

Final Measurements of the Double Chooz Experiment

Philipp Soldin

for the Double Chooz Collaboration

Funded by



Deutsche
Forschungsgemeinschaft
German Research Foundation



Physics
Institute III B

RWTHAACHEN
UNIVERSITY

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ \nu_\mu \\ \nu_\tau \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{Flavour Eigenstate}} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} U_{e1} & U_{e2} & U_{e3} \\ U_{\mu 1} & U_{\mu 2} & U_{\mu 3} \\ U_{\tau 1} & U_{\tau 2} & U_{\tau 3} \end{pmatrix}}_{U_{\text{PMNS}}} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \\ \nu_3 \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{Mass Eigenstate}}$$

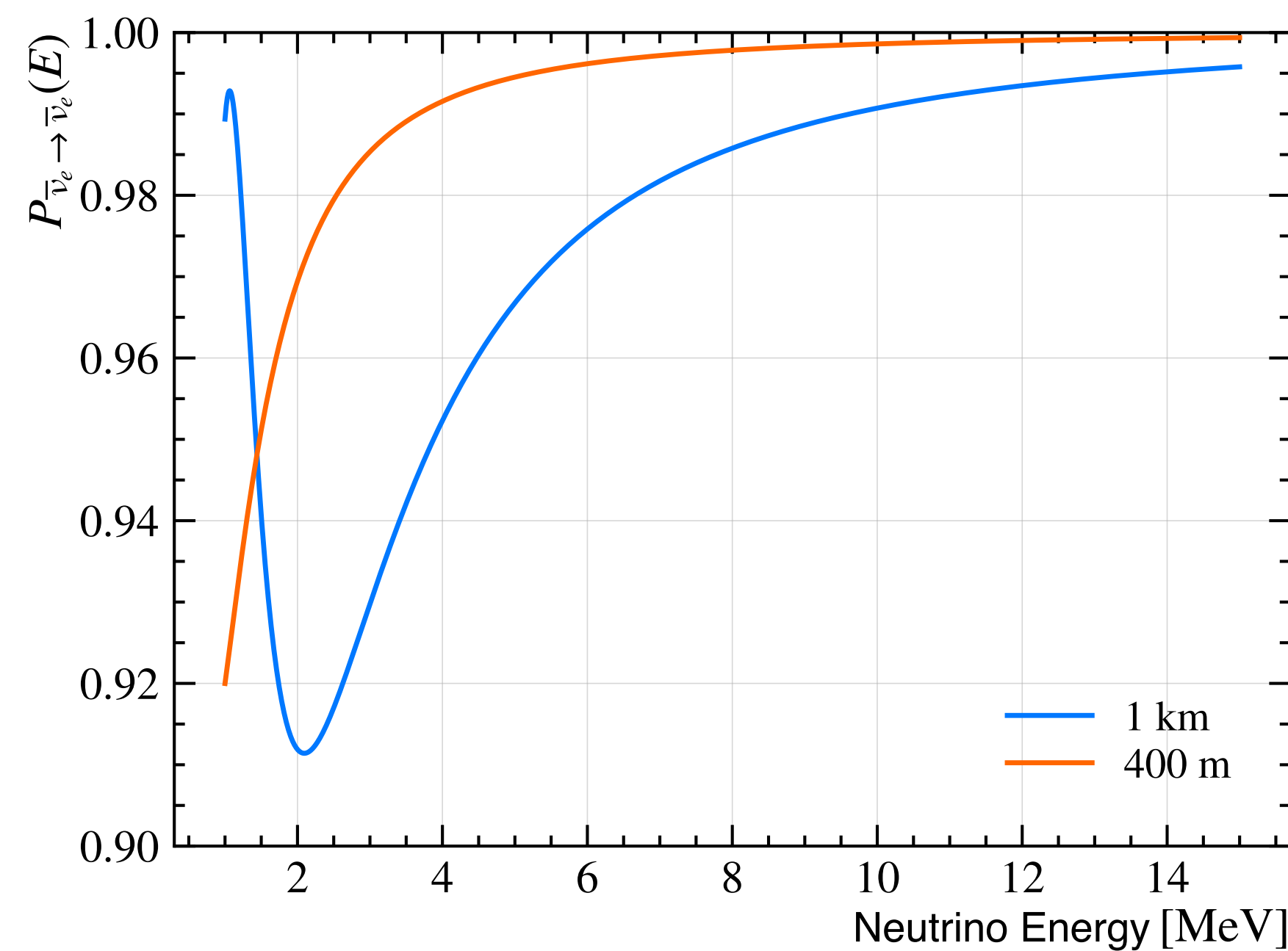
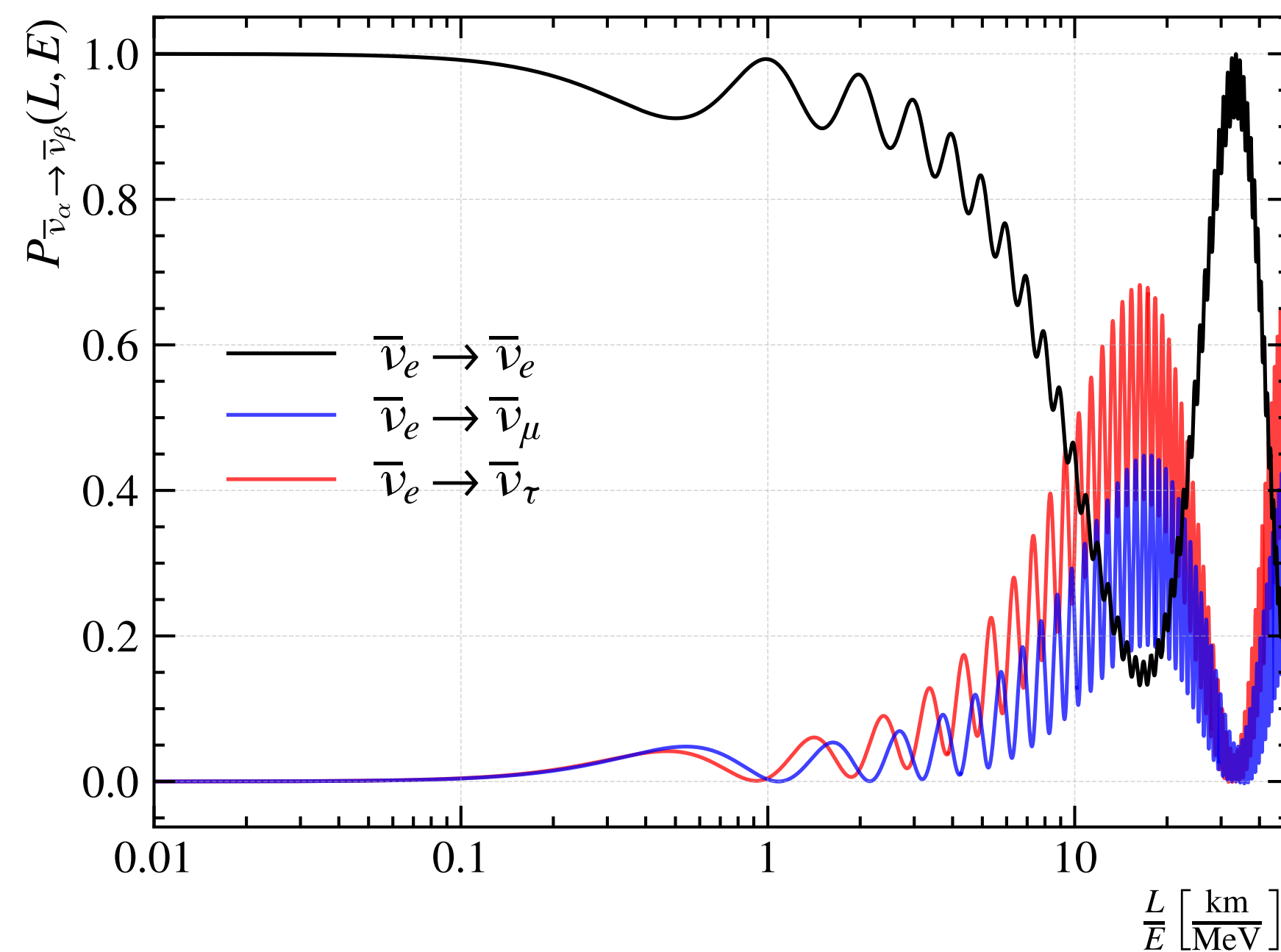
Atmospheric $P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\mu)$	Reactor and Accelerator $P(\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_e) \text{ \& } P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e)$	Solar $P(\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_x)$
$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c_{23} & s_{23} \\ 0 & -s_{23} & c_{23} \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} c_{13} & 0 & s_{13}e^{-i\delta} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -s_{13}e^{i\delta} & 0 & c_{13} \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} c_{12} & s_{12} & 0 \\ -s_{12} & c_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$
$\theta_{23} \sim 45^\circ$	$\theta_{13} \text{ \& } \delta_{\text{CP}}$	$\theta_{12} \sim 33^\circ$

$c_{ij} = \cos \theta_{ij}$
 $s_{ij} = \sin \theta_{ij}$

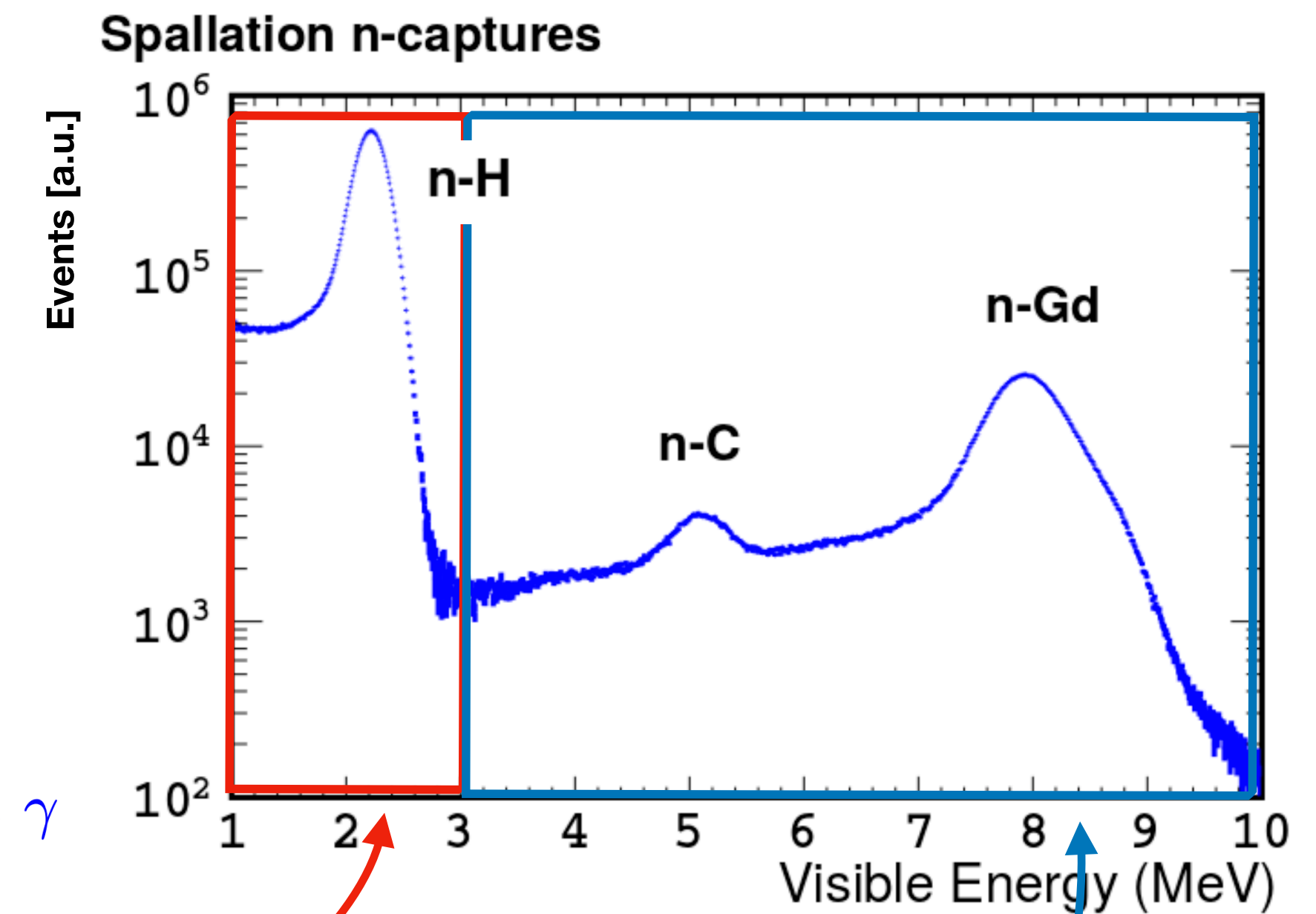
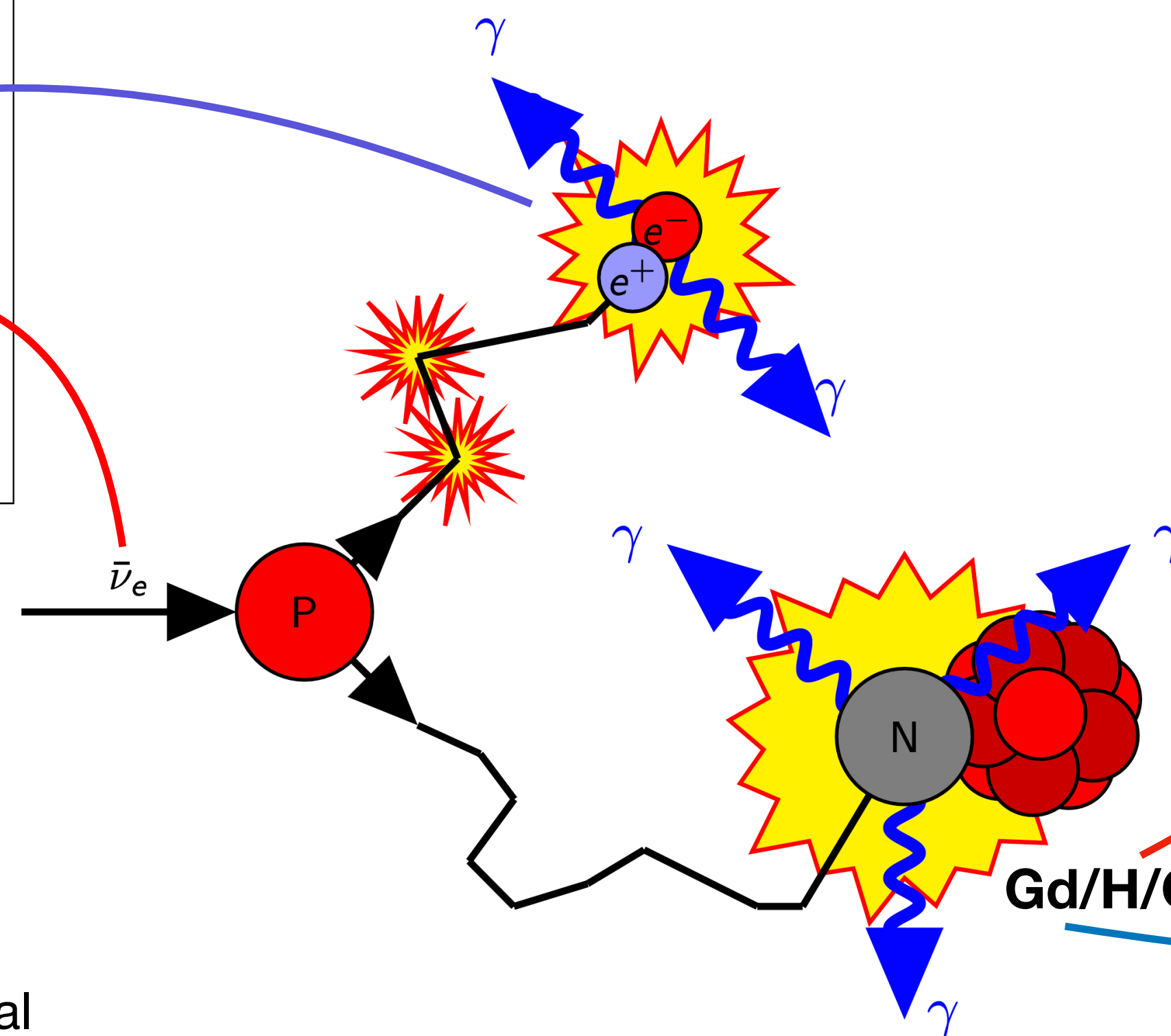
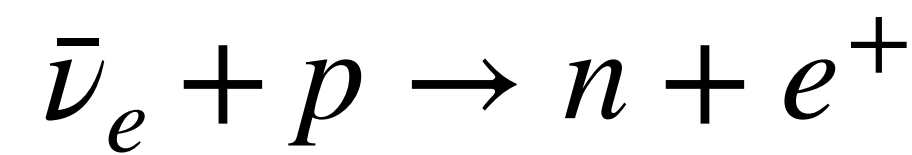
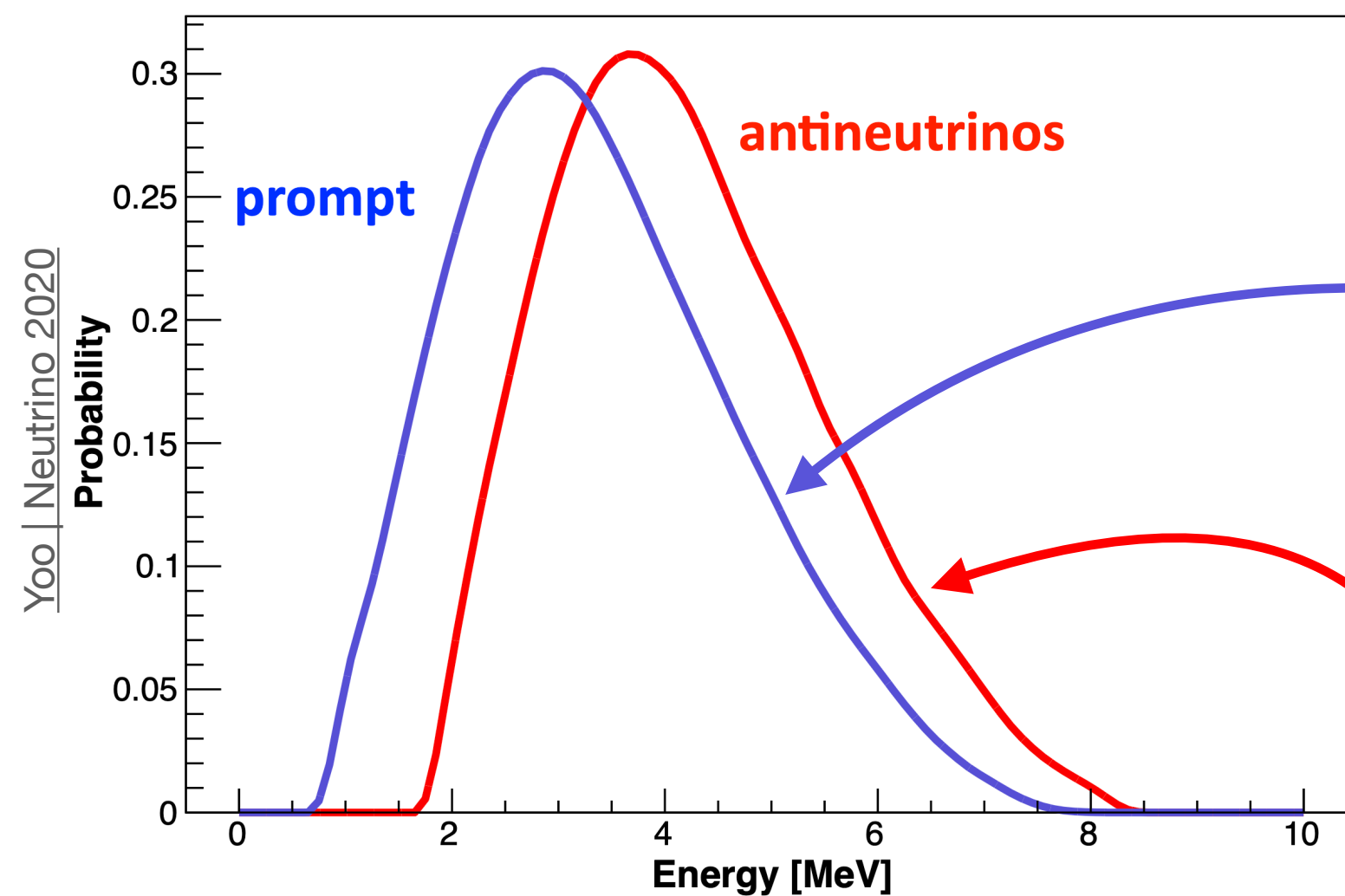
$$P(\bar{\nu}_e \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e) = \dots \approx 1 - \sin^2(2\theta_{13})\sin^2 \Delta_{ee} - \cos^4 \theta_{13} \sin^2(2\theta_{12})\sin^2 \Delta_{21}$$

$$\Delta m_{ee}^2 \equiv \cos^2 \theta_{12} \Delta m_{31}^2 + \sin^2 \theta_{12} \Delta m_{32}^2$$

