

Recent Demonstrations at \sim MeV energies in the MicroBooNE Experiment

Will Foreman (IIT)

on behalf of the MicroBooNE Collaboration

Short-Baseline Theory-Experiment Workshop

LANL / Santa Fe, NM

April 2-5, 2024

MeV-scale physics in LArTPCs

[Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys. 50 033001](#)

Topical Review resulting from Snowmass
(*Way more than can be fit into a 25 minute talk*)

IOP Publishing

Journal of Physics G: Nuclear and Particle Physics

J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys. 50 (2023) 033001 (60pp)

<https://doi.org/10.1088/1361-6471/acad17>

Topical Review

Low-energy physics in neutrino LArTPCs

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I Gil-Botella¹¹, A Himmel⁶, T Junk⁶, G Karagiorgi¹²,
M Kirby⁶, J Klein¹³, G Lehmann-Miotto¹⁴, I T Lepetic¹⁵,
S Li⁶, B R Littlejohn^{9,*}, M Mooney¹⁶, J Reichenbacher¹⁷,
P Sala¹⁸, H Schellman¹⁹, K Scholberg^{20,*}, M Sorel⁴,
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T Yang⁶ and J Zennaro⁶

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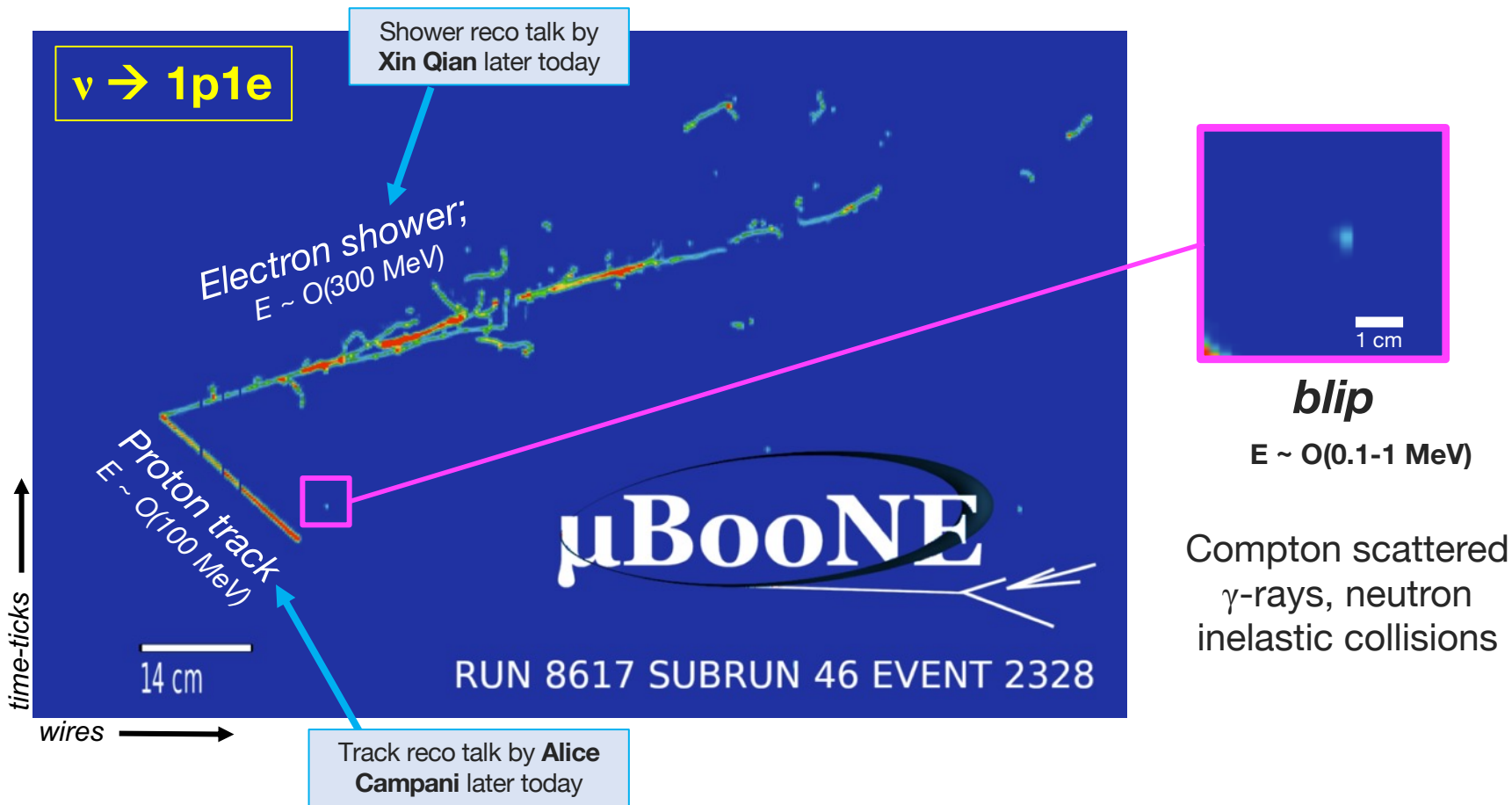
⁶ Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, Batavia, IL, United States of America

⁷ Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, Richland, WA, United States of America

⁸ University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN, United States of America

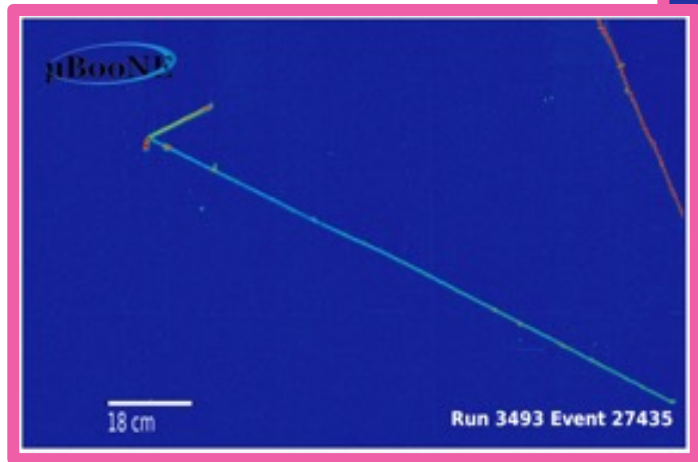
1. Introduction
2. LE physics and ν LArTPC physics goals
 - 2.1 LE signatures in high-energy neutrino events
 - 2.2 LE signatures in BSM searches
 - 2.3 LE neutrino LArTPC physics
3. Modeling challenges for LE LArTPC physics
 - 3.1 Neutrino-argon cross-section physics
 - 3.2 Particle propagation and interaction in liquid argon
4. Detector Parameters
5. Reconstruction
6. Data acquisition / processing considerations

A brief tour of energy scales...



Primary energy scales for accelerator ν 's

SBN neutrino signals
~100s of MeV to ~10 GeV



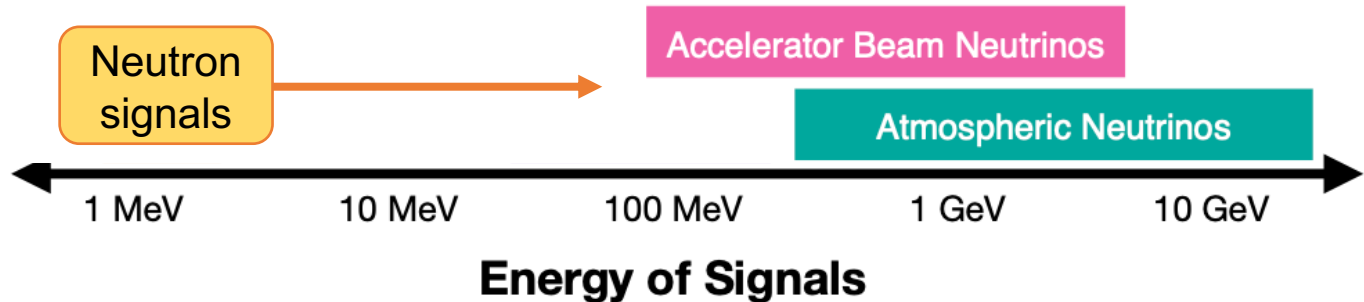
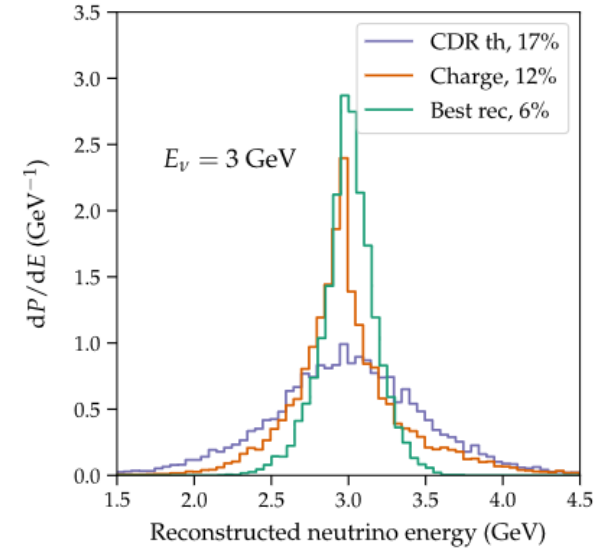
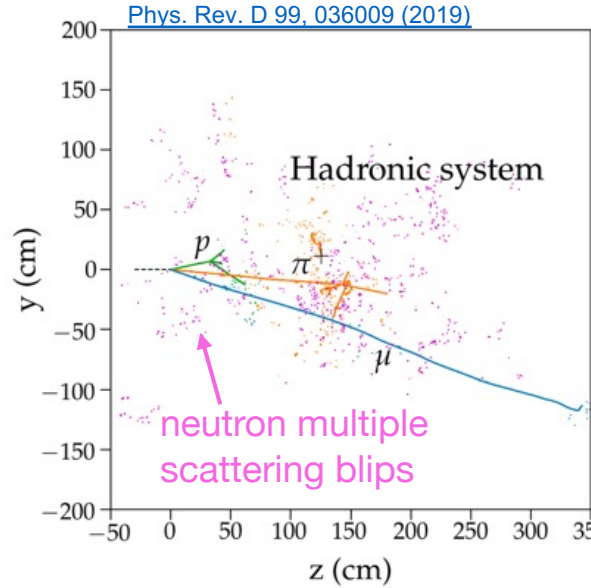
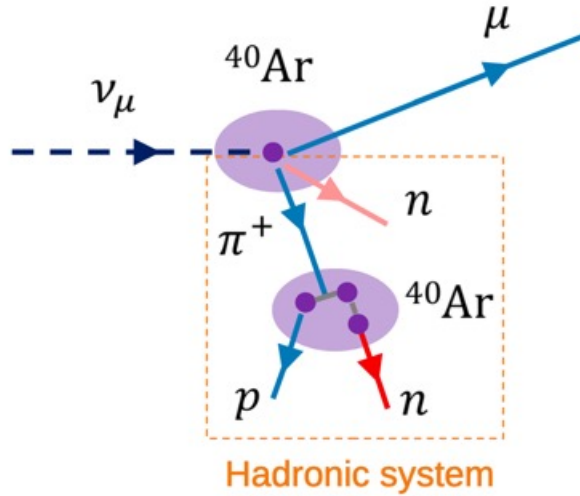
Accelerator Beam Neutrinos

Atmospheric Neutrinos

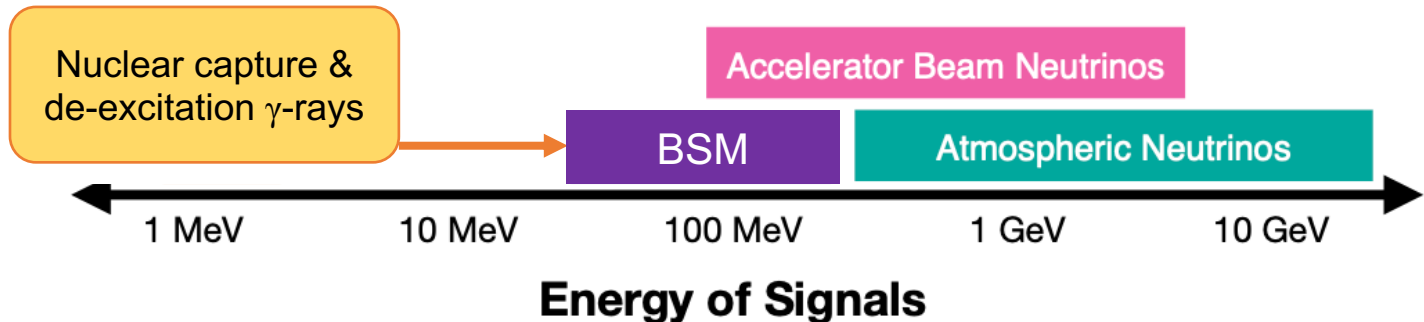
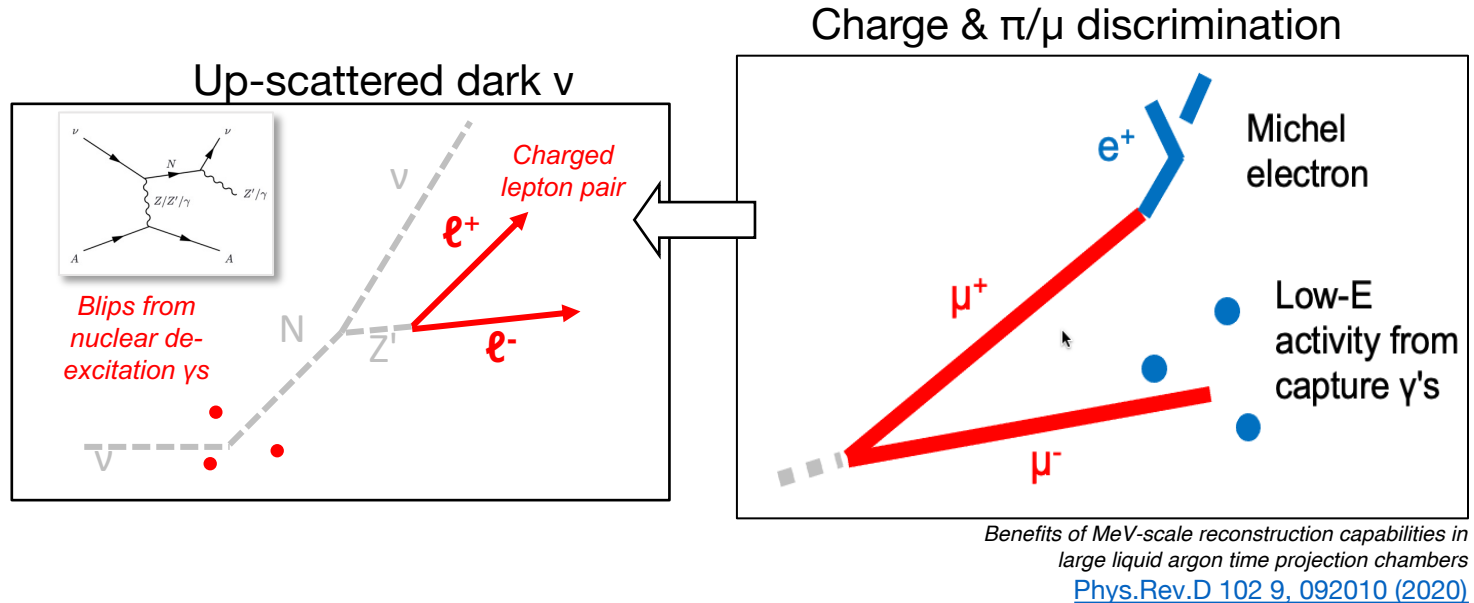


Energy of Signals

Neutron detection in GeV-scale ν events



Particle discrimination for BSM searches



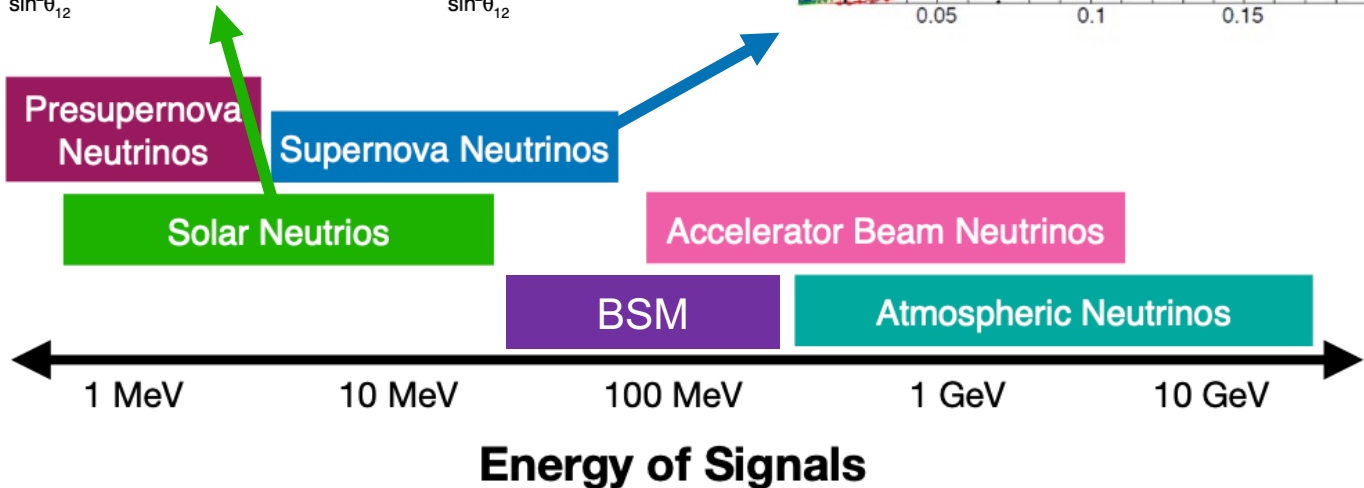
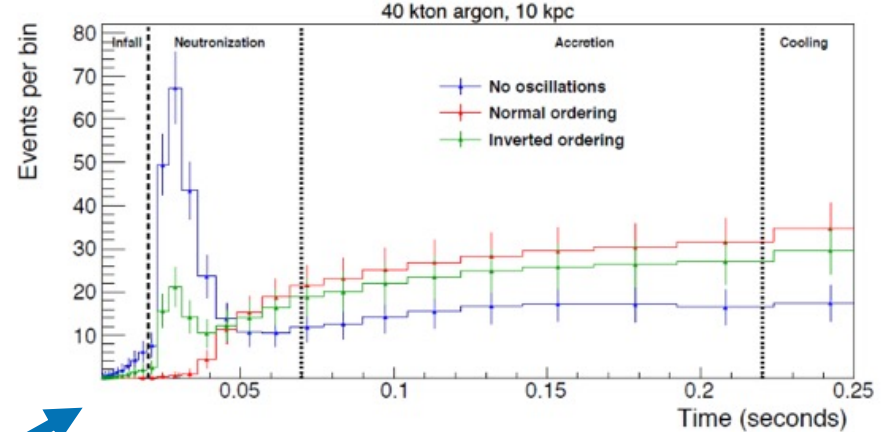
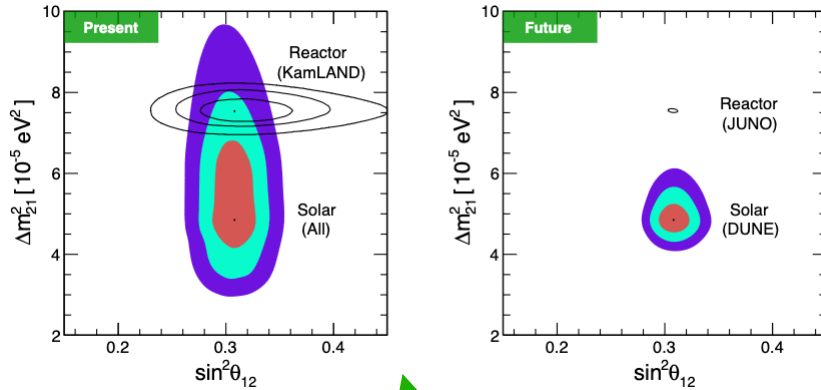
Astrophysical neutrinos (not SBN, but still cool)

θ_{12} , Δm_{12}^2 , and solar neutrino fluxes

[Phys. Rev. Lett. 123, 131803](#)

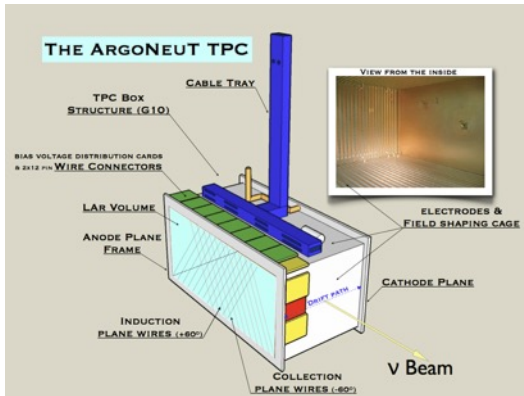
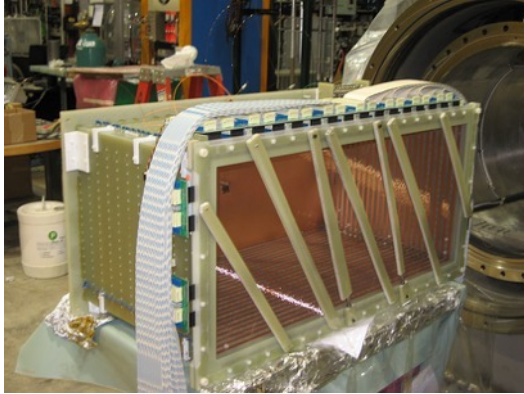
Mass ordering determination

[2020 J. Phys: Conf Ser 1342](#)



Demonstrations in ArgoNeuT

ArgoNeuT

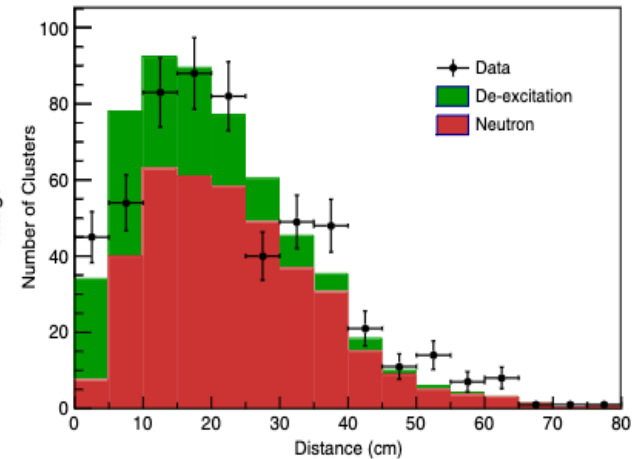
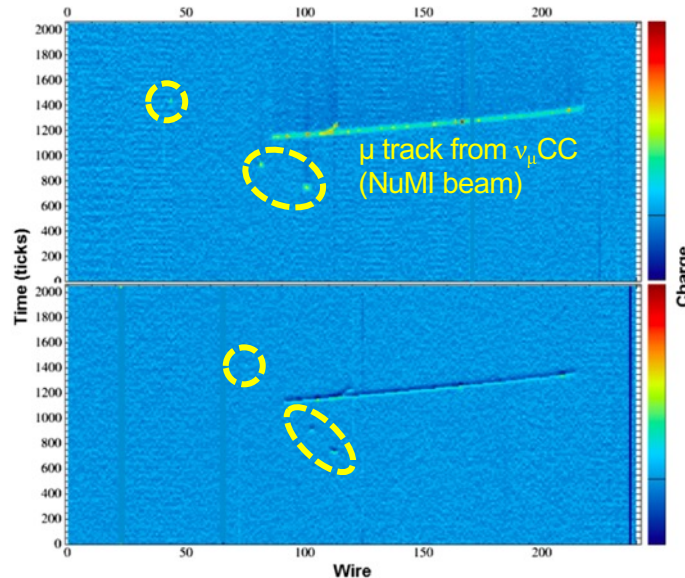


