

Abstract

In neutrino oscillation physics numerous exact degeneracies exist under the name LMA-Dark. These degeneracies make it impossible to determine the sign of Δm_{31}^2 known as the atmospheric mass ordering with oscillation experiments alone in the presence of new neutrino interactions. The combination of different measurements including multiple oscillation channels and neutrino scattering experiments lifts some aspects of these degeneracies. In fact, previous measurements of coherent elastic neutrino nucleus scattering (CEvNS) by COHERENT already ruled out the LMA-Dark solution for new physics with mediators heavier than $M_{Z'} \sim 50$ MeV while cosmological considerations disfavor these scenarios for mediators lighter than $M_{Z'} \sim 3$ MeV. Here I leverage new reactor data which provides the strongest bounds on CEvNS with light mediators to date. We show that this data completely removes the degeneracies in the ν_e sector for mediators down to the MeV scale at which point constraints from the early universe take over. While the LMA-Dark degeneracy is lifted in the ν_e sector, it can still be restored in the ν_μ and ν_τ sector or with very specific couplings to up and down quarks, and I speculate on a path forward.

Towards Solidifying the Discrete Mass Ordering Measurement in the Presence of New Physics

Peter B. Denton

Magnificent CEvNS

June 10, 2025

P. Coloma, PBD, M. Gonzalez-Garcia, M. Maltoni, T. Schwetz [1701.04828](#)

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

PBD, J. Gehrlein [2008.06062](#)

PBD, J. Gehrlein [2204.09060](#)

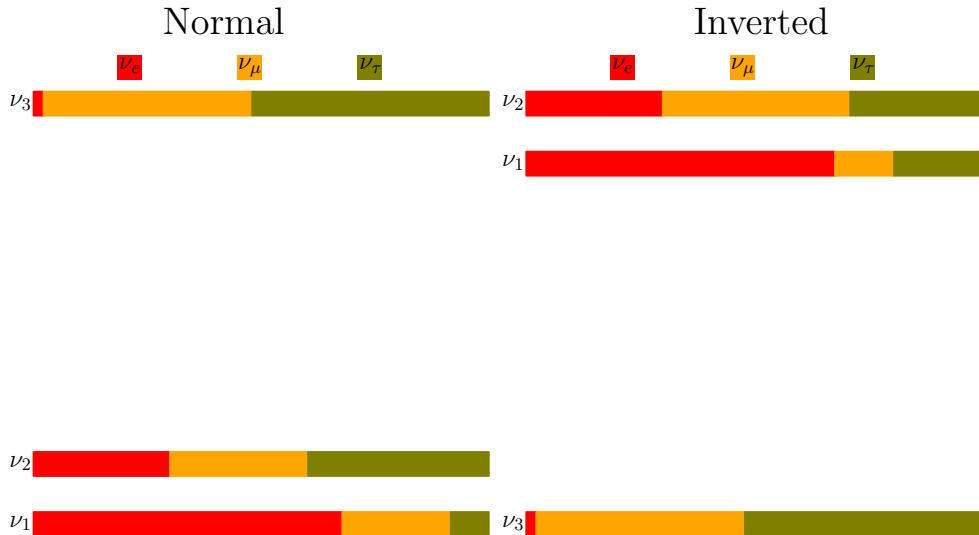


One Motivation For CE ν NS

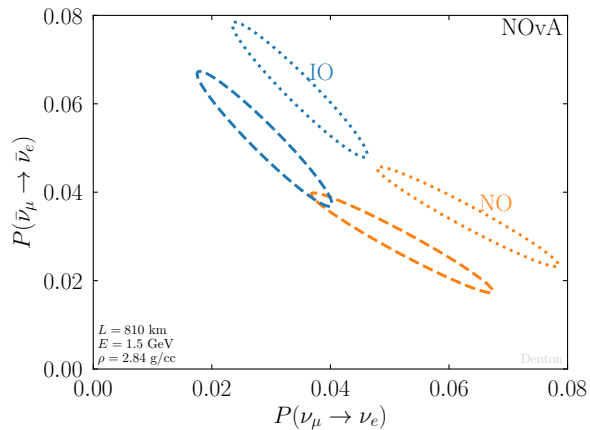
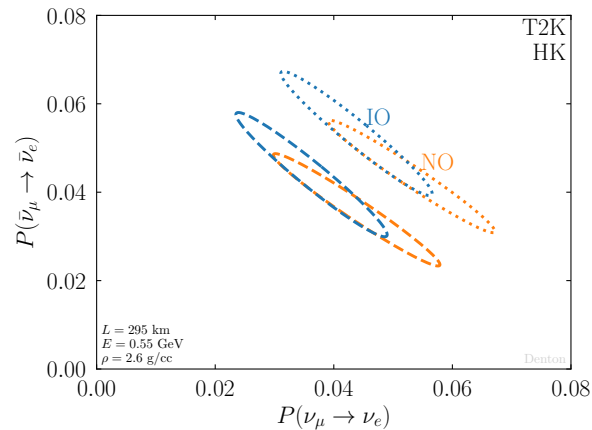
Why measure CE ν NS?

1. It's there
2. Measure SM parameters
3. Look for new physics
4. **Rule out degeneracies in oscillations**

Mass ordering: what is it?



Mass ordering: what is it really?

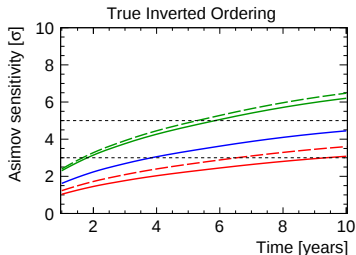
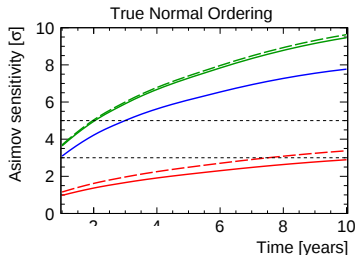


Mass ordering current status: oscillations

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. + Daya Bay & RENO $\Rightarrow$ slight preference **NO**
5. = 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: future sensitivities

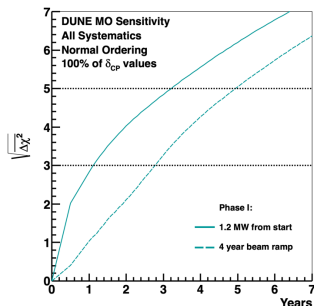


Joint
KM3NeT
JUNO

JUNO, KM3NeT [2108.06293](#)

JUNO, IceCube [1911.06745](#)

Note: if lower octant, KM3NeT is less sensitive



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

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

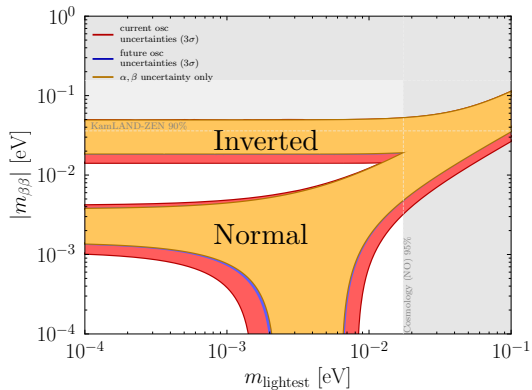
$$\Delta m_{\mu\mu}^2 = s_{12}^2 \Delta m_{31}^2 + c_{12}^2 \Delta m_{32}^2 + \mathcal{O}(s_{13} \Delta m_{21}^2)$$

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

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

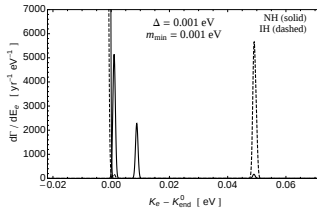
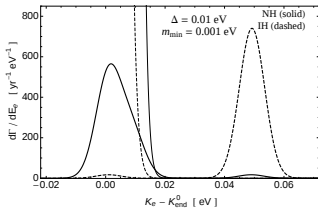
Mass ordering: broad implications

- 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)

New physics:
Vector Non-standard neutrino interactions
(vNSI)

vNSI at the Lagrangian Level

EFT Lagrangian:

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

$$\text{with } \Lambda = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\sqrt{2}\epsilon G_F}}.$$

Simplified model Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{vNSI}} = g_\nu Z'_\mu \bar{\nu} \gamma^\mu \nu + g_f Z'_\mu \bar{f} \gamma^\mu f$$

which gives a potential

$$V_{\text{vNSI}} \propto \frac{g_\nu g_f}{q^2 + m_{Z'}^2}$$

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](#)

Degeneracies

Vacuum Oscillation Degeneracies ☹️

Vacuum oscillations described by:

$$H = \frac{1}{2E} U \begin{pmatrix} 0 & & \\ & \Delta m_{21}^2 & \\ & & \Delta m_{31}^2 \end{pmatrix} U^\dagger$$

