



Current Status of the Achilles Event Generator

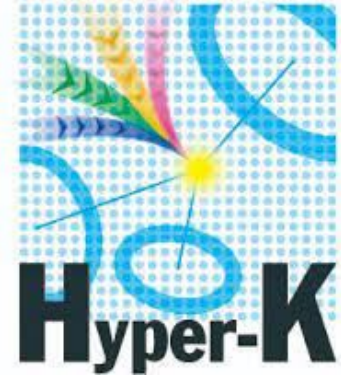
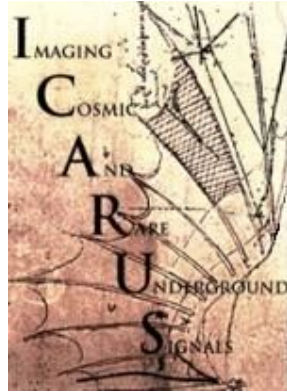
Joshua Isaacson

NuSTEC Cross Experiment Working Group Seminar

3 October 2024

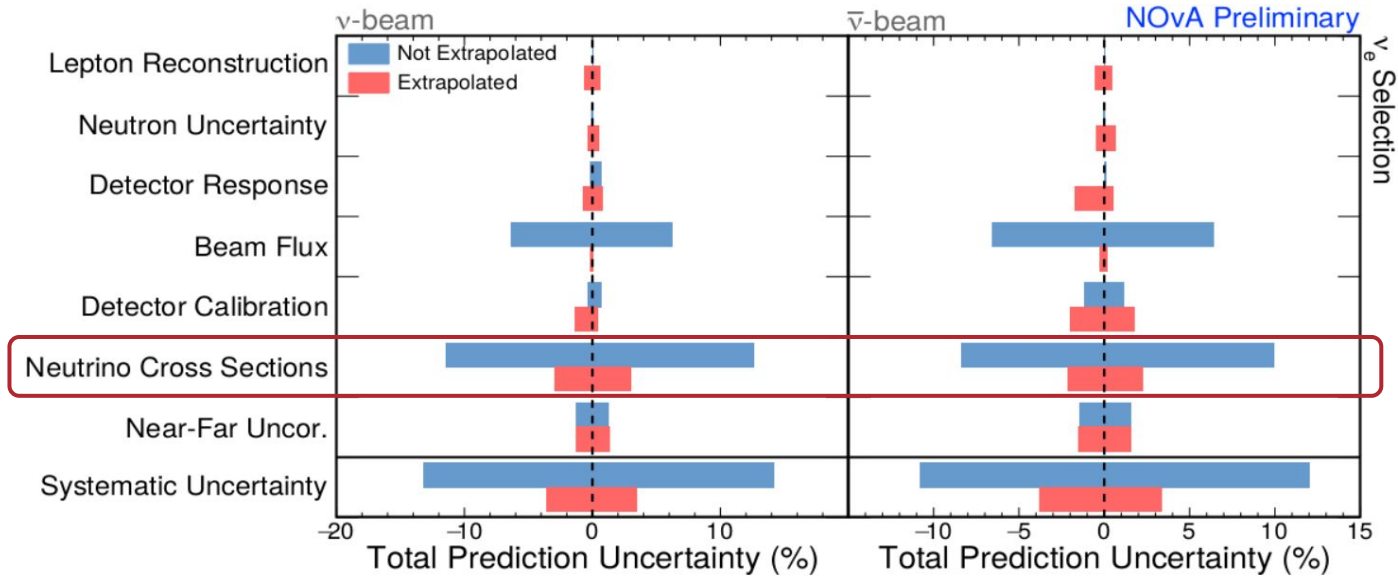


Motivation



- Large number of experiments attempting to measure neutrino interactions and oscillations using accelerator beams
- Requires significant theory effort to meet current and future precision goals

Motivation



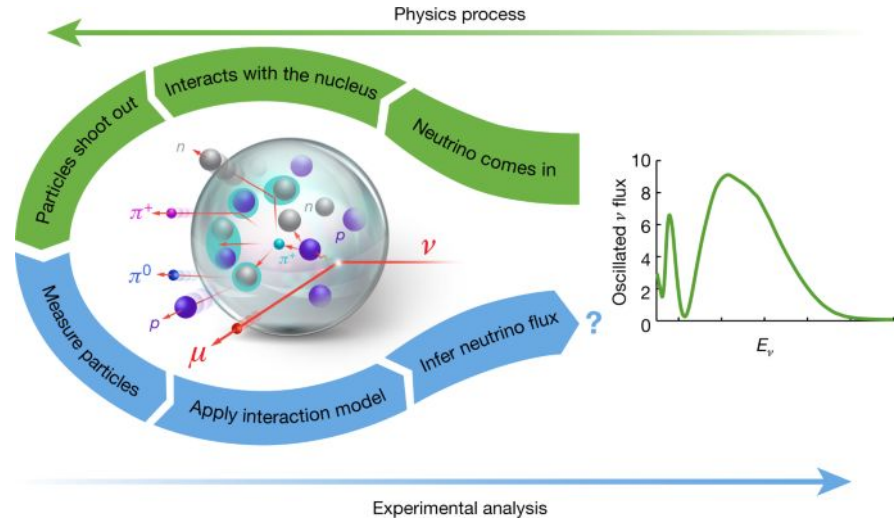
From the DUNE CDR2 [\(1512.06148\)](#)

As illustrated in Chapter 3, studies on the impact of different levels of systematic uncertainties on the oscillation analysis indicate that uncertainties exceeding 1% for signal and 5% for backgrounds may result in substantial degradation of the sensitivity to CP violation and mass hierarchy. The

Motivation

$$\frac{N_{FD}}{N_{ND}} \propto \frac{\int dE_\nu \frac{d\phi_\alpha^{FD}}{dE_\nu} P(\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta; E_\nu) \sigma_\beta(E_\nu) \mathcal{M}_\alpha^{FD}(E_\nu, E_{reco})}{\int dE_\nu \frac{d\phi_\alpha^{ND}}{dE_\nu} \sigma_\alpha(E_\nu) \mathcal{M}_\alpha^{ND}(E_\nu, E_{reco})}$$

- Number of events in near / far detector
- Oscillation probability
- Neutrino-nucleus cross section
- Migration matrix (Depends on topology of events)
- Need theory driven neutrino event generators



Nature 599 (2021) 7886, 565-570

Achilles: A CHicagoLand Lepton Event Simulator

Core Authors



Undergraduates



Achilles: A CHicagoLand Lepton Event Simulator

Project Goals:

- Theory driven
- Leverage experiences from LHC event generators
- Develop modular neutrino event generator
- Provide automated BSM calculations for neutrino experiments
- Evaluate theory uncertainties
- Appropriately handle correlations within events

