

# Neutron Counting: recent MINERvA results and implications for DUNE ND

S. Manly (showing results from  
MINERvA Collaboration)  
DUNE ND workshop  
CERN  
Nov. 6, 2017

*Summary of a fraction of MINERvA results presented at  
Fermilab Wine and Cheese talk last Friday by Rik Gran*

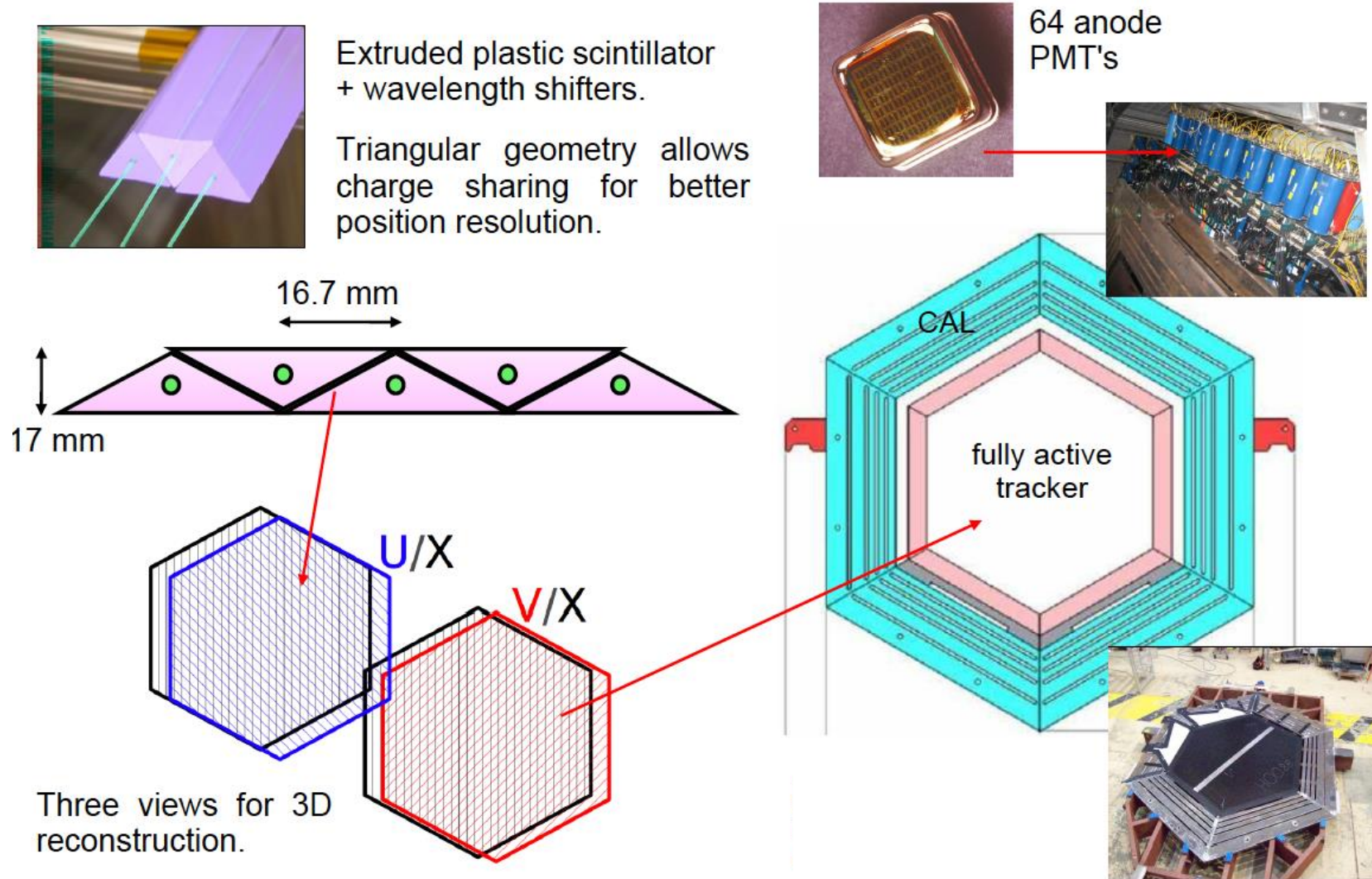


# Neutrons, why do we care?

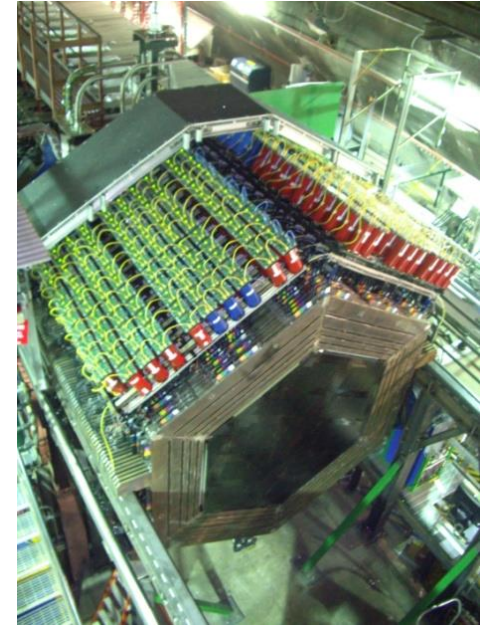
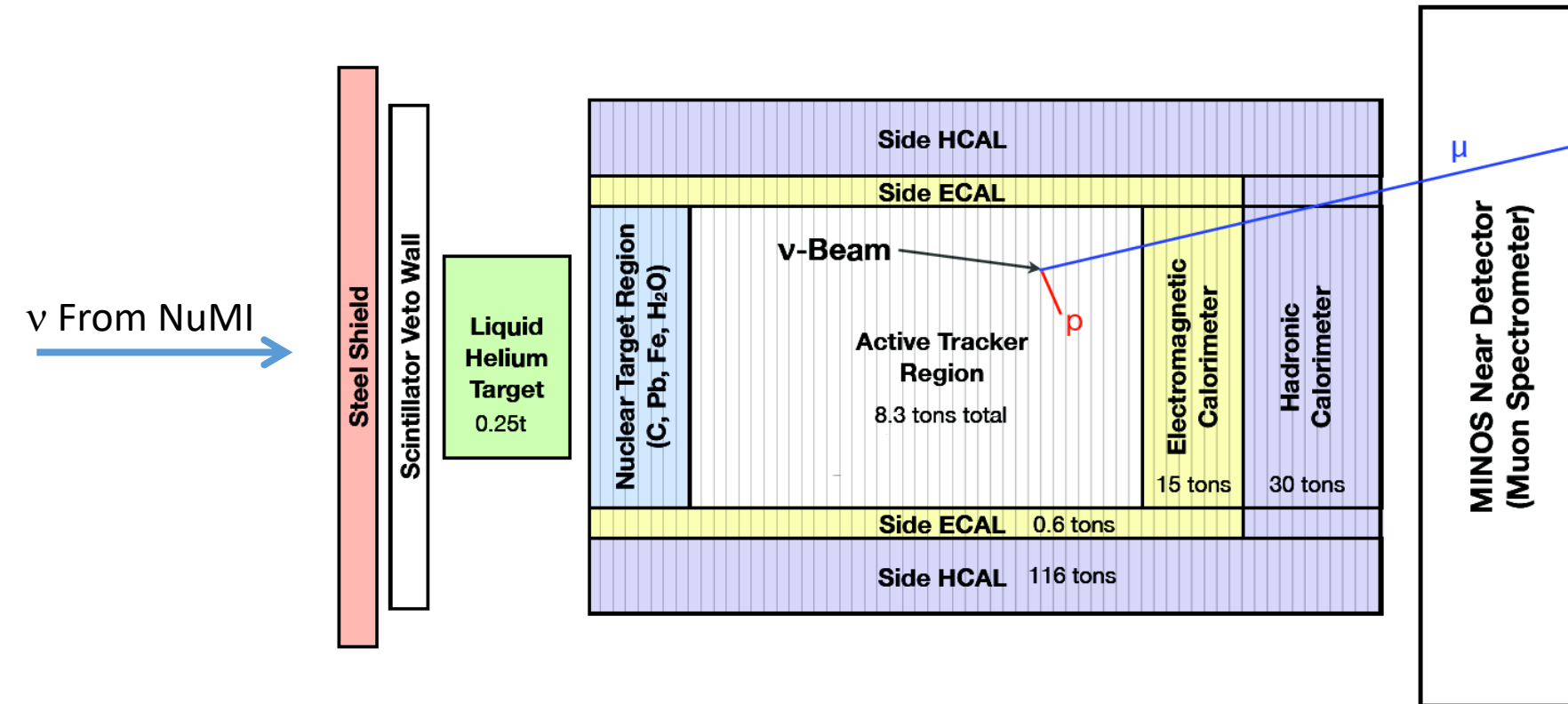
- CCQE – simple lepton-based energy reconstruction has low-side bias in reconstruction with multi-nucleon processes (2p2h), presence of neutrons might tag issues
- Other topologies, helpful to know if neutrons
- DUNE FD not sensitive to neutrons (or not very)
  - How does that hurt us?
  - How well can we model the effect, i.e., (what size of systematic bites us)?
- Presence of unreconstructed neutrons can hurt ability to use  $p_T$  to separate CC from NC (See C.Marshall talk at March 2017 DUNE ND meeting, a couple of slides in backup)
- Recent MINERvA tune to data set wants RPA and 2p2h (see Rik's talk)
- For DUNE ND
  - STT and GArTPC not sensitive to neutrons
  - May be able to tag neutrons with info from ECAL. Can this be done with slow detector?
  - Can 3DST give us some sensitivity to neutrons?