1. Diagonal degeneracy $\Rightarrow$ no sensitivity to m_1 .
2. By CPT can send $H \rightarrow -H^*$

$$\Delta m_{21}^2 \rightarrow -\Delta m_{21}^2 \quad , \quad \Delta m_{31}^2 \rightarrow -\Delta m_{31}^2 \quad , \quad \delta \rightarrow -\delta$$

Vacuum oscillations $\Rightarrow$ impossible to determine either mass ordering

A. de Gouvea, A. Friedland, H. Murayama [hep-ph/0002064](#)

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

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

[PBD](#), S. Parke [2106.12436](#)

Solar Neutrinos ☺

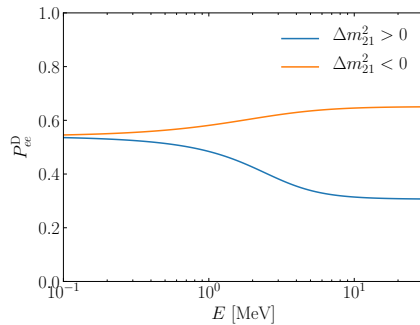
In matter

$$H = \frac{1}{2E} \left[U \begin{pmatrix} 0 & & \\ & \Delta m_{21}^2 & \\ & & \Delta m_{31}^2 \end{pmatrix} U^\dagger + a \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & \\ & 0 & \\ & & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

$$a \equiv 2\sqrt{2}G_F N_e E$$

Subtracted NC matter effect: diagonal degeneracy

Given KamLAND:



Solar Neutrinos ☺

In matter

$$H = \frac{1}{2E} \left[U \begin{pmatrix} 0 & & \\ & \Delta m_{21}^2 & \\ & & \Delta m_{31}^2 \end{pmatrix} U^\dagger + a \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & \\ & 0 & \\ & & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

$$a \equiv 2\sqrt{2}G_F N_e E$$

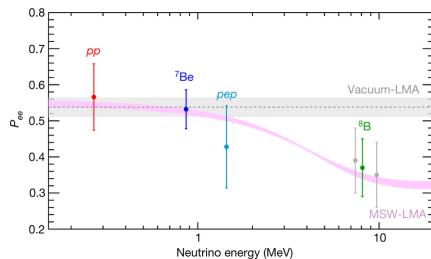
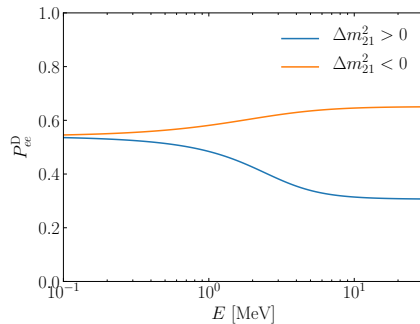
Subtracted NC matter effect: diagonal degeneracy

We know $\Delta m_{21}^2 > 0$ so degeneracy is broken by matter

Measuring the atmospheric mass ordering in DUNE also breaks the degeneracy

Unless ...

Given KamLAND:



In matter

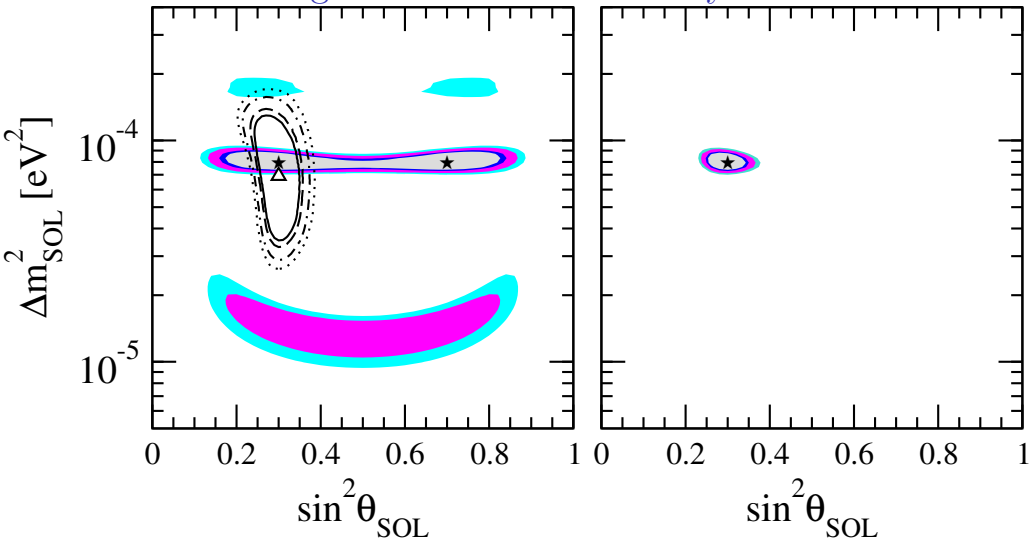
$$H = \frac{1}{2E} \left[U \begin{pmatrix} 0 & & \\ & \Delta m_{21}^2 & \\ & & \Delta m_{31}^2 \end{pmatrix} U^\dagger + a \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & \\ & 0 & \\ & & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

equivalent to:

$$-H_{\text{vNSI}}^* = \frac{1}{2E} \left[U^* \begin{pmatrix} 0 & & \\ & -\Delta m_{21}^2 & \\ & & -\Delta m_{31}^2 \end{pmatrix} U^T + a \begin{pmatrix} 1-\mathbf{2} & & \\ & 0 & \\ & & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

This factor $\epsilon_{ee} = -2$ restores the degeneracy even in matter for all oscillation measurements

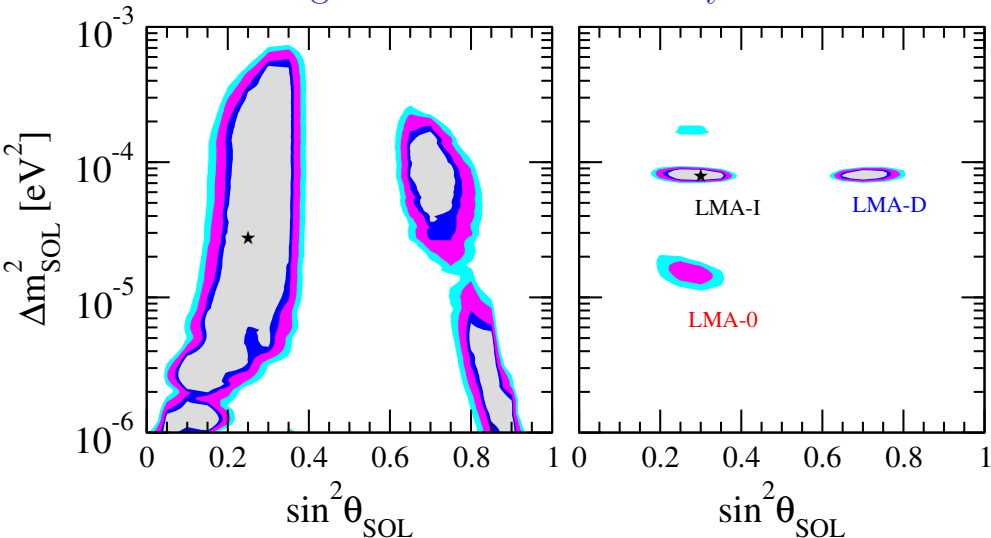
Best Fit Assuming Standard Neutrino Physics



90%, 95%, 99% and 99.73% CL

O. Miranda, M. Tórtola, J. Valle [hep-ph/0406280](#)
KamLAND (color), solar (black)

Best Fit Assuming Standard Neutrino Physics



90%, 95%, 99% and 99.73% CL

O. Miranda, M. Tórtola, J. Valle [hep-ph/0406280](#)
Solar (left), solar + KamLAND (right), $\Delta\chi^2 = 80.2 - 79.7$.

Quark Contribution in NSI ☺

Need $\epsilon_{ee} = -2$,

$$\epsilon_{ee} = (2 + Y_n)\epsilon_{ee}^{u,V} + (1 + 2Y_n)\epsilon_{ee}^{d,V} = -2$$

$Y_n = N_n/N_e$ and is $\sim 1/3$ in the Sun and 1.05 in the Earth's crust

Quark Contribution in NSI ☺

Need $\epsilon_{ee} = -2$,

$$\epsilon_{ee} = (2 + Y_n)\epsilon_{ee}^{u,V} + (1 + 2Y_n)\epsilon_{ee}^{d,V} = -2$$

$Y_n = N_n/N_e$ and is $\sim 1/3$ in the Sun and 1.05 in the Earth's crust

If $\epsilon^u = \epsilon^d$, in the sun $\epsilon_{ee}^{u,V} = -1/2$.

