

# New Physics at MicroBooNE

Mark Ross-Lonergan  
*On behalf of the MicroBooNE Collaboration*

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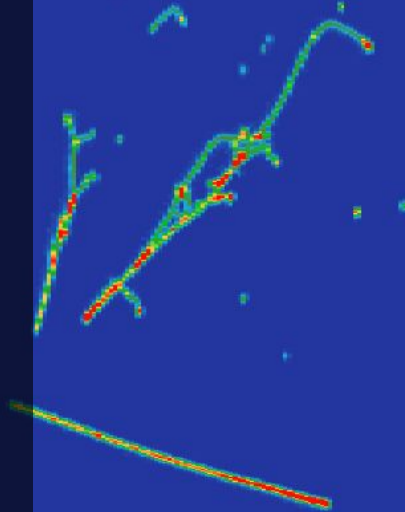
$\mu$ BooNE



Los Alamos  
NATIONAL LABORATORY



Fermilab



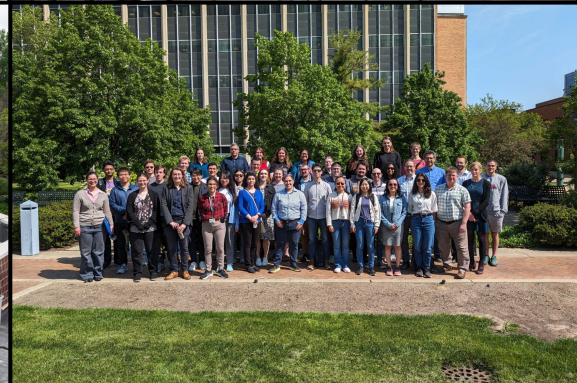
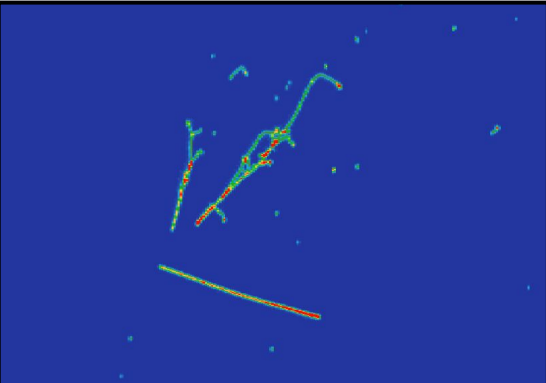
# The MicroBooNE LArTPC Experiment

## 1. Introduction MicroBooNE

The **world's longest running** Liquid Argon Time Projection Chamber (LArTPC) in a neutrino beam

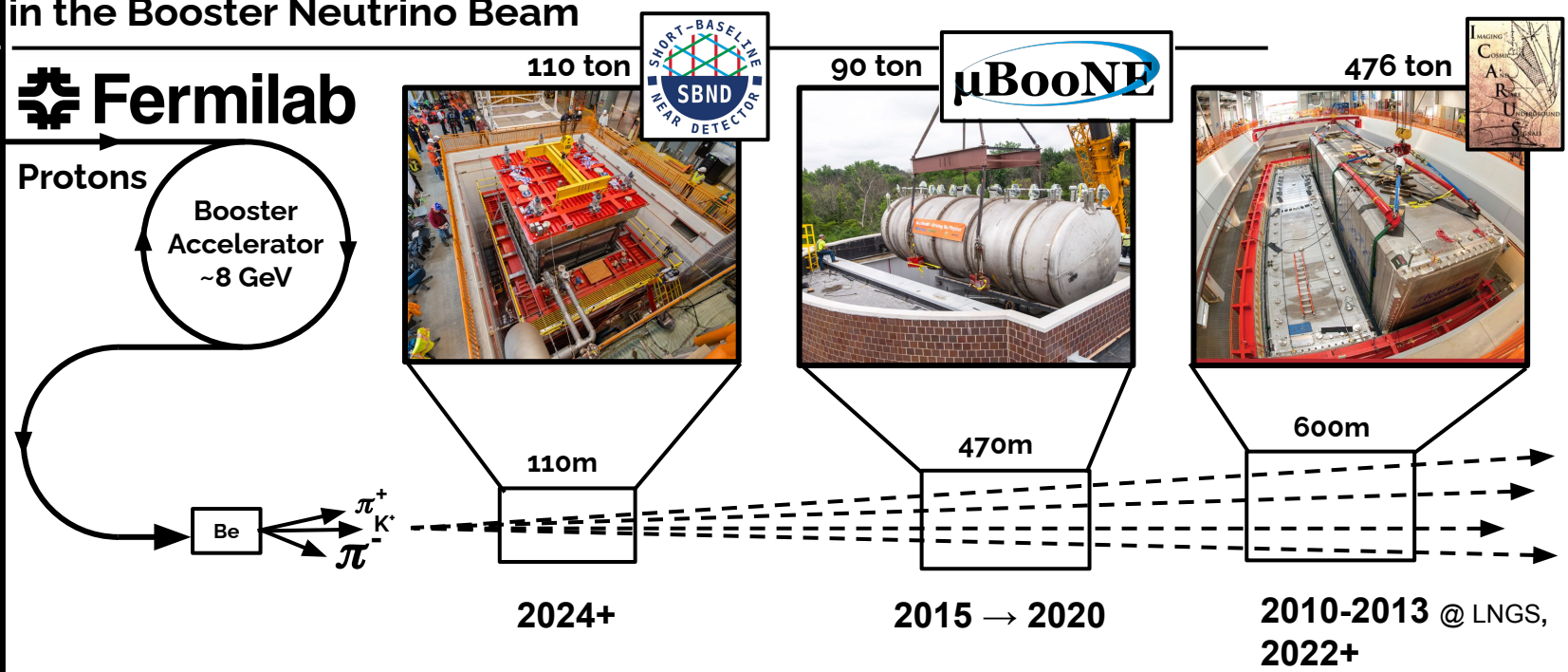
Collected data for five years from 2015 to 2020, amassing the **largest sample of neutrino interactions on argon in the world**

**μBooNE**



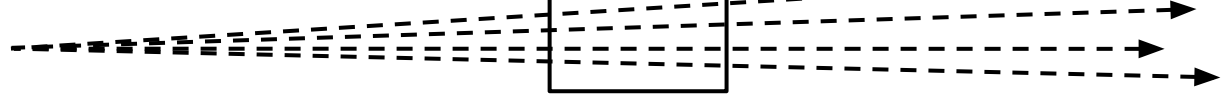
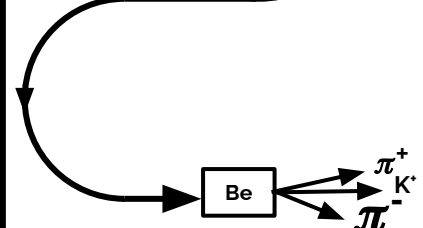
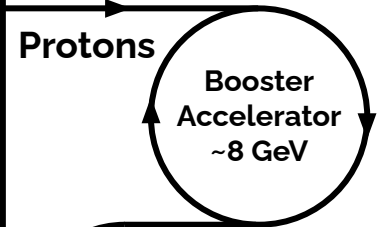
# Experiments in the Booster Neutrino Beam

- 1. Introduction
- MicroBooNE
- Neutrino Source



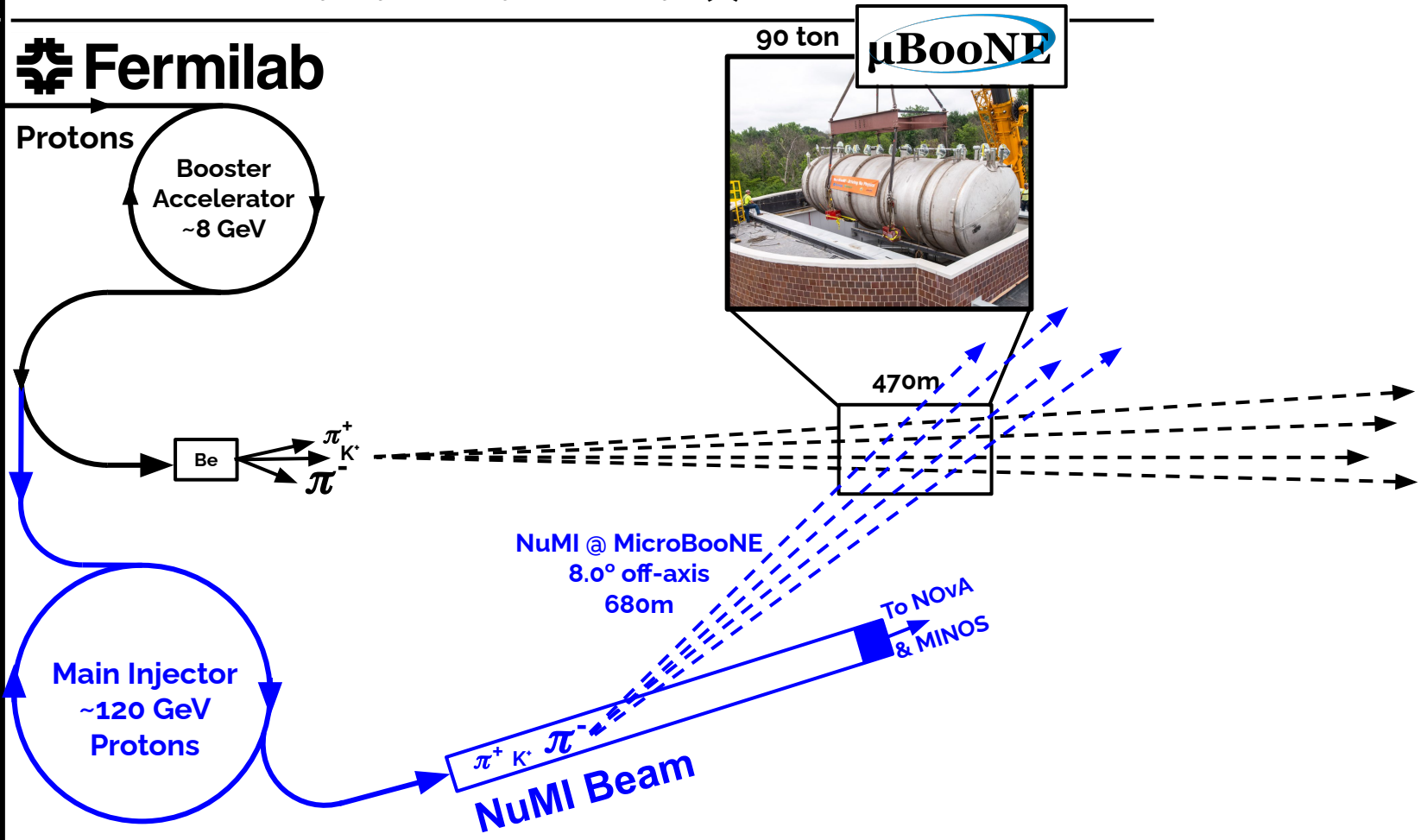
# Experiments in the Booster Neutrino Beam

- 1. [Introduction](#)
- MicroBooNE
- Neutrino Source



# Experiments in the Booster and NuMI Neutrino Beam(s)

- 1. Introduction
- MicroBooNE
- Neutrino Source(s)



# Neutrino Fluxes at MicroBooNE

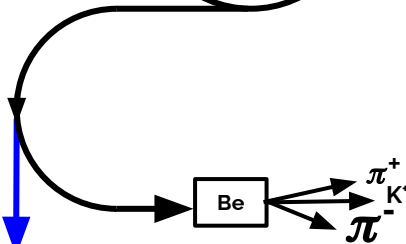
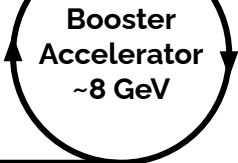
## 1. Introduction

MicroBooNE

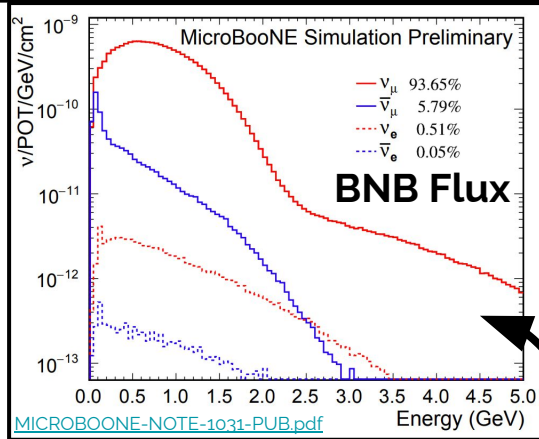
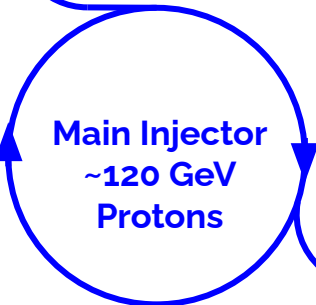
Neutrino Source(s)



Protons



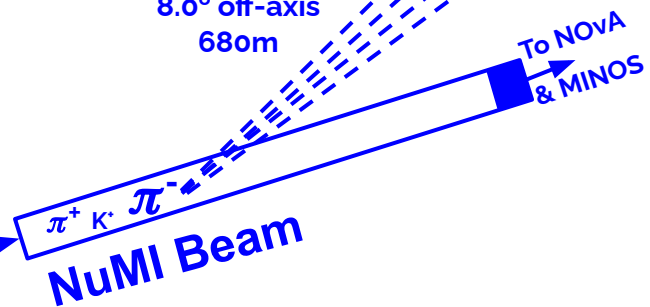
$\pi^+$   
 $\pi^-$   
 $K^+$



0.55%  $\nu_e/\bar{\nu}_e$



NuMI @ MicroBooNE  
8.0° off-axis  
680m



# Neutrino Fluxes at MicroBooNE

## 1. Introduction

MicroBooNE

Neutrino Source(s)



Protons

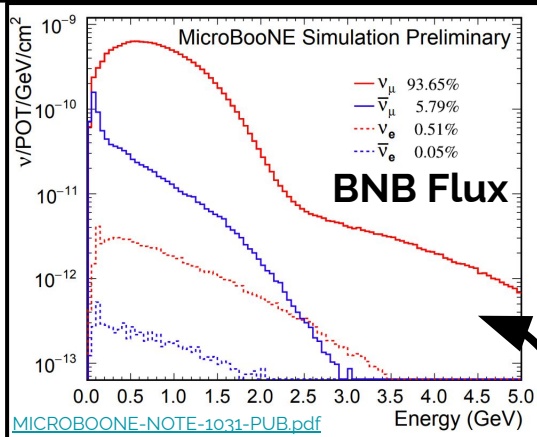
Booster  
Accelerator  
~8 GeV

Be  $\rightarrow \pi^+, K^+, \pi^-$

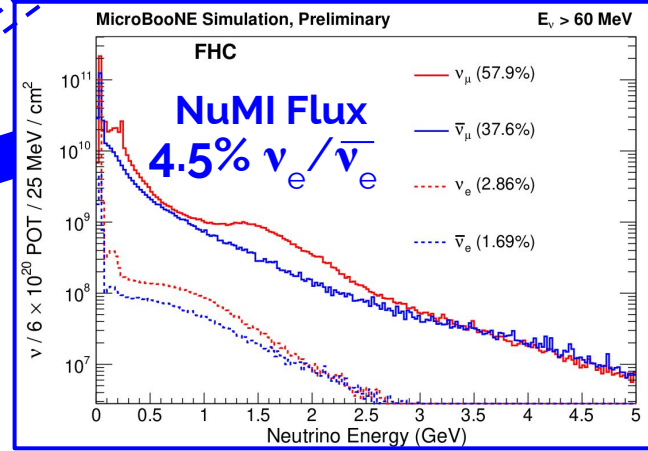
Main Injector  
~120 GeV  
Protons

$\pi^+, K^+, \pi^-$   
NuMI Beam

NuMI @ MicroBooNE  
8.0° off-axis  
680m



0.55%  $\nu_e/\bar{\nu}_e$



# Liquid Argon Time Projection Chamber Detector Technology

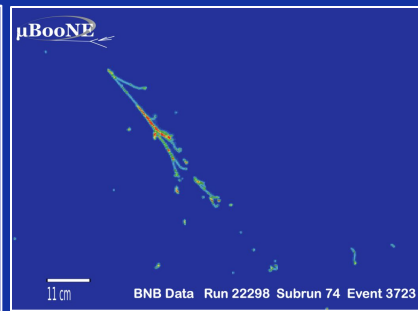
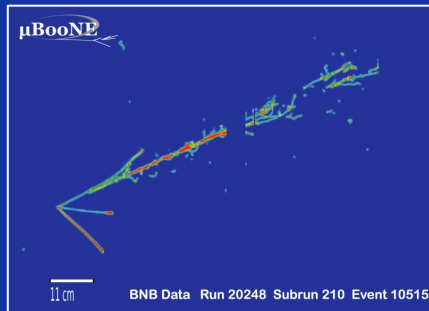
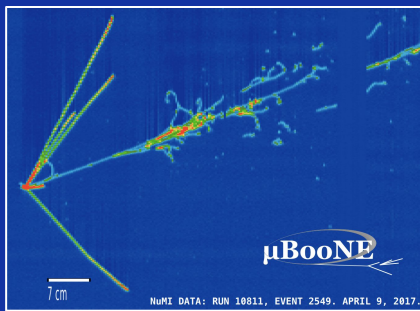
## 1. Introduction

MicroBooNE

Neutrino Source(s)

LArTPC Detector

Extremely  
effective **Particle  
ID capabilities**

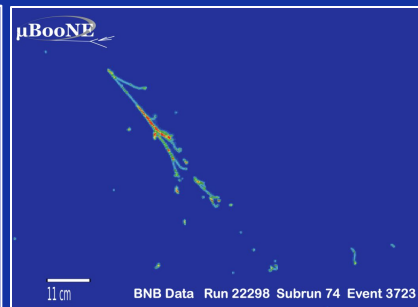
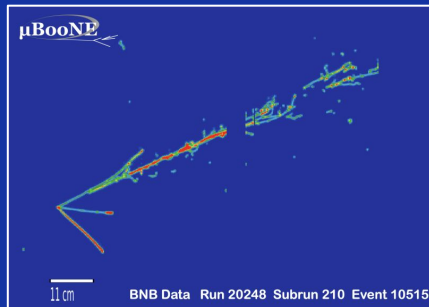
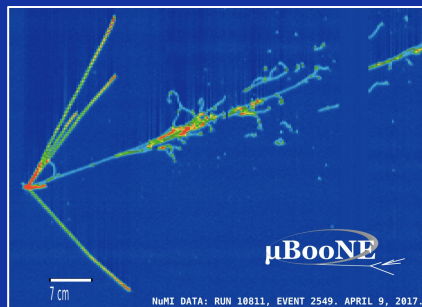




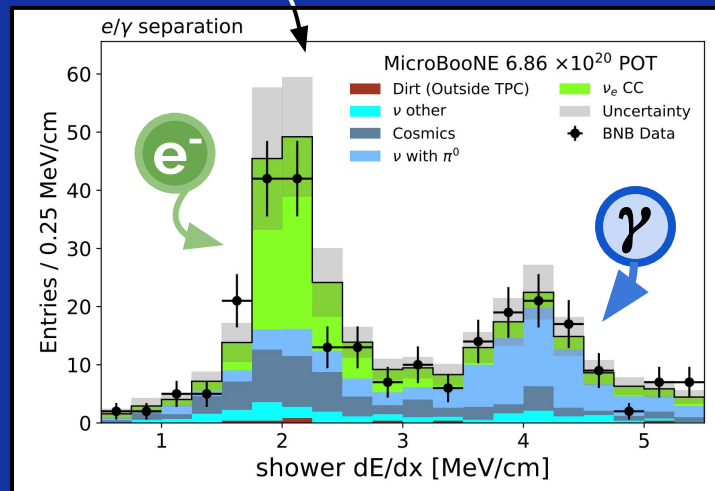
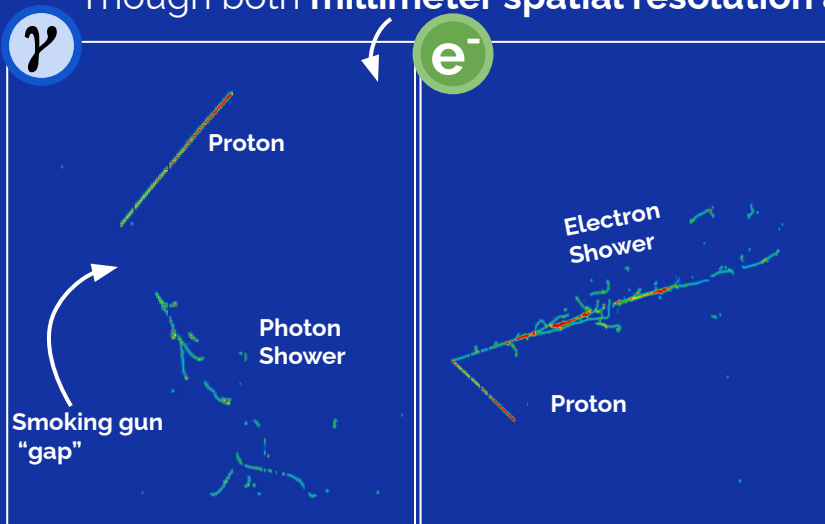
# Liquid Argon Time Projection Chamber Detector Technology

## 1. Introduction MicroBooNE Neutrino Source(s) LArTPC Detector

Extremely  
effective **Particle  
ID capabilities**



Strong **photon** ↔ **electron** separation  
Though both **millimeter spatial resolution** and **Calorimetry**



# The Physics Goals of MicroBooNE

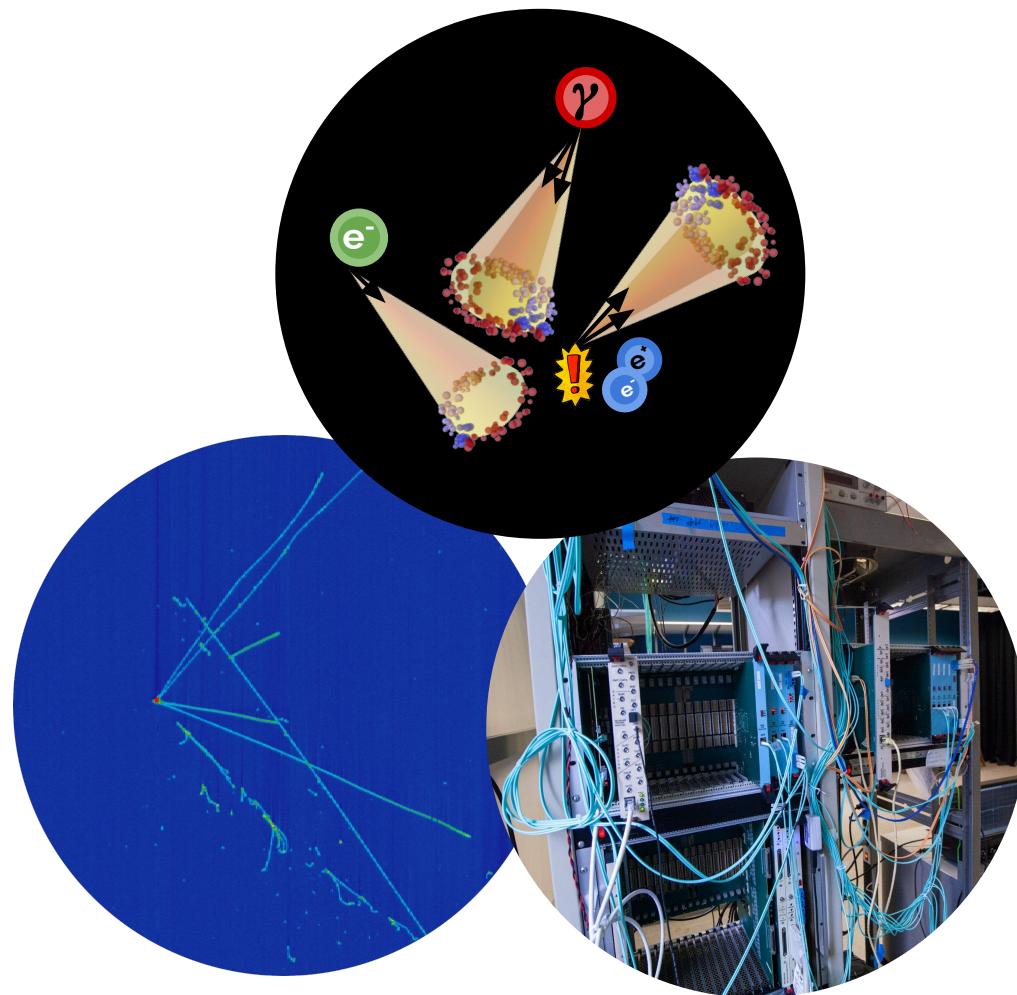
## 1. Introduction

MicroBooNE

Neutrino Source(s)

LArTPC Detector

Physics Goals



# The Physics Goals of MicroBooNE

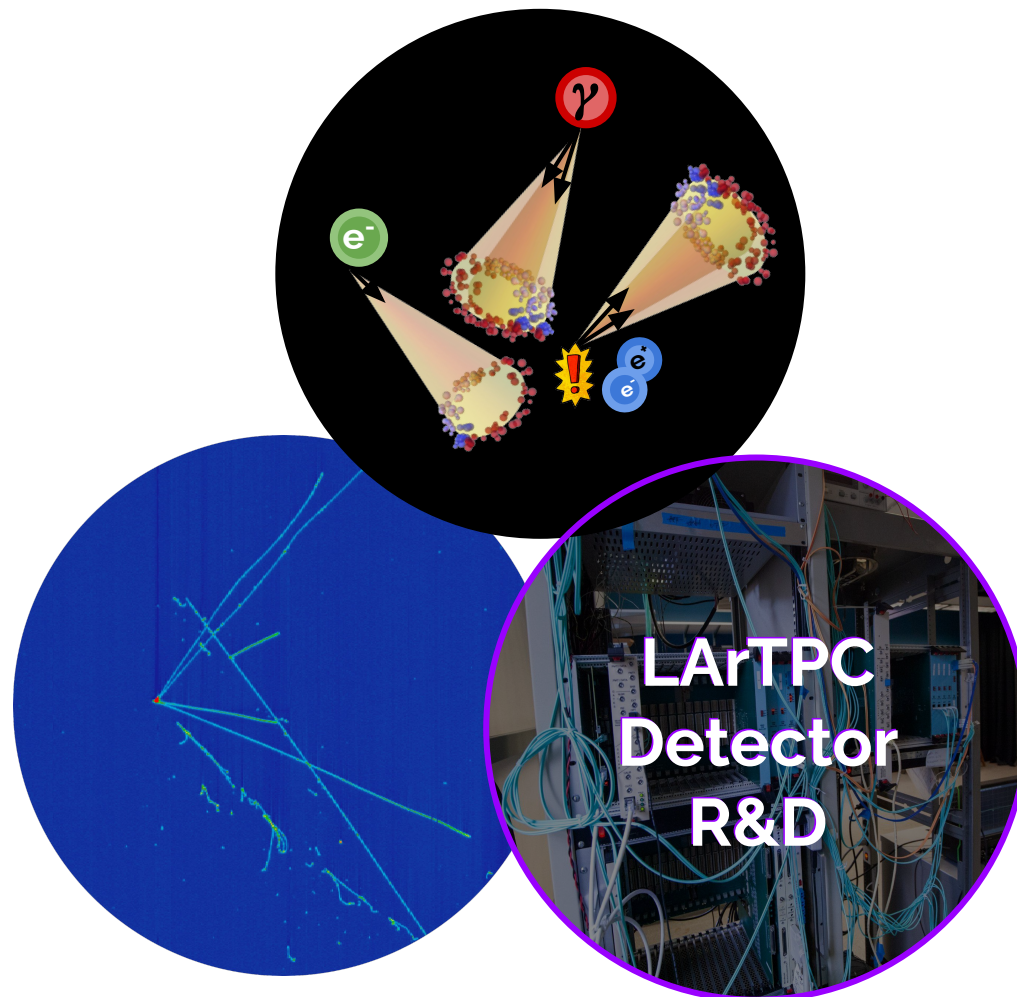
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# The Physics Goals of MicroBooNE

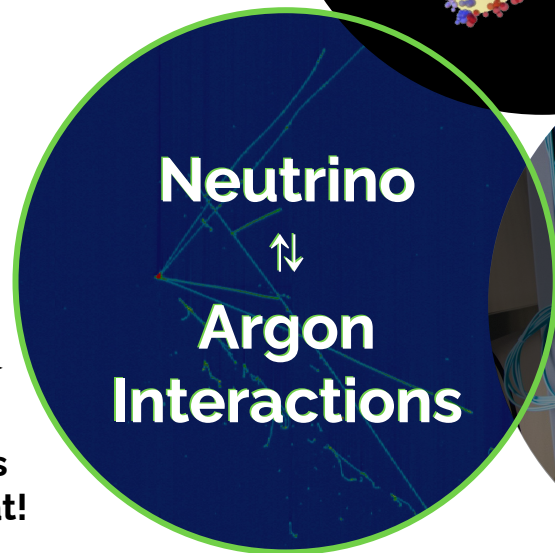
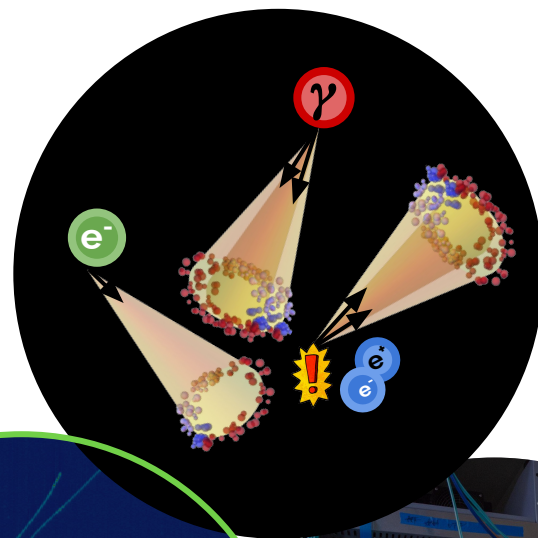
## 1. Introduction

MicroBooNE

Neutrino Source(s)

LArTPC Detector

Physics Goals



See  J. Nowak's talk on Sat!



