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# Quantum Decoherence at ESSnuSB

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Based on: J. Aguilar *et al.* [ESSnuSB], JHEP **08** (2024), 063

Corr. Authors: MG, Alessio Giarnetti, Aman Gupta and Davide Meloni

# Decoherence in Neutrino Oscillation

**Neutrino Oscillation:** a quantum mechanical interference phenomenon due to the coherent superposition of different neutrino mass eigenstates.

**Decoherence:** Coherence in the interference pattern is lost

Two Types:

**Kinematic Decoherence:** Wave packet formalism - Separation of the wavepackets due to different velocities in the mass states

**Dynamic Decoherence:** Open quantum system formalism – Environment induced decoherence

We adopt the open quantum system formalism

# Open Quantum System

Idea: neutrino as a subsystem interacting with the environment giving rise to decoherence

The evolution equation – Lindblad Master Equation

$$\frac{\partial \rho(t)}{\partial t} = -i[H, \rho(t)] + \mathcal{D}[\rho(t)]$$

$$\mathcal{D} = D_{jk} \rho_k \lambda_j$$

H: Neutrino Oscillation Hamiltonian in matter

$\rho$  = Density Matrix,  $\mathcal{D}$  = Dissipator

$\lambda$  = Gell-Mann Matrices

Oscillation probability -

$$P_{\alpha\beta} = \text{Tr} [\rho_{\alpha}(0) \rho_{\beta}(x)]$$

# Formalism

Many formalisms are studied. We adopted from:

Gomes, Forero, Guzzo, Holanda and Oliveira, Phys. Rev. D 100 (2019), 055023

De Romeri, Giunti, Stuttard and Ternes, JHEP 09 (2023), 097

Gomes, Gomes and Peres, JHEP 10 (2023), 035

$$D_{jk} = -\text{diag}(\Gamma_{21}, \Gamma_{21}, 0, \Gamma_{31}, \Gamma_{31}, \Gamma_{32}, \Gamma_{32}, 0)$$

$$\Gamma_{31} = \Gamma_{21} + \Gamma_{32} - 2\sqrt{\Gamma_{21}\Gamma_{32}}$$

$\tilde{U}$ ,  $\tilde{\Delta}$  : PMNS Matrix and Mass square difference in matter

$$P(\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta) = \delta_{\alpha\beta} - 2 \sum_{i>j} \text{Re} \left[ \tilde{U}_{\alpha i}^* \tilde{U}_{\beta i} \tilde{U}_{\beta j} \tilde{U}_{\beta j}^* \right] \left[ 1 - \cos \left( 2\tilde{\Delta}_{ij} \right) e^{-\Gamma_{ij}L} \right] \\ + 2 \sum_{i>j} \text{Im} \left[ \tilde{U}_{\alpha k}^* \tilde{U}_{\beta k} \tilde{U}_{\beta j} \tilde{U}_{\beta j}^* \right] \sin \left( 2\tilde{\Delta}_{ij} \right) e^{-\Gamma_{ij}L},$$

Only applicable if matter effect is small

D is conventionally defined in vacuum

Inclusion of matter effect requires rotation of D in matter basis → D becomes off-diagonal and the probability formula changes

This affects neutrinos at higher energies

# The ESSnuSB Experiment

ESSnuSB - Horizon (2018 - 2022) – 3 M€  
ESSnuSB+ -Horizon EU (2023 - 2026) - 3 M€

13 countries  
23 Institutes



Water Cerenkov Far Detector- 540 kt  
5 MW Proton beam, 2 Gev proton energy

Main Goal: Precision measurement of the CP Violation phase with a long baseline setup

Other goals: Neutrino Cross-section measurements with the near detectors, Sterile neutrino searches with a short baseline setup, etc.

