



Physics with KM3NeT-ORCA

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on behalf of the Nikhef-KM3NeT group

What do we know about neutrinos?

- There are 3 weakly interacting neutrino fields
- Interaction eigenstates \neq mass eigenstates

$$|\nu_\alpha\rangle = \sum_k U_{\alpha k}^* |\nu_k\rangle$$

$$\mathcal{H}|\nu_k\rangle = E_k |\nu_k\rangle$$

Schrödinger

$$|\nu_\alpha(t)\rangle = \sum_k U_{\alpha k}^* e^{-iE_k t} |\nu_k\rangle$$

**Neutrinos
oscillate!**

$$L \approx t$$

- Neutrinos are massive!

$$P_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta}(L, E) = \sum_{k,j} \underbrace{U_{\alpha k}^* U_{\beta k} U_{\alpha j} U_{\beta j}^*}_{\text{amplitude}} \exp\left(-i \frac{\Delta m_{kj}^2 L}{2E}\right)$$

frequency

Six oscillation parameters:

- 2 mass-squared differences
- 3 mixing angles
- 1 complex phase

$$\Delta m_{ij}^2 = m_i^2 - m_j^2$$

$$\theta_{ij}$$

$$\delta_{CP}$$

determine size of PMNS matrix elements $U_{\alpha k}$

An unknown: The NMO

3 neutrino mass eigenstates, so in principle 3! orderings possible:

1-2-3

3-1-2

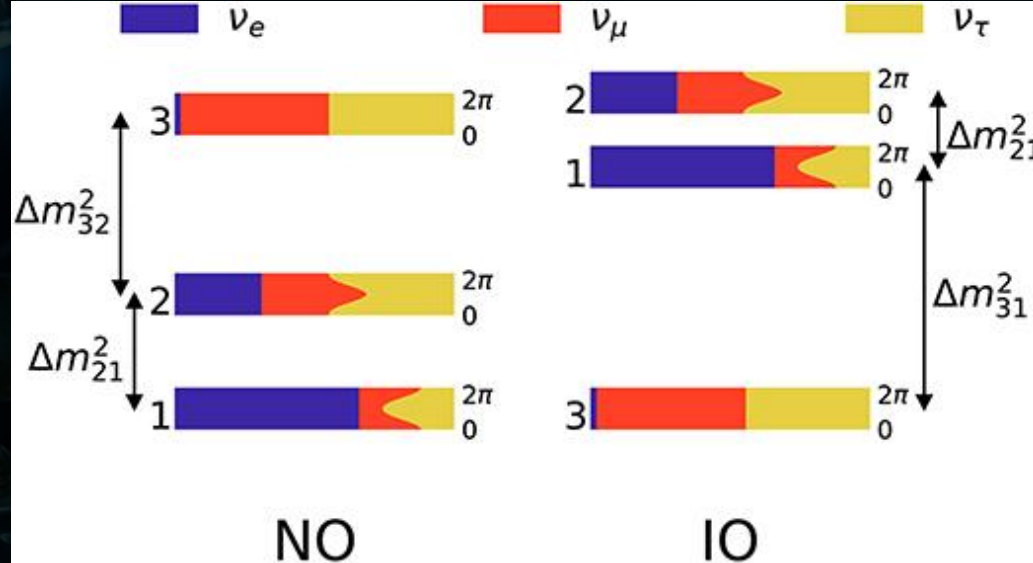
2-3-1

1-3-2

2-1-3

3-2-1

So why this picture?!



[DOI: 10.3389/fspas.2018.00036](https://doi.org/10.3389/fspas.2018.00036)

An unknown: The NMO


3 neutrino mass eigenstates, so in principle 3! orderings possible:

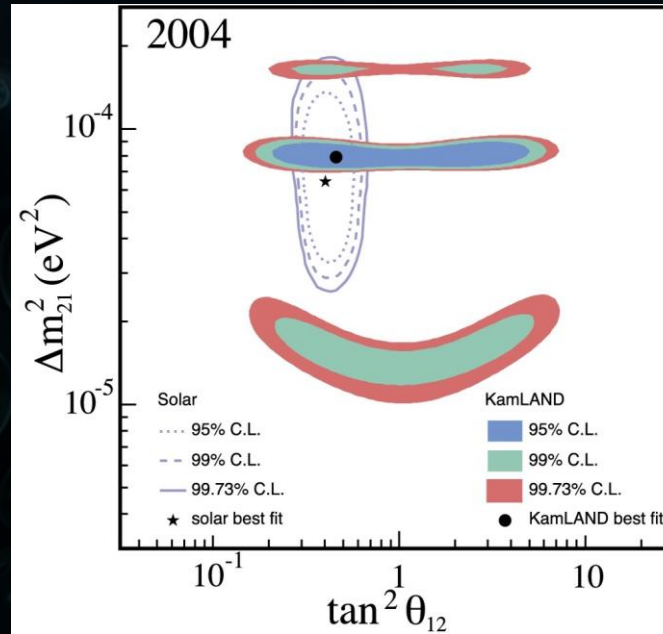


So why this picture?!

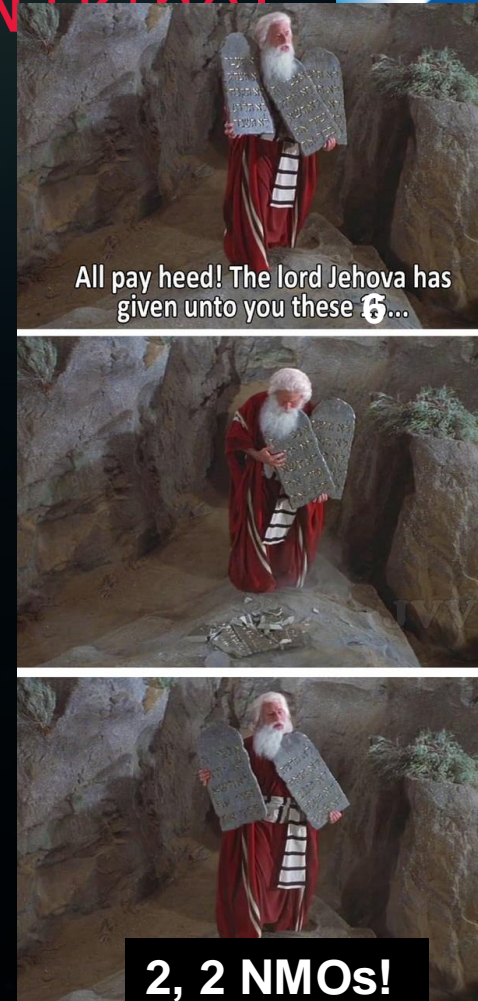
Only $|\Delta m_{3l}^2| > \Delta m_{21}^2 > 0$ consistent with data:

- Atmospheric neutrino rates
- Reactor neutrino rates
- Solar neutrino **matter effects**

 **2 choices remaining**



DOI: [10.1016/j.nuclphysb.2016.04.014](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nuclphysb.2016.04.014)



2, 2 NMOs!

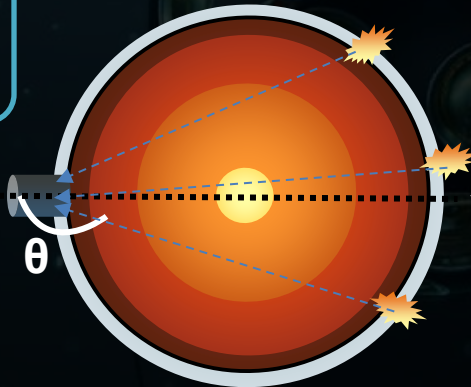
Determining the NMO

Our method:

Take advantage of matter effects in $P(\bar{\nu}_\mu \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_\mu)$ and $P(\bar{\nu}_\mu \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e)$ and use natural $\nu/\bar{\nu}$ event rate asymmetry

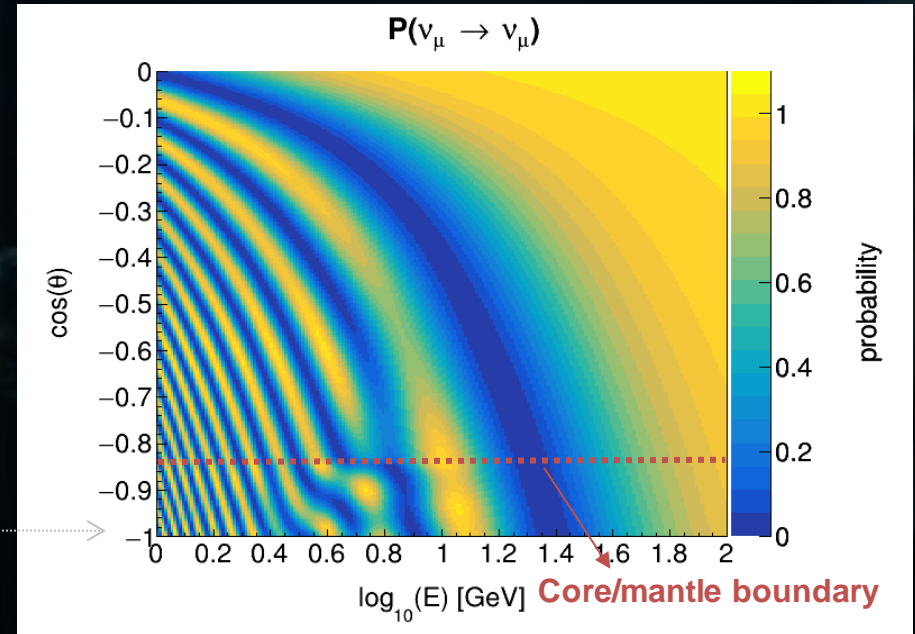
- Resonances for ν ($\bar{\nu}$) in NO (IO)
- Long baseline accelerators (e.g. DUNE)
+ atm. neutrino detectors (e.g. KM3NeT)