Demonstration of MeV-scale physics in liquid argon time projection chambers using ArgoNeuT

R. Acciarri,¹ C. Adams,² J. Asadi,³ B. Baller,¹ T. Bolton,⁴ C. Bromberg,⁵ F. Cavanna,¹ E. Church,⁶ D. Edmunds,⁵ A. Ereditato,⁷ S. Farooq,⁴ A. Ferrari,⁸ R. S. Fitzpatrick,⁹ B. Fleming,² A. Hackenburg,² G. Horton-Smith,⁴ C. James,¹ K. Lang,¹⁰ M. Lantz,¹¹ I. Lepetic,^{12,*} B. R. Littlejohn,^{12,†} X. Luo,² R. Mehdiyev,¹⁰ B. Page,⁵ O. Palamara,¹ B. Rebel,¹ P. R. Sala,¹³ G. Scanavini,² A. Schukraft,¹ G. Smirnov,⁸ M. Soderberg,¹⁴ J. Spitz,⁹ A. M. Szelc,¹⁵ M. Weber,⁷ W. Wu,¹ T. Yang,¹ and G. P. Zeller¹

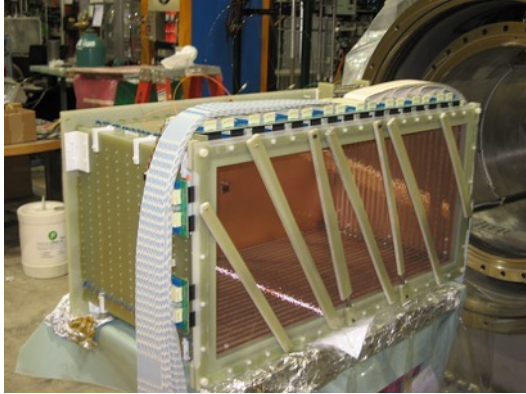
(ArgoNeuT Collaboration)

[Phys. Rev. D 99, 012002 \(2019\)](#)



Demonstrations in ArgoNeuT

ArgoNeuT

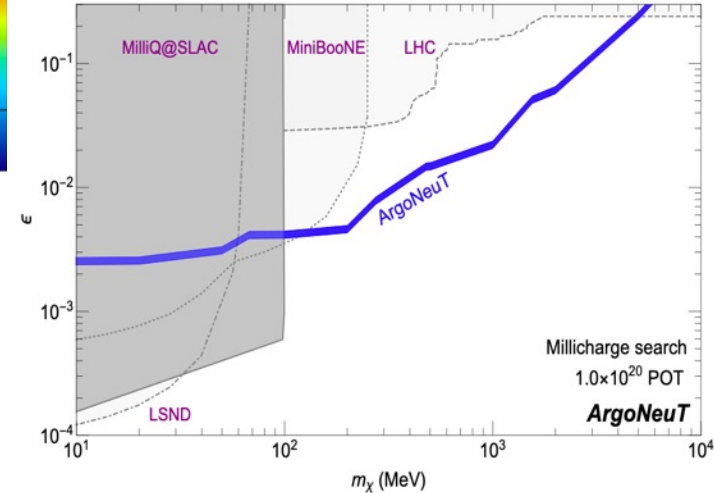
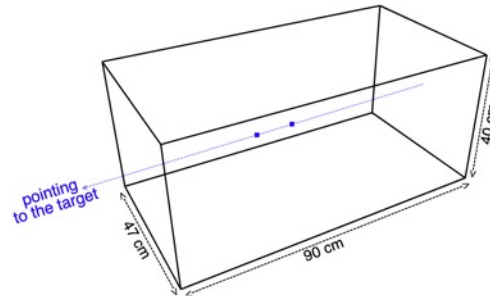
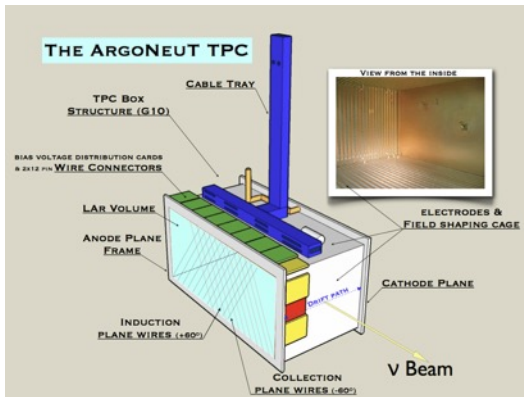
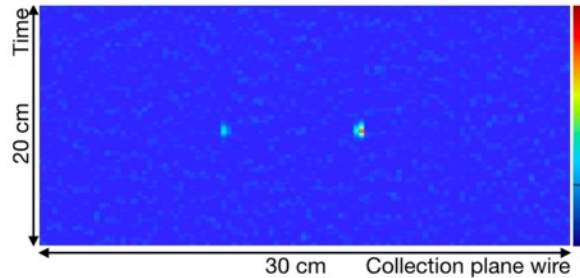


Improved Limits on Millicharged Particles Using the ArgoNeuT Experiment at Fermilab

R. Acciarri,¹ C. Adams,² J. Asaadi,³ B. Baller,¹ T. Bolton,⁴ C. Bromberg,⁵ F. Cavanna,¹ D. Edmunds,⁵ R. S. Fitzpatrick,⁶
 B. Fleming,⁷ R. Harnik,¹ C. James,¹ I. Lepetic,^{8,*} B. R. Littlejohn,⁸ Z. Liu,⁹ X. Luo,¹⁰ O. Palamara,^{1,†}
 G. Scanavini,⁷ M. Soderberg,¹¹ J. Spitz,⁶ A. M. Szelc,¹² W. Wu,¹ and T. Yang¹

(ArgoNeuT Collaboration)

[Phys Rev Lett. 124, 131801 \(2020\)](#)



Demonstrations in ArgoNeuT

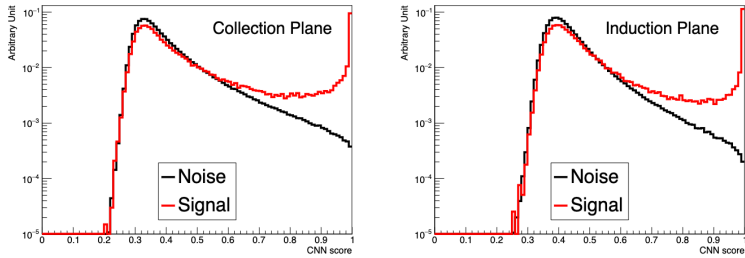
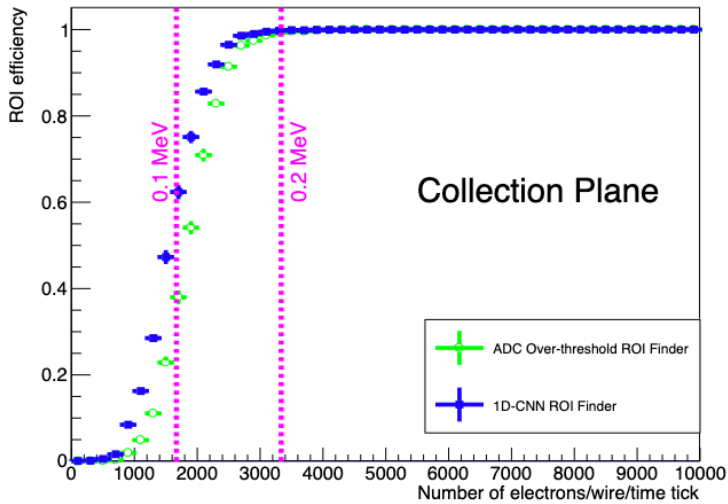


Figure 7. 1D-CNN scores for simulated noise and signal waveforms in the induction plane (right) and the collection plane (left).



CNN-based wire ROI finder [JINST 17 \(2022\) P01018](#)

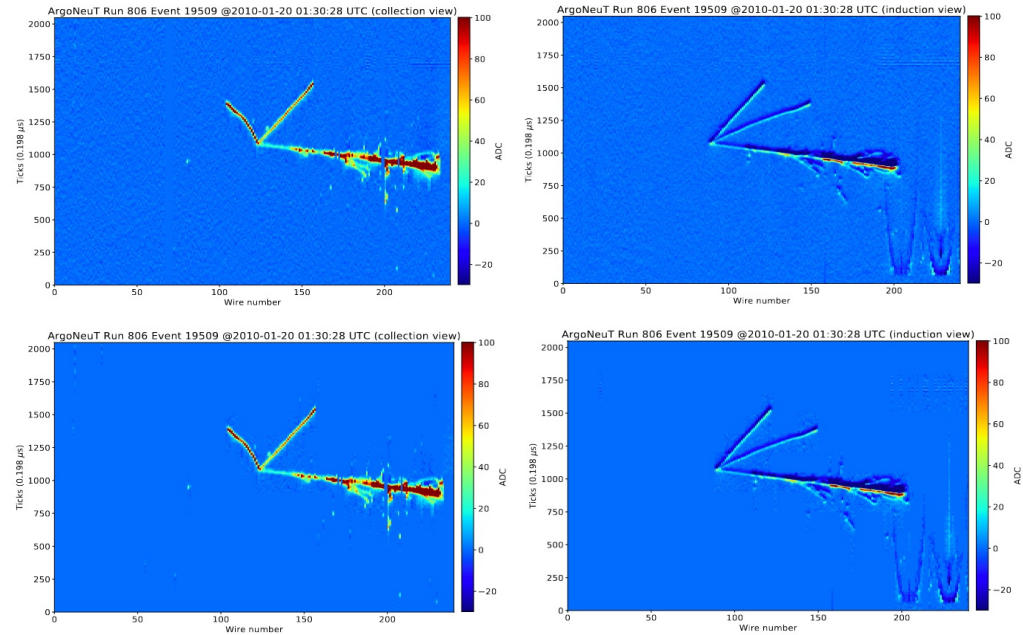
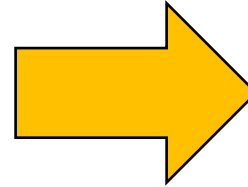


Figure 8. Event display after applying the 1D-CNN ROI finder for the event shown in Figure 1 and Figure 2.

Remaining Challenges

- Successful demonstrations in a small LArTPC...
but can we do the same in large ones?
 - Lowering thresholds
 - Precise energy reconstruction
 - Controlling low-energy backgrounds

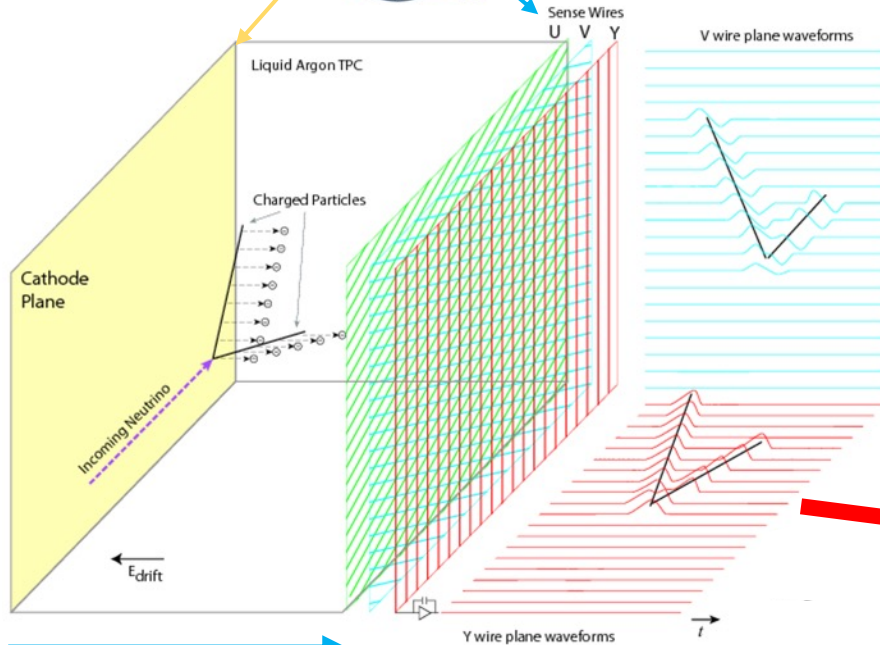
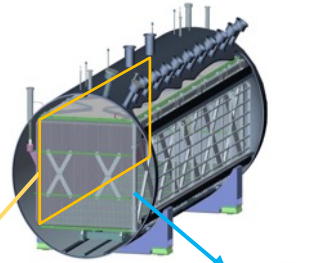


*Critical for maximizing
SBN's and DUNE's
physics potential*

**Recent results from
MicroBooNE address all three!**

Signal readout and processing

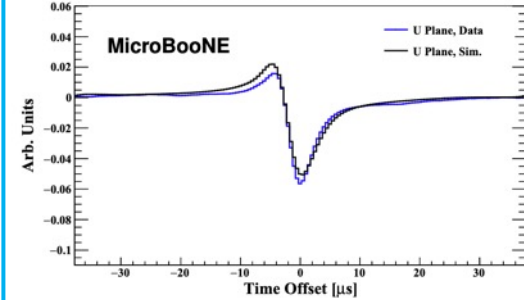
SEE [Erin's talk](#)
from Tues



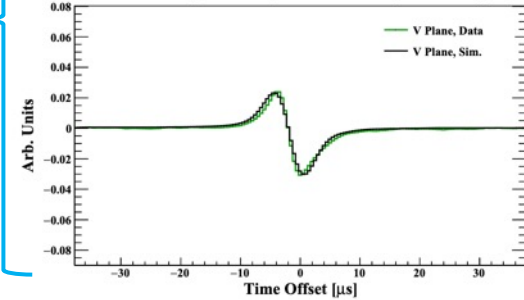
Drift ~ 2.3 ms

JINST 13 P07007 (2018)

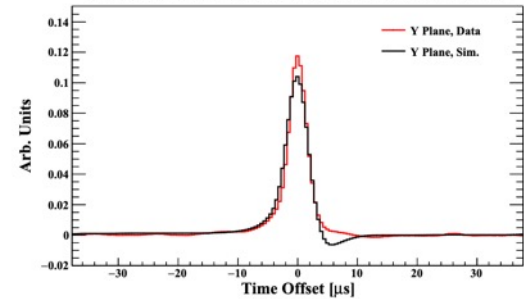
Data/Sim. Response Comparison: U Plane, Normal Region



Data/Sim. Response Comparison: V Plane, Normal Region



Data/Sim. Response Comparison: Y Plane, Normal Region



Signal readout and processing

Raw wire signals

WireCell toolkit

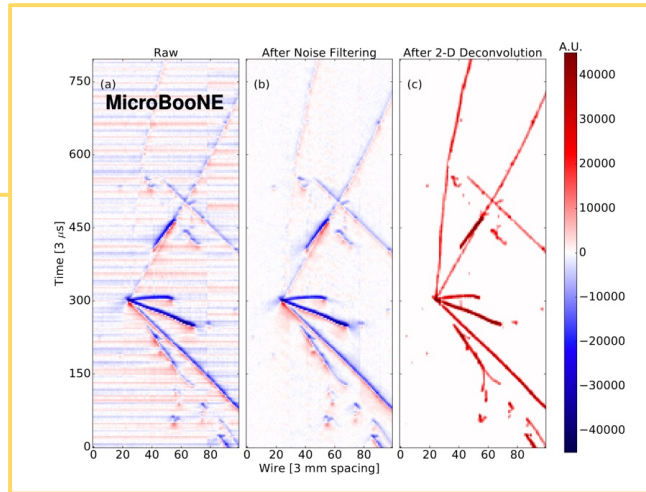
Filtered signal ROIs

GausHitFinder

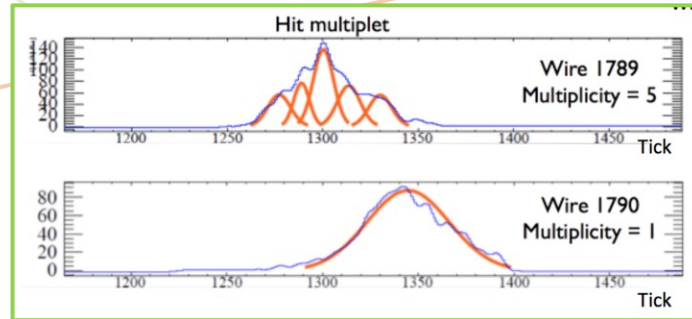
Hits (*recob::Hit*)

Pandora 3D track reconstruction

Tracks (*recob::Tracks*)

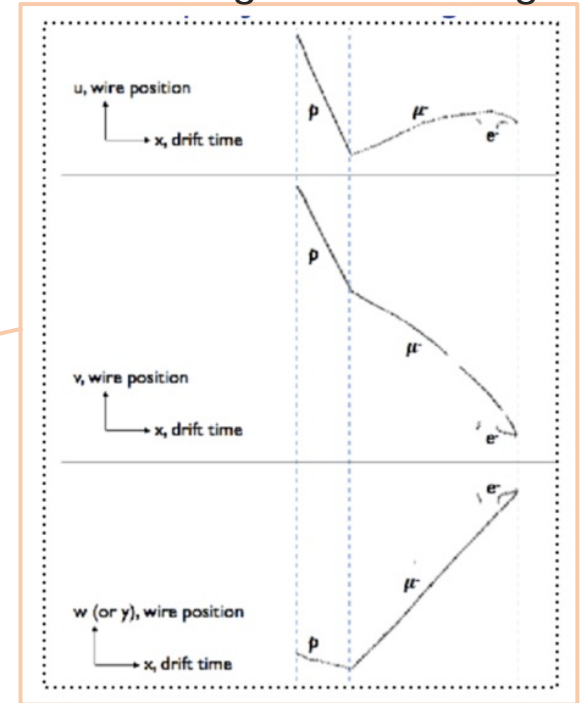


[JINST 13 P07007 \(2018\)](#)



[JINST 12 P07010 \(2017\)](#)

Long/extended patterns =
less ambiguous matching



Signal readout and processing

Raw wire signals



WireCell toolkit



Filtered signal ROIs



GausHitFinder



Hits (*recob::Hit*)



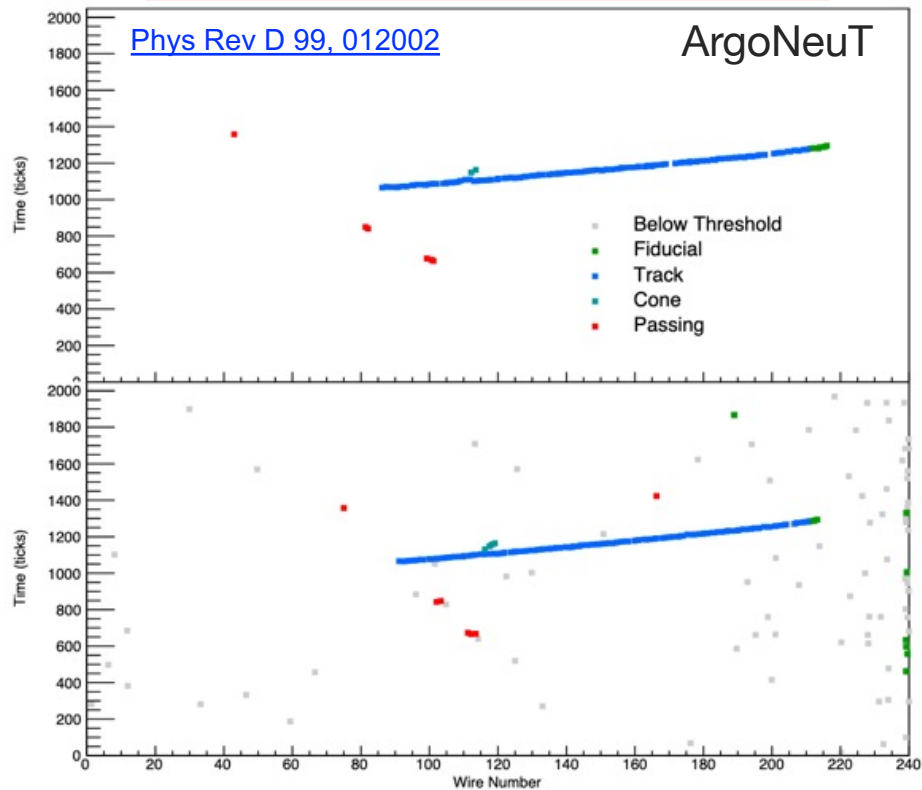
Pandora 3D track reconstruction



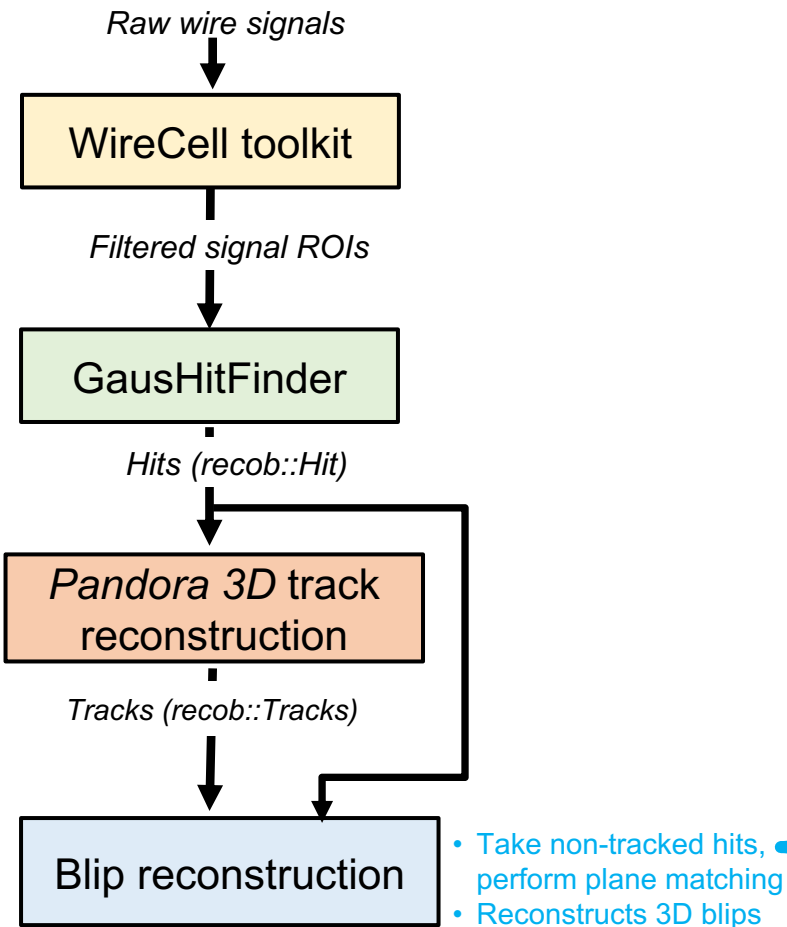
Tracks (*recob::Tracks*)



For blips, avoiding false matches becomes a challenge



Signal readout and processing



[MICROBOONE-NOTE-1076-PUB \(2020\)](#)

MeV-scale Physics in MicroBooNE

MICROBOONE-NOTE 1076-PUB

The MicroBooNE Collaboration

[MICROBOONE-NOTE-1050-PUB \(2018\)](#)

Study of Reconstructed ^{39}Ar Beta Decays at the MicroBooNE Detector

The MicroBooNE Collaboration*

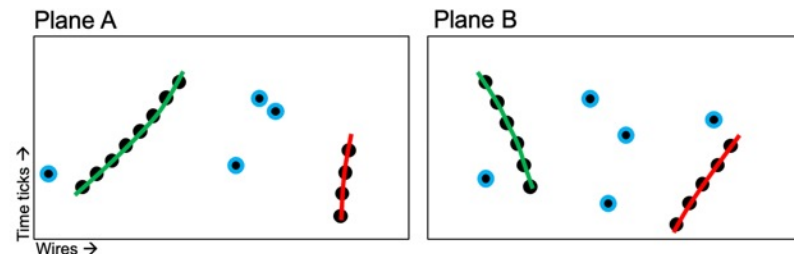
Blip Reconstruction

- Techniques pioneered in ArgoNeuT have been further developed in MicroBooNE
- Dedicated algorithm class has since been written encompassing these tools → *flexible integration into other reco & analysis workflows*
 - Millicharged particle searches
 - ν NC1p selection background mitigation
 - Neutron tagging
 - Radiogenic calibrations

