This project has received funding from the European Research Council (ERC) under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme (grant agreement No 681647).

ENUBET

A novel neutrino beam for a new generation of cross-section experiments

F. Terranova(*) on behalf of the NP06/ENUBET Collaboration

(*) University of Milano-Bicocca & INFN Milano-Bicocca

Info: https://greybook.cern.ch/experiment/detail?id=NP06

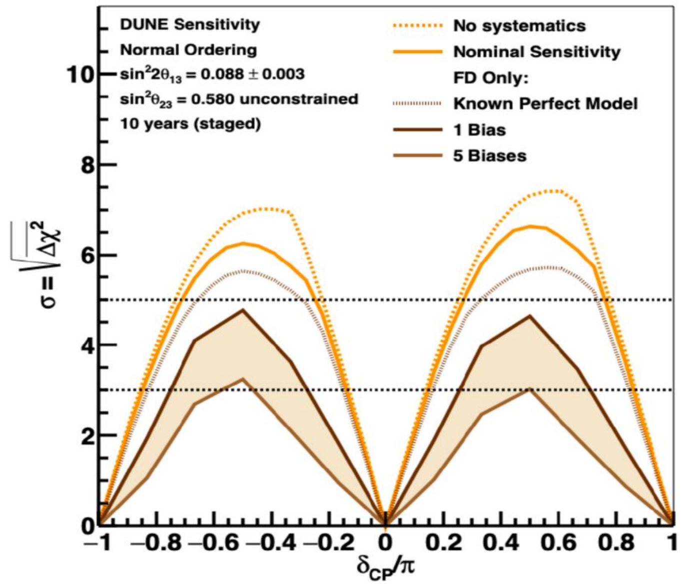
https://www.pd.infn.it/eng/enubet/

The rationale of ENUBET

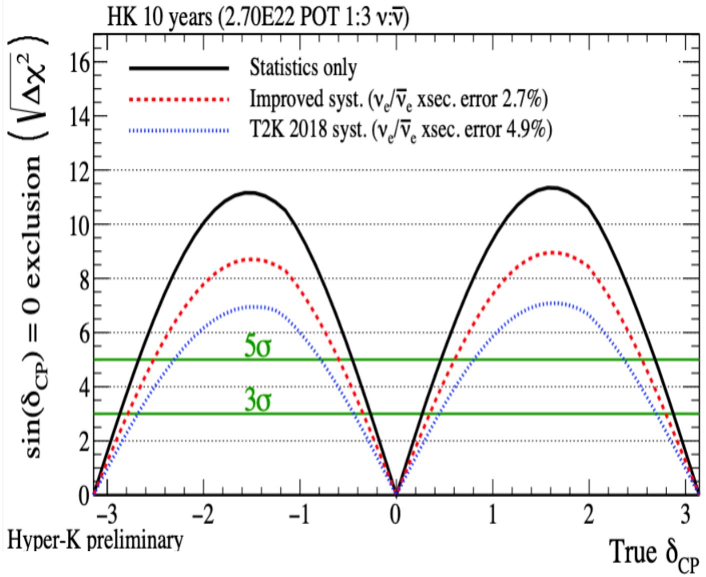
The knowledge of neutrino cross-section is stuck at 10-30 % level and the needs of the neutrino community are at 1% level because:

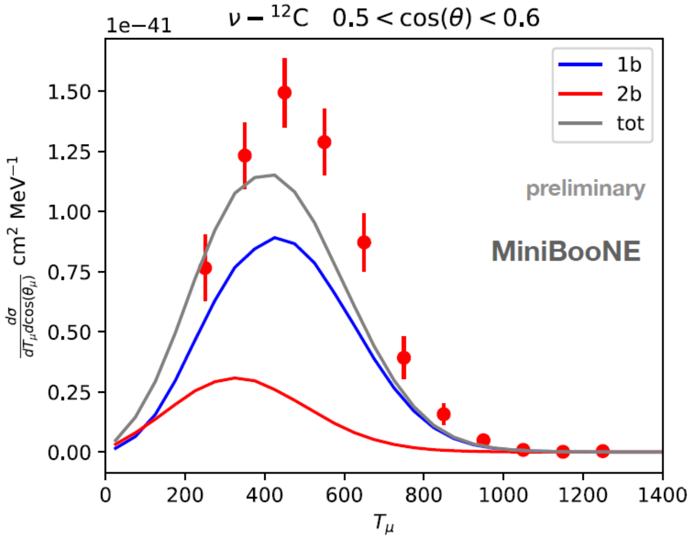
- Leading systematics for long-baseline experiments → Neutrino Oscillation Physics
- Limited possibility to validate nuclear electroweak effects (“nucleus and nuclear correction”) → Electroweak physics
- Neutrino generators based on different approaches still provide results with >50% discrepancies → Nuclear Physics

DUNE

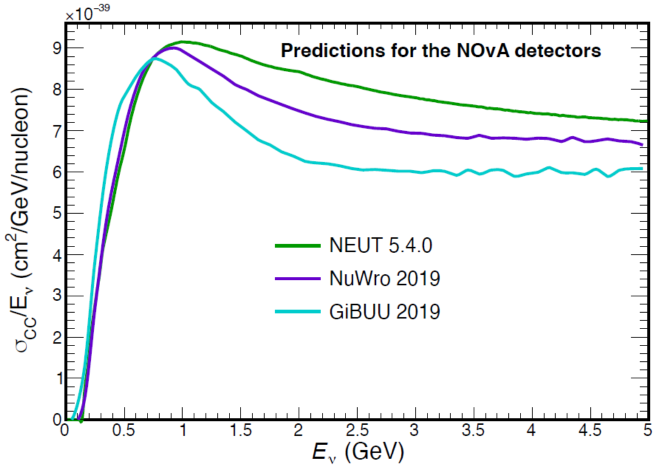


HyperKamiokande





N. Rocco, Nufact2022



J. Paley, Nufact2022

What is needed for a new generation cross-section facility?

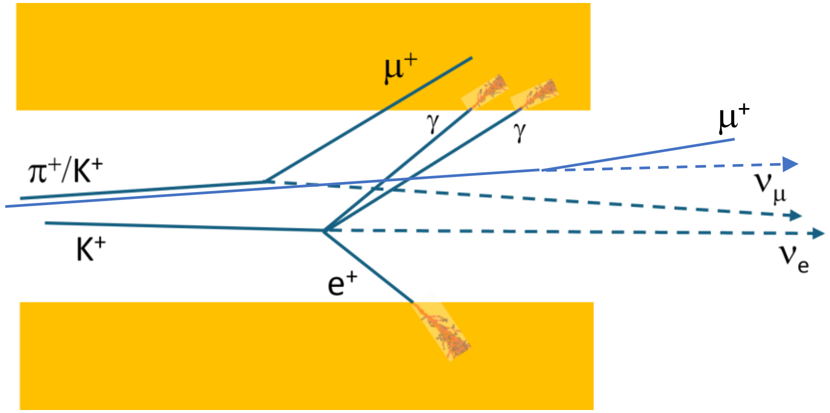
- Measure the neutrino flux of a short-baseline beam devoted to cross-section measurements with a precision <1% in ν_e and ν_μ . **Flux** is the dominant systematics. Generally known at 10% level.
  - Spoiler(*): Monitored neutrino beams are beams with unprecedented control of the neutrino flux and offer precision on the flux of <1%
- Measure the **energy** of the neutrino without relying on the final state to get rid of all biases coming from nuclear reinteractions
  - Spoiler(*): Monitored narrow-band (10% momentum bite) neutrino beams can measure a priori the neutrino energy exploiting the correlation between the neutrino energy and the production angle (i.e. the position of the vertex in the neutrino detector). This method ("narrow-band off-axis", NBOA) is used by ENUBET and SBND (inspired by PRISM) and offers O(10%) precision
  - If we can time-tag a fraction of the ENUBET ν_μ we can achieve an energy resolution of O(1%) for such a subsample: a golden sample for ν_μ scattering studies.
- Use the same **target** as DUNE and HyperK + low Z target (existing or new experiments)
  - Spoiler: ENUBET at CERN would enable using the two ProtoDUNEs and WCTE as neutrino detectors with ideal targets (water, liquid argon).