# The detector

## MINERvA “modules”

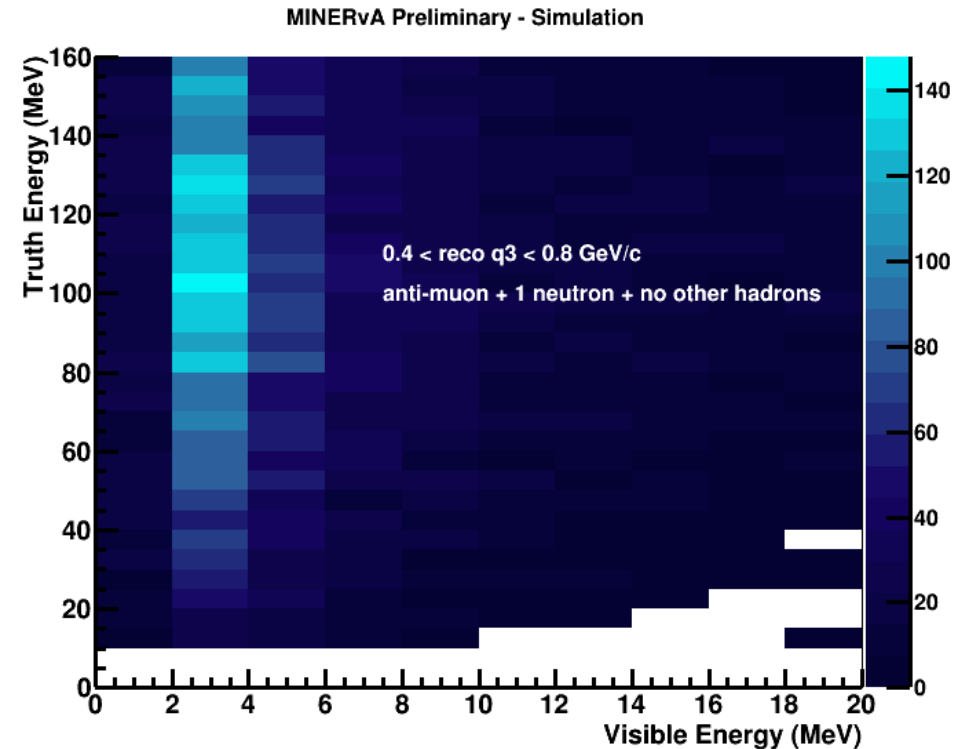
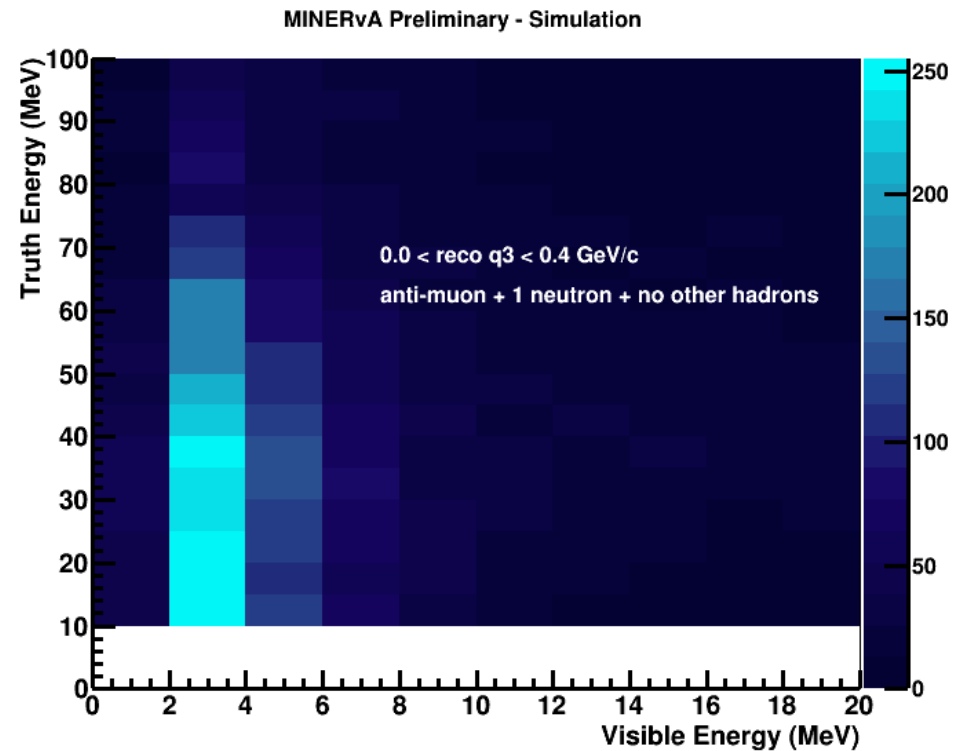