Blip reconstruction in a nut-shell

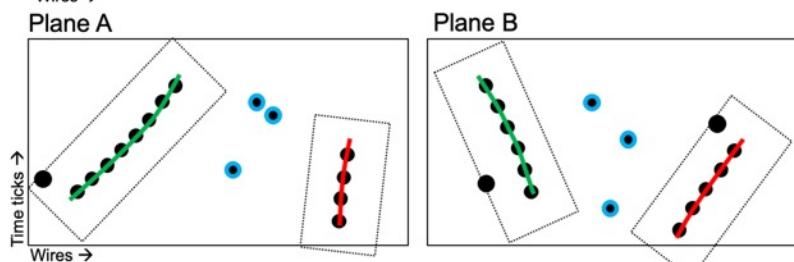
1. Isolated hits identification

Hits *within* tracks > configurable length are vetoed; optional 2D masking in regions surrounding long tracks



2. Hit clustering per plane

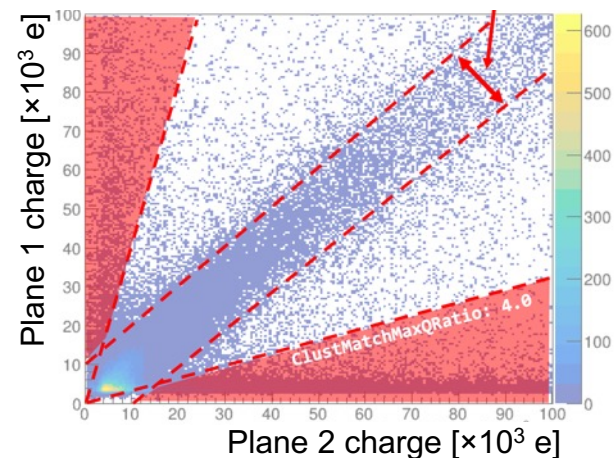
Hit width ('RMS') defines proximity threshold for clustering in wire-time space



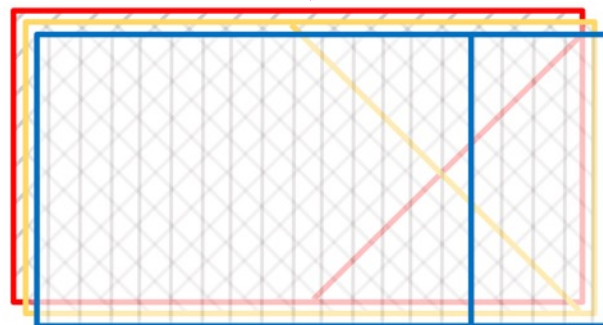
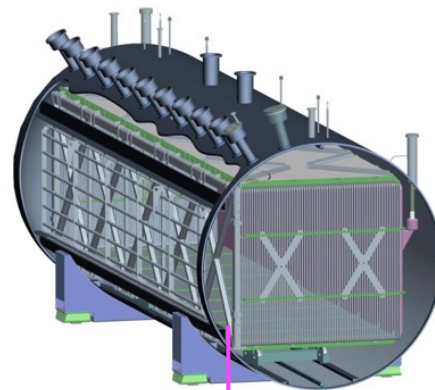
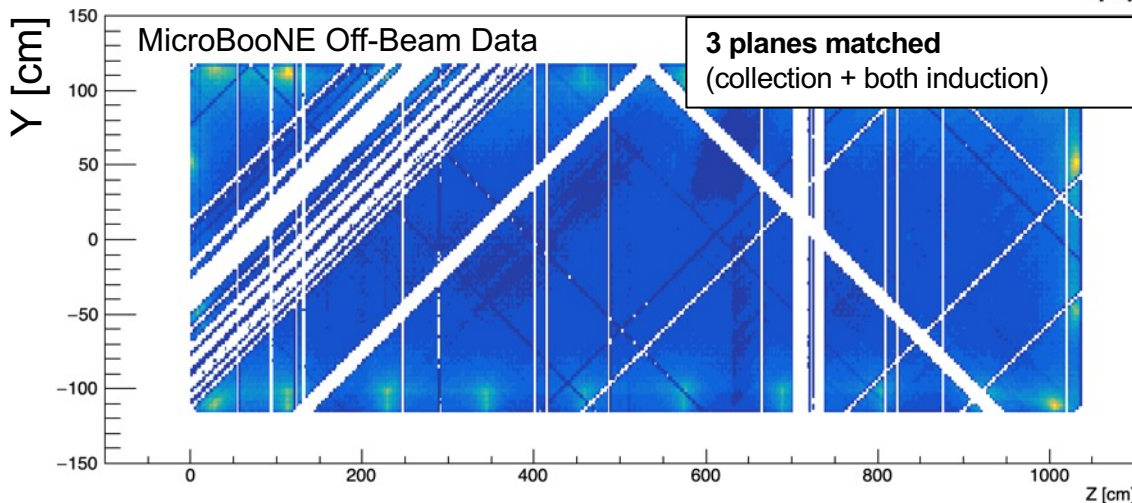
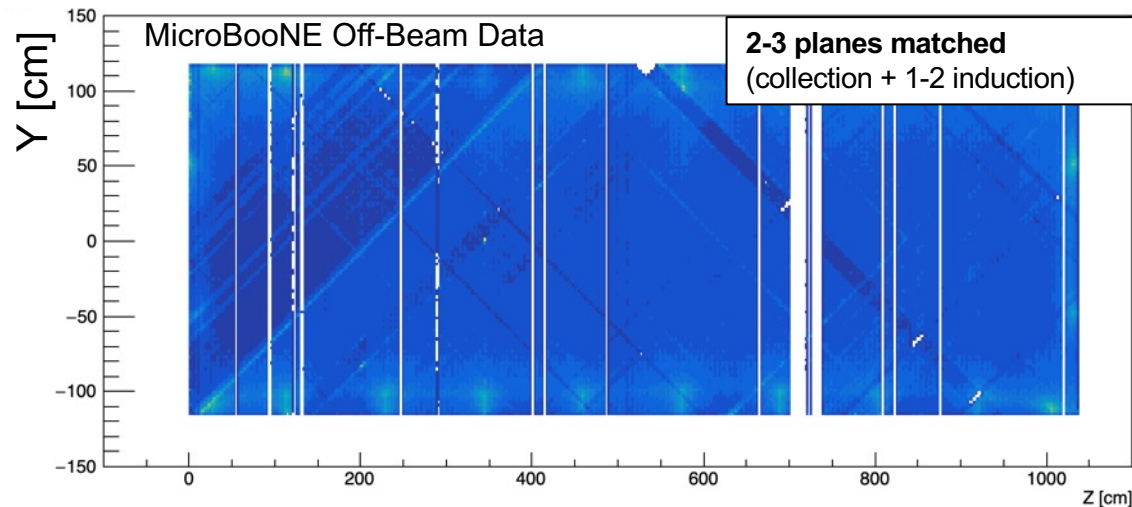
3. Cluster plane-matching

4. Crossing-wire requirement

5. Relative charge comparison



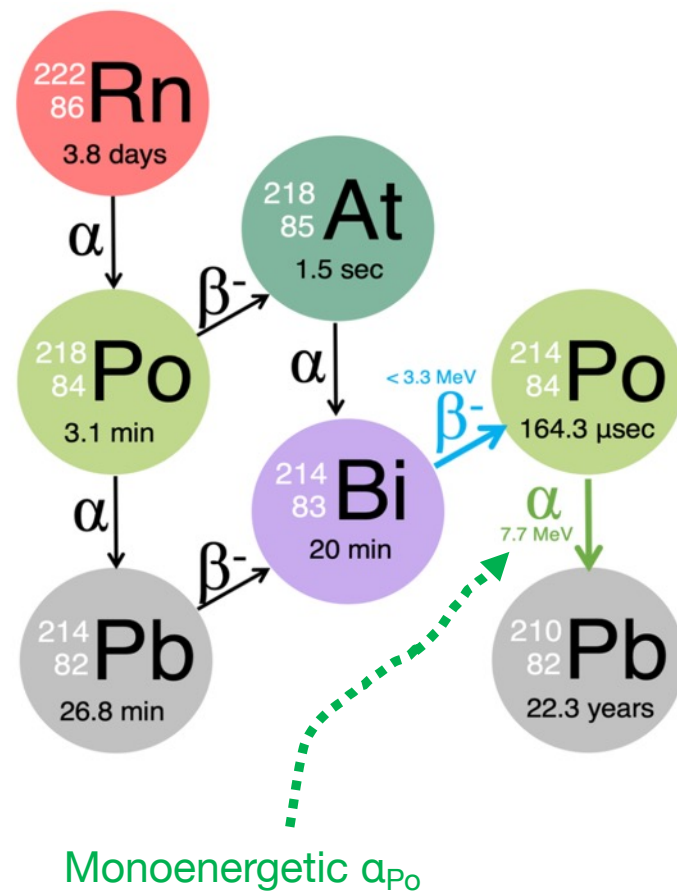
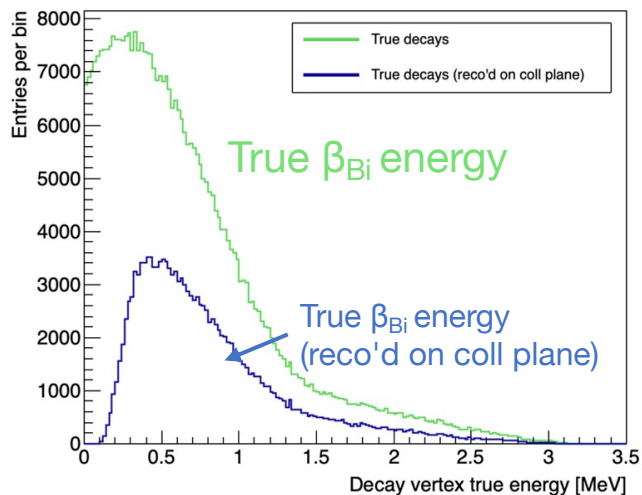
Ambient blips in MicroBooNE data



- U-plane (induction)
- V-plane (induction)
- Y-plane (collection)

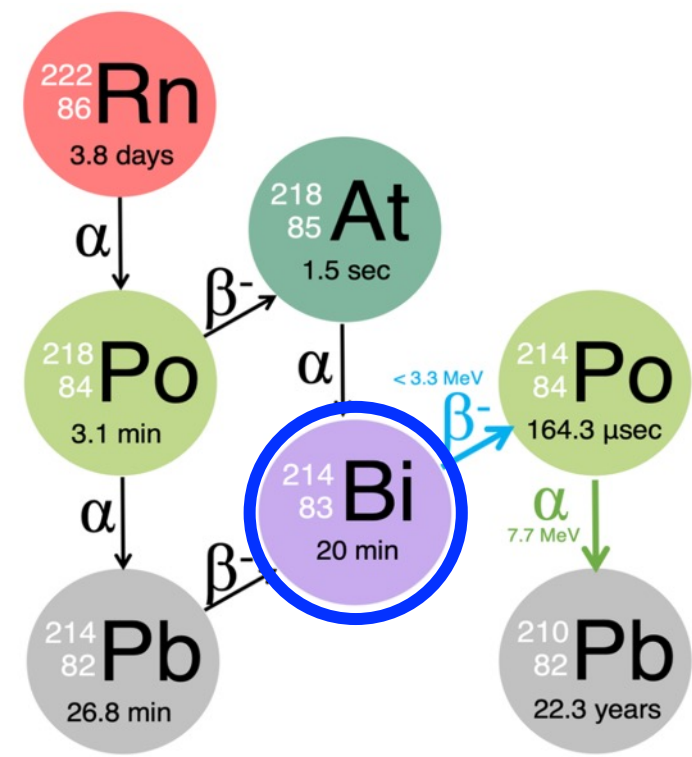
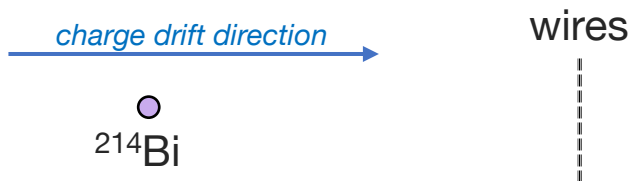
Radon studies in MicroBooNE

- During its **2021 R&D run**, MicroBooNE explored radon's calibration potential by doping Rn into the active volume of LAr
 - ^{222}Rn has a 3.8 day half-life**
→ mixes throughout active volume
 - ^{214}Po has a short 164 μs half-life**
→ can tag the associated ^{214}Bi β



$^{214}\text{Bi} \rightarrow ^{214}\text{Po}$ Decay Tagging

$t < 0$

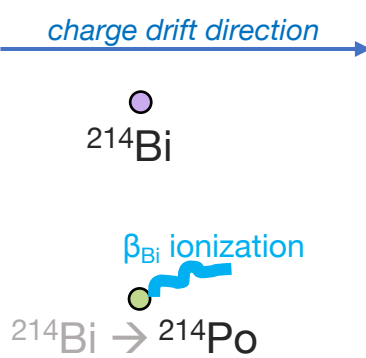


$^{214}\text{Bi} \rightarrow ^{214}\text{Po}$ Decay Tagging

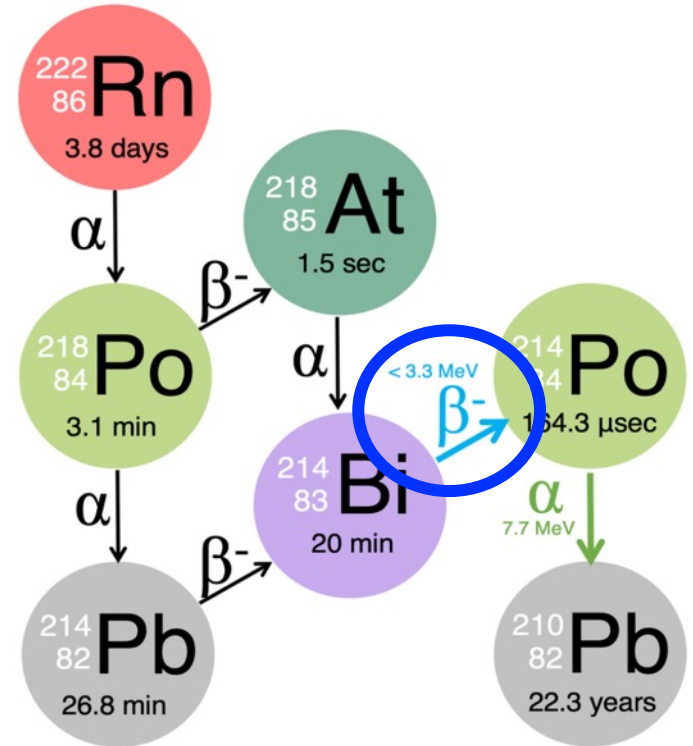
$t < 0$



$t = 0$



wires



$^{214}\text{Bi} \rightarrow ^{214}\text{Po}$ Decay Tagging

$t < 0$

^{214}Bi

charge drift direction \rightarrow

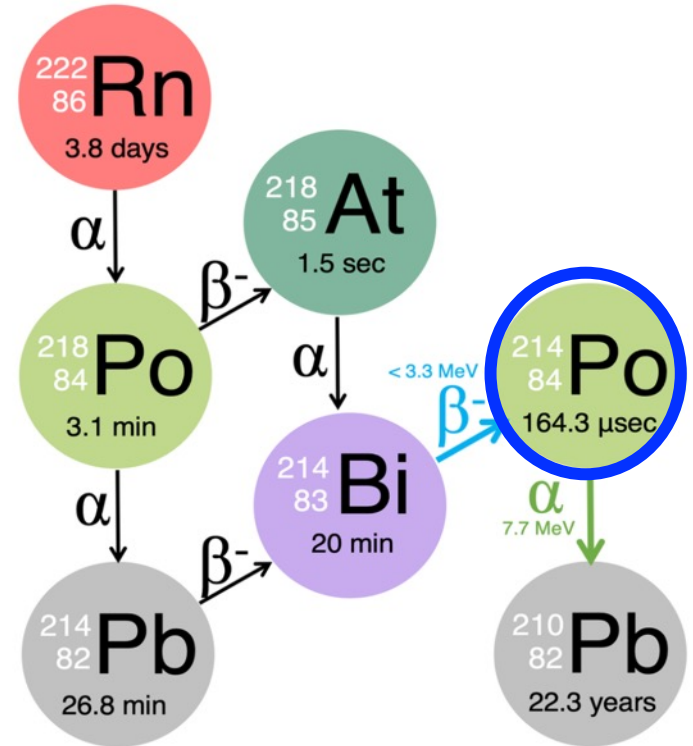
$t = 0$

β_{Bi} ionization
 $^{214}\text{Bi} \rightarrow ^{214}\text{Po}$

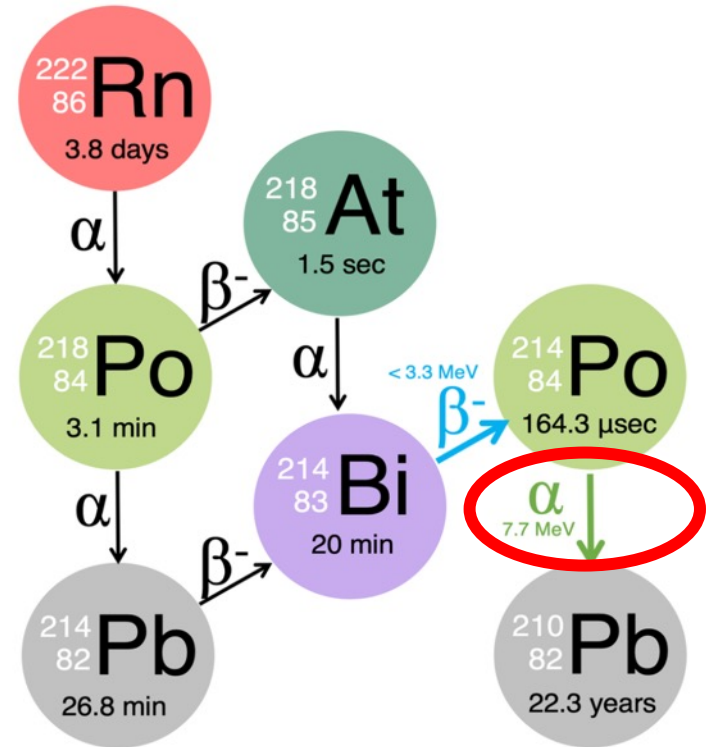
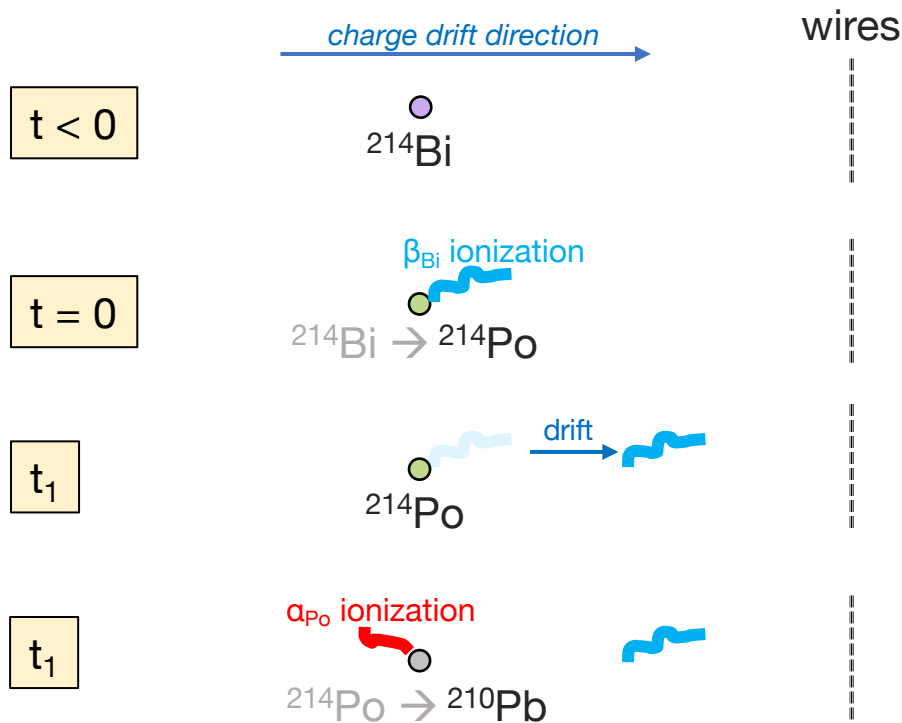
t_1

^{214}Po drift \rightarrow

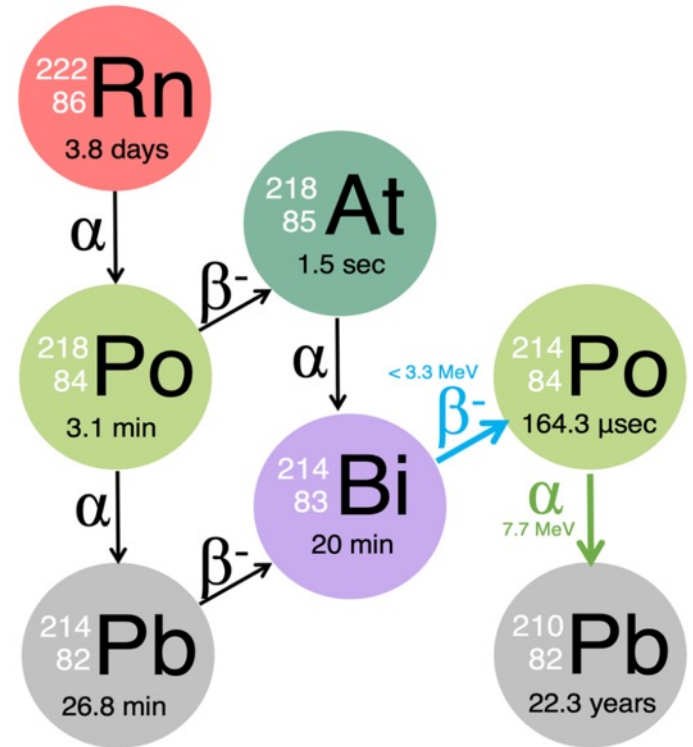
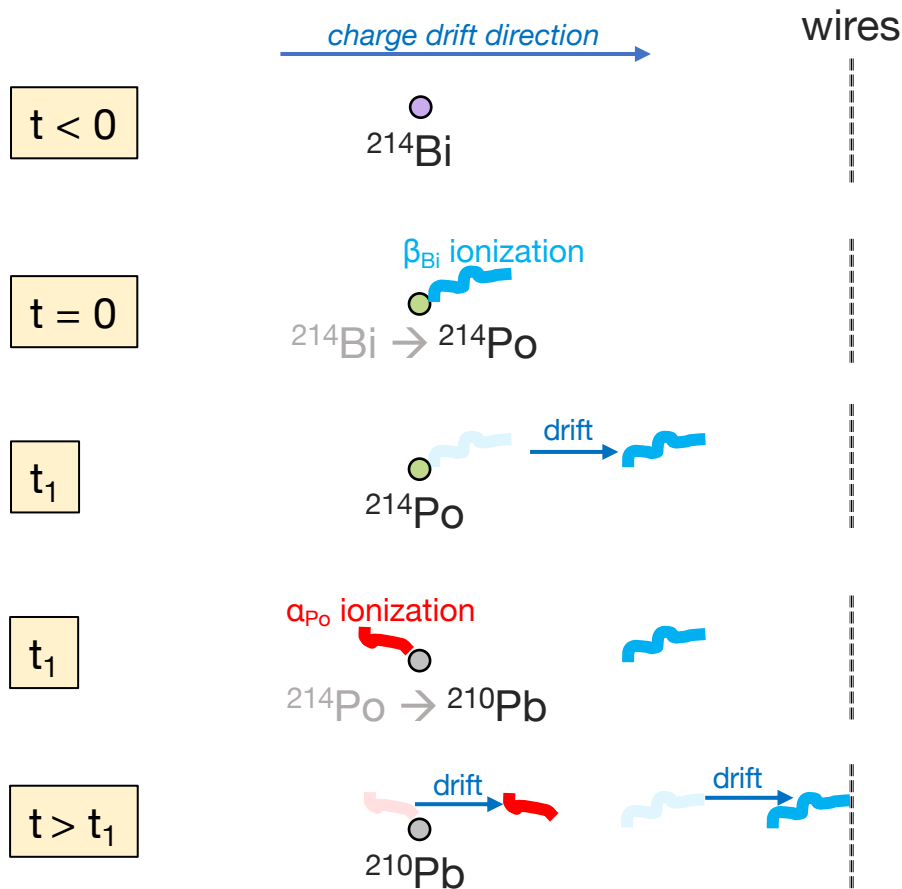
wires



