

# Introduction to Neutrinos at Fermilab

53rd Annual User's Meeting  
13 August 2020

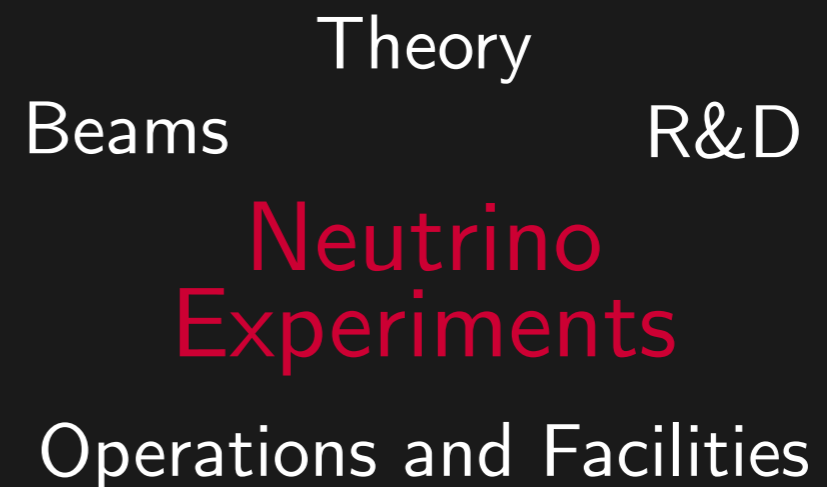


Andy Mastbaum  
Rutgers University  
[mastbaum@physics.rutgers.edu](mailto:mastbaum@physics.rutgers.edu)

# Why Neutrinos?

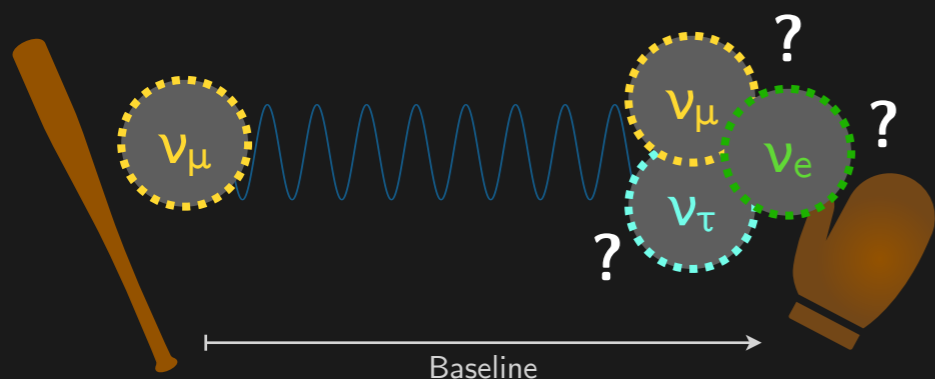


## Neutrinos at Fermilab



# Neutrinos?

- **Weak interactions** with other matter (atoms & nuclei)
  - Lots of neutrinos and targets (beams + large detectors)
- Three **flavors**: **electron** ( $\nu_e$ ), **muon** ( $\nu_\mu$ ), and **tau** ( $\nu_\tau$ ), corresponding to charged leptons
- **Oscillations** changing flavors as neutrinos travel
  - Quantum mechanics at work over very long distances!



## Standard Model Particles

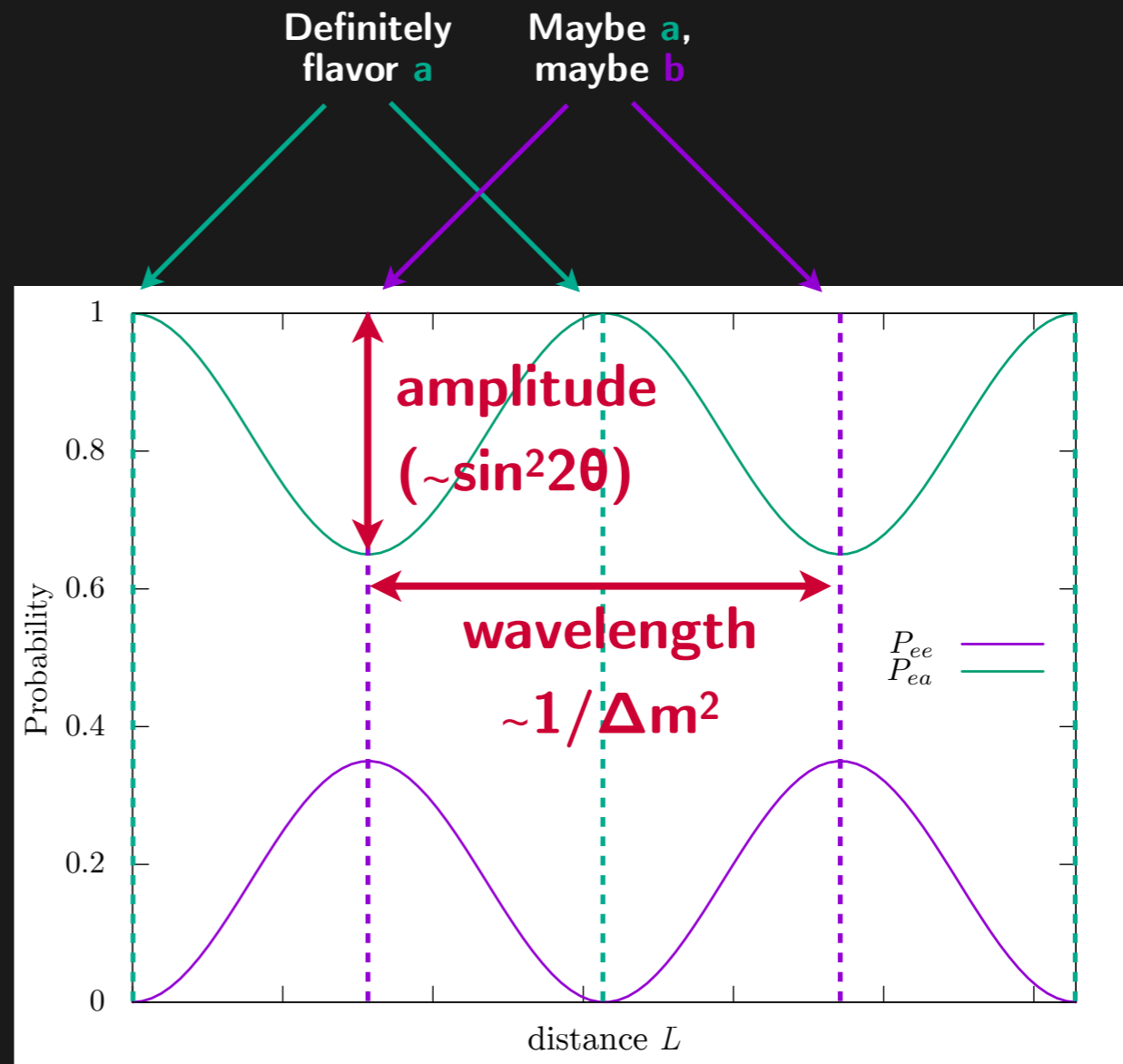
QUARKS

	I	II	III	
QUARKS	$u^{+2/3}$ up 0.003 GeV/c <sup>2</sup>	$c^{+2/3}$ charm 1.3 GeV/c <sup>2</sup>	$t^{+2/3}$ top 175 GeV/c <sup>2</sup>	$\gamma^0$ photon 0
	$d^{-1/3}$ down 0.006 GeV/c <sup>2</sup>	$s^{-1/3}$ strange 0.1 GeV/c <sup>2</sup>	$b^{-1/3}$ bottom 4.3 GeV/c <sup>2</sup>	$g^0$ gluon 0
	$\nu_e^0$ electron neutrino <10 <sup>-8</sup> GeV/c <sup>2</sup>	$\nu_\mu^0$ muon neutrino <10 <sup>-4</sup> GeV/c <sup>2</sup>	$\nu_\tau^0$ tau neutrino <0.02 GeV/c <sup>2</sup>	$W^\pm^{\pm 1}$ W boson 80.4 GeV/c <sup>2</sup>
	$e^{-1}$ electron 511 keV/c <sup>2</sup>	$\mu^{-1}$ muon 0.106 GeV/c <sup>2</sup>	$\tau^{-1}$ tau 1.78 GeV/c <sup>2</sup>	$Z^0$ Z boson 91.2 GeV/c <sup>2</sup>
				$H^0$ Higgs boson 125 GeV/c <sup>2</sup>

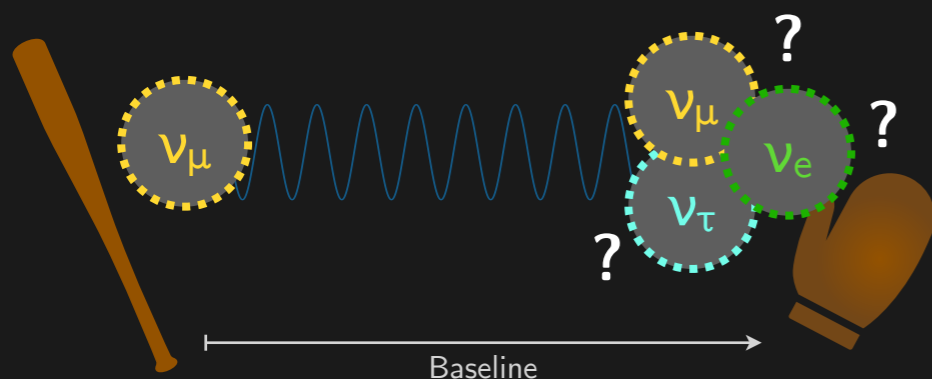
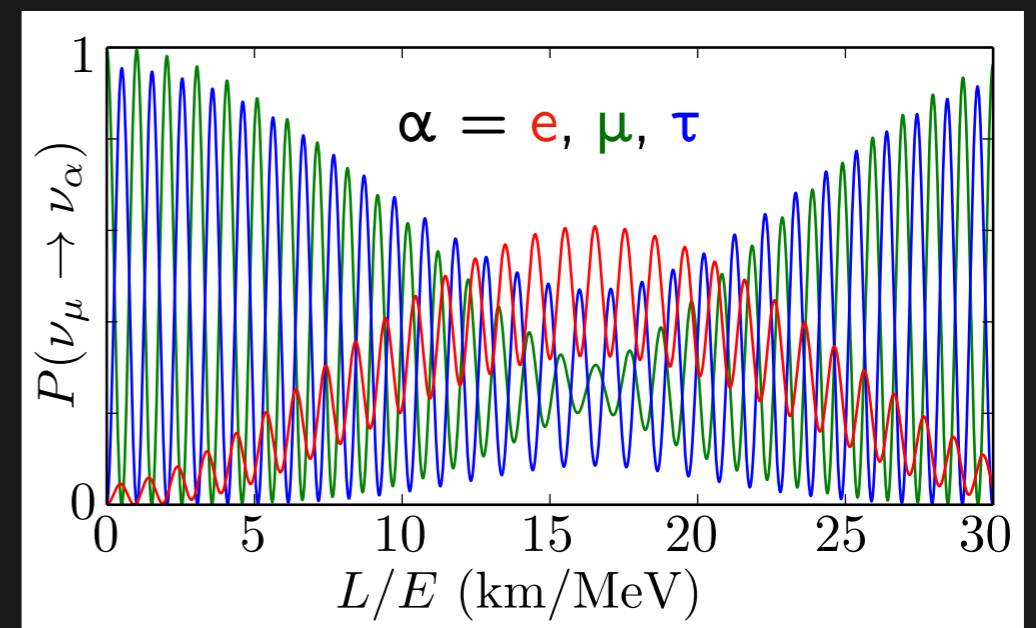
LEPTONS

# Neutrinos?

- A neutrino of energy  $E$  starts out as flavor  $a$
- Travels for a distance  $L$
- Detected as flavor  $a$  or  $b$
- Oscillations are determined by
  - A few parameters we control: **distance  $L$ , energy  $E$**
  - A few we try to measure: the **amplitude** and **wavelength**, which is related to differences between neutrino masses,  $\Delta m$

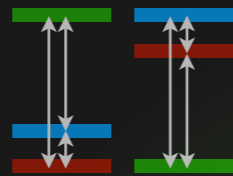


In our three-neutrino universe...



# Why Neutrinos?

Oscillations



What is the ordering of the neutrino masses?



Oscillations

Are there matter/antimatter differences in oscillations (**CP violation**), helping to explain our matter-filled universe?

$$\nu \stackrel{?}{=} \bar{\nu}$$

Is the neutrino its own antiparticle?

## Standard Model Physics



What is the mass of the neutrino, and why is it so small?

## Beyond the Standard Model



Are there new interactions we could discover via neutrinos?

Oscillations

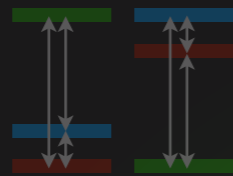
$$\nu_s$$

Are there additional **sterile neutrinos** beyond the known three types?

Oscillations

# Why Neutrinos?

Oscillations



What is the ordering of the neutrino masses?