# The detector

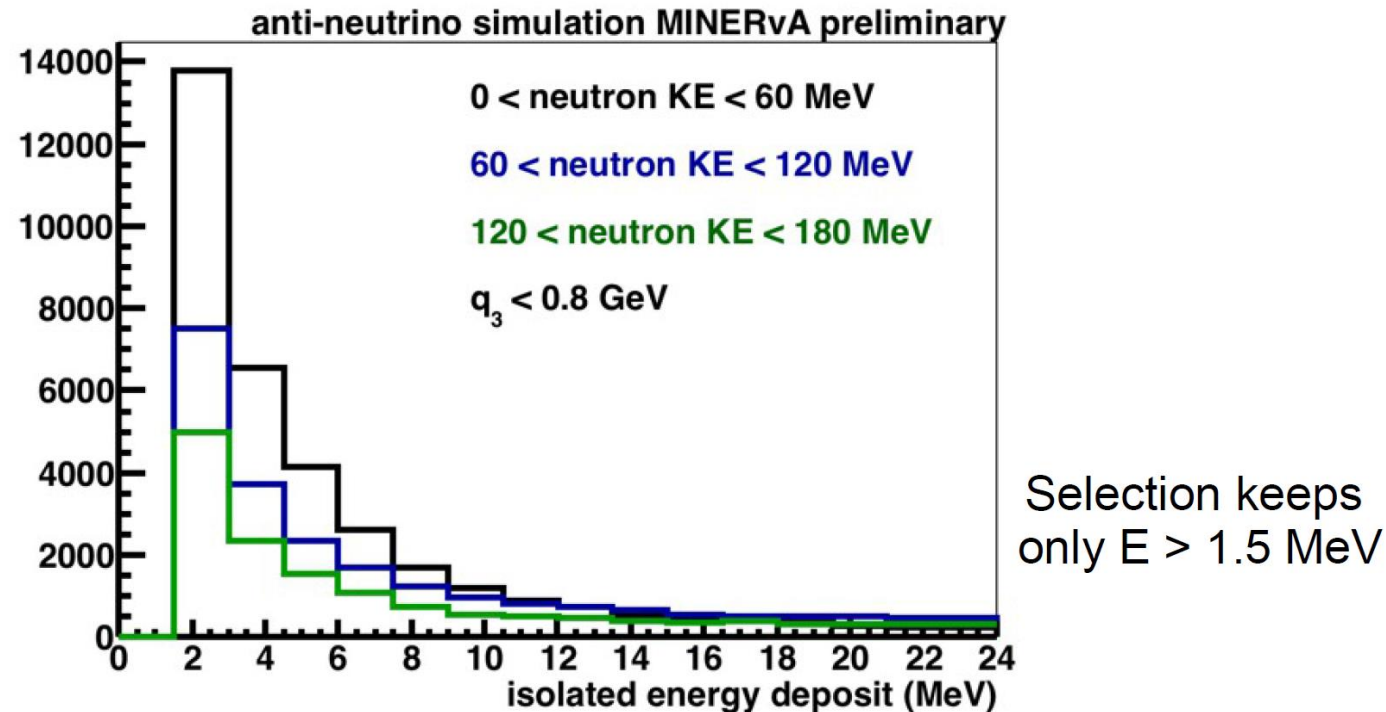


# What does MINERvA see according to GEANT4?

Different bins of momentum transfer



# Neutron of all energies leave small energy deposits

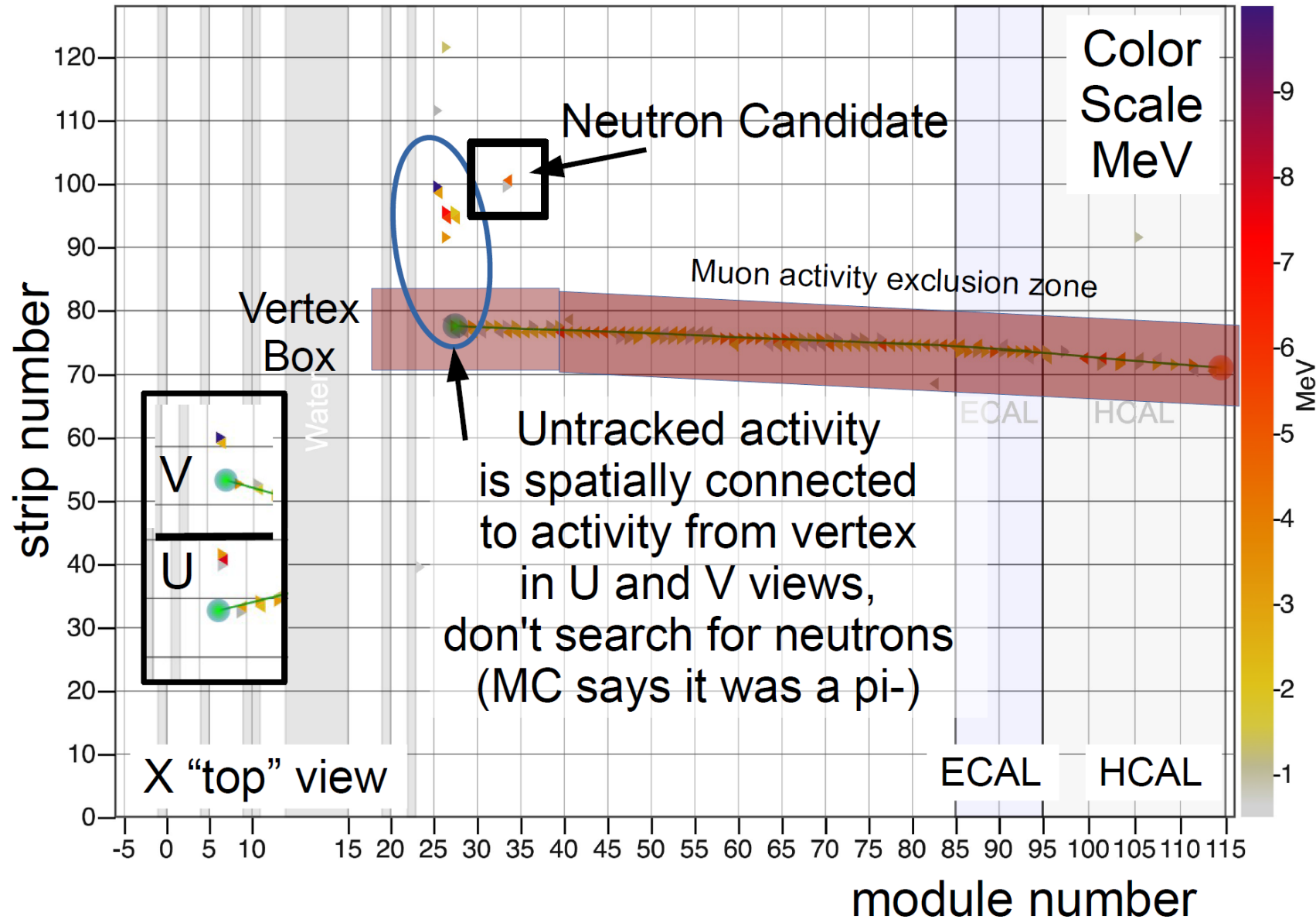


