

# Physics of neutrino experiment DUNE

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FZU Elementary particle physics division seminar

25/11/2021



**FZU**

Institute of Physics  
of the Czech  
Academy of Sciences



# Content


- Briefly on neutrino oscillations
- DUNE
- ProtoDUNE
- Proton decay
- Calibrations

# Neutrinos and flavour oscillations

- Neutrinos second most abundant particles in the universe
- Carry **three flavours**  $e, \mu, \tau$
- **Flavour oscillations** observed
- Must have **non-zero mass**
- Oscillations only sensitive to  $\Delta m^2$

Flavour states    **Neutrino mixing (PMNS)**    Mass states

$$\begin{bmatrix} \nu_e \\ \nu_\mu \\ \nu_\tau \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} U_{e1} & U_{e2} & U_{e3} \\ U_{\mu1} & U_{\mu2} & U_{\mu3} \\ U_{\tau1} & U_{\tau2} & U_{\tau3} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \\ \nu_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

 ~ Amplitude of transition

# Oscillation parameters

- $\sin^2 2\theta_{13} = 0.0856 \pm 0.0029$  ( $\nu_{\text{reactor}}$  -Daya Bay)
- $\sin^2 \theta_{12} = 0.307^{+0.013}_{-0.012}$  ( $\nu_{\text{solar}}$  -SK, SNO,  $\nu_{\text{reactor}}$  -KamLAND)
- $\sin^2 \theta_{23} = 0.546 \pm 0.021$  ( $\nu_{\text{accel.}}$  -T2K, MINOS, NOvA,  $\nu_{\text{atmo.}}$  -IceCube, SK)
- $\Delta m_{21}^2 = (7.53 \pm 0.18) \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2$  ( $\nu_{\text{reactor}}$  -KamLAND)
- $\Delta m_{32}^2 = (2.453 \pm 0.033) \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$  (NO assumed)  
( $\nu_{\text{accel.}}$  -T2K, MINOS, NOvA,  $\nu_{\text{atmo.}}$  -IceCube, SK,  $\nu_{\text{reactor}}$  -Daya Bay, RENO)

[PDG]

## Unknown:

- Mass ordering ( $m_3 > m_1$  'normal',  $m_3 < m_1$  'inverted')
- CP violation ( $\delta \neq 0 || \pi$ )

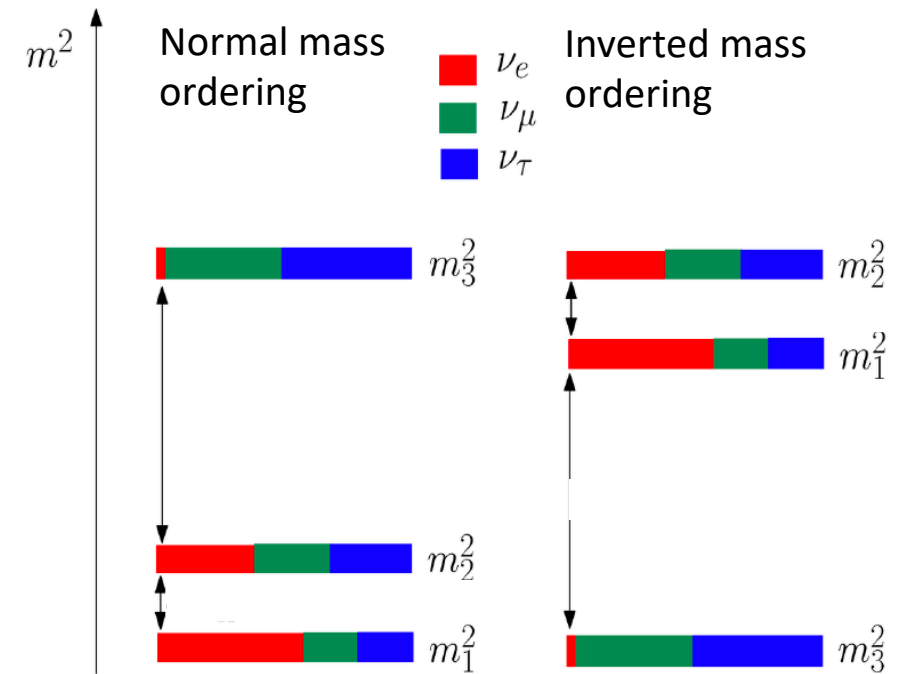
**DUNE will address both!**

CP symmetry violating term

Parametrisation

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c_{23} & s_{23} \\ 0 & -s_{23} & c_{23} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{13} & 0 & s_{13} e^{-i\delta} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -s_{13} e^{i\delta} & 0 & c_{13} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{12} & s_{12} & 0 \\ -s_{12} & c_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

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



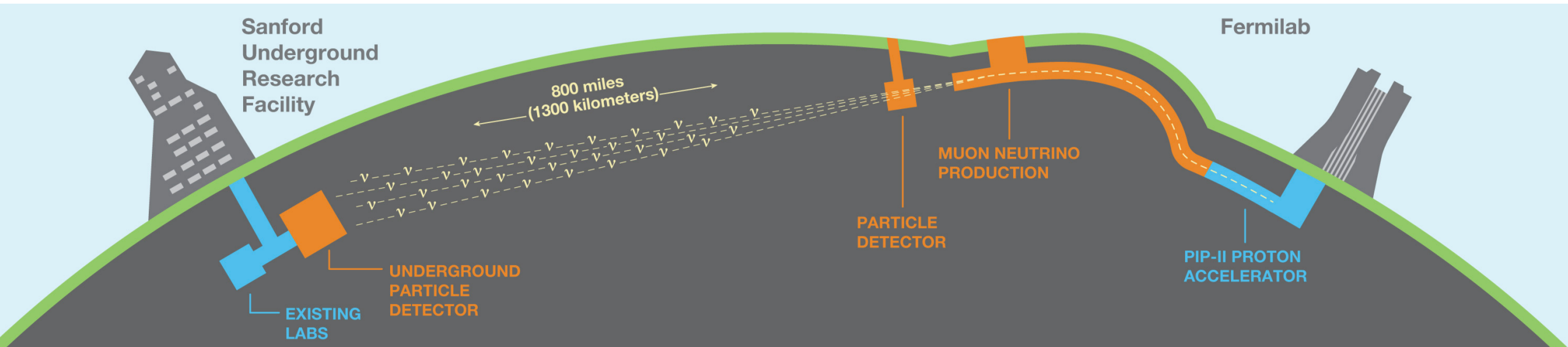
[Image credit: MPKI]



# DUNE Physics Programme

- Determination of CP violation in neutrino oscillation
- Determination of neutrino mass ordering
- Precise measurement of mixing parameters
- Detection of neutrinos from core-collapse supernovae
- Proton decay and other BSM studies
- Detection of solar neutrinos

