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# Current Status and Future Plans For Better Understanding Reactor Neutrino Emissions

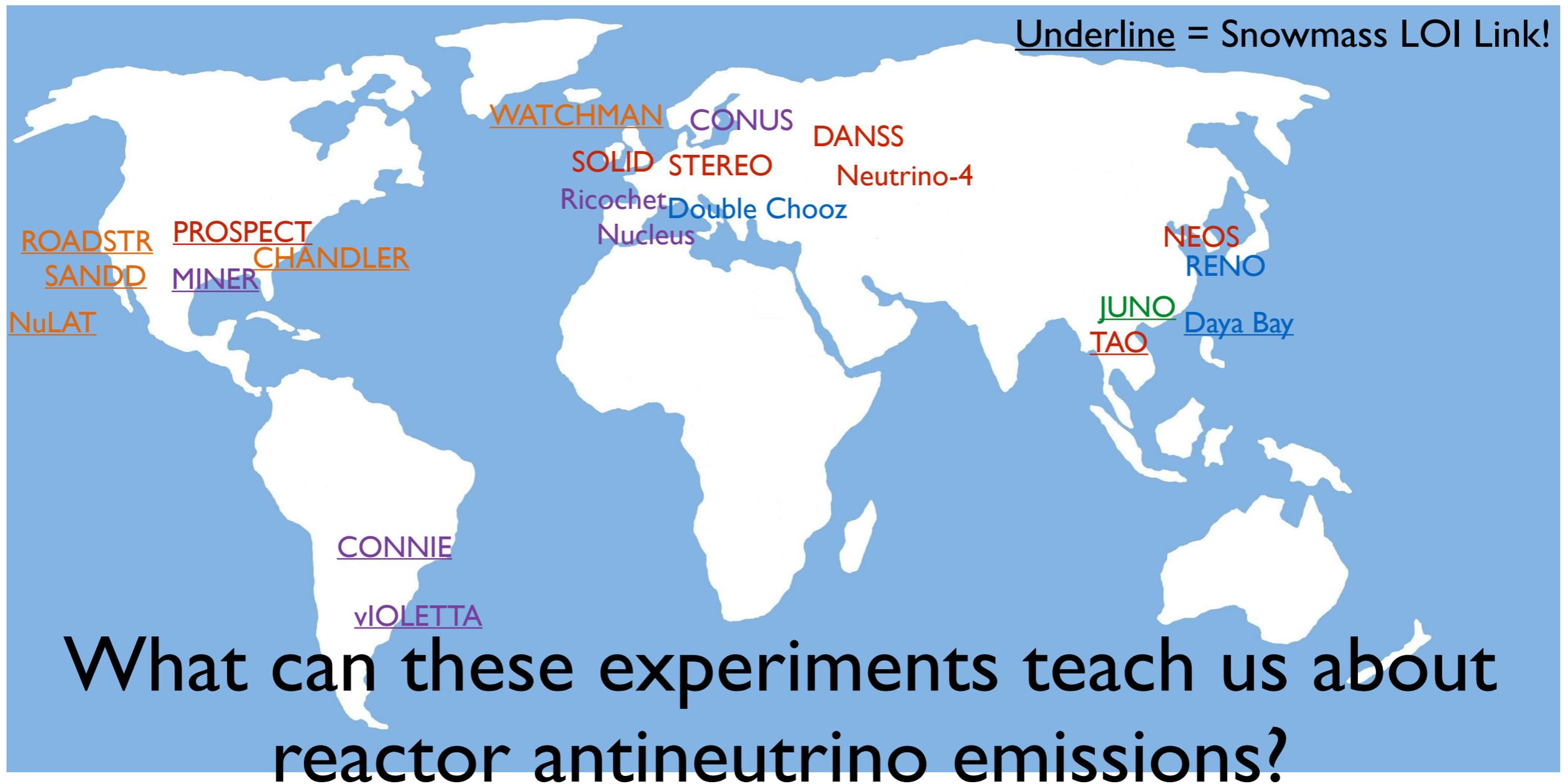
**Bryce Littlejohn**  
Illinois Institute of Technology  
December 4

# Map Of Reactor Experiments/Efforts



Theta 13  
Long-Baseline  
Short-Baseline

Applications-focused  
CEvNS



# Talk Organization

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- Focus on our knowledge of reactor antineutrino emissions: their absolute fluxes and spectra
  - All the other neutrino physics we can learn is of course great — For NF01, NF02, NF03, blahblah...
  - But that's not in my sights today: today is NF07 and NF09!
- What we DO KNOW from current experiments
- What we DO NOT KNOW
- What we COULD LEARN in the future from current and future reactor antineutrino experiments



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# What We DO Know

# Gains: LEU Measurements



- $\theta_{13}$  experiments have completely changed the Rx spectrum game

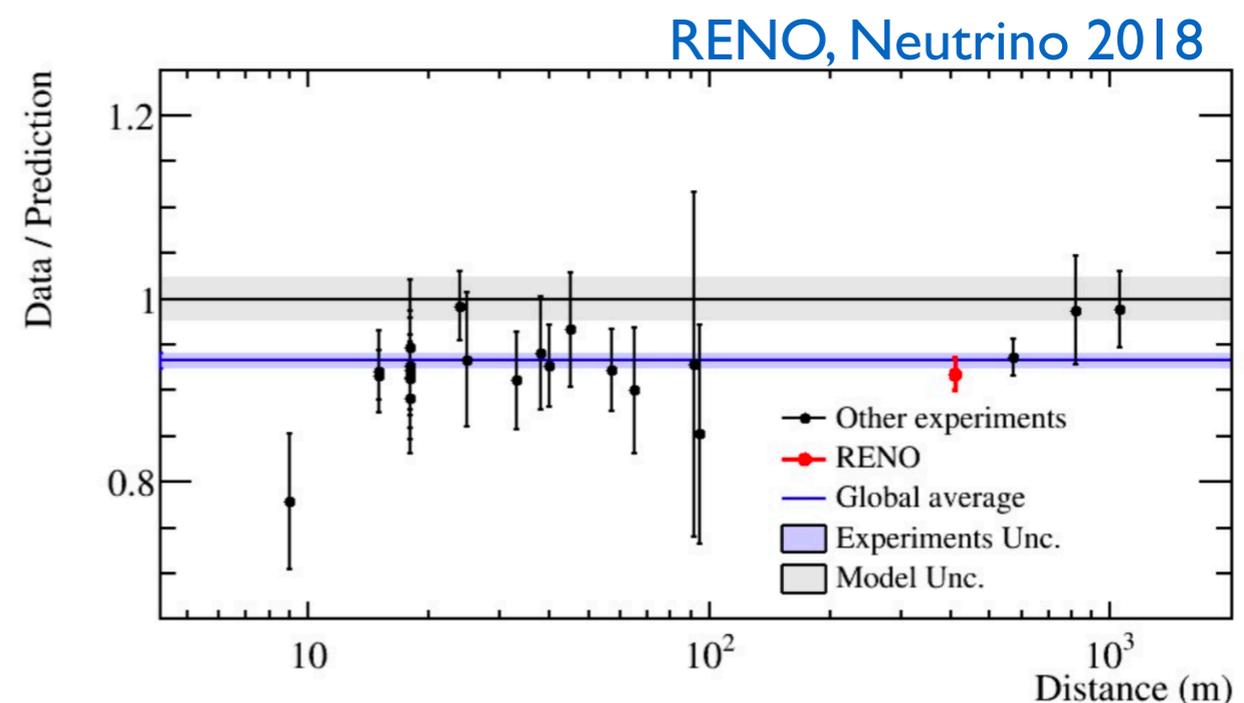
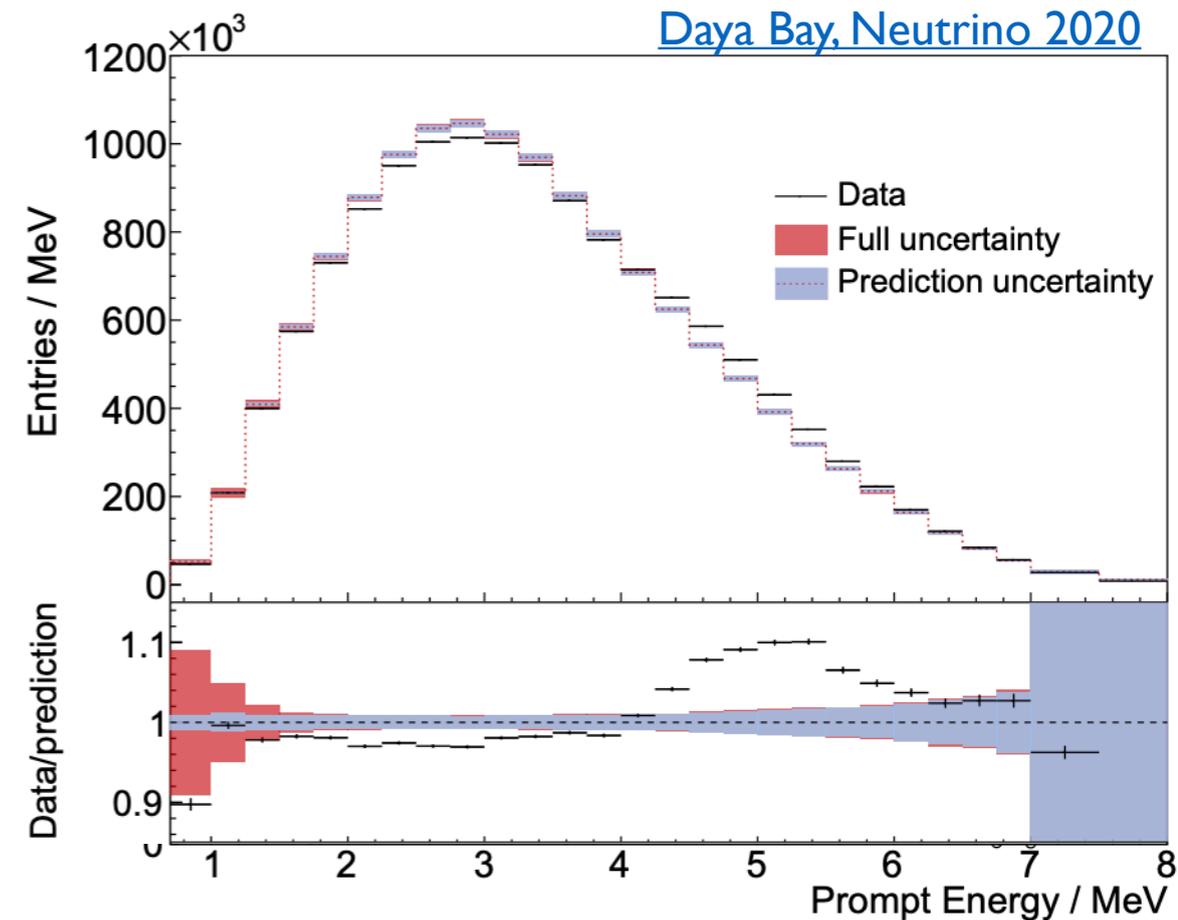
- Due to both massive statistics AND excellent detector response and characterization

- We now know the LEU spectrum is poorly predicted by both conversion and summation predictions

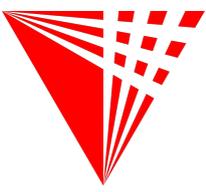
- They have also confirmed the reality of the 'reactor anomaly' with 'modern' technologies

- We now know that measured fluxes are indeed lower than both predictions for LEU experiments

- Not totally sure if this deficit is a significant one, though: models may be too biased or uncertain...

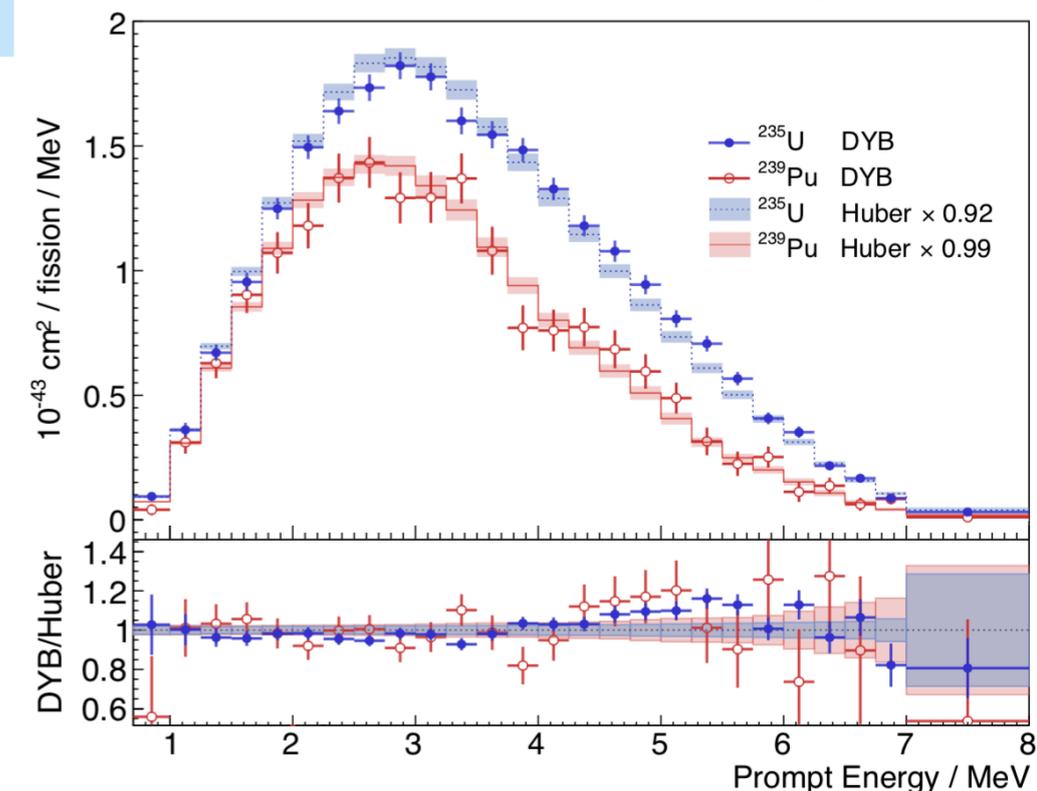
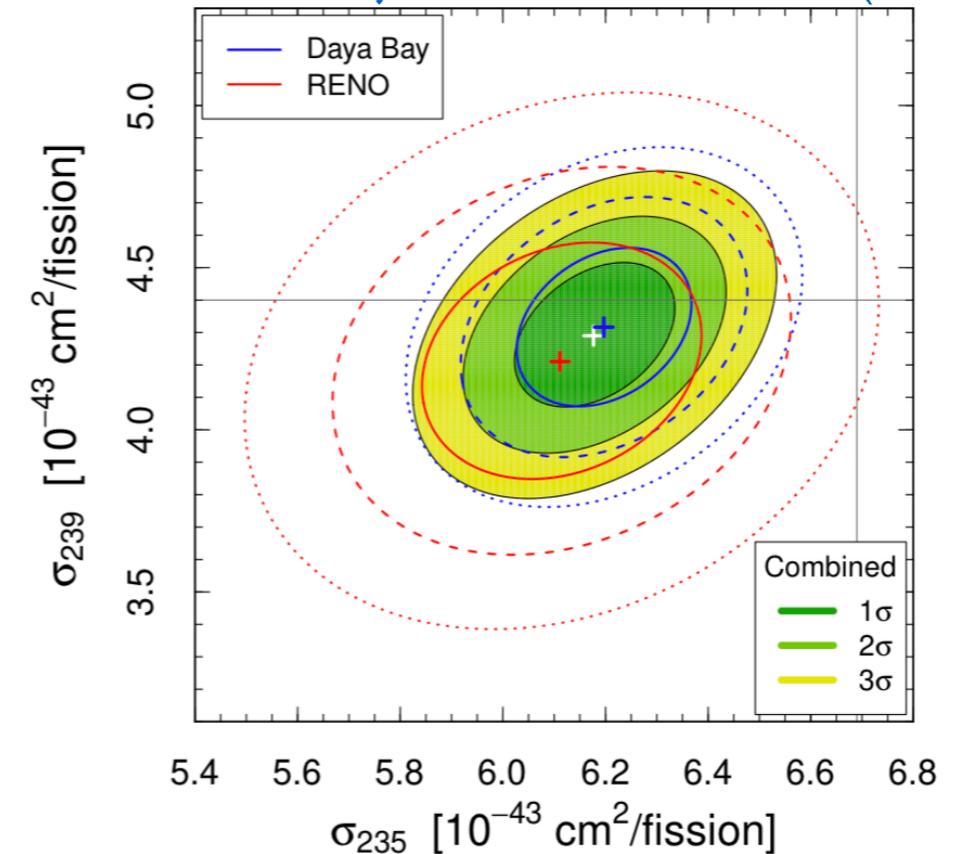


# Gains: LEU Evolution Measurements



- New flux AND spectrum knowledge derived from ‘evolution’ results at  $\theta_{13}$  experiments
- Have directly measured isotopic flux for dominant fission isotopes
  - Assuming no oscillations, conversion model appears to over-predict fluxes from U235.
- We know summation models do not exhibit this same issue. Conversion model problem?!
- Have directly measured isotopic spectra of dominant fission isotopes
  - With LEU data alone, we know U235 predictions, specifically, are bad.
  - Not enough LEU statistics to know if Pu239 is similarly poorly predicted.

[Giunti, Li, Littlejohn, Surukuchi, PRD 99 \(2019\)](#)



[Daya Bay, PRL 123 \(2019\)](#)

# Gains: HEU Measurements



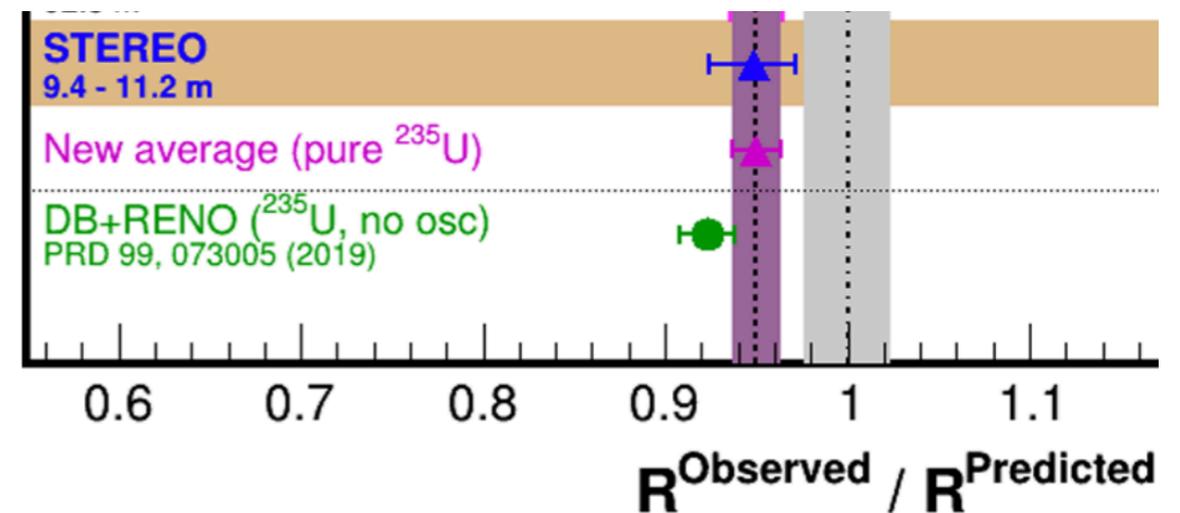
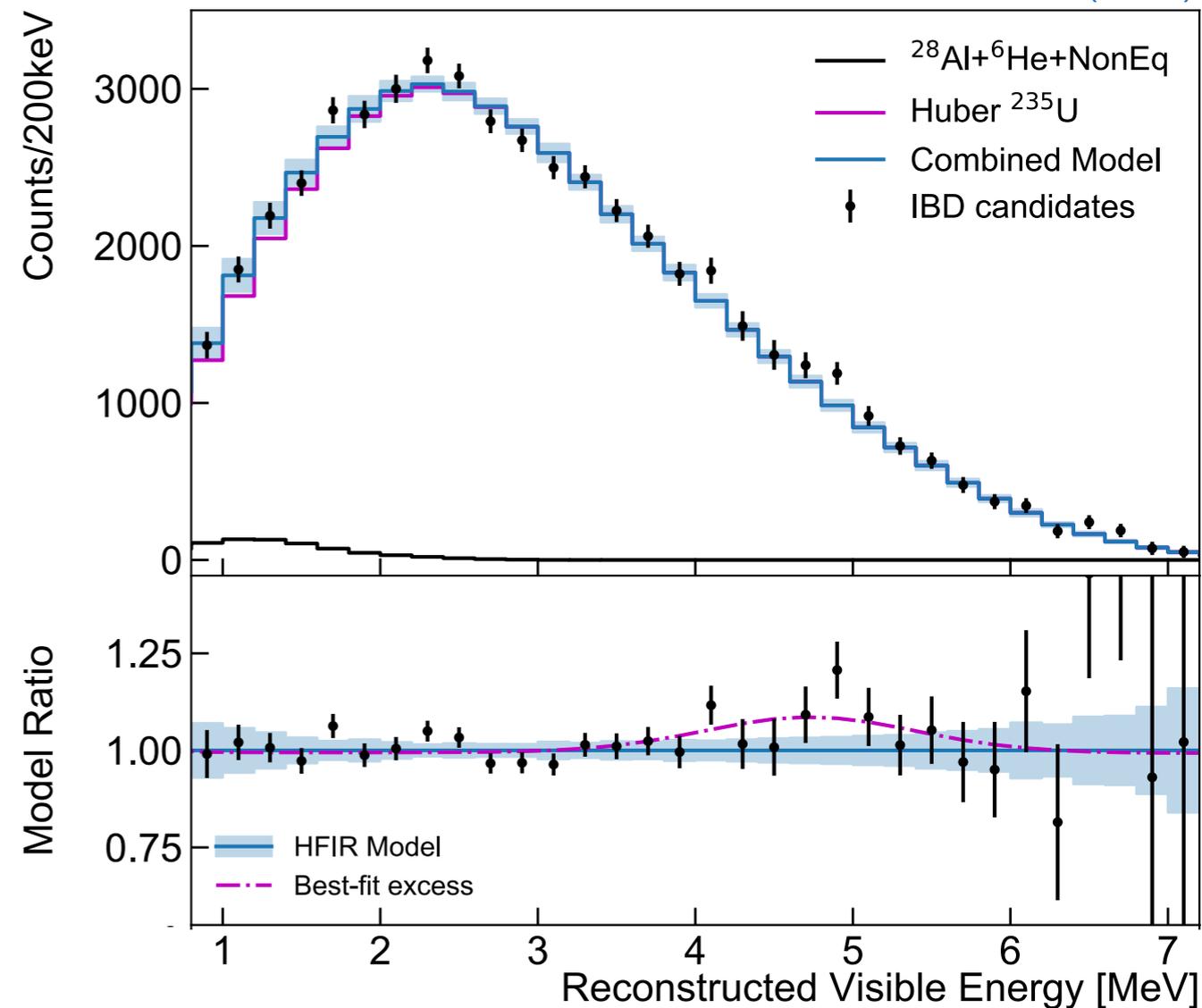
- HEU core measurements further illustrate our picture of isotopic emissions
- PROSPECT and STEREO both have reported HEU spectrum measurements

● ‘5-7 MeV bump’ from HEU is the same size as from LEU: indicates Pu239 and U235 predictions are ‘equally bad’

- STEREO has confirmed the reality of the ‘flux anomaly’ at HEU experiments with ‘modern’ technology

● We know HEU experiments see a ‘deficit’ like LEU experiments.