Geant4 says they prefer to leave  $< 10$  MeV scattered protons.  
with rare cases up to the total neutron energy.  
Some neutrons will multiple scatter, leaving more energy.

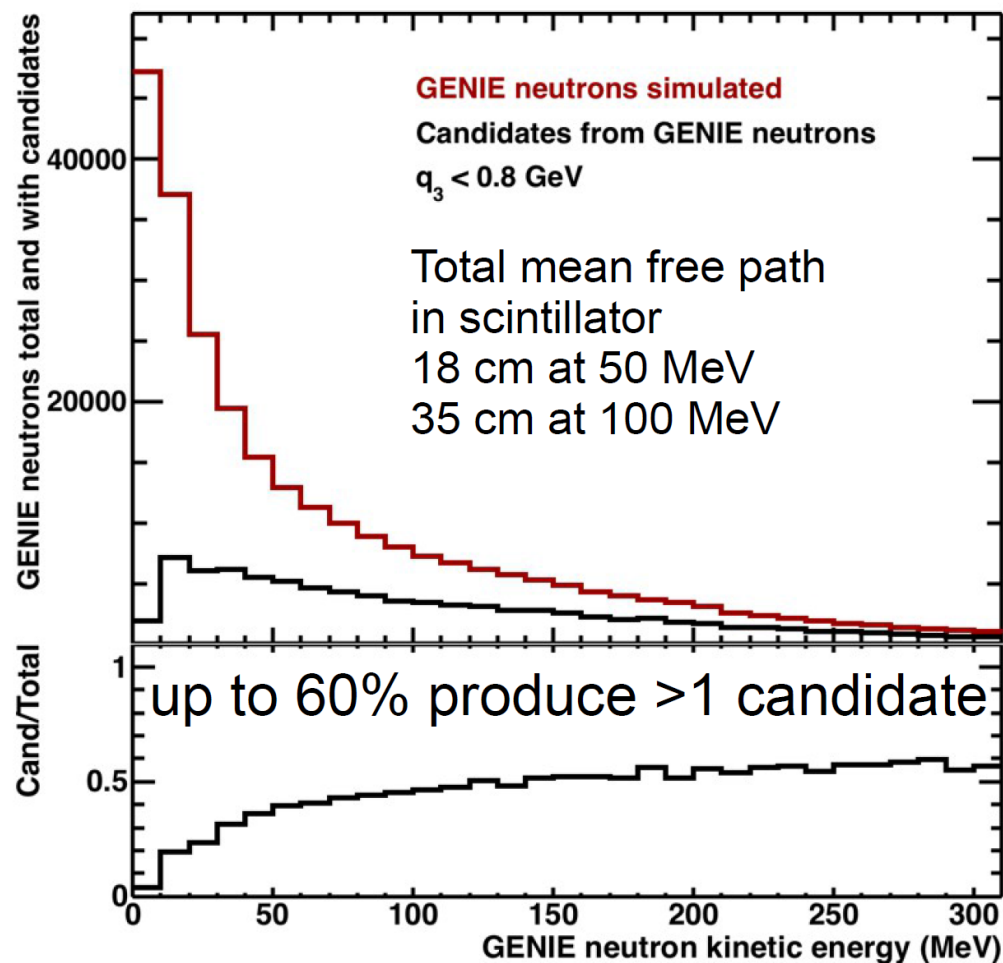
for the whole analysis sample  $0 < q_3 < 0.8$  GeV  
cut on 1.5 MeV energy deposits