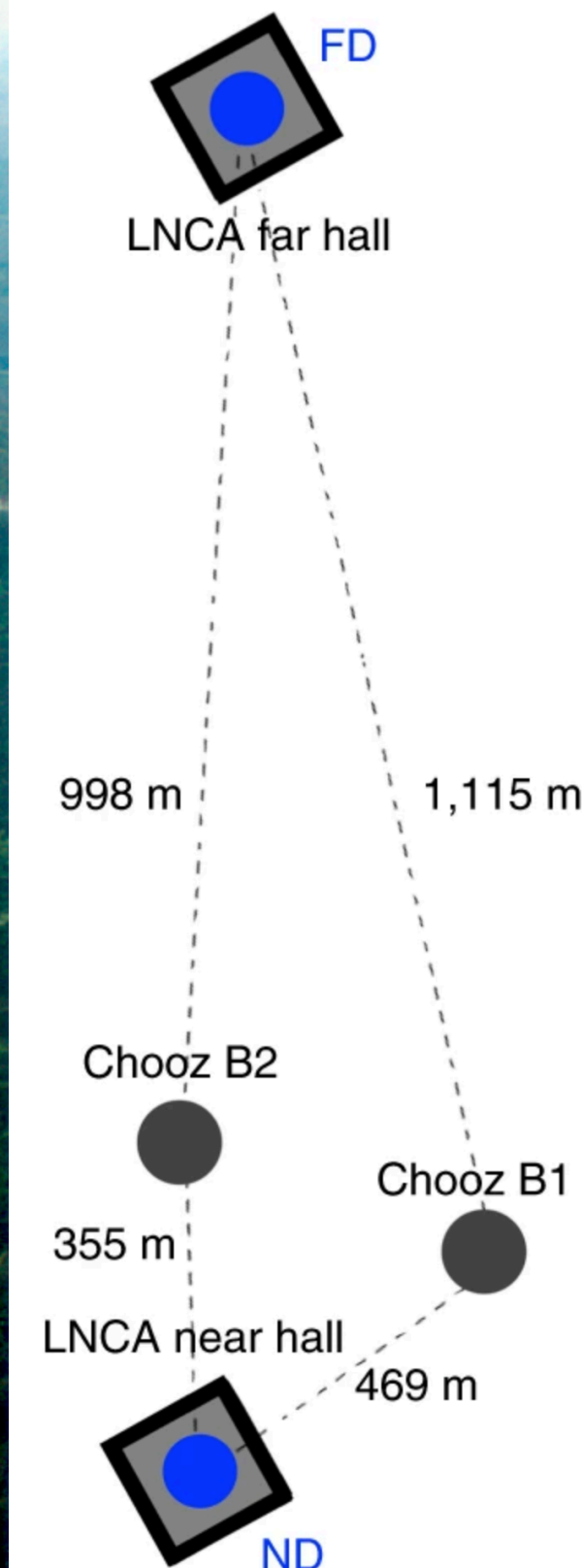
$$\Delta_{ij} \equiv \Delta m_{ij}^2 \frac{L}{4E}$$



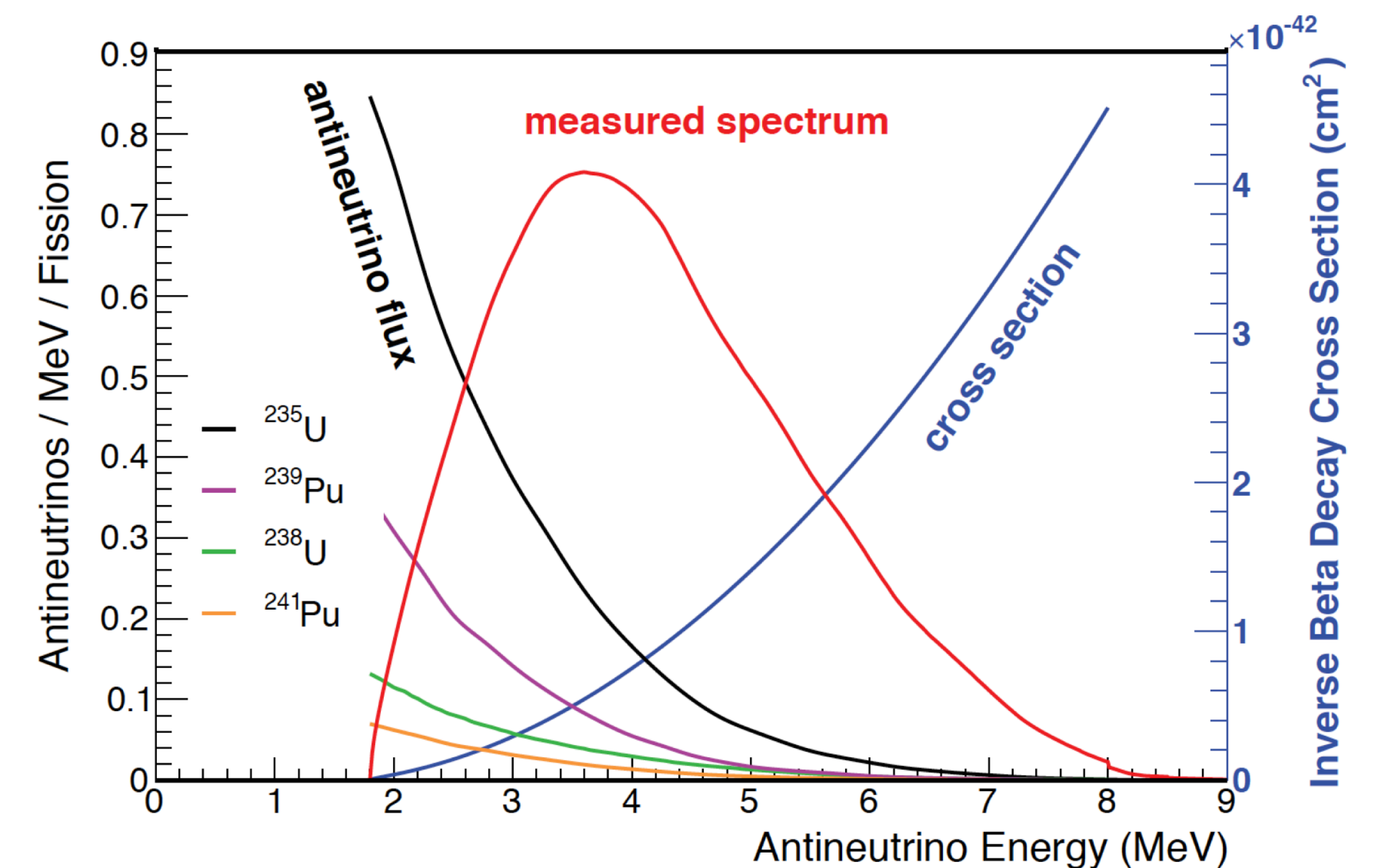
- Neutrinos *oscillate* as a function of distance and energy
- For a single flavor ($\bar{\nu}_e$) source the energy spectrum changes for different distances
- For fixed distances the effect is observable as a systematic deficit of measured neutrinos

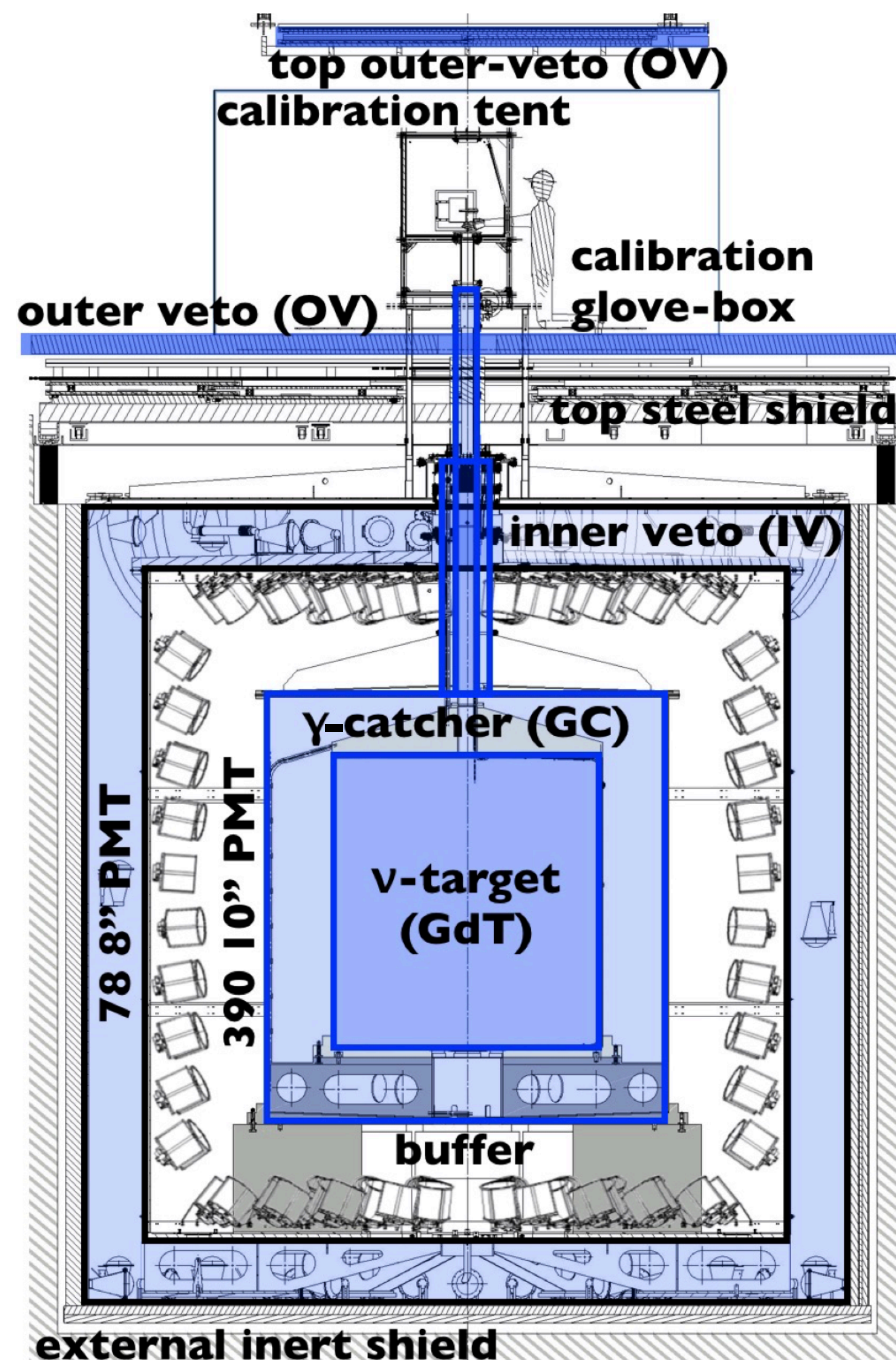


- 1.8 MeV threshold for IBD process
 - $E_{\text{prompt}} \approx E_{\nu} - 0.8 \text{ MeV}$
- Distinct double event signature
- Low background due to double signal
- Relatively high cross section



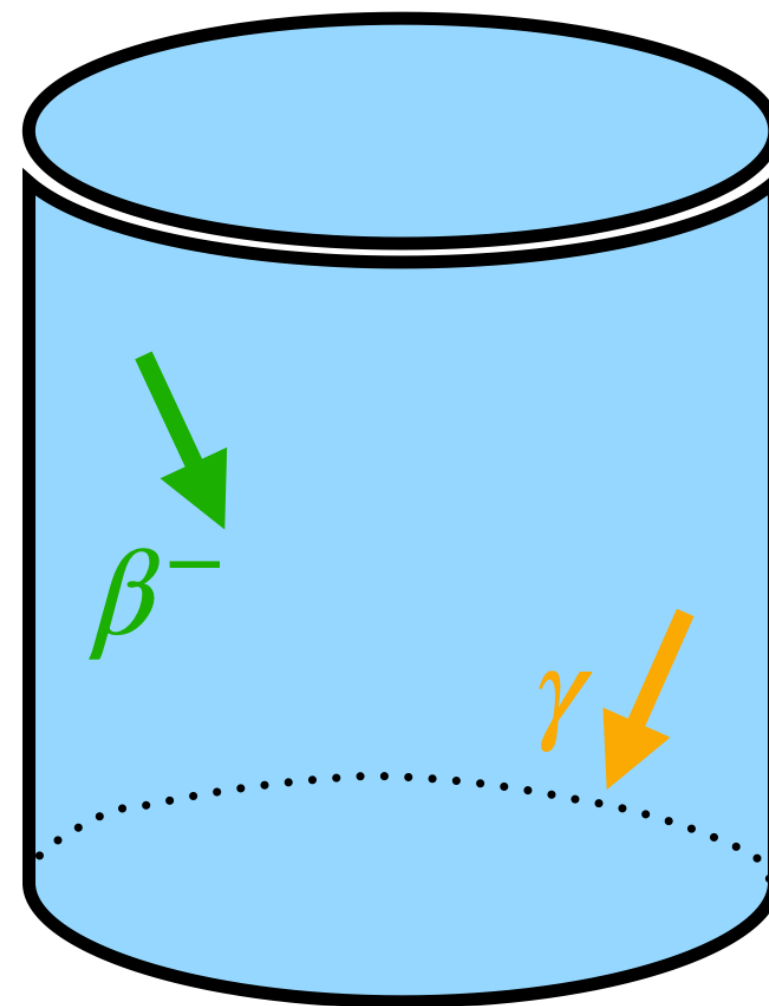
- Nuclear Reactors are a strong neutrino source
 - $\sim 6 \bar{\nu}_e$ per fission
 - $2 \cdot 10^{20} \bar{\nu}_e \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ GW}^{-1}$
- Strong reactors in Chooz, France with a power of $8.5 \text{ GW}_{\text{th}}$
- Data taking from 2011 - 2018
- Near detector assembled in 2015
 - Close to Iso-flux
- Three data sets (FDI, FDII, ND)





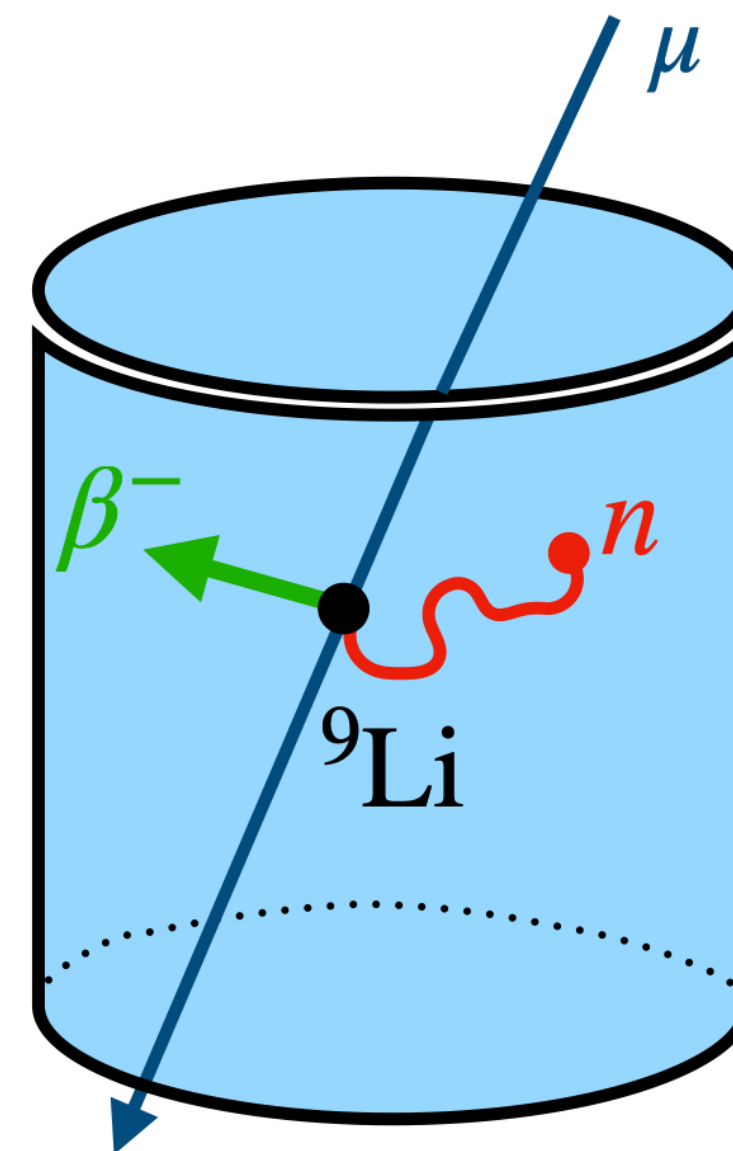
- Identical near and far detector design
- Detector is build in an onion like structure
- ν - target
 - 1 g l^{-1} Gd doped Liquid Scintillator
- γ - catcher
 - Undoped Liquid Scintillator
- buffer
 - Non scintillating mineral oil
 - 390 10-inch PMTs
- inner veto
 - Shielded Liquid Scintillator for atm. μ and neutron veto
 - 78 8-inch PMTs
- outer veto
 - Plastic Scintillator strips above

Accidental



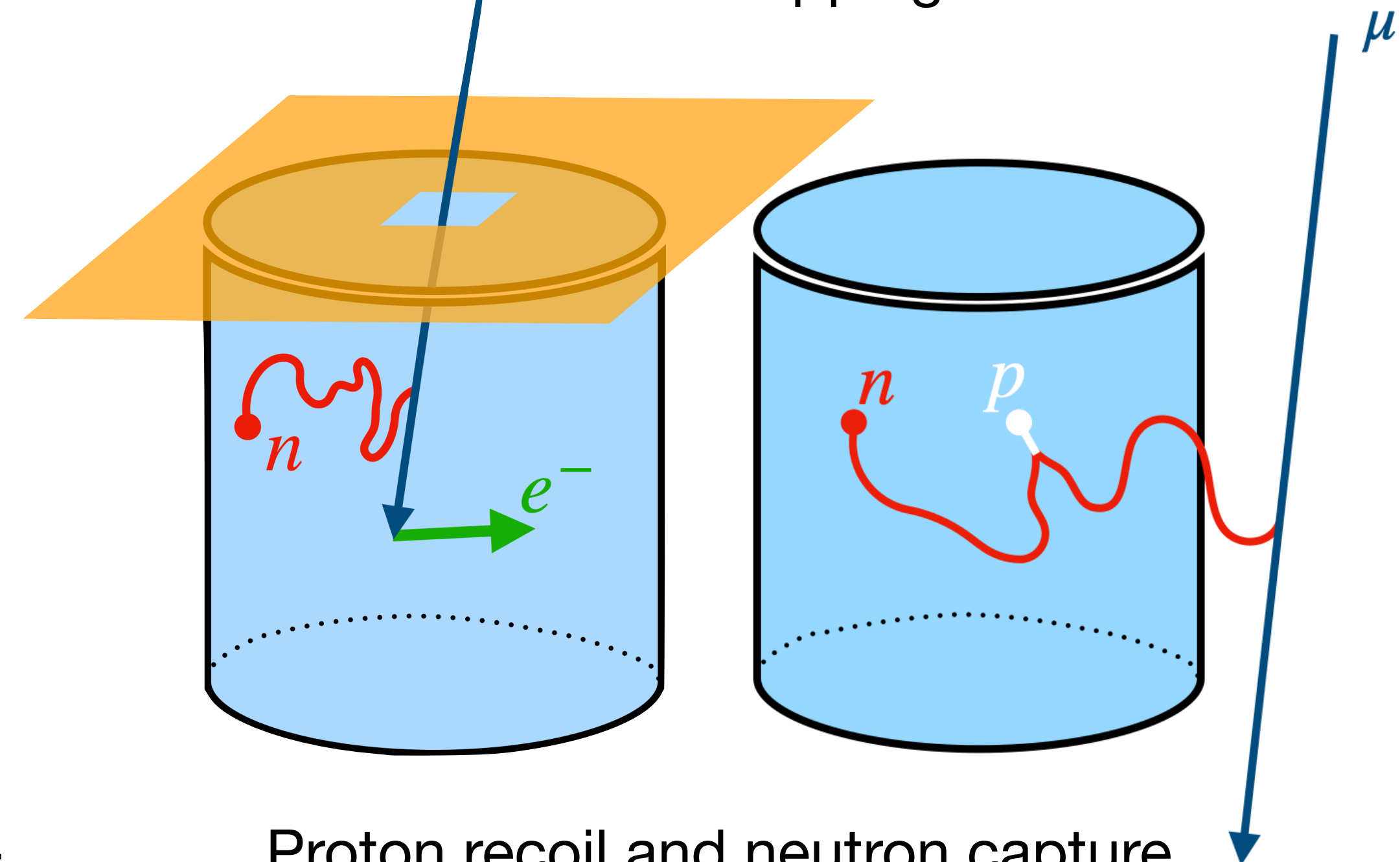
Random coincidences
between uncorrelated
events

