

# Neutrino Physics

## Part II: Neutrino Oscillations

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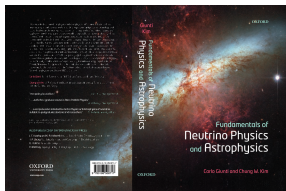
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Neutrino Unbound: <http://www.nu.to.infn.it>

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<http://personalpages.to.infn.it/~giunti/slides/2019/giunti-201130-phdto2.pdf>



C. Giunti and C.W. Kim

Fundamentals of Neutrino Physics and  
Astrophysics

Oxford University Press

15 March 2007 – 728 pages

## Part II: Neutrino Oscillations

- Neutrino Oscillations in Vacuum
- Neutrino Oscillations in Matter

# Ultrarelativistic Approximation

Only neutrinos with energy  $\gtrsim 0.1\text{MeV}$  are detectable!

Charged-Current Processes: Threshold

$$\begin{aligned} \nu + A &\rightarrow B + C \\ &\Downarrow \\ s &= 2Em_A + m_A^2 \geq (m_B + m_C)^2 \\ &\Downarrow \\ E_{\text{th}} &= \frac{(m_B + m_C)^2}{2m_A} - \frac{m_A}{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \nu_e + {}^{71}\text{Ga} &\rightarrow {}^{71}\text{Ge} + e^- & E_{\text{th}} &= 0.233 \text{ MeV} \\ \nu_e + {}^{37}\text{Cl} &\rightarrow {}^{37}\text{Ar} + e^- & E_{\text{th}} &= 0.81 \text{ MeV} \\ \bar{\nu}_e + p &\rightarrow n + e^+ & E_{\text{th}} &= 1.8 \text{ MeV} \\ \nu_\mu + n &\rightarrow p + \mu^- & E_{\text{th}} &= 110 \text{ MeV} \\ \nu_\mu + e^- &\rightarrow \nu_e + \mu^- & E_{\text{th}} &\simeq \frac{m_\mu^2}{2m_e} = 10.9 \text{ GeV} \end{aligned}$$

Elastic Scattering Processes: Cross Section  $\propto$  Energy

$$\nu + e^- \rightarrow \nu + e^- \quad \sigma(E) \sim \sigma_0 E/m_e \quad \sigma_0 \sim 10^{-44} \text{ cm}^2$$

Background  $\implies E_{\text{th}} \simeq 5 \text{ MeV}$  (SK, SNO),  $0.25 \text{ MeV}$  (Borexino)

Laboratory and Astrophysical Limits  $\implies m_\nu \lesssim 1 \text{ eV}$

# Neutrino Mixing

Left-handed **Flavor Neutrinos** produced in Weak Interactions

$$|\nu_e, -\rangle \quad |\nu_\mu, -\rangle \quad |\nu_\tau, -\rangle$$

$$\mathcal{H}_{CC} = \frac{g}{\sqrt{2}} W_\rho (\bar{\nu}_{eL} \gamma^\rho e_L + \bar{\nu}_{\mu L} \gamma^\rho \mu_L + \bar{\nu}_{\tau L} \gamma^\rho \tau_L) + \text{H.c.}$$

Fields  $\nu_{\alpha L} = \sum_k U_{\alpha k} \nu_{kL} \implies |\nu_\alpha, -\rangle = \sum_k U_{\alpha k}^* |\nu_k, -\rangle$  States

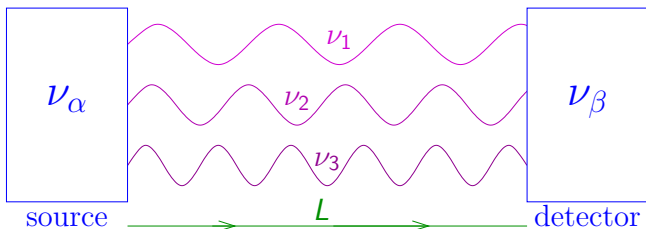
$$|\nu_1, -\rangle \quad |\nu_2, -\rangle \quad |\nu_3, -\rangle$$

Left-handed **Massive Neutrinos** propagate from Source to Detector

$3 \times 3$  Unitary Mixing Matrix:  $U = \begin{pmatrix} U_{e1} & U_{e2} & U_{e3} \\ U_{\mu 1} & U_{\mu 2} & U_{\mu 3} \\ U_{\tau 1} & U_{\tau 2} & U_{\tau 3} \end{pmatrix}$

# Neutrino Oscillations in Vacuum

$$|\nu(t=0)\rangle = |\nu_\alpha\rangle = U_{\alpha 1}^* |\nu_1\rangle + U_{\alpha 2}^* |\nu_2\rangle + U_{\alpha 3}^* |\nu_3\rangle$$



$$|\nu(t > 0)\rangle = U_{\alpha 1}^* e^{-iE_1 t} |\nu_1\rangle + U_{\alpha 2}^* e^{-iE_2 t} |\nu_2\rangle + U_{\alpha 3}^* e^{-iE_3 t} |\nu_3\rangle \neq |\nu_\alpha\rangle$$

$$E_k^2 = p^2 + m_k^2 \quad t = L$$

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

the oscillation probabilities depend on  $U$  and  $\Delta m_{kj}^2 \equiv m_k^2 - m_j^2$

# Simple Example of Neutrino Production

$$\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ + \nu_\mu$$

$$\nu_\mu = \sum_k U_{\mu k} \nu_k$$

two-body decay  $\Rightarrow$  fixed kinematics

$$E_k^2 = p_k^2 + m_k^2$$

$$\pi \text{ at rest: } \begin{cases} p_k^2 = \frac{m_\pi^2}{4} \left(1 - \frac{m_\mu^2}{m_\pi^2}\right)^2 - \frac{m_k^2}{2} \left(1 + \frac{m_\mu^2}{m_\pi^2}\right) + \frac{m_k^4}{4 m_\pi^2} \\ E_k^2 = \frac{m_\pi^2}{4} \left(1 - \frac{m_\mu^2}{m_\pi^2}\right)^2 + \frac{m_k^2}{2} \left(1 - \frac{m_\mu^2}{m_\pi^2}\right) + \frac{m_k^4}{4 m_\pi^2} \end{cases}$$

$$0^{\text{th}} \text{ order: } m_k = 0 \Rightarrow p_k = E_k = E = \frac{m_\pi}{2} \left(1 - \frac{m_\mu^2}{m_\pi^2}\right) \simeq 30 \text{ MeV}$$

$$1^{\text{st}} \text{ order: } E_k \simeq E + \xi \frac{m_k^2}{2E}$$

$$p_k \simeq E - (1 - \xi) \frac{m_k^2}{2E}$$

$$\xi = \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \frac{m_\mu^2}{m_\pi^2}\right) \simeq 0.2$$

# Neutrino Oscillations in Vacuum

[Eliezer, Swift, NPB 105 (1976) 45] [Fritzsch, Minkowski, PLB 62 (1976) 72] [Bilenky, Pontecorvo, SJNP 24 (1976) 316]

$$\mathcal{L}_{CC} \sim W_\rho (\bar{\nu}_{eL} \gamma^\rho e_L + \bar{\nu}_{\mu L} \gamma^\rho \mu_L + \bar{\nu}_{\tau L} \gamma^\rho \tau_L)$$

Fields  $\nu_{\alpha L} = \sum_k U_{\alpha k} \nu_{kL} \quad \Rightarrow \quad |\nu_\alpha\rangle = \sum_k U_{\alpha k}^* |\nu_k\rangle$  States

initial flavor:  $\alpha = e \text{ or } \mu \text{ or } \tau$

$$|\nu_k(t, x)\rangle = e^{-iE_k t + ip_k x} |\nu_k\rangle \quad \Rightarrow \quad |\nu_\alpha(t, x)\rangle = \sum_k U_{\alpha k}^* e^{-iE_k t + ip_k x} |\nu_k\rangle$$

$$|\nu_k\rangle = \sum_{\beta=e,\mu,\tau} U_{\beta k} |\nu_\beta\rangle \quad \Rightarrow \quad |\nu_\alpha(t, x)\rangle = \sum_{\beta=e,\mu,\tau} \underbrace{\left( \sum_k U_{\alpha k}^* e^{-iE_k t + ip_k x} U_{\beta k} \right)}_{\mathcal{A}_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta}(t, x)} |\nu_\beta\rangle$$

$$\mathcal{A}_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta}(0, 0) = \sum_k U_{\alpha k}^* U_{\beta k} = \delta_{\alpha\beta}$$

$$\mathcal{A}_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta}(t > 0, x > 0) \neq \delta_{\alpha\beta}$$

$$P_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta}(t, x) = |\mathcal{A}_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta}(t, x)|^2 = \left| \sum_k U_{\alpha k}^* e^{-iE_k t + i p_k x} U_{\beta k} \right|^2$$

ultra-relativistic neutrinos  $\implies t \simeq x = L$  source-detector distance

$$E_k t - p_k x \simeq (E_k - p_k) L = \frac{E_k^2 - p_k^2}{E_k + p_k} L = \frac{m_k^2}{E_k + p_k} L \simeq \frac{m_k^2}{2E} L$$

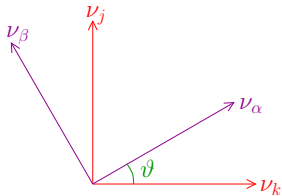
$$\begin{aligned} P_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta}(L, E) &= \left| \sum_k U_{\alpha k}^* e^{-im_k^2 L/2E} U_{\beta k} \right|^2 \\ &= \sum_{k,j} U_{\alpha k}^* U_{\beta k} U_{\alpha j} U_{\beta j}^* \exp\left(-i \frac{\Delta m_{kj}^2 L}{2E}\right) \end{aligned}$$

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



# Effective Two-Neutrino Mixing Approximation

$$\begin{aligned} |\nu_\alpha\rangle &= \cos\vartheta |\nu_k\rangle + \sin\vartheta |\nu_j\rangle \\ |\nu_\beta\rangle &= -\sin\vartheta |\nu_k\rangle + \cos\vartheta |\nu_j\rangle \end{aligned}$$



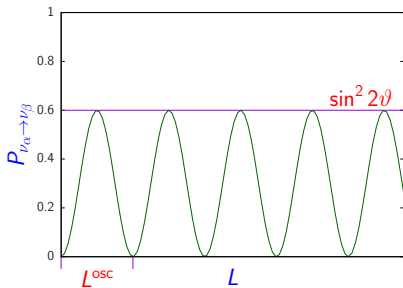
$$U = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\vartheta & \sin\vartheta \\ -\sin\vartheta & \cos\vartheta \end{pmatrix}$$

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

Transition Probability:  $P_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta} = P_{\nu_\beta \rightarrow \nu_\alpha} = \sin^2 2\vartheta \sin^2 \left( \frac{\Delta m^2 L}{4E} \right)$

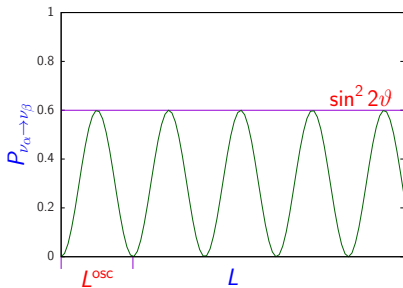
Survival Probabilities:  $P_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\alpha} = P_{\nu_\beta \rightarrow \nu_\beta} = 1 - P_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta}$

2ν-mixing: 
$$P_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta} = \sin^2 2\vartheta \sin^2 \left( \frac{\Delta m^2 L}{4E} \right) \implies L^{\text{osc}} = \frac{4\pi E}{\Delta m^2}$$



- ▶ The effect of a tiny  $\Delta m^2$  can be amplified by a large distance  $L$ .
- ▶ A tiny  $\Delta m^2$  generates oscillations observable at macroscopic distances!
- ▶ Neutrino oscillations are the optimal tool to reveal tiny neutrino masses!

