

eV-scale sterile neutrino global fits & other hypotheses

European Neutrino “Town” meeting

Thomas Schwetz



CERN, 22–24 Oct 2018

thanks to my collaborators:

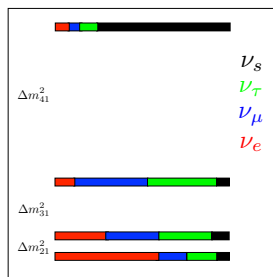
Dentler, Hernandez, Kopp, Maltoni, TS, 1709.04294

Dentler, Hernandez, Kopp, Machado, Maltoni, Martinez, TS, 1803.10661

Supported by the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No 674896 (Elusives)

Hints for sterile neutrinos at the eV scale?

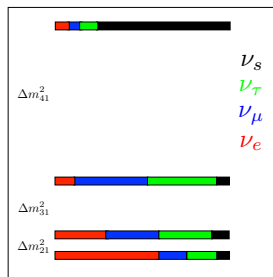
- ▶ Reactor anomaly ($\bar{\nu}_e$ disappearance)
 - ▶ predicted vs measured rate
 - ▶ distance dependent spectral distortions
- ▶ Gallium anomaly (ν_e disappearance)
- ▶ LSND ($\bar{\nu}_\mu \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e$ appearance)
- ▶ MiniBooNE ($\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e, \bar{\nu}_\mu \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e$ appearance)



ν_e disappearance: depends on $|U_{e4}| \rightarrow \theta_{ee}$

Hints for sterile neutrinos at the eV scale?

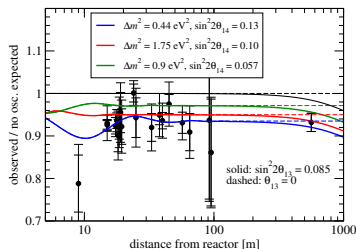
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ν_e disappearance: depends on $|U_{e4}| \rightarrow \theta_{ee}$

Reactor anomaly – rate

calculation of neutrino flux from nuclear reactors predict too many neutrinos [Mueller et al., 1101.2663](#), [P. Huber, 1106.0687](#)

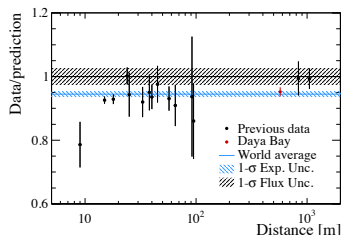


$$f = 0.935 \pm 0.024$$

(different from 1 @ 2.7σ)

Daya Bay [1808.10836](#)

DayaBay ND flux weighted measurement (578 m), 1230-day



$$f = 0.952 \pm 0.014 \pm 0.023$$

(relativ to Huber-Mueller pred.)

can be explained by $\bar{\nu}_e$ disappearance at eV-scale [Mention et al, 1101.2755](#)

Reactor anomaly – rate

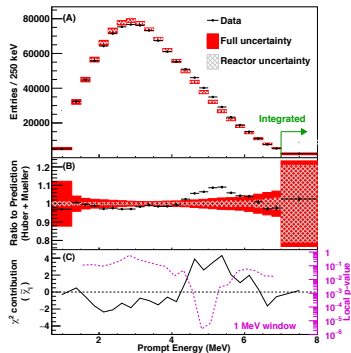
How reliable are the flux predictions and their uncertainty estimate?

Reactor anomaly – rate

How reliable are the flux predictions and their uncertainty estimate?

