

# Atmospheric Neutrino Experiments

## Part-I

Roger Wendell  
Kyoto University  
CCEPP Summer School on Neutrino Physics  
Daya Bay

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# Introductory Remarks

- Lecture organization
  - History of Atmospheric Neutrino Measurements
  - Discovery of Oscillations
  - Systematic Errors for Atmospheric Neutrinos
  - Other Types of Oscillation Physics
  - Future for atmospheric neutrino oscillations
  
- Intrinsic bias(es)
  - I will mostly discuss the Super-Kamiokande and IceCube
  - (With some mention of other experiments)

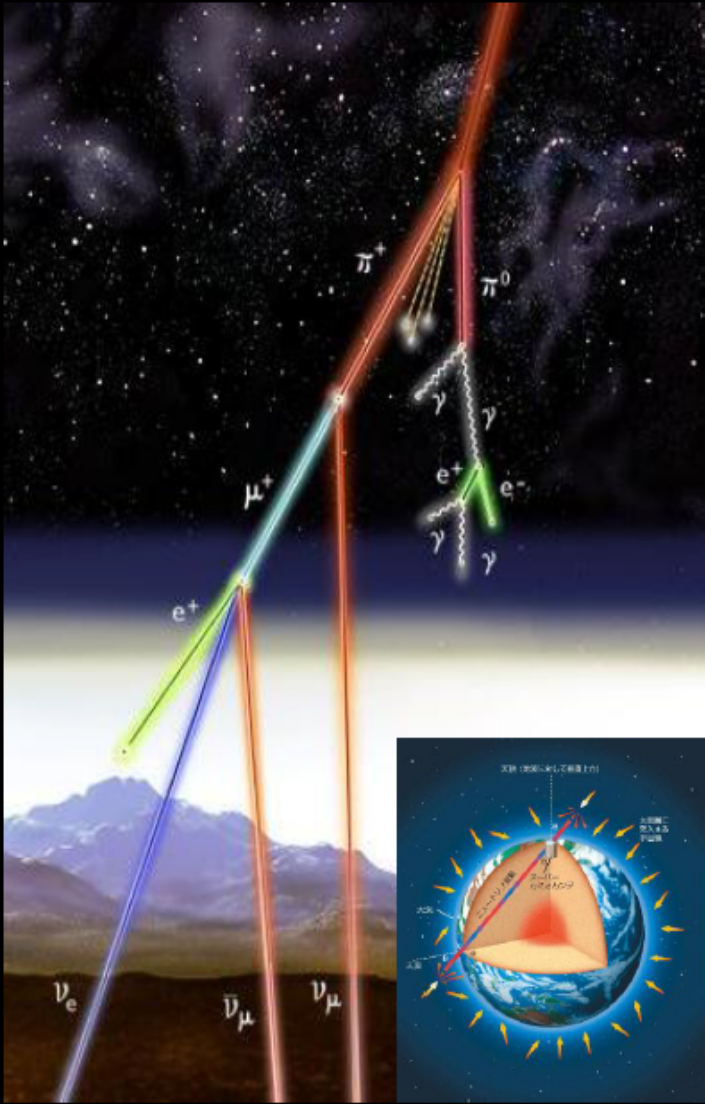
# Main Messages:

- Atmospheric neutrinos are a **useful** probe many interesting (potential) phenomena because:
  - Wide range of energies
  - Wide variety of their baselines
  - Constant source
- But precision measurements are **challenging** because:
  - Wide range of energies
  - True neutrino direction is unknown
  - Constant source
    - Form a background for many other interesting phenomena

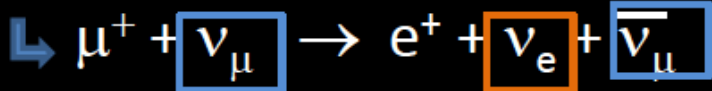
□ “Atmospheric” and Neutrino Oscillations			
□ $\Delta m^2$	■	■	■
□ $\text{Sin}^2\theta_{23}$ , octant	■	■	
□ $\text{Sin}^2\theta_{13}$	■	■	■
□ $\delta_{cp}$	■		
□ Mass Hierarchy	■	■	■
□ Exotic Scenarios	■	■	■
□ $\tau$ Appearance	■	■	■
□ Earth Radiography	■		■
□ Resolution of Parameter Degeneracy (+ beam)	■	■	■
□ Measurement of prompt flux			■
■ Large IAr or H <sub>2</sub> O Cherenkov			
■ Iron Calorimeter			
■ $\nu$ Telescope			

