

New challenges in reactor neutrinos: mapping between TAO and JUNO and dealing with nuclear uncertainties

FRANCESCO CAPOZZI

based on Phys. Rev. D 102 (2020) 056001, in collaboration with E. Lisi and A. Marrone

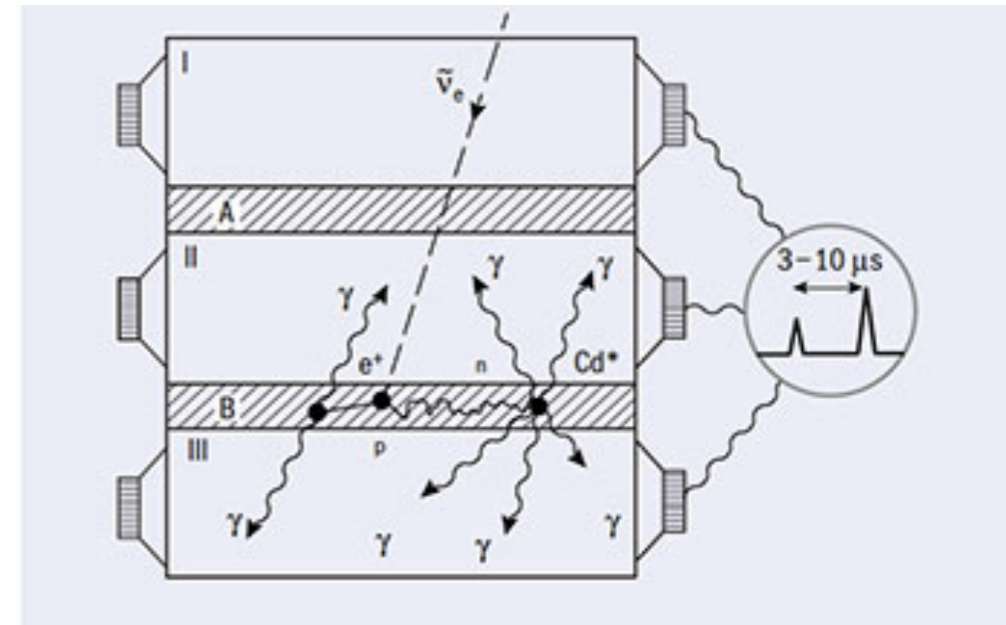
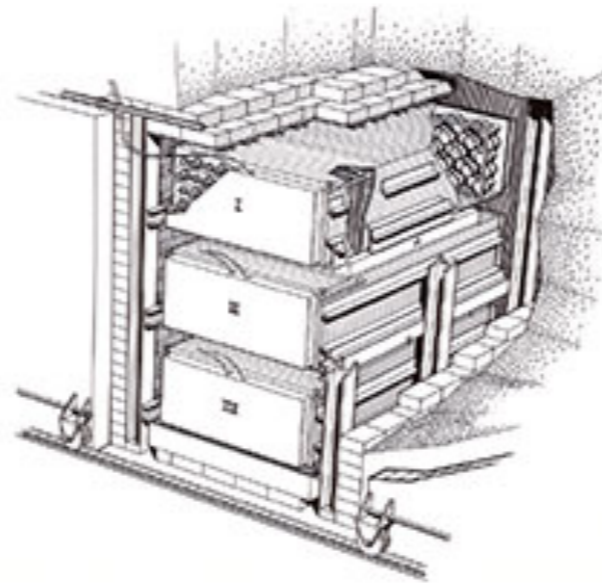


Max-Planck-Institut für Physik
(Werner-Heisenberg-Institut)

Reactor Neutrinos: the past

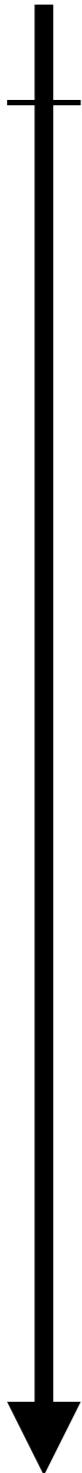
1956

First neutrino
detection



C. L. Cowan, F. Reines, F. B. Harrison, H. W. Kruse, Science 124 (1956), 103-104

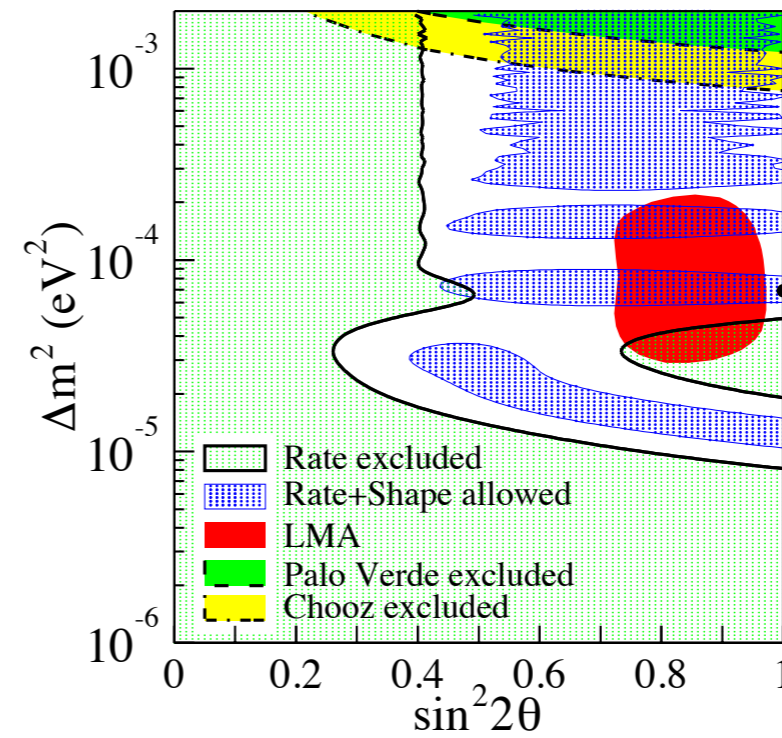
time



Reactor Neutrinos: the past

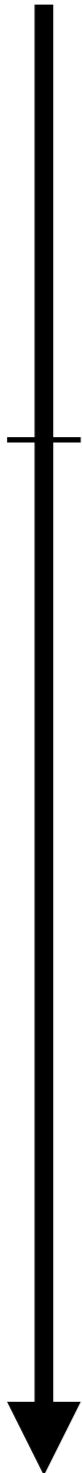
2003

Confirmation
of solar LMA
oscillations



K. Eguchi et al. [KamLAND], Phys. Rev. Lett. 90 (2003), 021802

time

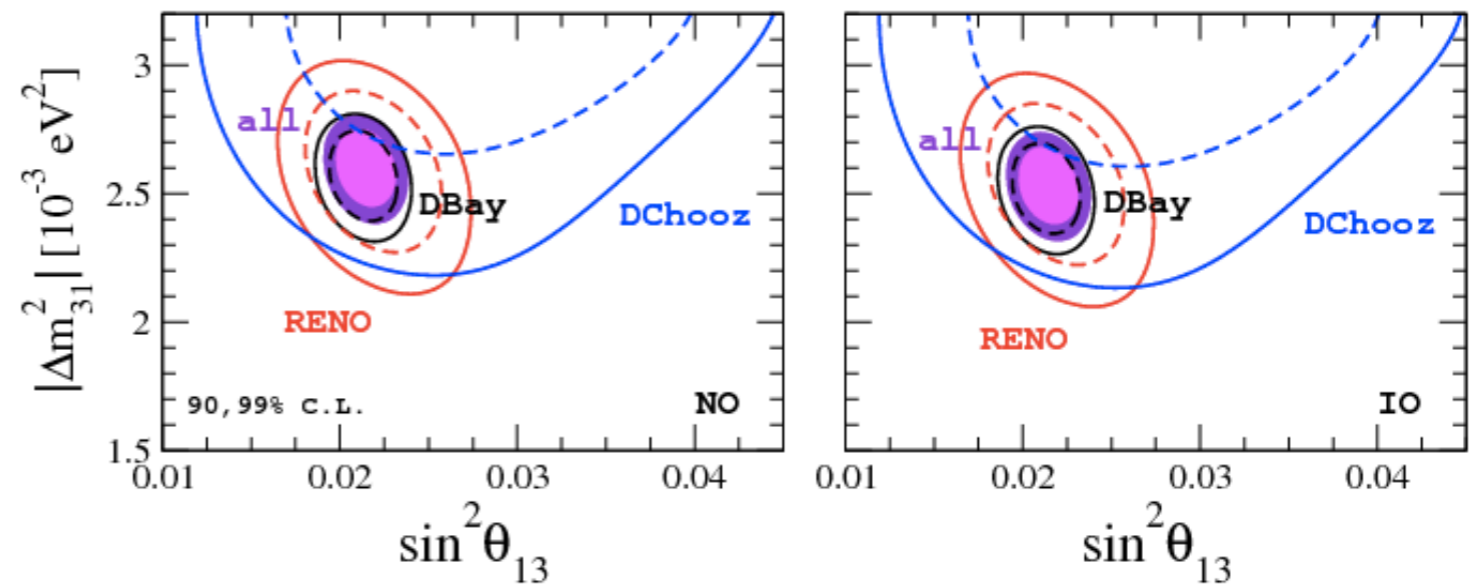


Reactor Neutrinos: the present

2010 -
Today

Best θ_{13}
measurement

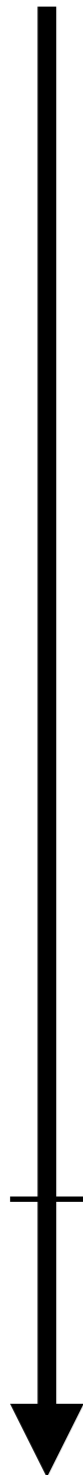
time



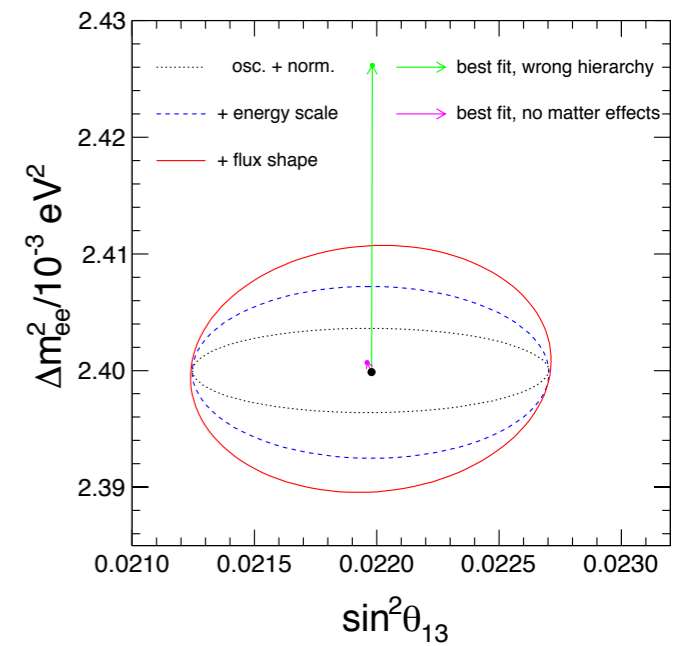
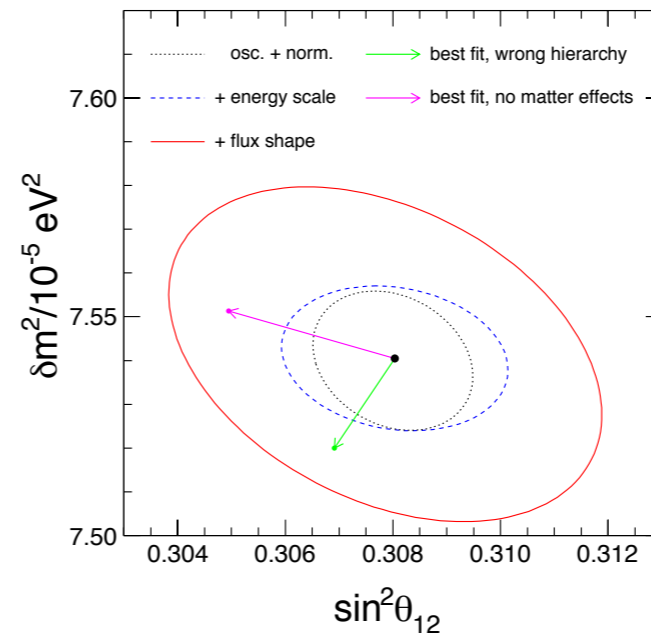
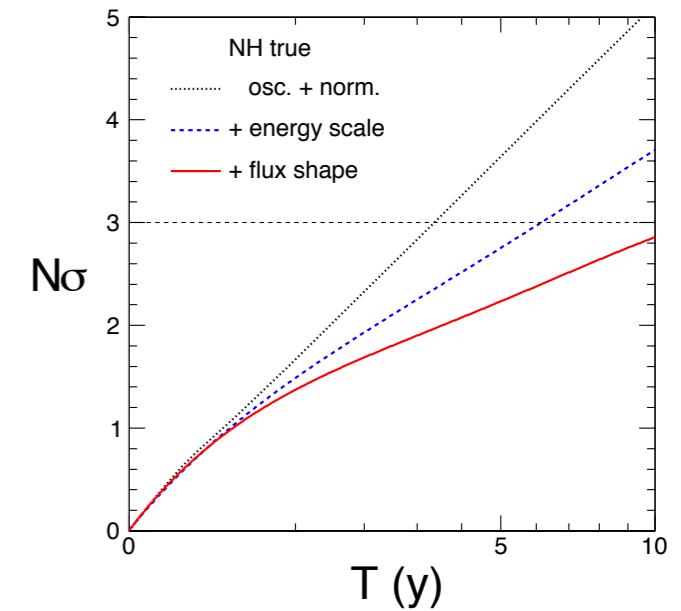
P. F. de Salas, et al., Phys. Lett. B 782 (2018), 633-640

Reactor Neutrinos: the future

2022 -
....
time

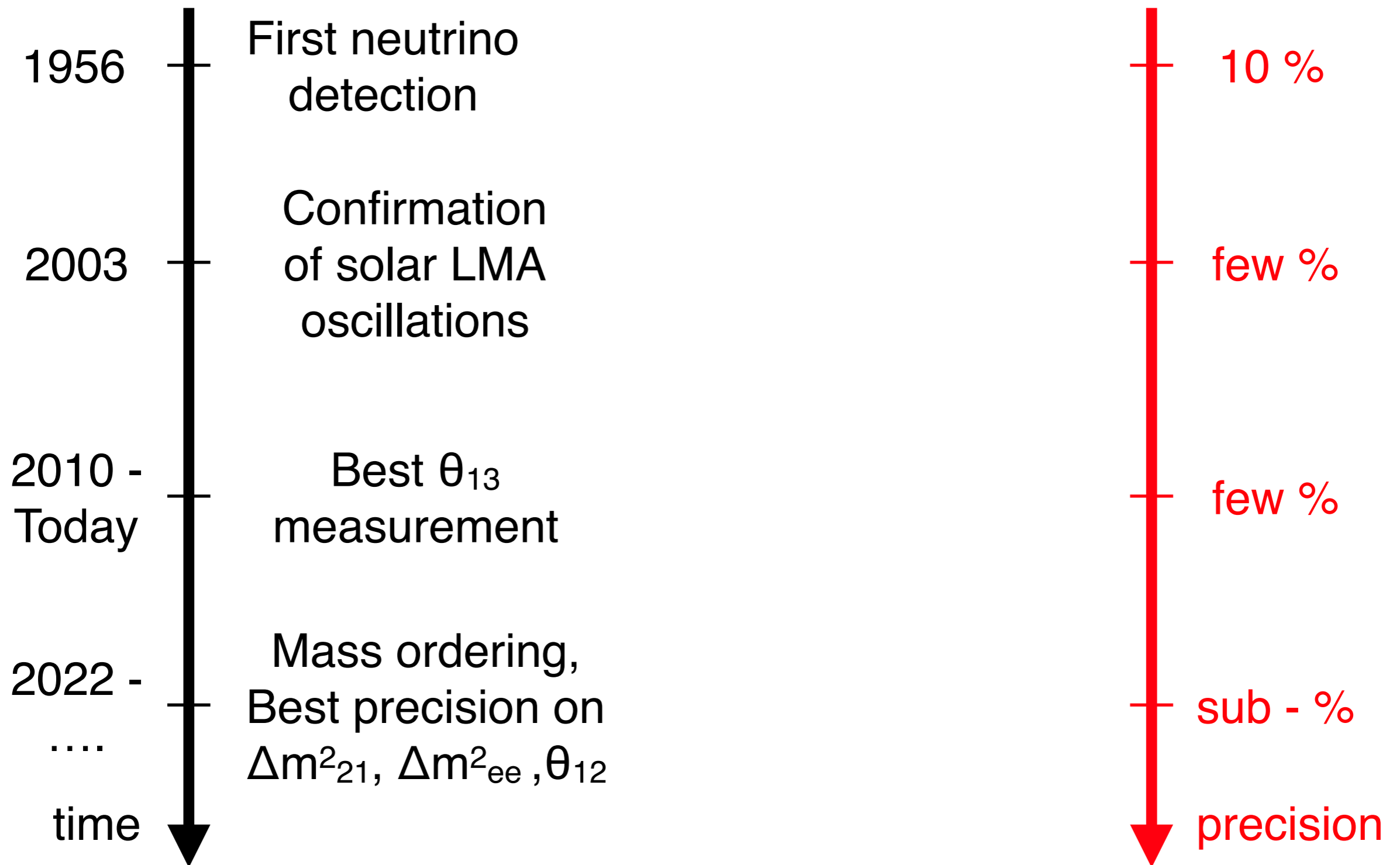


Mass ordering,
Best precision on
 Δm^2_{21} , Δm^2_{ee} , θ_{12}

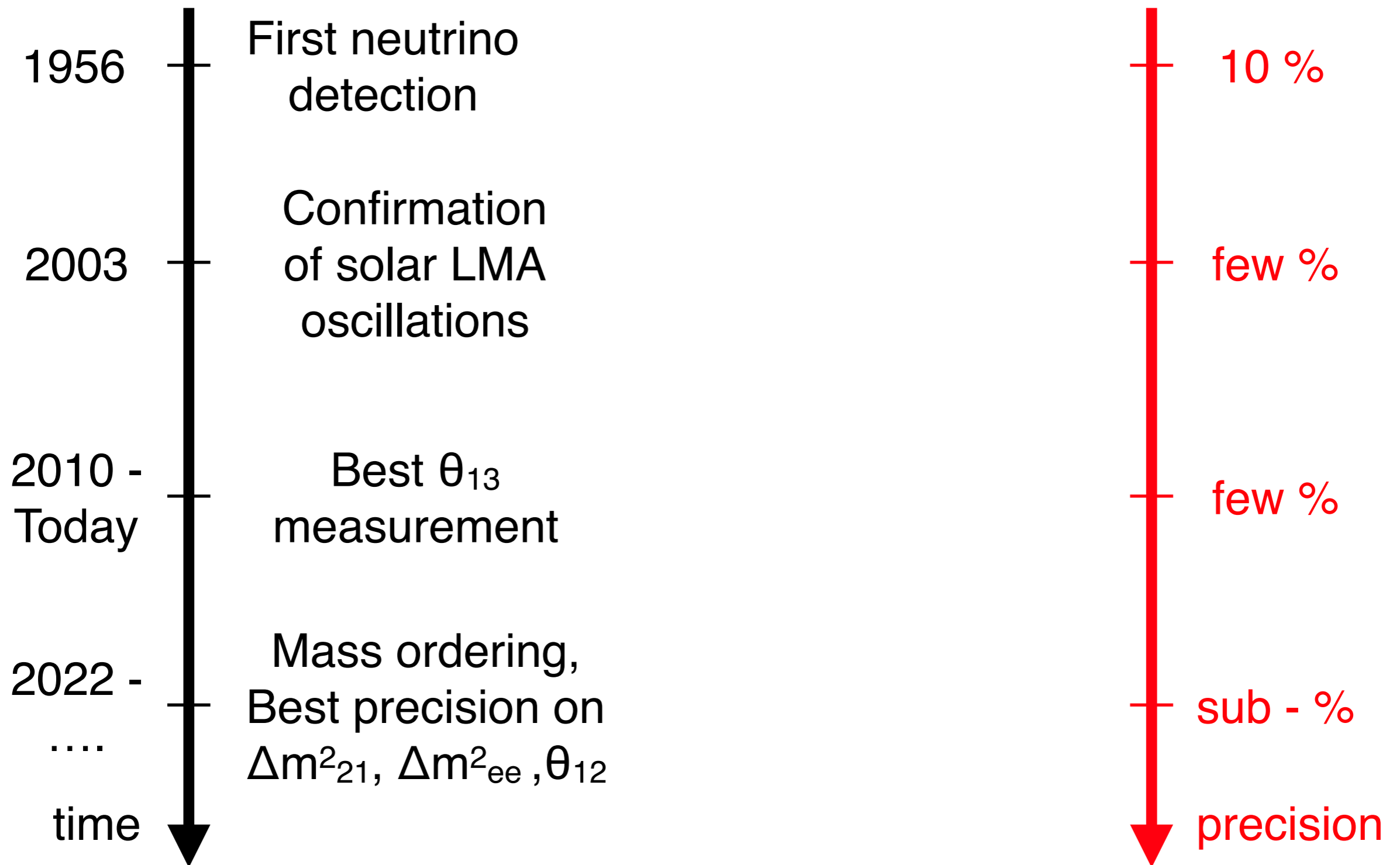


F. Capozzi, E. Lisi and A. Marrone, Phys. Rev. D 92 (2015) no.9, 093011

Reactor Neutrinos: precision



Reactor Neutrinos: precision



CAUTION: “... With great power comes great responsibility...”

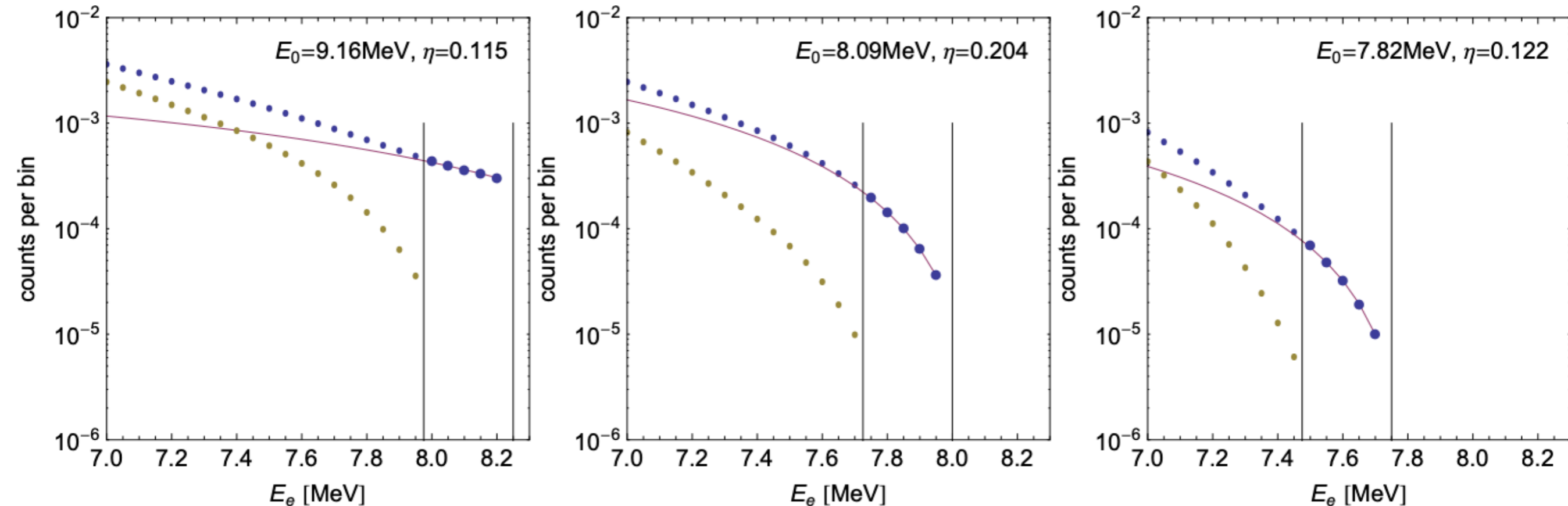
Reactor Neutrinos: new challenges

Two ways of calculating reactor fluxes

“conversion” approach (Huber / Mueller calculations)

T. A. Mueller et al., Phys. Rev. C 83, 054615 (2011), P. Huber, Phys.Rev. C84, 024617 (2011)

P. Huber talk at Neutrino 2016



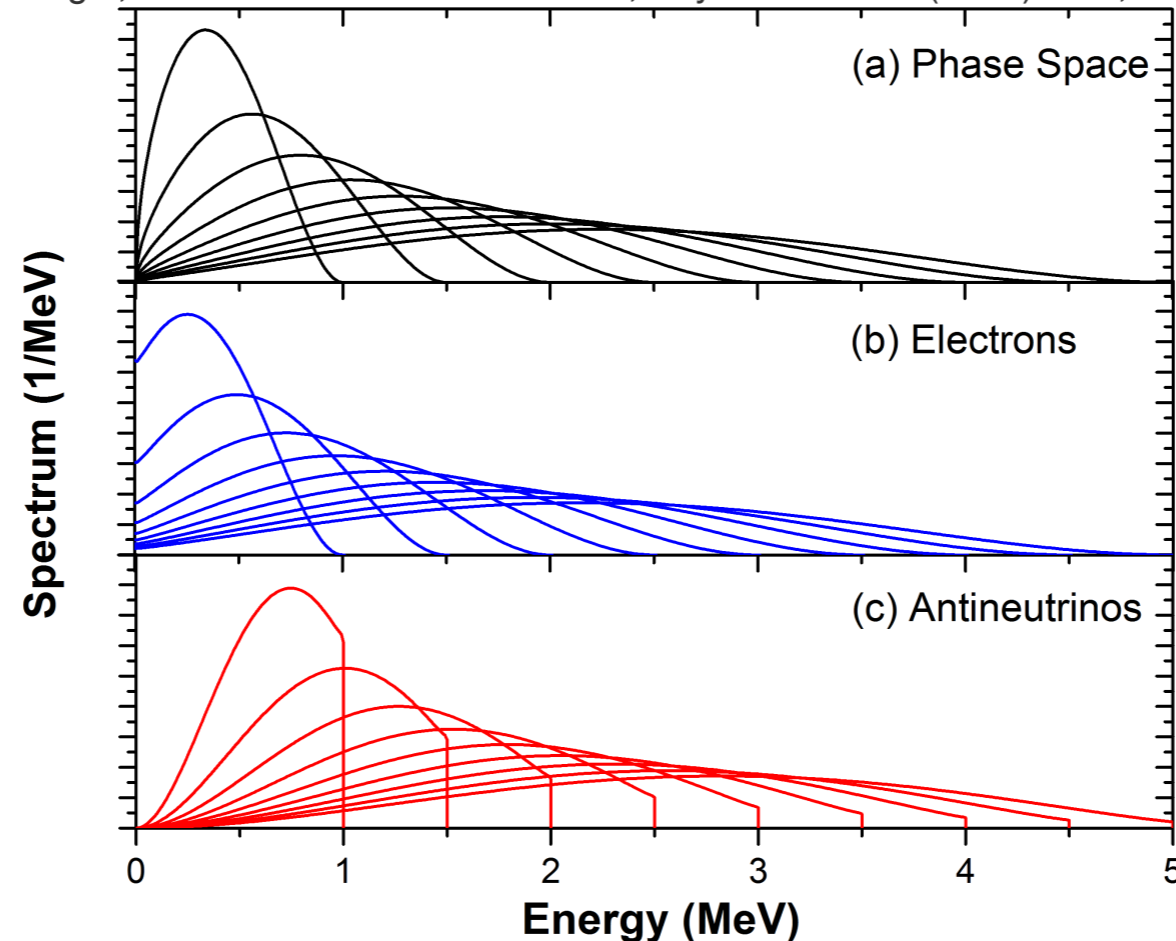
Fit electron spectrum with few virtual β branches, then convert them to $\bar{\nu}_e$

Reactor Neutrinos: new challenges

Two ways of calculating reactor fluxes

“summation” or “ab initio” approach

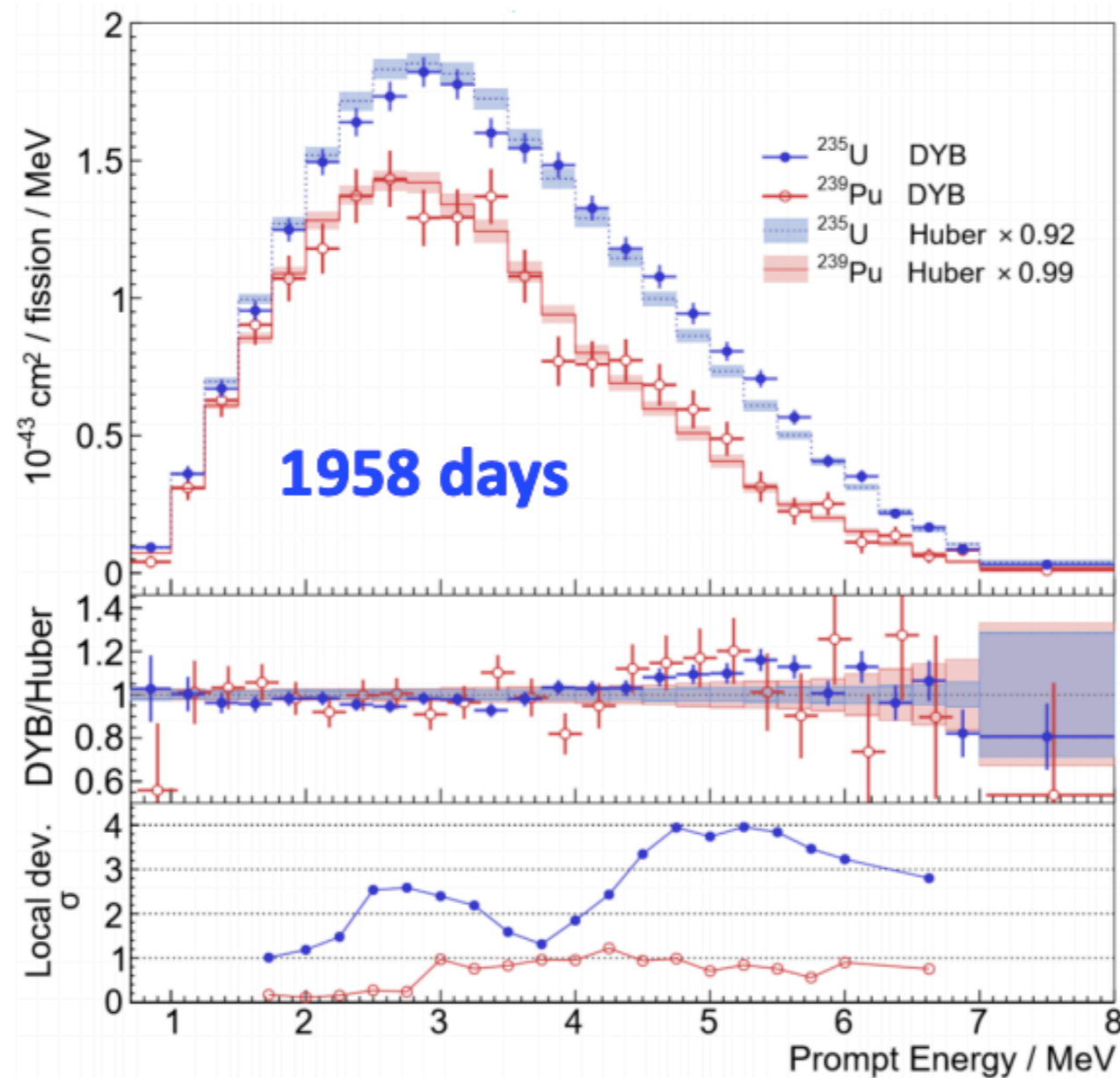
A. A. Sonzogni, M. Nino and E. A. McCutchan, Phys. Rev. C 98 (2018) no.1, 014323



