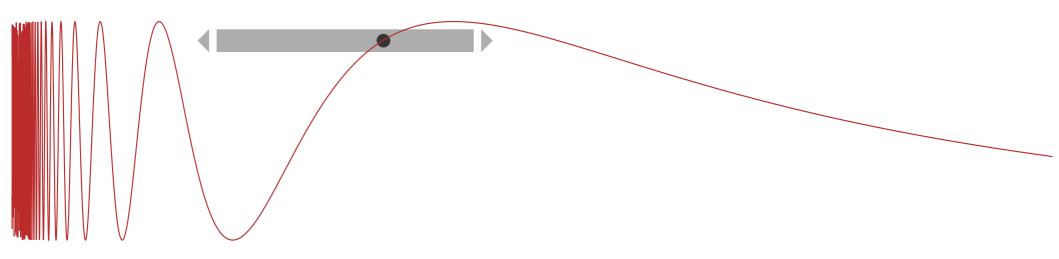
## RECENT RESULTS FROM NOVA





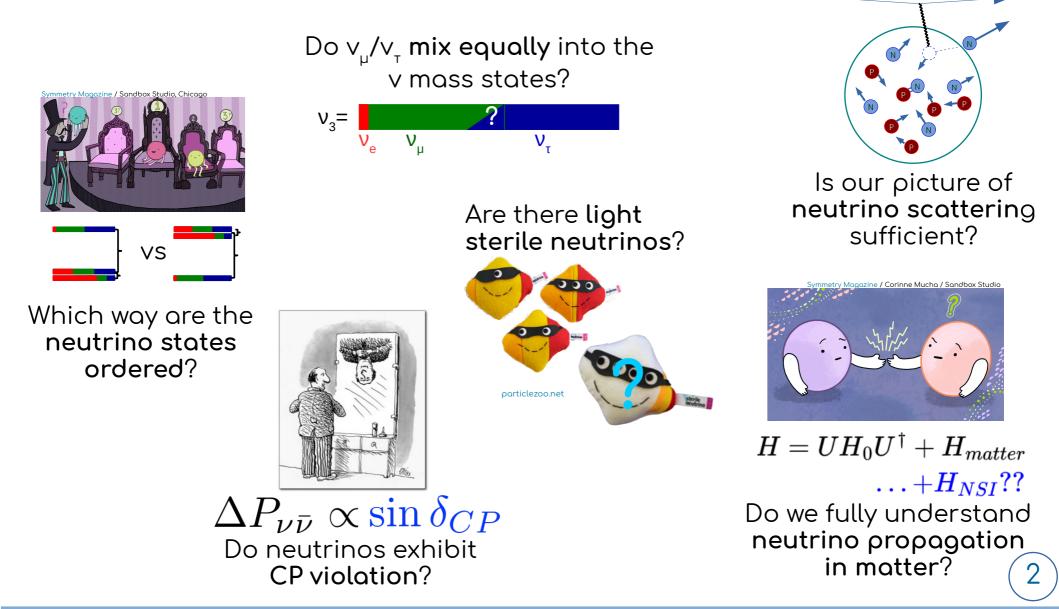
### Jeremy Wolcott

Tufts University [on behalf of the NOvA collaboration]

> NuFact 2022 August 1, 2022

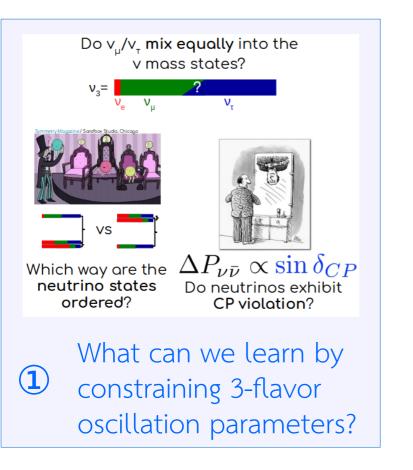


### v questions



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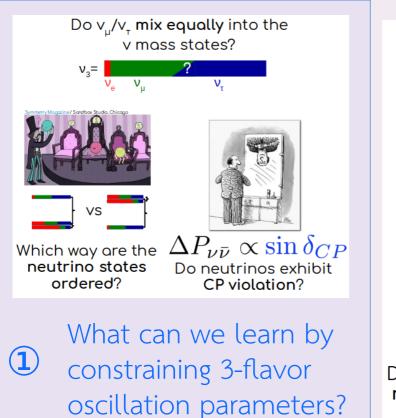
J. Wolcott / Tufts University



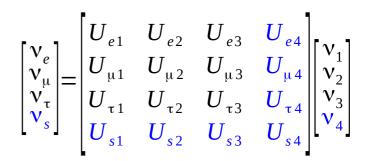
 $\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v}_{e} \\ \mathbf{v}_{\mu} \\ \mathbf{v}_{\tau} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{U}_{e1} & \boldsymbol{U}_{e2} & \boldsymbol{U}_{e3} \\ \boldsymbol{U}_{\mu 1} & \boldsymbol{U}_{\mu 2} & \boldsymbol{U}_{\mu 3} \\ \boldsymbol{U}_{\tau 1} & \boldsymbol{U}_{\tau 2} & \boldsymbol{U}_{\tau 3} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v}_{1} \\ \mathbf{v}_{2} \\ \mathbf{v}_{3} \end{bmatrix}$ 

Are there light

sterile neutrinos?



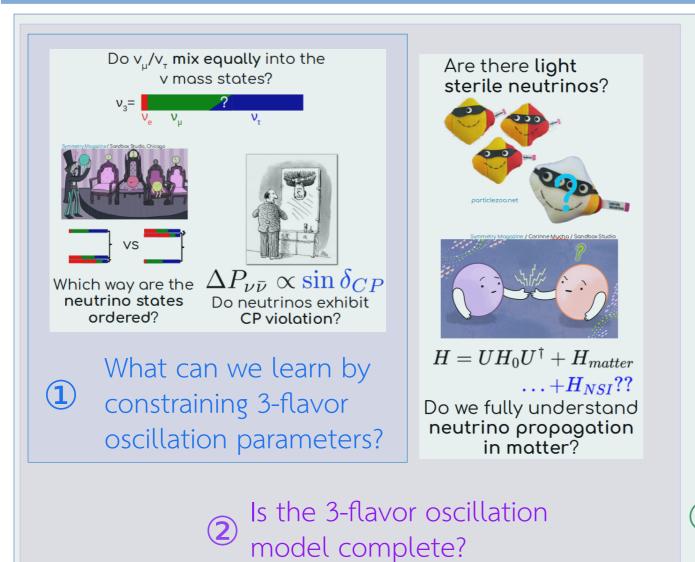
 $H = UH_0U^{\dagger} + H_{matter}$ ...+ $H_{NSI}$ ?? Do we fully understand neutrino propagation in matter?



 $\mathcal{H} = \frac{1}{2E} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \Delta m_{21}^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \Delta m_{21}^2 \end{bmatrix} U_{PMNS}^{\dagger} + a \begin{pmatrix} 1 + \varepsilon_{ee} & \varepsilon_{e\mu} & \varepsilon_{e\tau} \\ \varepsilon_{e\mu}^* & \varepsilon_{\mu\mu} & \varepsilon_{\mu\tau} \\ \varepsilon_{e\tau}^* & \varepsilon_{e\tau}^* & \varepsilon_{e\tau}^* \\ \varepsilon_{e\tau}^* & \varepsilon_{e\tau}^* & \varepsilon_{e\tau}^* \end{pmatrix} \end{bmatrix}$ 

Is the 3-flavor oscillation model complete?

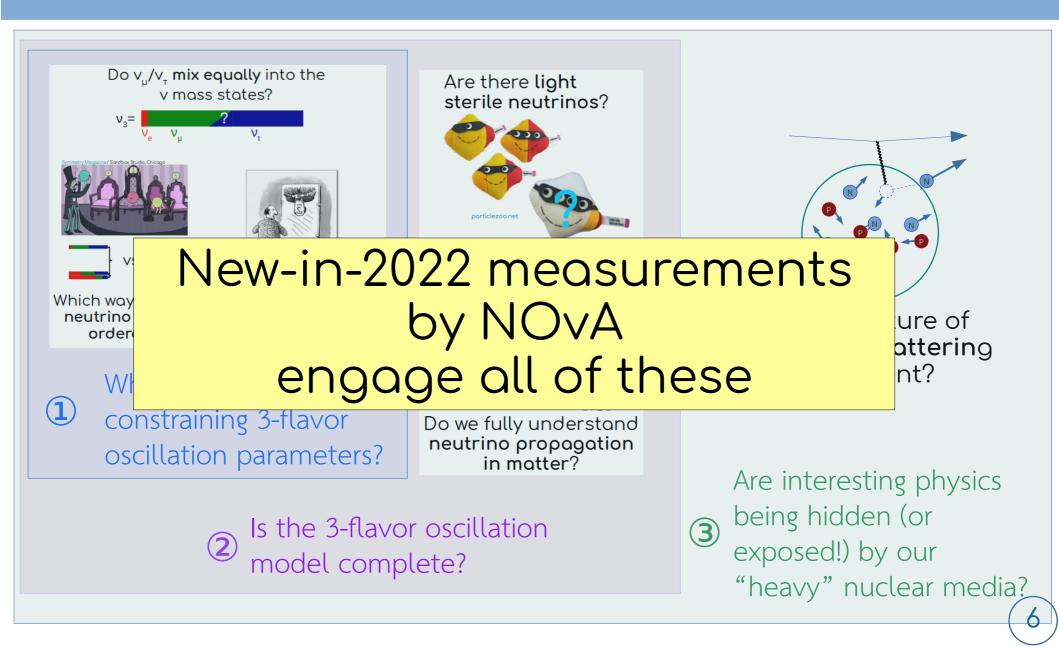
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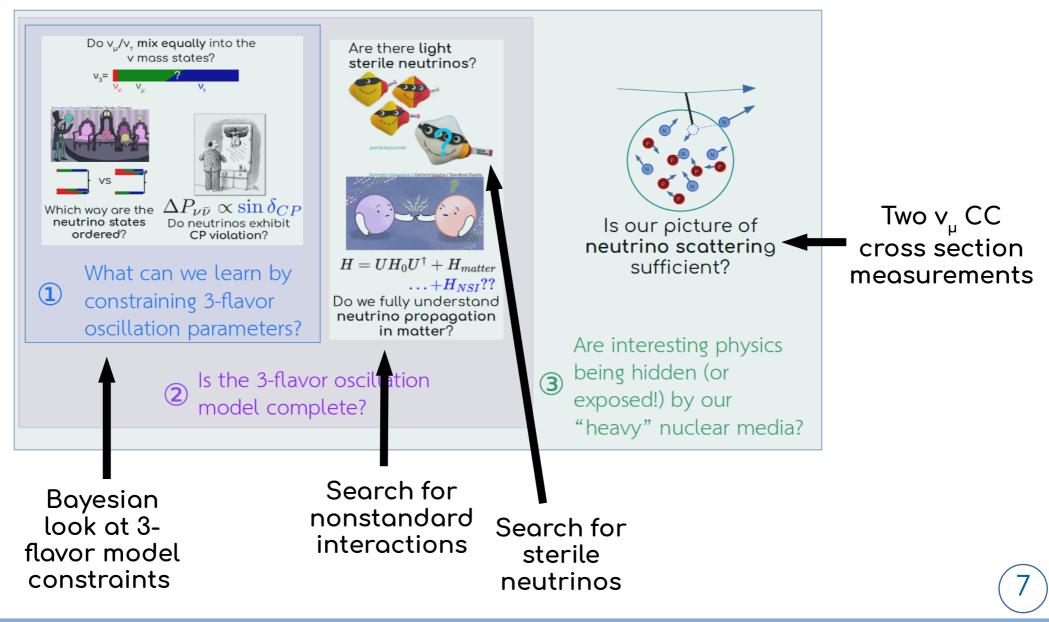


Are interesting physics being hidden (or exposed!) by our "heavy" nuclear media?