# Flux Reminders

# Reminders about the Atmospheric Neutrino Flux



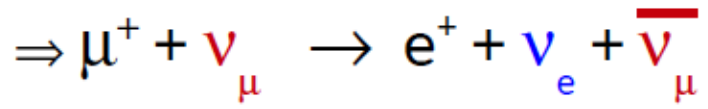
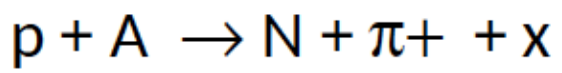
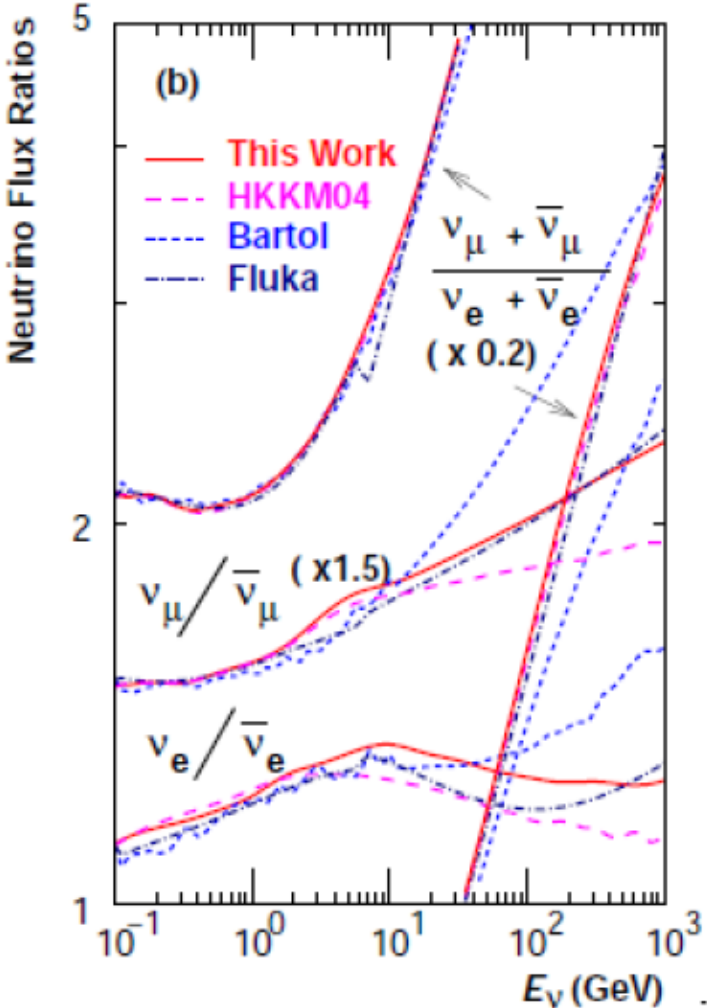
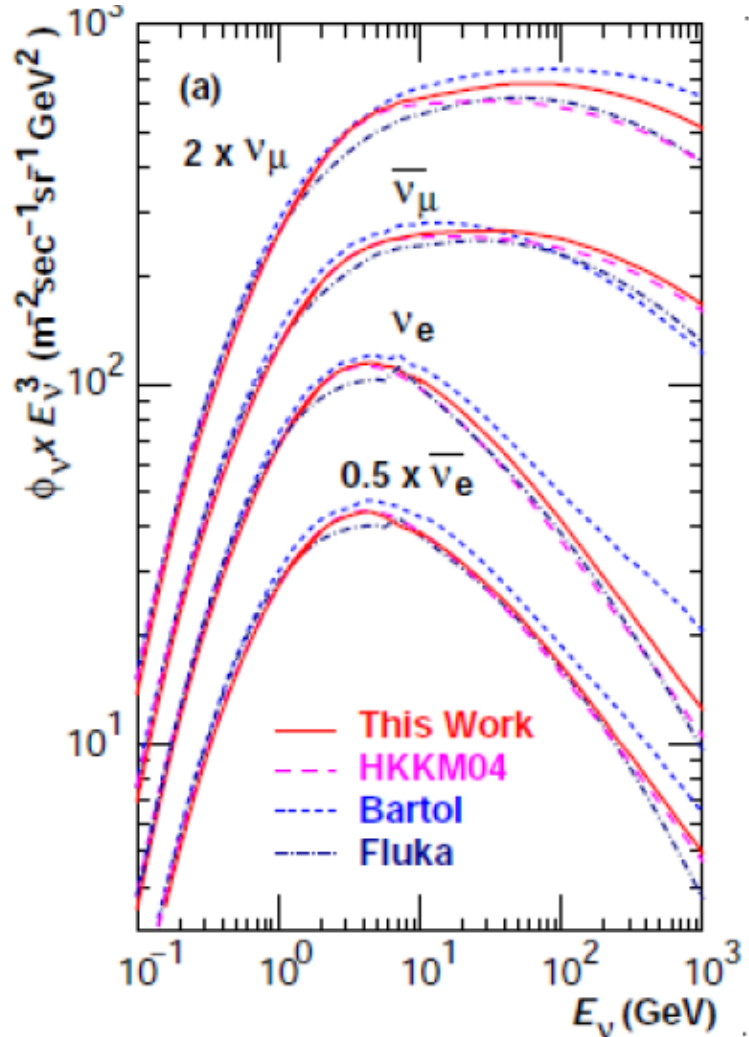
- Cosmic rays strike air nuclei and the decays of the outgoing hadrons produce neutrinos



- Isotropic about the Earth
  - Path length to the detector spans 10 – 10,000 km
- Spans many decades in energy ~100 MeV – PeV<sup>+</sup>

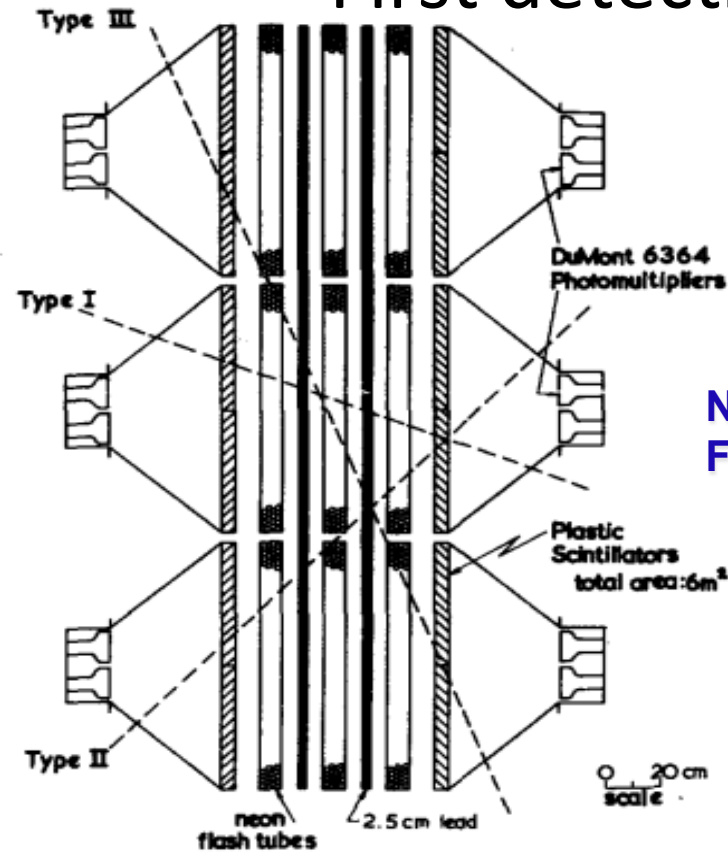
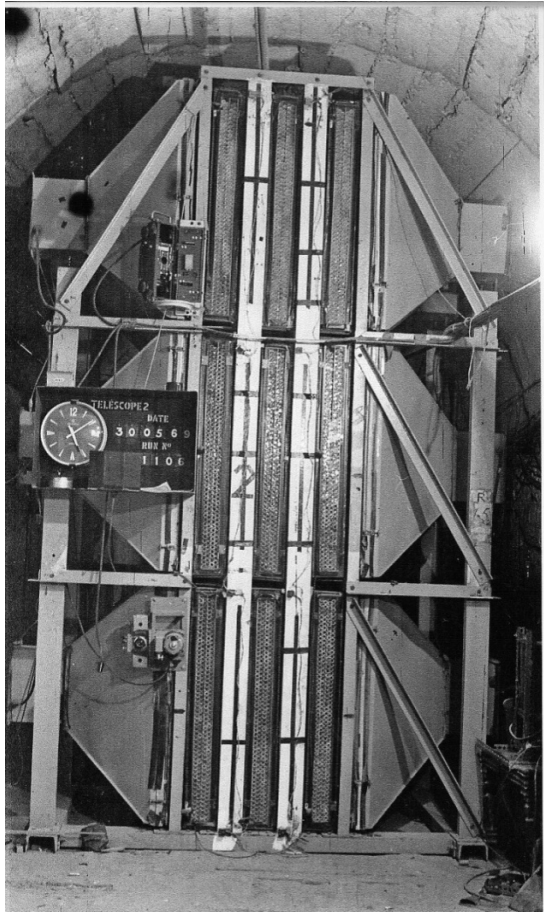
# Reminders about the Atmospheric Neutrino Flux

