

DARK NEUTRINO SECTORS & LOW ENERGY EXPERIMENTS

**Brookhaven Neutrino Theory Virtual Seminars
BNTVS**

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PRD99, 091701(R)

Based on work with:
Silvia Pascoli & Peter Ballett
@ Durham University

1903.07590
***extended v2**
submitted to PRD

Outline

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- Heavy neutral leptons in seesaw extensions with dark U(1)' symmetries
- Overview of new signatures at neutrino, collider, and kaon experiments.

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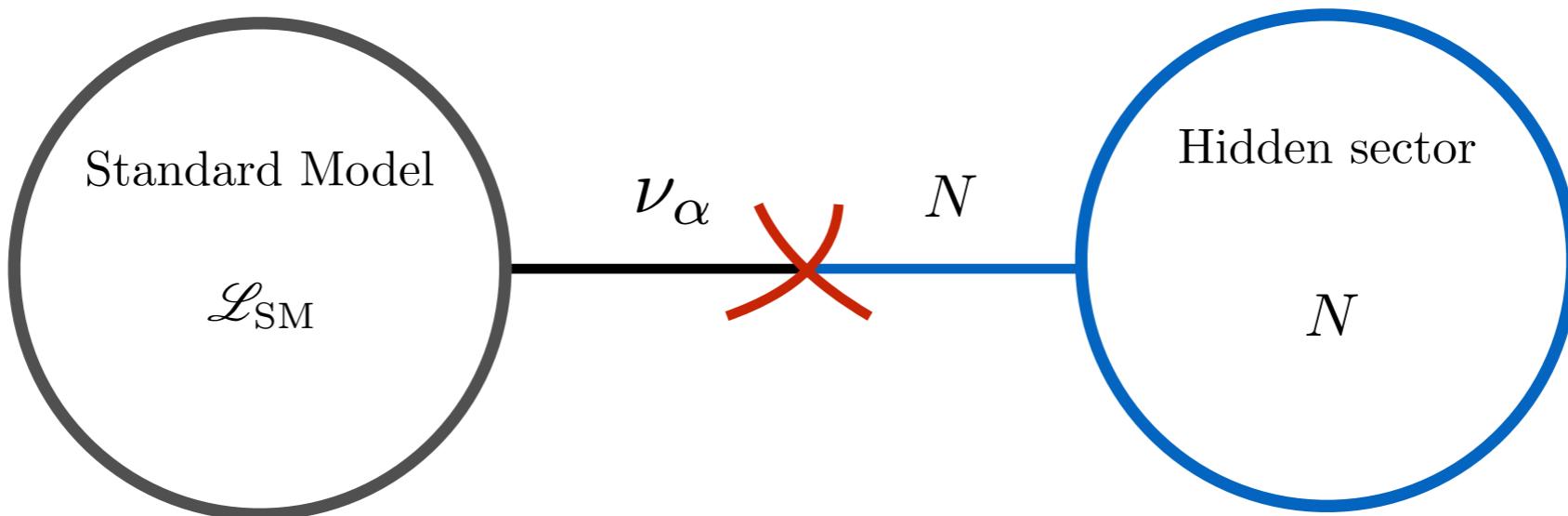
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Outline

- Heavy neutral leptons in seesaw extensions with dark U(1)' symmetries
- Overview of new signatures at neutrino, collider, and kaon experiments.
- New ideas to search for dark neutrinos at NA62.

ordinary weak interactions, sterile, i.e. practically unobservable, since they have the “incorrect” helicity.

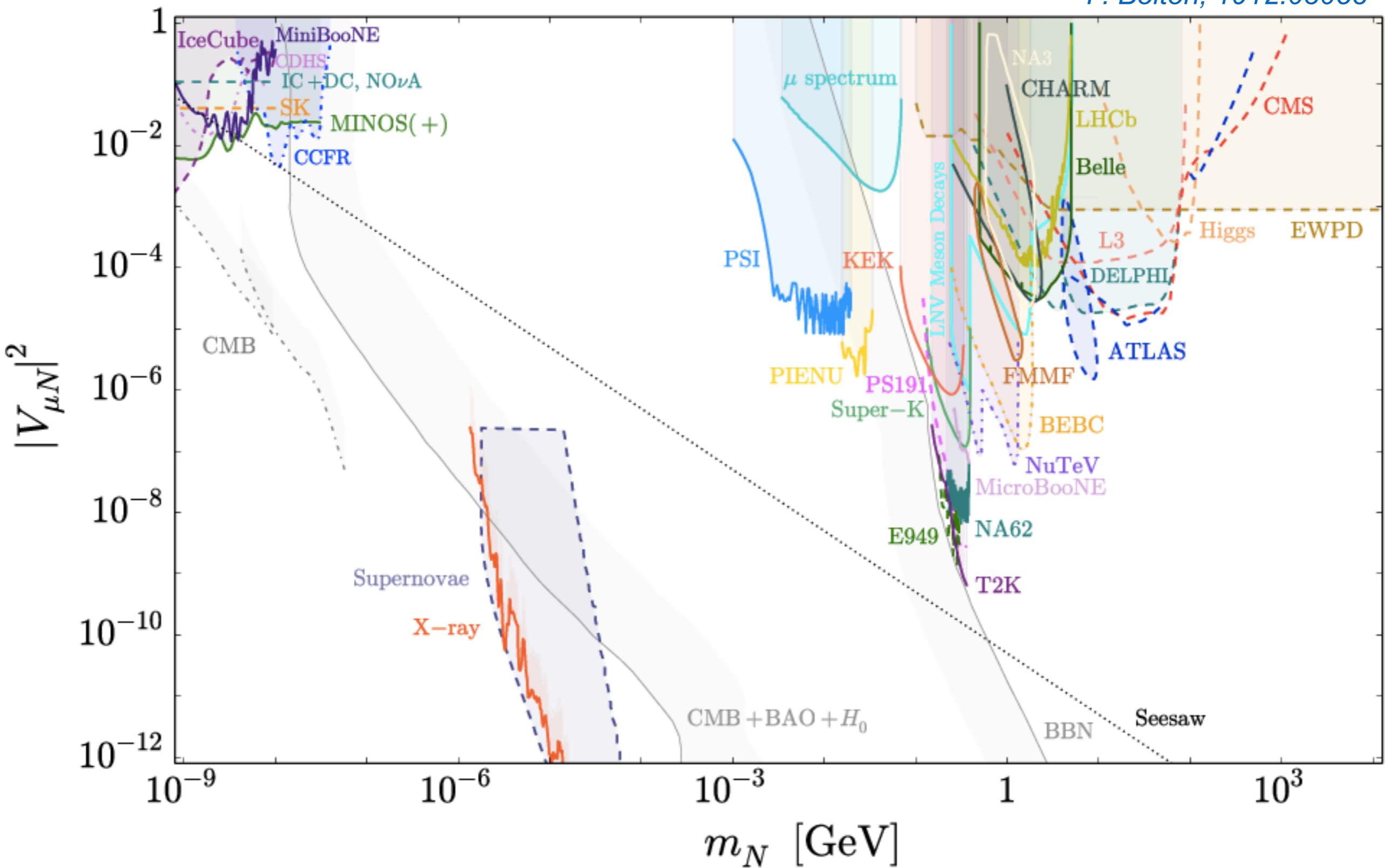
B. Pontecorvo, Sov.Phys.JETP 26 (1968) 984-988.

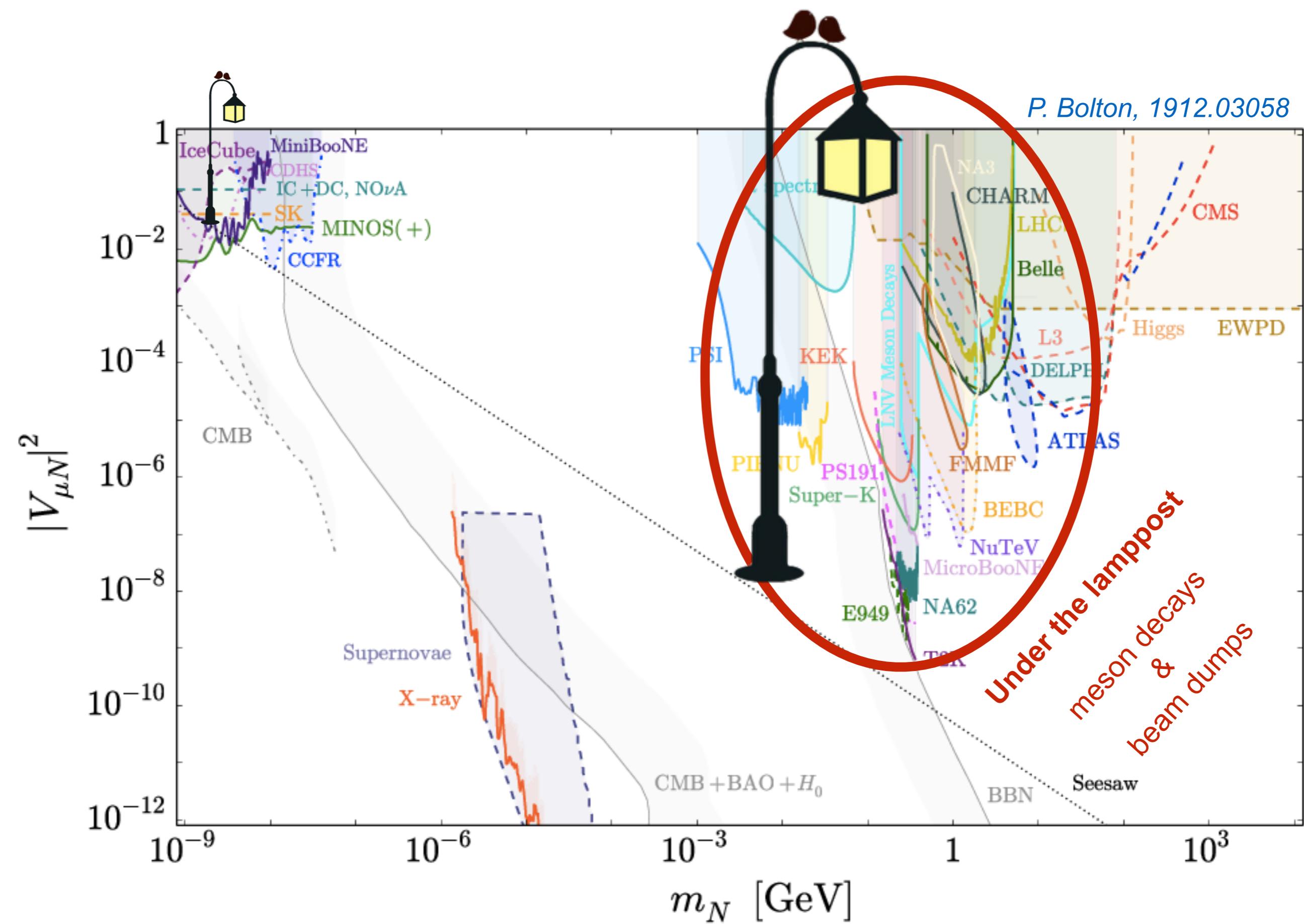


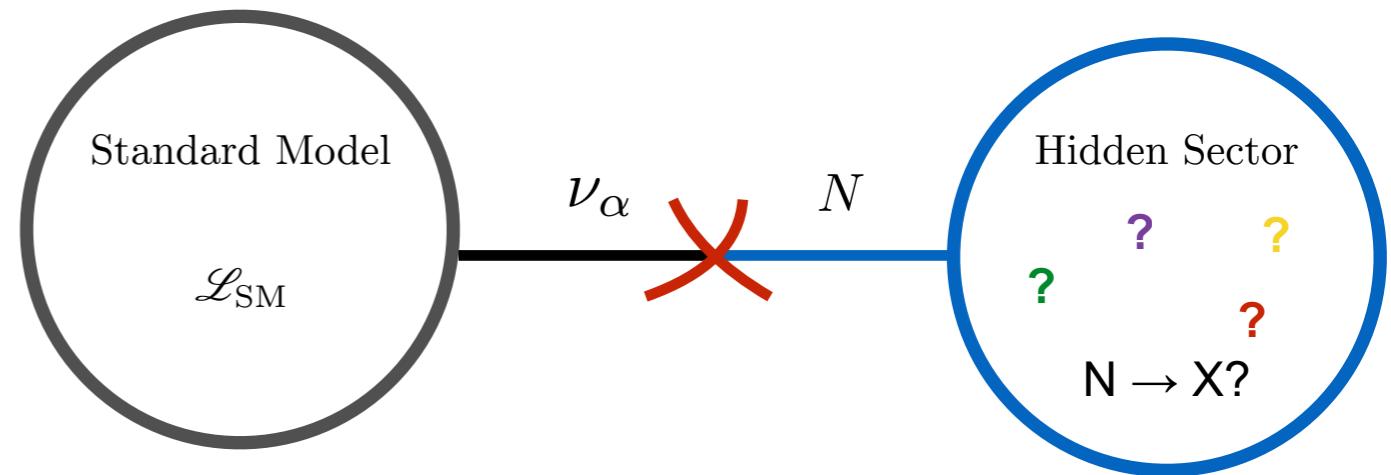
$$\mathcal{L} \supset -y^\nu (\bar{L} \tilde{H}) N - \frac{M_N}{2} \bar{N^c} N + \text{h.c.}$$

Well-motivated extension of the SM

- Type-I seesaw (and variants) for neutrino masses
- Generic renormalizable coupling to singlet fermions
- M_N need not be large. Nu masses may be small due to small Yukawas.

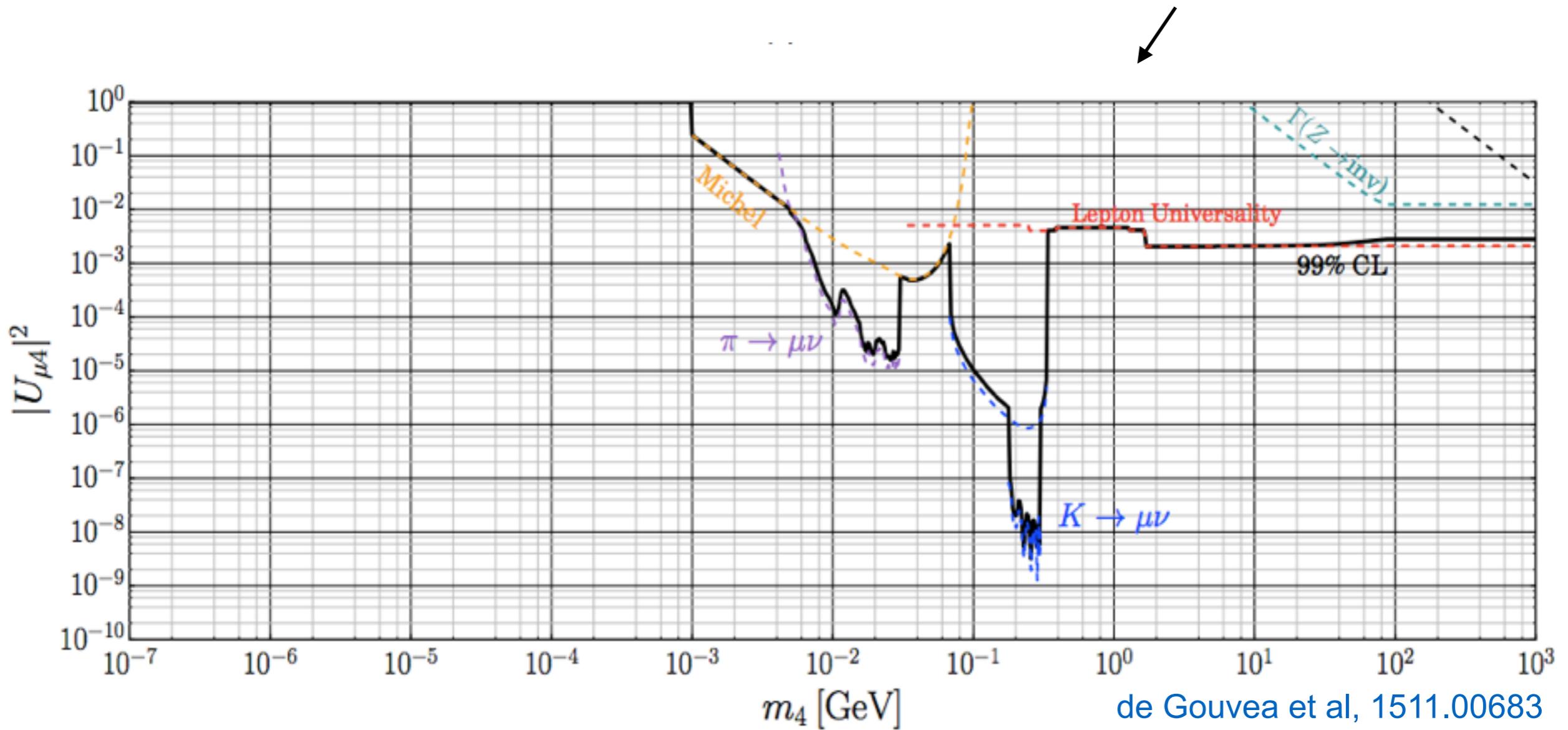






But how robust is this picture against
enlarging the dark sector?

e.g., if open-minded about
BRs and decays of N



New local U(1) gauge symmetry with Type-I-like HNL

Gauged ($B - L$)

W.Buchmüller, et al (1991), B. Batell et al, (2016), P. F. Perez (2017), many others.

Gauged ($L_a - L_b$)

J. Heeck and W. Rodejohann (2011), S. Baek et al (2015), J. Heeck and Y. Farzan (2016)
A. Biswas et al (2016), Takeshi Araki et al (2019), and others.

this talk → Gauged (Q_x) — dark quantum number, not shared by SM

H. Okada and K. Yagyu (2014), J. Heeck and Y. Farzan (2016) , T. Nomura and H. Okada (2017, 2018),
C. Diaz et al (2017), M. D. Campos (2017), E. Bertuzzo et al (2017),
E. Bertuzzo et al (2018), C. Hagedorn et al, (2018), and others.

Dark fermion ν_D no longer a complete singlet.

$(LH_D)\nu_D$ in extended SM-charged scalar sectors (e.g. 2HDM, richer scalar pheno)

but can have much simpler model.

New dark U(1)' symmetry spontaneously broken by SM-singlet scalar field

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L} = & \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \left(D_\mu \Phi\right)^\dagger (D^\mu \Phi) - V(\Phi, H) \\ & - \frac{1}{4} X^{\mu\nu} X_{\mu\nu} + \bar{N} i \not{D} N + \bar{\nu}_D i \not{D} \nu_D \\ & - \left[y_\nu^\alpha (\bar{L}_\alpha \cdot \tilde{H}) N^c + \frac{\mu'}{2} \bar{N} N^c + y_N \bar{N} \nu_D^c \Phi + \text{h.c.} \right],\end{aligned}$$

	SU(2) _L	U(1) _Y	U(1)'
N	1	0	0
ν_D	1	0	Q
Φ	1	0	Q

Two-step mixing with SM-like neutrinos.

kinetic mixing

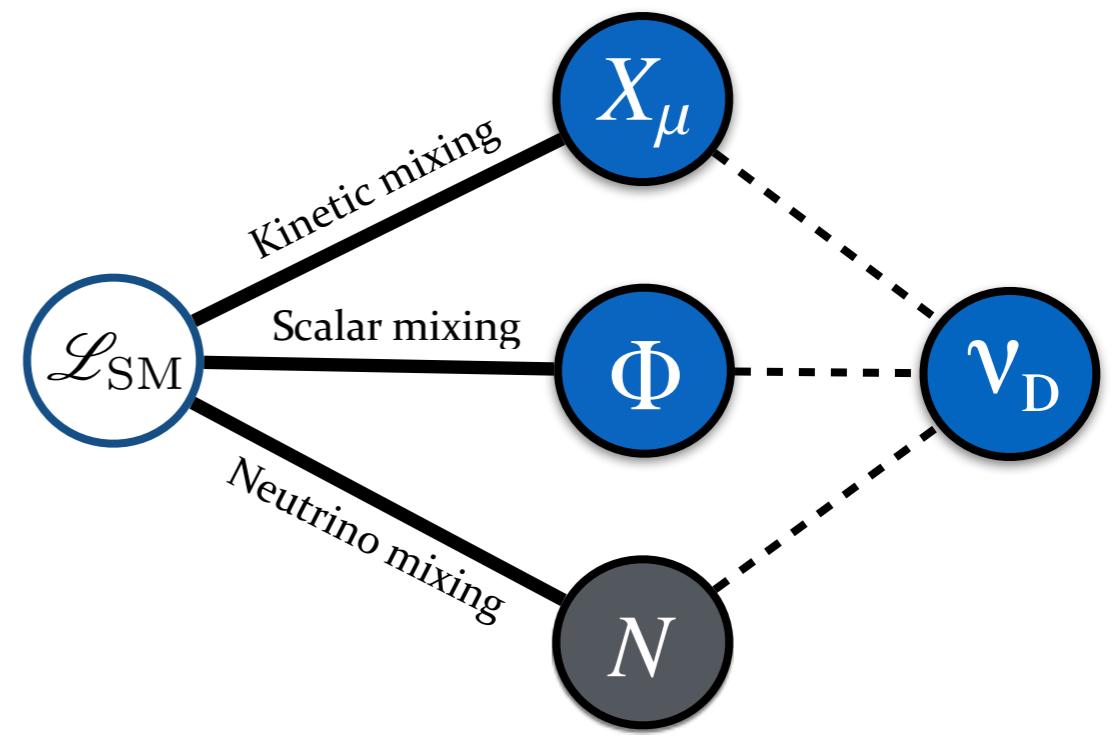
$$B_{\mu\nu} X^{\mu\nu}$$

scalar mixing

$$|\Phi|^2 |H|^2$$

neutrino mixing

$$(\bar{L} \tilde{H}) N$$



New dark U(1)' symmetry spontaneously broken by SM-singlet scalar field

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L} = & \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \left(D_\mu \Phi\right)^\dagger (D^\mu \Phi) - V(\Phi, H) \\ & - \frac{1}{4} X^{\mu\nu} X_{\mu\nu} + \overline{N} i \not{D} N + \overline{\nu_D} i \not{D} \nu_D \\ & - \left[y_\nu^\alpha (\overline{L}_\alpha \cdot \widetilde{H}) N^c + \frac{\mu'}{2} \overline{N} N^c + y_N \overline{N} \nu_D^c \Phi + \text{h.c.} \right],\end{aligned}$$

	SU(2) _L	U(1) _Y	U(1)'
N	1	0	0
ν_D	1	0	Q
Φ	1	0	Q

Anomaly freedom and extensions w/ fermionic DM candidates:

- Option 1) Vector-like ν_D and DM, where $\chi_{L,R} \sim (1, 0, Q/2)$ **stable** ✓

$$y_R \overline{\chi_R^c} \chi_R \Phi^* + y_L \overline{\chi_L^c} \chi_L \Phi^* + m_\chi \overline{\chi_L} \chi_R$$

- Option 2) Cancellation between ν_D and dark matter $\chi_L \sim (1, 0, 0)$, $\chi_R \sim (1, 0, Q)$ *with residual dark parity (e.g., from lepton number).*

stable ✓

$$\mu_L \overline{\chi_L^c} \chi_L + y \overline{\chi_L} \chi_R \Phi^*$$

see also:
[J. Gherlein & M. Pierre](#)
[JHEP02 \(2020\) 068](#)

Inverse, Extended and Linear seesaws — Pair of HNL with opposite L

$$-\mathcal{L}_{\nu\text{-mass}} \supset \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \overline{\nu_L} & \overline{N} & \overline{\nu_D} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & m & \epsilon' \\ m & \mu' & \Lambda \\ \epsilon' & \Lambda & \mu \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_L^c \\ N^c \\ \nu_D^c \end{pmatrix} + \text{h.c.}$$

$$m_1 = \frac{\mu m^2 - 2\epsilon' m \Lambda + \epsilon'^2 \mu'}{\Lambda^2 - \mu \mu'}.$$

Light neutrino masses proportional to **LNV** parameters.

Minimal Radiative Inverse Seesaw (MRISS)

P.S.B. Dev et al., 1209.4051
 J. Lopez-Pavon et al, 1209.5342

When $\mu = \mathcal{E} = 0$

$$-\mathcal{L}_{\nu\text{-mass}} \supset \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \overline{\nu_L} & \overline{N} & \overline{\nu_D} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & m & 0 \\ m & \cancel{\mu'} & \Lambda \\ 0 & \Lambda & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_L^c \\ N^c \\ \nu_D^c \end{pmatrix} + \text{h.c.}$$

Easy to see when integrating out N: $\mu' \rightarrow \infty$

$$\frac{1}{2\mu'} \begin{pmatrix} \overline{\nu_\alpha} & \overline{\nu_D} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} m^2 & m\Lambda \\ m\Lambda & \Lambda^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_\alpha^c \\ \nu_D^c \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{rank-1}$$

sterile-like

Massless SM-like neutrinos at tree-level

(holds provided $\#N = \#S$)

n.b.

ESS-like scenario relevant for:

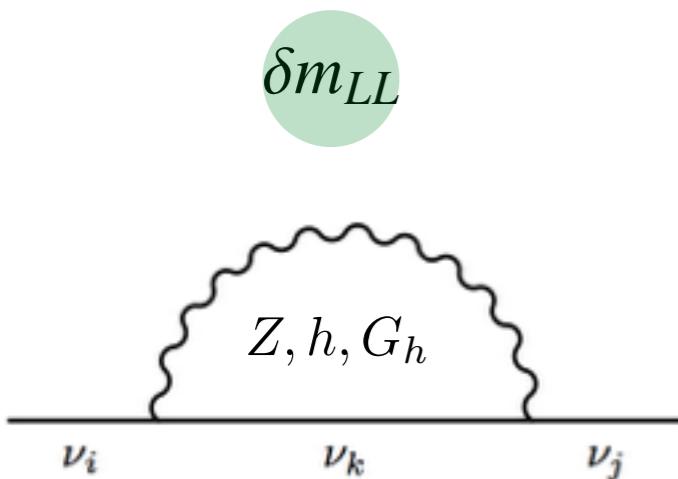
- light steriles w/ secret interactions,
- neutrino self-interactions

$$m_{\text{dark}} = \frac{m^2 + \Lambda^2}{2\mu'}$$

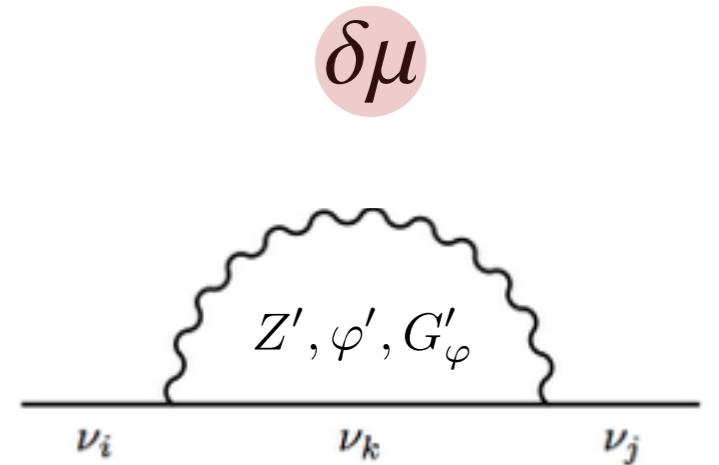
$$m_\nu = 0$$

dark-like

SM-like



$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & m_D & 0 \\ m_D & \mu' & \Lambda \\ 0 & \Lambda & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_\alpha^c \\ N^c \\ \nu_D^c \end{pmatrix}$$



After U(1)' and EW group are broken,
no longer protected.

