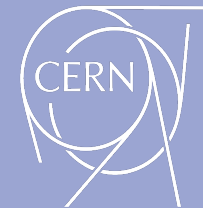


JOHANNES GUTENBERG  
UNIVERSITÄT MAINZ  
**PRISMA+**

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# INVISIBLES24

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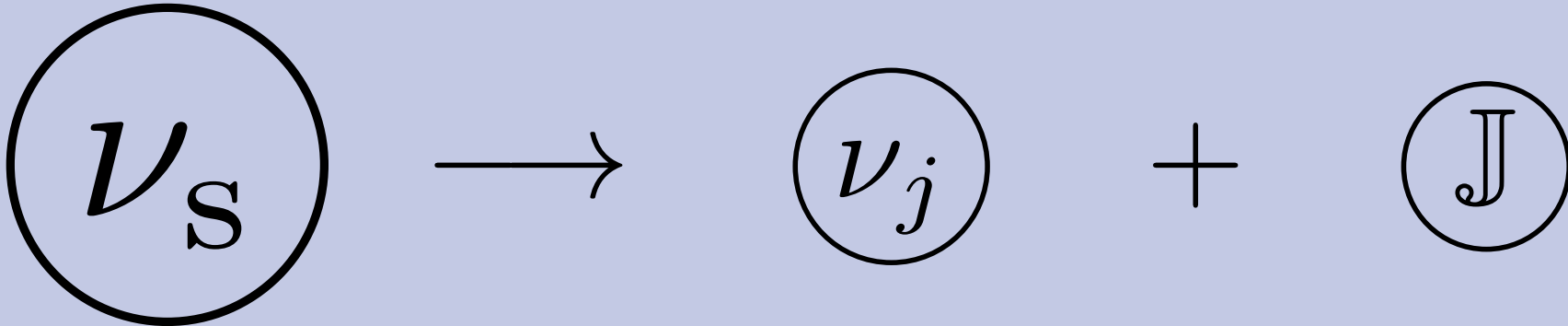
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# unstable neutrinos

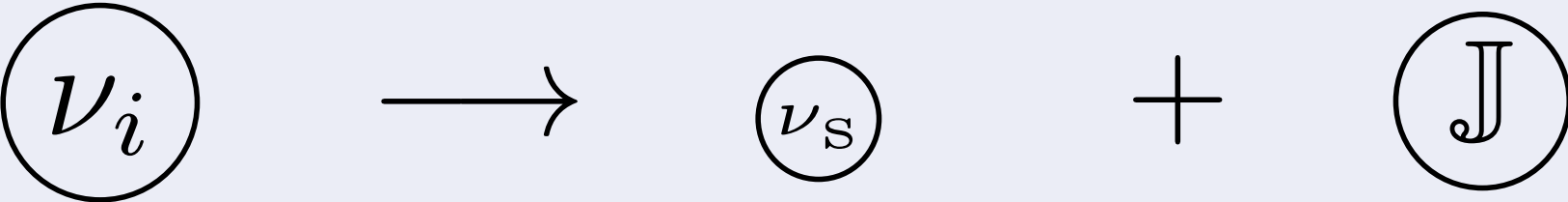
George Parker,  
Joachim Kopp, Michael Wurm

# examples of neutrino decay

sterile  
neutrino  
decay



invisible  
neutrino  
decay



visible  
neutrino  
decay



# approaches

$$\frac{d\rho}{dt} = -i[H, \rho] - \frac{1}{2}\{\Gamma, \rho\} + \sum_{\substack{i,j \\ i>j}} \int_{\Delta E_j} \rho_{ii} \frac{d\Gamma^{\nu_i \rightarrow \nu_j}}{dE_j} dE_i$$

density matrix

Propagation  
Depletion  
Regeneration

$$P_{\alpha\beta}^{\nu_i \rightarrow \nu_j} = \left| \sum_i e^{-i\frac{\Delta m_{i1}^2}{2E_j}L} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\Gamma_i L} \right|^2 + \int_{\Delta E_j} \int_L \left| \sum_{\substack{i,j \\ i>j}} \mathcal{A}^{\nu_i \rightarrow \nu_j} \right|^2 dl dE_i$$

phenomenological

2017 Exploring a nonminimal sterile neutrino model involving decay at IceCube  
**Moss, Moulai, Argüelles + Conrad**

2019 Decaying sterile neutrinos and the short baseline oscillation anomalies  
**Dentler, Esteban, Kopp + Machado**

2001 A combined treatment of neutrino decay and neutrino oscillations  
**Lindner, Ohlsson, Winter**

2005 Explaining LSND by a decaying sterile neutrino  
**Palomares-Ruiz, Pascoli + Schwetz**

2017 Visible neutrino decay at DUNE  
**Coloma + Peres**

2017 Visible neutrino decay in the light of appearance and disappearance long baseline experiments  
**Gago, Gomes, Gomes, Jones-Perez + Peres**

