

# Beyond three-neutrino oscillations: sterile neutrinos, NSI, and others

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## Neutrino oscillations: where we are

- Global 6-parameter fit (including  $\delta_{\text{CP}}$ ):
  - **Solar**: Cl + Ga + SK(1–4) + SNO-full (I+II+III) + BX(1–3);
  - **Atmospheric**: IC19 | IC24 + SK(1–5);
  - **Reactor**: KamLAND + SNOplus + IC + DB + Reno;
  - **Accelerator**: Minos + T2K + NOvA;
- best-fit point and  $1\sigma$  ( $3\sigma$ ) ranges:

$$\theta_{12} = 33.68^{+0.73}_{-0.70} \left( {}^{+2.27}_{-2.05} \right), \quad \Delta m_{21}^2 = 7.49^{+0.19}_{-0.19} \left( {}^{+0.56}_{-0.57} \right) \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2,$$

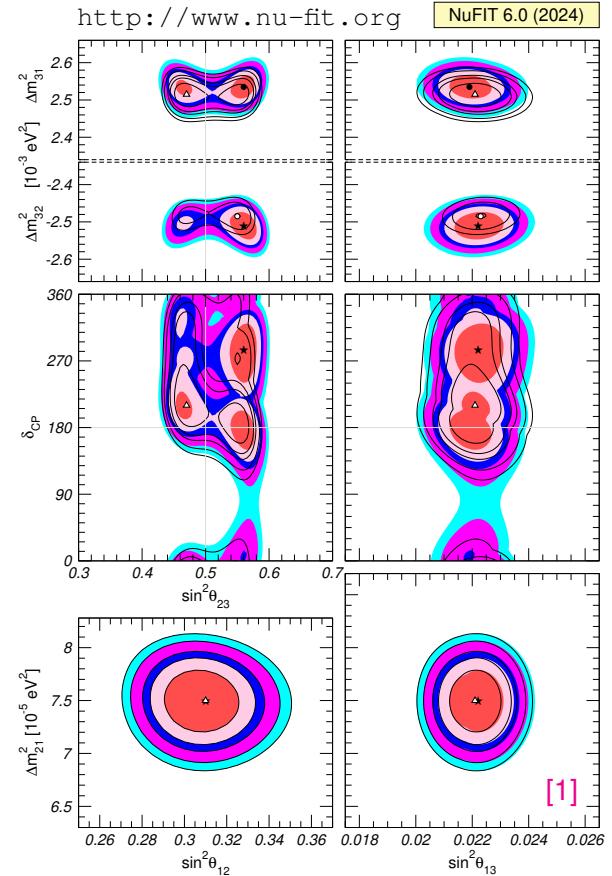
$$\theta_{23} = \begin{cases} 48.5^{+0.7}_{-0.9} \left( {}^{+2.0}_{-7.6} \right), \\ 48.6^{+0.7}_{-0.9} \left( {}^{+2.0}_{-7.2} \right), \end{cases} \quad \Delta m_{31}^2 = \begin{cases} +2.534^{+0.025}_{-0.023} \left( {}^{+0.072}_{-0.071} \right) \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2, \\ -2.510^{+0.024}_{-0.025} \left( {}^{+0.072}_{-0.073} \right) \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2, \end{cases}$$

$$\theta_{13} = 8.58^{+0.11}_{-0.13} \left( {}^{+0.33}_{-0.39} \right), \quad \delta_{\text{CP}} = 285^{+25}_{-28} \left( {}^{+129}_{-182} \right);$$

- neutrino mixing matrix:

$$|U|_{3\sigma} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.801 \rightarrow 0.842 & 0.519 \rightarrow 0.580 & 0.142 \rightarrow 0.155 \\ 0.248 \rightarrow 0.505 & 0.473 \rightarrow 0.682 & 0.649 \rightarrow 0.764 \\ 0.270 \rightarrow 0.521 & 0.483 \rightarrow 0.690 & 0.628 \rightarrow 0.746 \end{pmatrix};$$

- ordering:  $\Delta\chi^2_{\text{IO-NO}} = -0.6$  (IC19) |  $+6.1$  (IC24 + SK).

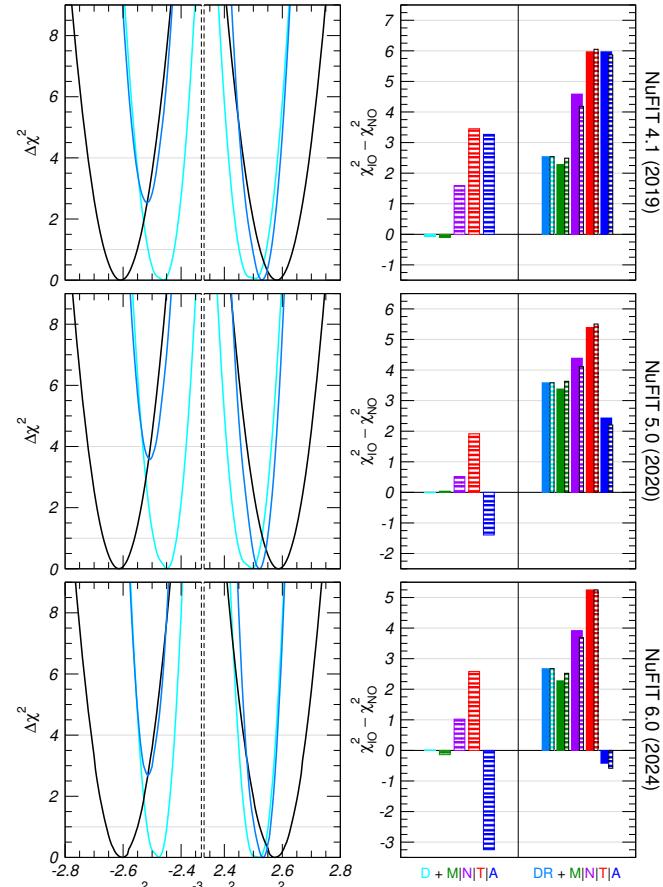
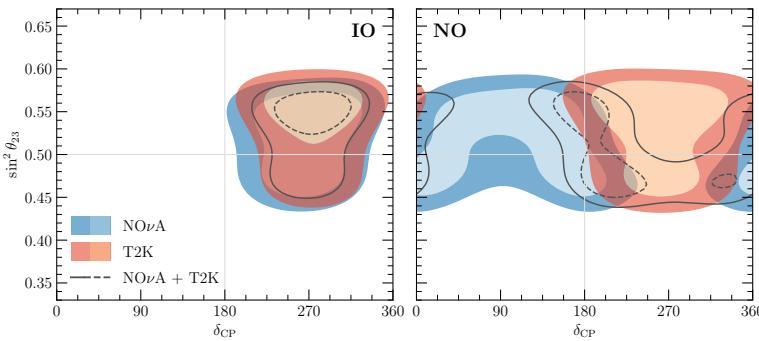


[1] I. Esteban *et al.*, JHEP **12** (2024) 216 [[arXiv:2410.05380](https://arxiv.org/abs/2410.05380)] & NuFIT 6.0 [<http://www.nu-fit.org>]

## Open issues in $3\nu$ oscillations

- $3\nu$  picture is **robust!** But we still don't know:
  - **CP violation:**  $\delta_{\text{CP}} \approx 180^\circ$  (NO) |  $270^\circ$  (IO);
  - **ordering:** Rea+Dis  $\rightarrow$  NO, T2K+NOvA  $\rightarrow$  IO;
  - **$\theta_{23}$  octant:** hints, but no clear indication;
- weak tensions in  $3\nu$  data (T2K/NOvA for NO);
- anomalies in some  $3\nu$  data (LSND, MB, BEST);
- future experiments expected to shed light;

¿ can New Physics play a role in their task?



## SM with $\nu$ masses: general three-neutrino framework

- Equation of motion: **6 parameters** (including **Dirac** and neglecting **Majorana** phases):

$$i \frac{d\vec{\nu}}{dt} = \mathbf{H} \vec{\nu}; \quad \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{U}_{\text{vac}} \cdot \mathbf{D}_{\text{vac}} \cdot \mathbf{U}_{\text{vac}}^\dagger \pm \mathbf{V}_{\text{mat}};$$

$$\mathbf{U}_{\text{vac}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c_{23} & s_{23} \\ 0 & -s_{23} & c_{23} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} c_{13} & 0 & s_{13} e^{-i\delta_{\text{CP}}} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -s_{13} e^{i\delta_{\text{CP}}} & 0 & c_{13} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} c_{12} & s_{12} & 0 \\ -s_{12} & c_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} e^{i\eta_1} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\eta_2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \vec{\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ \nu_\mu \\ \nu_\tau \end{pmatrix};$$

$$\mathbf{D}_{\text{vac}} = \frac{1}{2E_\nu} \left[ \mathbf{diag}(0, \Delta m_{21}^2, \Delta m_{31}^2) + \cancel{m_1^2 I} \right]; \quad \mathbf{V}_{\text{mat}} = \sqrt{2} G_F N_e \mathbf{diag}(1, 0, 0).$$

### Paradigms hardcoded in this construction

- Only the three neutrino flavors of the SM take part to the oscillation process;
- mixing angles in vacuum do not depend on energy;
- oscillation frequency in vacuum scales as  $1/E$ ;
- matter contributions are flavor-diagonal and determined by the SM (no parameters);
- neutrino production and detection processes occur as described by the SM.

## Neutrinos in the Standard Model

- The SM is a gauge theory based on the symmetry group

$$SU(3)_C \times SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y \Rightarrow SU(3)_C \times U(1)_{EM}$$

- LEP tested this symmetry to 1% precision and the missing particles  $t$ ,  $v_\tau$  were found:

$(1, 2)_{-1}$	$(3, 2)_{1/3}$	$(1, 1)_{-2}$	$(3, 1)_{4/3}$	$(3, 1)_{-2/3}$
$\begin{pmatrix} v_e \\ e \end{pmatrix}_L$	$\begin{pmatrix} u^i \\ d^i \end{pmatrix}_L$	$e_R$	$u_R^i$	$d_R^i$
$\begin{pmatrix} v_\mu \\ \mu \end{pmatrix}_L$	$\begin{pmatrix} c^i \\ s^i \end{pmatrix}_L$	$\mu_R$	$c_R^i$	$s_R^i$
$\begin{pmatrix} v_\tau \\ \tau \end{pmatrix}_L$	$\begin{pmatrix} t^i \\ b^i \end{pmatrix}_L$	$\tau_R$	$t_R^i$	$b_R^i$

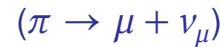
Notice there is no  $\nu_R$   
 $\Rightarrow$  Accidental global symmetry:  
 $B \times L_e \times L_\mu \times L_\tau$

- When SM was invented upper bounds on  $m_\nu$ :

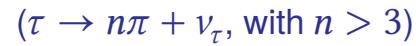
$$m_{\nu_e} < 2.2 \text{ eV}$$



$$m_{\nu_\mu} < 190 \text{ KeV}$$



$$m_{\nu_\tau} < 18.2 \text{ MeV}$$



$\Rightarrow$  Neutrinos are conjured to be **massless** and **left-handed**.

## Neutrino masses: Dirac or Majorana?

- How to write a mass term for a fermion field? Two possibilities:

### Dirac

$$\mathcal{L}^D = -m (\overline{\nu}_R \nu_L + \overline{\nu}_L \nu_R)$$

- can be implemented in the SM via SSB as for up-type quarks:

$$\mathcal{L}^D = -Y^\ell \overline{L}_L \Phi \ell_R - Y^\nu \overline{L}_L \tilde{\Phi} \nu_R + \text{h.c.}$$

- however, it requires a **new** field  $\nu_R \Rightarrow$  SM extension!
- both possibilities are phenomenologically viable  $\Rightarrow$  most general case is to use both:

$$\mathcal{L} = -Y^\ell \overline{L}_L \Phi \ell_R - Y^\nu \overline{L}_L \tilde{\Phi} \nu_R - \frac{1}{2} M \overline{\nu}_R^C \nu_R + \text{h.c.}$$

- $\nu_R$  is a singlet under SM symmetries  $\Rightarrow$  can have an explicit Majorana mass;
- but in any case, once we introduce new gauge singlets... why to stop at three?

### Majorana

$$\mathcal{L}^M = -\frac{1}{2} m \left( \overline{\nu}_L^C \nu_L + \overline{\nu}_L \nu_L^C \right)$$

- only  $\nu_L$  used  $\Rightarrow$  no new field required;
- breaks gauge symmetries  $\Rightarrow$  unthinkable for **charged** particles ( $Q$  is conserved);
- can't be written explicitly in the SM  $\Rightarrow$  should be generated by some *effective* mechanism  $\Rightarrow$  SM extension!

## Neutrino oscillations in the presence of extra mass states

- Equation of motion: same as usual, but only in the mass basis (identified by suffix “mb”):

$$i \frac{d\vec{\nu}_{\text{mb}}}{dt} = \mathbf{H}_{\text{mb}} \vec{\nu}_{\text{mb}}; \quad \mathbf{H}_{\text{mb}} = \mathbf{D}_{\text{vac}} \pm \mathbf{U}_{\text{vac}}^\dagger \cdot \mathbf{V}_{\text{mat}} \cdot \mathbf{U}_{\text{vac}};$$

$$\mathbf{U}_{\text{vac}} = \begin{pmatrix} U_{e1} & U_{e2} & U_{e3} & U_{e4} & \dots \\ U_{\mu 1} & U_{\mu 2} & U_{\mu 3} & U_{\mu 4} & \dots \\ U_{\tau 1} & U_{\tau 2} & U_{\tau 3} & U_{\tau 4} & \dots \end{pmatrix}, \quad \vec{\nu}_{\text{mb}} = (\nu_1, \nu_2, \nu_3, \nu_4, \dots)^T;$$

$$\mathbf{D}_{\text{vac}} = \frac{1}{2E_\nu} \mathbf{diag}(0, \Delta m_{21}^2, \Delta m_{31}^2, \Delta m_{41}^2, \dots), \quad \mathbf{V}_{\text{mat}} = \sqrt{2}G_F \left[ \mathbf{N}_e \mathbf{diag}(1, 0, 0) - \frac{\mathbf{N}_n}{2} \mathbf{I}_3 \right];$$

- notice that  $\mathbf{U}_{\text{vac}}$  is a rectangular  $3 \times N$  matrix, fulfilling unitarity relation  $\mathbf{U}_{\text{vac}} \cdot \mathbf{U}_{\text{vac}}^\dagger = \mathbf{I}_3$ ;
- formally, we can extend  $\mathbf{U}_{\text{vac}}$  to a full  $N \times N$  unitary matrix  $\mathbf{U}$  by considering  $N - 3$  “flavor” states  $\{\nu_{s_1}, \dots, \nu_{s_{N-3}}\}$ . In this case  $\mathbf{V}_{\text{mat}}$  is extended with null diagonal entries, and:

$$\mathbf{U} = \begin{pmatrix} & & \mathbf{U}_{\text{vac}} & & \\ U_{s_1 1} & U_{s_1 2} & U_{s_1 3} & U_{s_1 4} & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \end{pmatrix}, \quad \vec{\nu} = (\nu_e, \nu_\mu, \nu_\tau, \nu_{s_1}, \dots)^T;$$

- but notice that  $\nu_{s_i}$  states are defined arbitrarily, hence mixing among them is unphysical.

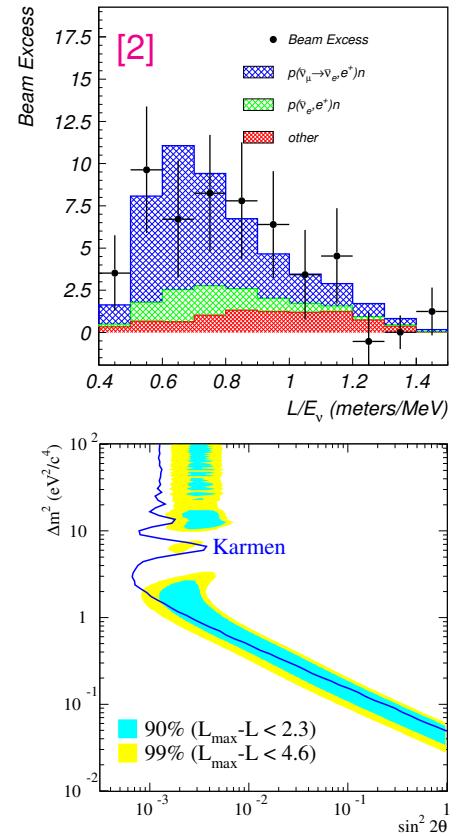
## A long time ago... the LSND anomaly

- Back in the 90's, the [LSND](#) experiment observed an excess of  $\bar{\nu}_e$  events in a  $\bar{\nu}_\mu$  beam ( $E_\nu \sim 30$  MeV,  $L \simeq 35$  m) [2];
- the [Karmen](#) collaboration did not confirm the claim, but couldn't fully exclude it either [3];
- the signal is compatible with  $\bar{\nu}_\mu \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e$  oscillations provided that  $\Delta m^2 \gtrsim 0.1$  eV<sup>2</sup>;
- on the other hand, global neutrino data give (at  $3\sigma$ ):

$$\Delta m_{\text{SOL}}^2 \simeq [6.8 \rightarrow 8.0] \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2,$$

$$|\Delta m_{\text{ATM}}^2| \simeq [2.4 \rightarrow 2.6] \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2;$$

- hence, to explain LSND with mass-induced  $\nu$  oscillations one needs **new** neutrino mass eigenstates;
- [MiniBooNE](#): much larger  $E_\nu$  and  $L$  but similar  $L/E_\nu$ .

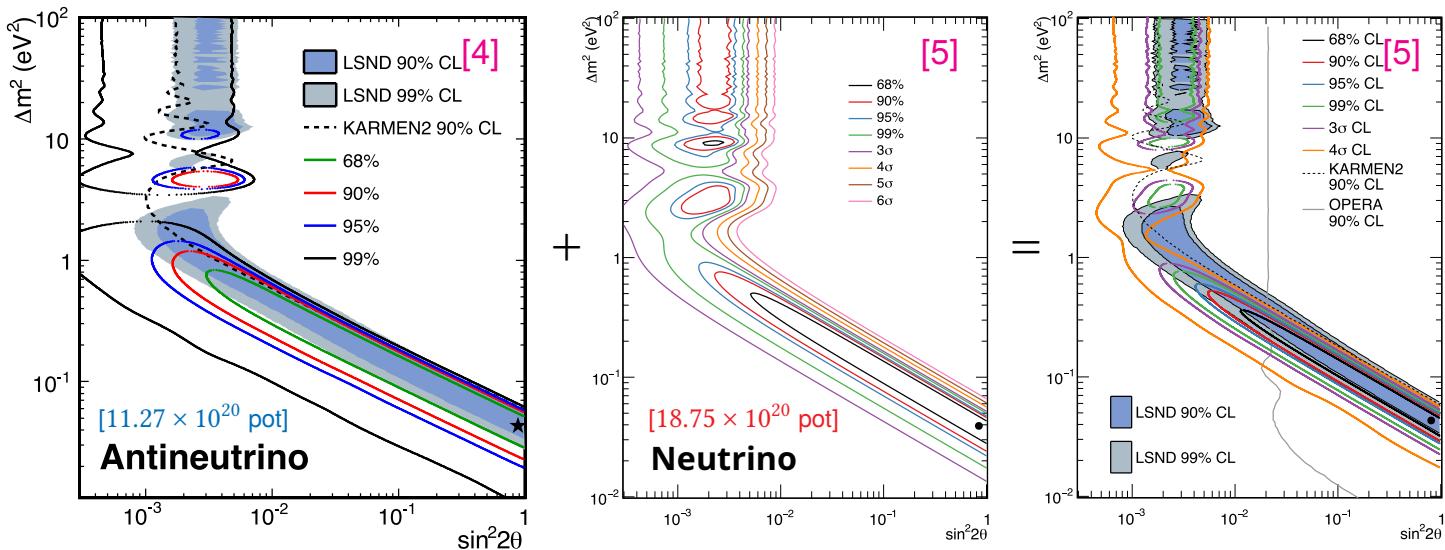


[2] A. Aguilar-Arevalo *et al.* [LSND collab], Phys. Rev. D **64** (2001) 112007 [[hep-ex/0104049](#)]

[3] B. Armbruster *et al.* [KARMEN collab], Phys. Rev. D **65** (2002) 112001 [[hep-ex/0203021](#)]

### The MiniBooNE experiment

- MiniBooNE searched for  $\bar{\nu}_e \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_\mu$  conversion ( $E = 200 \rightarrow 1250$  MeV,  $L \simeq 541$  m);
- excess in both  $\bar{\nu}$  and  $\nu \Rightarrow$  oscillations compatible with LSND (ev =  $4.8\sigma$ , gof = 12.3%);
- however, the low energy part of the excess **cannot** be accounted just by oscillations...

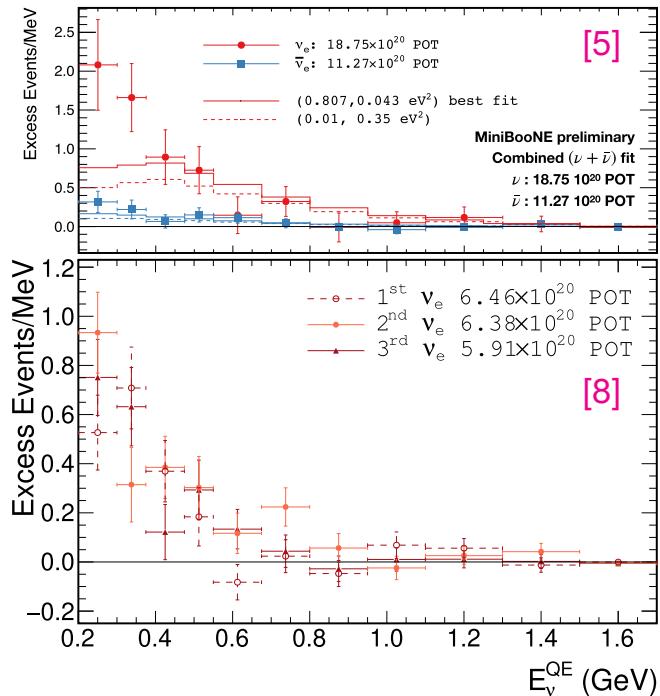


[4] A.A. Aguilar-Arevalo *et al.* [MiniBooNE collab], PRL 110 (2013) 161801 [[arXiv:1303.2588](https://arxiv.org/abs/1303.2588)]

[5] A. Hourlier, talk at Neutrino 2020, Fermilab (online), USA, 22/6-2/7/2020

## MiniBooNE low-energy excess

- Excess present from the very beginning;
- 2007 ( $\nu$ ): low-E excess too steep for oscillation fit ( $P_{\text{osc}} \approx 1\%$ )  $\Rightarrow$  set  $E \geq 475$  MeV  $\Rightarrow$  no signal left  $\Rightarrow$  reject LSND [6];
- 2013 ( $\bar{\nu}$ ): low-E not so steep + mid-E excess observed  $\Rightarrow$  good oscillation fit ( $P_{\text{osc}} \approx 66\%$ )  $\Rightarrow$  confirm LSND [4];
- 2018 ( $\nu$ ): low-E softened + mid-E excess seen also in  $\nu$   $\Rightarrow$  mild oscillation fit ( $P_{\text{osc}} \approx 15\%$ ) [7];
- 2020 ( $\nu$ ): more data released [8], oscillations confirmed but low-E excess definitely there.