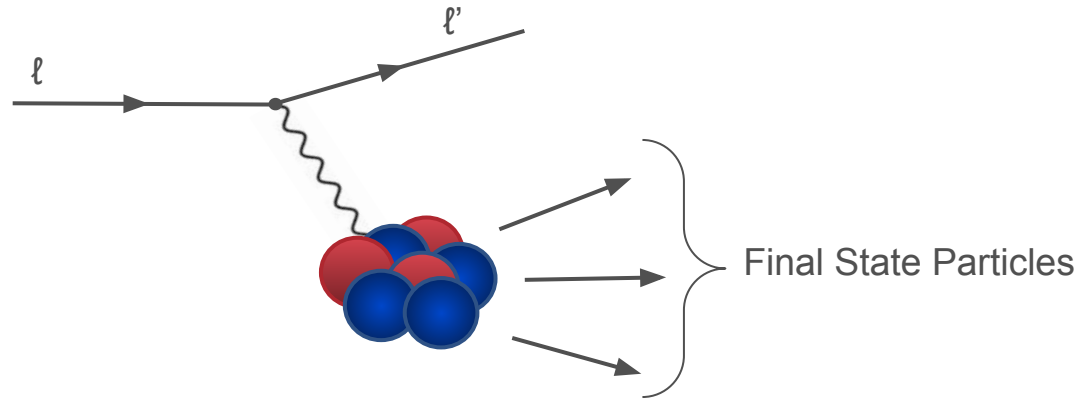


[Isaacson, Jay, Lovato, Machado, Rocco \[2007.15570\]](#),

[Isaacson, Jay, Lovato, Machado, Rocco \[2205.06378\]](#),

Simulating the Standard Model

Calculation Breakdown



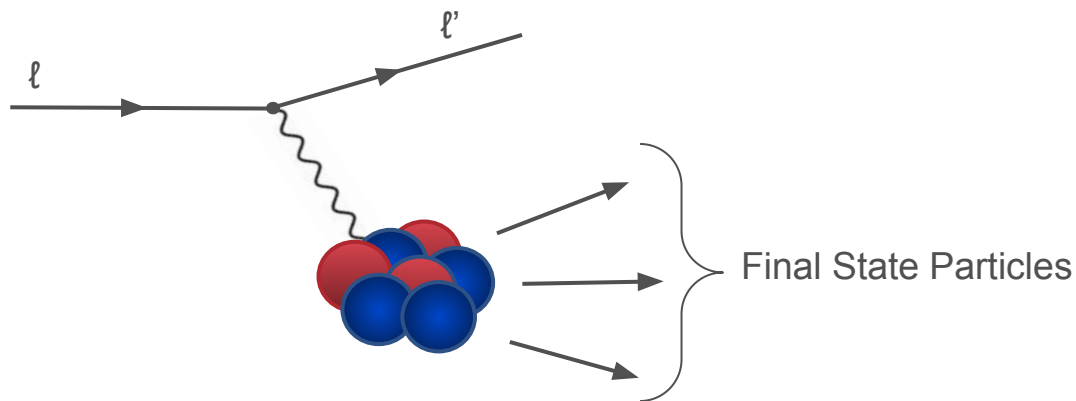
$$d\sigma = \left(\frac{1}{|v_A - v_\ell|} \frac{1}{4E_A^{\text{in}} E_\ell^{\text{in}}} \right) \times |\mathcal{M}|^2 \times \prod_f \frac{dp_f^3}{(2\pi)^3} (2\pi)^4 \delta^{(4)} \left(p_A + p_\ell - \sum_f p_f \right)$$

Flux Factor

Matrix Element

Phase Space

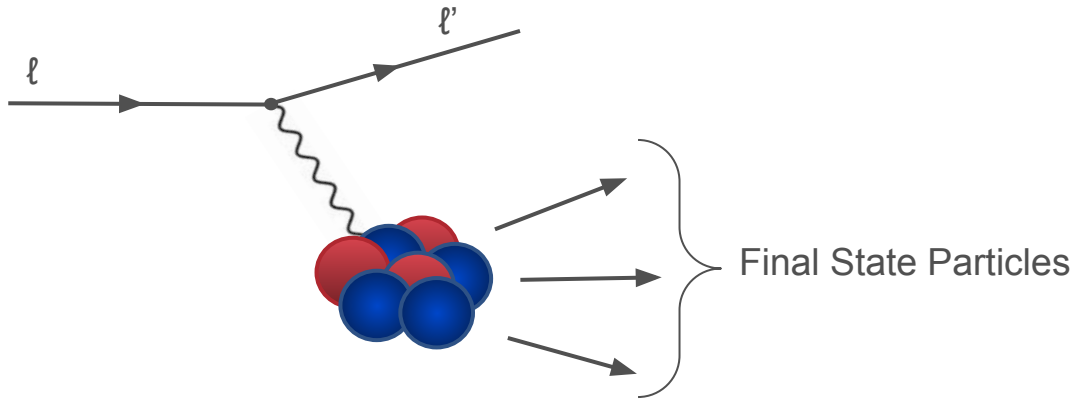
Calculation Breakdown



- \mathcal{V} : Primary interaction vertex
- \mathcal{P} : Time evolution out of nucleus
- Approximate as incoherent sum (i.e. neglect interference between primary interaction and cascade)

$$|\mathcal{M}(\{k\} \rightarrow \{p\})|^2 = \left| \int_{p'} \mathcal{V}(\{k\} \rightarrow \{p'\}) \times \mathcal{P}(\{p'\} \rightarrow \{p\}) \right|^2$$
$$\simeq \int_{p'} |\mathcal{V}(\{k\} \rightarrow \{p'\})|^2 \times |\mathcal{P}(\{p'\} \rightarrow \{p\})|^2$$

Hadronic Current and Leptonic Current



$$|\mathcal{M}|^2 \propto \left| \sum_i L_\mu^{(i)} W^{(i)\mu} \right|^2$$

- $L_\mu^{(i)}$: Leptonic Current
- $W^{(i)\mu}$: Hadronic Current
- Sum goes over possible exchange bosons
- Automatically handles interference effects (important for BSM)
- Easy extension point in Achilles to implement new nuclear models
- Less bookkeeping than handling tensors, but tensors possible if needed

Primary Interaction

- Electroweak currents from nuclear theory:

$$J^\mu(q) = \sum_i j_i^\mu(q) + \sum_{i<j} j_{ij}^\mu(q) + \dots$$

- Impulse Approximation with SF:

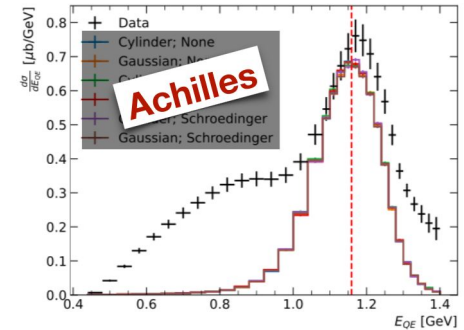
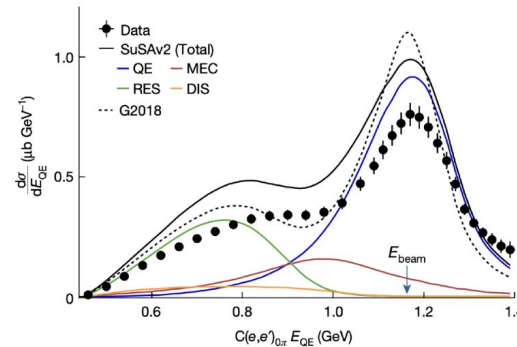
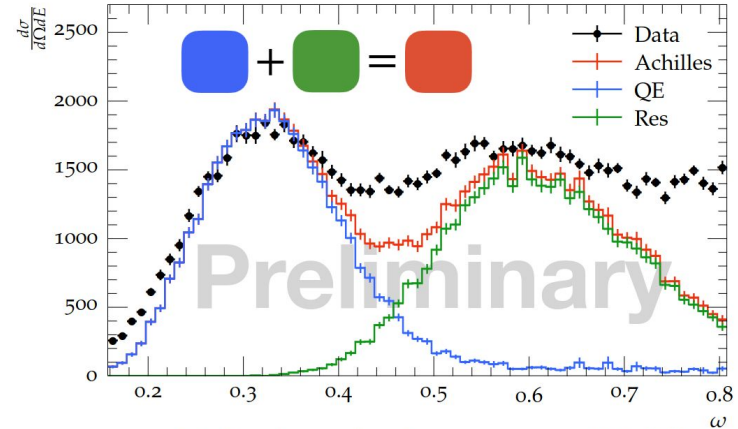
$$|\Psi_f\rangle = |p\rangle \otimes |\Psi_f^{A-1}\rangle$$