Can probe vast range of L/E!



$$\begin{aligned}\Phi_\nu &\approx 1.1\Phi_{\bar{\nu}} \\ \sigma_\nu &\approx 2\sigma_{\bar{\nu}}\end{aligned}$$

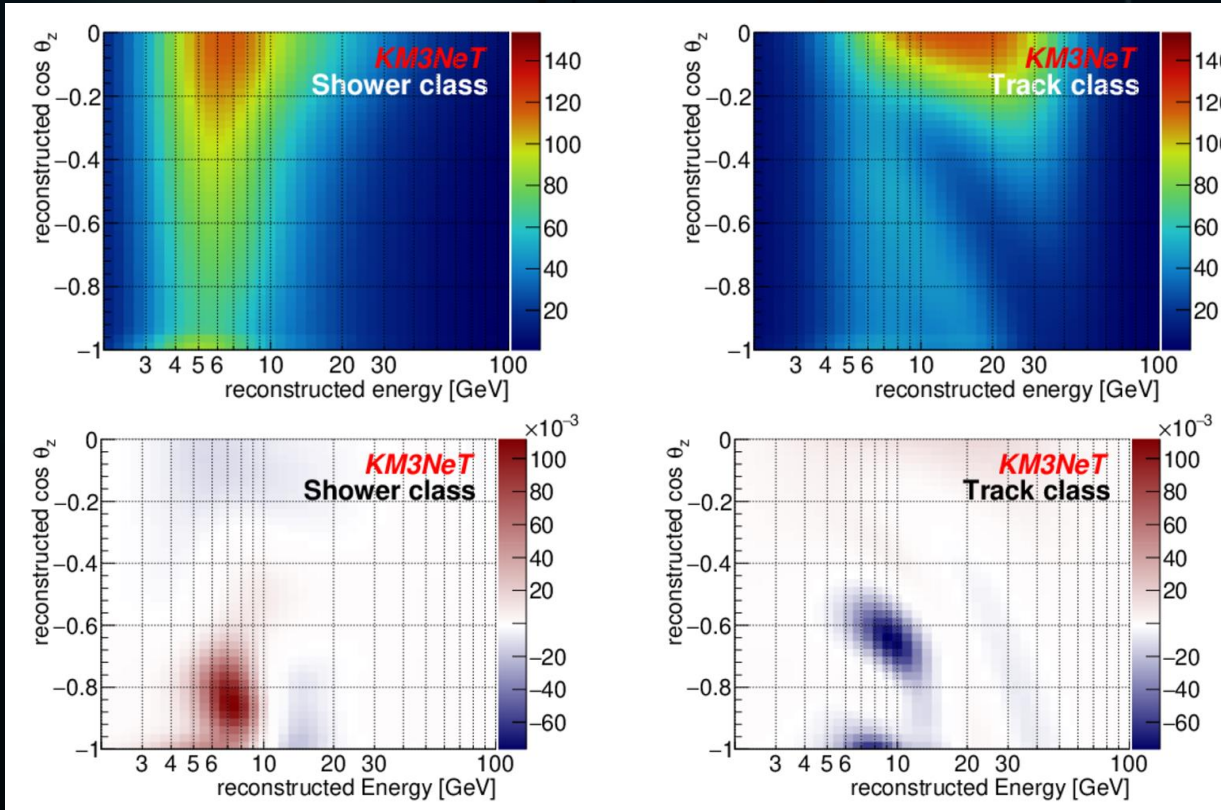
$$\begin{aligned}\cos\theta &= -1 \\ \theta &= 180^\circ\end{aligned}$$



see also [10.1007/JHEP02\(2013\)082](https://arxiv.org/abs/10.1007/JHEP02(2013)082)

NMO sensitivity with KM3NeT

DOI: 10.1140/epjc/s10052-021-09893-0



1. Simulate expected event rate
2. Reconstruct events
3. Classify events
 1. Remove noise + atm. μ^\pm
 2. Distinguish event topology
4. Calculate Poissonian log-likelihood ratio of NO over IO

Blue: $N_{NO} < N_{IO}$
Red: $N_{NO} > N_{IO}$

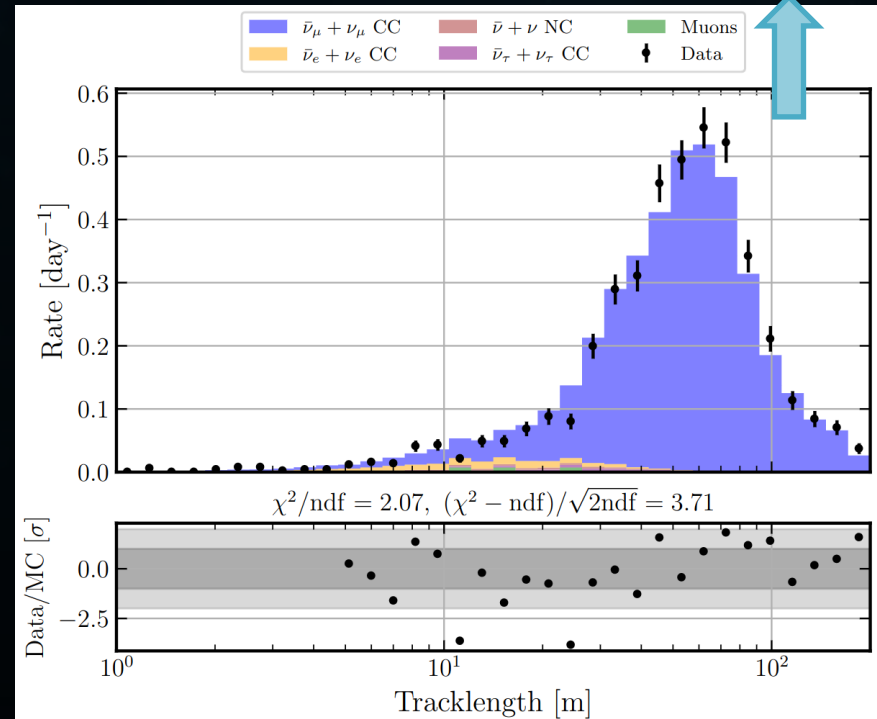
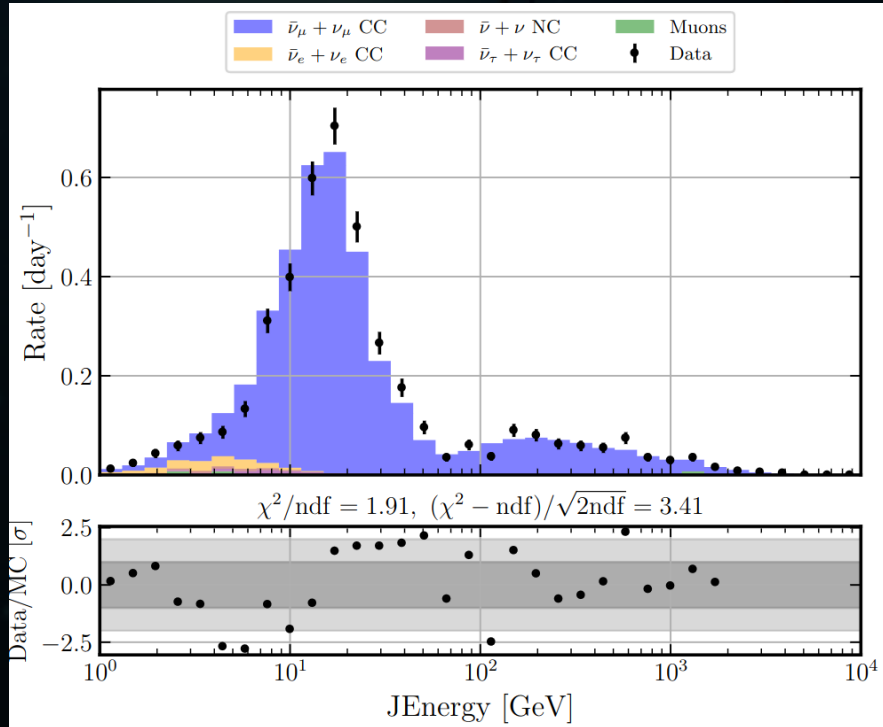
Most sensitivity from **excess of showers and deficit of tracks in 3-15 GeV** for NO w.r.t. IO

A first look at the data

>10% of KM3NeT-ORCA deployed right now and growing

➔ Several neutrinos will be detected as we speak!

