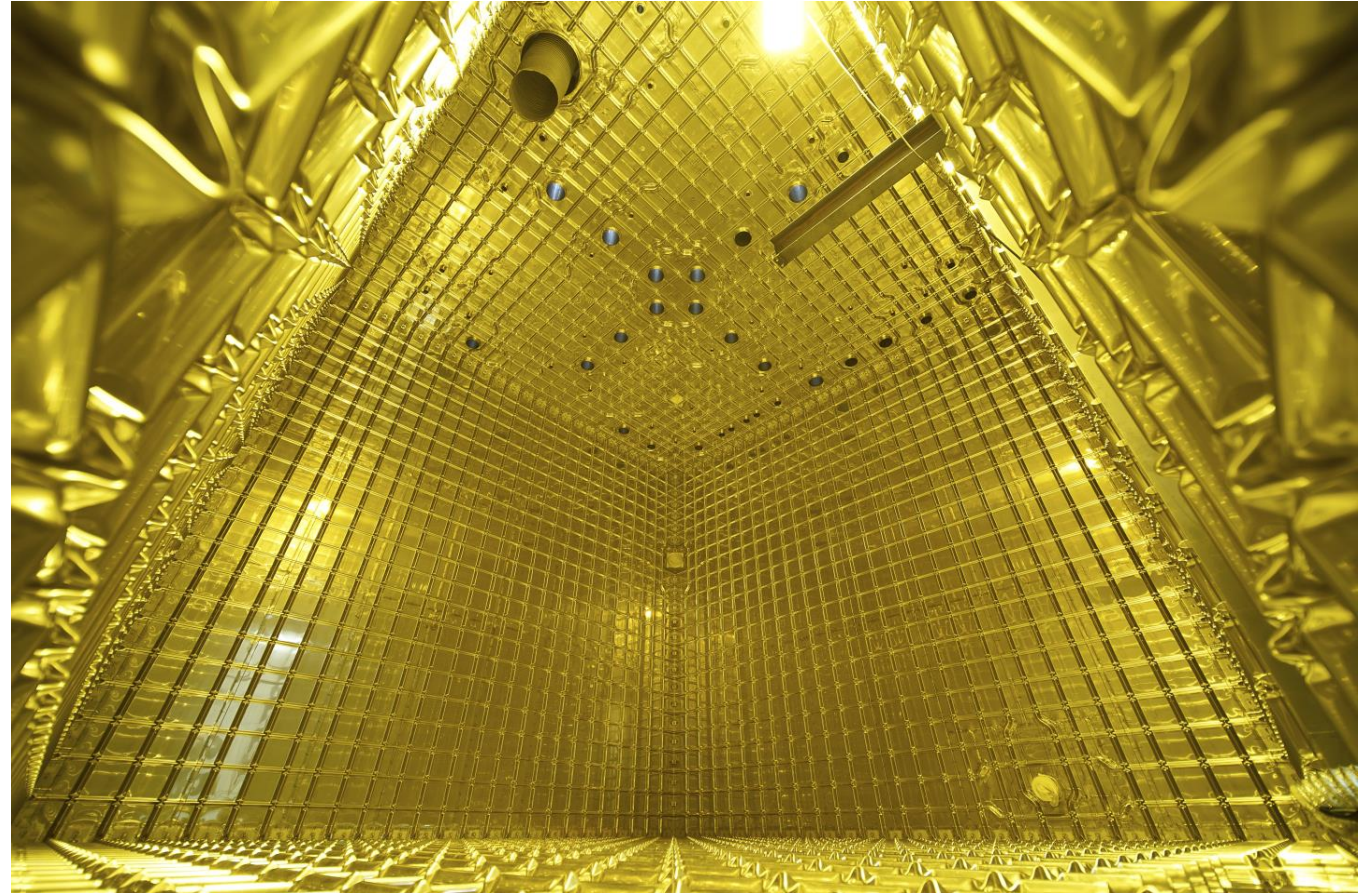


# Modifying Machine Learning Algorithms For Improved Tau Neutrino Sensitivity

For The DUNE Detector

Prototype Liquid-Argon Time-Projection Chamber for the DUNE experiment. (Image: CERN)



Prince Bhaura

March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Physics Research Project Oral Evaluation

Supervisors: Prof. Nikolina Ilic & William Dallaway



Physics  
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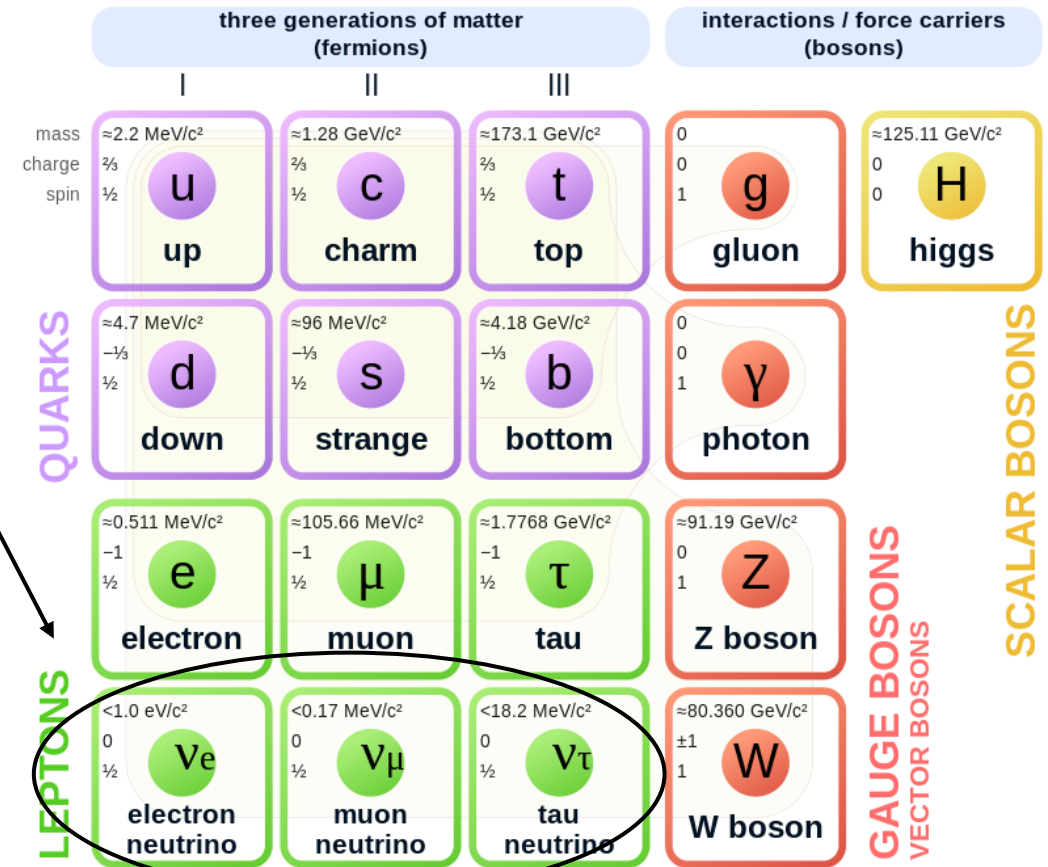
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# Neutrino Physics



- Neutrinos are neutral leptons, which means **we do not observe them directly**

## Standard Model of Elementary Particles



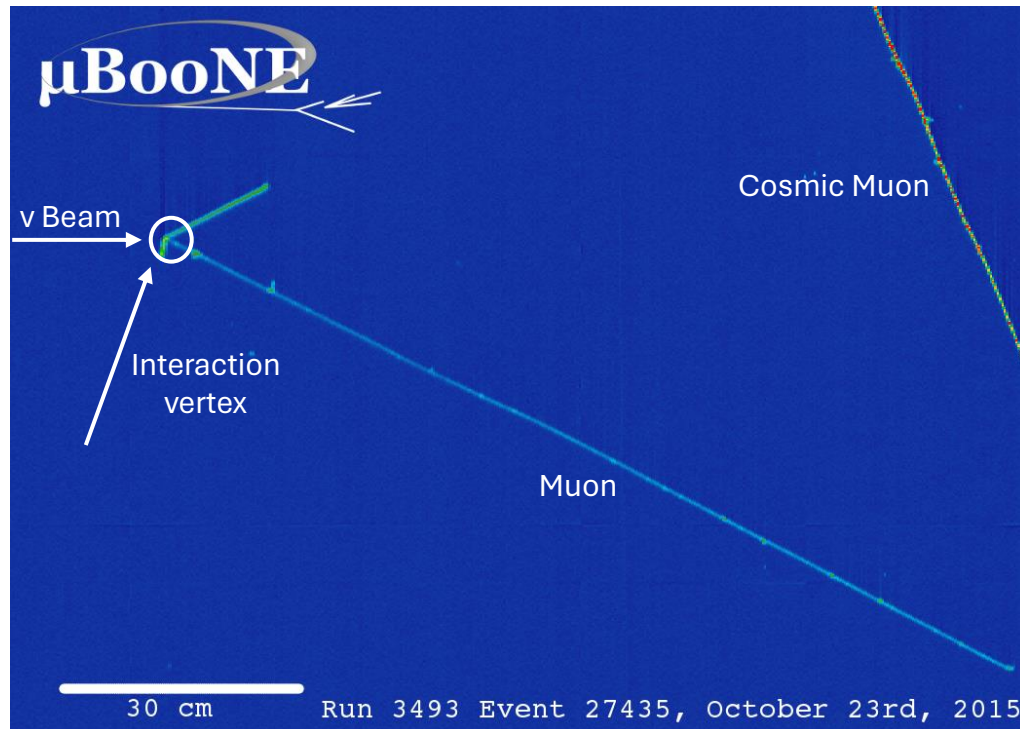
The Standard Model of Particle Physics. (Image: Wikipedia)