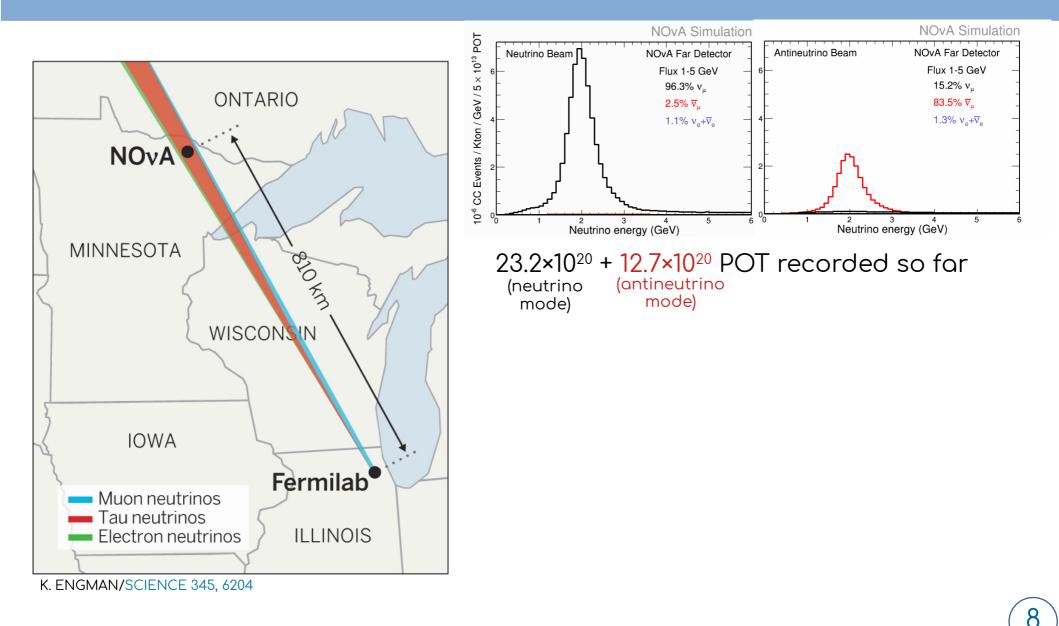
Is our picture of

neutrino scattering sufficient?

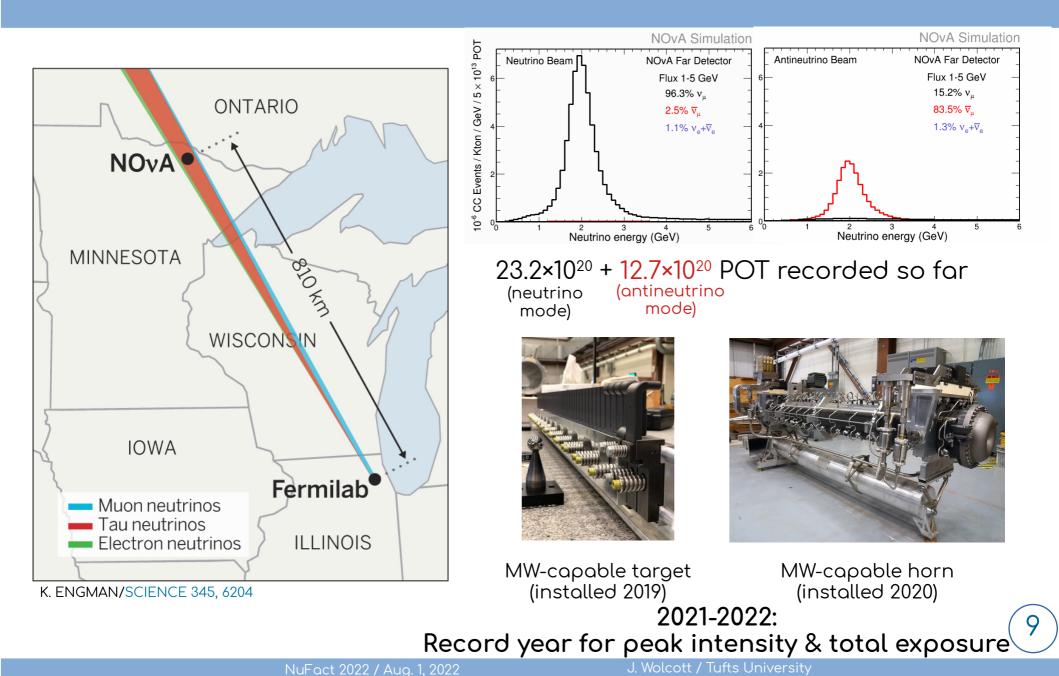




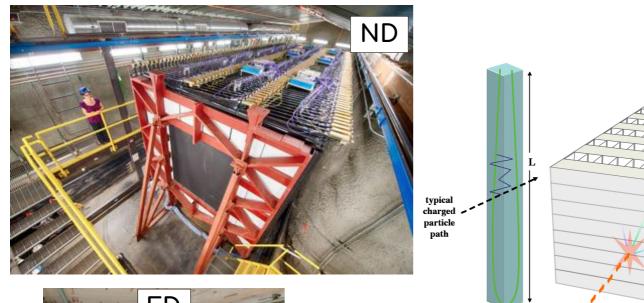
## NOvA: neutrinos

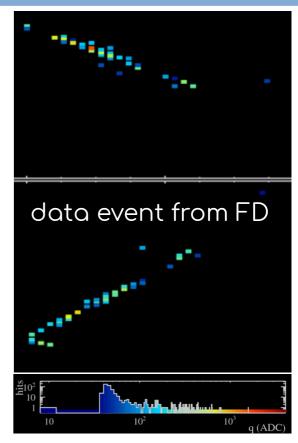


## NOvA: neutrinos



## NOvA: detectors



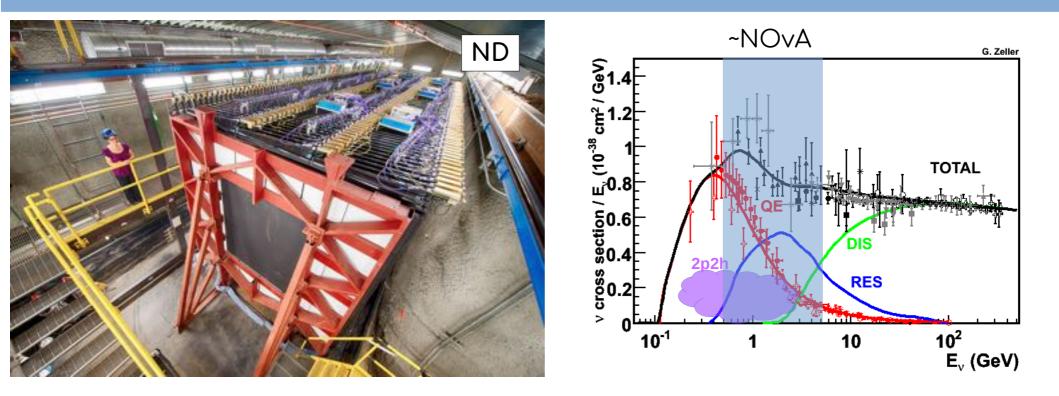


- FD
- Two hydrocarbon-based tracking calorimeters

Neutrino from Fermilah

- Extruded plastic cells, ~4x6cm
- Fill: mineral oil doped with pseudocumene scintillator
- $\rightarrow$  each cell ~1/6 X<sub>0</sub> deep
- Alternating stereoscopic planes (90° rotation)

## NOvA: detectors





- 300 ton Near Detector at Fermilab
  - ~1 km from neutrino production point
- Millions of  $v_{_{\mu}}$  CC and tens of thousands of  $v_{_{e}}$  CC interactions in "crossover" energy region
  - → Study all interaction types &  $^{12}$ C nuclear effects with huge statistics

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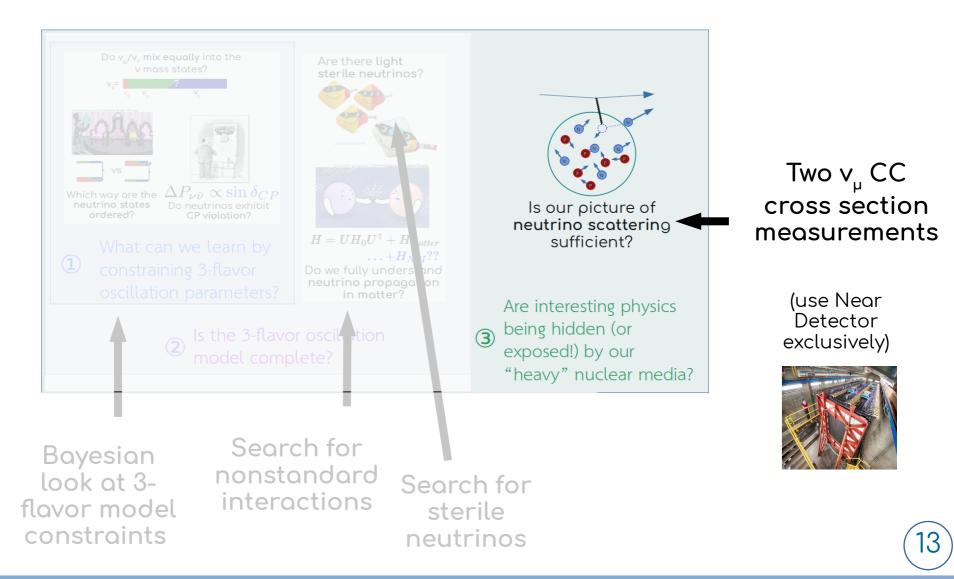
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## NOvA: detectors