(*) F. Acerbi et al. [ENUBET Coll] Eur. Phys. J C 83 (2023) 964

ENUBET is a "monitored neutrino beam" (*)

(*) A. Longhin, L. Ludovici, F. Terranova, EPJ C75 (2015) 155

A neutrino beam with an instrumented decay tunnel, where we identify and count the charged leptons produced together with the neutrinos.



Due to the huge particle flux in the tunnel, ENUBET posed tremendous technical challenges that were solved in 2016 – 2023 by the NP06/ENUBET Collaboration at CERN

Thanks to this success, **ENUBET is being investigated in the framework of Physics Beyond Collider for possible implementation at CERN**

Collaboration: 74 physicists & 17 institutions; Spokespersons: A. Longhin, F. Terranova; Technical Coordinator: V. Mascagna

Technical challenges and their solutions

To measure cross sections with high statistics, we need a **medium-power short-baseline beam**, whose particle rate at the decay tunnel may exceed the capabilities of any (low-cost) detector installed in the tunnel.

- Particle rate at the tunnel: reduced below 100 kHz/cm^2 using a **hornless beam** with a slow proton extraction
- Radiation doses at the tunnel detectors well below 10 Gy and 10^{11} n/cm^2 using appropriate shielding
- Detector technology: low-cost iron-scintillator sampling calorimeters

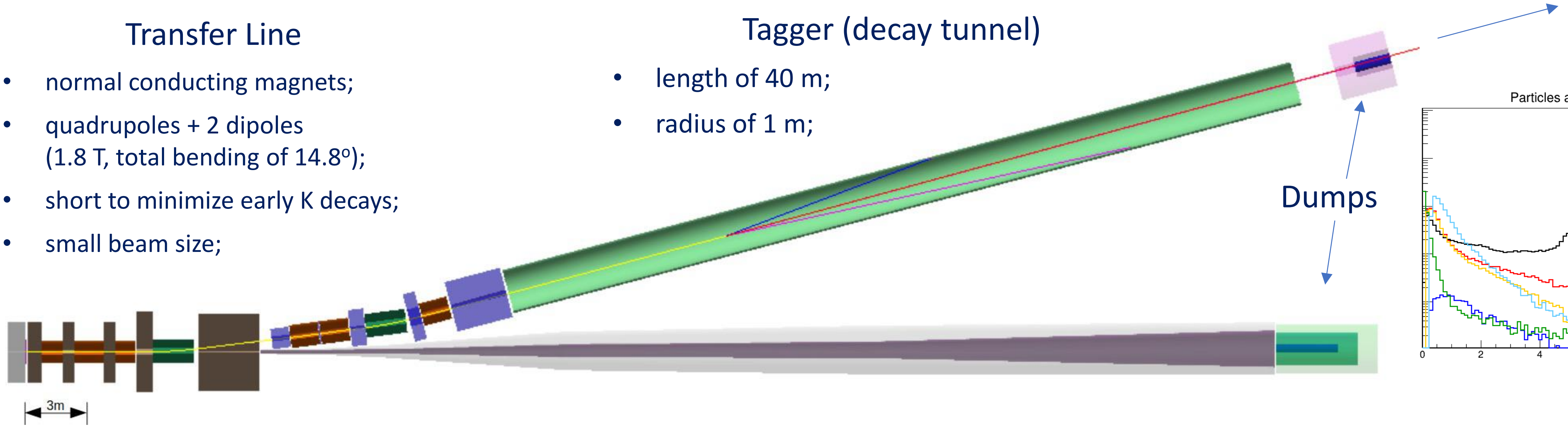
Proof-of-principle: ENUBET has delivered an end-to-end simulation of the facility optimized for the energy range of DUNE and built a full-scale demonstrator of the decay tunnel instrumentation

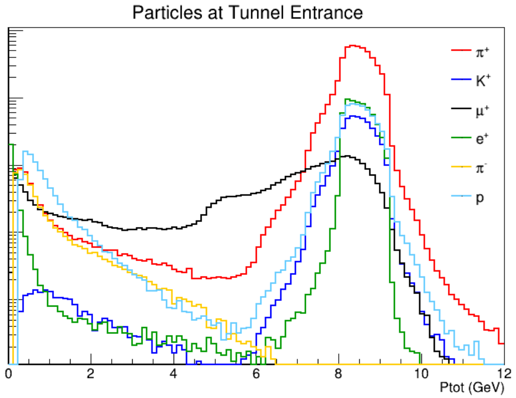
Transfer Line

- normal conducting magnets;
- quadrupoles + 2 dipoles (1.8 T, total bending of 14.8°);
- short to minimize early K decays;
- small beam size;

Tagger (decay tunnel)

- length of 40 m;
- radius of 1 m;





Proton driver: CERN SPS, 400 GeV protons

Tunnel instrumentation

Shielding

- 30 cm of borated polyethylene;
- SiPMs installed on top → factor 18 reduction in neutron fluence;

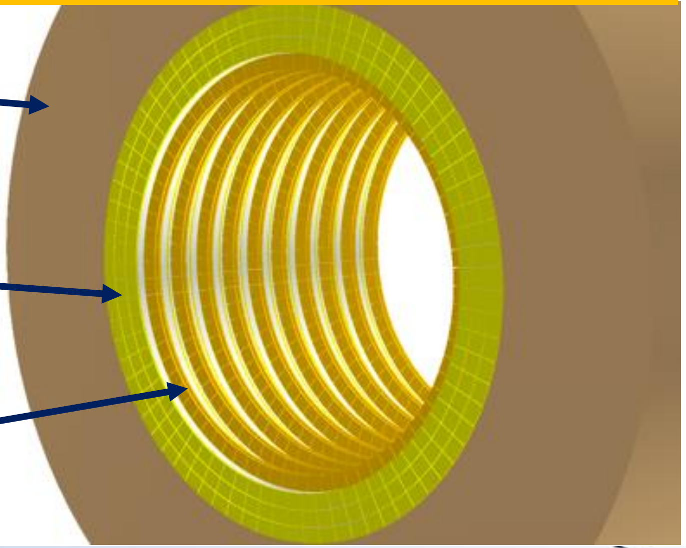
Calorimeter with $e/\pi/\mu$ separation capabilities:

- sampling calorimeter: sandwich of plastic scintillators and iron absorbers;
- three radial layers of modules / longitudinal segmentation;
- WLS-fibers/SiPMs for light collection/readout;

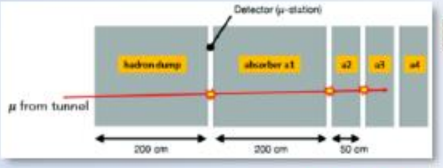
Photon-Veto allows π^0 rejection and timing:

- plastic scintillator tiles arranged in doublets forming inner rings with a time resolution of $\sim$400 ps;

Layout of the instrumented tunnel



+ hadron dump instrumentation



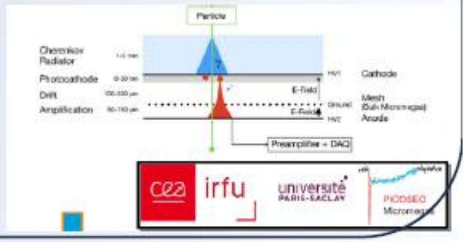
Muon stations

μ from π decays

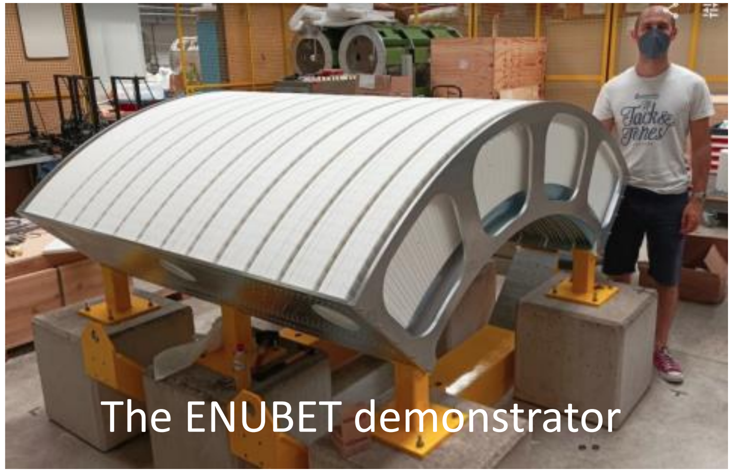
PIMENT

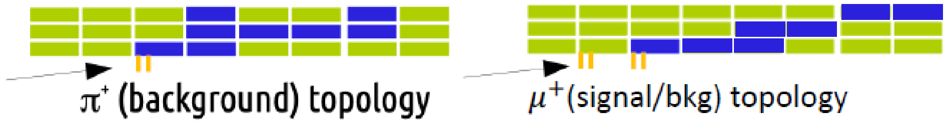
PIcosec Micromegas Detector for ENnubeT

Fast Micromegas detectors employing Cherenkov radiators + thin drift gap with sub-25 ps precision

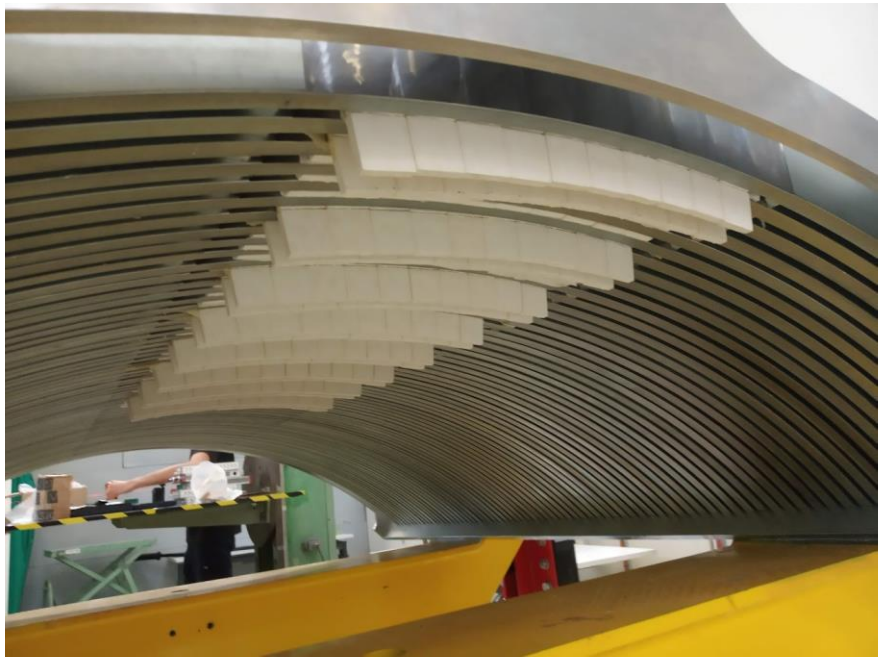


Pattern identification based on the pattern of energy deposit in the calorimeter modules





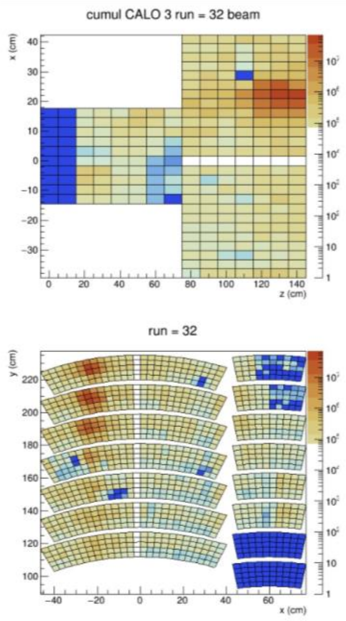
The ENUBET demonstrator at CERN PS-EA in 2022, 2023, and 2024

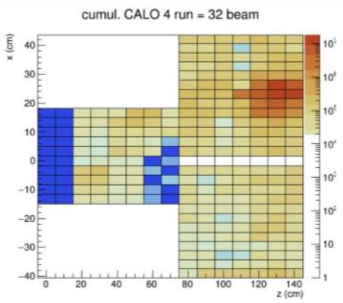


francesco.terranova.tel

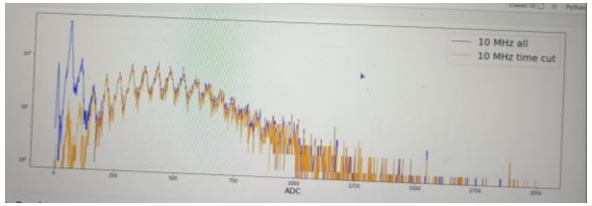
Piace a **valee_.terra** e **altri 18**

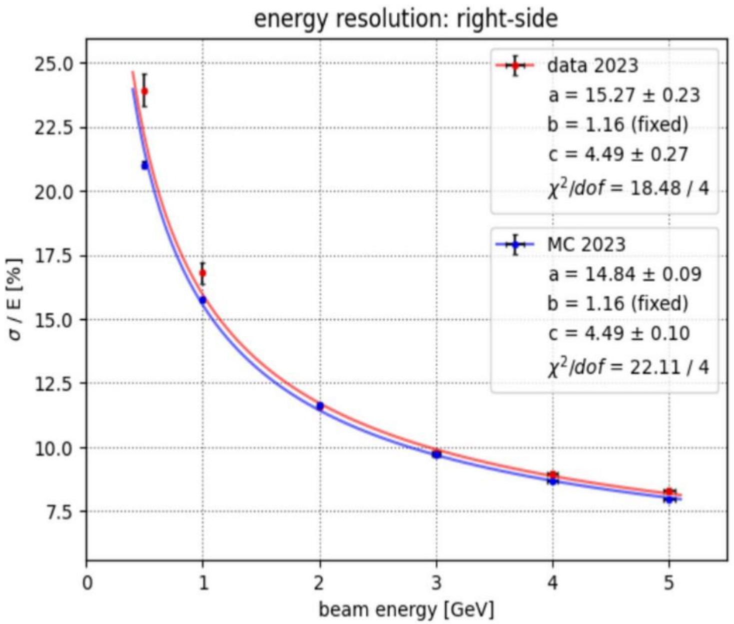
francesco.terranova.tel A hairy detector for neutrino physics 😄 #enubet #cern





Aug 2024!