# Deep Underground Neutrino Experiment – DUNE

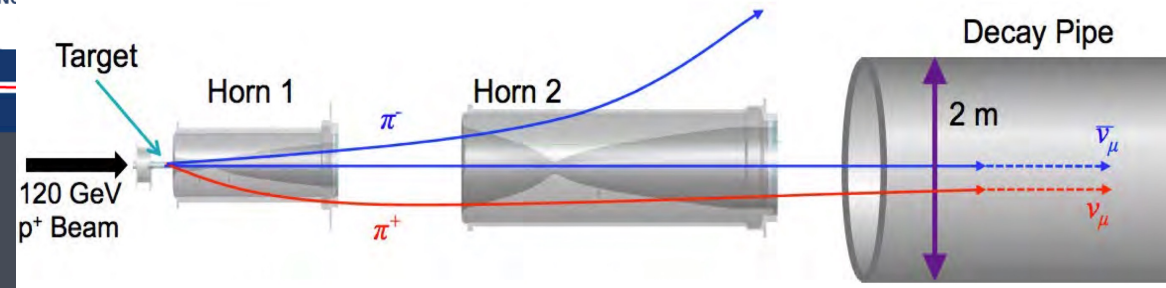
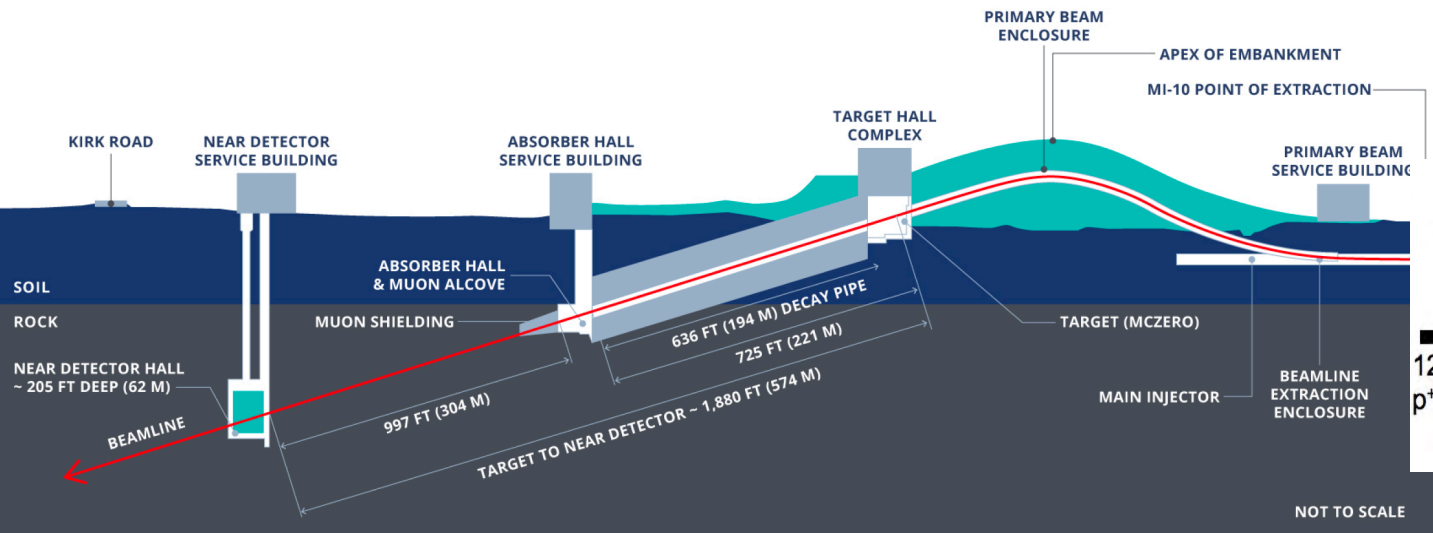
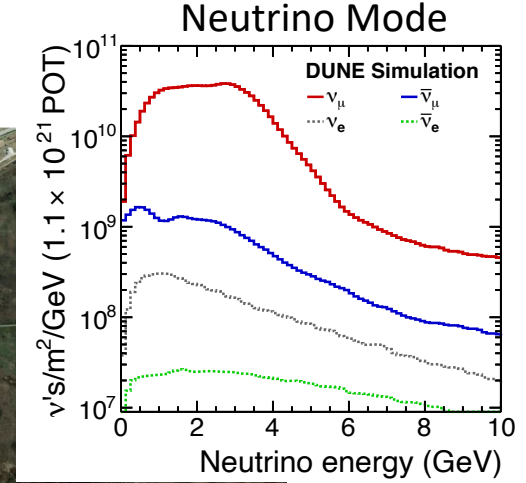
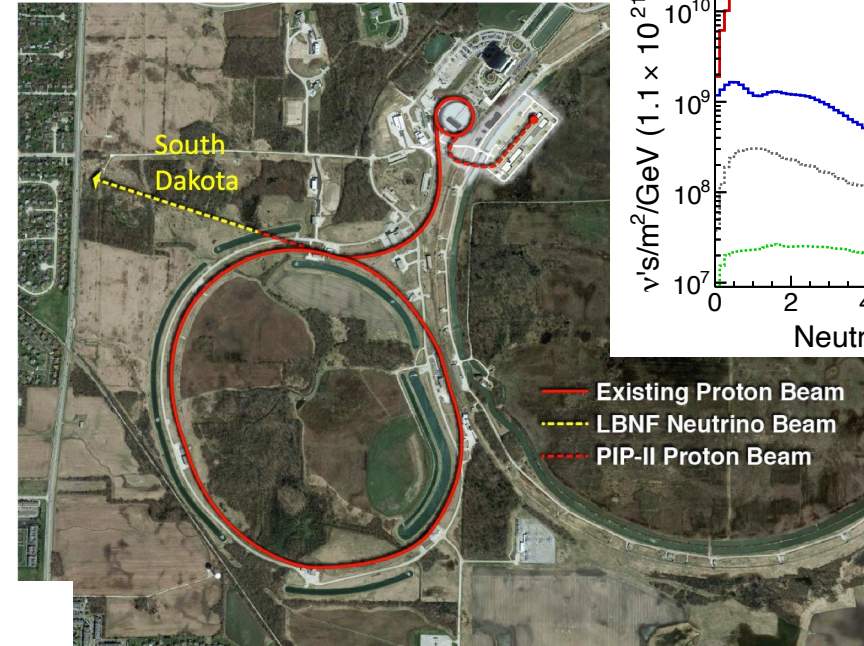


- 3 major components: beam, near detector, far detector
- Fermilab (Chicago, IL) to former Homestake gold mines (Lead, SD)
- International collaboration
- Czech member institutions:
  - FZU
  - Czech Technical University
  - Charles University



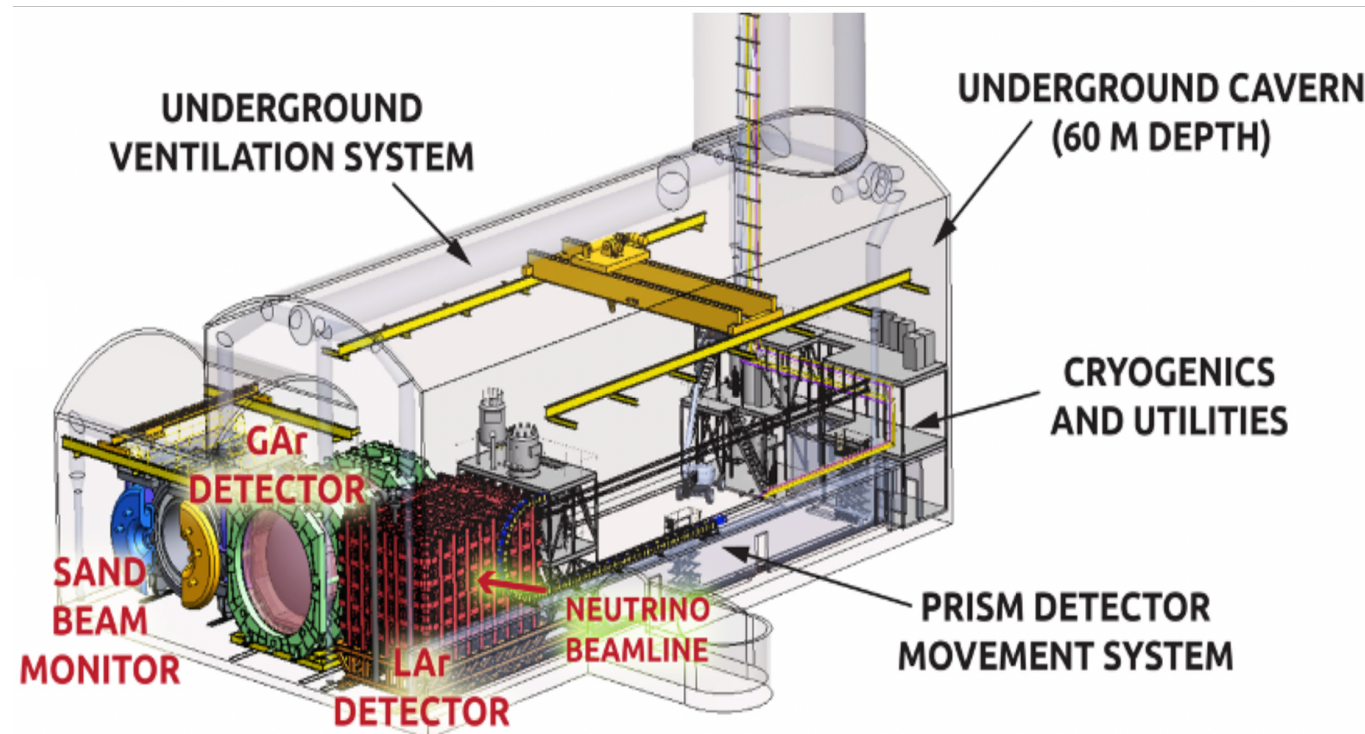
# Beam

- Proton Improvement Plan II
- Will produce 1.2 MW proton beam (60–120 GeV) (upgradeable to 2.4 MW)
- Protons on target  $\rightarrow$  pions  $\rightarrow$  muons + neutrinos
- Expected late 2020s