PROSPECT, arXiv:2006.11210 (2020)



STEREO, arXiv:2004.04075 (2020)



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# What We DO NOT Know

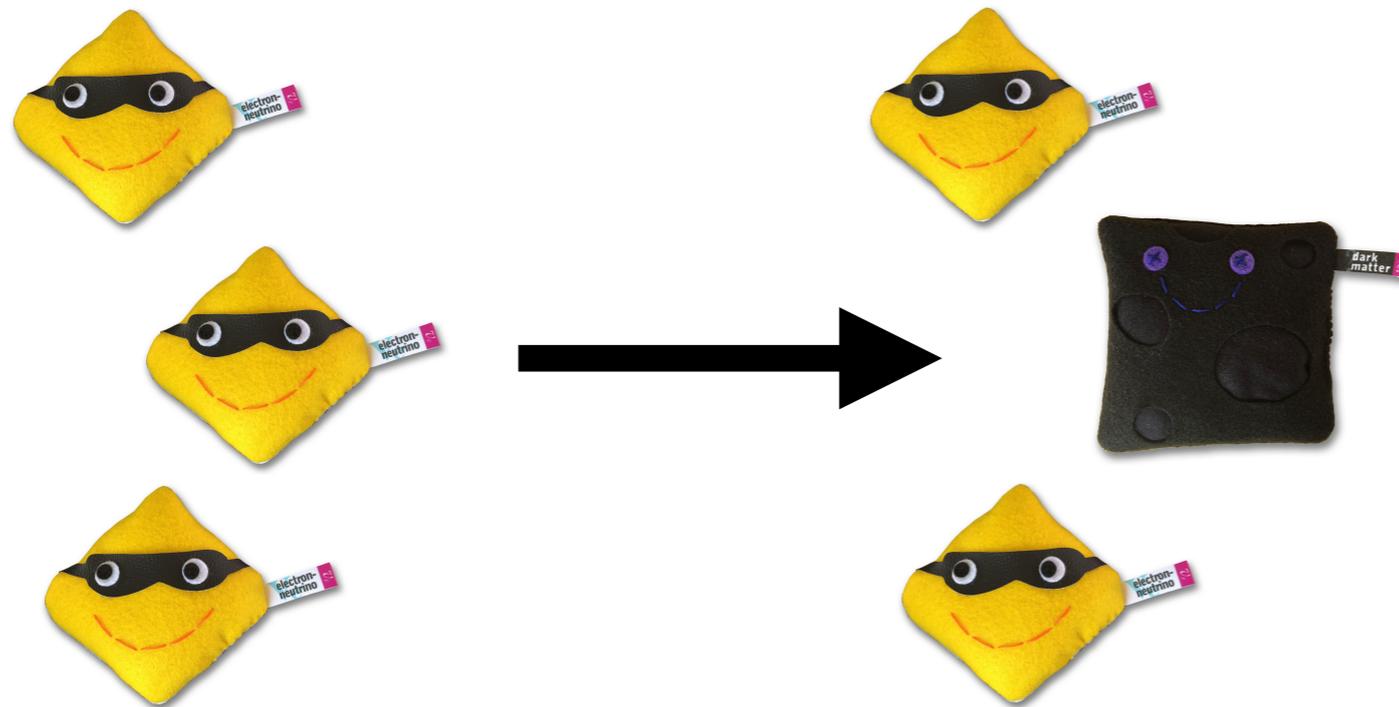
... or should try to understand better with neutrinos, at least

# Not Known I: Sterile Oscillations

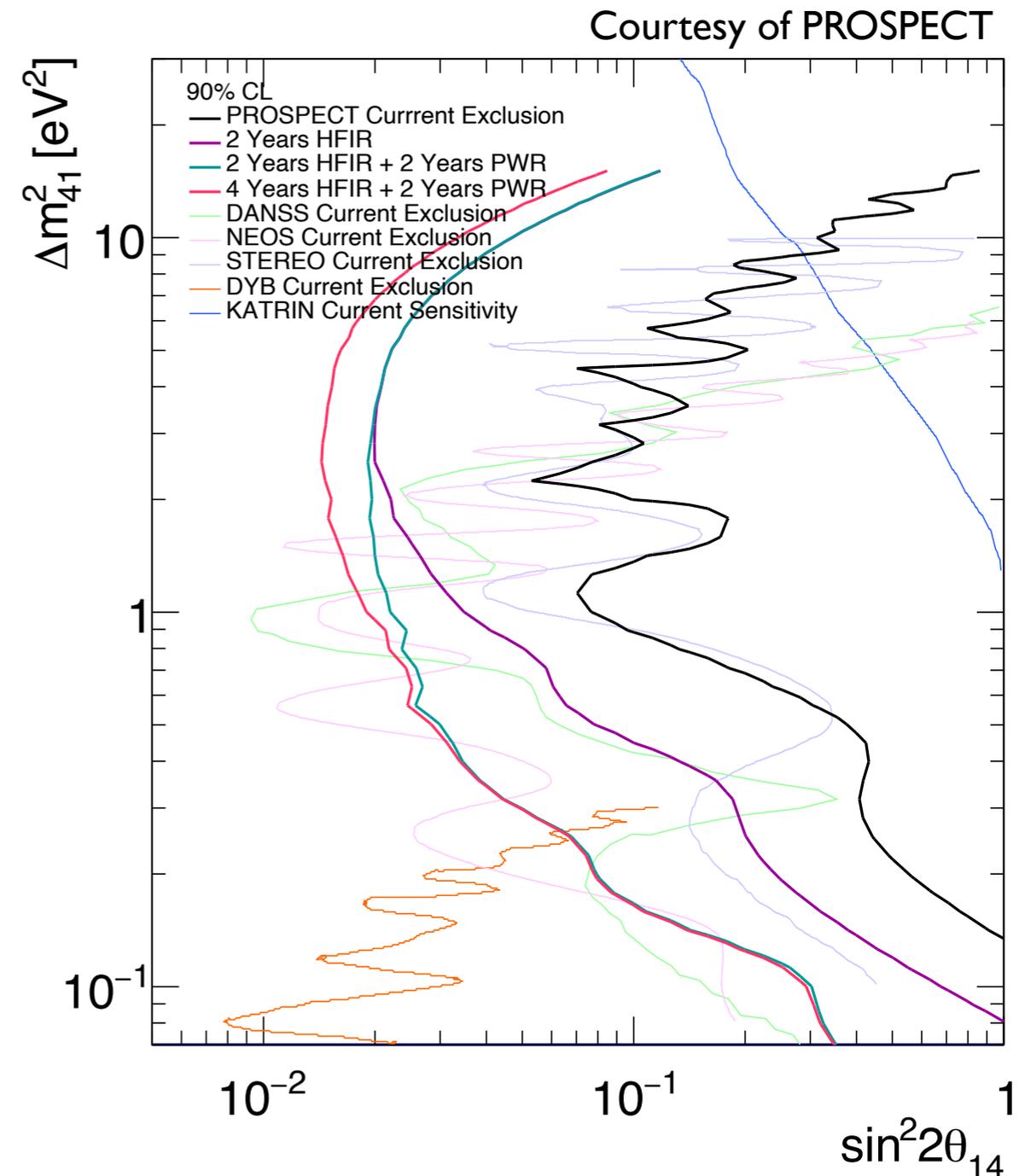


- Don't know what 'true' emission is due to possible impacts of sterile neutrino oscillations during propagation

- Can try to tease this out with L+E measurements
- Oh yeah... this is also REALLY interesting physics on its own (Hello NF02)!



example: 33% disappearance

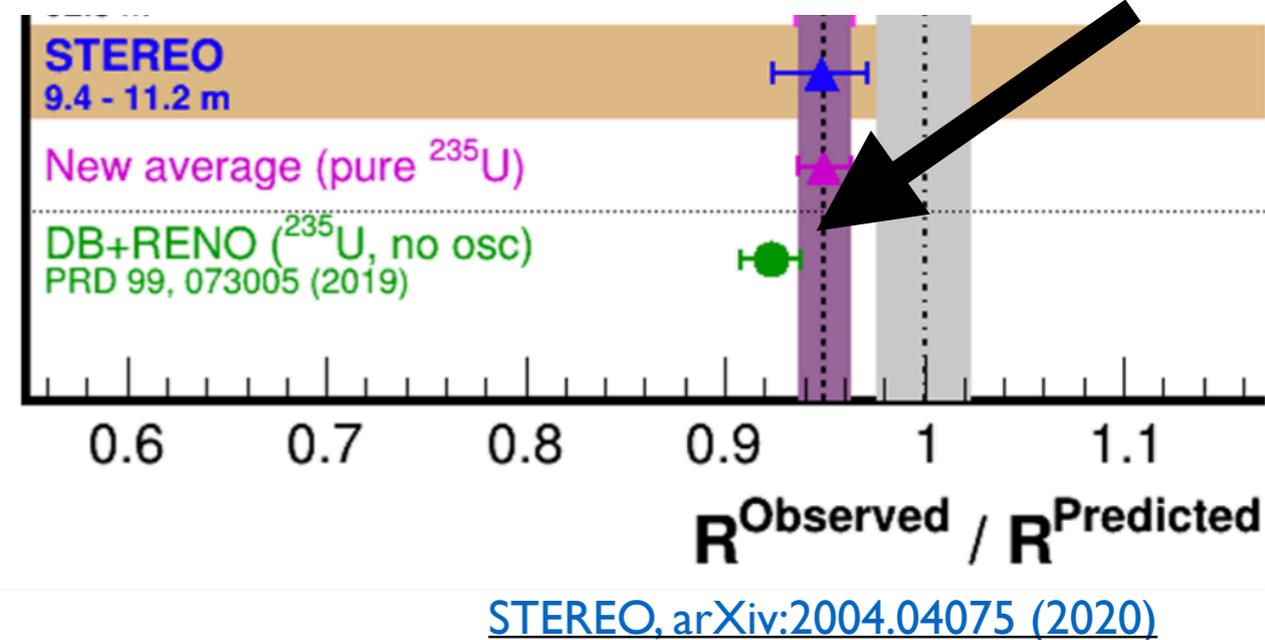
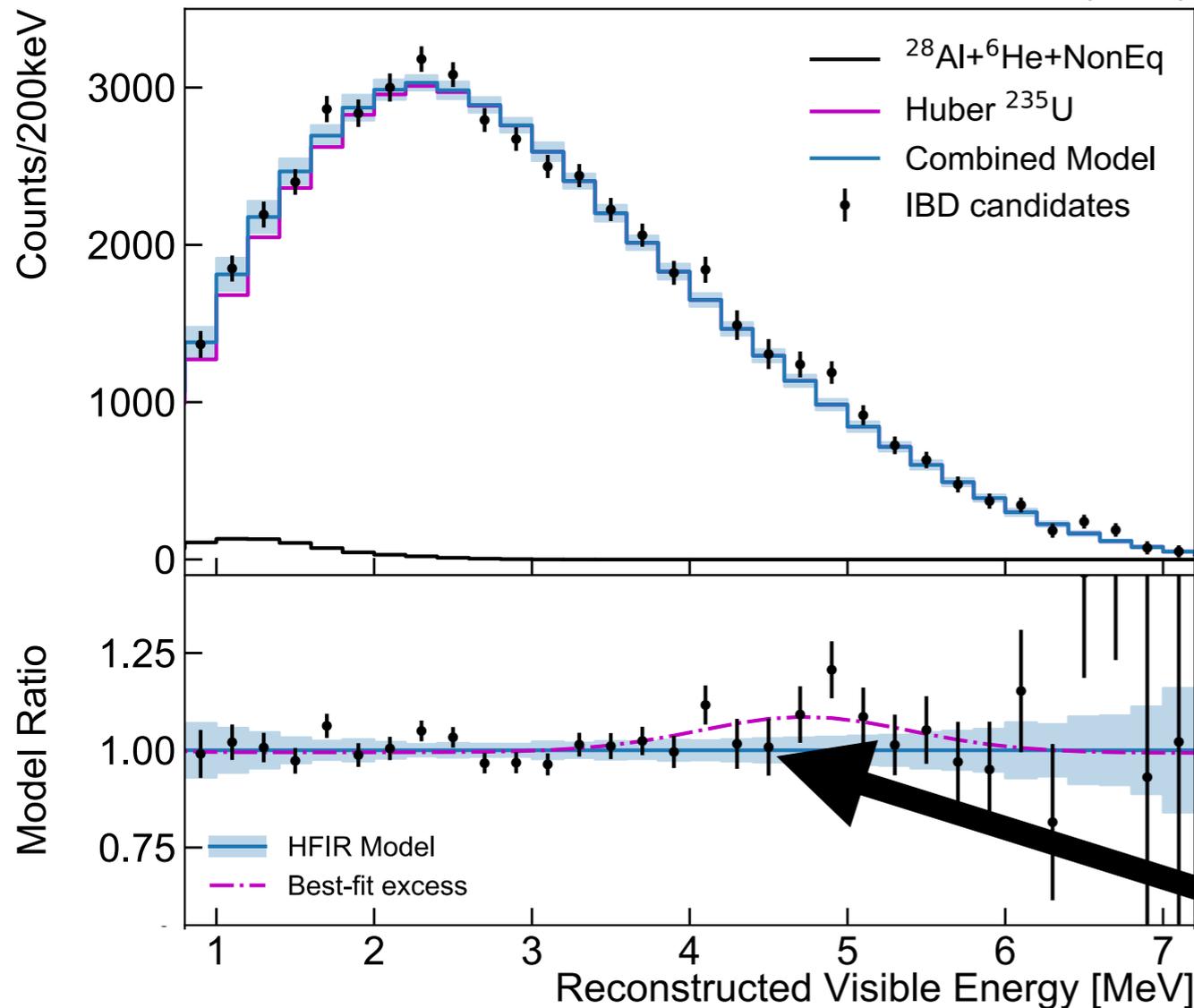


# Not Known 2: Isotopic Precision Issues



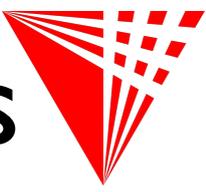
- HEU statistics are still rather low: < 100k total IBDs
- Slight conflict between DYB- and HEU-reported U-235 fluxes
  - ~3% offset; perhaps there's some physics underlying this that can be resolved?

[PROSPECT, arXiv:2006.11210 \(2020\)](#)



Shrink these?

# Not Known 3: Sub-Dominant Fission Isotopes



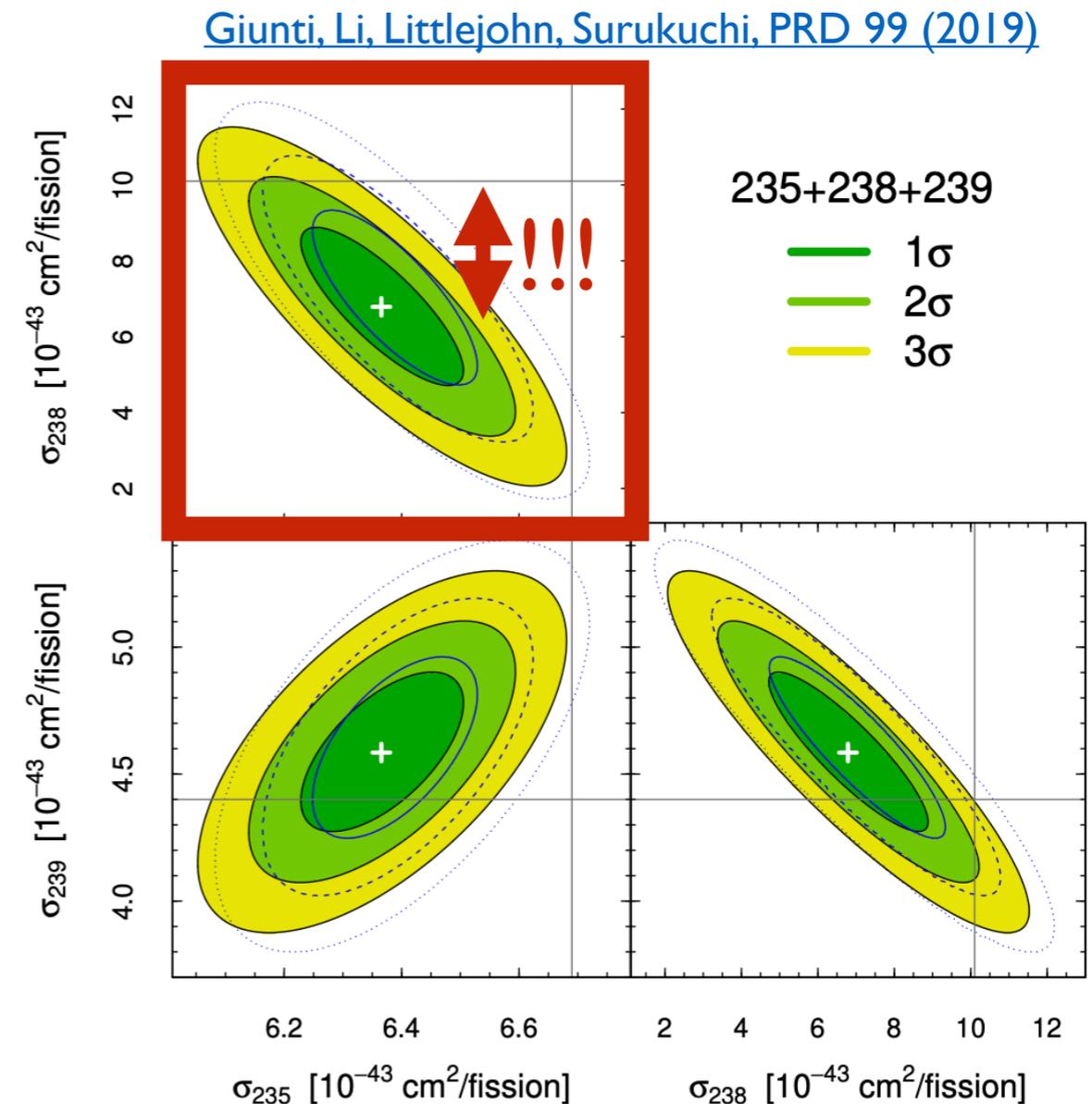
- All our findings of U235, Pu239 fluxes and spectra say practically nothing about other isotopes: U238, Pu241, Pu240
- Only tidbit we have from global flux fits doesn't look great...

- HEU pins U235 flux;  
DYB evolution pins 239 flux;  
HEU-LEU offset pins 238 flux.

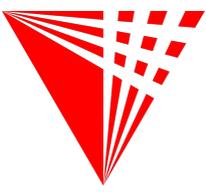
- If there are no oscillations, summation models seem to **WAY OVER-PREDICT** the U238 flux — by ~30%!

- How can we learn more about emissions from these isotopes?

- If we want to understand emissions from advanced reactors, this knowledge is pretty important!



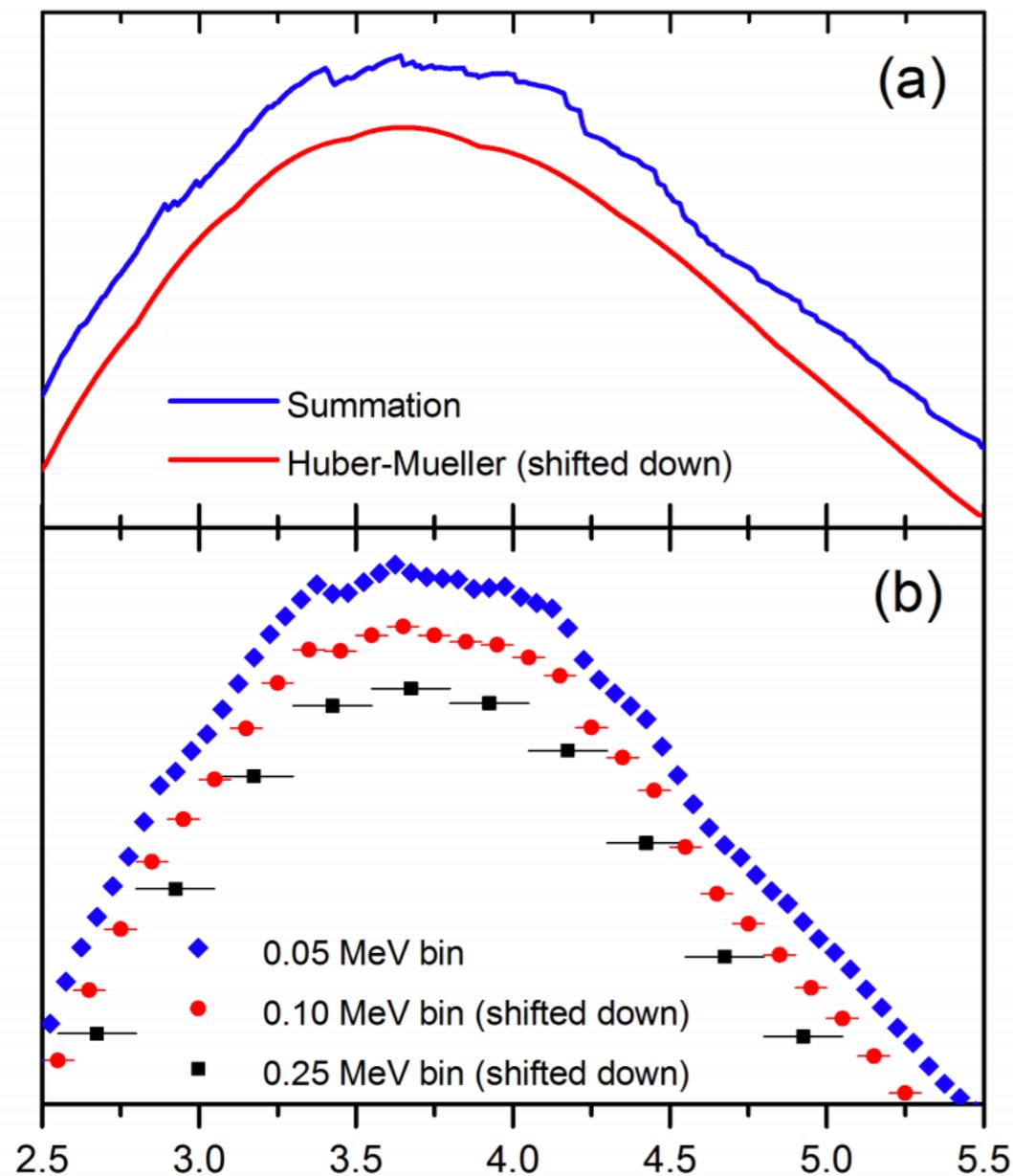
# Not Known 4: Fine Structure



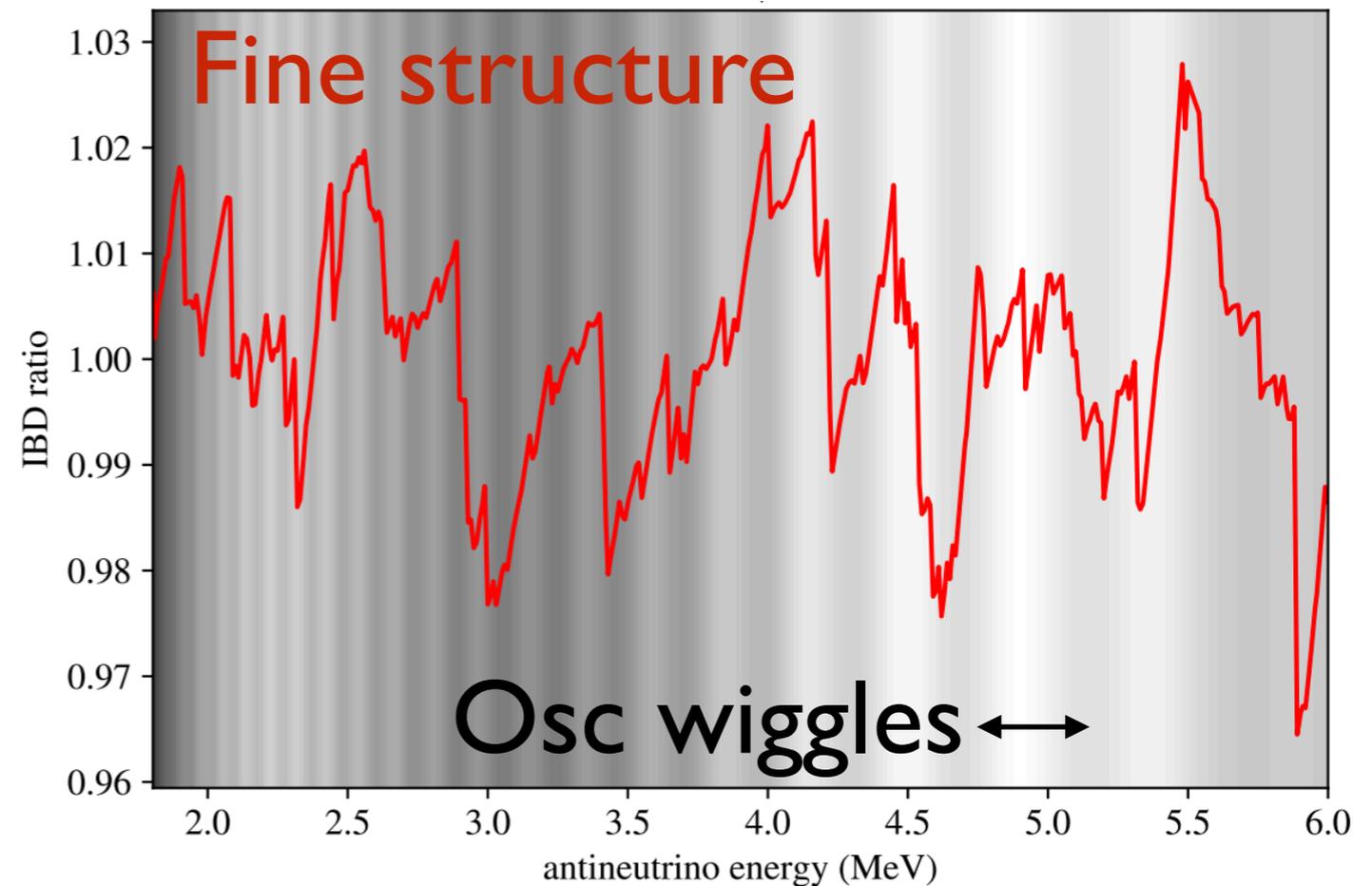
- What is it? It's never been precisely directly measured

- Matters for SM osc: would hate to screw up mass hierarchy because of this
- Matters for nuclear data: direct spectroscopy of rare fission products

[Sonzogni, Nico, McCutchan, PRC 98 \(2018\)](#)



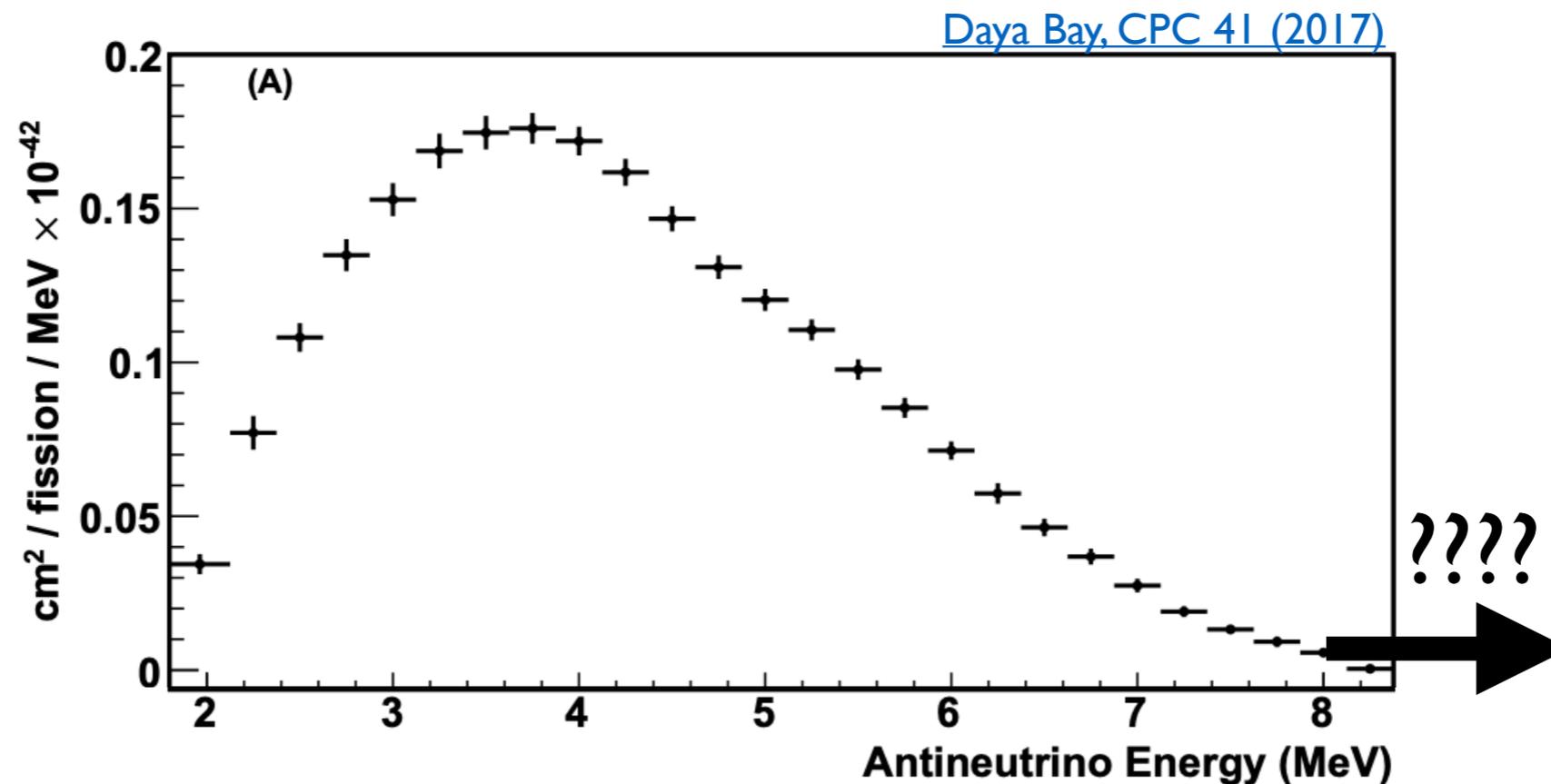
[Danielson, Hanes, Garvey, PRD 99 \(2019\)](#)



# Not Known 5: High-Energy Flux



- What is it? It hasn't been reported in a precise way  $>8$  MeV
  - Vogel-Engel, summation predictions are ALL likely to be WAY off in this energy regime — possibly even  $>>10\%$  off! No Huber prediction here.
- If summation predictions are not great in this regime, then nuclear data is not great in this regime.