5 MeV bump:

- ▶ seen by RENO, DoubleChooz, DayaBay
- ▶ not present in DANSS data? (solid plastic scintillator)

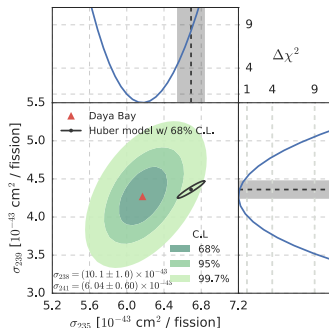


DayaBay, 1607.05378

DayaBay ^{235}U and ^{239}Pu flux determination 1704.01082

use fuel evolution and time dependence of observed neutrino rate:

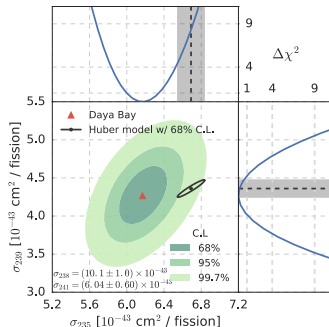
- flux deficit in ^{235}U
 ^{239}Pu consistent with prediction



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use fuel evolution and time dependence of observed neutrino rate:

- ▶ flux deficit in ^{235}U
 ^{239}Pu consistent with prediction
- ▶ flux-free fit is preferred over sterile neutrino at 2.7σ



H_0 : flux predictions correct (incl. errors) + sterile oscillations

H_1 : no sterile neutrino, individual flux normalizations free

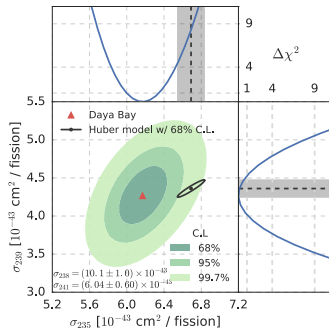
$$T = \chi_{\min}^2(H_0) - \chi_{\min}^2(H_1) \quad T_{\text{obs}} = 6.3 (2.7\sigma)$$

Dentler, Hernandez, Kopp, Maltoni, TS, 1709.04294

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use fuel evolution and time dependence of observed neutrino rate:

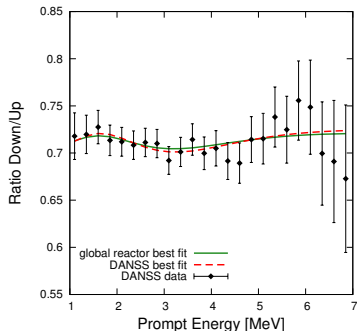
- ▶ flux deficit in ^{235}U
 ^{239}Pu consistent with prediction
- ▶ flux-free fit is preferred over sterile neutrino at 2.7σ
- ▶ but sterile neutrino osc gives also acceptable GOF: p -value = 18%



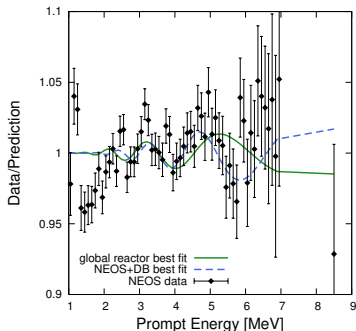
Analysis	χ^2_{\min}/dof	gof	$\sin^2 2\theta_{14}^{\text{bfp}}$	$\Delta\chi^2(\text{no osc})$
fixed fluxes + ν_s	9.8/(8 - 1)	18%	0.11	3.9
free fluxes (no ν_s)	3.6/(8 - 2)	73%		

Dentler, Hernandez, Kopp, Maltoni, TS, 1709.04294

NEOS and DANSS spectral distortion Dentler et al, 1803.10661



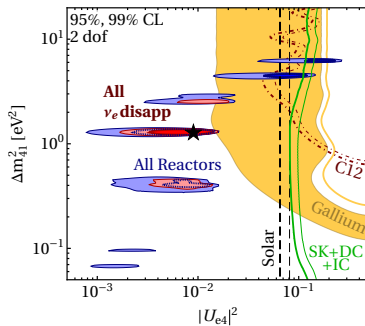
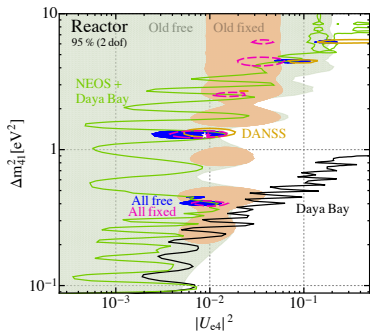
DANSS: relative spectra
@ detector locations with
 $L = 10.7$ and 12.7 m