2ν-mixing: 
$$P_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta} = \sin^2 2\vartheta \sin^2 \left( 1.27 \frac{\Delta m^2 [\text{eV}^2] L [\text{km}]}{E [\text{GeV}]} \right)$$



$\frac{L}{E} \gtrsim$	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \\ \\ \\ \\ \end{array} \right.$	$10 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{MeV}} \left( \frac{\text{km}}{\text{GeV}} \right)$	short-baseline experiments	$\Delta m^2 \gtrsim 10^{-1} \text{ eV}^2$
		$10^3 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{MeV}} \left( \frac{\text{km}}{\text{GeV}} \right)$	long-baseline experiments	$\Delta m^2 \gtrsim 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$
		$10^4 \frac{\text{km}}{\text{GeV}}$	atmospheric neutrino experiments	$\Delta m^2 \gtrsim 10^{-4} \text{ eV}^2$
		$10^{11} \frac{\text{m}}{\text{MeV}}$	solar neutrino experiments	$\Delta m^2 \gtrsim 10^{-11} \text{ eV}^2$

# Neutrinos and Antineutrinos

Right-handed antineutrinos are described by CP-conjugated fields:

$$\nu_{\alpha L}^{\text{CP}} = \gamma^0 \mathcal{C} \overline{\nu_{\alpha L}}^T$$

C  $\implies$  Particle  $\leftrightarrow$  Antiparticle  
P  $\implies$  Left-Handed  $\leftrightarrow$  Right-Handed



$$\text{Fields: } \nu_{\alpha L} = \sum_k U_{\alpha k} \nu_{kL} \xrightarrow{\text{CP}} \nu_{\alpha L}^{\text{CP}} = \sum_k U_{\alpha k}^* \nu_{kL}^{\text{CP}}$$

$$\text{States: } |\nu_{\alpha}\rangle = \sum_k U_{\alpha k}^* |\nu_k\rangle \xrightarrow{\text{CP}} |\bar{\nu}_{\alpha}\rangle = \sum_k U_{\alpha k} |\bar{\nu}_k\rangle$$

NEUTRINOS     $U \Leftrightarrow U^*$     ANTINEUTRINOS

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

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

# CPT Symmetry

$$P_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta} \xrightarrow{\text{CPT}} P_{\bar{\nu}_\beta \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_\alpha}$$

$$\text{CPT Asymmetries: } A_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{CPT}} = P_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta} - P_{\bar{\nu}_\beta \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_\alpha}$$

$$\text{Local Quantum Field Theory} \implies A_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{CPT}} = 0 \quad \text{CPT Symmetry}$$

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

$$\text{is invariant under CPT: } U \rightleftharpoons U^* \quad \alpha \rightleftharpoons \beta$$

$$P_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta} = P_{\bar{\nu}_\beta \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_\alpha}$$

$$P_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\alpha} = P_{\bar{\nu}_\alpha \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_\alpha}$$

(solar  $\nu_e$ , reactor  $\bar{\nu}_e$ , accelerator  $\nu_\mu$ )

# CP Symmetry

$$P_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta} \xrightarrow{\text{CP}} P_{\bar{\nu}_\alpha \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_\beta}$$

$$\text{CP Asymmetries: } A_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{CP}} = P_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta} - P_{\bar{\nu}_\alpha \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_\beta}$$

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

$$\text{Jarlskog rephasing invariant: } \text{Im} [U_{\alpha k}^* U_{\beta k} U_{\alpha j} U_{\beta j}^*] = \pm J$$

$$J = c_{12} s_{12} c_{23} s_{23} c_{13}^2 s_{13} \sin \delta_{13}$$

$$J \neq 0 \iff \vartheta_{12}, \vartheta_{23}, \vartheta_{13} \neq 0, \pi/2 \quad \delta_{13} \neq 0, \pi$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{CPT} \quad \Rightarrow \quad 0 &= A_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{CPT}} \\
&= P_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta} - P_{\bar{\nu}_\beta \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_\alpha} \\
&= P_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta} - P_{\bar{\nu}_\alpha \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_\beta} \leftarrow A_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{CP}} \\
&+ P_{\bar{\nu}_\alpha \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_\beta} - P_{\nu_\beta \rightarrow \nu_\alpha} \leftarrow -A_{\beta\alpha}^{\text{CPT}} = 0 \\
&+ P_{\nu_\beta \rightarrow \nu_\alpha} - P_{\bar{\nu}_\beta \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_\alpha} \leftarrow A_{\beta\alpha}^{\text{CP}} \\
&= A_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{CP}} + A_{\beta\alpha}^{\text{CP}} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \boxed{A_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{CP}} = -A_{\beta\alpha}^{\text{CP}}}
\end{aligned}$$



# T Symmetry

$$P_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta} \xrightarrow{T} P_{\nu_\beta \rightarrow \nu_\alpha}$$

$$\text{T Asymmetries: } A_{\alpha\beta}^T = P_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta} - P_{\nu_\beta \rightarrow \nu_\alpha}$$

$$\text{CPT} \implies 0 = A_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{CPT}}$$

$$= P_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta} - P_{\bar{\nu}_\beta \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_\alpha}$$

$$= P_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta} - P_{\nu_\beta \rightarrow \nu_\alpha} \leftarrow A_{\alpha\beta}^T$$

$$+ P_{\nu_\beta \rightarrow \nu_\alpha} - P_{\bar{\nu}_\beta \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_\alpha} \leftarrow A_{\beta\alpha}^{\text{CP}}$$

$$= A_{\alpha\beta}^T + A_{\beta\alpha}^{\text{CP}}$$

$$= A_{\alpha\beta}^T - A_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{CP}}$$

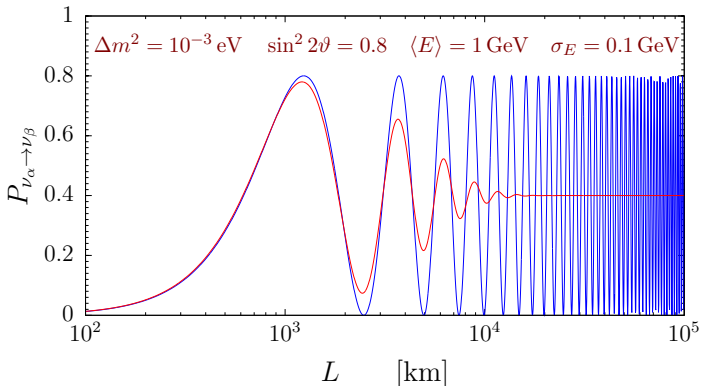
$$\implies \boxed{A_{\alpha\beta}^T = A_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{CP}}}$$

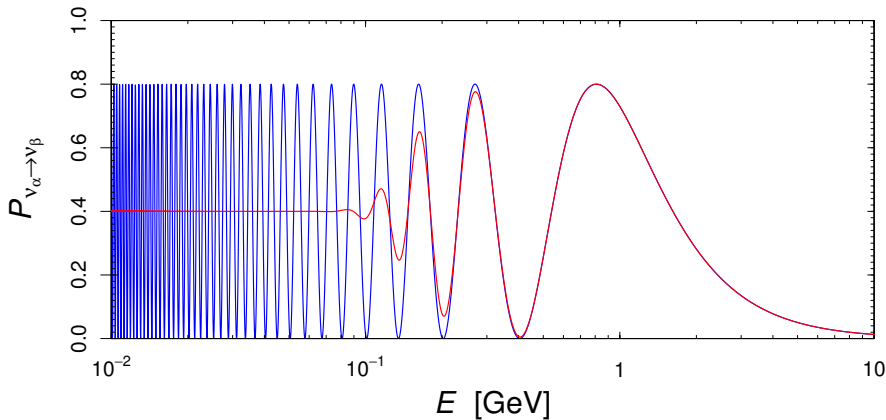
# Average over Energy Resolution of the Detector

$$P_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta}(L, E) = \sin^2 2\vartheta \sin^2 \left( \frac{\Delta m^2 L}{4E} \right) = \frac{1}{2} \sin^2 2\vartheta \left[ 1 - \cos \left( \frac{\Delta m^2 L}{2E} \right) \right]$$



$$\langle P_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta}(L, E) \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \sin^2 2\vartheta \left[ 1 - \int \cos \left( \frac{\Delta m^2 L}{2E} \right) \phi(E) dE \right] \quad (\alpha \neq \beta)$$





$$\Delta m^2 = 10^{-3} \text{ eV} \quad \sin^2 2\vartheta = 0.8 \quad L = 10^3 \text{ km} \quad \sigma_E = 0.01 \text{ GeV}$$

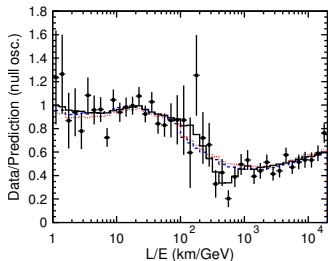
$$\langle P_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta}(L, E) \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \sin^2 2\vartheta \left[ 1 - \int \cos\left(\frac{\Delta m^2 L}{2E}\right) \phi(E) dE \right] \quad (\alpha \neq \beta)$$

# A Brief History of Neutrino Oscillations

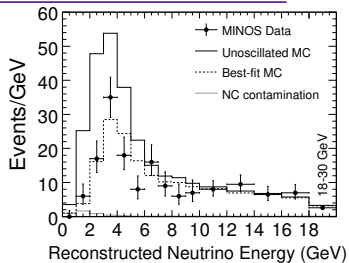
- ▶ **1957:** Pontecorvo proposed Neutrino Oscillations in analogy with  $K^0 \leftrightarrow \bar{K}^0$  oscillations (Gell-Mann and Pais, 1955)  $\implies \nu \leftrightarrow \bar{\nu}$
- ▶ In **1957** only one neutrino type  $\nu = \nu_e$  was known! The possible existence of  $\nu_\mu$  was discussed by several authors. Maybe the first have been Sakata and Inoue in **1946** and Konopinski and Mahmoud in **1953**. Maybe Pontecorvo did not know. He discussed the possibility to distinguish  $\nu_\mu$  from  $\nu_e$  in **1959**.
- ▶ **1962:** Maki, Nakagawa, Sakata proposed a model with  $\nu_e$  and  $\nu_\mu$  and Neutrino Mixing:  
*“weak neutrinos are not stable due to the occurrence of a virtual transmutation  $\nu_e \leftrightarrow \nu_\mu$ ”*
- ▶ **1962:** Lederman, Schwartz and Steinberger discover  $\nu_\mu$
- ▶ **1967:** Pontecorvo: intuitive  $\nu_e \leftrightarrow \nu_\mu$  oscillations with maximal mixing. Applications to reactor and solar neutrinos (“prediction” of the solar neutrino problem).
- ▶ **1969:** Gribov and Pontecorvo:  $\nu_e - \nu_\mu$  mixing and oscillations. But no clear derivation of oscillations with a factor of 2 mistake in the phase (misprint?).