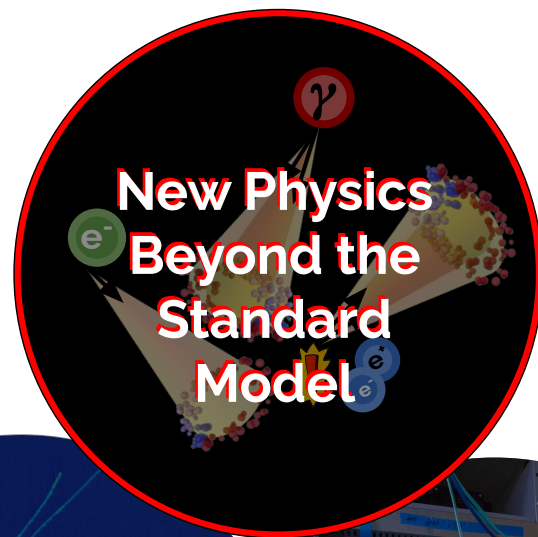
## 1. Introduction

MicroBooNE

Neutrino Source(s)

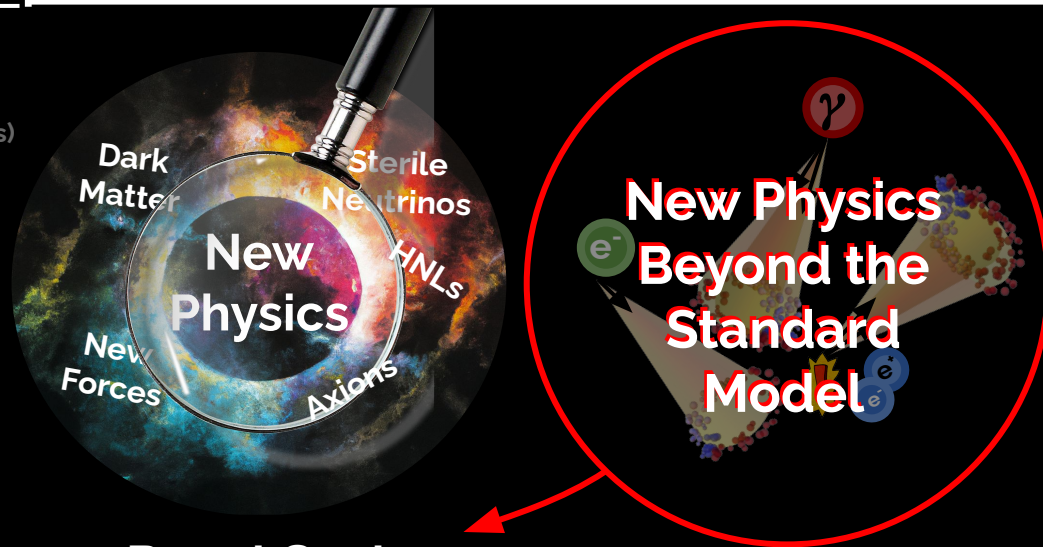
LArTPC Detector

Physics Goals



## 1. Introduction

MicroBooNE  
Neutrino Source(s)  
LArTPC Detector  
Physics Goals



## Broad Goals

Broadly speaking, MicroBooNE aims to probe all forms of "Beyond the Standard Model" **(BSM) new physics** it is sensitive to.

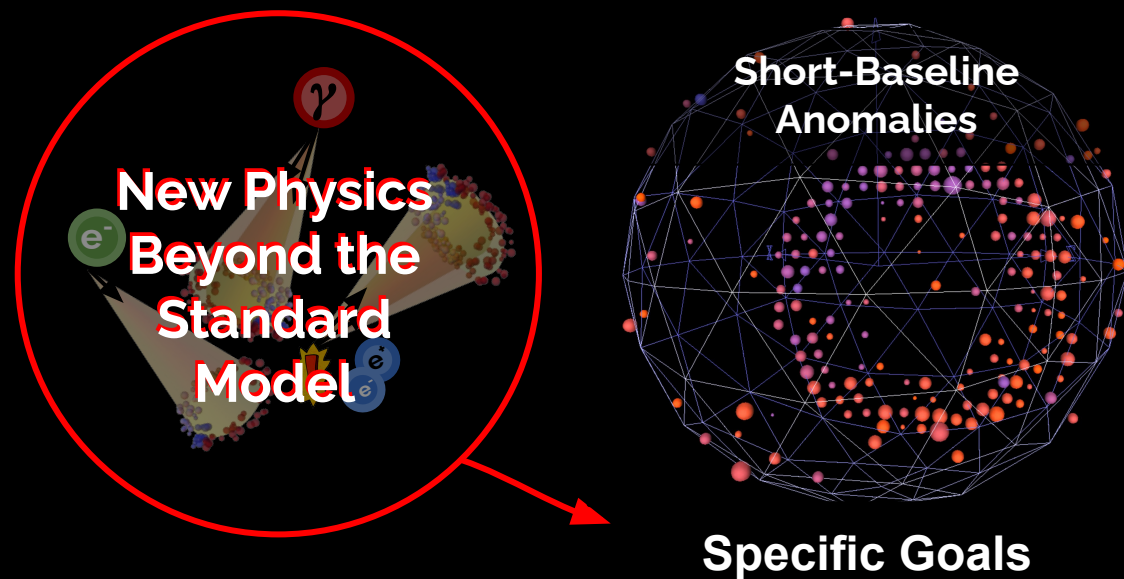
## 1. Introduction

MicroBooNE

Neutrino Source(s)

LArTPC Detector

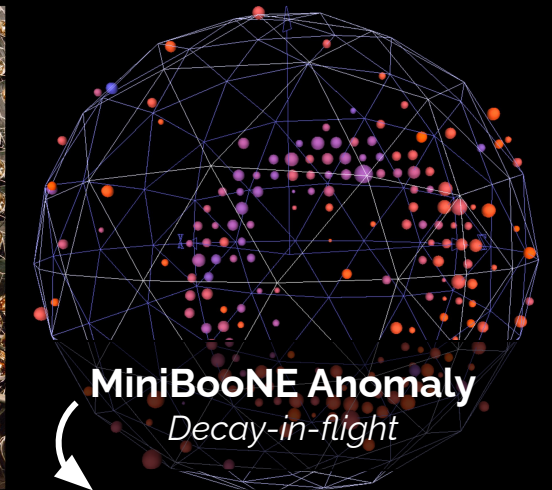
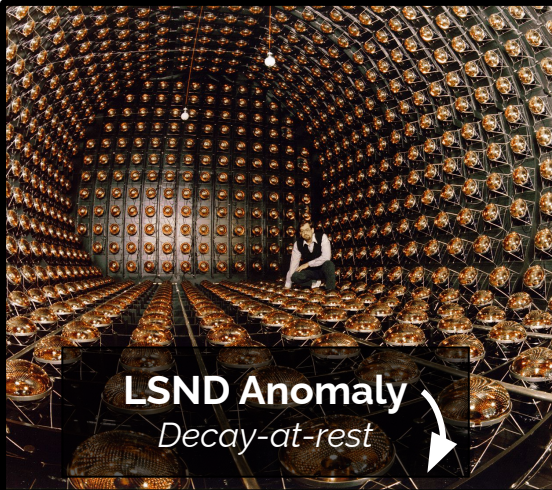
Physics Goals



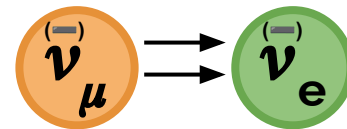
# The Short Baseline Anomalies

## 1. Introduction

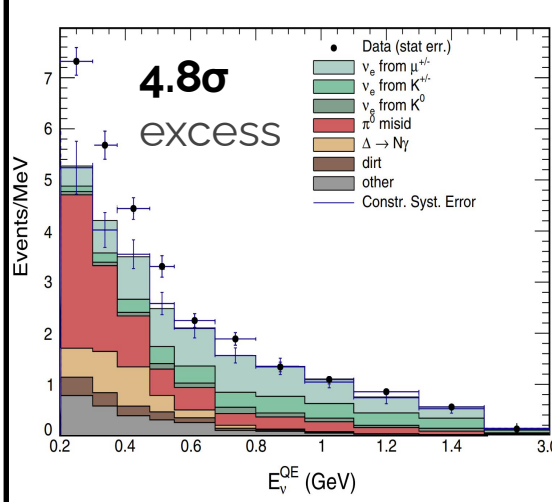
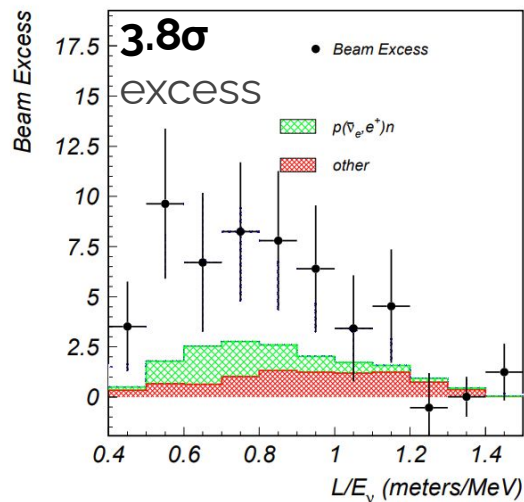
MicroBooNE  
Neutrino Source(s)  
LArTPC Detector  
Physics Goals



Observed excess of  
electron like events in  
a



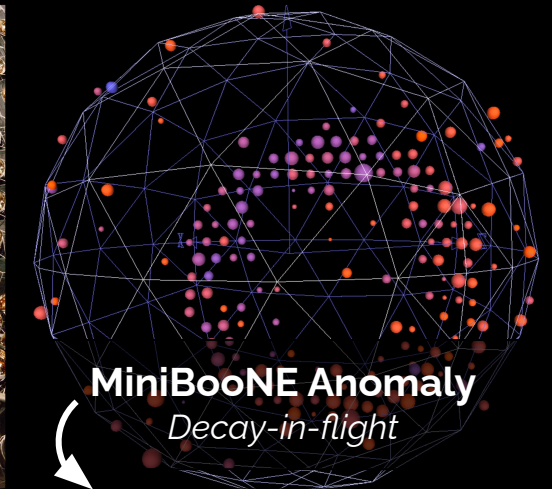
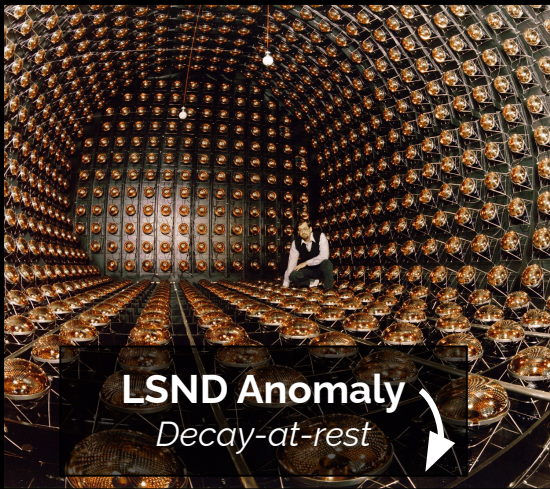
experiment



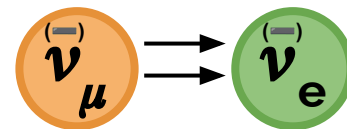


# The Short Baseline Anomalies

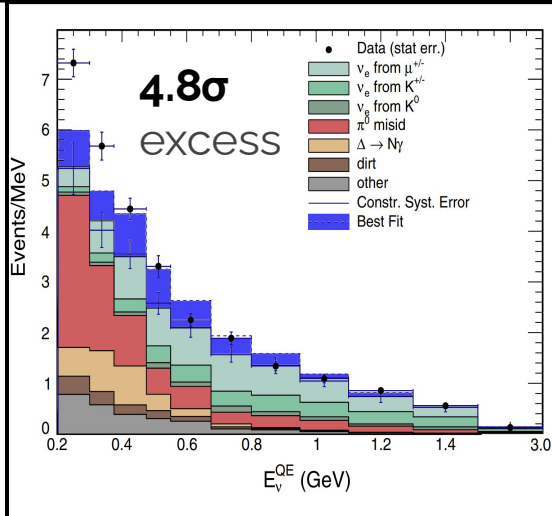
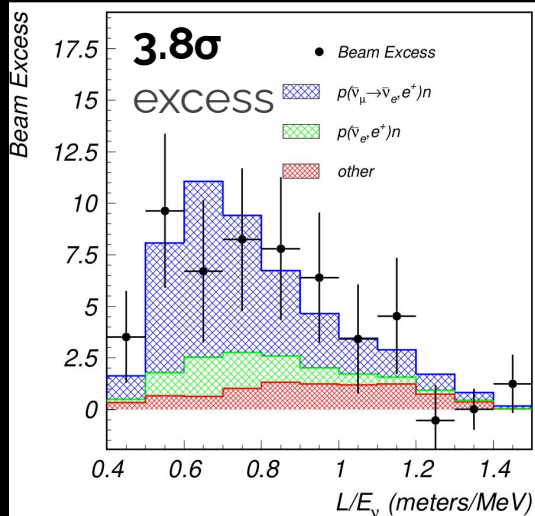
- 1. Introduction
- MicroBooNE
- Neutrino Source(s)
- LArTPC Detector
- Physics Goals



Observed excess of electron like events in a



experiment.



*Individually*  
consistent with  $\sim 1 \text{ eV}^2$   
**scale sterile neutrino**  
oscillations

# The Short Baseline Anomalies

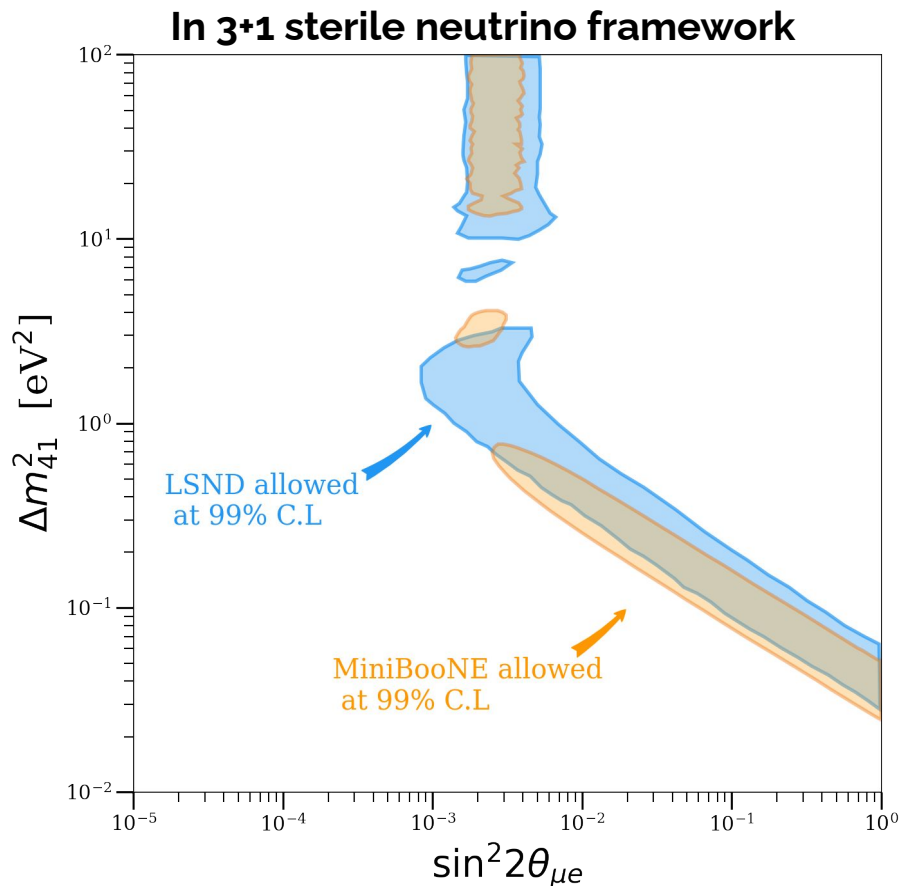
## 1. Introduction

MicroBooNE

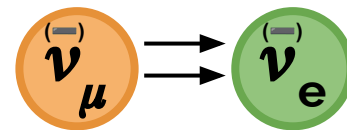
Neutrino Source(s)

LArTPC Detector

Physics Goals



Observed excess of electron like events in a



experiment.

*Individually*  
consistent with  $\sim 1$  eV<sup>2</sup>  
**scale sterile neutrino**  
oscillations

# Particular focus on MiniBooNE

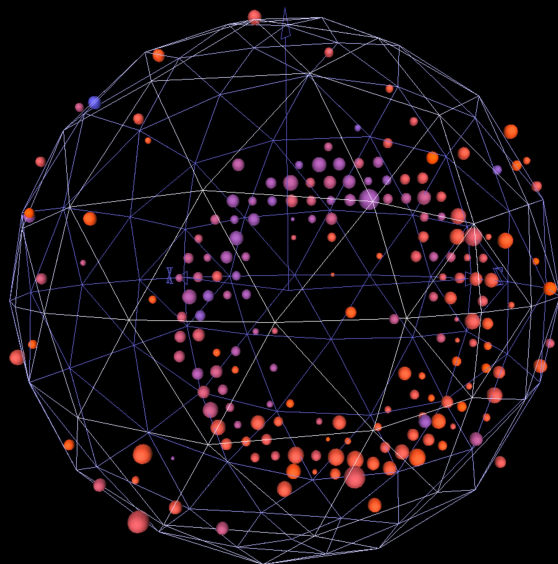
## 1. Introduction

MicroBooNE

Neutrino Source(s)

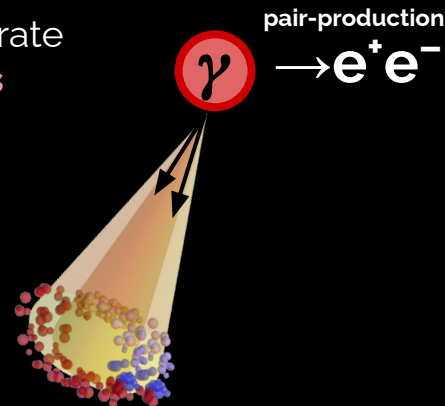
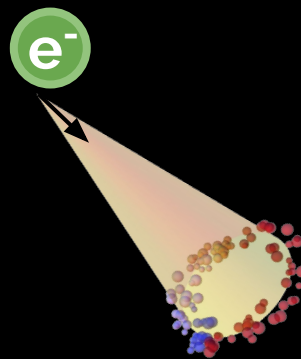
LArTPC Detector

Physics Goals

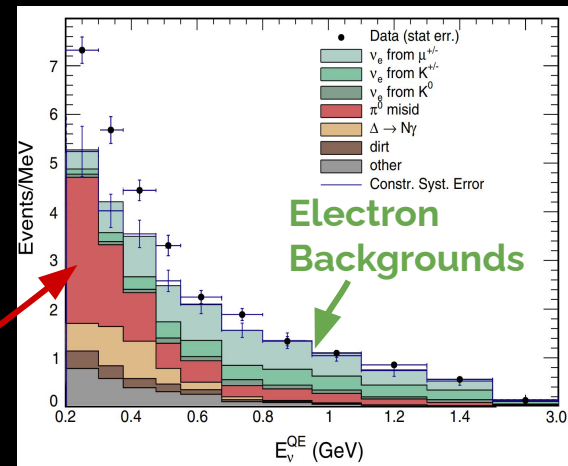


Cherenkov ring event  
in MiniBooNE

MiniBooNE couldn't separate  
**electrons** from **photons**



Photon  
Backgrounds



## 1. Introduction

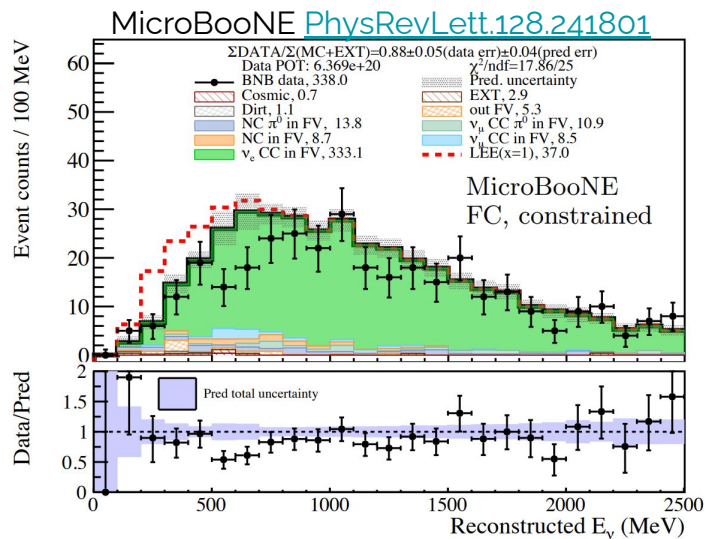
MicroBooNE

Neutrino Source(s)

LArTPC Detector

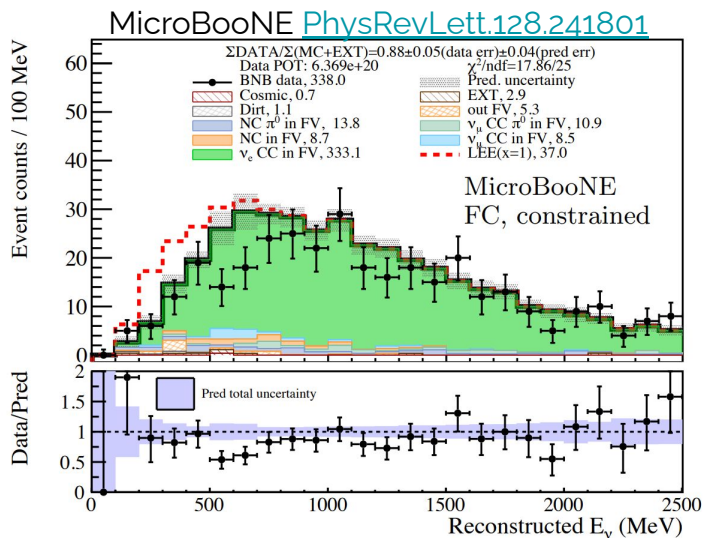
Physics Goals

## $e^-$ $\nu_e$ Electron Search



- Looking for overall excess in electron data consistent with an **increase in intrinsic  $\nu_e$  rates**
- Generic search. **No excess observed**
- **NOT** a sterile neutrino search

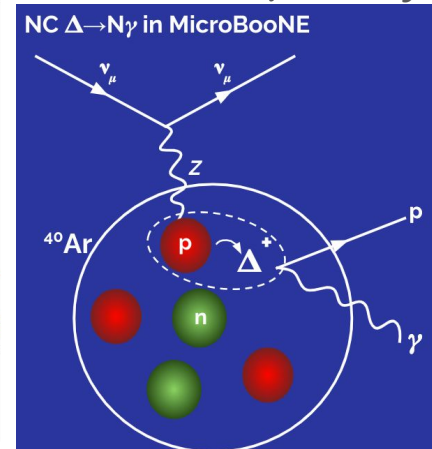
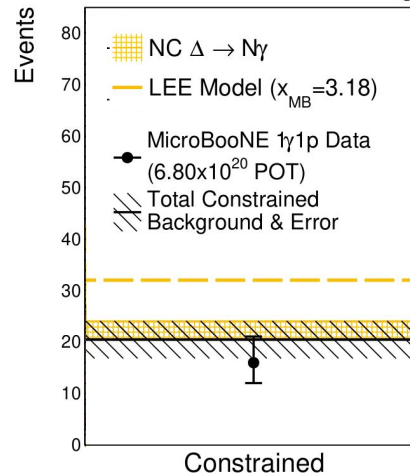
## $e^-$ $\nu_e$ Electron Search



- Looking for overall excess in electron data consistent with an **increase in intrinsic  $\nu_e$  rates**
- Generic search. **No excess observed**
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## $\gamma$ Photon Search

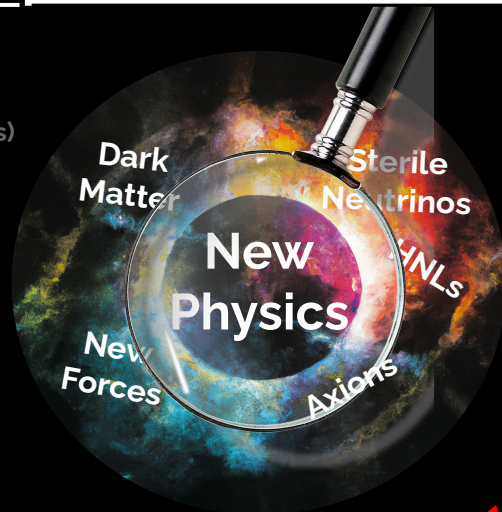
### Search for enhanced NC $\Delta \rightarrow N\gamma$ decay