# Map of where we do and do not look for neutrons



## Efficiency for tagging “fast” neutrons



signal in plot on left:  
Neutrons from GENIE

Sorta signal, not in plot  
Neutrons from  
pions and protons  
~20% of total

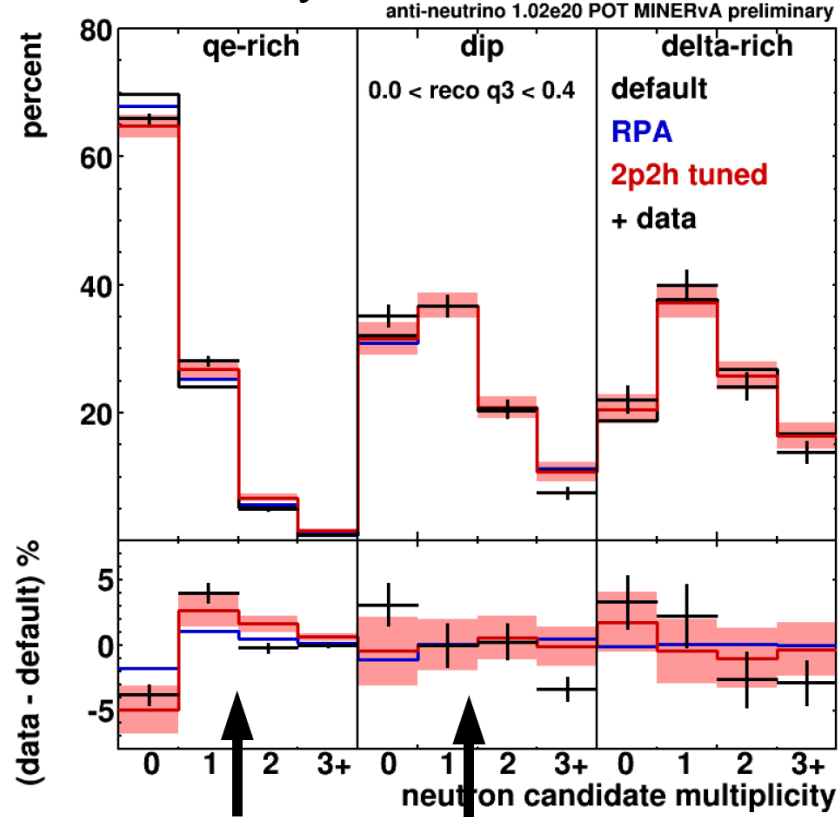
background not in plot  
neutral pion decays  
~10% of total

Other (beam pileup,  
muon) ~5% of total

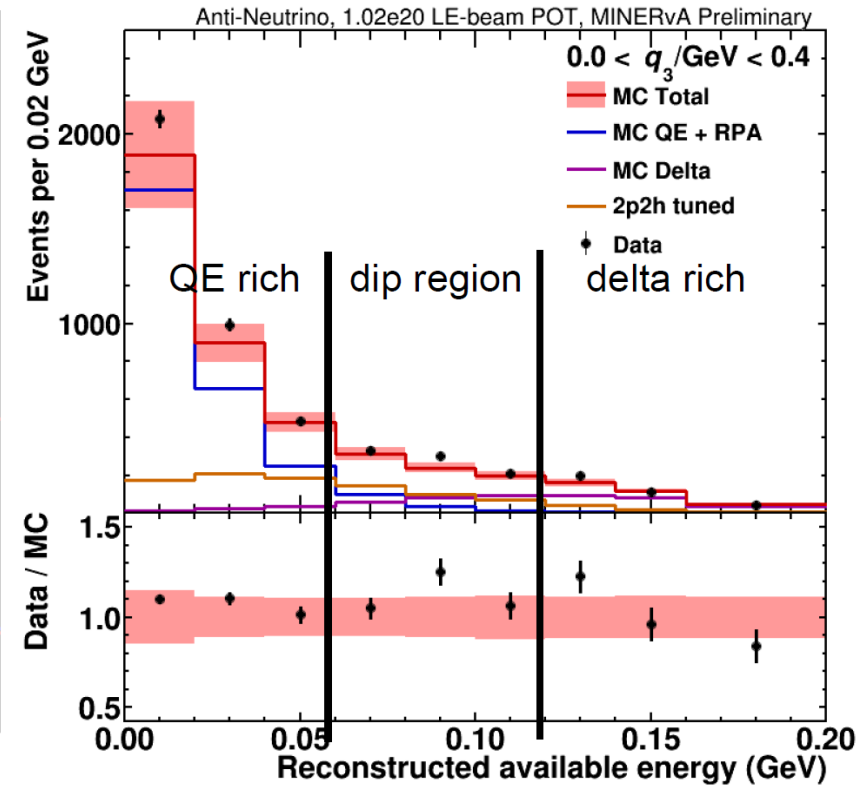
not shown in this figure, about 45% of neutrons  
deposit energy (also or instead) in the vertex region

