

Abstract

In particle physics there exist two regions: the Standard Model which is fairly complete and the new physics sector which is completely unknown. In between and overlapping with both of these is neutrino physics. Neutrinos exist within the Standard Model but are not explained by it due to the discovery of neutrino oscillations. In this talk I will discuss where we stand with neutrino oscillations, where we might go with them, and how we might learn about the nature of neutrinos.

Testing the Three-Flavor Paradigm

Peter B. Denton

Colorado State University

May 28, 2025

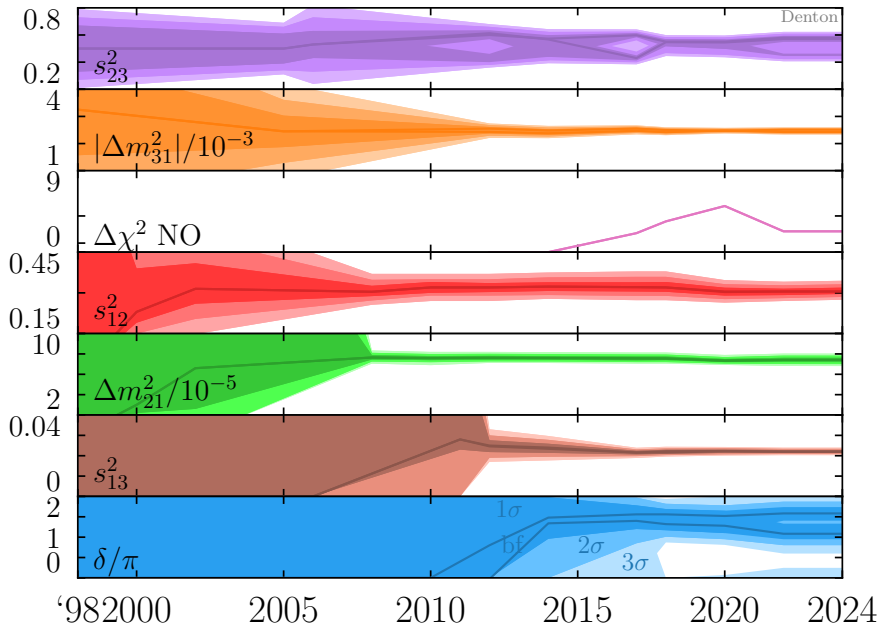


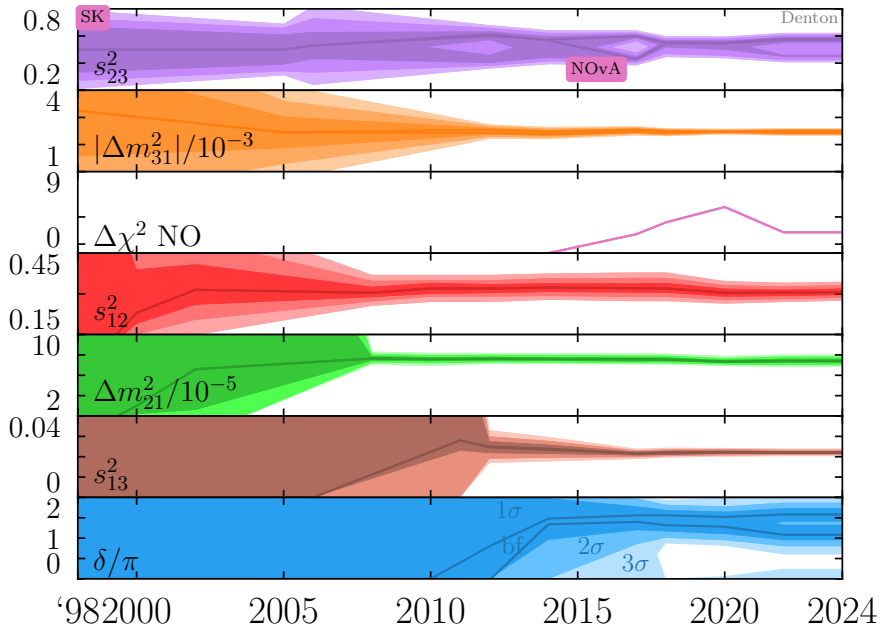
Brookhaven™
National Laboratory

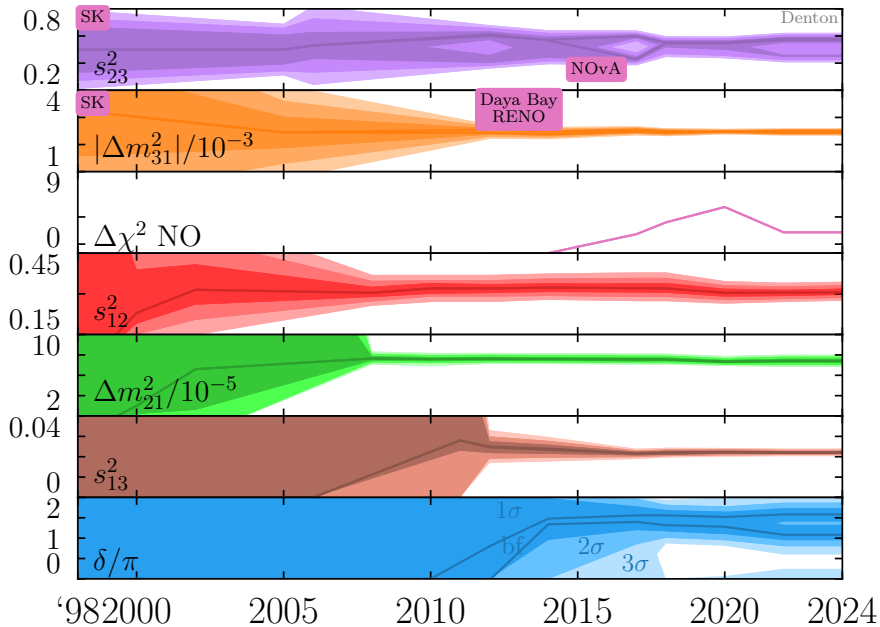


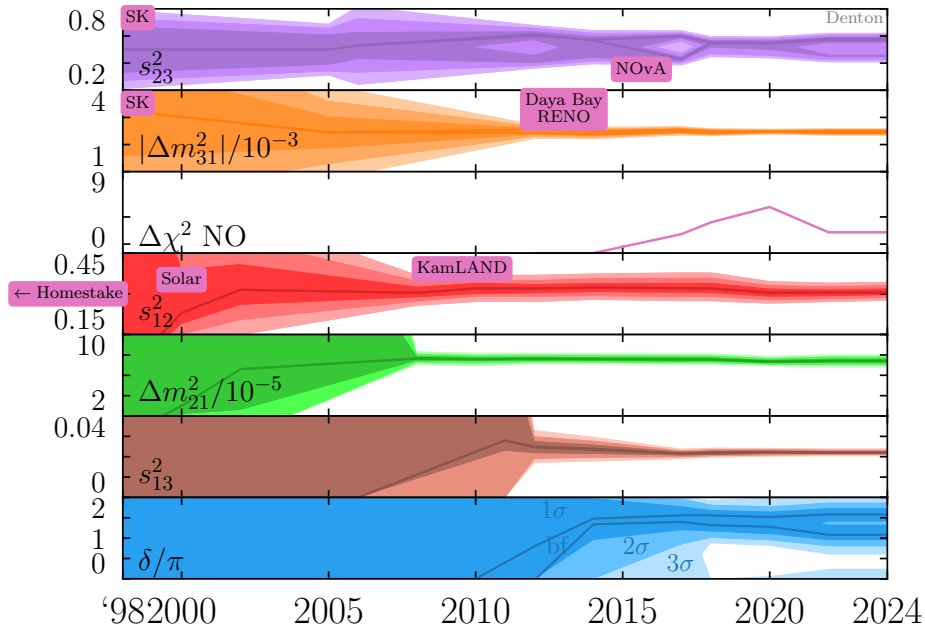
See also talks by:

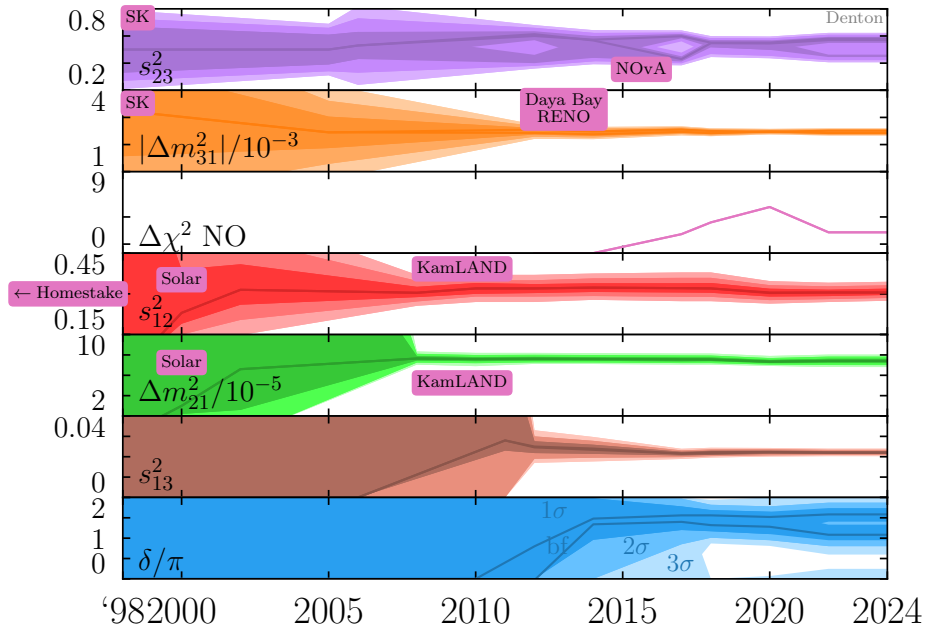
- ▶ Elizabeth Worcester and Michael Mooney yesterday morning: how DUNE will measure this stuff
- ▶ Callum Wilkinson next: DUNE and CPV
- ▶ Laura Fields later today: DUNE flux
- ▶ André de Gouvêa tomorrow morning: BSM
- ▶ And most of the rest of the talks this week