M. Honda, et. al Phys.Rev.D75:043006,2007



# History

# First detection of atmospheric neutrinos in 1965



Neutrino telescope at Kolar Gold Fields, India -1965

DETECTION OF MUONS PRODUCED BY COSMIC RAY NEUTRINO DEEP UNDERGROUND

C. V. ACHAR, M. G. K. MENON, V. S. NARASIMHAM, P. V. RAMANA MURTHY  
and B. V. SREEKANTAN,  
*Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Colaba, Bombay*

K. HINOTANI and S. MIYAKE,  
*Osaka City University, Osaka, Japan*

D. R. CREED, J. L. OSBORNE, J. B. M. PATTISON and A. W. WOLFENDALE  
*University of Durham, Durham, U.K.*

Physics Letters 18, (1965) 196, dated 15 Aug 1965

At a depth of 2400 meters (7500 meters water equivalent) in India



EVIDENCE FOR HIGH-ENERGY COSMIC-RAY NEUTRINO INTERACTIONS\*

F. Reines, M. F. Crouch, T. L. Jenkins, W. R. Kropp, H. S. Gurr, and G. R. Smith

Case Institute of Technology, Cleveland, Ohio

and

J. P. F. Sellschop and B. Meyer

University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, Republic of South Africa

(Received 26 July 1965)

Neutrino detector at East Rand Proprietary Mine, South Africa –1965

At a depth of 3200 meters (8800 meters water equivalent)