- Express in terms of leptonic and hadronic currents
- interferences come for free

$$\mathcal{V} = \sum_i L_\mu^{(i)} W^{\mu(i)}$$

- Have Quasielastic, Resonance (DCC model), One-body-two-body interference implemented
- Important to validate against electron scattering data using same framework (i.e. same code)

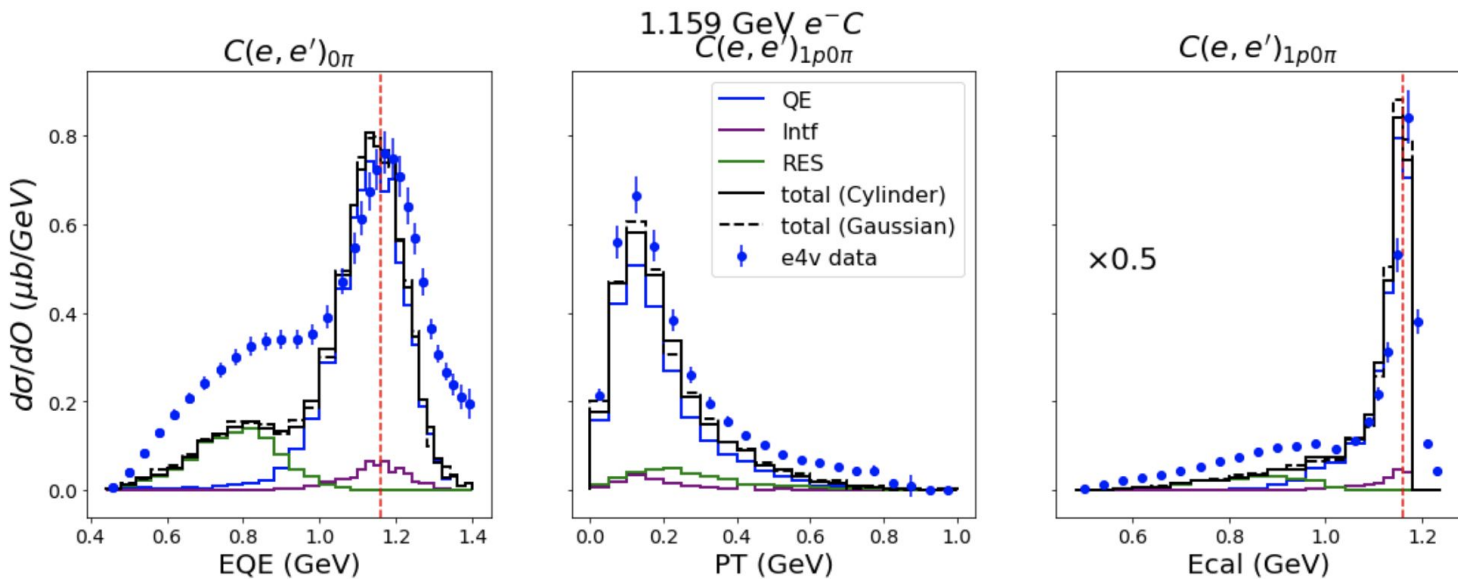
eC 1299 MeV, 37.5 Deg



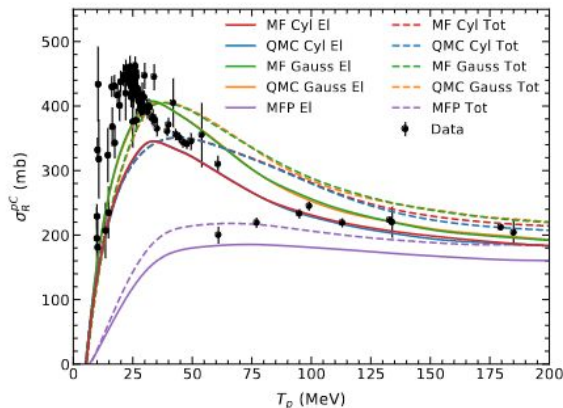
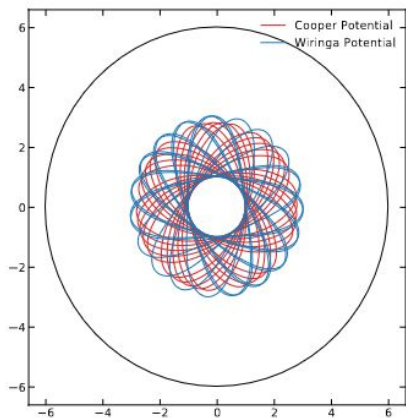
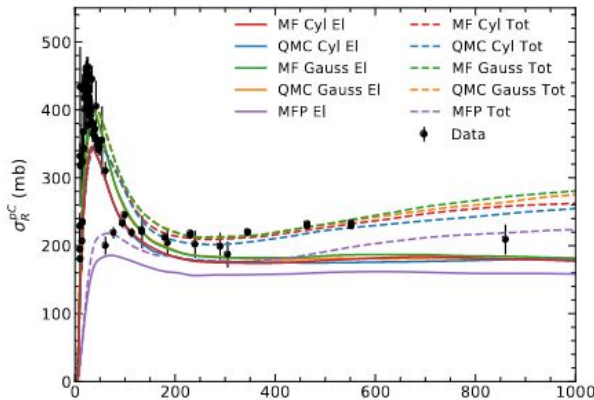
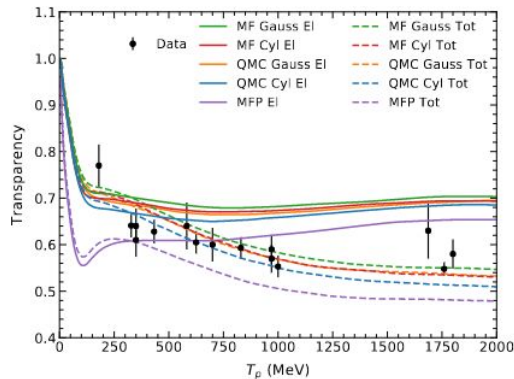
Nature 599 (2021) 7886, 565-570

[Isaacson, Jay, Lovato, Machado, Rocco \[2205.06378\]](#)

Update e4v comparison



Intranuclear Cascade:Nucleons



- Novel cascade using nuclear configurations
- Interaction between nucleons treated as probabilistic model inspired from LHC

