

# Neutrino Physics

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- 1 Historical Background
- 2 Theoretical Background
  - Neutrino mixing
  - Massive neutrinos
  - Why neutrinos are always said to be left handed
- 3 Discussion: theory
- 4 Experiments
  - Solar and atmospheric neutrinos
  - Reactor experiments
  - Accelerator experiments
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Past decades Experimental verification of neutrino oscillations

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Past decades Experimental verification of neutrino oscillations

Ongoing Open questions about: Sterile neutrinos, Majorana or Dirac, mass hierarchy, CP(T) violation

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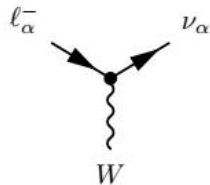
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- In the SM neutrinos are massless and leptons do not mix.
- Pontecorvo proposed that  $\nu \leftrightarrow \bar{\nu}$  transition may occur in analogy with  $K^0 \leftrightarrow \bar{K}^0$  (1957). A quantitative theory of neutrino oscillations was first developed by Maki, Nakagawa and Sakata (1962).
- Predictions of the Standard Solar Model for the amount of  $\nu_e$  were tested, of the expected flux of  $\nu_e$  only 1/3 found by the Homestake experiment in 1970s (SNP).
- Neutrino oscillations ( $\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta$ ) were first measured by Super-Kamiokande in 1998 and later by SNO in 2001.

# Neutrino flavors

- 3 neutrino flavors,  $\nu_e$ ,  $\nu_\mu$  and  $\nu_\tau$  are known, mixing of the 3 generations have been seen in many experiments.
- Definition of flavor:  $\nu_\alpha$  is the particle which couples to  $\ell_\alpha^-$  through weak interaction.
- flavor eigenstates, but mixed states of mass eigenstates (In SM flavor eigenstate = mass eigenstate).



Massive neutrinos imply the existence of right-handed neutrino components (minimally extended SM):

- Yukawa couplings are not diagonal anymore, mixing occurs.
- Introduce a unitary leptonic mixing matrix  $U$  like the CKM matrix for the quarks.

This matrix relates the flavor eigenstates to the mass eigenstates:

$$|\nu_\alpha\rangle = \sum_i U_{\alpha i}^* |\nu_i\rangle \quad (\alpha = e, \mu, \tau)$$



# Parametrization of the mixing matrix

In general, a  $N \times N$  unitary matrix has  $N^2$  real parameters:

- $\frac{N(N+1)}{2}$  phases
- $\frac{N(N-1)}{2}$  angles

for  $2N$  neutrino fields we can also eliminate  $2N - 1$  unphysical phases by redefining the fields (leaving the Lagrangian invariant).

For a  $3 \times 3$  matrix this leads to 3 angles and 1 phase.

## 2-generation mixing

A  $2 \times 2$  unitary matrix can be written as matrix which depends on 3 phases  $\omega_1$ ,  $\omega_2$  and  $\eta$  and 1 angle  $\theta$

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta e^{i\omega_1} & \sin \theta e^{i(\omega_2 + \eta)} \\ -\sin \theta e^{i(\omega_1 - \eta)} & \cos \theta e^{i\omega_2} \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\sim \begin{pmatrix} \omega_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \omega_2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} e^{i\eta} & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} e^{-i\eta} & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Four fields are present, flavor eigenstates  $\nu_e, \nu_\mu$  and mass eigenstates  $\nu_1, \nu_2$ , so the 3 phases are not physical can be eliminated.

We are left with a rotation matrix to relate the flavor and mass eigenstates:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ \nu_\mu \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

For 3 generations of leptons we have the Pontecorvo-Maki-Nakagawa-Sakata matrix<sup>3</sup>

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

with  $c_{ab} \equiv \cos \theta_{ab}$  and  $s_{ab} \equiv \sin \theta_{ab}$

$\theta_{ab}$  are mixing angles

$\delta$  is called CP-violating phase or Dirac phase.

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<sup>3</sup>A derivation can be found in [Giunti and Kim, 2007a].

If neutrinos are Majorana particles:

$$U = U^D \text{diag}(1, e^{i\alpha_1}, e^{i\alpha_2})$$

There are two extra phases, called Majorana phases, because Majorana mass terms ( $\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{n}_L^T C^\dagger M \mathbf{n}_L$ ) are not invariant under global U(1) gauge transformations.

# Oscillation probability

Standard derivation of  $P_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta}(t)$

- The mass eigenstates  $|\nu_k\rangle$  are eigenstates of  $H$ , with energy  $E_k = \sqrt{\mathbf{p}^2 + m^2}$
- Schrödinger equation implies  $|\nu_k(t)\rangle = e^{-iE_k t} |\nu_k\rangle$
- $|\nu_\alpha\rangle = \sum_i U_{\alpha i}^* |\nu_i\rangle$  and  $|\nu_i\rangle = \sum_\alpha U_{\alpha i} |\nu_\alpha\rangle$

So the amplitude  $A_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta}(t)$  is:

$$\begin{aligned} A_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta}(t) &= \langle \nu_\beta | \nu_\alpha(t) \rangle = \sum_\beta \left( \sum_k U_{\alpha k}^* e^{-iE_k t} U_{\beta k} \right) \langle \nu_\beta | \nu_\alpha \rangle \\ &= \sum_k U_{\alpha k}^* U_{\beta k} e^{-iE_k t} \end{aligned}$$

# Oscillation probability

Probability of a transition  $\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta$

$$P_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta}(t) = |A_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta}(t)|^2 = \sum_{k,j} U_{\alpha k}^* U_{\beta k} U_{\alpha j} U_{\beta j}^* e^{-i(E_k - E_j)t}$$

For ultrarelativistic neutrinos we have that  $E_k \simeq E + \frac{m_k^2}{2E}$  and that  $t \sim L$ :

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

where  $\Delta m_{kj}^2 \equiv \Delta m_k^2 - \Delta m_j^2$

# Oscillation probability for antineutrinos

We can write the oscillation probability also in the form

$$P_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta}(t) = \delta_{\alpha\beta} - 4 \sum_{k>j} \text{Re} [U_{\alpha k}^* U_{\beta k} U_{\alpha j} U_{\beta j}^*] \sin^2 \left( \frac{\Delta m_{kj}^2 L}{4E} \right) \\ + 2 \sum_{k>j} \text{Im} [U_{\alpha k}^* U_{\beta k} U_{\alpha j} U_{\beta j}^*] \sin \left( \frac{\Delta m_{kj}^2 L}{2E} \right)$$

Assuming CPT invariance:

For antineutrinos we have that  $P_{\bar{\nu}_\alpha \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_\beta}(t)$  is the same up to a minus sign in third term.



- A CP transformation interchanges neutrinos with negative helicity and antineutrinos with positive helicity, so  $\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta$  becomes  $\bar{\nu}_\alpha \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_\beta$ .
- This CP transformation changes  $U \leftrightarrow U^*$ .
- We saw that this leads to a difference in sign of the terms depending on the imaginary parts of  $U_{\alpha k}^* U_{\beta k} U_{\alpha j} U_{\beta j}^*$ , leading to an asymmetry  $A_{\alpha\beta}^{CP}(L, E)$ :

$$A_{\alpha\beta}^{CP}(L, E) = 4 \sum_{k>j} \text{Im} [U_{\alpha k}^* U_{\beta k} U_{\alpha j} U_{\beta j}^*] \sin \left( \frac{\Delta m_{kj}^2 L}{2E} \right)$$

- $U_{\alpha k}^* U_{\beta k} U_{\alpha j} U_{\beta j}^*$  does not depend on the Majorana phases, so they do not influence the oscillations;
- it does only depend on  $\delta$ , which is therefore also called the CP-violating phase.
- If  $U$  is real neutrino oscillations do not violate CP symmetry.