~ 4 atm. ν / day
510 days of livetime
0.3% atm. μ^\pm contamination



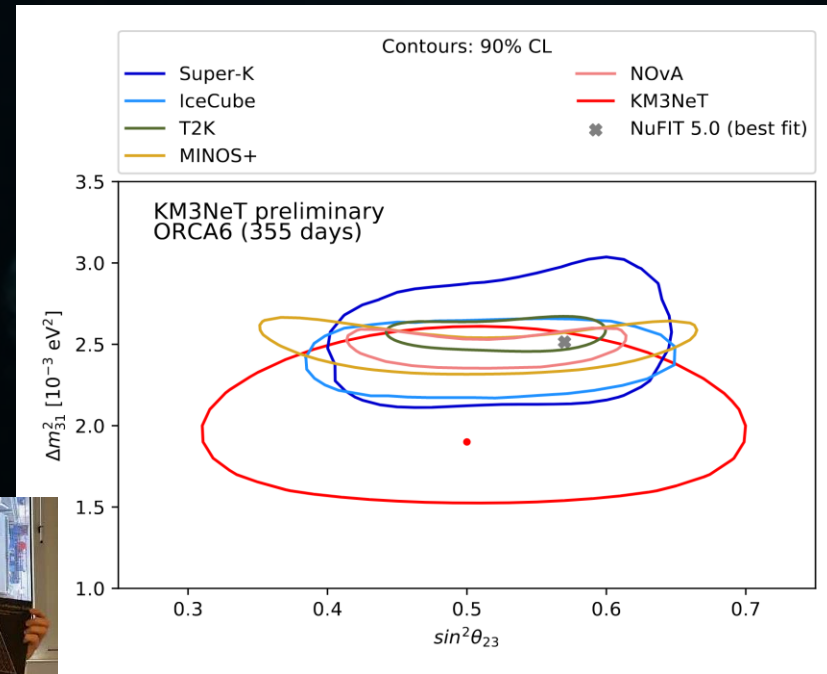
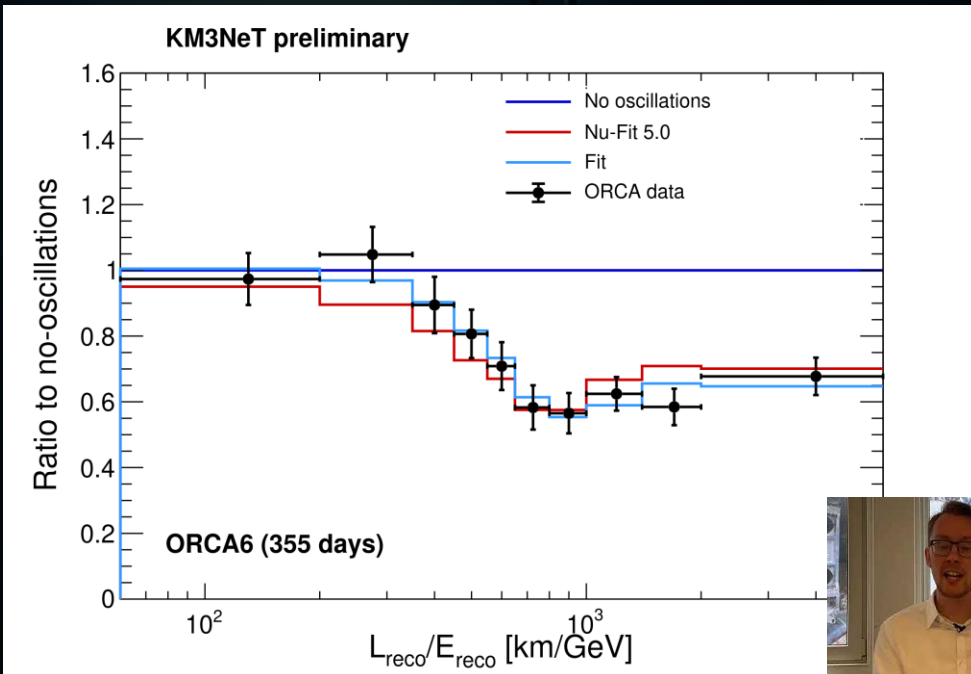
Results for 6 lines of ORCA by Alfonso Lazo

A first look at the data

>10% of lines already deployed and taking data!

First measurements with 355 days of 6 ORCA lines presented in **Lodewijk Nauta's Ph.D. thesis**

5.9 σ preference for oscillations over no oscillations



Ph.D. thesis, L. Nauta (2022)

Improving our analysis framework

First oscillation fits on data were done with a framework developed at Nikhef!

MONA

Question: What does MONA refer to?

a)



b)



c)



Improving our analysis framework

First oscillation fits on data were done with a framework developed at Nikhef!

MONA

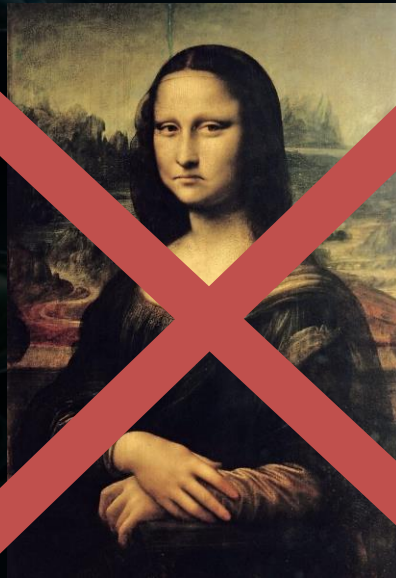
Question: What does MONA refer to?



a)



b)



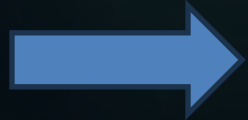
c)



Improving our analysis framework

First oscillation fits on data were done with a framework developed at Nikhef!

MONA



Mass Ordering Neutrino Analysis

Set up by former Nikhef PostDoc **Bruno Strandberg**

Fully based on **RoofIT** software by Wouter Verkerke



Collaboration and synergy with other Nikhef groups!



Improving our analysis framework

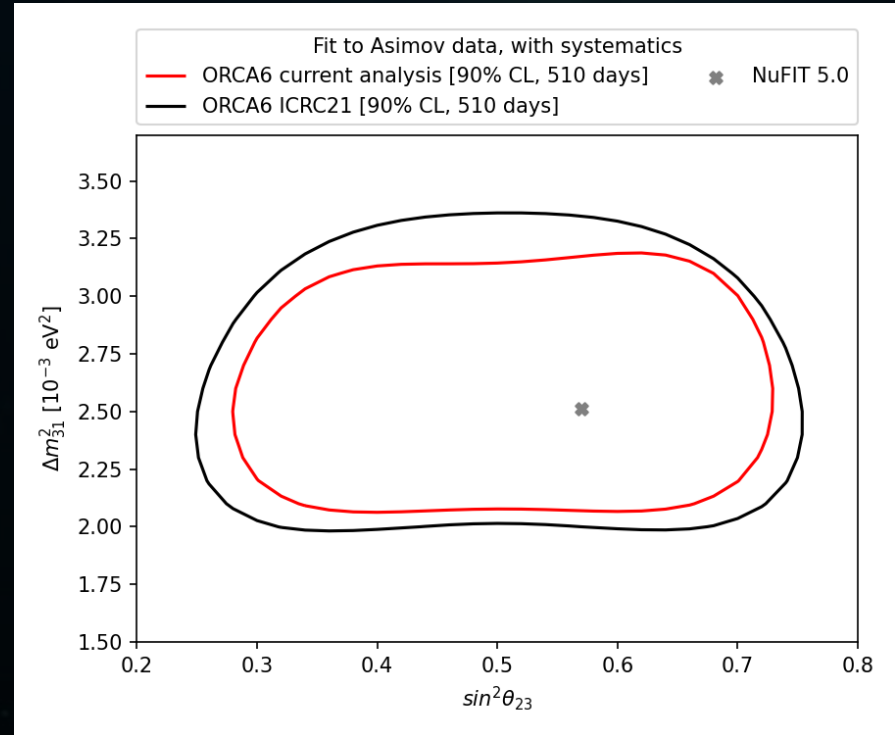
Evi Nikoloudaki, Dylano van Oijen and Daan van Eijk working on improvements



A very prolific team!

- Many code improvements
- Integration RooFit functionalities
- Comparing response functions
- Scrutinizing systematics

...



10%-20% improvement in Δm_{31}^2 sensitivity
5%-10% improvement in $\sin^2 \theta_{23}$ sensitivity

Improved reconstruction

Traditionally only **reconstructed energy and direction** are considered in KM3NeT oscillation studies

But there is more to take advantage of!