PRL 15, (1965) 429, dated 30 Aug. 1965

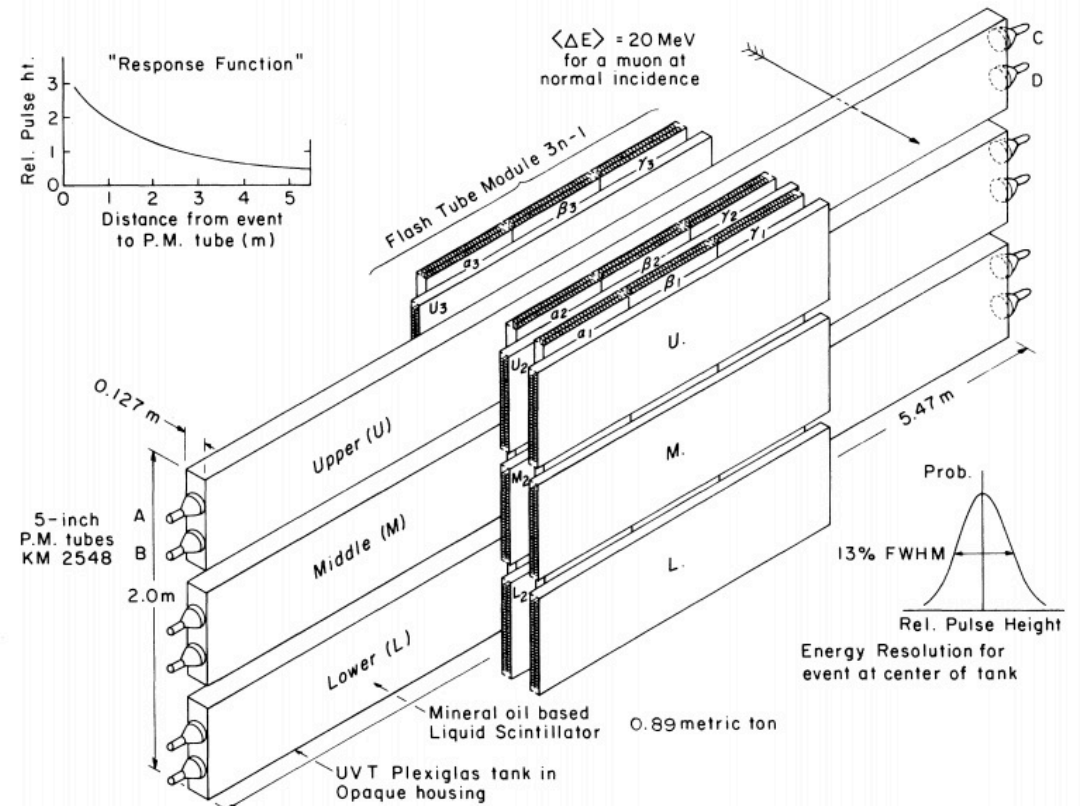
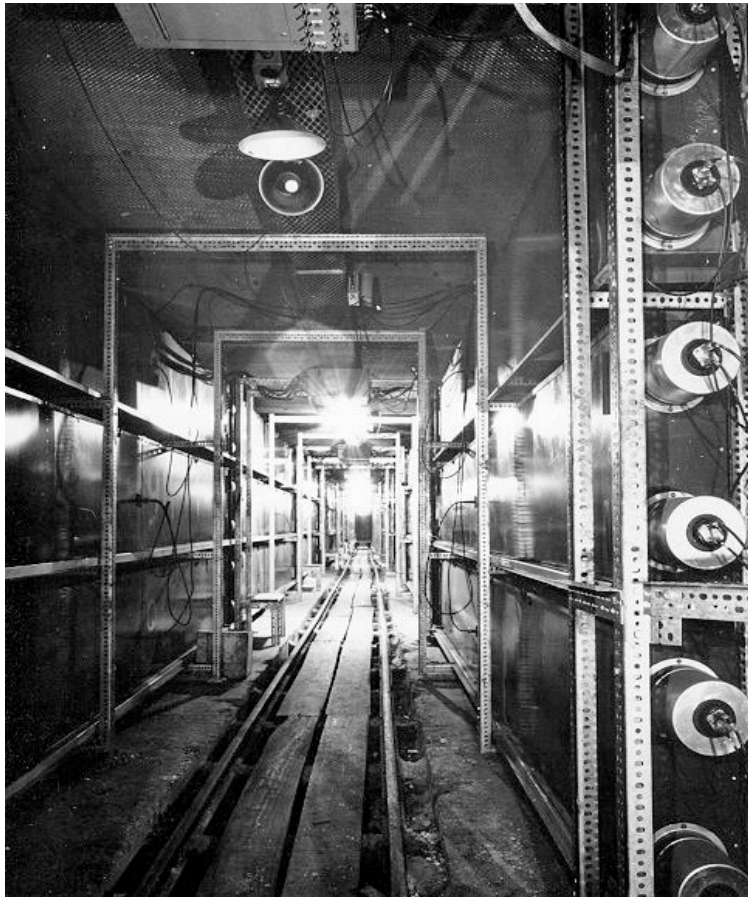
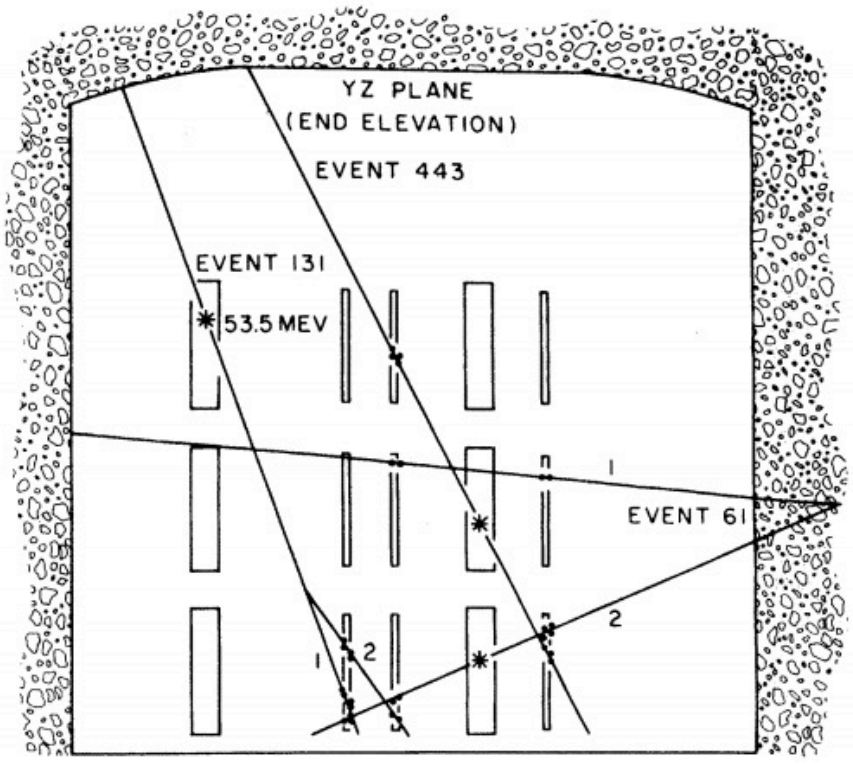


FIG. 2. Details of the nth scintillator bay and the  $(3n - 1)$ st flash-tube module.

# East-Rand Property Experiment Results (1978)

PRL 18, (1978) 2239

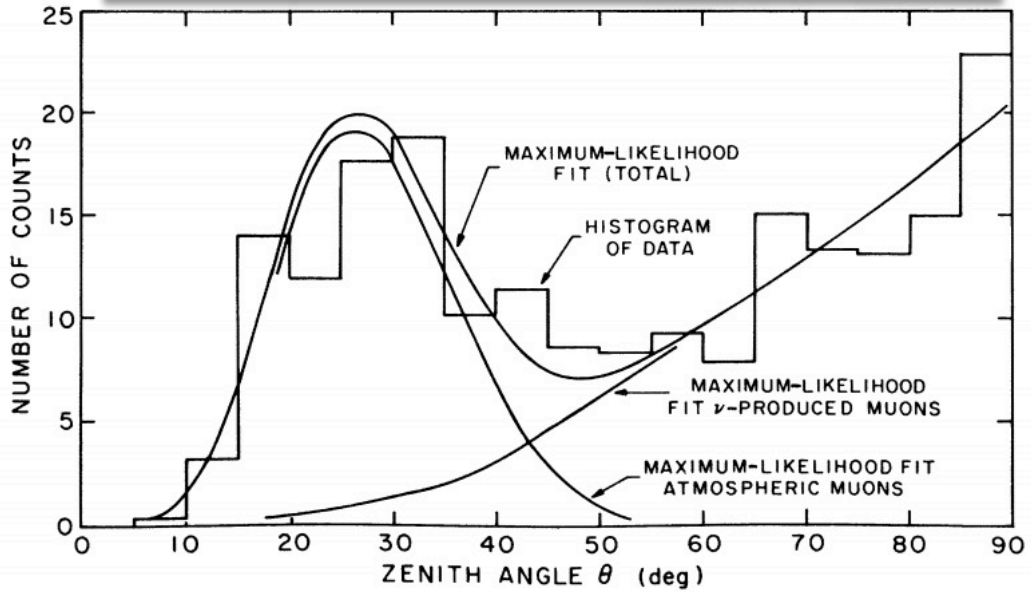


**Cosmic-ray muon fluxes deep underground: Intensity vs depth, and the neutrino-induced component**

M. F. Crouch  
*Department of Physics, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio 44106*

P. B. Landecker,\* J. F. Lathrop,<sup>†</sup> F. Reines, W. G. Sandie,<sup>‡</sup> and H. W. Sobel  
*Department of Physics, University of California, Irvine, California 92717*