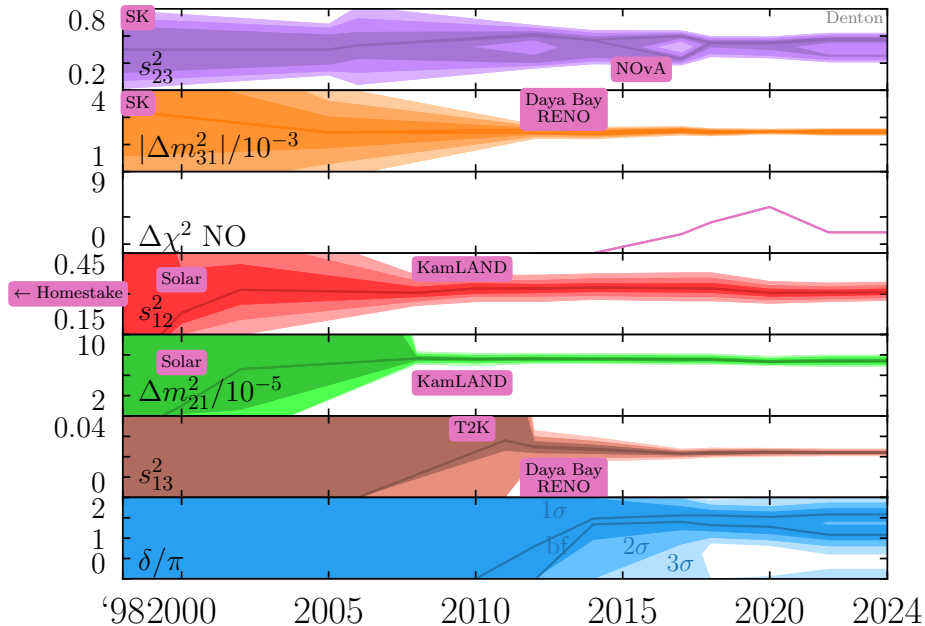


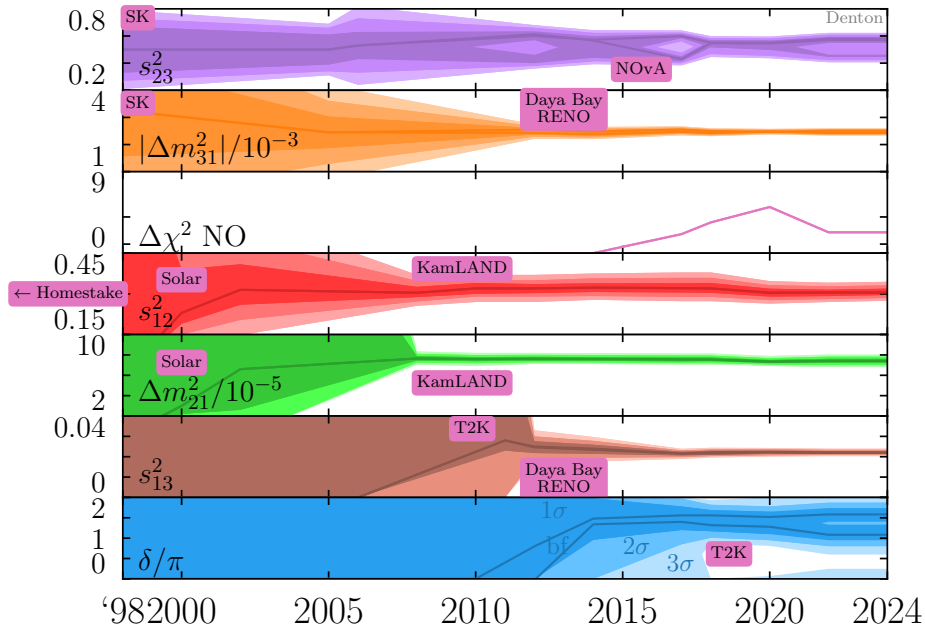




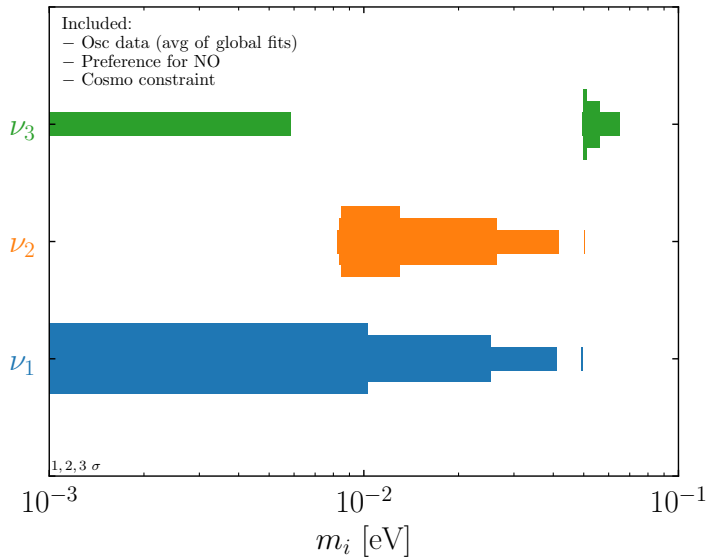








Absolute masses



Four known unknown in particle physics: all neutrinos

Atmospheric mass ordering

θ_{23} octant

Complex phase

Absolute mass scale

Cosmology, scattering, $0\nu\beta\beta$, ...

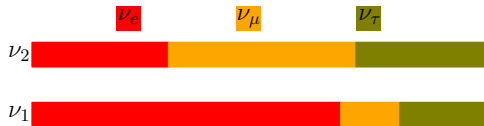
Atmospheric mass ordering

Mass ordering: what is it?

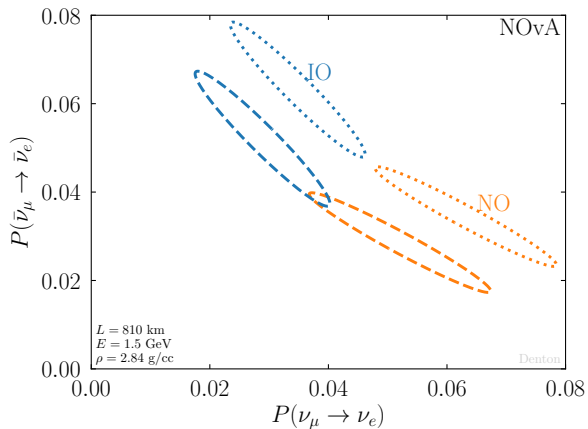
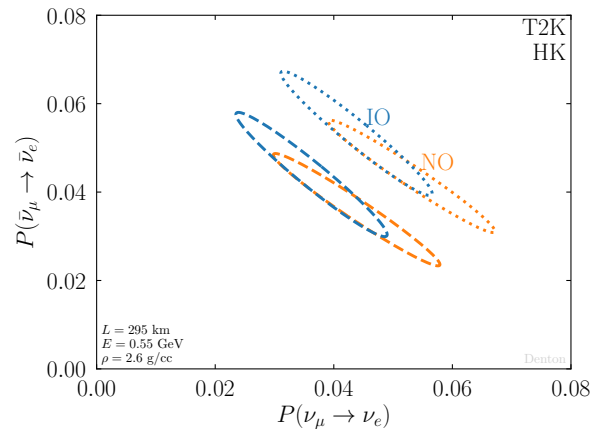
Normal



Inverted



Mass ordering: what is it really?



Requires the matter effect

Mass ordering current status: oscillations

1. NOvA and T2K both prefer **NO** over **IO**
2. NOvA+T2K prefers **IO** over **NO**
3. SK still prefers **NO** over **IO** – statistics complicated
4. NOvA+T2K+SK still prefers **NO** over **IO**
5. + Daya Bay & RENO $\Rightarrow$ slight preference **NO**
6. = no significant preference either way; with SK $\sim 2\sigma$

PBD, J. Gehrlein, R. Pestes [2008.01110](#)
K. Kelly, et al. [2007.08526](#)
I. Esteban, et al. [2007.14792](#)
F. Capozzi, et al. [2107.00532](#)
P. de Salas, et al. [2006.11237](#)
I. Esteban, et al. [2410.05380](#)

Mass ordering current status: all

From oscillations:

Normal : $m_1 + m_2 + m_3 > 60 \text{ meV}$ Inverted : $m_1 + m_2 + m_3 > 100 \text{ meV}$

Cosmology: $m_1 + m_2 + m_3 < 90 \text{ meV}$ at 95% CL

E. Valentino, S. Gariazzo, O. Mena [2106.15267](#)

→ 20 meV precision with DESI, EUCLID, ...

Pushing to very low (negative?) masses!?

N. Craig, et al. [2405.00836](#)

Many caveats: T. Bertólez-Martínez, et al. [2411.14524](#)

See also KATRIN [2406.13516](#)

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PRIORS?

Some claim “decisive” Bayesian evidence for normal

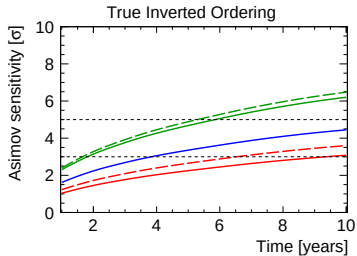
R. Jimenez, et al. [2203.14247](#)

More general prior assumptions $\Rightarrow$ no significant information from cosmology

S. Gariazzo, et al. [1801.04946](#)

S. Gariazzo, et al. [2205.02195](#)

Mass ordering: future sensitivities



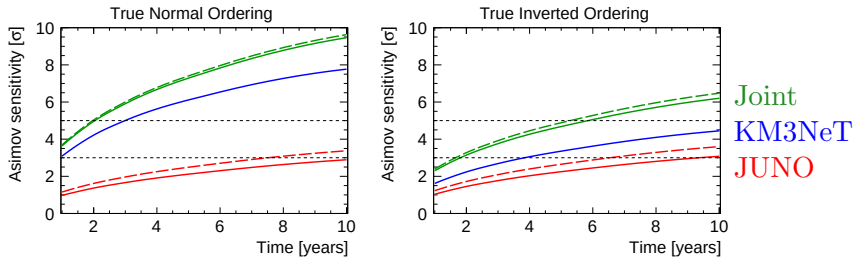
Joint
KM3NeT
JUNO

JUNO, KM3NeT 2108.06293

JUNO, IceCube 1911.06745

Note: if lower octant, KM3NeT is less sensitive

Mass ordering: future sensitivities



JUNO, KM3NeT [2108.06293](#)

JUNO, IceCube [1911.06745](#)

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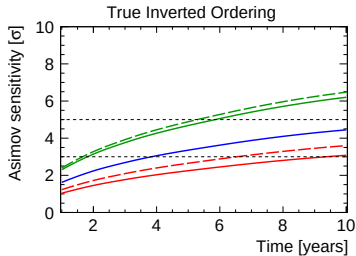
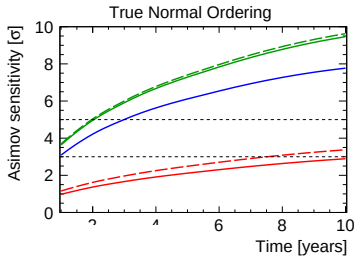
$$\Delta m_{ee}^2 = c_{12}^2 \Delta m_{31}^2 + s_{12}^2 \Delta m_{32}^2$$

$$\Delta m_{\mu\mu}^2 = s_{12}^2 \Delta m_{31}^2 + c_{12}^2 \Delta m_{32}^2 + \mathcal{O}(s_{13} \Delta m_{21}^2)$$

Differ by $\pm \sim 1.1\%$ in each mass ordering

H. Nunokawa, S. Parke, R. Funchal [hep-ph/0503283](#)

Mass ordering: future sensitivities

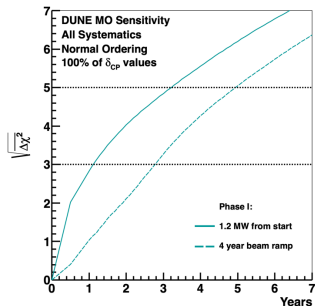


Joint
KM3NeT
JUNO

JUNO, KM3NeT [2108.06293](#)

JUNO, IceCube [1911.06745](#)

Note: if lower octant, KM3NeT is less sensitive



Matter effect $\Rightarrow$ DUNE [2203.06100](#)

$$\Delta m_{ee}^2 = c_{12}^2 \Delta m_{31}^2 + s_{12}^2 \Delta m_{32}^2$$

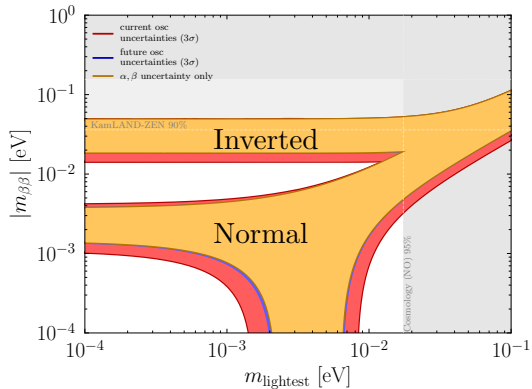
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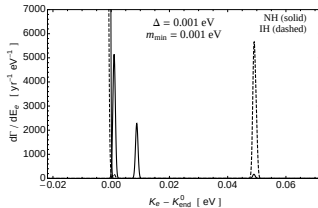
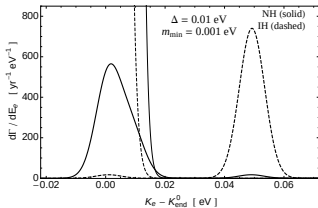
Mass ordering: broad implications

- Affects cosmology
- Affects galactic SN signal
- Affects $0\nu\beta\beta$
- Affects flavor models
- Affects end point measurements
- Affects $C\nu B$



PBD, J. Gehrlein [2308.09737](#)

A. Long, C. Lunardini, E. Sabancilar [1405.7654](#)



Peter B. Denton (BNL)

Mass ordering: new physics degeneracies

In the presence of new physics such as NSI we have:

$$[\text{NO}] + [\epsilon = 0] \quad \equiv \quad [\text{IO}] + [\epsilon_{ee} = -2]$$

$$[\text{IO}] + [\epsilon = 0] \quad \equiv \quad [\text{NO}] + [\epsilon_{ee} = -2]$$

Equivalences hold even if all oscillation probabilities are *perfectly* measured

P. Bakhti, Y. Farzan [1403.0744](#)

P. Coloma, T. Schwetz [1604.05772](#)

P. Coloma, **PBD**, et al. [1701.04828](#)

PBD, S. Parke [2106.12436](#)

PBD, J. Gehrlein [2204.09060](#)



This is known as the **LMA-Dark** solution

Is the mass ordering robust?