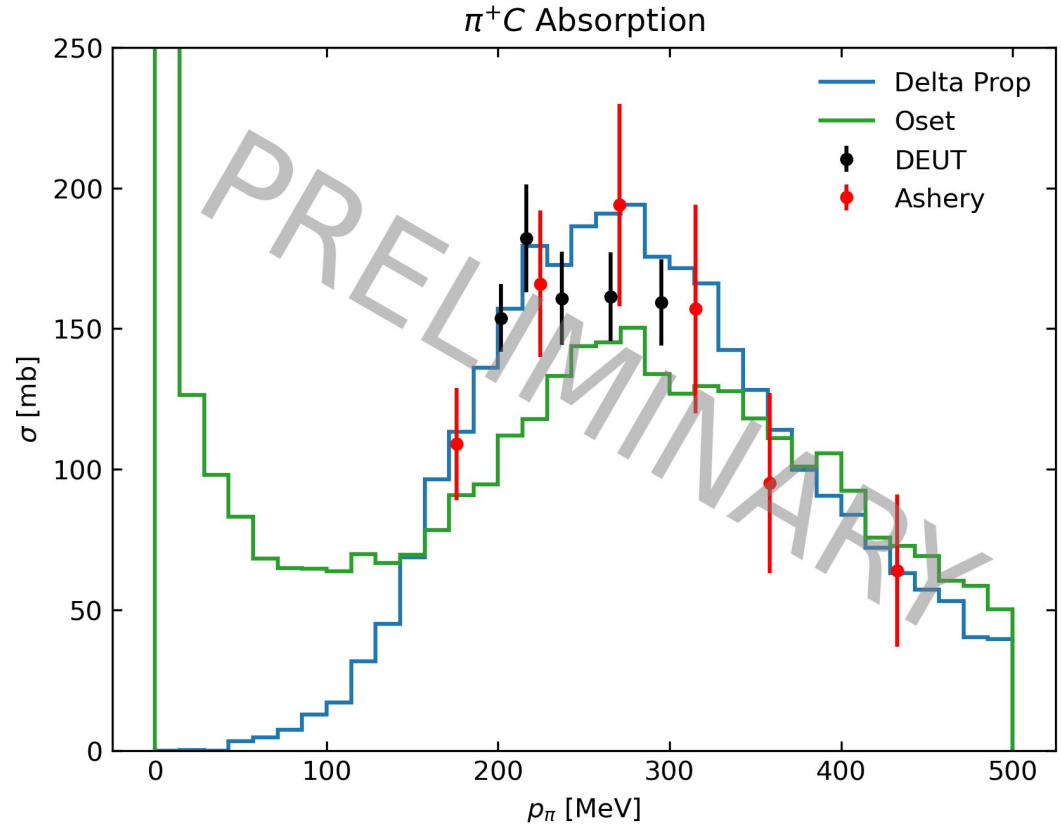
$$P(b) = \exp\left(-\frac{\pi b^2}{\sigma}\right)$$

$$P(b) = \Theta(\pi b^2 - \sigma)$$

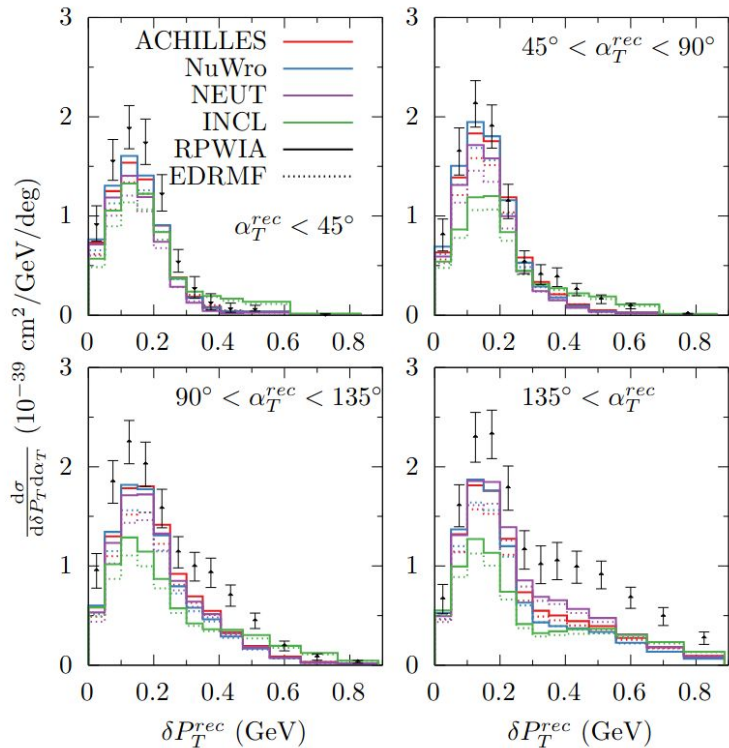
- Propagation either straight-lines or in optical potential using classical evolution
- In-medium cross-section corrections from Pandharipande-Pieper
- Incorporate Pauli-blocking and formation zone

Intranuclear Cascade: Pions

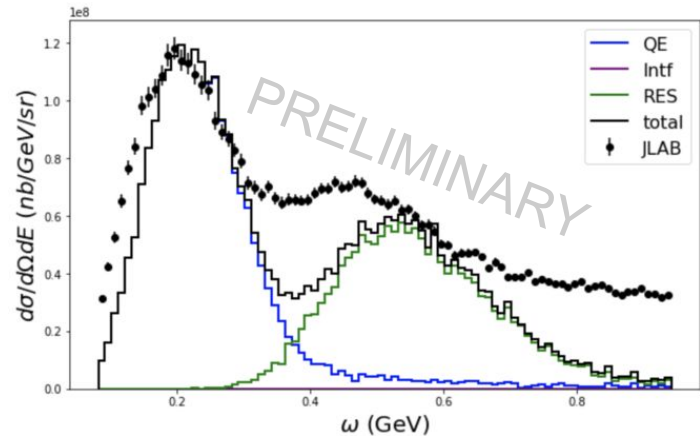
- Multiple approaches to estimate model uncertainty:
 - a. Propagate Deltas through the cascade based on single pion-exchange
[Nuclear Phys. A 459 \(1986\) 503-524](#)
 - b. One-step absorption probability based on Oset
[Nuclear Phys. A 484 \(1988\) 557-592](#)
With the DCC octet meson-baryon interactions, including hyperons
[Phys. Rev. C 88, 035209](#)
- Propagating Delta approach does not contain any in-medium modifications yet, currently only has Delta(1232) resonance, and missing background channel:
$$\pi NN \rightarrow NN$$
- Oset model includes both 2-nucleon and 3-nucleon absorption rate, but kinematics only two body final state



Including Argon

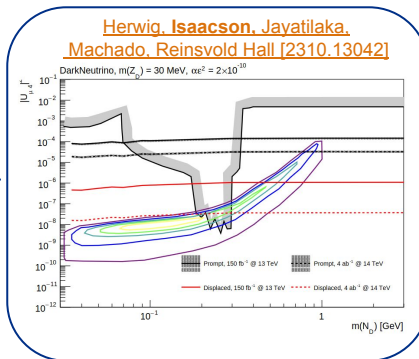


- Spectral function and nuclear configurations obtained from Woods-Saxon single-particle orbitals [A. Nikolakopoulos, \[Isaacson\], et. al. \[2406.09244\]](#)
- Still missing mean-field spectral function to obtain interference contribution (available soon)



Simulating Beyond the Standard Model

Beyond the Standard Model



Universal Feynman Output:

- Developed by the LHC community
- Model defined by Lagrangian
- Reduces implementation bottleneck

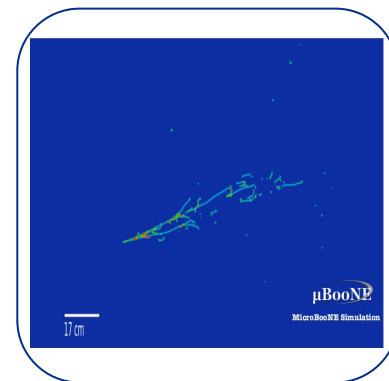
[Degrande, et. al. \[1108.2040\]](#)
[Darmé \[Isaacson\], et. al. \[2304.09883\]](#)



$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{L}_D \supset & \frac{m_{Z_D}^2}{2} Z_{D\mu} Z_D^\mu \\
 & + g_D Z_D^\mu \bar{\nu}_D \gamma_\mu \nu_D \\
 & + e \epsilon Z_D^\mu J_\mu^{\text{em}} \\
 & + \frac{g}{c_W} \epsilon' Z_D^\mu J_\mu^Z
 \end{aligned}$$



Neutrino Generators



Beyond the Standard Model (UFO 2.0)

- Vertices can be defined for arbitrary models as a sum over **colors**, **couplings**, **form factors**, and **Lorentz structures**

$$\mathcal{V}^{a_1 \dots a_n, \ell_1 \dots \ell_n} = \sum_{i,j} C_i^{a_1 \dots a_n} G_{ij} \mathcal{F}_j(p_1, \dots, p_n) L_j^{\ell_1 \dots \ell_n}(p_1, \dots, p_n)$$

