NEUTRINO OSCILLATIONS: CURRENT EXPERIMENTAL VIEW

E. D. Zimmerman University of Colorado

PHENO 2012 Pittsburgh, Penna. 8 May 2012

NEUTRINO OSCILLATIONS: CURRENT EXPERIMENTAL VIEW

- Standard oscillation picture
- Current measurements in the 1-2 and 2-3 sectors
- θ_{13} and the future
- Anomalies

Neutrino oscillation probability in standard 3-neutrino picture

The flavor eigenstates are related to the mass eigenstates by matrix U

$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ \nu_{\mu} \\ \nu_{\tau} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} U_{e1} & U_{e2} & U_{e3} \\ U_{\mu 1} & U_{\mu 2} & U_{\mu 3} \\ U_{\tau 1} & U_{\tau 2} & U_{\tau 3} \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \\ \nu_3 \end{pmatrix}$$
 Neutrino Mixing Matrix (aka MNSP Matrix)

Matrix)

Probability for detecting particular flavor depends on the values in U and the Δm^2 between the neutrino mass states. In general:

$$P(\nu_{\alpha} \rightarrow \nu_{\beta}) = \delta_{\alpha\beta} - 4 \sum_{i>j} \Re(U_{\alpha i}^{*}U_{\beta i}U_{\alpha j}U_{\beta j}^{*})sin^{2}[1.27\Delta m_{ij}^{2}(L/E)] \qquad \mathsf{L}=\mathsf{Distance in \ km,} \\ \mathsf{E}=\mathsf{Energy in \ GeV} \\ \mathsf{Matrix \ Elements} \qquad -2 \sum_{i>j} \Im(U_{\alpha i}^{*}U_{\beta i}U_{\alpha j}U_{\beta j}^{*})sin[2.54\Delta m_{ij}^{2}(L/E)] \\ \Delta m^{2}_{ij} = m_{i}^{2} - m_{j}^{2}, \qquad \mathsf{M}=\mathsf{neutrino \ mass \ in \ eV} \\ \mathsf{M}=\mathsf{neutrino \ mass \ in \ eV}$$

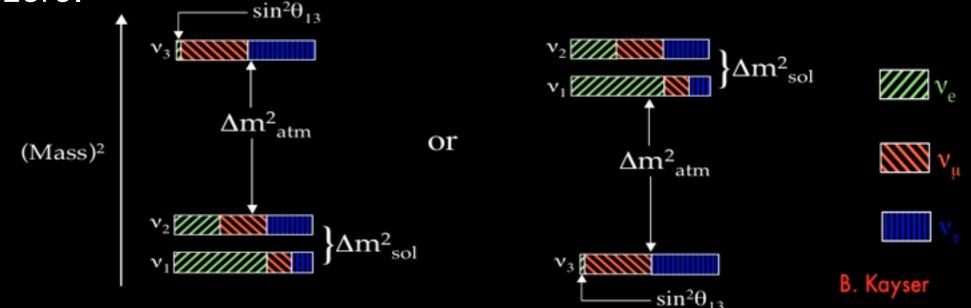
Parametrizing the matrix

• *U* is a basis transformation, and therefore a unitary matrix. Can be fully specified with four real numbers: three angles θ_{12} , θ_{13} , θ_{23} and one phase δ_{CP} :

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c_{23} & s_{23} \\ 0 & -s_{23} & c_{23} \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} c_{13} & 0 & s_{13}e^{-i\delta} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -s_{13}e^{i\delta} & 0 & c_{13} \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} c_{12} & s_{12} & 0 \\ -s_{12} & c_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

where $s_{ij} = sin(\theta_{ij})$ and $c_{ij} = cos(\theta_{ij})$

• As with quark mixing, *CP* violation is only possible if all three angles are nonzero.



Character of the parameters

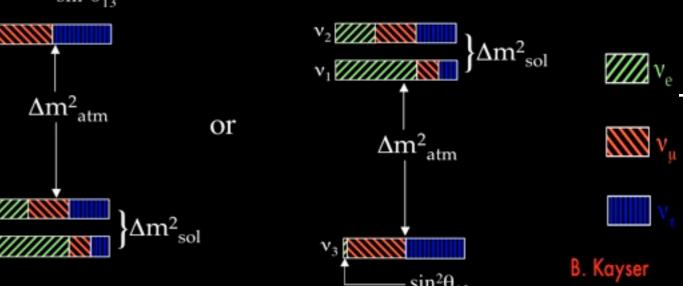
- Matrix is characterized by large mixing angles (unlike the quark sector)
- The hierarchy of masses and the large mixing angles mean that most experiments (up to now) could be analyzed by neglecting all but a single dominant oscillation mode -- reducing the transmutation probability to the simple

$$P(\nu_{\alpha} \rightarrow \nu_{\beta}) = \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2(1.27\Delta m^2 \frac{L}{E})$$

ith mc^2 in eV and L/E in km/GeV.

Our "current" knowledge (PDG averages)

(Mass)²

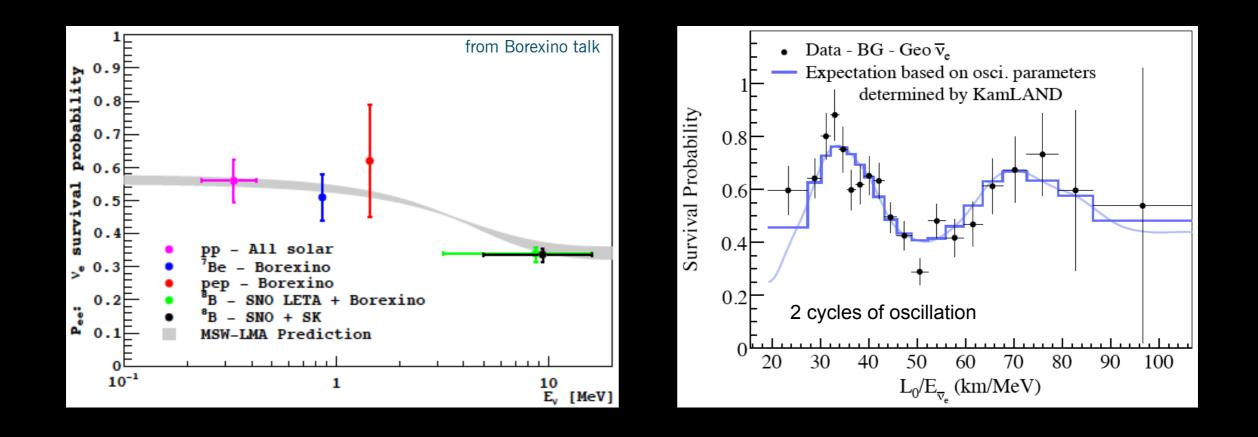


- $\sin^2(2\theta_{12}) = 0.87 \pm 0.03$
 - Solar neutrinos, long-baseline reactor
- $\Delta m^2_{21} = (7.59 \pm 0.20) \times 10^{-5} \,\mathrm{eV}^2$
 - Solar neutrinos, long-baseline reactor
- $\sin^2(2\theta_{23}) > 0.92$, CL=90%
 - Atmospheric neutrinos, long-baseline accelerator
- $|\Delta m^2_{32}| = (2.43 \pm 0.13) \times 10^{-3} \,\mathrm{eV^2}$
 - Atmospheric neutrinos, long-baseline accelerator; sign unknown
- $\sin^2(2\theta_{13}) < 0.15$, CL = 90%
 - Short-baseline reactor, long-baseline accelerator
- δ_{CP}: No significant direct information
 - Long-baseline accelerator, neutrino factories?

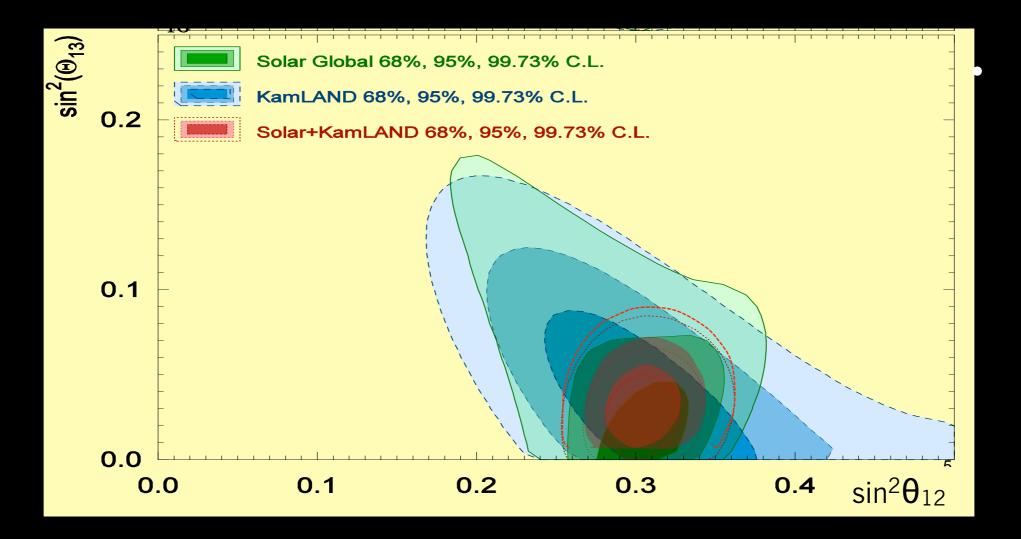
Major new results in past year

The "1-2" sector: data

- Observed in solar v_e disappearance measurements, where matter effects in the sun are crucial for interpretation
- Long-baseline reactor measurement (KamLAND)