Oscillations

Are there matter/antimatter differences in oscillations (**CP violation**), helping to explain our matter-filled universe?

$$\nu \stackrel{?}{=} \bar{\nu}$$

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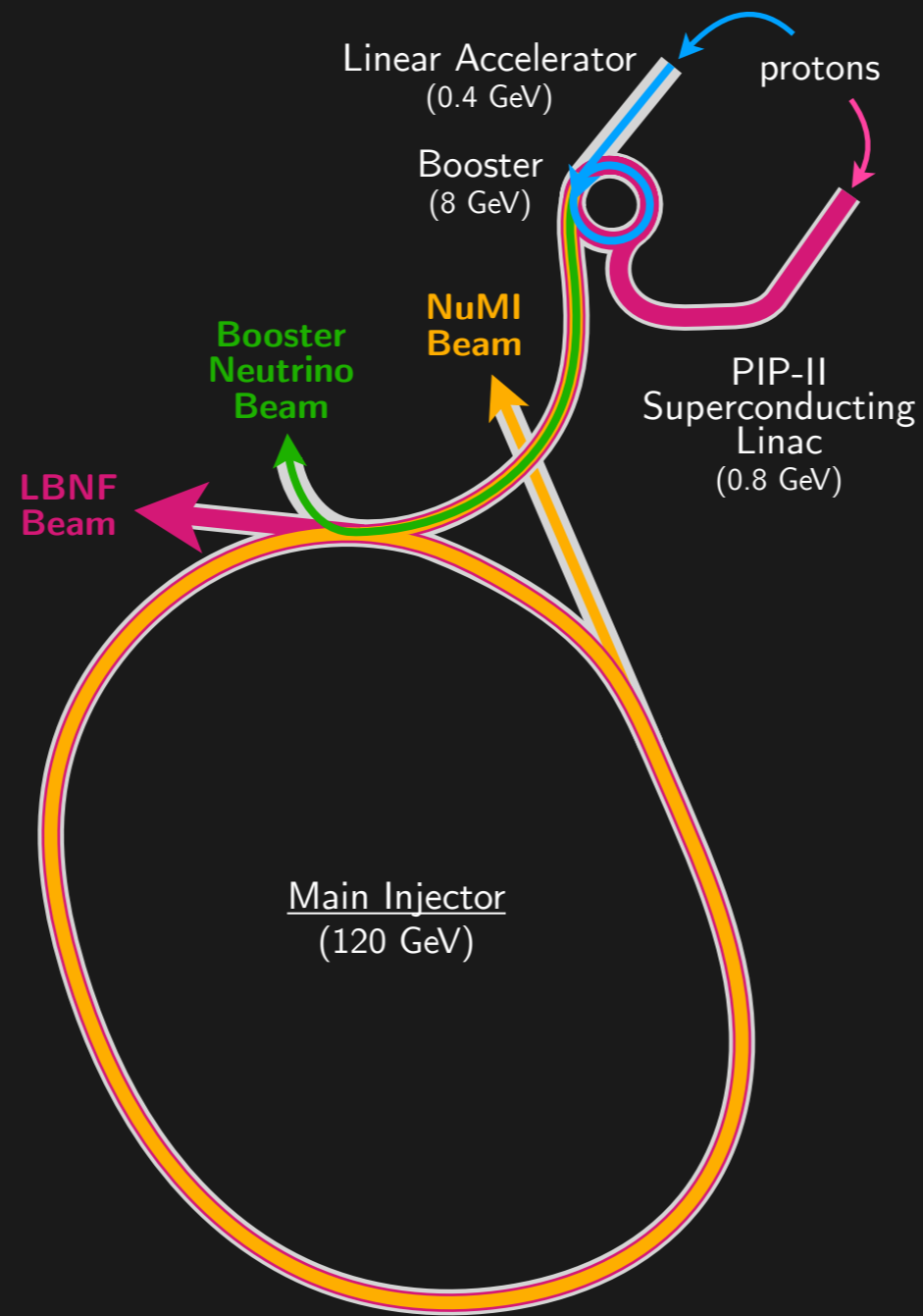
Oscillations

$$\nu_s$$

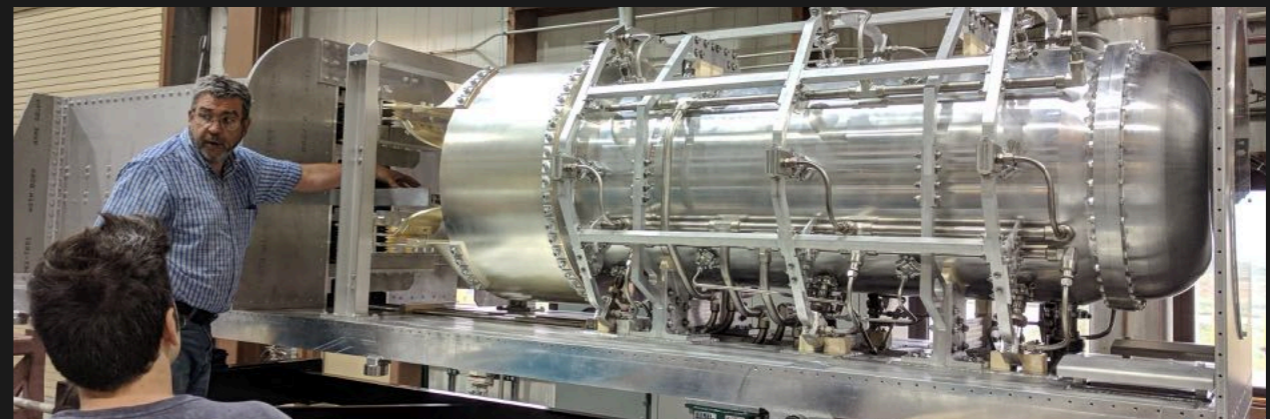
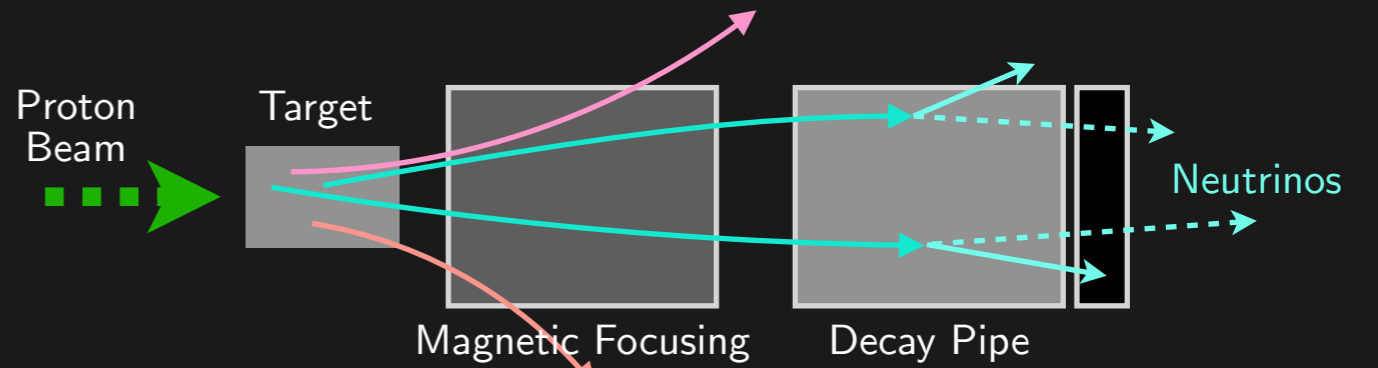
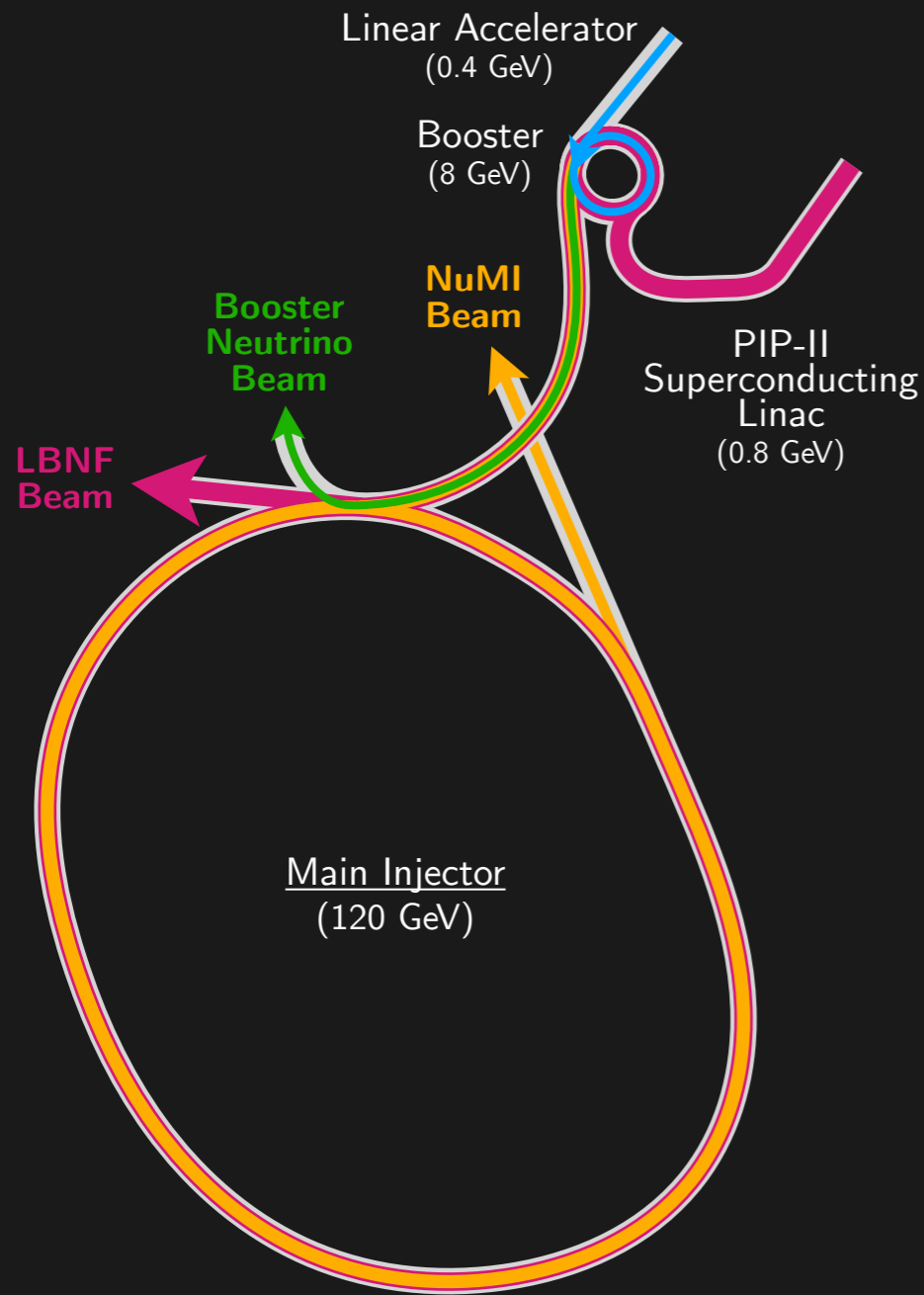
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Oscillations

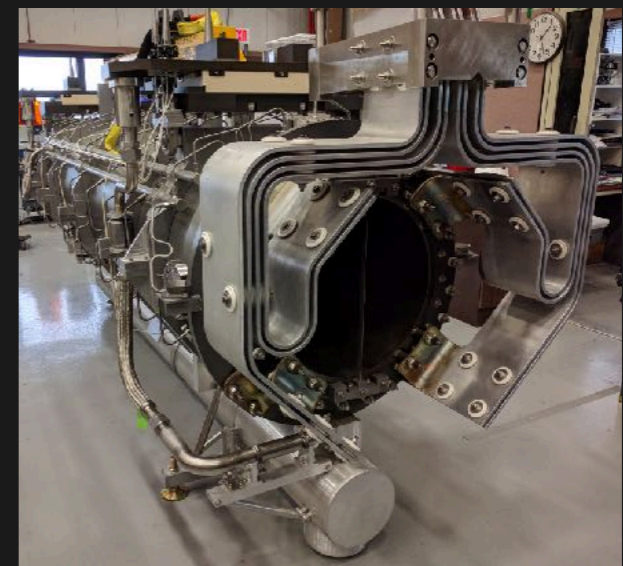
# Neutrino Production



# Neutrino Production



**Booster Horn**

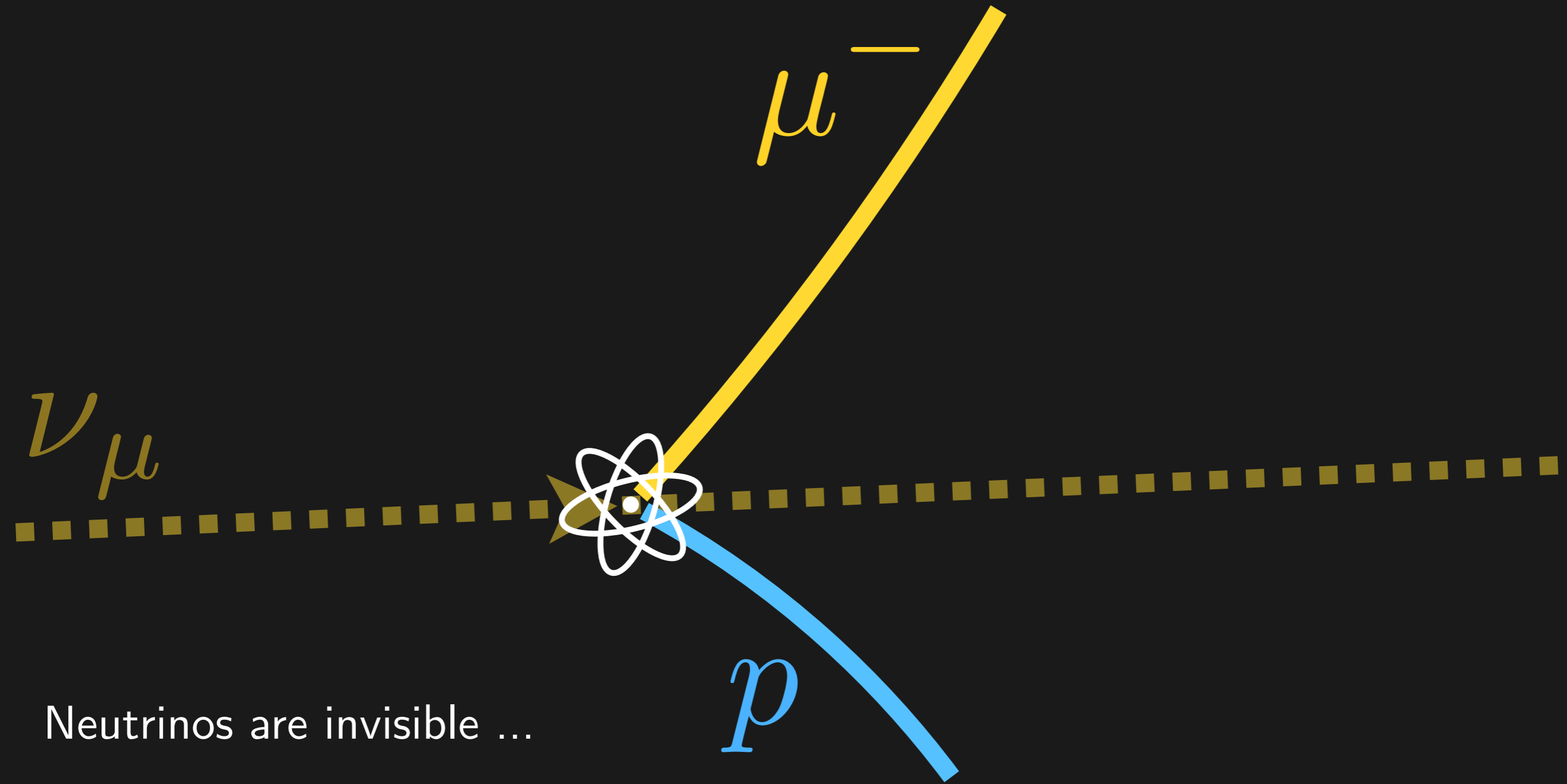


**NuMI horn**  
(one of two)

**More details:** See Jeffrey Eldred's "Introduction to Fermilab's accelerators and beams (present and future)" in Session 3



# Neutrino Detection



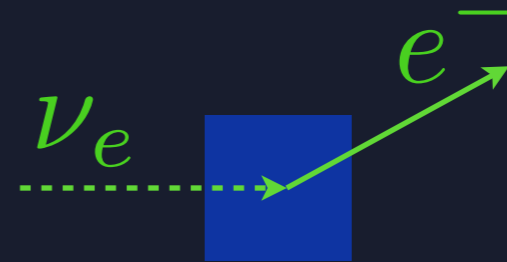
Neutrinos are invisible ...

... and detected via the products of interactions with other matter (nuclei, electrons, etc.)

