

# *Neutrinos!*

*Present Understanding & Future Prospects*

Albert De Roeck  
CERN, Geneva, Switzerland

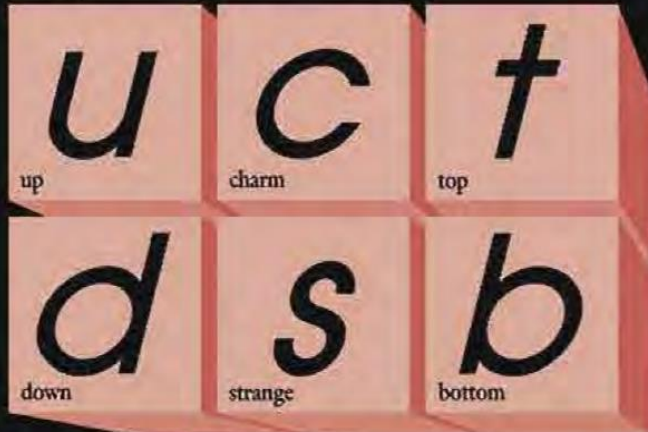


4 September 2024    BND Graduate School

# 2 Lectures

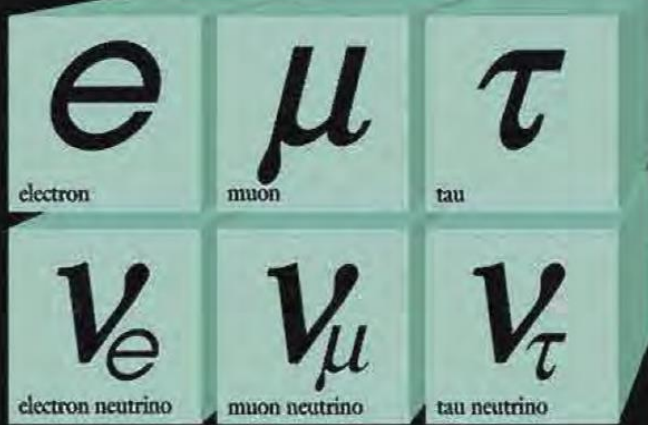
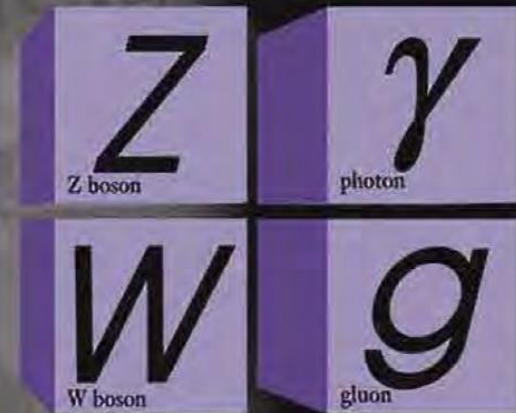
- **Lecture 1:**
  - Introduction to neutrinos
  - History of neutrino physics and open questions.
  - Neutrino oscillation physics (part I)
- **Lecture 2:**
  - Neutrino oscillation physics (part II)
  - Neutrino properties
  - Cosmological neutrinos
  - Searches for the 4th generation
  - Next generation of neutrino experiments & LHC

# Quarks



# The Standard Model

# Forces



# Leptons

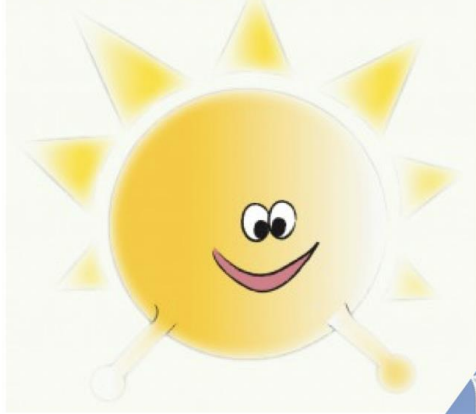
# Neutrinos

## Neutrinos are still mysterious particles

- Have only (left handed) weak interactions
- Are mass-less in the (minimal) SM .. until 1998
- Are the only neutral fermions in the SM
- Could be Majorana or Dirac fermions
- Neutrinos are produced everywhere
  - Solar neutrinos
  - Atmospheric neutrinos
  - Neutrinos from supernova explosions
  - Primordial neutrinos from the Big Bang
  - Nuclear reactor created neutrinos
  - Accelerator created neutrinos
  - Geoneutrinos, Radioactive decay, even from your body...

# Neutrinos

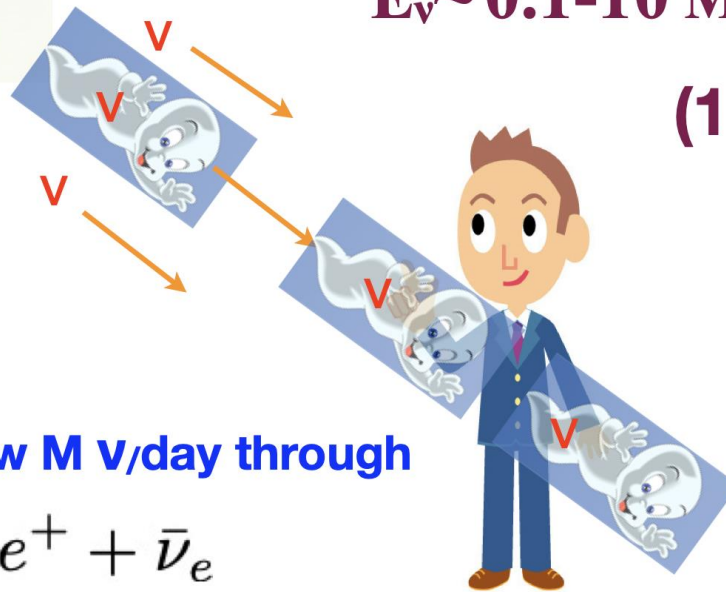
Interaction of neutrinos with matter is very weak!



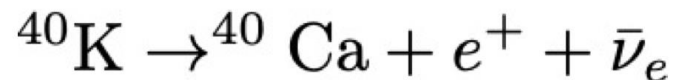
~ 1trillion ( $10^{12}$ ) of  $\nu_{\text{solar}}$  per second are passing through our body but we do not feel them at all!

$$E_{\nu} \sim 0.1-10 \text{ MeV} = 10^5 \text{ eV}$$

$$(1 \text{ MeV} = 10^6 \text{ eV})$$

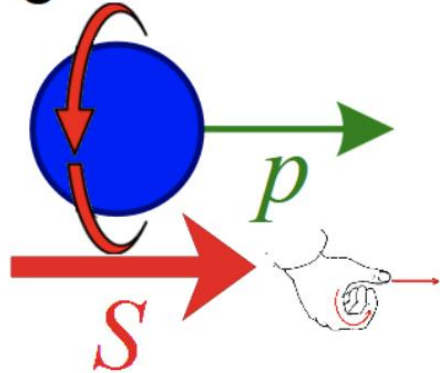


And all of us also emit ~a few M  $\nu$ /day through

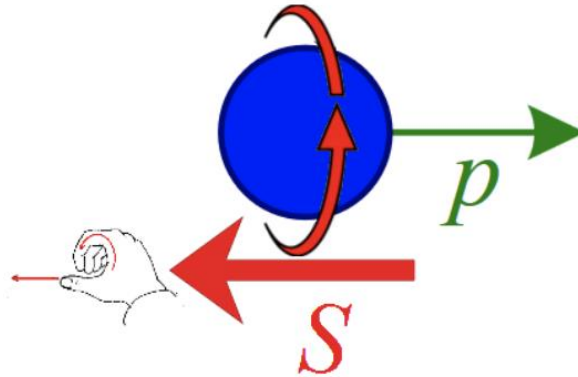


# Left-Right Handed Particles

*Right-handed*



*Left-handed*



All particles have left- and right-handed versions  
Neutrinos are always left-handed

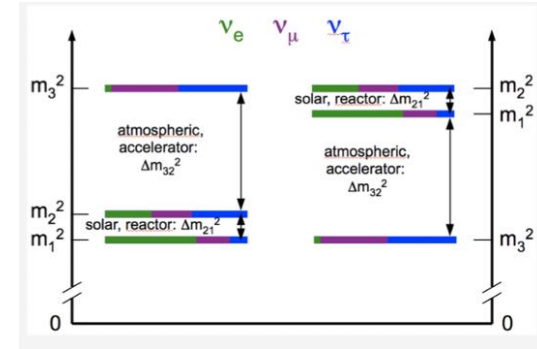
Only left handed particles interact in the weak force

NB in reality the quantum number is "chirality"


# Neutrinos

## Neutrino experiments today -> Open Questions!

- Neutrino mass values?
- Neutrino mass hierarchy? Normal or Inverted?
- CP violation in the lepton sector? Are neutrinos key to the baryon asymmetry in the Universe?
- Are neutrinos their own antiparticles? -> LNV processes
- Do right-handed/sterile/heavy neutrinos exist?
- Are there non-standard neutrino interactions?
- Neutrinos and Dark Matter?
- Testing of CPT..
- Neutrinos are Chameleons:  
They can change flavour!!



Neutrinos are an essential part of our Universe and our very existence, and can provide answers to some of the key fundamental questions today

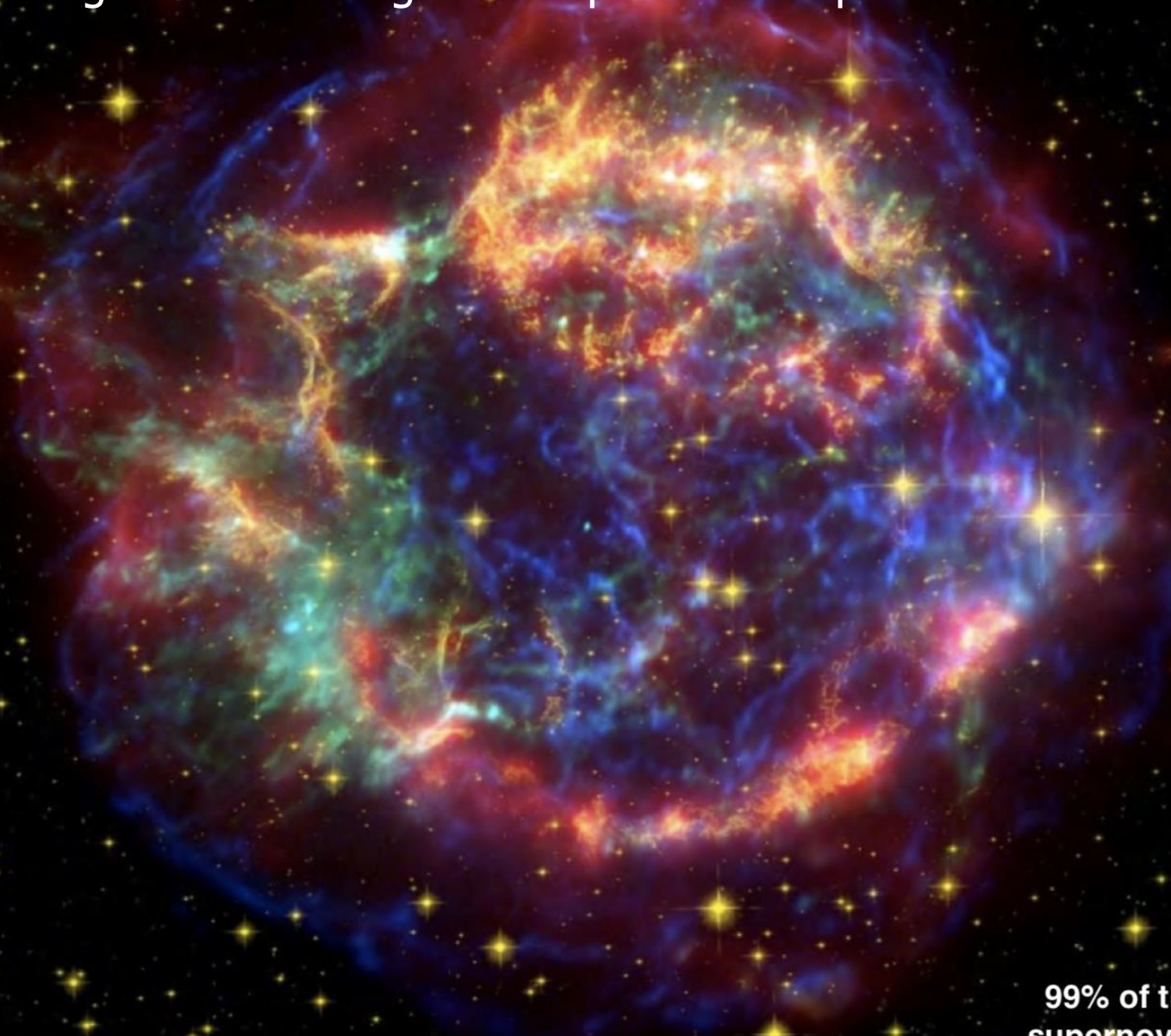
A 3D rendering of a Big Bang explosion. A bright, glowing yellow and white central point radiates outwards, with numerous colorful LEGO bricks of various sizes and colors (red, green, blue, purple, black) flying outwards in all directions. The background is a dark, starry space with some nebulae. The overall scene is dynamic and energetic, representing the expansion of the universe from a single point.

Plenty of neutrinos in the Universe

For every proton/neutron/electron  
the Universe contains a billion of  
neutrinos from the Big Bang



Neutrinos give crucial insight on Supernovae explosions



**99% of the energy in a  
supernova explosion is  
carried away by neutrinos**

Neutrinos allow us to look into the heart of the sun

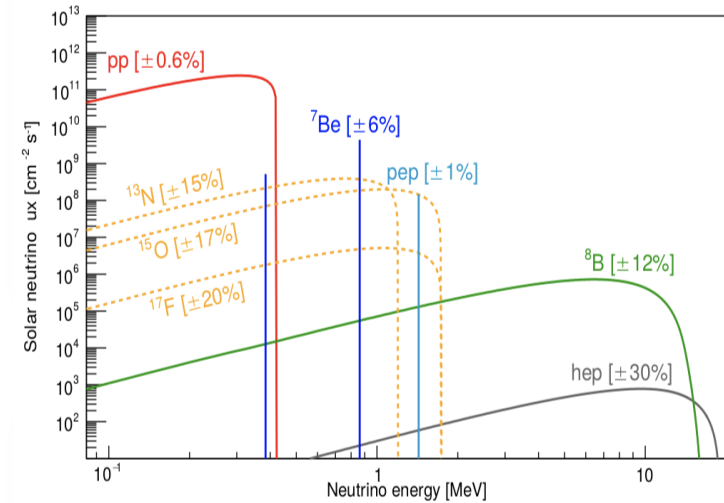
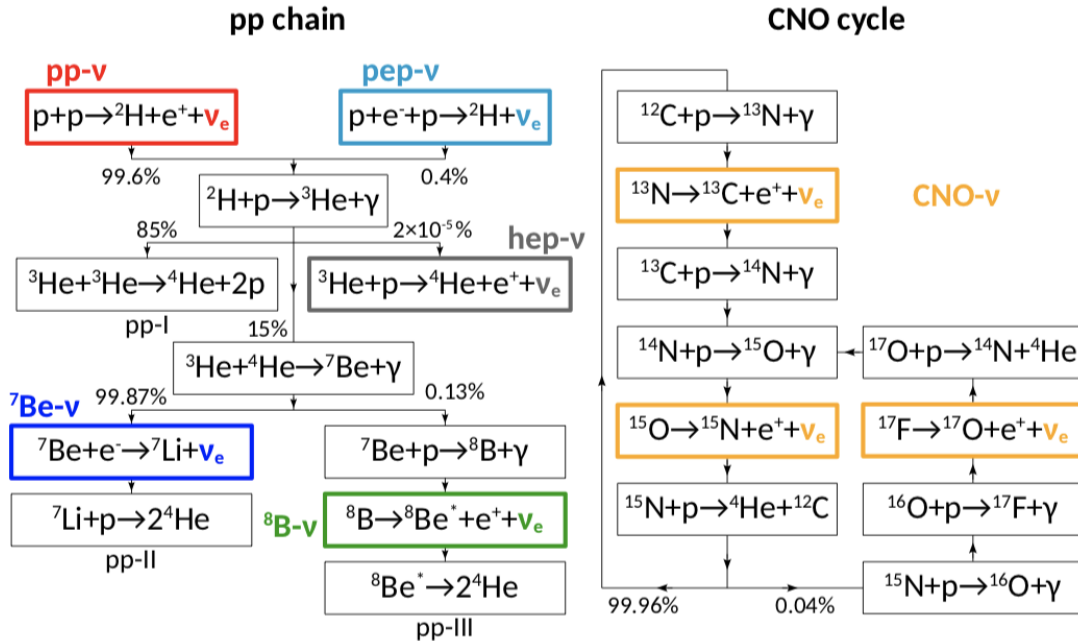


$10^{38}$  neutrinos per second  
are produced by the Sun

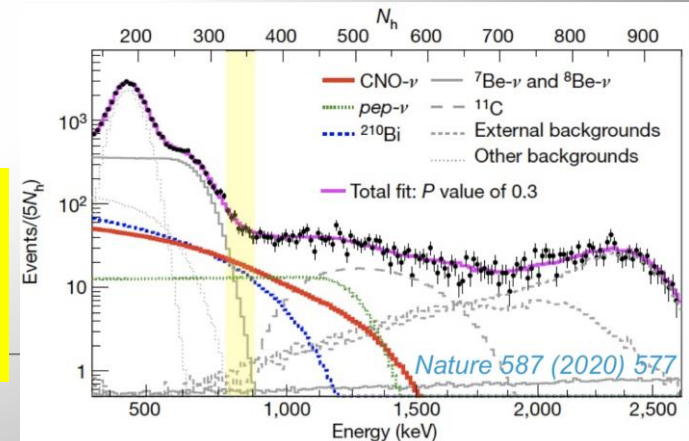
(with a flux of  $\sim 10^{11}/\text{cm}^2/\text{sec}$  at the Earth)

# Solar Neutrinos

Neutrino measurements allow to understand how the sun works



2020: Borexino measured the CNO cycle -> Nature 587 (2020) 577

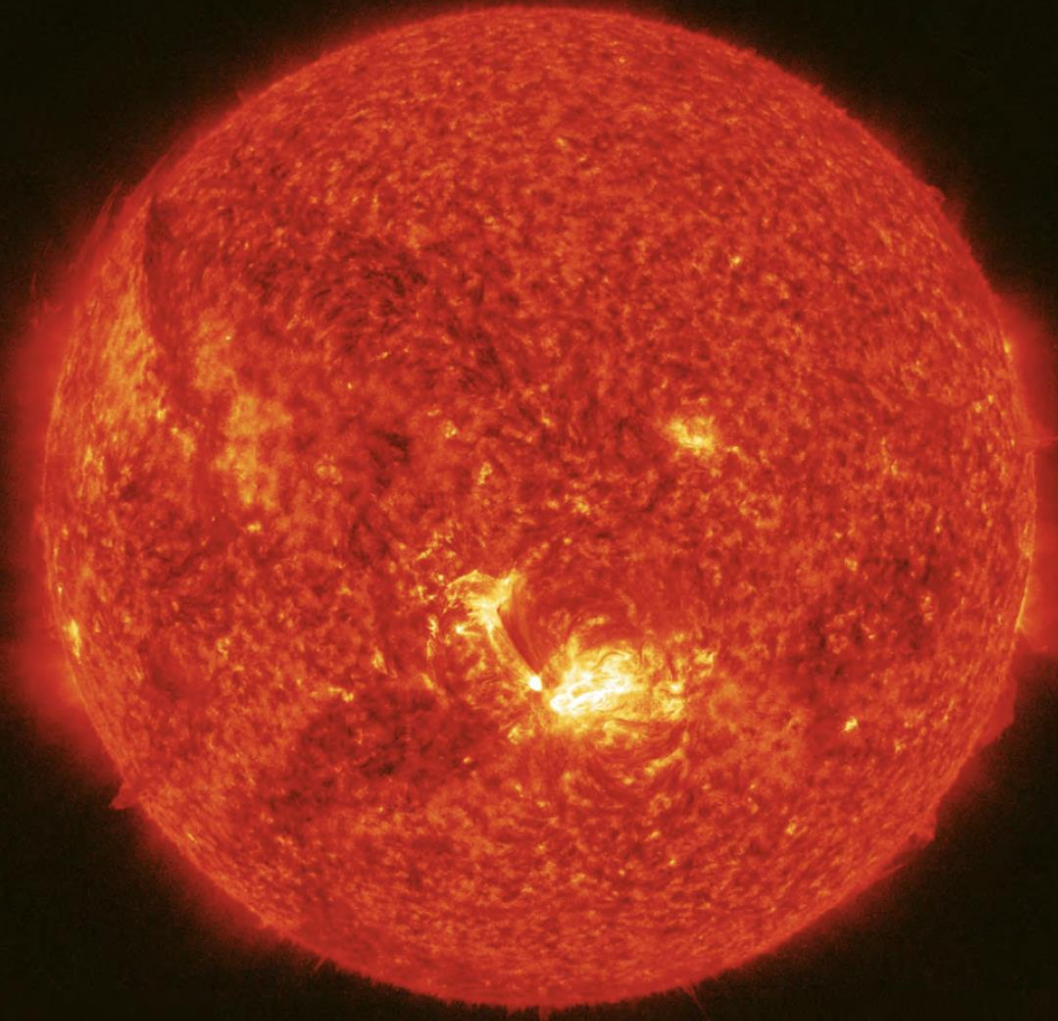


# CERN COURIER

January/February 2022 [cerncourier.com](http://cerncourier.com)

Reporting on international high-energy physics

## NEUTRINOS REVEAL THE LAST SECRETS OF STELLAR FUSION



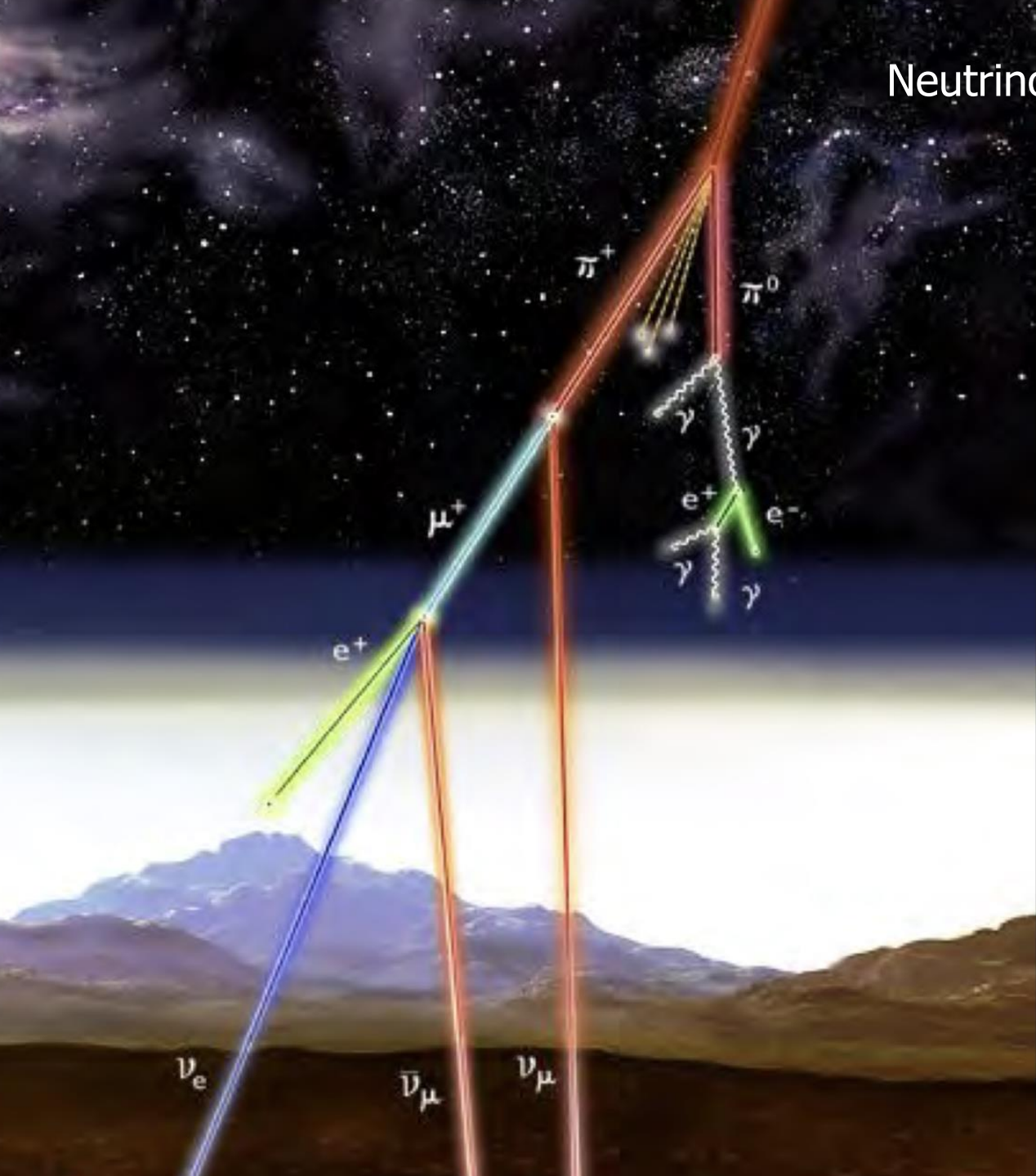
January 2022  
issue

The image is a composite of two astronomical scenes. On the left, a black hole is depicted with a bright, glowing accretion disk and a dark shadow, surrounded by concentric, swirling lines of light in shades of purple and blue. On the right, a blazar is shown as a bright, multi-colored point of light with a diffuse, glowing nebula-like structure extending from it. The background is a deep space filled with numerous small, distant stars.

