

# Searches for effects beyond the Standard Model with KM3NeT

**Nadja Lessing**

on behalf of the KM3NeT  
Collaboration

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# Possibilities for beyond Standard Model searches with $\nu$



- Neutrinos can travel very **large distances** and are available at a **broad range of energies**.
  - Beyond Standard Model (BSM) effects can accumulate along their path.
  - BSM effects that scale with the energy are enhanced at high energies.



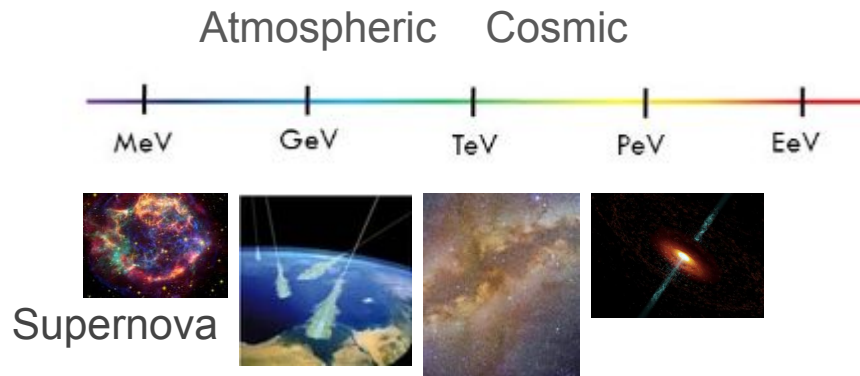
Neutrino telescopes as KM3NeT can observe **atmospheric and cosmic** neutrinos from **GeV to PeV** energies.

- Neutrinos **oscillate**.
  - Study of oscillation patterns can reveal new physics!

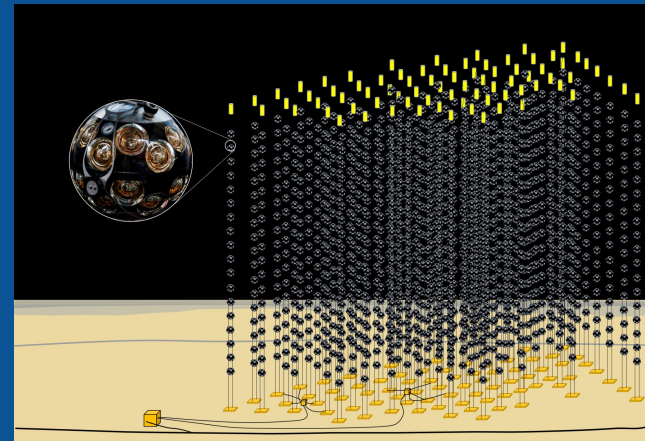
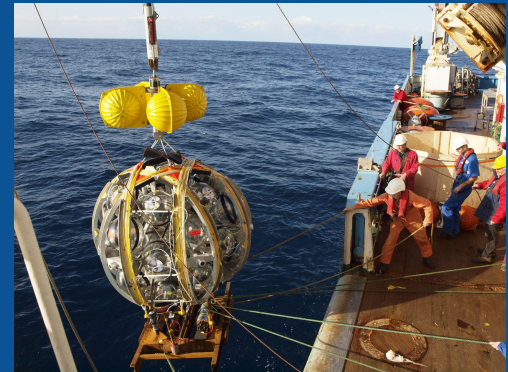
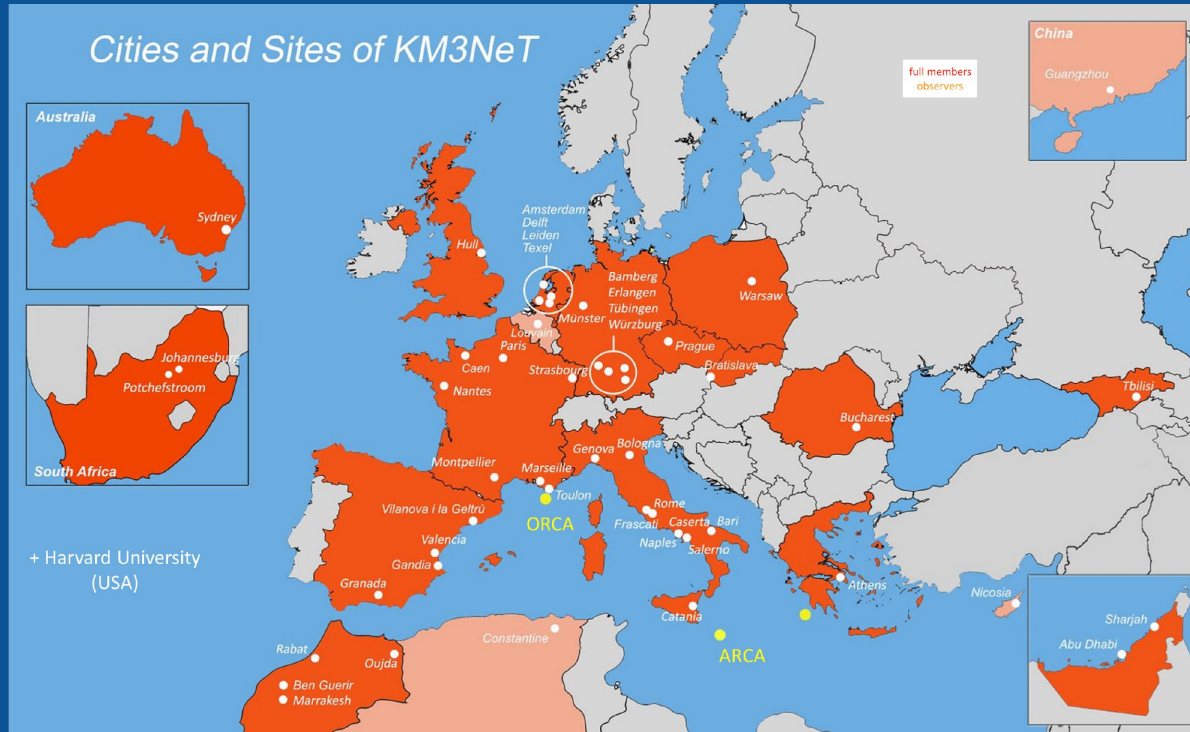


KM3NeT measures atmospheric **neutrino oscillations**.

See presentation by Luc Cerisy.



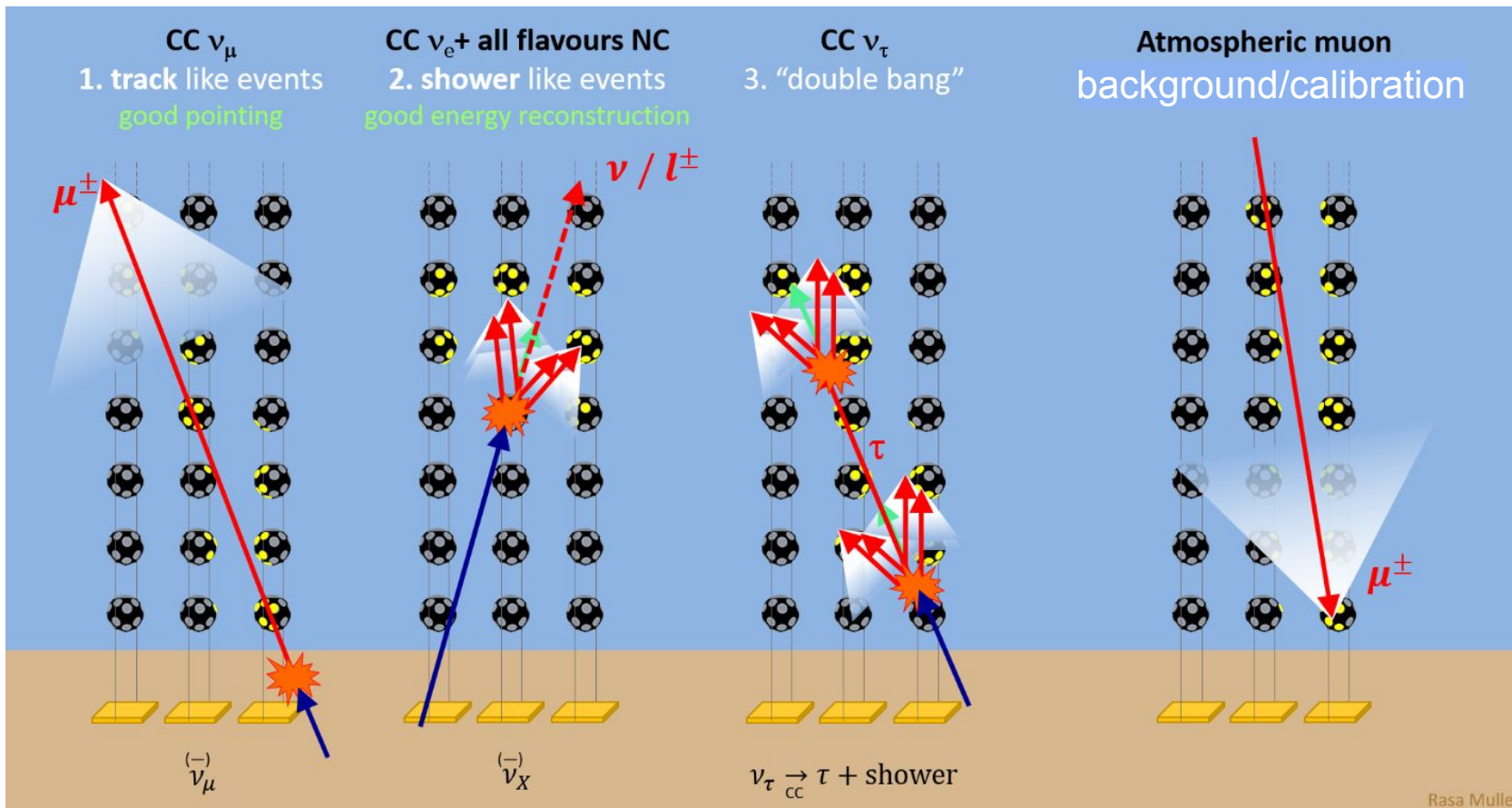
# KM3NeT - neutrino telescopes in the Mediterranean Sea



~250 members, 45 partner institutes, over 14 countries.



