



Residual reactor $\bar{\nu}_e$ measurement with the Double Chooz experiment

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I. The Double Chooz experiment

- experimental principle
- analysis highlight and latest results

II. Residual antineutrinos

- modeling
- generality about residual antineutrinos

III. DC off-off periods

- prediction
- preliminary data/prediction comparison

IV. Conclusion

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- experimental principle
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II. Residual antineutrinos

- modeling
- generality about residual antineutrinos

III. DC off-off periods

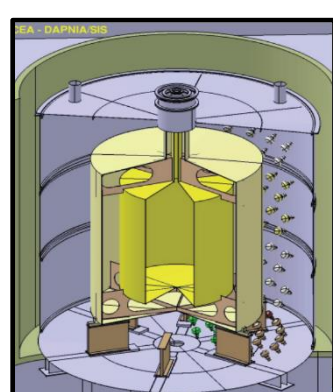
- prediction
- preliminary data/prediction comparison

IV. Conclusion

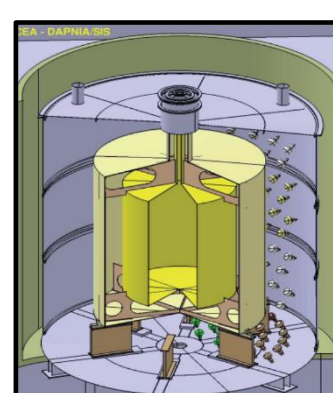
Non oscillation probability:

$$P_{\bar{\nu}_e \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e}(L, E) \simeq 1 - \sin^2(2\theta_{13}) \sin^2\left(1.267 \frac{\Delta m_{13}^2(\text{eV}^2)L(\text{m})}{E(\text{MeV})}\right)$$

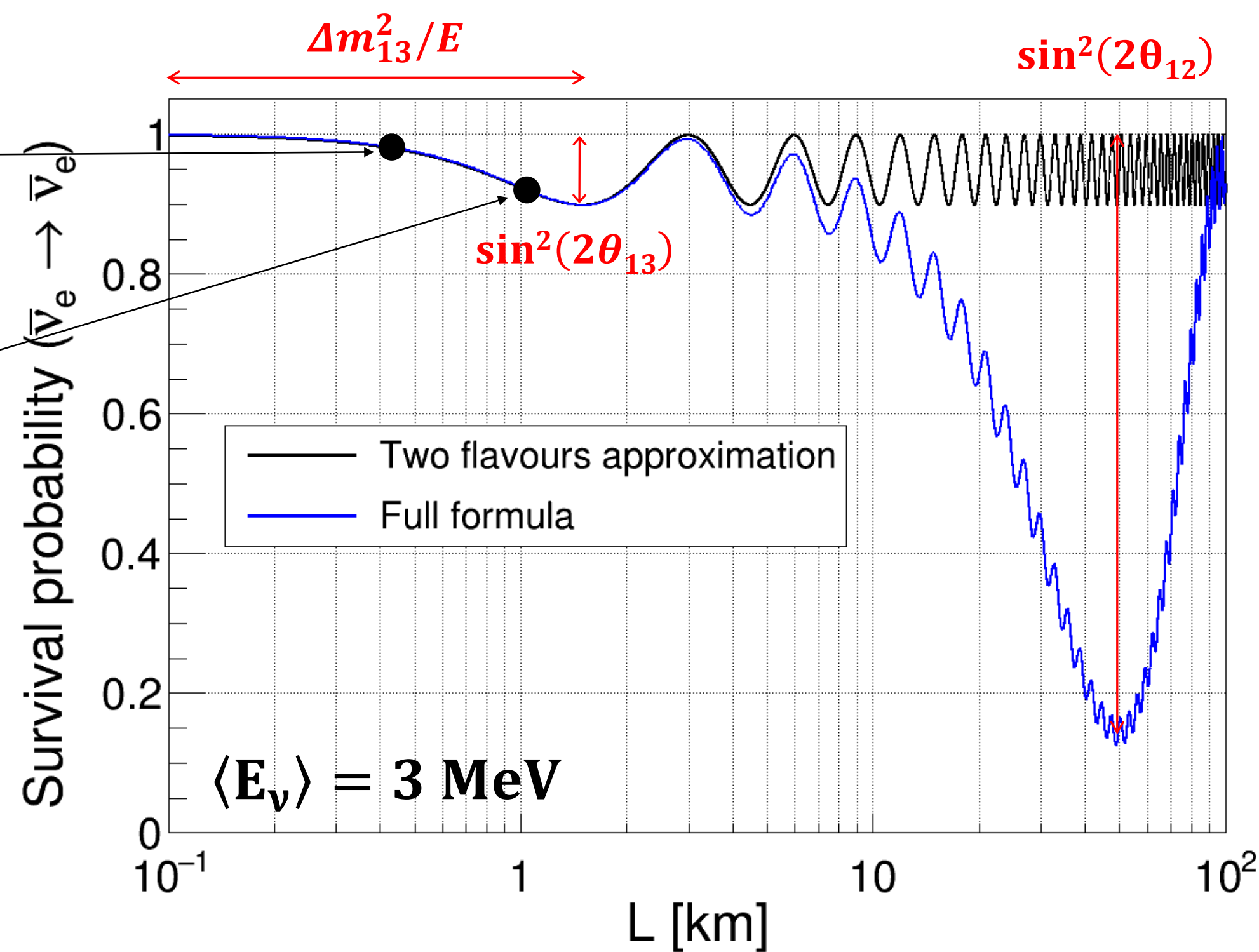
(two flavours approximation)



Near detector (ND)



Far detector (FD)



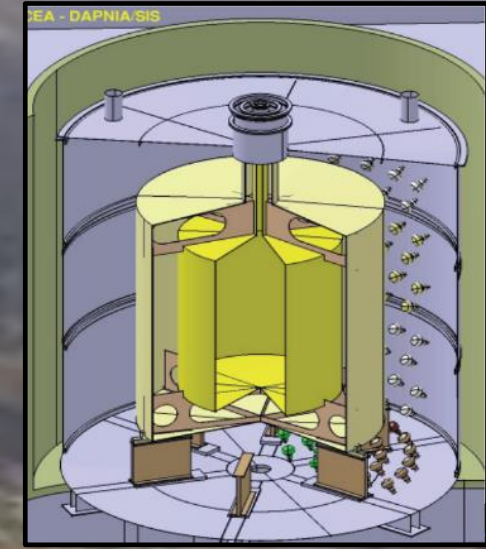
⇒ Systematic uncertainties highly suppressed in multiple detectors configuration at different baselines with identical detectors

Chooz-B Nuclear power plant



Near Detector

- $\langle L \rangle \sim 400$ m
- ~ 120 mwe
- ~ 900 IBD $_{\bar{\nu}_e}/d$



Far Detector

- $\langle L \rangle \sim 1050$ m
- ~ 300 mwe
- ~ 150 IBD $_{\bar{\nu}_e}/d$

N4-PWR
2x4.25 GW_{th}
 $\sim 2 \cdot 10^{21} \bar{\nu}_e/s$

B1

B2

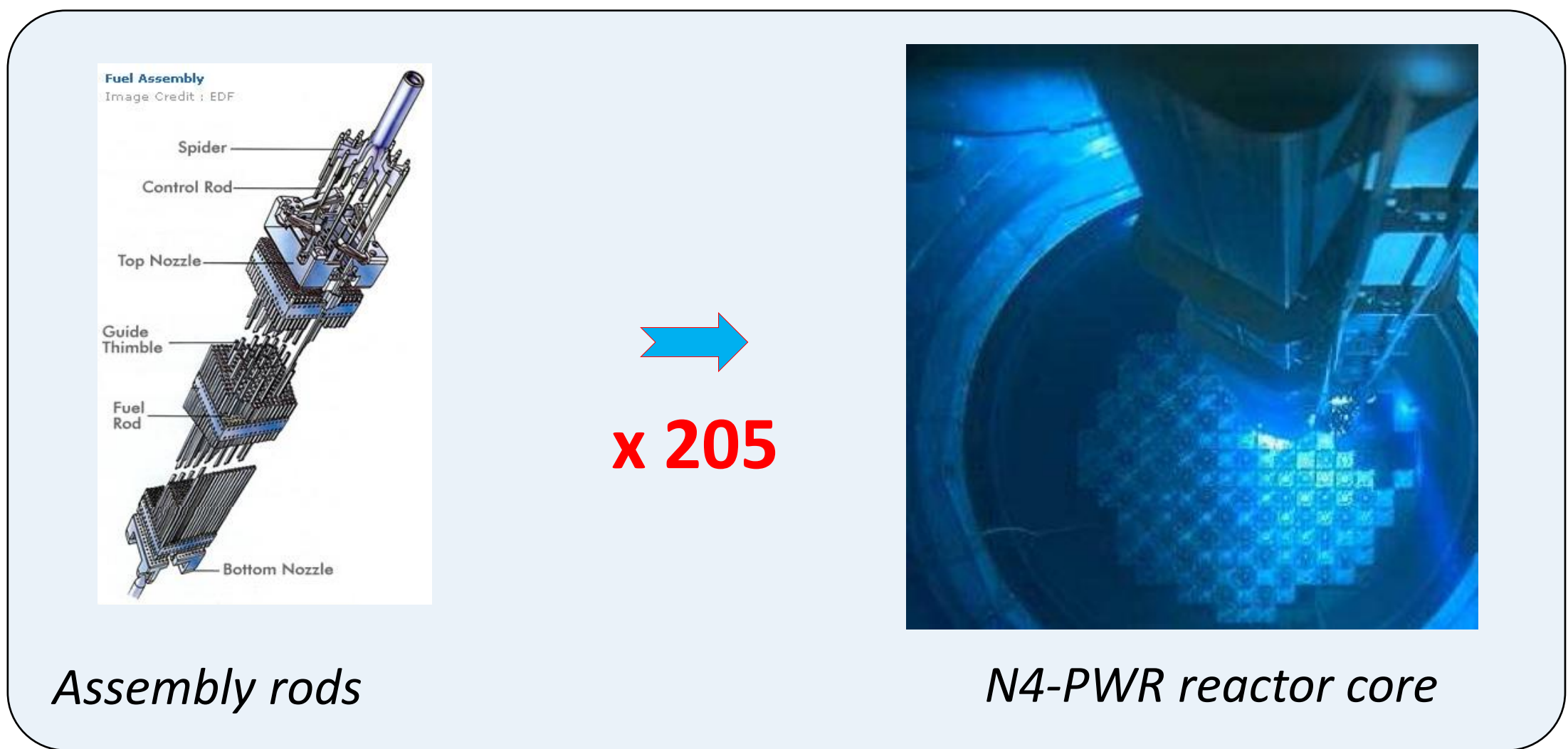
Almost iso-flux site configuration
 (Same proportion of B1/B2 flux in ND & FD)
 ⇒ ND is almost a perfect monitor of FD



Commercial Pressurized Water Reactor

- Fresh fuel : UO_2 (^{238}U + few percent of ^{235}U)
 ↳ Other fissile with fuel depletion
- Thermal power mainly induced by fission of 4 nuclei:

$^{235}\text{U}, ^{239}\text{Pu}, ^{238}\text{U}, ^{241}\text{Pu}$

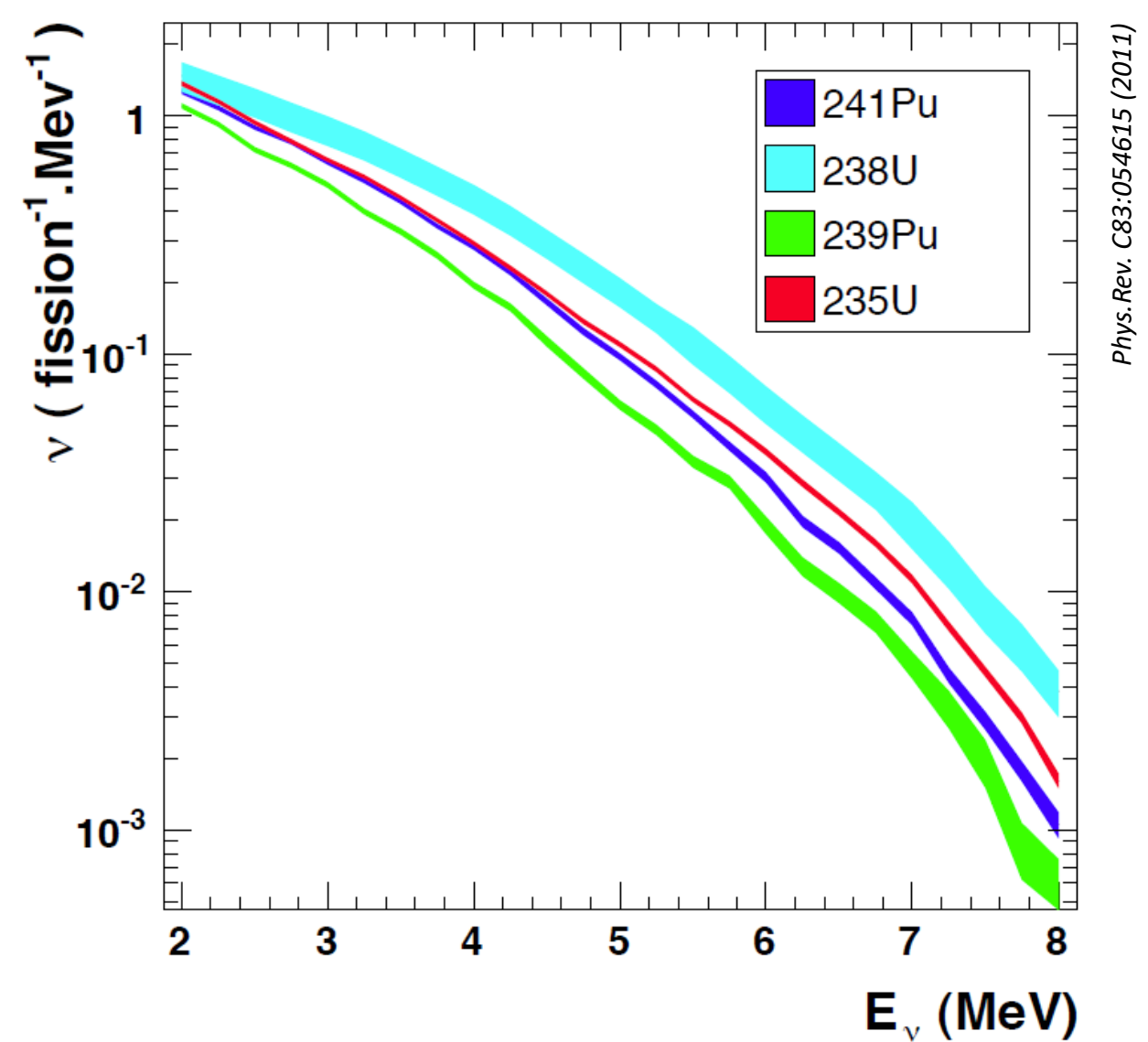
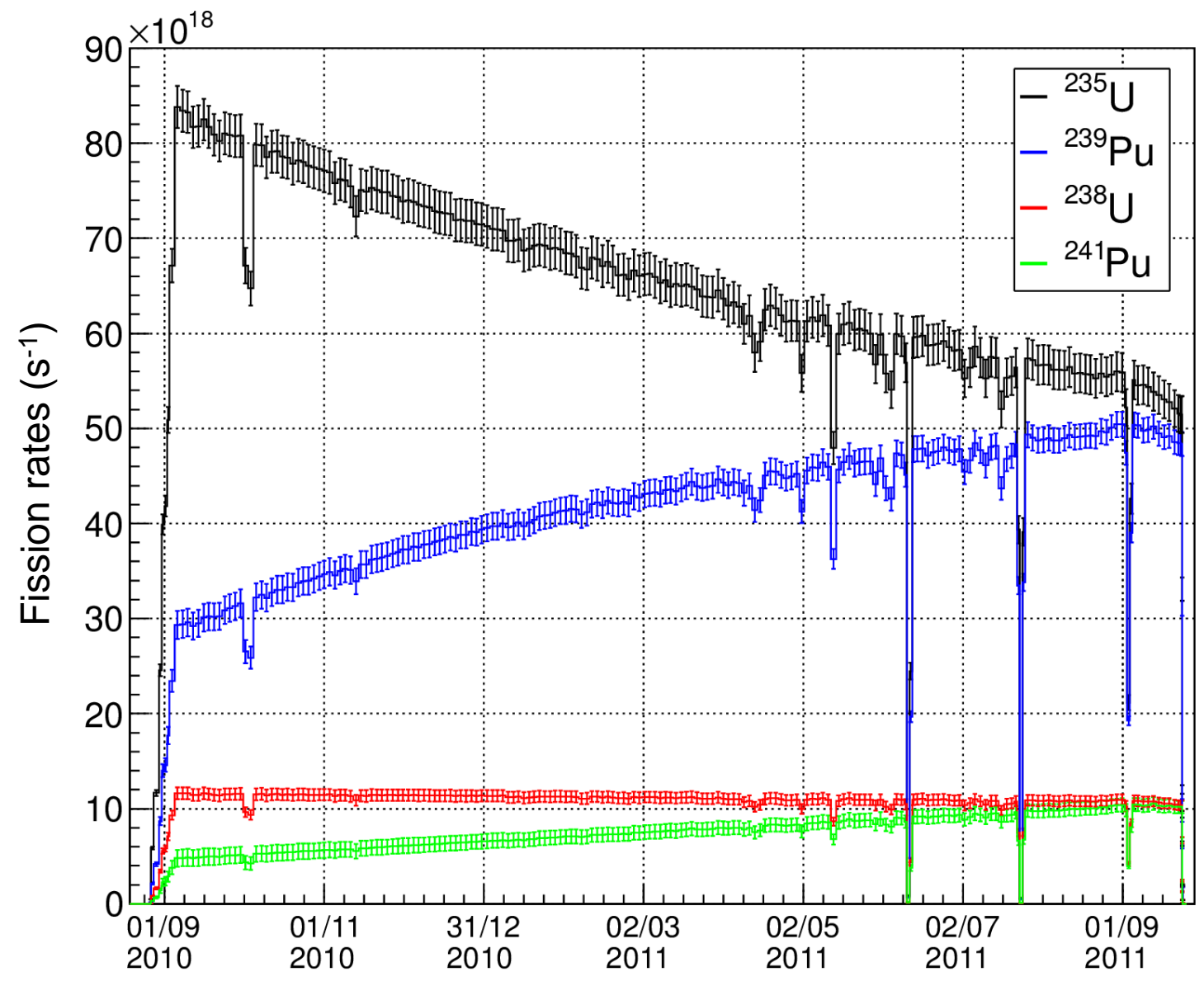


Expected number of IBD events

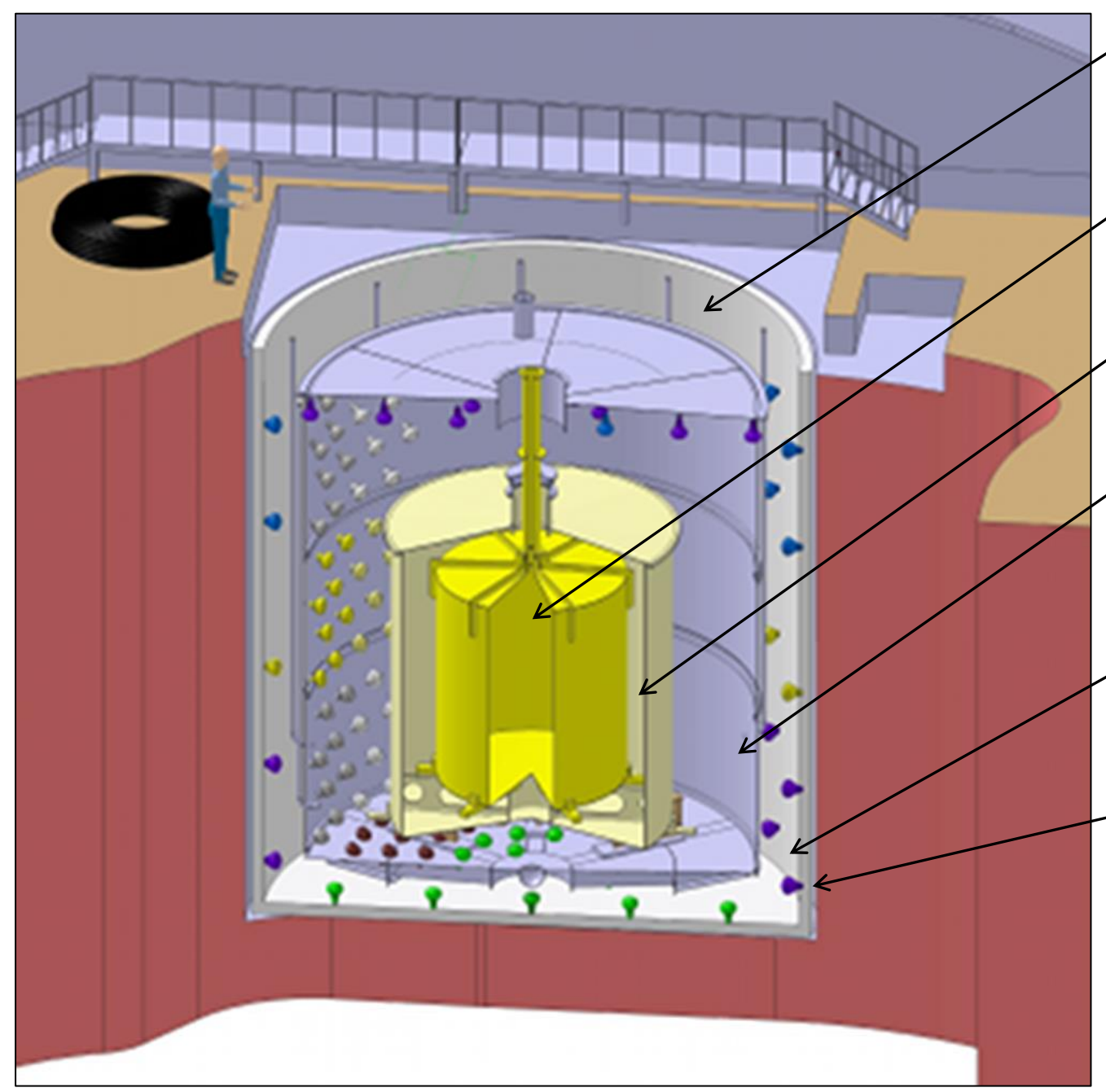
$$N_{\bar{\nu}_e}^{exp}(E, t) = \sum_{B1, B2} \frac{N_p \epsilon}{4\pi L^2} \times \frac{P_{th}(t)}{\langle E_f \rangle} \times \langle \sigma_f \rangle$$

$$\langle \sigma_f \rangle_k = \int_0^x dE S_k(E) \sigma_{IBD}(E)$$

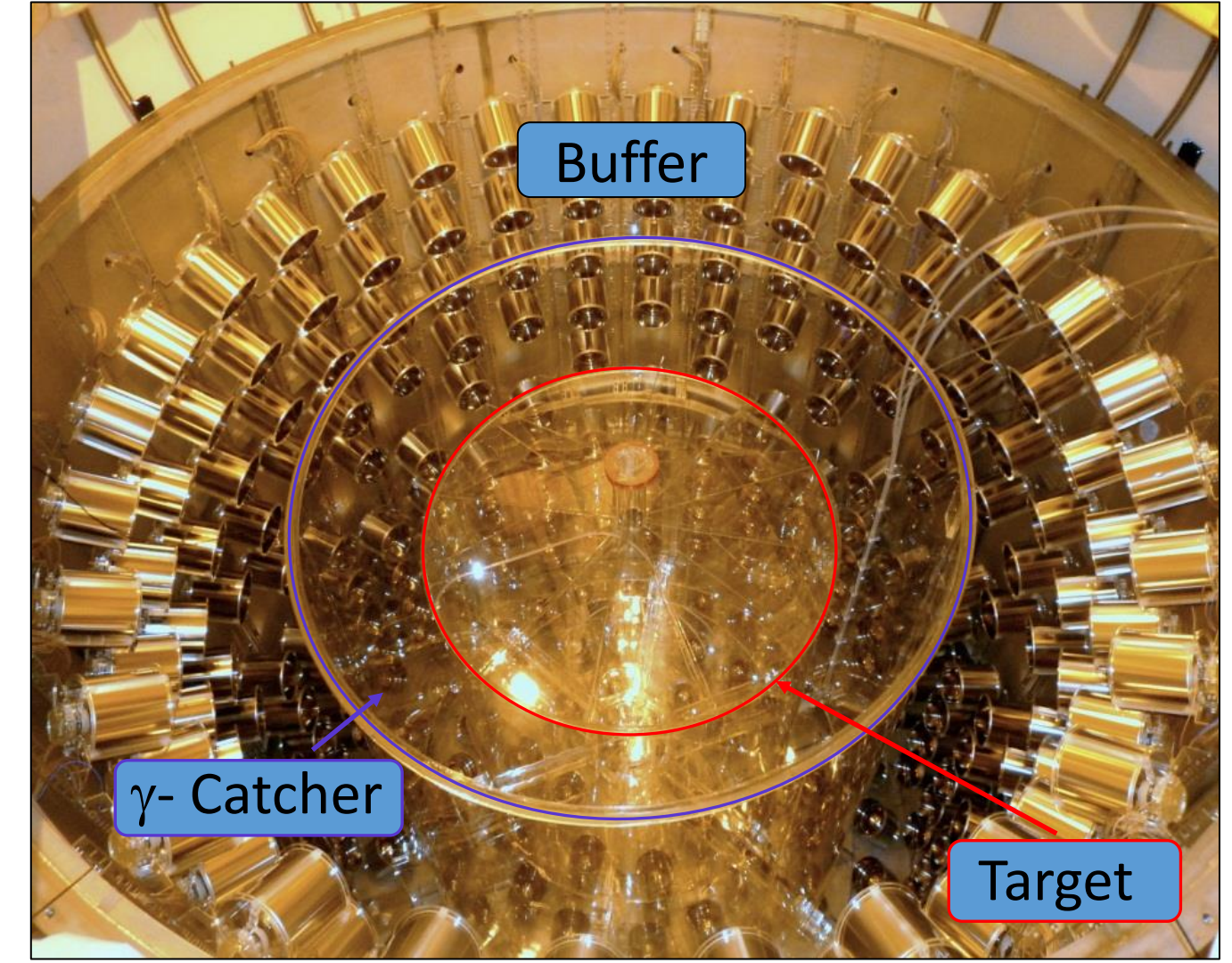
Fission spectra



Detector design

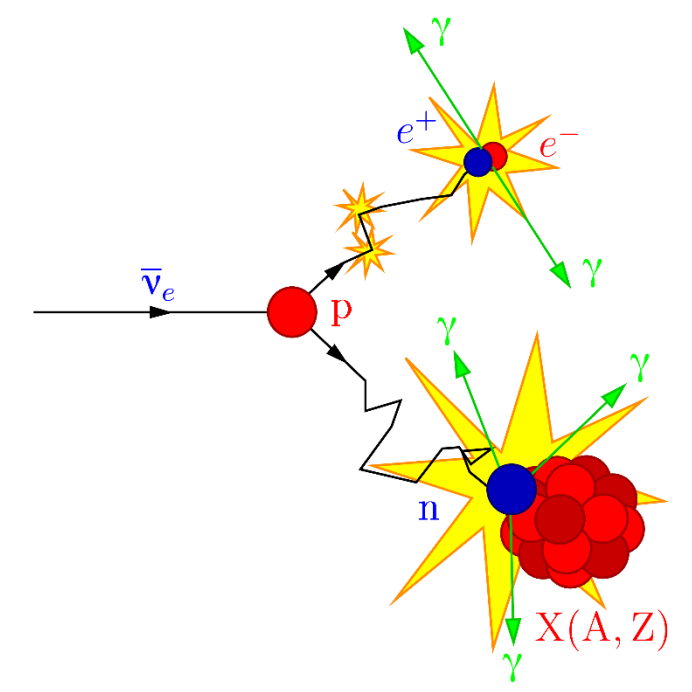


- Outer Veto: plastic scintillator strips
- ν -Target: liquid scintillator doped with 1 g/l of Gd (10.3 m³)
- γ -Catcher: liquid scintillator (22.3 m³)
- Buffer: - mineral oil (110 m³)
 - **390 PMTs** (10 inches) *Inner detector*
- Inner Veto: - liquid scintillator (90m³)
 - 78 PMTs (8 inches)
- Shielding: ~250t steel shielding

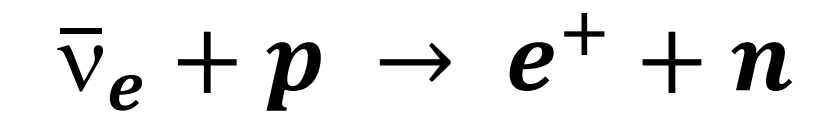


Two identical detectors
 ⇒ stable Gd loaded liquid scintillator developed (same batch)