NEOS: spectrum at $L = 24$ m,
relative to prediction based on
Daya Bay near detector spectrum

Combined ν_e disappearance analysis Dentler et al, 1803.10661

Analysis	Δm_{41}^2 [eV ²]	$ U_{e4} ^2$	χ_{\min}^2/dof	$\Delta\chi^2(\text{no-osc})$	significance
DANSS+NEOS	1.3	0.00964	74.4/(84 - 2)	13.6	3.3 σ
all reactor (flux-free)	1.3	0.00887	185.8/(233 - 5)	11.5	2.9 σ
all reactor (flux-fixed)	1.3	0.00964	196.0/(233 - 3)	15.5	3.5 σ
$\bar{\nu}_e$ disap. (flux-free)	1.3	0.00901	542.9/(594 - 8)	13.4	3.2 σ
$\bar{\nu}_e$ disap. (flux-fixed)	1.3	0.0102	552.8/(594 - 6)	17.5	3.8 σ



Combined ν_e disappearance analysis [Dentler et al, 1803.10661](#)

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- ▶ global ν_e disapp. data show indication for eV-scale oscillations at 3 σ level,
independent of reactor flux predictions
- ▶ taking into account also the H-M prediction (incl. uncert.), the significance is 3.8 σ
- ▶ $\Delta m_{41}^2 \simeq 1.3 \text{ eV}^2$, $|U_{e4}^2| \simeq 0.01$

see also [Gariazzo, Giunti, Laveder, Li, 1801.06467](#)

Combined ν_e disappearance analysis [Dentler et al, 1803.10661](#)

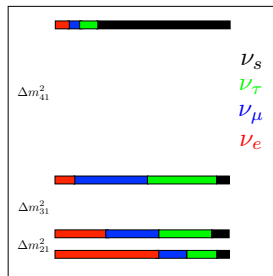
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new constraints emerging from STEREO [1806.02096](#), PROSPECT [1806.02784](#)
hint from Neutrino-4 @ $\Delta m_{41}^2 \simeq 7.2 \text{ eV}^2$ [1809.10561](#), tension with other data

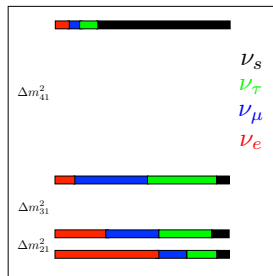
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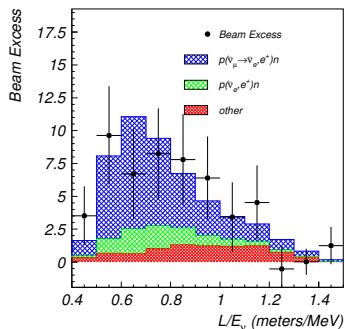
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appearance data: depends on $|U_{e4}U_{\mu4}| \rightarrow \theta_{\mu e}$

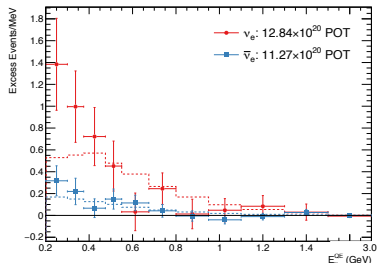
Hints for $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$ appearance

LSND, 2001



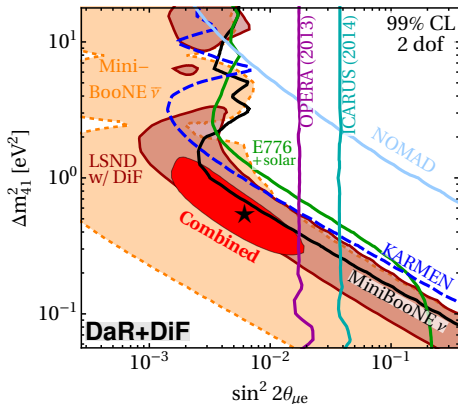
- ▶ signal for $\bar{\nu}_\mu \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e$ transitions (3.8σ)

