

# Neutrino Physics - Theory

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**TAE 2023 - International Workshop on High Energy Physics**

**Benasque, September 2023**

# Lecture 1

- ◆ Historical introduction to neutrino physics

## Neutrinos in the SM

- ◆ Neutrino interactions
- ◆ Neutrino mass in the SM

## Neutrino oscillations

- ◆ First evidences and discovery
- ◆ Flavor oscillations in vacuum
- ◆ Flavor oscillations in matter

# Lecture 2

## Neutrino masses

- ◆ Current limits
- ◆ Neutrino mass models

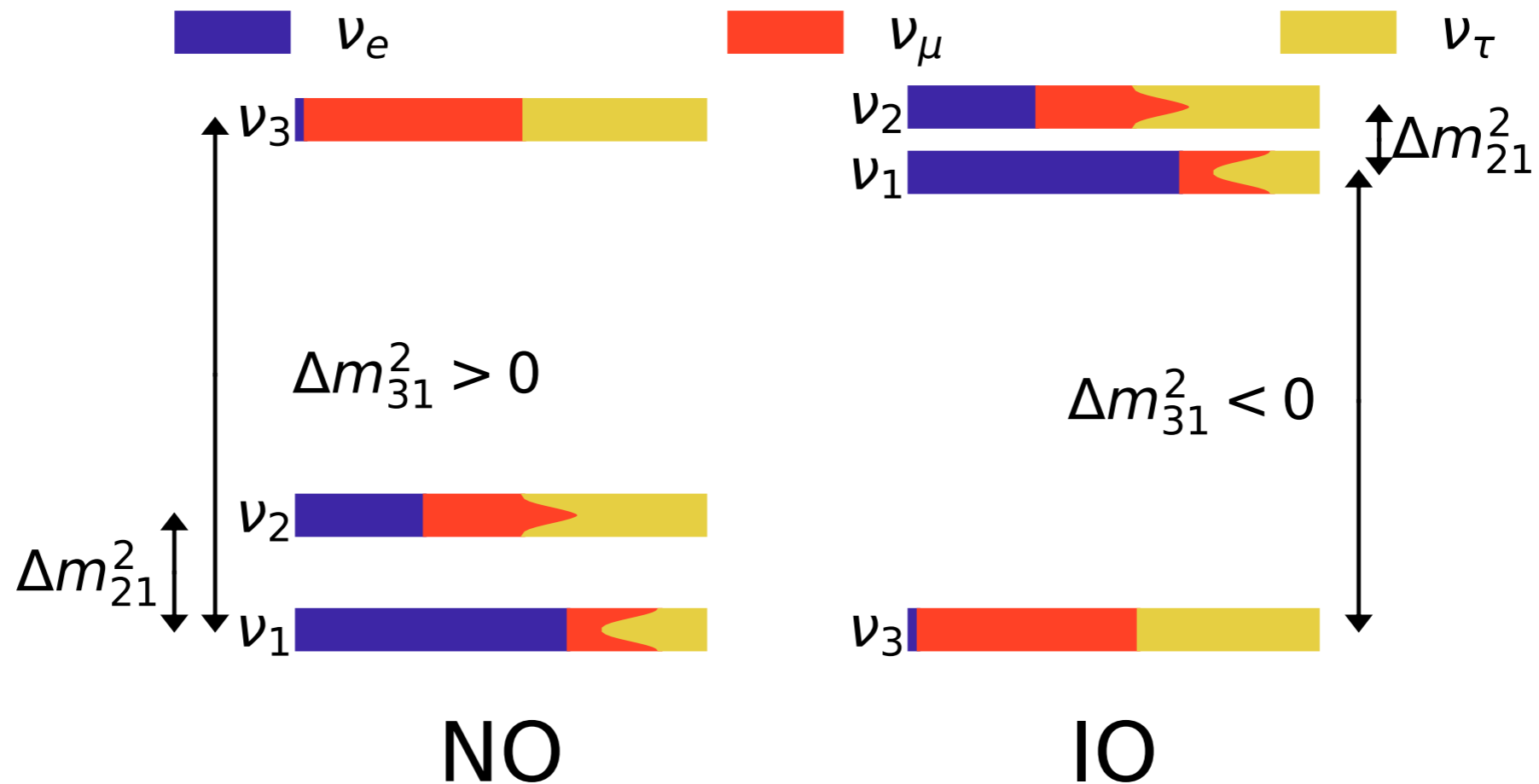
## Neutrino physics BSM

- ◆ Light sterile neutrinos
- ◆ Non-unitary neutrino mixing
- ◆ Non-standard interactions
- ◆ BSM searches with CEvNS

# Neutrino masses: bounds and models

# Are neutrinos massive?

- ◆ In the SM neutrinos are massless
- ◆ From oscillations we know that (at least 2) neutrinos do have mass!!



- ◆ What about the absolute mass scale? Do we have information?

# Sensitivity to neutrino mass

## Neutrino oscillations

$$\Delta m_{ij}^2 = m_i^2 - m_j^2$$

$$m_\nu \geq 0.05 \text{ eV}$$

## Cosmology

$$\sum m_i + \text{light d.o.f.}$$

## Beta decay kinematics

$$m_\beta^2 = \sum |U_{ei}|^2 m_i^2$$

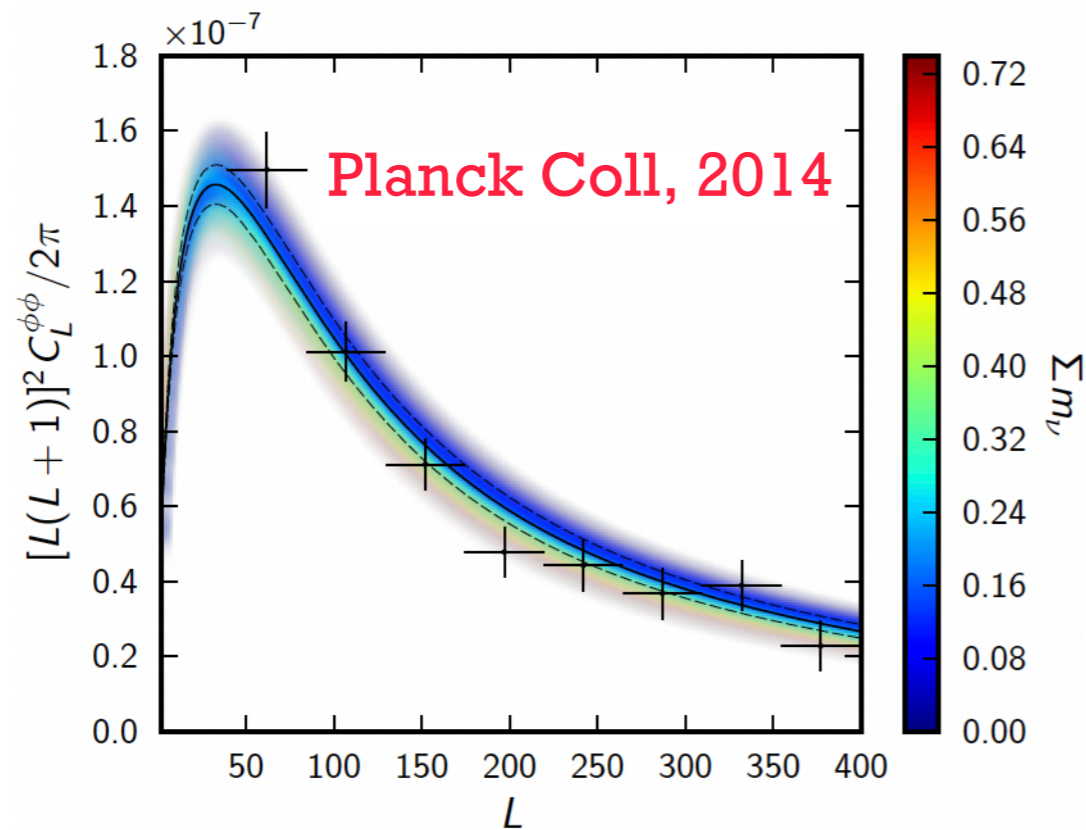
## Neutrinoless $2\beta$ decay

$$m_{\beta\beta} = \left| \sum U_{ei}^2 m_i \right|$$

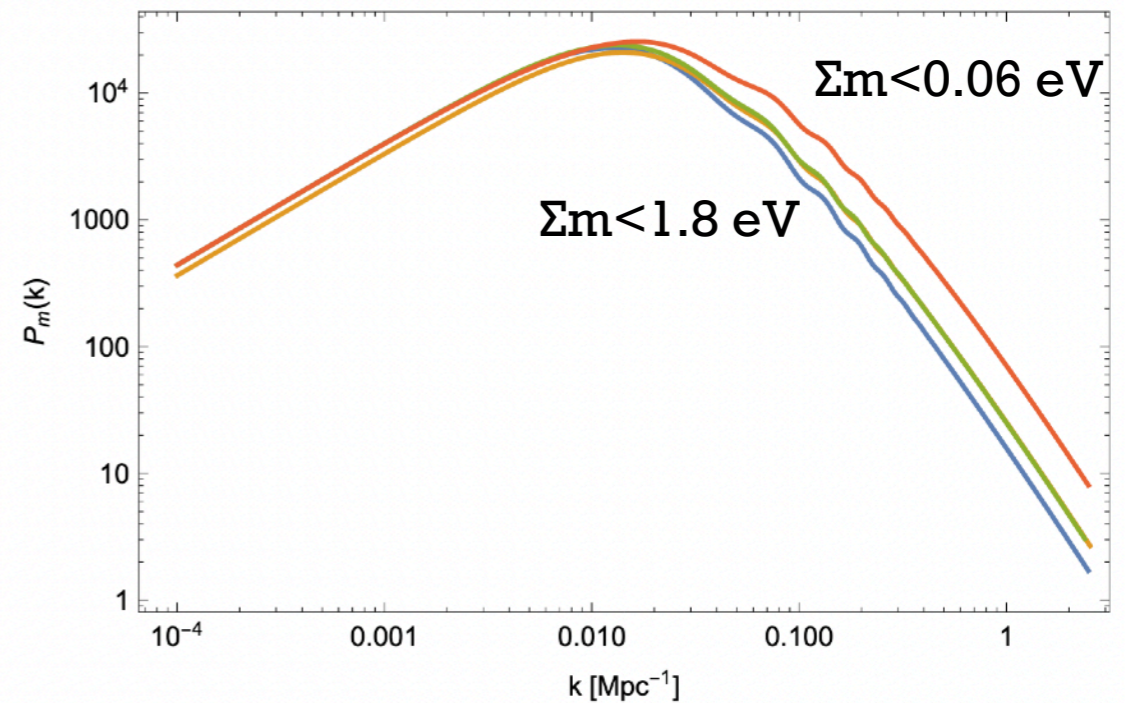
# Neutrino mass in cosmology

- ◆ Neutrino masses may affect cosmological observables:

## CMB anisotropies and lensing



## Large Scale Structure formation



Lattanzi and Gerbino, Front.Phys 2018

- ◆ Fit  $\Lambda$ CDM model + experimental data (95% C.L.)

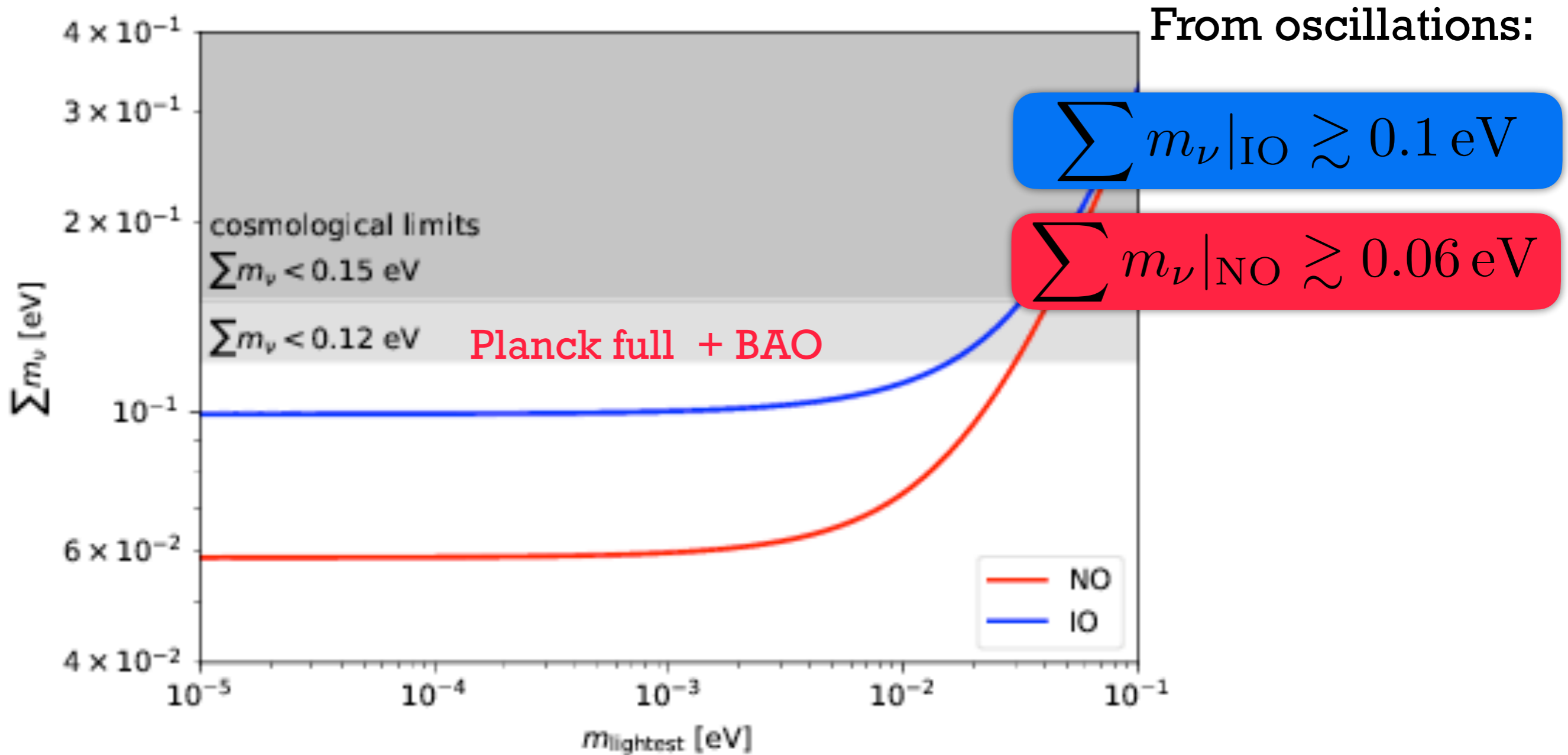
$$\Sigma m_i < 0.12 \text{ eV}$$

Planck TT,TE,EE+lowE+lensing+BAO  
[Planck Coll, 2018]

$$\Sigma m_i < 0.09 \text{ eV}$$

Planck TT,TE,EE+lensing+ RSD+BAO +SNIa  
[DiValentino et al, PRD2021]

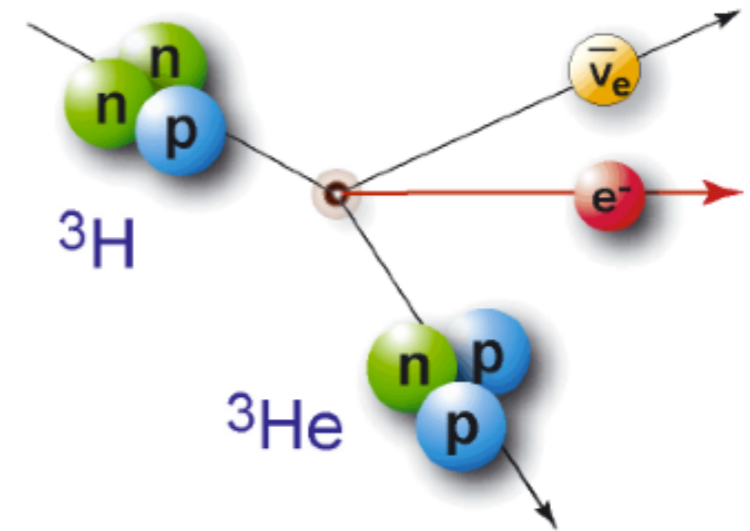
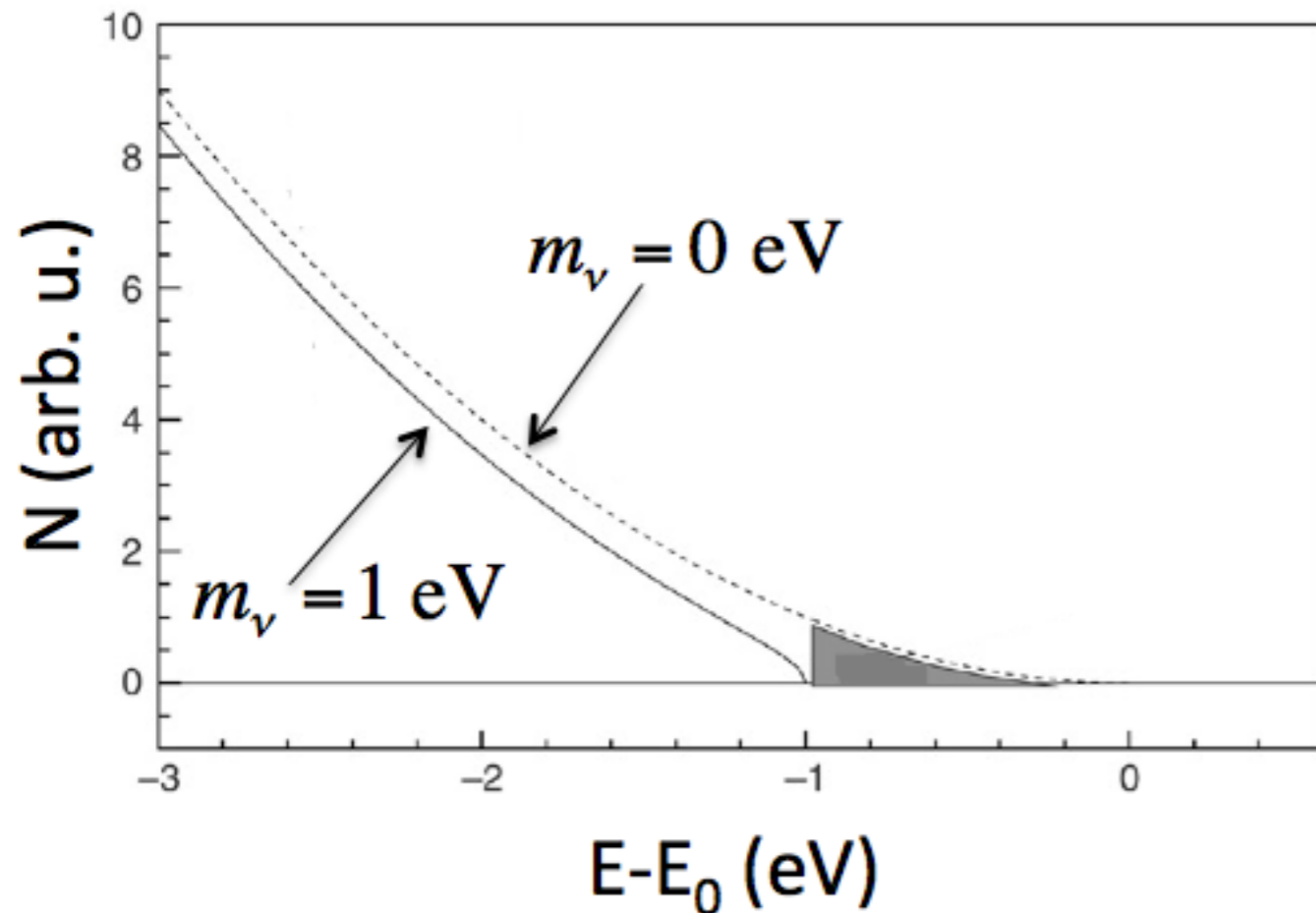
# Neutrino mass in cosmology



de Salas et al, Front. Astron. Space Sci. 5 (2018) 36

# Tritium $\beta$ decay experiments

- ◆  $\beta$ -decay spectrum close to the endpoint is very sensitive to the neutrino mass:



$$m_\beta^2 = \sum |U_{ei}|^2 m_i^2$$

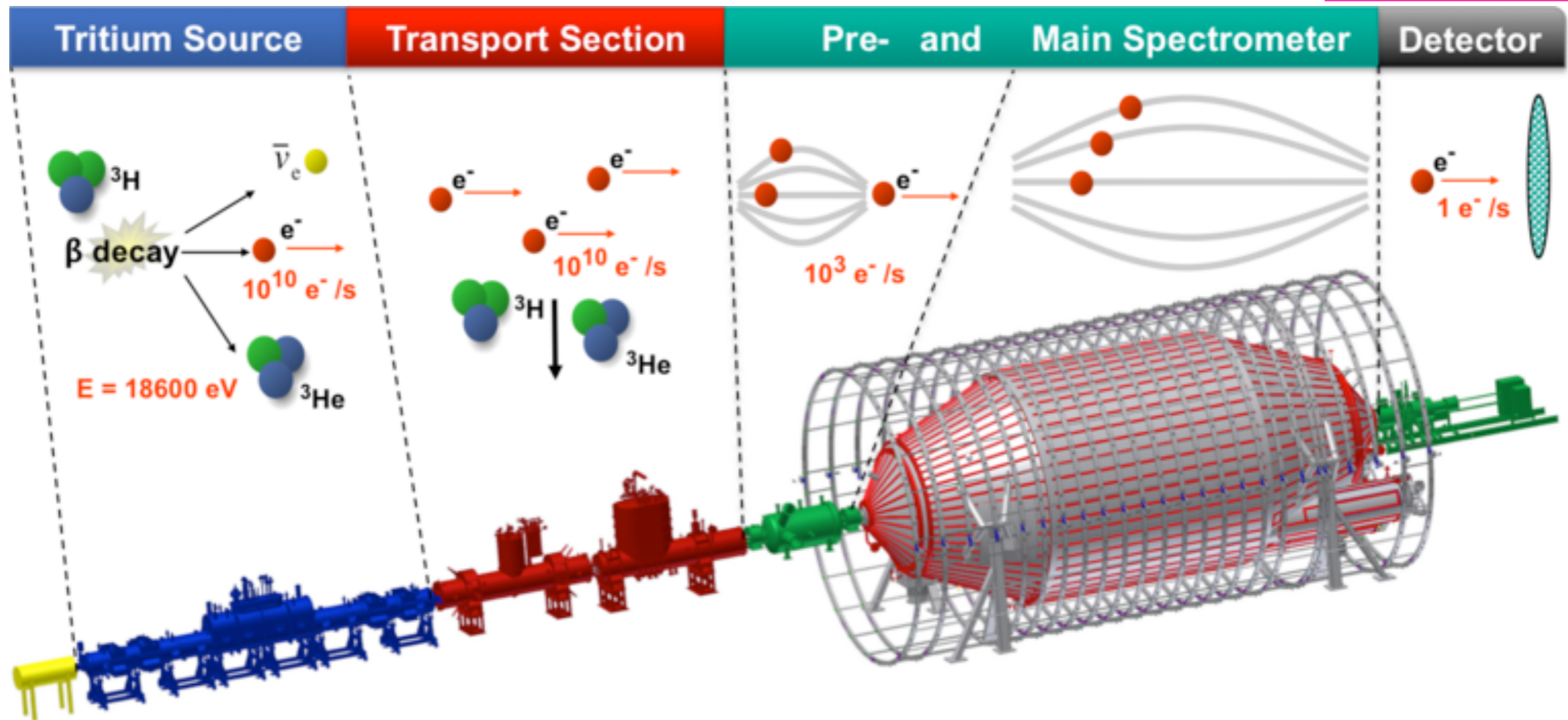
Mainz and Troitsk Experiments

$$m_\beta < 2.2 \text{ eV (95\% C.L.)}$$



# The KATRIN experiment

Since June 2018



Tritium decays, releasing an electron and an anti-electron-neutrino. While the neutrino escapes undetected, the electron starts its journey to the detector.