- ▶ **1975-76:** Start of the “Modern Era” of Neutrino Oscillations with a general theory of neutrino mixing and a rigorous derivation of the oscillation probability by **Eliezer and Swift**, **Fritzsch and Minkowski**, and **Bilenky and Pontecorvo**.  
[Bilenky, Pontecorvo, Phys. Rep. (1978) 225]
- ▶ **1978:** **Wolfenstein** discovers the effect on neutrino oscillations of the matter potential (“**Matter Effect**”)
- ▶ **1985:** **Mikheev and Smirnov** discover the resonant amplification of solar  $\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_\mu$  oscillations due to the Matter Effect (“**MSW Effect**”)
- ▶ **1998:** the **Super-Kamiokande** experiment observed in a model-independent way the Vacuum Oscillations of atmospheric neutrinos ( $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\tau$ ).
- ▶ **2002:** the **SNO** experiment observed in a model-independent way the flavor transitions of solar neutrinos ( $\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_\mu, \nu_\tau$ ), mainly due to adiabatic MSW transitions.  
[see: Smirnov, arXiv:1609.02386]
- ▶ **2015:** **Takaaki Kajita** (Super-Kamiokande) and **Arthur B. McDonald** (SNO) received the Physics Nobel Prize “for the discovery of neutrino oscillations, which shows that neutrinos have mass”.

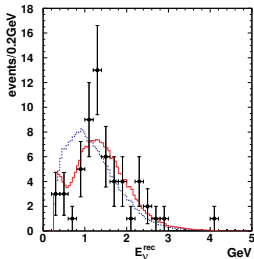
# Observations of Neutrino Oscillations



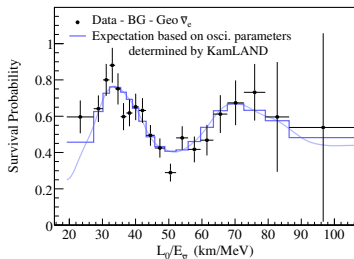
[Super-Kamiokande, PRL 93 (2004) 101801, hep-ex/0404034]



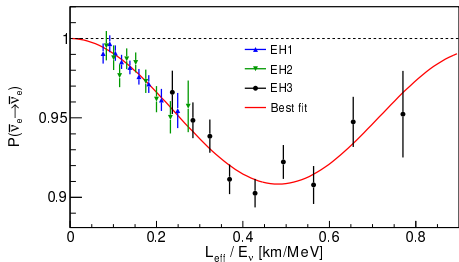
[MINOS, PRD 77 (2008) 072002, arXiv:0711.0769]



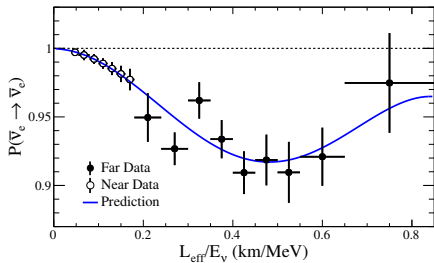
[K2K, PRD 74 (2006) 072003, hep-ex/0606032v3]



[KamLAND, PRL 100 (2008) 221803, arXiv:0801.4589]

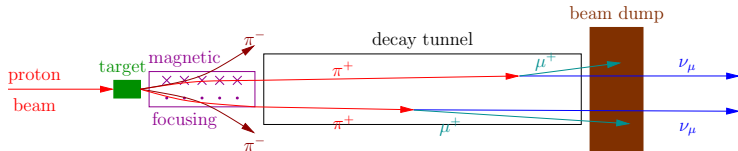


[Daya Bay, PRL, 112 (2014) 061801, arXiv:1310.6732]

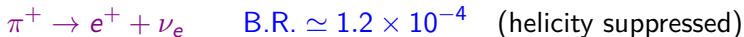


[RENO, arXiv:1511.05849]

# Accelerator Neutrino Beams



mainly  $\nu_\mu$  beam contaminated with  $\nu_e$  and  $\bar{\nu}_\mu$  from



since  $\pi^+$  and  $\mu^+$  are ultrarelativistic, they have about the same time for decaying before being absorbed by the beam dump, and

$$\frac{N_{\nu_e}}{N_{\nu_\mu}} \approx \frac{N_{\bar{\nu}_\mu}}{N_{\nu_\mu}} \approx \frac{\tau_{\pi^+}}{\tau_{\mu^+}} \approx 0.01$$

$$N(K^+) \approx 0.1 N(\pi^+)$$

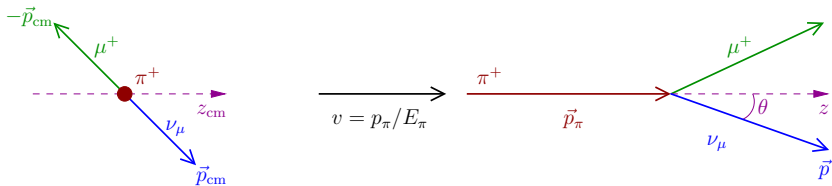
$$\tau_{K^+} \simeq 1.2 \times 10^{-8} \text{ s}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{B.R.}(K^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ + \nu_\mu) \simeq 0.64 \\ \text{B.R.}(K^+ \rightarrow e^+ + \nu_e) \simeq 1.6 \times 10^{-5} \\ \text{B.R.}(K^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ + \nu_\mu + \pi^0) \simeq 0.036 \\ \text{B.R.}(K^+ \rightarrow e^+ + \nu_e + \pi^0) \simeq 0.051 \end{array} \right.$$



# Off-Axis Experiments

high-intensity WB beam  
 detector shifted by a small angle from axis of beam  
 almost monochromatic neutrino energy



(center-of-mass frame)

(laboratory frame)

$$E_{\text{cm}} = p_{\text{cm}} = \frac{m_{\pi}}{2} \left( 1 - \frac{m_{\mu}^2}{m_{\pi}^2} \right) \simeq 29.79 \text{ MeV}$$

$$\gamma = (1 - v^2)^{-1/2} = E_{\pi} / m_{\pi} \gg 1$$

$$\begin{cases} E = \gamma (E_{\text{cm}} + v p_{\text{cm}}^z) \\ p^z = \gamma (v E_{\text{cm}} + p_{\text{cm}}^z) \end{cases}$$

$$p^z = p \cos \theta = E \cos \theta \quad \implies \quad E = \frac{E_{\text{cm}}}{\gamma (1 - v \cos \theta)}$$

$$\cos \theta \simeq 1 - \theta^2/2 \quad \text{and} \quad v \simeq 1$$

$$E = \frac{E_{\text{cm}}}{\gamma(1 - v \cos \theta)} \simeq \frac{\gamma(1 + v)}{1 + \gamma^2 \theta^2 v(1 + v)/2} E_{\text{cm}} \simeq \frac{2\gamma}{1 + \gamma^2 \theta^2} E_{\text{cm}}$$

$$E \simeq \left(1 - \frac{m_\mu^2}{m_\pi^2}\right) \frac{E_\pi}{1 + \gamma^2 \theta^2} = \left(1 - \frac{m_\mu^2}{m_\pi^2}\right) \frac{E_\pi m_\pi^2}{m_\pi^2 + E_\pi^2 \theta^2}$$

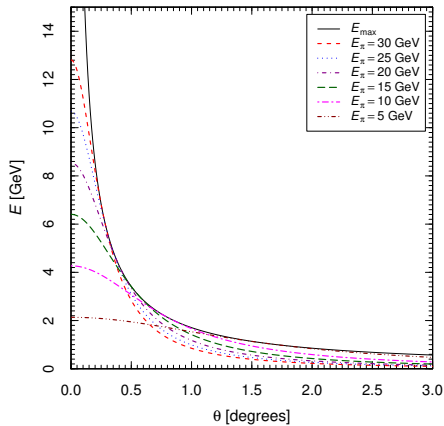
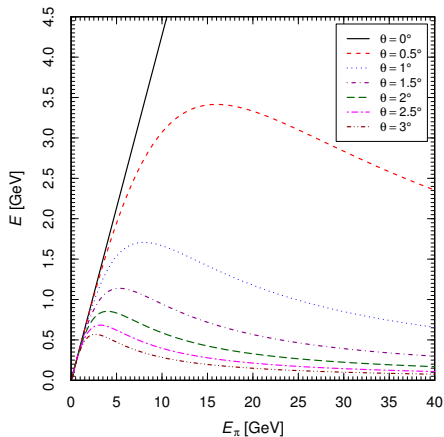
▶  $E_\pi \theta \ll m_\pi \implies E \propto E_\pi$  WB beam

▶  $E_\pi \theta \gg m_\pi \implies E \propto \frac{m_\pi^2}{E_\pi \theta^2}$  high-energy  $\pi^+$  give low-energy  $\nu_\mu$

$$\frac{dE}{dE_\pi} \simeq \left(1 - \frac{m_\mu^2}{m_\pi^2}\right) m_\pi^2 \frac{m_\pi^2 - E_\pi^2 \theta^2}{(m_\pi^2 + E_\pi^2 \theta^2)^2}$$

$$\frac{dE}{dE_\pi} \simeq 0 \quad \text{for} \quad E_\pi = \frac{m_\pi}{\theta} \implies E \simeq \left(1 - \frac{m_\mu^2}{m_\pi^2}\right) \frac{m_\pi}{2\theta} \simeq \frac{29.79 \text{ MeV}}{\theta}$$

off-axis angle  $\theta \simeq m_\pi / \langle E_\pi \rangle \implies E \simeq \frac{29.79 \text{ MeV}}{\theta}$



▶  $E$  can be tuned on oscillation peak  $E_{\text{peak}} = \Delta m^2 L / 2\pi$

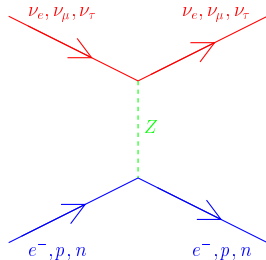
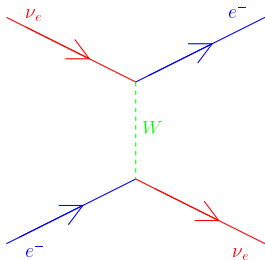
▶ small  $E \implies$  short  $L_{\text{osc}} = \frac{4\pi E}{\Delta m^2} \implies$  sensitivity to small values of  $\Delta m^2$

# Neutrino Oscillations in Matter

- Neutrino Oscillations in Vacuum
- Neutrino Oscillations in Matter
  - Effective Potentials in Matter
  - Evolution of Neutrino Flavors in Matter
  - Two-Neutrino Mixing
  - Constant Matter Density
  - MSW Effect (Resonant Transitions in Matter)

# Effective Potentials in Matter

coherent interactions with medium: forward elastic CC and NC scattering



$$V_{CC} = \sqrt{2} G_F N_e$$

$$V_{NC}^{(e^-)} = -V_{NC}^{(p)} \Rightarrow$$

$$V_{NC} = V_{NC}^{(n)} = -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} G_F N_n$$

$$V_e = V_{CC} + V_{NC}$$

$$V_\mu = V_\tau = V_{NC}$$

only  $V_{CC} = V_e - V_\mu = V_e - V_\tau$  is important for flavor transitions

antineutrinos:  $\bar{V}_{CC} = -V_{CC}$      $\bar{V}_{NC} = -V_{NC}$

# Evolution of Neutrino Flavors in Matter

▶ Flavor neutrino  $\nu_\alpha$  with momentum  $p$ :  $|\nu_\alpha(p)\rangle = \sum_k U_{\alpha k}^* |\nu_k(p)\rangle$