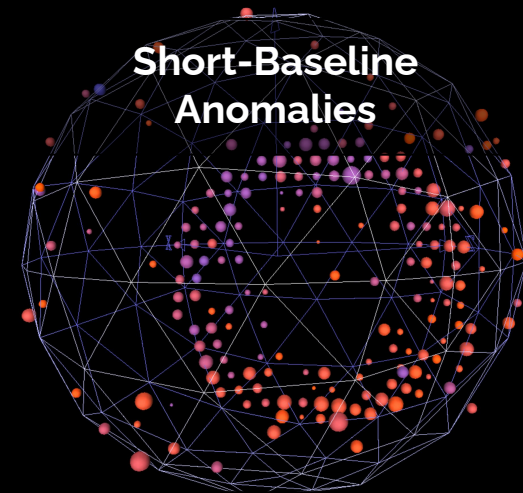
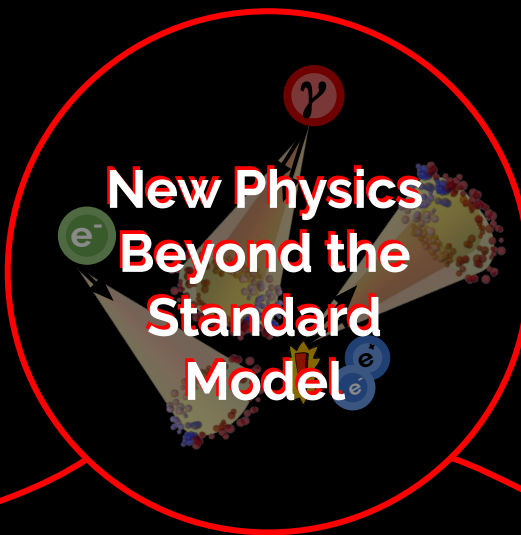
- No evidence** for an enhanced rate of single-photons from **NC  $\Delta \rightarrow N\gamma$  decay**
- Disfavors NC  $\Delta \rightarrow N\gamma$  backgrounds as a sole source of the MiniBooNE excess at **94.8% C.L**

# The Physics Goals of MicroBooNE

1. Introduction  
MicroBooNE  
Neutrino Source(s)  
LArTPC Detector  
Physics Goals



**Broad Goals**



**Specific Goals**

## 1. Introduction

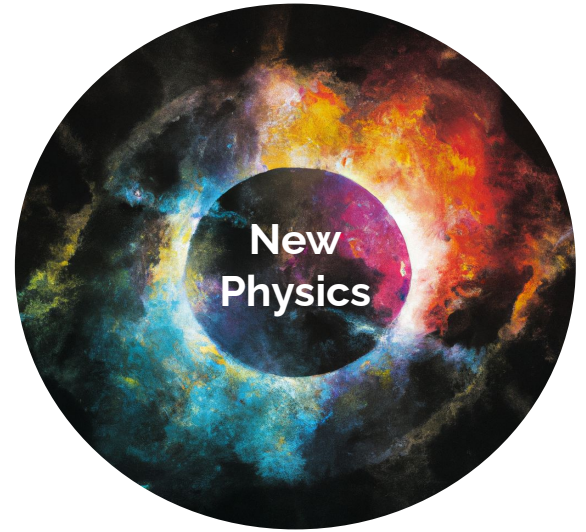
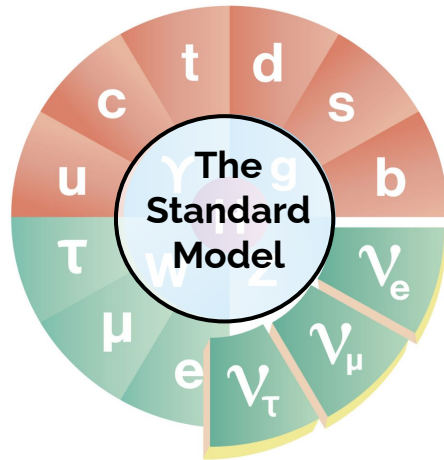
MicroBooNE

Neutrino Source(s)

LArTPC Detector

Physics Goals

## 2. Minimal Portals

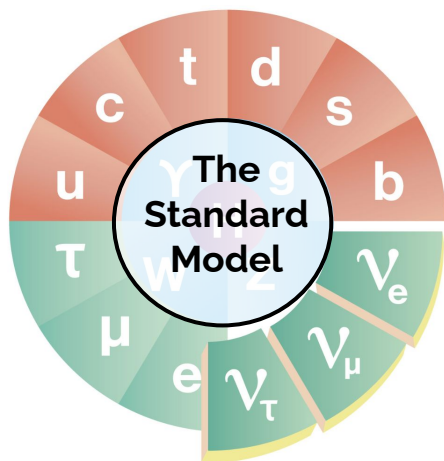


# The 'Dark' Sector

## 1. Introduction

MicroBooNE  
Neutrino Source(s)  
LArTPC Detector  
Physics Goals

## 2. Minimal Portals The Dark Sector



- **Rich particle content**
    - Dark matter candidate(s)
    - Sterile Neutrinos
    - Axions
    - + ....
  - **New Forces and Interactions**
- } Rich & Complex phenomenology

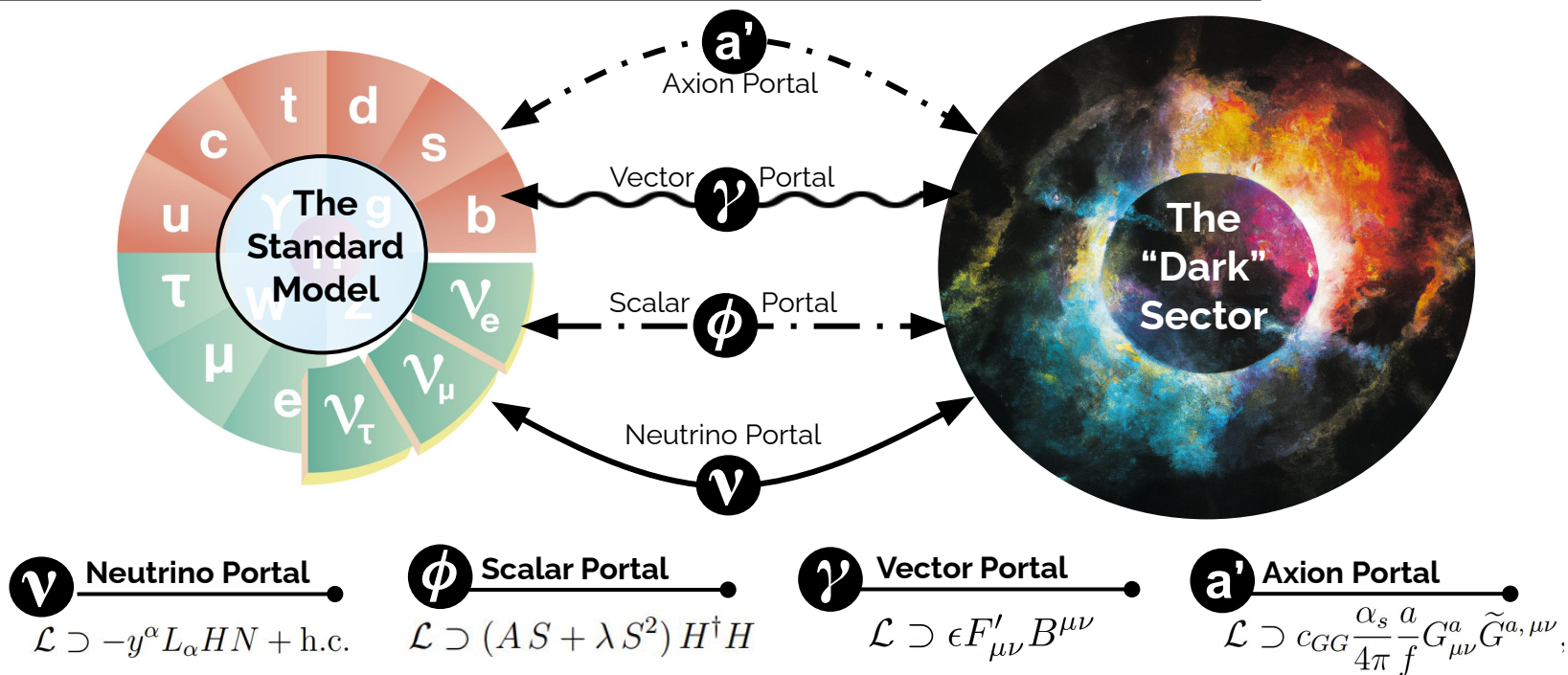


# Portals to the 'Dark Sector'

## 1. Introduction

MicroBooNE  
Neutrino Source(s)  
LArTPC Detector  
Physics Goals

## 2. Minimal Portals The Dark Sector

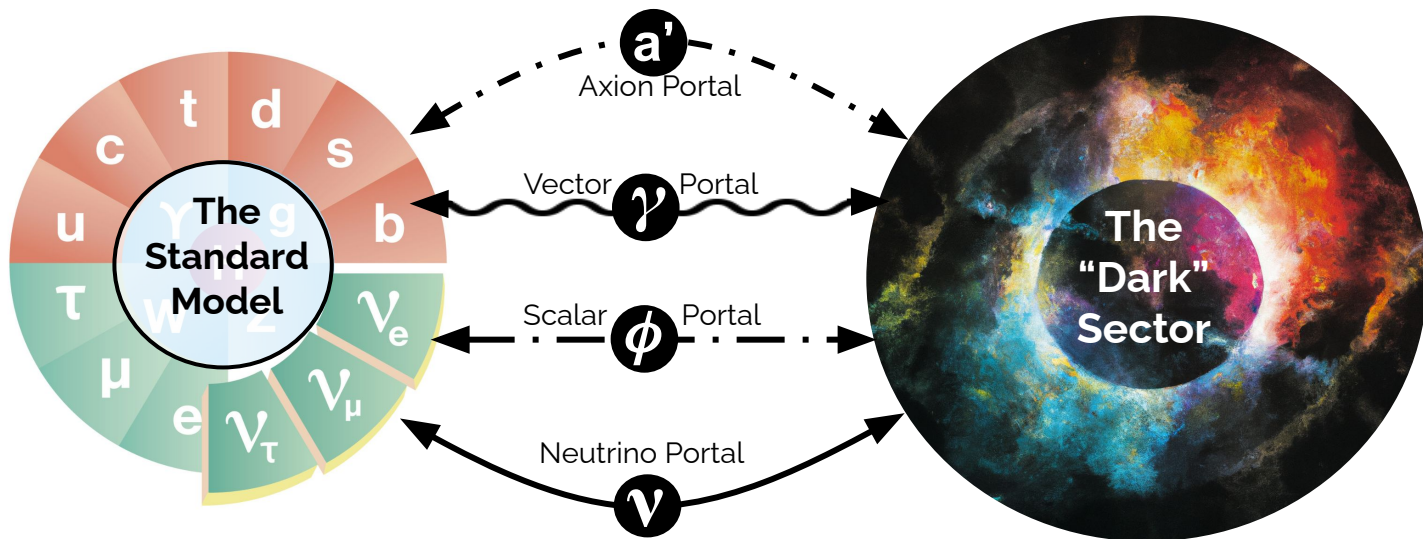


# Portals to the 'Dark Sector'

## 1. Introduction

MicroBooNE  
Neutrino Source(s)  
LArTPC Detector  
Physics Goals

## 2. Minimal Portals The Dark Sector



### $\nu$ Neutrino Portal

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -y^\alpha L_\alpha H N + \text{h.c.}$$

- Light 3+1 sterile Neutrino
- Heavy Neutral Leptons

### $\phi$ Scalar Portal

$$\mathcal{L} \supset (A S + \lambda S^2) H^\dagger H$$

- Higgs Portal Scalars

### $\gamma$ Vector Portal

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \epsilon F'_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu\nu}$$

- Light Dark Matter
- Millicharged Particles

### $a'$ Axion Portal

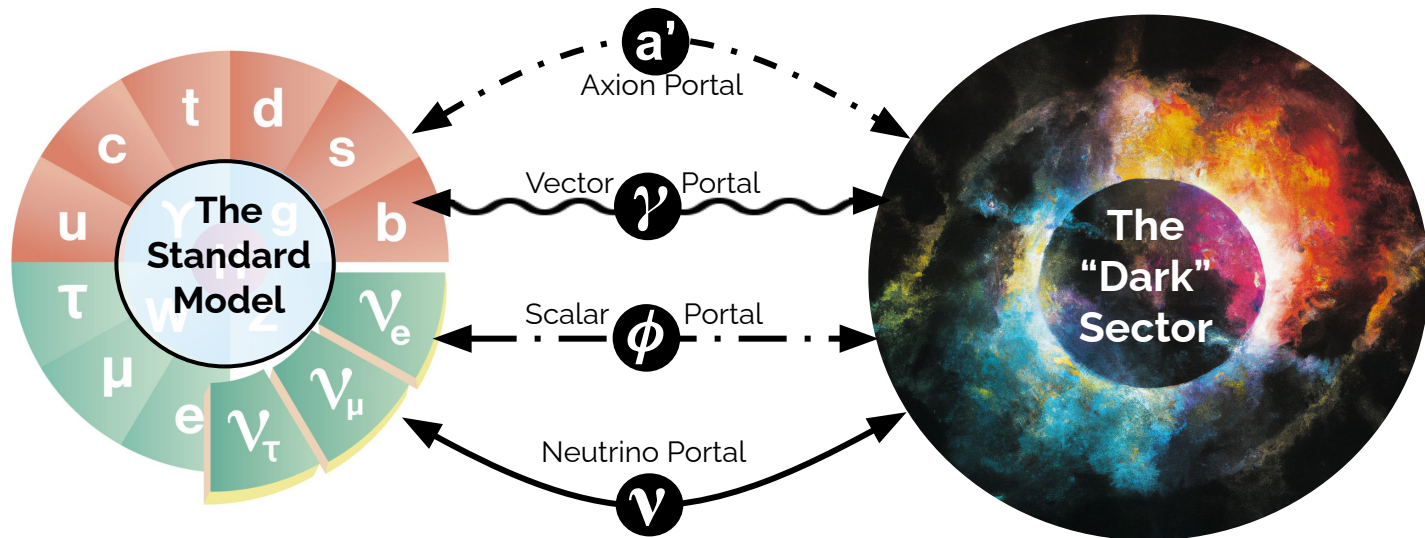
$$\mathcal{L} \supset c_{GG} \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \frac{a}{f} G_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{G}^{a, \mu\nu},$$

- Heavy QCD Axions

A plethora of new physics detectable at MicroBooNE!

1. Introduction  
 MicroBooNE  
 Neutrino Source(s)  
 LArTPC Detector  
 Physics Goals

2. Minimal Portals  
 The Dark Sector



**$\nu$  Neutrino Portal**

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -y^\alpha L_\alpha H N + \text{h.c.}$$

- **Light 3+1 sterile Neutrino\***
- Heavy Neutral Leptons

**$\phi$  Scalar Portal**

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**$a'$  Axion Portal**

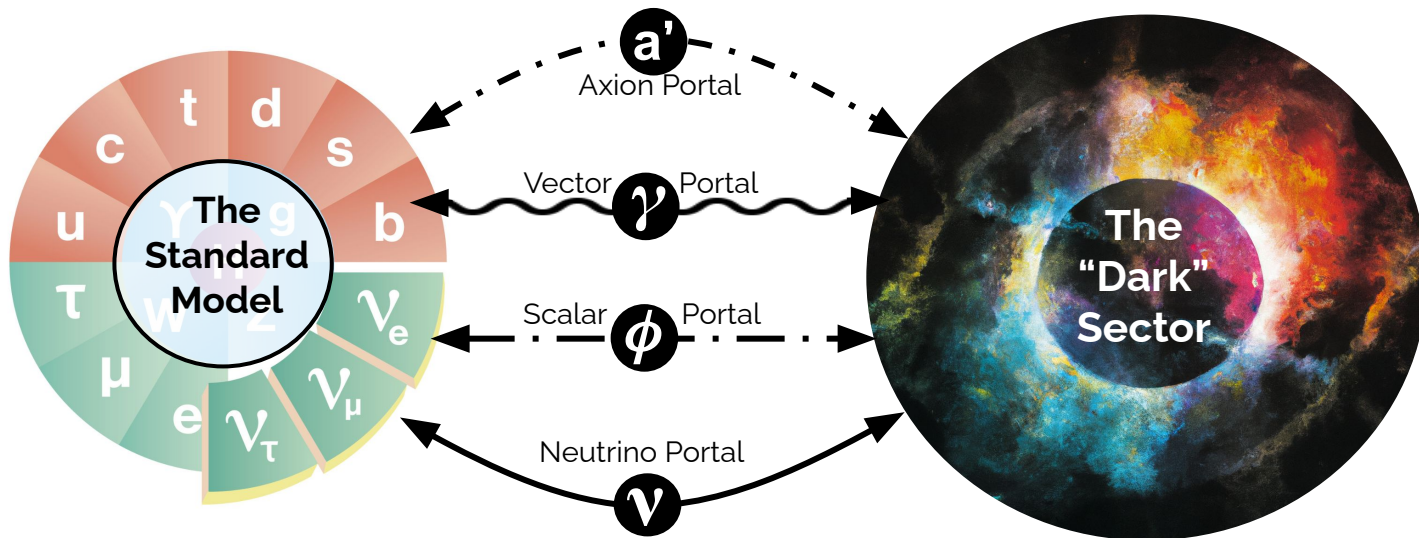
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A plethora of new physics detectable at MicroBooNE!

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 MicroBooNE  
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 Physics Goals

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**$\nu$  Neutrino Portal**

$\mathcal{L} \supset -y^\alpha L_\alpha H N + \text{h.c.}$

- **Light 3+1 sterile Neutrino\***
- Heavy Neutral Leptons

**$\phi$  Scalar Portal**

$\mathcal{L} \supset (A S + \lambda S^2) H^\dagger H$

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$\mathcal{L} \supset \epsilon F'_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu\nu}$

- Light Dark Matter
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**$a'$  Axion Portal**

$\mathcal{L} \supset c_{GG} \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \frac{a}{f} G_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{G}^{a, \mu\nu}$

- Heavy QCD Axions

A plethora of new physics detectable at MicroBooNE!



- 1. Introduction
- MicroBooNE
- Neutrino Source(s)
- LArTPC Detector
- Physics Goals
- 2. Minimal Portals
- The Dark Sector
- Neutrino Portal
- 3+1 light sterile

$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ \nu_\mu \\ \nu_\tau \\ \nu_s \end{pmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} U_{e1} & U_{e2} & U_{e3} & U_{e4} \\ U_{\mu1} & U_{\mu2} & U_{\mu3} & U_{\mu4} \\ U_{\tau1} & U_{\tau2} & U_{\tau3} & U_{\tau4} \\ U_{s1} & U_{s2} & U_{s3} & U_{s4} \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{3x3 active mixing}} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \\ \nu_3 \\ \nu_4 \end{pmatrix}$$

If sterile state is light < O(10 eV)

Full 4x4 including sterile mixing

$$P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e) = \sin^2 2\theta_{\mu e} \sin^2 \left( \frac{\Delta m_{14}^2 L}{4E_\nu} \right)$$

$$P(\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_e) = 1 - \sin^2 2\theta_{ee} \sin^2 \left( \frac{\Delta m_{14}^2 L}{4E_\nu} \right)$$

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3x3 active mixing

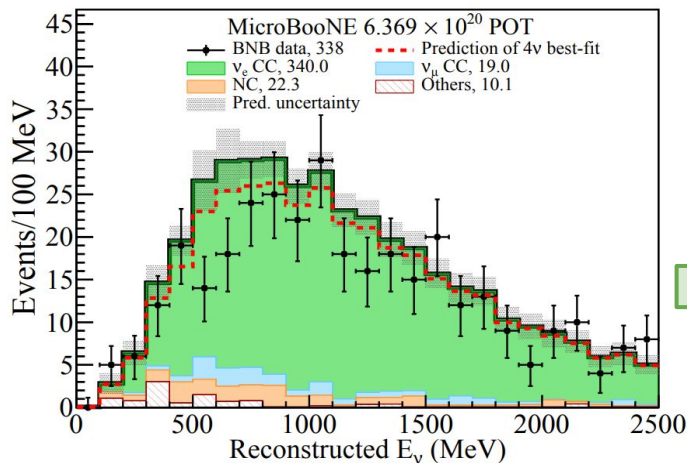
Full 4x4 including sterile mixing

If sterile state is light < O(10 eV)

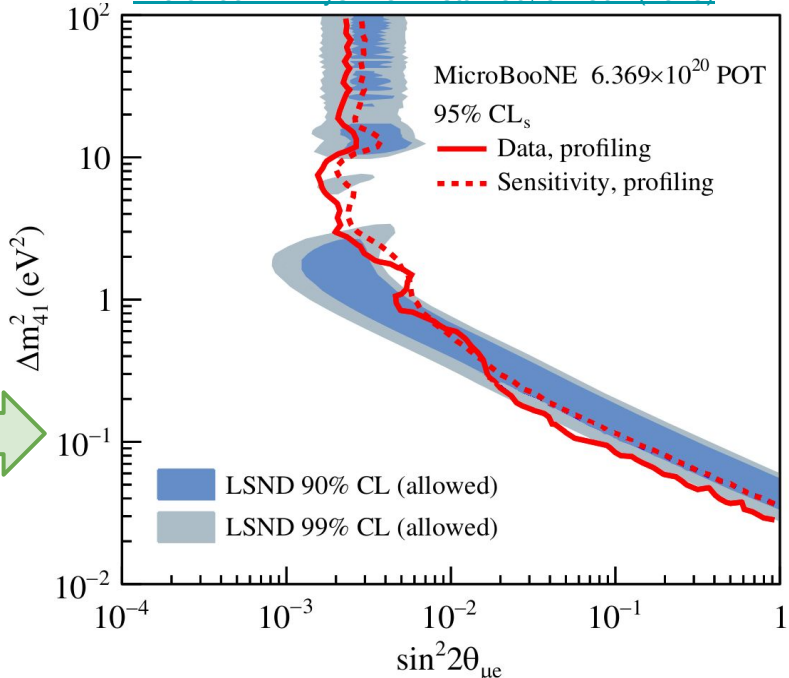
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## BNB Inclusive $\nu_e$ Selection



MicroBooNE Phys. Rev. Lett. 130, 011801 (2023)





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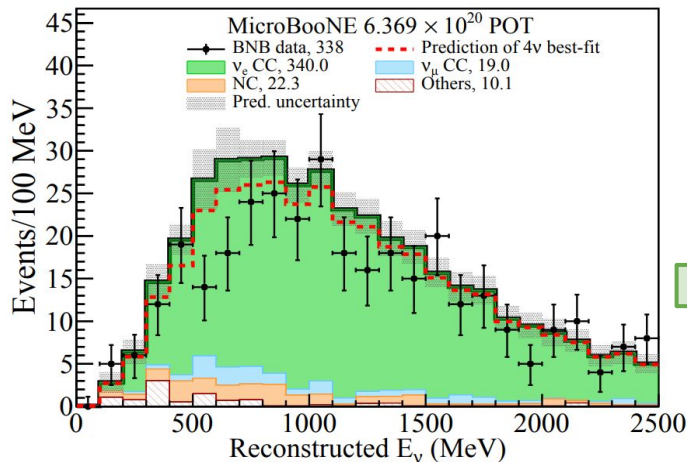
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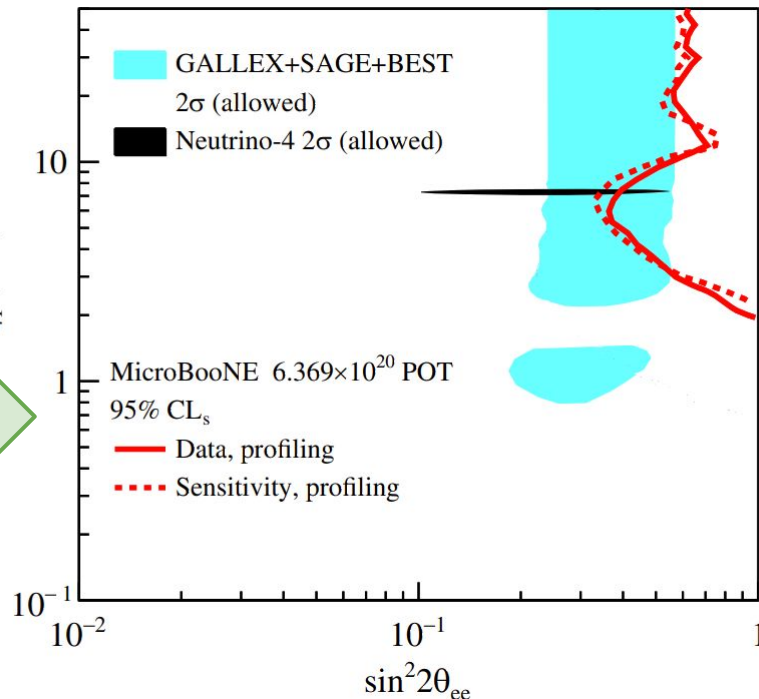
$$P(\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_e) = 1 - \sin^2 2\theta_{ee} \sin^2 \left( \frac{\Delta m_{14}^2 L}{4E_\nu} \right)$$

[MicroBooNE Phys. Rev. Lett. 130, 011801 \(2023\)](#)

## BNB Inclusive $\nu_e$ Selection



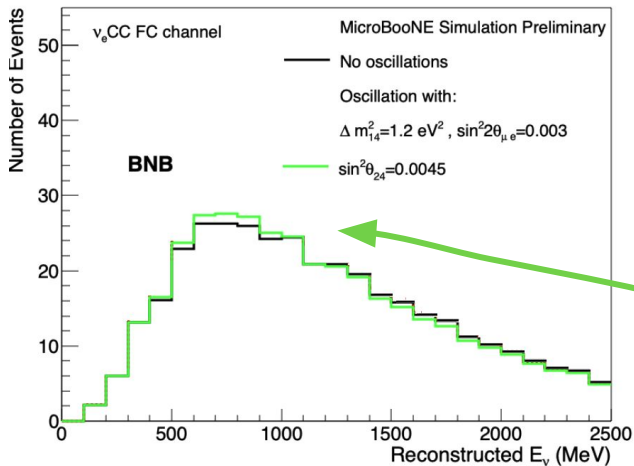
$\Delta m_{41}^2 \text{ (eV}^2\text{)}$



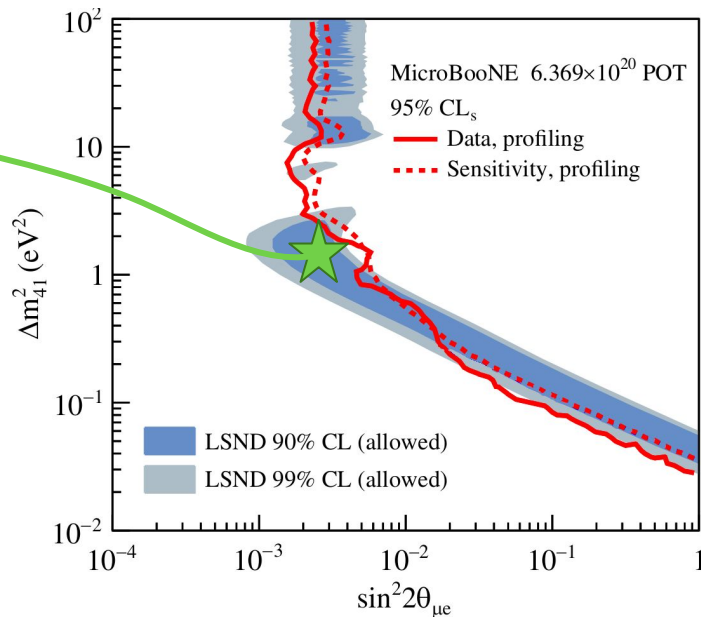


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$\nu_e$  disappearance *cancels*  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$  appearance  
 Ratio of  $\nu_\mu / \nu_e$  in BNB  $\sim 200$