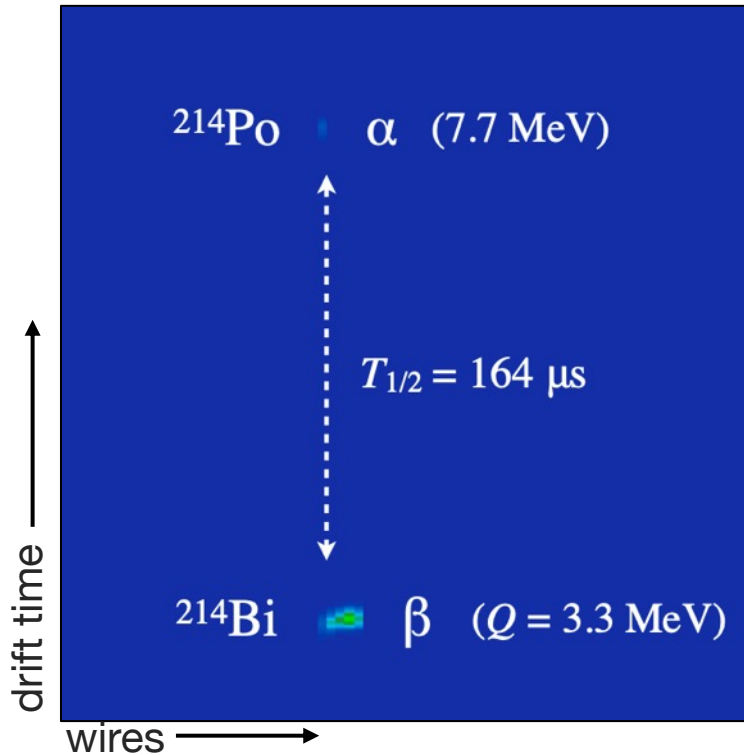
$^{214}\text{Bi} \rightarrow ^{214}\text{Po}$ Decay Tagging



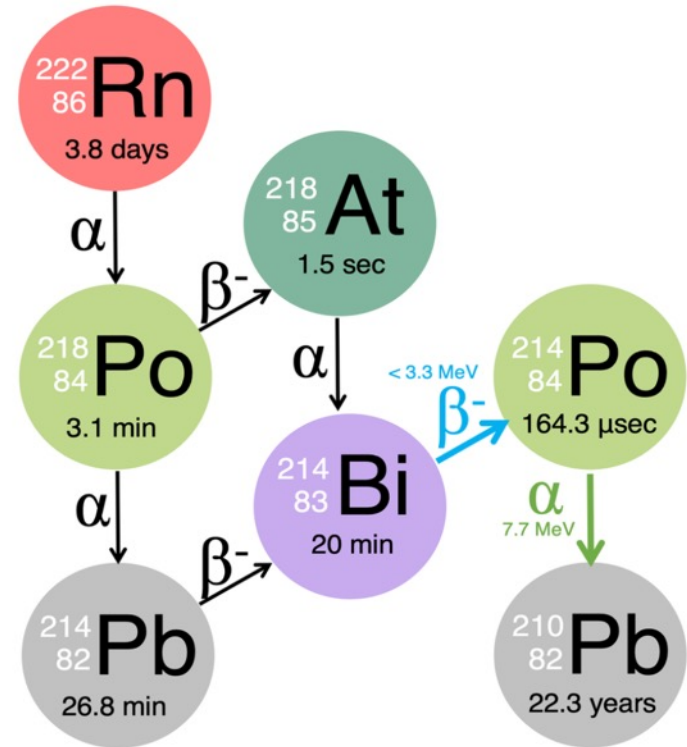
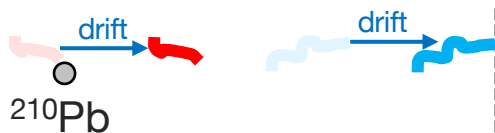
$^{214}\text{Bi} \rightarrow ^{214}\text{Po}$ Decay Tagging



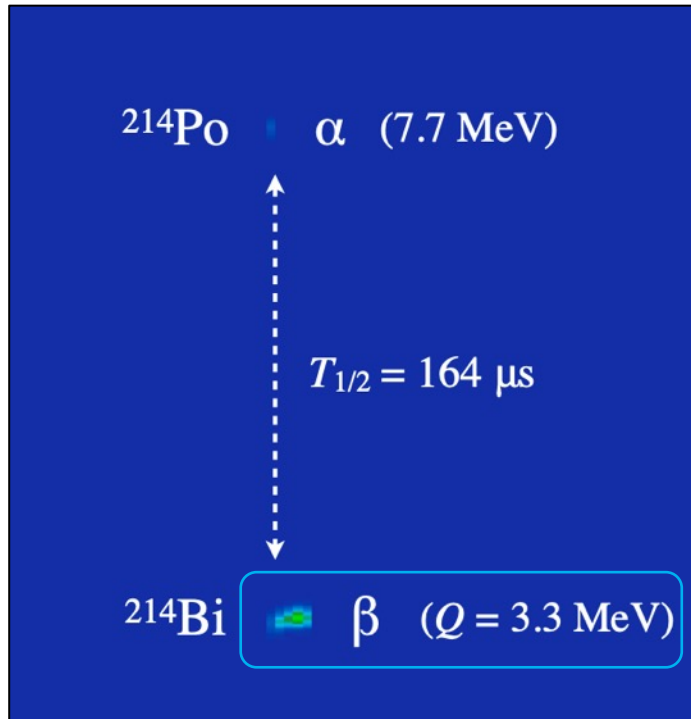
$^{214}\text{Bi} \rightarrow ^{214}\text{Po}$ Decay Tagging



$t > t_1$



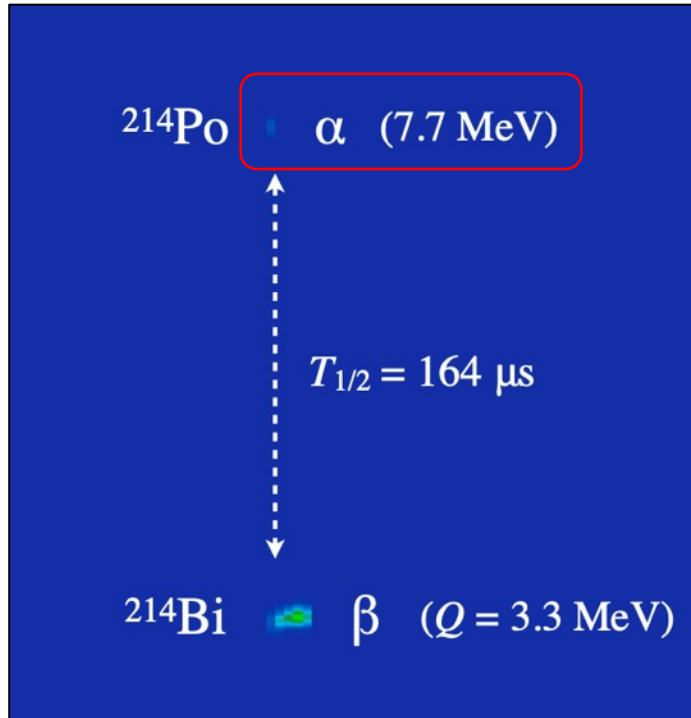
$^{214}\text{Bi} \rightarrow ^{214}\text{Po}$ Decay Tagging



Electron

$dE/dx \sim 2 \text{ MeV/cm}$
Mean $\sim 15,000 e^-$
up to $\sim 80,000 e^-$

$^{214}\text{Bi} \rightarrow ^{214}\text{Po}$ Decay Tagging



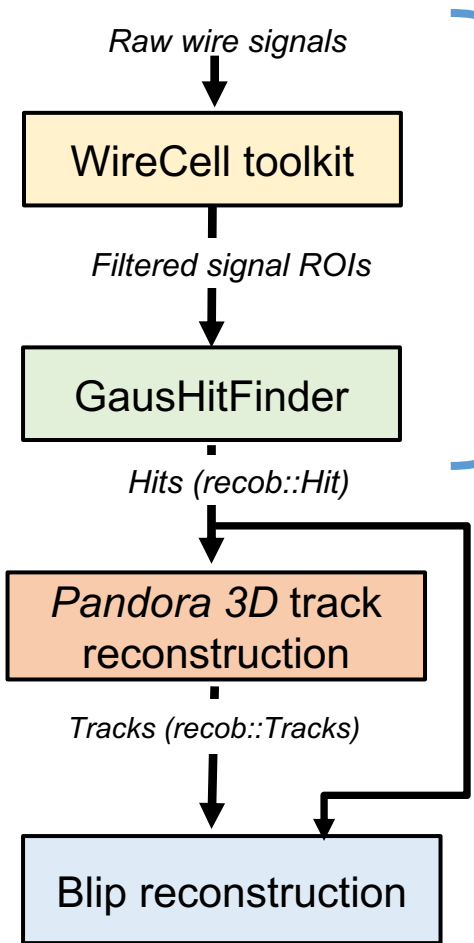
Heavily ionizing alpha
 $dE/dx \sim O(100) \text{ MeV/cm}$



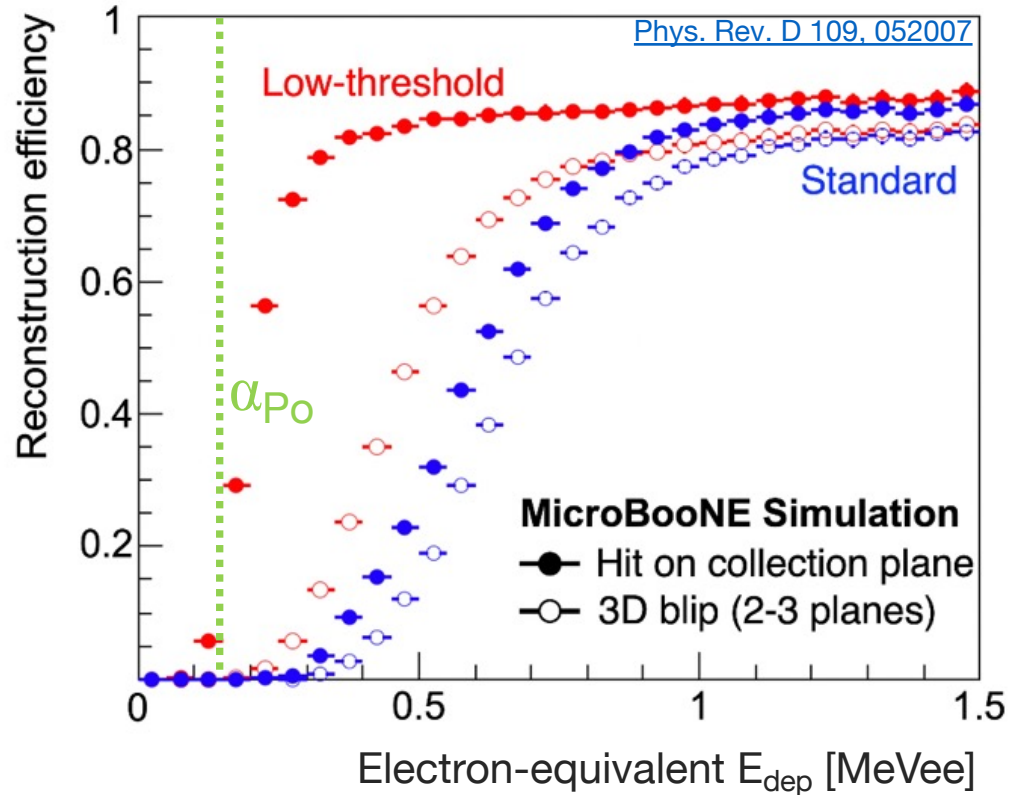
Extreme "charge quenching"
(e^- - Ar^+ recombination + collisional effects)
 \rightarrow *Signal is fainter, $< \sim 4000 e^-$*

7.7 MeV α deposits only as much charge as a **$\sim 150\text{-}200 \text{ keV electron!}$**
(*'Electron-equivalent energy' = MeVee, KeVee*)

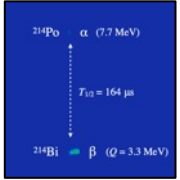
Lowering the energy thresholds

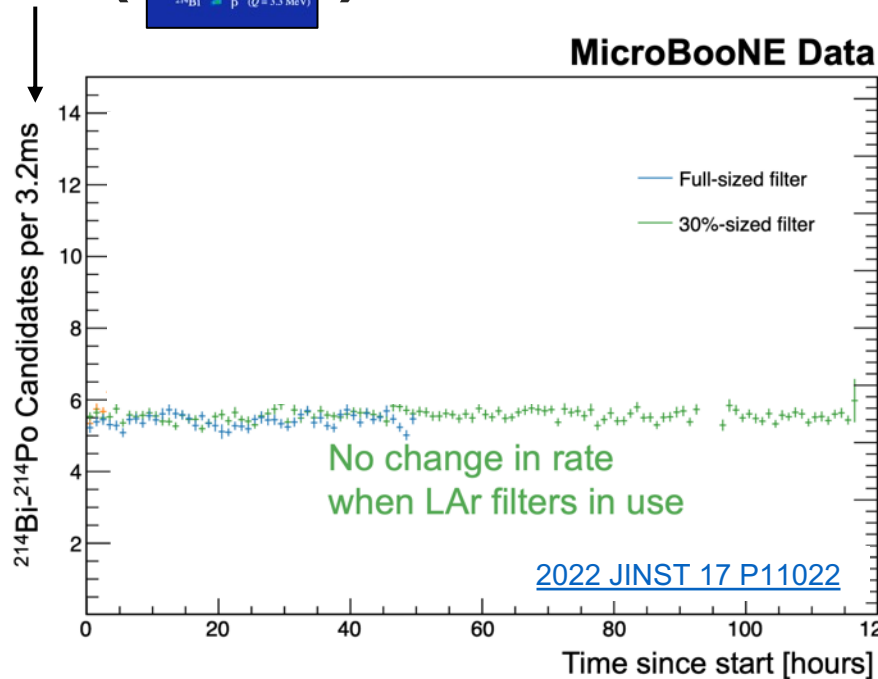


Settings tweaked to achieve lower energy threshold

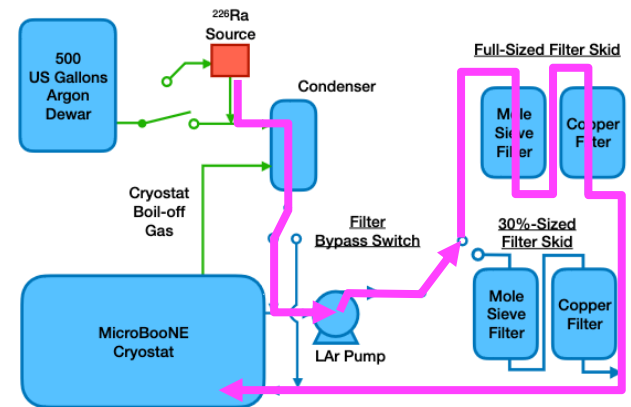


Bi-Po candidate rate in radon-doping data

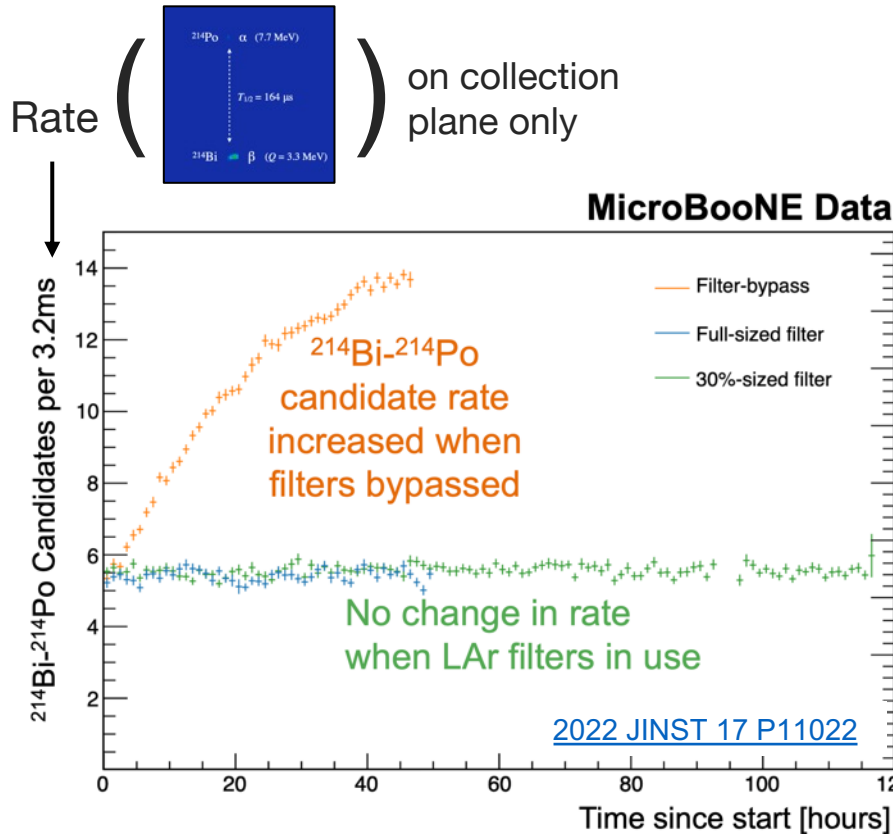
Rate () on collection plane only



Usual filter configuration

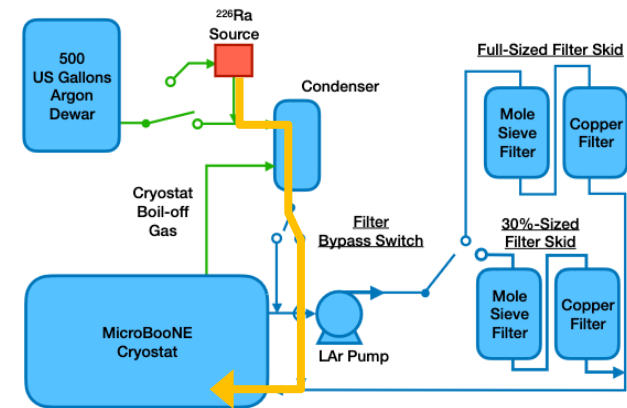


Bi-Po candidate rate in radon-doping data



> 99.9997% of Rn removed by 77L filter

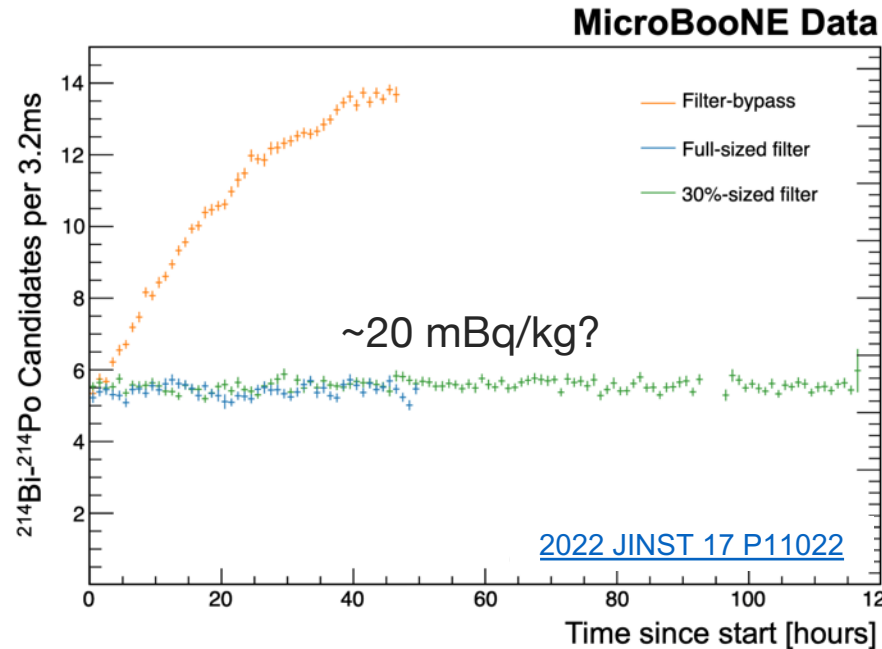
"Filter bypass"



Exciting results:

1. Data-based confirmation of sensitivity at < 1 MeVee
2. Radon backgrounds removed by electronegative filtration

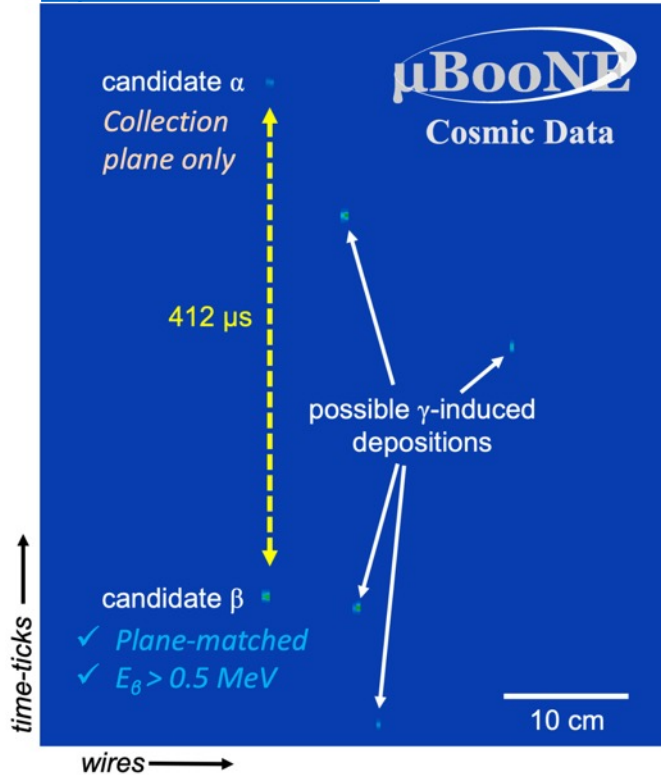
Remaining questions...