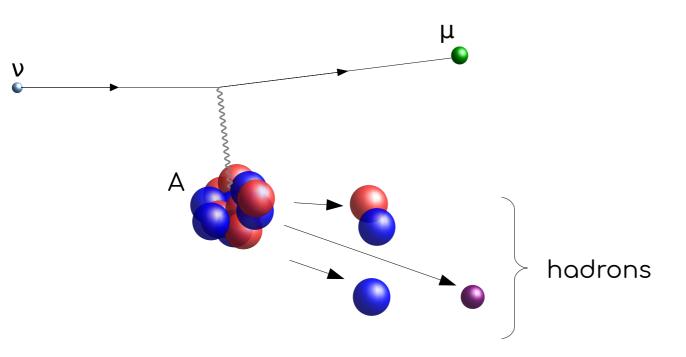


14,000 ton Far Detector in Ash River
Highly sensitive to v<sub>u</sub> CC, v<sub>e</sub> CC, NC



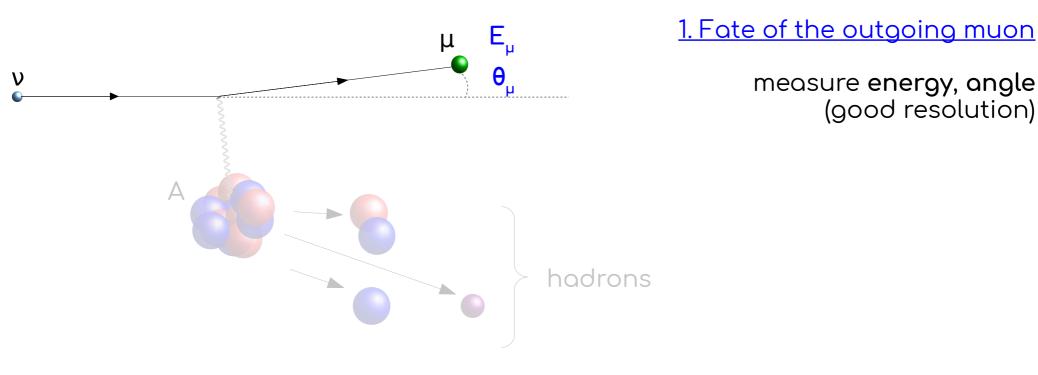
### v interactions measurements

Examine v<sub>u</sub> CC interactions from different 'directions':



### v interactions measurements

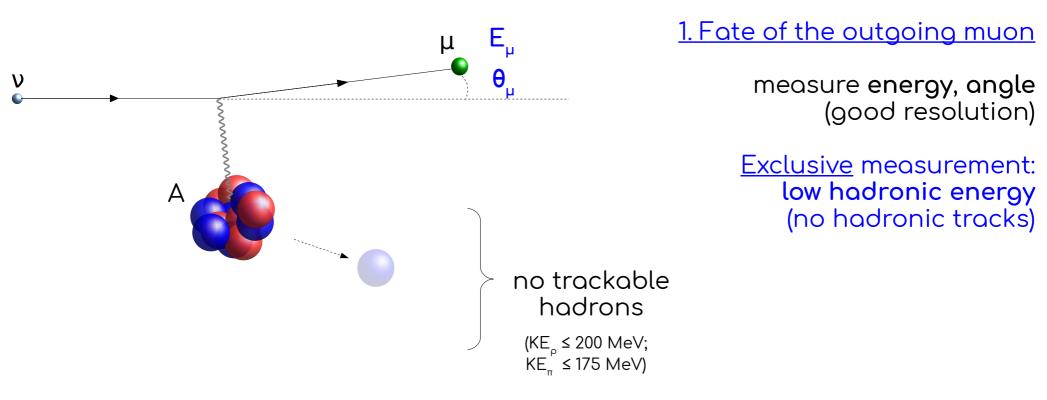
#### Examine $v_{u}$ CC interactions from different 'directions':



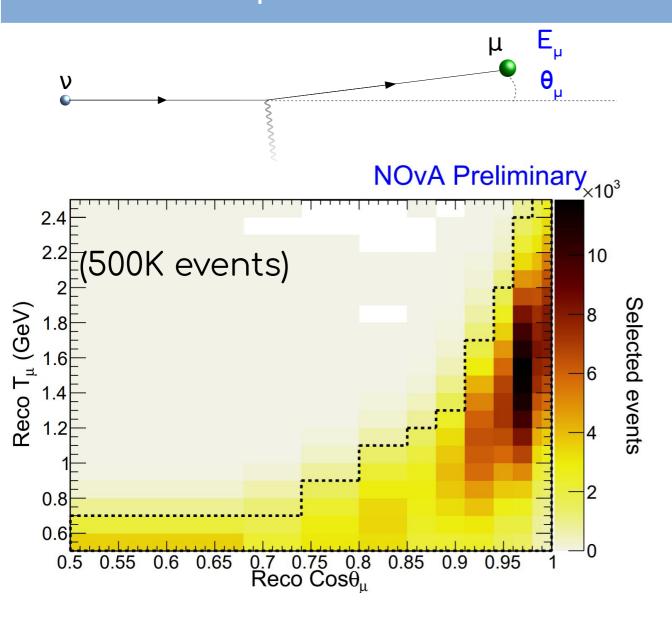


### v interactions measurements

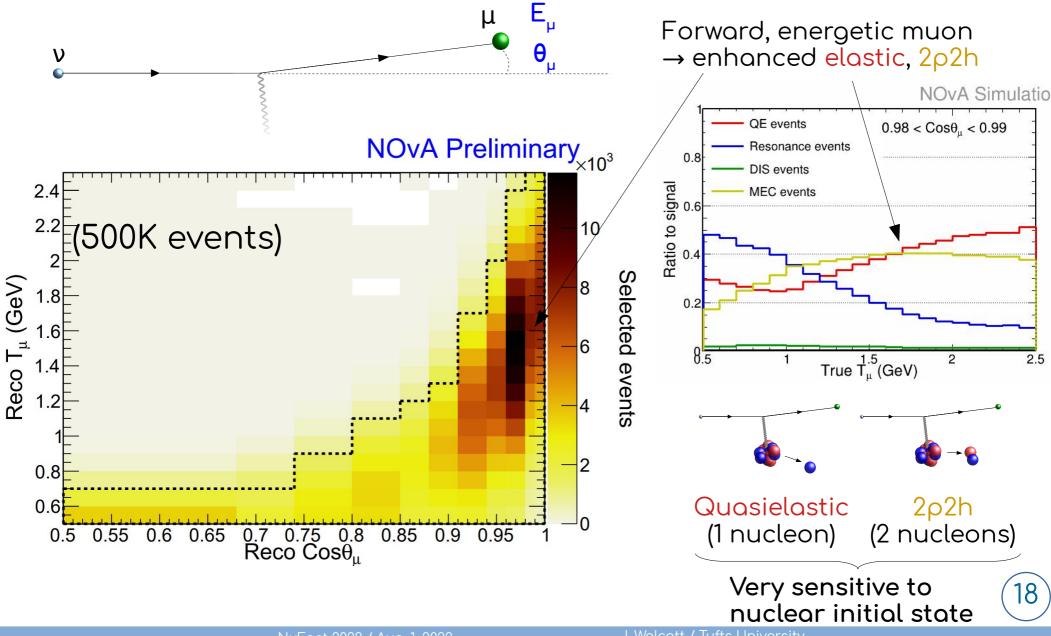
#### Examine $v_{u}$ CC interactions from different 'directions':