Eur. Phys. J. ST \textbf{231} (2022) no.21, 3779-39554

Talk by Joakim Cederkall on 4<sup>th</sup> Sept



# Probability and Flux

Benchmark: 90% bound from DUNE

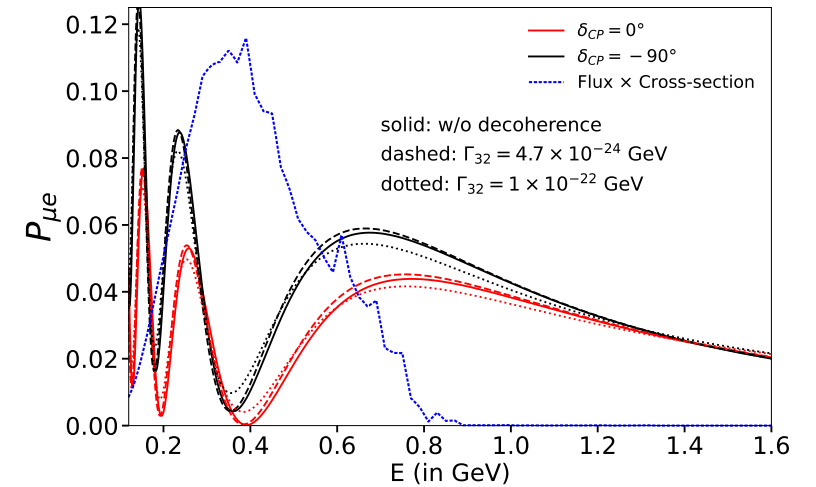
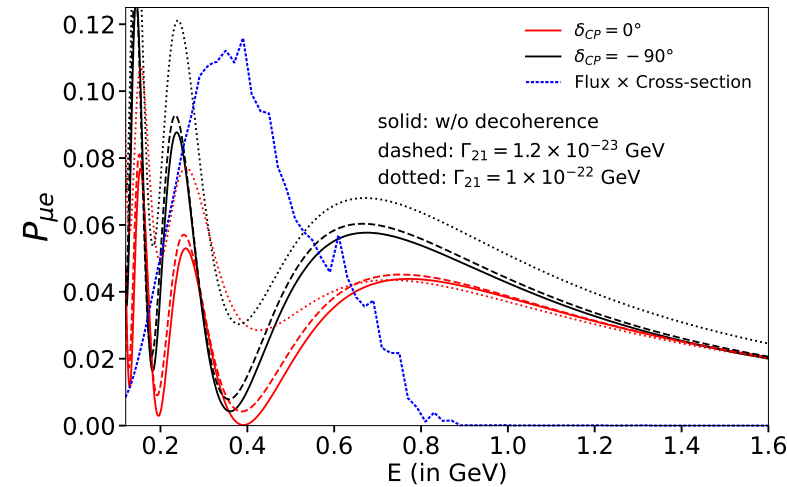
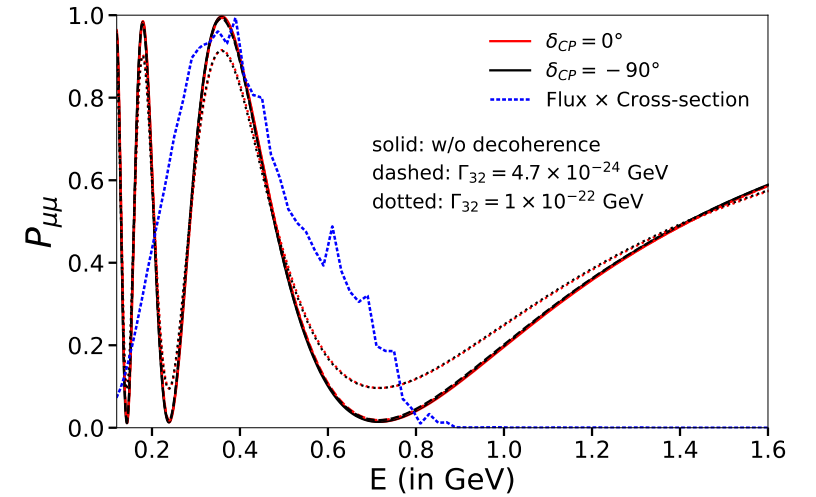
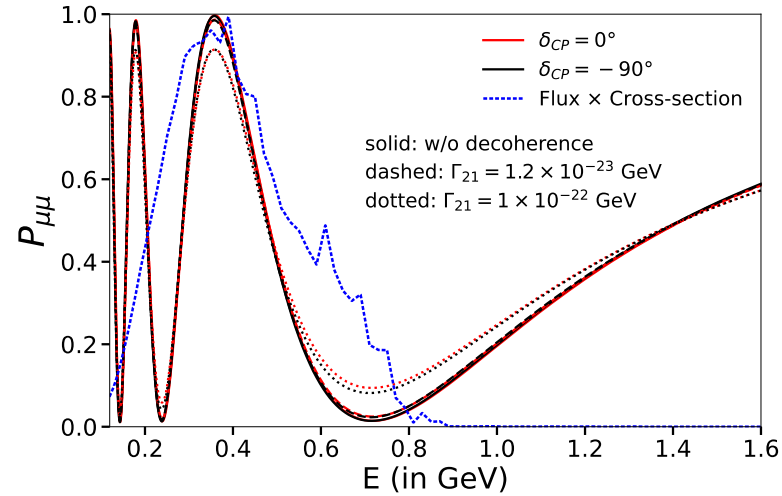
$$\Gamma_{21} = 1.2 \times 10^{-23} \text{ GeV}$$