1-2 sector mixing angle fit

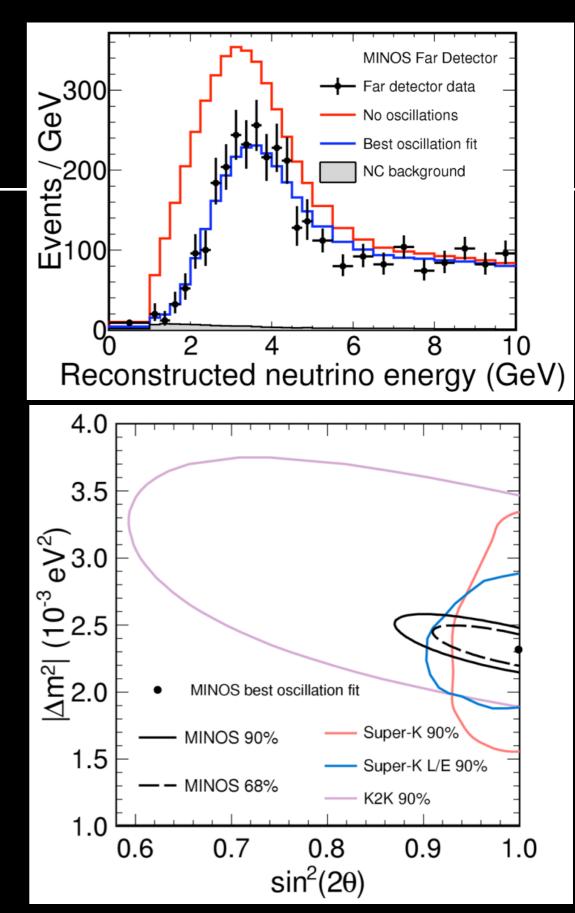


Note: axes are $sin^2\theta$, not $sin^2(2\theta)$

• Mixing large but not maximal

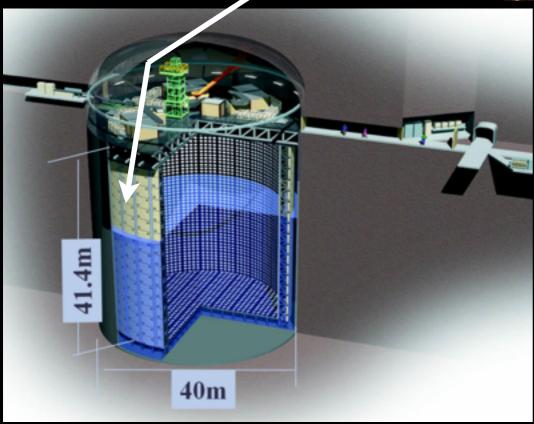
The "2-3" sector

- Originally measured using atmospheric v_{μ} disappearance (Super-Kamiokande 1998 and subsequent); now also with long-baseline accelerator measurements
- Super-K and MINOS (Fermilab) now have the most precise results on mixing angle and Δm^2 respectively
- Fits still favor maximal mixing!
- Dominant effect is ν_µ⇔ν_τ in standard oscillation picture



Super Kamiokande

- 50 kt water Cherenkov (22.5 kt fiducial)
- 11129 20-inch PMTs in inner detector; 1885 8-inch PMTs in outer veto detector





- Originally commissioned 1997
- Designed for proton decay and neutrino measurements
- Sensitive to solar neutrinos as well as atmospheric
- Now also used as far detector for T2K

MINOS long-baseline experiment

- Conventional ν_{μ} beam from pion/kaon decays in flight at Fermilab; 734 km baseline to far detector

alternating layers of steel plates and scintillator strips in a ~1.3 T toroidal magnetic field



735 km from the target
5.4 kilotons
8 m tall planes
486 planes (30 m)
700 m underground
Few v interactions/day

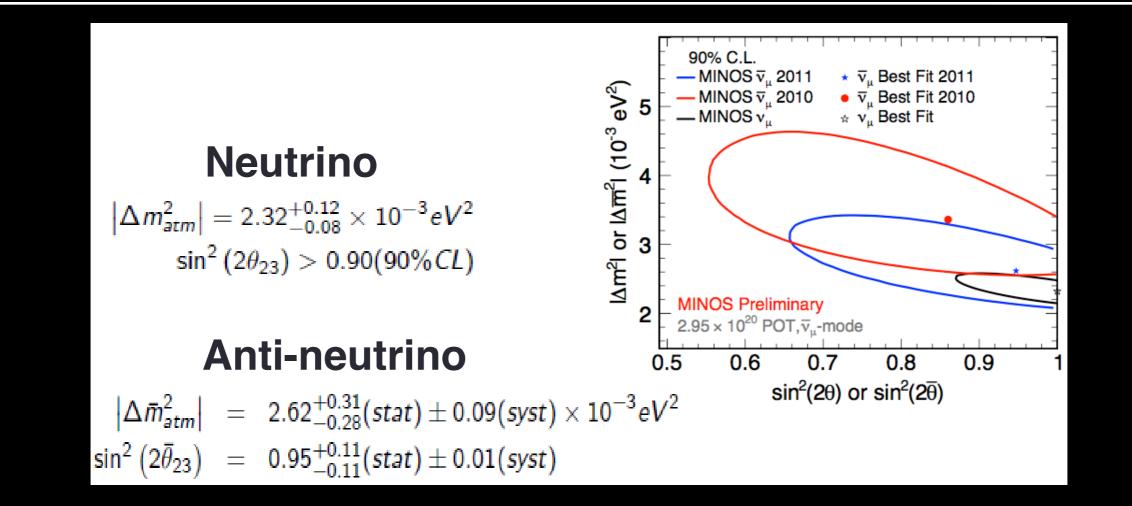




1 km from the target 1 kiloton ~4 m tall planes 282 planes (15 m) 100 m underground Few v interactions/spill

L. Whitehead seminar

CPT test in 2-3 sector



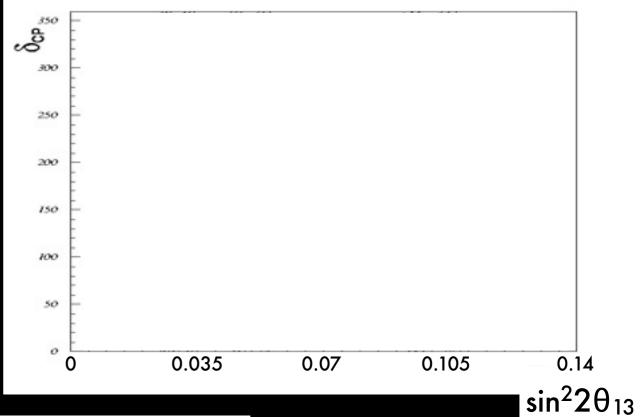
 MINOS tests consistency of disappearance parameters with neutrinos and antineutrinos. After a fluctuation caused some excitement, CPT test now looks OK.

The year of θ_{13}

- Next-to-last "standard" oscillation parameter to be measured
- Non-zero value is essential for existence of CP violation in the standard three-neutrino picture
- Much of the present effort in neutrino experiments is aimed at this parameter

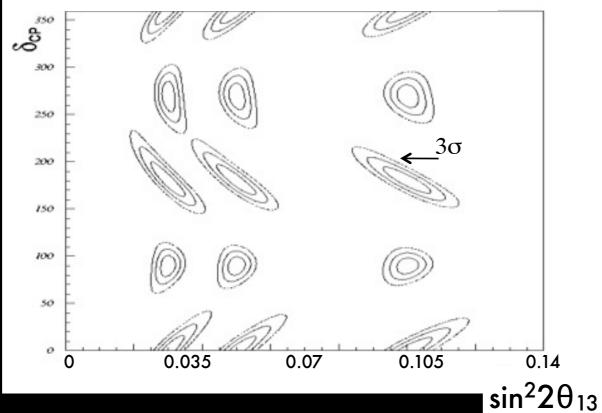
Goal is to get from:

PRE-2011 KNOWLEDGE OF θ_{13} AND δ_{CP}



WHERE WE COULD BE IN 10-15 YEARS





Two approaches:

- Search for $v_{\mu} \rightarrow v_{e}$ in long-baseline accelerator measurements
- Search for \overline{v}_e disappearance at nuclear reactors

T2K and future neutrino oscillation experiments

- Present: T2K, MINOS, reactors
- Near future: NOvA
- Far future: LBNE, J-PARC ultimate experiments?

