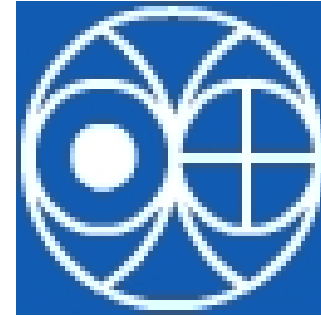


# An Overview of Neutrino Physics

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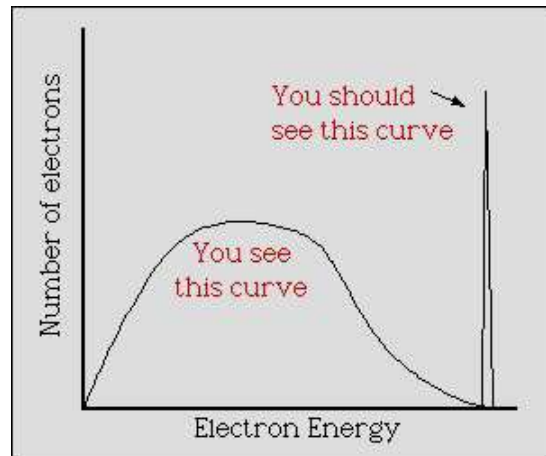


# The Outline

- History and Introduction
- Neutrinos in the Standard Model
- Neutrino mass and Mixing
- Neutrino Oscillation

# A brief history of the neutrino

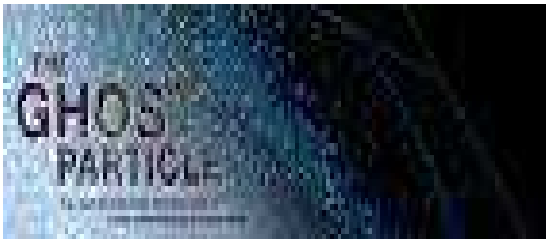
- In 1914 Chadwick discovered that the electron energy spectrum in Nuclear  $\beta$  decay is continuous :  ${}_{83}^{210}\text{Bi} \rightarrow {}_{84}^{210}\text{Po} + e^{-}$



- But conservation of energy momentum  $\implies$  electron energy  $\approx m_X c^2 - m_Y c^2 \rightarrow$  a fixed value
- Energy conservation may be violated ?
- 1930, Wolfgang Pauli proposed the existence of an electrically neutral particle, which he called neutron, as a desparate remedy to save the energy conservation principle

# A brief history of the neutrino

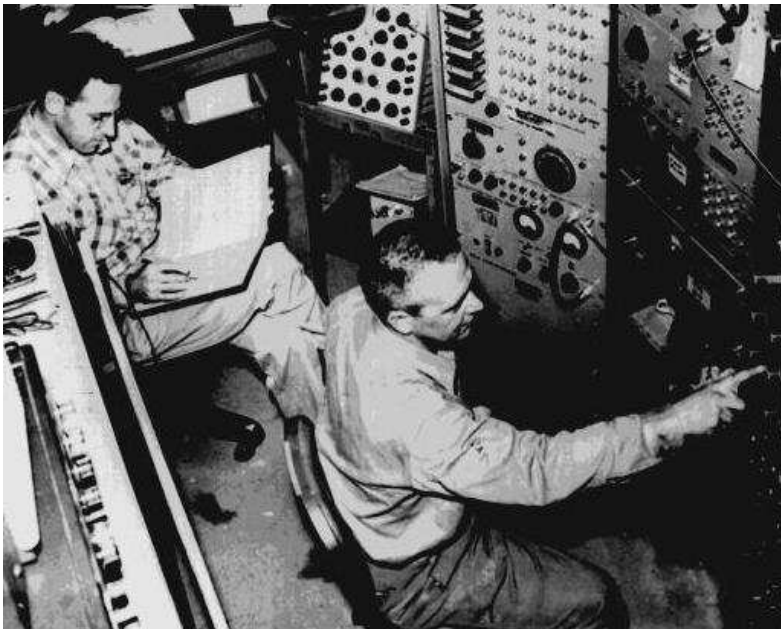
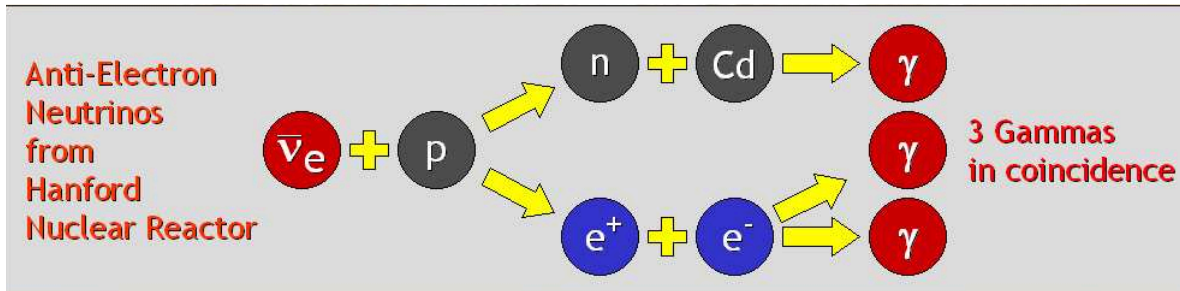
- Neutron was discovered in 1932 by Chadwick
- The name Neutrino (the little neutral one) was given by Fermi in 1933
- In 1934 Fermi gave a theory for explain  $\beta$  decay — weak interactions
- Neutrinos are weakly interacting
- Their mass is much smaller than the electron mass – may be massless
- They do not carry any electric charge
- They are fermions with spin 1/2.
- Extremely difficult to detect them experimentally



" I have postulated something which can never be detected — Pauli"

# The Ghost Riders

- Experimental Discovery of  $\nu_e$  by Reines and Cowans in 1956
- 25 years after it was postulated !!



- Clyde Cowan (1919-1974)
- Fred Reines (1918 - 1998)
- Nobel Prize to F. Reines in 1995

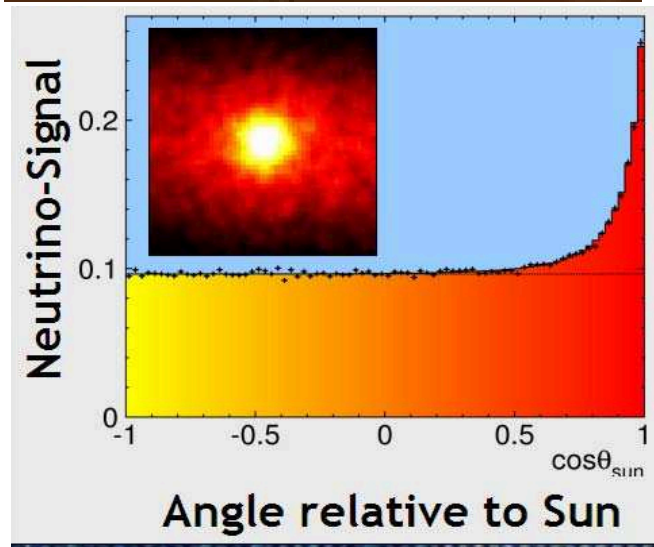
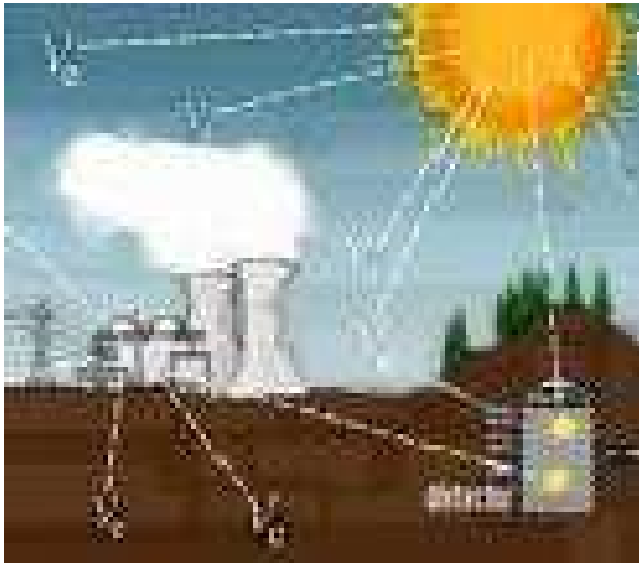
# More than one type of Neutrinos

- In 1960 Bruno Pontecorvo suggested that the neutrino produced in  $\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ + \nu$  may be different from the neutrino produced in  $\beta$ -decay
- Can the neutrinos produced in pion decays, can subsequently be converted into electrons ?
- The experiment was carried out in Brookhaven in 1962 using a beam of 15 GeV protons from AGS accelerator and the muon neutrino ( $\nu_\mu$ ) was discovered.
- Nobel prize to Lederman, Schwartz and Steinberger in 1988
- The third type of neutrino  $\nu_\tau$  was discovered in 2000 by the DONUT experiment
- From  $Z \rightarrow \nu\bar{\nu}$ , LEP experiment gives  $N_\nu = 2.994 \pm 0.012$
- Big Bang Nucleosynthesis give  $N_\nu = 3.14 \pm 0.7$
- There exist atleast three types of neutrinos
- Are there more ?

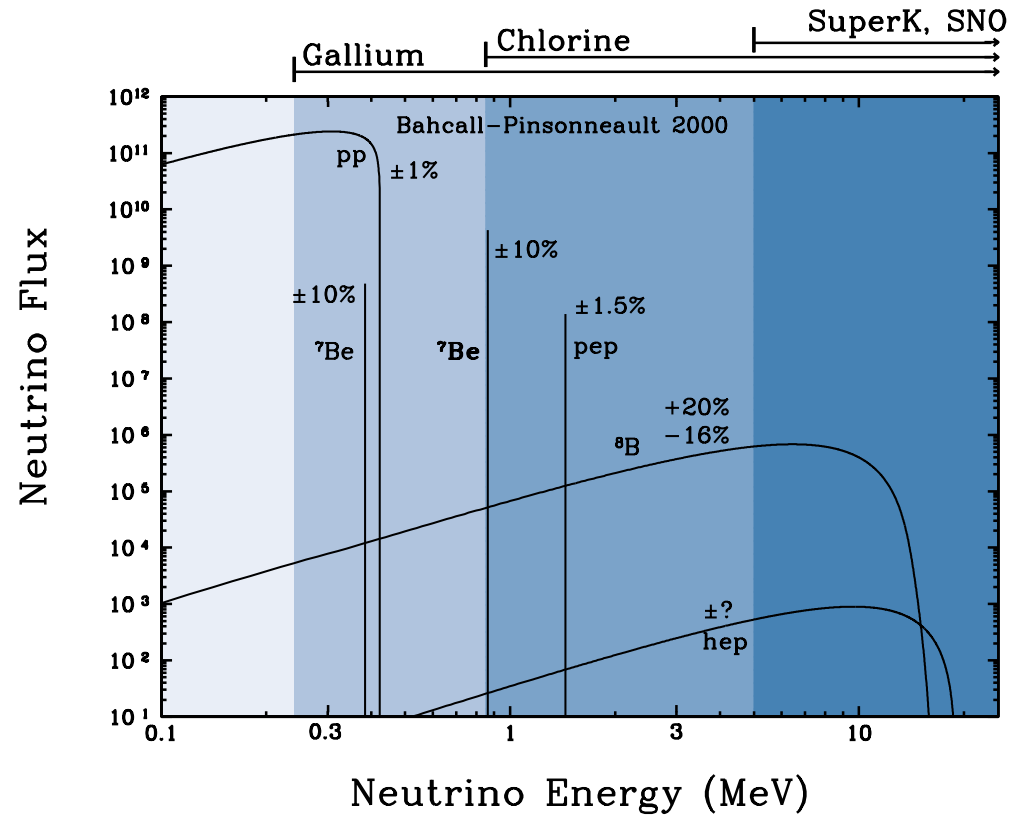
# Neutrinos are Unique

- The second most abundant particle in the Universe
  - Cosmic microwave background photons: 400 / cc
  - Cosmic microwave neutrinos: 330 /cc
- The lightest massive particle
  - A million times lighter than electron
  - No direct mass measurement yet
  - Can change from one type to another → neutrino oscillation → very small mass and flavour mixing
- Interacts weakly
  - This allows them to carry information directly from astrophysical objects
  - But this also makes their detection extremely difficult
- Can be its own antiparticle (?)