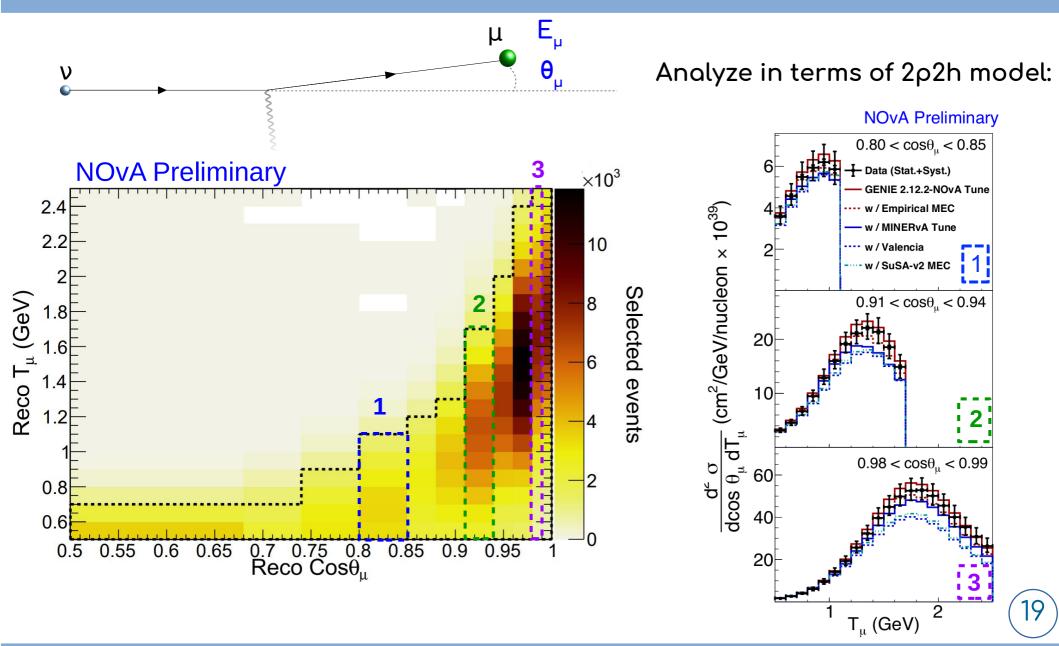
## $v_{\mu}$ CC: muon system



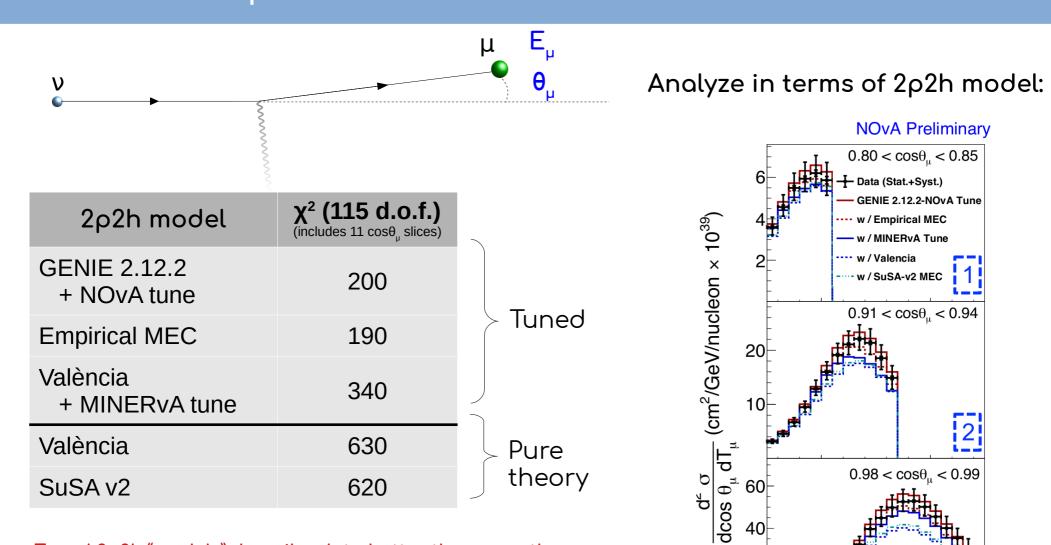
#### CC: muon system μ



## v<sub>u</sub> CC: muon system



## v<sub>u</sub> CC: muon system



- Tuned 2p2h "models" describe data better than pure theory
- No 2p2h model yields good agreement
  - València QE model (local Fermi gas) is used in all preds.
  - Interplay with QE model is important!

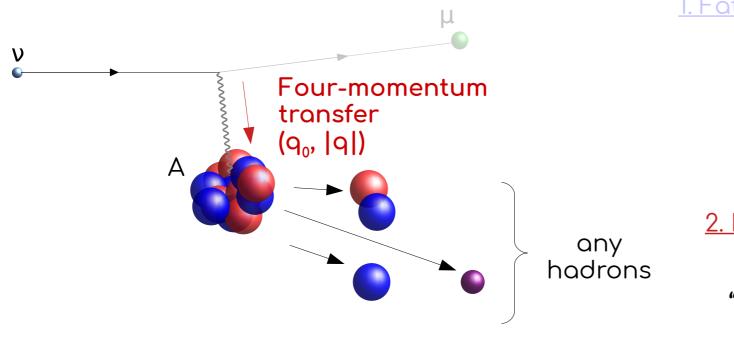
20

20

2

 $T_{\mu}$  (GeV)

#### Examine $v_{\mu}$ CC interactions from two 'directions':



<u>1. Fate of the outgoing muon</u>

measure **energy**, **angle** (good resolution)

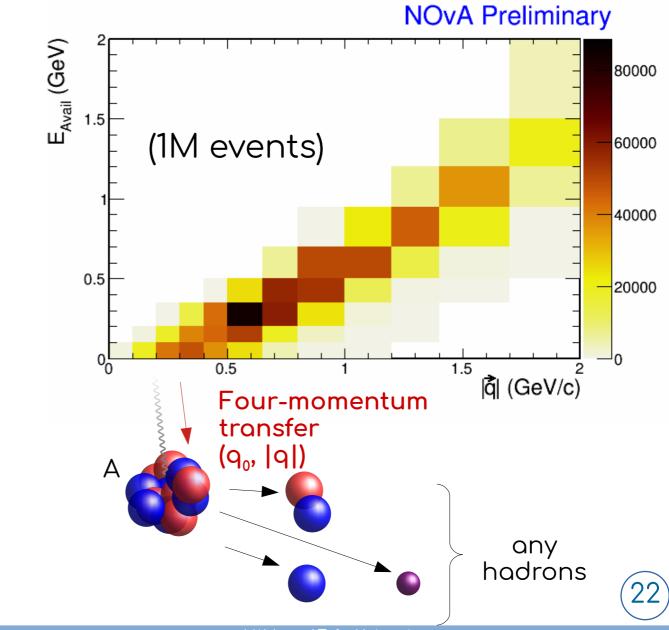
Exclusive measurement: low hadronic energy

2. Hadron system response

measure "visible" hadronic energy, three-momentum xfer

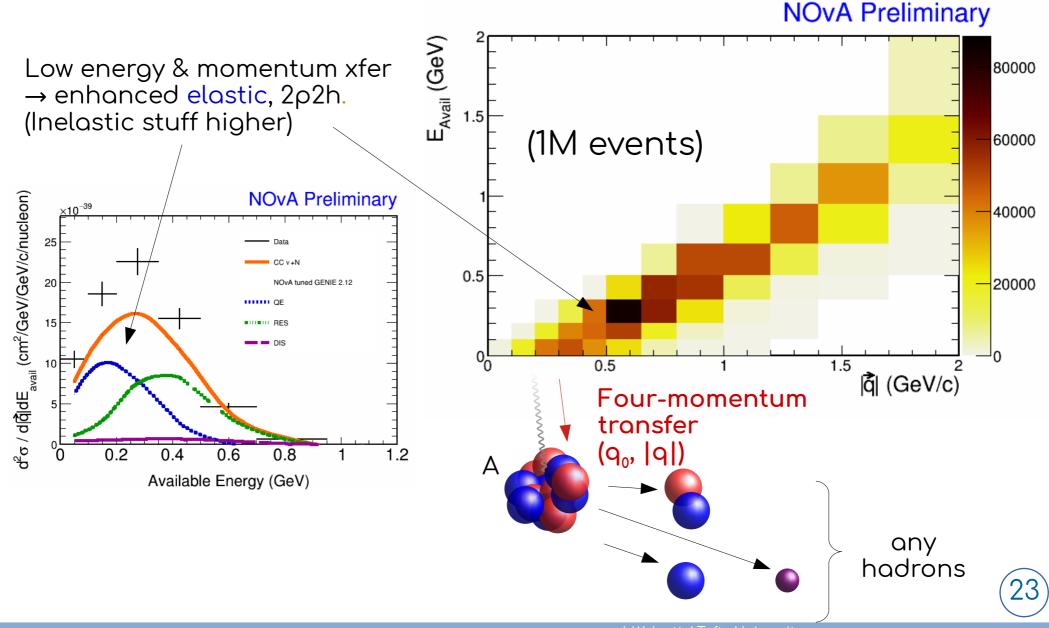
Inclusive measurement (within phase space)



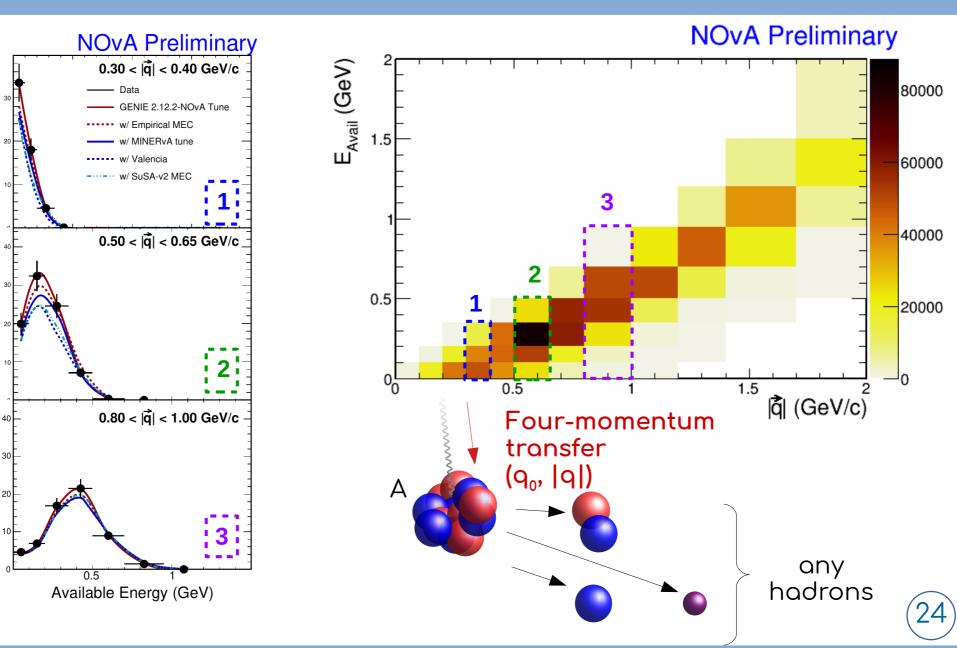


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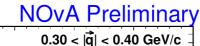
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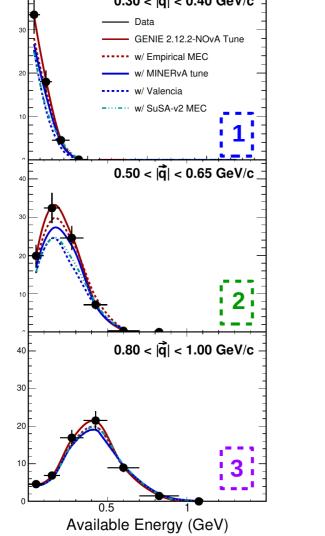