- Possible to absorb definition of form factor into Lorentz structure and define within the model as an arbitrary function

$$L_j^{\ell_1 \dots \ell_n}(p_1, \dots, p_n) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_j(p_1, \dots, p_n) L_j^{\ell_1 \dots \ell_n}(p_1, \dots, p_n)$$

See section 4.2 of [Darmé \[Isaacson\], et. al. \[2304.09883\]](#), for details

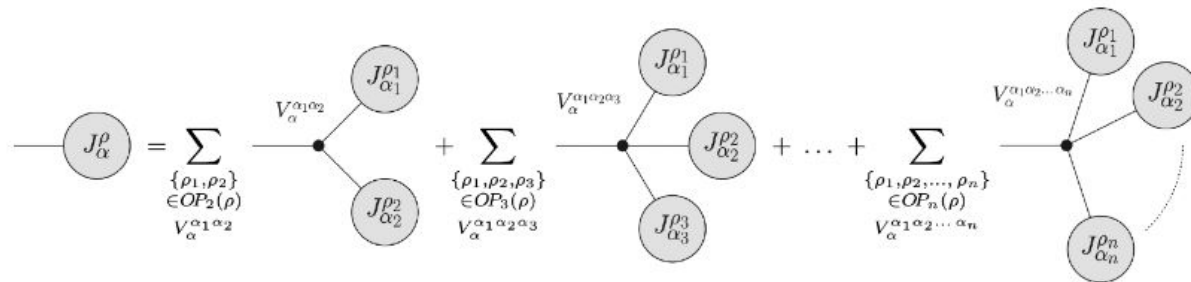
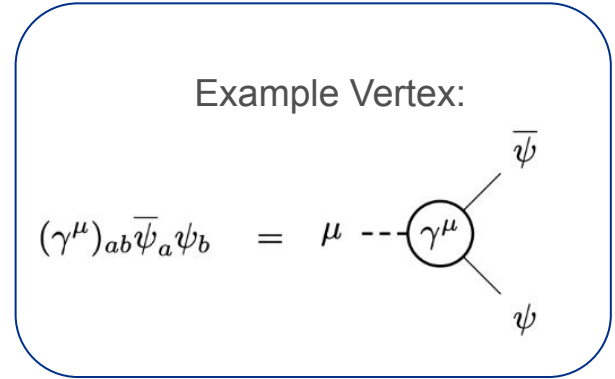
Beyond the Standard Model

Automated Matrix Element Calculation:

Berends and Giele [Nucl. Phys. B 306 (1988) 759-808,
Höche et al. [1412.6478],
Isaacson, Höche, Gutierrez, Rocco [2110.15319],

- Use recursive definition for (off-shell) currents:

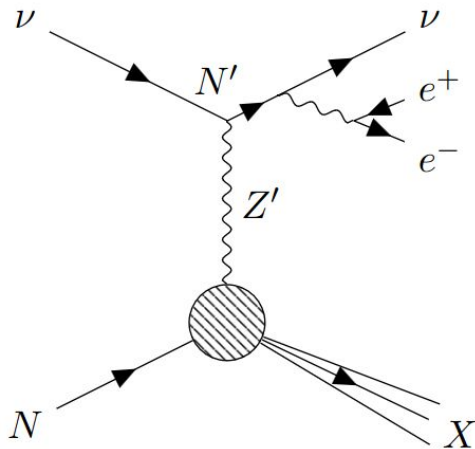
$$(\text{current}) = (\text{propagator}) \times \sum (\text{vertex}) \times (\text{subcurrents})$$
- Current limitations in Achilles:
 - Only handle scalar, spin-1/2, spin-1 particles
 - Requires spin-1 probe of nucleus
 - Color-singlet particles only



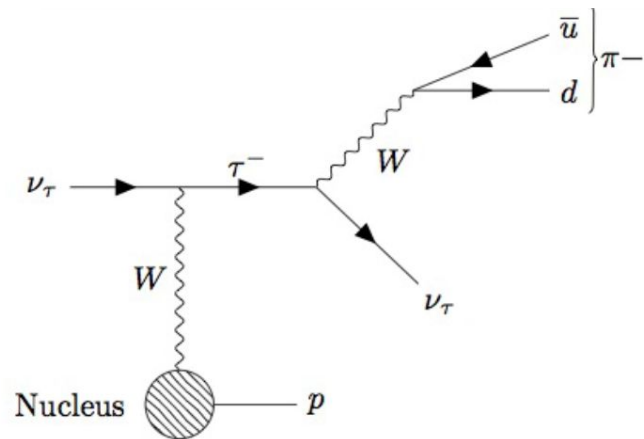
Spin Correlations

Spin Correlations

- Two methods to handle spin-correlations in primary interaction
 - a. Generate the full 2-to-n body phase space
 - b. Propagate the spin-density matrix
- Both methods available in Achilles
- Spin-density better when having to mix two different EFTs together (i.e tau decay)



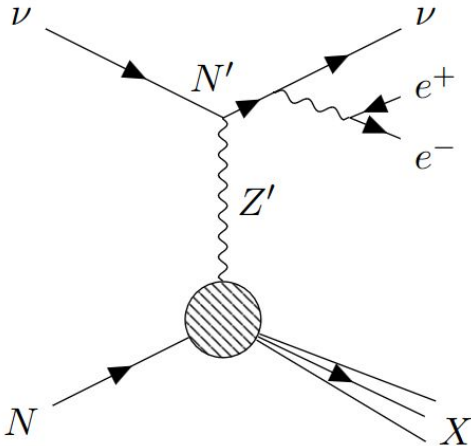
[Isaacson, Höche, Gutierrez, Rocco \[2110.15319\]](#)



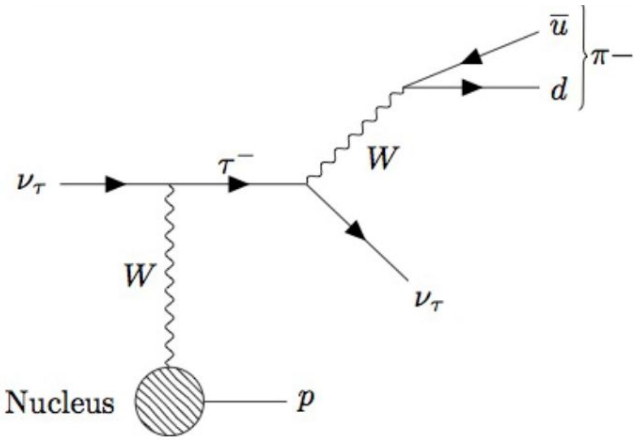
[Isaacson, Höche, Siegert, Wang \[2303.08104\]](#)

Spin Correlations

	Achilles	Every other neutrino generator
2 to n-body scattering	✓	✗
Spin-density Matrices	✓	✗



[Isaacson, Höche, Gutierrez, Rocco \[2110.15319\]](#)



[Isaacson, Höche, Siegert, Wang \[2303.08104\]](#)

Spin Correlations: 2 to n-body scattering

- Full phase space → separation of Dirac and Majorana
- GENIE includes this model, but handles it with repeated decays → only can simulate Majorana case (no spin correlations)