Sum over thousands of β transitions tabulated in nuclear databases

Reactor Neutrinos: new challenges

Observation of a bump at ~ 5 MeV in multiple reactor experiments



Jiajie Ling [Daya Bay Collaboration]
talk at Neutrino 2020

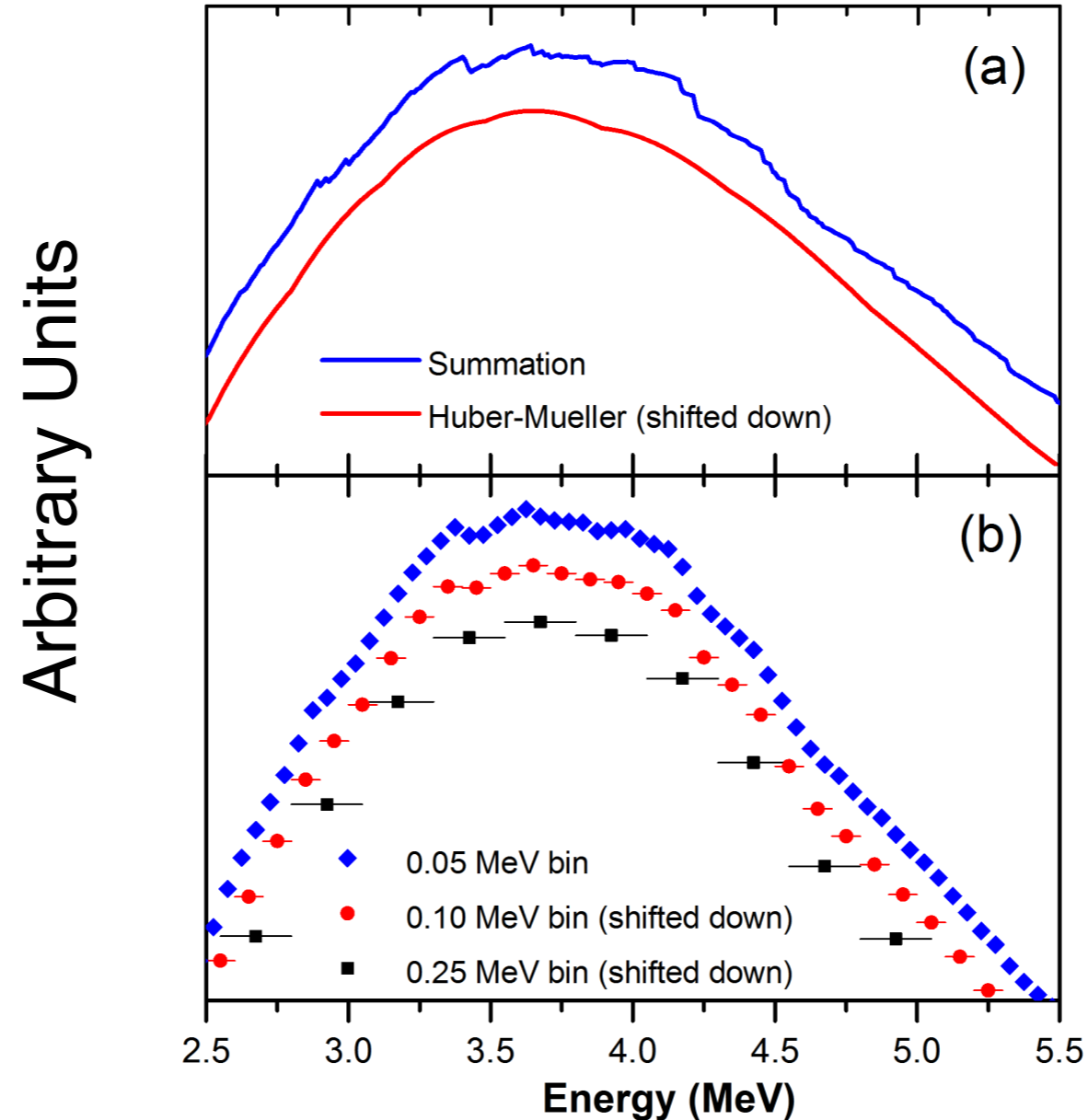
see also results from
RENO, Double Chooz and
short baseline experiments

Issues in theoretical predictions (mostly for ^{235}U) and their uncertainties

Reactor Neutrinos: new challenges

Comparison between “summation” and “conversion” approaches

A. A. Sonzogni, M. Nino and E. A. McCutchan, Phys. Rev. C 98 (2018) no.1, 014323

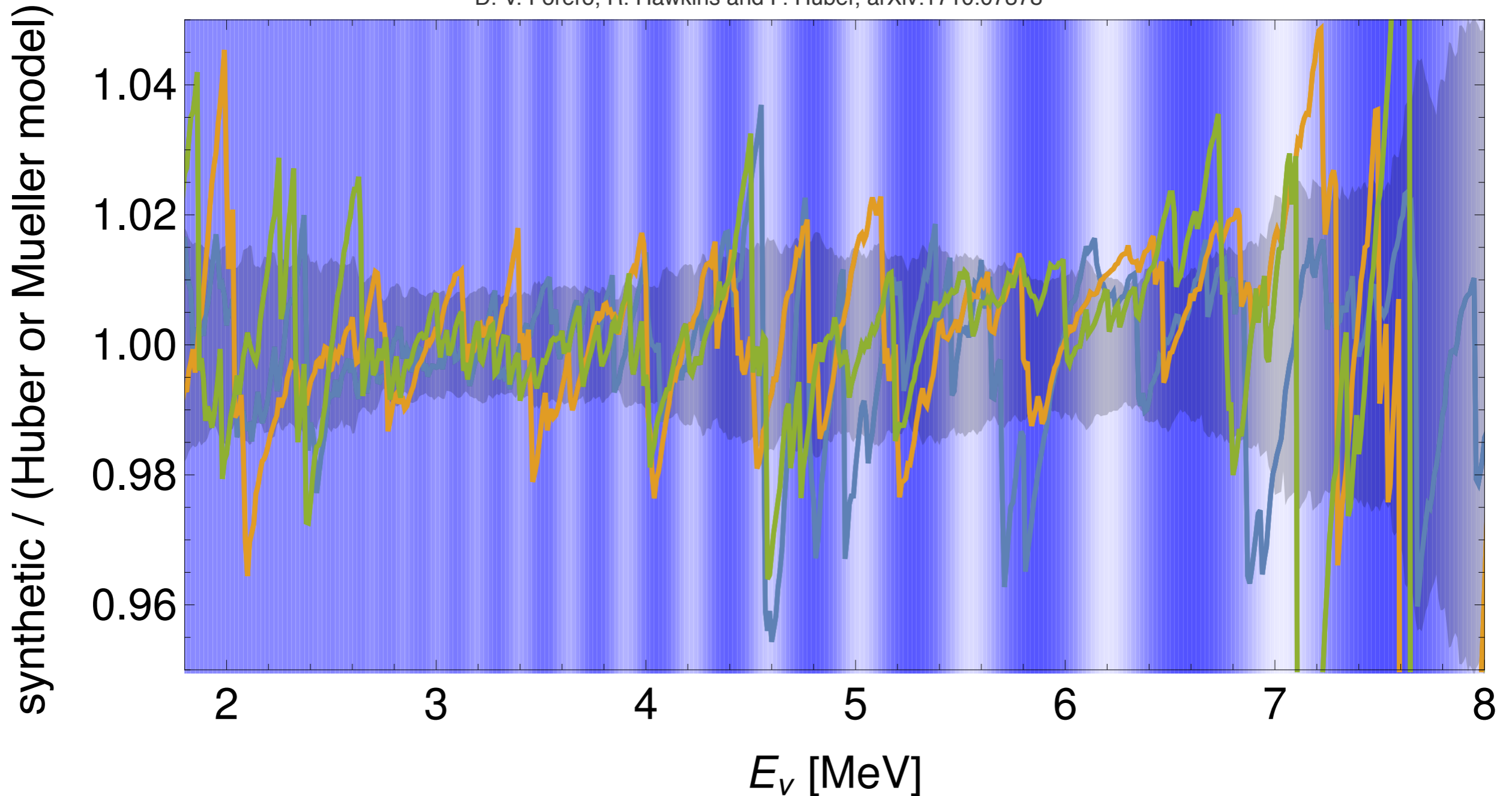


Saw-tooth shape visible with higher resolution.
Structure partially unknown.

Reactor Neutrinos: new challenges

Are microstructures of the neutrino flux dangerous for JUNO?

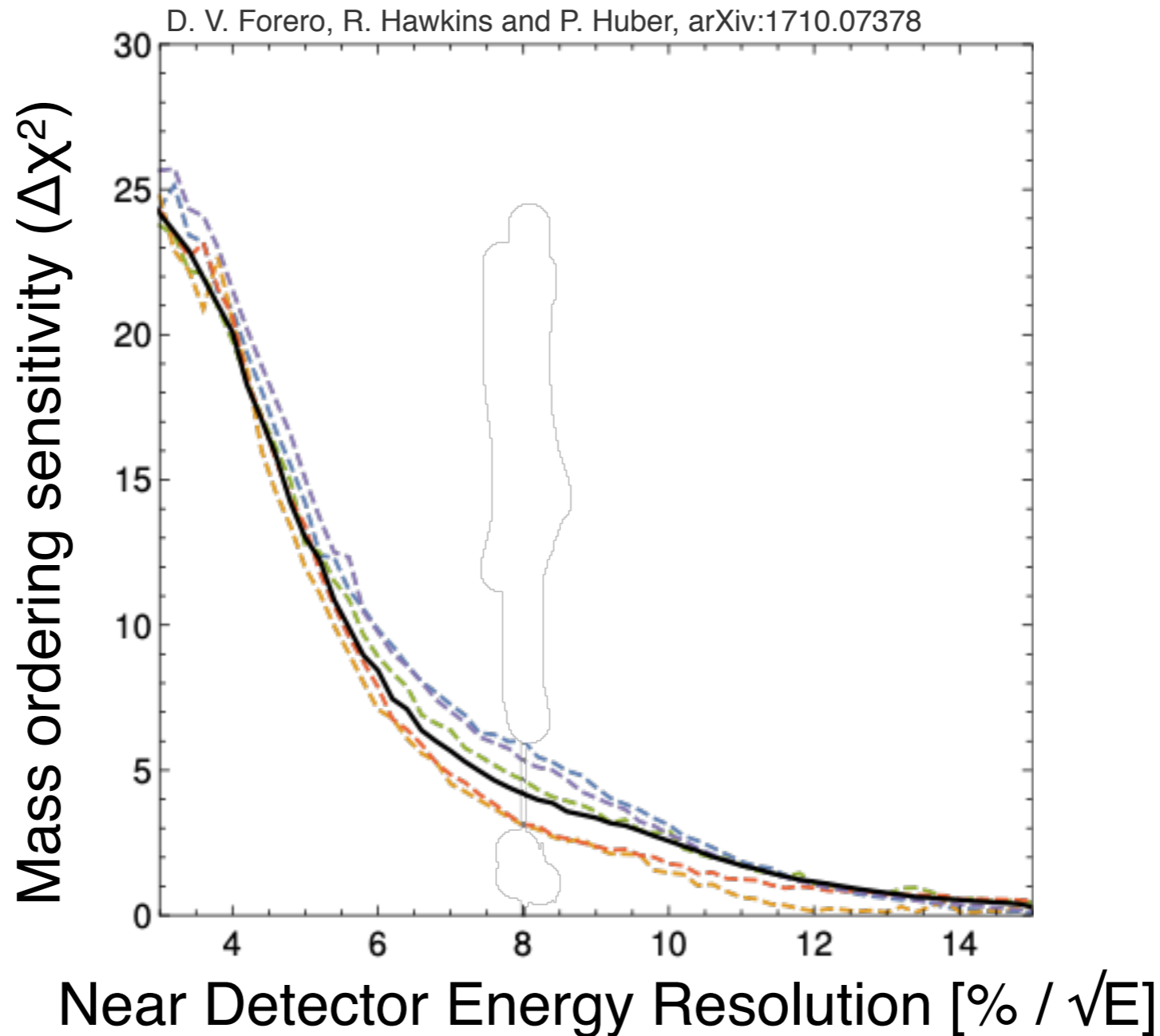
D. V. Forero, R. Hawkins and P. Huber, arXiv:1710.07378



Oscillations and microstructures seem to have similar frequencies

Reactor Neutrinos: new challenges

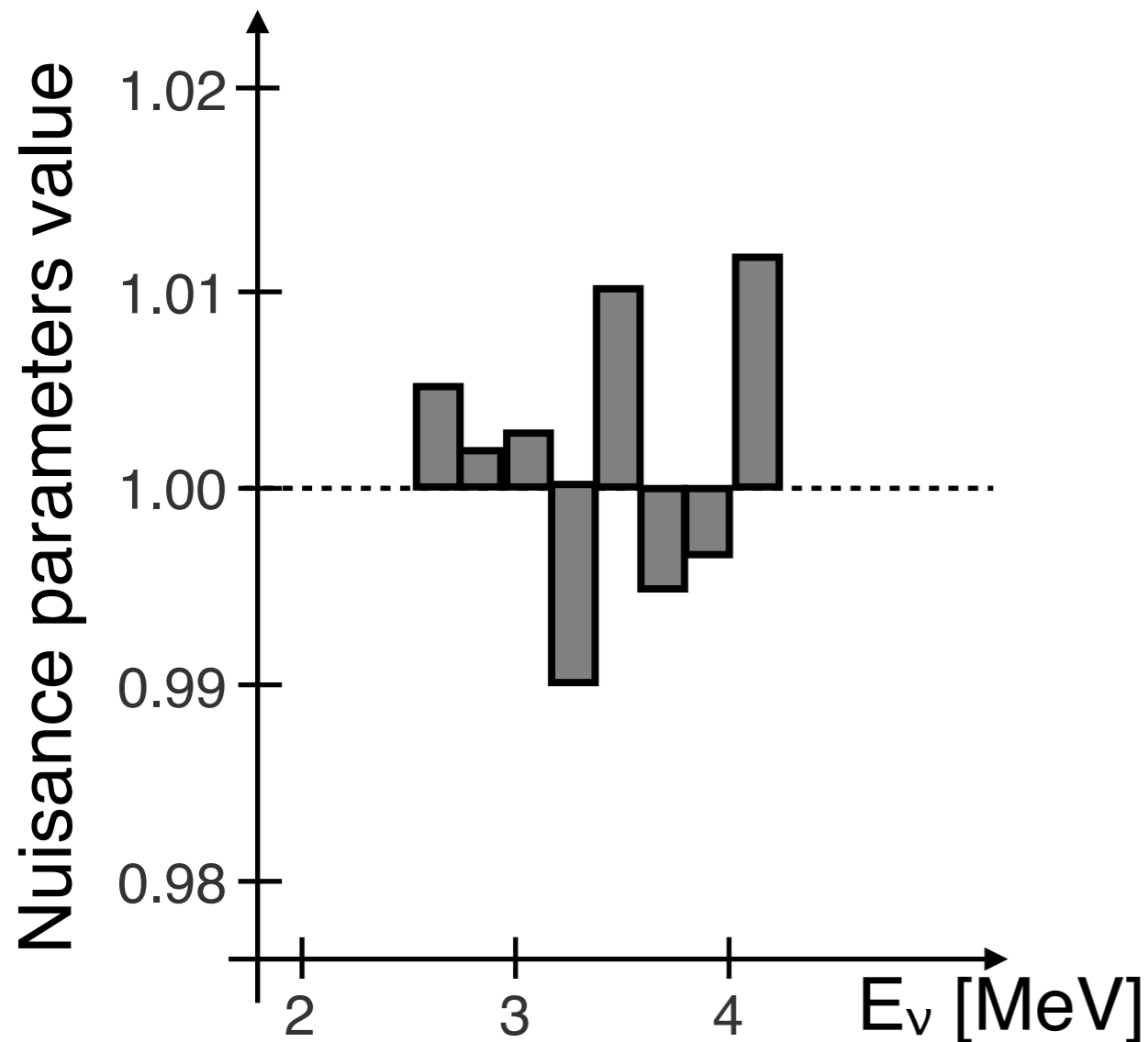
Are microstructures of the neutrino flux dangerous for JUNO?



Reduction of sensitivity unless using near detector with exquisite resolution.
Caveat: each bin has a different (unconstrained) nuisance parameter

Reactor Neutrinos: new challenges

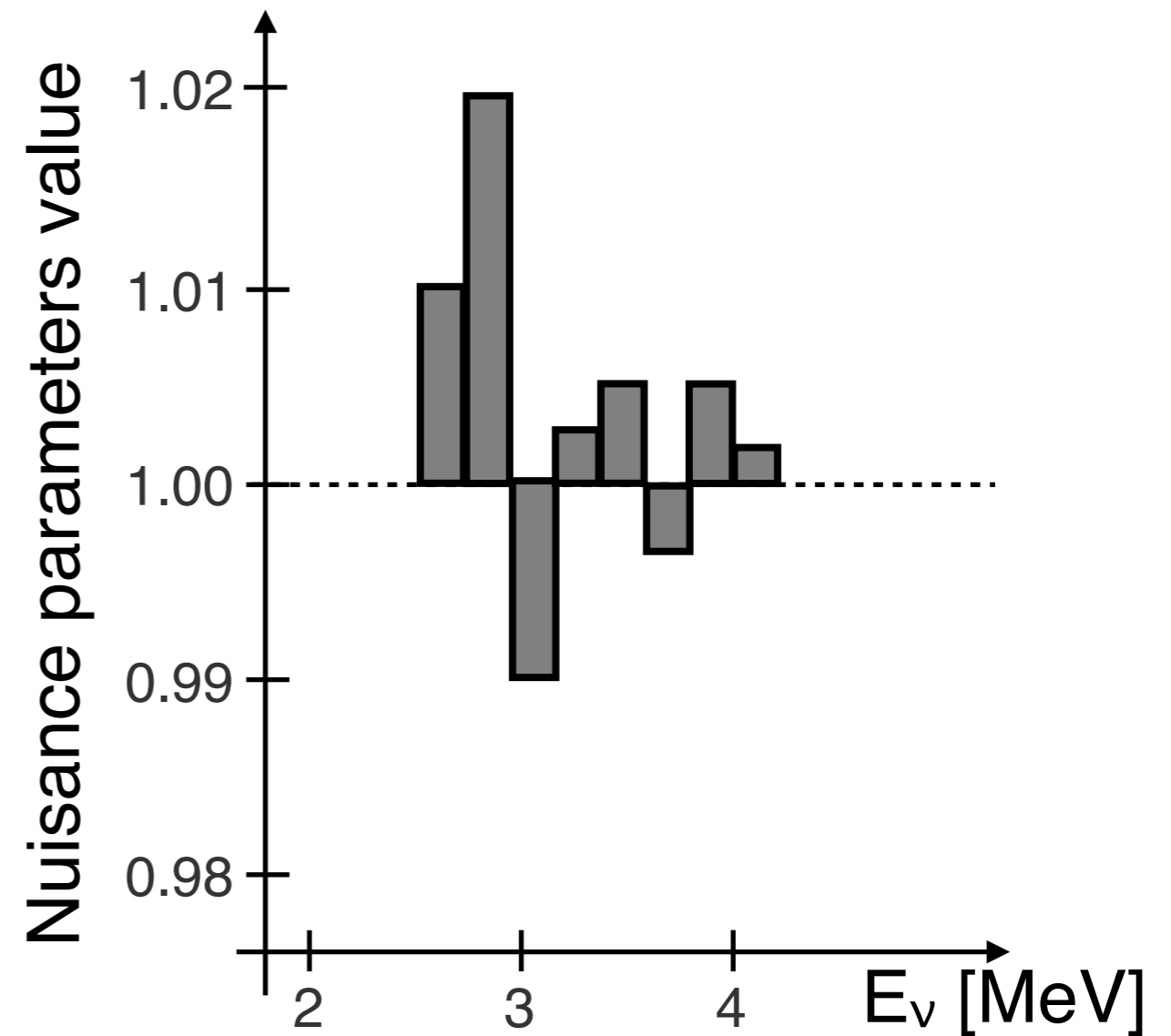
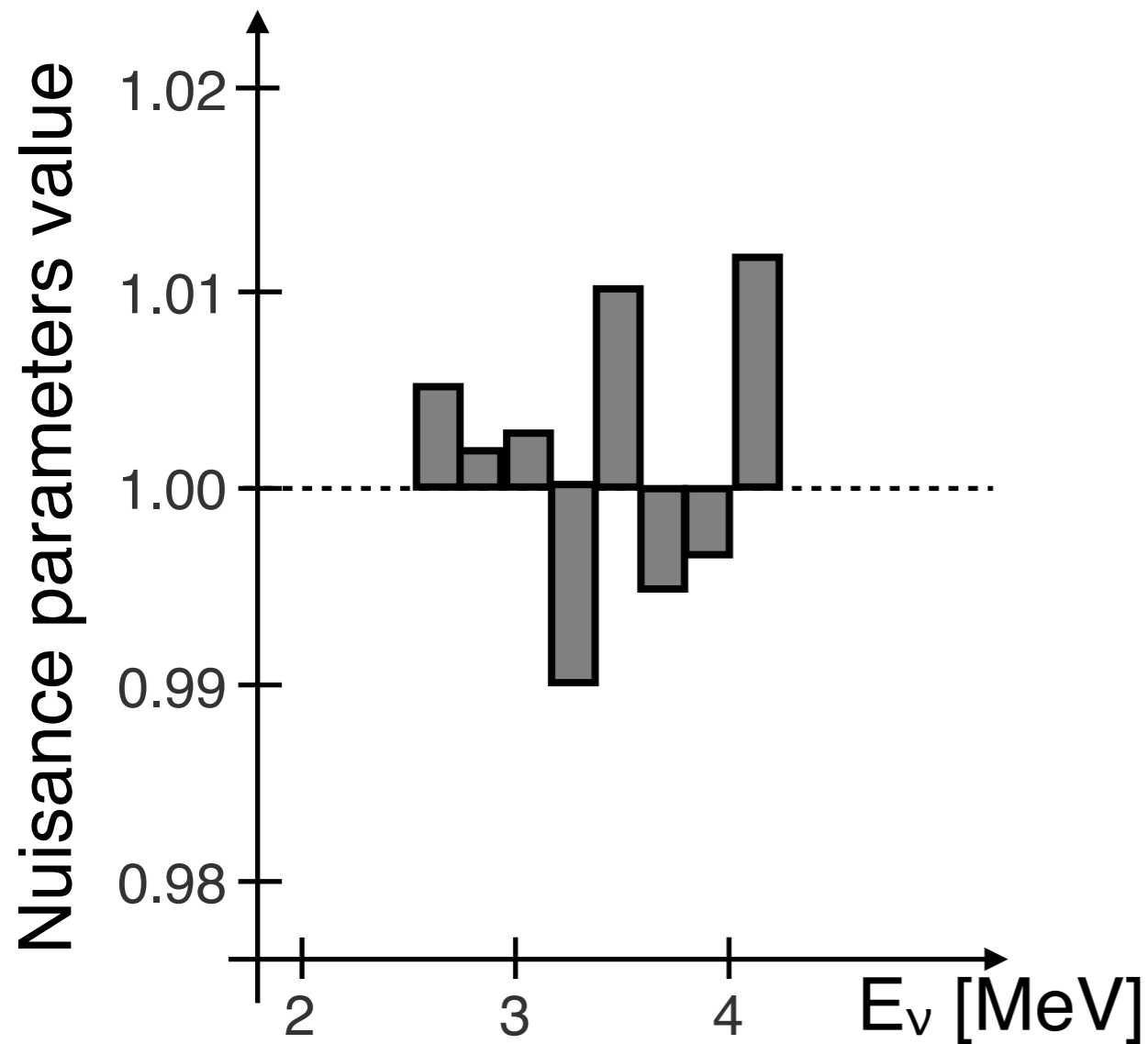
Are microstructures of the neutrino flux dangerous for JUNO?



Caveat: each bin has a different (unconstrained) nuisance parameter

Reactor Neutrinos: new challenges

Are microstructures of the neutrino flux dangerous for JUNO?

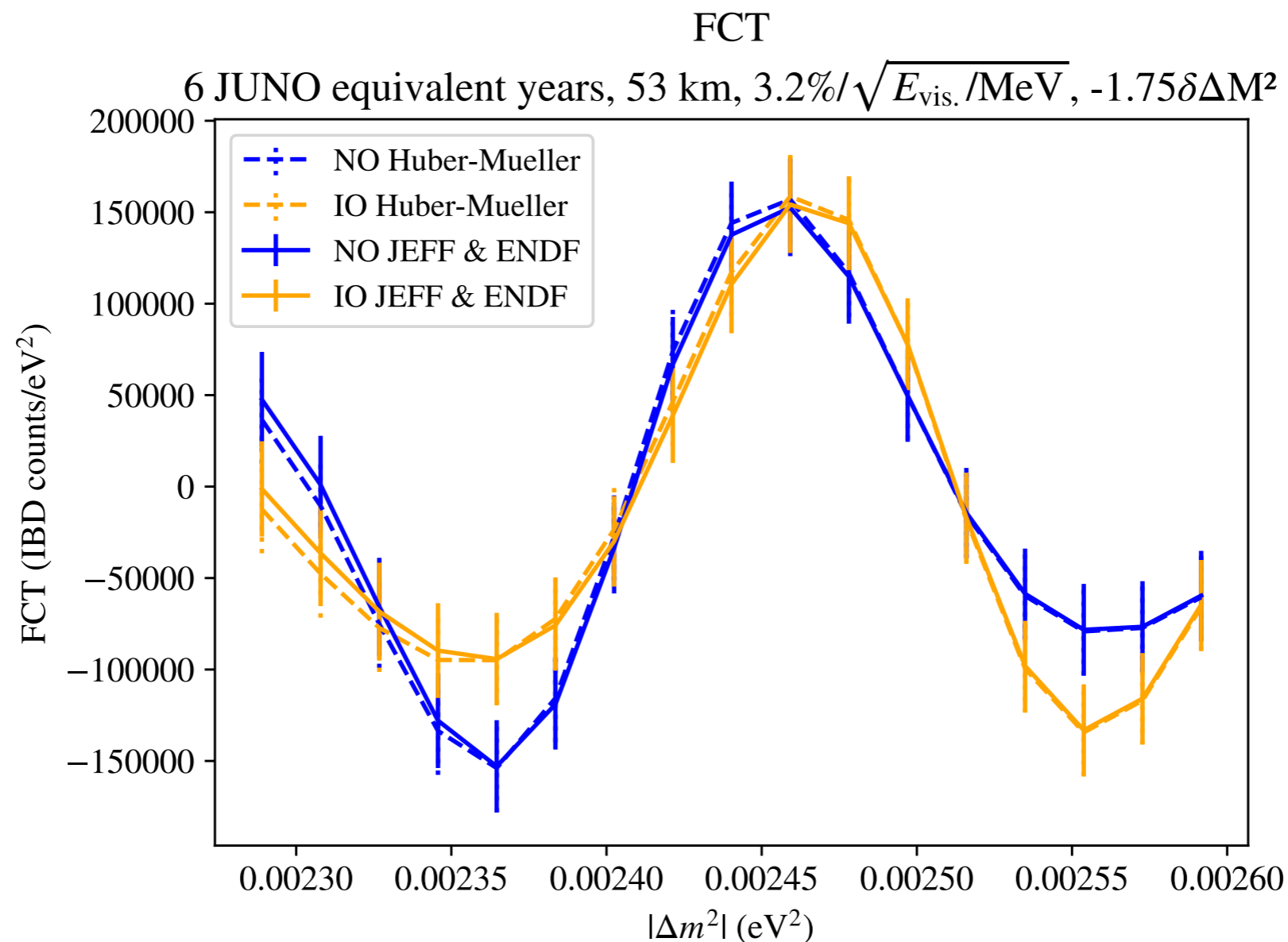


Caveat: all shape variations with arbitrary amplitudes are allowed

Reactor Neutrinos: new challenges

Are microstructures of the neutrino flux dangerous for JUNO?