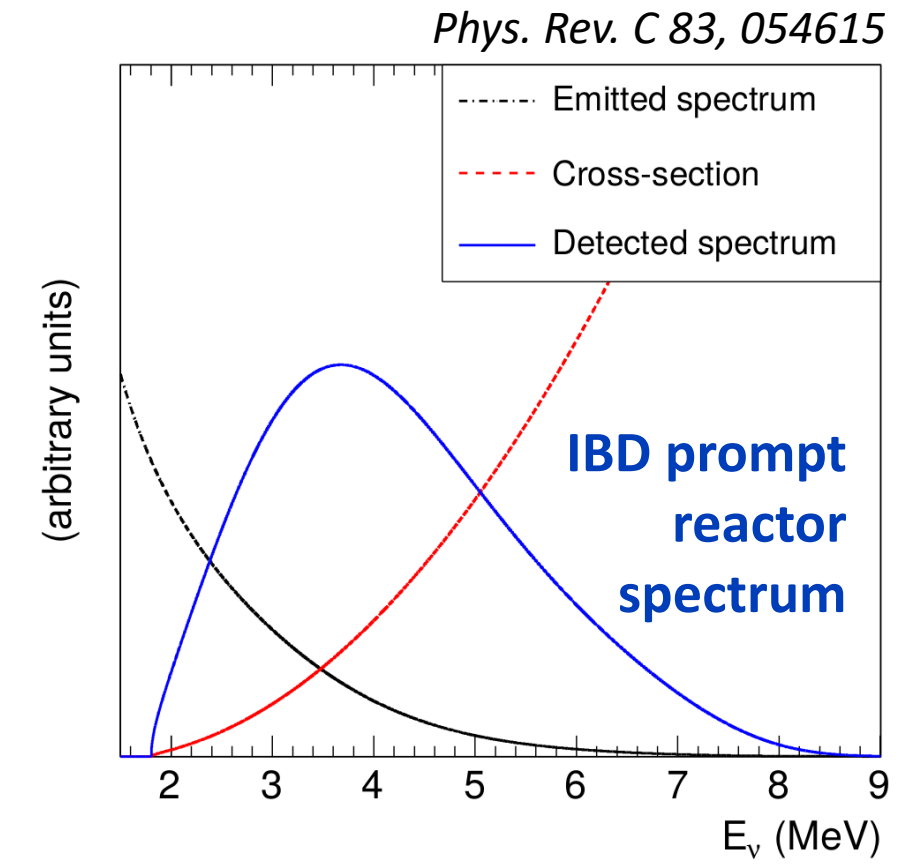
Detection



Inverse beta decay reaction (IBD)

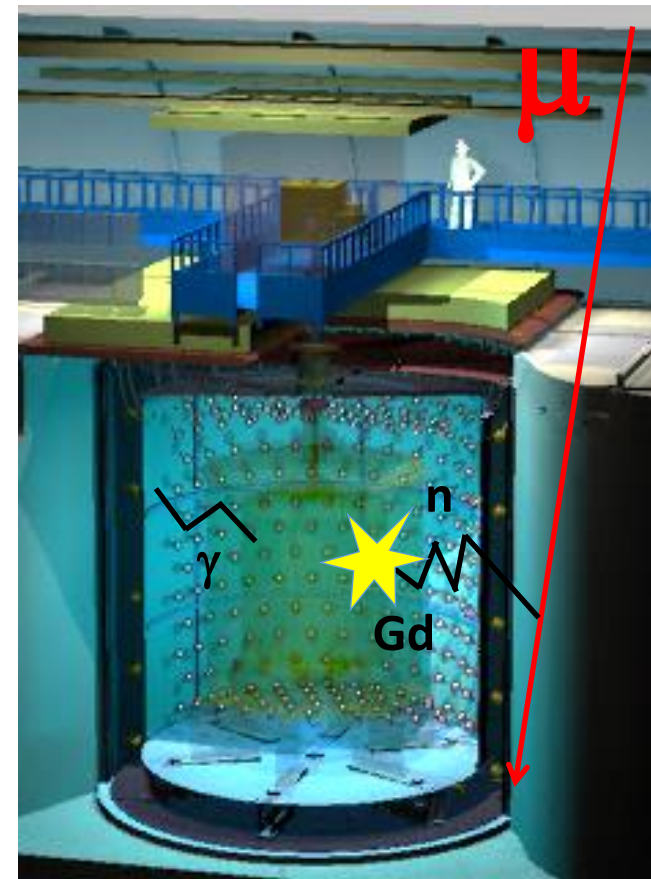


- **Prompt signal:** ionisation induced by positron + annihilation γ 's
 - **Delayed signal:** γ 's from neutron capture on Gd or/and H
- ⇒ $\bar{\nu}_e$ signature: spatial and temporal correlation prompt/delayed signal

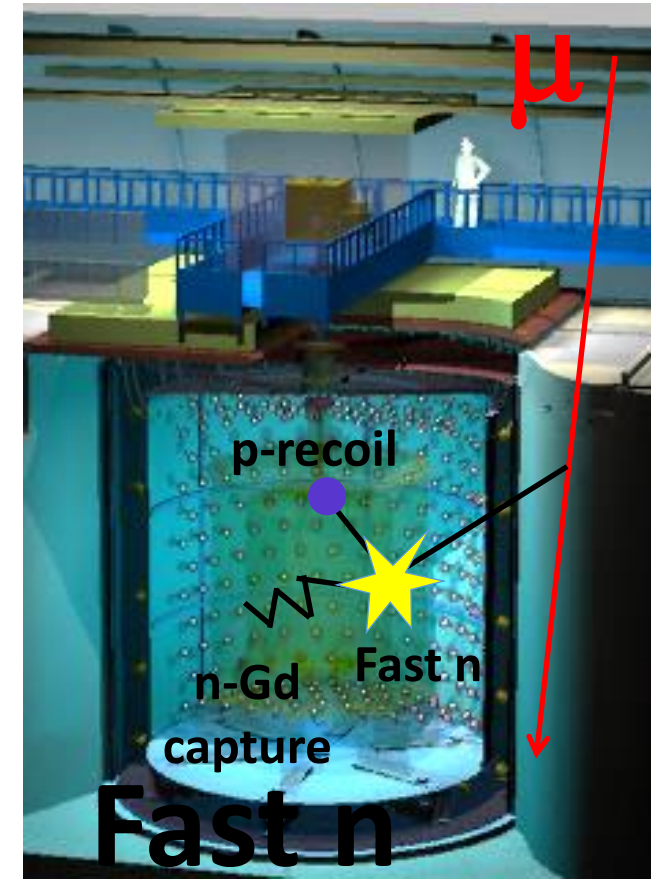


$E_{\text{thresh.}}: 1.8 \text{ MeV}$
 $\langle \sigma \rangle \sim 10^{-43} \text{ cm}^2$

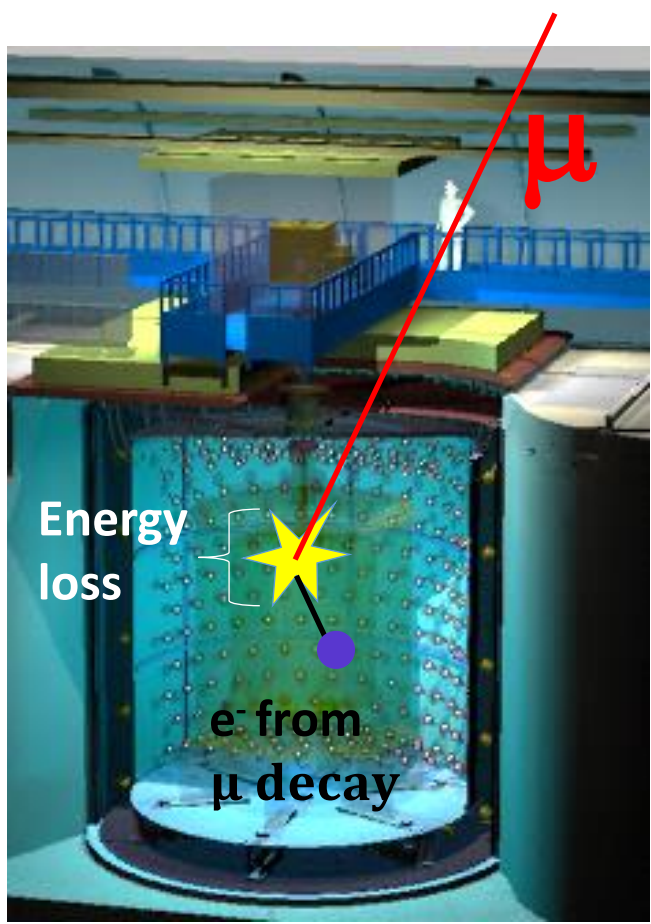
Two types of background



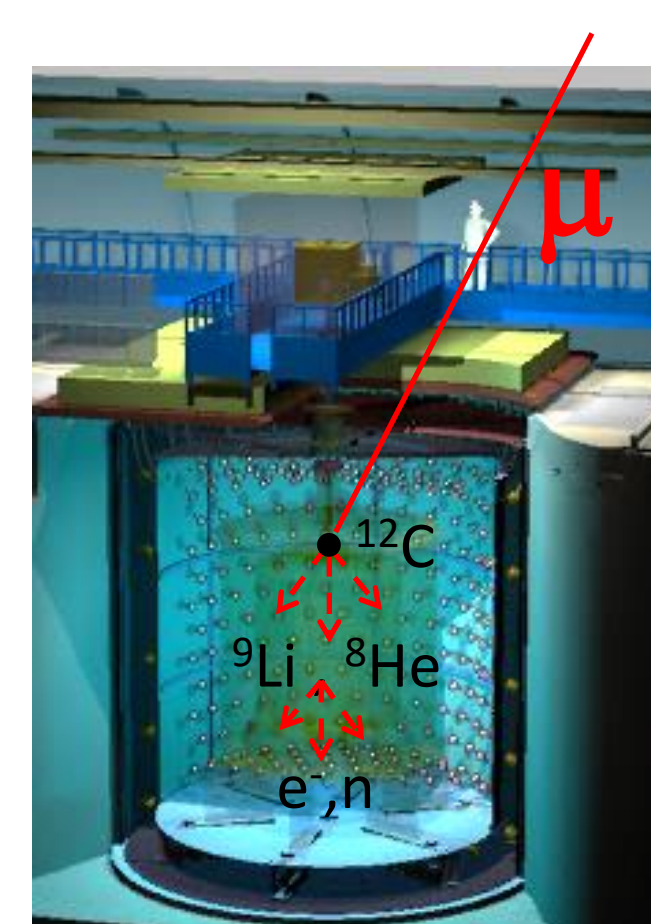
Accidental



Fast neutron



Stopping muon

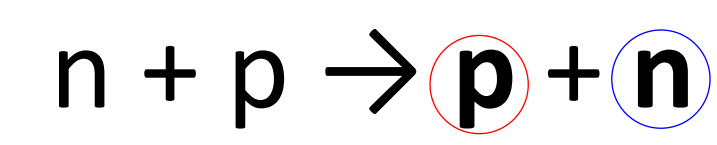


Cosmogenic β-n

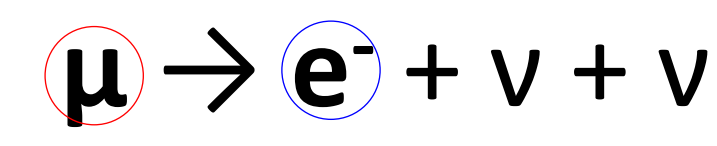
- Accidental coincidence:



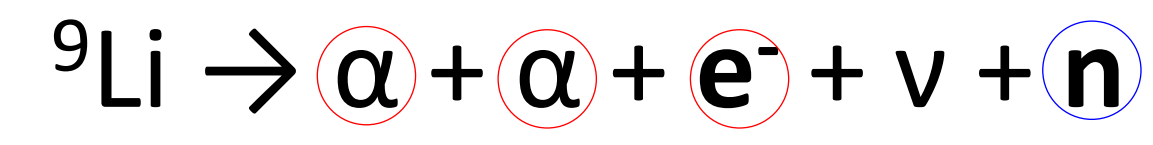
- Fast neutron:



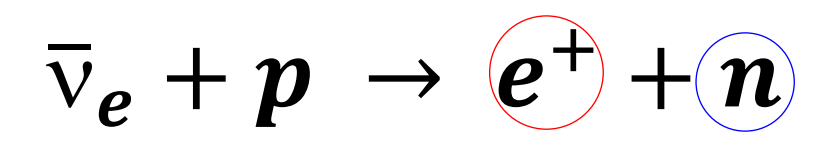
- Stopping muon:



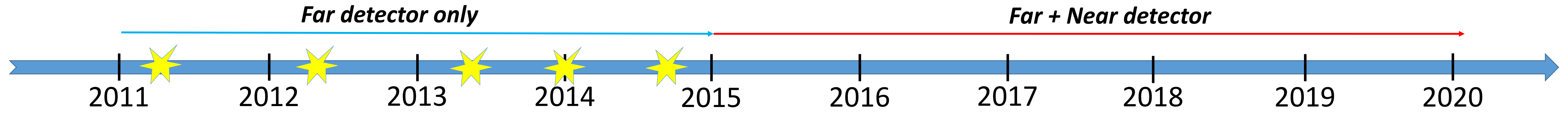
- Cosmogenic β-n emitter:



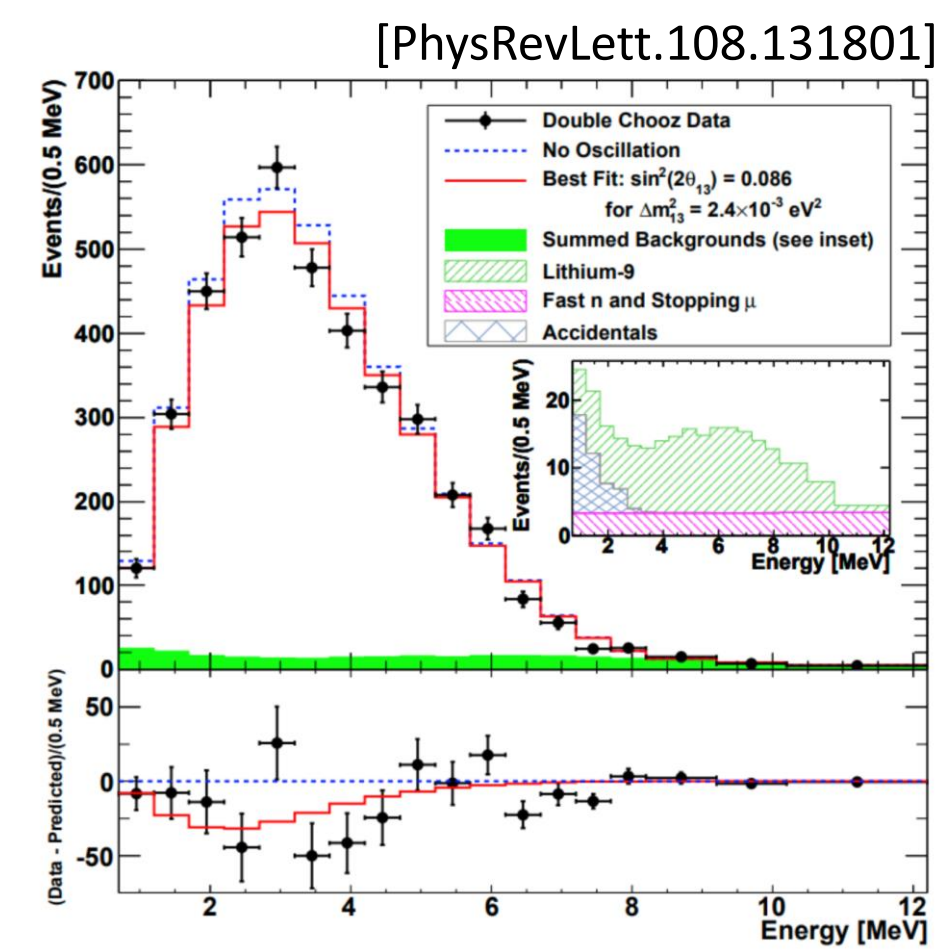
} correlated



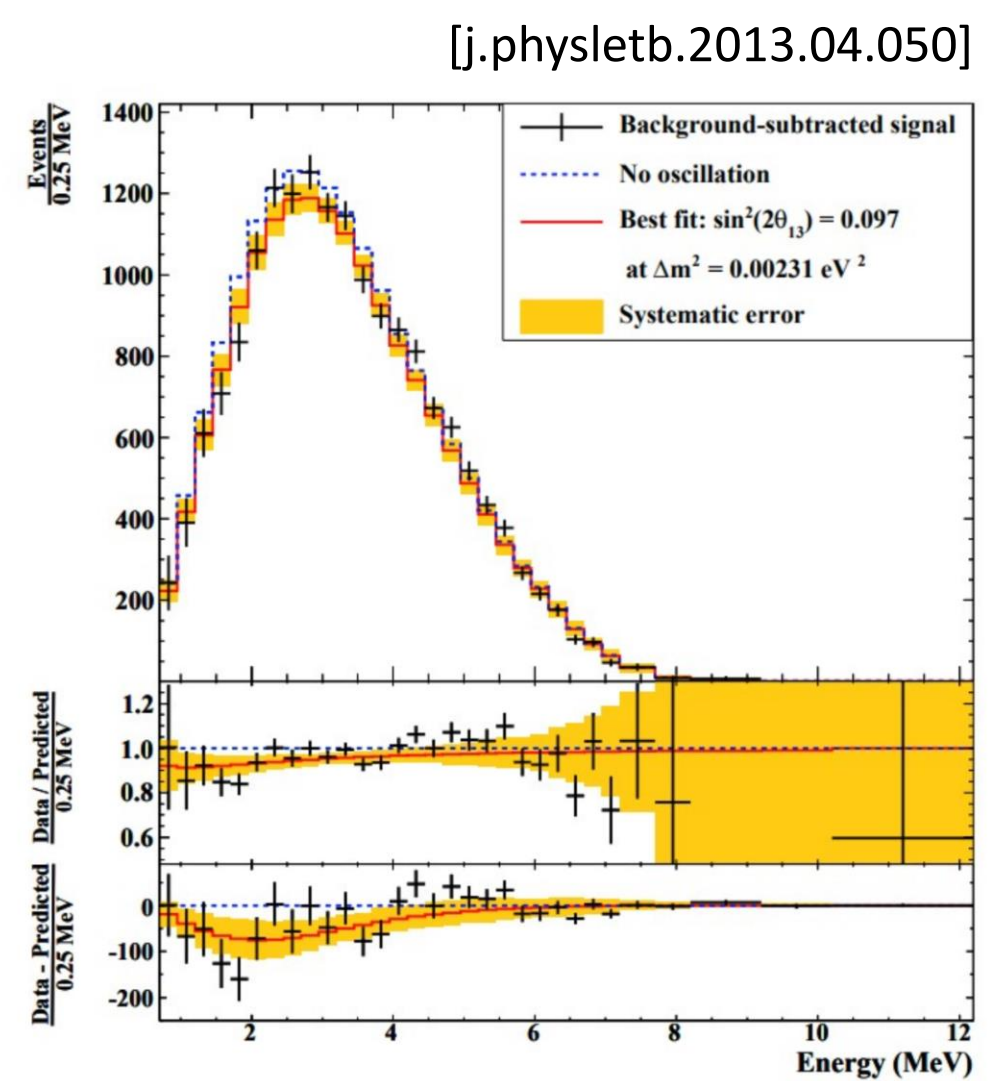
○ Prompt mimic
 ○ Delayed mimic



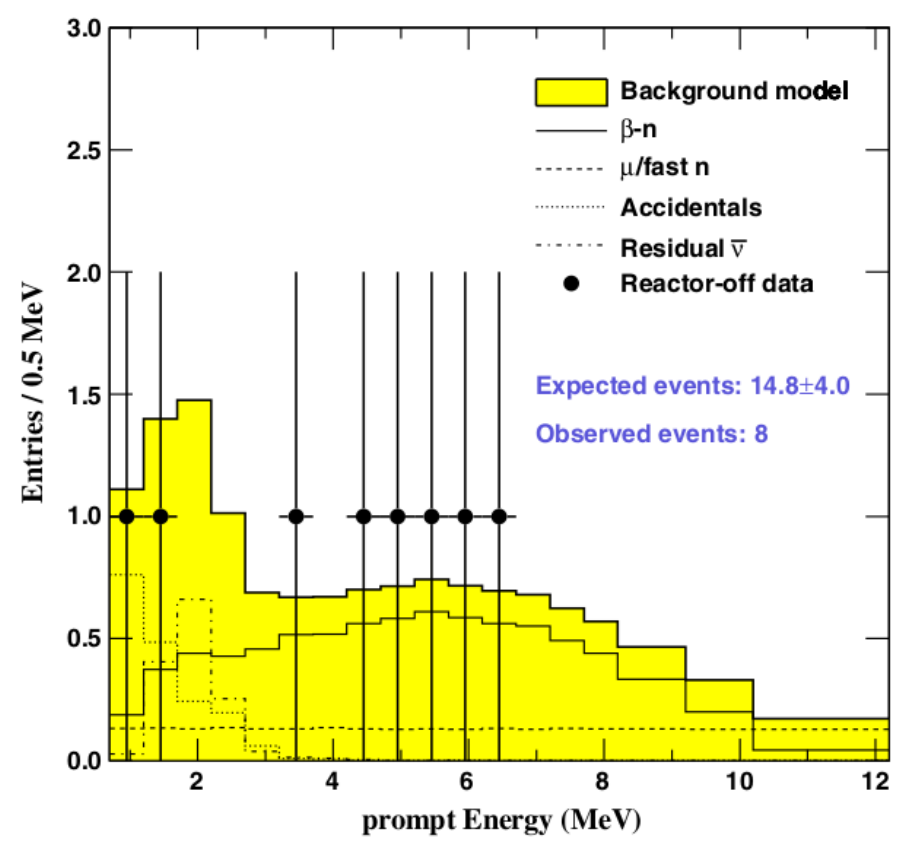
Reactor $\theta_{13} > 0$ (@95% CL)
 3σ in combination with T2K



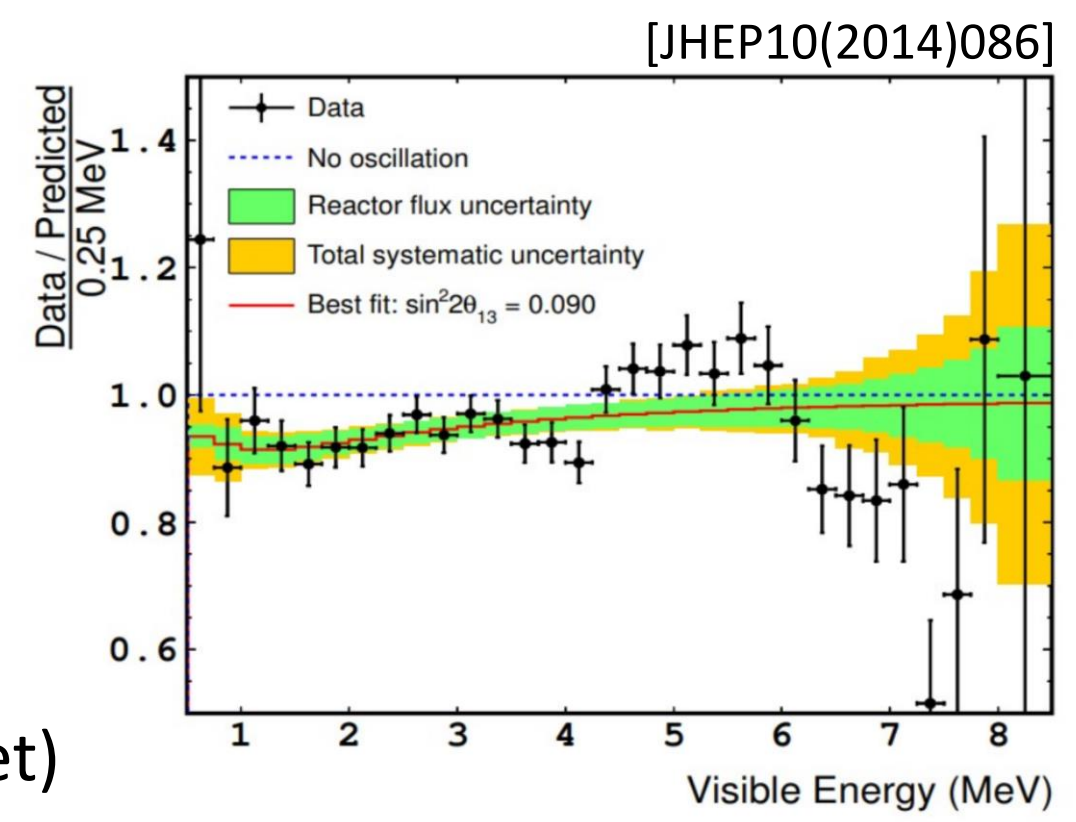
First θ_{13} measurement with n-H captures
 thought to be impractical



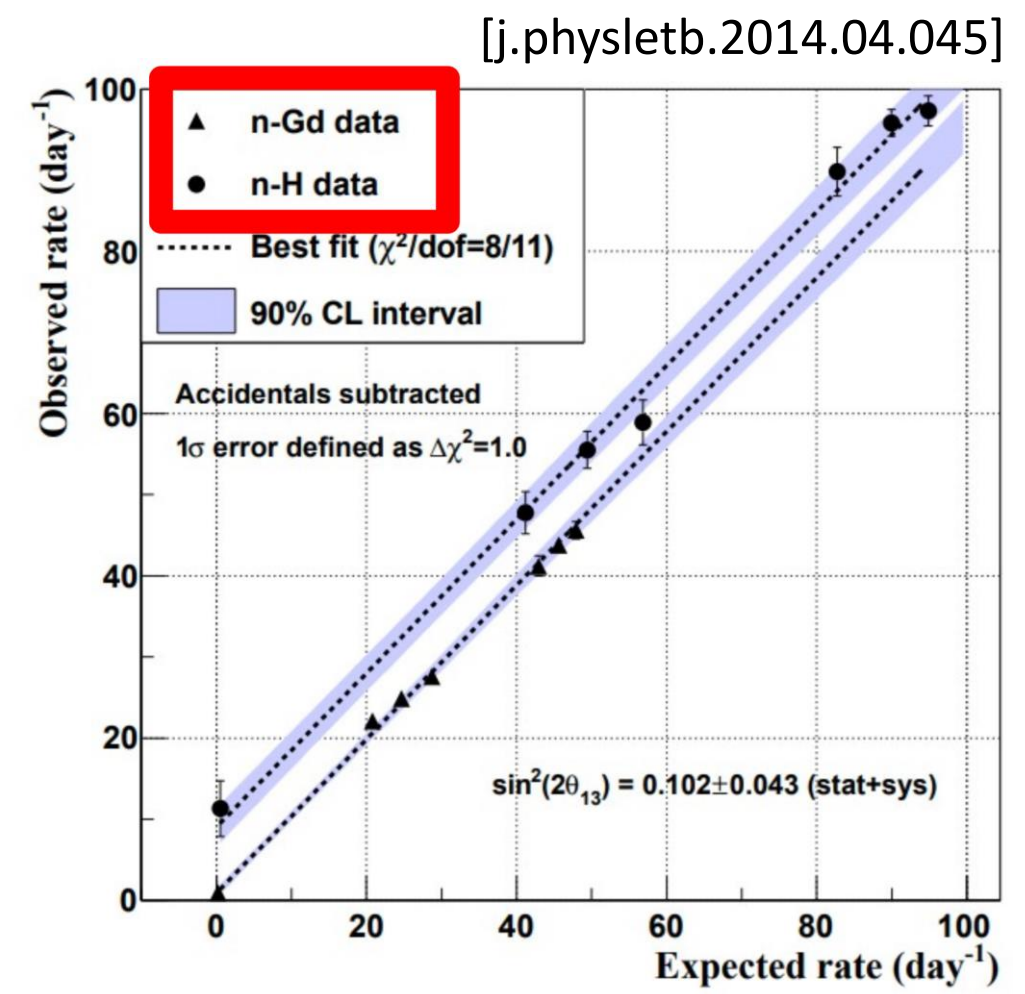
Direct measurement of backgrounds using reactor off data
 7.6 days, 1.4 ± 0.6 IBD $\bar{\nu}_e$ expected, background model validation