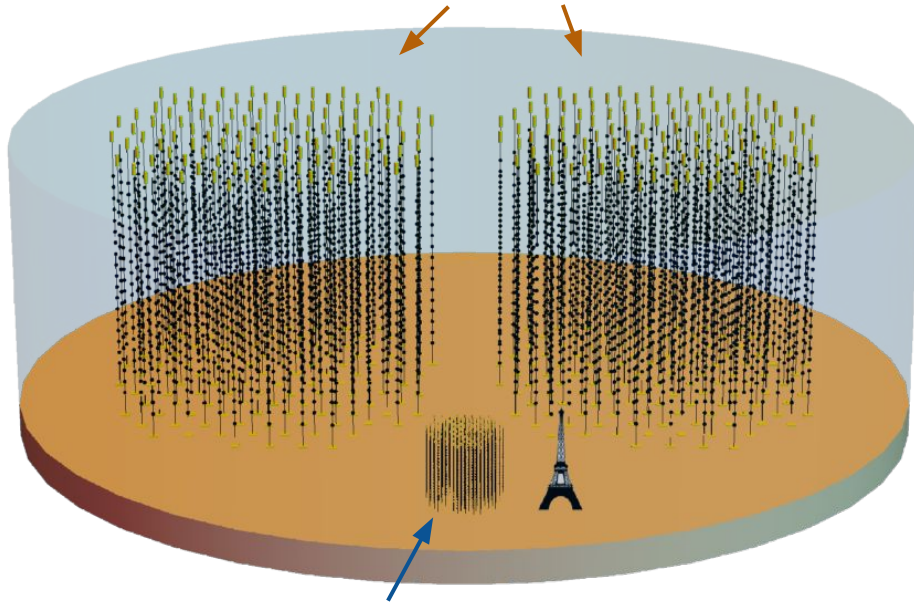
# KM3NeT - detection principle



# KM3NeT - ARCA and ORCA



**ARCA**  
36m vert. x 90m horiz. spacing



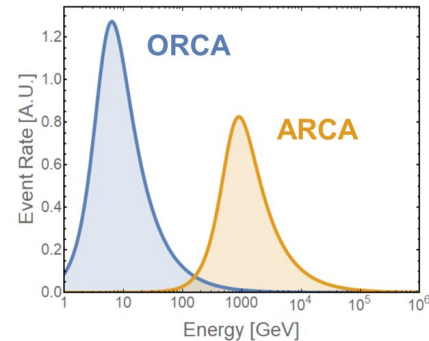
**ORCA**  
9m vert. x 20m horiz. spacing

**KM3NeT/ARCA (astrophysics):**  
Capo Passero, Sicily, Italy

- Search for astrophysical neutrinos.
- Very high energies (sub-TeV to few PeV).

**KM3NeT/ORCA (oscillations):**  
La Seyne-sur-Mer, France

- Study of atmospheric  $\nu$  oscillations, NMO.
- Lower energies (few GeV to  $\sim 100$  GeV).



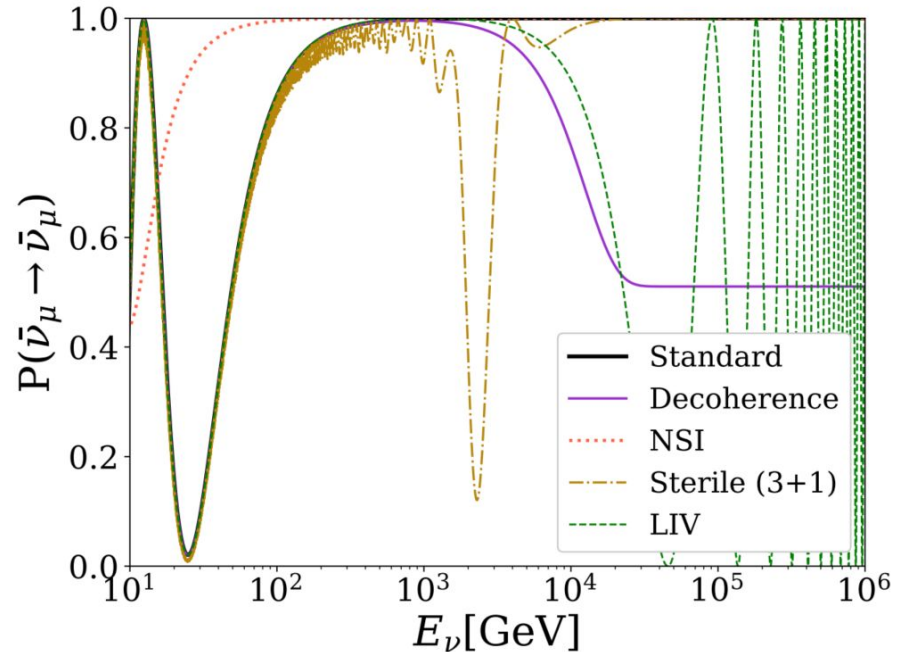
# BSM searches with KM3NeT/ARCA



- ARCA can search for BSM effects at high energies (TeV to few PeV) where standard oscillations for atmospheric neutrinos are suppressed.

→ Anything different from  $P = 1$  is a BSM effect!

- e.g. sterile neutrinos: eV-scale sterile  $\nu$  produces matter-enhanced resonance at TeV energies.
- **Searches with ARCA:**
  - Neutrino Decoherence  $\propto E, E^2$
  - Lorentz Invariance Violation  $\propto E, E^2, \dots$
  - Sterile neutrinos (3+1)



# BSM searches with KM3NeT/ORCA

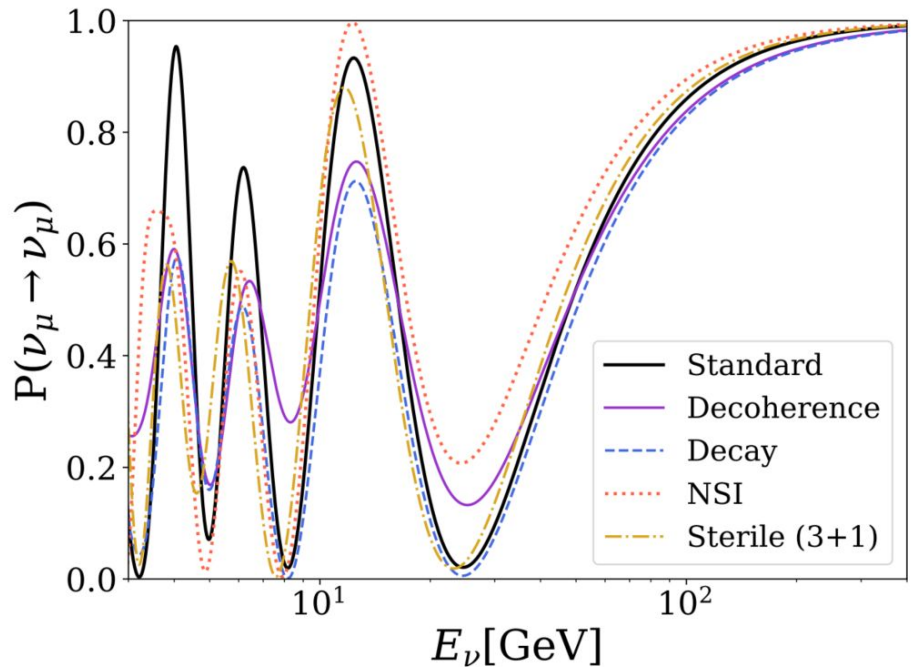


- ORCA is sensitive to atmospheric neutrino oscillations in the GeV range where BSM effects can modify the standard oscillation pattern.

→ Need a very good measurement of the standard oscillation parameters!