D. L. Danielson, A. C. Hayes and G. T. Garvey, Phys. Rev. D 99 (2019) no.3, 036001

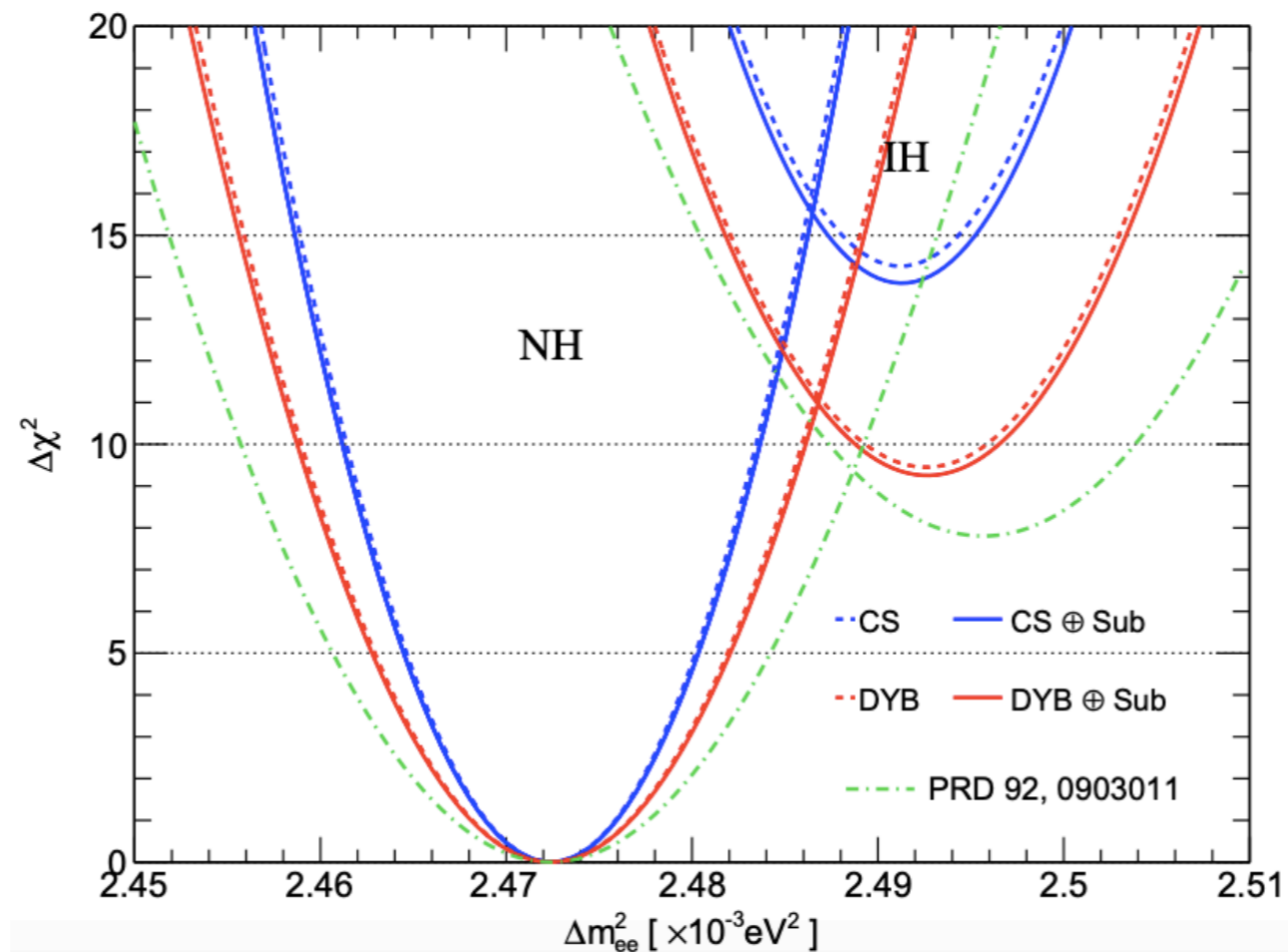


No significant impact of microstructures when using Fourier Transform
Caveat: error propagation (stat+syst) to frequency space

Reactor Neutrinos: new challenges

Are microstructures of the neutrino flux dangerous for JUNO?

Z. Cheng, N. Raper, W. Wang, C. F. Wong and J. Zhang, arXiv:2004.11659

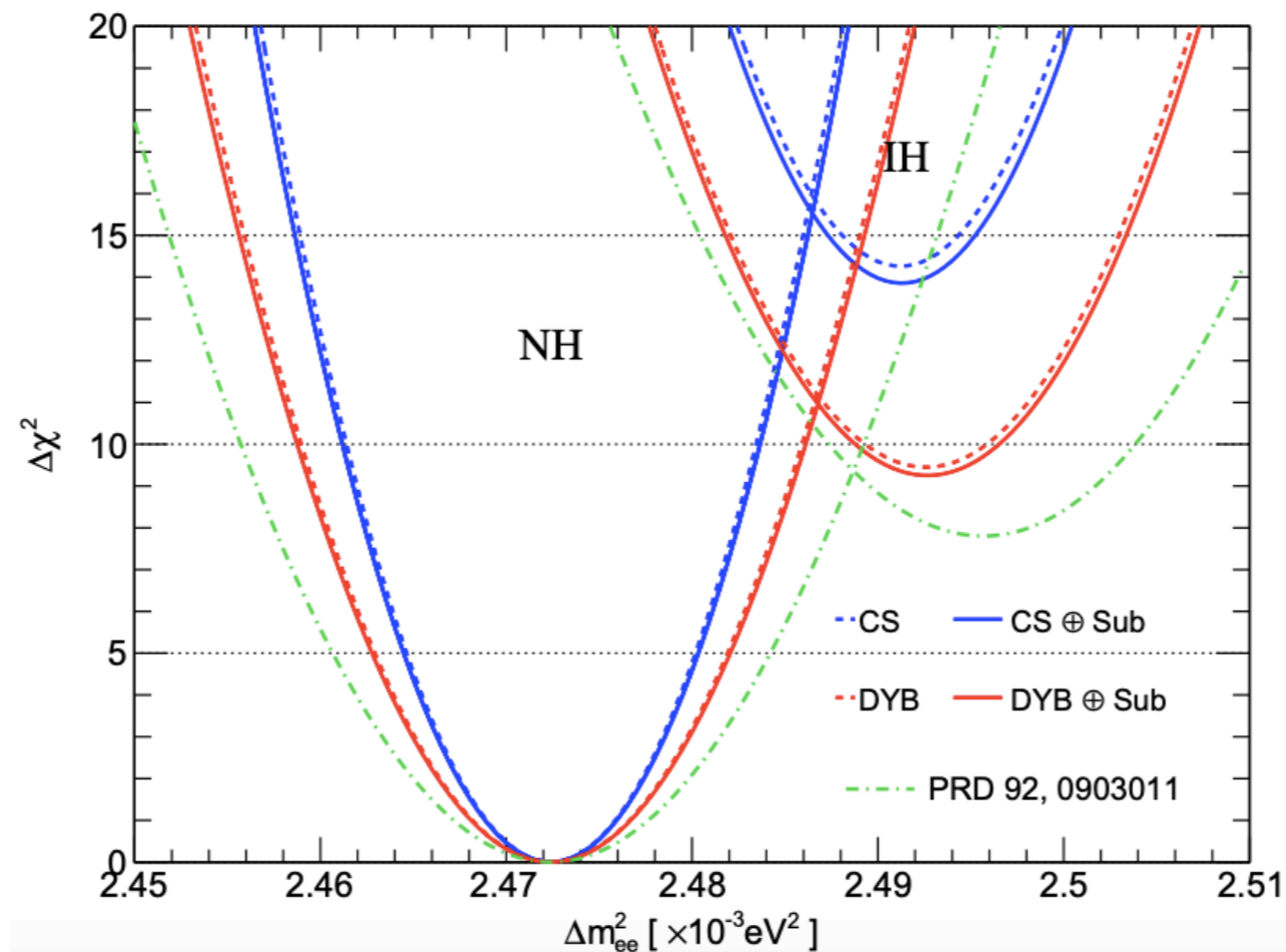


No significant impact of microstructures

Reactor Neutrinos: new challenges

Are microstructures of the neutrino flux dangerous for JUNO?

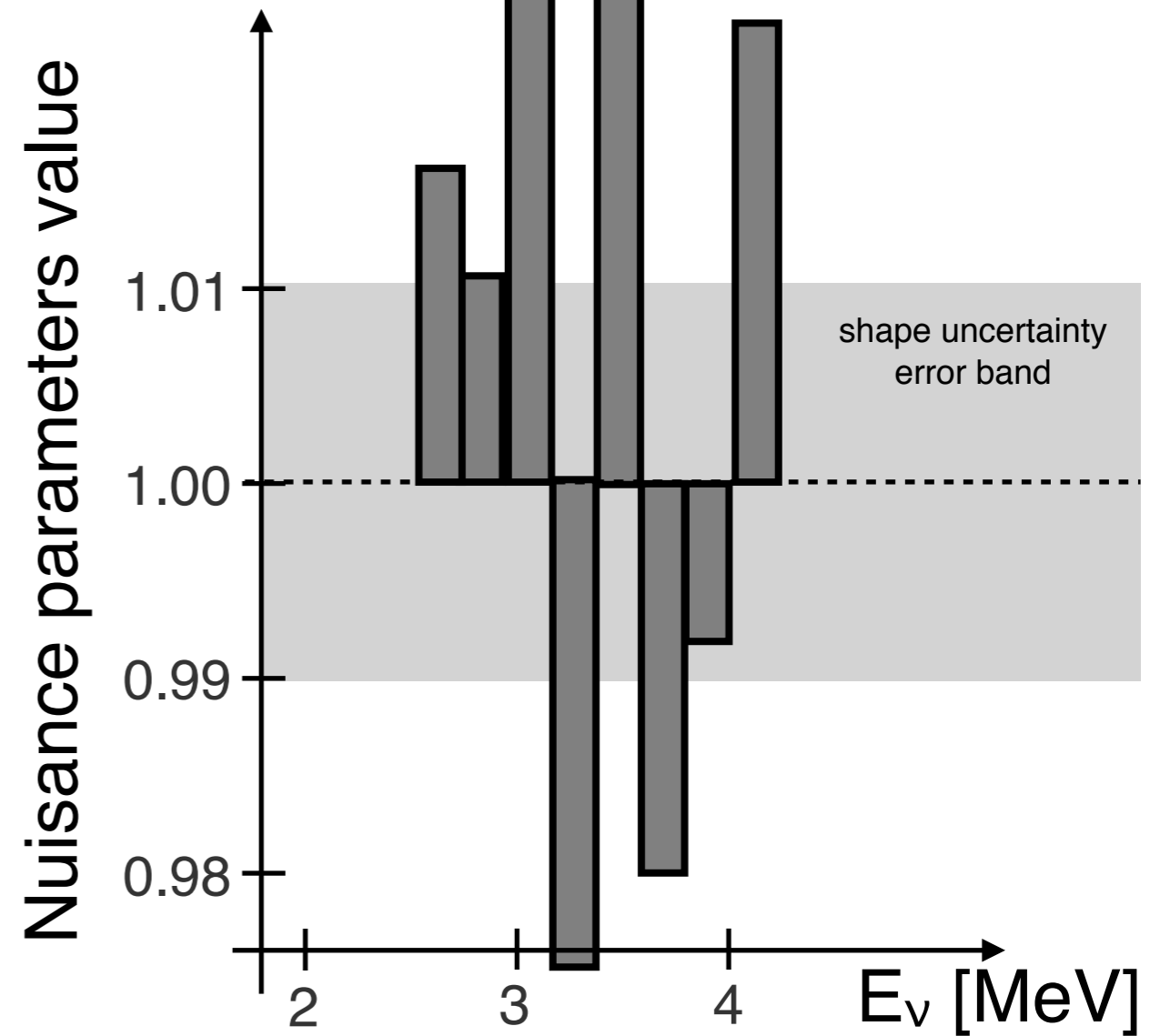
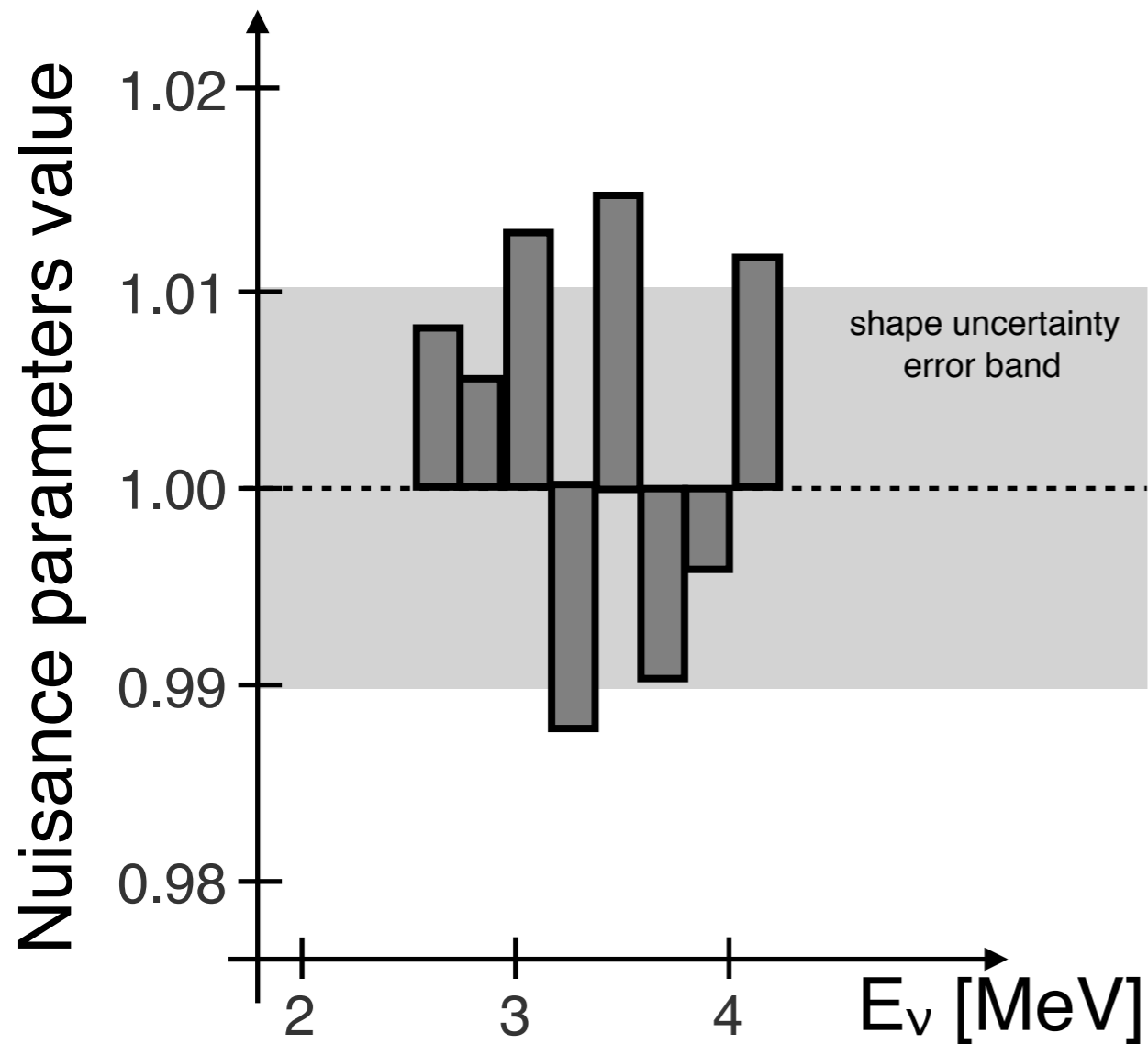
Z. Cheng, N. Raper, W. Wang, C. F. Wong and J. Zhang, arXiv:2004.11659



Caveats: one nuisance parameter for each bin,
whose amplitude is constrained to $\sigma_{\text{TOT}}^2 = \sigma_{\text{CS/DYB}}^2 + \sigma_{\text{SUB}}^2$

Reactor Neutrinos: new challenges

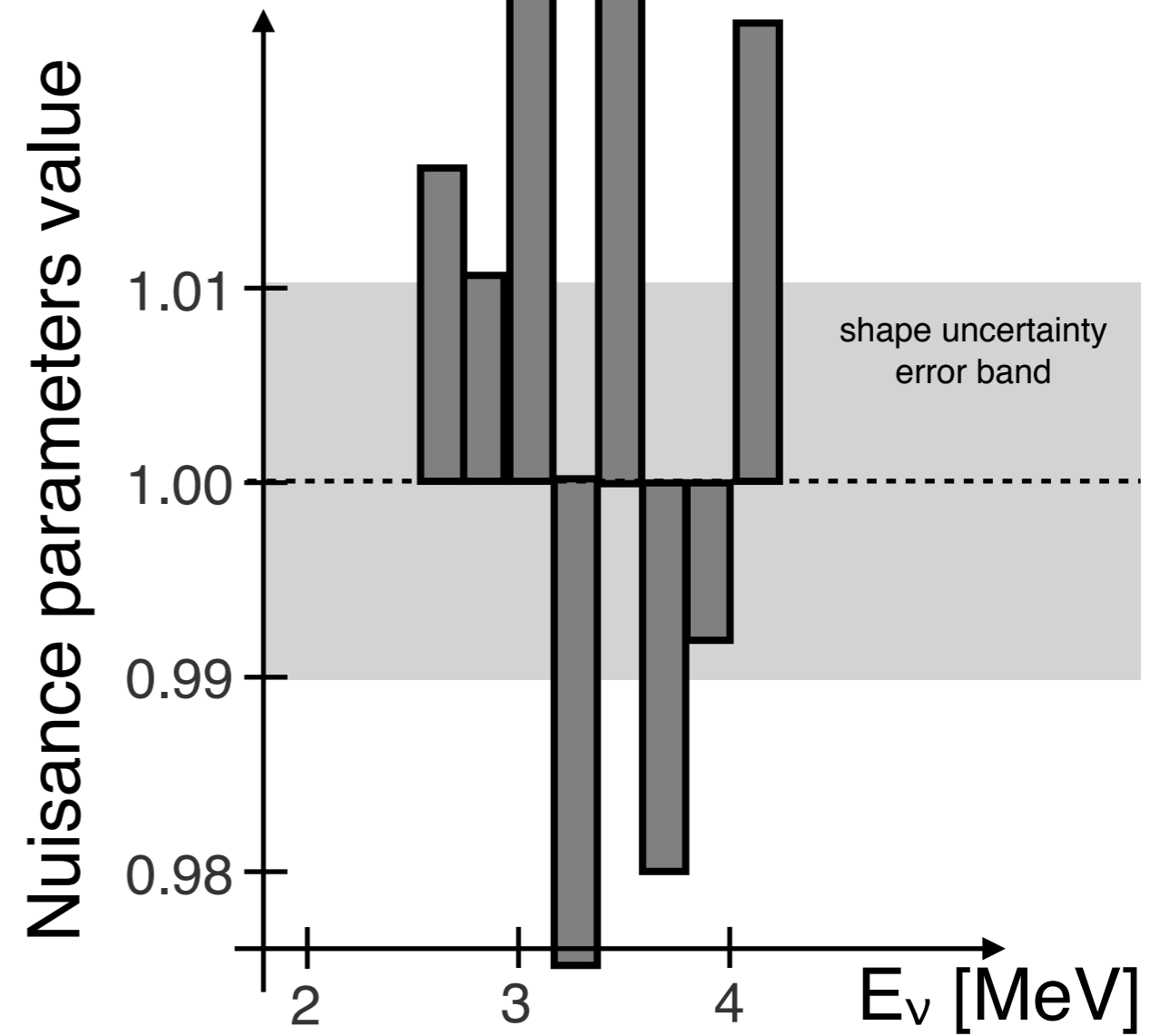
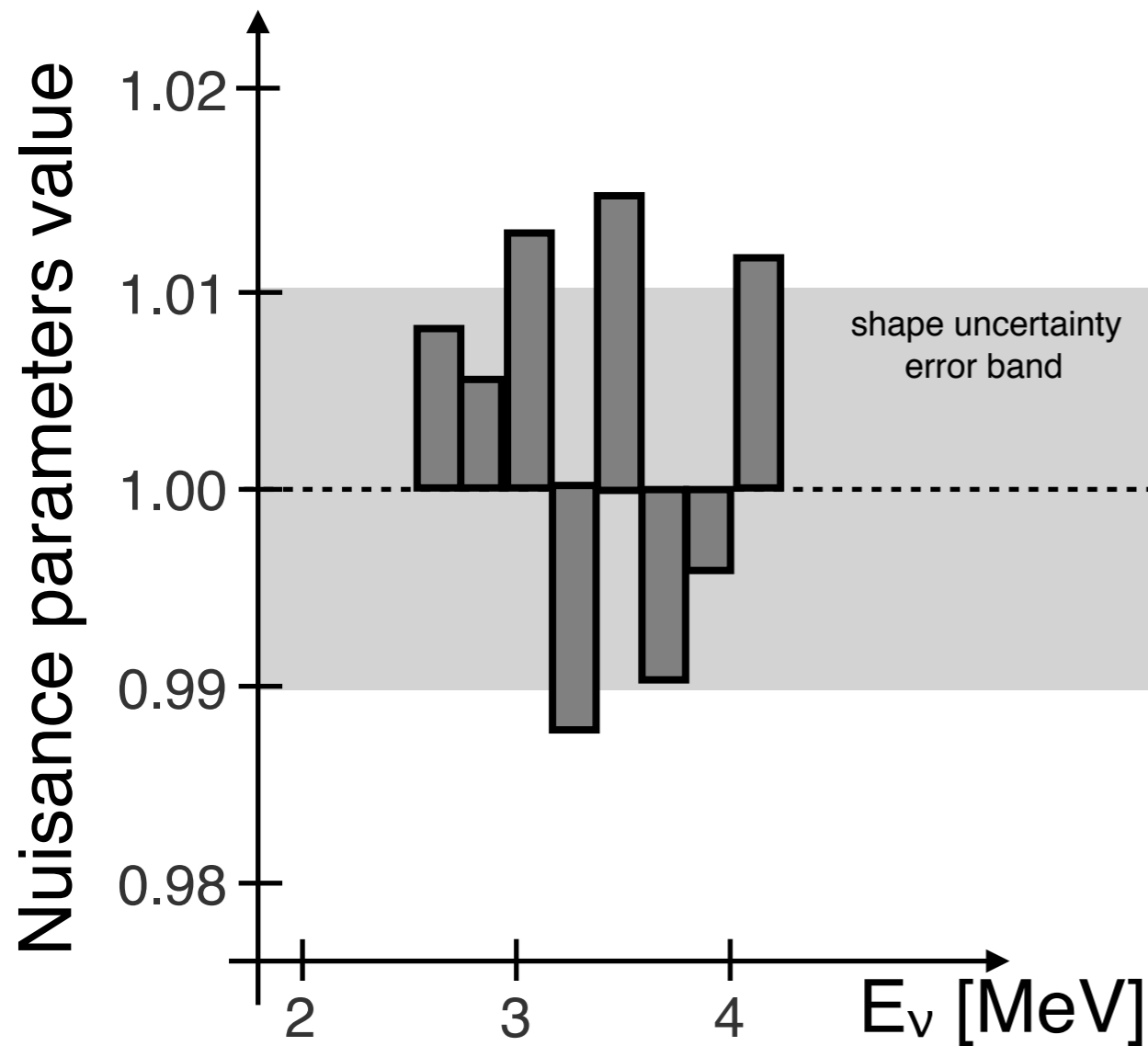
Are microstructures of the neutrino flux dangerous for JUNO?



Caveat: if we double the amplitude of shape variations we double the χ^2_{sys} .

Reactor Neutrinos: new challenges

Are microstructures of the neutrino flux dangerous for JUNO?

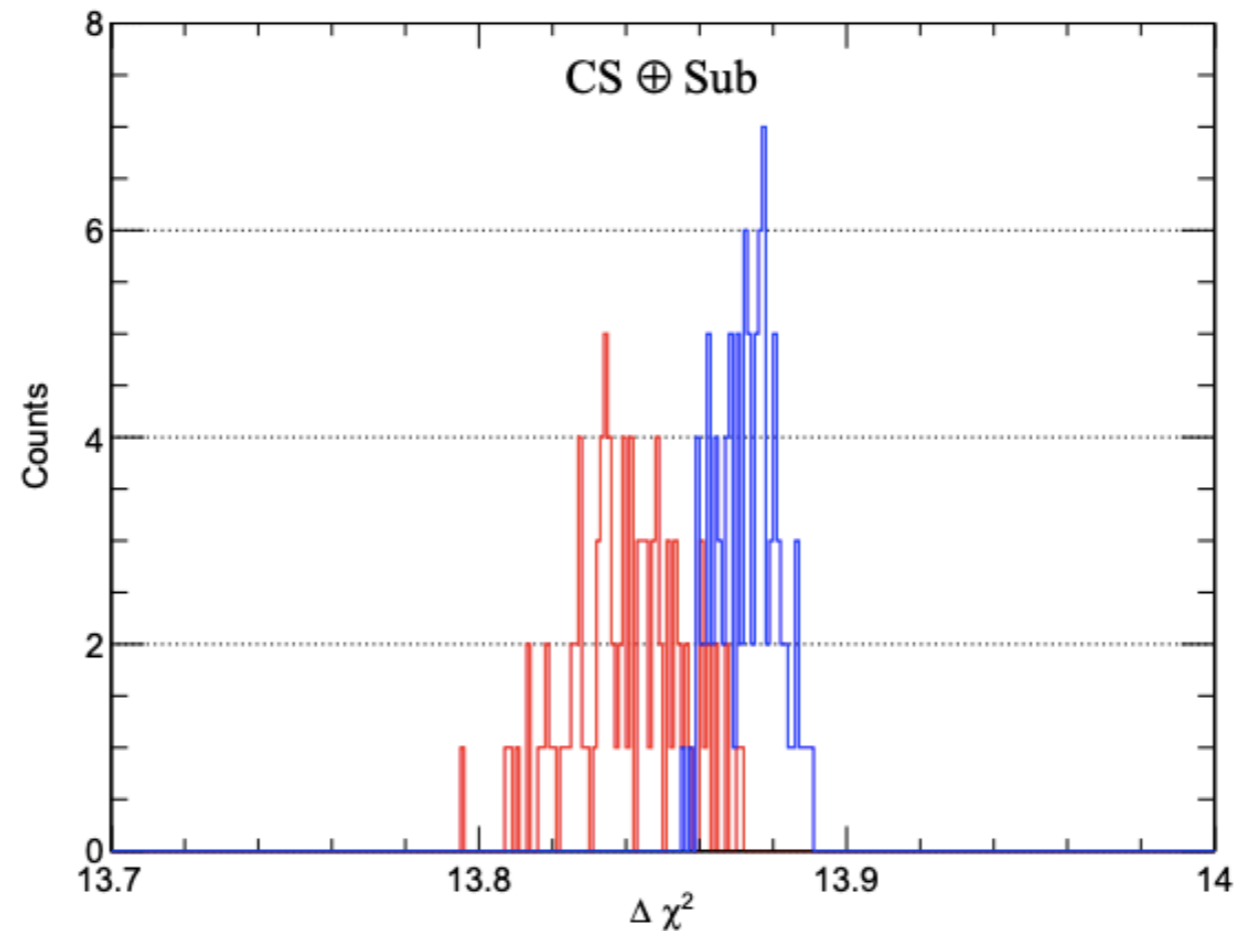


Caveat: we are (implicitly) assuming that if we double the variations of nuclear parameters, we are also doubling the amplitude of shape variations

Reactor Neutrinos: new challenges

Are microstructures of the neutrino flux dangerous for JUNO?

Z. Cheng, N. Raper, W. Wang, C. F. Wong and J. Zhang, arXiv:2004.11659

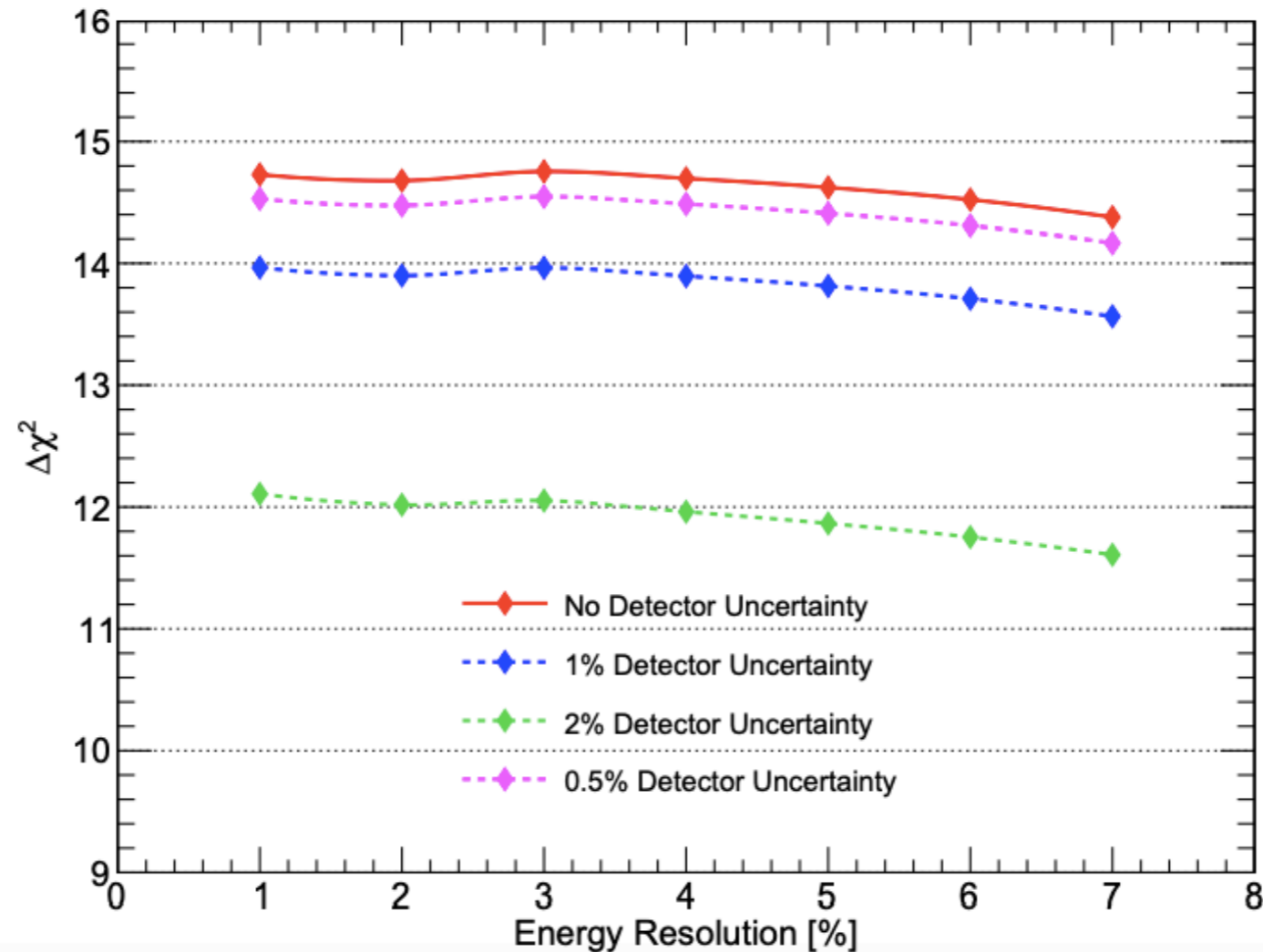


Caveats: only $O(100)$ realisations of spectra with microstructures

Reactor Neutrinos: new challenges

Are microstructures of the neutrino flux dangerous for JUNO?