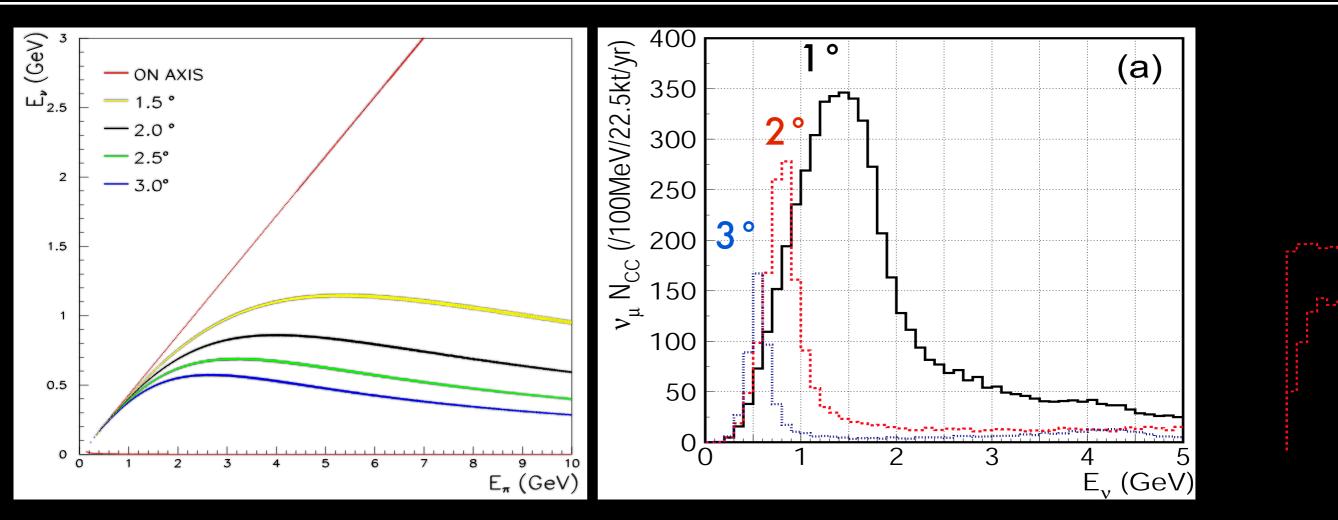
Results from the first T2K physics run

- T2K: experiment and physics goals
- The first oscillation result

T2K design and physics goals

- Design:
 - First experiment to use off-axis technique to produce a narrow-band ν_{μ} beam
 - High-intensity 30 GeV proton beam from J-PARC sychrotron
 - Beam monitors to measure primary and secondary beam each pulse
 - On- and off-axis near neutrino detectors to characterize beam
 - Far detector Super-Kamiokande, 295 km baseline
- Initial physics goals:
 - Discover v_e appearance and determine θ_{13}
 - Precise measurement of v_{μ} disappearance θ_{23} , Δm^{2}_{23}
- Future:
 - Possible search for CP violation in lepton sector

Off-axis beam technique



- For wide range of pion momenta, E_{ν} depends more on decay angle than E_{π}
- Exploit to make narrow-band v_{μ} beams by going off-axis
- At 295 km baseline, first oscillation maximum is at 570 MeV for $\Delta m^2 = 2.4 \cdot 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2 \implies \text{T2K}$ wants 2.5° off-axis angle

1200yearold emple

olo emple J-PARC Facility (KEK/JAEA)

Near

Detector

View to North

Photo: January 2008

Linac

Neutrino Beam to Kamioka

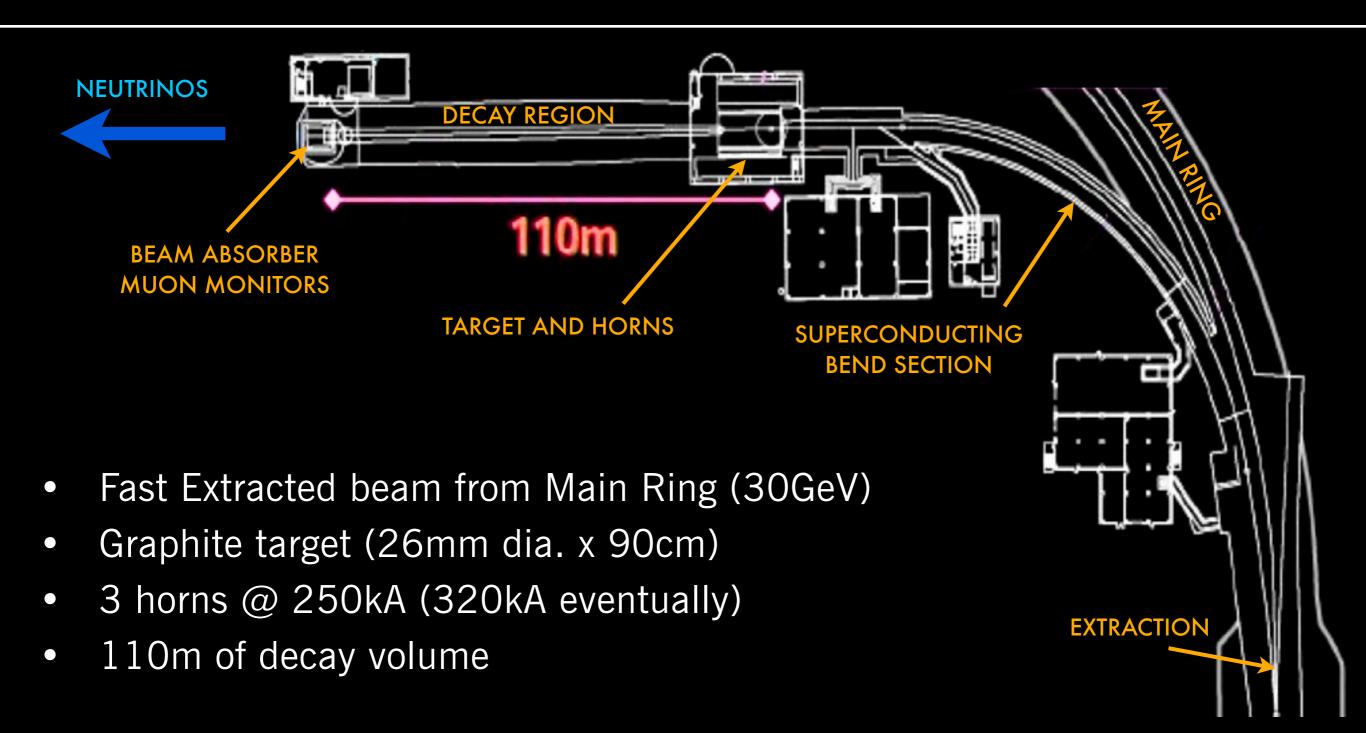
Design Intensity 750kW

hrotron

Pacific Ocean

Construction 2001~2009

Neutrino Beam



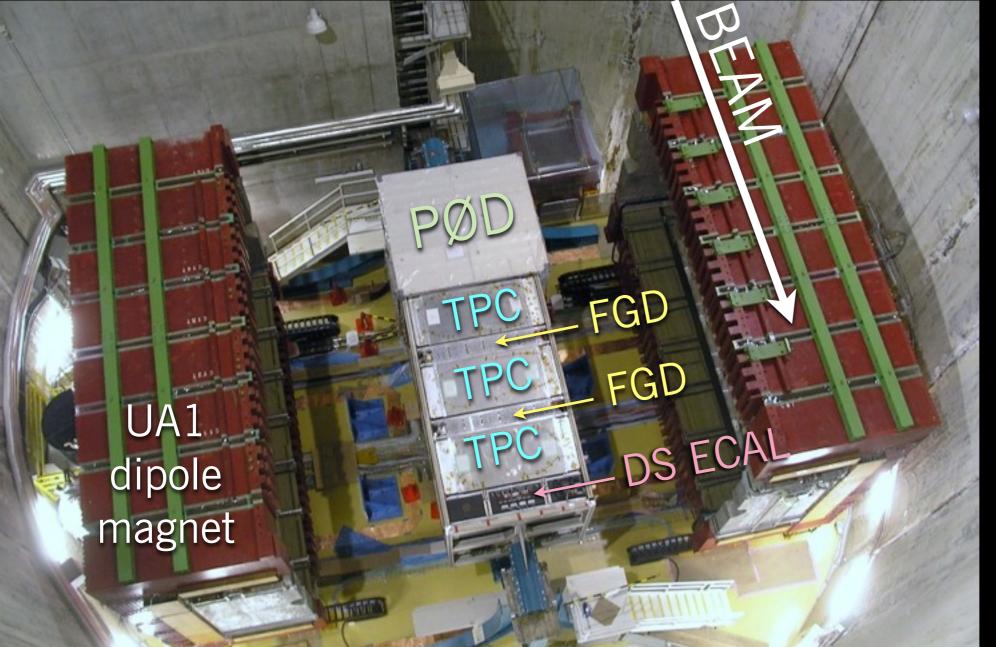
280m on-axis near detector: INGRID

- Array of 9-ton iron-scintillator neutrino detectors in cross shape centered on beam axis
- Designed to show neutrino beam profile, event rate, and precise measure of beam center/off-axis angle