# Neutrinos are everywhere



● The Sun is an intense source of MeV neutrinos

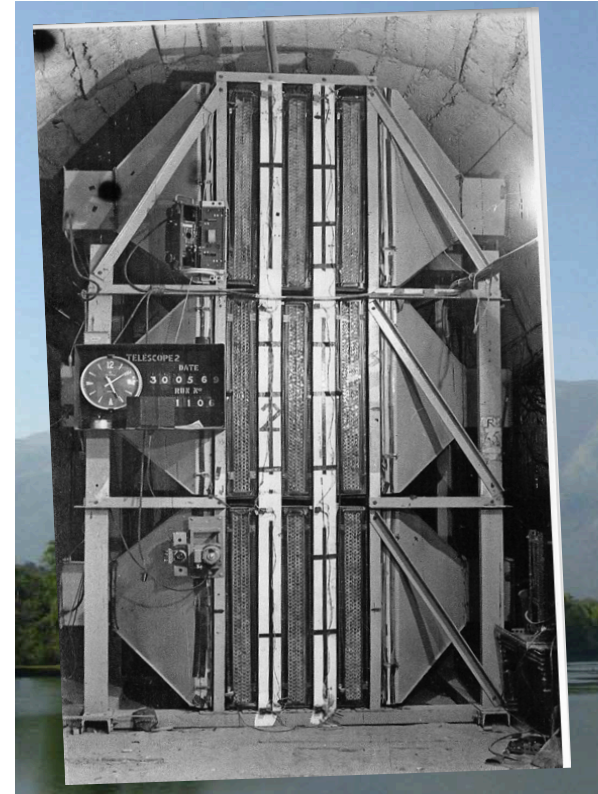
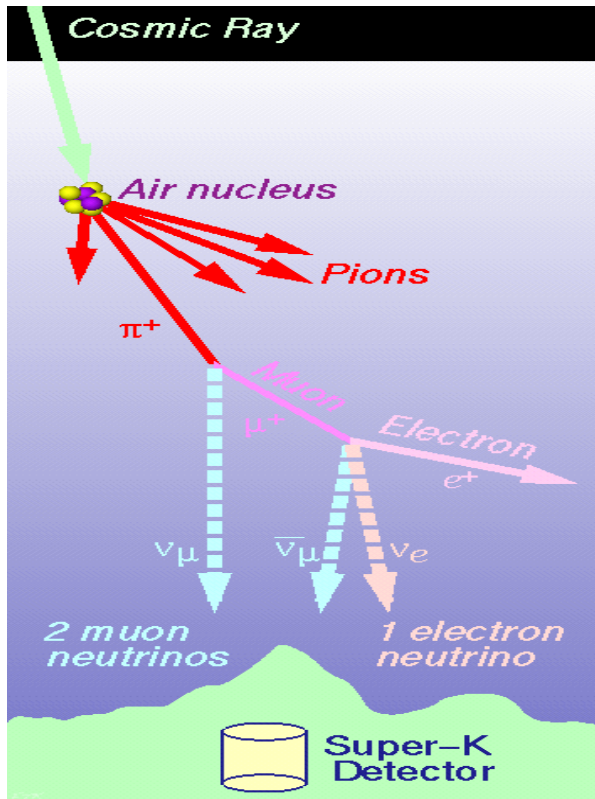


● Solar Neutrino Spectrum

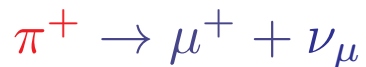


# Neutrinos are everywhere

- Neutrinos are generated in our **Atmosphere**

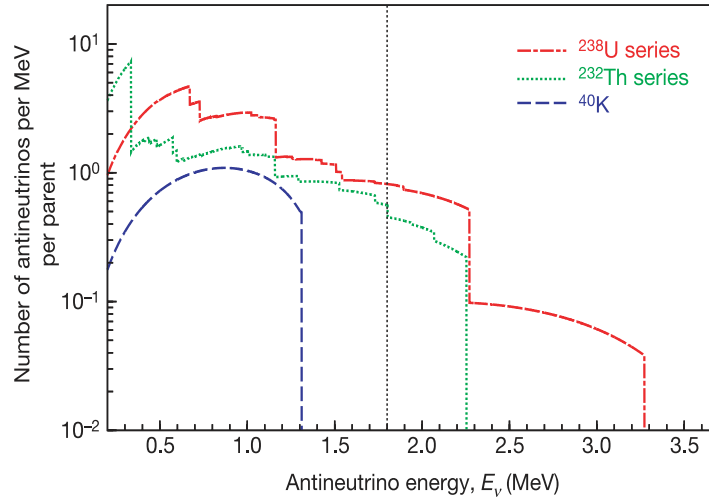
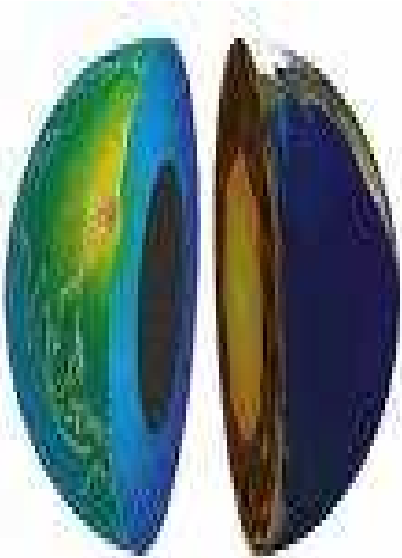


One of the first detections **Ko-**  
**lar Gold Mine, India, 1965**

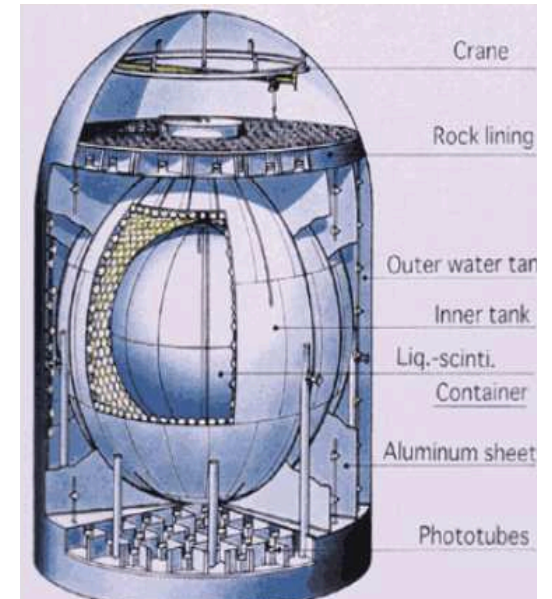


# Neutrinos are everywhere

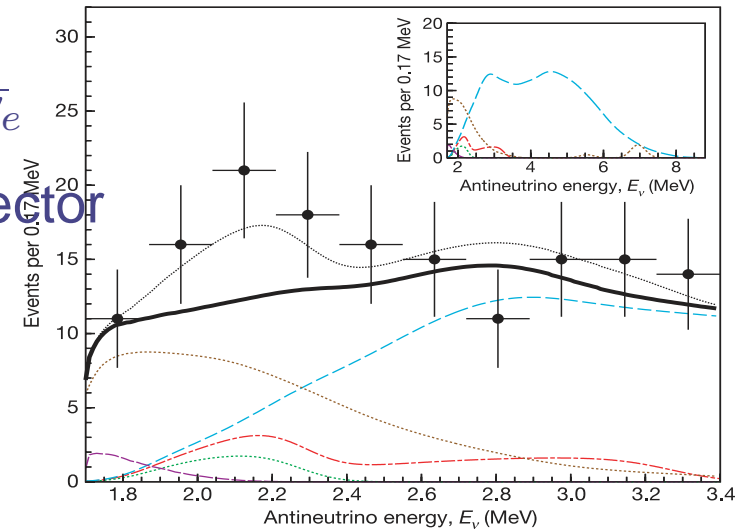
- They come from inside our Earth



**Figure 1 | The expected  $^{238}\text{U}$ ,  $^{232}\text{Th}$  and  $^{40}\text{K}$  decay chain electron antineutrino energy distributions.** KamLAND can only detect electron antineutrinos to the right of the vertical dotted black line; hence it is insensitive to  $^{40}\text{K}$  electron antineutrinos.

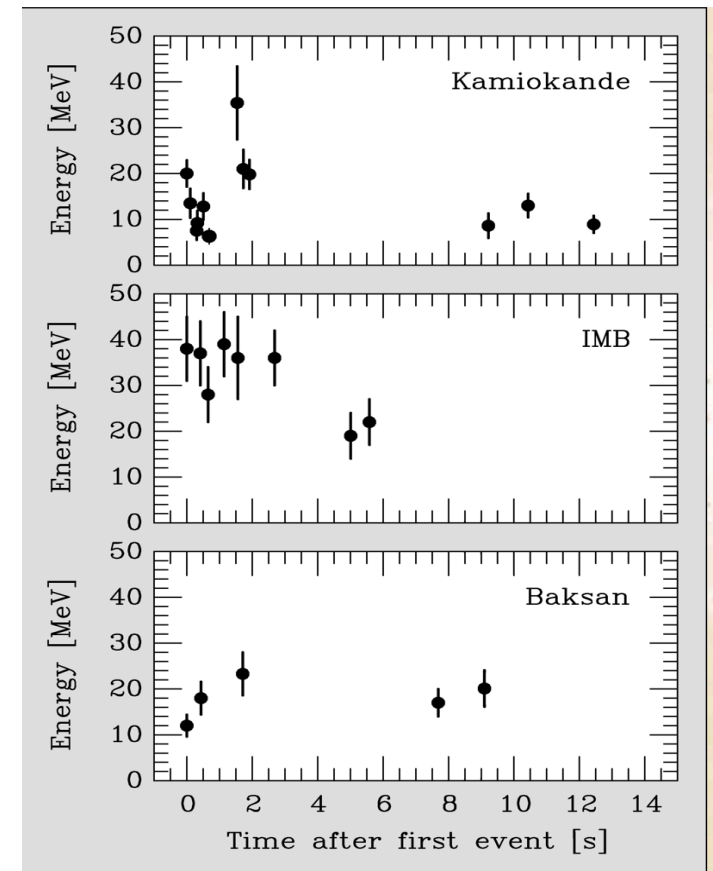
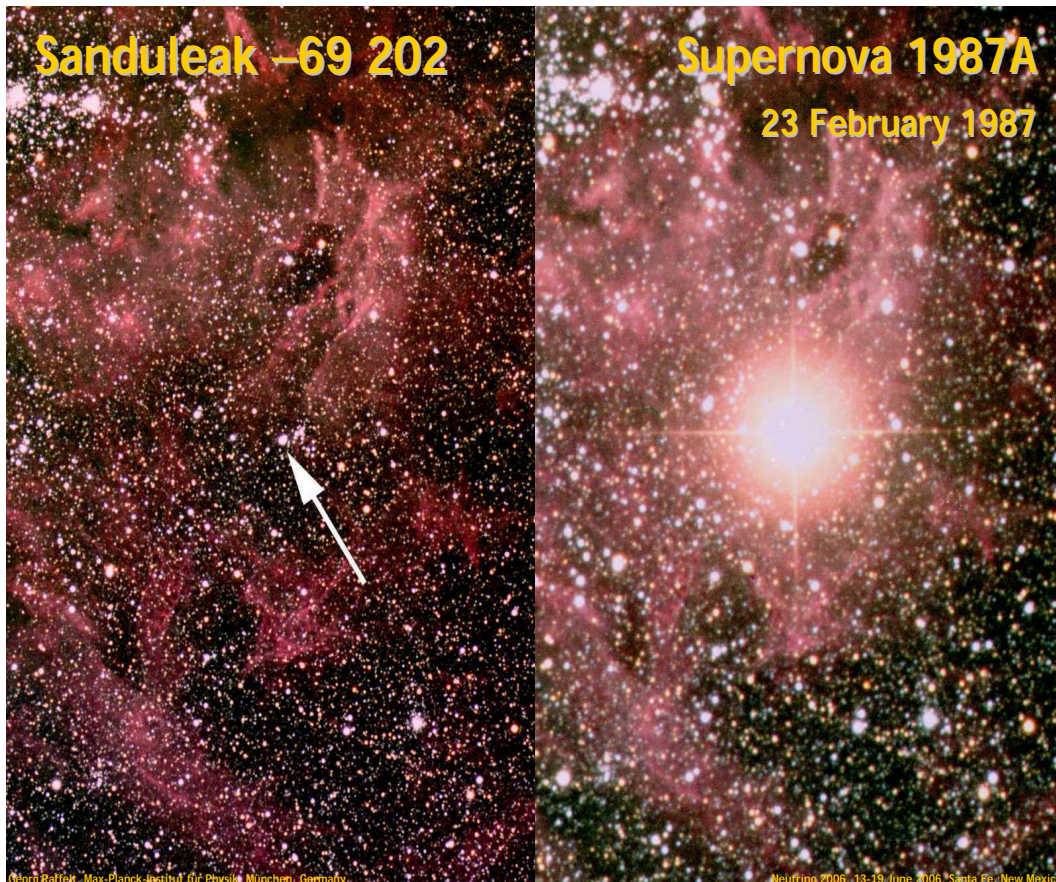