Electrons are guided towards the spectrometer by magnetic fields. Tritium has to be pumped out to provide tritium free

The electron energy is analyzed by applying an electrostatic retarding potential. Electrons are only transmitted if their kinetic energy is

At the end of their journey, the electrons are counted at the detector. Their rate varies with the spectrometer potential

**Current bound**  
 $m_\beta < 0.8 \text{ eV (90\% C.L.)}$

**Final sensitivity**  
 $m_\beta < 0.2\text{-}0.3 \text{ eV (90\%C.L.)}$

**Discovery potential**  
 $m_\beta = 0.35 \text{ eV (5}\sigma\text{)}$

# The KATRIN experiment

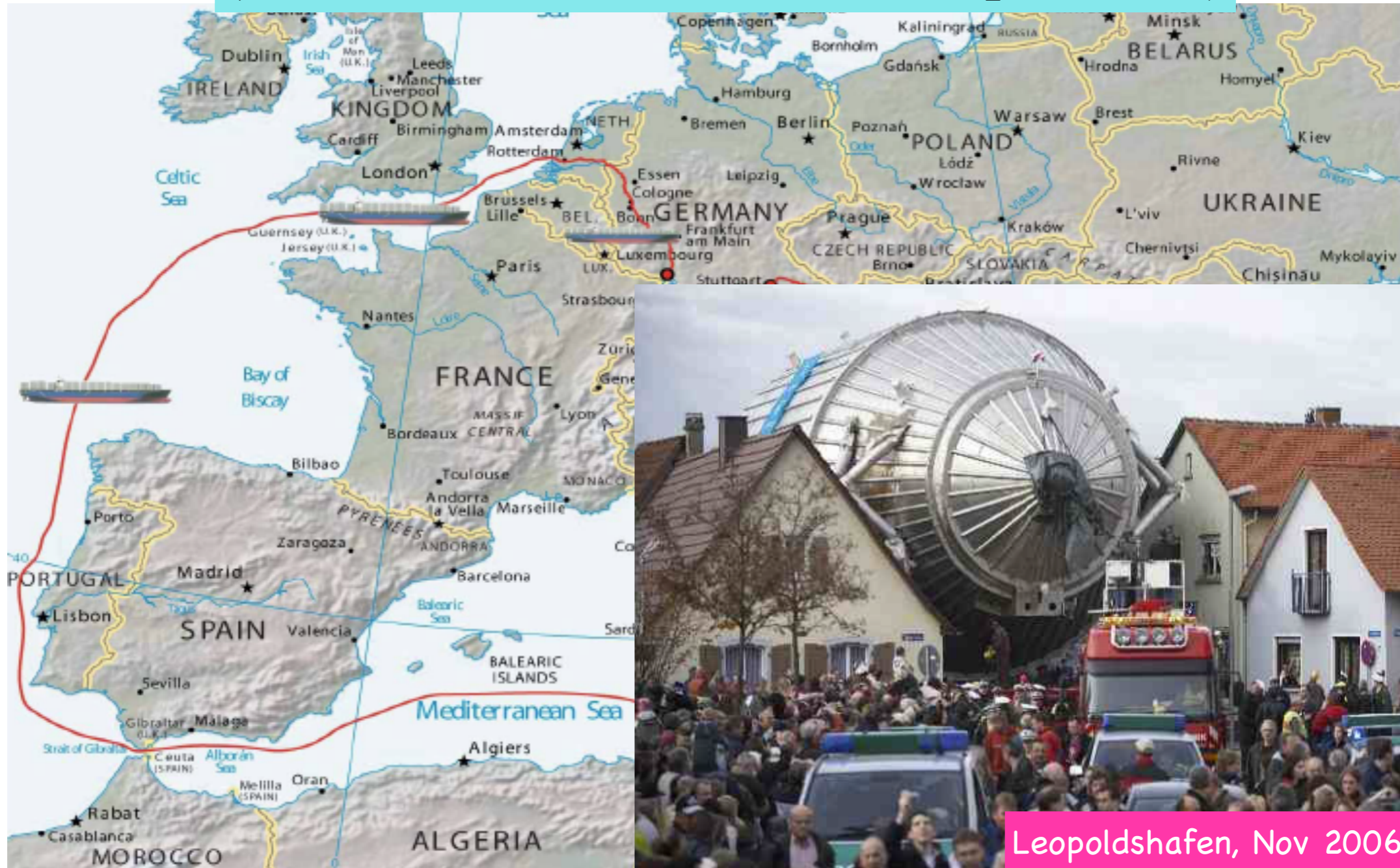
(KARlsruhe TRItium Neutrino experiment)



Deggendorf → Karlsruhe: 400 km or 8800 km ??  
(200 ton, 24 m long, 10 m diameter)

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Deggendorf → Karlsruhe: 400 km or 8800 km ??  
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# Neutrinoless double beta decay

$2\nu\beta\beta$ : rare process in the SM with  $t_{1/2} \sim 10^{21}$  years

$0\nu\beta\beta$ : possible for massive Majorana neutrinos.

$$(A, Z) \rightarrow (A, Z+2) + e^- + e^-$$

test  $\nu$  nature

→ not observed yet

→  $t_{1/2} > 10^{26}-10^{27}$  years

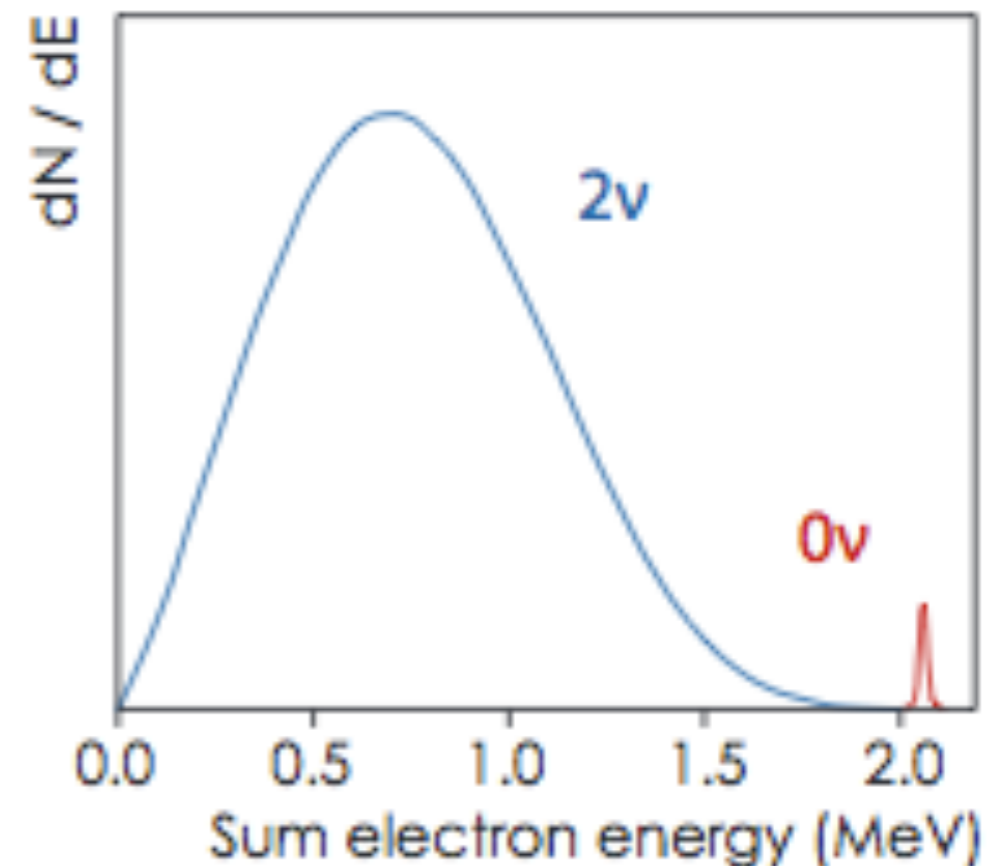
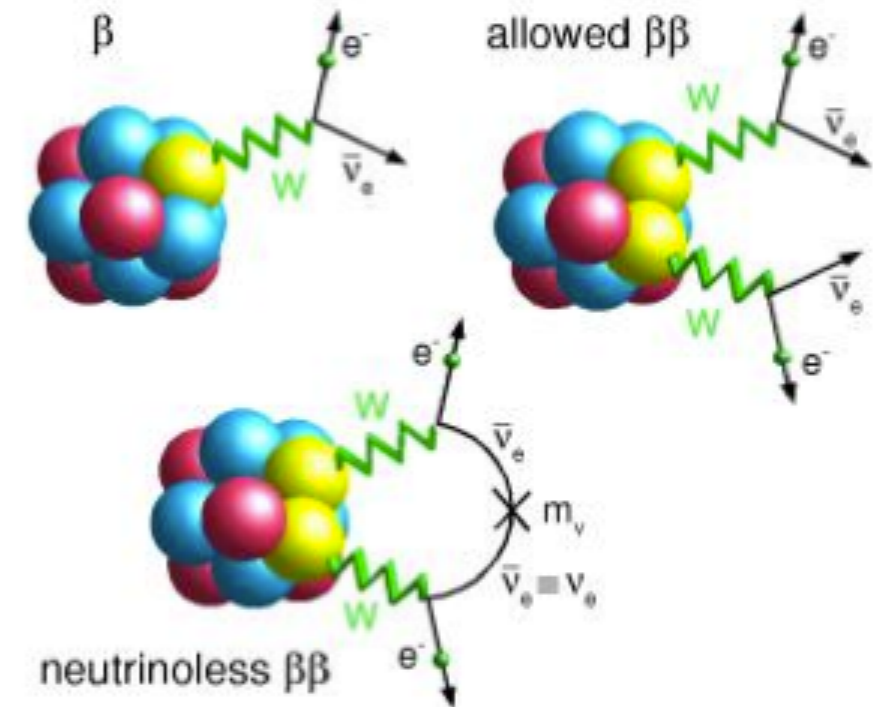
→ violates Lepton Number

phase space      Nuclear matrix elements

$$\Gamma_{0\nu\beta\beta} = G^{0\nu} |M^{0\nu}|^2 \langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle^2$$

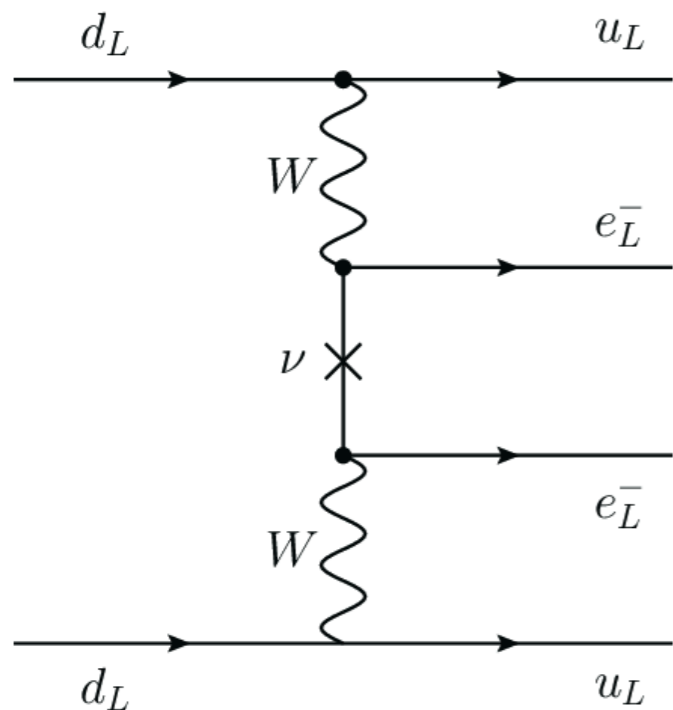
Effective Majorana neutrino mass

$$\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle = \left| \sum_{i=1}^3 U_{ei}^2 m_i \right|$$

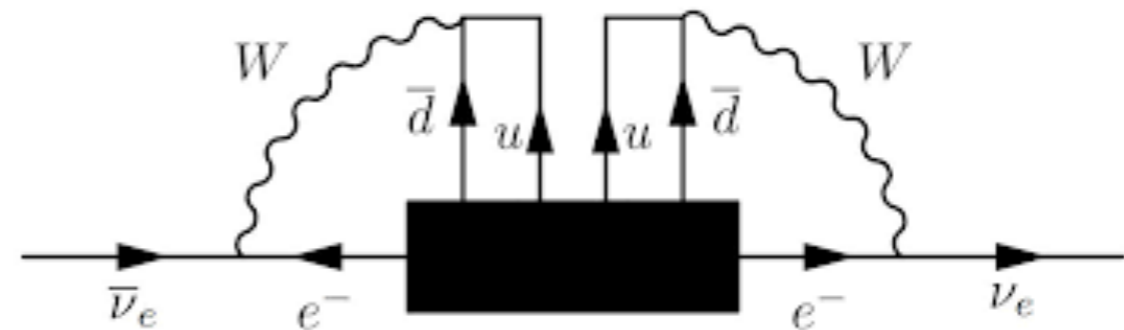


# $0\nu\beta\beta$ and Majorana neutrino mass

- ◆ Neutrinoless double beta decay can be treated as a dim-9 operator:



This leads to loop-generated **Majorana mass**

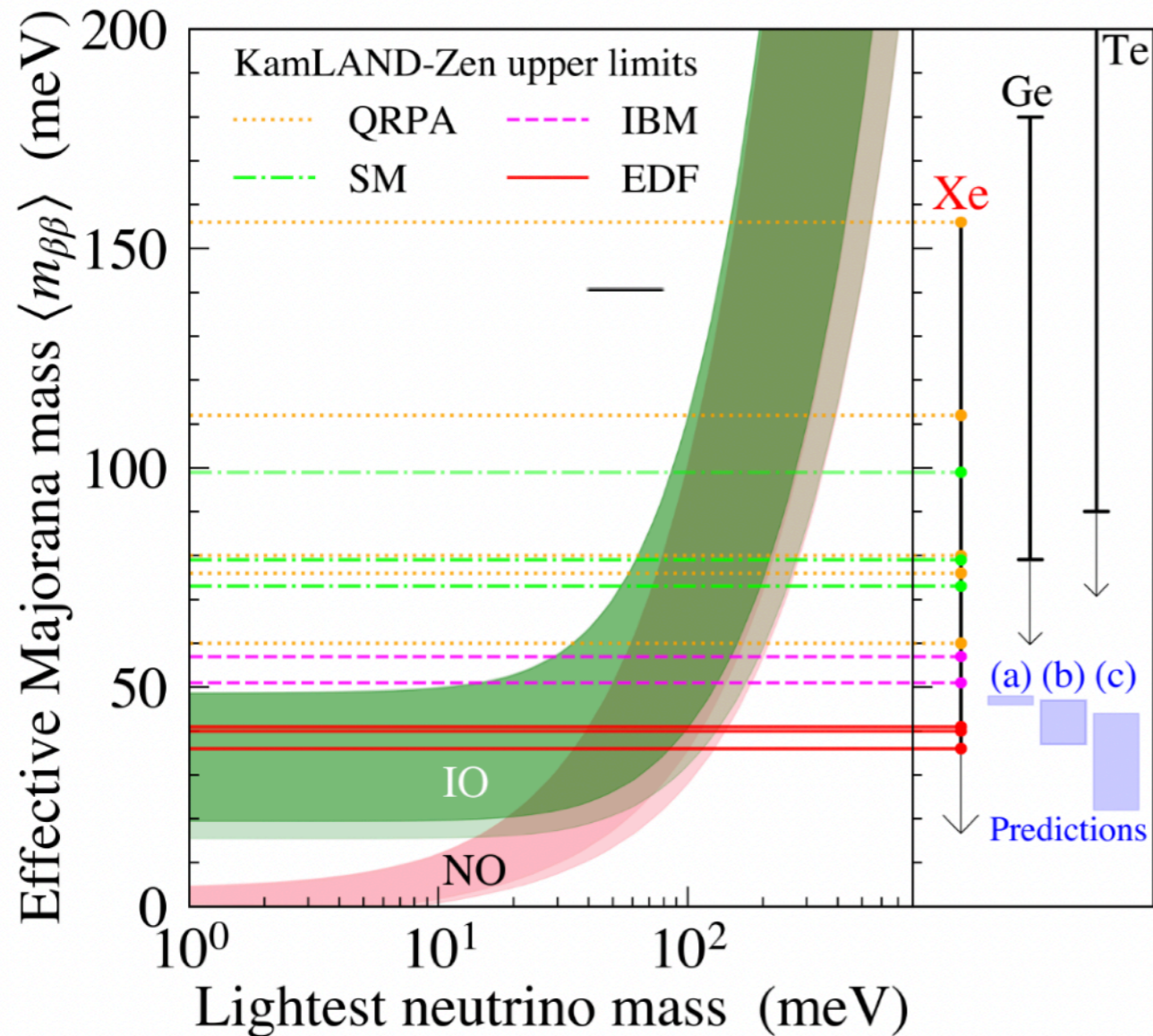


Blackbox theorem, Schechter & Valle, 1982

- ◆ Majorana neutrino mass is not the only mechanism leading to  $0\nu\beta\beta$ : **new physics models** can also induce  $0\nu\beta\beta$ . [Bonnet, Hirsch, Ota, Winter, JHEP 2013.](#)
- ◆ Only when related to Majorana neutrino masses one can use  $0\nu\beta\beta$  results to constrain neutrino masses and their ordering.

$$\Gamma_{0\nu\beta\beta} = G^{0\nu} |M^{0\nu}|^2 \langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle^2 \quad \text{with} \quad \langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle = \left| \sum_{i=1}^3 U_{ei}^2 m_i \right|$$

# Bounds on neutrino mass from $0\nu\beta\beta$



At 90% CL:

$m_{\beta\beta} < 90-305$  meV CUORE

$m_{\beta\beta} < 93-286$  meV EXO-200

$m_{\beta\beta} < 79-180$  meV GERDA II

$m_{\beta\beta} < 36-156$  meV KL-Zen

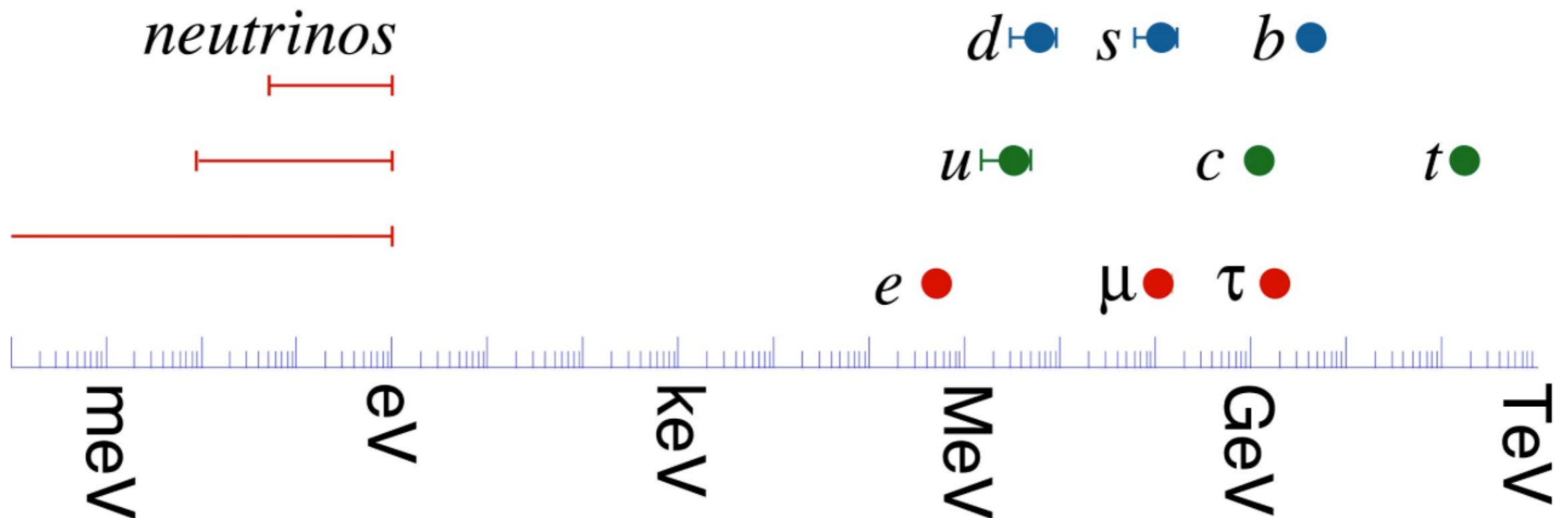
F. Simkovic, Neutrino 2022

→ degenerate region explored

KamLAND-Zen Collab, Neutrino 2022

[Ge: Gerda, Te: Cuore]

# We need to build models to explain neutrino masses (and their size)!!



$m_\nu \sim 0 - 1 \text{ eV}$

## Dirac mass term

$$-\mathcal{L}_D = m_D (\bar{\nu}_L N_R + \bar{N}_R \nu_L)$$

## Majorana mass term

$$-\mathcal{L}_M = \frac{1}{2} m (\bar{\nu}_L^C \nu_L + \bar{\nu}_L \nu_L^C)$$



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under U(1) transformation:

$$\psi \rightarrow e^{i\alpha} \psi, \quad \bar{\psi} \rightarrow \bar{\psi} e^{-i\alpha}$$

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$$-\mathcal{L}_M = \frac{1}{2} m (\bar{\nu}_L^C \nu_L + \bar{\nu}_L \nu_L^C)$$

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→ conserves all charges (Q, L, B)

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→ no  $N_R$  in SM

add  $N_R$

Neutrinos are massless within the SM

(dim  $\leq 4$ )

add Higgs triplet

Weinberg operator

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# Dirac neutrino mass term

Minimal extension SM: add  $N_R$  → “sterile” neutrino (singlet under  $SU(2) \times U(1)$ )

◆ 4 components Dirac neutrino:  $\nu_L, \bar{\nu}_L, N_R, \bar{N}_R$

→ decomposing into its chiral states:  $\psi = \nu = \nu_L + \nu_L^C$

$$-\mathcal{L}_D = m_D \bar{\nu} \nu = m_D (\bar{\nu}_L + \bar{N}_R) (\nu_L + N_R) = m_D (\bar{\nu}_L N_R + \bar{N}_R \nu_L)$$

◆ Higgs mechanism:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Yukawa}} = Y_\nu (\bar{\nu}_l \bar{l}) \begin{pmatrix} \phi^0 \\ \phi^- \end{pmatrix} N_R + \text{h.c.}$$

→ after SSB:  $\langle \phi \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} v \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad m_D = Y_\nu \frac{v}{\sqrt{2}}$

◆ From  $\nu$  oscillations:  $m_\nu \geq \sqrt{\Delta m_{31}^2} = 0.05 \text{ eV} \quad \rightarrow Y_\nu \simeq 10^{-13}$

much smaller than other Yukawas !!!  $Y_e \simeq 10^{-5}$

# Minimal seesaw mechanism

- ◆ Most general mass term:

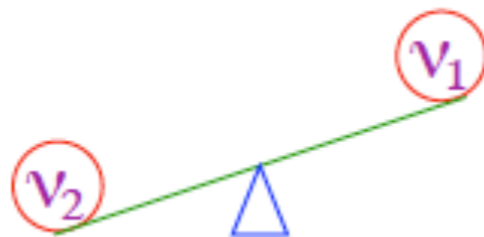
$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_D + \mathcal{L}_M = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \bar{\nu}_L & \overline{N_R^C} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & m_D \\ m_D & M_R \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_L^C \\ N_R \end{pmatrix} + \text{h.c.} \quad (m_D \simeq vY_\nu)$$

→ Diagonalization:  $\frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \bar{\nu} & \overline{N} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} M_1 & 0 \\ 0 & M_2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu \\ N \end{pmatrix}$

for  $M_R \gg m_D$ :  $M_1 \simeq \frac{m_D^2}{M_R}$ ,  $M_2 \simeq M_R$

→ seesaw mechanism

- ◆ Provides a “natural” explanation for **smallness** of neutrino mass:



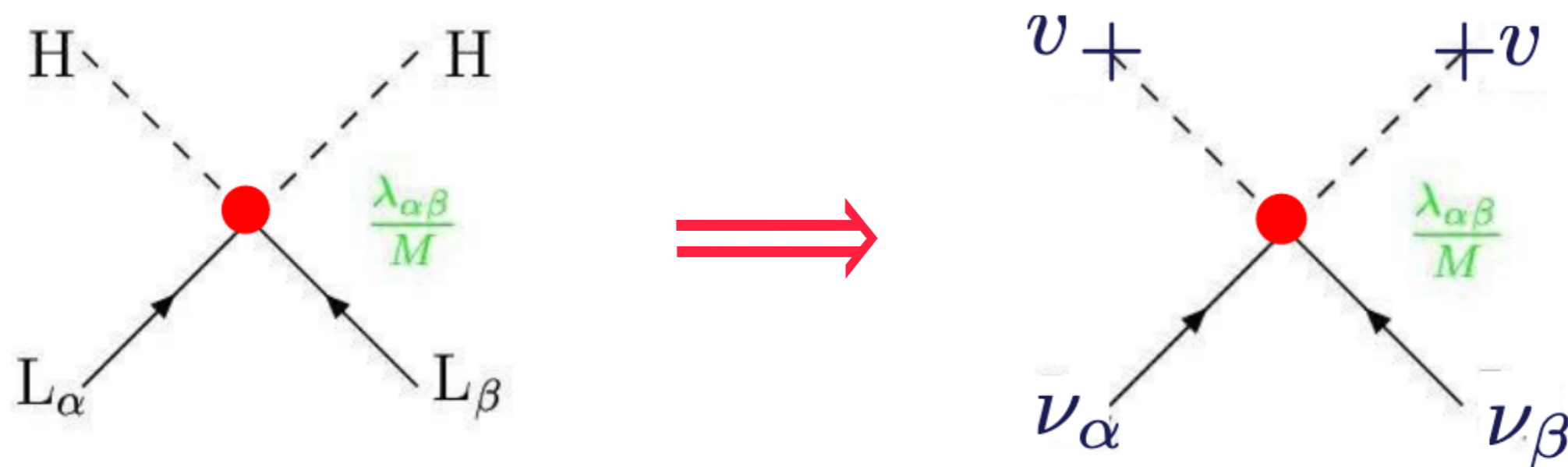
for  $m_D \sim 100 \text{ GeV}$  and  $m_\nu \sim 0.01 - 1 \text{ eV} \rightarrow$   
 $M_R \sim 10^{13} - 10^{15} \text{ GeV} !!!$

- ◆ Can explain baryon asymmetry of the Universe through **leptogenesis** if  $N$  decay violates CP:

$$\Gamma(N \rightarrow l + H) \neq \Gamma(N \rightarrow \bar{l} + \overline{H})$$

# Weinberg operator

- ◆ Effective dim-5 operator for Majorana neutrino mass



$$\mathcal{L} \ni \frac{\lambda}{M} (LLHH)$$



$$m_\nu = \frac{\lambda}{M} v^2$$

Majorana  
mass

S. Weinberg PRL 43 (1979) 1566

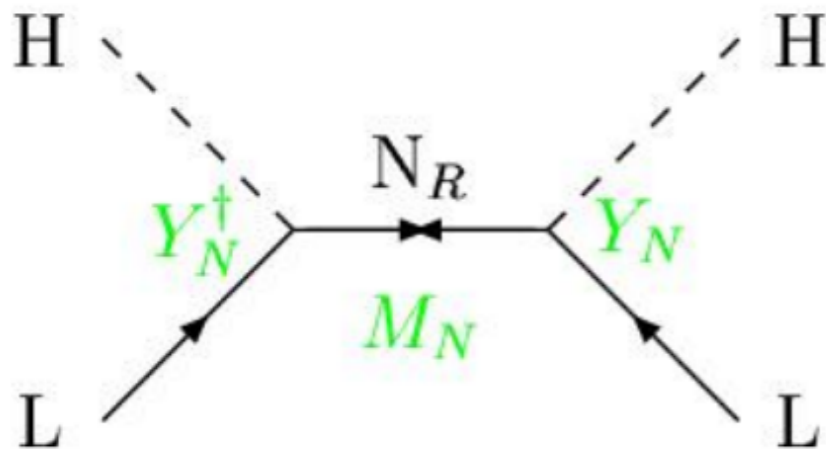
$$(\Delta L = 2)$$

# Seesaw mass models

⇒ They led to the Weinberg operator at tree level.

⇒  $\nu$  masses are generated through mixing with heavy particles.

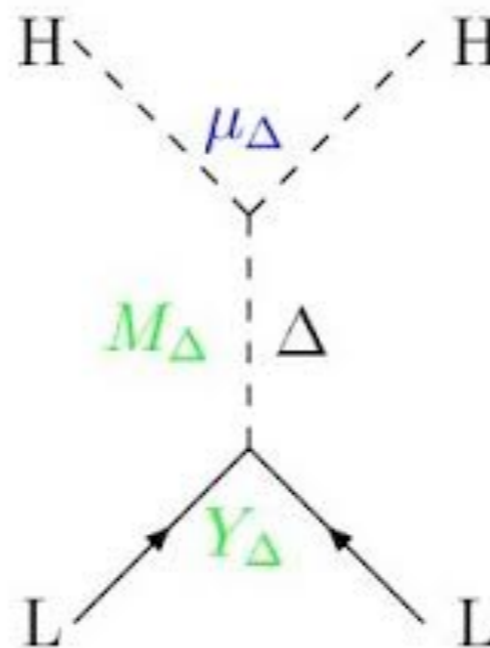
Type-I seesaw  
(right-handed singlet  $N_R$ )



$$m_\nu = Y_N^T \frac{1}{M_N} Y_N v^2$$

Minkowski; Gellman, Ramond, Slansky;  
Yanagida; Mohapatra, Senjanovic.