Beam design and performance

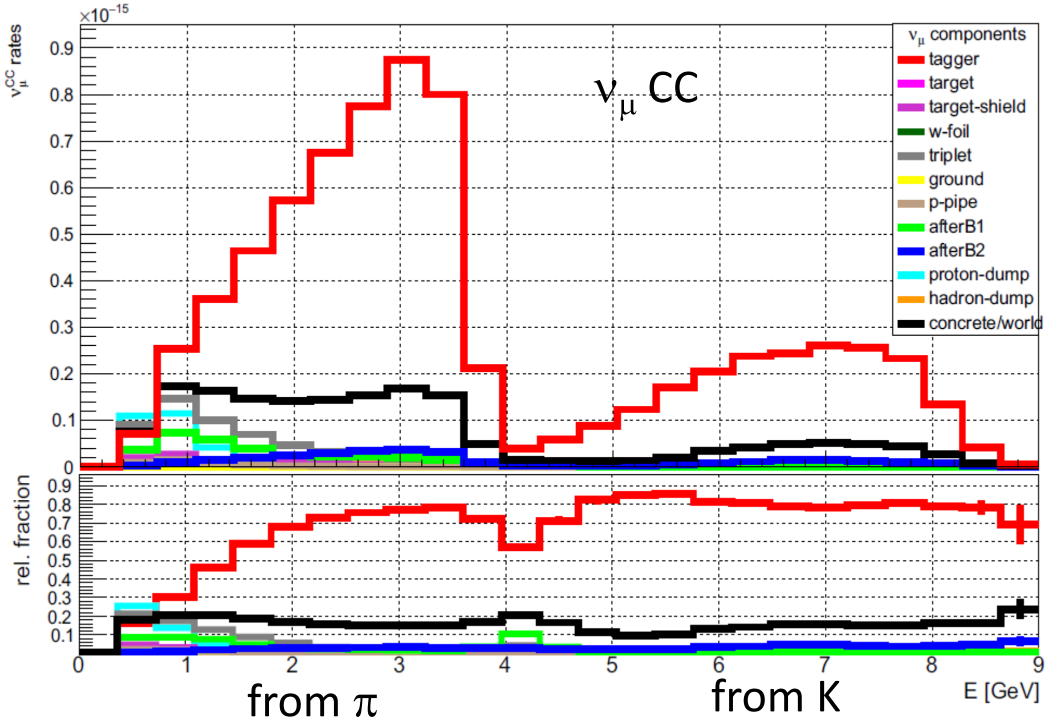
See EPJ C 83 (2023) 964

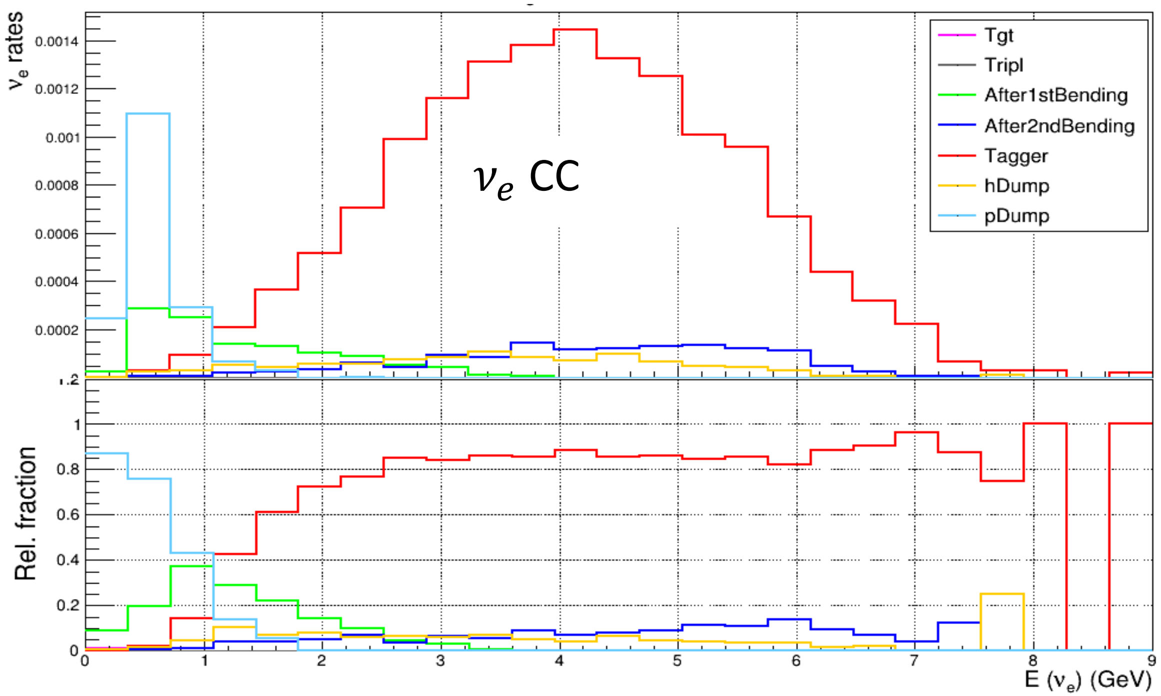
Proton driver: CERN SPS, 400 GeV protons. Up to 4.5 10^{19} pot/y, 2s long extraction

Baseline: a 500 ton detector located 50 m after the end of the tunnel (6×6 m^2 detector surface)

Statistics: 4350 ν_e CC/year, 9.1 10^4 ν_μ CC/year ($K_{\mu 2}$) and 22.5 10^4 ν_μ CC/year ($\pi_{\mu\nu}$) @ 4.5 10^{19} pot/y,

Rates @ Tunnel entrance for 400 GeV POT within the momentum bite (10%)	
π^+ $[10^{-3}]$/POT	K^+ $[10^{-3}]$/POT
4.6	0.4





Achieving such a performance with a horn-less beam has been the breakthrough that made monitored neutrino beams a mature technology

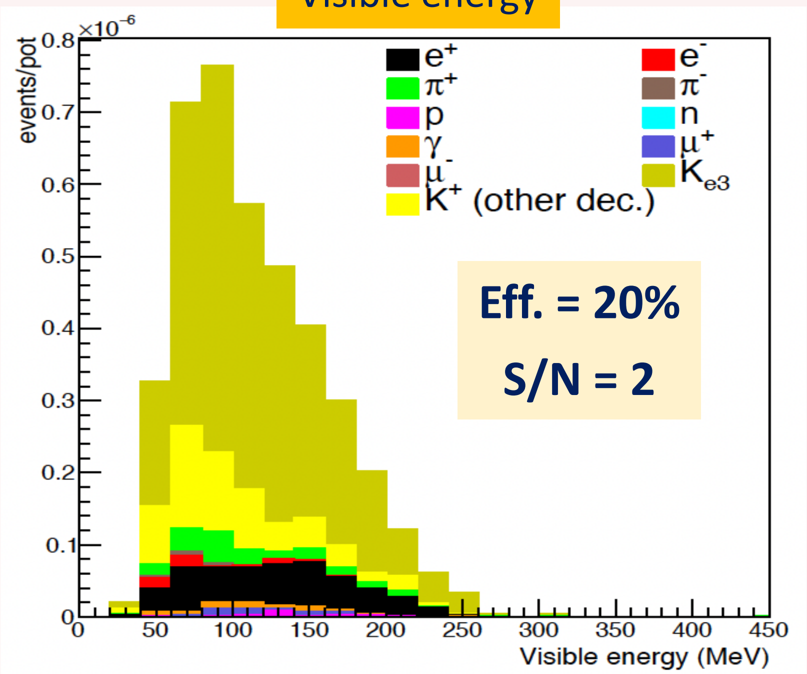
Lepton reconstruction in the decay tunnel