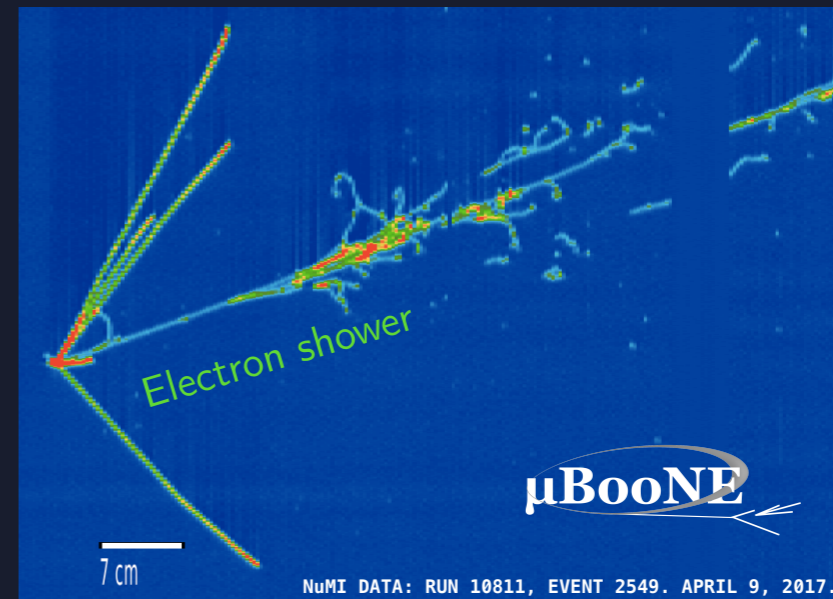
# Neutrino Detection



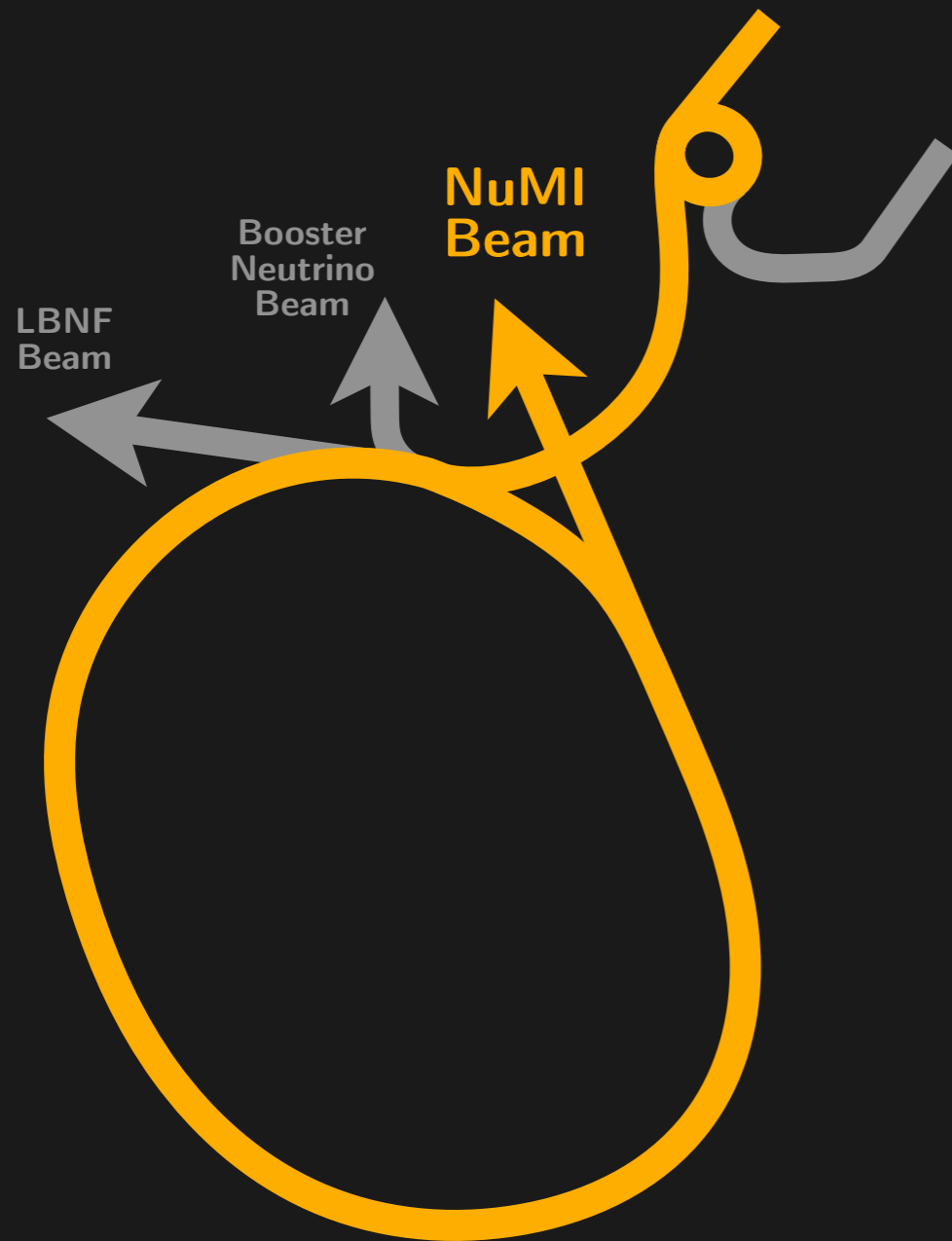
Muon neutrinos ( $\nu_{\mu}$ ) produce a muon or  $\nu_{\mu}$



Electron neutrinos ( $\nu_e$ ) produce an electron or  $\nu_e$



# Neutrino Program at Fermilab



## MINERvA

Precision neutrino interactions

## MINOS+

Pioneering long-baseline oscillations

## NOvA

Off-axis long-baseline  $\nu_e$  appearance

## SBN Program

Short-baseline oscillations and new physics

## DUNE

Precision long-baseline, CP violation

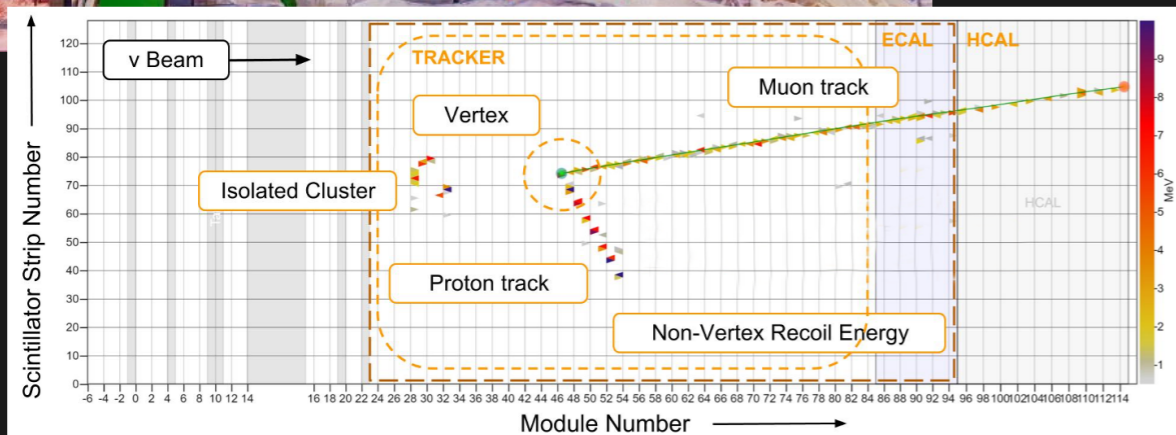


# MINERvA (2010–2019)



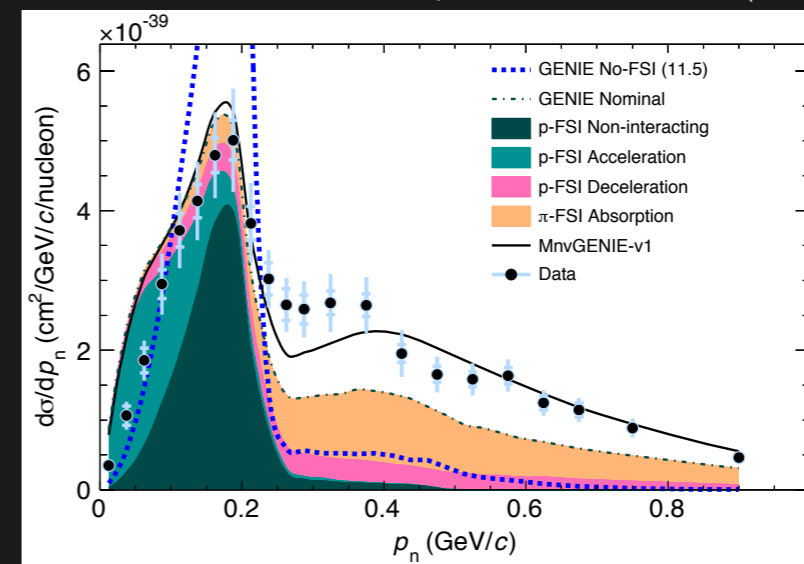
- Several different target materials
- Tracking with scintillator strips
- Underground at Fermilab

- Precision measurements of neutrino **interactions** with a **variety of nuclear targets** (carbon, lead, iron, water, helium)
- Insight into the **structure of nuclei** and forces
- Understanding **neutrino interactions** is crucial for interpreting data in neutrino oscillation and new physics searches



A neutrino interaction in MINERvA

Phys. Rev. Lett. 121, 022504 (2018)



**Example:** How are the emitted protons affected by interactions inside the nucleus (final state interactions)? Models are then be tuned to better match the data.

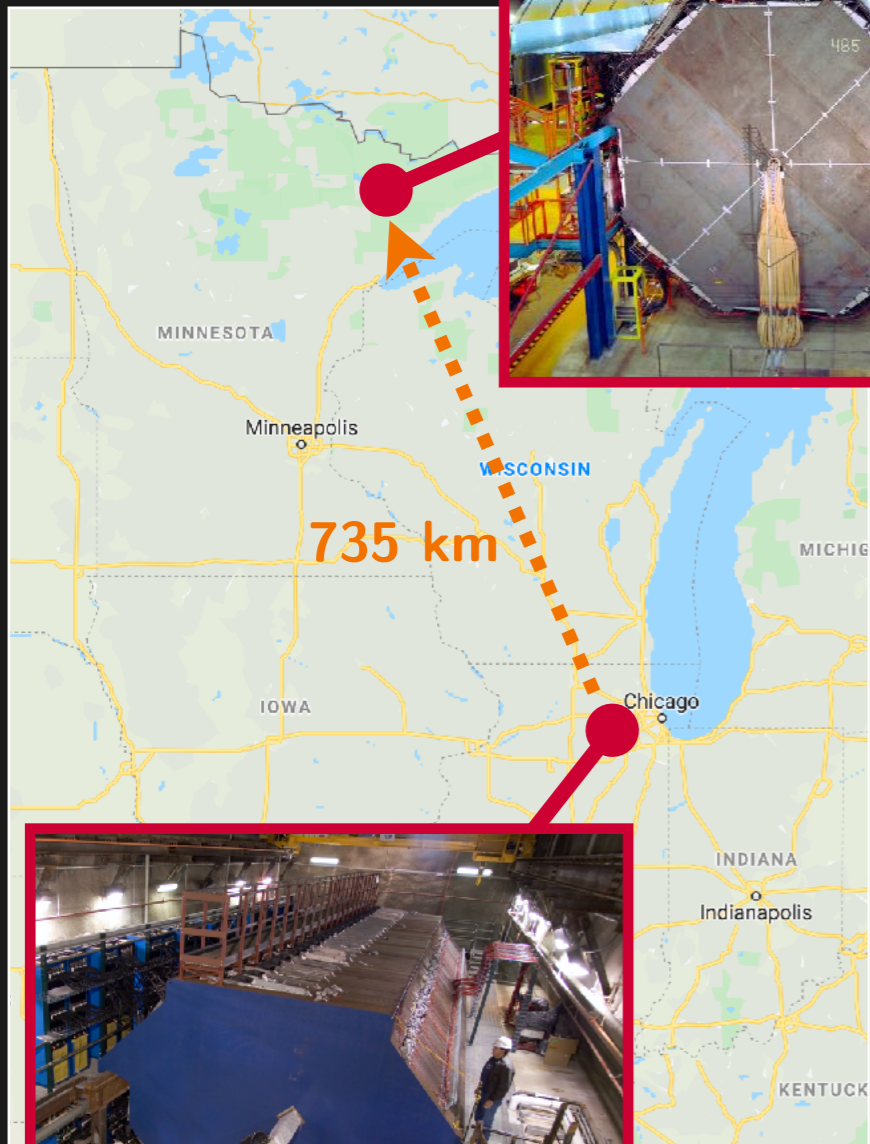
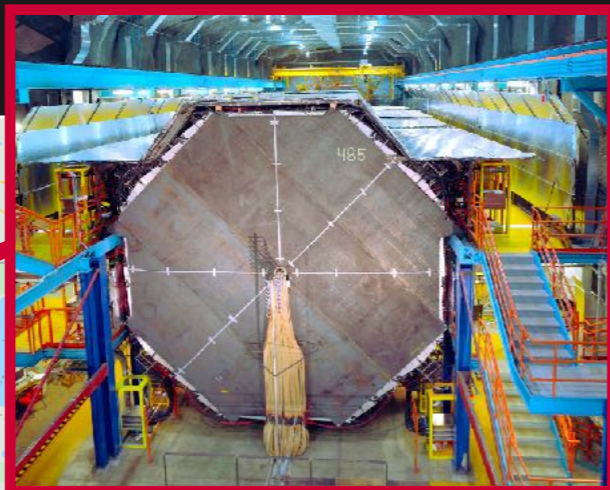
**Much more** in S. Gardiner's Cross Sections talk, Session 16



# MINOS/MINOS+ (2005–2016)



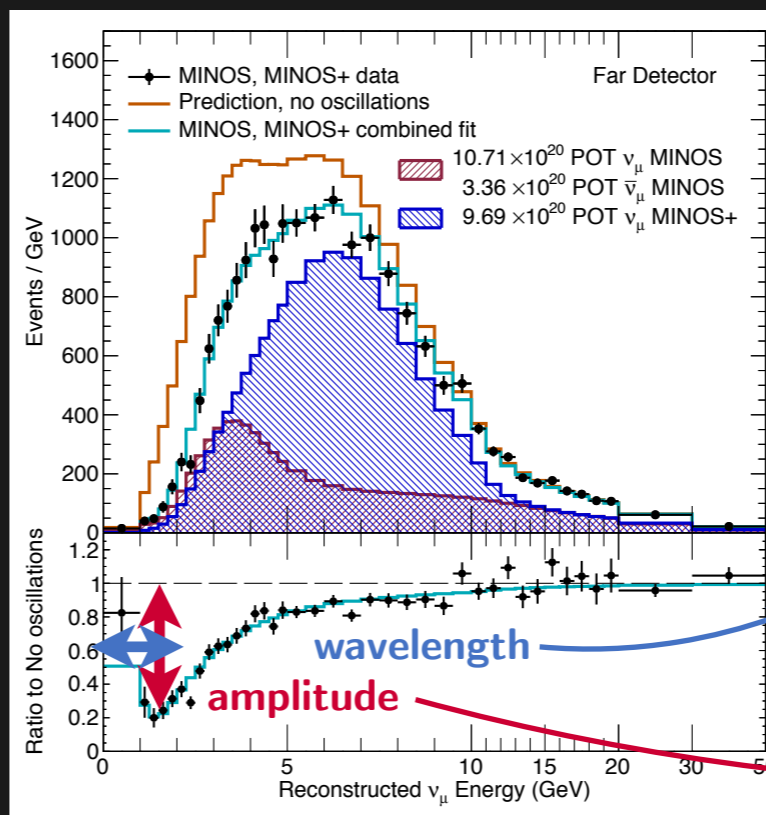
**Far Detector**  
5.4 kilotons, 2350' deep