very high energy neutrinos from outer space

**A 290 TeV neutrino originated from a flaring blazar (black hole at the center of a galaxy) was detected by IceCube**

# Neutrinos from cosmic rays



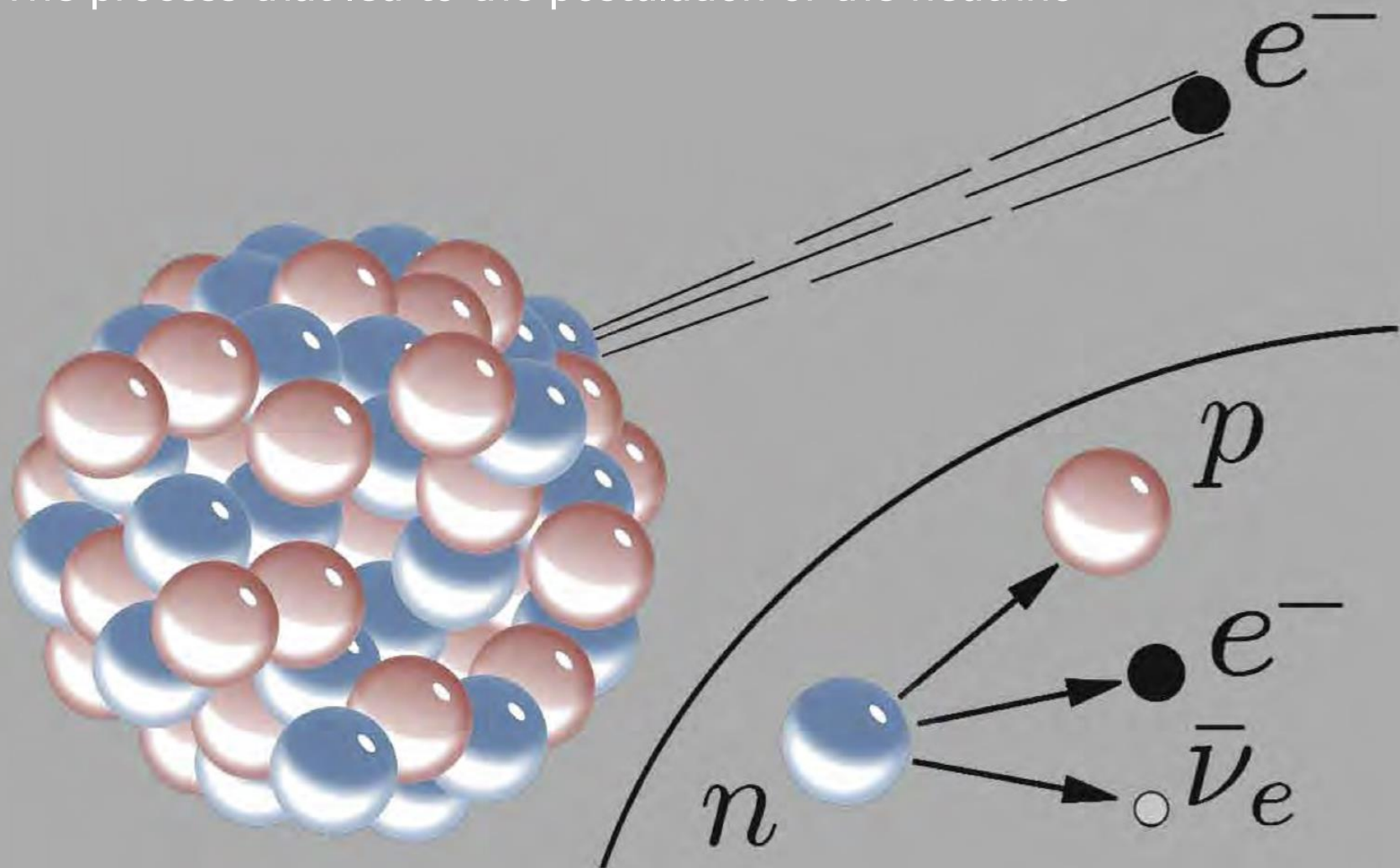
Neutrinos are also produced in the atmosphere

Reactors produce  $> 10^{21}$  neutrinos per second



# Radioactive beta-decay

The process that led to the postulation of the neutrino





# Neutrinos are Everywhere !

from Big Bang  $300 \text{ nus} / \text{cm}^3$   
2 or more  $v/c \ll 1$

SuperNovae  
 $> 10^{58}$

Sun's  
 $\sim 10^{38} \text{ nu/sec}$

Daya Bay  
 $3 \times 10^{21} \text{ nu/sec}$

Neutrinos are Forever !!!

(except for the highest energy neutrino's)

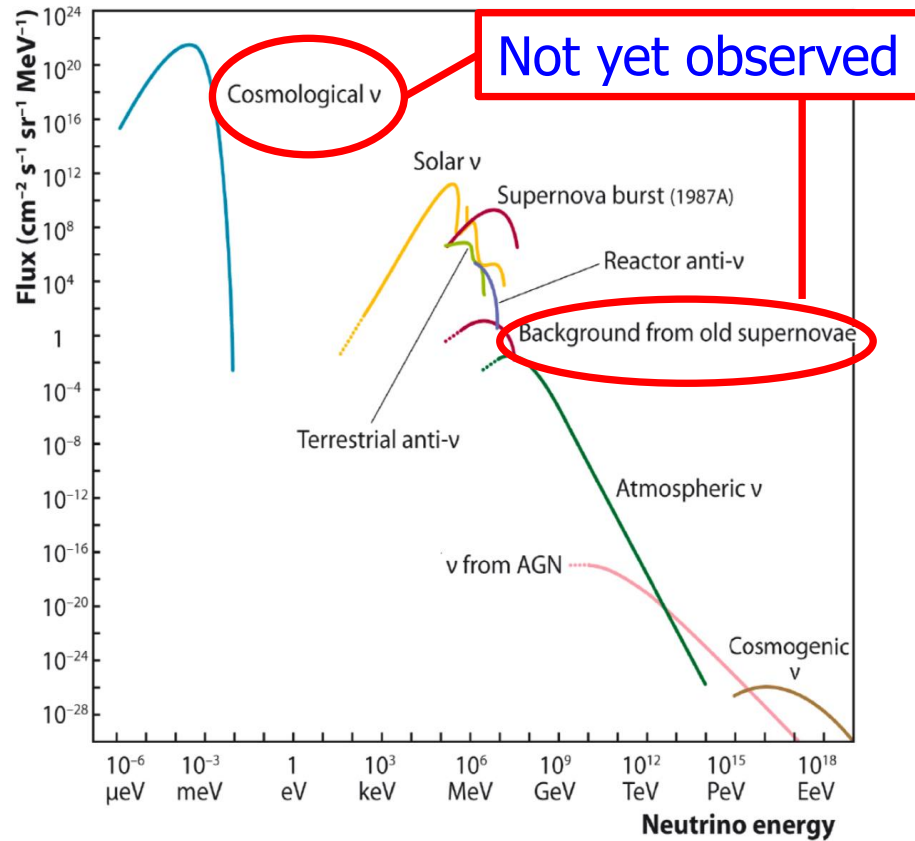


therefore in the Universe:  $\frac{\partial N_\nu}{\partial t} > 0$

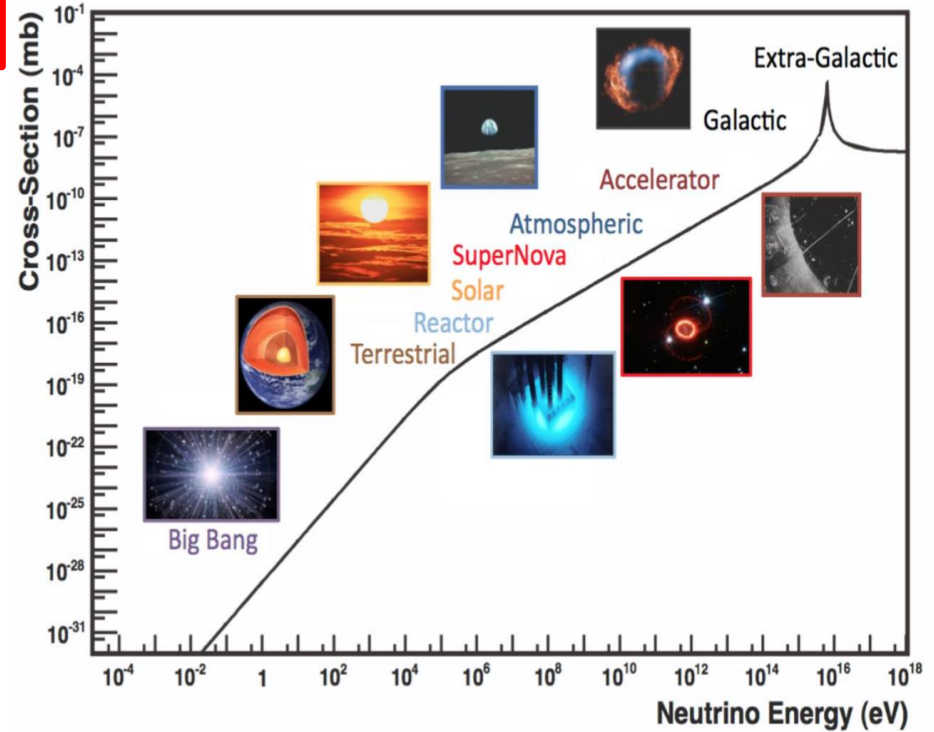
Neutrinos are the most abundant matter particles in our Universe

# Neutrino Sources, Flux and Cross Sections

C. Spiering, arXiv:1207.4952

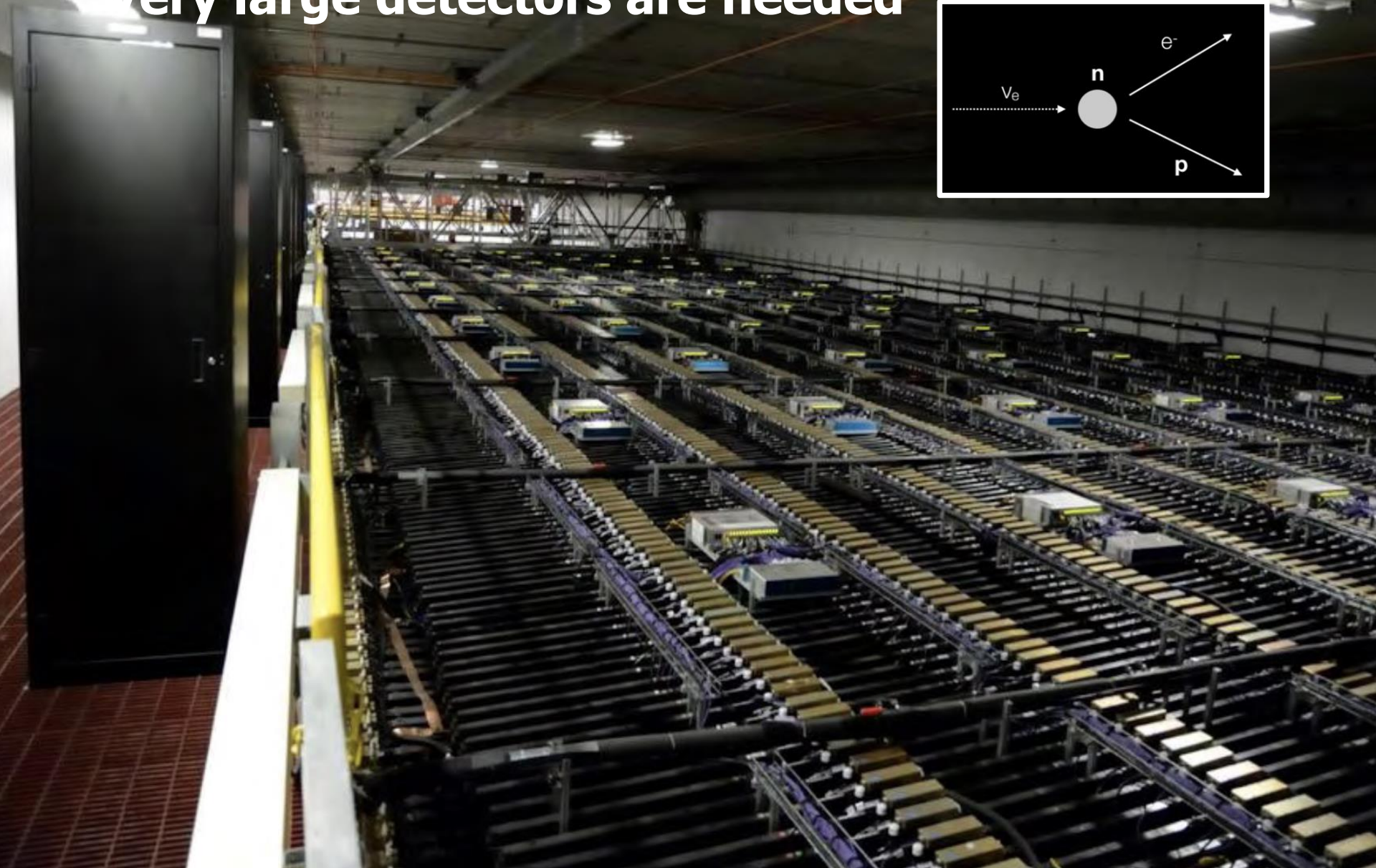
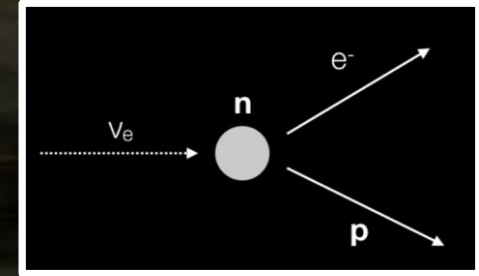


J. Formaggio, G.P. Zeller, arXiv:1305.7513



Cosmological and background from old supernovae neutrinos not yet observed!

**Detecting neutrinos is challenging**  
**Very large detectors are needed**



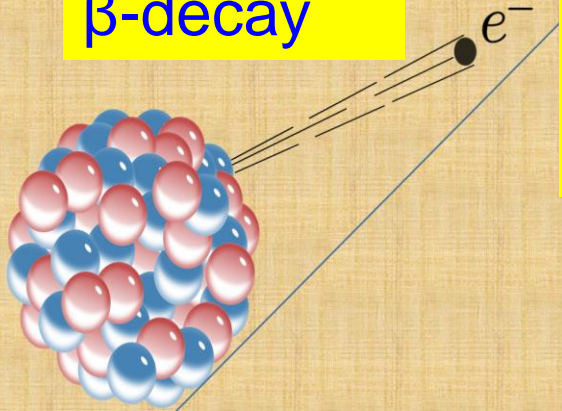
**And often they are placed far underground**

**Most neutrino detectors are placed deep underground to shield them against cosmic rays**

**$10^{-6}$  reduction for DUNE, 1.5 km underground**

# Neutrinos were introduced in 1930!

$\beta$ -decay



If the process is  $A \rightarrow B + \text{electron}$ , the energy of the electron should be at a fixed value. This is not the case! Energy-momentum not conserved in Beta-decays?

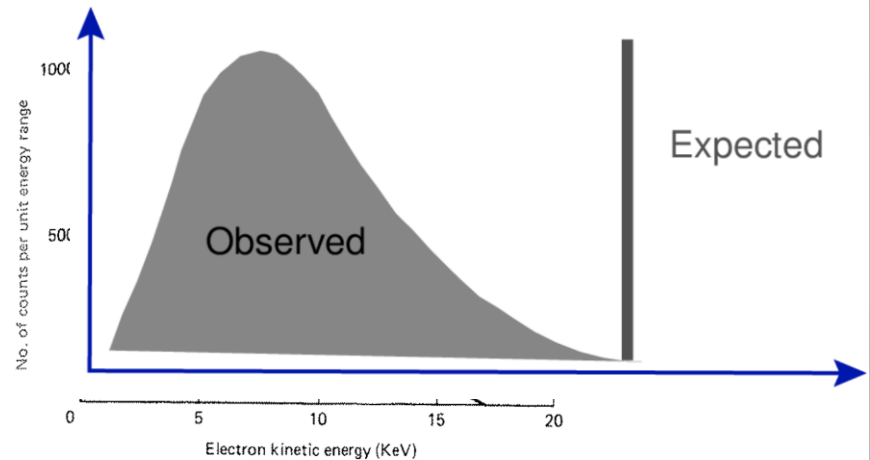


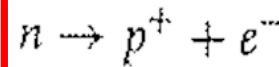
Fig. 1.5 The beta decay spectrum of tritium ( ${}^3\text{H} \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}$ ).  
(Source: Lewis, G. M. (1970) *Neutrinos*, Wykeham, London, p. 30.)

1930  
W. Pauli  
-NEUTRINO-

"I invented a new Particle,  
which  
Will never be  
Seen!"



Pauli proposed instead the process:



But he believed we could never detect this particle!!

# Neutrinos are known to us since 1930!

Physikalisches Institut  
der Eidg. Technischen Hochschule  
Zürich

Zürich, 4. Dez. 1930  
Gloriastrasse

Liebe Radioaktive Damen und Herren,

Wie der Ueberbringer dieser Zeilen, den ich huldvollst anzuhören bitte, Ihnen des näheren auseinandersetzen wird, bin ich angesichts der "falschen" Statistik der N- und Li-6 Kerne, sowie des kontinuierlichen beta-Spektrums auf einen verzweifelten Ausweg verfallen um den "Wechselsatz" (1) der Statistik und den Energiesatz zu retten. Nämlich die Möglichkeit, es könnten elektrisch neutrale Teilchen, die ich Neutronen nennen will, in den Kernen existieren, welche den Spin  $1/2$  haben und das Ausschliessungsprinzip befolgen und sich von Lichtquanten ausserdem noch dadurch unterscheiden, dass sie nicht mit Lichtgeschwindigkeit laufen. Die Masse der Neutronen müsste von derselben Grossenordnung wie die Elektronenmasse sein und jedenfalls nicht grösser als  $0,01$  Protonenmasse.- Das kontinuierliche beta-Spektrum wäre dann verständlich unter der Annahme, dass beim beta-Zerfall mit dem Elektron jeweils noch ein Neutron emittiert wird, derart, dass die Summe der Energien von Neutron und Elektron konstant ist.

Pauli Letter Collection, CERN

Pauli did not believe energy-momentum conservation was violated  
He proposed a desperate way out: a new 'invisible' particle  
He called it the neutron.

He also stayed away from the conference because of a ball in Zurich..

# Neutrinos are known to us since 1934!

1934

Enrico Fermi, father of the world's first nuclear reactor, coined the term "neutrino" which is Italian for "little neutral"

He proposed a theory for  $\beta$ -decay including the neutrino, a first formulation of the weak force...

This is one of the keystone papers for the later development of the Standard Model

Funny enough his paper got refused by Nature magazine (criticism: nothing practical in this paper)



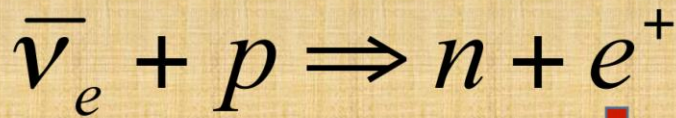
# The Discovery of the Neutrino

1956: discovery of the neutrino

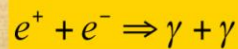


It took 26 years to detect this particle. Cowan and Reines put a detector close to the reactor in South Carolina and observed the inverse beta decay process (few events/hour)  
 Early reactors gave  $10^{19}$  neutrinos/sec

Savannah river reactor

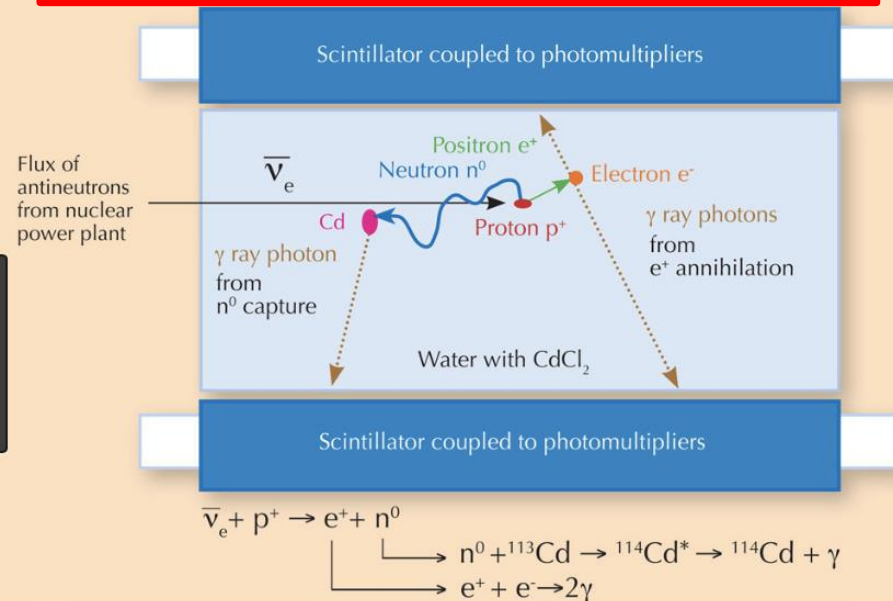


5  $\mu$ second delay



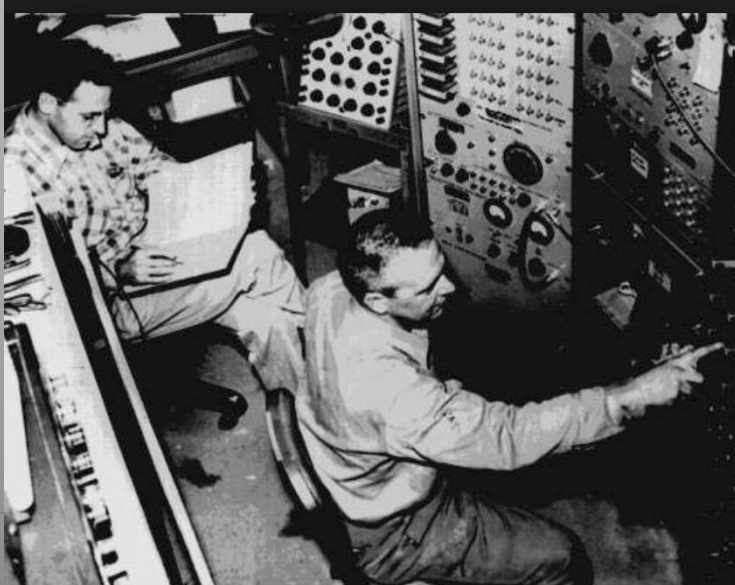
n-capture by cadmium

The neutrino really exists!





# The Discovery of the Neutrino



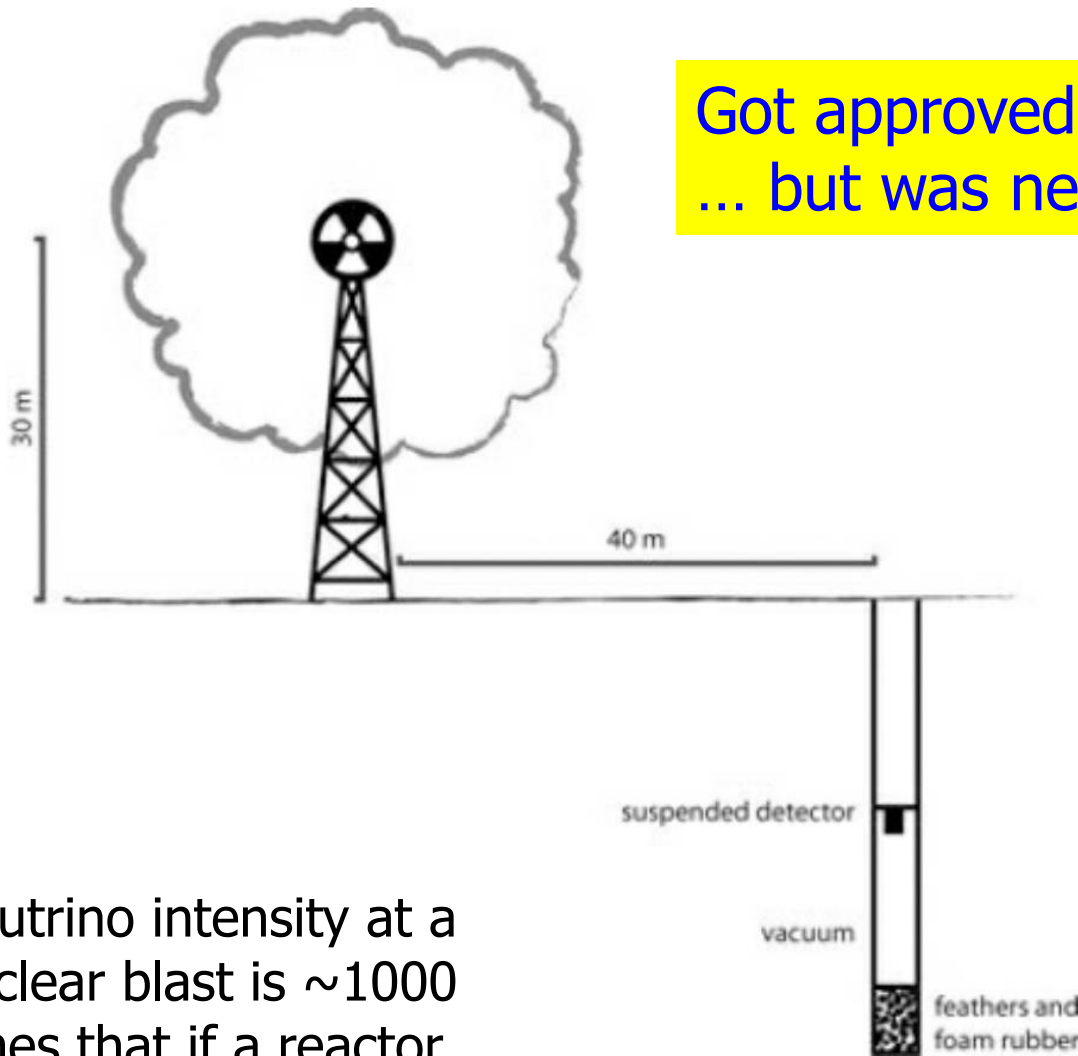
This was however not the first idea of Cowan and Reines.