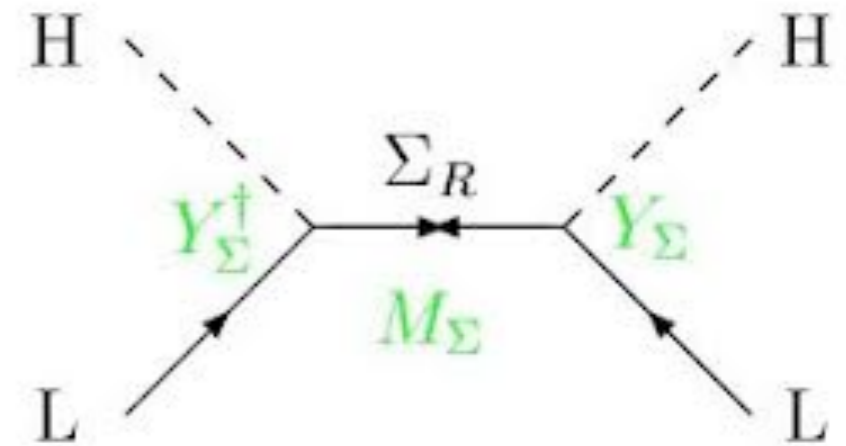
Type-II seesaw  
(Scalar triplet  $\Delta$ )



$$m_\nu = Y_\Delta \frac{\mu_\Delta}{M_\Delta^2} v^2$$

Schechter, Valle; Lazarides, Shafi,  
Wetterich; Cheng, Li; Mohapatra,...

Type-III seesaw  
(Fermion triplet  $\Sigma_R$ )



$$m_\nu = Y_\Sigma^T \frac{1}{M_\Sigma} Y_\Sigma v^2$$

Foot, Lew, He, Joshi; ...

# Low energy seesaw models

## Inverse seesaw model

Mohapatra and Valle, PRD 34 (1986) 1642

Extended lepton content:

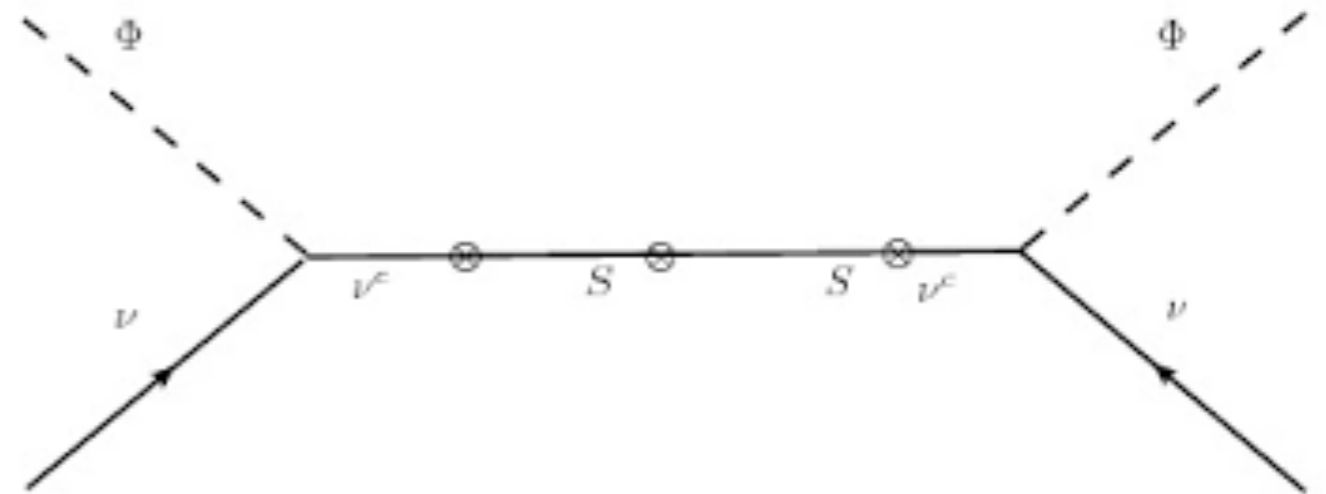
$$(\nu, \nu^c, S) \quad L=(+1, -1, +1)$$

SU(2) singlets

$$M_\nu = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & M_D & 0 \\ M_D^T & 0 & M \\ 0 & M^T & \mu \end{pmatrix}$$



$$m_\nu = M_D (M^T)^{-1} \mu M^{-1} M_D^T$$



◆  $\mu$  breaks L and generates neutrino mass (massless for  $\mu=0$ )

◆  $m_\nu$  can be very light even if M is far below GUT scale:

$$\text{with } \mu \sim \text{keV} \text{ and } M \sim 10^3 \text{ GeV} \rightarrow m_\nu \sim \text{eV}$$

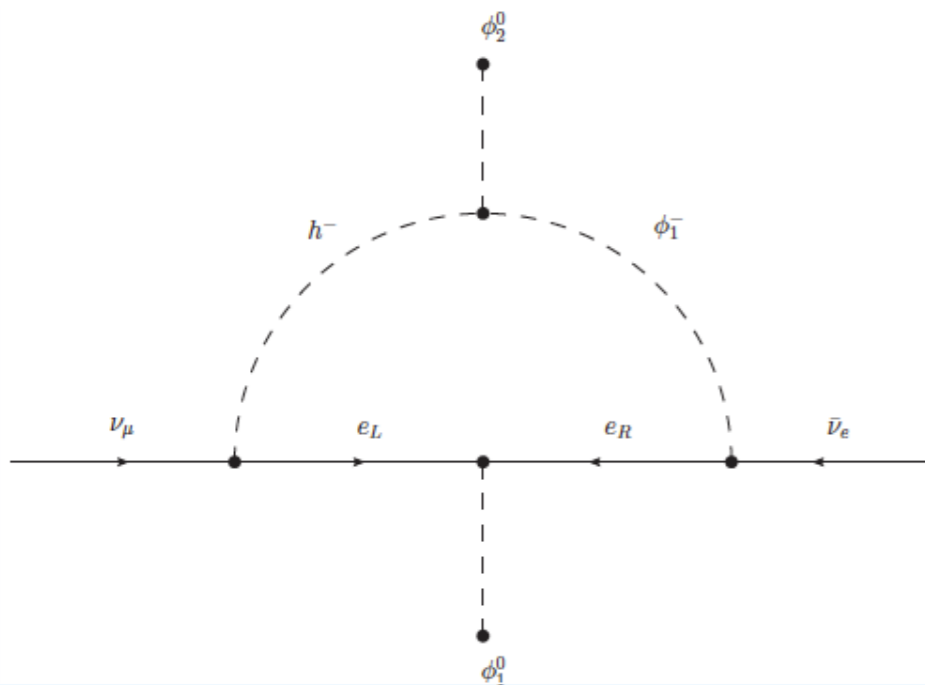


# Radiative models

- ◆ extension of scalar sector of the SM
- ◆ neutrino masses can be generated through loops
  - ⇒ loop suppression accounts for the smallness of  $m_\nu$

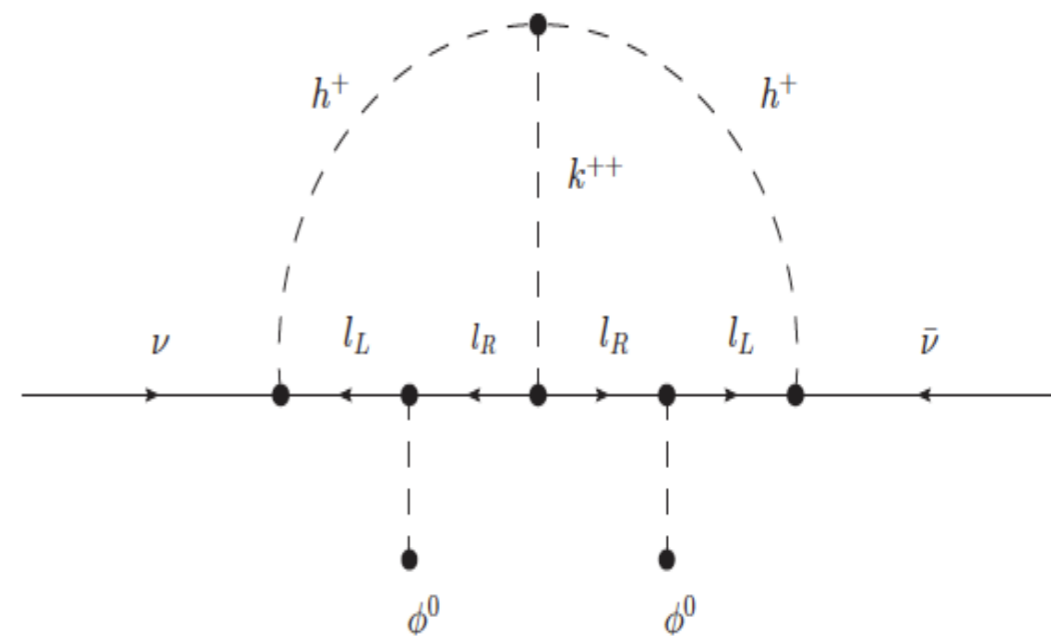
**Zee model** Zee, PLB 93 (1980) 389

- + singlet scalar  $h^+$
- + extra Higgs doublet  $H$



**Zee-Babu model** Zee, NPB 264 (1986) 99;  
Babu, PLB 203 (1988) 132

- + singlet scalar  $h^+$
- + singlet scalar  $k^{++}$



# The flavour problem

- ◆ seesaw models explain the **smallness of neutrino masses**

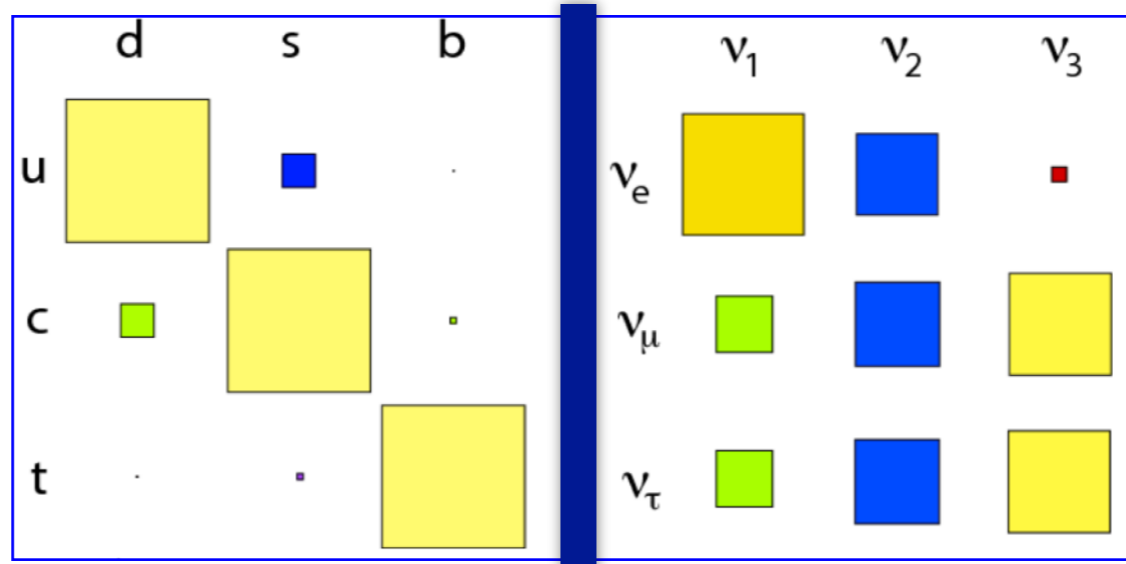
However, they can not explain:

- ◆ Why **quark and lepton mixings** are so different?

$$\theta_{12} \simeq 13^\circ$$

$$\theta_{13} \simeq 0.2^\circ$$

$$\theta_{23} \simeq 2.4^\circ$$



$$\theta_{12} \simeq 34^\circ$$

$$\theta_{13} \simeq 9^\circ$$

$$\theta_{23} \simeq 49^\circ$$

- ◆ Why do fermion masses show these **hierarchical relations**?

$$m_e \ll m_\mu \ll m_\tau$$

$$m_u, m_d \ll m_c, m_s \ll m_t, m_b$$

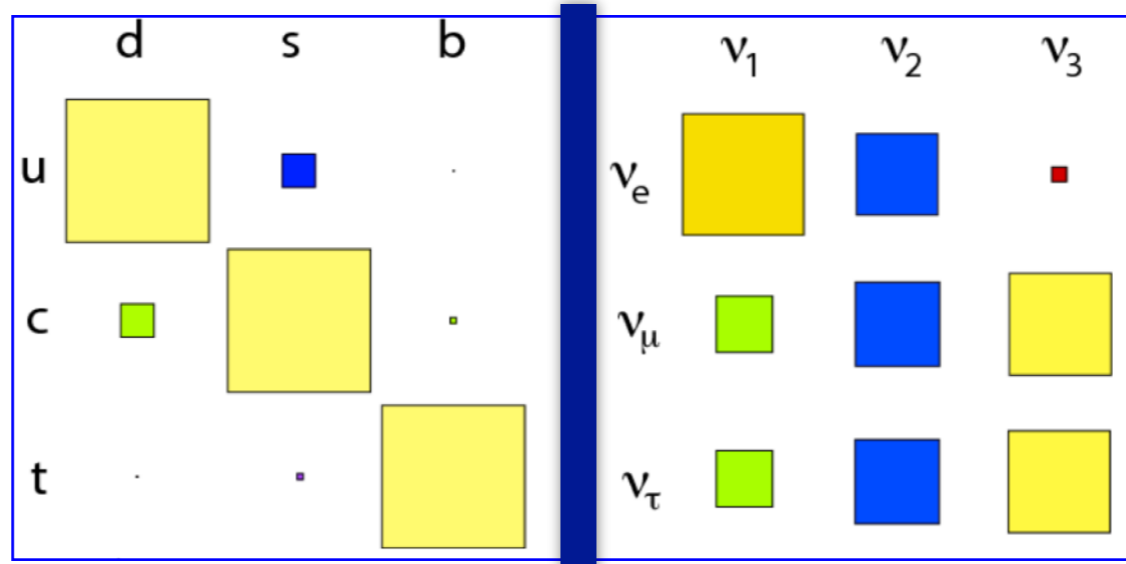
# The flavour problem

- ◆ seesaw models explain the **smallness of neutrino masses**

However, they can not explain:

- ◆ Why **quark and lepton mixings** are so different?

$$\begin{aligned}\theta_{12} &\simeq 13^\circ \\ \theta_{13} &\simeq 0.2^\circ \\ \theta_{23} &\simeq 2.4^\circ\end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}\theta_{12} &\simeq 34^\circ \\ \theta_{13} &\simeq 9^\circ \\ \theta_{23} &\simeq 49^\circ\end{aligned}$$

- ◆ Why do fermion masses show these **hierarchical relations**?

$$m_e \ll m_\mu \ll m_\tau$$

$$m_u, m_d \ll m_c, m_s \ll m_t, m_b$$

⇒ One can add new symmetries of leptons to the Standard Model

$$SU_c(3) \times SU_L(2) \times U_Y(1) \times G_f$$

# Neutrino physics beyond the Standard Model

# Beyond the 3-neutrino scenario

- ◆ Neutrino results suggest the presence of **physics BSM** to explain:
  - ✓ light neutrino masses (mass generation mechanism)
  - ✓ large neutrino mixing compared to quark sector (flavour problem)
  - ✓ short-distance anomalies (LSND, reactor and Ga anomalies)
- ◆ Many different **BSM scenarios** analyzed in the literature:
  - ✓ neutrino non-standard interactions (NSI) with matter
  - ✓ exotic neutrino electromagnetic properties
  - ✓ presence of light sterile neutrinos
  - ✓ mixing with heavy sterile neutrinos: non-unitary neutrino mixing

⇒ the presence of new physics may affect our current description of 3-nu oscillations as well as the future measurements

# Are there light sterile neutrinos?

# What is a sterile neutrino?

◆ **sterile neutrino** = singlet fermion of the Standard Model

→ it has no interactions (exceptions: Higgs, mixing and physics BSM)

## Motivations: sterile neutrinos can explain...

◆ neutrino oscillation anomalies ( $m \sim \text{eV}$ )

◆ small neutrino masses (seesaw mechanism,  $m > \text{TeV}-M_{\text{Planck}}$ )

◆ baryon asymmetry of the universe (leptogenesis,  $m \gg 1 \text{ GeV}$ )

◆ (part of) the dark matter of the universe.

# How many neutrinos?

◆ According to LEP measurements of invisible Z decay width:

$$\rightarrow N_\nu = 2.984 \pm 0.008 \quad (\text{light, active neutrinos})$$

## Experimental hints for a 4th sterile neutrino:

LSND & MiniBooNE

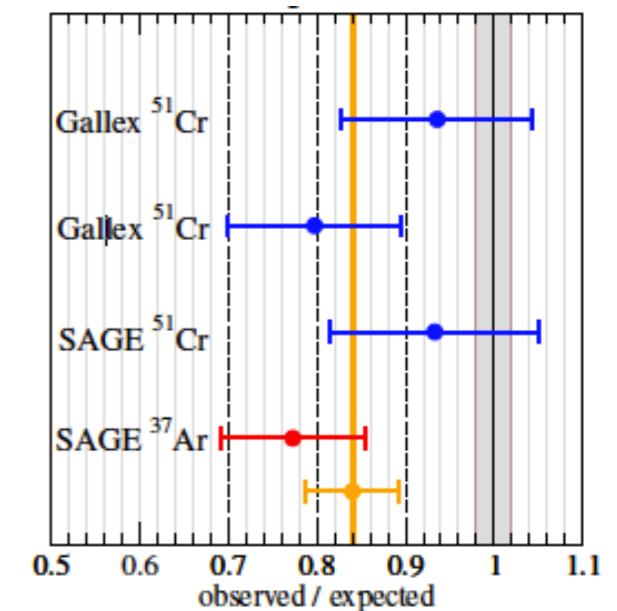
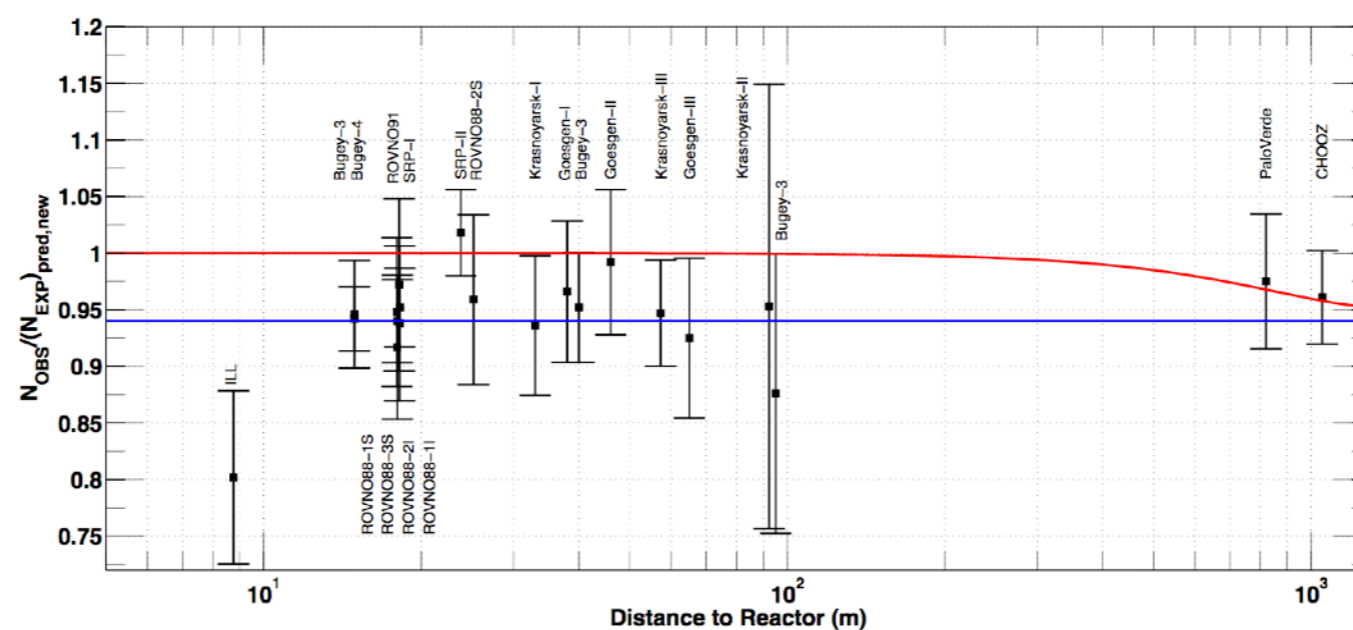
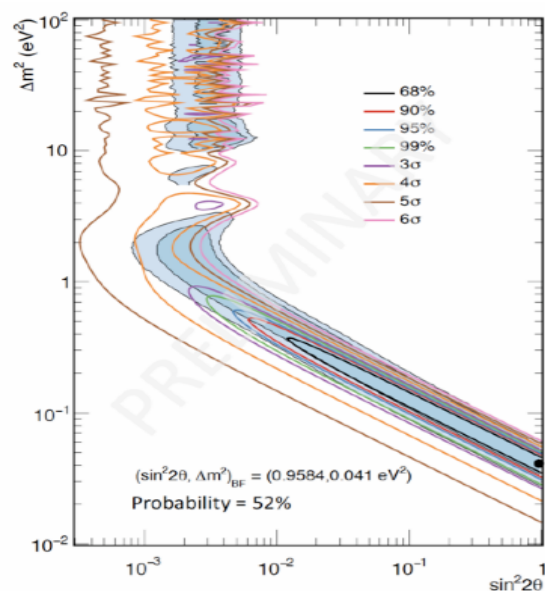
Reactor anomaly