# Neutrino Physics

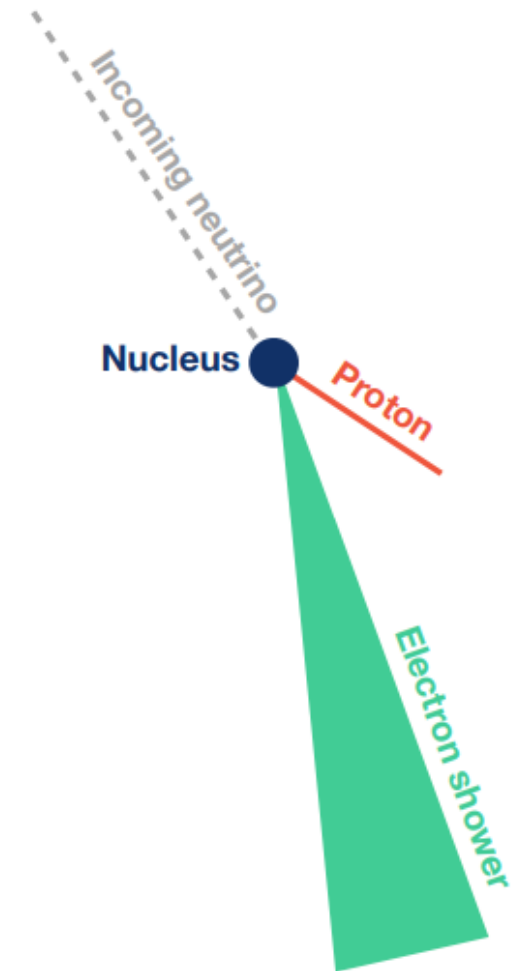


- Neutrinos are neutral leptons, which means **we do not observe them directly**
  - Instead, we search for **visible particles** that are **produced when they interact**



Neutrino Interaction Event Display from the MicroBooNE Detector. (Image: MicroBooNE)

Axes: Time vs Wire  
Colour Scale: Charge



Simplified Neutrino Interaction with a Nucleus. (Image: V Hewes)

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# Liquid Argon TPCs



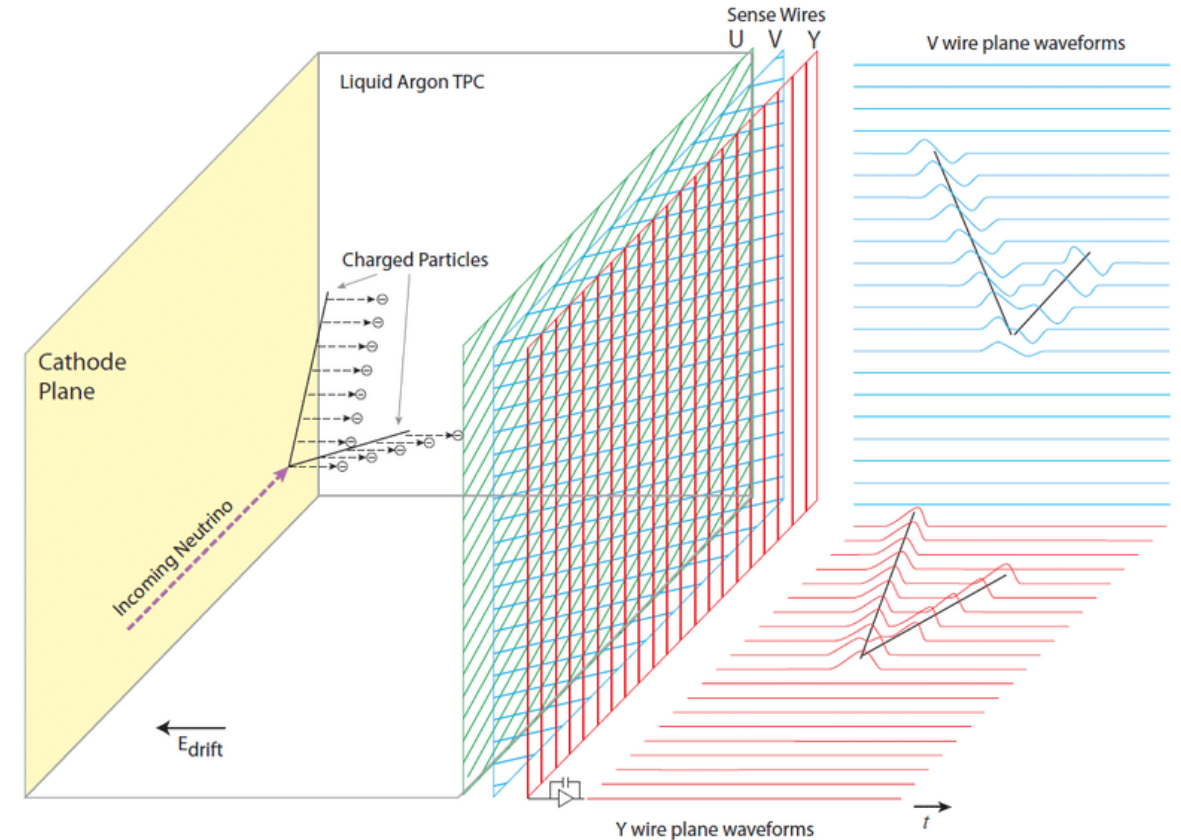
Physics  
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- Active Medium: Liquid Argon
  - When **charged particles traverse** through, they **ionize the argon** creating free electrons

# Liquid Argon TPCs



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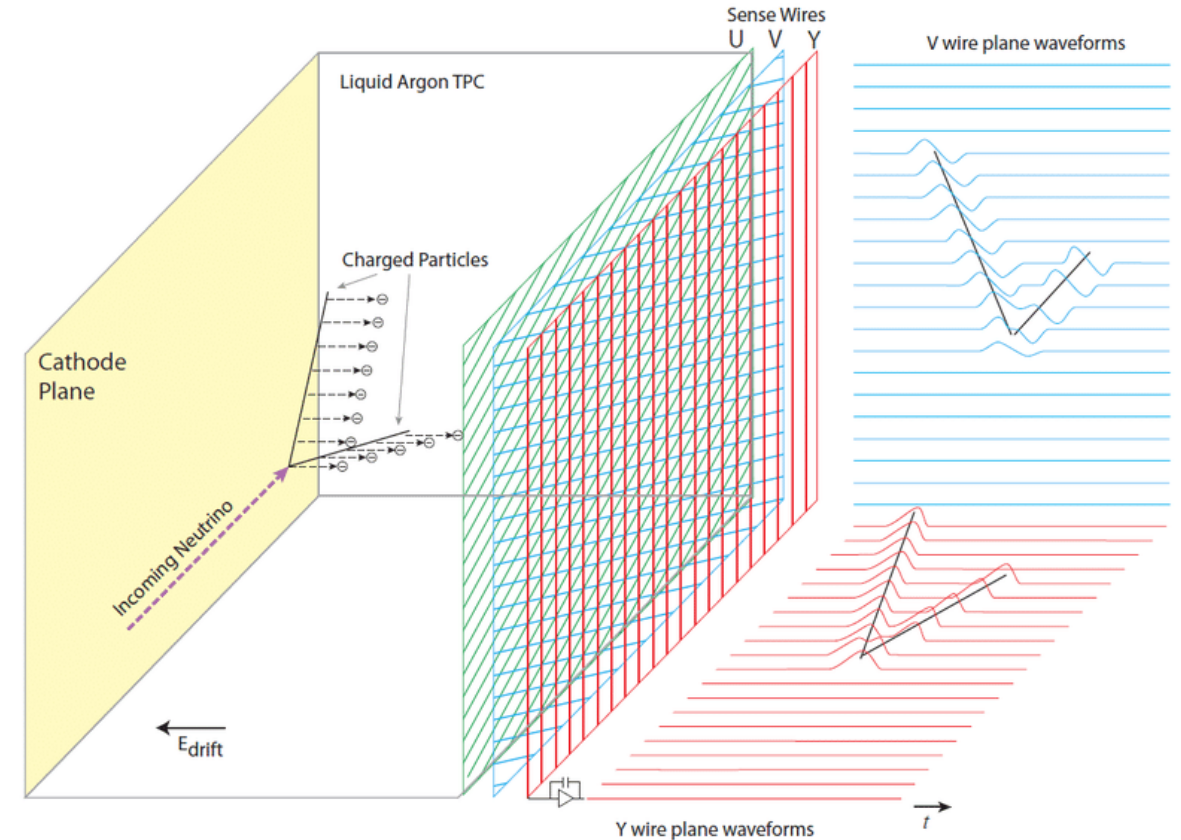
Single Phase Liquid Argon TPC Detector Setup. (Image: R. Acciarri et al 2017 JINST 12 P02017)



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- Active Medium: Liquid Argon
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  - Multiple wire planes allow for 3D reco.