# Near Detector

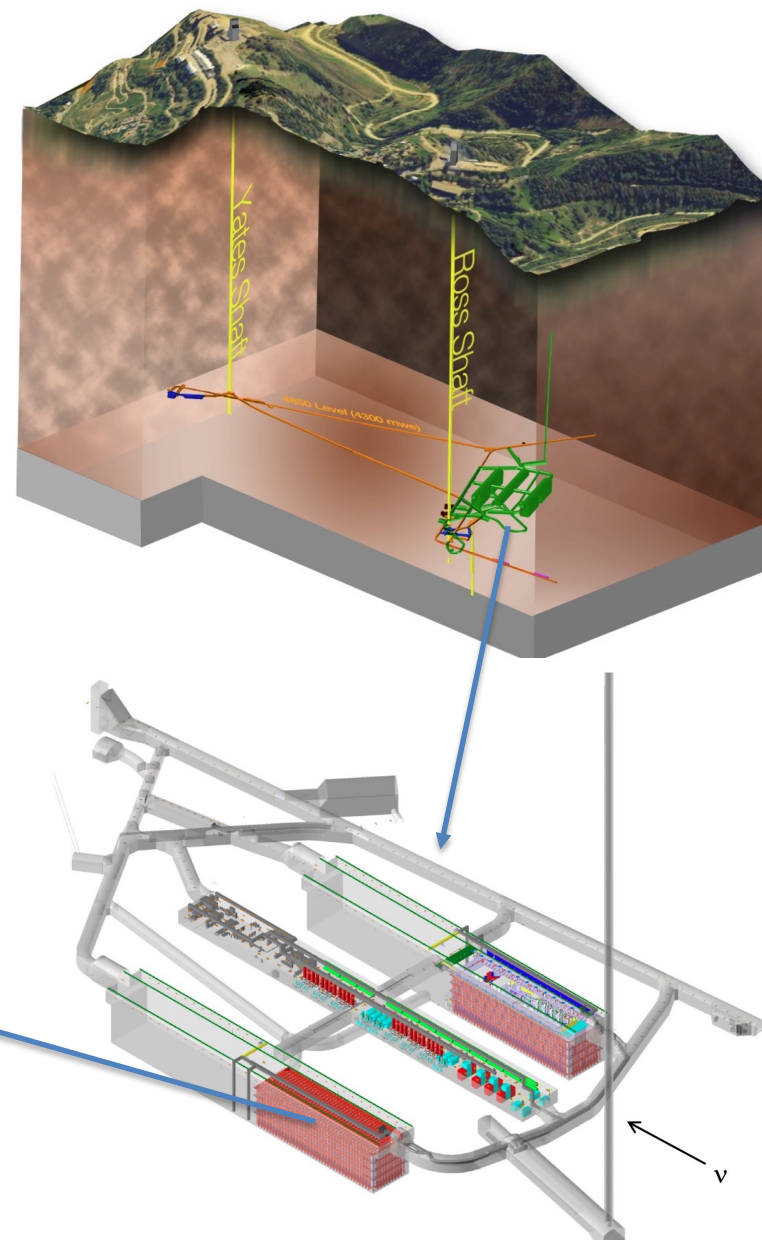
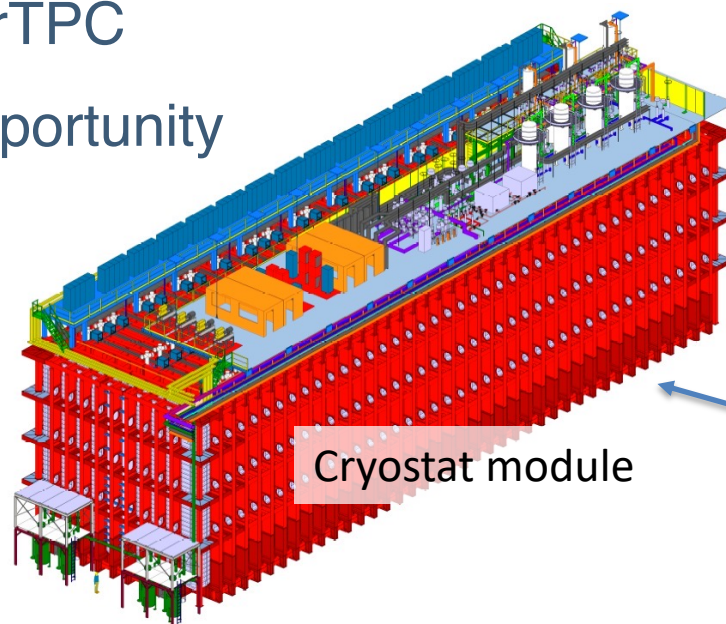
- Cross section measurement
- Flux monitoring
- Constrains on systematics in relative Near – Far Detector measurement
- Three systems
  - LArTPC – primary neutrino target
  - GArTPC – high pressure gas; muon tracker
  - On-axis monitor – inner tracker, ECAL, SC-magnet



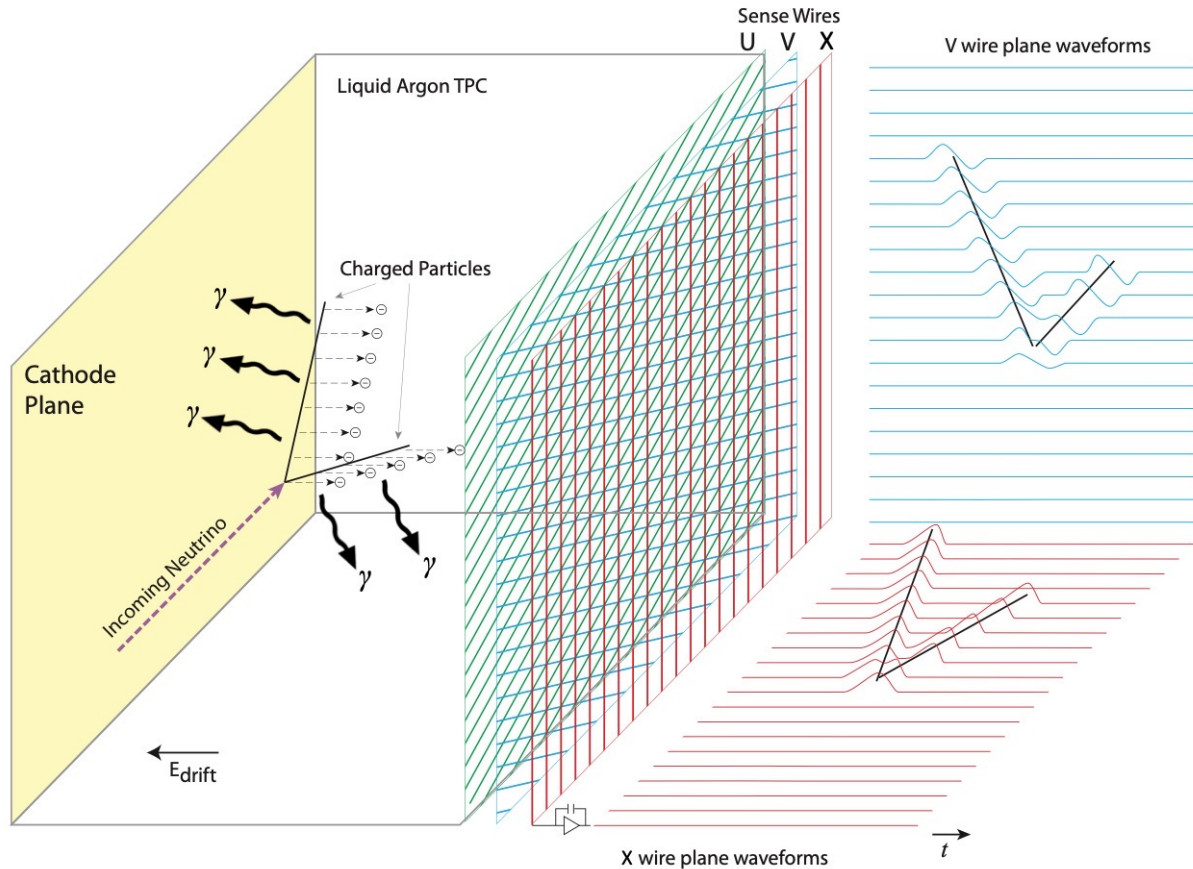


# Far Detector

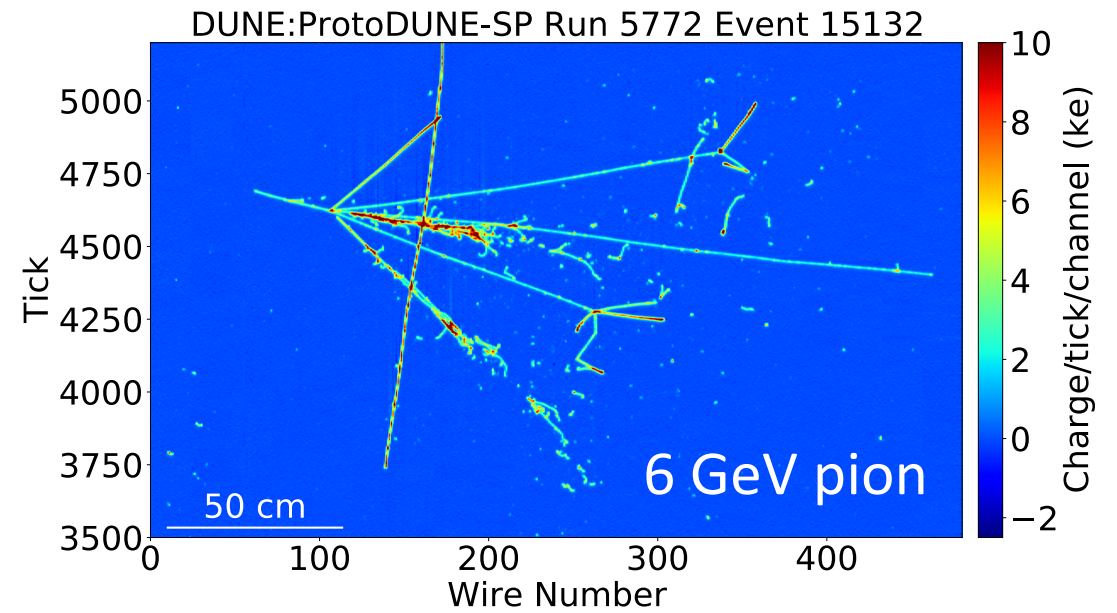
- Sanford Underground Research Facility (SURF)
- 1.5 km underground
- 4 detectors in 2 main caverns
- Instrumented in stages
- Modules 1, 2 and 3 – LArTPC
- Module 4 – module of opportunity