- If neutrinos are massless,  $\Delta m_{kj}^2 = 0$ , hence there will be no oscillation.
- The phase  $\Phi_{kj} = -\frac{\Delta m_{kj}^2 L}{2E}$  of the oscillation depends on experimental variables  $L$  and  $E$  and constants  $\Delta m_{kj}^2$ .
- The amplitude  $U_{\alpha k}^* U_{\beta k} U_{\alpha j} U_{\beta j}^*$  depends on the elements of  $U$ .
- Absolute values of the masses cannot be determined measuring oscillations, but the mass difference can be determined.

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

# Mass Hierarchy

- We can measure  $\Delta m_{kj}^2$ , however not the absolute values of the masses.
- The mass hierarchy of neutrinos is unknown.
- Depends on the sign of  $\Delta m_{13}^2$  which has not yet been measured.

Three possible hierarchies: normal, inverted and degenerate:

- $m_1^2 \simeq m_2^2 < m_3^2$
- $m_1^2 \simeq m_2^2 > m_3^2$
- $m_1^2 \simeq m_2^2 \simeq m_3^2$  (excluded)

Degenerate hierarchy is excluded, since  $\Delta m_{12}^2 < \Delta m_{23}^2$ .

# Neutrino squared-mass spectrum

$$\Delta m_{12}^2 \equiv \Delta m_{\odot}^2 \simeq 8.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2, \quad \Delta m_{23}^2 \equiv \Delta m_{atm}^2 \simeq 2.4 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$$

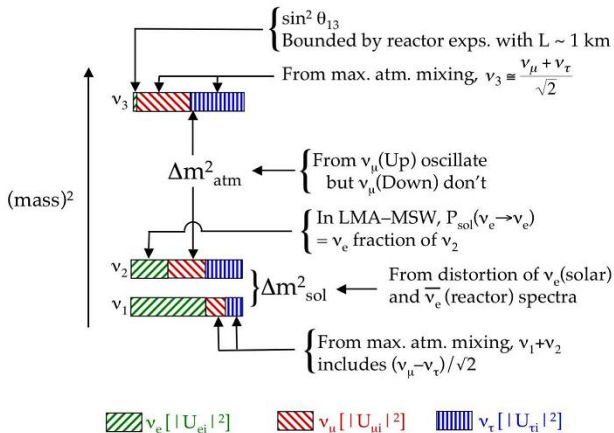


Figure : [Kayser, 2005]

# Normal and inverted hierarchy

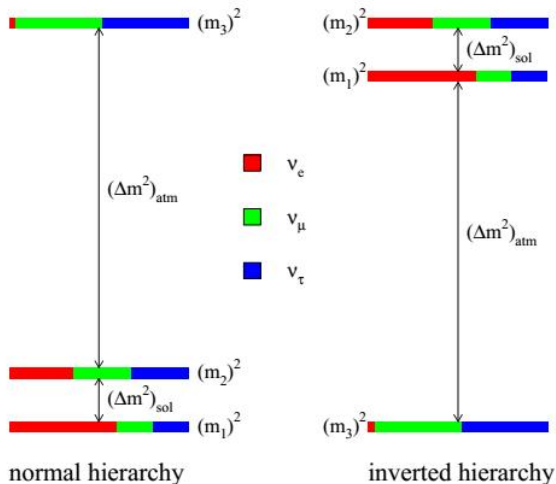


Figure : citeGouvea2005

Experiments have shown that neutrinos oscillate and have mass.

Some theoretical motivations for neutrino mass are:

- No fundamental theoretical reason to not introduce a right-handed neutrino field. This can give a mass term through the Higgs-mechanism. This is called the minimally extended SM.
- Unification of forces: a supersymmetrized version of the SM naturally predicts massive neutrinos (unless lepton number symmetry is imposed).

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# Higgs-lepton Lagrangian

Representation of Leptons in the SM [Giunti and Kim, 2007a]:

$$L_{L,\alpha} = \begin{pmatrix} \nu_{\alpha,L} \\ \alpha_L \end{pmatrix} \text{ where } \alpha = e, \mu, \tau$$
$$\ell_{R,\alpha} = \alpha_R$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{H,L} = - \sum_{\alpha} Y_{\alpha}^{\ell} \left( \overline{L_{L,\alpha}} \phi \ell_{R,\alpha} + \overline{\ell_{R,\alpha}} \phi^{\dagger} L_{L,\alpha} \right) \text{ where } \phi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \nu + H(x) \end{pmatrix}$$

So no neutrino mass:

$$\mathcal{L}_{H,L} = - \sum_{\alpha} \underbrace{\frac{y_{\alpha}^{\ell} \nu}{\sqrt{2}}}_{m_{\alpha}} \overline{\ell_{L,\alpha}} \ell_{R,\alpha} - \sum_{\alpha} \frac{y_{\alpha}^{\ell}}{\sqrt{2}} \overline{\ell_{L,\alpha}} \ell_{R,\alpha} H + \text{h.c.}$$

Introduce  $\nu_{\alpha,R}$  with  $\alpha = e, \mu, \tau$  (minimally extended Standard Model) <sup>4</sup>

- Singlet under  $SU(3)_c \times SU(2)_L$  and  $Y=0$
- Only interacts through gravity  $\Rightarrow$  sterile

This leads to an additional term in the Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L}_{H,L} = - \left( \frac{v+H}{\sqrt{2}} \right) \left( \sum_{\alpha=e,\mu,\tau} y_{\alpha}^{\ell} \overline{l_{L,\alpha}} l_{R,\alpha} + \sum_{k=1,2,3} y_k^n \overline{\nu_{L,k}} \nu_{R,k} + \text{h.c.} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{m_k = \frac{y_k^n v}{\sqrt{2}}}$$

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<sup>4</sup>In principle, there is no objection to only having 1 right-handed neutrino.

The above scenario allows for neutrino flavor mixing:

$$\nu_L = U \mathbf{n}_L \text{ where } \nu_L = \begin{pmatrix} \nu_{eL} \\ \nu_{\mu L} \\ \nu_{\tau L} \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \mathbf{n}_L = \begin{pmatrix} \nu_{1L} \\ \nu_{2L} \\ \nu_{3L} \end{pmatrix}$$

However, it does not:

- allow for mixing between neutrinos and sterile neutrinos ( $\nu_R$ )  $\rightarrow$  necessary?
- explain the small mass of neutrinos (i.e. the small value of  $y_k^n$ )

Possible solution: See-saw mechanism

# Majorana Neutrinos

Majorana condition for a fermion field  $\psi = \psi_L + \psi_R$ :

- $\psi = \mathcal{C}\bar{\psi}^T$  or  $\psi = \psi^C$

This is satisfied if one replaces  $\psi_{R/L}$  by  $\psi_{L/R}^C$  (or  $\mathcal{C}\overline{\psi_{L/R}}^T$ )<sup>5</sup>

The Majorana Lagrangian mass terms then becomes:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_{mass}^L &= -\frac{1}{2}m_L\bar{\nu}_L^C\nu_L + \text{h.c.} \\ \mathcal{L}_{mass}^R &= -\frac{1}{2}m_R\bar{\nu}_R^C\nu_R + \text{h.c.}\end{aligned}$$

and the Dirac Lagrangian as defined above:

$$\mathcal{L}_{mass}^D = -m_D\bar{\nu}_R\nu_L + \text{h.c.}$$

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<sup>5</sup>Require the field equations to be identical