MiniBooNE, 1805.12028



- ▶ neutrino mode excess:
 381.2 ± 85.2 events (4.5σ)
- ▶ ν - $\bar{\nu}$ combined excess:
 460.5 ± 95.8 events (4.8σ)

LSND and MiniBooNE data consistent within 2-flavour oscillations

Global data on SBL $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$ appearance Dentler et al, 1803.10661

using pre-2018 MiniBooNE data, results quantitatively very similar

Can we explain all data together?

appearance

$$P_{\mu e} = \sin^2 2\theta_{\mu e} \sin^2 \frac{\Delta m_{41}^2 L}{4E} \quad \sin^2 2\theta_{\mu e} = 4|U_{e4}|^2|U_{\mu4}|^2$$

disappearance ($\alpha = e, \mu$)

$$P_{\alpha\alpha} = 1 - \sin^2 2\theta_{\alpha\alpha} \sin^2 \frac{\Delta m_{41}^2 L}{4E} \quad \sin^2 2\theta_{\alpha\alpha} = 4|U_{\alpha4}|^2(1 - |U_{\alpha4}|^2)$$

$$\sin^2 2\theta_{\mu e} \approx \frac{1}{4} \sin^2 2\theta_{ee} \sin^2 2\theta_{\mu\mu}$$

$\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$ app. signal **requires** also signal in both, ν_e and ν_μ disappearance
(appearance mixing angle quadratically suppressed)



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Nuclear Physics B 643 (2002) 321–338

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Ruling out four-neutrino oscillation interpretations of the LSND anomaly?

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^b *Institut für Theoretische Physik, Universität Wien Boltzmannngasse 5, A-1090 Wien, Austria*

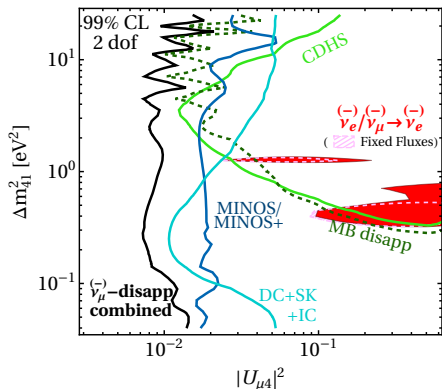
Received **22 July 2002**; accepted 14 August 2002

Abstract

Prompted by recent solar and atmospheric data, we re-analyze the four-neutrino oscillation description of current neutrino data, including the LSND evidence for oscillations. The higher degree of rejection for non-active solar and atmospheric oscillation solutions implied by the SNO neutral current result as well as by the latest 1489-day Super-K atmospheric neutrino data allows us to rule out $(2+2)$ oscillation schemes proposed to reconcile LSND with the rest of current neutrino oscillation data. Using an improved goodness of fit (g.o.f.) method especially sensitive to the combination of data sets we obtain a g.o.f. of only 1.6×10^{-6} for $(2+2)$ schemes. Further, we re-evaluate the status of $(3+1)$ oscillations using two different analyses of the LSND data sample. We find that also $(3+1)$ schemes are strongly disfavoured by the data. Depending on the LSND analysis we obtain a g.o.f. of 5.6×10^{-3} or 7.6×10^{-5} . This leads to the conclusion that all **four-neutrino descriptions of the LSND anomaly**, both in $(2+2)$ as well as $(3+1)$ realizations, **are highly disfavoured**. Our analysis brings the LSND hint to a more puzzling status.