Cosmogenic



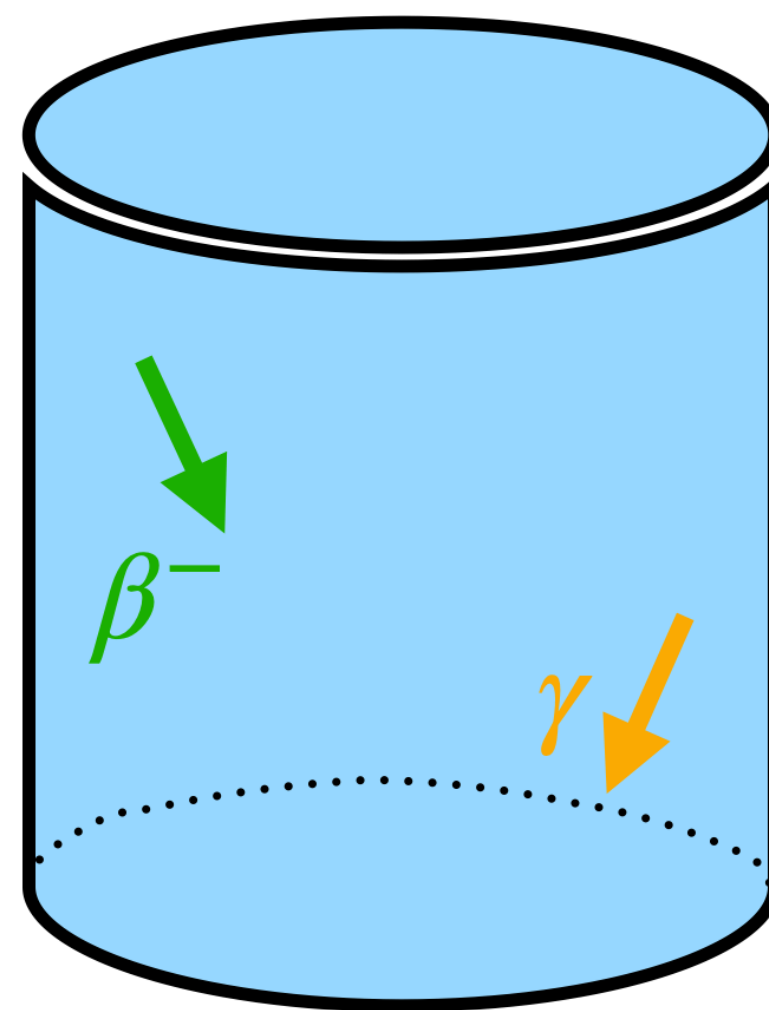
^9Li β^- decay after
carbon spallation by
an cosmic muon

Fast Neutrons + Stopping Muons



Proton recoil and neutron capture
Muon decay into Michel Electrons

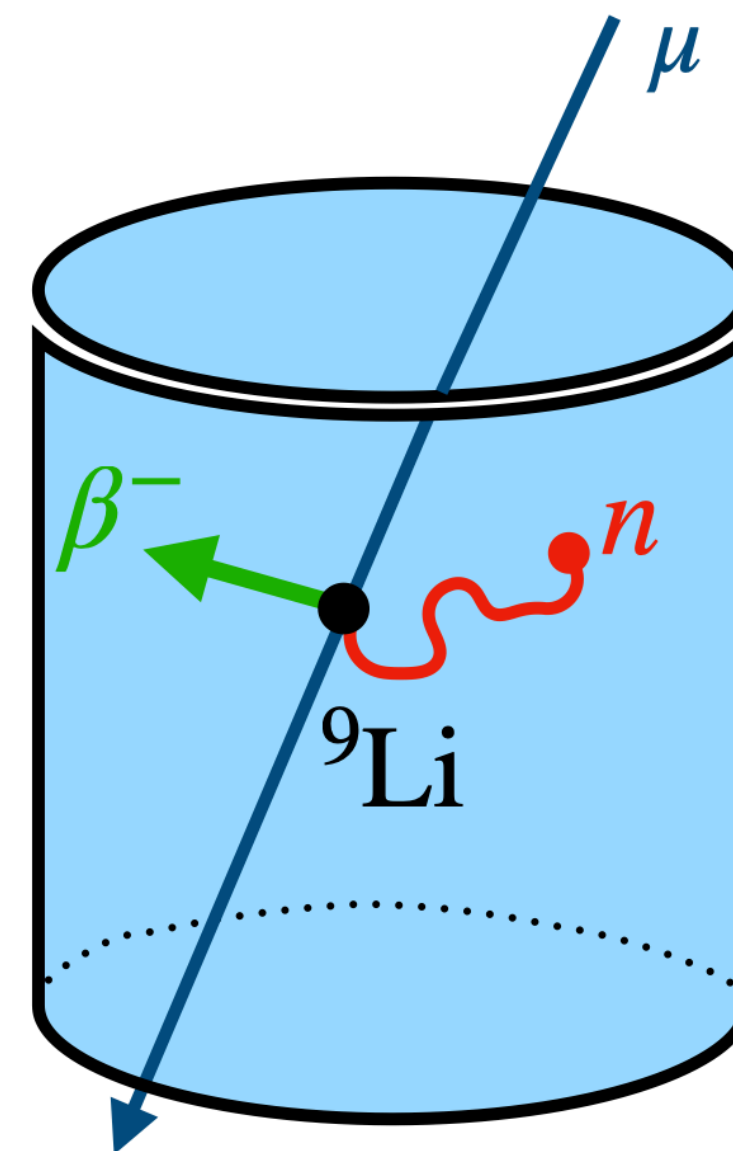
Accidental



Random coincidences
between uncorrelated
events

FD: $4.360 \pm 0.010 \text{ day}^{-1}$
ND: $3.066 \pm 0.001 \text{ day}^{-1}$

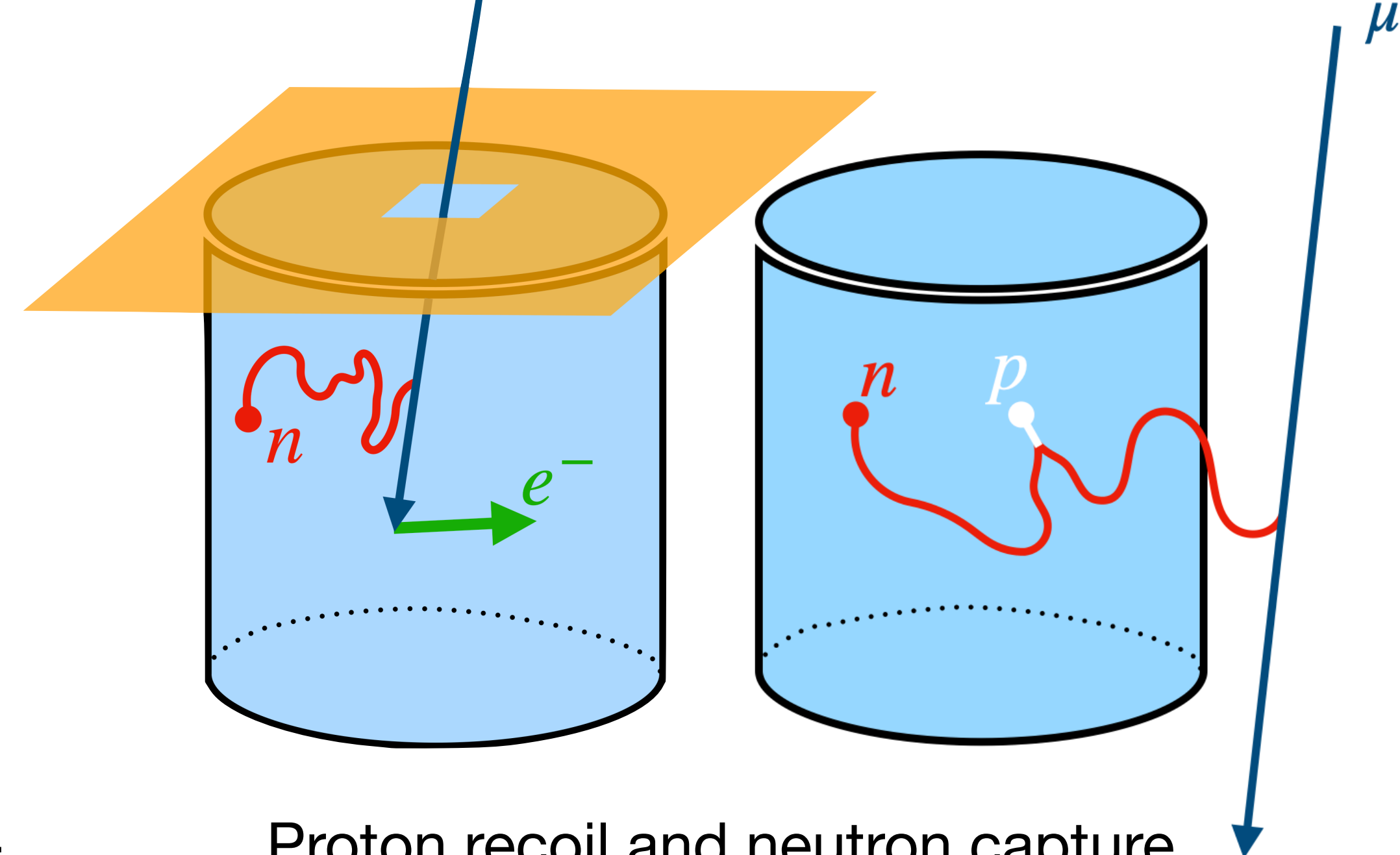
Cosmogenic



^9Li β^- decay after
carbon spallation by
an cosmic muon

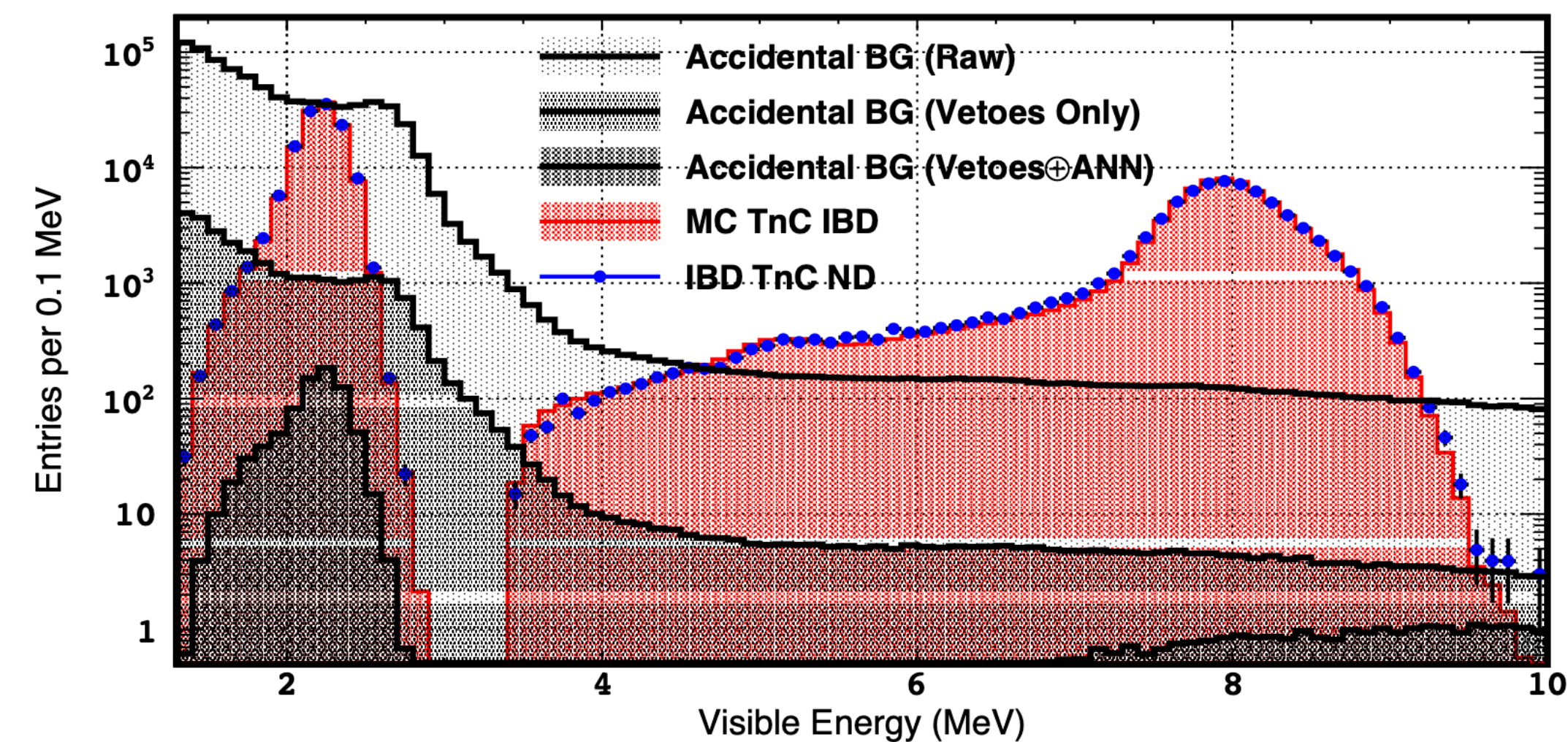
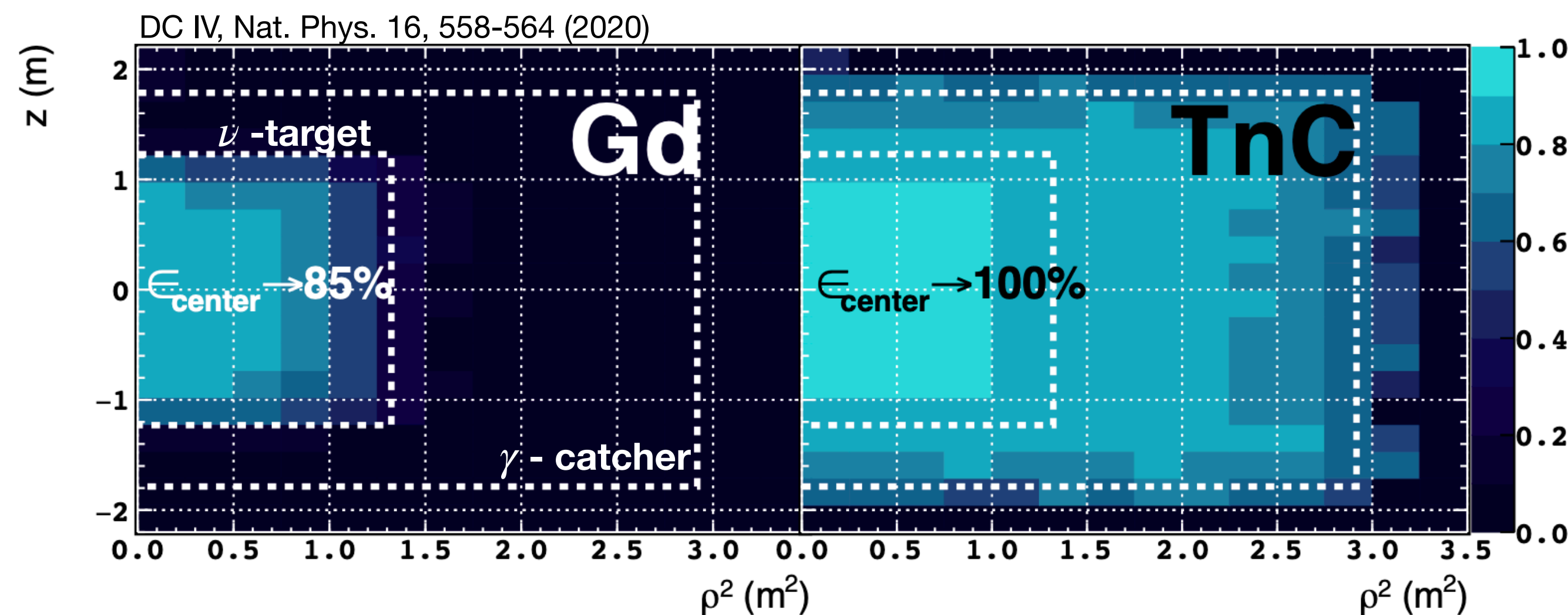
FD: $2.40 \pm 0.21 \text{ day}^{-1}$
ND: $11.38 \pm 0.95 \text{ day}^{-1}$

Fast Neutrons + Stopping Muons



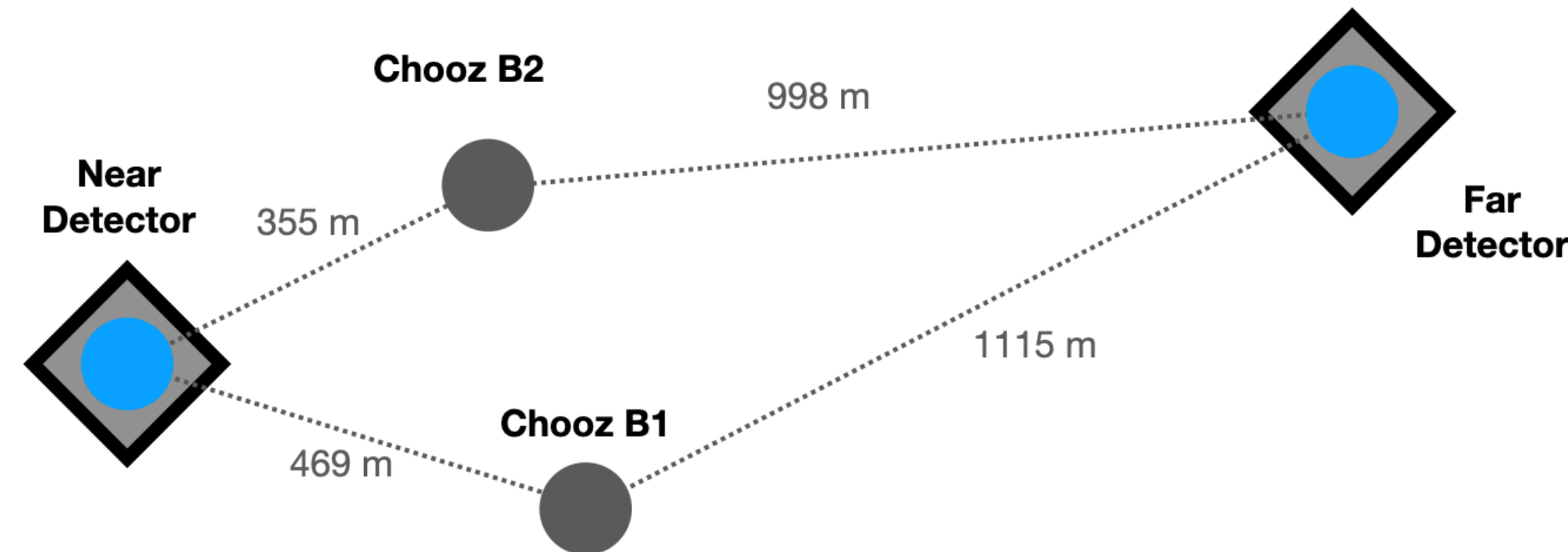
Proton recoil and neutron capture
Muon decay into Michel Electrons

FD: $6.05 \pm 0.10 \text{ day}^{-1}$
ND: $45.56 \pm 0.36 \text{ day}^{-1}$

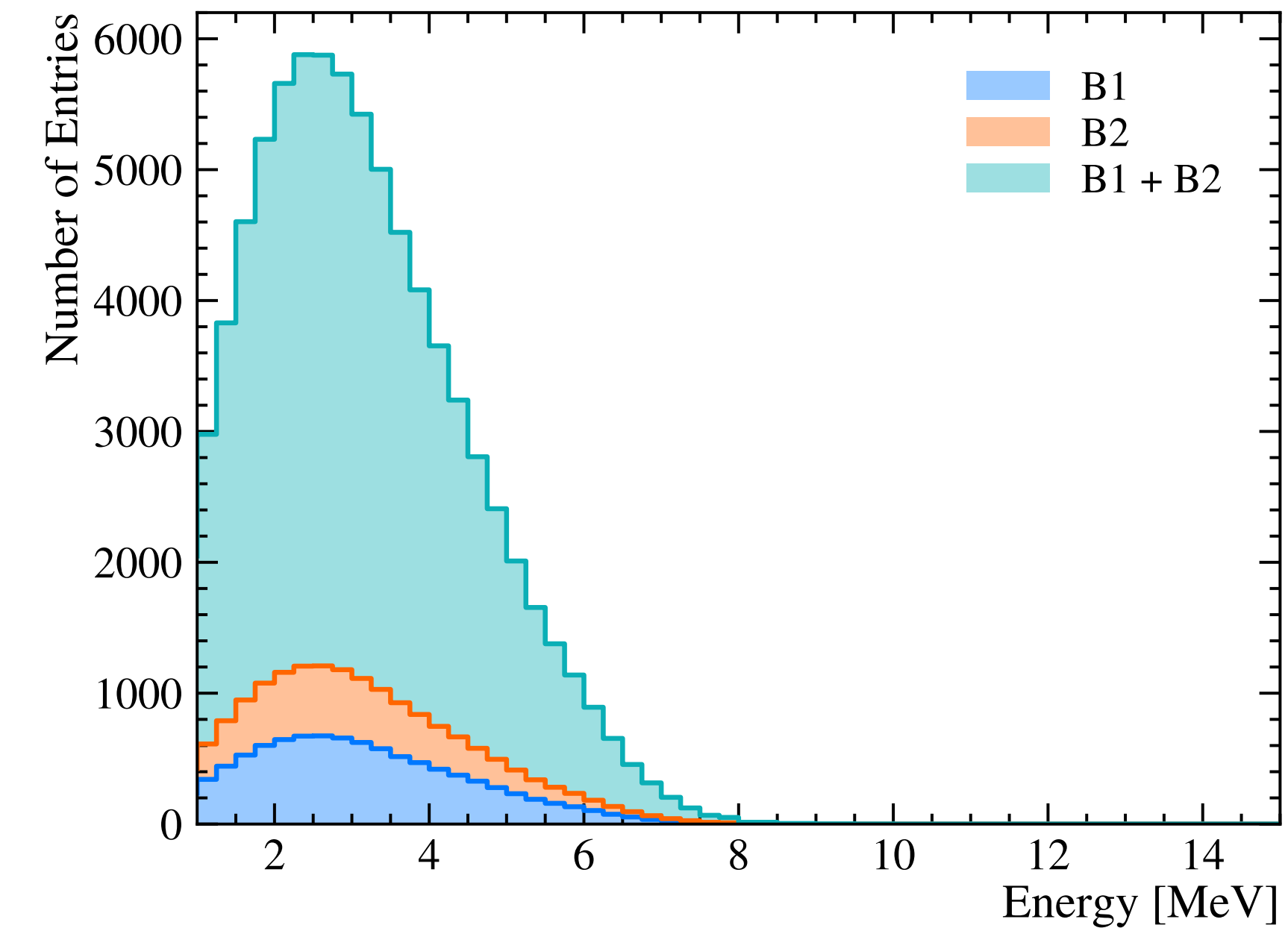


- By including Hydrogen in the event selection, all neutron capture channels can be utilized (Gd + H + C) in Total Neutron Capture (TnC) (DC IV)
- The γ -Catcher can be used as fiducial volume. In total this increases the statistics by a factor ~ 2.5
- This requires a significant background reduction
 - Use of NN that uses ΔR , Δt and E_{delayed}