# Dirac-Majorana Lagrangian

The most general Dirac-Majorana Lagrangian for one generation:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_{mass}^{D+M} &= \mathcal{L}_{mass}^D + \mathcal{L}_{mass}^L + \mathcal{L}_{mass}^R \\ &= -\frac{1}{2}m_D\bar{\nu}_R\nu_L - \frac{1}{2}m_L\bar{\nu}_L^c\nu_L - \frac{1}{2}m_R\bar{\nu}_R^c\nu_R + \text{h.c.} \\ &= -\frac{1}{2}\underbrace{(\bar{\nu}_L^c \quad \bar{\nu}_R)}_M \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} m_L & m_D \\ m_D & m_R \end{pmatrix}}_{N_L} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \nu_L \\ \nu_R^c \end{pmatrix}}_{N_L} + \text{h.c.}\end{aligned}$$

In the SM:

- $m_L \neq 0$  not allowed, but can be generated by physics Beyond the Standard Model (BSM)
- $m_R \neq 0$  OK

# Diagonalization of the mass matrix

We want to find the field of massive neutrinos, introduce unitary matrix  $U$

- $U^T M^\dagger M U = \begin{pmatrix} m_1 & 0 \\ 0 & m_2 \end{pmatrix}^2$
- $N_L = U n_L$  where  $n_L = \begin{pmatrix} \nu_{1L} \\ \nu_{2L} \end{pmatrix}$

Moreover, this unitary matrix is given by,

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta e^{i\lambda} & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta e^{i\lambda} & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $\theta$  is the mixing angle and  $\lambda$  a CP-violating phase.

In general:

$$\tan 2\theta = \frac{2m_D}{m_R - \Re[m_L]}$$

# Mass eigenstates

Introducing this unitary matrix:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_{mass}^{D+M} &= -\frac{1}{2} (\overline{\nu_L^c} \quad \overline{\nu_R}) \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} m_L & m_D \\ m_D & m_R \end{pmatrix}}_M \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \nu_L \\ \nu_R^c \end{pmatrix}}_{N_L} + \text{h.c.} \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} \overline{N_L^c} M N_L + \text{h.c.} \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} \overline{N_L^c} U U^\dagger M U U^\dagger N_L + \text{h.c.} \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1,2} m_k \overline{\nu_{kL}^c} \nu_{kL} + \text{h.c.}\end{aligned}$$

With  $\nu_k = \nu_{kL} + \nu_{kL}^c$

# See-Saw mechanism<sup>6</sup>

$$m_D \ll m_R \text{ and } m_L = 0 \implies M = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & m_D \\ m_D & m_R \end{pmatrix} \text{ Eigenvalues are: } m_1 \approx \frac{m_D^2}{m_R};$$
$$m_2 \approx m_R$$

$\implies$  a very light neutrino and a massive sterile neutrino are created

Moreover, small mixing:

$$\tan 2\theta = \frac{2m_D}{m_R - \Re[m_L]} \implies \theta \ll 1$$

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<sup>6</sup>[Mulders, 2012, Giunti and Kim, 2007a]



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# The handedness of neutrinos: helicity

Helicity is defined as:

$$\hat{h} = \frac{\vec{S} \cdot \vec{p}}{s |\vec{p}|} = \begin{cases} +1, & \text{right-handed } \bar{\nu} \\ -1, & \text{left-handed } \nu \end{cases}$$

Not Lorentz invariant!



**Figure :** Pion back to back scattering:  $\pi^-$  has spin zero,  $\mu^-$  experimentally turns out to always be right-handed ( $h = +1$ ) [Griffiths, 2008].

# Chirality: a different definition of handedness

**Definition:** eigenvalue of  $\gamma^5$

For Weyl spinors (eigenfunctions of  $\gamma^5$ ):

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \gamma^5 \psi_R &= +\psi_R \\ \gamma^5 \psi_L &= -\psi_L \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow \text{neutrinos: again called right- and left-handed}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \gamma^5 \overline{\psi_R} &= -\overline{\psi_R} \\ \gamma^5 \overline{\psi_L} &= +\overline{\psi_L} \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow \text{anti neutrinos: left- and right-handed respectively}$$

Chirality is Lorentz invariant!

# Relation between chirality and helicity for $m = 0$

Field equations:

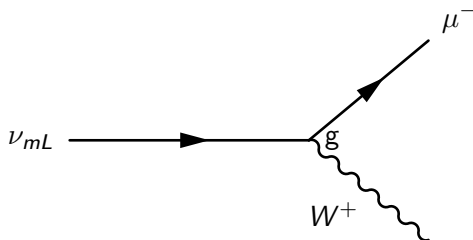
$$i\partial\psi_{R/L} = m\psi_{L/R}$$

For massless fields one can show that:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \hat{h}\psi_R &= +\psi_R \\ \hat{h}\psi_L &= -\psi_L \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow \text{for } m = 0 \text{ chirality } \leftrightarrow \text{ helicity}$$

As you would expect, for  $m = 0$  helicity is also Lorentz invariant!

# Only left-chiral neutrinos



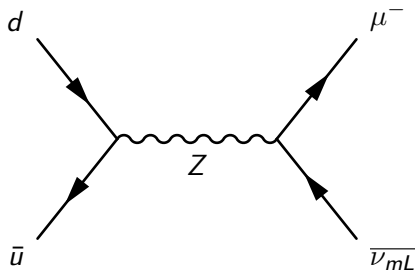
Let us only consider the  $\mu$  neutrinos, we have in the simplest picture:

$$\nu_{mL} = \cos \theta \nu_L + \sin \theta \nu_R^c$$

Recall that  $N_L = U n_L!!$

From this it is clear that in neutrino interaction we will only see left *chiral* massive neutrinos (vice versa for anti-neutrinos).

# $\pi^-$ decay



Since we have  $\nu_L = U_{11}\nu_{1L} + U_{12}\nu_{2L}$

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Essentially two kinds of oscillations experiments

- Appearance measurements  $\rightarrow$  measure transition probability
- Disappearance measurements  $\rightarrow$  measure survival probability

$$P \sim \sin^2 \left( 1.27 \Delta m^2 [\text{eV}]^2 \frac{L[\text{km}]}{E[\text{GeV}]} \right).$$

- Not possible to measure flavor transitions if  $\frac{\Delta m^2 L}{E} \ll 1$
- An average of  $P_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta}$  can be measured when  $\frac{\Delta m^2 L}{E} \gg 1$
- The sensitivity to  $\Delta m^2$  is the value  $\Delta m^2$  for which  $\frac{\Delta m^2 L}{E} \sim 1$ .

Types of experiments are

- Solar and atmospheric neutrino experiments
- Reactor experiments
- Accelerator experiments

These last two can be divided into groups based on source-detector distance  $L$ .