▶ Evolution is determined by Hamiltonian

▶ Hamiltonian in vacuum:  $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_0$

$$\mathcal{H}_0 |\nu_k(p)\rangle = E_k |\nu_k(p)\rangle \quad E_k = \sqrt{p^2 + m_k^2}$$

▶ Hamiltonian in matter:  $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_0 + \mathcal{H}_I$   $\mathcal{H}_I |\nu_\alpha(p)\rangle = V_\alpha |\nu_\alpha(p)\rangle$

▶ Schrödinger evolution equation:  $i \frac{d}{dt} |\nu(p, t)\rangle = \mathcal{H} |\nu(p, t)\rangle$

▶ Initial condition:  $|\nu(p, 0)\rangle = |\nu_\alpha(p)\rangle$

▶ For  $t > 0$  the state  $|\nu(p, t)\rangle$  is a superposition of all flavors:

$$|\nu(p, t)\rangle = \sum_\beta \varphi_\beta(p, t) |\nu_\beta(p)\rangle$$

▶ Transition probability:  $P_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta} = |\varphi_\beta|^2$

evolution equation of states

$$i \frac{d}{dt} |\nu(\mathbf{p}, t)\rangle = \mathcal{H}|\nu(\mathbf{p}, t)\rangle, \quad |\nu(\mathbf{p}, 0)\rangle = |\nu_\alpha(\mathbf{p})\rangle$$

flavor transition amplitudes

$$\varphi_\beta(\mathbf{p}, t) = \langle \nu_\beta(\mathbf{p}) | \nu(\mathbf{p}, t) \rangle, \quad \varphi_\beta(\mathbf{p}, 0) = \delta_{\alpha\beta}$$

evolution of flavor transition amplitudes

$$i \frac{d}{dt} \varphi_\beta(\mathbf{p}, t) = \langle \nu_\beta(\mathbf{p}) | \mathcal{H} | \nu(\mathbf{p}, t) \rangle$$

$$i \frac{d}{dt} \varphi_\beta(\mathbf{p}, t) = \langle \nu_\beta(\mathbf{p}) | \mathcal{H}_0 | \nu(\mathbf{p}, t) \rangle + \langle \nu_\beta(\mathbf{p}) | \mathcal{H}_I | \nu(\mathbf{p}, t) \rangle$$

$$i \frac{d}{dt} \varphi_\beta(\mathbf{p}, t) = \langle \nu_\beta(\mathbf{p}) | \mathcal{H}_0 | \nu(\mathbf{p}, t) \rangle + \langle \nu_\beta(\mathbf{p}) | \mathcal{H}_I | \nu(\mathbf{p}, t) \rangle$$

$$\langle \nu_\beta(\mathbf{p}) | \mathcal{H}_0 | \nu(\mathbf{p}, t) \rangle =$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_\rho \sum_{k,j} & \underbrace{\langle \nu_\beta(\mathbf{p}) | \nu_k(\mathbf{p}) \rangle}_{U_{\beta k}} \underbrace{\langle \nu_k(\mathbf{p}) | \mathcal{H}_0 | \nu_j(\mathbf{p}) \rangle}_{\delta_{kj} E_k} \underbrace{\langle \nu_j(\mathbf{p}) | \nu_\rho(\mathbf{p}) \rangle}_{U_{\rho j}^*} \underbrace{\langle \nu_\rho(\mathbf{p}) | \nu(\mathbf{p}, t) \rangle}_{\varphi_\rho(\mathbf{p}, t)} \\ & = \sum_\rho \sum_k U_{\beta k} E_k U_{\rho k}^* \varphi_\rho(\mathbf{p}, t) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \nu_\beta(\mathbf{p}) | \mathcal{H}_I | \nu(\mathbf{p}, t) \rangle & = \sum_\rho \underbrace{\langle \nu_\beta(\mathbf{p}) | \mathcal{H}_I | \nu_\rho(\mathbf{p}) \rangle}_{\delta_{\beta\rho} V_\beta} \underbrace{\langle \nu_\rho(\mathbf{p}) | \nu(\mathbf{p}, t) \rangle}_{\varphi_\rho(\mathbf{p}, t)} \\ & = \sum_\rho \delta_{\beta\rho} V_\beta \varphi_\rho(\mathbf{p}, t) \end{aligned}$$

$$i \frac{d}{dt} \varphi_\beta = \sum_\rho \left( \sum_k U_{\beta k} E_k U_{\rho k}^* + \delta_{\beta\rho} V_\beta \right) \varphi_\rho$$



ultrarelativistic neutrinos:  $E_k = p + \frac{m_k^2}{2E}$      $E = p$      $t = x$

$$V_e = V_{CC} + V_{NC} \qquad V_\mu = V_\tau = V_{NC}$$

$$i \frac{d}{dx} \varphi_\beta(p, x) = (p + V_{NC}) \varphi_\beta(p, x) + \sum_\rho \left( \sum_k U_{\beta k} \frac{m_k^2}{2E} U_{\rho k}^* + \delta_{\beta e} \delta_{\rho e} V_{CC} \right) \varphi_\rho(p, x)$$

$$\psi_\beta(p, x) = \varphi_\beta(p, x) e^{ipx + i \int_0^x V_{NC}(x') dx'}$$

$$i \frac{d}{dx} \psi_\beta = e^{ipx + i \int_0^x V_{NC}(x') dx'} \left( -p - V_{NC} + i \frac{d}{dx} \right) \varphi_\beta$$

$$i \frac{d}{dx} \psi_\beta = \sum_\rho \left( \sum_k U_{\beta k} \frac{m_k^2}{2E} U_{\rho k}^* + \delta_{\beta e} \delta_{\rho e} V_{CC} \right) \psi_\rho$$

$$P_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta} = |\varphi_\beta|^2 = |\psi_\beta|^2$$

evolution of flavor transition amplitudes in matrix form

$$i \frac{d}{dx} \Psi_\alpha = \frac{1}{2E} \left( U M^2 U^\dagger + \mathbb{A} \right) \Psi_\alpha$$

$$\Psi_\alpha = \begin{pmatrix} \psi_e \\ \psi_\mu \\ \psi_\tau \end{pmatrix} \quad M^2 = \begin{pmatrix} m_1^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & m_2^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & m_3^2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbb{A} = \begin{pmatrix} A_{CC} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A_{CC} = 2EV_{CC} = 2\sqrt{2}EG_F N_e$$

effective  
mass-squared  
matrix  
in vacuum

$$M_{\text{VAC}}^2 = U M^2 U^\dagger \xrightarrow{\text{matter}} U M^2 U^\dagger + 2E \underset{\uparrow}{V} = M_{\text{MAT}}^2$$

potential due to coherent  
forward elastic scattering

effective  
mass-squared  
matrix  
in matter

## Two-Neutrino Mixing

$\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_\mu$  transitions with  $U = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \vartheta & \sin \vartheta \\ -\sin \vartheta & \cos \vartheta \end{pmatrix}$

$$\begin{aligned} U M^2 U^\dagger &= \begin{pmatrix} \cos^2 \vartheta m_1^2 + \sin^2 \vartheta m_2^2 & \cos \vartheta \sin \vartheta (m_2^2 - m_1^2) \\ \cos \vartheta \sin \vartheta (m_2^2 - m_1^2) & \sin^2 \vartheta m_1^2 + \cos^2 \vartheta m_2^2 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} m_1^2 + m_2^2 & 0 \\ 0 & m_1^2 + m_2^2 \end{pmatrix} + \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} -\Delta m^2 \cos 2\vartheta & \Delta m^2 \sin 2\vartheta \\ \Delta m^2 \sin 2\vartheta & \Delta m^2 \cos 2\vartheta \end{pmatrix} \\ &\quad \uparrow \\ &\text{irrelevant common phase} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Delta m^2 \equiv m_2^2 - m_1^2$$

$$i \frac{d}{dx} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_e \\ \psi_\mu \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{4E} \begin{pmatrix} -\Delta m^2 \cos 2\vartheta + 2A_{CC} & \Delta m^2 \sin 2\vartheta \\ \Delta m^2 \sin 2\vartheta & \Delta m^2 \cos 2\vartheta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_e \\ \psi_\mu \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{initial } \nu_e \implies \begin{pmatrix} \psi_e(0) \\ \psi_\mu(0) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$P_{\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_\mu}(x) = |\psi_\mu(x)|^2$$
$$P_{\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_e}(x) = |\psi_e(x)|^2 = 1 - P_{\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_\mu}(x)$$

# Constant Matter Density

$$i \frac{d}{dx} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_e \\ \psi_\mu \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{4E} \begin{pmatrix} -\Delta m^2 \cos 2\vartheta + 2A_{CC} & \Delta m^2 \sin 2\vartheta \\ \Delta m^2 \sin 2\vartheta & \Delta m^2 \cos 2\vartheta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_e \\ \psi_\mu \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\frac{dA_{CC}}{dx} = 0$$

diagonalization of effective Hamiltonian:  $\begin{pmatrix} \psi_e \\ \psi_\mu \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \vartheta_M & \sin \vartheta_M \\ -\sin \vartheta_M & \cos \vartheta_M \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1^M \\ \psi_2^M \end{pmatrix}$

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} \cos \vartheta_M & -\sin \vartheta_M \\ \sin \vartheta_M & \cos \vartheta_M \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -\Delta m^2 \cos 2\vartheta + 2A_{CC} & \Delta m^2 \sin 2\vartheta \\ \Delta m^2 \sin 2\vartheta & \Delta m^2 \cos 2\vartheta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos \vartheta_M & \sin \vartheta_M \\ -\sin \vartheta_M & \cos \vartheta_M \end{pmatrix} &= \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} A_{CC} - \Delta m_M^2 & 0 \\ 0 & A_{CC} + \Delta m_M^2 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

$$i \frac{d}{dx} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1^M \\ \psi_2^M \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{4E} \left[ \begin{pmatrix} A_{CC} & 0 \\ 0 & A_{CC} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} -\Delta m_M^2 & 0 \\ 0 & \Delta m_M^2 \end{pmatrix} \right] \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1^M \\ \psi_2^M \end{pmatrix}$$

↑

irrelevant common phase

## Effective Mixing Angle in Matter

$$\tan 2\vartheta_M = \frac{\tan 2\vartheta}{1 - \frac{A_{CC}}{\Delta m^2 \cos 2\vartheta}}$$

## Effective Squared-Mass Difference

$$\Delta m_M^2 = \sqrt{(\Delta m^2 \cos 2\vartheta - A_{CC})^2 + (\Delta m^2 \sin 2\vartheta)^2}$$

Resonance ( $\vartheta_M = \pi/4$ )

$$A_{CC}^R = \Delta m^2 \cos 2\vartheta \quad \implies \quad N_e^R = \frac{\Delta m^2 \cos 2\vartheta}{2\sqrt{2}EG_F}$$

$$i \frac{d}{dx} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1^M \\ \psi_2^M \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{4E} \begin{pmatrix} -\Delta m_M^2 & 0 \\ 0 & \Delta m_M^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1^M \\ \psi_2^M \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \psi_e \\ \psi_\mu \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \vartheta_M & \sin \vartheta_M \\ -\sin \vartheta_M & \cos \vartheta_M \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1^M \\ \psi_2^M \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1^M \\ \psi_2^M \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \vartheta_M & -\sin \vartheta_M \\ \sin \vartheta_M & \cos \vartheta_M \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_e \\ \psi_\mu \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_\mu \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \psi_e(0) \\ \psi_\mu(0) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1^M(0) \\ \psi_2^M(0) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \vartheta_M \\ \sin \vartheta_M \end{pmatrix}$$