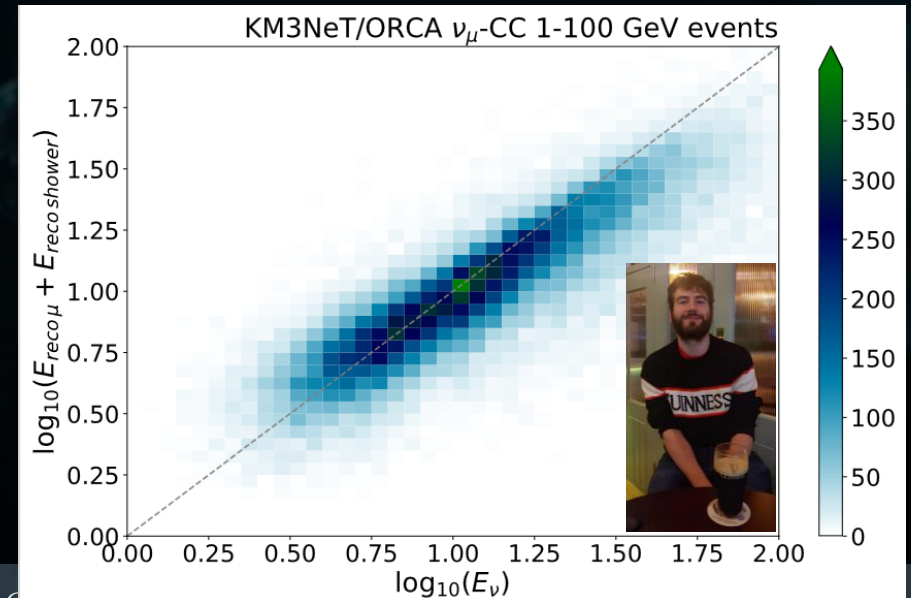
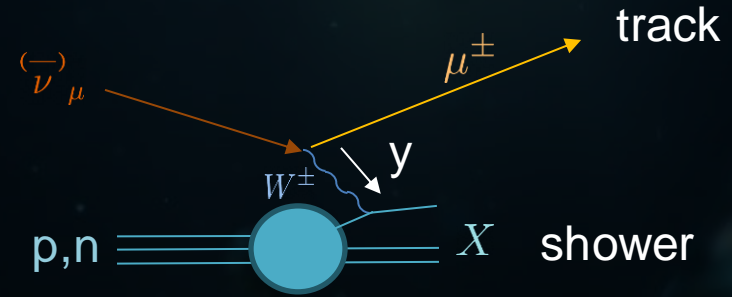
Key observable: **Inelasticity** (y)
i.e. the net energy transfer to the nucleus

- Could give a handle on $\nu/\bar{\nu}$ distinction!

$$\frac{d\sigma_{\bar{\nu}q}}{dy} = \frac{4G_F^2}{\pi} (1 - y^2) E^2 \leftrightarrow \frac{d\sigma_{\nu q}}{dy} = \frac{4G_F^2}{\pi} E^2$$

- Requires **new type of reconstruction**
 - Shower + track fitted simultaneously as distinct components

➔ **Brían Ó Ferrraigh's Ph.D. thesis**



Improved systematics modeling

Systematics are often difficult to model

- Usually no straight-forward way to parametrize detector response in terms of systematics

MC template banks can offer solution:

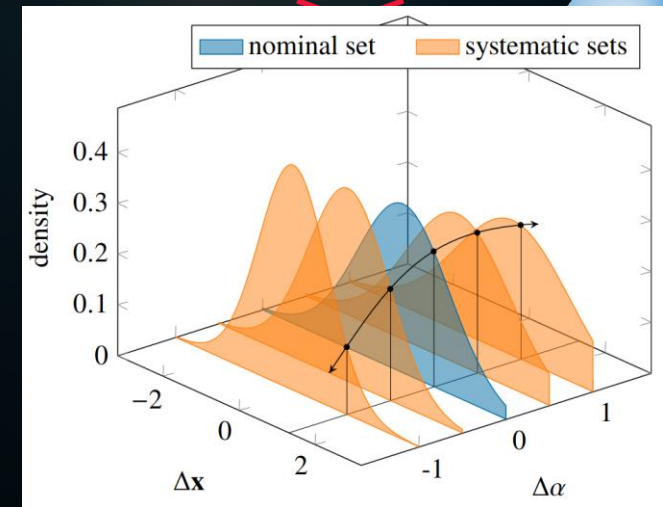
1. Generate template MC distributions for varying sets of systematic values
2. Determine which template fits the data best



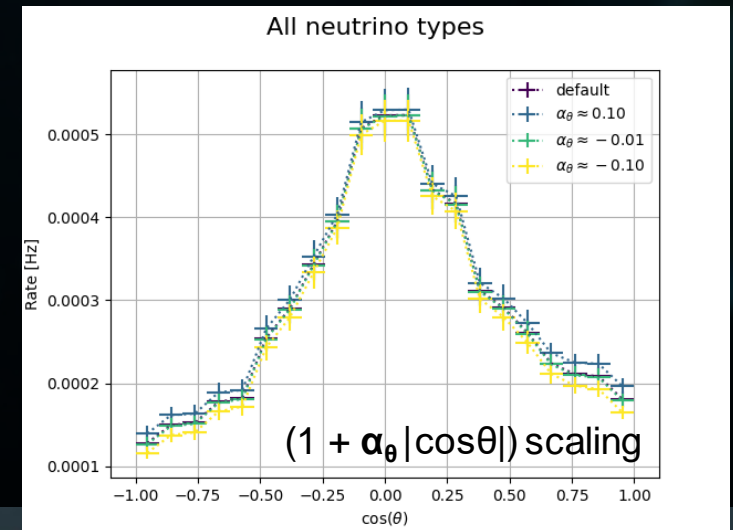
- Likelihood-free inference
- Strategy well known from PDF-fitting

Requires procedures for **generic MC-reweighting**

- Not limited to reconstructed observables!



recent IceCube publication: [arXiv:2305.02257](https://arxiv.org/abs/2305.02257)



A versatile detector!

Besides NMO, many other topics are being explored!

SM + neutrino oscillations:

- ORCA + JUNO combined NMO sensitivity

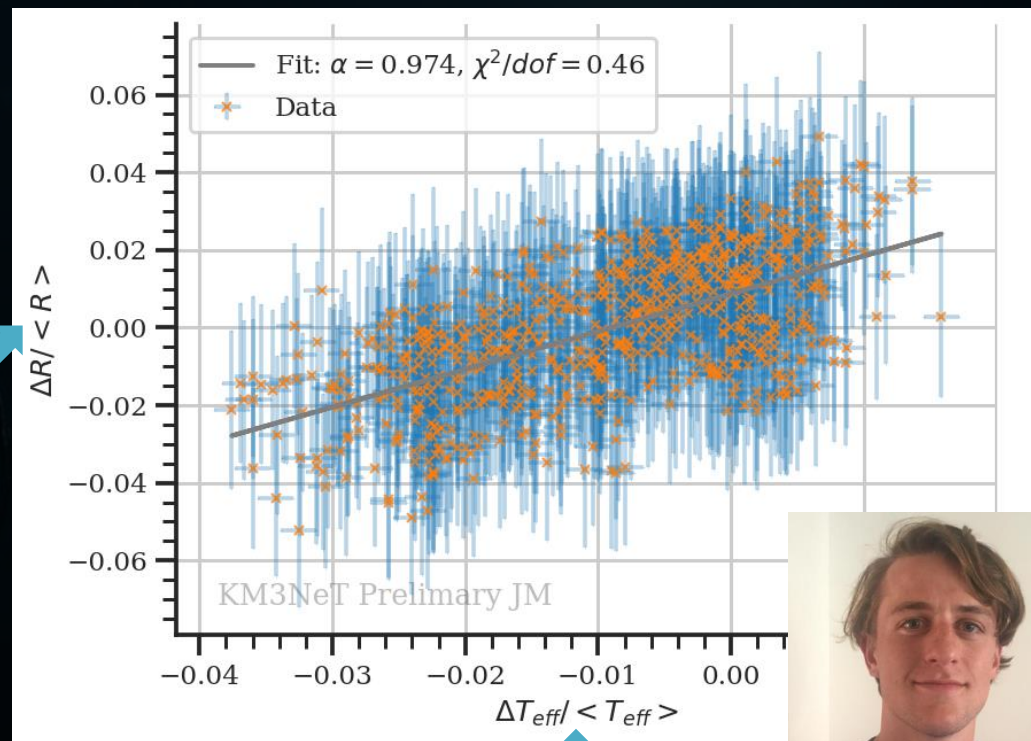
BSM + neutrino oscillations:

- Light sterile neutrino mixing
- Lorentz invariance violation
- Non-Standard Interactions
- Quantum decoherence
- Neutrino decays

Cosmic ray studies:

- Cosmic Ray shadow of the Sun/Moon
- Temperature dependence of muon rate

...