With light new particles, NP loops dominate: neutrino masses are small because m_D is small.

ISS-like: $\mu' \ll \Lambda$

$$m_\nu \sim \frac{g'^2}{8\pi^2} \frac{m_D^2}{m_{Z'}^2} \mu' \left(3 \ln \frac{m_{Z'}^2}{\Lambda^2} + \ln \frac{m_{\varphi'}^2}{\Lambda^2} - 4 \right)$$

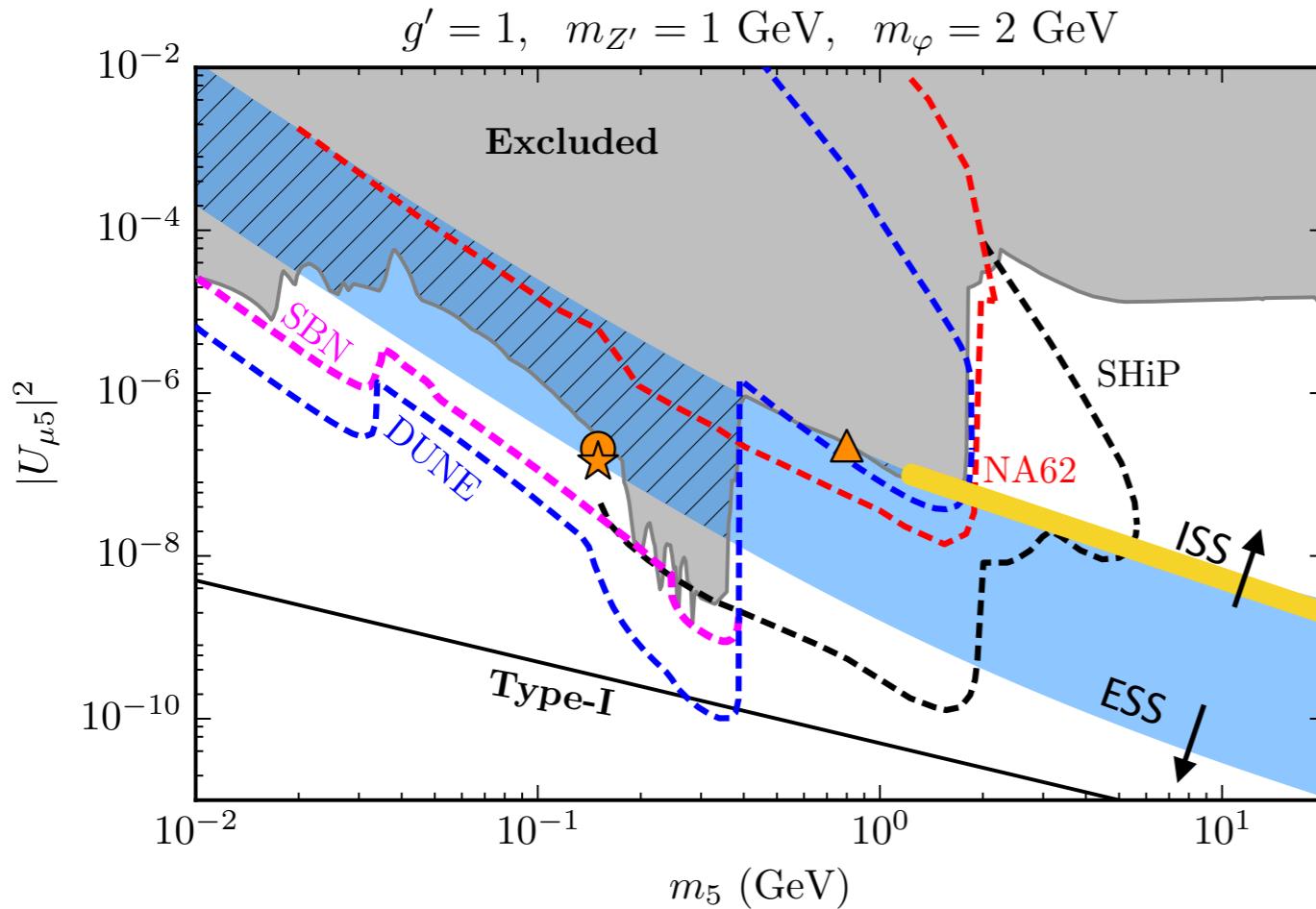
where $m_{Z'}, m_{\varphi'} \ll \Lambda$

ESS-like: $\mu' \gg \Lambda$

$$m_\nu \sim \frac{g'^2}{8\pi^2} \frac{m_D^2}{\mu'} \left(3 \ln \frac{m_{Z'}^2}{\Lambda^2} + \ln \frac{m_{\varphi'}^2}{\Lambda^2} - 4 \right)$$

where $m_{Z'}, m_{\varphi'} \gg \mu'$

Ignoring kinetic and scalar mixing



Provided neutrino mixing is small:

ISS-limit: both steriles behave “standard” HNL

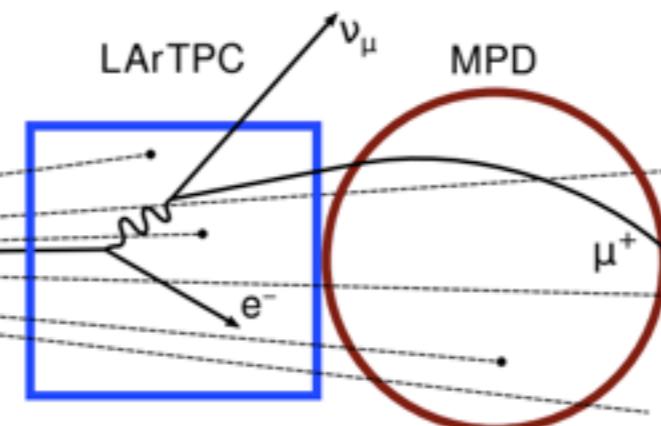
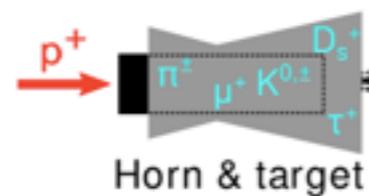
$$\Gamma(\nu_5 \rightarrow \nu_4 + \dots) \propto (\mu')^{3(5)}$$

ESS-limit: Heavy steriles cascade to nu4, which in turn behaves as “standard” HNL.

$$\nu_5 \rightarrow \nu_4 Z' \rightarrow \nu_4 \nu_4 \nu_4$$

$m'_Z, m'_\phi < m_4$: HNL decay invisibly.

Best way to search for such HNL is still via decay-in-flight exps.



P. Ballett et al, 1905.00284
J. M. Berryman et al, 1912.07622

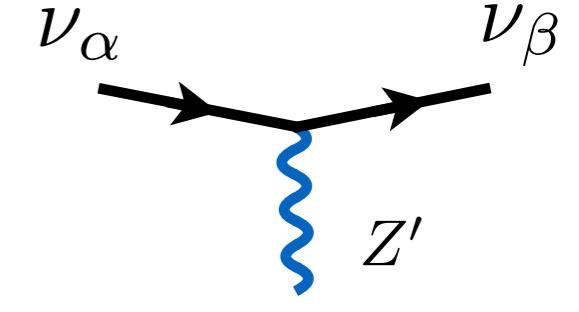
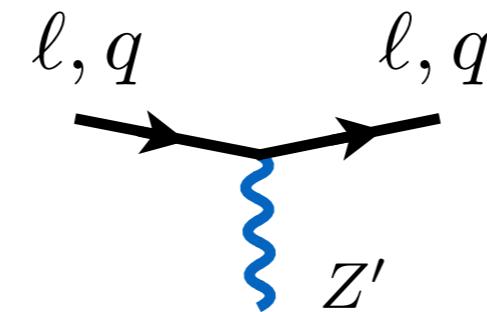
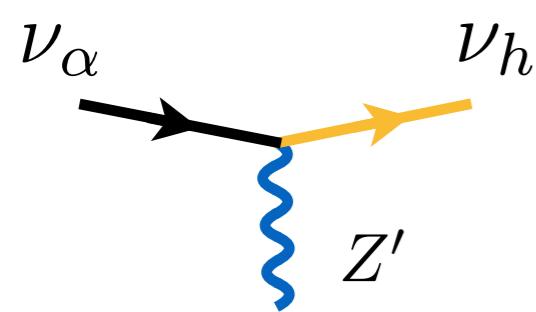
UV completion for “neutrino-philic” interactions & explains the zero in the MRISS mass matrix...

...but phenomenology is somewhat “boring”.

This changes when we turn on additional portal couplings.

Focus on dark photon + HNL case, and neglect the dark scalar for now.

New “*stronger-than-weak*” neutrino-charged matter interactions!



$$U_{\alpha h}^* g'$$

$$e \chi q_f$$

$$U_{\alpha h}^* U_{\beta h} g'$$

SM + heavy neutrino

Mixing x O(1) coupling

Quarks and charged leptons

Kinetic mixing

SM neutrinos only

Doubly suppressed

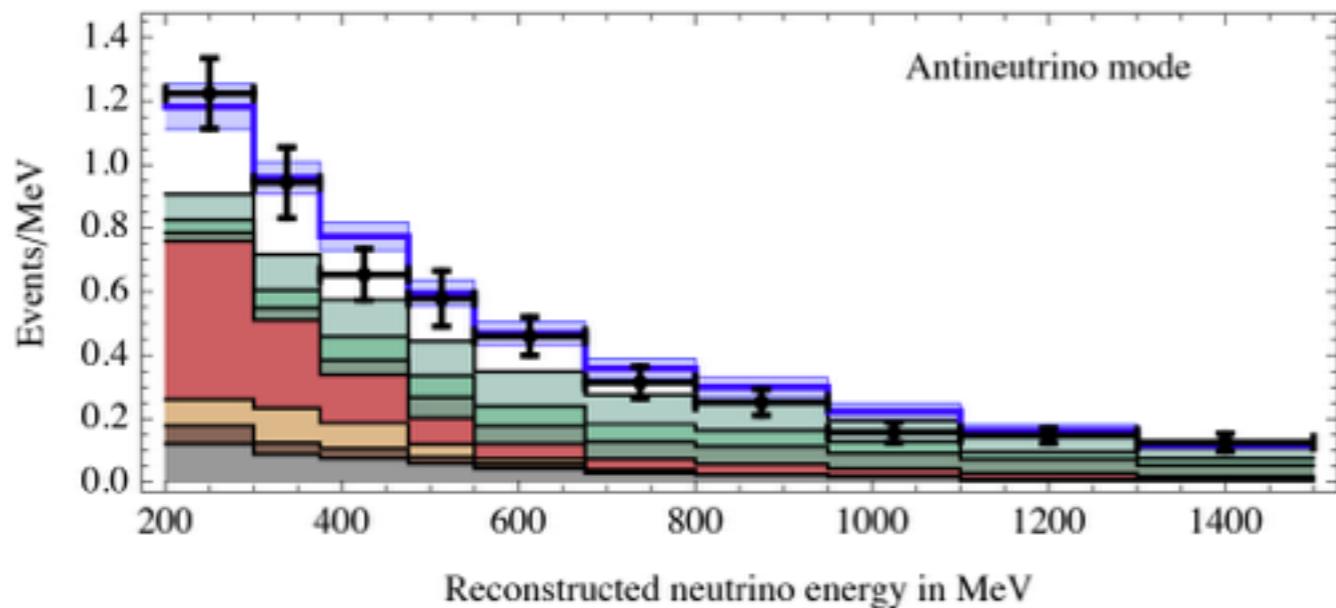
Explaining MiniBooNE

MiniBooNE Coll., PRL.121.221801

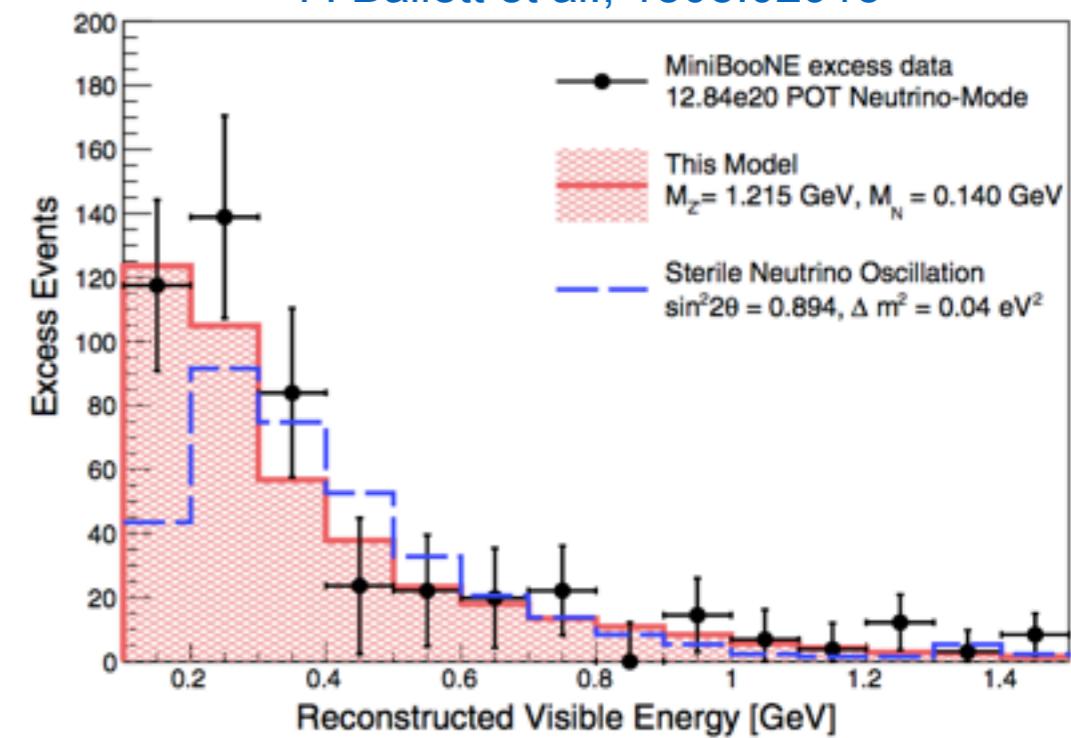
4.7σ excess observed in nu + nubar mode

— data/MC disagreement beyond statistical doubt —

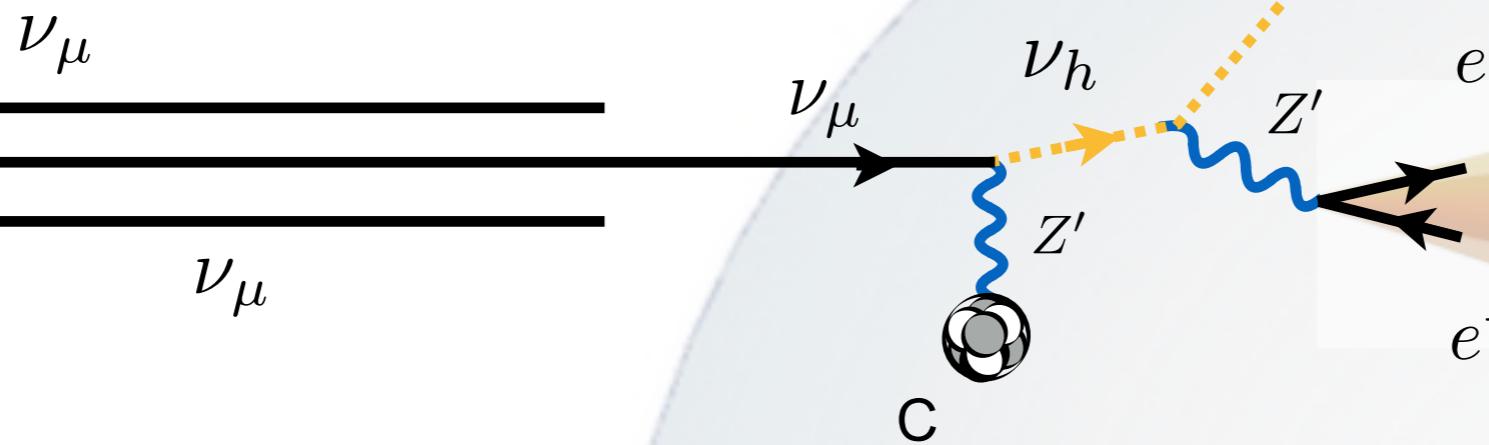
E. Bertuzzo et al., 1807.09877



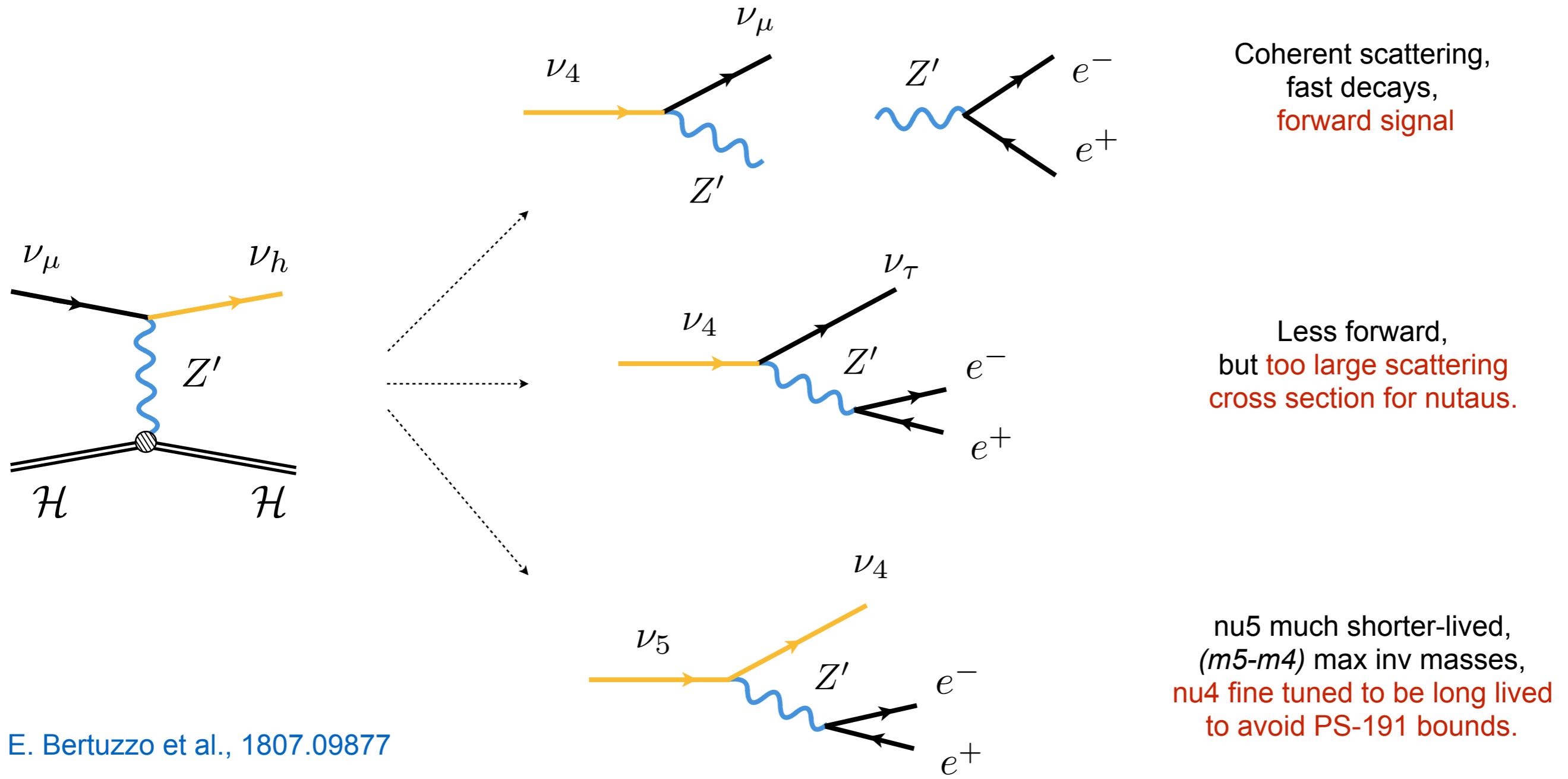
P. Ballett et al., 1808.02915



Neutrinos up-scatter into HNL,
which promptly decays into e^+e^- .



Several scenarios discussed so far



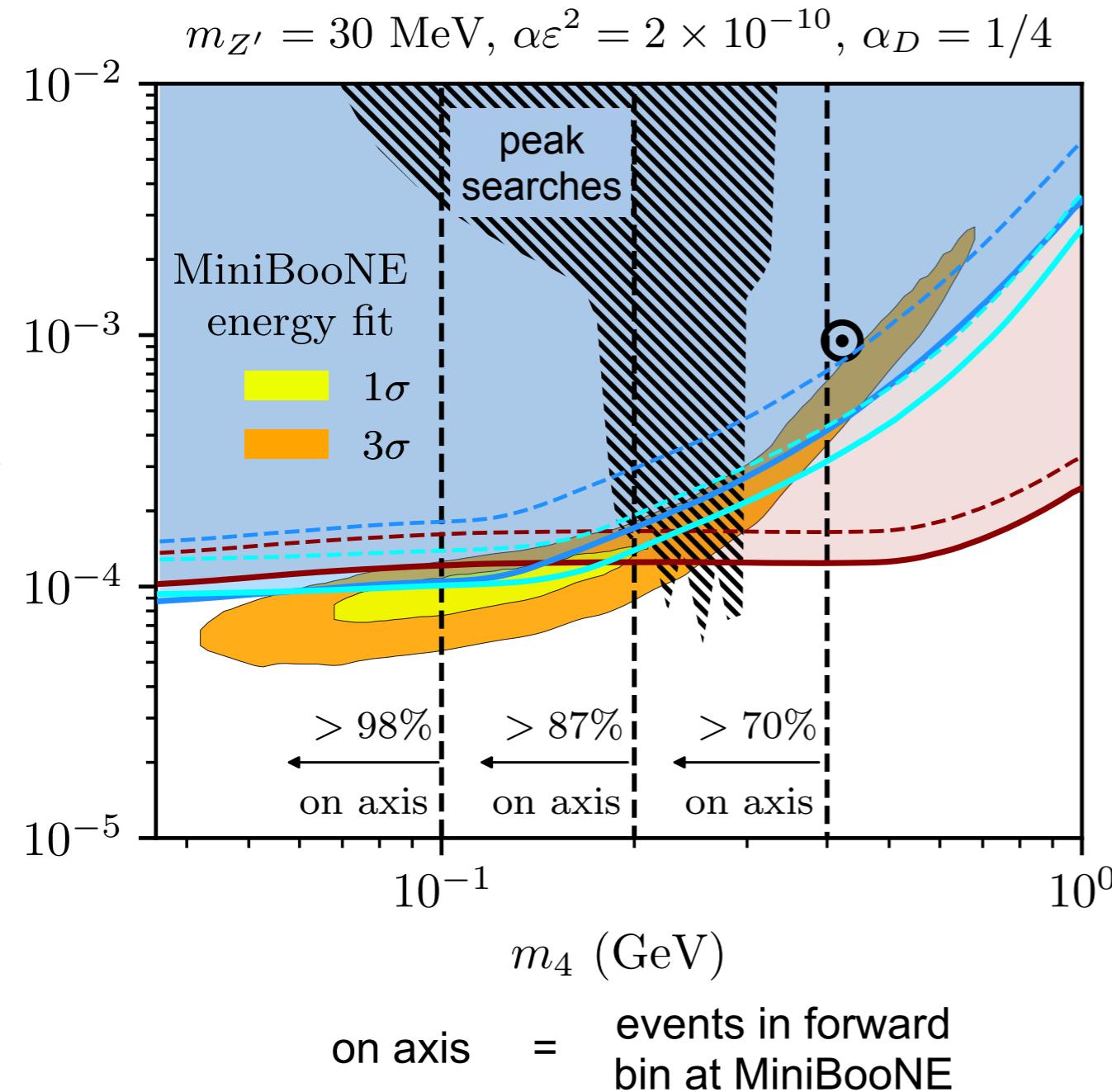
E. Bertuzzo et al., 1807.09877

P. Ballett et al., 1808.02915

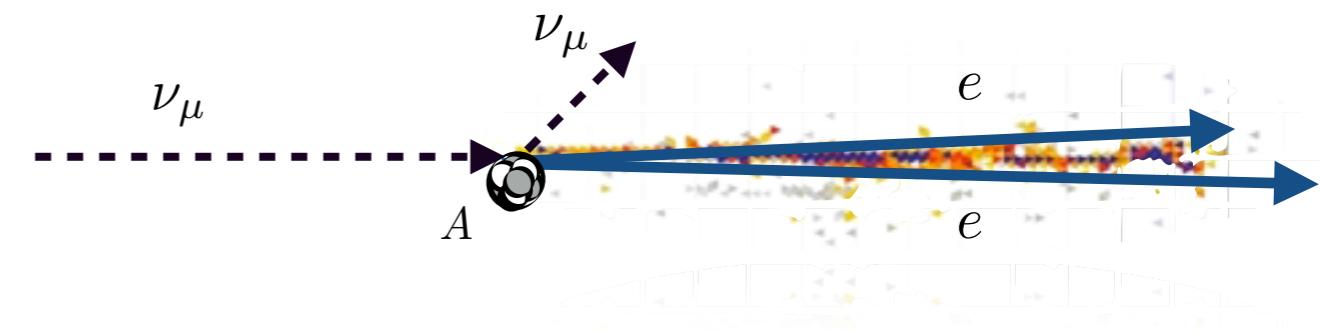
P. Ballett, **MH**, S. Pascoli, 1903.07589

Light Dark Photon case

C. Argüelles, MH, Y. Tsai, PRL123, 261801 (2019)



New bounds from single-photon sample in nu-e scattering analyses.