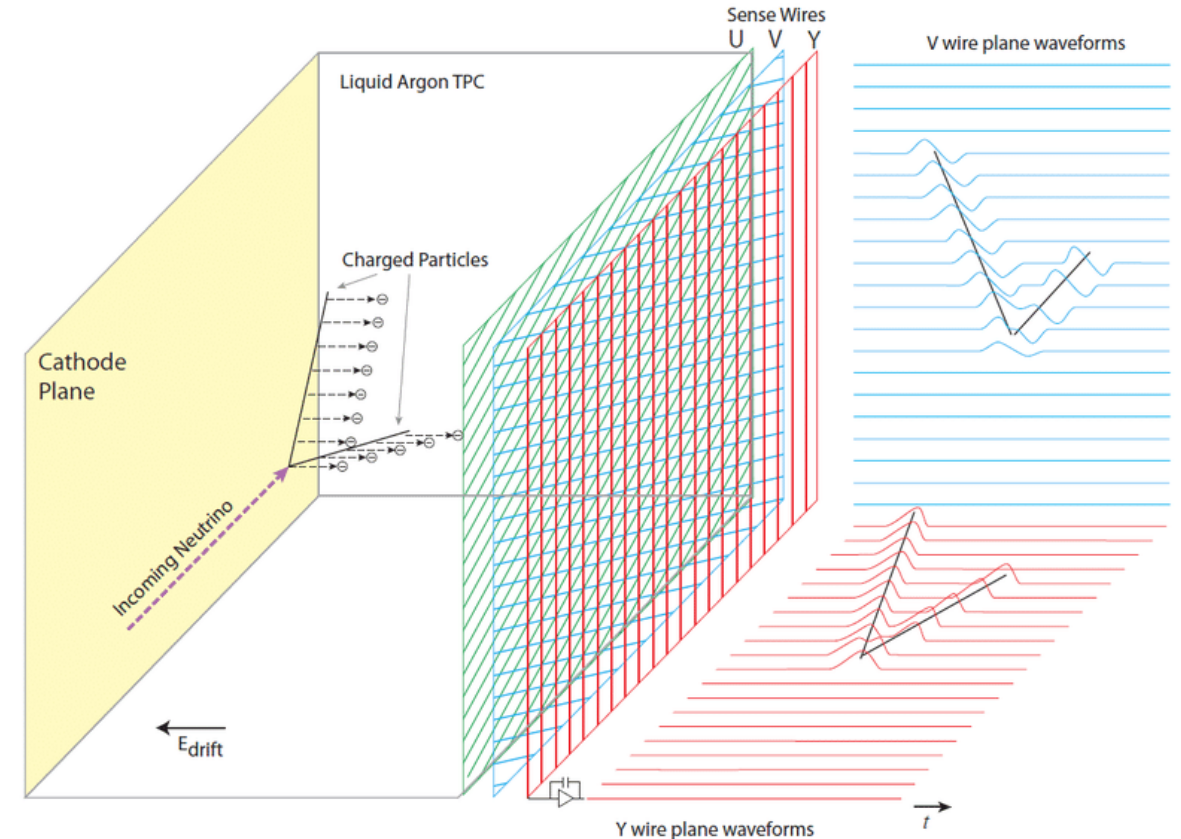


Single Phase Liquid Argon TPC Detector Setup. (Image: R. Acciarri et al 2017 JINST 12 P02017)

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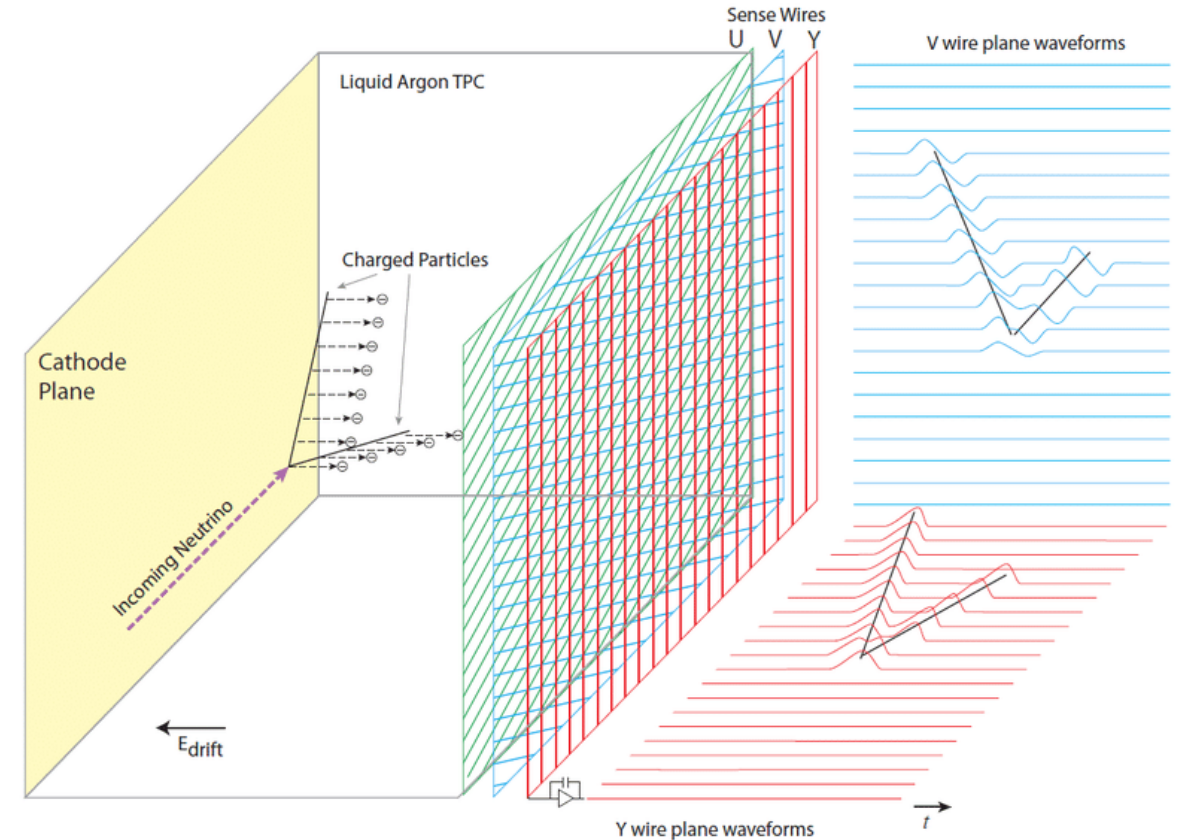


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- Electric Field **drifts** free electrons towards wire planes
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  - Multiple wire planes allow for 3D reco.
- “Time Projection”: Time reco. for ionization events
- Excellent choice for Neutrino and DM interactions

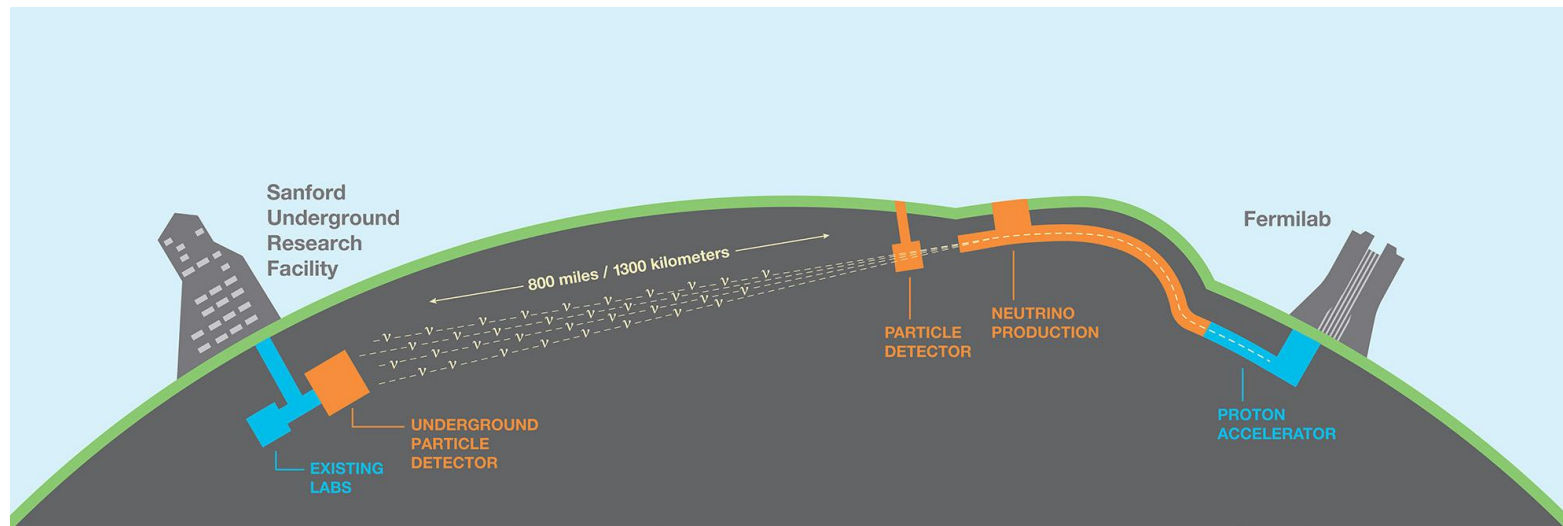


Single Phase Liquid Argon TPC Detector Setup. (Image: R. Acciarri et al 2017 JINST 12 P02017)