Gallium anomaly

$$\bar{\nu}_\mu \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e$$

$$\bar{\nu}_e \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e$$

$$\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_e$$





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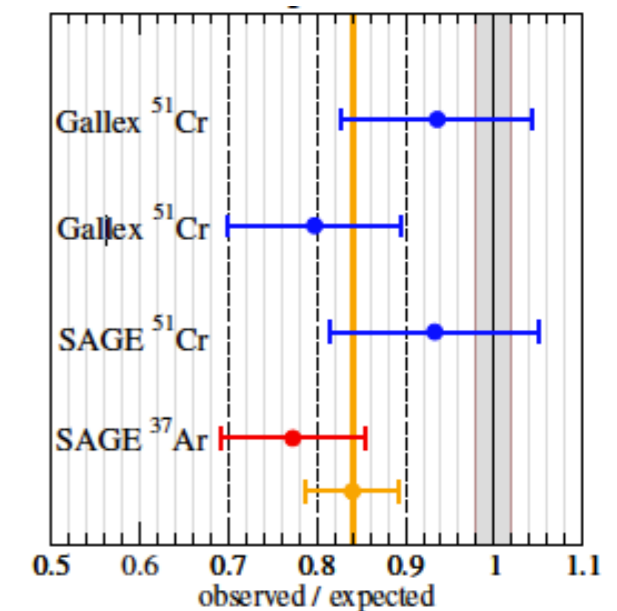
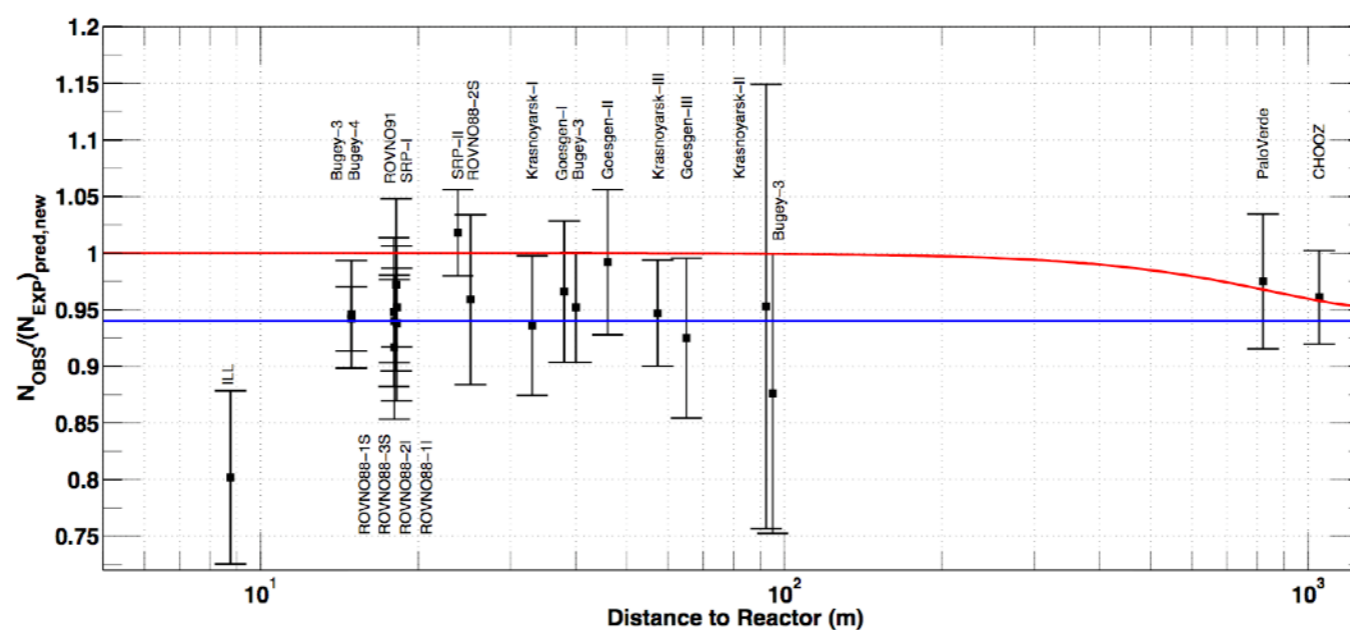
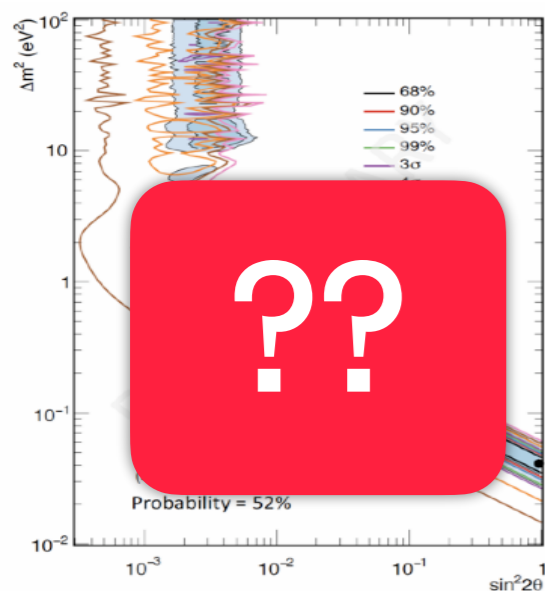
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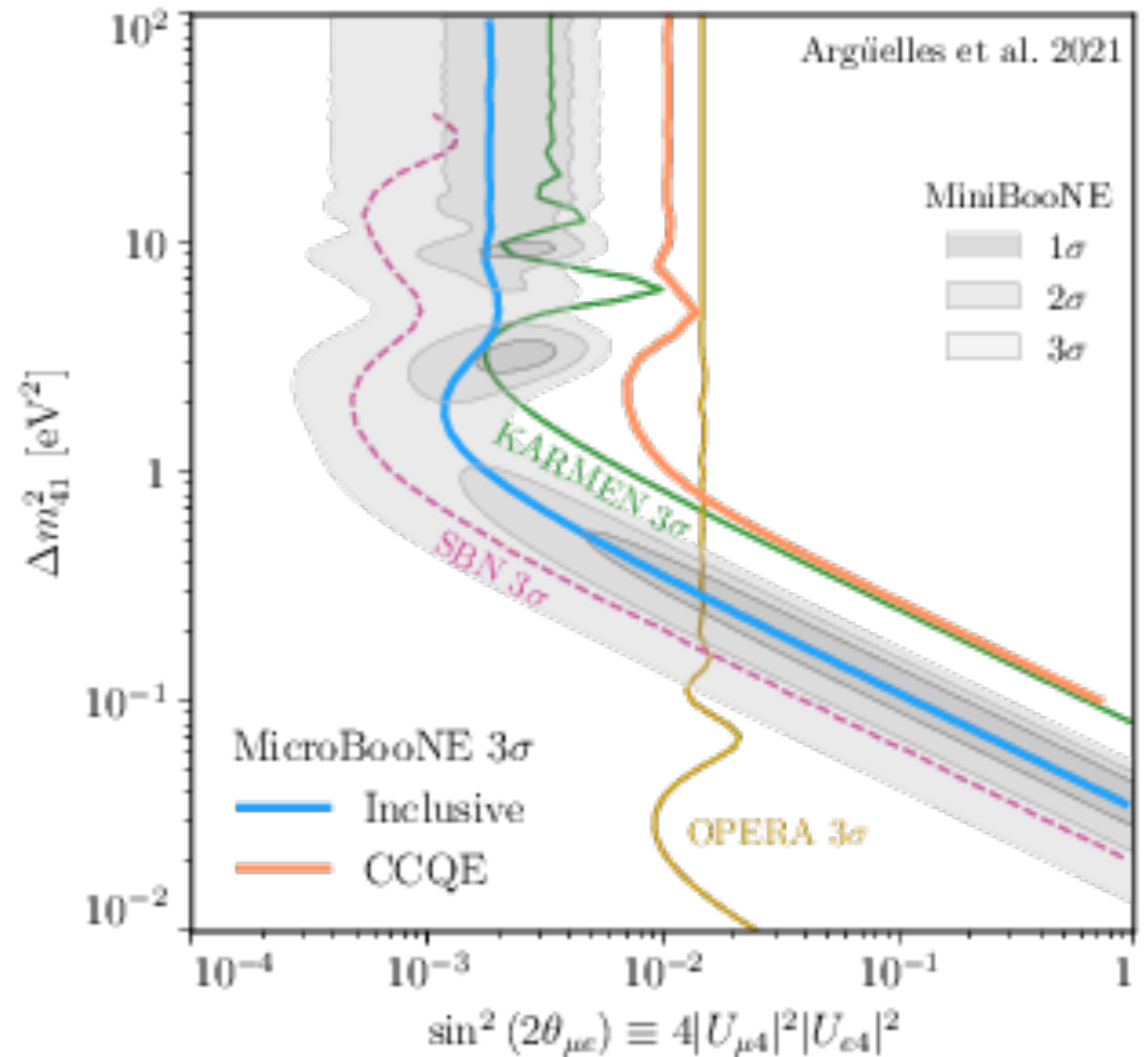
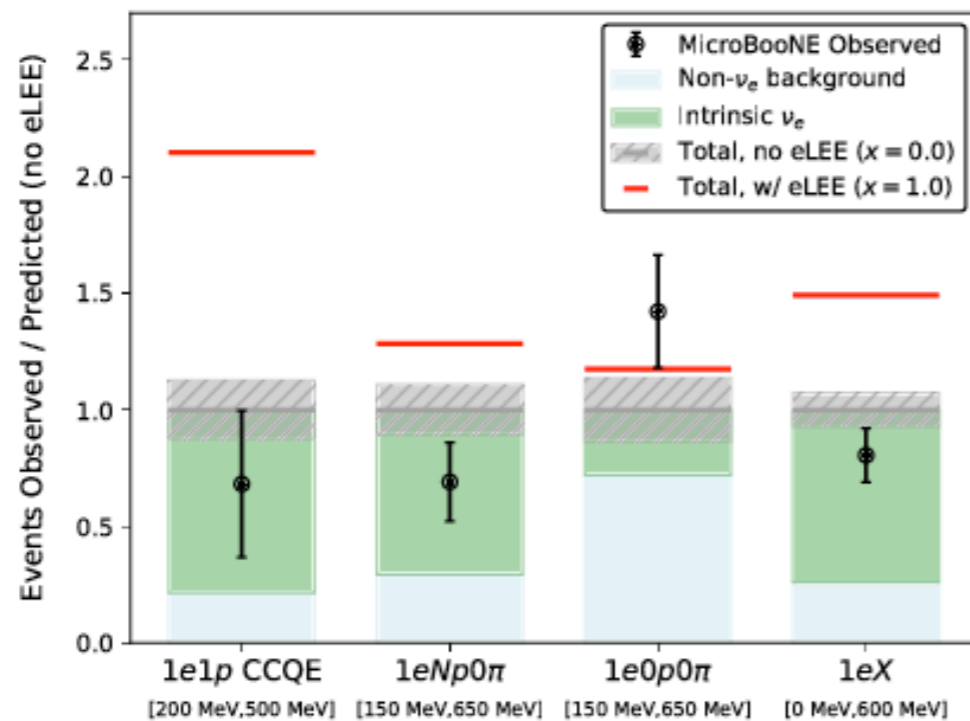
$$\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_e$$



# First results from MicroBooNE

Argüelles et al, 2021

MicroBooNE Collab, 2021



- ◆ MicroBooNE does not support the interpretation of the MiniBooNE low energy excess in terms of ν<sub>e</sub>

- ◆ Overlap of 2σ MicroBooNE and MiniBooNE regions

# How many neutrinos?

◆ According to LEP measurements of invisible Z decay width:

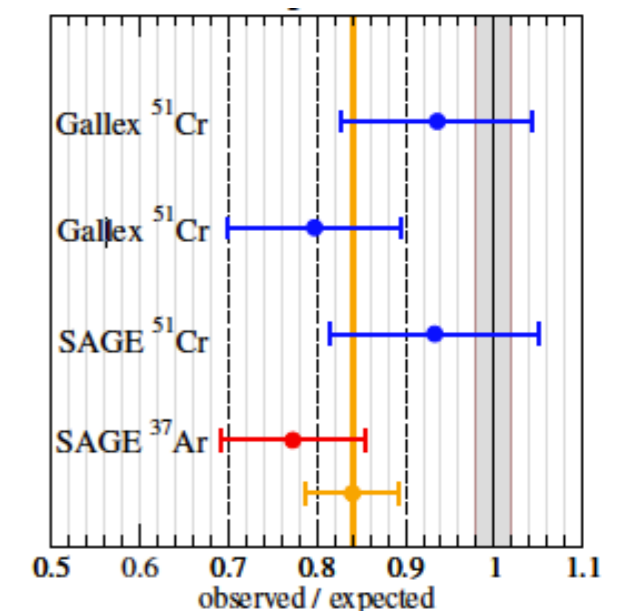
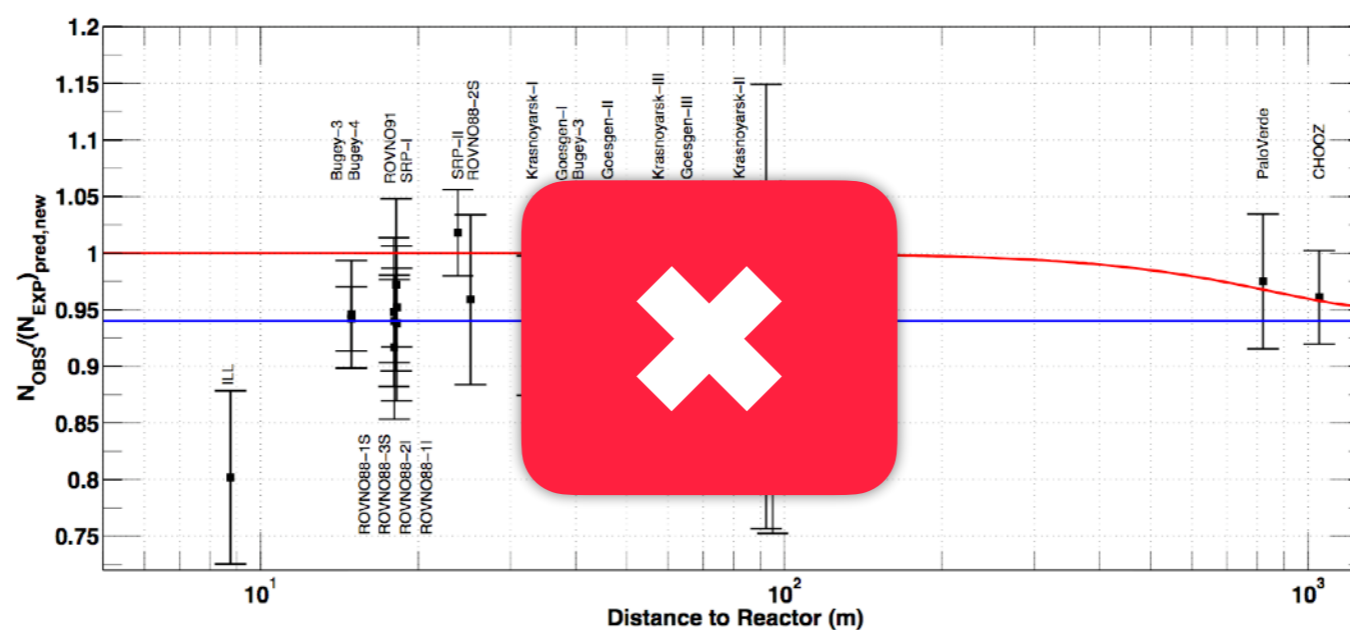
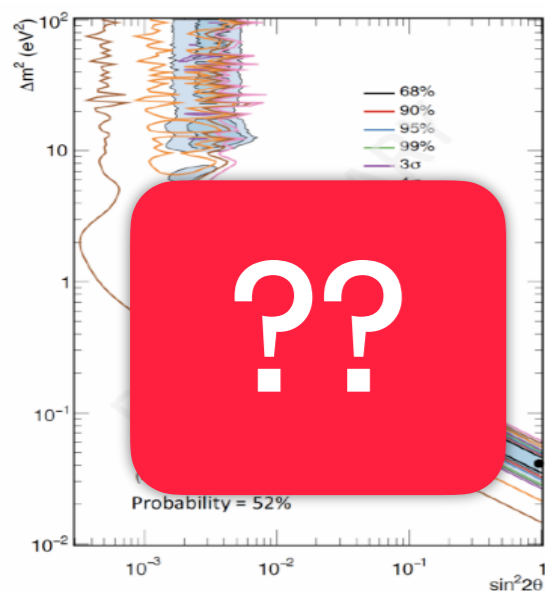
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## Experimental hints for a 4th sterile neutrino:

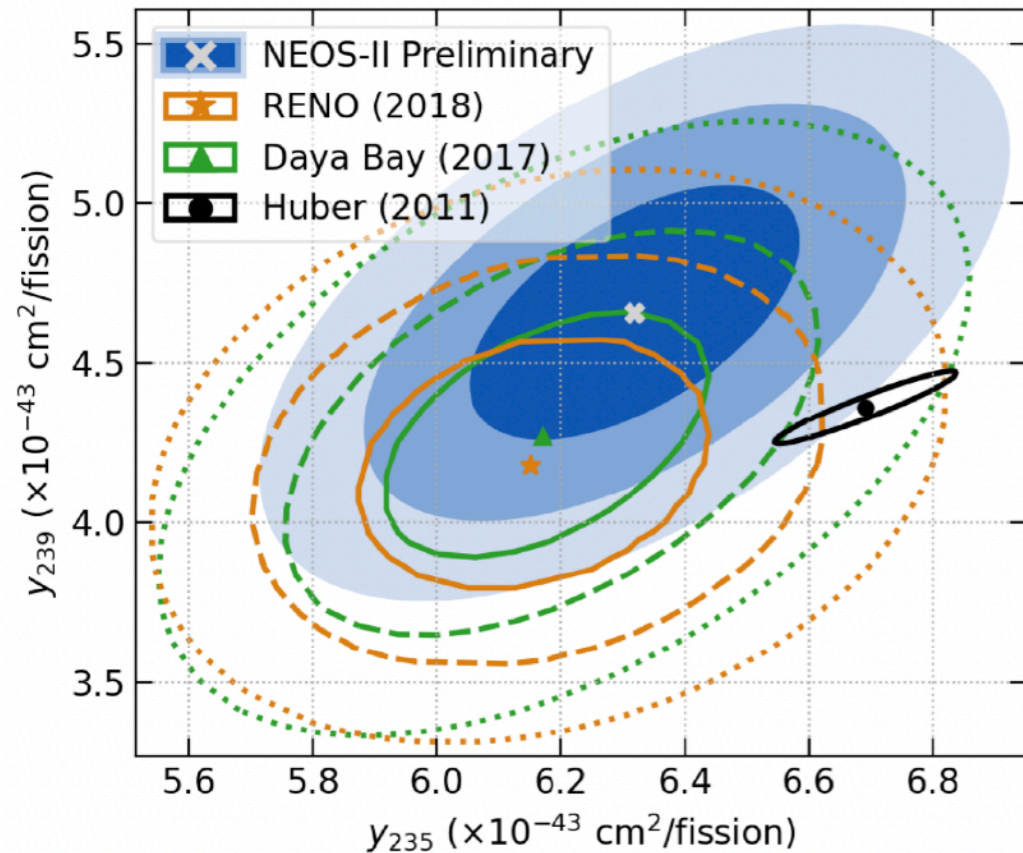
LSND & MiniBooNE

Reactor anomaly

Gallium anomaly



# Current status of the reactor anomaly

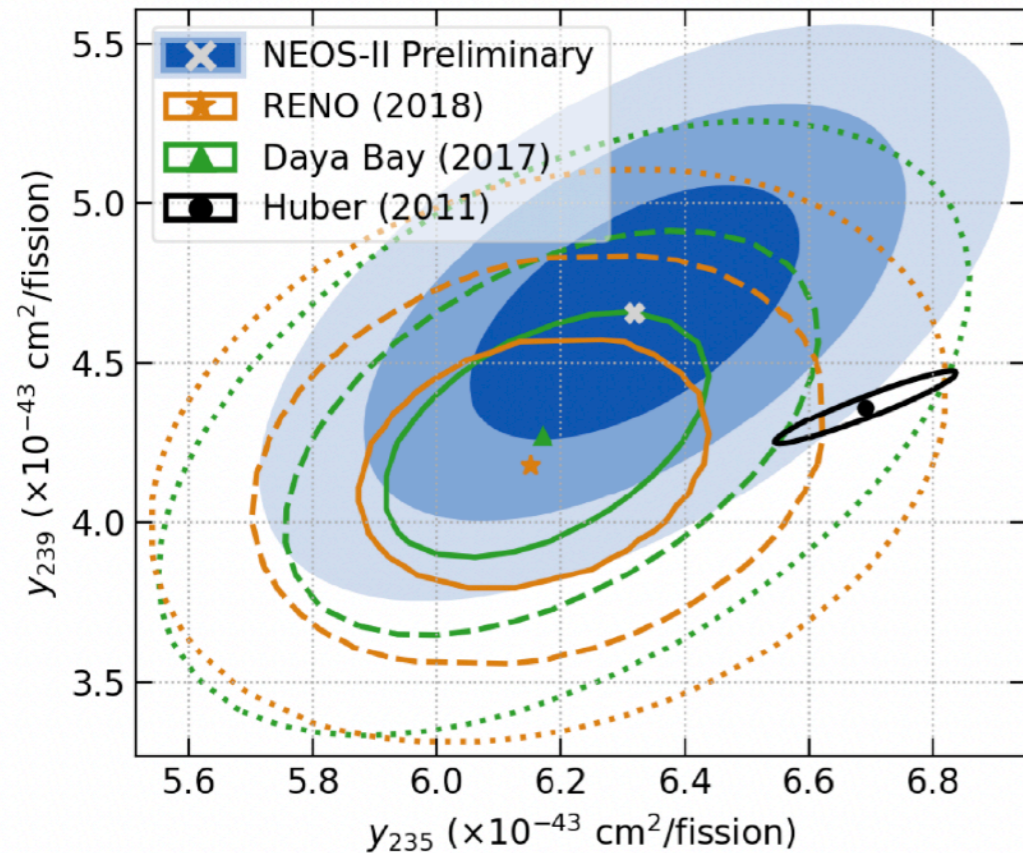


P. Vogel, Neutrino 2022

◆ Reactor measurements indicate that the neutrino flux for  $^{235}\text{U}$  in the H-M model should be reduced by 5-10 %.

→ this would explain the **reactor neutrino flux anomaly**

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P. Vogel, Neutrino 2022

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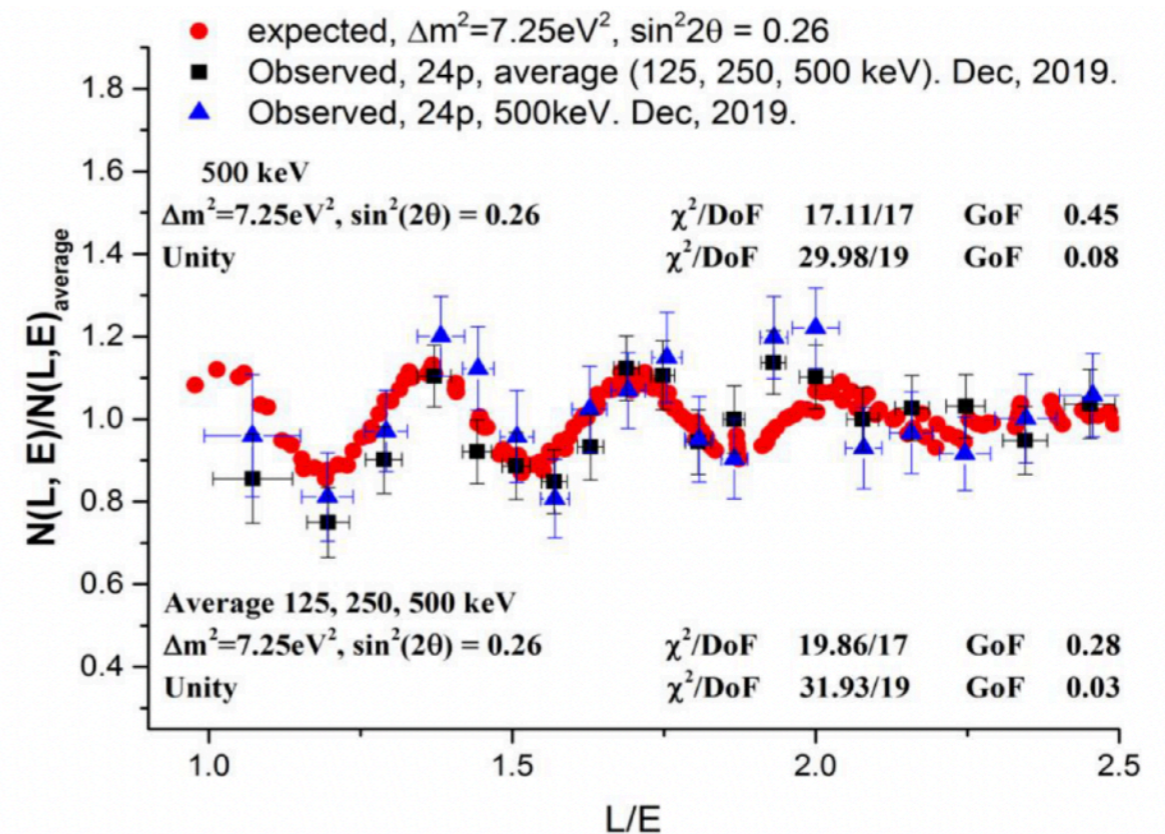
→ this would explain the **reactor neutrino flux anomaly**

◆ Indications of anomaly in the **neutrino reactor spectra:**

→ indep of flux predictions

→ low statistical significance

Neutrino-4 Collab, 2020



# How many neutrinos?

◆ According to LEP measurements of invisible Z decay width:

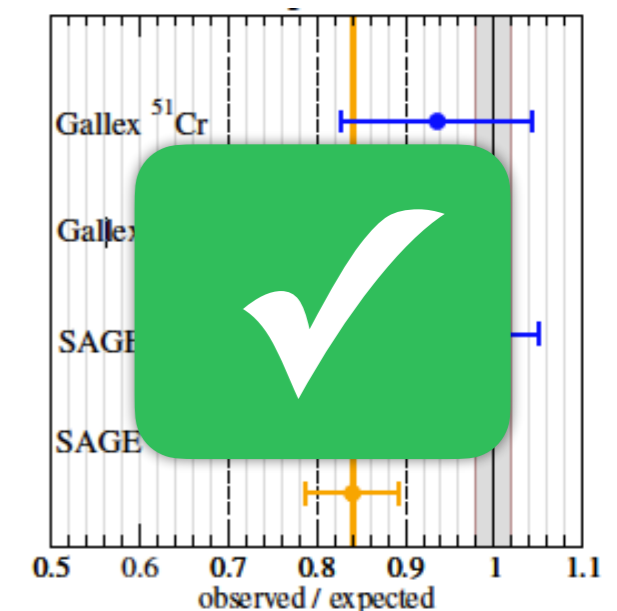
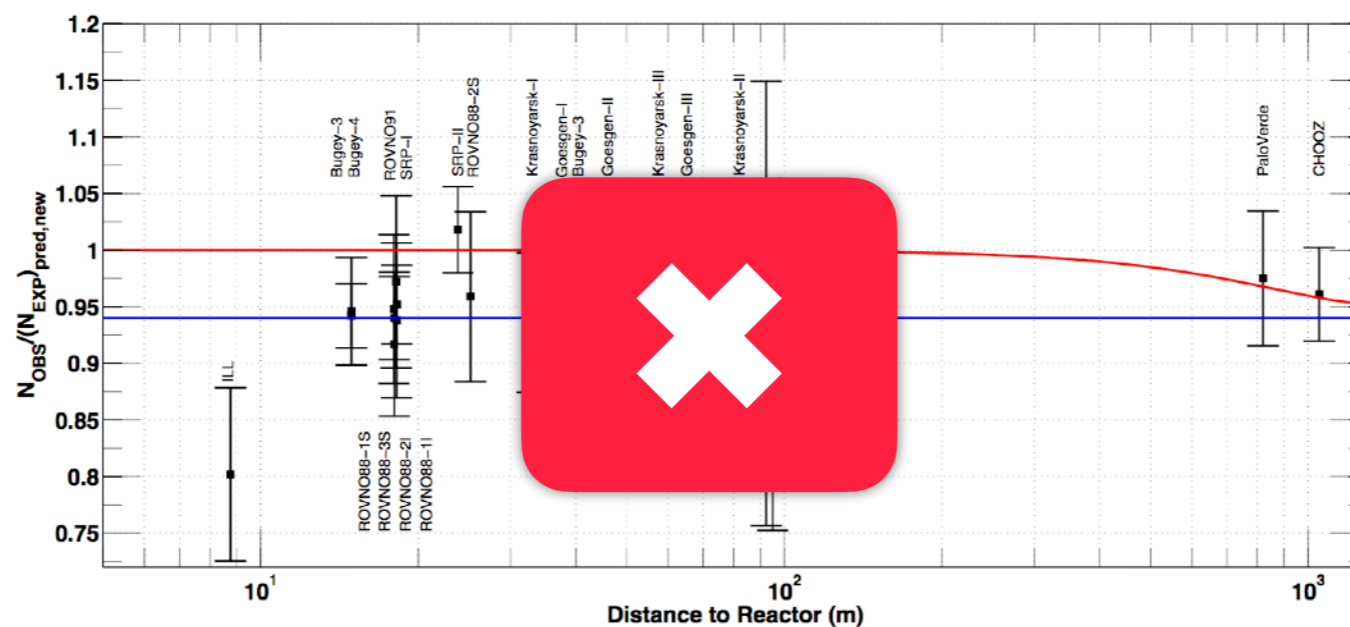
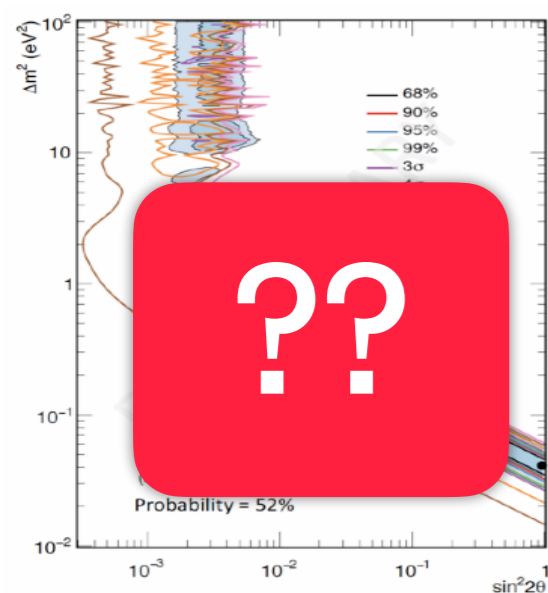
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LSND & MiniBooNE