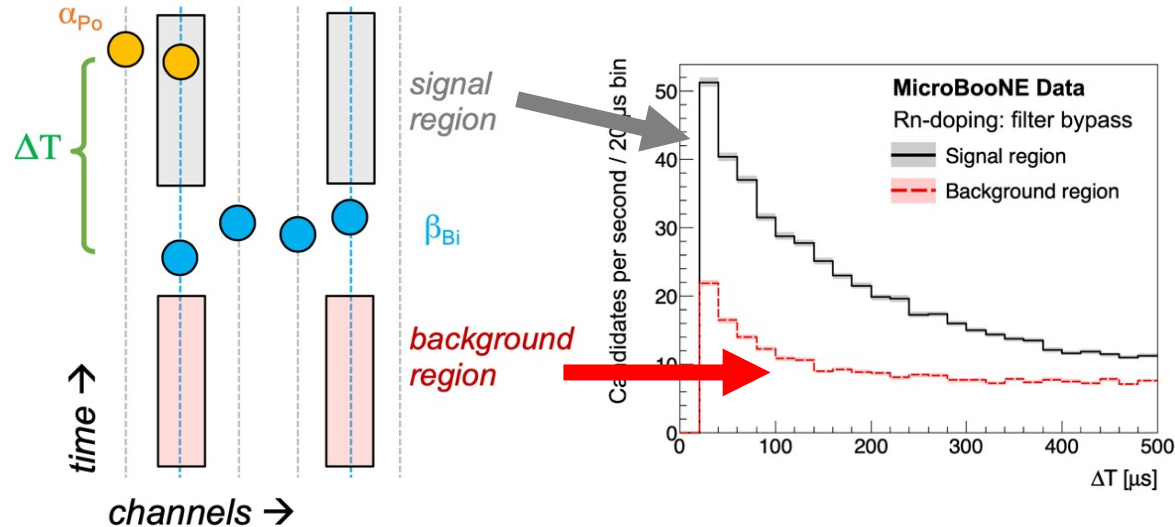
- What is the ambient Rn rate?
- Background rate from previous study would be equivalent to $\sim 20 \text{ mBq/kg}$
- Higher purity selection is needed to resolve this

Taking a closer look...

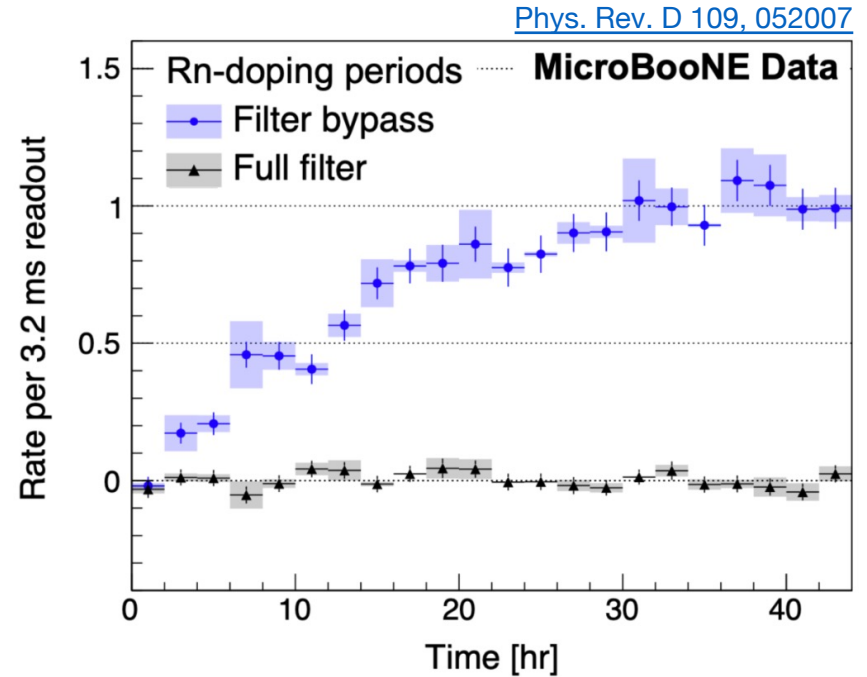
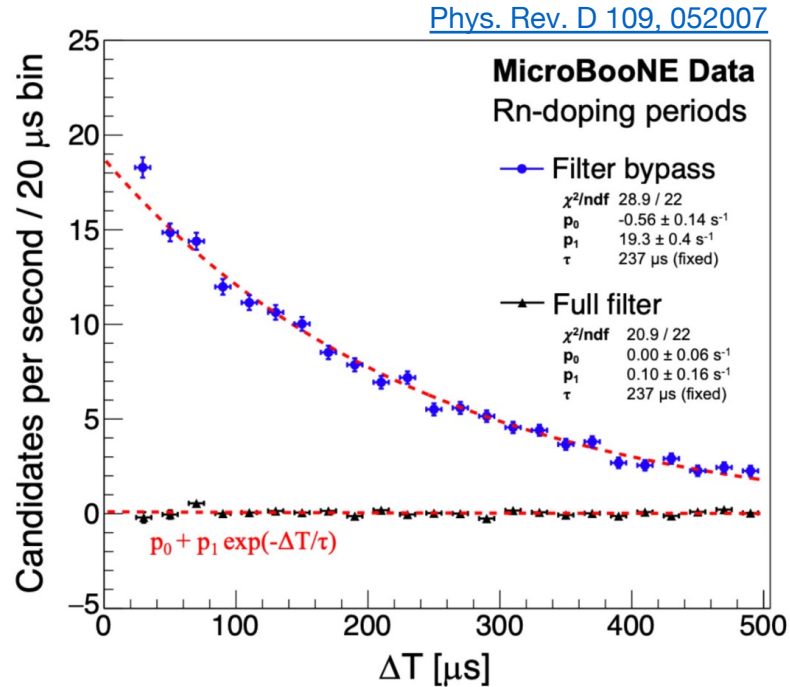
[Phys. Rev. D 109, 052007](#)



- Follow-up study performed with improved reconstruction and signal selection
- Background determination via side-band



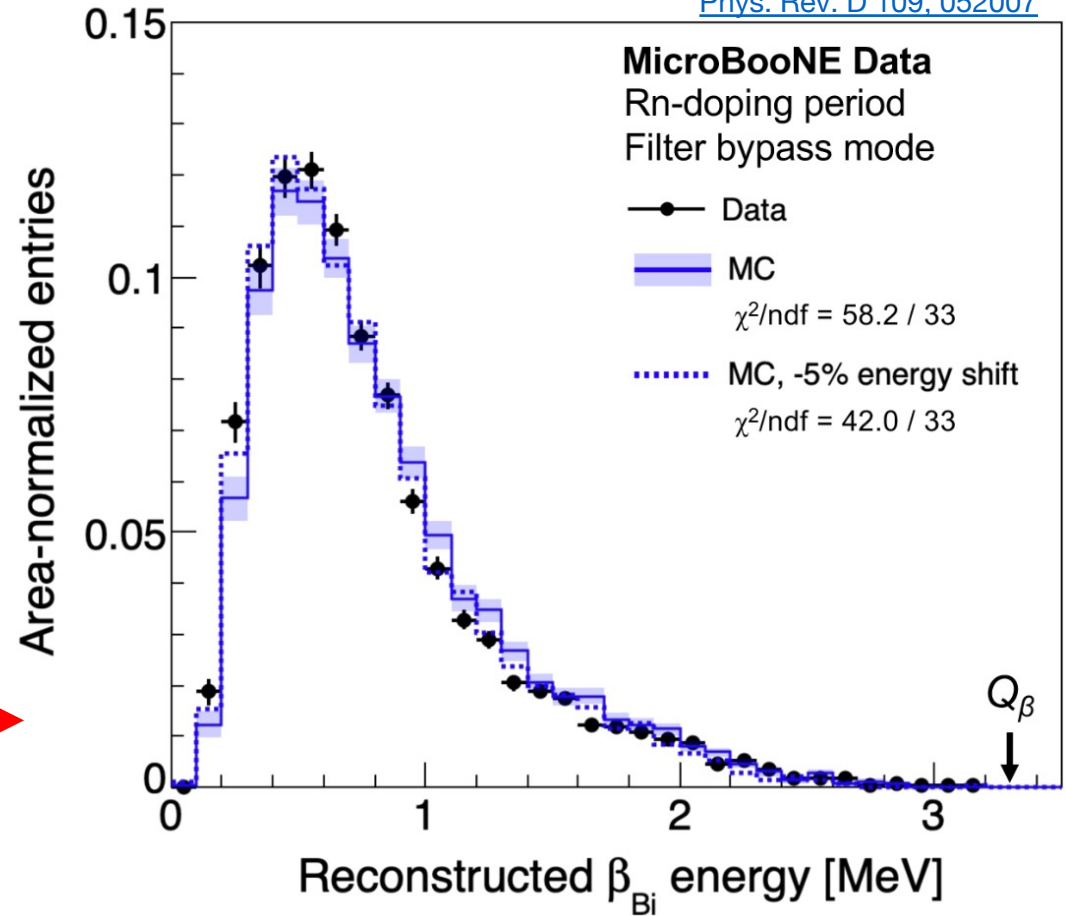
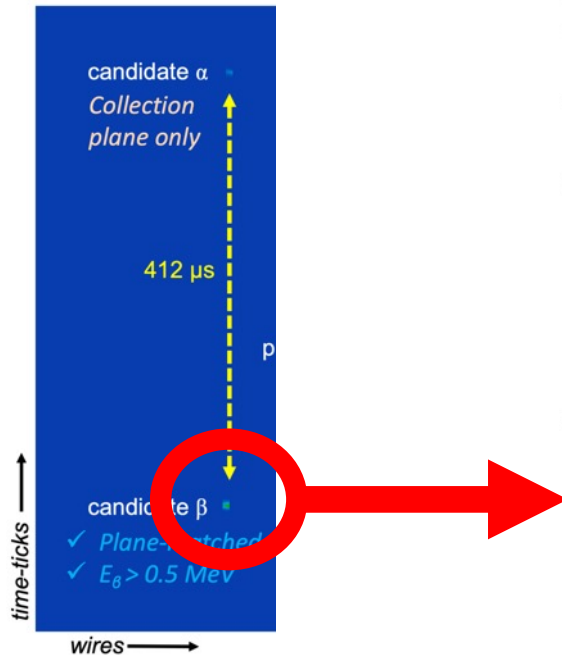
Results on radon-doped data



Calorimetric validation: 0-3 MeV β_{Bi}

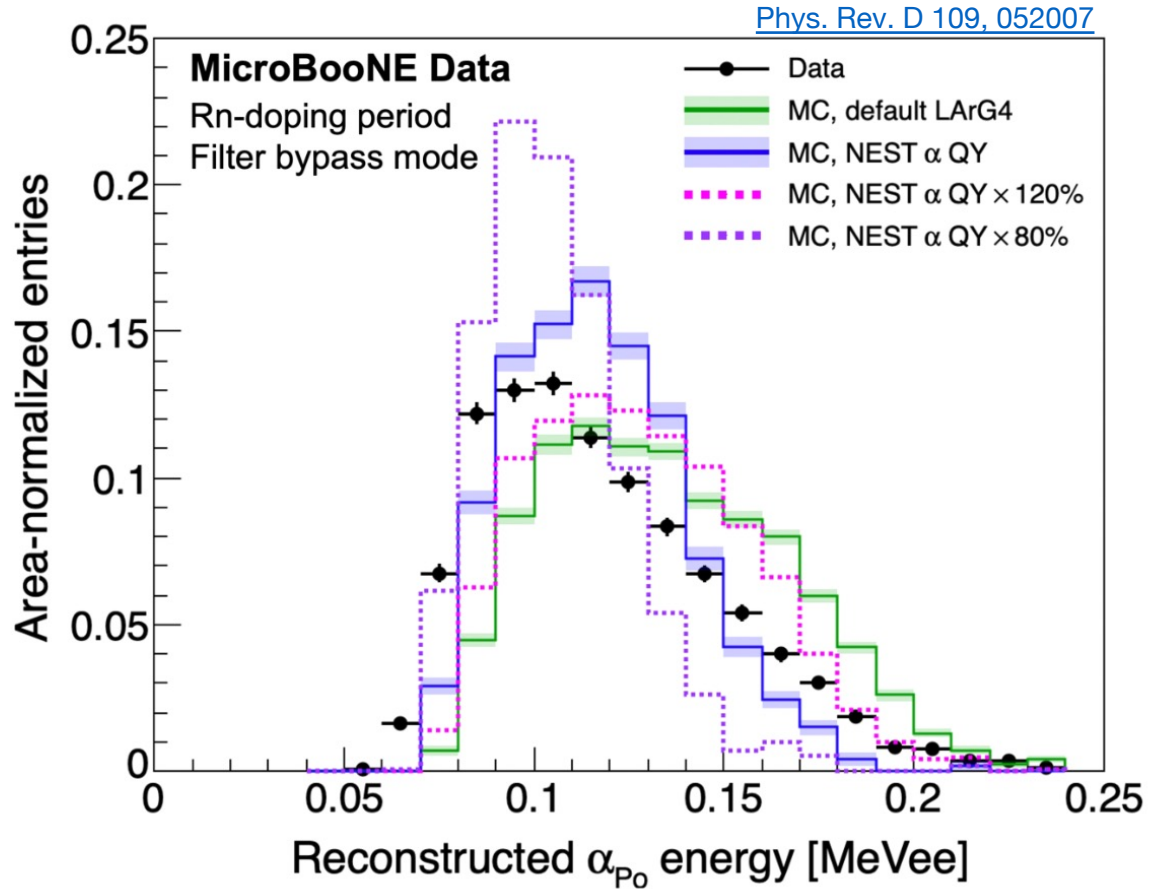
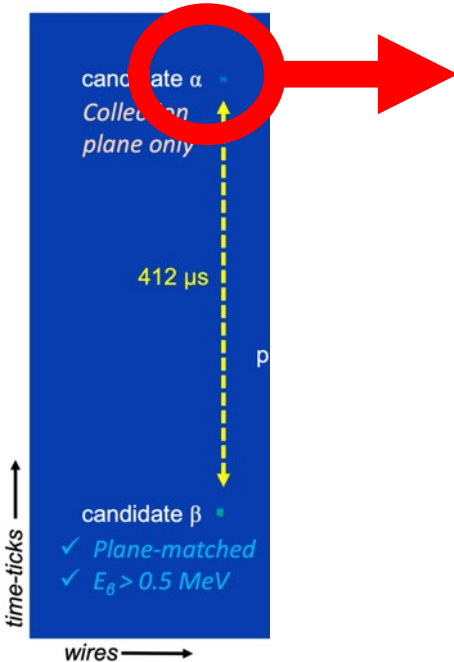
[Phys. Rev. D 109, 052007](#)

Same BG subtraction
applied to β energy
spectrum



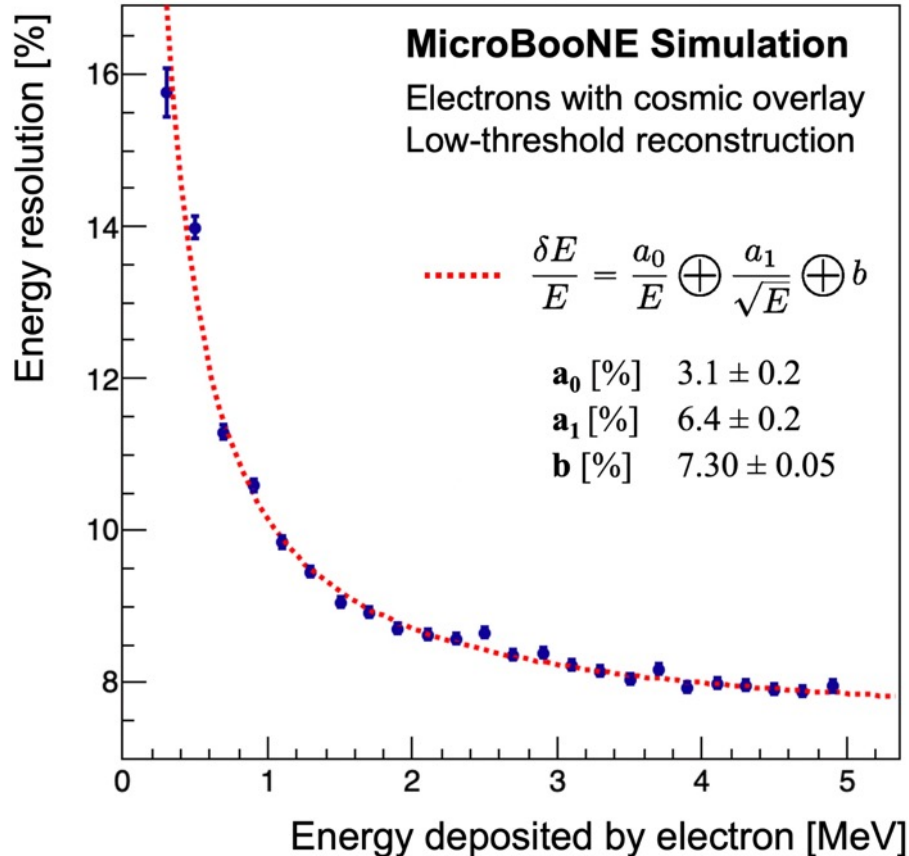
Calorimetric validation: 7.7 MeV α_{P_0}

... and same for the α_{P_0} energy spectrum
(large uncertainties in charge yield/quenching)



MC energy resolution

[arXiv:2307.03102](https://arxiv.org/abs/2307.03102)



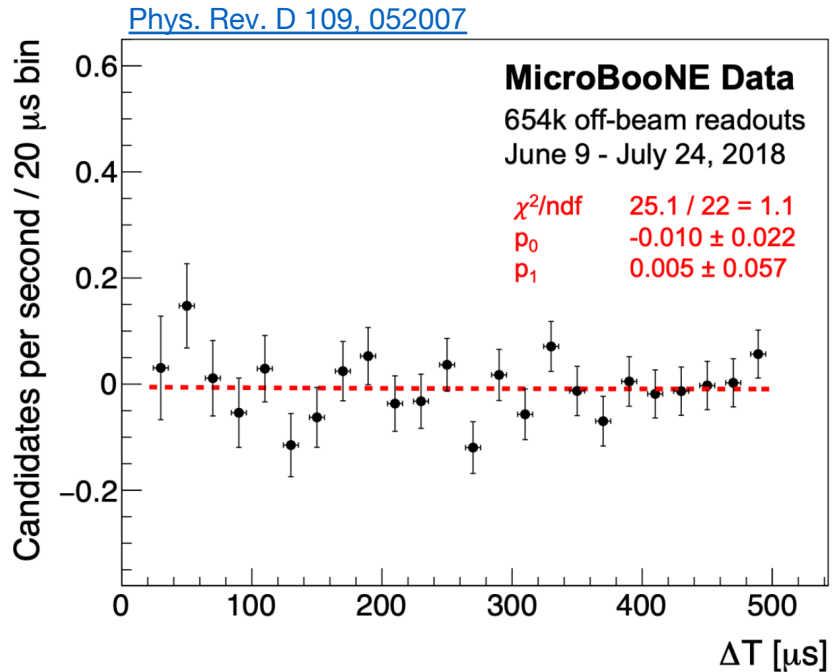
MC electron resolution:

- 10% at 1 MeV
- 8% at 5 MeV

DUNE requirements for:

- SNe ν : ~10-20%
[Euro. Phys. J. 81, 423 \(2021\)](https://arxiv.org/abs/2010.11523)
- Solar ν : ~7% for > 5 MeV
[Phys. Rev. Lett. 123, 131803 \(2019\)](https://arxiv.org/abs/1905.07227)

Bi→Po rate in physics data



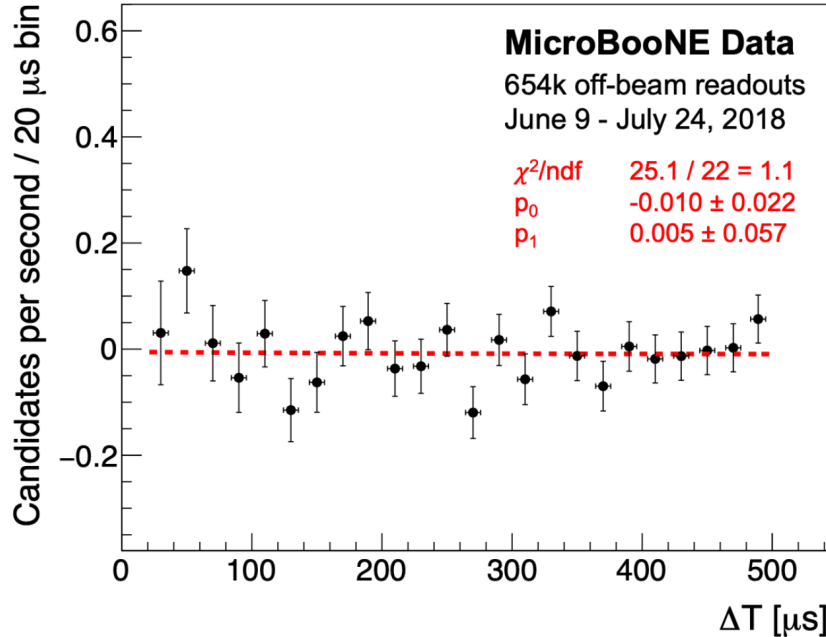
$n = (0.2 \pm 2.3) \times 10^{-3}$ decays/readout

$R_{\text{Bi}} = 0.01 \pm 0.16$ (stat) ± 0.06 (syst) mBq/kg
 $= 0.01 \pm 0.17$ mBq/kg

< 0.35 mBq/kg at 95% CL

Bi→Po rate in physics data

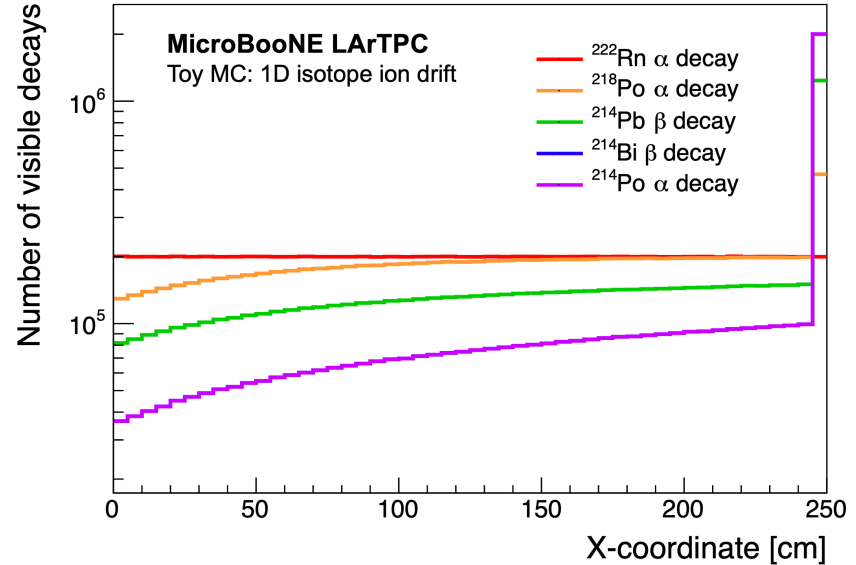
[Phys. Rev. D 109, 052007](#)



$n = (0.2 \pm 2.3) \times 10^{-3}$ decays/readout

$R_{\text{Bi}} = 0.01 \pm 0.16$ (stat) ± 0.06 (syst) mBq/kg
 $= 0.01 \pm 0.17$ mBq/kg
 < 0.35 mBq/kg at 95% CL

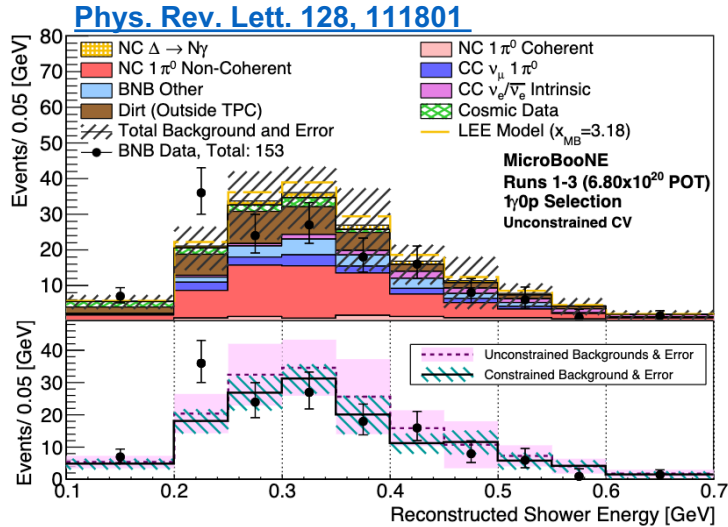
Plate-out effects estimated with toy MC to convert ^{214}Bi rate to ^{222}Rn rate



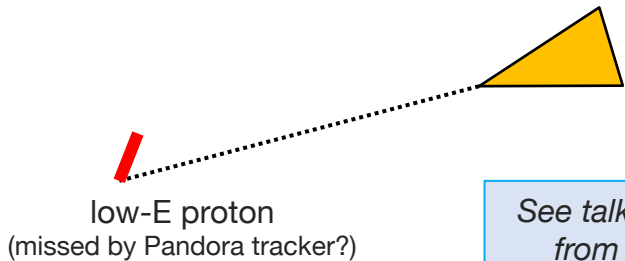
$R_{\text{Rn}} / R_{\text{Bi}} \sim 2.3 \pm 0.4$

$R_{\text{Rn}} \sim 0.03 \pm 0.38$ mBq/kg

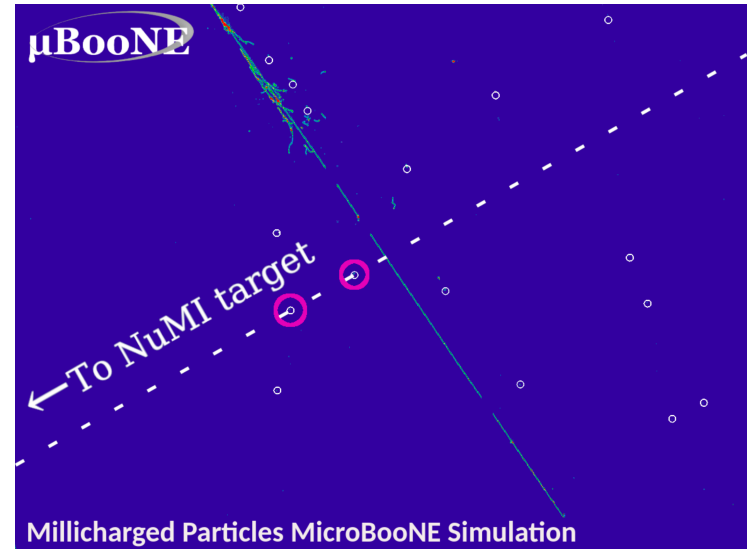
Broader implications for SBN / MicroBooNE



Low-energy proton detection for $1\gamma 0p$ background discrimination



See talk on LEE in μB
from Erin Yandel



Beam-induced BSM
like millicharged
particle signatures

See talk on BSM in μB
from Justin Evans

Conclusions

- MeV-scale features in LArTPC events contain information that can enhance the physics potential of SBN experiments
- MicroBooNE has demonstrated MeV-scale capabilities to unprecedented levels for a large LArTPC
- Tools are being incorporated into other analyses and experiments

Thanks!