$$\Gamma_{32} = 4.7 \times 10^{-24} \text{ GeV}$$

Gomes, Forero, Guzzo, Holanda and Oliveira,  
Phys. Rev. D 100 (2019), 055023

$$P_{\mu e} \sim \Gamma_{21}$$

$$P_{\mu\mu} \sim \Gamma_{21} \text{ and } \Gamma_{32}$$



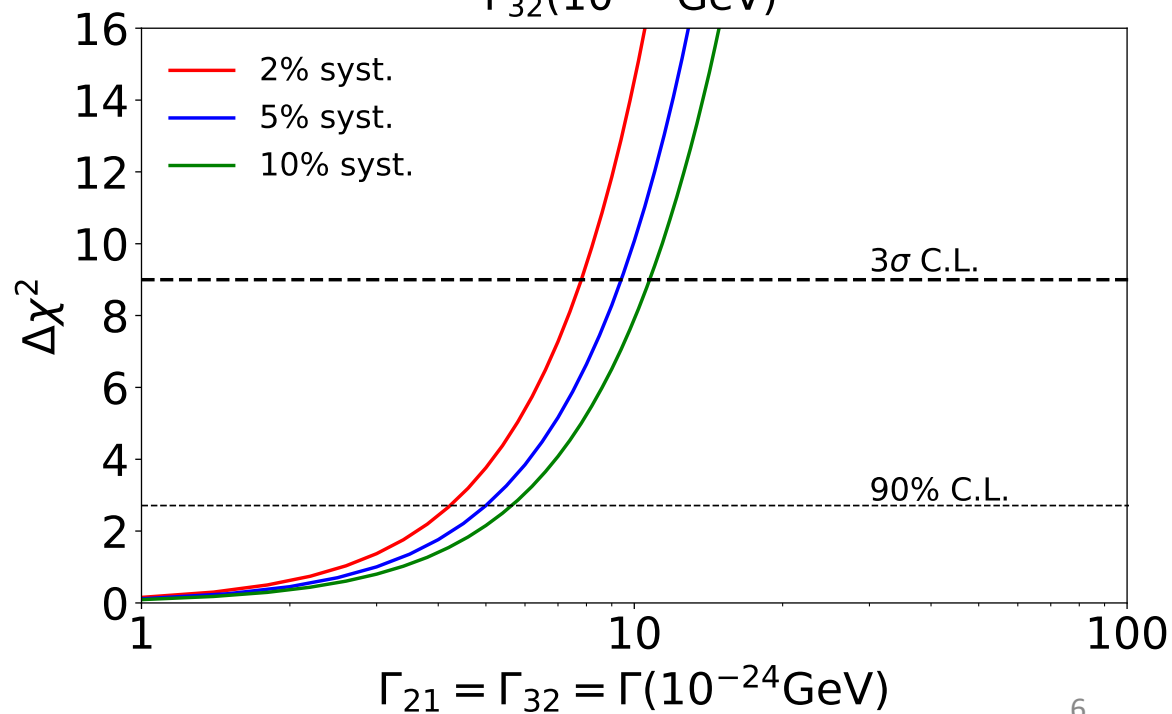
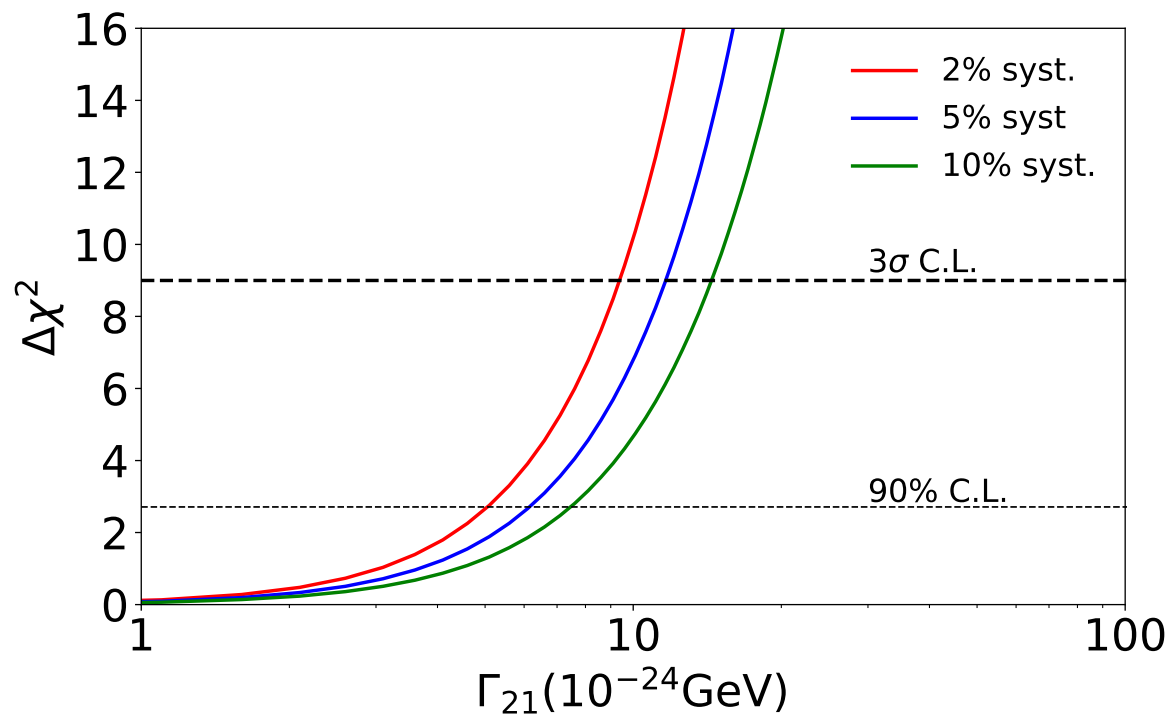
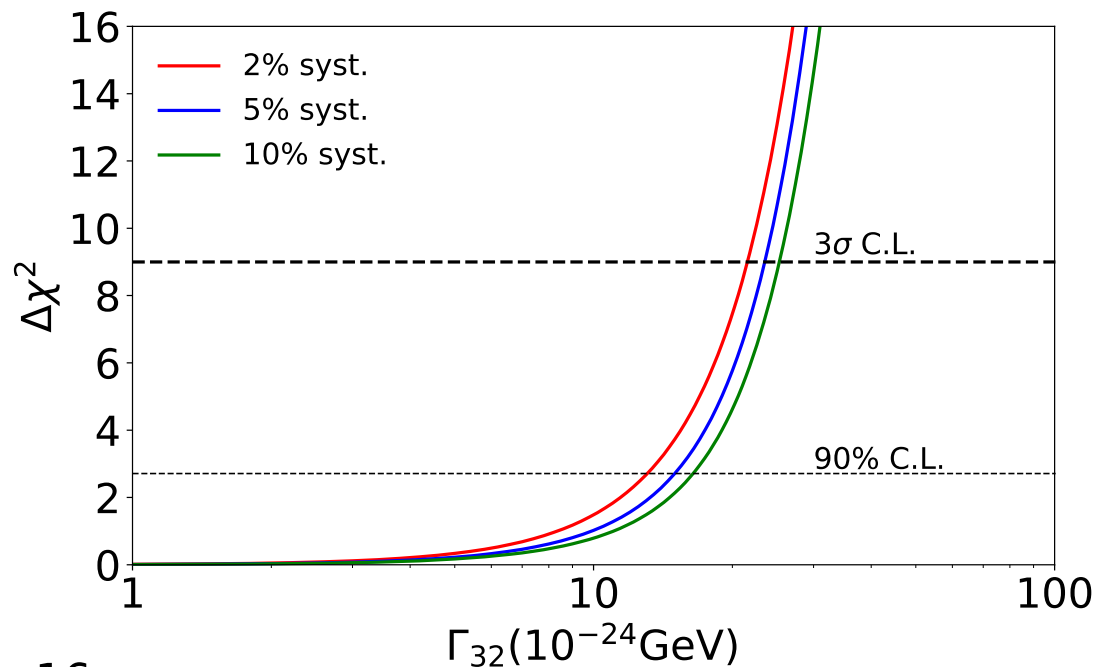
# Bounds on $\Gamma_{21}$ and $\Gamma_{32}$

$\Gamma_{32} = \Gamma_{21} < 9.4 \times 10^{-24}$  GeV [MINOS/MINOS+, (90% C.L.)],