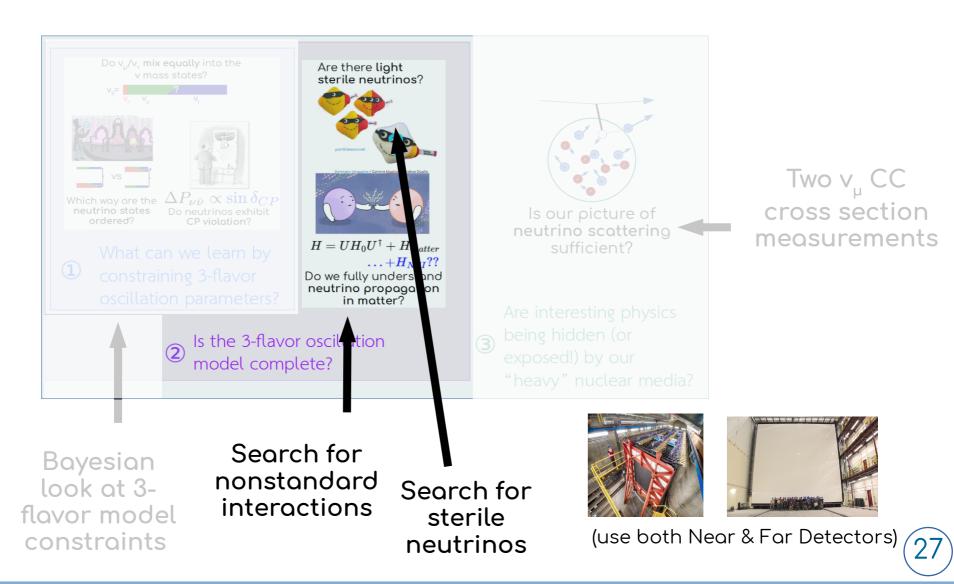


2p2h model	<b>X<sup>2</sup> (67 d.o.f.)</b> (includes 12  q  slices)	
GENIE 2.12.2 + NOvA tune	560	
Empirical MEC	910	> Tuned
València + MINERvA tune	970	
València	1900	Pure
SuSA v2	1000	ftheory

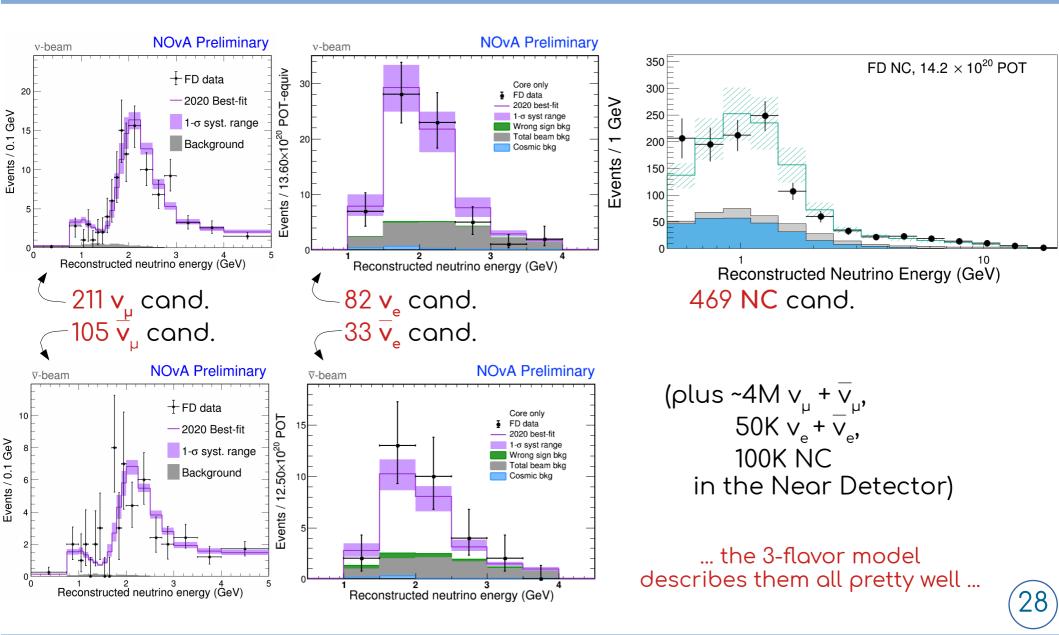
- Significant discrepancies from inelastic (RES, DIS) processes in this <u>inclusive</u> sample
  - Inelastic processes at higher energy, momentum xfers
  - Base agreement is poor (see backup)
- Wide variation across 2p2h models
  - QE/2p2h interplay significant here too
- $\chi^2 s$  above include conservative detector response uncertainties
  - NOvA Test Beam program expected to help mitigate in future; see M. Wallbank in WG1 on Friday

## $\nu_{\mu}$ CC: takeaways

- Significant data-theory discrepancies for v-12C at 2 GeV
  - Elastic region: cannot be resolved by theory 2p2h models alone
  - Rich <u>pion production</u> region remains underexplored, poorly predicted
  - NOvA oscillation measurements require robust uncertainties (see Kirk Bays' talk in WG1+2 on Tuesday)
- High-stats measurements from NOvA probe both lepton & hadron systems in  $v_{\!\mu}$  CC interactions
  - Data releases in progress
- $\overline{v}_{\mu} \& \overline{v}_{e}$  inclusive, and numerous exclusive-channel measurements, just around the corner!
  - See, e.g., F. Gao's talk in WG2 on Friday



## Far Detector data



## Sterile neutrinos?

#### Adding one more neutrino makes phenomenology much richer:

$$\begin{array}{l} \mathbf{v}_{\mu} \overset{\text{CC disappearance}}{P(\nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \nu_{\mu})} \approx \overline{1 - \sin^2 2\theta_{23} \sin^2 \Delta_{31}} \\ + 2 \sin^2 2\theta_{23} \sin^2 \theta_{24} \sin^2 \Delta_{31} \\ - \sin^2 2\theta_{24} \sin^2 \Delta_{41}. \end{array}$$
3-flavor-only

NC disappearance

$$1 - P(\nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \nu_{s}) \approx 1 - \cos^{4} \theta_{14} \cos^{2} \theta_{34} \sin^{2} 2\theta_{24} \sin^{2} \Delta_{41}$$
$$- \sin^{2} \theta_{34} \sin^{2} 2\theta_{23} \sin^{2} \Delta_{31}$$
$$+ \frac{1}{2} \sin \delta_{24} \sin \theta_{24} \sin 2\theta_{23} \sin \Delta_{31}.$$

## Sterile neutrinos?

## Adding one more neutrino makes phenomenology much richer:

$$\begin{array}{l} \begin{array}{l} \label{eq:cc-disappearance} & \mbox{Al} \\ P(\nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \nu_{\mu}) \approx 1 - \sin^2 2\theta_{23} \sin^2 \Delta_{31} \\ + 2 \sin^2 2\theta_{23} \sin^2 \theta_{24} \sin^2 \Delta_{31} \\ - \sin^2 2\theta_{24} \sin^2 \Delta_{41}. \end{array}$$

At NOvA, additional mixing driven by two angles and one phase

NC disappearance

V

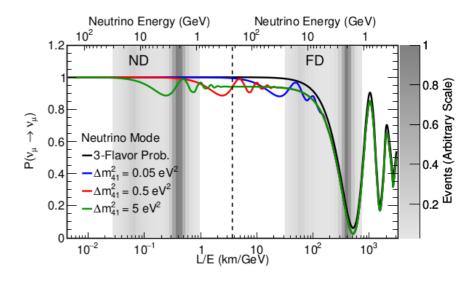
$$1 - P(\nu_{\mu} \to \nu_{s}) \approx 1 - \cos^{4} \theta_{14} \cos^{2} \theta_{34} \sin^{2} 2\theta_{24} \sin^{2} \Delta_{41} - \sin^{2} \theta_{34} \sin^{2} 2\theta_{23} \sin^{2} \Delta_{31} + \frac{1}{2} \sin \delta_{24} \sin \theta_{24} \sin 2\theta_{23} \sin \Delta_{31}.$$

[Note: approximations for illustration only. Actual analysis uses full oscillation probabilities.]

## Sterile neutrinos?

- Search for sterile v:
  - Search for one additional neutrino (3+1 model)
  - Include NC &  $v_{\mu}$  CC interactions
  - Probe **wide ∆m<sup>2</sup>**<sub>41</sub> range:
    - Fit ND+FD spectra simultaneously
    - Use covariance matrix to capture ND-FD correlations
    - Dedicated systematics to reduce dependence on (possibly oscillated) neutrino data

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v}_{e} \\ \mathbf{v}_{\mu} \\ \mathbf{v}_{\tau} \\ \mathbf{v}_{s} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} U_{e1} & U_{e2} & U_{e3} & U_{e4} \\ U_{\mu 1} & U_{\mu 2} & U_{\mu 3} & U_{\mu 4} \\ U_{\tau 1} & U_{\tau 2} & U_{\tau 3} & U_{\tau 4} \\ U_{s1} & U_{s2} & U_{s3} & U_{s4} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v}_{1} \\ \mathbf{v}_{2} \\ \mathbf{v}_{3} \\ \mathbf{v}_{4} \end{bmatrix}$$



Previous work from NOvA: PRL 127, 201801 (2021) PRD 96, 072006 (2017)

## Sterile neutrinos?: data

#### Neutrino Beam

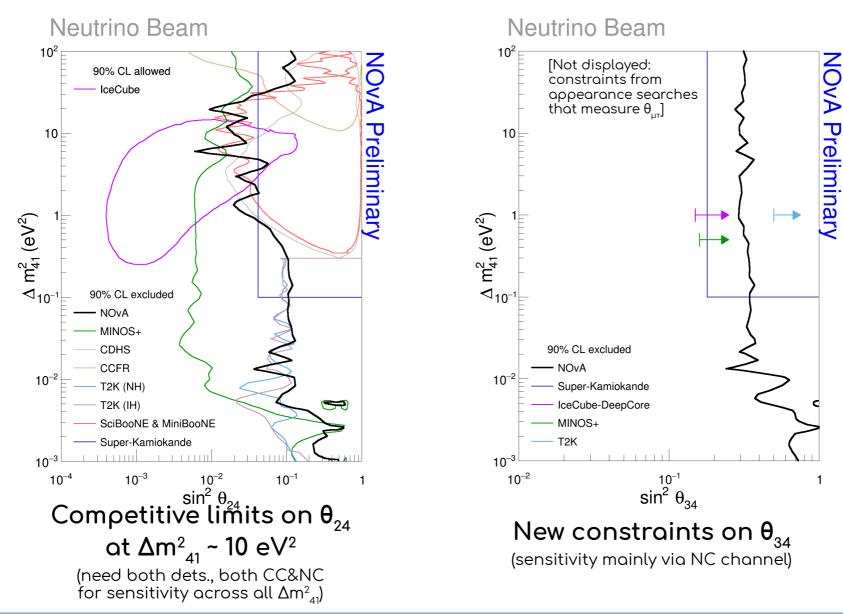
#### 220 ND CC $\nu_{\mu},\,11.0\times10^{20}\,\text{POT}$ FD CC $\nu_{u},\,14.2\times10^{20}\,\text{POT}$ 2500 200 Events $\times 10^3$ / 1 GeV 180 2000 Events / 1 GeV 160 140 1500 120 100 1000 80 60 500 40 20 0 0 0.5 1.5 2 2.5 3 3.5 4.5 0.5 1.5 2 2.5 3 3.5 4.5 Reconstructed Neutrino Energy (GeV) Reconstructed Neutrino Energy (GeV) 350 250 FD NC, $14.2 \times 10^{20}$ POT ND NC, $10.9 \times 10^{20}$ POT Events $\times 10^3$ / 1 GeV Data 300 200 Events / 1 GeV Nominal pred. 250 3F pred. w/ syst shifts 150 200 Best fit pred. w/ syst shifts 150 100 Beam background 100 Cosmic background 50 50 1 10 Reconstructed Neutrino Energy (GeV) Reconstructed Neutrino Energy (GeV)