For the same parameters in the Earth, $\epsilon_{ee} = -3.1$ which is quite different from -2

Quark Contribution in NSI ☺

Need $\epsilon_{ee} = -2$,

$$\epsilon_{ee} = (2 + Y_n)\epsilon_{ee}^{u,V} + (1 + 2Y_n)\epsilon_{ee}^{d,V} = -2$$

$Y_n = N_n/N_e$ and is $\sim 1/3$ in the Sun and 1.05 in the Earth's crust

If $\epsilon^u = \epsilon^d$, in the sun $\epsilon_{ee}^{u,V} = -1/2$.

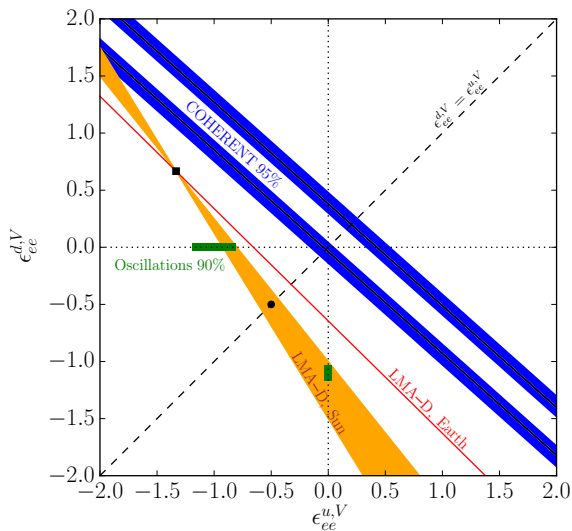
For the same parameters in the Earth, $\epsilon_{ee} = -3.1$ which is quite different from -2

Matter effect $\Rightarrow \epsilon_{ee}$ has only been measured in the Sun,

DUNE-LBL will make a $\sim 30\%$ measurement in the crust

K. Kelly, S. Parke [1802.06784](#)

Quark Combinations ☹️



- ▶ Clear that matter effect measurement comes from solar
- ▶ Precision measurements can break this if
 - ▶ $\epsilon^u = 0$
 - ▶ $\epsilon^u = \epsilon^d$
 - ▶ $\epsilon^d = 0$
- ▶ No oscillation measurements in any materials and for any level of precision can break this if:

$$\epsilon_{ee}^{u,V} = -4/3, \quad \epsilon_{ee}^{d,V} = 2/3$$

Oscillations can go no further

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

NSI in Scattering Experiments Probe Different Scales

NSI affects:

- **Oscillation:** $q^2 = 0$, the effect is valid for any* $M_{Z'}$

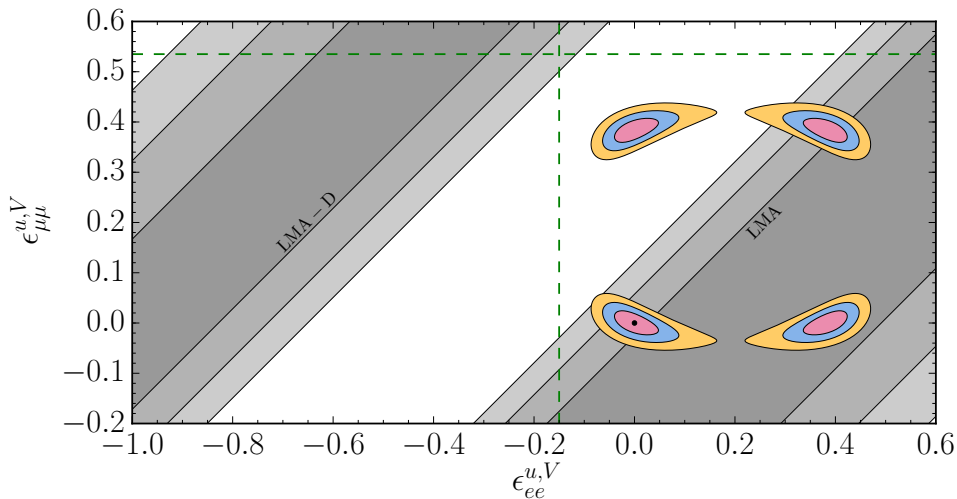
*See e.g. M. Wise, Y. Zhang [1803.00591](#)

- **Scattering:** the NSI potential is suppressed if $q^2 > M_{Z'}^2$

Regime	$M_{Z'}$	Status
Tevatron/LHC	$\gtrsim 10 - 100 \text{ GeV}$	Exists
CHARM/NuTeV (DIS)	$\gtrsim 1 \text{ GeV}$	Exists
COHERENT (CEvNS)	$\gtrsim 50 \text{ MeV}$	Exists
Early universe	$\lesssim 5 \text{ MeV}$	Exists
Reactor CEvNS	$\gtrsim 1 \text{ MeV}$	New!
Oscillation	Any	Exists

For $M_{Z'} \gtrsim 1 \text{ TeV}$, $\epsilon \sim \mathcal{O}(1)$ is no longer perturbative

COHERENT Sensitivity to Exclude LMA-Dark

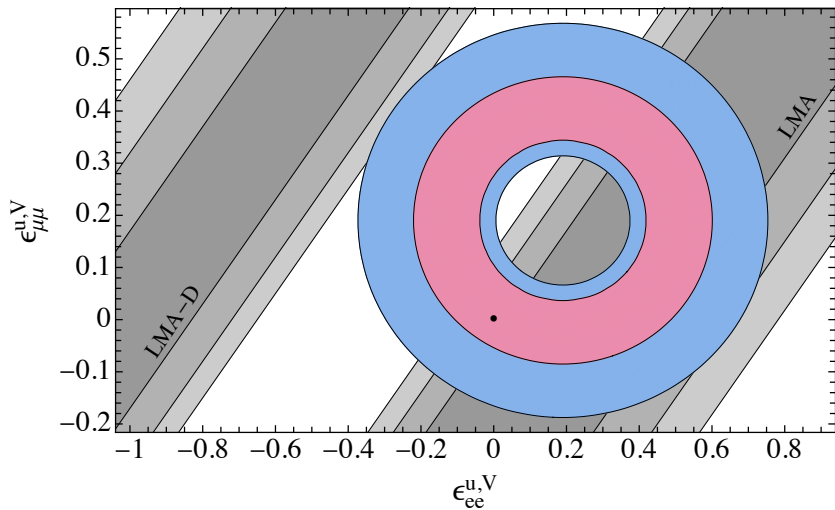


Predicted sensitivity measuring SM with 10 kg·yrs of ^{76}Ge .

PBD, et al. [1701.04828](#)

Magnificent CEvNS: June 10, 2025 19/24

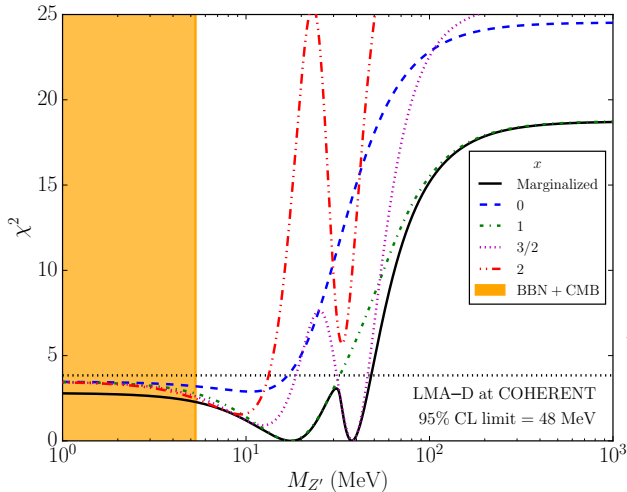
COHERENT Excludes LMA-Dark ☺



Counts only, no timing

P. Coloma, et al. [1708.02899](#)

General LMA-Dark Constraints from COHERENT ☹️



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

1. Assume $\epsilon^u = \epsilon^d$
2. LMA-Dark ruled out for $M_{Z'} > 17 \text{ MeV}$
3. Oscillations sensitive to diagonal degeneracy:
General Oscillation Degeneracy:

$$(\epsilon_{ee}, \epsilon_{\mu\mu}, \epsilon_{\tau\tau}) = (x - 2, x, x)$$

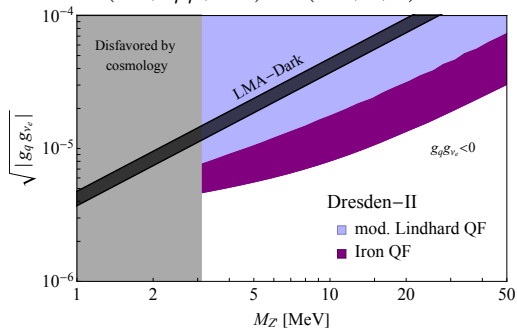
4. LMA-Dark and diagonal degeneracy ruled out for $M_{Z'} > 48 \text{ MeV}$

Reactor can cover
mass range for $x = 0, \dots$

Reactor CEvNS data ☺

$$\epsilon_{ee}^{u,V} = \epsilon_{ee}^{d,V}$$

$$(\epsilon_{ee}, \epsilon_{\mu\mu}, \epsilon_{\tau\tau}) = (-2, 0, 0)$$



Covers region for either quenching factor!