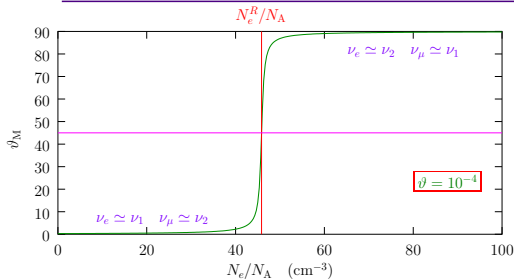
$$\psi_1^M(x) = \cos \vartheta_M \exp\left(i \frac{\Delta m_M^2 x}{4E}\right)$$

$$\psi_2^M(x) = \sin \vartheta_M \exp\left(-i \frac{\Delta m_M^2 x}{4E}\right)$$

$$P_{\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_\mu}(x) = |\psi_\mu(x)|^2 = \left| -\sin \vartheta_M \psi_1^M(x) + \cos \vartheta_M \psi_2^M(x) \right|^2$$

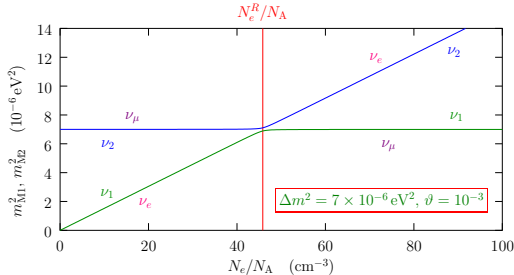
$$P_{\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_\mu}(x) = \sin^2 2\vartheta_M \sin^2 \left( \frac{\Delta m_M^2 x}{4E} \right)$$

# MSW Effect (Resonant Transitions in Matter)



$$\begin{aligned}\nu_e &= \cos \vartheta_M \nu_1 + \sin \vartheta_M \nu_2 \\ \nu_\mu &= -\sin \vartheta_M \nu_1 + \cos \vartheta_M \nu_2\end{aligned}$$

$$\tan 2\vartheta_M = \frac{\tan 2\vartheta}{1 - \frac{A_{\text{CC}}}{\Delta m^2 \cos 2\vartheta}}$$



$$\Delta m_M^2 = \left[ (\Delta m^2 \cos 2\vartheta - A_{\text{CC}})^2 + (\Delta m^2 \sin 2\vartheta)^2 \right]^{1/2}$$



$$i \frac{d}{dx} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_e \\ \psi_\mu \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{4E} \begin{pmatrix} -\Delta m^2 \cos 2\vartheta + 2A_{CC} & \Delta m^2 \sin 2\vartheta \\ \Delta m^2 \sin 2\vartheta & \Delta m^2 \cos 2\vartheta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_e \\ \psi_\mu \end{pmatrix}$$

tentative diagonalization: 
$$\begin{pmatrix} \psi_e \\ \psi_\mu \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \vartheta_M & \sin \vartheta_M \\ -\sin \vartheta_M & \cos \vartheta_M \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1^M \\ \psi_2^M \end{pmatrix}$$

$$i \frac{d}{dx} \begin{pmatrix} \cos \vartheta_M & \sin \vartheta_M \\ -\sin \vartheta_M & \cos \vartheta_M \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1^M \\ \psi_2^M \end{pmatrix} =$$

$$= \frac{1}{4E} \begin{pmatrix} -\Delta m^2 \cos 2\vartheta + 2A_{CC} & \Delta m^2 \sin 2\vartheta \\ \Delta m^2 \sin 2\vartheta & \Delta m^2 \cos 2\vartheta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos \vartheta_M & \sin \vartheta_M \\ -\sin \vartheta_M & \cos \vartheta_M \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1^M \\ \psi_2^M \end{pmatrix}$$

if matter density is not constant  $d\vartheta_M/dx \neq 0$

$$i \frac{d}{dx} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1^M \\ \psi_2^M \end{pmatrix} = \left[ \underbrace{\frac{A_{CC}}{4E}}_{\uparrow} + \frac{1}{4E} \begin{pmatrix} -\Delta m_M^2 & 0 \\ 0 & \Delta m_M^2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \frac{d\vartheta_M}{dx} \\ i \frac{d\vartheta_M}{dx} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right] \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1^M \\ \psi_2^M \end{pmatrix}$$

irrelevant common phase

$$i \frac{d}{dx} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1^M \\ \psi_2^M \end{pmatrix} = \left[ \frac{1}{4E} \begin{pmatrix} -\Delta m_M^2 & 0 \\ 0 & \Delta m_M^2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \frac{d\vartheta_M}{dx} \\ i \frac{d\vartheta_M}{dx} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right] \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1^M \\ \psi_2^M \end{pmatrix}$$

↑ adiabatic
↑ non-adiabatic  
maximum at resonance

initial conditions:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \psi_1^M(0) \\ \psi_2^M(0) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \vartheta_M^0 & -\sin \vartheta_M^0 \\ \sin \vartheta_M^0 & \cos \vartheta_M^0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \vartheta_M^0 \\ \sin \vartheta_M^0 \end{pmatrix}$$

solution approximating all non-adiabatic  $\nu_1^M \leftrightarrow \nu_2^M$  transitions in resonance

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_1^M(x) &\simeq \left[ \cos \vartheta_M^0 \exp \left( i \int_0^{x_R} \frac{\Delta m_M^2(x')}{4E} dx' \right) \mathcal{A}_{11}^R + \sin \vartheta_M^0 \exp \left( -i \int_0^{x_R} \frac{\Delta m_M^2(x')}{4E} dx' \right) \mathcal{A}_{21}^R \right] \\ &\quad \times \exp \left( i \int_{x_R}^x \frac{\Delta m_M^2(x')}{4E} dx' \right) \\ \psi_2^M(x) &\simeq \left[ \cos \vartheta_M^0 \exp \left( i \int_0^{x_R} \frac{\Delta m_M^2(x')}{4E} dx' \right) \mathcal{A}_{12}^R + \sin \vartheta_M^0 \exp \left( -i \int_0^{x_R} \frac{\Delta m_M^2(x')}{4E} dx' \right) \mathcal{A}_{22}^R \right] \\ &\quad \times \exp \left( -i \int_{x_R}^x \frac{\Delta m_M^2(x')}{4E} dx' \right) \end{aligned}$$

# Averaged $\nu_e$ Survival Probability

$$\psi_e(x) = \cos \vartheta \psi_1^M(x) + \sin \vartheta \psi_2^M(x)$$

neglect interference (averaged over energy spectrum)

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{P}_{\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_e}(x) = |\langle \psi_e(x) \rangle|^2 &= \cos^2 \vartheta \cos^2 \vartheta_M^0 |\mathcal{A}_{11}^R|^2 + \cos^2 \vartheta \sin^2 \vartheta_M^0 |\mathcal{A}_{21}^R|^2 \\ &+ \sin^2 \vartheta \cos^2 \vartheta_M^0 |\mathcal{A}_{12}^R|^2 + \sin^2 \vartheta \sin^2 \vartheta_M^0 |\mathcal{A}_{22}^R|^2\end{aligned}$$

conservation of probability (unitarity)

$$|\mathcal{A}_{12}^R|^2 = |\mathcal{A}_{21}^R|^2 = P_c \qquad |\mathcal{A}_{11}^R|^2 = |\mathcal{A}_{22}^R|^2 = 1 - P_c$$

$P_c \equiv$  crossing probability

$$\bar{P}_{\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_e}(x) = \frac{1}{2} + \left( \frac{1}{2} - P_c \right) \cos 2\vartheta_M^0 \cos 2\vartheta$$

[Parke, PRL 57 (1986) 1275]

# Crossing Probability

$$P_c = \frac{\exp\left(-\frac{\pi}{2}\gamma F\right) - \exp\left(-\frac{\pi}{2}\gamma \frac{F}{\sin^2 \vartheta}\right)}{1 - \exp\left(-\frac{\pi}{2}\gamma \frac{F}{\sin^2 \vartheta}\right)}$$

[Kuo, Pantaleone, PRD 39 (1989) 1930]

adiabaticity parameter: 
$$\gamma = \frac{\Delta m_M^2 / 2E}{2|d\vartheta_M/dx|} \Big|_R = \frac{\Delta m^2 \sin^2 2\vartheta}{2E \cos 2\vartheta} \Big| \frac{d \ln A_{CC}}{dx} \Big|_R$$

$A \propto x$        $F = 1$  (Landau-Zener approximation) [Parke, PRL 57 (1986) 1275]

$A \propto 1/x$        $F = (1 - \tan^2 \vartheta)^2 / (1 + \tan^2 \vartheta)$  [Kuo, Pantaleone, PRD 39 (1989) 1930]

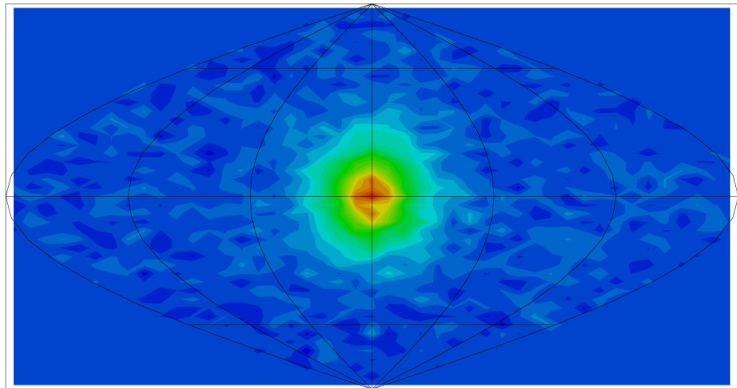
[Pizzochero, PRD 36 (1987) 2293]

$A \propto \exp(-x)$        $F = 1 - \tan^2 \vartheta$  [Toshev, PLB 196 (1987) 170]

[Petcov, PLB 200 (1988) 373]

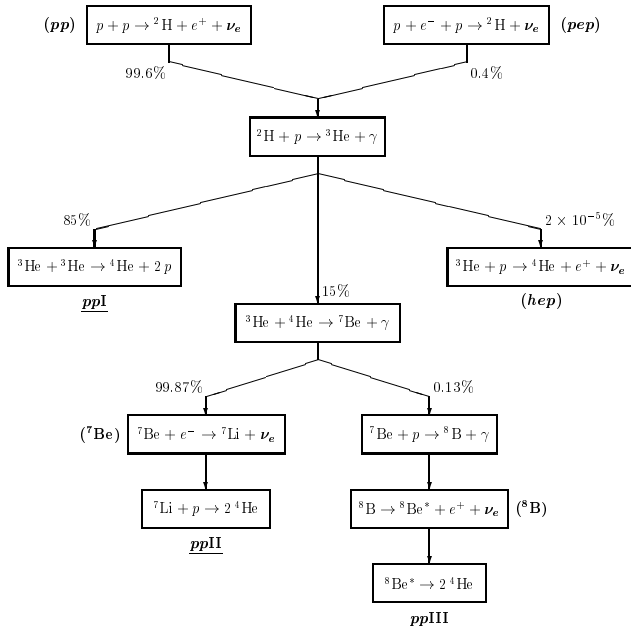
Review: [Kuo, Pantaleone, RMP 61 (1989) 937]