3-flavor (null sterile oscillations) and 3+1 best fits are ~identical

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**NOvA** Preliminary

## Sterile neutrinos?: results



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## Sterile neutrinos: takeaways

- No evidence for sterile neutrinos in NOvA data
- New constraints on 3+1 models:
  - In interesting region of  $\theta_{24}$  space
  - Across broad swath of  $\theta_{34}$
- See V Hewes's talk in WG1 tomorrow for more details

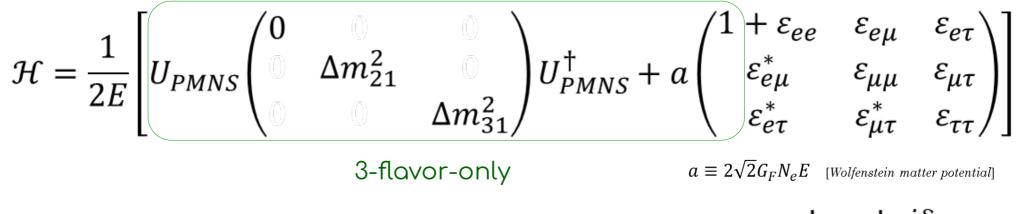


## Nonstandard interactions?

- Search for nonstandard interactions (NSI):  $\mathcal{H} = U\mathcal{H}_0 U^{\dagger} + \mathcal{H}_{matter} + \mathcal{H}_{NSI}$ 
  - Consider extra terms in Hamiltonian analogous to MSW effect
  - Exploit long (810km) NOvA baseline & associated strong matter effects
  - Use  $v_{\mu}$ ,  $\bar{v}_{\mu}$  disappearance and  $v_{e}$ ,  $\bar{v}_{e}$  appearance spectra

## Nonstandard interactions?

#### Adding **additional terms** to matter potential **analogous to MSW effect** results in <u>many</u> parameters in the Hamiltonian:



$$\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta} = \left|\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}\right| e^{i\delta_{\alpha\beta}}$$



#### Nonstandard interactions?

#### Adding **additional terms** to matter potential **analogous to MSW effect** results in <u>many</u> parameters in the Hamiltonian:

$$\mathcal{H} = \frac{1}{2E} \begin{bmatrix} U_{PMNS} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \Delta m_{21}^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \Delta m_{31}^2 \end{pmatrix} U_{PMNS}^{\dagger} + a \begin{pmatrix} 1 + \varepsilon_{ee} & \varepsilon_{e\mu} & \varepsilon_{e\tau} \\ \varepsilon_{e\mu}^* & \varepsilon_{\mu\mu} & \varepsilon_{\mu\tau} \\ \varepsilon_{e\tau}^* & \varepsilon_{\mu\tau}^* & \varepsilon_{\tau\tau} \end{pmatrix} \end{bmatrix}$$

 $a \equiv 2\sqrt{2}G_F N_e E$  [Wolfenstein matter potential]

Two categories of parameters:

 $\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta} = \left|\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}\right| e^{i\delta_{\alpha\beta}}$ 

**On-diagonal:** "NSI effective  $\Delta m^2$ s" (real-valued)

neglected in this analysis (limited sensitivity)

#### Nonstandard interactions?

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Two categories of parameters:

 $\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta} = \left|\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}\right| e^{i\delta_{\alpha\beta}}$ 

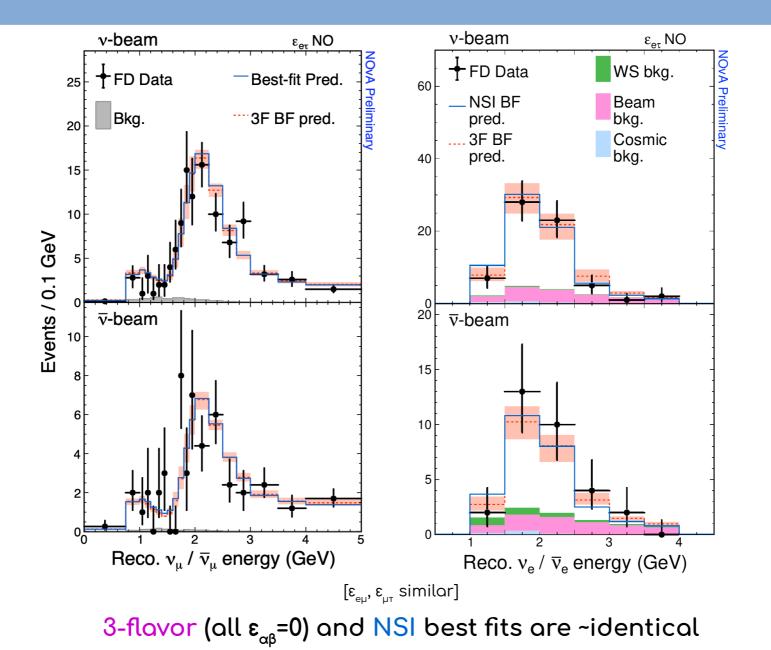
**On-diagonal:** "NSI effective  $\Delta m^2 s$ " (real-valued)

neglected in this analysis (limited sensitivity)

Off-diagonal: "NSI effective mixing angles" (may be complex)

► fit these individually (but always simultaneous w/ std. osc)

#### NSI?: data

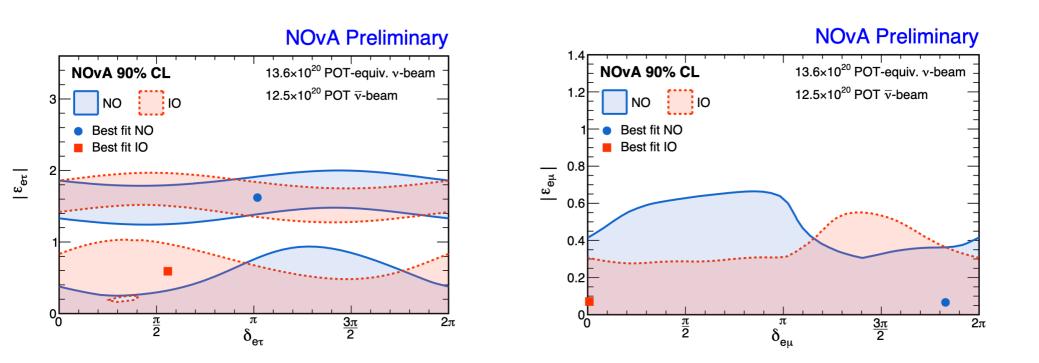


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#### NSI?: results

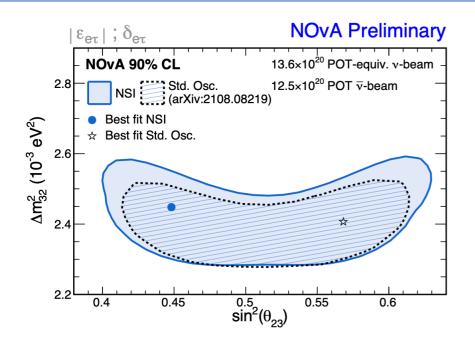


Data is consistent with many values of NSI parameters.

Rule out some  $|\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{_{\boldsymbol{\alpha}\boldsymbol{\beta}}}|,$  but phases are unconstrained

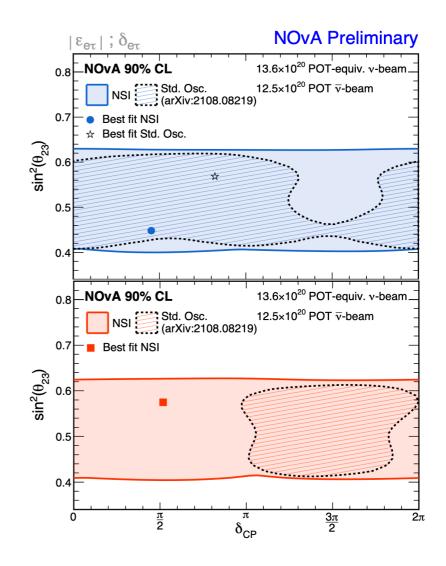


#### NSI: collateral impacts



<u>If</u> we admit the possibility of NSI, however,

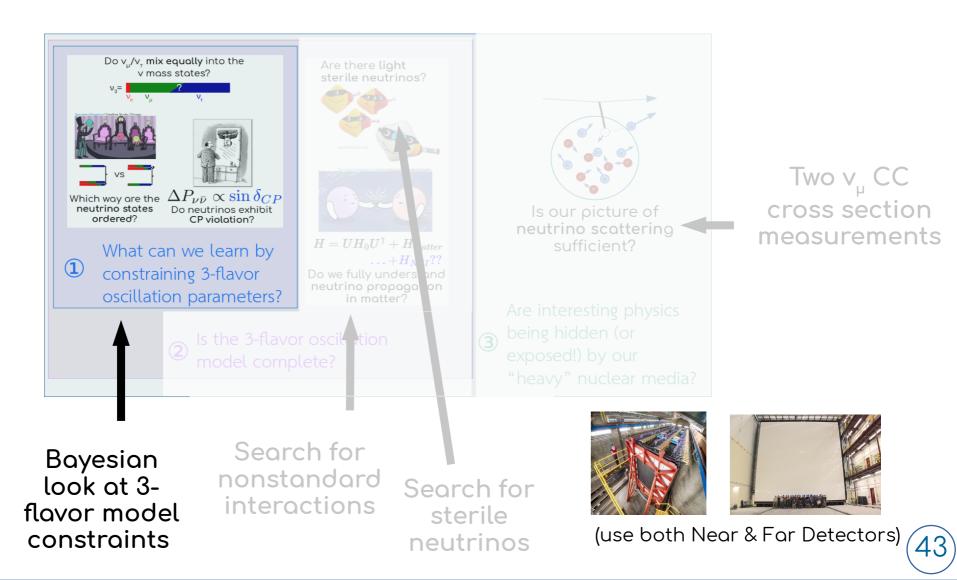
 $v_{\rm e}$  appearance conclusions (esp. mass hierarchy and  $\delta_{\rm CP}$ ) are significantly weakened