- The U, Th and K inside the earth produce  $\bar{\nu}_e$
- Geoneutrinos detected by KamLAND detector in Japan



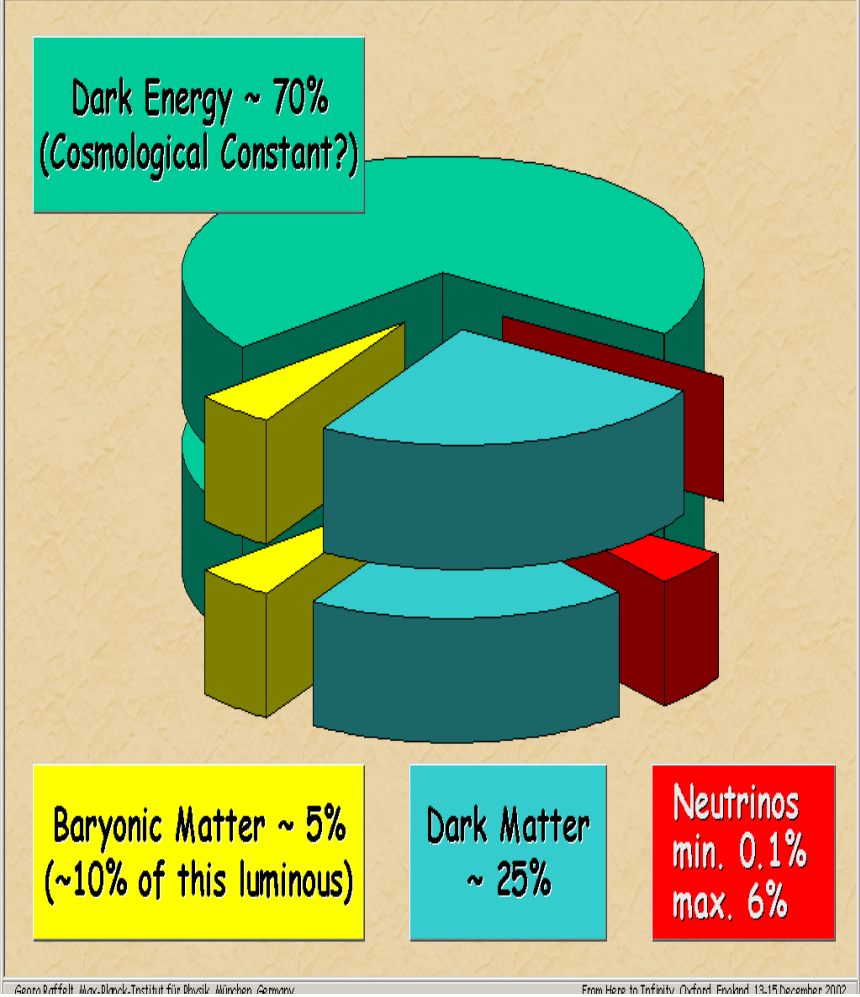
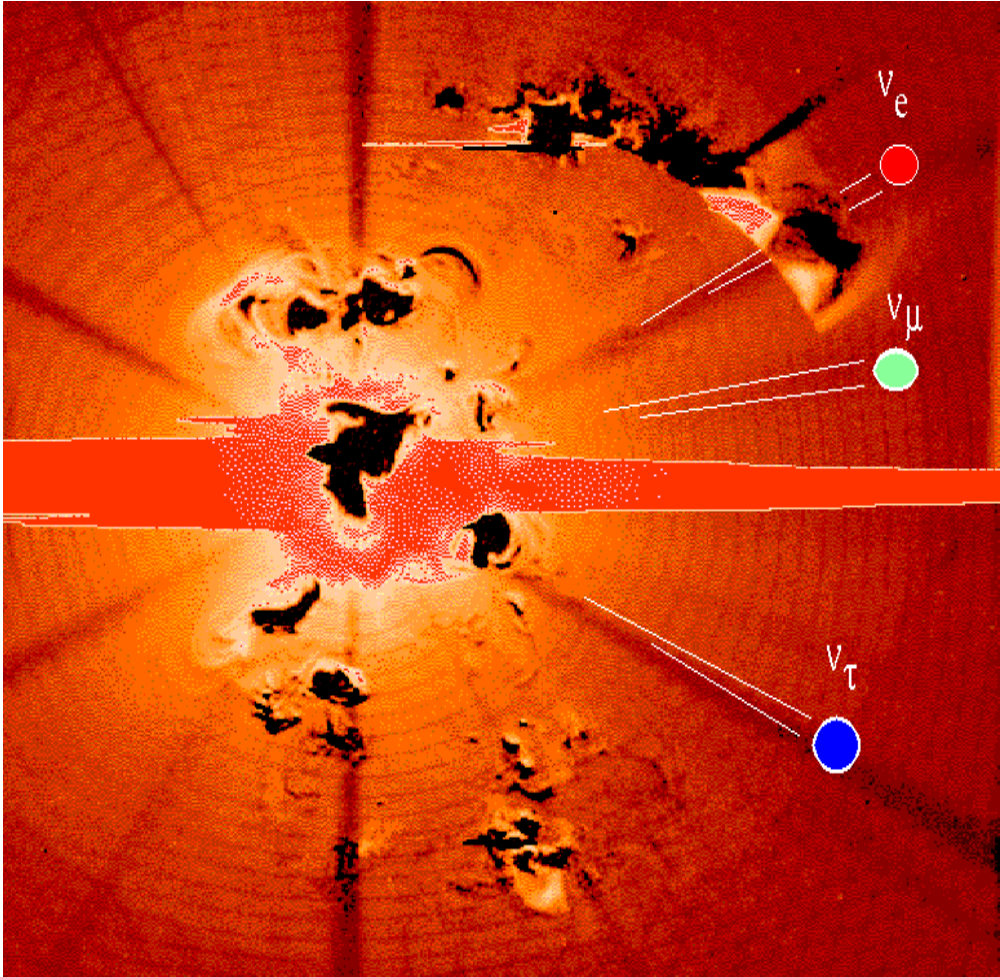
# Neutrinos are everywhere

- They come from **SuperNovae explosion**
- Only about 1% of SN energy is released in photons
- Remaining 99% comes out as neutrinos



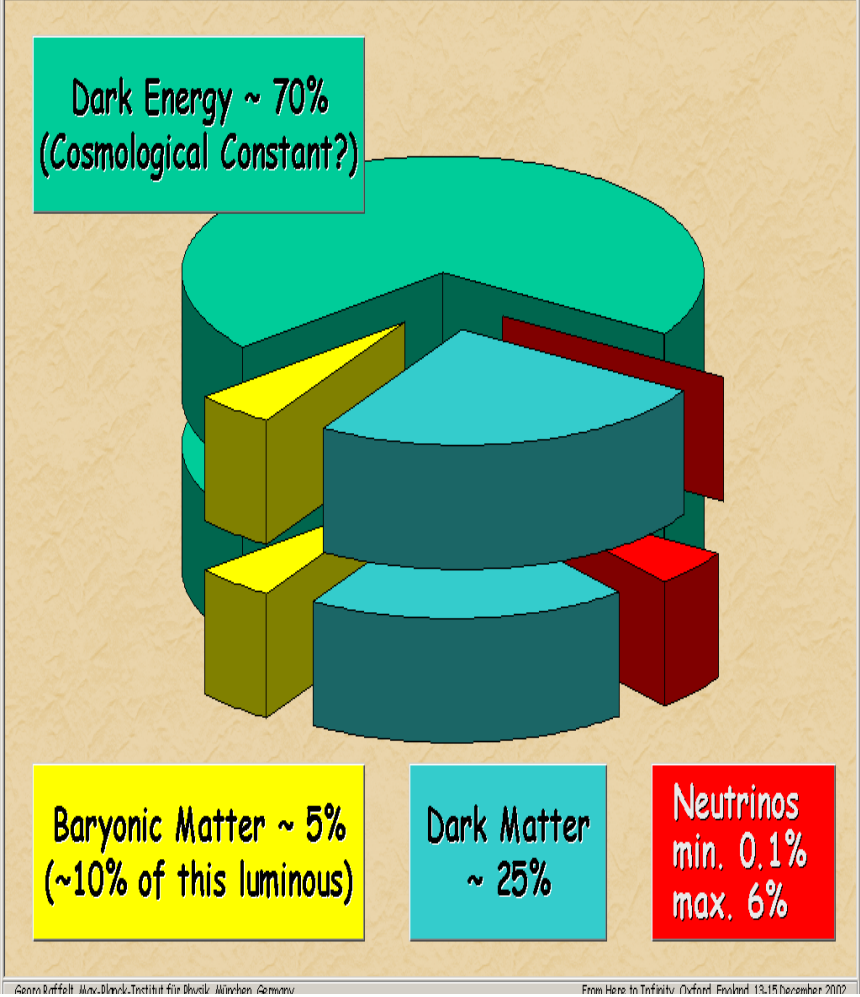
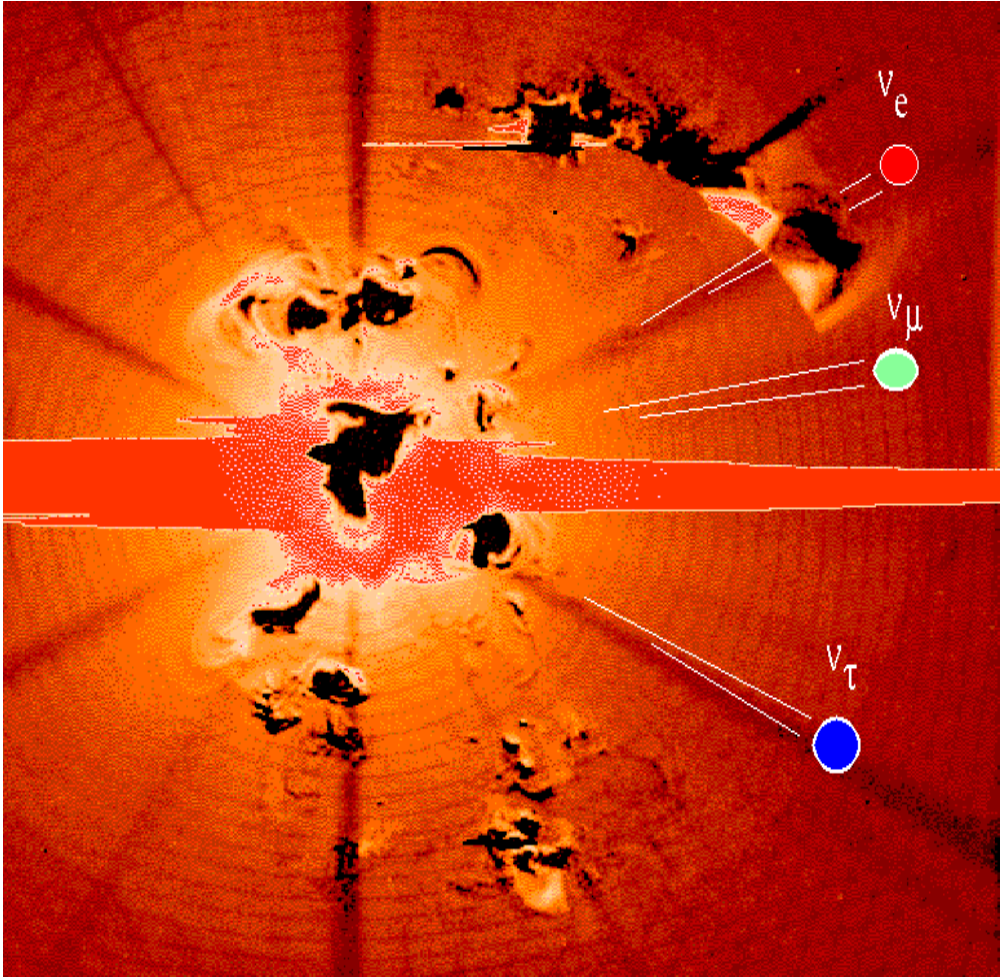
# Neutrinos are everywhere