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2408.07015>

- **Data analyses for ORCA:**
  - Decoherence  $\propto E^{-2}, E^{-1}$
  - Non-standard interactions (NSI)
  - Sterile neutrinos (3+1)
  - Neutrino decay
  - Lorentz Invariance Violation
  - Non-unitary mixing



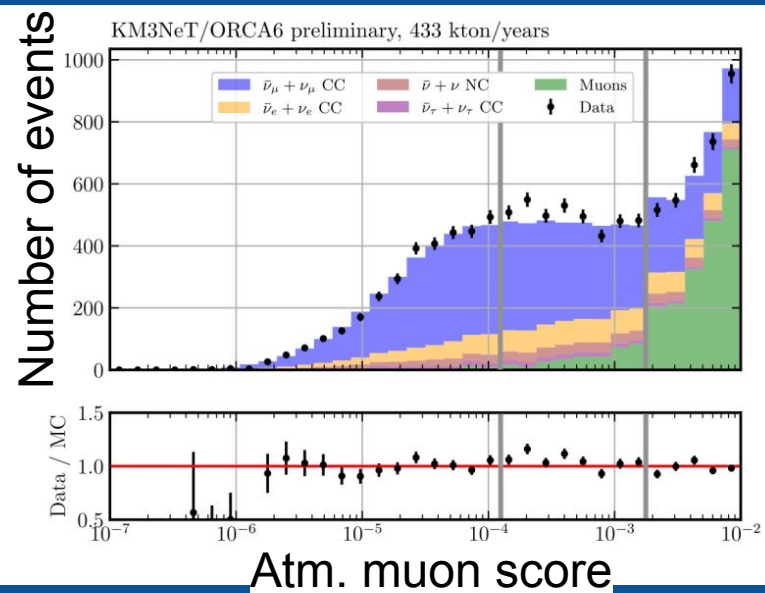
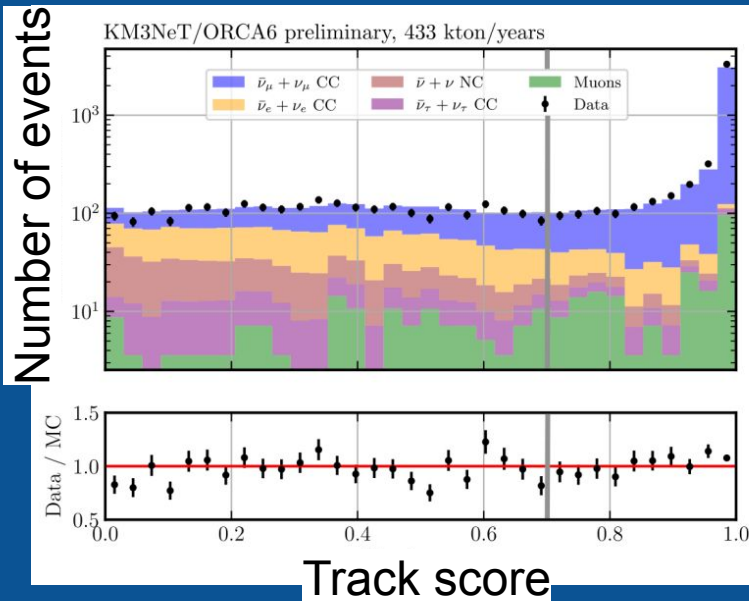
# ORCA6 data analyses

## Data set:

- 510 days data-taking time
- 433 kton-years exposure
- 5828 observed events

## Analysis:

- Event classification with Boosted Decision Trees (BDTs).
- Histograms of reconstructed energy and zenith angle.





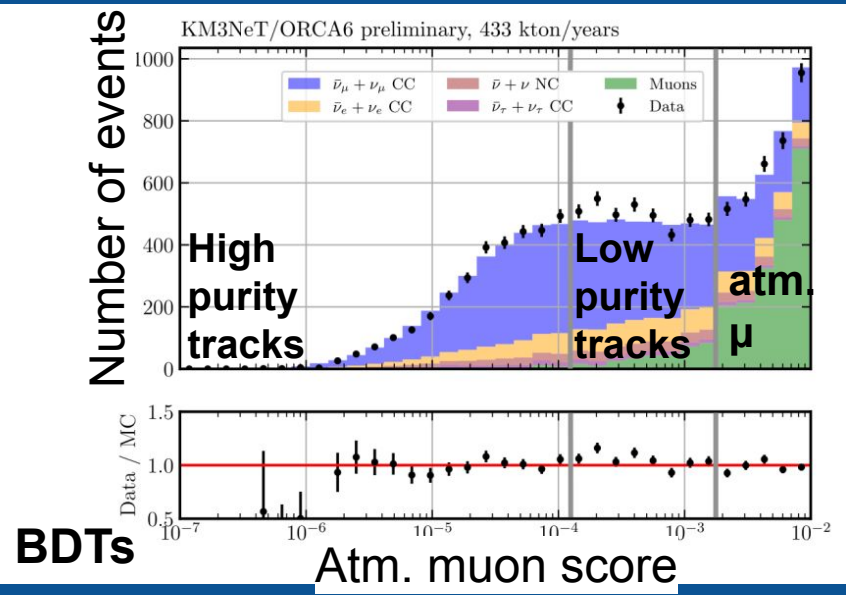
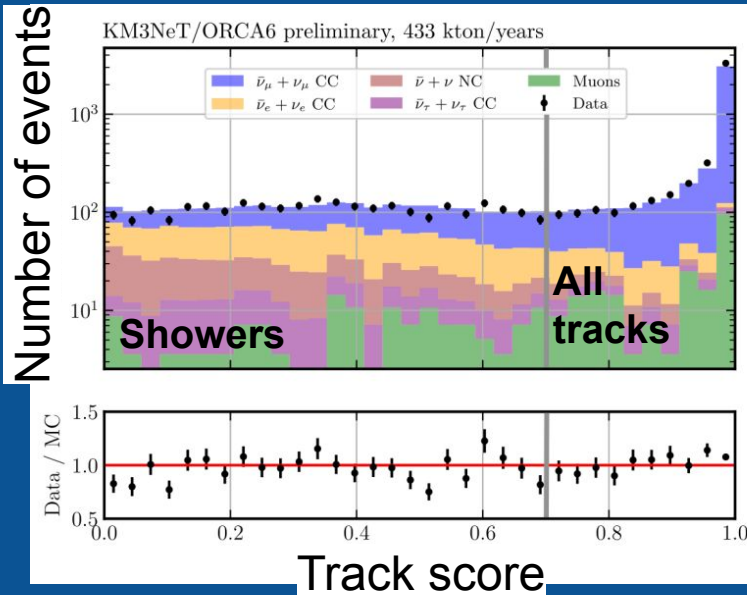
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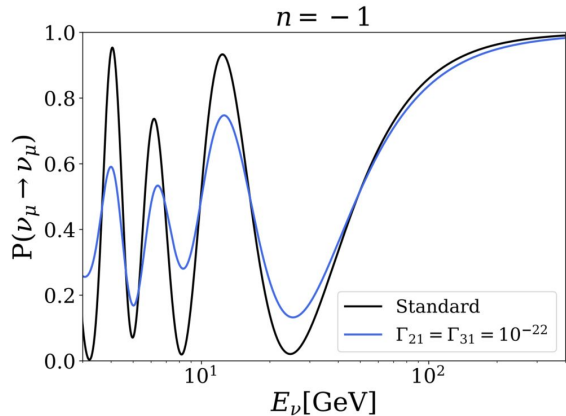


# Neutrino Quantum Decoherence

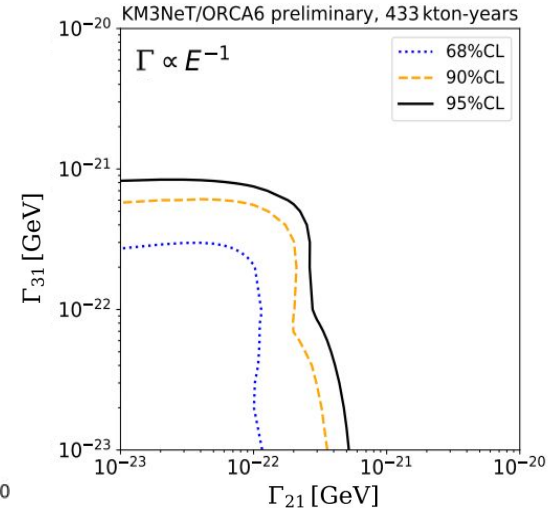
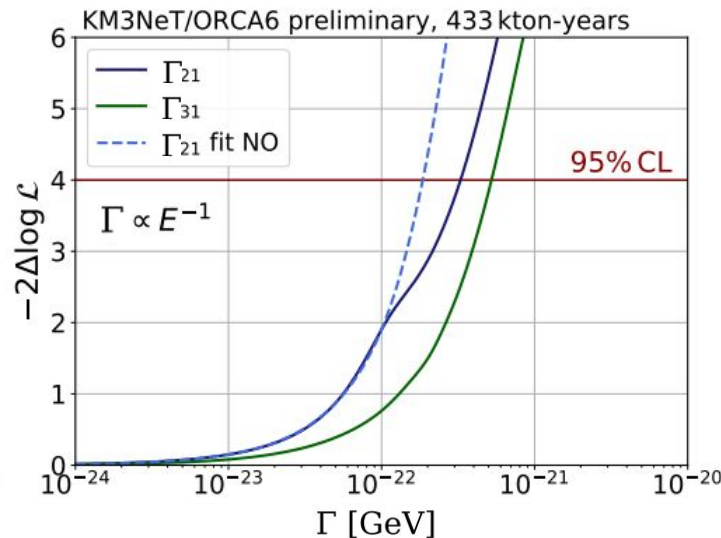
<https://doi.org/10.22323/1.444.1025>