Off-axis Near Detector

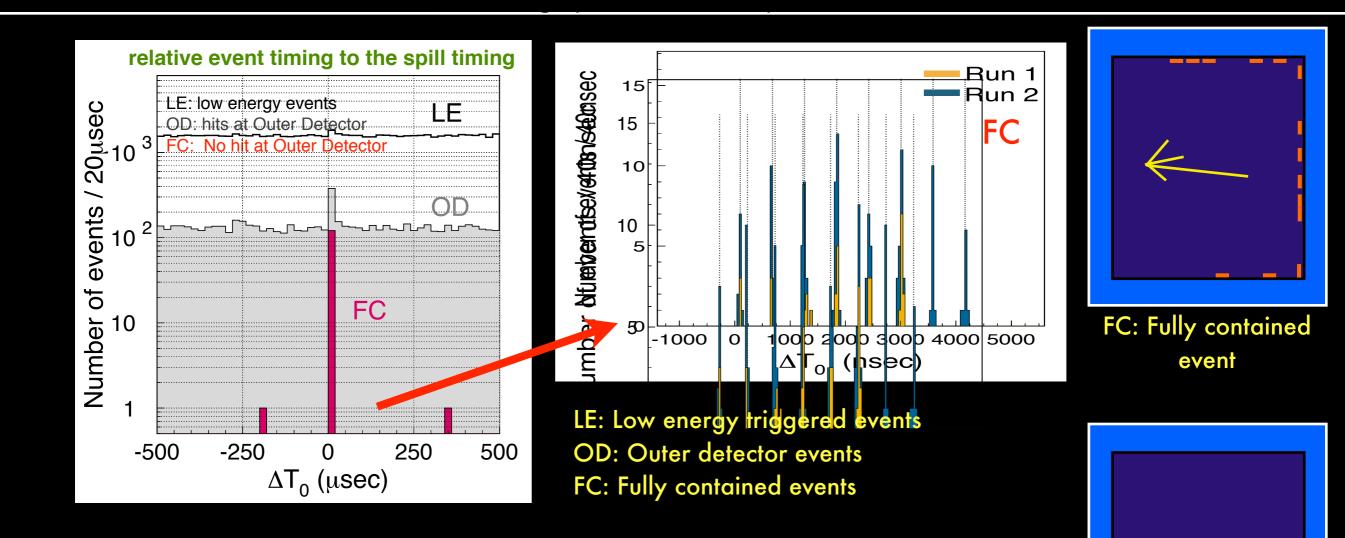


- Pi Ø Detector (PØD): optimized for π⁰ detection, includes H₂O target
- Tracker: 2 Fine-Grained Detectors (FGD), 3 TPCs: measure fluxes before oscillation
- ECAL: surrounding POD and Tracker, measure EM activity
- Side Muon Range Detector: in the magnet yokes, identify muons

First neutrino physics runs

- Run 1: January-June 2010: 0.32·10²⁰ protons (16 kW·10⁷ s)
- Run 2: November 2010-March 2011: 1.13·10²⁰ protons (54 kW·10⁷ s)
 - Beam power up to 145 kW (most running around 50-100 kW)
- March 11, 2011: earthquake and tsunami (1-year setback)
- Run 3: ongoing since March 2012:
 - Beam power approaching 200 kW; total has now surpassed 2.10²⁰ protons

Neutrino physics runs: Super-Kamiokande



OD: Outer detector

event

- Event time distribution clearly shows eight-bunch (six in Run 1) beam structure
- Observed # of fully contained events: 121
- Expected non-beam background: 2.3×10⁻³ events

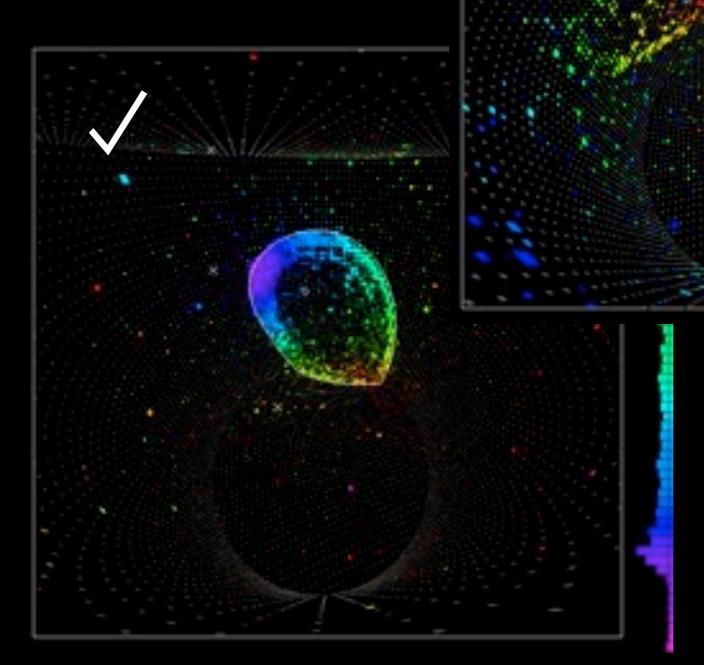
First neutrino physics run: Super-Kamiokande

- SK analysis is very well established: generally looking for quasielastic scattering: vℓn → ℓ⁻p where proton is below threshold.
- Event selection & cut values fixed before data collection for this run

For v_{μ} disappearance analysis	For $ u_{e}$ appearance search		
Timing coincidence w/ beam timing (+TOF)			
Fully contained (No OD activity)			
Vertex in fiducial volume (>2m from wall)			
Number of rings = 1			
$E_{\rm vis}$ > 30 MeV	$E_{\rm vis}$ > 100 MeV		
µ-like ring	e-like ring		
0 or 1 decay electron	No decay electron		
pµ > 200 MeV/c	Forced 2 nd ring: m _{YY} <105 MeV		
	E _ν ^{rec} < 1250MeV		

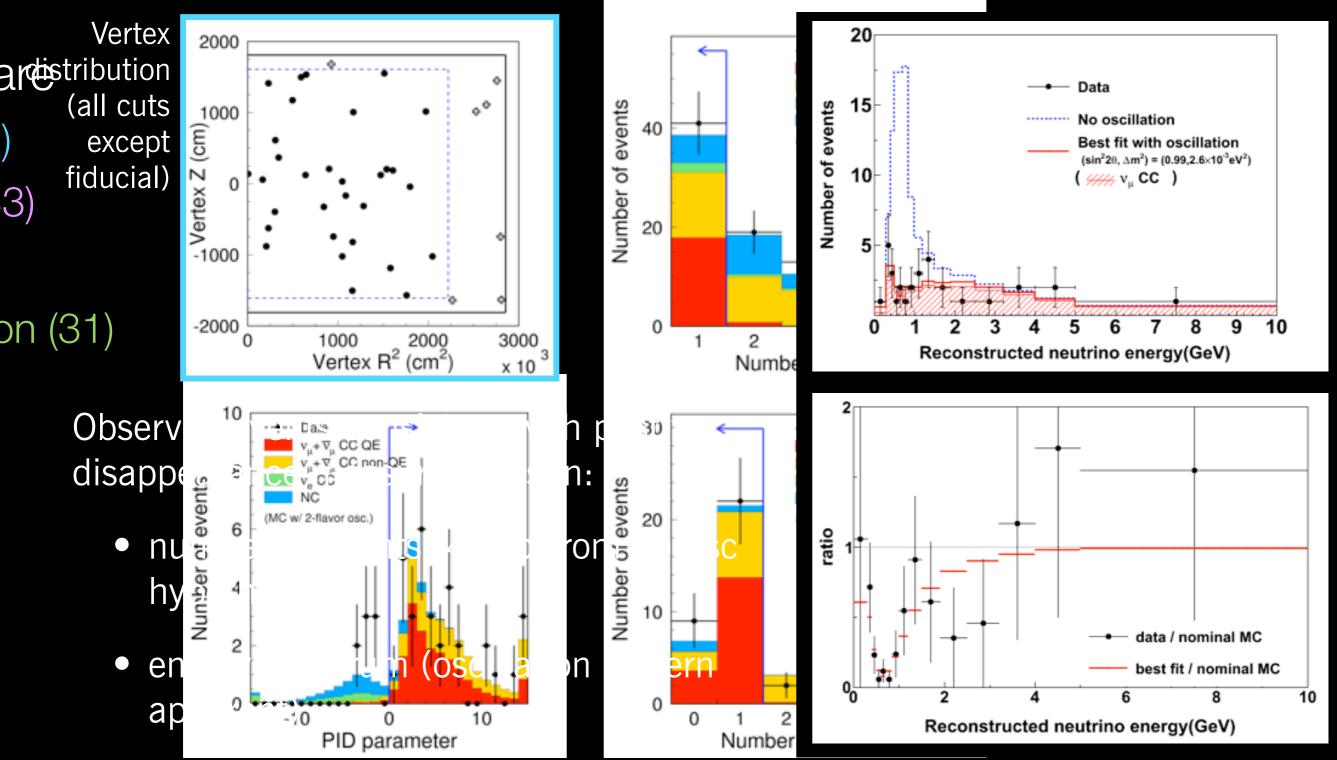
v_{μ} disappearance analysis: CCQE selection