# Not Known 6: $<2$ MeV Contributions



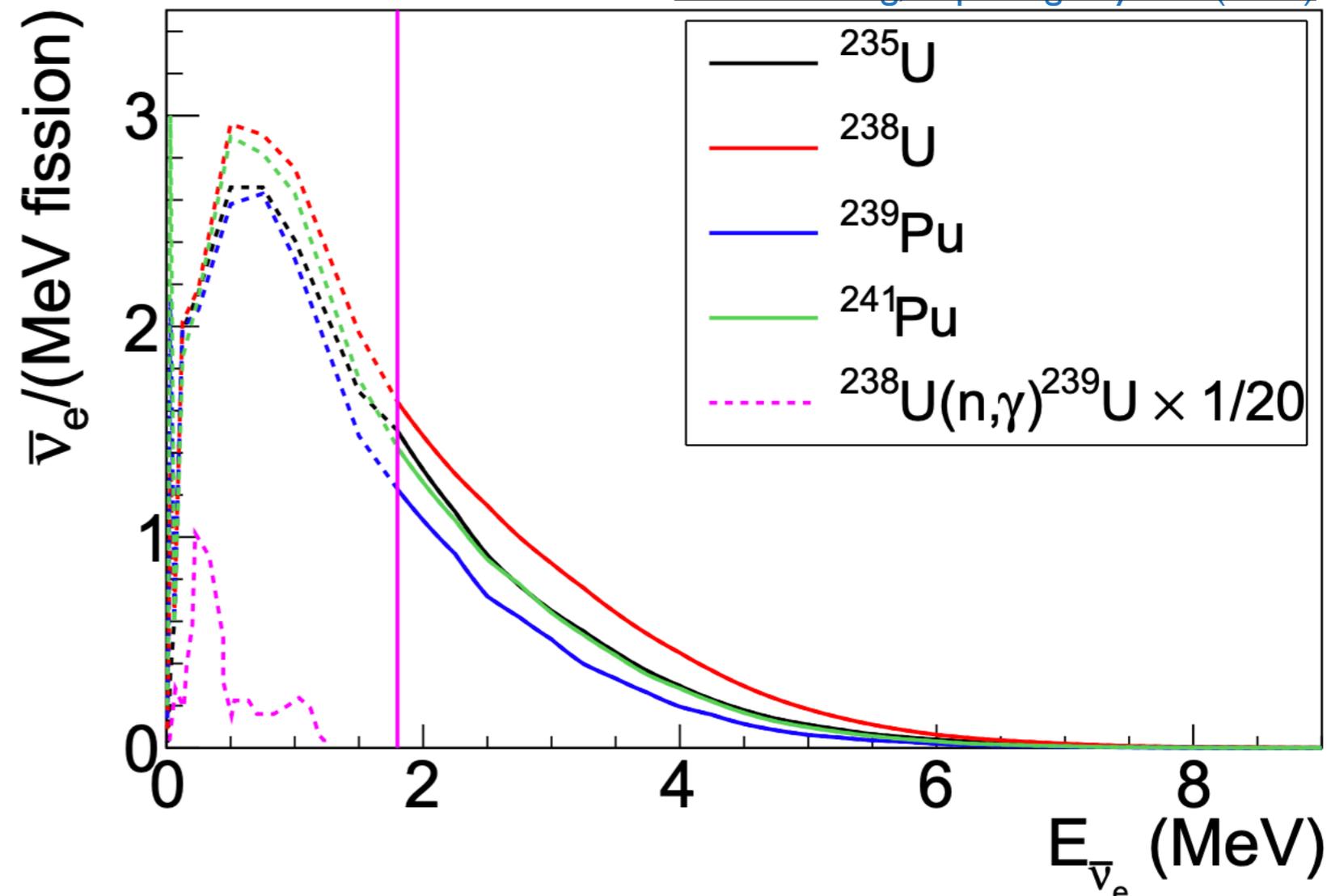
- What is the antineutrino content below the IBD threshold?

- Contribution from low-energy portion of beta spectra, low-Q fission daughters, beta decays to highly excited states
- Also non-fission sources: non-fuel as well as actinide beta decays

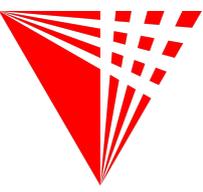
- IBDs cannot directly help here.

- Indirectly by validating summation model improvements: ‘if it’s better at high-energy, it should be better at low-energy too...?’
- Better: use new data from non-IBD detection channels to learn more

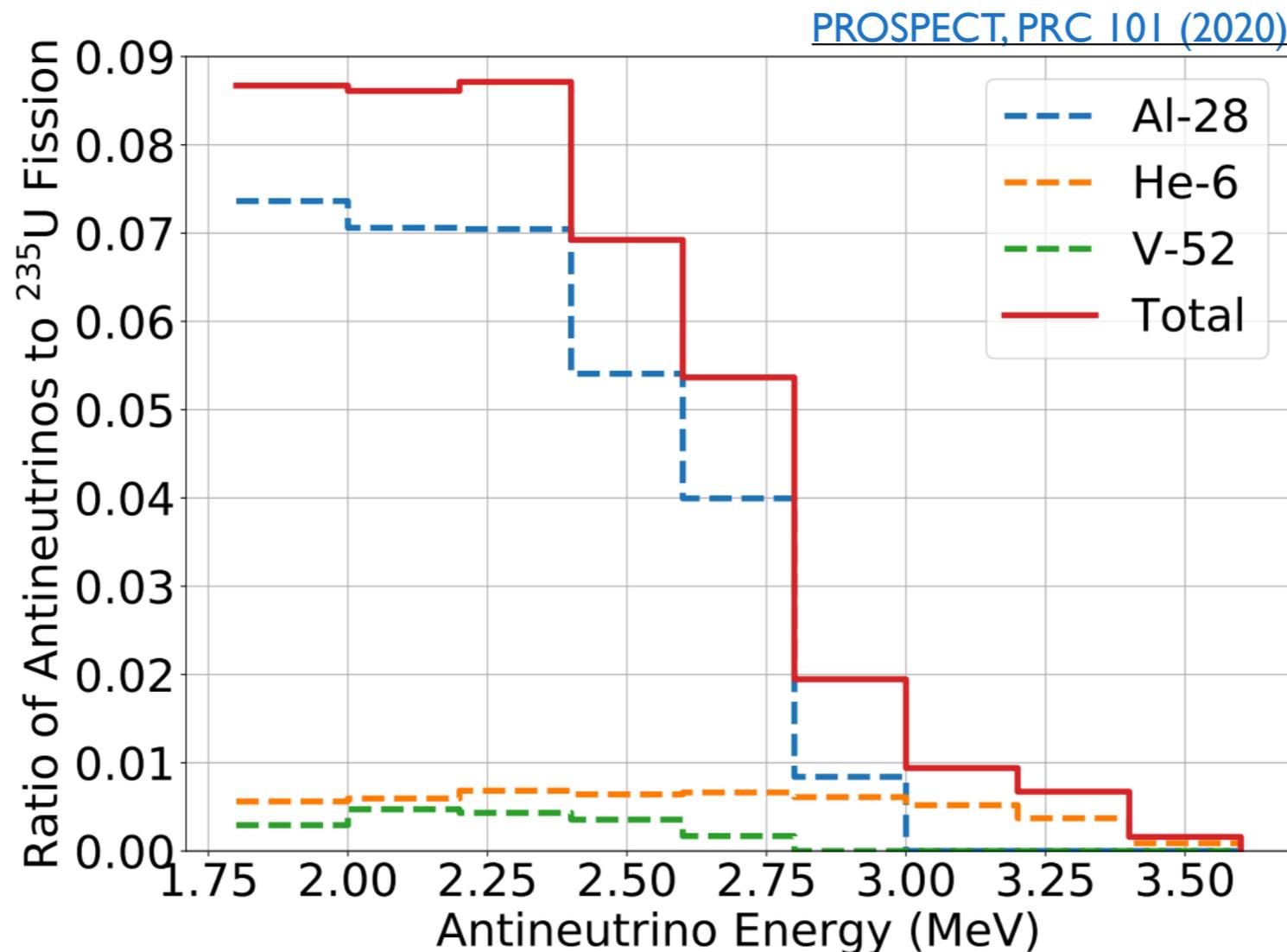
[Xian and Peng, Rep. Prog. Phys. 82 \(2019\)](#)



# Not Known 7: Non-Fuel Contributions



- How large are non-fission antineutrino contributions?
  - Substantial issue for research reactors in particular, low energies (<3MeV)
  - For example: activation and beta decay of aluminum in HEU core structure
  - Must be predicted by non-neutrino-physicists (nuclear engineering folks) using non-neutrino Monte Carlo tools (like MCNP) [A. Conant, PhD Thesis, Georgia Tech \(2019\)](#)



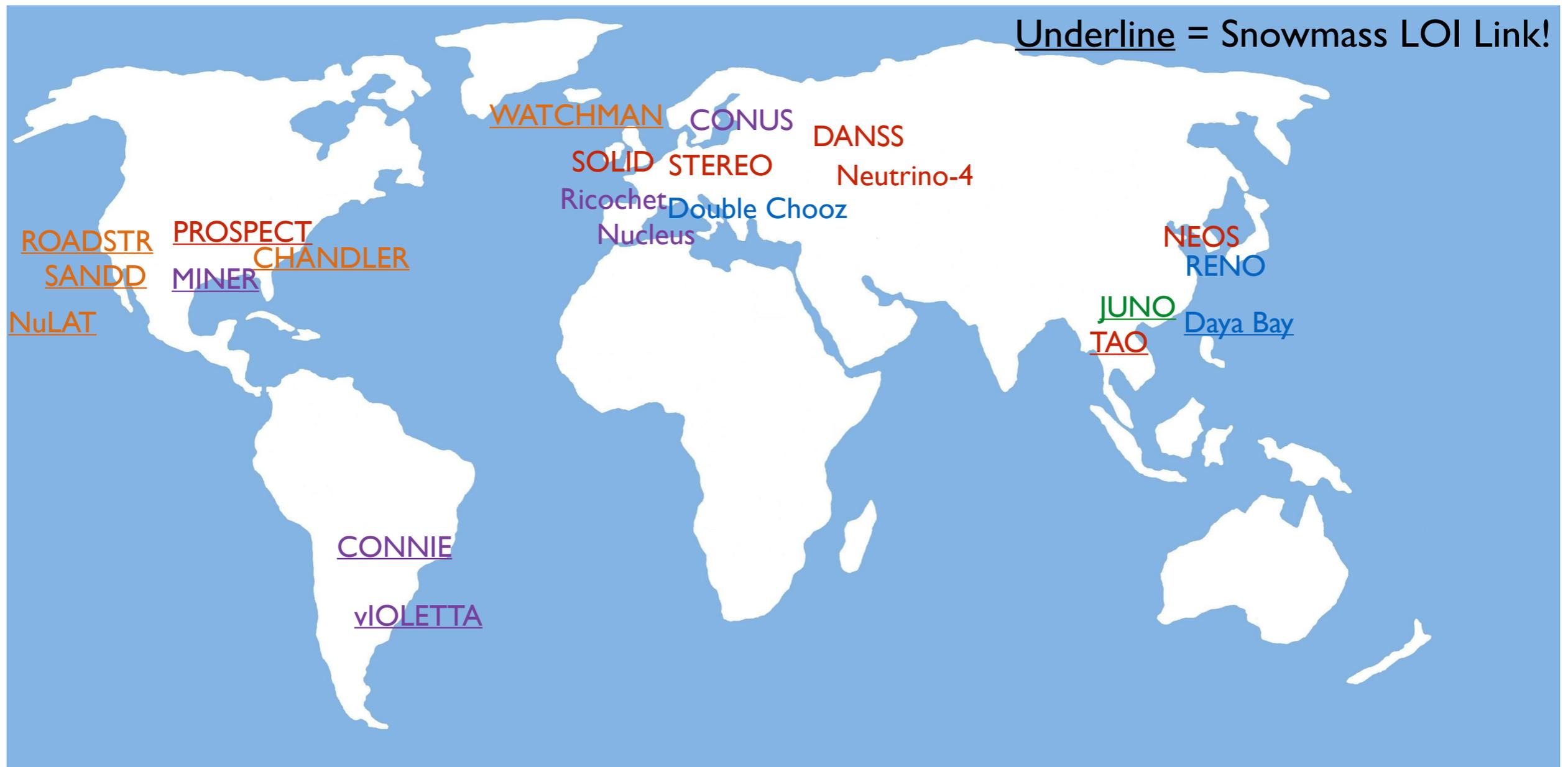


# What We Could Learn In The Near Future

Reactor Spectrum/Flux Snowmass LOI

- Improvement Areas:
- 1: Sterile Oscillations
  - 2: Isotopic Precision
  - 3: Sub-dominant isotopes
  - 4: Fine structure
  - 5: High-energy neutrinos
  - 6:  $<2\text{MeV}$  contributions
  - 7: Non-fuel contributions

Underline = Snowmass LOI Link!



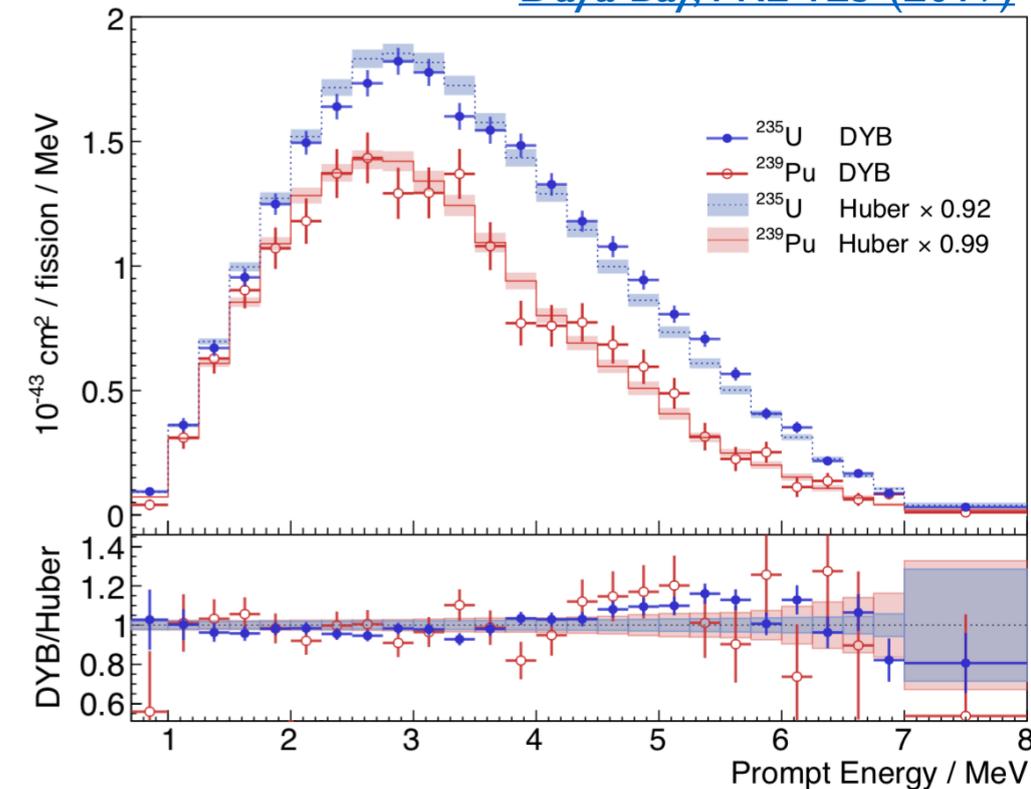
# Future LEU Measurements



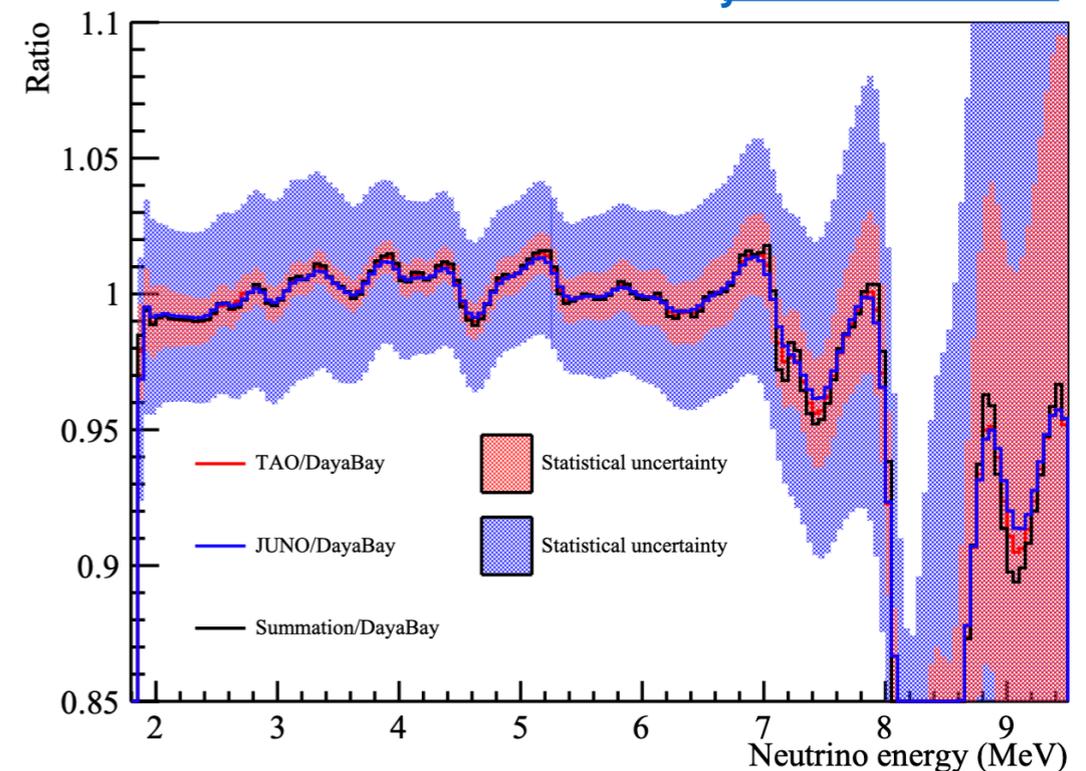
- Improved isotopic information coming in next few years from different LEU efforts:

- NEOS-II**: > IM stats from a single core, wider fission fraction range than DYB
- Still need **DYB's** final 'evolution' measurement with >8M statistics; perhaps more with nH+nGd combo?
- Other SBL experiments step up? **DANSS**?
- Within ~5 years: **JUNO-TAO**
  - 1% energy resolution will hopefully excellent probe of fine structure, also an interesting sterile oscillation probe

Daya Bay, PRL 123 (2019)



JUNO-TAO TDR



## Improvement Areas:

- 1: Sterile Oscillations
- 2: Isotopic Precision
- 4: Fine structure
- 5: High-energy neutrinos

# Future HEU Measurements



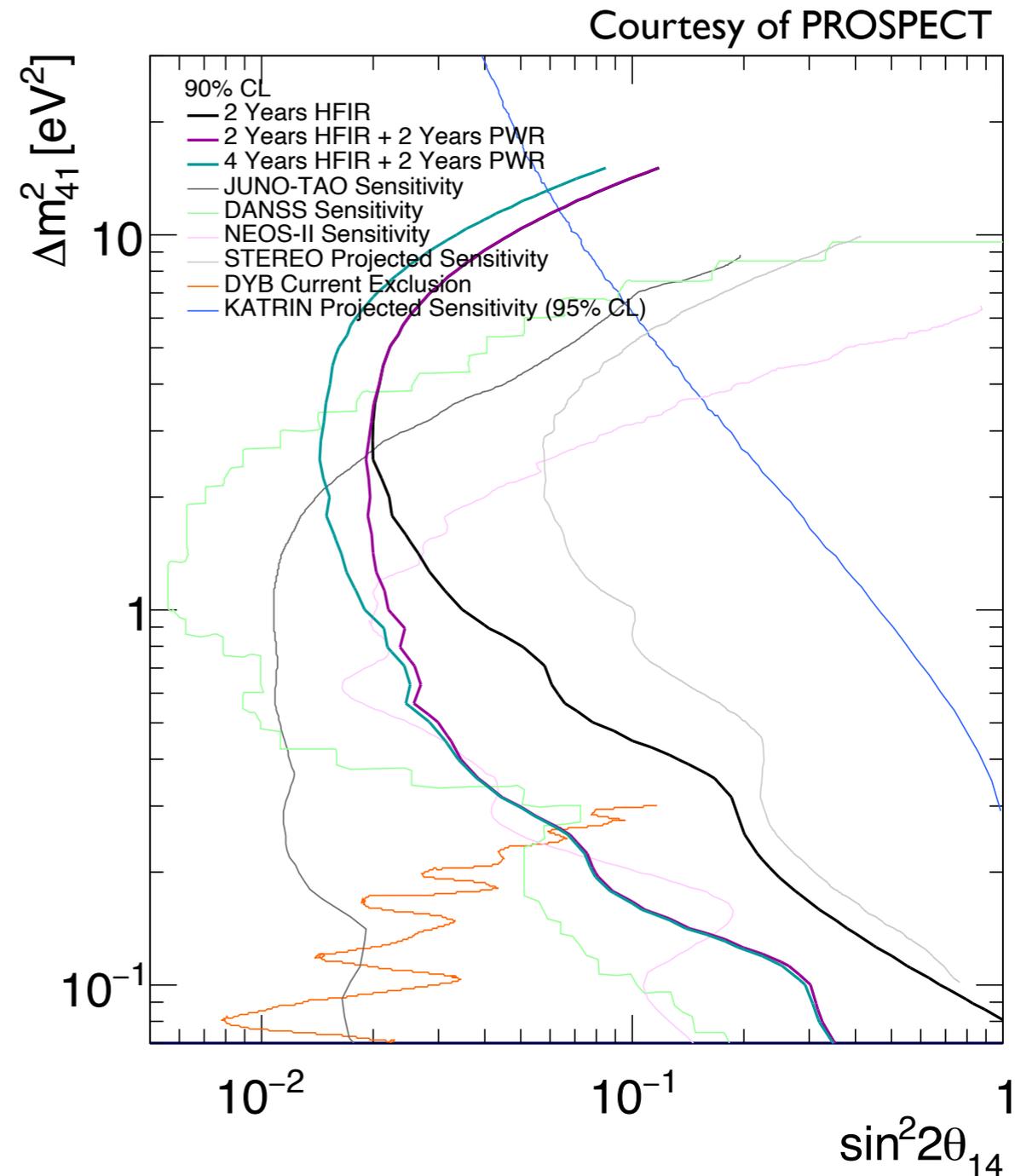
- **PROSPECT, STEREO** have 'final' datasets coming in the next year or so

- More statistics, modest improvement in HEU flux, spectrum knowledge

- Major increase in HEU statistics with future **PROSPECT-2** HFIR deployment

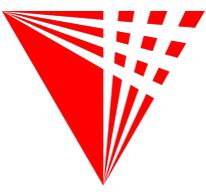
- Major improvement in both HEU flux+spectrum knowledge as well as oscillation sensitivity.
- Will necessitate/produce further development of non-fuel contribution calculation infrastructure.

- Other SBL experiments step up too? Like **Solid**?



Improvement Areas:  
1: Sterile Oscillations  
2: Isotopic Precision  
7: Non-fuel contributions

# Future HEU+LEU Measurements

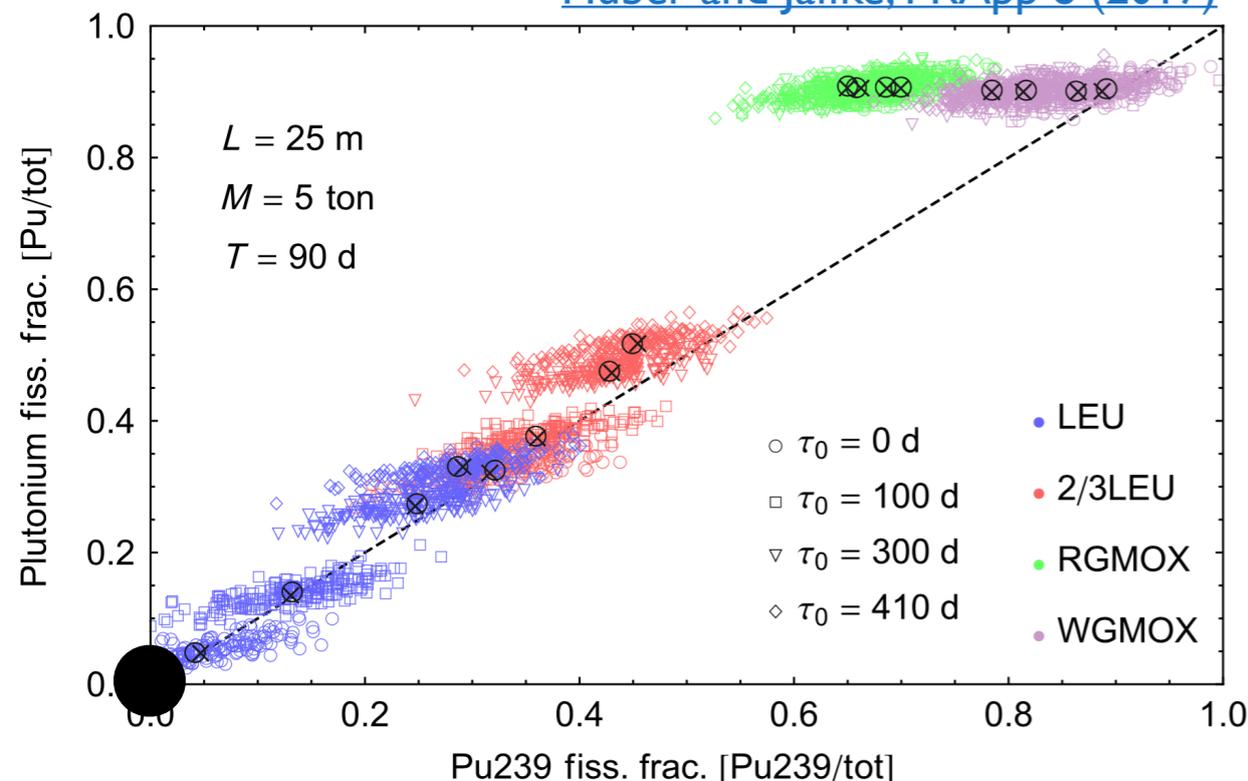


- Substantial benefits if HEU and LEU reactors can be measured with the same detector (or identical detectors)
- Correlations improve ability to probe sub-dominant isotopes: like U238
- **PROSPECT-2** to be designed with such a demonstration in mind
- Advanced reactor measurements offer similar benefits for probing sub-dominant isotopes.