- They are generated during BigBang



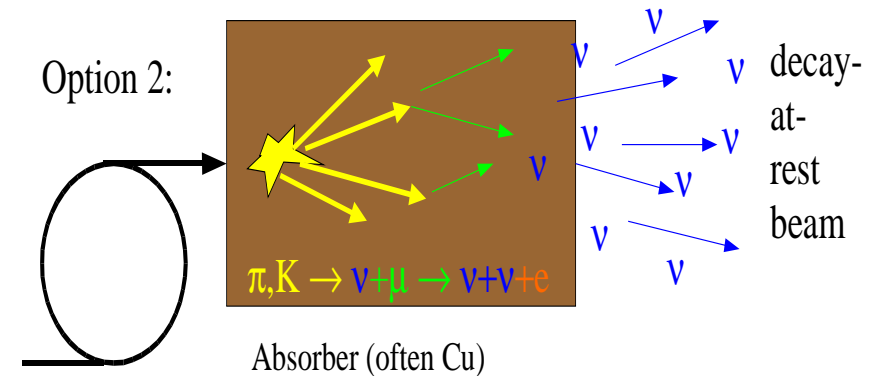
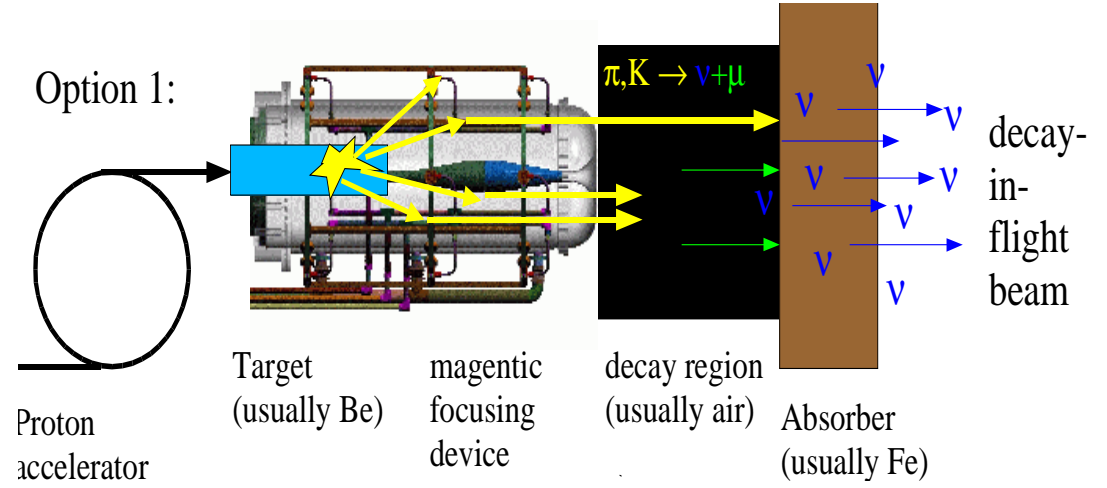
# Neutrinos are everywhere

- They are generated during BigBang



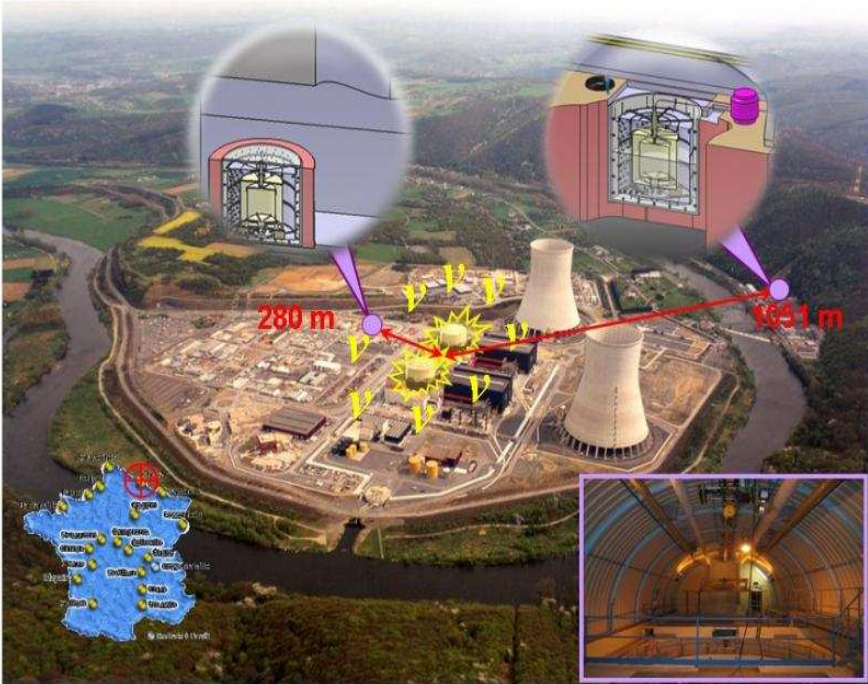
# Neutrinos are everywhere

- They can be produced in particle **accelerators**

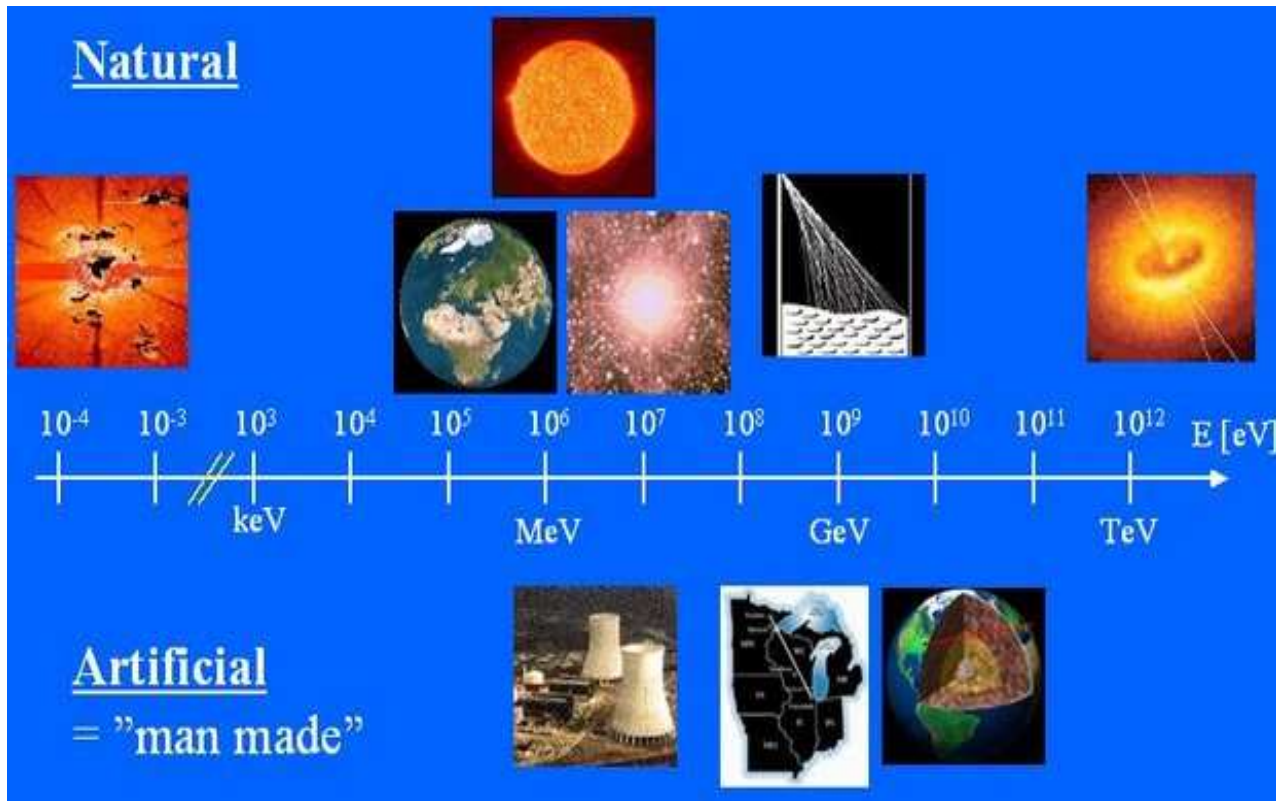


# Neutrinos are everywhere

- They are also produced in nuclear reactors



# Neutrinos are everywhere

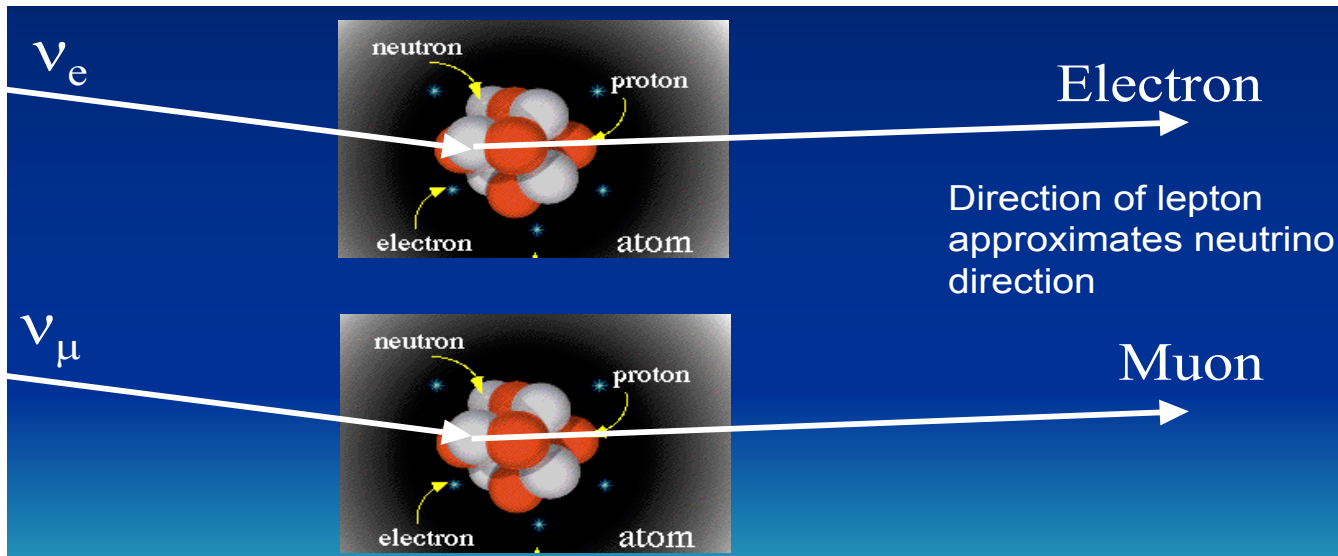


- $1 \text{ eV} = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ Joule}$        $1 \text{ MeV} = 10^6 \text{ eV}$        $1 \text{ GeV} = 10^9 \text{ eV}$
- Span an energy range from KeV - TeV