Relative change in atmospheric muon rate

Relative change in effective atmospheric temperature



Jelmer Mulder

Summary and outlook

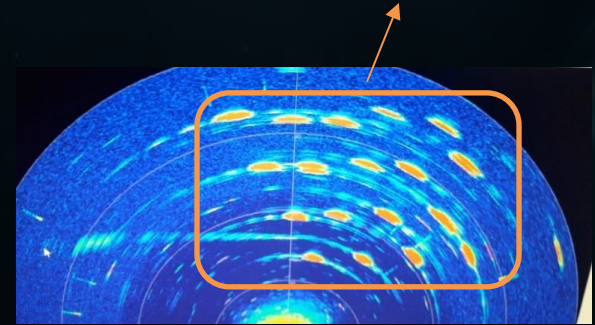
Neutrino properties research is vibrant and brimming at Nikhef!

KM3NeT set to play **important role in NMO determination**

- Possibility to set competitive, potentially leading constraints on Δm_{31}^2 and $\sin^2 \theta_{23}$
- **Large Nikhef involvement** accross many fronts
 - First constraints from data
 - Development and maintenance of one of main oscillation analysis softwares
 - Improvements in reconstruction, systematics modeling, calibration...

18 strings deployed and growing!

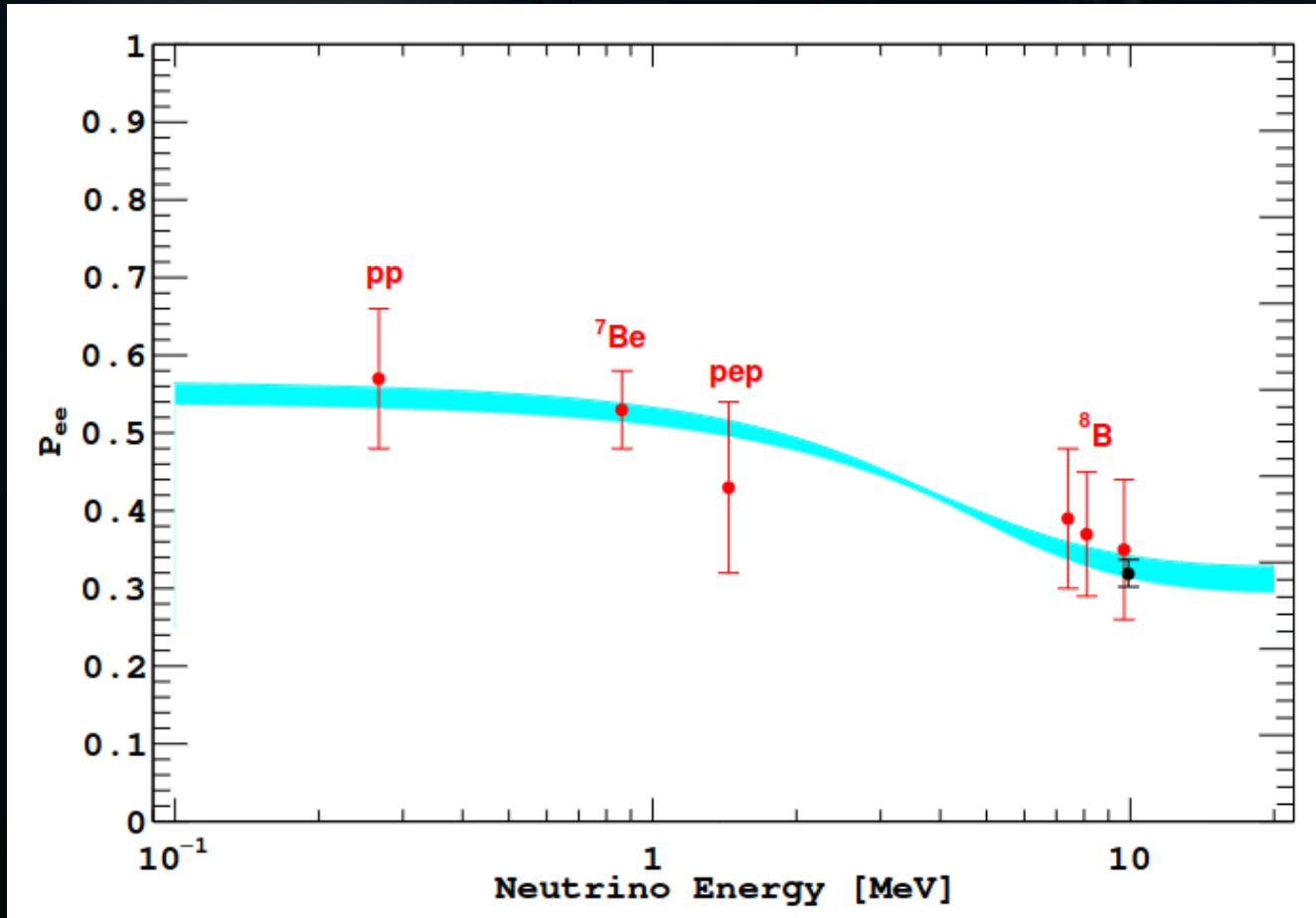
18 strings
on sonar!



Ivan Gromov deploying
the latest strings!

EXTRA

Adiabatic conversion solar neutrinos



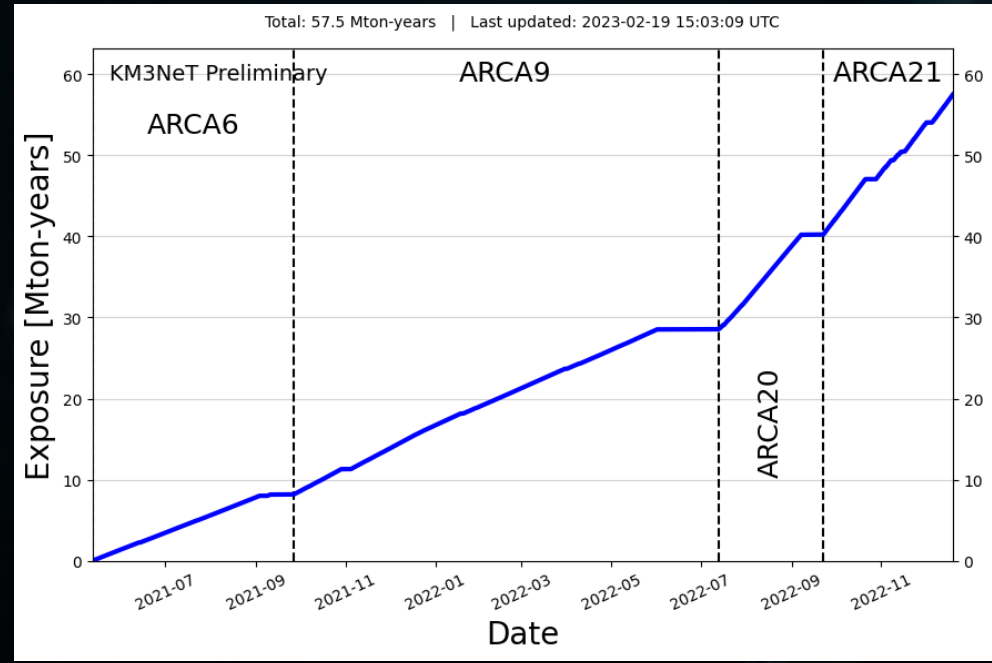
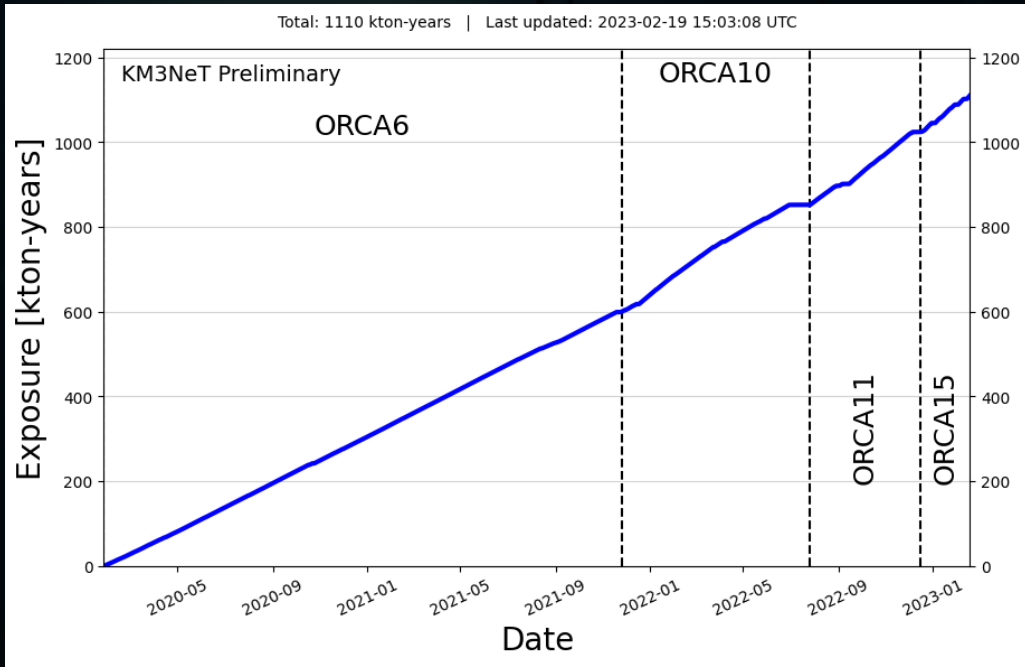
$P(\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_e)$ decreases with neutrino energy!