High significance CEvNS detection not necessary

Similar result with CONUS data

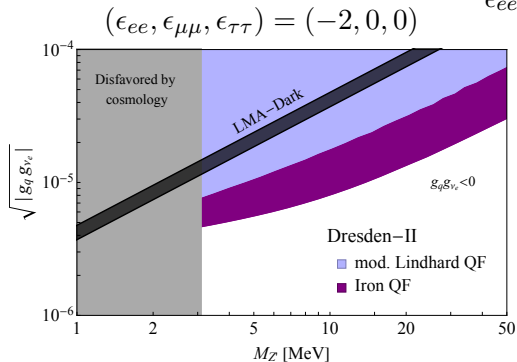
PBD, J. Gehrlein 2204.09060

Peter B. Denton (BNL)

Magnificent CEvNS: June 10, 2025 22/24

Reactor CEvNS data ☺

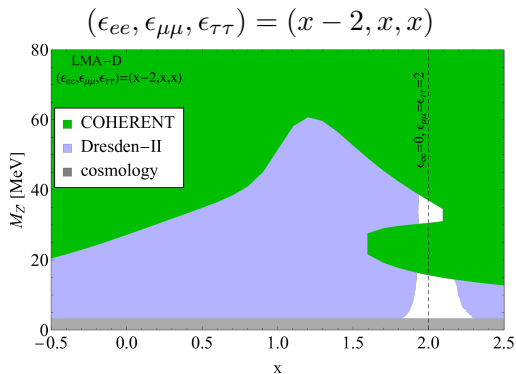
$$\epsilon_{ee}^{u,V} = \epsilon_{ee}^{d,V}$$



Covers region for either quenching factor!

High significance CEvNS detection not necessary

Similar result with CONUS data



Need a low-threshold π -DAR:
Coherent Captain Mills

PBD, J. Gehrlein [2204.09060](#)

CCM [2105.14020](#)

Future: relax quark couplings

Future matter effect measurements at DUNE

- LBL: measure matter effect in Earth

K. Kelly, S. Parke [1802.06784](#)

- Solar: measure matter effect in Sun and Earth

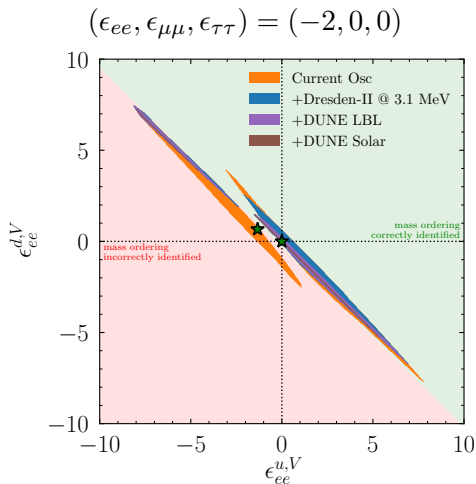
F. Capozzi, et al. [1808.08232](#)

- Atmospheric: measure matter effect in Earth

PBD, R. Pestes [2110.01148](#)

A sliver remains for certain quark combinations
even for $\epsilon_{ee} = -2$ ($x = 0$)

Need better solar and long-baseline oscillations



PBD, J. Gehrlein [2204.09060](#)

Summary

- ▶ Exact degeneracies will be present in every oscillation experiment
- ▶ Measuring the sign of Δm_{ij}^2 *requires* the matter effect
 - JUNO relies on solar measurements to determine the mass ordering
- ▶ The sign of Δm_{31}^2 shows up in many neutrino searches
- ▶ New physics makes probing the mass ordering impossible with oscillations
- ▶ Oscillation experiments in different materials (Earth, Sun) helps, somewhat
- ▶ Scattering experiments help a lot, but only for heavy enough mediators
- ▶ Early universe constrains light mediators
- ▶ MeV mediator gap ~~will be~~ has been covered by reactor CEvNS experiments
- ▶ Two regions remain:
 - ▶ Mostly in $\epsilon_{\mu\mu}, \epsilon_{\tau\tau}$ sector
 - ▶ Mostly couples to protons not neutrons
- ▶ Need low threshold detector in π -DAR source and DUNE!
- ▶ It is possible to eliminate this degeneracy in coming years

Backups

Oscillating Oscillation Degeneracies

There is a degeneracy that can be repeatedly broken and restored:

1. Can't determine mass orderings 
2. Matter effect breaks this 
3. NSIs restore the degeneracy 
4. Quark contribution breaks this 
5. Specific NSIs restores the degeneracy 
6. Scattering experiments breaks this 
7. The degeneracy is restored for light mediators 
8. LMA-Dark, light mediator, diagonal degeneracy restore the degeneracy 
9. BBN and CMB cover light mediators 

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](#)

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](#)

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](#)

Neutrino Mass Eigenstate Definition: Aside

The mass eigenstates can be numbered in a number of different ways

1. $|U_{e1}| > |U_{e2}| > |U_{e3}|$
2. $m_1 < m_2 < m_3$
3. $m_1 < m_2$ and $|U_{e3}| < |U_{e1}|$ and $|U_{e3}| < |U_{e2}|$
4. $\vdots$

Neutrino Mass Eigenstate Definition: Aside

The mass eigenstates can be numbered in a number of different ways

1. $|U_{e1}| > |U_{e2}| > |U_{e3}|$
2. $m_1 < m_2 < m_3$
3. $m_1 < m_2$ and $|U_{e3}| < |U_{e1}|$ and $|U_{e3}| < |U_{e2}|$
4. $\vdots$

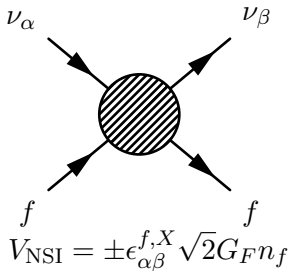
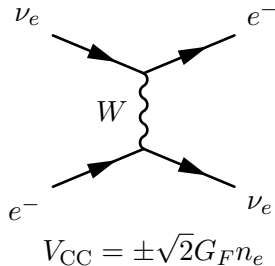
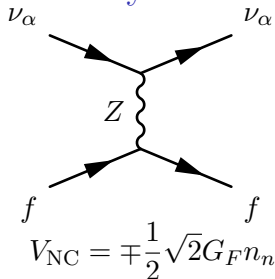
- ▶ #3 was commonly used in solar neutrinos
- ▶ We know that in the solar sector all three are equivalent
- ▶ We take #1 as our definition

Under definition #3 the LMA-Dark degeneracy is

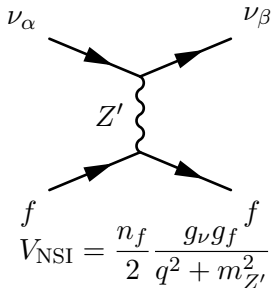
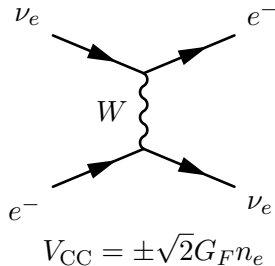
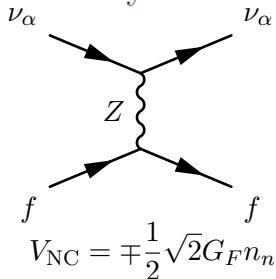
$$\sin \theta_{12} \leftrightarrow \cos \theta_{12} \quad , \quad \Delta m_{31}^2 \rightarrow -\Delta m_{32}^2 \quad , \quad \delta \rightarrow \pi - \delta$$