They had originally proposed (and got approved for) putting an experiment close to an even more intense source of neutrinos nml

100m distance from an atomic blast!

They abandoned that idea when they realized there were certain 'practical problems' for the detector... (to survive)

# The "Original" Cowan and Reines proposal



Got approved and funded  
... but was never tried out

Neutrino intensity at a nuclear blast is  $\sim 1000$  times that if a reactor

# The Discovery of the Neutrino

1956: the first experimental evidence from project "Poltergeist", informing Wolfgang Pauli..

RADIO-SCHWEIZ AG. **RADIOGRAMM - RADIOGRAMME** RADIO-SUISSE S.A.

SBZ1311 ZHW UW1844 FM BZJ116 WH CHICAGO ILL 56 14 1310

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Erhalten - Reçu **„VIA RADIOSUISSE“** Befördert - Transmis

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**Brieftelegramm**

LT

74 15.VI.56 --1 10

NACHLASS  
PROF. W. PAULI

PROFESSOR W PAULI  
ZURICH UNIVERSITY ZURICH

*Per Post* ①

NACHLASS  
PROF. W. PAULI

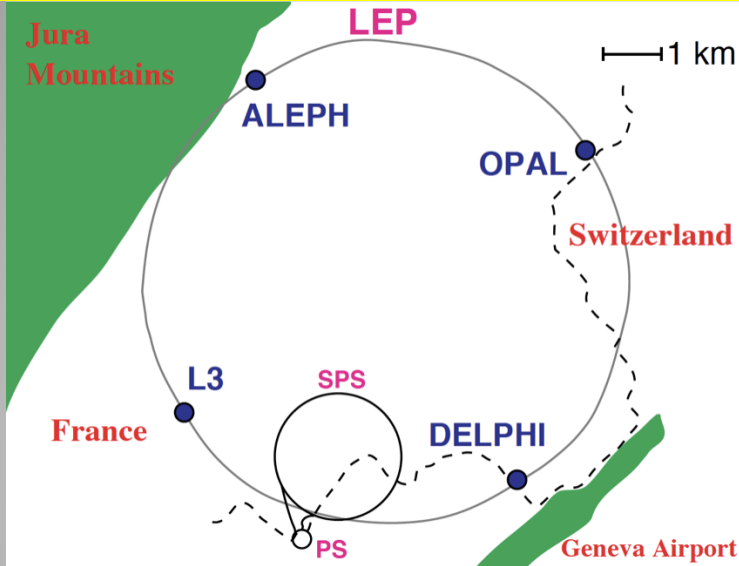
WE ARE HAPPY TO INFORM YOU THAT WE HAVE DEFINITELY DETECTED  
NEUTRINOS FROM FISSION FRAGMENTS BY OBSERVING INVERSE BETA DECAY  
OF PROTONS OBSERVED CROSS SECTION AGREES WELL WITH EXPECTED SIX  
TIMES TEN TO MINUS FORTY FOUR SQUARE CENTIMETERS

FREDERICK REINES AND CLYDE COWN  
BOX 1663 LOS ALAMOS NEW MEXICO

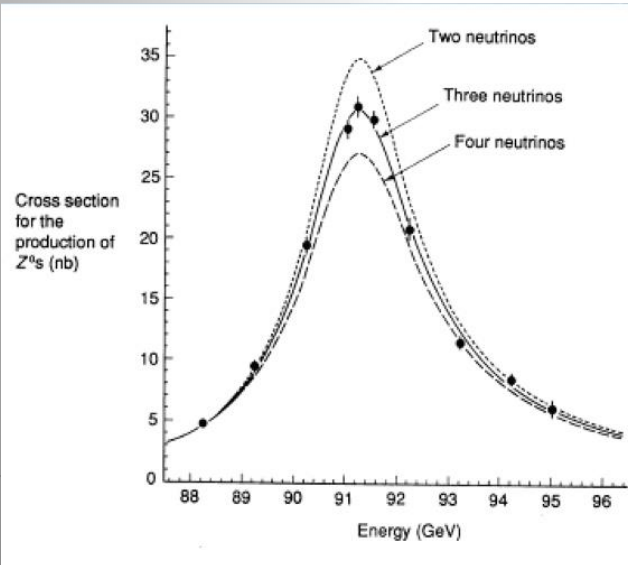
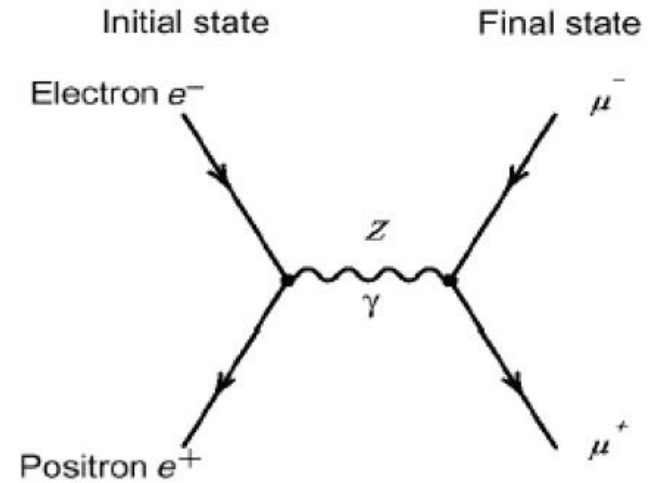
Nr. 20 6500 X 100 3/54

# How Many Different Neutrinos?

LEP e<sup>+</sup>e<sup>-</sup> collider at CERN (1988-2000)



Detailed study of the Z-boson



The width of the Z-boson gives the number of neutrinos

$$\Gamma_Z = \Gamma_{had} + 3\Gamma_l + N_\nu \Gamma_\nu$$

$$N_\nu = 2.99 \pm 0.02$$

LEP: three active neutrinos with mass < 45 GeV

# More Neutrino Personalities

1937: Ettore Majorana

He postulated that neutrinos could be their own antiparticles. This special class of particles came to bear his name: Majorana particles

Majorana disappeared in 1938 on a boat trip from Sicily



1957: Bruno Pontecorvo

He hypothesized that neutrinos may oscillate, or change from one type to another and would go on to develop that theory over the years as more flavors were discovered.

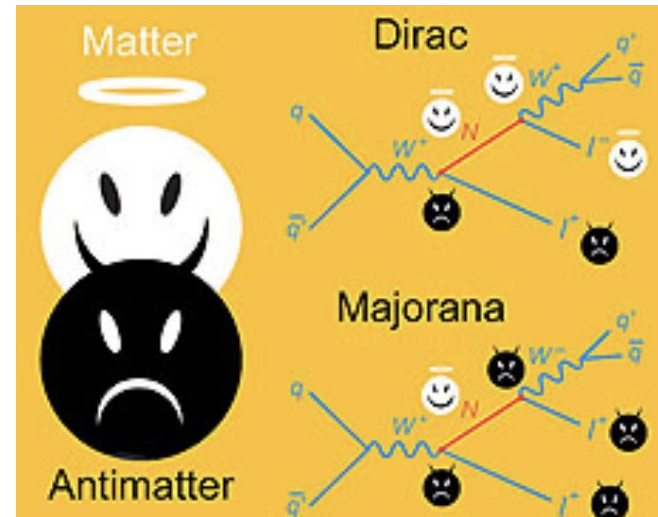
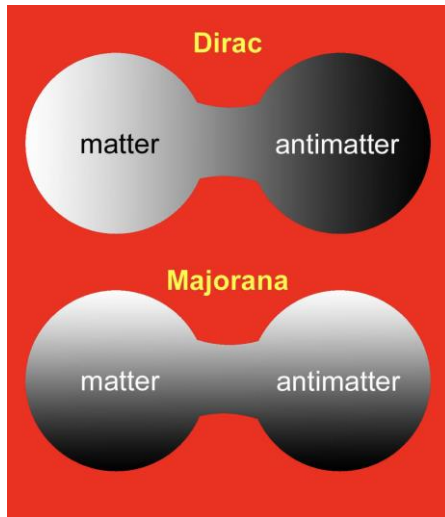
He also predicted that supernovae, the giant explosion of a dying star, would release an enormous amount of energy in the form of neutrinos

Pontecorvo disappeared ... to the east block in 1950



# Majorana Neutrinos

- A Majorana fermion is a fermion that is its own antiparticle
- A Dirac fermion particle and antiparticles are not the same
- Fermions with electric charge (ie all fermions except neutrinos) are by definition Dirac fermions
- Neutrinos COULD be Majorana Fermions, but not demonstrated yet -> The goal of neutrinoless double beta decay experiments
- Neutrino mass -> allows for Majorana mass terms



# Left Handed Neutrinos

1957: Goldhaber, Grodzins and Sunyar discovered that neutrinos emitted from nuclei had the peculiar property that their spin vector pointed in the opposite direction to its motion. Using Europium they found only left handed and never right handed neutrinos were emitted in weak decays.



Maurice Goldhaber

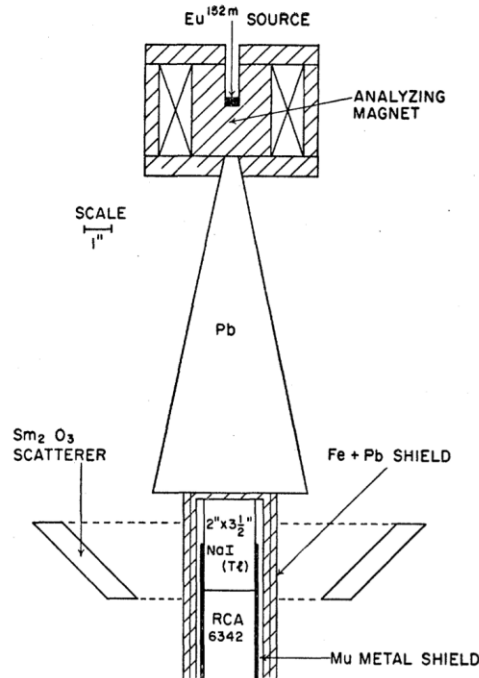


FIG. 1. Experimental arrangement for analyzing circular polarization of resonant scattered  $\gamma$ -rays. Weight of  $\text{Sm}_2\text{O}_3$  scatterer: 1850 grams.

## Helicity of Neutrinos\*

M. GOLDHABER, L. GRODZINS, AND A. W. SUNYAR  
*Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, New York*  
 (Received December 11, 1957)

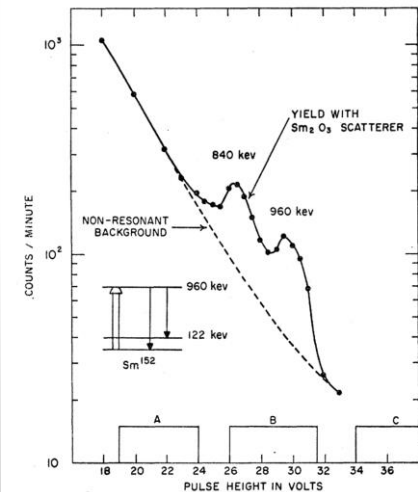
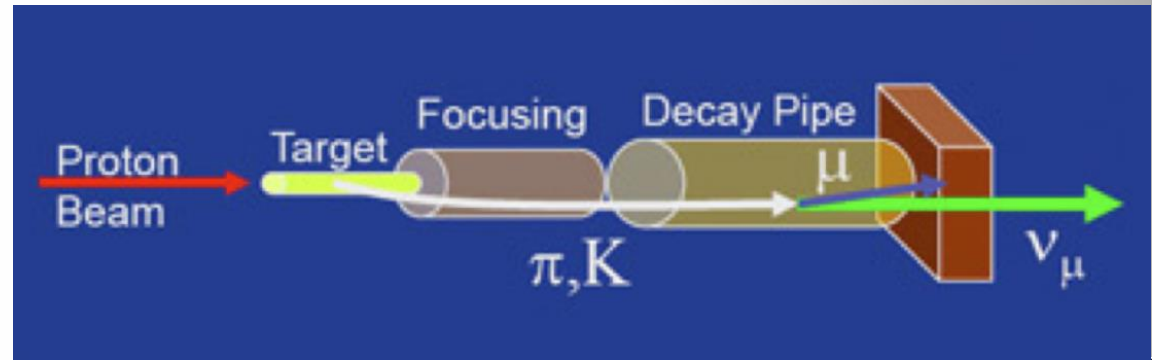


FIG. 2. Resonant-scattered  $\gamma$  rays of  $\text{Eu}^{152m}$ . Upper curve is taken with arrangement shown in Fig. 1 with unmagnetized iron. Lower curve shows nonresonant background (including natural background).

# Neutrinos in the 1960s



**1962:** Lederman, Schwartz and Steinberger discovered the existence of second type of neutrino at the AGS in Brookhaven: the muon neutrino

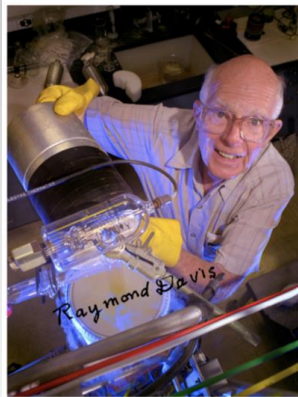


**1968:** Davis and Bahcall and the solar neutrino problem. Only 1/3 of the expected (electron) neutrino rate was observed. **What was wrong?**



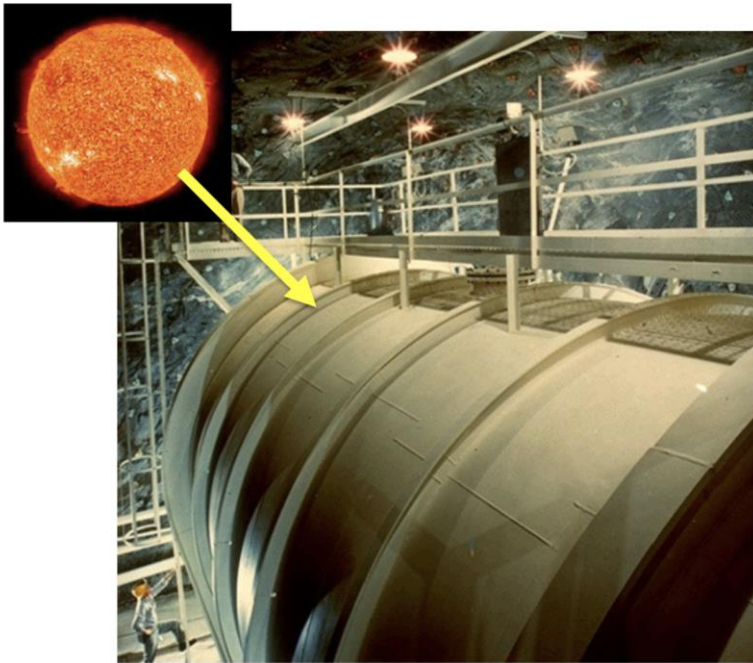


# Davis and Bahcall



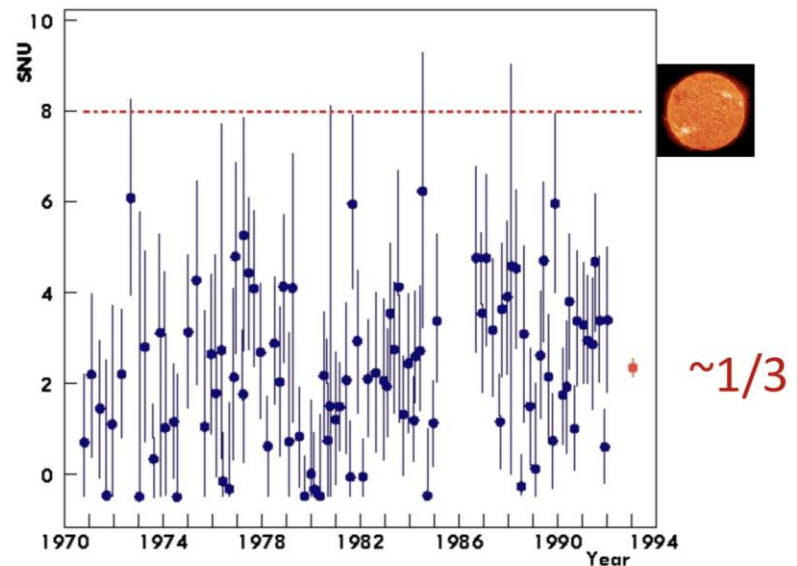
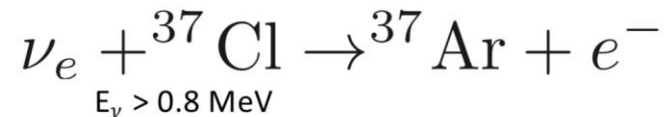
- Filter out argon and search for  $^{37}\text{Ar}$  decay
- Detecting  $\sim 5$  atoms of  $^{37}\text{Ar}$  per day in 390,000 litres of  $\text{C}_2\text{Cl}_4$

Ray Davis experiment, Homestake Mine, South Dakota

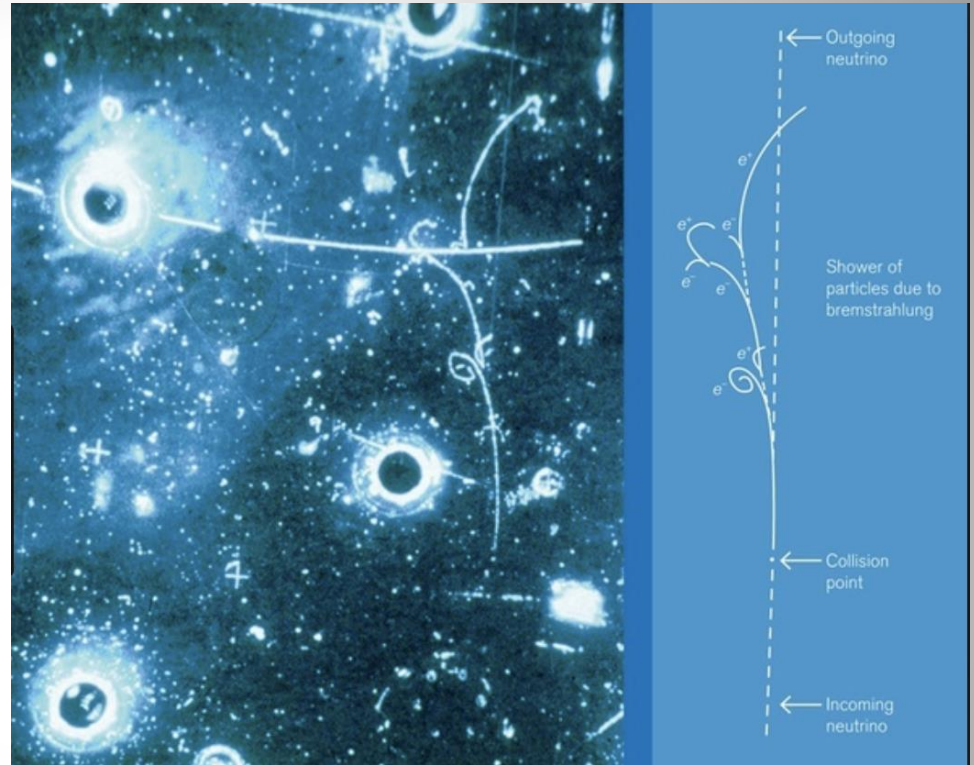


Filled with 390,000 litres of cleaning fluid ( $\text{C}_2\text{Cl}_4$ )

“Inverse  $\beta$  Decay”

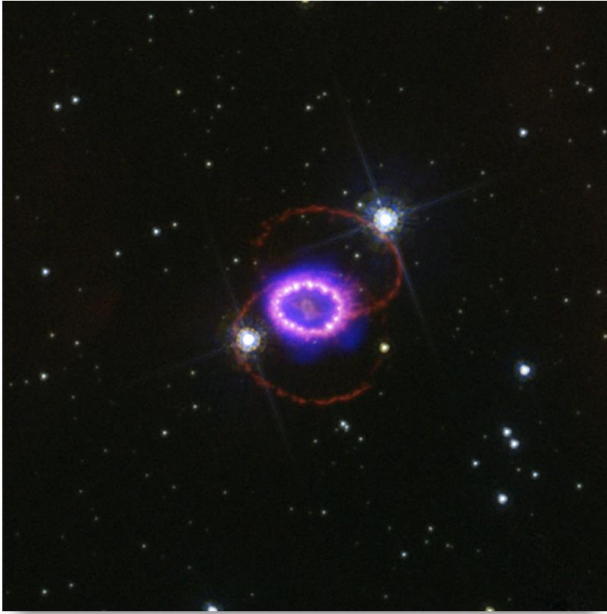


# Neutrinos in the 1970s



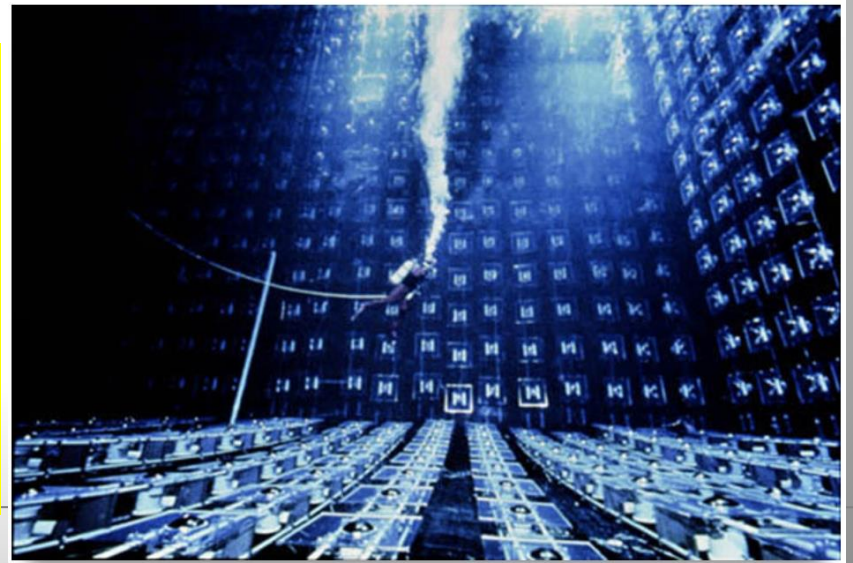
**1973:** Discovery of the "neutral currents" as predicted from the Electroweak Theory:  $\text{neutrino} + \text{electron} \rightarrow \text{neutrino} + \text{electron}$   
A triumph for the emerging Standard Model !