Reactor Split



MC Far Detector Reactor Spectrum



Far
Detector

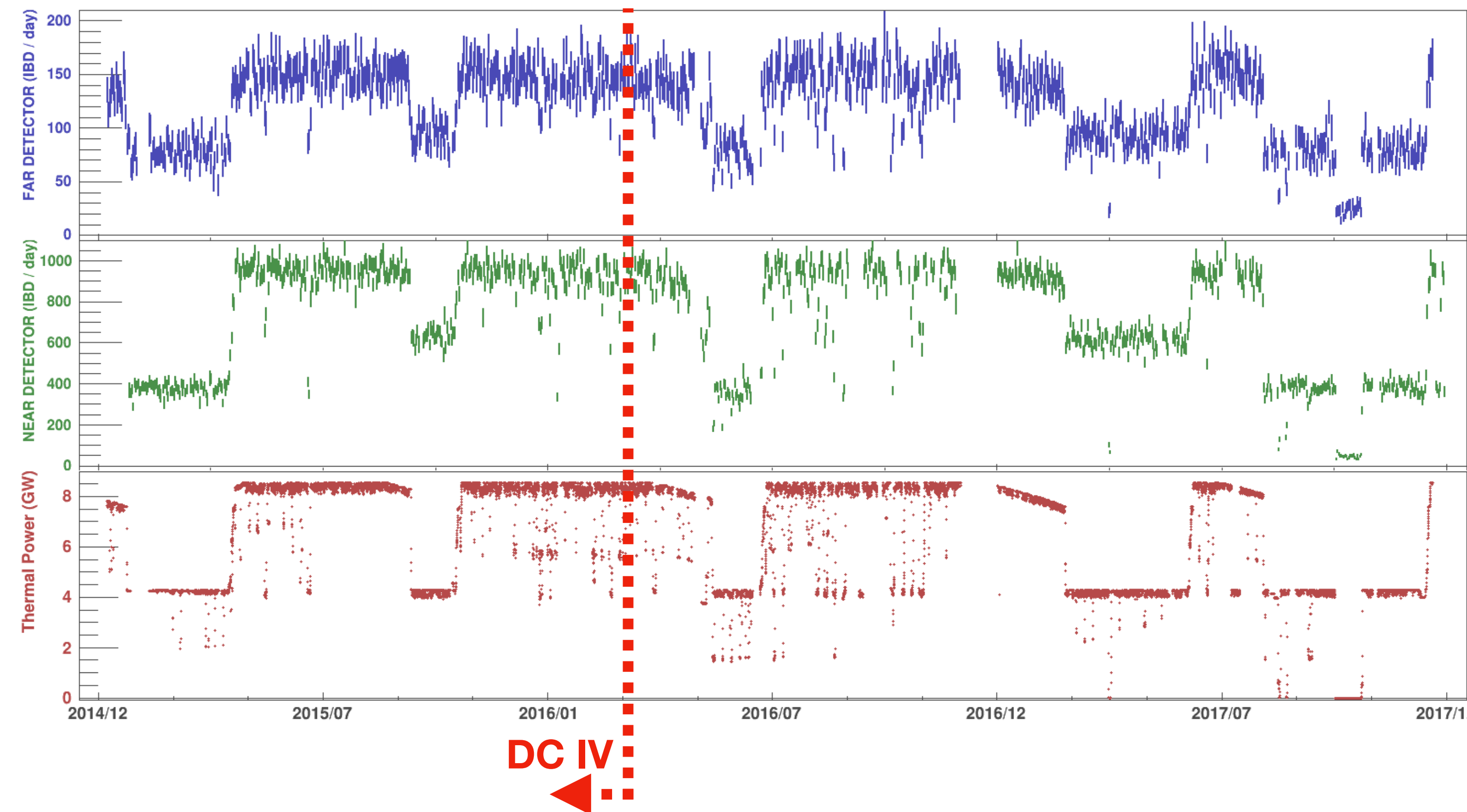
Near
Detector

Reactor
Thermal
Power

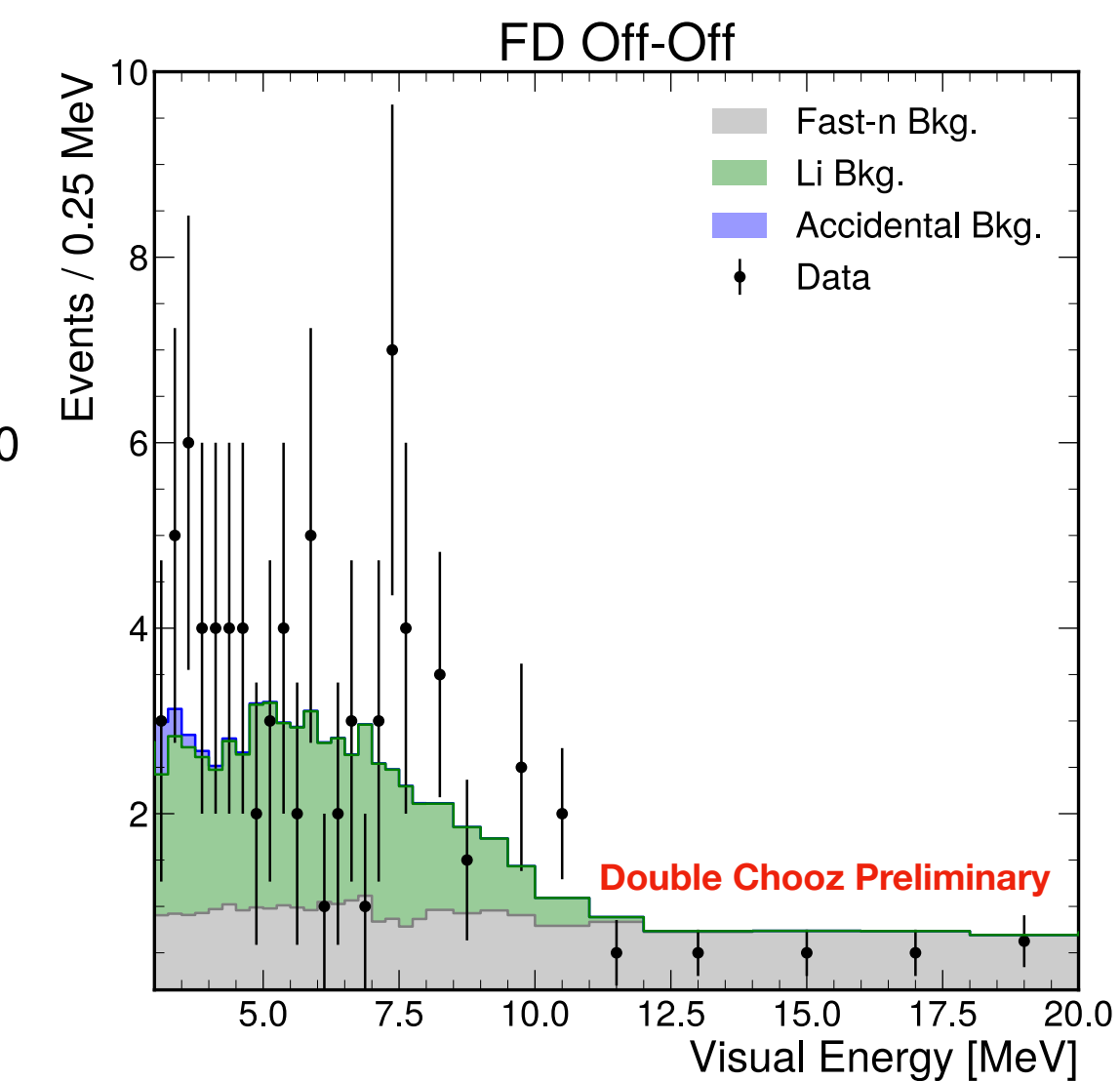
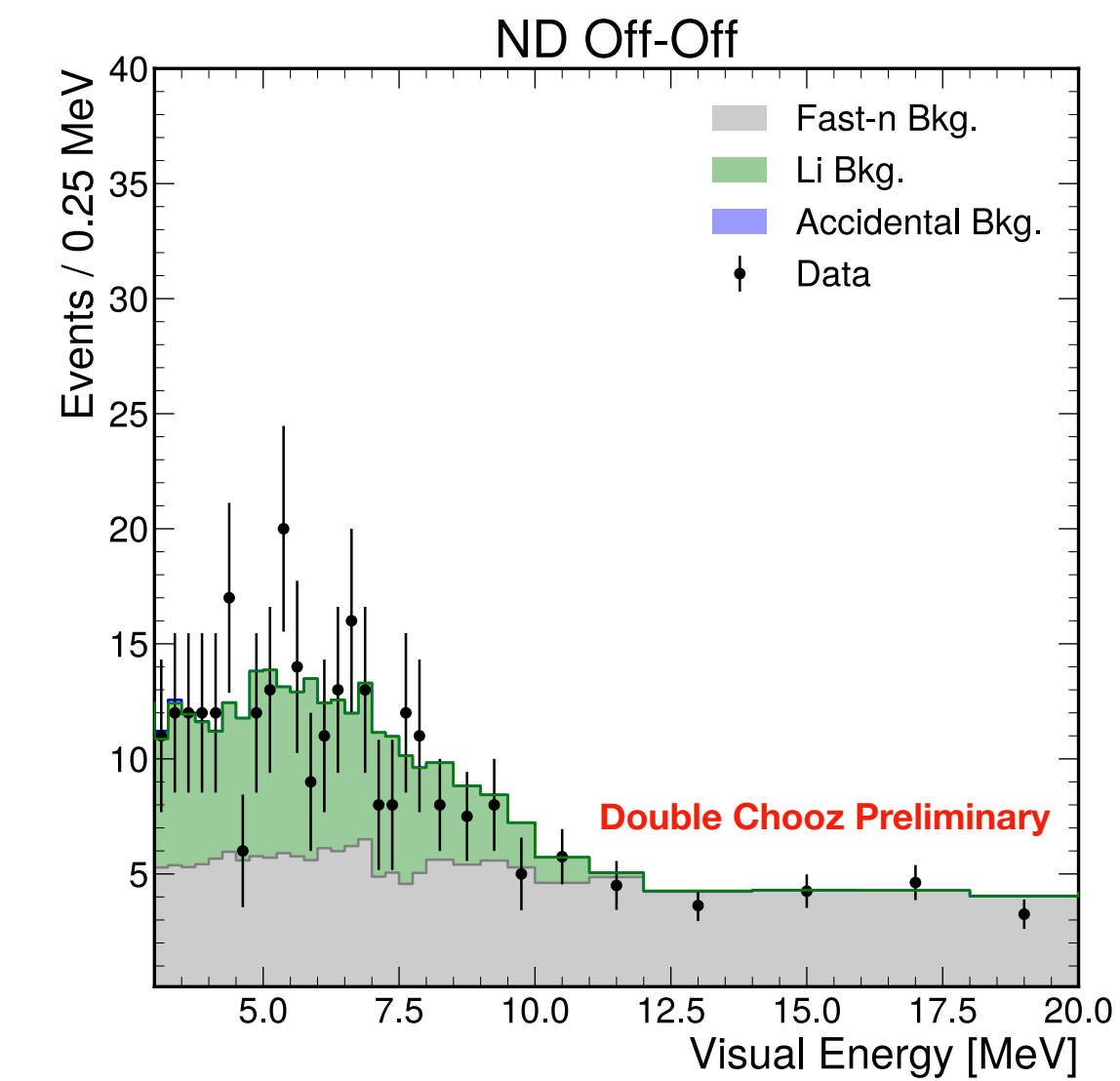
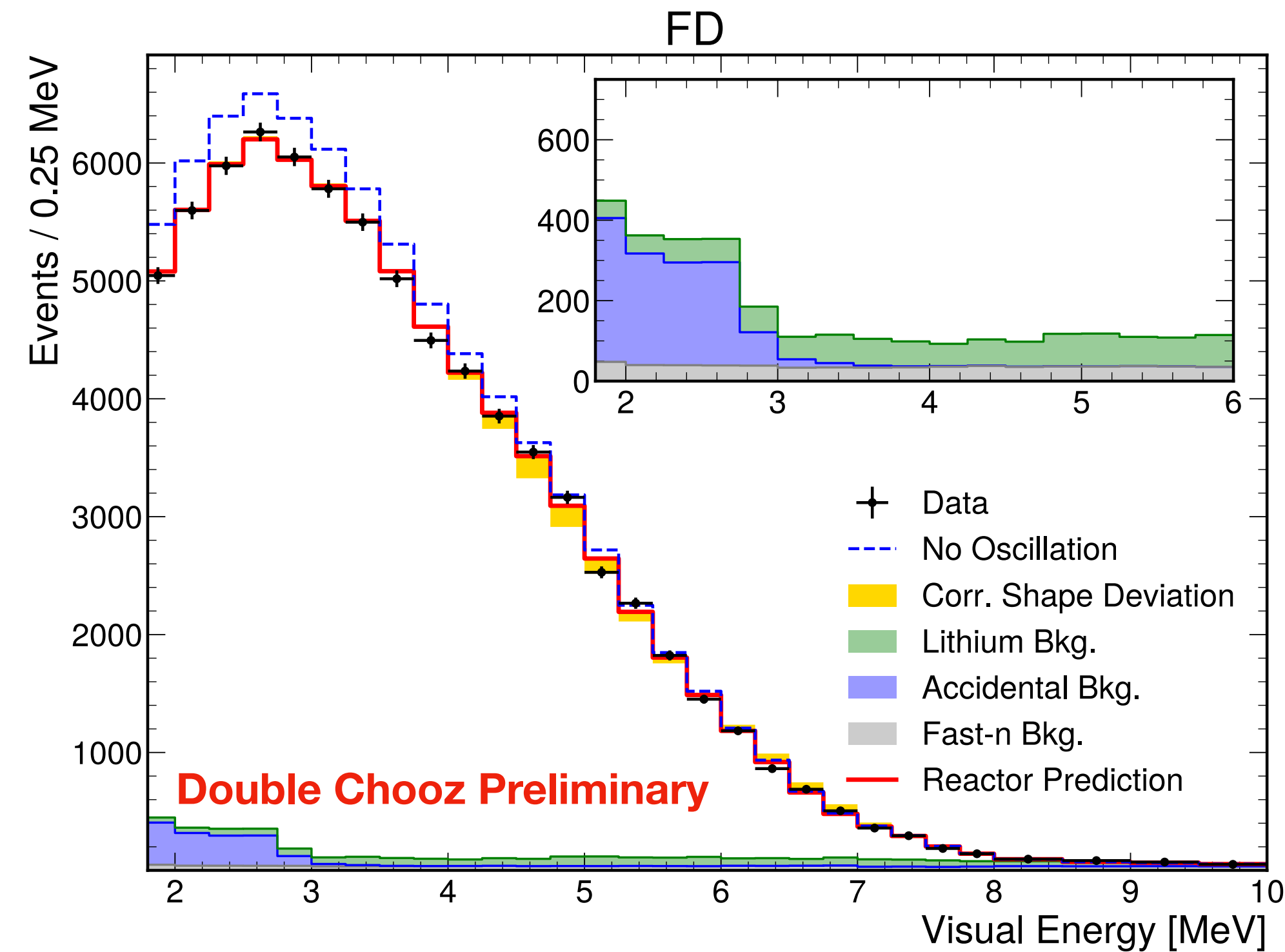
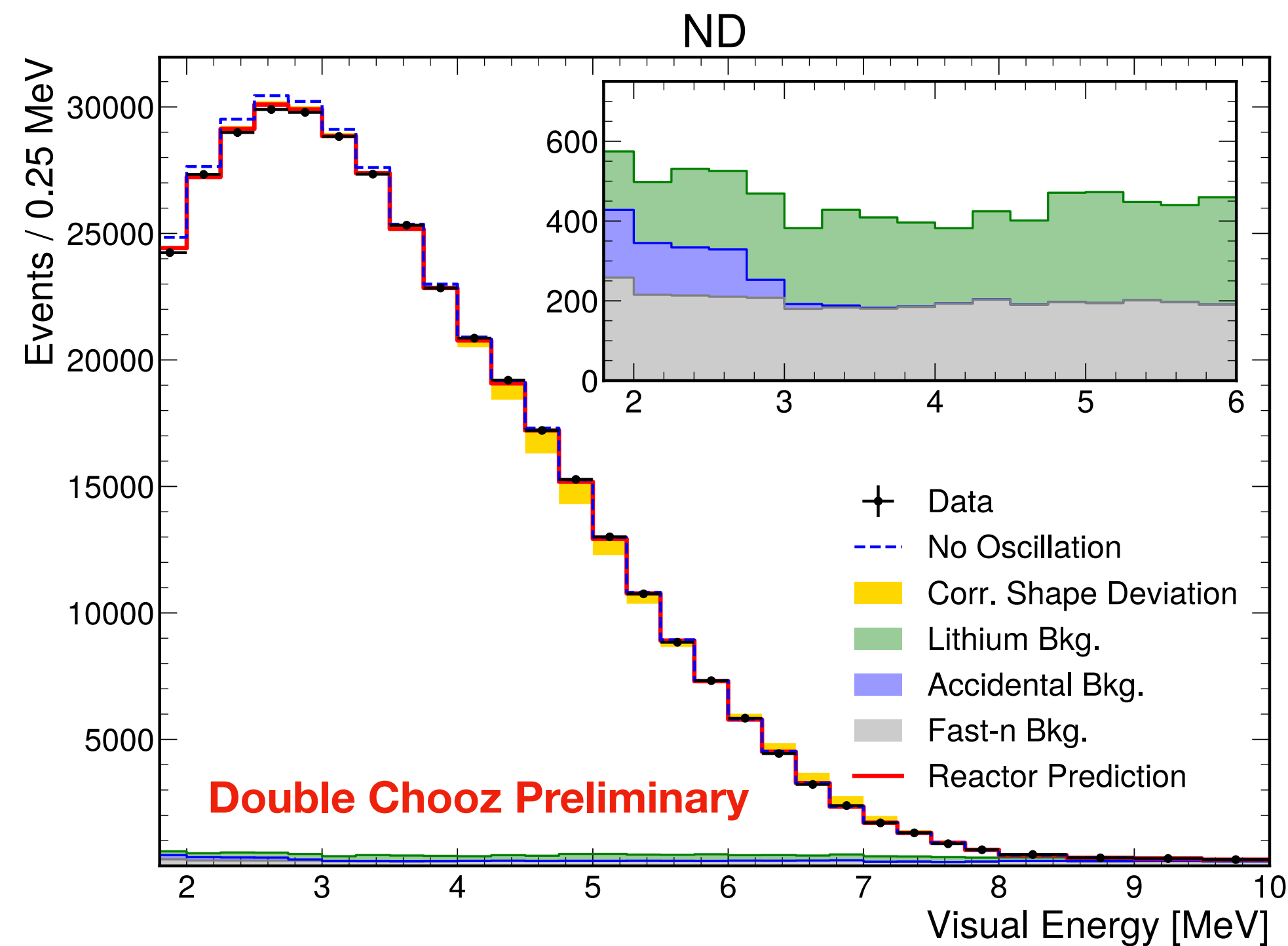
- The current implementation uses all reactor run-times simultaneously
- Separating the individual reactor run-times, utilizes distance dependency more effectively
- Combines DC RRM and DC II Methods

J. High Energ. Phys. 2021, 190 (2021)

DC II, PHYSICAL REVIEW D 86, 052008 (2012)