# Principles of LArTPC

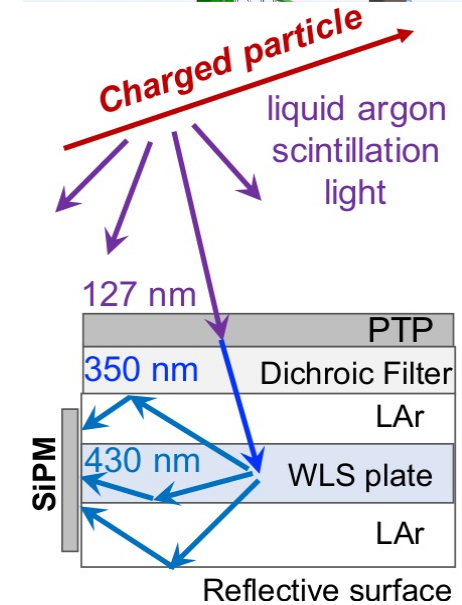
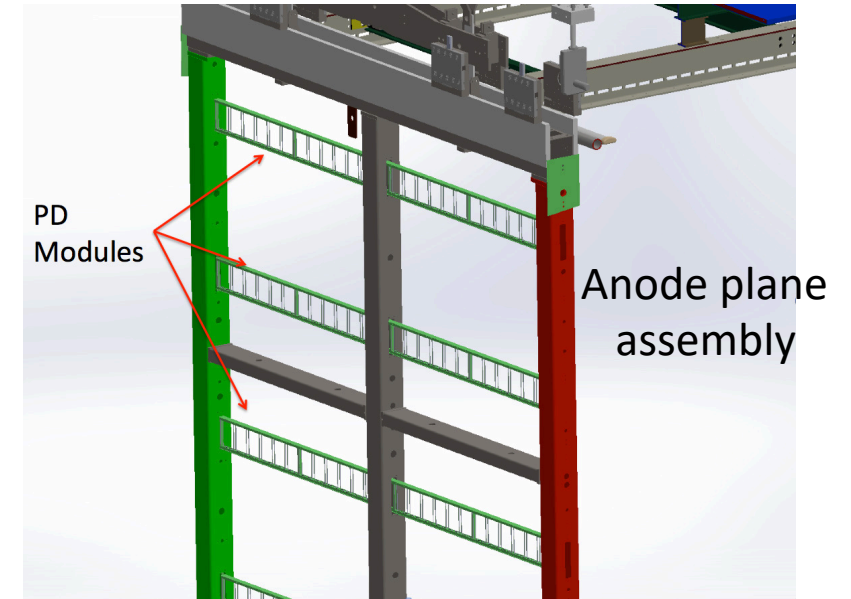


- Liquid Argon Time Projection Chamber
- 3D image – time plays role of 1 coordinate
- Far Detector – multiple readout wire planes  
→ multiple 2D views



# Photon Detection System

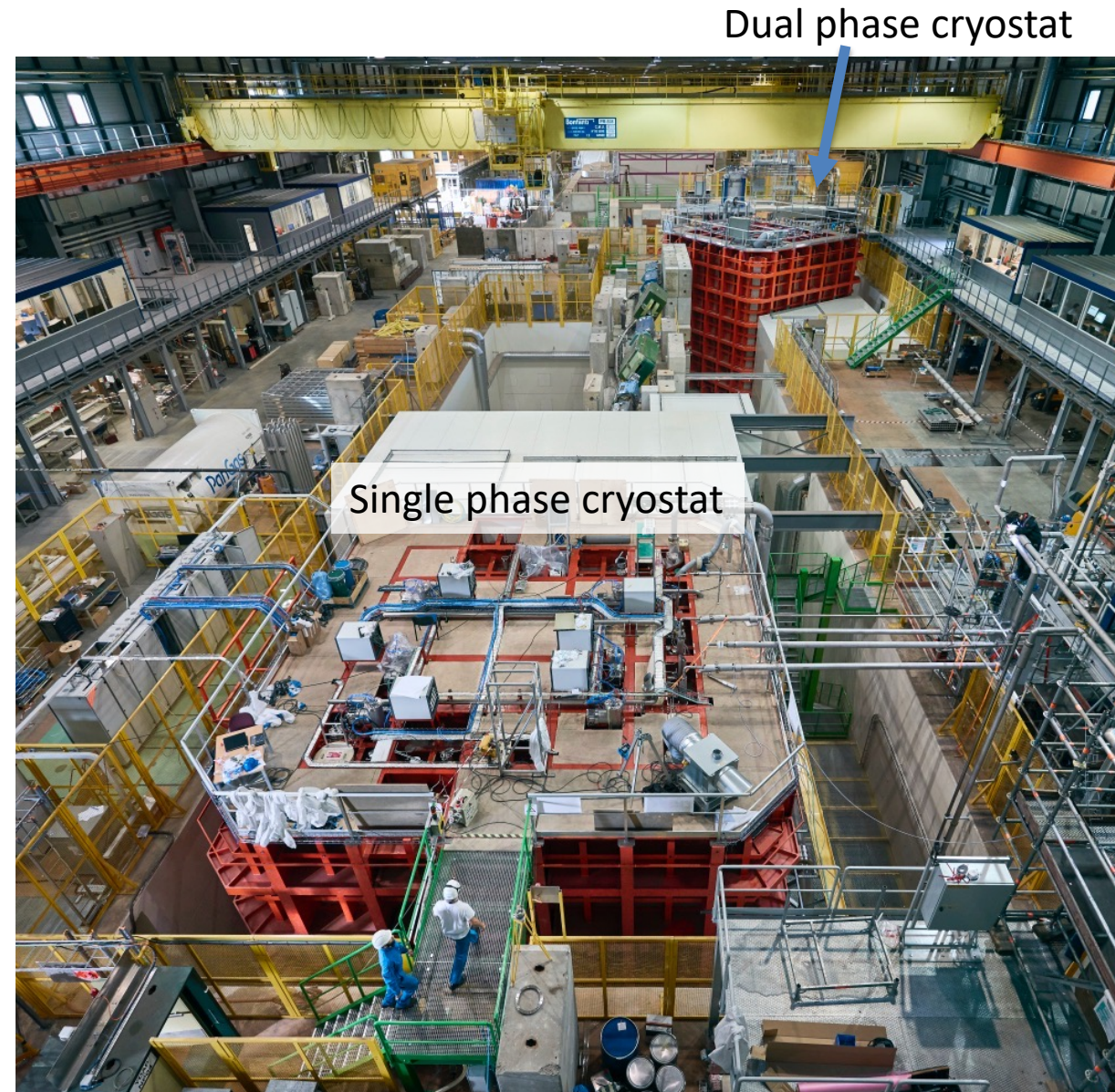
- Will provide time information for events
  - Need reference time to know drift distance
  - Crucial for non-beam events
- Calorimetry
  - Aid TPC energy reconstruction
  - Important for low-energy physics (supernova  $\nu$ )
- Decided to use X-ARAPUCA
- **FZU** has been involved:
  - Installation and commissioning of system in ProtoDUNE
  - Initial tests of SiPM sensors → selection of candidates to be tested in ProtoDUNE
  - Will prepare for mass testing for QA/QC for DUNE Far Detector Module 1