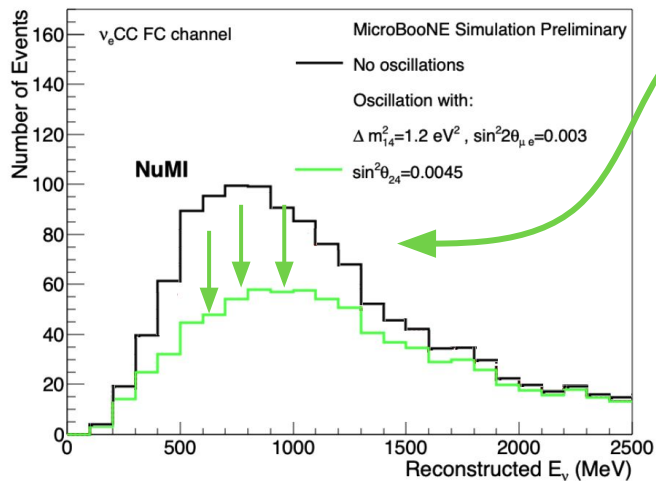
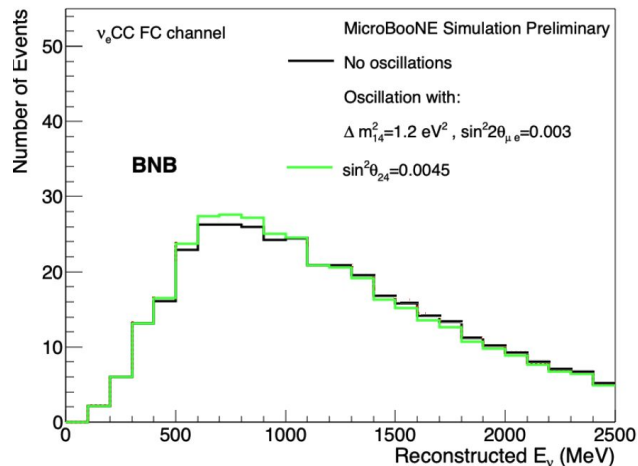




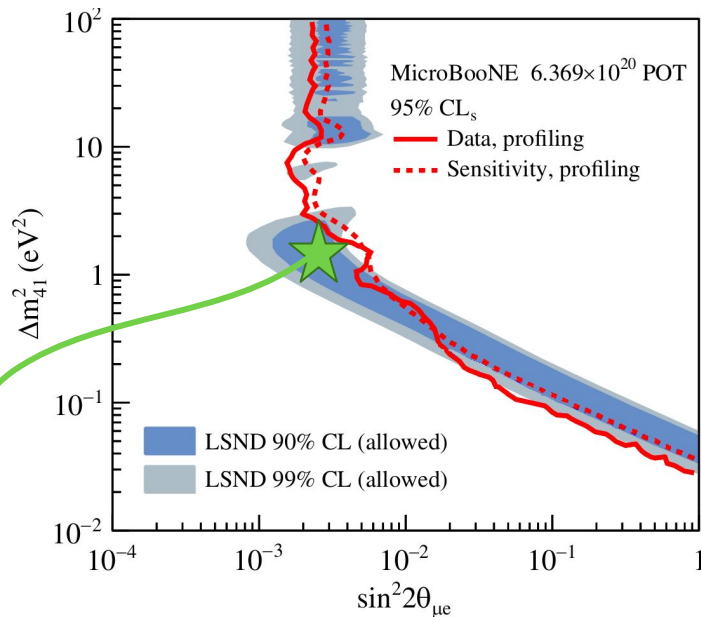


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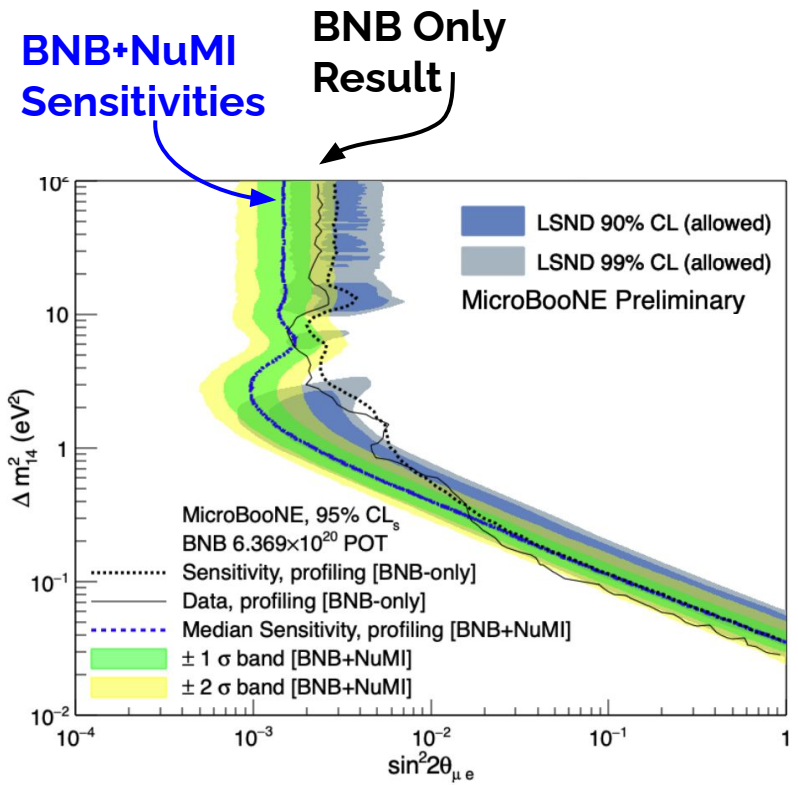


For same point in NuMI huge effect is observed.  
 Ratio of  $\nu_\mu / \nu_e$  in NuMI  $\sim 25$   
**NuMI can break the degeneracy!**



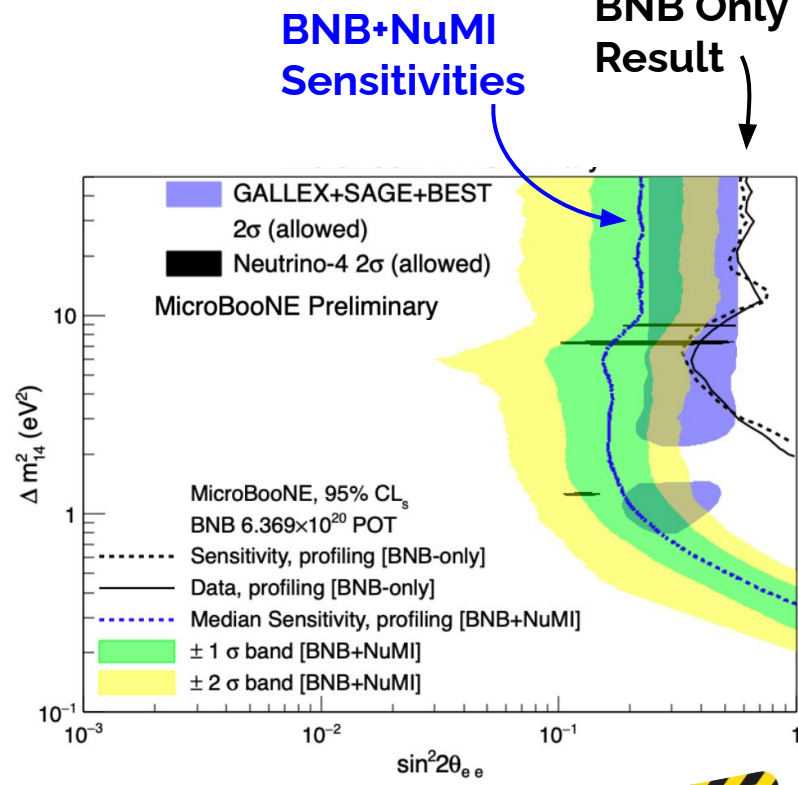
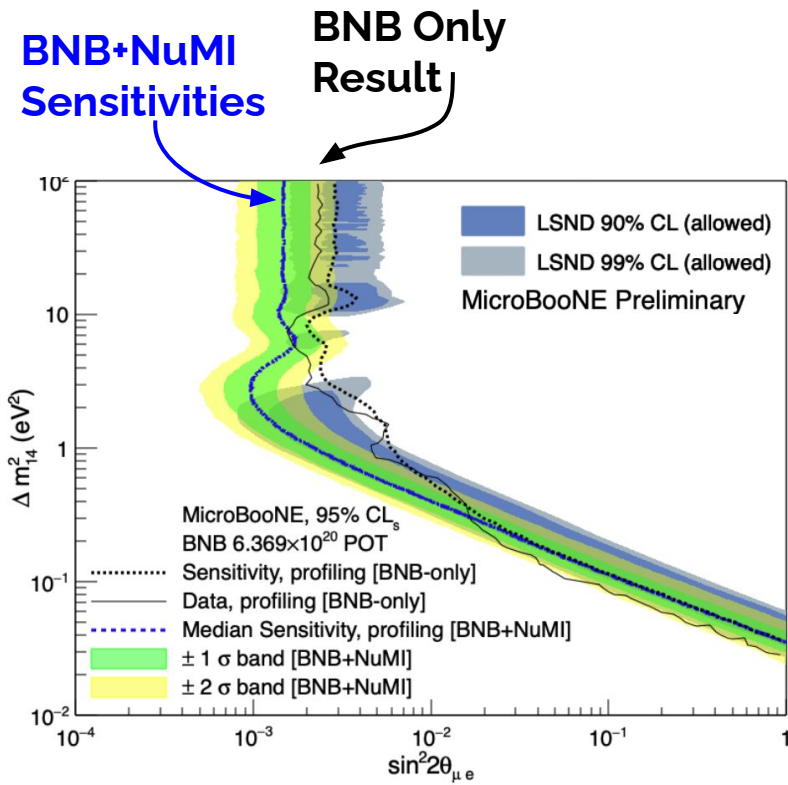
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BNB:  $6.369 \times 10^{20}$  POT  
 NuMI:  $10.54 \times 10^{20}$  POT

Note: Note statistics is *NOT* the driving force behind improvement.



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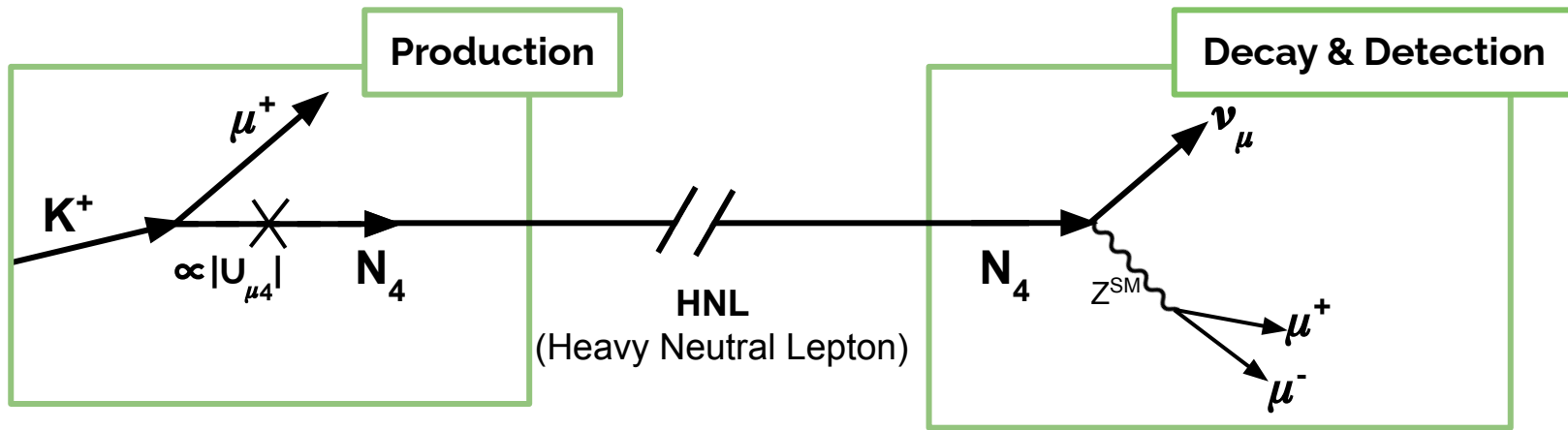


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Full 4x4 including sterile mixing

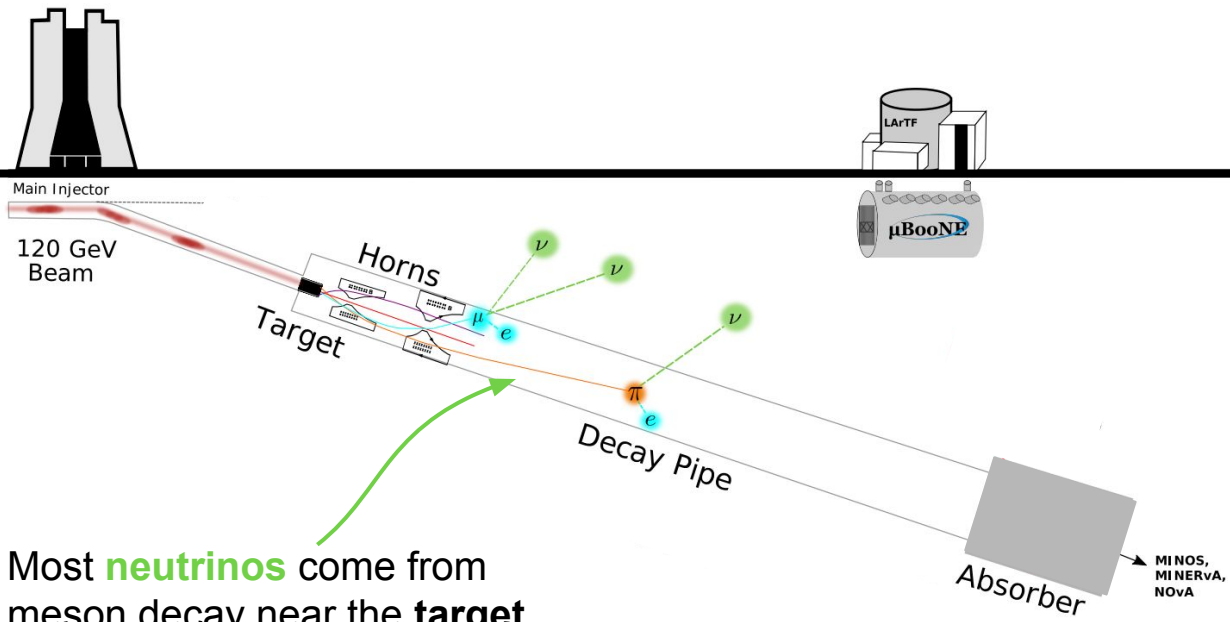
If the sterile state is **too heavy** to undergo oscillations, can still be produced in meson decays alongside neutrinos.





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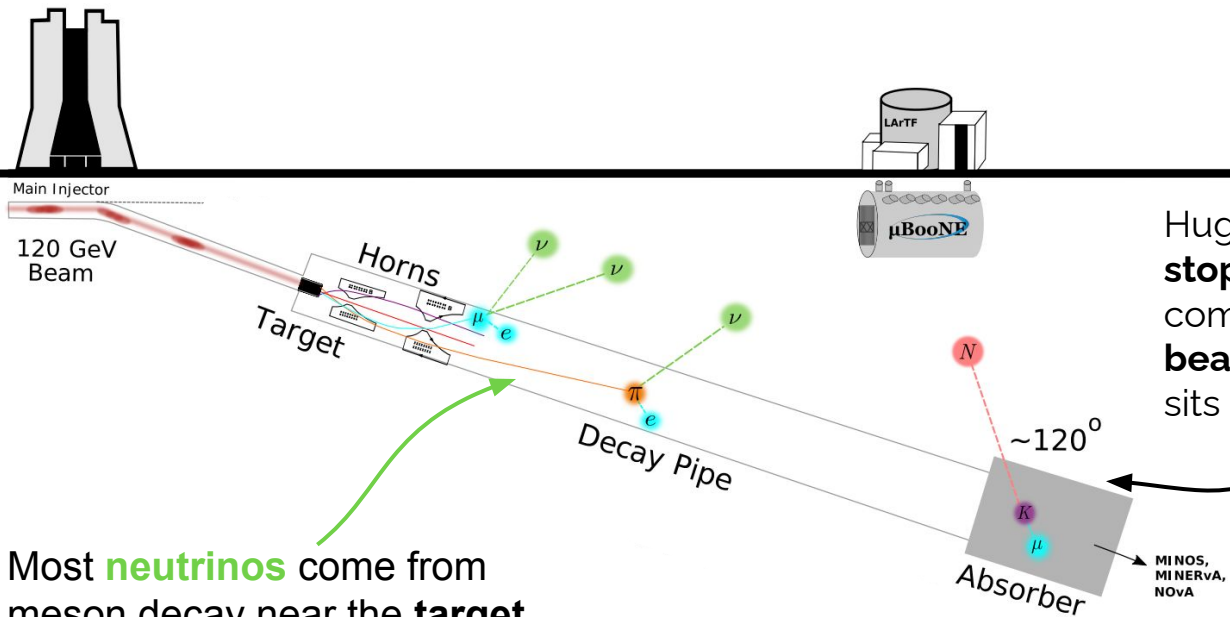


Most **neutrinos** come from meson decay near the **target** and **decay pipe**



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Most **neutrinos** come from meson decay near the **target and decay pipe**

Huge number of **stopped Kaon** decays coming from the **NuMI beam absorber**, which sits **below MicroBooNE**

Search for long lived **Heavy Neutral Leptons** from here!



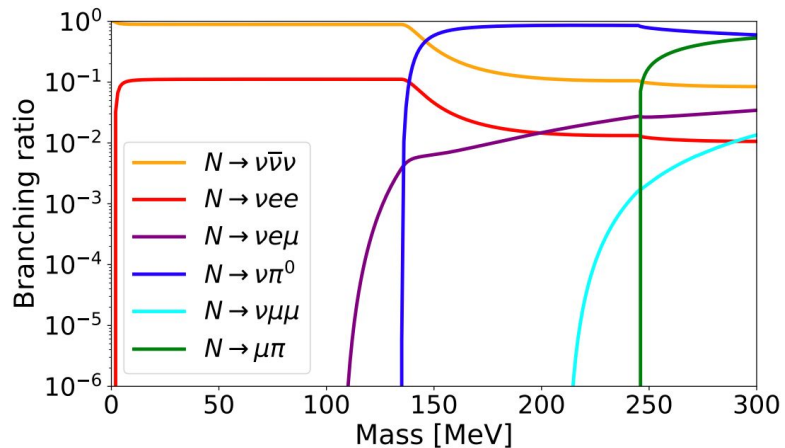
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Depending on the mass of the HNL, various visible decays are detectable in MicroBooNE





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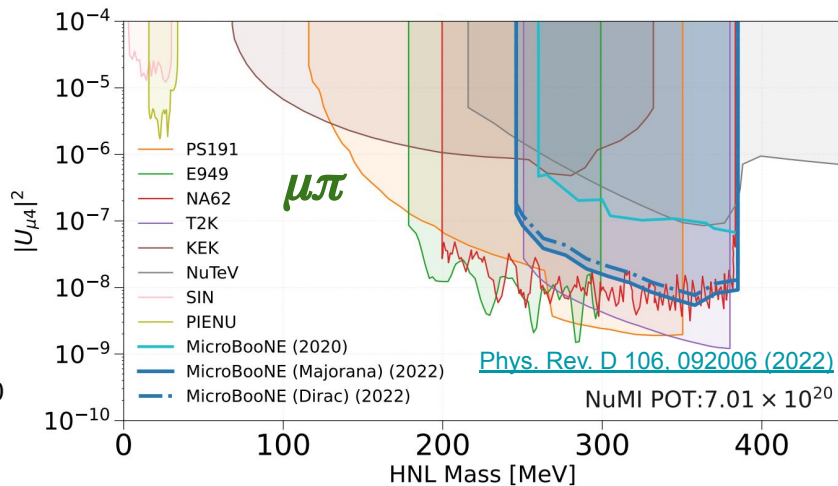
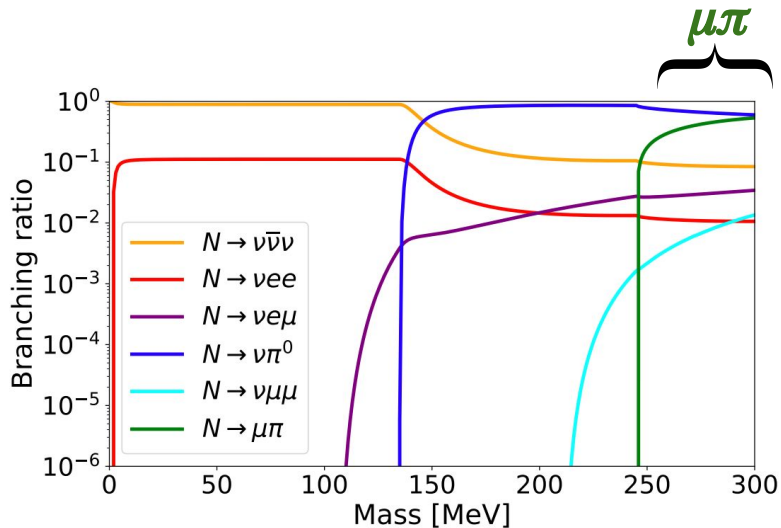
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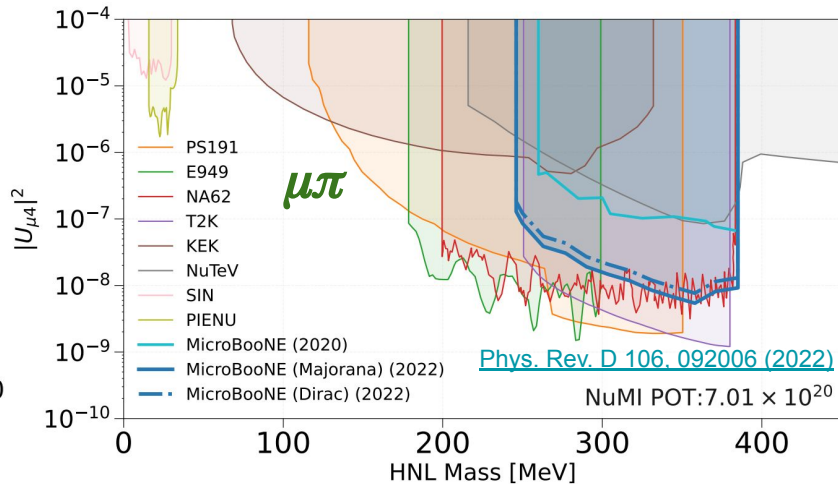
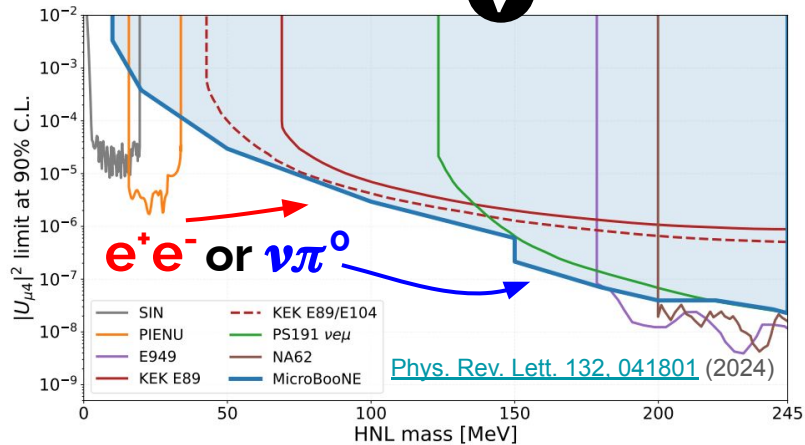
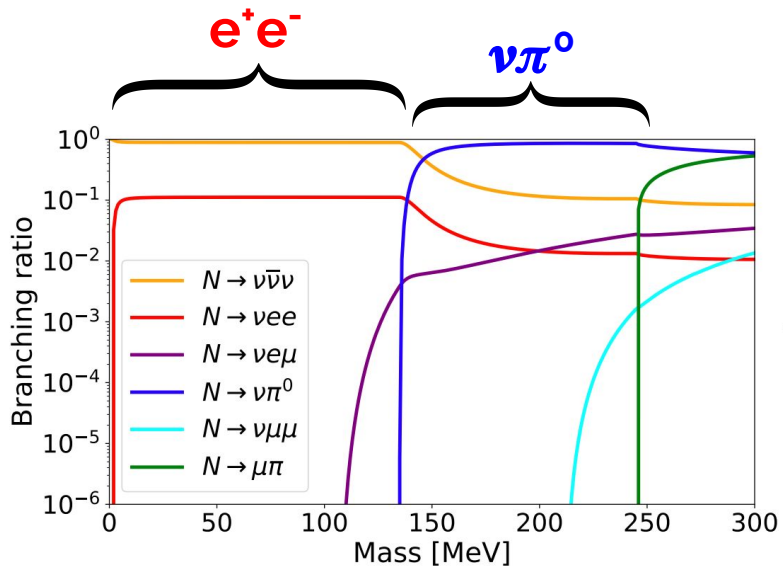
**No observed signal**, we place 90% CL exclusion limits





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# Portals to the 'Dark Sector'

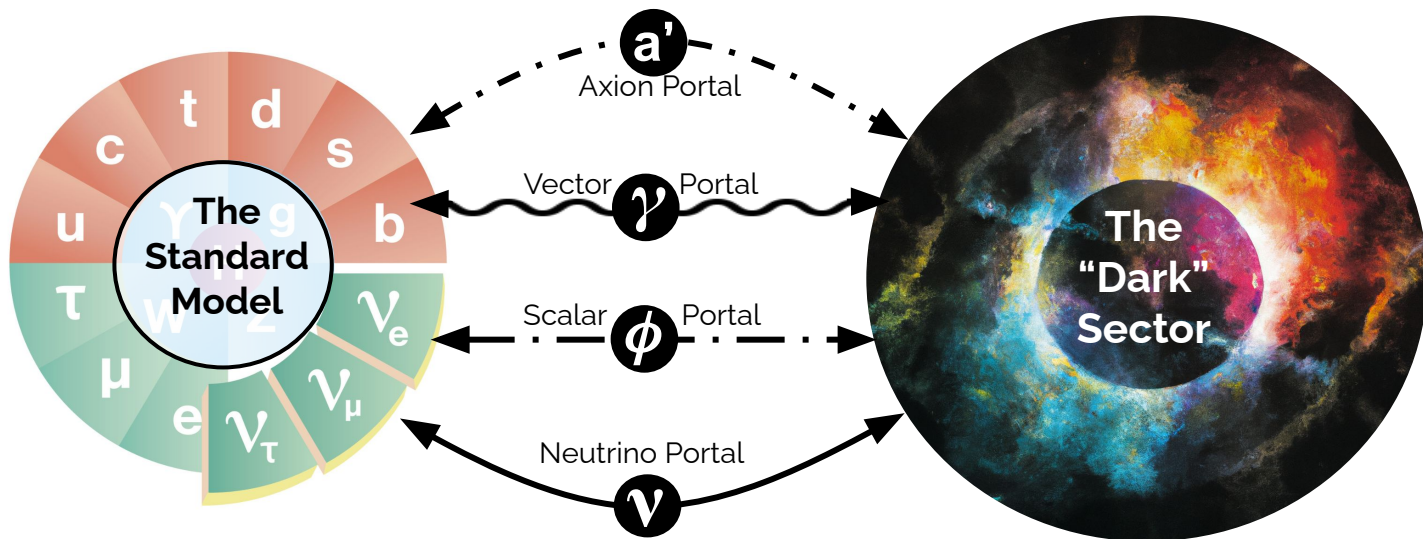
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Scalar Portal