2020 Visible Decay of Astrophysical Neutrinos at IceCube  
**Abdullahi + Denton**

# approaches

$$\frac{d\rho}{dt} = -i[H, \rho] - \frac{1}{2}\{\Gamma, \rho\} + \sum_{\substack{i,j \\ i>j}} \int_{\Delta E_j} \rho_{ii} \frac{d\Gamma^{\nu_i \rightarrow \nu_j}}{dE_j} dE_i$$

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phenomenological



*Intuitive and adaptable*  
*Easy to add more complex system dynamics*

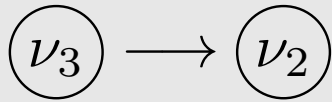


*Computationally cheap*

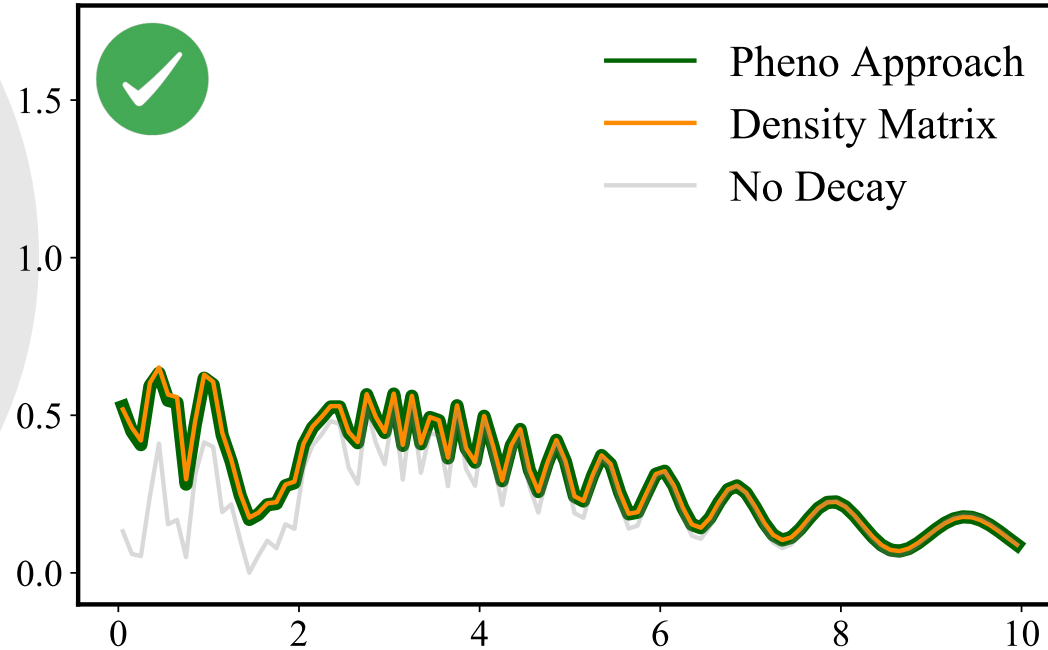
Do they agree?

# comparison

✓ 1) Single decay



$\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$  oscillation probability



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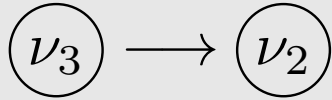
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$$\frac{d\rho}{dt} = -i[H, \rho] - \frac{1}{2}\{\Gamma, \rho\} + \sum_{\substack{i,j \\ i>j}} \int_{\Delta E_j} \rho_{ii} \frac{d\Gamma^{\nu_i \rightarrow \nu_j}}{dE_j} dE_i$$