**Near Detector**  
980 tons at FNAL

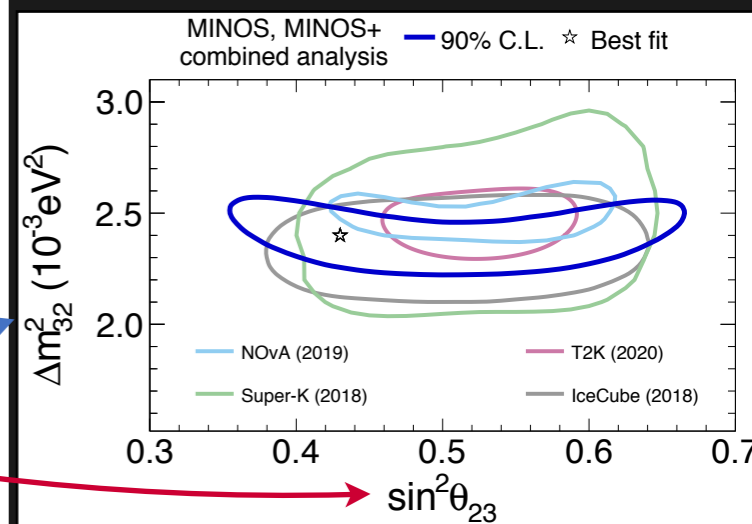
- Long-baseline neutrino **oscillations**
- **Beam** and **atmospheric** neutrinos
- **Final** oscillation results presented July 2020

arXiv:2006.15208



The imprint of oscillations

Measurement of the parameters



MINOS+ measurements of the parameters  
controlling three-neutrino oscillations

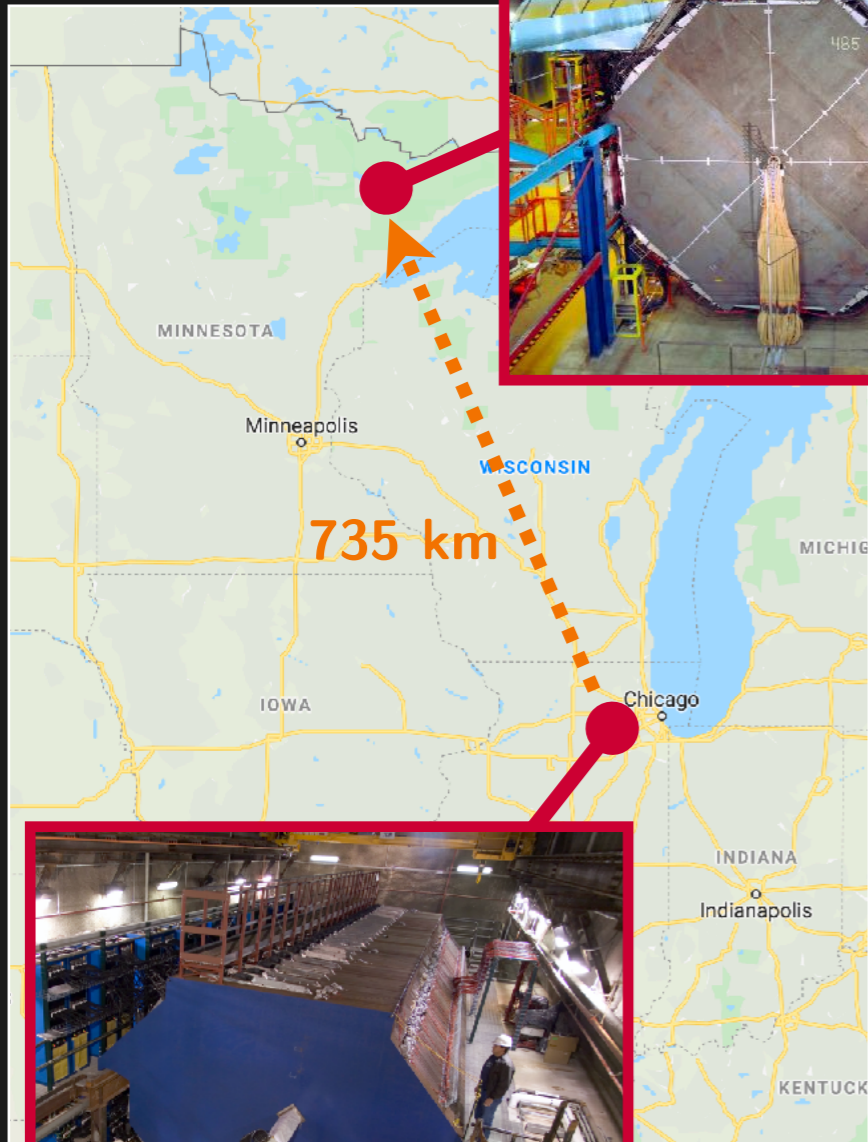
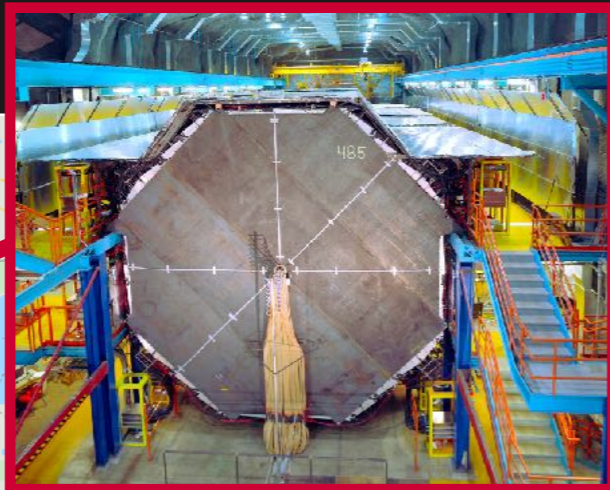
Magnetized Steel Trackers



# MINOS/MINOS+ (2005–2016)



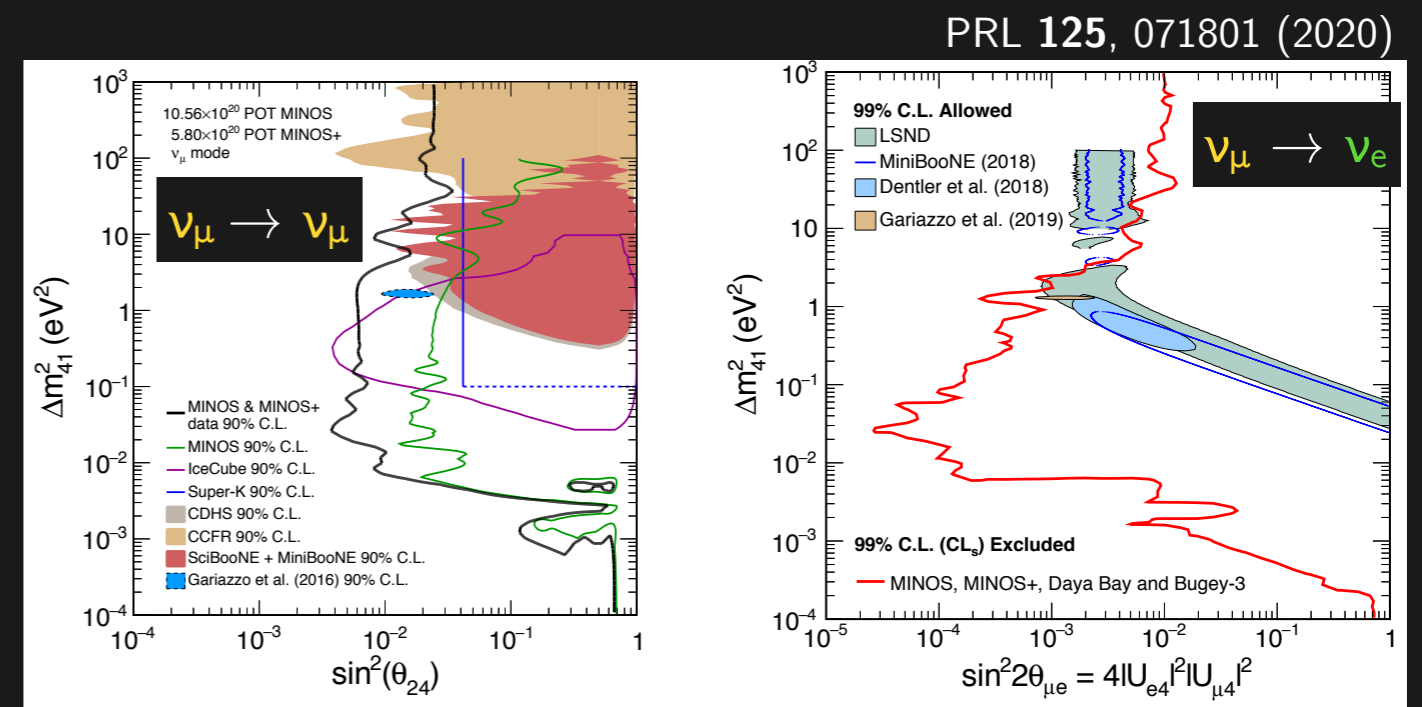
**Far Detector**  
5.4 kilotons, 2350' deep



**Near Detector**  
980 tons at FNAL

**Magnetized Steel Trackers**

- Long-baseline neutrino **oscillations**
- **Beam** and **atmospheric** neutrinos
- **Final** oscillation results presented July 2020
- Search for **sterile neutrinos**
  - A possible new, additional neutrino type



No evidence for sterile neutrinos → strong constraints on these models

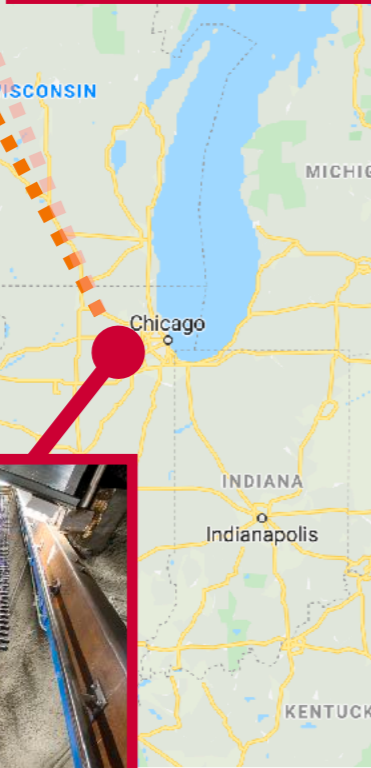
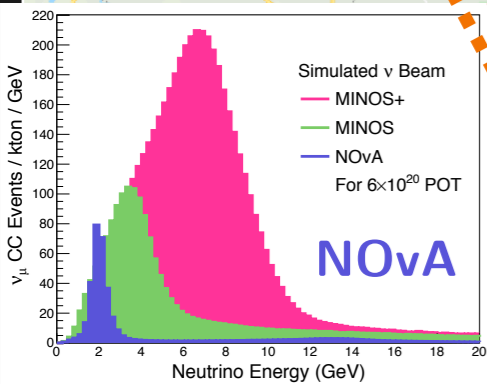
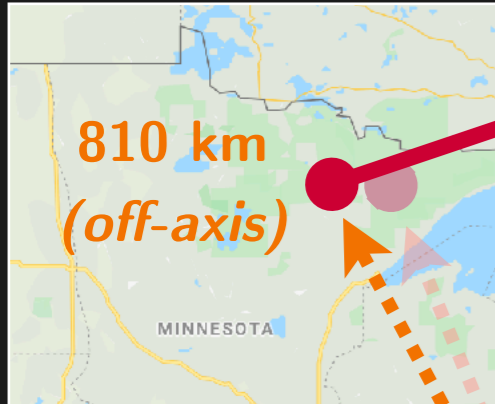
**Much more** in G. Petrillo's Sterile Neutrinos talk, Session 16



# NOvA



**Far Detector**  
14 kilotons, surface

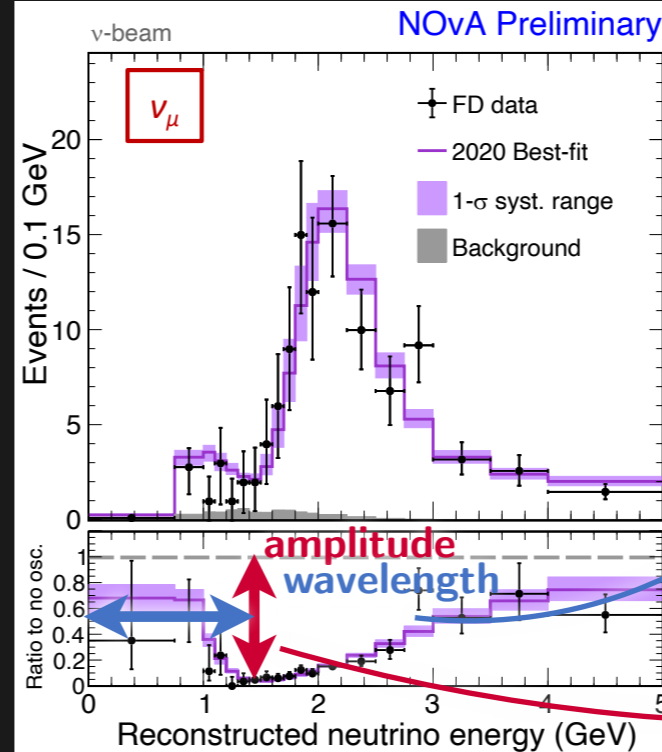


**Near Detector**  
300 tons at FNAL

**Liquid Scintillator Trackers**

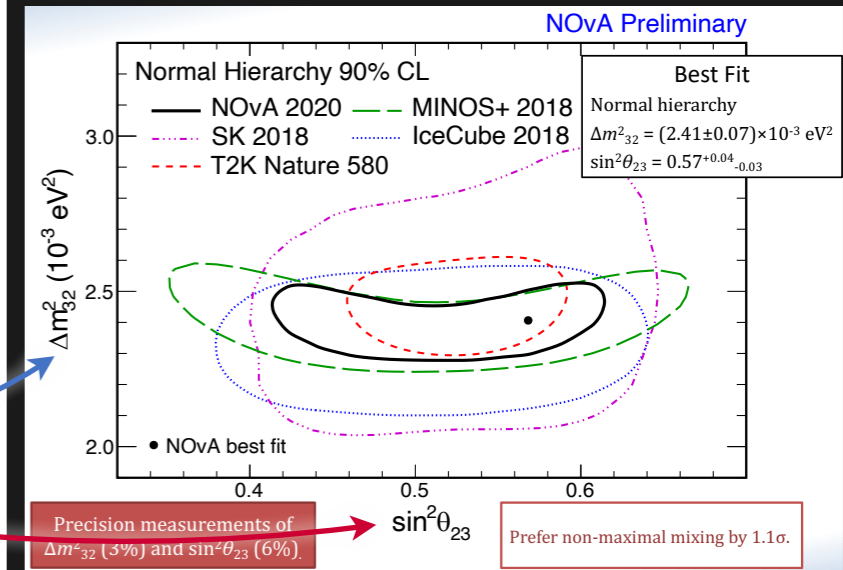
- Long-baseline neutrino **oscillations**
- **Beam** and **atmospheric** neutrino analysis
- Neutrino **interactions** with matter
- **Ordering** of neutrino masses, matter-antimatter asymmetry (**CP violation**)
- **Sterile neutrinos** and other new physics