Z. Cheng, N. Raper, W. Wang, C. F. Wong and J. Zhang, arXiv:2004.11659

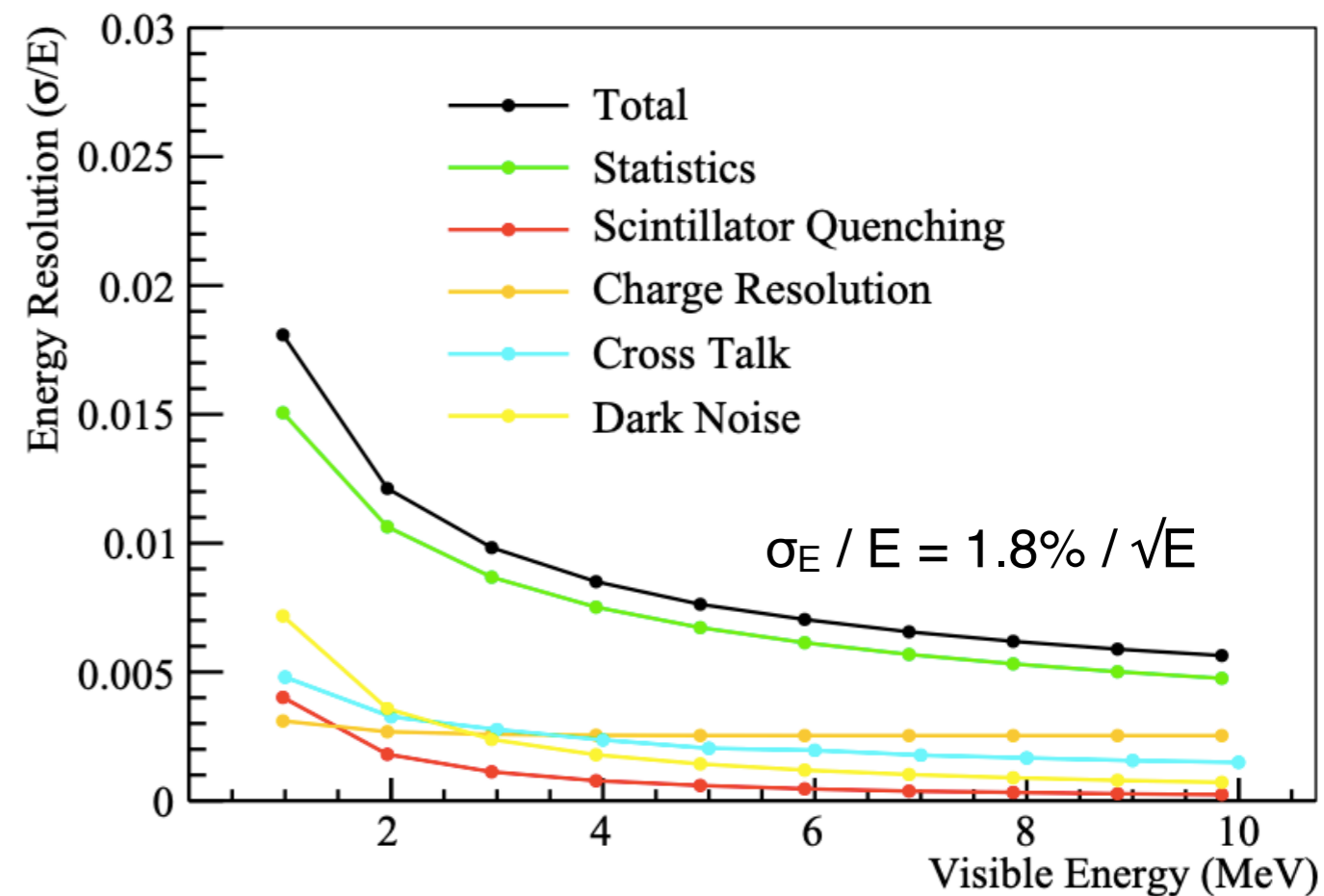
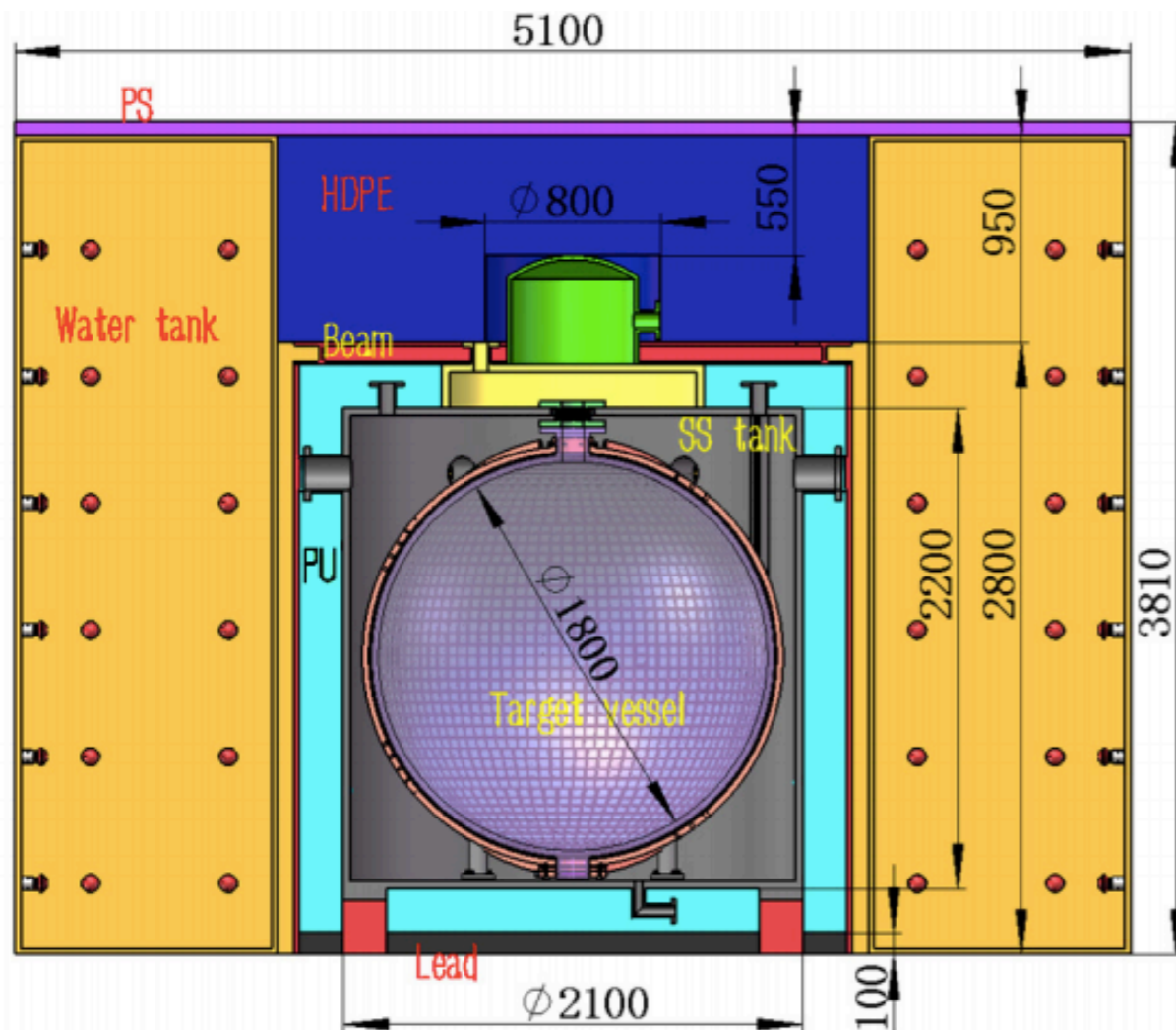


Marginal improvement of sensitivity with a near detector

The Role of TAO in JUNO

Near detector TAO will be placed in 2022, ~30 m from one Taishan reactor

A. Abusleme *et al.* [JUNO], arXiv:2005.08745

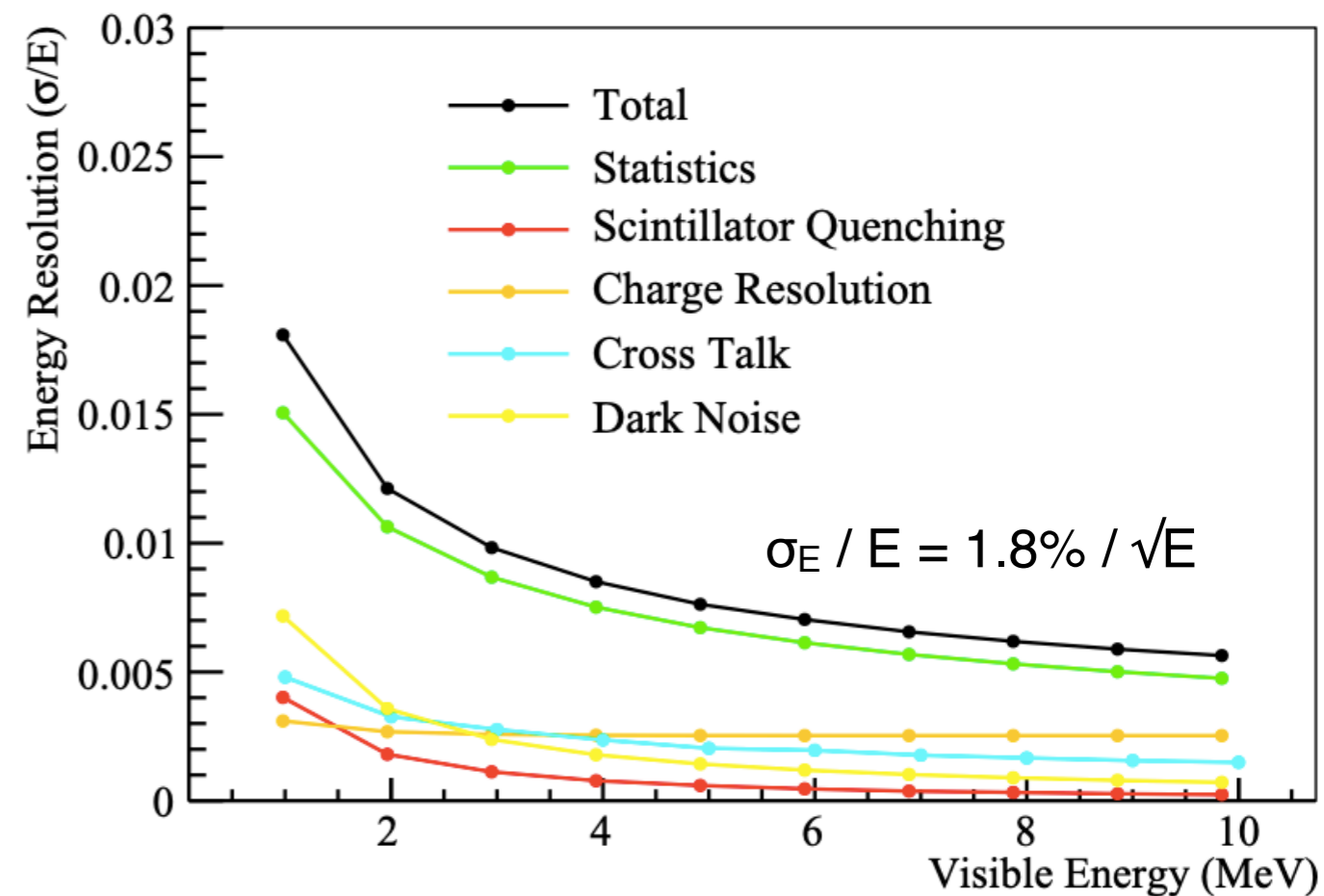
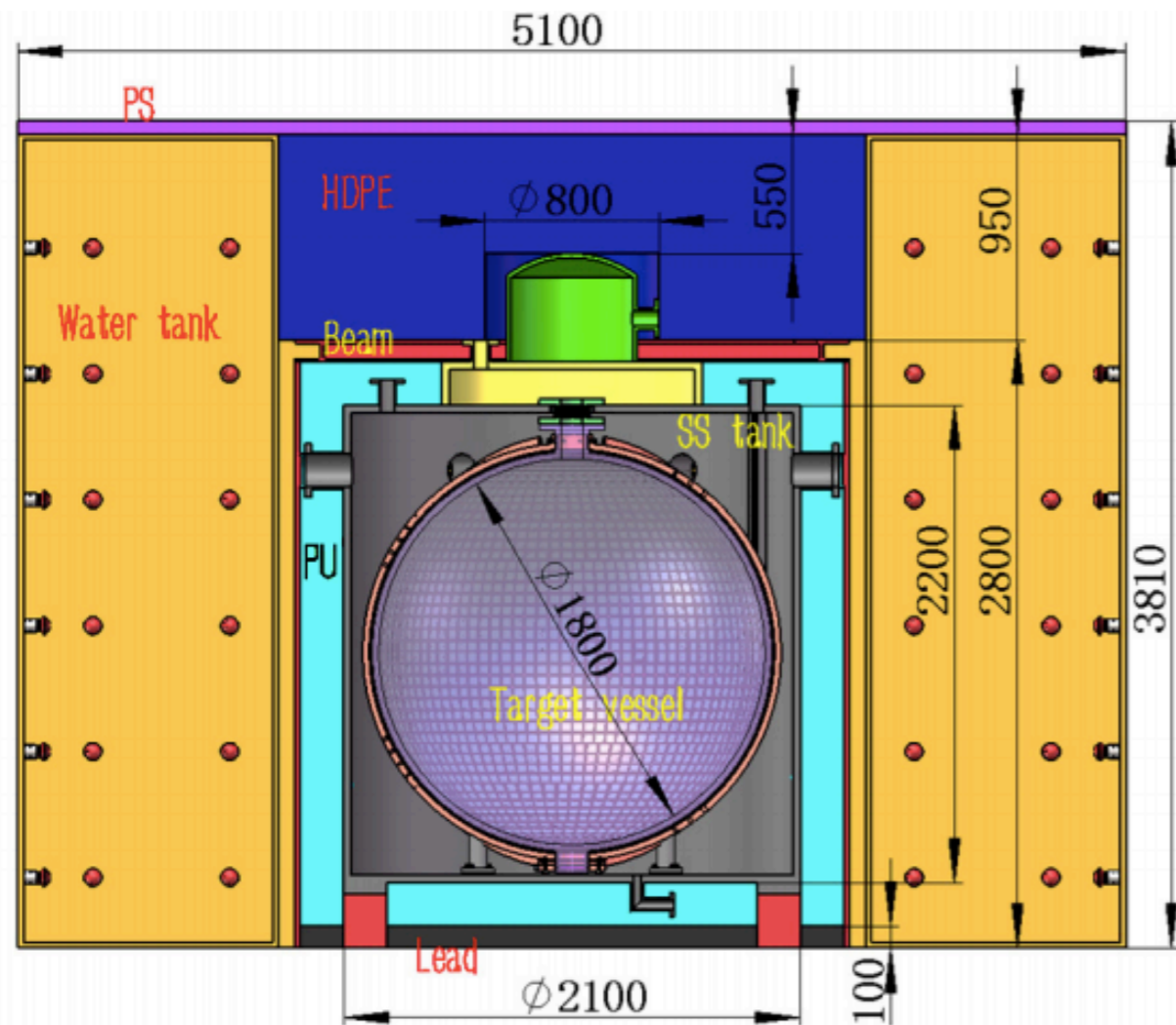


Provides a model independent reference spectrum for JUNO, isotopic yields and spectra, reactor monitoring and safeguard, ...

The Role of TAO in JUNO

Near detector TAO will be placed in 2022, ~30 m from one Taishan reactor

A. Abusleme *et al.* [JUNO], arXiv:2005.08745



It is important even **beyond neutrino oscillation searches**

Outline

Open questions:

- How do we map the TAO spectrum into the JUNO one?
- How do we deal with statistical issues arising from sampling the (many) nuclear input uncertainties?

Outline

starting point:
reactor fluxes from “summation” calculations
(OKLO Toolkit)

D. Dwyer, “OKLO: A toolkit for modeling nuclides and nuclear reactions,” <https://github.com/dadwyer/oklo> (2015)

Outline

starting point:
reactor fluxes from “summation” calculations
(OKLO Toolkit)

D. Dwyer, “OKLO: A toolkit for modeling nuclides and nuclear reactions,” <https://github.com/dadwyer/oklo> (2015)

provide an analytical mapping
TAO \rightarrow JUNO

without oscillations:
exact

with oscillations:
approximate

Outline

starting point:
reactor fluxes from “summation” calculations
(OKLO Toolkit)

D. Dwyer, “OKLO: A toolkit for modeling nuclides and nuclear reactions,” <https://github.com/dadwyer/oklo> (2015)

provide an analytical mapping
TAO \rightarrow JUNO

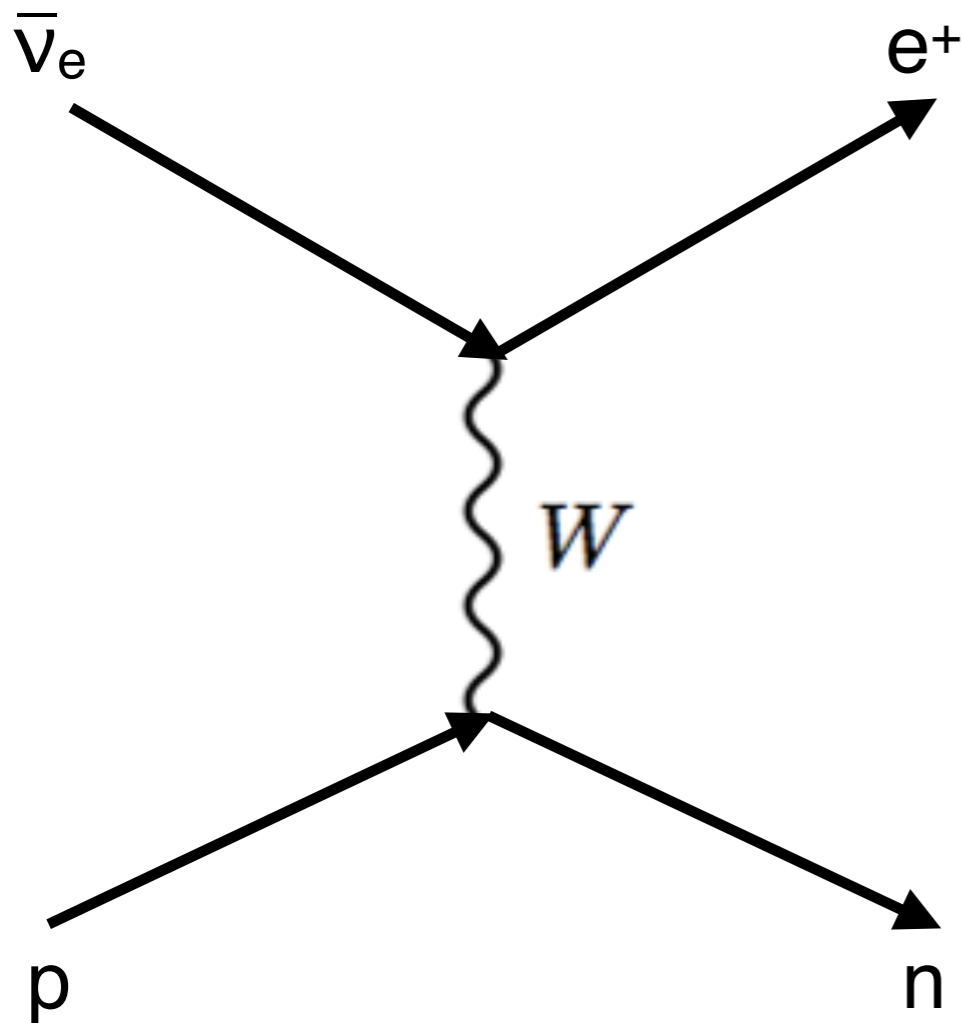
mass-ordering sensitivity
and precision oscillometry

single reference
spectrum

with 10^5
spectra

Mapping TAO to JUNO: no oscillations

The detection process is the inverse β decay



Standard assumption:
no nucleon recoil

$$E_e + m_e = E_\nu - 0.783 \text{ MeV}$$

Is nucleon recoil really negligible?

Mapping TAO to JUNO: no oscillations

The **unoscillated** spectrum in TAO/JUNO is usually given by:

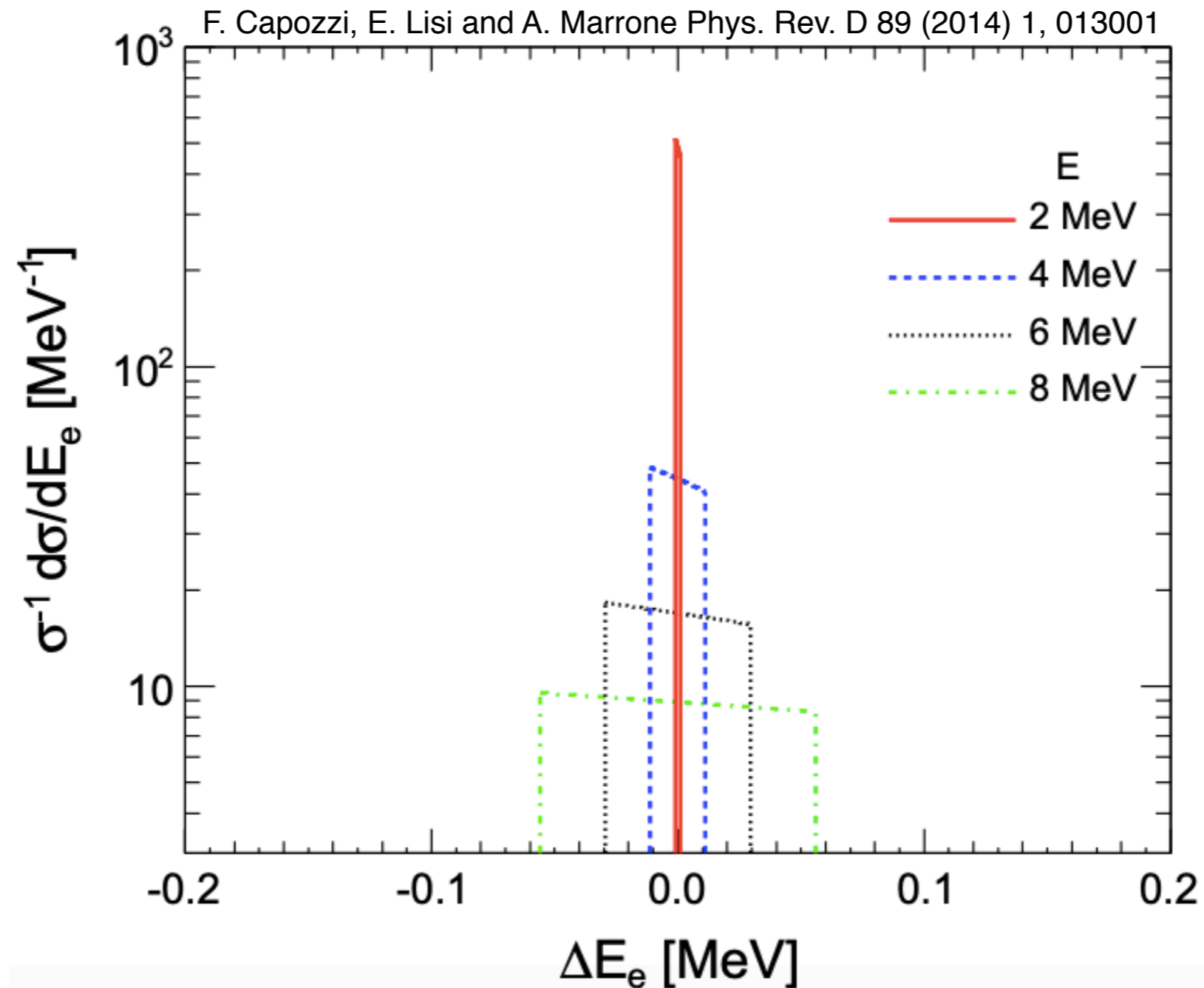
$$S_X(E_{\text{vis}}) = \int_{E_T}^{\infty} dE \phi_{\nu}(E) \sigma_{\nu}(E) r_X(E_{\text{vis}}, E - 0.783 | \sigma_X^2), \quad X = T, J$$

$$r_X(E_{\text{vis}}, E - 0.783 | \sigma_X^2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_X^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \frac{(E_{\text{vis}} - E + 0.783)^2}{\sigma_X^2}\right)$$

Is nucleon recoil really negligible?

Mapping TAO to JUNO: no oscillations

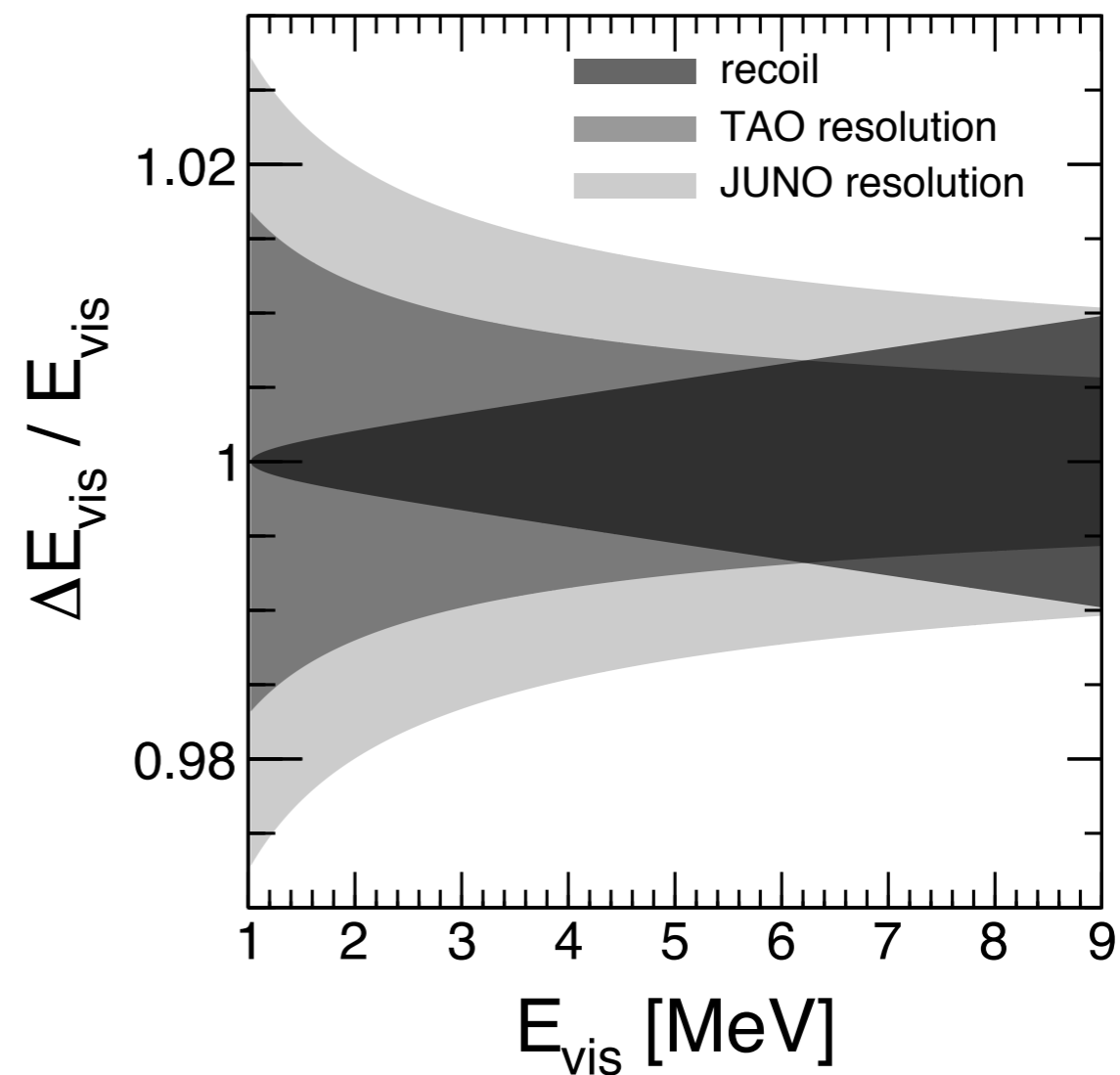
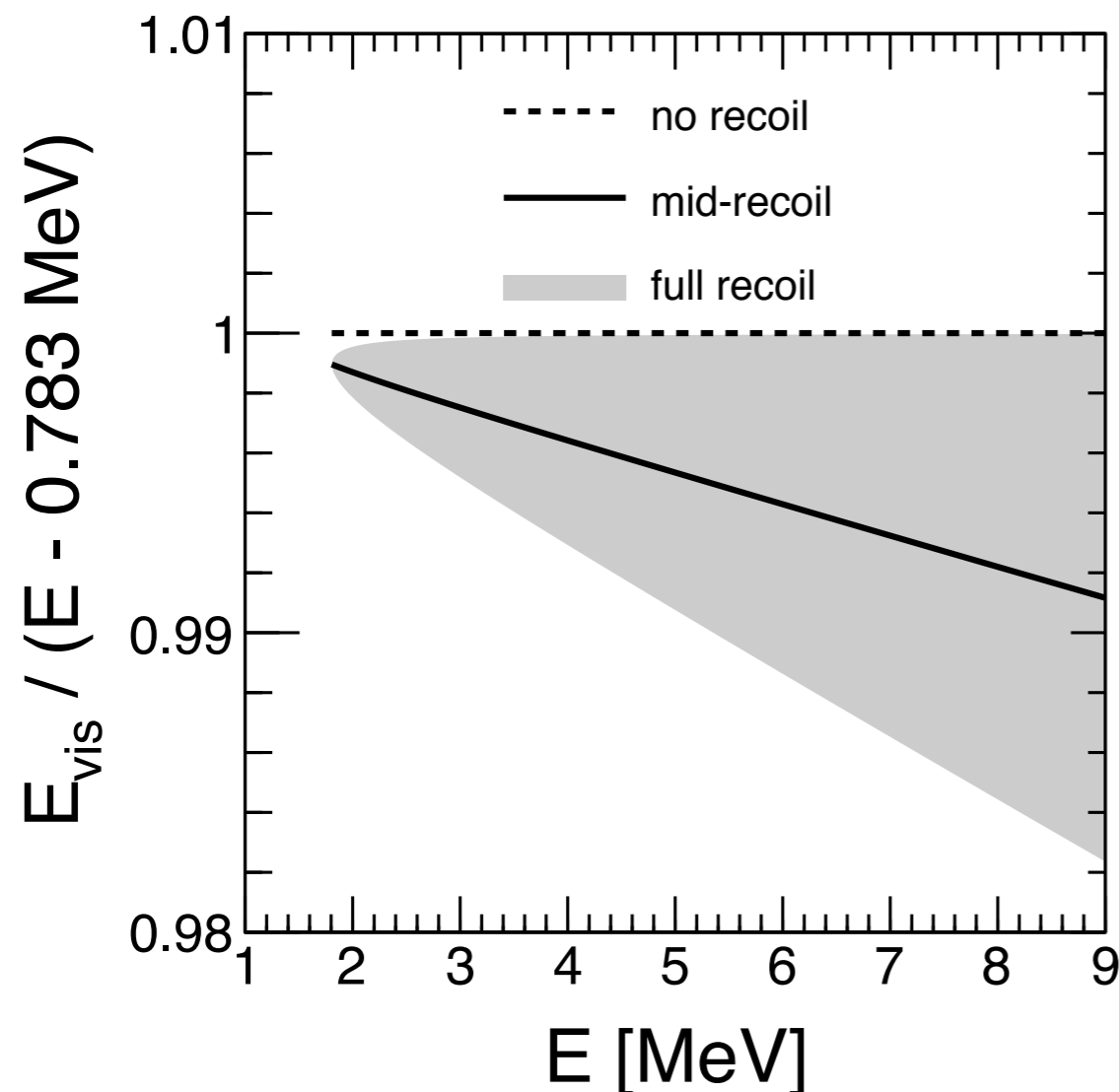
With recoil, E_e has a width of $\Delta E_e = E_2(E_\nu) - E_1(E_\nu)$



Electron energy distribution is relatively **flat**

Mapping TAO to JUNO: no oscillations

What is the size of the corrections due to nucleon recoil?