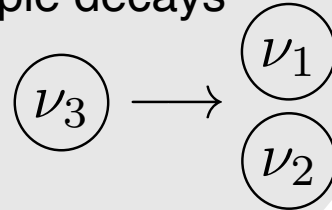
$$P_{\alpha\beta}^{\nu_i \rightarrow \nu_j} = \left| \sum_i e^{-i\frac{\Delta m_{i1}^2 L}{2E_j}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\Gamma_i L} \right|^2 + \int_{\Delta E_j} \int_L \left| \sum_{\substack{i,j \\ i>j}} \mathcal{A}^{\nu_i \rightarrow \nu_j} \right|^2 dldE_i$$

# comparison

✓ 1) Single decay



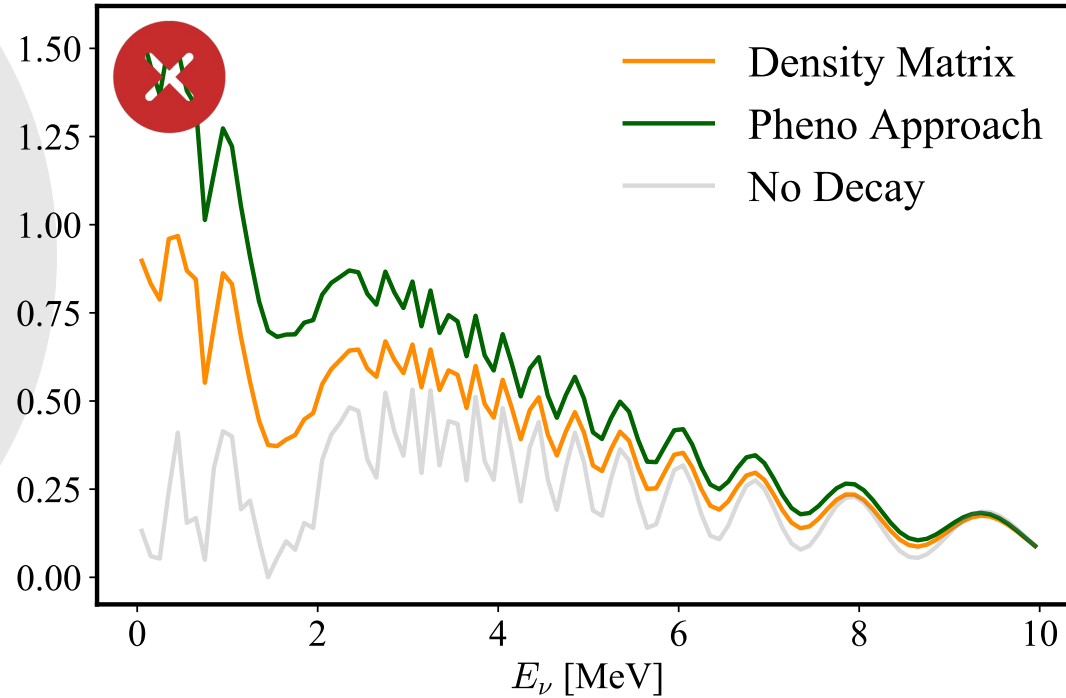
✗ 2) Multiple decays



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$\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$  oscillation probability



$$\rho = \begin{pmatrix} \rho_{00} & \rho_{01} & \rho_{02} \\ \rho_{10} & \rho_{11} & \rho_{12} \\ \rho_{20} & \rho_{21} & \rho_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

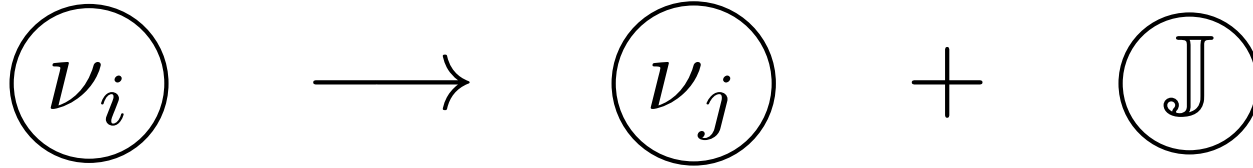
$$\int_{E_j^{\min}}^{E_j^{\max}} \sum_i P_{\nu_i \rightarrow \nu_j}^{\text{decays}} + \sum_{\substack{i,j,m,n \\ i \neq j, m \neq n}} P_{\nu_i \rightarrow \nu_j, \nu_m \rightarrow \nu_n}^{\text{interference}} dE_i$$