# Neutrino Detection Principle

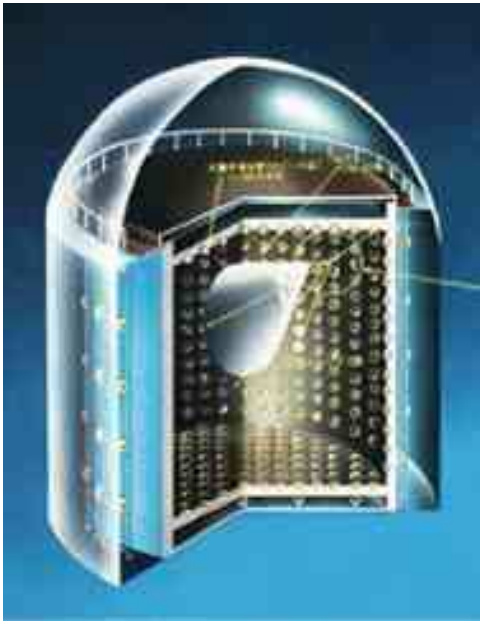
- A neutrino is detected by observing the product of its interaction with matter



- Interaction strength – very weak
- Huge detectors

# The elusive Neutrino

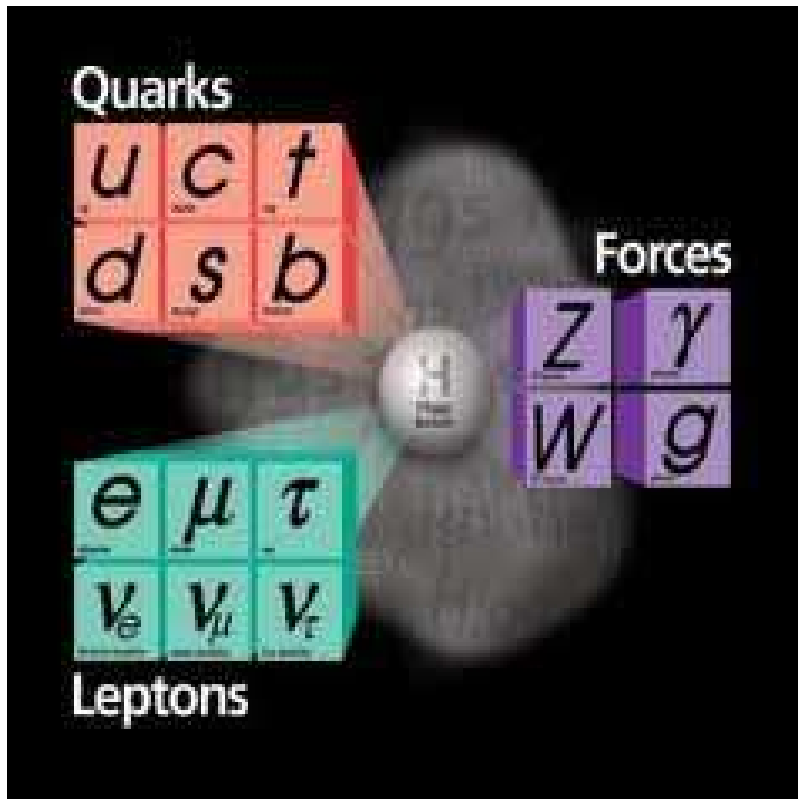
- Since neutrinos are weakly interacting the detectors has to be
  - **BIG** : to have enough statistics
  - **DEEP** : to reduce cosmic radiation
  - **CLEAN** : to reduce radioactive background



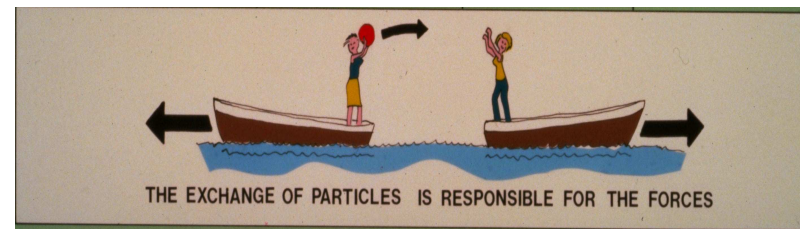
- SuperKamiokande
- 50,000 litres of water
- 10,000 photomultiplier tube
- $10^{25}$  neutrinos passing through/day
- Neutrino events /day 5-10

# The Standard Model of Particle Physics

- Aim: To describe the Fundamental Particles and their Interaction
- Guided by symmetry principles governing strong, weak and electromagnetic interaction :  $SU(3)_C \times SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y$



Force	Strength	Carrier
Strong nuclear	1	Gluons
Electromagnetic	.001	Photon
Weak nuclear	.00001	$Z^0, W^+, W^-$



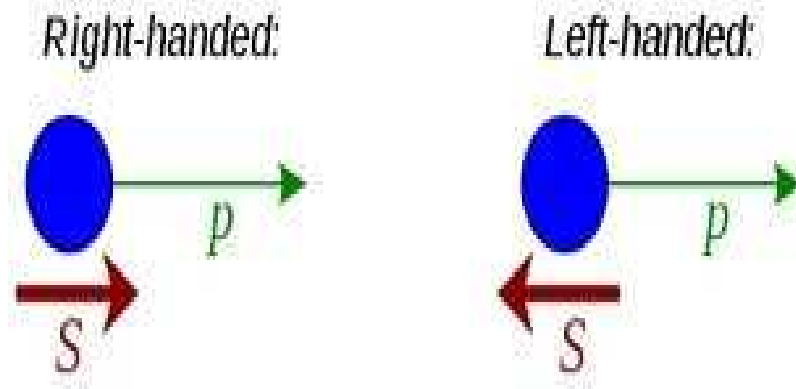
- Contains the antiparticles also

# Neutrinos in the Standard Model

- Neutrinos are weakly interacting :  $SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y$
- Neutrinos are part of lepton doublets  $l_i$  in 3 flavours
$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ e^- \end{pmatrix}_L \quad \begin{pmatrix} \nu_\mu \\ \mu^- \end{pmatrix}_L \quad \begin{pmatrix} \nu_\tau \\ \tau^- \end{pmatrix}_L \quad :(2:-1)$$
- Right handed leptons occur as singlets :  $e_R^-, \mu_R^-, \tau_R^- :(1,-2)$
- The quantum numbers are related as  $Q = T_3 + Y/2$
- The corresponding antiparticles are also there
$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ e^- \end{pmatrix}_L \longleftrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} e^+ \\ \nu_e^c \end{pmatrix}_R$$
- Neutrinos are left-handed and antineutrinos are righthanded
- No right handed neutrino  $\rightarrow$  Parity Violation

# Parity Violation in Weak Interactions

- Parity refers to the symmetry of space inversion
- In 1956 Lee and Yang proposed violation of parity in weak interactions to solve the  $\tau - \theta$  puzzle.
- 1957 Wu et al. discovered Parity violation in  $\beta$ -decay of  $^{60}\text{Co}$
- 1957 : Landau, Lee and Yang, Salam proposed that neutrinos are massless and only left-handed



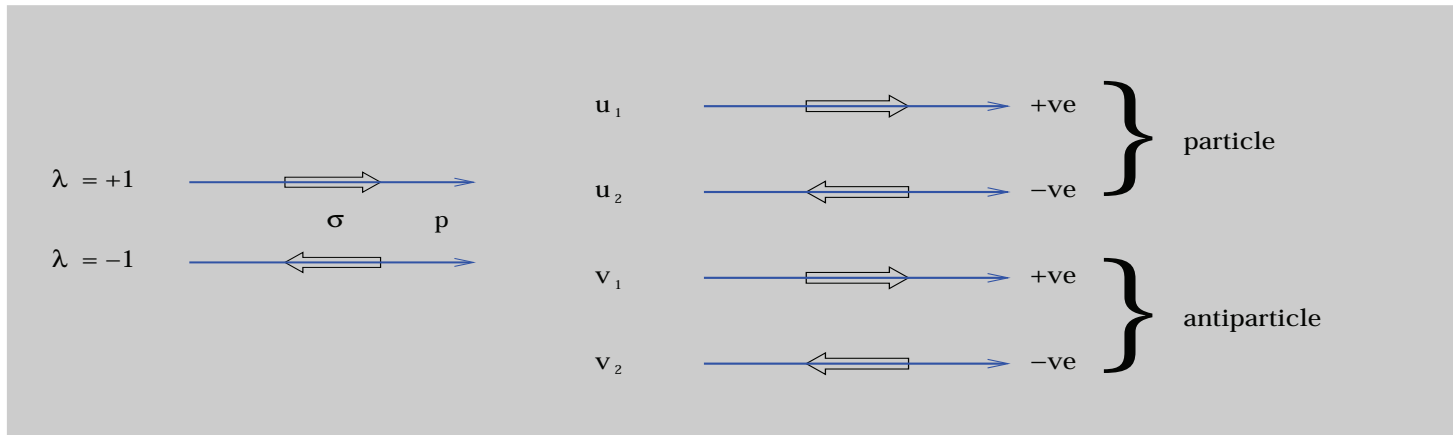
- In 1958 Goldhaber et al. measured the neutrino helicity to be left-handed
- V-A form of weak interaction

# Helicity

- Helicity is the projection of spin along the direction of motion

$$\vec{\Sigma} \cdot \hat{p} = \begin{pmatrix} \vec{\sigma} \cdot \hat{p} & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma \cdot \hat{p} \end{pmatrix}$$

- Helicity operator commutes with the Dirac Hamiltonian  $H = \alpha \cdot \mathbf{p} + \beta m$
- $\implies$  Energy eigenstates of Dirac Hamiltonian are also eigenstates of helicity,



# Chirality or Handedness

- The chirality operator is  $\gamma_5$

Consider now the chirality/handedness operator in the Pauli-Dirac representation:

$$\gamma_5 = i\gamma^0\gamma^1\gamma^2\gamma^3 = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{I} \\ \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{0} \end{pmatrix}$$

which satisfies:

$$\{\gamma_5, \gamma^\mu\} = \mathbf{0}$$

This anti-commutation relationship is true in any Dirac matrix representation. Lets evaluate the commutator of the chirality operator with the Dirac hamiltonian:

$$[\gamma_5, \mathbf{H}] = [\gamma_5, \vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{p} + m\beta] = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{I} \\ \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{0} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} m & \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{p} \\ \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{p} & -m \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} m & \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{p} \\ \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{p} & -m \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{I} \\ \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{0} \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow$$

$$[\gamma_5, \mathbf{H}] = \begin{pmatrix} \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{p} & -m \\ m & \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{p} \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{p} & m \\ -m & \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{p} \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow$$

$$[\gamma_5, \mathbf{H}] = 2m \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{0} & -\mathbf{I} \\ \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{0} \end{pmatrix}$$

- Thus chirality does not commute with the Dirac Hamiltonian if mass is non-zero

# Physical meaning of Chirality

Lets now investigate the physical meaning of the chirality. Consider the massless Dirac equation:

$$i \gamma^\mu \partial_\mu \Psi(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{0}$$

Let  $\Psi(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{u}(\vec{\mathbf{p}}) e^{-i\mathbf{p}^\mu x_\mu}$  be a solution of the Dirac equation. By substituting we get that:

$$(\gamma^0 p_0 - \vec{\gamma} \cdot \vec{\mathbf{p}}) \mathbf{u}(\vec{\mathbf{p}}) = \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow$$

$$\gamma^0 p_0 \mathbf{u}(\vec{\mathbf{p}}) = \vec{\gamma} \cdot \vec{\mathbf{p}} \mathbf{u}(\vec{\mathbf{p}}) \Rightarrow$$

$$\gamma_5 \gamma^0 \gamma^0 p_0 \mathbf{u}(\vec{\mathbf{p}}) = \gamma_5 \gamma^0 \vec{\gamma} \cdot \vec{\mathbf{p}} \mathbf{u}(\vec{\mathbf{p}}) \Rightarrow$$

$$p_0 \gamma_5 \mathbf{u}(\vec{\mathbf{p}}) = \gamma_5 \gamma^0 \vec{\gamma} \cdot \vec{\mathbf{p}} \mathbf{u}(\vec{\mathbf{p}}) \quad (3)$$



# Physical meaning of Chirality

If this is a positive energy solution then we have that  $p^0 > 0$  and (3) becomes:

$$\gamma_5 \mathbf{u}(\vec{p}) = \gamma_5 \gamma^0 \vec{\gamma} \cdot \hat{p} \mathbf{u}(\vec{p}) \quad (4)$$