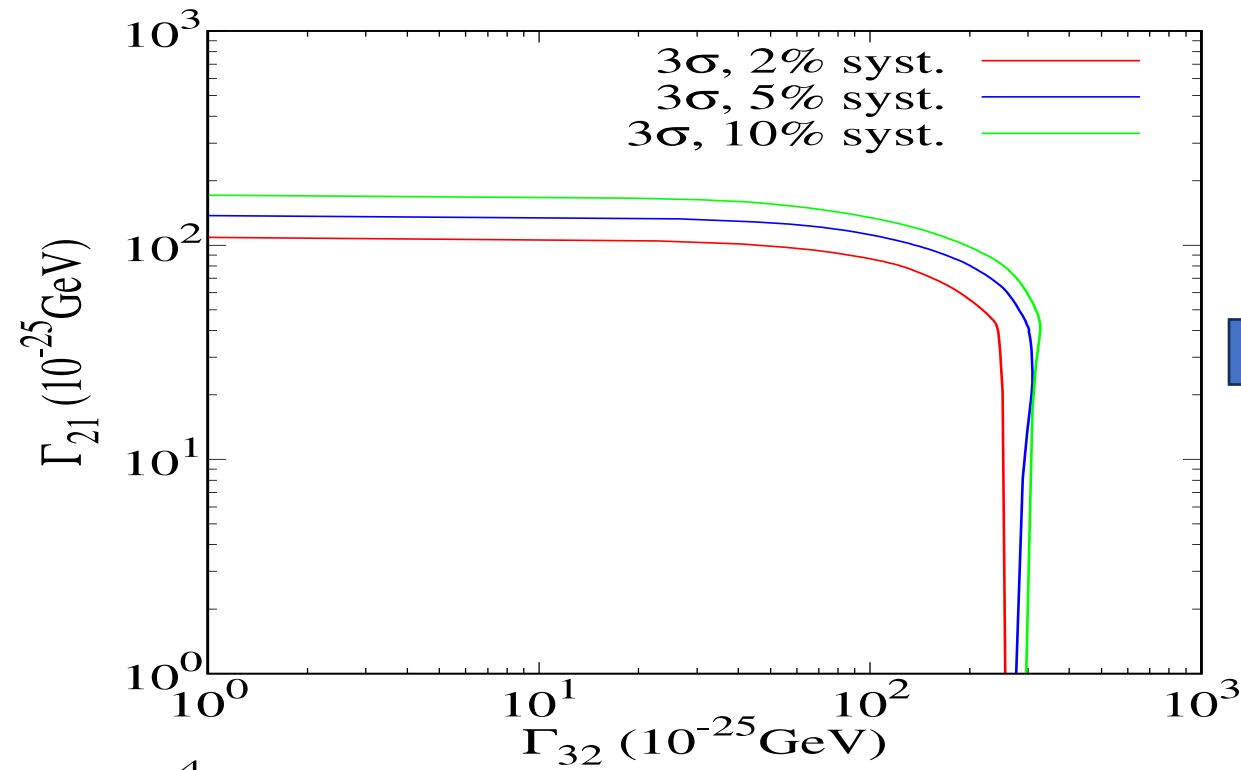
$\Gamma_{21} < 1.2 \times 10^{-23}$  GeV [DUNE, (90% C.L.)]

$\Gamma_{32} < 4.7 \times 10^{-24}$  GeV [DUNE, (90% C.L.)].

