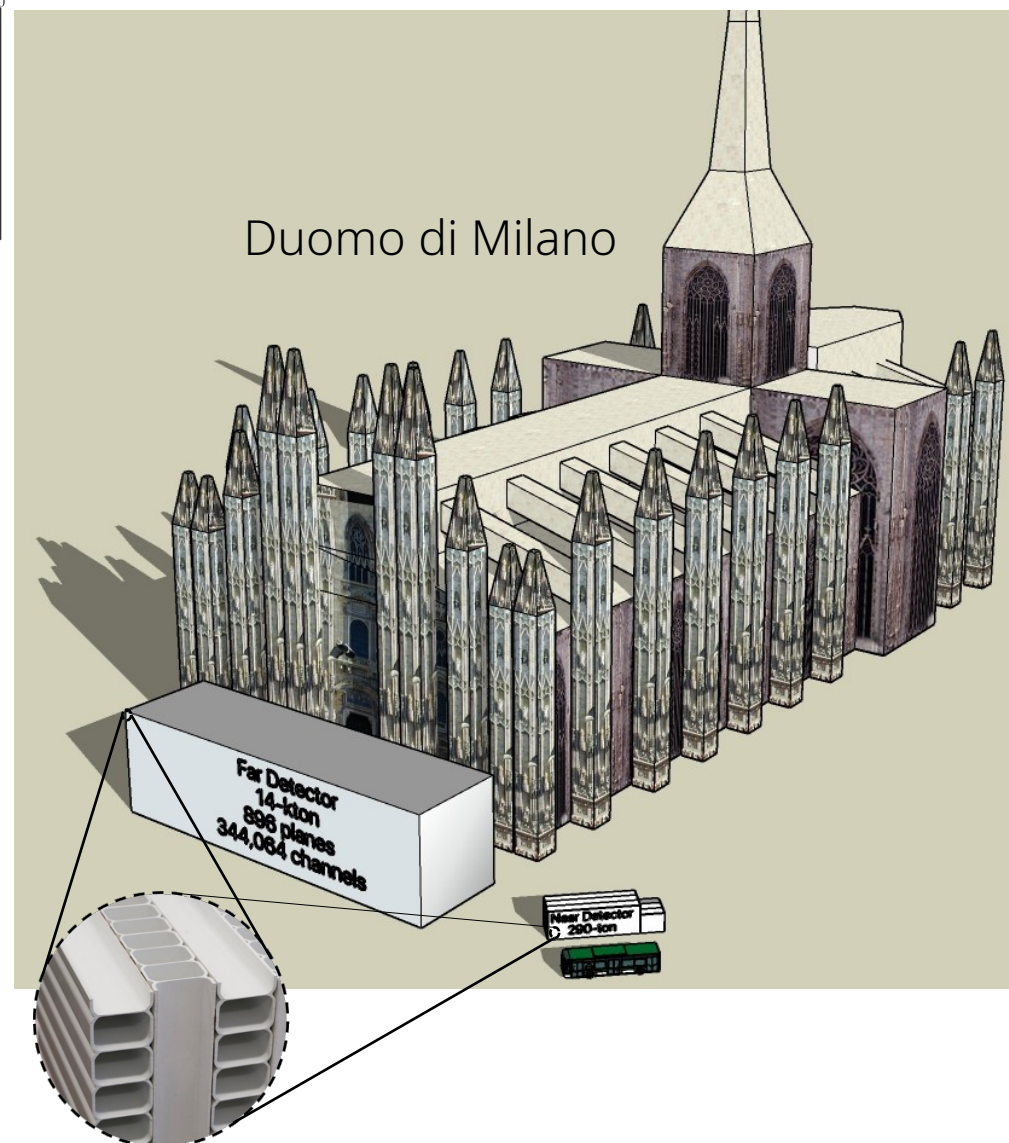
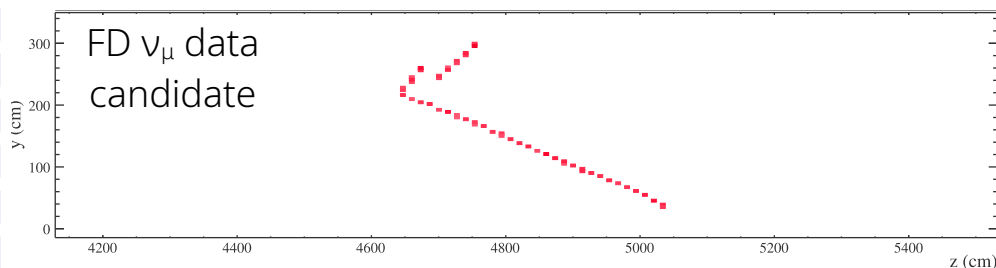
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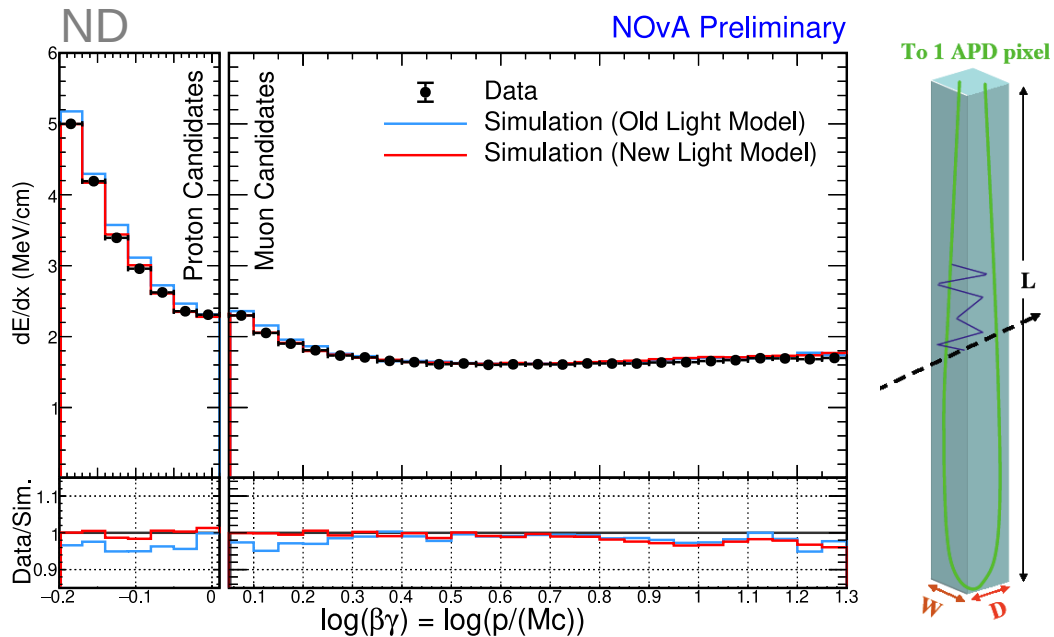
# The NOvA detectors



- ND & FD are segmented liquid scintillator detectors
  - $4 \times 6 \text{ cm}^2$  PVC cells  $\rightarrow$  few-cm spatial resolution
  - $\sim 6$  samples / rad. length  $\rightarrow$  EM showers
  - $\sim 60\%$  active
  - Time resolution of  $\sim$ few ns
- Detectors differ mainly in size:
  - ND: 290 tons,  $\sim 4 \times 4 \text{ m}^2 \times 16 \text{ m}$
  - FD: 14,000 tons,  $\sim 16 \times 16 \text{ m}^2 \times 60 \text{ m}$



# NOvA detector characterization

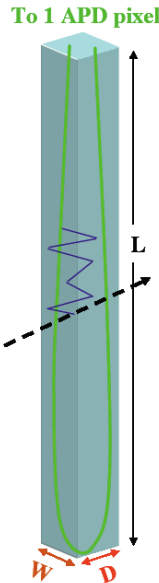
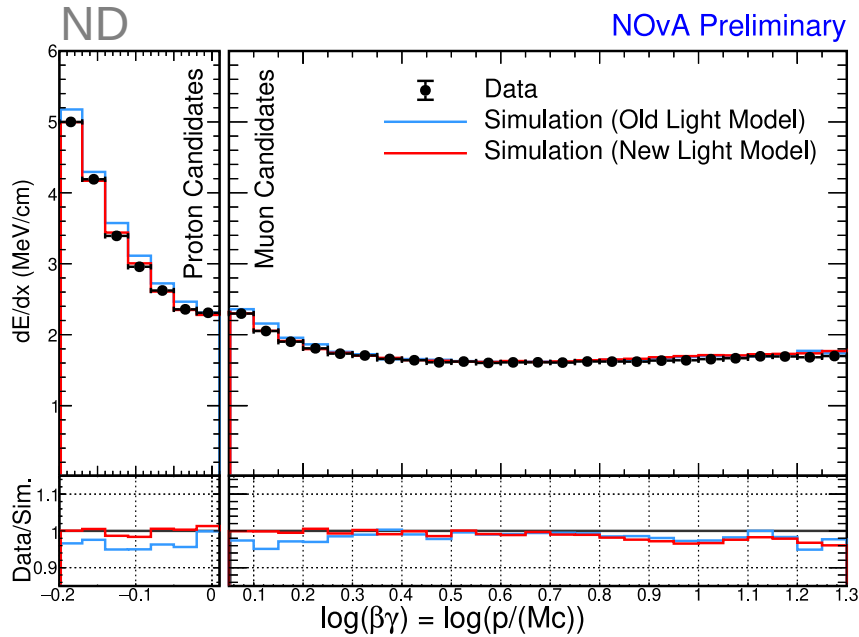


## Improved light production model

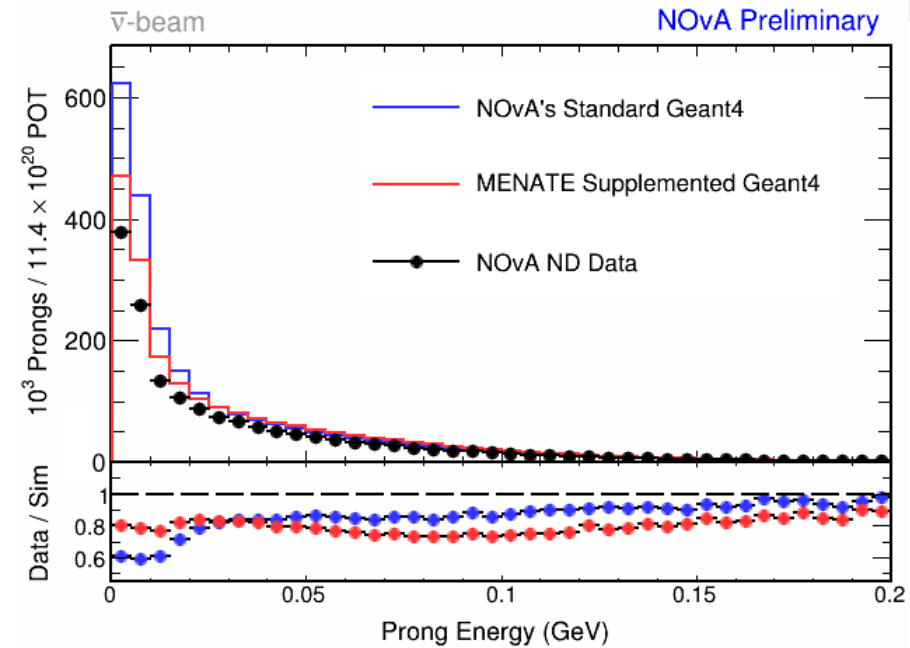
(Cherenkov & scintillation)

in both detectors, from dedicated bench  
measurements & *in situ*  
stopping muon and proton tracks

# NOvA detector characterization



## Improved $n\text{-}^{12}\text{C}$ inelastic scattering model



Improved light production model  
(Cherenkov & scintillation)  
in both detectors, from dedicated bench  
measurements & *in situ*  
stopping muon and proton tracks

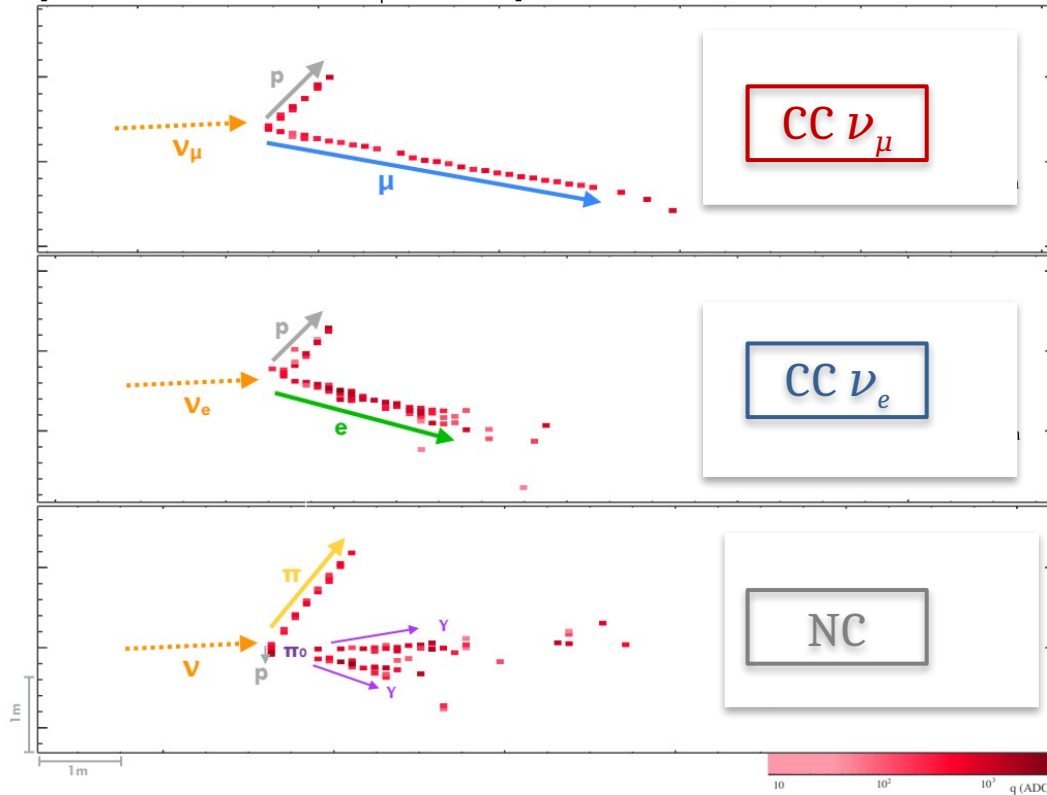
Difference between  
MENATE\_R\* and default Geant4.10.4  
informs systematic uncertainty

POSTER 403. Medium Energy Neutron Detector Response in NOvA  
Andrew Sutton (Florida State Univer..., Miranda Rabelhofer  
6/18/24, 5:30 PM

\* P. Désesquelles, et al., *NIM A307* 366-373 (1991), Z. Kohley, et al., *NIM A682* 59-65 (2012)

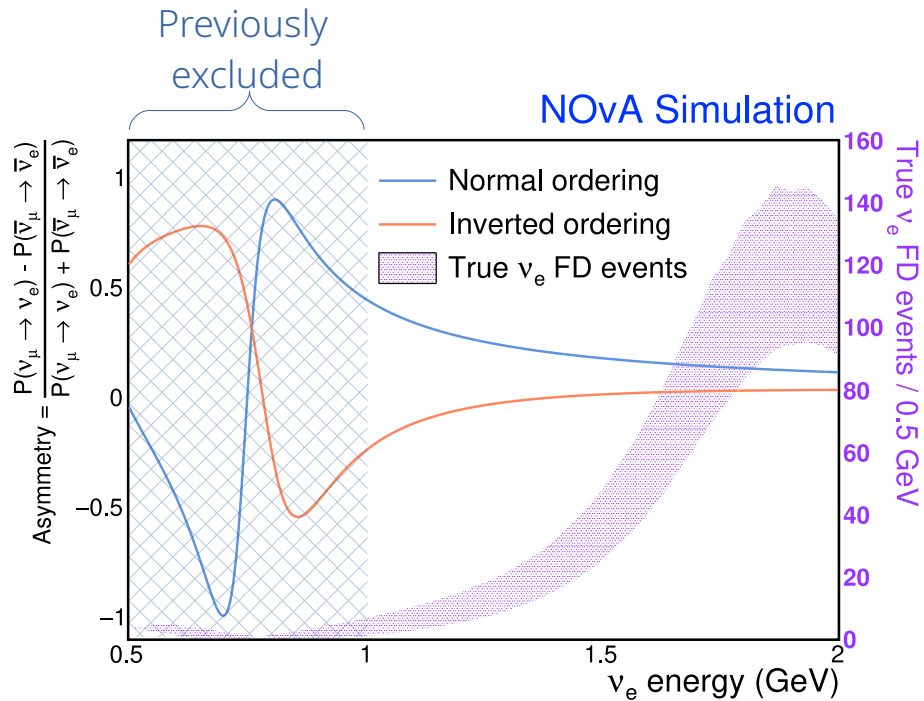
# Selecting $\nu_\mu$ and $\nu_e$ candidates

[Data events with candidate particle IDs]

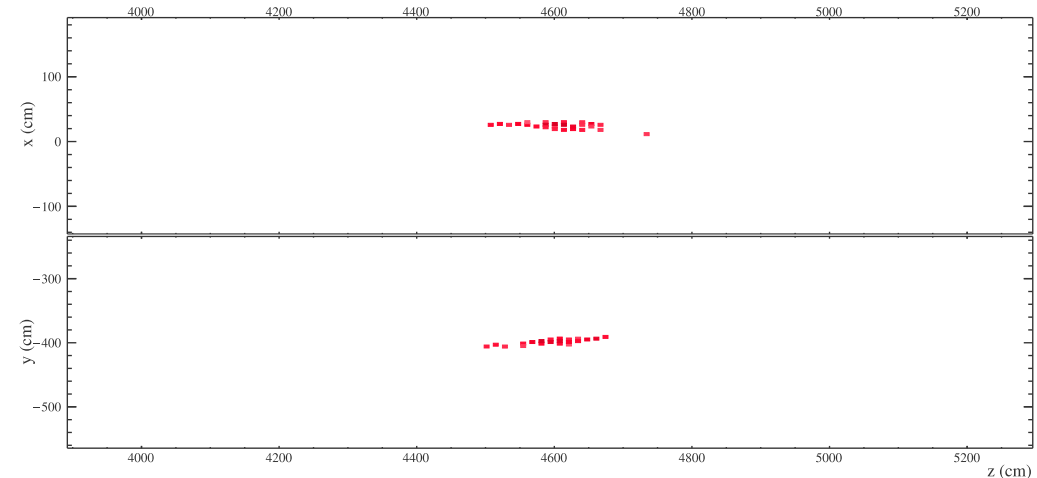


- Make heavy use of **convolutional neural networks (CNNs)**
  - Cosmic rejection in FD
  - Neutrino interaction flavor ID
  - Particle PID
- **Performance is good;** only minor updates in 2024
- **Supplement with other classifiers** as needed
  - BDTs for cosmic rejection, selection of uncontained  $\nu_e$ s

# Expanding $\nu_e$ selection



Designed new selection  
to retain lower-E  $\nu_e$  candidates



(uses BDT to reject backgrounds)

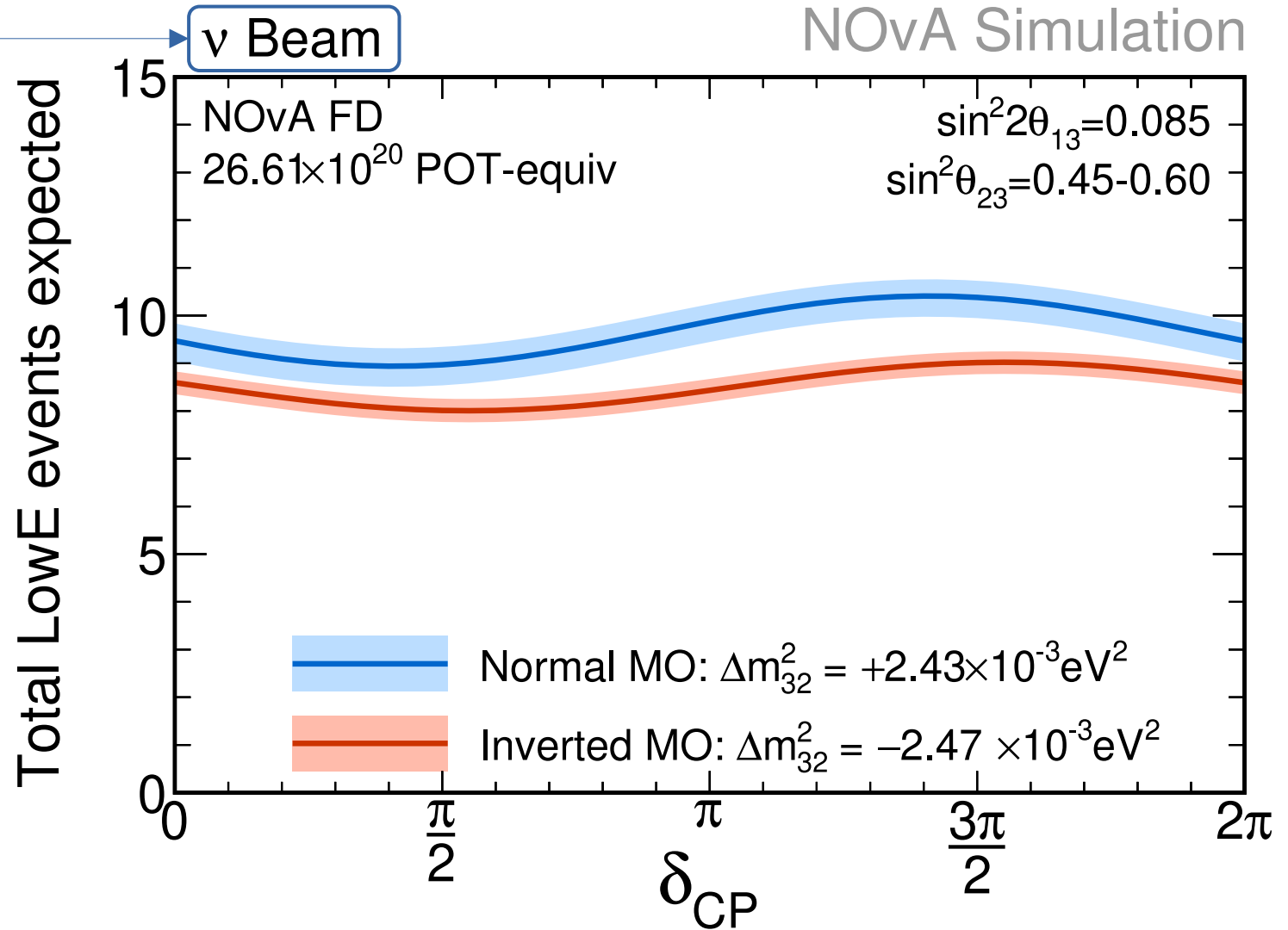
Maximum ordering sensitivity from  
 $\nu_e$ - $\bar{\nu}_e$  asymmetry at lower  $E_\nu$   
(previous analysis had a cut  
reco.  $E_\nu \geq 1$  GeV)