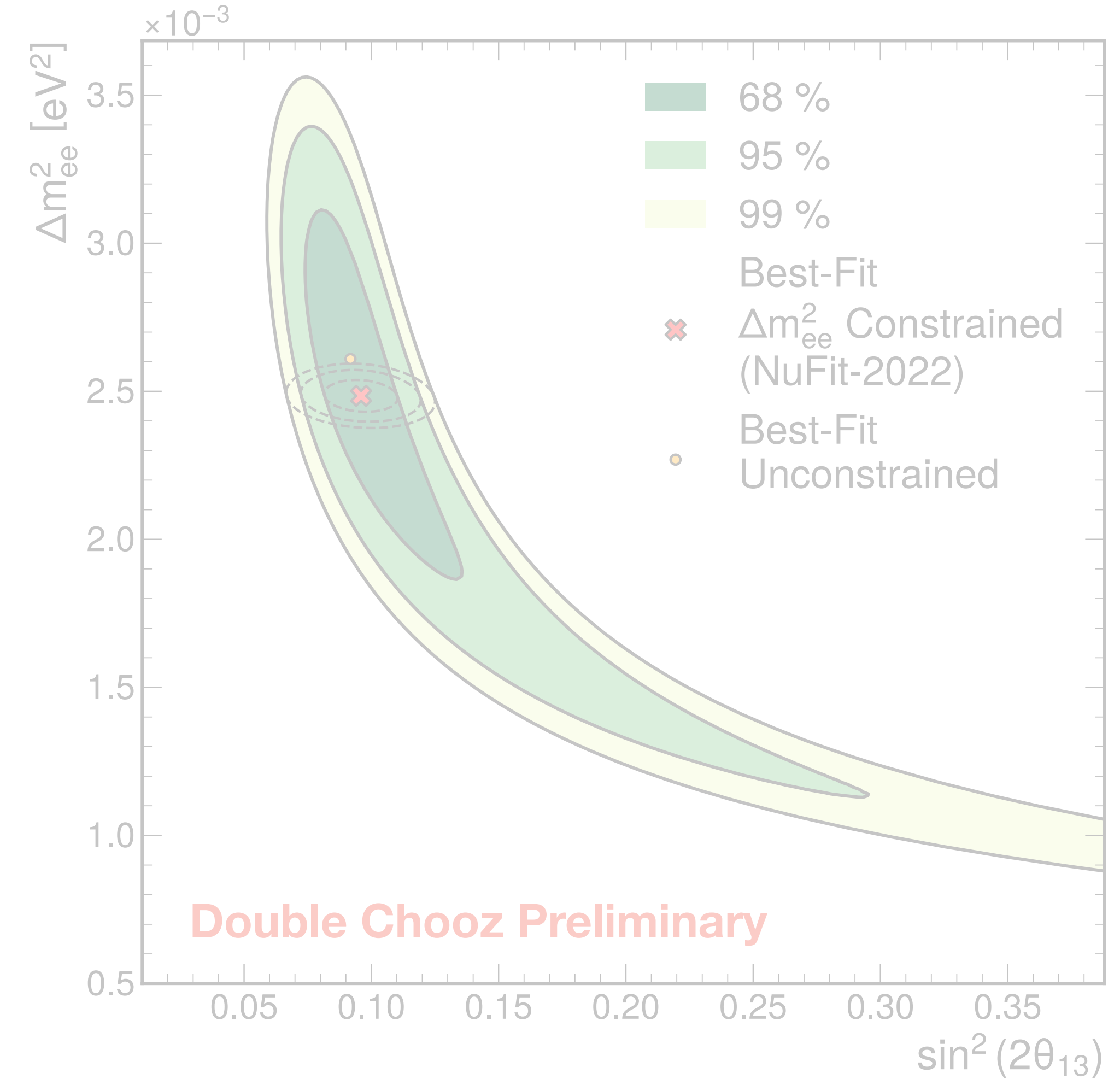
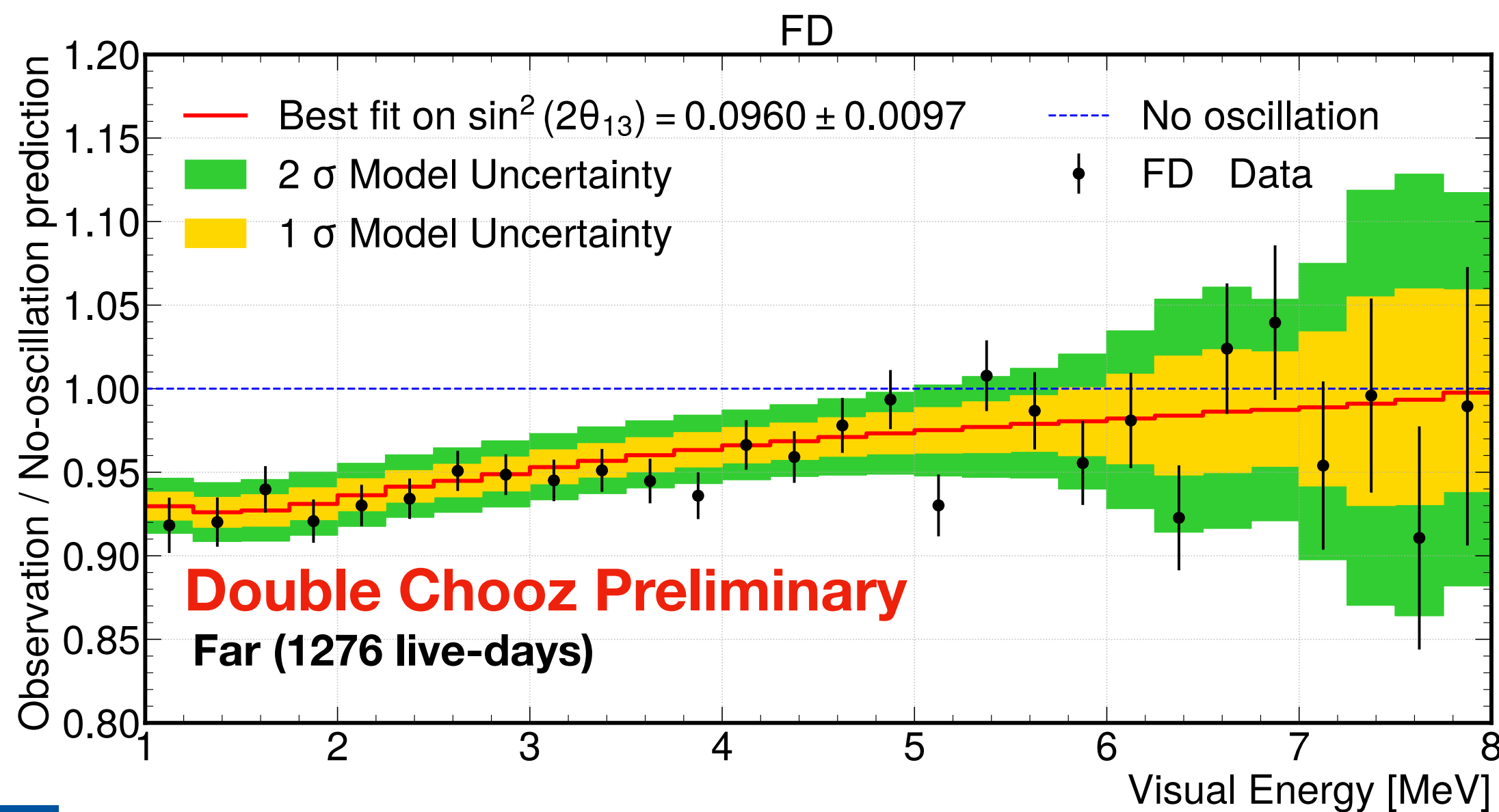
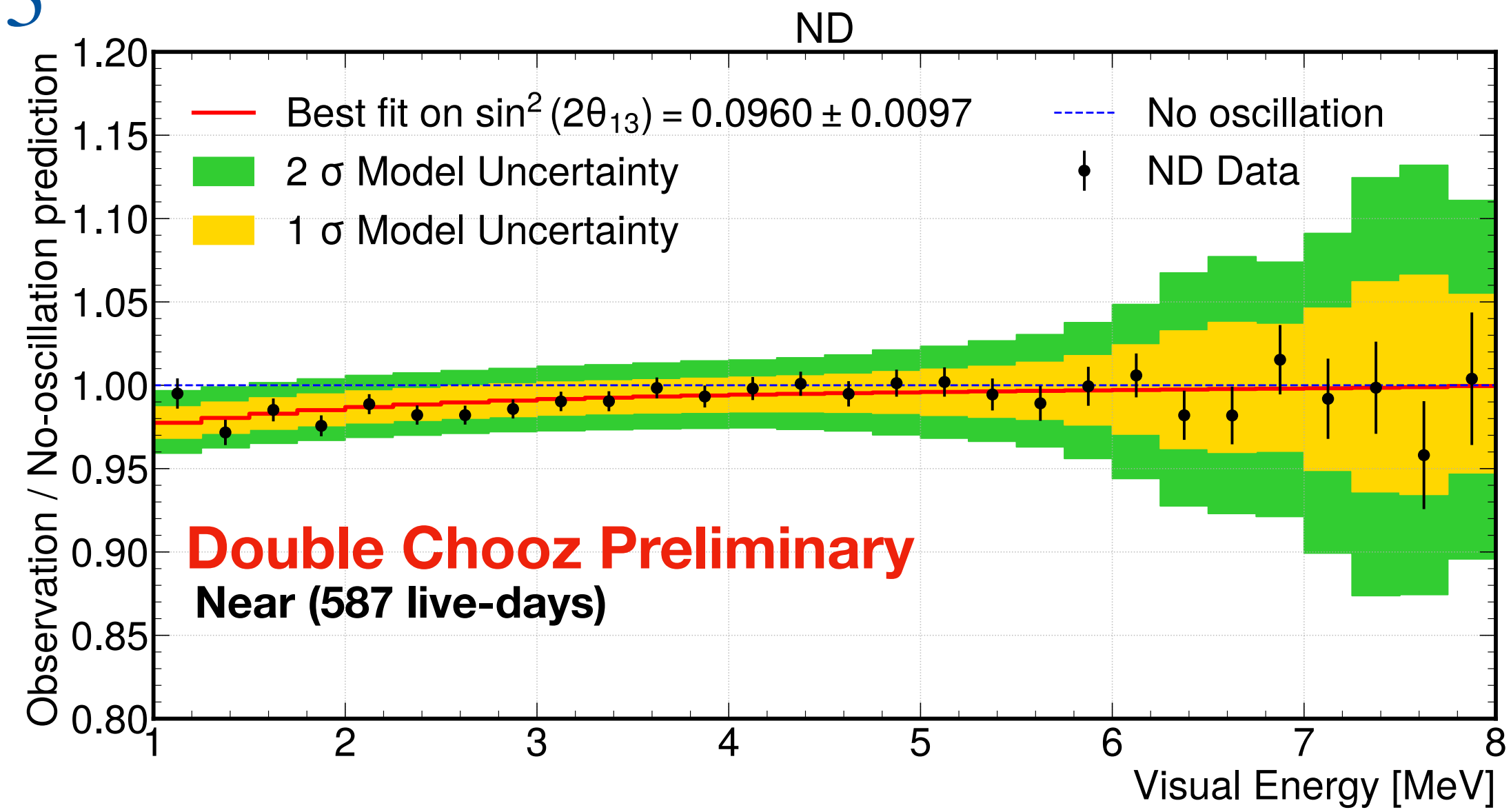


DC IV



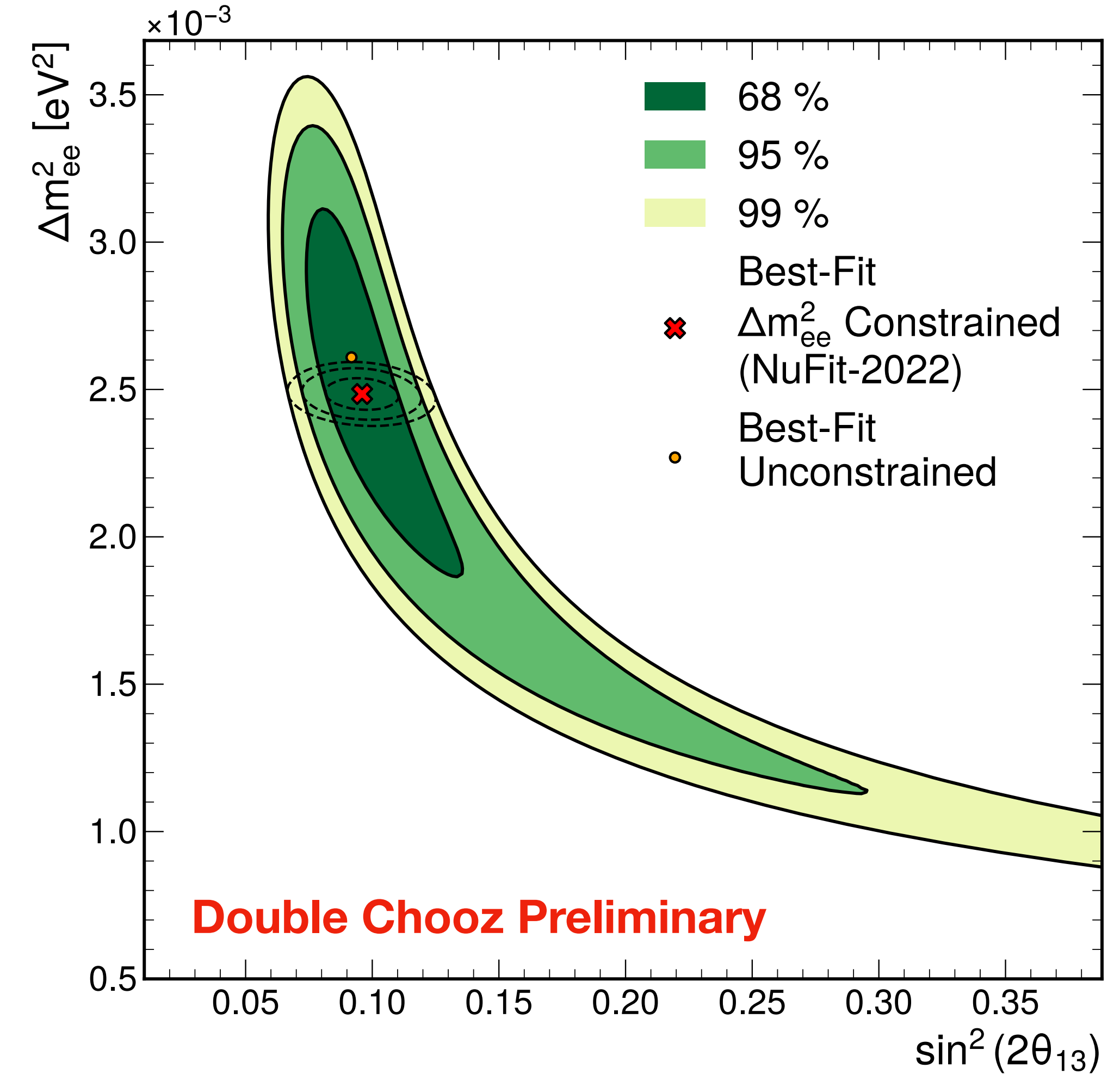
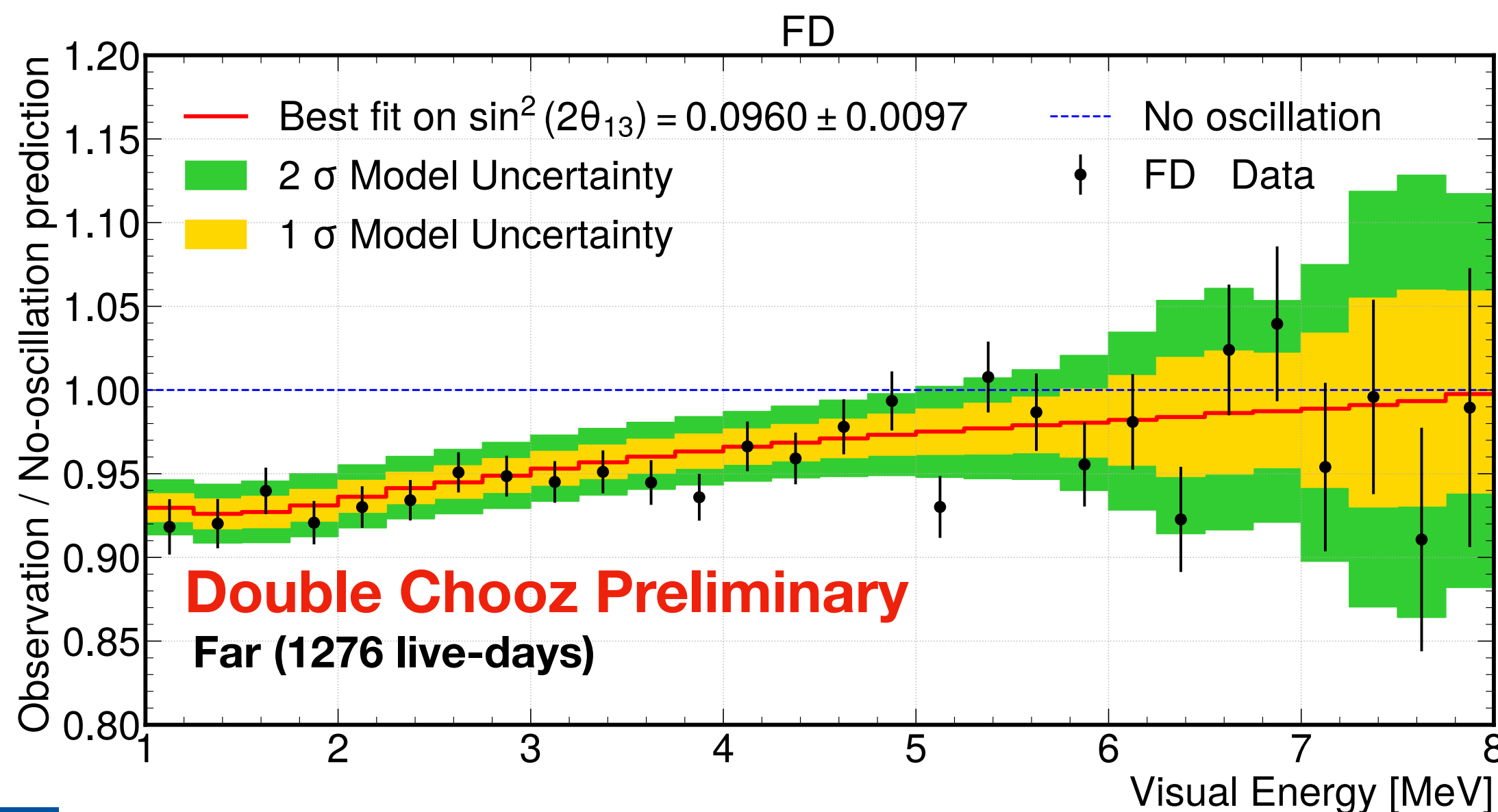
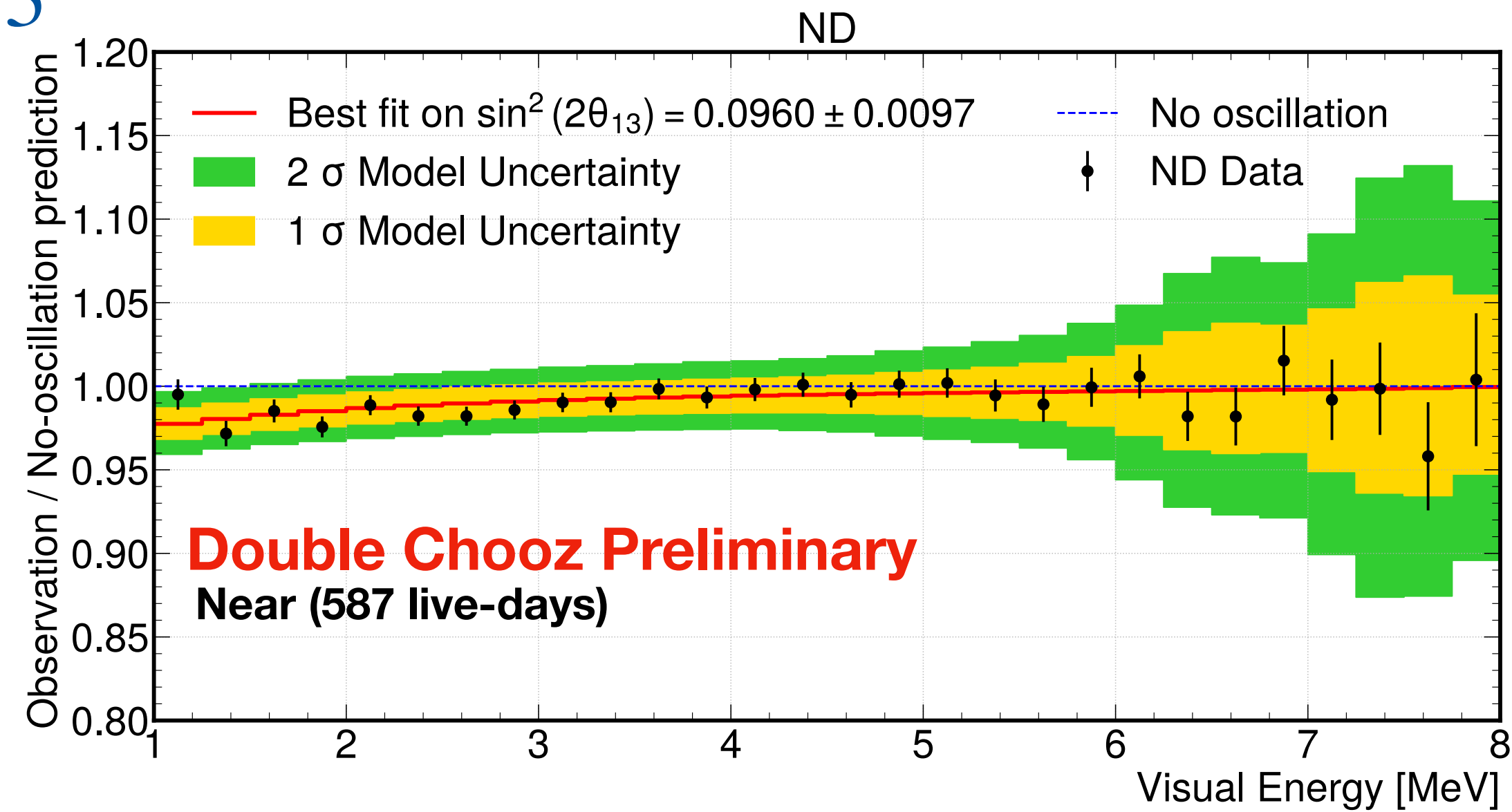
- Reactor-Off phases can be used to constrain the backgrounds > 3 MeV
- Corr. Shape deviations illustrate the difference to the assumed reactor model