Better than MINOS and comparable to DUNE

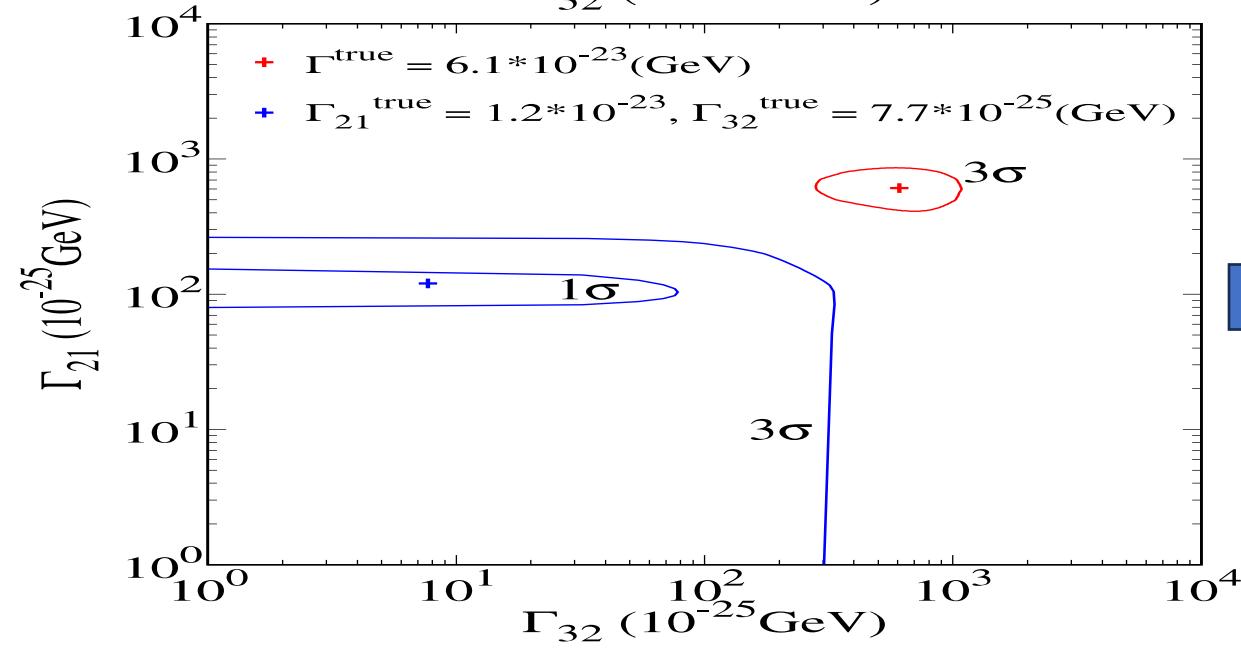


# Correlation b/w $\Gamma_{21}$ and $\Gamma_{32}$



-Standard scenario in simulated data  
Decoherence in Theory

-No Correlation between  $\Gamma_{21}$  and  $\Gamma_{32}$



-Decoherence in both simulated data and theory

-Two benchmark values

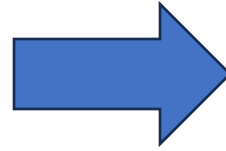
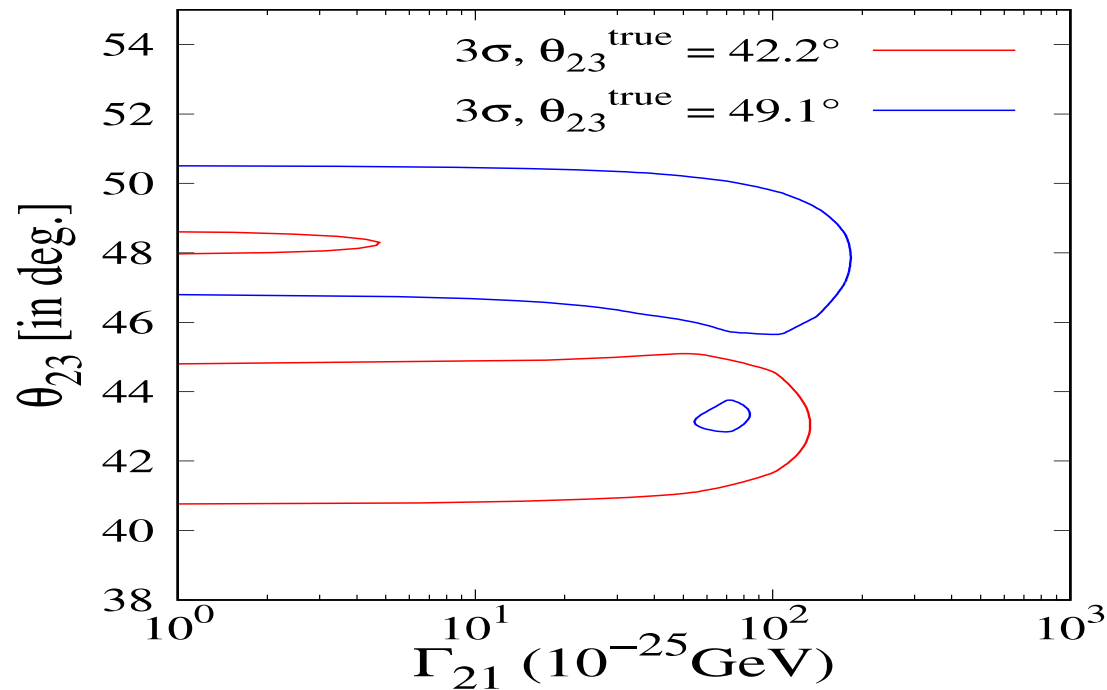
$\Gamma_{21} = \Gamma_{21} = 1.2 \times 10^{-23} \text{ GeV}$  (90% bound from T2K+MINOS)  
 De Romeri, Giunti, Stuttard and Ternes, JHEP 09 (2023), 097

$\Gamma_{21} = 1.2 \times 10^{-23} \text{ GeV}$  (90% bound from DUNE HE flux)  
 $\Gamma_{32} = 7.7 \times 10^{-25} \text{ GeV}$

-Good precision for high  $\Gamma$   
Poor precision for low  $\Gamma$

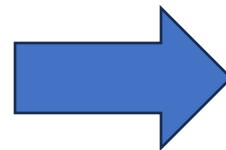
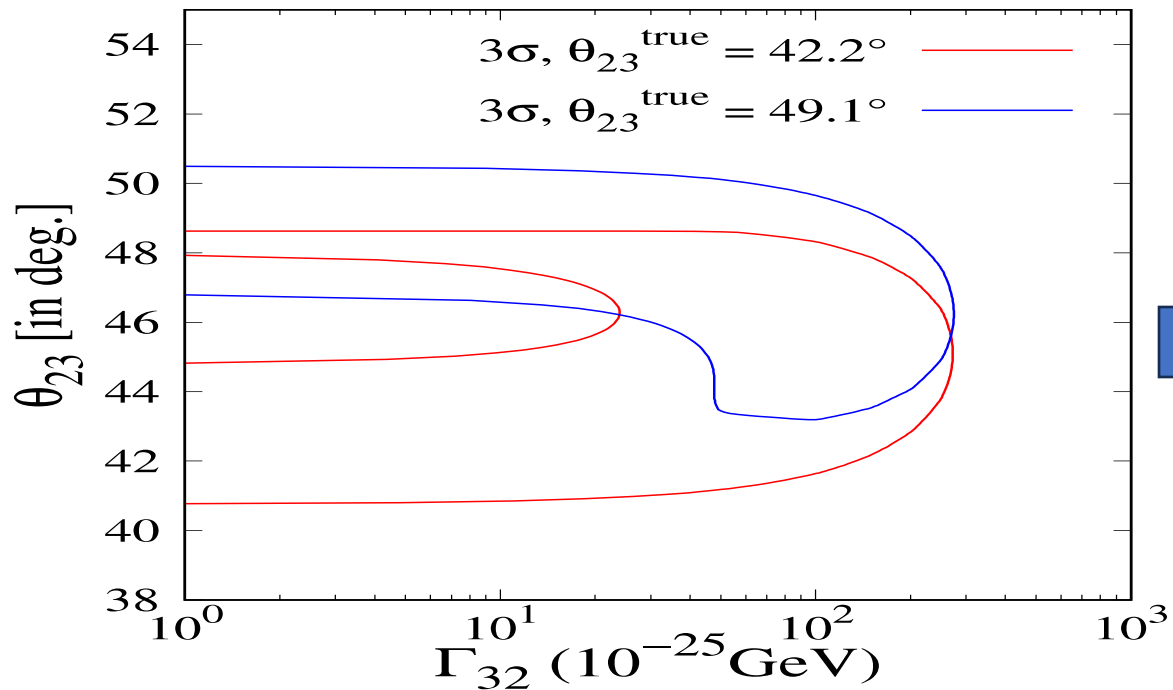