➔ Due to matter effects!

Only occurs in ν_e -oscillations, because $\Delta m_2 > \Delta m_1$

Cumulative exposure

~10% of both detectors deployed as of January 2023
➔ Already collecting useful data!

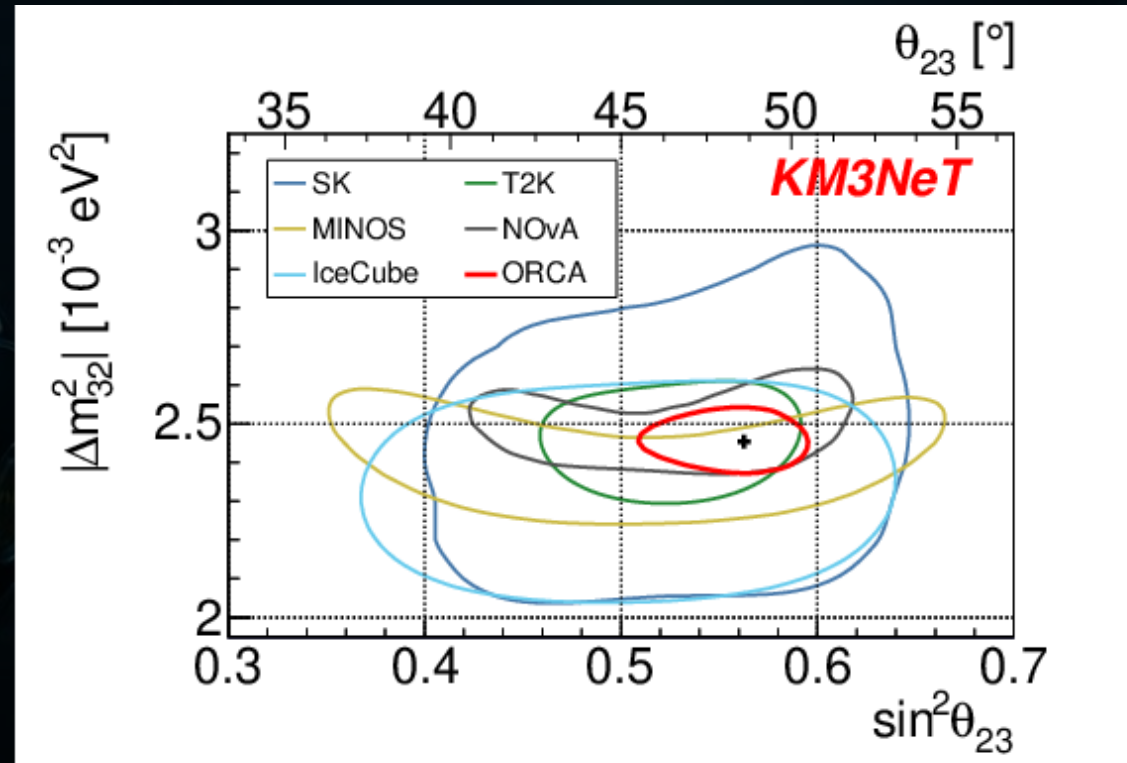


Figures by João Coelho

NMO sensitivity

3σ NMO determination
in 1.3 (5) years if true NMO = NO (IO)

>95% CL constraint on θ_{23} -octant
after 6 years for $|\sin^2\theta_{23} - 0.5| < 0.05$



Tau-neutrino appearance

KM3NeT will provide one of the largest atmospheric tau-neutrino datasets (>3k events / yr) !

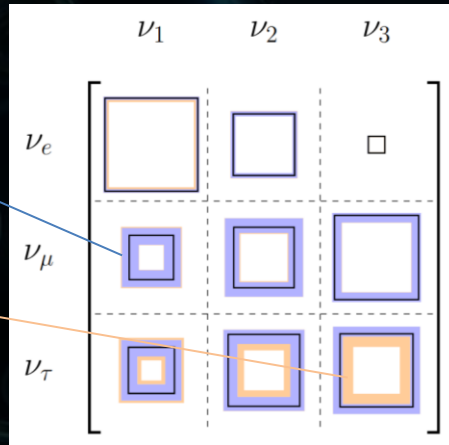
Allows unprecedented constraints on ν_τ -normalisation (= observed / expected ν_τ rate)

→ Probe PMNS unitarity!

Ph.D thesis, S. Hallmann (2021)

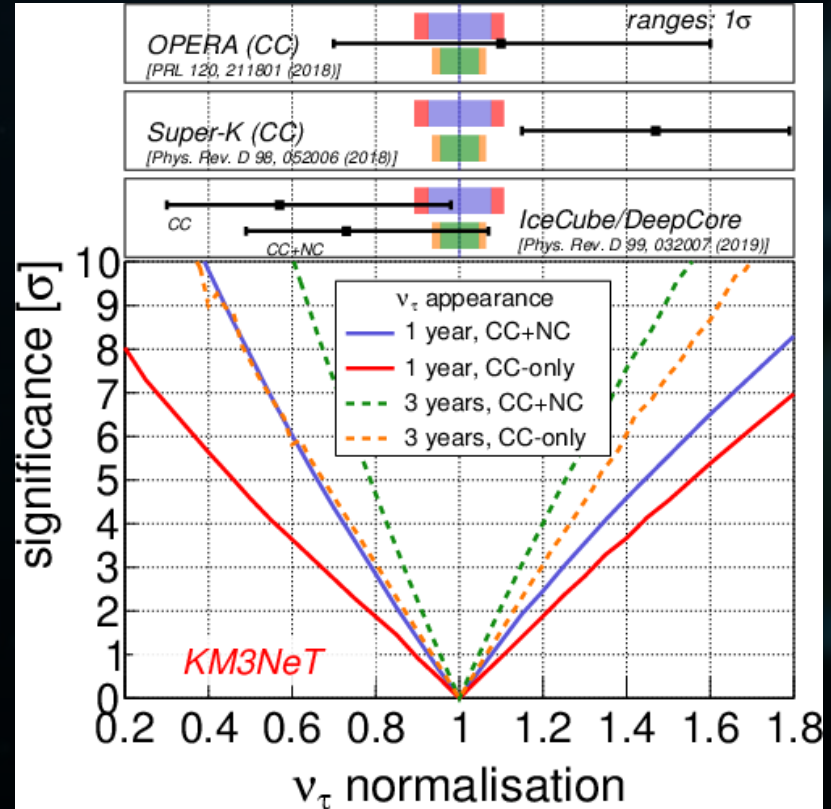
Uncertainty with unitarity constraint

Uncertainty without unitarity constraint



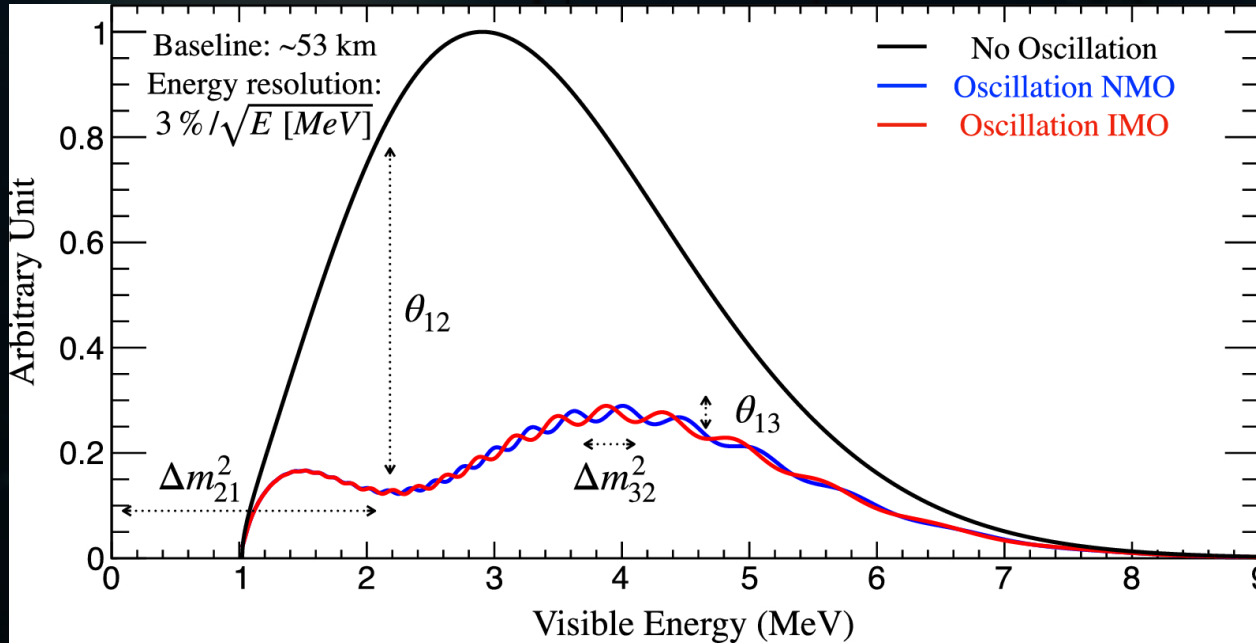
First constraints with ORCA data @ ICRC 2023 !