Full GEANT4 simulation of the detector: validated by prototype tests at CERN in 2016-2018; hit-level detector response; pile-up effects (waveform treatment in progress) included; event building and PID algorithms;

- Large angle positrons and muons from kaon decays reconstructed searching for patterns in energy depositions in tagger;
- Signal identification done using a Neural Network trained on a set of discriminating variables;

K_{e3} positrons → constrain ν_e

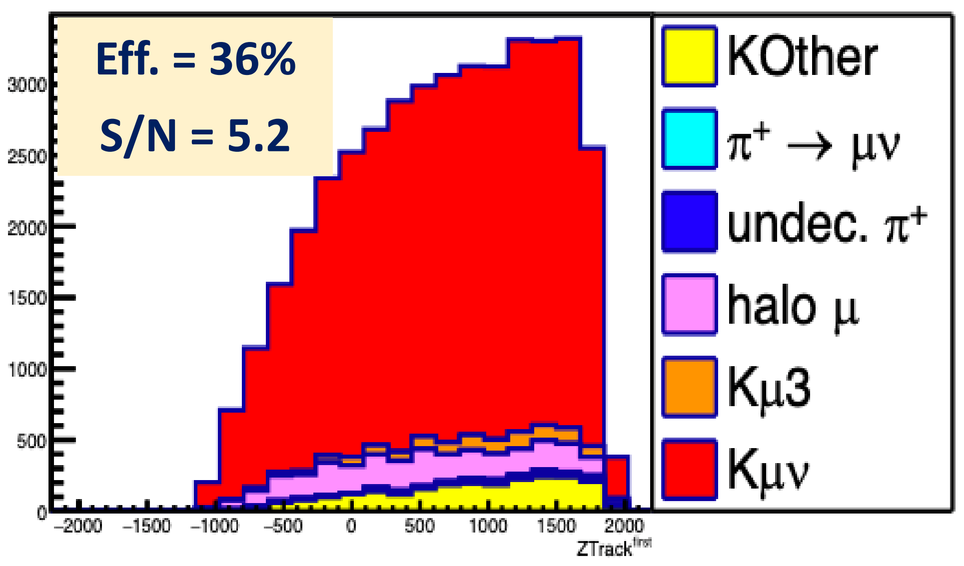
Visible energy



Efficiency ~half geometrical

$K_{\mu2}$ muons → constrain ν_μ

Tagger impact point

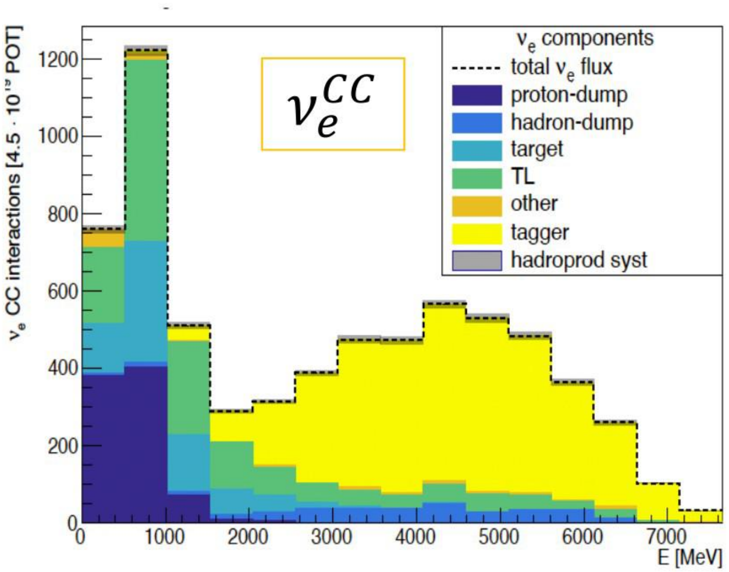


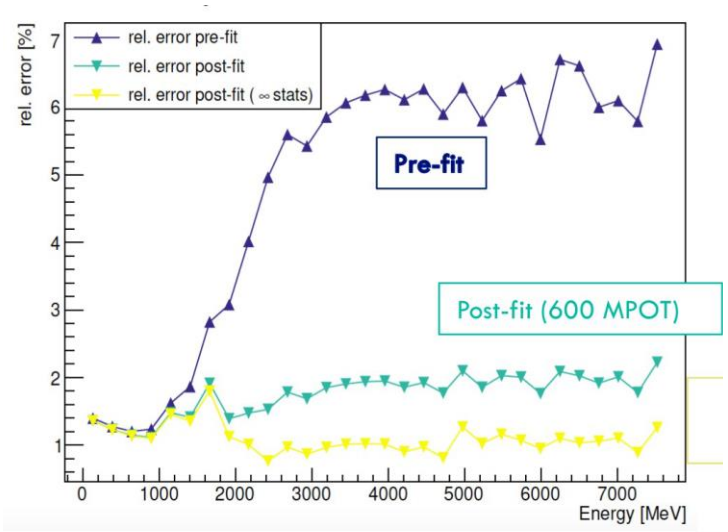
Efficiency ~half geometrical

Precision on the neutrino flux determination

To establish the flux precision, we performed the same systematic assessment analysis performed by experiments like Minerva or T2K. In particular:

- We considered the dominant systematics (hadroproduction) extracted from hadroproduction experiments at the SPS (NA56/SPY), which gives a 6% uncertainty on flux
- We added as an additional prior the rate, position and energy distributions of positrons from kaon decay reconstructed in the tunnel





The flux uncertainty for ν_μ and ν_e **drops from 6% to 1%** using positrons only

Further improvements are expected by adding the reconstructed muons

- In progress: add subdominant systematics (detector effects, magnet current, beam component material budget uncertainty, and exploit the additional constraints from reconstructed muons (paper in preparation)

Neutrino energy measured "a priori" for ν_μ^{CC}

Narrow-band off-axis Technique

Narrow momentum beam O(5-10%)