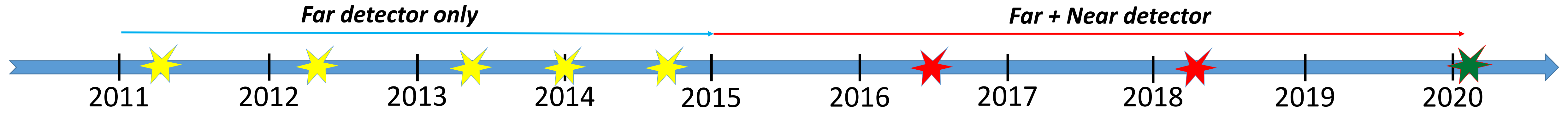


First report on the reactor spectrum distortion
 18k IBDs at Far Detector

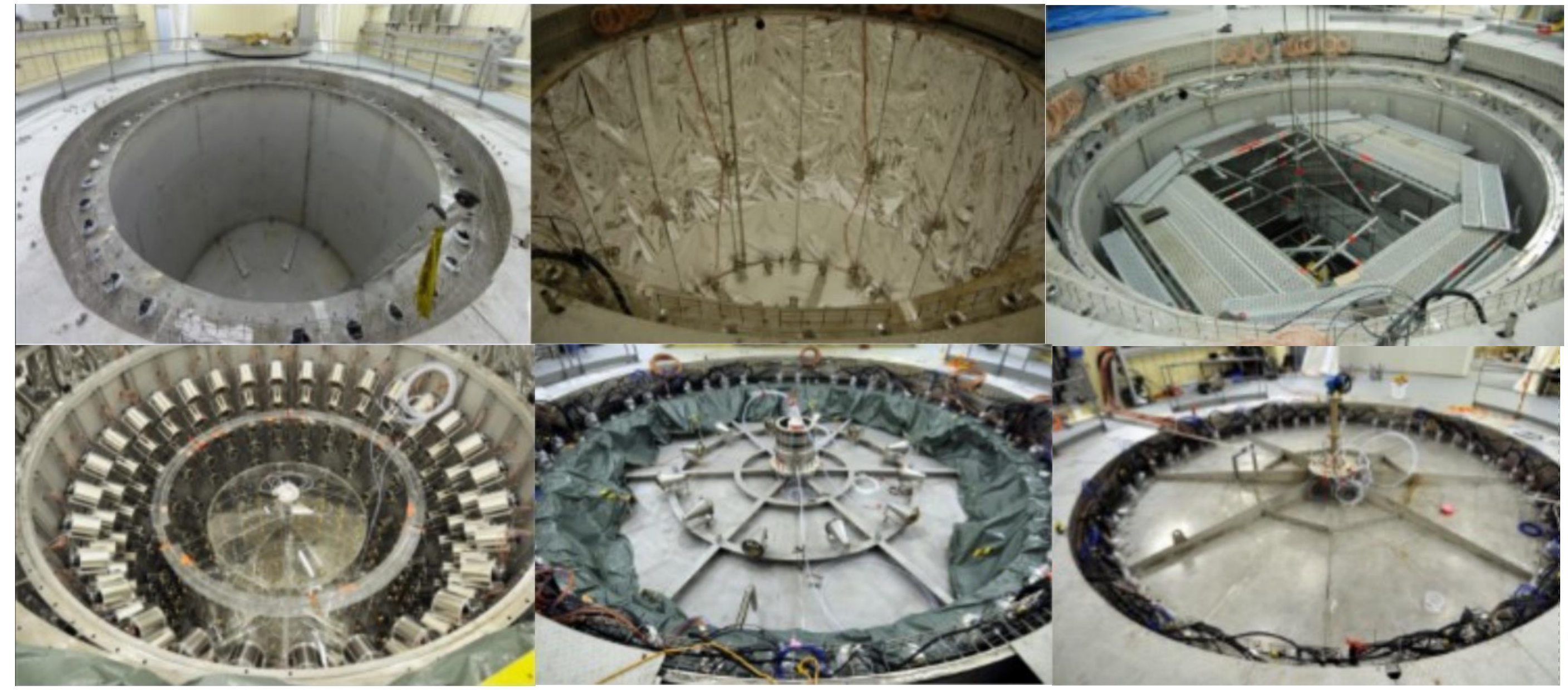


First θ_{13} via Reactor Rate Modulation
 n-Gd & n-H (independent dataset)





2011-2015: near laboratory excavation, detector construction & commissioning



First DC Near + Far Result

- Preliminary @ CERN Seminar
- Officially @ Neutrino 2018
- Published @ Nature Physics - 2020



Nature Physics - 2020

ARTICLES

nature
physics

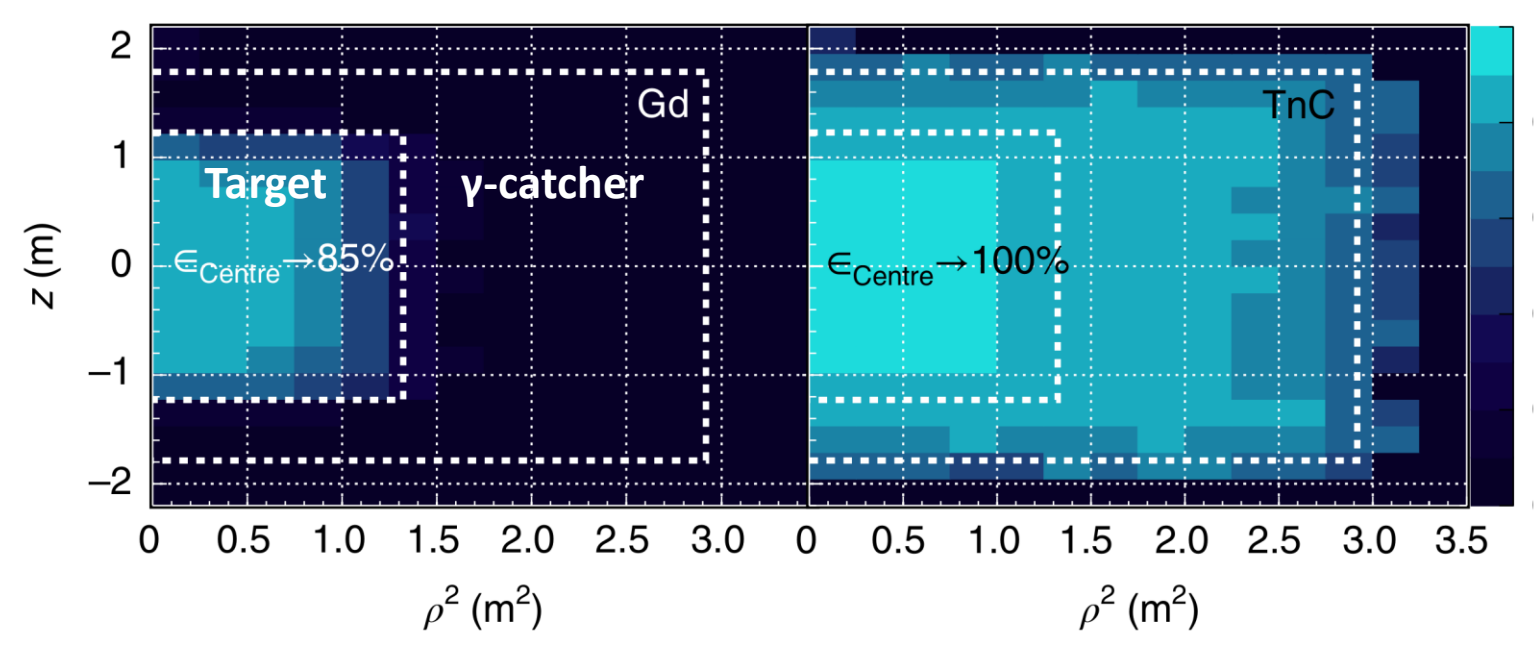
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41567-020-0831-y>

Double Chooz θ_{13} measurement via total neutron capture detection

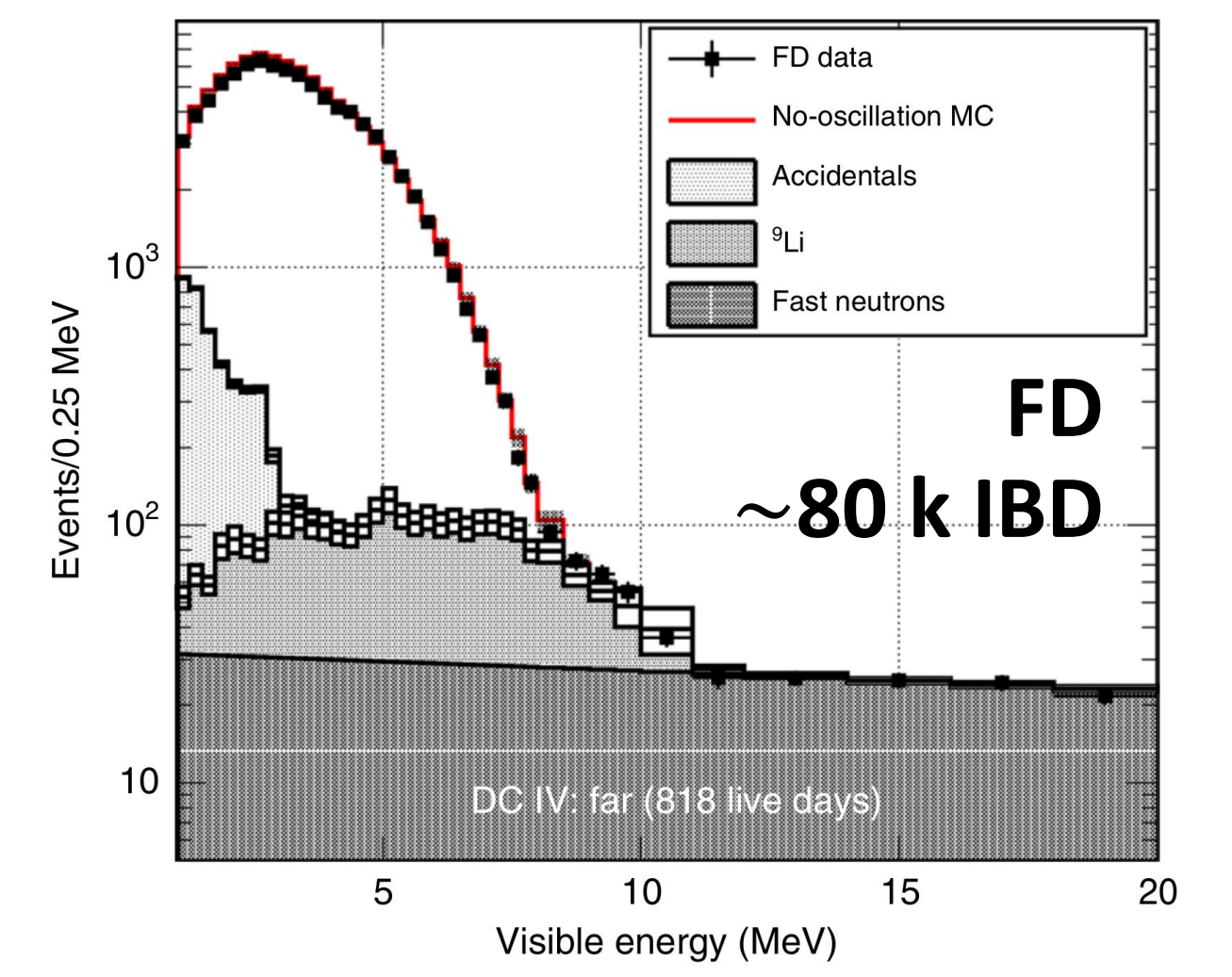
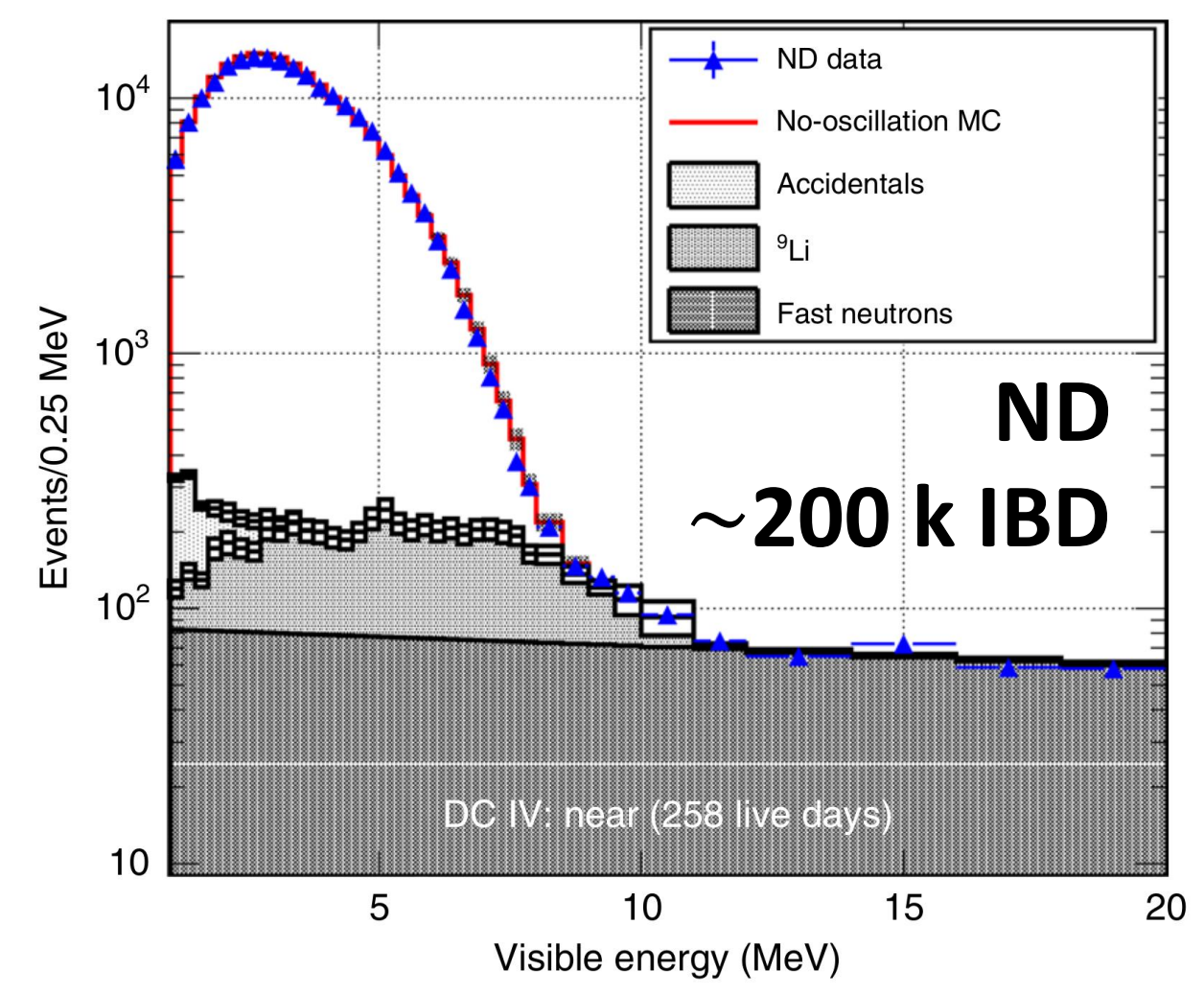
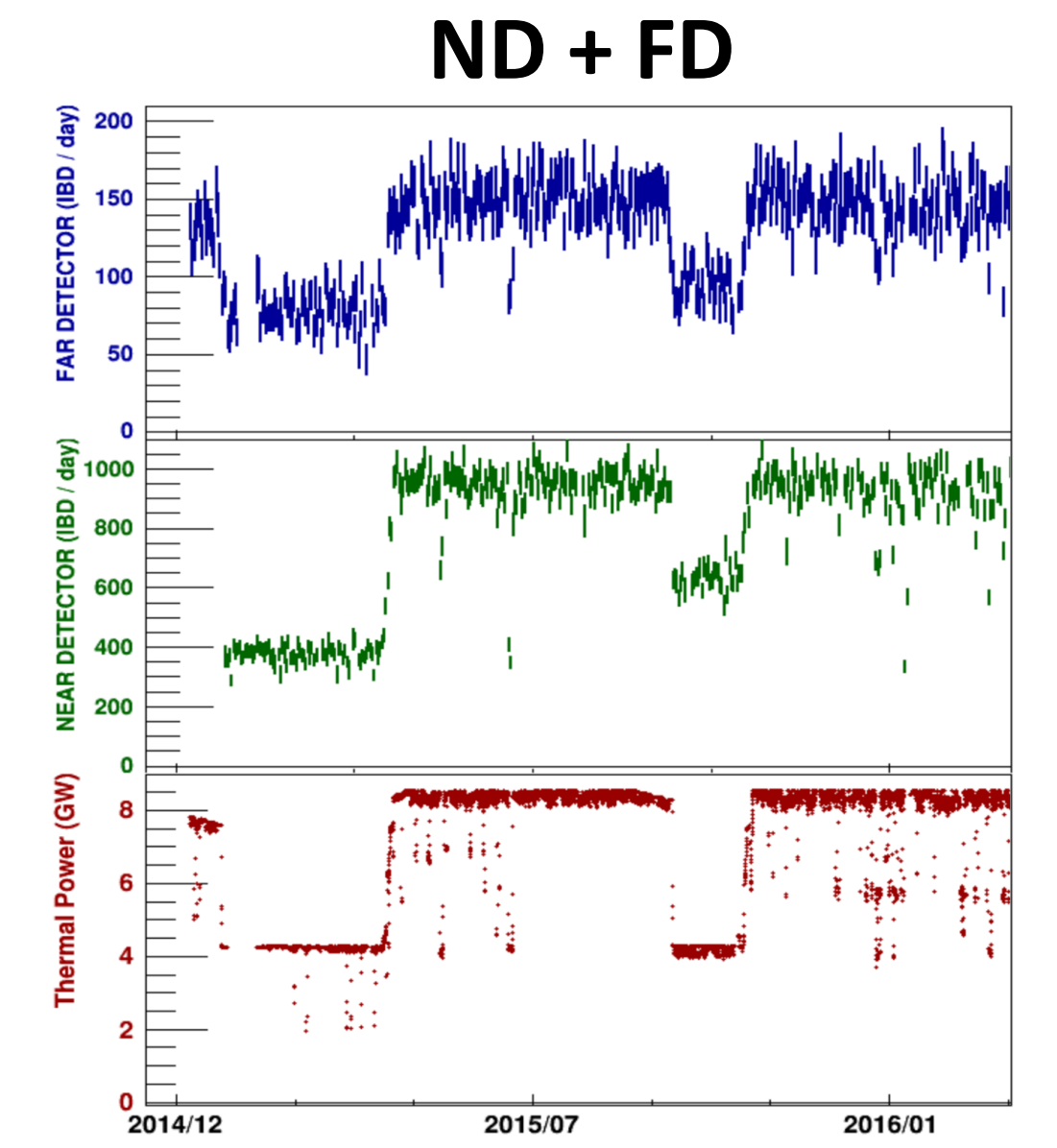
The Double Chooz Collaboration*

Neutrinos were assumed to be massless particles until the discovery of the neutrino oscillation process. This phenomenon indicates that the neutrinos have non-zero masses and the mass eigenstates (ν_1, ν_2, ν_3) are mixtures of their flavour eigenstates (ν_e, ν_μ, ν_τ). The oscillations between different flavour eigenstates are described by three mixing angles ($\theta_{12}, \theta_{23}, \theta_{13}$), two differences of the squared neutrino masses of the ν_2/ν_1 and ν_3/ν_1 pairs and a charge conjugation parity symmetry violating phase δ_{CP} . The Double Chooz experiment, located near the Chooz Electricité de France reactors, measures the oscillation parameter θ_{13} using reactor neutrinos. Here, the Double Chooz collaboration reports the measurement of the mixing angle θ_{13} with the new total neutron capture detection technique from the full data set, yielding $\sin^2(2\theta_{13}) = 0.105 \pm 0.014$. This measurement exploits the multidetector configuration, the isoflux baseline and data recorded when the reactors were switched off. In addition to the neutrino mixing angle measurement, Double Chooz provides a precise measurement of the reactor neutrino flux, given by the mean cross-section per fission $\langle\sigma_f\rangle = (5.71 \pm 0.06) \times 10^{-43} \text{ cm}^2$ per fission, and reports an empirical model of the distortion in the reactor neutrino spectrum.

- First θ_{13} analysis with both detectors
 ⇒ strong flux systematics cancellation
- IBD with Total Neutron Capture (Gd + H + C)
 ⇒ x2.5 statistics



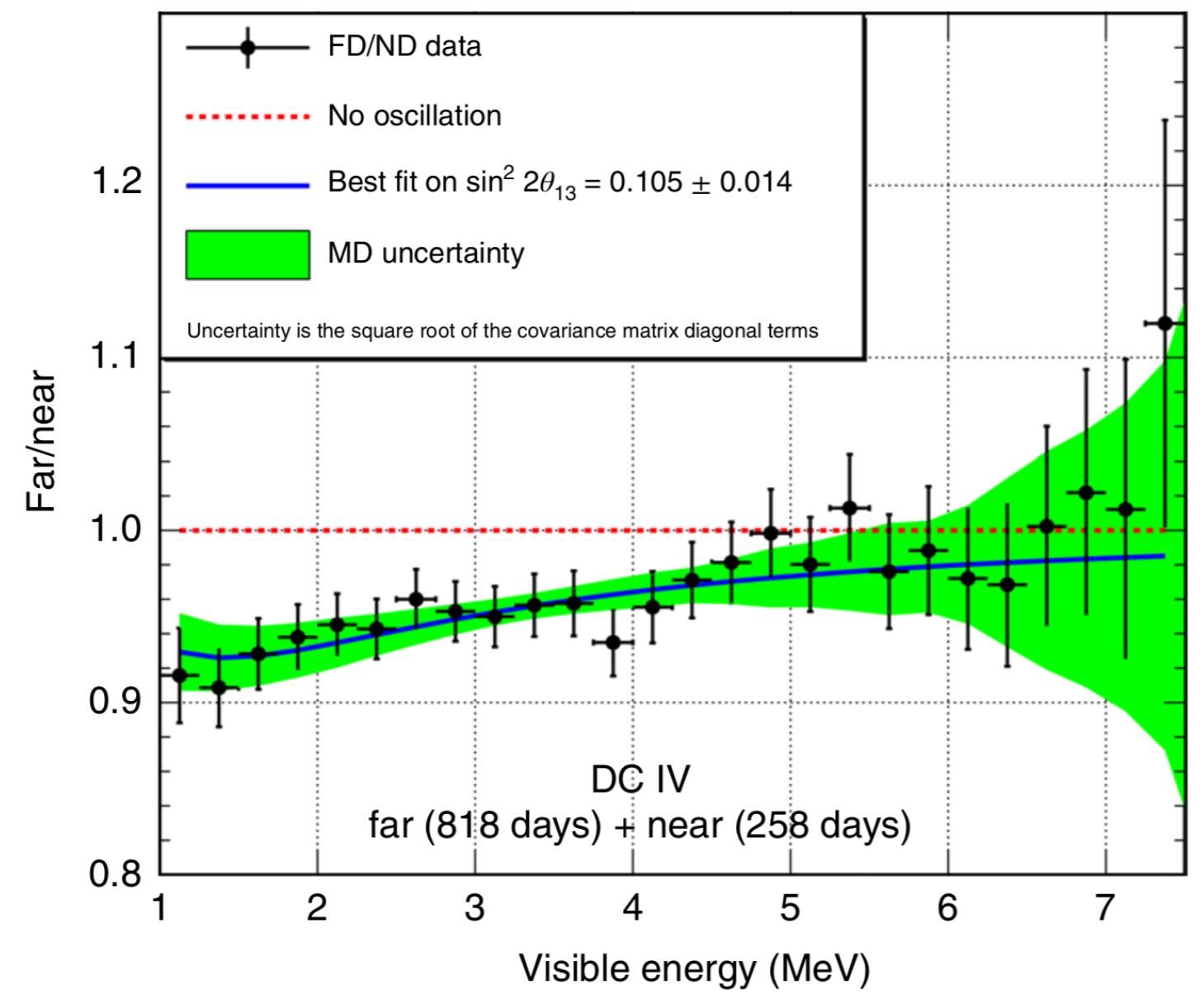
- livetime:**
- ND+FD: 258 days
 - FD: 818 days





Nature Physics - 2020

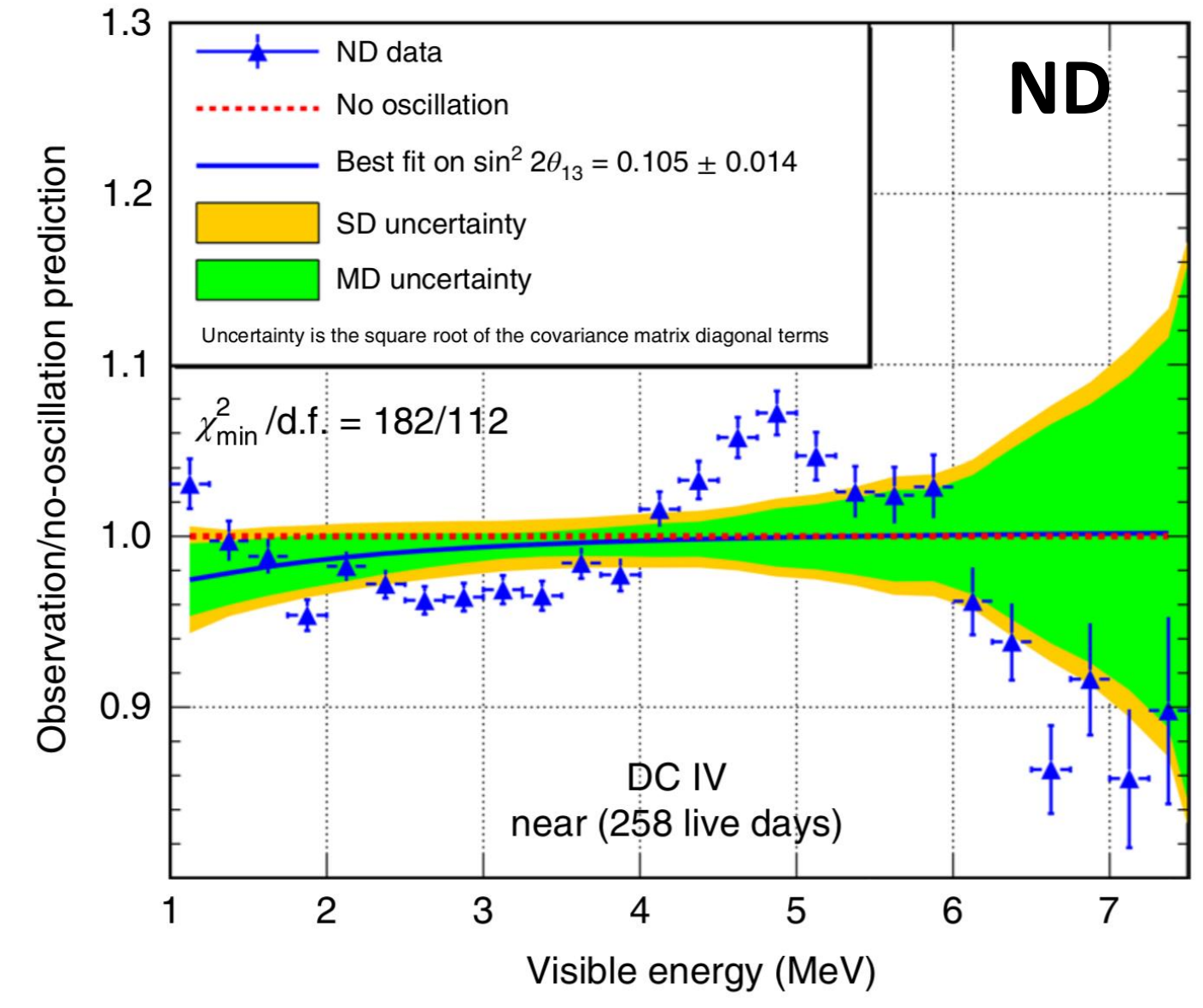
$\sin^2 2\theta_{13}$



$$\sin^2(2\theta_{13}) = 0.102 \pm 0.011 (\text{syst.}) + 0.04 (\text{stat.})$$

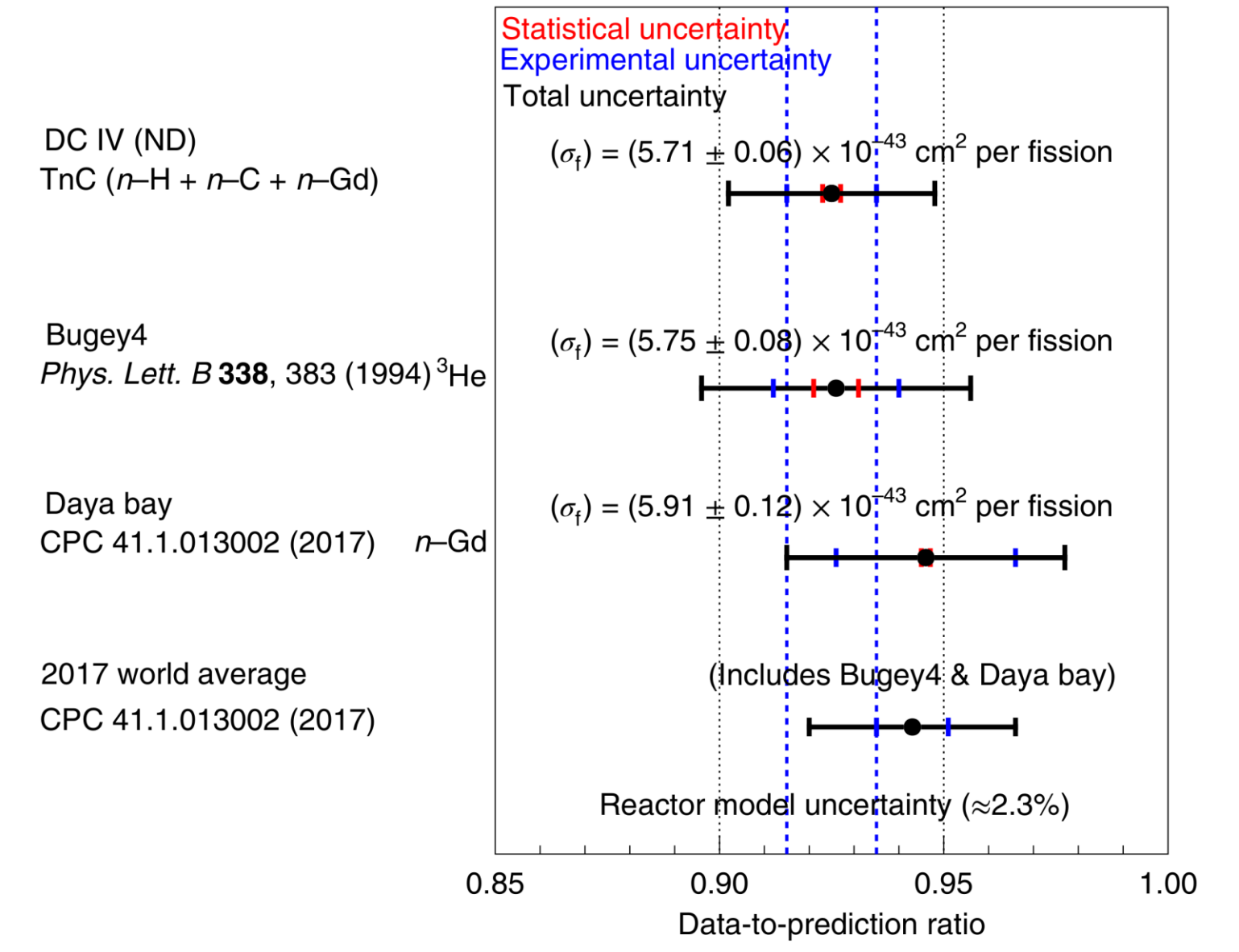
- Unambiguous ND/FD deficit and distortion due to θ_{13}
- Good agreement with other experiments