# Liquid Argon TPCs – DUNE



- **Purpose:** Study Various Aspects of Neutrino Physics
  - Neutrino Oscillations (Neutrino Flavour Change Over Distance) ★
  - Neutrino Interactions
  - Proton Decay



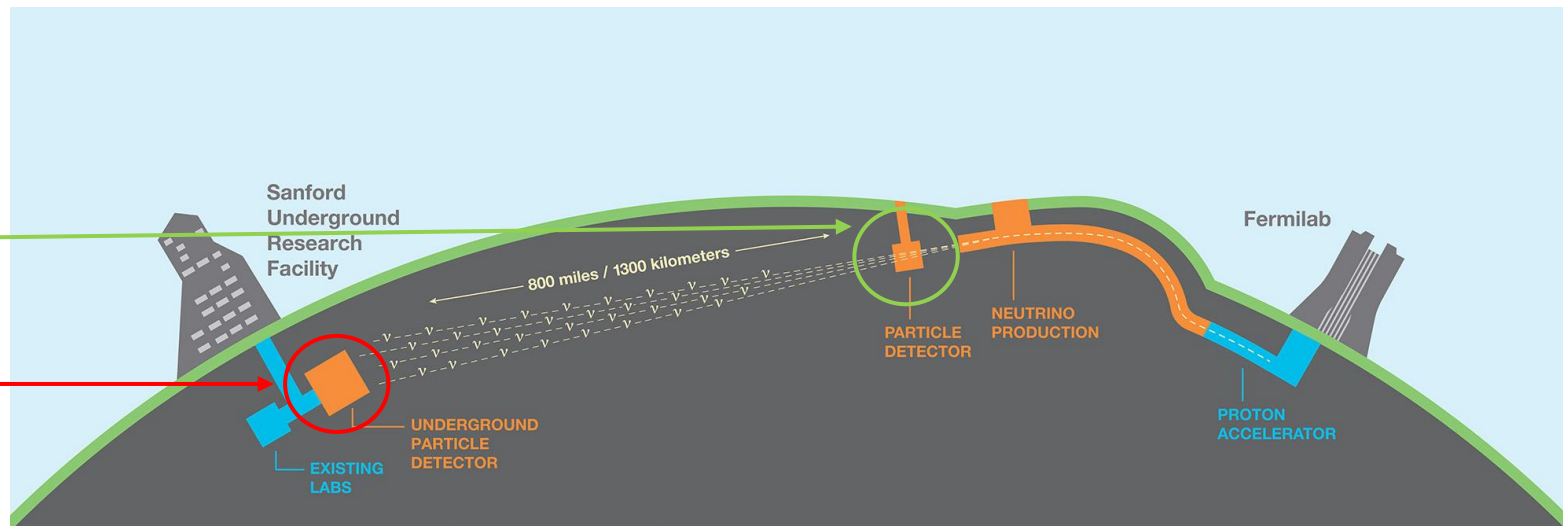
Configuration of the Long Baseline Neutrino Facility at Fermilab, and the Dune Detectors in Illinois and South Dakota. (Image: dunescience.org)

# Liquid Argon TPCs – DUNE



## ■ 3 Central Elements

- **Far Detector**: Located 1.5km Underground at SURF, South Dakota
- **Near Detector**: Located Just Ahead of Neutrino Source at Fermilab, Illinois
- **Long Baseline Neutrino Facility**: Provides Beamline and Civil Construction for Both Detectors



Configuration of the Long Baseline Neutrino Facility at Fermilab, and the DUNE Detectors in Illinois and South Dakota. (Image: dunescience.org)



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- Near Detector (ND) Serves as the Experiments Control (+ More)
  - Constraining Systematic Errors
  - Will Have Its Own Physics Program
  - Made Up of 3 Parts: **HPgTPC, ECAL**, LArTPC, and SAND

↓  
MPD

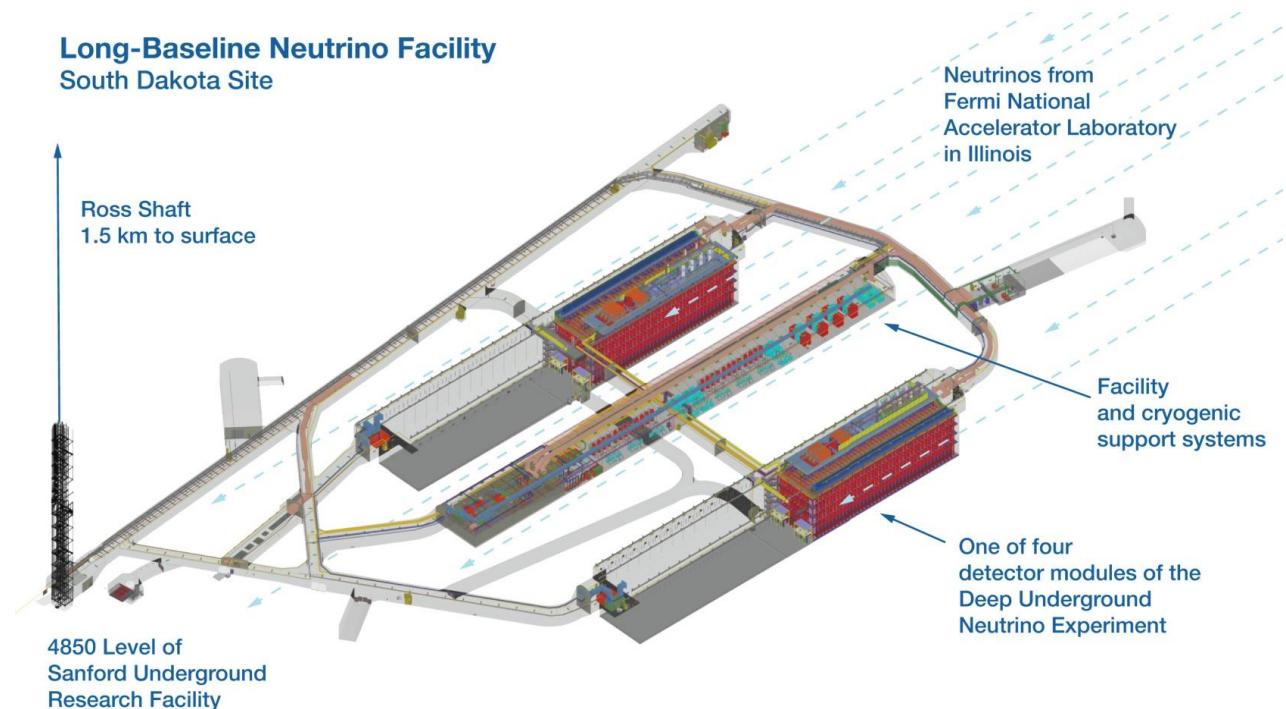
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Underground Housing for the DUNE FD. (Image: dunescience.org)