[5] A. Hourlier, talk at Neutrino 2020, Fermilab (online), USA, 22/6-2/7/2020

[6] A.A. Aguilar-Arevalo *et al.* [MiniBooNE], Phys. Rev. Lett. **98** (2007) 231801 [[arXiv:0704.1500](https://arxiv.org/abs/0704.1500)]

[4] A.A. Aguilar-Arevalo *et al.* [MiniBooNE], Phys. Rev. Lett. **110** (2013) 161801 [[arXiv:1303.2588](https://arxiv.org/abs/1303.2588)]

[7] A.A. Aguilar-Arevalo *et al.* [MiniBooNE], Phys. Rev. Lett. **121** (2018) 221801 [[arXiv:1805.12028](https://arxiv.org/abs/1805.12028)]

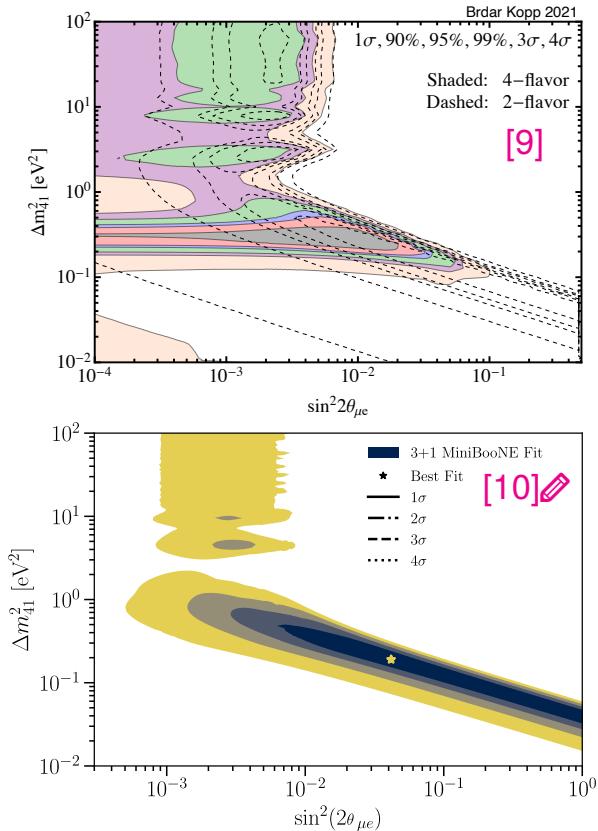
[8] A.A. Aguilar-Arevalo *et al.* [MiniBooNE], Phys. Rev. D **103** (2021) 052002 [[arXiv:2006.16883](https://arxiv.org/abs/2006.16883)]

## Present status of MiniBooNE

- Possible systematics related to the low-E excess:
  - misreconstruction of neutrino energy;
  - $\pi^0$  from NC reconstructed as  $\nu_e$ ;
  - single photon from NC misidentified as  $\nu_e$ ;
- extensive studies performed by the collaboration;
- present status: no combination of known systematics could account for the whole excess [9];
- ⇒ independent experimental confirmation is required.

### $2\nu$ versus $4\nu$ oscillations

- Former MB studies overlooked oscillations of  $\bar{\nu}_e$  beam contamination and  $\bar{\nu}_\mu$  calibration sample [9];
- such effects can be very important. Omission corrected in recent reanalysis [10].

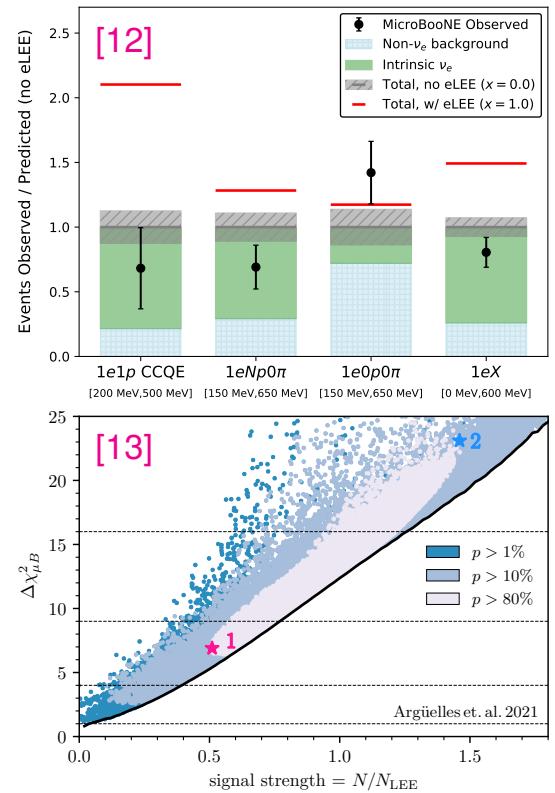


[9] V. Brdar and J. Kopp, Phys. Rev. D **105** (2022) 115024 [[arXiv:2109.08157](https://arxiv.org/abs/2109.08157)]

[10] A.A. Aguilar-Arevalo *et al.* [MiniBooNE], Phys. Rev. Lett. **129** (2022) 201801 [[arXiv:2201.01724](https://arxiv.org/abs/2201.01724)]

## The MicroBooNE experiment

- Baseline = 468.5 m (72.5 m upstream of MiniBooNE);
- LArTPC  $\Rightarrow$  imaging with mm-scale spatial resolution;
- $\Rightarrow$  perfectly suited to cross-check MiniBooNE excess;
- first results presented in fall 2021:
  - no evidence of enhanced  $\pi^0$  or  $\gamma$  production [11];
  - no evidence of  $\nu_e$  excess over SM prediction [12];
- however, rejection of MB signal in [12] based on the assumption that the entire  $\nu_e$  excess matches the difference between data and best-fit MB background;
- but in [13] it was noticed that various signal/background compositions can fit MB equally well, but lead to different  $\mu B$  sensitivity  $\Rightarrow$  rejection **not** model-independent...



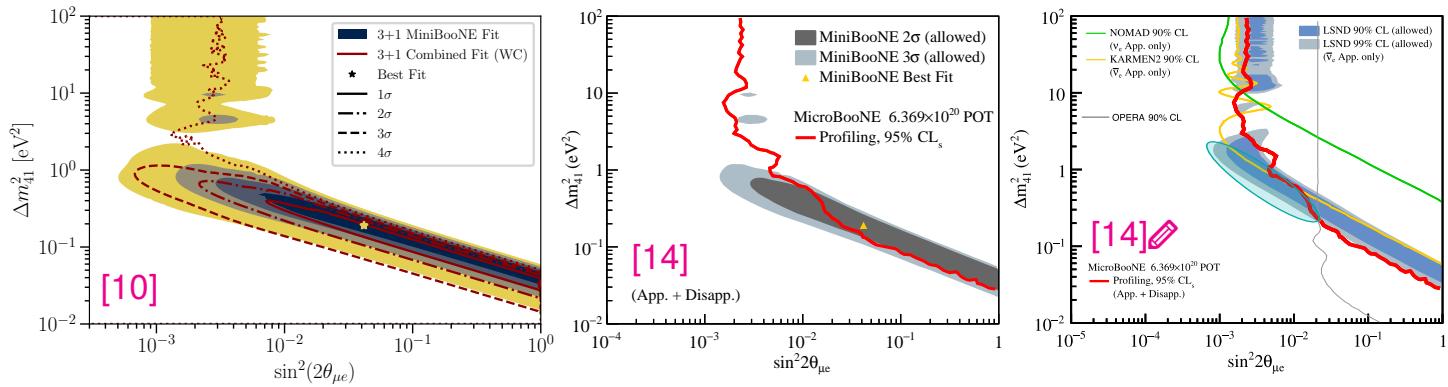
[11] P. Abratenko *et al.* [MicroBooNE], Phys. Rev. Lett. **128** (2022) 111801 [[arXiv:2110.00409](https://arxiv.org/abs/2110.00409)]

[12] P. Abratenko *et al.* [MicroBooNE], Phys. Rev. Lett. **128** (2022) 241801 [[arXiv:2110.14054](https://arxiv.org/abs/2110.14054)]

[13] C.A. Argüelles *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **128** (2022) 241802 [[arXiv:2111.10359](https://arxiv.org/abs/2111.10359)]

## Comparison of MicroBooNE and MicroBooNE results

- MiniBooNE: updated analysis including  $\mu$ B bounds [10]  $\Rightarrow 3\sigma$  region at  $\Delta m_{41}^2 \lesssim 1$  eV;
- MicroBooNE: global  $4\nu$  analysis [14] disfavors MB/LSND but does not rule it out completely;
- other experiments exclude large  $\Delta m^2$  (NOMAD) and large  $\theta_{\mu e}$  (ICARUS, OPERA);
- remaining allowed region at  $0.1 \lesssim \Delta m_{41}^2 / \text{eV}^2 \lesssim 1$  and  $10^{-3} \lesssim \sin^2 \theta_{\mu e} \lesssim \text{few} \times 10^{-2}$ ;
- Short Baseline Neutrino Program @ Fermilab: currently in progress;
- Japan: JSNS<sup>2</sup> will provide an independent check of LSND/MiniBooNE excess.

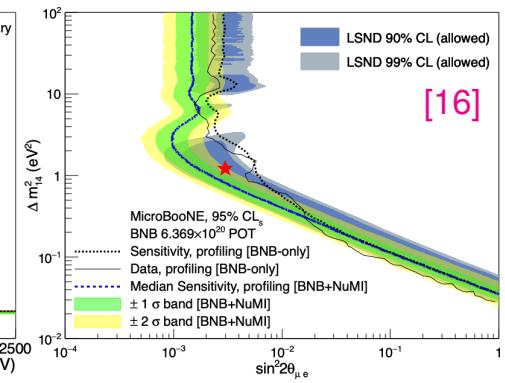
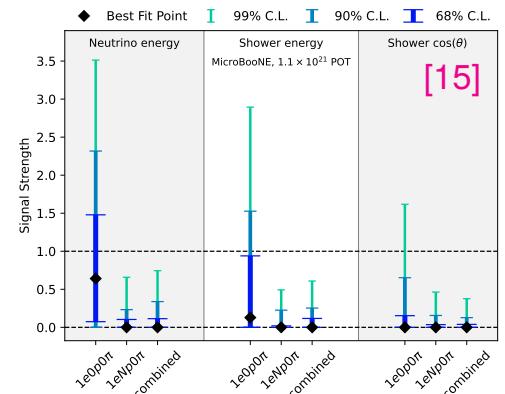
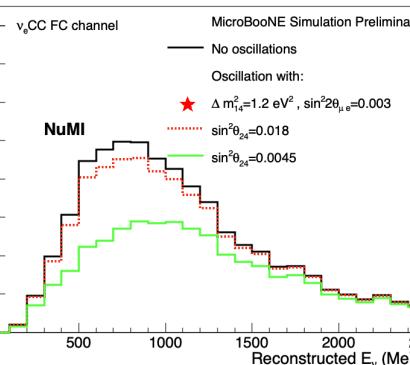
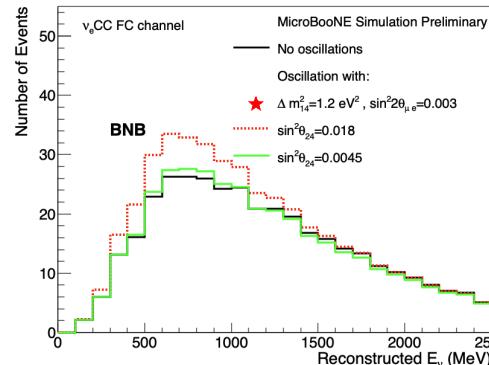


[10] A.A. Aguilar-Arevalo *et al.* [MiniBooNE], Phys. Rev. Lett. **129** (2022) 201801 [[arXiv:2201.01724](https://arxiv.org/abs/2201.01724)]

[14] P. Abratenko *et al.* [MicroBooNE], Phys. Rev. Lett. **130** (2023) 011801 [[arXiv:2210.10216](https://arxiv.org/abs/2210.10216)]

## MicroBooNE update: $\nu_e$ appearance

- New analysis [15]: 5 year of data, 2 topologies, 3 observables  $\Rightarrow \nu_e$  interpretation of MB excess ruled out at 99.5%;
- in progress [16]: extra  $4\nu$  parameters degrade  $2\nu$  exclusion plot  $\Rightarrow$  off-axis  $\nu$  from NuMI beam can break degeneracy;
- Ref. [17]: profiling over  $4\nu$  parameters hides information, real tension larger than it appears in  $2\nu$  plot.



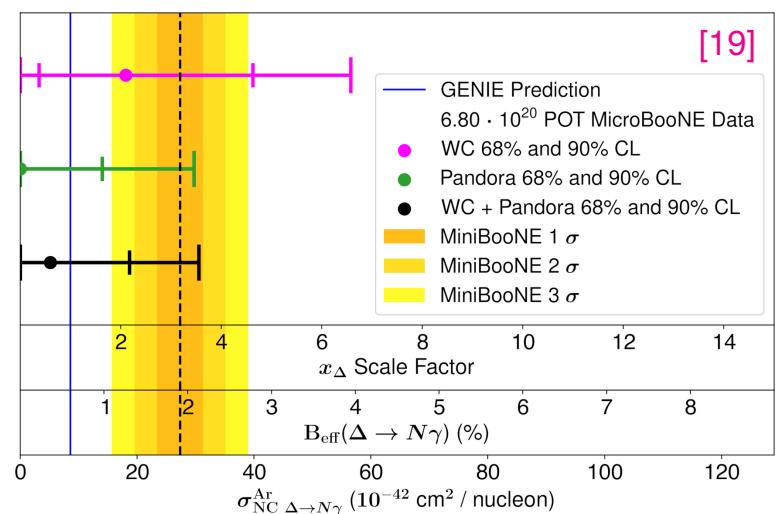
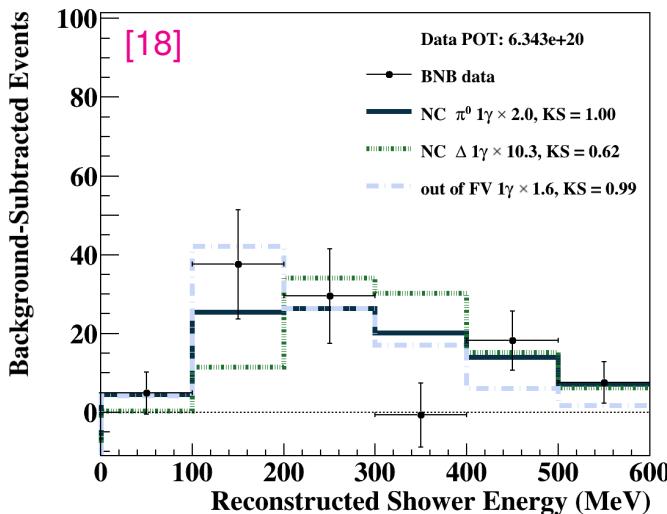
[15] P. Abratenko *et al.* [MicroBooNE collaboration], arXiv:2412.14407.

[16] MicroBooNe collab., public note MICROBOONE-NOTE-1132-PUB, FERMILAB-FN-1255-PPD.

[17] O.B. Rodrigues, M. Hostert, K.J. Kelly, B. Littlejohn *et al.*, arXiv:2503.13594.

## MicroBooNE update: dissecting the MiniBooNE low-energy excess

- In a search for  $1\gamma$  events compatible with MB-LEE,  $\mu$ B itself found an excess [18];
- prime-suspect NC  $\Delta \rightarrow N\gamma$  already disfavored [19] and incompatible with  $E$  shape;
- instead, NC  $\pi^0 1\gamma$  and  $\nu$  interactions outside the detector show reasonable compatibility;
- presently no guarantee that this excess and the MB-LEE one are the same, but it's a start.

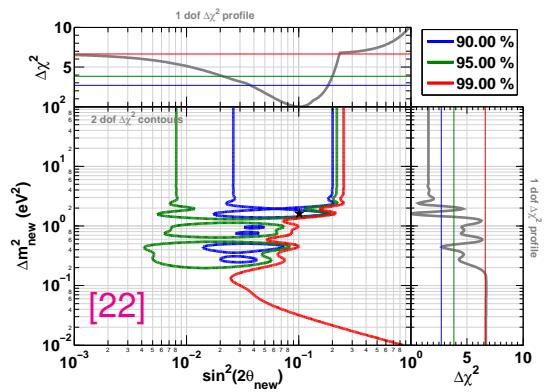
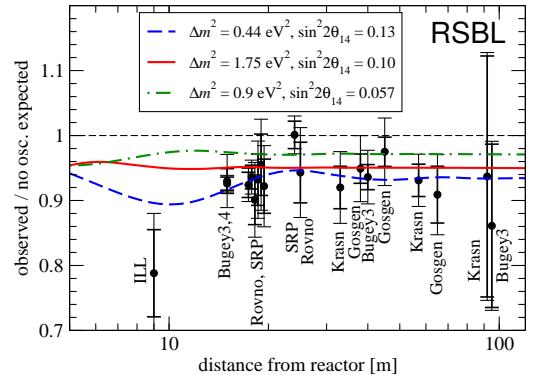


[18] P. Abratenko *et al.* [MicroBooNE collaboration], arXiv:2502.06064.

[19] P. Abratenko *et al.* [MicroBooNE collaboration], arXiv:2502.05750.

## $\bar{\nu}_e$ disappearance: the reactor anomaly

- In [20, 21] the reactor  $\bar{\nu}$  fluxes was reevaluated;
  - the new calculations result in a small increase of the flux by about **3.5%**;
  - hence, **all** reactor short-baseline (RSBL) finding **no evidence** are actually **observing a deficit**;
  - this deficit **could** be interpreted as being due to SBL neutrino oscillations;
  - no visible dependence on  $L \Rightarrow \Delta m^2 \gtrsim 1 \text{ eV}^2$ ;
  - global data ( $3\sigma$ ):  $\begin{cases} \Delta m_{\text{SOL}}^2 \simeq [6.8 \rightarrow 8.0] \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2, \\ |\Delta m_{\text{ATM}}^2| \simeq [2.4 \rightarrow 2.6] \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2 \end{cases}$
- ⇒ solutions: **add new neutrinos** or **revise fluxes**.



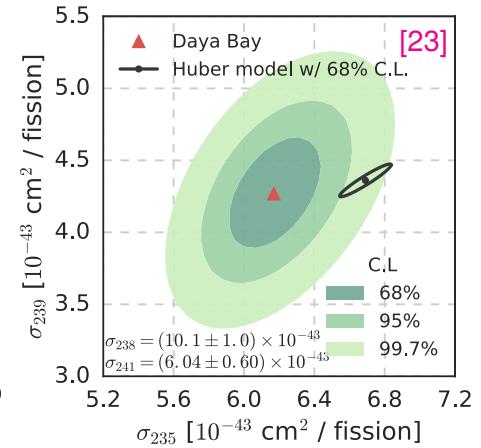
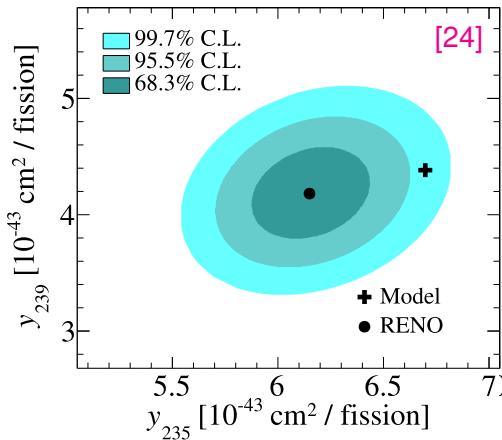
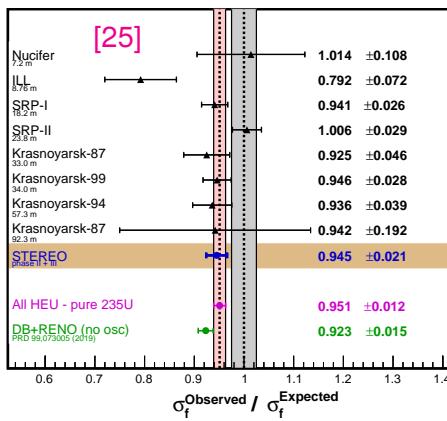
[20] T.A. Mueller *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C **83** (2011) 054615 [[arXiv:1101.2663](https://arxiv.org/abs/1101.2663)]

[21] P. Huber, Phys. Rev. C **84** (2011) 024617 [[arXiv:1106.0687](https://arxiv.org/abs/1106.0687)]

[22] G. Mention *et al.*, Phys. Rev. D **83** (2011) 073006 [[arXiv:1101.2755](https://arxiv.org/abs/1101.2755)]

## Reactor anomaly: sterile $\nu$ or wrong fluxes?

- DB [23] and RENO [24]: fuel burnup cycle  $\Rightarrow$  reconstruct contribution of main isotopes;
- Results:  $^{239}\text{Pu}$  mostly agrees with Huber-Mueller model, while  $^{235}\text{U}$  substantially below;
- STEREO data [25] (pure  $^{235}\text{U}$  reactor) indicate a deficit similar to DB and RENO ones;
- sterile  $\nu$ : deficit should be the same for all isotopes  $\Rightarrow$  disagrees with observations.