# Neutrinos in the 1980s



1987: A supernova, a dying star, exploded in the Large Magellanic Cloud. Most of the energy is released as neutrinos. The Kamiokande and IMB experiments –both large experiments conceived to detect proton decays– saw a dozen of neutrino events during the burst of  $O(10)$  seconds. The neutrinos arrive at the earth before the light does (and could trigger an SN observation)

1987: Kamiokande (Japan) and IMB (US) detect atmospheric neutrinos. Echoing the solar neutrino problem: the experiment found a smaller ratio of muon neutrinos to electron neutrinos than expected. This became the atmospheric neutrino anomaly



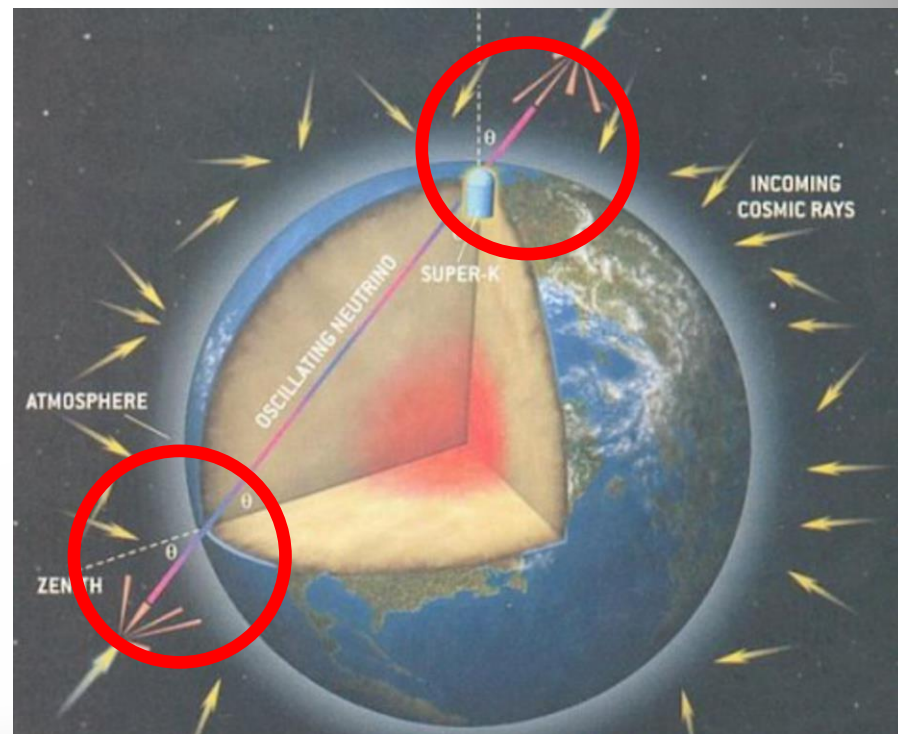
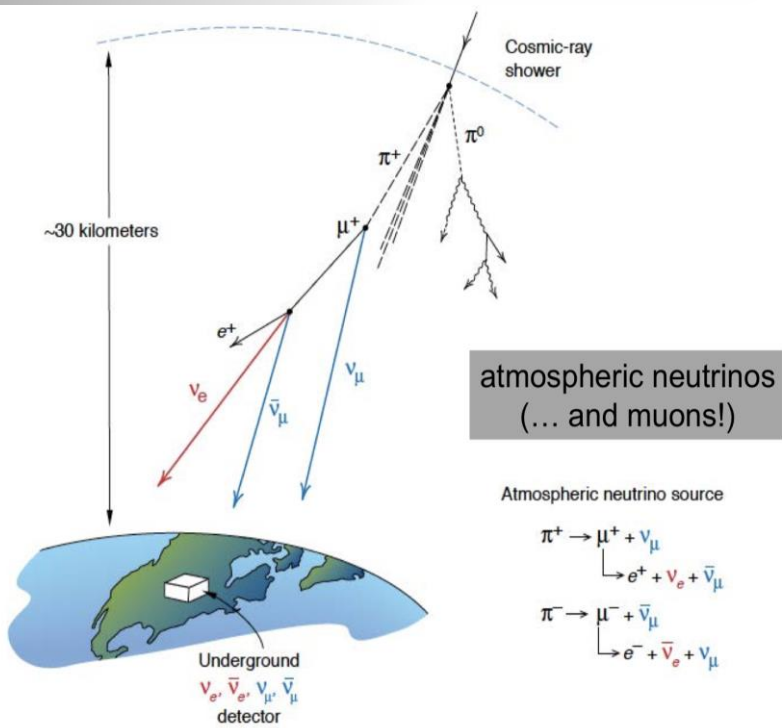
# Neutrino Anomalies at the Time

- Solar neutrinos
  - Only about 1/3 of expected neutrino flux observed (electron neutrinos)
  - Depends on uncertainties of modelling of the Sun, detector effects?
- Atmospheric neutrinos
  - Muon neutrino disappearance increases with distance traveled
  - Direct evidence for neutrino disappearance
- What happens to the neutrinos?
  - Perhaps the neutrinos are decaying?
  - Need a mechanism for flavour change and a complete set of measurement for all flavours

# Atmospheric Neutrinos

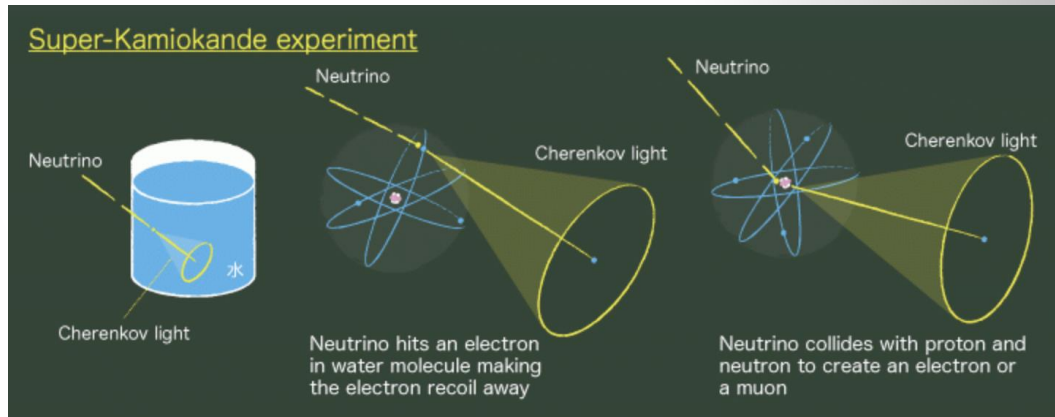
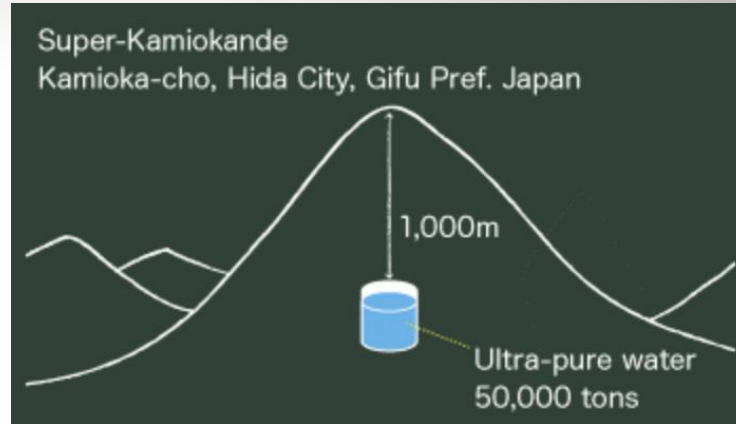
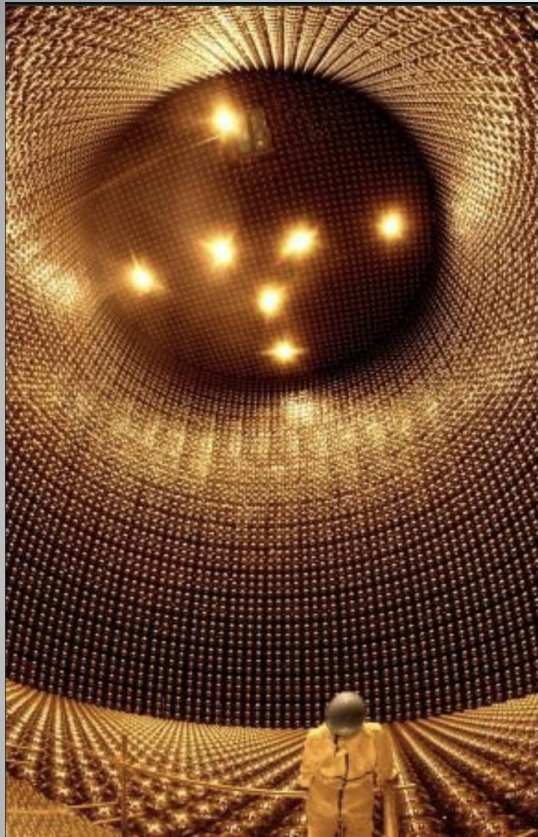
Cosmic rays hit the atmosphere at 30 km height. These produce particles that decay and give neutrinos

Some neutrinos are produced close to the detector. Others thousands of km away from it

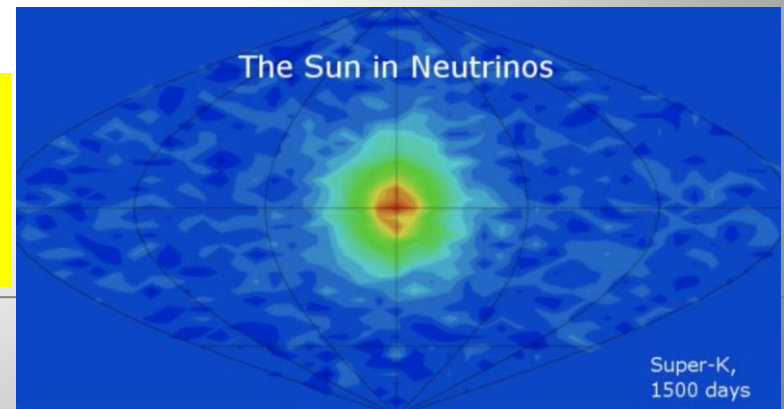


Neutrinos hitting the detector 'from below' travelled much longer than others

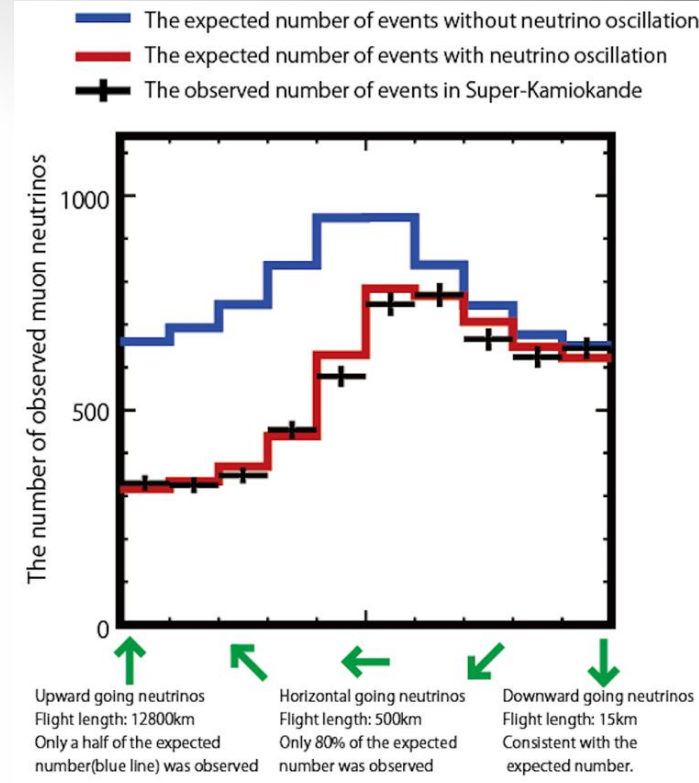
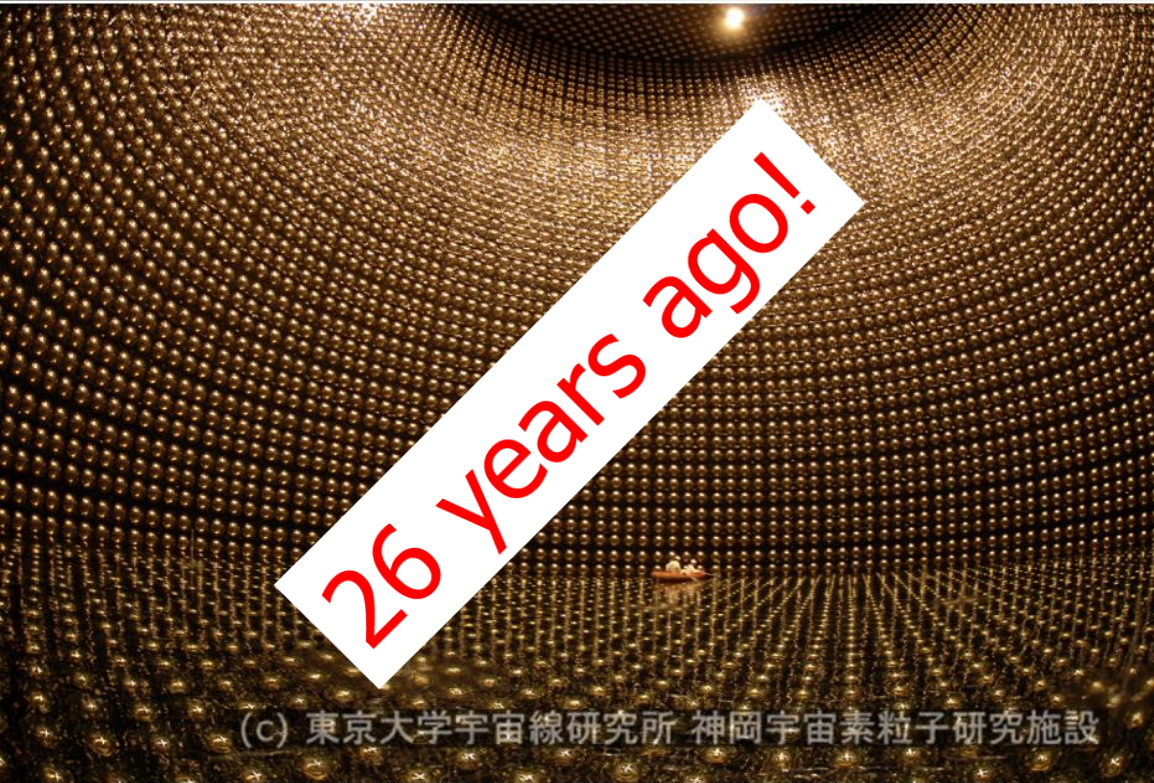
# SuperKamiokande



50,000 tons of ultra-pure water, watched by 13,000 photomultipliers



# Neutrinos Oscillate! (1998)



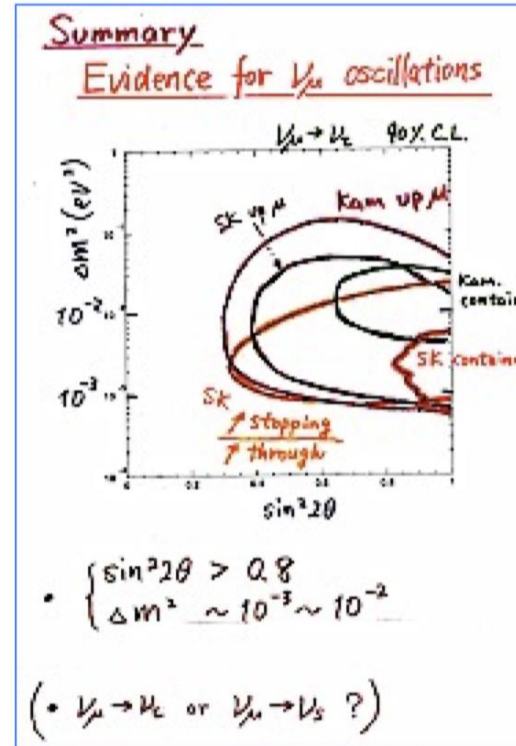
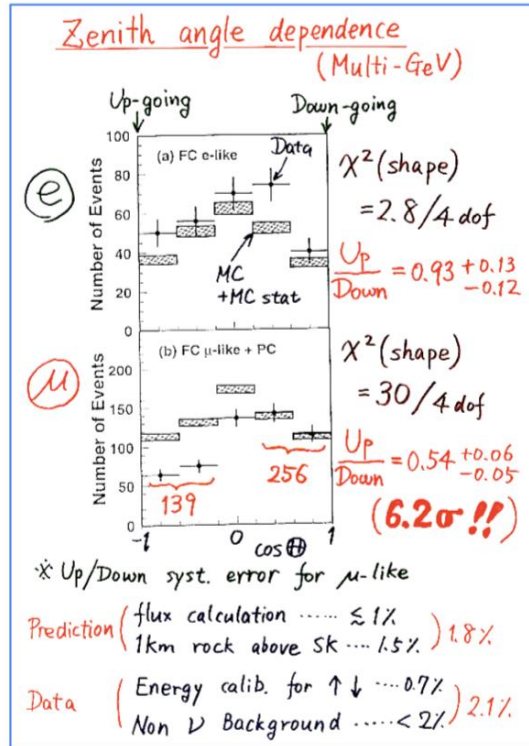
1998: The Super-Kamiokande experiment in Japan used a massive underground detector filled with ultrapure water.

They announced first evidence of neutrino oscillations. The experiment showed that muon neutrinos disappear as they travel through the earth to the detector. It also offered an explanation for the observed solar neutrino discrepancy.

# Neutrinos Oscillate! (1998)

1998: Nobel-worthy discovery of oscillation effects

[Takaaki Kajita for Super-Kamiokande, slides at Neutrino '98 conference]



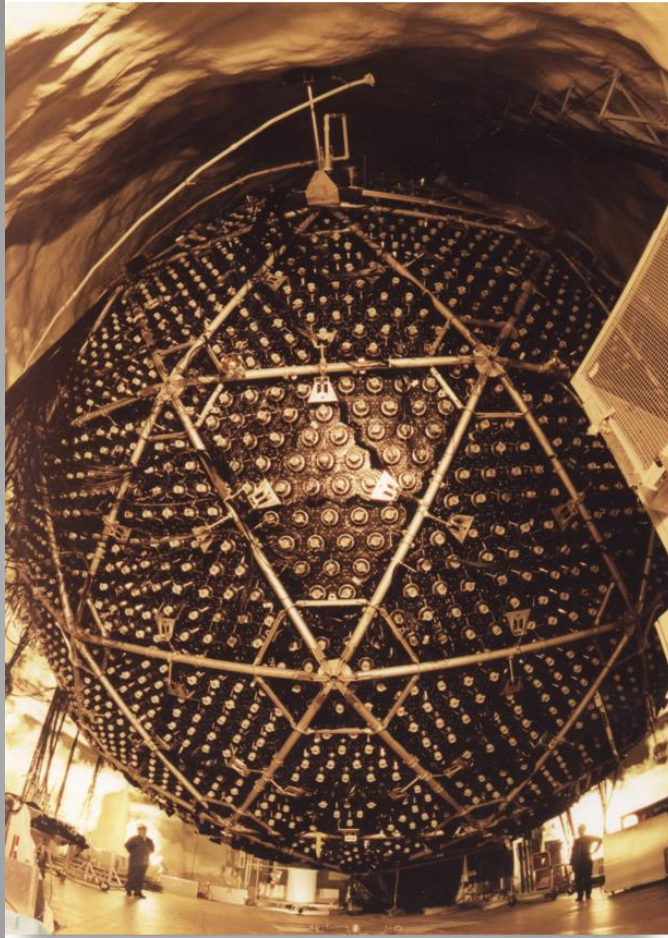
E. Lisi  
 Re-interpretation  
 Workshop  
 17/2/2021

Initial interpretation in terms of simple  $2\nu$  ( $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\tau$ ) oscillations

Neutrino Oscillations first firmly established with atmospheric neutrinos

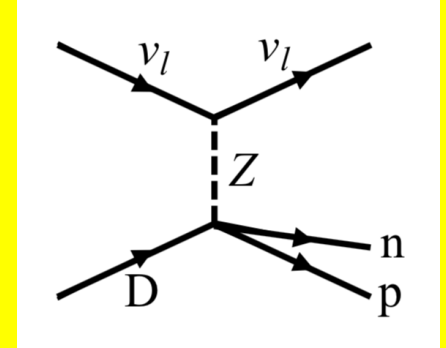
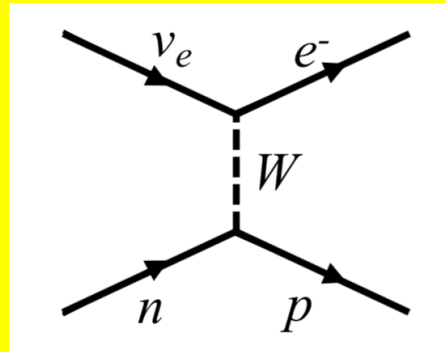


# Neutrinos in 2000+



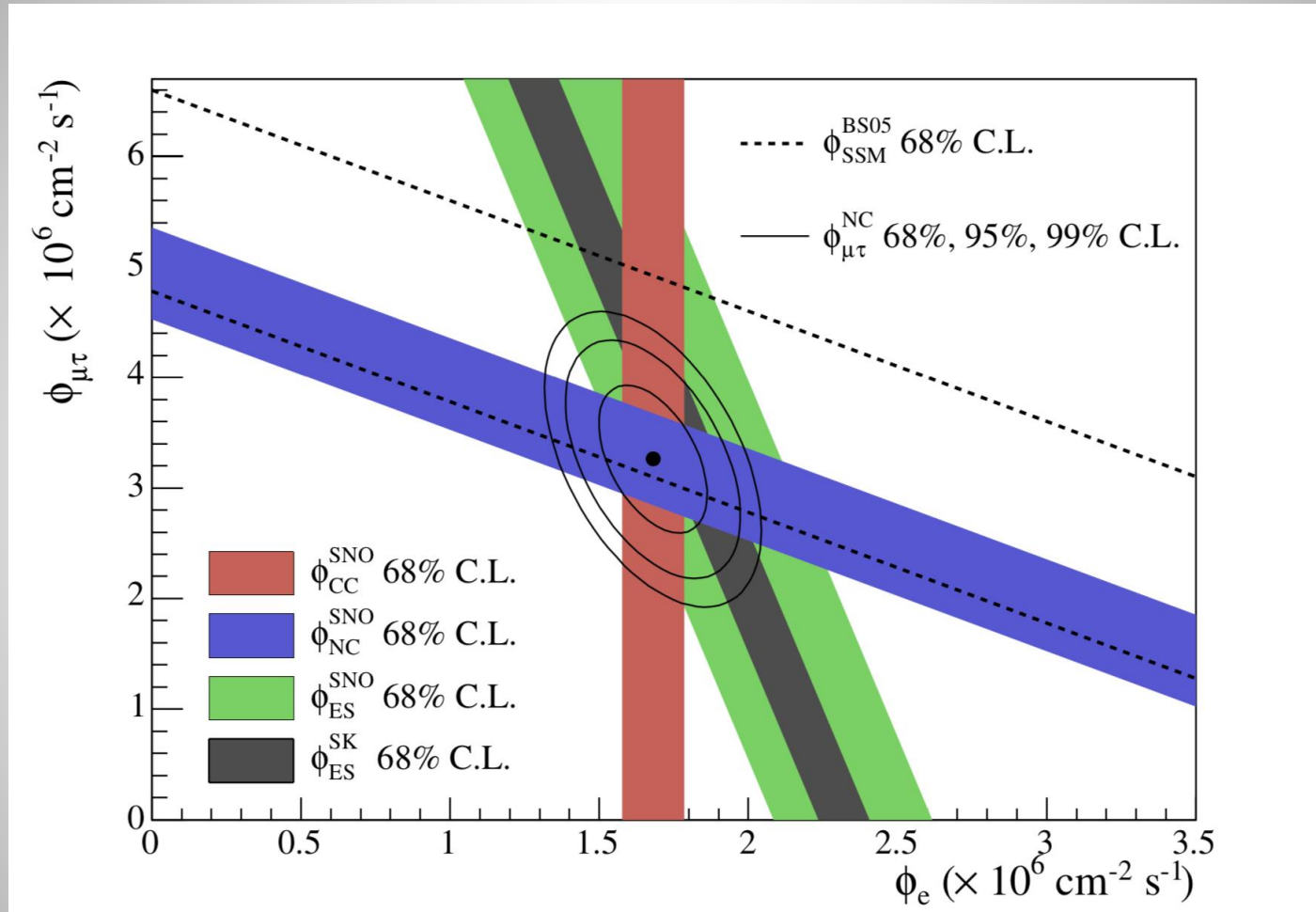
1000 tons of heavy water in a 6m radius vessel, viewed by 9600 photomultiplier tubes

2002: The Sudbury Neutrino Observatory (SNO) used heavy water in a detector deep underground in Canada, announced conclusive evidence on solar neutrino oscillations, by measuring the sum of all neutrino interactions as well.