• One mu-like ring



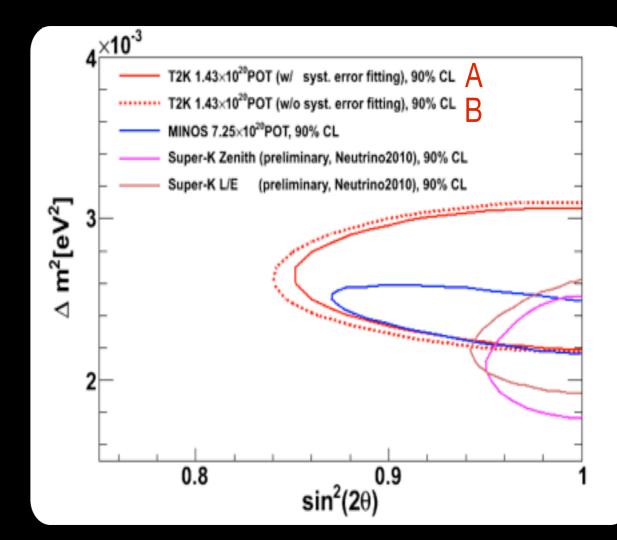
$\mathbf{E}_{v}^{\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{E}}$ and vertex distribution

E_v Distributio



Oscillation parameter fit

- Fit with 2-flavor model to extract parameters
- Two methods: "A" fits for systematic error parameters; "B" does not
- 90% CL for Method A(B)
 - $\sin^2 2\theta > 0.85 (0.84)$
 - $2.1 \times 10^{-3} < \Delta m^2 (eV^2) < 3.1 \times 10^{-3}$



Signal and background for v_e appearance analysis

• Most common process at oscillation maximum (600 MeV) is charged-current quasielastic scattering:

•
$$v_{\ell} + n \rightarrow \ell^- + p$$

- e/µ separation is mostly via ring shape; decay electron identification helps too
- Signature in Super-Kamiokande is a single Cherenkov ring, as proton usually below threshold
- Most common non- v_e background is neutral-current π^0 production, where one photon has very low energy

First Run 1+2 v_e appearance analysis strategy

- Predict neutrino fluxes using:
 - GEANT3-based beam MC
 - Hadron production measurements from CERN NA61

- Predict flux at Super-K using beam MC
- Reweight by near detector Data/MC ratio for inclusive sample (no energy dependence)

- Near detector analysis:
 - GEANT4-based detector MC
 - Inclusive charged-current event selection; no energy cut

• Far detector analysis:

- GEANT3-based Super-K detector MC
- Count events that pass appearance cuts
- Compare this number to oscillated prediction, form confidence regions in oscillation parameter space

Far detector analysis: cuts

For v_{μ} disappearance analysis	For v _e appearance search	A
Timing coincidence w/ beam timing (+TOF)		
Fully contained (No OD activity)		
Vertex in fiducial volume (>2m from wall)		
Number of rings = 1		
$E_{\rm vis}$ > 30 MeV	$E_{\rm vis}$ > 100 MeV	
µ-like ring	e-like ring	
0 or 1 decay electron	No decay electron	
pμ > 200 MeV/c	Forced 2 nd ring: m _{YY} <105 MeV	
	<i>E</i> _ν ^{rec} < 1250MeV	

After all cuts:

- Signal efficiency 66% for fiducial volume
- Intrinsic v_e background efficiency is 23%
 - NC efficiency<1%

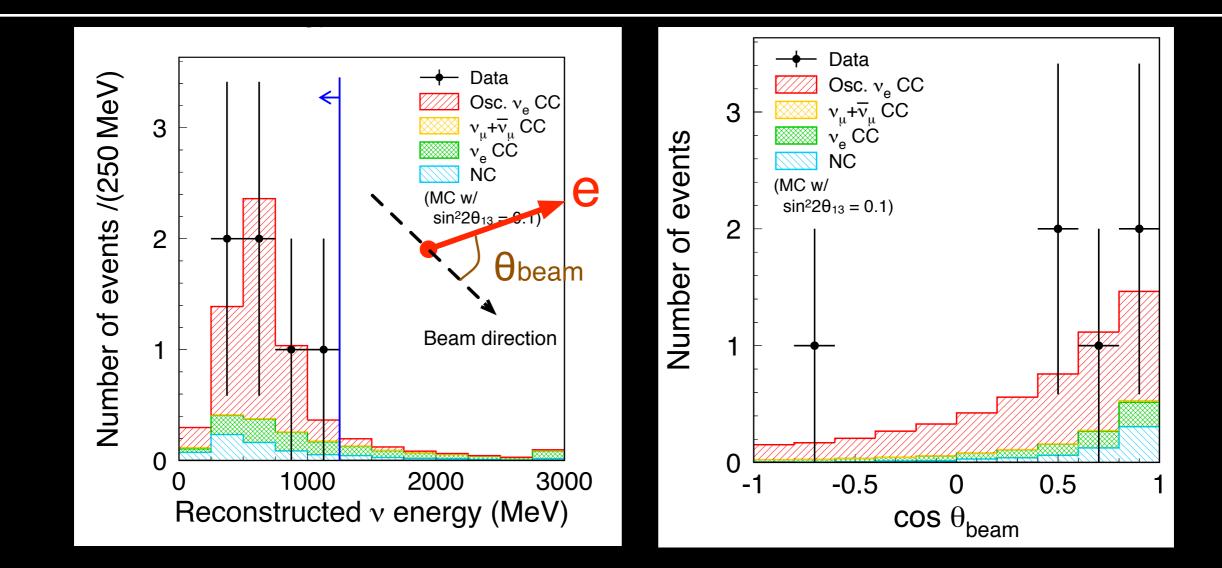
Predicted background and systematic error

Beam intrinsic V _e	NC background	Δm ₂₁ ²	Total
CC background		oscillations	background
0.8	0.6	0.1	1.5

Neutrino flux model	±8.5%
Neutrino interaction cross-sections	±14.0%
Near detector efficiencies/acceptance	+5.6/-5.2%
Far detector efficiencies/acceptance	14.7%
Near detector statistics	±2.7%
TOTAL	+22.8/-22.7%

• $N_{SK} = 1.5 \pm 0.3$ events for $\theta_{13} = 0$

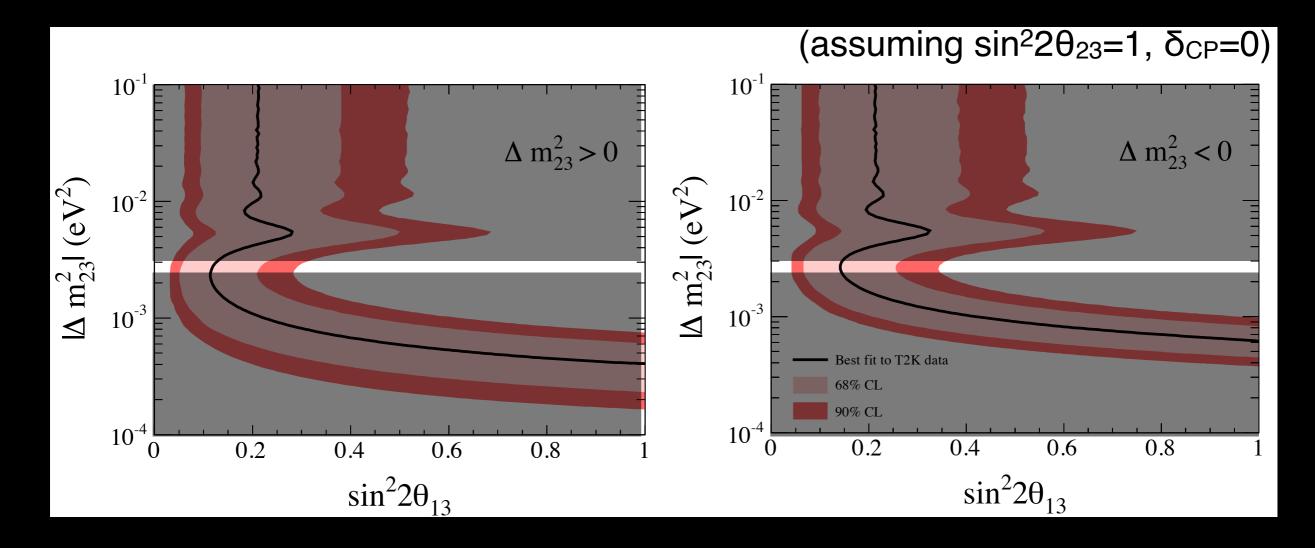
Final ve candidate events



• Six events remain after all cuts. Probability of ≥ 6 events with $\theta_{13}=0$ is 6.6×10^{-3}