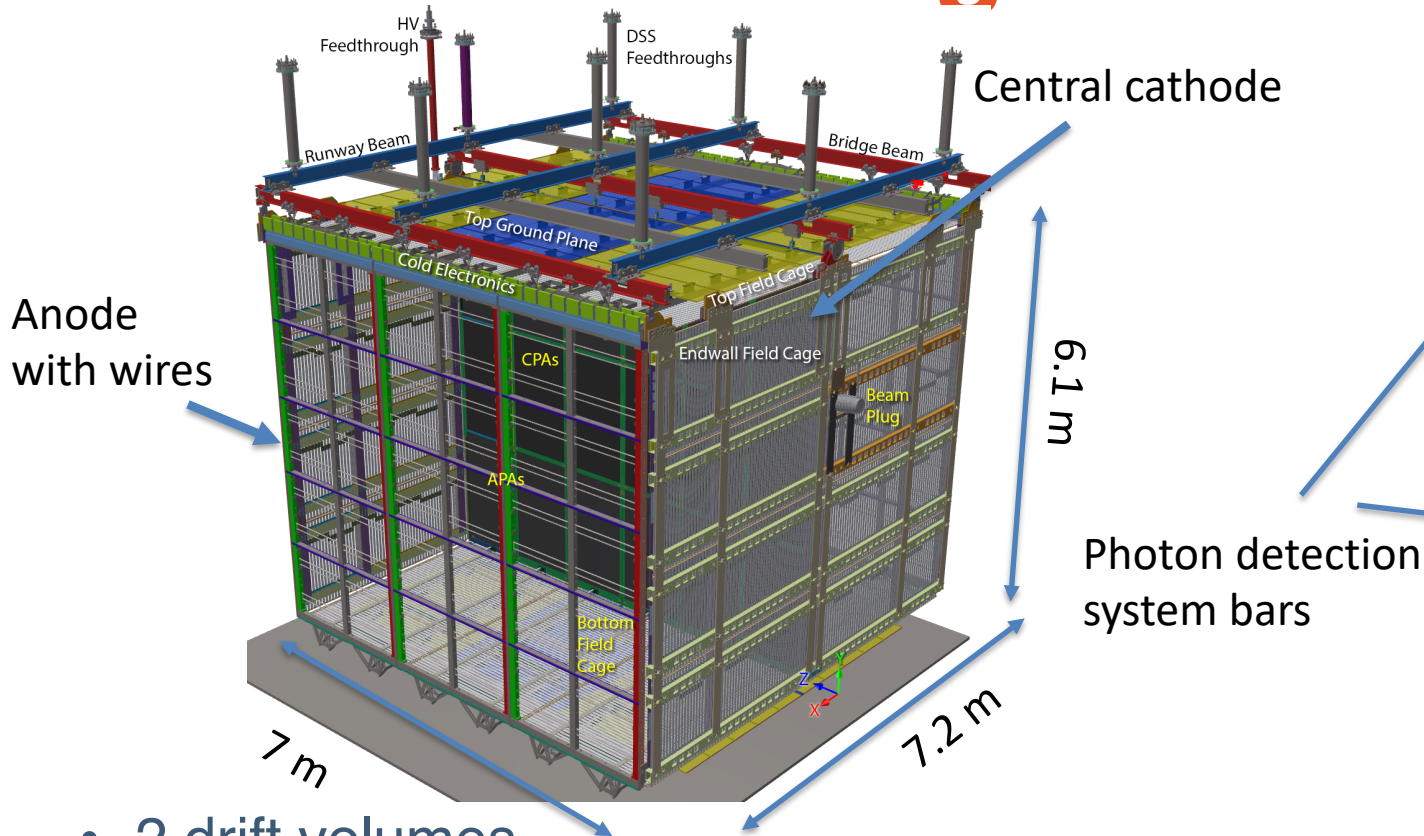
# ProtoDUNE at CERN

- Design **validation** and **demonstration** at full scale – same drift distance and E-field
- **Two prototypes** (~1 kt LAr)
  - ‘**Single Phase**’, horizontal drift
    - All liquid argon
    - Operational 2018–2020
    - In test beam –  $p$ ,  $\pi$ ,  $\mu$ ,  $e$ ,  $K$
    - Cosmics
    - Components being upgraded → ‘**Phase II**’ (start 2022)
  - ‘**Dual Phase**’, vertical drift
    - Liquid argon with gaseous layer on top
    - Drift charge multiplied in gas phase → amazing signal/noise
    - Proved to be difficult at large scale
    - Operational 2019-2020, cosmics
    - Evolved into ‘**Single-phase**’, vertical drift

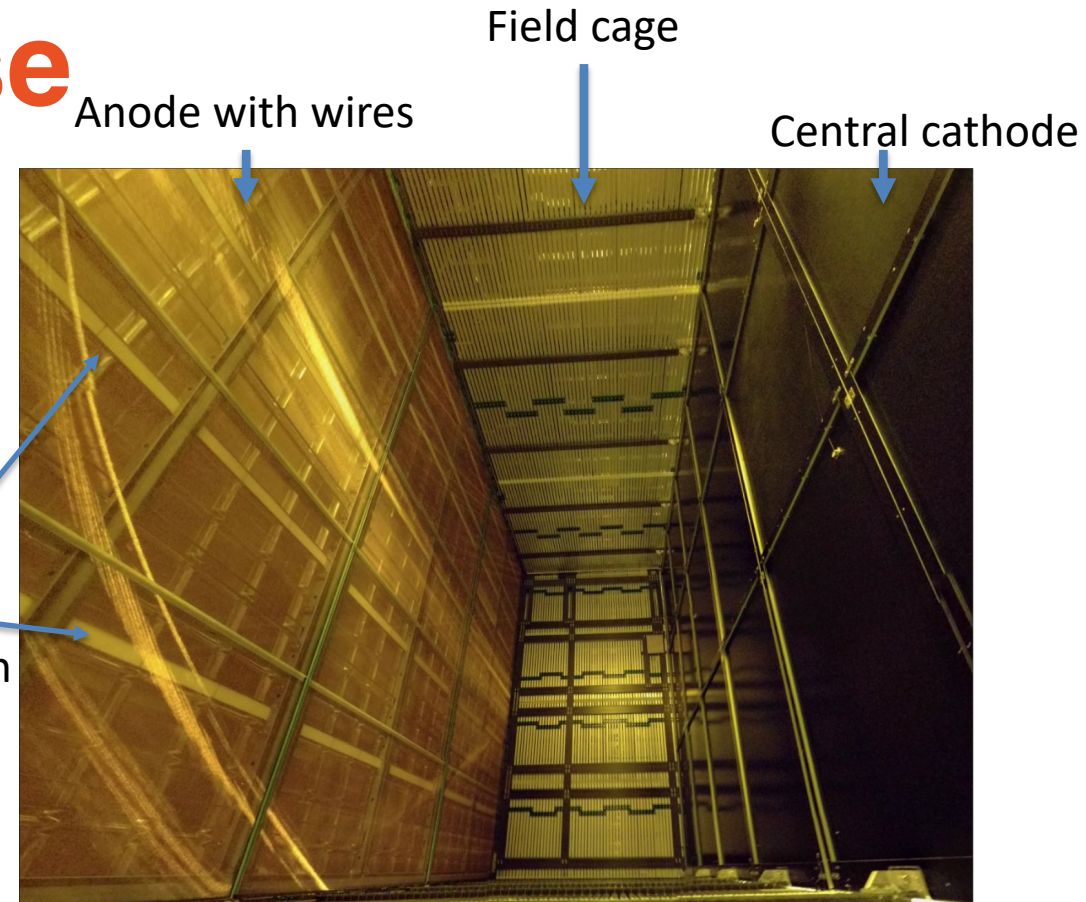




# ProtoDUNE Single Phase



- 2 drift volumes
- Cathode in the middle
- 3 anode assemblies on each side

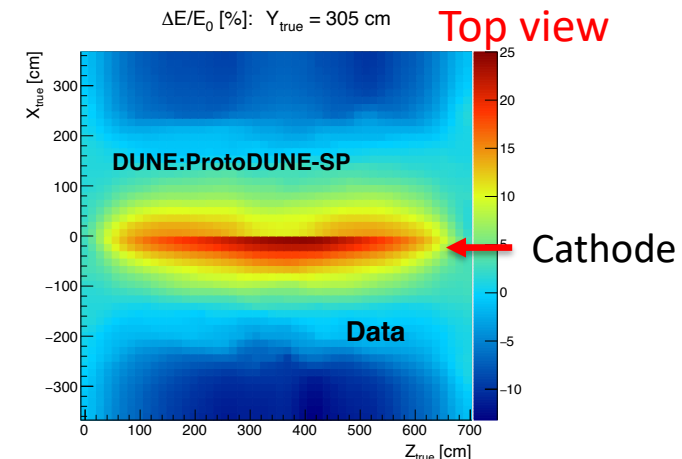
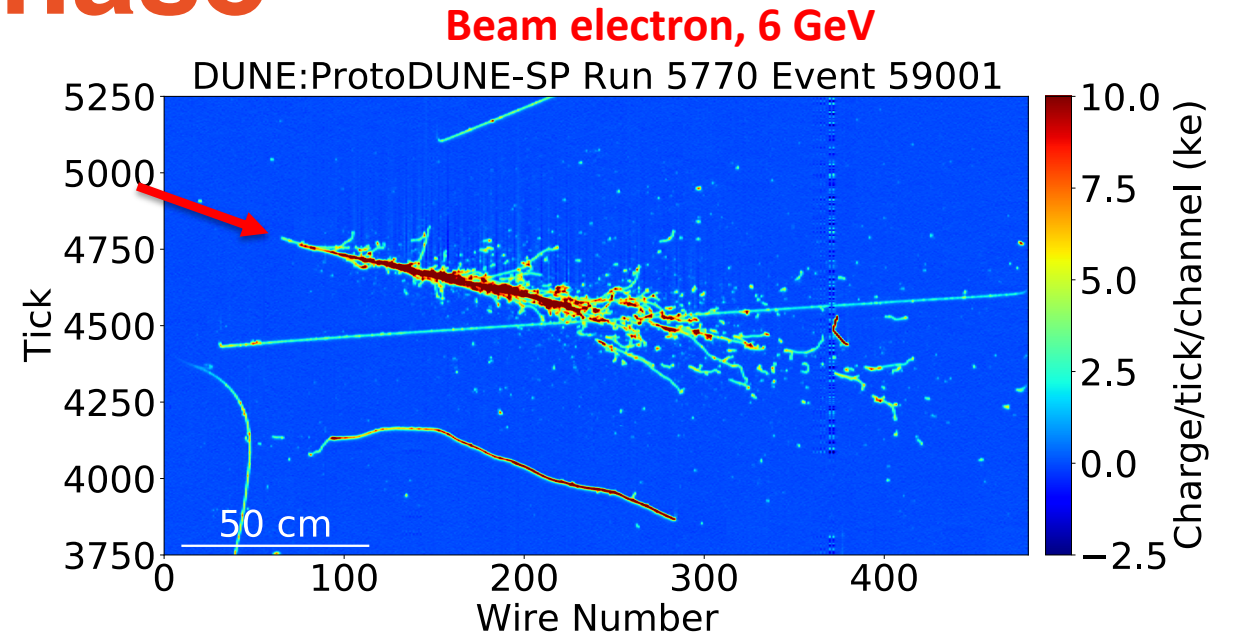
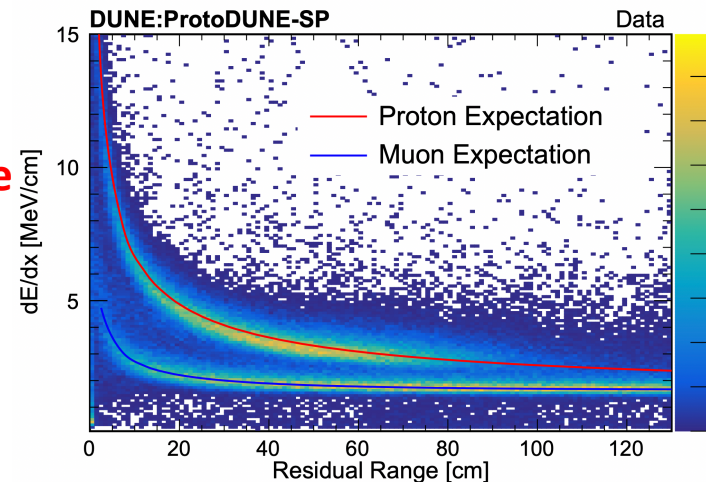