Spectral distortion



- Huber/Muller prediction
- Data/MC shape incompatibility

Mean cross-section per fission



$$\langle \sigma_f \rangle = (5.75 \pm 0.06) \times 10^{-43} \text{ cm}^2$$

- Very accurate measurement ($\sigma = 1\%$)
- Data/MC deficit in agreement with other experiments

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- modeling
- generality about residual antineutrinos

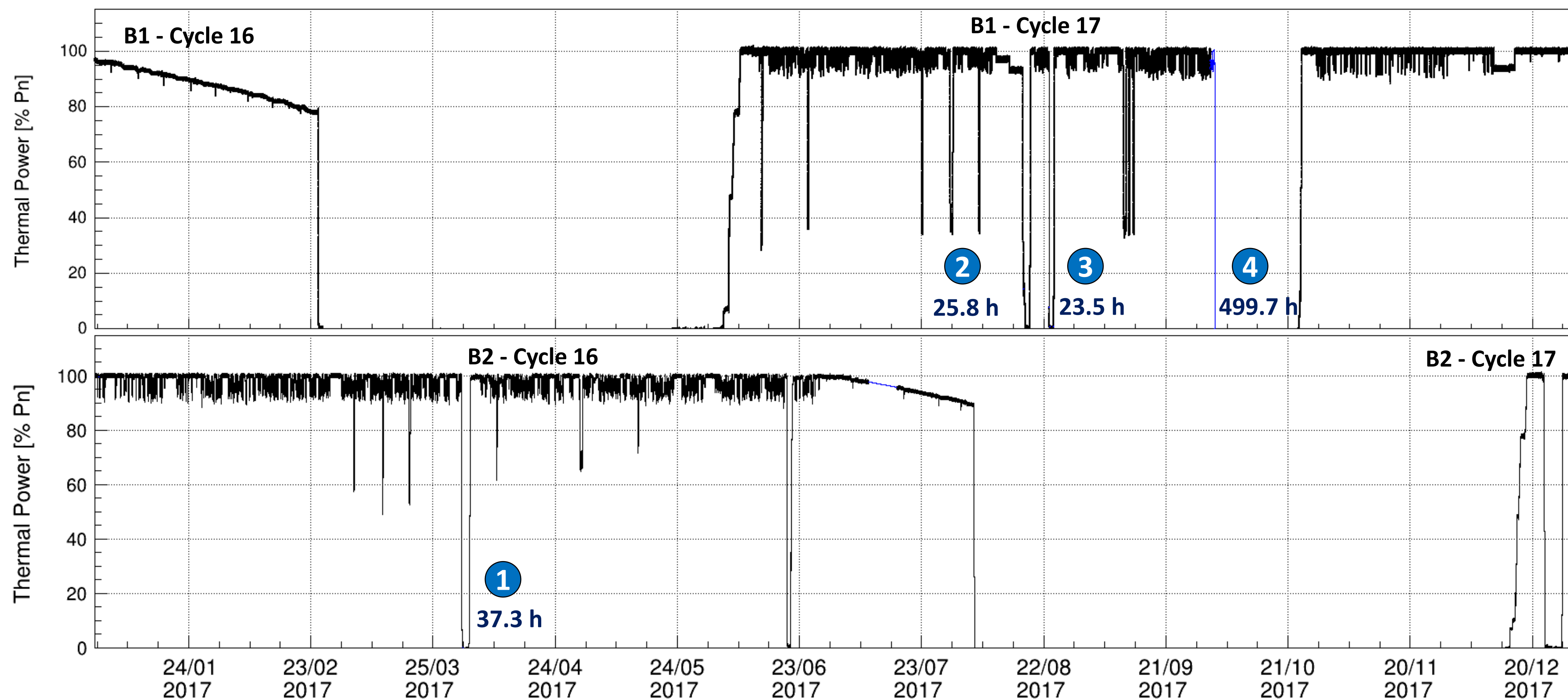
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IV. Conclusion

4 off-off periods in 2017 with both detectors on

- ①: 1 april: ~ 37 h ⇒ Planned shutdown of B2. Maintenance control on reactor building.
- ②: 17 august: ~ 26 h ⇒ Planned shutdown of B1. Maintenance operation in the engine room.
- ③: 23 august: ~ 24 h ⇒ Unplanned automatic shutdown of B1. Unexpected closure of a steam valve
- ④: 3 october: ~ 500 h ⇒ Unplanned shutdown of B1. Unexpected electric grid deconnexion



⇒ Small residual $\bar{\nu}_e$ emission expected after shutdown from accumulation of fission product with long live time

Summation method

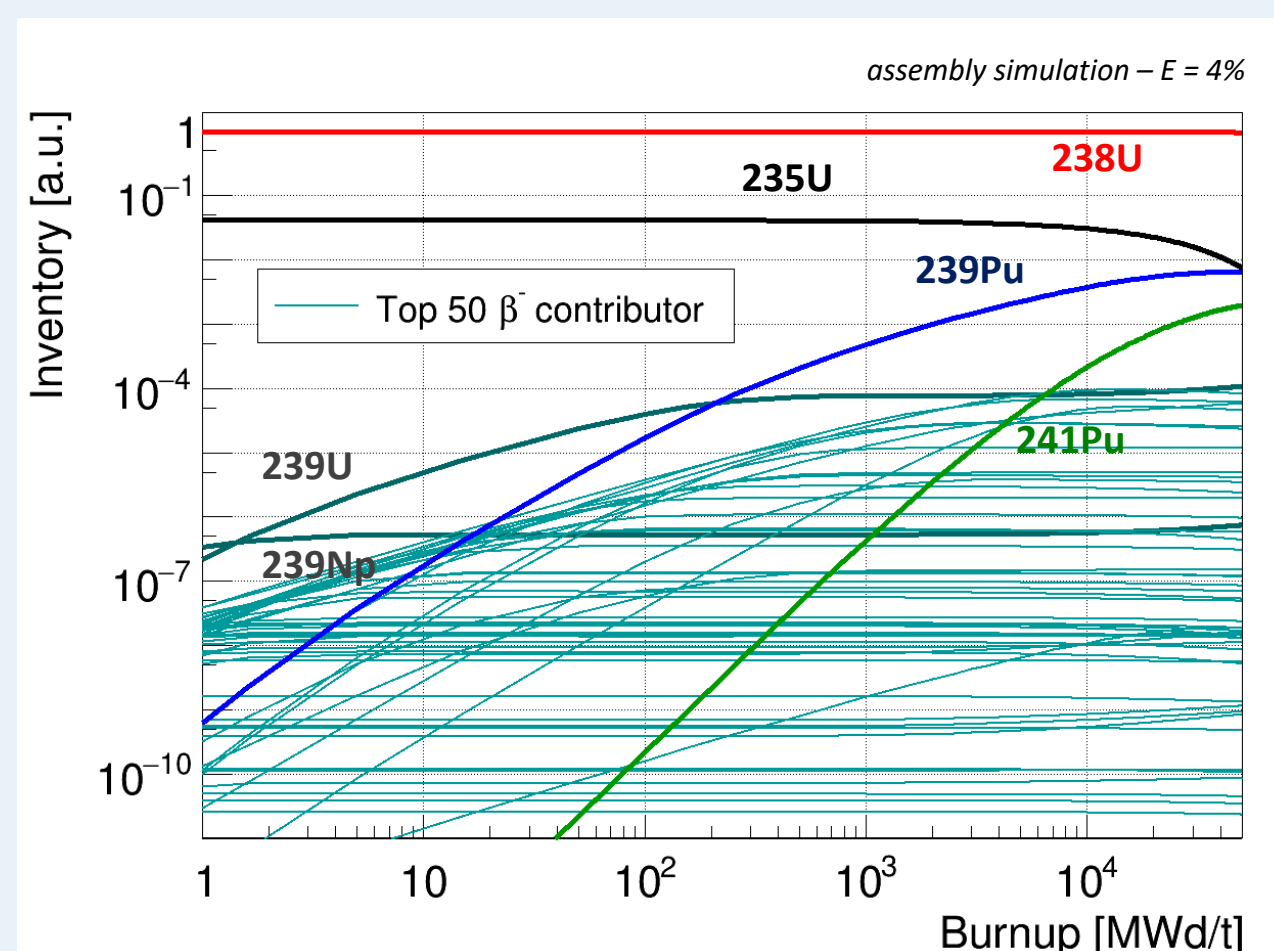
$$S_{\bar{\nu}_e}(E, t) = \sum_p A_p(t) S_{\bar{\nu}_e}^p(E)$$

$$S_{\bar{\nu}_e}(E, t) = \sum_p \left(\lambda_p N_p(t) \sum_i BR^{p,i} S_{\bar{\nu}_e}^{p,i}(E) \right)$$

- A_p : activity of the beta decaying isotope p
- $S_{\bar{\nu}_e,p}$: $\bar{\nu}_e$ spectra of the isotope p
- λ_p : decay constant of isotope p
- N_p : number of particle of isotope p
- $S_{\bar{\nu}_e,p}^i$: $\bar{\nu}_e$ spectra of the branche i of isotope p
- $BR^{p,i}$: branching ratio of the transition i of isotope p

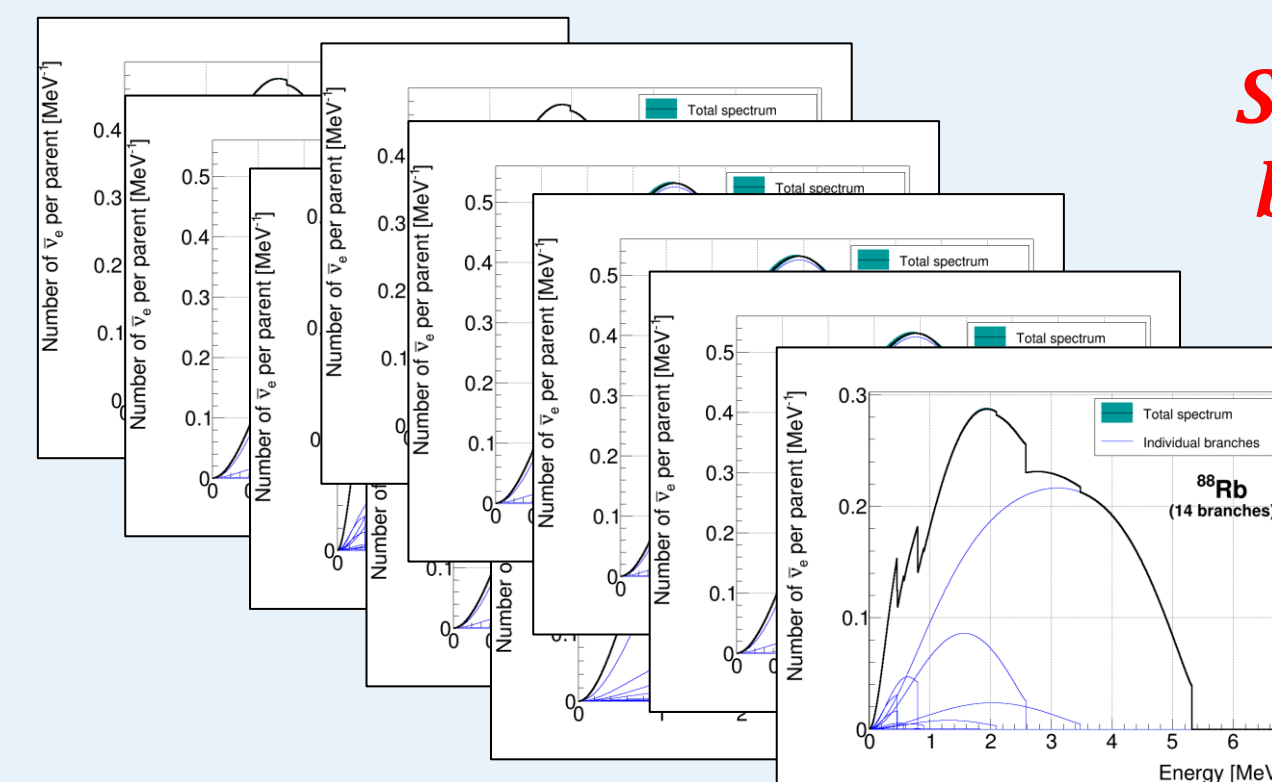
Reactor simulations

- **APOLLO-2.8.4** (deterministic code - Boltzman equation resolution)
- **DARWIN-3** (time evolution - Bateman equation resolution)
 - ⇒ commonly used for residual power estimation
 - ⇒ with evaluated nuclear data: JEFF-3.1.1



$S_{\bar{\nu}_e}$ library

- **BESTIOLE** (see 10.1103/PhysRevC.83.054615) + **advanced modeling with nuclear structure calculation for 1st forbidden non unique transition (X. Mougeot) – ¹⁴⁴Pr**
 - ⇒ Evaluated nuclear data: ENSDF, AME, NUBASE



See talk BESTIOLE by Lorenzo Perisse



Expected residual $\bar{\nu}_e$ and IBD $\bar{\nu}_e$ spectrum from a discharged assembly

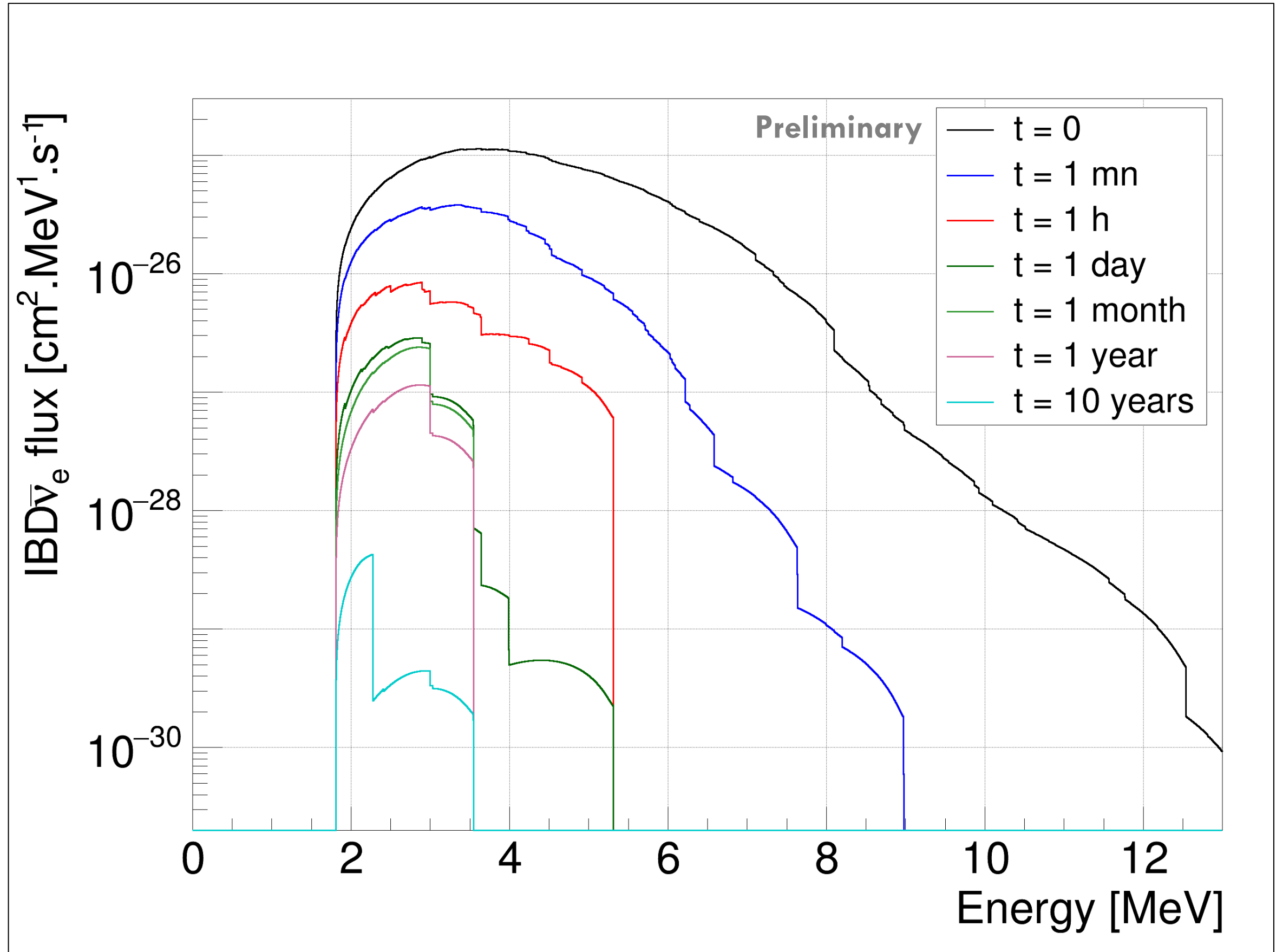
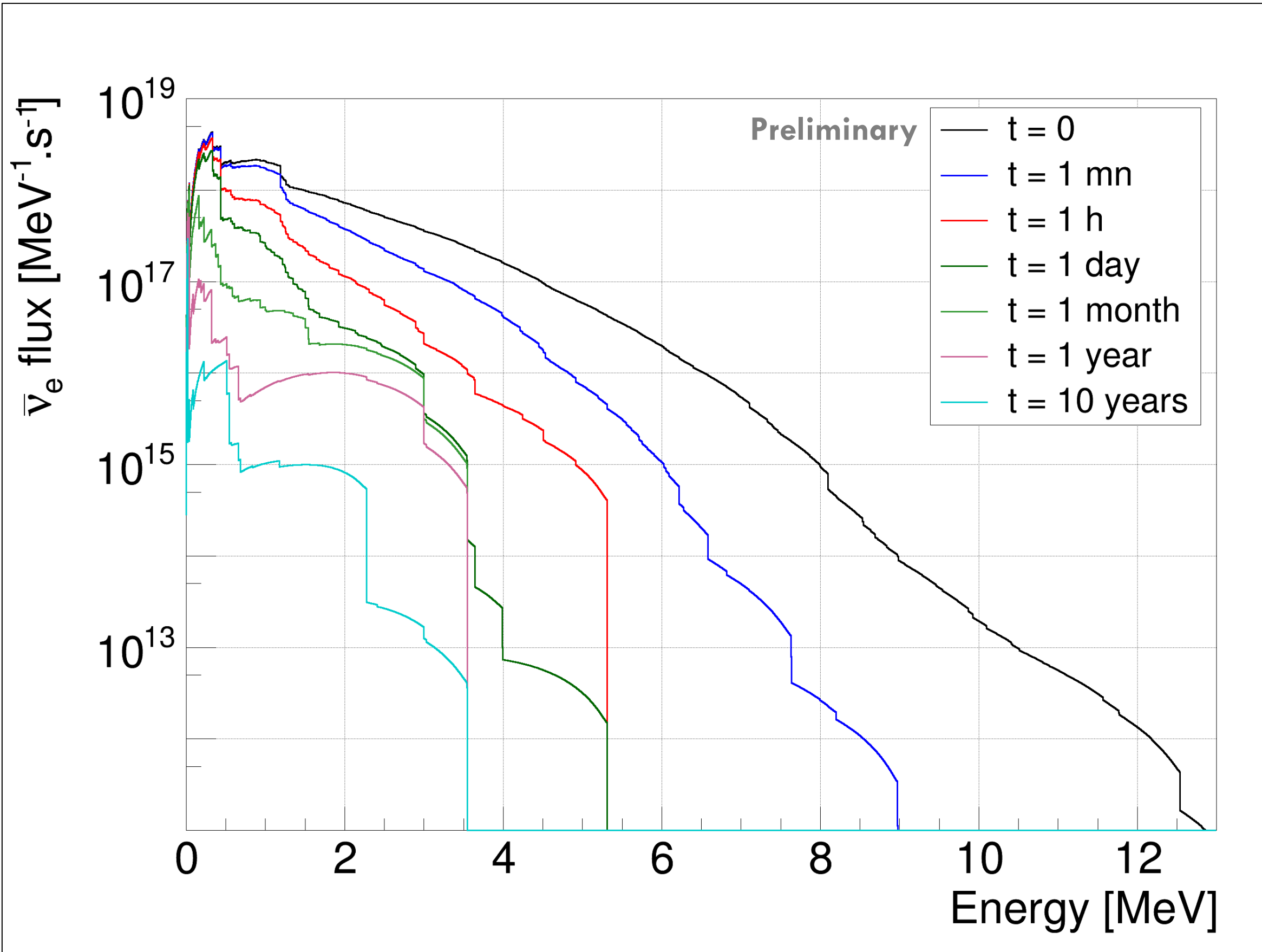
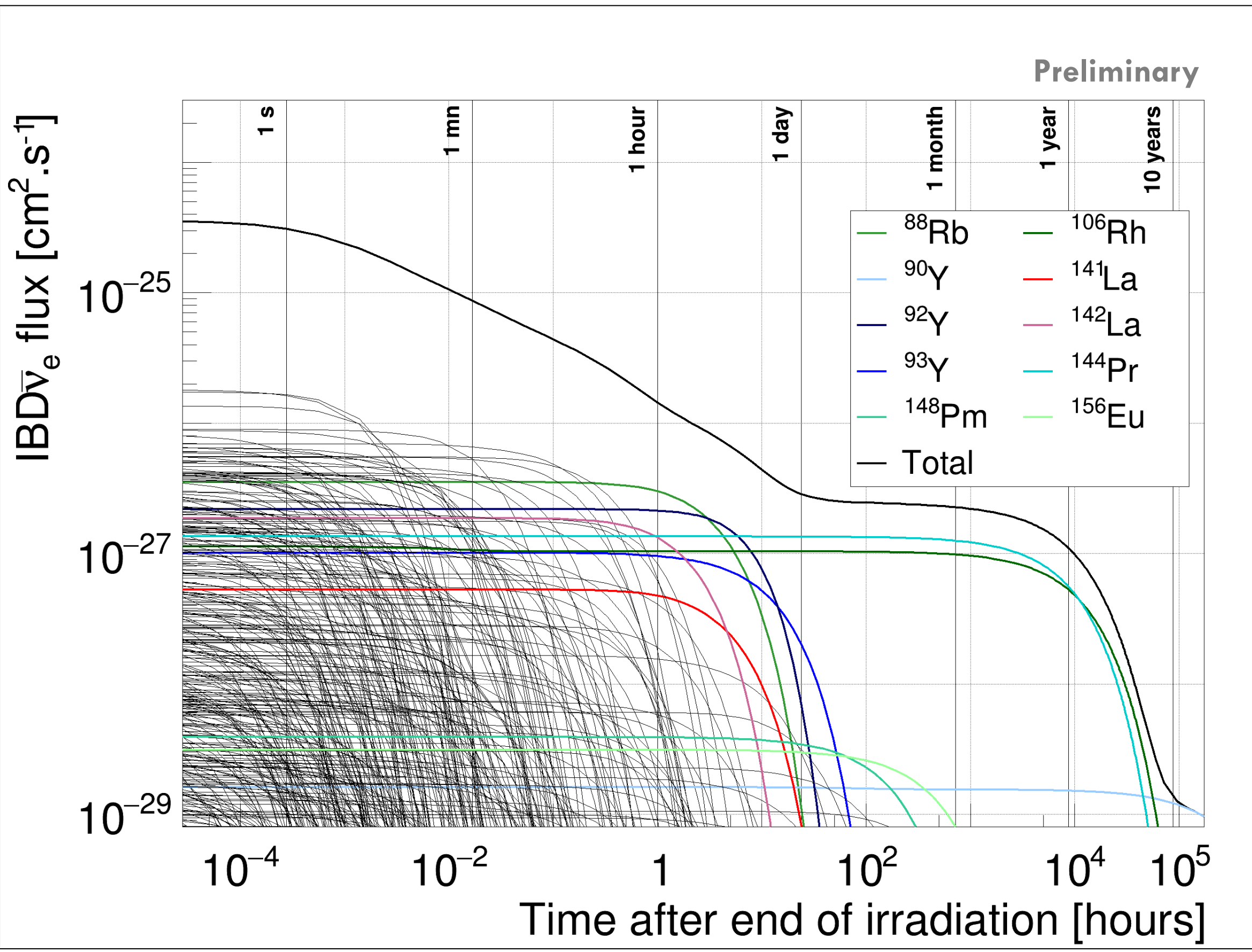


Fig. Typical neutrino spectrum (left) and associated IBD spectrum (right) from a UO_2 (4%) spent fuel assembly irradiated for 45 GWd/t.



Expected residual $IBD_{\bar{\nu}_e}$ flux from a discharged assembly



- 1 order of magnitude decrease after ~10 mn
- 2 order of magnitude decrease after ~15 h
- 3 order of magnitude decrease after ~2.5 years

Fig. $IBD_{\bar{\nu}_e}$ flux from a UO_2 (4%) spent fuel assembly irradiated for 45 GWd/t.