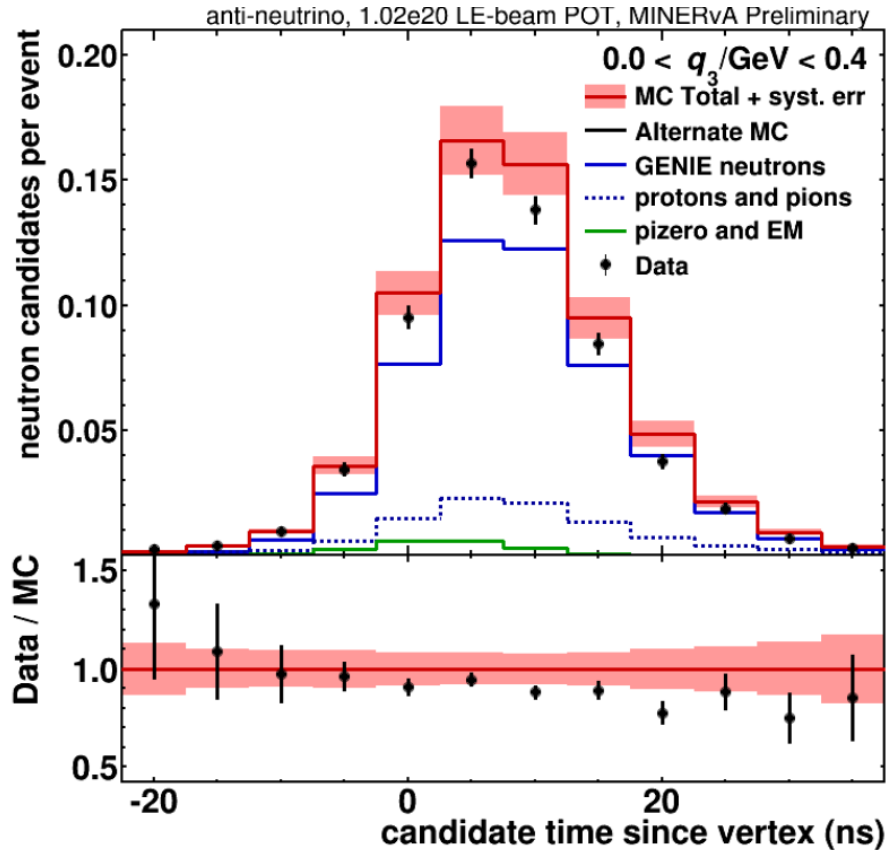


## Multiplicity two models, data with systematic error band



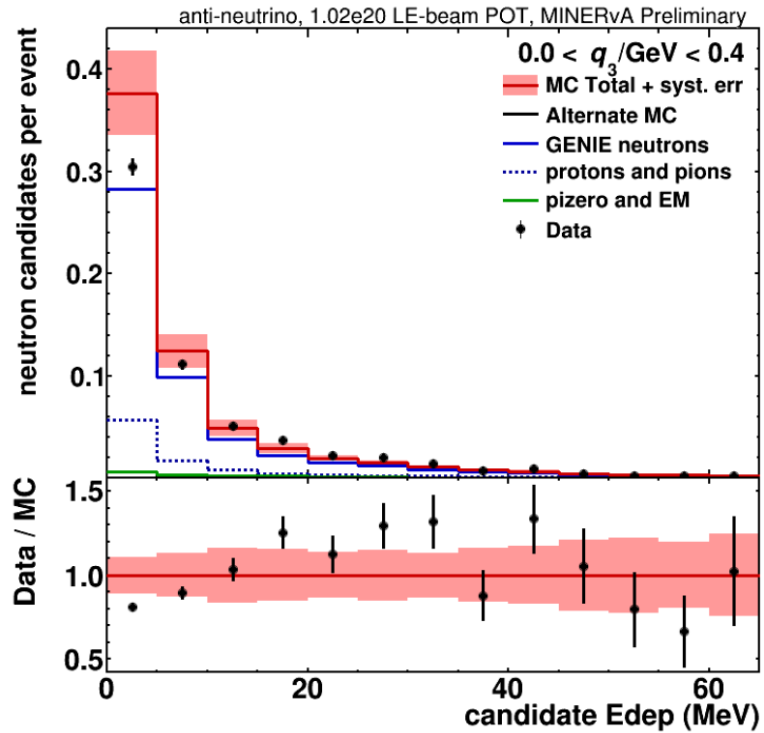
## Available energy distribution data vs. MINERvA tune v1





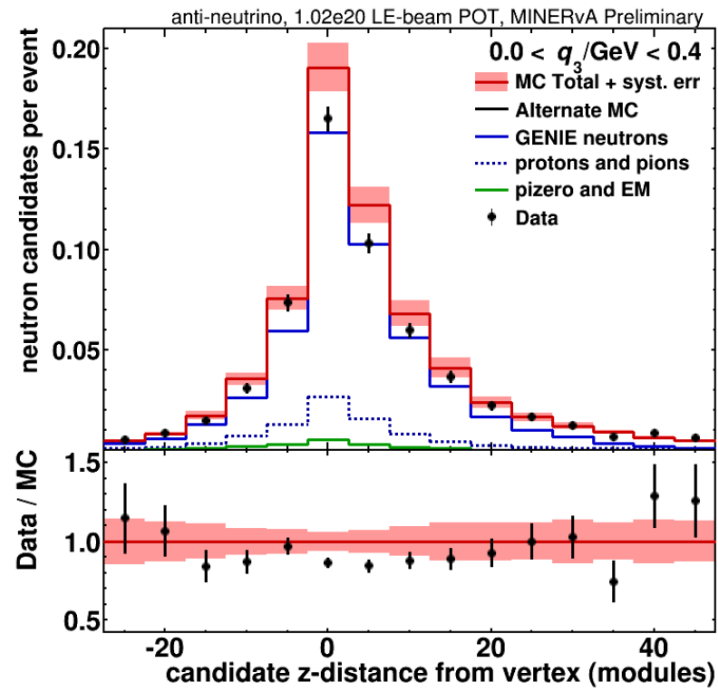
neutron candidate  
time since interaction  
compared to MINERvA Tune v1