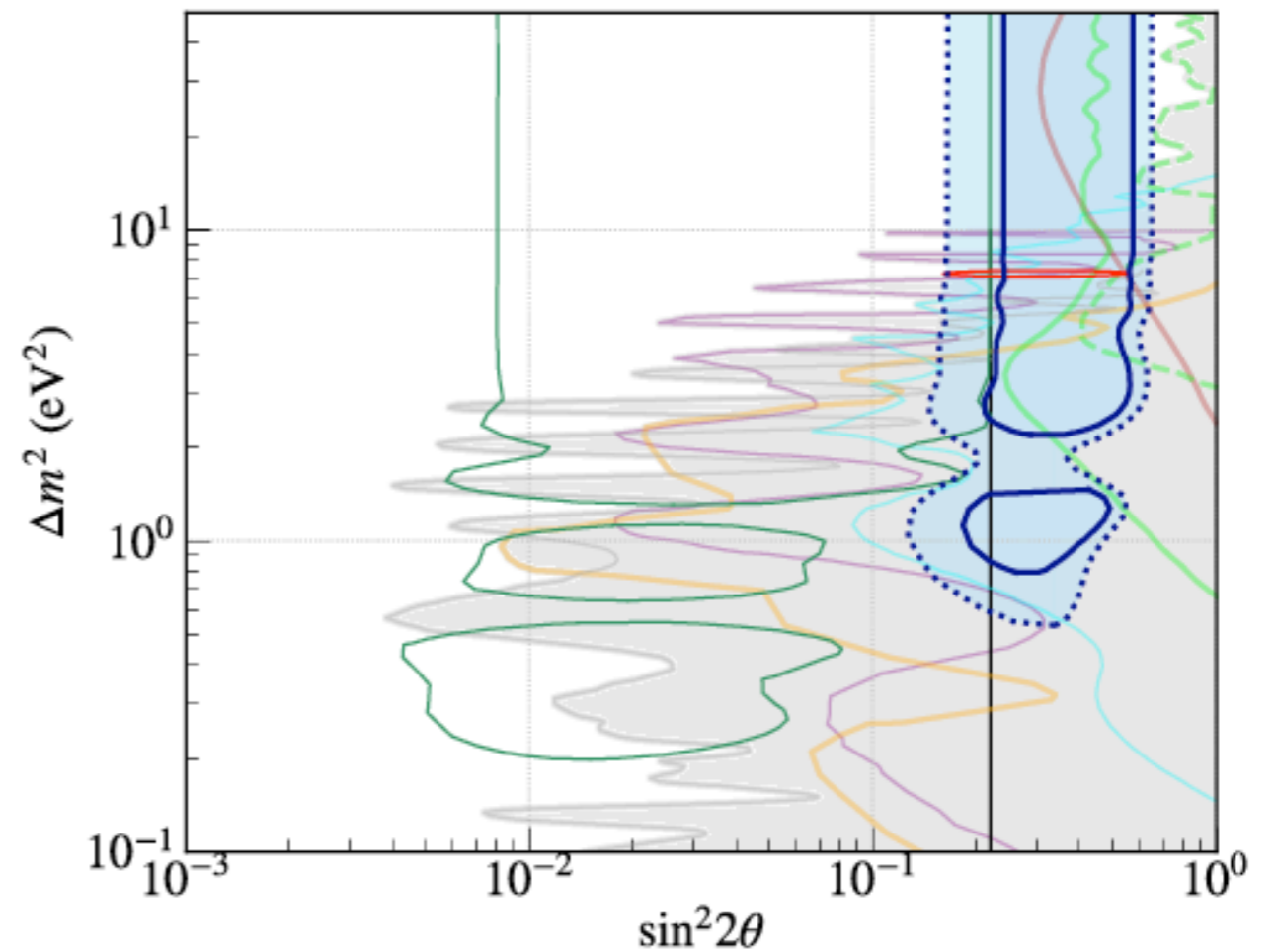
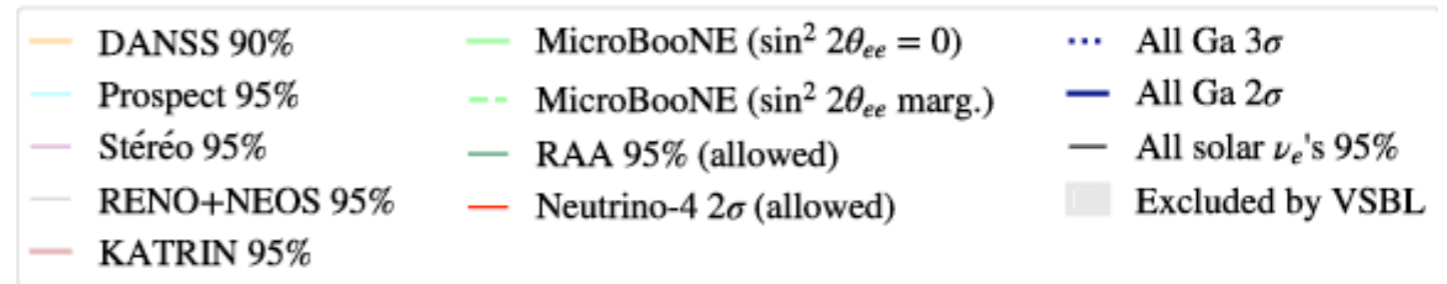
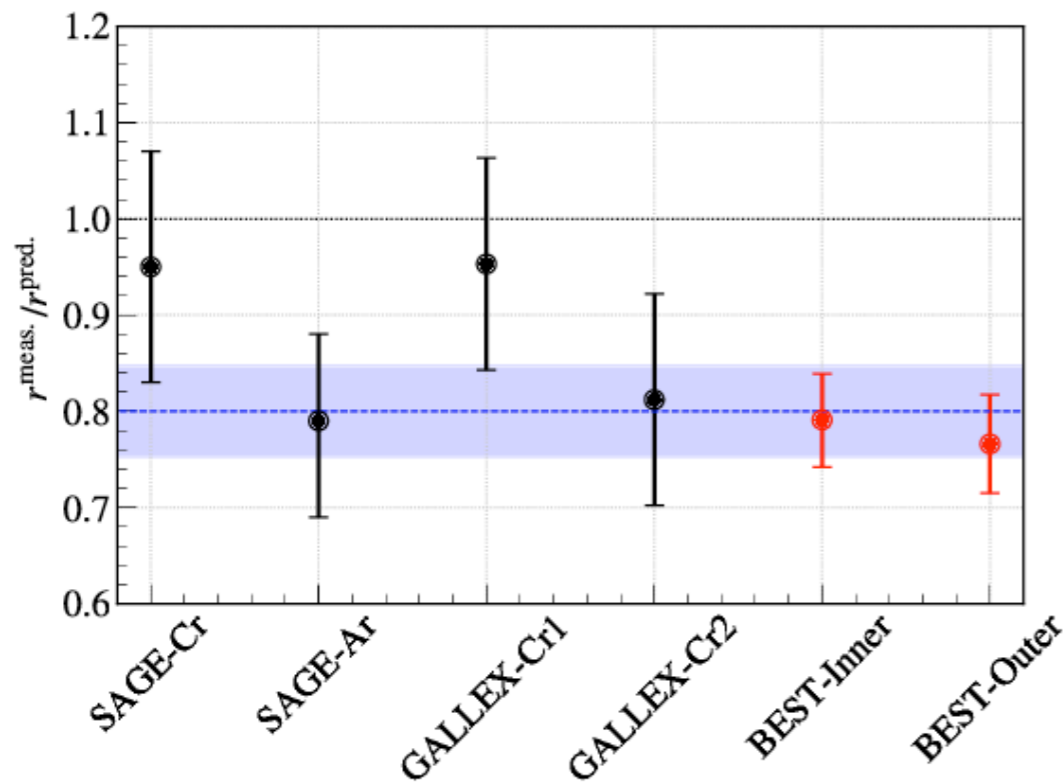
Reactor anomaly

Gallium anomaly



# Current status of the Ga anomaly

◆ Recently confirmed by **BEST** (Baksan Experiment on Sterile Transitions) at  $4\sigma$

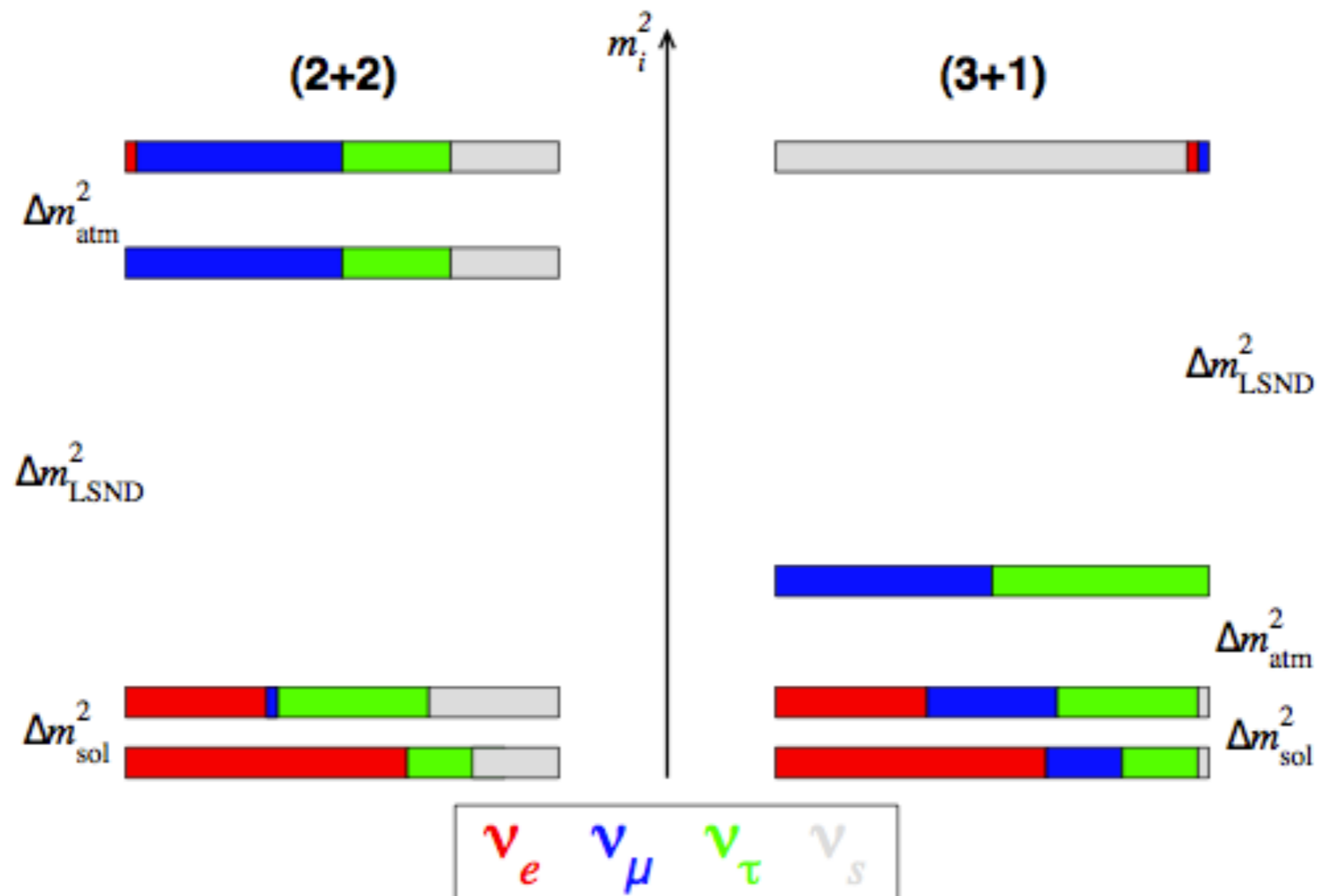


Barinov et al, PRC 2022

# Interpretation of the anomalies

$$\Delta m_{\text{sol}}^2 \sim 8 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2 \quad \Delta m_{\text{atm}}^2 \sim 2 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2 \quad \Delta m_{\text{LSND}}^2 \sim 1 \text{ eV}^2$$

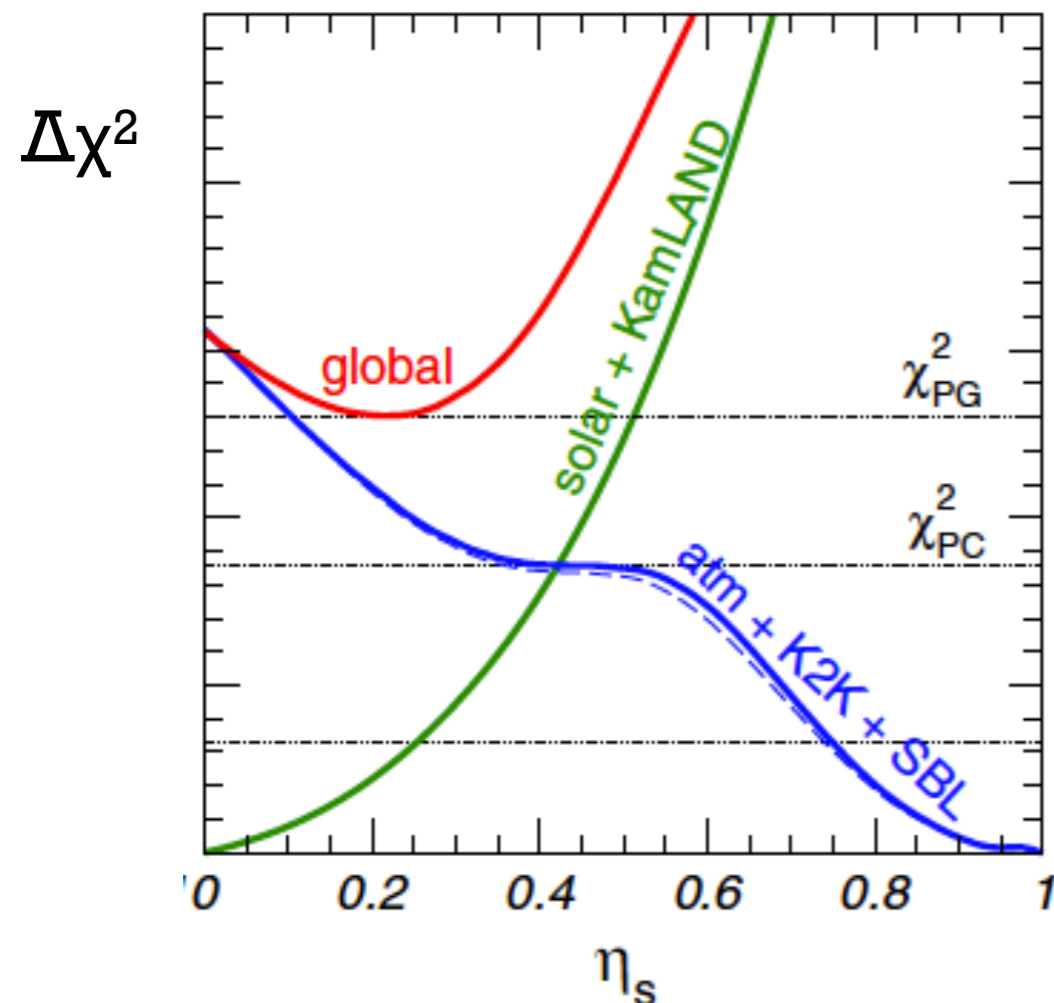
⇒ Can only be accommodated considering four neutrino states



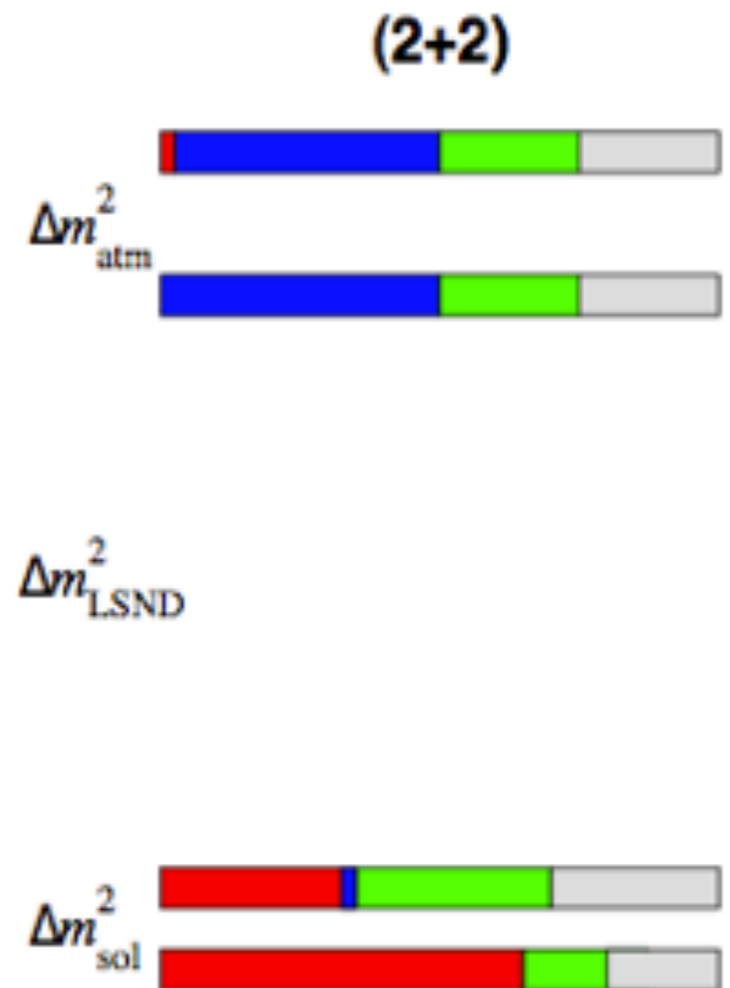


# 2+2 neutrino scheme

- ◆ This scheme requires the presence of sterile neutrinos either in solar or atmospheric neutrinos
- ◆ However, solar and atmospheric data show a strong preference for active oscillations



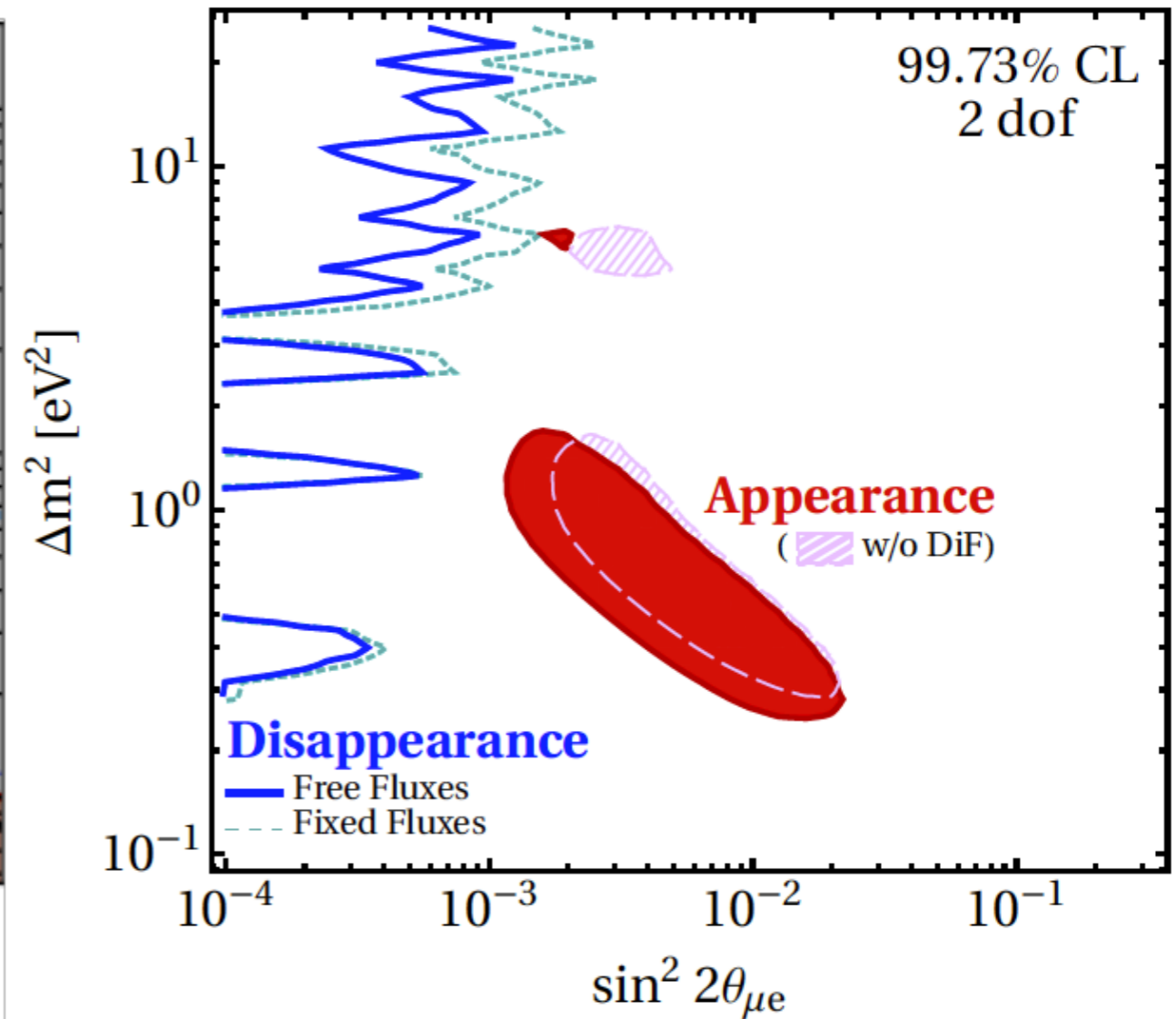
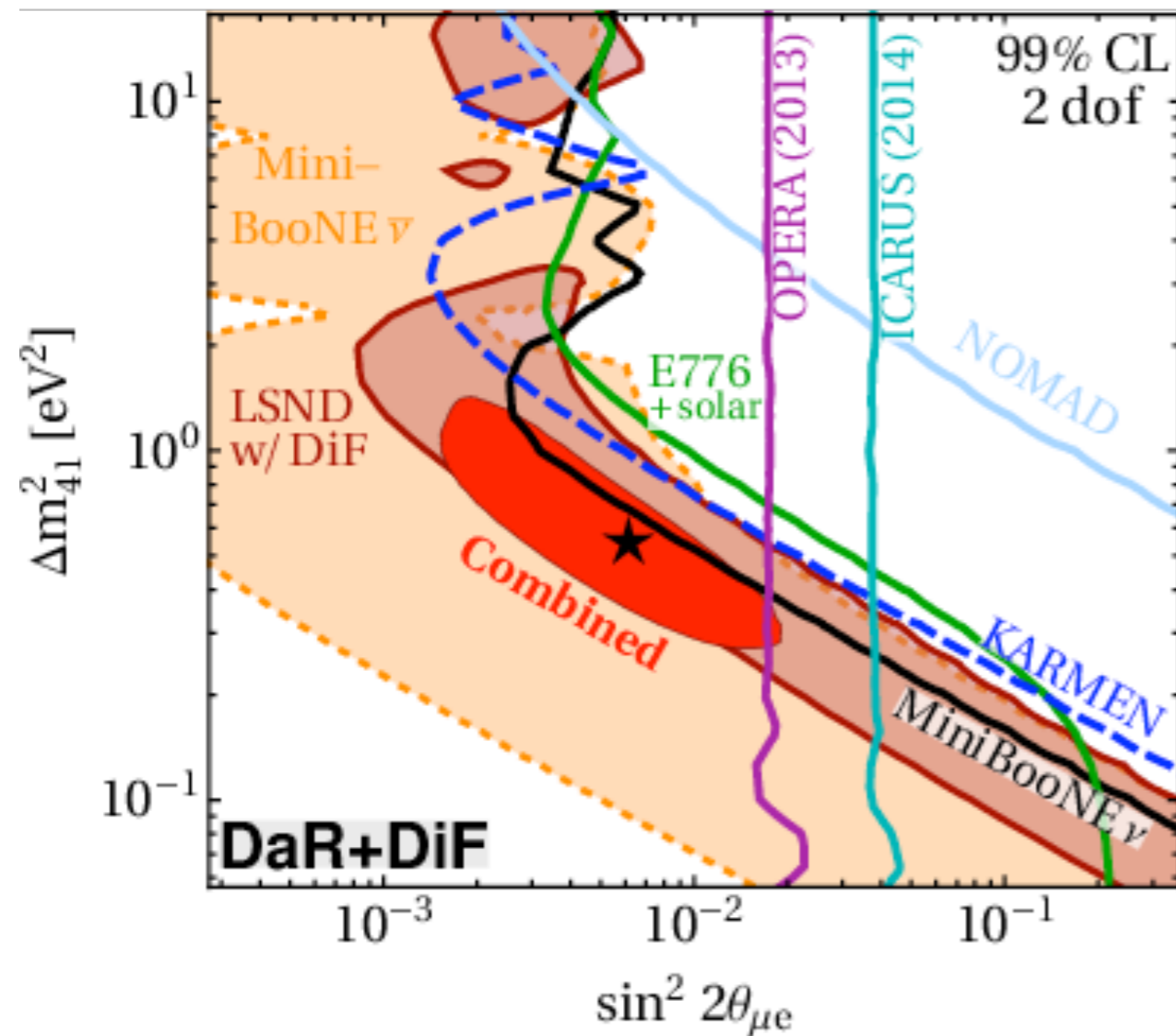
excluded by solar and atmospheric data



Maltoni et al, NPB643 (2003), NJP06 (2004)

# Global fit in 3+1 neutrino scheme

Dentler et al, JHEP 2018 [See also Giunti et al]



⇒ Constraints on short-baseline  $\nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \nu_e$  oscillations

⇒ strong tension between appearance (LSND/MiniBooNE) and disappearance experiments: SK, IceCube, MINOS/+,...