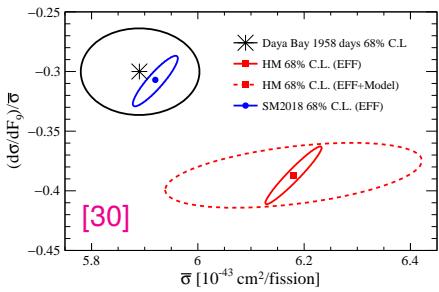
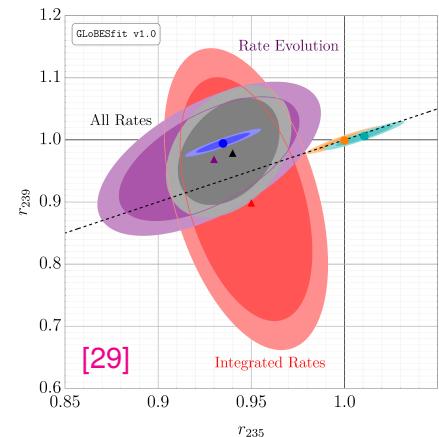
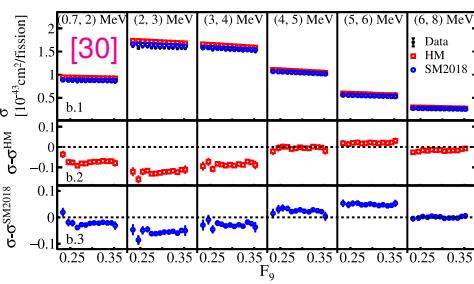
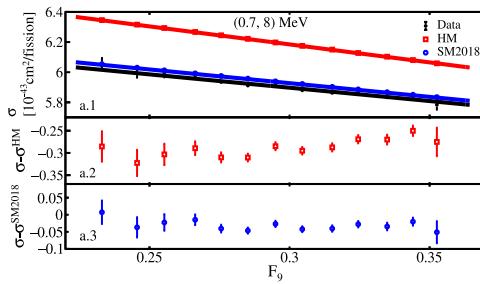
[23] F.P. An *et al.* [Daya-Bay], Phys. Rev. Lett. **118** (2017) 251801 [[arXiv:1704.01082](https://arxiv.org/abs/1704.01082)]

[24] G. Bak *et al.* [RENO], Phys. Rev. Lett. **122** (2019) 232501 [[arXiv:1806.00574](https://arxiv.org/abs/1806.00574)]

[25] H. Almazán *et al.* [STEREO], Nature **613** (2023) 257-261 [[arXiv:2210.07664](https://arxiv.org/abs/2210.07664)]

## Recent improvements in reactor flux models

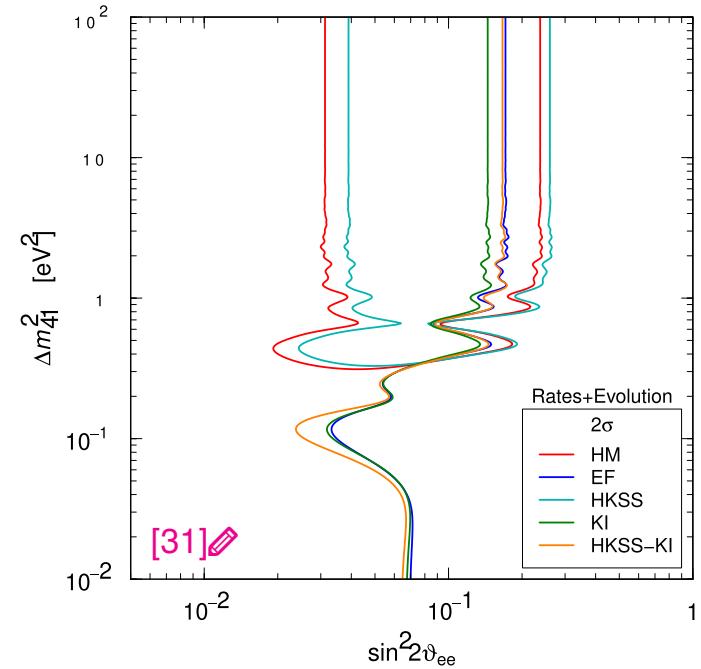
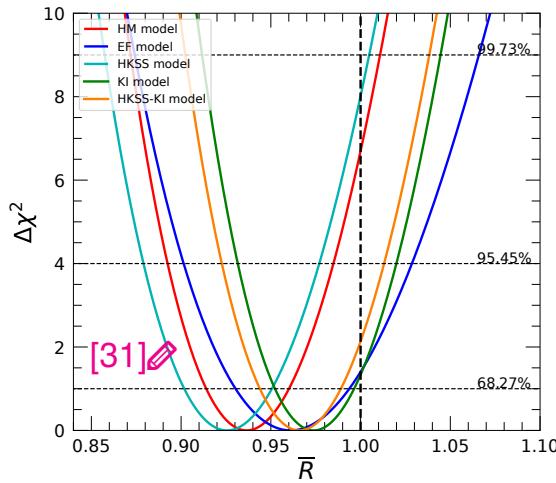
- New reactor flux calculations: EF [26], HKSS [27], KI [28];
- EF model (summation) in good agreement with total rates, although the spectral shape is still not optimal;
- KI model (conversion) yields very similar results to EF;
- conversely, HKSS (conversion) gives rates similar to HM.



- [26] M. Estienne *et al.* [EF model], Phys. Rev. Lett. **123** (2019) 022502 [[arXiv:1904.09358](https://arxiv.org/abs/1904.09358)]
- [27] L. Hayen *et al.* [HKSS model], Phys. Rev. C **100** (2019) 054323 [[arXiv:1908.08302](https://arxiv.org/abs/1908.08302)]
- [28] V. Kopeikin *et al.* [KI model], Phys. Rev. D **104** (2021) L071301 [[2103.01684](https://arxiv.org/abs/2103.01684)]
- [29] J.M. Berryman and P. Huber, JHEP **01** (2021) 167 [[arXiv:2005.01756](https://arxiv.org/abs/2005.01756)]
- [30] F.P. An *et al.* [Daya-Bay], Phys. Rev. Lett. **130** (2023) 211801 [[arXiv:2210.01068](https://arxiv.org/abs/2210.01068)]

### Global fit of reactor $\bar{\nu}_e$ disappearance (total rates)

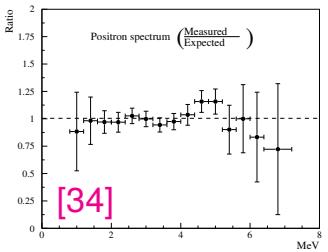
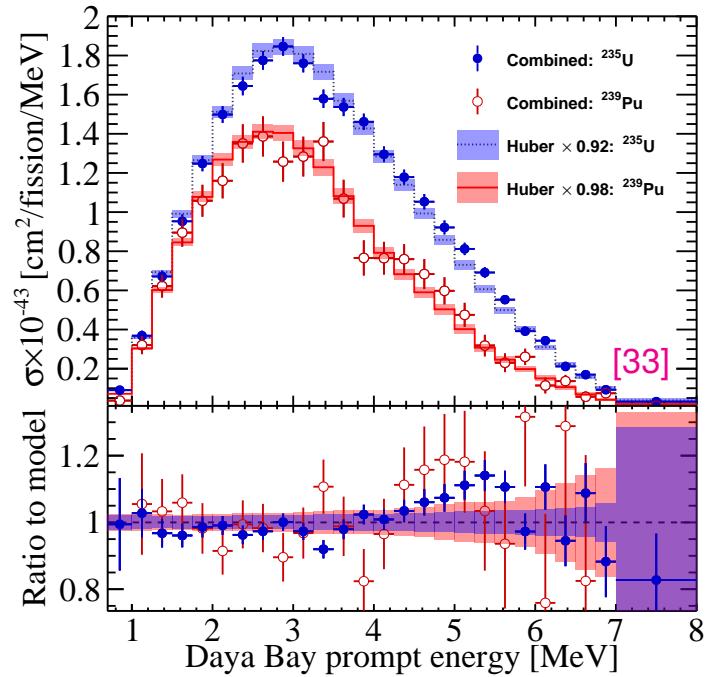
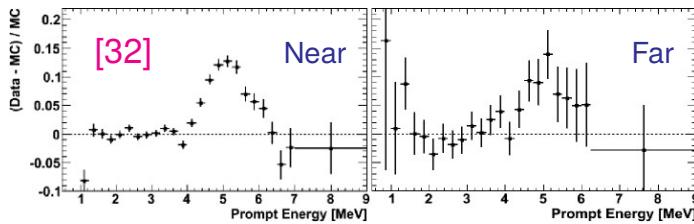
- From Ref. [31]: hint of sterile  $\nu$  strongly reduced for EF ( $0.8\sigma$ ) and KI ( $1.4\sigma$ );
- hint sizable for HM ( $2.8\sigma$ ) and HKSS ( $3.0\sigma$ ).



- [26] M. Estienne *et al.* [EF model], Phys. Rev. Lett. **123** (2019) 022502 [[arXiv:1904.09358](https://arxiv.org/abs/1904.09358)]
- [27] L. Hayen *et al.* [HKSS model], Phys. Rev. C **100** (2019) 054323 [[arXiv:1908.08302](https://arxiv.org/abs/1908.08302)]
- [28] V. Kopeikin *et al.* [KI model], Phys. Rev. D **104** (2021) L071301 [[2103.01684](https://arxiv.org/abs/2103.01684)]
- [31] C. Giunti *et al.*, Phys. Lett. B **829** (2022) 137054 [[arXiv:2110.06820](https://arxiv.org/abs/2110.06820)]

### $\bar{\nu}_e$ dissapp: 5 MeV excess

- Neutrino 2014: RENO [32] reported an **excess** of events around 5 MeV;
- seen by most reactors (also old Chooz [34]);
- DB+Prospect [33]: affect both  $^{235}\text{U}$  &  $^{239}\text{Pu}$ ;
- excess (not deficit) & independent of  $L \Rightarrow$  **flux feature**, not **sterile oscillations**;
- accounted by HKSS, but not by EF and KI  $\Rightarrow$  reactor fluxes require further scrutiny.



[32] S.H Seo [RENO], talk at Neutrino 2014, Boston, USA, June 2-7, 2014

[33] F.P. An *et al.* [DB+Prospect], PRL 128 (2022) 081801 [[arXiv:2106.12251](https://arxiv.org/abs/2106.12251)]

[34] M. Apollonio *et al.* [Chooz], PLB 466 (1999) 415 [[hep-ex/9907037](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ex/9907037)]

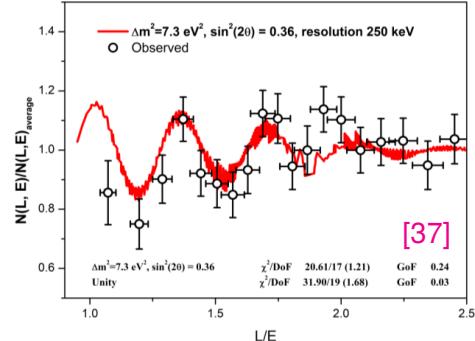
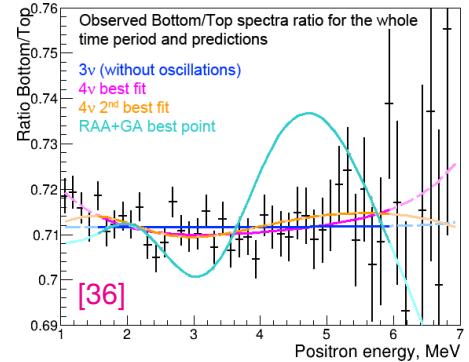
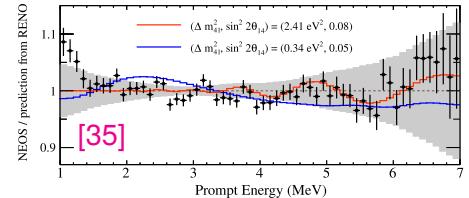
## Sterile $\nu$ : spectra and baselines

- New detectors with spectral capability and baseline range:
  - NEOS (Korea), **commercial**,  $L = 23.7$  m;
  - STEREO (France), **enriched**,  $L = 9 \rightarrow 11$  m;
  - PROSPECT (USA), **enriched**,  $L = 7 \rightarrow 12$  m;
  - DANSS (Russia) **commercial**,  $L = 10.9 \rightarrow 12.9$  m;
  - SOLID (Belgium), **enriched**,  $L = 5.5 \rightarrow 12$  m;
  - Neutrino4 (Russia), **enriched**,  $L = 6 \rightarrow 12$  m;
- goals: {
  - accurate study of reactor  $\nu$  spectrum;
  - flux-independent osc. by near/far ratio;
}
- results: most experiments report no evidence, a few observe wiggles at low significance (DANSS, NEOS);
- exception: Neutrino4 reports  $3\sigma$  signal with  $\Delta m^2 \sim 7$  eV $^2$ .

[35] Z. Atif *et al.* [NEOS & RENO], Phys. Rev. D **105** (2022) L111101  
[\[arXiv:2011.00896\]](https://arxiv.org/abs/2011.00896)

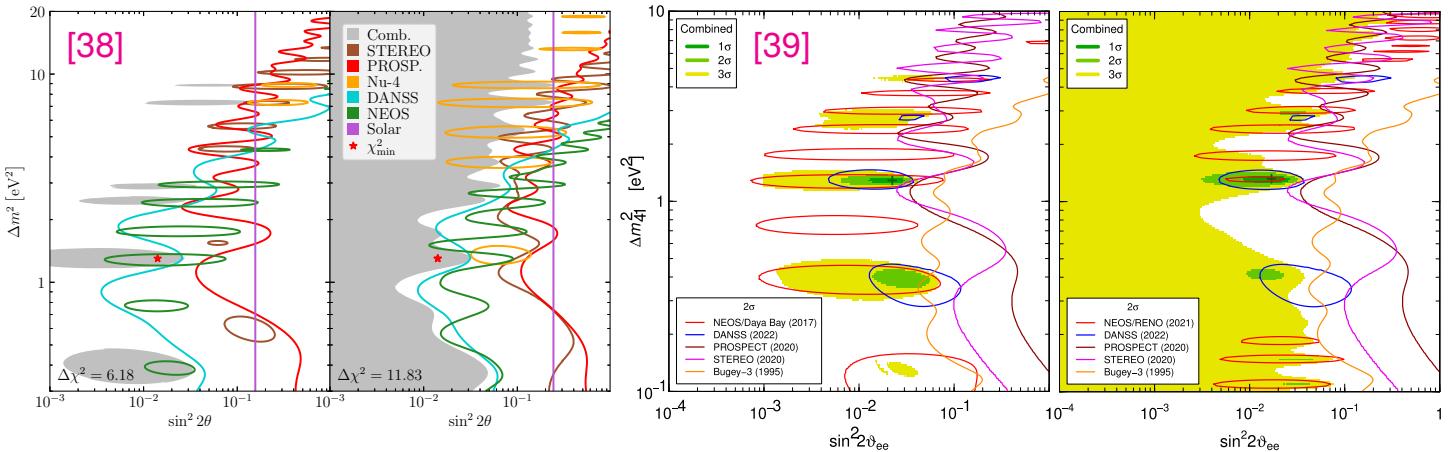
[36] E. Samigullin [DANSS], talk at NuFact 23, Seoul, Korea, 25/08/2023

[37] A.P. Serebrov *et al.* [NEUTRINO4], arXiv:2302.09958



### Flux-independent fits of reactor $\bar{\nu}_e$ disappearance data

- Fits based on spectral ratios at various distances are independent of the reactor  $\nu$  spectrum;
- NEOS + Daya-Bay exhibits stronger wiggles than NEOS + RENO [39];
- no consistent pattern from various “hints”. Combined fit weakly prefers  $\Delta m^2 \sim 1.3 \text{ eV}^2$ ;
- SOLID’s first results presented at TAUP’23 [40] not included here.



[38] J.M. Berryman *et al.*, JHEP **02** (2022) 055 [[arXiv:2111.12530](https://arxiv.org/abs/2111.12530)]

[39] C. Giunti *et al.*, JHEP **10** (2022) 164 [[arXiv:2209.00916](https://arxiv.org/abs/2209.00916)]

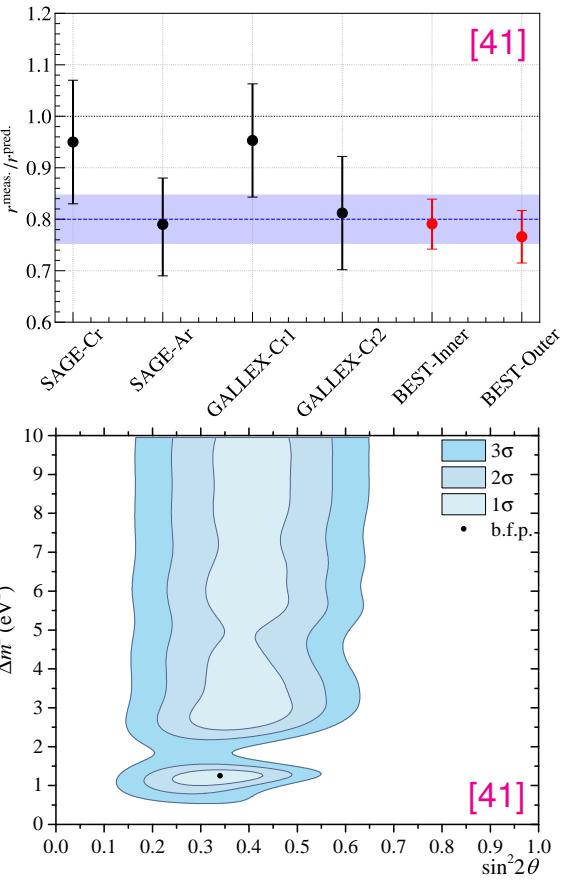
[40] D. Galbinski [SOLID], talk at TAUP 23, Vienna, Austria, 30/08/2023

### $\nu_e$ disappearance: the gallium anomaly

- ${}^{71}\text{Ga} \rightarrow {}^{71}\text{Ge}$   $\nu$  capture cross-section was calibrated with intense  ${}^{51}\text{Cr}$  and  ${}^{37}\text{Ar}$  sources by **GALLEX** & **SAGE** (20 years ago) as well as **BEST** (2022);
- these measurements show a significant deficit with respect to the predicted values [41]:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{GALLEX: } \begin{cases} R_1(\text{Cr}) = 0.953 \pm 0.11 \\ R_2(\text{Cr}) = 0.812 \pm 0.11 \end{cases} \\ \text{SAGE: } \begin{cases} R_3(\text{Cr}) = 0.95 \pm 0.12 \\ R_4(\text{Ar}) = 0.79 \pm 0.095 \end{cases} \\ \text{BEST: } \begin{cases} R_5(\text{I}) = 0.791 \pm 0.05 \\ R_6(\text{O}) = 0.766 \pm 0.05 \end{cases} \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow 0.80 \pm 0.047$$

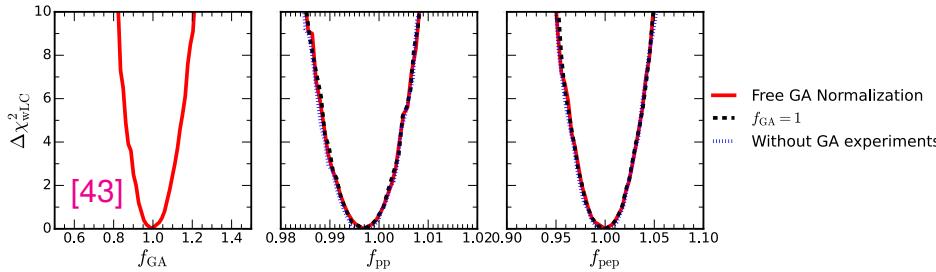
- such deficit can be interpreted in terms of oscillations;
- data suggest  $\Delta m^2 \gtrsim 1 \text{ eV}^2$  but require very large  $\theta_{ee}$ .



[41] V.V. Barinov *et al.* [BEST], Phys. Rev. C **105** (2022) no.6, 065502 [[arXiv:2201.07364](https://arxiv.org/abs/2201.07364)]

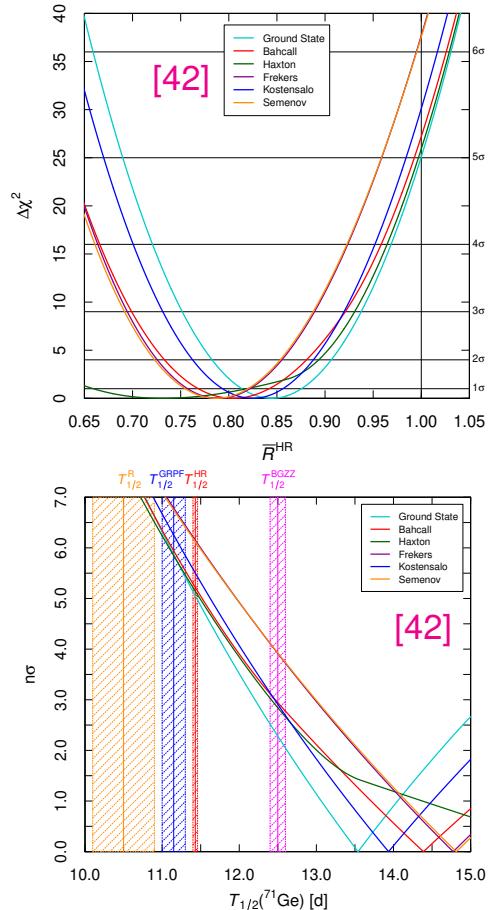
## Origin of the gallium anomaly

- Large  $\theta_{ee}$  required by Gallium  $\nu_e$  oscill. clashes with:
    - reactor  $\bar{\nu}_e$  data, as seen in previous slides;
    - solar  $\nu_e$  data, which don't tolerate a large  $\nu_s$  fraction;
  - can the Gallium cross-section be overestimated?
    - well-known **ground-state** suffices for the tension;
    - $^{71}\text{Ge}$  half-life may be wrong, but needed “error” very large;
    - solar data show no tension with current cross-section;
- ⇒ no obvious solution to the Gallium puzzle.