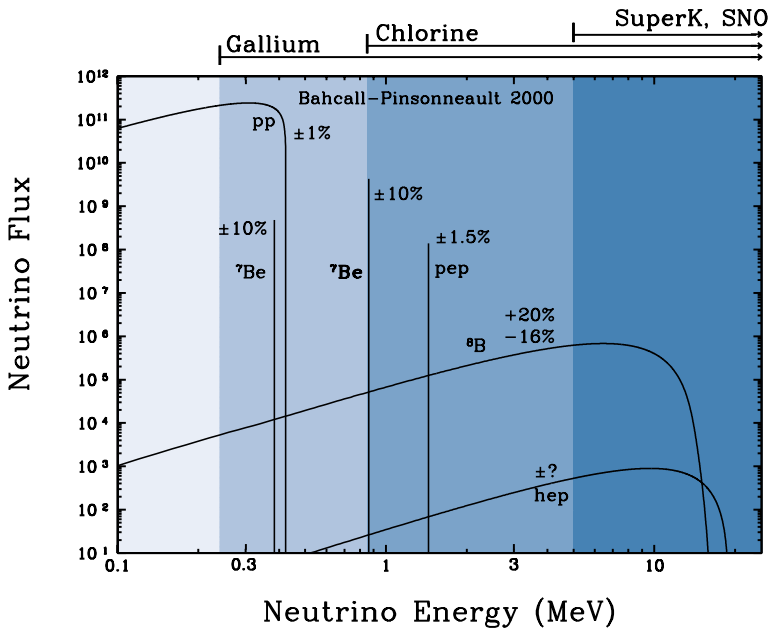
## Solar Neutrinos



The sun observed through neutrinos by Super-Kamiokande

# Standard Solar Model (SSM): $pp$ chain





# Solar Neutrino Observations

- ▶ **1957:** Bruno Pontecorvo suggests to observe solar neutrinos using a detector tank containing Chlorine through the process



- ▶ **1964:** John N. Bahcall calculates the cross sections and finds that it is enough to observe solar neutrinos.
- ▶ **1964:** Raymond Davis proposes the Homestake experiment that is constructed in 1965–1967. It is based in the radiochemical counting of the  ${}^{37}\text{Ar}$  produced by solar neutrinos in a tank with 615 tons of tetrachloroethylene ( $\text{C}_2\text{Cl}_4$ ).
- ▶ **1970:** Davis (2002 Physics Nobel Prize) and collaborators observe for the first time solar neutrinos counting  ${}^{37}\text{Ar}$  atoms that are produced with a rate of about one every 2 days in the Homestake detector which contains about  $2 \times 10^{30}$  atoms!
- ▶ Solar neutrinos have been observed in the experiments **Homestake** (1970-1994), **Kamiokande** (1987-1995) **SAGE** (1990-2010), **GALLEX/GNO** (1991-2000), **Super-Kamiokande** (1996-2019), **SNO** (1999-2008), **Borexino** (2007-2019).



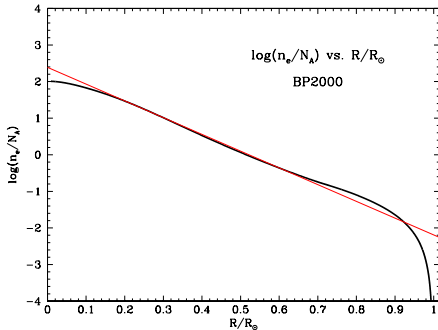
# The solar neutrino problem

- ▶ **1968:** Bruno Pontecorvo suggests that part of solar  $\nu_e$ 's can disappear into  $\nu_\mu$  (or  $\nu_\tau$ ) due to oscillations.
- ▶ **1970:** Discovery of the solar neutrino problem in the Homestake experiment that counts about 0.5  $^{37}\text{Ar}$  atoms per day with a SSM prediction of about 1.5  $^{37}\text{Ar}$  atoms per day.
- ▶ All the other solar neutrino experiments observed a suppression of the solar  $\nu_e$  signal.
- ▶ From **1970** to **2002** experts debated on the possible solutions of the solar neutrino problem.
- ▶ The two solutions that were considered more likely are:
  - ▶ There is a mistake in the SSM prediction of the solar  $\nu_e$  flux.
  - ▶ Part of the solar  $\nu_e$ 's disappear into  $\nu_\mu$  (or  $\nu_\tau$ ) due to oscillations as suggested by Pontecorvo.

# Solar Neutrino MSW Transitions

SUN:  $N_e(x) \simeq N_e^c \exp\left(-\frac{x}{x_0}\right)$

$$N_e^c = 245 N_A / \text{cm}^3 \quad x_0 = \frac{R_\odot}{10.54}$$



$$\bar{P}_{\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_e}^{\text{sun}} = \frac{1}{2} + \left(\frac{1}{2} - P_c\right) \cos 2\vartheta_M^0 \cos 2\vartheta$$

$$P_c = \frac{\exp\left(-\frac{\pi}{2}\gamma F\right) - \exp\left(-\frac{\pi}{2}\gamma \frac{F}{\sin^2 \vartheta}\right)}{1 - \exp\left(-\frac{\pi}{2}\gamma \frac{F}{\sin^2 \vartheta}\right)}$$

$$\gamma = \frac{\Delta m^2 \sin^2 2\vartheta}{2E \cos 2\vartheta \left| \frac{d \ln A_{cc}}{dx} \right|_R}$$

$$F = 1 - \tan^2 \vartheta$$

$$A_{cc} = 2\sqrt{2}EG_F N_e$$

practical prescription:

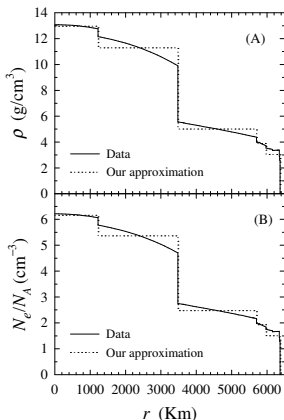
[Lisi et al., PRD 63 (2001) 093002]

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \text{numerical } |d \ln A_{cc}/dx|_R & \text{for } x \leq 0.904R_\odot \\ |d \ln A_{cc}/dx|_R \rightarrow \frac{18.9}{R_\odot} & \text{for } x > 0.904R_\odot \end{array} \right.$$

# Electron Neutrino Regeneration in the Earth

$$P_{\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_e}^{\text{sun+earth}} = \bar{P}_{\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_e}^{\text{sun}} + \frac{\left(1 - 2\bar{P}_{\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_e}^{\text{sun}}\right) \left(P_{\nu_2 \rightarrow \nu_e}^{\text{earth}} - \sin^2 \vartheta\right)}{\cos 2\vartheta}$$

[Mikheev, Smirnov, Sov. Phys. Usp. 30 (1987) 759], [Baltz, Weneser, PRD 35 (1987) 528]



$P_{\nu_2 \rightarrow \nu_e}^{\text{earth}}$  is usually calculated numerically approximating the Earth density profile with a step function.

Effective massive neutrinos propagate as plane waves in regions of constant density.

Wave functions of flavor neutrinos are joined at the boundaries of steps.

# Solar Neutrino Oscillations

LMA (Large Mixing Angle):

LOW (LOW  $\Delta m^2$ ):

SMA (Small Mixing Angle):

QVO (Quasi-Vacuum Oscillations):

VAC (VACuum oscillations):

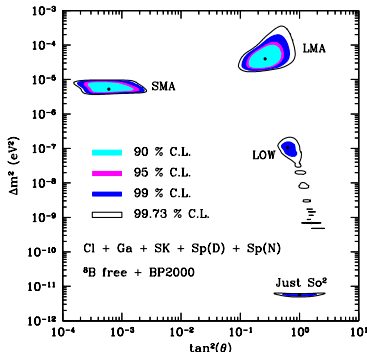
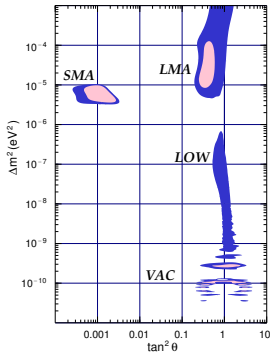
$$\Delta m^2 \sim 5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2, \quad \tan^2 \vartheta \sim 0.8$$

$$\Delta m^2 \sim 7 \times 10^{-8} \text{ eV}^2, \quad \tan^2 \vartheta \sim 0.6$$

$$\Delta m^2 \sim 5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ eV}^2, \quad \tan^2 \vartheta \sim 10^{-3}$$

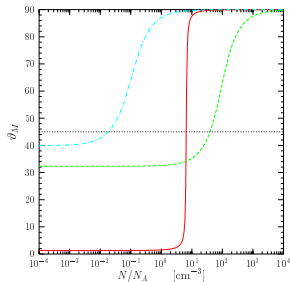
$$\Delta m^2 \sim 10^{-9} \text{ eV}^2, \quad \tan^2 \vartheta \sim 1$$

$$\Delta m^2 \lesssim 5 \times 10^{-10} \text{ eV}^2, \quad \tan^2 \vartheta \sim 1$$



[de Gouvea, Friedland, Murayama, PLB 490 (2000) 125]

[Bahcall, Krastev, Smirnov, JHEP 05 (2001) 015]



solid line:  
(typical SMA)

$$\Delta m^2 = 5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ eV}^2$$

$$\tan^2 \vartheta = 5 \times 10^{-4}$$

dashed line:  
(typical LMA)

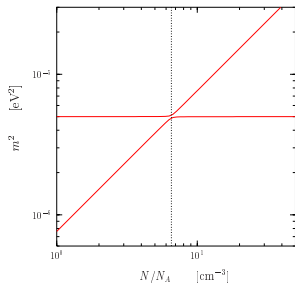
$$\Delta m^2 = 7 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2$$

$$\tan^2 \vartheta = 0.4$$

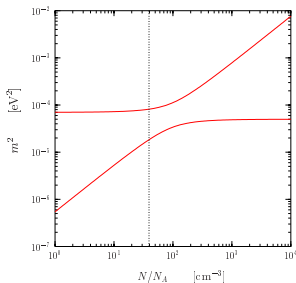
dash-dotted line:  
(typical LOW)

$$\Delta m^2 = 8 \times 10^{-8} \text{ eV}^2$$

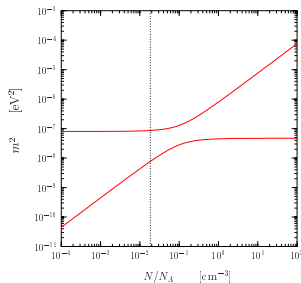
$$\tan^2 \vartheta = 0.7$$



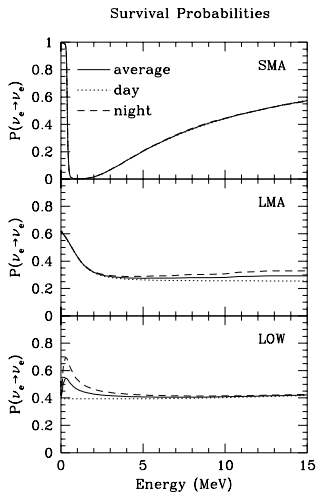
typical SMA



typical LMA



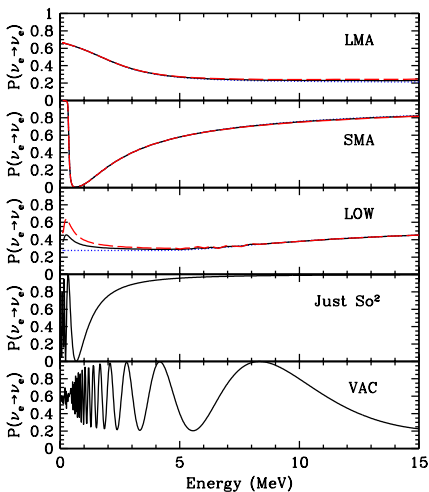
typical LOW



SMA:  $\Delta m^2 = 5.0 \times 10^{-6} \text{ eV}^2$   $\sin^2 2\vartheta = 3.5 \times 10^{-3}$