# Correlation with $\theta_{23}$



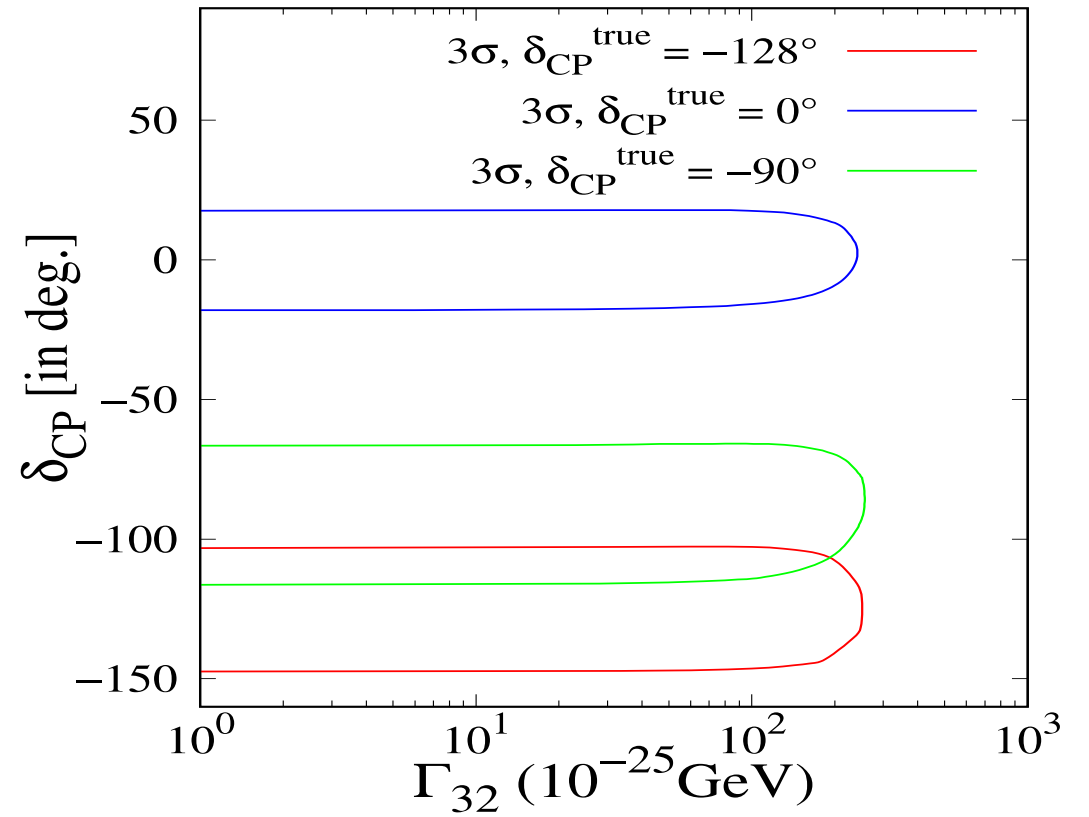
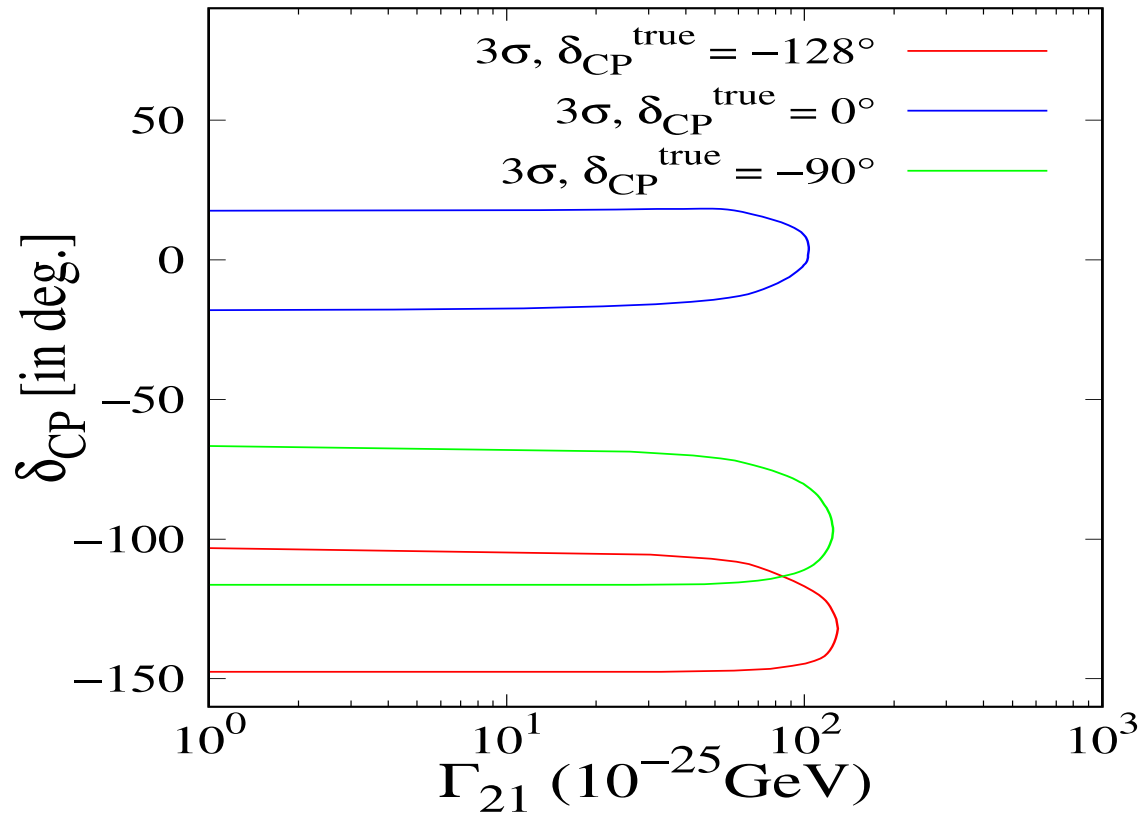
-Octant degeneracy for LO if there is no decoherence  
-Std can be fitted with  $\Gamma_{21}$  without octant degeneracy