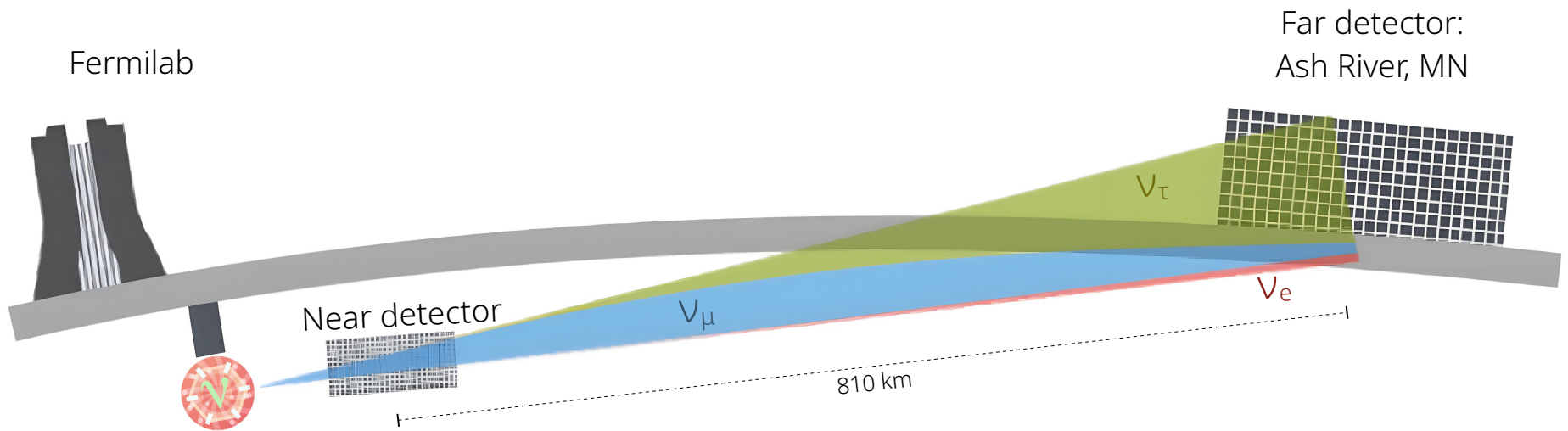
# Expanding $\nu_e$ selection

NOvA Simulation

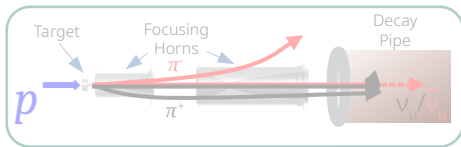
For now,  $\nu$  only  
(Analogous  $\bar{\nu}$  sample  
currently too small,  
but future exposure gains  
will improve sensitivity to  
asymmetry)



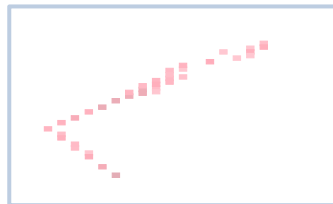
Increases mass ordering sensitivity by ~few %  
(depends on oscillation parameters)



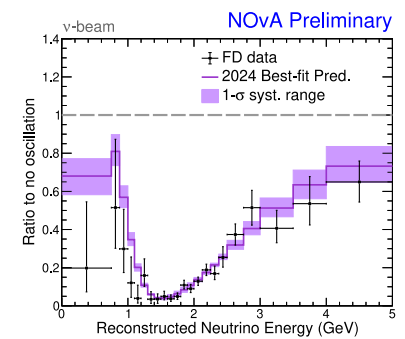
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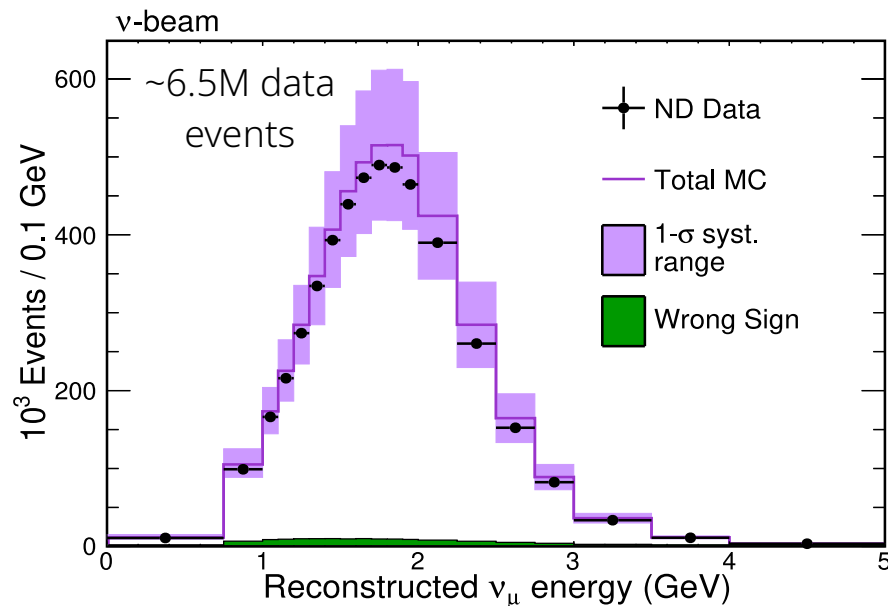


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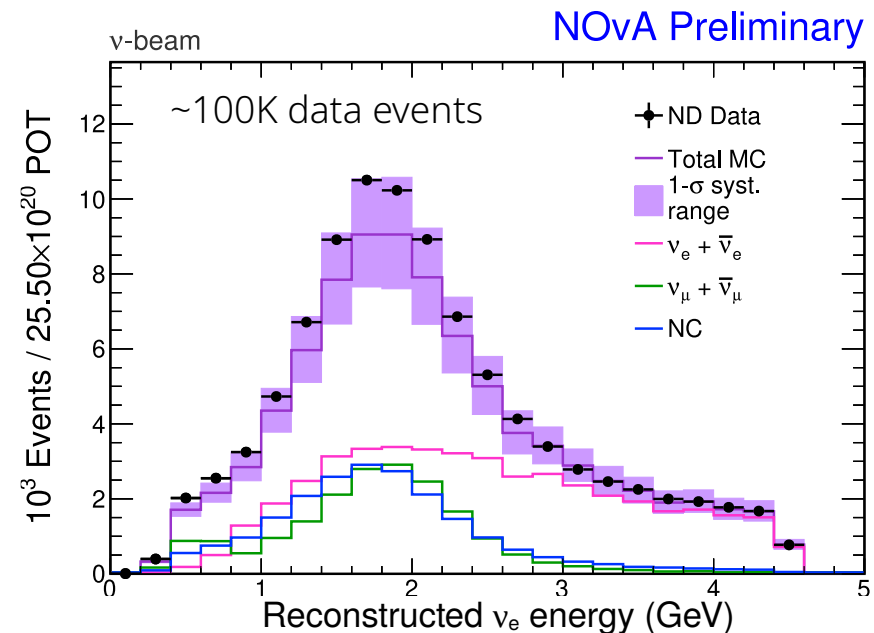
# Near detector observations

ND spectra reflect *unoscillated* beam



$\nu_\mu$  candidates

correspond to FD  $\nu_\mu$  *and*  $\nu_e$  signal



$\nu_e$  candidates

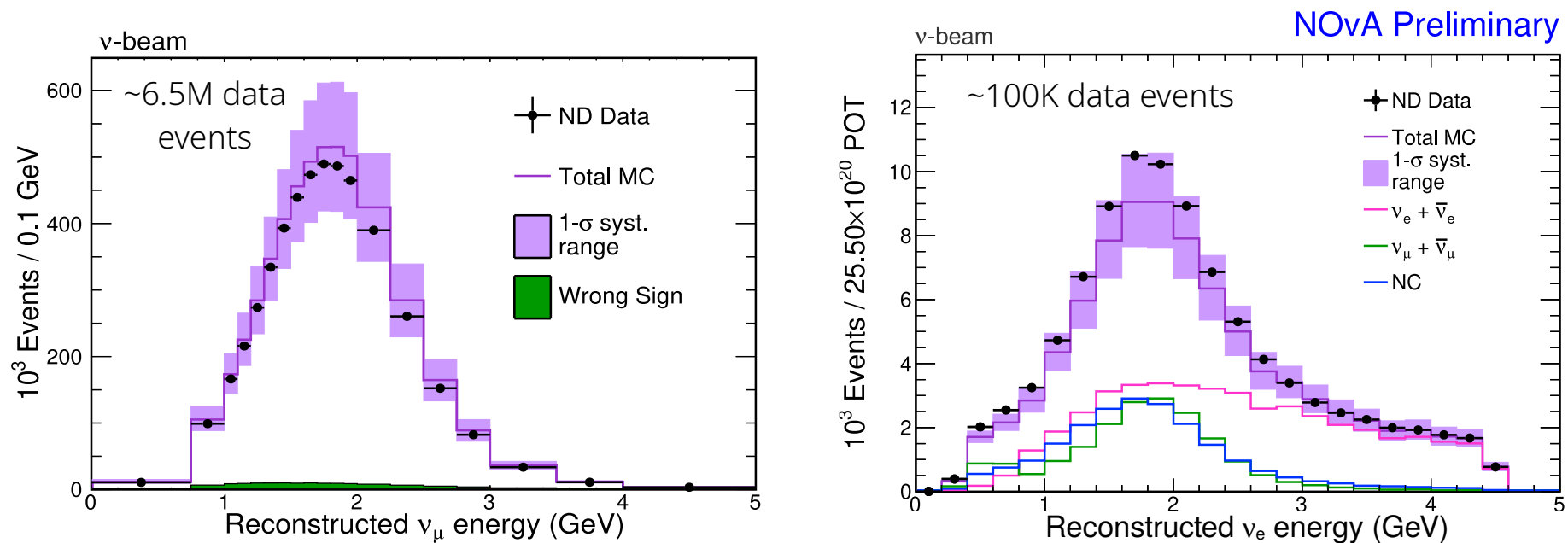
correspond to FD  $\nu_e$  backgrounds

Dominated by beam  $\nu_e$  (irreducible):

$\sim 50\%$  for  $\nu$ ,  $\sim 70\%$  for  $\bar{\nu}$

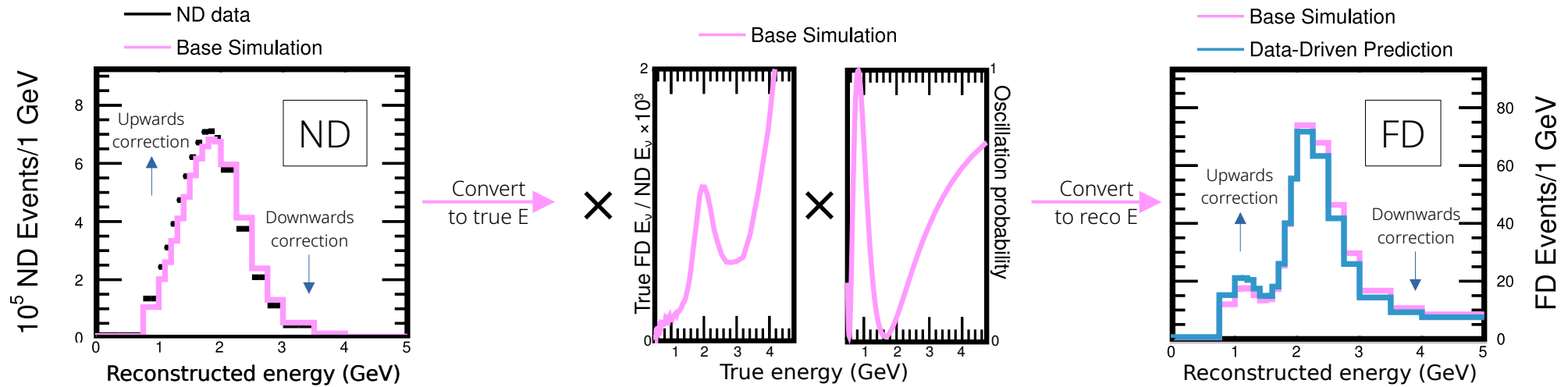
# Near detector observations

Uncertainties on single-detector measurements are large...



... but ND data forms basis for model correction & constraint

# Constraining predictions

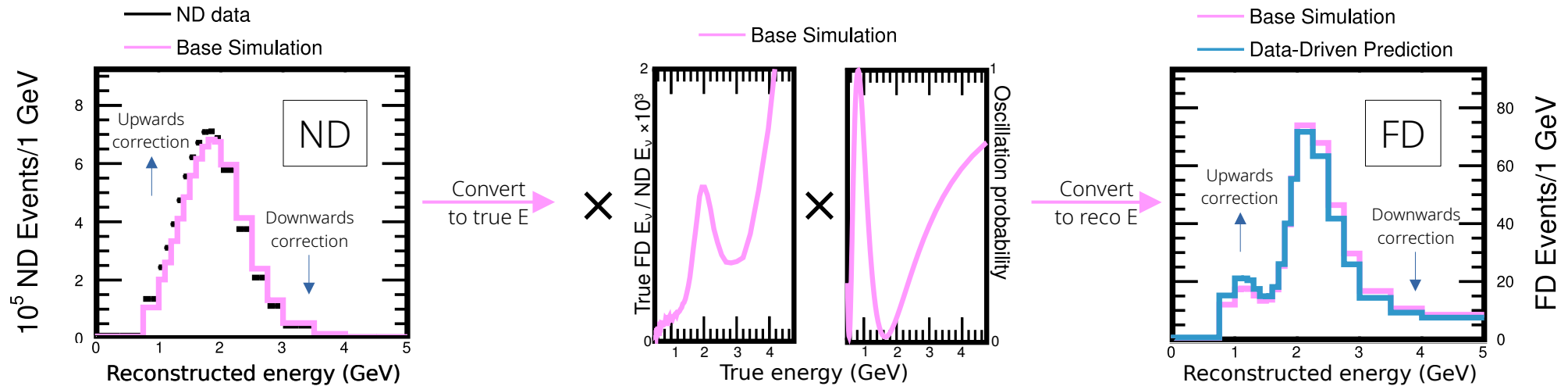


Correcting ND simulation to agree with data in reco  $E_\nu$ ...

... via Far/Near transformation that comprises well understood effects (beam divergence, detector acceptance) + oscillations

... results in constrained FD  $E_\nu$  prediction highly correlated with ND correction

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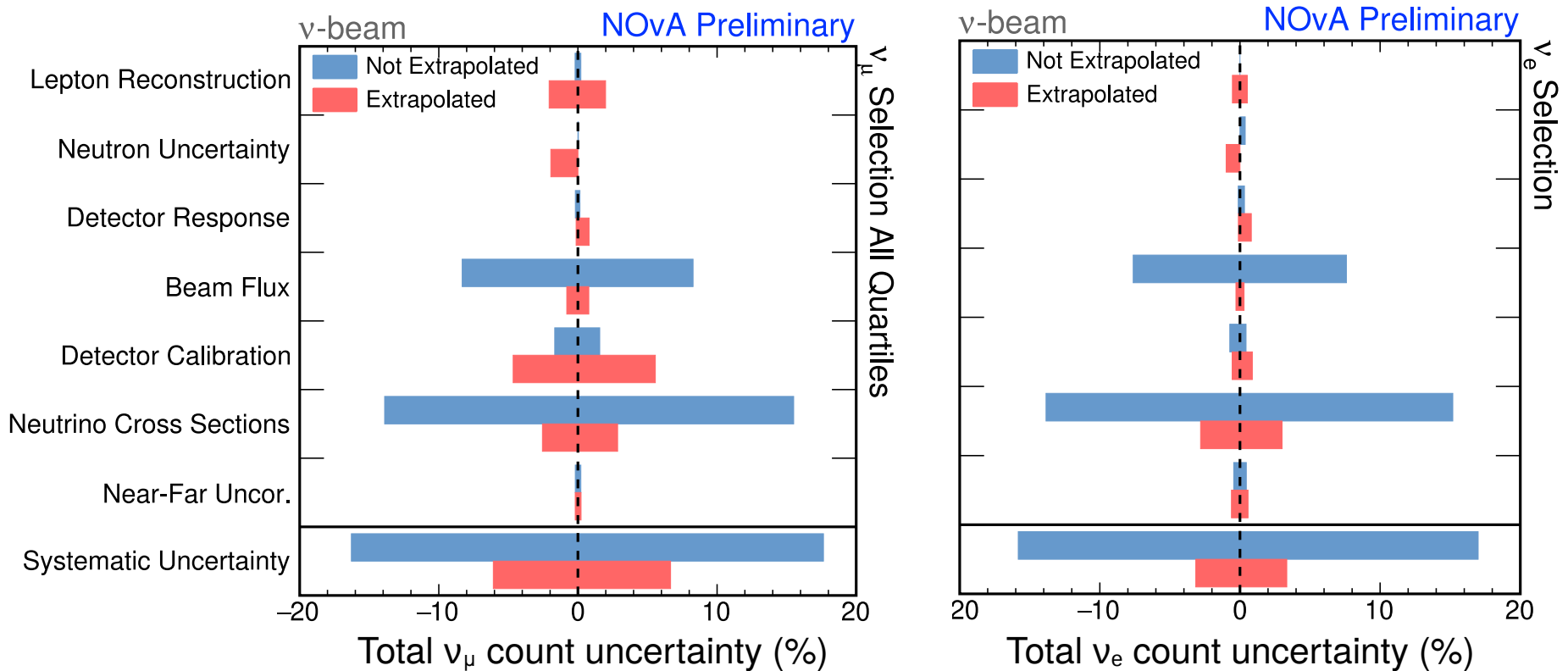
## Constrain nominal prediction and effect of systematic uncertainties

- Shift *all* elements of sim., then redo constraint
- Since post-correction all variations forced to agree at ND, spread at FD is reduced
- Effects that are not shared between detectors unaffected, or increase in some cases (e.g.: calibration)

## Subdivide or use different samples to better account for ND/FD differences:

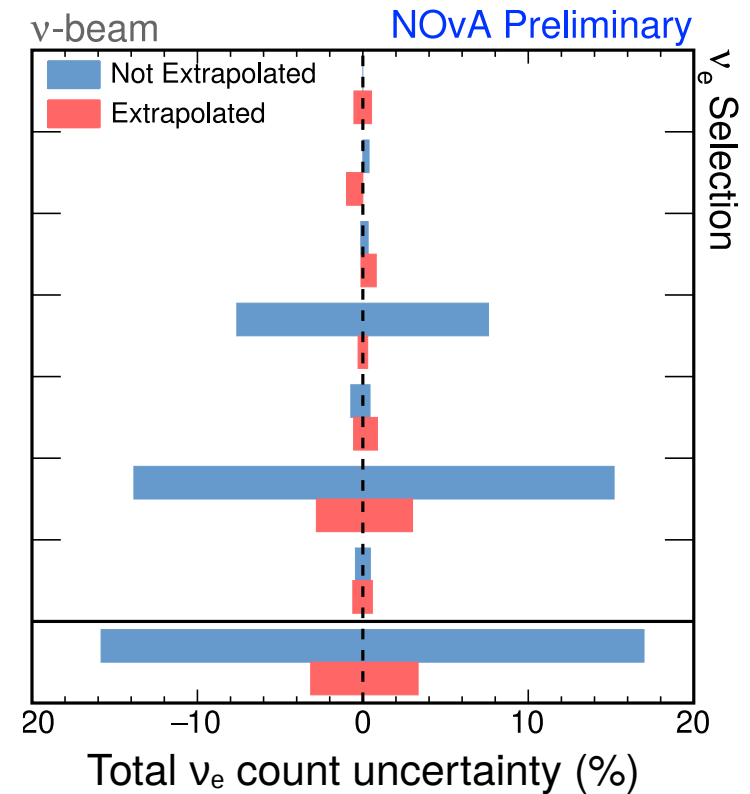
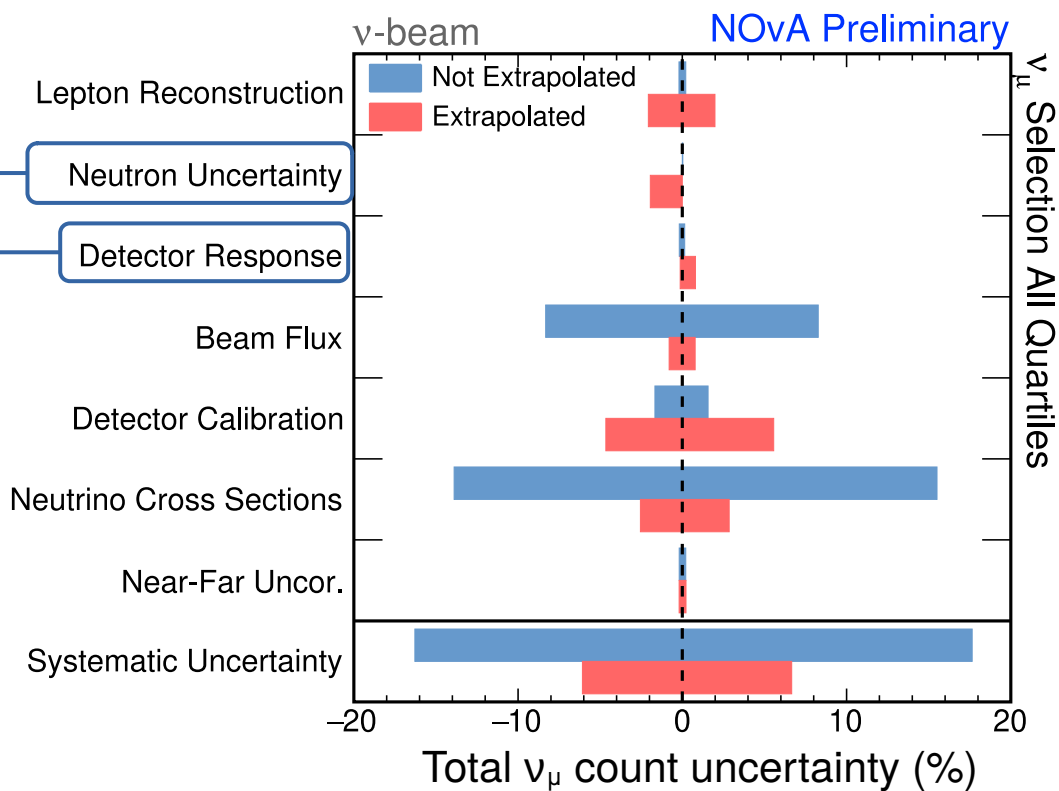
- $\nu_\mu$ : differences in resolution, acceptance  
subdivide by  $E_{\text{had}}/E_\nu \times |\mathbf{p}_t|$  [12 bins]
- $\nu_e$  bknds: different oscillation behavior  
constrain  $\nu_s$ ' parent  $\pi$  and K (beam  $\nu_e$ );  
subdivide by Michel electron multiplicity ( $\nu_\mu$ , NC)