[Gebre, Littlejohn, Surukuchi, PRD 97 \(2018\)](#)

Case	Description	Precision on $\sigma_i$ (%)		
		$^{235}\text{U}$	$^{239}\text{Pu}$	$^{238}\text{U}$
1	Daya Bay-like LEU	2.8	5.9	10.0
2	Daya Bay-like LEU + new HEU	1.3	5.3	9.2
3	Improved Daya Bay-like LEU + HEU	1.3	4.8	8.9
4	Short-Baseline LEU + HEU	1.2	3.7	8.8
5	Short-Baseline LEU + HEU, Correlated	1.5	3.8	6.7

[Huber and Jaffke, PRApP 8 \(2017\)](#)



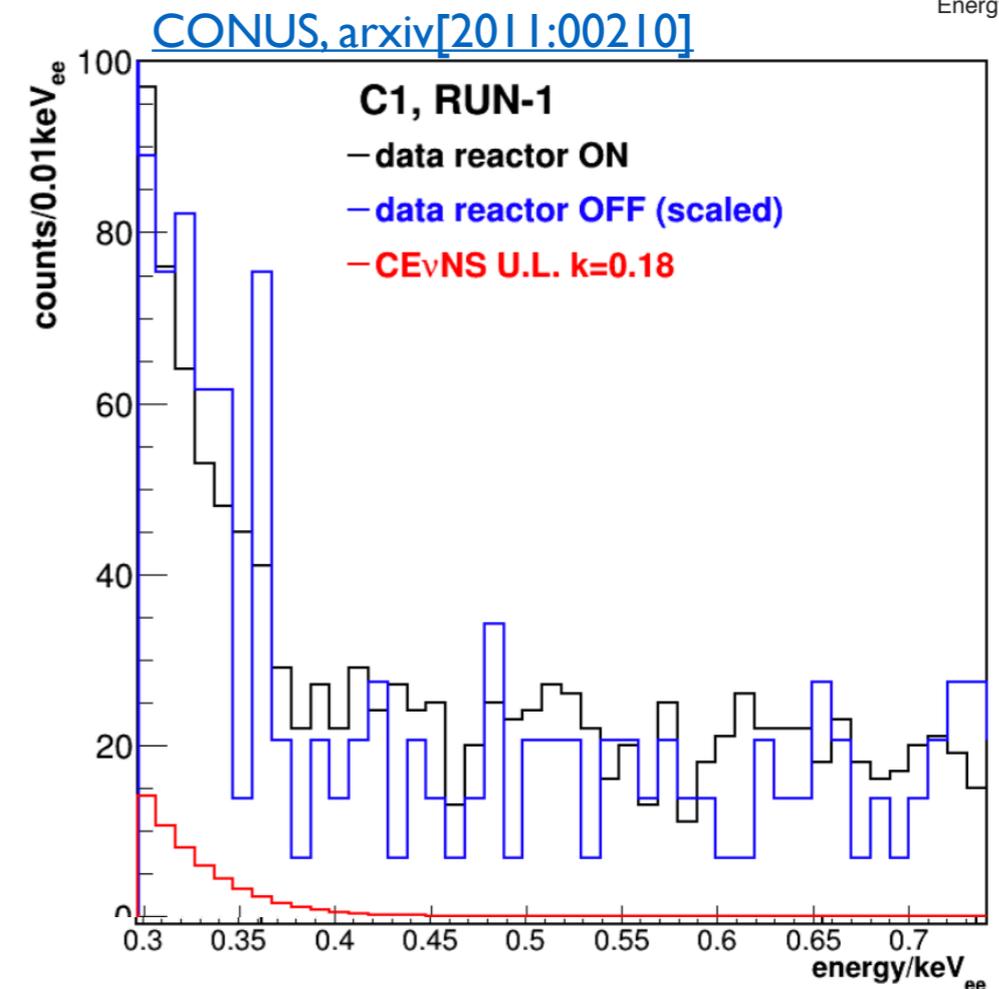
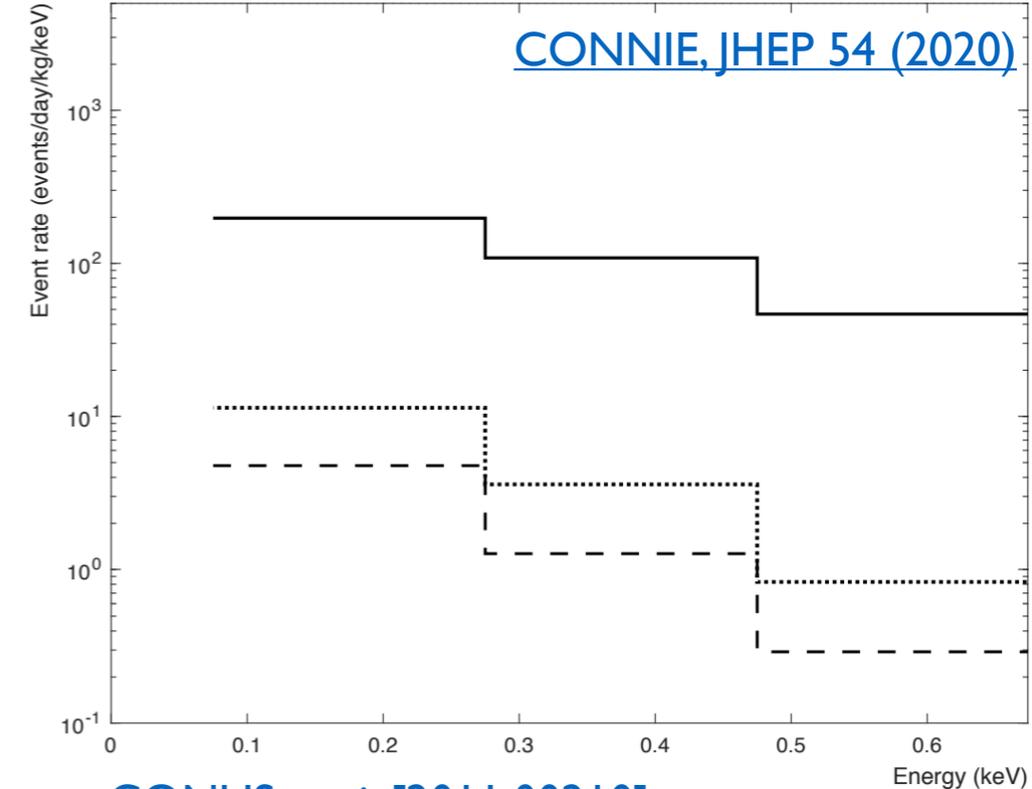
**Improvement Areas:**

- 1: Sterile Oscillations
- 2: Isotopic Precision
- 3: Sub-dominant isotopes

# Reactor-Based CEvNS Measurements



- CEvNS does not have a 1.8 MeV threshold, like IBD!
- Great way to probe low-energy neutrino emissions, and non-fuel contributions there
- Current CEvNS experiments are getting close to seeing reactor neutrinos.
- **CONNIE** and **CONUS** backgrounds are within roughly an order of magnitude of CEvNS signal
- Future generations of cryogenic detectors will substantially lower detection thresholds, and may enable use to probe this  $<1.8$  MeV regime:  
**VIOLETA, NUCLEUS, Ricochet**



Improvement Areas:  
6:  $<2$ MeV contributions  
7: Non-fuel contributions  
EXTRA: BSM like wut!!!

# Joint Analyses and Data Sharing



- Combined results of different experiments can be used to say more than that of the individual experiment by themselves.
  - **NEOS** sterile neutrino result is a perfect example. [NEOS, Neutrino 2020 Talk](#)
  - **PROSPECT** ‘bump origin’ results are another one. [PROSPECT, arXiv:2006.11210 \(2020\)](#)
- Results combination should be continued and facilitated!
  - Important part of this process: public data sharing
  - Can we establish a common community standard for RxNu datasets?
  - Critical, given that many **Theta 13** experiments are close to winding down!

## Improvement Areas:

- 1: Sterile Oscillations
- 2: Isotopic Precision
- 3: Sub-dominant isotopes
- 7: Non-fuel contributions

# Data-Driven Predictions, Applications



- For particle physics and neutrino applications at reactors, can we just forego the theoretical predictions entirely?
- Given a declared reactor type and operational history:
  - Predict emanations based on existing **precision measurements**
  - Compare data-driven predictions to measurements from **applications-oriented neutrino detectors, like ROADSTR, CHANDLER, or SANDD**
- It's possible near-term **applications-oriented detectors** could also provide useful input to data-driven predictions
  - Dependent on deployment choices and realized detector capabilities

Improvement Areas:

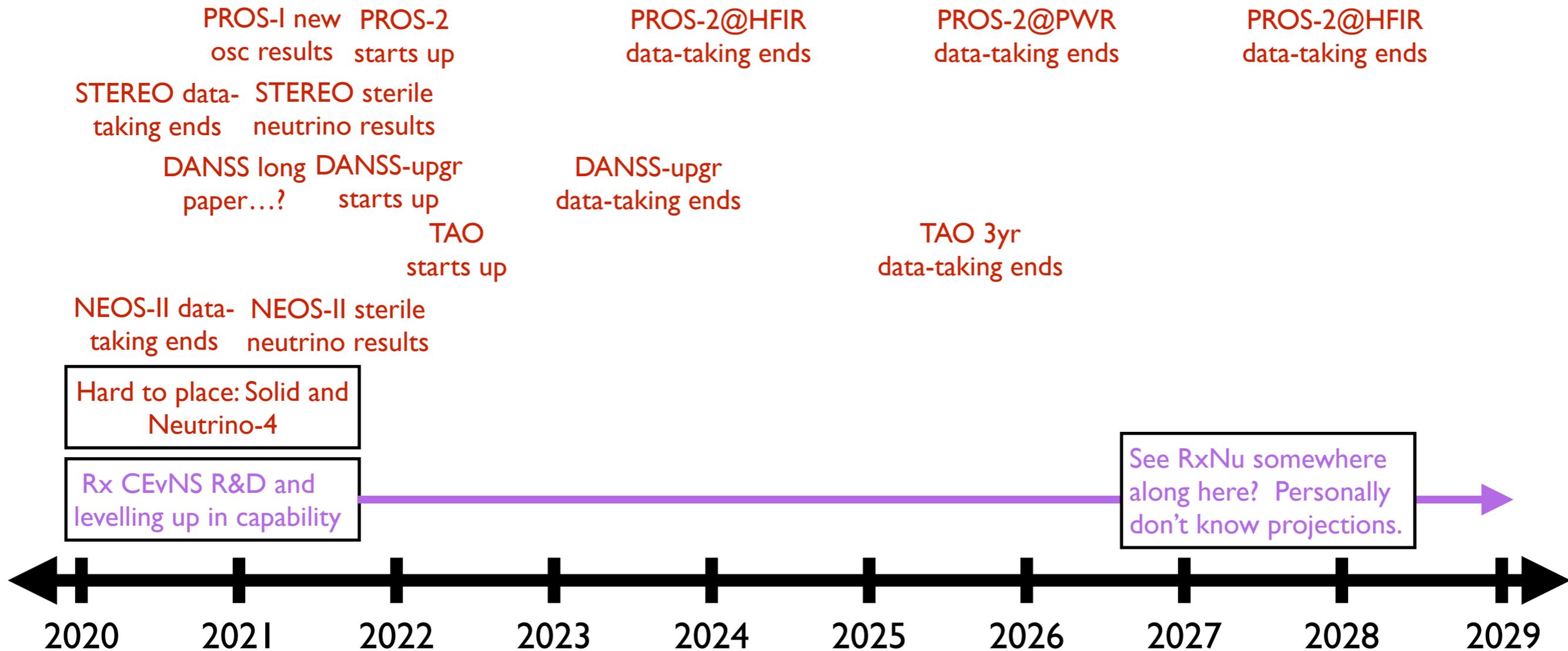
2: Isotopic Precision

EXTRA: Applications

Use-Case Demo!!!

Reactor Applications Snowmass LOI

# Lining Up Timelines: SBL, CEvNS



- Outcomes of this informal exercise:

- Likely that **SBL** Rx experiments will run well into this decade
- **SBL** field may clear out a bit as we approach the middle of the decade, although new efforts of course may arise...
- Rx **CEvNS** will likely be an active/growing effort throughout the 2020s

# Lining Up Timelines: **Theta I 3**, **LBL**



DYB data-taking ends

DYB final results

RENO data-taking ends (?)

RENO final results

JUNO starts up

JUNO MH results!!!

Keep on keepin' on

Don't have insight to conjecture on applications-focused detector timelines :(



- Outcomes of this informal exercise:
  - **Theta I 3** experiments are near complete, will be finished before mid-decade
  - **JUNO** will produce impactful reactor neutrino physics well into next decade
  -

# Conclusions



- Since last Snowmass, a shocking level of progress has been made in better understanding reactor antineutrino emissions
- The current+future reactor antineutrino program will push us further towards developing a fully data-driven picture
- Seven needed areas of improvement can be addressed by five current/future reactor experiment types

Theta 13   Long-Baseline   Short-Baseline

Applications-focused   CEvNS

Improvement Areas:  
1: Sterile Oscillations  
2: Isotopic Precision  
3: Sub-dominant isotopes  
4: Fine structure  
5: High-energy neutrinos  
6: <2MeV contributions  
7: Non-fuel contributions

- We should expect this program to provide cutting-edge neutrino/applications physics knowledge and workforce training well into this decade and beyond.

# Done.

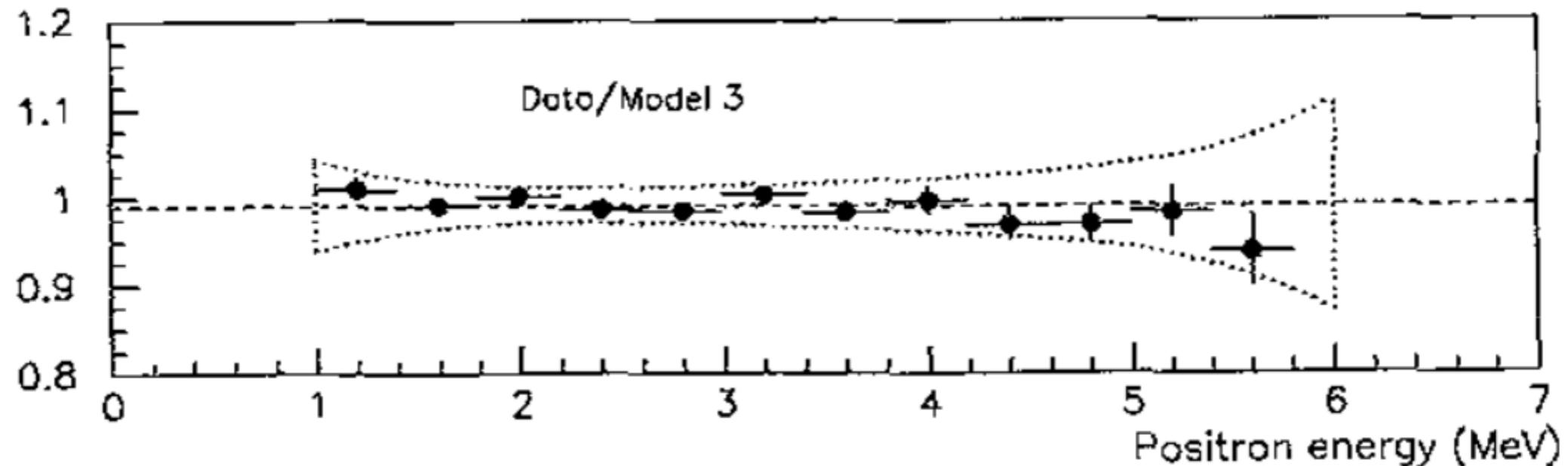
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# Reactor Spectrum/Flux Measurements



- We have come a HUGE DISTANCE in 10 years...
- Best data/model comparison in existence in 2010 (Bugey-3)



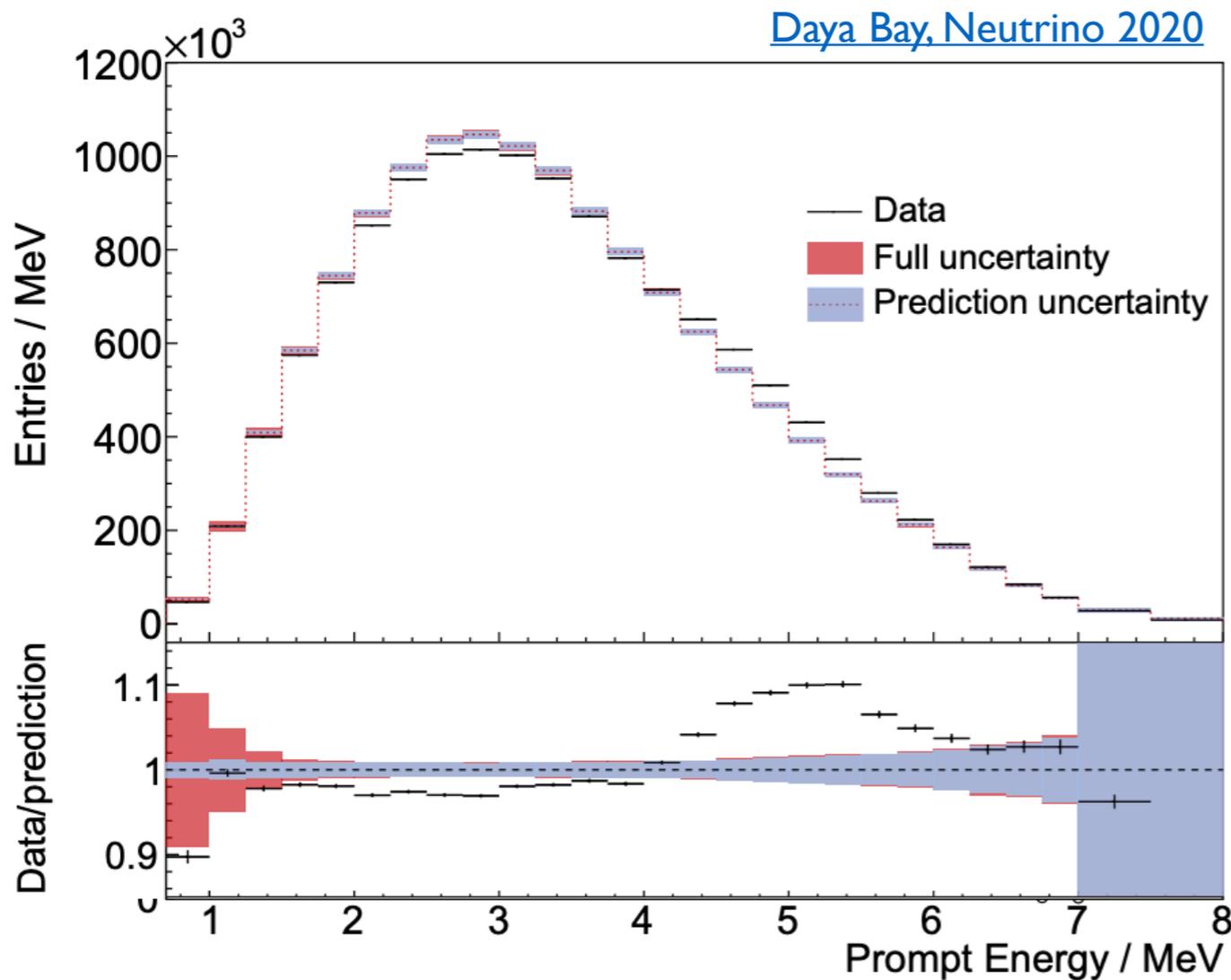
- State of our direct knowledge of emissions in 2010/2011:
  - Conversion-predicted LEU spectra look... pretty good.
  - Conversion-predicted LEU fluxes look... a bit too high.

# Reactor Spectrum/Flux Measurements

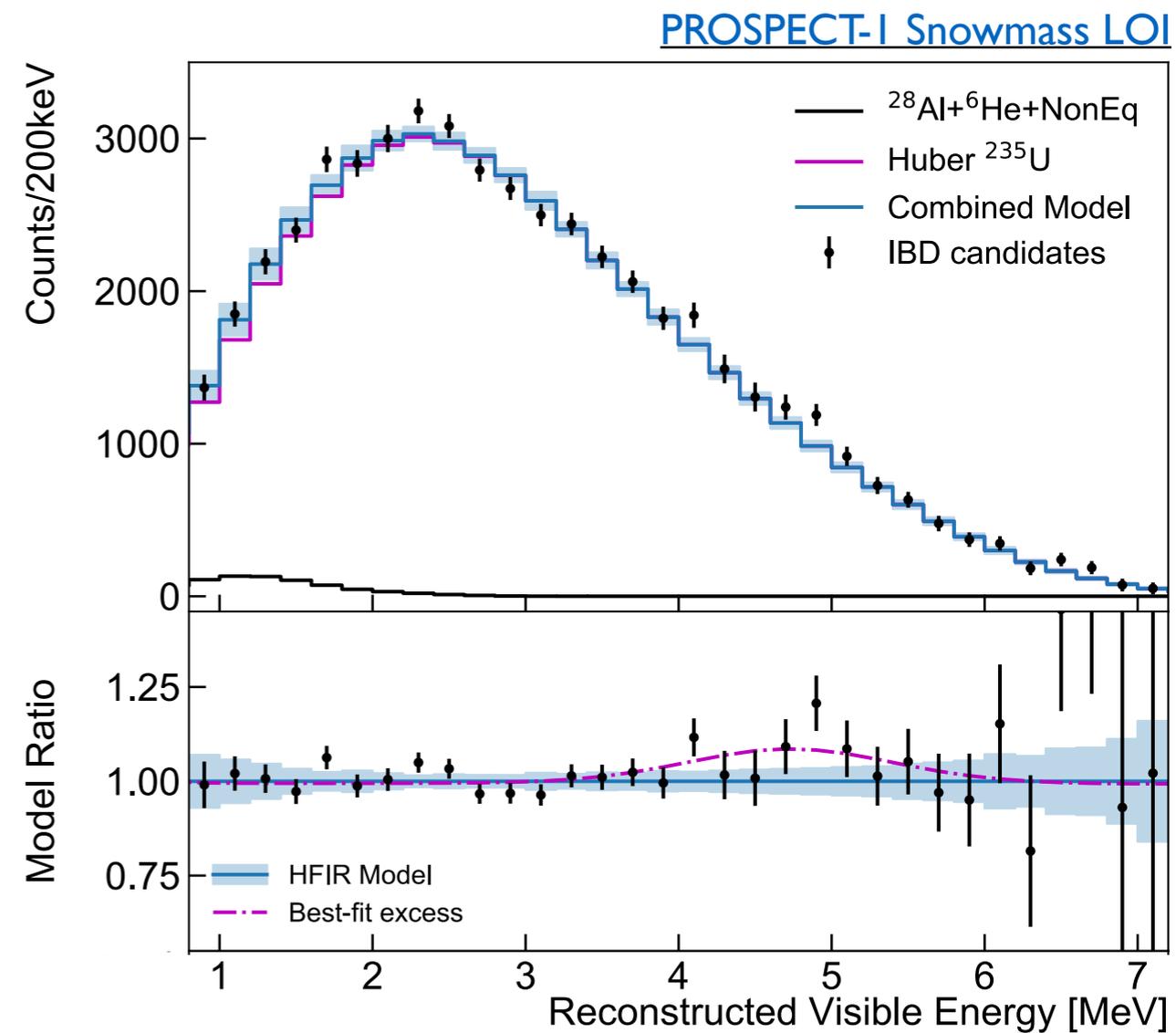


- We have come a HUGE DISTANCE in 10 years...
- Data/model comparisons we have in hand in 2020:

## Low-enriched reactors!



## Highly-enriched reactors!

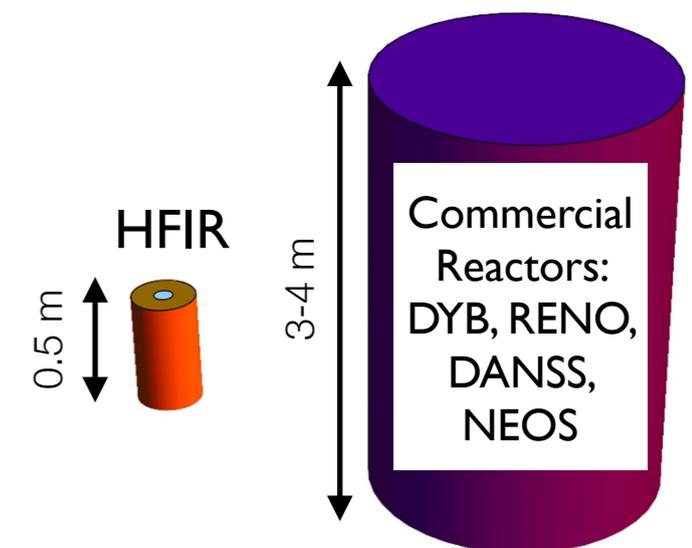
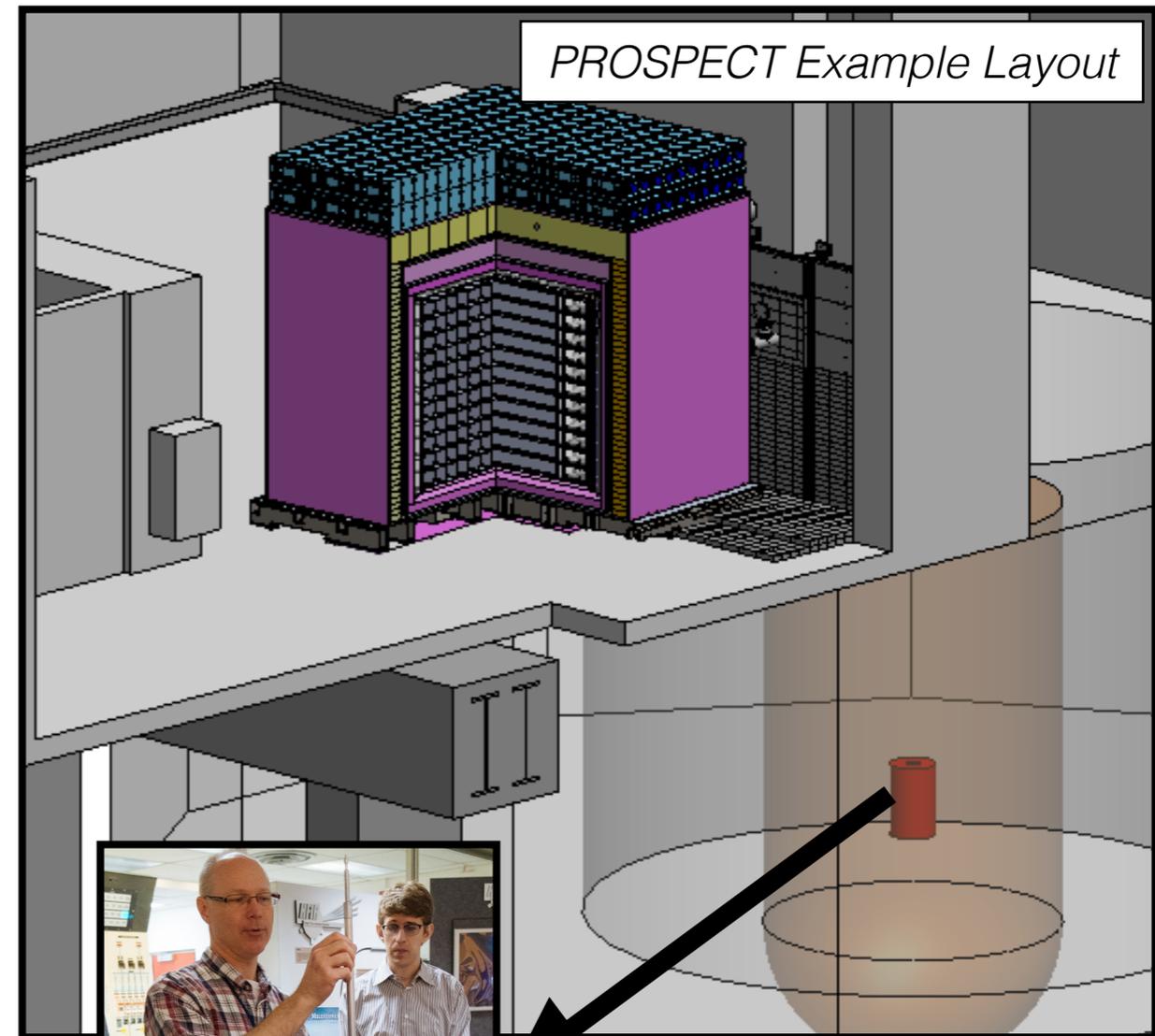
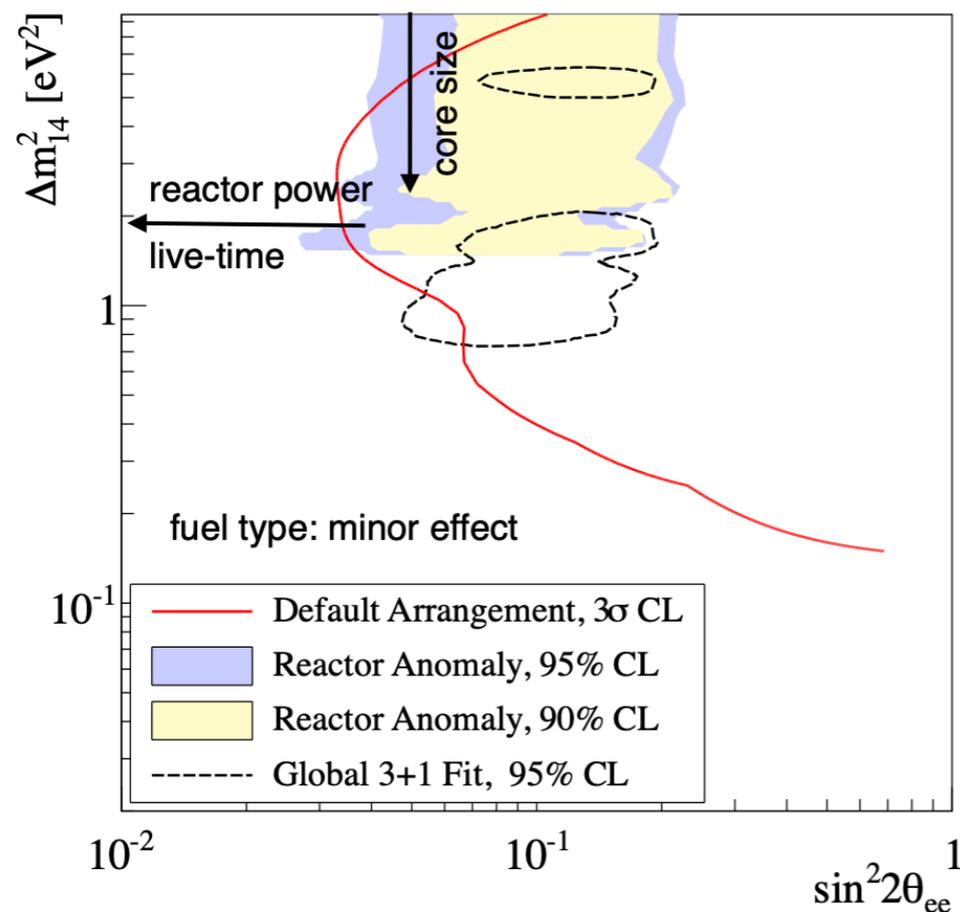


# SBL Rx Experimental Parameters

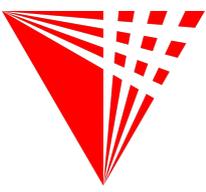


- Useful experimental parameter variations to keep in mind:
  - Reactor power: very important
    - If not > IGW, better be very close to reactor
  - Reactor core size: very important
    - Above meter size, lose high mass splittings

Heeger, Littlejohn, Tobin, Mumm, PRD 87 (2013)

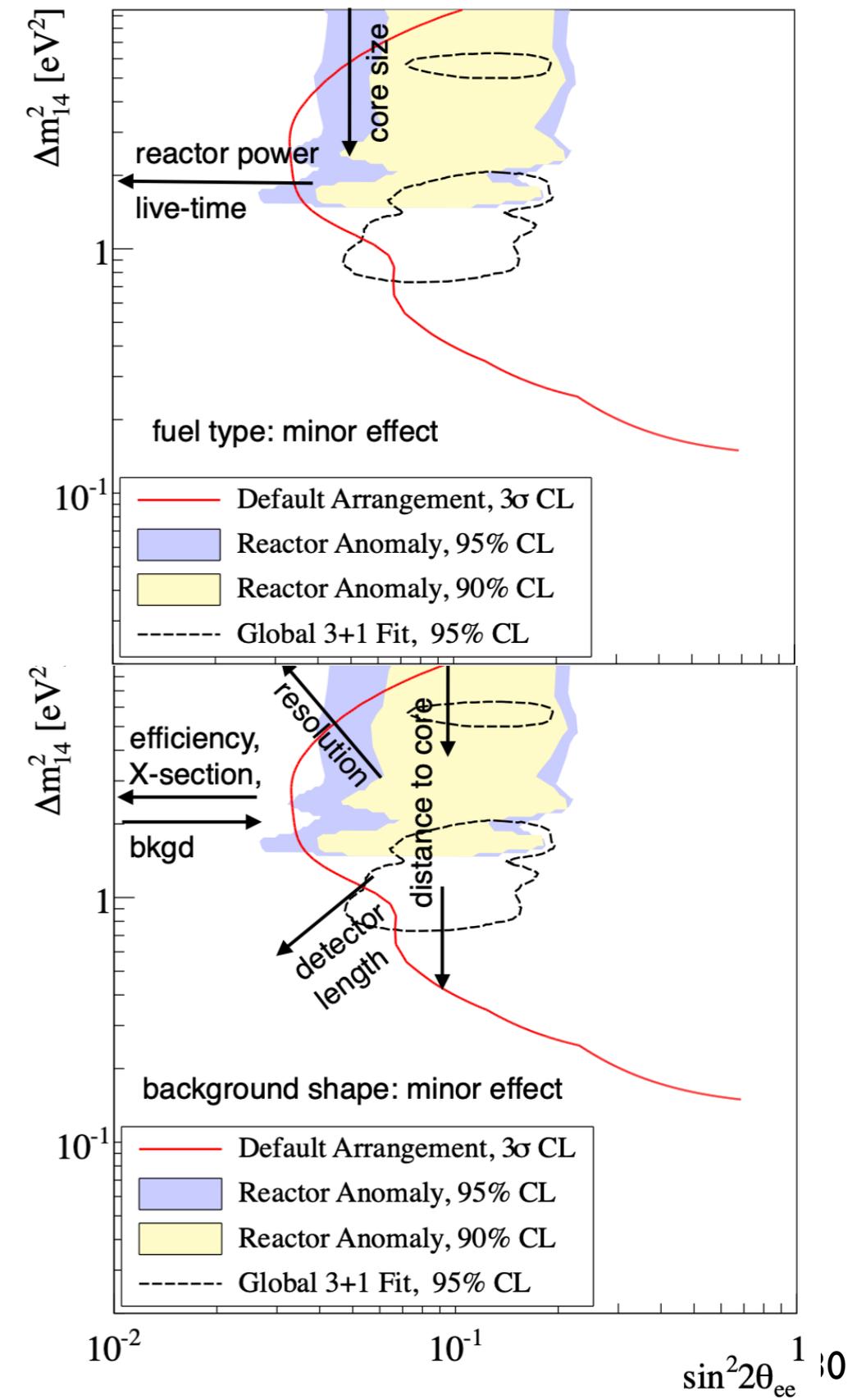


# SBL Rx Experimental Parameters



- Useful experimental parameter variations to keep in mind:
  - Reactor power: very important
    - If not  $> 1\text{GW}$ , you'd better be very close to reactor
  - Reactor core size: very important
    - Above meter size, lose high mass splittings
  - Signal-to-background ratio: very important
    - Keep it close to 1:1, or better if possible
  - Reactor-detector baseline: important
    - Also: total baseline coverage of experiment (in meters)
  - Energy resolution: kind of important
    - Better than  $\sim 10\text{-}20\%$  and you'll be fine
  - HEU versus LEU: not important
    - Flux/spectrum is similar from statistical point of view

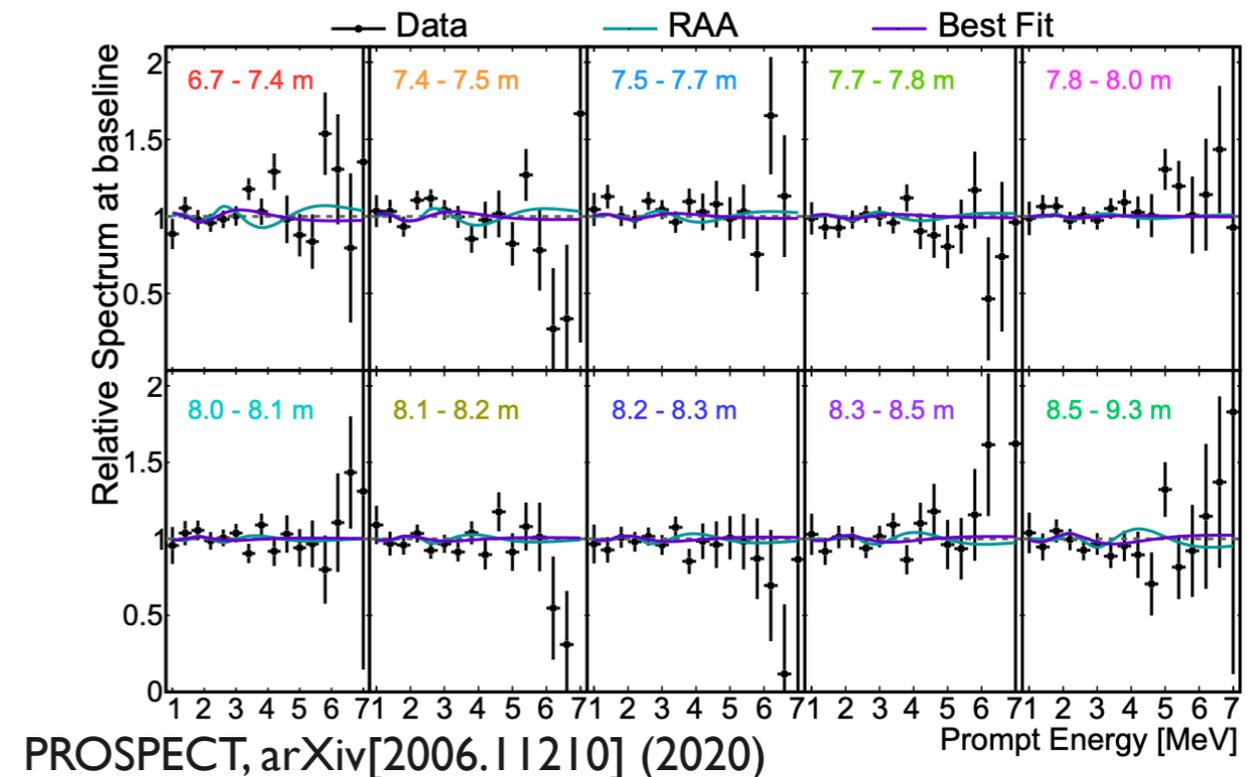
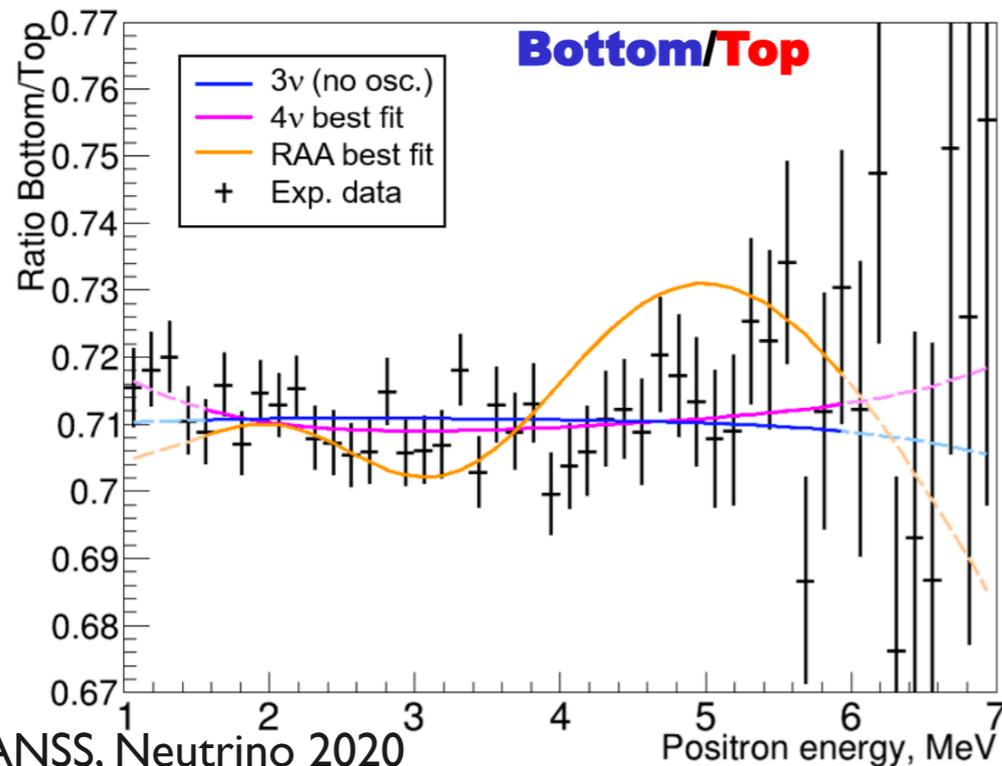
Heeger, Littlejohn, Tobin, Mumm, PRD 87 (2013)





# Analysis Choices

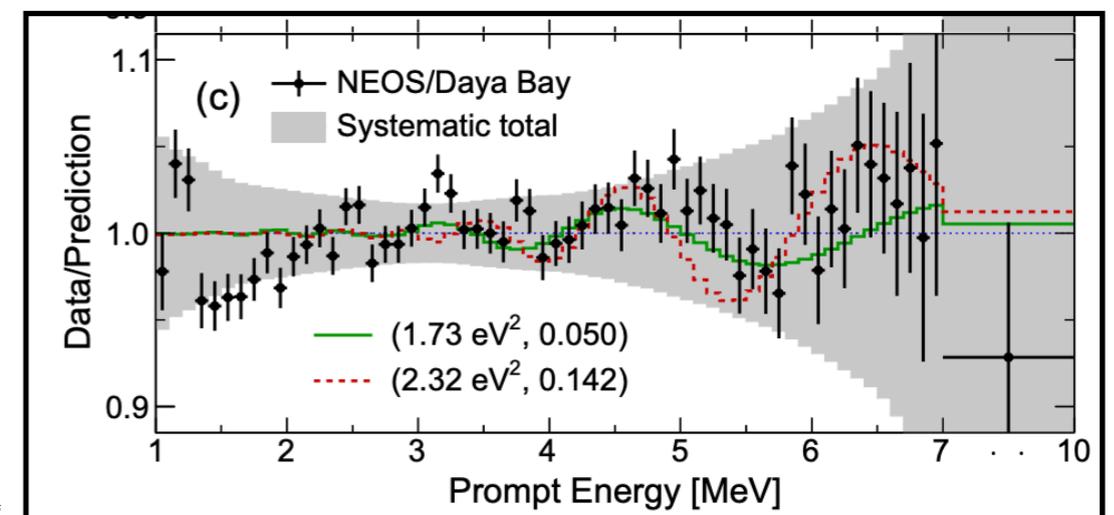
- Keep in mind variations in the information being used to generate sensitivity/exclusion contours
- The Gold Standard: ‘single-experiment spectrum ratios’
  - Comparing spectra from the same detector in different locations (DANSS)
    - Of course, that detector’s performance can drift, which is a small source of systematic error; backgrounds can vary with position too.
  - Compare spectra from different regions in a detector (PROSPECT, STEREO)
    - Of course, different regions may have differing response, so small systematics present there, too.





# Analysis Choices

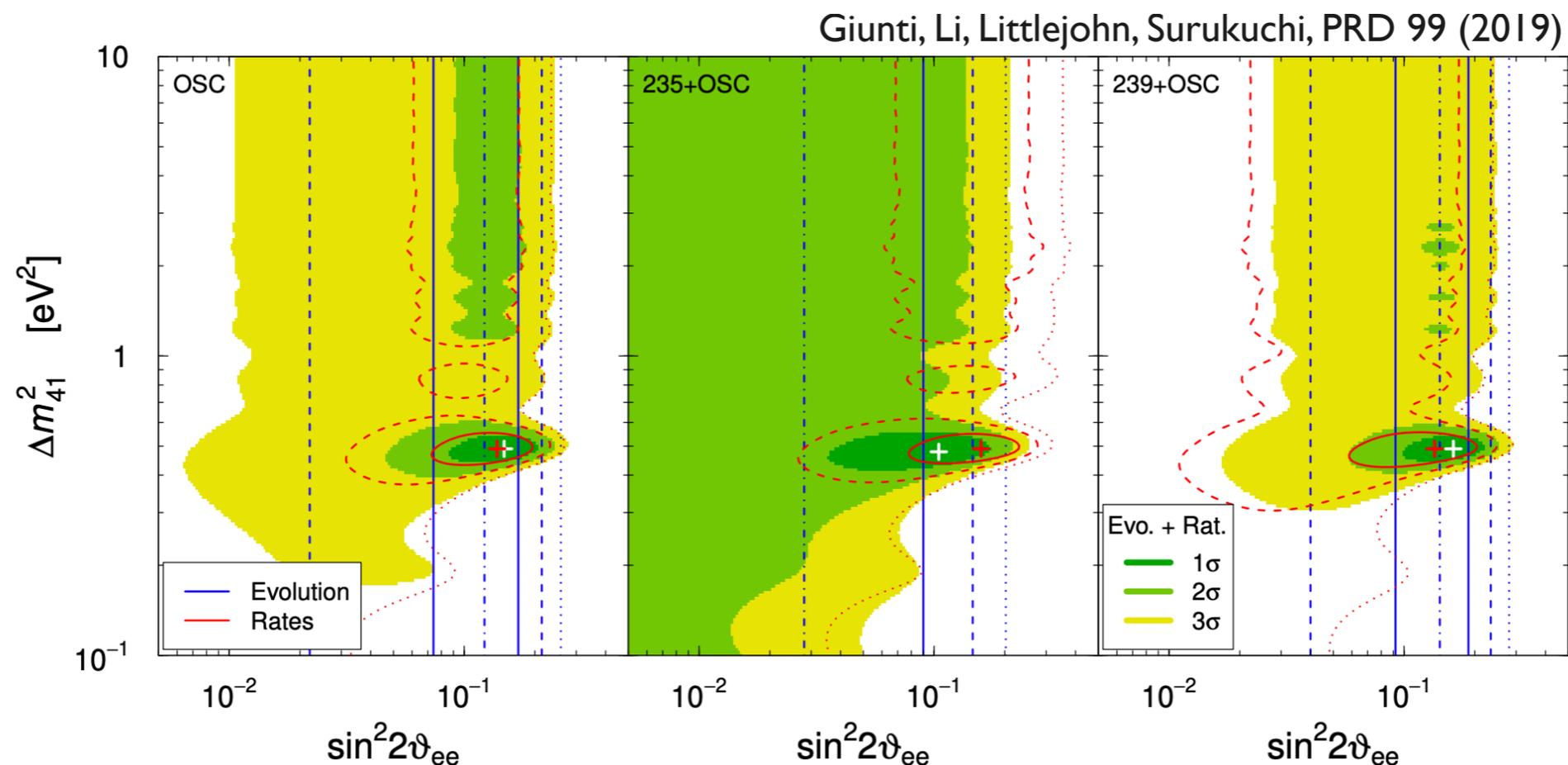
- Keep in mind variations in the information being used to generate sensitivity/exclusion contours
- Varied use of absolute spectrum information
  - Compare measured spectrum to a reference spectrum (NEOS)
    - Necessary when you only have one accessible baseline in your experiment
    - Will require knowledge of absolute detector response and associated systematic uncertainty, which is almost certainly larger than those described on the previous page
    - Also requires consideration of possible differences in reactor fuel content and design
  - Use absolute spectrum to boost a result based on a ‘spectrum ratio’ (TAO)
    - Spectrum ratio helps at high  $\Delta m^2$ ; absolute comparison to a model helps at low  $\Delta m^2$
  - Approach seems fine, as long as you are conservative about the errors associated with your measurement and your model
    - Also must fully communicate this in a detailed way i.e. in publications.