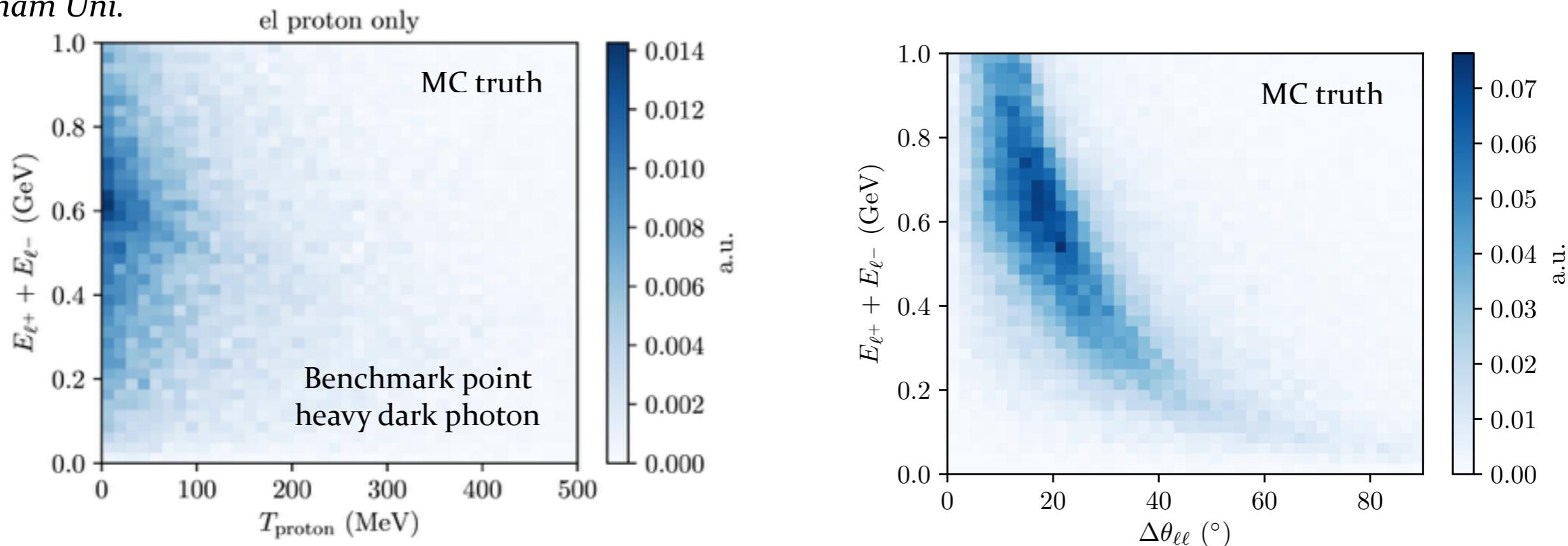
Conclusion:
HNL mass cannot be too large,
MiniBooNE signal typically very forward.



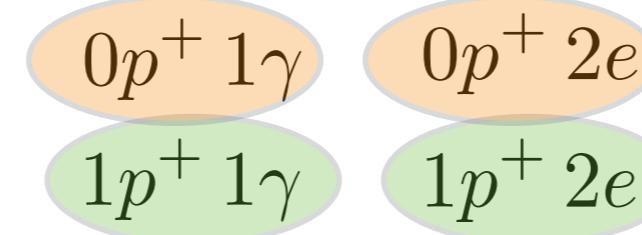
Currently studying all such cases in
LAr together with microBooNE single-photon group
@ Nevis Labs, Columbia University.



Asli Abdullahi
Durham Uni.



4 topologies currently
under consideration:

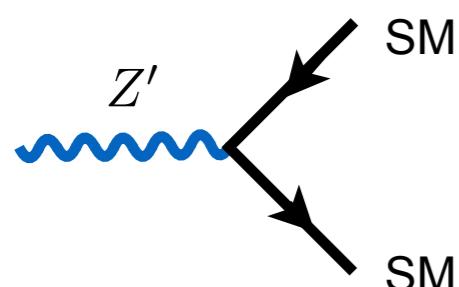
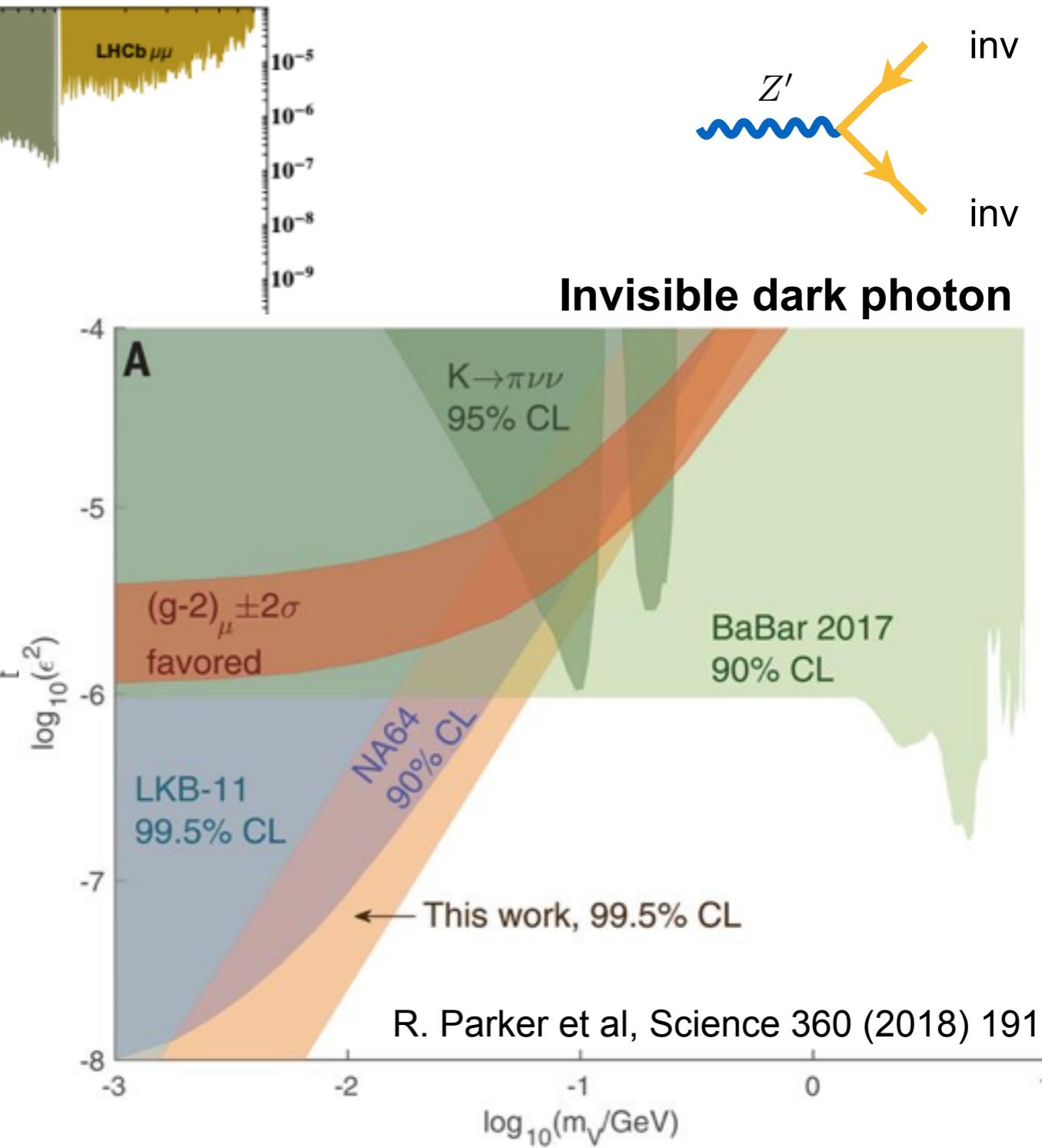
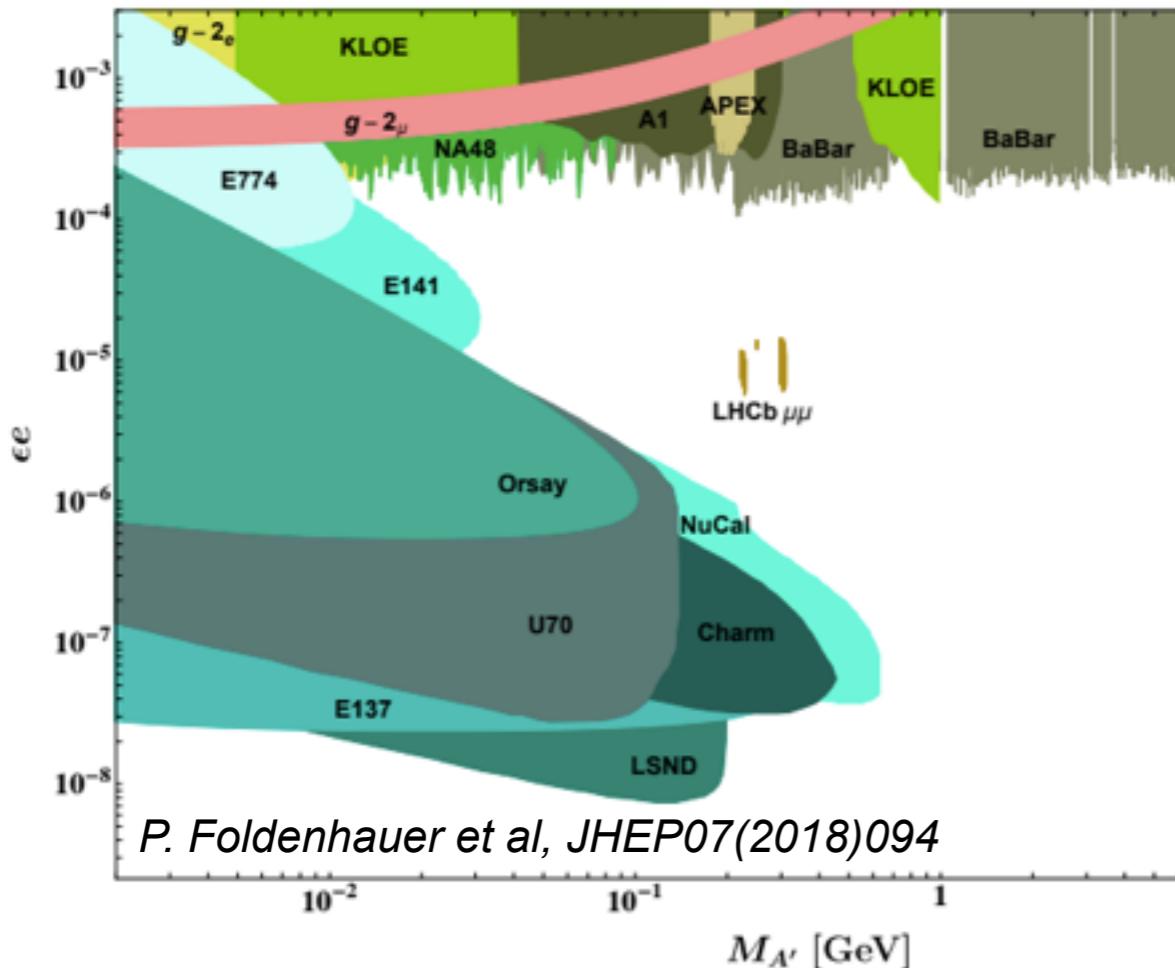


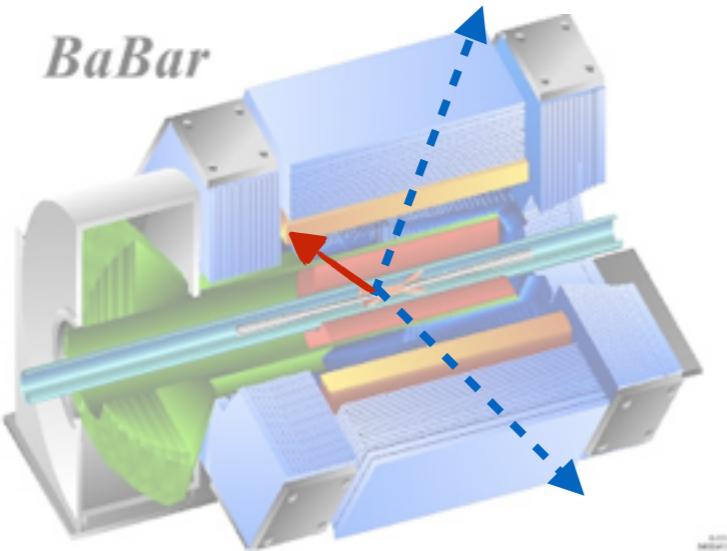
Pioneering study of
genuine dielectron pairs in LAr.

Light Dark Photon: no proton so smaller efficiencies, but enhanced in LAr (A^2 coherent.)

Heavy Dark Photon: shower displaced from proton. *Mostly photon-like showers.*

Minimal dark photon model

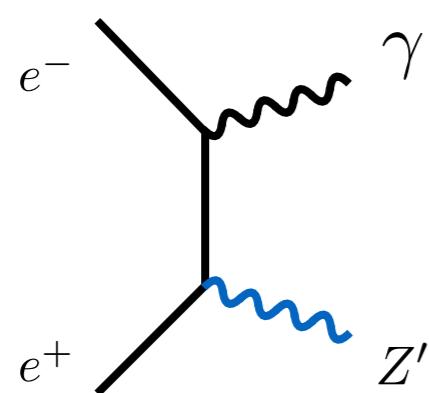




J.P. Lees, PRL.119.131804

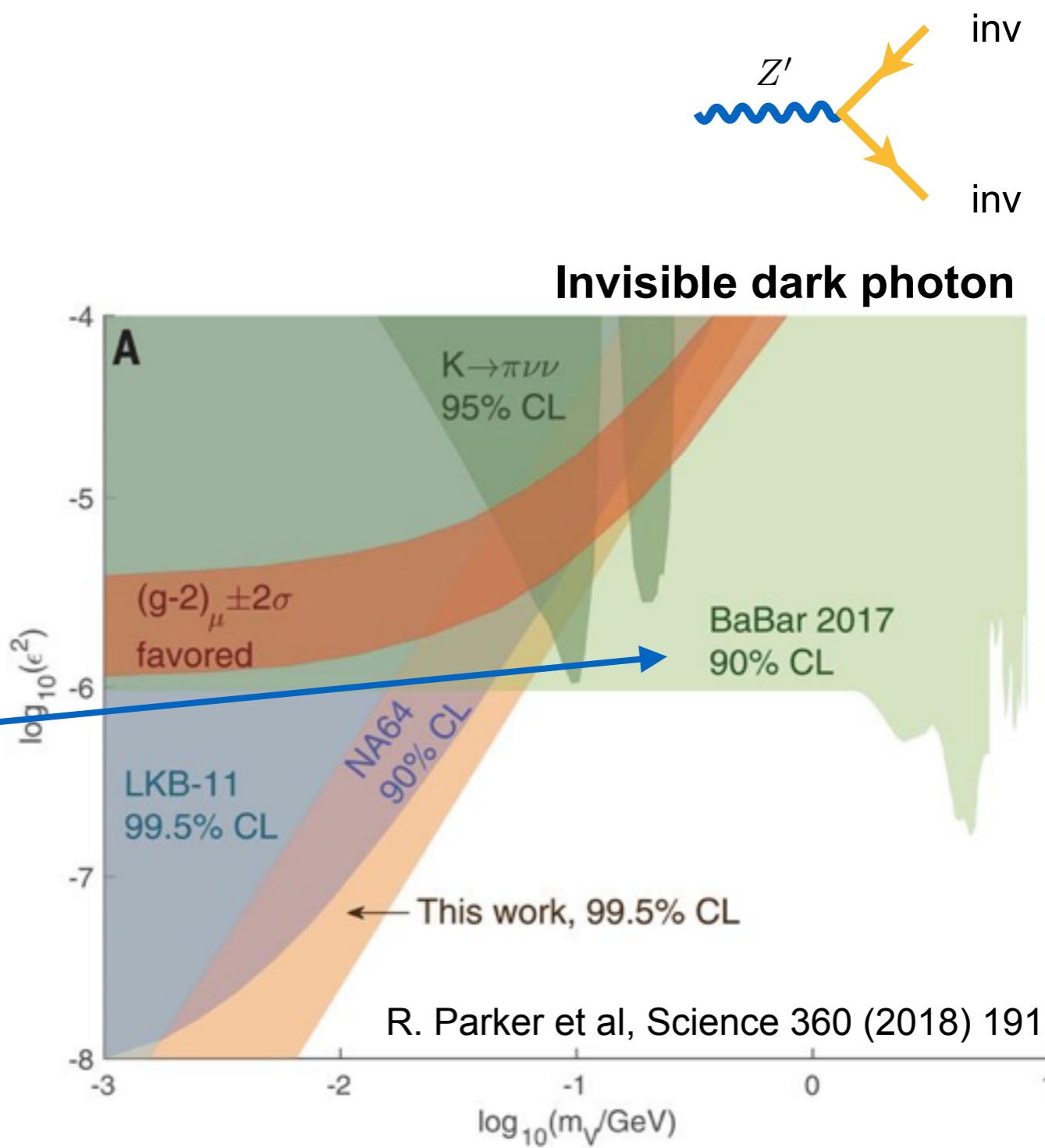
Signal: mono-photon + \cancel{E}

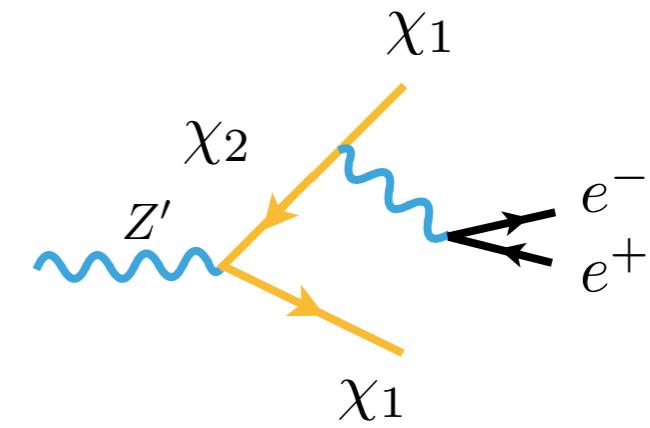
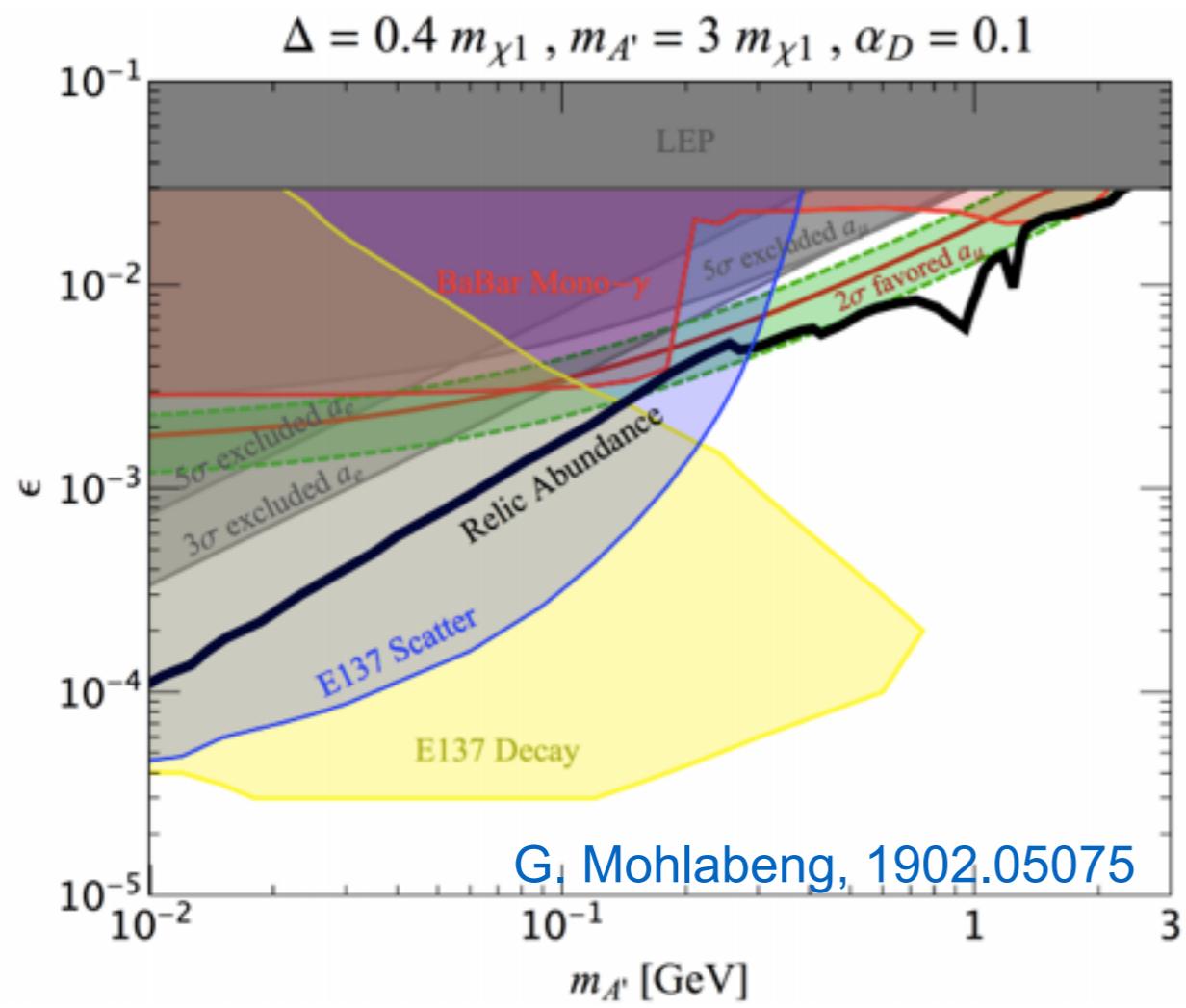
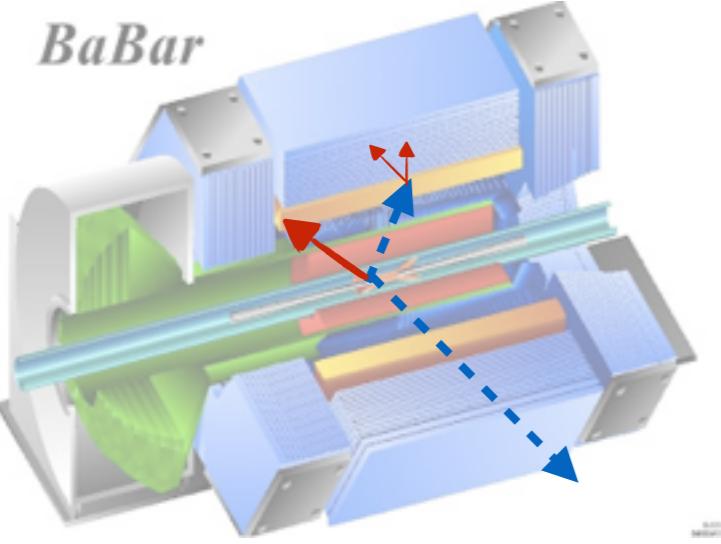
Muon (g-2) is excluded, but only by mono-photon searches at **BaBar**



bump hunt

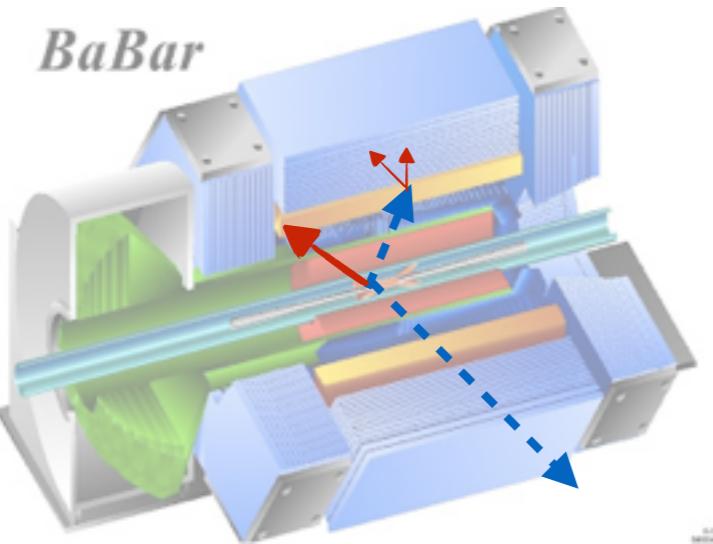
$$M_{Z'}^2 = s - 2E_\gamma \sqrt{s}$$





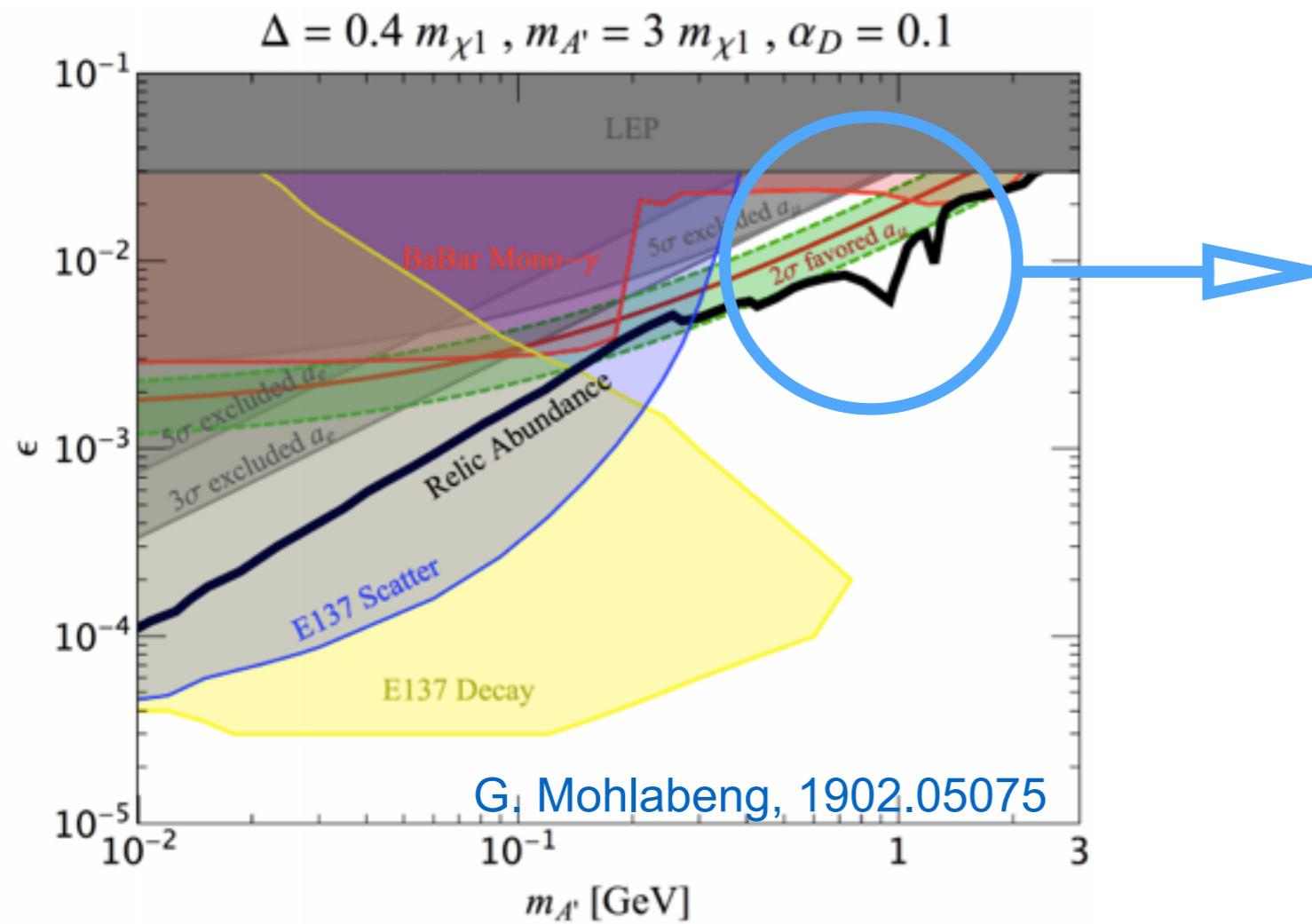
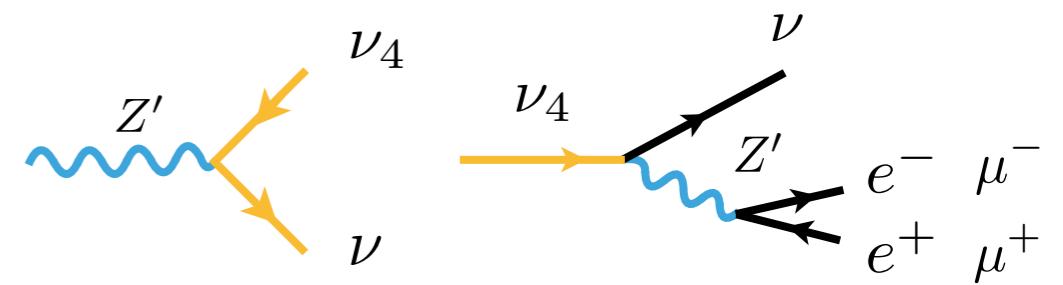
In a 2-fermion dark sector, one may relax such bounds if the heaviest fermion decays visibly.