LMA:  $\Delta m^2 = 1.6 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2$   $\sin^2 2\vartheta = 0.57$

LOW:  $\Delta m^2 = 7.9 \times 10^{-8} \text{ eV}^2$   $\sin^2 2\vartheta = 0.95$



LMA:  $\Delta m^2 = 4.2 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2$   $\tan^2 \vartheta = 0.26$

SMA:  $\Delta m^2 = 5.2 \times 10^{-6} \text{ eV}^2$   $\tan^2 \vartheta = 5.5 \times 10^{-4}$

LOW:  $\Delta m^2 = 7.6 \times 10^{-8} \text{ eV}^2$   $\tan^2 \vartheta = 0.72$

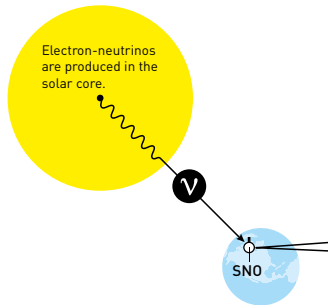
Just  $\text{So}^2$ :  $\Delta m^2 = 5.5 \times 10^{-12} \text{ eV}^2$   $\tan^2 \vartheta = 1.0$

VAC:  $\Delta m^2 = 1.4 \times 10^{-10} \text{ eV}^2$   $\tan^2 \vartheta = 0.38$

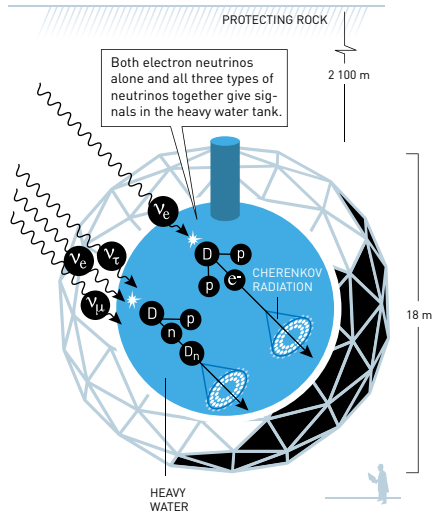
# The SNO Experiment

1 kton of  $D_2O$ , Cherenkov detector, 2100 m underground

NEUTRINOS FROM  
THE SUN



SUDBURY NEUTRINO OBSERVATORY (SNO)  
ONTARIO, CANADA



- ▶ Observed SNO rates relative to the SSM predictions:

$$\frac{R_{CC}^{SNO}}{R_{CC}^{SSM}} = 0.35 \pm 0.02$$

$$\frac{R_{NC}^{SNO}}{R_{NC}^{SSM}} = 1.02 \pm 0.13$$

- ▶ The CC measurements confirms the solar neutrino problem:  $\nu_e$  disappear.
- ▶ The NC measurement shows that the total flux of  $\nu_e, \nu_\mu, \nu_\tau$  in agreement with the SSM prediction.
- ▶ The only possible explanation of the two measurements is that solar  $\nu_e$ 's transform into  $\nu_\mu$  and/or  $\nu_\tau$ . (A. McDonald: 2015 Physics Nobel Prize)
- ▶ The simplest and most plausible mechanism are neutrino oscillations.
- ▶ The oscillations of solar neutrinos have been confirmed in 2002 by the KamLAND very-long-baseline reactor neutrino experiment.



# KamLAND

## Kamioka Liquid scintillator Anti-Neutrino Detector

### long-baseline reactor $\bar{\nu}_e$ experiment

Kamioka mine (200 km west of Tokyo), 1000 m underground, 2700 m.w.e.

53 nuclear power reactors in Japan and Korea

6.7% of flux from one reactor at 88 km

average distance from reactors: 180 km 79% of flux from 26 reactors at 138–214 km

14.3% of flux from other reactors at >295 km

1 kt liquid scintillator detector:  $\bar{\nu}_e + p \rightarrow e^+ + n$ , energy threshold:  $E_{\text{th}}^{\bar{\nu}_e p} = 1.8 \text{ MeV}$

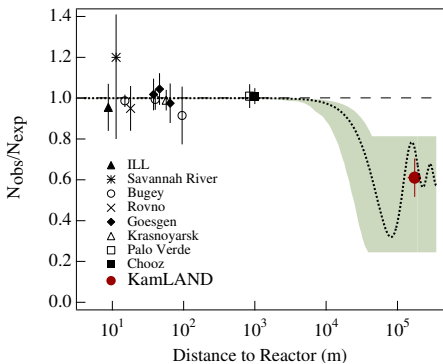
data taking: 4 March – 6 October 2002, 145.1 days (162 ton yr)

expected number of reactor neutrino events (no osc.):	$N_{\text{expected}}^{\text{KamLAND}} = 86.8 \pm 5.6$
expected number of background events:	$N_{\text{background}}^{\text{KamLAND}} = 0.95 \pm 0.99$
observed number of neutrino events:	$N_{\text{observed}}^{\text{KamLAND}} = 54$

$$\frac{N_{\text{observed}}^{\text{KamLAND}} - N_{\text{background}}^{\text{KamLAND}}}{N_{\text{expected}}^{\text{KamLAND}}} = 0.611 \pm 0.085 \pm 0.041$$

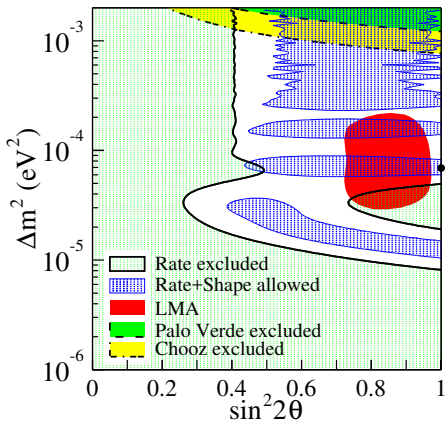
99.95% C.L. evidence  
of  $\bar{\nu}_e$  disappearance

## confirmation of LMA (December 2002)



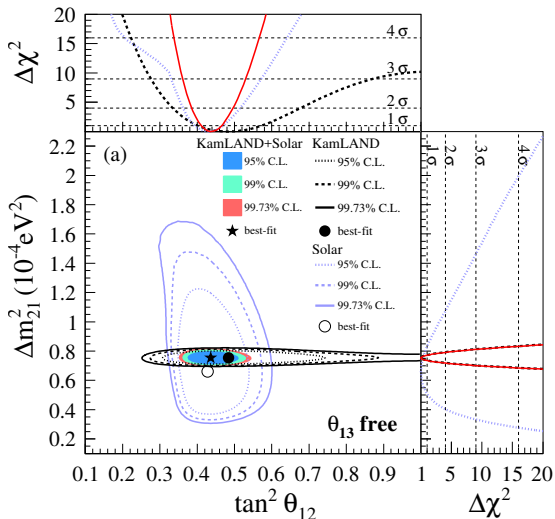
Shade: 95% C.L. LMA

Curve:  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Delta m^2 = 5.5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2 \\ \sin^2 2\vartheta = 0.83 \end{array} \right.$



95% C.L.

[KamLAND, PRL 90 (2003) 021802, hep-ex/0212021]

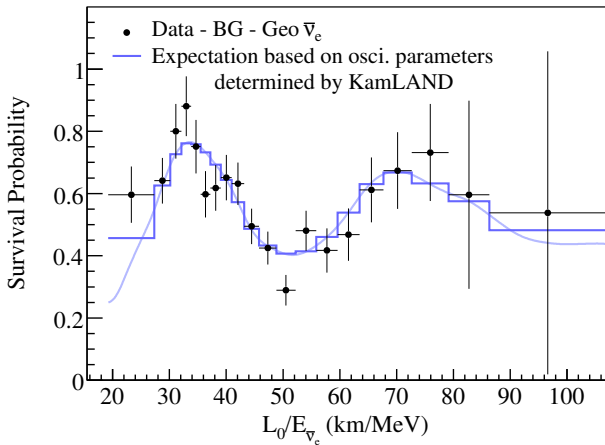


$$\Delta m_{21}^2 = 7.53^{+0.19}_{-0.18} \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2$$

$$\tan^2 \vartheta_{12} = 0.437^{+0.029}_{-0.026}$$

$$\sin^2 \vartheta_{13} = 0.023 \pm 0.015$$

[KamLAND, PRL 100 (2008) 221803]



[KamLAND, PRL 100 (2008) 221803]

# LMA Solar Neutrino Oscillations

best fit of reactor + solar neutrino data:  $\Delta m^2 \simeq 7 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2$   $\tan^2 \vartheta \simeq 0.4$

$$\overline{P}_{\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_e}^{\text{sun}} = \frac{1}{2} + \left( \frac{1}{2} - P_c \right) \cos 2\vartheta_M^0 \cos 2\vartheta$$

$$P_c = \frac{\exp\left(-\frac{\pi}{2}\gamma F\right) - \exp\left(-\frac{\pi}{2}\gamma \frac{F}{\sin^2 \vartheta}\right)}{1 - \exp\left(-\frac{\pi}{2}\gamma \frac{F}{\sin^2 \vartheta}\right)} \quad \gamma = \frac{\Delta m^2 \sin^2 2\vartheta}{2E \cos 2\vartheta \left| \frac{d \ln A}{dx} \right|_R} \quad F = 1 - \tan^2 \vartheta$$

$$A_{CC} \simeq 2\sqrt{2}EG_F N_e^c \exp\left(-\frac{x}{x_0}\right) \implies \left| \frac{d \ln A}{dx} \right| \simeq \frac{1}{x_0} = \frac{10.54}{R_\odot} \simeq 3 \times 10^{-15} \text{ eV}$$

$$\tan^2 \vartheta \simeq 0.4 \implies \sin^2 2\vartheta \simeq 0.82, \cos 2\vartheta \simeq 0.43 \quad \gamma \simeq 2 \times 10^4 \left( \frac{E}{\text{MeV}} \right)^{-1}$$

$$\gamma \gg 1 \implies P_c \ll 1 \implies \overline{P}_{\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_e}^{\text{sun,LMA}} \simeq \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \cos 2\vartheta_M^0 \cos 2\vartheta$$

$$\cos 2\vartheta_M^0 = \frac{\Delta m^2 \cos 2\vartheta - A_{CC}^0}{\sqrt{(\Delta m^2 \cos 2\vartheta - A_{CC}^0)^2 + (\Delta m^2 \sin 2\vartheta)^2}}$$