Excess in the MC late in time  
slow neutrons, not EM backgrounds



neutron candidate  
energy deposition  
compared to MINERvA tune v1

Excess in first bin  
small energy deposits

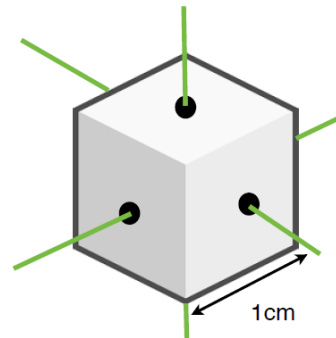
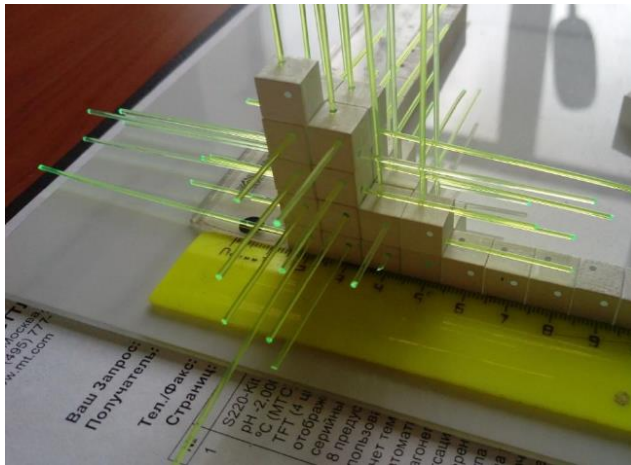


neutron candidate  
position up/downstream  
compared to MINERvA Tunve v1

Excess in the MC  
close to interaction point

## Conclusions

- MINERvA demonstrating ability to count neutrons in the scintillator tracker with an efficiency that is high enough to be useful.
- Planning to study neutrons in nuclear targets
- Will be interesting to see how to use the information
- Worth studying performance of possible DUNE ND 3DST (cube size, 3DST size)



*Super-FGD, D. Sgalaberna, A. Longhin, Yuri Kudenko*

Backups



## Technical slide: steps to calorimetric reconstruction

We do not start knowing the energy of the neutrino, only the direction.

Measure the energy  $E_\mu$  and angle  $\theta_\mu$  of the outgoing muon.

Measure the detected energy attributed to hadrons  $E_{\text{visible}}$ .

A. turn  $E_{\text{visible}}$  into  $E_{\text{available}}$  using **detector** MC, discounts neutrons  
 $E_{\text{available}}$  = Proton KE,  $\pi^\pm$  KE,  $\pi^0$ , e,  $\gamma$  energy (plus heavier particles)  
little neutrino model dependence (some anti- $\nu$  model dependence)

B. Use MC and correct to energy transfer  $q_0$  ( $= E_{\text{had}} = \nu = \omega$ )  
(unbiased, but correction has some dependence on interaction model)

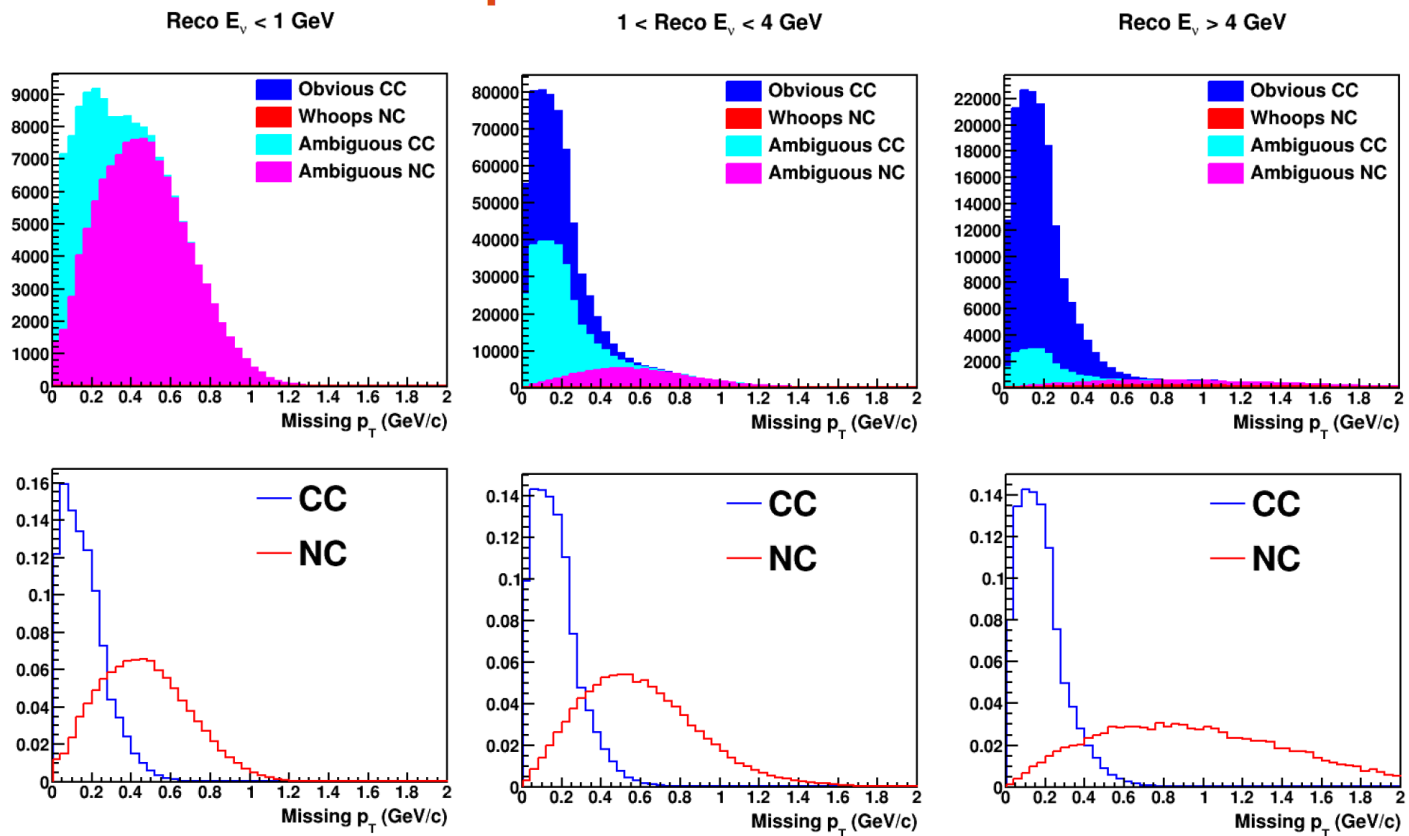
B. Estimated neutrino energy  $E_\nu = E_\mu + q_0$