A. Himmel, Neutrino 2020



The imprint of oscillations

Measurement of the parameters



NOvA measurements of the parameters controlling oscillations



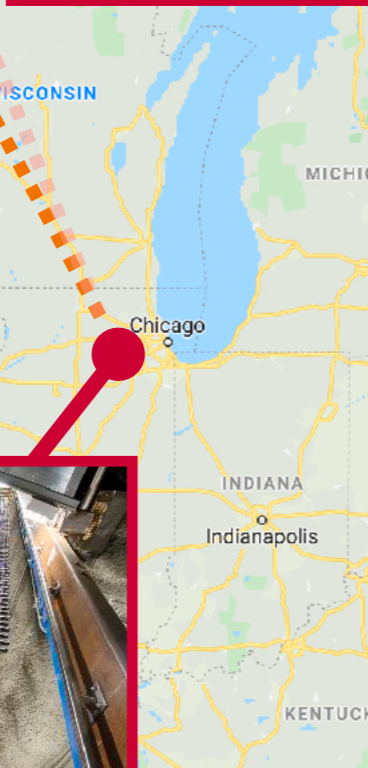
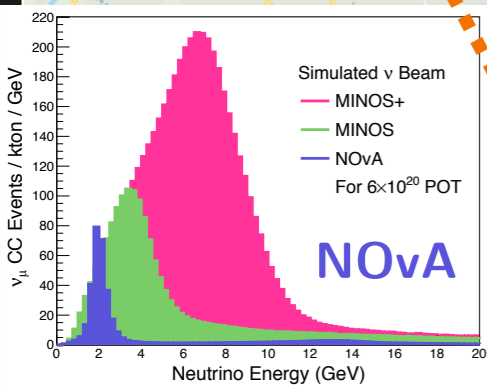
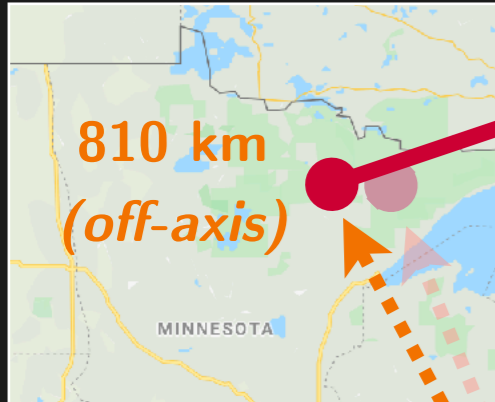
# NOvA



**Far Detector**  
14 kilotons, surface



810 km  
(off-axis)

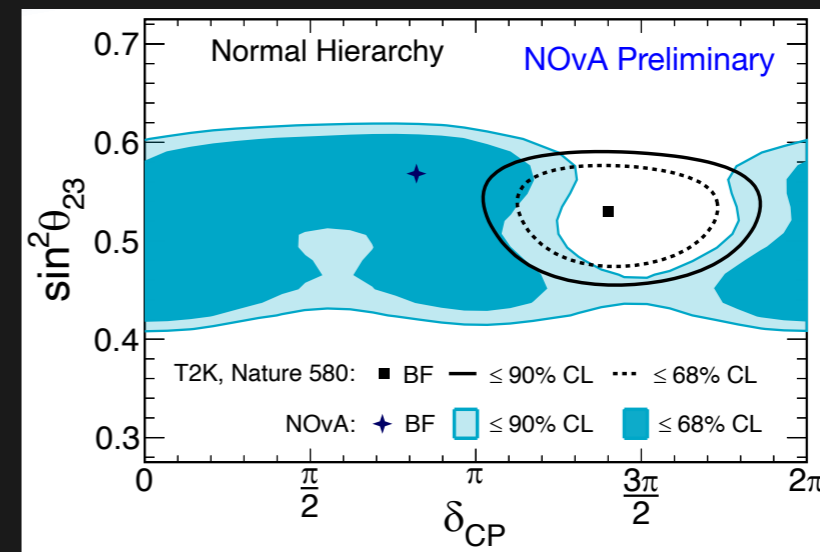


**Near Detector**  
300 tons at FNAL

Liquid Scintillator Trackers

- Long-baseline neutrino **oscillations**
- **Beam** and **atmospheric** neutrino analysis
- Neutrino **interactions** with matter
- **Ordering** of neutrino masses, matter-antimatter asymmetry (**CP violation**)
- **Sterile neutrinos** and other new physics

A. Himmel, Neutrino 2020



Insights into a matter/antimatter asymmetry

**Much more** in S. Calvez's NOvA talk, *next* (Session 15)





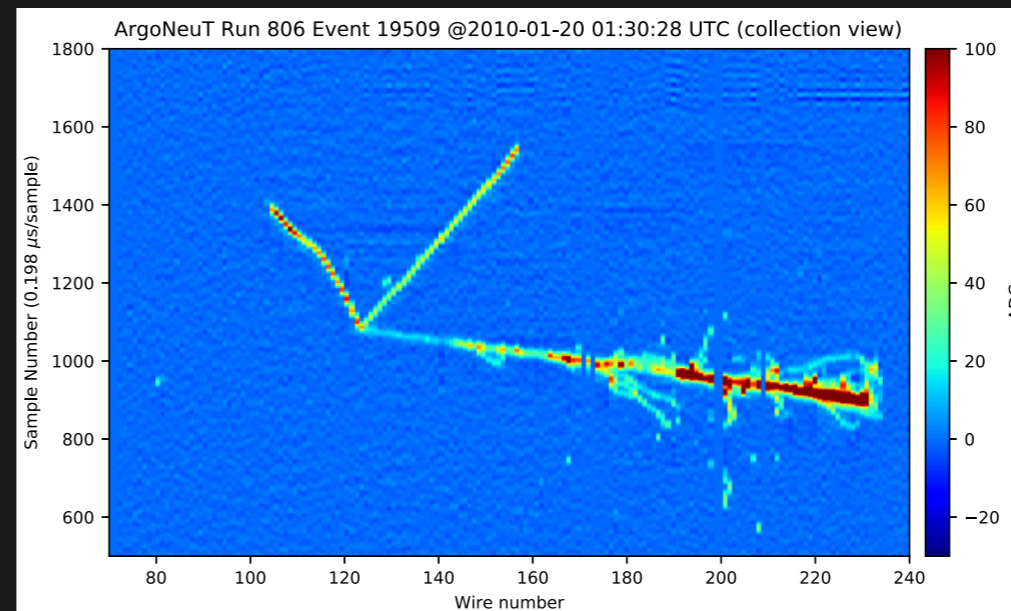
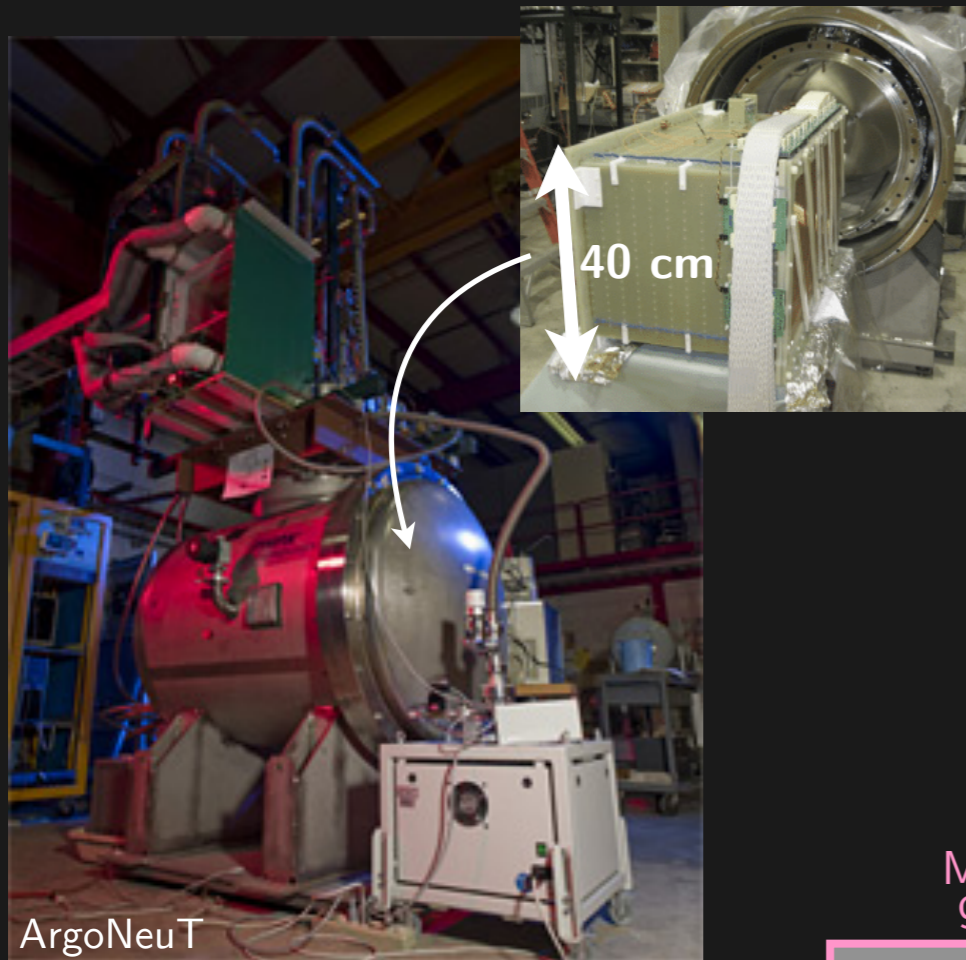
# ArgoNeuT (2009–2010)



## LArTPC: Liquid Argon Time Projection Chamber

3D particle tracking with millimeter-scale resolution

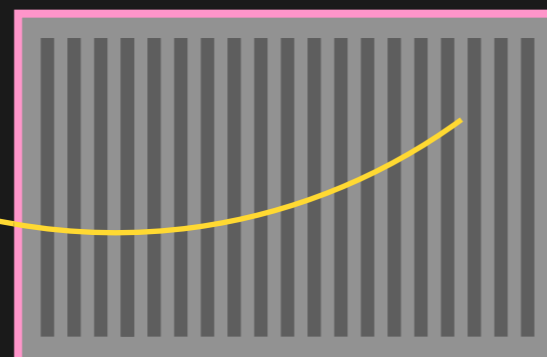
- **Neutrino interactions** with argon
- Physics **Beyond the Standard Model**
- Pioneering measurements of **low-energy interactions** in liquid argon detectors



First measurement of the  $\nu_e + \text{argon}$  scattering cross section

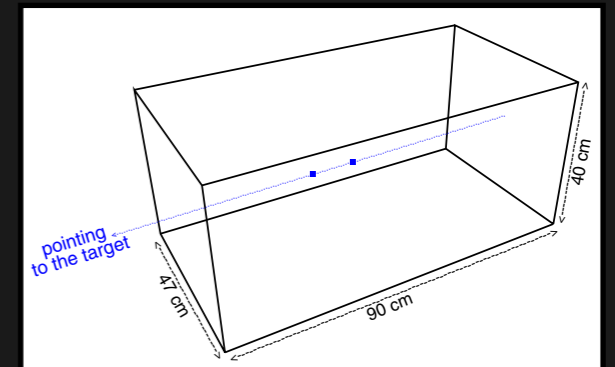
Phys. Rev. D 102, 011101 (2020)

MINOS near detector  
980 ton steel tracker



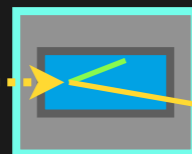
Search for fractionally-charged particles

Phys. Rev. Lett 124, 131801 (2020)

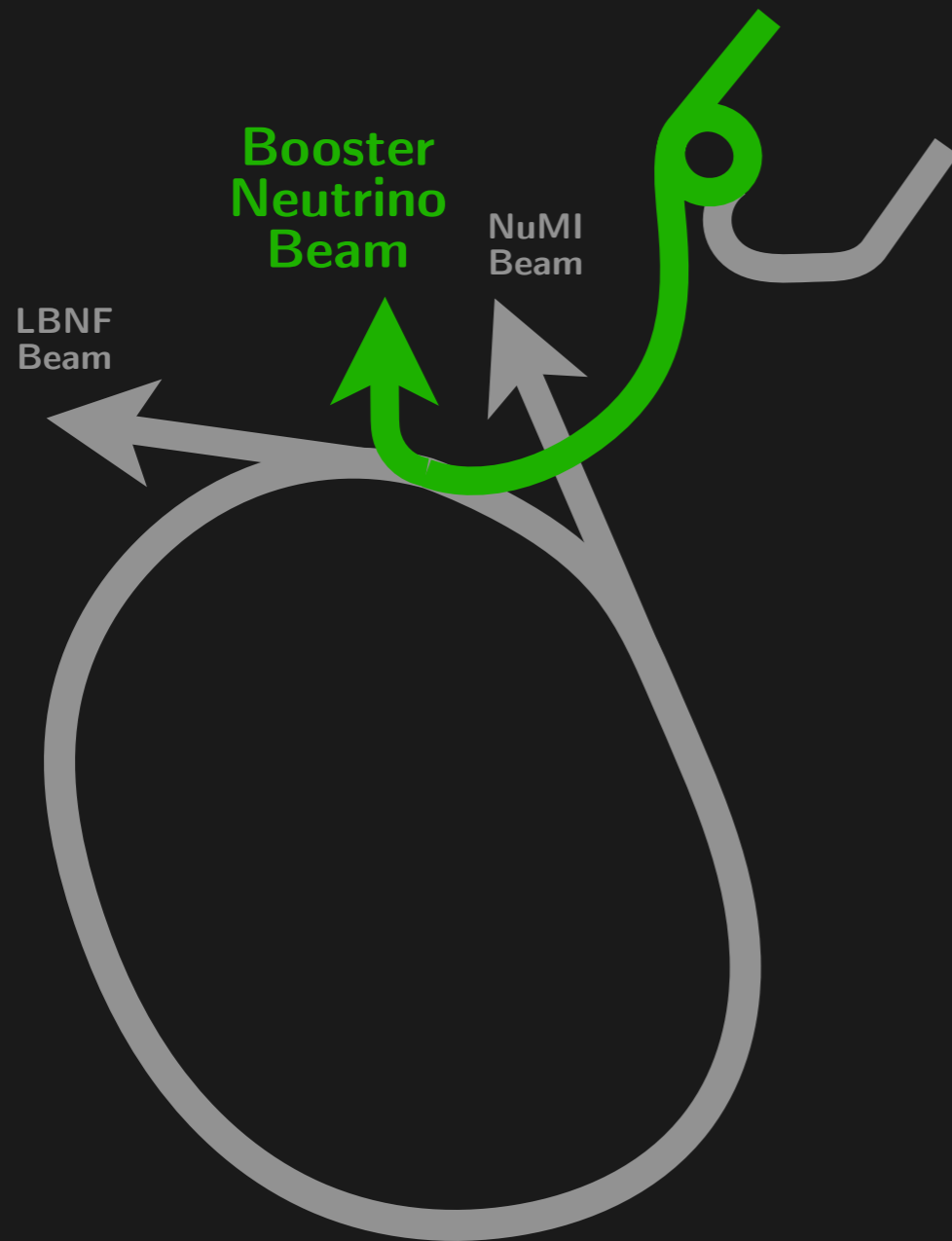


NuMI neutrino beam

ArgoNeuT  
250 kg LAr



# Neutrino Program at Fermilab



## MINERvA

Precision neutrino interactions

## MINOS+

Pioneering long-baseline oscillations

## NOvA

Off-axis long-baseline  $\nu_e$  appearance

## SBN Program

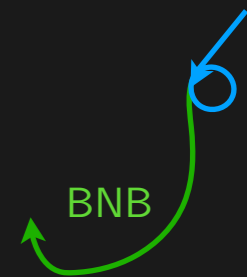
Short-baseline oscillations and new physics