#### NSI: takeaways

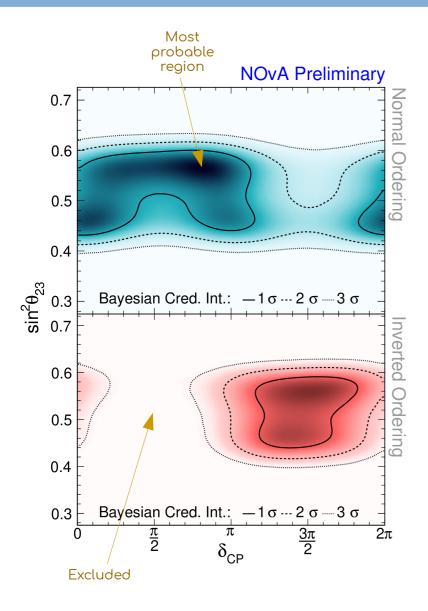
- Addition of NSI does not improve description of NOvA data
- "Large" NSI parameter values excluded at 90% CL:
  - $-|\epsilon_{e\mu}| \ge 0.6$

  - All values of phases compatible with current data
- Allowing the possibility of NSI affects "standard oscillation" parameter inferences
  - Minor weakening of atmospheric parameter measurements
  - Mass hierarchy and  $\delta_{\mbox{\tiny CP}}$  sensitivity effectively wiped out
- Again V Hewes's talk in WG1 will also discuss



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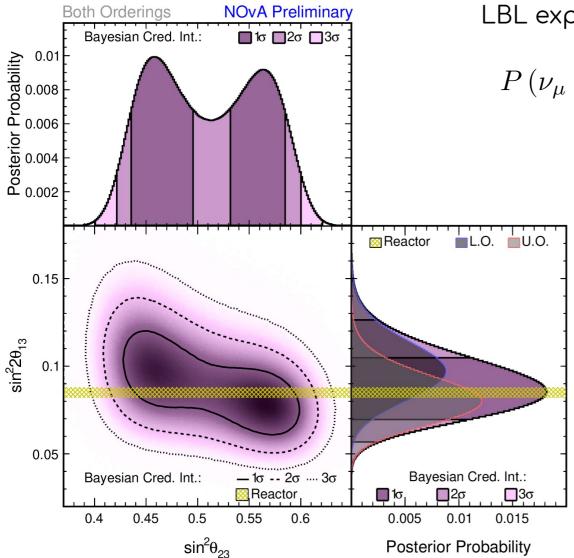
New Bayesian analysis has similar top-line conclusions as previous:

Weak preferences for Normal Ordering, Upper  $\theta_{_{23}}$  Octant

Rule out (>  $3\sigma$ ) combination (IO,  $\delta_{CP}=\pi/2$ )

... but it also allows us to drill deeper...





LBL expts can't measure  $\theta_{23}$  octant alone:

$$P\left(\nu_{\mu} \to \nu_{e}\right) \approx \underbrace{\sin \theta_{23} \sin 2\theta_{13}}_{\ldots} \sin \Delta_{31} + \dots$$

correlated at first order!

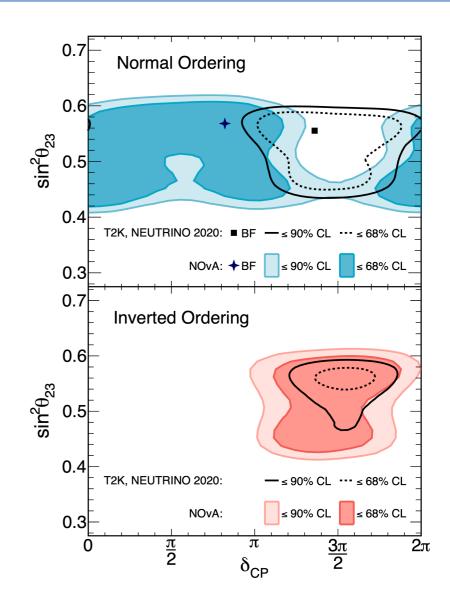
#### Bayesian analysis enables first NOvA-only measurement of $\theta_{13}$ :

- Strong correlations with  $\theta_{_{23}}$  (as expected)
- Very good agreement with reactor value!
- (weak)  $\theta_{_{23}}$  octant preference driven by reactor constraint

 $\sin^2(2\theta_{13}) = 0.085^{+0.020}_{-0.016}$ 

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- NOvA, T2K data preferences broadly compatible
  - Most probable regions (in NO) distinct, but significant 1o contour overlap
  - IO surfaces very similar
- Official joint fit results expected later in 2022



#### PMNS: takeaways

- Weak indications for upper  $\theta_{23}$  octant, normal hierarchy
- PMNS model is holding up well to deeper scrutiny
  - First NOvA-only  $\theta_{13}$  result is consistent w/ reactors
  - NOvA & T2K have broadly compatible PMNS results
  - Bayesian result enables other new inferences too!
     (e.g.: Jarlskog invariant—see backups)
- See R. Sharma's talk in WG1 on Friday for more



#### Summary

- Significant NOvA data-theory discrepancies in scattering measurements
- PMNS oscillation model holding up to increased scrutiny
  - No sign of sterile neutrino
  - NSI do not improve description of data
  - Good agreement with other PMNS measurements (T2K; reactors)
- Plethora of new NOvA results around the corner!
  - About 50% of expected data collection still to come

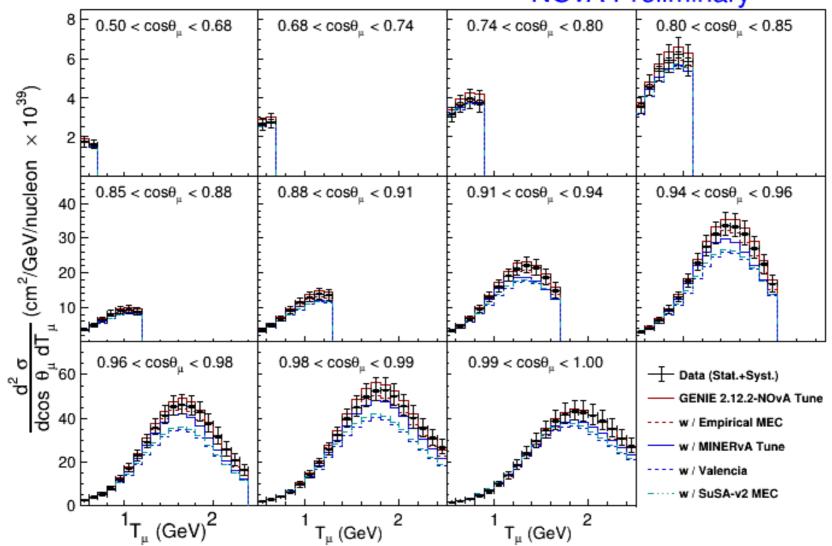


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## Overflow



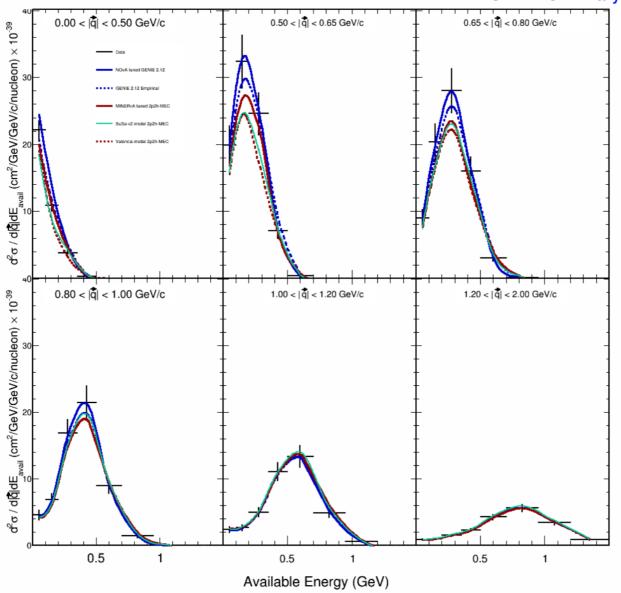


**NOvA Preliminary** 

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# $v_{\mu}$ CC: hadron system

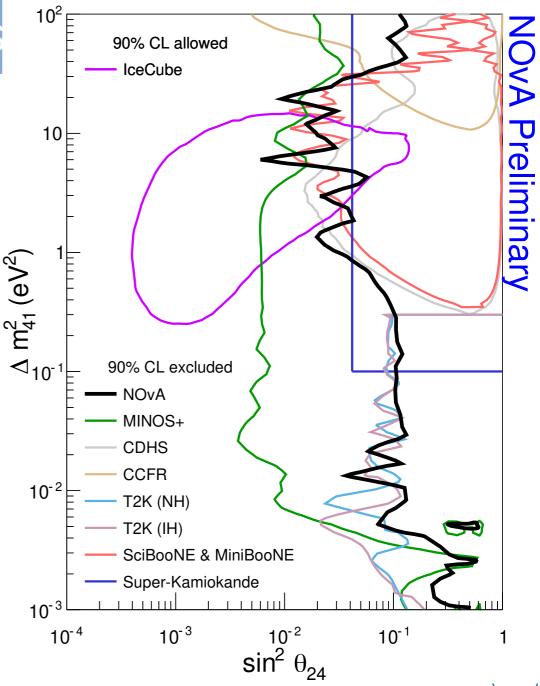
**NOvA Preliminary** 



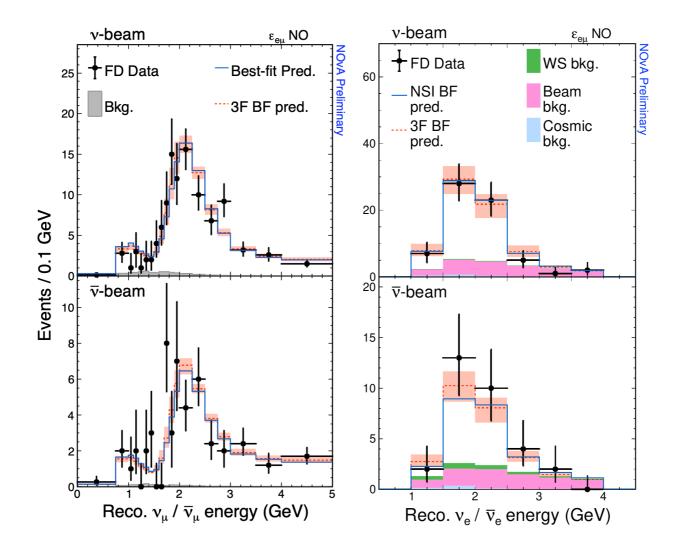
52

#### Other sterile neutrino searches

- Citations:
  - SK: K. Abe et al. (Super-Kamiokande), Phys. Rev. D 91, 052019 (2015)
  - CDHS: F. Dydak et al. (CDHSW), Phys. Lett. B 134, 281 (1984)
  - CCFR: I.E. Stockdale et al. (CCFR), Phys. Rev. Lett. 52, 1384 (1984)
  - SciBooNE: K. B. M. Mahn et al. (SciBooNE, MiniBooNE), Phys. Rev. D 85, 032007 (2012)
  - MINOS+: P. Adamson et al.
     (MINOS+) Phys. Rev. Lett. 122, 091803 (2019)
  - T2K: K. Abe et al. (T2K) Phys. Rev. D
     99, 071103(R) (2019)
  - IceCube: M. G. Aartsen et al.
     (IceCube), Phys. Rev. Lett. 125, 141801 (2020)