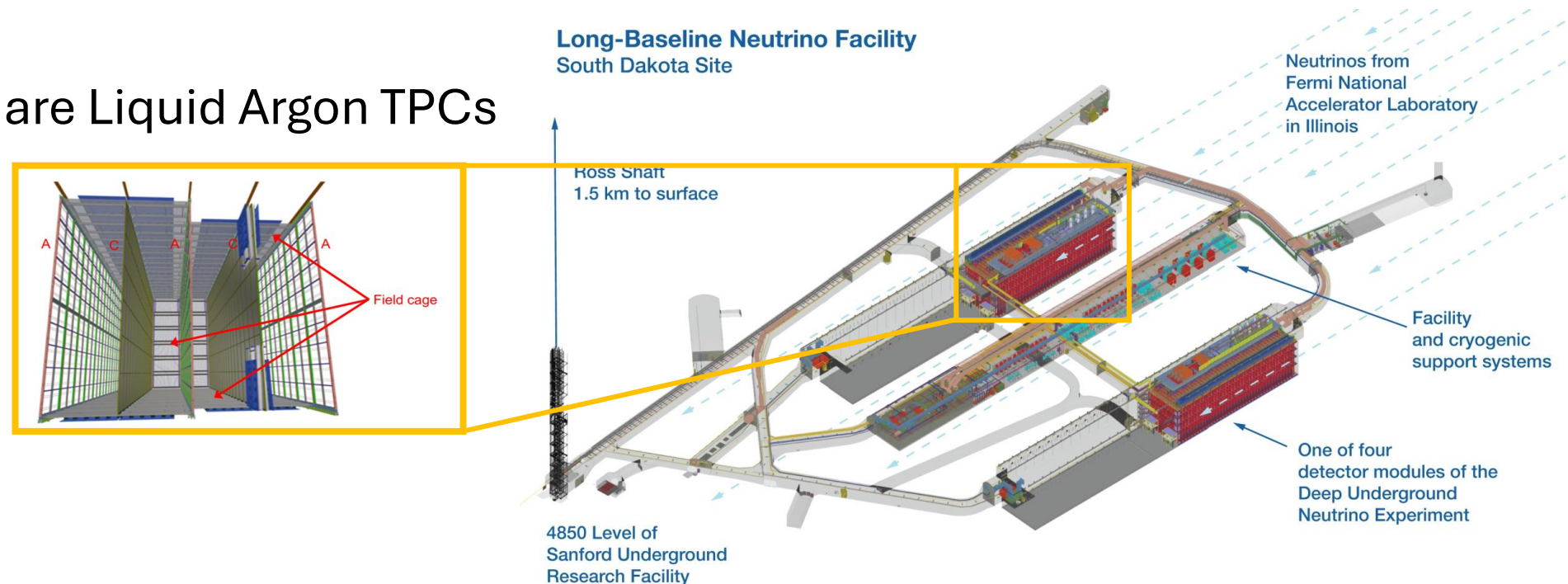
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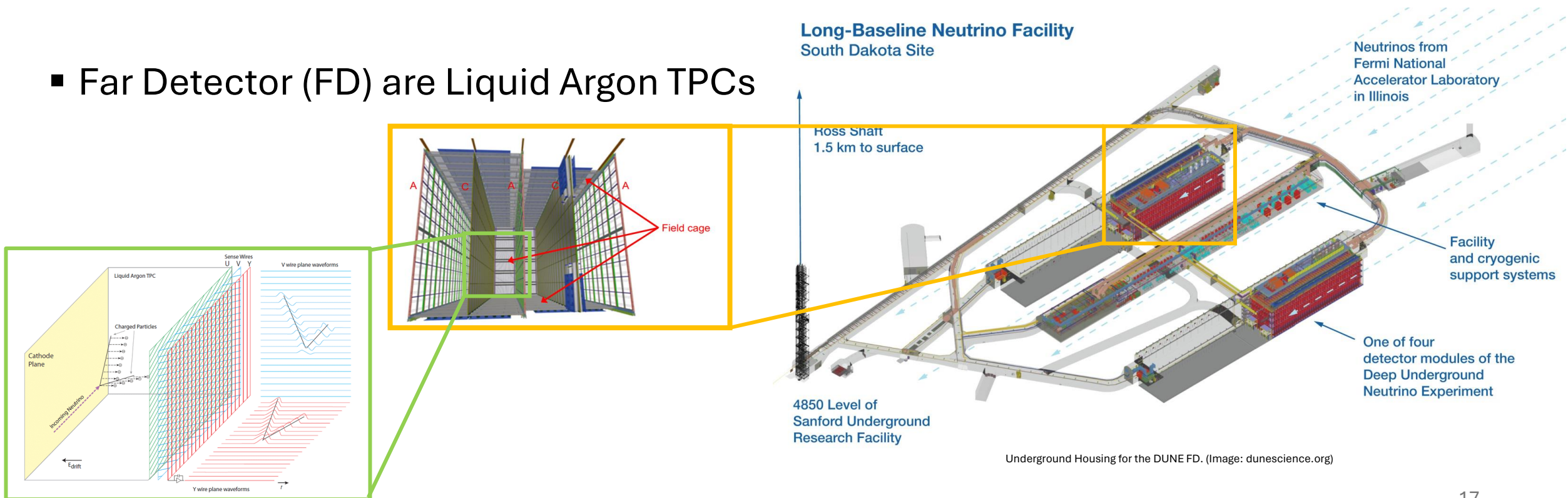
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# Main Idea