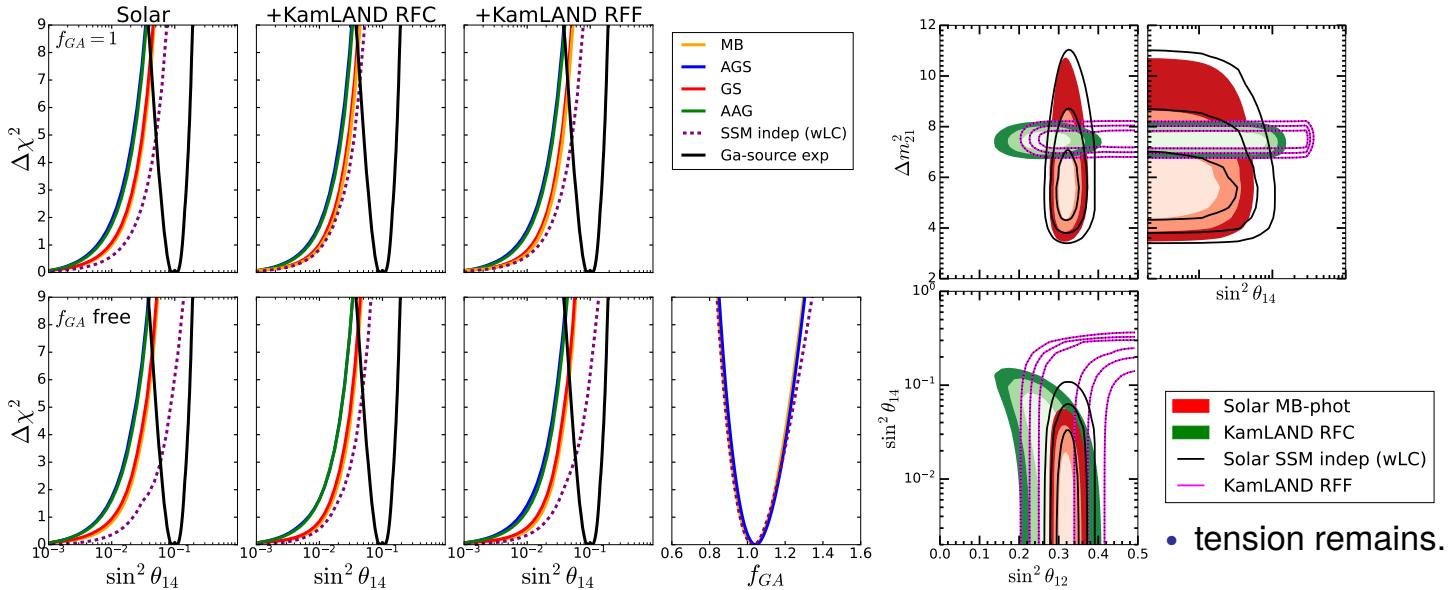
[42] C. Giunti *et al.*, Phys. Lett. B **842** (2023) 137983 [2212.09722]

[43] M.C. Gonzalez-Garcia *et al.*, JHEP **02** (2024) 064 [2311.16226]



### Tension between solar and gallium data: some insight

- Can SSM fluxes be the problem? → Try various options, or even leave the fluxes free;
- can we trust Gallium *solar* measurements? → Both fixed or free  $f_{GA}$  normalization;
- can we trust reactor fluxes? → Both constrained and free KamLAND (+ DB) scale;



[44] M. C. Gonzalez-Garcia *et al.*, Phys. Lett. B **862** (2025) 139297 [arXiv:2411.16840]

## Tension between solar and gallium data: results

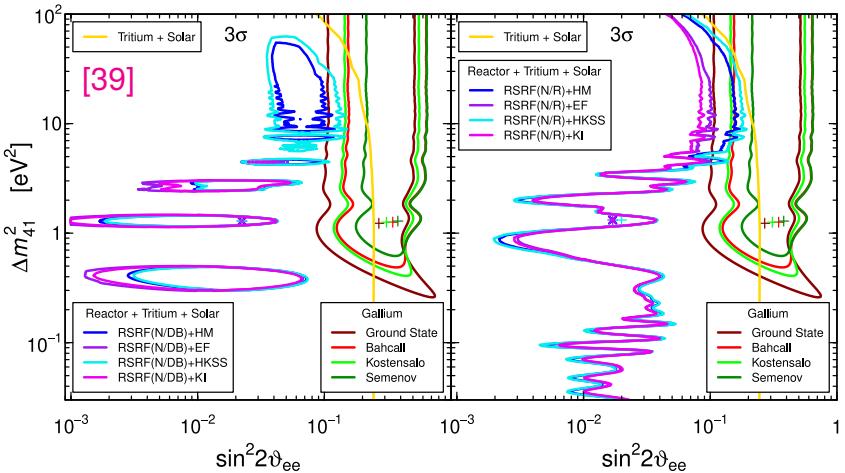
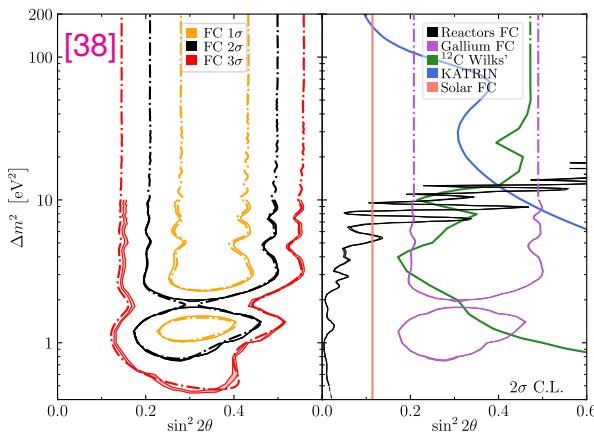
- Solar+KL data favor  $\theta_{14} = 0$  irrespective of SSM model, KL reactor fluxes, or inclusion of  $f_{\text{Ga}}$ ;
- even the least constraining scenario (everything free) has a  $p$ -value no better than 0.29%;
- only way to further reduce the tension acting on solar data is to relax the Luminosity Constraint. An increase larger than 10% is required, despite the current precision being 0.34%.

	SSM	$f_{\text{Ga}} = 1$			$f_{\text{Ga}}$ free		
		$\chi^2_{\text{PG}}/n$	$p$ -value ( $\times 10^{-3}$ )	# $\sigma$	$\chi^2_{\text{PG}}/n$	$p$ -value ( $\times 10^{-3}$ )	# $\sigma$
Solar	MB-phot/GS98	14.9	0.11	3.9	13.1	0.3	3.6
	AAG21/AGSS09	18.7	0.2	4.3	17.3	0.03	4.2
	SSM indep (wLC)	9.1	2.6	3.0	4.9	27	2.2
Solar + KL-RFC	MB-phot/GS98	15.9	0.07	4.0	15.1	0.1	3.9
	AAG21/AGSS09	19.4	0.1	4.4	18.7	0.01	4.3
	SSM indep (wLC)	13.5	0.23	3.7	10.5	1.2	3.2
Solar + KL-RFF	MB-phot/GS98	13.2	0.28	3.6	11.7	0.64	3.4
	AAG21/AGSS09	17.3	0.03	4.2	16.0	0.06	4.0
	SSM indep (wLC)	8.7	3.1	2.9	4.8	29	2.2

[44] M. C. Gonzalez-Garcia *et al.*, Phys. Lett. B **862** (2025) 139297 [arXiv:2411.16840]

### Comparison of all $\nu_e$ and $\bar{\nu}_e$ disappearance data

- Reactors: proper FC statistics relaxes bounds by about  $1\sigma$  w.r.t. Wilk's limits [38];
- Gallium: FC not so important [38], but it cannot be reconciled with other data [38, 39];
- “least tension”  $\bar{\nu}_e \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e$  at  $\Delta m^2 \sim 10 \text{ eV}^2$ , in tension with  $\bar{\nu}_\mu \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e$  value  $\Delta m^2 \sim 1 \text{ eV}^2$ ;
- solar data also disfavor large mixing angle, and tritium does so at large  $\Delta m^2$ .

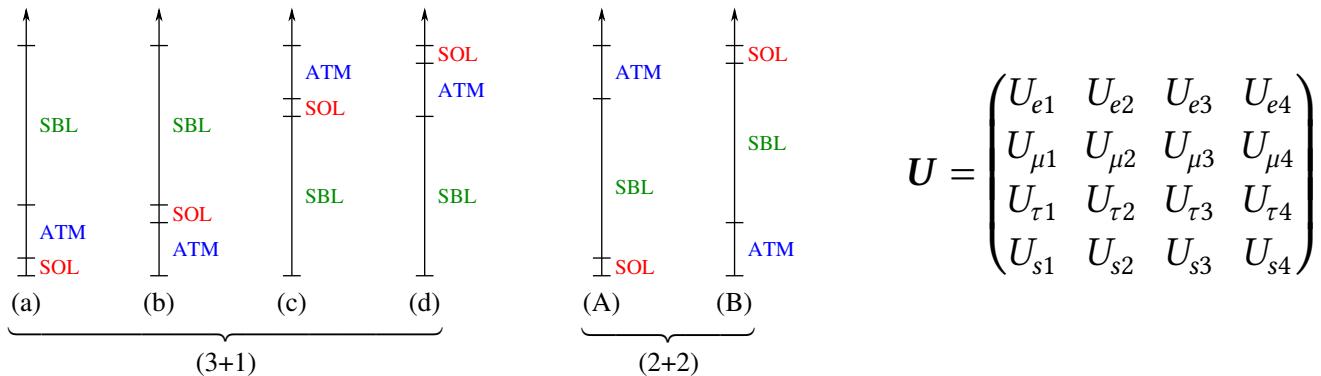


[38] J.M. Berryman *et al.*, JHEP 02 (2022) 055 [[arXiv:2111.12530](https://arxiv.org/abs/2111.12530)]

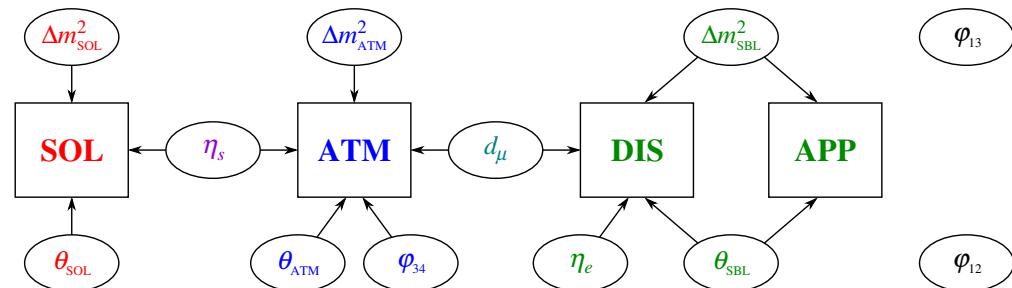
[39] C. Giunti *et al.*, JHEP 10 (2022) 164 [[arXiv:2209.00916](https://arxiv.org/abs/2209.00916)]

### Four neutrino mass models

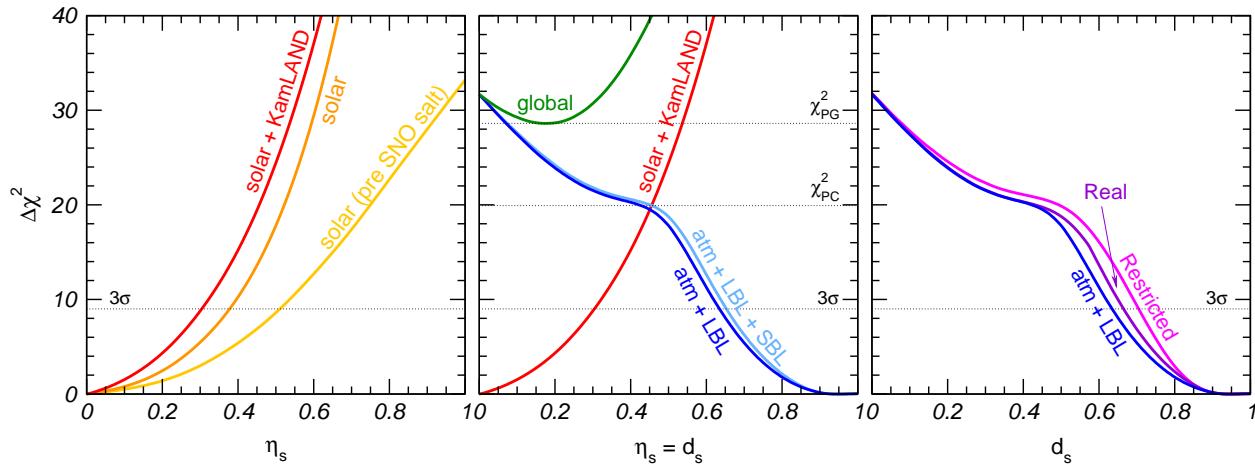
- Approximation:  $\Delta m_{\text{SBL}}^2 \ll \Delta m_{\text{ATM}}^2 \ll \Delta m_{\text{SOL}}^2 \Rightarrow$  6 different mass schemes:



- Total: 3  $\Delta m^2$ , 6 angles, 3 phases. Different set of experimental data *partially decouple*:



(2+2): ruled out by solar and atmospheric data



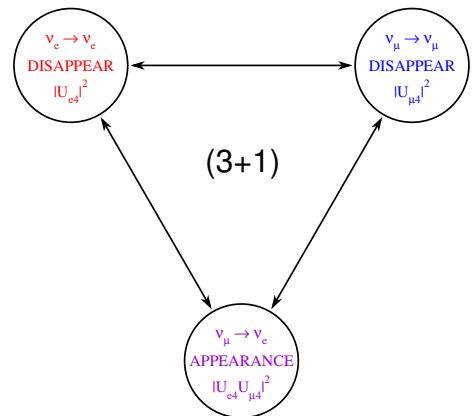
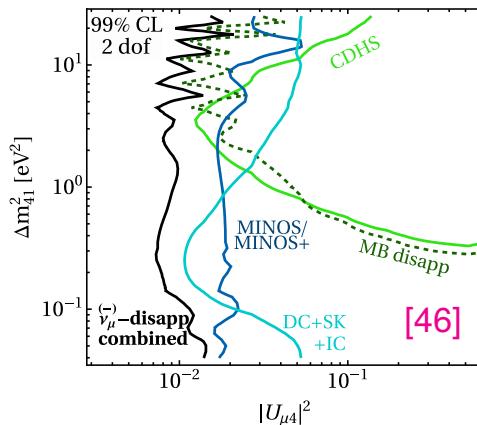
- in (2+2) models, fractions of  $\nu_s$  in **solar** ( $\eta_s$ ) and **atmos** ( $1 - d_s$ ) add to one  $\Rightarrow \boxed{\eta_s = d_s}$ ;
- $3\sigma$  allowed regions  $\eta_s \leq 0.31$  (solar) and  $d_s \geq 0.63$  (atmos) do not overlap; superposition occurs only above  $4.5\sigma$  ( $\chi^2_{PC} = 19.9$ );
- the  $\chi^2$  increase from the combination of **solar** and **atmos** data is  $\chi^2_{PG} = 28.6$  (1 dof), corresponding to a PG =  $9 \times 10^{-8}$  [45].

[45] M. Maltoni, T. Schwetz, M.A. Tortola, J.W.F. Valle, Nucl. Phys. **B643** (2002) 321 [hep-ph/0207157]

## (3+1): appearance versus disappearance

- (3+1):  $P_{\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e} \propto |U_{e4} U_{\mu 4}|^2$  with  $\begin{cases} |U_{e4}|^2 \propto P_{\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_e}, \\ |U_{\mu 4}|^2 \propto P_{\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\mu}; \end{cases}$
- hence,  $P_{\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e} > 0$  requires  $\begin{cases} P_{\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_e} > 0, \\ P_{\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\mu} > 0; \end{cases}$

¿? are  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\mu$  searches compatible with this?



## $\nu_\mu$ disappearance: long-term situation

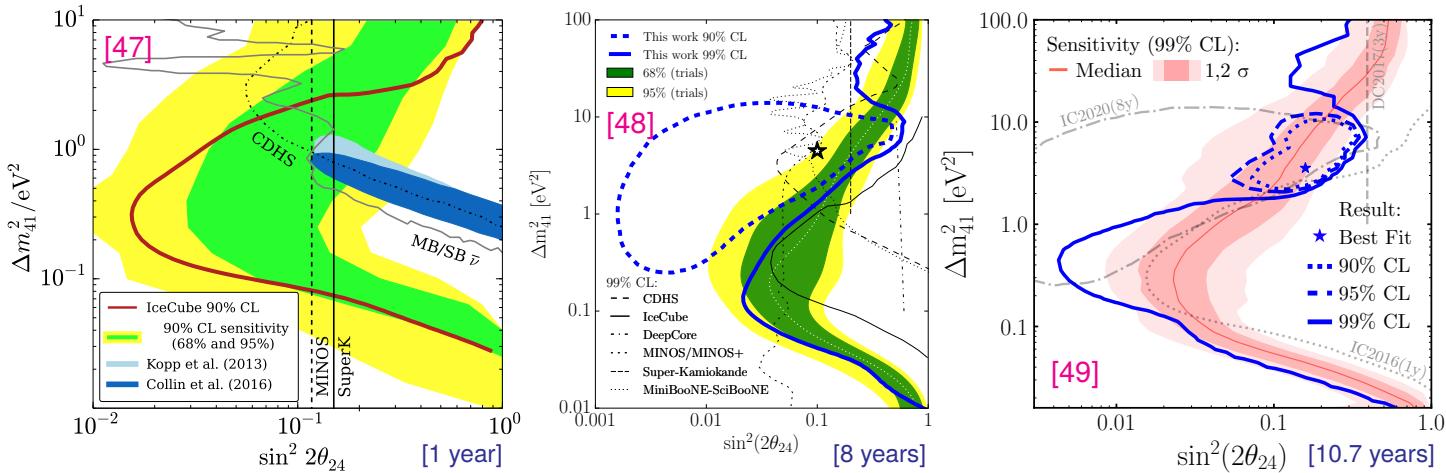
- Many experiments have been performed:
 

– CDHS (ν)	– MINOS (ν)
– MiniBooNE (ν, ̄ν)	– NOνA (ν)
– SciBooNE (ν, ̄ν)	– SK atmos (ν, ̄ν)
- no hint of  $\nu_\mu$  disappearance has been observed;
- bound on  $|U_{\mu 4}|^2$  may be in tension with other data...

[46] M. Dentler *et al.*, JHEP 08 (2018) 010 [[arXiv:1803.10661](https://arxiv.org/abs/1803.10661)]

## Search for $\nu_\mu$ disappearance at IceCube

- Since oscillations only depend on  $\Delta m^2 / E$ , larger  $\Delta m^2$  produce visible effects at larger  $E$ ;
- IceCube has been detecting high-energy ( $\sim$  TeV) atmos. neutrinos since its construction;
- a small “island” around  $\Delta m^2 \sim$  few  $\text{eV}^2$  and  $\sin^2 2\theta_{\mu\mu} \sim 0.1$  has been gaining prominence;
- $p$ -value for no-oscillation: of 47% (1 year), 8% (8 years), 3.1% (10.7 years)  $\Rightarrow$  still OK.



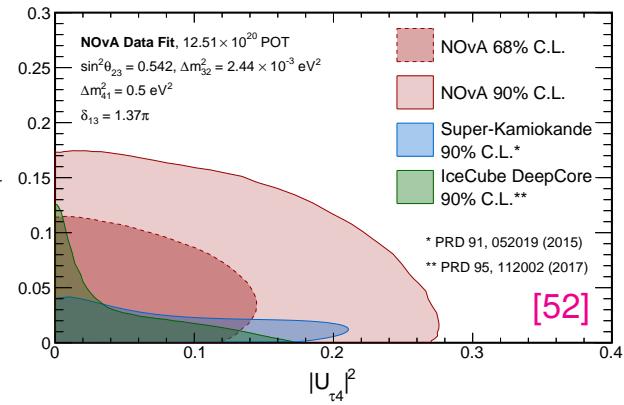
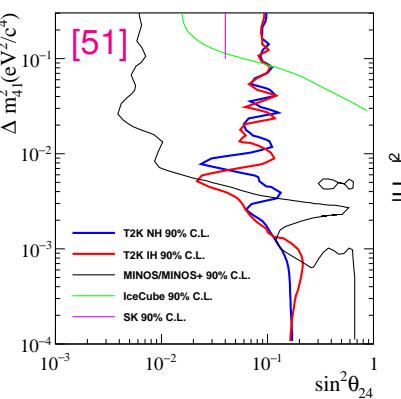
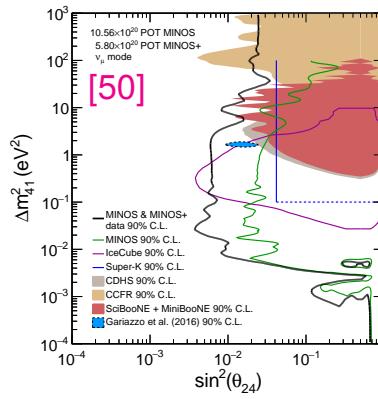
[47] M.G. Aartsen *et al.* [IceCube], Phys. Rev. Lett. **117** (2016) 071801 [[arXiv:1605.01990](https://arxiv.org/abs/1605.01990)]

[48] M.G. Aartsen *et al.* [IceCube], Phys. Rev. Lett. **125** (2020) 141801 [[arXiv:2005.12942](https://arxiv.org/abs/2005.12942)]

[49] R. Abbasi *et al.* [IceCube], Phys. Rev. Lett. **133** (2024) 201804 [[arXiv:2405.08070](https://arxiv.org/abs/2405.08070)]

## Search for $\nu_\mu$ disappearance at LBL experiments

- Sterile  $\nu$  can be searched at LBL experiments by “switching” the roles of **near** & **far** detectors:
  - far detector observes fully averaged oscillations  $\Rightarrow$  fixes the *energy shape* of the beam;
  - near detector looks for spectral distortions which would indicate SBL oscillations;
- results presented by MINOS/MINOS+ [50], T2K [51], and NOvA [52] collaborations;
- sterile oscillations can also be studied by looking for deficit in neutral-current data [52].