If this is a negative solution then,  $p^0 < 0$  and

$$\gamma_5 \mathbf{u}(\vec{p}) = -\gamma_5 \gamma^0 \vec{\gamma} \cdot \hat{p} \mathbf{u}(\vec{p}) \quad (5)$$

Lets compute the matrix product on the right side:

$$\gamma_5 \gamma^0 \vec{\gamma} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{0} & I \\ I & \mathbf{0} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} I & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & -I \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{0} & \vec{\sigma} \\ -\vec{\sigma} & \mathbf{0} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \vec{\sigma} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \vec{\sigma} \end{pmatrix} = \vec{\Sigma} \Rightarrow$$

$$\vec{\Sigma} = \gamma_5 \gamma^0 \vec{\gamma} \quad (6)$$

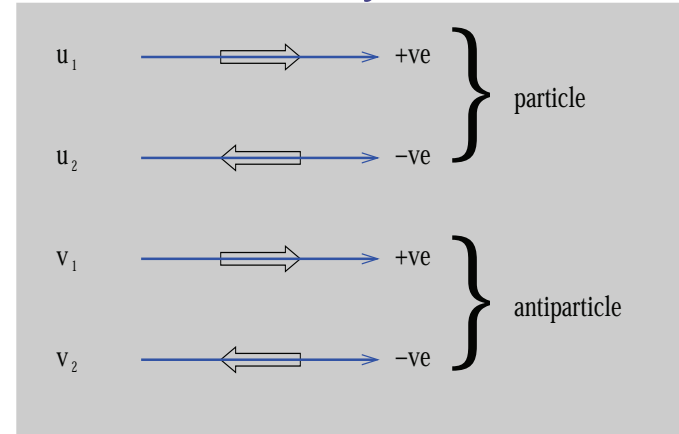
$$p^0 > 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \gamma_5 \mathbf{u}(\vec{p}) = \begin{pmatrix} \vec{\sigma} \cdot \hat{p} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \vec{\sigma} \cdot \hat{p} \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{u}(\vec{p}) = \vec{\Sigma} \cdot \hat{p} \mathbf{u}(\vec{p}) \quad (7)$$

and

$$p^0 < 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \gamma_5 \mathbf{u}(\vec{p}) = -\begin{pmatrix} \vec{\sigma} \cdot \hat{p} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \vec{\sigma} \cdot \hat{p} \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{u}(\vec{p}) = -\vec{\Sigma} \cdot \hat{p} \mathbf{u}(\vec{p}) \quad (8)$$

# Chirality and Helicity

- For  $m=0$  eigenstates of chirality are eigenstates of helicity



- Let us define the projection operators  $P_L = \frac{1 - \gamma_5}{2}$  and  $P_R = \frac{1 + \gamma_5}{2}$  for **left** and **right** handed states

- $p_0 > 0$

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_5 u_1(p) &= \vec{\Sigma} \cdot \hat{p} u_1(p) = u_1(p) \implies P_L u_1(p) = 0, P_R u_1(p) = u_1(p) \\ \gamma_5 u_2(p) &= \vec{\Sigma} \cdot \hat{p} u_2(p) = -u_2(p) \implies P_L u_2(p) = u_2(p), P_R u_2(p) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

- $p_0 < 0$

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_5 v_1(p) &= -\vec{\Sigma} \cdot \hat{p} v_1(p) = -v_1(p) \implies P_L v_1(p) = v_1(p), P_R v_1(p) = 0 \\ \gamma_5 v_2(p) &= -\vec{\Sigma} \cdot \hat{p} v_2(p) = v_2(p) \implies P_L v_2(p) = 0, P_R v_2(p) = v_2(p) \end{aligned}$$

- $P_L$  projects -ve (+ve) helicity states for particles (antiparticles)
- $P_R$  projects +ve (-ve) helicity states for particles (antiparticles)

# Chirality and Helicity

- $\implies$  Left handed particles and right-handed antiparticles have -ve helicity
- $\implies$  Right-handed particles and left-handed antiparticles have +ve helicity

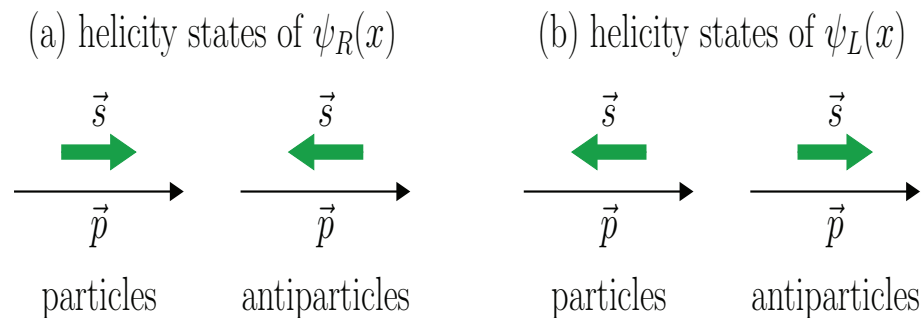


FIG. 2.1. Helicity states of the massless chiral fields  $\psi_R(x)$  and  $\psi_L(x)$ .

Giunti and Kim, Fundamentals of Neutrino Physics and Astrophysics

- For massive fields left handed particles are predominantly -ve helicity +ve helicity component  $\sim m/E$
- For massive fields right handed particles are predominantly +ve helicity with a -ve helicity component  $\sim m/E$

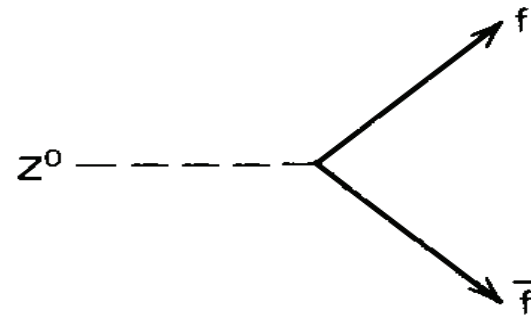
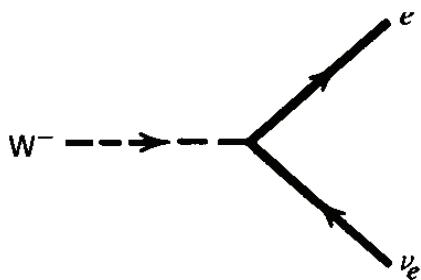
# Neutrino Interaction in SM

- Neutrinos interact with W boson through the “charged current” interaction that gives rise to the term

$$\mathcal{L}_{CC} = \frac{g}{2\sqrt{2}} \bar{\ell} \gamma^\mu (1 - \gamma_5) \nu W_\mu^- + h.c. \quad (1)$$

- The interaction with Z boson is the “neutral current” interaction that gives rise to the term

$$\mathcal{L}_{NC} = \frac{g}{(2 \cos \theta_W)} \bar{\nu} \gamma_\mu (1 - \gamma_5) \nu Z^\mu \quad (2)$$



# Lepton Number

- Neutrinos are electrically neutral
- Neutrinos carry Lepton Number +1, antineutrinos carry lepton number -1  
(Global  $U(1)$  symmetry,  $\psi \rightarrow \psi' = e^{i\alpha}\psi$ )
- Introduced in 1953 by Konopinski and Mahmoud to explain certain missing decay modes
- Known reactions conserve generational lepton number  $L_e$ ,  $L_\mu$  and  $L_\tau$  as well as total Lepton number  $L_e + L_\mu + L_\tau$
- Allowed Decays  
 $\pi \rightarrow \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu$   
 $\mu^- \rightarrow e^- \bar{\nu}_e \nu_\mu$
- Forbidden Decays  
 $\mu \rightarrow e\gamma$   
( $L_e$  and  $L_\mu$  not conserved separately)

# Fermion Mass in Standard Model

- $L_{Dirac} = \bar{\psi}(i\gamma^\mu \delta_\mu - m)\psi$
- Mass term :  $m\bar{\psi}\psi$
- Chiral decomposition :  $\psi = \psi_L + \psi_R$
- $\psi_{R,L} = \frac{1}{2}(1 \pm \gamma_5)\psi$ , the left and right handed states
- $M_{Dirac} = -m_D(\bar{\psi}_L\psi_L + \bar{\psi}_R\psi_L + \bar{\psi}_L\psi_R + \bar{\psi}_R\psi_R)$
- $\bar{\psi}_L\psi_L = \bar{\psi}_R\psi_R = 0$  (Using property of  $\gamma$  matrices) (Check!)
- Thus,  $L_{Dirac} = -m(\bar{\psi}_R\psi_L + \bar{\psi}_L\psi_R)$
- In SM  $\psi_L$  belongs to SU(2) doublet and  $\psi_R$  is SU(2) singlet e.g  
 $\psi_L = (\nu_e, e^-)^T, \psi_R = e_R$
- Y is also not conserved ( $e_L : Y = -1, e_R : Y = -2$ )
- Mass terms break gauge symmetry

# Fermion Mass in Standard Model

- Fermion masses can be generated through Higgs :  $\phi = \begin{pmatrix} \phi^+ \\ \phi^0 \end{pmatrix} (2, +1)$
- $L_Y = y_e \bar{\psi}_L \phi e_R$  , (the fermions and Higgs doublets :  $2 \times 2 = 3 \oplus 1$  )
- $\bar{\psi}_L : Y = 1, \phi : Y = 1, e_R : Y = -2$
- $[L_Y] = 4 \rightarrow y \rightarrow$  dimension less
- When Higgs develops Vacuum expectation value :  $\phi = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{v+h(x)}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix}$
- Mass term :  $\frac{y_e}{\sqrt{2}} \bar{e}_L v e_R$  ,  $m_e = \frac{y_e v}{\sqrt{2}}$
- $y_e$  is arbitrary  $\rightarrow m_e$  is not a prediction of SM
- When we include other leptons and quarks there are different Yukawa couplings  $\rightarrow$  free parameters of SM
- No right handed neutrinos and hence no Dirac mass term in SM

# Dirac Neutrino Mass beyond SM

- Simplets extension of SM : add  $N_R : (1,0)$
- Mass term  $\rightarrow \mathcal{L}_{Dirac} = m_D \bar{\nu} \nu = m_D (\bar{\nu}_L N_R + \bar{N}_R \nu_L)$ :  $\nu \equiv \nu_L + N_R$
- Lepton number  $L_\nu + L_N$  is conserved
- Mass is generated by Higgs mechanism through Yukawa coupling
- $-\mathcal{L} = \bar{N}_R Y_\nu \tilde{\phi}^\dagger l_L + \text{h.c}$
- $\tilde{\phi} = i\sigma_2 \phi^*$
- Same  $\phi$  cannot give mass to upper and lower fermions of the doublet  $\rightarrow Y$  cannot be conserved
- $i\sigma_2 \phi^*$  same transformation properties as  $\phi$  under SU(2)



# Dirac Mass Matrix

- When there are several fields with the same quantum numbers, we define the Dirac mass matrix,  $(m_D)_{ij}$

$$\mathcal{L}_D = - \sum_{\alpha, \beta=e, \mu, \tau} M_{\alpha\beta}^D \overline{\nu_{\alpha L}} \nu_{\beta R} + \text{H.c.} \quad M_{\alpha\beta}^D = \frac{v}{\sqrt{2}} Y_{\alpha\beta}$$

$$v = (\sqrt{2} G_F)^{-1/2} = 246 \text{ GeV}$$

complex  $3 \times 3$  Dirac mass matrix

$$\mathcal{L}_D = - \begin{pmatrix} \overline{\nu_{eL}} & \overline{\nu_{\mu L}} & \overline{\nu_{\tau L}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} m_{ee} & m_{e\mu} & m_{e\tau} \\ m_{\mu e} & m_{\mu\mu} & m_{\mu\tau} \\ m_{\tau e} & m_{\tau\mu} & m_{\tau\tau} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_{eR} \\ \nu_{\mu R} \\ \nu_{\tau R} \end{pmatrix} + \text{H.c.}$$

$L_e, L_\mu, L_\tau$  are not conserved

- In the SM, the fermion fields are present in three copies, and the Dirac mass matrices are  $3 \times 3$  matrices. In general, however,  $m_D$  does not have to be a square matrix.