- Inside view of one drift volume
- Not filled with LAr

# ProtoDUNE Single Phase

- Successful beam **particle identification and reconstruction**
  - Cross section measurements under way ( $\pi$ ,  $p$ ,  $K$  with Ar)
- Measured distortion of electric field
  - Due to accumulated space charge
- **Stable operation**
  - > 99.5% HV uptime
  - > 99% channels active
- **Photon detectors tested** → final-design considerations

**Energy loss vs residual range for stopping particles**  
→ Particle identification



**Electric field distortion**

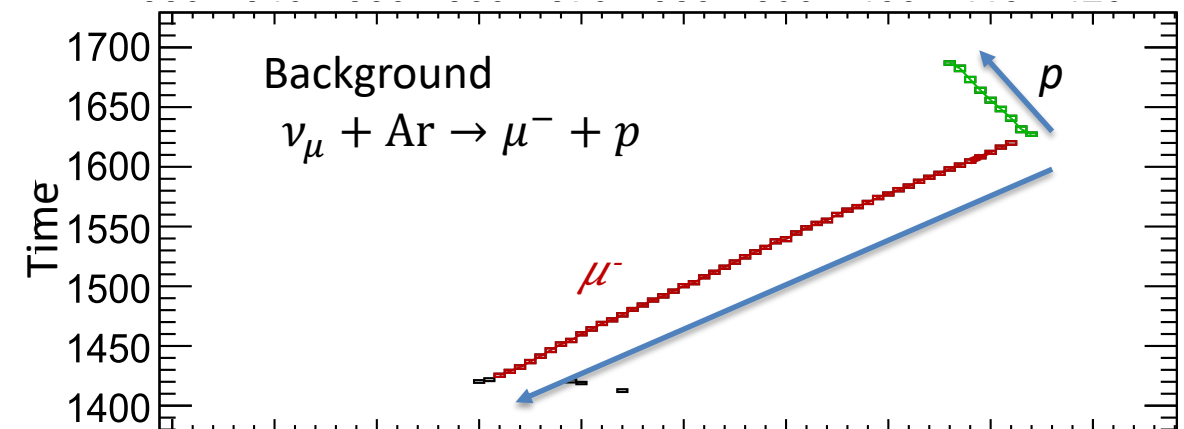
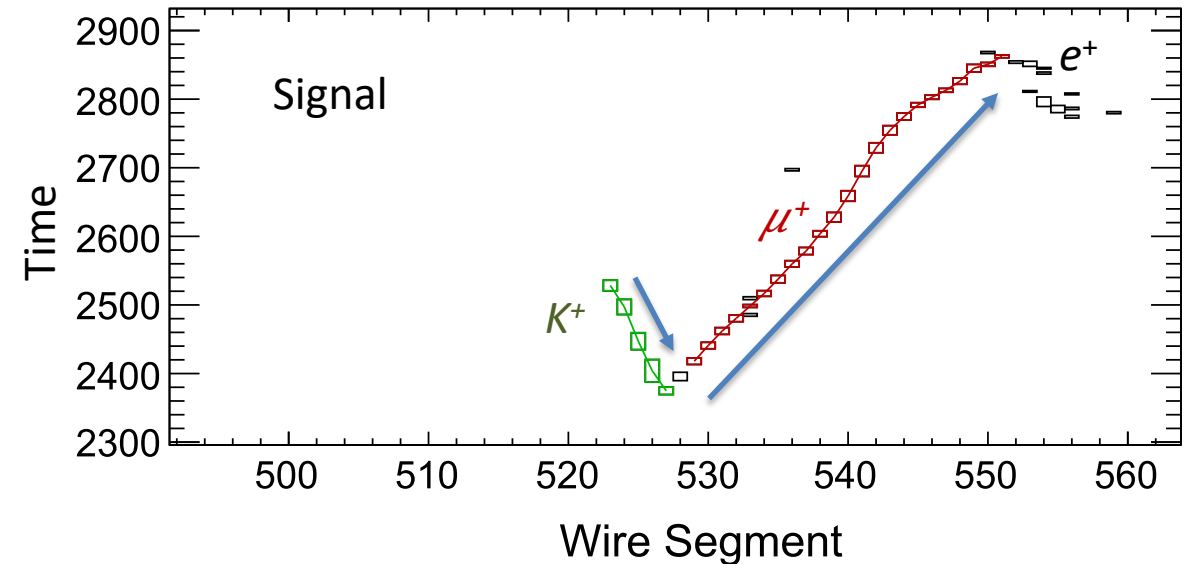
# Proton decay

- Potential of DUNE for baryon-number violating decays:
  - $p \rightarrow K^+ \bar{\nu}$ ,  $n \rightarrow K^+ e^-$ ,  $p \rightarrow e^+ \pi^0$
  - More to be investigated
- Super-Kamiokande biggest player in the game
  - Large water Cherenkov detector
- LArTPC has better particle identification and topology reconstruction  $\rightarrow$  potentially better efficiency in selecting decay signals and background discrimination
- Most promising:  $p \rightarrow K^+ \bar{\nu}$



- $KE_K = 105 \text{ MeV}$  ( $\sim 28 \text{ cm}$  in LAr; if  $p$  at-rest)
- $K^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu$  (64%)
  - $KE_\mu = 153 \text{ MeV}$  ( $\sim 52 \text{ cm}$  in LAr)
- **DUNE will see kaons** (unlike in water Cherenkov detector) and mono-energetic  $\mu$
- Major background from **atmospheric  $\nu_\mu$  CC**
  - Similar topology (if  $\mu$  energy is right)
  - Possible misidentification of **proton as  $K$** 
    - Can discriminate on direction
    - Difficult to distinguish when short tracks
- Caveat: in DUNE  $p$  decays inside Ar nucleus

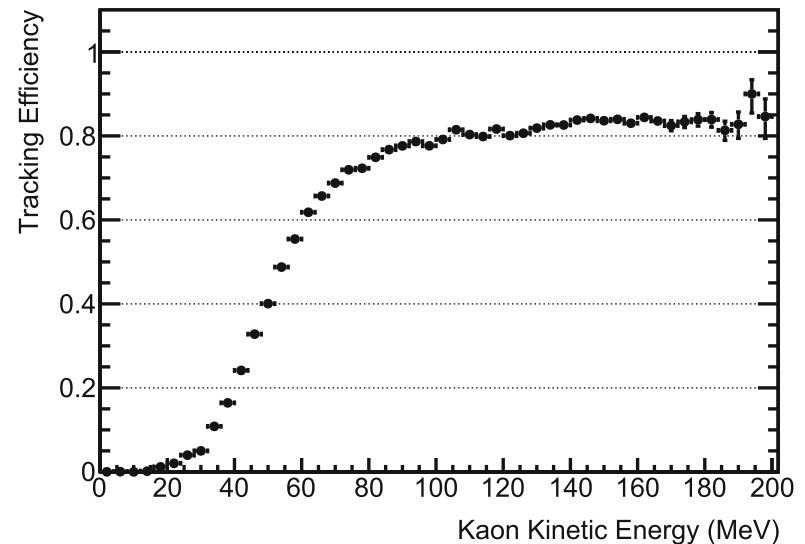
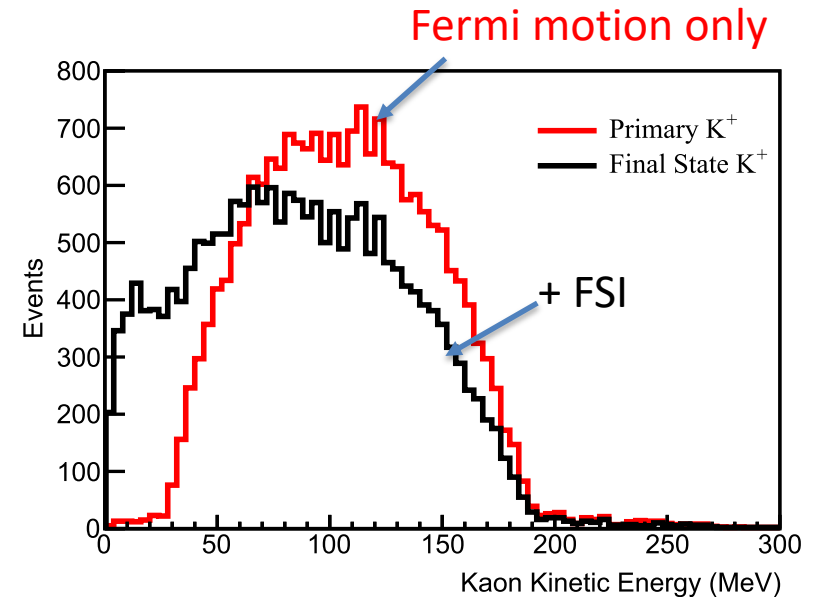
Reconstructed MC events