Expected residual $IBD_{\bar{\nu}_e}$ flux from a discharged assembly

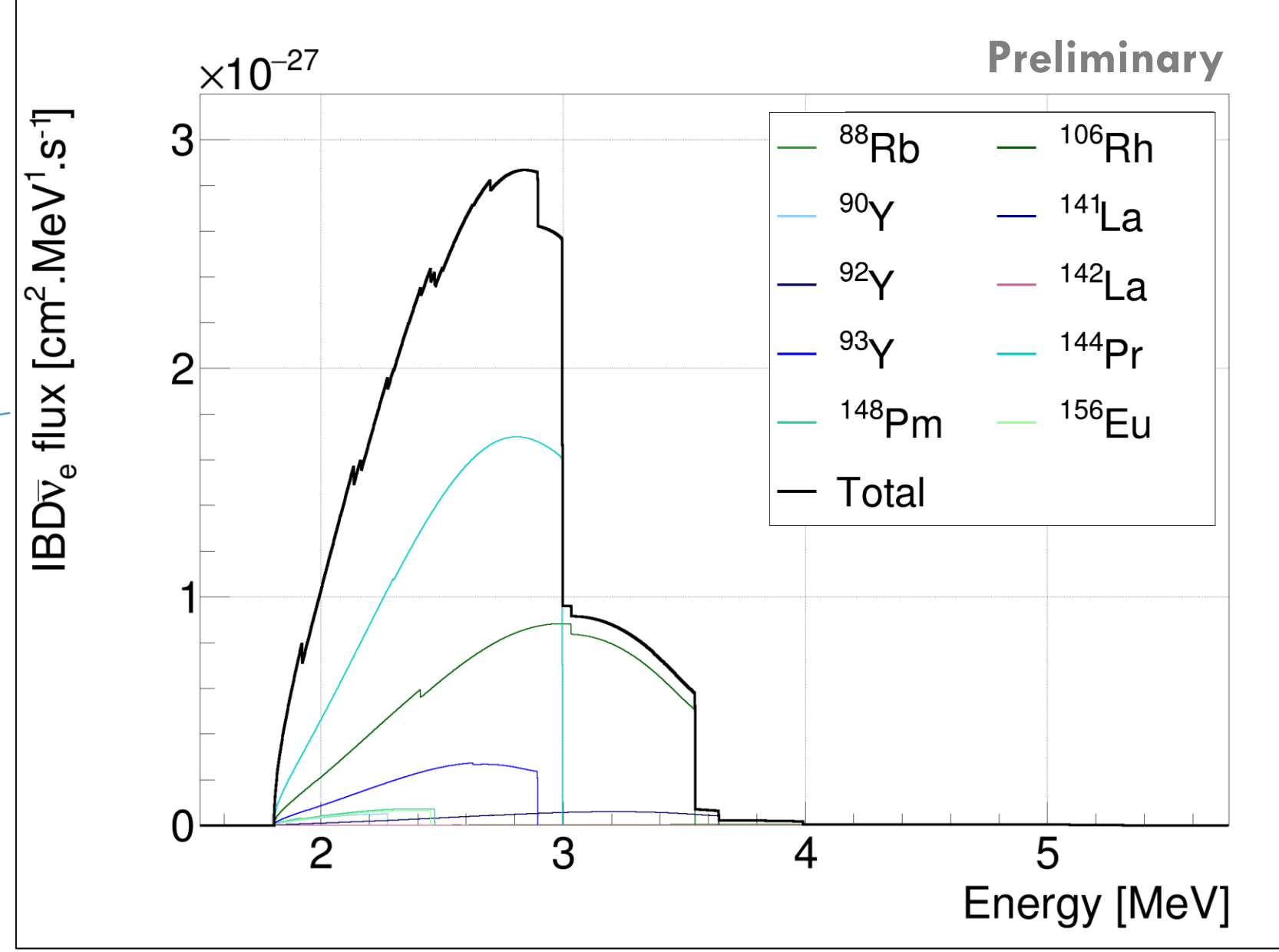
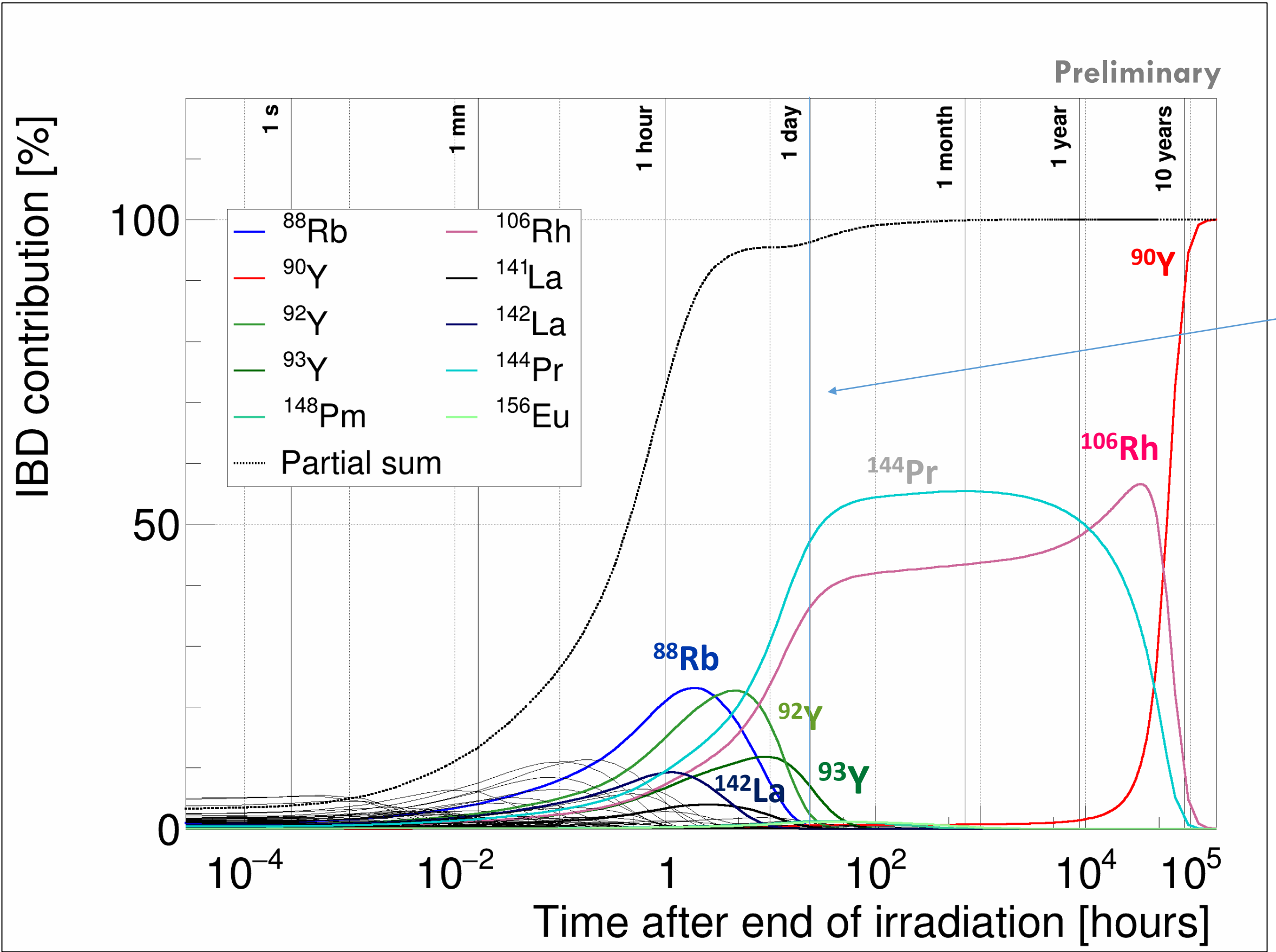


Fig. IBD spectrum after 1 day of cooling

⇒ After few hours of cooling ~6 isotopes are dominating the residual $\bar{\nu}_e$ emission.

Fig. Relative isotope contribution to the $IBD_{\bar{\nu}_e}$ flux from a UO_2 (4%) spent fuel assembly irradiated for 45 GWd/t.

Transition modeling - top 6 contributors

	Near [%]	I_β [%]	Q_β [MeV]	N_b^{tot}	N_b^{IBD}	Transition type & IBD contribution <small>Allowed / Forb uniq. / 1st forb n-uniq. / nth forb n-uniq.</small>
144Pr	53.0	100	2.9974 (24)	10	2	0 / 1 (0.2%) / 1 (99.8%) / 0
106Rh	37.1	100	3.5449 (53)	30	6	6 (100%) / 0 / 0 / 0
92Y	2.6	100	3.6425 (91)	12	4	0 / 3 (95.1%) / 1 (4.9%) / 0
88Rb	2.1	100	2.9177 (26)	14	4	1 (0.2%) / 1 (98.8%) / 3 (1.0%) / 0
93Y	1.8	100	2.8949 (105)	13	3	1 (0.8%) / 1 (97.8%) / 3 (1.4%) / 0
90Y	0.9	99.9885 (14)	2.2785 (16)	3	1	0 / 1 (97.2%) / 2 (2.3%) / 0
Total	97.5					

Tab. Summary of the β^- decay properties of the dominant contributors to the residual IBD flux.

Transition type	Contribution	Shape factor $C(Z, W)$	
Allowed	38.1 %	1	simple modeling
Forb. Unique	7.5 %	polynomial in p_e, p_ν	simple modeling
1 st forb. non-unique	0.2 %	ξ -approximation	approximated
	54.3 %	nuclear structure calculation	advanced
n th forb. non-unique	0 %		approximated

Tab. Transition type contribution and modeling

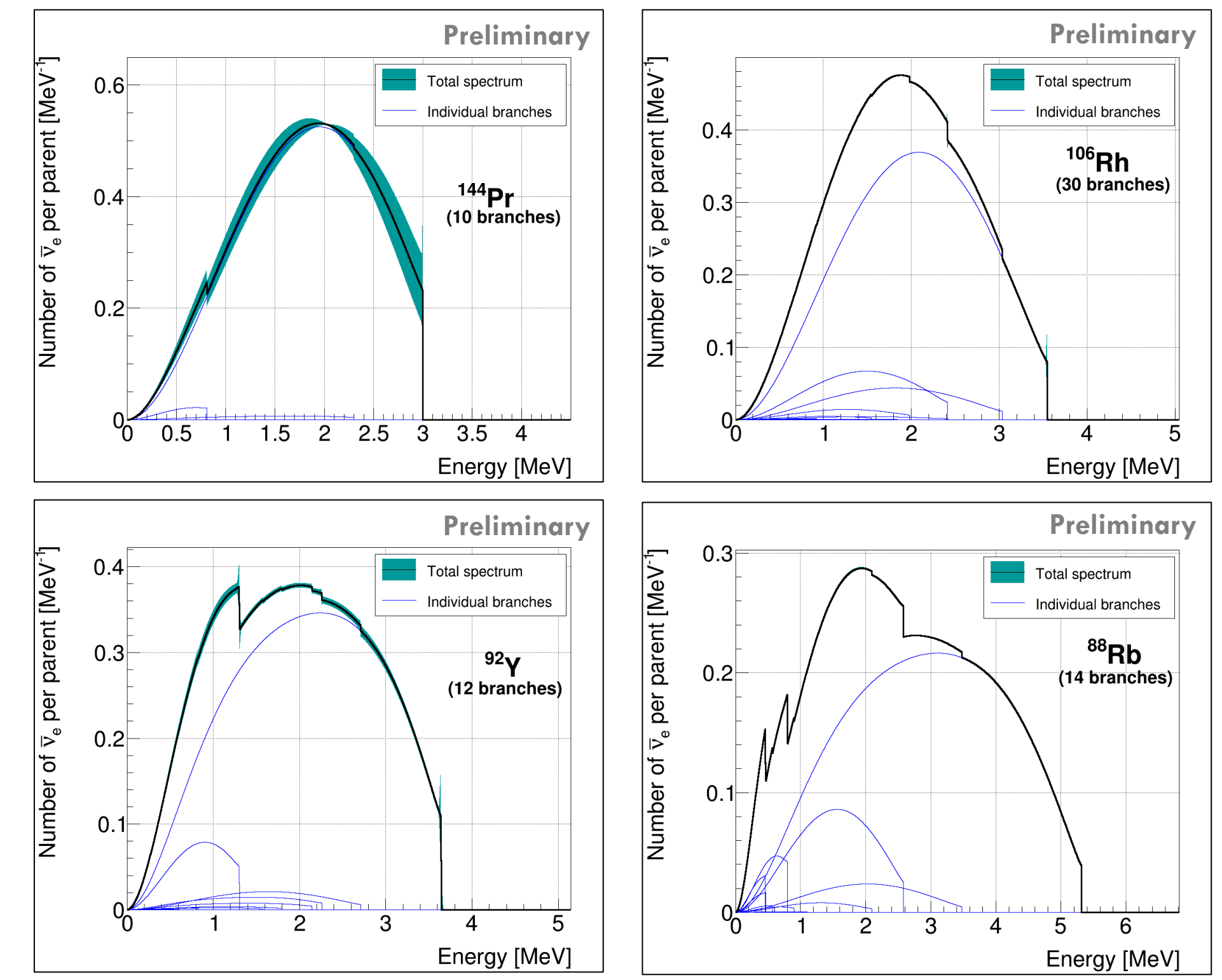
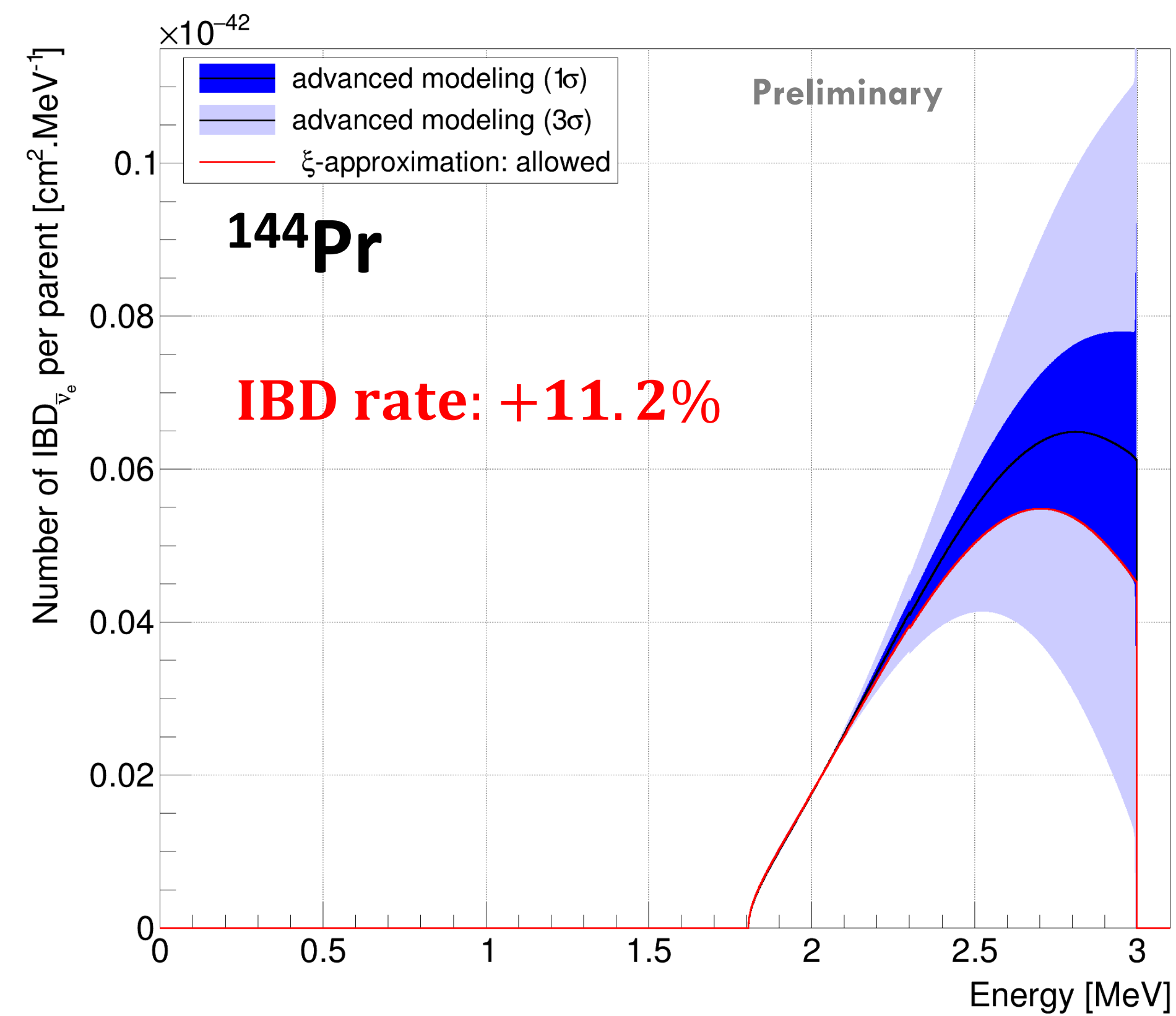
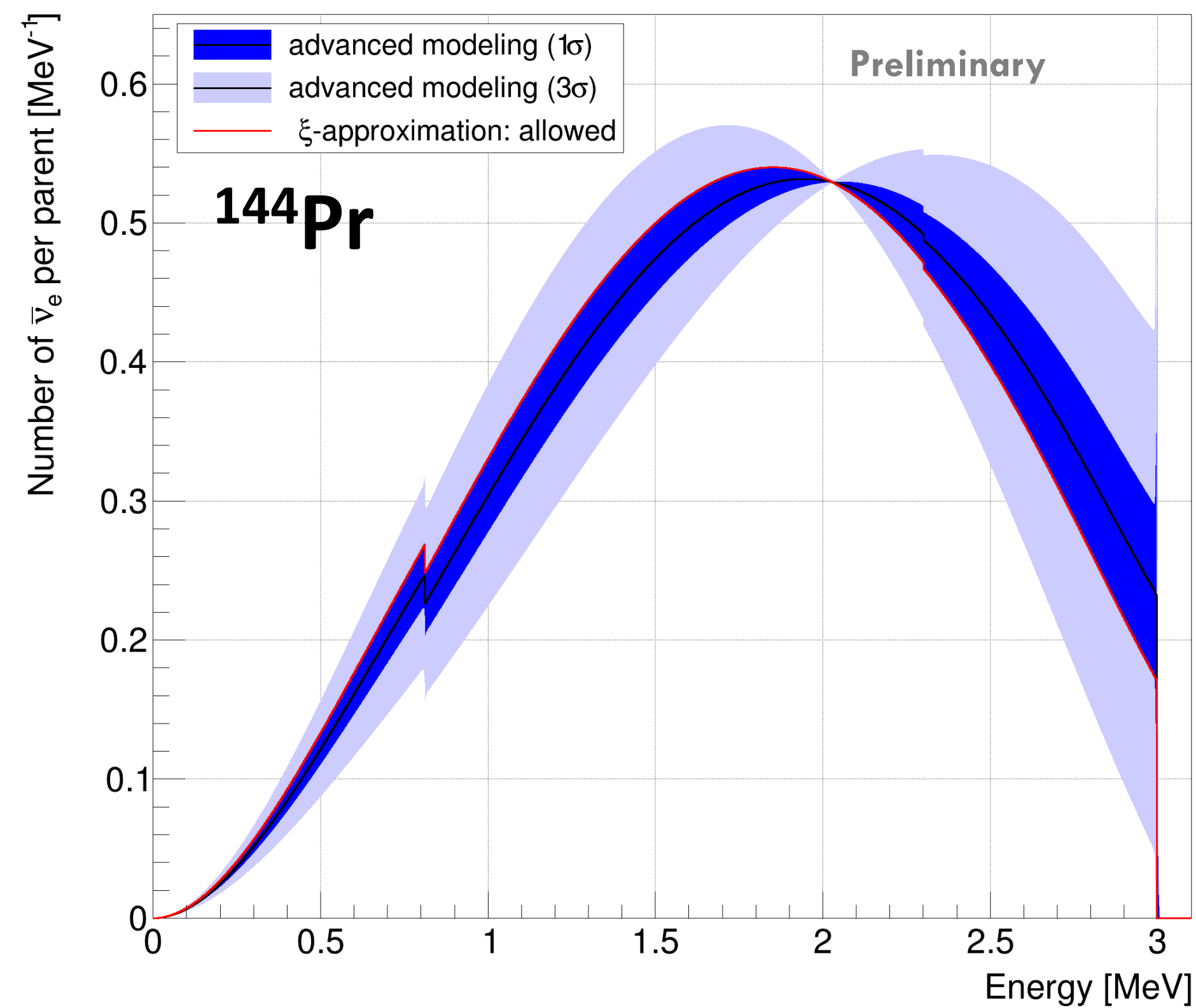


Fig. $\bar{\nu}_e$ spectrum of the 4 dominant residual contributors (97.5% of the flux in ND). Uncertainty from BESTIOLE model.

Dominante transition of ¹⁴⁴Pr modeled with advanced nuclear structure calculation (Xavier Mougeot - CEA)
Only 0.2% of the IBD flux of the top 6 residual contributors is modeled using the ξ -approximation



Tab. Comparison of ^{144}Pr neutrino (left) and corresponding IBD neutrino spectrum (right) modeled with the ξ -approximation or with nuclear structure calculation

- Advanced modeling of shape factor with nuclear structure calculation (NSC) for the dominante branch of ^{144}Pr
- Difference between calculation with NSC and ξ -approximation used as 1σ uncertainty on the shape factor modeling

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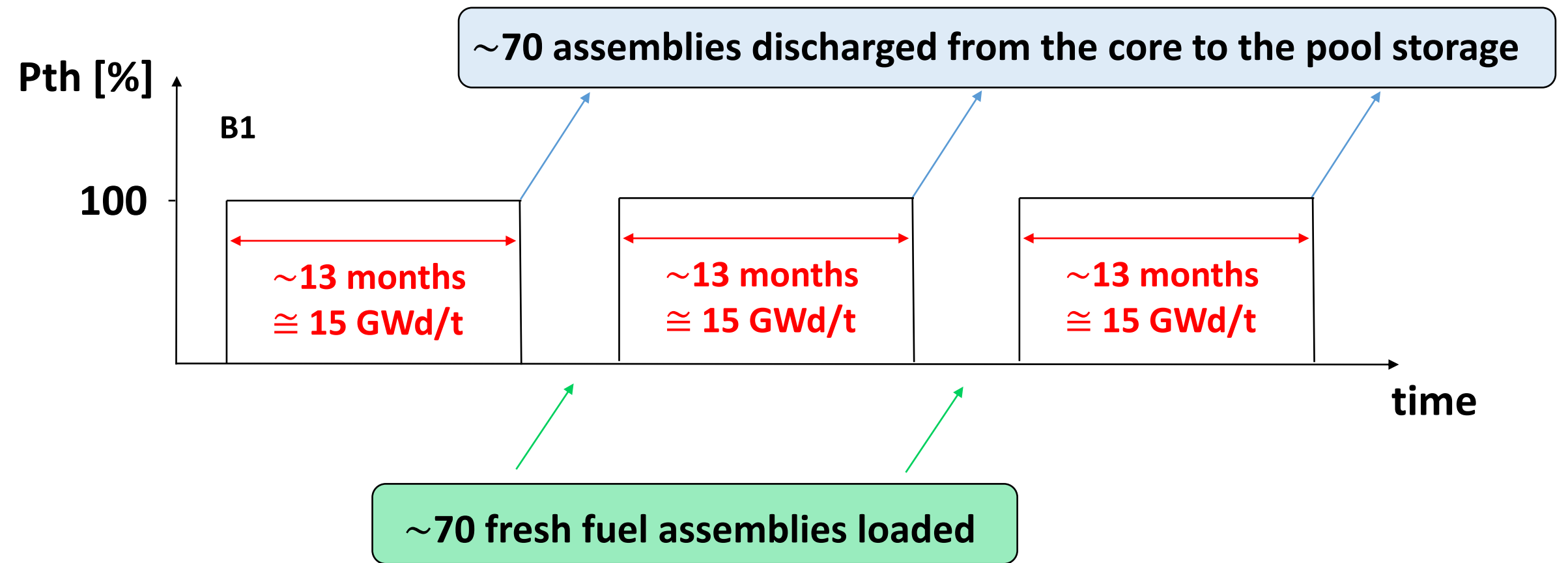
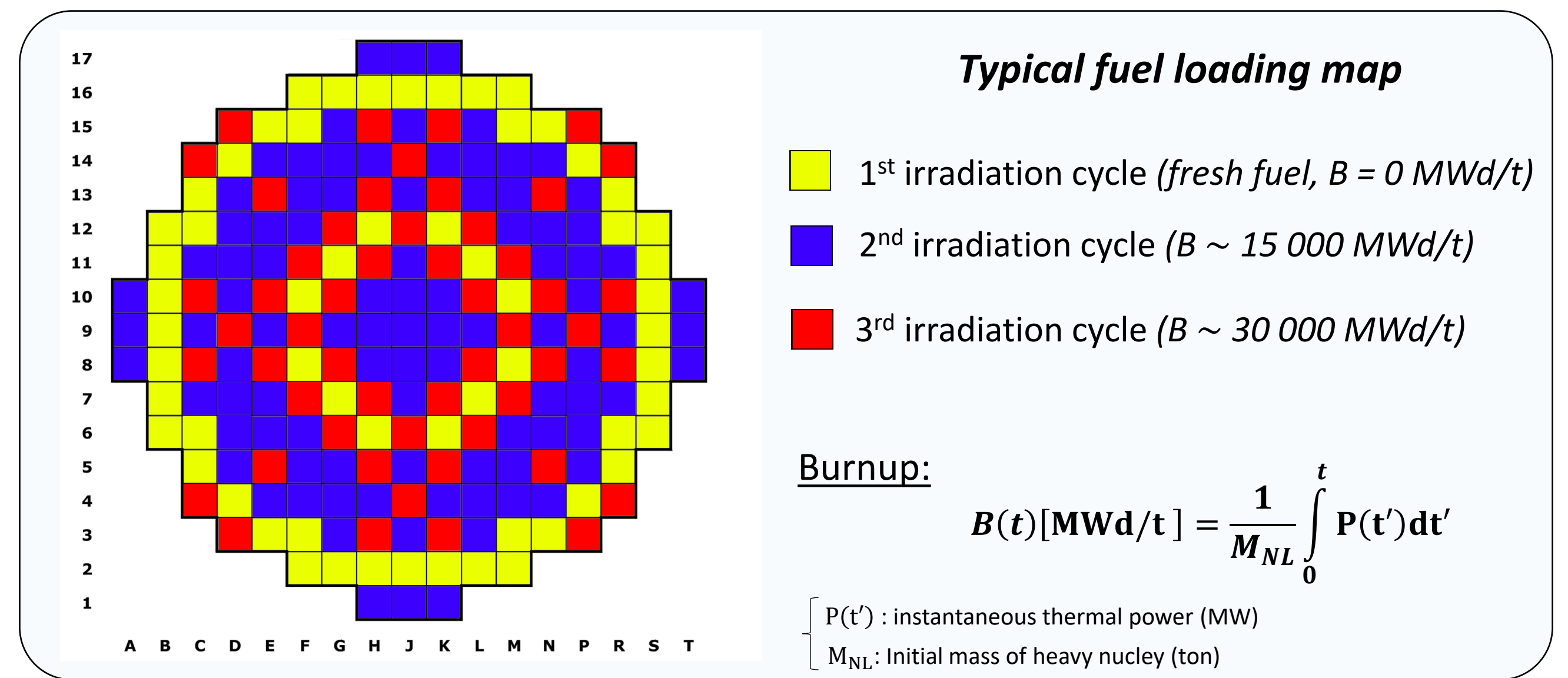
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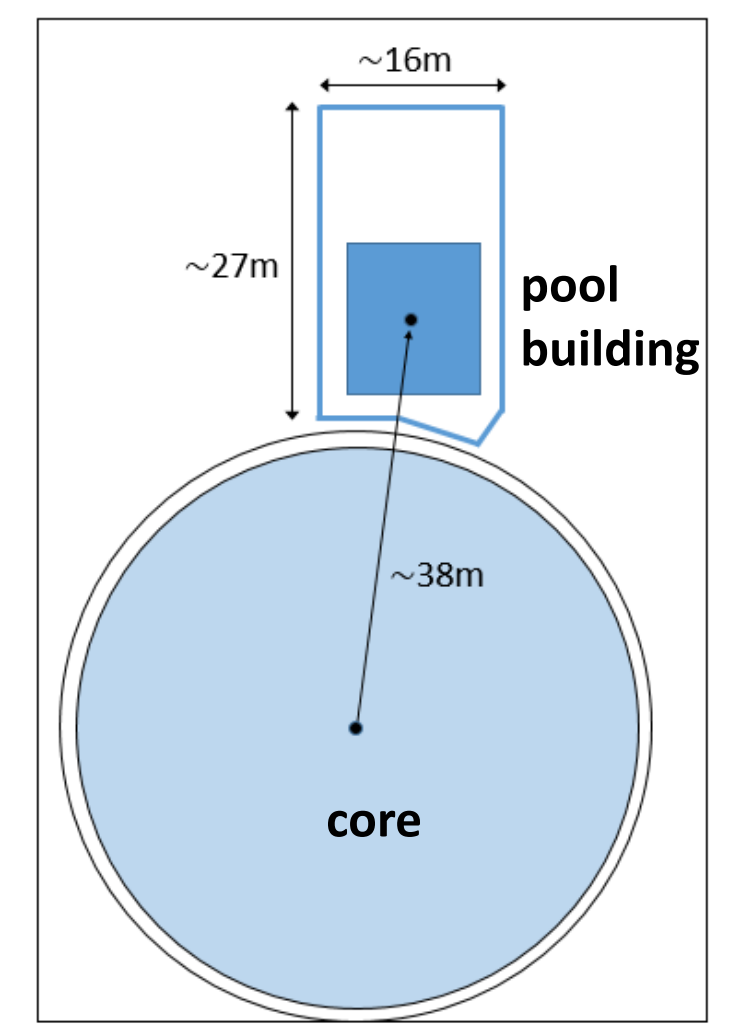
IV. Conclusion

Refuelling

- Every ~12-14 months
- 1/3 of burnt fuel assemblies removed
1/3 of fresh fuel assemblies added
- Operation time: ~6-8 weeks
↳ unsynchronized operation between B1 & B2
- Spent assemblies stored in pools for few years before evacuation from the site

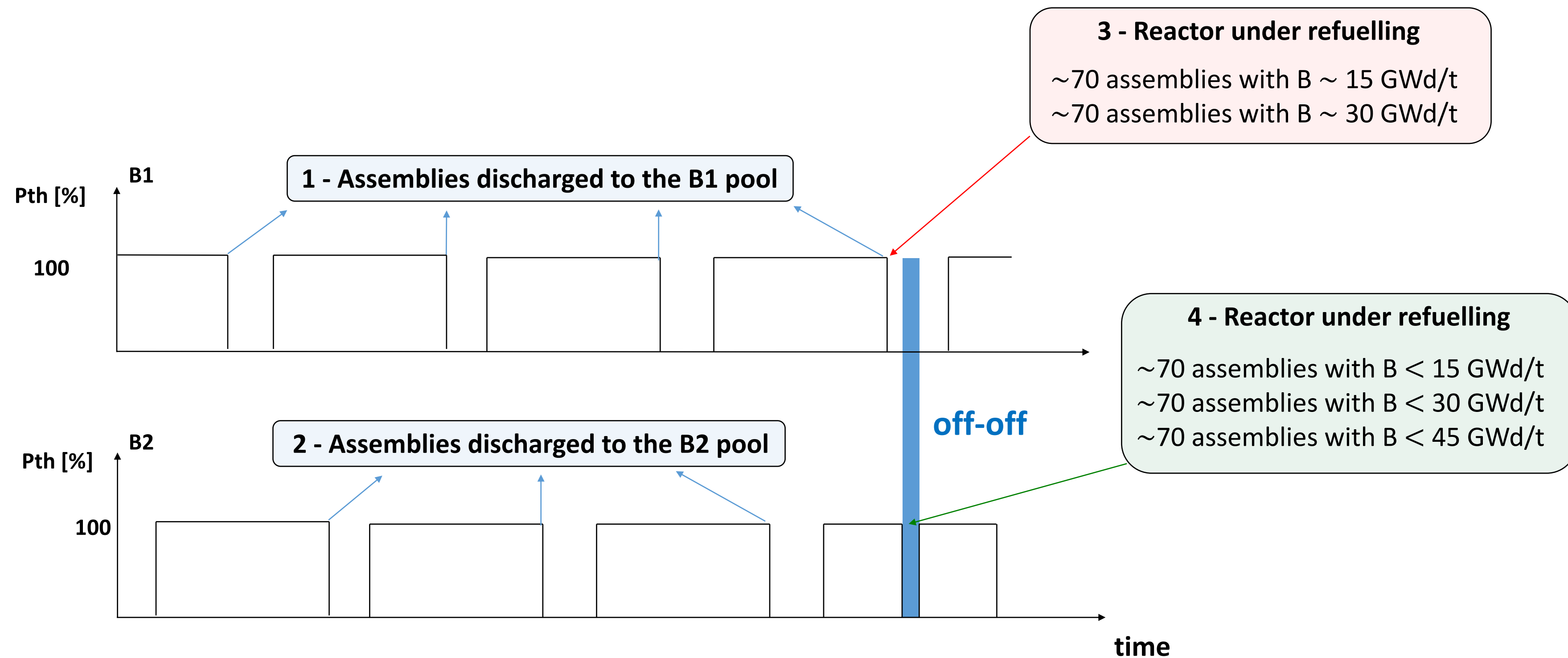


	ND [m]	FD [m]
B1 core	468.8	1114.7
B1 pool	~443	~1135
B2 core	355.4	997.8
B2 pool	~323	~1021