This was the final answer to Ray Davis' solar neutrino problem: Neutrinos from the sun transformed from the electron variety onto other flavors as they travelled to earth

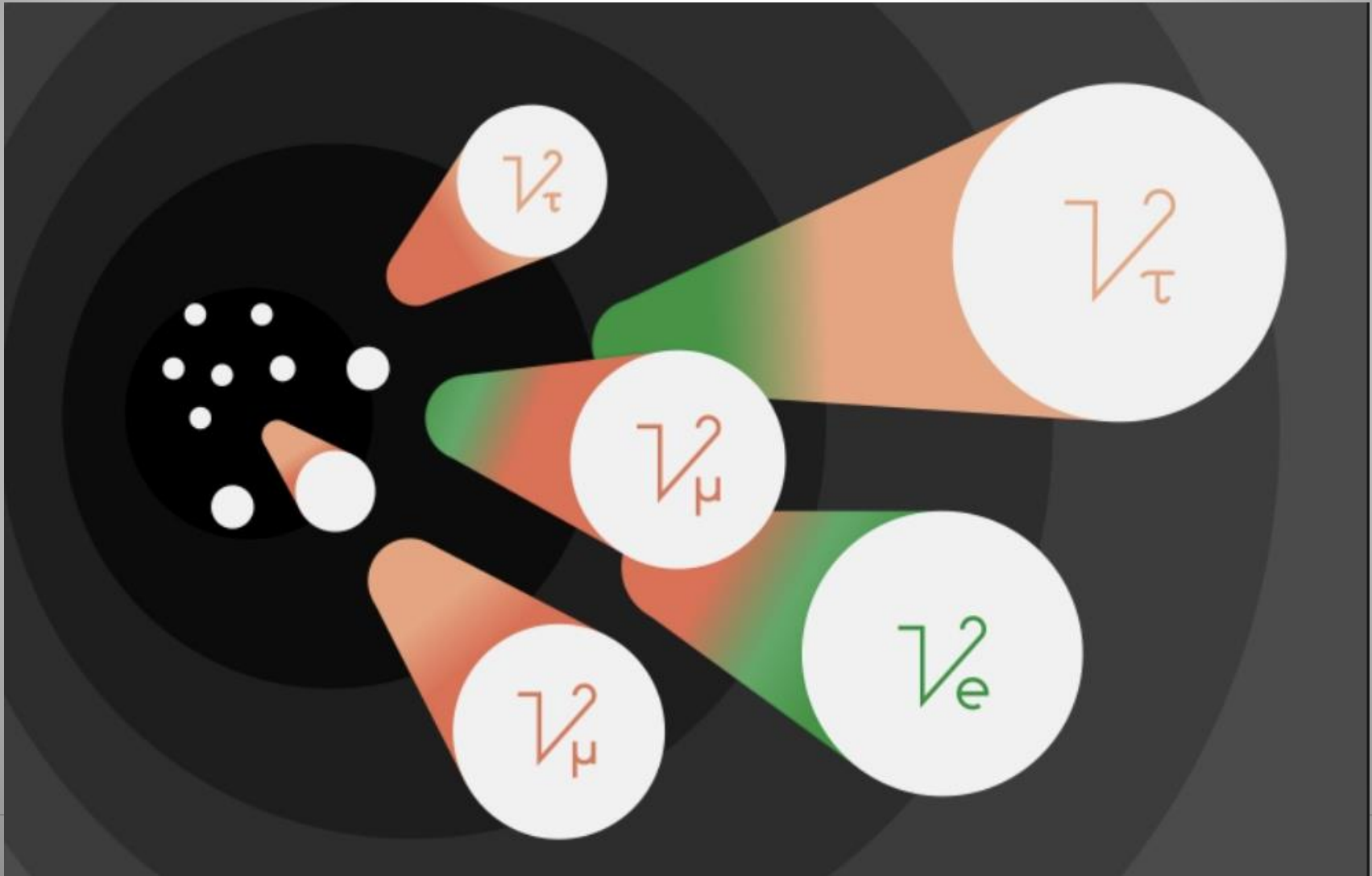
# SNO Demonstrates Flavor Change



SNO could show conclusively the 2/3 missing electron neutrinos appear with a different flavor in the detector -> Neutrino oscillations!!

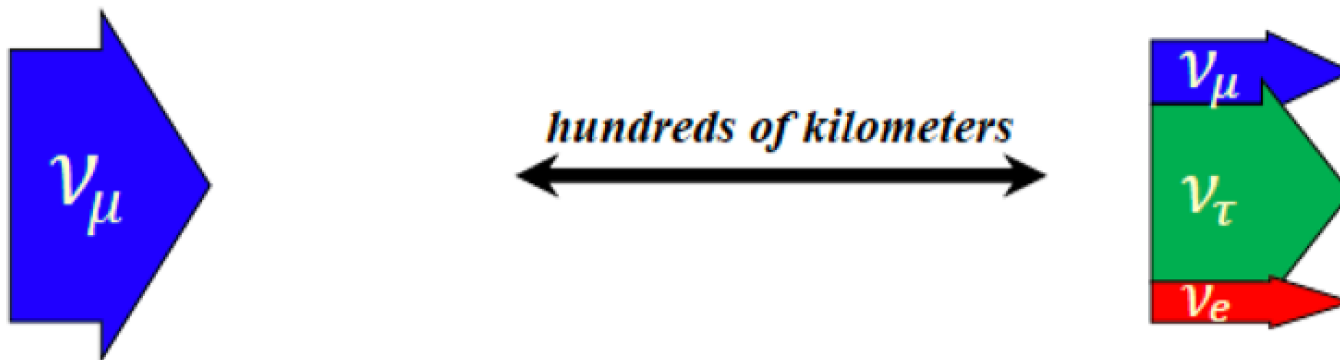
# Neutrinos Oscillations!

Atmospheric and solar neutrinos oscillate!!



# Neutrino Oscillations

- Important discovery in 1998: neutrino oscillations
- Neutrino oscillation is a quantum mechanical phenomenon whereby a neutrino created with a specific lepton flavor (electron, muon, or tau) can later be measured to have a different flavor. The probability of measuring a particular flavor for a neutrino varies between 3 known states as it propagates through space
- Neutrino oscillations only possible if neutrinos have a non-zero mass! Neutrino oscillations  $\rightarrow$  Neutrinos have mass!!



# Neutrino Oscillations

- Each flavour state is a linear combination of mass states:

Neutrino interaction

$$|\nu_\alpha\rangle = \sum_i U_{\alpha i}^* |\nu_i\rangle$$

Flavour state  $\alpha = e, \mu, \tau$

PMNS lepton mixing matrix

Mass state  $i = 1, 2, 3$

Neutrino travel through space

Flavor states

(\*) Pontecorvo-Maki-Nakagawa-Sakata Matrix

## ELECTRON-NEUTRINO

This minuscule bandit is so light, he is practically massless.



## MUON-NEUTRINO

Like the other 2 neutrinos, he's got an identity crisis from oscillation.



## TAU-NEUTRINO

He's a tau now, but what type of neutrino will he be next?

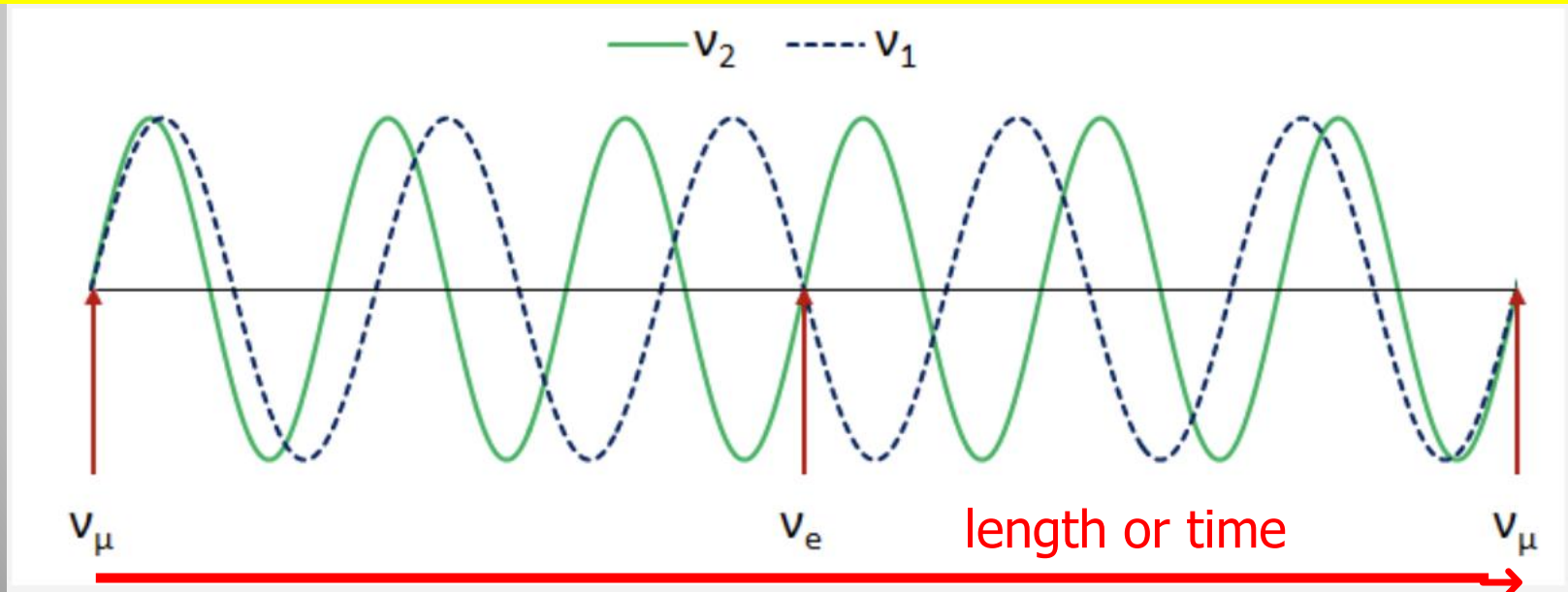


# Neutrino Oscillations

The bizarre world of Quantum Mechanics: particles and waves

Take that the neutrino particle is a hybrid of two mass states  $\nu_1$  and  $\nu_2$  as it travels through space the associated waves of these mass states advance at a different rate

Hence the picture looks as follows: (propagation as a superposition of two masses)



The neutrinos change identity (flavor) along the way...!!

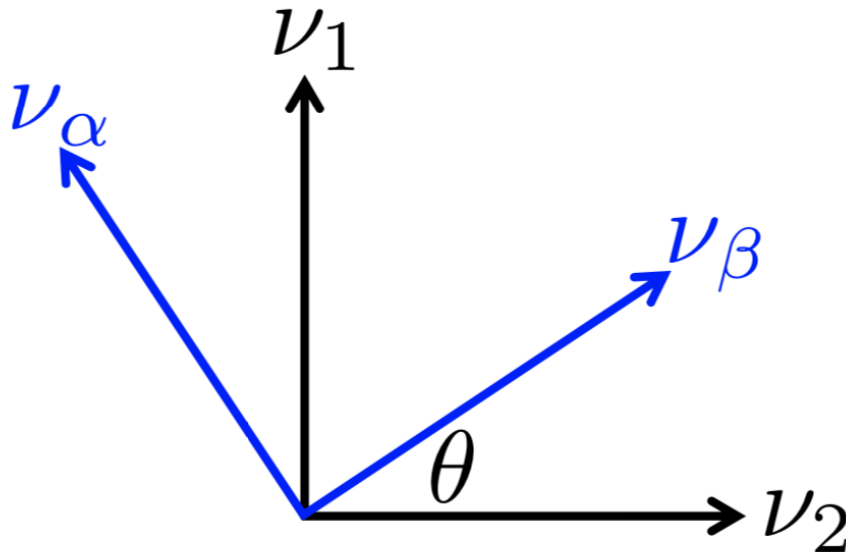
# Two Flavour Oscillations

Flavour states

“Rotation Matrix”

Mass states

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



$$|\nu(t=0)\rangle = |\nu_\alpha\rangle = \cos \theta |\nu_1\rangle + \sin \theta |\nu_2\rangle$$

# Two Flavour Oscillations

$$|\nu(t)\rangle = e^{i(E_1 t - pL)} \cos(\theta) |\nu_1\rangle + e^{i(E_2 t - pL)} \sin(\theta) |\nu_2\rangle$$

plane wave

$$\langle \nu_\beta | \nu(t) \rangle = \sin(\theta) \cos(\theta) (e^{i(E_2 t - pL)} - e^{i(E_1 t - pL)})$$

$$E \approx p + \frac{m_i^2}{2E} \quad \text{and} \quad t = \frac{L}{c} \quad \text{ultra-relativistic}$$

$$\langle \nu_\beta | \nu(t) \rangle = \sin(\theta) \cos(\theta) (e^{i \frac{m_2^2 L}{2E}} - e^{i \frac{m_1^2 L}{2E}}) = \sin(\theta) \cos(\theta) e^{i \frac{\Delta m_i^2 L}{2E}}$$

$$P(\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta) = \langle \nu_\beta | \nu(t) \rangle^2 = \sin^2(2\theta) \sin^2\left(\frac{\Delta m_i^2 L}{2E}\right)$$

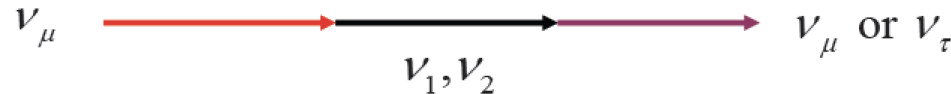
L: distance travelled

E: energy of the neutrino



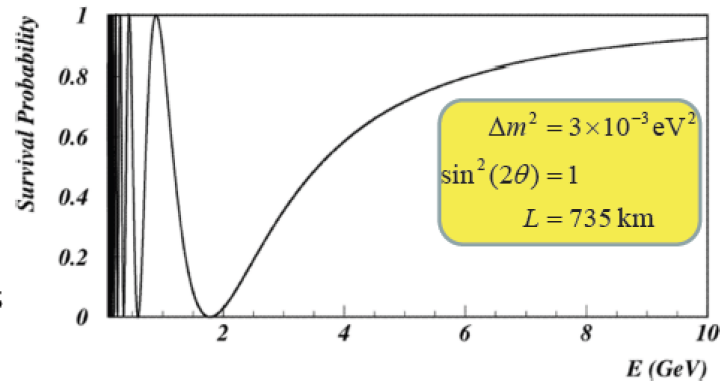
# Neutrino Oscillations

Neutrino oscillations is a pure Quantum Mechanical effect  
The effect depends on the mass difference between flavor states



$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_\mu \\ \nu_\tau \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta & \sin\theta \\ -\sin\theta & \cos\theta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\tau) = \sin^2(2\theta) \sin^2\left(\frac{1.27\Delta m^2 L}{E_\nu}\right)$$

- Measure prob.
  - Survival
  - Appearance
- Result
  - Mixing angle
  - Mass differences

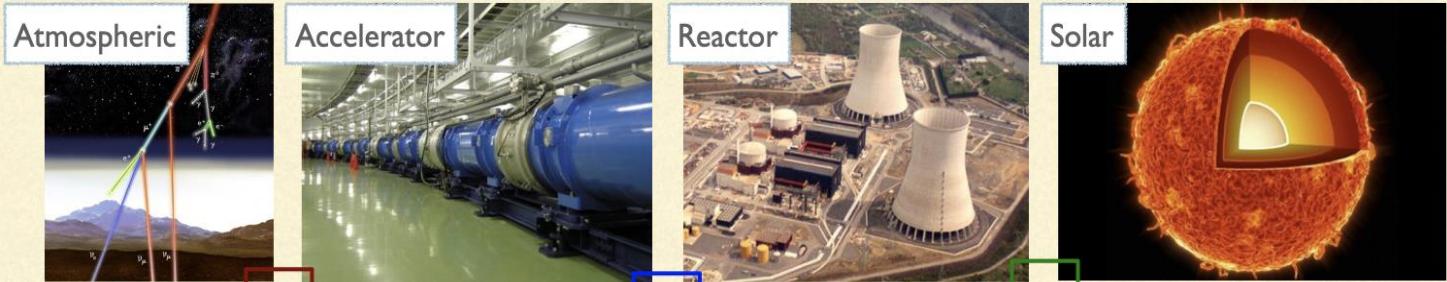


- $\Delta m_{21}^2 = m_2^2 - m_1^2 \approx 8 * 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2 \Rightarrow$  wavelength of  $\sim 100\text{km}$
- $|\Delta m_{31}^2| \approx |\Delta m_{32}^2| \approx 2 * 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2 \Rightarrow$  wavelength of  $\sim 1\text{km}$

Absolute mass values? Mass hierarchy?

# Neutrino Oscillations

Neutrino mixing:  
Pontecorvo-Maki-  
Nakagawa-Sakata  
(PMNS) matrix



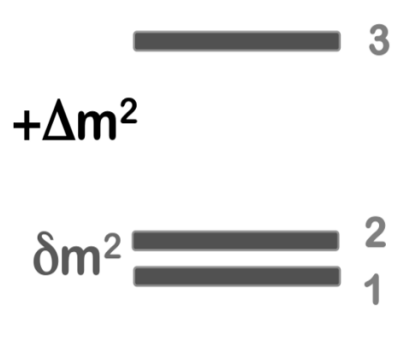
$$c_{ij} = \cos \theta_{ij}$$

$$s_{ij} = \sin \theta_{ij}$$

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

$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ \nu_\mu \\ \nu_\tau \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c_{23} & s_{23} \\ 0 & -s_{23} & c_{23} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} c_{13} & 0 & s_{13} e^{-i\delta_{CP}} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -s_{13} e^{i\delta_{CP}} & 0 & c_{13} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} c_{12} & s_{12} & 0 \\ -s_{12} & c_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \\ \nu_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

“Normal”  
Ordering  
N.O.



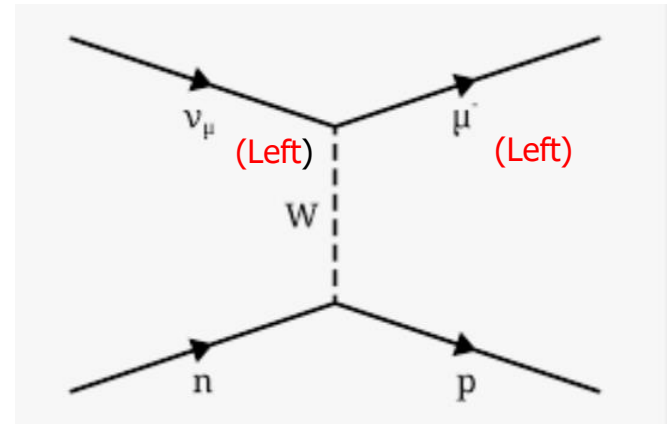
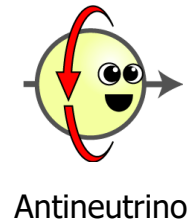
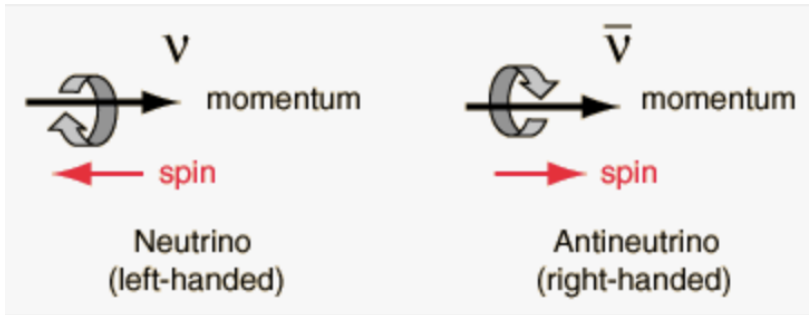
“Inverted”  
Ordering  
I.O.

+ interactions in matter  $\rightarrow$  effective terms  $\sim G_F \cdot E \cdot \text{density}$

# Neutrino masses

- Neutrino oscillations only work when neutrinos have masses.
- The oscillations are sensitive to mass differences (squared) only.
- Why do Neutrino masses cause a problem in the Standard Model?

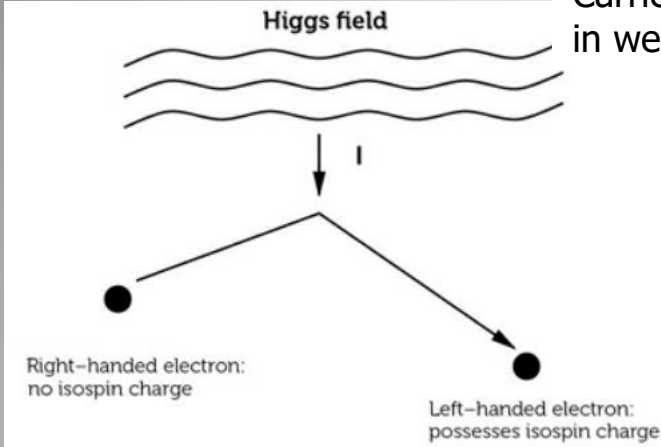
# Neutrino Chirality



- The weak boson will couple only to a left-handed particle or to a right-handed antiparticle. The weak interaction is chiral and depends on the particle chirality.
- In the Standard Model, neutrinos are massless and only come with left-handed chirality (and antineutrinos come with right-handed chirality)
- Neutrinos turn out to be an anomaly. Other particles such as the quarks and the other three leptons (the electron, muon, and tau) have both left-handed and right-handed versions of both the matter particle and their antimatter partner.

# Higgs Field & Chirality

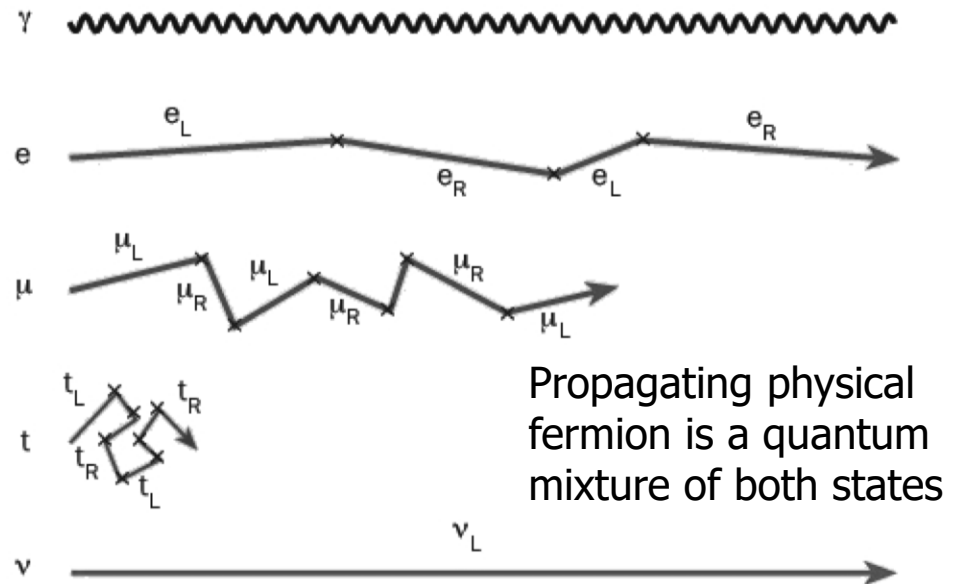
Carries weak charge: a Higgs soaks up the difference in weak charge between Left and Right chiral states



Mass generation through the Higgs mechanism: The Higgs induced mass term connects two different chirality states -> Interaction leads to exchange of the isospin charge, causing the chirality to flip

Dirac masses:  
Lighter and heavier particles with less or more interactions

Neutrinos have only left handed chirality.  
So neutrinos are expected to be massless in the SM



# Neutrino Masses

- Neutrinos are special
  - their masses are much smaller than all other particle masses: Eg. 5 million times smaller than the mass of the electron.
  - but they are not zero (as we believed for a long time)
- Neutrino masses are not (directly/only) created by the Higgs boson – something different/extra going on.
- Their small masses make them truly quantum mechanical objects

But what is the origin of the neutrino mass?  
Are there right handed neutrinos?  
A new (non-SM) mechanism?

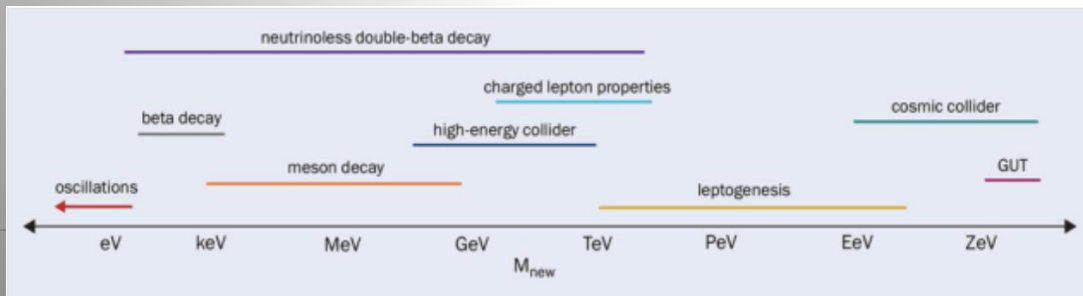
# The Neutrino Mass Puzzle

A. De Gouvea: <https://cerncourier.com/a/the-neutrino-mass-puzzle/>

Nonzero neutrino masses are not possible without the existence of new fundamental fields. They could be bosons or fermions, light or heavy, charged or neutral, and experimentally accessible or far out of reach.