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$$\mathcal{L} \supset -y^\alpha L_\alpha H N + \text{h.c.}$$

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- Heavy Neutral Leptons

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$$\mathcal{L} \supset (A S + \lambda S^2) H^\dagger H$$

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### $\gamma$ Vector Portal

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \epsilon F'_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu\nu}$$

- Light Dark Matter
- Millicharged Particles

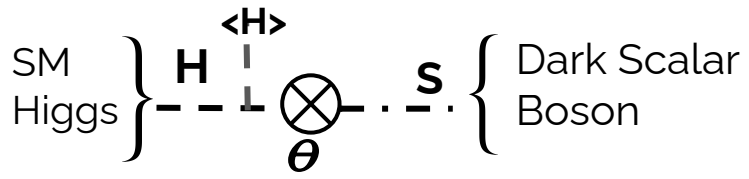
### $a'$ Axion Portal

$$\mathcal{L} \supset c_{GG} \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \frac{a}{f} G_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{G}^{a, \mu\nu}$$

- Heavy QCD Axions

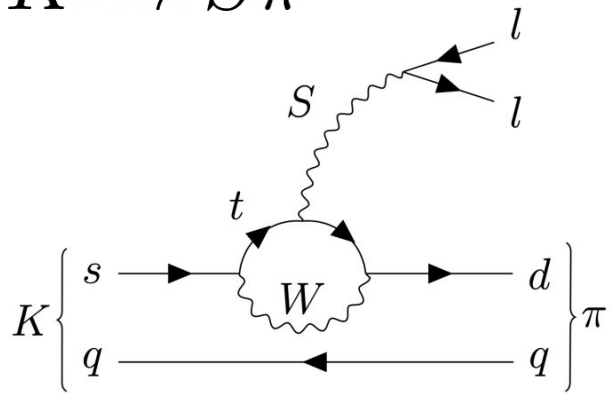
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**Higgs portal scalars** also **produced** in charged kaon decays

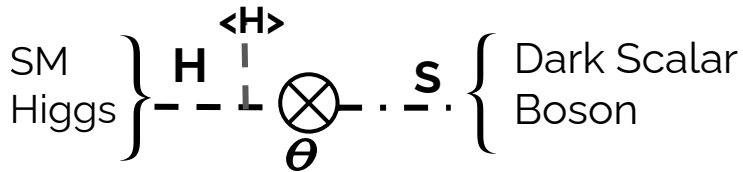
$$K \rightarrow S\pi$$



Use stopped kaon decay from **NuMI absorber** again

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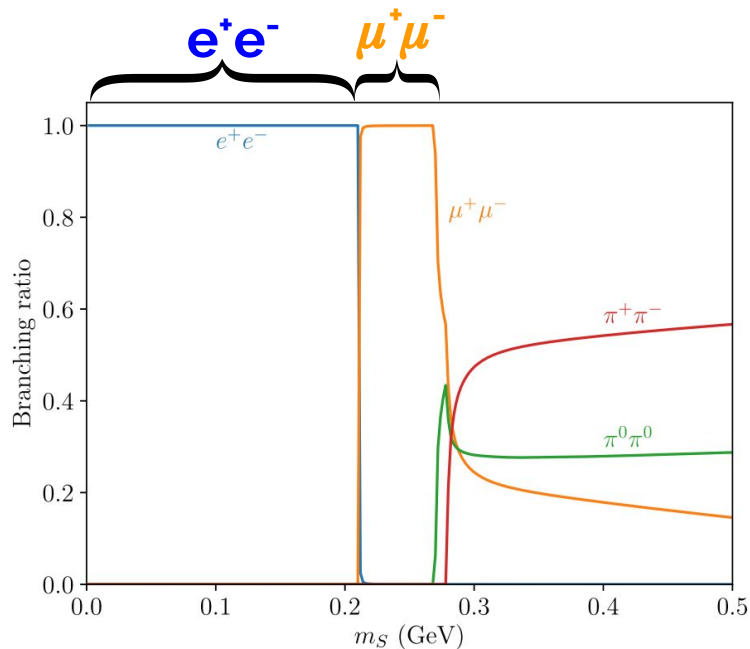
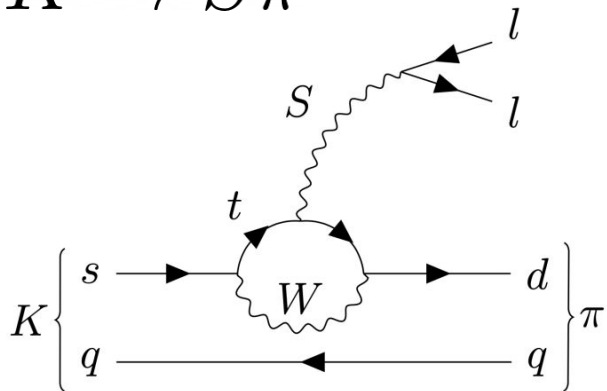


Due to portal to SM via the higgs, **Decay** is extremely strongly dependent on daughter mass

$$\Gamma(S \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^-) = \theta^2 \frac{m_\ell^2 m_S}{8\pi v^2} \left(1 - \frac{4m_\ell^2}{m_S^2}\right)^{3/2}$$

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$$K \rightarrow S \pi$$

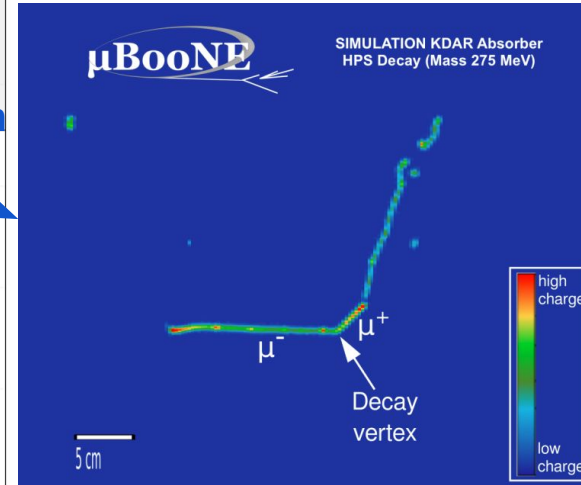
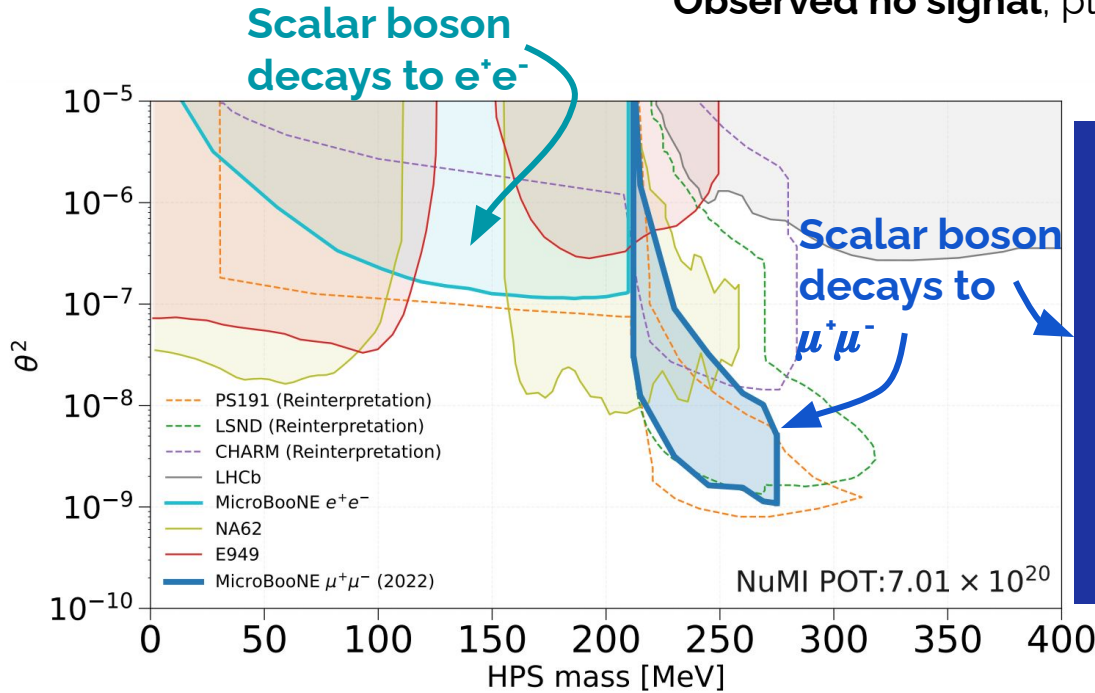


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Observed no signal, place 90% CL exclusion Limits



MicroBooNE  $e^+e^-$  HPS result [Phys. Rev. Lett. 127, 151803 \(2021\)](#)  
 MicroBooNE  $\mu^+\mu^-$  HPS result [Phys. Rev. D 106, 092006 \(2022\)](#)

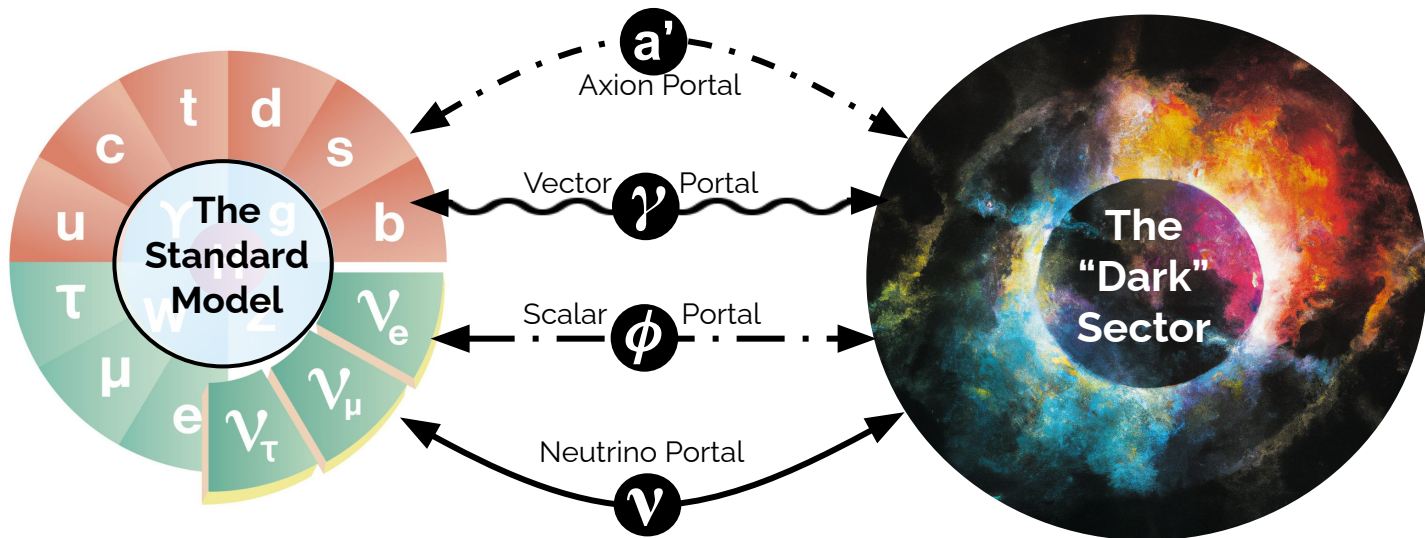
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# Vector Portal

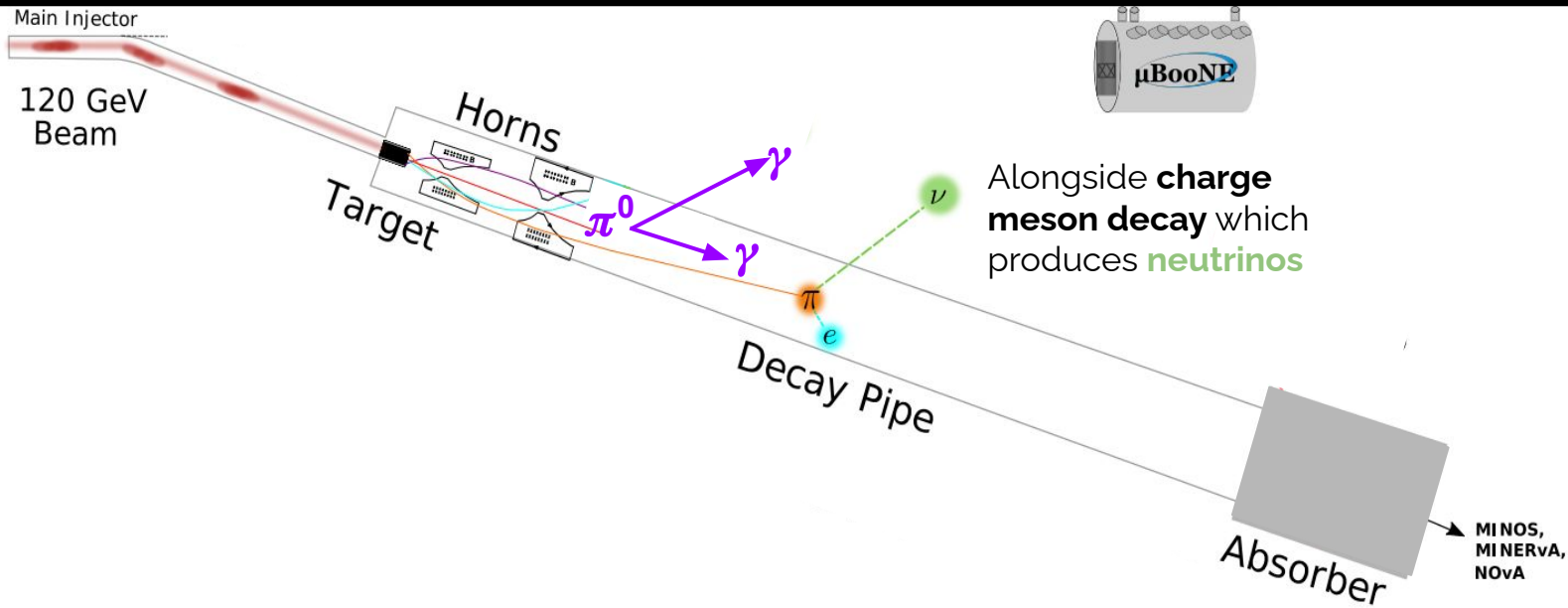
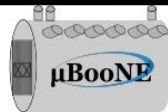
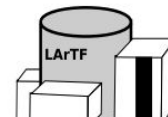
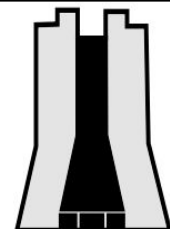


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# Vector Portal: Dark Photons and Light Dark Matter

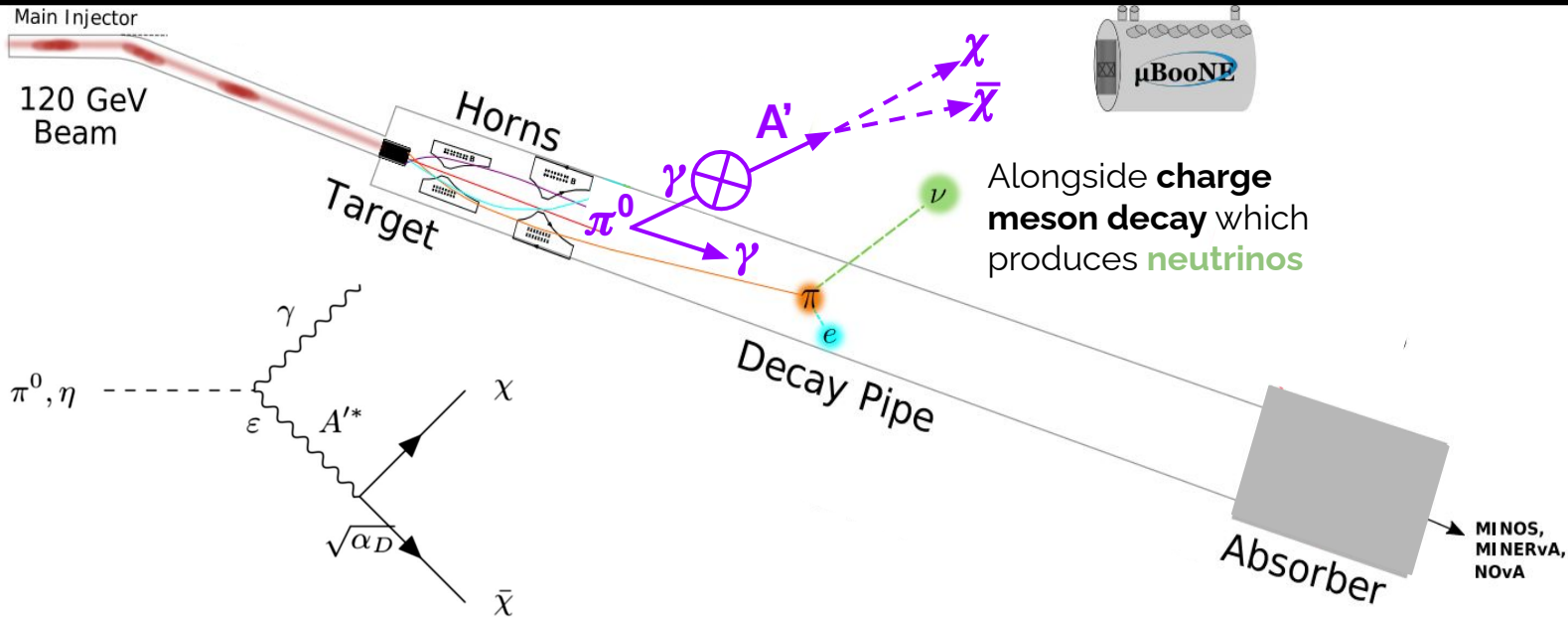
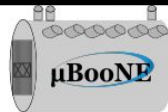
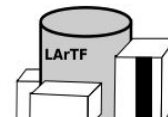
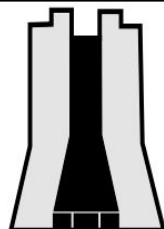


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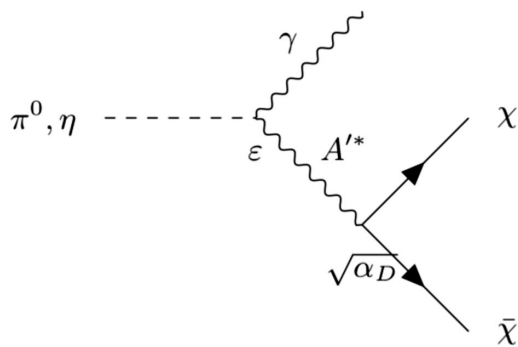
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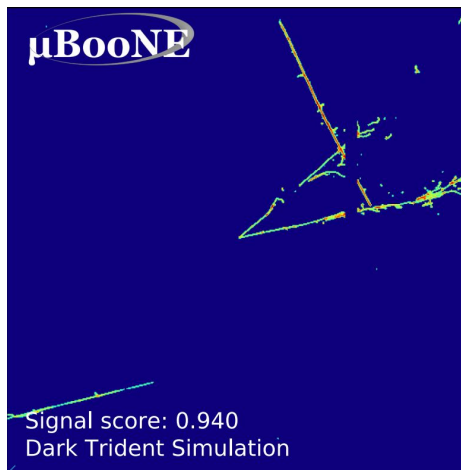
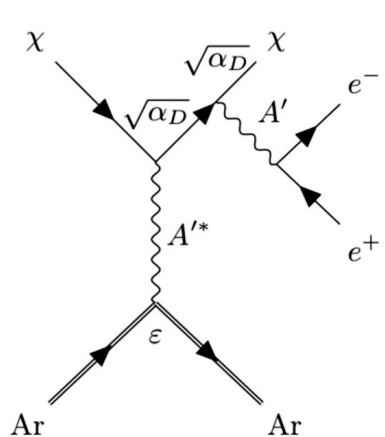
Produce a beam of **light dark matter particles ( $\chi$ )** via an intermediate **dark photon ( $A'$ )**







This light dark matter is then detected in MicroBooNE when it scatters off Argon leaving a visible  **$e^+e^-$  pair**, so called **Dark Trident production**



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 Scalar Portal  
**Vector Portal**



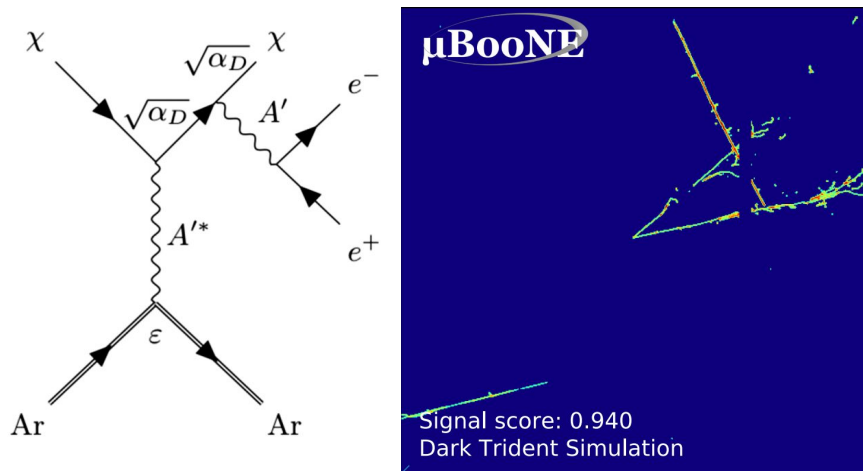
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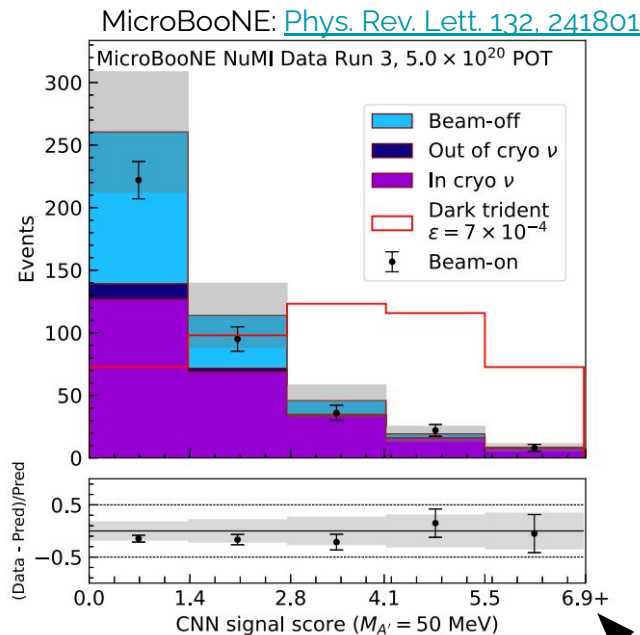
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Developed a **convolutional neural net** (CNN) trained on images of dark tridents and neutrino backgrounds.