# Analysis Choices

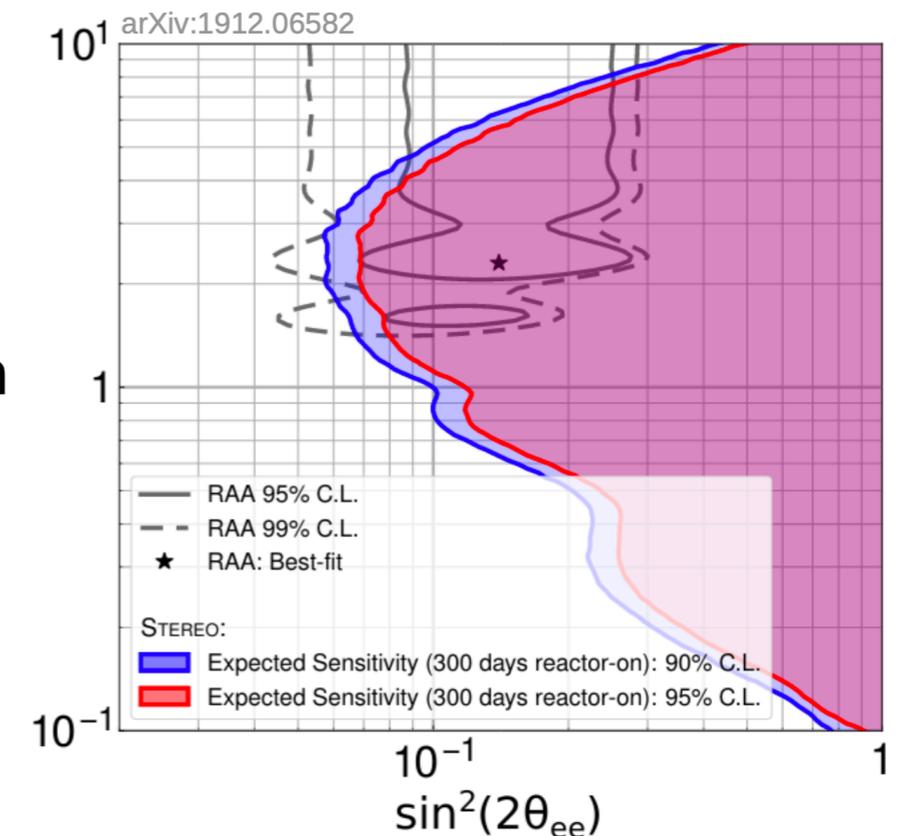
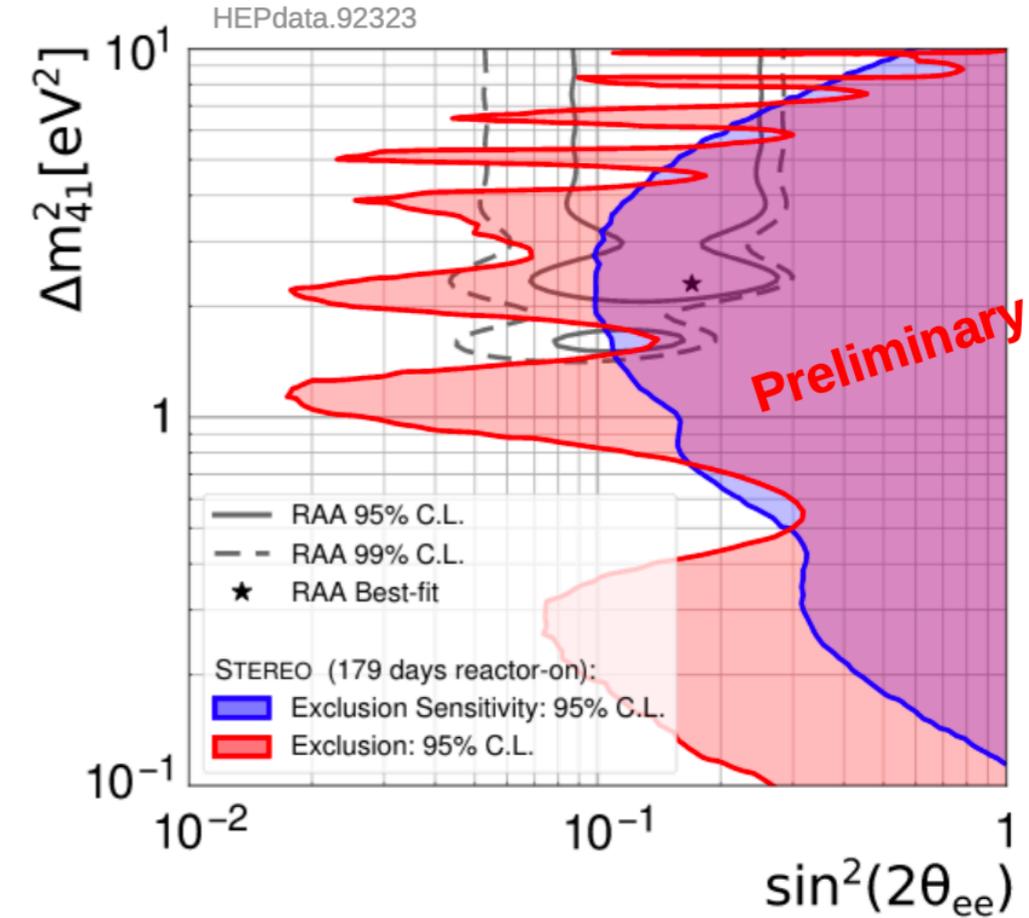
- Keep in mind variations in the information being used to generate sensitivity/exclusion contours
- Use of absolute rate information
  - Likely only helps experiments' contours 'look better' at very high  $\Delta m^2$
  - We don't understand the absolute flux, or how it changes with fuel content!
  - Experimenters: can we all agree to not use absolute rate information in our short-baseline reactor sensitivity/exclusion fits/contours...?



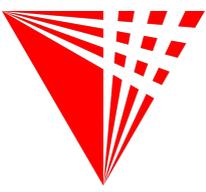
# STEREO



- Pros
  - Compact core: ~50cm diameter/height
  - Short baseline: 6-9 m baseline coverage
- Cons
  - Lower statistics: roughly 75k IBDs
  - Background is manageable, but non-negligible: S:B~1
- Sensitivity is very good
  - Particularly good at high mass splitting
  - Note: 'higher'  $\chi^2$  for null-osc hypothesis; leads to 'big wiggles' and 'better-than-average' exclusion
- Will increase the size of its dataset by end of 2020
  - Not aware of any planned upgrade beyond that.



# Solid



- Pros

- Compact core: ~50cm diameter/height
- Short baseline: 6-9 m baseline coverage

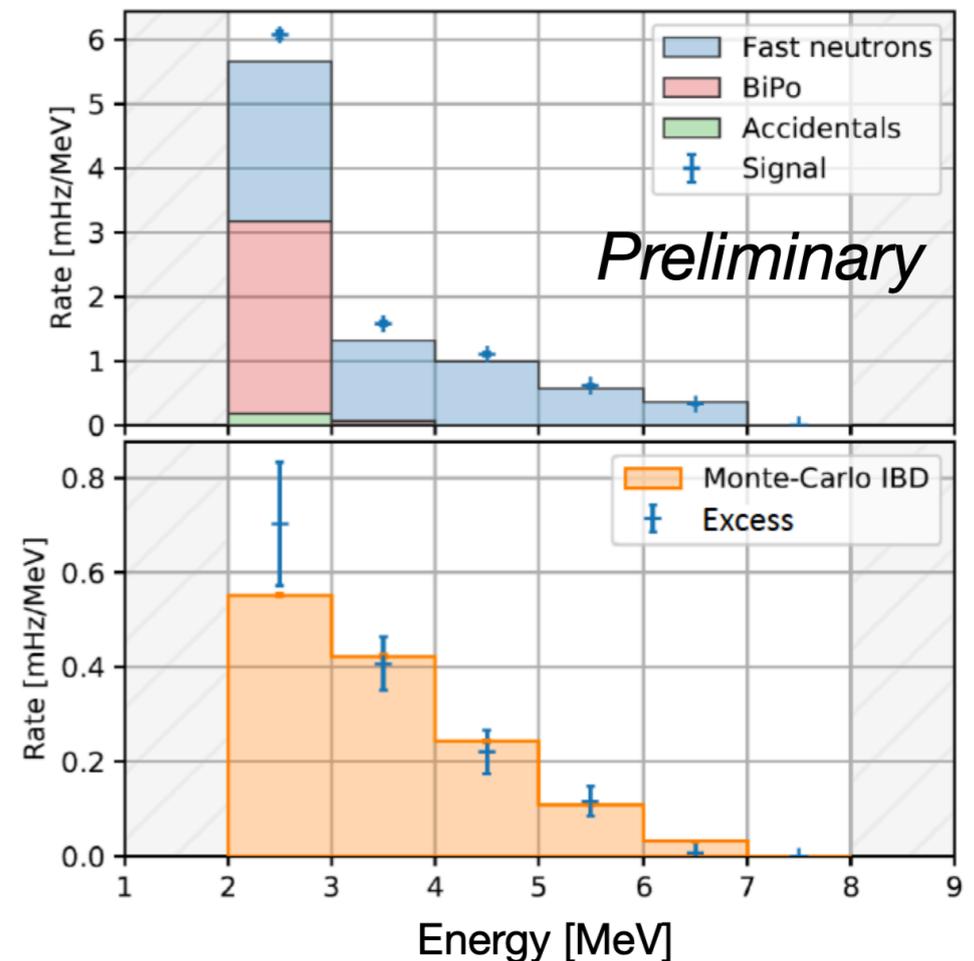
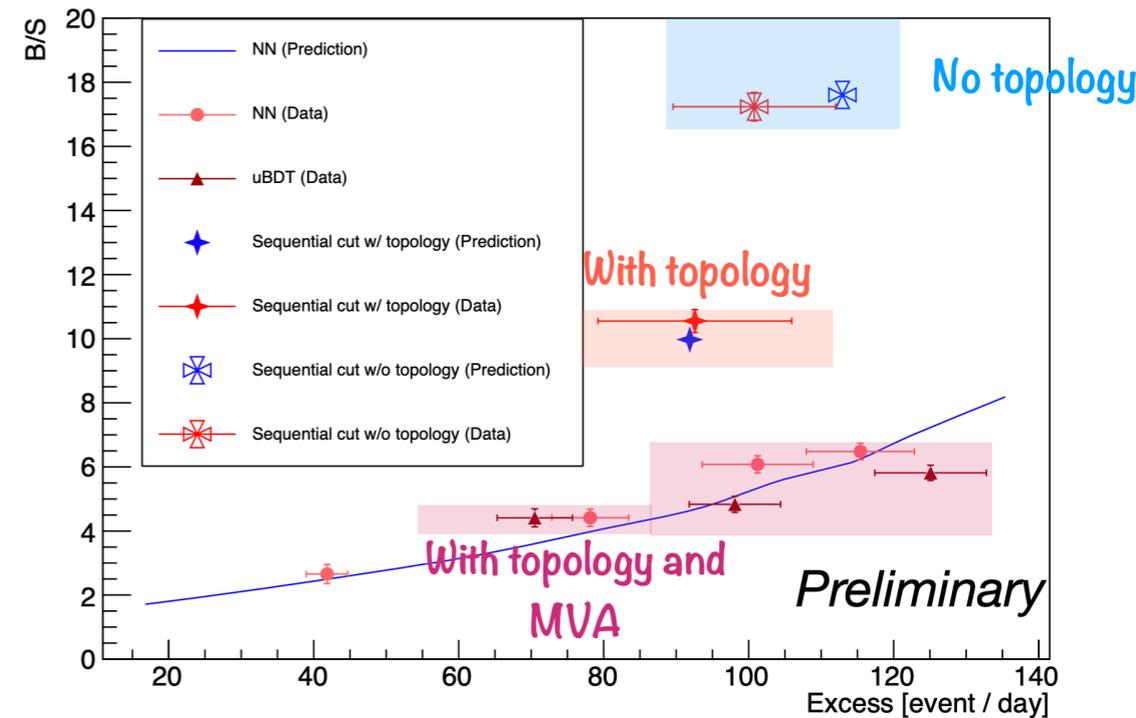
- Cons

- S:B is currently not great: somewhere between 1:4 and 1:10 at present?

- Haven't yet reported oscillation results

- Unless S:B improves, it will be hard to field a competitive exclusion
- Upgraded detector will lower threshold by 40%, and perhaps get to 1:1 S:B
- Get 1000 IBD interactions/day, but unclear how long an upgraded run would last

Solid, ICHEP 2020





- **Pros**

- LEU data already in hand: 4M IBD events!
- S:B is excellent due to high rate and having the reactor as overburden (!!!)
- Situated well for systematics cancellation
- Quite close: 10m closest distance

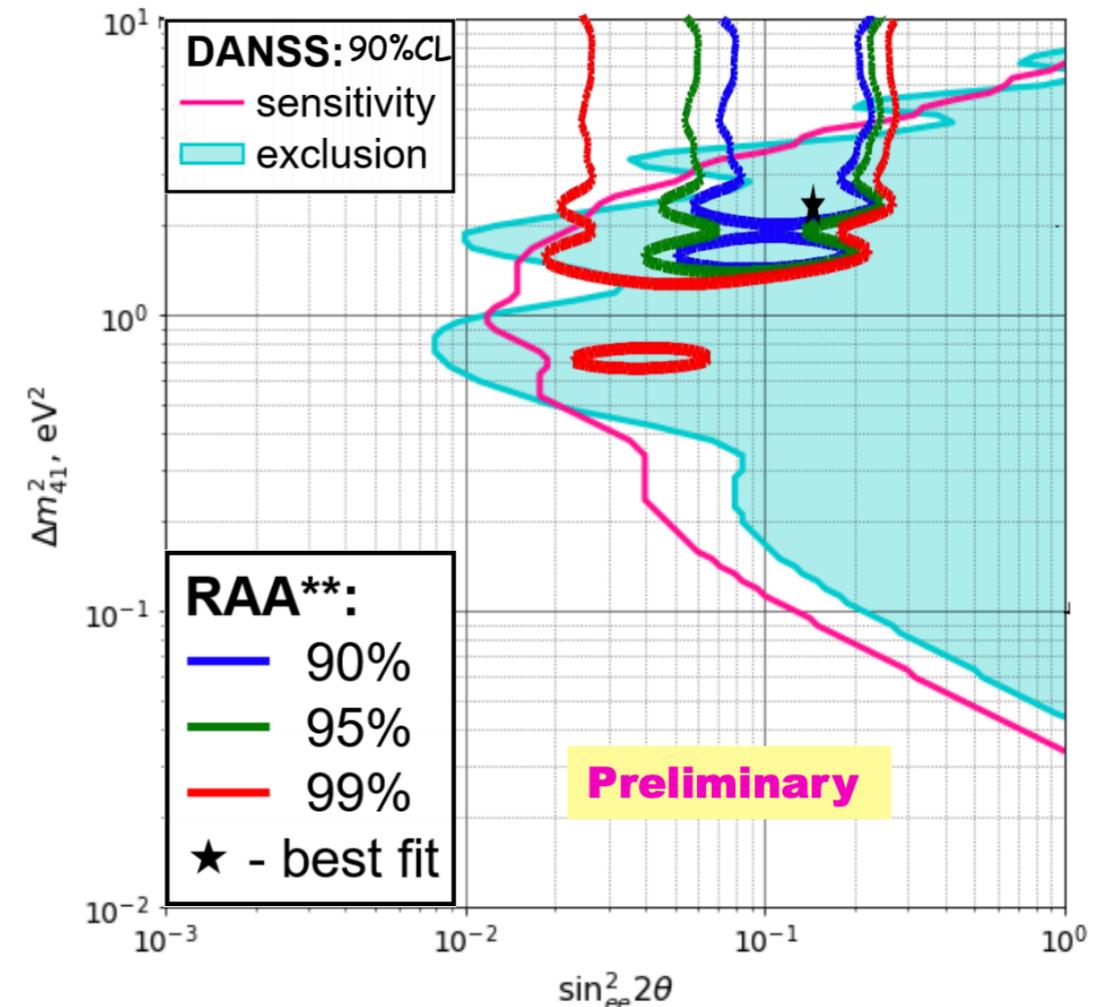
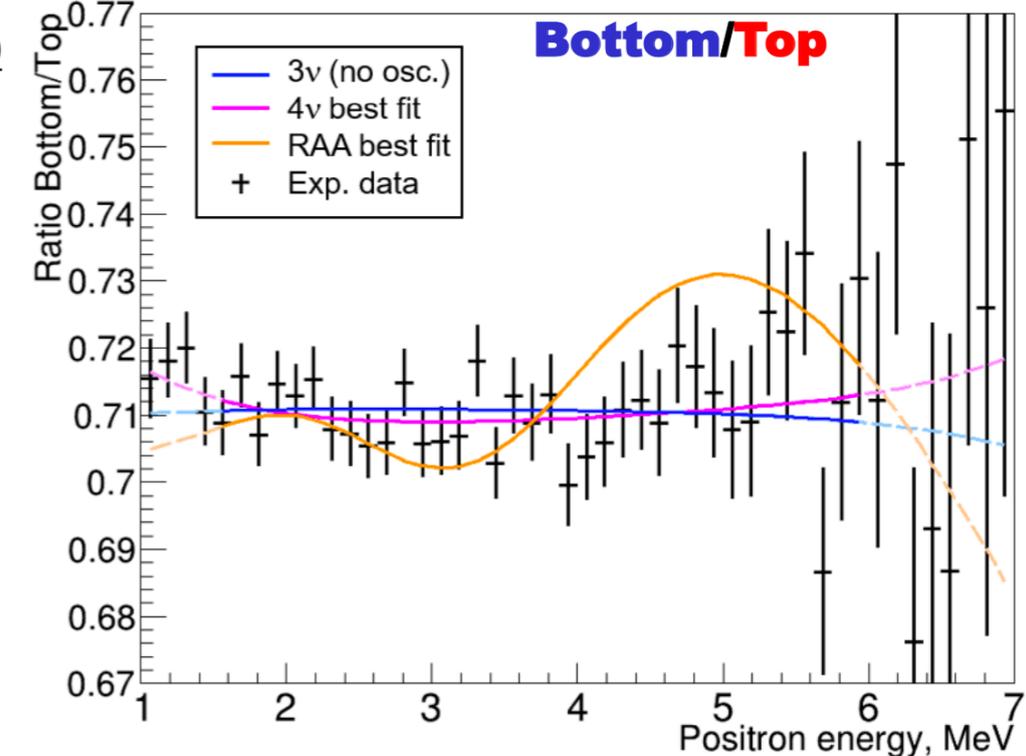
- **Cons**

- Large reactor: >3m height
- Broad energy resolution: ~35%

- **Excellent demonstrated exclusion**

- Most precise limit of any SBL experiment (<1% precision!), but  $\Delta m^2$  range more limited than other experiments
- Detailed description of systematics in a long PRD publication would be valuable

DANSS, Neutrino 2020





- Pros

- LEU data already in hand: 4M IBD events!
- S:B is excellent due to high rate and having the reactor as overburden (!!!)
- Situated well for systematics cancellation
- Quite close: 10m closest distance

- Cons

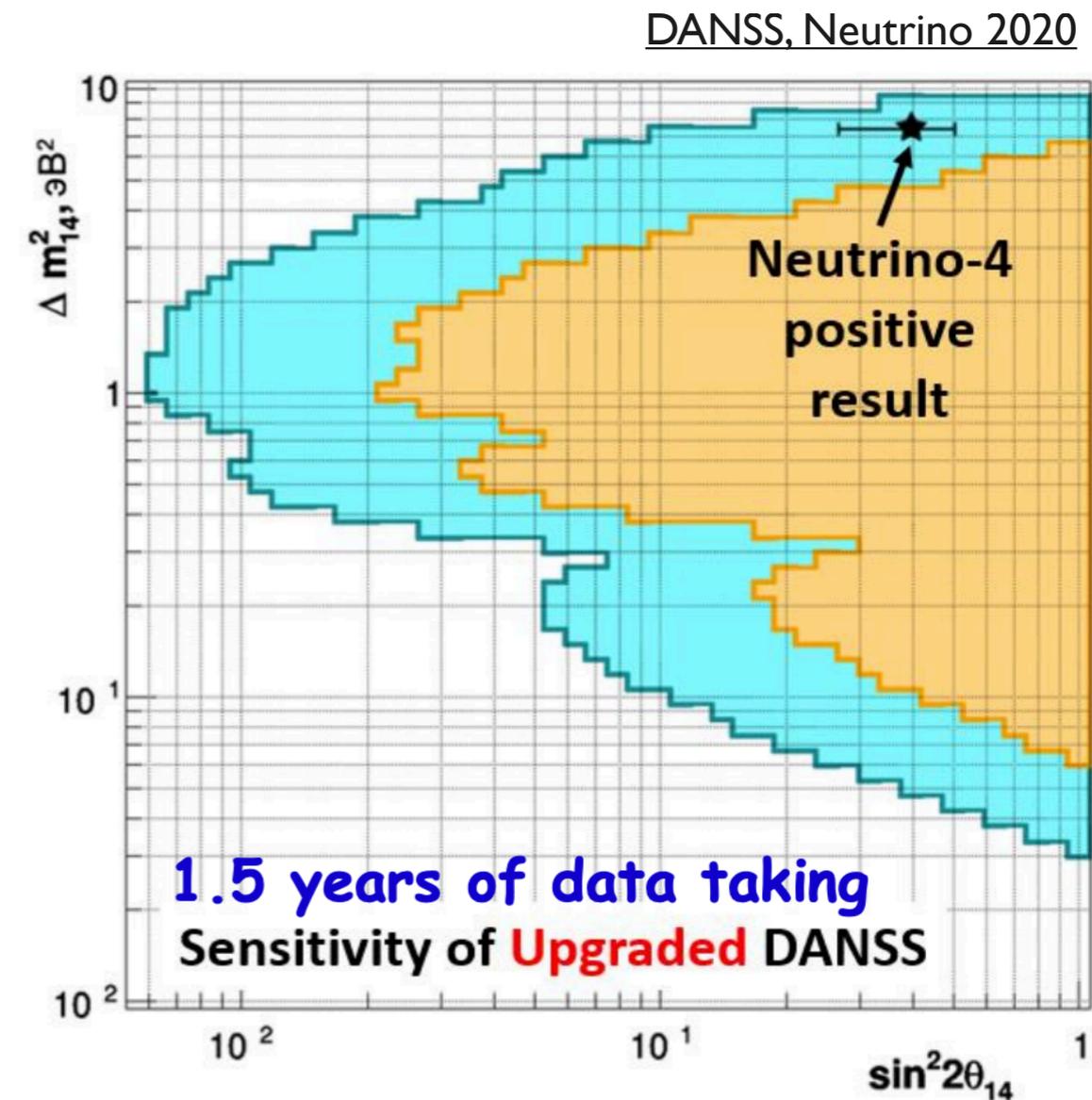
- Large reactor: >3m height

- Upgrade

- Yellow: published PLB result;  
Blue: claimed upgrade sensitivity

- With this high of statistics, systematics are increasingly important; reduced/improved systematics may provide more benefit than new data.

- With increased importance of systematics, full description of those systematics becomes very crucial to assessing veracity of claimed exclusion/sensitivity.





- Pros:

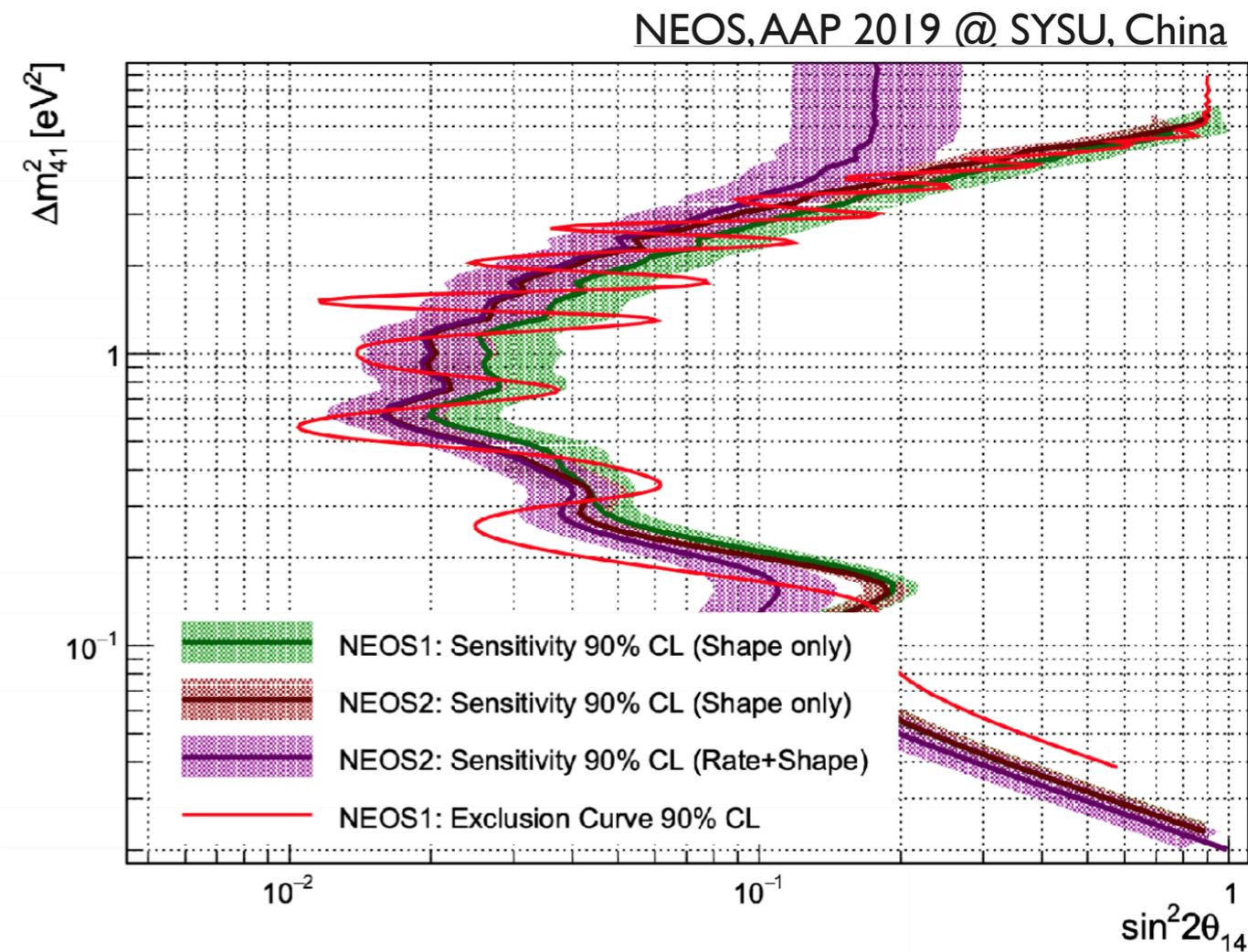
- LEU Data is in hand already:  $\sim 1.1\text{M}$  IBDs expected
  - Compare to NEOS-I:  $\sim 0.4\text{M}$  IBDs
- S:B is excellent due to 20 mwe overburden: better than 10:1

- Cons:

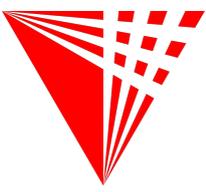
- Longer baseline: 24 meters
- Larger reactor:  $>3\text{m}$  height, diameter
- Systematics cancellation is 'indirect:' compare to DYB unfolded antineutrino spectrum

- Sensitivity will be  $\sim 25\%$  better than NEOS-I

- Only paying attention to 'shape-only' here...