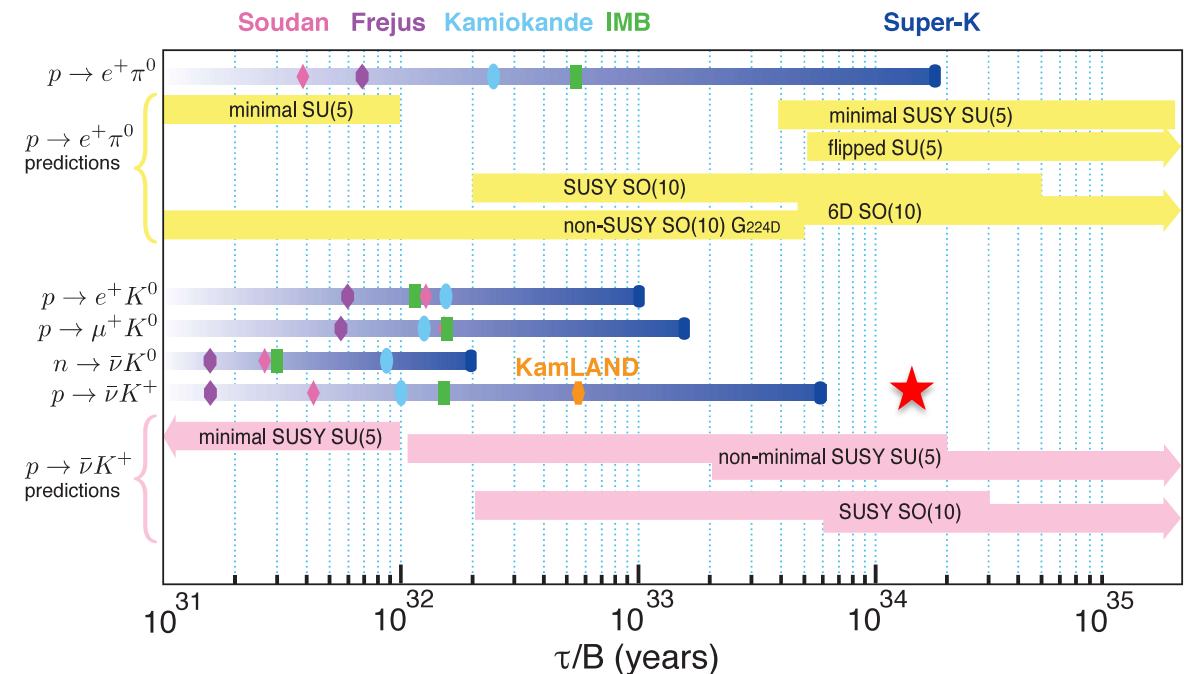
# Effects of Nucleus

- Energy of outgoing  $K$  affected by
  - $p$  Fermi motion
  - interactions within nucleus (Final State Interactions/FSI)
  - Significant fraction of  $K$  leave Ar with  $< 50$  MeV
- Current reconstructions have troubles finding short tracks ( $\sim 4$  cm or  $\sim 40$  MeV)
- Improvements in reconstruction foreseen (visual scanning suggest improvement in tracking efficiency 58%  $\rightarrow$  80% possible)



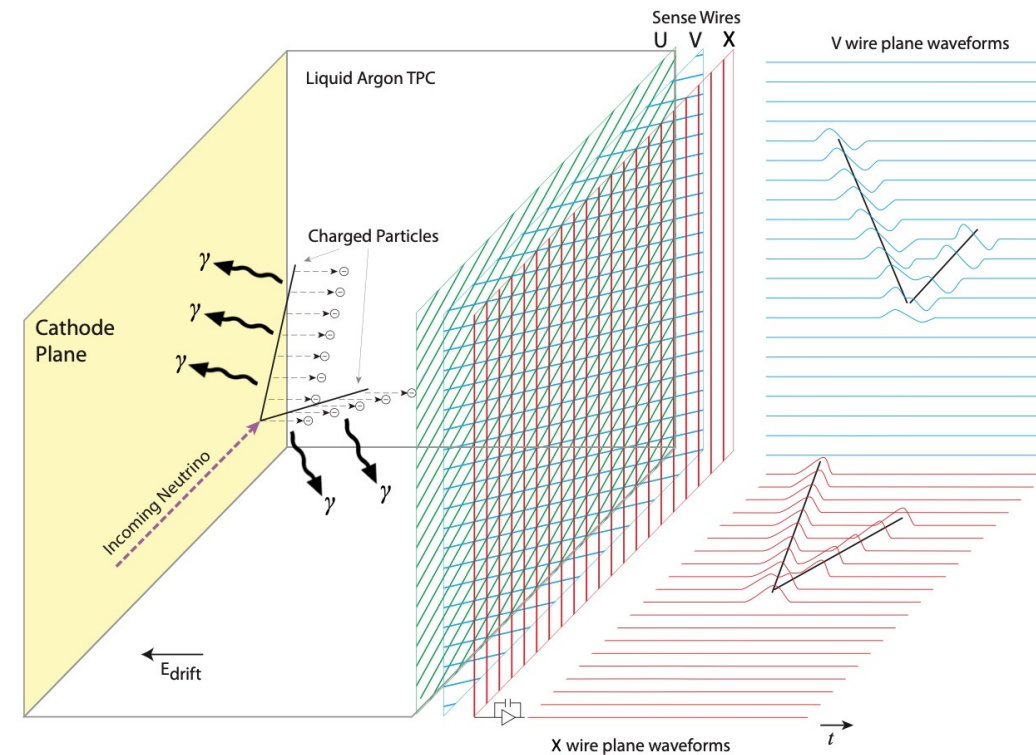
# Sensitivity to $p \rightarrow K^+ \bar{\nu}$

- Multi-variate analysis chosen (Boosted Decision Tree) for event classification
- Background suppression to 0.4 events per 400 kt-year (or 10 years with all 4 modules)
- Current reconstruction  $\rightarrow$  15% signal efficiency
- With improved reco.  $\rightarrow$  30%
- $\rightarrow$  **proton lifetime limit  $1.3 \times 10^{34}$  years (90% CL) if no signal observed**
- FSI model not known well
  - Some constraints from pion data
  - Variations lead to about 2% uncertainty in signal efficiency



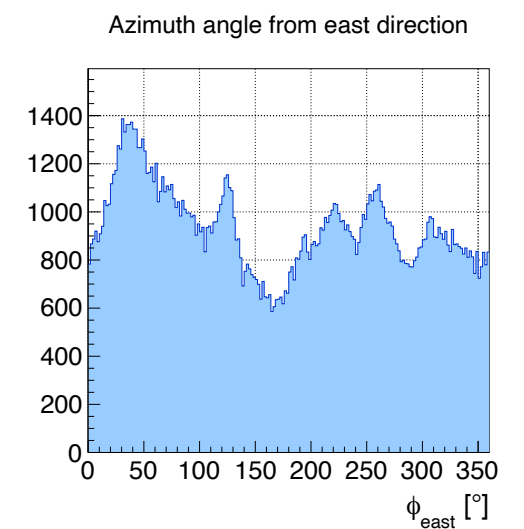
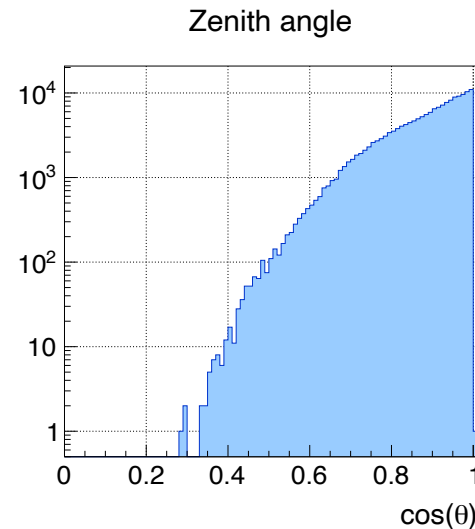
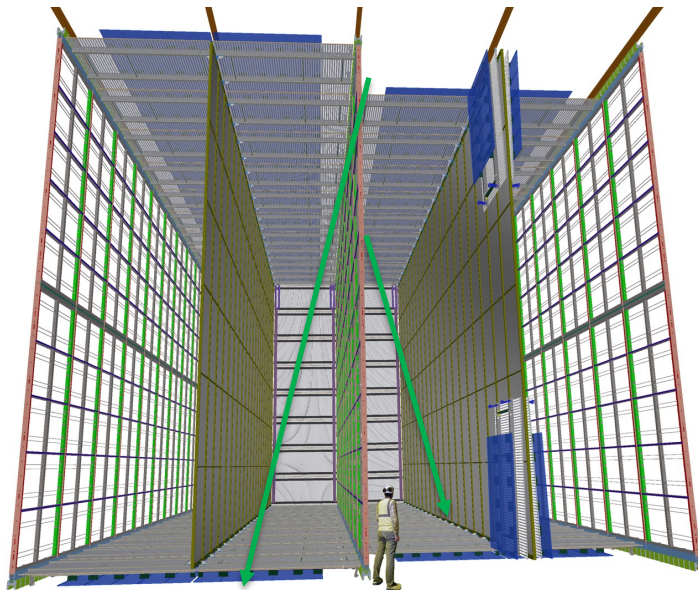
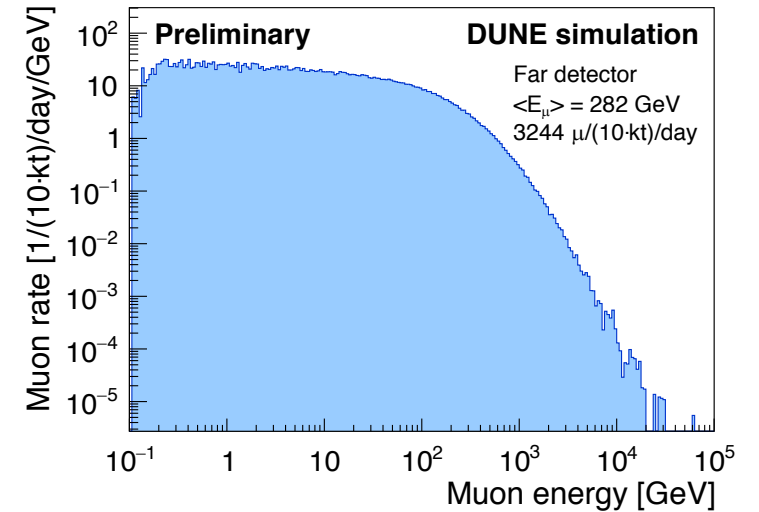
# Detector calibration