Power histories illustration for a typical off-off

B1 under refuelling
B2 temporarily shutdown



Four components to the residual $\bar{\nu}_e$ during a off-off

- 1 - $\bar{\nu}_e$ from spent fuel assemblies stored in B1 pool
- 2 - $\bar{\nu}_e$ from spent fuel assemblies stored in B2 pool
- 3 - $\bar{\nu}_e$ from burnt fuel assemblies in the reactor under refuelling and keep for the next irradiation cycle
- 4 - $\bar{\nu}_e$ from burnt fuel assemblies in the reactor temporarily shutdown

Expected flux at the near/far detector

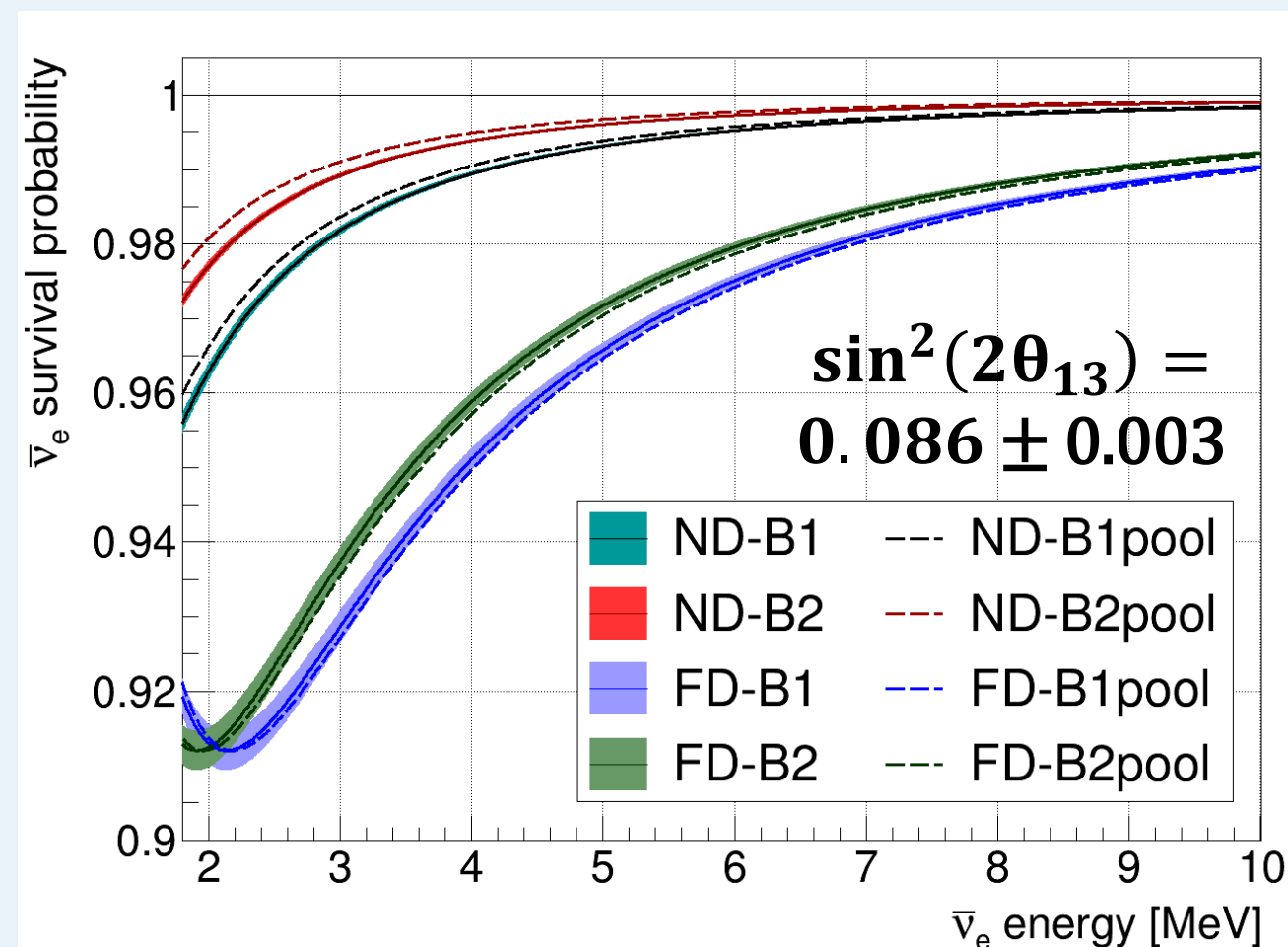
$$N_{\bar{\nu}_e} = \frac{N_p \varepsilon P(\bar{\nu}_e \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e)}{4\pi L^2} \int \phi(E) \sigma(E) dE$$

Residual spectrum $S(E,t)$ from summation calculation

$$\varepsilon P(\bar{\nu}_e \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e) = \frac{\int \varepsilon(E) P(\bar{\nu}_e \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e)(E) \phi(E) dE}{\int \phi(E) dE}$$

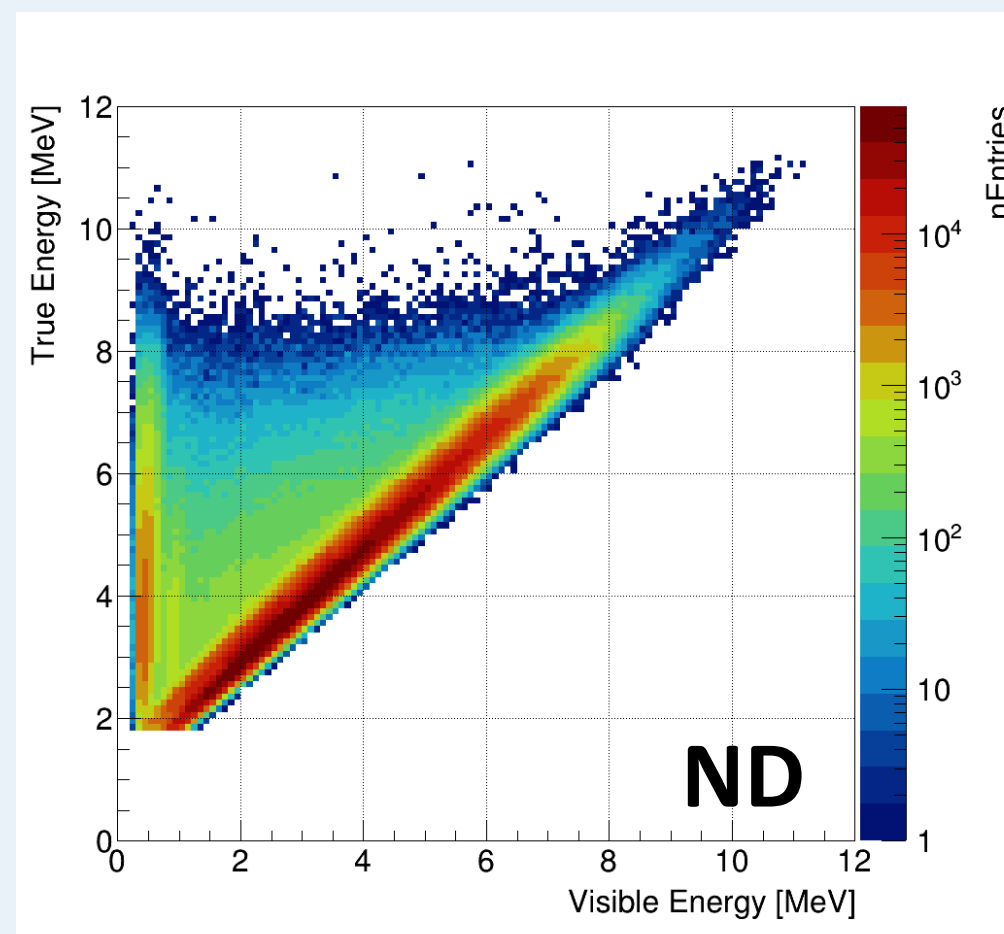
- N_p : proton number
- $\varepsilon(E)$: energy dependant efficiency
- $P(\bar{\nu}_e \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e)$: non oscillation probability
- $\sigma(E)$: IBD cross-section

θ_{13} oscillation (PDG 2022)



Response matrix

IBD[Gd+H+C], all selections but no E_p cut



Absolute efficiency

- Eprompt, Edelay cut
- $\Delta T, \Delta R, ANN$
- Escal
- Background vetoes
- Correction factor data-MC (Gd fraction, spill-in out)

Proton number

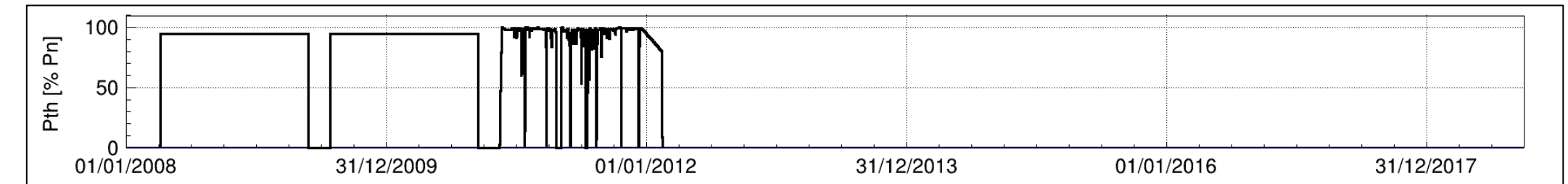
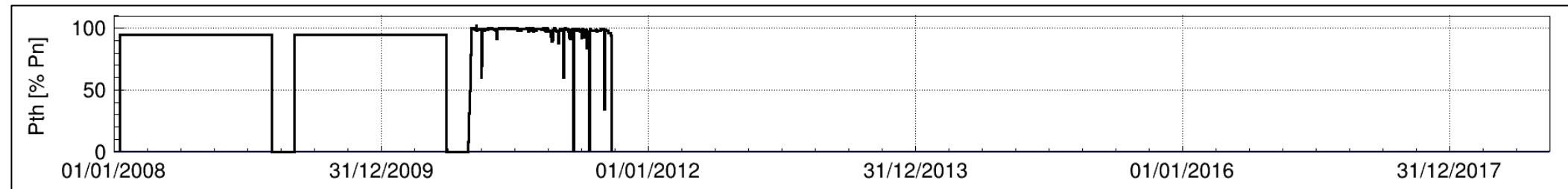
Target	6.767×10^{29}	6.739×10^{29}
GC	15.80×10^{29}	15.73×10^{29}

Reactor power history used for APOLLO/DARWIN simulation of the discharged assemblies stored in the pools

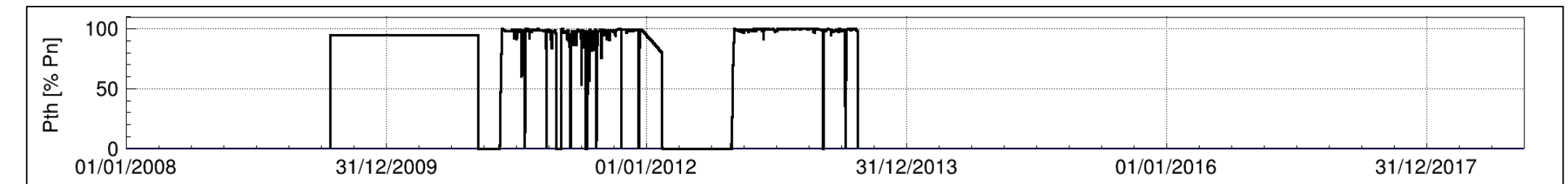
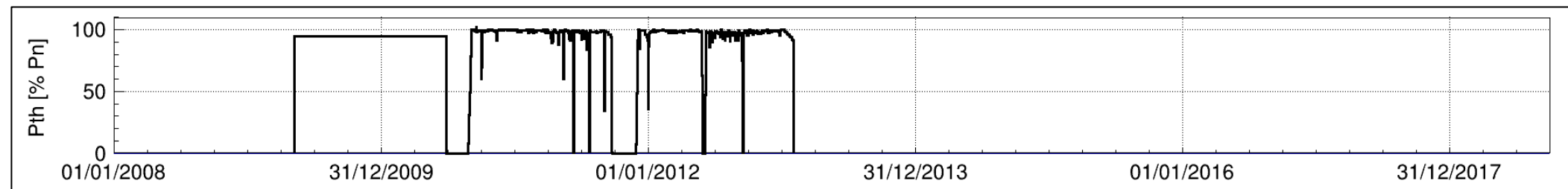
Reactor B1

Reactor B2

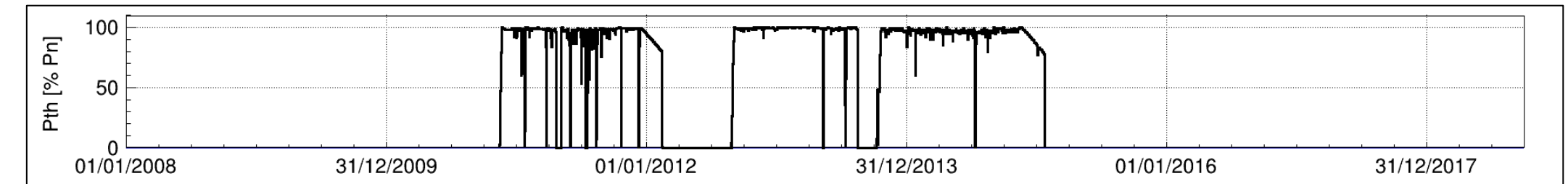
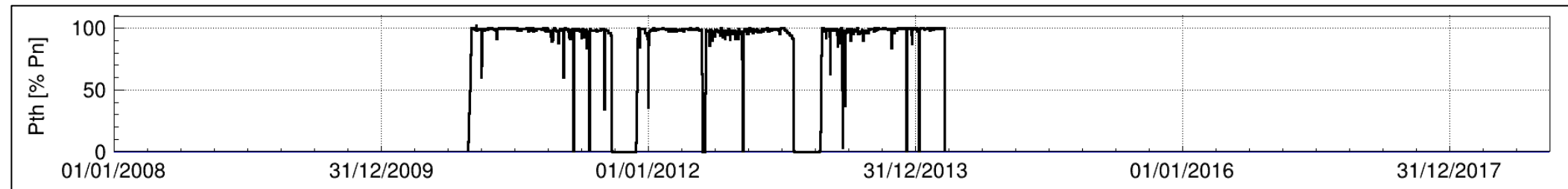
Assemblies discharged after C12



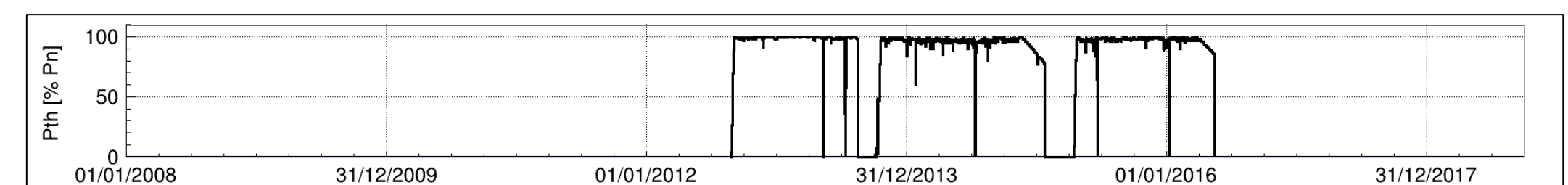
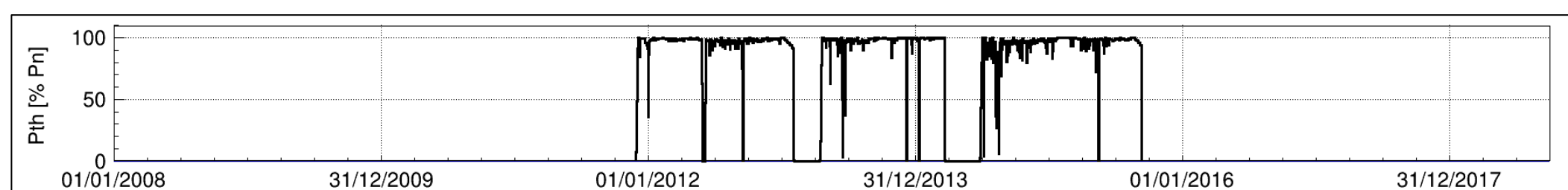
Assemblies discharged after C13



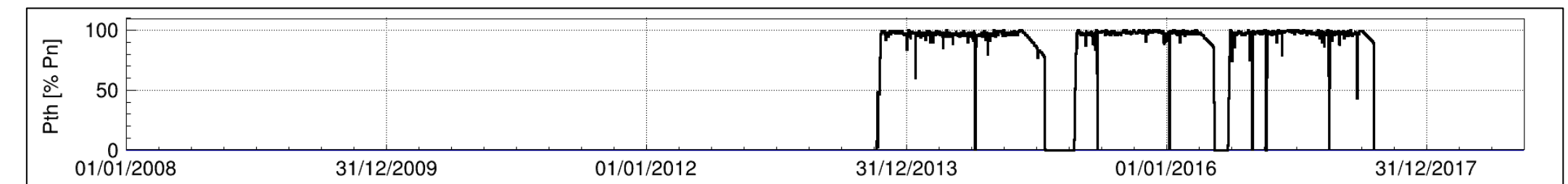
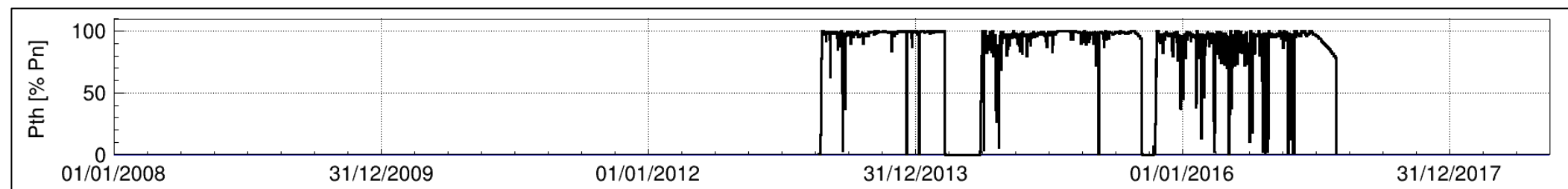
Assemblies discharged after C14



Assemblies discharged after C15



Assemblies discharged after C16



Cycle 10 Cycle 11 Cycle 12 Cycle 13 Cycle 14 Cycle 15 Cycle 16

Cycle 10 Cycle 11 Cycle 12 Cycle 13 Cycle 14 Cycle 15 Cycle 16

- Typically 15-17 GWd/t irradiation cycle
- Power history for the simulation: ~1 day time step over the three irradiation cycle + 1 hour time step the day preceding the dischargement

IBD $\bar{\nu}_e$ from spent fuel assemblies in the pools (2/2)



Pool B1

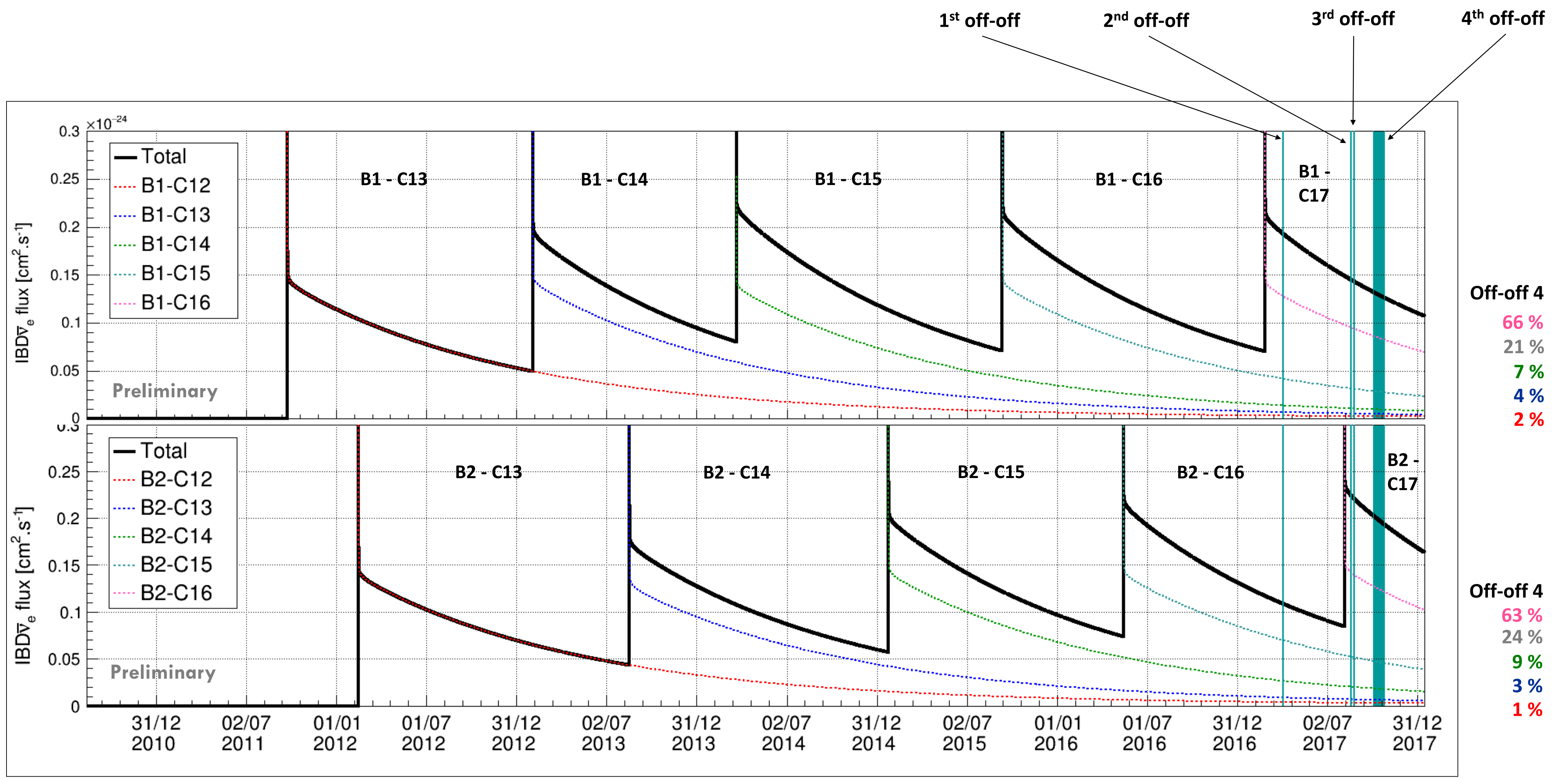
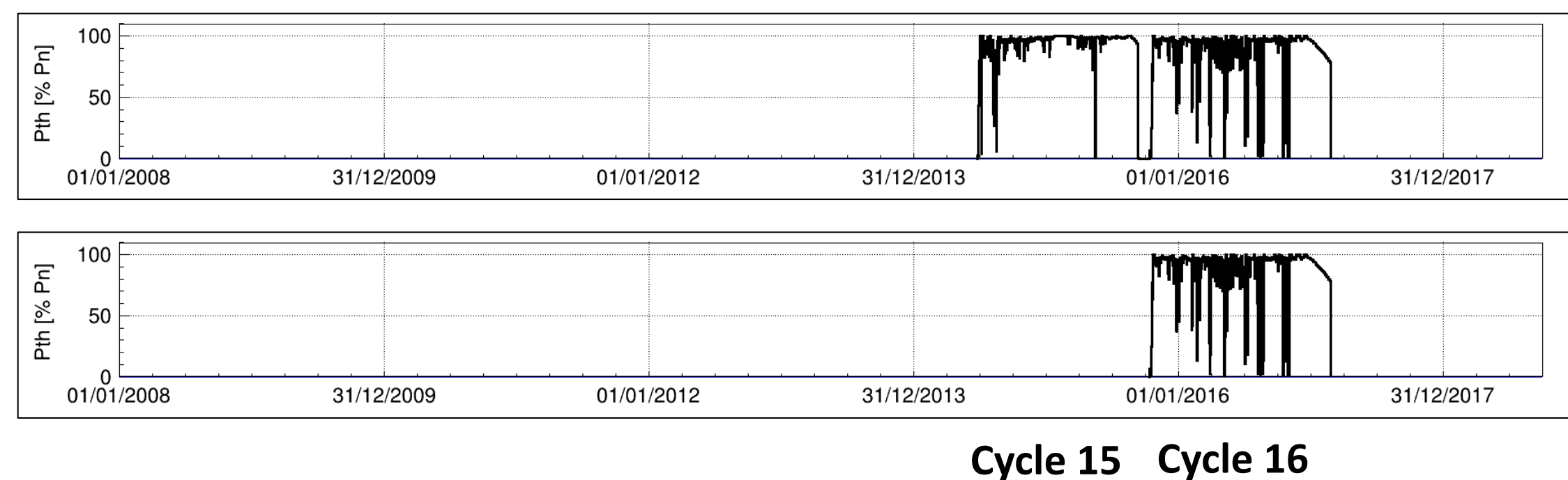


Fig. IBD $\bar{\nu}_e$ flux at the ND by the B1 (top) and B2 (bottom) pools.