Need **scattering** to break



Can probe same NC $\epsilon = -2$ process in scattering, but...

1. COHERENT for $M_{Z'} \gtrsim 50$ MeV and cosmology for $M_{Z'} \lesssim 5$ MeV

PBD, Y. Farzan, I. Shoemaker [1804.03660](#)

2. Dresden-II for ϵ_{ee} for any mediator mass

PBD, J. Gehrlein [2204.09060](#)

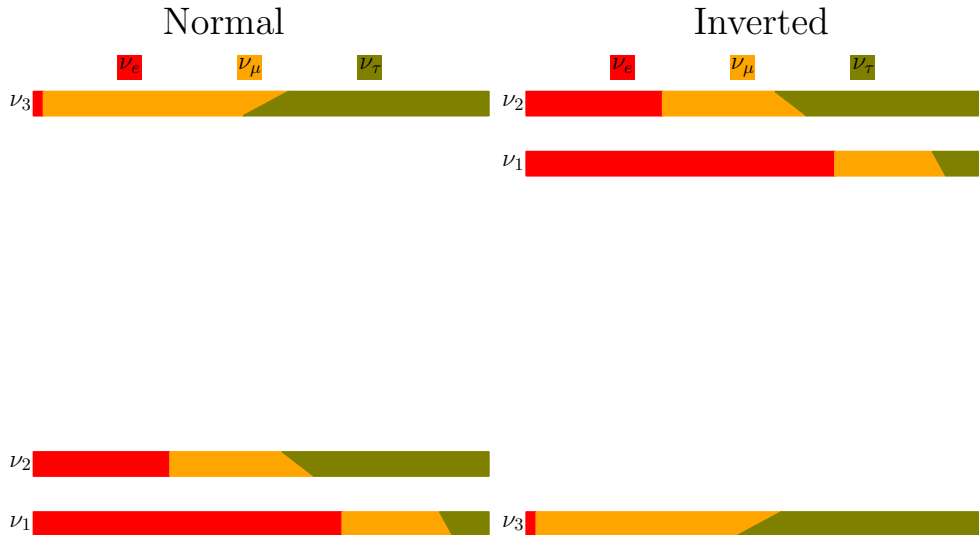
3. Can still evade with specific flavor structures

$\epsilon_{\mu\mu} = \epsilon_{\tau\tau} = 2$ or certain u / d combinations

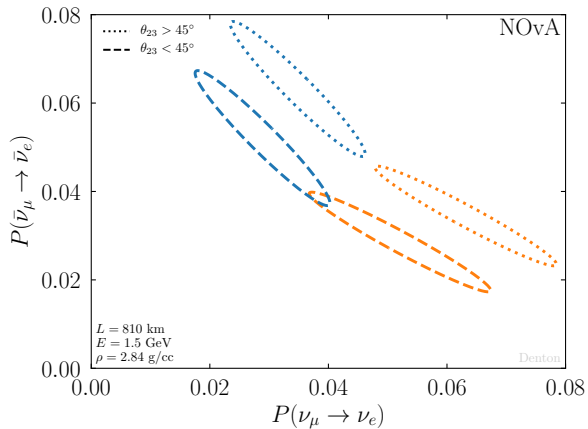
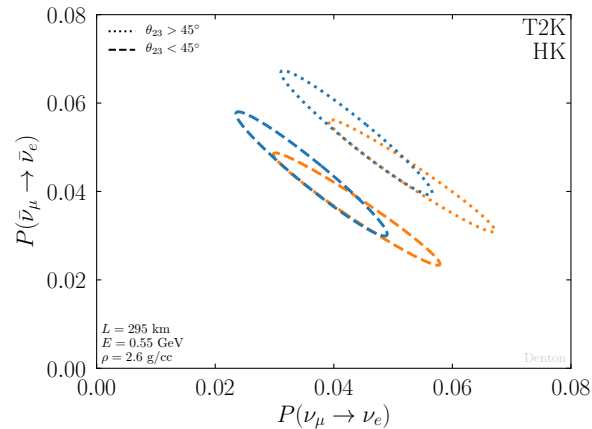
4. CCM & COHERENT can close all loopholes

θ_{23} octant

θ_{23} octant: what is it?

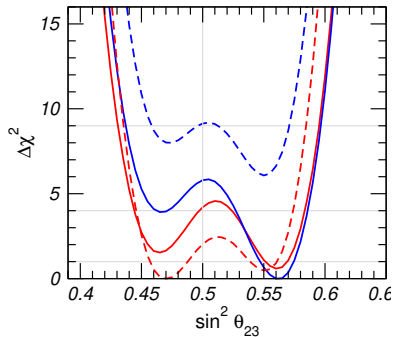


θ_{23} octant: what is it really?



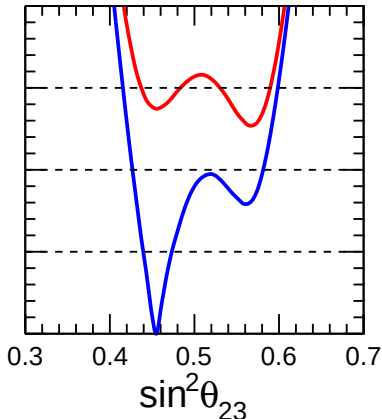
Lower octant more “normal” than upper octant

θ_{23} octant: current status



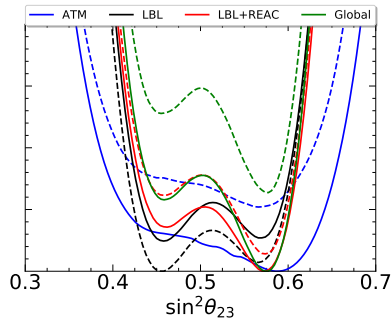
I. Esteban, et al. [2410.05380](#)

Upper/lower at $\sim 1\sigma$



F. Capozzi, et al. [2107.00532](#)

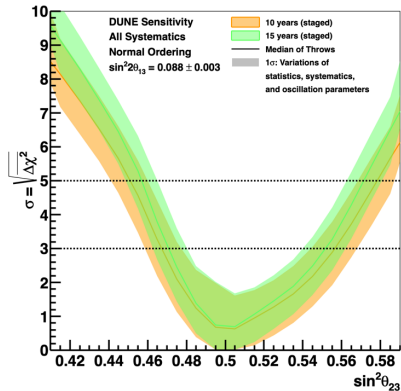
Prefers **lower** at $\sim 1.5\sigma$



P. de Salas, et al. [2006.11237](#)

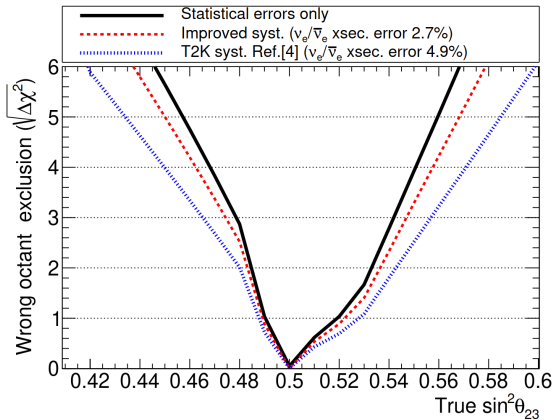
Prefers **upper** at $> 2\sigma$

θ_{23} octant: future sensitivities



$\sim 3 - 5\sigma$

DUNE 2002.03005



$\sim 3 - 5\sigma$

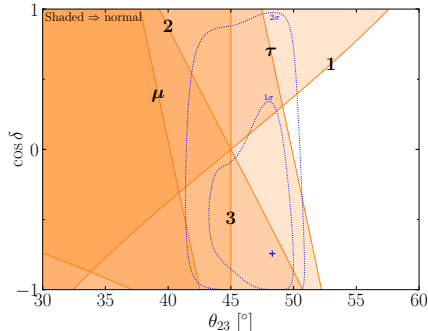
HK 2505.15019

θ_{23} : broader implications

Normalcy

Is the heaviest neutrino mostly ν_τ ?

Is the lightest neutrino least ν_τ ?



Quarks easily satisfy normalcy [PBD 2003.04319](#)

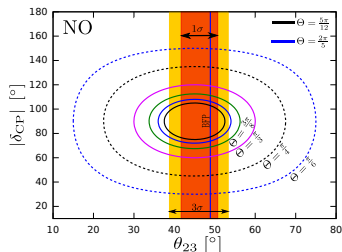
μ - τ interchange/reflection symmetry

$$\nu_\mu \leftrightarrow \nu_\tau$$

$$M_\nu^* = X M_\nu X^T \quad X = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$M_\nu \equiv U D_\nu U^\dagger$$

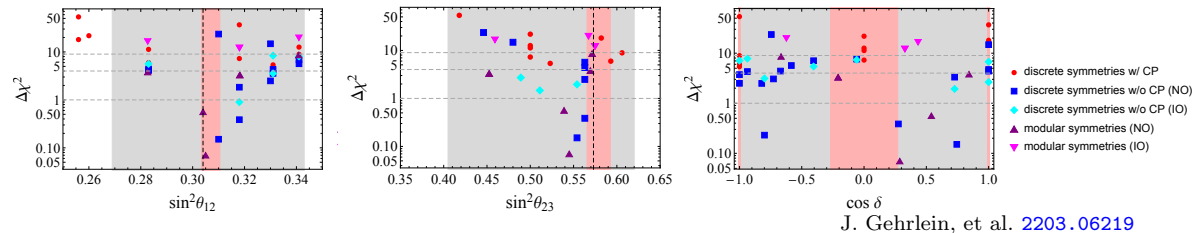
Predicts: $\theta_{23} = 45^\circ$, often $\theta_{13} = 0$



P. Chen, et al. [1512.01551](#)

Parameter interplay

Models predict specific correlations among the parameters



Precision in all neutrino parameters is key!