- Need to determine several detector parameters
  - Drifting electron lifetime (attachment to impurities)
  - Electron-ion recombination
  - Electric field / electron drift velocity
  - Electron diffusion
  - Electronics gain
  - Etc.
- Measure detector response to ‘standard candles’
- Cosmic ray muons useful source
- Beam neutrino events can be also used
- Some dedicated hardware – laser, neutron source, purity monitors



# Cosmic ray muons underground

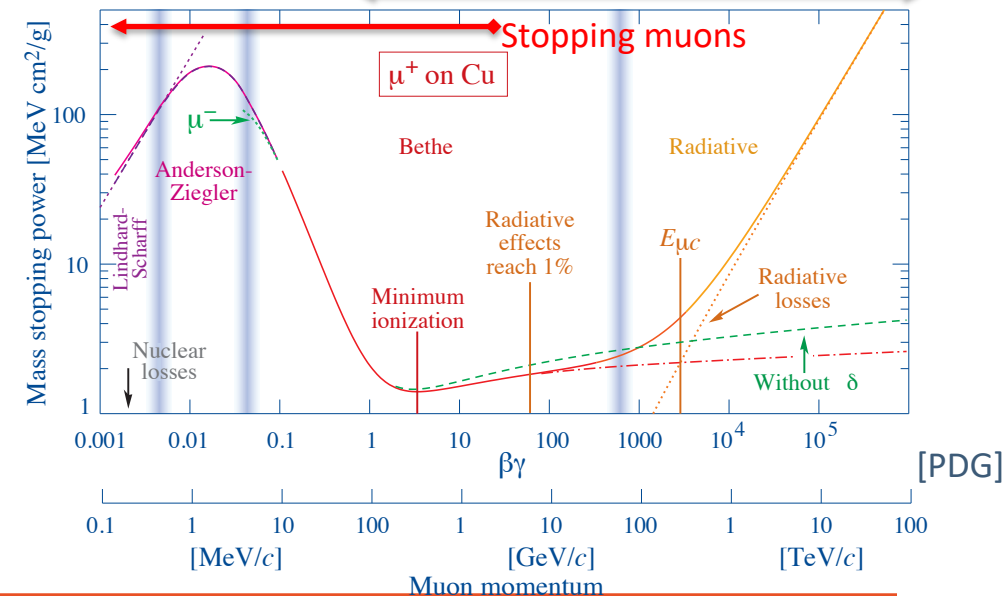
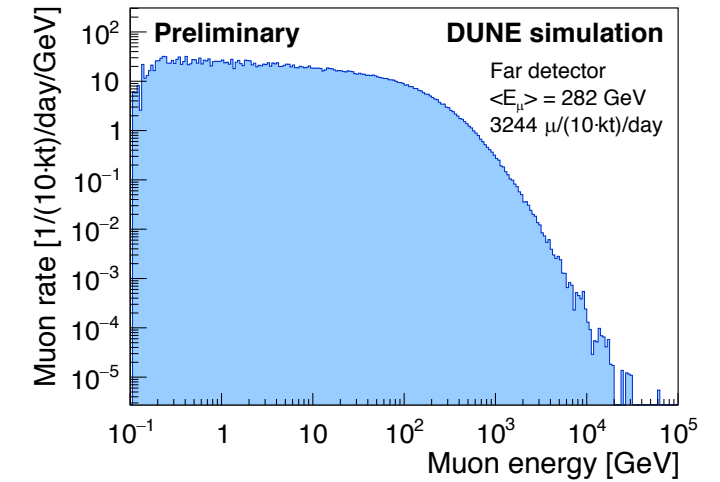
- Not too many at Far Detector (1.5 km underground)
  - ~4700 muons in single module per day
  - Only ~90 stop inside
    - (stopping muons are great for energy calibration)
- Mostly vertical tracks





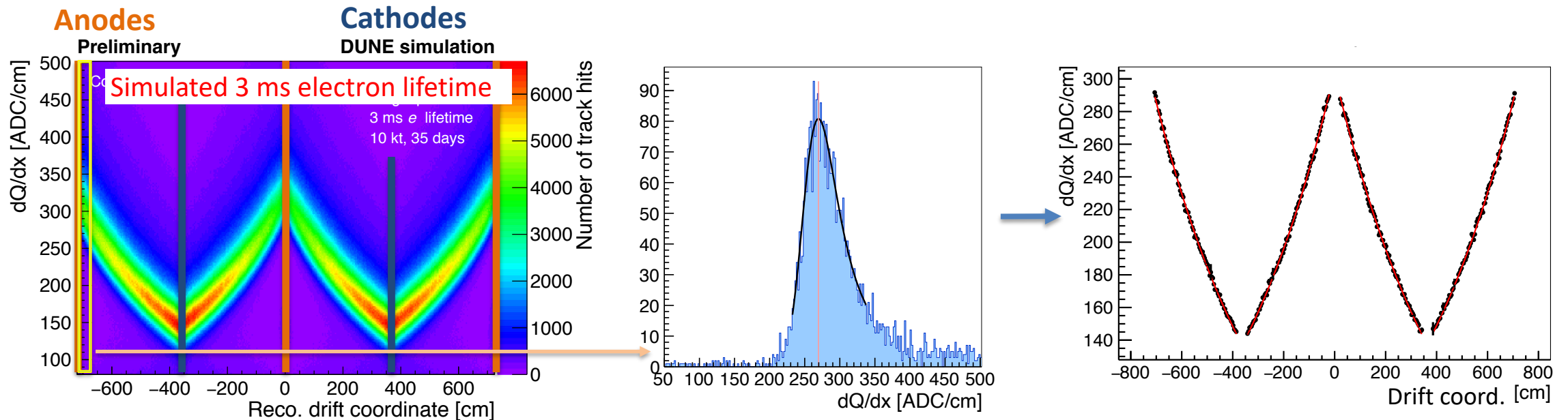
# Electron lifetime measurement

- Electrons attenuated along drift due to impurities
- Collected charge dependent on drift distance
- Use cosmic ray muons to measure it
  - Broad E spectrum  $\rightarrow$  varying ionisation loss
  - Reconstruction of charge sensitive to track orientation  $\rightarrow$  response will differ for individual muons
- Enough tracks  $\rightarrow$  variations average out  $\rightarrow$  uniform energy depositions along drift coordinate  $\rightarrow$  can measure effects on drifted charge



# Electron lifetime measurement

- Simulated about 35 days of cosmic ray muons
- Assumed average depositions and charge reco. uniform along drift direction
- $dQ/dx$  – collected charge on each wire / length of corresponding track segment
- Found  $\sim 1\%$  uncertainty in corrected  $dQ/dx$  achievable with 1-day data – purely statistical
- Systematic effects are being evaluated



# Conclusion

## DUNE programme

- Neutrino oscillations
- Supernova and solar neutrino
- BSM searches – proton decay discussed

## Status & Schedule

- ProtoDUNE single phase successfully ran in test beam @ CERN
  - Valuable input for DUNE design and demonstration of similar-scale LArTPC
- ProtoDUNE phase II test beam planned in 2022-2023
- Near and Far site construction/preparation is underway
- First DUNE far detector installation in mid-2020s
- Neutrino beam expected late 2020s

# More details on DUNE physics

*Deep Underground Neutrino Experiment (DUNE), Far Detector Technical Design Report, Volume II: DUNE Physics, arXiv:2002.03005 [hep-ex]*

- Physics papers
  - *Long-baseline neutrino oscillation physics potential of the DUNE experiment, Eur.Phys.J.C 80 (2020) 10, 978*
  - *Low exposure long-baseline neutrino oscillation sensitivity of the DUNE experiment, arXiv:2109.01304 [hep-ex]*
  - *Prospects for beyond the Standard Model physics searches at the Deep Underground Neutrino Experiment, Eur.Phys.J.C 81 (2021) 4, 322*
  - *Supernova neutrino burst detection with the Deep Underground Neutrino Experiment, Eur.Phys.J.C 81 (2021) 5, 423*