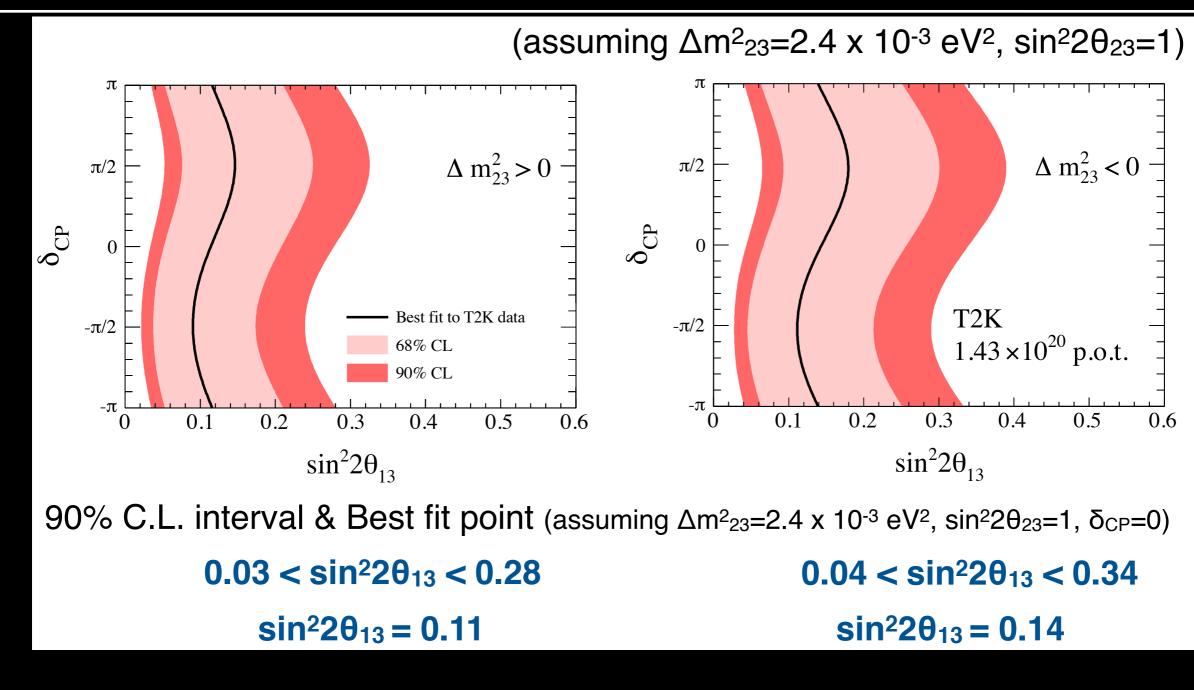
• Events are well distributed in lepton angle (this variable is a decent proxy for Q^2 given the narrow-band beam)

Fitting the result to an oscillation hypothesis: Feldman-Cousins bounds



Note: only Δm^2 around 2-3×10⁻³ allowed by other experiments

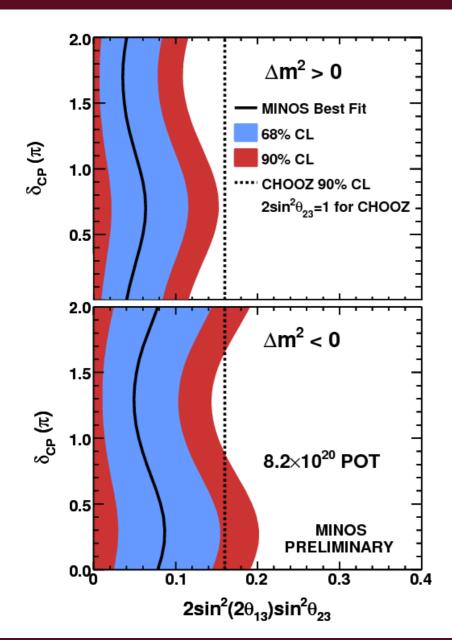
Fit depends somewhat on CP phase:



>0.15 is excluded by Chooz, MINOS

MINOS result

Allowed Regions



Assuming: $\delta = 0, \theta_{23} = \pi/4$ normal (inverted) hierarchy $\sin^2(2\theta_{13}) < 0.12(0.19)$ 90% CL $\sin^2(2\theta_{13}) = 0.04(0.08)$ Best Fit We exclude $\sin^2 2\theta_{13} = 0$ at 89% CL

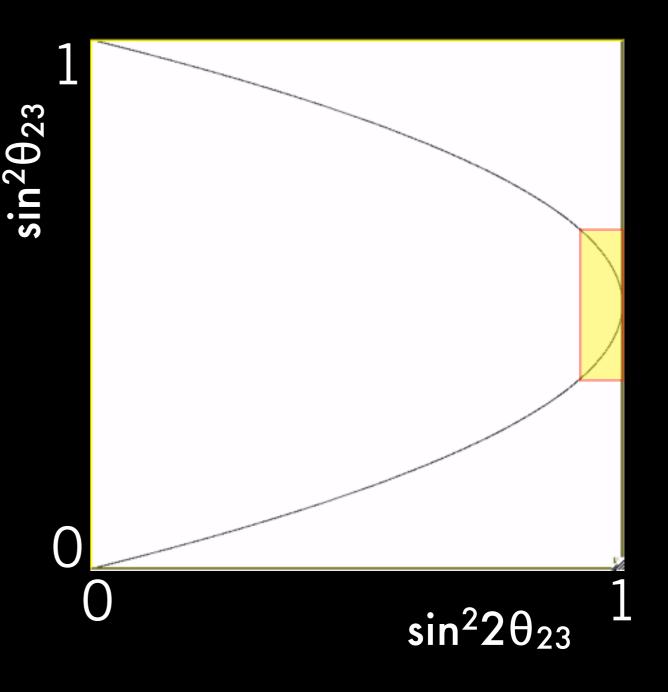
Feldman-Cousins contours

Uncertainties in the other oscillation parameters are included

- New analysis is significantly more sensitive than previous
- Result quite consistent with T2K
- Improves confidence that θ₁₃ is nonzero

θ₂₃ DEPENDENCE OF APPEARANCE RESULTS

- Appearance probability is approximately proportional to $\sin^2\theta_{23} \cdot \sin^2 2\theta_{13}$.
- PDG gives sin²2θ₂₃<0.92 (90% CL)
- This gives $0.36 < \sin^2\theta_{23} < 0.64$
- Nearly factor of 2 allowed range!
- Reactor measurements do not depend on θ_{23}



New results: reactor-based measurements

- Actually, revival of a very old technique (the first to detect neutrinos).
- Reactor-based searches were the best θ_{13} limits until 2011
- Principle: fission products are too neutron-rich for stability, so β -decays result: copious $\overline{\nu}_e$ produced in few-MeV range
- Detection is via inverse beta decay
- Detect positron, delayed *n* capture
- Only \overline{v}_e interact

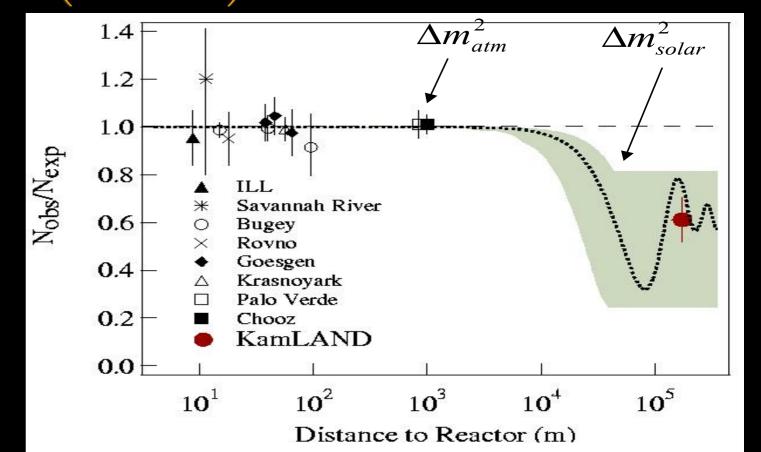
Physics goals of coming reactor experiments

- Determine θ_{13} via $\overline{\nu}_e$ disappearance at the atmospheric Δm^2 scale (~1km at these energies), pushing current limits by order of magnitude.
- In principle, result is cleaner than for $v_{\mu} \rightarrow v_{e}$ appearance: $P(\nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \nu_{e}) = \sin^{2}(2\theta_{13}) \sin^{2}\theta_{23} \sin^{2}\left(\Delta m_{13}^{2} \frac{L}{4E}\right) + f(\delta) + f(\text{matter})$

 $P(\bar{\nu}_e \to \bar{\nu}_e) = 1 - \sin^2(2\theta_{13})\sin^2\left(\Delta m_{13}^2\right)$

+ small terms

 However, need high statistics to establish disappearance effects, and need excellent understanding of cross-section (yes) and flux (maybe).



Current-generation reactorbased neutrino experiments

- Three sites have experiments in rapid development:
 - Double Chooz (France)
 - Daya Bay (China)
 - RENO (South Korea)
- Major improvements over previous experiments:
 - Near detectors to cancel flux uncertainties!
 - Baseline selected specifically for (now known) Δm^2
 - Larger detectors, more powerful reactors
- Next speaker will provide details!