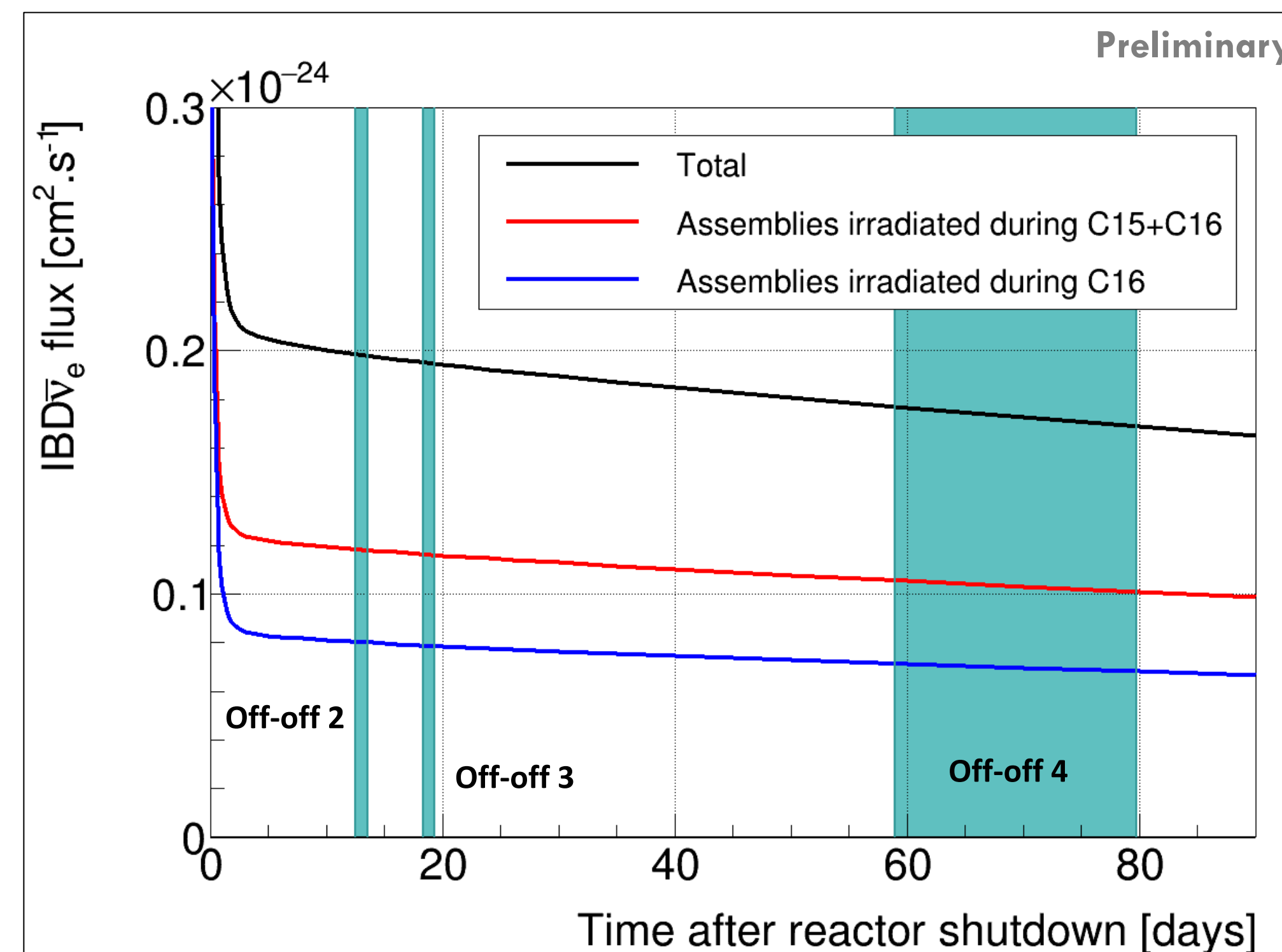
Exemple for the off-off 2, 3 and 4 (reactor B1 under refuelling)

Reactor power history

Core B1



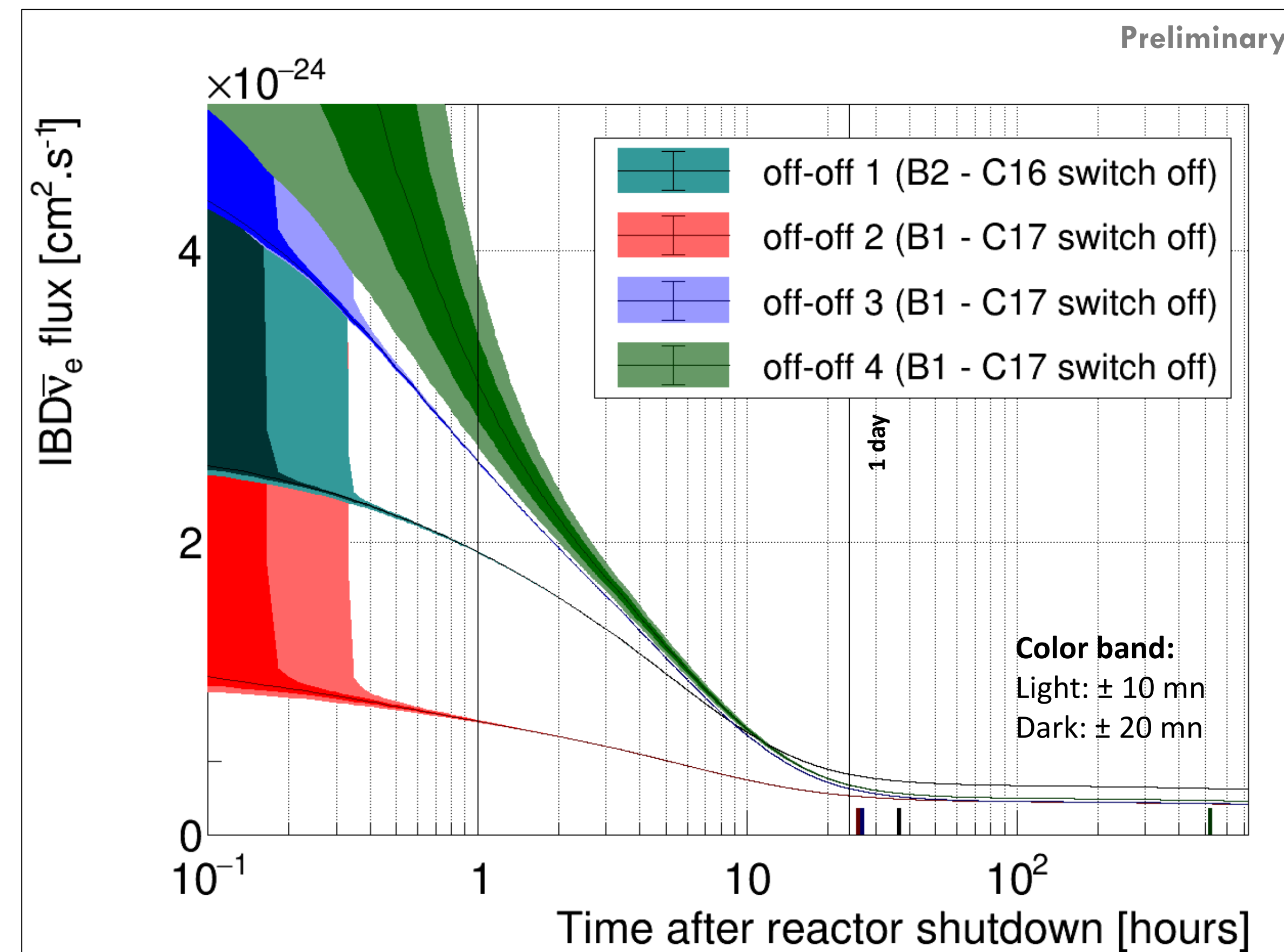
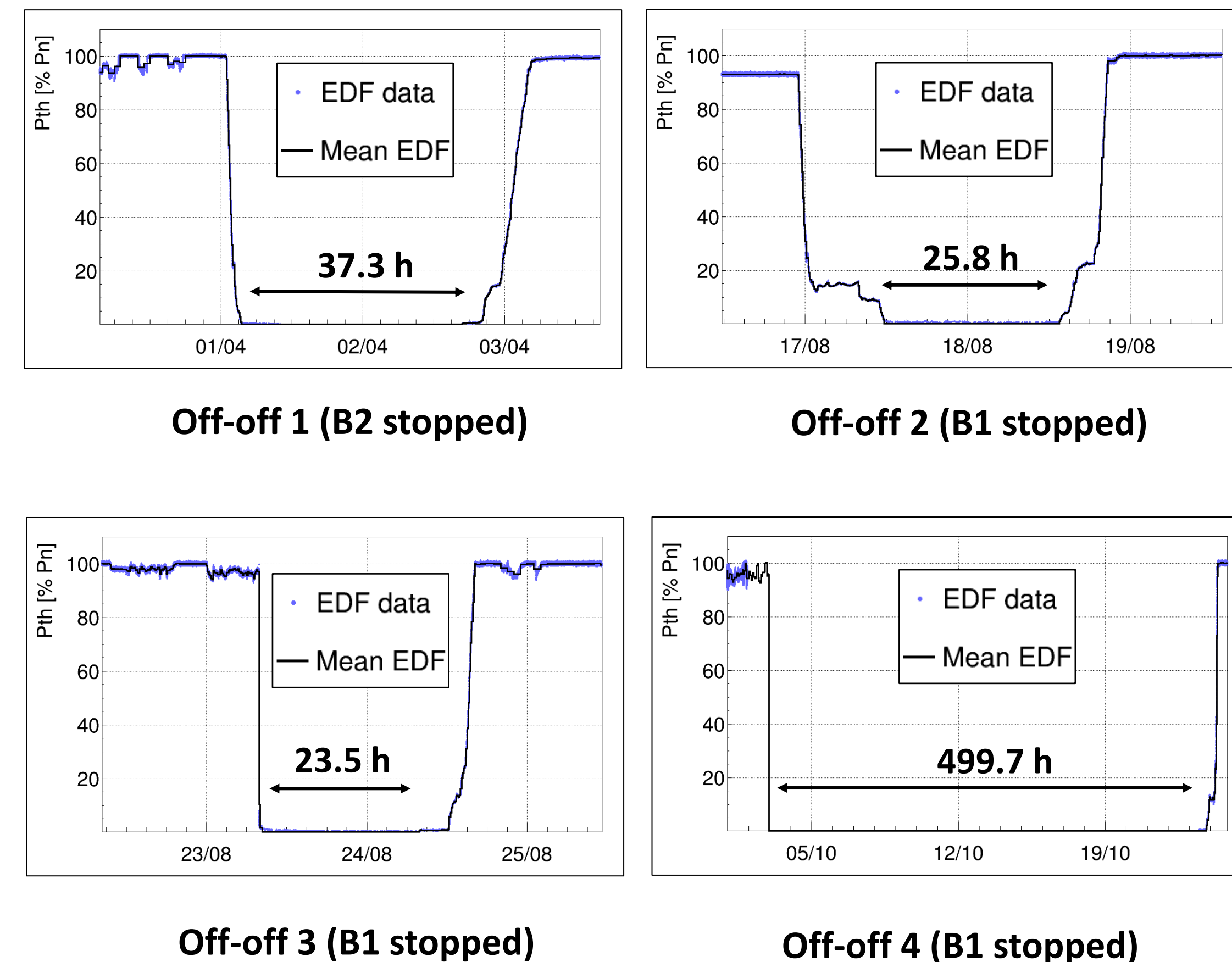
IBD flux - ND



- Detailed power history input for the simulation
- $\bar{\nu}_e$ flux mostly depend of the assemblies burnup

Reactor power history

IBD flux - ND



➤ Detailed power history input for the simulation (down to 10 mn time step the day preceding the off)

➤ \bar{v}_e flux strongly depend of power history for ~ 1 day following the shutdown

➤ \bar{v}_e flux mostly depend of burnup after 1 day

Expected rates and spectra at the ND

- sum of the four flux component

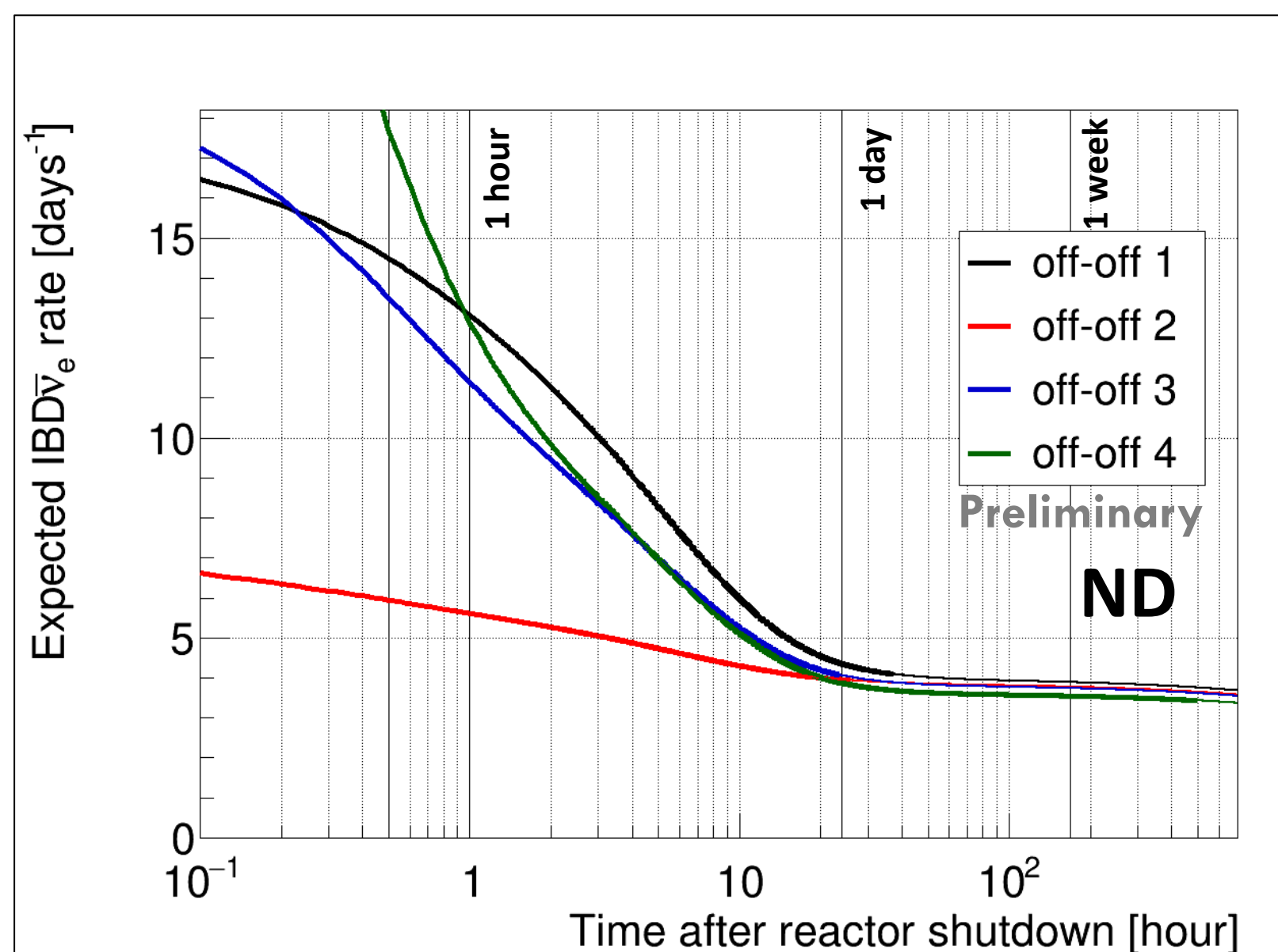
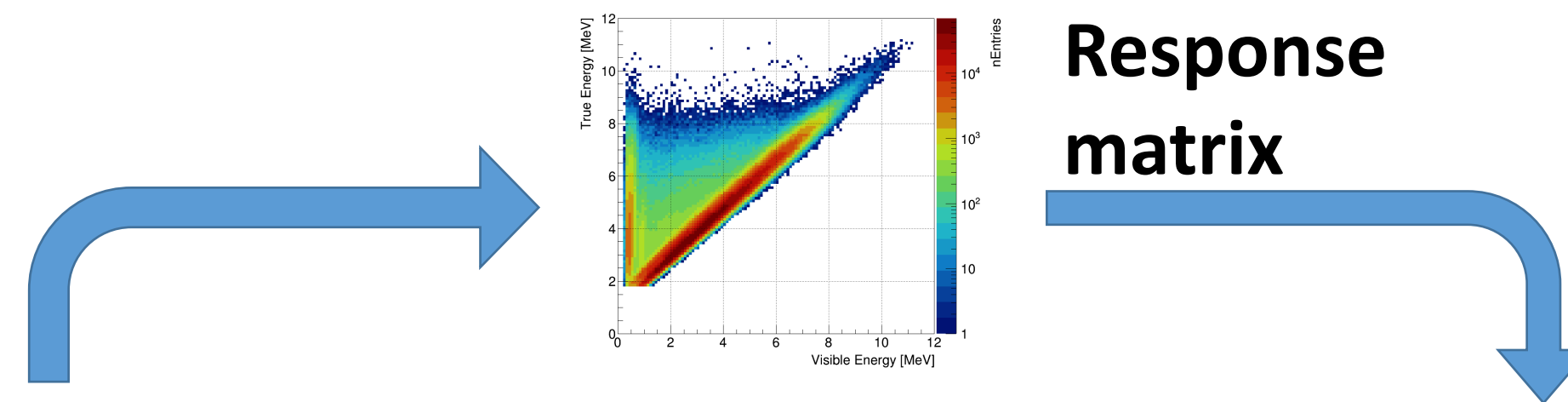


Fig. Expected IBD $\bar{\nu}_e$ rate in the ND for each off-off periods as a function of time

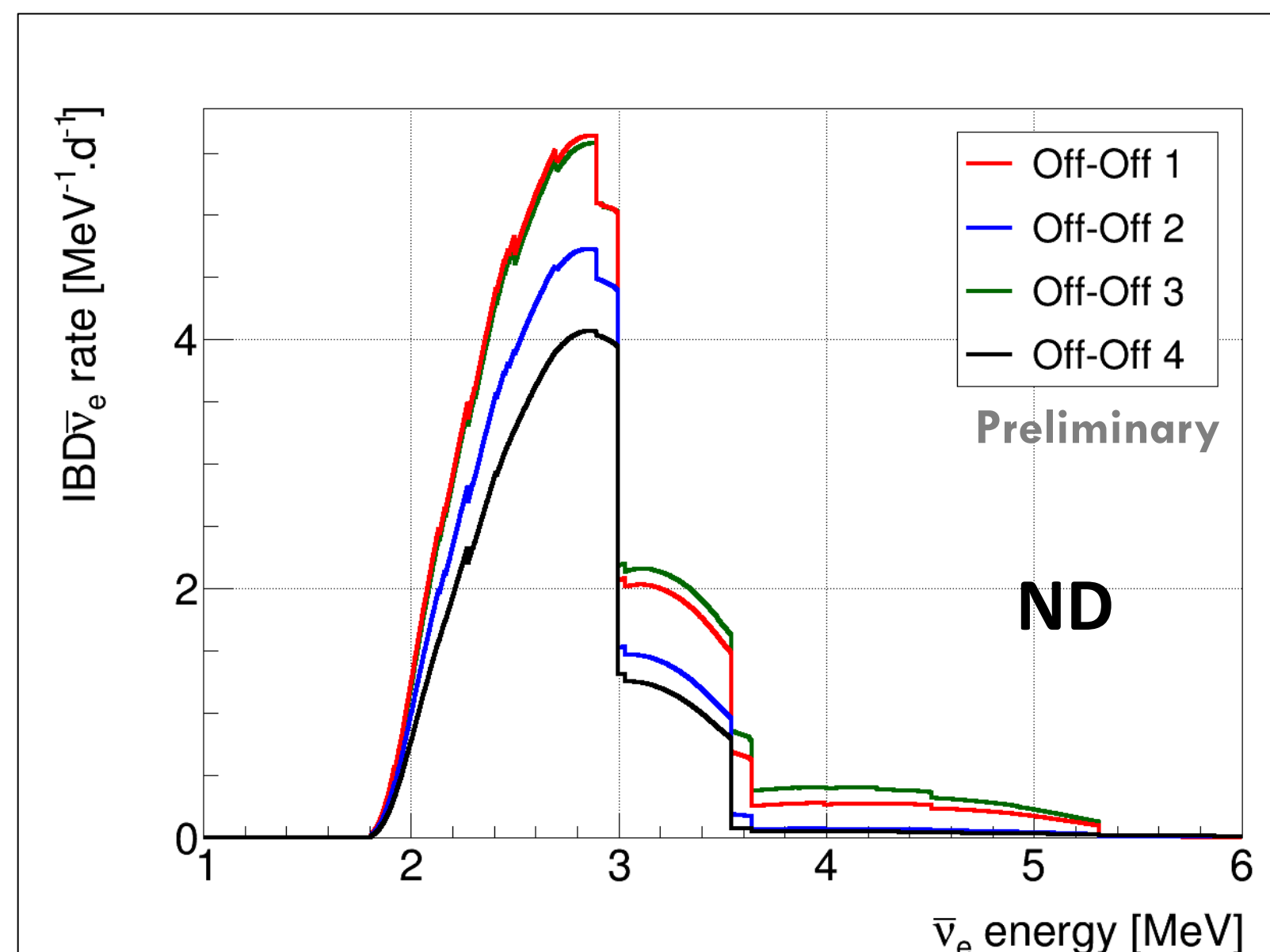
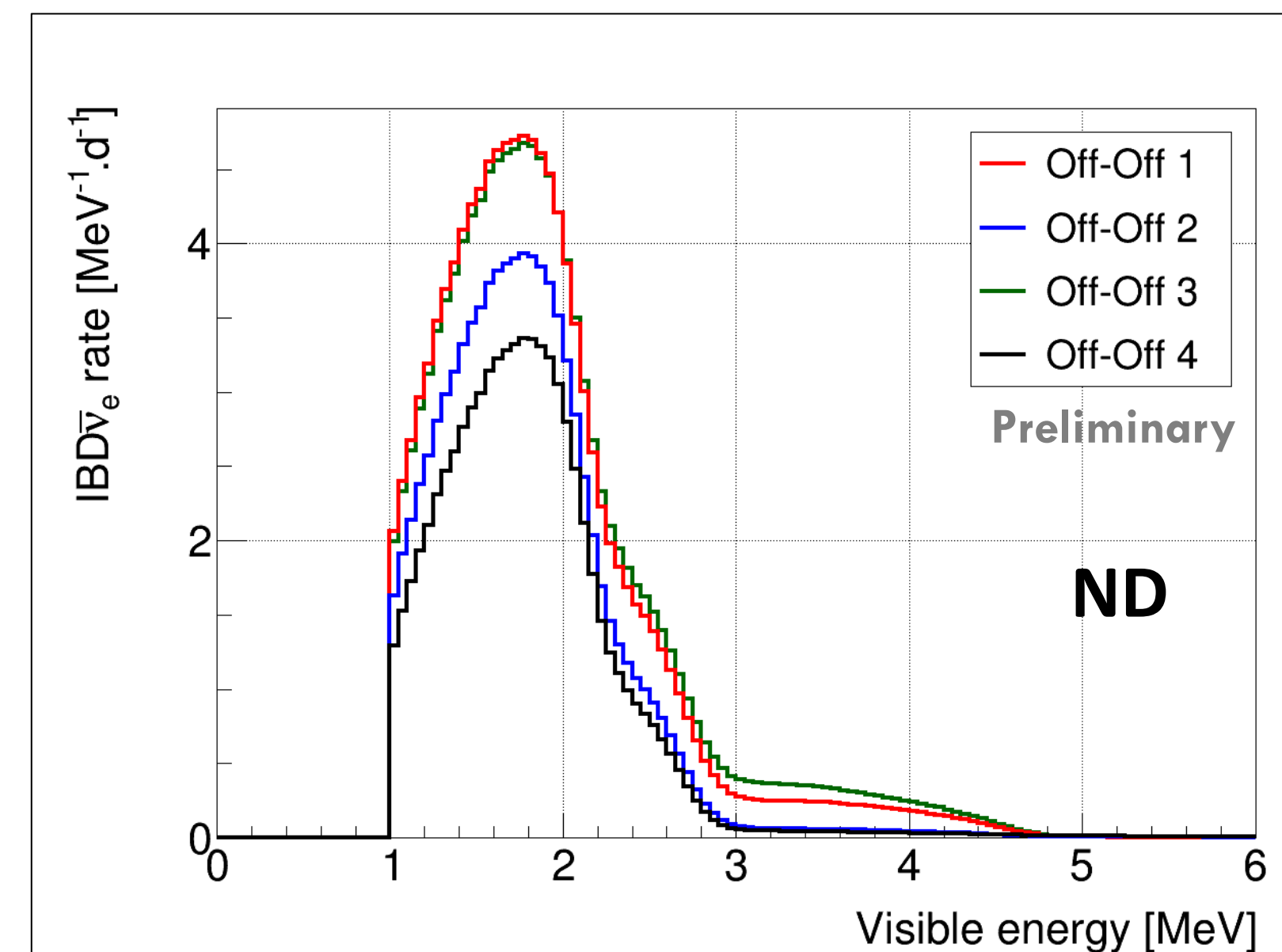


Fig. Expected IBD $\bar{\nu}_e$ spectrum at the ND for each off-off periods as a function of the true (left) and visible (right) energy



- Residual $\bar{\nu}_e$ flux strongly depend of power history for ~ 1 day following the shutdown
- ~ 3.5 evts/day expected after the first day of off-off
- Dominant contribution in the 1-3 MeV range in visible energy

Expected IBD spectra

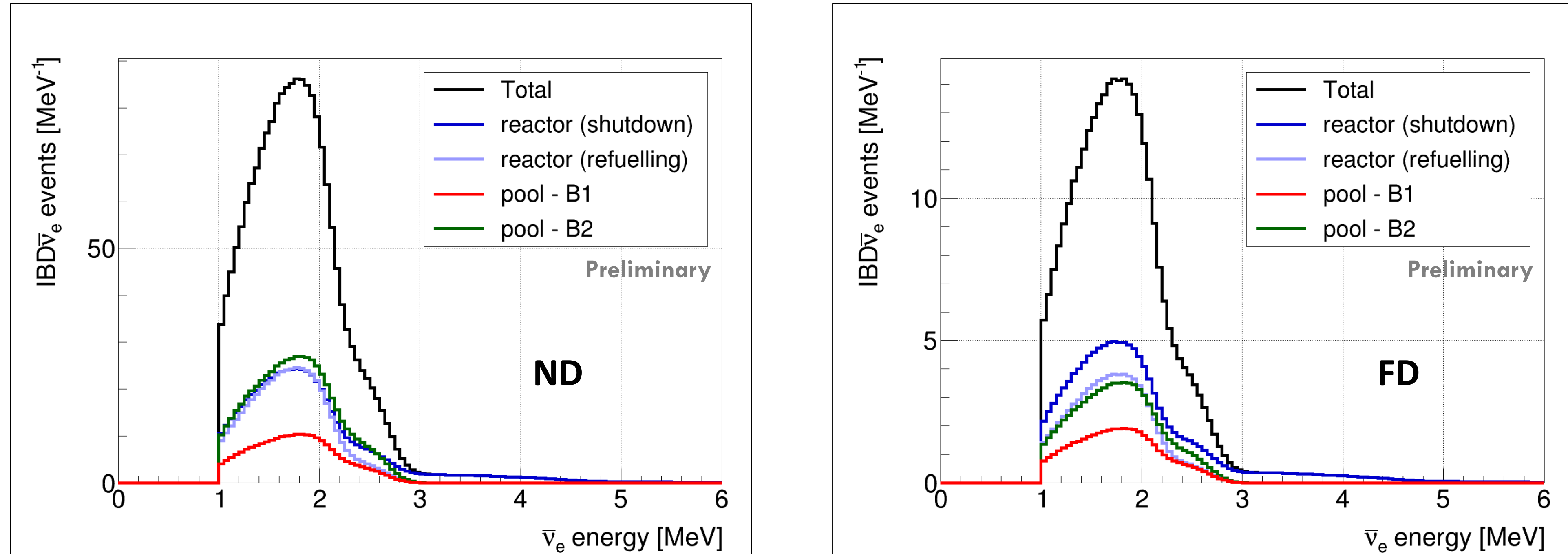


Fig. Expected $\text{IBD}\bar{\nu}_e$ spectrum in the ND (left) and FD (right) for all off-off period combined (no runlist).

	Relative contribution [%]	
	Reactors	Pools
Near	56.5	43.5
Far	61.7	38.3

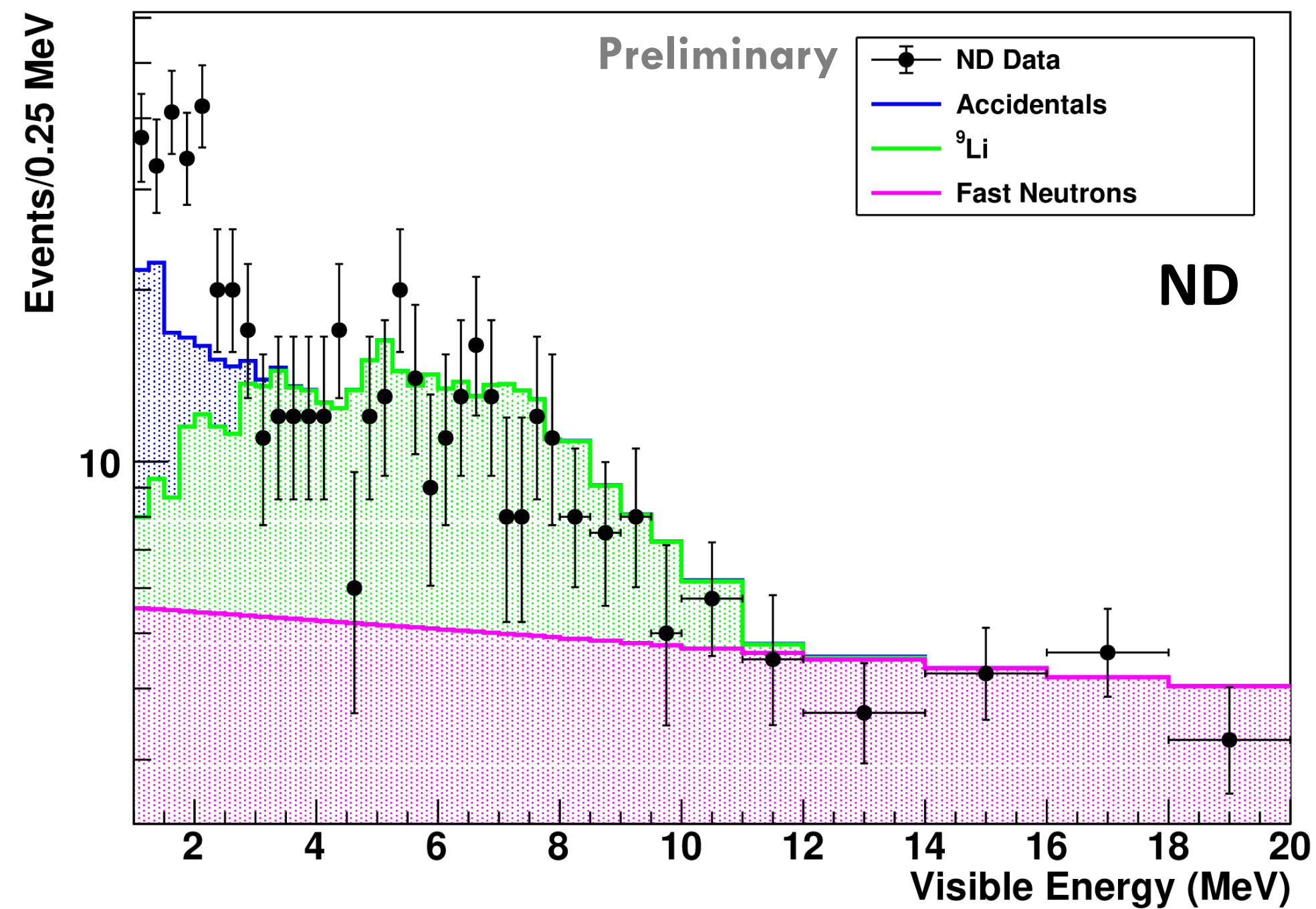
Tab. Expected number of $\text{IBD}\bar{\nu}_e$ in the ND and FD for all off-off periods combined.