# JUNO-TAO



JUNO, arXiv:2005.08745 (2020)

- Pros:

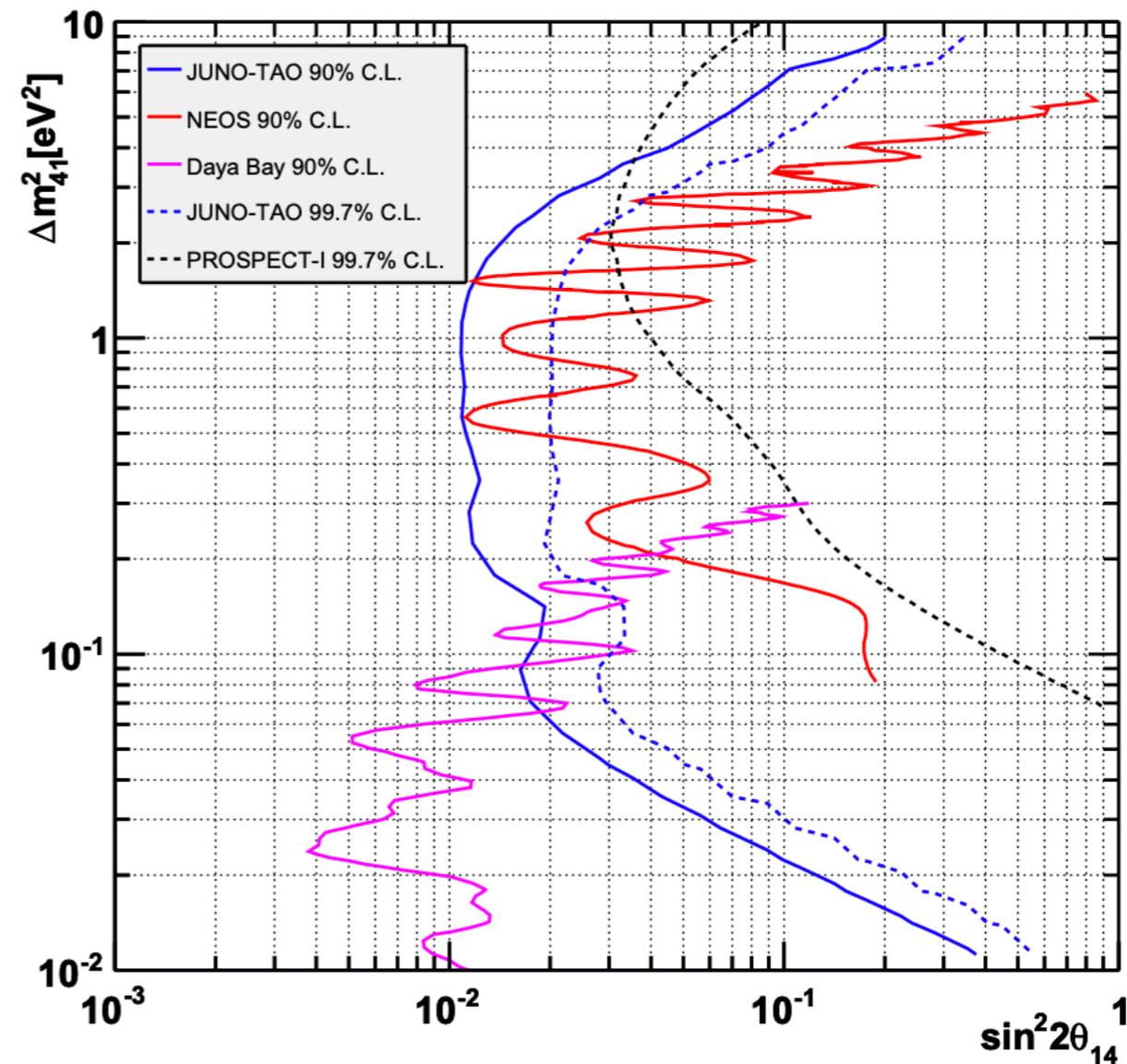
- 3 years running with 2000 events/day:  $\sim 1.75\text{M}$  IBD events
- Excellent energy resolution:  $\sim 1\%$

- Cons:

- Longer baseline:  $\sim 32\text{m}$
- Larger reactor:  
>3m diameter, height
- $\sim$ no overburden (like PROSPECT),  
but GdLS. TBD if S:B will be good
  - Assumed 10:1 S:B in sterile projections

- Claimed sensitivity is quite good

- More stats than NEOS, so makes sense
- Particularly at higher  $\Delta m^2$
- Note: contour includes 5% spectrum shape constraint; not sure about rate.



# Neutrino-4



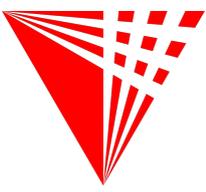
- Pros

- Compact core: < 50cm diameter/height
- Short and wide baseline coverage: 6-12 m baseline
- Many years of data-taking at ~200 IBD detections/day; should have >100k IBD in the can?

- Cons

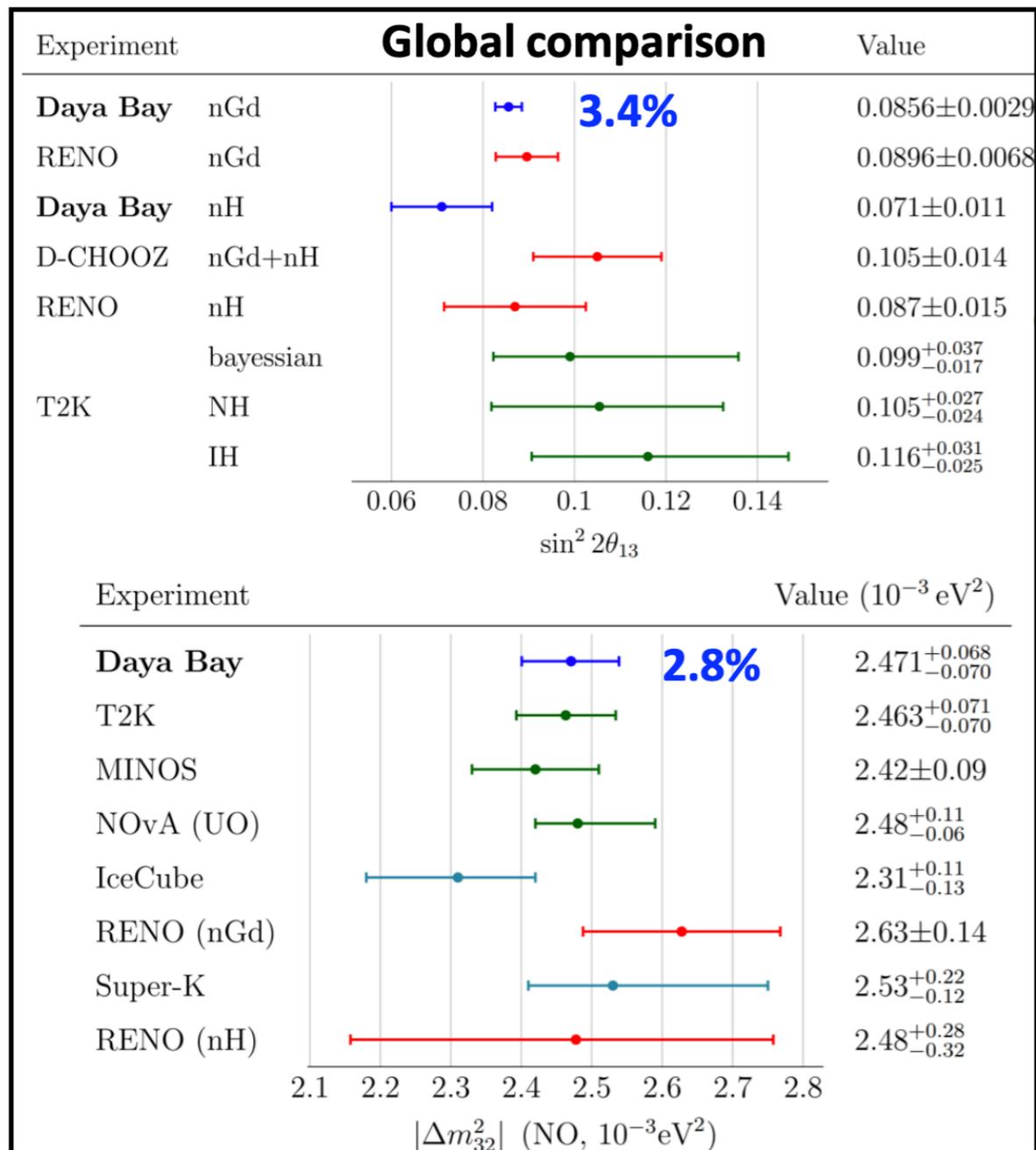
- Claimed S:B of 0.5; not good, but not horrible either
- Has all the makings of a sensitivity on par with both STEREO and PROSPECT
- Beyond this, it's difficult to say much more: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2006.13147>
- Experiment will continue to take data for the foreseeable future, I think.

# Standard Model Oscillation Experiments

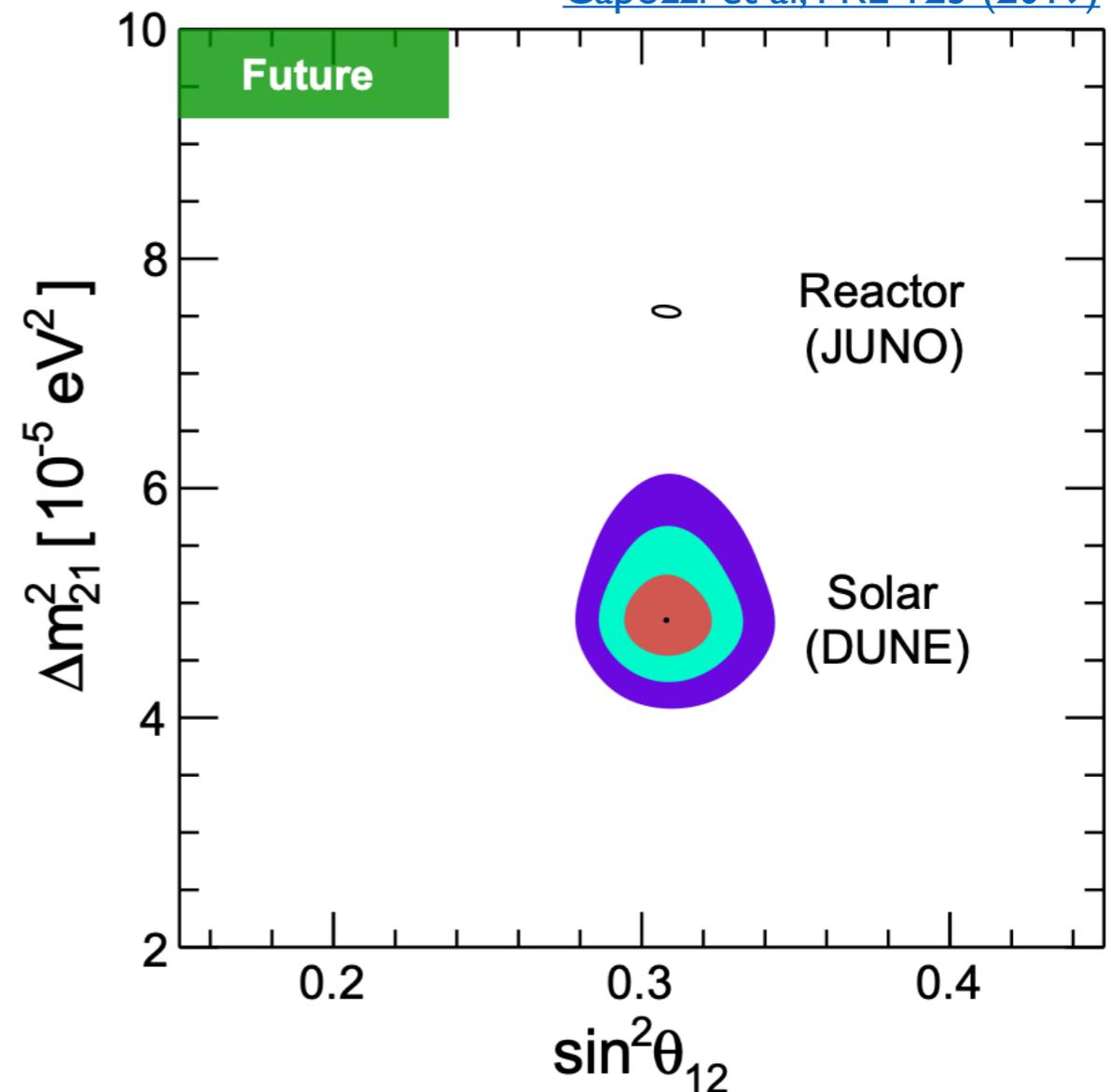


- 10 years from now reactor nu measurements will hold best precision on most SM neutrino osc parameters!

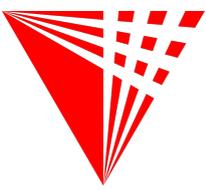
Daya Bay Snowmass LOI



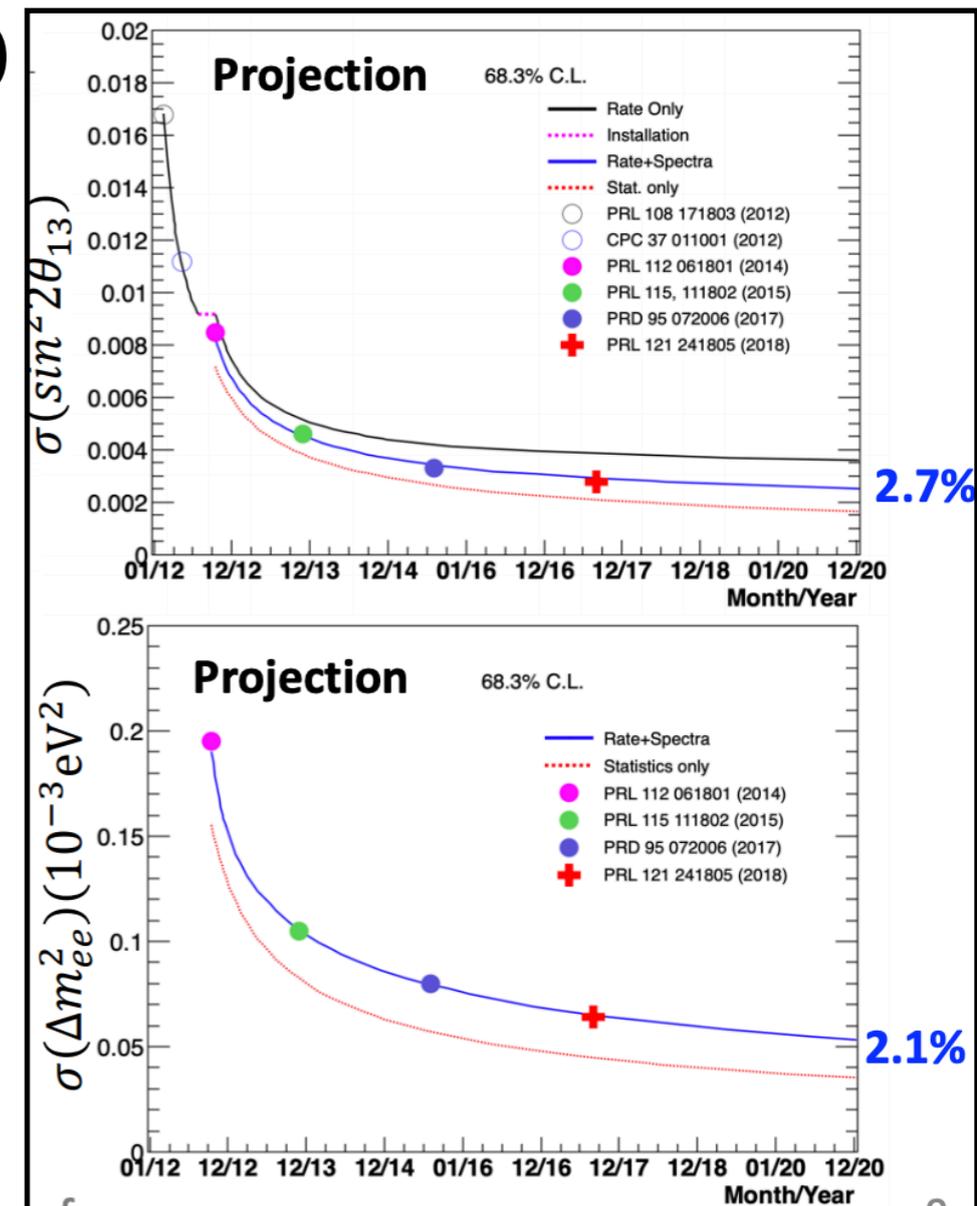
Capozzi et al, PRL 123 (2019)



# $\theta_{13}$ Experiments



- $\theta_{13}$  experiments are complete or almost complete, with final results here, or in the next few years
- Modest future improvements in osc precision can be expected: for example, DYB will improve from  $\theta_{13}$  current 3.4% to ultimate  $\sim 2.7\%$  precision
- Daya Bay will turn off in December 2020
  - Most recent analyses use data through late 2016:  $\sim 5$  years' data used,  $\sim 4$  years' data left to analyze
  - Final dataset results expected at Neutrino 2022
- Double Chooz is done
  - Full experimental dataset published in [Nature](#)
- RENO is done (?)
  - Most recent  $\theta_{13}$  results at [Neutrino 2020](#) use data thru Feb. 2020; not sure if more exists

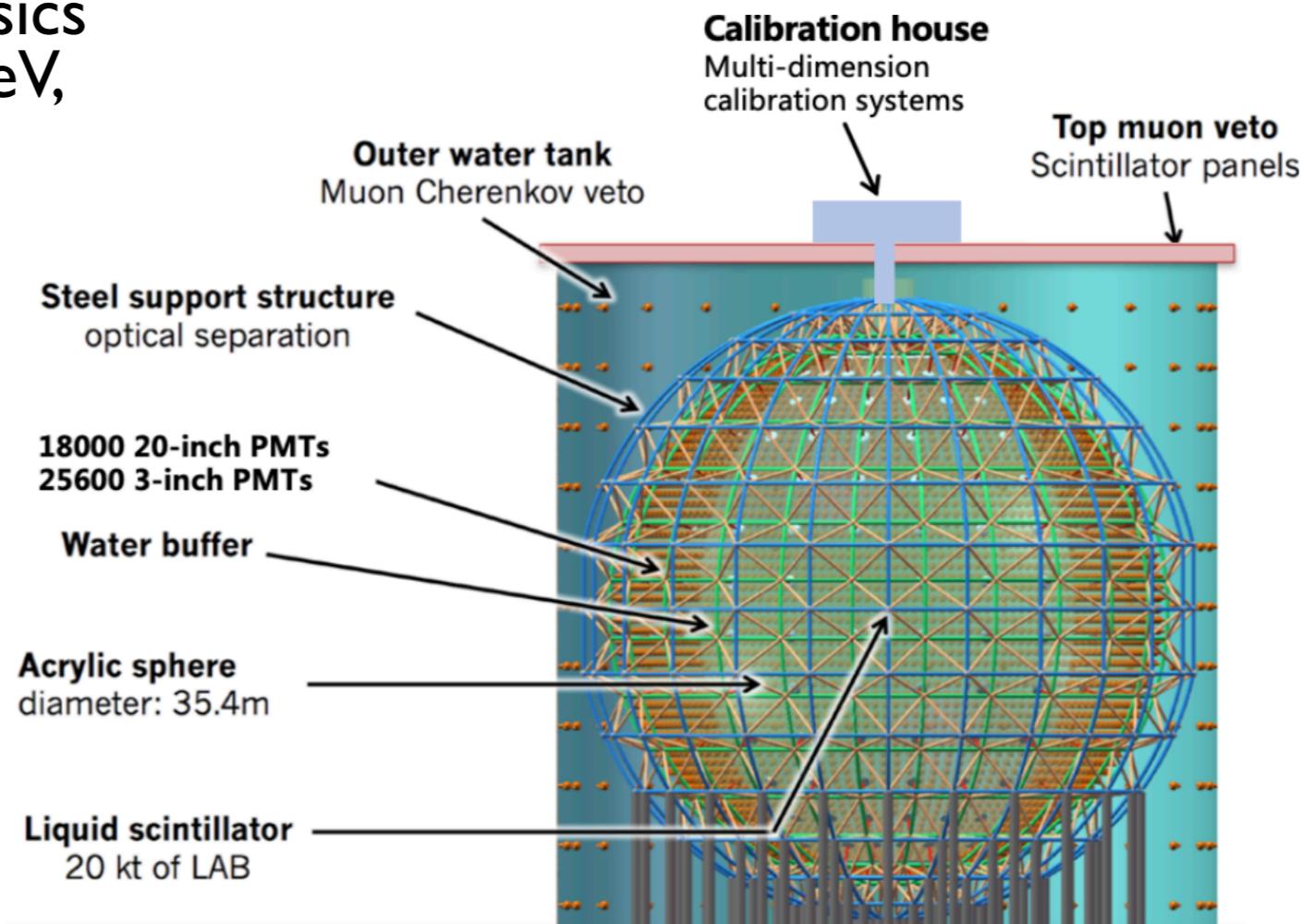


# Mass Hierarchy: JUNO



[JUNO Snowmass LOI](#)

- JUNO will start data-taking in 2022
  - $3\sigma$  on mass hierarchy in  $\sim 6$  years (2028)
  - Solar, geo, supernova, atm neutrino goals have 10-year quoted timelines (2032)
- Optimistically: we should think of JUNO like SuperK. Hopefully it will just run... forever.
- DO NOT under-estimate the physics one can do with 20kT, 1200 PE/MeV, and  $\sim$ ns timing precision!!!!
- So we will NEVER stop doing reactor experiments :)

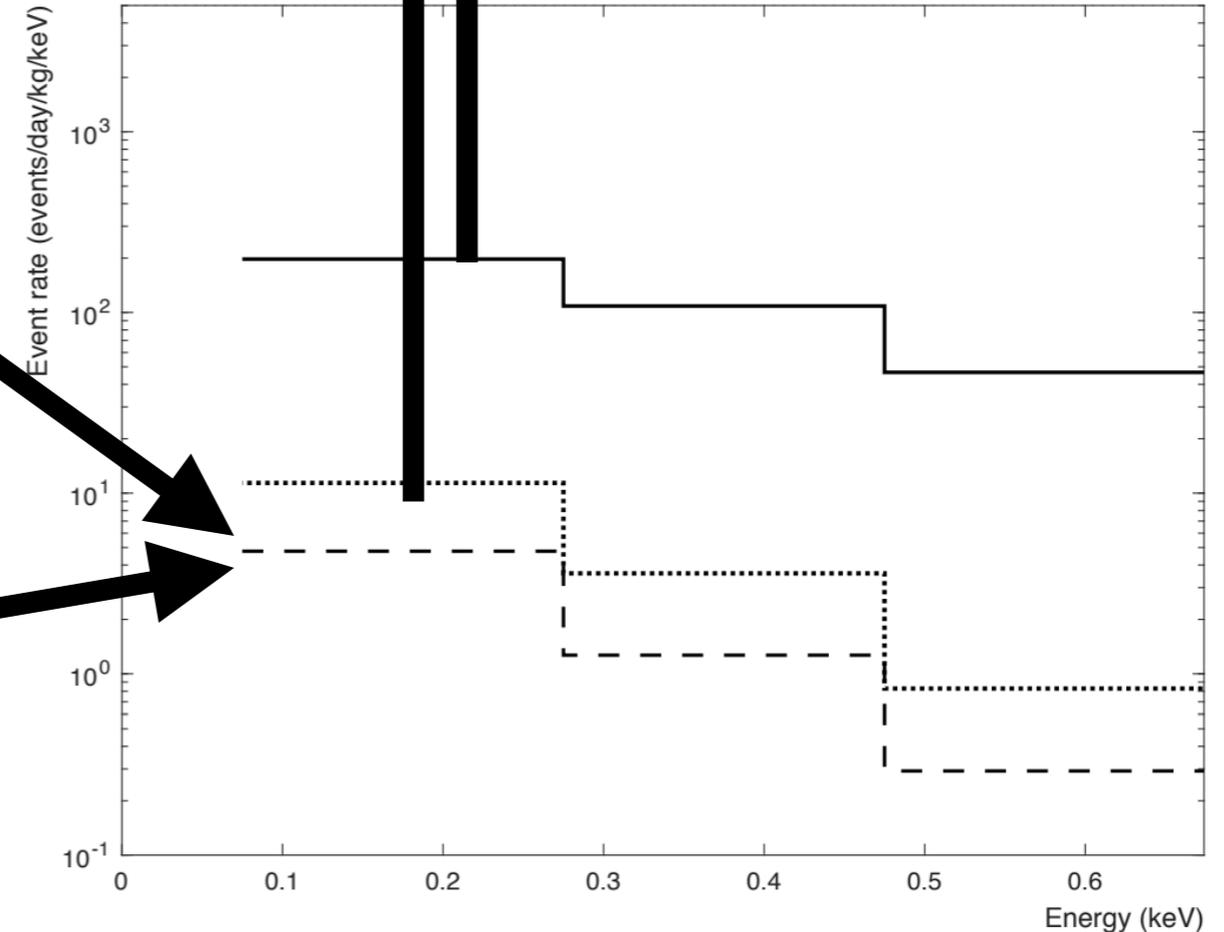
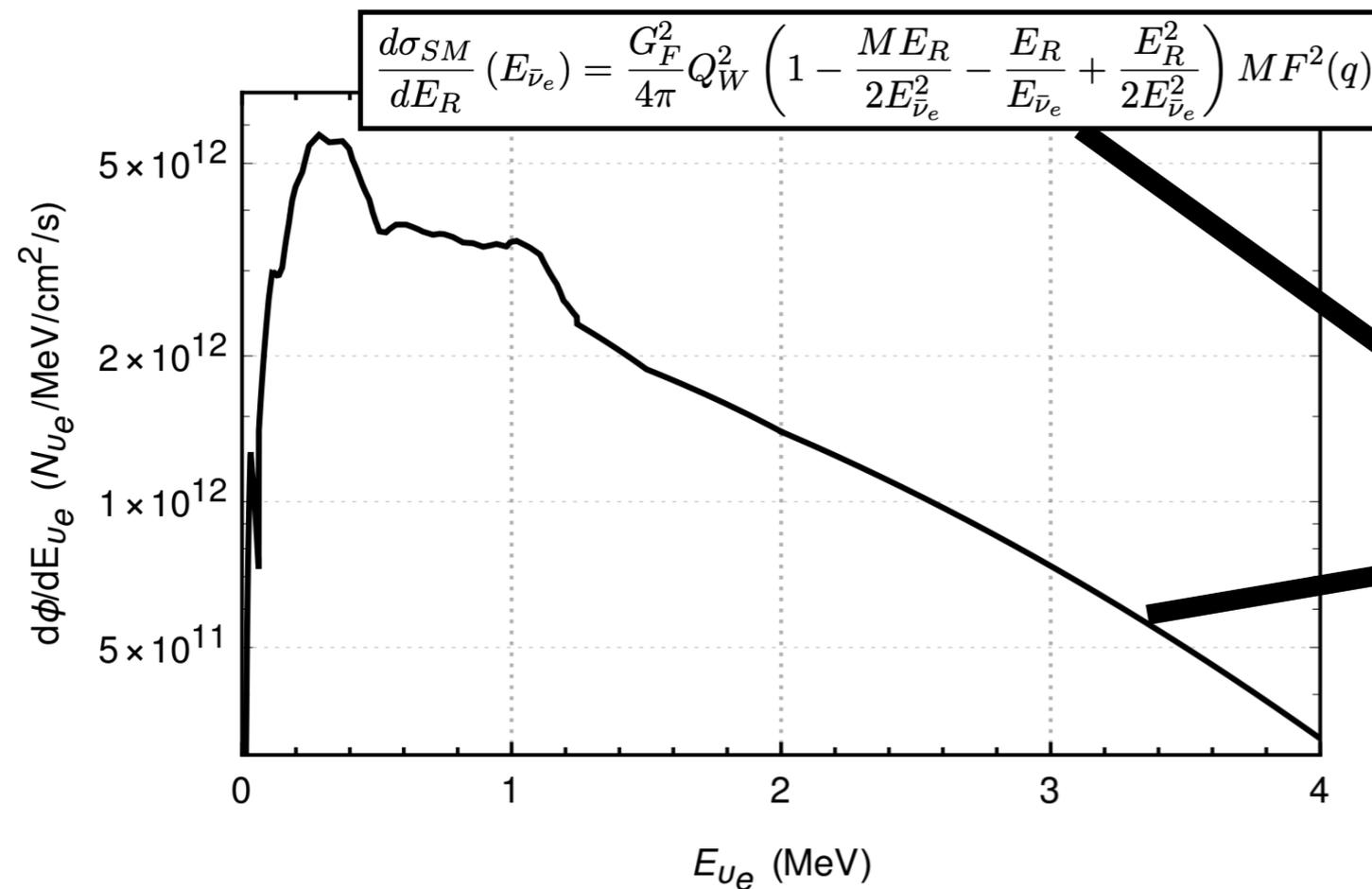
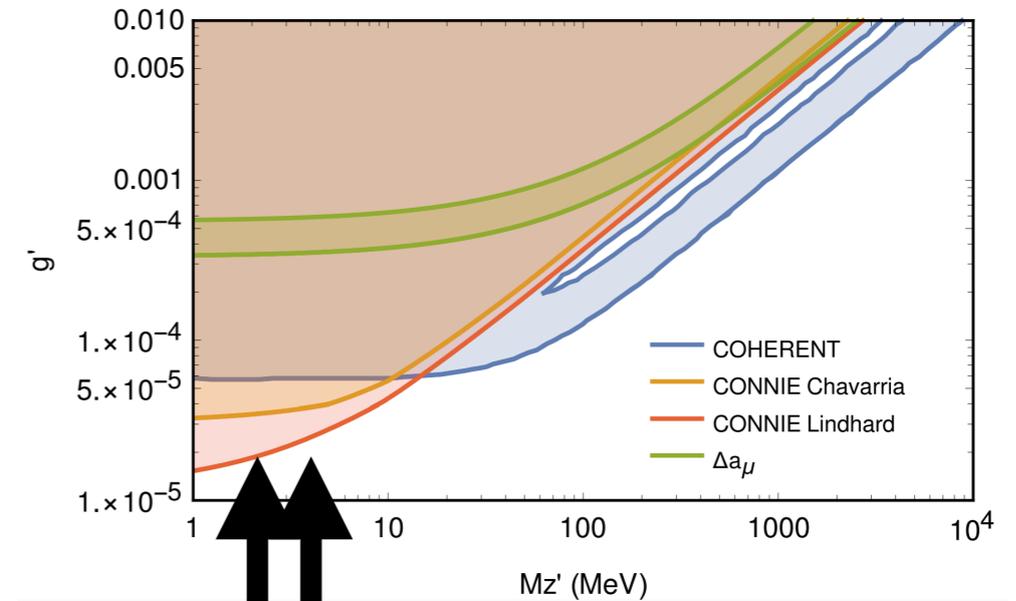


# How To Do BSM with Reactor CEvNS



- Predict your reactor antineutrino flux times SM cross-section
- Measure it with a CEvNS detector
- Set limits on deviations from that SM prediction
- Key input: reactor antineutrino flux!