C. Estimated four-momentum  $Q^2 = 2 E_\nu (E_\mu - p_\mu \cos \theta_\mu) - M_\mu^2$

D. Estimated momentum transfer  $q_3 = \text{Sqrt}(Q^2 + q_0^2)$

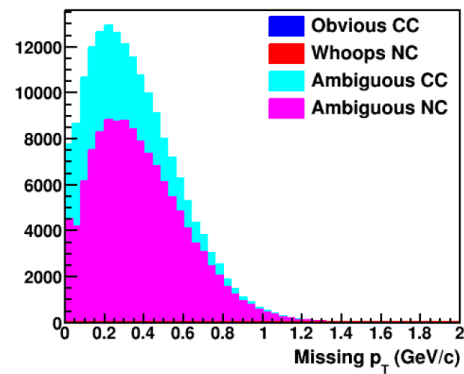
*From Chris Marshall – presented at ND workshop on March 28, 2017*

# FHC $\nu_\mu$ perfect detector

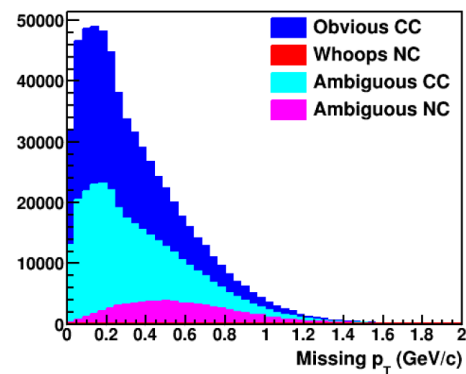


# FHC $\nu_\mu$ no neutrons

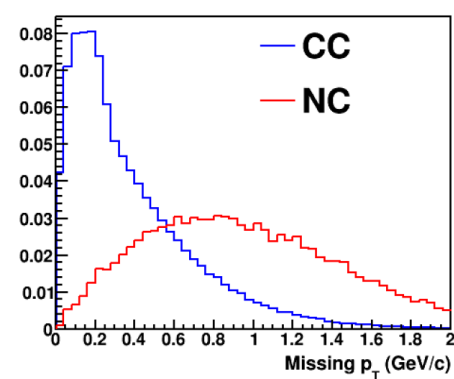
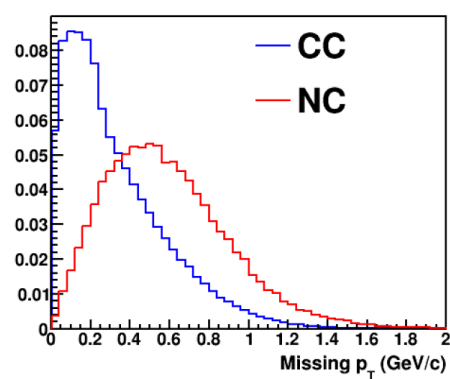
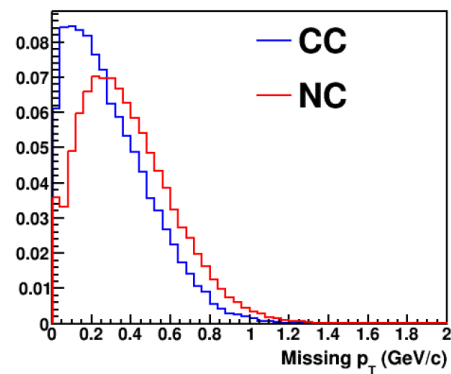
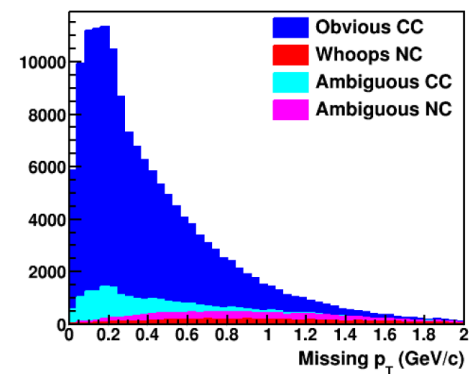
Reco  $E_\nu < 1$  GeV



$1 < \text{Reco } E_\nu < 4$  GeV



$\text{Reco } E_\nu > 4$  GeV



Return yoke with RPCs on 5 sides, 6 sides if not  
using FGT as muon spectrometer for LArTPC

3.5x1.25x3 m<sup>3</sup> gasTPC  
(top-bottom)

ECAL: 0.5 m thick, 11 rad lengths

1.75x3.5x1 m<sup>3</sup>  
gasTPC (on  
sides)

Reduce transverse  
size of 3dst.  
2.5 radiation  
lengths thick.

Coil: 20 cm thick Al

Inner dimensions of the  
coil volume:  
4.5x4.5x8 m<sup>3</sup>

1.75x1.75x2 m<sup>3</sup> super  
FGD 3d scintillator  
module  
6.1 m<sup>3</sup> = 6.4 tonnes

3.5x3.5x5 m<sup>3</sup> STT