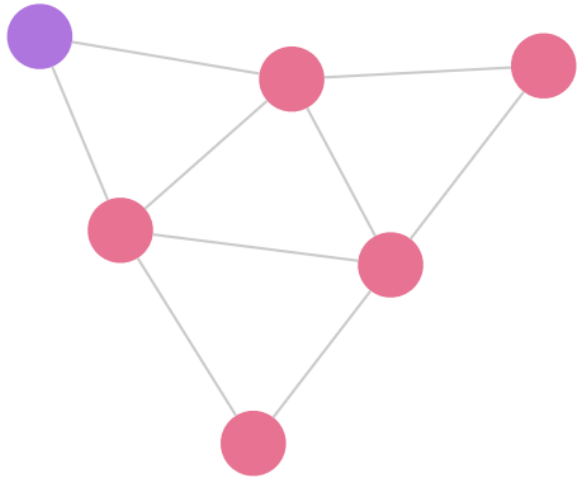


- Liquid Argon TPC **Hits** Can Be Connected in a **Graph**

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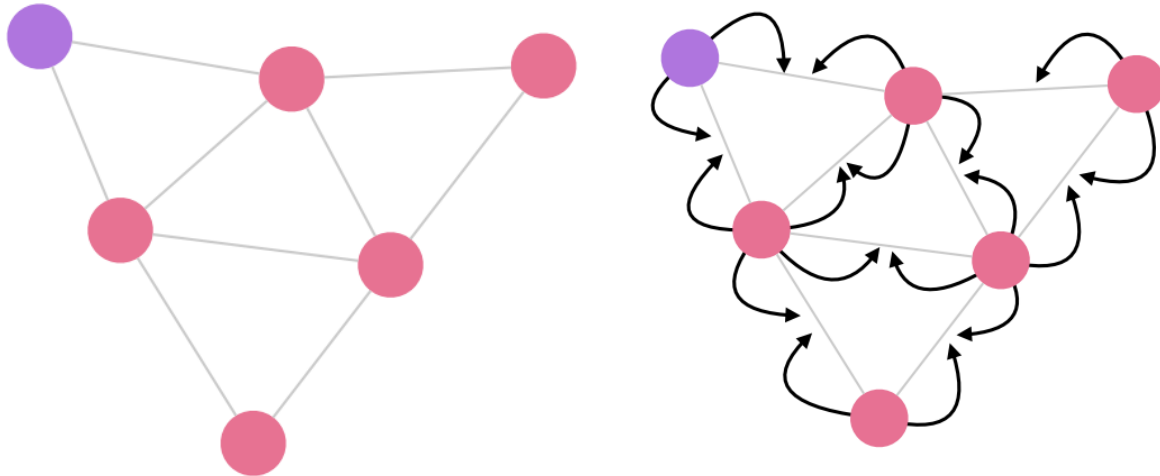
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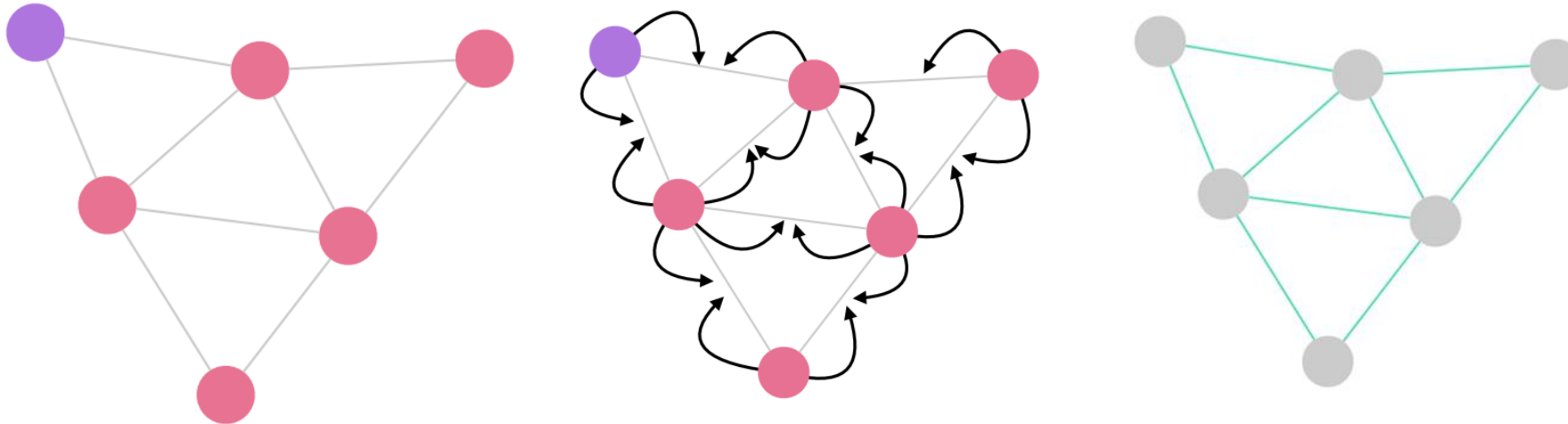
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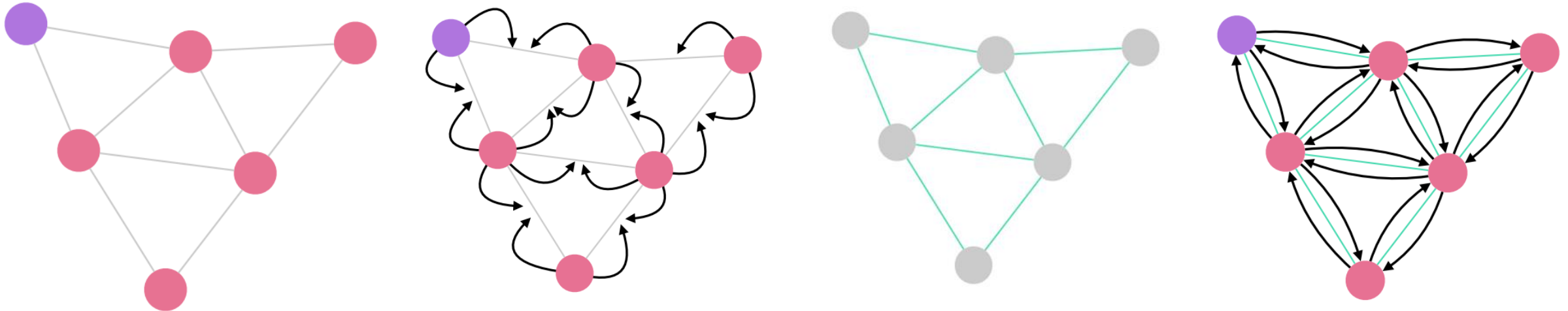
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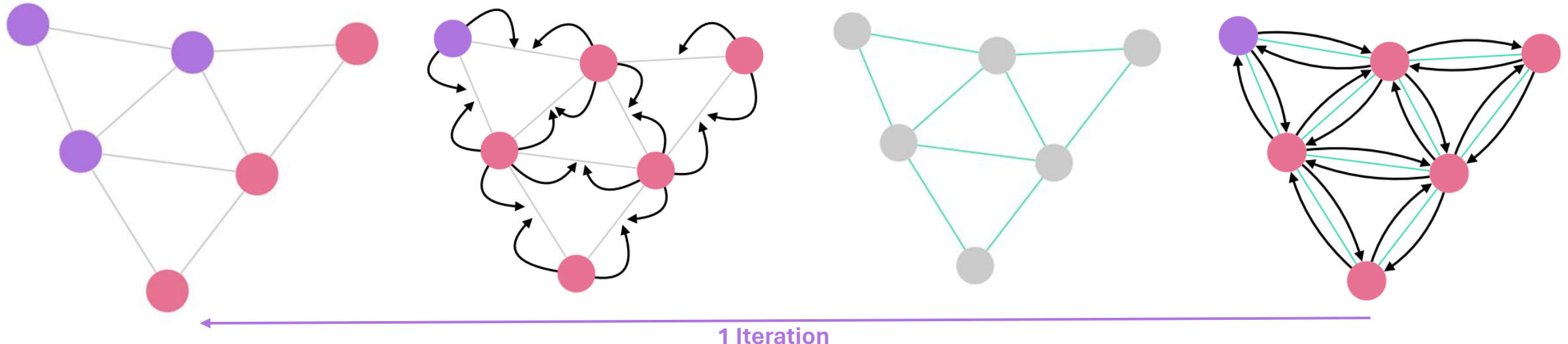




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  - Propagate **Node Features** Across **Edges**, Weighting by **Edge Scores**
  - Perform Convolutions on **Nodes** to **Update Node Features**



# NuGraph2



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- NuGraph2 is a Second-Generation Graph Neural Network
  - Designed for Reconstructing Particle Interactions in Neutrino Physics Detector Environments

# NuGraph2



Physics  
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- NuGraph2 is a Second-Generation Graph Neural Network
  - Designed for Reconstructing Particle Interactions in Neutrino Physics Detector Environments
- Primary Goal: **Classify Each Detector Hit According to Particle Type**
- Use 5 Semantic Categories:
  - **MIP: Minimum Ionizing Particles (Muons, Pions, etc.)**
  - **HIP: Highly Ionizing Particles (Protons)**
  - **EM Showers (Electrons, Photons)**
  - **Michel Electrons (Electrons Produced from Muon Decay)**
  - **Diffuse Activity (Compton Scatters, Neutrons, etc.)**
- Also, Neutrino Event Type

# NuGraph2 Architecture



Graph

Graph node features include **plane, wire, and time coordinates** in both local and global coordinate system, **ID of the TPC** in which the hit occurred – as well as **integral and RMS width** of each hit

Encoder

**Initial encoding step** generates a learned embedding for each graph node. Currently two-layer sequential network with one linear and one non-linear layer:  $z = \tanh(Wx + b)$  where  $W, b$  are learned parameters

Edge

2D Node (Planar)

Pass messages **internally** in each TPC plane

3D Node (Nexus)

Pass messages **externally** to mix information between detector planes

Filter Decoder

**Semantic Decoder:** Trained to classify each neutrino-induced hit according to particle type

**Filter Decoder:** Trained to separate neutrino induced hit from noise or cosmic-induced hits

Semantic Decoder

Performance Metrics: **Recall** (efficiency), **Precision** (purity), **Loss** (accuracy between prediction and truth)

Filter Score

Semantic Score

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# NuGraph2 Modifications – Why?



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- Overall: Study All Flavours, But Emphasis on Tau Neutrinos
  - Least Understood
- Goal: Network **Can** Be Better at Classifying Tau Neutrino Events
  - Modifications Can Be Made to Multiple Areas
  - We Focus on **Two** Areas Which We Believe Have the Most Impact

# NuGraph2 Modifications



Graph

Encoder

Edge

2D Node (Planar)

3D Node (Nexus)

Filter Decoder

Semantic Decoder

Filter Score

Semantic Score

**Initial encoding step** generates a learned embedding for each graph node. **Add additional layer to create four-layer sequential network** with same linear and non-linear layer:  $z = \tanh(W_2 \tanh(W_1 x + b_1) + b_2)$  where again  $W_i, b_i$  are learned parameters

**Semantic Decoder:** Trained to classify each neutrino-induced hit according to particle type

**Filter Decoder:** Trained to separate neutrino induced hit from noise or cosmic-induced hits

Performance Metrics: **Recall** (efficiency), **Precision** (purity), **Loss** (accuracy between prediction and truth)

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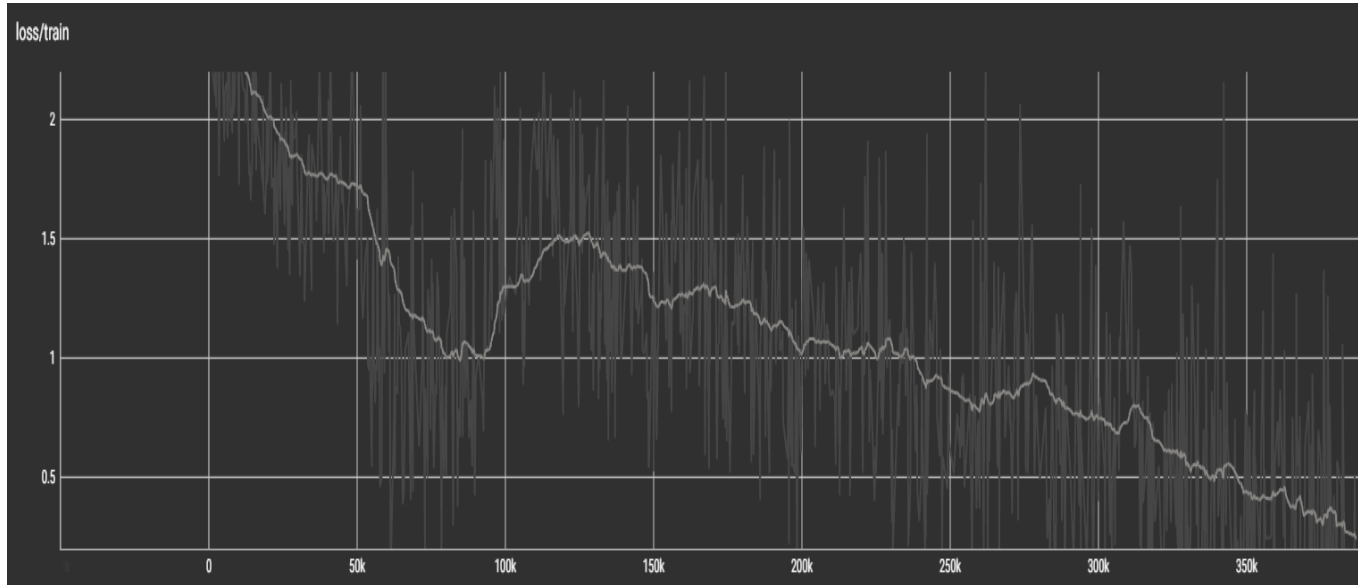
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# Result - Loss