$$\frac{d\rho}{dt} = -i[H, \rho] - \frac{1}{2} \{\Gamma, \rho\} + \sum_{\substack{i,j \\ i>j}} \int_{\Delta E_j} \rho_{ii} \frac{d\Gamma^{\nu_i \rightarrow \nu_j}}{dE_j} dE_i$$

$$P_{\alpha\beta}^{\nu_i \rightarrow \nu_j} = \left| \sum_i e^{-i \frac{\Delta m_{i1}^2 L}{2E_j}} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \Gamma_i L} \right|^2 + \int_{\Delta E_j} \int_L \left| \sum_{\substack{i,j \\ i>j}} \mathcal{A}^{\nu_i \rightarrow \nu_j} \right|^2 dL dE_i$$



# a new approach?

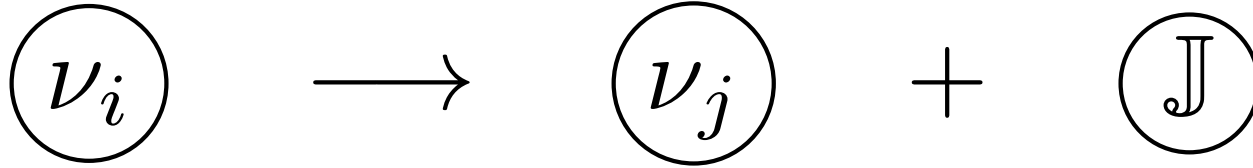


We can treat this as an open quantum system, using a Lindblad-type ‘decay’ term to replace the **Depletion** and **Regeneration** parts of the previous approaches.

$$\frac{d\rho}{dt} = -i[H, \rho] + \sum_{\substack{i,j \\ i>j}} \left( L_{ij}\rho L_{ij}^\dagger - \frac{1}{2} \{L_{ij}^\dagger L_{ij}, \rho\} \right),$$

$$\text{where } L_{ij} = \left[ \int_{E_i^{\min}}^{E_i^{\max}} \sqrt{\frac{d\Gamma_{ij}(E_i, E_j)}{dE_j}} dE_j \right]$$

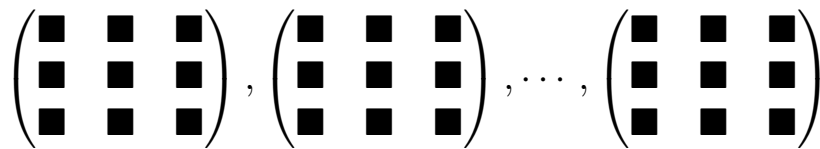
# a new approach?



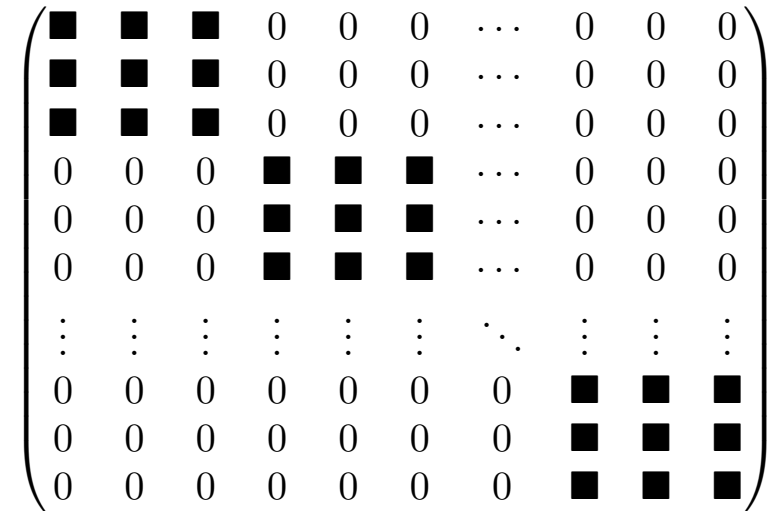
We can treat this as an open quantum system, using a Lindblad-type 'decay' term to replace the Depletion and Regeneration parts of the previous approaches.