Less symmetric $\Rightarrow$ more errors

Matter Effects in Feynman Diagrams



Matter Effects in Feynman Diagrams



NSI at the Hamiltonian Level

$$H^{\text{vac}} = \frac{1}{2E} U \begin{pmatrix} 0 & & \\ & \Delta m_{21}^2 & \\ & & \Delta m_{31}^2 \end{pmatrix} U^\dagger$$

$$H^{\text{mat,SM}} = \frac{a}{2E} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & \\ & 0 & \\ & & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$H^{\text{mat,NSI}} = \frac{a}{2E} \begin{pmatrix} \epsilon_{ee} & \epsilon_{e\mu} & \epsilon_{e\tau} \\ \epsilon_{e\mu}^* & \epsilon_{\mu\mu} & \epsilon_{\mu\tau} \\ \epsilon_{e\tau}^* & \epsilon_{\mu\tau}^* & \epsilon_{\tau\tau} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\epsilon_{\alpha\beta} = \sum_{f \in \{e,u,d\}} \epsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{f,V} \frac{N_f}{N_e}$$

$$H = H^{\text{vac}} + H^{\text{mat,SM}} + H^{\text{mat,NSI}}$$

NSI: The Epsilons

The $\epsilon_{\alpha\beta}$ have 9 dof's, it's actually must worse

NSI: The Epsilons

The $\epsilon_{\alpha\beta}$ have 9 dof's, it's actually must worse

$$\epsilon_{\alpha\beta} = \sum_{f=e,u,d} Y_f \epsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{f,V}$$

with

$$Y_f = \frac{n_f}{n_e}$$

dof's = $9 \times 3 \times 2 = 54$

If SPVAT then 135

In SNe/early universe $\nu\nu$ NSSI as well

NSI: The Epsilons

The $\epsilon_{\alpha\beta}$ have 9 dof's, it's actually must worse

$$\epsilon_{\alpha\beta} = \sum_{f=e,u,d} Y_f \epsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{f,V}$$

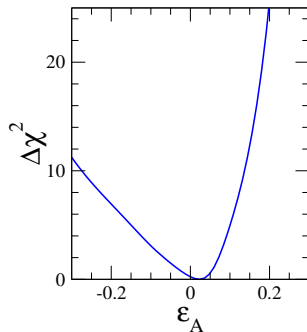
with

$$Y_f = \frac{n_f}{n_e}$$

dof's = $9 \times 3 \times 2 = 54$

If SPVAT then 135

In SNe/early universe $\nu\nu$ NSSI as well



- ▶ Axial is not constrained by oscillations, only scattering

Axial constraints from SNO-NC by O. Miranda, M. Tórtola, J. Valle [hep-ph/0406280](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/0406280)

- ▶ Limit to just vector, up, down, real: dof=12

High Energy Physics - Phenomenology

Are solar neutrino oscillations robust?

O. G. Miranda, M. A. Tortola, J. W. F. Valle

(Submitted on 24 Jun 2004 (v1), last revised 7 Sep 2006 (this version, v3))

The robustness of the large mixing angle (LMA) oscillation (OSC) interpretation of the solar neutrino data is considered in a more general framework where non-standard neutrino interactions (NSI) are present. Such interactions may be regarded as a generic feature of models of neutrino mass. The 766.3 ton-yr data sample of the KamLAND collaboration are included in the analysis, paying attention to the background from the reaction $^{13}\text{C}(\alpha, n)^{16}\text{O}$. Similarly, the latest solar neutrino fluxes from the SNO collaboration are included. In addition to the solution which holds in the absence of NSI (LMA-I) there is a 'dark-side' solution (LMA-D) with $\sin^2 \theta_{\text{Sol}} = 0.70$, essentially degenerate with the former, and another light-side solution (LMA-0) allowed only at 97% CL. More precise KamLAND reactor measurements will not resolve the ambiguity in the determination of the solar neutrino mixing angle θ_{Sol} , as they are expected to constrain mainly Δm^2 . We comment on the complementary role of atmospheric, laboratory (e.g. CHARM) and future solar neutrino experiments in lifting the degeneracy between the LMA-I and LMA-D solutions. In particular, we show how the LMA-D solution induced by the simplest NSI between neutrinos and down-type-quarks-only is in conflict with the combination of current atmospheric data and data of the CHARM experiment. We also mention that establishing the issue of robustness of the oscillation picture in the most general case will require further experiments, such as those involving low energy solar neutrinos.

Comments: 13 pages, 6 figures; Final version to appear in JHEP

“Dark Side” from: A. de Gouvêa, A. Friedland, H. Murayama [hep-ph/0002064](#)

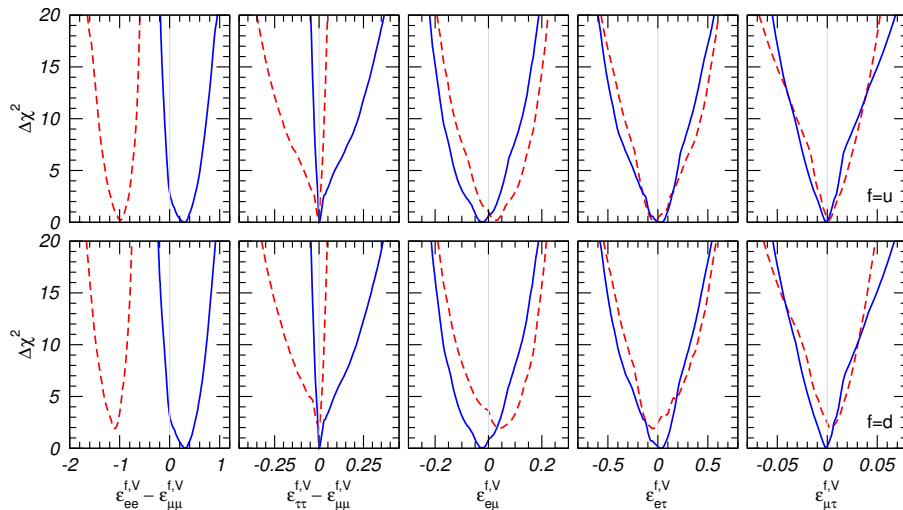
Modern Global Analysis

A modern global fit reveals:

- ▶ LMA-Dark solution is very much accommodated by oscillation data
- ▶ $\epsilon_{ee} = 0$ slightly disfavored
 - ▶ Solar upturn
- ▶ Slight information from quark composition
 - ▶ Due to different neutron fractions in the Sun and Earth

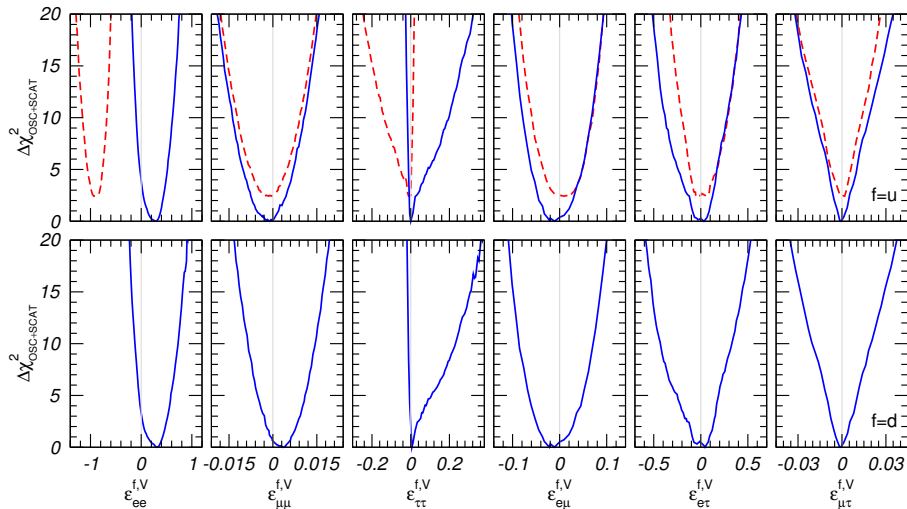
P. Coloma, [PBD](#), M. Gonzalez-Garcia, M. Maltoni, T. Schwetz [1701.04828](#)

NSI Global Fit Oscillation Data



Blue: $\Delta m_{21}^2 > 0$, Red: $\Delta m_{21}^2 < 0$ P. Coloma, [PBD](#), M. Gonzalez-Garcia, M. Maltoni, T. Schwetz [1701.04828](#)

Heavy NSI Constraints



Heavy $\Rightarrow m_{Z'} \gtrsim 1$ GeV. All oscillation experiments, CHARM, and NuTeV.

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](#)

[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...