BACKUP

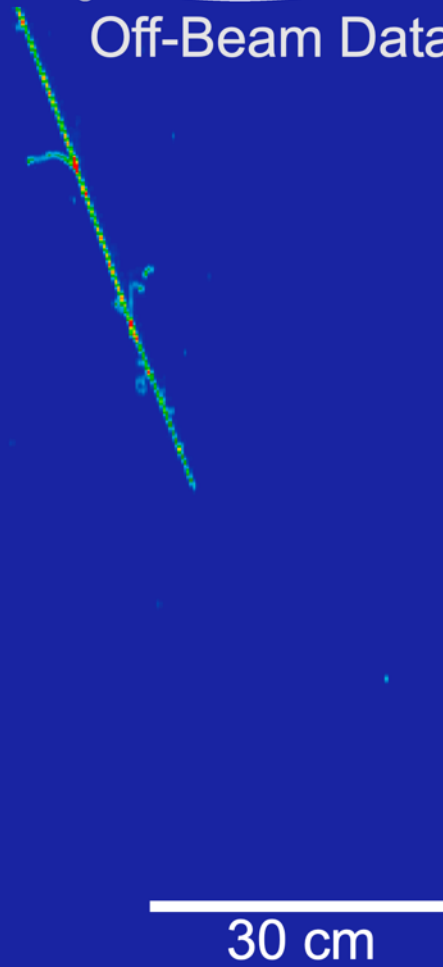
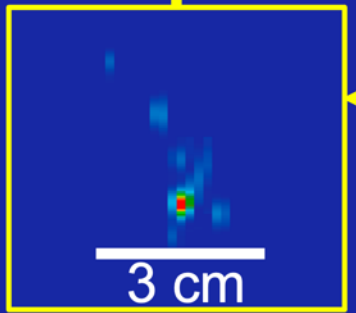
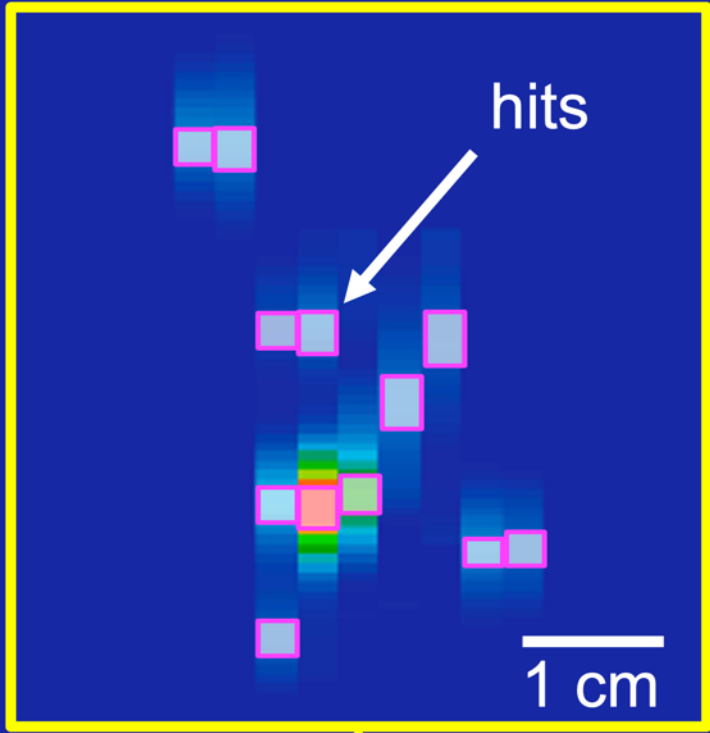
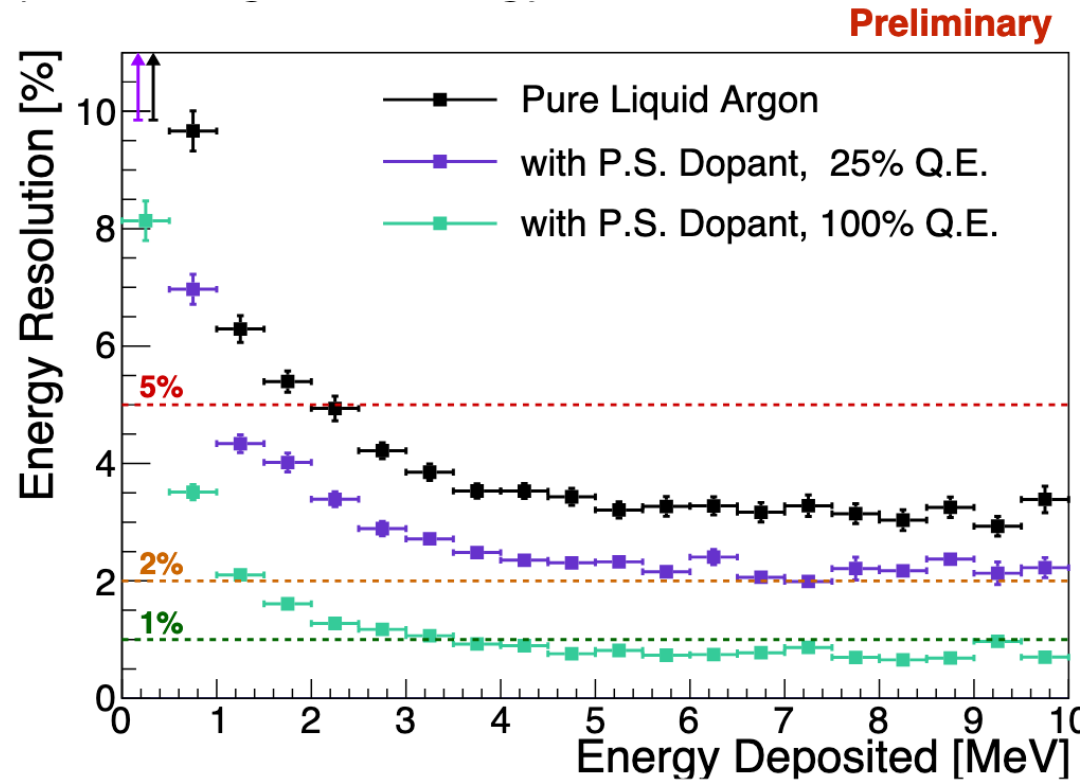
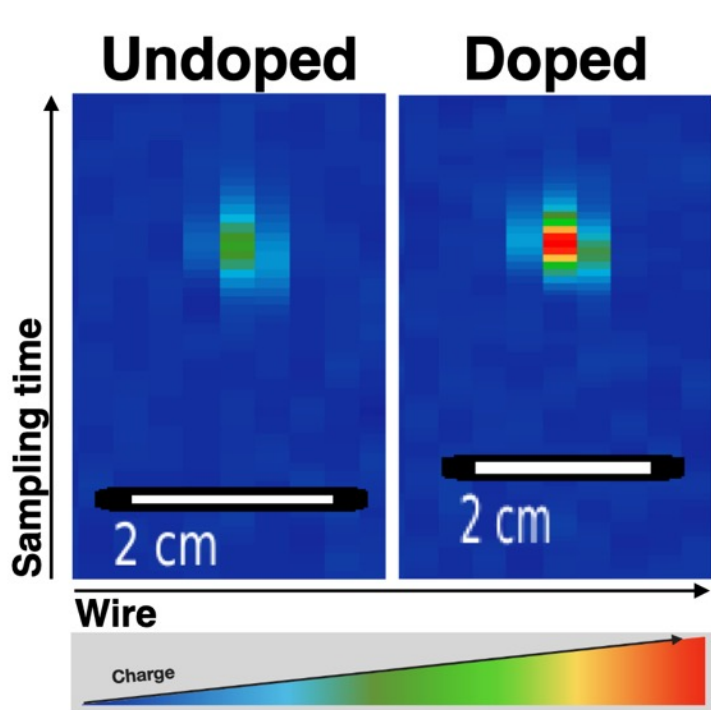


Photo-ionizing dopants



[Improving LArTPC Performance with Photo-Ionizing Dopants](#), Joseph Zennaro

Solar neutrinos in DUNE

DUNE as the Next-Generation Solar Neutrino Experiment

[Phys. Rev. Lett. 123, 131803](#)

Δm_{12}^2 probed by day-night flux asymmetry

$$A_{D/N} = (D - N) / \frac{1}{2}(D + N)$$

Can break degeneracy between θ_{12} and $\phi(^8\text{Bi})$ by measuring two interaction channels via crude angular cuts:

$$\nu_e + {}^{40}\text{Ar} \rightarrow e^- + {}^{40}\text{K}^* \longrightarrow R_{\text{Ar}} \propto \phi(^8\text{B}) \times \sin^2 \theta_{12}$$

$$\nu_{e,\mu,\tau} + e^- \rightarrow \nu_{e,\mu,\tau} + e^- \longrightarrow R_e \propto \phi(^8\text{B}) \times \left(\sin^2 \theta_{12} + \frac{1}{6} \cos^2 \theta_{12} \right)$$

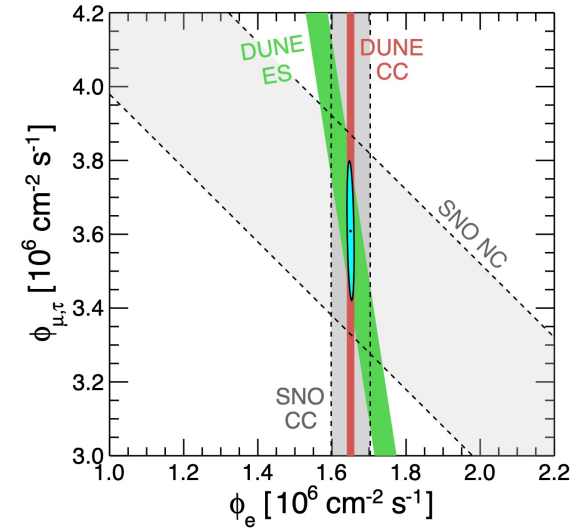


FIG. 3. Estimated precision of the ν_e and $\nu_{\mu,\tau}$ content of the ${}^8\text{B}$ flux, present (SNO [5, 53]) and future (DUNE), with the ellipse for DUNE alone. Based on a simplified analysis, with only statistical uncertainties (1σ) but assuming 2 d.o.f., and with SNO fluxes slightly rescaled to match their global-fit ${}^8\text{B}$ flux. Note small axis ranges. Full analysis in text.

Energy resolution improvements in LAr

TABLE I. Detection thresholds according to the DUNE CDR document [5]. The values given correspond to the kinetic energy of each particle.

	p	π^\pm	γ	μ	e	others
Thresholds (MeV)	50	100	30	30	30	50

- (1) *CDR thresholds*: Any particle created below the thresholds listed in Table I is lost.
- (2) *Total charge calorimetry*: Thresholds are set to zero and no information about the hadronic system other than the total ionization charge is used.
- (3) *Detailed event reconstruction*: Thresholds are low and recombination corrections are applied to each particle in the event individually.

[Phys. Rev. D 99, 036009 \(2019\)](#)

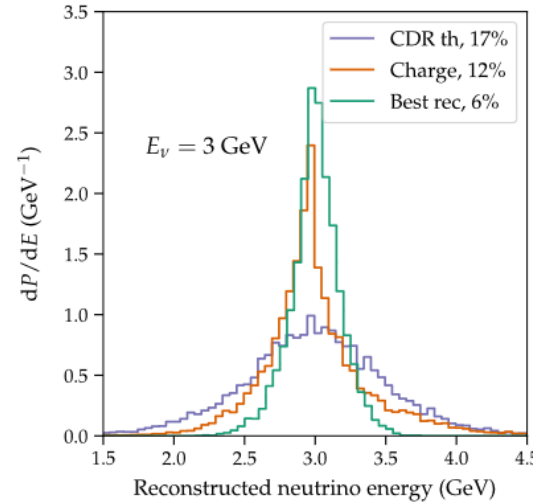


FIG. 14. Simulations of reconstructed neutrino energies for $E_\nu = 3$ GeV true energy in the CC $\nu_e + {}^{40}\text{Ar}$ scattering process. The histograms correspond to three different sets of assumptions, as described in the text.

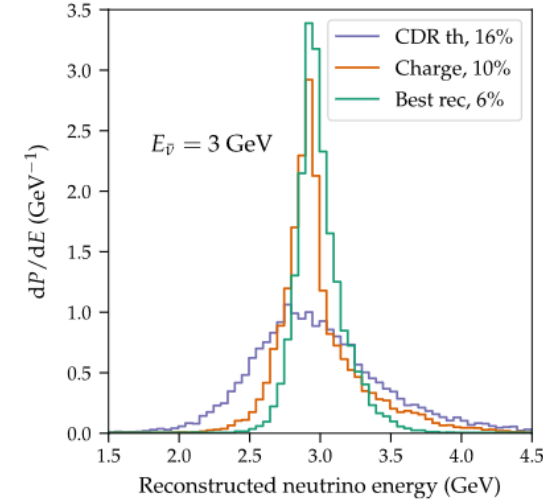


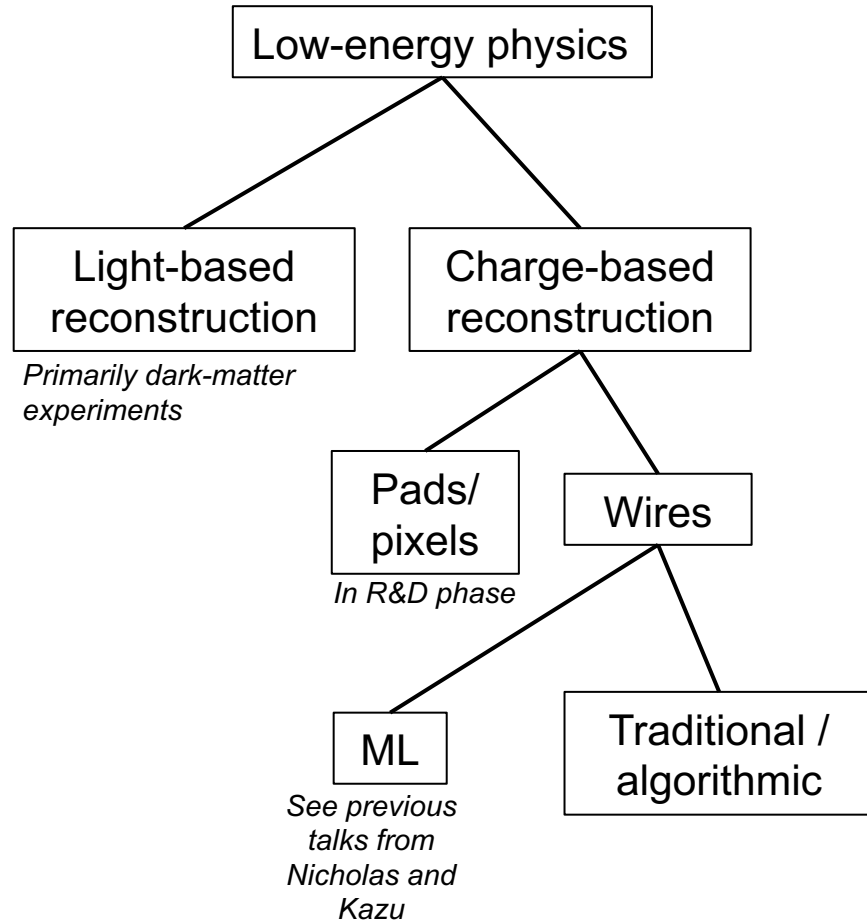
FIG. 15. Same as Fig. 14, but for $\bar{\nu}_e + {}^{40}\text{Ar}$ scattering.

Understanding the energy resolution of liquid argon neutrino detectors

Alexander Friedland^{*} and Shirley Weishi Li[†]

SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory, 2575 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park, California 94025, USA

 (Received 13 December 2018; published 13 February 2019)



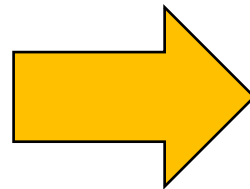
Traditional reconstruction

- Wire signals are noise-filtered and processed with deconvolution algorithms
- ADC thresholded hit-finding via Gaussian fits to pulses
- Advantages:
 - Software infrastructure in place in LArSoft & demonstrated with published results
 - Based on 'first-principles', no need to train a network
- Disadvantages:
 - Lowering thresholds is challenging
 - Limited by noise floor

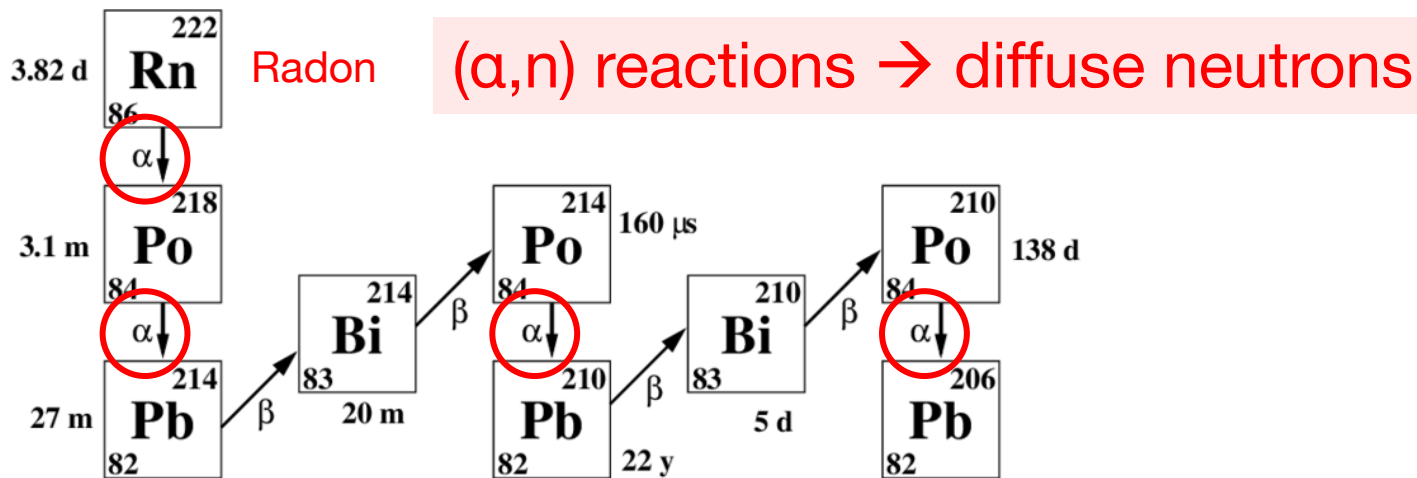
Remaining Challenges

- Successful demonstrations in smaller LArTPCs...
but can we do the same in large ones?

- Lowering thresholds
- Precise energy reconstruction
- **Controlling low-energy backgrounds**

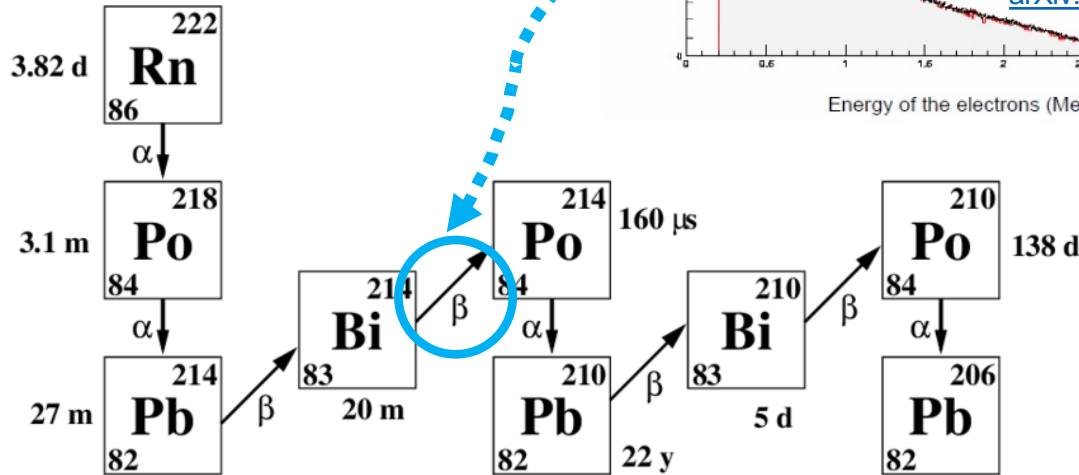
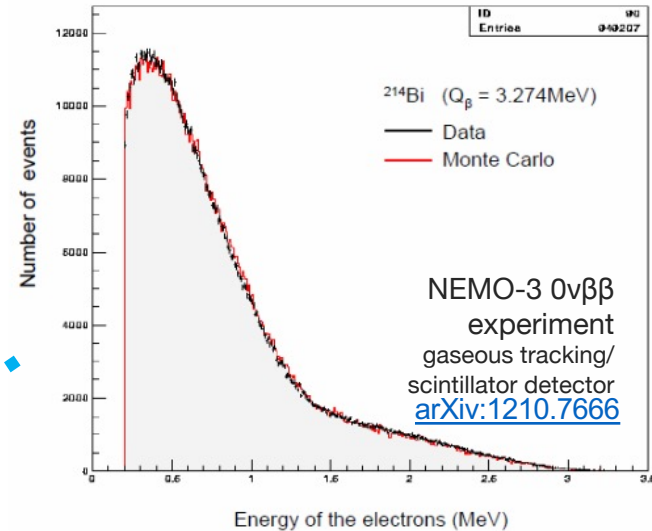


*Critical for maximizing
SBN's and DUNE's
physics potential*



Remaining Challenges Opportunities?