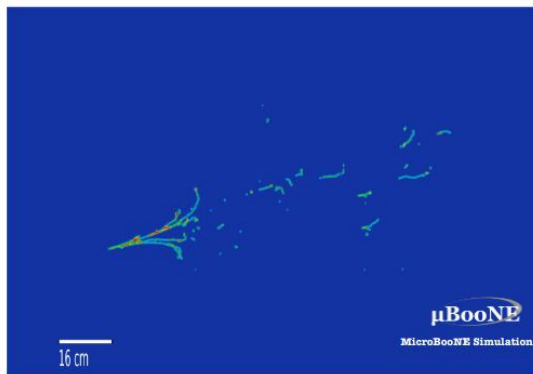
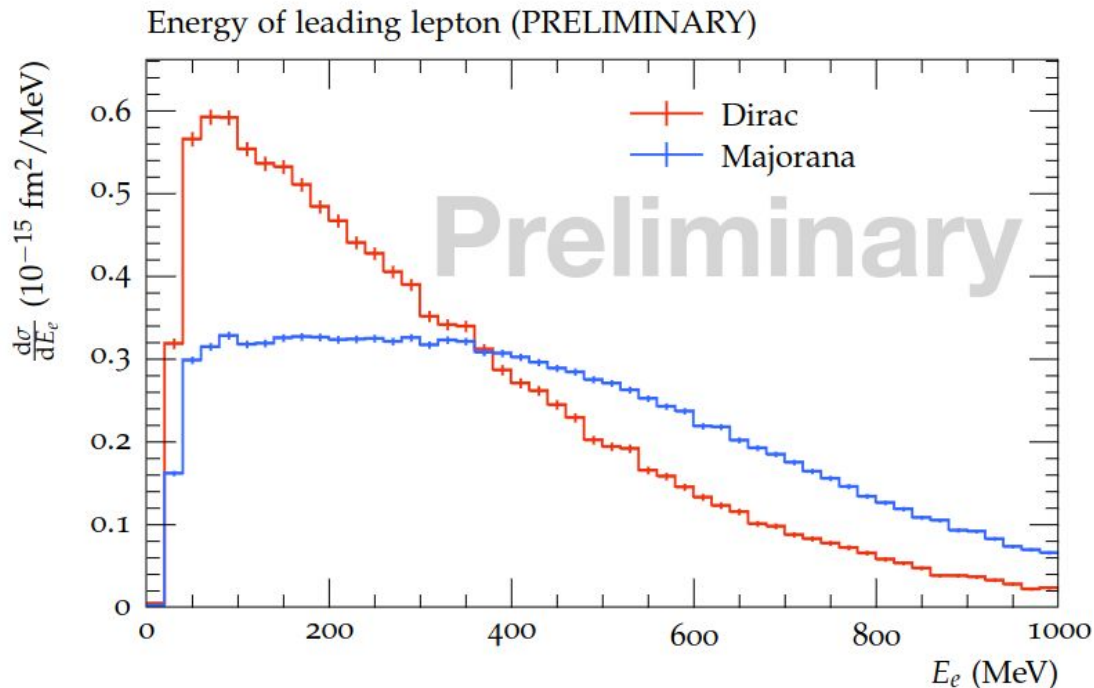


Image generated by the MicroBooNE collaboration using Achilles

Example: Dark Neutrino explanation of MiniBooNE

[E. Bertuzzo, et. al. arXiv:1807.09877]



Spin Correlations: Spin-Density Matrix

P. Richardson [hep-ph/0110108]
[Isaacson, Höche, Siebert, Wang \[2303.08104\]](#)

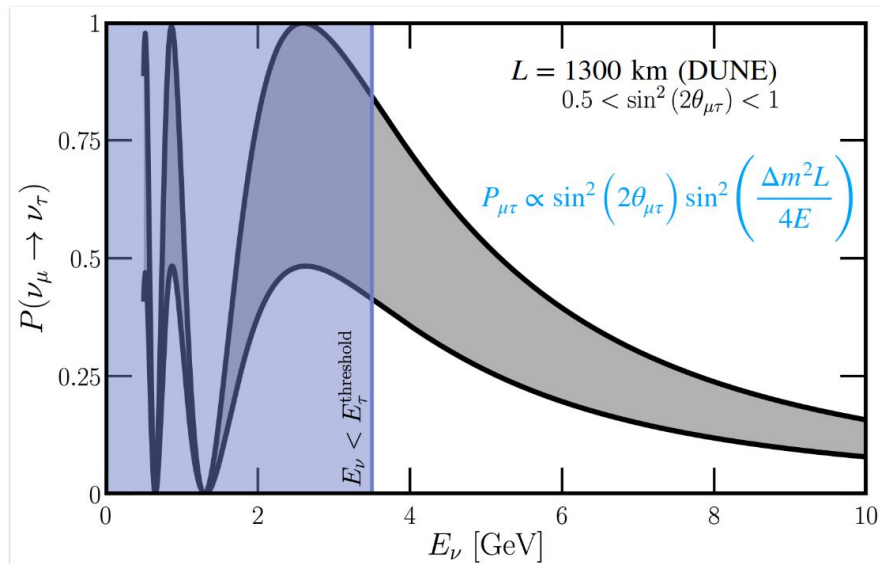
- Recursive algorithm that conserves spin correlations
- Decay unstable particle from hard interaction selected randomly
- Continue down chain until all particles are stable
- Keep track of spin-density matrix, constrained by conservation of probability

Momentum of decay products generated according to:

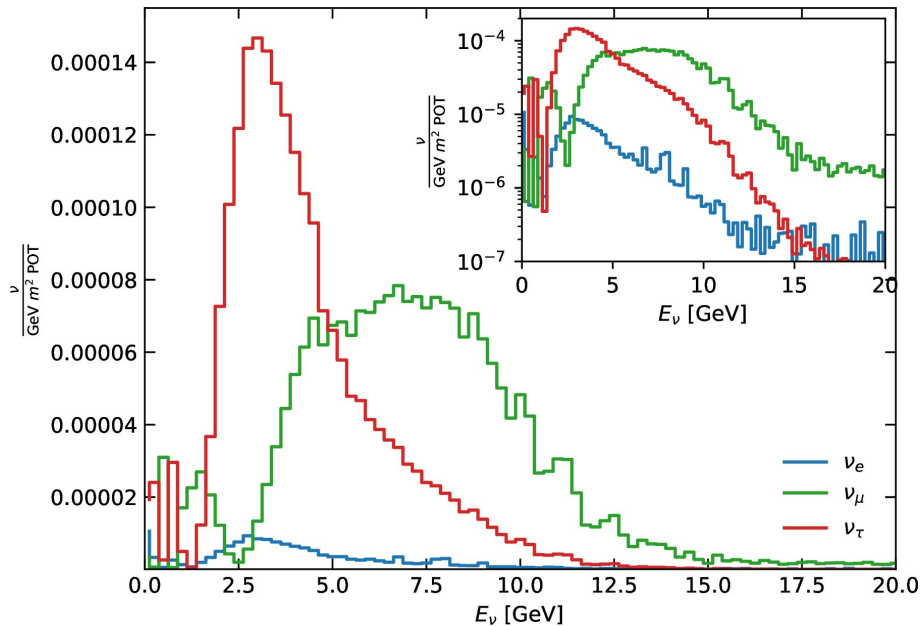
$$\rho_{\lambda_0 \lambda'_0} \times \mathcal{M}_{\lambda_0; \lambda_1 \dots \lambda_k} \mathcal{M}_{\lambda'_0; \lambda'_1 \dots \lambda'_k}^* \times \prod_{i=1, k} D_{\lambda_i \lambda'_i}^i$$

- Initial spin-density matrix
- Amplitude for decay
- Decay matrix (calculated during algorithm)