- short baseline
- long baseline
- very long baseline

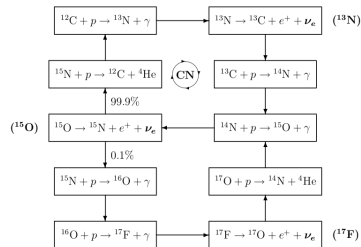
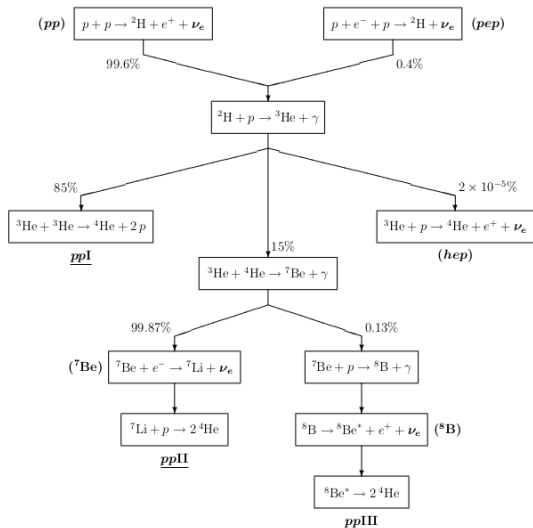
# Introduction to experiments

Type of experiment	$L$	$E$	$\Delta m^2$ sensitivity
Reactor SBL	$\sim 10$ m	$\sim 1$ MeV	$\sim 0.1$ eV <sup>2</sup>
Accelerator SBL (Pion DIF)	$\sim 1$ km	$\gtrsim 1$ GeV	$\gtrsim 1$ eV <sup>2</sup>
Accelerator SBL (Muon DAR)	$\sim 10$ m	$\sim 10$ MeV	$\sim 1$ eV <sup>2</sup>
Accelerator SBL (Beam Dump)	$\sim 1$ km	$\sim 10^2$ GeV	$\sim 10^2$ eV <sup>2</sup>
Reactor LBL	$\sim 1$ km	$\sim 1$ MeV	$\sim 10^{-3}$ eV <sup>2</sup>
Accelerator LBL	$\sim 10^3$ km	$\gtrsim 1$ GeV	$\gtrsim 10^{-3}$ eV <sup>2</sup>
ATM	$20$ – $10^4$ km	$0.5$ – $10^2$ GeV	$\sim 10^{-4}$ eV <sup>2</sup>
Reactor VLB	$\sim 10^2$ km	$\sim 1$ MeV	$\sim 10^{-5}$ eV <sup>2</sup>
Accelerator VLB	$\sim 10^4$ km	$\gtrsim 1$ GeV	$\gtrsim 10^{-4}$ eV <sup>2</sup>
SOL	$\sim 10^{11}$ km	$0.2$ – $15$ MeV	$\sim 10^{-12}$ eV <sup>2</sup>

Figure : [Giunti and Kim, 2007a]

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# Solar Neutrinos



Both  
from [Giunti and Kim, 2007b]

# Solar neutrino spectrum

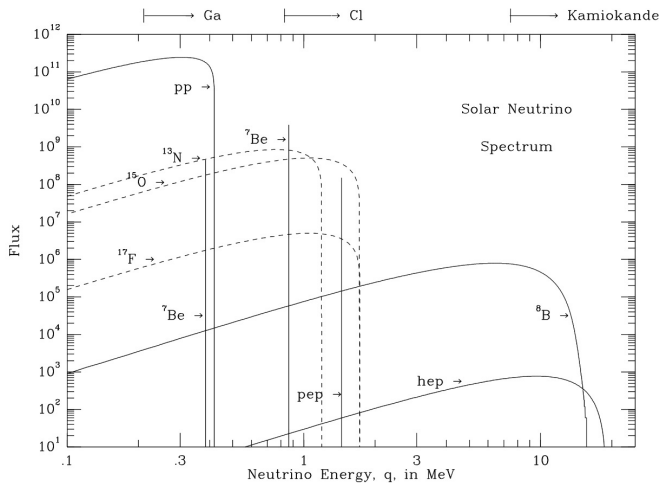
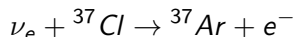


Figure : [Bahcall and Pinsonneault, 2004]

Solar neutrinos are captured via the following reactions:

- CC:  $\nu_e + d \rightarrow p + p + e^-$
- NC:  $\nu_\alpha + d \rightarrow p + n + \nu_\alpha$
- ES:  $\nu_\alpha + e^- \rightarrow \nu_\alpha + e^-$  ( $\sigma_{\nu_e} \approx 6\sigma_{\nu_{\mu,\tau}}$ )

Homestake experiment used  $^{37}\text{Cl}$  solved in water for CC-reaction:



- $^{37}\text{Ar}$ -decay is measured.
- Threshold energy  $\leq 0.814\text{MeV}$ , thus  ${}^8\text{B}$  neutrinos are observed.
- Background:  $\mu$ -decay from cosmic rays ( $0.08 \pm 0.03$  atoms/day)



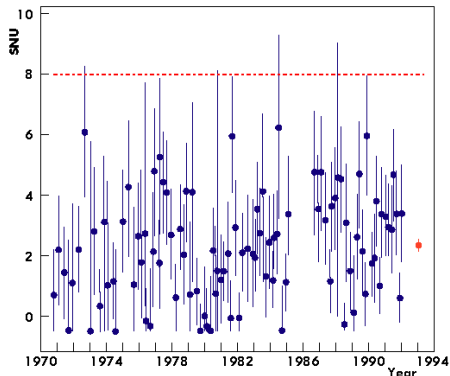


Figure : [Davis, 1994]

$1\text{SNU} = 10^{-36} \nu$  captures per target atom per second

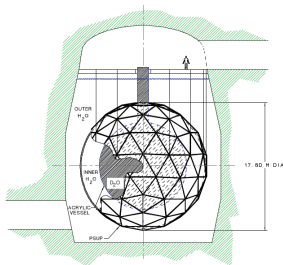


Figure : From [Boger et al., 2000]

- Neutral current, Charged current and electron-scattering are measured
- Isotropic  $\gamma$ 's from NC neutron reactions are detected.
- $E_\gamma$  well above background

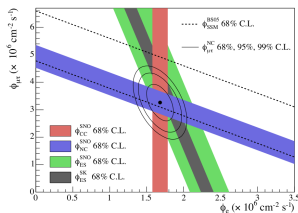


Figure : From [Giunti and Kim, 2007b]

- $\Phi_{CC} = 1.86 \pm 0.06 \cdot 10^6 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$
- $\Phi_{NC} = 4.94 \pm 0.21 \cdot 10^6 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$
- $\Phi_{ES} = 2.35 \pm 0.22 \cdot 10^6 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$

# Implications

The solar mixing parameters are (best fit):

- $\Delta m_{\text{sol}}^2 = 7.1_{-0.3}^{+1.0} \cdot 10^{-5} \text{eV}^2$
- $\theta_{\text{sol}} = 32.5_{-2.3}^{+2.4} \text{°}$

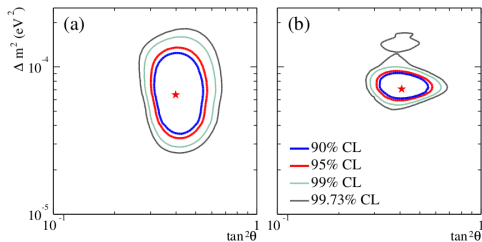


Figure : From [Ahmed et al., 2004]

# Matter oscillations

Our distance to the sun ( $L$ ) varies:

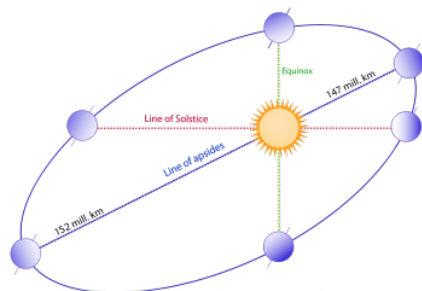


Figure : <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Seasons1.svg>

- No seasonal effects to neutrino oscillations.
- flavor oscillations in vacuum no solution.
- Neutrino oscillations in matter.