θ_{13} Fit Results

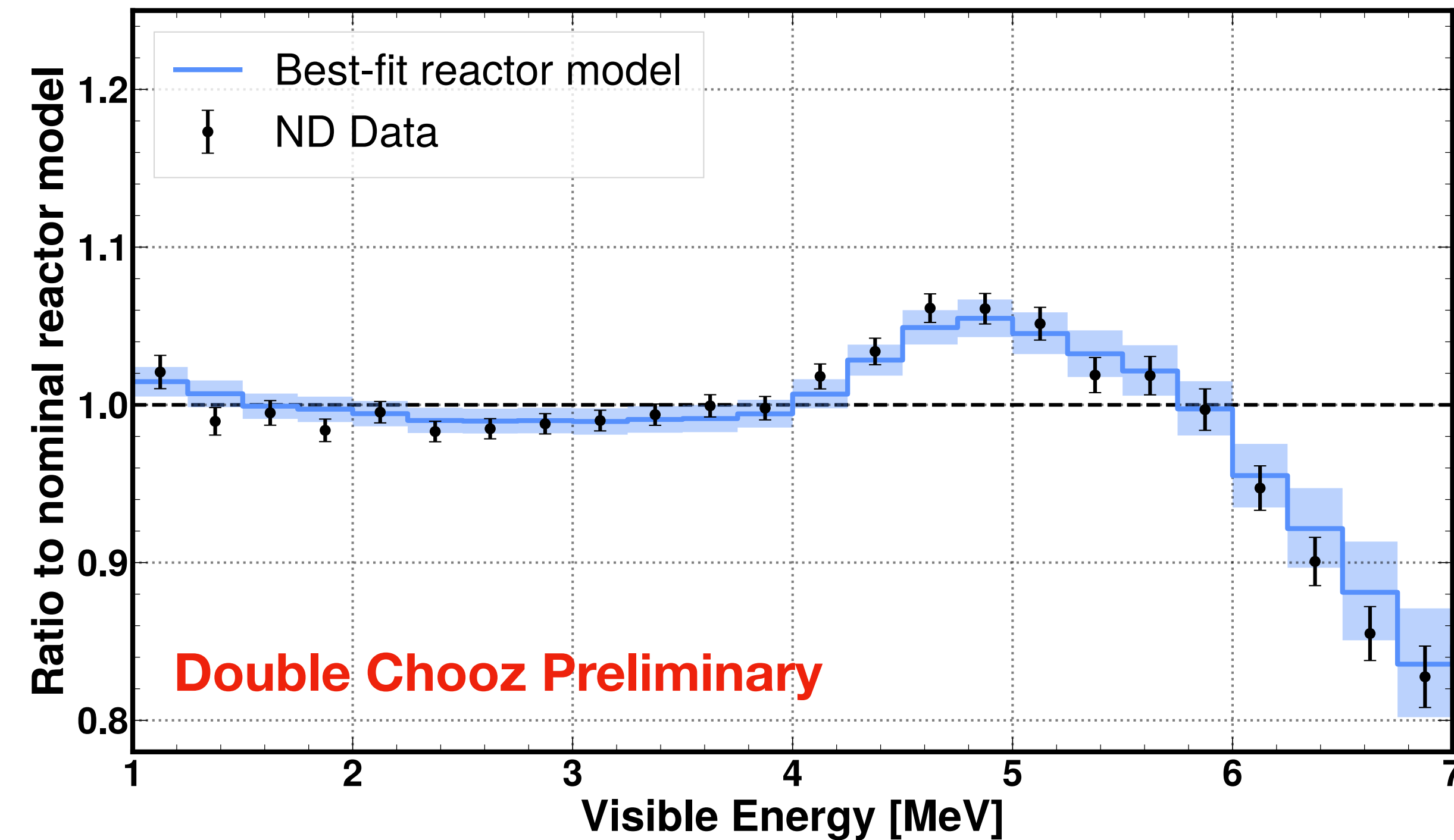
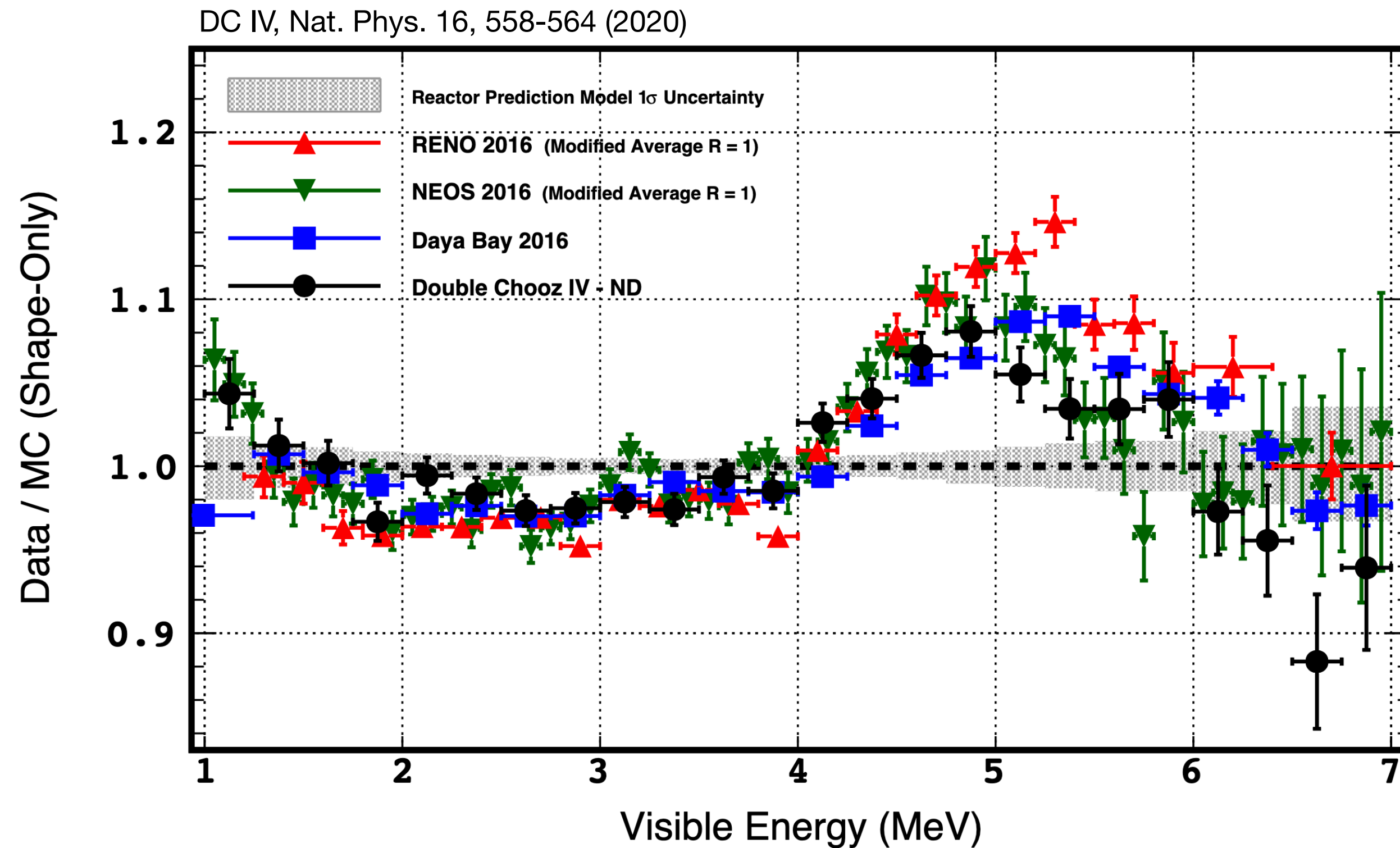


Newest Result:
 $\sin^2(2\theta_{13}) = 0.0960 \pm 0.0086 \text{ (syst.)} \pm 0.0044 \text{ (stat.)}$

θ_{13} Fit Results



Newest Result:
 $\sin^2(2\theta_{13}) = 0.0960 \pm 0.0086 \text{ (syst.)} \pm 0.0044 \text{ (stat.)}$



- Visible deviation can be seen by almost all reactor neutrino experiments
- Utilizing the extracted correlated shape deviations, the shape deviation can be observed

θ_{13} Comparison & Systematics Breakdown

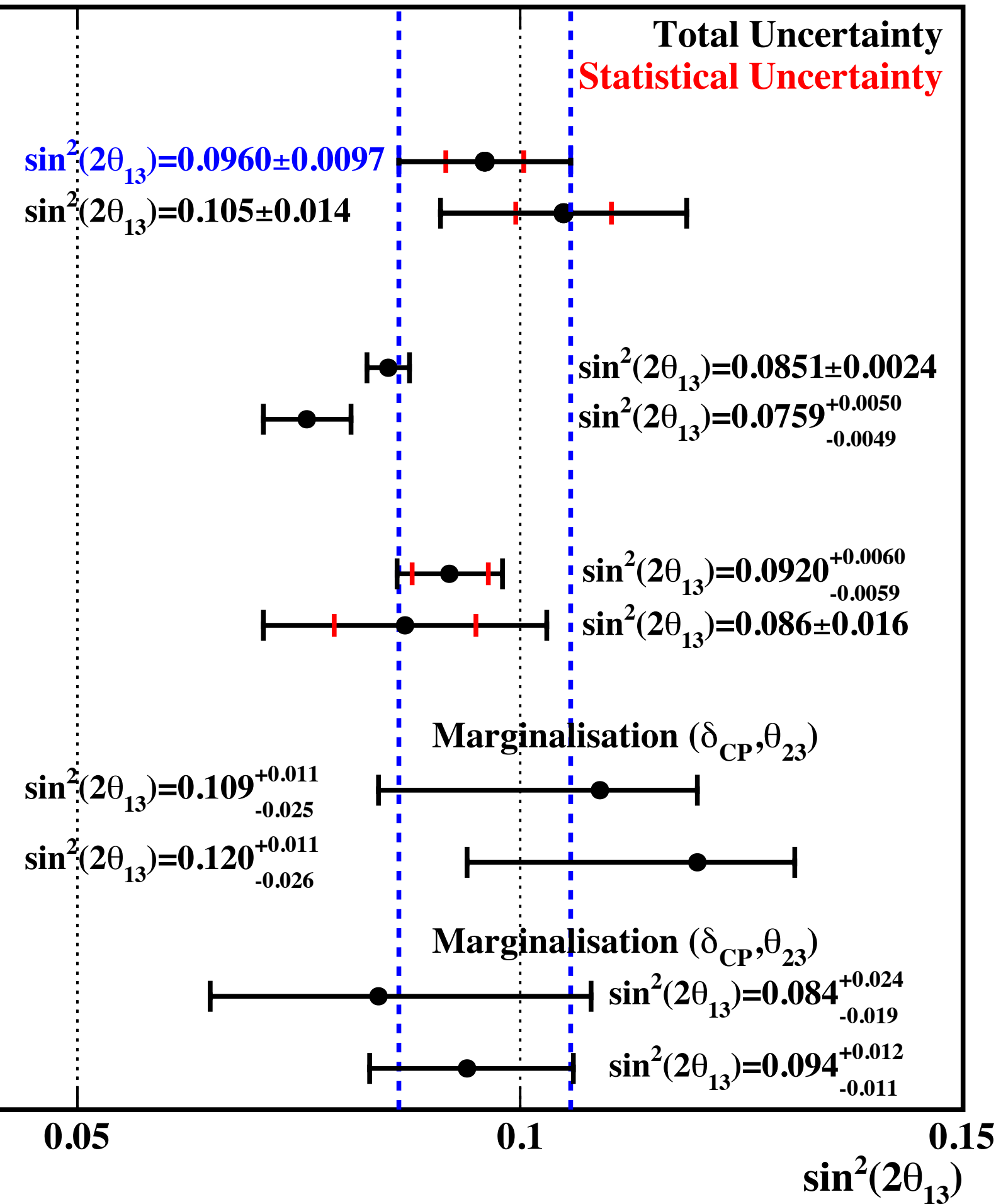
Double Chooz

DC V

Nat. Phys. 16, 558-564 (2020)

TnC

TnC



Daya Bay

PRL 130, 161802 (2023)

PRL 133, 151801 (2024)

n-Gd

n-H

RENO

PRD 111, 112006 (2025)

JHEP 04 029 (2020)

n-Gd

n-H

T2K

EPJC 83, 782 (2023)

$\Delta m_{32}^2 > 0$

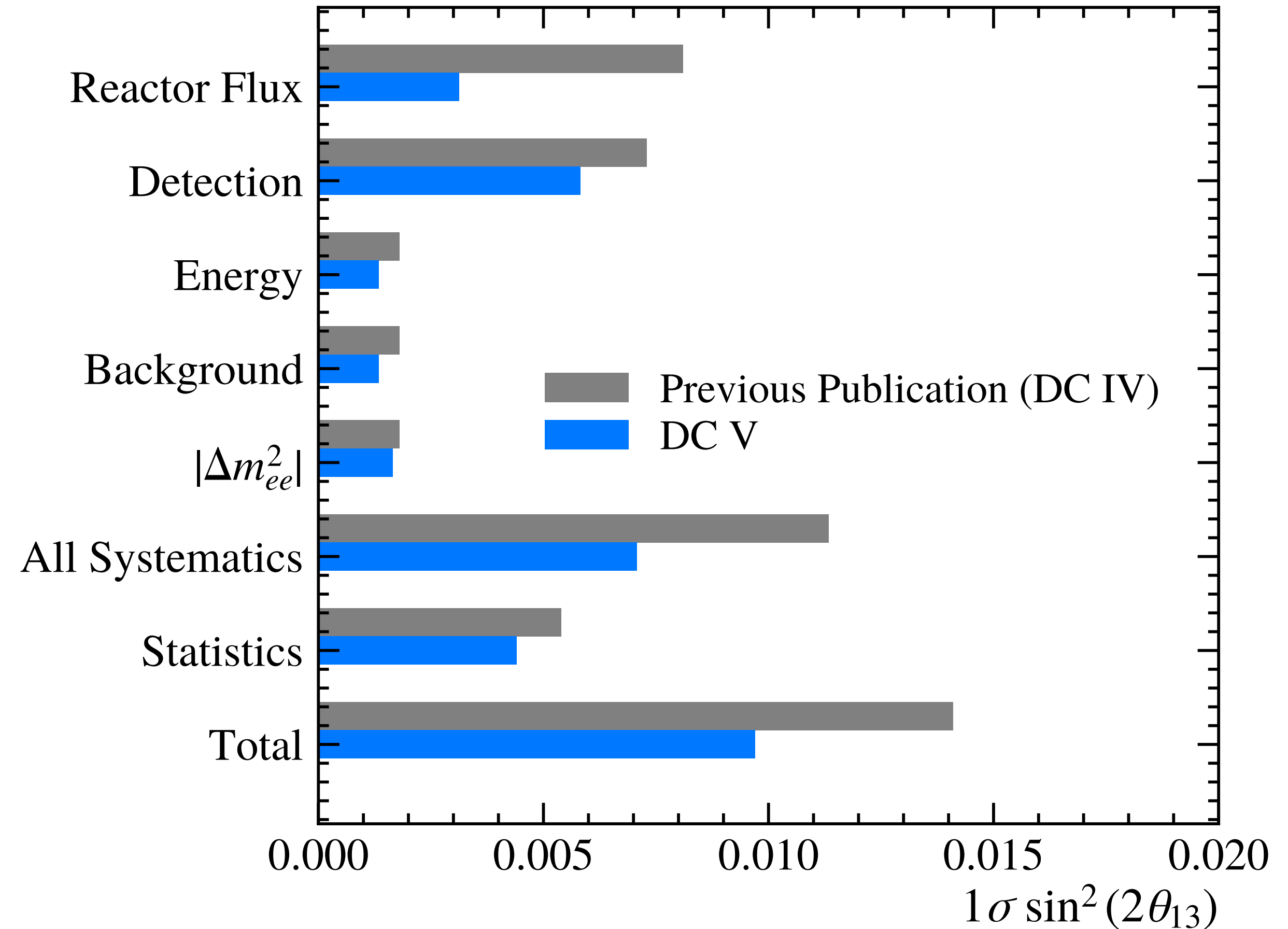
$\Delta m_{32}^2 < 0$

NOvA

PRD 110, 012005 (2024)

$\Delta m_{32}^2 > 0$

$\Delta m_{32}^2 < 0$



- Reactor Flux: Statistics with Iso-flux Setup & Reactor Split
- Detection: Improved Proton# measurement
- Energy: Improved energy model
- Background: Reactor-OFF data

$$\langle \sigma_f \rangle(t) = \sum_k \alpha_k \int S_k(E) \sigma_{\text{IBD}}(E) dE = \sum_k \alpha_k \langle \sigma_k \rangle$$

Fission fraction of k-isotopes
 Reactor $\bar{\nu}_e$ spectrum from k-isotope
 Reactor $\bar{\nu}_e$ spectrum from k-isotope
 MCSpF for k-isotope

Counting Approach

$$\langle \sigma_f \rangle = \frac{N(\bar{\nu}_e)}{N_p \epsilon} \left(\sum_{r=B1, B2} \frac{\langle P_{\text{th}} \rangle_r}{4\pi L_r^2 \langle E_f \rangle_r} \right)^{-1} \frac{\text{cm}^2}{\text{fission}}$$

- Based on ND statistics only
- The resulting value is: DC IV, Nat. Phys. 16, 558-564 (2020)

$$\langle \sigma_f^{\text{ND}} \rangle = (5.71 \pm 0.06) \cdot 10^{-43} \frac{\text{cm}^2}{\text{fission}}$$

- Relative Uncertainty of 0.97 %

Fit Approach

- Through common normalization parameter of θ_{13} fit in all detectors
- **Full** DC-statistics
- Can be constrained with information from other experiments via nuisance parameters
- Single detector systematics improved due to proton#

Common Model:

ILL⊕HM Model Uncertainty ($\approx 2.0\%$)

DC V (θ_{13} constrained)

Input: θ_{13} (DYB-2023)

Δm_{ee}^2 (NuFit-2022)

TnC

DC V (θ_{13} unconstrained)

Input: Δm_{ee}^2 (NuFit-2022)

TnC

DC IV (ND only) 2020

Nat. Phys. 16, 558-564 (2020)

TnC

Daya Bay 2025

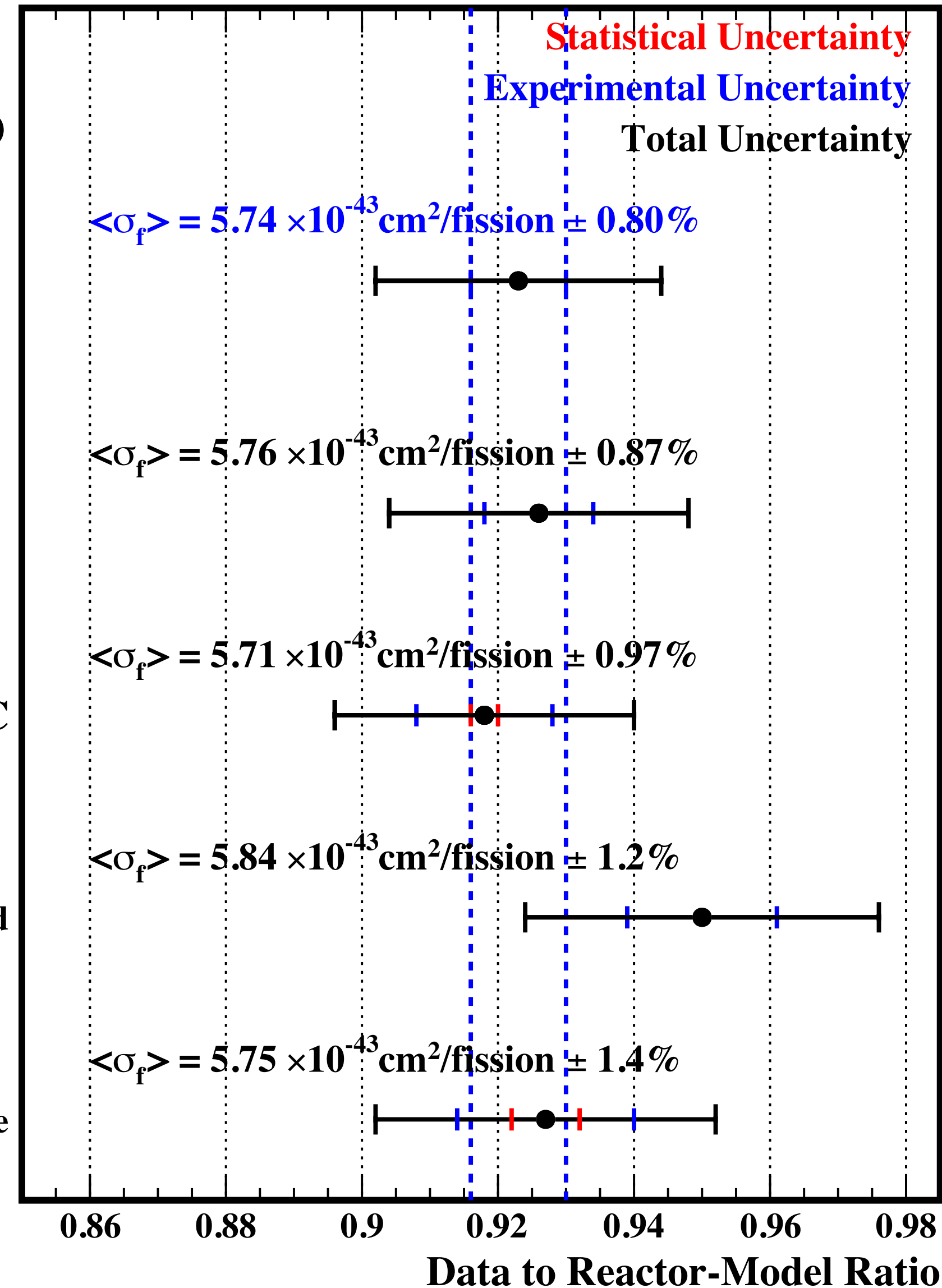
Phys. Rev. Lett. 134, 201802

n-Gd

Bugey4 1994

PLB 338 383 (1994)