Tau Polarization



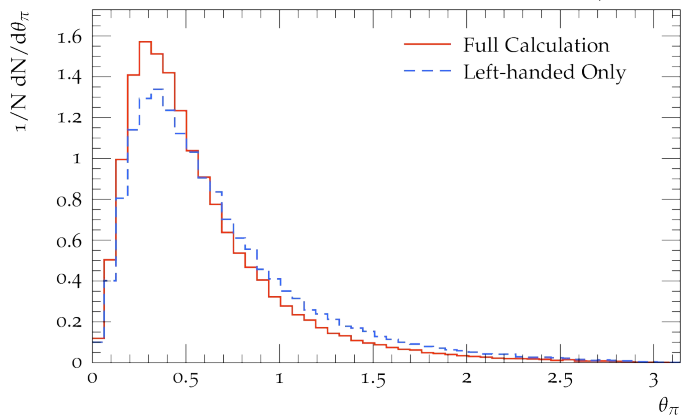
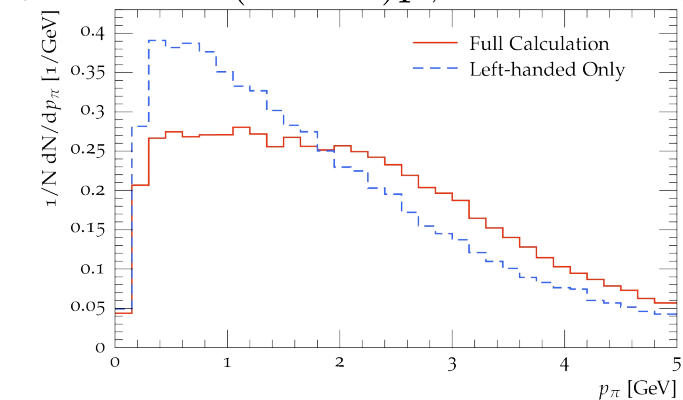
Credit: Kevin Kelly



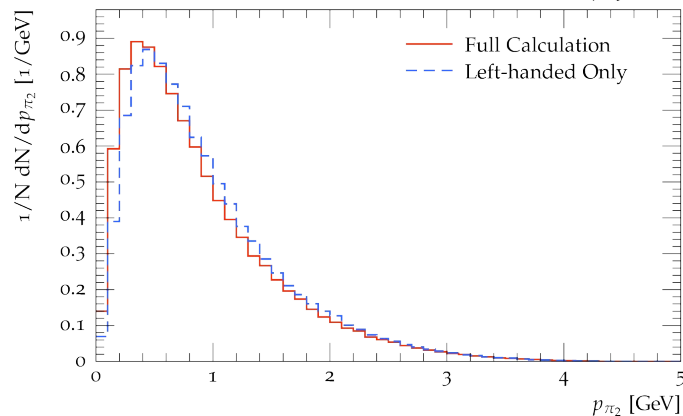
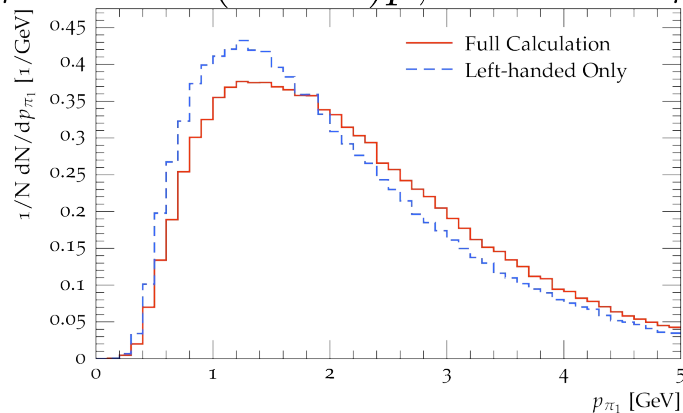
L. Fields, "DUNE Fluxes," <https://glaucus.crc.nd.edu/DUNEFluxes/>

Tau Polarization

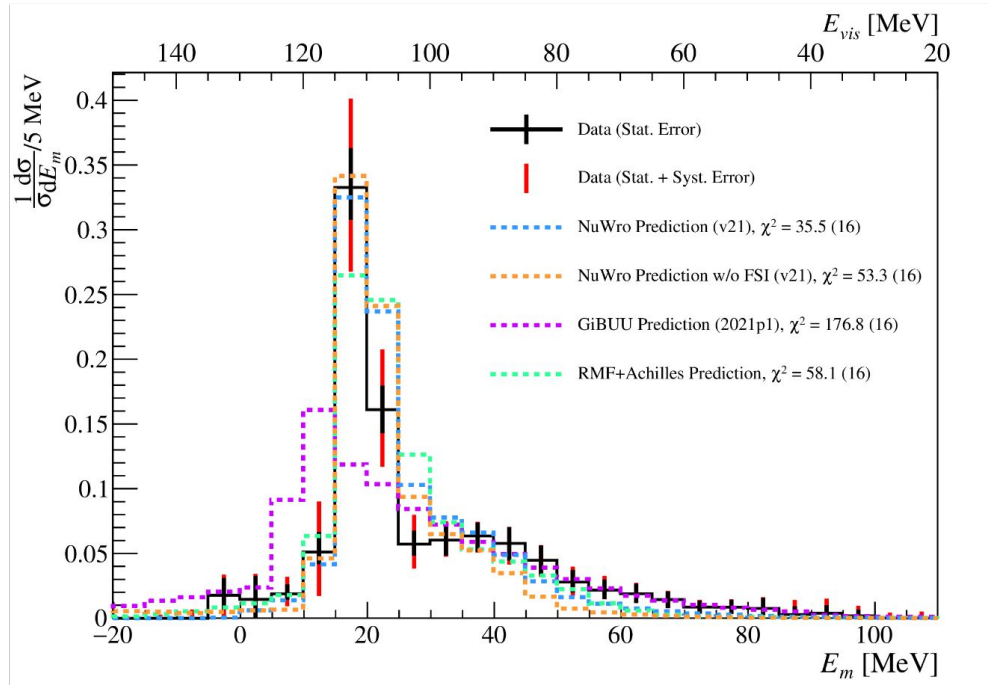
$$\nu_\tau A \rightarrow \tau^-(A-1)p, \quad \tau^- \rightarrow \nu_\tau \pi^-$$



$$\nu_\tau A \rightarrow \tau^-(A-1)p, \quad \tau^- \rightarrow \nu_\tau \pi^- \pi^0$$



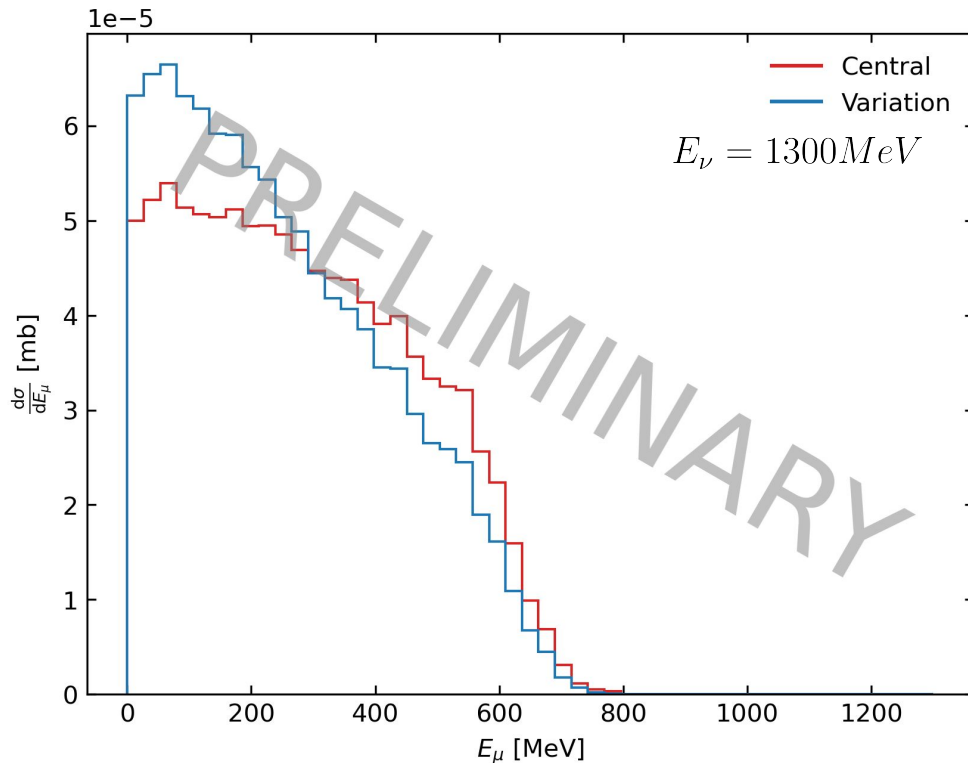
Achilles in KDAR measurement



[JSNS² Collaboration, 2409.01383]