- In matter,  $\nu_e$  can interact with  $e^-$  via CC.
- All  $\nu$  can interact via NC.
- Extra potential energy terms in Hamiltonian:

$$\mathbf{H}_M = \mathbf{H}_{\text{vac}} + V_W \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + V_Z \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Where  $V_W = \sqrt{2}G_F n_e$  due to CC and  $V_Z = -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}G_F n_n$  due to NC.

⇒ Different mixing probabilities and time effects

$\Delta m^2$  and  $\theta$  replaced by effective  $\Delta m_m^2$  and  $\theta_m$ <sup>7</sup>:

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta m_m^2 &\equiv \Delta m^2 \sqrt{\sin^2 2\theta + (\cos 2\theta - x)^2} \\ \sin^2 2\theta_m &\equiv \frac{\sin^2 2\theta}{\sin^2 2\theta + (\cos 2\theta - x)^2} \\ x &\equiv \frac{2\sqrt{2}G_F n_e E}{\Delta m^2}\end{aligned}$$

⇒ Matter factor proportional to  $E$  and  $n_e$ .

---

<sup>7</sup>For a detailed derivation, see [Giunti and Kim, 2007b] or [Kayser, 2005]

# Large Mixing Angle MSW-effect

- For  ${}^8B\nu_e$  in the centre of the sun, the  $V_C$  term in the Hamiltonian dominates.

⇒  $\nu_e$  are born as eigenstates of this matrix with eigenvalue  $\sqrt{2}G_F n_e$ :

$$|\nu_e\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

- Propagating to the edge of the sun, the neutrino remains eigenstate of total  $\mathbf{H}_M$ , and thus emerges as upper eigenstate  $|\nu_2\rangle$  of  $\mathbf{H}_{\text{vac}}$  from the sun.
- From there, it propagates as a normal  $|\nu_2\rangle$  from the sun without oscillating.
- The probability that it interacts as  $\nu_e$  on earth is thus proportional to  $|U_{e2}|^2 = \theta_{sol} \cong \frac{1}{3}$ , and does not oscillate with  $L$



# Cosmic rays react in the atmosphere

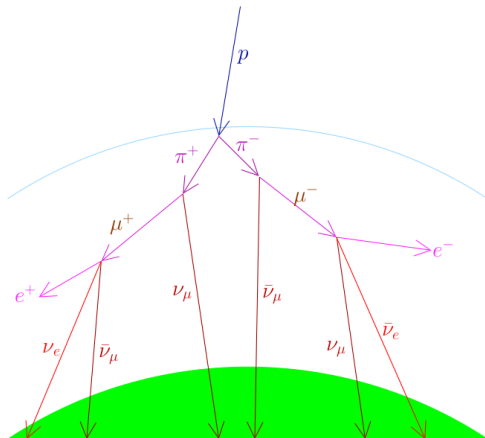


Figure : [Giunti and Kim, 2007b]

Main decays responsible for neutrinos:

- $\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ + \nu_\mu$  or  $\pi^- \rightarrow \mu^- + \bar{\nu}_\mu$
- $\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ + \nu_e + \bar{\nu}_\mu$  or  $\mu^- \rightarrow e^- + \bar{\nu}_e + \nu_\mu$

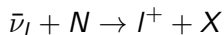
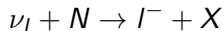
Expected flux ratio:

$$\frac{\Phi_{\nu_\mu} + \Phi_{\bar{\nu}_\mu}}{\Phi_{\nu_e} + \Phi_{\bar{\nu}_e}} \approx 2$$

However, for  $E_\mu \geq 1\text{GeV}$ , a portion of  $\mu^\pm$  reaches the surface of the earth before escaping, thus:

$$\frac{\Phi_{\nu_\mu} + \Phi_{\bar{\nu}_\mu}}{\Phi_{\nu_e} + \Phi_{\bar{\nu}_e}} \geq 2$$

Main reactions:



Measuring the charge of the leptons is not yet possible. However, the trajectories can be determined by Cherenkov-detectors.

# Super-Kamiokande

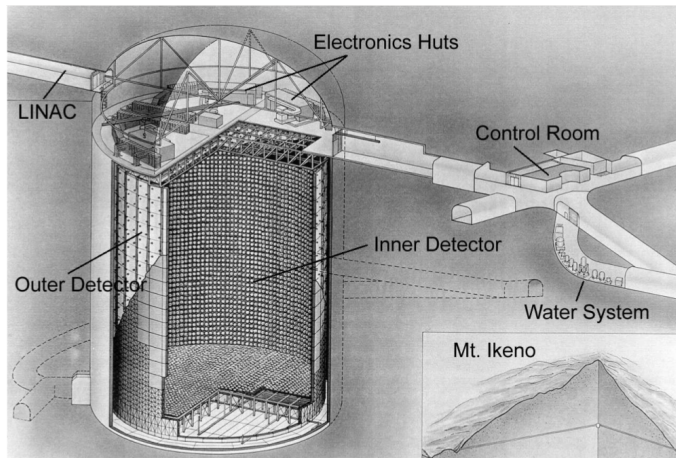


Figure : [Fukuda et al., 2003]

# Zenith-Angle

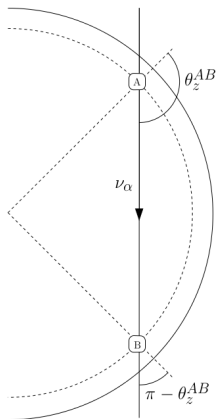


Figure : [Giunti and Kim, 2007b]

Different zenith angle means different  $L$  traveled through atmosphere and earth.

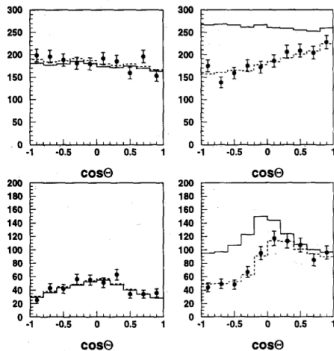
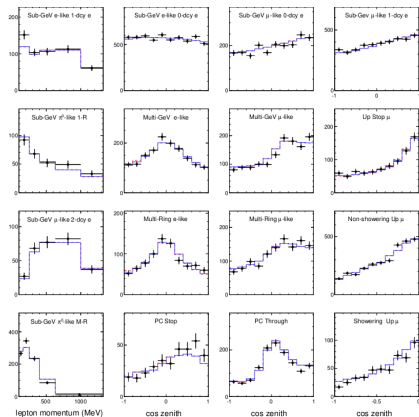


Figure : Zenith angle-dependent flux distribution. Top: sub-GeV, bottom: multi-GeV, left:  $e$ -like, right:  $\mu$ -like. From [Kiełczewska, 2000].

# Zenith-angle distribution



Best fit for  $\theta_{\text{atm}}$ :

$$\theta_{\text{atm}} = 0.820 \pm 0.048$$

Best fit for  $\Delta m_{\text{atm}}^2$ :

$$\Delta m_{\text{atm}}^2 = 2.1 \cdot 10^{-3} \text{eV}^2$$

Figure : [Wendell et al., 2010].