Nuclear recoil must be taken into account!

Mapping TAO to JUNO: no oscillations

TAO/JUNO will reach unprecedented precision

$$S_X(E_{\text{vis}}) = \mathcal{N}_X \int_{E_T}^{\infty} dE \phi(E) \sigma_{\nu}(E) R_X(E_{\text{vis}}, E | \sigma_X^2), \quad X = T, J$$

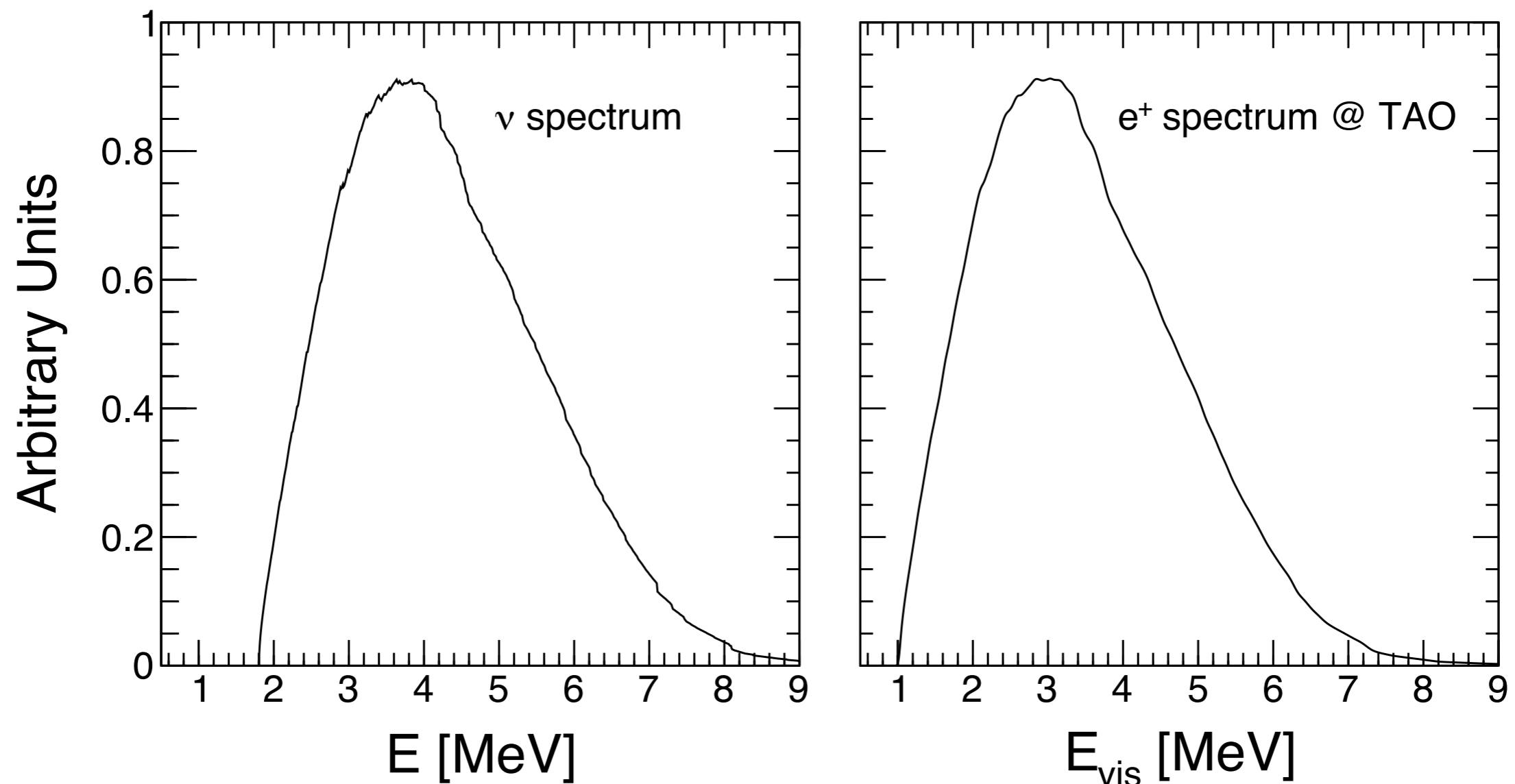
Resolution Function (already integrated over E_e)

$$R_X(E_{\text{vis}}, E | \sigma_X^2) = \frac{1}{2(E_2 - E_1)} \left[\text{erf} \left(\frac{E_{\text{vis}} - (E_1 + m_e)}{\sqrt{2\sigma_X^2}} \right) - \text{erf} \left(\frac{E_{\text{vis}} - (E_2 + m_e)}{\sqrt{2\sigma_X^2}} \right) \right]$$

Nuclear recoil must be taken into account!

Mapping TAO to JUNO: no oscillations

TAO/JUNO will reach unprecedented precision

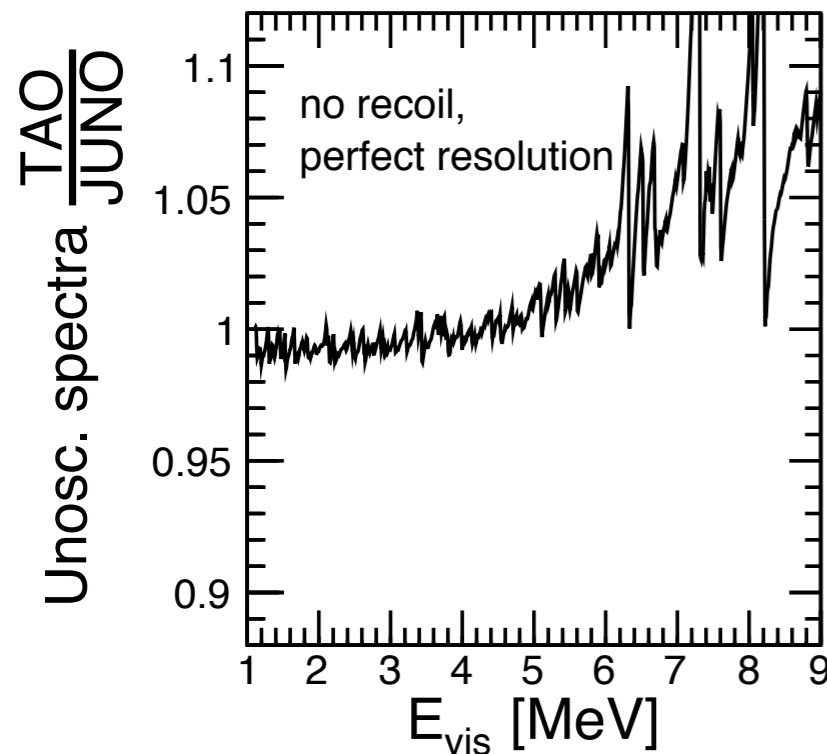


(Some) Microstructures survives in TAO after smearing

Mapping TAO to JUNO: no oscillations

TAO/JUNO will reach unprecedented precision

JUNO spectrum always include full recoil



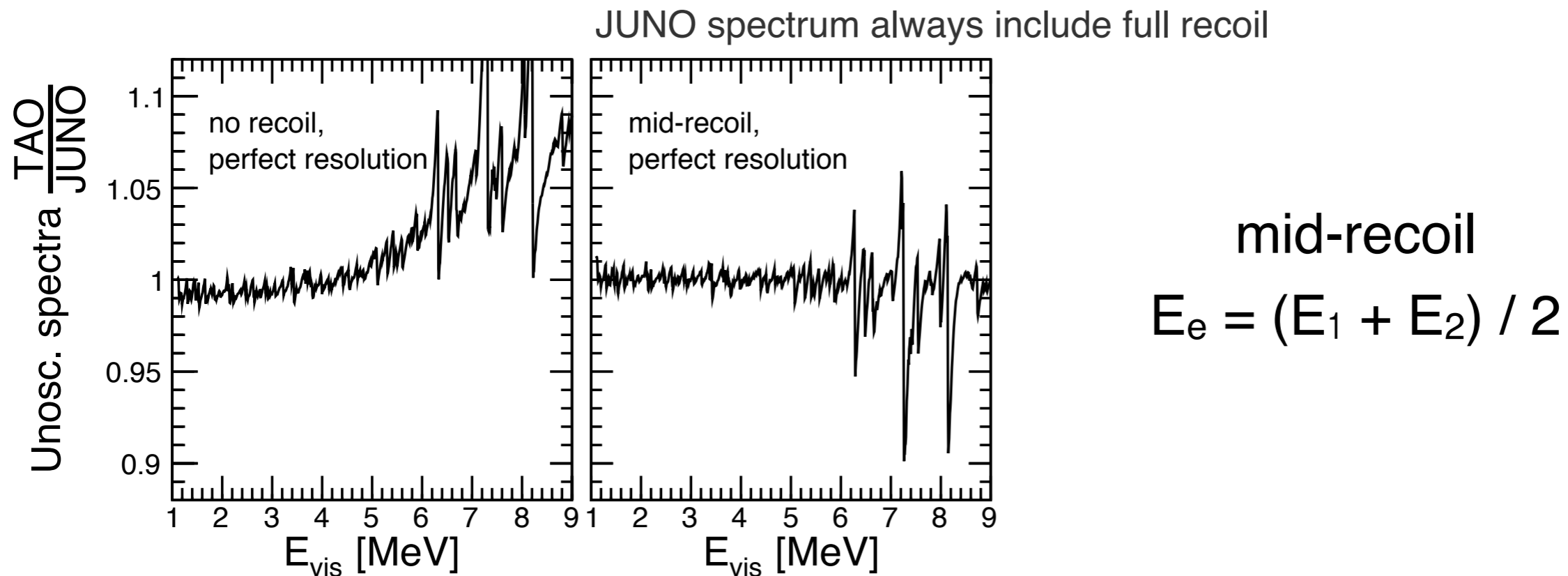
no recoil

$$E_e + m_e = E_\nu - 0.783 \text{ MeV}$$

Nuclear recoil must be taken into account!

Mapping TAO to JUNO: no oscillations

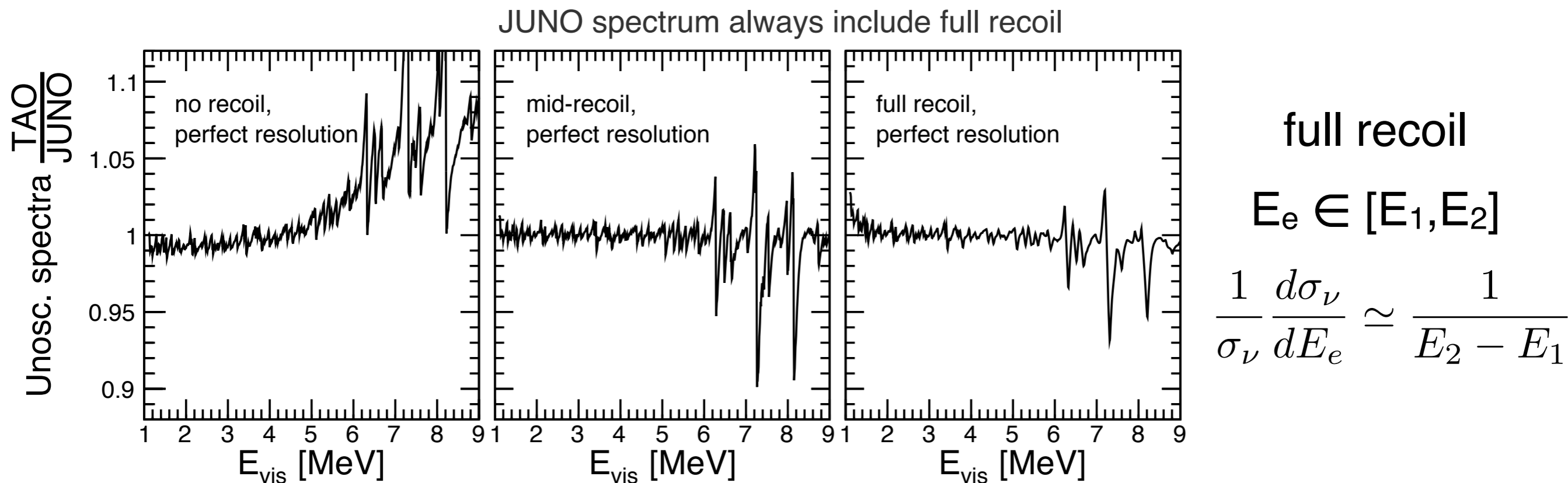
TAO/JUNO will reach unprecedented precision



Nuclear recoil must be taken into account!

Mapping TAO to JUNO: no oscillations

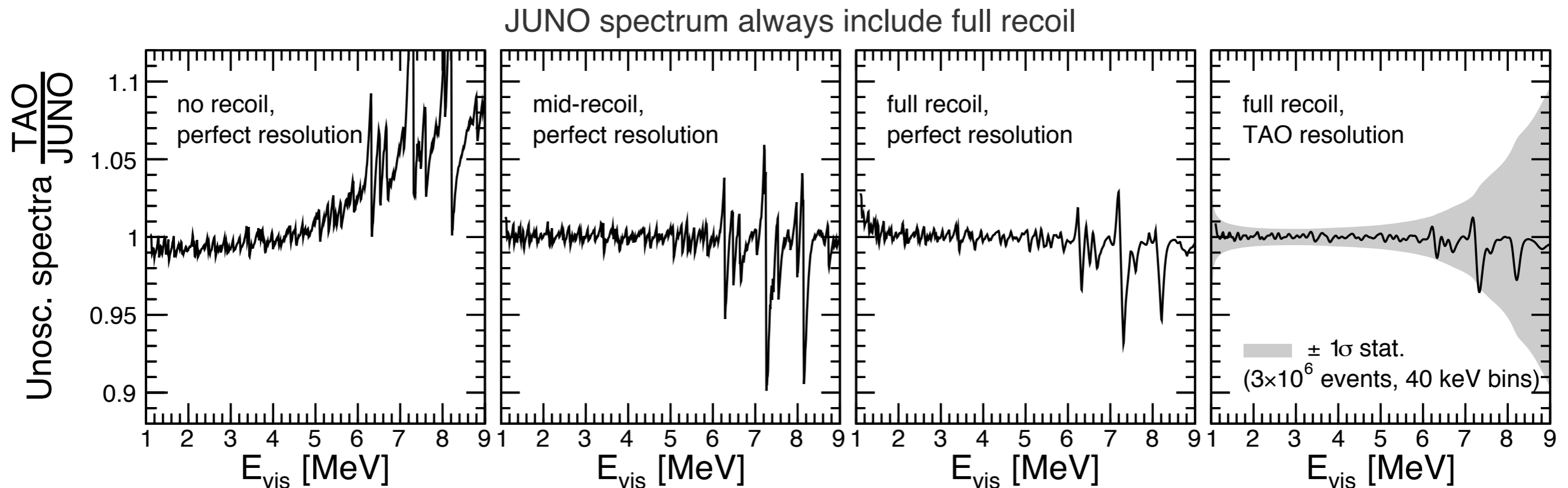
TAO/JUNO will reach unprecedented precision



Nuclear recoil must be taken into account!

Mapping TAO to JUNO: no oscillations

TAO/JUNO will reach unprecedented precision



Some microstructures are as large as 1σ statistical error in TAO

Mapping TAO to JUNO: no oscillations

With no oscillations, a map between TAO and JUNO is **exactly** given by:

$$S_J(E_{\text{vis}}) = \int_0^\infty dE'_{\text{vis}} S_T(E'_{\text{vis}}) r_D(E_{\text{vis}}, E'_{\text{vis}} | \sigma_D^2)$$

r_D is a normalised Gaussian, and $\sigma_D^2(E_{\text{vis}}) = \sigma_J^2(E_{\text{vis}}) - \sigma_T^2(E_{\text{vis}})$

Mapping TAO to JUNO: with oscillations

The oscillation probability is given by

$$P_{ee}(E) = c_{13}^4 \tilde{P} + s_{13}^4 + 2s_{13}^2 c_{13}^2 \sqrt{\tilde{P}} w \cos(2\Delta_{ee} + \alpha\varphi)$$

Mapping TAO to JUNO: with oscillations

The oscillation probability is given by

$$P_{ee}(E) = c_{13}^4 \tilde{P} + s_{13}^4 + 2s_{13}^2 c_{13}^2 \sqrt{\tilde{P}} w \cos(2\Delta_{ee} + \alpha\varphi)$$

$$\alpha = +1 \text{ (NO)}, -1 \text{ (IO)}$$

$$\tilde{P} = 1 - 4\tilde{s}_{12}^2 \tilde{c}_{12}^2 \sin^2 \tilde{\delta}$$

$$\tilde{\delta} = \frac{\delta m^2 L}{4E}, \quad \tilde{\Delta}_{ee} = \frac{\Delta m_{ee}^2 L}{4E},$$

$\sim \rightarrow$ values in matter

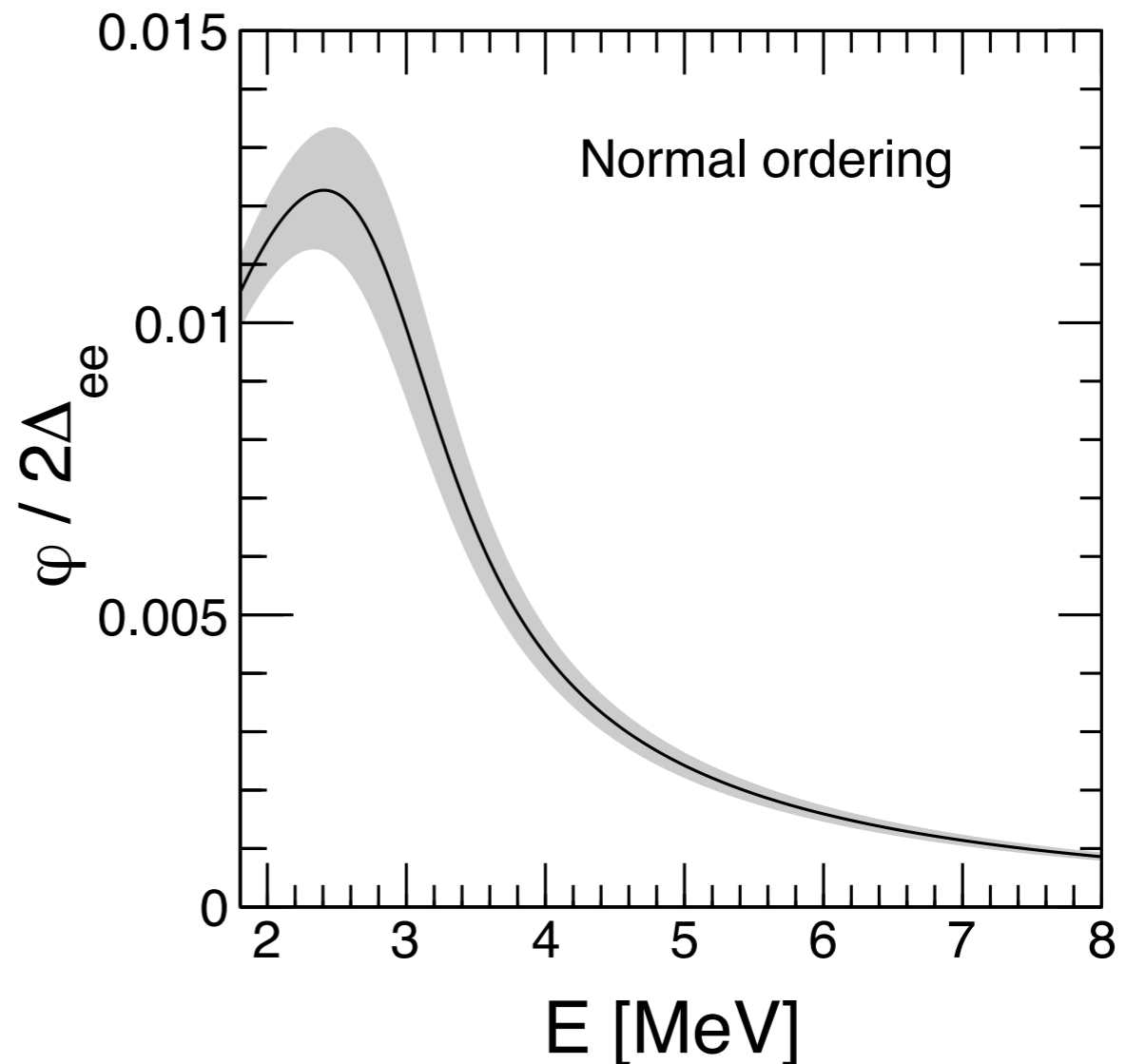
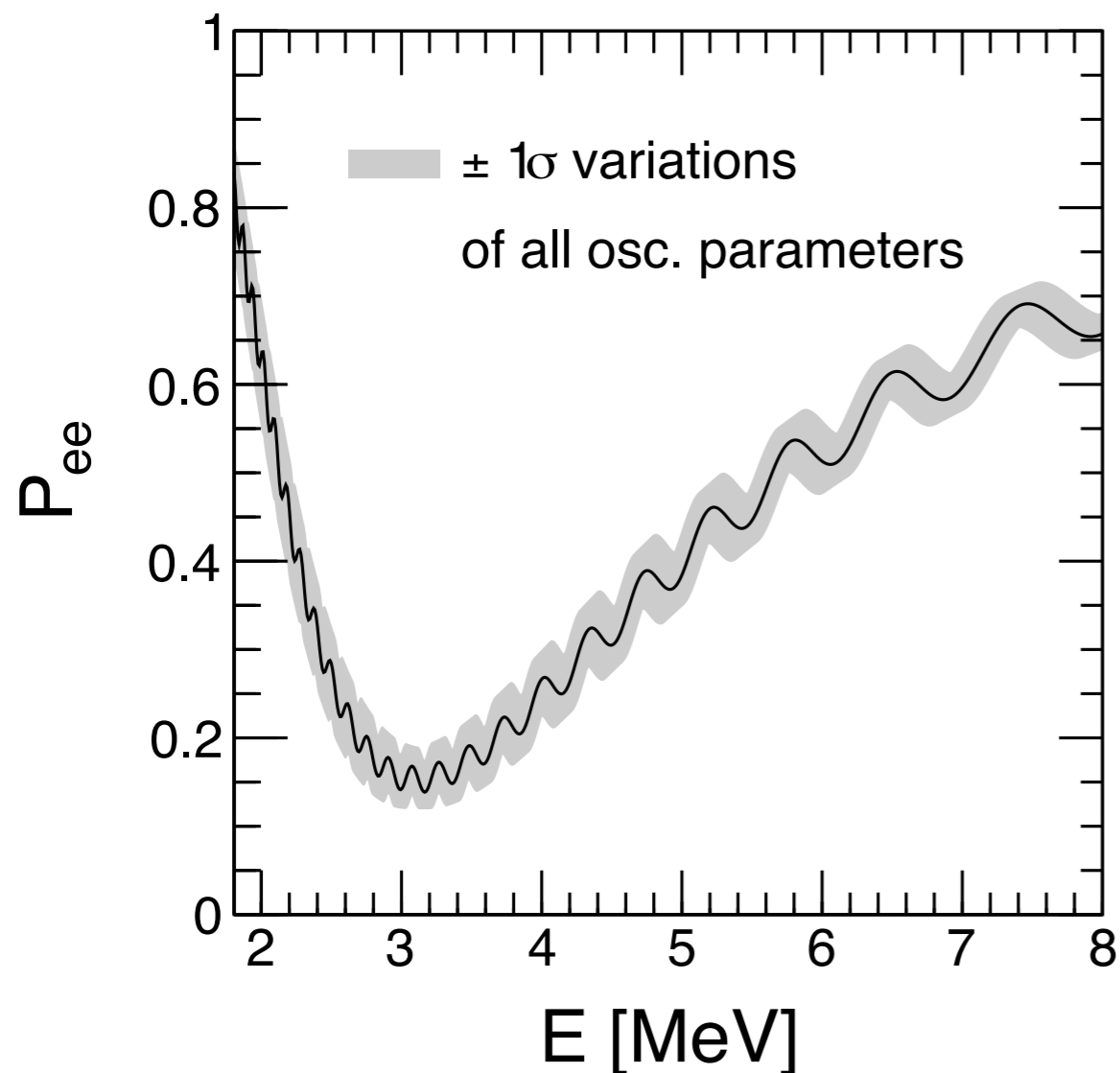
w is a damping factor due to the spread of baselines

$$\varphi \simeq 2s_{12}^2 \tilde{\delta} \left(1 - \frac{\sin 2\tilde{\delta}}{2\tilde{\delta}\sqrt{\tilde{P}}} \right)$$

Mapping TAO to JUNO: with oscillations

The oscillation probability is given by

$$P_{ee}(E) = c_{13}^4 \tilde{P} + s_{13}^4 + 2s_{13}^2 c_{13}^2 \sqrt{\tilde{P}} w \cos(2\Delta_{ee} + \alpha\varphi)$$



Mapping TAO to JUNO: with oscillations

With oscillations, the map is **approximately** given by:

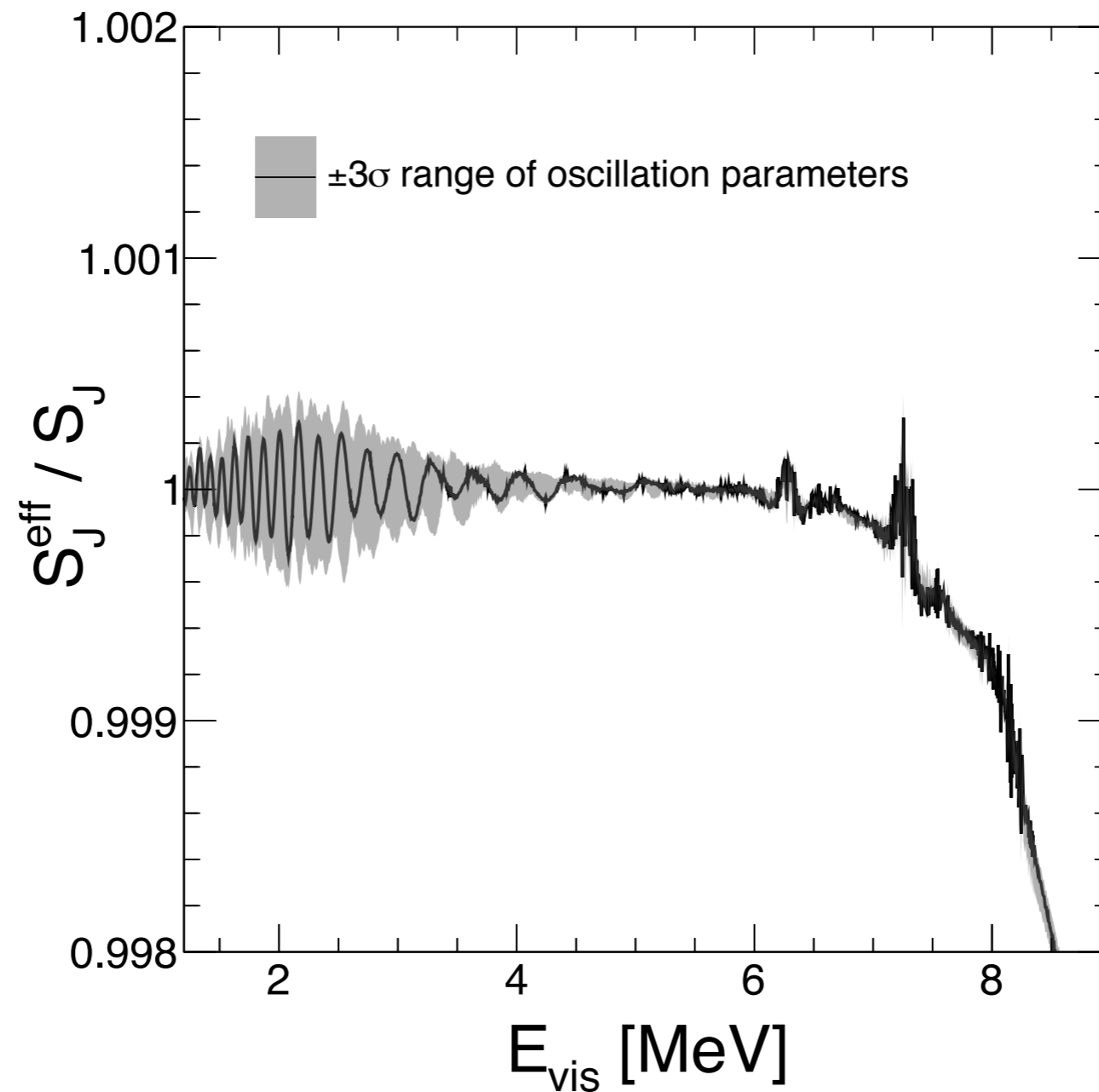
$$S_J^{\text{eff}}(E_{\text{vis}}) = \int_0^\infty dE'_{\text{vis}} S_T(E'_{\text{vis}}) P_{ee}^{\text{eff}}(E'_{\text{vis}}) r_D(E_{\text{vis}}, E'_{\text{vis}} | \sigma_D^2)$$

$$P_{ee}^{\text{eff}}(E_{\text{vis}}) \simeq \frac{\int_{E_T}^\infty dE S_T(E_e^{\text{mid}} + m_e) J^{-1}(E) P_{ee}(E) R_T(E_{\text{vis}}, E | \sigma_T^2)}{\int_{E_T}^\infty dE S_T(E_e^{\text{mid}} + m_e) J^{-1}(E) R_T(E_{\text{vis}}, E | \sigma_T^2)}$$

The effect of the Jacobian $J^{-1}(E)$ is marginal.
 E_e^{mid} is the average (middle) electron energy

Mapping TAO to JUNO: with oscillations

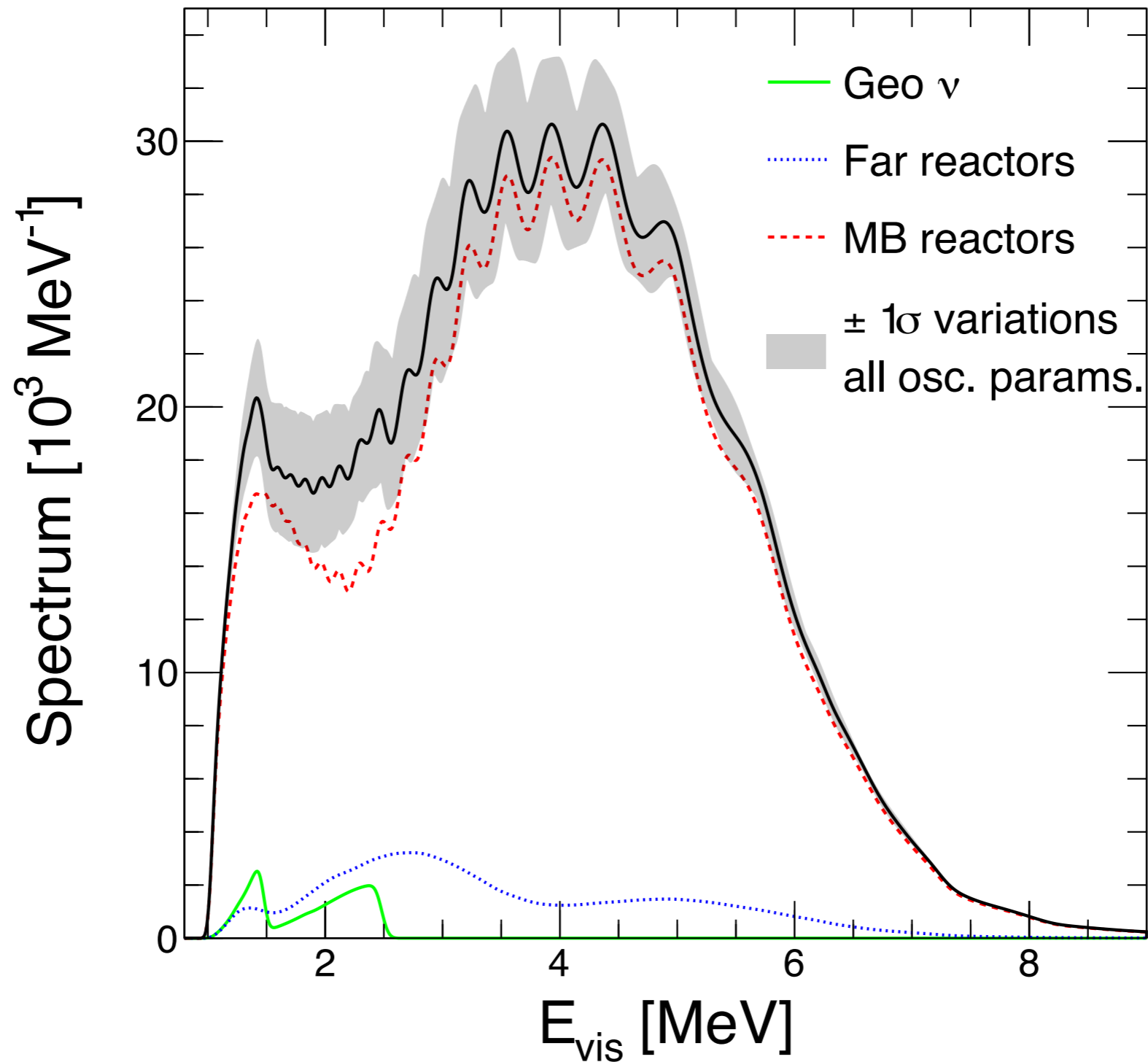
With oscillations, the map is **approximately** given by:



The map works at the 0.1% level!