Possible scenarios:

- Interaction with the same SM Higgs field: needs (sterile) right-handed neutrinos (Dirac mass term) and an explanation of the  $10^7$  weaker interaction (Extra Dimensions, Mirror Universe, Dark sector...)
- Interaction with a different –new- Higgs field with different vev
- A mixture of interaction with a Higgs field and a new source of mass eg. via a Majorana mass term -> e.g. see-saw mechanism



The new physics could be anywhere on this scale....  
Eg. right handed neutrino masses

# Neutrino Oscillations

- Since 20 years an active field of study and data from many experiments collected:
  - Long baseline accelerator experiments (LBL)
  - Short baseline reactor experiments
  - Atmospheric neutrinos
  - Solar Neutrinos
  - Neutrinoless double beta decay experiments

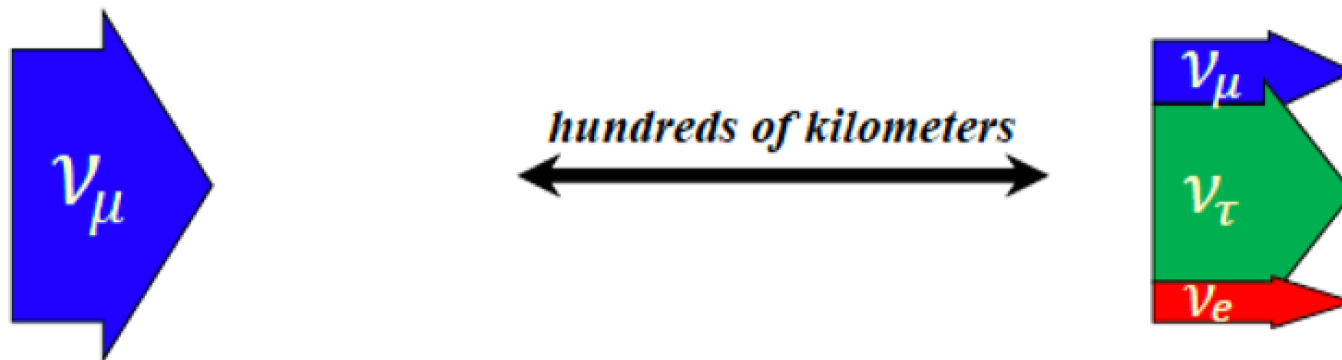
LBL experiments in the US and Japan



# Neutrino Oscillation Experiments

Since 20 years an active field of study and data from many experiments collected:

- Long baseline accelerator experiments (LBL)
- Short baseline reactor experiments
- Atmospheric neutrinos
- Solar Neutrinos
- Neutrinoless double beta decay experiments



# Short Baseline Experiments

Measuring the mixing angle  $\theta_{13}$ :

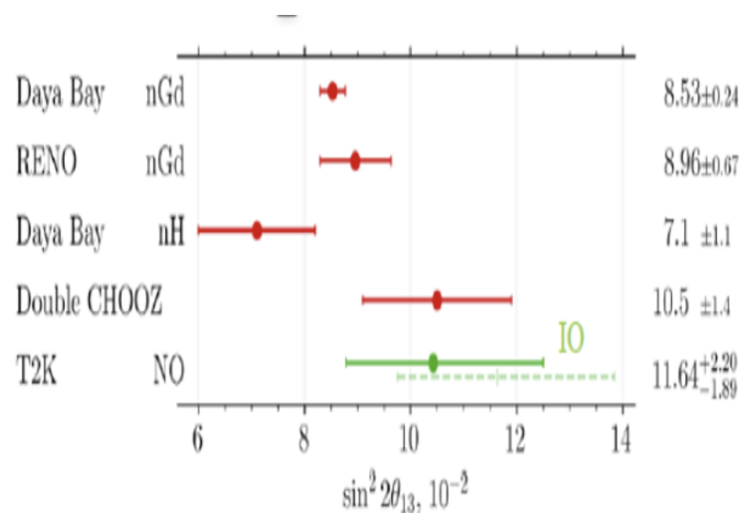
**Daya Bay** (China)  
Eight anti-neutrino detectors  
(liquid scintillator based)  
within 2 km of 6 reactors

**RENO** (South Korea)  
Two anti-neutrino detectors  
(liquid scintillator based)  
~up to 1.5 km of 6 reactors

**Double Chooz** (France)  
Two anti-neutrino detectors  
(liquid scintillator based)  
within 0.4-1 km of the reactors

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

## Results

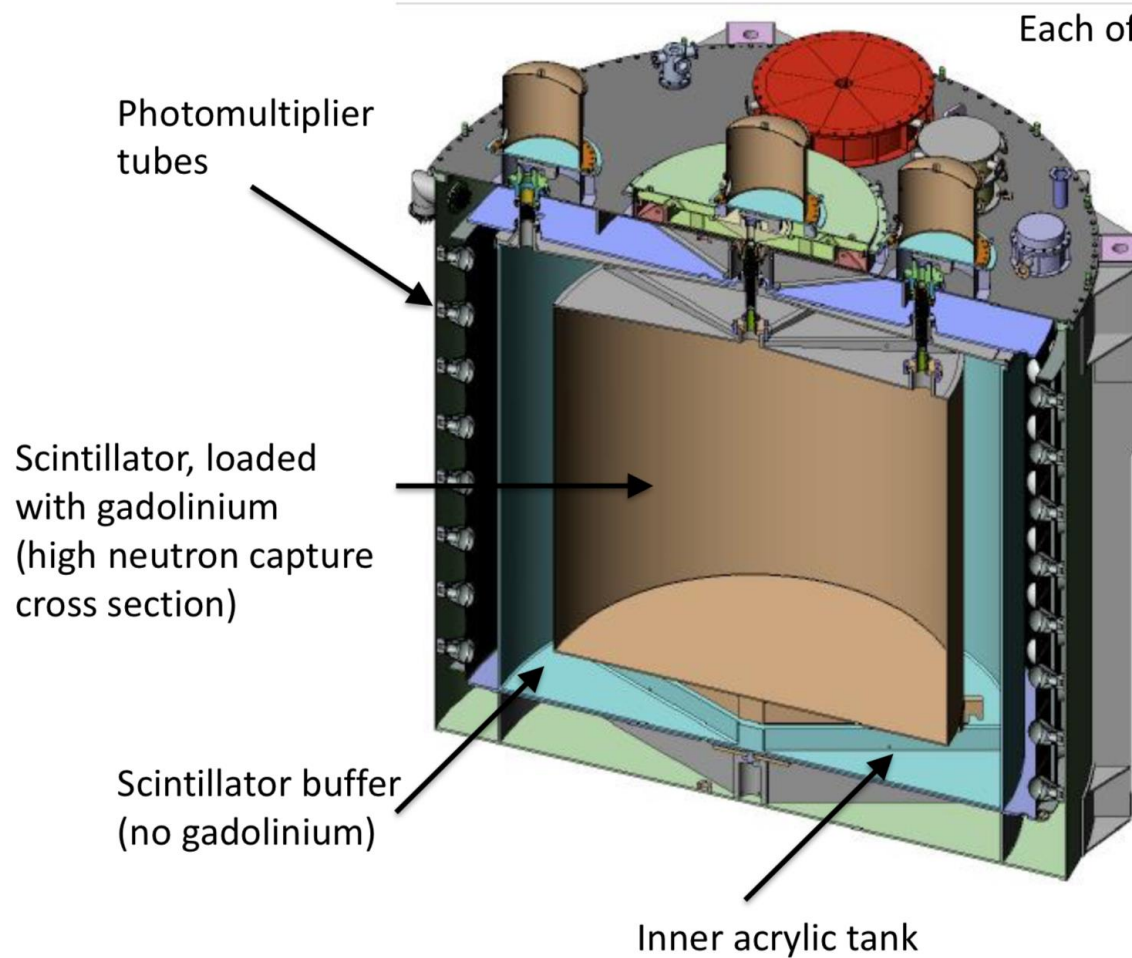


Phys. Rev. Lett. 130, 161802 (2023)

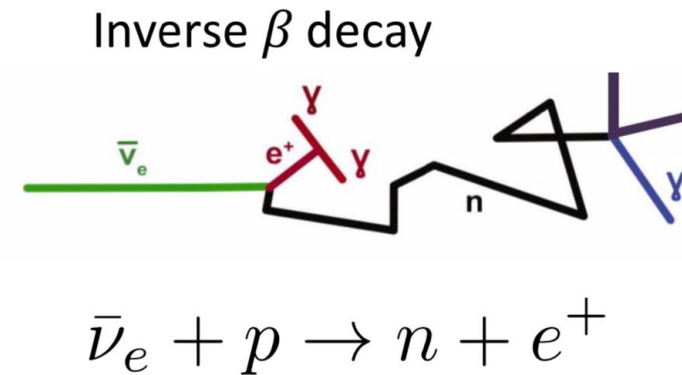
- New results from **Daya Bay** nGd capture:

Best-fit results:	$\chi^2/\text{ndf} = 559/518$	
	$\sin^2 2\theta_{13} = 0.0851^{+0.0024}_{-0.0024}$	(2.8% precision)
Normal hierarchy:	$\Delta m_{32}^2 = +(2.466^{+0.060}_{-0.060}) \times 10^{-3} \text{eV}^2$	(2.4% precision)
Inverted hierarchy:	$\Delta m_{32}^2 = -(2.571^{+0.060}_{-0.060}) \times 10^{-3} \text{eV}^2$	(2.3% precision)

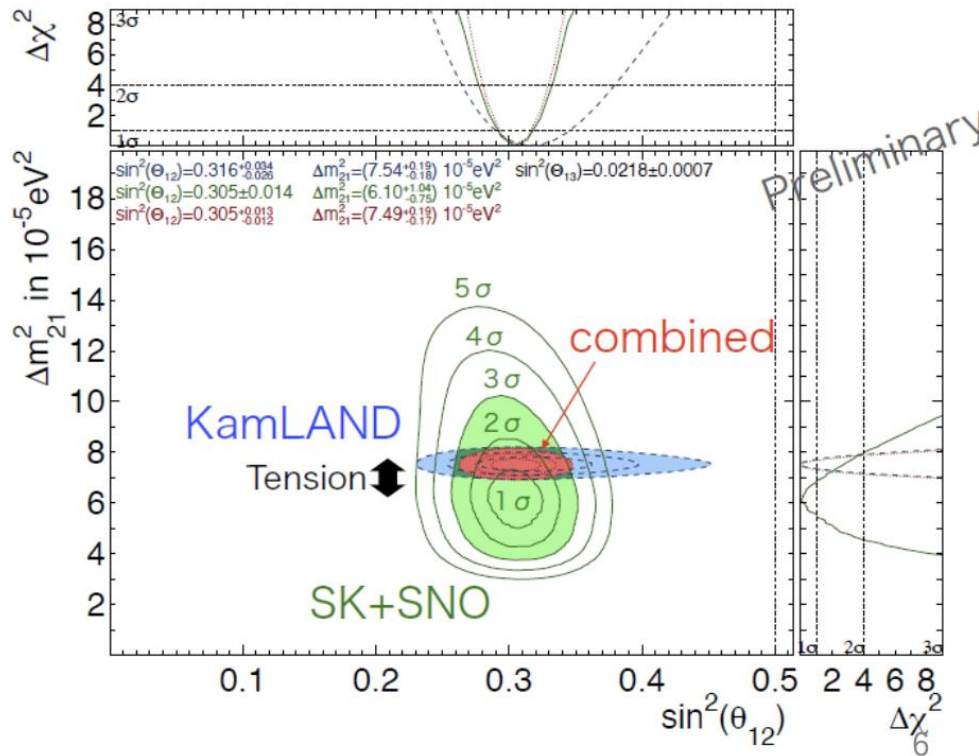
# The Daya Bay Detectors



Each of the 8 detector is 20 tons.



# Solar Neutrino Parameters



$$\sin^2(\theta_{12}) = 0.316^{+0.034}_{-0.026}$$

$$\Delta m_{21}^2 = 7.54^{+0.19}_{-0.18} \times 10^{-5} eV^2$$

$$\sin^2(\theta_{12}) = 0.305 \pm 0.014$$

$$\Delta m_{21}^2 = 6.10^{+1.04}_{-0.75} \times 10^{-5} eV^2$$

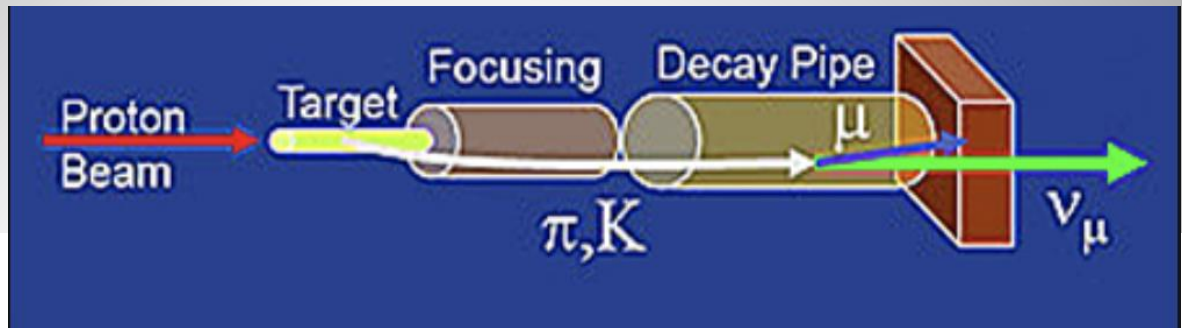
$$\sin^2(\theta_{12}) = 0.305^{+0.013}_{-0.012}$$

$$\Delta m_{21}^2 = 7.49^{+0.19}_{-0.17} \times 10^{-5} eV^2$$

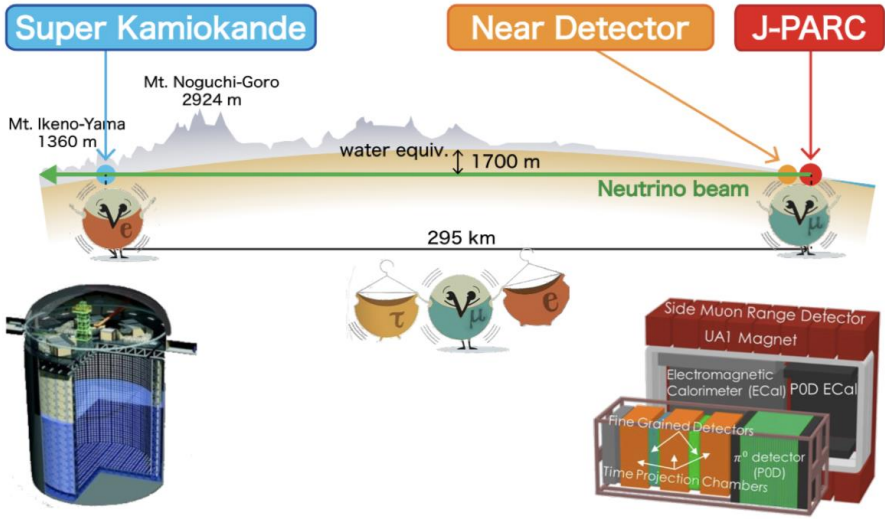
- Tension between solar & reactor result still there, **1.5 $\sigma$** .
- **JUNO** can simultaneously measure  $\Delta m_{21}^2$  and  $\theta_{12}$  using reactor antineutrinos and solar neutrinos with a great precision.
- **HyperK** will improve the solar neutrino result

# Accelerator Based Neutrino Experiments

Neutrinos from accelerators

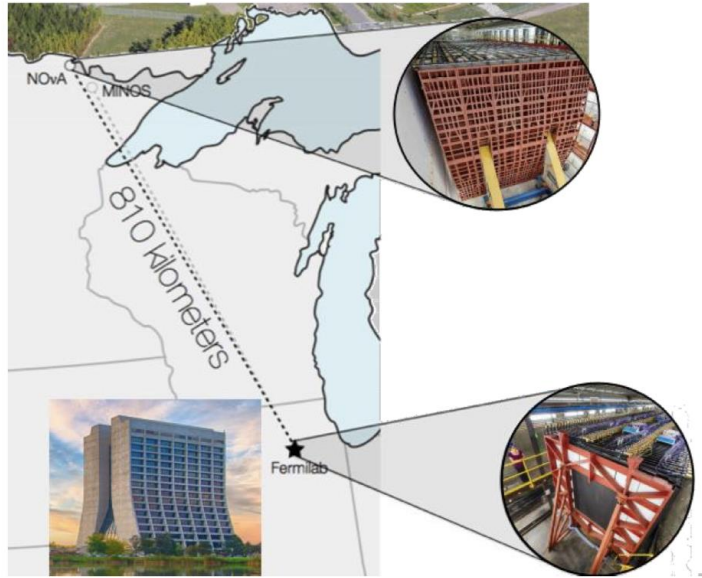


## T2K



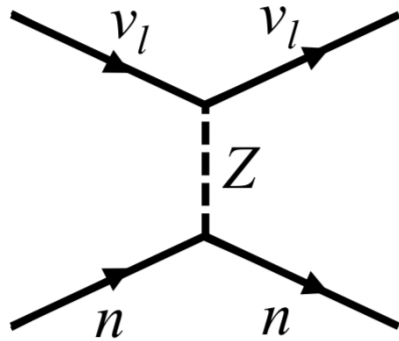
Baseline: 295 km  
 Peak  $E_\nu$ :  $\sim 0.6$  GeV (off-axis)  
 Near detector: ND280 ( $\sim 2$  T C/O targets, TPC tracking, magnetised)  
 Far detector: Super-K, 50 kT, Water-Cherenkov

## NOVA

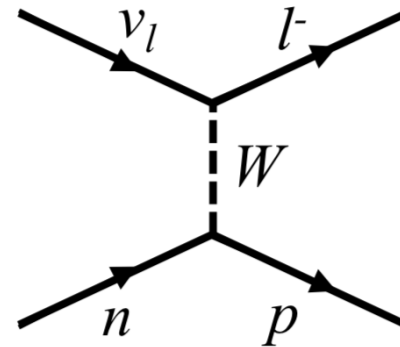


- Baseline: 810 km
- Peak  $E_\nu$ :  $\sim 2$  GeV (off-axis)
- Near detector: Scintillator tracker (300 T)
- Far detector: Scintillator tracker (14 kT)

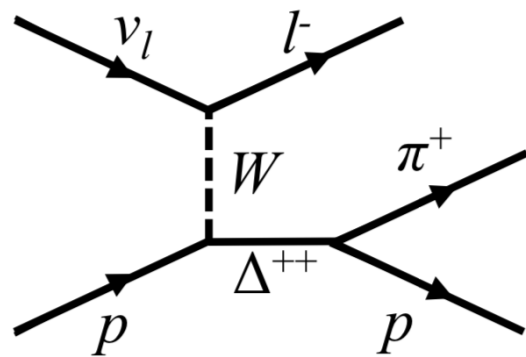
# Neutrino Interactions



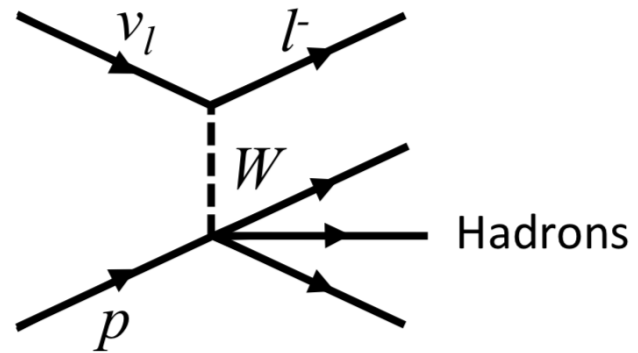
Elastic scattering



Quasi-elastic scattering  
(lowest energies)



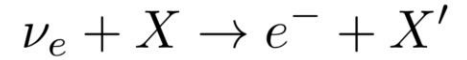
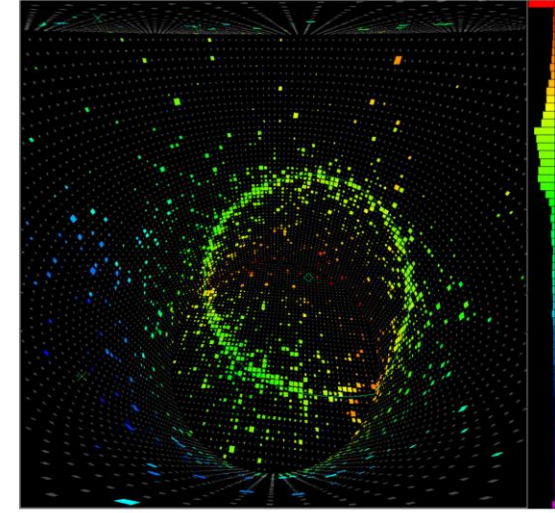
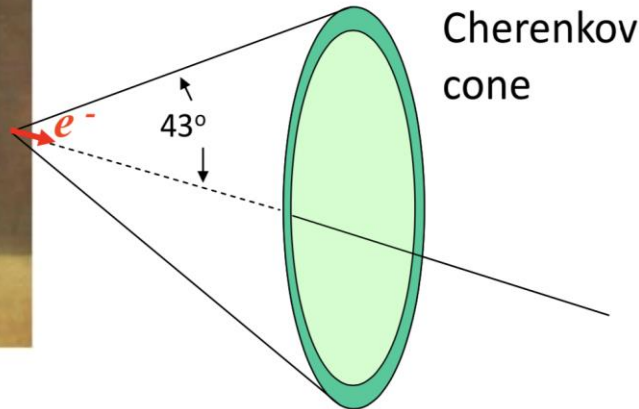
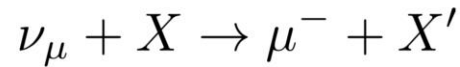
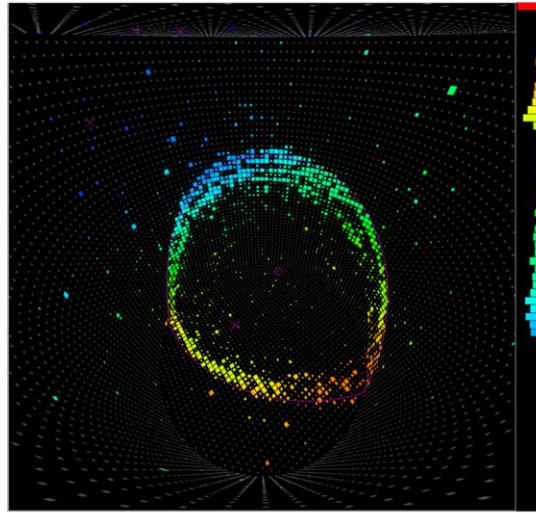
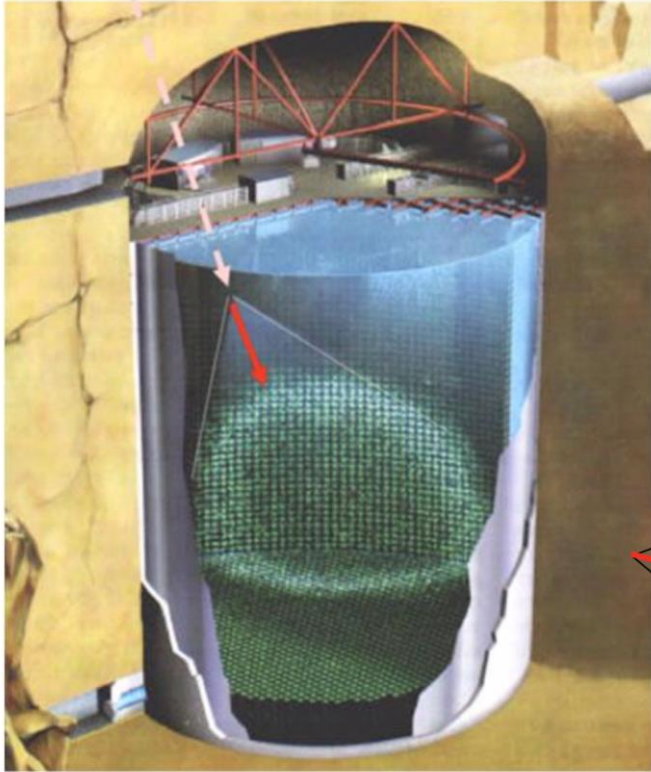
Resonance  
(Energies  $\sim 1$  GeV)



Deep inelastic scattering  
Highest energies ( $>1$  GeV)

# Example: Interactions in SuperKamiokande

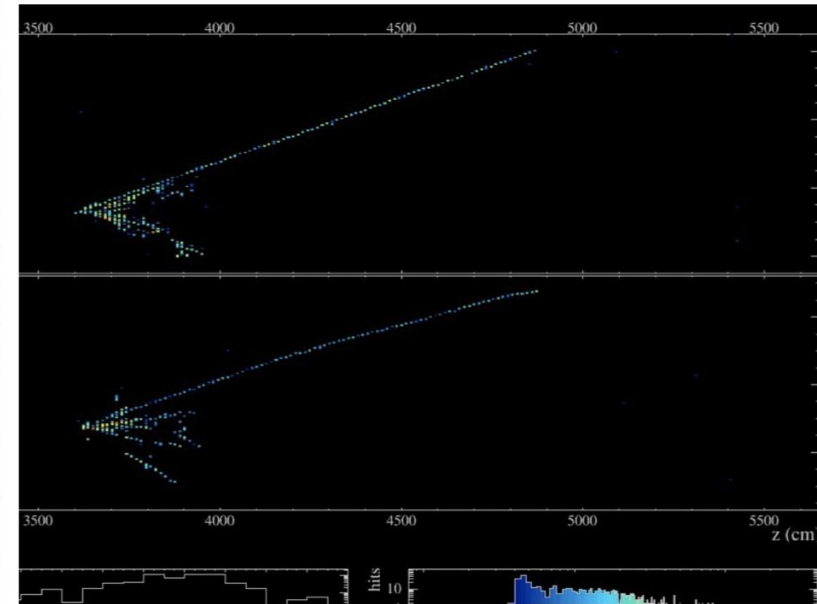
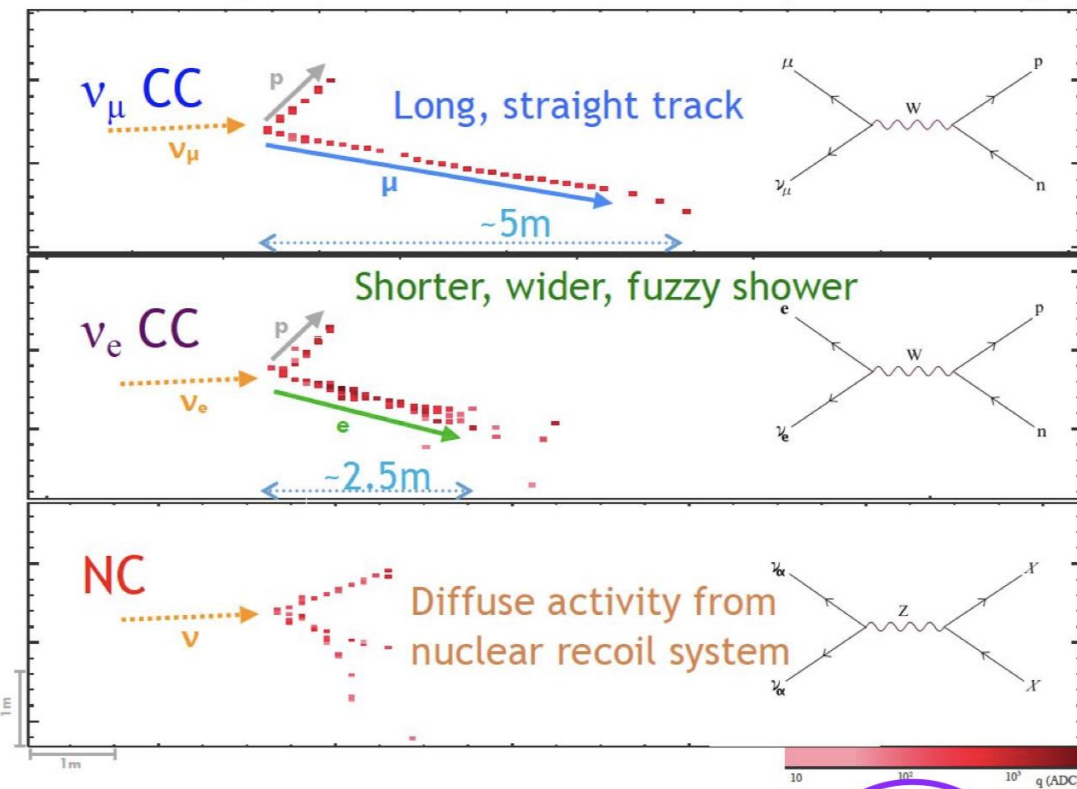
SK is the large detector of the T2K experiment