[50] P. Adamson *et al.* [MINOS+], Phys. Rev. Lett. **122** (2019) no.9, 091803 [[arXiv:1710.06488](https://arxiv.org/abs/1710.06488)]

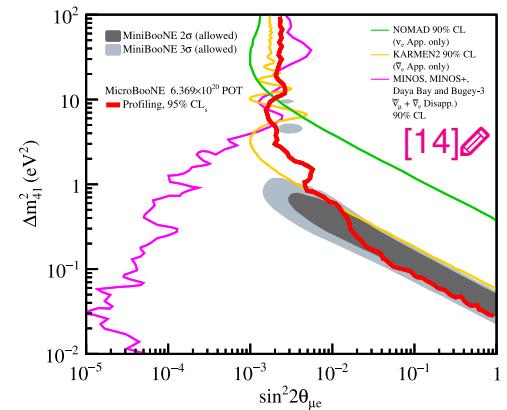
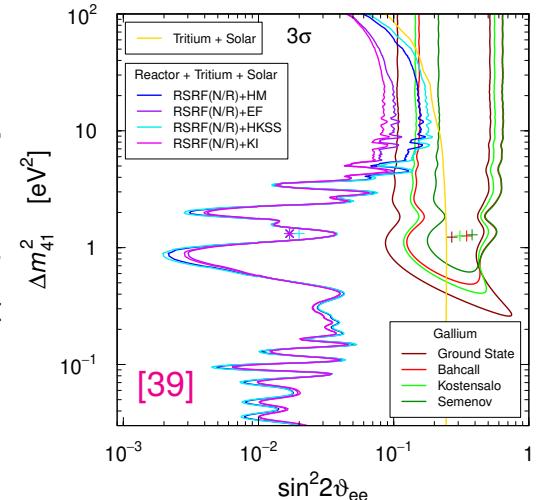
[51] K. Abe *et al.* [T2K], Phys. Rev. D **99** (2019) no.7, 071103 [[arXiv:1902.06529](https://arxiv.org/abs/1902.06529)]

[52] M.A. Acero *et al.* [NOvA], Phys. Rev. Lett. **127** (2021) no.20, 201801 [[arXiv:2106.04673](https://arxiv.org/abs/2106.04673)]

### (3+1): tension among data samples

- Inconsistency between **Reactors** and **Gallium** results prevents a combined fit of all  $\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_e$  data;
- Limits on a subset of  $\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_e$  and  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\mu$  disappearance [53] imply a bound on  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$  stronger than what required to explain the **LSND** and **MiniBooNe** excesses;
- such tension between **APP** and **DIS** data was first pointed out in 1999 [54]. Full global fit in 2001 [55] cornered (3+1) models. No conceptual change since then...

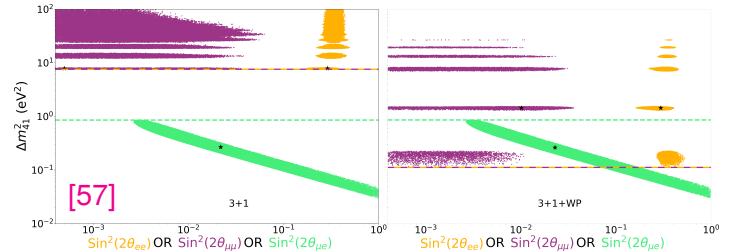
- [14] P. Abratenko *et al.* [MicroBooNE], Phys. Rev. Lett. **130** (2023) 011801 [[arXiv:2210.10216](https://arxiv.org/abs/2210.10216)]
- [39] C. Giunti *et al.*, JHEP **10** (2022) 164 [[arXiv:2209.00916](https://arxiv.org/abs/2209.00916)]
- [53] P. Adamson *et al.* [MINOS+ and Daya-Bay], Phys. Rev. Lett. **125** (2020) 071801 [[arXiv:2002.00301](https://arxiv.org/abs/2002.00301)]
- [54] S.M. Bilenky *et al.*, PRD **60** (1999) 073007 [[hep-ph/9903454](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/9903454)]
- [55] MM, Schwetz, Valle, PLB **518** (2001) 252 [[hep-ph/0107150](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/0107150)]



## Beyond (3+1) oscillations

- If (3+1) models do not work (and never did), why do we keep discussing them?
  - they are a natural extension of  $3\nu$ ;
  - they individually explain each anomaly;
  - hence, they make a great starting point;
- can we do better than this?
  - more steriles (3+2, 3+3, ...) not enough;
  - recent trend towards “dumping” [57] (first noted in [56]), but tensions remain;
  - alternatives explain some (not all) data;
  - usually very “exotic” and “ad-hoc”;

⇒ “vanilla  $\nu_s$ ” still best working tool.



Explanations beyond the Standard Model [Goal: account for the Gallium anomaly]

$\nu_s$ coupled to ultralight DM (MSW resonance, Sec. 5.1.1)	several exotic ingredients; somewhat tuned MSW resonance; ★★★☆☆
$\nu_s$ coupled to dark energy (MSW resonance, Sec. 5.1.2)	several exotic ingredients; somewhat tuned MSW resonance; ★★★☆☆ cosmology similar to the previous scenario.
$\nu_s$ coupled to ultralight DM (param. resonance, Sec. 5.1.3)	several exotic ingredients; somewhat tuned parametric resonance; cosmology requires post-BBN DM production via misalignment.
decaying $\nu_s$ (Section 5.2)	difficult to reconcile with reactor and solar data; regeneration of active neutrinos in $\nu_s$ decays alleviates tension, but does not resolve it.
vanilla eV-scale $\nu_s$ (Refs. [17, 18])	preferred parameter space is strongly disfavored by solar and reactor data.
$\nu_s$ with CPT violation (Refs. [130])	avoids constraints from reactor experiments, but those from solar neutrinos cannot be alleviated.
extra dimensions (Refs. [131–133])	neutrinos oscillate into sterile Kaluza–Klein modes that propagate in extra dimensions; in tension with reactor data.
stochastic neutrino mixing (Ref. [134])	based on a difference between sterile neutrino mixing angles at production and detection (see also [135, 136]); fit worse than for vanilla $\nu_s$ .
decoherence (Refs. [137, 138])	non-standard source of decoherence needed; known experimental energy resolutions constrain wave packet length, making an explanation by wave packet separation alone challenging.
$\nu_s$ coupled to ultralight scalar (Ref. [139])	ultralight scalar coupling to $\nu_s$ and to ordinary matter affects sterile neutrino parameters; can not avoid reactor constraints

[56] S. Palomares-Ruiz *et al.*, JHEP **09** (2005) 048 [[hep-ph/0505216](#)]

[57] J.M. Hardin *et al.*, JHEP **09** (2023) 058 [[arXiv:2211.02610](#)]

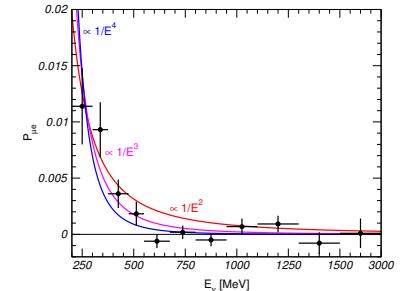
[58] V. Brdar *et al.*, JHEP **05** (2023) 143 [[arXiv:2303.05528](#)]

## More sterile neutrinos? The case of (3+2) models

- With *one* extra sterile neutrino,  $m_4$ :

$$P_{\mu e}^{4\nu} = 4|U_{e4}|^2|U_{\mu 4}|^2 \sin^2 \phi_{41} \quad \text{with} \quad \phi_{ij} \equiv \frac{\Delta m_{ij}^2 L}{4E};$$

- for large energy  $P_{\mu e}^{4\nu}$  drops as  $1/E^2$ ;
- however, the low-energy MB excess is much sharper ( $\sim 1/E^3$ );
- On the other hand, with *two* extra neutrinos,  $m_4$  and  $m_5$ :



$$P_{\mu e}^{5\nu} = 4|U_{e4}|^2|U_{\mu 4}|^2 \sin^2 \phi_{41} + 4|U_{e5}|^2|U_{\mu 5}|^2 \sin^2 \phi_{51} + 8|U_{e4}U_{e5}U_{\mu 4}U_{\mu 5}| \sin \phi_{41} \sin \phi_{51} \cos(\phi_{54} - \delta);$$

- terms of order  $1/E^2$  suppressed if  $\delta \approx \pi$  and  $|U_{e4}U_{\mu 4}|\Delta m_{41}^2 \approx |U_{e5}U_{\mu 5}|\Delta m_{51}^2$ ;

⇒ two extra sterile states provide a better description of the MB low-energy  $\nu$  data [59].

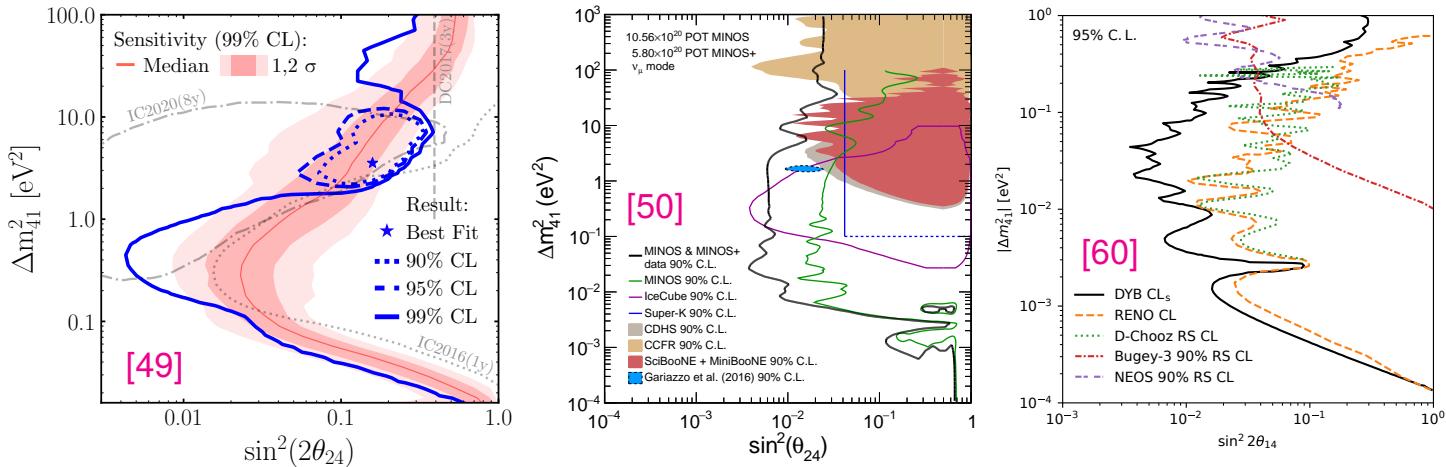
- also,  $\delta = \arg(U_{e4}^*U_{\mu 4}U_{e5}U_{\mu 5}^*)$  differentiates between  $\nu$  (MB) from  $\bar{\nu}$  (MB/LSND);
- however, (3+2) models suffer from **the same APP/DIS tension** as (3+1) models;
- also, (3+2) models have stronger problems with **cosmology** since  $\sum m_\nu$  is larger;

⇒ (3+N) models do not present substantial advantages over the simpler (3+1) model.

[59] M. Maltoni, T. Schwetz, Phys. Rev. D76 (2007) 093005 [[arXiv:0705.0107](https://arxiv.org/abs/0705.0107)]

## General bounds on sterile neutrinos

- Reactors & accelerator: weak matter effects  $\Rightarrow$  mass window determined by baseline;
- experiments with near & far detectors reach max sensitivity between the two scales, but drop considerably when oscillations become averaged at both sites;
- atmospheric: important contributions to sensitivity from resonant conversion in matter.



[49] R. Abbasi *et al.* [IceCube], Phys. Rev. Lett. **133** (2024) 201804 [[arXiv:2405.08070](https://arxiv.org/abs/2405.08070)]

[50] P. Adamson *et al.* [MINOS+], Phys. Rev. Lett. **122** (2019) no.9, 091803 [[arXiv:1710.06488](https://arxiv.org/abs/1710.06488)]

[60] F.P. An *et al.* [Daya Bay], Phys. Rev. Lett. **133** (2024) 051801 [[arXiv:2404.01687](https://arxiv.org/abs/2404.01687)]

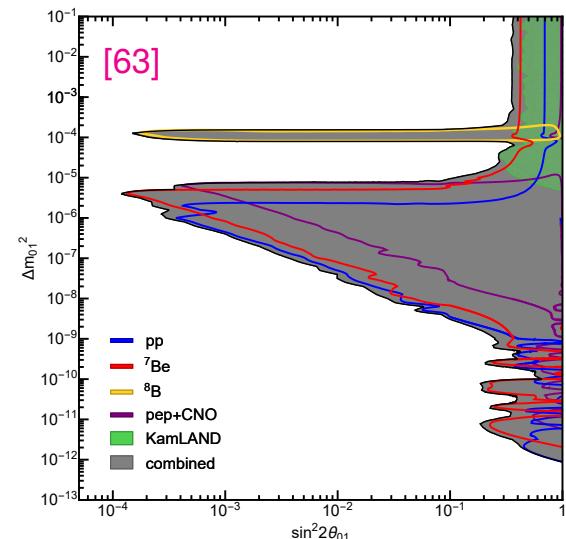
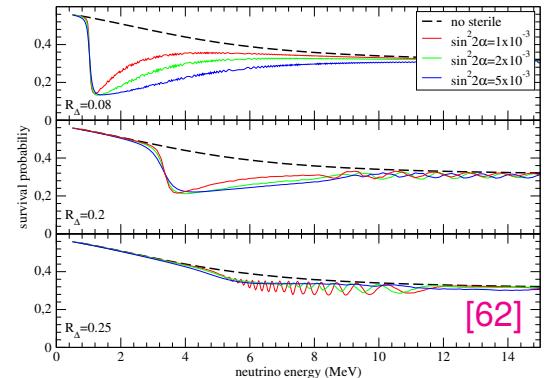
### Sterile neutrinos and solar data

- Notation:  $\vec{\nu} = (\nu_s, \nu_e, \nu_\mu, \nu_\tau)$ ,  $\vec{\nu}_{\text{mb}} = (\nu_0, \nu_1, \nu_2, \nu_3)$ ,  $D_{\text{vac}} \propto \text{diag}(\Delta m_{01}^2, 0, \Delta m_{21}^2, \Delta m_{31}^2)$ ,  $U \equiv U_{\text{SM}} R_{01}^\alpha$ ,
- as noted in [61], a sterile with  $R_\Delta \equiv \Delta m_{01}^2 / \Delta m_{21}^2 \sim 0.2$  and small mixing  $\alpha$  modifies the vacuum-matter transition  $\Rightarrow$  explain why low-E turn-up not so prominent;
- for very small values of  $\Delta m_{01}^2$ , the oscillation length becomes larger than Earth eccentricity, and then comparable with the Sun-Earth distance;
- excluded region determined by a number of different phenomena, and exhibits a rich phenomenology.

[61] P.C. de Holanda and A.Yu. Smirnov, Phys. Rev. D **69** (2004) 113002 [[hep-ph/0307266](#)]

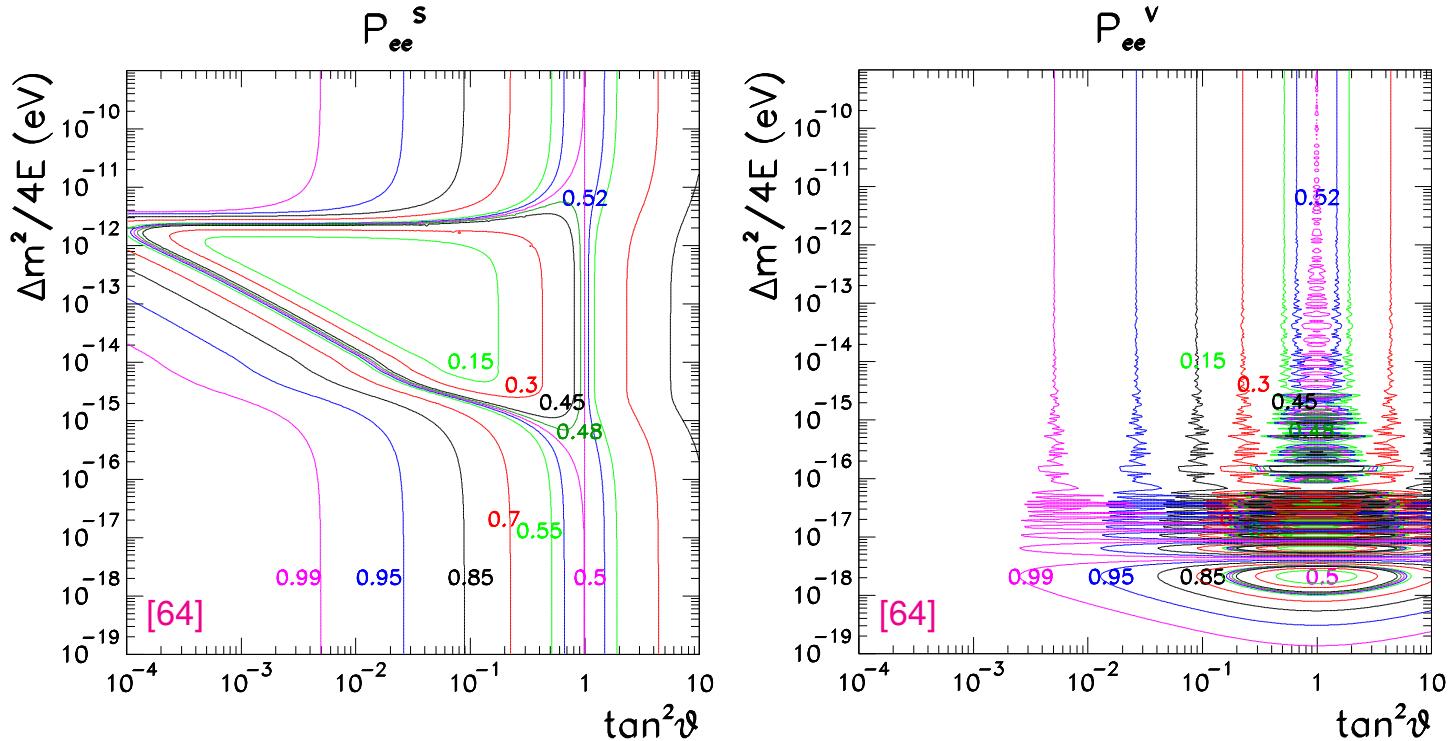
[62] P.C. de Holanda and A.Yu. Smirnov, Phys. Rev. D **83** (2011) 113011 [[arXiv:1012.5627](#)]

[63] Z. Chen, J. Liao, J. Ling and B. Yue, JHEP **09** (2022) 004 [[arXiv:2205.07574](#)]



Connection with two-neutrino solar oscillations

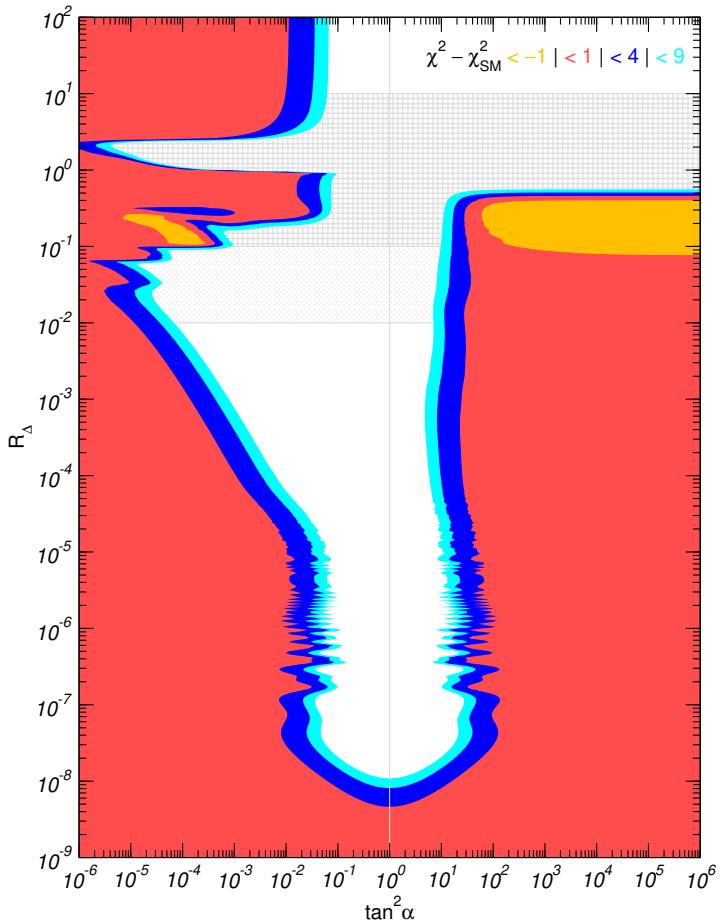
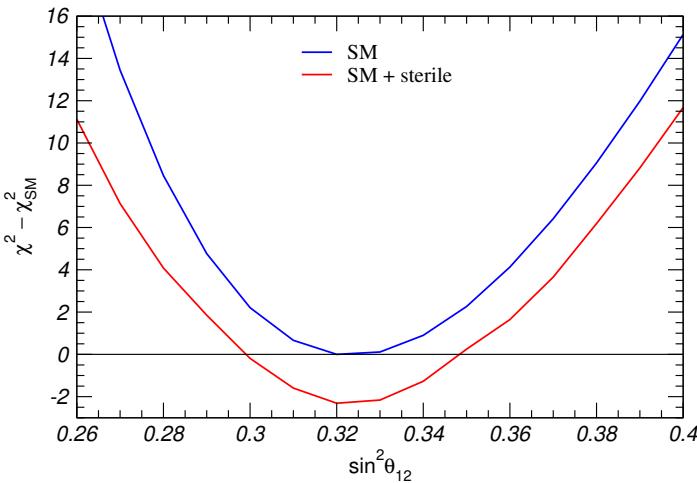
- The sterile bounds shows the same features as old-times pure- $2\nu$  ( $\theta_{13} = 0$ ) solar studies.