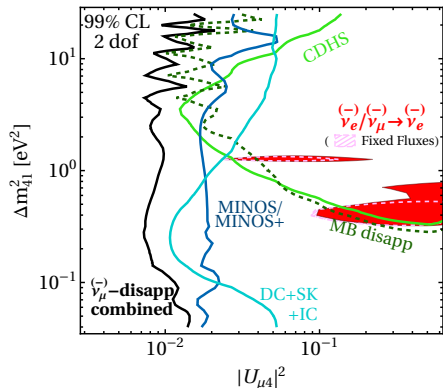
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Strong tension in global data Dentler et al, 1803.10661

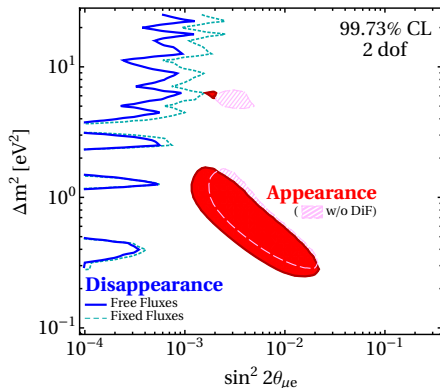


non-observation of oscillations in ν_μ
disappearance (CDHS, MiniB,
MINOS+, SK, IceCube)

Strong tension in global data Dentler et al, 1803.10661



non-observation of oscillations in ν_μ disappearance (CDHS, MiniB, MINOS+, SK, IceCube)



consistency of appearance and disapp. data with a p -value $< 10^{-6}$

Robust tension between appearance and disapp. data

Analysis	$\chi^2_{\min, \text{global}}$	$\chi^2_{\min, \text{app}}$	$\Delta\chi^2_{\text{app}}$	$\chi^2_{\min, \text{disapp}}$	$\Delta\chi^2_{\text{disapp}}$	$\chi^2_{\text{PG}}/\text{dof}$	PG
Global	1120.9	79.1	11.9	1012.2	17.7	29.6/2	3.71×10^{-7}
Removing anomalous data sets							
w/o LSND	1099.2	86.8	12.8	1012.2	0.1	12.9/2	1.6×10^{-3}
w/o MiniBooNE	1012.2	40.7	8.3	947.2	16.1	24.4/2	5.2×10^{-6}
w/o reactors	925.1	79.1	12.2	833.8	8.1	20.3/2	3.8×10^{-5}
w/o gallium	1116.0	79.1	13.8	1003.1	20.1	33.9/2	4.4×10^{-8}
Removing constraints							
w/o IceCube	920.8	79.1	11.9	812.4	17.5	29.4/2	4.2×10^{-7}
w/o MINOS(+)	1052.1	79.1	15.6	948.6	8.94	24.5/2	4.7×10^{-6}
w/o MB disapp	1054.9	79.1	14.7	947.2	13.9	28.7/2	6.0×10^{-7}
w/o CDHS	1104.8	79.1	11.9	997.5	16.3	28.2/2	7.5×10^{-7}
Removing classes of data							
$\bar{\nu}_e$ dis vs app	628.6	79.1	0.8	542.9	5.8	6.6/2	3.6×10^{-2}
$\bar{\nu}_\mu$ dis vs app	564.7	79.1	12.0	468.9	4.7	16.7/2	2.3×10^{-4}
$\bar{\nu}_\mu$ dis + solar vs app	884.4	79.1	13.9	781.7	9.7	23.6/2	7.4×10^{-6}

reactor flux-free analysis

Dentler et al, 1803.10661

results for 2018 MiniB very similar (tension gets slightly worse)

Summary eV-scale sterile neutrino oscillations

- ▶ ν_e disappearance data:
signal for osc. with $\Delta m_{41}^2 \simeq 1.3 \text{ eV}^2$, $|U_{e4}^2| \simeq 0.01$ at $\gtrsim 3\sigma$
supported by flux-prediction independent spectral distortions
consistent with global data
- ▶ LSND and MiniBooNE $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$ signals:
strong tension with disappearance data
explanation in terms of eV-scale oscillations very unlikely
robust conclusion, indep. of reactor data
does not rely on any single experiment
adding more sterile neutrinos does not help eg. Kopp et al. 1303.3011
- ▶ eV-sterile neutrino explanations are in tension with cosmology
eg. Gonzalez-Garcia, Salvado, Song, 1805.08218,