Proven for an inelastic DM model.



BaBar

Even more relevant for dark neutrinos



$$\Gamma(Z' \rightarrow \nu_h \nu) \approx |U_{\alpha h}|^2 \frac{g'^2 m_{Z'}}{12\pi}$$

$$m_{Z'} \sim 1 \text{ GeV}$$

$$m_4 \sim 800 \text{ MeV}$$

$$\chi \sim 2.2 \times 10^{-2}$$

Now final states are even harder to miss:

pair of electrons, muons or pions!

$$\Gamma(\nu_4 \rightarrow \nu_\alpha e^+ e^-) \approx |U_{\alpha 4}|^2 \frac{(e c_W \chi g')^2}{384\pi^3} \frac{m_4^5}{m_{Z'}^4}$$

A smoking gun signature at NA62

Searches for HNL at NA62 @ CERN

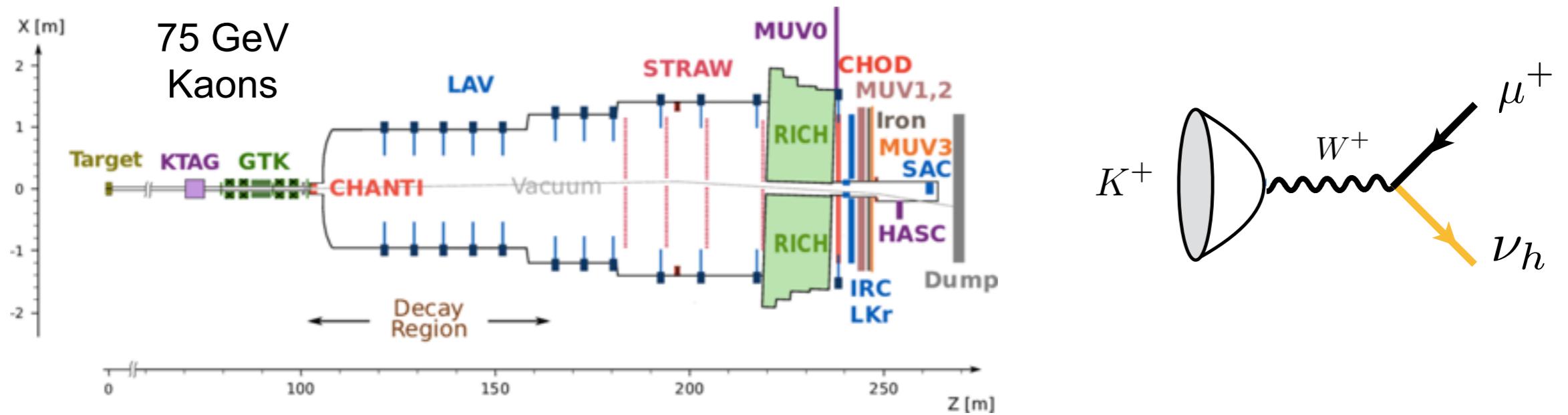
Usual peak searches based on kinematical argument:

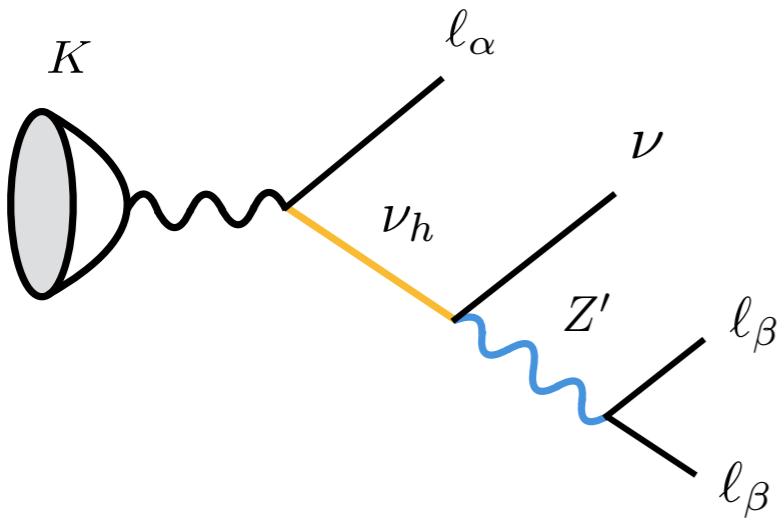
$$m_{p_K - p_\alpha}^2 \equiv (p_K - p_\alpha)^2 = m_{\nu_h}^2,$$

Stringent vetoes on additional photons or charged particles to avoid backgrounds such as $K^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu \gamma$.

Provided the detection *inefficiency* to additional particles is not too small, can be relaxed significantly!

HNL + light dark photon $\rightarrow K^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_h \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu Z' \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu e^+ e^-$ is vetoed from sample.





But this is in itself is quite a striking prediction:

$$K^+ \rightarrow \ell_\alpha^+ \nu_h \rightarrow \ell_\alpha^+ \nu Z' \rightarrow \ell_\alpha^+ \nu \ell_\beta^+ \ell_\beta^-$$

Production is still controlled:

$$\text{BR}(M^+ \rightarrow \ell_\alpha^+ \nu_h) = |U_{\alpha h}|^2 \rho_\alpha(m_{\nu_h}) \text{BR}(M^+ \rightarrow \ell_\alpha^+ \nu_\alpha)$$

“Multi-dimensional bumps” from 2-body kin:

Directly measure
dark state masses

$$\xrightarrow{\hspace{1cm}} m_{\beta\beta}^2 \equiv (p_{\beta^+} + p_{\beta^-})^2 = m_{Z'}^2,$$

$$\xrightarrow{\hspace{1cm}} m_{p_K - p_\alpha}^2 \equiv (p_K - p_\alpha)^2 = m_{\nu_h}^2,$$

$$m_{\text{miss}}^2 \equiv (p_K - p_\alpha - p_{\beta^+} - p_{\beta^-})^2 = 0$$

$$m_{\alpha\beta\beta}^2 + m_{\alpha\nu}^2 + m_{p_K - p_\alpha}^2 = m_K^2 + m_\alpha^2 + m_{\text{miss}}^2 + m_{\beta\beta}^2,$$

With perfect resolution this constitutes a zero-background search!

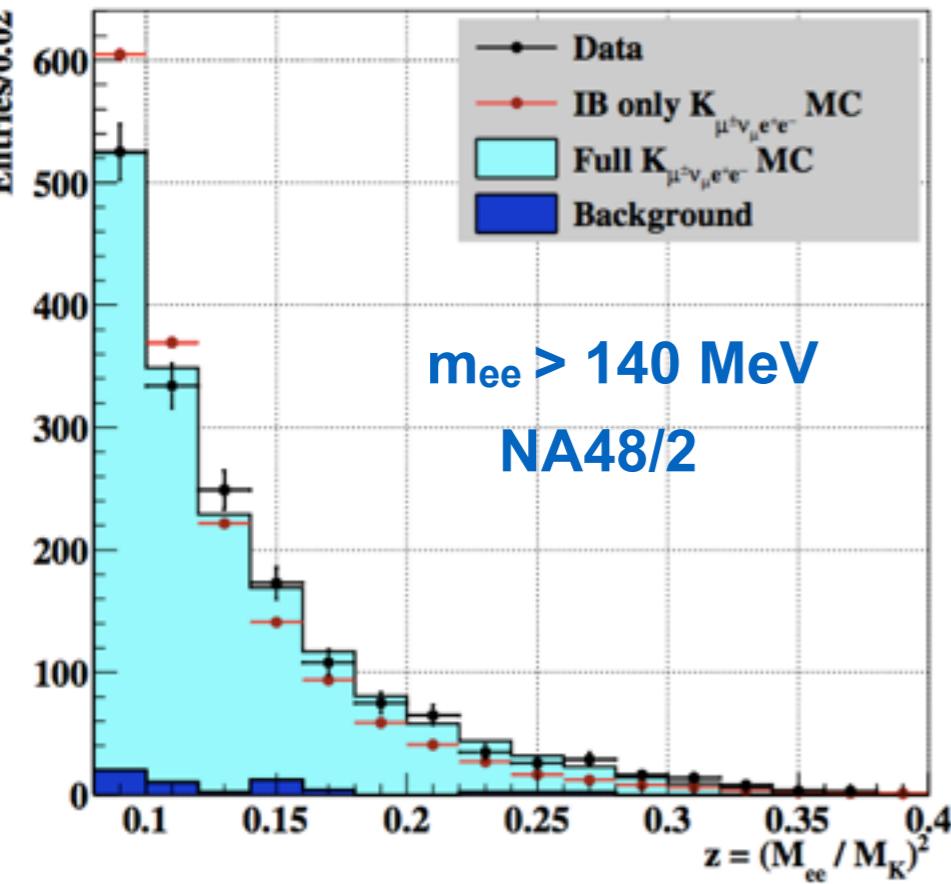
e.g.

Main challenge comes from pion Dalitz decays at $m_{ee} < 140$ MeV
missed soft photon from $K^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu (\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma e^+ e^-)$

Bkgs such as $K^+ \rightarrow (\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu)e^+ e^-$ can be reduced from additional cuts:

$$m_{\mu\nu} > 150 \text{ MeV}$$

M. S. Atiya *et al.*, PRL.63, 2177 (1989)



Ultimately, depends on resolution, but at very small mixing,
NA62 can also reduce bkg by searching for
displaced vertices when

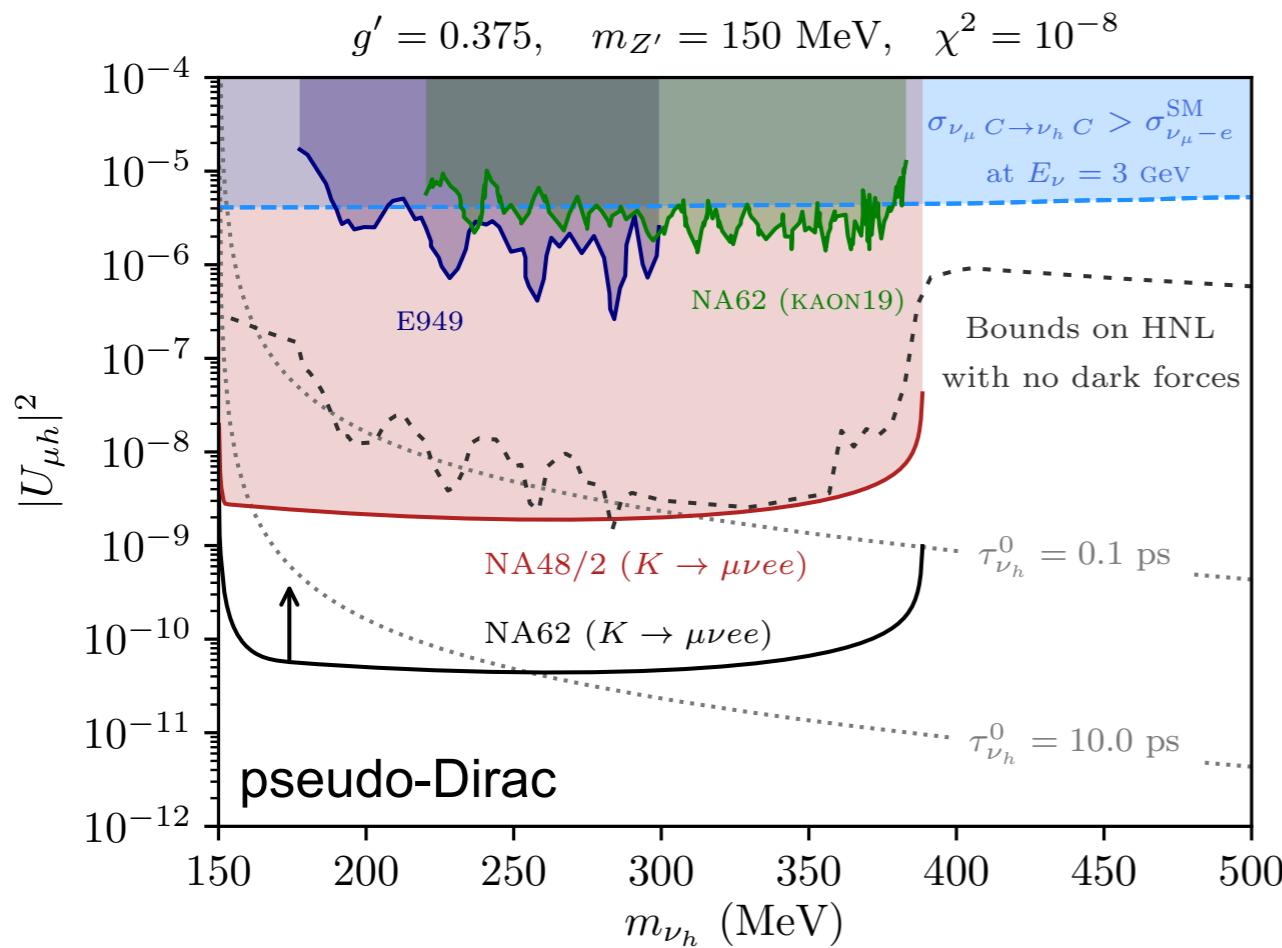
$$c\tau > 10 \text{ ps}$$

Existing measurements

$\text{BR}(K^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu e^+ e^-) = (7.81 \pm 0.21 \text{ stat.}) \times 10^{-8}$ @ NA48/2

$\text{BR}(K^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu \mu^+ \mu^-) < 4.7 \times 10^{-7}$ @ E787

Both SM process will be measured by NA62.



NA62 S.E.S. assuming background-free search.

Assumptions matched to LNV search in
 $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^- e^+ e^+$ and $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^- \mu^+ \mu^+$

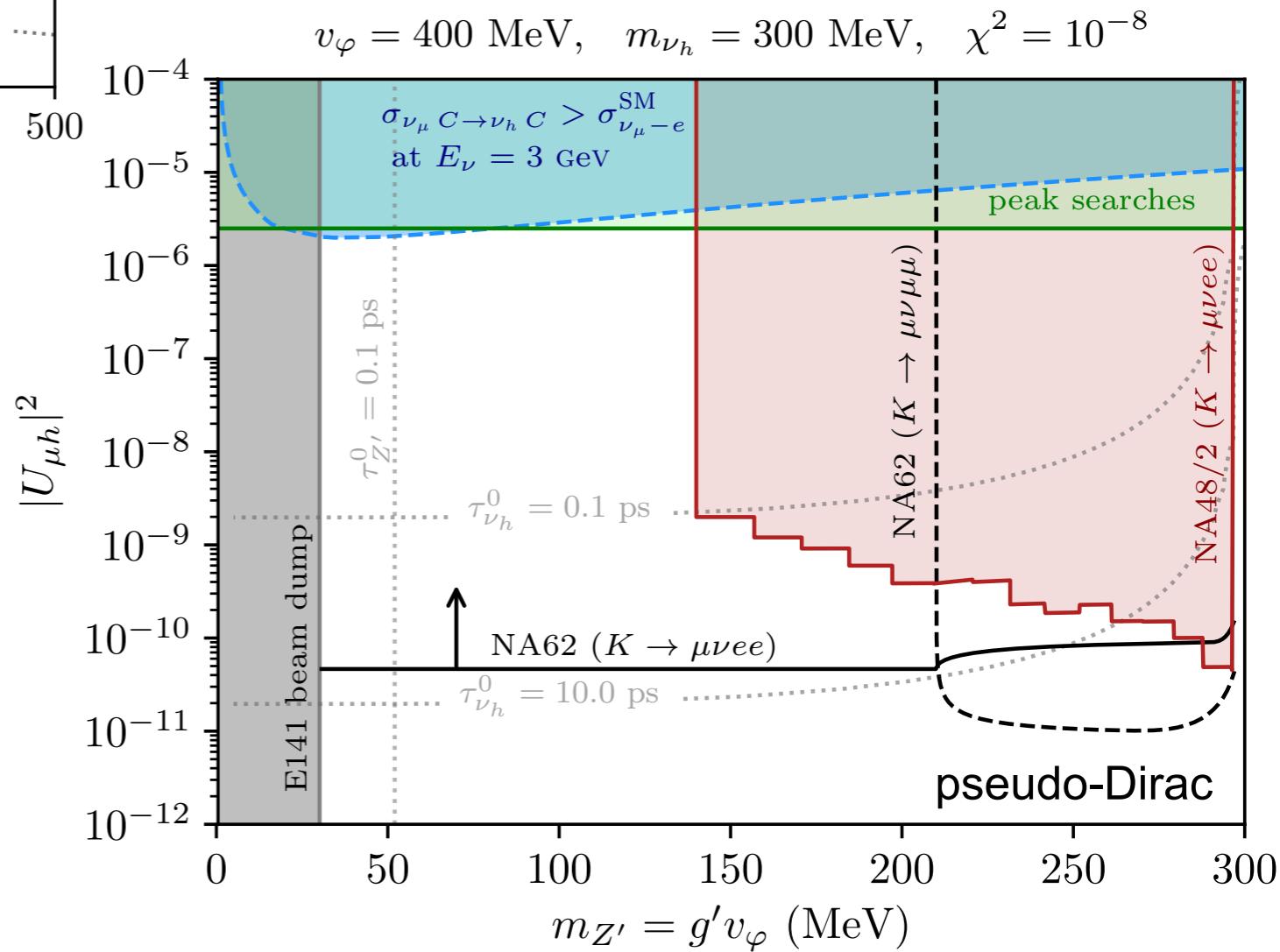
Total of 1.6×10^{12} useful Kaon decays
(*only 30% of NA62 dataset!*)

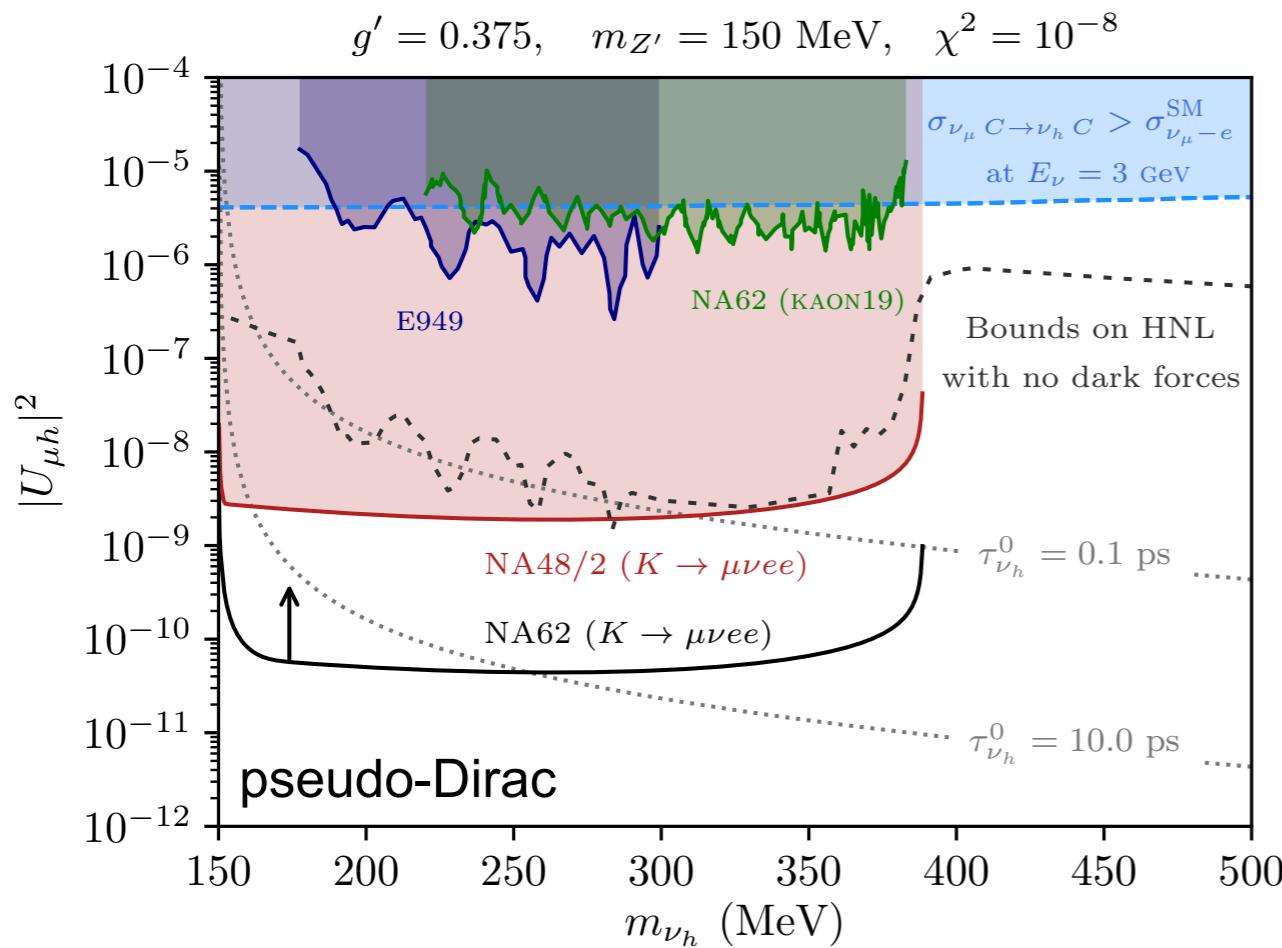
4% acceptance of ee
8% acceptance for $\mu\mu$

NA62 Coll., *j.physletb*.2019.07.041

Other bounds:

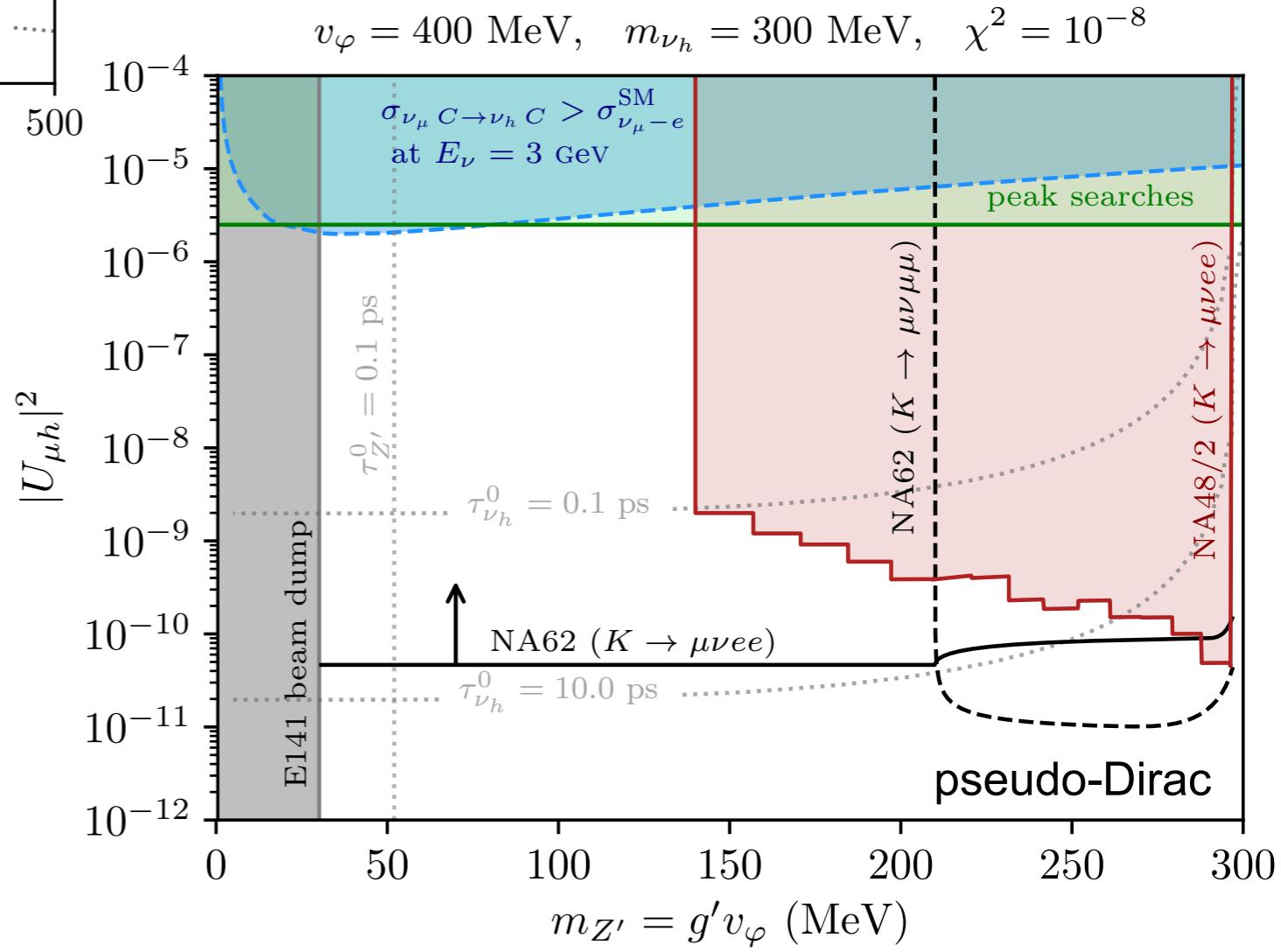
- Peak searches relaxed due to visible events (very conservative 0.5% ineff.)
- Up scattering cannot be much larger than nu-e scattering in the SM
- Existing bound based on NA48/2 measurement.