## DUNE

Precision long-baseline, CP violation

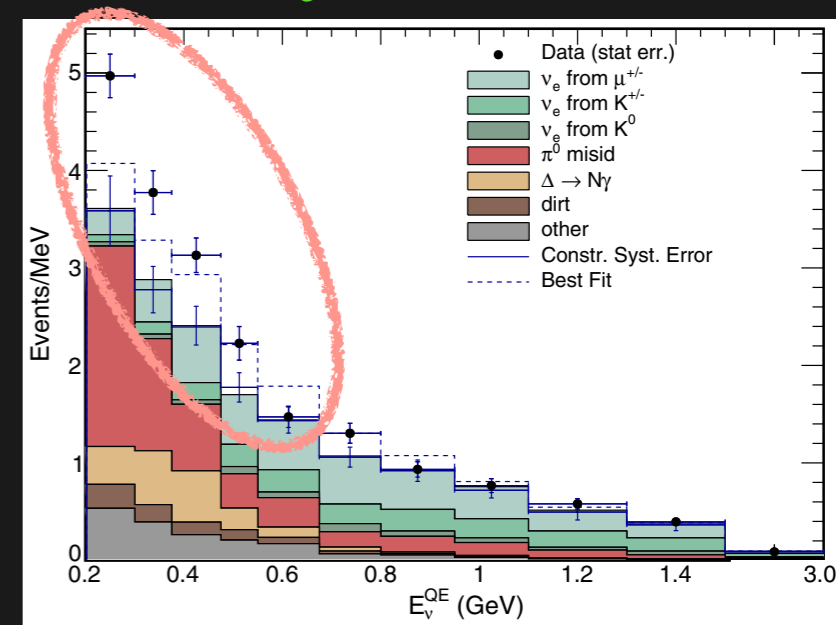


# Short-Baseline Neutrino Program

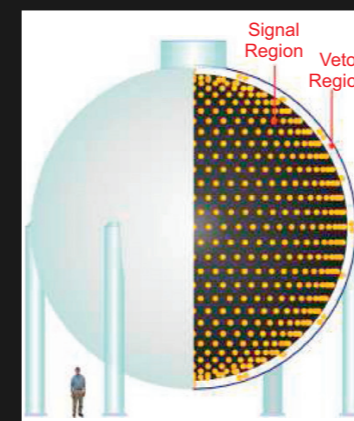


- Three **Liquid Argon TPC** detectors
- Short-baseline oscillations (~600 meters)
  - $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$  appearance &  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\mu$  disappearance
- Goal to definitively address outstanding experimental hints of **sterile neutrinos**
  - Additional, non-interacting neutrino types
  - Hints from multiple different experiments
- Additional physics **beyond the Standard Model**
- Precise **neutrino-argon** interaction measurements

MiniBooNE's **excess** of  $\nu_e$ -like events



MiniBooNE, PRL 121, 221801 (2018)

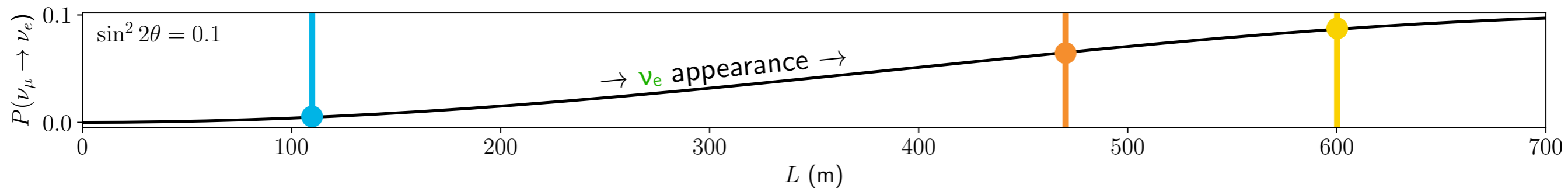
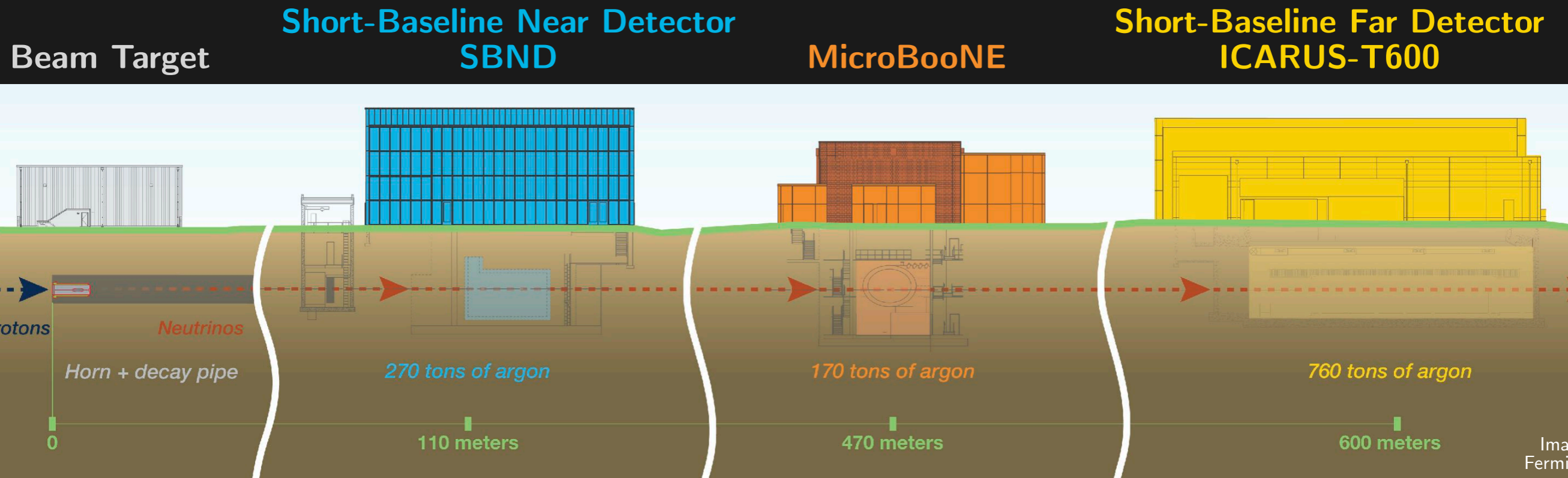


MiniBooNE operated in the Fermilab Booster Neutrino Beam from 2002 – 2019

Updated background analysis presented at Neutrino 2020

**Much more** in G. Petrillo's Sterile Neutrinos talk, Session 16

# Short-Baseline Neutrino Program



Search for short-baseline neutrino oscillations

$\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$  appearance and  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\mu$  disappearance

# Short-Baseline Neutrino Program

Beam Target

Short-Baseline Near Detector  
SBND

MicroBooNE

Short-Baseline Far Detector  
ICARUS-T600

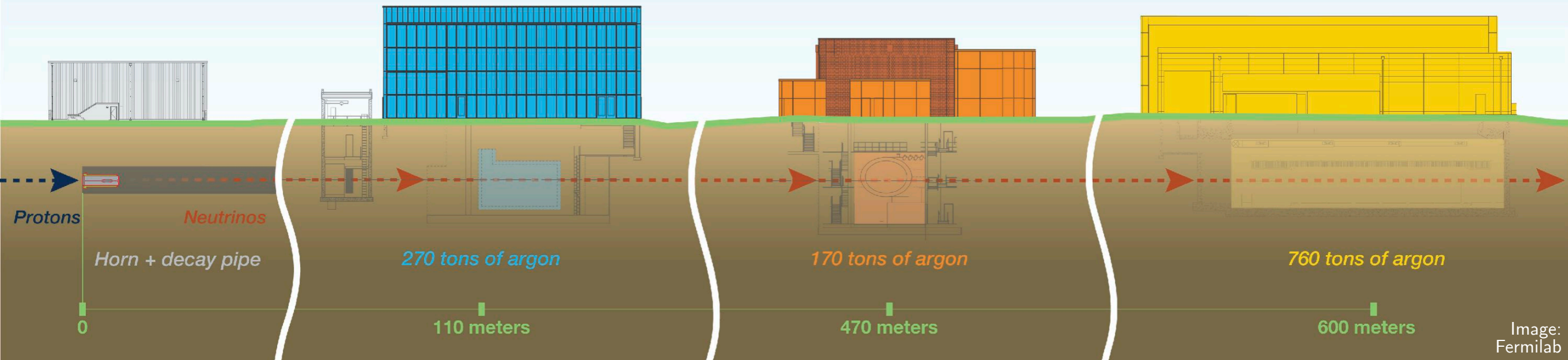
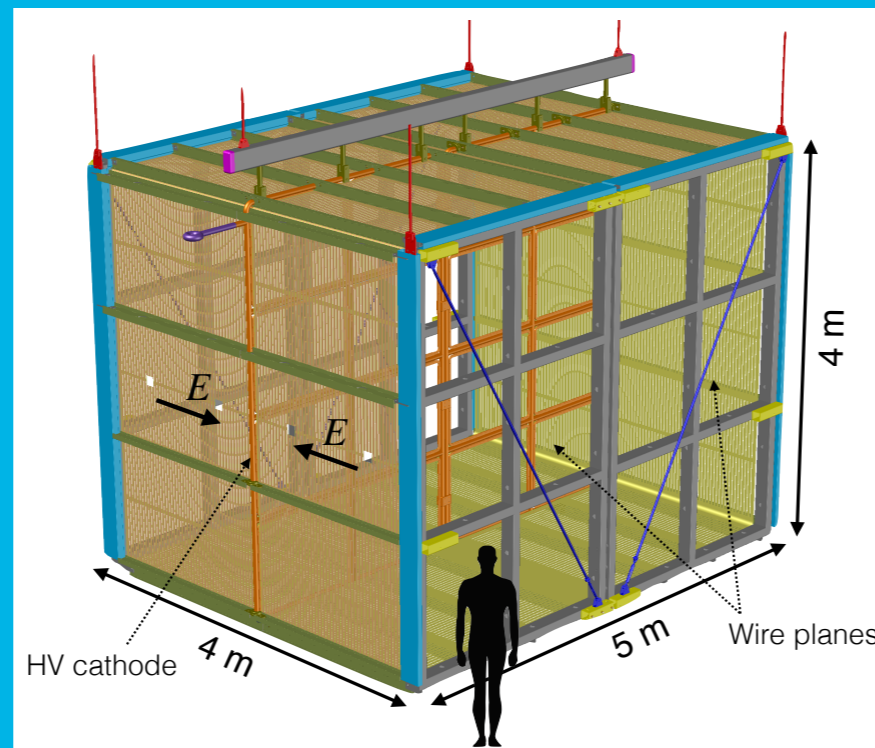