Normalization uncertainties summary

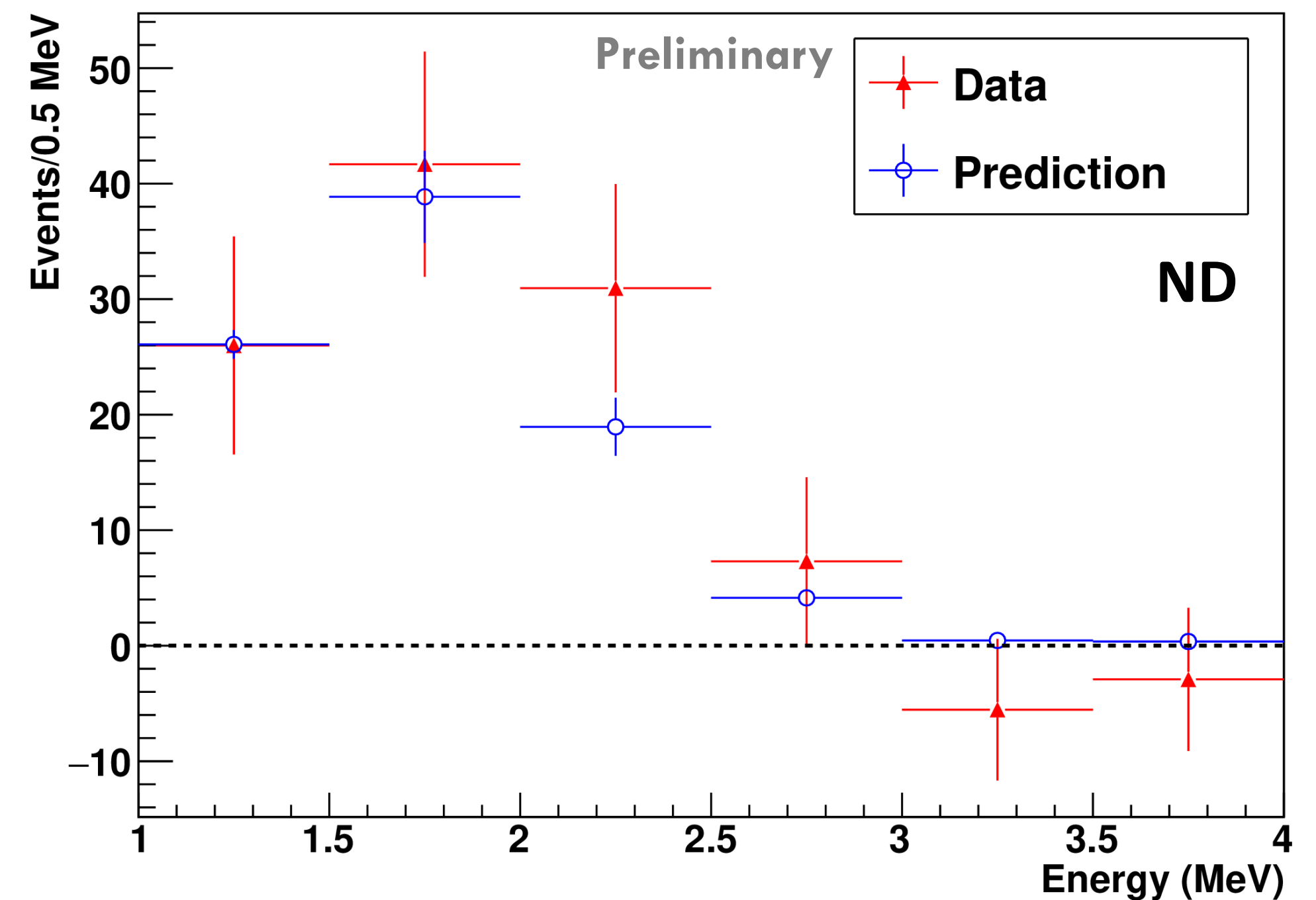
	Preliminary	
	ND	FD
Chooz site - Distance assemblies-detectors	2.9	0.9
- θ_{13} oscillation	0.1	0.3
Detector - detection efficiency	0.3	0.4
- proton number	0.7	0.7
Reactor - Thermal power	0.5	0.5
- Reactor stop time	0.2	0.2
- IBD cross-section	0.1	0.1
- Fission product inventory	2.1	2.1
- Amount of spent fuel in the pool	2.0	1.5
- $\bar{\nu}_e$ spectra	6.0	6.0
Total	7.4 %	6.7 %

- Total uncertainty dominated by the uncertainty associated to the $\bar{\nu}_e$ spectra modeling (NSC ^{144}Pr)
- Request to EDF to lift approximations associated to the pool dimension and fuel content in the pools
 - ↳ Status of spent fuel from old reactor cycle unknown \Rightarrow treated as systematic

Off-off data



Data (bckg. subtracted) vs prediction

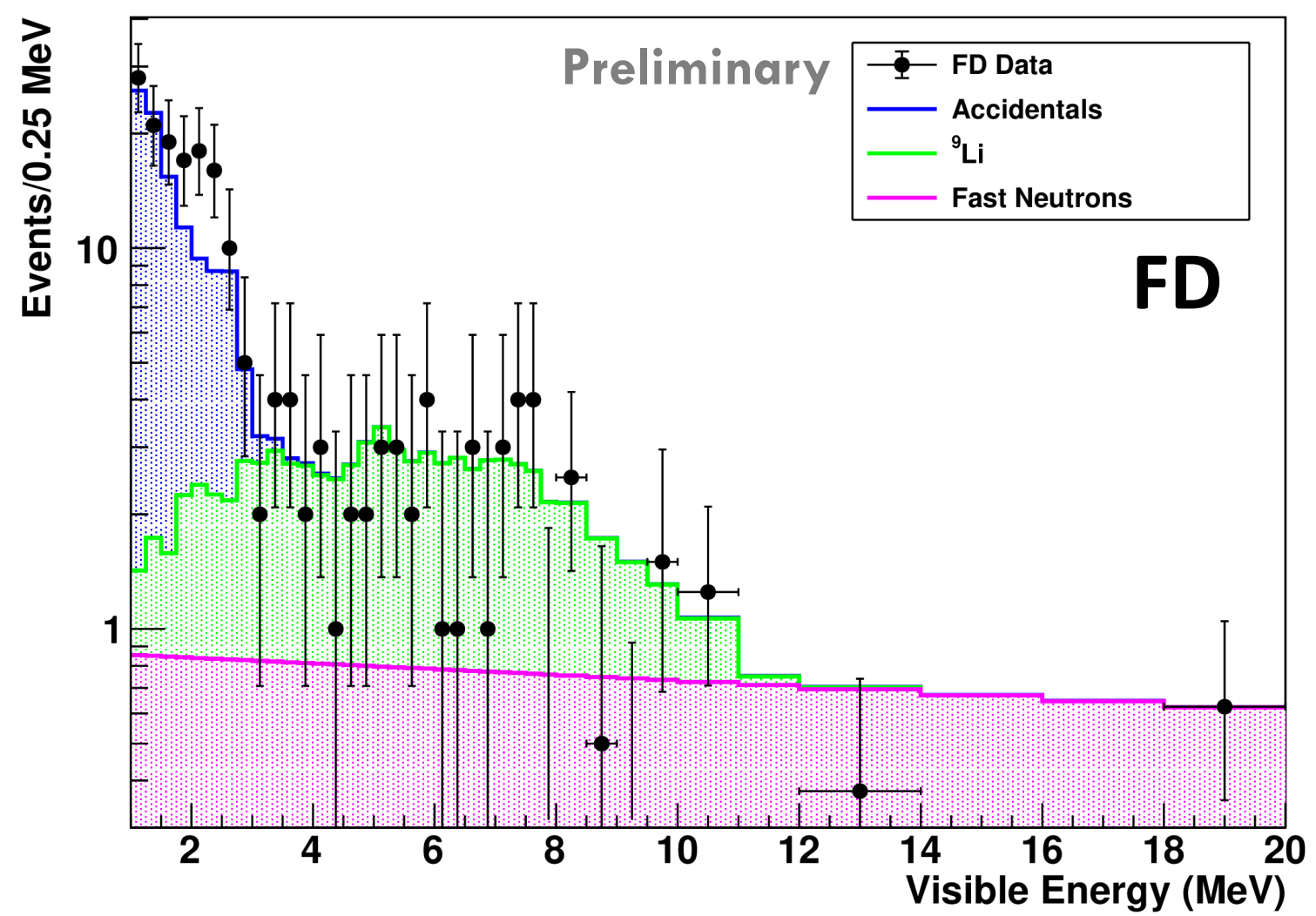
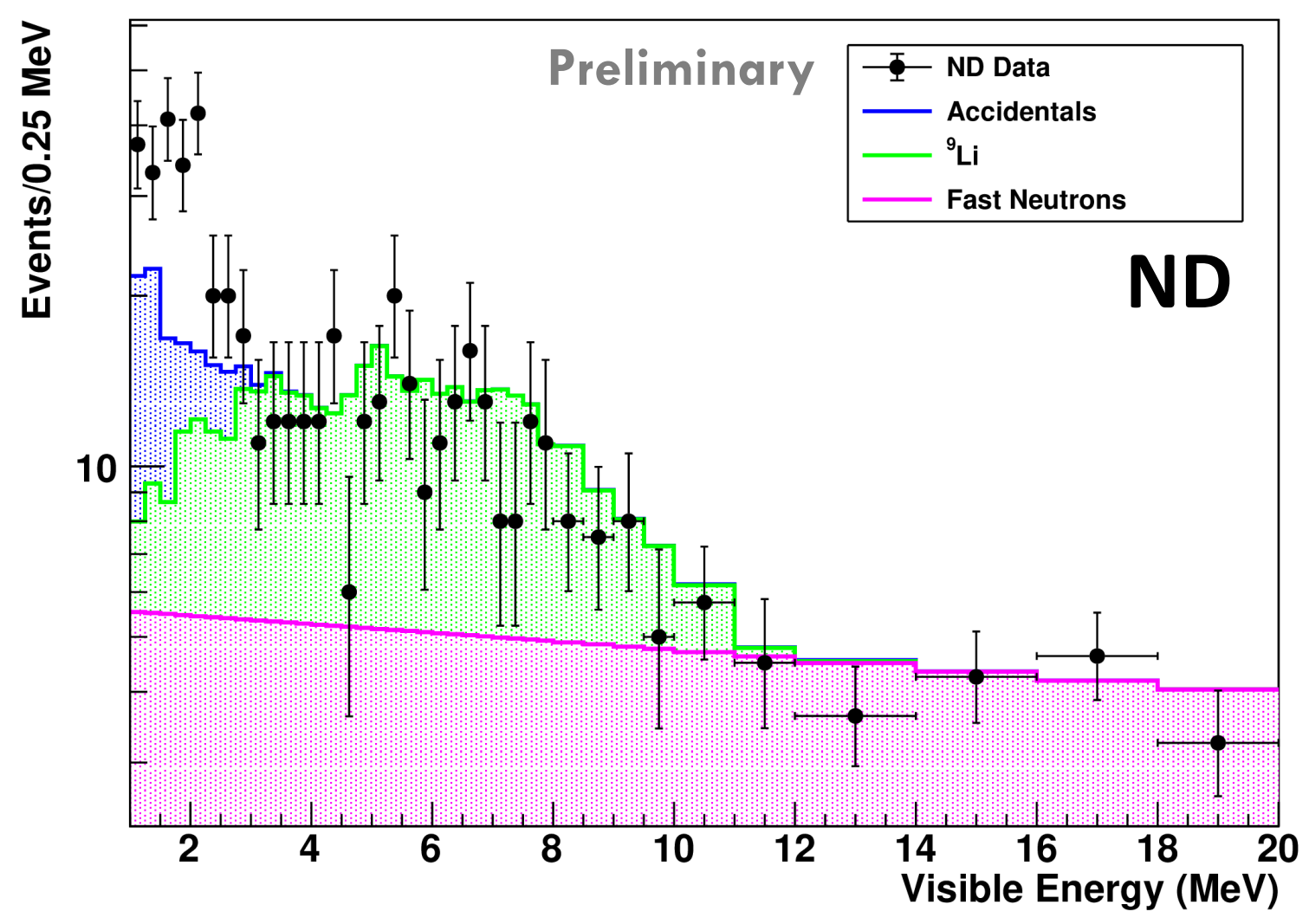


- Reference background model from last analysis (Nature physics)
- Limited statistic: $\sigma_{stat} \sim 15\%$
- Very good preliminary data/prediction agreement

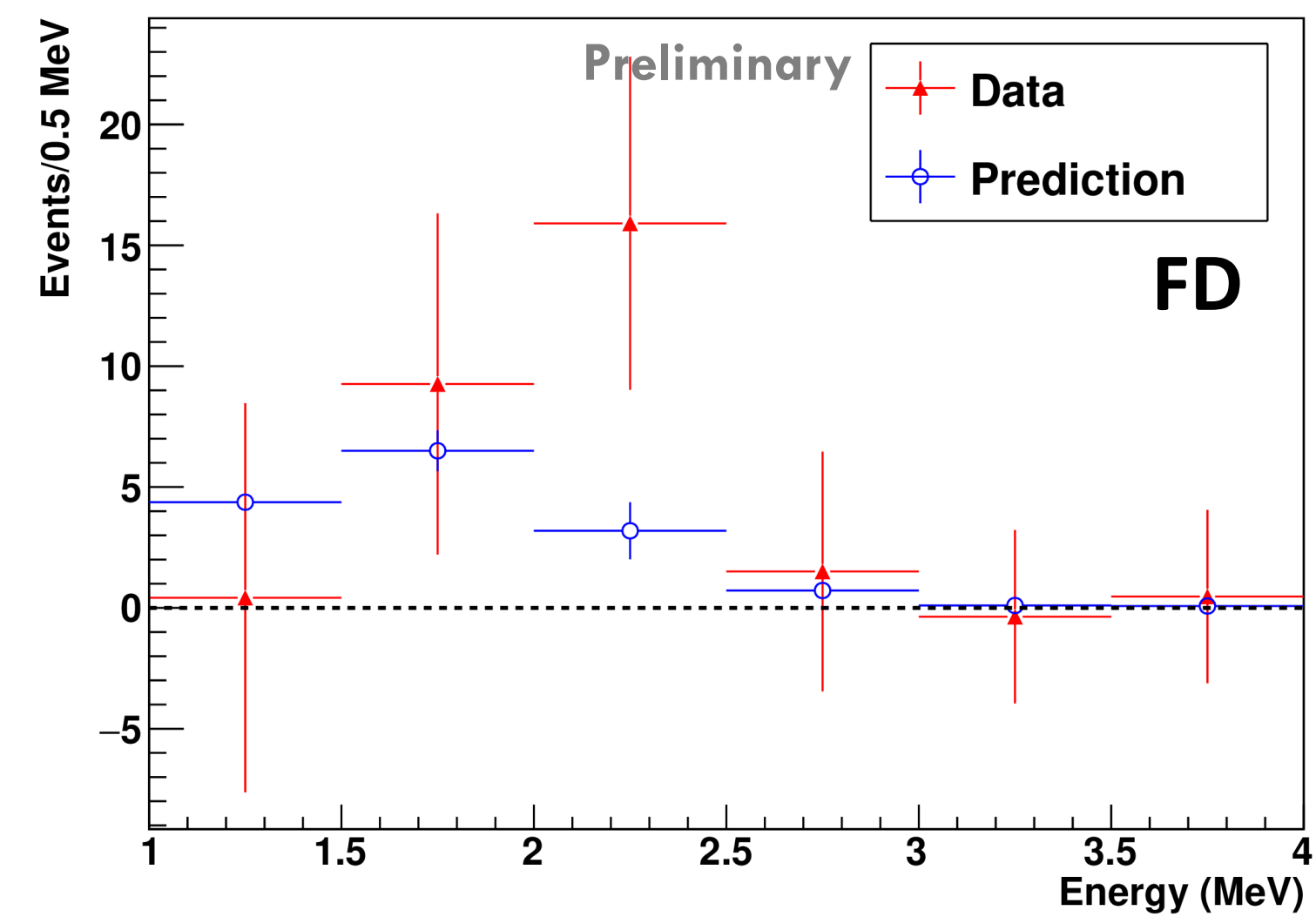
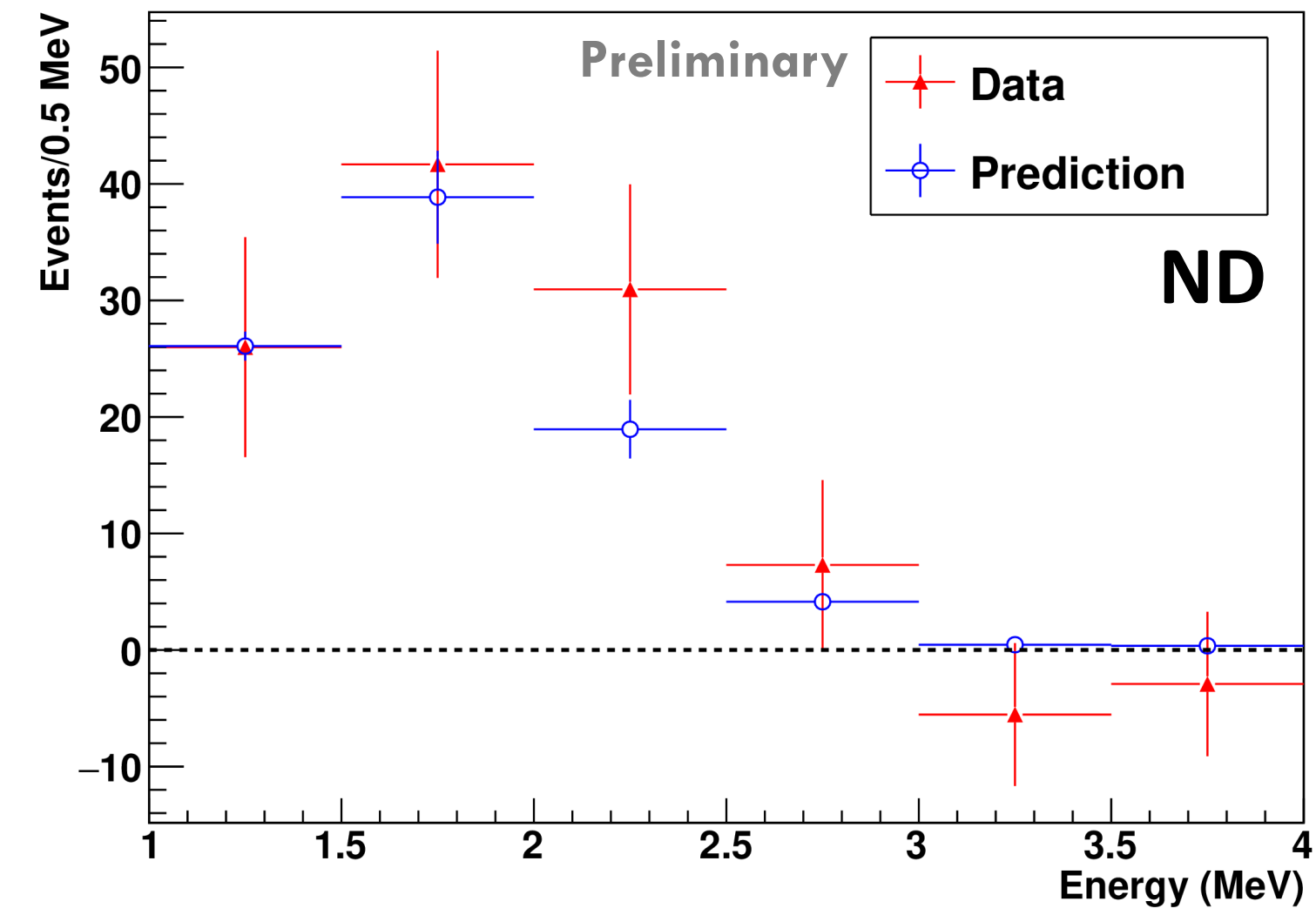
1-3 MeV: $N_{IBD}^{data} = 106 \pm 18$ evts
 $N_{IBD}^{pred} = 88 \pm 6$ evts



Off-off data



Data (bckg. subtracted) vs prediction



IBD $\bar{\nu}_e$ 1-3 MeV

	Data	Prediction	Difference
ND	106 ± 18	88 ± 6	18 ± 19
FD	27 ± 14	15 ± 1	12 ± 14

Preliminary

- Reference background model from last analysis (Nature Physics)
- Limited statistic:
 $\sigma_{stat}^{ND} \sim 17\%$, $\sigma_{stat}^{FD} \sim 52\%$
- Very good preliminary data/prediction agreement

I. The Double Chooz experiment

- experimental principle
- analysis highlight and latest results

II. Residual antineutrinos

- modeling
- generality about residual antineutrinos

III. DC off-off periods

- prediction
- preliminary data/prediction comparison

IV. Conclusion

Double Chooz reaching its life-cycle end...

- End of data taking in 2020
- Detectors under dismantlement
- Latest published result: - $\sin^2(2\theta_{13}) = 0.102 \pm 0.011$ (syst.) + 0.04 (stat.)
- $\langle \sigma_f \rangle = (5.75 \pm 0.06) \times 10^{-43} \text{ cm}^2$
⇒ Still room for $\sin^2(2\theta_{13})$ improvement (expected $1\sigma \lesssim 0.01$ for the final result)

Off-off measurement

- ~24 days with both reactor off ⇒ very unique data set in the framework of reactor experiments
- Detailed prediction, including nuclear structure calculation for ^{144}Pr isotope
- Dataset for both detector, statistic dominated
- Very good preliminary data/prediction agreement: $N_{\text{IBD}}^{\text{data,ND}} = 106 \pm 18 \text{ evts measured} / N_{\text{IBD}}^{\text{pred,ND}} = 88 \pm 6 \text{ evts}$
⇒ Demonstrate the great progress in detection and prediction over the last 20 years!
- Analysis under finalisation – publication foreseen soon

Backup

Impact of the neutrino spectrum shape on the survival probability

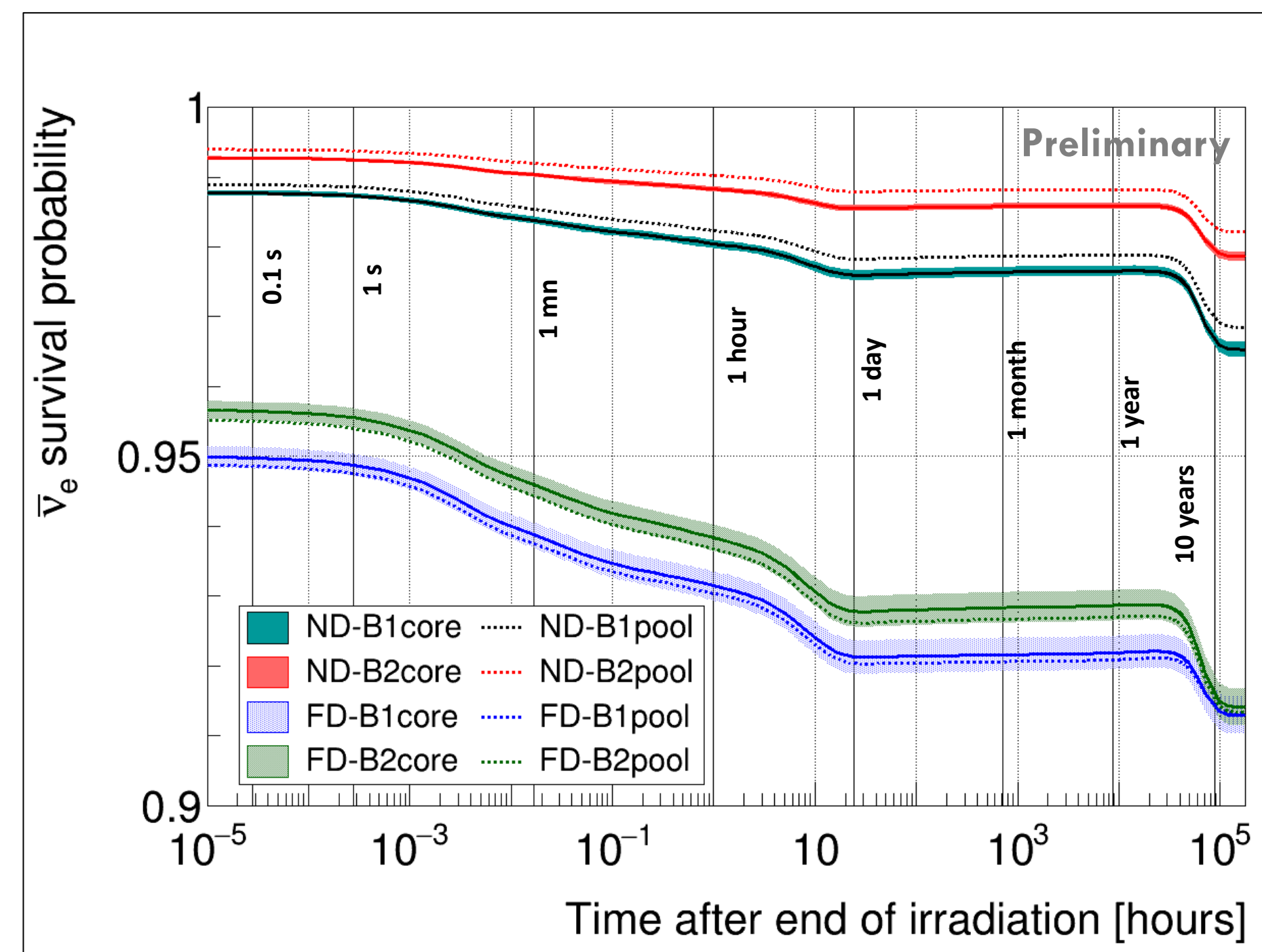
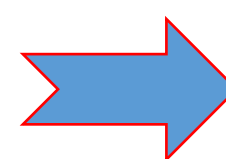
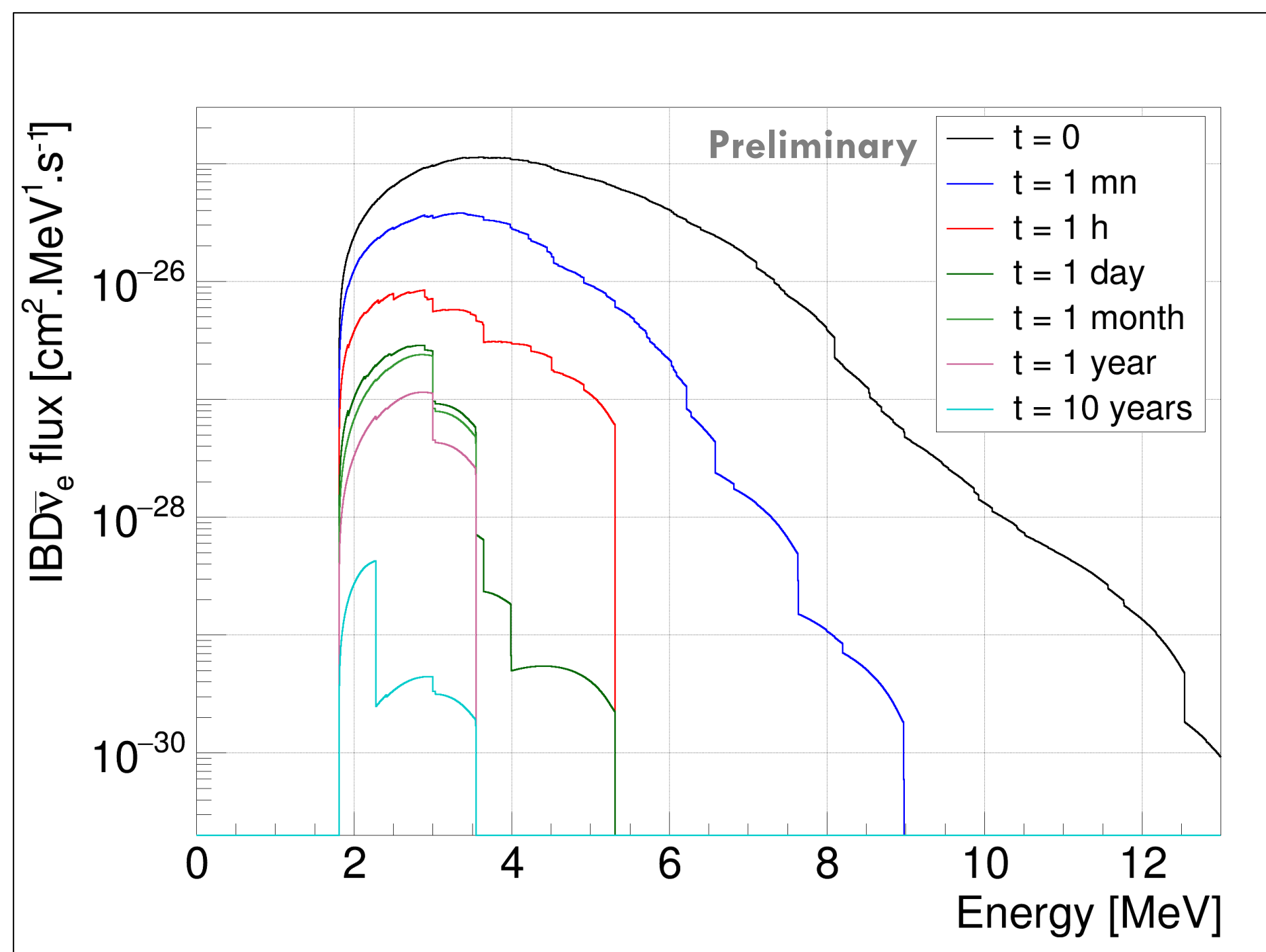


Fig. IBD neutrino spectrum from a UO_2 (4%) spent fuel assembly irradiated for 45 GWd/t.

Fig. Oscillation probability for the neutrino spectrum of an assembly irradiated up to 45 GWd/t during its cooling. Colored bands represent the 1σ uncertainty induced by $\sigma_{\theta_{13}}$ (for clarity only display on core cases)