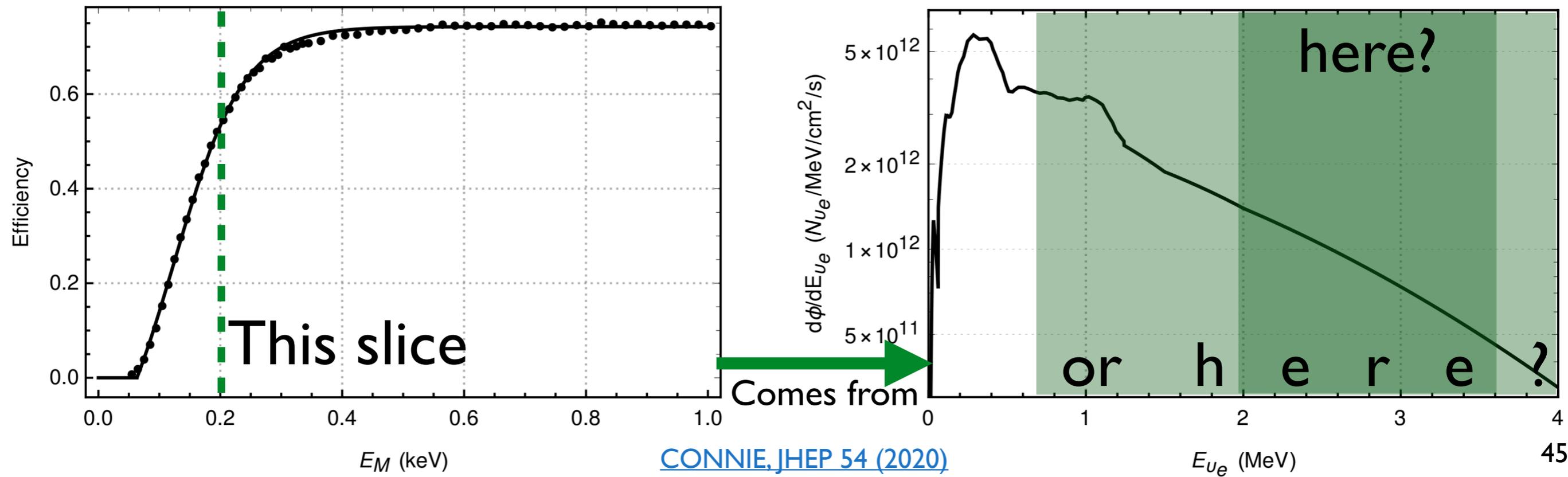
[CONNIE, JHEP 54 \(2020\)](#)



# An Important Consideration: $E_{\text{nu}}$ to $E_{\text{meas}}$



- How does neutrino energy map to measured recoil energy?
  - “How much of the  $E_m$  spectrum above 0.2 keV arises from ( $E_{\text{nu}}$ ) above 2 MeV?”
  - I’m sure there’s a well-defined answer here, I’m just unlearned on the topic
- This determines a lot about what flux uncertainties matter!
  - If there’s a tight correlation, the  $>8\text{MeV}$  flux uncertainties may matter a lot to CONUS or CONNIE, and can be greatly helped by IBD measurements!
  - If there’s a very loose correlation, then the  $<2\text{ MeV}$  flux uncertainties are likely very important, in which case IBD measurements likely can’t help much.



# Isotopic Origins: A Broader View



- Our simplified Q: 'Which isotopes produce the bump?'
- Experiments weighing in so far (my over-simplified summary...)

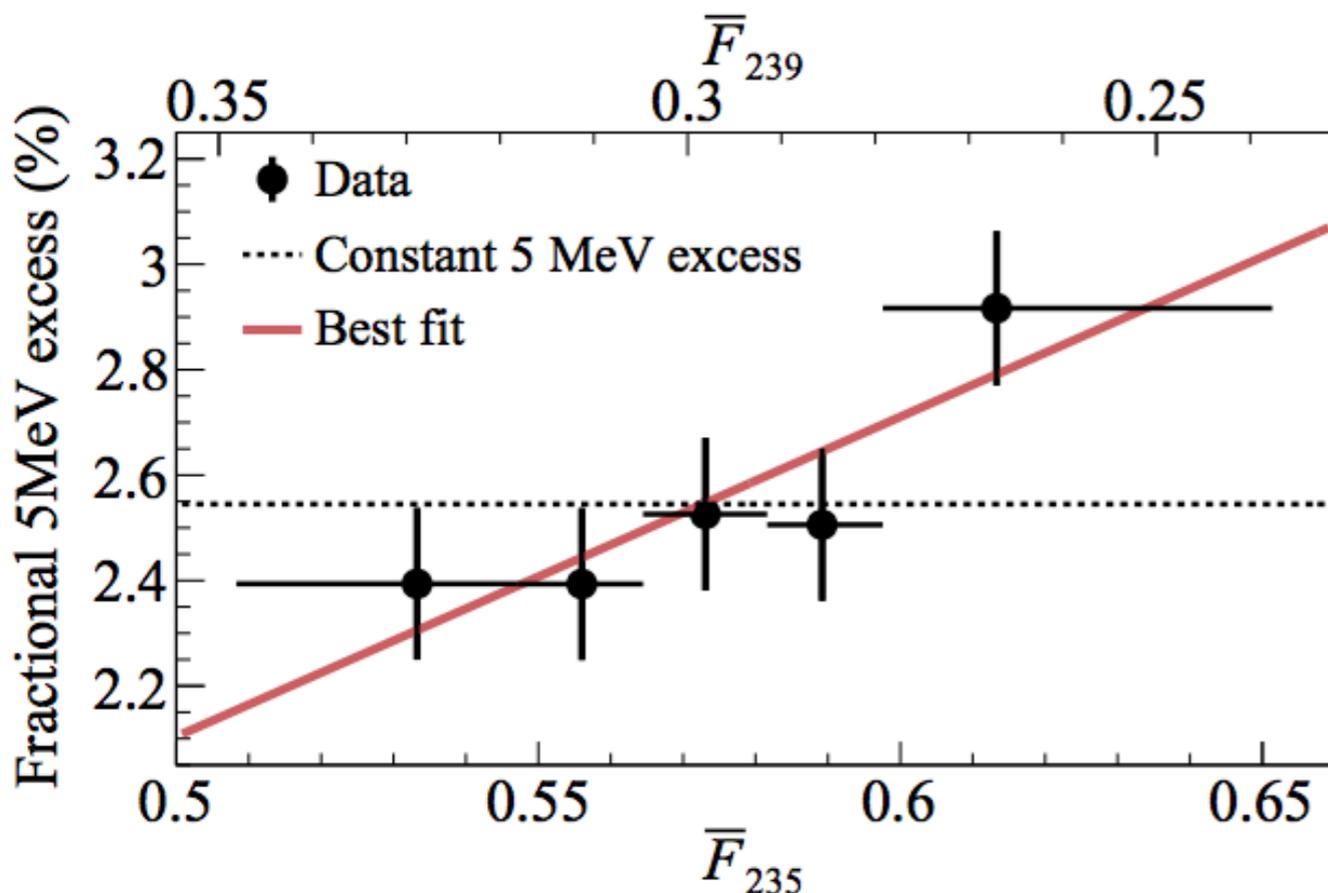
Experiment	~Only 235 (~No 239 bump)	Common origin	No 235 bump (~Pu only)	
Daya Bay	<b>OK</b>	<b>OK</b>	<b>NO</b>	<a href="#">Daya Bay, PRL 123 (2019)</a>
RENO	<b>OK</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>	<a href="#">RENO, PRL 122 (2019)</a>
PROSPECT	<b>NO</b>	<b>OK</b>	<b>NO</b>	<a href="#">PROSPECT, arXiv:2006.11210 (2020)</a>
STEREO	<b>OK</b>	<b>OK</b>	<b>NO</b>	<a href="#">STEREO, arXiv:2010.01876 (2020)</a>

- Most likely hypothesis: a common isotopic origin
  - Yields for different fission isotopes extensively overlap! [X. Ma, et al, arXiv:1807.09265 \(2018\)](#)
- All  $\bar{\nu}_e$  data are consistent with this scenario except RENO
  - WHY? Should RENO claims be re-examined?

# Isotopic Origins: RENO



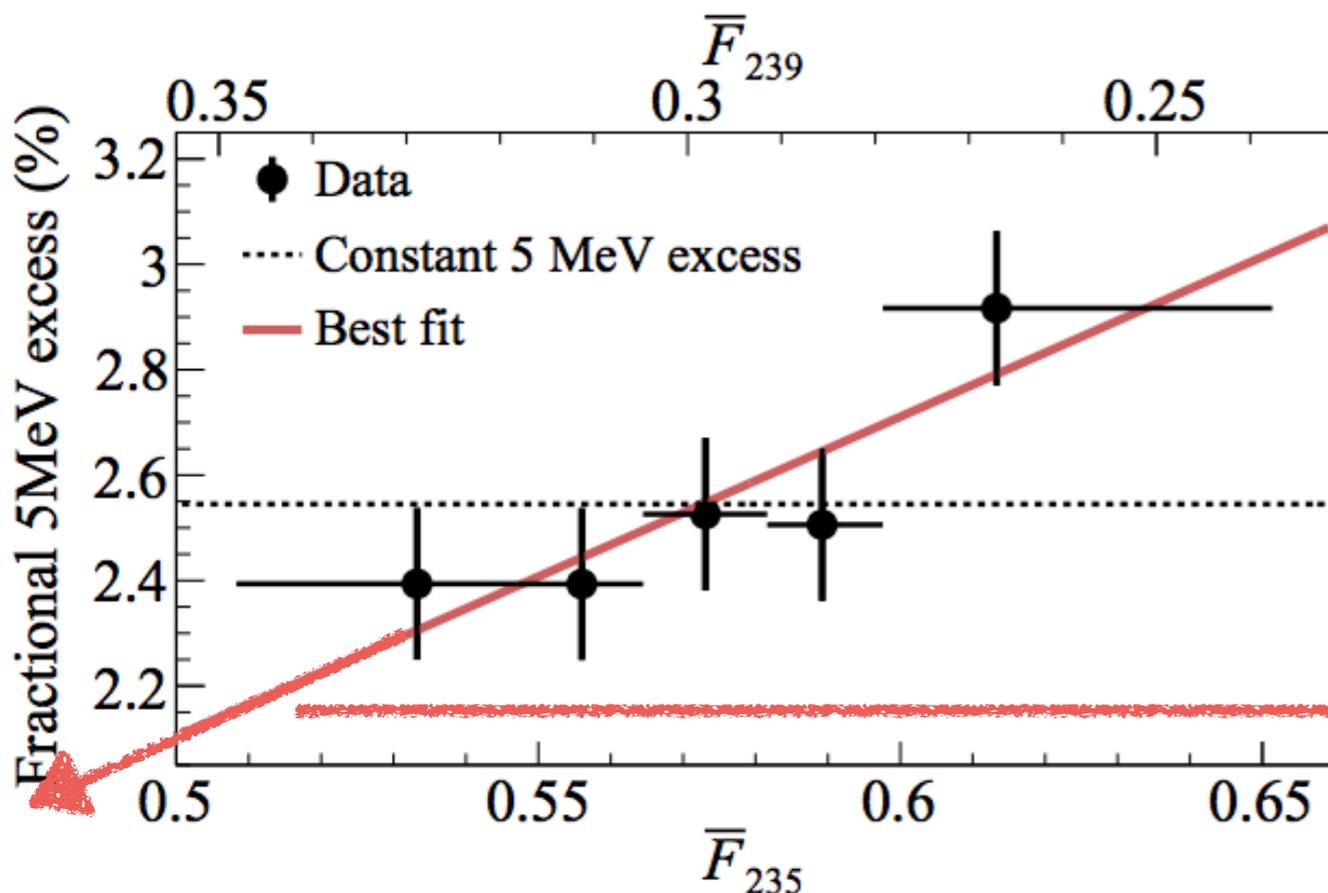
- RENO: does bump size change with fuel content?
  - Claim  $\sim 2.9\sigma$  indication of increasing bump size with increased  $^{235}\text{U}$  burning
  - Newest arXiv posting increases this to  $3.1\sigma$  [RENO, arXiv:2010.14989 \(2020\)](#)



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- RENO: does bump size change with fuel content?
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  - Newest arXiv posting increases this to  $3.1\sigma$  [RENO, arXiv:2010.14989 \(2020\)](#)
- Another way of saying this: U235 has ‘bigger bump’ than Pu239
  - Actually, it’s a ‘bump’ in 235, but a ‘**dip**’ in Pu239!?



X-intercept ( $F_{235} = 0$ )  
is -0.55%!?

# Isotopic Origins: RENO

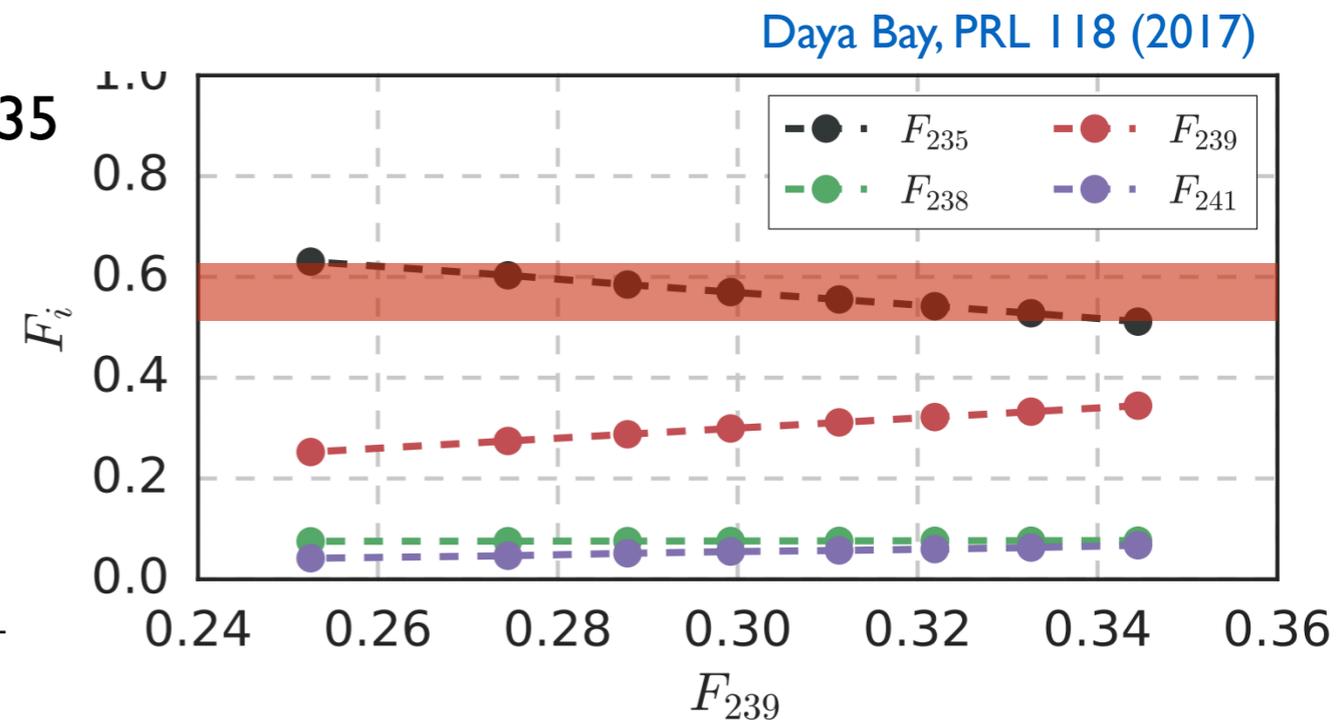


- Similar analysis at RENO: does bump change with fuel content?

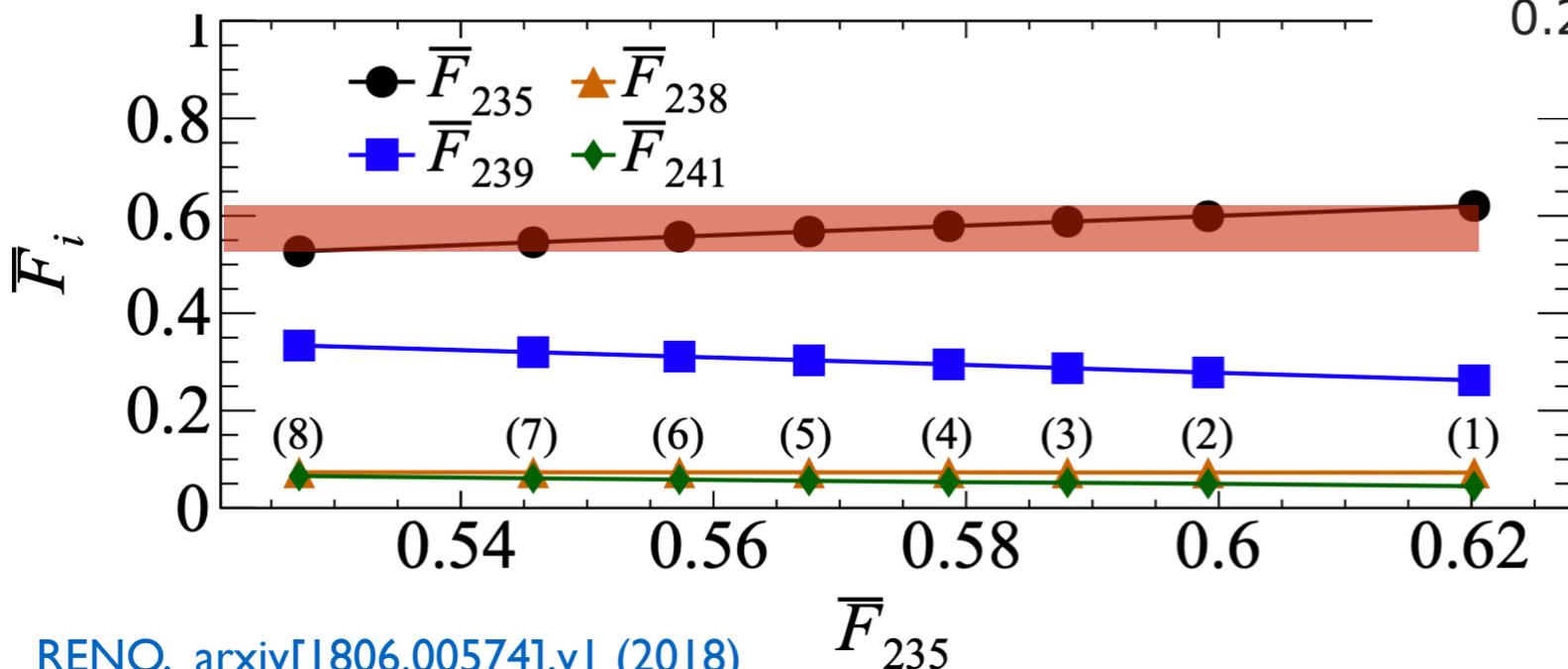
- Ask a meddling competitor:

- Why does RENO have statistical capabilities to say something meaningful, while DYB doesn't? DYB statistics are **>3x larger (!!!)**, and DYB samples slightly large range of fission fractions

Daya Bay: Change in binned U235  
fission fraction of ~12%



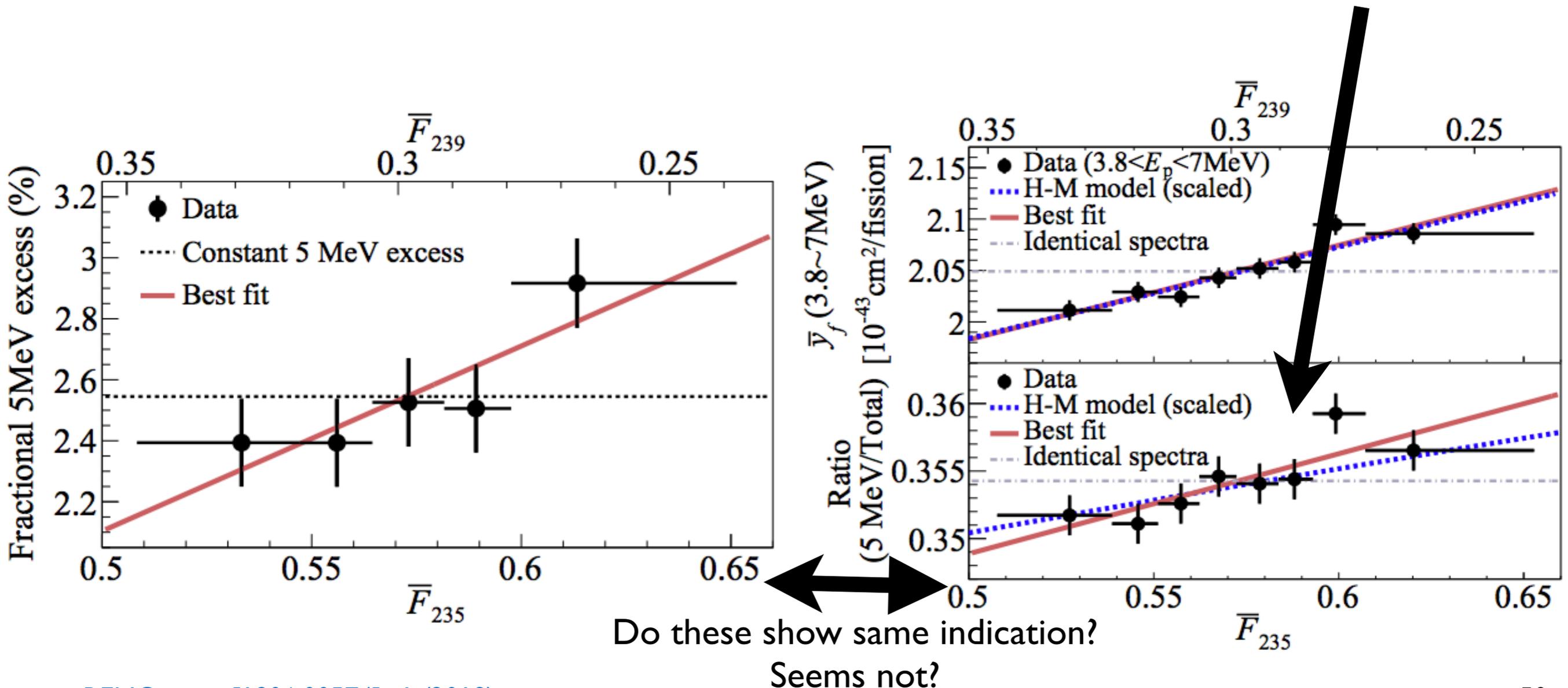
RENO: Change in binned U235  
fission fraction of ~10%





# Isotopic Origins: RENO

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  - Similar metrics don't show similar indications (total 4-7 MeV contribution, for example)



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- Ask a meddling competitor:
  - Why does RENO have statistical capabilities to say something meaningful, while DYB doesn't? DYB statistics are **>3x larger (!!!)**, and DYB samples a larger range of fission fractions!
  - Similar metrics don't show similar indications (total 4-7 MeV contribution, for example)
  - What about behavior in other energy regions? Is 4-7 MeV region an outlier?