# eV-sterile neutrino in Cosmology

- ◆ In Cosmology, sterile neutrinos with eV masses would contribute to:

$\Sigma m_\nu$  = sum of neutrino masses

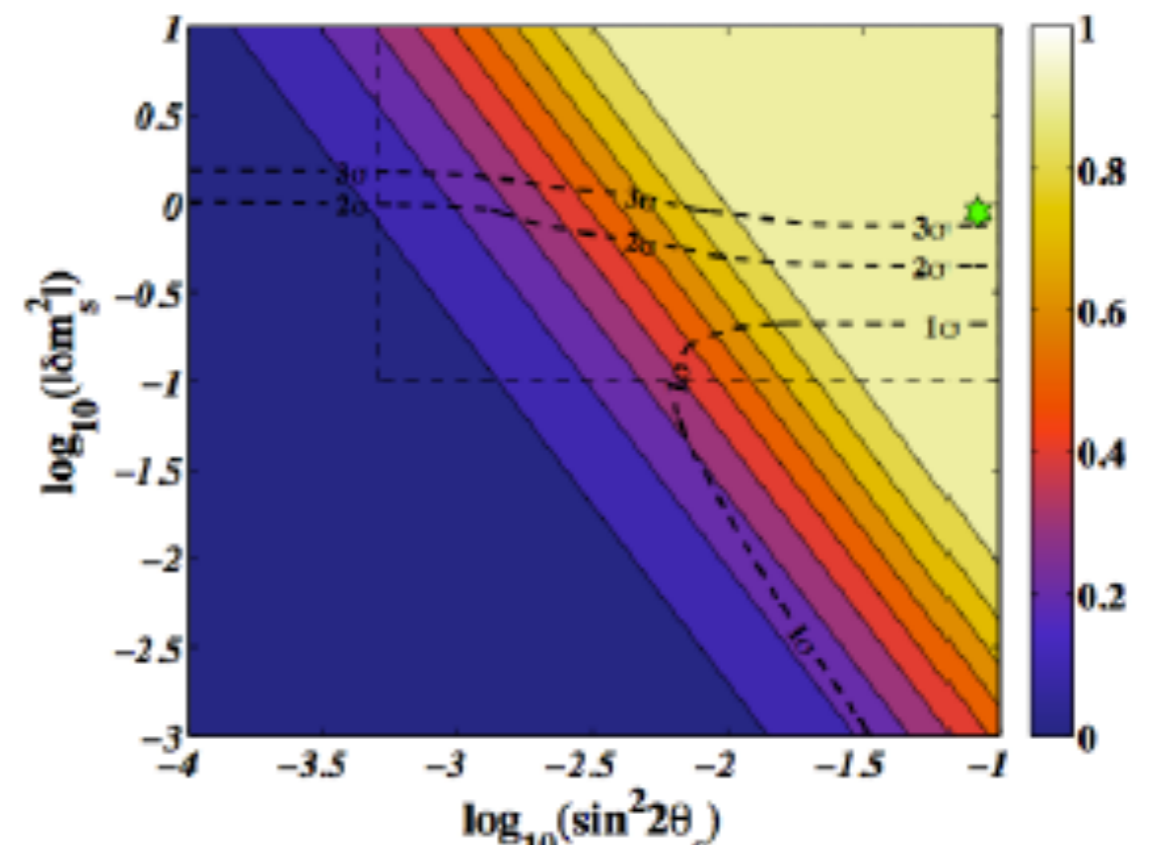
$N_{\text{eff}}$  = relativistic degrees of freedom

- ◆ If the mixing active-sterile neutrino is small, one can relax limits from cosmology

- ◆ However, for mass & mixing parameters required to explain the anomalies,  $\nu_s$  is fully thermalized in the early universe.

$$\rightarrow \sum m_\nu \gtrsim 0.05 \text{ eV} + \sqrt{\Delta m_{41}^2} > 1 \text{ eV}$$

$$\rightarrow N_{\text{eff}} \approx 4$$



**Hannestad et al, 1204.5861**

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$$\rightarrow \sum m_\nu \gtrsim 0.05 \text{ eV} + \sqrt{\Delta m_{41}^2} > 1 \text{ eV}$$

$$\rightarrow N_{\text{eff}} \approx 4$$

- ▶ Constraints from Cosmology:

$$\sum m_i < 0.12 \text{ eV}$$

$$N_{\text{eff}} = 2.96^{+0.34}_{-0.33}$$

95%, Planck TT,TE,EE+lowE +lensing+BAO

# Neutrino non-standard interactions (NSI) with matter

# Neutrino NSI with matter

- ◆ New 4-fermion interactions involving neutrinos

**CC-NSI:**

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{CC-NSI}} = -2\sqrt{2}G_F \epsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{ff'X} (\bar{\nu}_\alpha \gamma^\mu P_L \ell_\beta) (\bar{f}' \gamma_\mu P_X f)$$

⇒ effect on neutrino **production** and **detection**

$$\epsilon_{\alpha\beta}^s \text{ (source)} \quad \epsilon_{\alpha\beta}^d \text{ (detector)}$$

**NC-NSI:**

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{NC-NSI}} = -2\sqrt{2}G_F \epsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{fX} (\bar{\nu}_\alpha \gamma^\mu P_L \nu_\beta) (\bar{f} \gamma_\mu P_X f)$$

$\epsilon_{\alpha\beta} \neq 0 \rightarrow$  NSI violate lepton flavor (FC-NSI)

$\epsilon_{\alpha\alpha} - \epsilon_{\beta\beta} \neq 0 \rightarrow$  NSI violate lepton universality (NU-NSI)

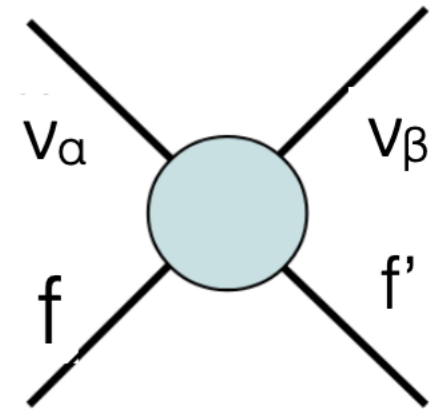
⇒ mainly affecting neutrino **propagation** in matter:  $\epsilon_{\alpha\beta}^m$

(but also detection, e.g., Super-K and Borexino)

- ◆ NSI may affect the **3-neutrino oscillation picture**:

⇒ precision measurements at current experiments

⇒ sensitivity reach of upcoming experiments (degeneracies)



# Models leading to sizeable NSI

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{NC-NSI}} = -2\sqrt{2}G_F \epsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{fX} (\bar{\nu}_\alpha \gamma^\mu P_L \nu_\beta) (\bar{f} \gamma_\mu P_X f)$$

$$\epsilon \sim \left( \frac{g_X^2}{m_X^2} \right) G_F^{-1}$$

◆ models with heavy mediator:  $m_X \gg 100 \text{ GeV} \Rightarrow \epsilon \ll 1$

◆ models with light mediator:  $m_X \sim 10 \text{ MeV}$ ,  $\epsilon \sim 1$  with  $g_X \sim 10^{-4}-10^{-5}$

$\Rightarrow$  bounds on production avoided due to small coupling

$\Rightarrow$  NSI effect suppressed in scattering exp. with  $q^2 \gg M_X^2$  (NuTeV, CHARM,  $q \sim \text{GeV}$ )

$$10 \text{ MeV} < m_X < 1 \text{ GeV}$$

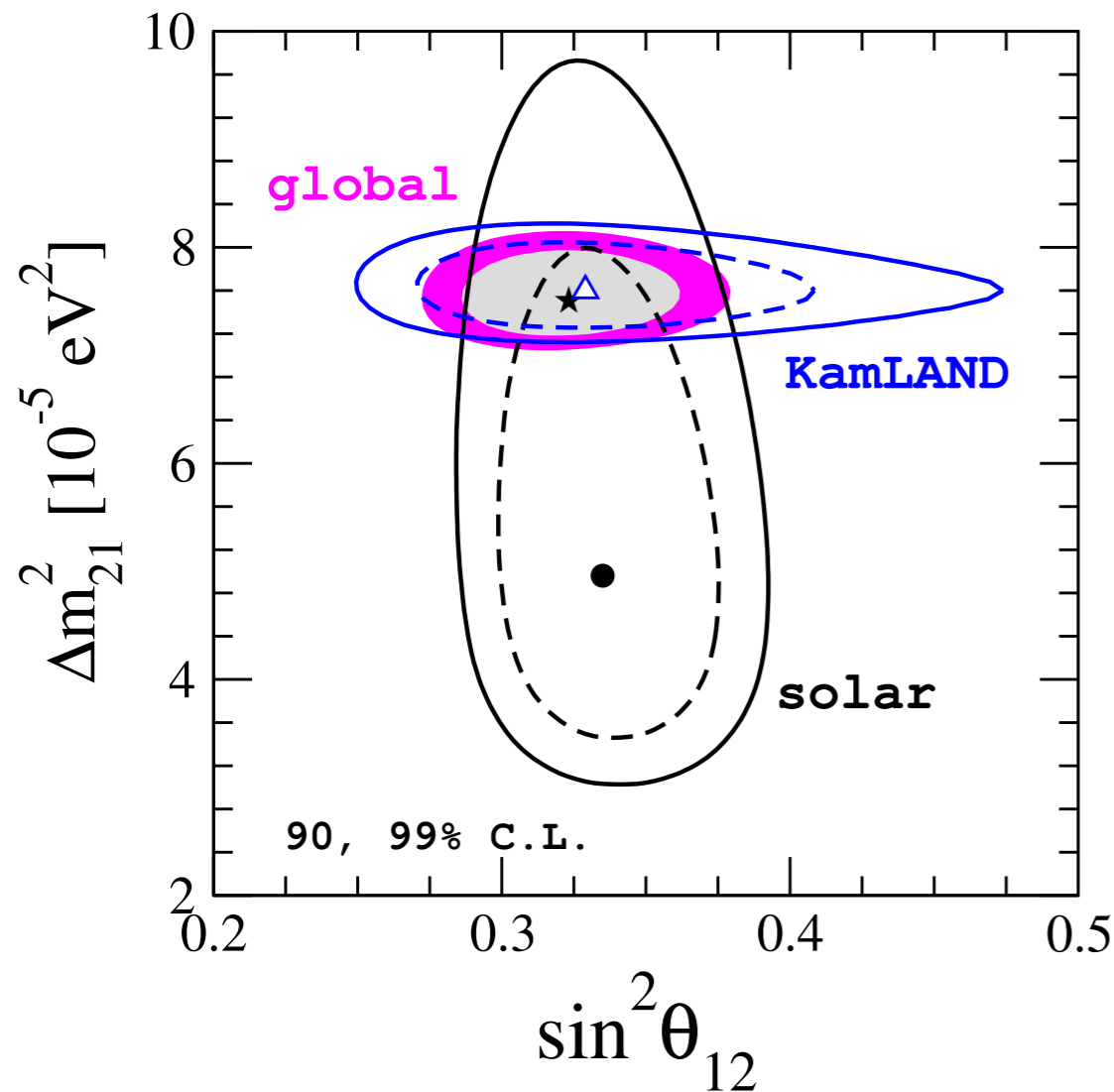
$\Rightarrow$  BBN bounds can be avoided with  $m_X \gtrsim 10 \text{ MeV}$

$\Rightarrow$  Strong bounds from 1st generation of leptons: avoided with  $a_e = 0$

Y. Farzan, Phys. Lett. B 2015

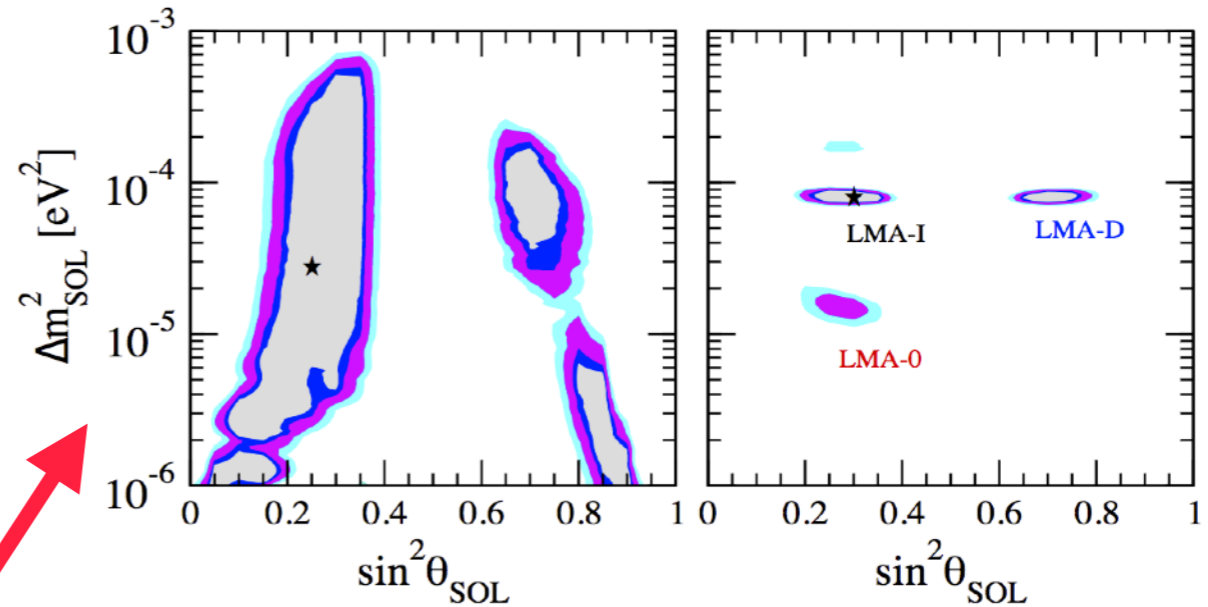
# NSI in the solar neutrino sector

Standard 3ν oscillations



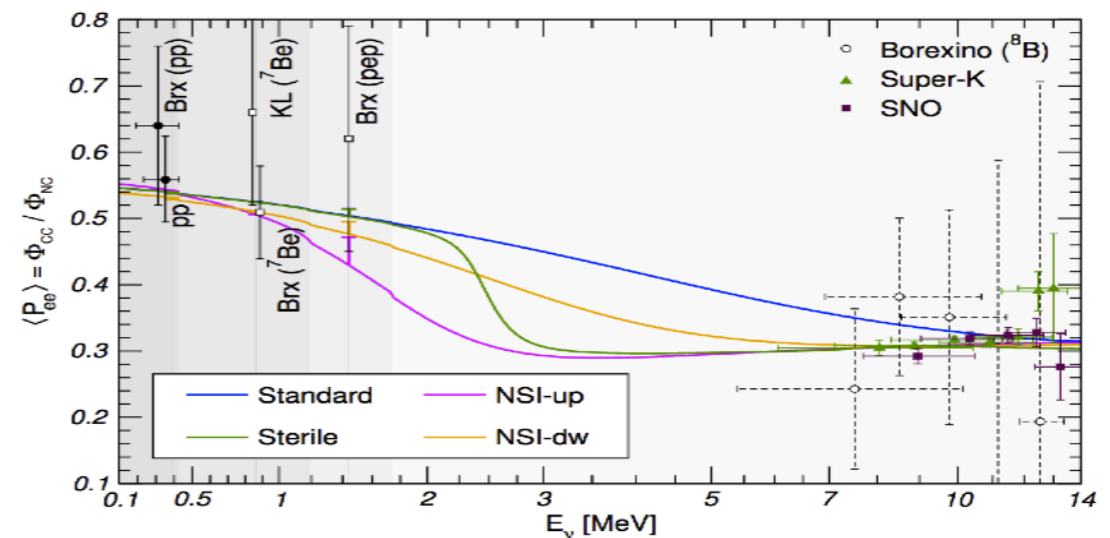
de Salas et al, PLB782 (2018) 633

Miranda et al, JHEP 2006



⇒ degenerate solar solution

Maltoni & Smirnov, EPJ 2015

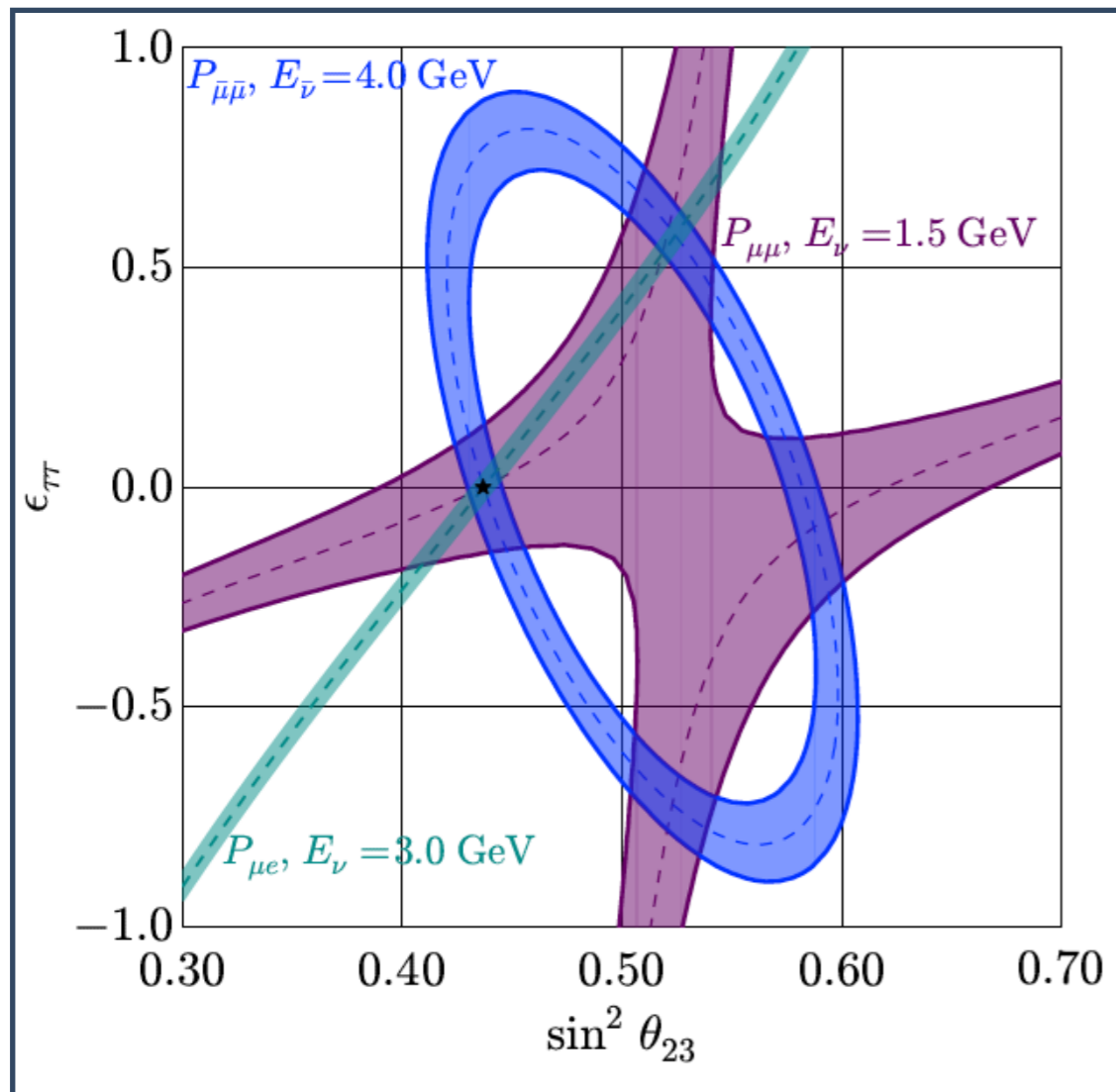


⇒ reconciles tension between  $\Delta m^2_{21}$   
@ KamLAND and solar data

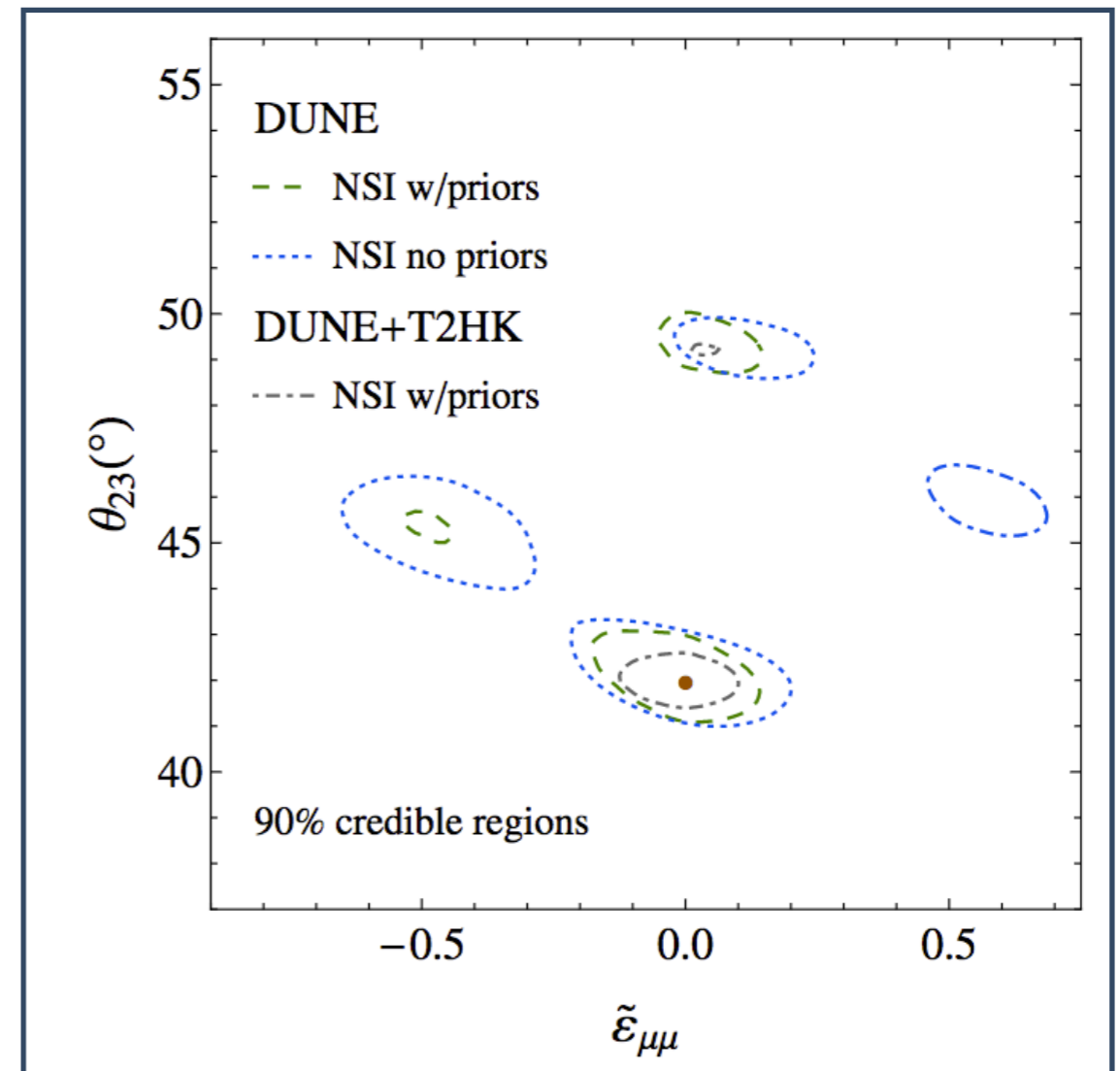


# NSI at future LBL experiments

## $(\theta_{23}-\epsilon_{\tau\tau})$ degeneracy in DUNE



Gouvea and Kelly, NPB 2016

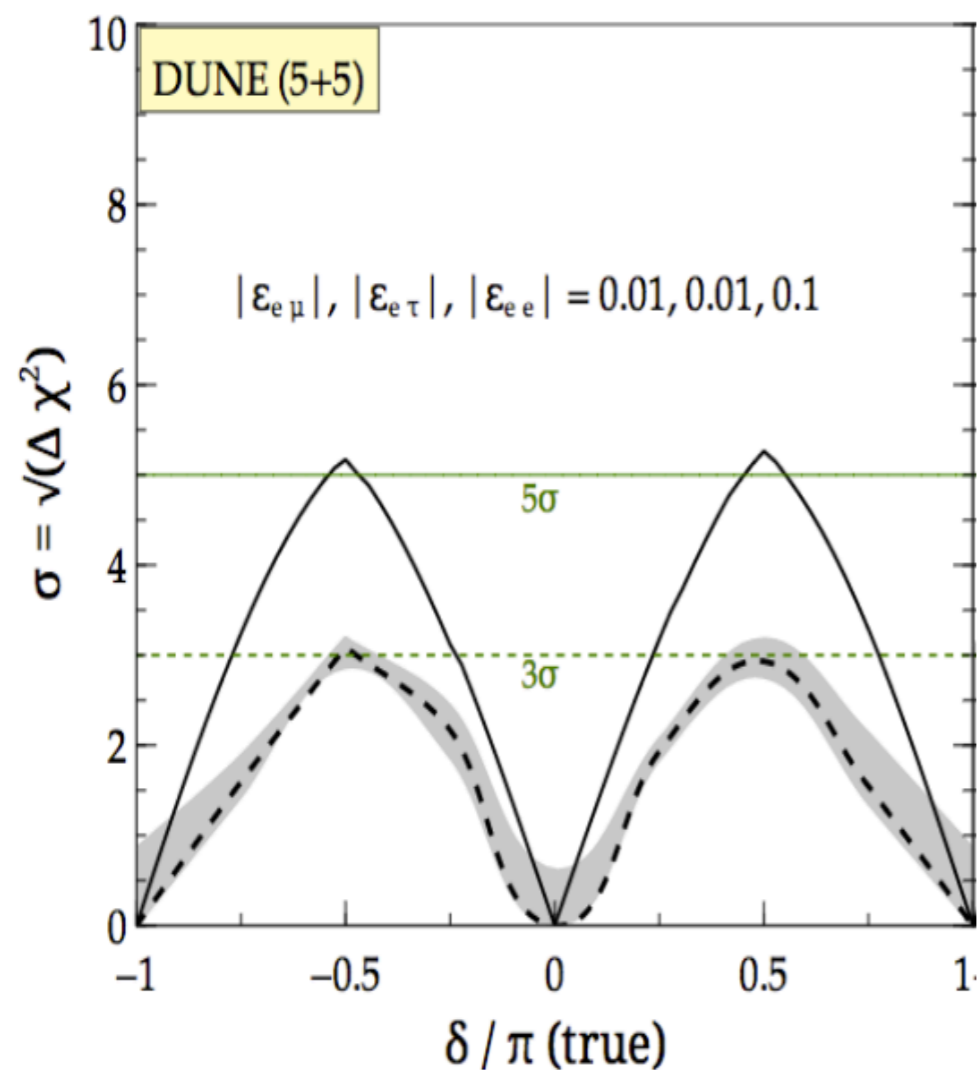


Coloma, JHEP 2016

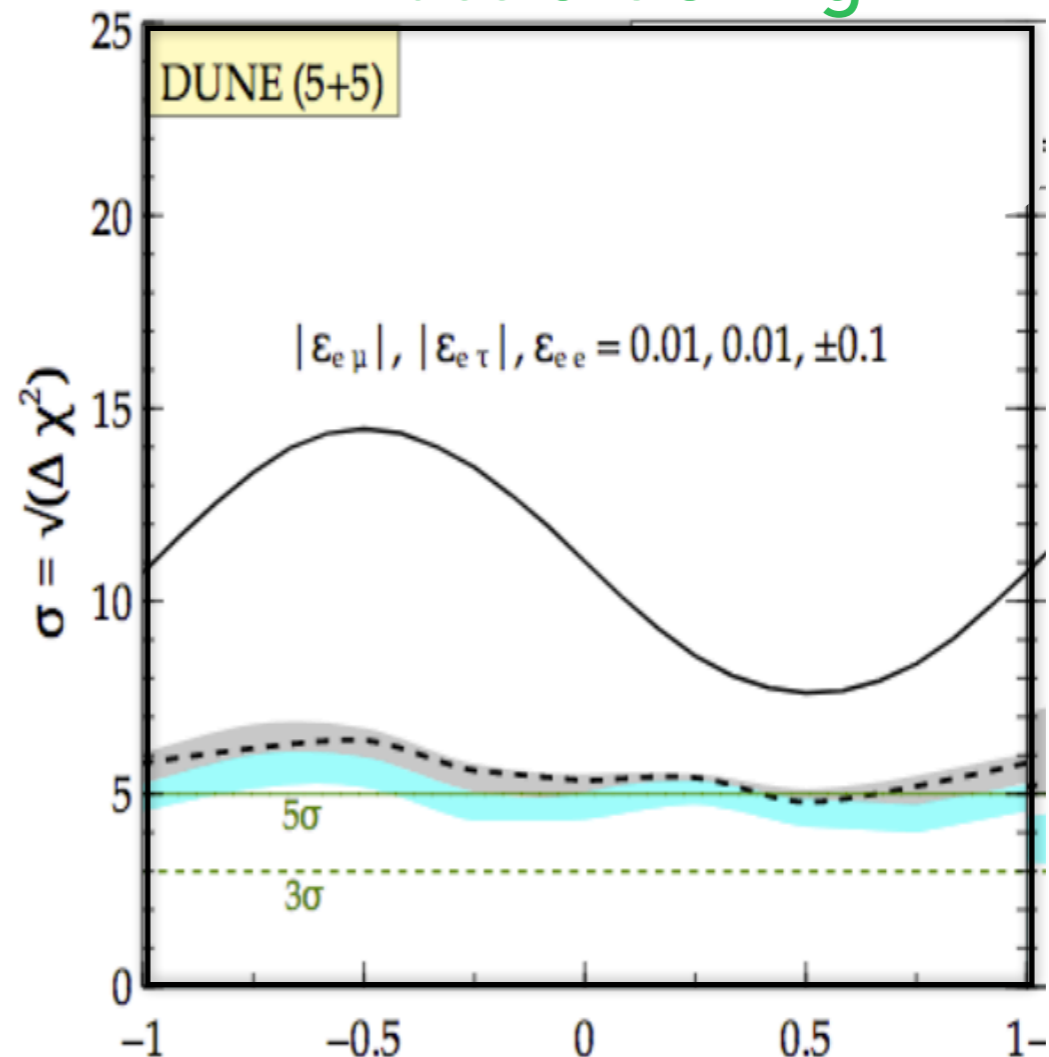
# NSI at future LBL experiments

NSI can significantly spoil DUNE's sensitivity to:

CP violation



mass ordering



Masud and Mehta, PRD 2016

# Non-unitary neutrino mixing

# Non-unitary light neutrino mixing

- ◆ Most models of neutrino masses include **new extra heavy states**

Ex: type I seesaw, inverse seesaw

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & M_D \\ M_D^T & M_R \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 & M_D & 0 \\ M_D^T & 0 & M \\ 0 & M^T & \mu \end{pmatrix}$$

→ (3x3) light neutrino mixing matrix  $U$  is **non-unitary** in general

- ◆  $N \times N$  **non-unitary mixing matrix** described with  $2N^2 - (2N - 1)$  parameters
  - 13 parameters are needed to describe a non-unitary (3x3) matrix
  - besides the 4 standard ones ( $\theta_{ij}$  and  $\delta_{CP}$ ), 9 more parameters are needed

- ◆ General parameterization for non-unitary  $N \times N$  mixing matrix

$$U^{n \times n} = \begin{pmatrix} N & W \\ V & T \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{with} \quad N = N^{NP} U^{3 \times 3} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ \alpha_{21} & \alpha_{22} & 0 \\ \alpha_{31} & \alpha_{32} & \alpha_{33} \end{pmatrix} U^{3 \times 3}$$

Escrihuela et al, PRD92 (2015)

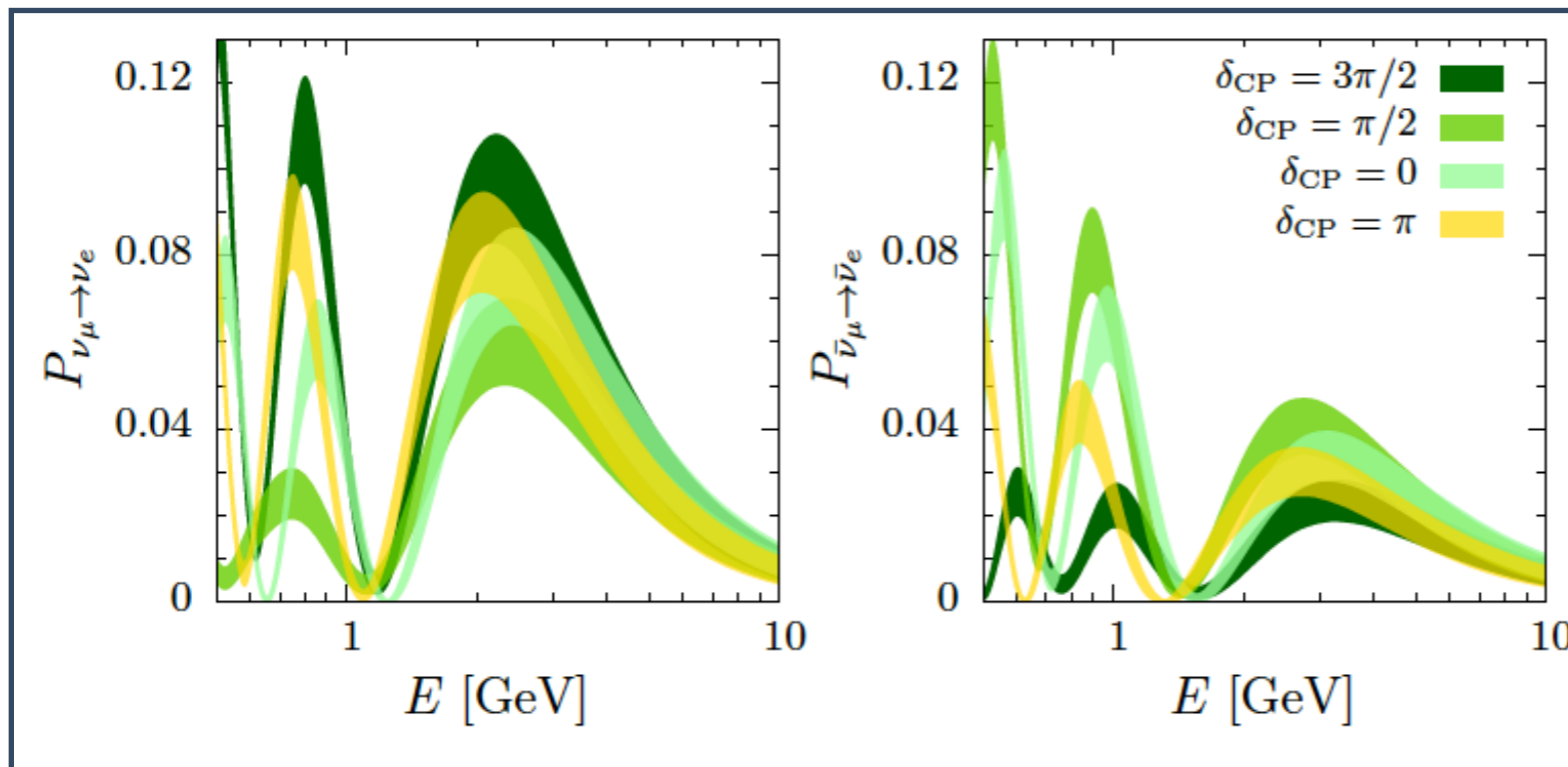
See also Xing, PRD2012 for  $n=6$

→  $\alpha_{ii}$  real,  $\alpha_{ij}$  complex: 9 new parameters

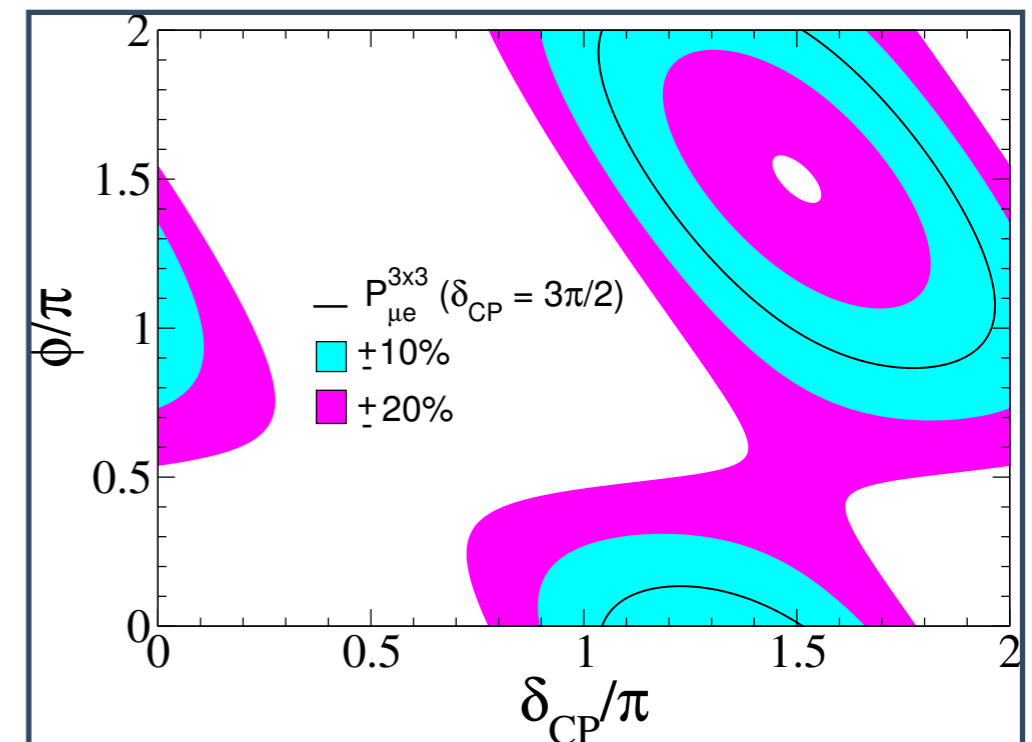
# NU neutrino oscillations in DUNE

$$P_{\mu e} = (\alpha_{11}\alpha_{22})^2 P_{\mu e}^{3\times 3} + \alpha_{11}^2 \alpha_{22} |\alpha_{21}| P_{\mu e}^I + \alpha_{11}^2 |\alpha_{21}|^2 \quad \text{with } P_{\mu e}^I(\phi)$$

The new phases ( $\phi$ ) will modify the standard oscillation picture in LBL experiments, such as DUNE



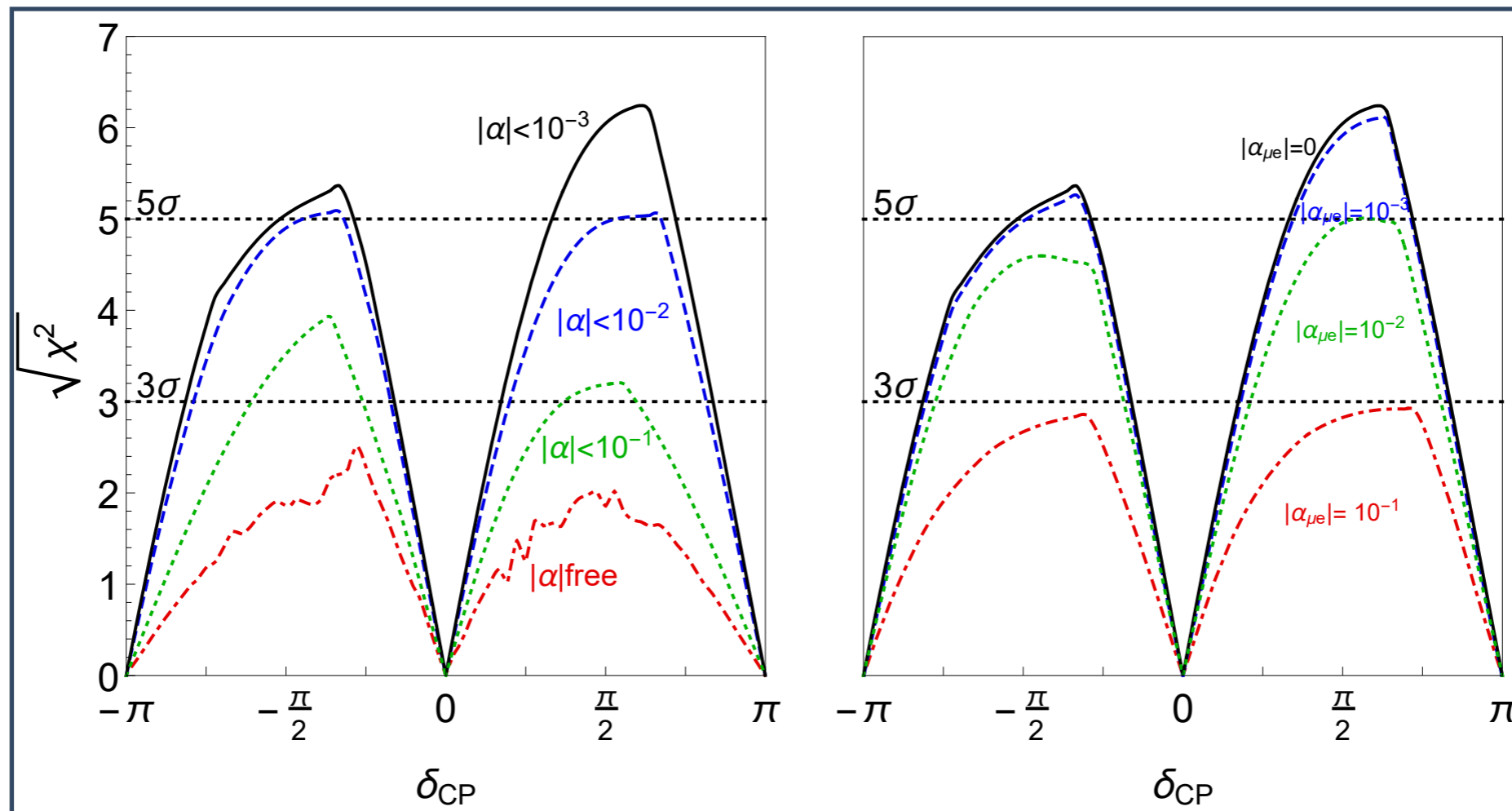
Escrivuela et al, NJP 2017



Miranda, MT, Valle, PRL 117 (2016)

→ ( $\delta, \phi$ ) degeneracies in  $P_{\mu e}$  for  $E \gtrsim 3$  GeV spoil sensitivity to  $\delta$

# DUNE CP sensitivity with NU



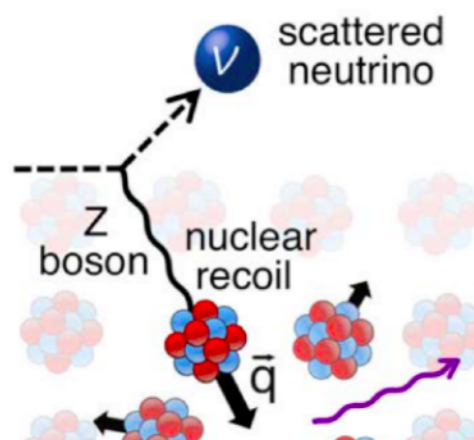
Fernández-Martínez et al (DUNE-BSM Working Group)

→ The sensitivity to CP violation might be spoiled in the absence of priors on NU

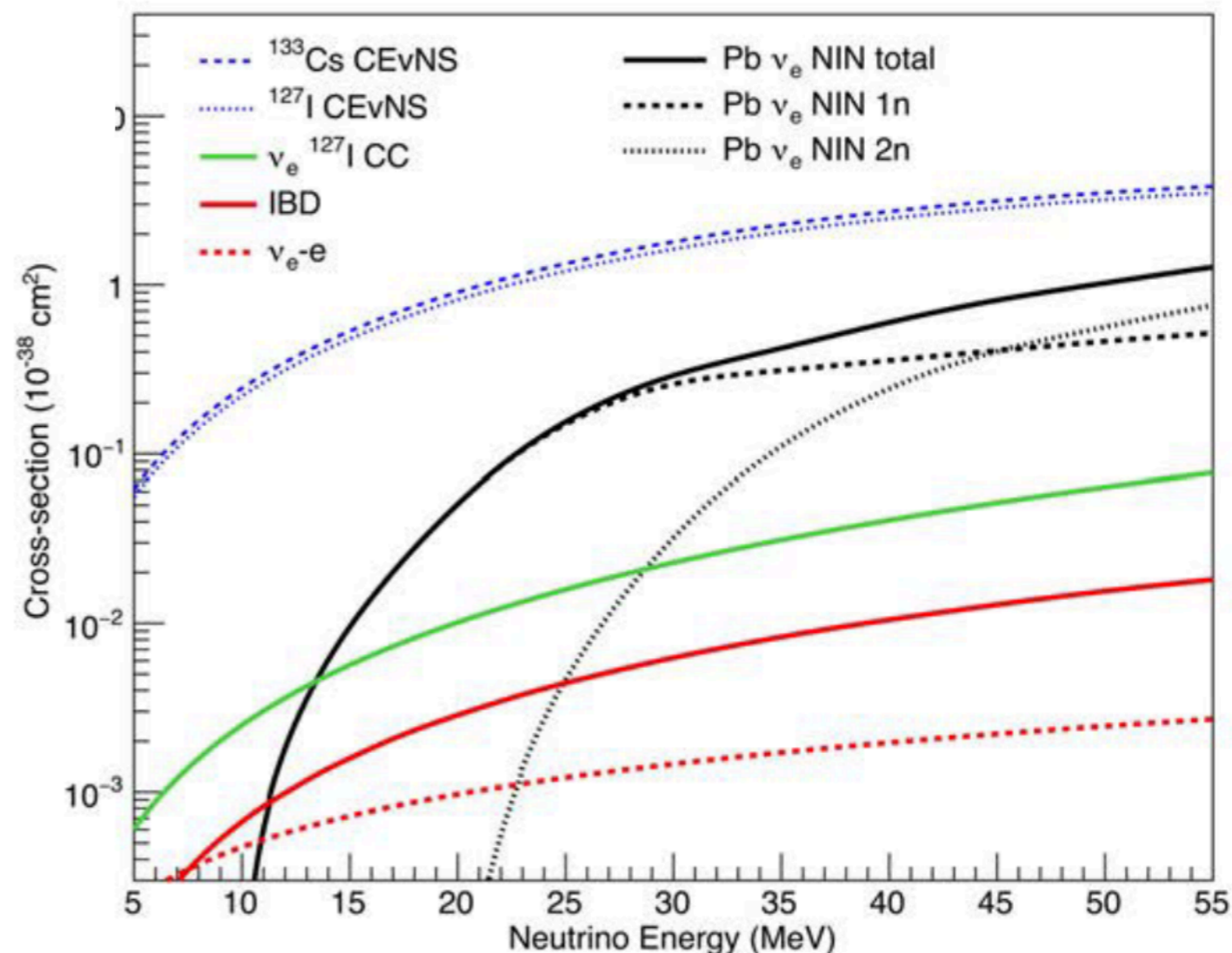
→ With priors based on current bounds ( $10^{-3}$ - $10^{-2}$ ), the effect is not less dramatic

# BSM searches with CEvNS experiments

# Coherent Elastic $\nu$ Nucleus Scattering (CEvNS)



D. Freedman PRD9 (1974) 1389

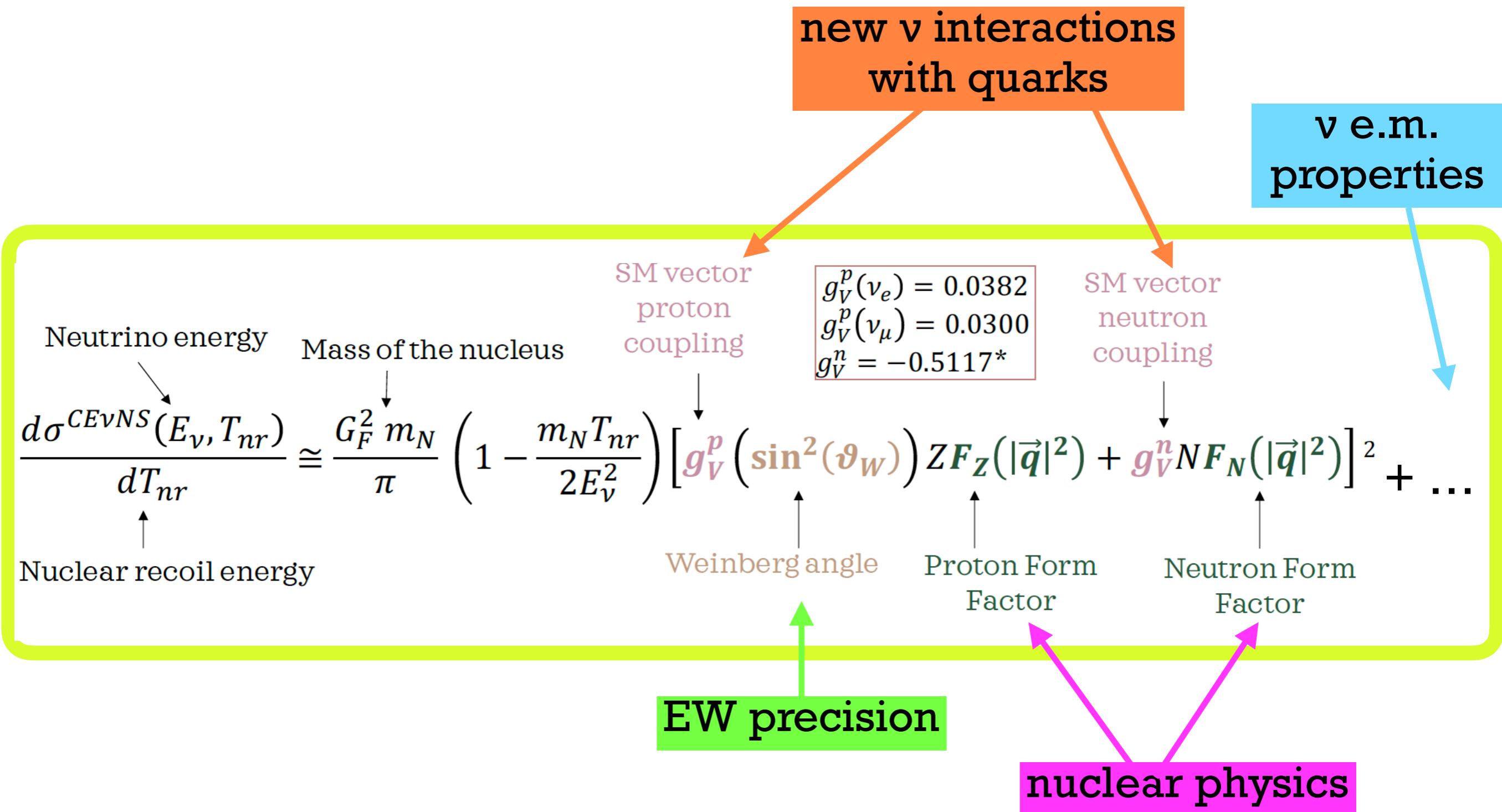


First observed at the Spallation Neutron Source (Oak Ridge National Laboratory) in 2017