Short ^{214}Po half-life makes it taggable (delayed coincidence w/ ^{214}Bi β decay)

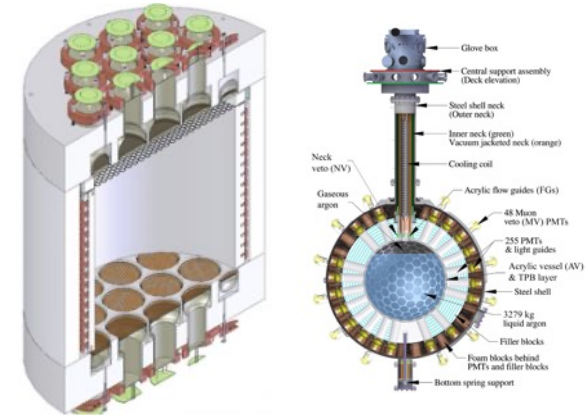


Radon in dark matter experiments

^{222}Rn Levels

- Existing methods of radio-purification in LAr:
 - rigorous material screening
 - outgassing campaigns
 - specialized systems for filtering Rn from gaseous argon
- DUNE aims to achieve < 1 mBq/kg to accomplish the goals laid out in previous slides
- *How will we accomplish this?*
 - Filtration in the gaseous phase will be more challenging at large scale

¹DarkSide-50: ~ 2.1 $\mu\text{Bq/kg}$
²DEAP-3600: < 0.2 $\mu\text{Bq/kg}$



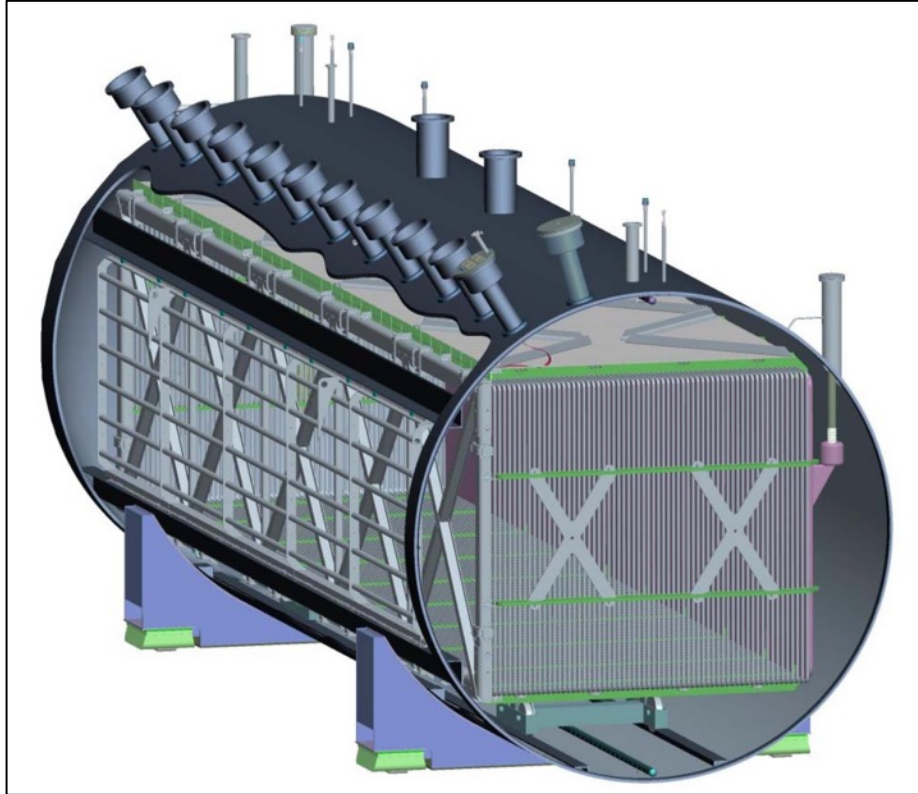
¹ [Phys Rev D 98, 102006 \(2018\)](#)

² [Phys Rev D 100, 022004 \(2019\)](#)

Bq = decays per second

The MicroBooNE Detector

[2017 JINST 12 P02017](#)

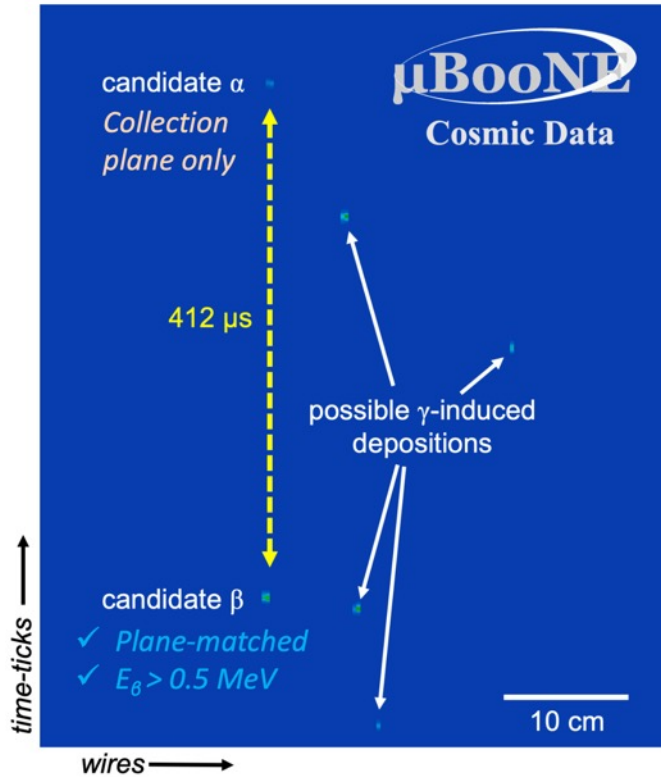


~10m x 2.5m x 2.3m

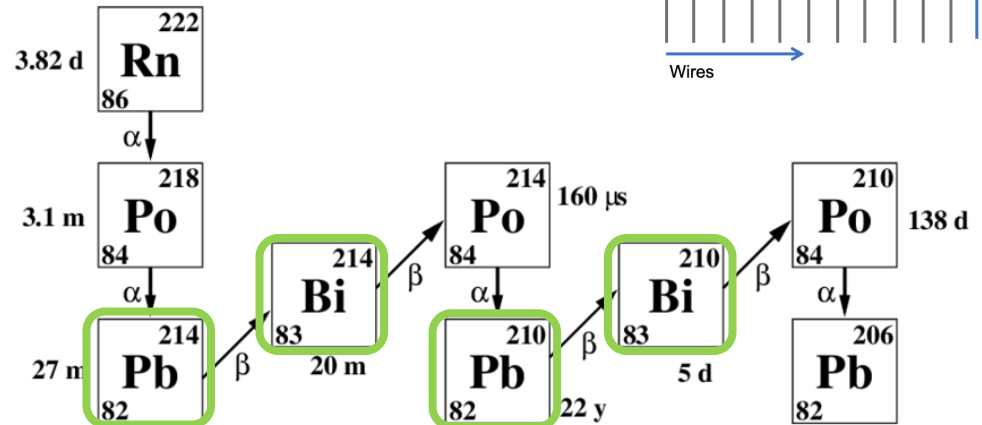
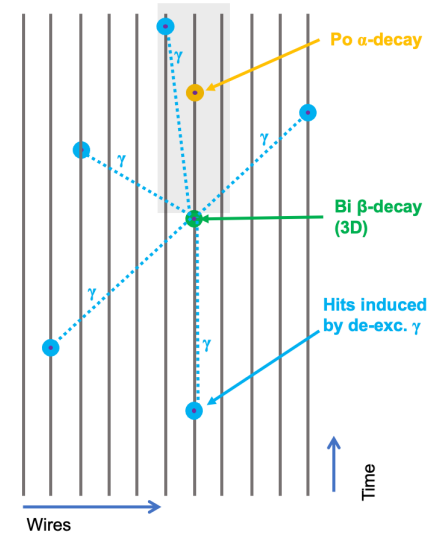


Signal backgrounds

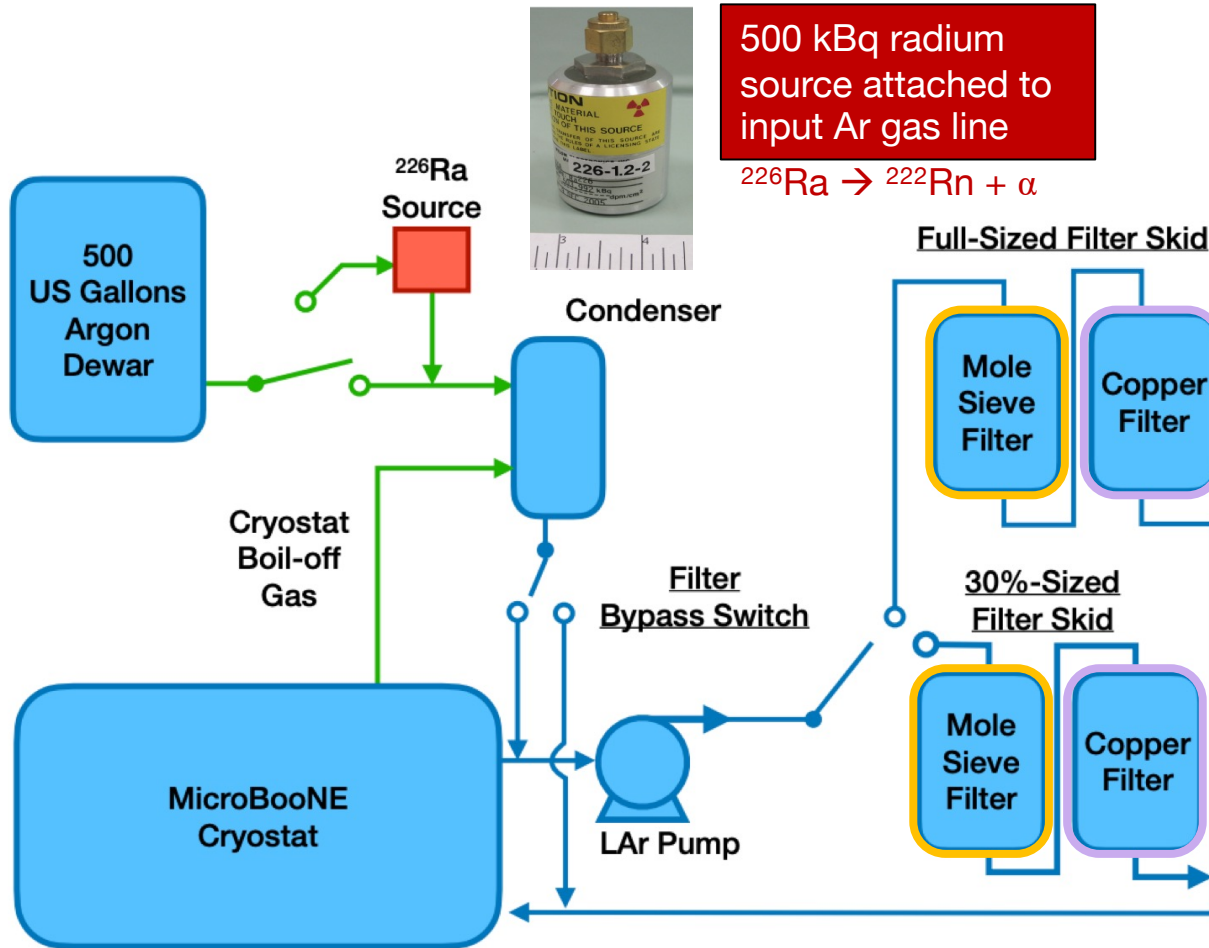
arXiv:2307.03102



BiPo signal can be faked by other beta-emitting isotope decays



Doping radon into MicroBooNE



500 kBq radium source attached to input Ar gas line



Filters aim to remove electronegative contaminants

4Å molecular sieve
1.6-2.6 mm beads
removes water

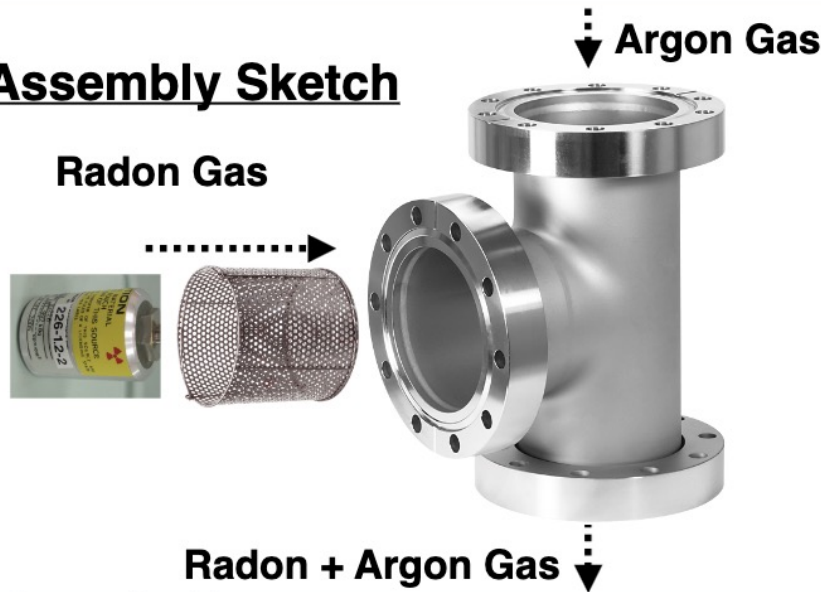
Copper filter
Cu-0226 S
removes O₂

Doping radon into MicroBooNE

Design by Mike Zuckerbrot

The original pipe will be cut, a conflat tee will be pressure fit, the source will be added, the tee will be sealed, the system will vacuum pumped, leak checked, and then operated

Assembly Sketch



Gas Argon Flow

Add assembly here!

Doped gas flows to Cryostat

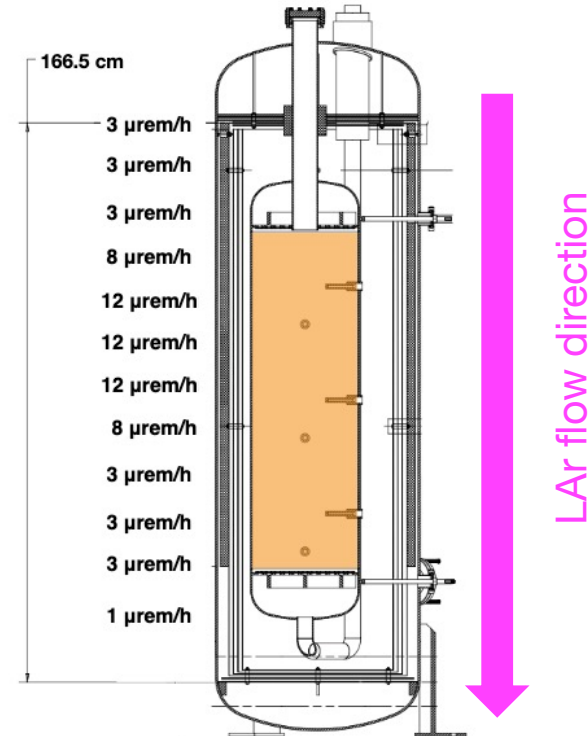
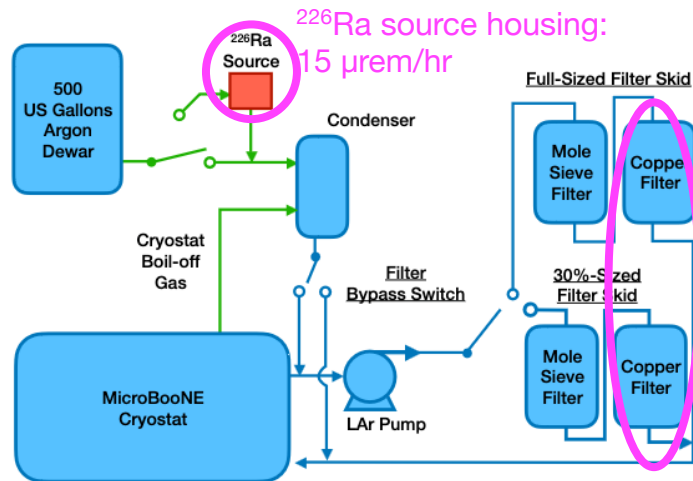
J. Zeman, Fermilab

9

Radiological survey

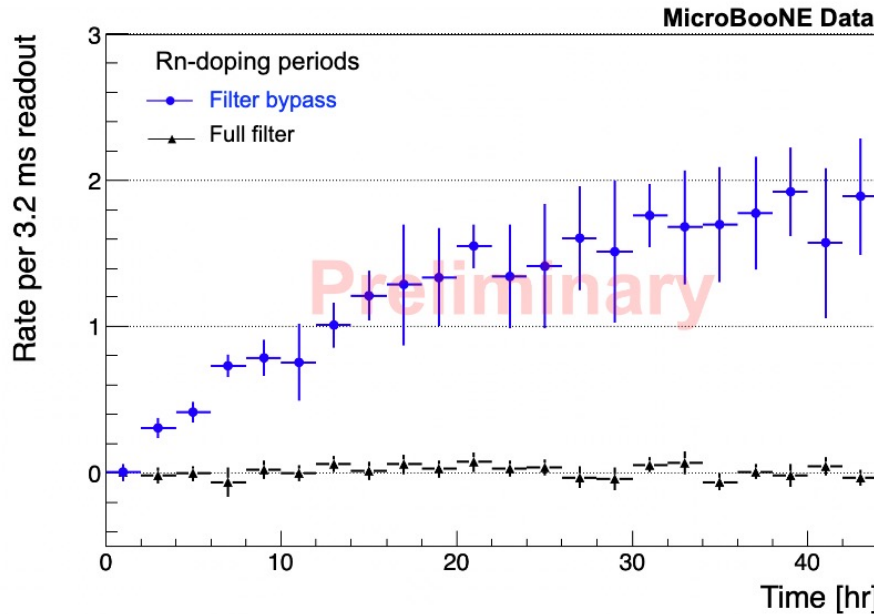
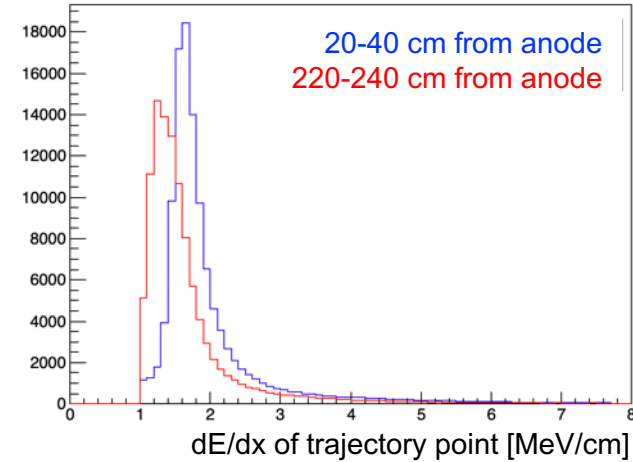


Confirmed accumulation of radon in copper filter



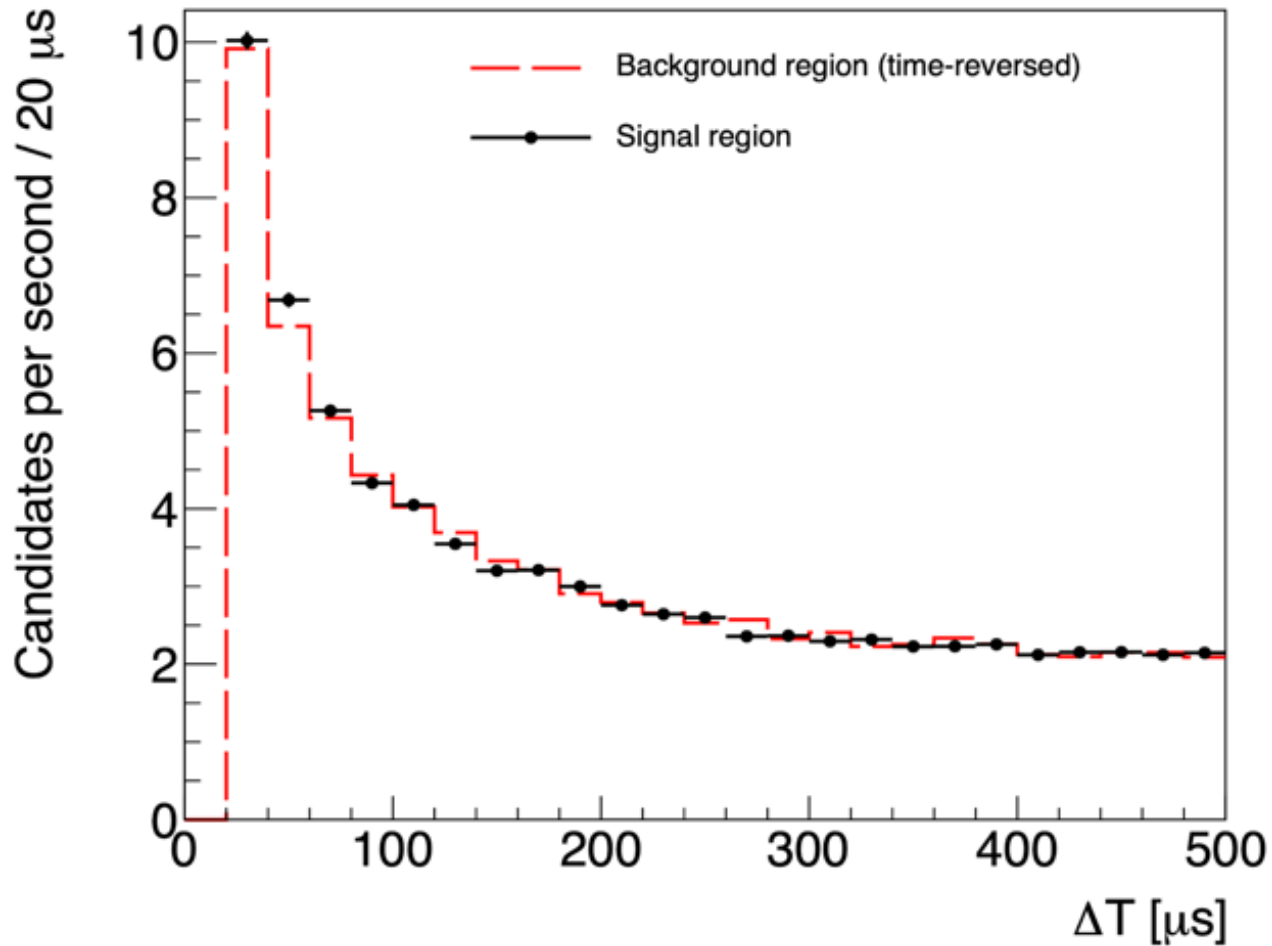
- Looked at ratio of dE/dx for segments of ACP tracks near and far from the wire planes
- Confirmed average ~ 8 ms lifetime (weighted by β candidates over time), consistent with previous estimate from scaling the Bi214 beta spectrum

Anode-cathode piercing tracks



scale

Time period [hrs]	Far/near dE/dx ratio	Equivalent lifetime [ms]
0-5	1.01(2)	> 180
5-10	0.940(8)	29 +/- 12
10-15	0.902(8)	18 +/- 3
15-20	0.855(11)	12 +/- 2
20-25	0.828(12)	9.6 +/- 1.8
25-30	0.820(9)	9.2 +/- 0.5
30-35	0.776(6)	7.2 +/- 0.5
35-40	0.758(7)	6.6 +/- 0.6
40-45	0.735(7)	5.9 +/- 0.4



Ion mobility in LAr

Some fraction of isotopes are positive ions \rightarrow drift toward cathode at very slow speeds

[Phys Rev C 92, 045504](#)

Results from LXe in EXO-200

$$^{222}\text{Rn} \rightarrow ^{218}\text{Po}^+ \quad f_\alpha = 50.3 \pm 3.0\%$$

$$v_d \sim 0.3 \text{ cm}^2 / (\text{kV s})$$

$$^{214}\text{Pb} \rightarrow ^{214}\text{Bi}^+ \quad f_\beta = 76.5 \pm 5.7\%$$

Implies that measured Bi \rightarrow Po rate can't be directly translated to a ^{222}Rn rate, as some isotopes will have drifted and plated onto cathode

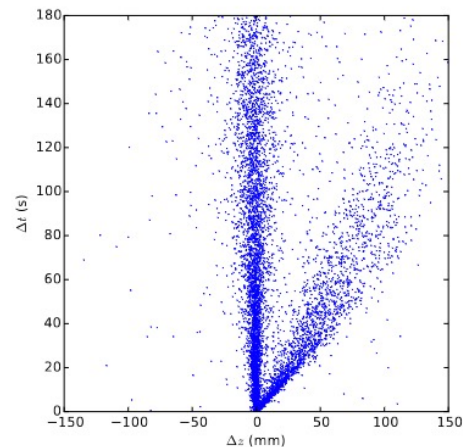
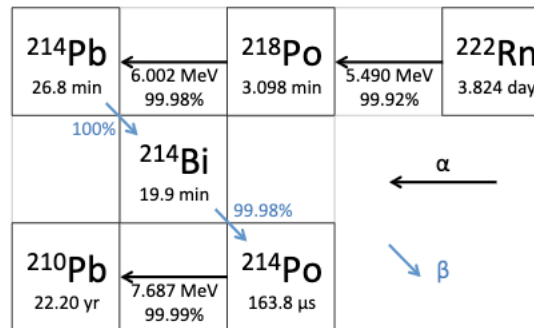


Figure 8. (Color online) Scatter plot of ^{218}Po drift distance versus time between the ^{222}Rn and ^{218}Po decays. Displacement (Δz) is defined as positive when movement is towards the cathode.