Standard scenario in simulated data  
Decoherence in Theory



-Octant degeneracy for LO if there is no decoherence  
-Std can't be fitted with  $\Gamma_{21}$  without octant degeneracy

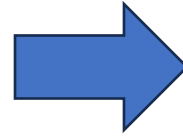
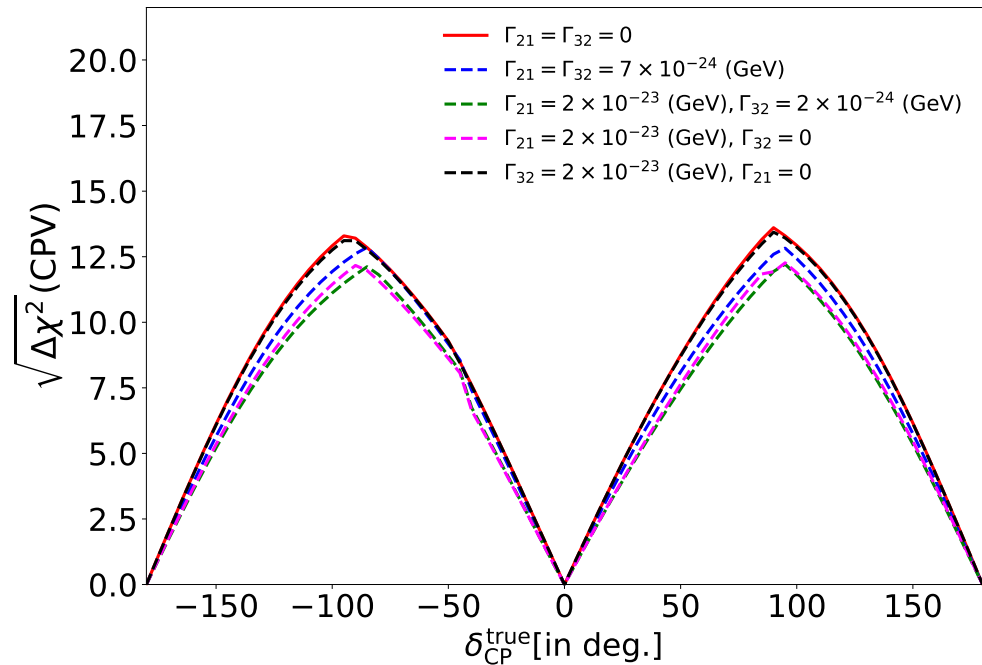
# Correlation with $\delta_{cp}$



CP sensitivity remains unaffected.

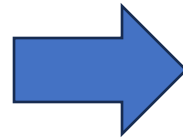
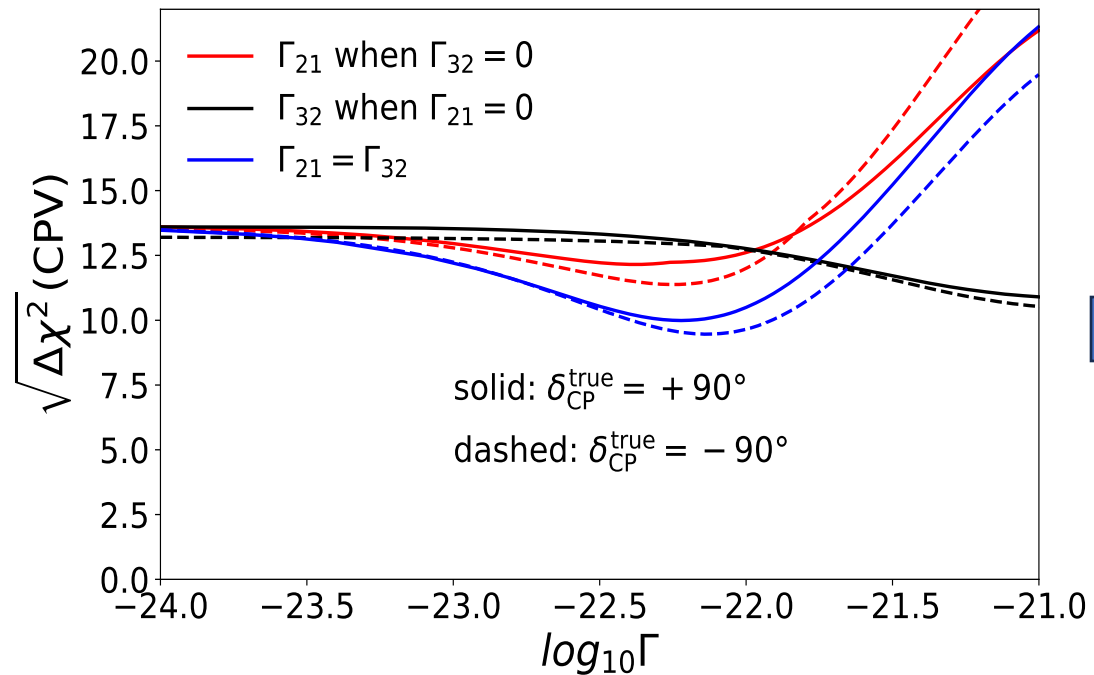
Standard scenario in simulated data  
Decoherence in Theory