Complex phase

δ and CP violation

$$J_{CP} = s_{12}c_{12}s_{13}c_{13}^2s_{23}c_{23}\sin\delta$$

C. Jarlskog [PRL 55, 1039 \(1985\)](#)



δ and CP violation

$$J_{CP} = s_{12}c_{12}s_{13}c_{13}^2s_{23}c_{23}\sin\delta$$

C. Jarlskog [PRL 55, 1039 \(1985\)](#)



1. Strong interaction: no observed EDM $\Rightarrow$ CP (nearly) **conserved**

$$\frac{\bar{\theta}}{2\pi} < 10^{-11}$$

J. Pendlebury, et al. [1509.04411](#)

2. Quark mass matrix: non-zero but **small** CP violation

$$\frac{|J_{CKM}|}{J_{\max}} = 3 \times 10^{-4}$$

CKMfitter [1501.05013](#)

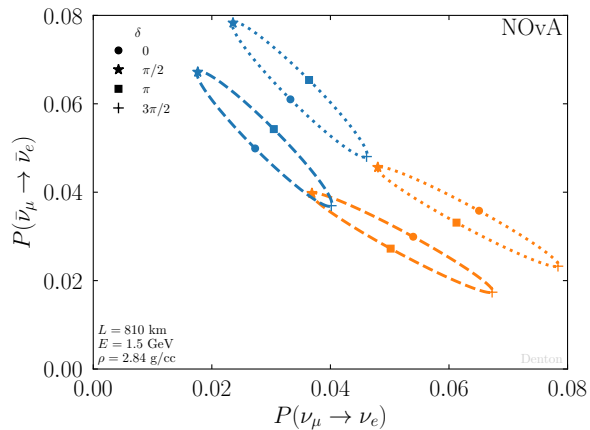
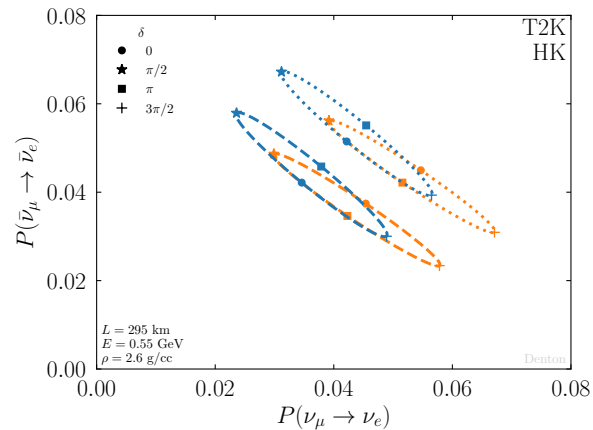
3. Lepton mass matrix: ?

$$\frac{|J_{PMNS}|}{J_{\max}} < 0.34$$

[PBD](#), J. Gehrlein, R. Pestes [2008.01110](#)

$$J_{\max} = \frac{1}{6\sqrt{3}} \approx 0.096$$

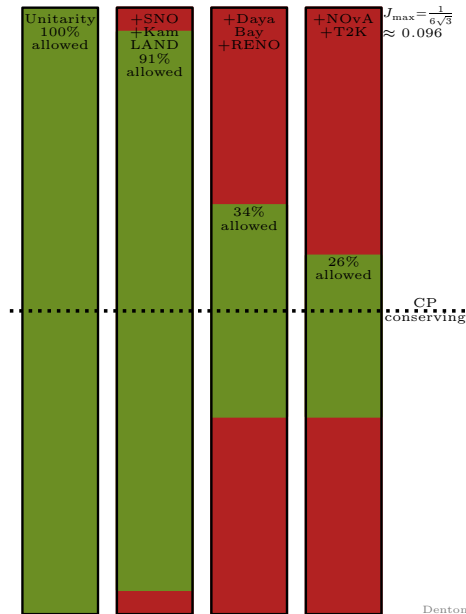
δ : what is it really?



δ, J : current status

Maximal CP violation is already ruled out:

1. $\theta_{12} \neq 45^\circ$ at $\sim 15\sigma$
2. $\theta_{13} \neq \tan^{-1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \approx 35^\circ$ at many (100) σ
3. $\theta_{23} = 45^\circ$ allowed at $\sim 1\sigma$
4. $|\sin \delta| = 1$ allowed



CP violation in oscillations

In vacuum at first maximum:

$$P_{\mu e} - \bar{P}_{\mu e} \approx 8\pi J \frac{\Delta m_{21}^2}{\Delta m_{32}^2}$$

$$J \equiv s_{12}c_{12}s_{13}c_{13}^2s_{23}c_{23}\sin\delta$$

C. Jarlskog [PRL 55, 1039 \(1985\)](#)

- ▶ Extracting δ from data requires every other oscillation parameter
- ▶ J requires only Δm_{21}^2 (up to matter effects)
- ▶ Instead of asymmetry, can be determined via triple sine dependence

Matter effects in triple sine term can be accounted for

$$\hat{J} \simeq \frac{J}{\sqrt{(c_{212} - c_{13}^2 a / \Delta m_{21}^2)^2 + s_{212}^2} \sqrt{(c_{213} - a / \Delta m_{ee}^2)^2 + s_{213}^2}}$$

[PBD](#), S. Parke [1902.07185](#)

[PBD](#), H. Minakata, S. Parke [1604.08167](#)

When δ and when J ?

If the goal is **CP violation** the Jarlskog invariant should be used

however

If the goal is **measuring the parameters** one must use δ

Given θ_{12} , θ_{13} , θ_{23} , and J , I can't determine the sign of $\cos \delta$ which is physical

e.g. $P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\mu)$ depends on $\cos \delta$
PBD 2309.03262

- ▶ T2K/HK are mostly sensitivity to $\sin \delta$; they should focus on J

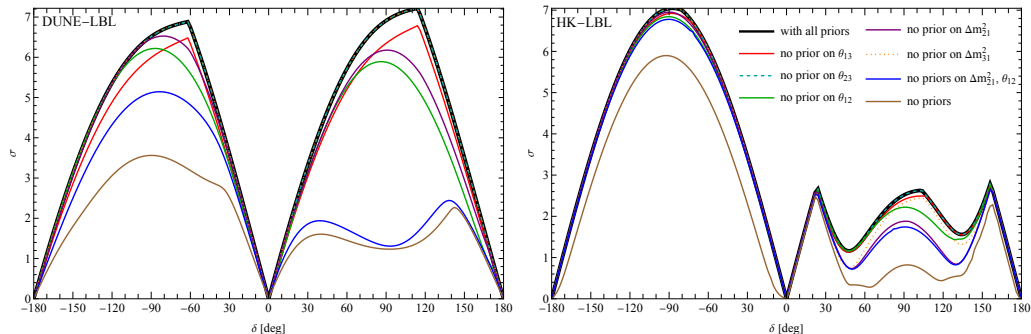
T2K does this now!

- ▶ NOvA/DUNE has modest $\cos \delta$ sensitivity; both J and δ should be reported

δ : future sensitivities

DUNE and HK will make great measurements via appearance $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$

$\nu + \bar{\nu}$ helps systematics but isn't strictly necessary



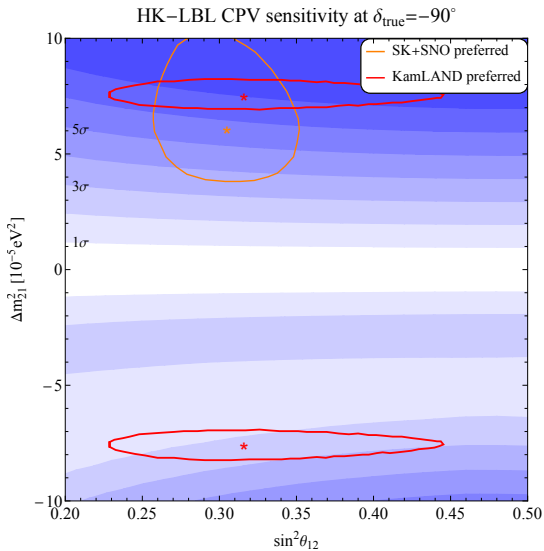
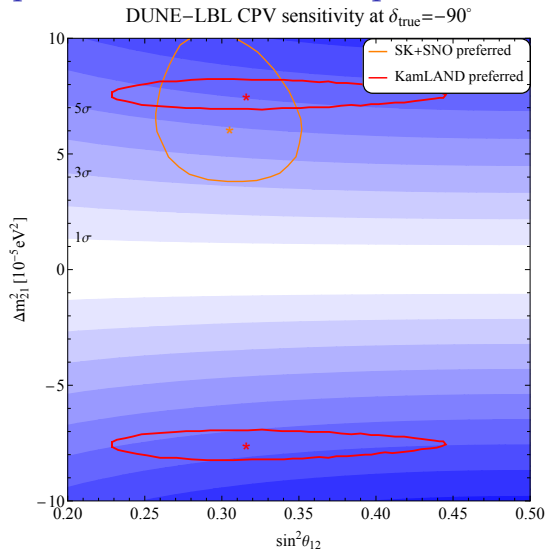
Need to know solar parameters to measure δ !

Current solar knowledge: okay

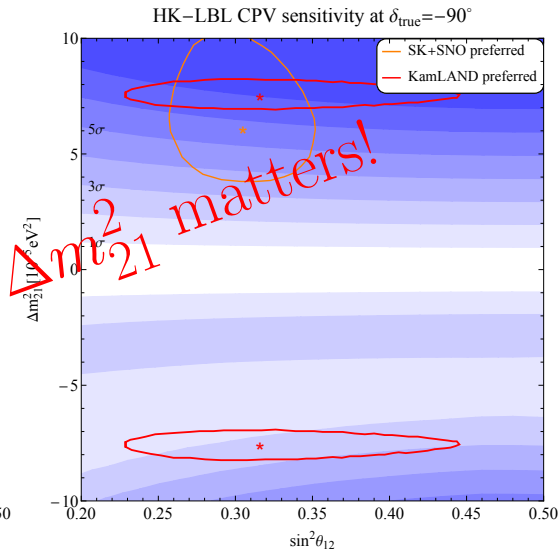
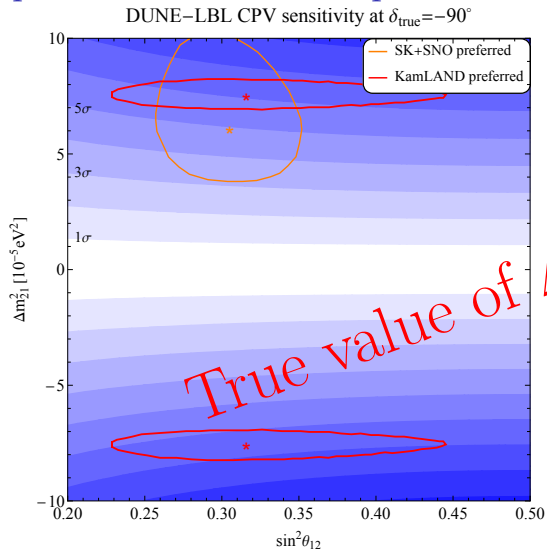
Future (JUNO): excellent

PBD, J. Gehrlein [2302.08513](#)

Impact of the true solar parameters on δ



Impact of the true solar parameters on δ



Non-standard CPV probes

1. Some information in solar due to loops in elastic scattering

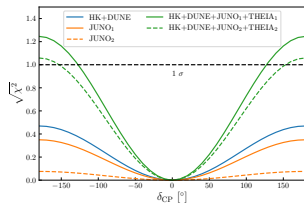
V. Brdar, X-J. Xu [2306.03160](#)

K. Kelly, et al. [2407.03174](#) requires 3k Borexinos

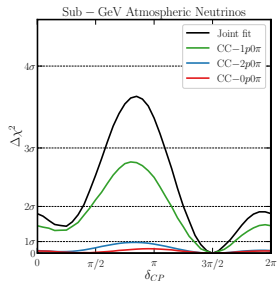
2. Sub-GeV $\rightarrow$ sub-100 MeV atmospheric

K. Kelly, et al. [1904.02751](#)

See also e.g. A. Suliga, J. Beacom [2306.11090](#)



Solar (no systematics)



Atmospherics at DUNE

Non-standard CPV probes: disappearance

Possible to get at CPV with CPC processes

Disappearance probability:

$$\begin{aligned} P(\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\alpha) = & 1 - 4|U_{\alpha 1}|^2|U_{\alpha 2}|^2 \sin^2 \Delta_{21} \\ & - 4|U_{\alpha 1}|^2|U_{\alpha 3}|^2 \sin^2 \Delta_{31} \\ & - 4|U_{\alpha 2}|^2|U_{\alpha 3}|^2 \sin^2 \Delta_{32}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\Delta_{ij} = \Delta m_{ij}^2 L / 4E$$