Other BSM explanations?

incomplete list:

- ▶ 3-neutrinos and CPT violation Murayama, Yanagida 01; Barenboim, Borisso, Lykken 02; Gonzalez-Garcia, Maltoni, TS 03
- ▶ 4-neutrinos and CPT violation Barger, Marfatia, Whisnant 03
- ▶ Exotic muon-decay Babu, Pakvasa 02
- ▶ CPT viol. quantum decoherence Barenboim, Mavromatos 04
- ▶ Lorentz violation Kostelecky et al., 04, 06; Gouvea, Grossman 06
- ▶ mass varying ν Kaplan, Nelson, Weiner 04; Zurek 04; Barger, Marfatia, Whisnant 05
- ▶ shortcuts of sterile ν s in extra dim Paes, Pakvasa, Weiler 05; Doring, Pas, Sicking, Weiler, 18
- ▶ decaying sterile neutrino Palomares-Riu, Pascoli, TS 05; Gninenko 09, 10; Bertuzzo, Jana, Machado, Zukanovich, 18; Ballett, Pascoli, Ross-Lonergan, 18
- ▶ energy dependent quantum decoherence Farzan, TS, Smirnov 07; Bakhti, Farzan, TS, 15
- ▶ sterile neutrinos and new gauge boson Nelson, Walsh 07
- ▶ sterile ν with energy dep. mass or mixing TS 07
- ▶ sterile ν with nonstandard interactions Akhmedov, TS 10; Conrad, Karagiorgi, Shaevitz, 12; Liao, Marfatia, Whisnant 18

Comments on BSM explanations

- ▶ many of them are ruled out!
(3 flavour neutrino oscillation data are very robust)
- ▶ many of them involve sterile neutrinos at some scale
- ▶ several of them address only one anomaly
it is very hard to explain all with a single model

BSM example 1 – energy dependent quantum decoherence

Farzan, TS, Smirnov 07; Bakhti, Farzan, TS, 15

- ▶ no sterile neutrino needed
- ▶ LSND signal controlled by the 1-3 mixing: $0.0014 < \sin^2 \theta_{13} < 0.034$
- ▶ in order to be consistent with global data on oscillations, decoherence has to be confined to LSND energy range, $10 \text{ MeV} \lesssim E_\nu \lesssim 100 \text{ MeV}$
- ▶ no explanation for MiniBooNE, reactor and Gallium anomalies

⇒ very tailor-made explanation of LSND alone

BSM example 2 – sterile ν + non-standard interactions

Akhmedov, TS 10 see also Conrad, Karagiorgi, Shaevitz, 12; Liao, Marfatia, Whisnant 18

- ▶ 4th neutrino with $\Delta m_{41}^2 \sim 1 \text{ eV}^2$
- ▶ new type of CC-like interaction (4-Fermi like)
can be different for LSND and other exps (leptonic vs hadronic)
- ▶ improves disapp/appear. tension (p -value $\approx 10\%$, 2010 data)
reactor anomaly OK, MiniBooNE excess partially explained
- ▶ required NSI strength of few % is consistent with direct bounds:
example point Akhmedov, TS 10:
 $|\varepsilon_{\mu s}^{ud}| \approx 0.05$, $|\varepsilon_{e\mu}^{ud}| \approx 0.011$, $|\varepsilon_{\mu s}^{e\nu}| \approx 0.03$, $|\varepsilon_{\mu e}^{e\nu}| \approx 0.01$
- ▶ validity with 2018 global data needs to be re-assessed
Liao, Marfatia, Whisnant 18 require $\varepsilon \simeq \mathcal{O}(1)$
- ▶ gauge invariant UV completion difficult (LFV, collider constraints)
Biggio et al 09, Gavela et al 08, Antusch et al 08, Davidson, Sanz, 11