$$\frac{d\rho}{dt} = -i [H, \rho] + \sum_{\substack{i,j \\ i>j}} \left( L_{ij} \rho L_{ij}^\dagger - \frac{1}{2} \{ L_{ij}^\dagger L_{ij}, \rho \} \right),$$

$$\text{where } L_{ij} = \left[ \int_{E_i^{\min}}^{E_i^{\max}} \sqrt{\frac{d\Gamma_{ij}(E_i, E_j)}{dE_j}} dE_j \right]$$



We can enlarge the system from  $3 \times 3 \times N$  to a  $3N \times 3N$

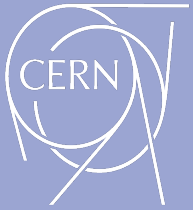




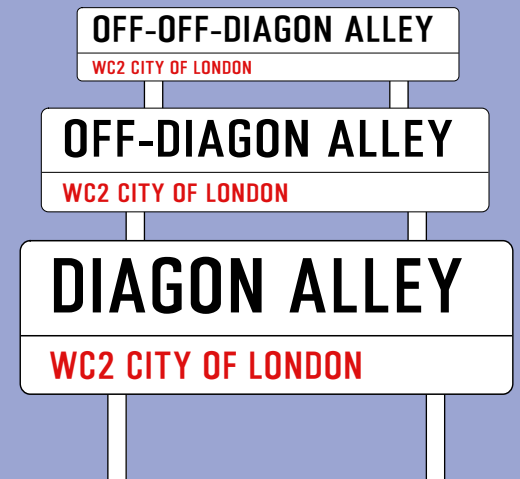
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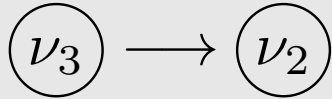


**Thanks  
for listening!**

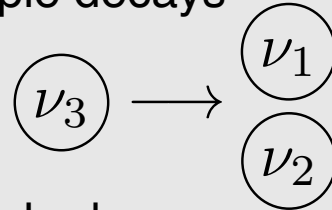


# comparison

✓ 1) Single decay

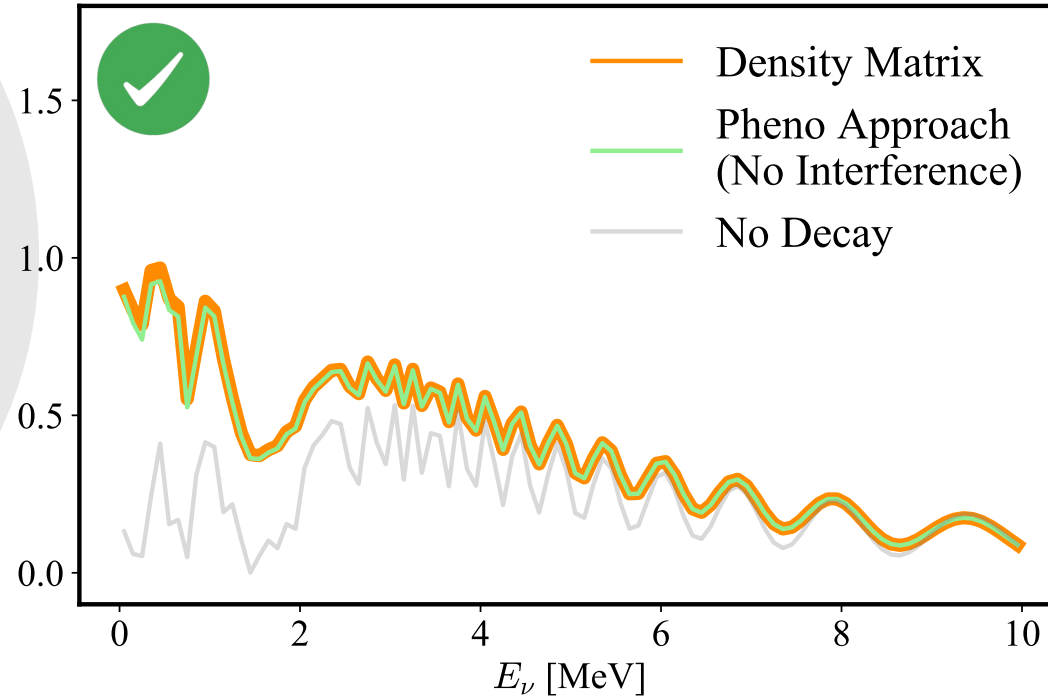


✗ 2) Multiple decays



✓ 3) Multiple decays without interference

$\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$  oscillation probability



$$\rho = \begin{pmatrix} \rho_{00} & \rho_{01} & \rho_{02} \\ \rho_{10} & \rho_{11} & \rho_{12} \\ \rho_{20} & \rho_{21} & \rho_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\int_{E_j^{\min}}^{E_j^{\max}} \sum_i P_{\nu_i \rightarrow \nu_j}^{\text{decays}} dE_i + \sum_{\substack{i,j,m,n \\ i \neq j, m \neq n}} P_{\nu_i \rightarrow \nu_j}^{\text{interference}} dE_i$$