Daya Bay

3 Far detector

Mid Hall

Day Bay cores

HONG KONG

出用 Egongwar 肥公用

由唐時

0.4.2

South China Seu

detector

2 Near detecto

LingAo cores

LingAo I

 Multiple close-by reactor sites; need two near detector sites

GUANGZHOU

CANTO

4门区

金油区

RUB

Nansha

Yapo

Logan

RO.18

Xiangzhou 香洲区

北王家語 花址爆发品

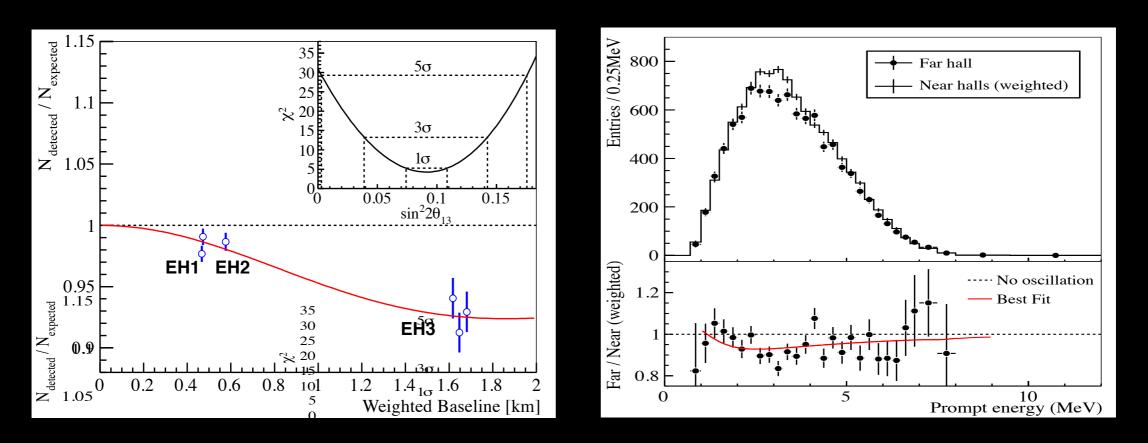
87

夏尚区

Huangp 一覧1#IX

- Planning factor of 20 improvement in $\sin^2\theta_{13}$ over current Chooz limit.

Daya Bay: conclusive observation of $\theta_{13} \neq 0$



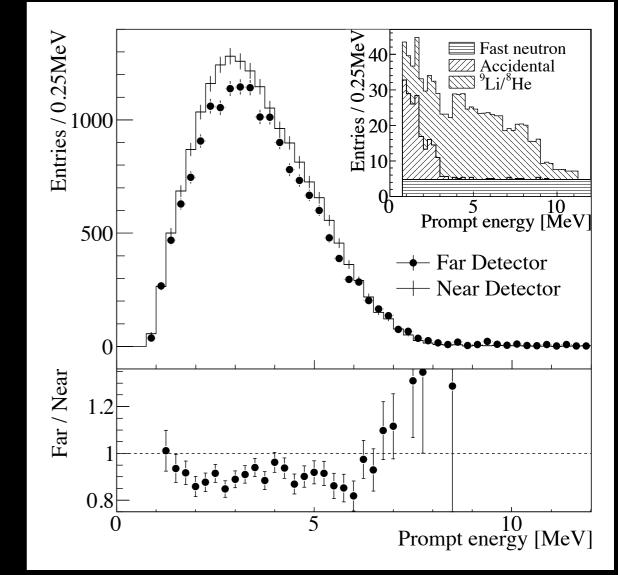
- Clear signal of disappearance of $\overline{\nu}_e$ at short baseline: must be Δm_{23}^2 scale effect.
- $\sin^2(2\theta_{13}) = 0.092 \pm 0.016(\text{stat}) \pm 0.005(\text{syst})$
- Preprint 1203.1661 [hep-ex]



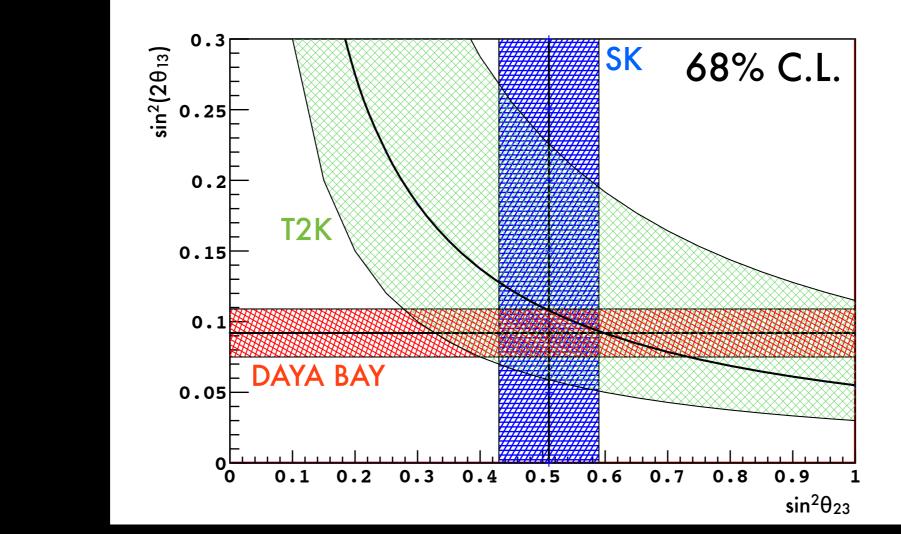
Detector in South Korea at Yonggwang power station
6 reactors; 16.4 GW total thermal power

RENO first result

- First results released last month: arXiv:1204.0626
- Result consistent with Daya Bay:
- sin²2θ₁₃ = 0.113 ± 0.013
 (stat.) ± 0.019(syst.)



Putting the mixing angle results together



- Most precise single results for each parameter
- Some chance of distinguishing θ_{23} octant when T2K result gets more precise

Next step with accelerators: NOVA

- Will use the Fermilab NuMI neutrino beam to search for $v_{\mu} \rightarrow v_{e}$ and $\overline{v}_{\mu} \rightarrow \overline{v}_{e}$ oscillations
- Off-axis narrow-band beam
- Scintillator-based detector
 - Antineutrinos and longer baseline: sensitive to neutrino mass hierarchy, δ_{CP} , and possible differences in neutrino and antineutrino disappearance rates.

Ultimate(?) long-baseline experiments

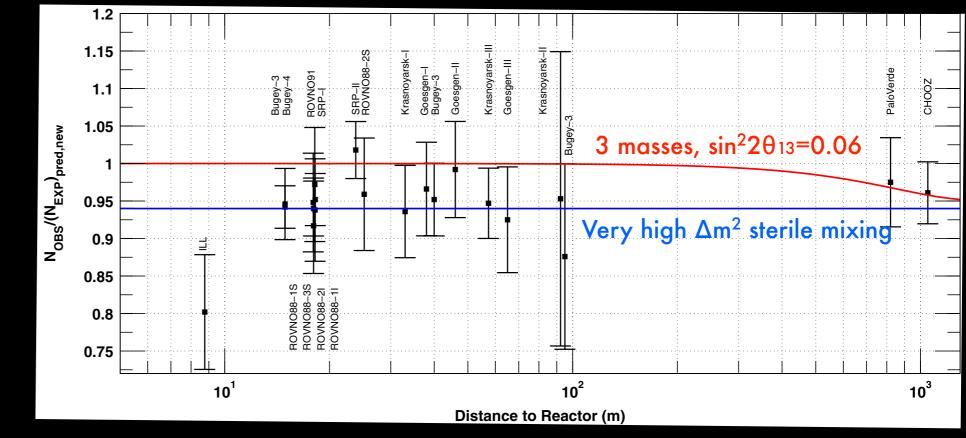
- Definitive resolution of mass hierarchy, CP violation over most of possible parameter space
- Multi-hundred kton scale detectors, megawatt-scale beams:
 - J-PARC to other sites in same beam
 - Okinoshima (liquid argon), Hyper-Kamiokande
 - Fermilab LBNE (Homestake)
 - LAGUNA: European proposal

Anomalies

- Not all results right now fit cleanly into the 3-neutrino mixing model:
 - Reactor neutrino anomaly
 - Short-baseline accelerator anomalies
 - LSND
 - MiniBooNE

Reactor neutrino anomaly?