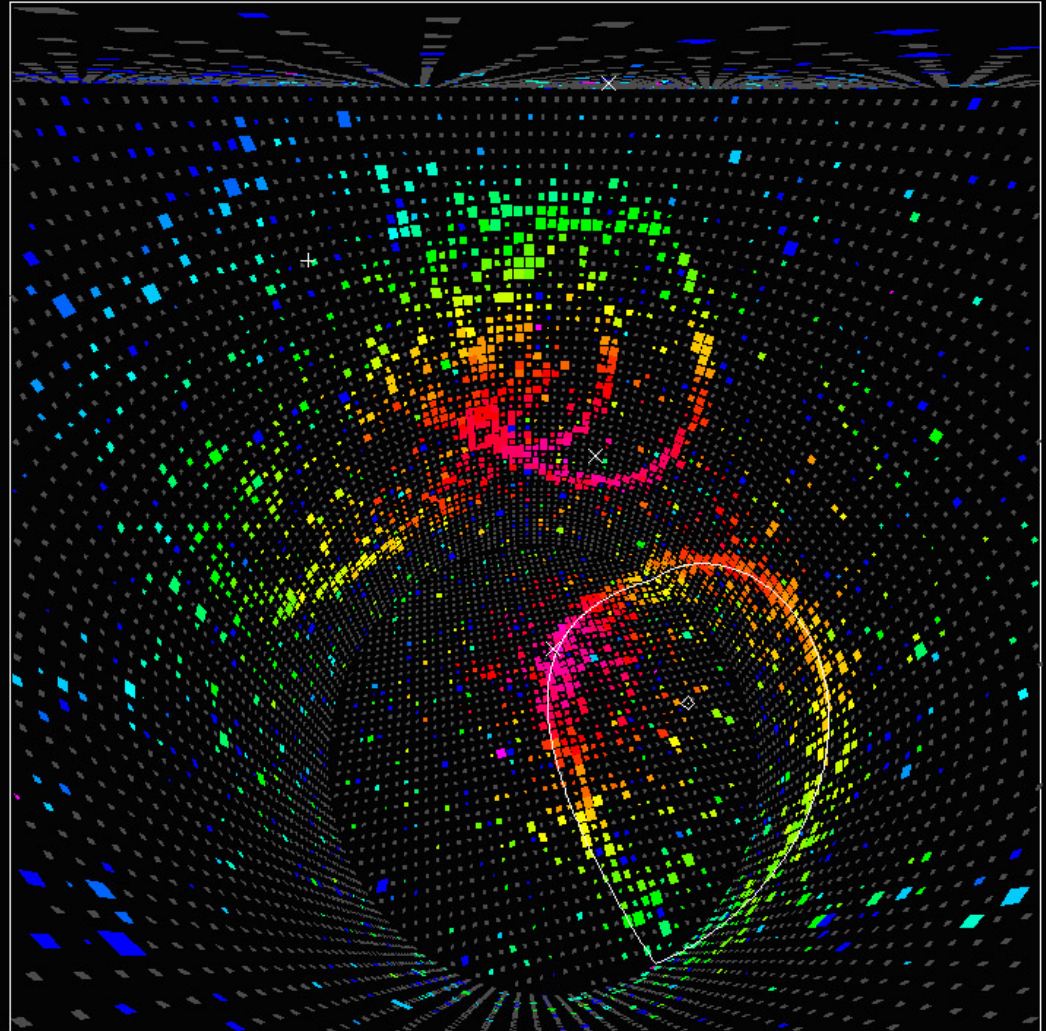
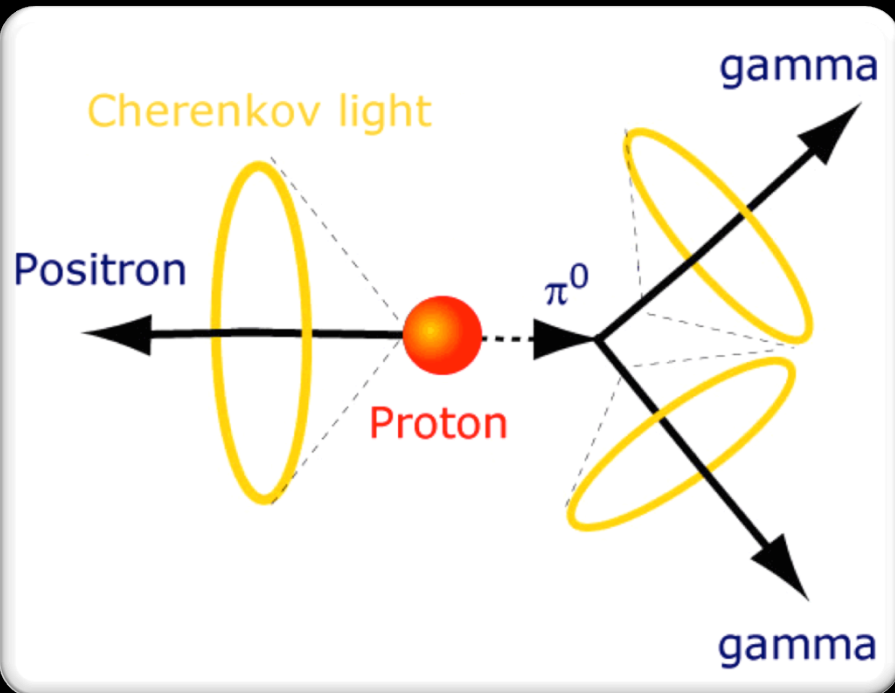
H. Coxell\*\* and J. P. F. Sellschop  
*Nuclear Physics Research Unit, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, Transvaal, Republic of South Africa*  
(Received 3 March 1978; revised manuscript received 12 September 1978)



We conclude that there is fair agreement between the total observed and expected neutrino-induced muon flux (Table II), i.e.,

$$\frac{I_{h\mu}^{(\nu)}(\text{predicted})}{I_{h\mu}^{(\nu)}(\text{observed})} = 1.6 \pm 0.4 .$$

# It all begins with the search for proton decay



Theories of grand unification (unifying the strong, weak, and EM forces) were proposed in the late 1970's

- Prediction: protons and neutrons (nucleons) should decay with lifetimes  $\sim 10^{28} - 10^{31}$  years
- Experiments built to test this prediction in the early 1980's

# Proposal for the Kamiokande Experiment

Kamioka, Japan

...to test theories of grand unification by direct detection of their predicted nucleon decay phenomena...