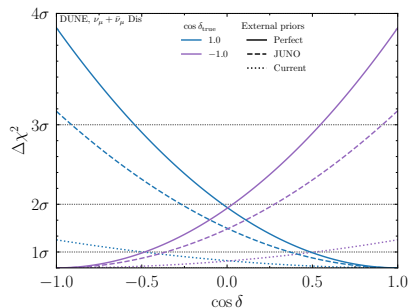
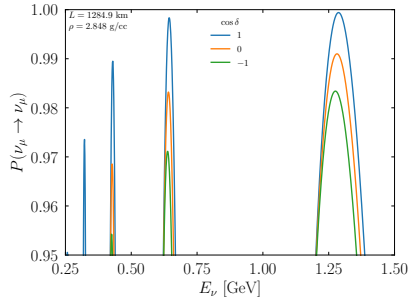
Can measure all three coeffs of each frequency $\Rightarrow$ 2 dofs
 δ (and CPV) needs 4 dofs $\Rightarrow$ two dis measurements

ν_e : Daya Bay and KamLAND/JUNO

ν_μ : precision at DUNE/HK

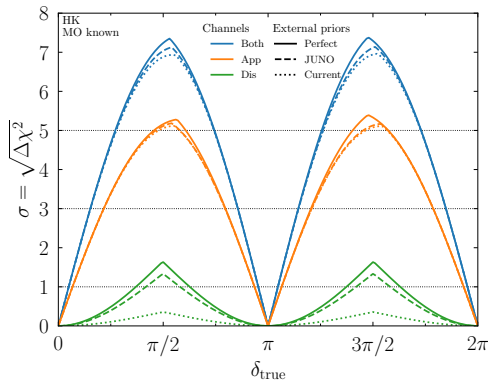
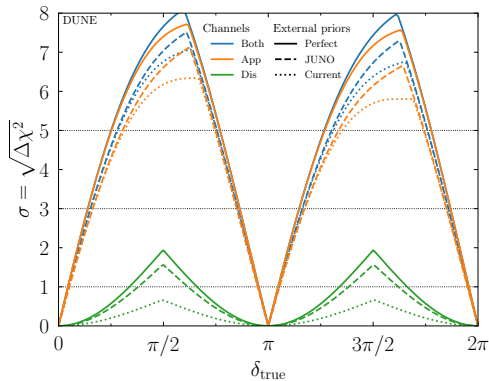
Important cross check

Different and cleaner systematics than appearance



CP violation discovery with disappearance

Need JUNO and DUNE or HK



PBD 2309.03262

How to compute neutrino oscillation probabilities quickly?

NuFast

github.com/PeterDenton/NuFast

Monte-Carlo estimates of statistical significances

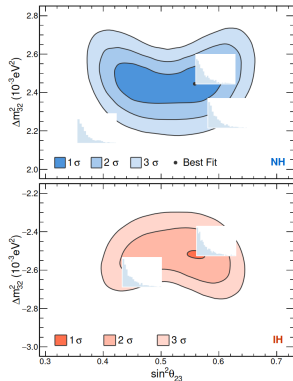
Wilks' theorem is often wrong

At each point in parameter space, simulate the experiment many times

“many” means $\gg 1/p$ for a desired p -value

This is sometimes called Feldman-Cousins

G. Feldman, R. Cousins [physics/9711021](#)



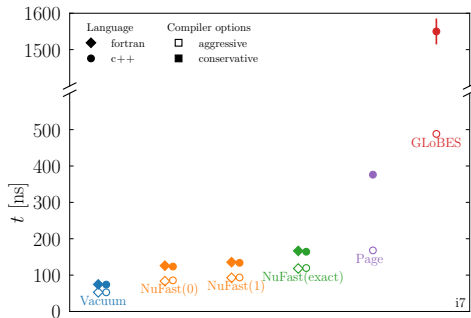
Study found most of
the time was spent
computing probabilities

NOvA/T2K are $\sim 3\sigma$ experiments,
but DUNE/HK will be $\gtrsim 5\sigma$ experiments!

The NuFast approach

1. User inputs: 6 oscillation parameters, experimental details (L , E , ρ , Y_e)
2. Calculate λ_3 approximately
 - Iteratively improve with Newton's method, as needed
3. Calculate other two eigenvalues via sum rules
4. Calculate the $|V_{\alpha i}|^2$'s with the Eigenvector-Eigenvalue Identity

PBD, S. Parke, T. Tao, X. Zhang [1908.03795](#)
5. Get the T violating term with the NHS identity
6. Calculate the sines of the kinematic terms
7. Calculate key probabilities: P_{ee} , $P_{\mu\mu}$, & $P_{\mu e}$
8. Calculate remaining probabilities



PBD, S. Parke [2405.02400](#)

NuFast development status

- ▶ NuFast-LBL is complete

Relevant for accelerator and reactor

- ▶ Default in [MaCH3](#) and [GUNDAM](#) via [NuOscillator](#)

Many thanks to Dan Barrow and other experimentalists
for implementing and benchmarking this!

NuFast development status

- ▶ NuFast-LBL is complete

Relevant for accelerator and reactor

- ▶ Default in [MaCH3](#) and [GUNDAM](#) via [NuOscillator](#)

Many thanks to Dan Barrow and other experimentalists
for implementing and benchmarking this!

- ▶ NuFast-Earth for atmospheric, solar, and SN neutrinos is **in progress**
 - ▶ Will contain many optimizations to reuse repeated calculations of eigenvalues/internal-eigenvectors whenever possible
 - ▶ Find me after more details

Neutrino oscillation summary

- ▶ Four known unknowns in particle physics: all neutrinos
- ▶ Mass ordering will be measured (robustness?)
- ▶ θ_{23} octant is important for flavor models
- ▶ Multiple ways to determine CP violation: key cross check given systematics/BSM
- ▶ Progress on fast code useful for experimentalists

Neutrinos better fly

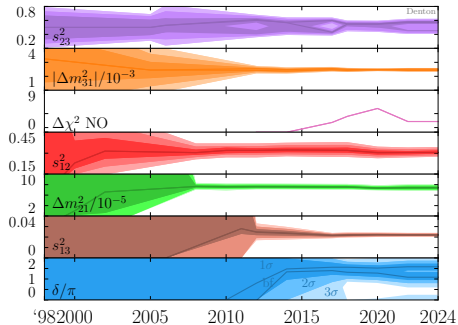
Nus: light, delicate
The smallest things shape the world
How do they do it?



Inspired by my trip to the Gardens on Spring Creek, Fort Collins
and Ray Bradbury's *A Sound of Thunder*

Backups

References



SK [hep-ex/9807003](#)

M. Gonzalez-Garcia, et al. [hep-ph/0009350](#)

M. Maltoni, et al. [hep-ph/0207227](#)

SK [hep-ex/0501064](#)

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T. Schwetz, M. Tortola, J. Valle [0808.2016](#)

M. Gonzalez-Garcia, M. Maltoni, J. Salvado [1001.4524](#)

T2K [1106.2822](#)

D. Forero, M. Tortola, J. Valle [1205.4018](#)

D. Forero, M. Tortola, J. Valle [1405.7540](#)

P. de Salas, et al. [1708.01186](#)

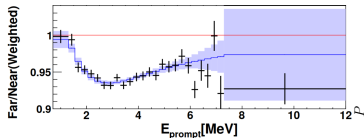
F. Capozzi et al. [2003.08511](#)

Do neutrinos have mass?

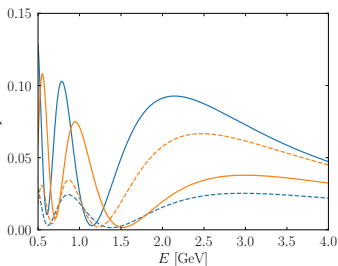
- ▶ Neutrinos seemed to be massless
- ▶ Direct kinematic searches have still not yielded any indication for a mass

KATRIN [2406.13516](#)

Do neutrinos have mass?



Daya Bay [1809.02261](#)

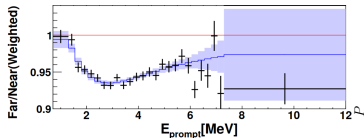


KATRIN [2406.13516](#)

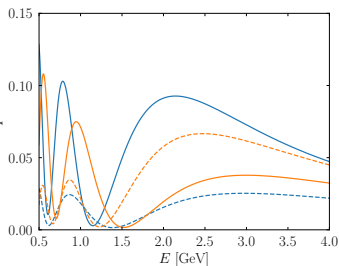
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- ▶ Through QM interference of superposition of states, they evolve

Neutrinos oscillate!

Do neutrinos have mass?



Daya Bay 1809.02261



KATRIN 2406.13516

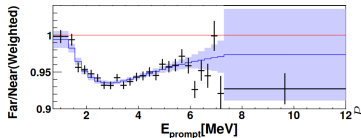
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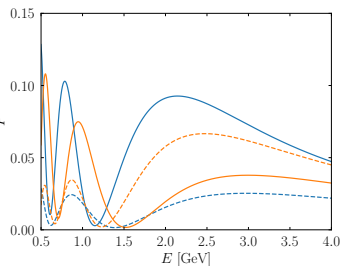
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Do neutrinos have mass?



Daya Bay 1809.02261



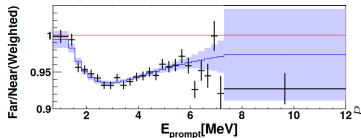
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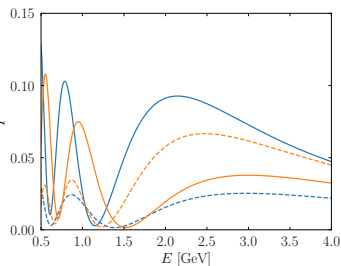
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Do neutrinos have mass?



Daya Bay 1809.02261



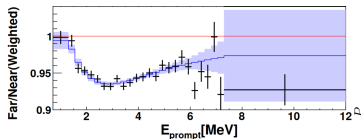
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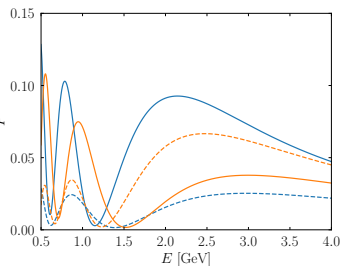
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Daya Bay 1809.02261



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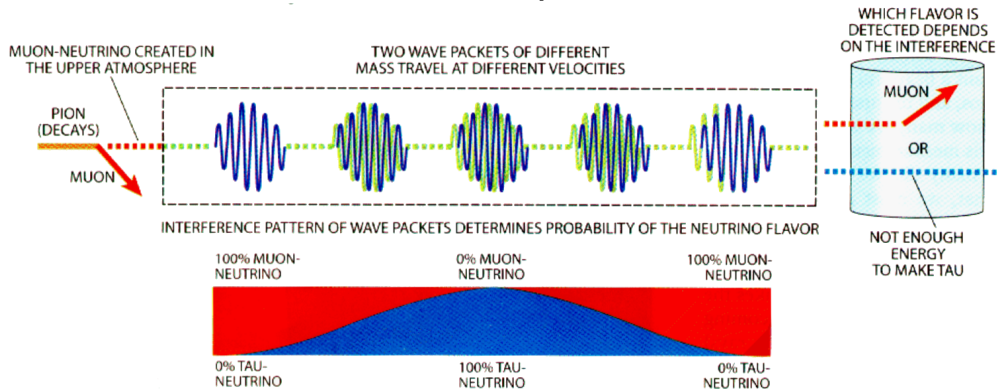
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Neutrinos oscillate!

- ▶ Since they act differently at different times, they must have mass
- ▶ Masses are $> 1,000,000$ times smaller than the electron
- ▶ Their masses are still unknown!
- ▶ The mechanism by which they get mass is unknown!

How does oscillation work?