COHERENT Coll. Science 357 (2017) 1123

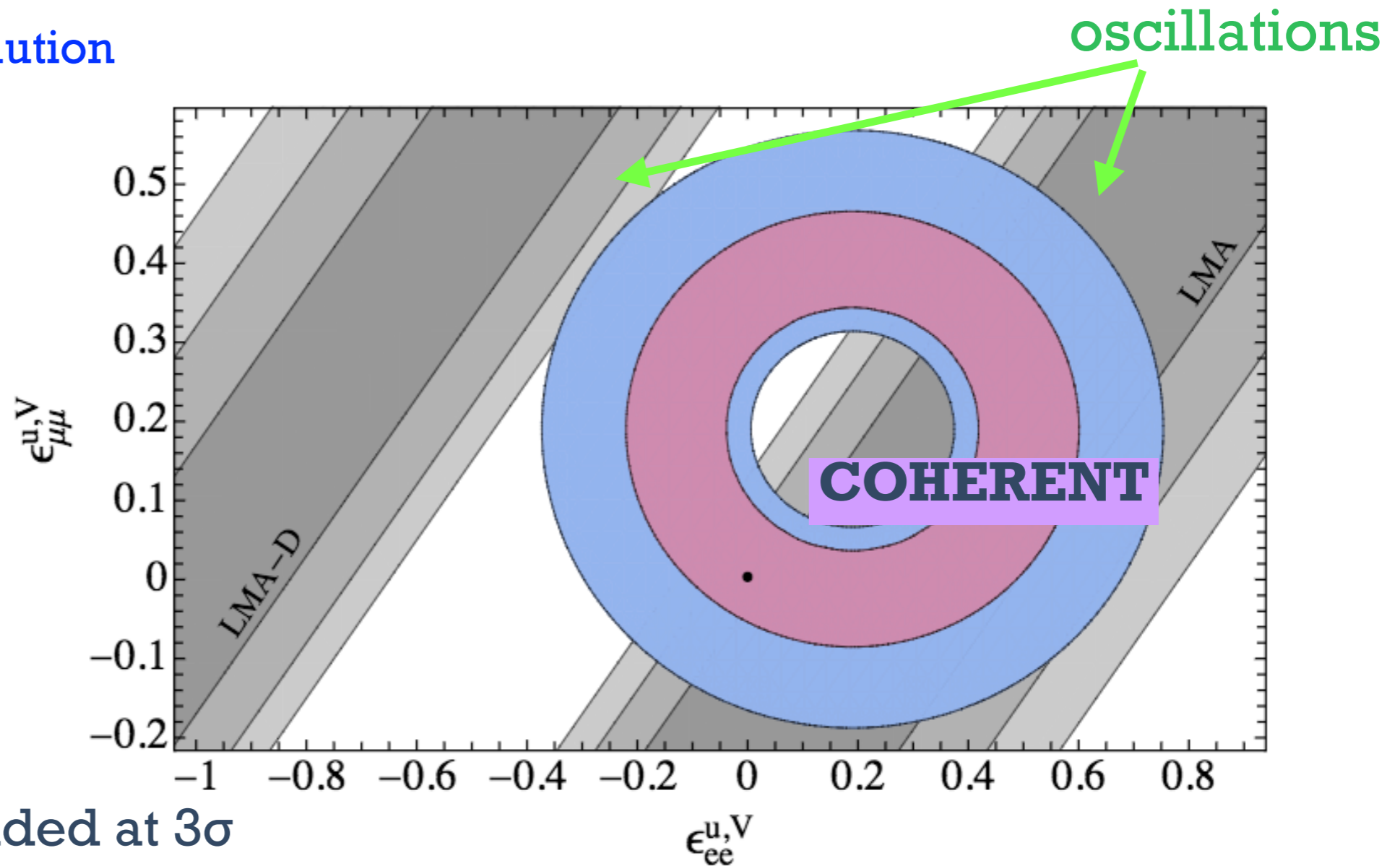
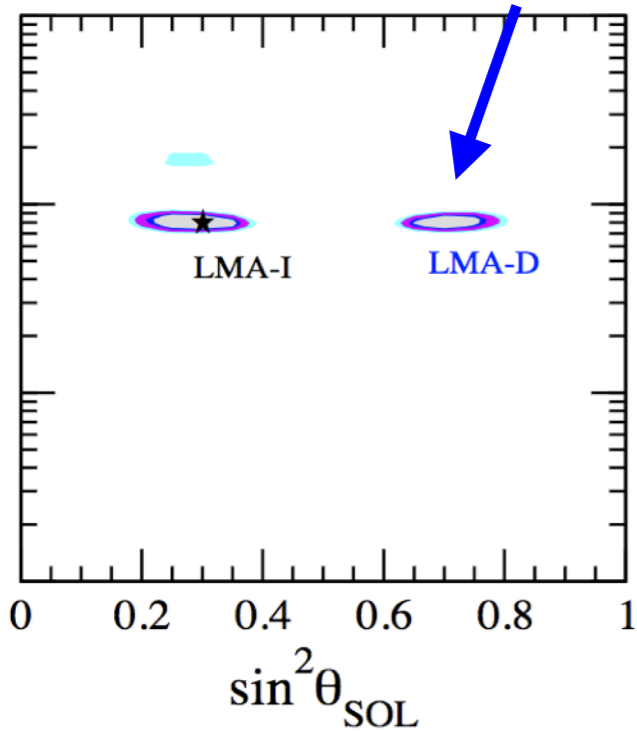


# What can we learn from CEνNS?



# Impact of CEvNS results in NSI

degenerate solution



⇒ **LMA-Dark** excluded at  $3\sigma$

Relaxed if:

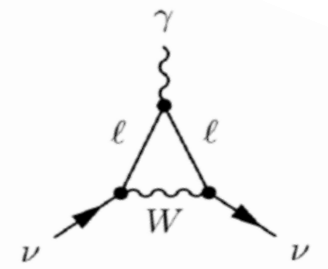
- NSI mediator lighter than 50 MeV
- degeneracies in  $(\epsilon_d, \epsilon_u)$

Coloma et al, PRD 2017

Complementarity of CEvNS  
and oscillation data to  
constrain BSM physics

# Constraining neutrino electromagnetic properties with CEvNS

# Neutrino charge radius

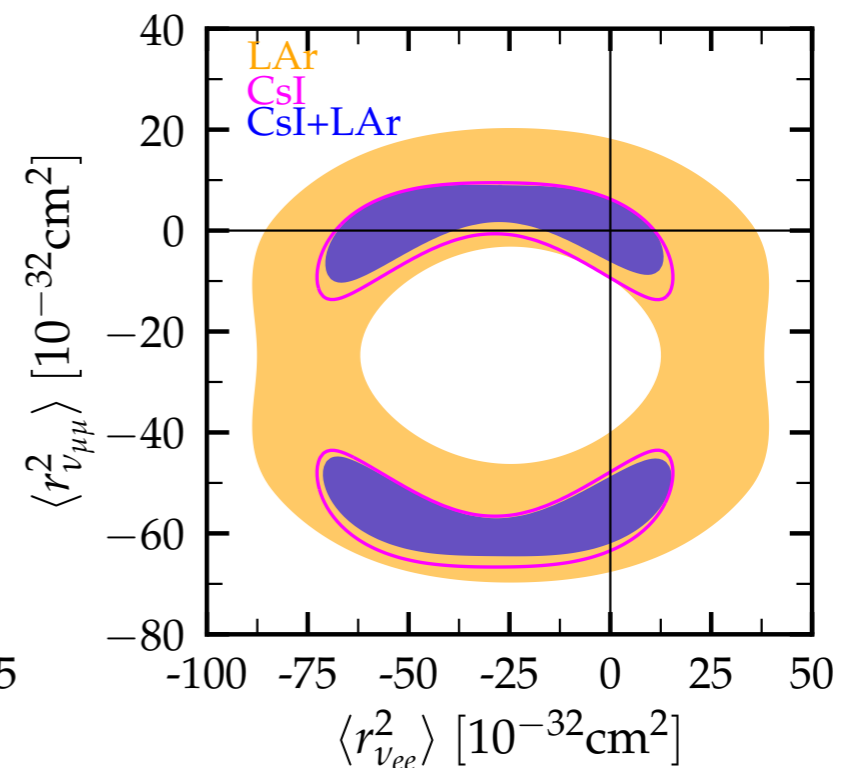
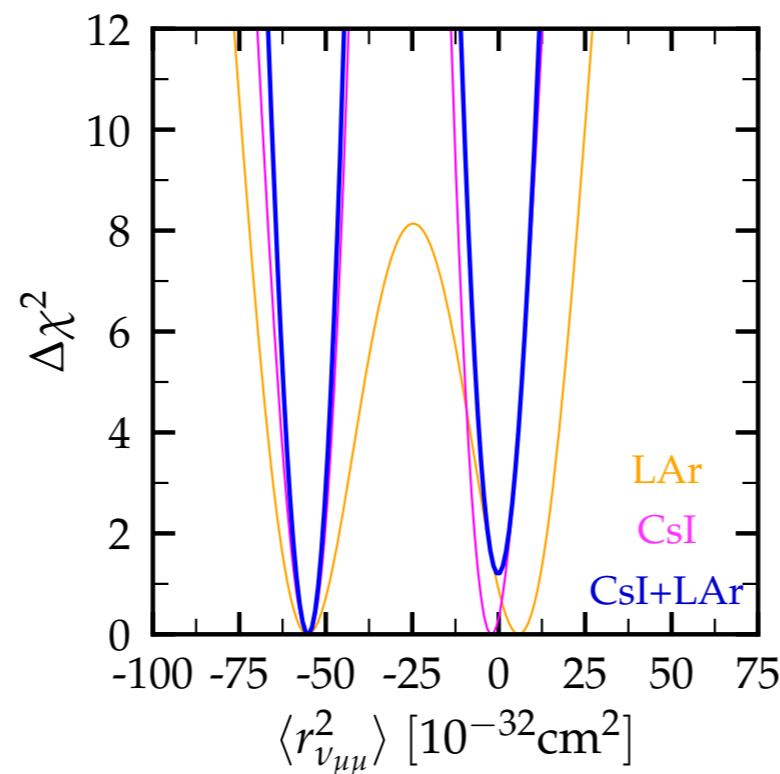
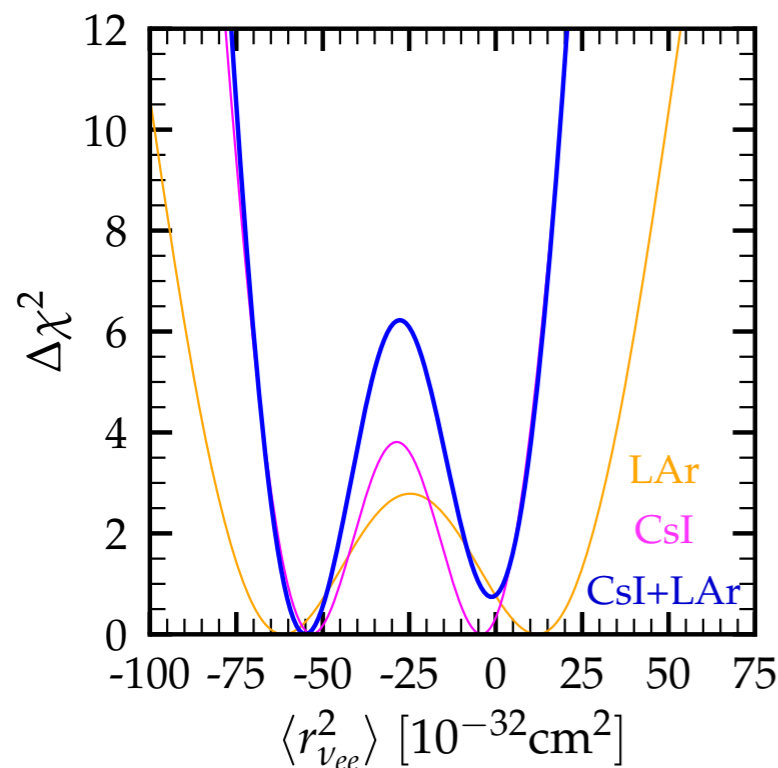


- It is the only EM neutrino parameter that is different from zero in the SM:

$$\left( \langle r_{\nu_{ee}}^2 \rangle, \langle r_{\nu_{\mu\mu}}^2 \rangle, \langle r_{\nu_{\tau\tau}}^2 \rangle \right) = (-0.83, -0.48, -0.30) \times 10^{-32} \text{ cm}^2 \quad \text{Bernabeu et al NPB 2004}$$

- New contribution to the CEvNS cross section, proportional to

$$Q_{ll}^{\text{CR}} = \frac{\sqrt{2}\pi\alpha_{\text{EM}}}{3G_F} \langle r_{\nu_{\ell\ell}}^2 \rangle$$



$$\langle r_{\nu_{ee}}^2 \rangle \in [-61.2, -48.2] \cup [-4.7, 2.2] \times 10^{-32} \text{ cm}^2$$

$$\langle r_{\nu_{\mu\mu}}^2 \rangle \in [-58.2, -52.1] \times 10^{-32} \text{ cm}^2$$

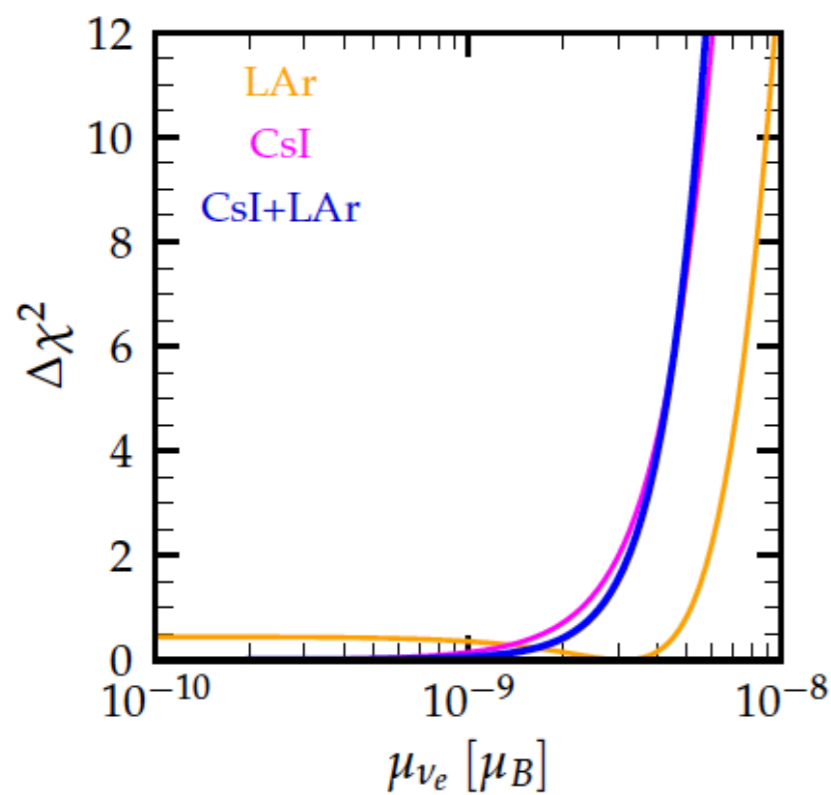
(1 $\sigma$ )

De Romeri et al, JHEP 2023

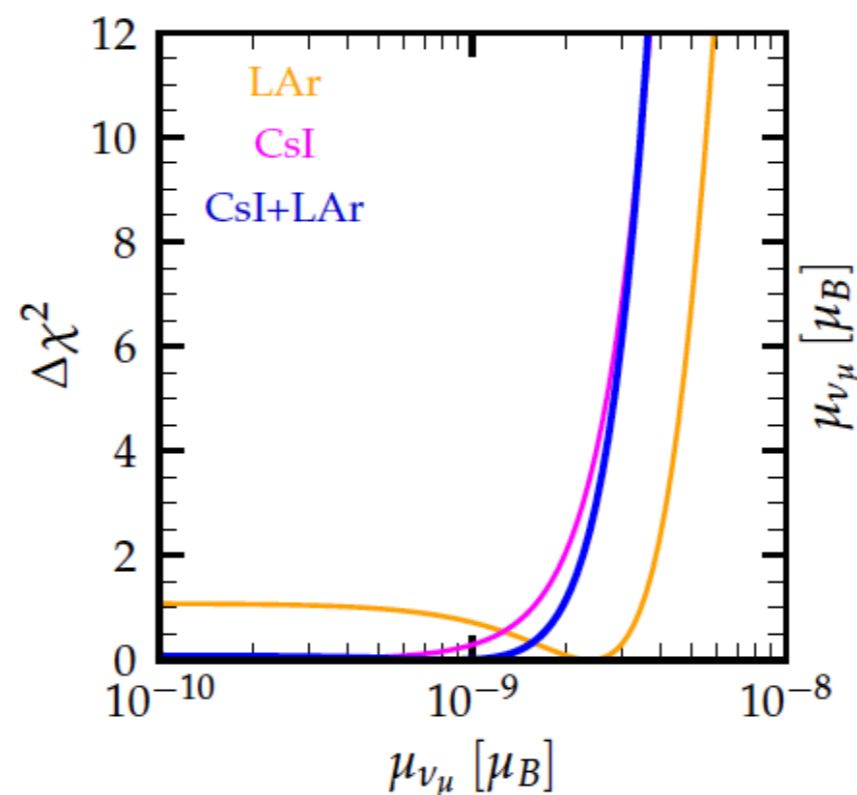
# Neutrino magnetic moment

- Minimal SM extension (with  $m_\nu$ ) predicts  $\mu_\nu \simeq 3 \times 10^{-19} \left( \frac{m_\nu}{\text{eV}} \right) \mu_B \rightarrow$  larger in BSM
- The (effective) neutrino magnetic moment gives an extra contribution to CE $\nu$ NS cross section:

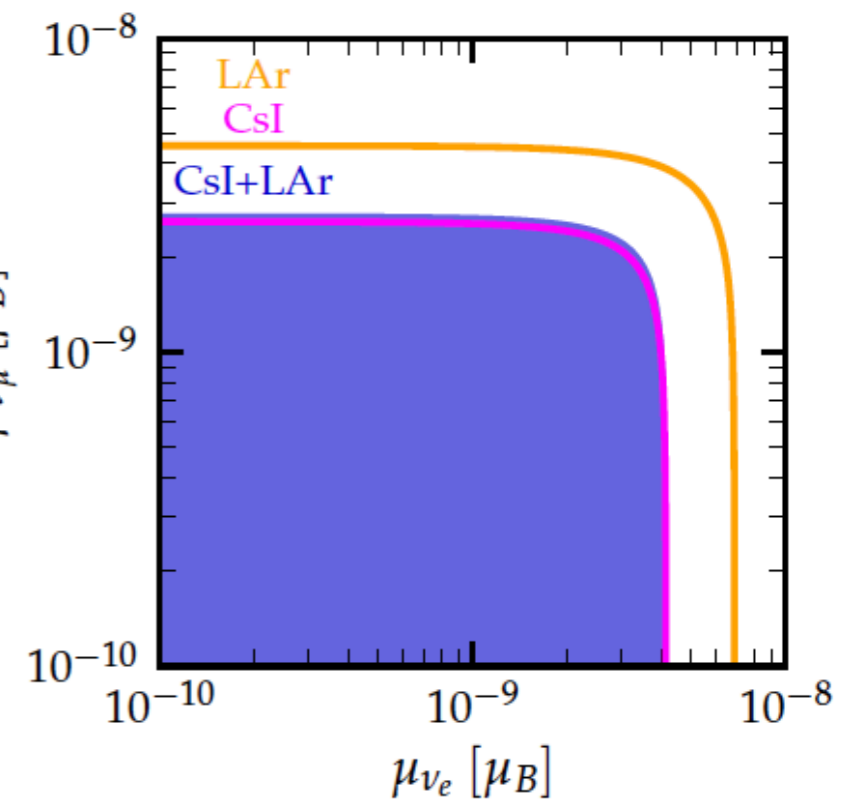
$$\left. \frac{d\sigma_{\nu_e \mathcal{N}}}{dE_{\text{nr}}} \right|_{\text{CE}\nu\text{NS}}^{\text{MM}} = \frac{\pi\alpha_{\text{EM}}^2}{m_e^2} \left( \frac{1}{E_{\text{nr}}} - \frac{1}{E_\nu} \right) Z^2 F_W^2(|\vec{q}|^2) \left| \frac{\mu_{\nu_e}}{\mu_B} \right|^2$$



$$\mu_{\nu_e} < 3.6 \times 10^{-9} \mu_B$$



$$\mu_{\nu_\mu} < 2.4 \times 10^{-9} \mu_B$$



(90% C.L.)

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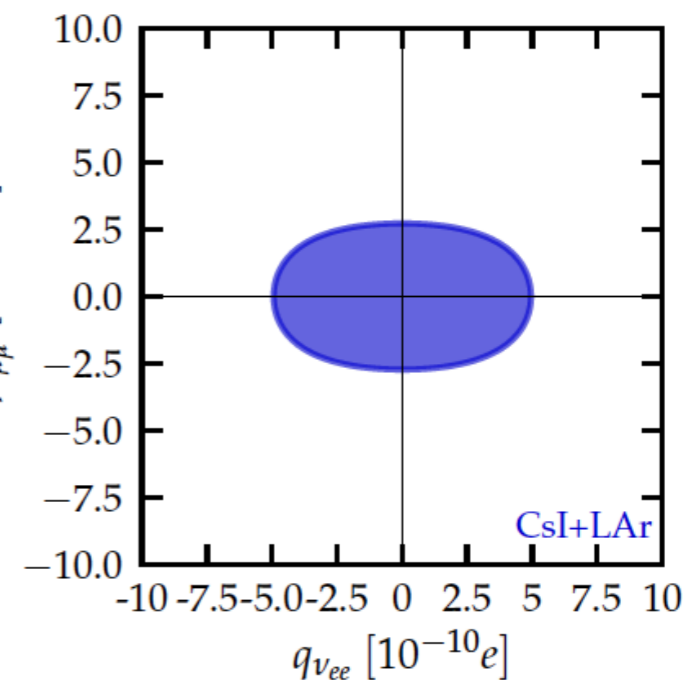
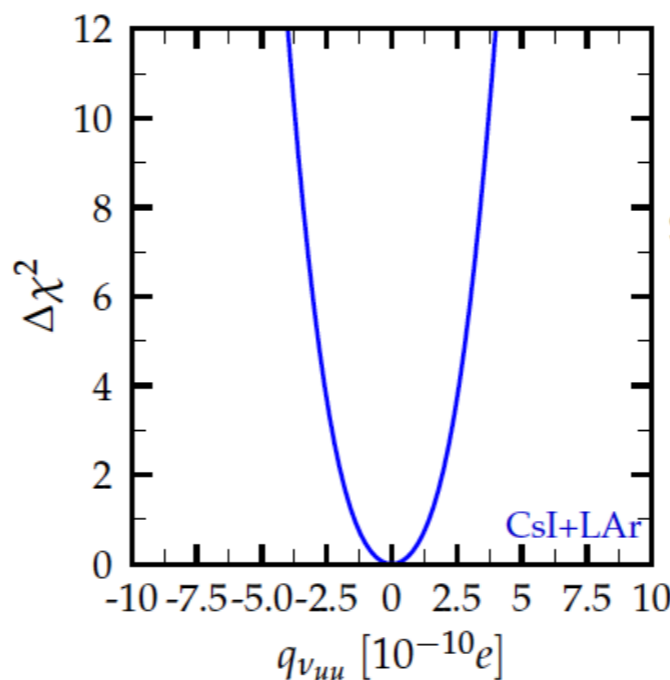
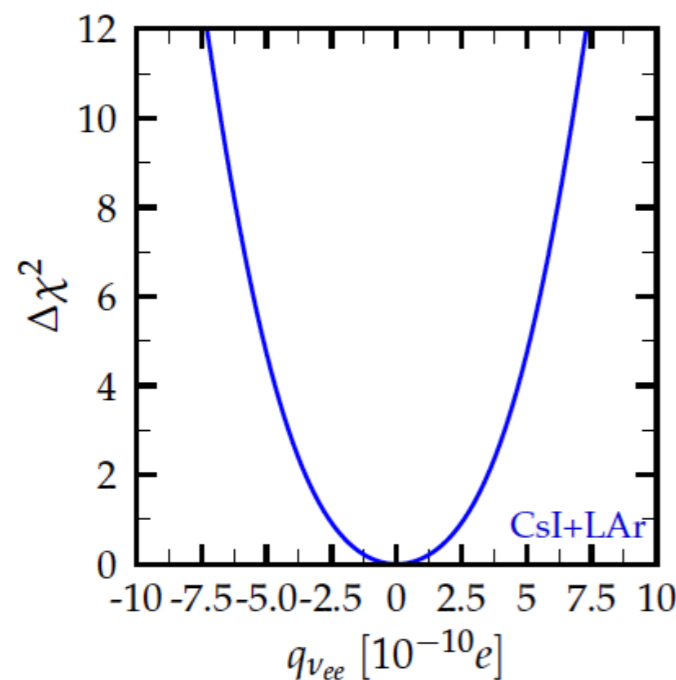
# Neutrino electric (milli) charge

- ◆ In BSM models, neutrinos can acquire small electric charges: **millicharges**
- ◆ This electric charge would generate a new contribution to the CEvNS and ES cross section, proportional to

$$Q_{ll}^{\text{EC}} = \frac{2\sqrt{2}\pi\alpha_{\text{EM}}}{G_F q^2} q_{\nu\ell\ell}$$

neutrino millicharge

momentum transferred



$$q_{\nu_{ee}} \in [-2.6, 2.6] \times 10^{-10} e$$

$$q_{\nu_{\mu\mu}} \in [-1.4, 1.4] \times 10^{-10} e \quad (1\sigma)$$

De Romeri et al, JHEP 2023

# Comparison with previous results

D. Papoulias, Magnificent CEvNS workshop 2023

Flavor	$ \mu_\nu  [10^{-11} \mu_B]$	$q_\nu [10^{-12} e]$	$\langle r_\nu^2 \rangle [10^{-32} \text{cm}^2]$
$\nu_e$	$\leq 1.4$ (LZ) $\leq 0.9$ (XENONnT) $\leq 3.7$ (Borexino) $\leq 2.9$ (GEMMA) $\leq 360$ (COHERENT)	$[-0.3, 0.6]$ (LZ) $[-0.1, 0.6]$ (XENONnT) $\leq 1$ (Reactor) $[-9.3, 9.5]$ (Dresden-II) $[-260, 260]$ (COHERENT)	$[-121, 37.5]$ (LZ) $[-93.4, 9.5]$ (XENONnT) $[-61.2, -48.2] \cup [-4.7, 2.2]$ (ONO) $[-5.94, 8.28]$ (LSND) $[61.2, 48.2] \cup [4.7, 2.2]$ (COHERENT)
$\nu_\mu$	$\leq 2.3$ (LZ) $\leq 1.5$ (XENONnT) $\leq 5$ (Borexino) $\leq 240$ (COHERENT)	$[-0.7, 0.7]$ (LZ) $[-0.6, 0.6]$ (XENONnT) $\leq 11$ (XMASS-I) $[-140, 140]$ (COHERENT)	$[-109, 112.3]$ (LZ) $[-50.2, 54]$ (XENONnT) $[-1.2, 1.2]$ (CHARM-II) $[-58.2, -52.1]$ (COHERENT)
$\nu_\tau$	$\leq 2$ (LZ) $\leq 1.3$ (XENONnT) $\leq 5.9$ (Borexino)	$[-0.6, 0.6]$ (LZ) $[-0.5, 0.5]$ (XENONnT) $\leq 11$ (XMASS-I)	$[-93.7, 97]$ (LZ) $[-43, 46.8]$ (XENONnT)

DM exp: very low E-threshold!

In general not very competitive but they complement other searches

# Summary (I)

- ▶ Neutrinos play an important role in many **physical and astrophysical scenarios**
- ▶ Important discoveries on neutrino physics along last century have provided the **first evidence for physics beyond the Standard Model**
- ▶ **Neutrino oscillations** are well established with observations in several experiments, with natural and artificial sources.
- ▶ Most **oscillation parameters** are measured quite accurately ( $\approx 5\%$ ) by the combination of different experiments.
- ▶ The **absolute scale of neutrino mass** is bounded from cosmological and laboratory measurements, below 1 eV.
- ▶ Extensions of the SM can explain the **smallness of neutrino mass**, although the flavor structure is not well understood yet.



# Summary (II)

- ▶ Several **scenarios of physics BSM** are motivated by the building of neutrino mass models and the observation of anomalies are being explored.
- ▶ Anomalies point towards the existence of **light (eV) sterile neutrinos**. However, some of them although some of them are in conflict with other data and the full picture is in **tension with cosmology**.
- ▶ New **physics beyond the SM** (NSI, NU mixing) may affect significantly the standard picture of neutrino oscillations but they can also help to alleviate some experimental tensions.
- ▶ Coherent elastic neutrino-nucleus scattering, **CE $\nu$ NS**, provide a powerful tool to search for new physics BSM.