## 研究目的

Research Objective

本研究の目的は、素粒子の大統一理論が予言する核子崩壊現象を直接実験することにより検証すること、その崩壊モードを詳しく調べることを主要課題とし、更に理論的研究と協力しつつ、より究極的統一理論が左右対称か否かを検定するため、ニュートリノ振動現象の有無を実験的に探索すること、また大統一理論が必然的に予言する磁気単極子など質量の大きい粒子を探索することにある。

昭和56年 9 月

September 1981

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Kamioka, Japan

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...experimentally search for the existence, or lack thereof, of neutrino oscillation phenomena ...

昭和56年 9 月

September 1981

# Proposal for the IMB Experiment

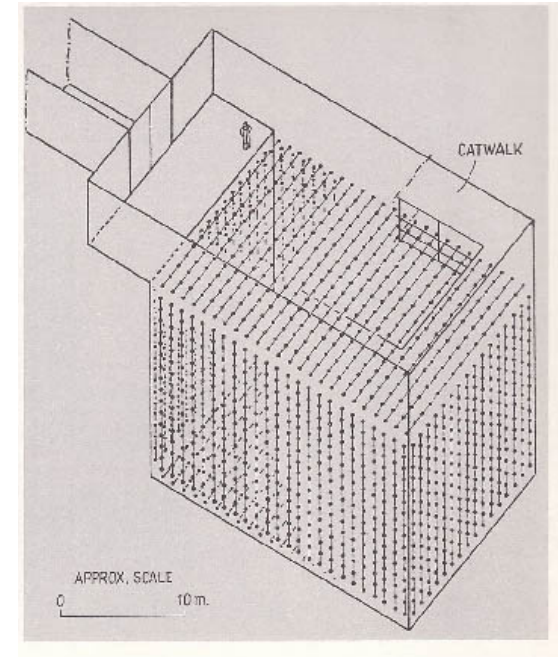
A PROPOSAL  
TO TEST FOR BARYON STABILITY  
TO A LIFETIME OF  $10^{33}$  YEARS

## Abstract

We have studied the properties of, and the expected backgrounds in, a totally active, 10,000 ton water Cerenkov detector located deep underground and sensitive to many of the conjectured decay modes of the nucleons in it. Sensitivity to  $\pi$ ,  $\mu$  and  $\gamma$  secondaries, good energy resolution, and good angular resolution provide sufficient background rejection in the proposed device and will permit us to obtain significant information about several decay channels, should they

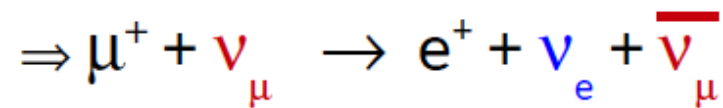
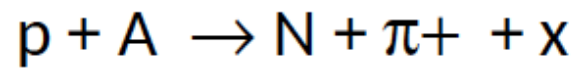
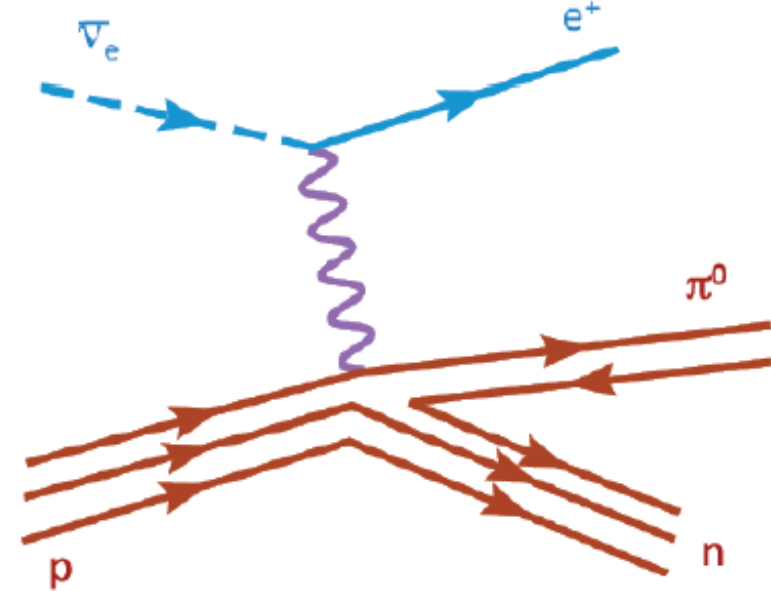
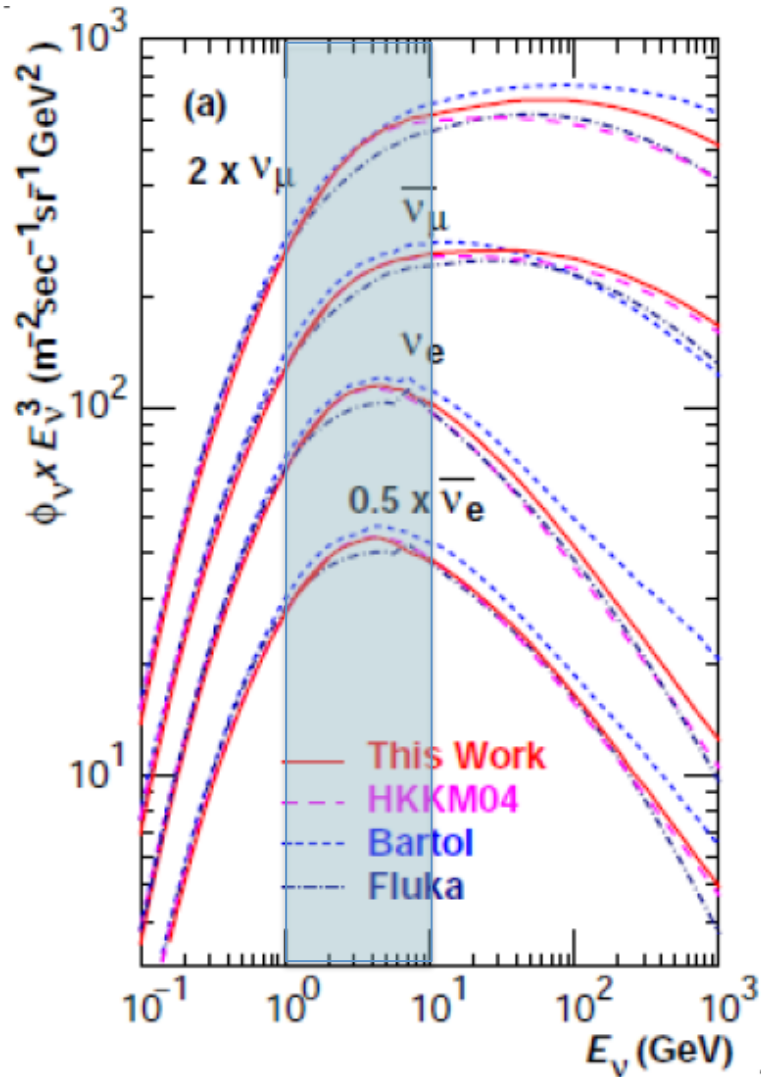
be observed  
in one year  
on the part  
modes. De  
of magnitu  
beyond the  
sensitivity  
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detector o  
atmospheri