A large red 'X' is drawn over the interference term, with a red arrow pointing up from the bottom of the page towards it.

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$$\frac{d\rho}{dt} = -i[H, \rho] - \frac{1}{2} \{\Gamma, \rho\} + \sum_{\substack{i,j \\ i>j}} \int_{\Delta E_j} \rho_{ii} \frac{d\Gamma^{\nu_i \rightarrow \nu_j}}{dE_j} dE_i$$

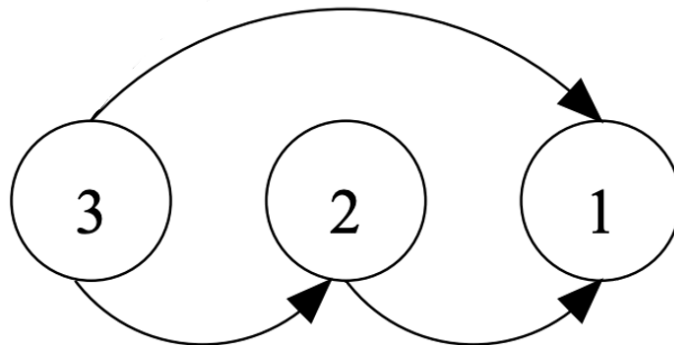
$$P_{\alpha\beta}^{\nu_i \rightarrow \nu_j} = \left| \sum_i e^{-i \frac{\Delta m_{i1}^2 L}{2E_j}} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \Gamma_i L} \right|^2 + \int_{\Delta E_j} \int_L \left| \sum_{\substack{i,j \\ i>j}} \mathcal{A}^{\nu_i \rightarrow \nu_j} \right|^2 dL dE_i$$

2 / 4

# benchmark model

Ordering:

- 1) Normal  $m_3 > m_2 > m_1$
- 2) Inverted  $m_3 > m_2 > m_1$



Coupling with massless scalar, J

- 1) Scalar  $g_s = 0.3$
- 2) Pseudoscalar

Daughter chirality (two-body decay):

- 1) Conserving  $\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta + J$  (Dirac)
- 2) Violating  $\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_\beta + J$

Distance:

50 km

Neutrino mass:

- 1) Hierarchical ( $m_1 \rightarrow 0$ )  $m_1 = 0.01$  eV
- 2) Quasi-degenerate ( $m_1 > m_{2,3}$ )

Energy range:

0 – 10 MeV

Initial state:

Pure  $\nu_\mu$  source

Geometrical factors:

Ignored (isotropic neutrino source)