A schematic for many environments:



Some neutrino oscillation theory

Quantum mechanics exercise:

$$i\frac{\partial}{\partial t}|\nu_i\rangle = H|\nu_i\rangle$$

Some neutrino oscillation theory

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$$i\frac{\partial}{\partial t}|\nu_i\rangle = H|\nu_i\rangle$$

$$H = \begin{pmatrix} E_1 & & \\ & E_2 & \\ & & E_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$|\nu_i(t)\rangle = e^{-iEt}|\nu_i(0)\rangle$$

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Subtract a common phase pt from all:

$$|\nu_i(t)\rangle = e^{-im_i^2 L/2E}|\nu_i(0)\rangle$$

Note that switching $E \simeq p$ and $x \simeq t$ is potentially problematic
Full QFT calculation gives the same answer

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Quantum mechanics exercise:

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$$E_i \simeq p + \frac{m_i^2}{2p}$$

Subtract a common phase pt from all:

$$|\nu_i(t)\rangle = e^{-im_i^2 L/2E}|\nu_i(0)\rangle$$

No oscillations!

Note that switching $E \simeq p$ and $x \simeq t$ is potentially problematic
Full QFT calculation gives the same answer

Production and detection

Need to produce & detect neutrinos in a different basis

QM superposition!

In the flavor/interaction basis:

$$i\frac{\partial}{\partial t}|\nu_\alpha\rangle = H_f|\nu_\alpha\rangle$$

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

$$H_f = \frac{1}{2E}U_{\text{PMNS}} \begin{pmatrix} m_1^2 & & \\ & m_2^2 & \\ & & m_3^2 \end{pmatrix} U_{\text{PMNS}}^\dagger$$

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U_{PMNS} is: complex, 3×3 , unitary; 4 parameters¹: θ_{23} , θ_{13} , θ_{12} , δ

¹Plus two complex phases that don't affect oscillations $\propto (m_\nu/E_\nu)^2$

Many different ways to parameterize matrix:

PBD, R. Pestes 2006.09384

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PBD, R. Pestes [2006.09384](#)

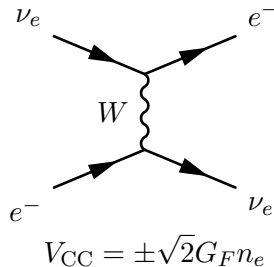
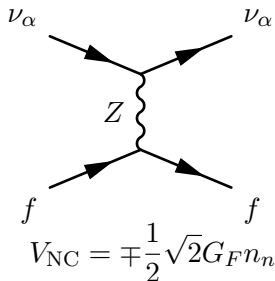
$$P(\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta) = \left| \sum_{i=1}^3 U_{\alpha i}^* e^{-im_i^2 L/2E} U_{\beta i} \right|^2$$

Only $m_i^2 - m_j^2$ contribute

Oscillations!

Neutrinos in matter

1. Neutrinos propagate through Earth/Sun/... largely unobstructed
2. But the presence of matter modifies how they propagate!
3. Weak interaction tells neutrinos what basis to be in by modifying energy levels



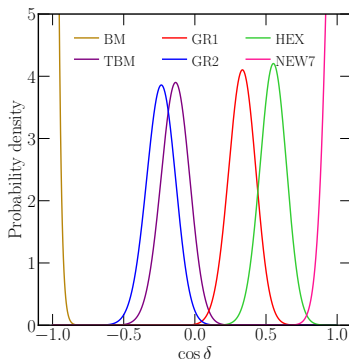
L. Wolfenstein, [PRD 17 \(1978\)](#)

$$H_f = \frac{1}{2E} \left[U M^2 U^\dagger + \begin{pmatrix} 2EV_{\text{CC}} & \\ & 0 \\ & & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

The importance of $\cos \delta$

- ▶ If only $\sin \delta$ is measured $\Rightarrow$ sign degeneracy: $\cos \delta = \pm \sqrt{1 - \sin^2 \delta}$
- ▶ Most flavor models predict $\cos \delta$

J. Gehrlein, et al. [2203.06219](#)



L. Everett, et al. [1912.10139](#)

δ : what is it not?

$\delta \not\Rightarrow$ Baryogenesis

The amount of leptogenesis is a function of:

1. δ
2. the heavy mass scale
3. α, β (Majorana phases)
4. CP phases in the RH neutrinos
5. ...

C. Hagedorn, et al. [1711.02866](#)

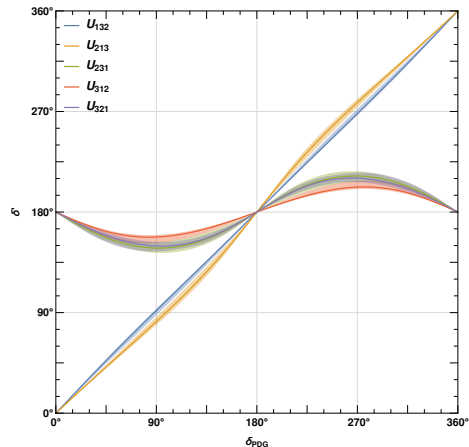
K. Moffat, et al. [1809.08251](#)

Measuring $\delta = 0, \pi$	$\not\Rightarrow$	no leptogenesis
Measuring $\delta \neq 0, \pi$	$\not\Rightarrow$	leptogenesis

Complex phase in different parameterizations

- ▶ Can relate the complex phase in one parameterization to that in another
- ▶ U_{132} and U_{213} similar to U_{123}
- ▶ δ constrained to $\sim [150^\circ, 210^\circ]$ in U_{231} , U_{312} , U_{321}
- ▶ Bands indicate 3σ uncertainty on θ_{12} , θ_{13} , θ_{23}
- ▶ “50% of possible values of δ ”
 $\Rightarrow$ parameterization dependent

DUNE TDR II [2002.03005](#)



Quark mixing

From the PDG, V_{CKM} in the V_{123} parameterization is

$$\theta_{12} = 13.09^\circ \quad \theta_{13} = 0.2068^\circ \quad \theta_{23} = 2.323^\circ \quad \delta_{\text{PDG}} = 68.53^\circ$$

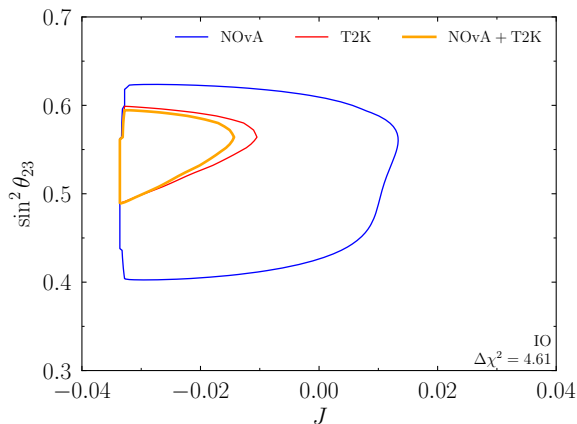
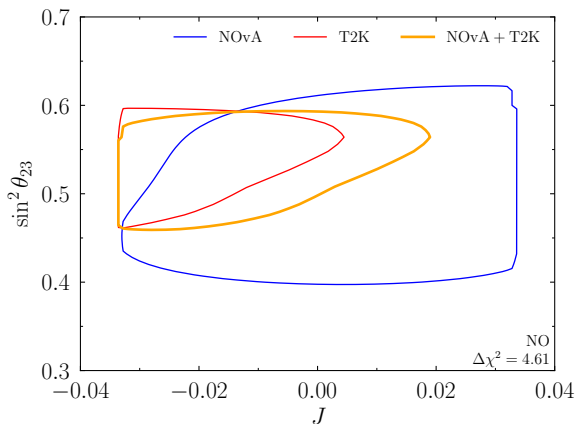
Looks like “large” CPV:

$$\sin \delta_{\text{PDG}} = 0.93 \sim 1$$

yet $J_{\text{CKM}}/J_{\text{max}} = 3 \times 10^{-4}$.

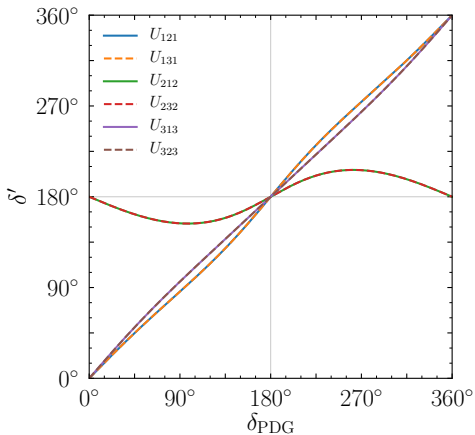
Switch to V_{212} parameterization, $\Rightarrow \delta' = 1^\circ$ and $\sin \delta' = 0.02$.

Standard oscillation parameters



Can see that the combination doesn't like the NO while it does like the IO
IO preferred over NO at $\Delta\chi^2 = 2.3$

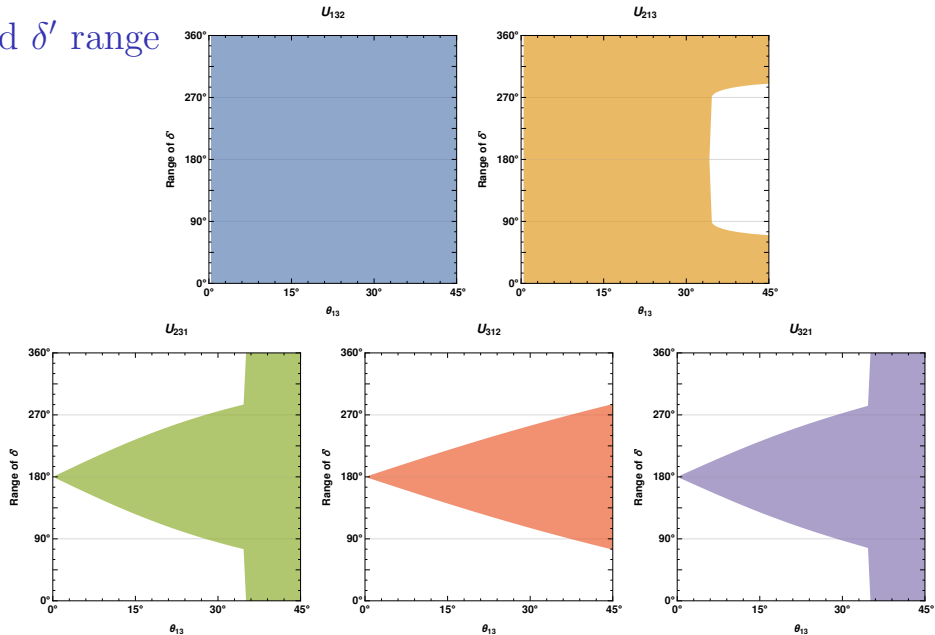
Repeated rotations



	U_{121}	U_{131}	U_{212}	U_{232}	U_{313}	U_{323}
$ U_{e2} $	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
$ U_{e3} $	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓
$ U_{\mu 3} $	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓

Note that $e^{i\delta}$ must be on first or third rotation

Allowed δ' range



Many interesting new physics scenarios in oscillations

1. Sterile neutrinos
2. Non-standard neutrino interactions (NSI)
with any Lorentz structure: SPVAT
3. Non-standard neutrino self interactions
4. Neutrino decay
with visible or invisible final states
5. Unitarity violation
6. Many others: neutrino – dark matter interactions, environmental decoherence, and Lorentz invariance or CPT violation

Many interesting new physics scenarios in oscillations

1. Sterile neutrinos

PBD, Y. Farzan, I. Shoemaker [1811.01310](#)
PBD [2111.05793](#)
H. Davoudiasl, PBD [2301.09651](#)

2. Non-standard neutrino interactions (NSI)

with any Lorentz structure: SPVAT

PBD, Y. Farzan, I. Shoemaker [1804.03660](#)
P. Coloma, PBD, et al. [1701.04828](#)
PBD, J. Gehrlein, R. Pestes [2008.01110](#)
PBD, J. Gehrlein [2008.06062](#), [2204.09060](#)
PBD, A. Giarnetti, D. Meloni [2210.00109](#), [2409.15411](#)

3. Non-standard neutrino self interactions

Barenboim, PBD, Oldengott [1903.02036](#)

4. Neutrino decay

with visible or invisible final states

PBD, I. Tamborra [1805.05950](#)
PBD, A. Abdullahi [2005.07200](#)

5. Unitarity violation

PBD [2109.14576](#)
PBD, J. Gehrlein [2109.14575](#)

6. Many others: neutrino – dark matter interactions, environmental decoherence, and Lorentz invariance or CPT violation

See e.g. PBD, J. Gehrlein, C.-F. Kong [2502.14027](#)

Shape-shifting sterile neutrinos

How to evade constraints?