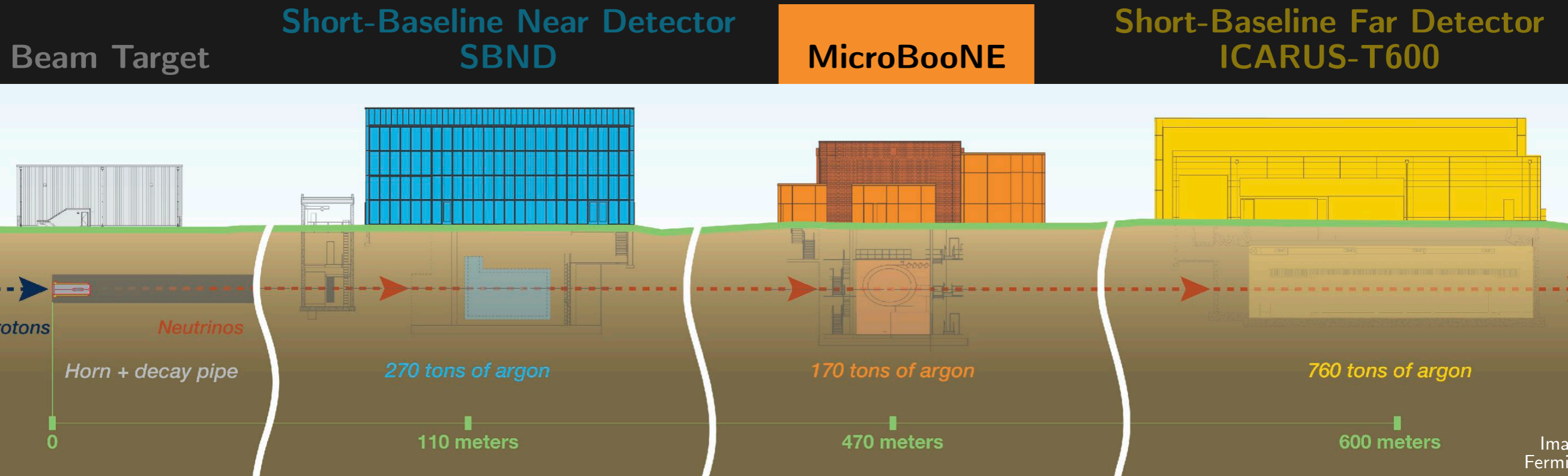
Image:  
Fermilab



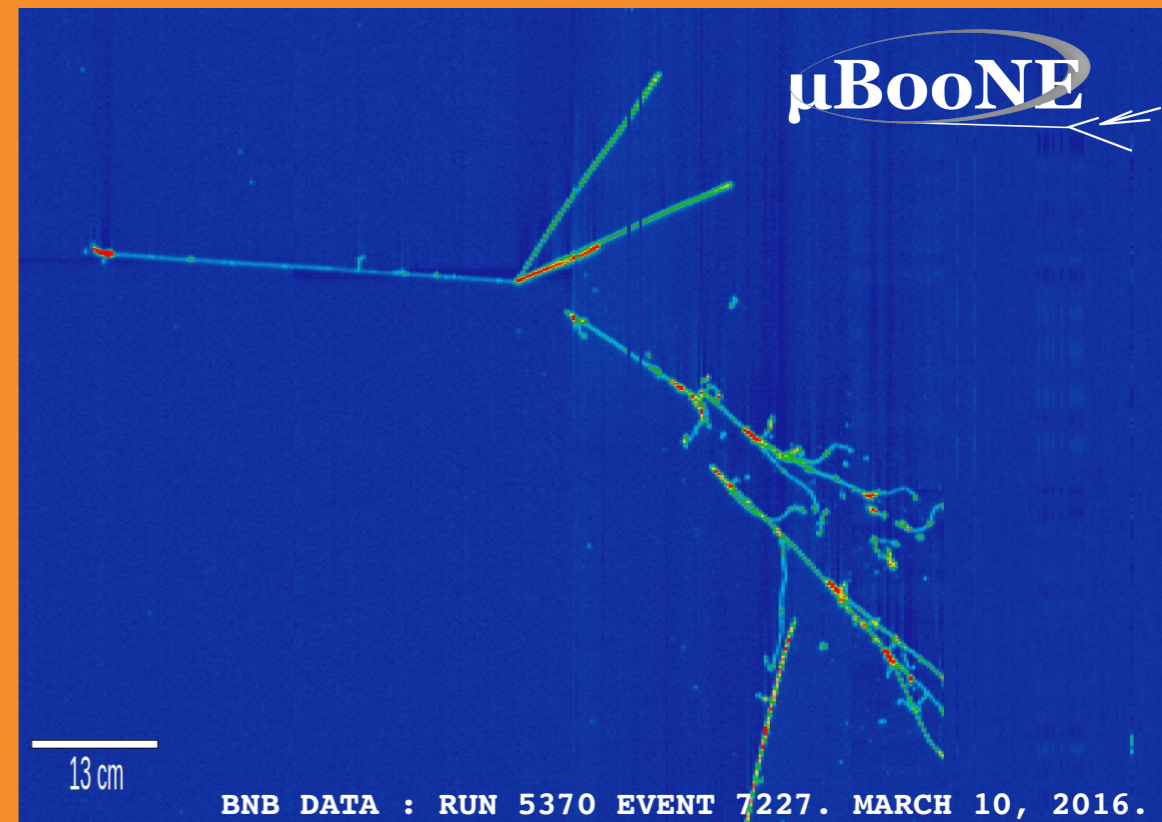
- Construction in 2020
- 112 tons liquid argon
- SBN near detector



# Short-Baseline Neutrino Program



- Running since 2015
- 89 tons liquid argon
- MiniBooNE excess
- Neutrino interactions



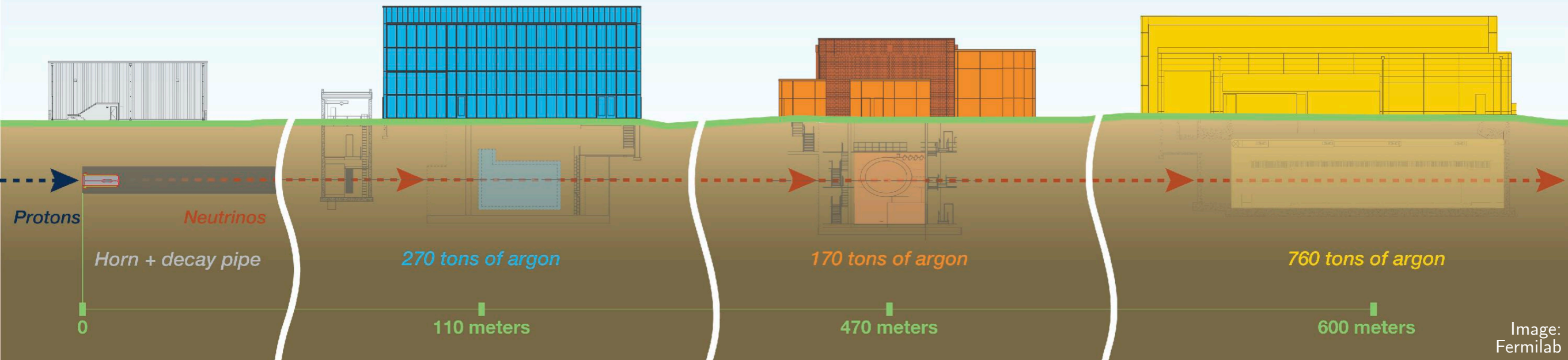
# Short-Baseline Neutrino Program

Beam Target

Short-Baseline Near Detector  
SBND

MicroBooNE

Short-Baseline Far Detector  
ICARUS-T600



## ICARUS@FNAL

- Commissioning 2020
- 600 tons liquid argon
- SBN far detector

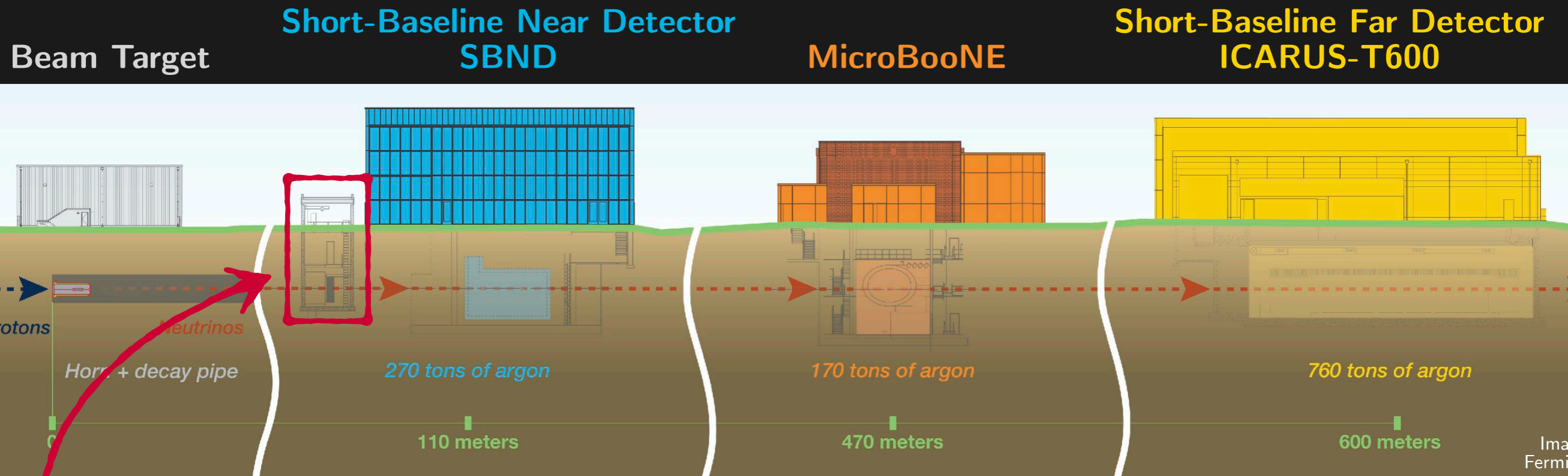


Italy (LNGS) → CERN → Fermilab



Installed at Fermilab, April 2020

# Short-Baseline Neutrino Program



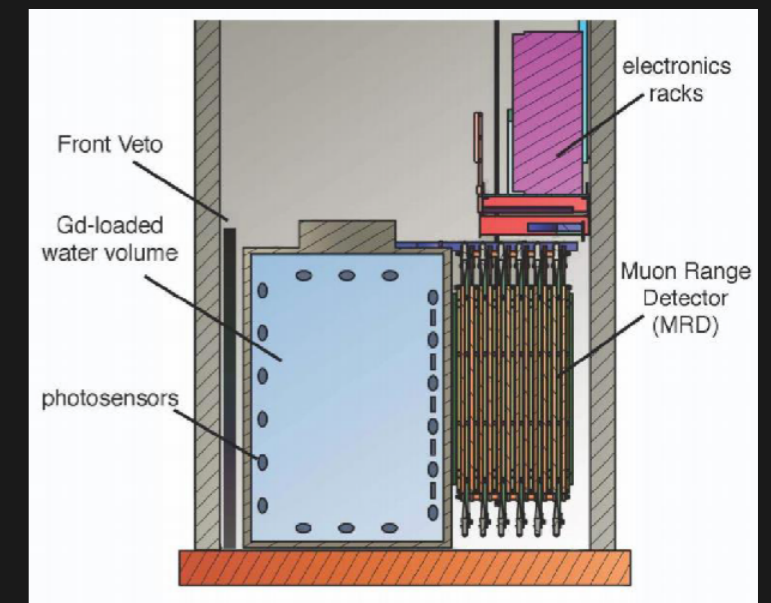
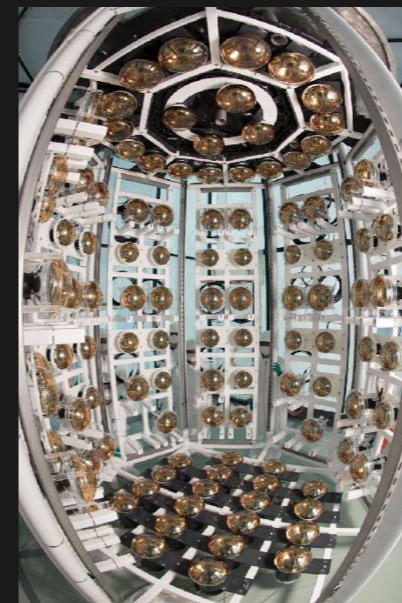
## ANNIE: The Accelerator Neutrino Neutron Interaction Experiment

- Cherenkov detector with Gd-loaded water
- **Neutrino interactions** with water
- **Neutron** production in neutrino interactions
- Demonstrate **new technologies**

### More details:

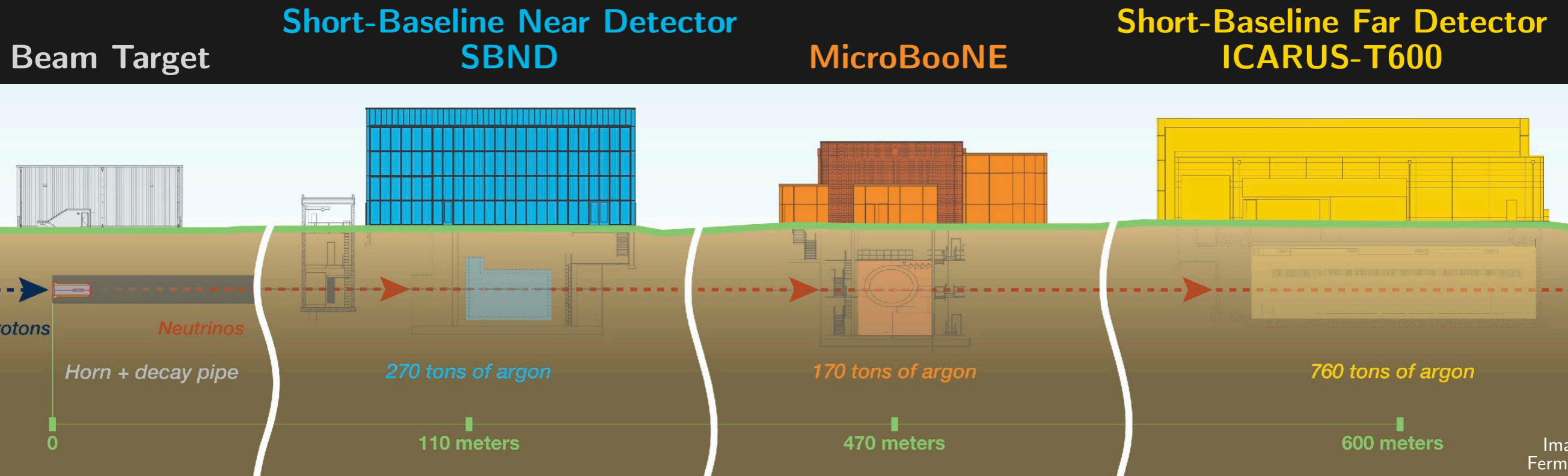
S. Gardiner's Cross Sections talk, Session 16

E. Tiras's ANNIE poster





# Short-Baseline Neutrino Program



## The SBN Program...

- Near/far oscillations with LArTPCs
- Details of neutrino-argon interactions
- Analysis tools development

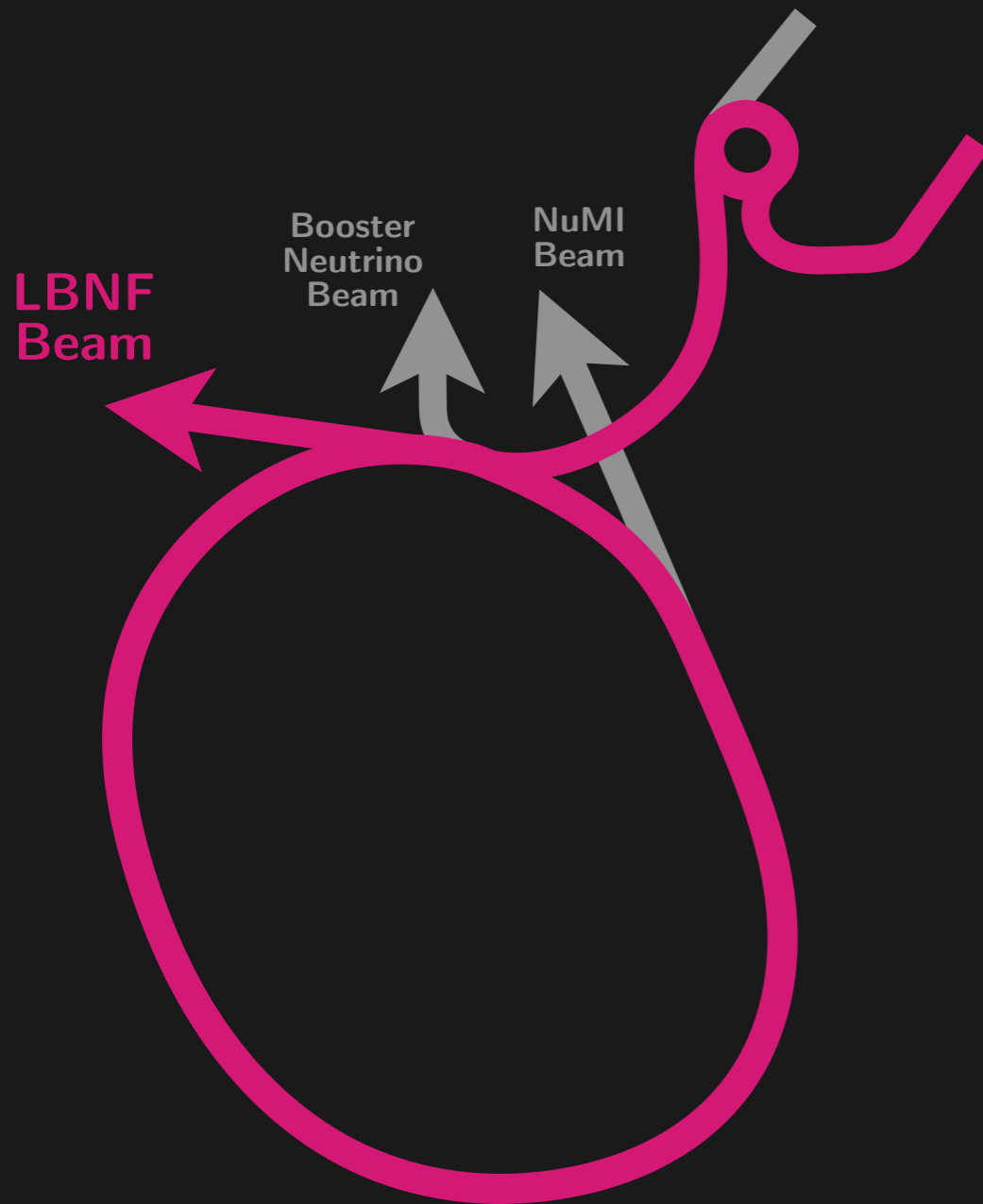
## Together with...