- **> 99% background rejection** with a **(27–30)% signal efficiency**



Good agreement observed with background only. Shown here for a **Dark photon of mass 50 MeV**



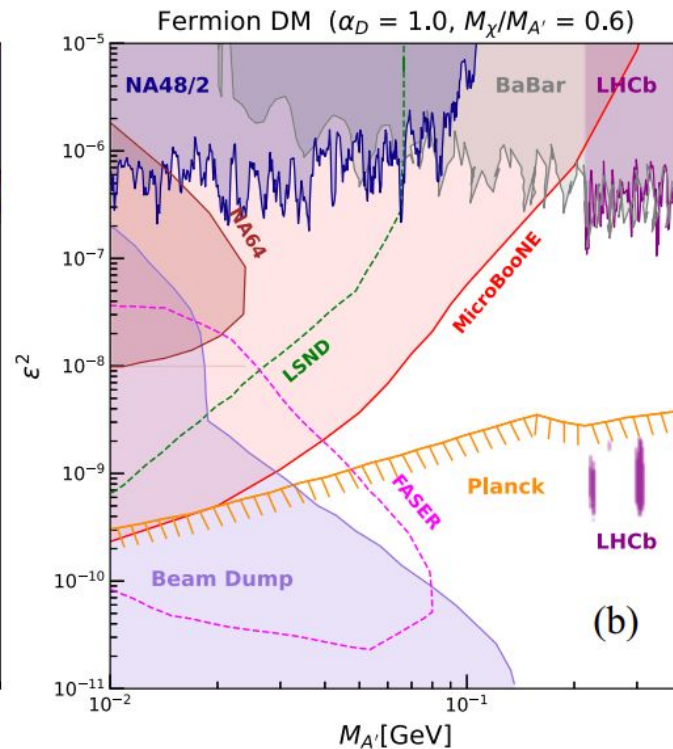
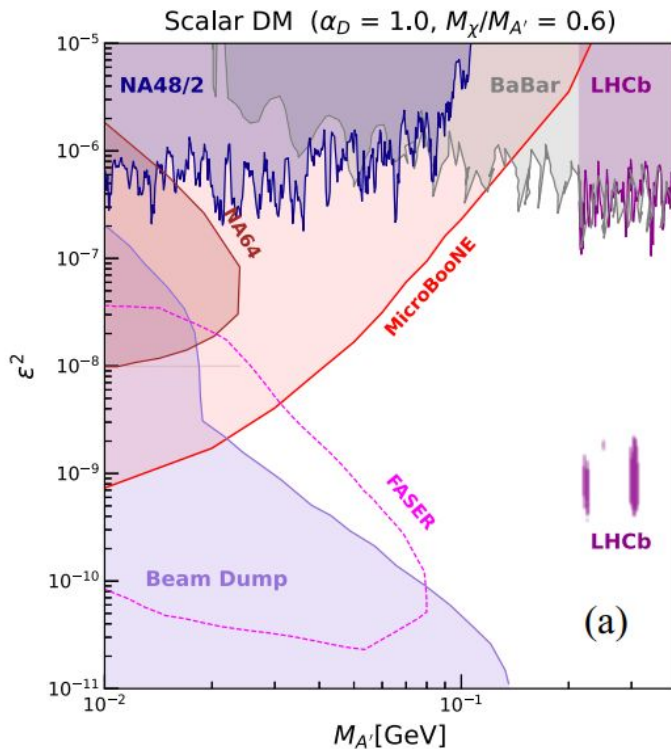
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Vector Portal  
• Light DM

World leading **exclusion limits** from MicroBooNE



Uses **BdNMC** (deNiverville, Chen, Pospelov, Ritz)  
<https://github.com/pgdeniverville/BdNMC>

MicroBooNE Light Dark Matter:  
[Phys. Rev. Lett. 132, 241801](https://arxiv.org/abs/2401.12345)

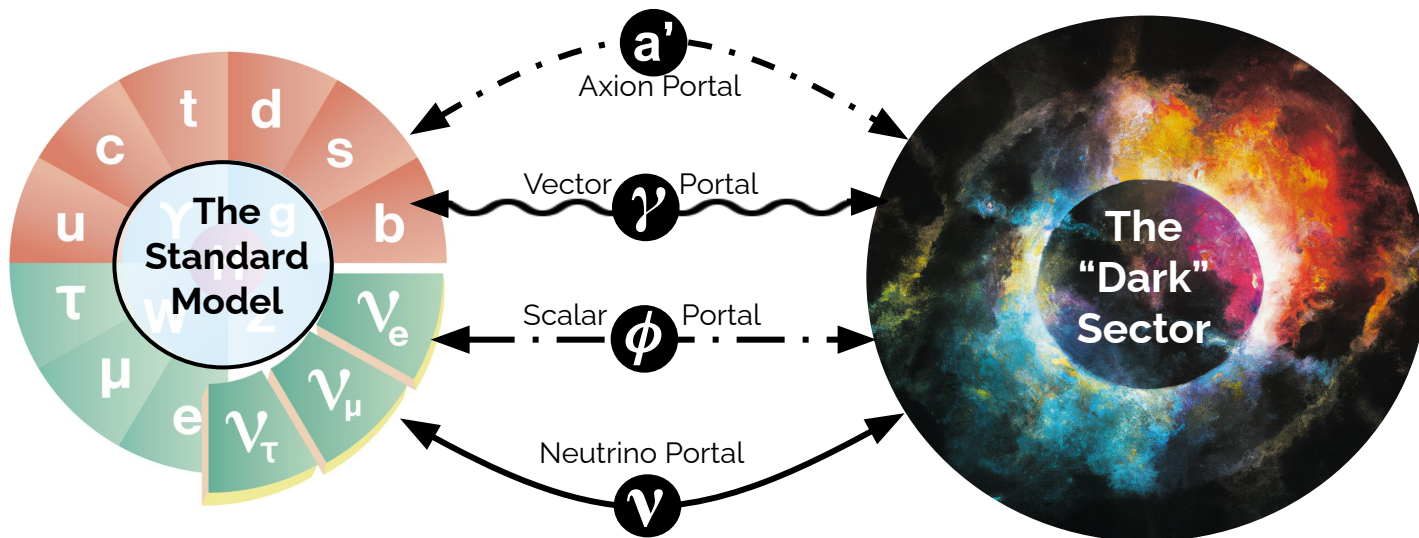
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$$\mathcal{L} \supset c_{GG} \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \frac{a}{f} G_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{G}^{a, \mu\nu}$$

- Heavy QCD Axions

# $a'$ Axion (or Axion-Like Particle) Portal: Heavy QCD Axions

$a'$

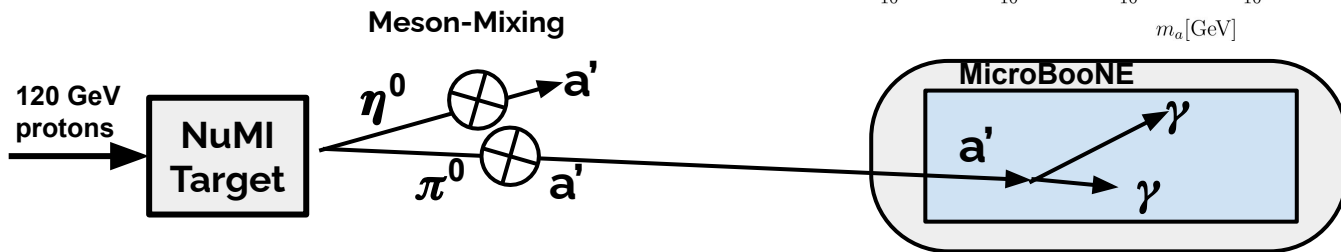
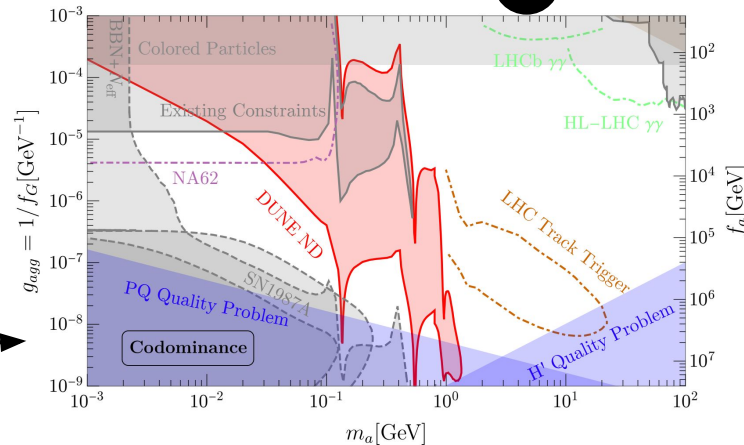
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• HNL  
Scalar Portal  
Vector Portal  
• Light DM  
Axion Portal

Motivated by K. Kelly, S. Kumar, Z.Liu  
"Heavy Axion Opportunities at the  
DUNE Near Detector" [PhysRevD. 103  
095002](#) (2021)



Will be MicroBooNE's first *di-photon* BSM search!

Allows for **invariant mass peak searches** over **large NC  $\pi^0$  backgrounds**

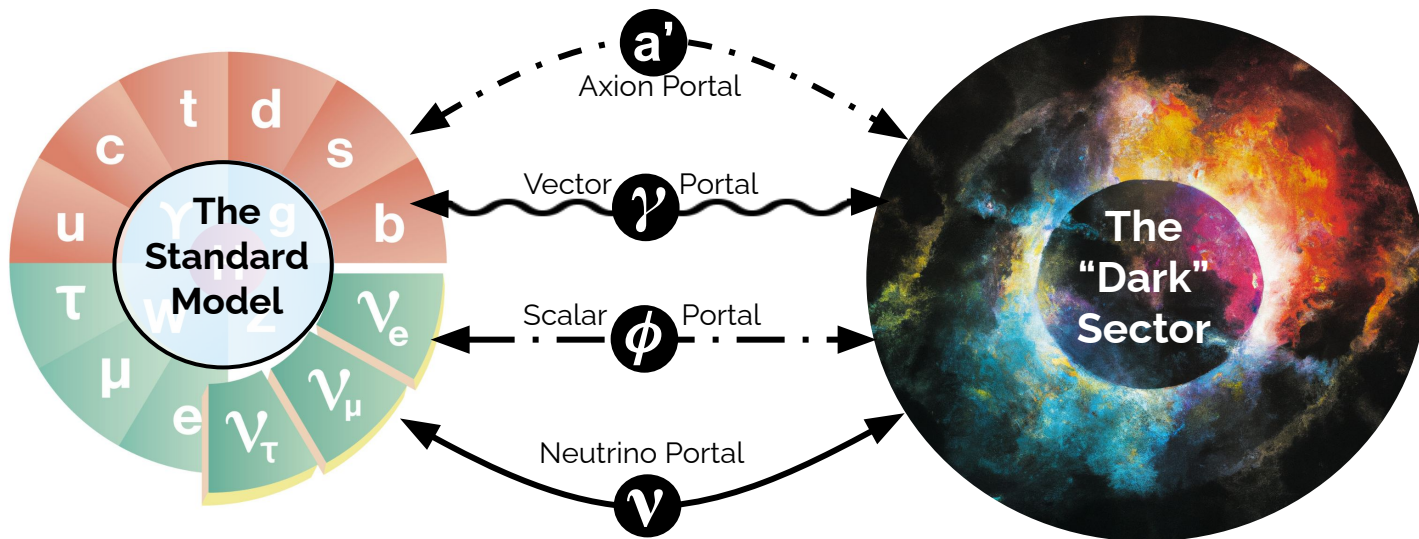
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### $\nu$ Neutrino Portal

- **Light 3+1 sterile Neutrino\***
- Heavy Neutral Leptons

### $\phi$ Scalar Portal

- Higgs Portal Scalars

### $\gamma$ Vector Portal

- Light Dark Matter
- Millicharged Particles

### $a'$ Axion Portal

- Heavy QCD Axions

**Not many explanations of Short-baseline anomalies yet.** What if our new physics is more complex than minimal portals?

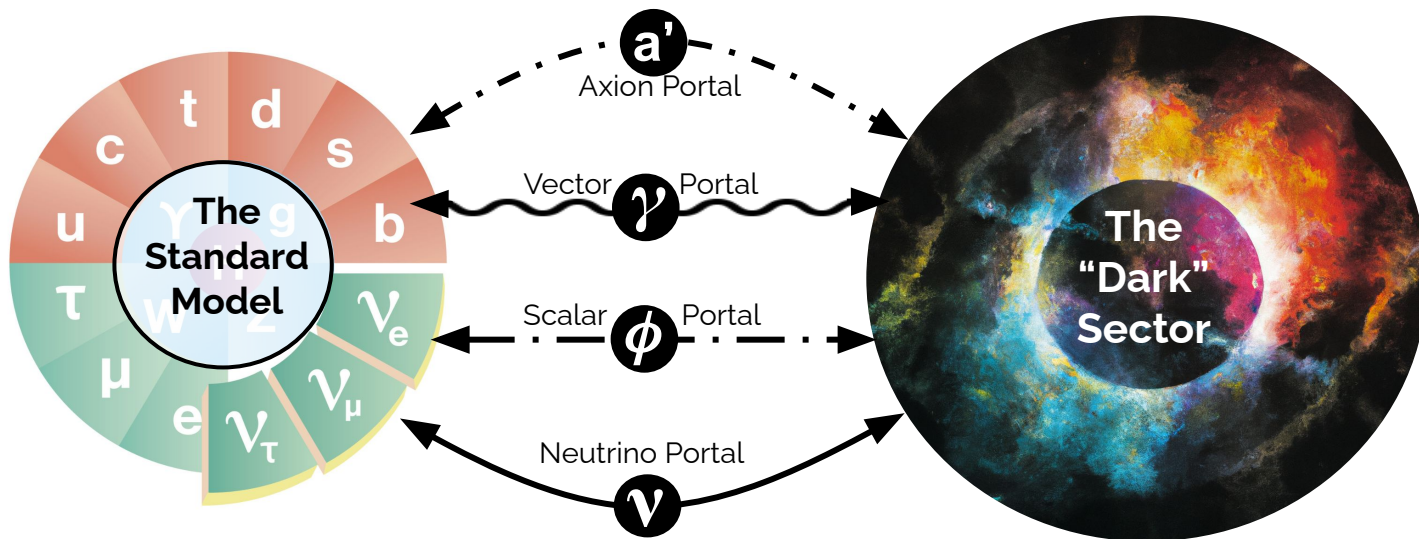
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### $\nu$ $\gamma$ Combined or Non-Minimal Portals

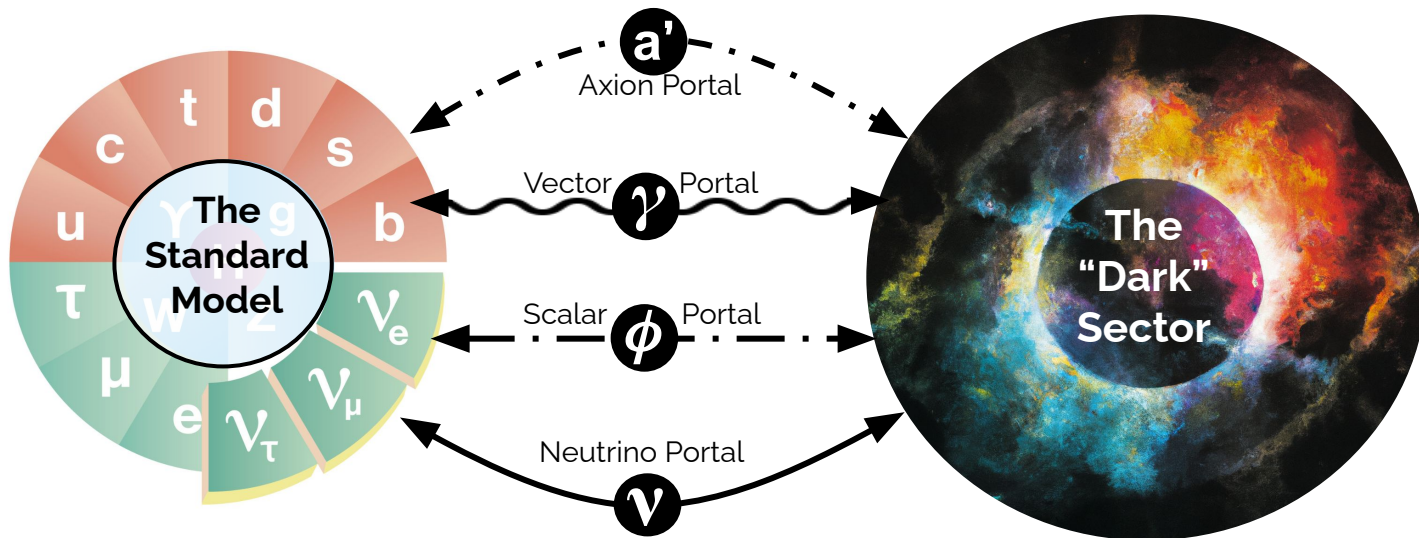
- **Dark Neutrino Upscattering\***

### ? ? Casting a wide net!

- **Generic Electron Searches\***
- **Inclusive Single-Photon Searches\***

# Portals to the 'Dark Sector'

\*Possible Short-Baseline Anomaly Solution



## $\nu$ Neutrino Portal

- **Light 3+1 sterile Neutrino\***
- Heavy Neutral Leptons

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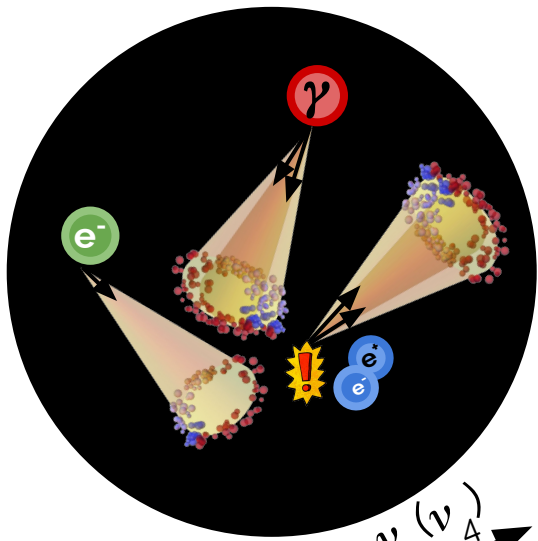
- **Generic Electron Searches\***
- **Inclusive Single-Photon Searches\***



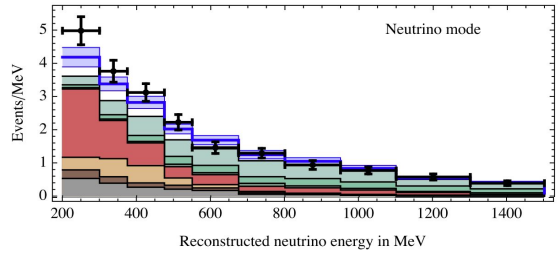


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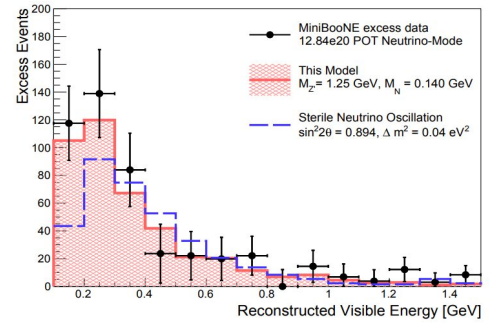
- 3. Anomaly Hunt
- Non-Minimal Portal



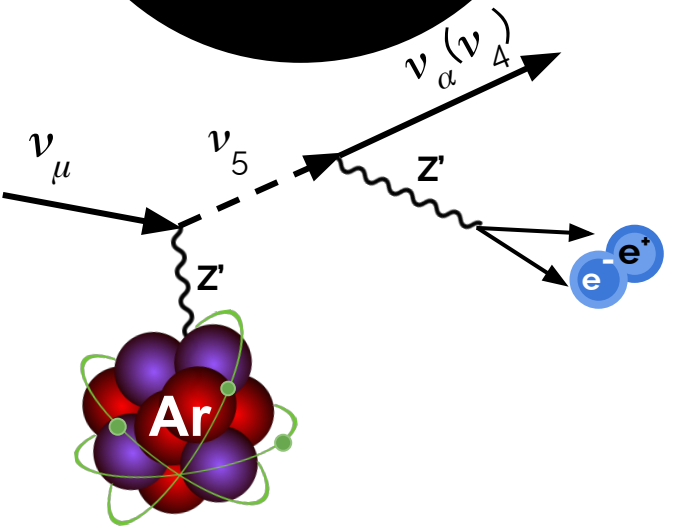
Models began life as alternative explanations to **MiniBooNE anomaly** via exotic production of  **$e^+e^-$  pairs**



E. Bertuzzo, S. Jana, P. Machado, R. Funchal  
[Phys. Rev. Lett. 121, 241801](https://arxiv.org/abs/1808.07170)



P. Ballett, S. Pascoli, M. RL [PhysRevD.99.071701](https://arxiv.org/abs/1808.07170)

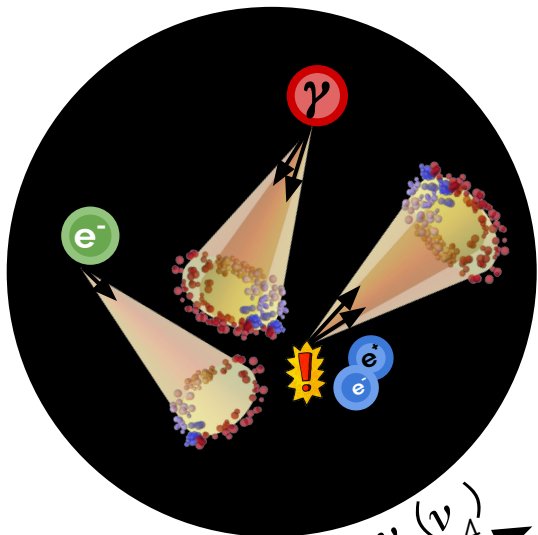




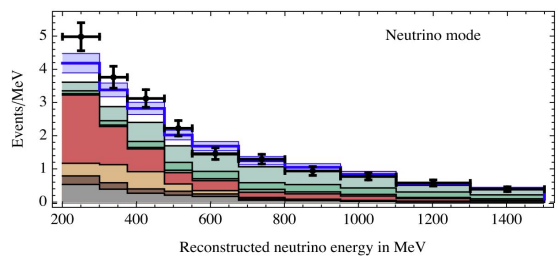
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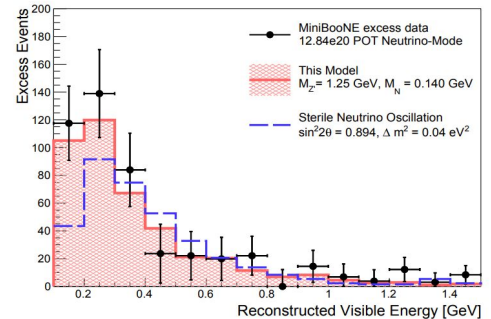
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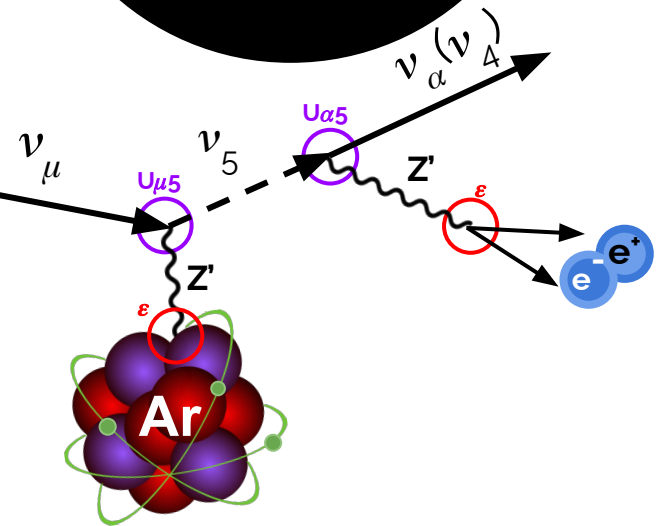
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P. Ballett, S. Pascoli, M. RL [PhysRevD.99.071701](https://arxiv.org/abs/1808.07170)



One or more **heavy sterile neutrinos**, charged under a new **dark U(1)'**

**Upscattering** produces  $\nu_5$  via **neutrino portal**, with scattering and **visible decay via vector portal** mediated by dark gauge boson  $Z'$

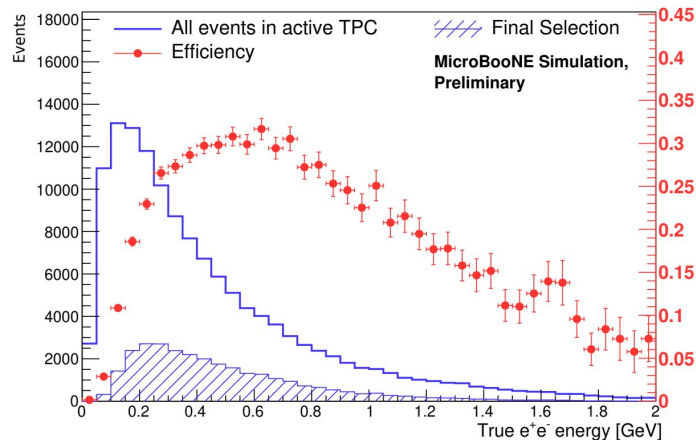


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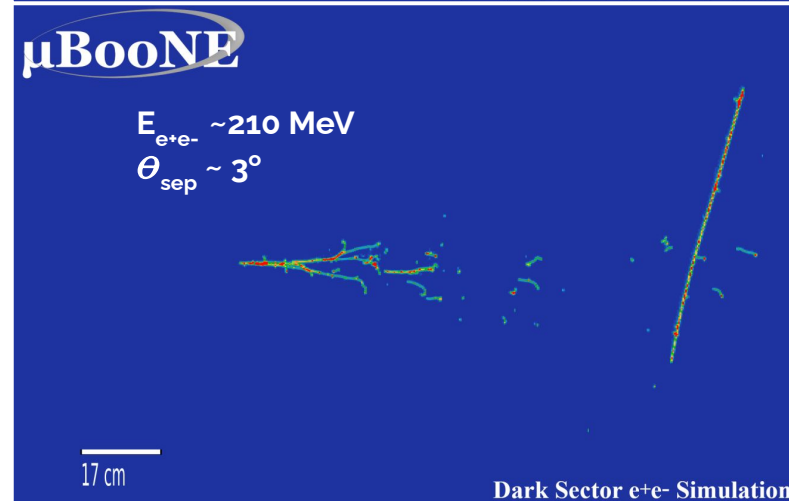
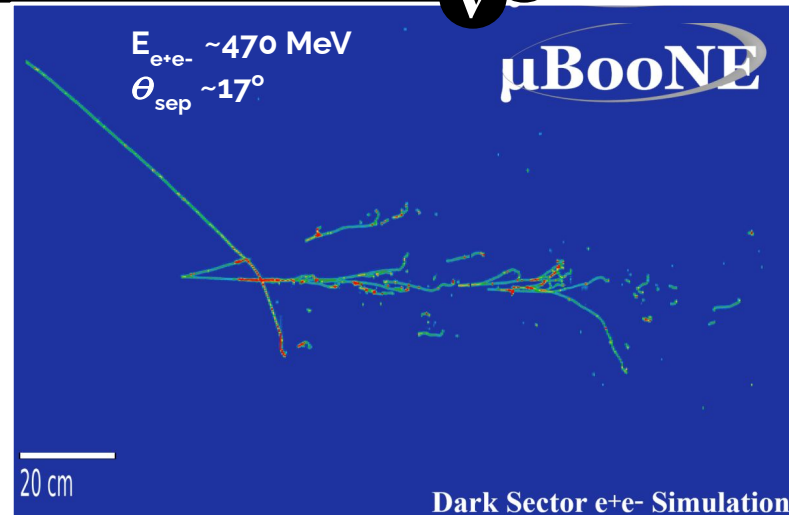
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**MicroBooNE** has developed multiple analyses to probe this class of models using both Wire-Cell and Pandora Reconstruction frameworks



Signal efficiencies **up to 30%** across model phase space show significant enhancement over first generation photon results, **~0(5%)**

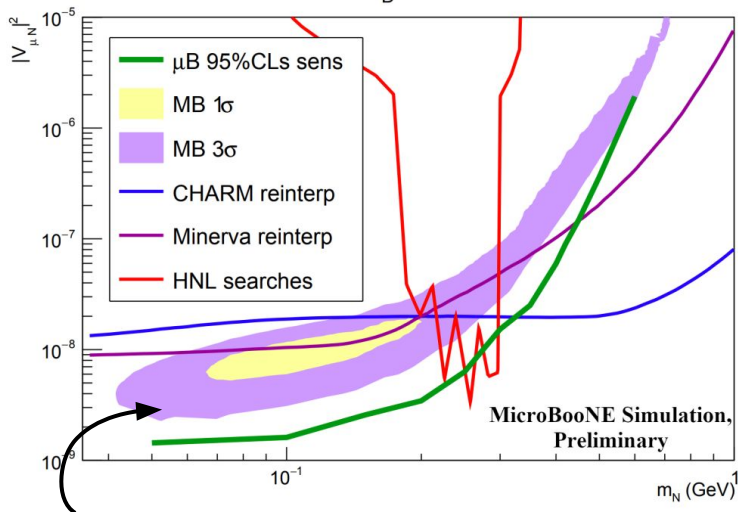




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## One Heavy Sterile

$$m_{Z'}=30 \text{ MeV}, \alpha_D=0.25, \alpha\epsilon^2=2\times 10^{-10}$$



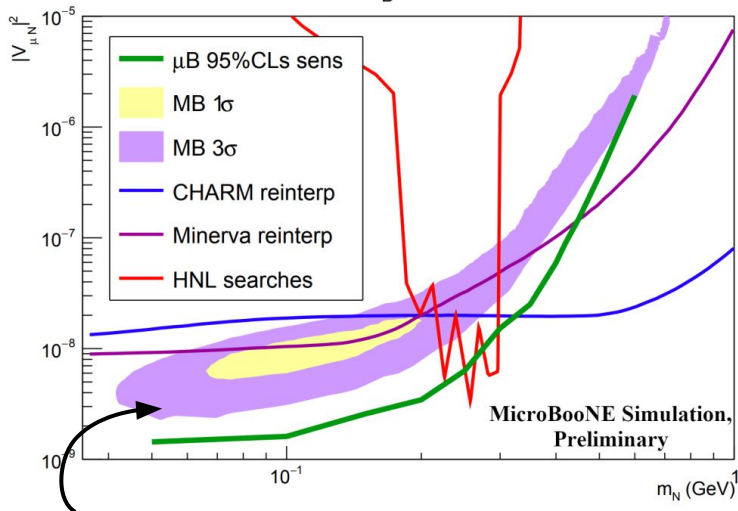
MiniBooNE allowed region from  
*E. Bertuzzo, S. Jana, P. Machado, R. Funchal*  
[Phys. Rev. Lett. 121, 241801](https://arxiv.org/abs/1808.07402)