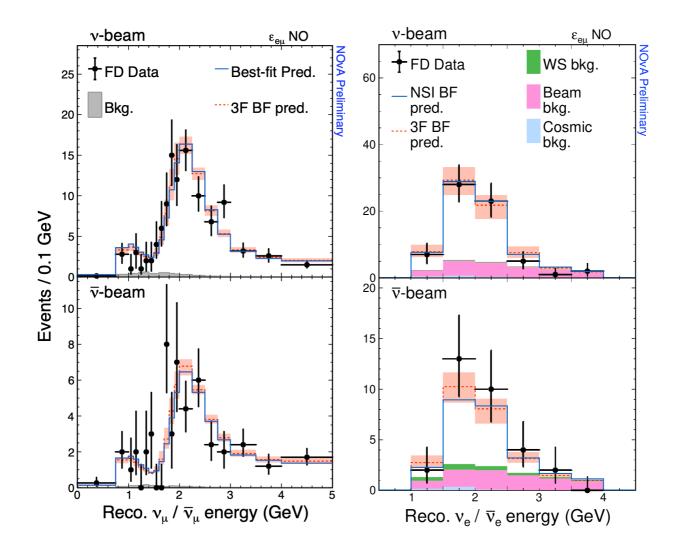


## Other NSI spectra: ε<sub>eµ</sub>



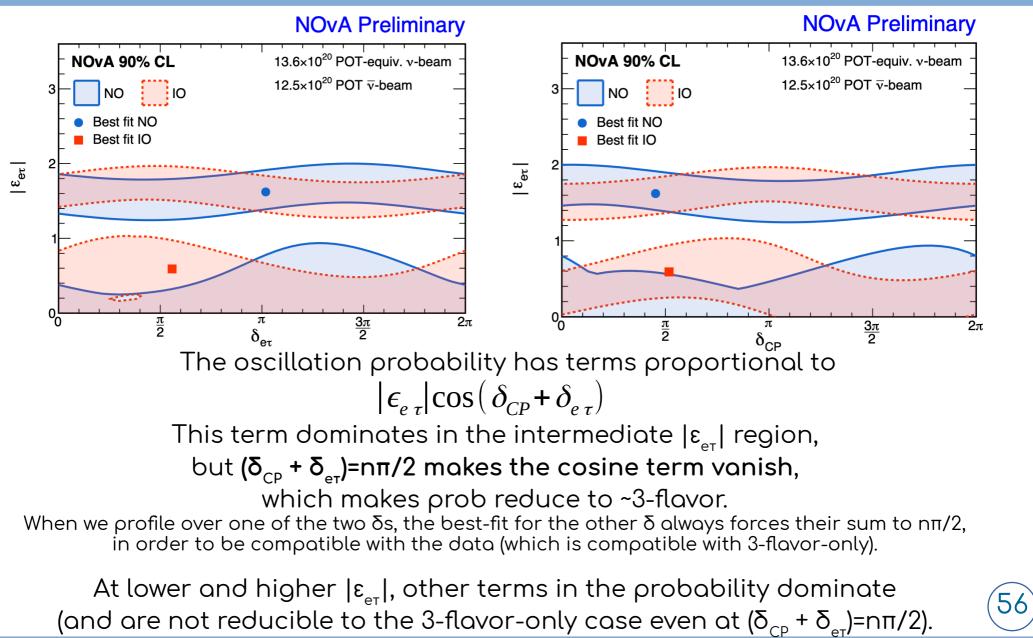
(54

# Other NSI limits: ε<sub>eµ</sub>

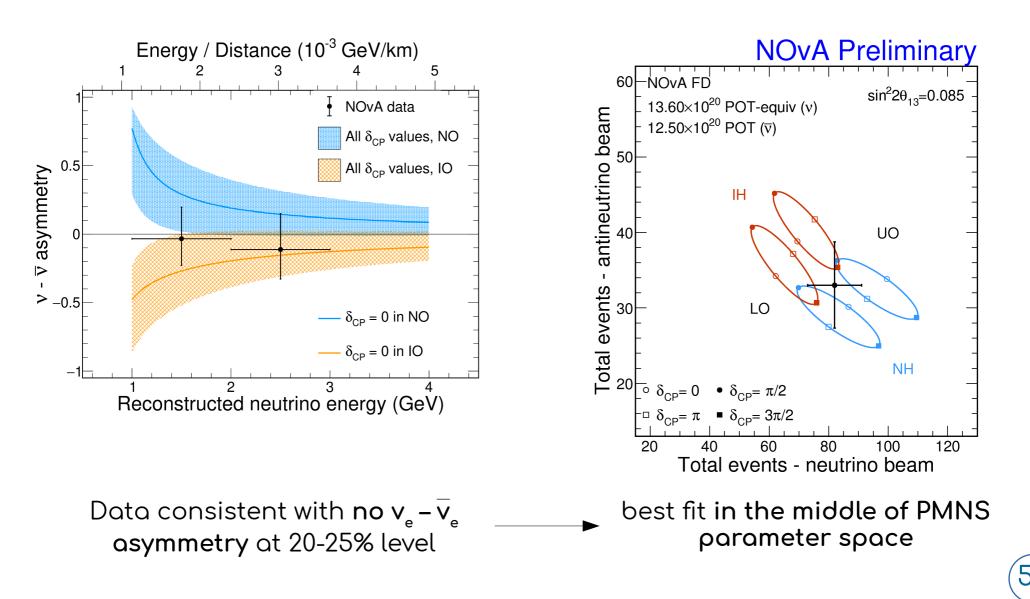


(55

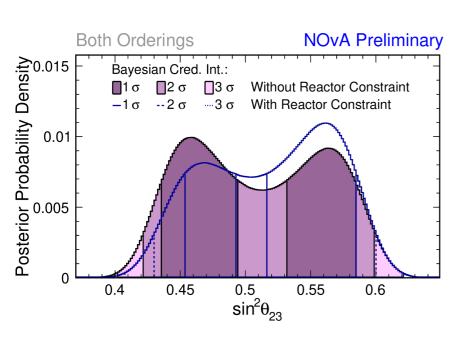
### About that "upper band"...



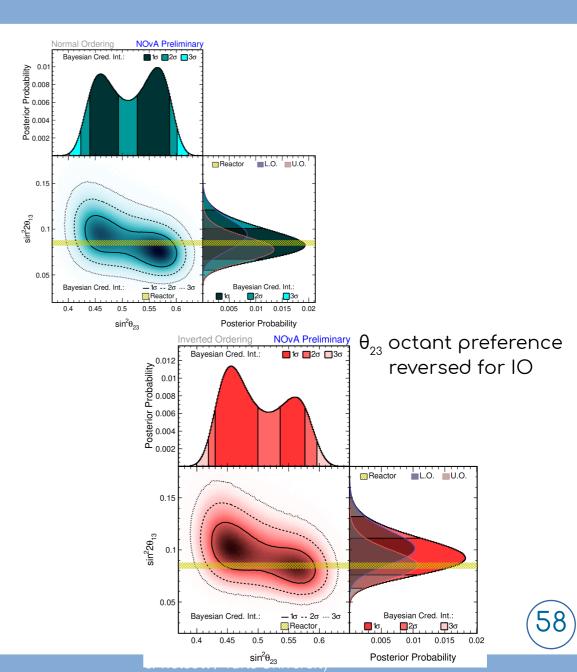
J. Wolcott / Tufts Universit



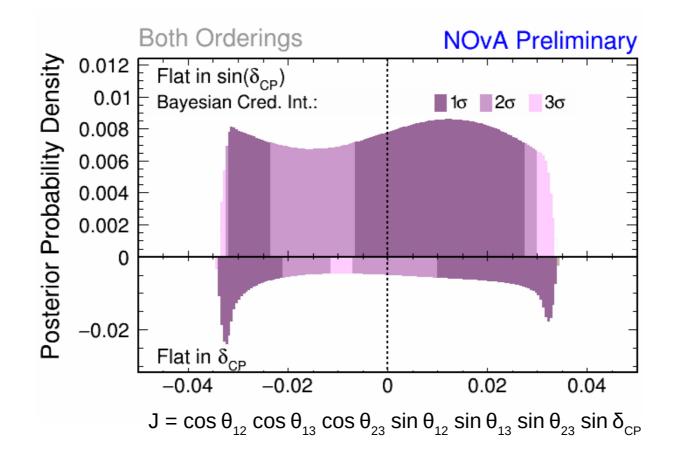
## NOvA-only $\theta_{13}$



Prefer lower  $\theta_{23}$  octant with free  $\theta_{13}$ , upper octant when constrained.



#### Jarlskog invariant



Jarlskog invariant: measures of CP-violation independent of parametrization

Unlike other NOvA measurements (except δ<sub>CP</sub>), J depends on prior: Flat in sin δCP (upper half of plot) ↔ data preference Flat in δCP (lower half of plot) ↔ bias away from minimal CPV (theory motivated)

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#### Future



- Only ~halfway done data taking
  - Stat. unc. ~ syst unc. for  $\Delta m^2_{32}$ ,  $\sin^2\theta_{23}$  by end of run
  - Mass ordering resolution possible depending on true value
- Test beam program in full swing (see M. Wallbank in WG1 on Friday)
- Many improvements to oscillation analyses, new cross section measurements & exotic searches in progress!

(Stats. only, but systs. ~inconsequential at full exposure. Assumes NOvA 2020 best fit for atmo. params)

#### **NOvA Preliminary**