CHARM and NuTeV for $M_{Z'} \gtrsim 10$ GeV

PBD, et al. [1701.04828](#)

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

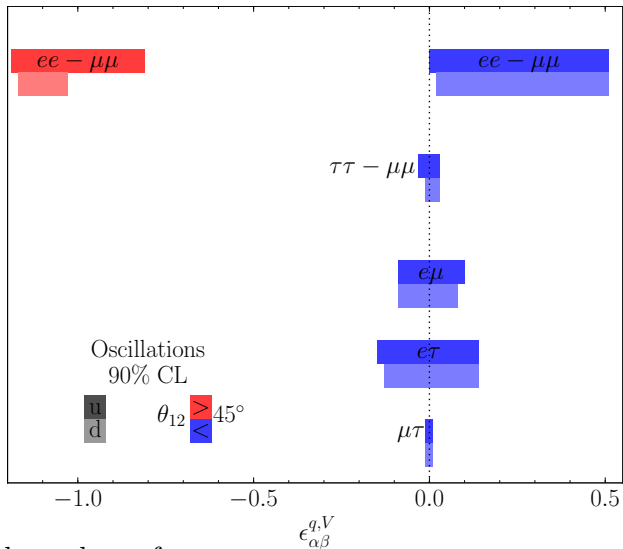
PBD, Y. Farzan, I. Shoemaker [1804.03660](#)

Dresden-II for any mediator mass

PBD, J. Gehrlein [2204.09060](#)

Can still evade with $\epsilon_{\mu\mu} = \epsilon_{\tau\tau} = 2$ or certain u / d combinations

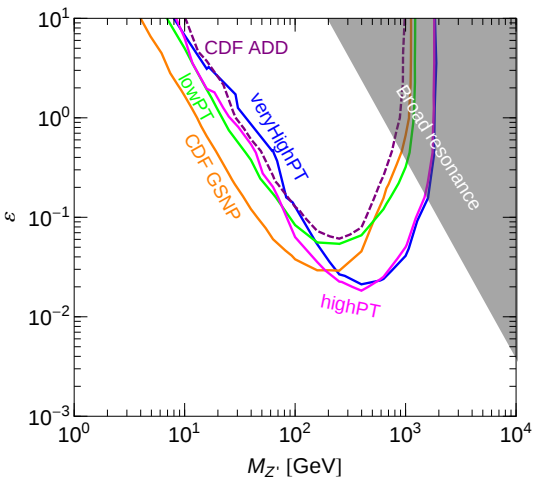
NSI Global Fit: Oscillations



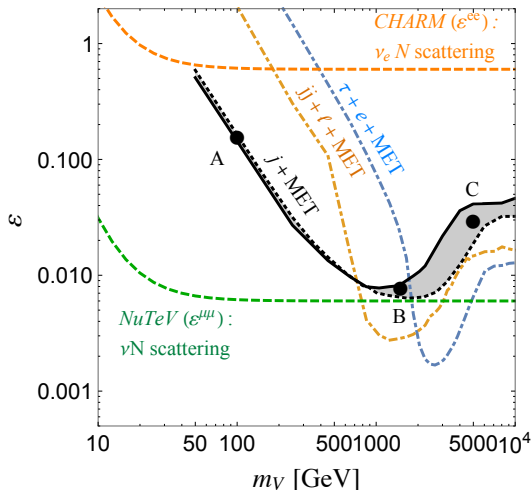
Oscillations are independent of $m_{Z'}$.

PBD, et al. [1701.04828](#)

High Energy Collider Constraints



A. Friedland, et al. [1111.5331](#)



D. Franzosi, M. Frandsen, and I. Shoemaker [1507.07574](#)

CHARM

CHARM measured NC and CC $(\bar{\nu}_e)$ cross sections with nuclei,

$$R_{\text{NC/CC}} = (\tilde{g}_e^L)^2 + (\tilde{g}_e^R)^2 = 0.406 \pm 0.140$$

at $\langle E_\nu \rangle = 54$ GeV on Fe.

CHARM Collaboration, [PLB180 \(1986\)](#)

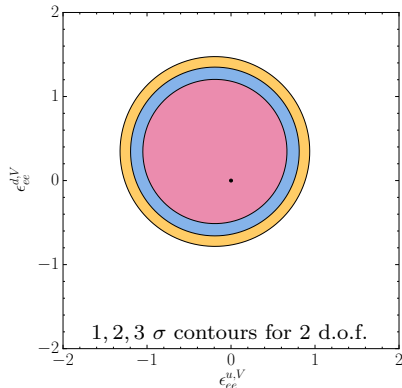
$$(\tilde{g}_e^P)^2 = \sum_{q=u,d} \left[(g_q^P + \epsilon_{ee}^{q,P})^2 + \sum_{\alpha \neq e} |\epsilon_{e\alpha}^{q,P}|^2 \right]$$

2-loop radiative corrections for SM couplings

J. Erler, S. Su [1303.5522](#)

$$R_{e,\text{SM}} = 0.333 \text{ for } q^2 \sim 20 \text{ GeV}^2.$$

[PBD](#), et al. [1701.04828](#)



Magnificent CEvNS: June 10, 2025 40/24

NuTeV measured NC and CC ν_μ and $\bar{\nu}_\mu$ cross sections with nuclei.

$$R_\mu^\nu = \frac{\sigma(\nu_\mu X \rightarrow \nu_\mu X)}{\sigma(\nu_\mu X \rightarrow \mu X)} = (\tilde{g}_\mu^L)^2 + r(\tilde{g}_\mu^R)^2 = 0.3919 \pm 0.0013$$

$$R_\mu^{\bar{\nu}} = \frac{\sigma(\bar{\nu}_\mu X \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_\mu X)}{\sigma(\bar{\nu}_\mu X \rightarrow \bar{\mu} X)} = (\tilde{g}_\mu^L)^2 + \frac{1}{r}(\tilde{g}_\mu^R)^2 = 0.4050 \pm 0.0027$$

at $\langle E_\nu \rangle = 60$ GeV on Fe.

$$r = \frac{\sigma(\bar{\nu}_\mu X \rightarrow \bar{\mu} X)}{\sigma(\nu_\mu X \rightarrow \mu X)}$$

NuTeV Collaboration [hep-ex/0110059](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ex/0110059)

G. P. Zeller PhD thesis

This leads to $\chi_{\text{NuTeV, SM}}^2 \sim 9$ which is the NuTeV anomaly.

NuTeV Corrected

Measurements need to be corrected,

- ▶ Improved nuclear models
- ▶ Iron is not isoscalar
- ▶ Updated PDFs including the strange quark

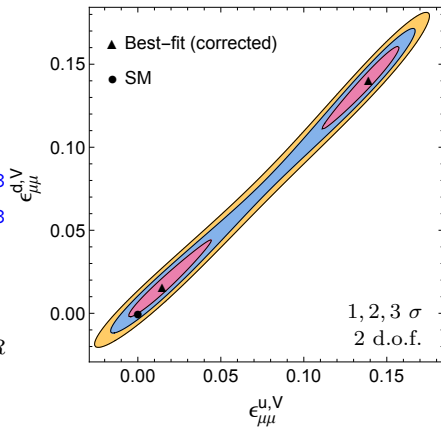
NNPDF Collaboration [0906.1958](#)

W. Bentz, et al. [0908.3198](#)

$$\delta R_{\mu,\text{exp}}^{\nu} = 0.0017, \quad \delta R_{\mu,\text{exp}}^{\bar{\nu}} = -0.0016,$$

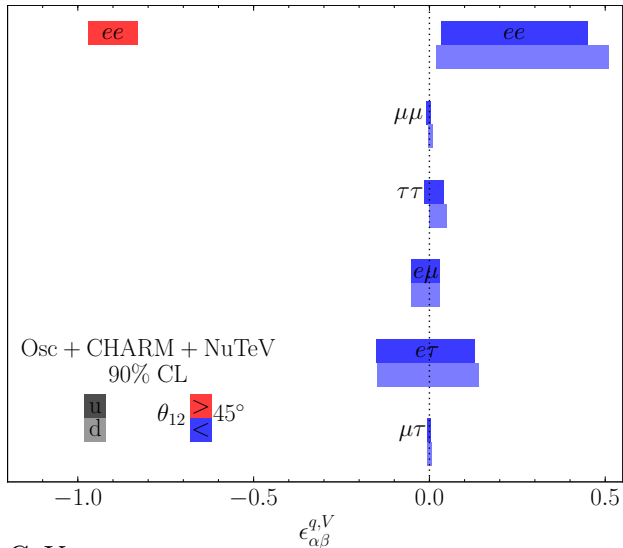
$$R_{\text{exp,true}} = R_{\text{exp,orig}} + \delta R$$

$$\text{Corrected } \chi_{\text{NuTeV,SM}}^2 \sim 2.3.$$



PBD, et al. [1701.04828](#)

Heavy NSI Global Fit: CHARM & NuTeV



Heavy $\Rightarrow m_{Z'} \gtrsim 1$ GeV.