# Systematic uncertainties



# Systematic uncertainties

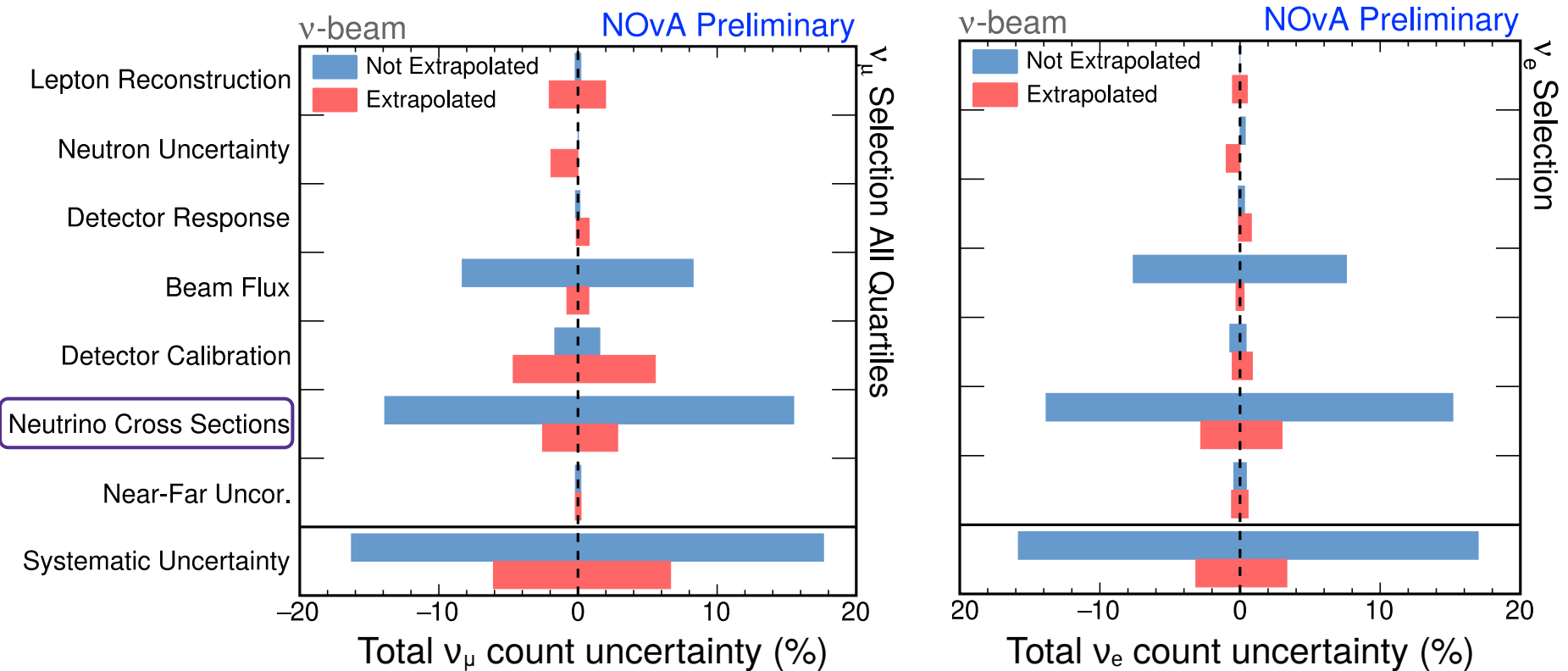
Include improvements to light, neutron propagation models mentioned previously



POSTER 403. Medium Energy Neutron Detector Response in NOvA  
 Andrew Sutton (Florida State Univer..., Miranda Rabelhofer  
 6/18/24, 5:30 PM



# Systematic uncertainties



Based on GENIE 3.0.6  
with data-driven adjustments  
(see overflow slides)

New: additional pion-production  
related systematic uncertainties

POSTER

415. New RES and DIS uncertainties for NOvA cross-section model

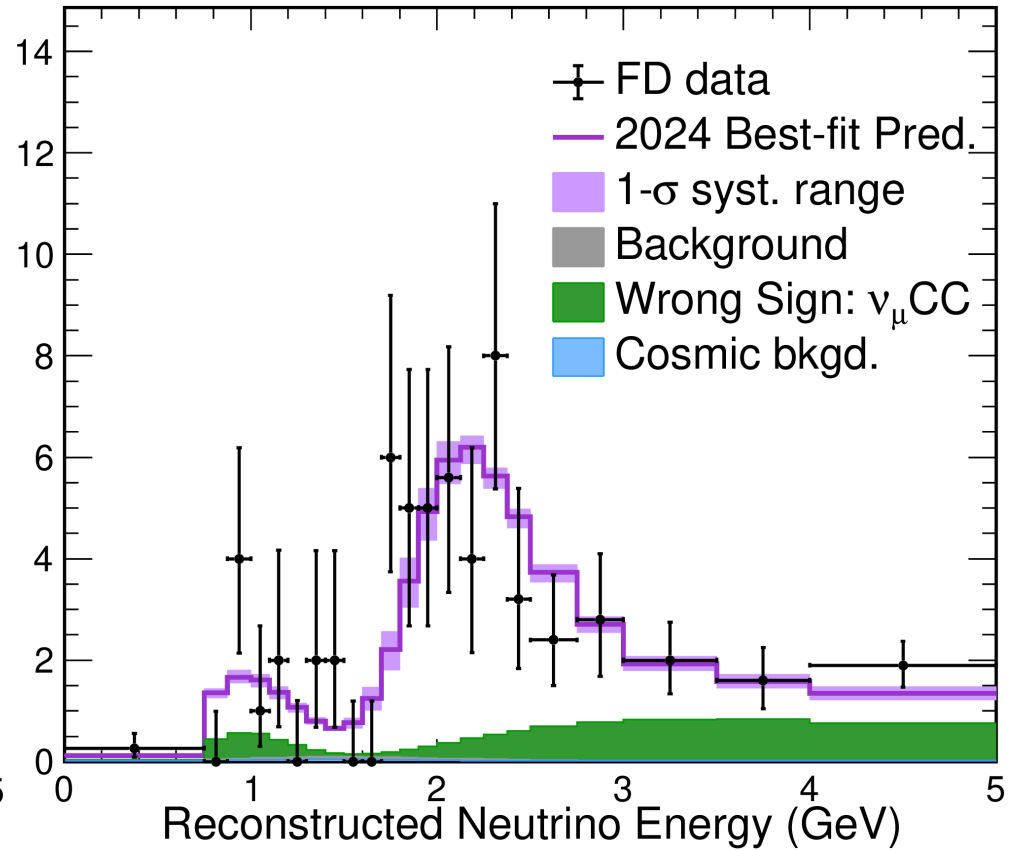
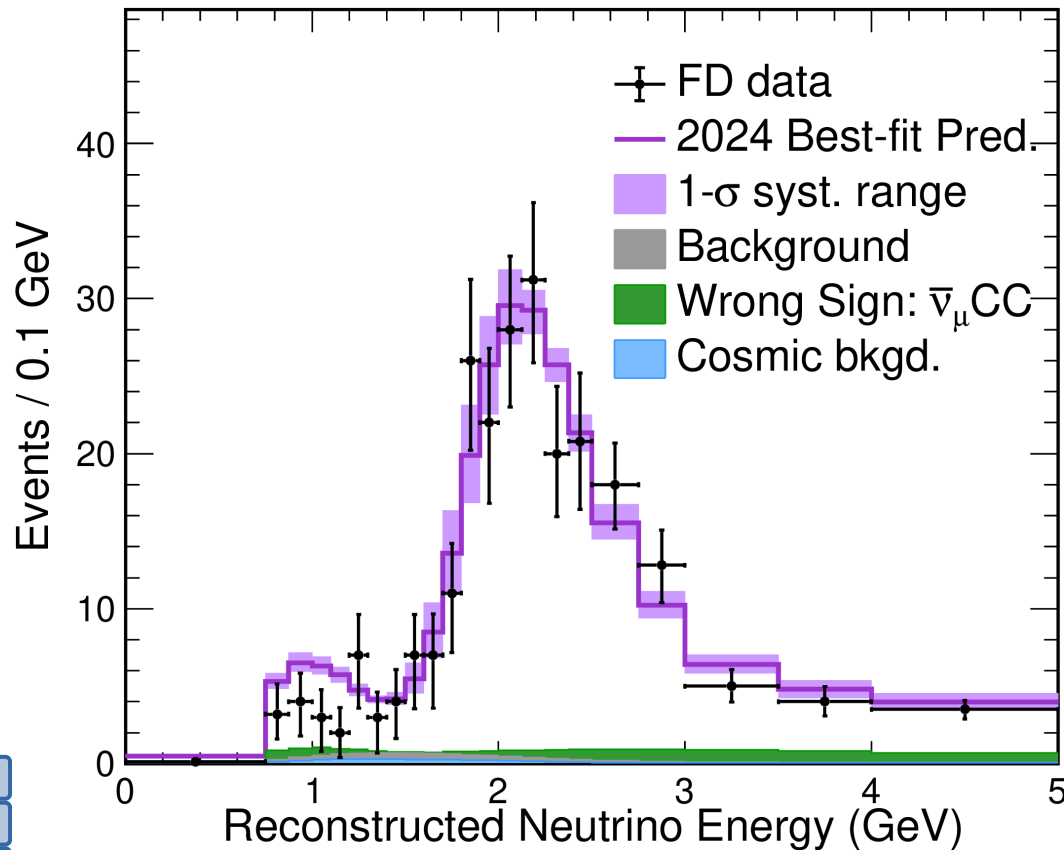
✎ Maria Martinez Casales (Fermilab), Michael Dolce

🕒 6/18/24, 5:30 PM

# Far detector observations: $\nu_\mu$

v-beam NOvA Preliminary

$\bar{\nu}$ -beam NOvA Preliminary

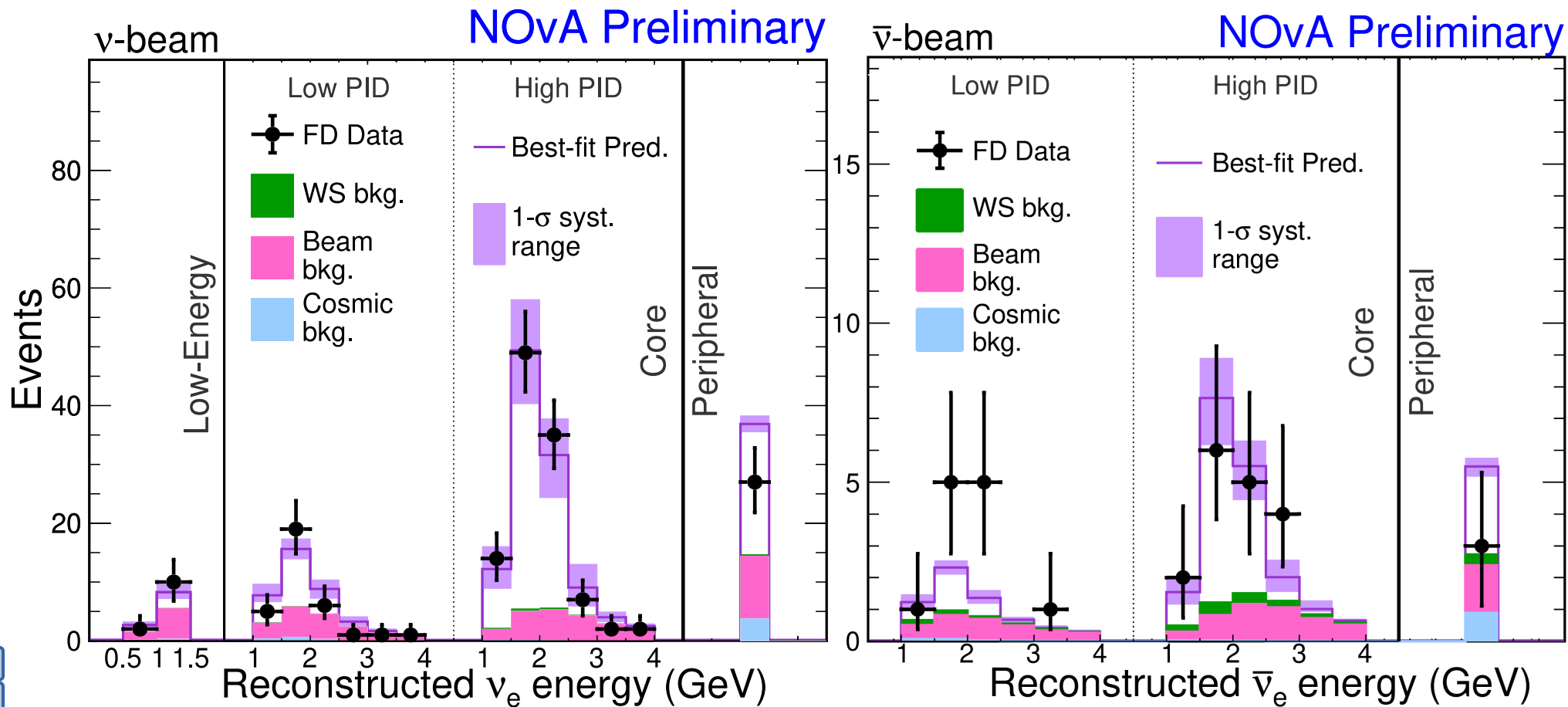


**384  $\nu_\mu$  data candidates**  
(11.3 background)

**106  $\bar{\nu}_\mu$  data candidates**  
(1.7 background)

3-flavor oscillations describe these data well: Bayesian posterior predictive  $p$ -value = 0.54

# Far detector observations: $\nu_e$



**181  $\nu_e$  data candidates**

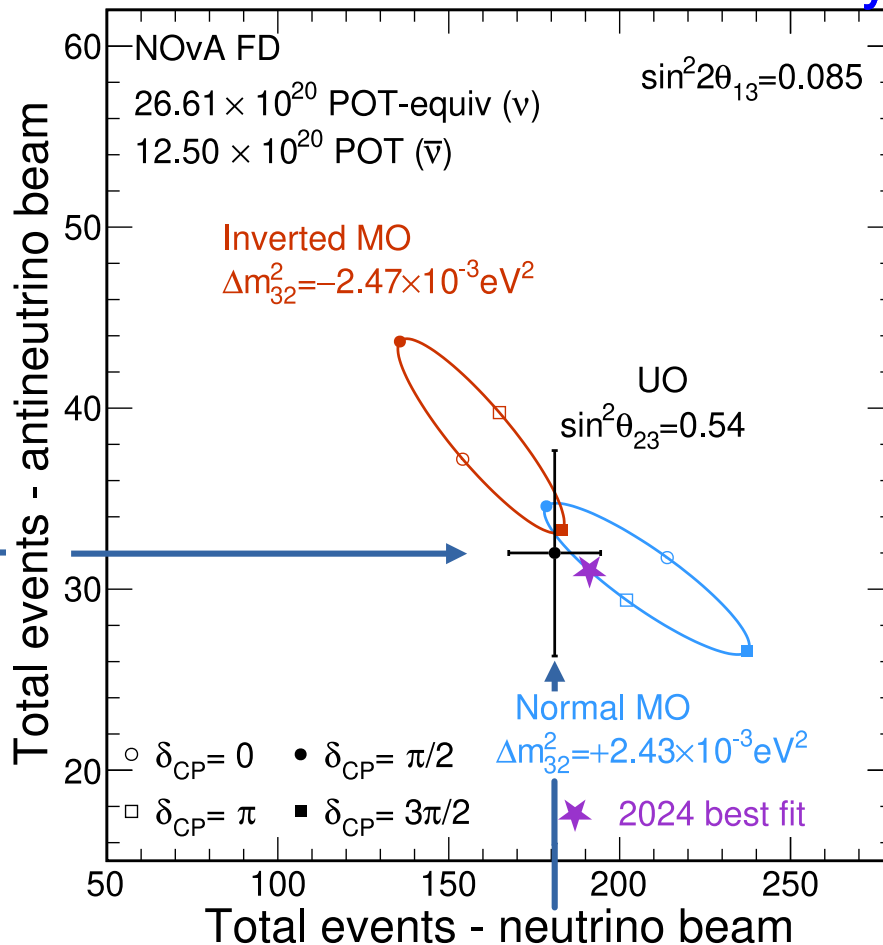
	Best fit	Range
Total pred	186.2	119 – 250
Wrong-sign	1.8	1.6 – 2.8
Beam bknd.	53.7	
Cosmic bknd.	6.2	
Total bknd	61.7	61 – 63

**32  $\bar{\nu}_e$  data candidates**

	Best fit	Range
Total pred	30.4	28 – 38
Wrong-sign	2.1	1.0 – 3.2
Beam bknd.	9.0	
Cosmic bknd.	1.1	
Total bknd	12.2	11 – 13

# Far detector observations: $\nu_e$

NOvA Preliminary



32  $\bar{\nu}_e$  data candidates

181  $\nu_e$  data candidates

Data favors region where **matter & CP violation effects oppose one another**

Future  $\bar{\nu}$  data will be critical for disentangling

# Extracting oscillation parameters

Goal:

$$\Delta m_{32}^2, \sin^2\theta_{23}, \sin^2 2\theta_{13}, \delta_{\text{CP}}$$

# Extracting oscillation parameters

Bayesian  
Markov Chain  
Monte Carlo  
(marginalization)

(technique described in [arXiv:2311.07835](https://arxiv.org/abs/2311.07835))

Frequentist  
 $\chi^2$  minimization  
(profiled  
Feldman-Cousins)

(technique described in  
[arXiv:2207.14353](https://arxiv.org/abs/2207.14353))

Bayesian credible regions

$\Delta m_{32}^2, \sin^2\theta_{23}, \sin^2 2\theta_{13}, \delta_{CP}$

frequentist confidence regions

POSTER | 450. Bayesian Fit for the NOvA Three Flavor Oscillation Analysis  
Ben Jargowsky (University Of Califor..., Liudmila Kolupaeva  
6/18/24, 5:30 PM

POSTER | 456. Determination of the neutrino oscillation parameters through the unified approach of Feldman and Cousins by the NOvA Experiment  
Mr Andrew Dye (The University of Mi..., Mr Luiz R. Prais (The University of Mi...  
6/18/24, 5:30 PM

# Extracting oscillation parameters

Bayesian  
Markov Chain  
Monte Carlo  
(marginalization)

(technique described in [arXiv:2311.07835](https://arxiv.org/abs/2311.07835))

Frequentist  
 $\chi^2$  minimization  
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(technique described in  
[arXiv:2207.14353](https://arxiv.org/abs/2207.14353))

Bayesian credible regions

$\Delta m_{32}^2, \sin^2\theta_{23}, \sin^2 2\theta_{13}, \delta_{CP}$

frequentist confidence regions

Consider three  $\theta_{13}$  possibilities:

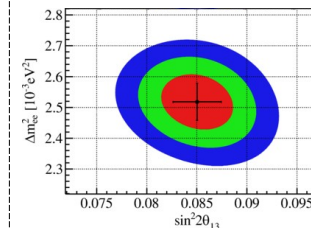
$\theta_{13}$  unconstrained  
(NOvA only)

or

Daya Bay  
1D  $\theta_{13}$  constraint  
 $\sin^2 2\theta_{13} = 0.0851 \pm 0.0024$

or

Daya Bay  
2D ( $\Delta m_{32}^2, \theta_{13}$ )  
constraint



PRL 130, 161802

Other mixing  
parameters:

$\sin^2\theta_{12} = 0.307$

(PDG 2023)

$\Delta m_{21}^2 = 7.53 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2$

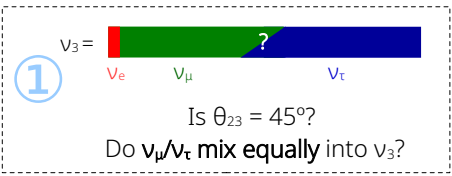
(PDG 2023)

$\rho = 2.74 \text{ g/cm}^3$

(CRUST1.0)