If zero-bkg assumption correct,
provides direct test of
MiniBooNE explanation with
light dark photons

E. Bertuzzo et al., 1807.09877



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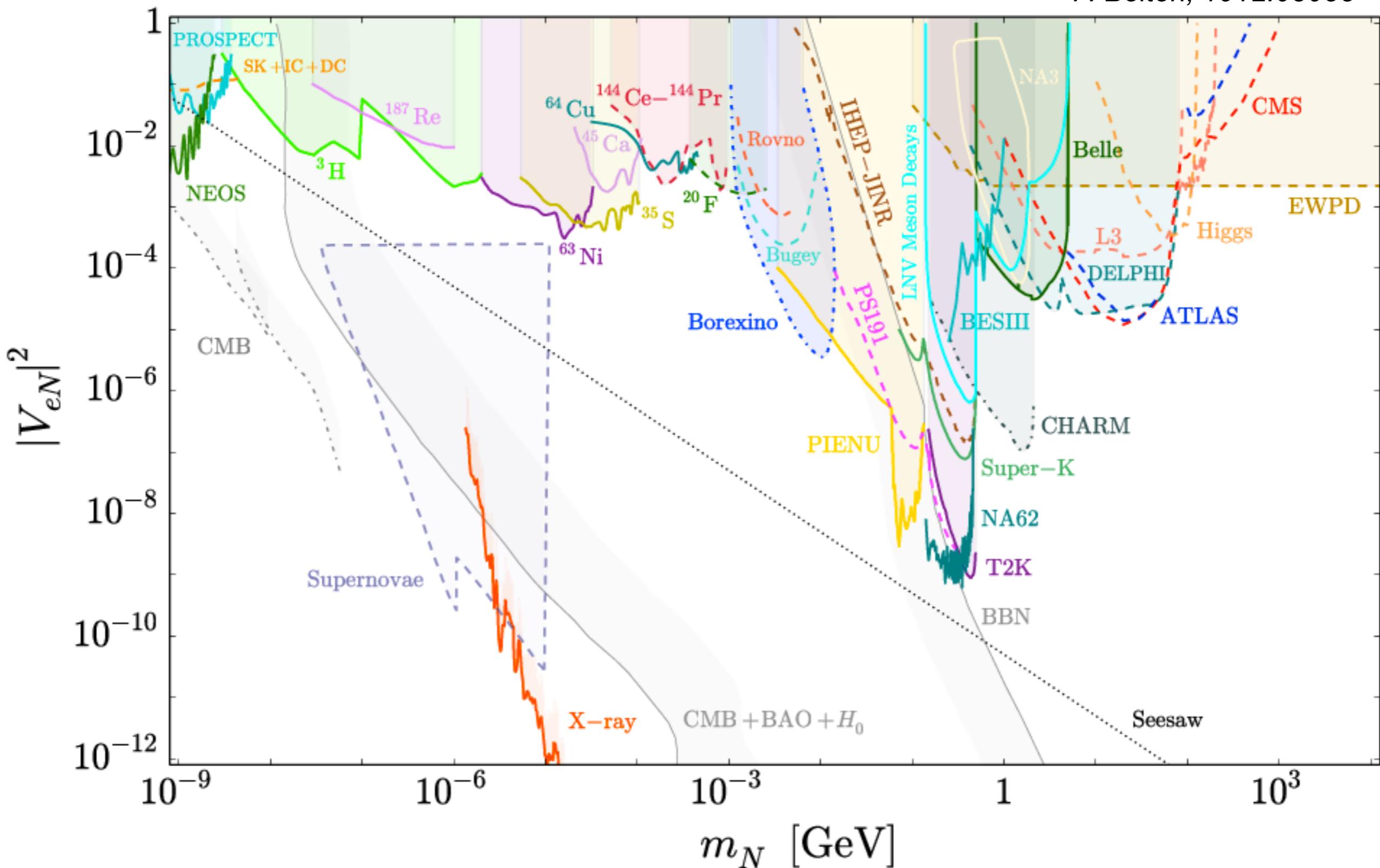
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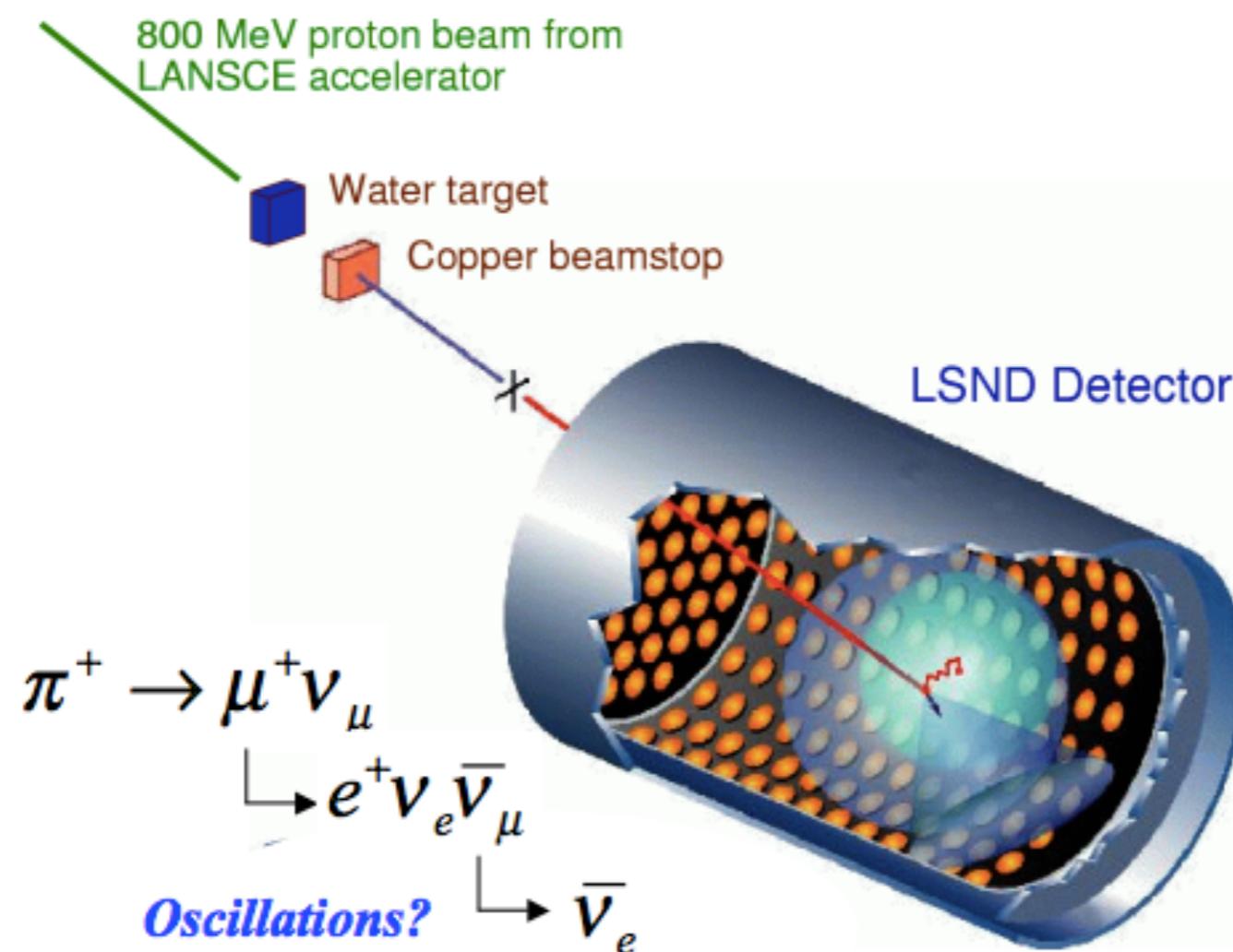
New searches for such dark neutrino sectors at NA62. “Smoking-gun” signature in

$$K^+ \rightarrow \ell^+ \nu e^+ e^-$$

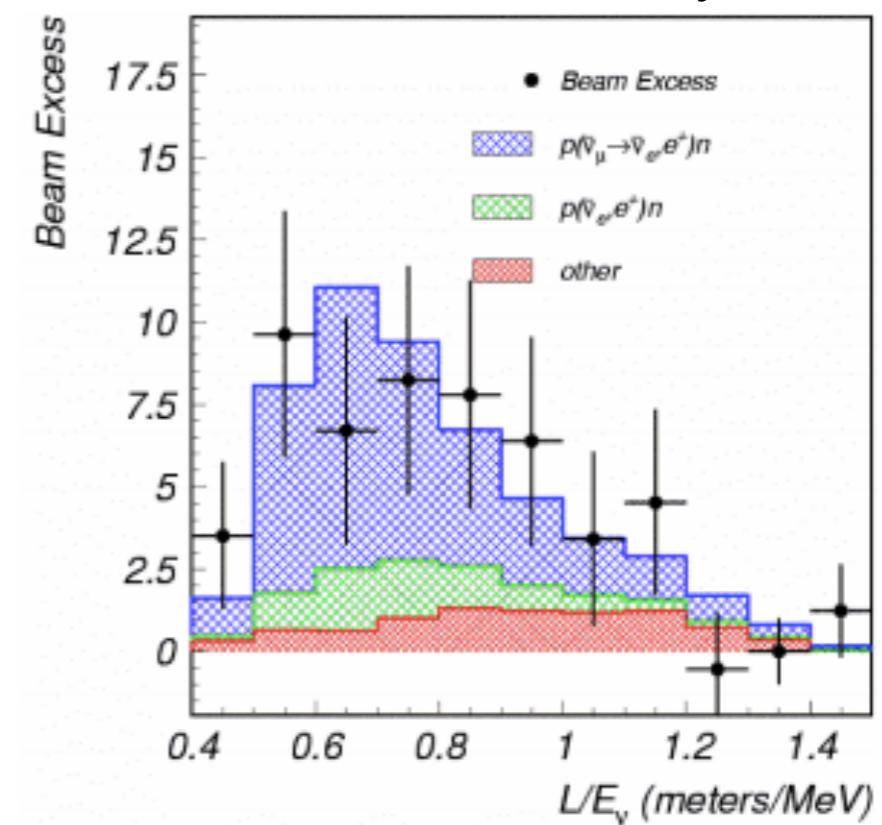
APPENDIX



Liquid Scintillator Neutrino Detector: 1993 - 1998



Inverse Beta Decay events



Saw an excess of:
 $87.9 \pm 22.4 \pm 6.0$ events.

With an oscillation probability of
 $(0.264 \pm 0.067 \pm 0.045)\%$.

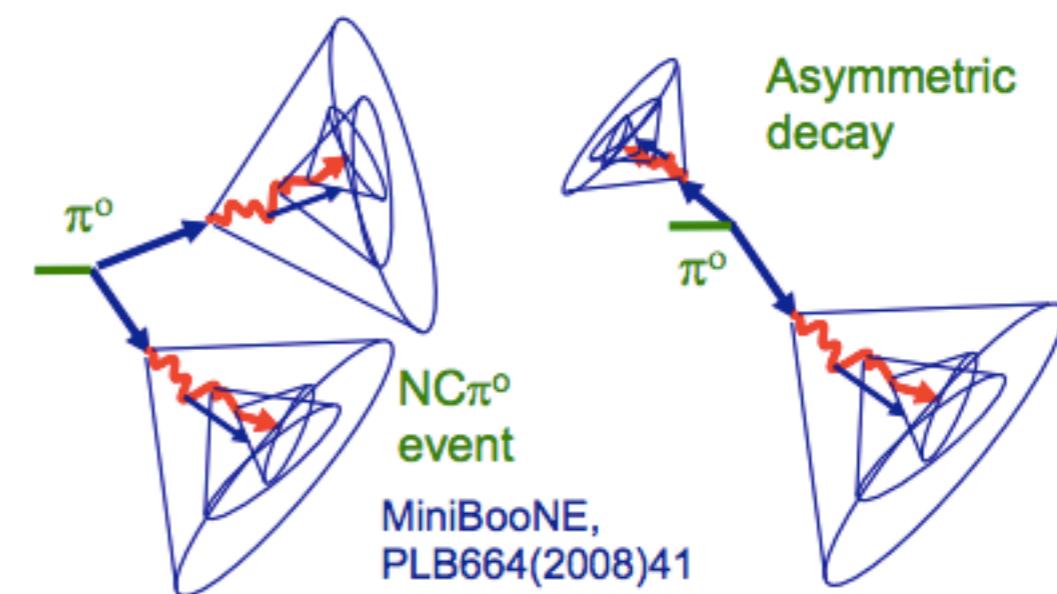
3.8 σ evidence for oscillation.

*Another similar experiment, KARMEN, did not see an effect — but could not rule out all parameter space either.

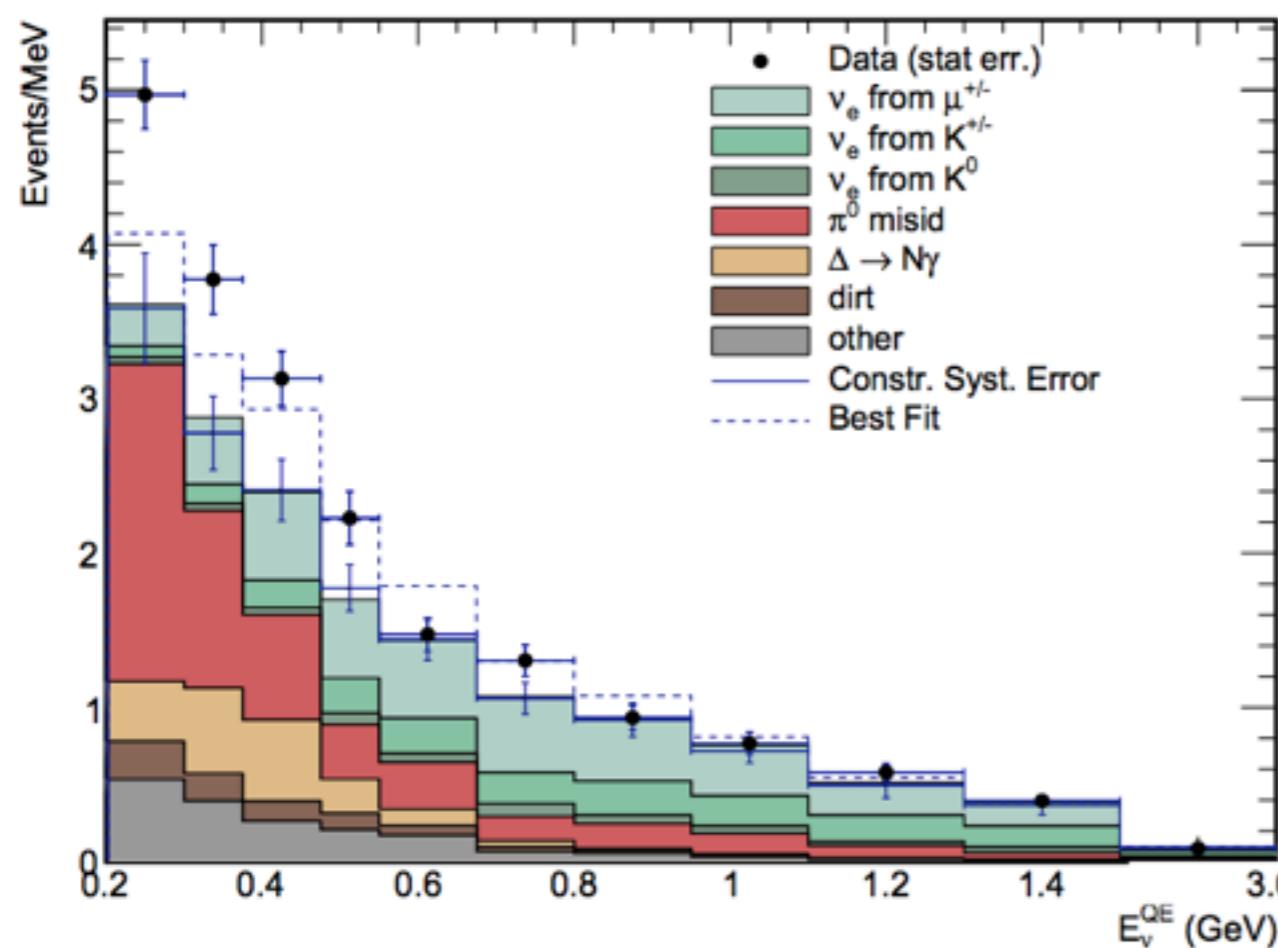
Endpoint 52 MeV — detector 30 m away.

Process	Neutrino Mode	Antineutrino Mode
ν_μ & $\bar{\nu}_\mu$ CCQE	73.7 ± 19.3	12.9 ± 4.3
NC π^0	501.5 ± 65.4	112.3 ± 11.5
NC $\Delta \rightarrow N\gamma$	172.5 ± 24.1	34.7 ± 5.4
External Events	75.2 ± 10.9	15.3 ± 2.8
Other ν_μ & $\bar{\nu}_\mu$	89.6 ± 22.9	22.3 ± 3.5
ν_e & $\bar{\nu}_e$ from μ^\pm Decay	425.3 ± 100.2	91.4 ± 27.6
ν_e & $\bar{\nu}_e$ from K^\pm Decay	192.2 ± 41.9	51.2 ± 11.0
ν_e & $\bar{\nu}_e$ from K_L^0 Decay	54.5 ± 20.5	51.4 ± 18.0
Other ν_e & $\bar{\nu}_e$	6.0 ± 3.2	6.7 ± 6.0
Unconstrained Bkgd.	1590.6 ± 176.9	398.2 ± 49.7
Constrained Bkgd.	1577.8 ± 85.2	398.7 ± 28.6
Total Data	1959	478
Excess	381.2 ± 85.2	79.3 ± 28.6

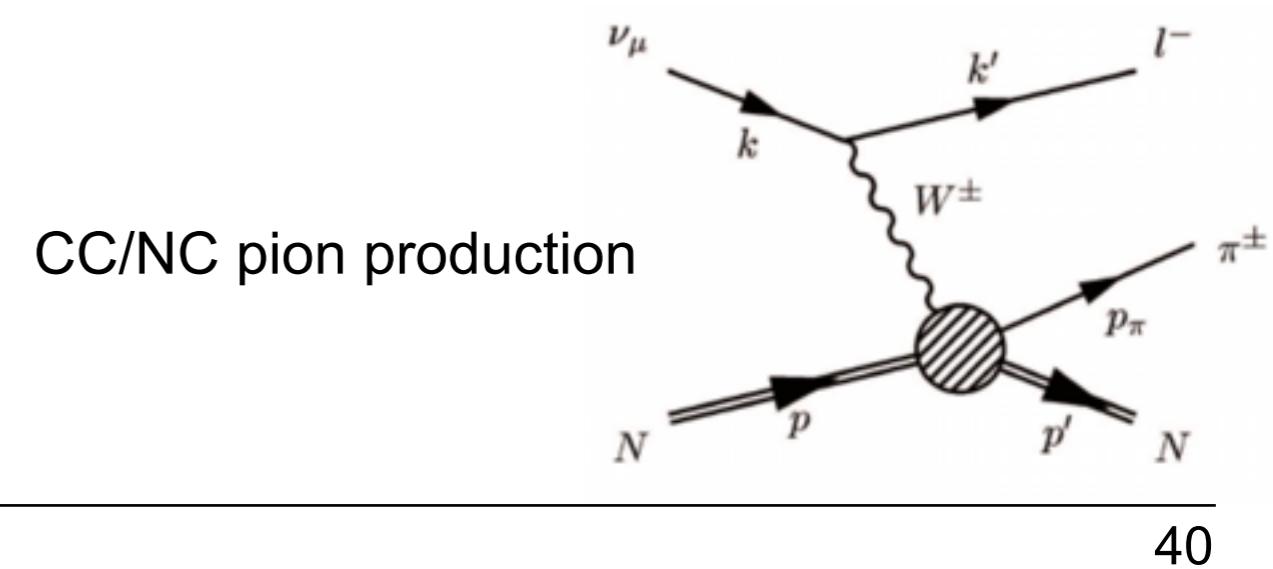
This channel relies on pion decay being highly asymmetric



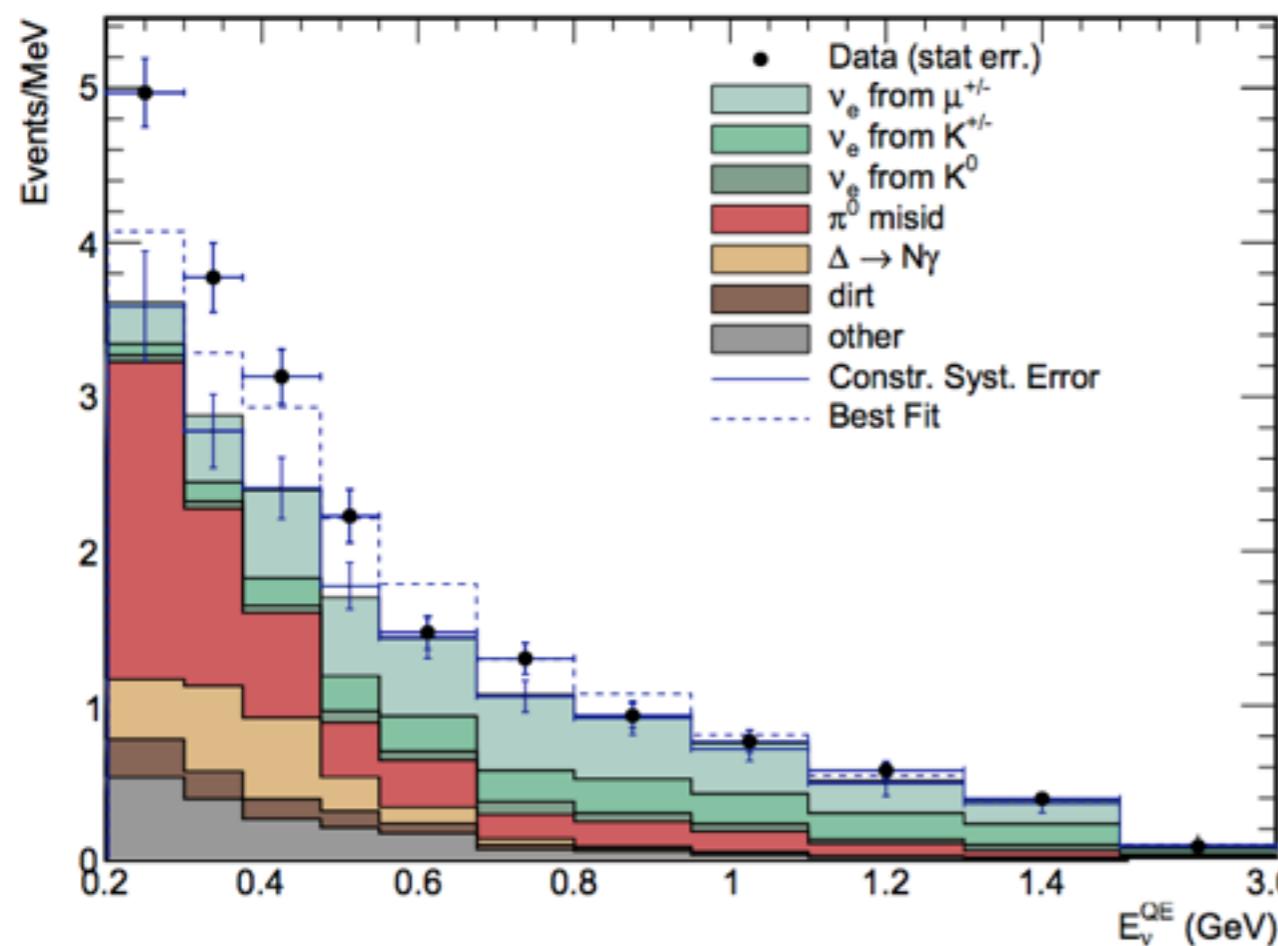
T. Katori



Effectively constrained by measuring other channels and extrapolating (somewhat model dependent):