- New physics effect predicted by theories of quantum gravity.
- Neutrino mass eigenstates lose their coherent superposition due to interactions with the environment  $\longrightarrow$  oscillation amplitude is suppressed:  $P \propto e^{-\Gamma L}$ ,  $\Gamma = \Gamma_0(E/E_0)^n$
- Effect accumulates along the path: atmospheric  $\nu$  in KM3NeT have long baselines. 😊



Results available for  $n = -2$  and  $n = -1$



# Neutrino non-standard interactions

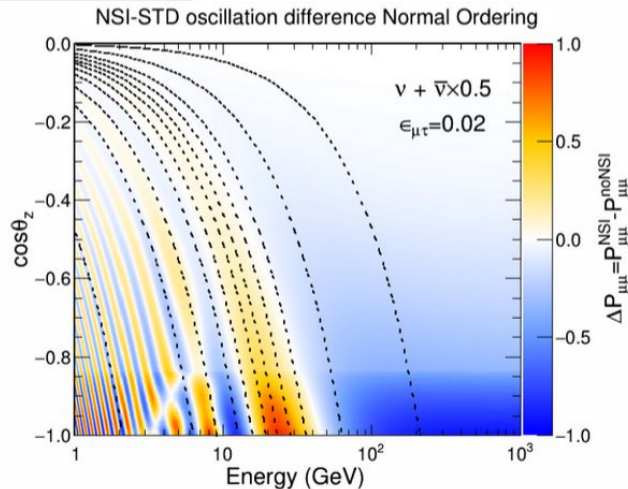
<https://doi.org/10.22323/1.444.0998>



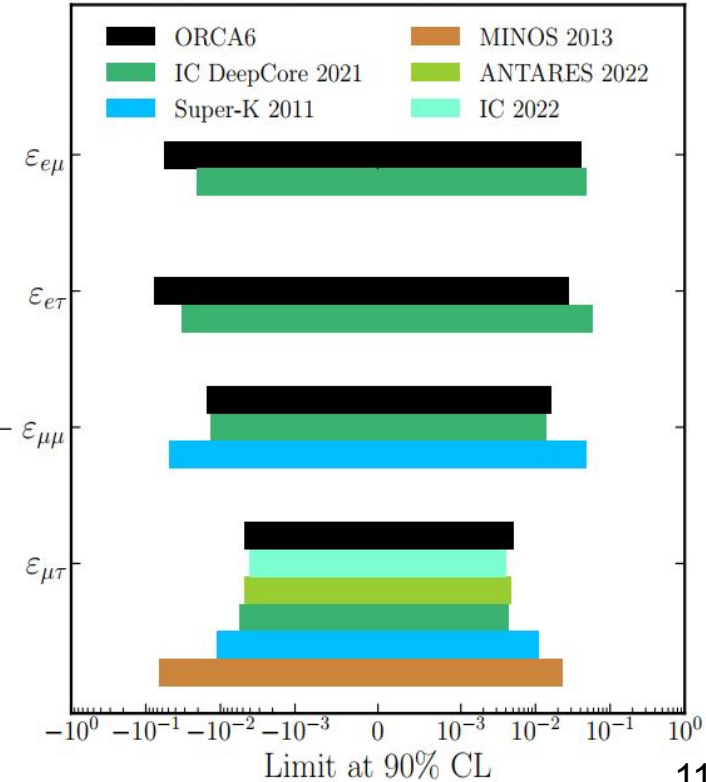
- Non-standard interactions (NSIs) arise when extending the Standard Model Lagrangian with new operators.
- NC forward scattering of  $\nu$  inside the Earth is modified.

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{nsi}} = A(x) \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon_{ee} & \varepsilon_{e\mu} & \varepsilon_{e\tau} \\ \varepsilon_{e\mu}^* & \varepsilon_{\mu\mu} & \varepsilon_{\mu\tau} \\ \varepsilon_{e\tau}^* & \varepsilon_{\mu\tau}^* & \varepsilon_{\tau\tau} \end{bmatrix}$$

- Flavour-dependent matter effects alter neutrino oscillations inside the Earth.



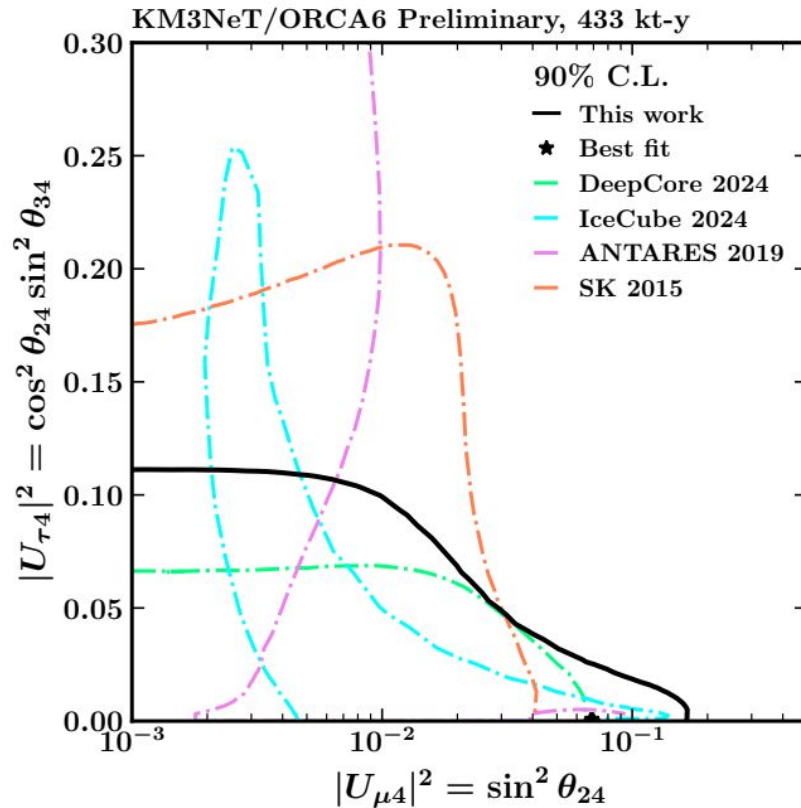
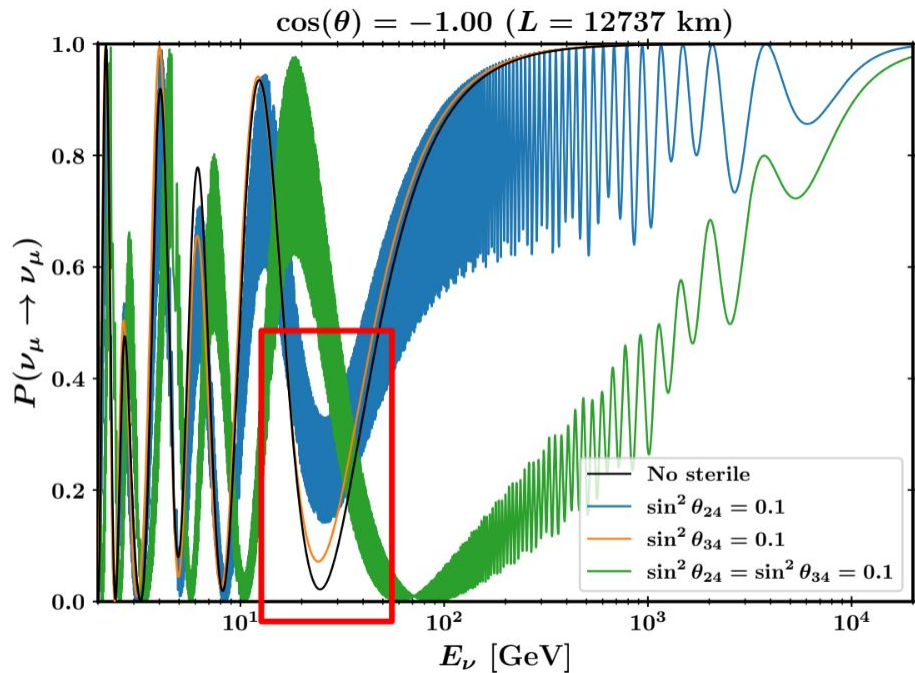
KM3NeT/ORCA6 preliminary, 433 kton-yr



# Sterile neutrinos (3 + 1)



- Short-baseline anomalies can be explained by sterile neutrino with  $\Delta m_{41}^2 \sim 1 \text{ eV}^2$
- ORCA6 is sensitive to  $\Theta_{24}$  and  $\Theta_{34}$ .