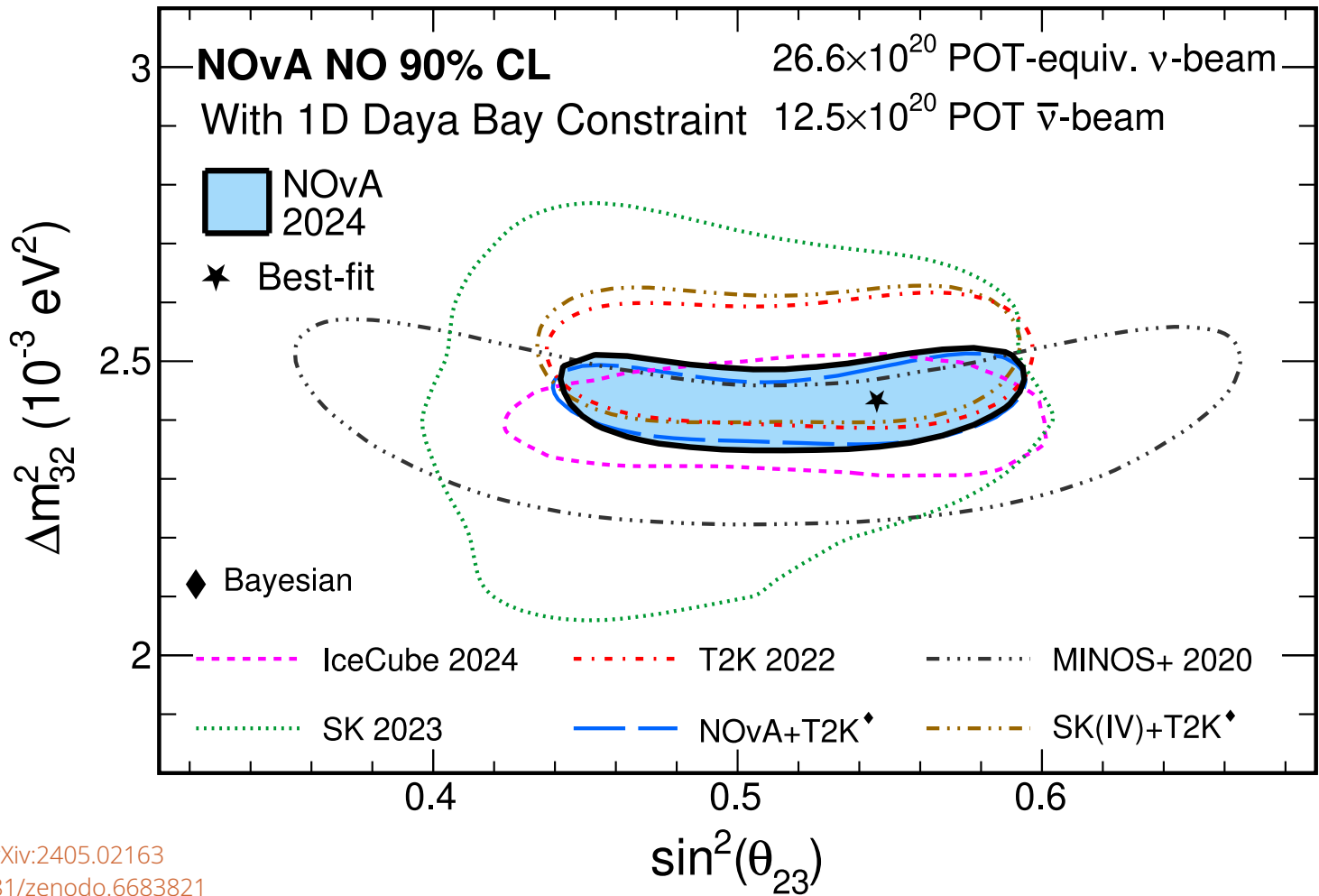
# Oscillation parameter results





# $\nu_2 - \nu_3$ sector

NOvA Preliminary

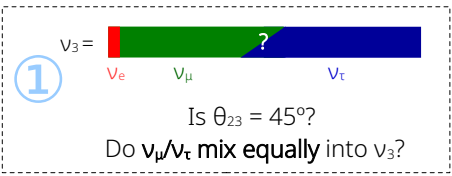


IceCube 2024: [arXiv:2405.02163](https://arxiv.org/abs/2405.02163)  
 T2K 2022: [10.5281/zenodo.6683821](https://zenodo.org/record/6683821)  
 MINOS+ 2020: *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 125, 131802  
 SK 2023: *Phys. Rev. D* 109, 072014  
 NOvA+T2K 2024: KEK IPNS seminar,  
 FNAL JETP seminar  
 T2K+SK 2024: [arXiv:2405.12488](https://arxiv.org/abs/2405.12488)

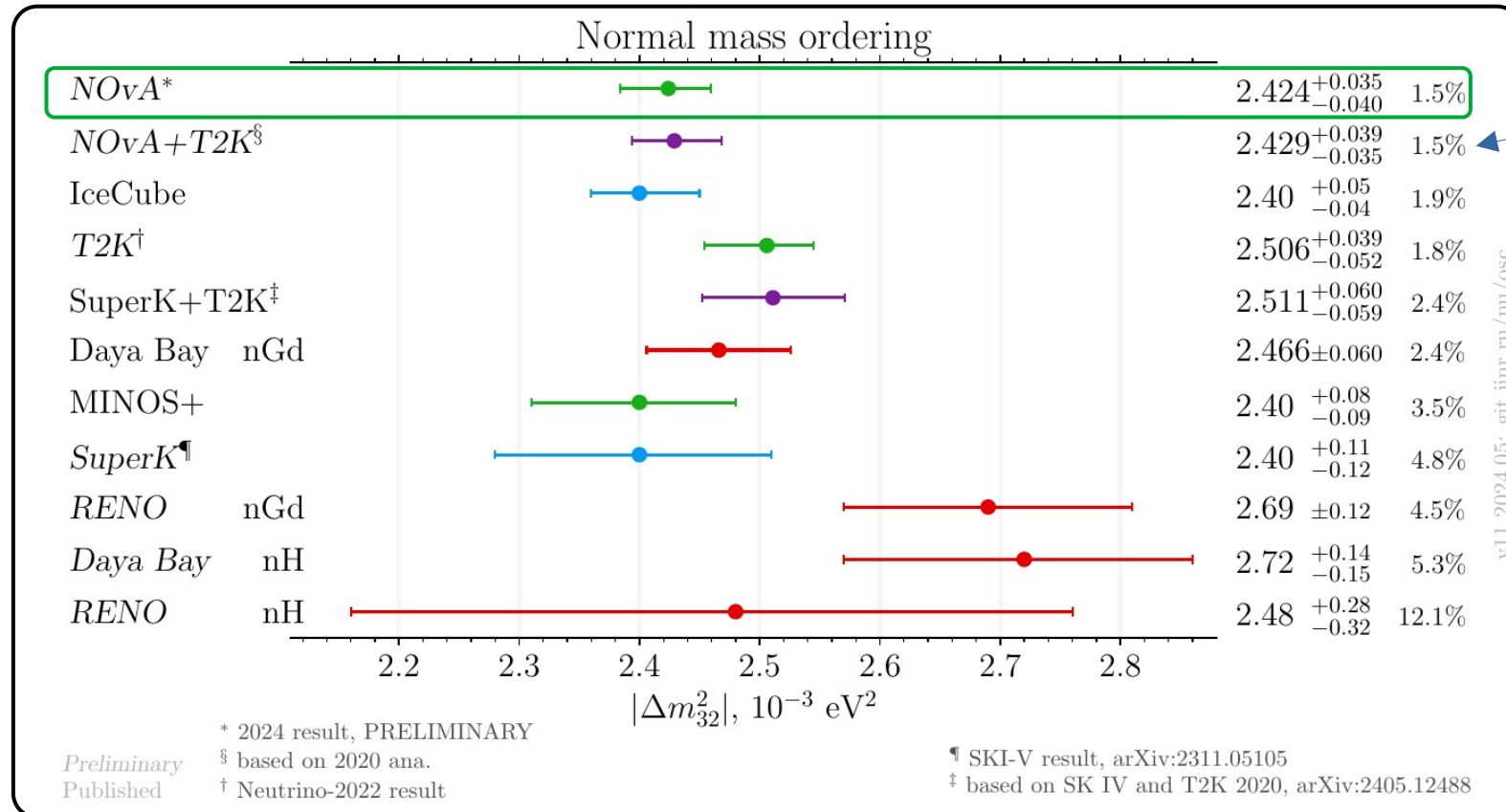
**(Frequentist) best fit:**

$$\Delta m_{32}^2 = (+2.433^{+0.035}_{-0.036}) \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$$

$$\sin^2 \theta_{23} = 0.546^{+0.032}_{-0.075}$$



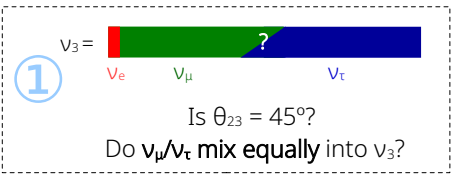
# $\nu_2 - \nu_3$ sector



Note: 1.4% shown previously was for IO (NOvA-T2K preference); NO shown here according to NOvA-only preference

Squeezing precision on  $\Delta m^2_{32}$  (1.5%).  
 Most precisely known PMNS parameter!

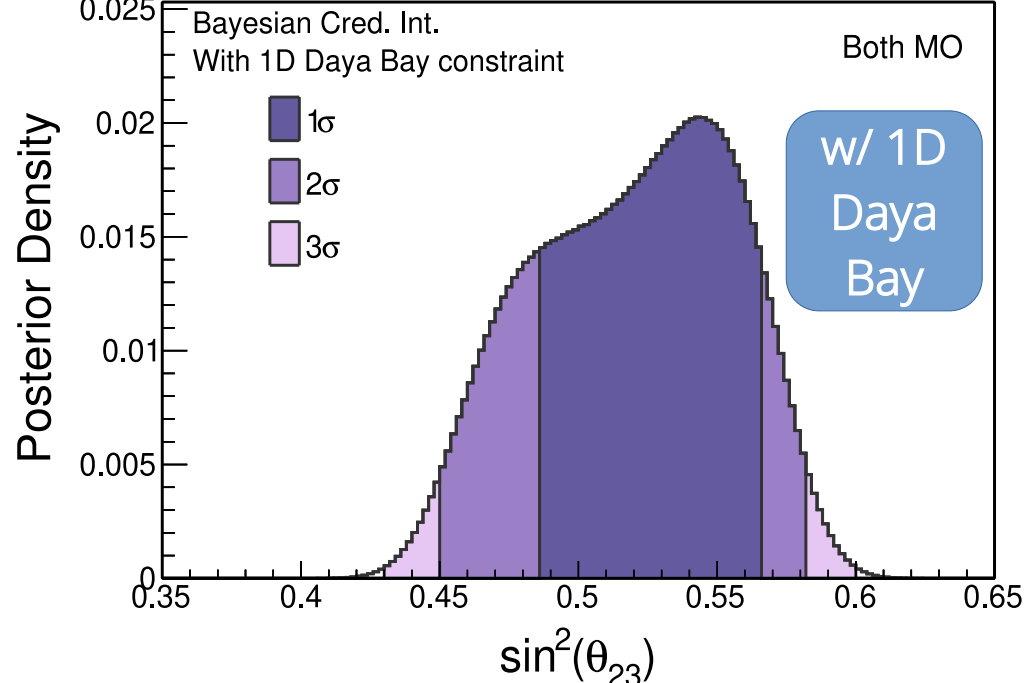
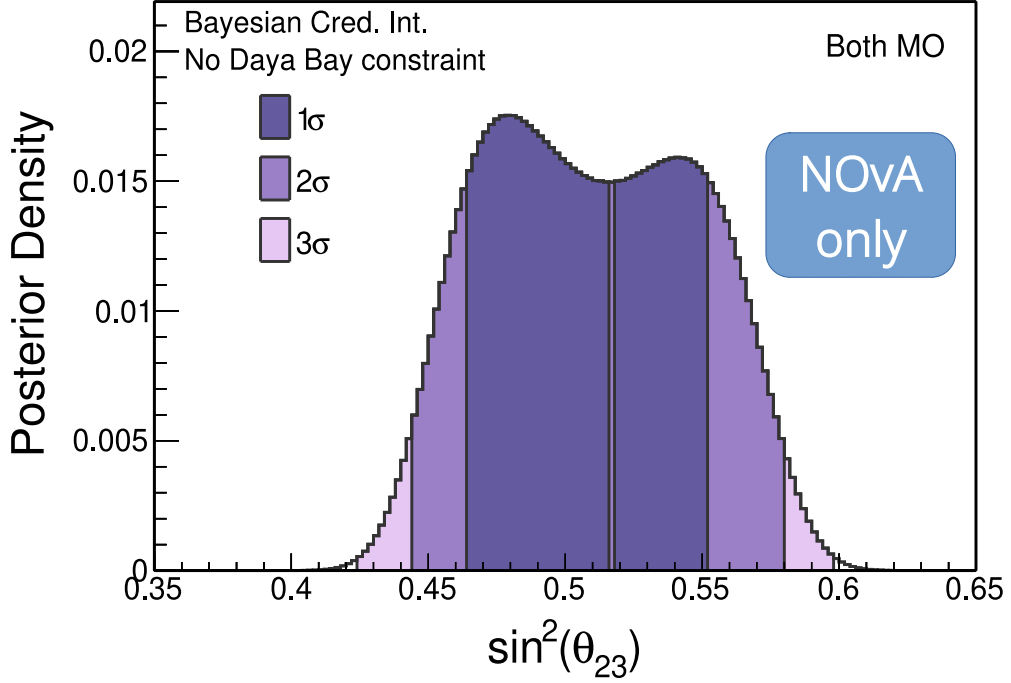
\*Note: NOvA 2024 Bayesian range differs slightly from frequentist one on previous page



# $\nu_2 - \nu_3$ sector

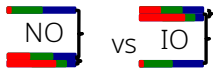
NOvA Preliminary

NOvA Preliminary



Mild Upper Octant preference  
(69% prob; Bayes factor = 2.2)  
emerges from applying reactor constraint  
(due to correlation between  $\theta_{13}$  and  $\theta_{23}$ , see overflow)

Maximal mixing is allowed at  $<1\sigma$

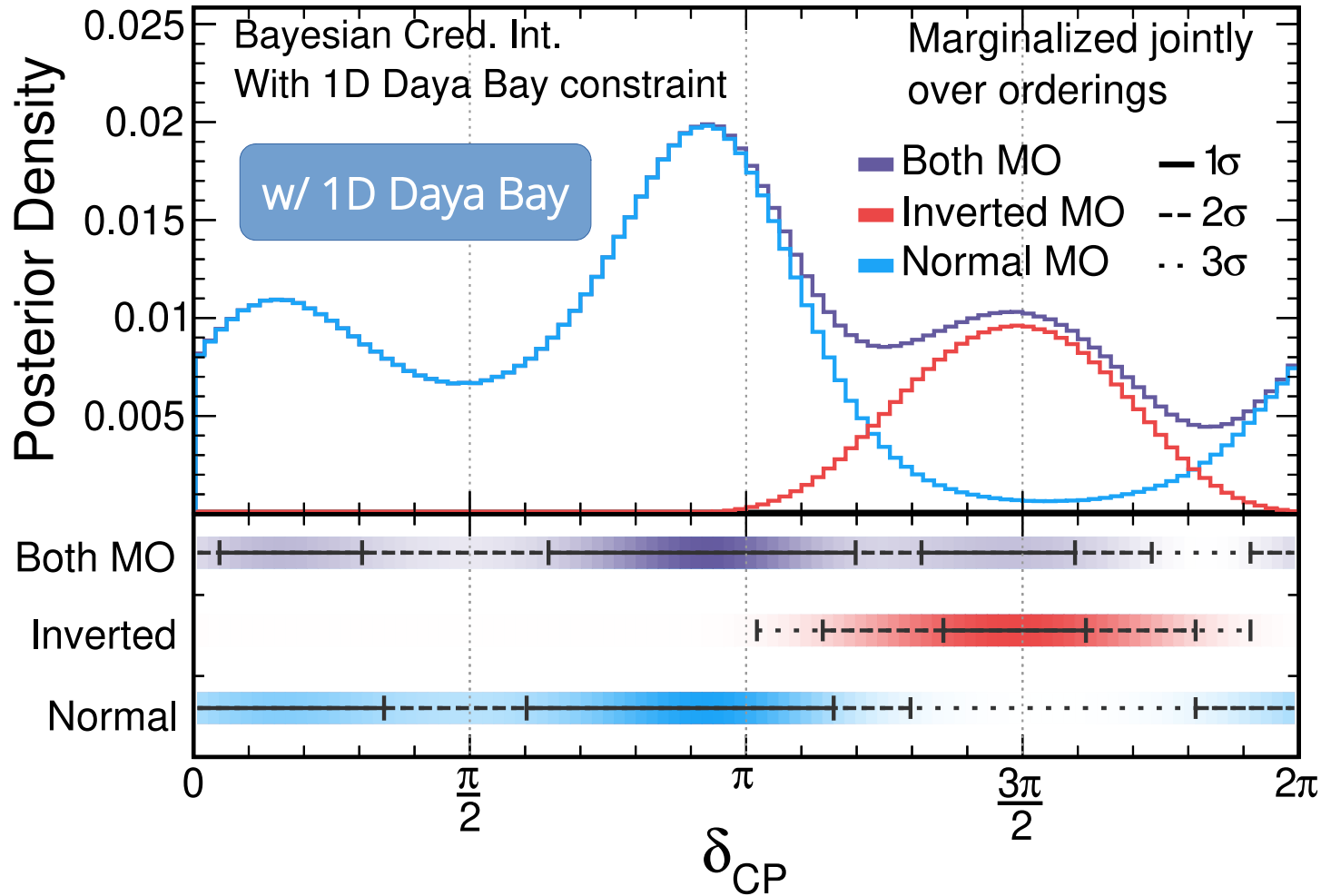


② Which way are the neutrino mass states ordered?

# Mass ordering and CPV

③  $\Delta P_{\nu\bar{\nu}} \propto \sin \delta_{CP}$   
Do neutrinos exhibit CP violation?

NOvA Preliminary

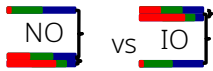


Mild normal ordering preference

(Posterior prob. = 76%  $\rightarrow$  Bayes factor = 3.2;

Frequentist significance\* = 1.4 $\sigma$ )

\*Frequentist significance computed using Feldman-Cousins procedure thanks to NERSC

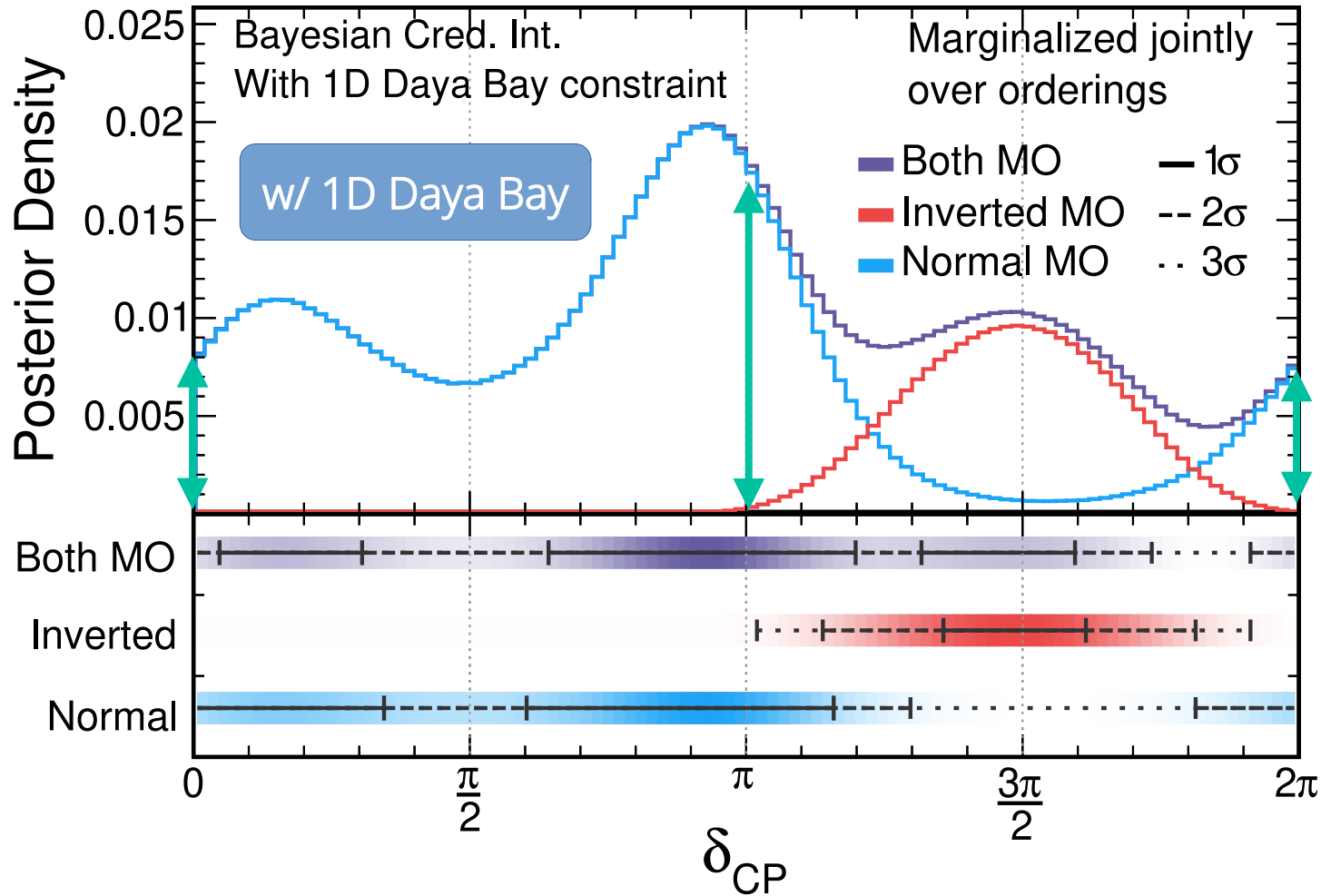


② Which way are the neutrino mass states ordered?

# Mass ordering and CPV

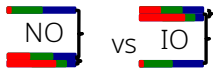
③  $\Delta P_{\nu\bar{\nu}} \propto \sin \delta_{CP}$   
Do neutrinos exhibit CP violation?