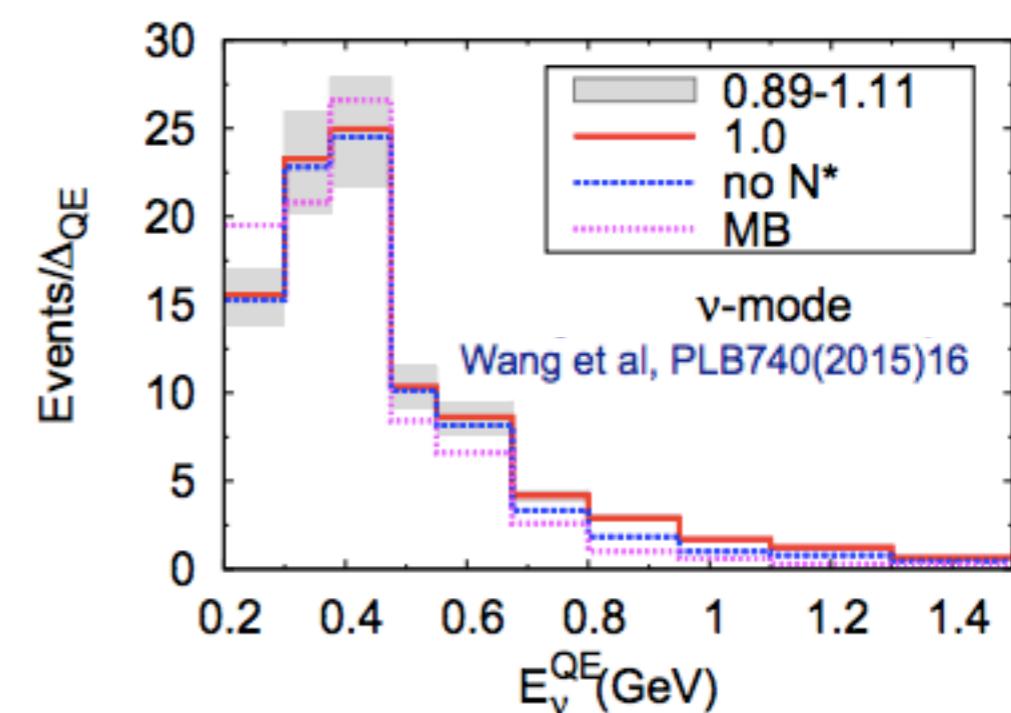
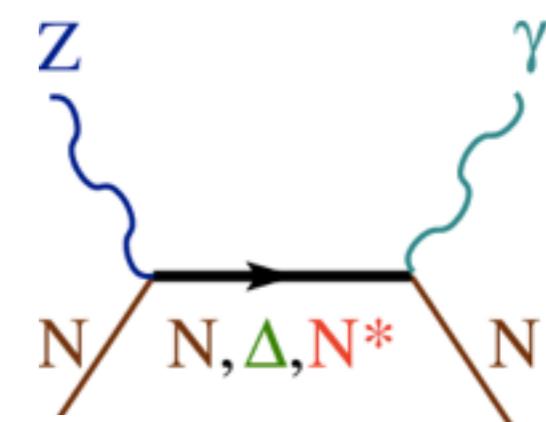


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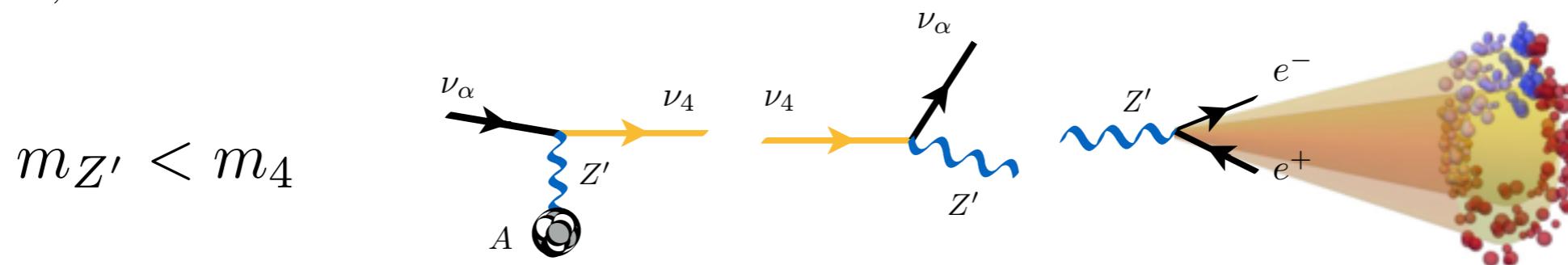
Mostly NC resonant through Delta(1232)

Constrained by pion events



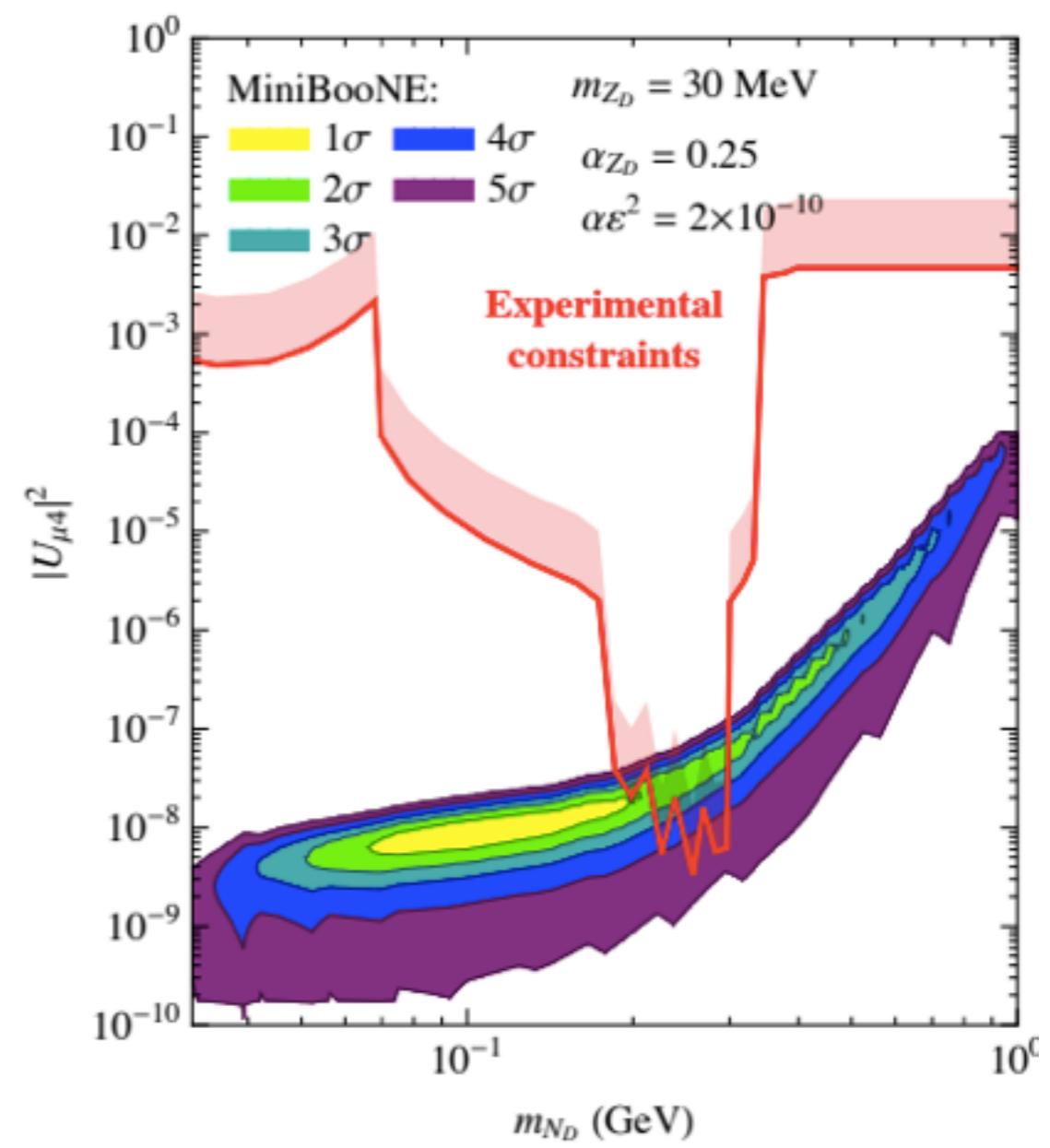
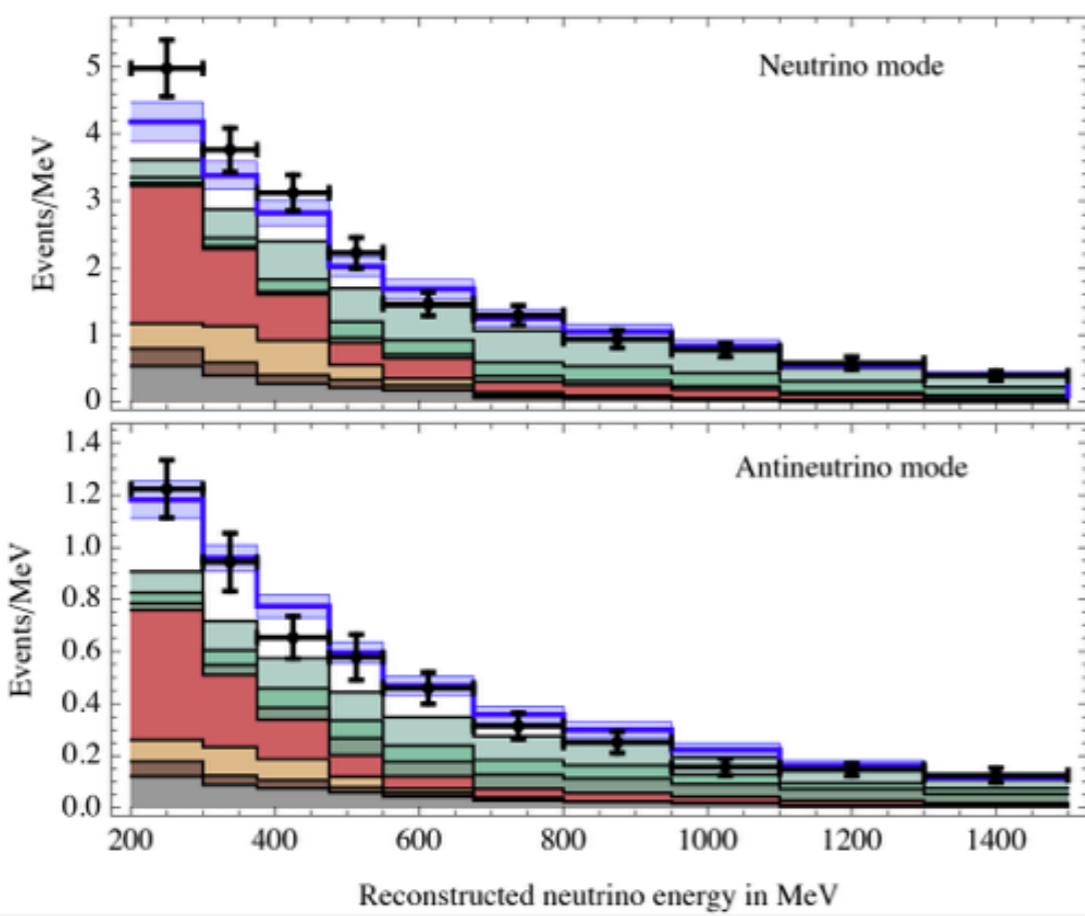
Coherent contribution shown to be small in “theory”

Hill, PRD84(2011)017501
 Zhang and Serot, PLB719(2013)409
 Wang et al, PLB740(2015)16



Coherent signal

single boosted EM shower

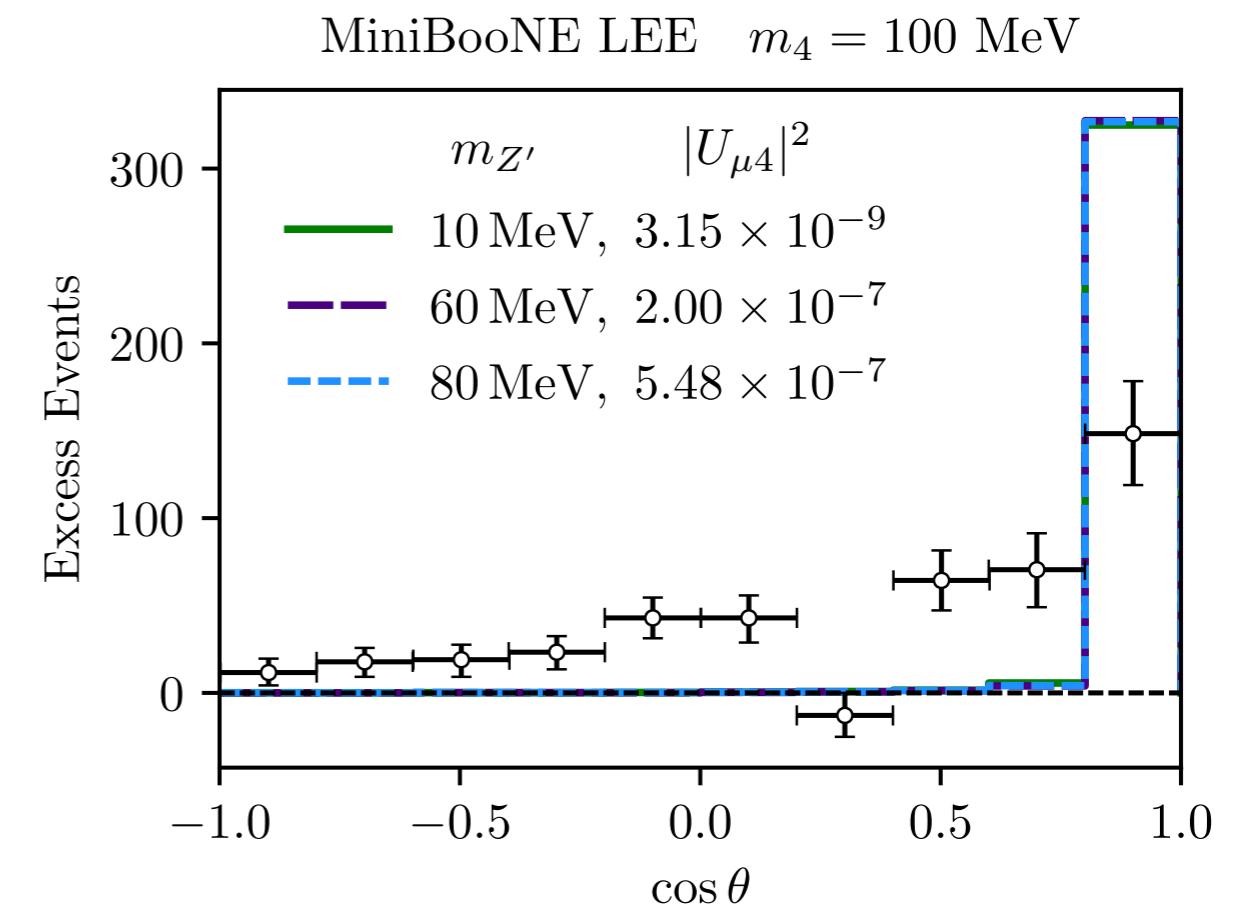
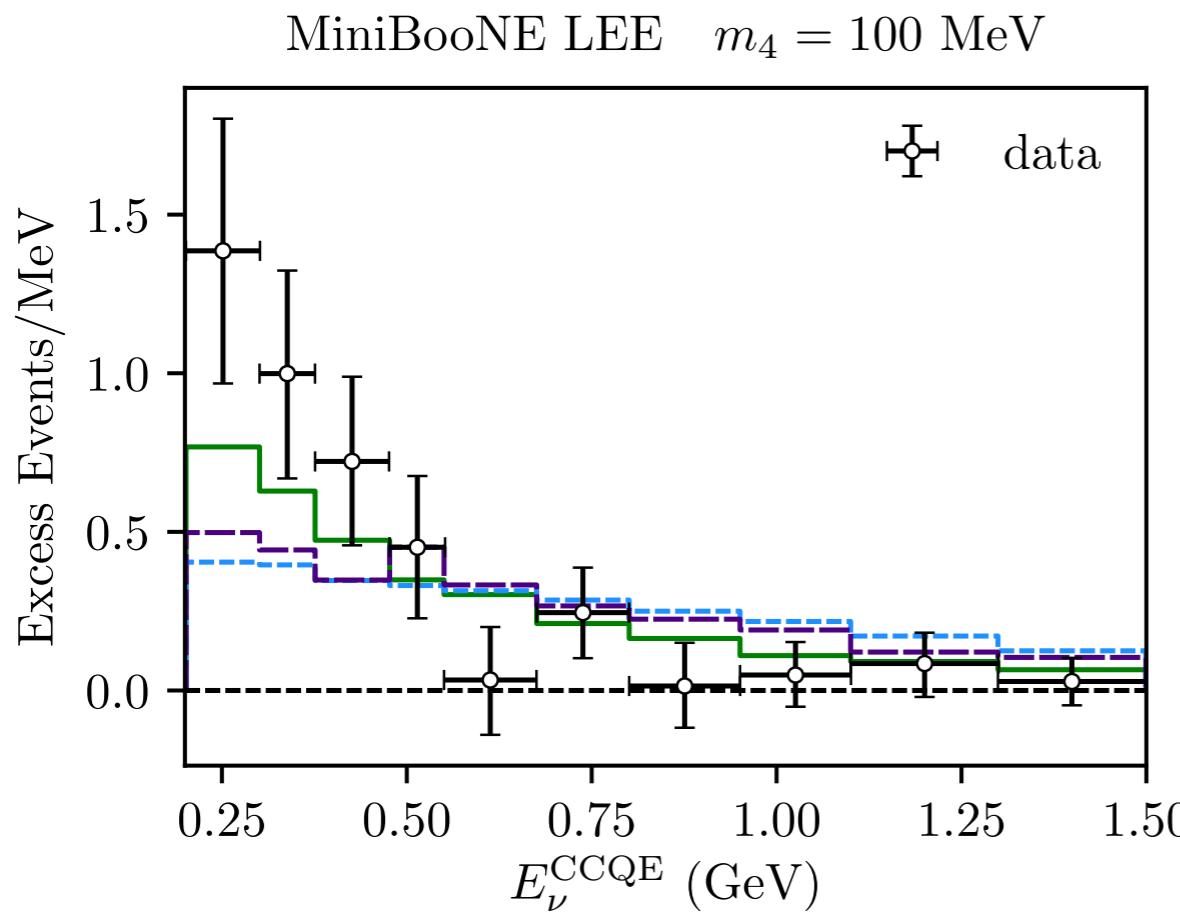


MiniBooNE — Light dark photon — revisited

C. Argüelles, MH, Y. Tsai, PRL123, 261801 (2019)

We revisit this MiniBooNE explanation using a better signal definition:

only *overlapping + asymmetric ee pairs* used to define E_ν^{CCQE} and $\cos \theta$



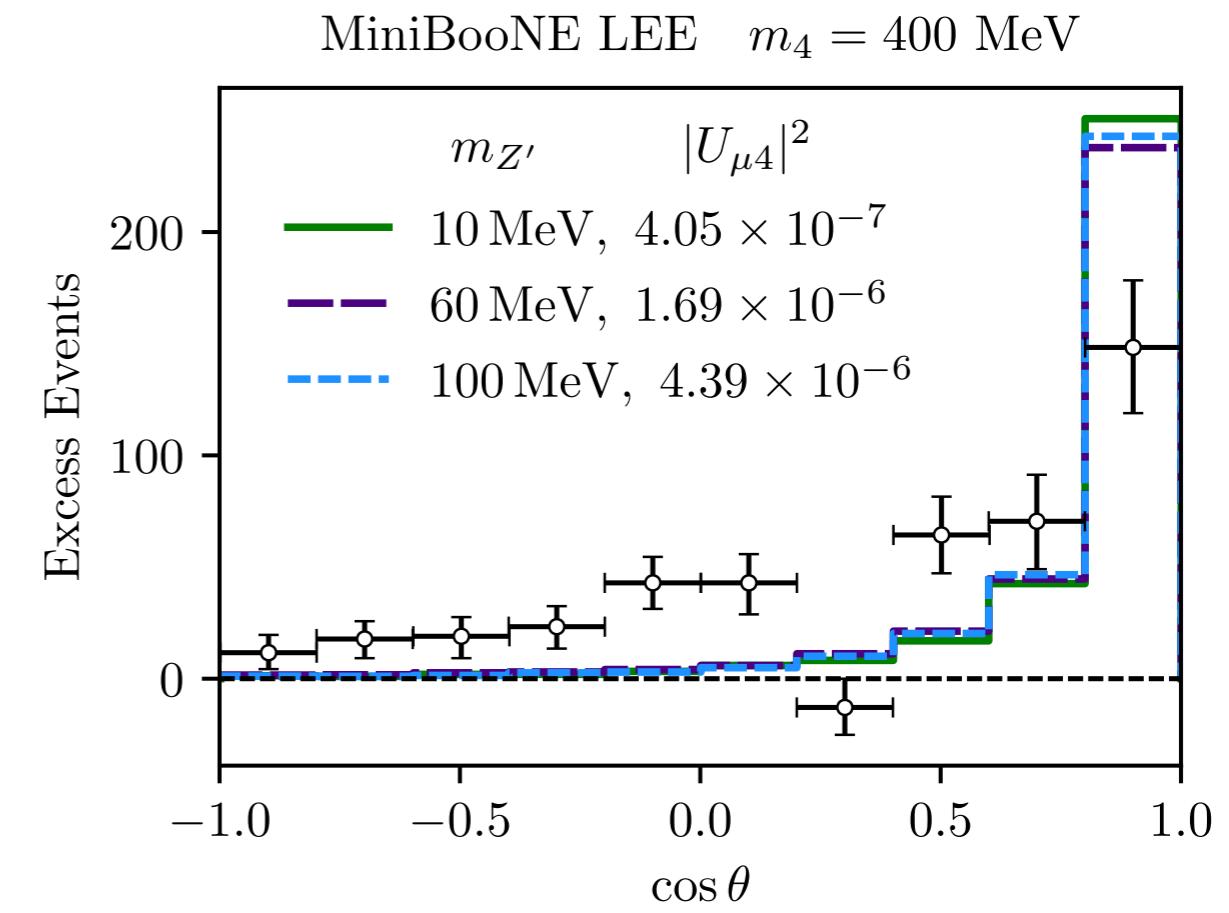
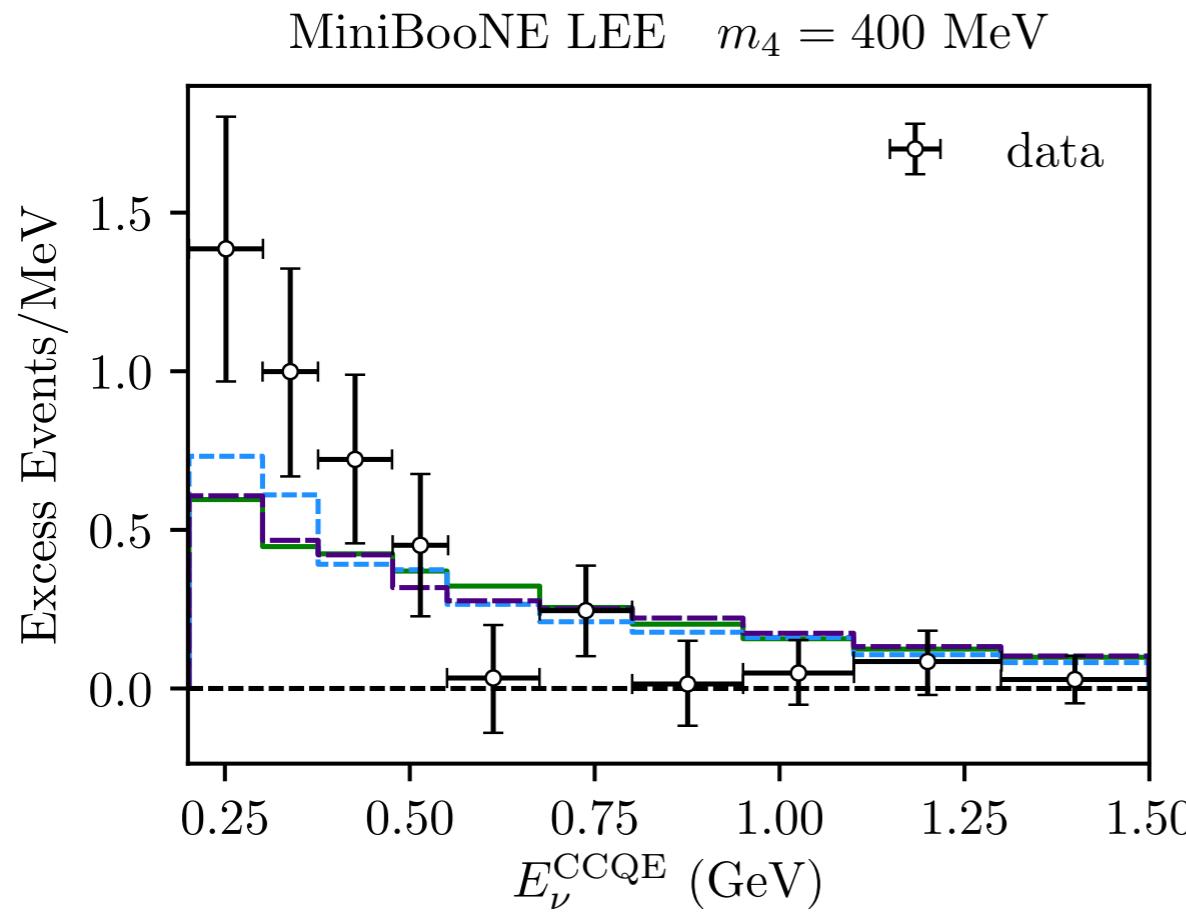
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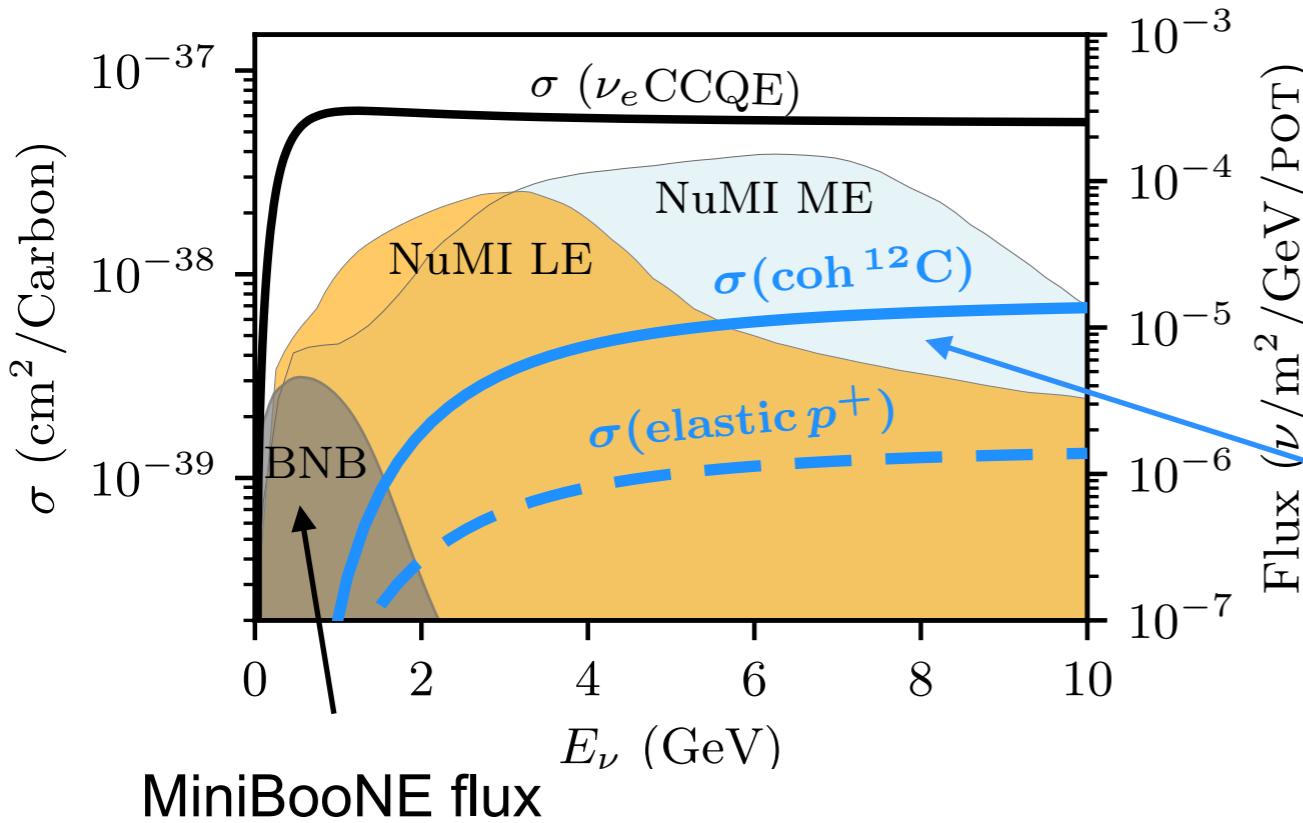
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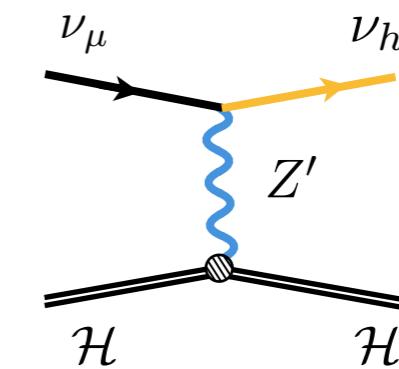
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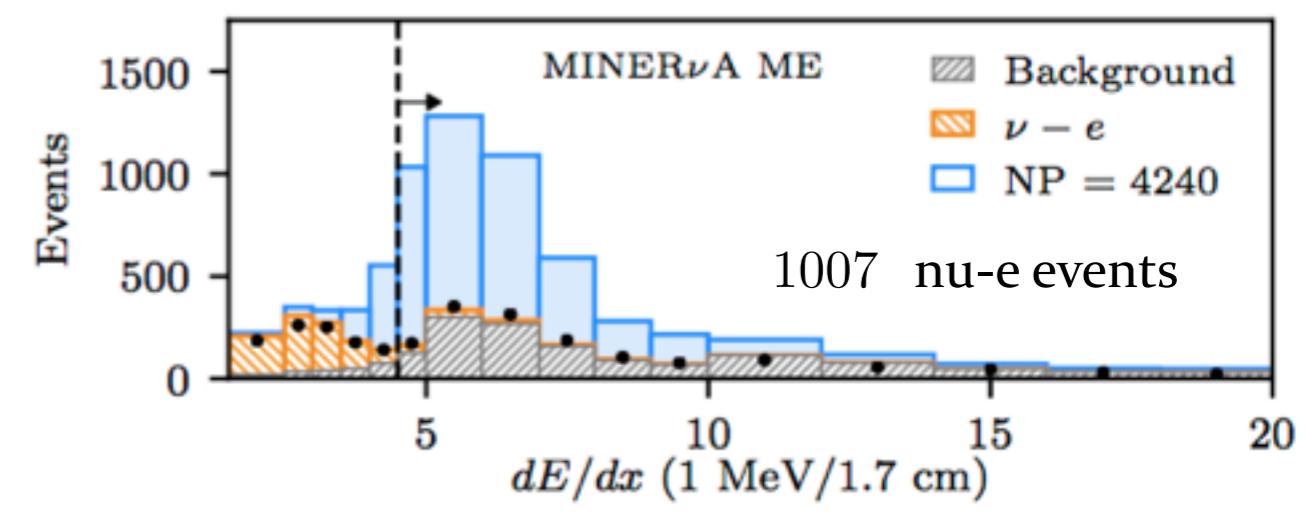
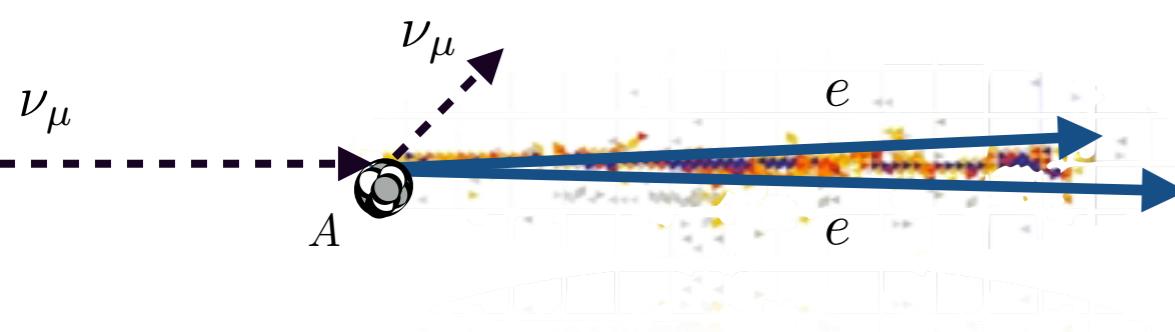