[64] C. Peña-Garay, Master's thesis, University of Valencia (Spain), 2001.

### Bounds from current solar data

- Warning: we set  $\Delta m_{21}^2 = 7.5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2$ :
  - outside gray bands: KL fixes  $\Delta m_{21}^2$ ;
  - light band: KL fixes  $\Delta m_{ee}^2 \sim \Delta m_{21}^2$ ;
  - dark band: allowed OK, excluded not;
- orange regions: slightly better than SM;
- $\theta_{12}$  range mostly unaffected by steriles.



- Anomalies in  $\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_e$  disappearance and  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$  appearance experiments point towards conversion mechanisms beyond the well-established  $3\nu$  oscillation paradigm;
- each of these anomalies can be **individually** explained by sterile neutrinos ( $\Delta m^2 \sim 1 \text{ eV}^2$ );
- unlike a few years ago, sterile neutrinos **no longer succeed** in simultaneously explaining groups of anomalies sharing the same oscillation channel. Concretely:
  - $\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_e$  disappearance data exhibit a serious tension in solar/reactor vs gallium results, as well as some issue between different “spectral shape” reactor experiments;
  - $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$  appearance data show an excess in low-E neutrino data, which cannot be explained by oscillations alone and so far has eluded the searches for new systematics;
- the quest for a “global” model reconciling  $\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_e$ ,  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$ ,  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\mu$  data is now secondary: it is more urgent to clarify the “local” inconsistencies within each of these classes;
- to this aim, new experimental data are required. A number of experiments are under way, we will hear about them during this conference;
- if the  $\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_e$  and  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$  anomalies are confirmed, new physics will be needed. Such new physics will probably involve extra sterile states, but together with “something else”. At present, however, **no model is known** which can convincingly explain everything.

## Neutrino interactions in the Standard Model

- Effective low-energy Lagrangian for **standard** neutrino interactions with matter:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}}^{\text{eff}} = -2\sqrt{2}G_F \sum_{f,\beta} ([\bar{\nu}_\beta \gamma_\mu P_L \ell_\beta] [\bar{f} \gamma^\mu P_L f'] + \text{h.c.}) - 2\sqrt{2}G_F \sum_{f,P,\beta} g_P^f [\bar{\nu}_\beta \gamma_\mu P_L \nu_\beta] [\bar{f} \gamma^\mu P f]$$

where  $P \in \{P_L, P_R\}$ ,  $(f, f')$  form an SU(2) doublet, and  $g_P^f$  is the  $Z$  coupling to fermion  $f$ :

$$g_L^v = \frac{1}{2}, \quad g_L^\ell = \sin^2 \theta_W - \frac{1}{2}, \quad g_L^u = -\frac{2}{3} \sin^2 \theta_W + \frac{1}{2}, \quad g_L^d = \frac{1}{3} \sin^2 \theta_W - \frac{1}{2},$$

$$g_R^v = 0, \quad g_R^\ell = \sin^2 \theta_W, \quad g_R^u = -\frac{2}{3} \sin^2 \theta_W, \quad g_R^d = \frac{1}{3} \sin^2 \theta_W;$$

- this form of the Lagrangian and expressions for the couplings lead to:

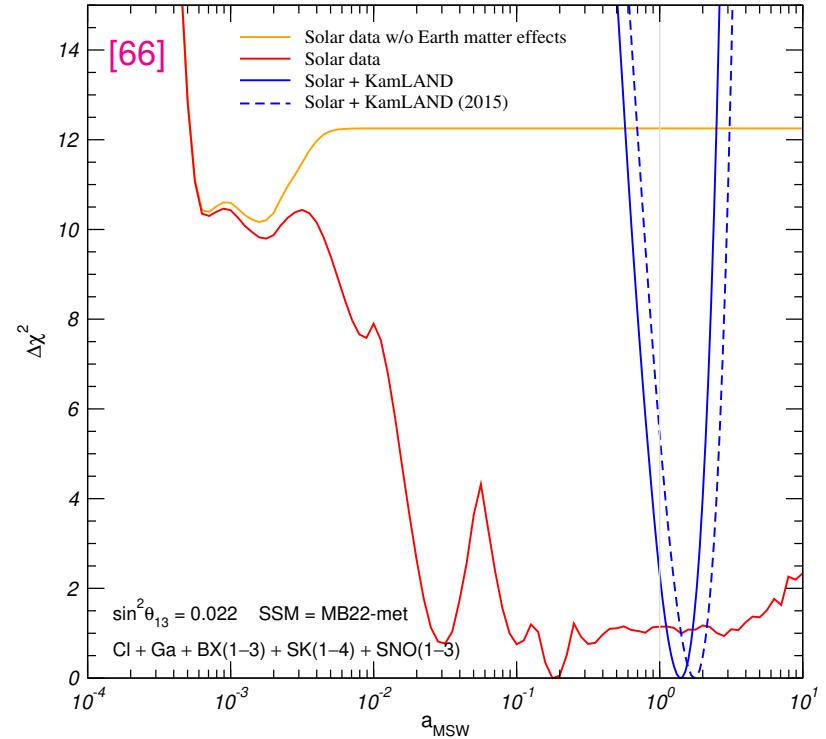
- matter potentials:  $\mathbf{V}_{\text{CC}} = \sqrt{2} G_F N_e \text{diag}(1, 0, 0)$  and  $\mathbf{V}_{\text{NC}} = -\sqrt{2}/2 G_F N_n \text{diag}(1, 1, 1)$ ;
- the usual neutrino cross-sections, in particular the *neutrino-electron elastic scattering*

$$\frac{d\sigma_\beta^{\text{SM}}}{dT_e}(E_\nu, T_e) = \frac{2G_F^2 m_e}{\pi} \left\{ \textcolor{red}{c_{L\beta}^2} \left[ 1 + \frac{\alpha}{\pi} f_-(y) \right] + \textcolor{blue}{c_{R\beta}^2} (1-y)^2 \left[ 1 + \frac{\alpha}{\pi} f_+(y) \right] - 2 \textcolor{red}{c_{L\beta}} \textcolor{blue}{c_{R\beta}} \frac{m_e y}{2E_\nu} \left[ 1 + \frac{\alpha}{\pi} f_\pm(y) \right] \right\}$$

where  $\textcolor{red}{c_{Le}} = g_L^\ell + 1$ ,  $\textcolor{red}{c_{L\mu}} = \textcolor{red}{c_{L\tau}} = g_L^\ell$ , and  $\textcolor{blue}{c_{Re}} = \textcolor{blue}{c_{R\mu}} = \textcolor{blue}{c_{R\tau}} = g_R^\ell$  (at tree level). Here  $f_+$ ,  $f_-$ ,  $f_\pm$  are loop functions and  $y \equiv T_e/E_\nu$ . We will return on this later.

## Non-standard neutrino interactions: a first example

- Ref. [65]: is solar MSW as expected?
- model:  $V_e \rightarrow a_{\text{MSW}} V_e$  (a kind of NSI);
- Sun: lots of matter, yet no bound as:
  - $P$  invariant if  $\Delta m^2$  &  $L$  also scaled;
  - MSW regime insensitive to  $L$ ;
- including Earth D/N effects set a scale for  $L$ , but  $a_{\text{MSW}}$  still unconstrained;
- KamLAND: almost no matter, thus no sensitivity to  $a_{\text{MSW}}$ , but fixes  $\Delta m^2$ ;
- together:  $0.67 < a_{\text{MSW}} < 2.32$  at  $3\sigma$ ;
- in brief: {
  - **degeneracies** arise;
  - **synergies** solve them.
}



[65] G. L. Fogli, E. Lisi, A. Marrone, A. Palazzo, Phys. Lett. B **583** (2004) 149 [[hep-ph/0309100](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/0309100)]

[66] M. Maltoni, A. Yu. Smirnov, Eur. Phys. J. A **52** (2016) 87 [[arXiv:1507.05287](https://arxiv.org/abs/1507.05287)]

## Non-standard neutrino interactions: general formalism

- Let us extend the SM by a **NC-like non-standard** neutrino-matter term:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{NSI}}^{\text{eff}} = -2\sqrt{2}G_F \sum_{f,P,\alpha,\beta} \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{fP} [\bar{\nu}_\alpha \gamma_\mu P_L \nu_\beta] [\bar{f} \gamma^\mu P f];$$

where  $P \in \{P_L, P_R\}$  and  $f \in \{e, u, d\}$  is a fermion present in ordinary matter;

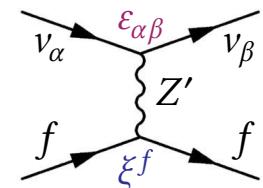
- however, most general parameter space too large to handle  $\Rightarrow$  simplifications needed;
- here we assume that the  $\nu$  flavor structure is **independent** of the charged fermion type:

$$\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{fP} \equiv \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta} \xi^f \chi^P, \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathcal{L}_{\text{NSI}}^{\text{eff}} = -2\sqrt{2}G_F \left[ \sum_{\alpha,\beta} \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta} (\bar{\nu}_\alpha \gamma^\mu P_L \nu_\beta) \right] \left[ \sum_{fP} \xi^f \chi^P (\bar{f} \gamma_\mu P f) \right];$$

- quarks always confined inside nucleons  $\Rightarrow$  introduce effective couplings:

$$\xi^p = 2\xi^u + \xi^d, \quad \xi^n = 2\xi^d + 2\xi^u;$$

- length of  $\vec{\xi} \equiv (\xi^e, \xi^p, \xi^n)$  degenerate with  $|\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}| \Rightarrow$  fix  $|\vec{\xi}| = \sqrt{5} \Rightarrow$  half-sphere;
- strength of various effects (matter potential, scattering, ...) controlled by mediator mass  $m_{Z'} [67]$ .



[67] Y. Farzan, Phys. Lett. B 748 (2015) 311 [arXiv:1505.06906]

## Non-standard neutrino interactions: propagation effects

- Typical oscillation length  $\gg$  km  $\Rightarrow$  contact-interaction regime for  $m_{Z'} \gg 10^{-11}$  eV;
- most neutrino detection occur through CC interactions  $\Rightarrow$  unaffected by our NC-like NSI;
- some experiments sensitive to elastic scattering  $\Rightarrow$  affected by NC-like NSI with  $e$ , but effects suppressed for  $m_{Z'} \ll \mathcal{O}(500 \text{ keV})$  [Borexino] or  $m_{Z'} \ll \mathcal{O}(5\text{--}10 \text{ MeV})$  [SK, SNO];
- hence, for a large range of  $m_{Z'}$ , our NC-like NSI only manifest themselves in  $\nu$  propagation;
- matter potential sensitive to vector couplings  $\Rightarrow$  only  $\chi^V \equiv \chi^L + \chi^R$  combination relevant;
- NSI effects controlled by fermion  $N_f(\vec{x})$ , but matter neutrality implies  $N_e(\vec{x}) = N_p(\vec{x})$ , hence:

$$V_{\text{NSI}} \propto \sum_f N_f(\vec{x}) \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{fV} = \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta} \chi^V \sum_f N_f(\vec{x}) \xi^f = \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta} \chi^V \left[ N_{e=p}(\vec{x}) (\xi^e + \xi^p) + N_n(\vec{x}) \xi^n \right];$$

- only the direction in the  $(\xi^e + \xi^p, \xi^n)$  plane probed by  $\nu$  oscillations  $\Rightarrow$  define an angle  $\eta'$ :
- $$\xi^e + \xi^p \equiv \sqrt{5} \mathcal{N} \cos \eta', \quad \xi^n \equiv \sqrt{5} \mathcal{N} \sin \eta', \quad \varepsilon'_{\alpha\beta} \equiv \mathcal{N} \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta} \quad \text{with} \quad \mathcal{N} \equiv |(\xi^e + \xi^p, \xi^n)| / |\vec{\xi}|;$$
- special cases:  $\eta' = \pm 90^\circ$  ( $n$ ),  $\eta' = 0$  ( $p + e$ ),  $\eta' \approx 26.6^\circ$  ( $u$ ),  $\eta' \approx 63.4^\circ$  ( $d$ ).

### Non-standard interactions and $3\nu$ oscillations

- Equation of motion: **6** (vac) + **8** (NSI- $\nu$ ) + **1** (NSI- $f$ ) = **15** parameters [68]:

$$i \frac{d\vec{\nu}}{dt} = \mathbf{H} \vec{\nu}; \quad \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{U}_{\text{vac}} \cdot \mathbf{D}_{\text{vac}} \cdot \mathbf{U}_{\text{vac}}^\dagger \pm \mathbf{V}_{\text{mat}}; \quad \mathbf{D}_{\text{vac}} = \frac{1}{2E_\nu} \mathbf{\text{diag}}(0, \Delta m_{21}^2, \Delta m_{31}^2);$$

$$\mathbf{U}_{\text{vac}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c_{23} & s_{23} \\ 0 & -s_{23} & c_{23} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} c_{13} & 0 & s_{13} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -s_{13} & 0 & c_{13} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} c_{12} & s_{12} e^{i\delta_{\text{CP}}} & 0 \\ -s_{12} e^{-i\delta_{\text{CP}}} & c_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \vec{\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ \nu_\mu \\ \nu_\tau \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\mathcal{E}_{\alpha\beta}(\vec{x}) \equiv \sum_f \frac{N_f(\vec{x})}{N_e(\vec{x})} \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{fV} = \sqrt{5} \varepsilon'_{\alpha\beta} \chi^V [\cos \eta' + Y_n(\vec{x}) \sin \eta'], \quad Y_n(\vec{x}) \equiv \frac{N_n(\vec{x})}{N_e(\vec{x})},$$

$$\mathbf{V}_{\text{mat}} \equiv \mathbf{V}_{\text{SM}} + \mathbf{V}_{\text{NSI}} = \sqrt{2} G_F N_e(\vec{x}) \begin{pmatrix} 1 + \mathcal{E}_{ee}(\vec{x}) & \mathcal{E}_{e\mu}(\vec{x}) & \mathcal{E}_{e\tau}(\vec{x}) \\ \mathcal{E}_{e\mu}^*(\vec{x}) & \mathcal{E}_{\mu\mu}(\vec{x}) & \mathcal{E}_{\mu\tau}(\vec{x}) \\ \mathcal{E}_{e\tau}^*(\vec{x}) & \mathcal{E}_{\mu\tau}^*(\vec{x}) & \mathcal{E}_{\tau\tau}(\vec{x}) \end{pmatrix};$$

- notice that our definition of  $\mathbf{U}_{\text{vac}}$  differ by the “usual” one by an overall rephasing,  $\mathbf{U}_{\text{vac}} = \Phi \cdot \mathbf{U} \cdot \Phi^*$  with  $\Phi \equiv \mathbf{\text{diag}}(e^{i\delta_{\text{CP}}}, 1, 1)$ , which is irrelevant in the standard case of no-NSI.

[68] I. Esteban *et al.*, JHEP 08 (2018) 180 [[arXiv:1805.04530](https://arxiv.org/abs/1805.04530)]

## The generalized mass ordering degeneracy

- General symmetry:  $H \rightarrow -H^*$  does not affect the neutrino probabilities;
- we have  $H = H_{\text{vac}} \pm V_{\text{mat}}$ . For vacuum,  $H_{\text{vac}} \rightarrow -H_{\text{vac}}^*$  occurs if: 
$$\begin{cases} \Delta m_{31}^2 \rightarrow -\Delta m_{32}^2, \\ \theta_{12} \rightarrow \pi/2 - \theta_{12}, \\ \delta_{\text{CP}} \rightarrow \pi - \delta_{\text{CP}}, \end{cases}$$
- notice how this transformation links together mass ordering and solar octant [69, 70, 71];
- for matter,  $V_{\text{mat}} \rightarrow -V_{\text{mat}}^*$  requires: 
$$\begin{cases} [\mathcal{E}_{ee}(\vec{x}) - \mathcal{E}_{\mu\mu}(\vec{x})] \rightarrow -[\mathcal{E}_{ee}(\vec{x}) - \mathcal{E}_{\mu\mu}(\vec{x})] - 2, \\ [\mathcal{E}_{\tau\tau}(\vec{x}) - \mathcal{E}_{\mu\mu}(\vec{x})] \rightarrow -[\mathcal{E}_{\tau\tau}(\vec{x}) - \mathcal{E}_{\mu\mu}(\vec{x})], \\ \mathcal{E}_{\alpha\beta}(\vec{x}) \rightarrow -\mathcal{E}_{\alpha\beta}^*(\vec{x}) \quad (\alpha \neq \beta), \end{cases}$$
- since  $V_{\text{mat}} = V_{\text{SM}} + V_{\text{NSI}}$  and  $V_{\text{SM}}$  is fixed, this symmetry requires NSI;
- in general,  $\mathcal{E}_{\alpha\beta}(\vec{x})$  varies along trajectory  $\Rightarrow$  symmetry only approximate, unless:
  - NSI proportional to electric charge ( $\eta' = 0$ ), so same matter profile for SM and NSI;
  - neutron/proton ratio  $Y_n(\vec{x})$  is constant, and same for all the neutrino trajectories.

[69] M.C. Gonzalez-Garcia, M. Maltoni, JHEP **09** (2013) 152 [[arXiv:1307.3092](https://arxiv.org/abs/1307.3092)]

[70] P. Bakhti, Y. Farzan, JHEP **07** (2014) 064 [[arXiv:1403.0744](https://arxiv.org/abs/1403.0744)]

[71] P. Coloma, T. Schwetz, Phys. Rev. D **94** (2016) 055005 [[arXiv:1604.05772](https://arxiv.org/abs/1604.05772)]

### Matter potential for solar and KamLAND neutrinos

- One mass dominance ( $\Delta m_{31}^2 \rightarrow \infty$ )  $\Rightarrow P_{ee} = c_{13}^4 P_{\text{eff}} + s_{13}^4$  with the probability  $P_{\text{eff}}$  determined by an effective  $2\nu$  model (as in the SM):

$$i \frac{d\vec{\nu}}{dt} = [\mathbf{H}_{\text{vac}}^{\text{eff}} + \mathbf{H}_{\text{mat}}^{\text{eff}}] \vec{\nu}, \quad \vec{\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} v_e \\ v_a \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{H}_{\text{vac}}^{\text{eff}} \equiv \frac{\Delta m_{21}^2}{4E_\nu} \begin{pmatrix} -\cos 2\theta_{12} & \sin 2\theta_{12} e^{i\delta_{\text{CP}}} \\ \sin 2\theta_{12} e^{-i\delta_{\text{CP}}} & \cos 2\theta_{12} \end{pmatrix},$$

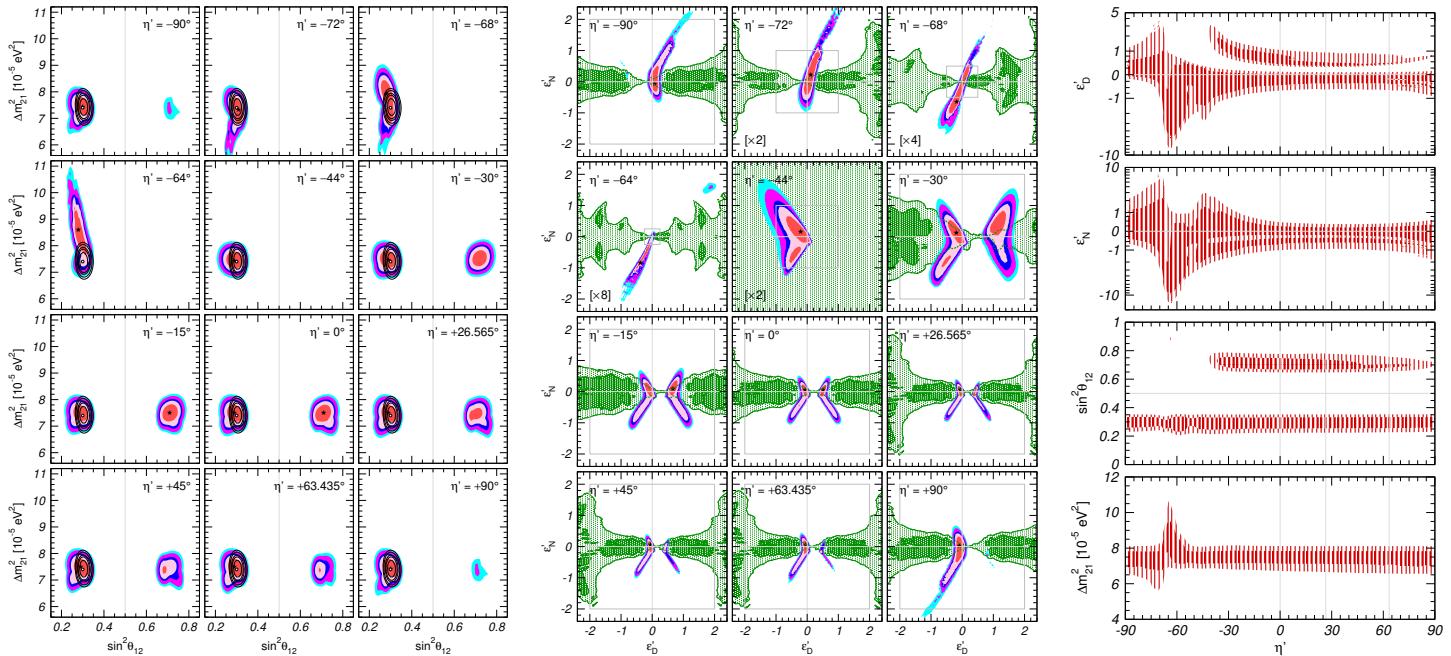
$$\mathbf{H}_{\text{mat}}^{\text{eff}} \equiv \sqrt{2} G_F N_e(\vec{x}) \left[ \begin{pmatrix} c_{13}^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \sqrt{5} \chi^V [\cos \eta' + Y_n(\vec{x}) \sin \eta'] \begin{pmatrix} -\varepsilon'_D & \varepsilon'_N \\ \varepsilon'^*_N & \varepsilon'_D \end{pmatrix} \right],$$

$$\begin{cases} \varepsilon'_D = c_{13}s_{13} \operatorname{Re}(s_{23}\varepsilon'_{e\mu} + c_{23}\varepsilon'_{e\tau}) - (1 + s_{13}^2)c_{23}s_{23} \operatorname{Re}(\varepsilon'_{\mu\tau}) \\ \quad - c_{13}^2(\varepsilon'_{ee} - \varepsilon'_{\mu\mu}) / 2 + (s_{23}^2 - s_{13}^2c_{23}^2)(\varepsilon'_{\tau\tau} - \varepsilon'_{\mu\mu}) / 2, \\ \varepsilon'_N = c_{13}(c_{23}\varepsilon'_{e\mu} - s_{23}\varepsilon'_{e\tau}) + s_{13} \left[ s_{23}^2\varepsilon'_{\mu\tau} - c_{23}^2\varepsilon'^*_\mu + c_{23}s_{23}(\varepsilon'_{\tau\tau} - \varepsilon'_{\mu\mu}) \right]; \end{cases}$$

- solar data can be perfectly fitted by NSI only  $\Rightarrow$  solar LMA solution is **unstable** with respect to the introduction of NSI;
- KamLAND requires  $\Delta m_{21}^2$  but only weakly sensitive to NSI  $\Rightarrow$  it **determines**  $\Delta m_{21}^2$ ;
- in the solar core  $Y_n(\vec{x}) \in [1/6, 1/2]$   $\Rightarrow$  approximate cancellation of NSI for  $\eta' \in [-80^\circ, -63^\circ]$ .