NOvA Preliminary



CP-conserving points favored in NO but outside 3 $\sigma$  interval in IO

Mass ordering & CP violation heavily entangled:  
data favors region with (ordering,  $\delta_{CP}$ ) degeneracy  
(for CPV alone see Jarlskog invariant in overflow slides)

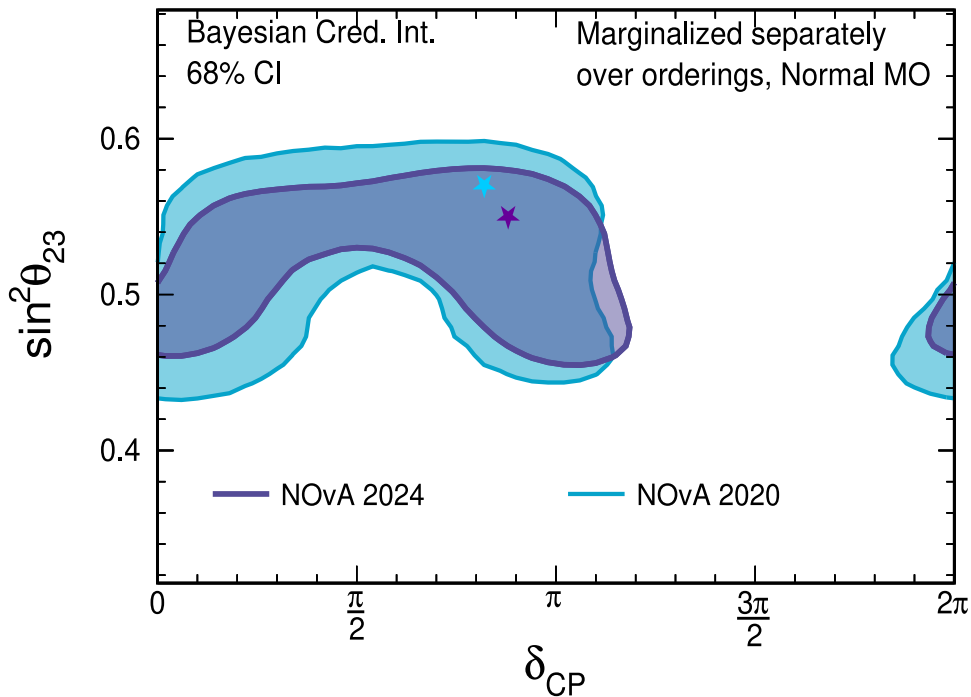


② Which way are the neutrino mass states ordered?

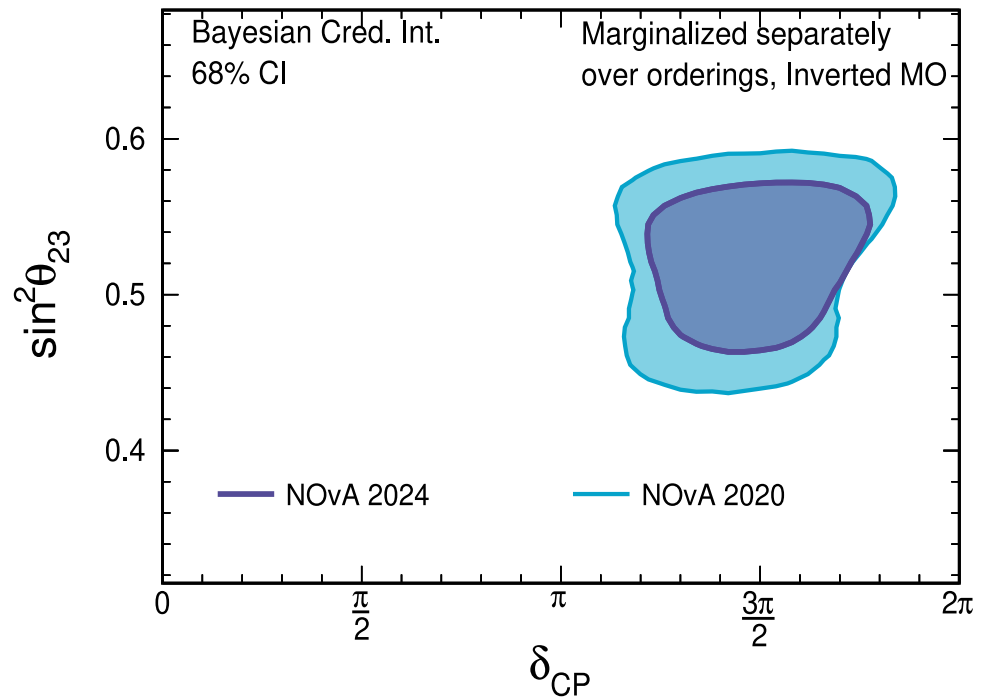
# Mass ordering and CPV

③  $\Delta P_{\nu\bar{\nu}} \propto \sin \delta_{CP}$   
Do neutrinos exhibit CP violation?

NOvA Preliminary



NOvA Preliminary

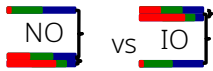


New NOvA data consistent with old data  
improved constraints lie in ~same regions

Note: results use different choices of reactor constraint

NOvA 2020: 2019 PDG avg  $\theta_{13}$

NOvA 2024: Daya Bay 2023 1D  $\theta_{13}$

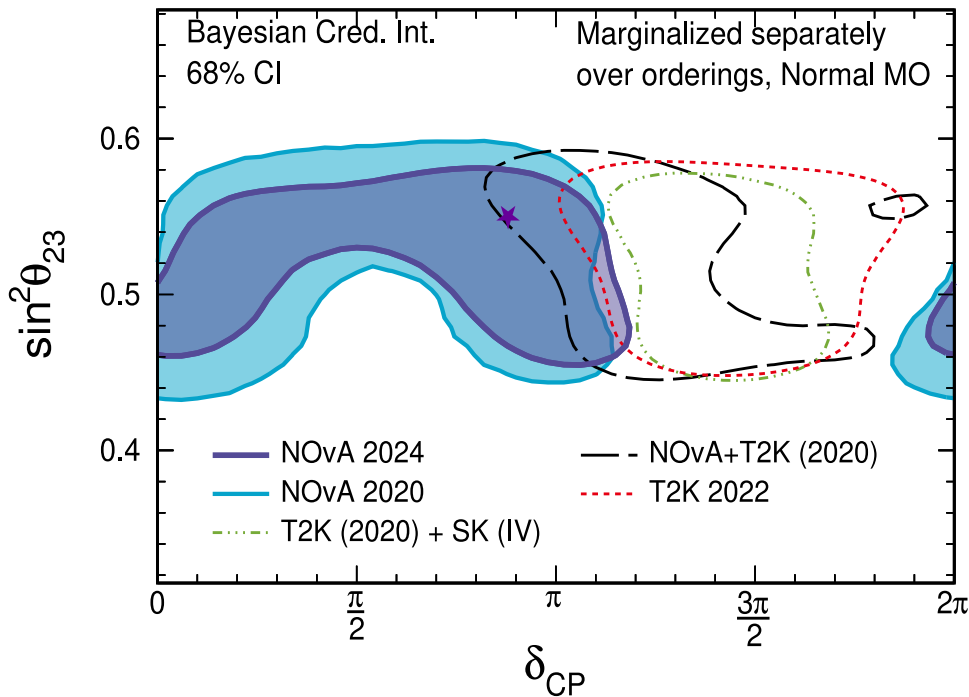


② Which way are the neutrino mass states ordered?

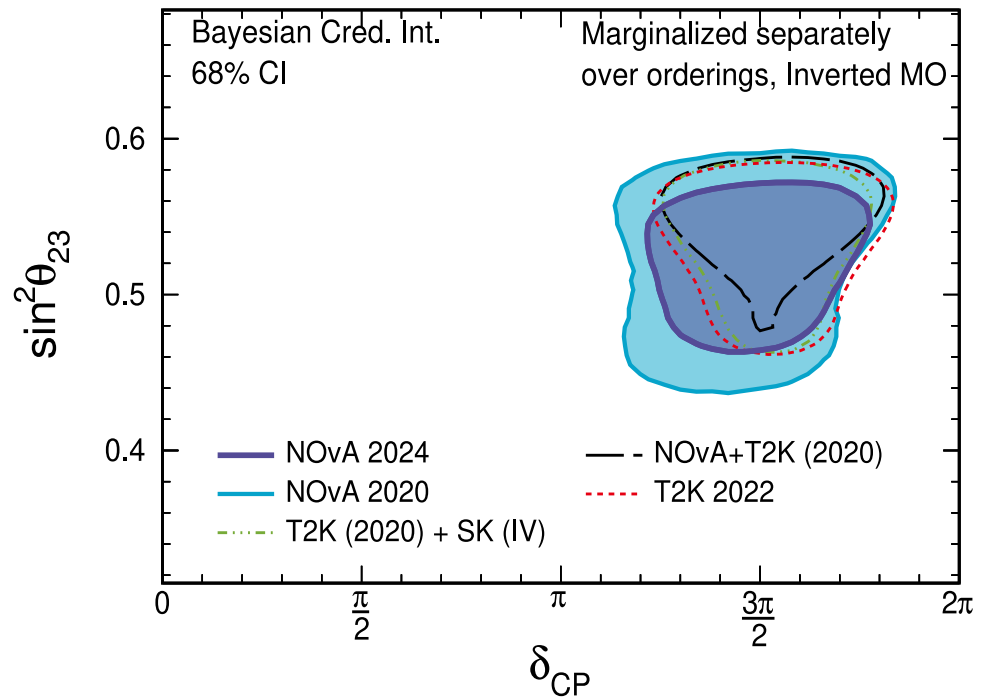
# Mass ordering and CPV

③  $\Delta P_{\nu\bar{\nu}} \propto \sin \delta_{CP}$   
Do neutrinos exhibit CP violation?

NOvA Preliminary



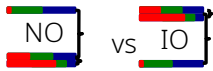
NOvA Preliminary



NOvA vs. other data favor different regions in NO,  
same region in IO

Note: results use different choices of reactor constraint

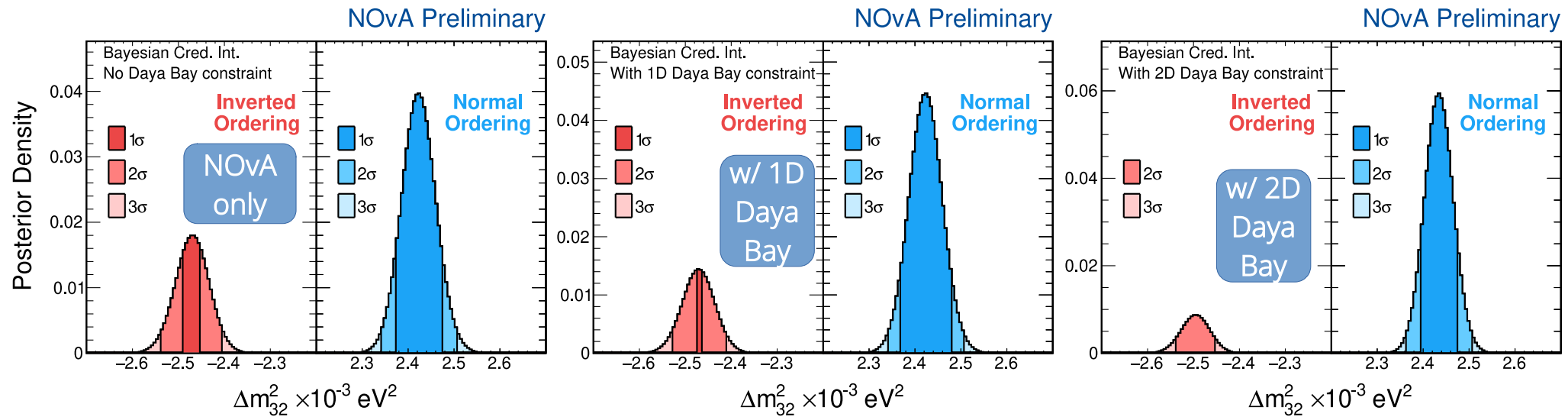
NOvA 2020: 2019 PDG avg  $\theta_{13}$     T2K: 2019 PDG avg  $\theta_{13}$   
NOvA 2024: Daya Bay 2023 1D  $\theta_{13}$     NOvA+T2K: Daya Bay 2023 1D  $\theta_{13}$   
T2K+SK: 2019 PDG avg  $\theta_{13}$



② Which way are the neutrino mass states ordered?

# Mass ordering and CPV

③  $\Delta P_{\nu\bar{\nu}} \propto \sin \delta_{CP}$   
Do neutrinos exhibit CP violation?



No reactor constraint  
N.O. preference:  
69% prob. (Bayes factor: 2.2)

Daya Bay  $\sin^2 2\theta_{13}$  only  
N.O. preference:  
76% prob. (Bayes factor: 3.2)  
Frequentist significance\*: 1.4 $\sigma$

Daya Bay ( $\sin^2 2\theta_{13}, \Delta m_{32}^2$ )  
N.O. preference:  
87% (Bayes factor: 6.8)  
Frequentist significance\*: 1.6 $\sigma$

Mass ordering preference strengthened by applying reactor constraint

(not entirely unexpected: e.g., [Phys. Rev. D 72: 013009, 2005](#))

\*Frequentist significances computed using Feldman-Cousins procedure thanks to NERSC



# NOvA 2024 summary & outlook

- **First new NOvA neutrino oscillation measurement since 2020**
  - Doubled neutrino-mode dataset with 10 years of neutrino & antineutrino data
  - Updated simulation, including improved light response model and neutron propagation uncertainty
  - New low-energy  $\nu_e$  candidate sample
  - **Most precise single-experiment measurement of  $\Delta m^2_{32}$  (1.5%)**
  - Data favors region where matter, CP violation effects are degenerate
- **Strong synergy with reactor measurements**
  - Constraint on  $\theta_{13}$  enhances Upper Octant preference (69% odds)
  - Constraint on  $\Delta m^2_{32}$  enhances Normal Ordering preference (87% odds)

# NOvA 2024 summary & outlook

- **First new NOvA neutrino oscillation measurement since 2020**
  - Doubled neutrino-mode dataset with 10 years of neutrino & antineutrino data
  - Updated simulation, including improved light response model and neutron propagation uncertainty
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  - Constraint on  $\theta_{13}$  enhances Upper Octant preference (69% odds)
  - Constraint on  $\Delta m^2_{32}$  enhances Normal Ordering preference (87% odds)
- **Compelling future prospects from NOvA**
  - Goal: **doubling of antineutrino data** before 2027 – crucial to clarify MO/CPV
  - **Test beam** constraints on energy scales expected in near term
  - **Much more NOvA physics** than what's in this talk!  
(BSM oscillations,  $\nu$  interactions, atmospheric- & astrophysics, non-beam BSM...)  
→ [check out our posters \(list on next slide\)](#)

POSTER

455. Pions in the NOvA Test Beam

David Dueñas (University of Cincin...

6/21/24, 5:30 PM

403. Medium Energy  
Neutron Detector Response in NOvA  
Miranda Rabelhofer, Andrew Sutton

406. Recent Advancements  
in Machine Learning Techniques  
Utilised in NOvA  
Alejandro Yankelevich, Alexander Booth,  
Alexander Shmakov, Ashley Back,  
Erin Ewart, Wenjie Wu

138. PISCES two-detector covariance  
matrix fit for the NOvA Experiment  
Miriam Rajaoalisoa

415. New RES and DIS uncertainties  
for NOvA cross-section model  
Maria Martinez Casales, Michael Dolce

450. Bayesian Fit for the NOvA Three Flavor  
Oscillation Analysis  
Ben Jargowsky, Liudmila Kolupaeva

456. Determination of the neutrino oscillation  
parameters through the unified approach of  
Feldman and Cousins by the NOvA Experiment  
Andrew Dye, Luis R. Prais

271. Improving NOvA's Sterile Neutrino  
Search with the Booster Neutrino Beam  
Adam Lister

475. Constraining Neutral Current  
Uncertainties for Future Sterile Neutrino  
Search at NOvA Experiment  
Shivam Chauhary, Stella Oh

455. Pions in the NOvA test beam  
David Dueñas

411. Muon neutrino charged-current  
cross section measurement  
with zero mesons in NOvA  
Sebastian Sanchez-Falero

565. Characterization of Charged Pions  
with the NOvA Detectors  
Camilo Cortés Parra, Rafael Maldonado Agudelo,  
Juan Villamil Santiago, Enrique Arrieta Diaz

574. Charged-pion cross-section measurements  
in the NOvA near detector  
Palash Roy, Mathew Muether



NOvA collaboration, Feb. 2024

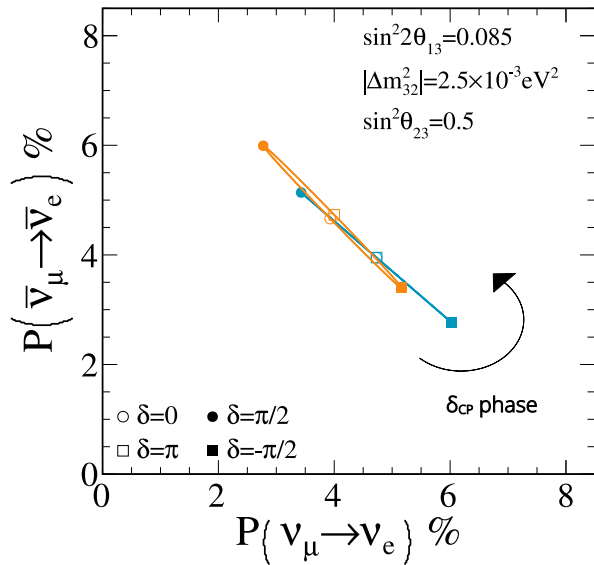
   @novaexperiment

# Overflow

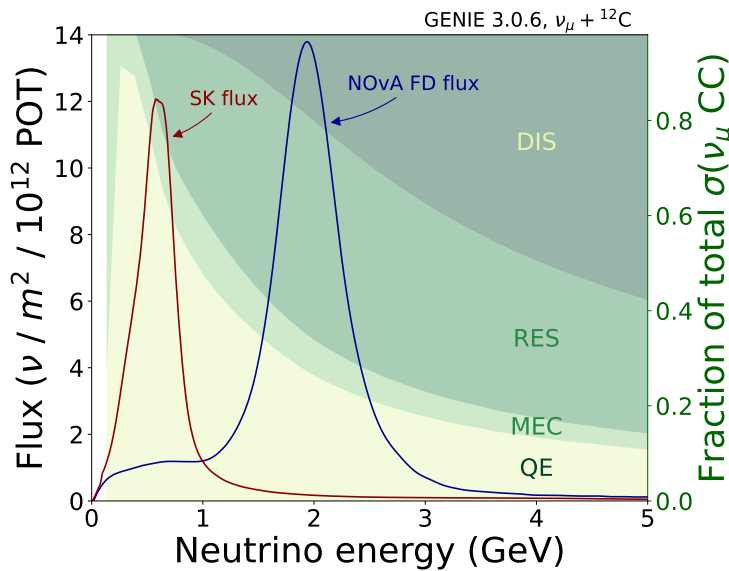
# NOvA/T2K $E_\nu$ differences: implications

NOvA has larger matter effects

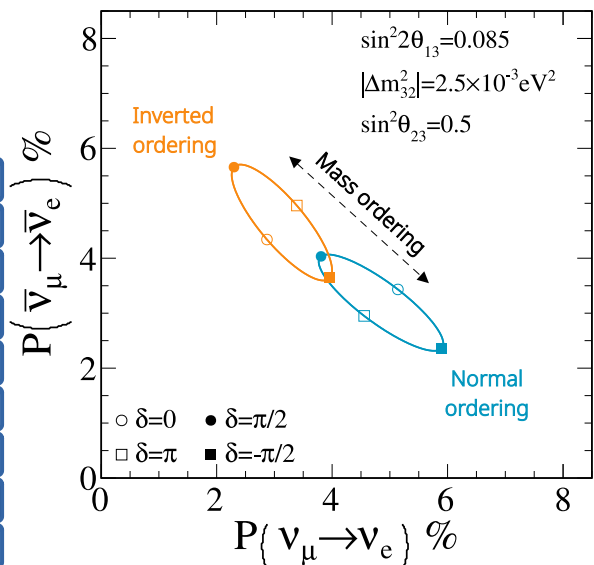
T2K: L=295 km, E=0.6 GeV



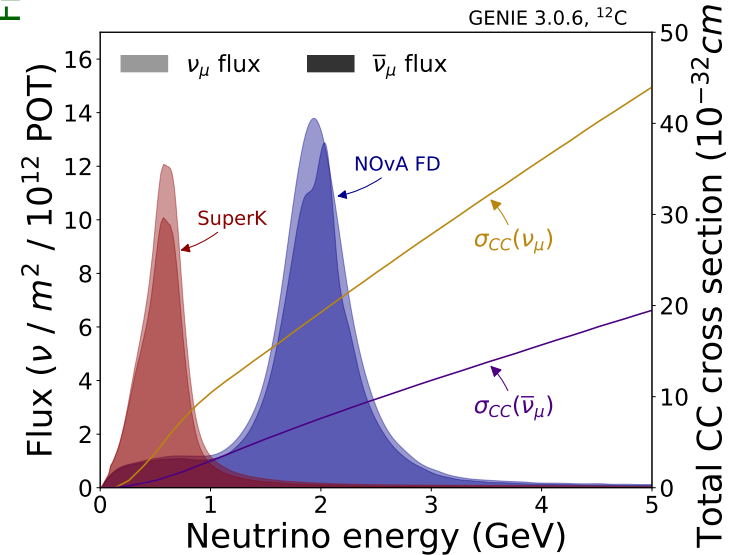
NOvA has more final-state pions



NOvA: L=810 km, E=2.0 GeV



NOvA sees more antineutrinos

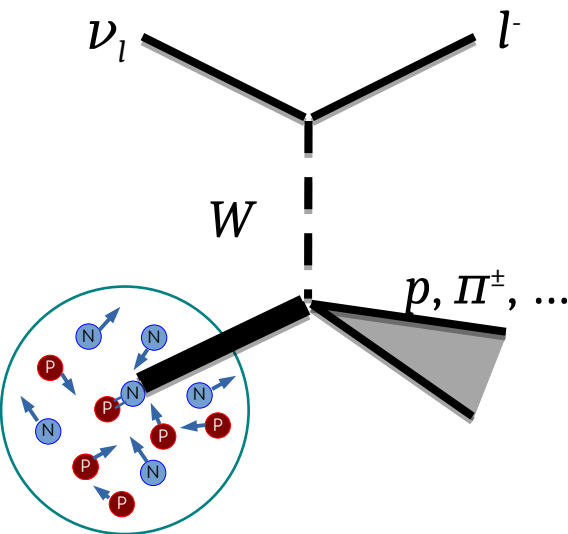


# NOvA numerical results

Bayesian results	NOvA only		Daya Bay 1D		Daya Bay 2D	
	Prob.	BF	Prob.	BF	Prob.	BF
$\theta_{23} > 0.5$ preference	57%	1.3	69%	2.2	67%	2.0
N.O. preference	69%	2.2	76%	3.2	87%	6.8