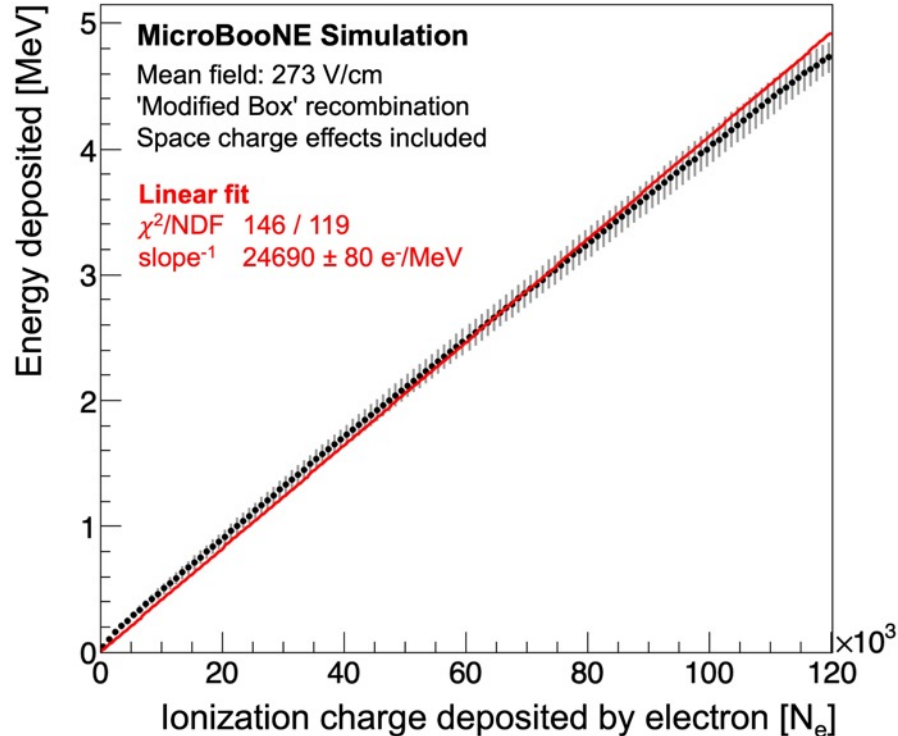
Toy MC assumptions

Decay Daughter	Half-life	Mean lifetime = $T_{1/2} / \ln(2)$	Ion fraction	Drift speed at 273 V/cm
218Po	3.1 min	4.5 min	37% +/- 3% ^[80]	0.23 cm/s ^[80]
214Pb	27 min	39 min	Estimated 37%	Estimated 0.23 cm/s
214Bi	20 min	29 min	Estimated 56% ^[81]	Estimated 0.23 cm/s
214Po	164 us	237 us	Not relevant	Not relevant

[80] P. Agnes *et al.* (DarkSide), Measurement of the ion fraction and mobility of 218Po produced in 222Rn decays in liquid argon, *J. Instrum.* **14**, P11018 (2019).

[81] Albert and others (EXO-200 Collaboration), Measurements of the ion fraction and mobility of α - and β -decay products in liquid xenon using the EXO-200 detector, *Phys. Rev. C* **92**, 045504 (2015).

Converting charge to energy



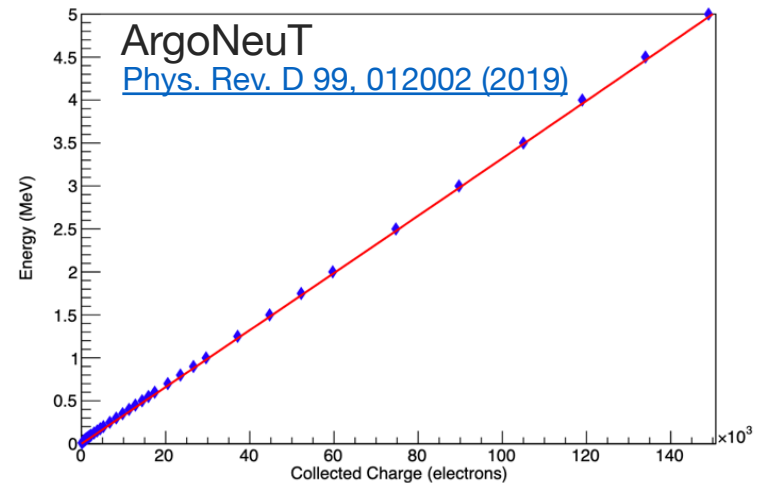
$$E_{\text{reco}} [\text{MeVee}] = \frac{Q}{0.584} \times W_{\text{ion}}$$

MicroBooNE + LArIAT: Michel electron showers

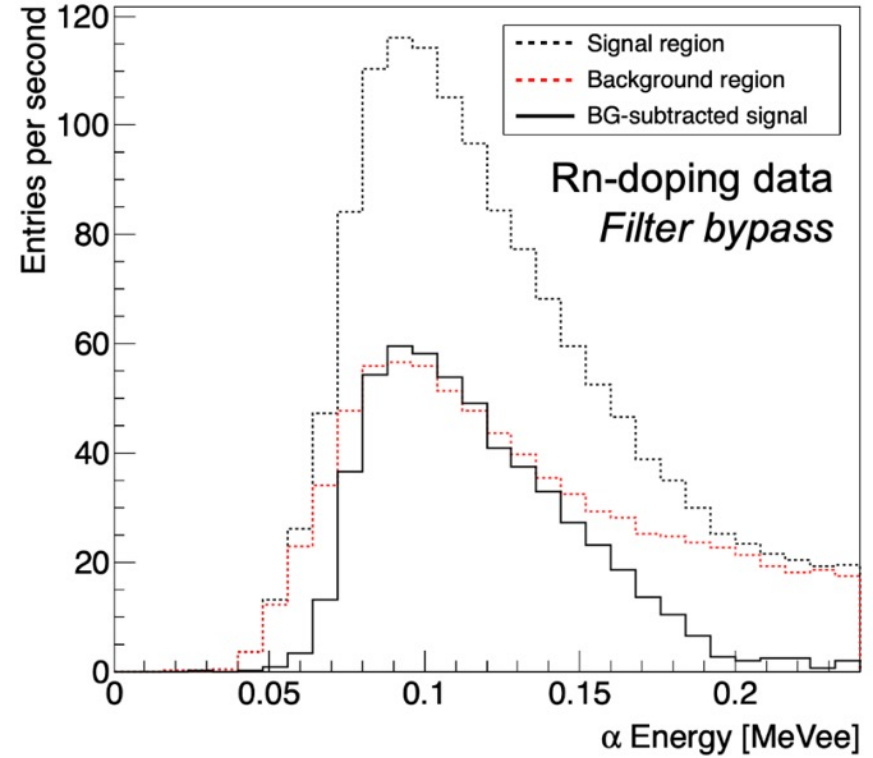
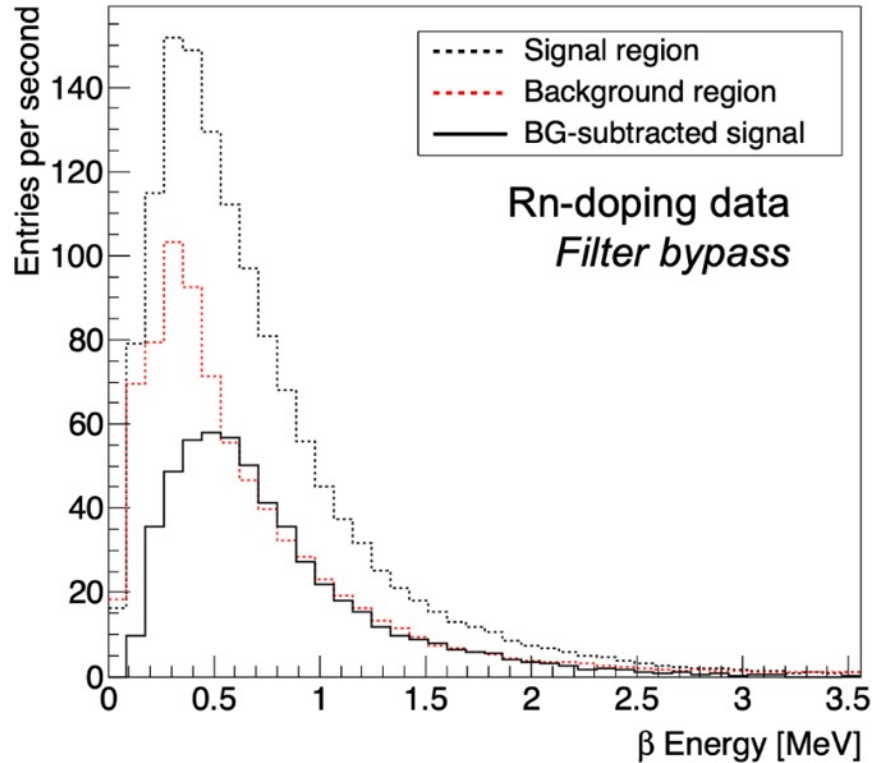
- For blips, assumed constant dE/dx (i.e., constant recombination)

ArgoNeuT: Nuclear de-excitation γ analysis

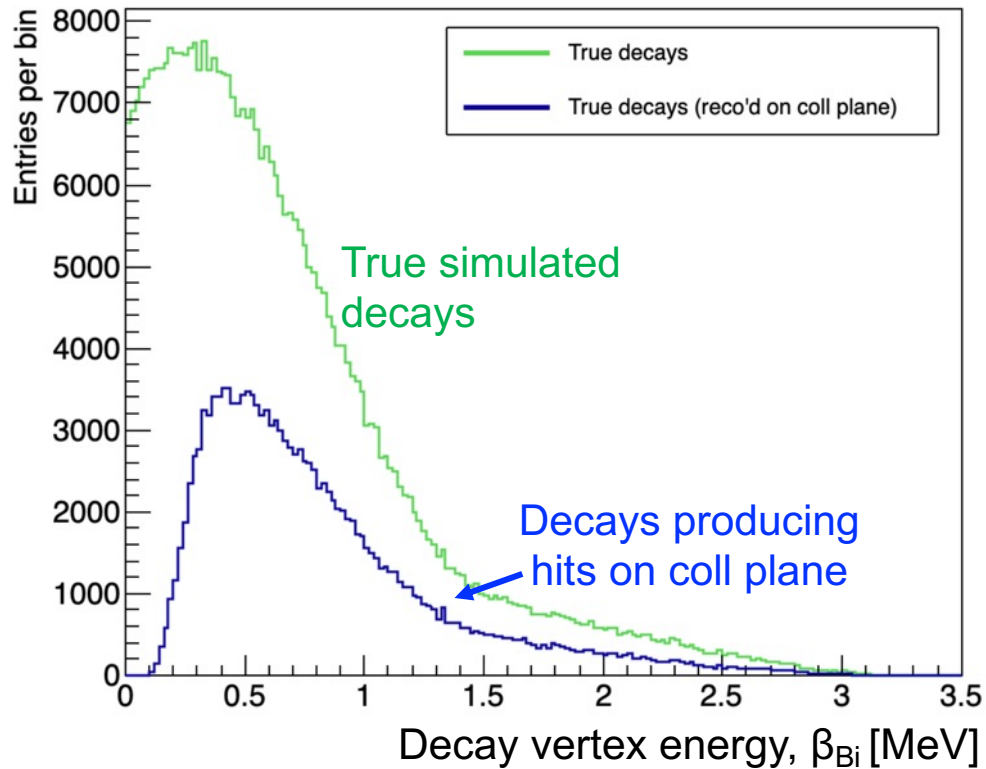
- Used NIST data on low-E e⁻, together with recombination, to directly relate Q_{reco} to energy



Energy spectra backgrounds



Simulated energy spectra



Calorimetric validation: α_{Po}

Using NEST-parameterized alpha charge-yield (QY) model

<https://zenodo.org/record/7577399>

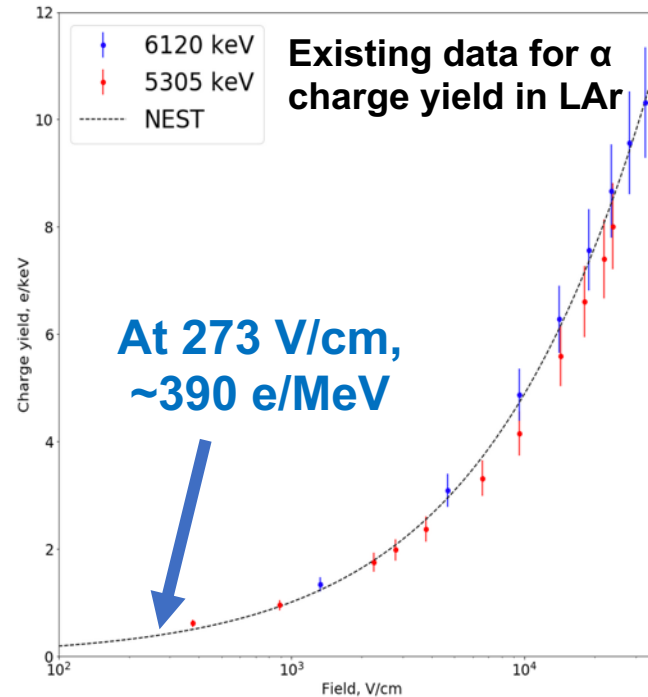
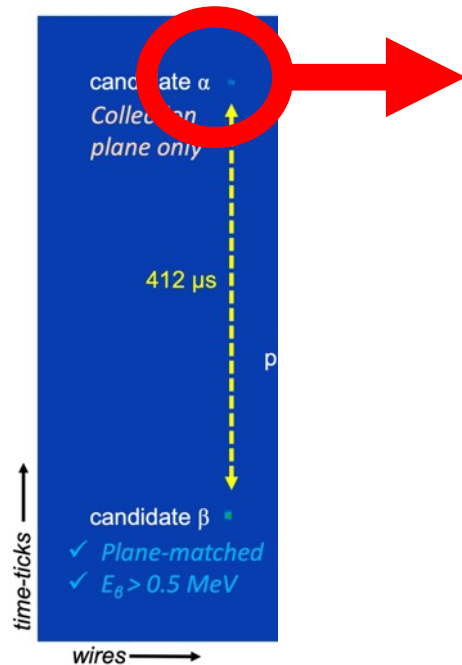
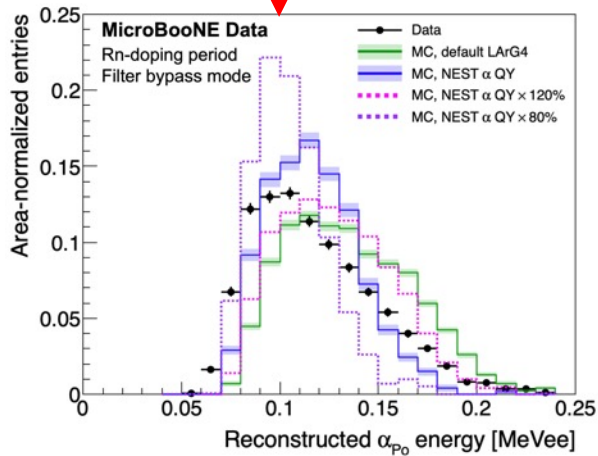
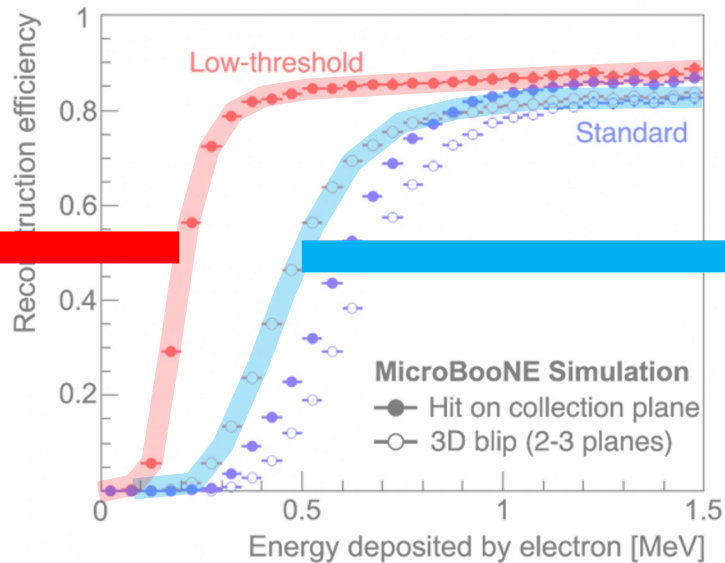
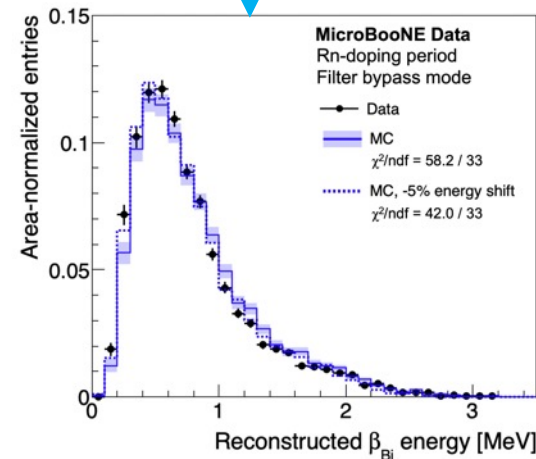


Figure 9: Charge yield model comparison with data from Po-210 and Cf-252



Heavily sculpted
by hit-finding
thresholds



Monte Carlo Efficiency

α QY: +/-20%

D_L : $\pm 1\sigma$, D_T : $\pm 30\%$

All charge scaled +/-5%

'Birks' model, and enhanced recombination fluctuations

Systematic	Uncertainty
Alpha QY	$\pm 43\%$
Electron diffusion	+26%, -17%
Energy scale	$\pm 15\%$
Recombination modeling	$\pm 1.9\%$
Total	+52%, -49%

Final efficiency for BiPo
rate measurement:
 $\varepsilon = (8.3 \pm 4.2) \%$

Contributions to efficiency

	Relative probability (NEST)	Relative probability (LArG4)
Volume remaining after 2D cosmic track-masking	~86%	same
Bi214 beta decays producing collection plane hits*	~51%	same
Bi214 blips plane-matched	~62%	same
Po214 alphas producing collection plane hits	~22%	~43%
Total	~6%	~12%

* Using 'low-threshold' reconstruction

BlipReco code structure

ubreco/BlipReco (3.3 MB total)

Alg
 BlipAna_module.cc
 blipreco_badchannels.txt
 blipreco_configs.fcl
 BlipRecoProducer_module.cc
 CMakeLists.txt
 job
 ParticleDump_module.cc
 TrackMasker_module.cc
 Utils

Utils
 BlipUtils.cc
 BlipUtils.h
 classes_def.xml
 classes.h
 CMakeLists.txt
 DataTypes.h

DataTypes.h

```

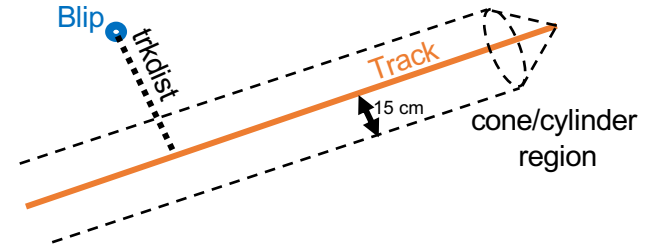
struct Blip {
  int ID = -9; // Blip ID / index
  bool isValid = false; // Blip passes basic checks
  int TPC = -9; // TPC
  int NPlanes = -9; // Num. matched planes
  int MaxWireSpan = -9; // Maximum span of wires on any plane cluster
  float Charge = -9; // Charge on calorimetry plane
  float Energy = -999; // Energy (const dE/dx, fcl-configurable)
  float EnergyESTAR = -999; // Energy (ESTAR method from ArgoNeUT)
  float Time = -999; // Drift time [ticks]
  float ProxTrkDist = -9; // Distance to closest track
  int ProxTrkID = -9; // ID of closest track
  bool inCylinder = false; // Is it in a cone/cylinder region?

  TVector3 Position; // 3D position TVector3
  float SigmaYZ = -9.; // Uncertainty in YZ intersect [cm]
  float dx = -9; // Equivalent length along drift direction [cm]
  float dYZ = -9; // Approximate length scale in YZ space [cm]

  // Plane/cluster-specific information
  blip::HitClust clusters[kNplanes];

  // Truth-matched energy deposition
  blip::TrueBlip truth;

  // Prototype getter functions
  double X() { return Position.X(); }
  double Y() { return Position.Y(); }
  double Z() { return Position.Z(); }
  
```



"Blip" data object prototype (C++ struct)

- Encodes XYZ, charge, & energy of 3D blips
- Includes distance to nearest track & track cone-cylinder region flag
- Truth-matching information also encoded

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```

// True energy depositions
struct TrueBlip {
  int ID = -9; // unique blip ID
  int TPC = -9; // TPC ID
  float Time = -999e9; // time [us]
  float Energy = 0; // energy dep [MeV]
  int DepElectrons = 0; // deposited electrons
  int NumElectrons = 0; // electrons reaching wires
  float DriftTime = -9; // drift time [us]
  int LeadG4ID = -9; // lead G4 track ID
  int LeadG4Index = -9; // lead G4 track index
  int LeadG4PDG = -9; // lead G4 PDG
  float LeadCharge = -9; // lead G4 charge dep
  TVector3 Position; // XYZ position
  
```