# Majorana Mass and charge conjugation

- Majorana mass term uses the charge conjugated states

need charge conjugation:

$$\text{electron } e^-: [\gamma_\mu (i\partial^\mu + e A^\mu) - m] \psi = 0 \quad (1)$$

$$\text{positron } e^+: [\gamma_\mu (i\partial^\mu - e A^\mu) - m] \psi^c = 0 \quad (2)$$

Try  $\psi^c = S \psi^*$ , evaluate  $(S^*)^{-1} (2)^*$  and compare with (1):

$$S = i\gamma_2$$

and thus

$$\psi^c = i\gamma_2 \psi^* = i\gamma_2 \gamma_0 \bar{\psi}^T \equiv C \bar{\psi}^T$$

slide courtesy: W. Rodejohann

# Properties of C

Properties of  $C$ :

$$C^\dagger = C^T = C^{-1} = -C$$

$$C \gamma_\mu C^{-1} = -\gamma_\mu^T$$

$$C \gamma_5 C^{-1} = \gamma_5^T$$

$$C \gamma_\mu \gamma_5 C^{-1} = (\gamma_\mu \gamma_5)^T$$

properties of charged conjugate spinors:

$$(\psi^c)^c = \psi$$

$$\overline{\psi^c} = \psi^T C$$

$$\overline{\psi_1} \psi_2^c = \overline{\psi_2^c} \psi_1$$

$$(\psi_L)^c = (\psi^c)_R$$

$$(\psi_R)^c = (\psi^c)_L$$

slide courtesy: W. Rodejohann

# Majorana Mass

- Let us consider the Dirac mass term Thus,  $\mathcal{L}_{Dirac} = -m(\bar{N}_R\nu_L + \bar{\nu}_L N_R)$
- In order to get Majorana mass one does not need an extra  $N_R$  but use the right-handed state  $(\nu_L)^c \equiv (\nu^c)_R$
- where,  $\nu^c = C\bar{\nu}^T = i\gamma_2\gamma_0\gamma_0\nu^* = i\gamma_2\nu^*$
- Then,  $\mathcal{L}_{mass}^M = \frac{1}{2}m_M(\bar{\nu}_L^c\nu_L + \bar{\nu}_L\nu_L^c)$
- The full Majorana Lagrangian  
$$\mathcal{L}^M = \frac{1}{2} [\bar{\nu}_L i\not{\partial}\nu_L + \overline{\nu_L^c} i\not{\partial}\nu_L^c - m(\bar{\nu}_L^c\nu_L + \bar{\nu}_L\nu_L^c)]$$
- The overall factor of 1/2 to avoid doublecounting as  $\nu_L$  and  $\nu_L^c$  are not independent
- The Majorana field  $\nu \equiv \nu_L + \nu^c_R$   
$$\nu^c = (\nu_L)^c + (\nu^c_R)^c = (\nu^c)_R + \nu_L = \nu$$
  
→ A Majorana Neutrino is its own Antineutrino
- In terms of  $\nu$   $\mathcal{L}^M = \frac{1}{2} [\bar{\nu} i\not{\partial}\nu - m\bar{\nu}\nu]$

# Can particles be their own antiparticles ?



- A few years before he mysteriously disappeared at sea, Italian physicist **Ettore Majorana** posed a puzzle for future researchers. In 1937 he varied Dirac equation to predict a class of particles that are its own antiparticles: the **Majorana fermions**.
- Is the Dirac equation a real equation like the Klein-Gordon equation "
- For Majorana representation all non-zero elements of all the four  $\gamma_\mu$ 's are purely imaginary. This leads to  $\psi = \psi^c$

Palsh. B. Pal, arXiv 1006.1718

# Majorana Mass Matrix

- The Majorana mass term in matrix form can be written as,

$$\mathcal{L}_{mass}^M = -\frac{1}{2}(\overline{\nu}_L^c M \nu_L) + h.c. = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha, \beta=e, \mu, \tau} (\nu_{\alpha L}^T C^\dagger M_{\alpha\beta} \nu_{\beta L}) + h.c.$$

$$(\overline{\nu}_L^c = -\nu_L^T C^\dagger)$$



$$\sum_{\alpha, \beta=e, \mu, \tau} \nu_{\alpha L}^T C^\dagger M_{\alpha\beta} \nu_{\beta L} = \sum_{\alpha, \beta=e, \mu, \tau} \nu_{\beta L}^T C^\dagger M_{\alpha\beta} \nu_{\alpha L}$$

using  $C^T = -C$  and '-' sign due anti-commutation of fermion fields

- Interchanging  $\alpha, \beta$  in the last term,

$$\sum_{\alpha, \beta=e, \mu, \tau} \nu_{\alpha L}^T C^\dagger M_{\alpha\beta} \nu_{\beta L} = \sum_{\alpha, \beta=e, \mu, \tau} \nu_{\alpha L}^T C^\dagger M_{\beta\alpha} \nu_{\beta L}$$



$$\implies M_{\beta\alpha} = M_{\alpha\beta}$$

# Lepton Number

- $\mathcal{L}_{mass} == \frac{1}{2}m_M(\bar{\nu}_L^c\nu_L + \bar{\nu}_L\nu_L^c)$
- Under global U(1) gauge transformation,  $\nu_L \rightarrow e^{i\varphi}\nu_L$  and  $\nu_L^T \rightarrow e^{i\varphi}\nu_L^T$   
Majorana Mass Term becomes,

$$\mathcal{L}_{mass}^M = -m\frac{1}{2}(-e^{2i\varphi}\nu_L^T C^\dagger\nu_L + e^{-2i\varphi}\nu_L^\dagger C\nu_L^*) \quad (3)$$

- Not invariant under the global U(1) gauge transformation
- Violation of Lepton Number by 2 units
- Can lead to neutrinoless double  $\beta$  decay  $(A, Z) \rightarrow (A, Z + 2) + 2e^-$
- Charged particle cannot be Majorana

# How to generate Majorana Mass ?

- $\mathcal{L}_{mass} = \frac{1}{2}m_M(\overline{\nu}_L^c\nu_L + \overline{\nu}_L\nu_L^c)$
- Can we have a Majorana mass term in SM ?
- The  $SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y$  quantum numbers :  
 $\nu_L : (2, -1), \quad \nu_L^c = i\gamma_2\nu_L^* : (2, 1)$   
 $\overline{\nu}_L^c\nu_L = (2, -1) \times (2, -1) = (1, -2) + (3, -2)$   
 $\overline{\nu}_L\nu_L^c = (1, 2) + (3, 2)$
- Thus Y is not conserved
- No Majorana mass term in SM
- Majorana mass term can be generated at tree-level through a term  
 $\overline{\nu}_L^c\nu_L X$
- To ensure gauge invariance X needs to have Q=0
- Scalar triplet with (Y = 2)  
 $(3, -2) \times (3, 2) = (1, 0) + (3, 0) + (5, 0)$



# Neutrino Mixing: Dirac case

- $-\mathcal{L}_{Dirac} = \bar{\nu}_{L\alpha} M_{\alpha\beta} N_{R\beta} + h.c.$   $\alpha, \beta = e, \mu, \tau$
- $(\nu_e, \nu_\mu, \nu_\tau)$  are the weak interaction eigenstates
- The mass matrix  $M$  is in general non-diagonal and non-hermitian and can be diagonalized by a Bi-Unitary transformation

$$M_{diag} = U M V^\dagger$$

- $-\mathcal{L}_{Dirac} = (\bar{\nu}_{L\alpha} U^\dagger) (U M_{\alpha\beta} V^\dagger) (V N_{R\beta}) + h.c. = \bar{\nu}'_{L\alpha} M_{dia} N'_{R\beta} + h.c.$
- The weak eigenstates are related to the mass eigenstates as,

$$\nu_{L\alpha} = U_{\alpha i} \nu'_{Li}, \quad N_R^\alpha = V_{\alpha i} N'_{Ri} \quad (i=1,2,3)$$

# Neutrino Mixing: Dirac case

- The charged current Lagrangian
- Using the primed basis  $\nu'_i$  the Charged Current Lagrangian is

$$\mathcal{L}_{CC} = \frac{g}{2\sqrt{2}} (\bar{\nu}'_1, \bar{\nu}'_2, \bar{\nu}'_3) U^\dagger \gamma^\mu \begin{pmatrix} e \\ \mu \\ \tau \end{pmatrix}_L W_\mu^+ + h.c.$$

$U^\dagger \rightarrow$  PMNS or MNSP mixing matrix for leptons in the basis where the charged lepton mass matrix is diagonal analogous to CKM matrix in the quark sector

- $2N^2$  parameters for a  $N \times N$  complex matrix
- Unitarity  $\implies N^2$  independent elements
- ${}^N C_2 = N(N-1)/2$  angles,  $N^2 - N(N-1)/2 = N(N+1)/2$  phases  
 $\implies$  2 generation: 1 angle, 3 phases, 3 generation: 3 angles, 6 phases
- Not all phases are physically observable

# Neutrino Mixing: Dirac case

- The weak charged current :  $j_w^\mu = \sum_{k=1,3} \sum_{\alpha=e,\mu\tau} \bar{\nu}_{kL} U_{\alpha k}^* \gamma^\mu l_{\alpha l}$
- Making phase transformations :  $\nu_k \rightarrow e^{i\phi_k} \nu_k$  and  $l_\alpha = e^{i\phi_\alpha} l_\alpha$
- $j_w^\mu = \sum_{k=1,3} \sum_{\alpha=e,\mu\tau} \bar{\nu}_{kL} e^{-i\phi_k} U_{\alpha k}^* e^{i\phi_\alpha} \gamma^\mu l_{\alpha l}$
- $j_w^\mu = e^{-i(\phi_1 - \phi_e)} \sum_{k=1,3} \sum_{\alpha=e,\mu\tau} \bar{\nu}_{kL} e^{-i(\phi_k - \phi_1)} U_{\alpha k}^* e^{i\phi_\alpha - \phi_e} \gamma^\mu l_{\alpha l}$
- $\implies$  5 arbitrary phases which can be used to absorb 5 out of 6 phases in U
- A common rephasing of all the fields leaves the charged current invariant  
 $\implies$  conservation of total lepton number
- $\implies$  the mixing matrix contains 3 angles and 1 physical phase

# Parametrizing the Neutrino Mixing Matrix

- $U_{PMNS} = R_{23}(\theta_{23})R_{13}(\theta_{13},\delta)R_{12}(\theta_{12})$

- $U_{PMNS} =$ 

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

$$\begin{pmatrix} c_{12}c_{13} & s_{12}c_{13} & s_{13}e^{-i\delta} \\ -s_{12}c_{23} - c_{12}s_{23}s_{13}e^{i\delta} & c_{12}c_{23} - s_{12}s_{23}s_{13}e^{i\delta} & s_{23}c_{13} \\ s_{12}s_{23} - c_{12}c_{23}s_{13}e^{i\delta} & -c_{12}s_{23} - s_{12}c_{23}s_{13}e^{i\delta} & c_{23}c_{13} \end{pmatrix}$$

- 3 mixing angles and 1 phase

- This phase is responsible for CP violation in lepton sector

# Neutrino Mixing: Majorana case

- The Majorana mass matrix,

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_{mass}^M &= -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha,\beta=e,\mu,\tau} \nu_{\alpha L}^T C^\dagger M_{\alpha\beta} \nu_{\beta L} + h.c. \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha,\beta=e,\mu,\tau} \nu_{\alpha L}^T C^\dagger U^T (U^* M_{\alpha\beta} U^\dagger) U \nu_{\beta L} + h.c. \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} \nu_{kL}^T C^\dagger M_{diag} \nu_{kL} + h.c.\end{aligned}$$

- $M_{diag} = U^* M U^\dagger$  or  $M_{diag} = U^T M U$

- Can be shown starting from a bi-unitary transformation and assuming the mass matrix to be symmetric