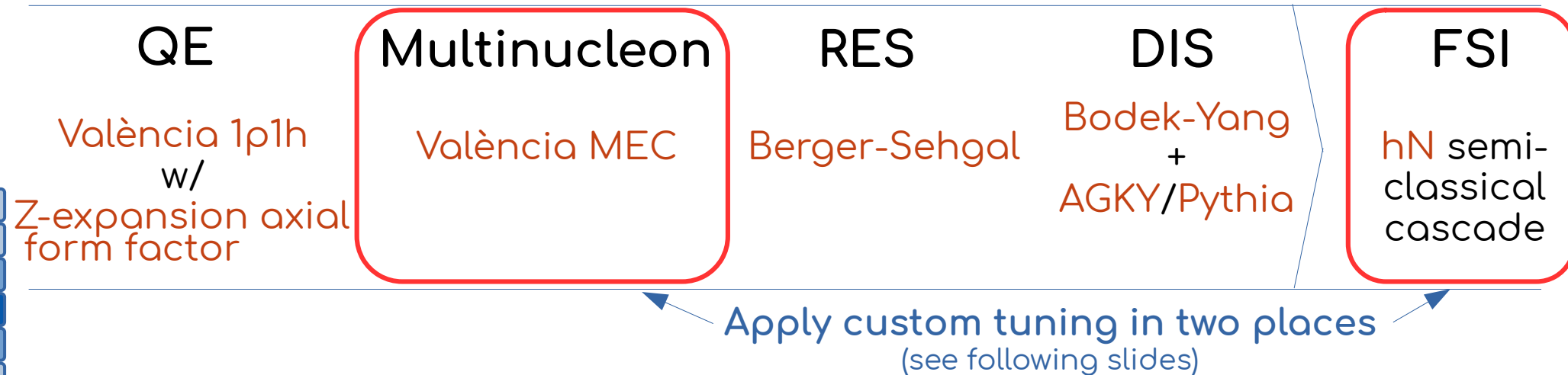
Frequentist results (w/ Daya Bay 1D $\theta_{13}$ constraint)	N.O.	I.O.
$\Delta m_{32}^2 / 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$	$+2.433^{+0.035}_{-0.036}$	$-2.473^{+0.035}_{-0.035}$
$\sin^2\theta_{23}$	$0.546^{+0.032}_{-0.075}$	$0.539^{+0.028}_{-0.075}$
$\delta_{CP} / \pi$	0.88	1.51
Rejection significance ( $\sigma$ )	—	1.36

# Cross section model



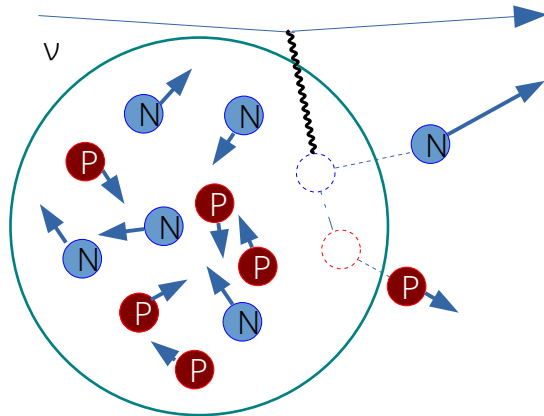
Base simulation: GENIE 3.0.6

- No stock comprehensive model configuration (CMC) agrees well with data
- We choose a “theory-driven” set of models\* and make *post hoc* adjustments to improve agreement



\* We call our model collection **N18\_10j\_00\_000**. It is built by starting with GENIE's **G18\_10b\_00\_000** and substituting the Z-expansion QE axial form factor for the dipole one. This combination was not available in the 3.0.6 release, but it may be available in future versions.

# Multinucleon knockout



“2p2h”

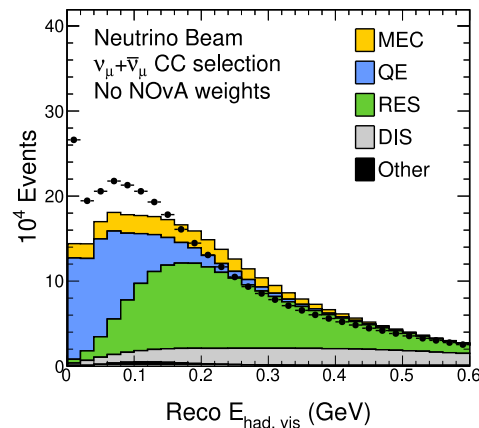
Knock out two nucleons with an elastic-like interaction.

Lots of recent progress on theory, but no model in GENIE (yet) describes extant data well

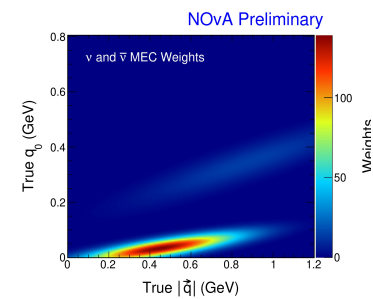
Employ fits to NOvA ND data in the meantime

Only minor updates from 2020 [detailed discussion of 2020 technique in NuSTEC CTGWG Seminar Dec. 14, 2022 (J. Wolcott)]

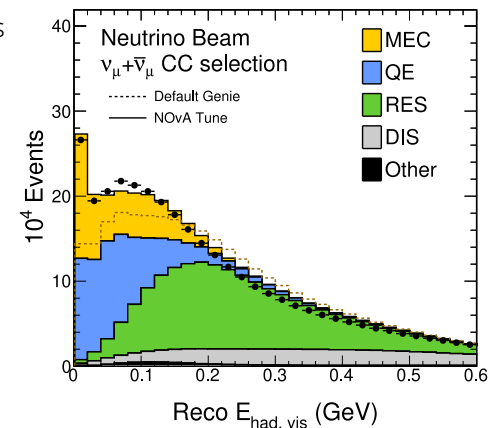
NOvA Preliminary



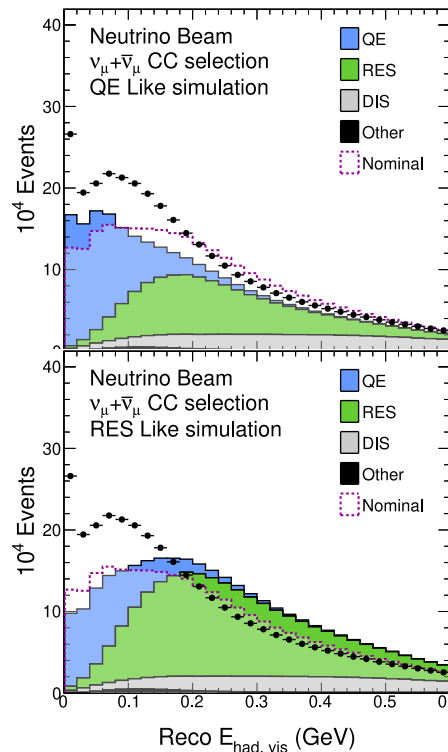
Fitted double-Gaussian weights applied to true CC MEC



NOvA Preliminary



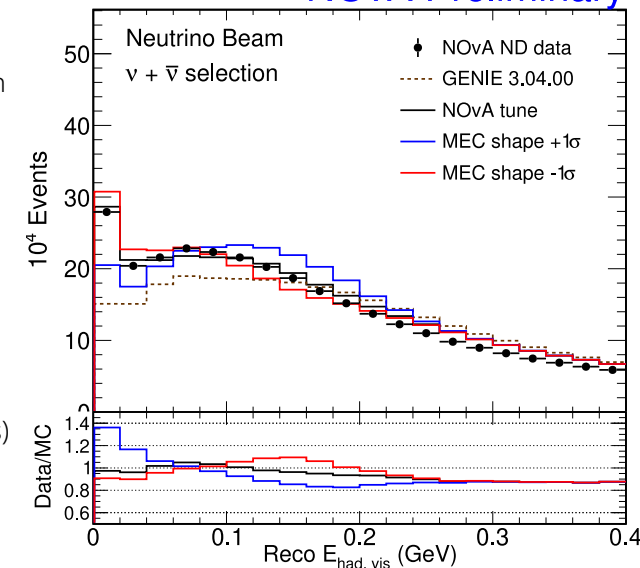
NOvA Preliminary



Address dependence on non-MEC models by re-fitting using “extreme” variations of QE, RES systematics to bracket impact on fitted MEC

(these alternate MEC predictions used as systematic uncertainties)

NOvA Preliminary



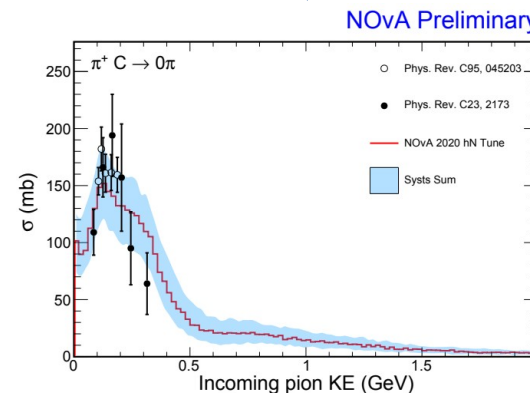
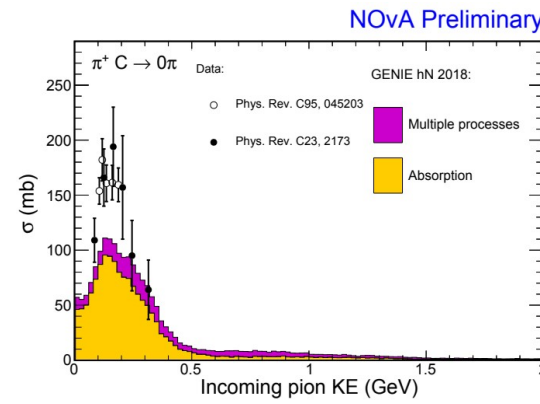


# FSI tuning & uncertainties

- Only minor updates from 2020 → detailed discussion of 2020 technique in NuSTEC CTGWG Seminar Dec. 14, 2022 (J. Wolcott)
- FSI model choice: “hN”
  - Propagates hadrons through nucleus in finite steps
  - Interaction probabilities simulated according to **Oset quantum model**
  - More rigorous foundation than older “hA” effective model (hA applies hadron scattering data directly to FSI and ... hopes for the best)
- Challenge: hN not directly reweightable → Addressed with BDT reweighting technique adapted from DUNE (see also **J. Phys. Conf. Series 762, 012036**)

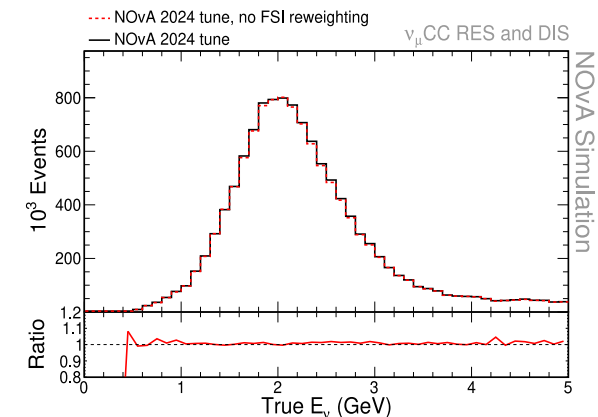
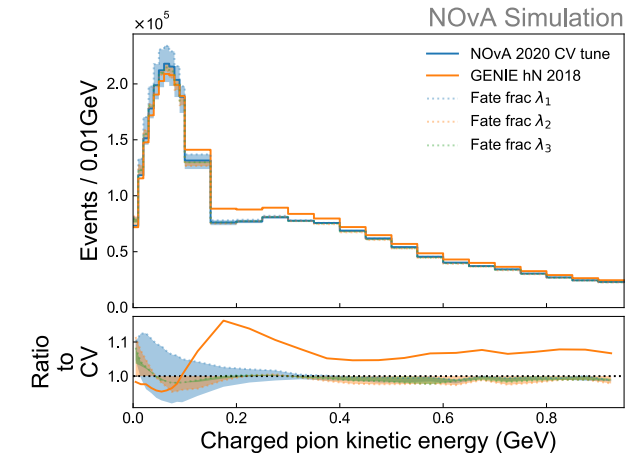
## Tuning

- Adjust nominal prediction to agree better with pion scattering data at low energies where most relevant for NOvA
- Construct uncertainty bands in same spirit as work from T2K [*Phys. Rev. D99, 052007*]

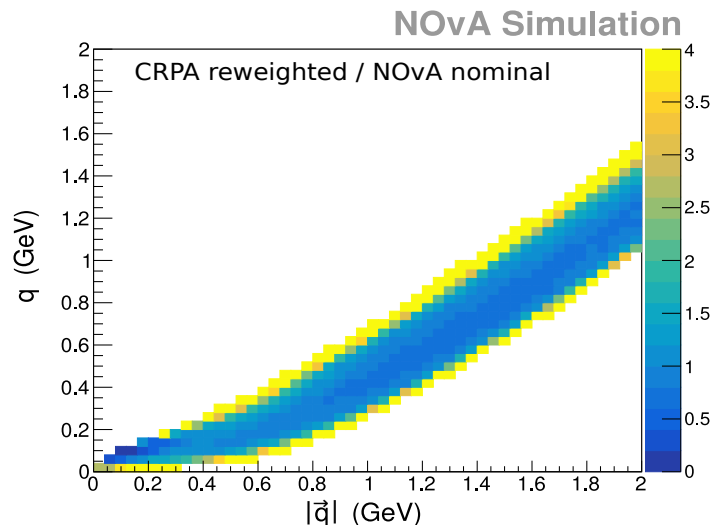


## Impact

- 5-10% effect on pion kinematics
- Ultimately subdominant for calorimetric  $E_\nu$  reco. used in NOvA

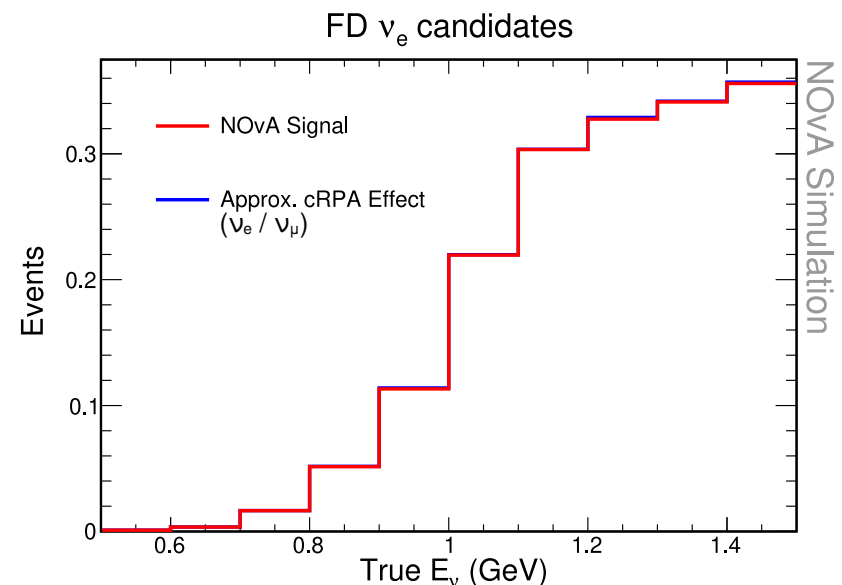
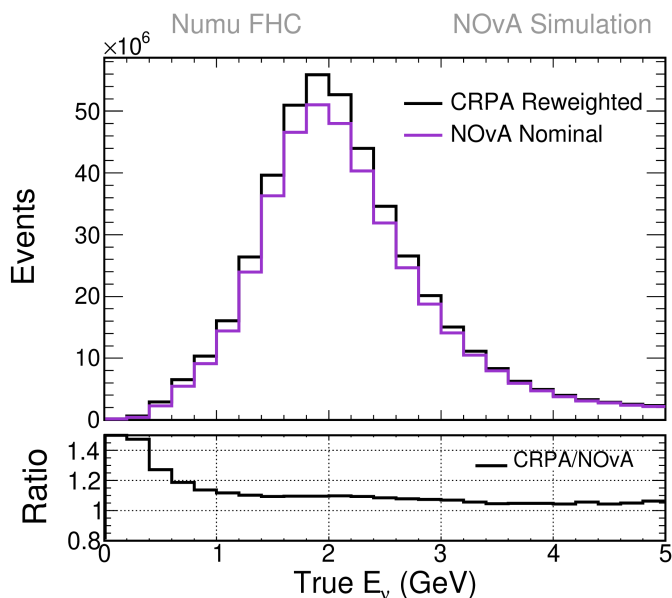


# Alternate CCQE model: CRPA (1)



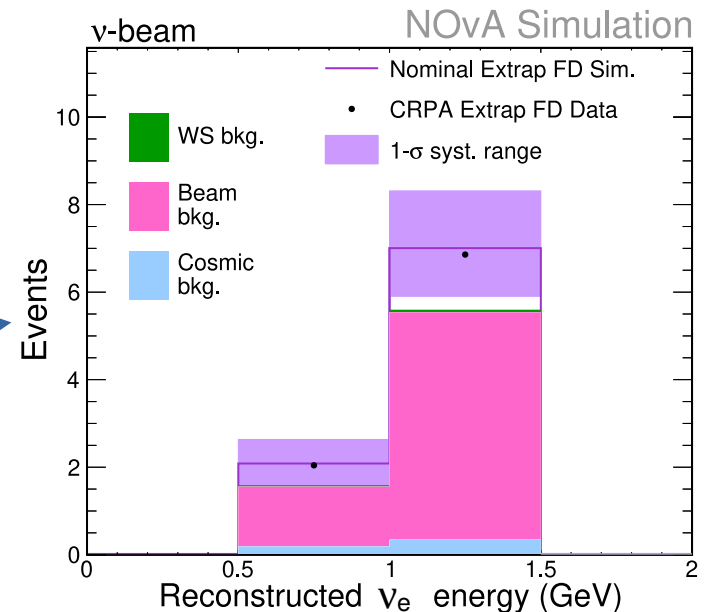
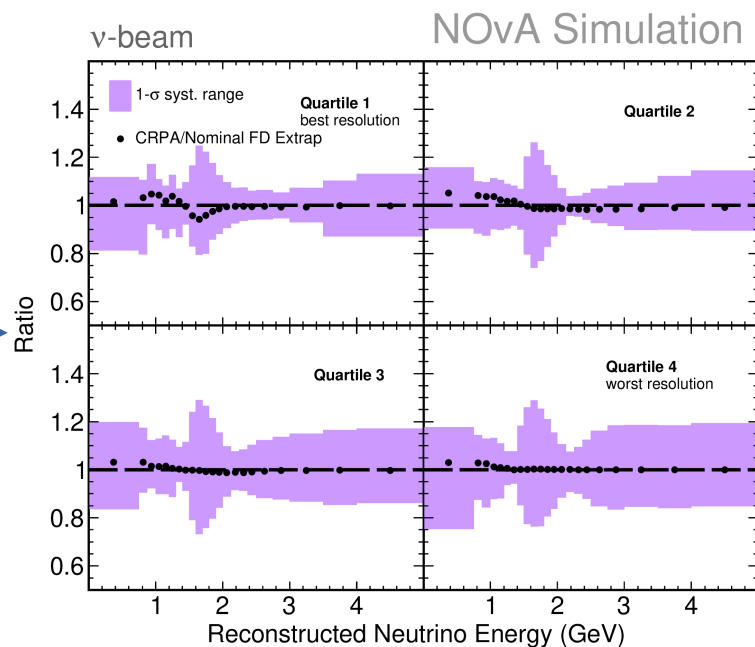
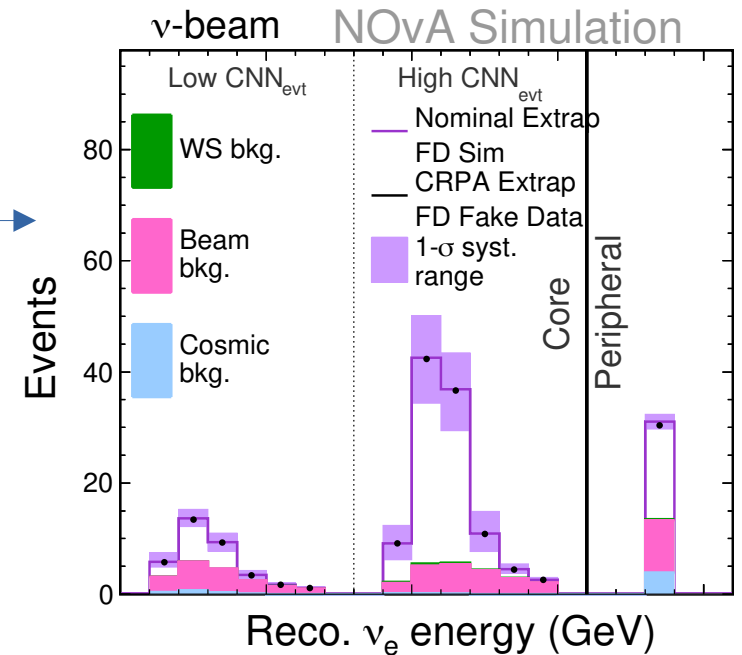
- Continuum Random Phase Approximation (CRPA) CCQE model\*
  - Improved treatment of low-momentum-transfer nuclear dynamics
  - Opens additional phase space at edges of kinematically allowed region relative to base NOvA model (València)
  - Affects lowest neutrino energies most
- Studied impact on NOvA samples
  - Generated alternate sample using GENIE 3.4 implementation<sup>†</sup>
  - Rewighted NOvA events using ratio to base GENIE prediction
  - Found effect of  $\nu_e/\nu_\mu$  difference to be negligible on NOvA samples, so used weights for  $\nu_\mu$  ( $\bar{\nu}_\mu$ ) everywhere