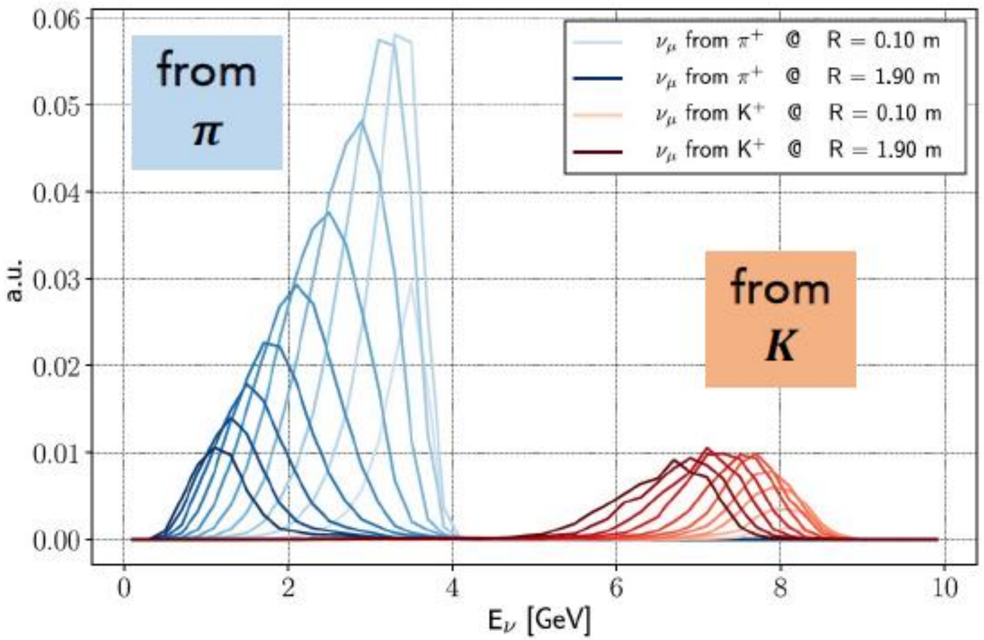
(E_ν,R) are strongly correlated

E_ν = neutrino energy;

R = radial distance of interaction vertex from beam axis;

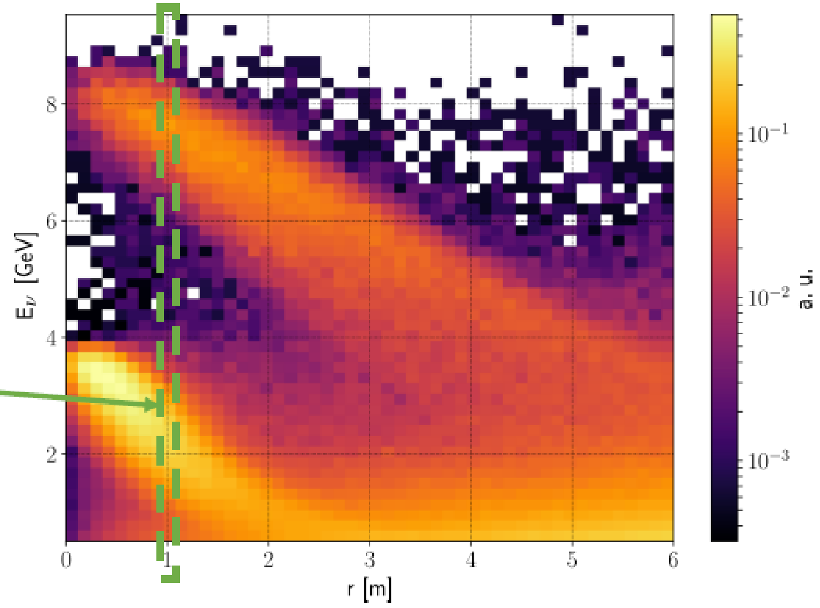
Precise determination of E_ν :
no need to rely on final state particles from ν_μ^{CC} interaction

10-25% E_ν resolution from π in the DUNE energy range



π/K populations well separated

All ν_μ^{CC}: backgroun @ low E and high R



Select ν_μ with given energy by performing cut on R

Neutrino energy measured "a priori" for ν_μ^{CC}

Narrow-band off-axis Technique

Narrow momentum beam O(5-10%)

(E_ν,R) are strongly correlated

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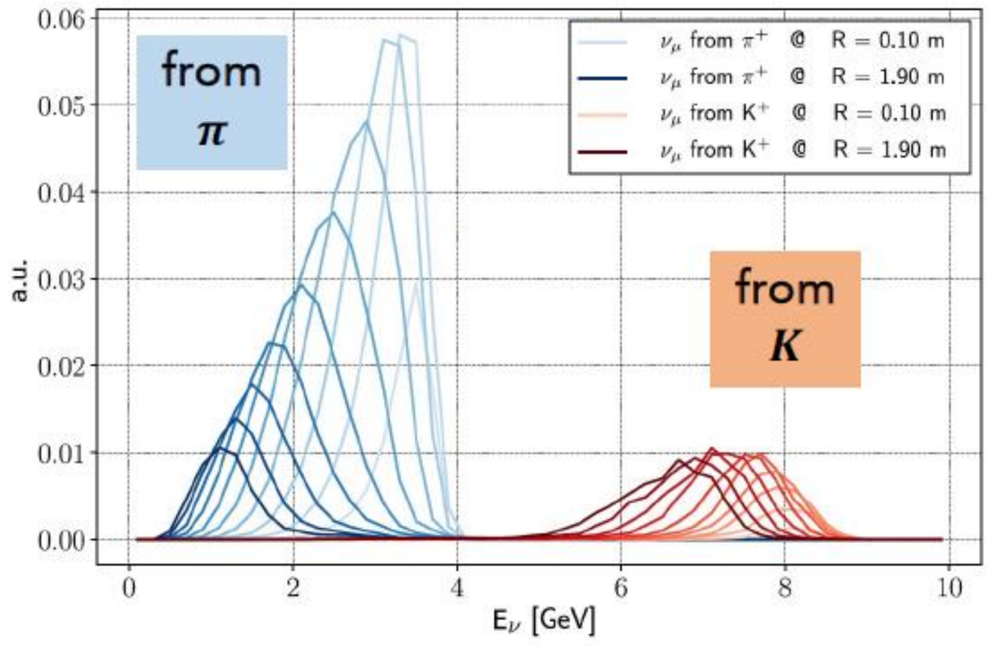
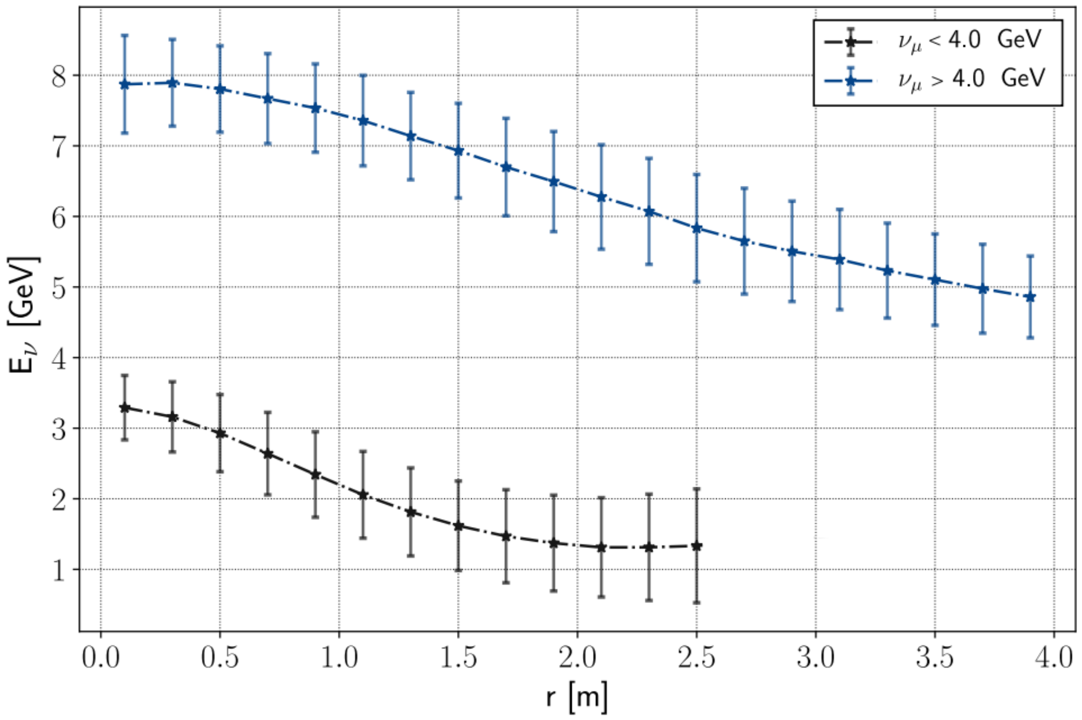