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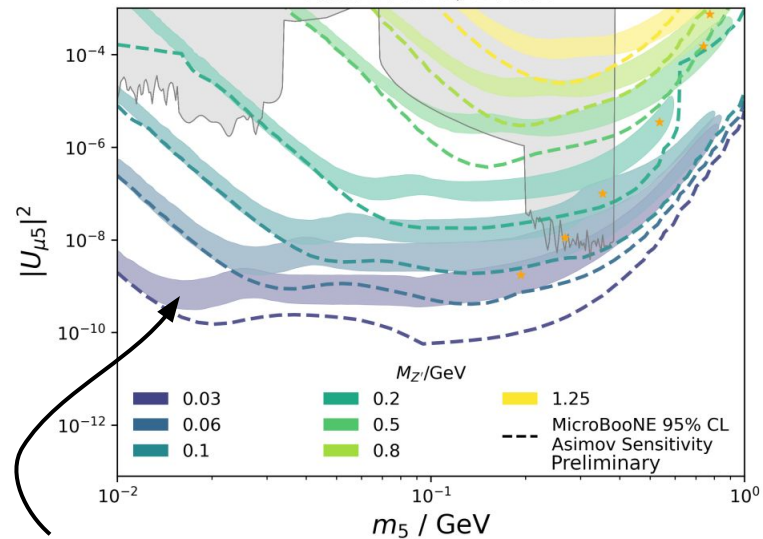
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MiniBooNE allowed region from  
*E. Bertuzzo, S. Jana, P. Machado, R. Funchal*  
[Phys. Rev. Lett. 121, 241801](https://arxiv.org/abs/2308.02543)

## Multiple Steriles States

$$\text{Fixed } \varepsilon : 8e-4, \Delta : 0.50$$



MiniBooNE allowed regions from  
*A. Abdullahi, J. Hoefken, M. Hostert, D. Massaro, S. Pascoli*  
[arXiv.2308.02543](https://arxiv.org/abs/2308.02543)



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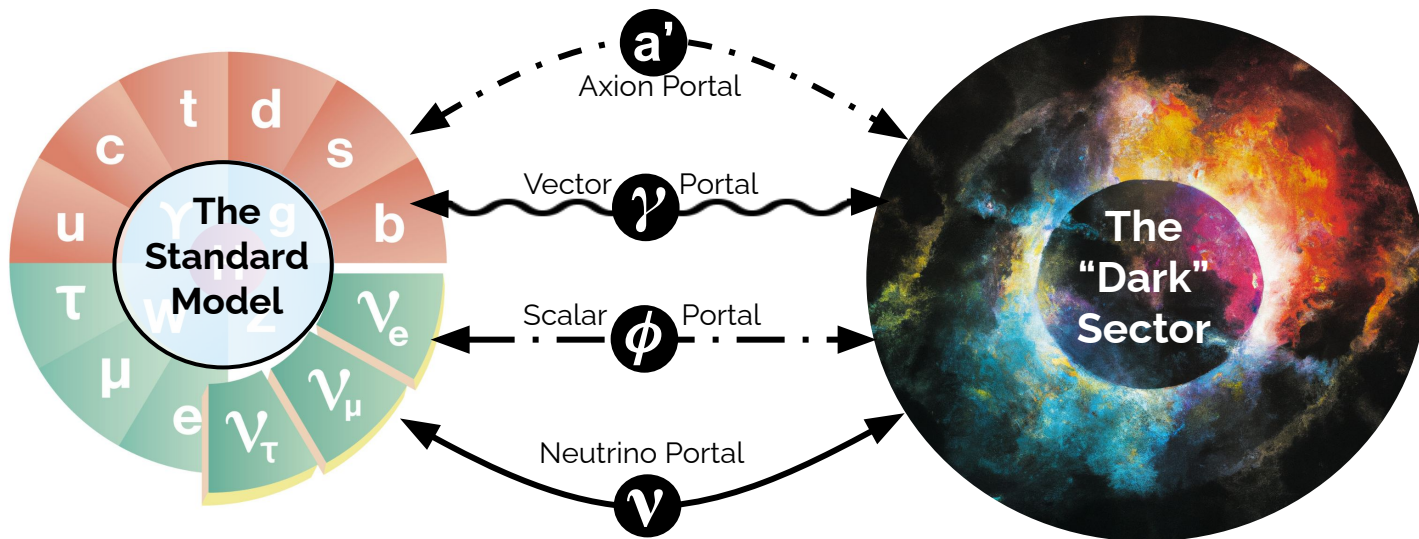
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Non-Minimal Portal  
Generic Selections



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- **Dark Neutrino Upscattering\***

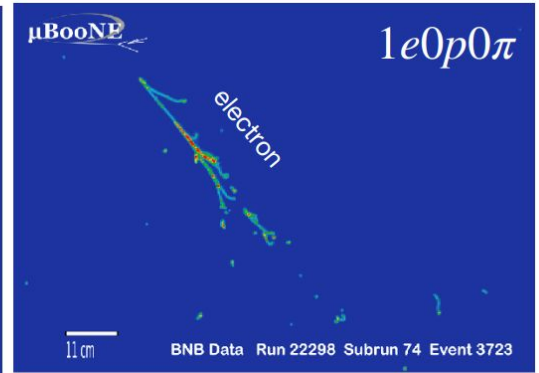
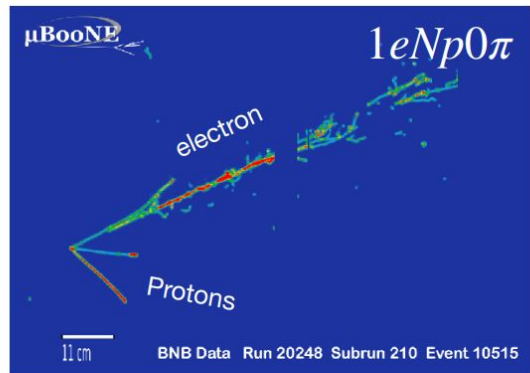
### $?$ $?$ Casting a wide net!

- **Generic Electron Searches\***
- **Inclusive Single-Photon Searches\***



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Generic selections formed the backbone of the first MicroBooNE electron LEE results

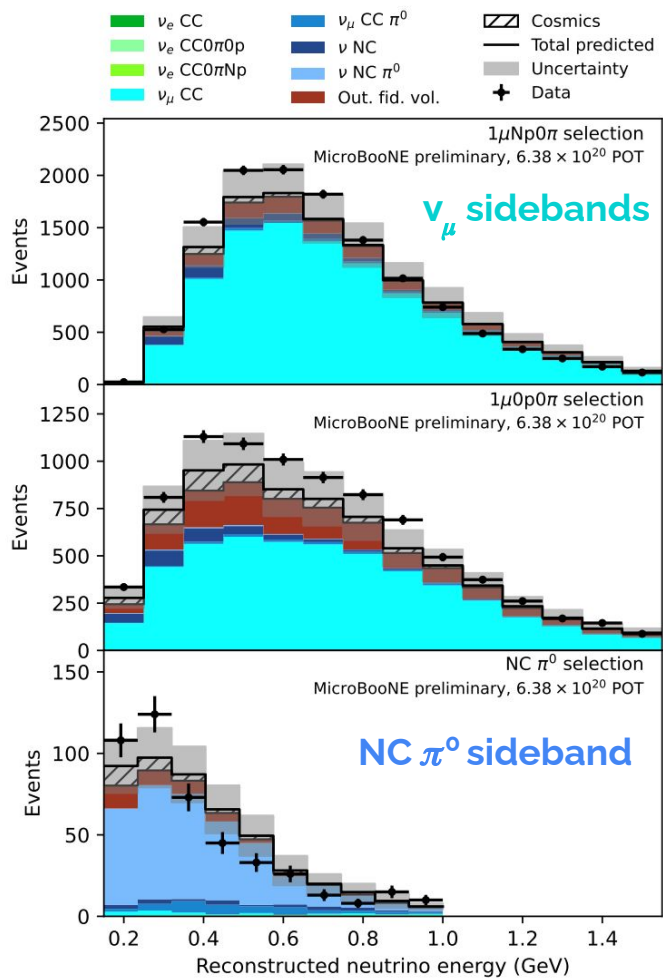


Highlight an **update to the pionless  $\nu_e$  selection**

- Same topology as MiniBooNE
- This update is the first analysis from MicroBooNE to use **all five runs of data**
  - **$6.8 \times 10^{20}$**   $\rightarrow$   **$11.1 \times 10^{20}$  POT** of BNB data
- Based on MicroBooNE (2022) [PhysRevD 105 112004](#) but with several updates in addition to extra data

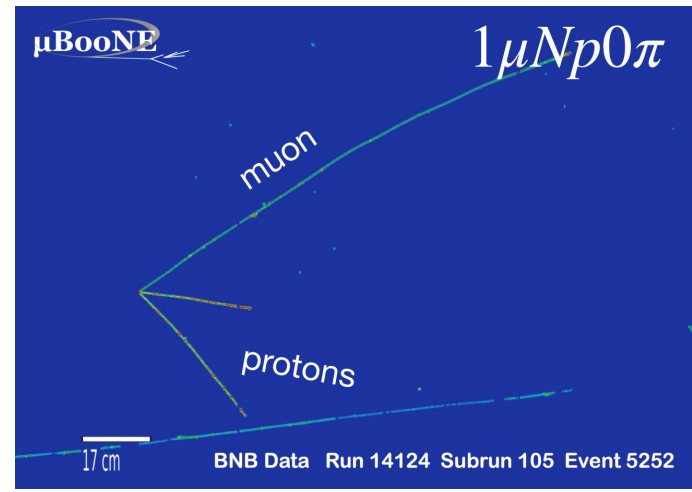


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Updated  **$\nu_\mu$  sidebands** to better constrain intrinsic  $\nu_e$

Inclusion of a **NC  $\pi^0$  sideband** a particularly important background for  $1e0p0\pi$







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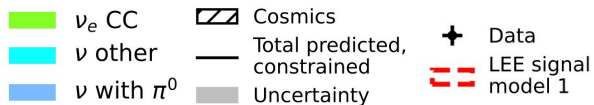
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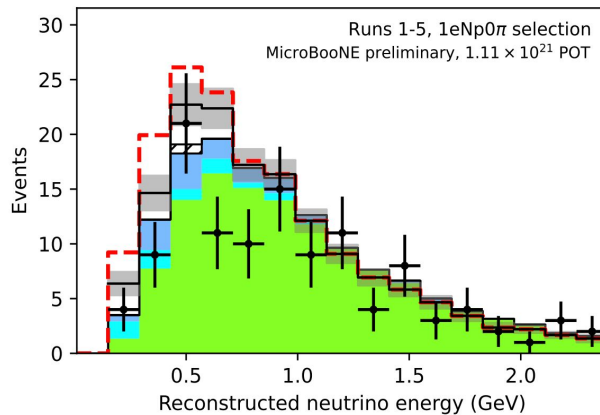
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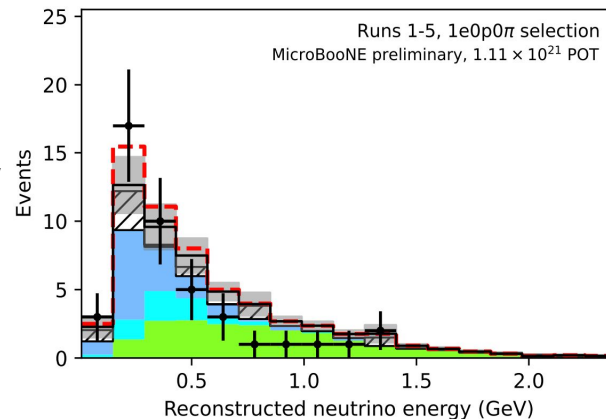
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**1eNp0π topology**



**1e0p0π topology**

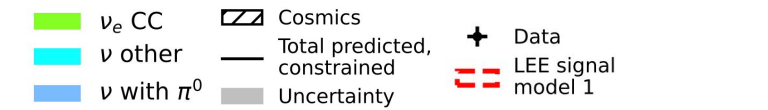


- Data in overall agreement with **intrinsic  $\nu_e$  flux** prediction.

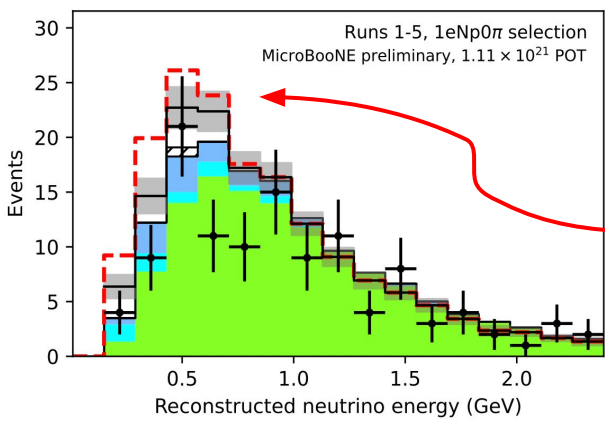


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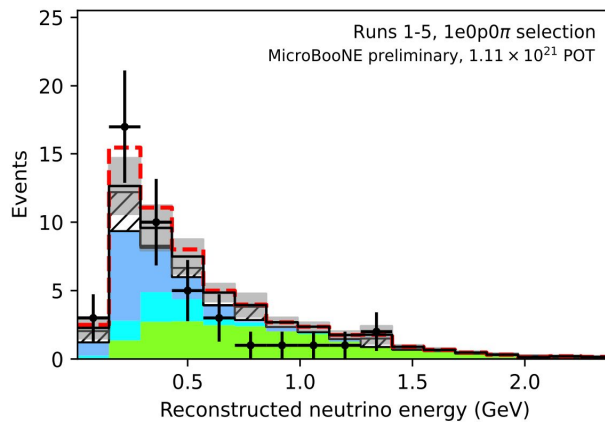
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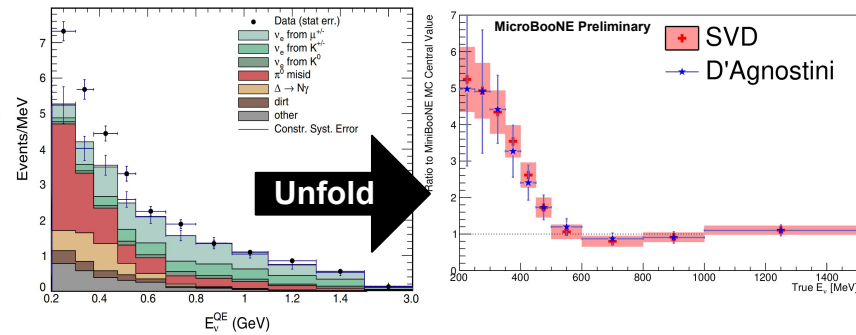
**1eNp0π topology**  
→



**1eop0π topology**  
→



- Data in overall agreement with **intrinsic  $\nu_e$  flux** prediction.
- Although selection is *model independent*, want to test **neutrino energy dependent  $\nu_e$  rate scaling** as possible MiniBooNE explanation



- Rule out **excess model** @ 99.5% CL in **Np & op** combined channels.

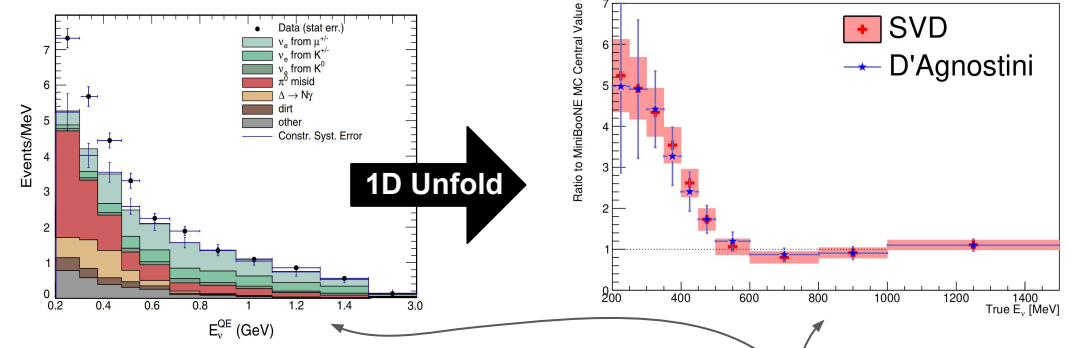


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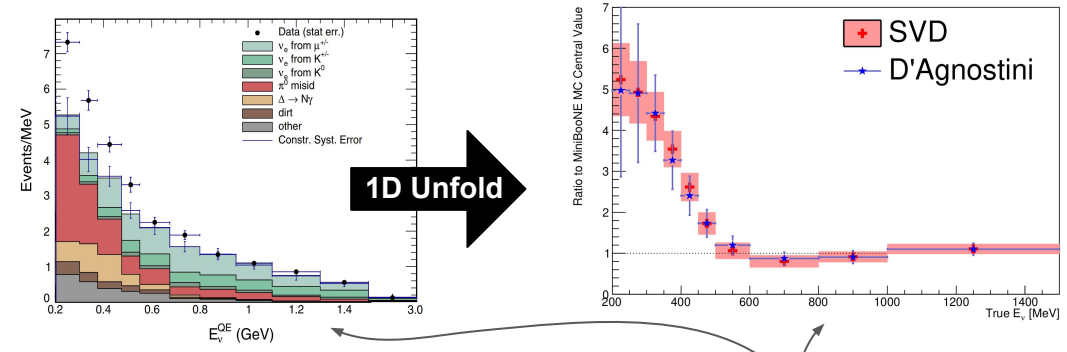
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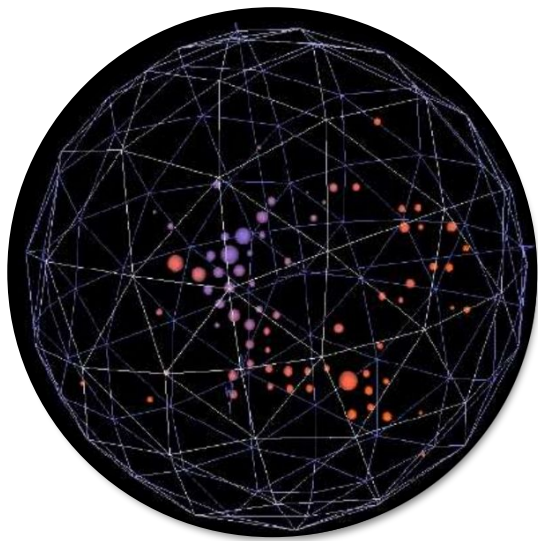
Neither MiniBooNE nor MicroBooNE measures **neutrino energy directly**



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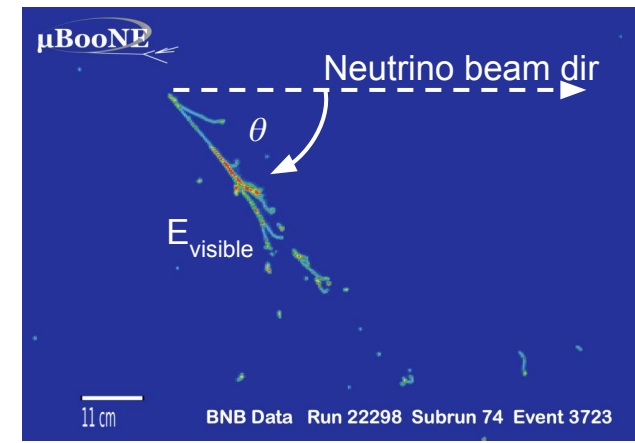
Neither MiniBooNE nor MicroBooNE measures **neutrino energy directly**



Instead we reconstruct

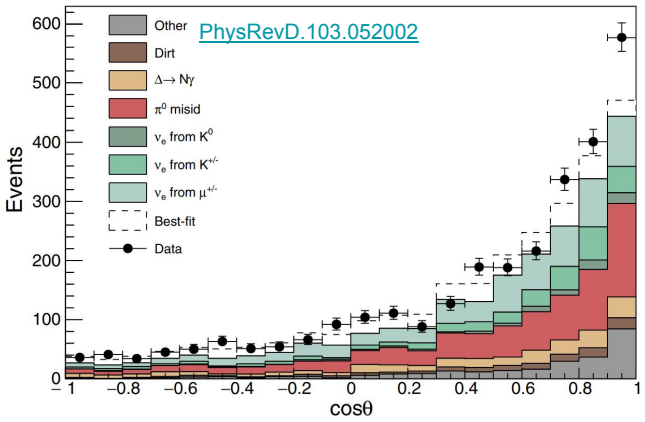
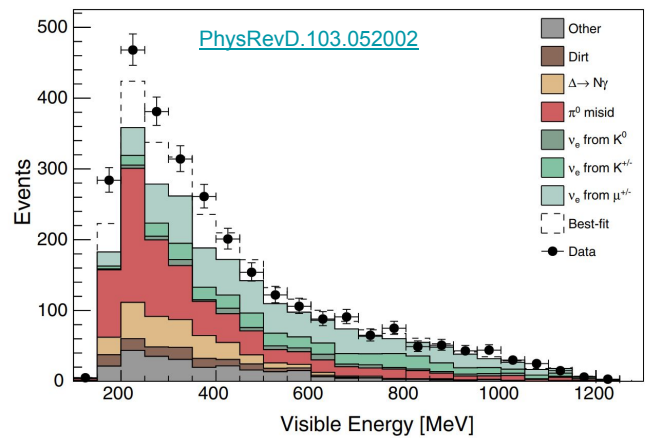
- The **direction**
- The **visible energy**

of the **observed shower**

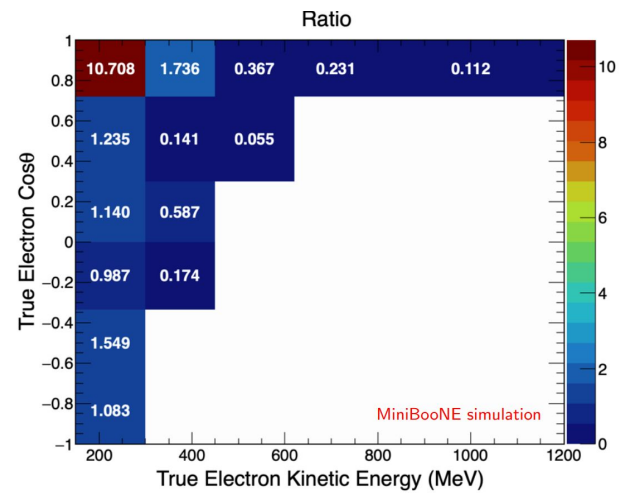




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**2D Unfolding**



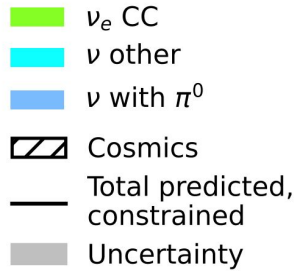
A new model based on **2D shower kinematics**

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A new model based on **2D shower kinematics**

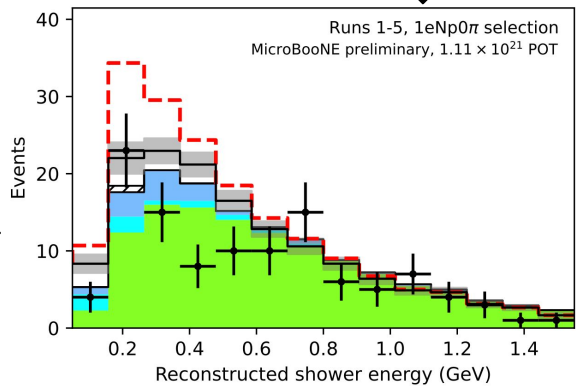
**1eNp0π topology**



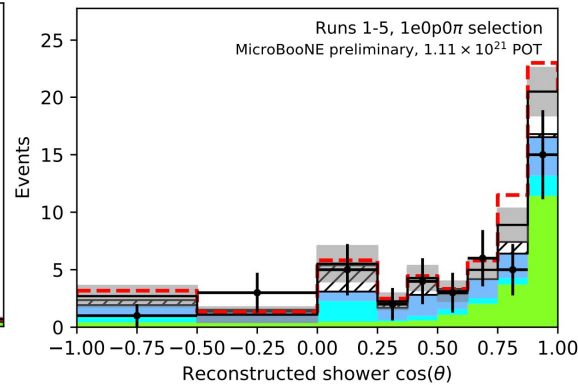
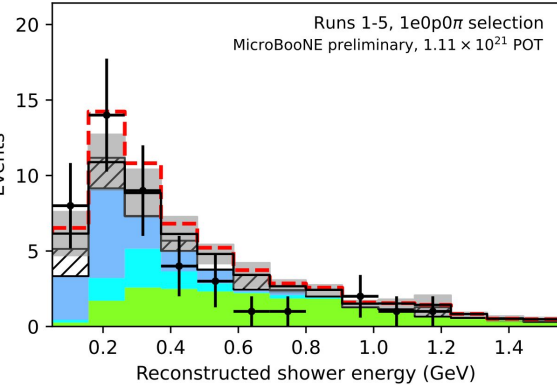
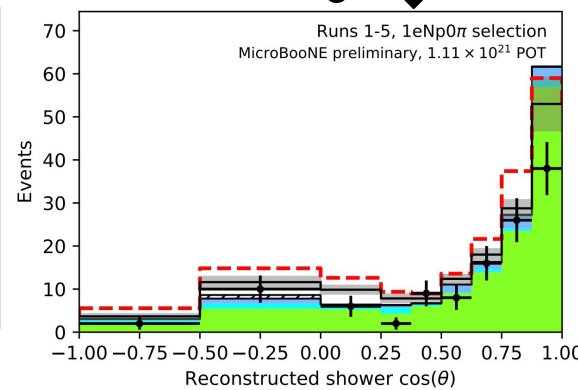
**1e0p0π topology**



Shower Energy ↓



Shower Angle ↓

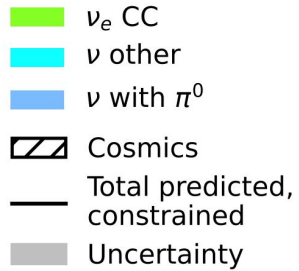


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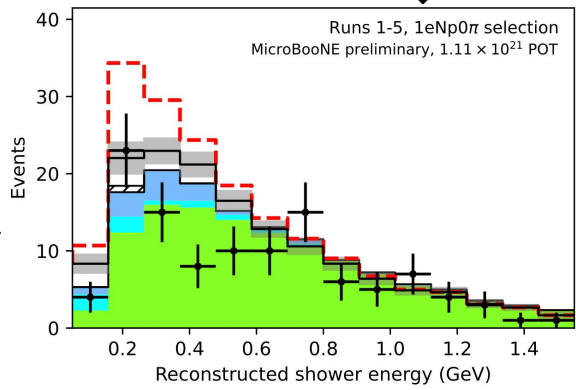
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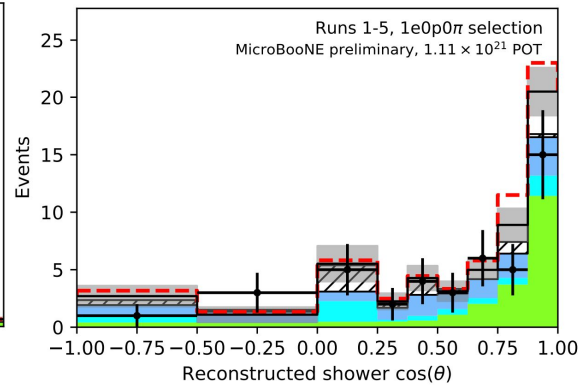
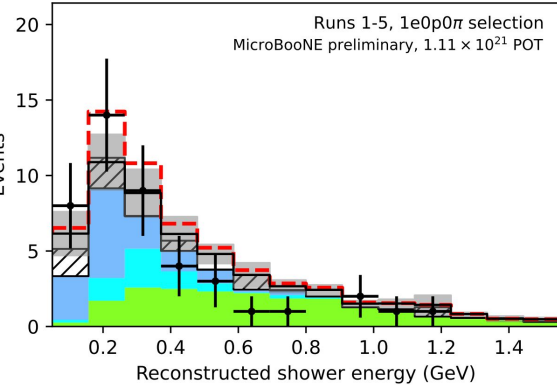
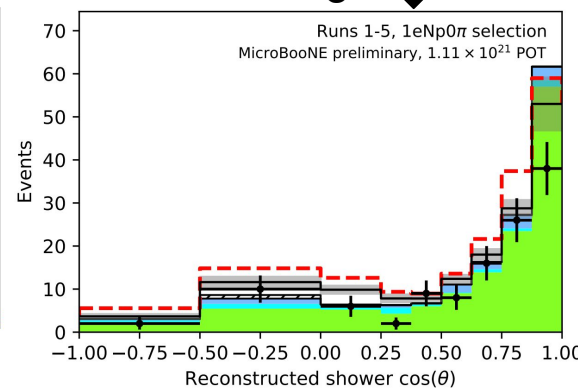
**1e0p0π topology**