\*Phys. Rev. C92, 024606 †Phys. Rev. D106, 073001



# Alternate CCQE model: CRPA (2)

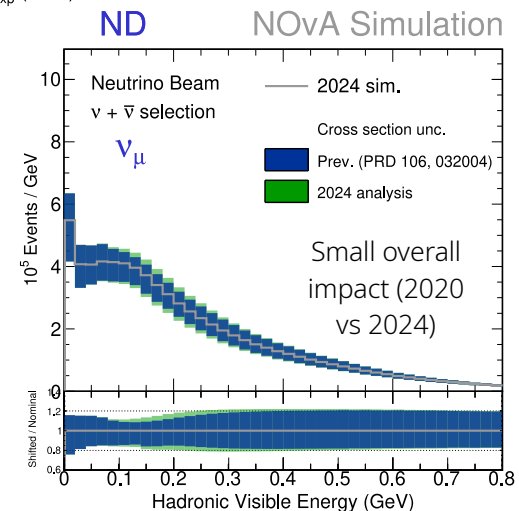
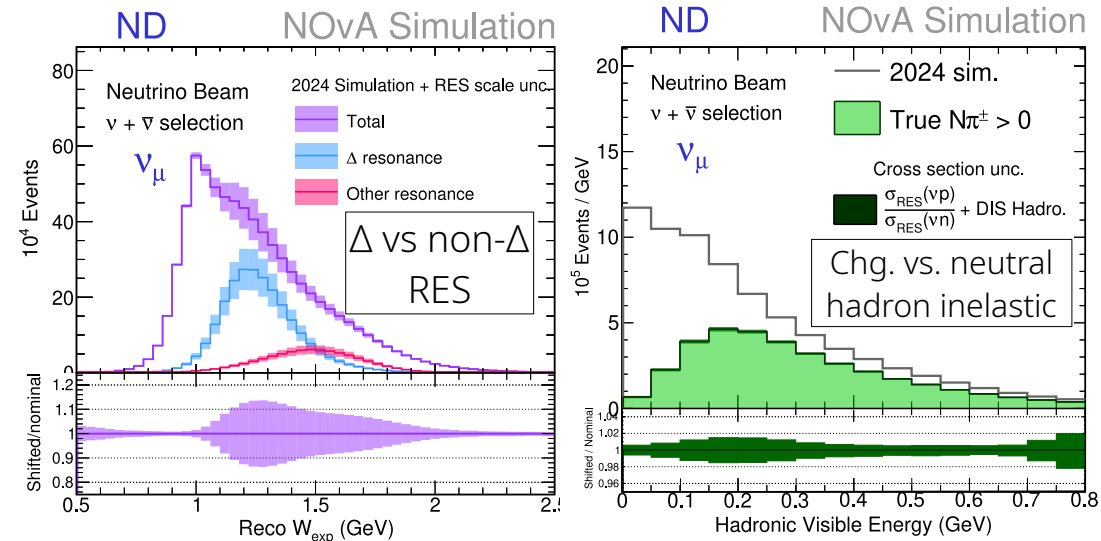
- Tested impact on NOvA analysis with fake data
  - Compared extrapolated CRPA prediction to extrapolated nominal
  - Spectral impact is well within extrapolated uncertainty budget
    - Impacts  $\nu_\mu$  quartile 1 the most, as expected (highest CCQE fraction)
    - ~Negligible impact on  $\nu_e$  samples
  - Performed fits using extrapolated CRPA prediction as fake data
- Overall analysis impact is very small
  - $\Delta m^2_{32}$ : resulting bias  $\sim 0.1\%$  ( $\sim 7\%$  of  $1\sigma$  interval)
  - $\sin^2\theta_{23}$ : resulting bias  $\sim 0.4\%$  ( $\sim 3\text{-}8\%$  of  $1\sigma$  interval)



# Pion production uncertainties

Introduce 3 pion-production related systematic uncertainties for 2024

- Relative strength of  $\Delta$  vs non- $\Delta$  resonant production (1 uncertainty)
  - Shift  $\Delta$  and non- $\Delta$  resonances  $\pm 20\%$  independently
    - Default GENIE: all resonances affected together
    - Overcounts  $\Delta$ -specific uncertainty somewhat with other GENIE knobs, but “conservative”
- Charged vs. neutral hadron production in RES, DIS (2 uncertainties)
  - Shift ratio of RES  $\Delta$ -channel proton/neutron final states by  $\pm 5\%$
  - Shift composition of proton/neutron final states in DIS
- Moderate impacts on pion-rich subsamples, but overall effect on uncertainty budget is minor



POSTER

415. New RES and DIS uncertainties for NOvA cross-section model

👤 Maria Martinez Casales (Fermilab), Michael Dolce

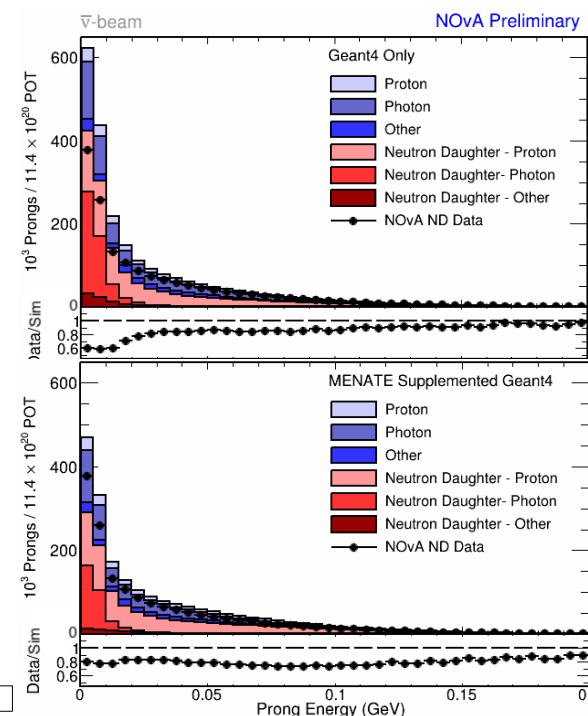
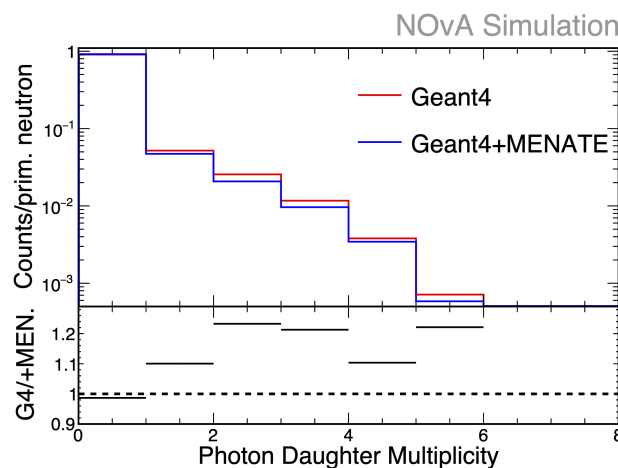
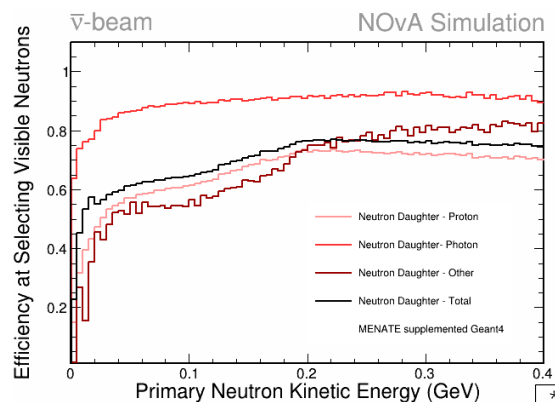
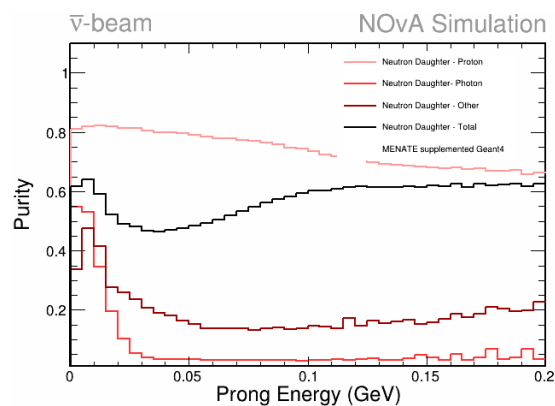
🕒 6/18/24, 5:30 PM

# Neutron propagation

## In situ ND neutron candidate sample

- 44% of primary neutrons deposit visible energy in NOvA (but deposited energy ~uncorrelated w/ primary KE)
- Simple cuts on number of cells illuminated ( $1 \geq N_{\text{cells}} \geq 5$ ) and distance from vertex ( $\geq 20\text{cm}$ )
- Select ~pure sample (61%) at high efficiency (73%) (relative to visible neutrons)

- Compare simulations of deposited energy to *in situ* ND data sample
  - Two options:
    - stock Geant4.10.4 (QGSP-BERT)
    - Geant4.10.4 with MENATE\_R\* neutron inelastic scattering cross section model (~20-100 MeV)
  - MENATE\_R agrees well with NOvA data in shape (significant improvement over G4)
  - Biggest difference b/w MENATE and G4 is in photon production
- Difference between MENATE\_R and GEANT4.10.4 used as input to systematic uncertainty
  - Normalization inflated to also cover residual data/sim. difference
  - Residual normalization difference may also suggest issue with neutron production simulation (GENIE)



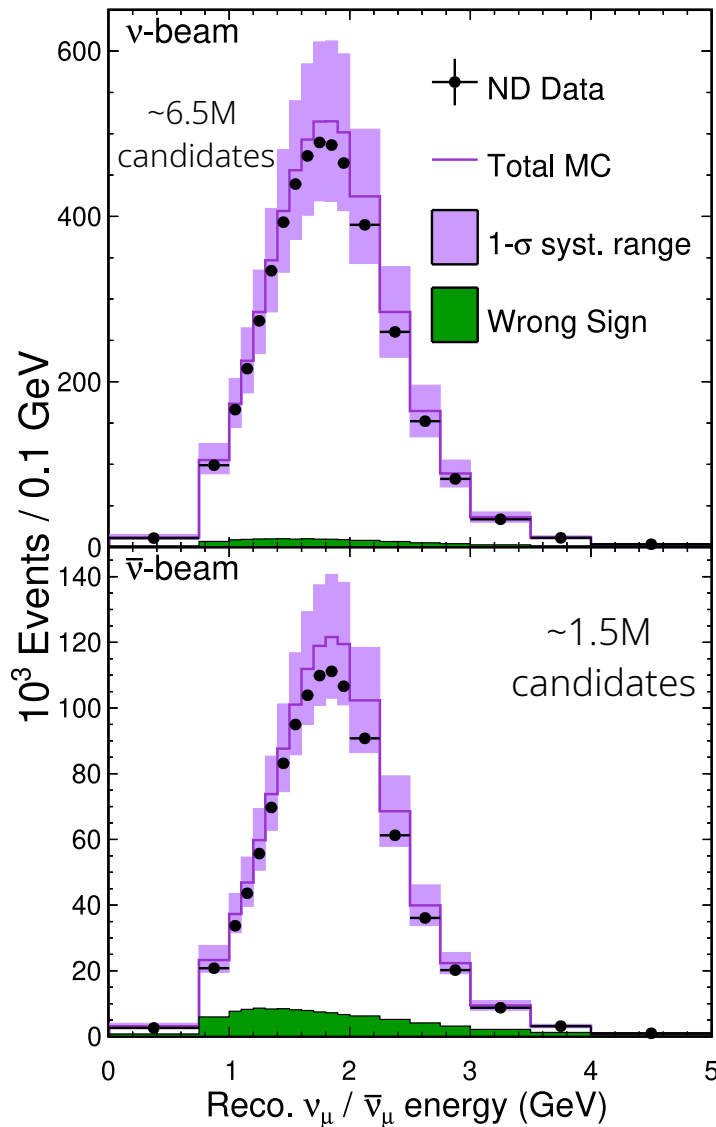
POST 403. Medium Energy Neutron Detector Response in NOvA  
 Andrew Sutton (Florida State Univer..., Miranda Rabelhofer  
 6/18/24, 5:30 PM

\* P. Désesquelles, et al., NIM A307 366-373 (1991), Z. Kohley, et al., NIM A682 59-65 (2012)

# ND data distributions

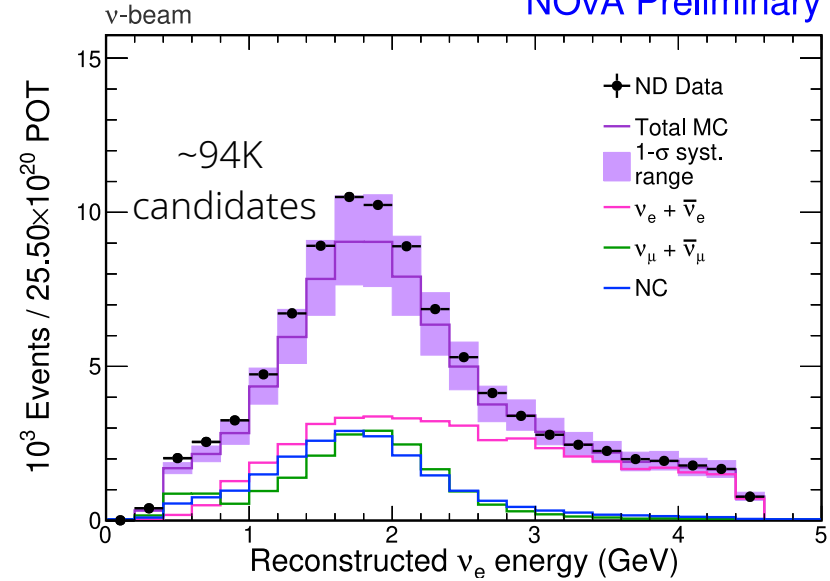


## $\nu_\mu$ candidates

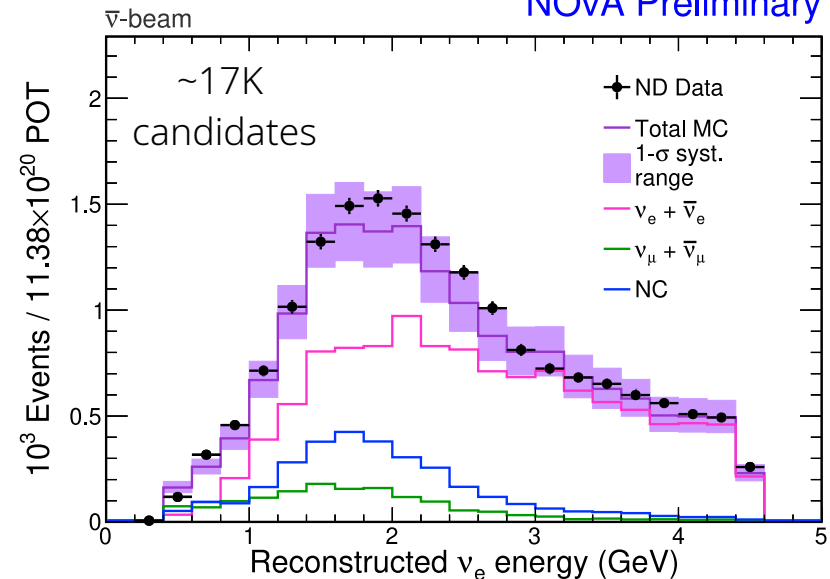


## $\nu_e$ candidates

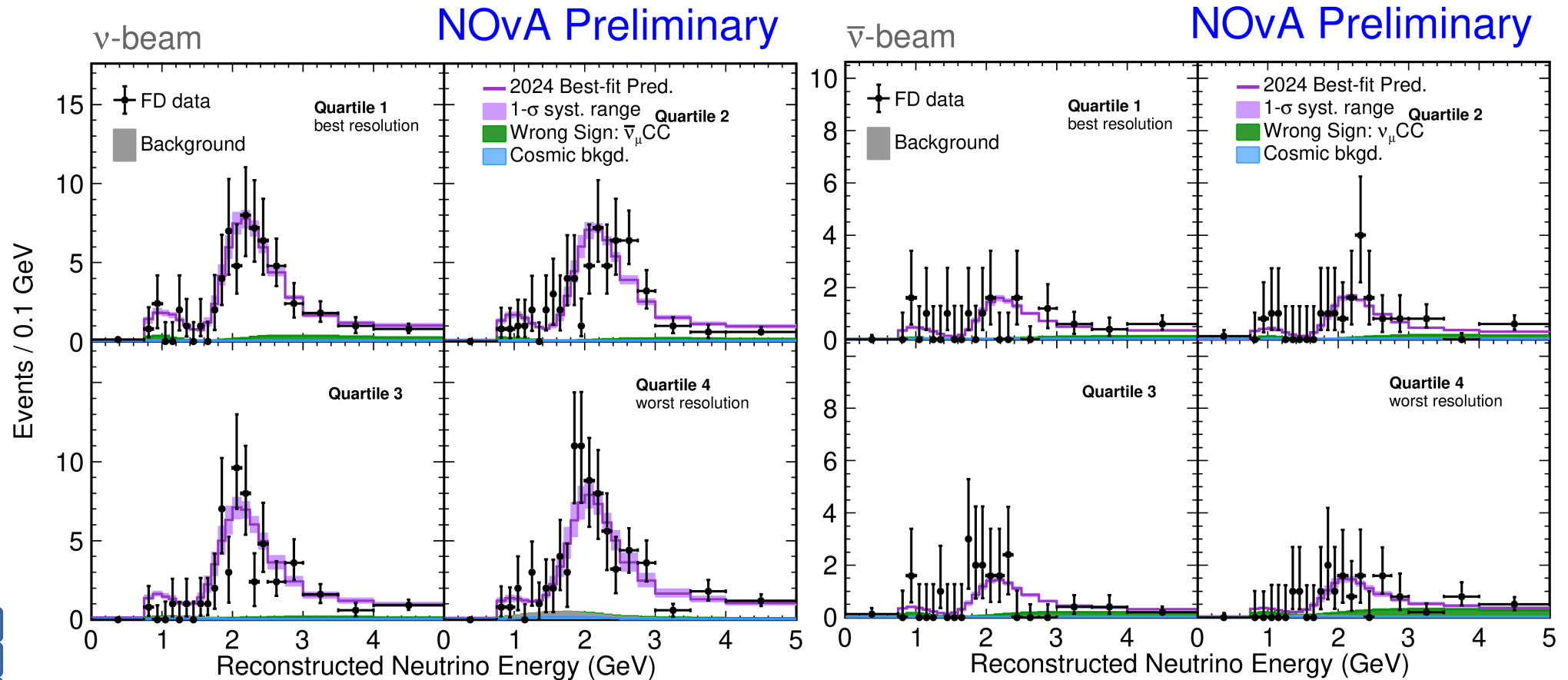
NOvA Preliminary



NOvA Preliminary



# FD data: $\nu_\mu$ in $E_{\text{had}}/E_\nu$ quantiles

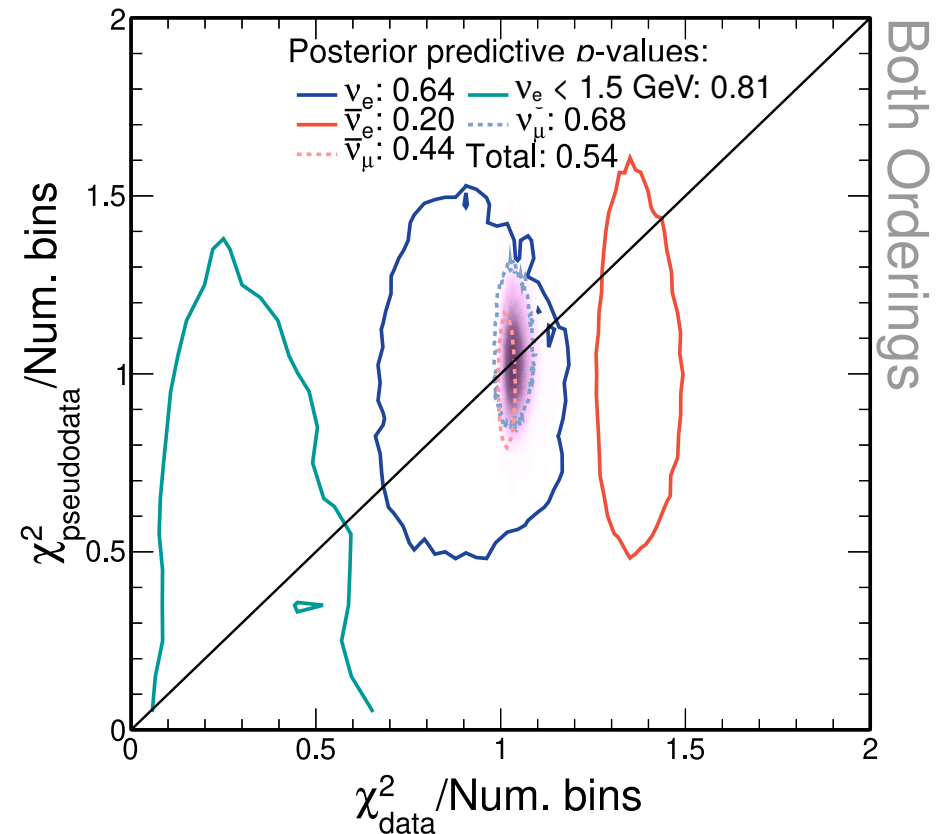


Extrapolation procedure is performed in  $|\mathbf{p}_t|$  subpopulations of  $E_{\text{had}}/E_\nu$  quartiles  
 Resolutions range from Q1 6.5% (5.4%) to Q4 12.6% (11.2%) in  $\nu$  ( $\bar{\nu}$ ) mode