Toward an experiment proposal: the way beyond ENUBET

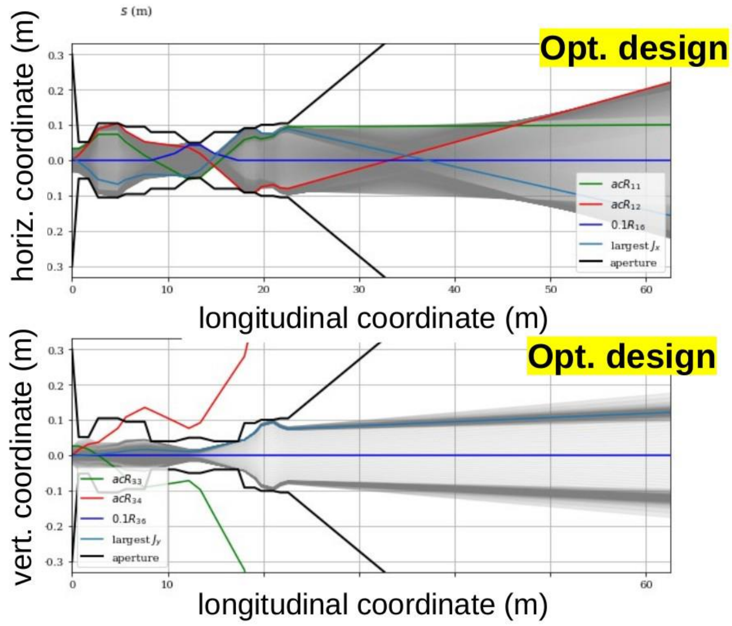
The current ENUBET design has three limitations:

- The facility is optimized for DUNE but we want to cover the energy range of HyperKamiokande, as well
- The number of protons-on-target (pot) is too large if we want to run ENUBET at CERN in parallel with SHiP
- We want to further improve the energy resolution, especially below 2 GeV (HyperKamiokande)

This proposal – called **"short-baseline neutrinos @ Physics Beyond Collider" (SBN@PBC)** is currently under study by CERN, ENUBET, NuTAG, and the CERN Neutrino Platform to address these limitations and provide a solid foundation for the next generation of cross-section experiments.

First results from SBN@PBC have been presented at the PBC Annual Meeting in March 2024 and demonstrate that an optimized ENUBET beamline that runs also at lower secondary momenta, (8.5-4 GeV):

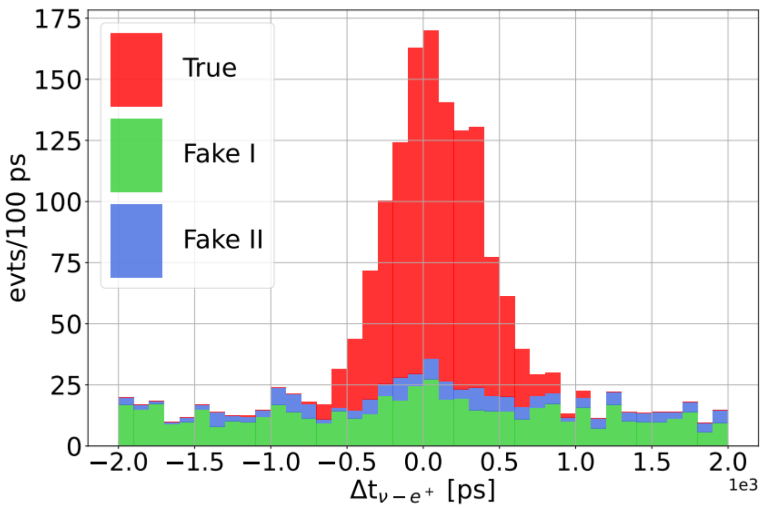
- can achieve the ENUBET performance with 1/3 of the protons-on-target (pot) needed in the original design
- can collect large statistics in the 1-2 GeV energy range for ν_μ CC events
- has the potential to exploit time-tagging to enhance the neutrino energy resolution of ENUBET (see below)

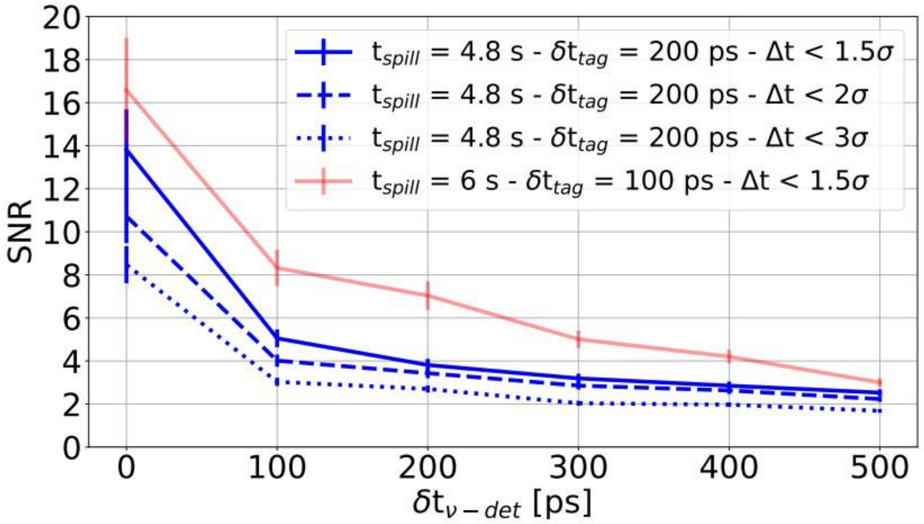


see M. Jebramcik @ Neutrino 2024

Time tagging

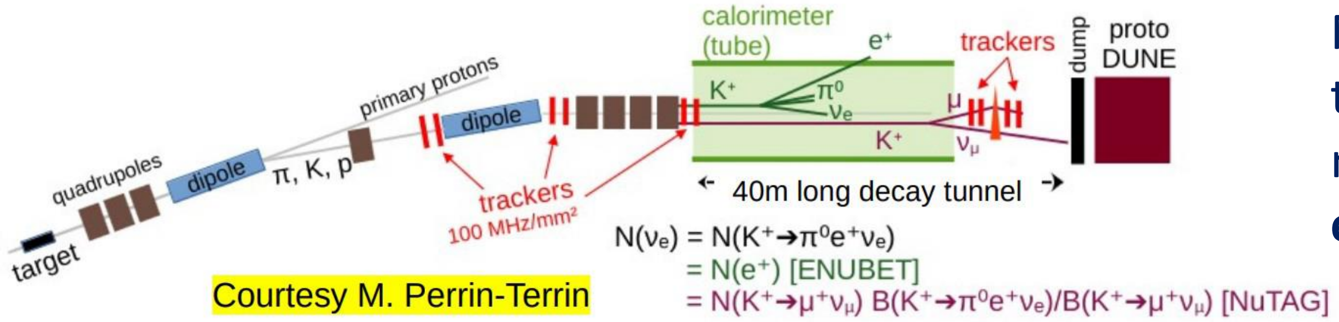
A monitored neutrino beam “counts” the charged leptons in the tunnel. In principle, we can also exploit the time coincidence between the neutrino observed in the neutrino detector (e.g. ProtoDUNE or WCTE) and the charged lepton observed in the tunnel. It transforms ENUBET into a **tagged neutrino beam**.