Shower Energy ↓



Shower Angle ↓



Combined Np & op channels: exclude **this model** at > 99.9% CL



## 1. Introduction

MicroBooNE  
Neutrino Source(s)  
LArTPC Detector  
Physics Goals

## 2. Minimal Portals

The Dark Sector  
Neutrino Portal  
• 3+1 light sterile  
• HNL

Scalar Portal

Vector Portal

• Light DM

Axion Portal

## 3. Anomaly Hunt

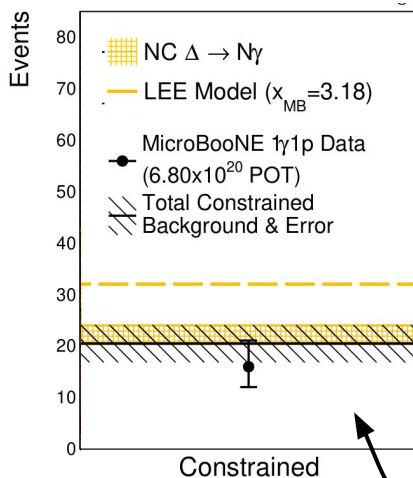
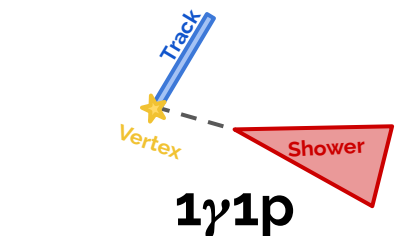
Non-Minimal Portal

Generic Selections

• Electron

• Photon

In contrast, MicroBooNE's first generation photon analysis was *not* a generic or model independent result, it was specific to **NC  $\Delta$  Radiative decay**



Power comes mostly from  
**1γ1p** selection





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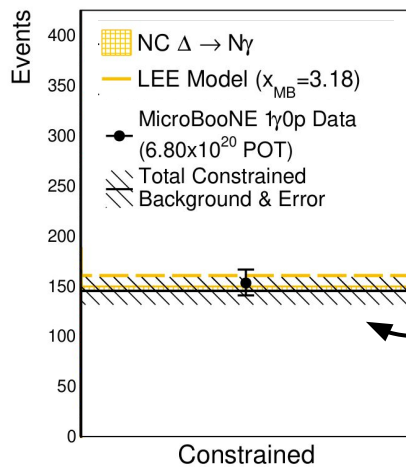
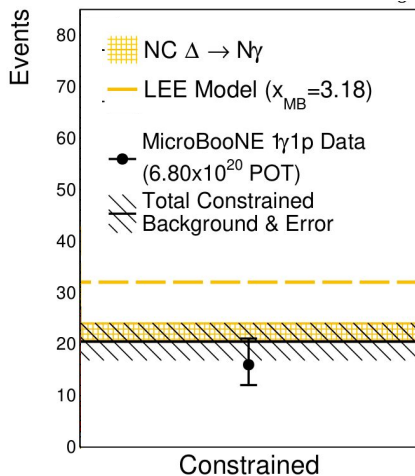
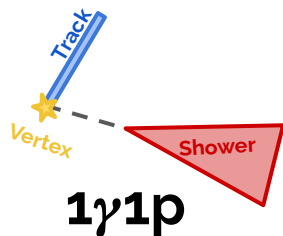
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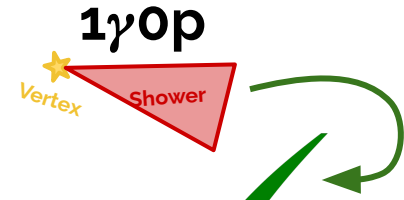
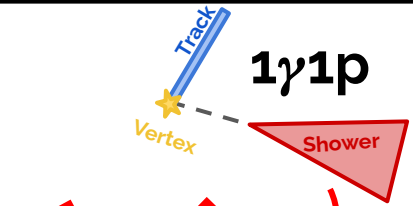
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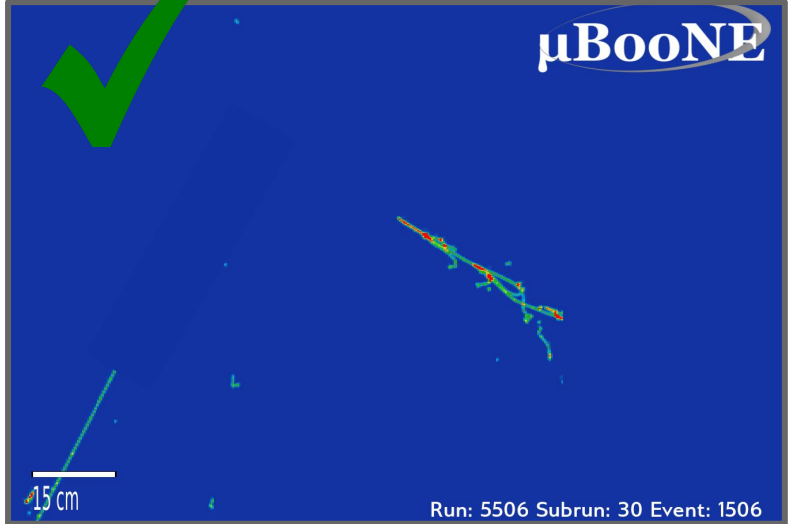
Very little sensitivity in the zero-proton sample



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**Heavily Constrained**



**Currently Allowed, Need further probes...**



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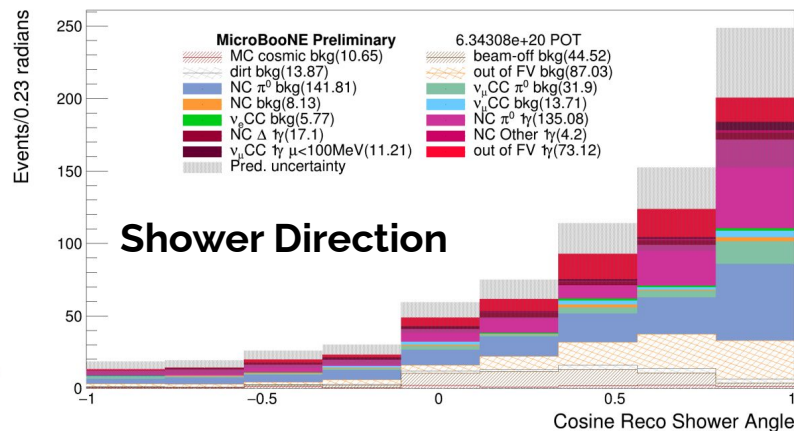
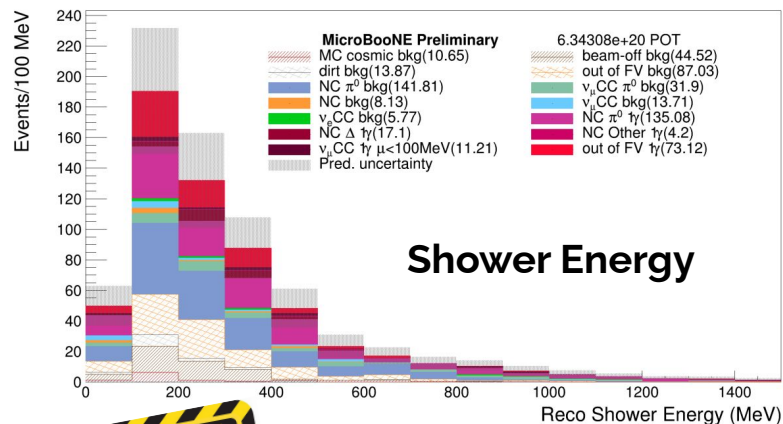
Scalar Portal  
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 • Light DM  
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An **inclusive single-photon selection** has been developed using the Wire-Cell reconstruction framework.

Aim to **cast a wide net** to capture any potential photon anomaly, especially in 0-proton events

Expect **O(600)** events in final selections, with a purity of **~40%** and single-shower efficiency of **7%**



# Conclusions and Summary

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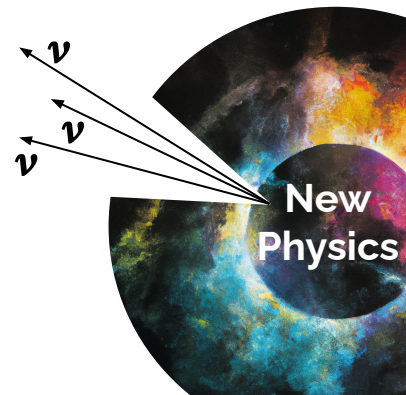
Axion Portal

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## 4. Conclusions

- Combination of powerful **dual beam neutrino sources** and **LArTPC detector technology** provides MicroBooNE with the tools to probe a wide array of BSM **Dark Sector Physics**
  - **World-leading limits on some low-mass BSM particles**
  - Beginning to explore the **rich world of non-minimal portals** with upcoming dark-neutrino **e+e- analysis**
- Novel “**Dual-Beam**” **3+1 sterile neutrino search** will continue to weigh in on 3+1 interpretation of the **short-baseline anomalies**, alongside first full dataset **electron analyses**
- New **inclusive single-photon** results coming soon, with many more **full 5-year dataset analyses to follow!**





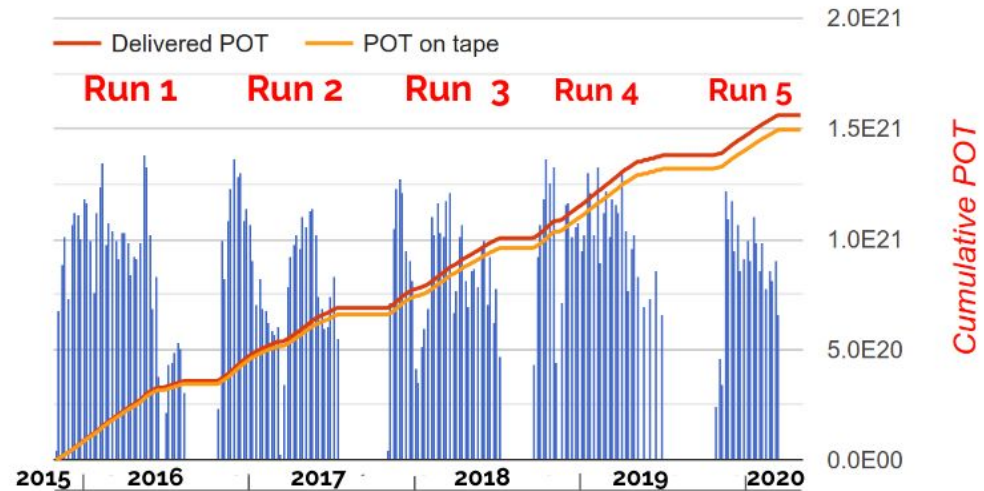
# Thank You

  $\mu$ BooNE

 Los Alamos  
NATIONAL LABORATORY

 Fermilab

Since turning on in 2015, MicroBooNE has amassed the **largest sample of neutrino interactions on argon in the world**





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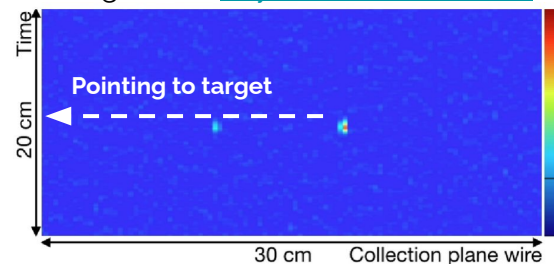
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Particles ( $\chi$ ) with a **fraction of the electron charge,  $\epsilon e$** .

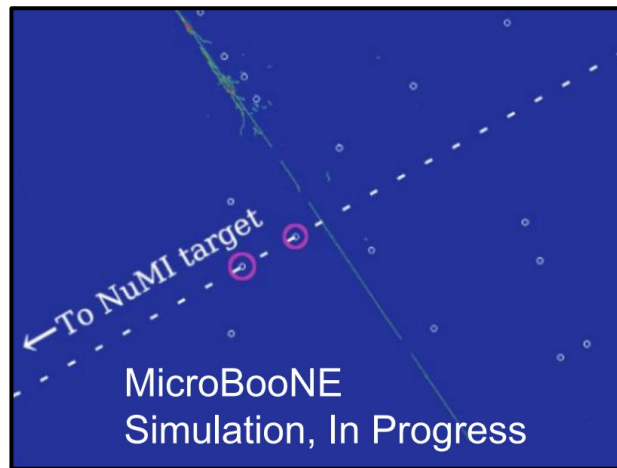
$$\mathcal{L}_{mCP} = i\bar{\chi} (\not{\partial} - i\epsilon e \not{B} + M_{mCP}) \chi$$

While millicharged particles can be studied in isolation without a dark sector, this fractional charge could come from **vector portal kinetic mixing  $\epsilon$**

ArgoNeuT: [PhysRevLett.124.131801](https://arxiv.org/abs/1204.1318)



Methods pioneered by **ArgoNeuT** for LArTPC's, with analysis now ongoing in **MicroBooNE**

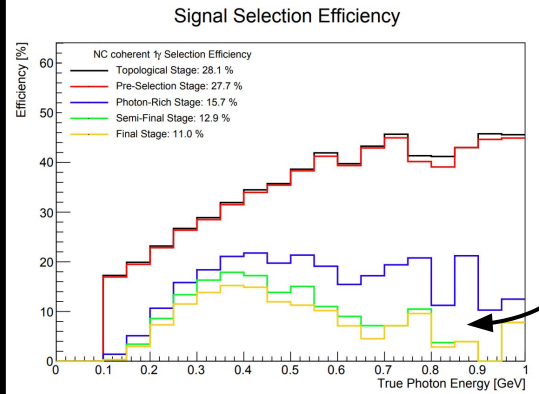




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  - Combined Portals
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## Coherent Photon Production

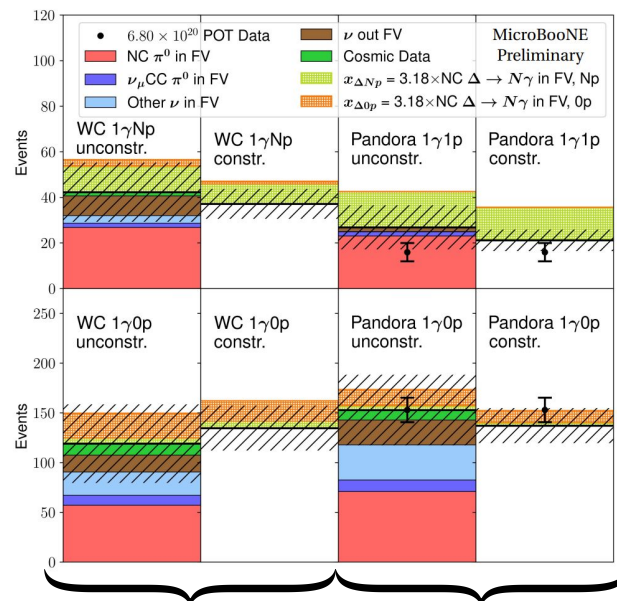


Targeting specific topology leads to higher efficiency

Example of Proton "Stub"  
This analysis aims to remove



## Updated NC $\Delta \rightarrow N\gamma$ (Delta Radiative)



New Wire-Cell Selections

1st generation NC  $\Delta \rightarrow N\gamma$  Results (Pandora)



# Portals to the 'Dark Sector'

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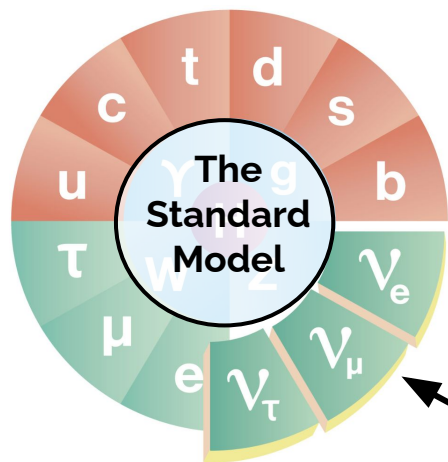
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LArTPC Detector

Physics Goals

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The Dark Sector



Neutrino Portal



Neutrino Portal

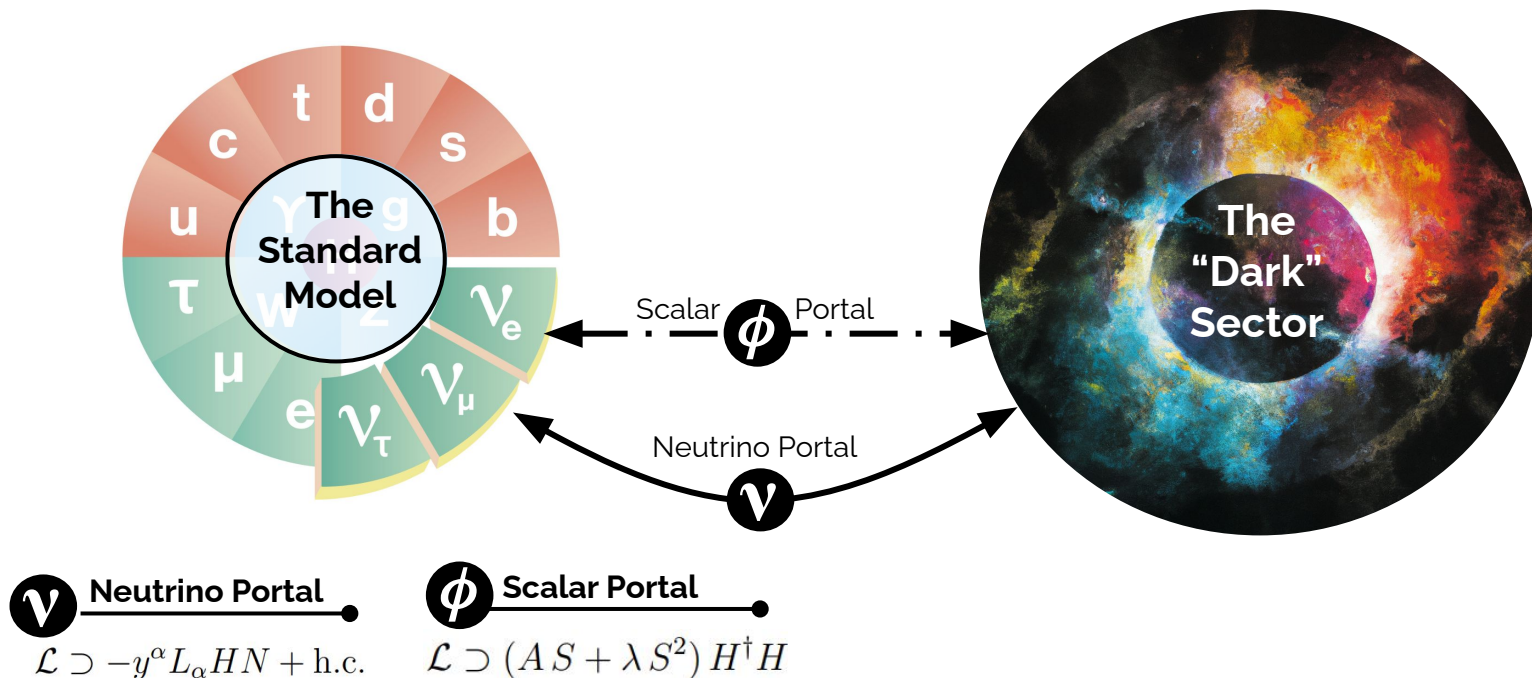
$$\mathcal{L} \supset -y^\alpha L_\alpha H N + \text{h.c.}$$

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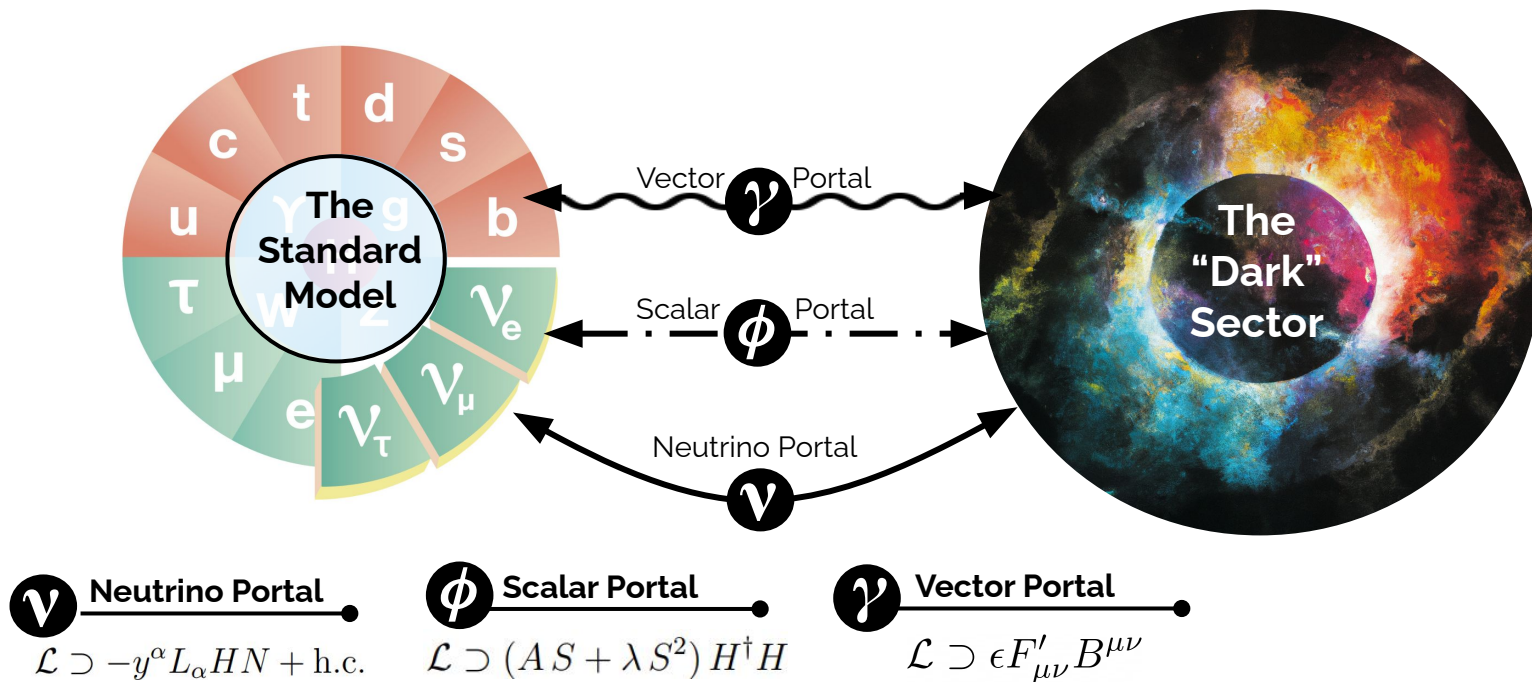


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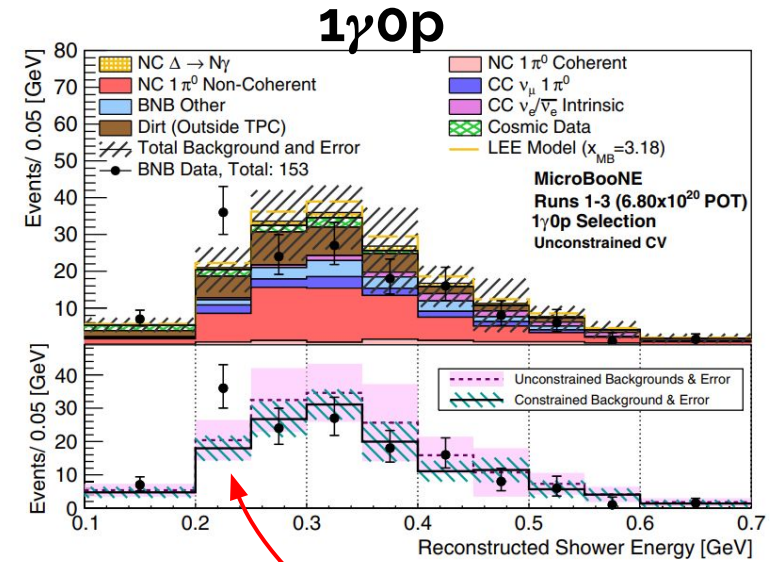
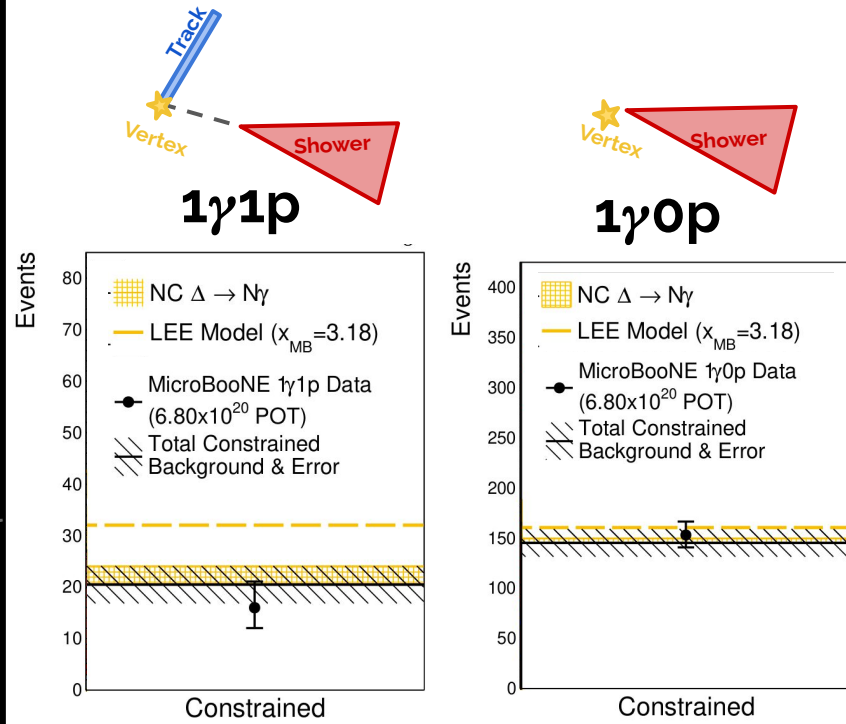
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In fact very mild excess at lower energy in the **1 $\gamma$ 0p** selection.