Suppose:

1. Sterile neutrinos talk to dark matter

DM is ultralight boson

2. Dark matter talks to baryons

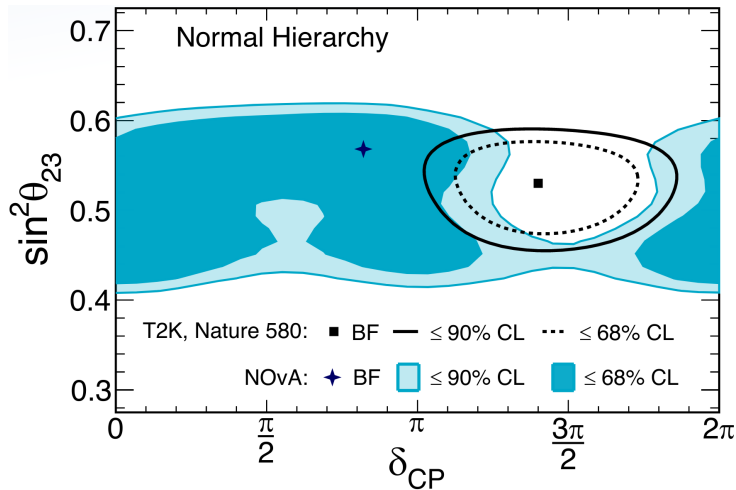
Then:

1. Sterile neutrinos aren't abundantly produced in the early universe
2. Mixing angle in the Sun is suppressed
3. Reactor constraints still exist

H. Davoudiasl, [PBD 2301.09651](#)
[PBD 2301.11106](#)

CP violation at NOvA and T2K?

Excitement at the Neutrino conference!



A. Himmel for NOvA [10.5281/zenodo.3959581](https://zenodo.org/record/3959581)

NSI review

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{NSI}} = -2\sqrt{2}G_F \sum_{\alpha,\beta,f,P} \epsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{f,P} (\bar{\nu}_\alpha \gamma^\mu \nu_\beta) (\bar{f} \gamma_\mu f)$$

Models with large NSIs consistent with CLFV:

Y. Farzan, I. Shoemaker [1512.09147](#) Y. Farzan, J. Heeck [1607.07616](#) D. Forero and W. Huang [1608.04719](#)
K. Babu, A. Friedland, P. Machado, I. Mocioiu [1705.01822](#) [PBD](#), Y. Farzan, I. Shoemaker [1804.03660](#)
U. Dey, N. Nath, S. Sadhukhan [1804.05808](#) Y. Farzan [1912.09408](#) N. Bernal, Y. Farzan [2211.15686](#)
S. Abbaslu, Y. Farzan [2407.13834](#)

Affects oscillations via new matter effect

$$H = \frac{1}{2E} \left[UM^2U^\dagger + a \begin{pmatrix} 1 + \epsilon_{ee} & \epsilon_{e\mu} & \epsilon_{e\tau} \\ \epsilon_{e\mu}^* & \epsilon_{\mu\mu} & \epsilon_{\mu\tau} \\ \epsilon_{e\tau}^* & \epsilon_{\mu\tau}^* & \epsilon_{\tau\tau} \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

Matter potential $a \propto G_F \rho E$

B. Dev, K. Babu, [PBD](#), P. Machado, et al. [1907.00991](#)

Estimate size of effect: magnitude

$$|\epsilon_{e\beta}| \approx \frac{s_{12}c_{12}c_{23}\pi\Delta m_{21}^2}{2s_{23}w_\beta} \left| \frac{\sin\delta_{\text{T2K}} - \sin\delta_{\text{NOvA}}}{a_{\text{NOvA}} - a_{\text{T2K}}} \right| \approx \begin{cases} 0.22 & \text{for } \beta = \mu \\ 0.24 & \text{for } \beta = \tau \end{cases}$$

$$a \propto \rho E$$

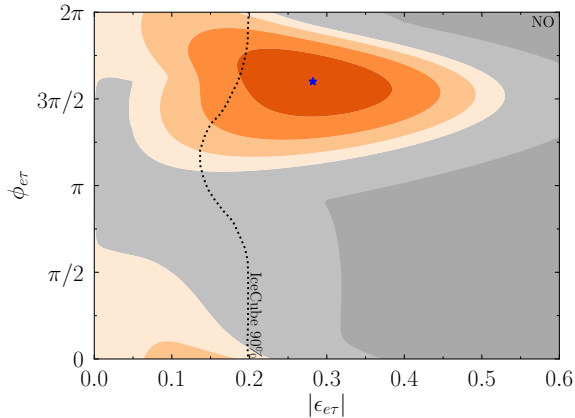
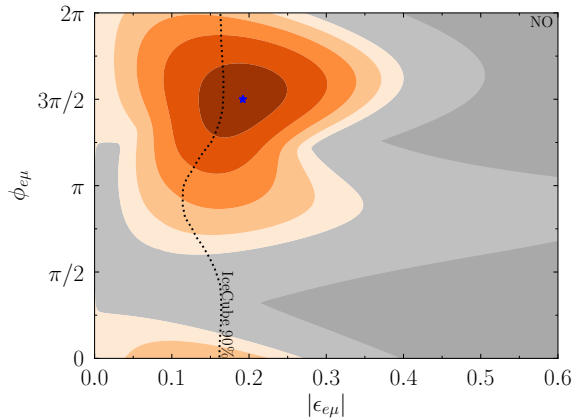
$$w_\beta = s_{23}, c_{23} \text{ for } \beta = \mu, \tau$$

Assumed upper octant $\theta_{23} > 45^\circ$

Consistency checks:

- ▶ $\sin\delta_{\text{NOvA}} = \sin\delta_{\text{T2K}} \Rightarrow |\epsilon| = 0$
- ▶ $\sin\delta_{\text{NOvA}} \neq \sin\delta_{\text{T2K}}$ and $a_{\text{NOvA}} = a_{\text{T2K}} \Rightarrow |\epsilon| \rightarrow \infty$
- ▶ Octant:
 1. LBL is governed by ν_3
 2. Upper octant $\Rightarrow \nu_3$ is more ν_μ
 3. More $\nu_\mu \Rightarrow$ need less new physics coupling to ν_μ to produce a given effect

NSI parameters



Orange is preferred over SM at integer values of $\Delta\chi^2$, dark gray is disfavored at 4.61

T. Ehrhardt, IceCube [PPNT \(2019\)](#)

$\epsilon_{\mu\tau}$, IO in backups

Other CP violating NSI constraints

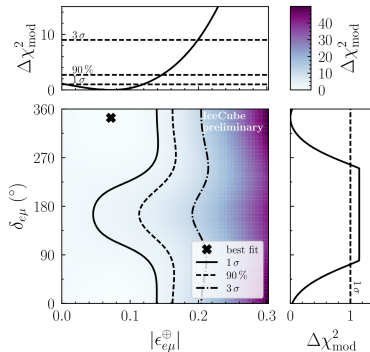
NSI effects grow with energy, density, and distance

Other CP violating NSI constraints

NSI effects grow with energy, density, and distance

Best probes:

- ▶ $\epsilon_{\mu\tau}$: atmospheric
- ▶ $\epsilon_{e\mu}$, $\epsilon_{e\tau}$: LBL appearance, atmospheric
- ▶ IceCube
 - ▶ Constraint is at LBL best fit with 3 yrs
10 yrs of data in the bank
 - ▶ Prefers non-zero $|\epsilon_{e\mu}|$ at $\sim 1\sigma$



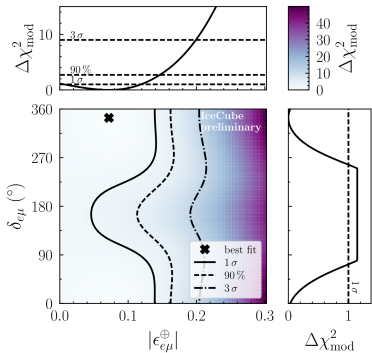
T. Ehrhardt, IceCube [PPNT \(2019\)](#)

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 - ▶ Constraint is at LBL best fit with 3 yrs
 - 10 yrs of data in the bank
 - ▶ Prefers non-zero $|\epsilon_{e\mu}|$ at $\sim 1\sigma$
- ▶ Super-K
 - ▶ Only consider real NSI
 - ▶ Comparable sensitivity as IceCube
- ▶ COHERENT
 - ▶ Only applies to NSI models with $M_{Z'} \gtrsim 10$ MeV
 - ▶ NSI u, d, e configuration matters
 - ▶ Comparable constraints



T. Ehrhardt, IceCube [PPNT \(2019\)](#)

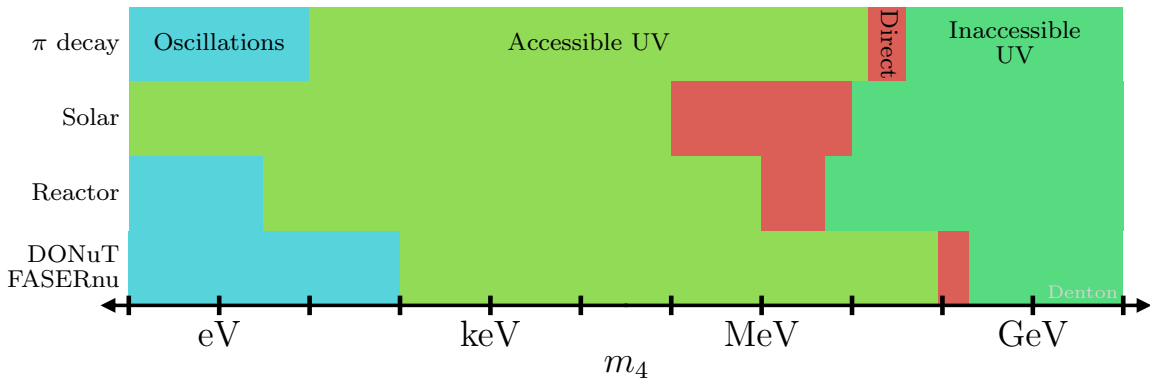
Super-K [1109.1889](#)

COHERENT [1708.01294](#)

[PBD](#), Y. Farzan, I. Shoemaker [1804.03660](#)

[PBD](#), J. Gehrlein [2008.06062](#)

Unitarity violation: a tale of two regimes



*Details depends on the specific experiment/channel

Unitarity violation: how to calculate

Kinematically **accessible** states

1. Unitary calculation of full $n \times n$ matrix
2. Oscillation averaged:

$$\sin^2 \frac{\Delta m_{41}^2 L}{4E} \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\sin \frac{\Delta m_{41}^2 L}{4E} \rightarrow 0$$

3. No matter effect:

$$H^{\text{mat}} = \text{diag}(V_{\text{CC}} + V_{\text{NC}}, V_{\text{NC}}, V_{\text{NC}}, 0, \dots)$$

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Kinematically **inaccessible** states

1. Nonunitary calculation of $m \times m$ matrix
 m = number of kinematically accessible states
2. Rescale probability:

$$P_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{|\sum_{i=1}^{\text{acc}} U_{\alpha i}^* e^{iP_i L} U_{\beta i}|}{(\sum_{i=1}^{\text{acc}} U_{\alpha i}^* U_{\alpha i})(\sum_{i=1}^{\text{acc}} U_{\beta i}^* U_{\beta i})}$$