^3He



- Most precise MCSpF uncertainty of 0.8 %
- DC alone gives 0.87 %
- In agreement with other experiments
- Still inconsistency between experiments and ILL+HM model

DC V to ILL⊕HM model*

Uncertainty 2.0%

Phys.Lett. B118, 162 (1982)

Phys.Lett. B160, 325 (1985)

Phys.Lett. B218, 365 (1989)

Phys.Rev. C83, 054615 (2011)

Phys.Rev. C84, 024617 (2011)

DC V to ILL⊕HM⊕KI model*

Uncertainty 1.6%

Phys. Rev. Lett. 112, 122501 (2014)

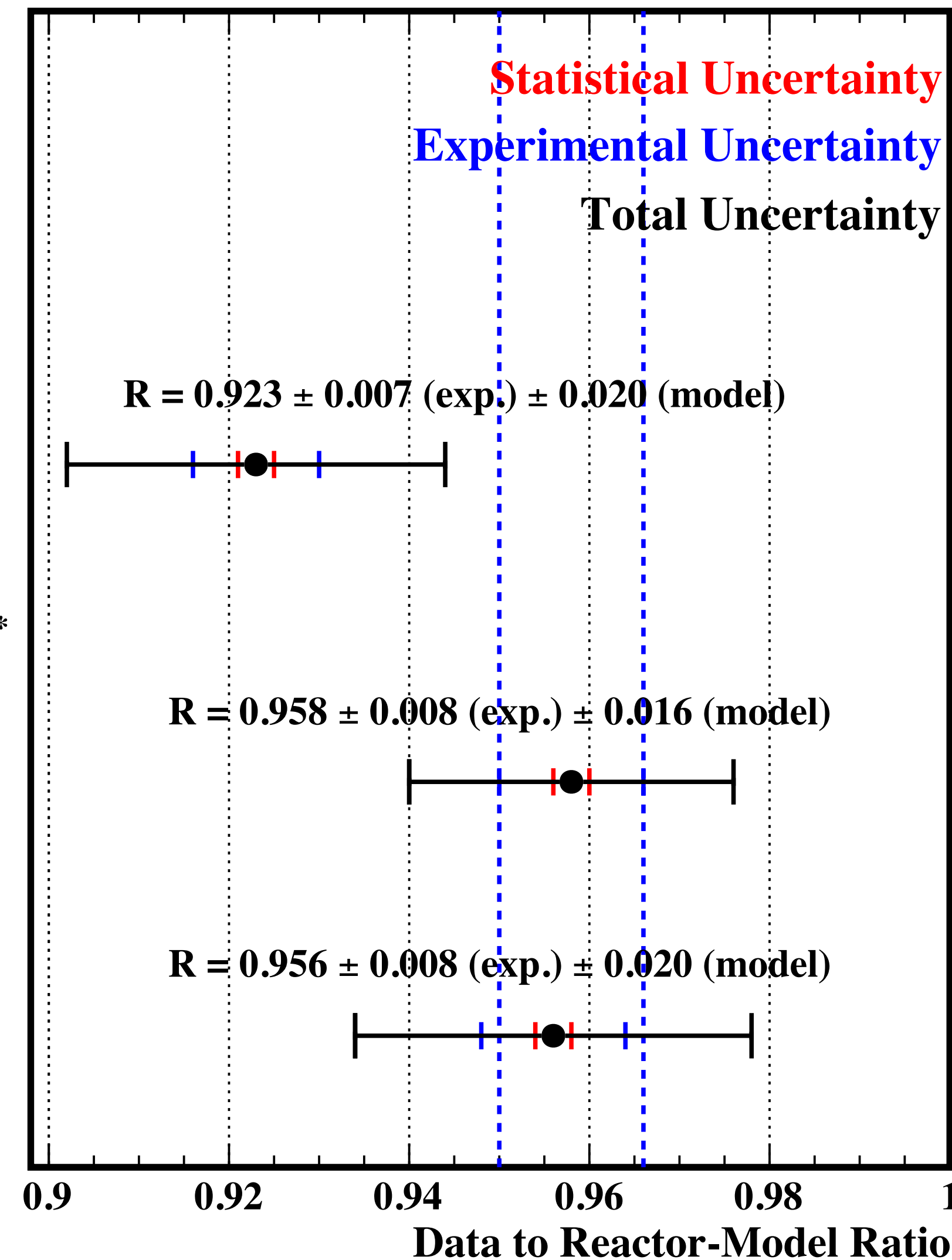
Phys.Rev. D 104, L071301 (2021)

DC V to Summation model

Uncertainty 2.0%

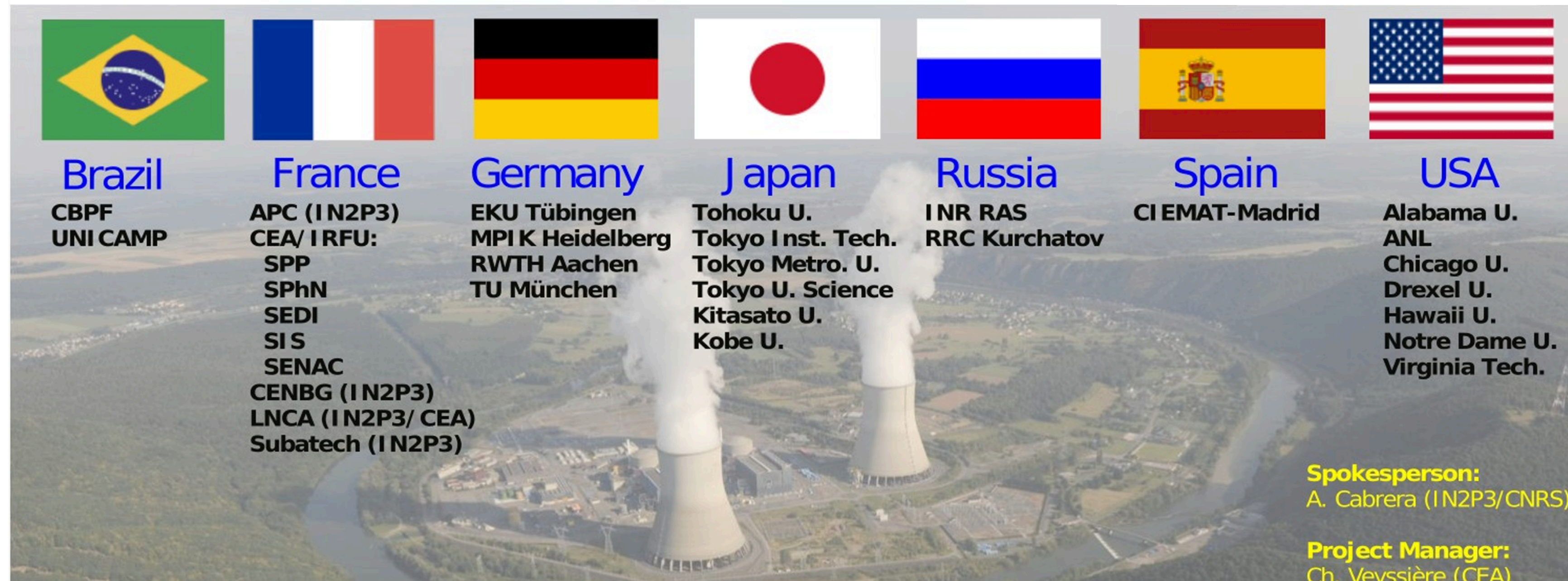
Phys. Rev. C 108, 055501 (2023)

* Phys.Lett. B829 (2022) 137054



- Additionally compared to summation model and Kurchatov Institute model
- Kurchatov Institute (KI) model and Summation model are in better agreement with data
- Indication that ILL+HM is underestimating the U235 normalization

DOUBLE CHOOZ COLLABORATION



Brazil
CBPF
UNI CAMP

France
APC (IN2P3)
CEA/IRFU:
SPP
SPhN
SEDI
SIS
SENAC
CENBG (IN2P3)
LNCA (IN2P3/CEA)
Subatech (IN2P3)

Germany
EKU Tübingen
MPI K Heidelberg
RWTH Aachen
TU München

Japan
Tohoku U.
Tokyo Inst. Tech.
Tokyo Metro. U.
Tokyo U. Science
Kitasato U.
Kobe U.

Russia
INR RAS
RRC Kurchatov

Spain
CIEMAT-Madrid

USA
Alabama U.
ANL
Chicago U.
Drexel U.
Hawaii U.
Notre Dame U.
Virginia Tech.

Spokesperson:
A. Cabrera (IN2P3/CNRS)

Project Manager:
Ch. Veyssi re (CEA)

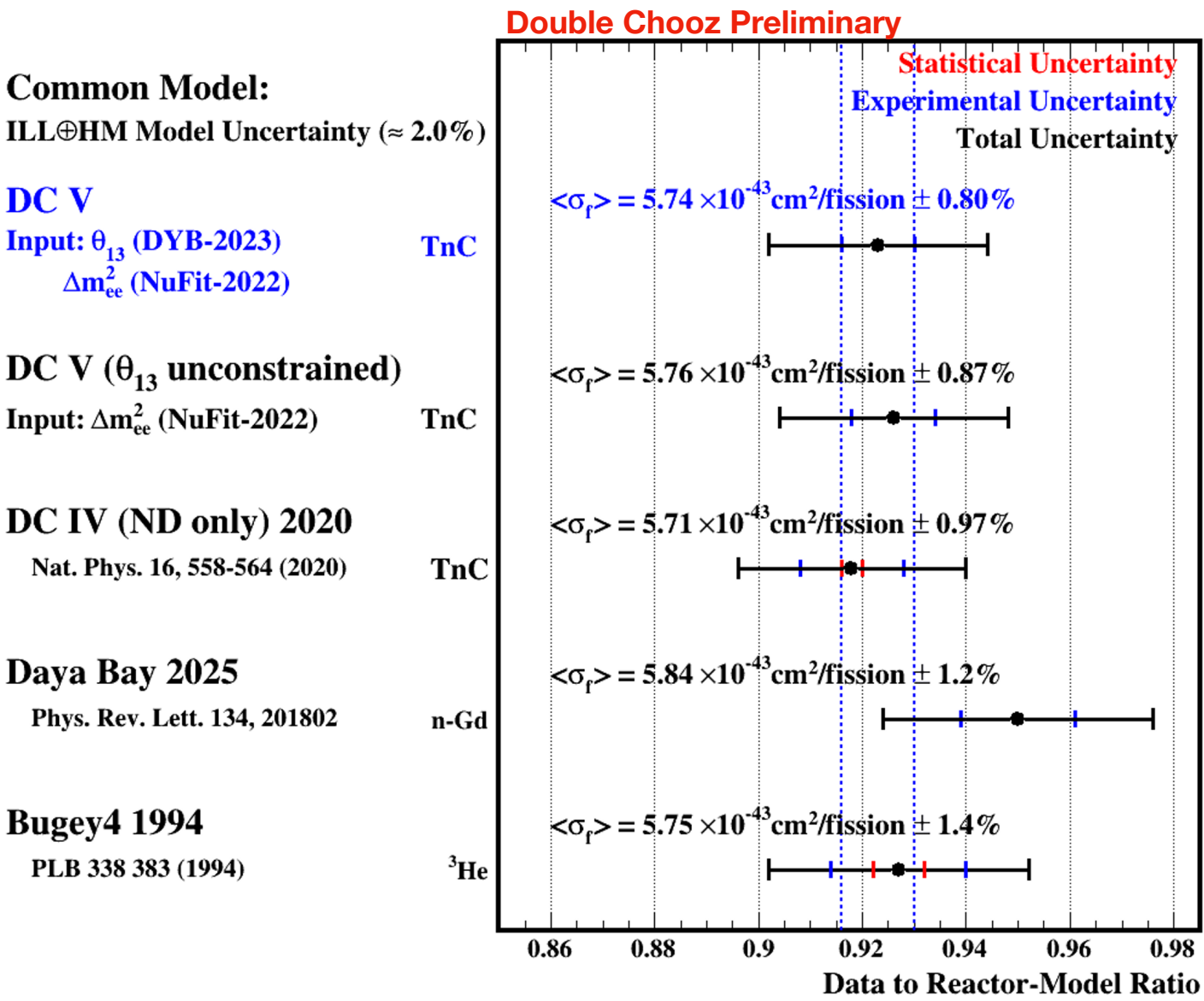
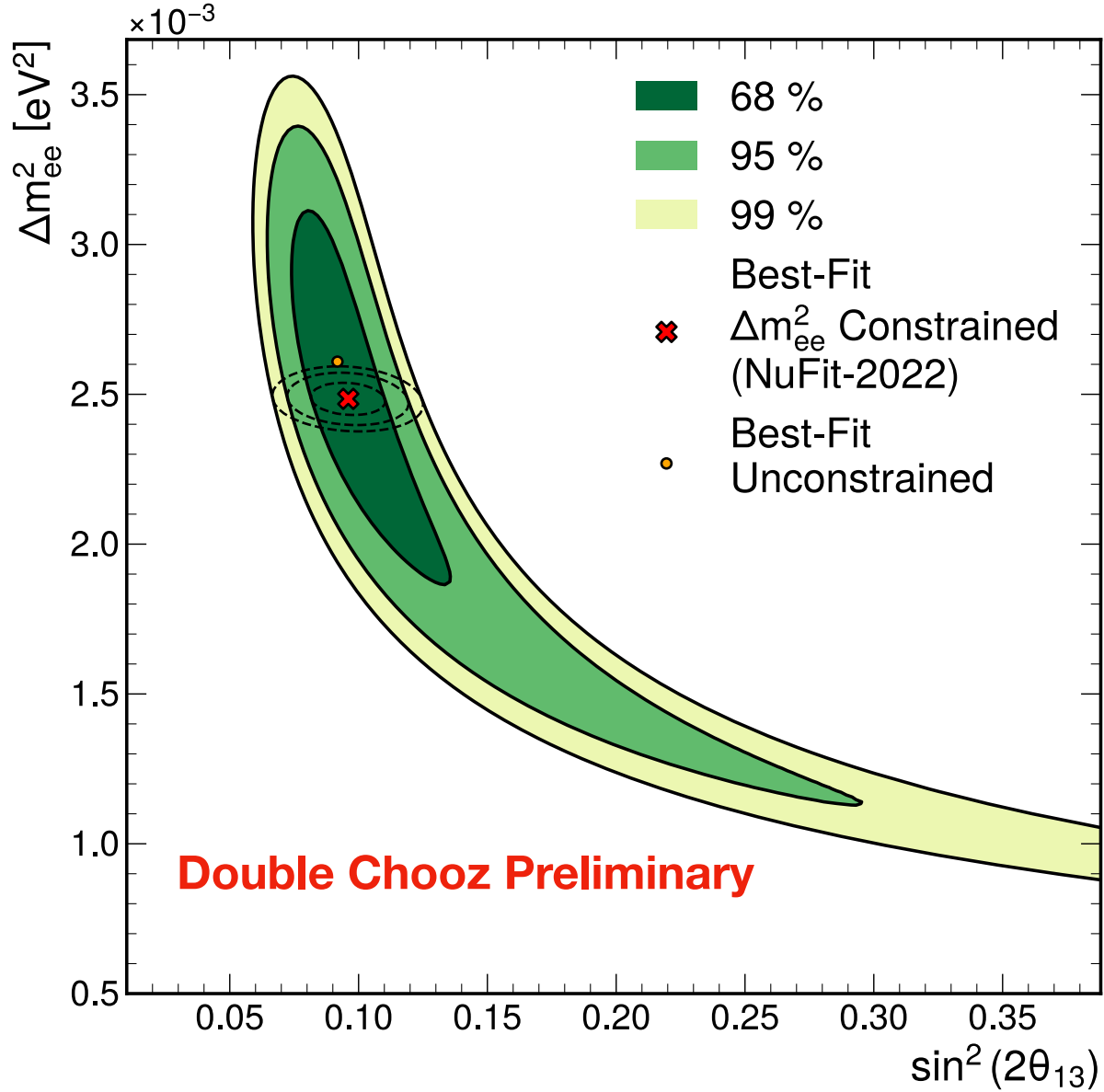
97 scientists 25 institutions (Americas, Asia, Europe)



doublechooz.in2p3.fr

Many people contributed to the experiment
Thanks for all the hard work!

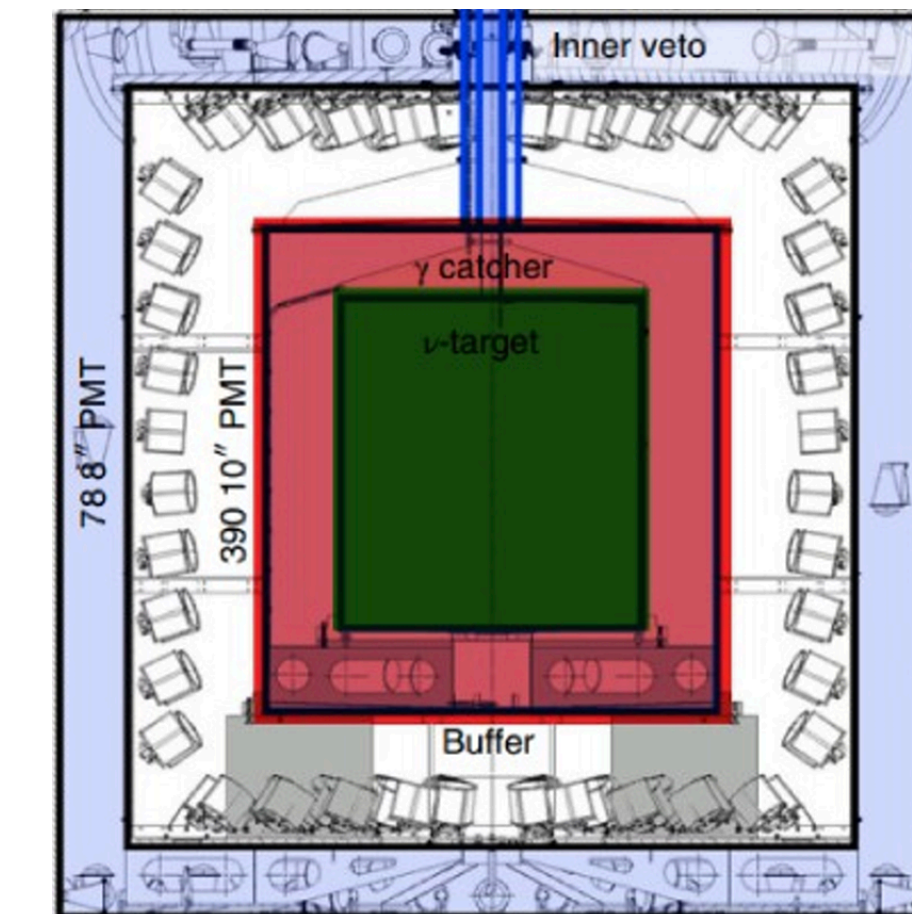
- Double Chooz is a reactor neutrino disappearance experiment
- Double Chooz detectors have been dismantled
- Final best fit: $\sin^2(2\theta_{13}) = 0.0960 \pm 0.0086 \text{ (syst.)} \pm 0.0044 \text{ (stat.)}$
- Best $\langle \sigma_F \rangle = (5.74 \pm 0.80\%) \times 10^{-43} \text{ cm}^2/\text{fission}$ measurement
- Final publication is on its way!
- First Measurement of Neutrino Emissions from Spent Nuclear Fuel publication on the way