JUNO sensitivity: single spectrum

We generate simulated data using the “best fit” ν flux from OKLO



JUNO sensitivity: single spectrum

We define the χ^2 as:

$$\chi_{\text{JUNO}}^2 = \chi_{\text{stat}}^2 + \chi_{\text{par}}^2 + \chi_{\text{sys}}^2$$

JUNO sensitivity: single spectrum

We define the χ^2 as:

$$\chi_{\text{JUNO}}^2 = \chi_{\text{stat}}^2 + \chi_{\text{par}}^2 + \chi_{\text{sys}}^2$$



only statistical errors

JUNO sensitivity: single spectrum

We define the χ^2 as:

$$\chi_{\text{JUNO}}^2 = \chi_{\text{stat}}^2 + \chi_{\text{par}}^2 + \chi_{\text{sys}}^2$$

↓
uncertainties on
oscillation parameters

JUNO sensitivity: single spectrum

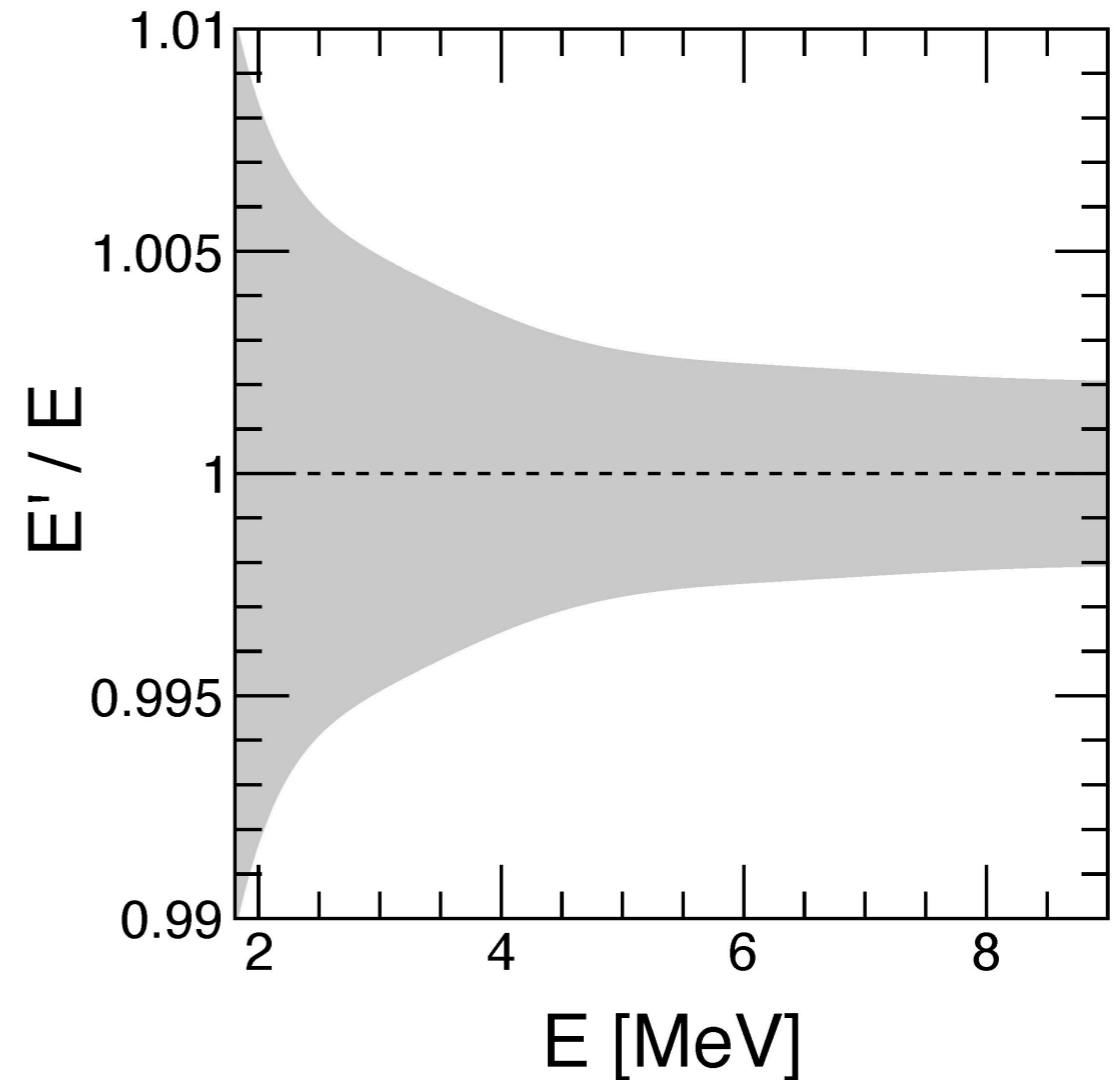
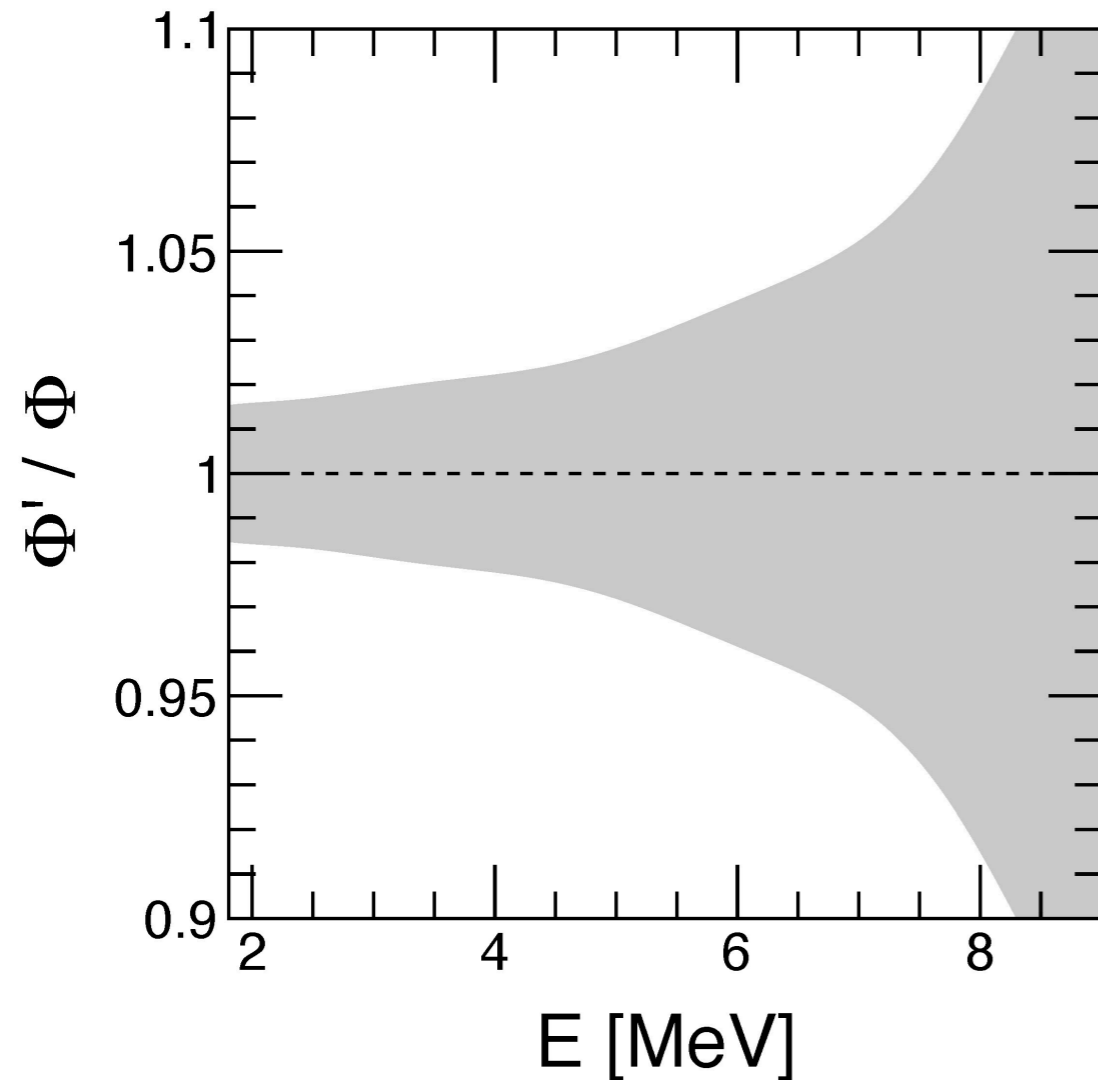
We define the χ^2 as:

$$\chi_{\text{JUNO}}^2 = \chi_{\text{stat}}^2 + \chi_{\text{par}}^2 + \chi_{\text{sys}}^2$$

- normalization of geo- ν fluxes
- normalization of reactor fluxes
- shape uncertainties:
reactor fluxes and energy-scale

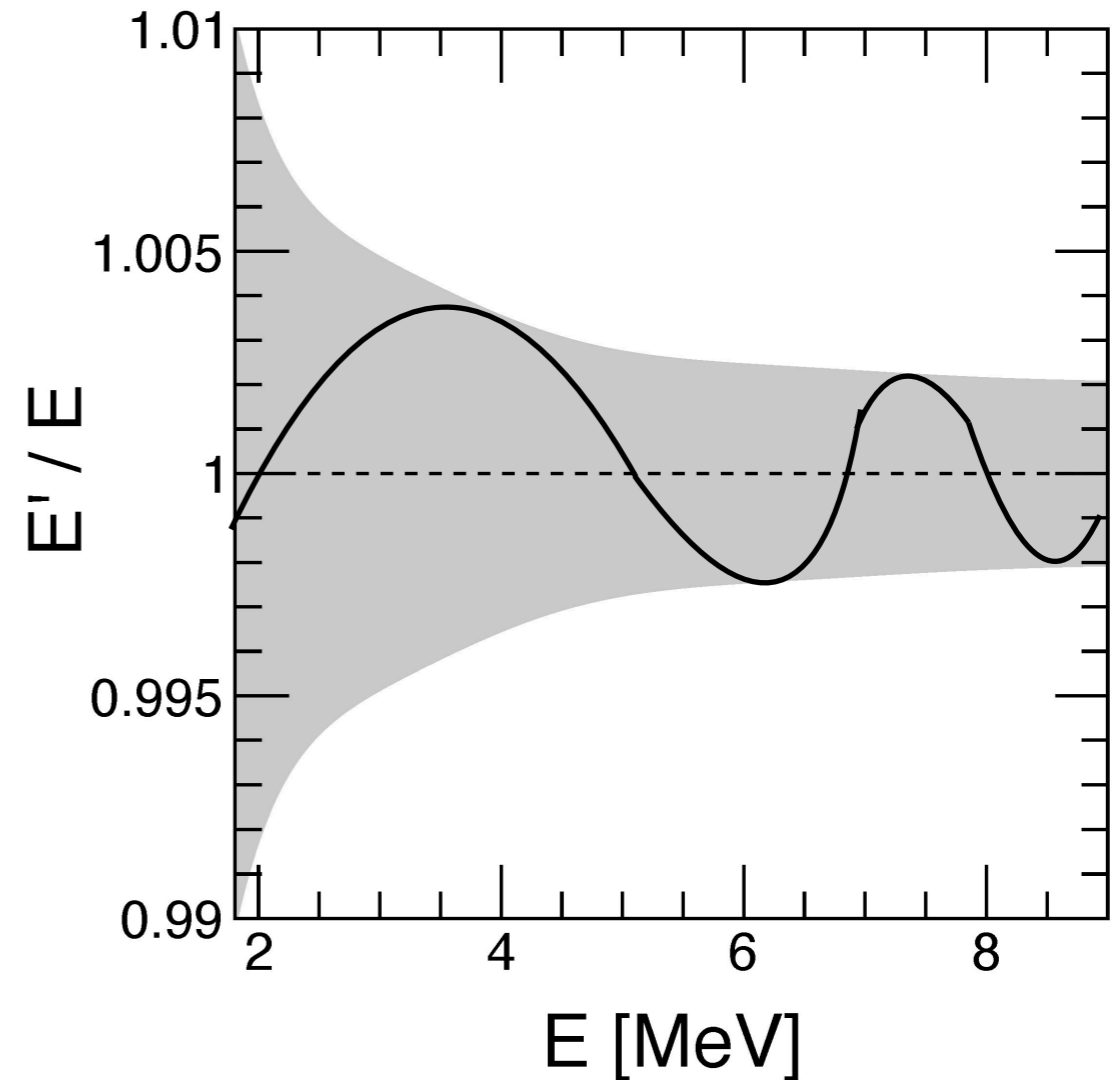
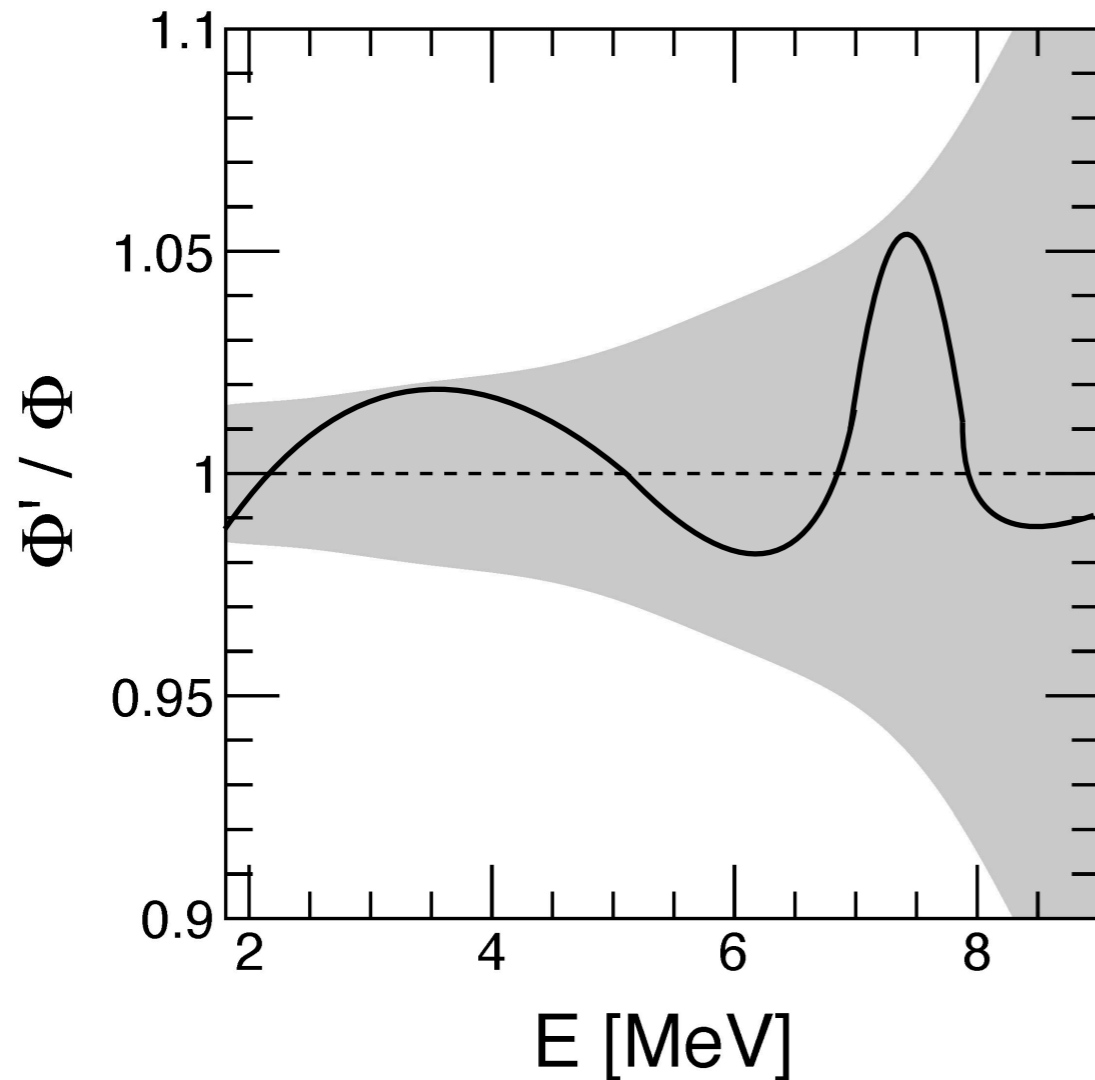
JUNO sensitivity: single spectrum

Shape uncertainties for reactor fluxes and energy scale:



JUNO sensitivity: single spectrum

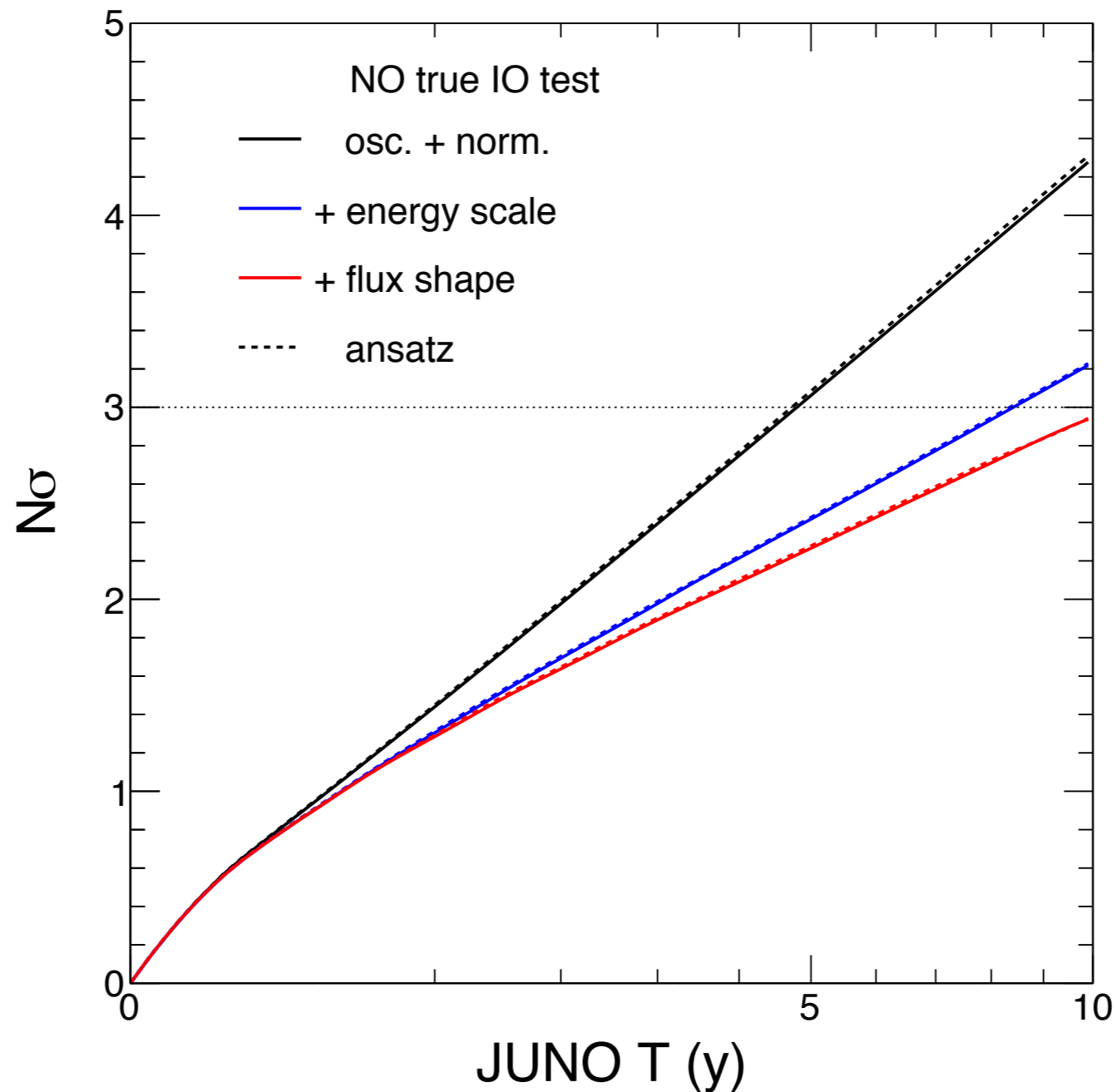
Shape uncertainties for reactor fluxes and energy scale:



We parametrize shape uncertainties with polynomials

JUNO sensitivity: single spectrum

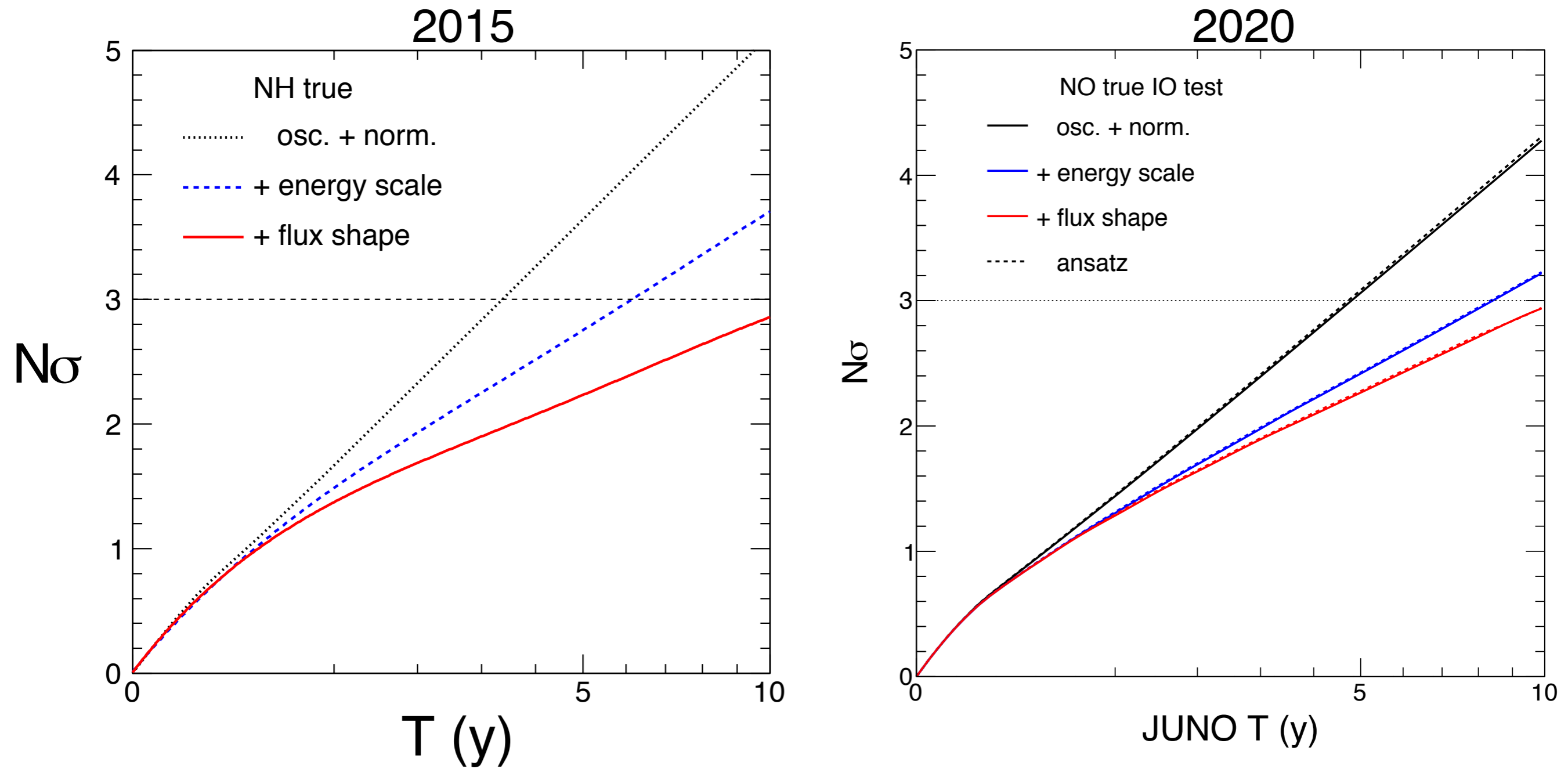
Mass ordering sensitivity with JUNO



2-3 σ reachable in 5-10 years, depending on systematic errors

JUNO sensitivity: single spectrum

Comparison with our previous work Phys. Rev. D 92 (2015) 9, 093011

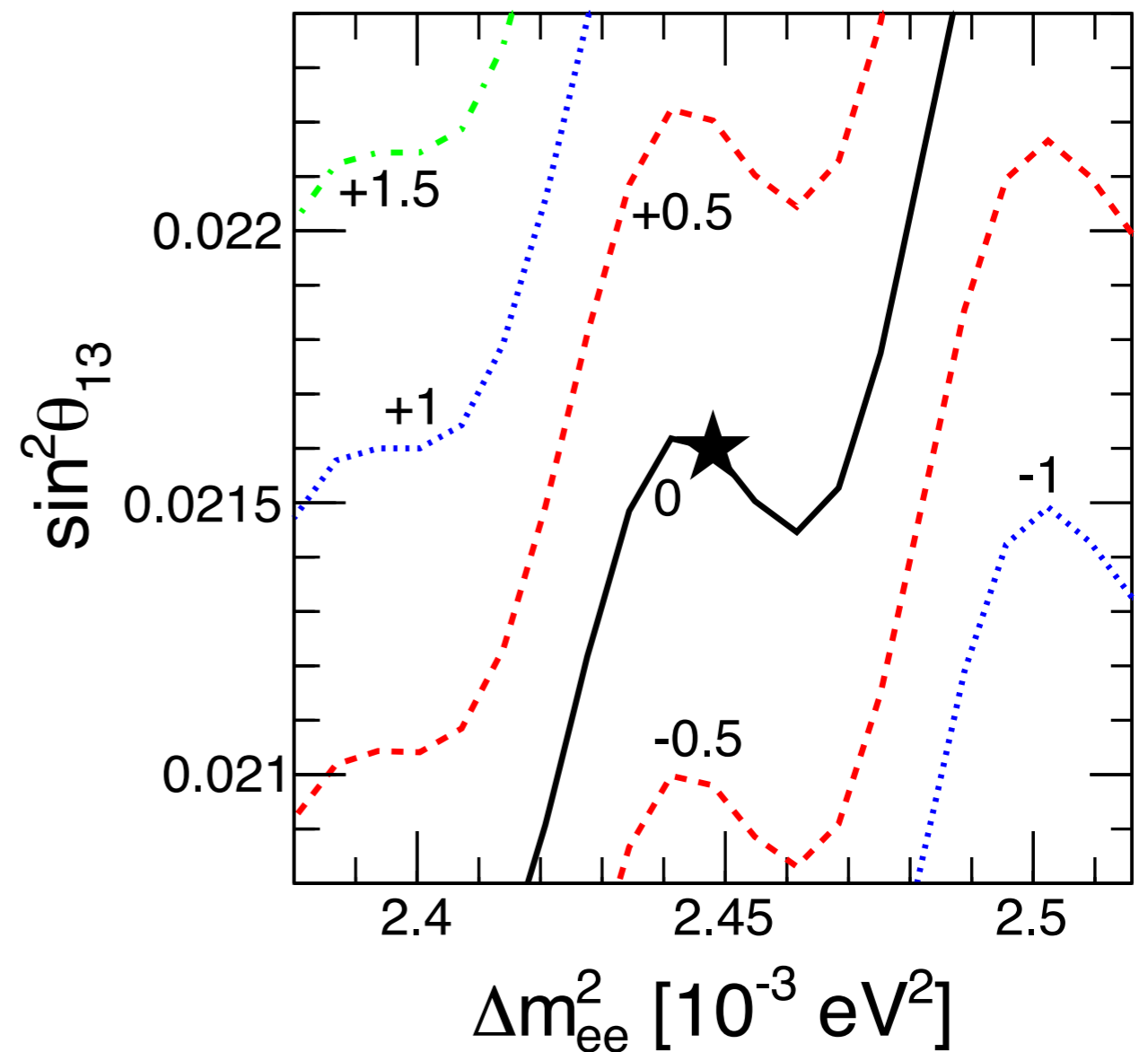
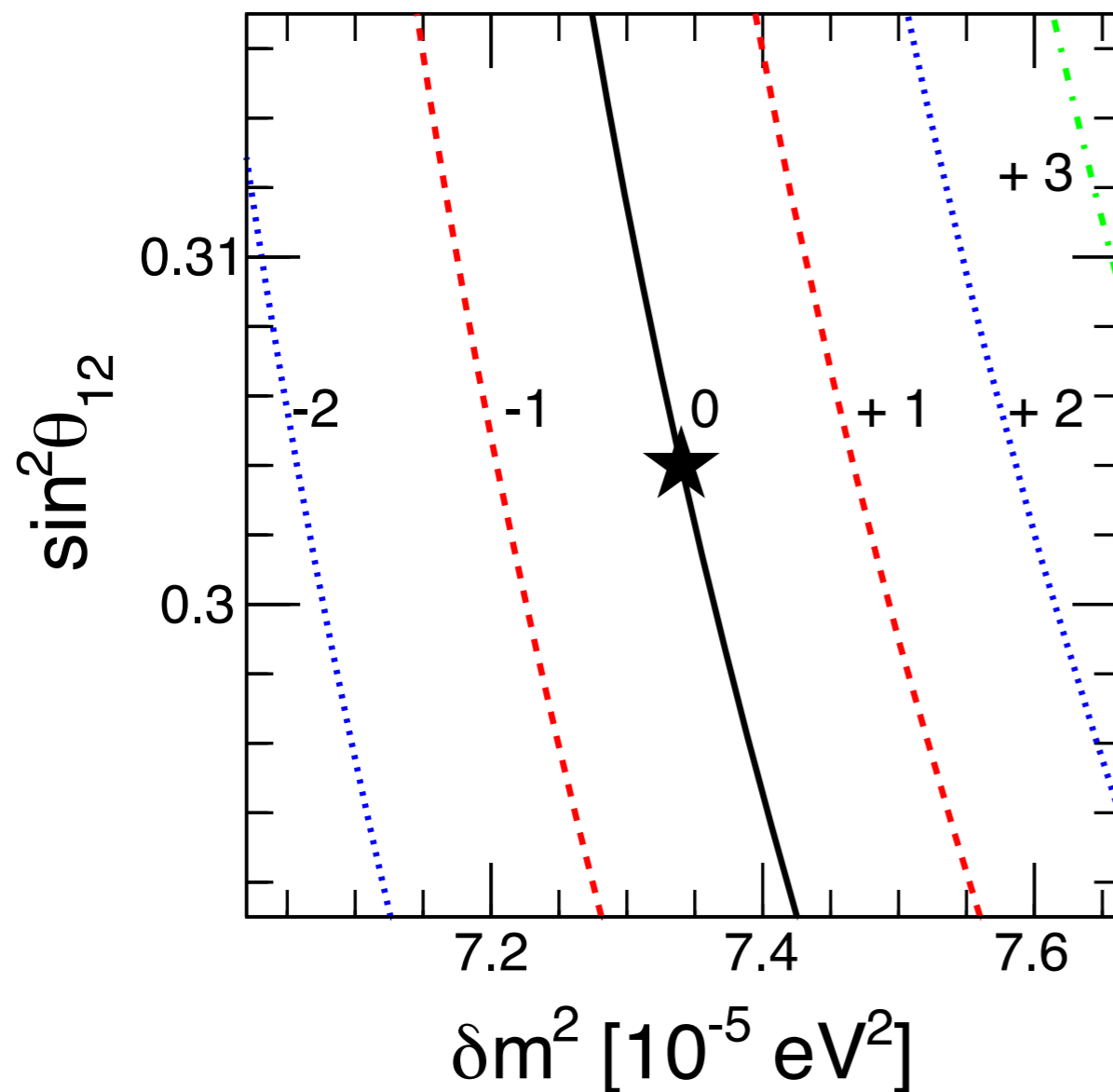