Electrons have more multiple scattering on the water -> Rings are more fuzzy

# Example: Interactions in NOvA

NOvA: Liquid Scintillator Detector (cell readout)

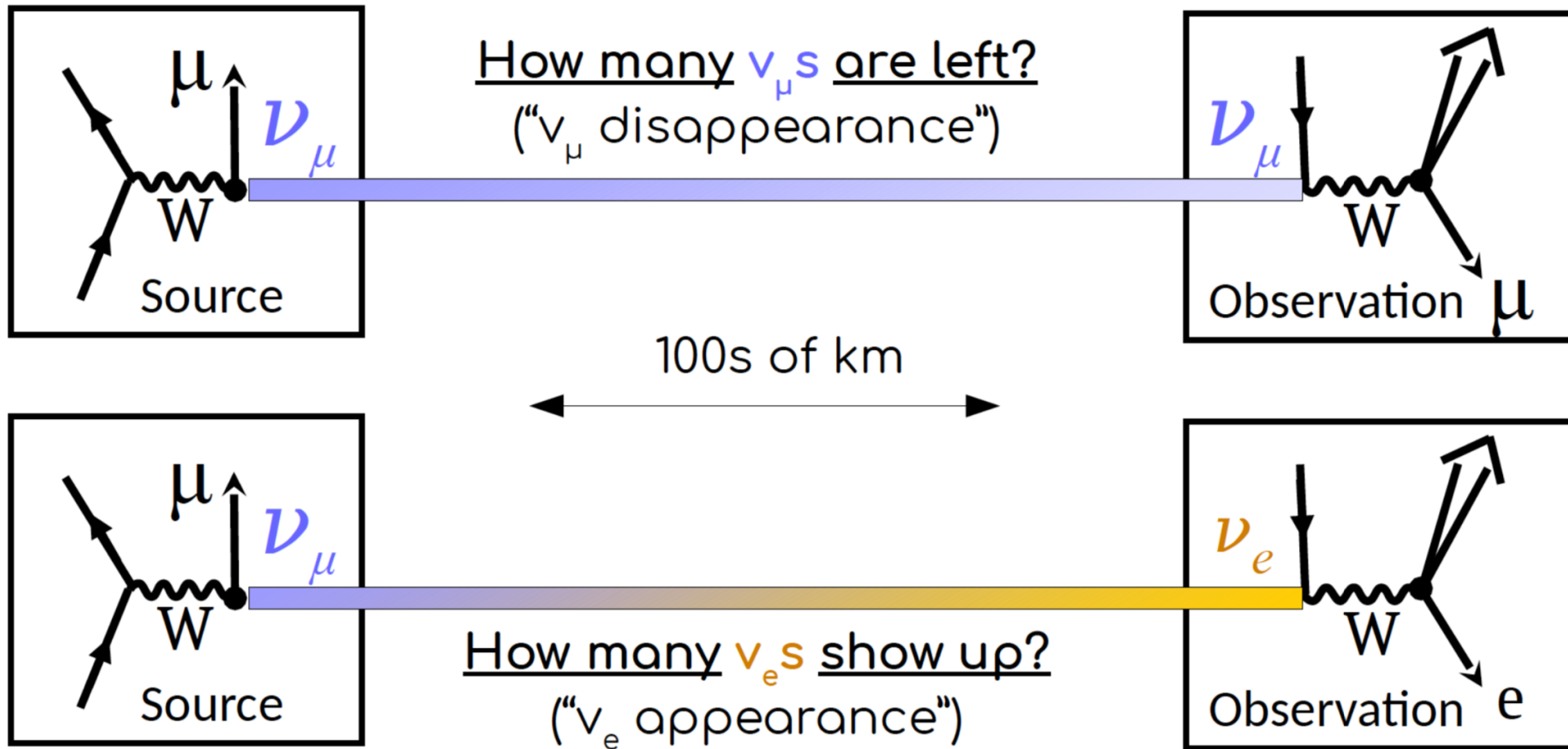


Credit: NOvA collaboration

$$N_{FD} \sim \Phi(E_\nu) \sigma(E_\nu) \epsilon_{FD} P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e)$$

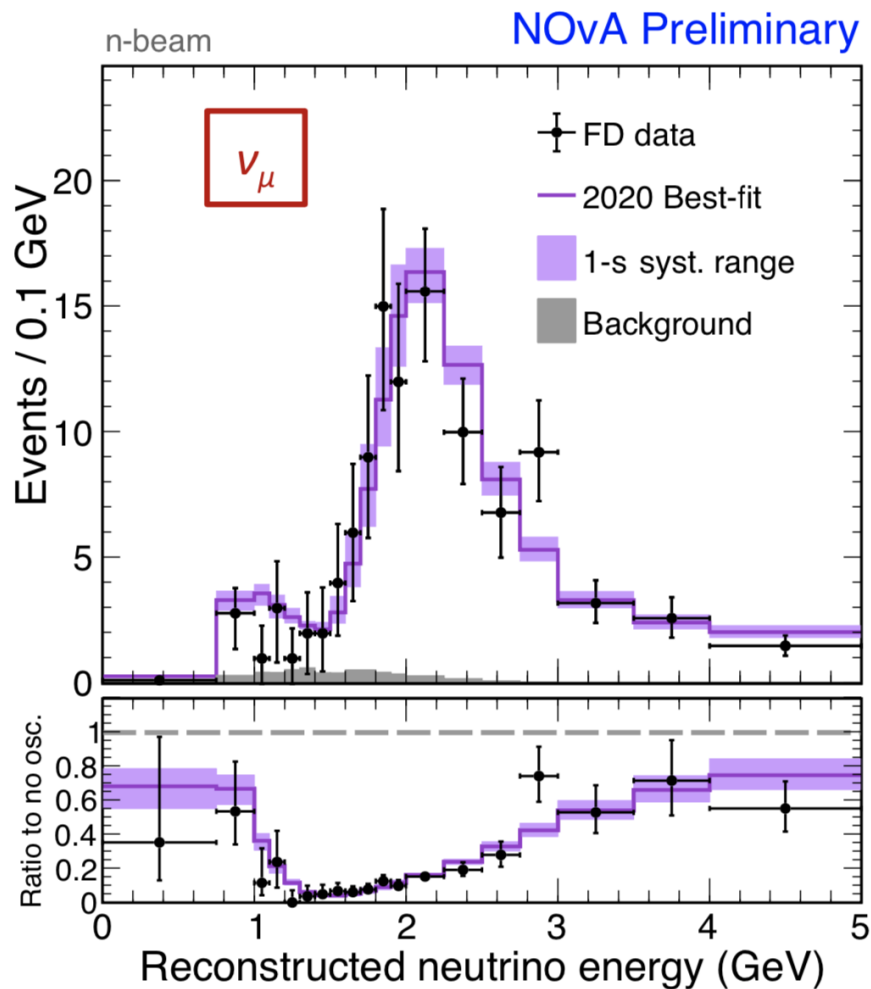


# Extracting the Information

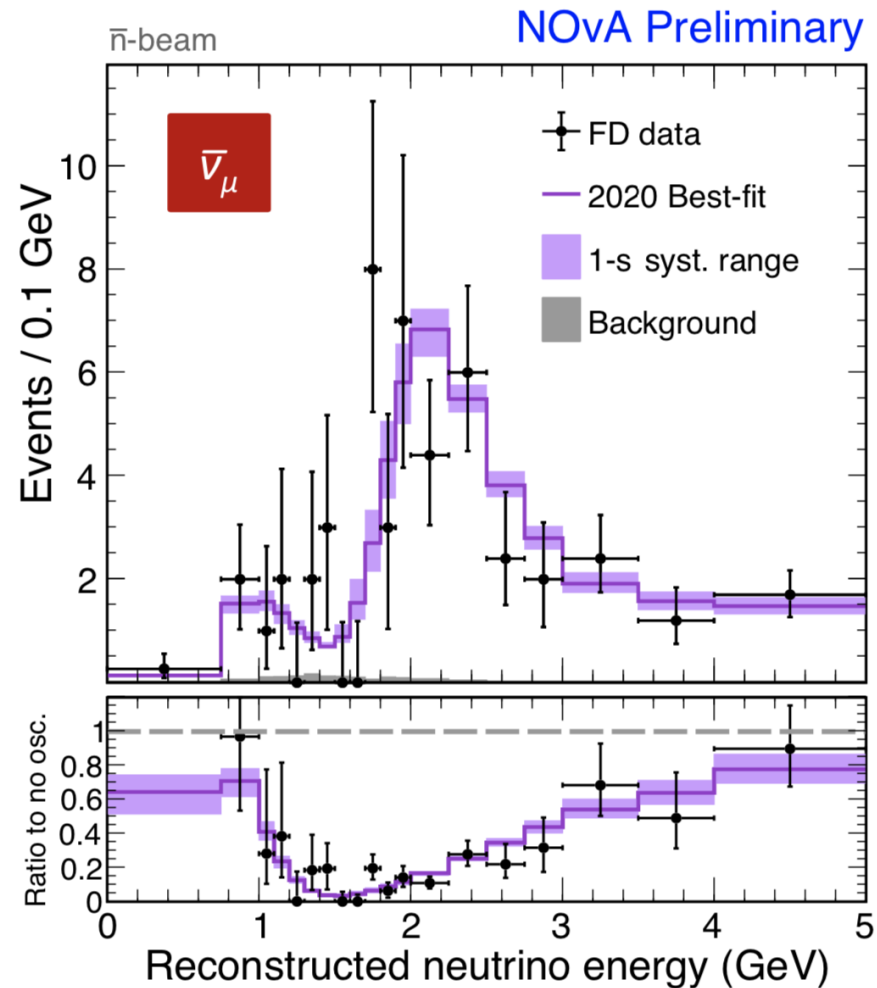


CPV: Do neutrinos and anti-neutrinos oscillate differently ?

# Muon Neutrino Disappearance



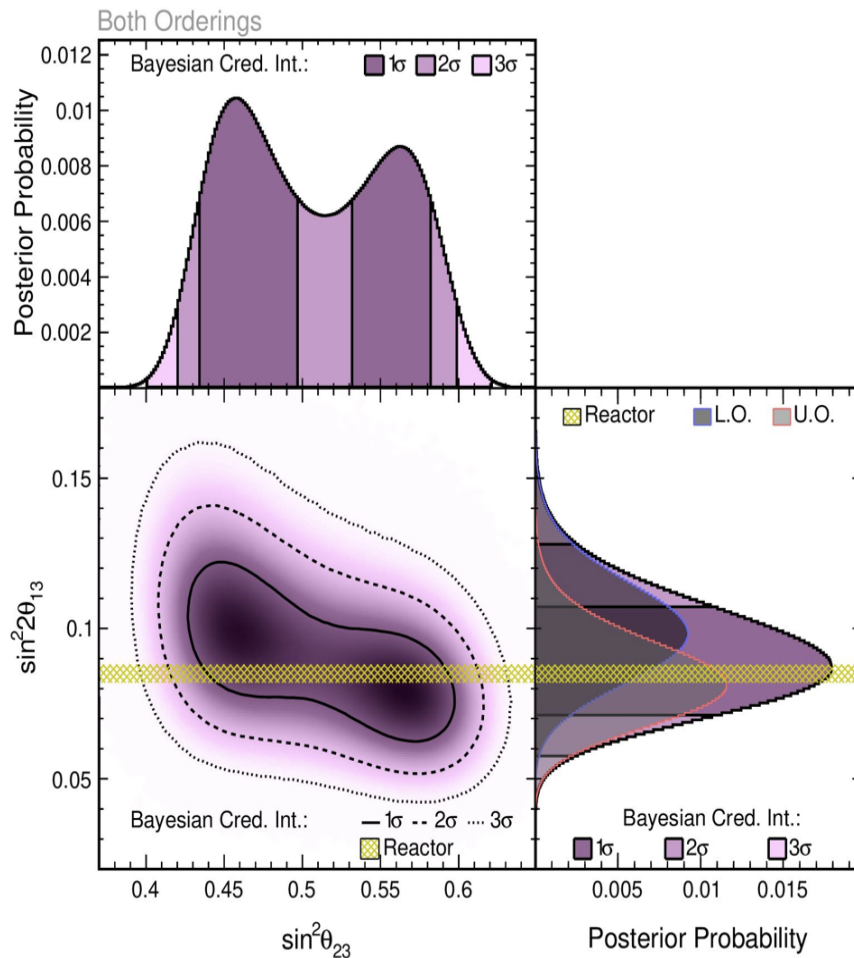
211 events, 8.2 background



105 events, 2.1 background

# NOvA Results

## Measurement of $\theta_{13}$



- The results so far all use a constraint on  $\theta_{13}$  from reactor experiments.
- The Bayesian interpretation of our data allows us to drop this constraint and make a NOvA measurement of  $\theta_{13}$ .

$$\sin^2(2\theta_{13}) = 0.085^{+0.020}_{-0.016}$$

- Consistent with the measurements from reactor experiments.
- Good test of PMNS consistency  $\rightarrow$  NOvA measurement uses a very different strategy to reactor experiments.

# End of Lecture 1

- Neutrinos oscillate and hence have a tiny mass, as found in atmospheric neutrinos and neutrinos from the sun
- How small are the masses?
- What generates the neutrino mass?
- How do the neutrinos mix in the mass states?
- Is the neutrino a Majorana particle?

⇒ Lecture 2: Look at accelerator CPV tests and experiments to measuring neutrino properties, neutrinos from outer space, and the Future Program

**Backup**

# Dirac & Majorana Masses

- Unlike the other fermions, the electrical neutrality allows neutrinos to acquire mass by coupling a neutrino to an anti-neutrino through a so-called “Majorana” mass term/contribution.
- In addition they may also acquire mass through the normal Higgs interaction which couples left-handed particles to right-handed particles, i.e. through the so-called Dirac mass terms.
- A Majorana mass term is forbidden for charged fermions because it violates the conservation of charge, but there is nothing that forbids Majorana mass terms for neutrinos. If neutrinos have both Dirac and Majorana mass terms, the so-called ‘see-saw’ mechanism may take place, in which there exists four neutrino states per family (just like there exist four states of the electron  $e_{-L}$   $e_{-R}$ ,  $e_{+L}$   $e_{+R}$ ), but so that in addition to the known, light left-handed neutrino (and antineutrino), two heavier ones may exist. Searches are ongoing (see Lecture 2)
- The Majorana mass terms are totally unknown, any right-handed neutrino mass between a fraction of and eV up to a fraction of the GUT scale ( $10^{15}$  GeV) is conceivable.

# Seesaw Mechanism

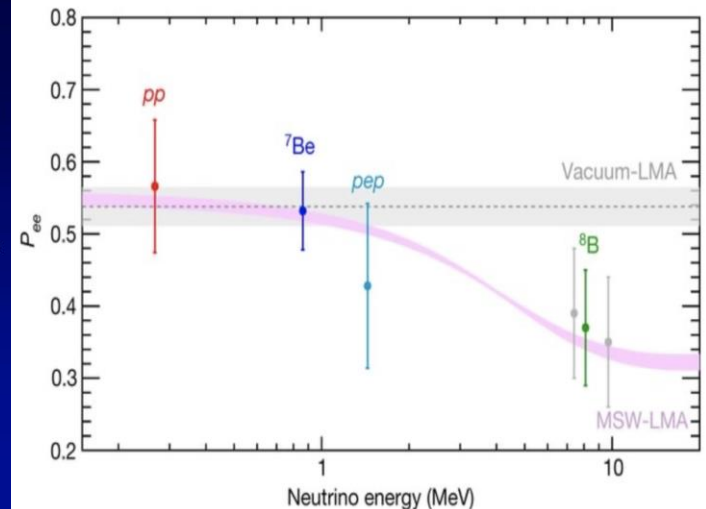
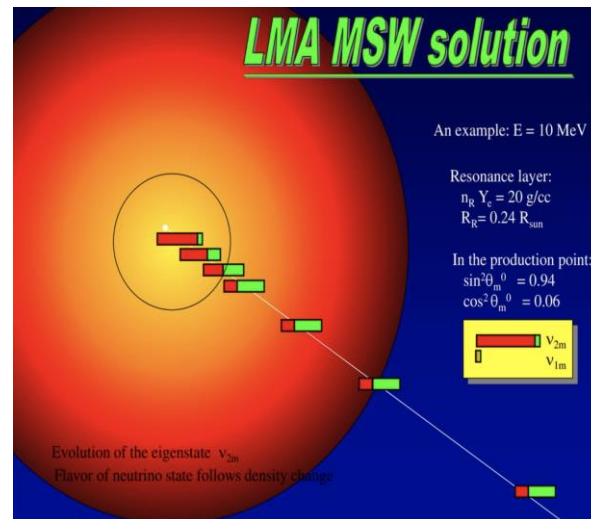
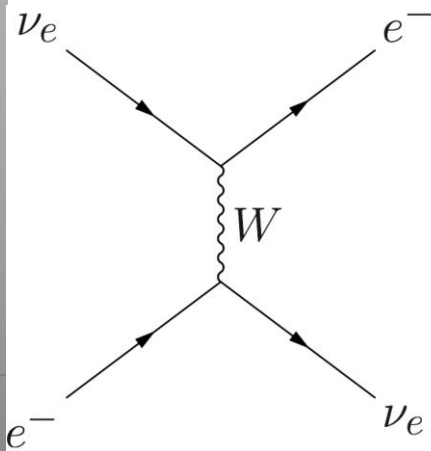
- A popular model is that there exists a heavier kind of neutrino. The masses of the ordinary neutrinos and (Majorana) heavy neutrinos are tied together. If one gets big, the other gets small. For this reason, the theory is colloquially called the seesaw mechanism. The heavy neutrinos have not been observed yet.



- In this model the left-handed neutrino, in order to generate a mass, has to fluctuate temporarily into the heavy right-handed state. Due to the uncertainty principle: the smaller neutrino mass the heavier the right handed partners
- Lot's of theoretical work: Many variations (Type I, II,..) exist trying to connect small masses, matter anti-matter asymmetry,...

# Note: MSW or Matter Effect

- When neutrinos travel over long distances through dense matter (Sun, Earth), their propagation is modified through coherent forward scattering off electrons (...like light in matter)
- This effect modifies the flavour oscillation probability (Mikhaev, Smirnov, Wolfenstein). Once the neutrino leaves the sun it is in a pure mass eigenstate consisting predominantly of the muon and tau flavors; no more further oscillation until it reaches earth.
- The MSW effect predicts a flavor conversion of solar neutrinos, that is independent of the distance between the sun and earth, of a factor 3 for the electron neutrinos (without any fine tuning)





# Matter Effects

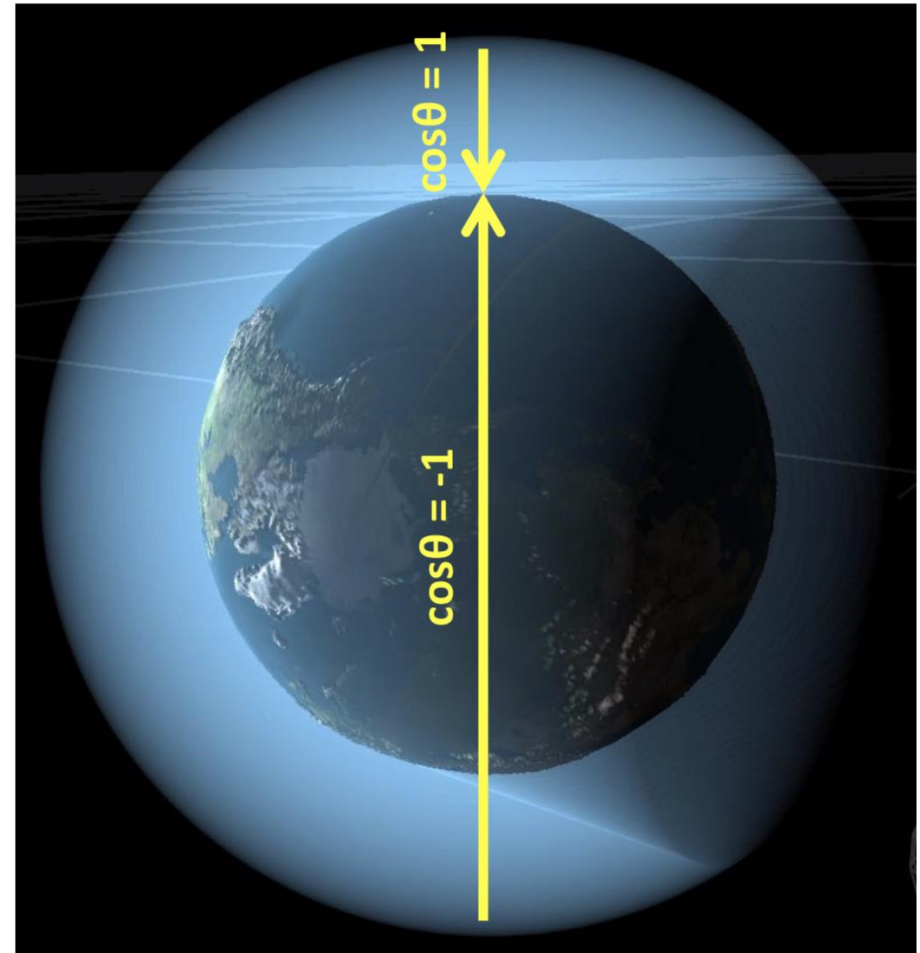
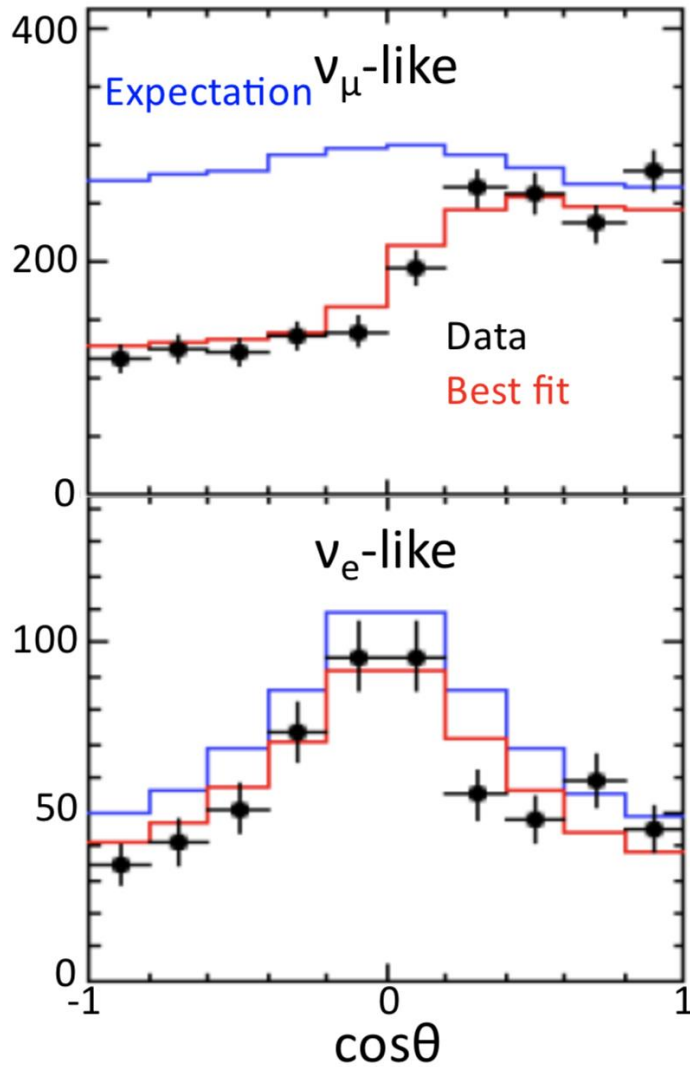
- The probability for  $\nu_e$  appearance:

$$P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e) \simeq \sin^2 \theta_{23} \sin^2 2\theta_{13} \frac{\sin^2(\Delta_{31} - aL)}{(\Delta_{31} - aL)^2} \Delta_{31}^2 \\ + \sin 2\theta_{23} \sin 2\theta_{13} \sin 2\theta_{12} \frac{\sin(\Delta_{31} - aL)}{(\Delta_{31} - aL)} \Delta_{31} \frac{\sin(aL)}{(aL)} \Delta_{21} \cos(\Delta_{31} + \delta_{\text{CP}}) \\ + \cos^2 \theta_{23} \sin^2 2\theta_{12} \frac{\sin^2(aL)}{(aL)^2} \Delta_{21}^2,$$

$$\Delta_{ij} = \Delta m_{ij}^2 L / 4E_\nu, \quad a = G_F N_e / \sqrt{2},$$

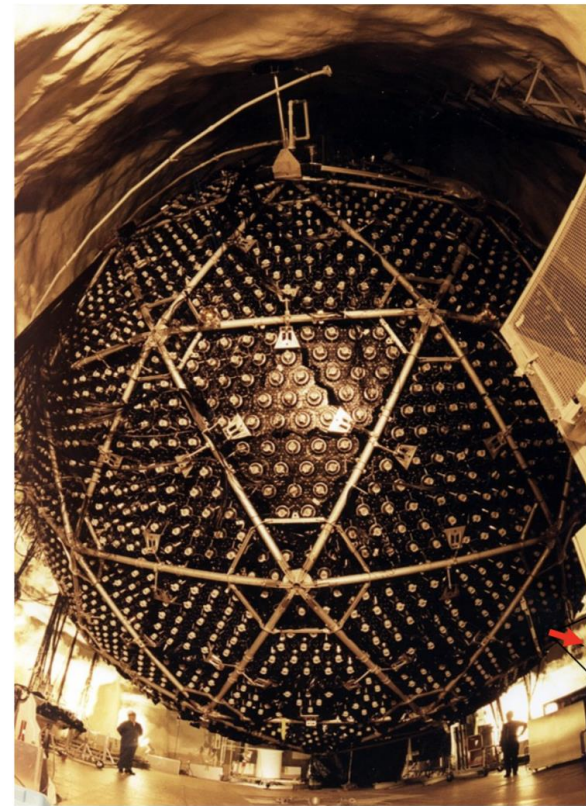
- both  $\delta_{\text{CP}}$  and  $a$  (matter effect) switch signs in going from the  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$  to the anti-neutrino process
- The origin of the matter effect asymmetry is simply the presence of electrons and absence of positrons in the Earth.