Backup

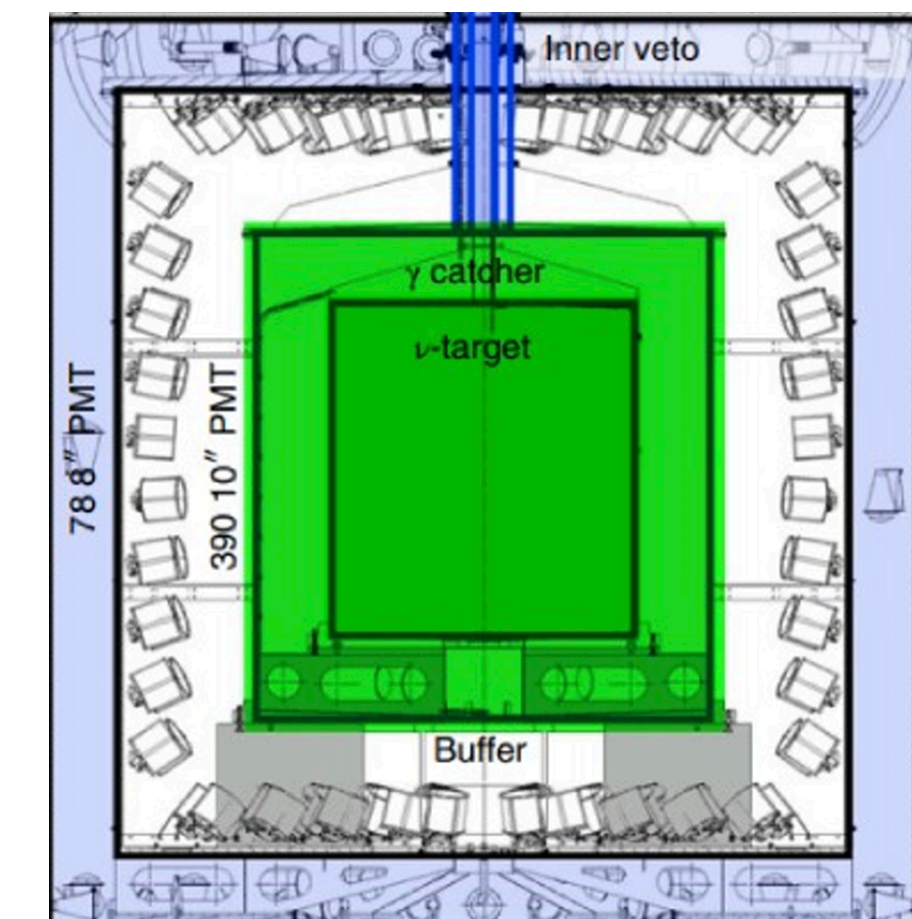


- Double Chooz Detector has been dismantled
- During dismantling new γ -catcher mass measurement
- Based on 3D Laser technique (LEICA RTC 360 - 2mm precision)
- M_{liquid} uncertainty reduced by 50 %
- Detection efficiency improvement and more precise measurement of Mean Cross Section per Fission (MCSpF)

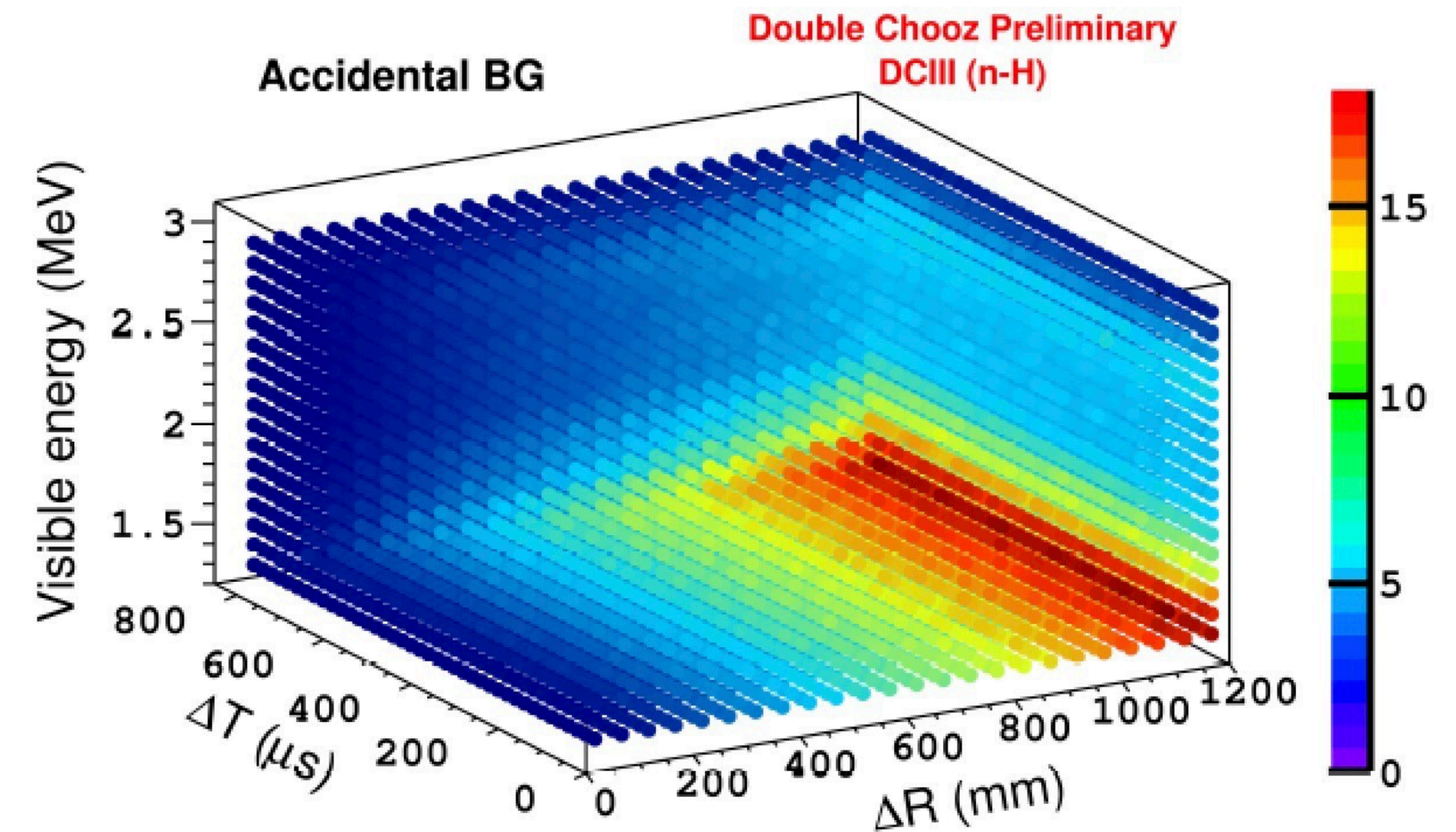
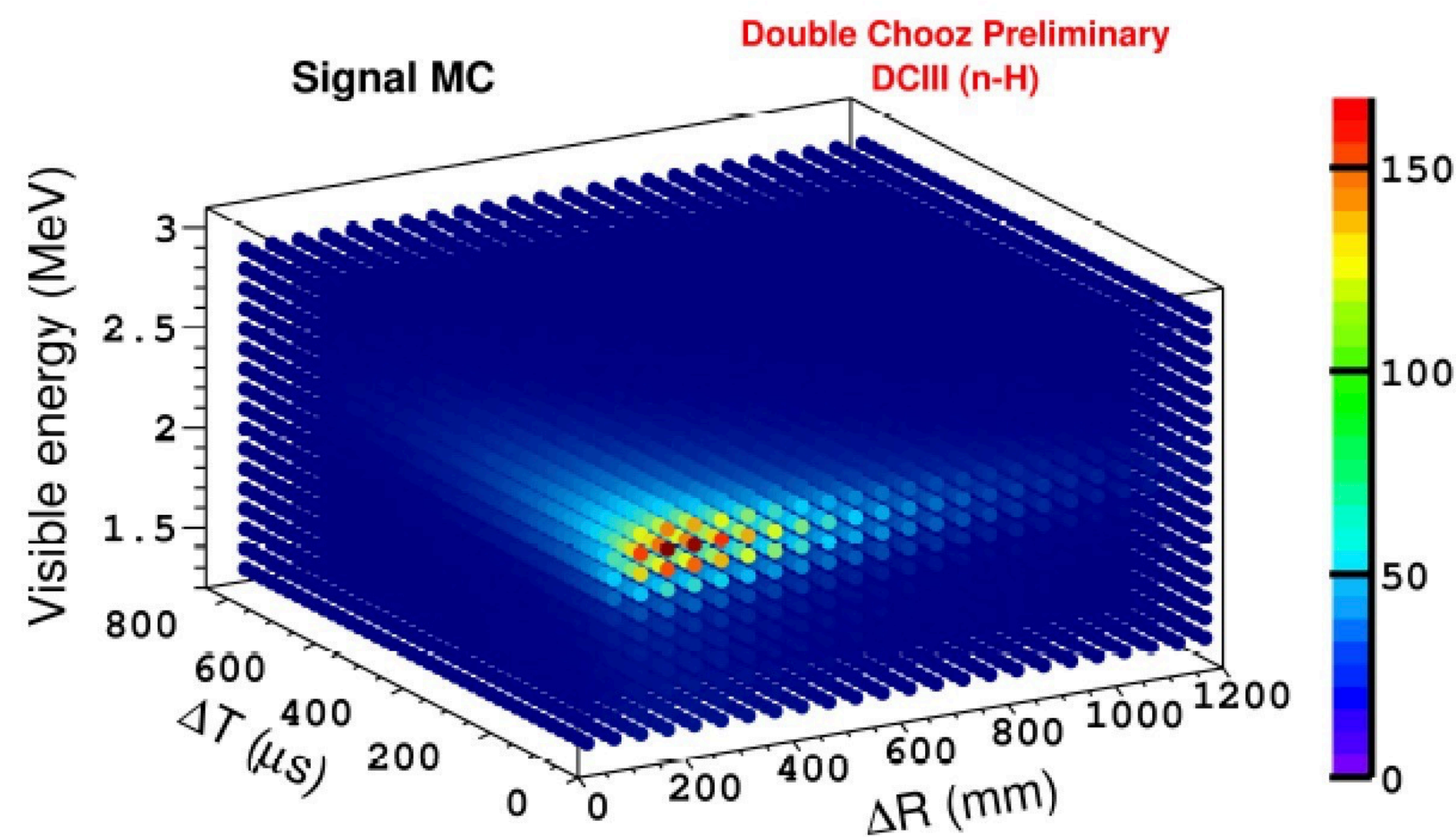


$$1 \sigma \sin^2(2\theta_{13})$$

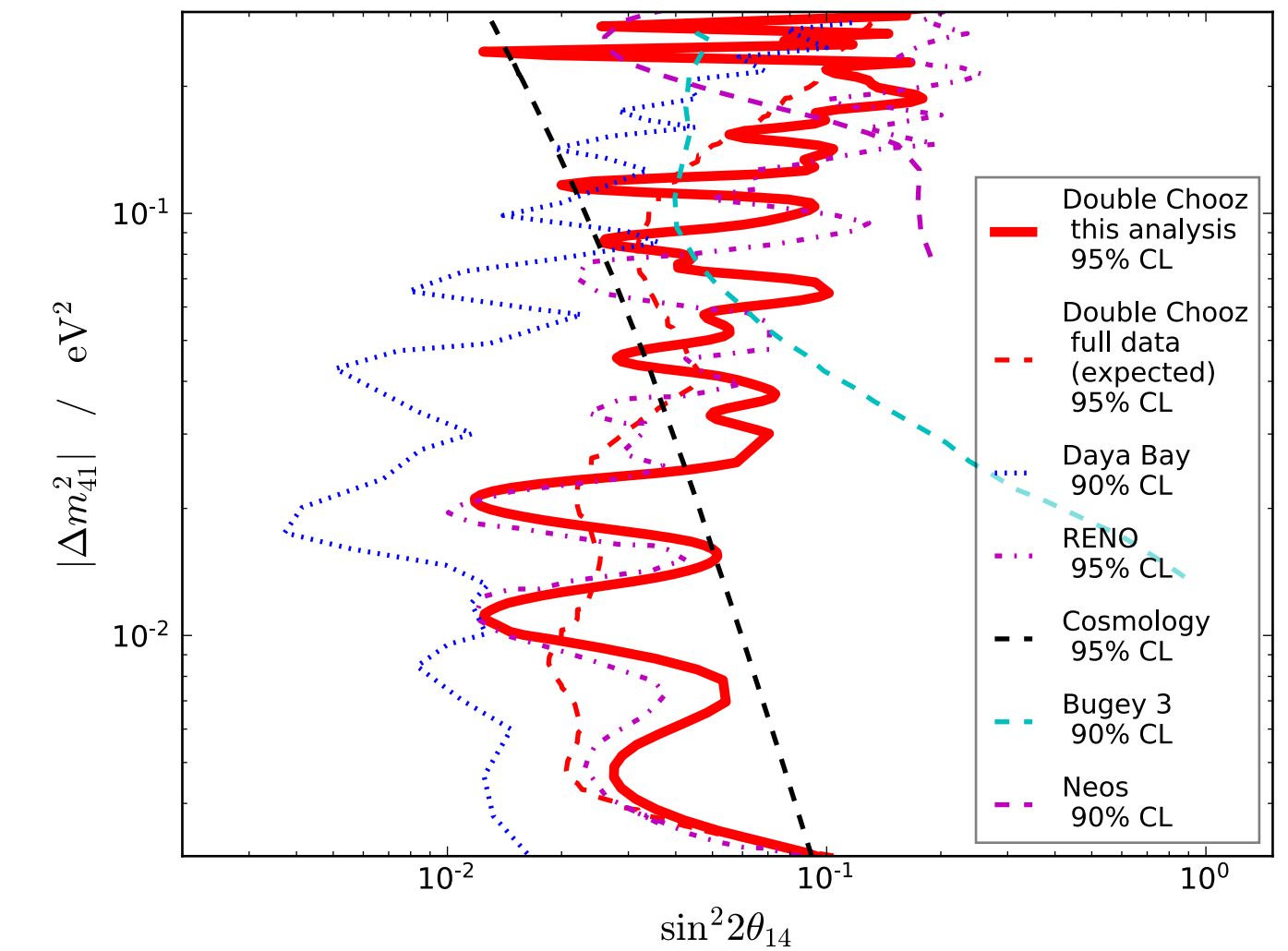
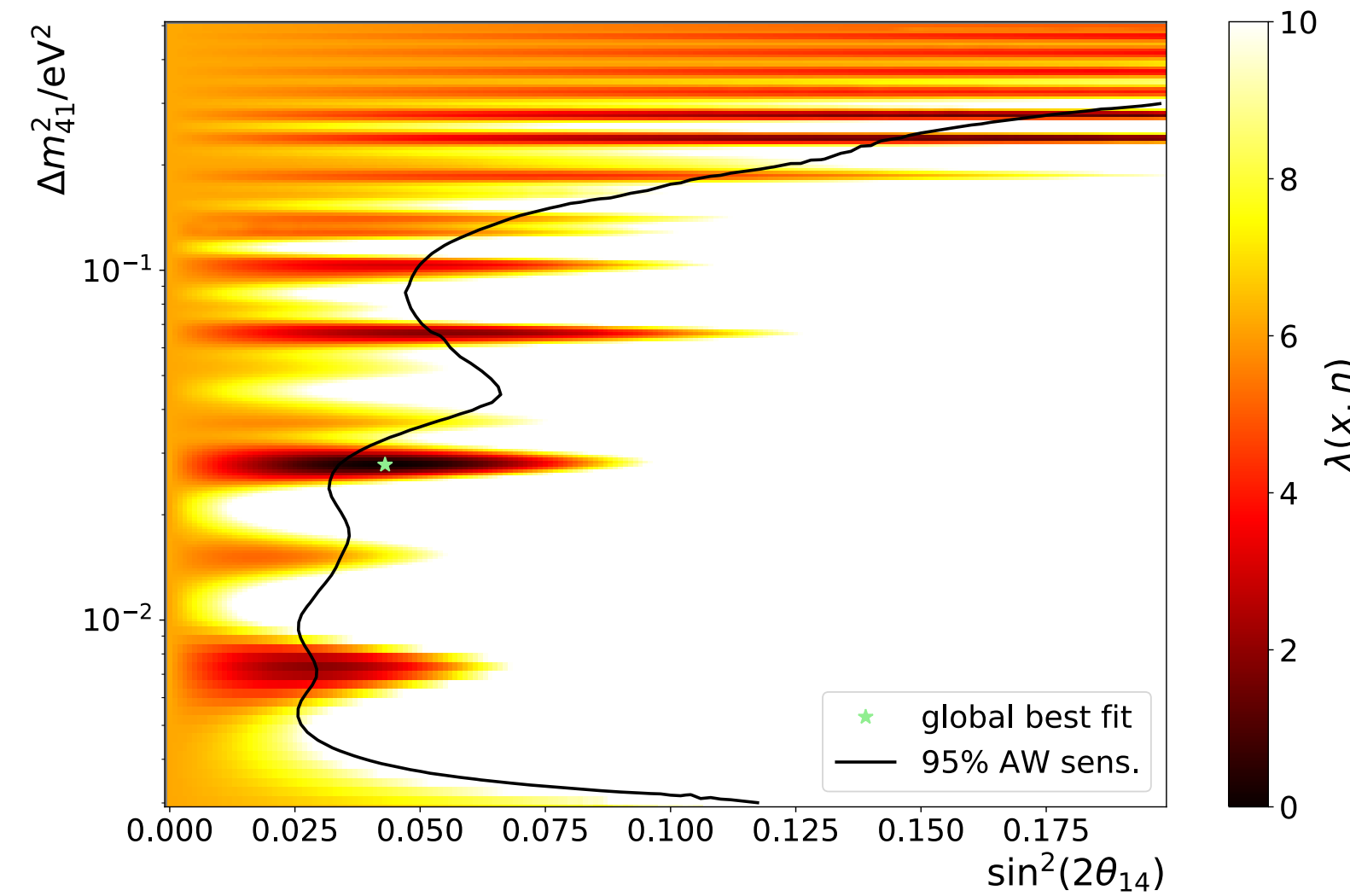
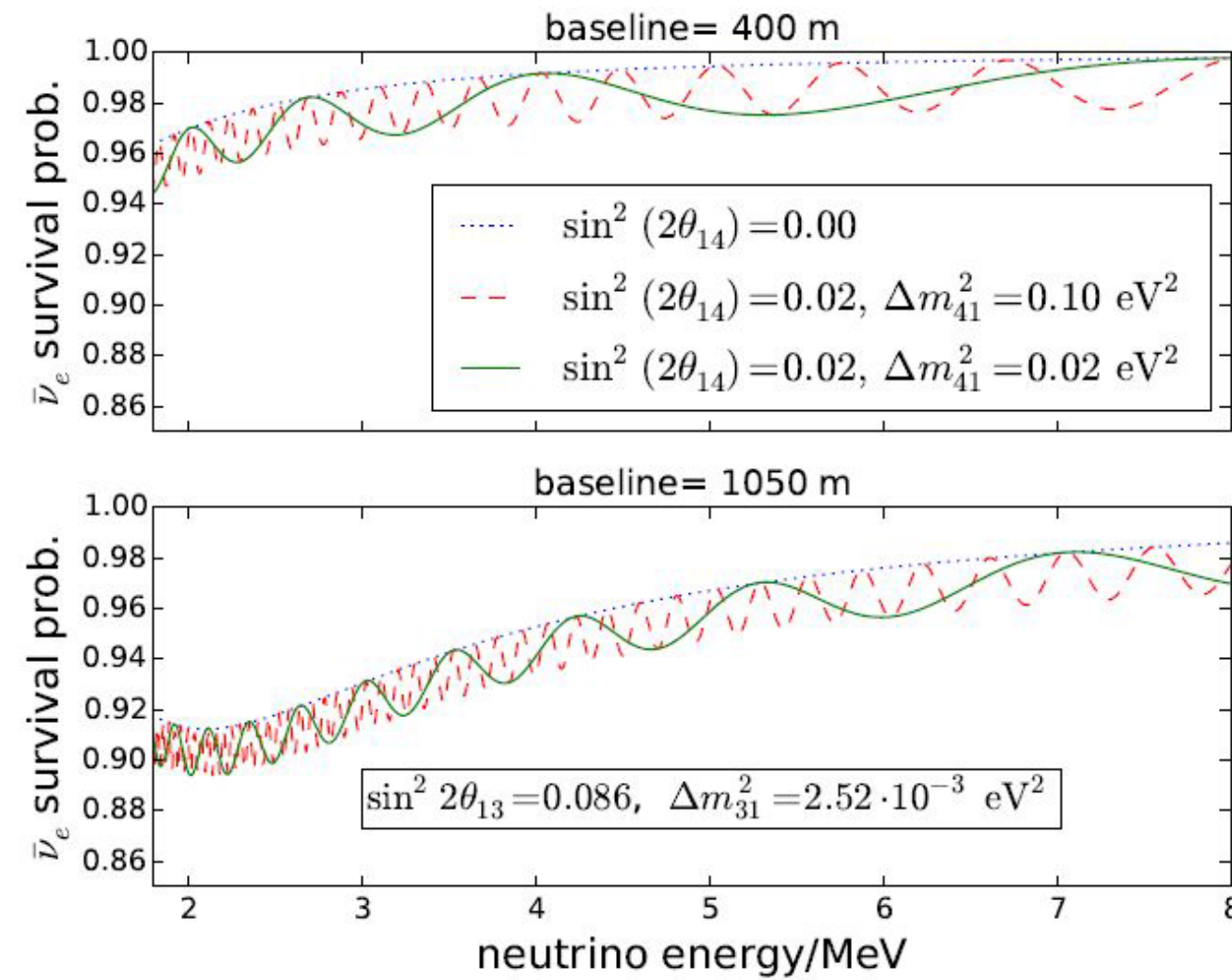
0.012



0.0099



$$P(\bar{\nu}_e \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e) \approx 1 - \sin^2(2\theta_{13})\sin^2\left(\frac{\Delta m_{ee}^2 L}{4E}\right) - \sin^2(2\theta_{14})\sin^2\left(\frac{\Delta m_{41}^2 L}{4E}\right)$$



- Double Chooz did also perform a search for sterile neutrinos
- The signal would manifest in a systematic deficit of the θ_{13} oscillation
- 95 % confidence level for the measurement data is given