BSM example 3a – sterile neutrino decay

possible explanations for LSND and MiniBooNE

▶ Palomares-Riu, Pascoli, TS 05

sterile neutrino N in the mass range 1 keV to 1 MeV

produce N at source by mixing, $|U_{\mu 4}^2| \sim 0.01$

decays before reaching the detector via $N \rightarrow \phi + \nu_e$

can explain LSND, possibly MiniBooNE, but no reactor/Gallium

▶ Gninenko 09, 10

sterile neutrino N in the mass range 40 to 80 MeV

produced via scattering inside detector, $|U_{\mu 4}^2| \sim 0.001 - 0.01$

fast decay via $N \rightarrow \gamma + \nu$, photon fakes e-like signal

BSM example 3a – sterile neutrino decay

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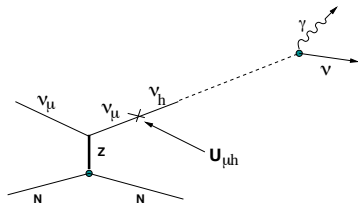
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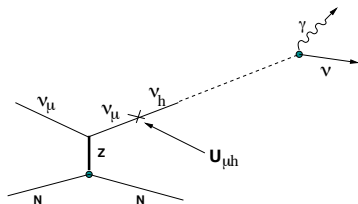
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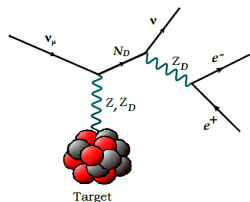


excluded by search for
 $K^- \rightarrow \mu^- N (N \rightarrow \gamma \nu)$

ISTRA+ 1110.1610

BSM example 3b – sterile neutrino decay

Explaining the MiniBooNE excess



Bertuzzo, Jana, Machado, Zukanovich, 18

Ballett, Pascoli, Ross-Lonergan, 18

sterile neutrino masses 10 – few 100 MeV

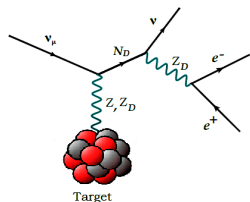
N charged under a dark $U(1)$, $m_{Z'} < 1$ GeV

production via Z' interaction in detector

decaying into a $e^+ e^-$ pair

BSM example 3b – sterile neutrino decay

Explaining the MiniBooNE excess

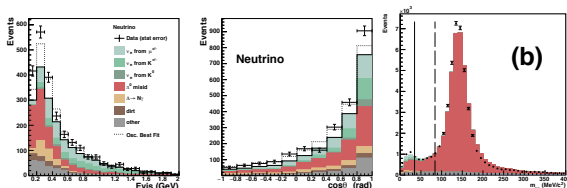


Bertuzzo, Jana, Machado, Zukanovich, 18

Ballett, Pascoli, Ross-Lonergan, 18

sterile neutrino masses 10 – few 100 MeV
 N charged under a dark $U(1)$, $m_{Z'} < 1$ GeV
 production via Z' interaction in detector
 decaying into a e^+e^- pair

strong constraints on decay explanations [Jordan, Kahn, Krnjaic, Moschella, Spitz, 18](#)
 need to fit energy and angular distribution, as well as $\gamma\gamma$ -invar. mass distr.
 for neutrino and antineutrino mode, as well as for beam-dump mode



beam dump mode

1807.06137

assume excess \propto POT:

expect.: 35.5 ± 7.4 ev

observed: -2.8 events

\Rightarrow excess related to
 charged π^\pm, K^\pm

Summary

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 - ▶ to be tested by upcoming reactor experiments (STEREO, PROSPECT, SOLID,...) and KATRIN
 - ▶ would imply interesting phenomenology for LBL oscillation experiments e.g., [Blennow et al. 1609.08637](#); [deGouvea, Kelly, 1605.09376](#)
 - ▶ tension with cosmology?
- ▶ **ν_e appearance signals very unlikely due to eV-scale oscillations**
 - ▶ Is it even more exotic new physics?
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Thank you for your attention!