Almost unaltered sensitivity (red line) even with smaller shape uncertainties

JUNO sensitivity: single spectrum

Comparison with our previous work Phys. Rev. D 92 (2015) 9, 093011

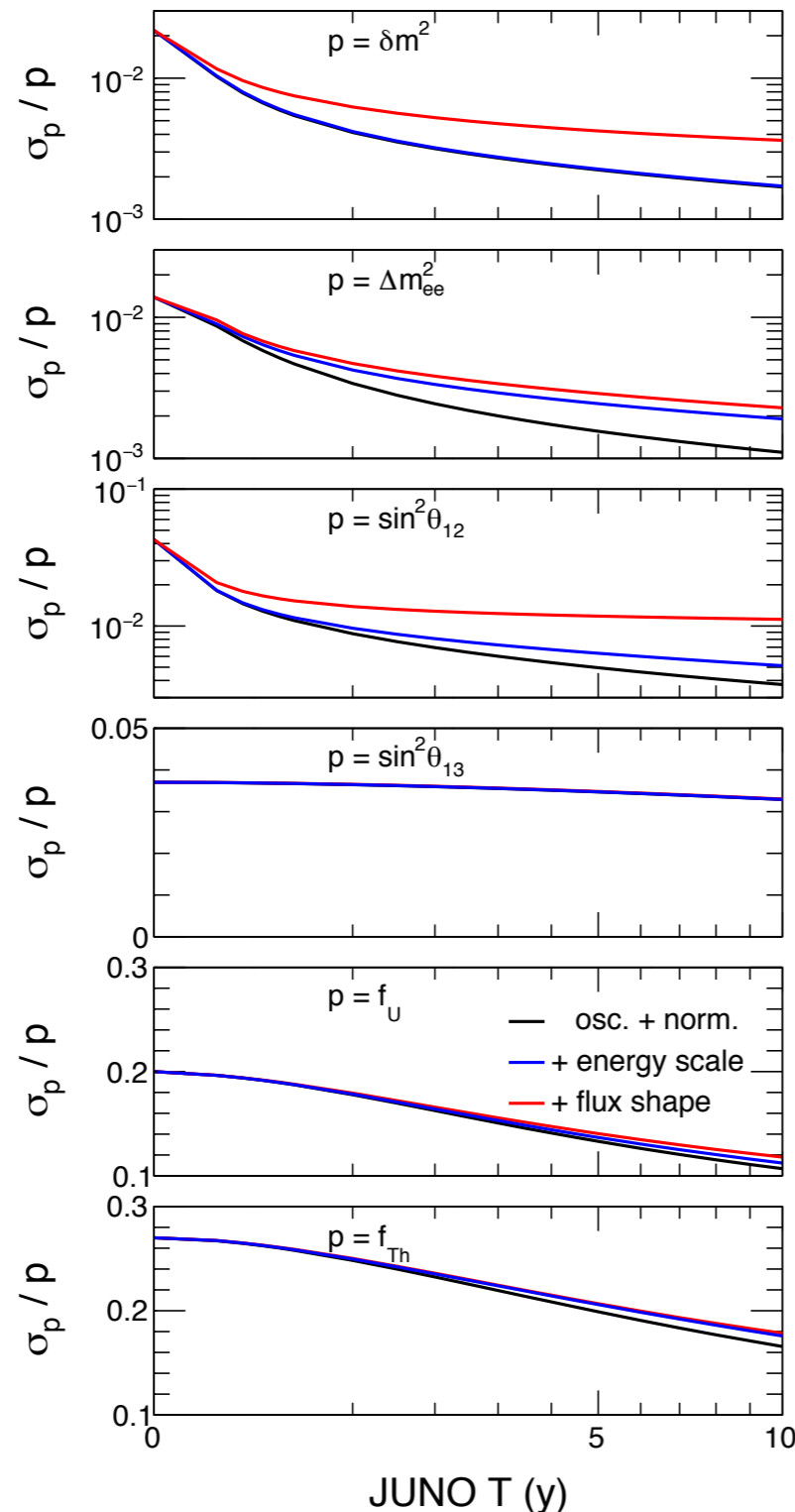
Variations with oscillation parameters of $\Delta\chi^2$ (osc. + norm. errors, NO true - IO test)



Explanation: “unlucky” shift of best fit values of oscillation parameters

JUNO sensitivity: single spectrum

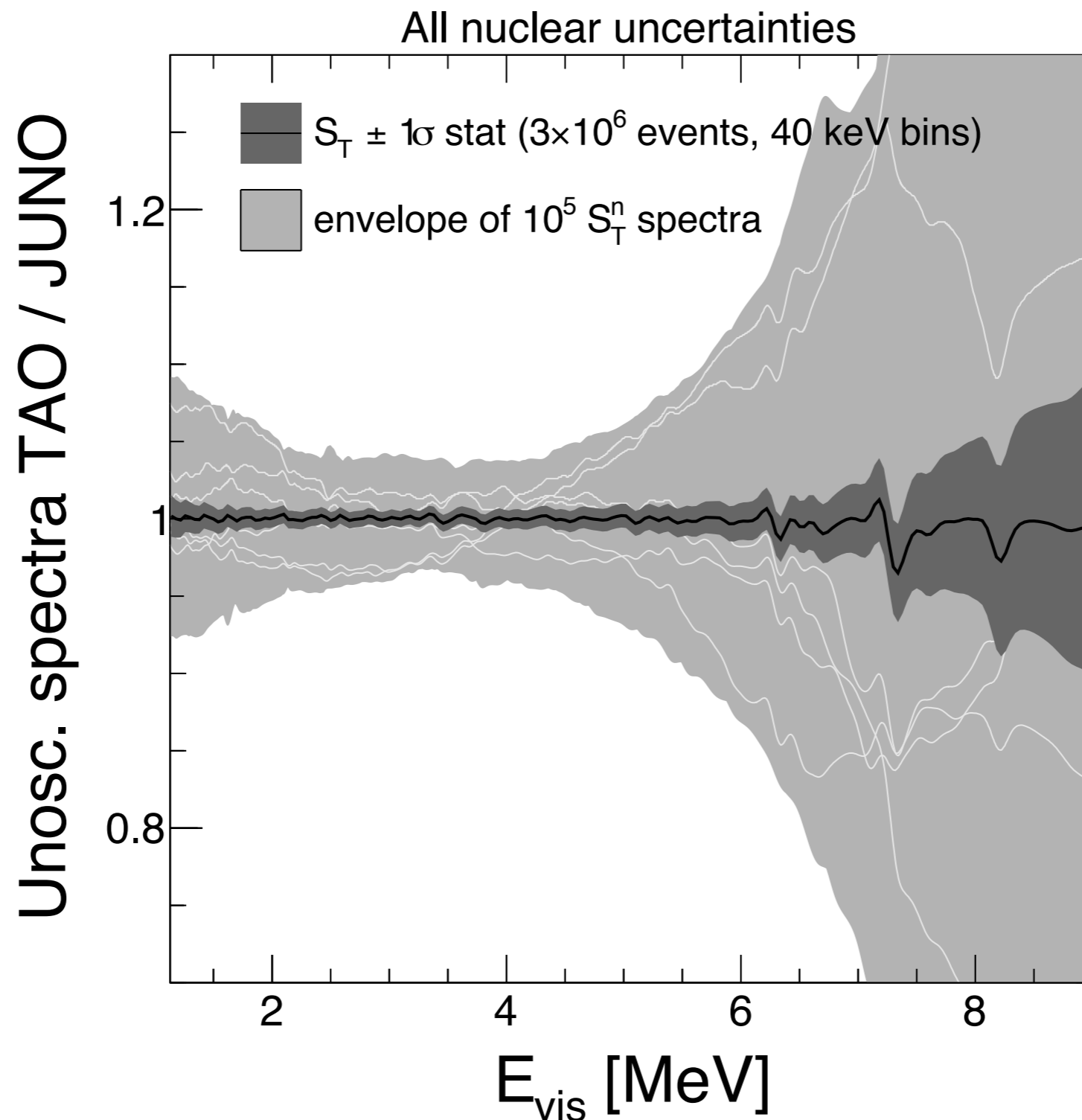
We repeat the analysis assuming the mass ordering is known



Factor ~ 5 precision improvement
on δm^2 , Δm^2 , $\sin^2 \theta_{12}$ in 5 years

JUNO sensitivity: ensemble of spectra

Generate 10^5 spectra with OKLO, randomly changing all nuclear parameters



JUNO sensitivity: ensemble of spectra

How do we define a distance between each flux and the “reference” one?

$$\chi_n^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{N_d} \left(\frac{s_i^n}{\sigma_i} \right)^2$$

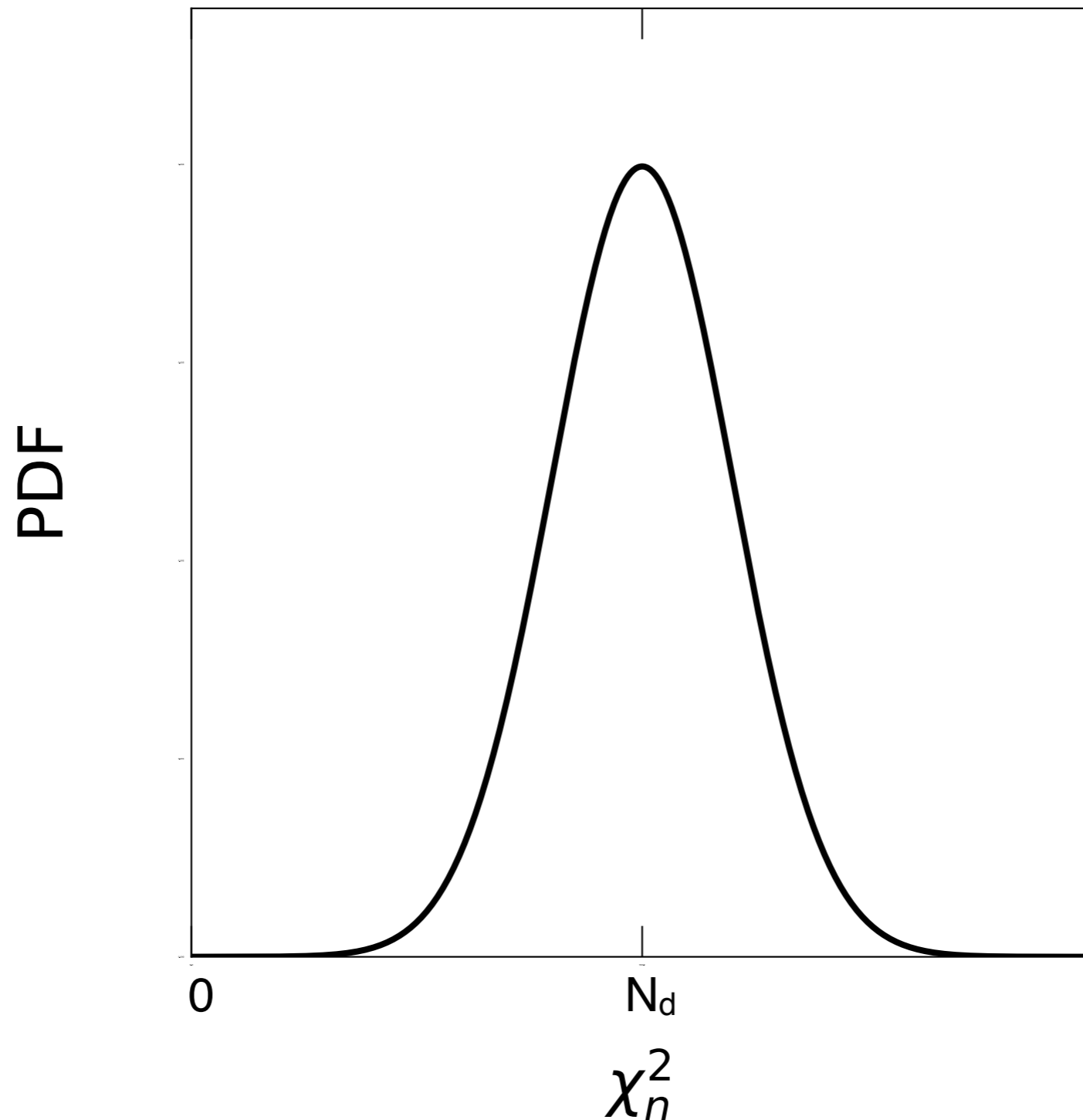
N_d = number of nuclear parameters (given by OKLO)

σ_i = size of the i -th uncertainty (given by OKLO)

s_i^n = random parameter

JUNO sensitivity: ensemble of spectra

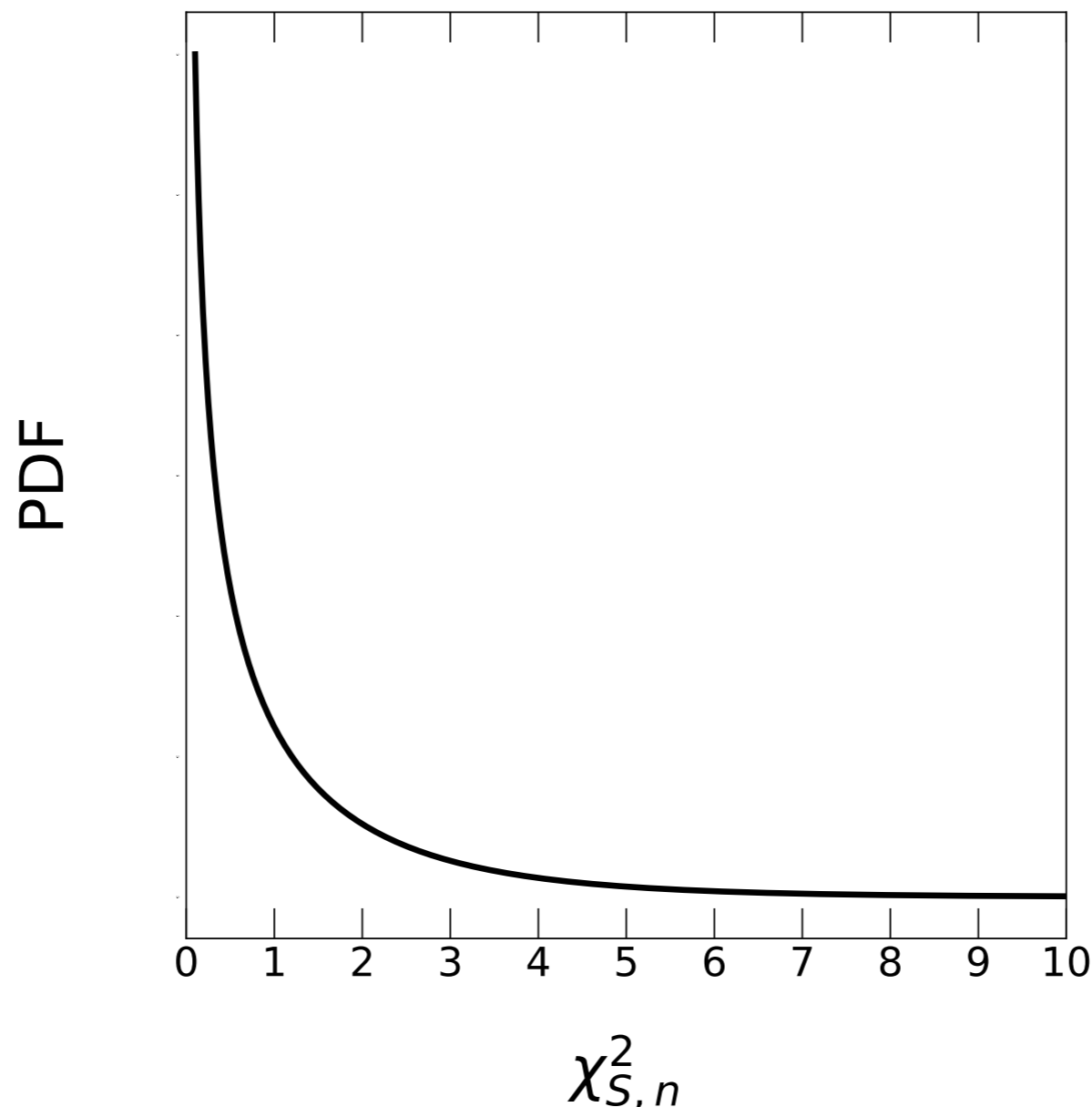
χ^2_n is not a good metric: it is a gaussian centered in N_d



JUNO sensitivity: ensemble of spectra

χ^2_n is not a good metric. We instead define:

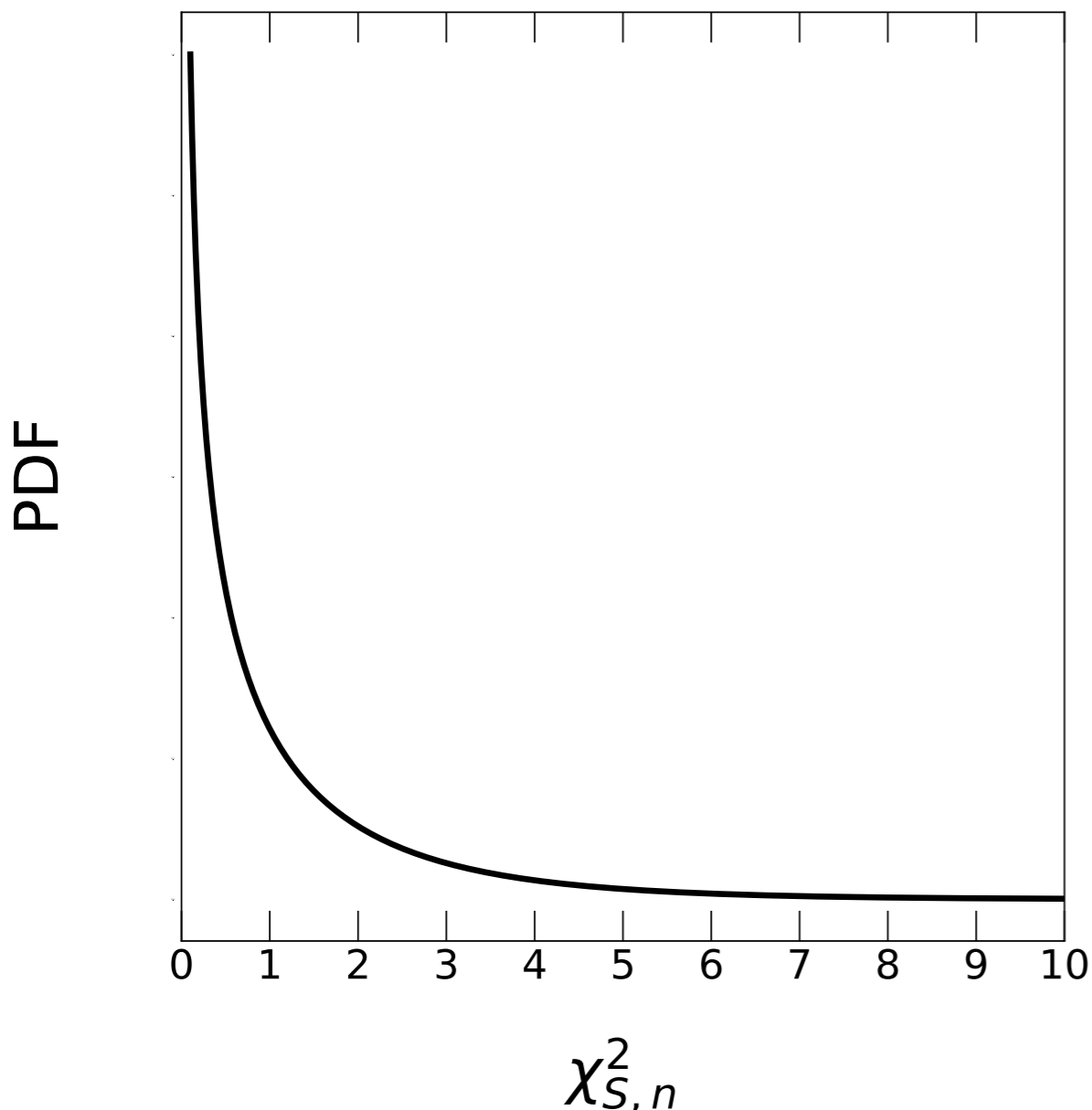
$$\chi_{S,n}^2 = 2 \left(\operatorname{erf}^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{erf} \left(\frac{\chi_n^2 - N_d}{2\sqrt{N_d}} \right) \right) \right)^2$$



JUNO sensitivity: ensemble of spectra

χ^2_n is not a good metric. We instead define:

$$\chi^2_{S,n} = 2 \left(\operatorname{erf}^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{erf} \left(\frac{\chi_n^2 - N_d}{2\sqrt{N_d}} \right) \right) \right)^2$$

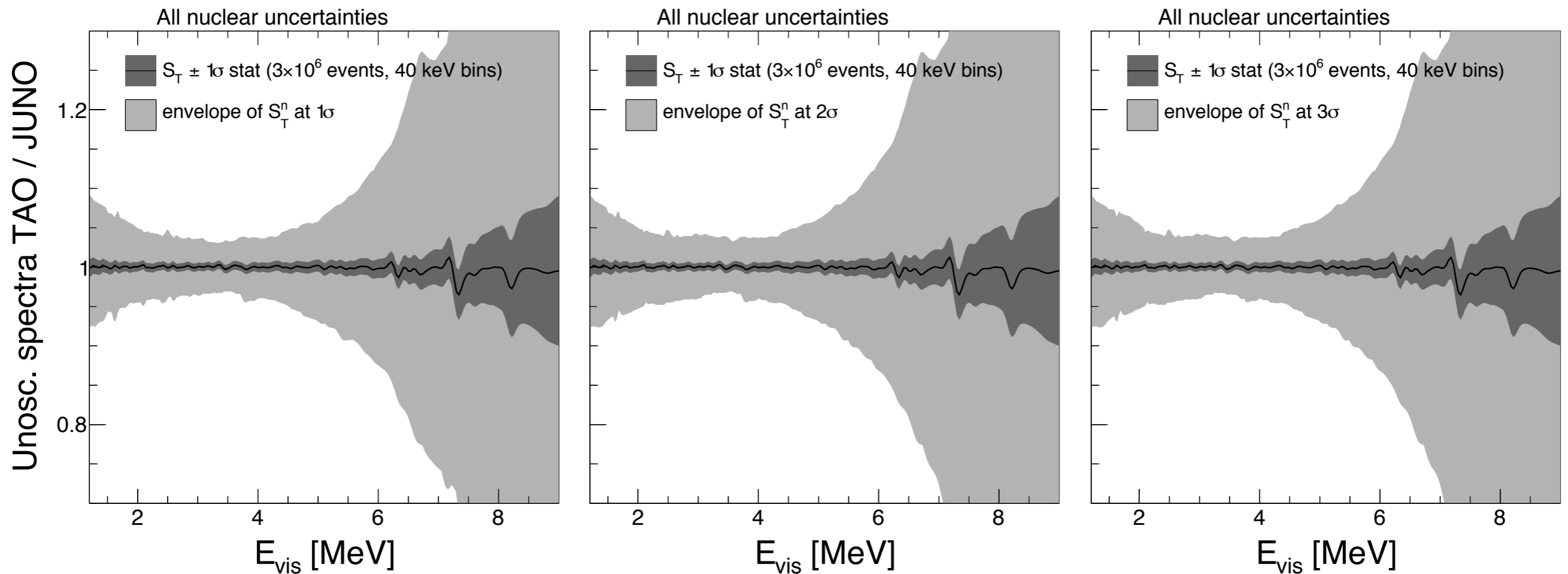


$\chi^2_s = 0$ is recovered for the “reference spectrum” in the limit $N_d \rightarrow \infty$

68%, 95.45%, 99.73% of spectra have $\chi^2_s < 1, 4, 9$, respectively!

JUNO sensitivity: ensemble of spectra

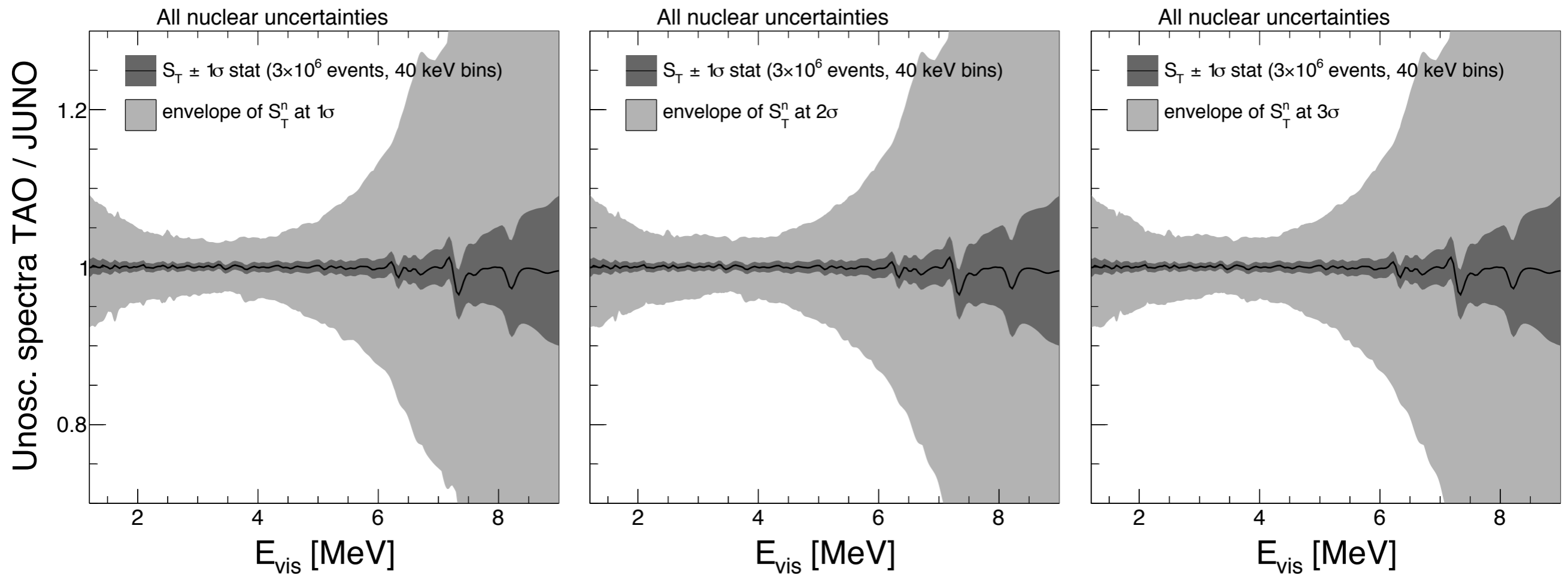
Let us compare the bands corresponding to $\chi^2_s \leq 1, 4, \text{ and } 9$



The bands are basically the same!