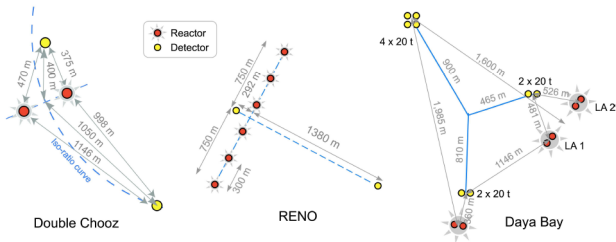
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# The reactor experiment

- $\bar{\nu}_e$  disappearance experiment
- Detection via inverse neutron-decay:  $\bar{\nu}_e + p \rightarrow n + e^+$
- $\theta_{13}$  determined from *observed-to-predicted ratio of events*

Setup of the experiment:



**Figure :** The nearby detectors measure the total flux, whereas the far away detectors measure a different relative flux due to oscillations [Mezzetto and Schwetz, 2010].

$$\begin{aligned} P_{\bar{\nu}_e \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e} &= 1 - c_{13}^4 \sin^2 2\theta_{sol} \sin^2 \left( 1.27 \frac{\Delta m_{sol}^2 L}{E} \right) \\ &\quad - c_{12}^2 \sin^2 2\theta_{13} \sin^2 \left( 1.27 \frac{\Delta m_{13}^2 L}{E} \right) \\ &\quad - s_{12}^2 \sin^2 2\theta_{13} \sin^2 \left( 1.27 \frac{\Delta m_{atm}^2 L}{E} \right) \\ &\approx 1 - \sin^2 2\theta_{13} \sin^2 \left( 1.27 \frac{\Delta m_{atm}^2 L}{E} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Here  $\Delta m_{13}^2 \approx \Delta m_{atm}^2 \equiv \Delta m_{23}^2 = 2.4 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$ . Since also  $c_{12}^2 + s_{12}^2 = 1$  the second and last line combine. Moreover, the first term can be dropped for small distances ( $L < 5 \text{ km}$ ) [Beringer et al., 2012].

---

<sup>8</sup>[Guo et al., 2007, Abe et al., 2012b]

# Daya-Bay results

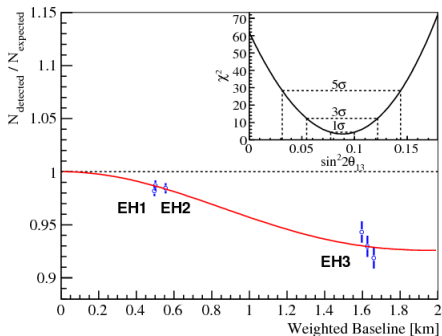


Figure : Disappearance of  $\bar{\nu}_e$  at Daya Bay [Dwyer, 2013]

## A simple calculation<sup>9</sup> to determine $\theta_{13}$

Daya bay measured an anti-neutrino rate of:

$$\frac{\text{obs}}{\text{exp}} \approx 0.944$$

We have  $L = 1.648$  km;  $E_{\nu_{\text{reactor}}} \sim 10^{-3}$  GeV;  $\Delta m_{\text{atm}}^2 \approx 2.4 \times 10^{-3}$  eV<sup>2</sup>

$$P_{\bar{\nu}_e \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e} \approx 1 - \sin^2 2\theta_{13} \sin^2 \left( 1.27 \frac{\Delta m_{\text{atm}}^2 L}{E} \right)$$

$$0.944 \approx 1 - \sin^2 2\theta_{13}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\sin^2 2\theta_{13} \sim 0.1}$$

---

<sup>9</sup>After conducting a difficult experiment and doing statistical analysis.

# Comparison of $\theta_{13}$ measurements

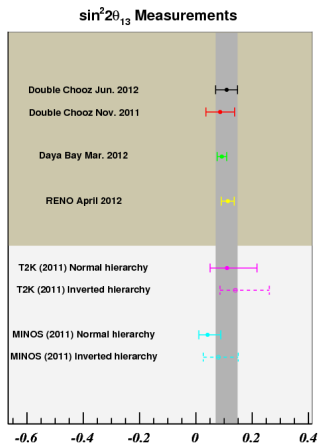


Figure : The dark region are reactor experiments, the light region accelerator experiments [Abe et al., 2012c]

# The relevance of $\theta_{13}$

The non-zero value of  $\theta_{13}$  has some important consequences:

- There is a small part of  $\nu_e$  in  $\nu_3$
- It allows for the possibility of CP violation in the lepton sector!  
(However, difficult to detect for smaller  $\theta_{13}$ )

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# Accelerator experiments

Accelerator experiments create a beam of  $\mu$  neutrinos.

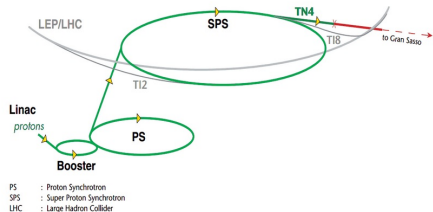
Advantages:

- Accurate determination of neutrino flux
- The parameters L and E can be set  
→ Higher oscillation probability

Detectors measure the oscillation  $P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_{e,\tau})$

Accelerator experiments:

- CNGS (2008-present)
- MINOS (2005-2013)
- T2K (2010-present)





# Measuring mixing variables with accelerators

Accelerator experiments can set the value of  $L/E$ ;

→  $L/E$  approximation of the transition probability for small  $L/E$ :

- $P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\tau) = \cos^2(\theta_{13})\sin^2(2\theta_{23})\sin^2(1.27\Delta m_{23}^2 \frac{L}{E})$

- $P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e) = \sin^2(2\theta_{13})\sin^2(\theta_{23})\sin^2(1.27\Delta m_{23}^2 \frac{L}{E})$

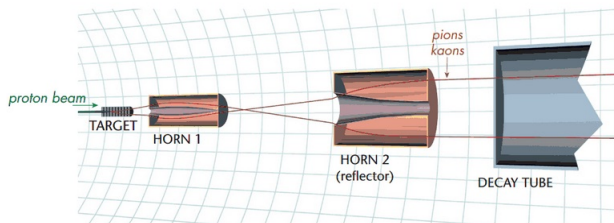
→  $L/E$  approximation of the transition probability for large  $L/E$ :

- $P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e) = \cos^2(\theta_{13})\sin^2(2\theta_{12})\sin^2(1.27\Delta m_{12}^2 \frac{L}{E}) + \sin^2(2\theta_{13})$

$P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_{e,\tau})$  is measured and the oscillation parameters are fitted onto the results.

## Accelerator beam at CERN

- SPS proton accelerator is used to collide protons
- Collision products (kaons and pions) are directed with magnetic lensing
- Collision products decay into e.g. muon neutrinos



During the propagation the  $\nu_\mu$  neutrinos oscillate and the appearance of  $\nu_e$  and  $\nu_\tau$  are measured.

CNGS uses 2 main detectors:

- OPERA for the detection of  $\nu_\tau$ 
  - $\nu_\tau + N \rightarrow \tau^- + X$
  - $\tau^-$  decay processes are detected
  - $P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\tau) = \cos^2(\theta_{13})\sin^2(2\theta_{23})\sin^2(1.27\Delta m_{23}^2 \frac{L}{E})$
- ICARUS for the detection of  $\nu_e$ 
  - $^{40}\text{Ar} + \nu_e \rightarrow ^{40}\text{K} + e^-$
  - $P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e) = \sin^2(2\theta_{13})\sin^2(\theta_{23})\sin^2(1.27\Delta m_{23}^2 \frac{L}{E})$

[Kose, 2013]

Since the conventional model of neutrino oscillations require neutrinos to have mass, the mass of a neutrino will be determined with special relativity.

CNGS experiments measure the time difference between a photon and a neutrino.