DOI: 10.1140/epjc/s10052-021-09893-0

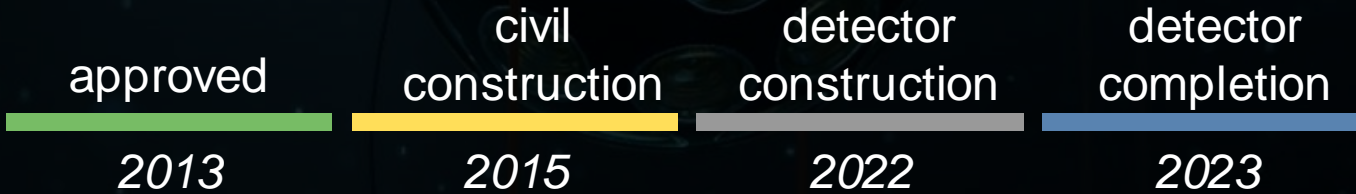


JUNO status

[DOI: 10.1016/j.pnpnp.2021.103927](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pnpnp.2021.103927)



Summer 2022

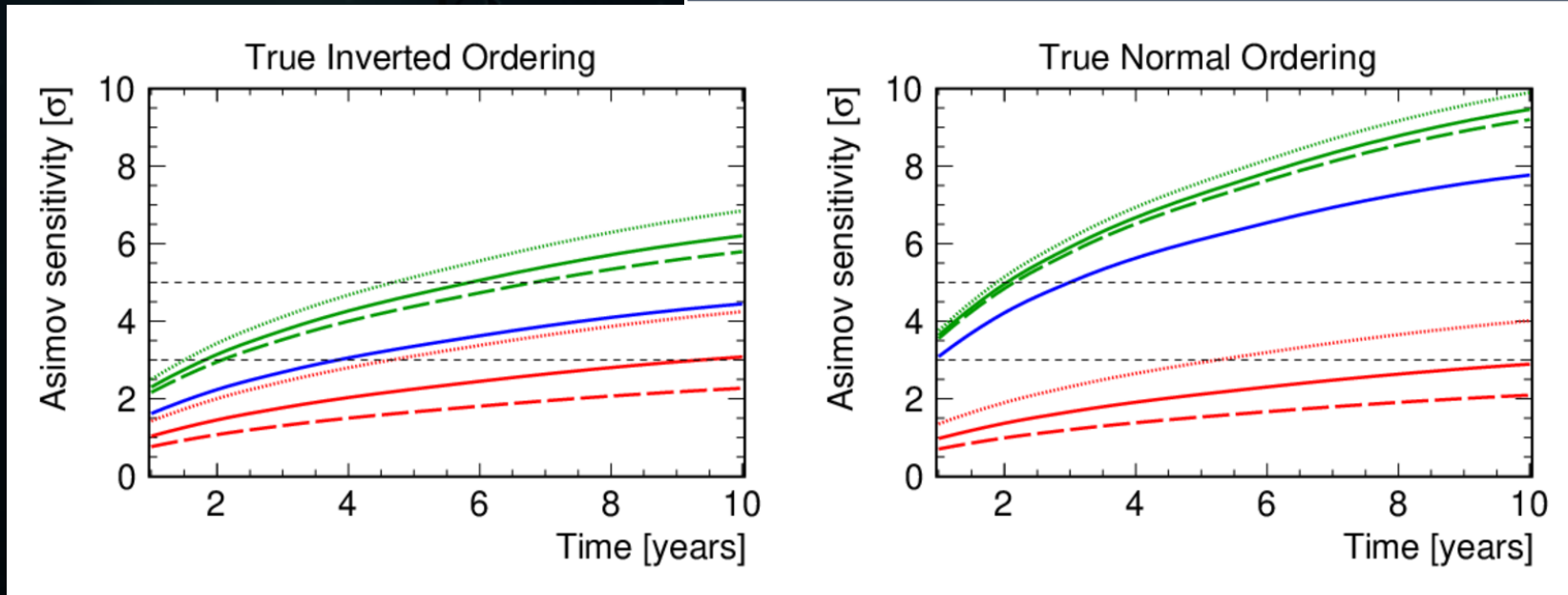
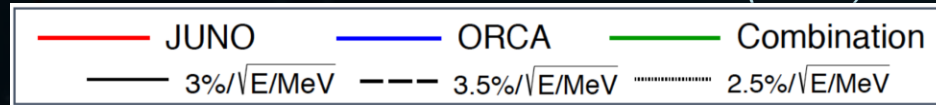


From *ICHEP 2022 talk*
by Jie Cheng

Combined NMO sensitivity

Great enhancement in combination with JUNO:
→ 5σ determination of NMO after 6 years

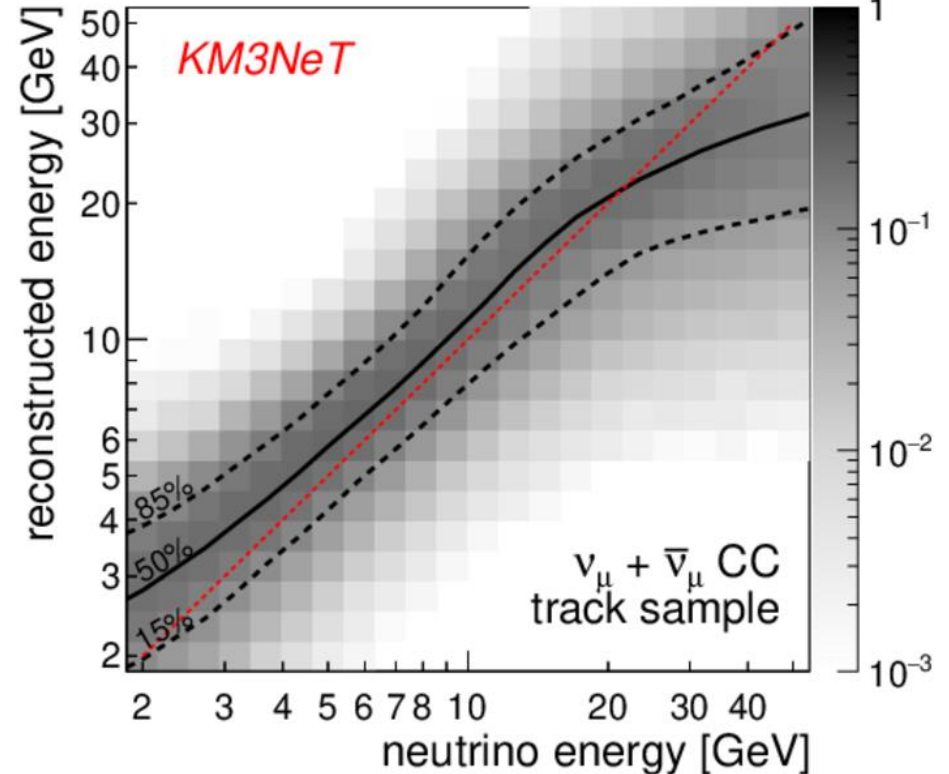
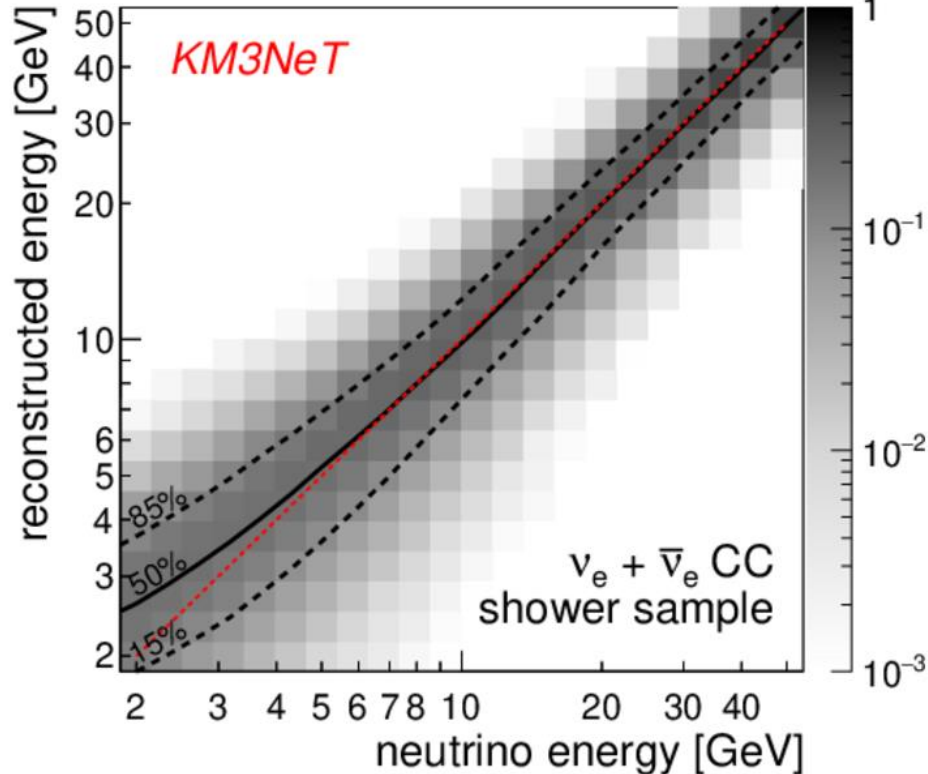
DOI: 10.1007/JHEP03(2022)055