### Oscillation results for solar and KamLAND neutrinos

- Generalized mass-ordering degeneracy  $\Rightarrow$  new LMA-D solution with  $\theta_{12} > 45^\circ$  [72];
- $\eta' = 0 \Rightarrow$  NSI terms proportional to  $N_p(\vec{x}) \equiv N_e(\vec{x}) \Rightarrow$  the degeneracy becomes exact.



[72] O.G. Miranda, M.A. Tortola, J.W.F. Valle, JHEP 10 (2006) 008 [hep-ph/0406280]

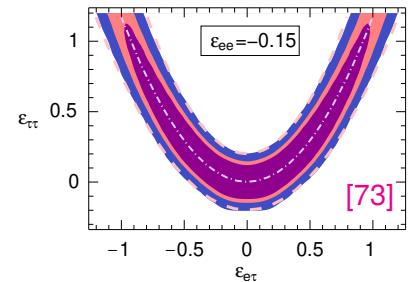
### Matter potential for atmospheric and long-baseline neutrinos

- In Earth matter:  $Y_n(\vec{x}) \rightarrow Y_n^\oplus \approx 1.051 \Rightarrow \mathcal{E}_{\alpha\beta}(\vec{x}) \rightarrow \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^\oplus$  becomes an effective parameter:

$$\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^\oplus \equiv \sqrt{5} [\cos \eta' + Y_n^\oplus \sin \eta'] \varepsilon'_{\alpha\beta},$$

- the bounds on  $\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^\oplus$  are independent of the fermion couplings (i.e., of  $\eta'$ );
- for  $\eta' = \arctan(-1/Y_n^\oplus) \approx -43.6^\circ$  ATM+LBL data imply **no** bound on  $\varepsilon'_{\alpha\beta}$ ;
- the NSI parameter space is too big to be properly studied  $\Rightarrow$  simplification needed;
- bounds on  $\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^\oplus$  are weakest when  $V_{\text{mat}} \propto \delta_{e\alpha}\delta_{e\beta} + \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^\oplus$  has two degenerate eigenvalues [73]  
 $\Rightarrow$  focus on such case  $\Rightarrow$  introduce parameters  $(\varepsilon_\oplus, \varphi_{12}, \varphi_{13}, \alpha_1, \alpha_2)$  and define:

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon_{ee}^\oplus - \varepsilon_{\mu\mu}^\oplus &= \varepsilon_\oplus (\cos^2 \varphi_{12} - \sin^2 \varphi_{12}) \cos^2 \varphi_{13} - 1, \\ \varepsilon_{\tau\tau}^\oplus - \varepsilon_{\mu\mu}^\oplus &= \varepsilon_\oplus (\sin^2 \varphi_{13} - \sin^2 \varphi_{12} \cos^2 \varphi_{13}), \\ \varepsilon_{e\mu}^\oplus &= -\varepsilon_\oplus \cos \varphi_{12} \sin \varphi_{12} \cos^2 \varphi_{13} e^{i(\alpha_1 - \alpha_2)}, \\ \varepsilon_{e\tau}^\oplus &= -\varepsilon_\oplus \cos \varphi_{12} \cos \varphi_{13} \sin \varphi_{13} e^{i(2\alpha_1 + \alpha_2)}, \\ \varepsilon_{\mu\tau}^\oplus &= \varepsilon_\oplus \sin \varphi_{12} \cos \varphi_{13} \sin \varphi_{13} e^{i(\alpha_1 + 2\alpha_2)}. \end{aligned}$$

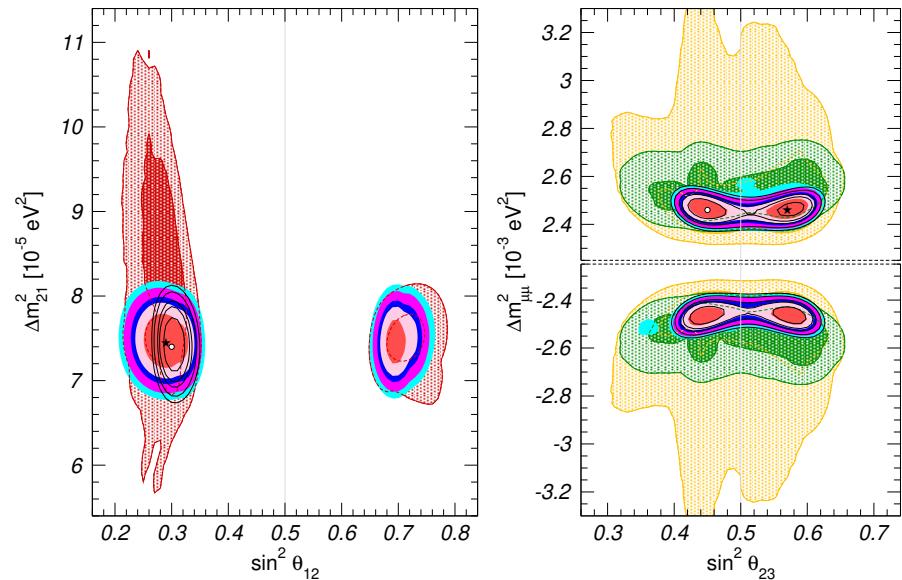


- for definiteness we also assume on CP conservation and set  $\delta_{\text{CP}} = \alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0$ .

[73] A. Friedland, C. Lunardini, M. Maltoni, Phys. Rev. D **70** (2004) 111301 [[hep-ph/0408264](#)]

### Impact of NSI on the oscillation parameters

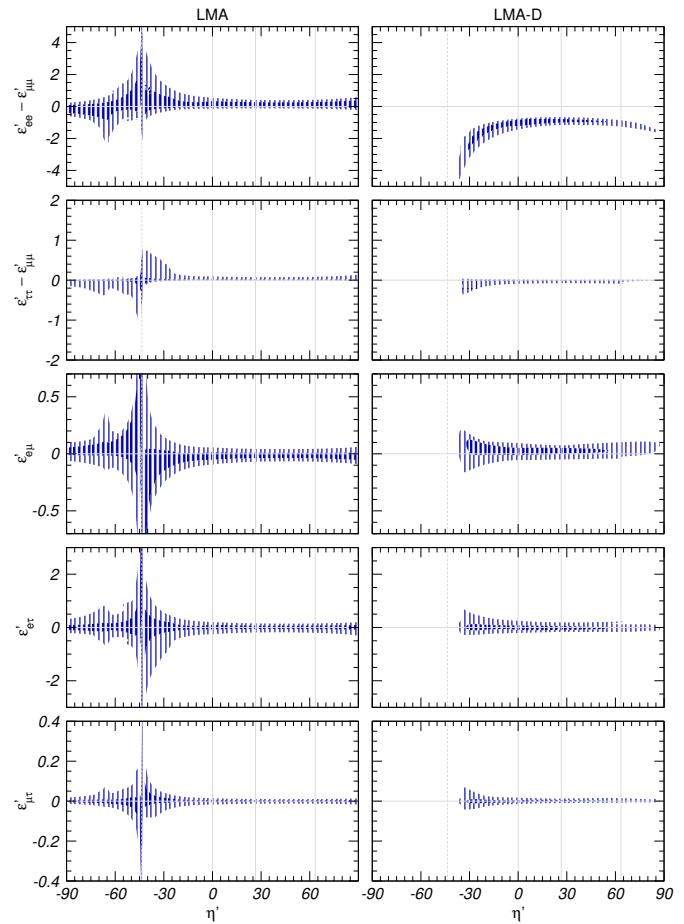
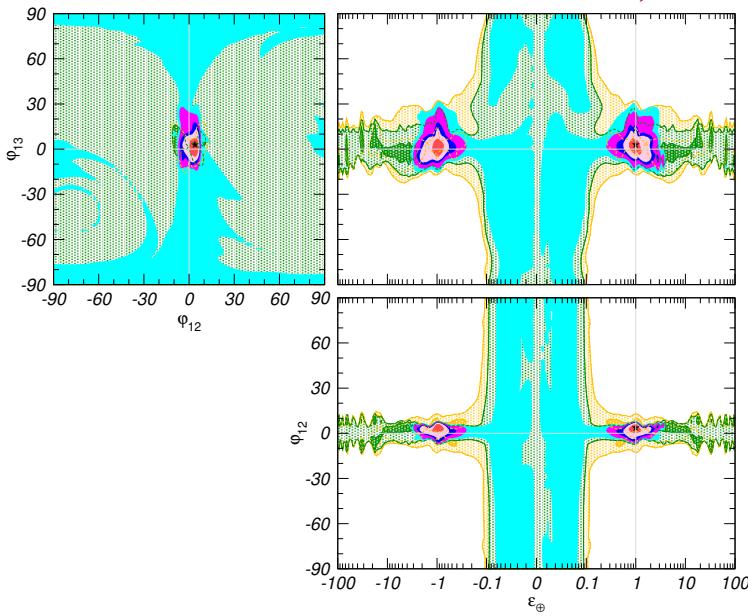
- Once marginalized over  $\eta'$ , analysis of **solar + KamLAND** data shows strong deterioration of the precision on  $\Delta m_{21}^2$  and  $\theta_{12}$ , as well as the appearance of the LMA-D solution [72];
- a similar worsening appears in **ATM + LBL-dis + LBL-app + IceCUBE + MBL-rea** analysis;
- synergies between **solar** and **atmospheric** sectors allow to recover the SM accuracy on most parameters (except  $\theta_{12}$ );
- notice that the LMA-D solution persists also in the global fit;
- high-energy atmos. **IceCUBE** data have no sensitivity to oscillations ( $P_{\mu\mu} \propto 1/E^2$ ), hence they contribute little.



[72] O.G. Miranda, M.A. Tortola, J.W.F. Valle, JHEP **10** (2006) 008 [[hep-ph/0406280](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/0406280)]

## Determination of NSI parameters

- Reduced ( $\varepsilon_\oplus$ ,  $\varphi_{12}$ ,  $\varphi_{13}$ ) parameter space can be constrained by joint solar+KamLAND and ATM+LBL analysis;
- bounds can then be recast in term of  $\varepsilon'_{\alpha\beta}$ .



### Non-standard interactions with electrons: formalism

- Let's focus on solar  $\nu$  and assume  $m_{Z'} \gtrsim \mathcal{O}(\text{MeV})$ . In the presence of NC-like NSI with  $e$ , elastic scattering is modified  $\Rightarrow$  detection process (SK, SNO, Borexino) is affected;
- in the SM,  $\nu$  interactions (both CC and NC) are diagonal in the flavor basis. Hence:

$$N_{\text{ev}} \propto \sum_{\beta} P_{e\beta} \sigma_{\beta}^{\text{SM}} \quad \text{with} \quad P_{e\beta} \equiv |S_{\beta e}|^2 \quad (\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_{\beta} \text{ transition probabilities})$$

- this expression is only valid in the flavor basis. Unitary rotation  $U \Rightarrow$  arbitrary basis:

$$S_{\beta e} = \sum_i U_{\beta i} S_{ie} \quad \Rightarrow \quad P_{e\beta} = \sum_{ij} U_{\beta i} \rho_{ij}^{(e)} U_{j\beta}^{\dagger} \quad \text{with} \quad \rho_{ij}^{(e)} \equiv S_{ie} S_{ej}^{\dagger} = [S \Pi^{(e)} S^{\dagger}]_{ij}$$

- where  $\rho^{(e)}$  is the  $\nu$  density matrix at the detector (for a  $\nu_e$  at the source). Substituting:

$$N_{\text{ev}} \propto \sum_{ij} \rho_{ij}^{(e)} \sum_{\beta} U_{j\beta}^{\dagger} \sigma_{\beta}^{\text{SM}} U_{\beta i} = \boxed{\text{Tr} [\rho^{(e)} \sigma^{\text{SM}}]} \quad \text{with} \quad \sigma_{ji}^{\text{SM}} \equiv [U^{\dagger} \text{diag} \{\sigma_{\beta}^{\text{SM}}\} U]_{ji};$$

- here  $\sigma^{\text{SM}}$  is a matrix in flavor space, containing enough information to describe the ES interaction of *any* neutrino state without the need to explicitly project it onto the interaction eigenstates: such projection is now implicitly encoded into  $\sigma^{\text{SM}}$ .

## Neutrino-electron cross-section in the presence of NSI

- In the presence of flavor-changing NSI, the SM flavor basis no longer coincides with the interaction eigenstates. Hence, the general formula  $N_{ev} \propto \text{Tr} [\rho^{(e)} \sigma^{\text{NSI}}]$  must be used;
- the cross-section matrix  $\sigma^{\text{NSI}}$  is the integral over  $T_e$  of the following expression:

$$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{NSI}}}{dT_e}(E_\nu, T_e) = \frac{2G_F^2 m_e}{\pi} \left\{ \textcolor{red}{C}_L^2 \left[ 1 + \frac{\alpha}{\pi} f_-(y) \right] + \textcolor{blue}{C}_R^2 (1-y)^2 \left[ 1 + \frac{\alpha}{\pi} f_+(y) \right] - \left\{ \textcolor{red}{C}_L, \textcolor{blue}{C}_R \right\} \frac{m_e y}{2E_\nu} \left[ 1 + \frac{\alpha}{\pi} f_\pm(y) \right] \right\}$$

where  $f_+, f_-, f_\pm$  are loop functions,  $y \equiv T_e/E_\nu$ , and  $\textcolor{red}{C}_L, \textcolor{blue}{C}_R$  are  $3 \times 3$  hermitian matrices:

$$\begin{cases} \textcolor{red}{C}_{\alpha\beta}^L \equiv c_{L\beta} \delta_{\alpha\beta} + \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{eL} \\ \textcolor{blue}{C}_{\alpha\beta}^R \equiv c_{L\beta} \delta_{\alpha\beta} + \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{eR} \end{cases} \quad \text{with} \quad \begin{cases} c_{L\tau} = c_{L\mu} = g_L^\ell & \text{and} & c_{Le} = g_L^\ell + 1, \\ c_{R\tau} = c_{R\mu} = c_{Re} = g_R^\ell & & (\text{at tree level}) ; \end{cases}$$

- when the NSI terms  $\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{eL}$  and  $\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{eR}$  are set to zero, the matrix  $d\sigma^{\text{NSI}}/dT_e$  becomes diagonal and the SM expressions are recovered;
- the cross section for antineutrinos can be obtained by interchanging  $\textcolor{red}{C}_L \leftrightarrow \textcolor{blue}{C}_R^*$ ;
- NSI effects on neutrino propagation are the same as in the previous section (with  $\eta' = 0$  for  $\xi^p = \xi^n = 0$ ) and are accounted by the density matrix  $\rho^{(e)}$ .

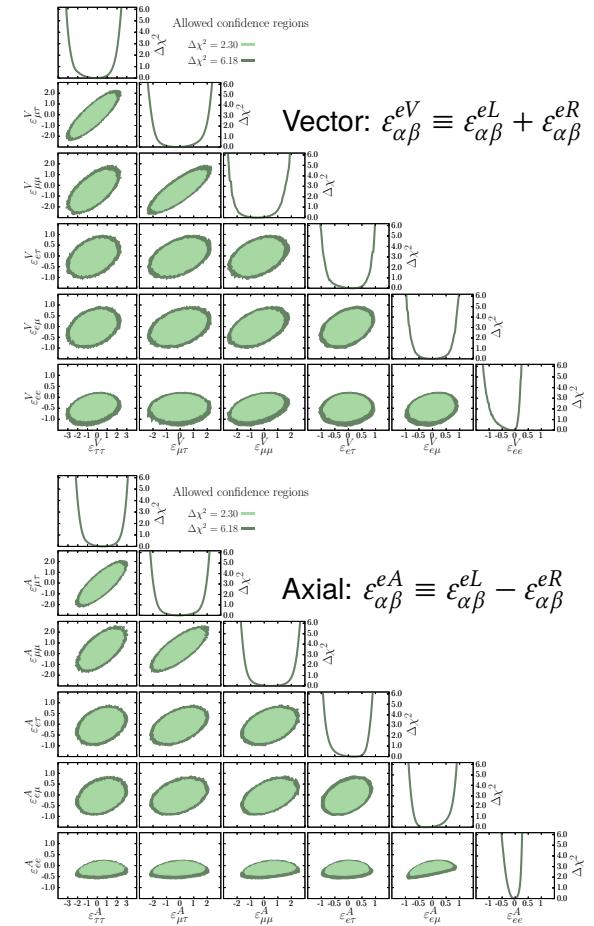
### Bounds on NSI- $e$ from Borexino

- $m_{Z'} \gtrsim \mathcal{O}(500 \text{ keV}) \Rightarrow$  Borexino sensitive to NSI- $e$ ;
- Ref. [74]:  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{--- only diagonal NSI considered;} \\ \text{--- only 1 or 2 NSI varied at-a-time;} \end{array} \right.$
- in [75] we studied the general case. We found:
  - degeneracies strongly weakens the bounds;
  - yet a definite  $\mathcal{O}(1)$  bound is always found.

	Allowed regions at 90% CL ( $\Delta\chi^2 = 2.71$ )			
	Vector		Axial Vector	
	1 Parameter	Marginalized	1 Parameter	Marginalized
$\varepsilon_{ee}$	$[-0.09, +0.14]$	$[-1.05, +0.17]$	$[-0.05, +0.10]$	$[-0.38, +0.24]$
$\varepsilon_{\mu\mu}$	$[-0.51, +0.35]$	$[-2.38, +1.54]$	$[-0.29, +0.19] \oplus [+0.68, +1.45]$	$[-1.47, +2.37]$
$\varepsilon_{\tau\tau}$	$[-0.66, +0.52]$	$[-2.85, +2.04]$	$[-0.40, +0.36] \oplus [+0.69, +1.44]$	$[-1.82, +2.81]$
$\varepsilon_{e\mu}$	$[-0.34, +0.61]$	$[-0.83, +0.84]$	$[-0.30, +0.43]$	$[-0.79, +0.76]$
$\varepsilon_{e\tau}$	$[-0.48, +0.47]$	$[-0.90, +0.85]$	$[-0.40, +0.38]$	$[-0.81, +0.78]$
$\varepsilon_{\mu\tau}$	$[-0.25, +0.36]$	$[-2.07, +2.06]$	$[-1.10, -0.75] \oplus [-0.13, +0.22]$	$[-1.95, +1.91]$

[74] Borexino coll., JHEP 02 (2020) 038 [[arXiv:1905.03512](https://arxiv.org/abs/1905.03512)]

[75] Coloma *et al.*, JHEP 07 (2022) 138 [[arXiv:2204.03011](https://arxiv.org/abs/2204.03011)]

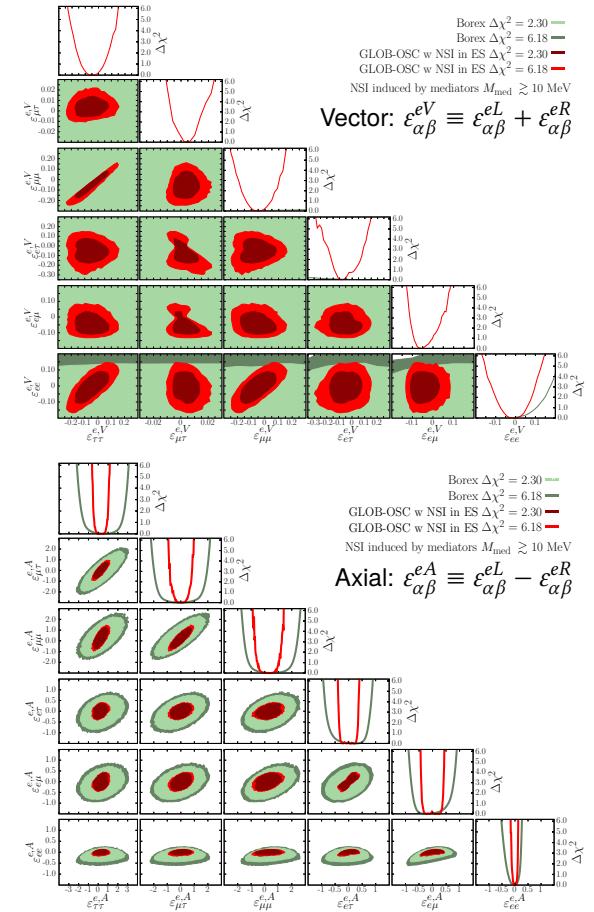


## Bounds on NSI- $e$ from global data

- $m_{Z'} \gtrsim \mathcal{O}(10 \text{ MeV}) \Rightarrow \text{SK} \& \text{SNO}$  sensitive to NSI- $e$ :
  - SK measures ES events with high statistics;
  - SNO determines the  ${}^8\text{B}$  flux accurately via NC;
- bounds from Borexino alone greatly enhanced [76];
- limits dominated by NSI contributions to the ES cross-section, which allow to derive separate bounds on diagonal  $\varepsilon_{\alpha\alpha}^{eV}$  and  $\varepsilon_{\alpha\alpha}^{eA}$  couplings.