$\delta t = \gamma t$  will be measured with OPERA and ICARUS

From gamma follows effective mass of the neutrino. [Adam et al., 2012]

$$m_{eff,\alpha} = \sum_i |U_{\alpha i}|^2 m_i$$

# Time dilation

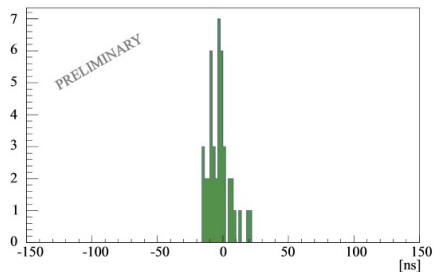


Figure : OPERA:  $\delta t = -1.1^{+7.2}_{-4.8}$  ns

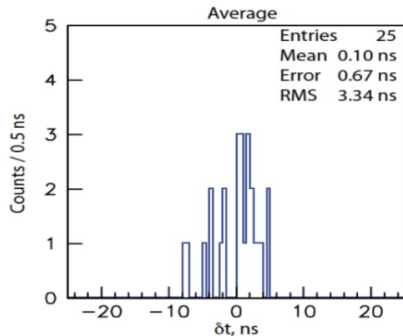


Figure : ICARUS  $\delta t = 0.1 \pm 3.4$  ns

Detector of the NuMI accelerator of Fermi lab

Special features:

- Can compare long base line with short base line  
 → disappearance experiment for small  $L/E$   

$$P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\mu) = 1 - \sin^2(2\theta_{23})\sin^2(1.27\Delta m_{23}^2 \frac{L}{E})$$
- Detectors are magnetized so that  $\nu_\mu$  and  $\bar{\nu}_\mu$  can be separated  

$$\nu_\mu(\bar{\nu}_\mu) + X \rightarrow \mu^-(\mu^+) + X'$$

[Adamson et al., 2011b, Adamson et al., 2013]

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[Adamson et al., 2011b, Adamson et al., 2013]

If neutrinos and antineutrinos have different parameters, then this indicates that  $P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\mu) \neq P(\bar{\nu}_\mu \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_\mu)$ .

This implies that CP is violated.  $\rightarrow \delta_{CP} \neq 0$  [Abe et al., 2011]

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[Adamson et al., 2011b, Adamson et al., 2013]

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Other possibility: CPT violation.

→ Lorentz-violating neutrino oscillations [Greenberg, 2002]

→ The conventional neutrino oscillation model is wrong



# MINOS neutrino vs anti- neutrino

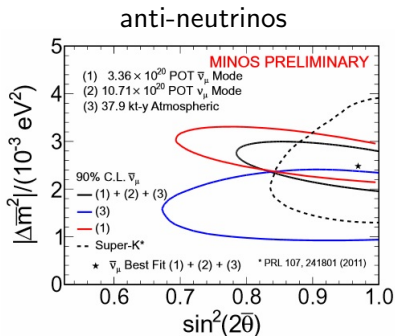
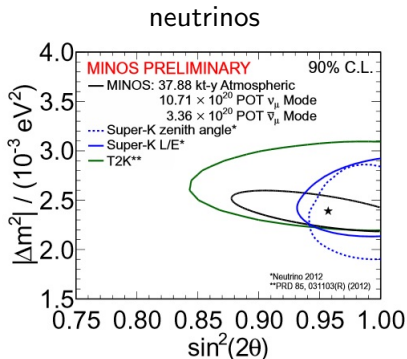


Figure :  $|\Delta m_{23}^2| = 2.39_{-0.10}^{+0.09} \cdot 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$ ;  
 $\sin^2(2\theta_{23}) = 0.96_{-0.04}^{+0.04}$

Figure :  $|\Delta \bar{m}_{23}^2| = 2.48_{-0.27}^{+0.22} \cdot 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$ ;  
 $\sin^2(2\bar{\theta}_{23}) > 0.83$

[Nich

# MINOS: measuring $\theta_{13}$

MINOS measures  $\theta_{13}$  by performing an appearance experiment for  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$

$$P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e) = \sin^2(2\theta_{13})\sin^2(\theta_{23})\sin^2(1.27\Delta m_{23}^2 \frac{L}{E})$$

- $\theta_{23} = \frac{\pi}{4} \rightarrow \sin^2(\theta_{23} = 0.5)$
- $|\Delta m_{32}^2|^2 = 2.32 \cdot 10^{-3} \text{eV}^2$

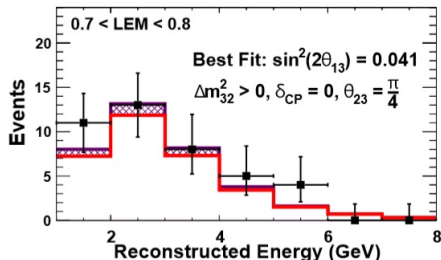


Figure : Best fit for the MINOS data:  $\sin^2(2\theta_{13}) = 0.041^{+0.047}_{-0.031}$   
[Adamson et al., 2011a].

The mixing parameters change when CP-violation is added.

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta) &= \delta_{\alpha\beta} \\
 &- 4 \sum_{k>j} \Re [U_{\alpha k}^* U_{\beta k} U_{\alpha j} U_{\beta j}^*] \sin^2 \left( \frac{\Delta m_{kj}^2 L}{4E} \right) \\
 &+ 2 \sum_{k>j} \Im [U_{\alpha k}^* U_{\beta k} U_{\alpha j} U_{\beta j}^*] \sin \left( \frac{\Delta m_{kj}^2 L}{2E} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

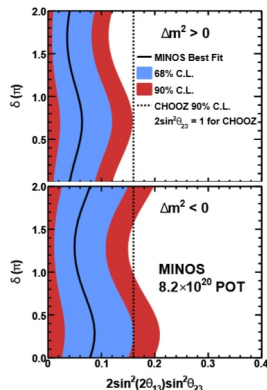


Figure : Allowed ranges for  $2\sin^2(2\theta_{13})\sin^2(\theta_{23})$

[Adamson et al., 2011a]

T2K: Tokai to Kamioka

Appearance experiment  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$

- $P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e) = \sin^2(2\theta_{13})\sin^2(\theta_{23})\sin^2(1.27\Delta m_{23}^2 \frac{L}{E})$
- $\rightarrow \sin^2(2\theta_{13}) = 0.104^{+0.060}_{-0.045}$  [Nakaya, 2013]

Disappearance experiments  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\mu$

- $P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\mu) =$   
 $1 - \sin^2(2\theta_{23})\sin^2(1.27\Delta m_{23}^2 \frac{L}{E})$
- $\Delta m_{32}^2 = 2.65 \pm 0.12 \cdot 10^{-3} eV^2$
- $\sin^2(2\theta_{23}) = 0.98 \pm 0.05$

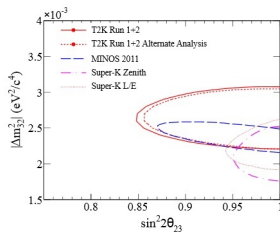


Figure : Parameter plot of T2K.  
[Abe et al., 2012a]

# Overview of results: Mixing angles

Experiment	$\sin^2(\theta_{12})$	$\sin^2(2\theta_{13})$	$\sin^2(2\theta_{23})$
IceCube			$> 0.93$
Super-Kamiokande	$0.31 \pm 0.01$	$0.104^{+0.060}_{-0.045}$	$0.98 \pm 0.05$
MINOS		$0.041^{+0.047}_{-0.031}$	$> 0.83$
Daya Bay		$0.089 \pm 0.015$	
Double CHOOZE		$0.109 \pm 0.055$	
RENO		$0.113 \pm 0.042$	
Current Value (best fit)	0.32	0.096	0.95
Current value ( $3\sigma$ )	0.27-0.37	0.066-0.127	0.92-1