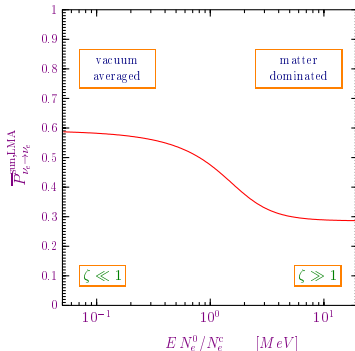
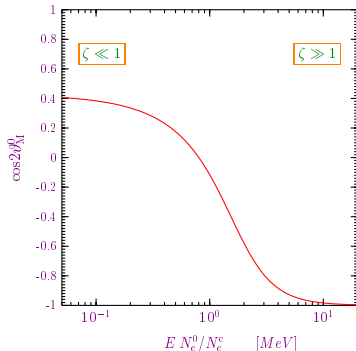
critical parameter [Bahcall, Peña-Garay, JHEP 0311 (2003) 004]

$$\zeta = \frac{A_{CC}^0}{\Delta m^2 \cos 2\vartheta} = \frac{2\sqrt{2}EG_F N_e^0}{\Delta m^2 \cos 2\vartheta} \simeq 1.2 \left( \frac{E}{\text{MeV}} \right) \left( \frac{N_e^0}{N_e^c} \right)$$

$$\zeta \ll 1 \implies \vartheta_M^0 \simeq \vartheta \implies \overline{P}_{\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_e}^{\text{sun}} \simeq 1 - \frac{1}{2} \sin^2 2\vartheta$$

$$\zeta \gg 1 \implies \vartheta_M^0 \simeq \pi/2 \implies \overline{P}_{\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_e}^{\text{sun}} \simeq \sin^2 \vartheta$$

vacuum averaged  
survival probability  
matter dominated  
survival probability

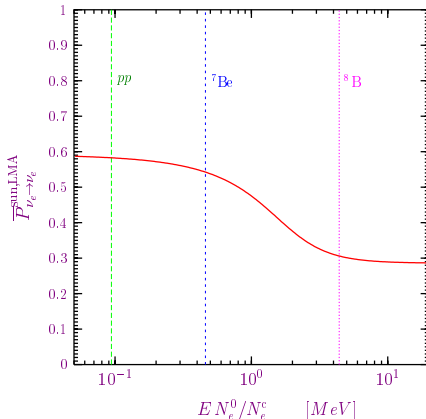


$$\zeta = \frac{A_{CC}^0}{\Delta m^2 \cos 2\theta} = \frac{2\sqrt{2}EG_F N_e^0}{\Delta m^2 \cos 2\theta} \simeq 1.2 \left( \frac{E}{\text{MeV}} \right) \left( \frac{N_e^0}{N_e^c} \right)$$

$$\langle E \rangle_{pp} \simeq 0.27 \text{ MeV}, \quad \langle r_0 \rangle_{pp} \simeq 0.1 R_\odot \quad \Rightarrow \quad \langle E N_e^0 / N_e^c \rangle_{pp} \simeq 0.094 \text{ MeV}$$

$$E_{7\text{Be}} \simeq 0.86 \text{ MeV}, \quad \langle r_0 \rangle_{7\text{Be}} \simeq 0.06 R_\odot \quad \Rightarrow \quad \langle E N_e^0 / N_e^c \rangle_{7\text{Be}} \simeq 0.46 \text{ MeV}$$

$$\langle E \rangle_{8\text{B}} \simeq 6.7 \text{ MeV}, \quad \langle r_0 \rangle_{8\text{B}} \simeq 0.04 R_\odot \quad \Rightarrow \quad \langle E N_e^0 / N_e^c \rangle_{8\text{B}} \simeq 4.4 \text{ MeV}$$



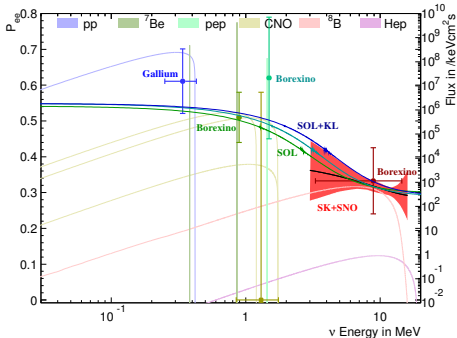
# Solar Neutrino Spectrum

$$\bar{P}_{ee}^{\text{SOL}} = \sum_{k=1}^3 |U_{ek}|^2 |U_{ek}^0|^2 = \left( \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \cos 2\vartheta_{12}^0 \cos 2\vartheta_{13} \right) \cos^4 \vartheta_{13} + \sin^4 \vartheta_{13}$$

Averaged  
Vacuum  
Oscillations

$$\theta_{12}^0 \simeq \theta_{12}$$

$$\bar{P}_{ee}^{\text{SOL}} \simeq \left( 1 - \frac{1}{2} \sin^2 \vartheta_{12} \right) \times \left( 1 - \sin^2 \vartheta_{13} \right)$$



Adiabatic  
MSW  
Transitions

$$\theta_{12}^0 \simeq \pi/2$$

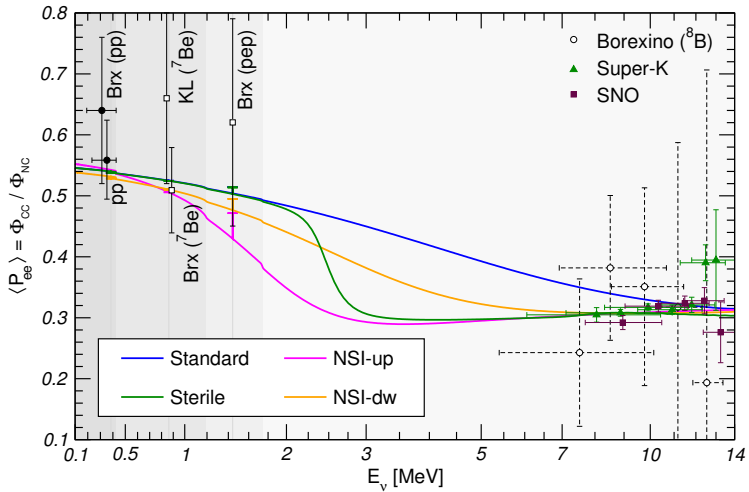
$$\bar{P}_{ee}^{\text{SOL}} \simeq \sin^2 \vartheta_{12} \times \left( 1 - \sin^2 \vartheta_{13} \right)$$

[SK, PRD 94 (2016) 052010, arXiv:1606.07538]

$$\tan 2\vartheta_{12}^0 = \frac{\tan 2\vartheta_{12}}{1 - \frac{2EV_{CC}^0}{\Delta m_{21}^2 \cos \vartheta_{12}}}$$

- ▶ Small (solar)  $\Delta m_{21}^2 \implies$  Low- $E$  transition
- ▶ Large (KamLAND)  $\Delta m_{21}^2 \implies$  High- $E$  transition
- ▶ Non-Standard Interactions (NSI)?
- ▶ Very light sterile neutrinos?





[Maltoni, Smirnov, EPJA 52 (2016) 87, arXiv:1507.05287]

# In Neutrino Oscillations Dirac = Majorana

[Bilenky, Hosek, Petcov, PLB 94 (1980) 495; Doi, Kotani, Nishiura, Okuda, Takasugi, PLB 102 (1981) 323]

[Langacker, Petcov, Steigman, Toshev, NPB 282 (1987) 589]

Evolution of Amplitudes: 
$$i \frac{d\psi_\alpha}{dx} = \frac{1}{2E} \sum_\beta \left( UM^2U^\dagger + 2EV \right)_{\alpha\beta} \psi_\beta$$

difference: 
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \text{Dirac:} & U^{(D)} \\ \text{Majorana:} & U^{(M)} = U^{(D)} D(\lambda) \end{array} \right.$$

$$D(\lambda) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\lambda_{21}} & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & e^{i\lambda_{N1}} \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow D^\dagger = D^{-1}$$

$$M^2 = \begin{pmatrix} m_1^2 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & m_2^2 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & m_N^2 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow DM^2 = M^2D \Rightarrow DM^2D^\dagger = M^2$$

$$U^{(M)} M^2 (U^{(M)})^\dagger = U^{(D)} D M^2 D^\dagger (U^{(D)})^\dagger = U^{(D)} M^2 (U^{(D)})^\dagger$$

## Common Question: Do Charged Leptons Oscillate?

- ▶ Mass is the only property which distinguishes  $e$ ,  $\mu$ ,  $\tau$ .
- ▶ The flavor of a charged lepton is defined by its mass!
- ▶ By definition, the flavor of a charged lepton cannot change.

THE FLAVOR OF CHARGED LEPTONS DOES NOT OSCILLATE

[CG, Kim, FPL 14 (2001) 213] [CG, hep-ph/0409230] [Akhmedov, JHEP 09 (2007) 116]

## a misleading argument

[Sassaroli, Srivastava, Widom, hep-ph/9509261, EPJC 2 (1998) 769] [Srivastava, Widom, hep-ph/9707268]

in  $\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ + \nu_\mu$  the final state of the antimuon and neutrino is entangled



if the probability to detect the neutrino oscillates as a function of distance, also the probability to detect the muon must oscillate

WRONG!

the probability to detect the neutrino (as  $\nu_\mu$  or  $\nu_\tau$  or  $\nu_e$ ) does not oscillate as a function of distance, because

$$\sum_{\beta=e,\mu,\tau} P_{\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\beta} = 1 \quad \text{conservation of probability (unitarity)}$$

[Dolgov, Morozov, Okun, Shchepkin, NPB 502 (1997) 3] [CG, Kim, FPL 14 (2001) 213]

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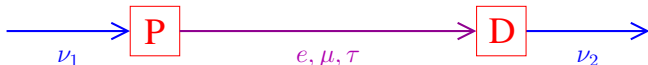
$\Lambda$  oscillations from  $\pi^- + p \rightarrow \Lambda + K^0$

[Widom, Srivastava, hep-ph/9605399] [Srivastava, Widom, Sassaroli, PLB 344 (1995) 436]

refuted in [Lowe et al., PLB 384 (1996) 288] [Burkhardt, Lowe, Stephenson, Goldman, PRD 59 (1999) 054018]

## Correct definition of Charged Lepton Oscillations

[Pakvasa, Nuovo Cim. Lett. 31 (1981) 497]



### Analogy

- ▶ **Neutrino Oscillations:** massive neutrinos propagate unchanged between production and detection, with a difference of mass (flavor) of the charged leptons involved in the production and detection processes.
- ▶ **Charged-Lepton Oscillations:** massive charged leptons propagate unchanged between production and detection, with a difference of mass of the neutrinos involved in the production and detection processes.

**NO FLAVOR CONVERSION!**

The propagating charged leptons must be ultrarelativistic, in order to be produced and detected coherently (if  $\tau$  is not ultrarelativistic, only  $e$  and  $\mu$  contribute to the phase).

## Practical Problems

- ▶ The initial and final neutrinos must be massive neutrinos of known type: precise neutrino mass measurements.
- ▶ The energy of the propagating charged leptons must be extremely high, in order to have a measurable oscillation length

$$\frac{4\pi E}{(m_\mu^2 - m_e^2)} \simeq \frac{4\pi E}{m_\mu^2} \simeq 2 \times 10^{-11} \left( \frac{E}{\text{GeV}} \right) \text{ cm}$$

detailed discussion: [Akhmedov, JHEP 09 (2007) 116, arXiv:0706.1216]