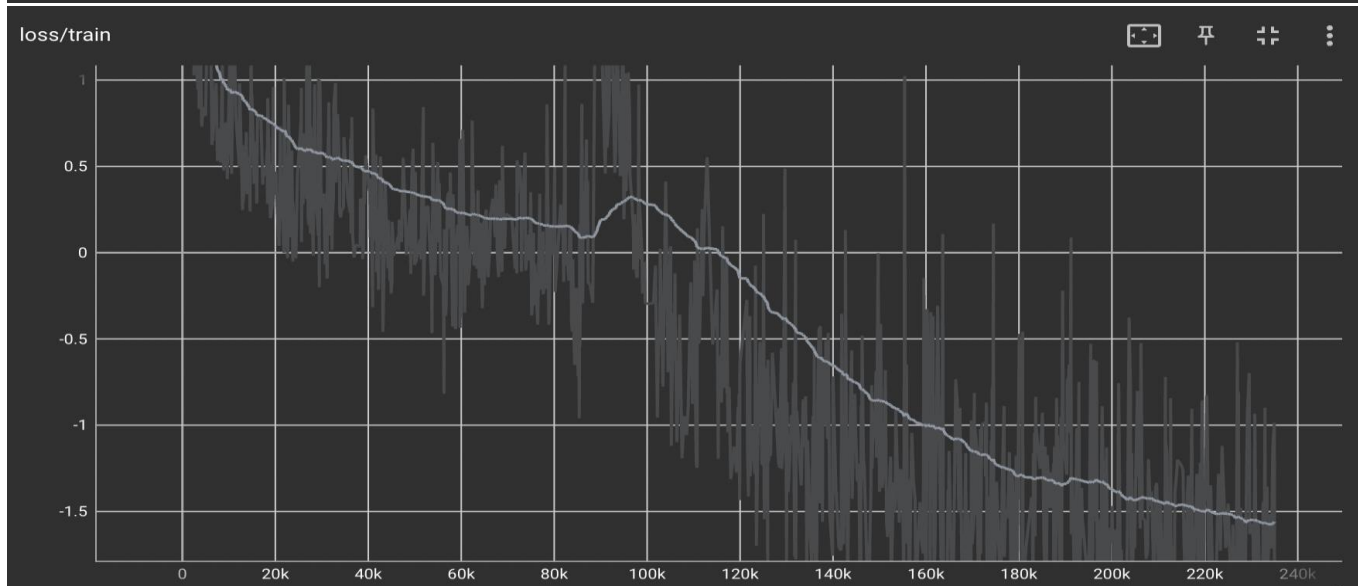


- Loss Function: A measurement of how good the model is in terms of predicting the expected outcome
  - Directly related to the predictions of the model
  - If loss function value is low, model will provide good results
  - Needs to be minimized to improve model's performance
  - Cross Entropy Loss:  $L = -\frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m y_i \cdot \log(\hat{y}_i)$ , value between 0 and 1

# Result - Loss

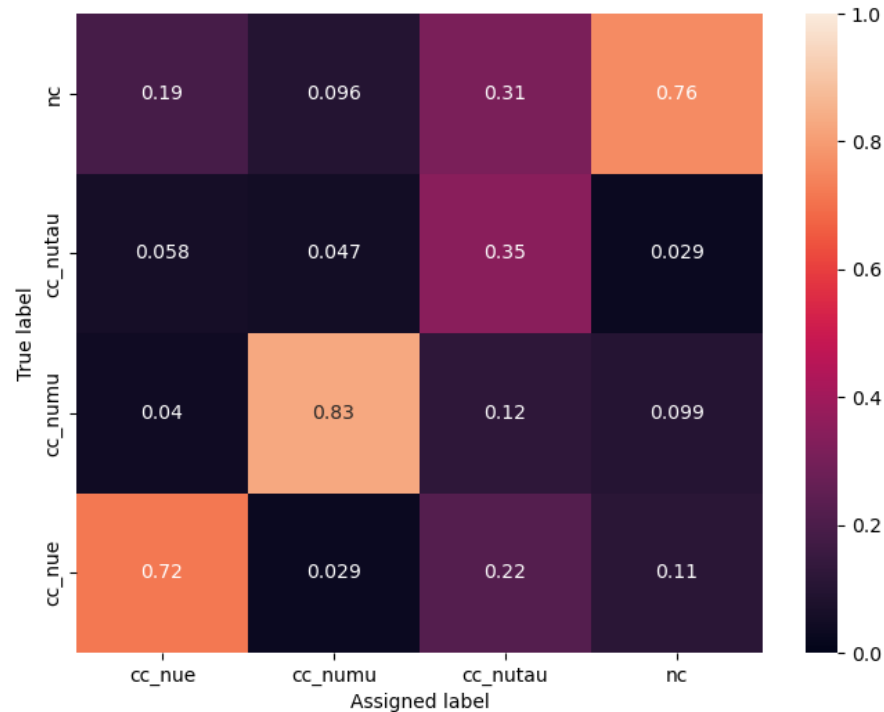


Old (Standard Cross Entropy)

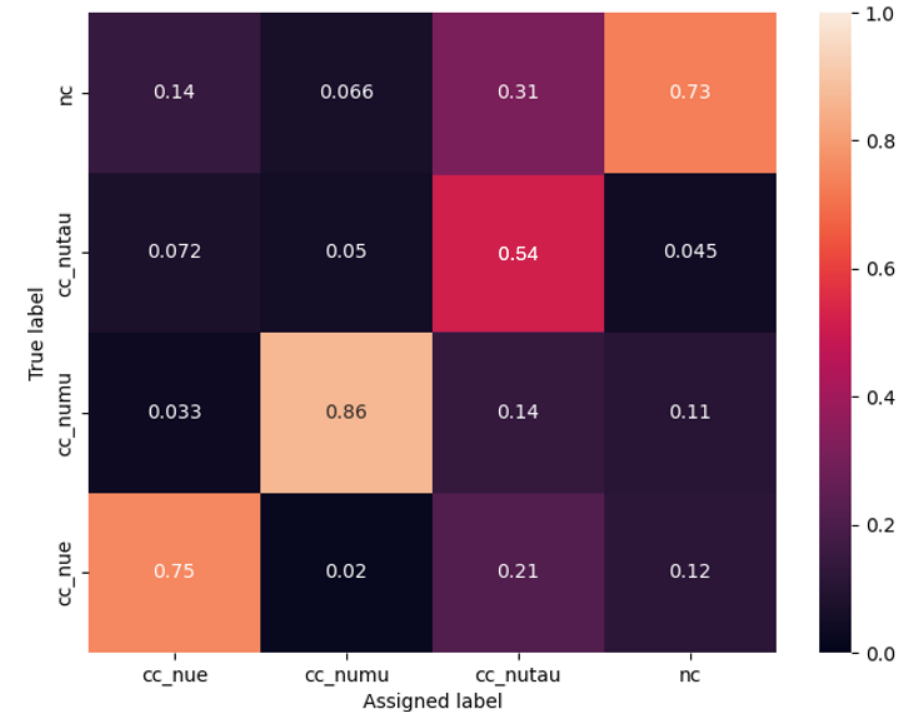


New (Cross Entropy Weighted)  
~ Half the Run Time

# Result – Event Type



Old



New (Additional Layer)