[Forero et al., 2012]

# Overview of results: Mass

Experiments	$\Delta m_{21}^2$	$ \Delta m_{32}^2 $
MINOS		$2.41^{+0.09}_{-0.10} \cdot 10^{-3} eV^2$
IceCube		$2.3^{+0.6}_{-0.5} \cdot 10^{-3} eV^2$
Super-Kamiokande	$7.54 \pm 0.26 \cdot 10^{-5} eV^2$	$2.65 \pm 0.12 \cdot 10^{-3} eV^2$
Current value (best fit)	$7.62 \cdot 10^{-5} eV^2$	$2.55 \cdot 10^{-3} eV^2$
Current value ( $3\sigma$ )	$7.12 - 8.20 \cdot 10^{-5} eV^2$	$2.31 - 2.64 \cdot 10^{-3} eV^2$

[Forero et al., 2012]

A SBL accelerator experiment used to measure  $\bar{\nu}_\mu \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e$  appearance events.

Has produced interesting results [Collaboration, 1996]:

- An excess of events in the lower energy spectrum.
- Which corresponds to an allowed region  $\Delta M^2$  of 0.2 - 2.0 eV<sup>2</sup>
- And a possible region around  $\Delta M^2 = 7$  eV<sup>2</sup>.

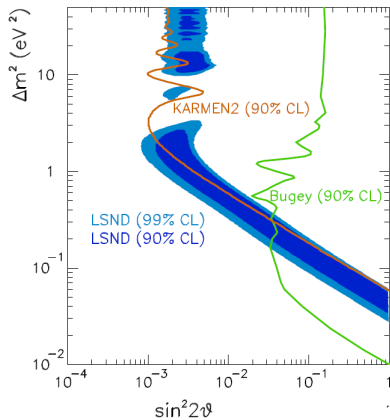


Figure : [Abazajian et al., 2012]



# Implications of the LSND result

- The amount of  $\Delta m^2$  found in the LSND experiment cannot be explained by the 3 known neutrino masses.
- The Large Electron Positron collider has only found three neutrinos with a mass smaller than one half of the mass of the  $Z$  boson
- So extra neutrinos do not couple to the weak force.

The interesting results of the LSND has led the MiniBooNE collaboration to try to further investigate  $\bar{\nu}_\mu \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e$

- MiniBooNE had an  $L/E$  to match LSND.
- However  $E$  is an order of magnitude larger and thus the detector is further away as to produce independent results.
- MiniBoone is also devised to investigate  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$ .

$\bar{\nu}_\mu \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e$  results [Collaboration, 2010]:

- In the low energy spectrum excesses have been found that could be in accordance with LSND.
- In the higher spectrum no excesses have been detected.

$\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$  results [Collaboration, 2008]

- In the lower region unexplainable excesses have been found.
- Higher energy again no excesses have been found.

The MiniBooNE results are however not conclusive.

A neutrino that does not couple to known SM forces.

How many are there?

Popular scenario:

- $3 + 1$  sterile neutrino
- $3 + 2$  sterile neutrinos

Recent global data analysis [Schwetz, 2013] shows that  $3+2$ :

- has some favourable qualities concerning to LSND and MiniBooNE results
- (and  $3+n$  in general) ultimately shows no major improvements over  $3+1$

# Adding sterile neutrinos to the framework

New mass eigenstates  $\nu_4, \dots, \nu_n$ .

The index  $i$  runs from 1 to  $n$  in the mixing matrix  $U_{\alpha i}$  and thus becomes a  $3 \times (3 + n)$  matrix

- The amount of sterile neutrinos has an effect on the amount of parameters in  $U_{\alpha i}$ .
- Mixing angles  $\theta_{kl}$  for  $k, l > 3$  are not considered as they are not observable.

- 1 Historical Background
- 2 Theoretical Background
  - Neutrino mixing
  - Massive neutrinos
  - Why neutrinos are always said to be left handed
- 3 Discussion: theory
- 4 Experiments
  - Solar and atmospheric neutrinos
  - Reactor experiments
  - Accelerator experiments
- 5 Outlook
- 6 References

Future experiments will tell us:

- Mass hierarchy and the absolute mass scale.
- Majorana or Dirac particle?
- CP-violation through neutrino oscillations?
- Are there sterile neutrinos?

## KATRIN (Karlsruhe tritium neutrino experiment)

- will determine the absolute mass scale of neutrinos, by measuring the kinetic energy of electrons from tritium beta decay.
- A mass of 0.35 eV can be measured with  $5\sigma$  significance

## NO $\nu$ A (NuMI off-axis $\nu_e$ appearance)

- Neutrinos from NuMI will pass 810 km through the Earth to a laboratory in Ash River, Minnesota
- Measures the oscillations  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$  and  $\bar{\nu}_\mu \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e$
- will determine the mass hierarchy and the CP-violating phase  $\delta$  and measure  $\theta_{13}$  more accurately (an order of magnitude better).

Both start in 2014.



Searches for neutrinoless double-beta decay, which can only happen if  $\nu = \bar{\nu}$ , thus showing that the neutrino is a Majorana:

The MAJORANA project [et al., a]

- Uses germanium crystals enriched in Ge-76, most favourable isotope for  $0\nu\beta\beta$ , the lifetime of Ge-76 is greater than  $2 \times 10^{25}$  years.

SuperNEMO (Neutrino Ettore Majorana Observatory)

- Uses different isotopes, same technique

## MINOS+ [et al., b]

- MINOS upgrade, started  $\sim 2$  months ago
- Will measure  $\Delta m_{23}^2$ ,  $\theta_{23}$ ,  $\Delta \bar{m}_{23}^2$  and  $\bar{\theta}_{23}$  more accurately
- Will search for sterile neutrinos in the  $3 + 1$  model

## LSND reloaded [Sanjib K. Agarwalla, ]

- Repeat LSND with Super-Kamiokande detector
- Will be able to test the LSND and MiniBooNE claims with  $5\sigma$  significance.
- Still a proposal

- There are many more experiments proposed /planned.
- In the next decade the mass hierarchy and absolute mass scale of the neutrinos will be found
- Moreover, maybe we will discover CP-violation in the lepton sector and the first Majorana particle
- And more lies ahead in coming decade

Thank You!

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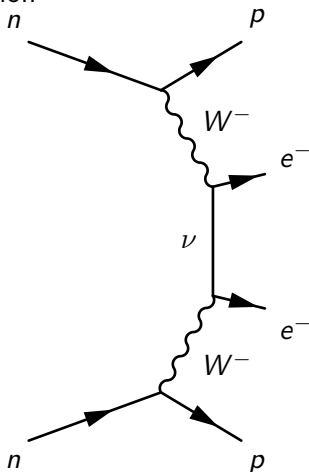
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# Neutrinoless $2\beta$ – decay

If observed:

- Would be a proof that neutrinos are majorana particles
- Lepton number violation



# Three-neutrino bilarge mixing

In this case the mixing matrix is real, and as a consequence there is no CP or T violation. It occurs when  $\theta_{13} = 0$  .

$$U^D = \begin{pmatrix} c_{12} & s_{12} & 0 \\ -s_{12}c_{23} & c_{12}c_{23} & s_{23} \\ s_{12}s_{23} & -c_{12}c_{23} & c_{23} \end{pmatrix}$$