PBD, et al. [1701.04828](#)

Coherent Elastic ν Nucleus Scattering: CEvNS (“Sevens”)

CEvNS := ν scattering off the weak charge of entire nucleus

The CEvNS cross section is very high, but recoil energies are very low:

*Our suggestion may be **an act of hubris**, because the inevitable constraints of interaction rate, resolution, and background pose grave experimental difficulties for elastic neutrino-nucleus scattering.*

D. Freedman, [PRD 9 \(1974\)](#)

COHERENT

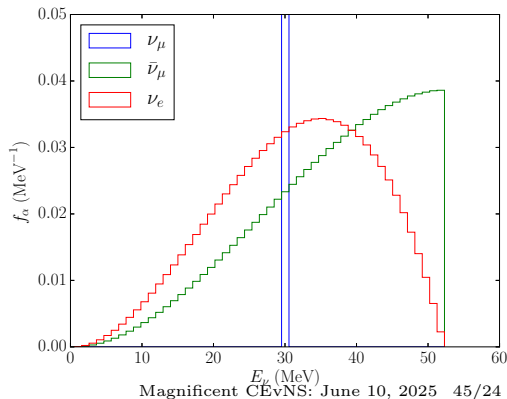
Spallation Neutron Source at Oak Ridge in a π -**DAR** configuration.

K. Scholberg [hep-ex/0511042](#)

$$\begin{aligned}\pi^+ &\rightarrow \mu^+ + \nu_\mu \\ \mu^+ &\rightarrow e^+ + \bar{\nu}_\mu + \nu_e\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}f_{\nu_\mu} &= \delta \left(E_\nu - \frac{m_\pi^2 - m_\mu^2}{2m_\pi} \right), \\ f_{\bar{\nu}_\mu} &= \frac{64}{m_\mu} \left[\left(\frac{E_\nu}{m_\mu} \right)^2 \left(\frac{3}{4} - \frac{E_\nu}{m_\mu} \right) \right], \\ f_{\nu_e} &= \frac{192}{m_\mu} \left[\left(\frac{E_\nu}{m_\mu} \right)^2 \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{E_\nu}{m_\mu} \right) \right].\end{aligned}$$

Detector 22 m from source with $E_{\text{tr}} = 5$ keV.



COHERENT

Observed spectrum:

$$\frac{dN_\alpha}{dE_r} = N_t \Delta t \int dE_\nu \phi_\alpha(E_\nu) \frac{d\sigma_\alpha}{dE_r}(E_\nu) ,$$

Neutrino nucleon cross section:

$$\frac{d\sigma_\alpha}{dE_r} = \frac{G_F^2}{2\pi} \frac{Q_{w\alpha}^2}{4} F^2(2ME_r) M \left(2 - \frac{ME_r}{E_\nu^2} \right) ,$$

Form factors from: C. Horowitz, K. Coakley, D. McKinsey [astro-ph/0302071](#)

Electroweak charge:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{4} Q_{w\alpha}^2 = & \left[Z(g_p^V + 2\epsilon_{\alpha\alpha}^{u,V} + \epsilon_{\alpha\alpha}^{d,V}) + N(g_n^V + \epsilon_{\alpha\alpha}^{u,V} + 2\epsilon_{\alpha\alpha}^{d,V}) \right]^2 \\ & + \sum_{\beta \neq \alpha} \left[Z(2\epsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{u,V} + \epsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{d,V}) + N(\epsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{u,V} + 2\epsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{d,V}) \right]^2 . \end{aligned}$$

$$Z = 32, N = 44.$$

$$g_p^V = \frac{1}{2} - 2 \sin^2 \theta_W, g_n^V = -\frac{1}{2}.$$

SNS Beam Details

Pulsed beam: flavor discrimination

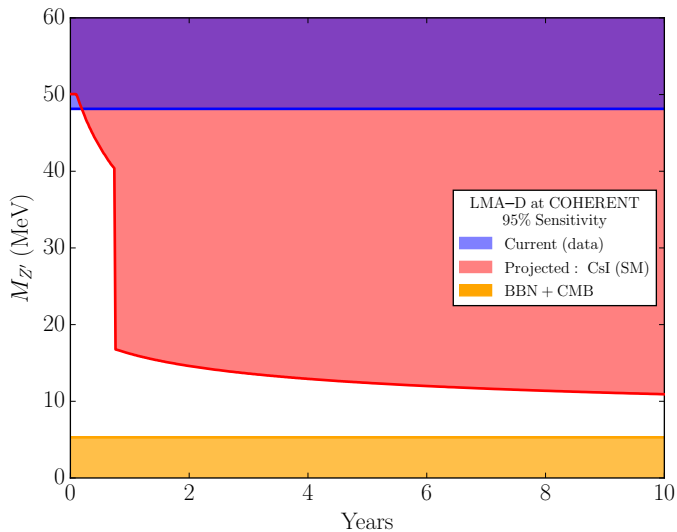
- ▶ The ν_μ from the π^+ decay forms the prompt signal.
- ▶ The ν_e and $\bar{\nu}_\mu$ form the delayed signal.
- ▶ Probability that the muon decays within the pulse width,

$$P_c = \frac{1}{t_w} \int_0^{t_w} dt \left[1 - e^{-(t_w-t)/\Gamma\tau} \right] = 0.138$$

- ▶ We expect ~ 100 prompt and ~ 200 delayed.

Systematics: beam normalization at 10% and 20% background.

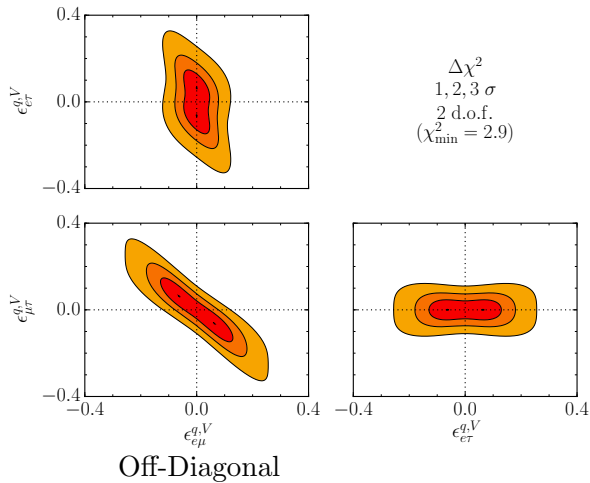
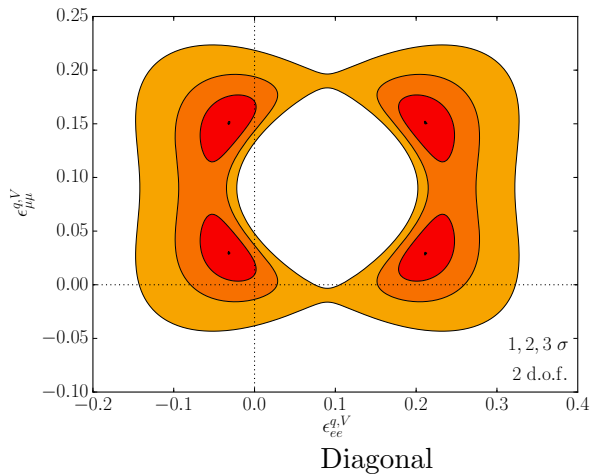
Future LMA-Dark Sensitivity at COHERENT



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

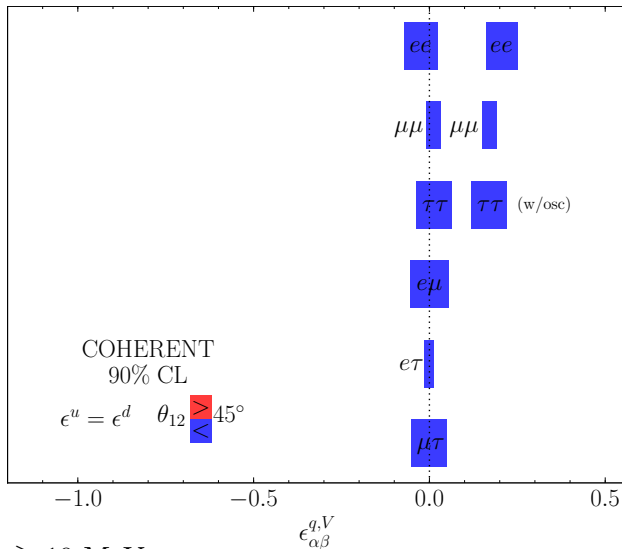
NSI Projections: COHERENT

Limit ourselves to $\epsilon^u = \epsilon^d$



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

NSI Constraints: COHERENT

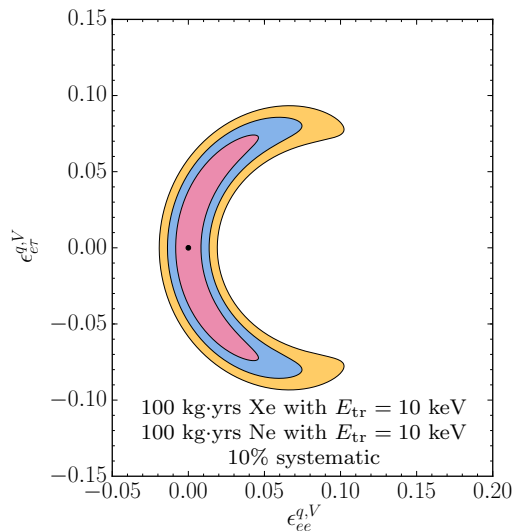


Valid down to $m_{Z'} \gtrsim 10$ MeV

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

Looking to the COHERENT Future

Interference of different materials is powerful.



$$\epsilon_{ee,\text{deg}}^{q,V} = \frac{1}{3} \frac{Y_n - (1 - 4 \sin^2 \theta_W)}{Y_n + 1}$$

$$Y_n \in [1, 1.43]$$

$$\epsilon_{ee,\text{deg}}^{q,V} \in [0.15, 0.18]$$

Solar upturn?