# SuperKamiokande

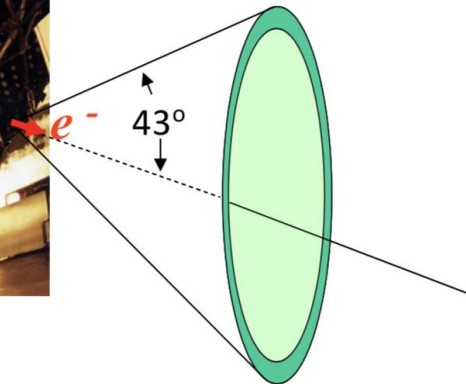


Explained if muon neutrinos oscillate with tau neutrinos with max. mixing

# SNO Experiment Challenge



Cherenkov cone



- Davis experiment only showed that some of the electron-neutrinos went missing.
- Need a detector that can measure different neutrino flavours to confirm the 3-flavour oscillation model.
- SNO detector – filled with heavy water - is sensitive to Cherenkov light from scattered electrons and from photons produced when neutrons are captured.

## neutrino definitions

the **electron** neutrino is present in association with an **electron** (e.g. beta decay)

the **muon** neutrino is present in association with a **muon** (pion decay)

the **tau** neutrino is present in association with a **tau** ( $W \rightarrow \tau \nu$  decay)

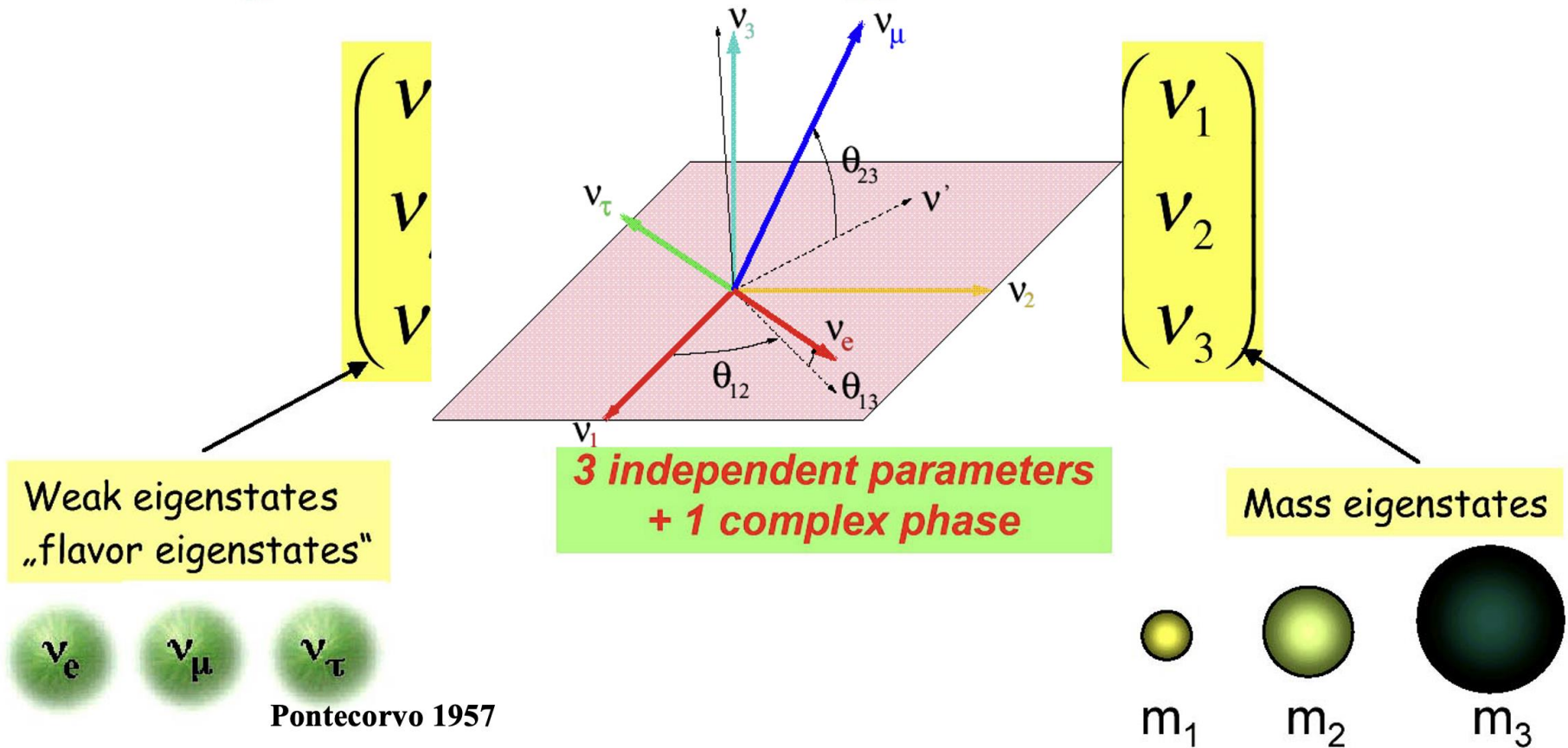
these **flavor-neutrinos** are not (as we know now) quantum states of well defined **MASS** (neutrino mixing)

the **mass-neutrino** with the highest **electron** neutrino content is called  $\nu_1$

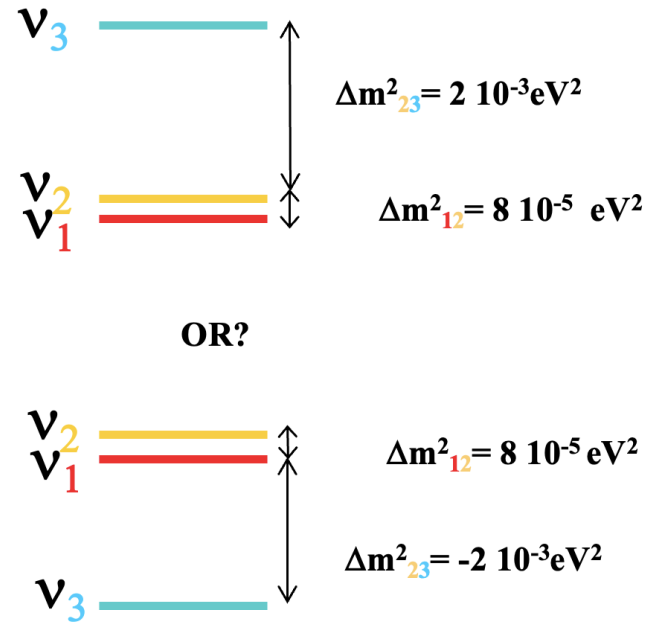
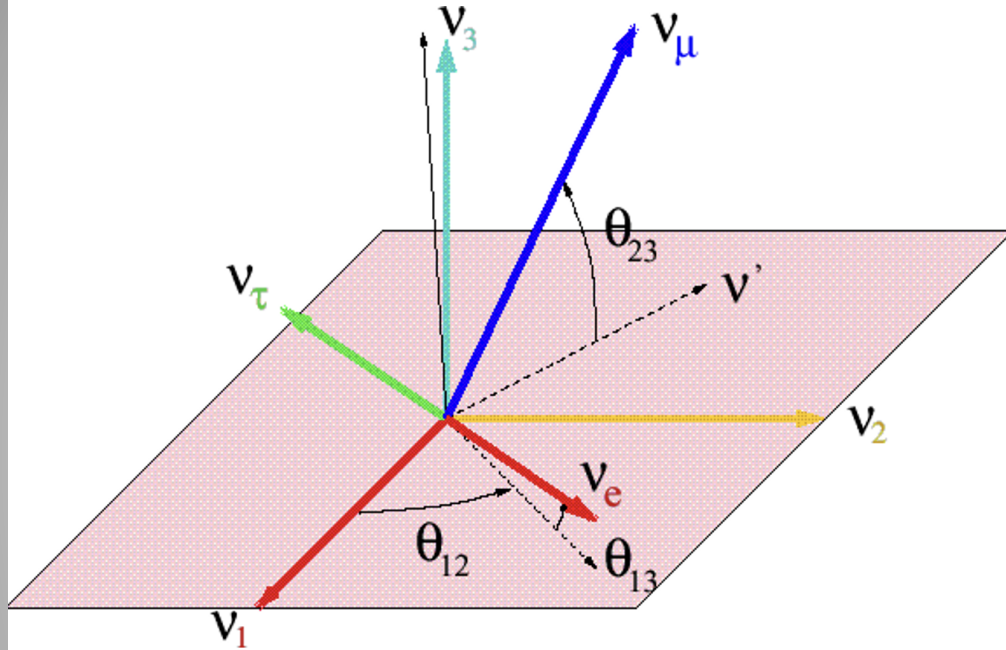
the **mass-neutrino** with the next-to-highest **electron** neutrino content is  $\nu_2$

the **mass-neutrino** with the smallest **electron** neutrino content is called  $\nu_3$

- ★ If neutrinos are massive particles, then it is possible that the **mass eigenstates** and the **weak eigenstates** are not the same:



# The neutrino mixing matrix: 3 angles and a phase $\delta$



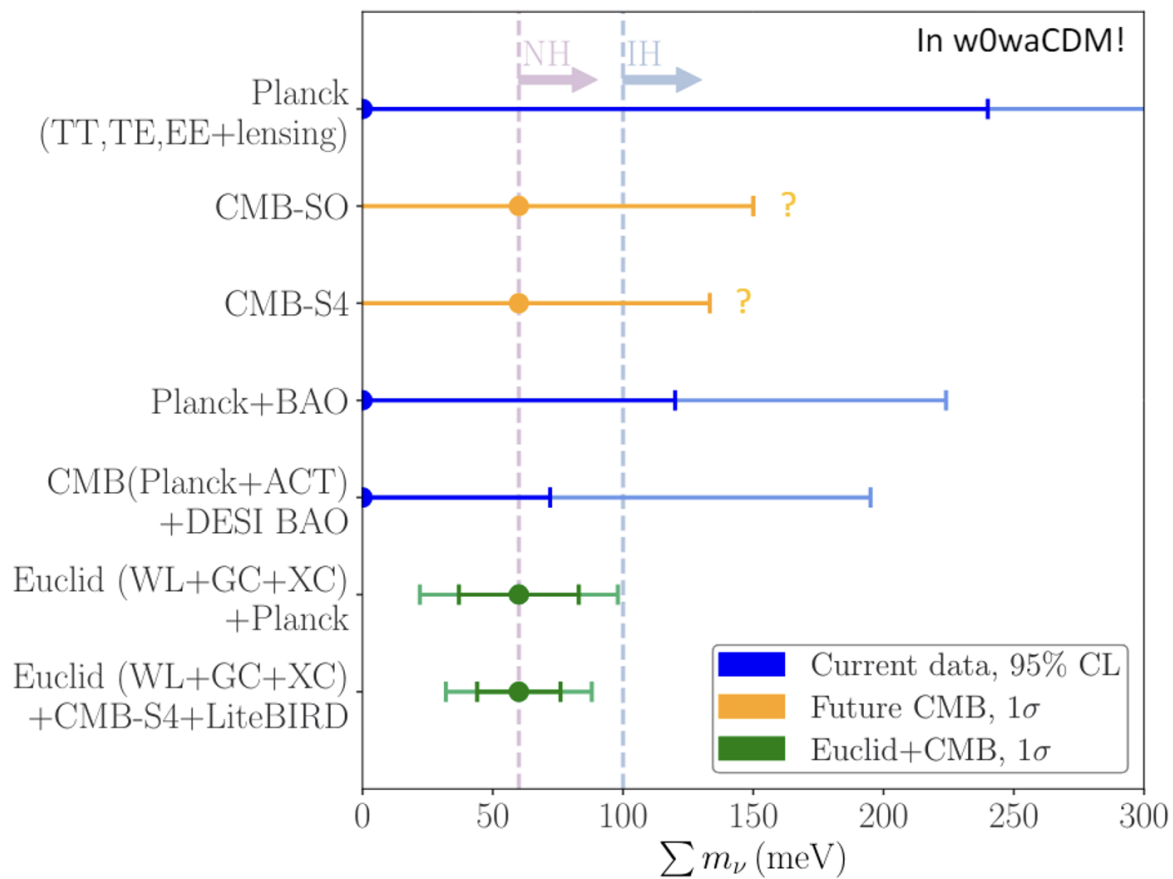
$$U_{\text{MNS}} : \begin{pmatrix} \sim \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} & \sim -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} & \sin \theta_{13} e^{i\delta} \\ \sim \frac{1}{2} & \sim \frac{1}{2} & \sim -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \\ \sim \frac{1}{2} & \sim \frac{1}{2} & \sim \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

**Unknown or poorly known  
phase  $\delta$ , sign of  $\Delta m_{23}^2$**





# Neutrino mass constraints: the future



Replacing the cosmological constant with dark energy with a time varying equation of state parameter increases the error by a factor 2.



# Fermion number conservation

Is **\*not\*** in itself a law or a symmetry of the Standard Model

**For charged fermions (e/mu/tau and the quarks)** it is not possible to transform a fermion into an antifermion **because of charge conservation**

**For neutrinos**, which are neutral, the SM assumes they are massless.

neutrino is left-handed (identical if massless to negative helicity)

and the antineutrino has positive helicity

neutrino  $\leftrightarrow$  antineutrino transition is forbidden by **angular momentum conservation**

This results in practice in apparent, accidental, conservation of fermion number

**The existence of massive neutrinos allows for spin flip and thus in principle a neutrino-antineutrino transition**

since a left-handed field (EW eigenstate) has a component of the opposite helicity (EW state  $\neq$  physical state)

$\nu_L \approx \nu_- + \nu_+ m/E$  (mass is what allows to flip the helicity)

for allowed masses of light neutrinos this is tiny: for  $m_\nu = 50$  meV and  $P_\pi^* = 30$  MeV  $\rightarrow (m/E)^2 = 10^{-18}$

**This can be observed in neutrino less double beta decay**

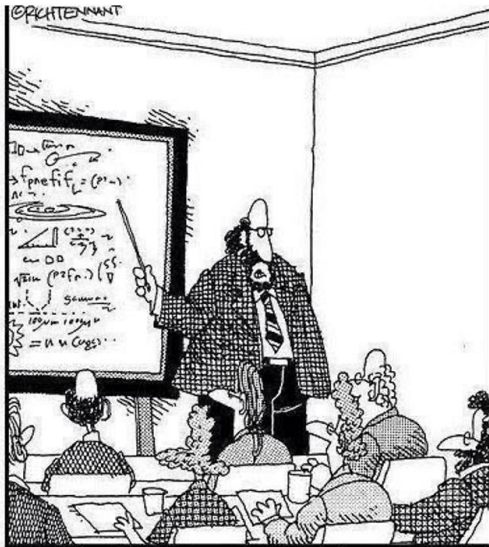
**or by searching directly for the right-handed neutrinos**

my SM training in 1976

## NEUTRINO MASSES

Electroweak eigenstates

$\begin{pmatrix} e \\ \nu_e \end{pmatrix}_L \quad \begin{pmatrix} \mu \\ \nu_\mu \end{pmatrix}_L \quad \begin{pmatrix} \tau \\ \nu_\tau \end{pmatrix}_L$	$\begin{pmatrix} e \end{pmatrix}_R \quad \begin{pmatrix} \mu \end{pmatrix}_R \quad \begin{pmatrix} \tau \end{pmatrix}_R$	Q = -1
		$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \end{pmatrix}_R \quad \begin{pmatrix} \nu_\mu \end{pmatrix}_R \quad \begin{pmatrix} \nu_\tau \end{pmatrix}_R$
I = 1/2	I = 0	



"Along with 'Antimatter,' and 'Dark Matter,' we've recently discovered the existence of 'Doesn't Matter,' which appears to have no effect on the universe whatsoever."

Right handed neutrinos are singlets  
no weak interaction  
no EM interaction  
no strong interaction

can't produce them  
can't detect them  
-- so why bother? –  
*Also called 'sterile'*

NB unlike for  $\nu_L$ , nothing distinguishes the particle and antiparticle of  $\nu_R$  which is a singlet (no 'charge')  
→ naturally a Majorana particle

## Conclusions

Neutrinos, at this moment in time, provide beautiful and intriguing mysteries

- is time reversal violated in neutrino oscillations
- is there a matter-antimatter transition in neutrinos
- do right-handed neutrinos exist?
- is the origin of neutrino masses the same (SM Higgs coupling) as that of the other fermions?

The answer to which have great chances to provide the explanation of the very existence of our 'matter' Universe

The solution of these mysteries requires an all-fronts program of research involving

- theoretical understanding and calculations
- neutrino beam experiments (but for how long?)
- nuclear physics experiments ( $0\nu\beta\beta$ )
- fixed target experiments (e.g. SHIP at CERN)
- collider experiments (see you tomorrow ;-) !
- you invent it!

**Neutrino masses occur via processes which are intimately related to the Higgs boson  
what are the couplings of the H(125) to neutrinos?**

Let us follow the steps of the Standard Model to construct a **minimal neutrino mass model**

Adding neutrino masses to the Standard model 'simply' by adding a Dirac mass

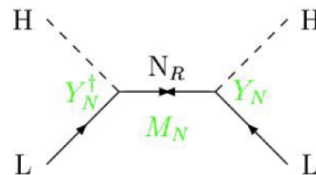
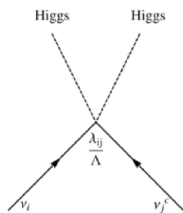
→ right-handed neutrino

$$m_D \bar{\nu}_L \nu_R \quad \begin{array}{c} \overleftarrow{\nu}_R \\ \xrightarrow{\nu_L} \\ m_D \end{array} \quad \text{B. Kayser 1989}$$

$m_D$  is the Higgs **Yukawa coupling** (like everybody else). Then the right handed neutrinos are sterile, (**except** that they couple to both the Higgs boson and gravitation).

Things become more interesting: a **Majorana mass term** arises (So-called **Weinberg Operator**) using the Higgs boson and the neutrino Yukawa coupling:

Origin of neutrino mass:



$$\overline{M_R} \nu_R^c \nu_R$$

**Majorana mass term** is extremely interesting as this is the **particle-to-antiparticle transition** that we want in order to explain **the Baryon asymmetry of the Universe** (+ CP violation in e.g. neutrinos)

+ restores SU(2) symmetry!

Pilar Hernandez, Silvia Pascoli  
Granada 2019-05

Having two mass terms per family , neutrinos undergo level splitting → Mass eigenstates

See-saw type I :

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} (\bar{\nu}_L, \bar{N}_R^c) \begin{pmatrix} 0 & m_D \\ m_D^T & M_R \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_L^c \\ N_R \end{pmatrix}$$

$M_R \neq 0$   
 $m_D \neq 0$   
Dirac + Majorana  
mass terms

$$\tan 2\theta = \frac{2 m_D}{M_R - 0} \ll 1$$

$$m_\nu = \frac{1}{2} \left[ (0 + M_R) - \sqrt{(0 - M_R)^2 + 4 m_D^2} \right] \simeq -m_D^2 / M_R$$

$$M = \frac{1}{2} \left[ (0 + M_R) + \sqrt{(0 - M_R)^2 + 4 m_D^2} \right] \simeq M_R$$

general formula

if  $m_D \ll M_R$

$M_R = 0$   
 $m_D \neq 0$   
Dirac only, (like e- vs e+):

	$\nu_L$	$\nu_R$	$\bar{\nu}_L$	$\bar{\nu}_R$
$I_{\text{weak}} =$	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	0

4 states of equal masses  
 Some have  $I=1/2$  (active)  
 Some have  $I=0$  (sterile)

$M_R \neq 0$   
 $m_D = 0$   
Majorana only

	$\nu_L$	$\bar{\nu}_R$
$I_{\text{weak}} =$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$

2 states of equal masses  
 All have  $I=1/2$  (active)

$M_R > m_D \neq 0$  see-saw  
Dirac + Majorana

	$\nu$	$N$	$\bar{\nu}$	$N$
$I_{\text{weak}} =$	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	0

dominantly:  
 4 states , 2 mass levels  
 $m_1$  have  $\sim I=1/2$  ( $\sim$ active)  
 $m_2$  have  $\sim I=0$  ( $\sim$ sterile)

# Electroweak Charge

Electroweak charges of Standard Model particles

Spin $J$	Particle(s)	Weak charge $Q_w$	Electric charge $Q$ or $Q_e$	Weak isospin $T_3$		Weak hypercharge $Y_w$		Z boson coupling	
		$= 2 Q_L + 2 Q_R$		LEFT	RIGHT	LEFT	RIGHT	$2 Q_L$	$2 Q_R$
								LEFT	RIGHT
$\frac{1}{2}$	$e^-, \mu^-, \tau^-$ electron, muon, tau <sup>[i]</sup>	$-1 + 4 \sin^2 \theta_w$ $\approx 0$	-1	$-\frac{1}{2}$	0	-1	-2	$-1 + 2 \sin^2 \theta_w$ $\approx -\frac{1}{2}$	$2 \sin^2 \theta_w$ $\approx +\frac{1}{2}$
$\frac{1}{2}$	u, c, t up, charm, top <sup>[i]</sup>	$+1 - \frac{8}{3} \sin^2 \theta_w$ $\approx +\frac{1}{3}$	$+\frac{2}{3}$	$+\frac{1}{2}$	0	$+\frac{1}{3}$	$+\frac{4}{3}$	$1 - \frac{4}{3} \sin^2 \theta_w$ $\approx +\frac{2}{3}$	$-\frac{4}{3} \sin^2 \theta_w$ $\approx -\frac{1}{3}$
$\frac{1}{2}$	d, s, b down, strange, bottom <sup>[i]</sup>	$-1 + \frac{4}{3} \sin^2 \theta_w$ $\approx -\frac{2}{3}$	$-\frac{1}{3}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	0	$+\frac{1}{3}$	$-\frac{2}{3}$	$-1 + \frac{2}{3} \sin^2 \theta_w$ $\approx -\frac{5}{6}$	$+\frac{2}{3} \sin^2 \theta_w$ $\approx +\frac{1}{6}$
$\frac{1}{2}$	$\nu_e, \nu_\mu, \nu_\tau$ neutrinos <sup>[i]</sup>	+1	0	$+\frac{1}{2}$	0 <sup>[iii]</sup>	-1	0 <sup>[ii]</sup>	+1	0 <sup>[iii]</sup>
1	g, $\gamma$ , $Z^0$ , gluon <sup>[iii]</sup> , photon, and Z boson, <sup>[iv]</sup>	0 <sup>[iv]</sup>							
1	$W^+$ W boson <sup>[v]</sup>	$+2 - 4 \sin^2 \theta_w$ $\approx +1$	+1	+1		0		$+2 - 4 \sin^2 \theta_w$ $\approx +1$	
0	$H^0$ Higgs boson	-1	0	$-\frac{1}{2}$		+1		-1	