beyond the level suggested by many unifying theories. The sensitivity predicted for this instrument is within an order of magnitude of that achievable in an arbitrarily large detector of this general type, since known background from atmospheric neutrinos imposes an inherent limit.



# Atmospheric Neutrino Flux

M. Honda, et. Al Phys.Rev.D75:043006,2007

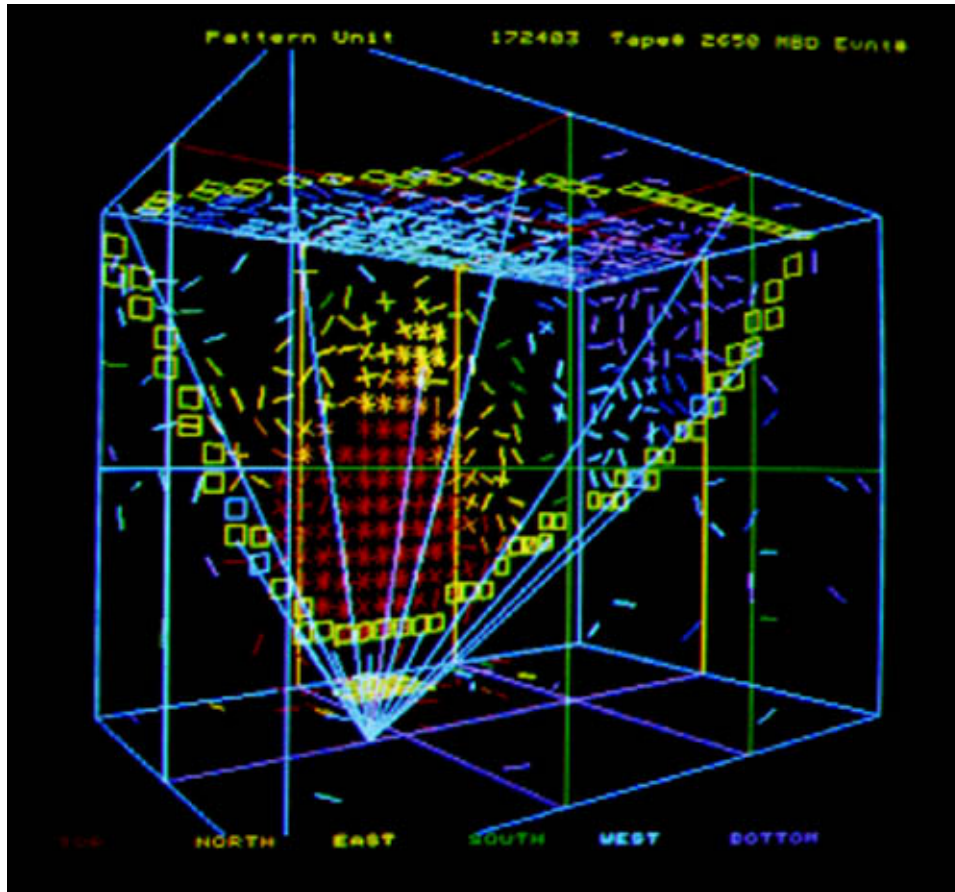


## A Simple Nucleon Decay rate calculation

- Assume SU(5) lifetime is  $10^{28} < \tau < 10^{31}$  years
- Number of targets  $\lambda = 3.34 \times 10^{35}$  [ p•Mton<sup>-1</sup> ]
- For a 10 kton detector (3.3 kton fiducial)
  
- $N = T \times \lambda \times \varepsilon \times (1/\tau)$
- Efficiency  $\varepsilon = 45\%$  (at best) for  $p \rightarrow e^+\pi^0$  in water Cherenkov
  