3. Cannot subtract multiples of $\mathbb{1}$
4. Rescale cross section/flux as appropriate
5. Rescale G_F in matter effect

Unitarity violation status from oscillations

3σ maximal deviations from unitarity

	Leptons	
	Hu+	Ellis+
ν_e row	0.003	0.05
ν_μ row	0.02	0.04
ν_τ row	0.2	0.82
ν_1 col	0.06	0.22
ν_2 col	0.09	0.27
ν_3 col	0.12	0.40

	Quarks	
	u row	$0.0015 \sim 2.2\sigma$ tension
c row	0.06	
t row	-	
d col	0.005	
s col	0.06	
b col	-	

Lepton constraints don't include anomalies

Care is required

S. Ellis, K. Kelly, S. Li [2008.01088](#)

Z. Hu, et al. [2008.09730](#)

S. Parke, M. Ross-Lonergan [1508.05095](#)

PDG

Unitarity violation status from oscillations

3σ maximal deviations from unitarity

	Leptons	
	Hu+	Ellis+
ν_e row	0.003	0.05
ν_μ row	0.02	0.04
ν_τ row	0.2	0.82
ν_1 col	0.06	0.22
ν_2 col	0.09	0.27
ν_3 col	0.12	0.40

	Quarks	
u row	0.0015	$\sim 2.2\sigma$ tension
c row	0.06	
t row	-	
d col	0.005	
s col	0.06	
b col	-	

Lepton constraints don't include anomalies

Care is required

Vastly different mixing angle hierarchy

$\Rightarrow$

Like comparing apples and steak

S. Ellis, K. Kelly, S. Li [2008.01088](#)

Z. Hu, et al. [2008.09730](#)

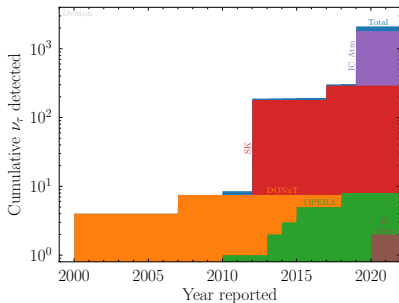
S. Parke, M. Ross-Lonergan [1508.05095](#)

PDG

Unitarity violation: tau row

Leptons: tau row is the weakest

1. Existing global analyses use OPERA and SNO
2. More data from atmospheric ν_τ appearance!



Also astrophysical ν_τ appearance; weak but distinct!

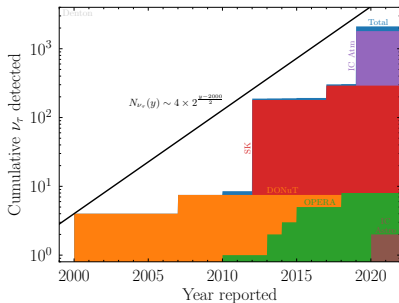
Atmospheric works because τ is in **direct** region

PBD, et al. [2203.05591](#)

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Tau neutrino data set doubles every two years!

PBD, et al. [2203.05591](#)

Unitarity violation

Consistency of the three-flavor oscillation picture?

and/or

Searches for unitarity violation?

Unitarity violation

Consistency of the three-flavor oscillation picture?

and/or

Searches for unitarity violation?

Not the same!

Lots of models to test standard three-flavor picture:

Sterile, unitarity violation, NSI, neutrino decay, decoherence, ...

Unitarity violation: what is it?

Our 3×3 matrix isn't unitary:

$$U_3 U_3^\dagger \neq \mathbb{1}$$

Addition of new flavor states $\nu_a, \nu_b, \nu_c, \dots$ and new mass states ν_4, ν_5, ν_6

$$U \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} U_{e1} & U_{e2} & U_{e3} & U_{e4} & \cdots \\ U_{\mu 1} & U_{\mu 2} & U_{\mu 3} & U_{\mu 4} & \cdots \\ U_{\tau 1} & U_{\tau 2} & U_{\tau 3} & U_{\tau 4} & \cdots \\ U_{a1} & U_{a2} & U_{a3} & U_{a4} & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{pmatrix}$$

Unitarity Violation $\Rightarrow$

New mass states not directly accessible by oscillations or decay

Thus check if U_3 is what it should be

Unitarity constraints

Unitary violation: the study of how $U_{3 \times 3}$ is not unitary independent of $m_4, m_5, \dots$
Constraints vary considerably in the literature:

$$1 - |U_{e1}|^2 - |U_{e2}|^2 - |U_{e3}|^2 < \begin{cases} 0.05 \\ 0.001 \end{cases} \quad \text{at } 2\sigma$$

S. Parke, M. Ross-Lonergan [1508.05095](#)

Z. Hu, et al. [2008.09730](#)

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All analyses *assume* unitarity
Throw out LSND, MiniBooNE, RAA, gallium, etc.

S. Parke, M. Ross-Lonergan [1508.05095](#)

Z. Hu, et al. [2008.09730](#)

Unitarity violation

- ▶ Could conceivably differentiate: 2 new states from 1, but not 3+ from 2
- ▶ Zero distance effect $\Rightarrow$ near detector **with flux prediction**

E.g. RAA, Gallium

- ▶ Numerous parameterizations: α matrix, η matrix, submatrix & Cauchy-Schwartz

All apply to the inaccessible cases only

- ▶ There is an approximate correspondence to sterile and NSI

$$\alpha_{ee} \approx \frac{1}{2}(s_{14}^2 + s_{15}^2 + s_{16}^2) \approx -\epsilon_{ee}, \quad \dots$$

M. Blennow, et al. [1609.08637](#)

Applies one experiment at a time

- ▶ Additional EW precision information: W, Z, π , μ , τ decays

Care is required

S. Antusch, et al. [hep-ph/0607020](#)

S. Antusch, O. Fischer [1407.6607](#)

Unitarity violation: mass ranges for tau neutrinos

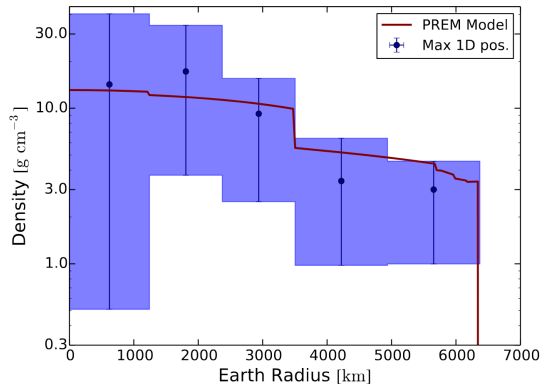
experiment	(4,4) (m_4)	(5,3) (m_4)
atmospheric ν_μ disappearance	$\in [10 \text{ eV}, 15 \text{ MeV}]$	$\gtrsim 40 \text{ MeV}$
atmospheric ν_τ appearance	$\in [10 \text{ eV}, 15 \text{ MeV}]$	$\gtrsim 40 \text{ MeV}$
astrophysical ν_τ appearance	$\lesssim 15 \text{ MeV}$	$\gtrsim 40 \text{ MeV}$
solar ^8B	$\lesssim 5 \text{ MeV}$	$\gtrsim 20 \text{ MeV}$
DONuT/FASERnu	$\in [100 \text{ eV}, 90 \text{ MeV}]$	$\gtrsim 200 \text{ MeV}$
LBL ν_τ appearance (OPERA)	$\in [1 \text{ eV}, 15 \text{ MeV}]$	$\gtrsim 40 \text{ MeV}$
LBL ν_τ appearance (DUNE)	$\in [0.1 \text{ eV}, 15 \text{ MeV}]$	$\gtrsim 40 \text{ MeV}$
LBL ν_μ disappearance (DUNE)	$\in [0.1 \text{ eV}, 15 \text{ MeV}]$	$\gtrsim 40 \text{ MeV}$
CEvNS	$\in [10 \text{ eV}, 15 \text{ MeV}]$	$\gtrsim 40 \text{ MeV}$

PBD, J. Gehrlein [2109.14575](#)

Terrestrial tomography

HE neutrinos are absorbed in the Earth

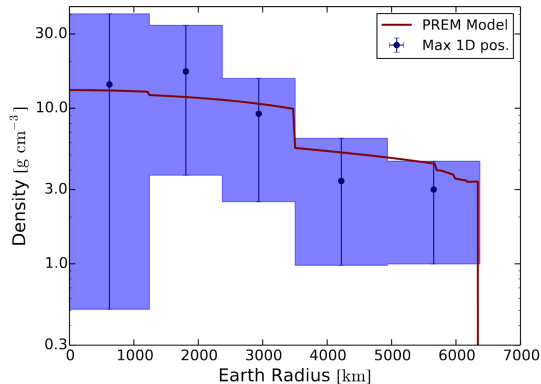
Assumes isotropic flux



A. Donini, S. Palomares-Ruiz, J. Salvado [1803.05901](#)

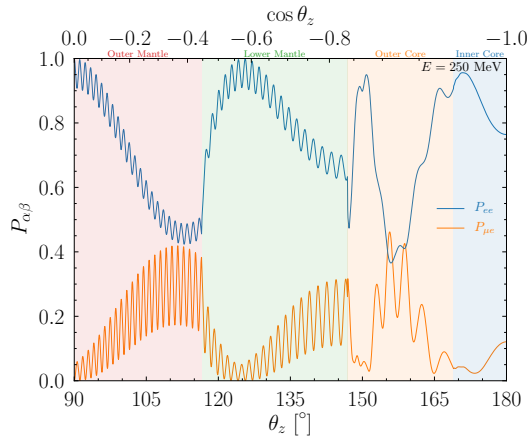
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Can also do this with oscillations

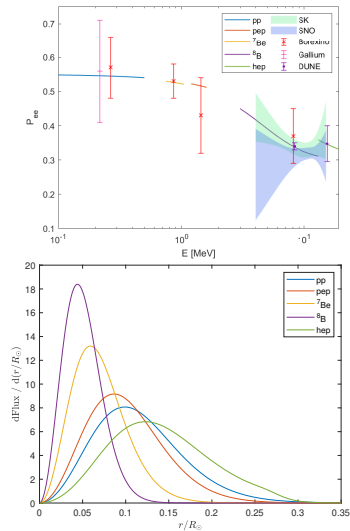


DUNE-atm can measure $r_{\text{core}}^{\oplus}$ to 9%

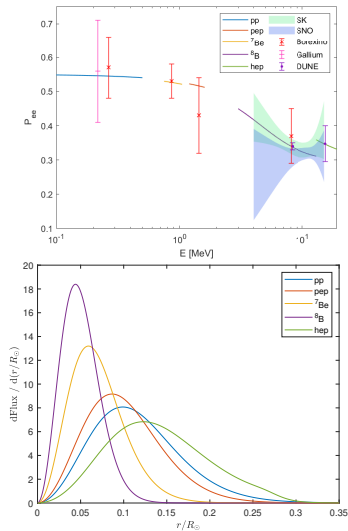
See also K. Kelly, et al. [2110.00003](#)

Solar tomography

Solar neutrinos constrain Sun's density at different radii

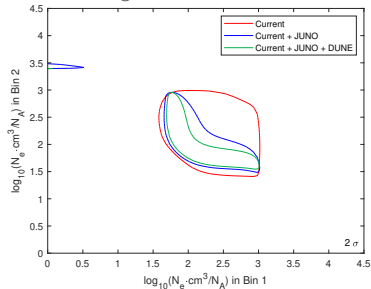


Solar tomography



Solar neutrinos constrain Sun's density at different radii

Bin 1: $\frac{r}{R_\odot} \in [0, 0.05]$
 Bin 2: $\frac{r}{R_\odot} \in [0.05, 0.1]$



$$\log_{10} N_e = Ar + B$$