# CP Violation



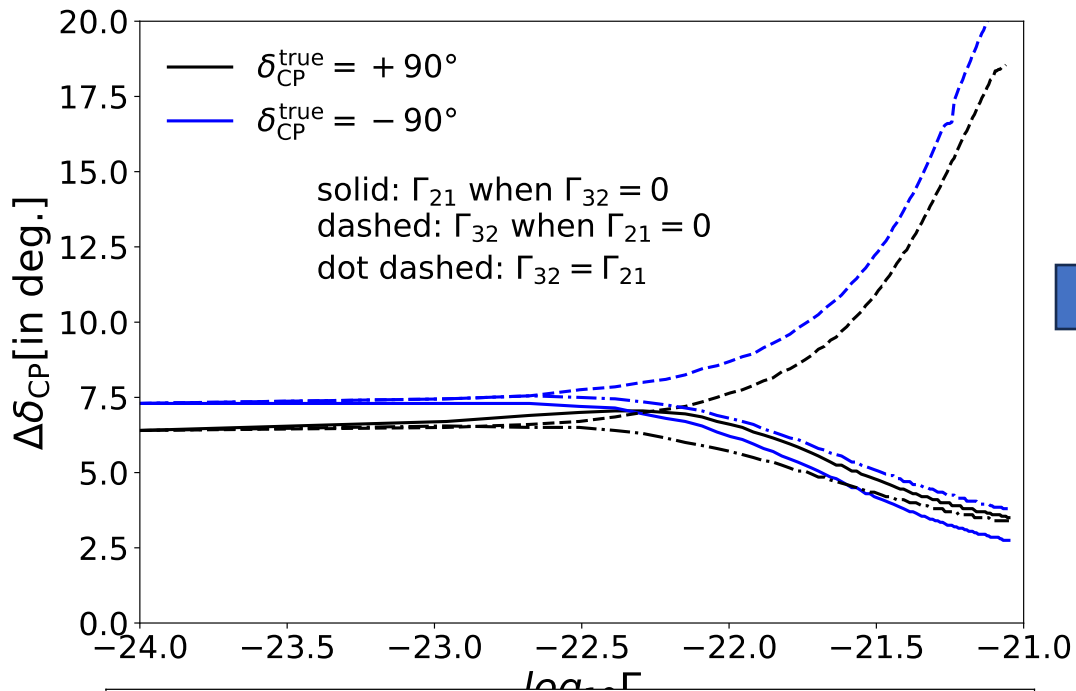
-Several Reference choices  
 -Red is Std  
 -Sensitivity decreases slightly in presence of Decoherence

Decoherence in both simulated data and Theory



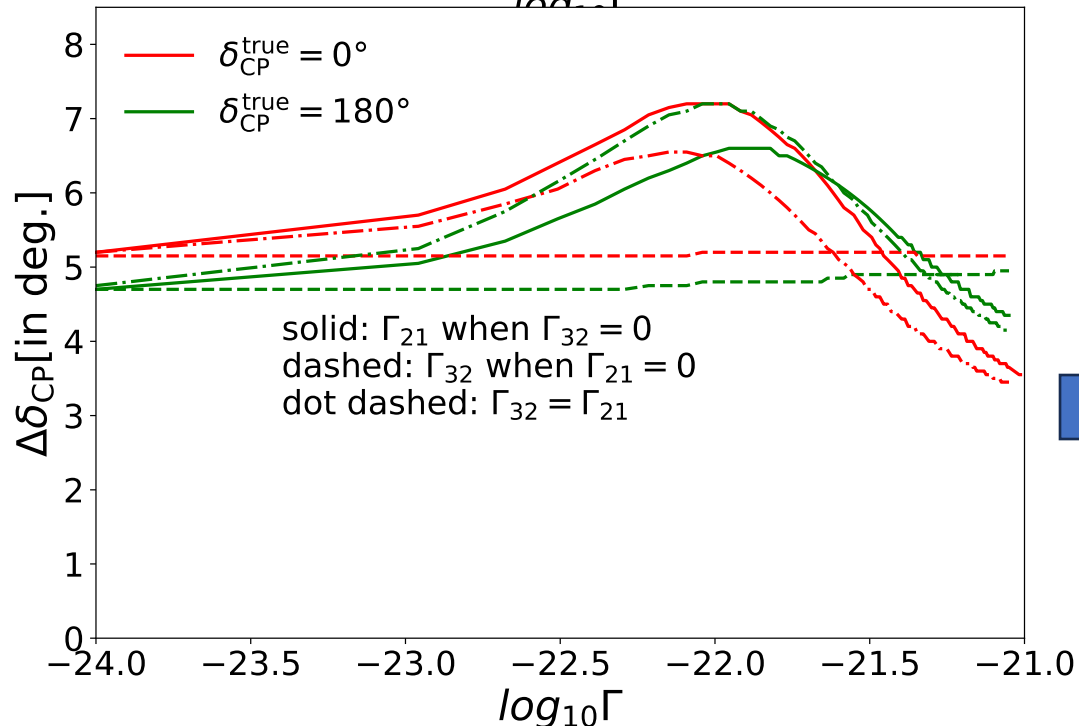
-Sensitivity changes for very large values of  $\Gamma$   
 -  $\Gamma_{21}$  has dominant effect

# CP Precision



- CP precision for CP violating values
- Improvement for large  $\Gamma_{21}$
- Deteriorates for large  $\Gamma_{32}$

Decoherence in both simulated data and Theory



- CP precision for CP conserving values
- $\Gamma_{21}$  has dominant effect
- First deteriorates then improves

# Summary

- ESSnuSB is a good experiment to study quantum decoherence
- Bounds will be better than MINOS and comparable to DUNE
- The parameter  $\Gamma_{21}$  and  $\Gamma_{32}$  are not correlated
- CP violation and CP precision sensitivity mostly remain unaffected for small  $\Gamma_{21}$  and  $\Gamma_{32}$
- All the results can be explained from the oscillation probabilities

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Thank You