F. Acerbi et al. [ENUBET Coll] Eur. Phys. J C 83 (2023) 964

The PBC-SBN, i.e., NuTag embedded into the ENUBET REF design

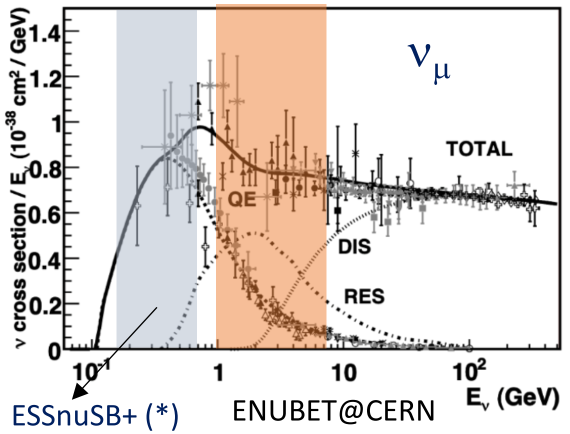


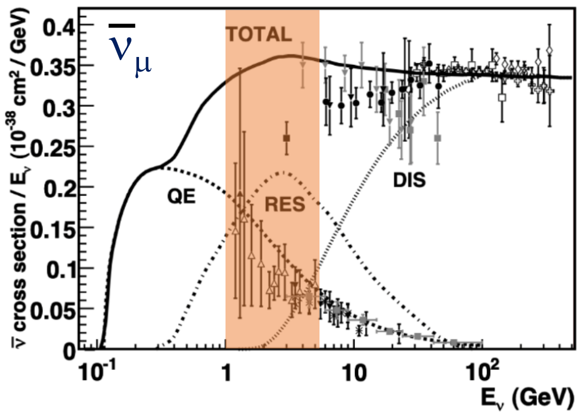
We can do much better exploiting the NuTAG concept, i.e. adding silicon trackers in the beamline to tag the neutrino parent. **Expected neutrino energy resolution: 1%**

A. Baratto-Roldan et al. arXiv: 2401.17068 (in press)

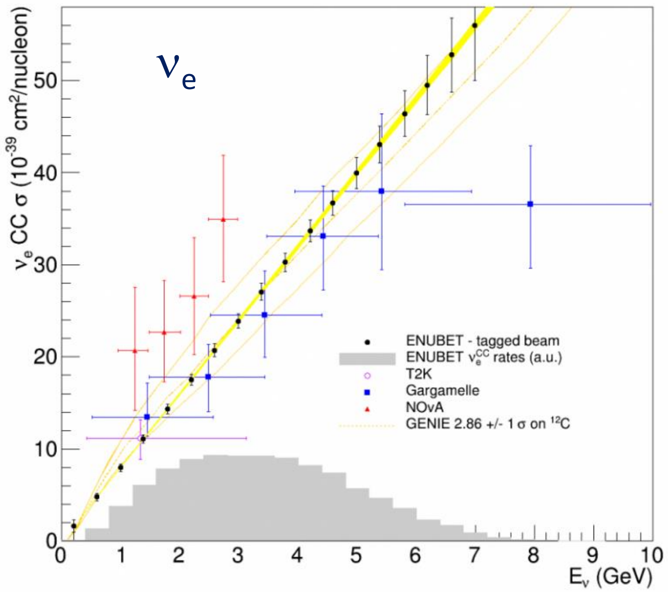
A glimpse to the physics reach of ENUBET

Inclusive neutrino cross section: solid results available at 10-30% level

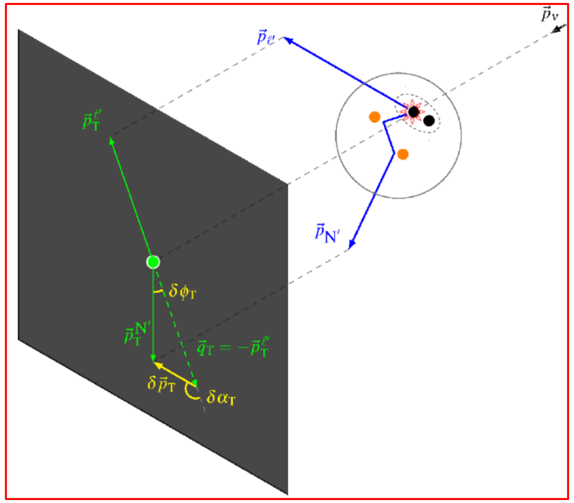




(*) monitored neutrino beam @ESS Design studied approved by EU (lead CNRS) in July 2022



Differential cross sections:



Exploit the knowledge of the neutrino energy without relying on final states: ENUBET NBOA + transverse kinematic imbalance (*)

(*) X.G. Lu et al. PRC 94 (2016) 105503

Nuclear effects in argon and water:

- 1% cross-section in argon for all flavors with the ProtoDUNEs
- 1% cross-section in water for ν_μ

BSM: High precision studies of non-standard interactions and sterile neutrinos at L= O(100 m). See e.g. L.A. Delgadillo, P. Huber, PRD 103 (2021) 035018

BSM: Exotic neutral particles produced at the hadron dump (beam dump physics with the ProtoDUNEs)

Conclusions and steps forward

The concept of “monitored neutrino beam” is no longer an “interesting idea”. It is a mature technology, which has been demonstrated by NP06/ENUBET in a six-year R&D. In particular,

- We can measure the charged leptons in a decay tunnel using a horn-less beam optimized for the energy range of DUNE (ENUBET), DUNE+HyperKamiokande (SBN@PBC), and ESSnuSB (**see T. Tolba @Neutrino 2024**)
- The ENUBET design is complete and fulfills all requirements for a new generation of cross-section experiments
  - Statistical error <1% with a 500-ton detector
  - Systematic uncertainty on the flux <1%
  - A priori measurement of the neutrino energy with a precision of 10-25%

- We are moving toward an experiment proposal and studying the implementation at CERN using existing detectors (the ProtoDUNEs and WCTE) and existing beam components to reduce the project cost
- SBN@PBC is a common effort of ENUBET, NuTAG, CERN Physics Beyond Collider, and the CERN Neutrino Platform, whose aims are to overcome current limitations (protons, energy range), exploit time tagging to achieve superior energy resolution and **study the concrete implementation at the CERN SPS**

We plan to submit a document at the European Strategy for Particle Physics (March 2025) and a White Paper that describes the physics performance with ProtoDUNE and WCTE (inclusive, double differential, exclusive cross sections for ν_μ and ν_e, non-standard-interactions, sterile neutrinos, and BSM physics)

Commercial ☺

We are organizing a 2-day Workshop on **Neutrinos@CERN** to prepare the European Strategy documents, whose focus is:

- Implementation of a neutrino beam at CERN
- Ancillary experiments (hadro-production)
- Neutrinos at the LHC and SHiP

Organizers: F. Resnati (Neutrino Platform), G. Schnell (Physics Beyond Collider), F. Terranova (SBN@PBC)

It will be held in **January 2025 at CERN**