JUNO sensitivity: ensemble of spectra

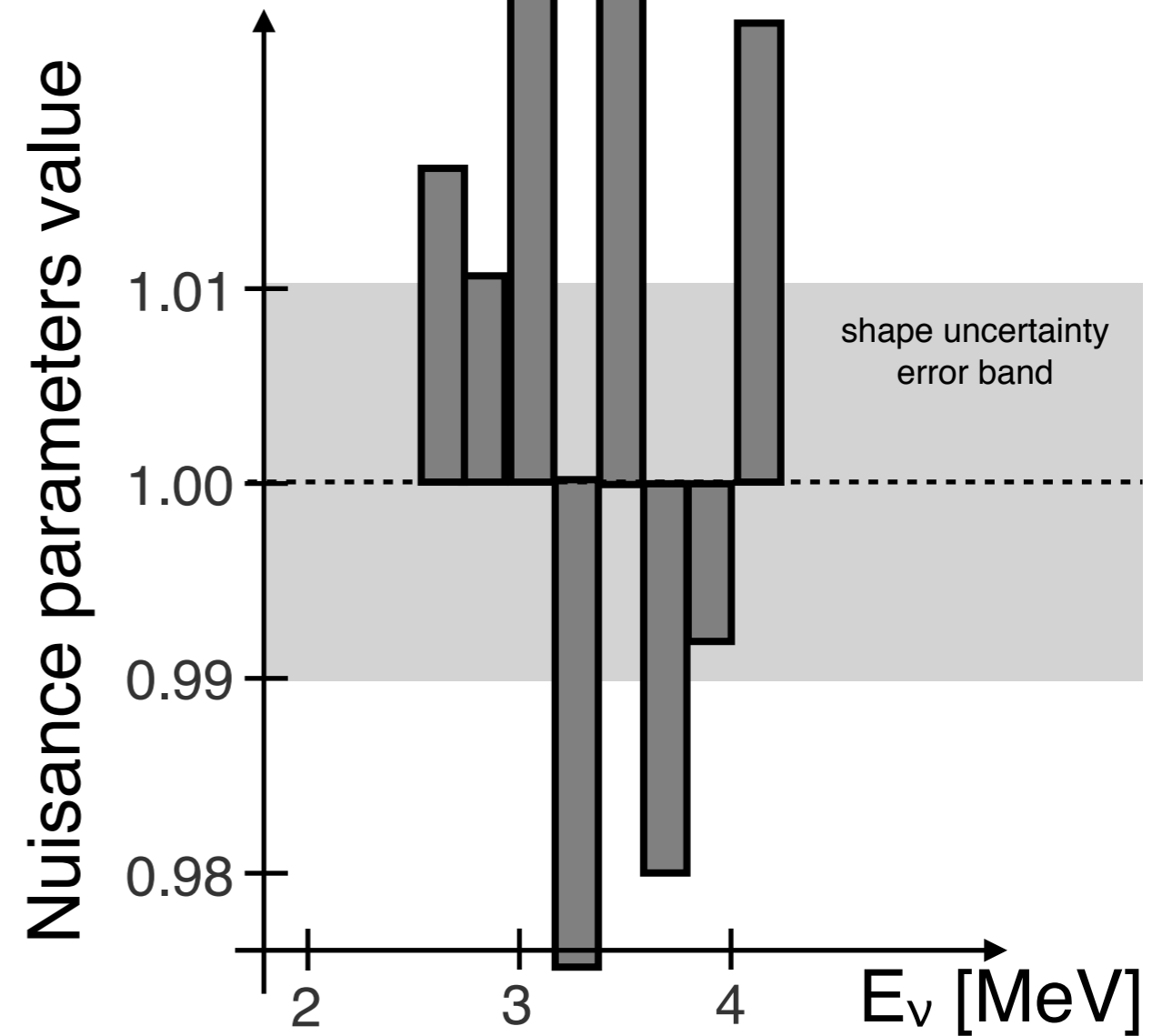
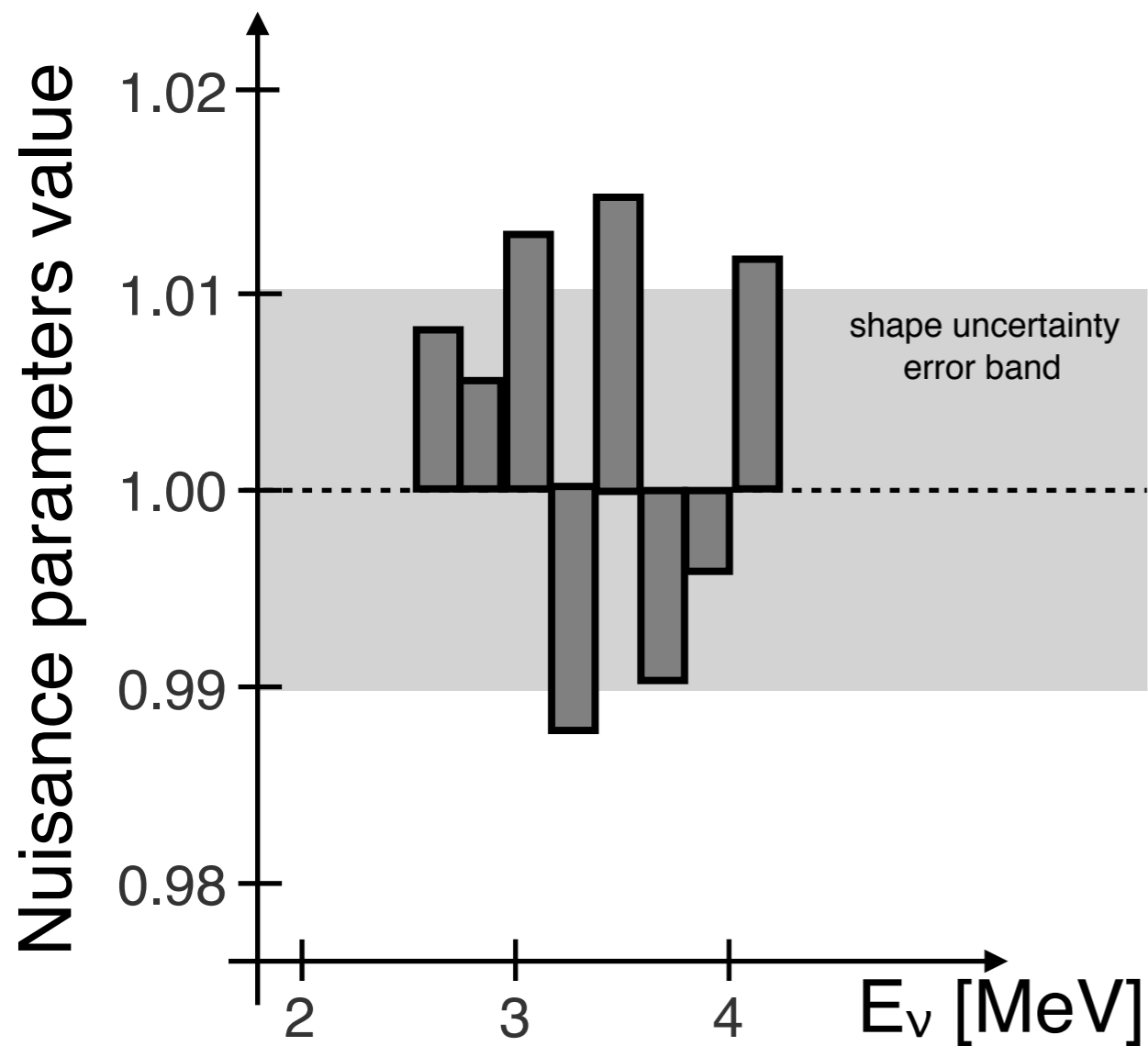
Let us compare the bands corresponding to $\chi^2_s \leq 1, 4, \text{ and } 9$



More spectral shapes become possible within the band, while the substructure amplitudes and their envelope remain constant

JUNO sensitivity: ensemble of spectra

!!! CAUTION !!!



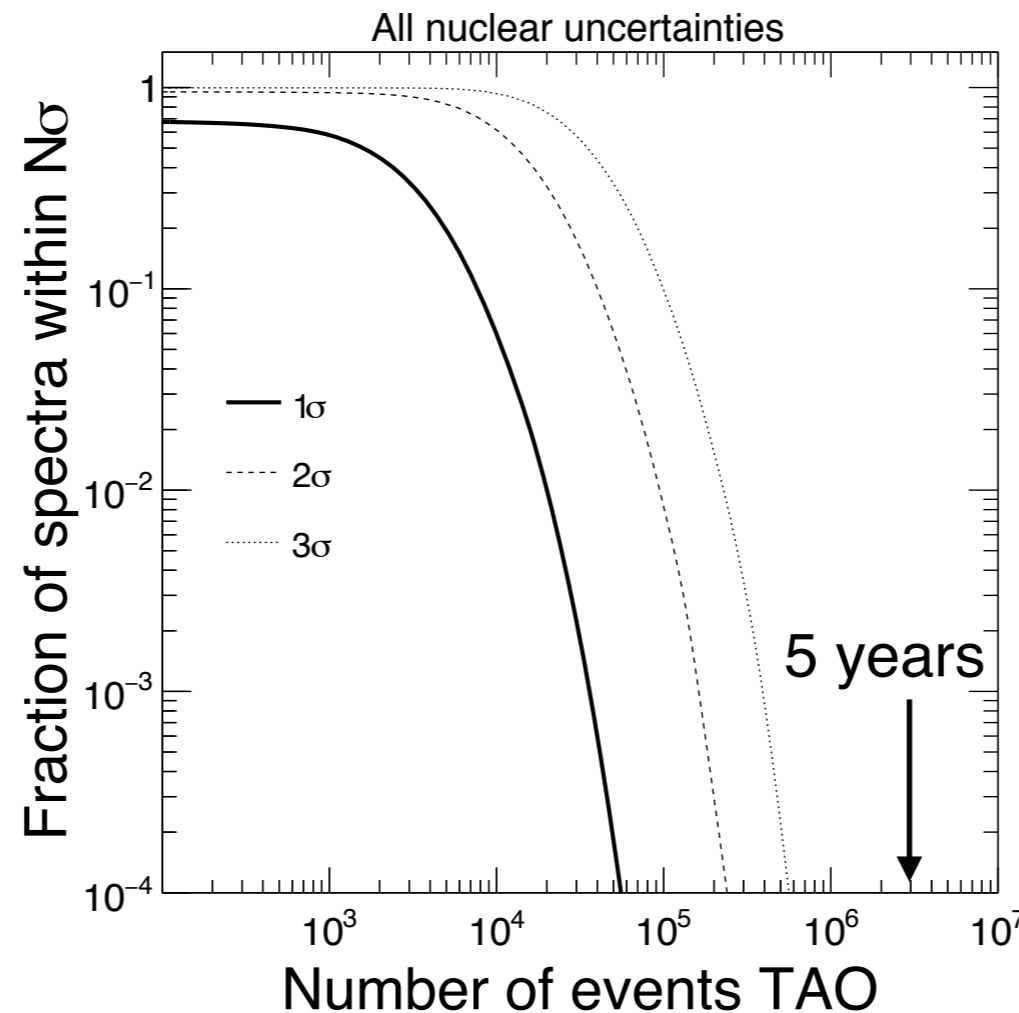
Introduce shapes beyond those allowed by nuclear databases!!!

The amplitude of microstructures does not scale with $N\sigma$!!!

JUNO sensitivity: ensemble of spectra

How many of the 10^5 spectra “survive” after TAO measurements?

$$\chi_{\text{TAO},n}^2 = \chi_{\text{stat},n}^2 + \chi_{\text{norm},n}^2 + \chi_{S,n}^2$$

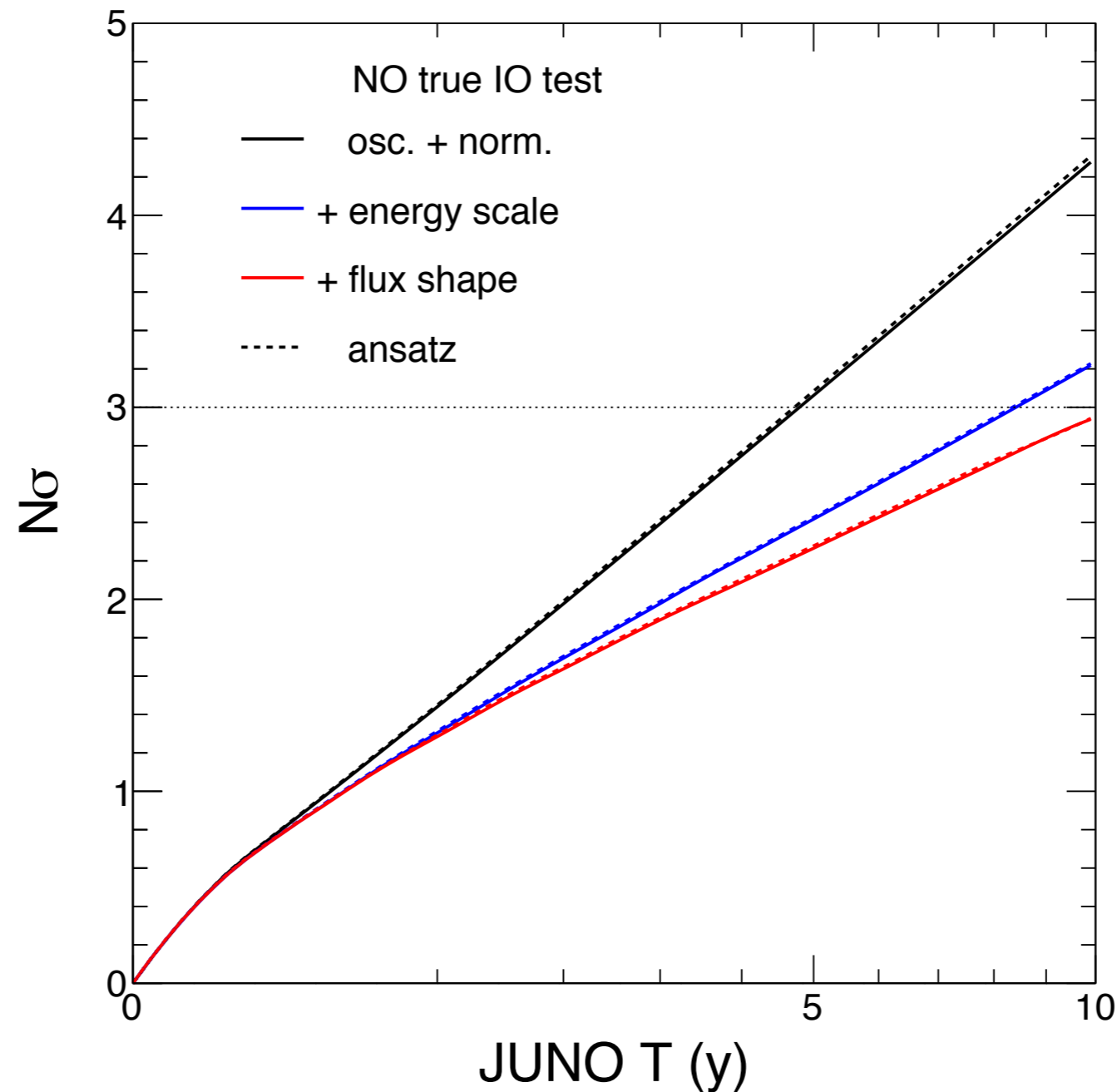


After 5 years no spectrum survives, even at 3σ .

10^5 spectra not enough to densely sample the ${}^\infty\text{Nd}$ set of possible variants

JUNO sensitivity: ensemble of spectra

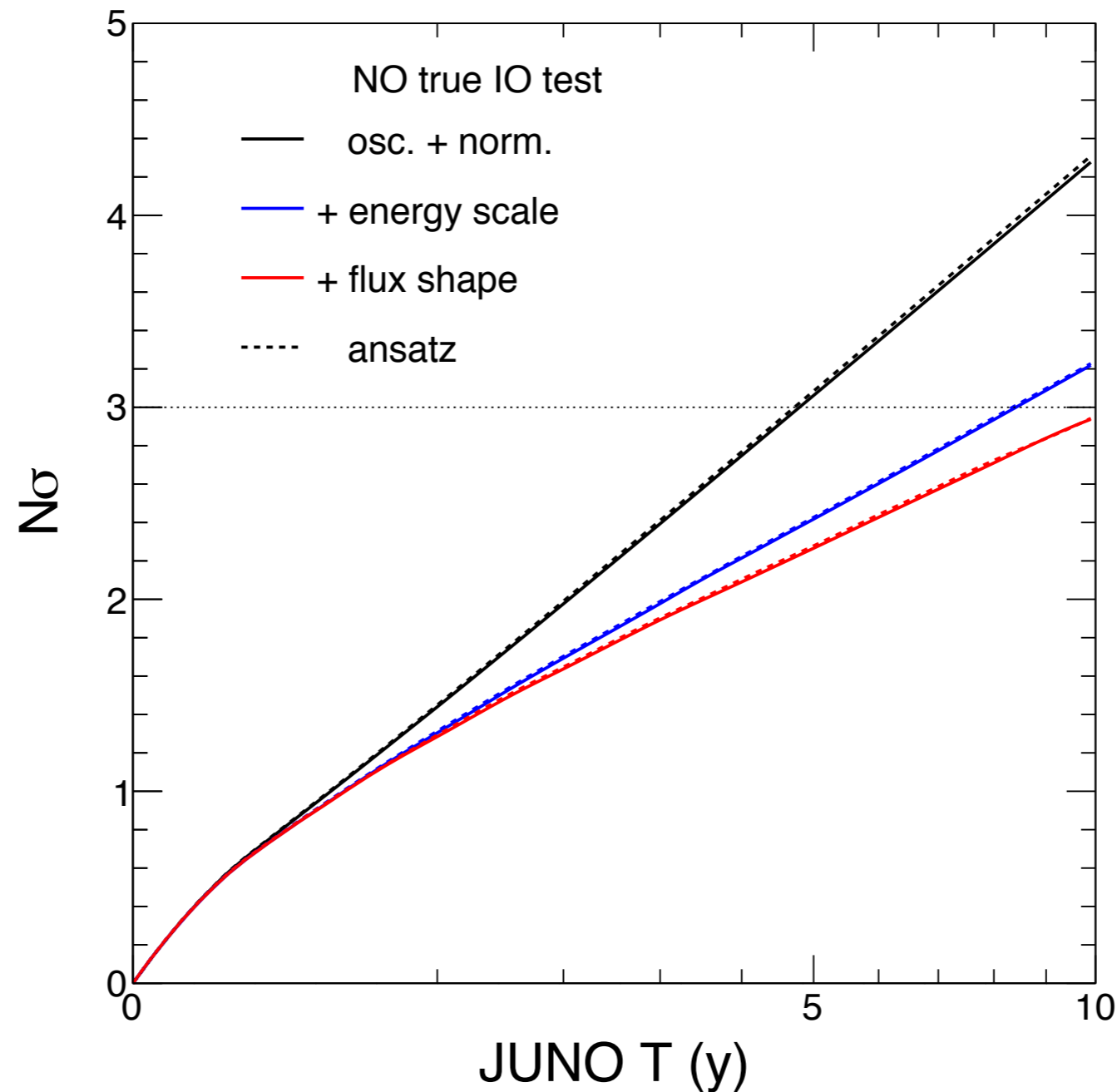
What happens to the sensitivity when “minimizing” the χ^2 over the ensemble?



No mass ordering sensitivity reduction (same for precision measurements)!

JUNO sensitivity: ensemble of spectra

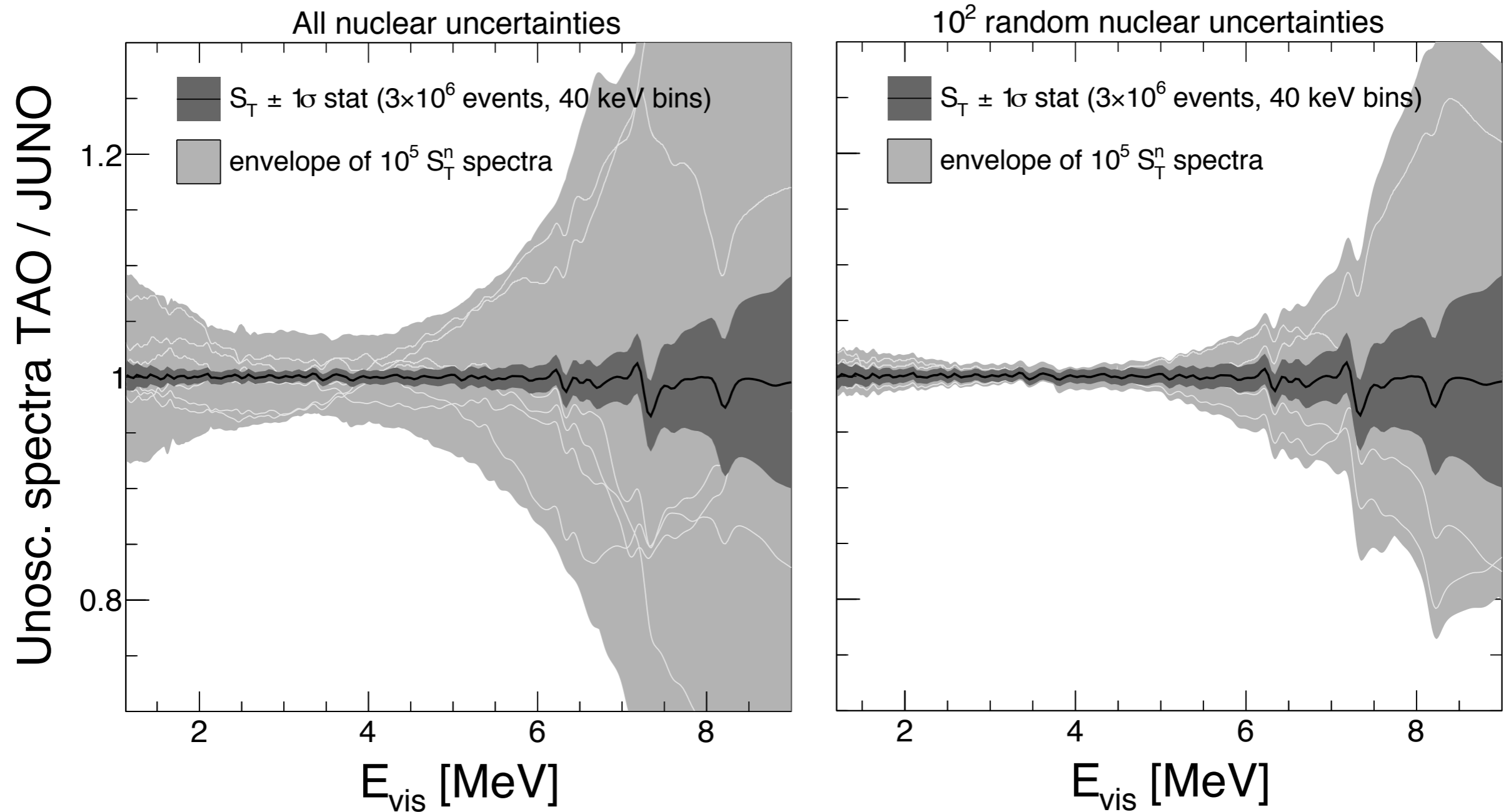
What happens to the sensitivity when “minimizing” the χ^2 over the ensemble?



10^5 spectra not enough to densely sample the ∞^{Nd} set of possible variants

JUNO sensitivity: ensemble of spectra

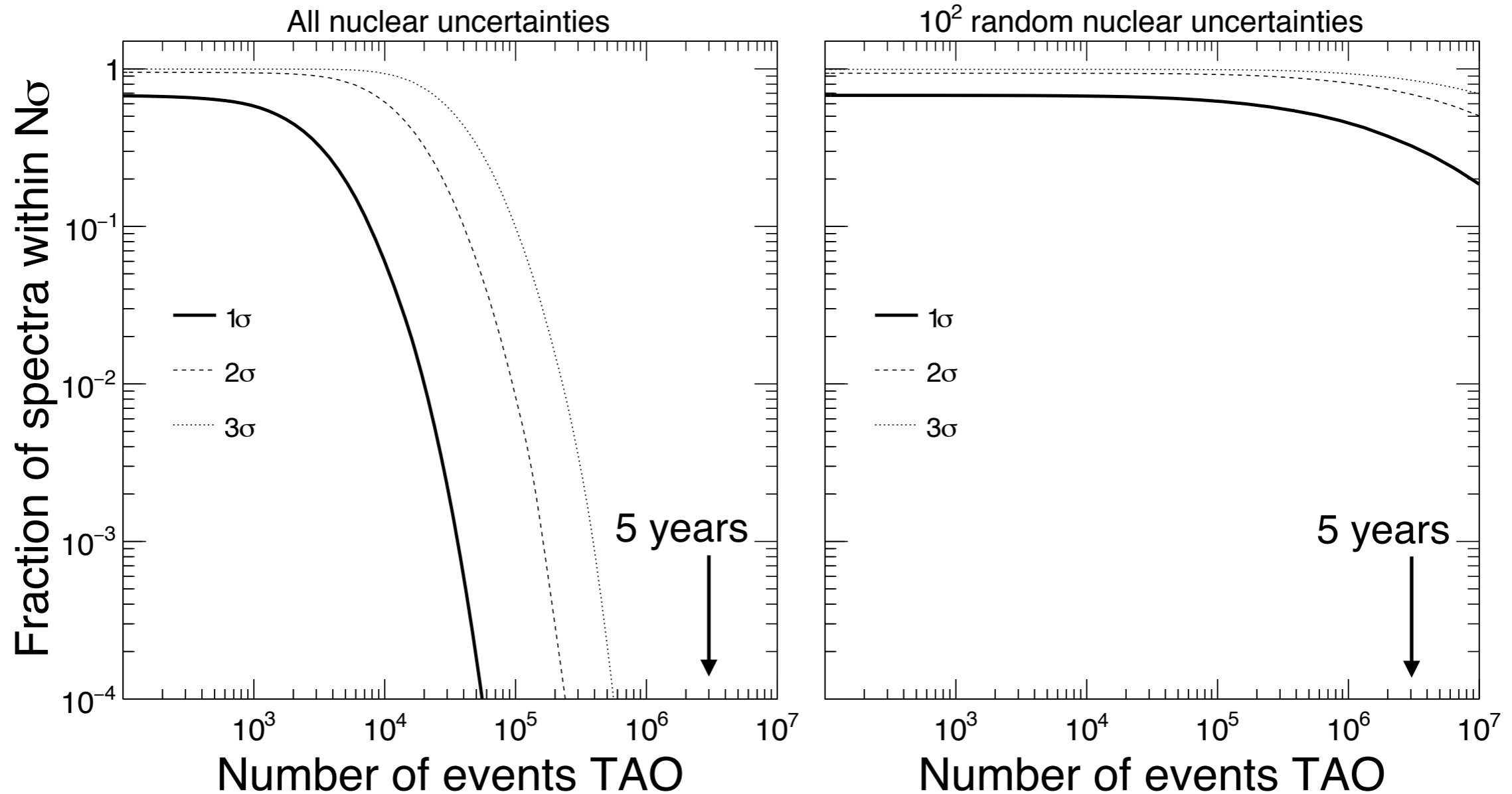
We generate 10^5 ν fluxes with OKLO, considering only 10^2 nuclear errors



Compared to “all nuclear errors” case, we have sampled closer to the reference

JUNO sensitivity: ensemble of spectra

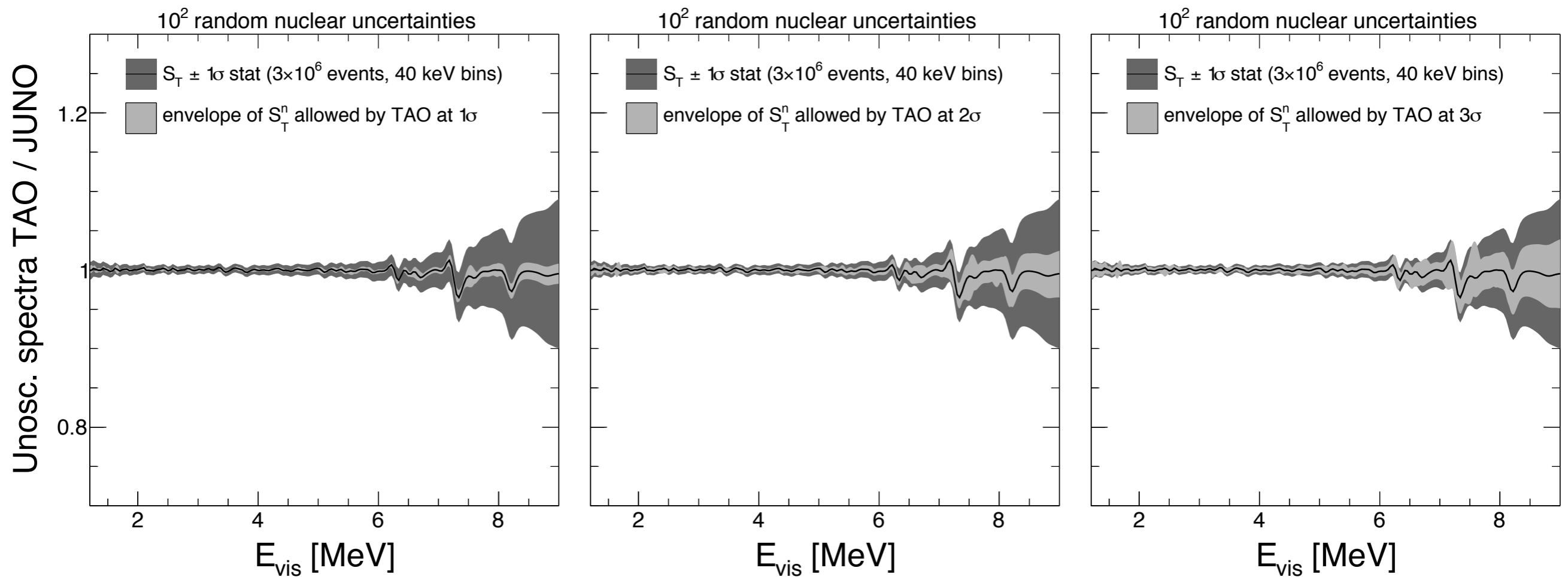
How many of these 10^5 spectra “survive” after TAO measurements?



Compared to “all nuclear errors” case, we have sampled closer to the reference

JUNO sensitivity: ensemble of spectra

How many of these 10^5 spectra “survive” after TAO measurements?



The allowed band now scales with $N\sigma$: **TAO data tends to linearize the scaling**

JUNO sensitivity: ensemble of spectra

What happens to the sensitivity when “minimizing” the χ^2 over the ensemble?

$\Delta\chi^2(\text{IO} - \text{NO})$ reduced of -0.4 without TAO constraints

JUNO sensitivity: ensemble of spectra

What happens to the sensitivity when “minimizing” the χ^2 over the ensemble?

$\Delta\chi^2(\text{IO} - \text{NO})$ reduced of -0.4 without TAO constraints

$\Delta\chi^2(\text{IO} - \text{NO})$ reduced of -0.2 with TAO constraints

Marginal effect of microstructures: confirmed previous results in literature

Conclusions

We have reviewed the calculation of spectra in TAO/JUNO.
Nucleon recoil must be included.

We have provided a useful mapping between TAO and JUNO

A refinement of the mapping taking into account different fuel components in TAO and JUNO is left to future work

Conclusions

We have generated 10^5 spectra using current nuclear databases

We have defined a metric describing the “distance” of each spectrum from the reference one

The amplitude of microstructures does not scale with $N\sigma$

Caution when parametrizing “unknown” substructure uncertainties in terms of variances of binned spectra

Spectra must be densely generated close to the reference to affect χ^2 . However, the reduction of sensitivity is very small, especially with TAO

THANK YOU