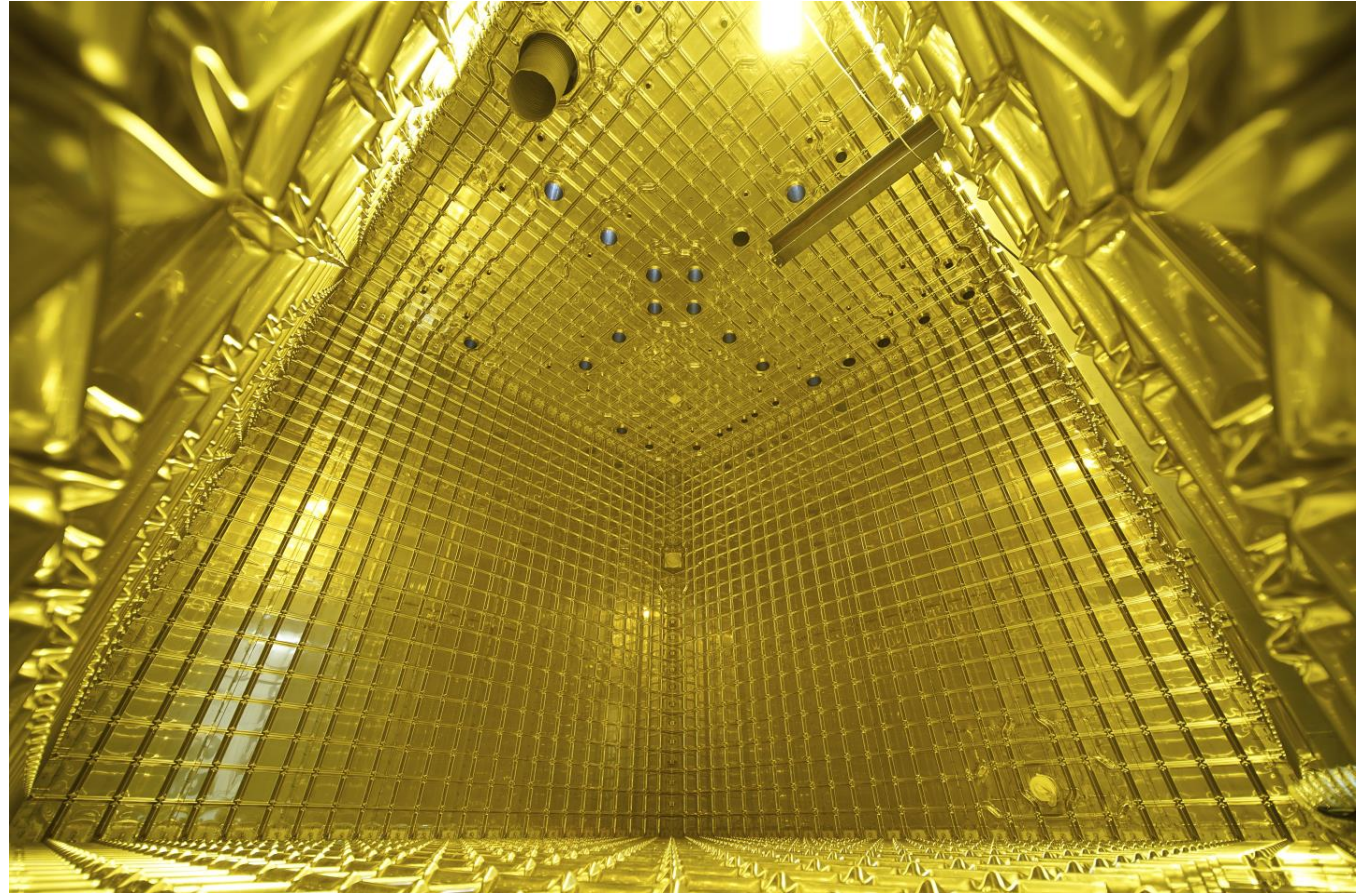
# Future Work



- Longer Run Time = Better Results (Training Can Take Several Weeks)
- Negative Loss Function Fix
- Further Modifications are Possible
- NuGraph3?

# Backup Slides

Prototype Liquid-Argon Time-Projection Chamber for the DUNE experiment. (Image: CERN)



**Prince Bhaura**

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# Liquid Argon as Target



- Density
  - High Density Increases the Likelihood of Particle Interactions Making it More Sensitive to Rare Events (Neutrinos or Dark Matter)
- Interaction Cross Section
  - Sizable Interaction Cross Section with Various Particles, Including Charged Particles Like Electrons and Ions
  - Increases the Likelihood of a Signal
- Scintillation Light & Large Scintillation Yield
  - Charged Particles Passing Through Create Scintillation Light Which Can be Detected in Addition to Ionization Signals

# Liquid Argon as Target



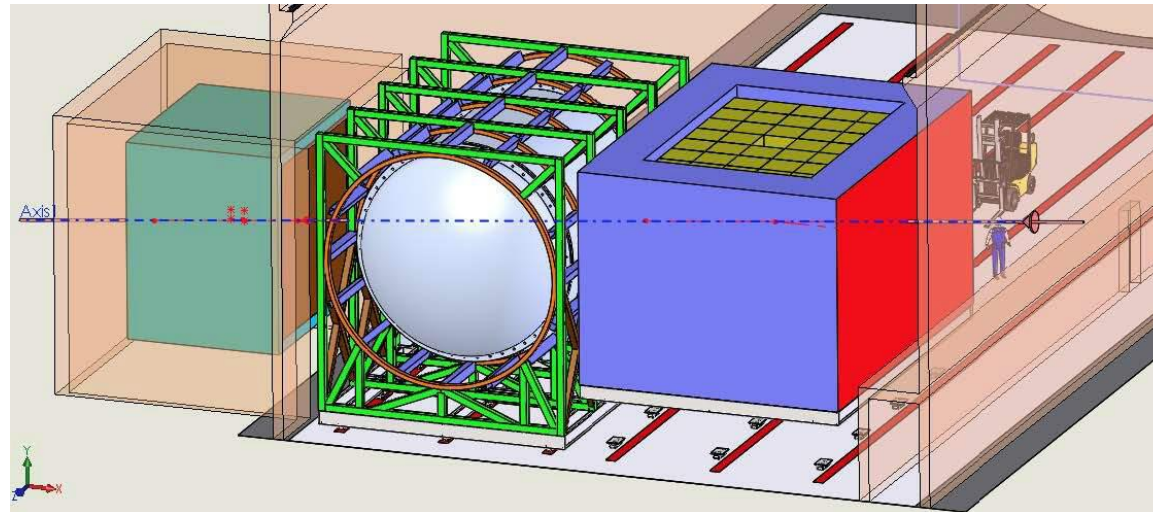
- Purity
  - Liquid Argon can be Purified to Extreme Levels
  - Electronegative Contaminants that Could Capture Drifting Electrons can be Removed
- Noble Element
  - Chemically Inert Property Prevents Unwanted Chemical Reactions
- Readily Available
  - Argon is Abundant and Relatively Easy to Obtain



# Near Detector



- Experiments Control
  - Constraining Systematic Errors
  - Measuring Unaltered Neutrino Energy Spectra (Before Any Oscillations Occur)
  - Measures Initial Neutrino-Argon Interactions Which Further Mitigates Systematic Uncertainties



Setup of the DUNE ND. Beam is Shown Entering from the Right. Neutrinos First Encounter the LArTPC (right), MPD (center), and then the On-Axis Beam Monitor (left) (Image: dunescience.org)

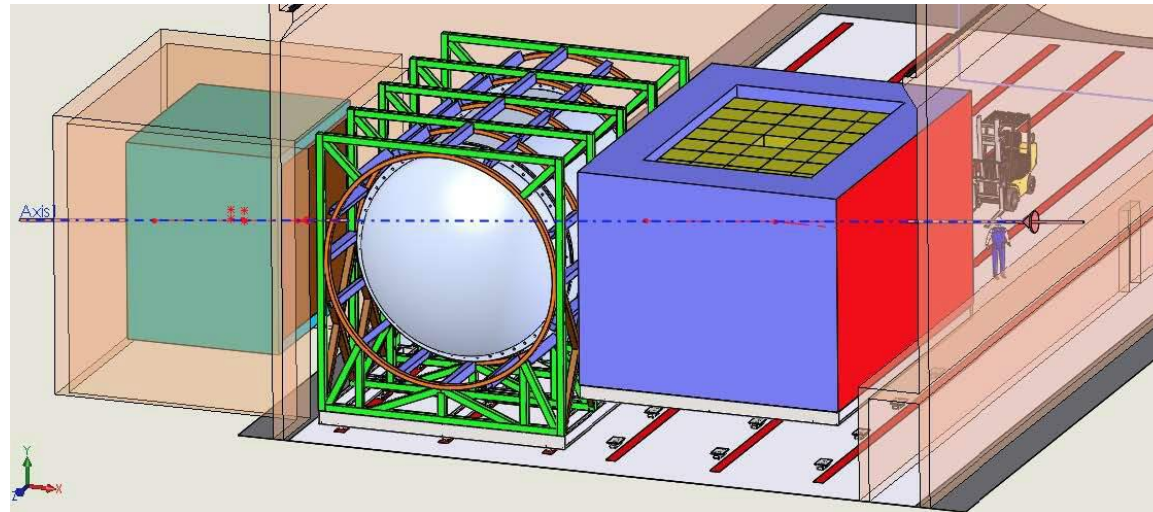
# Near Detector



- Own Physics Program

- Will Measure Neutrino Interactions
- Explorations Beyond Standard Model Seeking Sterile Neutrinos, Dark Photons, and Other Exotics
- Comprised of: LArTPC (Right), High-Pressure Gaseous TPC + Electromagnet Calorimeter (Middle), and a On-Axis Beam Monitor called System for On-Axis Neutrino Detection (Left)

→ SAND



Setup of the DUNE ND. Beam is Shown Entering from the Right. Neutrinos First Encounter the LArTPC (right), MPD (center), and then the On-Axis Beam Monitor (left) (Image: dunescience.org)



# Input Data