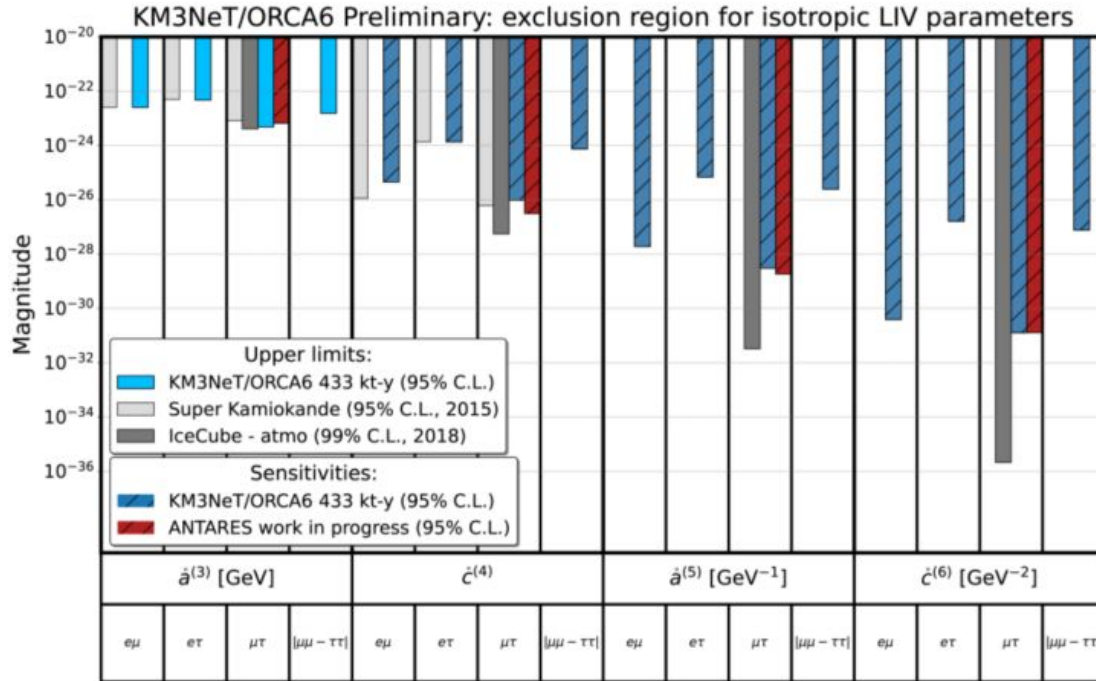


# Further results:



## Lorentz Invariance Violation (LIV):

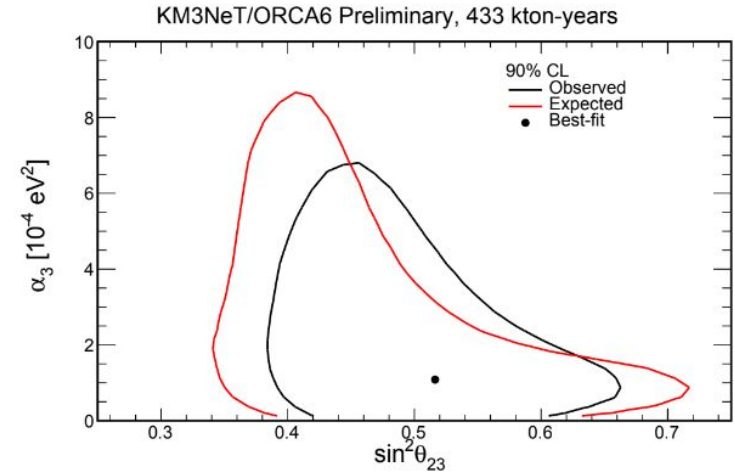
<https://agenda.infn.it/event/37867/contributions/228296/>



## Neutrino decay:

$$\alpha_3 = \frac{m_3}{\tau_3}$$

<https://pos.sissa.it/444/997/>



## Non-unitary mixing:

See presentation about ORCA6 standard oscillations by Luc.

# Conclusions


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- With KM3NeT we are already able to constrain many BSM effects indirectly.
- So what if we find **new physics** at some point?

# Conclusions



- With KM3NeT we are already able to constrain many BSM effects indirectly.
- So what if we find **new physics** at some point?
  - 1) 
  - 2) We want to know more...

To study BSM physics in the future we will need:

- high statistics (ORCA115 detector) and a good understanding of systematics.
- input from other experiments that are sensitive to neutrino oscillations.
- new models as input from theorists.



Thank you very much for your attention!

# Backup: parameters for BSM oscillations plot, normal ordering



- Software: OscProb (<https://github.com/joaoabcoelho/OscProb>)

- Neutrino traversing the Earth with  $\cos(\Theta_Z) = -1$

- Decoherence:

$$\Gamma_{21} = \Gamma_{31} = 1e - 22 \text{ GeV}, \Gamma \propto (E_\nu/1 \text{ GeV})^{-1}, \Theta_{\text{Deco}} = 0$$

- Decay:

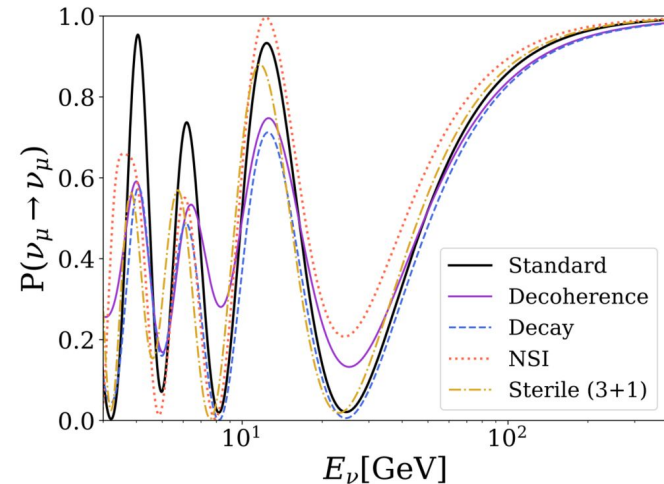
$$\alpha_3 = 1e - 4 \text{ eV}^2$$

- NSI:

$$\epsilon_{\tau\tau} = 0.05, \epsilon_{\mu\mu} = 0.025$$

- Sterile:

$$\Delta m_{41}^2 = 1e - 3 \text{ eV}^2, \sin^2(\Theta_{24}) = 0.1$$





# Backup: parameters for BSM oscillations plot, normal ordering



- Software: OscProb (<https://github.com/joaoabcoelho/OscProb>)

- Neutrino traversing the Earth with  $\cos(\Theta_Z) = -1$

- Decoherence:

$$\Gamma_{31} = 1e - 31 \text{ GeV} \quad , \Gamma \propto (E_\nu/1 \text{ GeV})^2, \Theta_{\text{Deco}} = 0$$

- NSI:

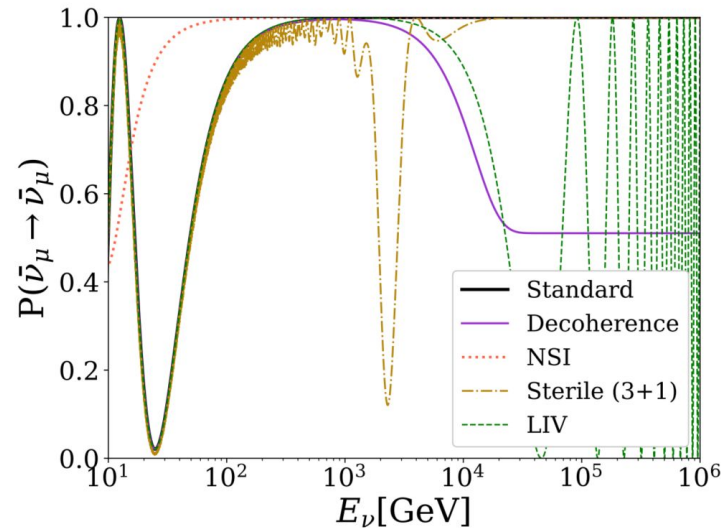
$$\epsilon_{\mu\mu} = -0.3$$

- Sterile:

$$\Delta m_{41}^2 = 1 \text{ eV}^2, \sin^2(2\Theta_{24}) = 0.04$$

- LIV:

$$c_{\mu\tau} = 4e - 28$$



# Backup: oscillation/systematic parameters for ORCA6



Parameter	Value NO	Value IO	Treatment
$\Delta m_{31}^2$ [eV <sup>2</sup> ]	$2.517 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$-2.424 \cdot 10^{-3}$	free
$\Delta m_{21}^2$ [eV <sup>2</sup> ]	$7.42 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$7.42 \cdot 10^{-5}$	fixed
$\theta_{12}$ [°]	33.44	33.45	fixed
$\theta_{13}$ [°]	8.57	8.60	fixed
$\theta_{23}$ [°]	49.2	49.3	free
$\delta_{CP}$ [°]	197	282	fixed

Likelihood to minimize:

$$-2 \log(\mathcal{L}) = 2 \sum_{i,j} \left[ (N_{ij}^{\text{mod}} - N_{ij}^{\text{dat}}) + N_{ij}^{\text{dat}} \log \left( \frac{N_{ij}^{\text{dat}}}{N_{ij}^{\text{mod}}} \right) \right] + \sum_k \left( \frac{\eta_k - \langle \eta_k \rangle}{\sigma_k} \right)^2$$