# existing constraints

Neutrino decay can be probed across a wide range of baselines and technologies

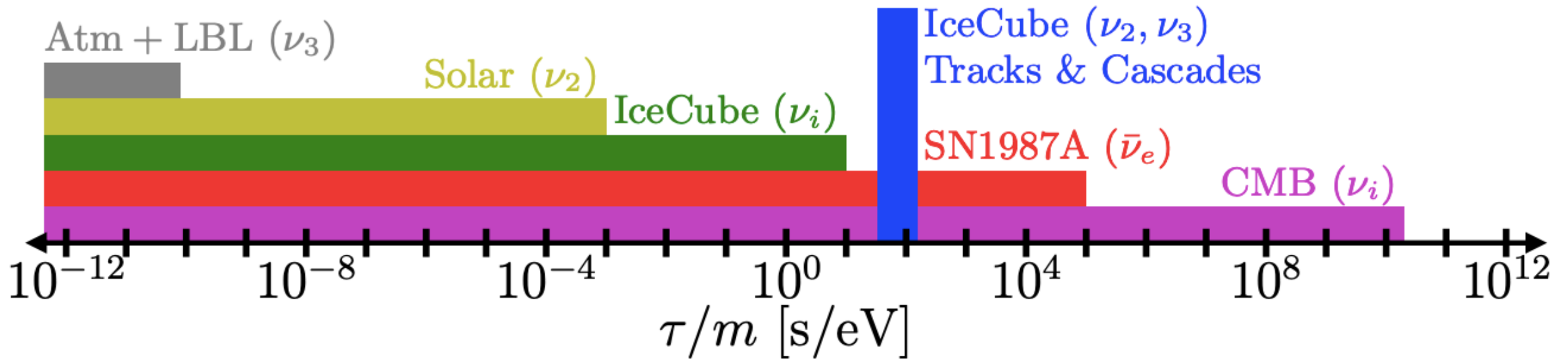


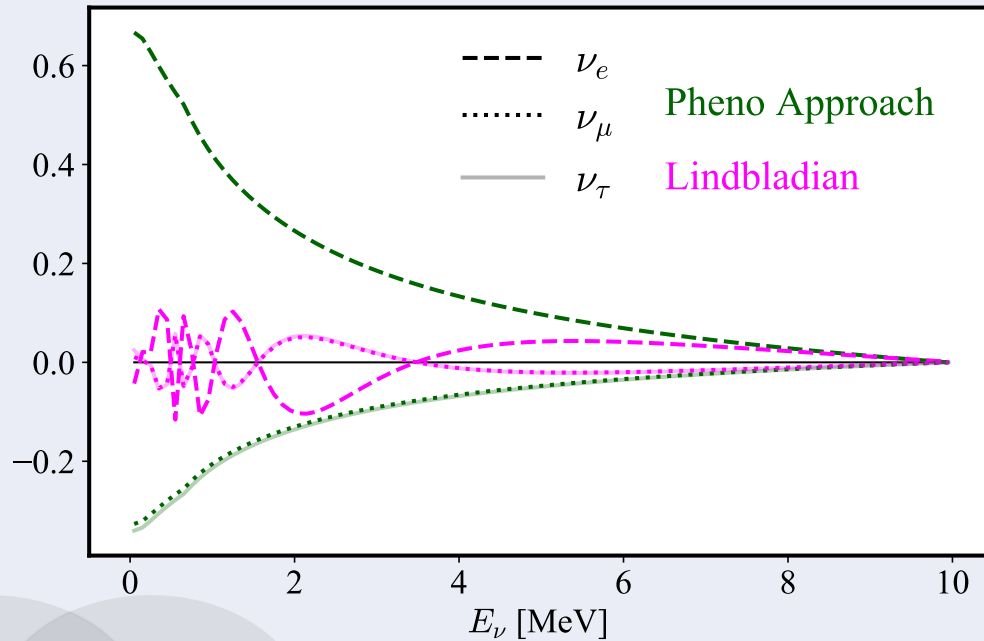
Image from Abdullahi&Denton arxiv.2005.07200

A massless scalar coupling to neutrinos would have an impact on the neutrino free-streaming length in the early Universe - strongest bounds from the CMB

# approaches to neutrino decay

$$\frac{d\rho(E_j)}{dt} = -i [H, \rho(E_j)] - \frac{1}{2} \{\Gamma, \rho(E_j)\} + \sum_{\substack{i,j \\ i>j}} \int_{E_j^{\min}}^{E_j^{\max}} \rho_{ii}(E_i) \frac{d\Gamma_{ij}(E_i, E_j)}{dE_j} dE_i$$

$\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_x$  Interference Component



$$P_{\nu_i \rightarrow \nu_j}^{\text{vis}}(E_j, L) = \left| \sum_i U_{\alpha i}^* U_{\beta i} e^{-i \frac{\Delta m_{i1}^2}{2E_j} L} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \Gamma_i L} \right|^2 + \int_{E_j^{\min}}^{E_j^{\max}} \int_0^L \left| \sum_{\substack{i,j \\ i>j}} U_{\alpha i}^* U_{\beta j} e^{-\frac{i m_j^2 + \alpha_j}{2E_j} (L-l)} \right|^2 \times \sqrt{\frac{d\Gamma_{ij}(E_i, E_j)}{dE_j} e^{-\frac{i m_i^2 + \alpha_i}{2E_i} l}}^2 dl dE_i$$

$\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$  oscillation probability