# Goodness of fit

## Bayesian posterior predictive $p$ -values

- Procedure:
  - Throw pseudoexperiments (PSE) w/ Poisson fluctuations from each MCMC sample's parameter set  $\theta_i$
  - Make predictions for energy spectra
  - Compute  $\chi^2(\text{PSE}_i, \text{Asimov}_i)$  and  $\chi^2(\text{data}, \text{Asimov}_i)$  for each MCMC sample  $i$
  - $p$  = fraction of points where  $\chi^2_{\text{pseudodata}} > \chi^2_{\text{data}}$
- Asymptotic expectation is  $p = 0.5$ 
  - Deviations from 0.5 can indicate insufficient or excessive model freedom can push higher or lower
  - Large fluctuations can also push away from 0.5 (as in lowE  $\nu_e, \bar{\nu}_e$  samples here)



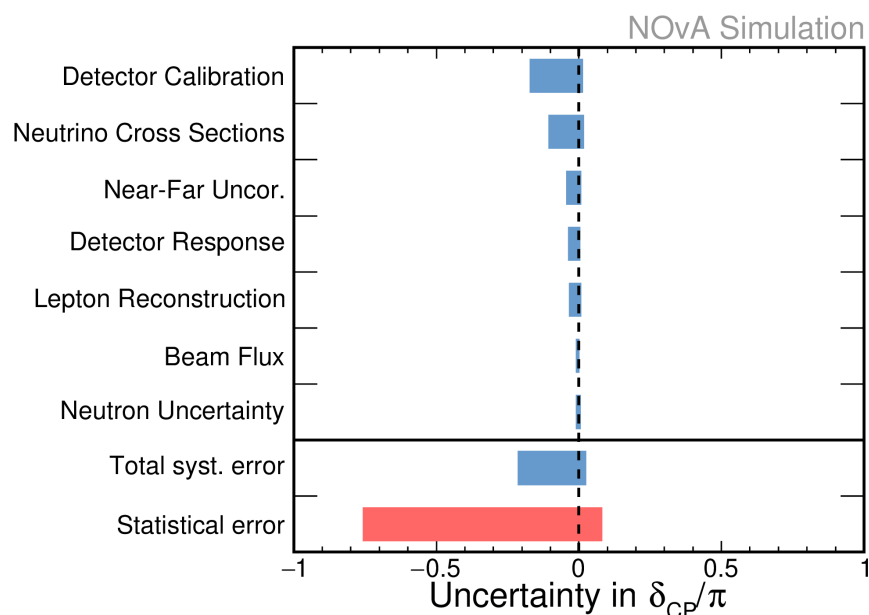
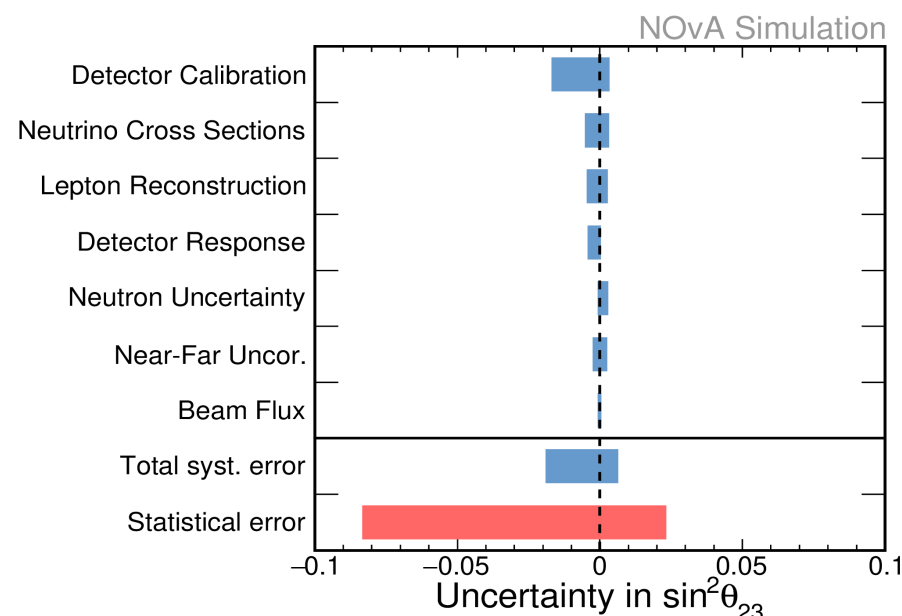
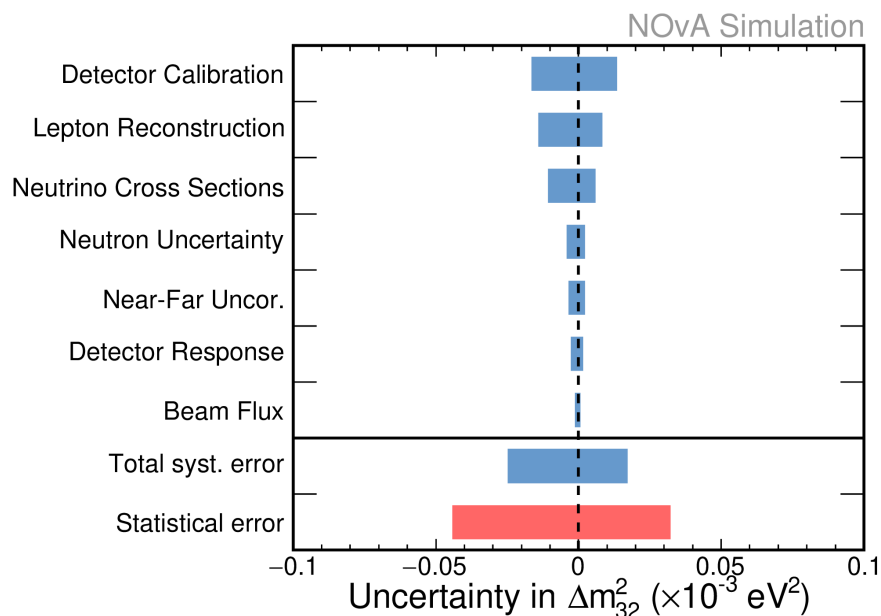
3-flavor oscillations + NO $\nu$ A systematic uncertainty model represents NO $\nu$ A data well



# Bayesian priors

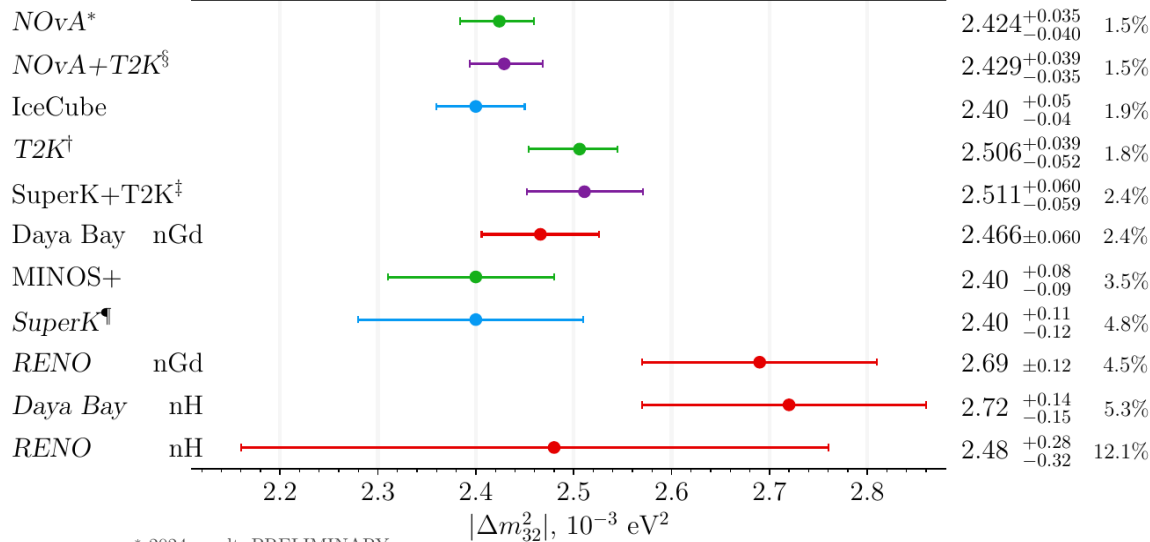
- Intent is to use “uninformed” prior where NOvA data constrains parameter
  - Typically: uniform
    - $\theta_{23}, \Delta m^2_{32}, \delta_{CP}$  marginals: uniform in those variables
  - In Jarlskog more complex:  $J \propto \sin \delta_{CP}$ . Uniform in  $\delta_{CP}$  or  $\sin \delta_{CP}$ ?
    - test both
- 1D constraints from external measurements treated as Gaussian priors
  - Solar parameters ( $\theta_{12}, \Delta m^2_{21}$ )
  - Daya Bay 1D  $\sin^2 2\theta_{13}$
- 2D constraint from Daya Bay uses reported  $\chi^2$  surface directly
  - $\Pr(\Delta m^2_{32}, \theta_{13}) = \exp(-\frac{1}{2}\chi^2)$

# Uncertainties on PMNS parameters



# $\Delta m^2_{32}$ across expts

Normal mass ordering



v11 2024.05: git.jinr.ru/nu/osc

\* 2024 result, PRELIMINARY

§ based on 2020 ana.

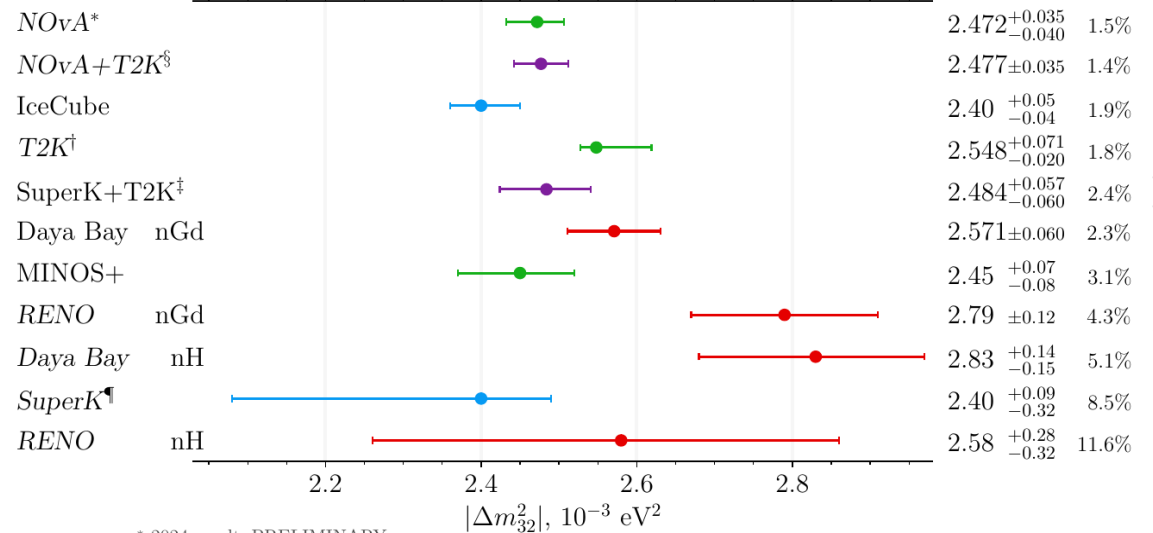
† Neutrino-2022 result

Preliminary  
Published

¶ SKI-V result, arXiv:2311.05105

‡ based on SK IV and T2K 2020. arXiv:2405.12488

Inverted mass ordering



\* 2024 result, PRELIMINARY

§ based on 2020 ana.

† Neutrino-2022 result

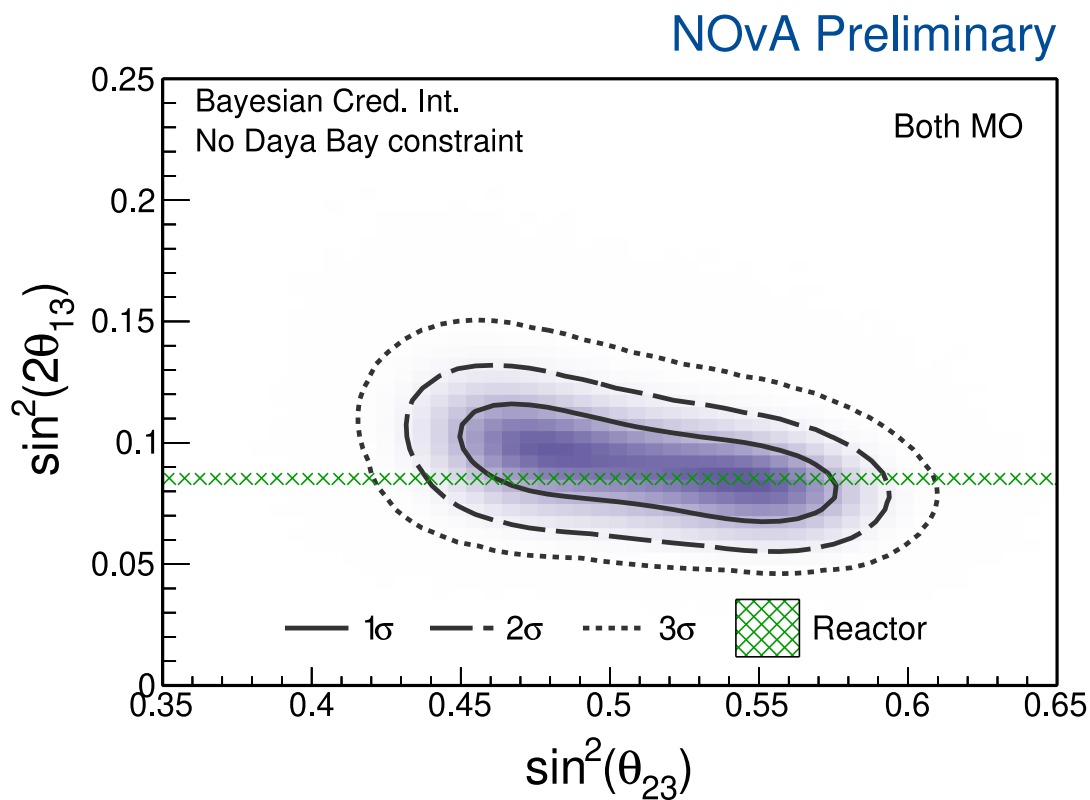
Preliminary  
Published

¶ SKI-V result, arXiv:2311.05105

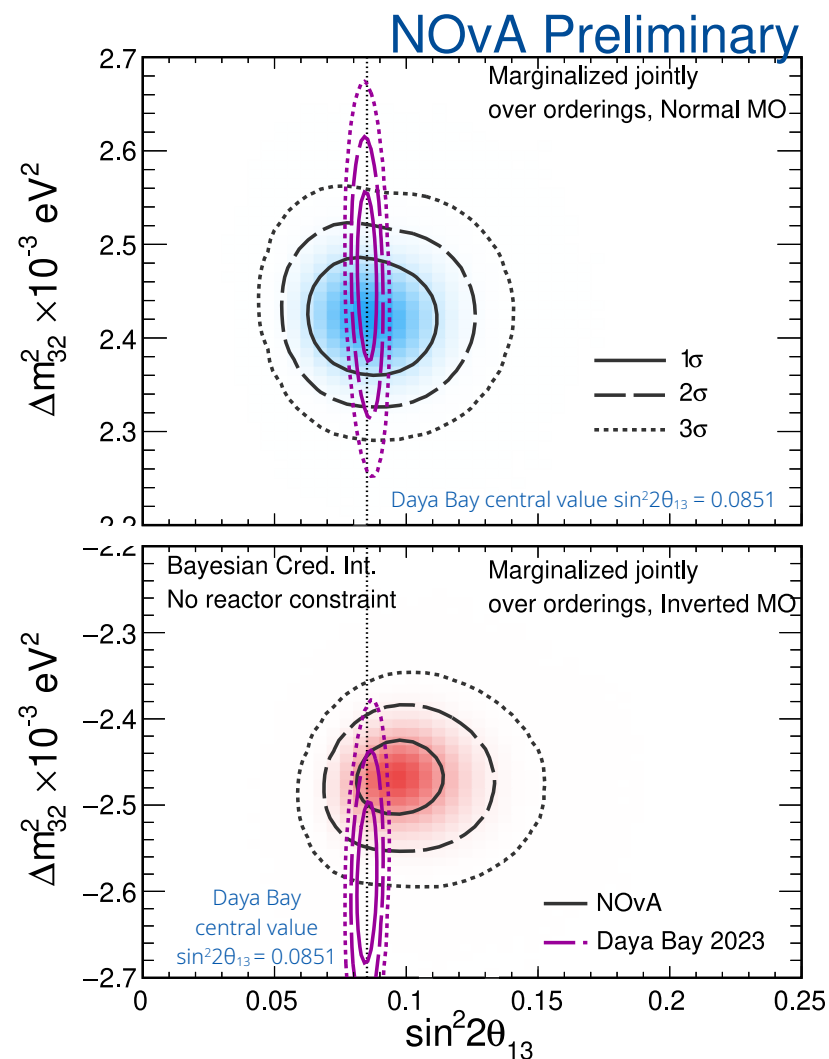
‡ based on SK IV and T2K 2020, arXiv:2405.12488

v11 2024.05: git.jinr.ru/nu/osc

# Daya Bay – NOvA correlations

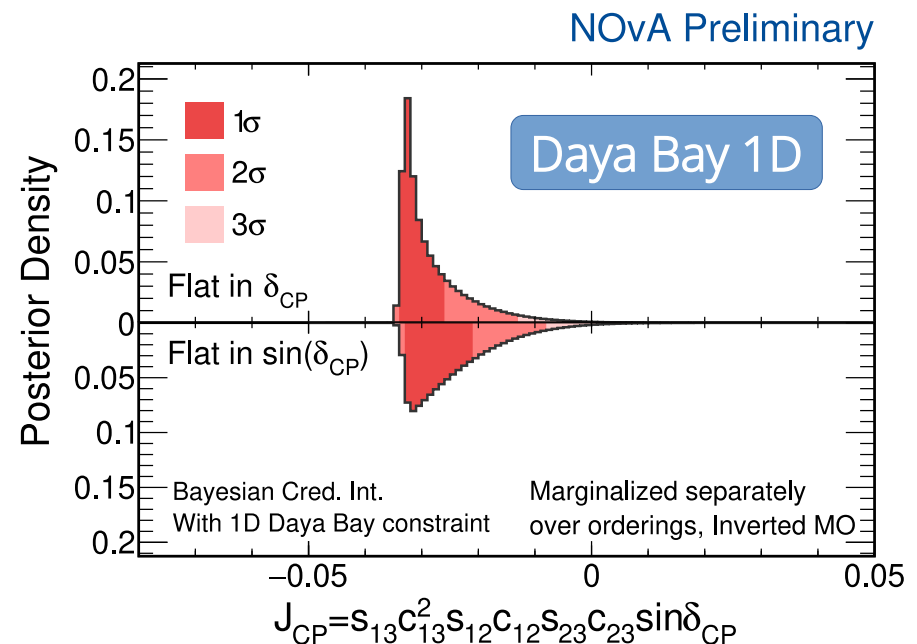
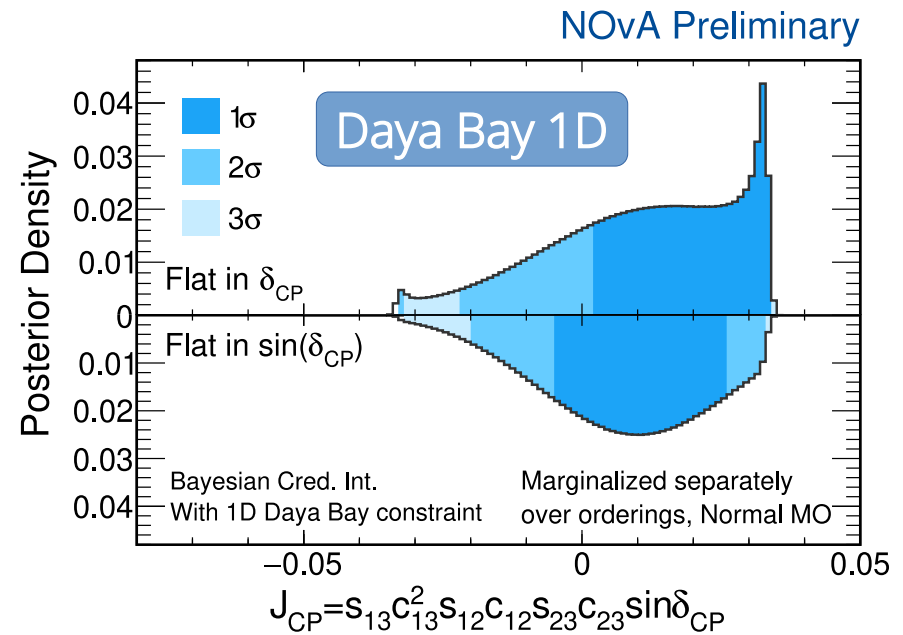


Daya Bay preferred regions  
resolve some degeneracies  
in NOvA-only data



# Jarlskog invariant

- Jarlskog\* is parameter-independent measure of CP violation
  - $J=0$  indicates CP conservation regardless of parameterization
  - $J \neq 0$  correspondingly indicates CP violation
- Jarlskog posterior shape depends on assumptions
  - Depends on all mixing angles and  $\delta_{CP}$
  - Uniform prior on  $\delta_{CP}$  not uniform in  $J$  and vice versa  $\rightarrow$  consider both
  - Use 1D  $\theta_{13}$  constraint from Daya Bay
  - Other parameters constrained sufficiently well to that (reasonable) prior choice does not influence result
- CP conservation ( $J=0$ ):
  - Strong compatibility w/ posterior in NO, regardless of  $\delta_{CP}$  prior
  - Strong tension w/ posterior in IO, but only "uniform in  $\delta_{CP}$ " prior has  $J=0$  outside  $3\sigma$  interval



\*See, e.g., [PRD 100, 053004](#)