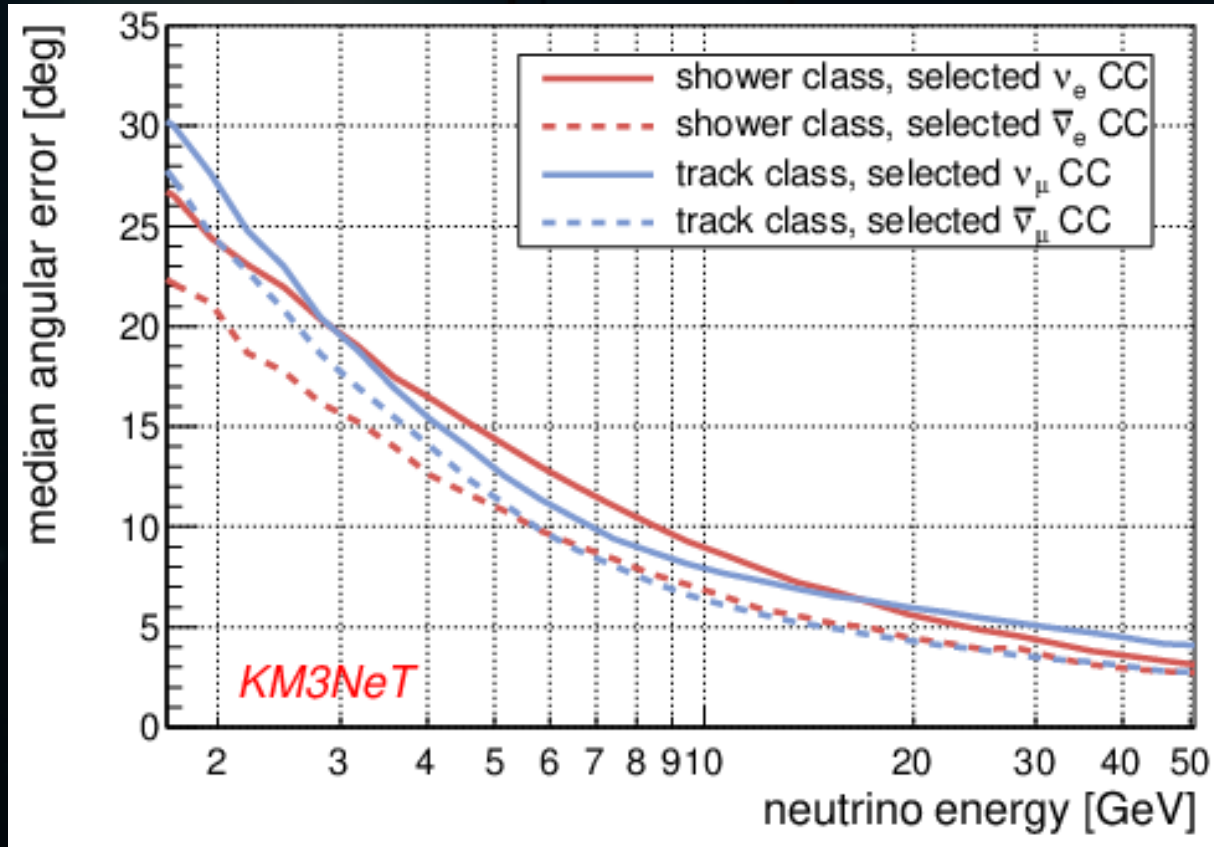
Detector Performance

$\Delta E / E \sim 25\%$ for ν_e @ 10 GeV

$\Delta E / E \sim 35\%$ for ν_μ @ 10 GeV



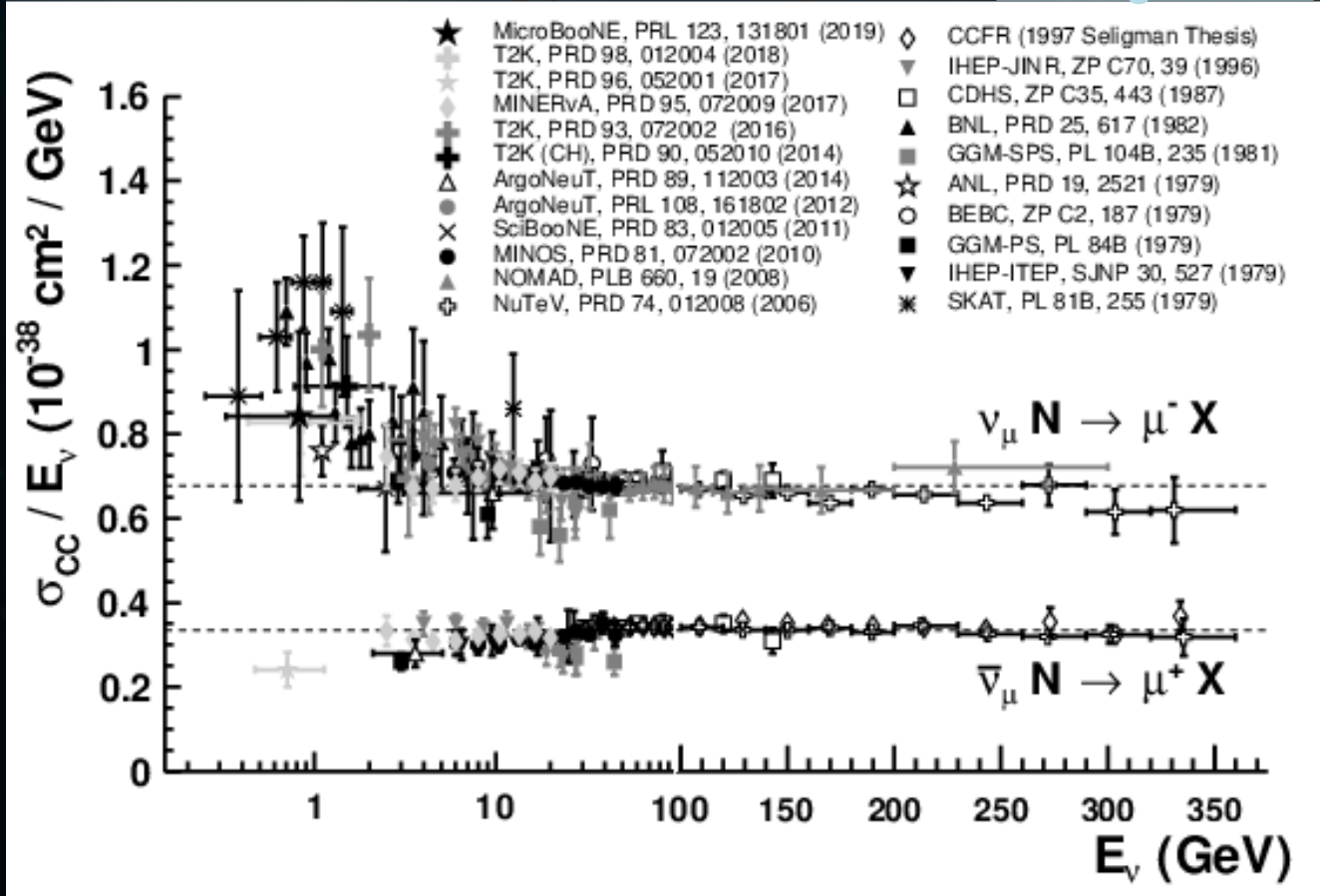
Detector Performance



9.3° / 7.0° / 8.3° / 6.5°
for ν_e / $\bar{\nu}_e$ / ν_μ / $\bar{\nu}_\mu$ @ 10 GeV

Neutrino cross-sections

PDG figure 52.1



$\sigma_{\bar{\nu}} : \sigma_{\nu} \sim 2 : 1$

Event classification

Particle Identification based on Random Decision Forests; 3 scores:

1) muon score,

2) noise score,

3) track score