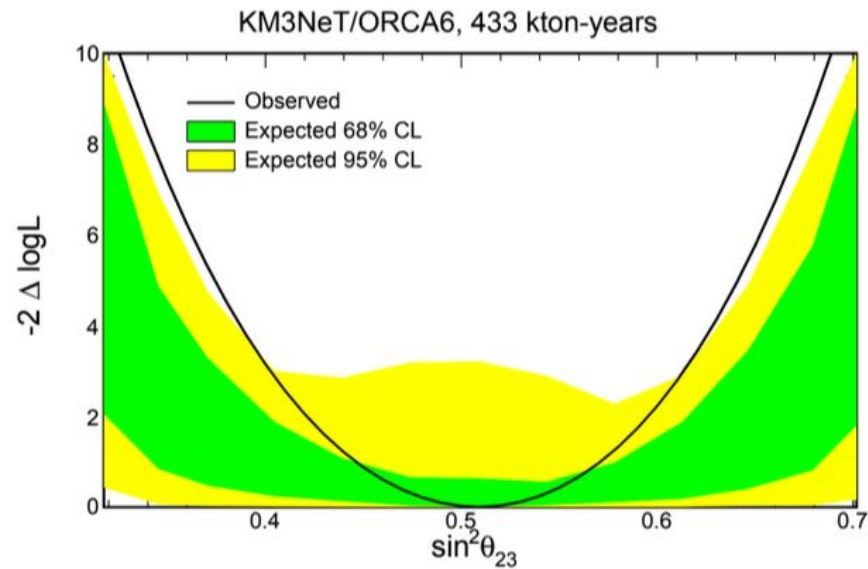
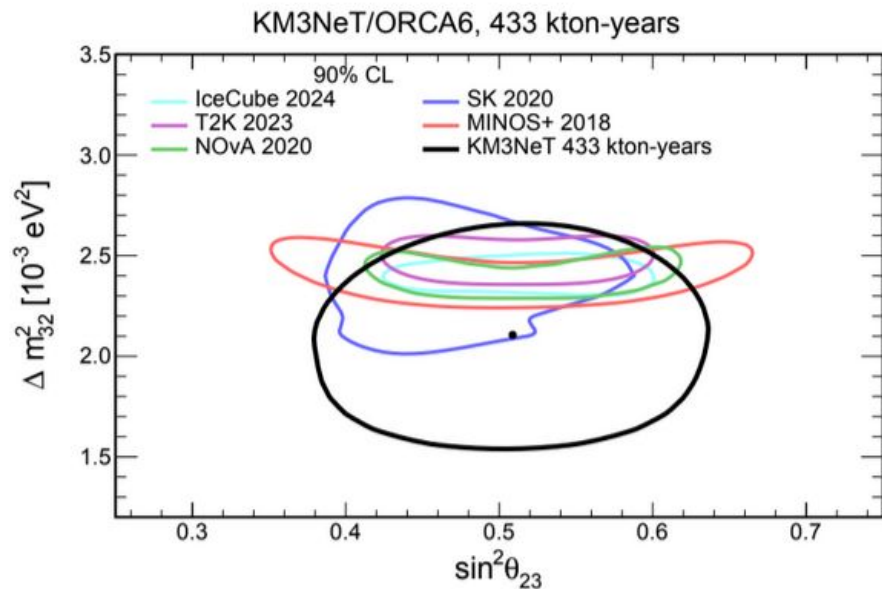
Standard oscillation results:

$$\sin^2 \theta_{23} = 0.51_{-0.05}^{+0.04}$$

$$\Delta m_{31}^2 = \begin{cases} 2.14_{-0.35}^{+0.25} \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2, & \text{for NO.} \\ [-2.25, -1.76] \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2, & \text{for IO} \end{cases}$$

Parameter	Prior
$(\nu_\mu + \bar{\nu}_\mu)/(\nu_e + \bar{\nu}_e)$ ratio	$\pm 2\%$
$\nu_e/\bar{\nu}_e$ ratio	$\pm 7\%$
$\nu_\mu/\bar{\nu}_\mu$ ratio	$\pm 5\%$
$\nu_{\text{hor}}/\nu_{\text{ver}}$ ratio	$\pm 2\%$
Spectral index	$\pm 10\%$
$n^{\text{NC}}$	$\pm 20\%$
$n_\tau^{\text{CC}}$	$\pm 20\%$
Energy scale	$\pm 9\%$
Light simulation for high energy events	$\pm 50\%$
$n_\mu$	no prior
$n_{\text{Tracks}}$	no prior
$n_{\text{Showers}}$	no prior
$n_{\text{Abs.}}$	no prior

# Backup: standard oscillations result for ORCA6



# Backup: decoherence theory



Time evolution:

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

$$\mathcal{D}[\rho] = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^{N^2-1} \left( [V_k, \rho(t) V_k^\dagger] + [V_k \rho(t), V_k^\dagger] \right)$$

Expansion in SU(3):

$$\mathcal{D}[\rho(t)] = (D_{\mu\nu} \rho^\nu) \lambda^\mu$$

Conditions:

- Energy conservation
- Probability conservation
- Complete positivity

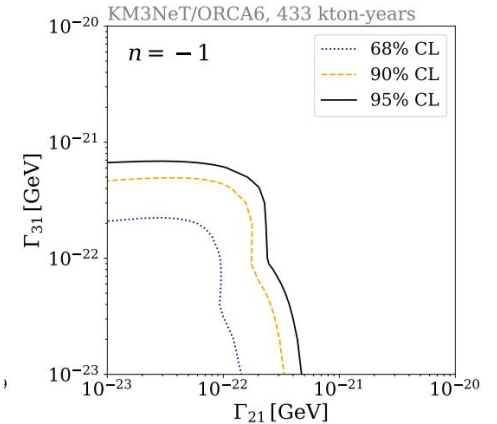
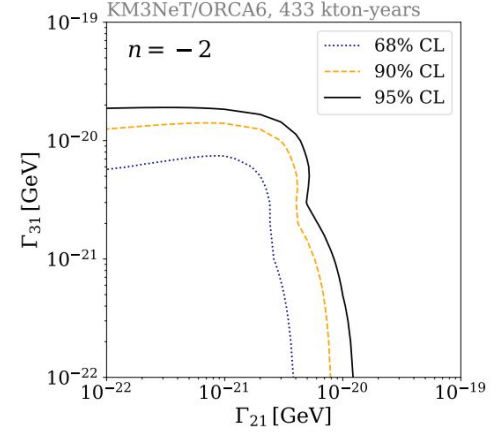
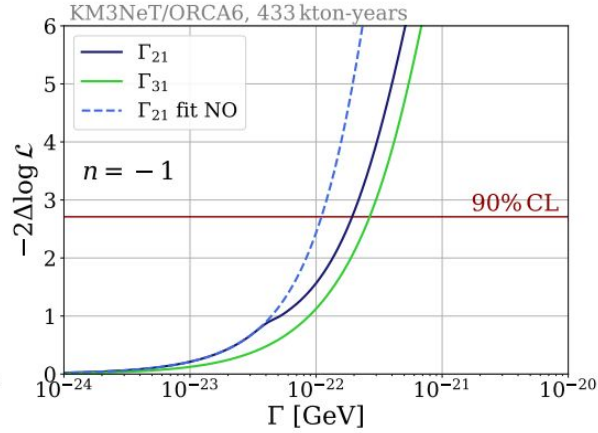
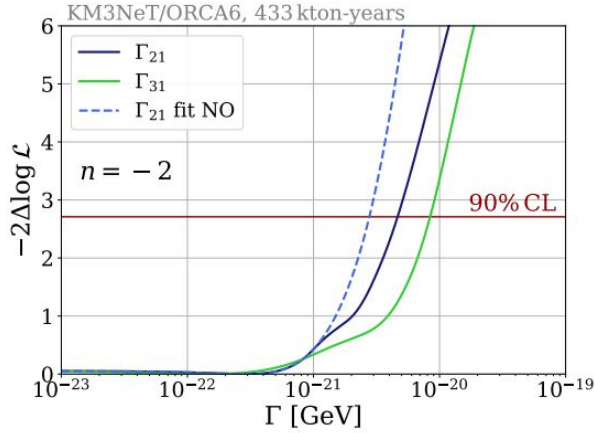
$$D = -\text{diag}(0, \Gamma_{21}, \Gamma_{21}, 0, \Gamma_{31}, \Gamma_{31}, \Gamma_{32}, \Gamma_{32}, 0)$$

→ Parameter relation:

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

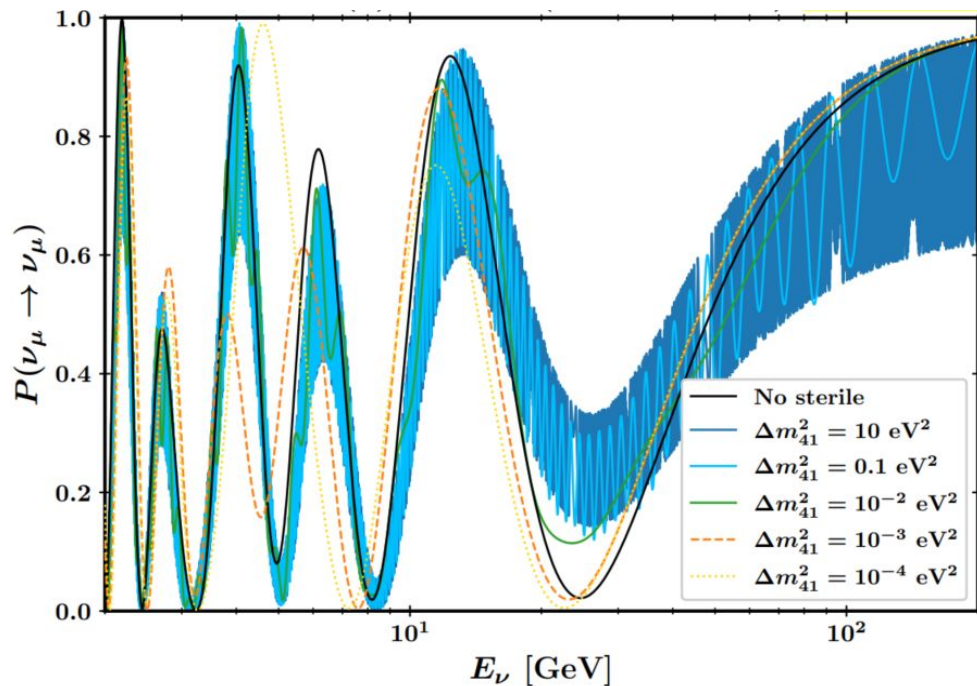


# Backup: decoherence results with ORCA6



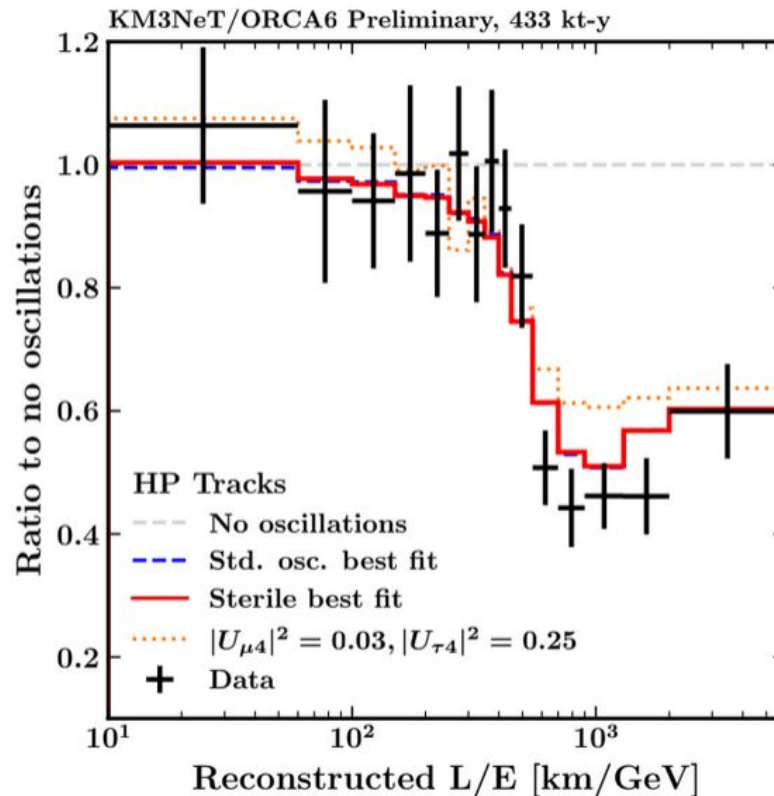
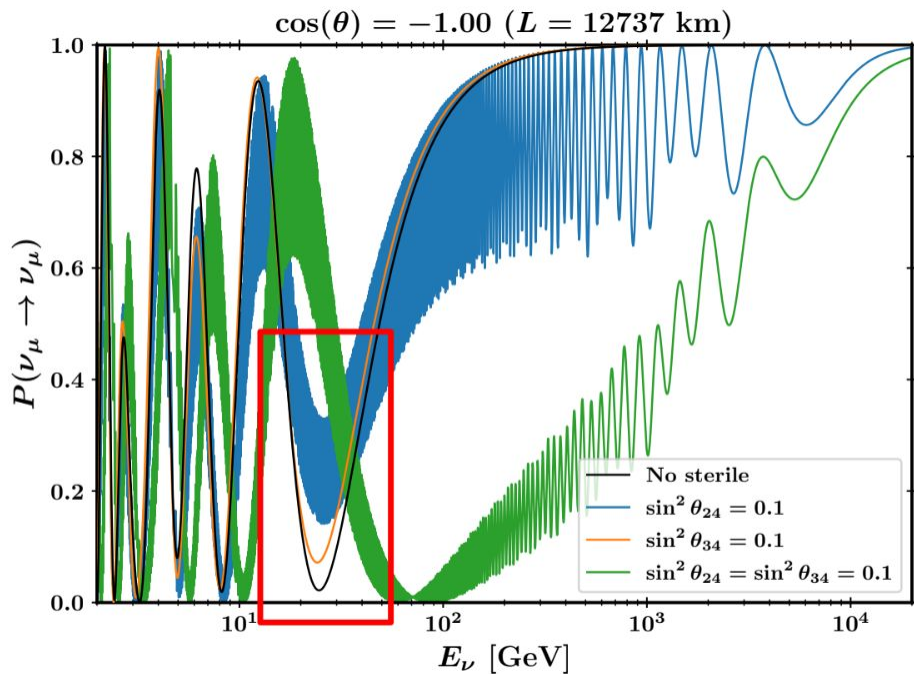
Upper limits [GeV]	$n = -2$		$n = -1$	
ORCA6, 90 %CL	NO	IO	NO	IO
$\Gamma_{21}$	$2.8 \cdot 10^{-21}$	$4.6 \cdot 10^{-21}$	$1.1 \cdot 10^{-22}$	$1.9 \cdot 10^{-22}$
$\Gamma_{31}$	$8.4 \cdot 10^{-21}$	$2.2 \cdot 10^{-21}$	$2.7 \cdot 10^{-22}$	$0.8 \cdot 10^{-22}$
$\Gamma_{21} = \Gamma_{31}$	$4.1 \cdot 10^{-21}$	$2.9 \cdot 10^{-21}$	$1.8 \cdot 10^{-22}$	$1.1 \cdot 10^{-22}$
ORCA6, 95 %CL	NO	IO	NO	IO
$\Gamma_{21}$	$3.7 \cdot 10^{-21}$	$6.9 \cdot 10^{-21}$	$1.6 \cdot 10^{-22}$	$3.0 \cdot 10^{-22}$
$\Gamma_{31}$	$11.7 \cdot 10^{-21}$	$3.2 \cdot 10^{-21}$	$4.2 \cdot 10^{-22}$	$1.3 \cdot 10^{-22}$
$\Gamma_{21} = \Gamma_{31}$	$5.2 \cdot 10^{-21}$	$3.6 \cdot 10^{-21}$	$2.3 \cdot 10^{-22}$	$1.4 \cdot 10^{-22}$