- MINERvA: Multi-GeV neutrino interactions
- MINOS+ & NOvA: Long-baseline oscillation measurements in  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\mu$  and  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$

Enable the next frontier  
in neutrino physics:

**DUNE** DEEP UNDERGROUND  
NEUTRINO EXPERIMENT

# Neutrino Program at Fermilab



## MINERvA

Precision neutrino interactions

## MINOS+

Pioneering long-baseline oscillations

## NOvA

Off-axis long-baseline  $\nu_e$  appearance

## SBN Program

Short-baseline oscillations and new physics

## DUNE

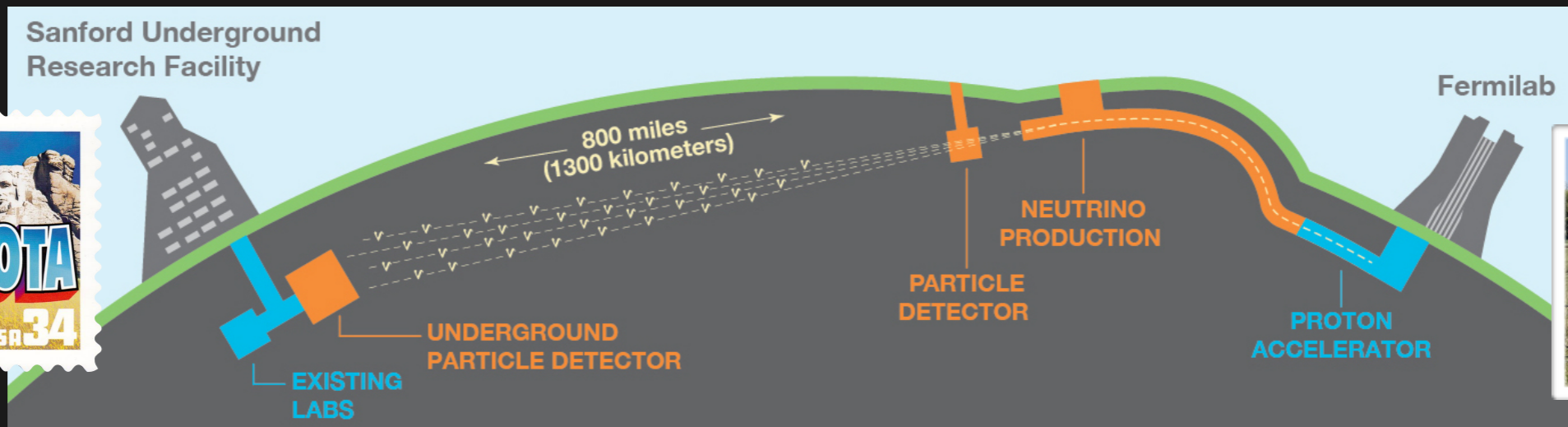
Precision long-baseline, CP violation

# DUNE DEEP UNDERGROUND NEUTRINO EXPERIMENT

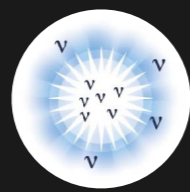
LBNF



© USPS



Unification of Forces



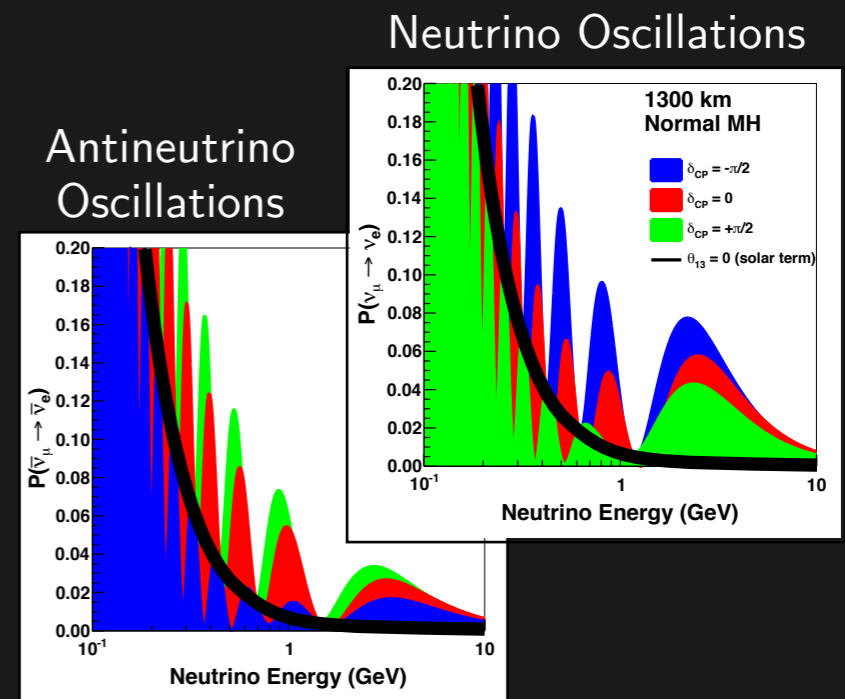
Origins of Matter



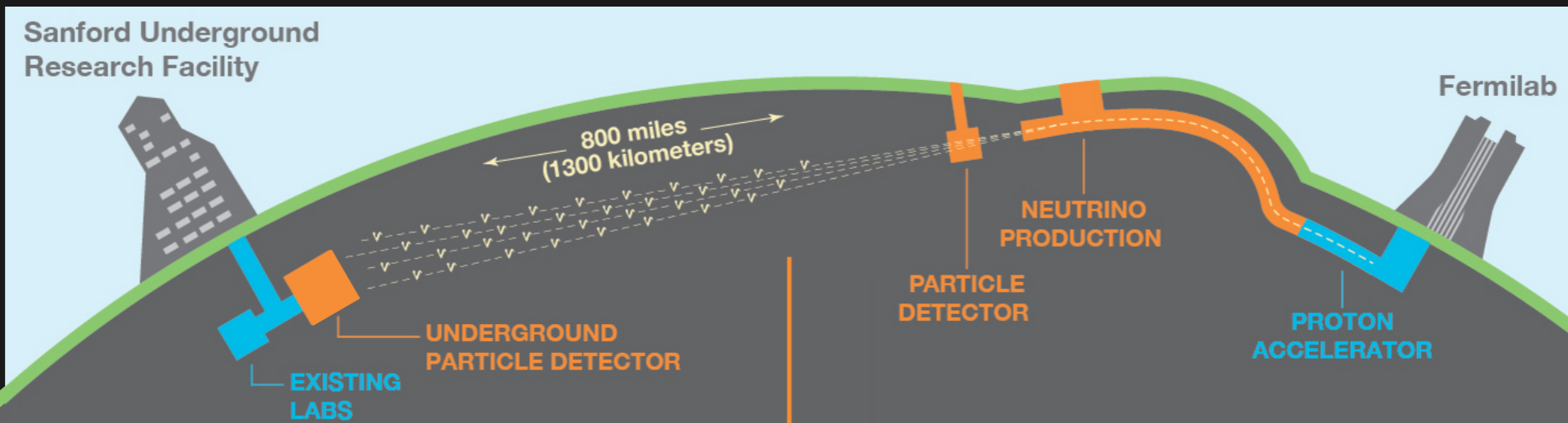
Supernovae & Black Holes

- **CP violation** and the matter-antimatter puzzle
- Searches for **proton decay**, related to unified theory of fundamental forces
- Detection of **supernova neutrinos**
- **Beyond the Standard Model** physics
  - Dark matter, new interactions, and more

Do neutrinos and antineutrinos oscillate differently?

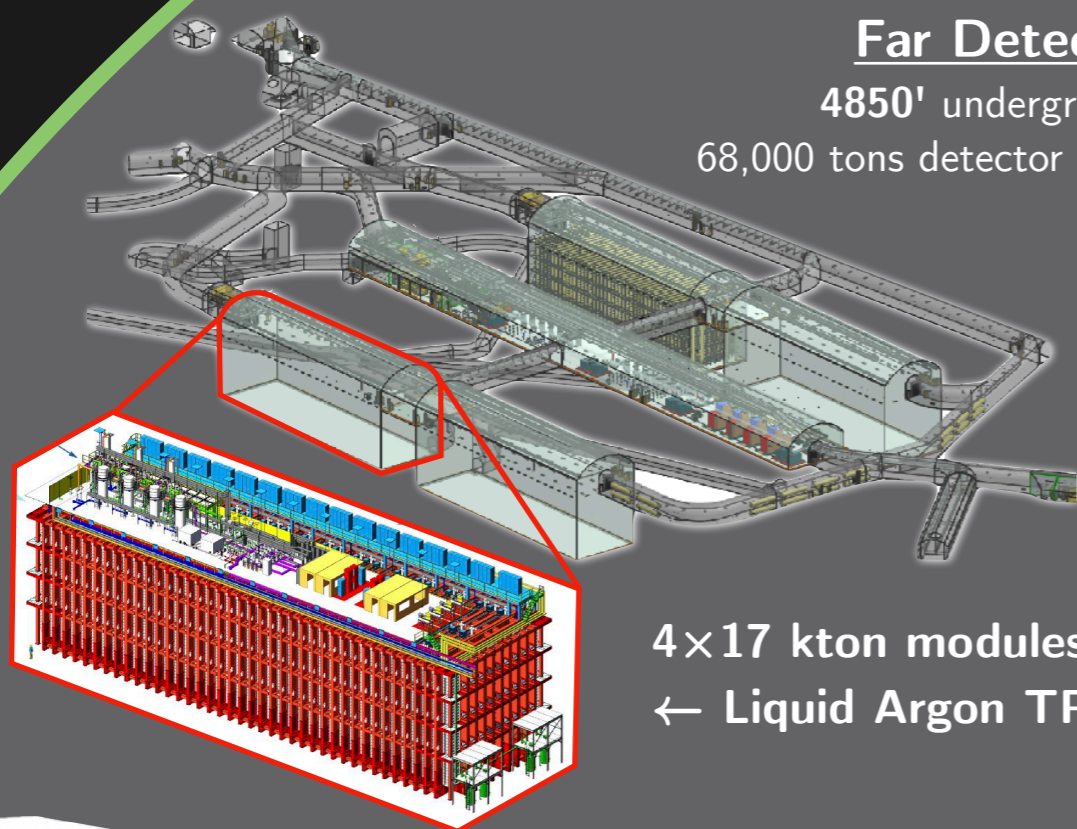


Can this help explain why our universe filled with matter instead of... no stuff at all?



## Far Detector

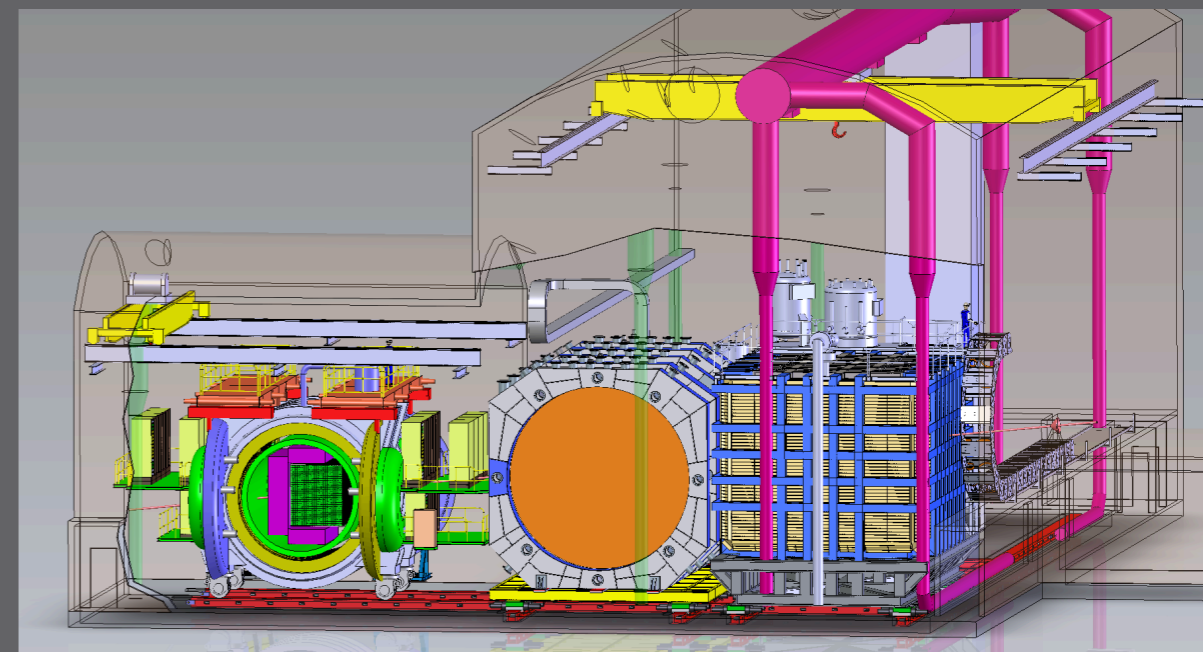
4850' underground  
68,000 tons detector mass



4 × 17 kton modules  
← Liquid Argon TPC

## Near Detector

On site at Fermilab  
Powerful pre-oscillation constraints



Multiple complementary  
detector technologies



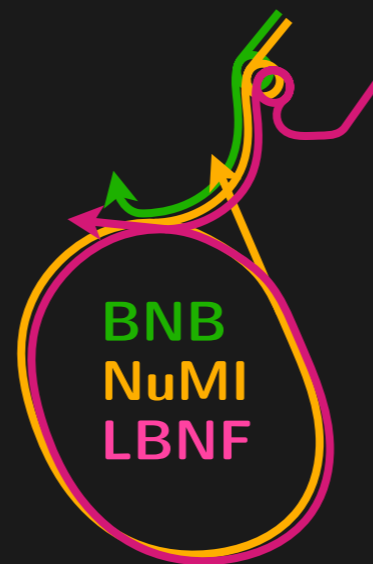
(for scale)

More details in T. Yang's DUNE talk, Session 16

# Summary



Neutrinos and their oscillations provide a window into the Standard Model and beyond



Fermilab's neutrino beams provide a world-class platform for studying neutrino interactions & oscillations



Fermilab's diverse experimental neutrino program continues to be at the forefront of the our most compelling physics questions

## Thank you!

and enjoy the User's Meeting Neutrino Sessions!