# Phases of the Majorana Mixing

- The weak charged current :  $j_w^\mu = \sum_{k=1,3} \sum_{\alpha=e,\mu\tau} \bar{\nu}_{kL} U_{\alpha k}^* \gamma^\mu l_{\alpha l}$
- U in general contains 6 phases
- The Majorana mass term  $-\frac{1}{2} \nu_{kL}^T C^\dagger M_{\alpha\beta} \nu_{\beta L}$  not invariant under the phase transformation  $\nu_k \rightarrow e^{i\phi_k} \nu_k$
- $\implies$  Phases of the mixing matrix can not be absorbed in the neutrino field. If absorbed then again reappear in the mass matrix.
- $\implies$  Only 3 phases can be absorbed by rephasing the charged lepton fields
- The Majorana Mixing Matrix  $U = U^{Dirac} P$  where P is the phase matrix  $P = \text{Dia}(0, e^{i\alpha}, e^{i\beta})$

# PART-II : Neutrino Oscillation

# Neutrino Oscillations

- Do neutrinos change flavour after passing through a distance ?
- Proposed by Pontecorvo in 1957 in analogy with  $K_0 - \bar{K}_0$  oscillations
- Quantum Mechanical Interference phenomena
- $\nu_e, \nu_\mu, \nu_\tau$  produced in weak interactions – flavour states
- $\nu_1, \nu_2, \nu_3$  are the mass eigenstates that propagate
- If neutrinos have mass then,  
 $\nu_\alpha = U_{\alpha i} \nu_i$  (In terms of Fields)     $|\nu_\alpha \rangle = U_{\alpha i}^* |\nu_i \rangle$  (In terms of States)  
 $U$  is the neutrino mixing matrix  $3 \times 3$  for three flavours
- This leads to Neutrino Oscillations



# Neutrino Oscillations in Vacuum: Two Flavours

- If neutrinos have mass

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

- Neutrinos acquire different phases as they propagate

$$|\nu_j(t)\rangle = \exp(-iE_j t) |\nu_j(0)\rangle \quad E_j = p^2 + m_j^2/2p$$

- A phase difference develop between the terms since  $m_1 \neq m_2$

- At some later time

$$|\nu_e(t)\rangle = \cos \theta \exp(-iE_1 t) |\nu_1(0)\rangle + \sin \theta \exp(-iE_2 t) |\nu_2(0)\rangle \neq |\nu_e\rangle$$

- Survival Probability (in vacuum)

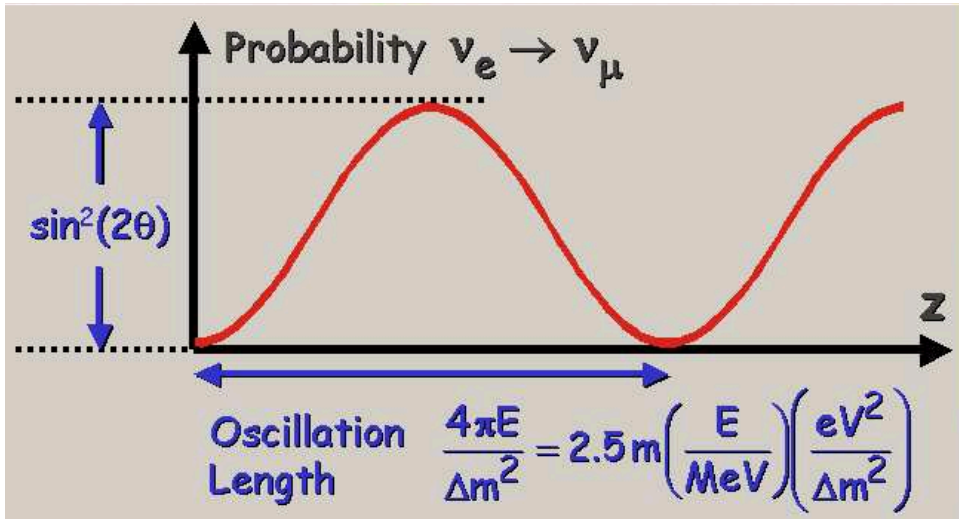
$$|\langle \nu_e(t) | \nu_e \rangle|^2 = P_{\nu_e \nu_e} = 1 - \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2(1.27 \Delta m^2 L/E);$$

- Oscillation Probability (in vacuum)

$$P_{\nu_e \nu_\mu} = 1 - P_{\nu_e \nu_e} = \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2(1.27 \Delta m^2 L/E)$$

# Oscillation Probability in Vacuum

$$P_{\nu_e \nu_\mu} = \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2(1.27 \Delta m^2 L / E) = \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2(\pi L / \lambda)$$



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

$\theta \rightarrow$  mixing angle

$L \rightarrow$  Distance travelled (in m/Km)

$E \rightarrow \nu$  Energy (in MeV/GeV)

- Neutrino Oscillation requires
  - Non-zero neutrino mass
  - Non-zero mixing angles
  - Oscillation effect  $\Delta m^2 \sim E/L$

## ● Oscillation Wavelength

$$\lambda = 2.5m(E/MeV)(eV^2/\Delta m^2)$$

- $\lambda \gg L, \sin^2(\pi L/\lambda) \rightarrow 0$

- $\lambda \ll L, \sin^2(\pi L/\lambda) \rightarrow 1/2$

- $\lambda \sim 2L, \sin^2(\pi L/\lambda) \sim 1 \rightarrow \Delta m^2 \sim E/L$

# Neutrino oscillations in vacuum

# Neutrino oscillations in vacuum

- Generalisation to more than 2 flavours

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{P}(\nu_\alpha \longrightarrow \nu_\beta) &= | \langle \nu_\beta | \nu_\alpha(t) \rangle |^2 = \sum_{i,j} U_{\alpha i} U_{\beta i}^* U_{\alpha j}^* U_{\beta j} e^{-i2\Delta_{ij}} \\ &= \delta_{\alpha\beta} - 4 \sum_{i>j} \text{Re}(U_{\alpha i} U_{\beta i}^* U_{\alpha j}^* U_{\beta j}) \sin^2(\Delta_{ij}) \\ &\quad + 2 \sum_{i>j} \text{Im}(U_{\alpha i} U_{\beta i}^* U_{\alpha j}^* U_{\beta j}) \sin(2\Delta_{ij})\end{aligned}$$

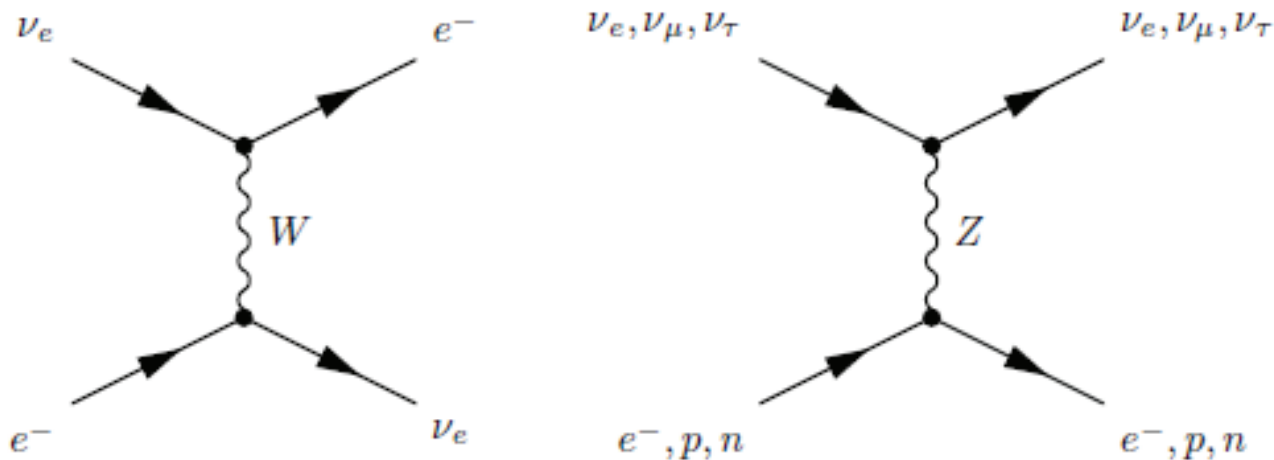
$$\Delta_{ij} = \frac{1.267 \Delta m_{ij}^2 (eV^2) L (Km)}{E (GeV)}.$$

For real U

$$\mathcal{P}(\nu_\alpha \longrightarrow \nu_\beta) = \delta_{\alpha\beta} - 4 \sum_{i>j} \text{Re}(U_{\alpha i} U_{\beta i} U_{\alpha j} U_{\beta j}) \sin^2(\Delta_{ij})$$

# Matter Effects

- Neutrinos travelling through matter will interact with it.
- Normal matter only has  $e^-$ ,  $p$  and  $n$  (CP, CPT violating).
- Only  $\nu_e$  and  $\bar{\nu}_e$  have charge current interactions.
- All the neutrino types can have neutral current interactions



- This interaction modifies the mixing and masses in matter
- The probabilities are also different than vacuum oscillation case
- The neutrino flavour conversion in matter violate CP, CPT.

# Matter Potential

- Neutrinos undergo forward elastic scattering (no momentum change)

- Energies are much below the electroweak scale,

$$\mathcal{H}_{eff}^{CC}(x) = \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} [\bar{\nu}_e(x)\gamma^\mu(1 - \gamma^5)\nu_e(x)] [\bar{e}(x)\gamma_\mu(1 - \gamma^5)e]$$

- To calculate the effective potential one needs to average over the electron background i.e compute  $\langle(\bar{e}_L\gamma_\mu e_L)\rangle$  :

$$\langle \bar{e}_L\gamma_0 e_L \rangle = N_e, \quad \langle \bar{e}_L\vec{\gamma} e_L \rangle = \langle \vec{v}_e \rangle, \quad \langle \bar{e}_L\gamma_0\gamma_5 e_L \rangle = \langle \frac{\vec{\sigma}_e\vec{p}_e}{E_e} \rangle, \quad \langle \bar{e}_L\vec{\gamma}\gamma_5 e_L \rangle = \langle \vec{\sigma}_e \rangle,$$

- For unpolarized electrons at rest only the first one contributes

- $\langle H_{eff}^{CC}(x) \rangle = \frac{G_F N_e}{\sqrt{2}} \bar{\nu}_e(x)\gamma^0\nu_e(x)$

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

$$\text{For antineutrinos, } V_{CC} = -\sqrt{2}G_F N_e$$

(The current for charge conjugate field is  $-\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu\psi$ )

For detailed derivation e.g. Giunti and Kim Book

# Matter Potential : Neutral Currents

- One can similarly get for the neutral current

$$V_{NC} = \sqrt{2}G_F \sum_f N_f [I_{3L}^{(f)} - 2 \sin^2 \theta_W Q^{(f)}]$$

$f$	$I_{3L}^{(f)}$	$Q^{(f)}$
$e$	$-1/2$	$-1$
$p$	$1/2$	$1$
$n$	$-1/2$	$0$

— — *INSERT* — — 657, 329p

- Normal matter has  $N_e = N_p$  and so their contribution cancels out and only the neutron contribution stays
- $V_{NC} = -\sqrt{2}G_F \frac{N_n}{2}$

# Matter effects: Two Flavours

- Mass eigenvalues in matter :

$$\frac{m_{1m,2m}^2}{2E} = \frac{1}{2E} \left( \frac{A}{2} \mp \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{(\Delta m^2 \cos 2\theta - A)^2 + (\Delta m^2 \sin 2\theta)^2} \right)$$

- The mass squared difference in matter:

$$\Delta m_m^2 = \sqrt{(A - \Delta m^2 \cos 2\theta)^2 + \sin^2 2\theta}$$

- Effective mixing angle  $\theta_M$  in matter :

$$\tan 2\theta_M = \frac{\Delta m_{21}^2 \sin 2\theta}{\Delta m_{21}^2 \cos 2\theta - A}$$

$$\Delta m^2 \cos 2\theta = A = 2\sqrt{2}G_F n_e,$$

$\theta_M \rightarrow \pi/4$  **MSW Resonance**

- Mixing angle **Maximal**

L. Wolfenstein, PRD 17, 1978

S.P. Mikheyev, A.Yu. Smirnov, SJNP 42, 1985

- Mass squared difference in Matter **Minimal**

Intrinsic Neutrino Properties  $\Delta m^2, \theta$

- Survival probability in constant density matter is

$$P_{ee}^m = 1 - \sin^2 2\theta_m \sin^2 \left( \frac{\Delta m_m^2 L}{4E} \right)$$