# Backup: sterile neutrino theory

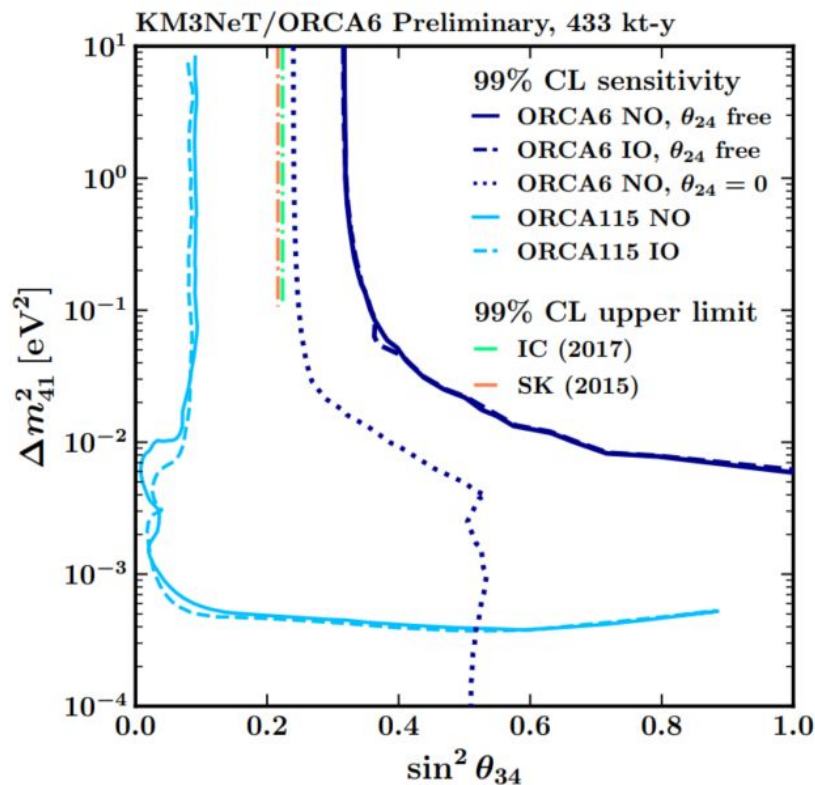
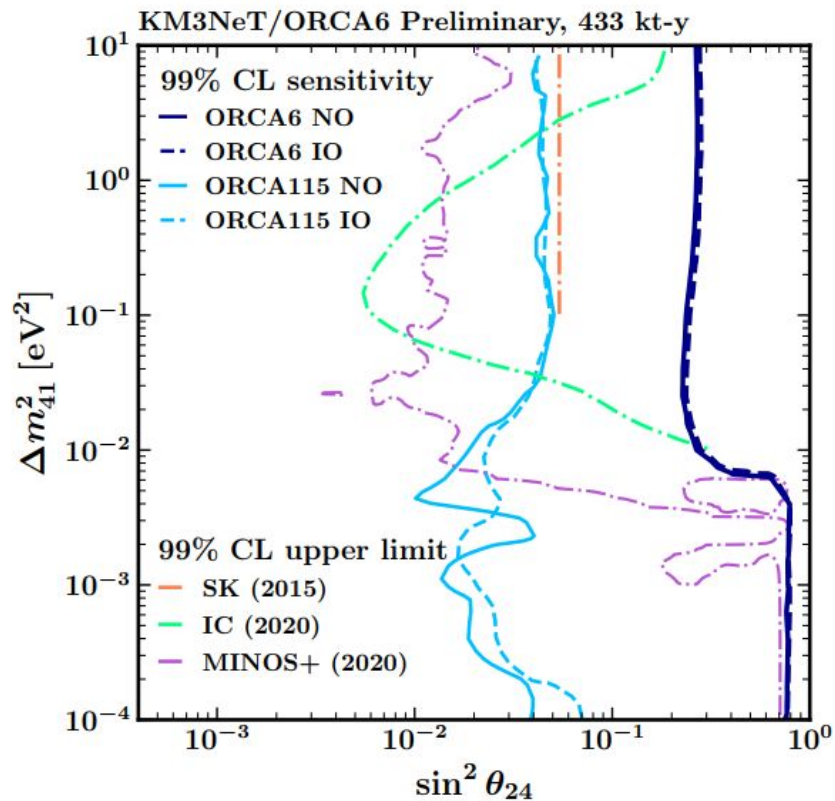


$$\cos(\Theta_Z) = -1, \sin^2(\Theta_{24}) = 0.1$$

# Backup: sterile neutrino results with ORCA6



# Backup: sterile neutrino results with ORCA6





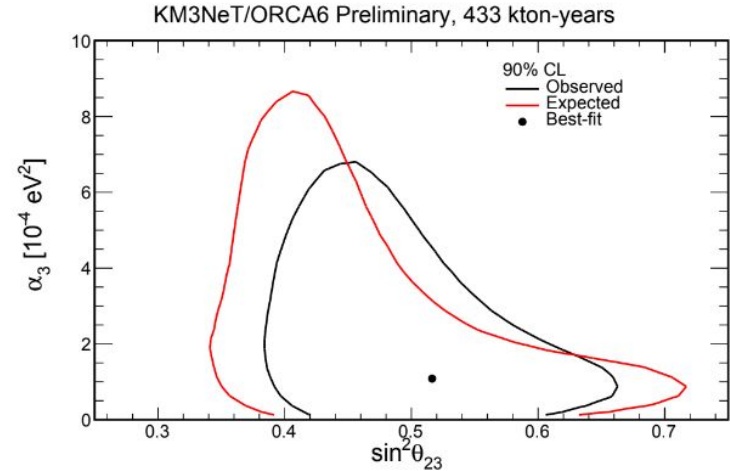
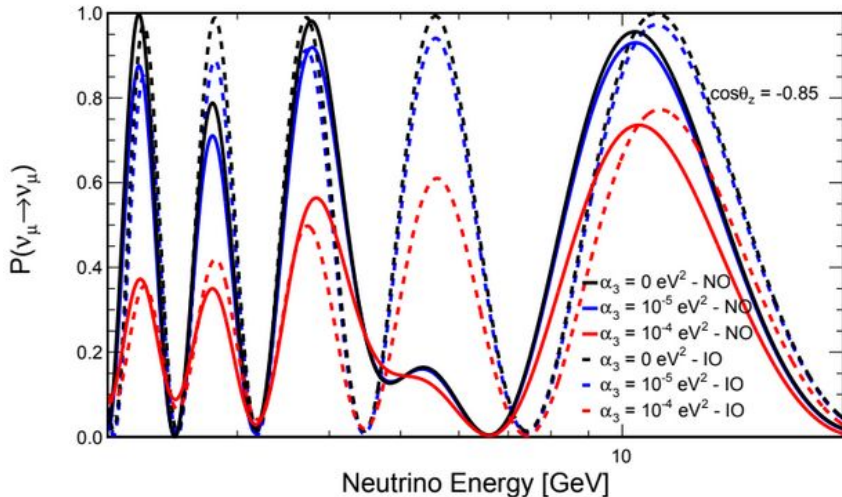
# Backup: neutrino decay theory



- Neutrino mass eigenstates may decay into a particle that is not detected (sterile  $\nu$ ).
- Measurement of the neutrino lifetime via modifications in the oscillation pattern:

$$H = U \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \Delta m_{21}^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \Delta m_{31}^2 \end{pmatrix} U^\dagger + U \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -i\alpha_3 \end{pmatrix} U^\dagger + \begin{pmatrix} V & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\alpha_3 = \frac{m_3}{\tau_3}$$



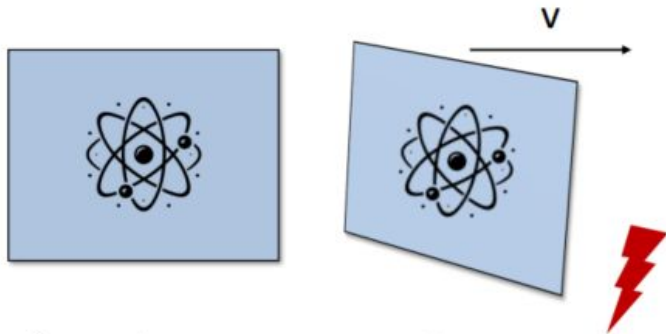
# Backup: Lorentz Invariance Violation theory

- **Lorentz invariance** states that the outcome of an experiment is...
  - 1) the same for two inertial observers.
  - 2) independent of the inertial laboratory.
- LIV preserves observer independence but violates the second condition!

- Isotropic LIV model (rotational invariance preserved)

$$H_{LIV} = \begin{pmatrix} \overset{\circ}{a}_{ee}^{(3)} & \overset{\circ}{a}_{e\mu}^{(3)} & \overset{\circ}{a}_{e\tau}^{(3)} \\ \overset{\circ}{a}_{e\mu}^{(3)*} & \overset{\circ}{a}_{\mu\mu}^{(3)} & \overset{\circ}{a}_{\mu\tau}^{(3)} \\ \overset{\circ}{a}_{e\tau}^{(3)*} & \overset{\circ}{a}_{\mu\tau}^{(3)*} & \overset{\circ}{a}_{\tau\tau}^{(3)} \end{pmatrix} - \frac{4}{3} E \begin{pmatrix} \overset{\circ}{c}_{ee}^{(4)} & \overset{\circ}{c}_{e\mu}^{(4)} & \overset{\circ}{c}_{e\tau}^{(4)} \\ \overset{\circ}{c}_{e\mu}^{(4)*} & \overset{\circ}{c}_{\mu\mu}^{(4)} & \overset{\circ}{c}_{\mu\tau}^{(4)} \\ \overset{\circ}{c}_{e\tau}^{(4)*} & \overset{\circ}{c}_{\mu\tau}^{(4)*} & \overset{\circ}{c}_{\tau\tau}^{(4)} \end{pmatrix} +$$

$$E^2 \overset{\circ}{a}^{(5)} - E^3 \overset{\circ}{c}^{(6)} + E^4 \overset{\circ}{a}^{(7)} - E^5 \overset{\circ}{c}^{(8)} + \dots$$



$$(i\gamma^\mu \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\mu} - m) \psi(x) = 0$$

$$(i\gamma^\mu \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\mu} - m) \psi'(x) = 0$$

Coefficient	Unit	CPT	Oscillation effect
$\overset{\circ}{a}^{(3)}$	GeV	odd	$\propto L$
$\overset{\circ}{c}^{(4)}$	-	even	$\propto LE$
$\overset{\circ}{a}^{(5)}$	GeV <sup>-1</sup>	odd	$\propto LE^2$
$\overset{\circ}{c}^{(6)}$	GeV <sup>-2</sup>	even	$\propto LE^3$
$\overset{\circ}{a}^{(7)}$	GeV <sup>-3</sup>	odd	$\propto LE^4$
$\overset{\circ}{c}^{(8)}$	GeV <sup>-4</sup>	even	$\propto LE^5$