Allowed ranges at 90% CL (marginalized)			
Vector ( $X = V$ )		Axial-vector ( $X = A$ )	
Borexino	GLOB-OSC w NSI in ES	Borexino	GLOB-OSC w NSI in ES
$\varepsilon_{ee}^{e,X}$	$[-1.1, +0.17]$	$[-0.13, +0.10]$	$[-0.38, +0.24]$
$\varepsilon_{\mu\mu}^{e,X}$	$[-2.4, +1.5]$	$[-0.20, +0.10]$	$[-1.5, +2.4]$
$\varepsilon_{\tau\tau}^{e,X}$	$[-2.8, +2.1]$	$[-0.17, +0.093]$	$[-1.8, +2.8]$
$\varepsilon_{e\mu}^{e,X}$	$[-0.83, +0.84]$	$[-0.097, +0.011]$	$[-0.79, +0.76]$
$\varepsilon_{e\tau}^{e,X}$	$[-0.90, +0.85]$	$[-0.18, +0.080]$	$[-0.81, +0.78]$
$\varepsilon_{\mu\tau}^{e,X}$	$[-2.1, +2.1]$	$[-0.0063, +0.016]$	$[-1.9, +1.9]$
			$[-0.79, +0.81]$

[76] Coloma *et al.*, JHEP 08 (2023) 032 [[arXiv:2305.07698](https://arxiv.org/abs/2305.07698)]



## Neutrino-nucleus cross-section in the presence of NSI

- At  $m_{Z'} \gtrsim \mathcal{O}(50 \text{ MeV})$ , coherent neutrino-nucleus scattering becomes sensitive to NSI;
- the cross-section matrix  $\sigma^{\text{coh}}$  is the integral over the recoil energy of the nucleus  $E_R$  of:

$$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{coh}}}{dE_R}(E_\nu, E_R) = \frac{G_F^2}{2\pi} \mathcal{Q}^2 F^2(2m_A E_R) m_A \left( 2 - \frac{m_A E_R}{E_\nu^2} \right)$$

where  $m_A$  is the nucleus' mass,  $F(q^2)$  its nuclear form factor, and  $\mathcal{Q}$  an hermitian matrix:

$$\mathcal{Q}_{\alpha\beta} = Z(g_V^p \delta_{\alpha\beta} + \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{pV}) + N(g_V^n \delta_{\alpha\beta} + \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{nV});$$

- here  $g_V^p$  and  $g_V^n$  are the SM vector couplings to protons and neutrons. We can rewrite:
- $$\mathcal{Q}_{\alpha\beta} = Z[(g_p^V + Y_n^{\text{coh}} g_n^V) \delta_{\alpha\beta} + \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{coh}}] \quad \text{with} \quad \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{coh}} \equiv \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{pV} + Y_n^{\text{coh}} \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{nV} \quad \text{and} \quad Y_n^{\text{coh}} \equiv N/Z;$$
- notice that only vector couplings matter, as for oscillations. Assuming factorization:

$$\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{coh}} = \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta} \chi^V (\xi^p + Y_n^{\text{coh}} \xi^n) = \sqrt{5} \varepsilon''_{\alpha\beta} \chi^V [\cos \eta'' + Y_n^{\text{coh}} \sin \eta'']$$

where we have used that only the direction  $\eta''$  in the  $(\xi^p, \xi^n)$  plane is probed by coherent:

$$\xi^p \equiv \sqrt{5} \mathcal{N} \cos \eta'', \quad \xi^n \equiv \sqrt{5} \mathcal{N} \sin \eta'', \quad \varepsilon''_{\alpha\beta} \equiv \mathcal{N} \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta} \quad \text{with} \quad \mathcal{N} \equiv |(\xi^p, \xi^n)| / |\vec{\xi}|.$$

## The COHERENT experiment

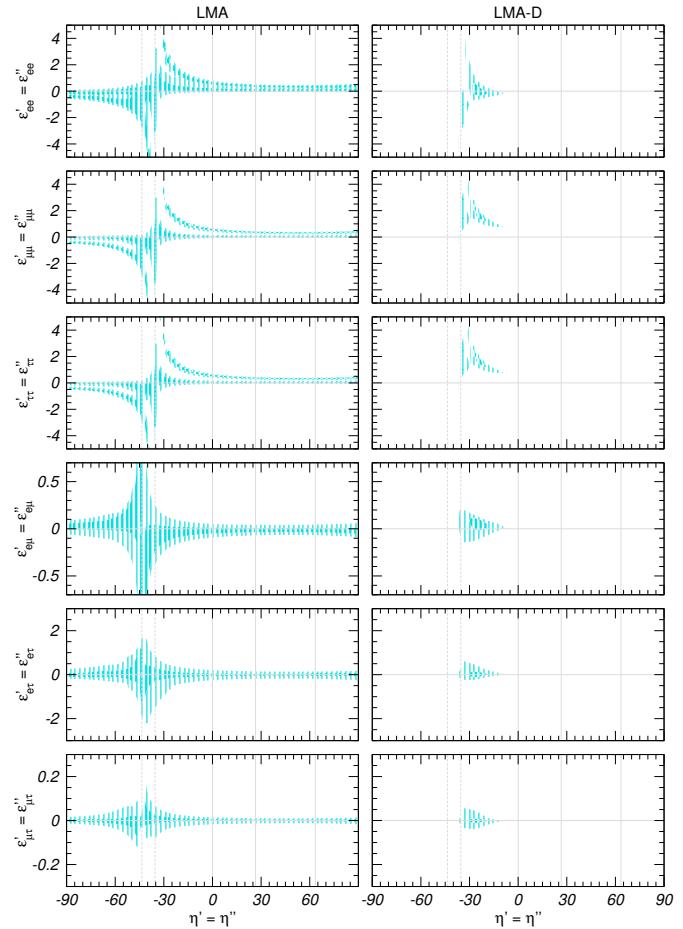
- Observation of coherent neutrino-nucleus scattering [77] allows to put bounds on vector NSI:

$$\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{coh}} = \sqrt{5} \varepsilon''_{\alpha\beta} \chi^V [\cos \eta'' + Y_n^{\text{coh}} \sin \eta''] ;$$

- $Y_n^{\text{coh}} \approx 1.407 \Rightarrow$  no bound on  $\varepsilon''_{\alpha\beta}$  is implied for  $\eta'' = \arctan(-1/Y_n^{\text{coh}}) \approx -35.4^\circ$ ;

- combination:  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{oscillation effects} \rightarrow \eta', \\ \text{coherent scattering} \rightarrow \eta'', \\ \text{elastic scattering} \rightarrow \xi^e; \end{array} \right.$
- NSI with quarks  $\Rightarrow \xi^e = 0 \Rightarrow \eta' = \eta''$ ;
- separate bounds on diagonal  $\varepsilon_{\alpha\alpha}$  ( $= \varepsilon'_{\alpha\alpha} = \varepsilon''_{\alpha\alpha}$ ) couplings can be placed.

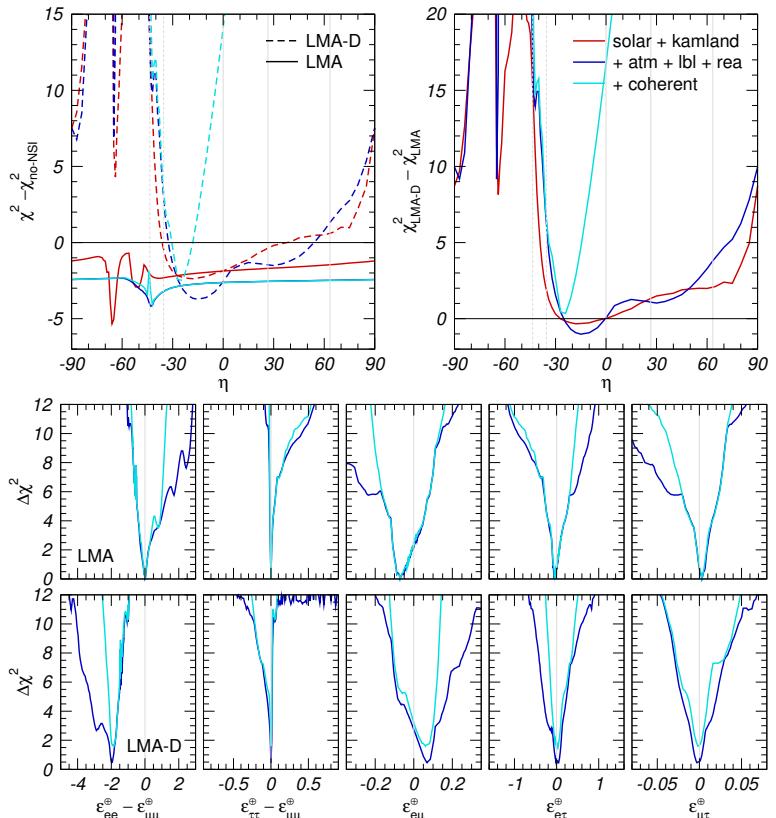
[77] D. Akimov *et al.* [COHERENT], Science 357 (2017)  
1123 [arXiv:1708.01294]



## Bounds on NSI with quarks

- Inclusion of COHERENT data rules out LMA-D for NSI with  $u$ ,  $d$ , or  $p$ , but **not** in the general case;
- our general  $2\sigma$  bounds [78]:

OSCILLATIONS		+ COHERENT (t+E Duke)
	LMA	LMA $\oplus$ LMA-D
$\varepsilon_{ee}^u - \varepsilon_{\mu\mu}^u$	$[-0.072, +0.321] \oplus [-1.042, -0.743]$	$\varepsilon_{ee}^u = [-0.031, +0.476]$
$\varepsilon_{\tau\tau}^u - \varepsilon_{\mu\mu}^u$	$[-0.001, +0.018]$	$\varepsilon_{\mu\mu}^u = [-0.029, +0.068] \oplus [+0.309, +0.415]$
$\varepsilon_{e\mu}^u$	$[-0.050, +0.020]$	$\varepsilon_{e\tau}^u = [-0.029, +0.068] \oplus [+0.309, +0.414]$
$\varepsilon_{e\tau}^u$	$[-0.077, +0.098]$	$\varepsilon_{\mu\tau}^u = [-0.048, +0.020]$
$\varepsilon_{\mu\tau}^u$	$[-0.006, +0.007]$	$\varepsilon_{\tau\tau}^u = [-0.077, +0.095]$
$\varepsilon_{ee}^d - \varepsilon_{\mu\mu}^d$	$[-0.084, +0.326] \oplus [-1.081, -1.026]$	$\varepsilon_{ee}^d = [-0.034, +0.426]$
$\varepsilon_{\tau\tau}^d - \varepsilon_{\mu\mu}^d$	$[-0.001, +0.018]$	$\varepsilon_{\mu\mu}^d = [-0.027, +0.063] \oplus [+0.275, +0.371]$
$\varepsilon_{e\mu}^d$	$[-0.051, +0.020]$	$\varepsilon_{e\tau}^d = [-0.027, +0.067] \oplus [+0.274, +0.372]$
$\varepsilon_{e\tau}^d$	$[-0.077, +0.098]$	$\varepsilon_{\mu\tau}^d = [-0.050, +0.020]$
$\varepsilon_{\mu\tau}^d$	$[-0.006, +0.007]$	$\varepsilon_{\tau\tau}^d = [-0.076, +0.097]$
$\varepsilon_{ee}^p - \varepsilon_{\mu\mu}^p$	$[-0.190, +0.927] \oplus [-2.927, -1.814]$	$\varepsilon_{ee}^p = [-0.086, +0.884] \oplus [+1.083, +1.605]$
$\varepsilon_{\tau\tau}^p - \varepsilon_{\mu\mu}^p$	$[-0.001, +0.053]$	$\varepsilon_{\mu\mu}^p = [-0.097, +0.220] \oplus [+1.063, +1.410]$
$\varepsilon_{e\mu}^p$	$[-0.145, +0.058]$	$\varepsilon_{e\tau}^p = [-0.098, +0.221] \oplus [+1.063, +1.408]$
$\varepsilon_{e\tau}^p$	$[-0.238, +0.292]$	$\varepsilon_{\mu\tau}^p = [-0.124, +0.058]$
$\varepsilon_{\mu\tau}^p$	$[-0.019, +0.021]$	$\varepsilon_{\tau\tau}^p = [-0.239, +0.244]$



- Argon data add further  $\Delta\chi^2 \sim 4$  [79].

[78] P. Coloma, I. Esteban, M.C. Gonzalez-Garcia, M. Maltoni, JHEP **02** (2020) 023 [[arXiv:1911.09109](https://arxiv.org/abs/1911.09109)]

[79] M. Chaves and T. Schwetz, JHEP **05** (2021), 042 [[arXiv:2102.11981](https://arxiv.org/abs/2102.11981)]

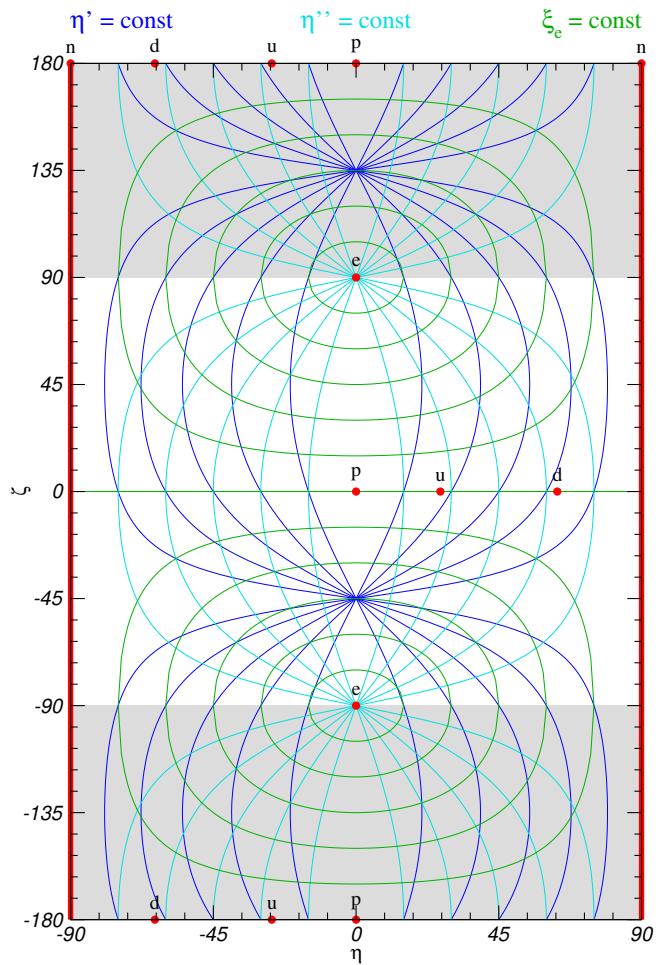
## Vector NSI in the general case

- Direction of  $(\xi^e, \xi^u, \xi^d) \leftrightarrow$  half-sphere  $|\vec{\xi}| = \sqrt{5}$ ;
- choose two angles  $(\eta, \zeta)$  and define:

$$\epsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{fV} \equiv \epsilon_{\alpha\beta} \xi^f \chi^V \quad \text{with} \quad \begin{cases} \xi^e = \sqrt{5} \cos \eta \sin \zeta, \\ \xi^p = \sqrt{5} \cos \eta \cos \zeta, \\ \xi^n = \sqrt{5} \sin \eta; \end{cases}$$

- each type of “effect” is constant on given lines:
  - oscillations:  $\tan \eta' = \tan \eta / (\cos \zeta + \sin \zeta)$ ,
  - coherent sc.:  $\tan \eta'' = \tan \eta / \cos \zeta$ ,
  - elastic sc.:  $\xi^e / |\vec{\xi}| = \cos \eta \sin \zeta$ ;
- combining different sets breaks degeneracy;
- special case:  $\zeta = 0 \Rightarrow \xi^e = 0 \Rightarrow \eta' = \eta'' = \eta$ .

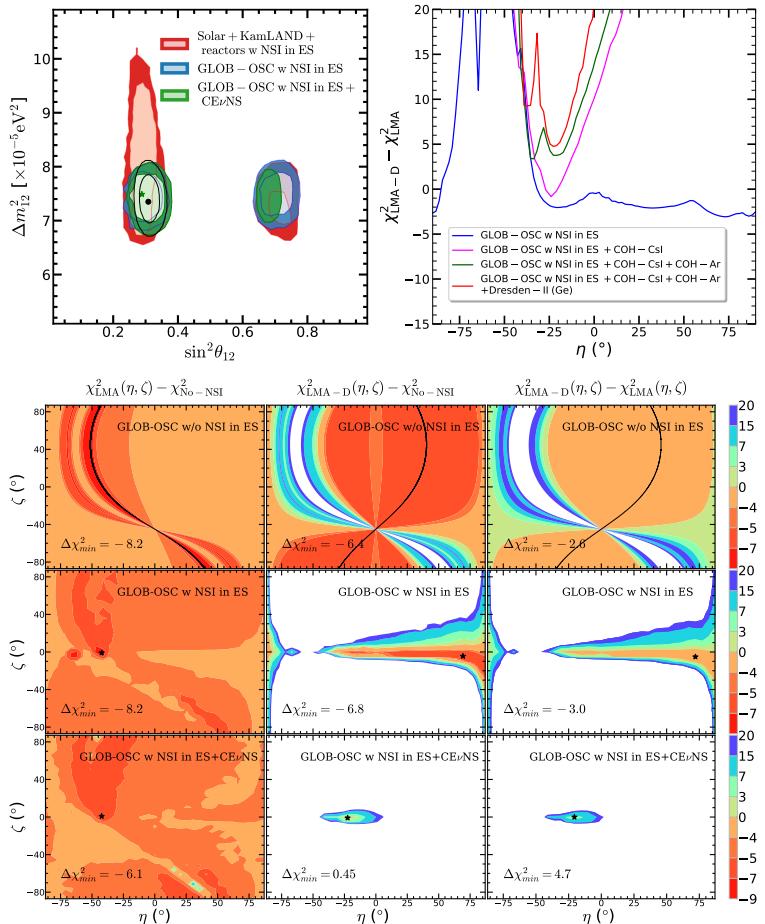
[76] Coloma *et al.*, JHEP [arXiv:2305.07698]



## Bounds on vector NSI

- Determination of oscillation parameters remain stable under NSI (except  $\theta_{12}$ );
- ES effects** disfavor region at large  $\xi^e$  (roughly  $|\zeta| \gtrsim 45^\circ$ ) but have little impact on rejection of LMA-D;
- inclusion of **coherent** scattering data rules out LMA-D (except in a small region).

Allowed ranges at 90% CL		99% CL	marginalized
GLOB-OSC w/o NSI in ES		GLOB-OSC w NSI in ES + CE $\nu$ NS	
$\varepsilon_{ee}^\oplus - \varepsilon_{\mu\mu}^\oplus$	$[-3.1, -2.8] \oplus [-2.1, -1.88] \oplus [-0.15, +0.17]$ $[-4.8, -1.6] \oplus [-0.40, +2.6]$	$\varepsilon_{ee}^\oplus$ $\varepsilon_{\mu\mu}^\oplus$	$[-0.19, +0.20] \oplus [+0.95, +1.3]$ $[-0.23, +0.25] \oplus [+0.81, +1.3]$
$\varepsilon_{\tau\tau}^\oplus - \varepsilon_{\mu\mu}^\oplus$	$[-0.0215, +0.0122]$ $[-0.075, +0.080]$	$\varepsilon_{\tau\tau}^\oplus$	$[-0.43, +0.14] \oplus [+0.91, +1.3]$ $[-0.29, +0.20] \oplus [+0.83, +1.4]$
$\varepsilon_{e\mu}^\oplus$	$[-0.11, -0.021] \oplus [+0.045, +0.135]$ $[-0.32, +0.40]$	$\varepsilon_{e\mu}^\oplus$	$[-0.12, +0.011]$ $[-0.18, +0.08]$
$\varepsilon_{\mu\tau}^\oplus$	$[-0.22, +0.088]$ $[-0.49, +0.45]$	$\varepsilon_{\mu\tau}^\oplus$	$[-0.16, +0.083]$ $[-0.25, +0.33]$
$\varepsilon_{\mu\tau}^\oplus$	$[-0.0063, +0.013]$ $[-0.043, +0.039]$	$\varepsilon_{\mu\tau}^\oplus$	$[-0.0047, +0.012]$ $[-0.020, +0.021]$



[76] Coloma *et al.*, JHEP [arXiv:2305.07698]

- Most of the present data from **solar**, **atmospheric**, **reactor** and **accelerator** experiments are well explained by the  $3\nu$  oscillation hypothesis. The three-neutrino scenario is nowadays well proven and **robust**;
- however, the possibility of physics beyond the  $3\nu$  paradigm remains open. Here we have focused on NC-like non-standard neutrino-matter interactions;
- we have extended previous studies by considering NSI with an arbitrary ratio of couplings to the constituents of ordinary matter (parametrized by coefficients  $\xi^e$ ,  $\xi^u$ ,  $\xi^d$ ) and a lepton-flavor structure independent of the fermion type (parametrized by a matrix  $\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}$ );
- we have found that NSI can spoil the precise determination of the oscillation parameters offered by **specific** class of experiments, but the  $3\nu$  precision is recovered once all the data are combined **together** – except for  $\theta_{12}$  where a new region (LMA-D) appears;
- for  $m_{Z'} \gtrsim \mathcal{O}(10 \text{ MeV})$  NSI with electrons also affect ES interactions in solar data. Interference between **oscillation** and **scattering** effects requires careful treatment;
- the degeneracy between LMA-D and the  $\nu$  mass ordering cannot be resolved by oscillation data alone. Combination with scattering experiments (e.g., COHERENT) is essential, but requires a sufficiently large mediator mass  $m_{Z'} \gtrsim \mathcal{O}(50 \text{ MeV})$ .