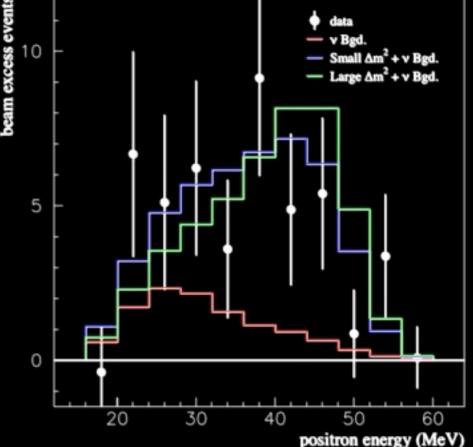
- New evaluation of reactor antineutrino flux per unit thermal power: G. Mention *et al., Phys. Rev.* **D83** 073006 (2011)
- Predicted flux increases by 3%; average of experimental results now 0.943 \pm 0.023 of prediction.
- Could indicate common systematic effect, or error in beta spectrum data
- Also consistent with sterile neutrino mixing at very high Δm²



LSND Liquid Scintillator Neutrino Detector

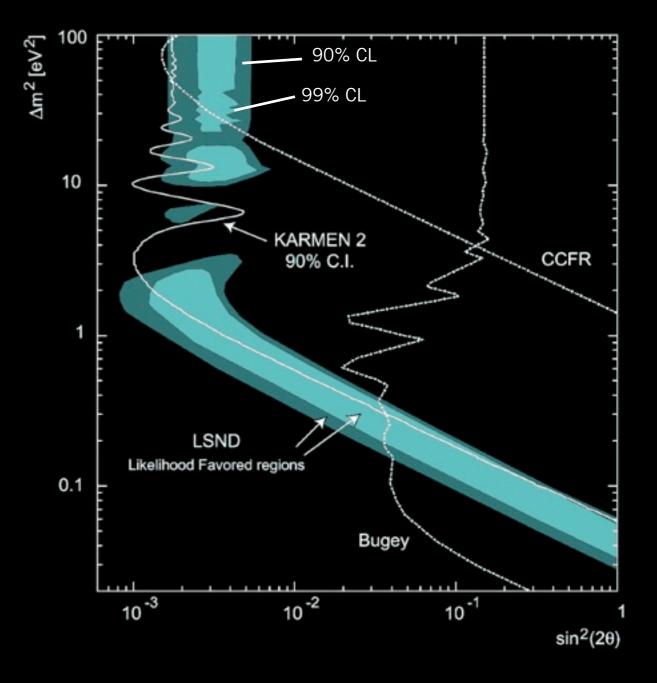
- Stopped π^+ beam at Los Alamos LAMPF produces ν_e , ν_{μ} , $\overline{\nu}_{\mu}$ but no $\overline{\nu}_e$ (due to π^- capture). Search for $\overline{\nu}_e$ appearance via reaction: $\overline{\nu}_e + p \rightarrow e^+ + n$
- Look for delayed coincidence of positron and neutron capture.
- Major background non-beam (measured, subtracted)
- 3.8 standard dev. excess above background.
- Oscillation probability:

$$P(\bar{\nu}_{\mu} \to \bar{\nu}_{e}) = (2.5 \pm 0.6_{\text{stat}} \pm 0.4_{\text{syst}}) \times 10^{-3}$$



LSND oscillation signal

- LSND "allowed region" shown as band
- KARMEN2 is a similar experiment with a slightly smaller L/E; they see no evidence for oscillations. Excluded region is to right of curve.



MiniBooNE: E898 at Fermilab

- Purpose is to test LSND with higher energy, different signature
- L=500 meters, E=0.5-1 GeV: same L/E as LSND.
- 800-ton mineral oil Cherenkov detector
- v_µ→v_e oscillation signature is charged-current quasielastic scattering:

 $\nu_e + n \rightarrow e^- + p$

- Dominant backgrounds to oscillation:
 - Intrinsic ν_e in the beam

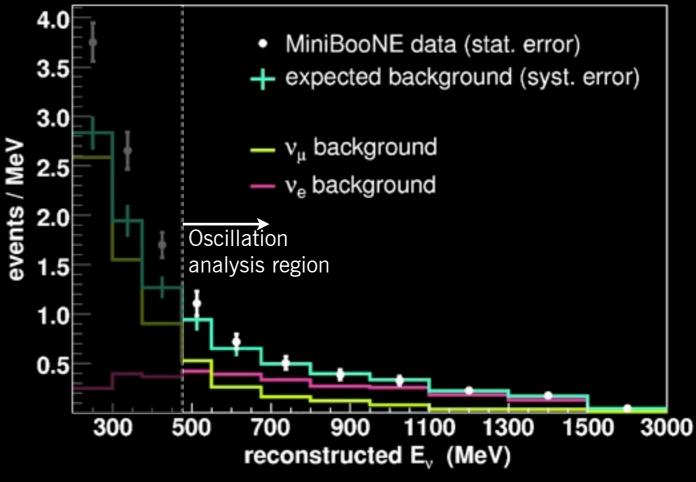
 $\pi \to \mu \to \nu_e$ in beam $K^+ \to \pi^0 e^+ \nu_e, \ K^0_L \to \pi^0 e^\pm \nu_e$ in beam

• Particle misidentification in detector

Neutral current resonance: $\Delta \to \pi^0 \to \gamma \gamma \text{ or } \Delta \to n\gamma, \text{ mis-ID as } e$

Neutrino Oscillations: 2007 result

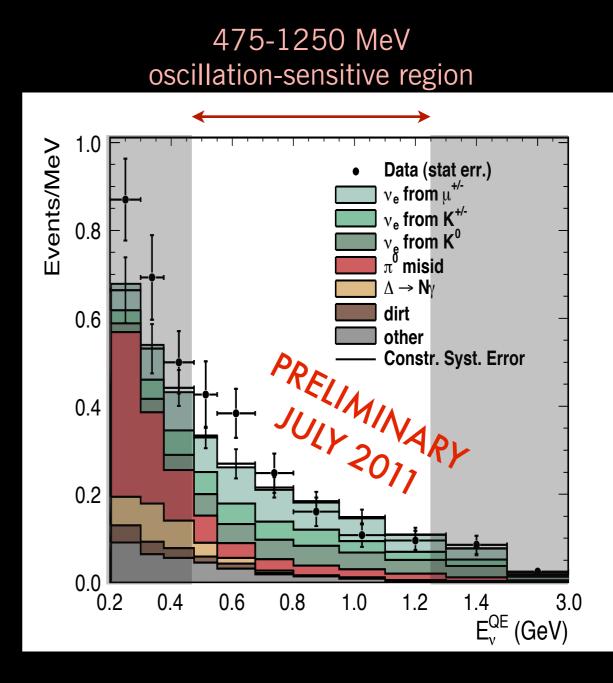
- Sensitivity to LSND-type oscillations is strongest in 475 MeV < E < 1250 MeV range
- Data consistent with background in oscillation fit range
- Significant excess at lower energies: source unknown, consistent experimentally with either v_e or single photon production



Oscillation search: *Phys.Rev.Lett*.**98**:231801 (2007) Low-E excess: *Phys.Rev.Lett*.**102**:101802 (2009)

MiniBooNE antineutrino data: 8.58E20 POT

- 475 MeV < E < 1250 MeV:
 - 151.7±15.0(syst) expected after fit constraints
 - 168 observed; excess 16.3 ± 19.4 (total)
 - Oscillation hypothesis preferred to background-only at 91.1% confidence level.
 - Raw "one-bin" counting excess significance 0.84σ
- Excess in oscillation-sensitive region is reduced somewhat with new data; low-energy excess is more significant and resembles neutrino-mode data



How to resolve the anomalies?

- New Physics (sterile neutrinos, extra dimensions)
- "New" Physics (neutrino cross-sections, neutral-current photon production, ...)
- New experiments
 - MicroBooNE: may be able to distinguish photons from electrons in low-energy excess region
 - Other new experiments?

No time to discuss

- Proposed short-baseline experiments at FNAL, CERN to study parameter space regions associated with short-baseline anomalies: very exotic physics if *any* of these hold up to more precise studies
- Detector technology developments: liquid argon TPC experiments in particular are very active, hoping to scale up to multi-kiloton range: LBNE
- Neutrino interaction cross-section measurements: essential for understanding oscillations
- Current and proposed large detectors are also proton decay detectors: positive results here could eclipse neutrino oscillations!



• Two oscillation sectors now have very precise results. • Still don't know if θ_{23} is maximal

 Third oscillation sector now under intense study: we've already learned that θ₁₃ is not small. It may soon be the most precisely measured angle!

Very rich program of experiments in the coming years will explore the θ_{13} and δ_{CP} space. The mass hierarchy and leptonic *CP* violation may be in reach!

Goal is to get from:

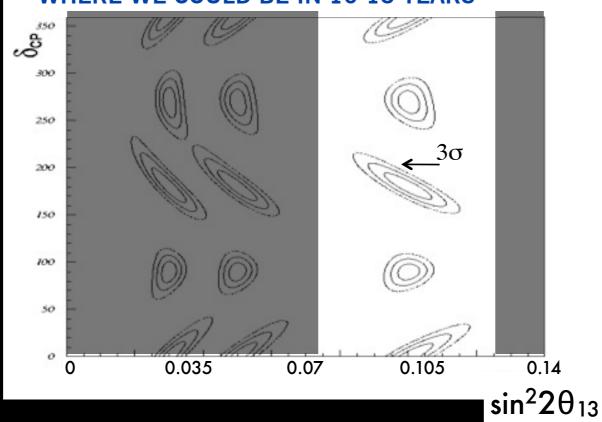
...rapidly narrowing the parameter space already!

0.105

0.14

 $sin^2 2\theta_{13}$





350 00

300

250

200

150

100

50

0

0

0.035

to:



0.07