Large mass for MB angular spectrum
=> strong prediction for **HE exps.**



Upscattering cross section for mh = 420 MeV

nu-e scattering
Photon-like shower + no hadronic activity



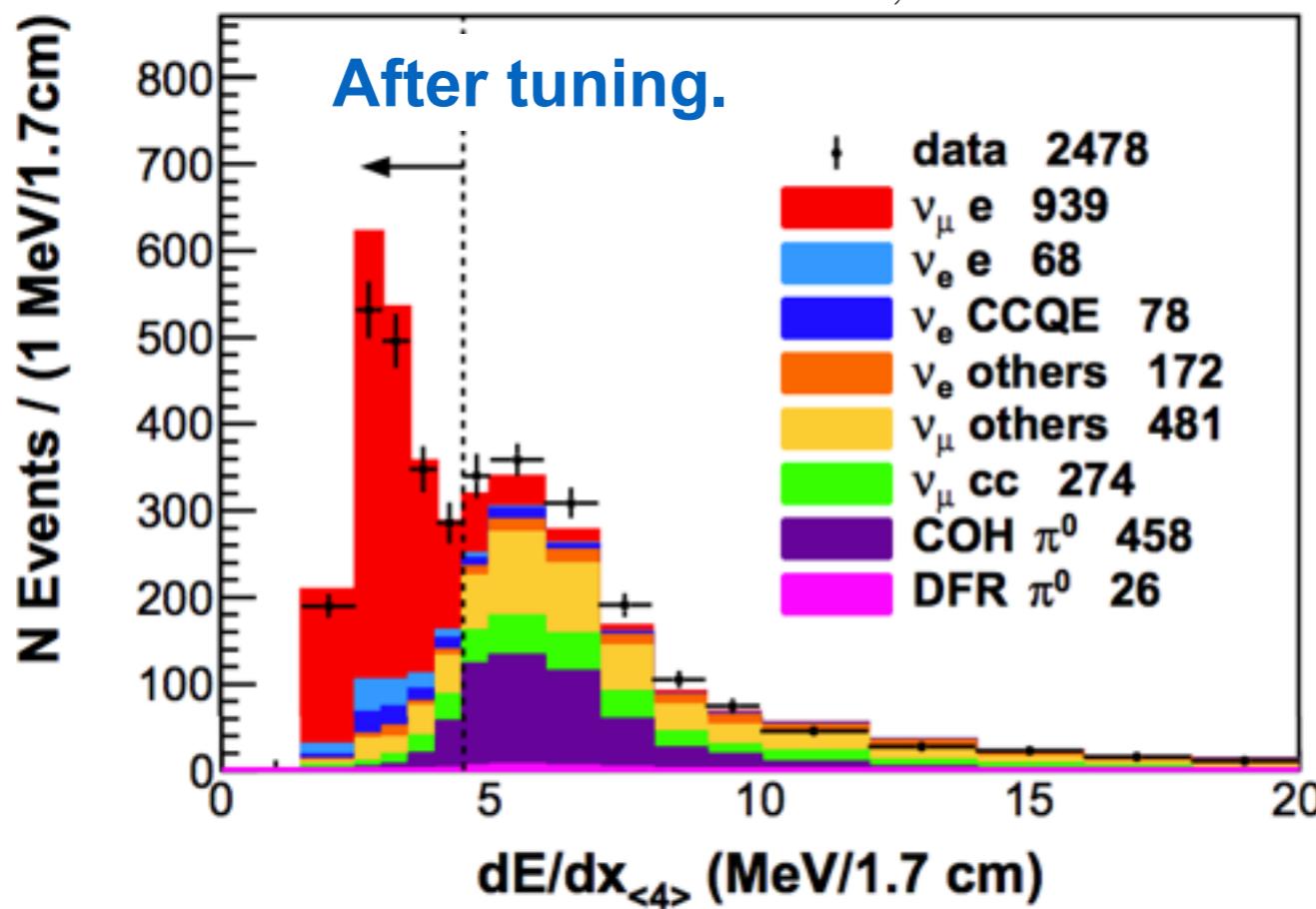
MINERνA Collaboration, 1906.00111

MiniBooNE — Light dark photon — revisited

BUT! MINERvA actually sees an excess at large dE/dx !

... and tunes it away to measure the neutrino flux.

MINERvA Collaboration, 1906.00111



MINERvA Collaboration, 1906.00111

Process	Normalization
ν_e	0.87 ± 0.03
ν_μ CC	1.08 ± 0.04
ν_μ NC	0.86 ± 0.04
NC COH $0.8 < E_e < 2.0 \text{ GeV}$	0.9 ± 0.2
NC COH $2.0 < E_e < 3.0 \text{ GeV}$	1.0 ± 0.3
NC COH $3.0 < E_e < 5.0 \text{ GeV}$	1.3 ± 0.2
NC COH $5.0 < E_e < 7.0 \text{ GeV}$	1.5 ± 0.3
NC COH $7.0 < E_e < 9.0 \text{ GeV}$	1.7 ± 0.8
NC COH $9.0 < E_e$	3.0 ± 0.9

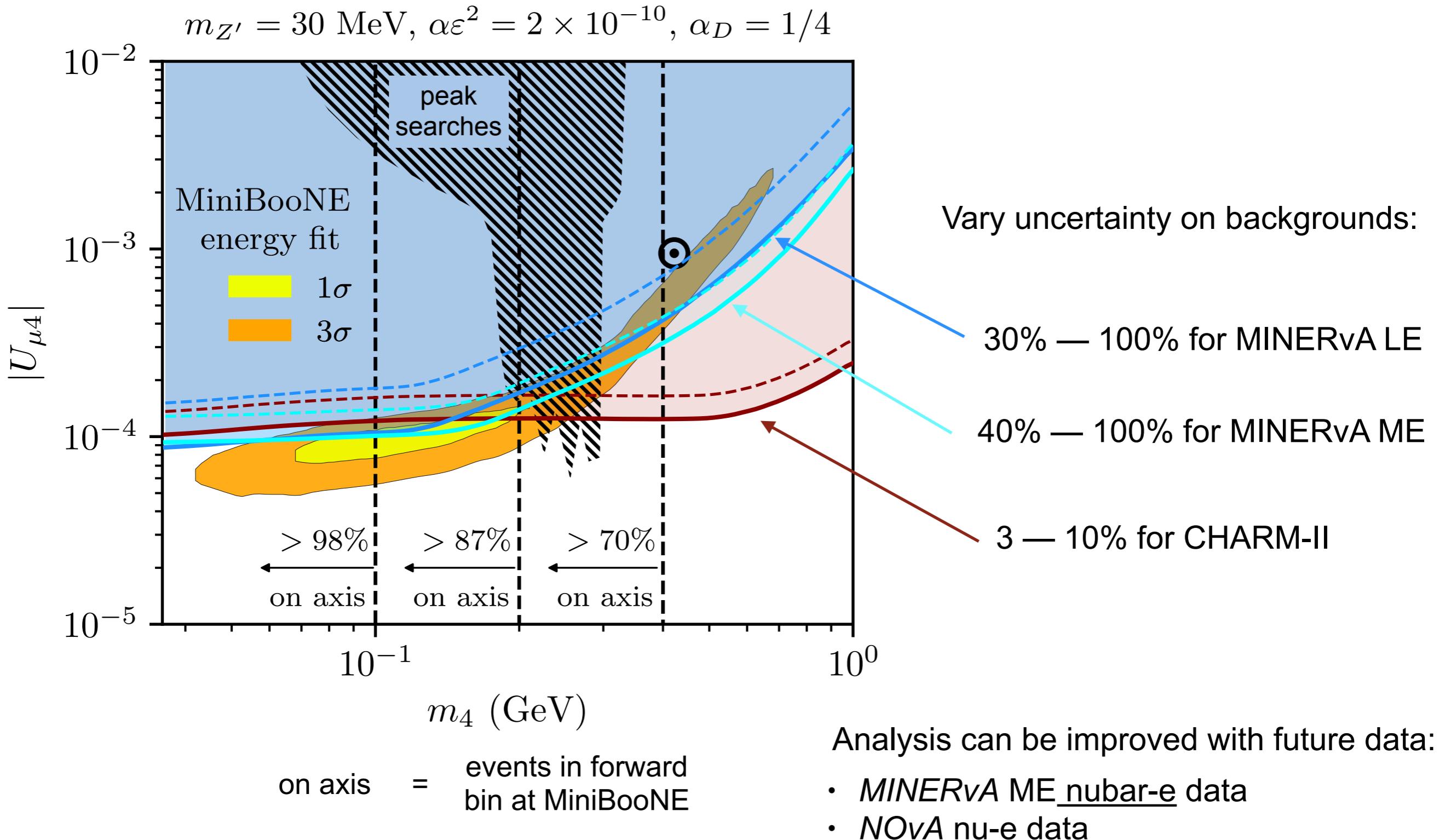
TABLE I. Background normalization scale factors extracted from the fits to kinematic sidebands, with statistical uncertainties.

Excess attributed to coherent π^0 events — grows with energy.

— disagreement with GENIE prediction claimed both in **NC and CC channels** —

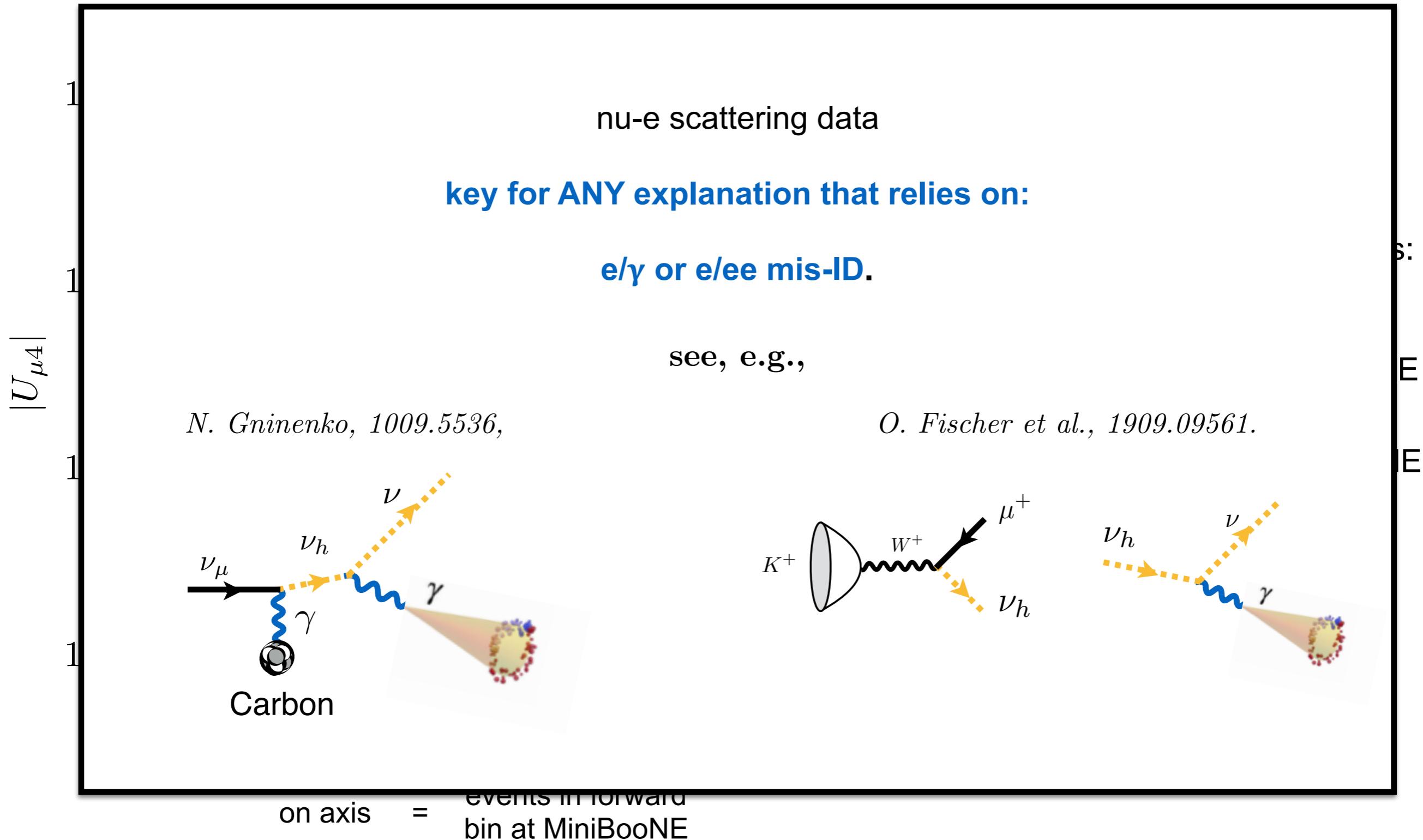
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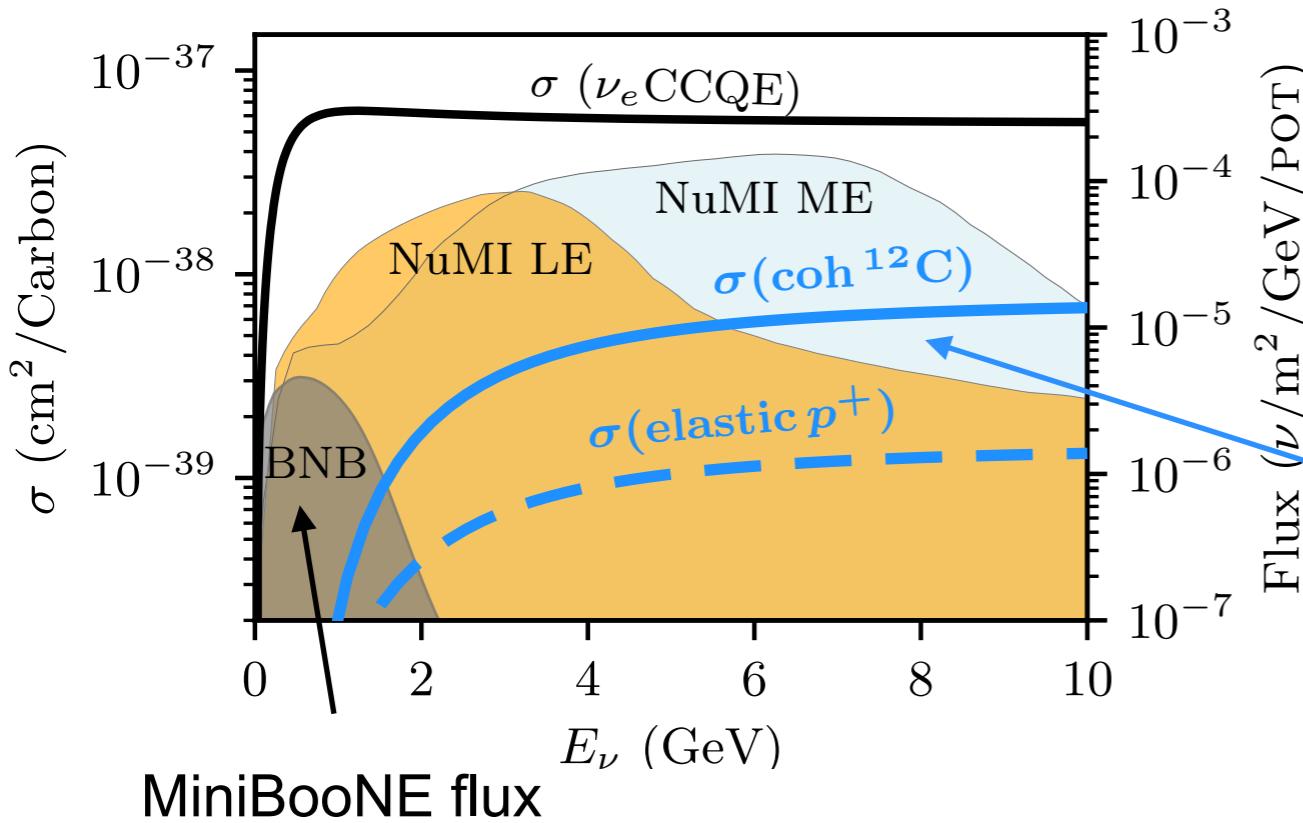
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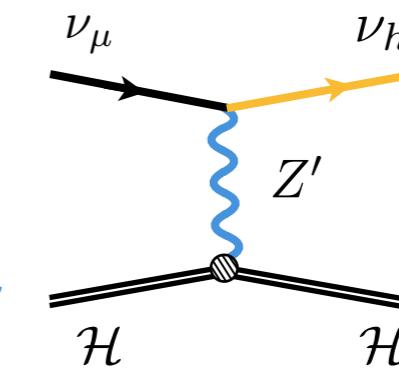
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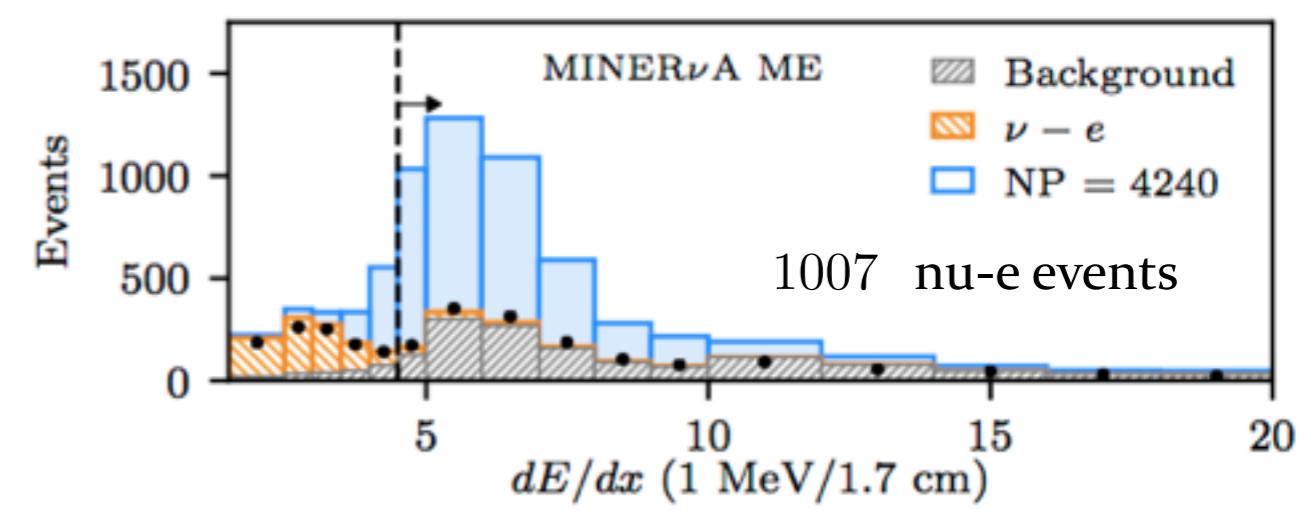
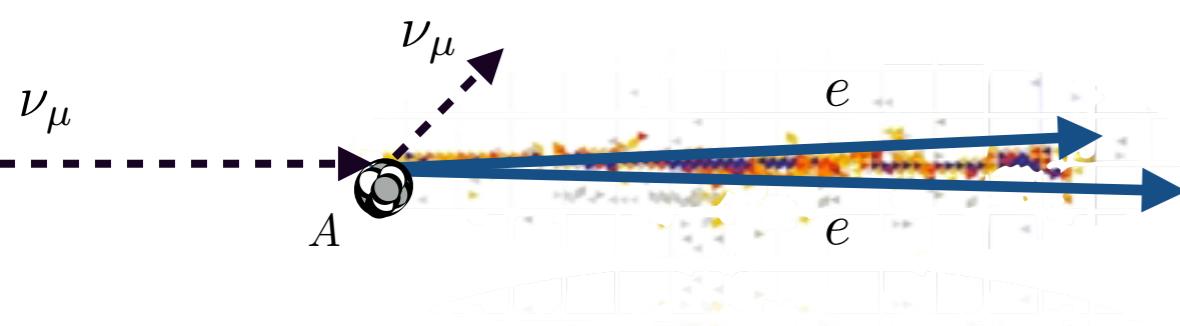