Recap: Oscillations and the Diagonal Terms

Solar

Chlorine, Gallex/GNO, SAGE,
Super-K, Borexino, and SNO.

Atmospheric

Super-K, MINOS, and T2K.

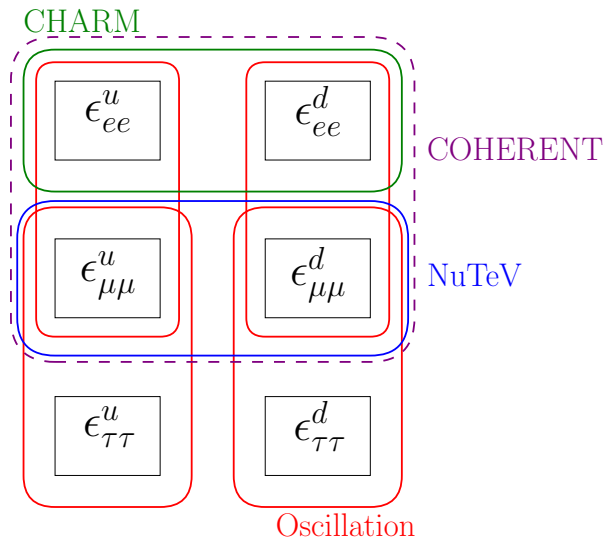
Reactor

CHOOZ, Palo Verde, Double CHOOZ,
Daya Bay, and RENO.

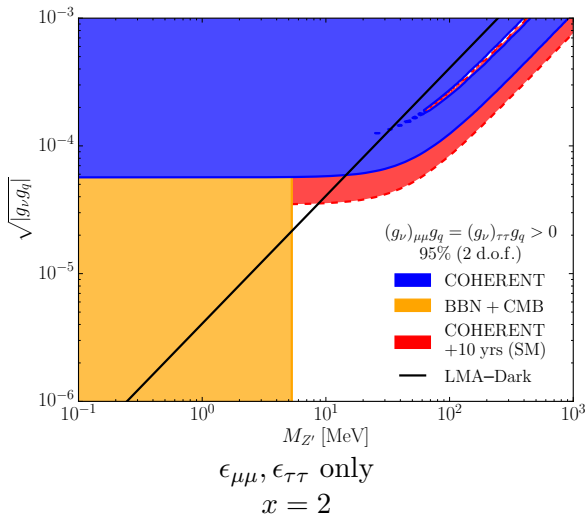
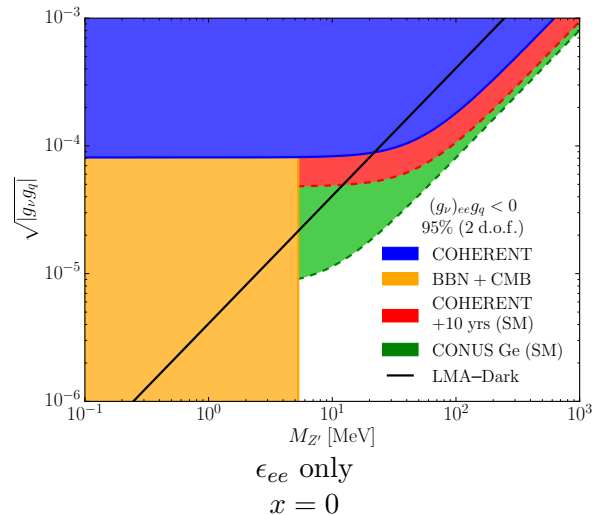
Short baseline

Bugey, ROVNO, Krasnoyarsk, ILL,
Gösgen, and SRP.

Global fit to oscillation data



Present and Future LMA-Dark Bounds



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

Light Mediator Coverage

1. **Early universe:** $m_{Z'} \lesssim 0.1 - 1 \text{ MeV}$

$\Rightarrow Z'$ is relativistic at BBN, $\Delta N_{\text{eff}} = 3 \times 4/7 = 1.7$

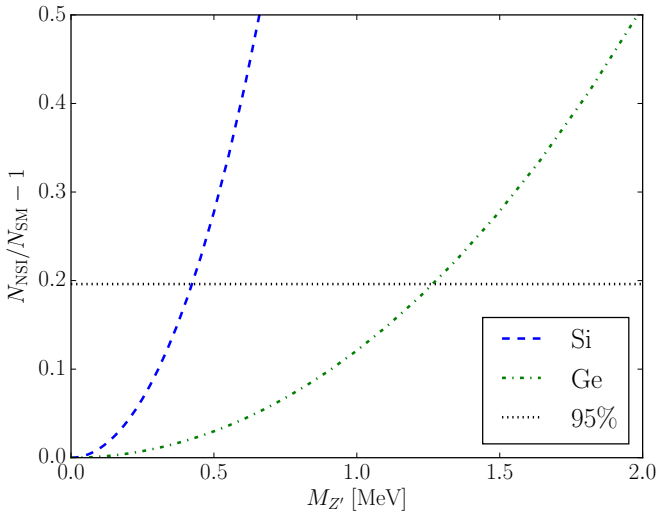
N_{eff} -BBN measurements require $m_{Z'} > \mathbf{5.3 \text{ MeV}}$ and $g_\nu < 10^{-9} \frac{m_{Z'}}{\text{MeV}}$

A. Kamada, H. Yu [1504.00711](#)

Relevant $\sqrt{g_\nu g_q} \sim 10^{-5}$

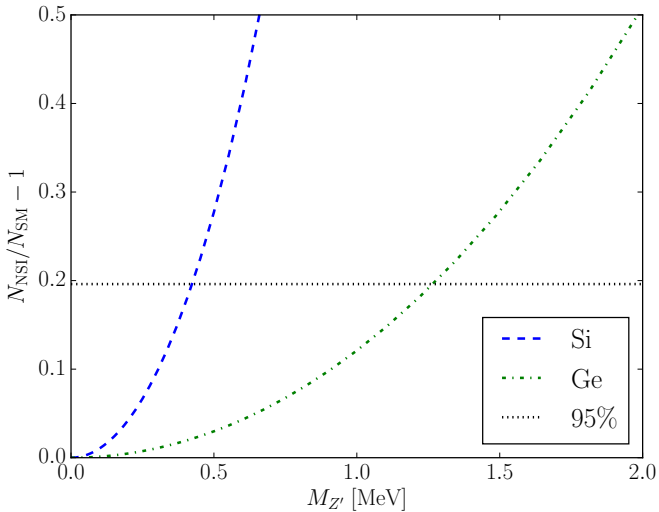
2. **Reactor CEvNS:** Sensitive to $M_{Z'} \gtrsim 1 \text{ MeV}$

Reactor Sensitivity for CONUS



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

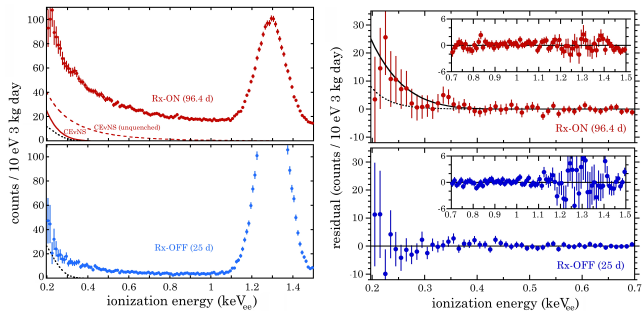
Reactor Sensitivity for CONUS



$\bar{\nu}_e$ only $\Rightarrow$ LMA-Dark at $x = 0$ only

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

Reactor CEvNS data



Dresden-II [2202.09672](#)

D. Sierra, V. De Romeri,
D. Papoulias [2203.02414](#)

Quenching factors?