- First use of Achilles by an experimental analysis
- Comparison similar to NuWro without FSI, better than GiBUU
- Achilles almost ready for use by SBN experiments
- Should be ready for wide usage (all needed processes) by early 2025

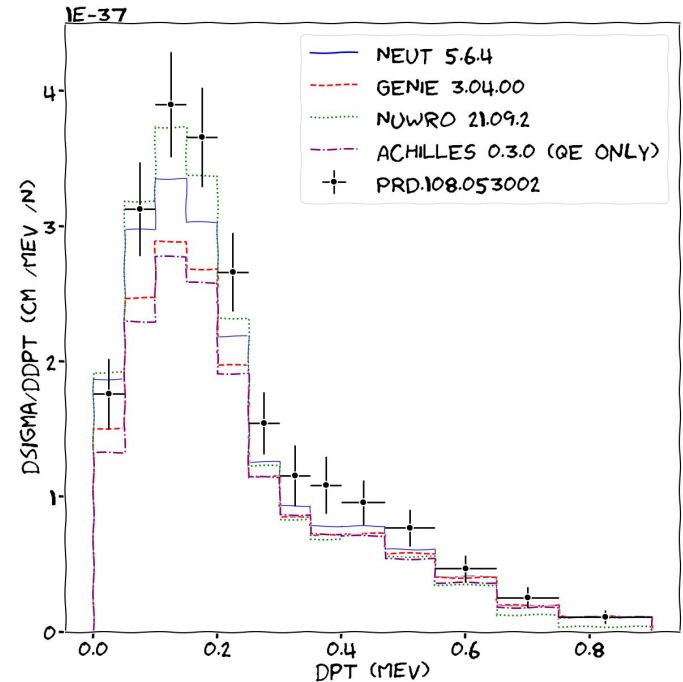
On-the-Fly Variations (in progress)



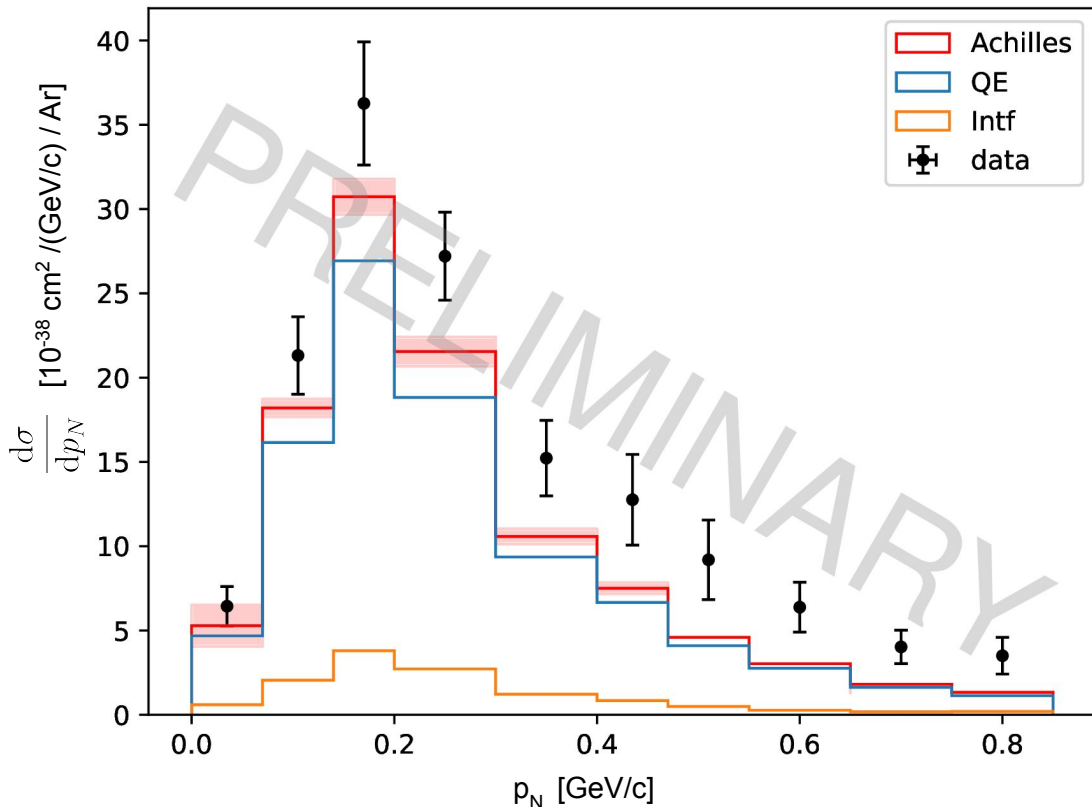
- Calculate variation of physics parameter at run time (ex. Changing form factors, spectral functions, etc.)
- Output a vector of alternative weights for each event
- Quick estimate of uncertainties without needing multiple runs
- Only evaluate for accepted event
- Single sample through detector simulation
- Based off of developments for the LHC [\[1606.08753\]](#)

Standardization Efforts

- Expand HepMC3 (NuHepMC) format used by the LHC and EIC community to be the standard in the neutrino community
- Standard workflows reduce overall maintenance burden and amount of repeated effort within the community
- Ongoing effort to develop a standardized flux and geometry community tool



Automatic Data Comparison with Nuisance v3 (in progress)



- Automatically download analysis, data, flux, etc. from HepData
- Launch Achilles with required setup automatically
- Appropriately handle correlated uncertainties
- Data from MicroBooNE experiment [[2310.06082](#)]

Getting Started with Achilles

- Code can be obtained from: <https://github.com/AchillesGen/Achilles>
- In the process of creating next release (v0.3.0), currently all features discussed available on “dev” branch
- Only needed requirements:
 - C++ compiler with C++17 support
 - Fortran compiler
 - CMake version 3.17 or newer
 - HDF5 library (<https://www.hdfgroup.org/solutions/hdf5/>)
- Optional dependencies:
 - Sherpa (<https://gitlab.com/sherpa-team/sherpa>)
 - Root (Only for certain flux files)
- If you run into any issues or have feedback, please fill an issue (<https://github.com/AchillesGen/Achilles/issues>), start a discussion (<https://github.com/AchillesGen/Achilles/discussions>), or reach out to one of the authors



Conclusions

- Extracting underlying physics parameters requires accurate modeling of the underlying theory
- Largest systematic uncertainty arises from event generator modeling of cross-sections
- Achilles includes Quasielastic, Resonance production, and 1b2b interference
- Novel intranuclear cascade, now including pion interactions and absorption
- Argon now implemented and available for use
- Automating BSM is vital for a robust BSM program
- Handling spin correlations will be critical for any process beyond $2 \rightarrow 2$ scattering



On-Going Work and Future Goals:

<https://github.com/AchillesGen/Achilles>

- Quickly approaching complete generator ready for experimental usage (e4v and neutrino)
- QED radiation
- On-the-fly uncertainty propagation
- Efforts to help standardize input and output formats to benefit the community
- Automatic comparison to data through Nuisance v3

Backup