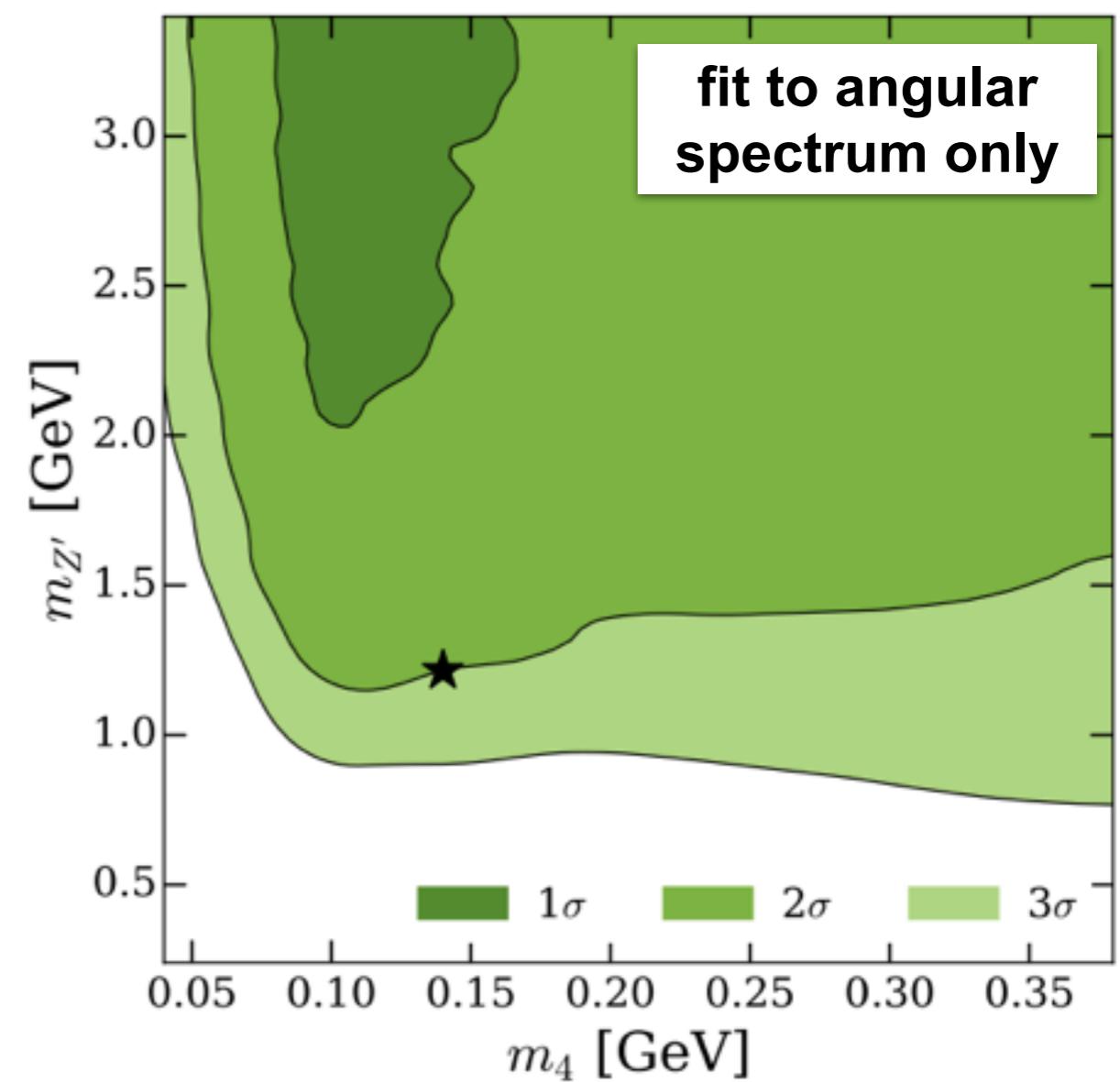
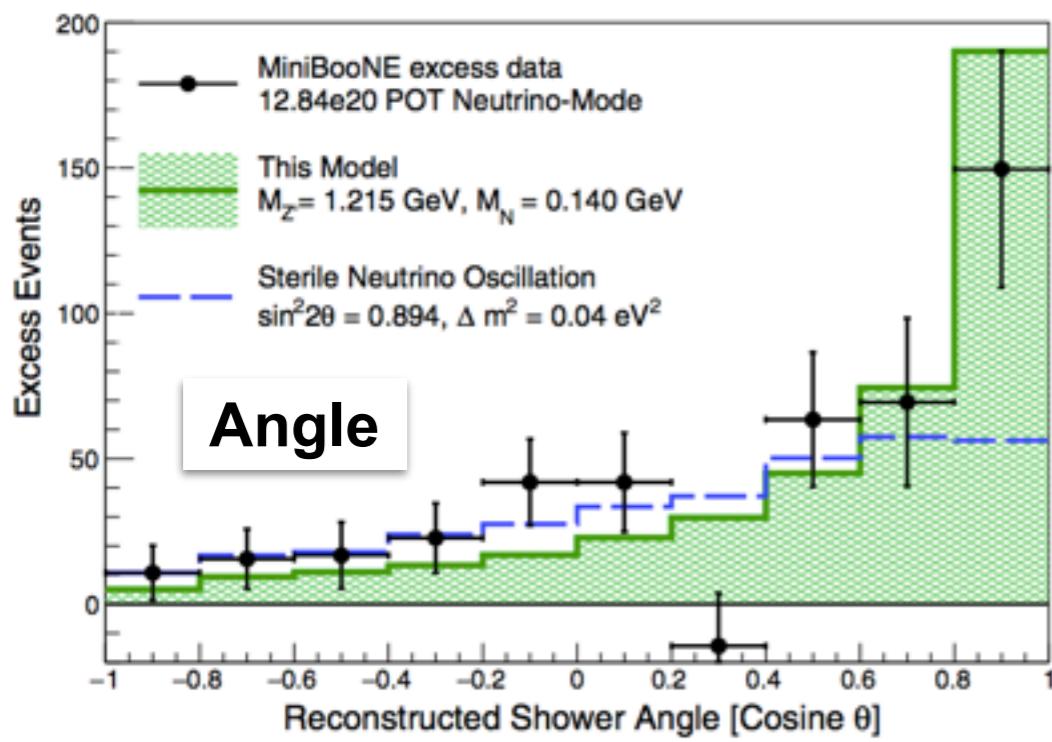
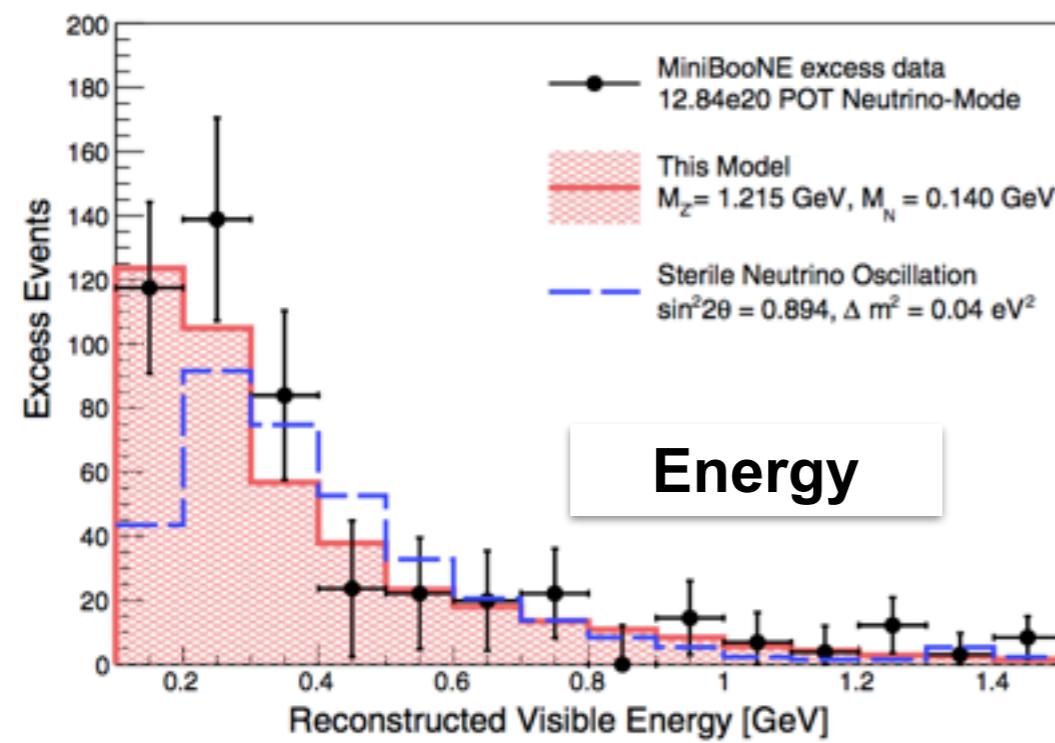
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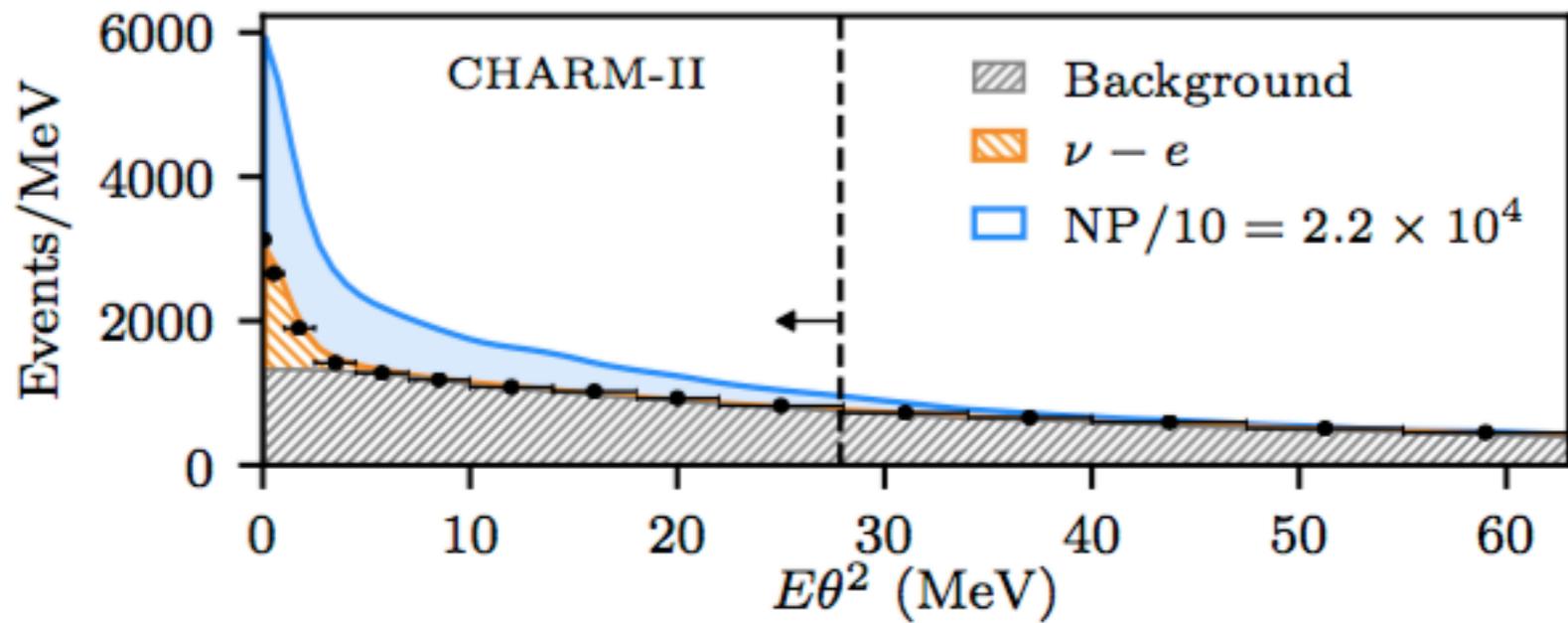
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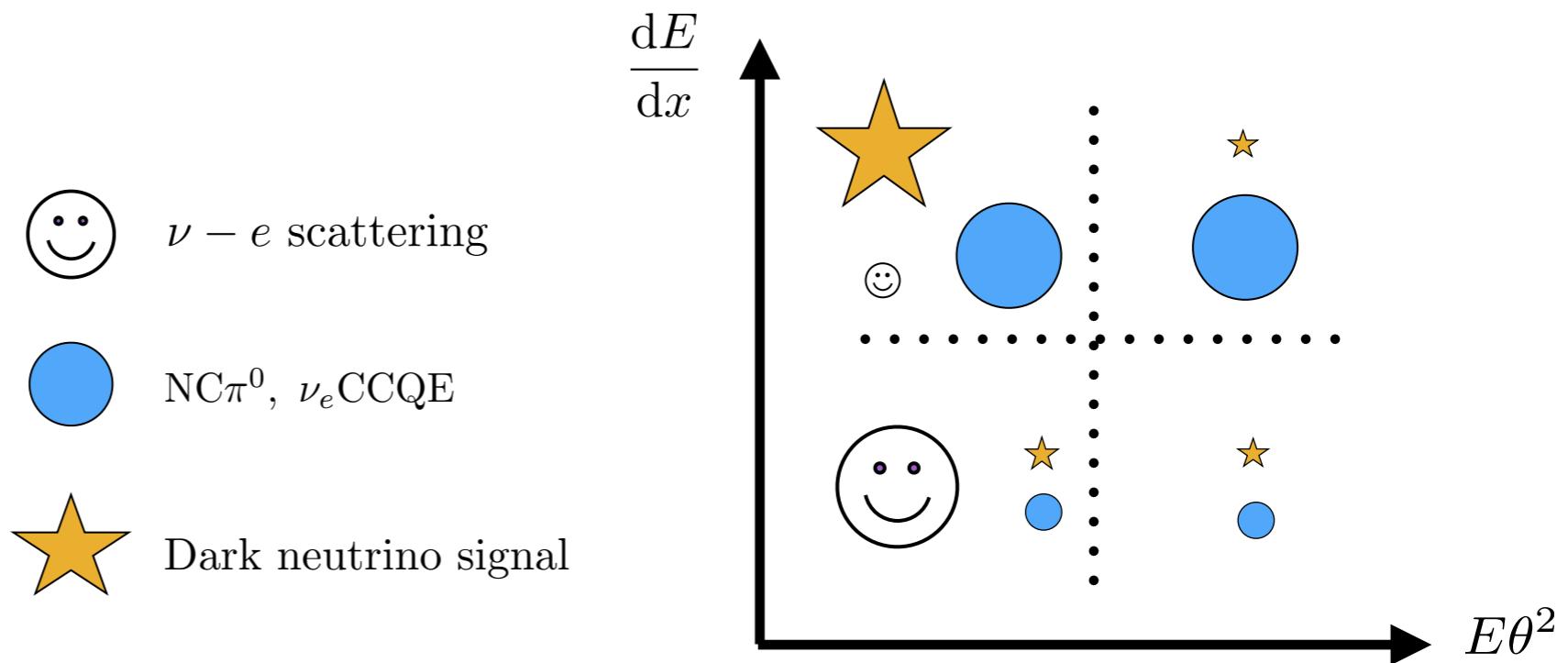




CHARM-II ν

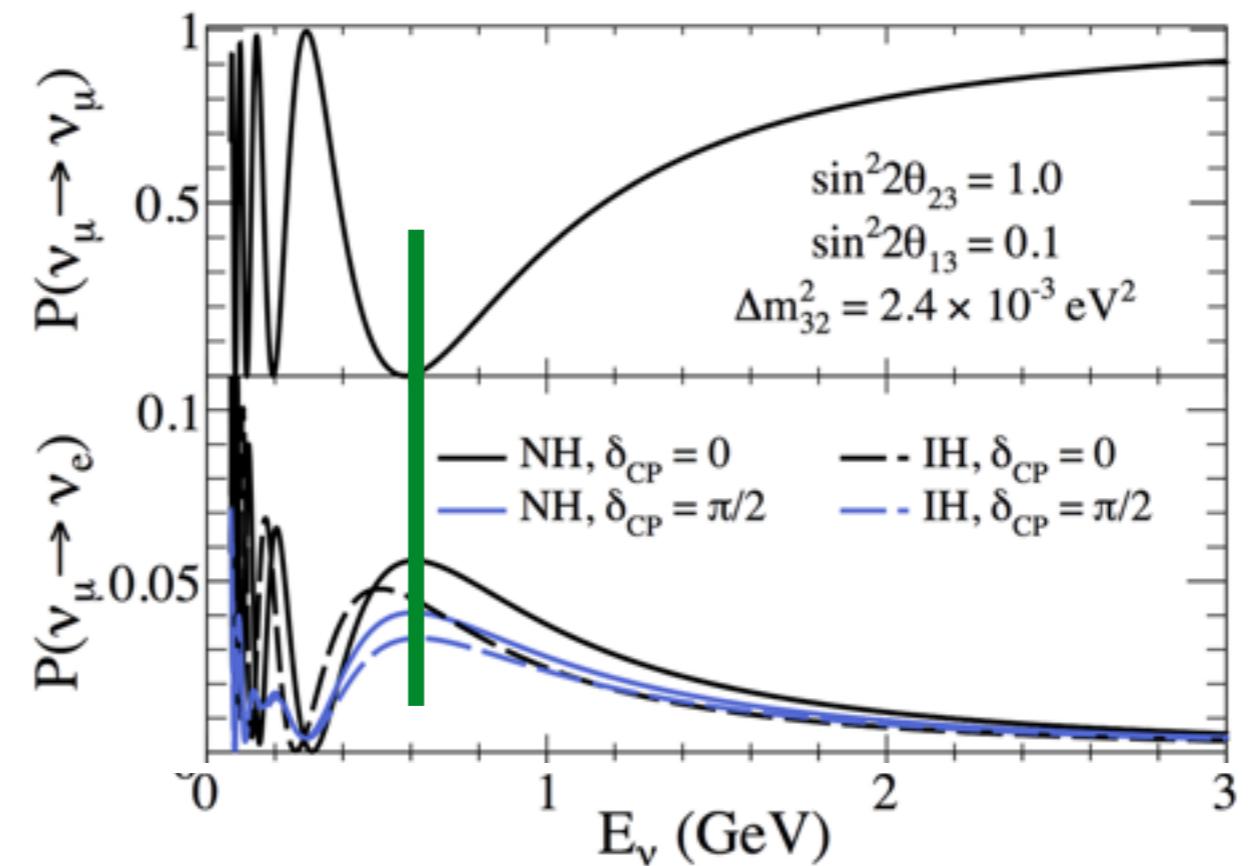
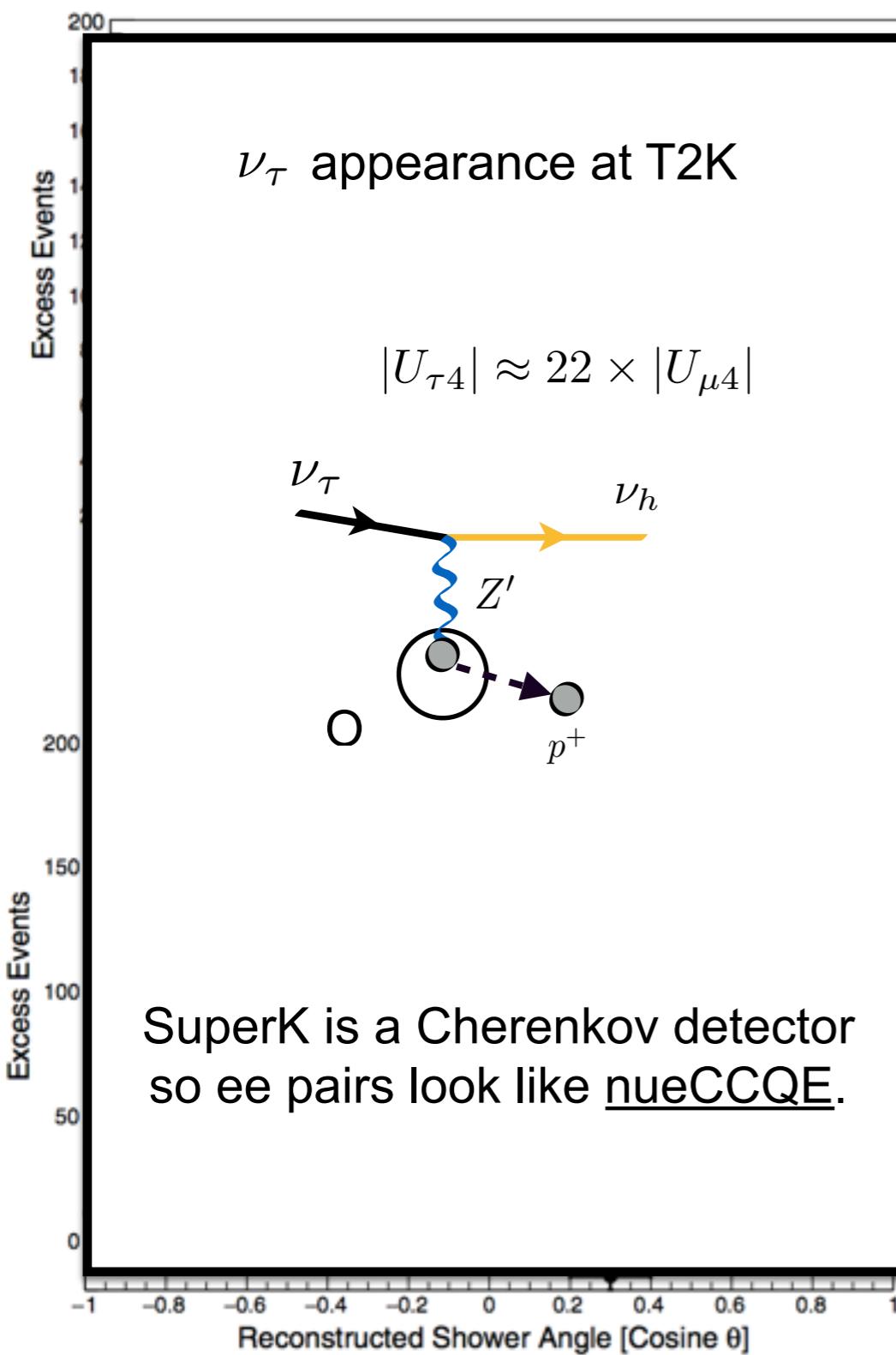


2677 nu-e events in neutrino mode.



Heavy dark photon case

P. Ballett et al, 1808.02915



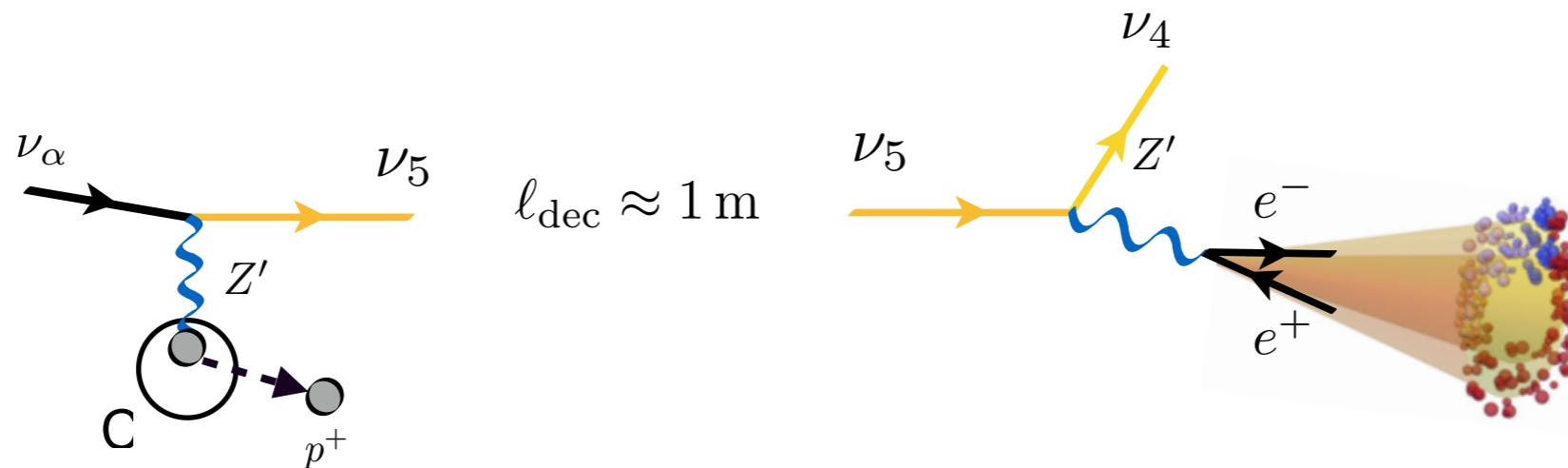
SuperK is a Cherenkov detector
so ee pairs look like nueCCQE.

Most of the flux is made of **tau-neutrinos**.

This model predicts:
nu-e like events $\sim O(\# \text{ NC events})$.

Heavy dark photon case

P. Ballett, MH, S. Pascoli, 1903.07589

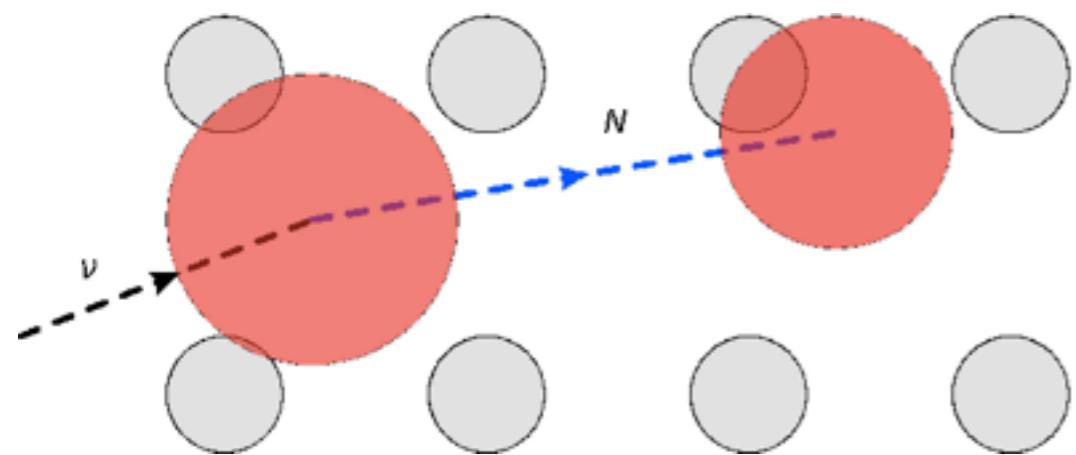


(invisible at MiniBooNE,
but visible elsewhere)

- Decay length of ν_5 is much smaller than in 3+1 model.
- ν_4 is much more long lived.
- Identical to a 3+1 case, but now efficiencies of $m_{ee} < m_{\pi^0}$ cuts are smaller since $m_{ee} < (m_5 - m_4)$.

Dedicated analysis *in-progress* aiming to distribute a public MC generator for all cases of interest.

<https://github.com/mhostert/DarkNews> — currently, contains only light dark photon HEPEVT files.



Prediction: **Double-bang events at IceCube.**

Large rate for large tau mixing (3+1),
but smaller rate for muon mixing only (3+2).

P. Coloma, 1906.02106