- Therefore
  - $150 < N < 150,000$  ev•year<sup>-1</sup>
  
- *Expect about 0.5 atm.  $\nu$  ev/kton/day*



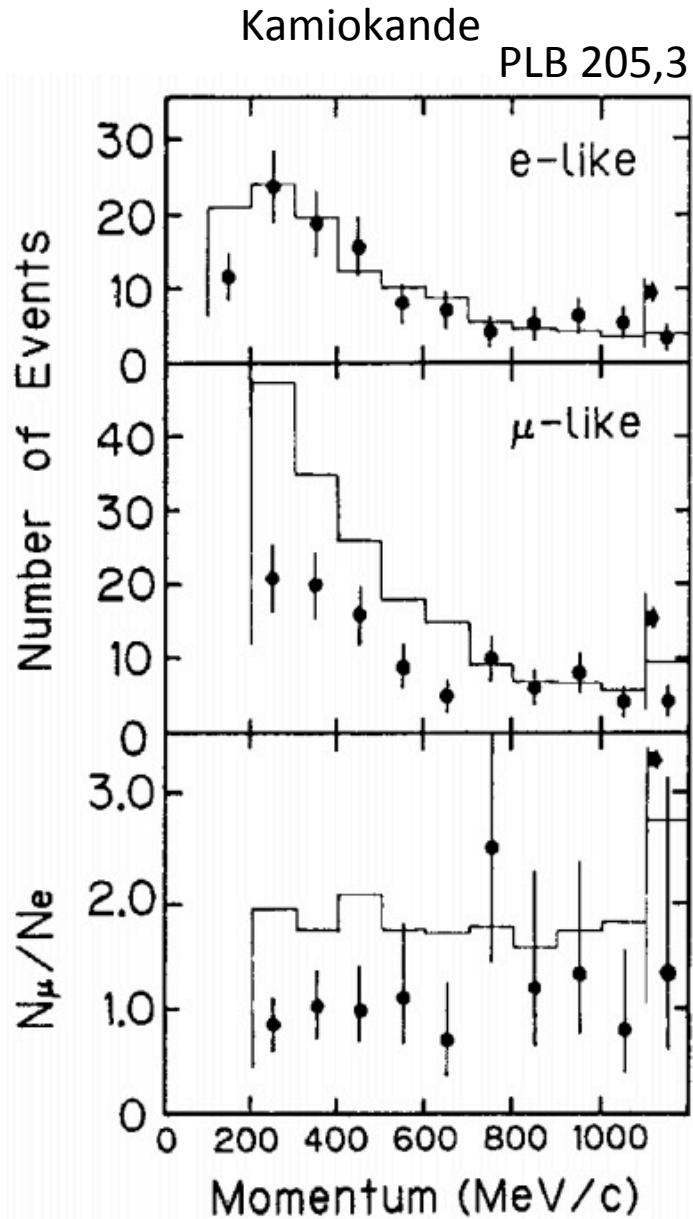
# Example Event From the IMB Experiment



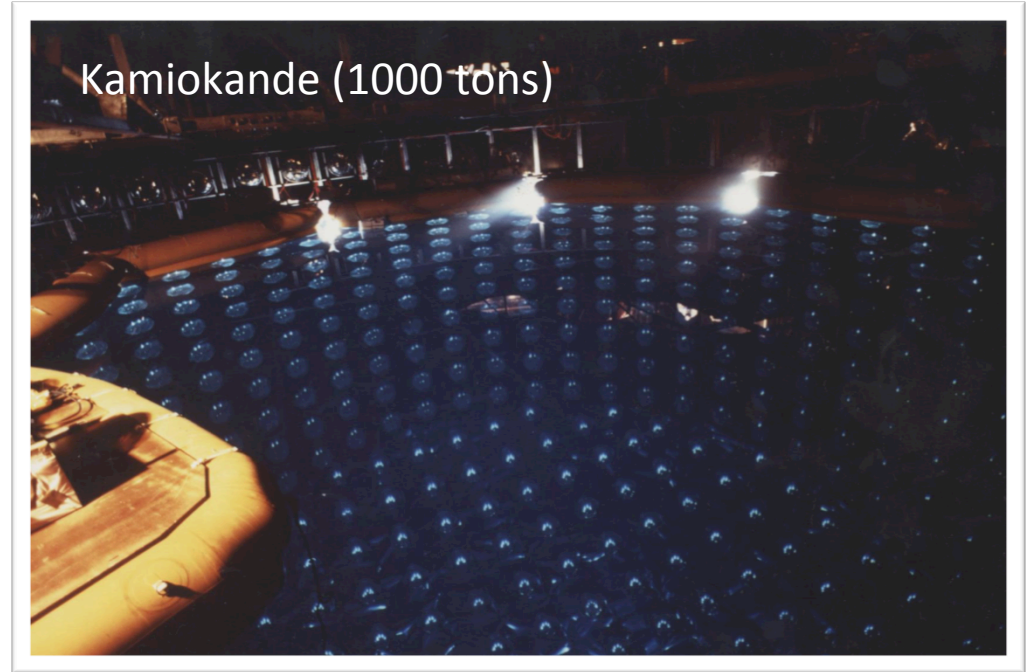
- Each colored mark represents a hit PMT
- The color indicates the hit timing
  - Red: early
  - Late: blue
- Size of the marks indicates the collected charge

Very clearly an upward-going event!  
Must be neutrino-induced

# Atmospheric Neutrinos in Water Cherenkov Detectors



<https://inspirehep.net/record/302075>



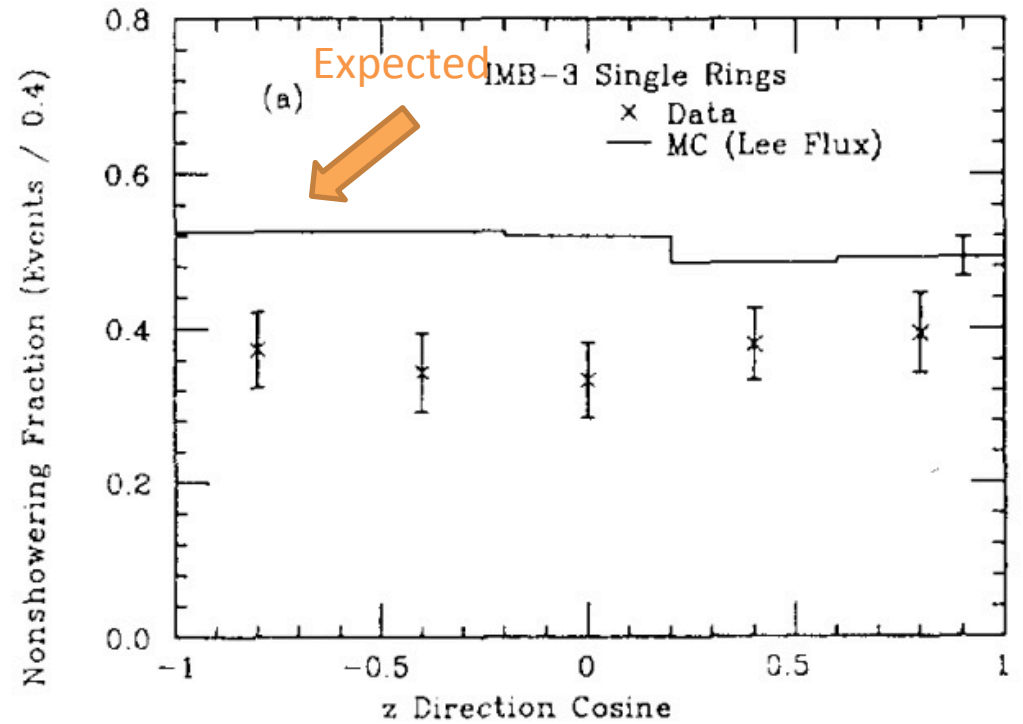
← Expected`

← Observed

Ratio  $\nu_{\mu}:\nu_e$  smaller than expected

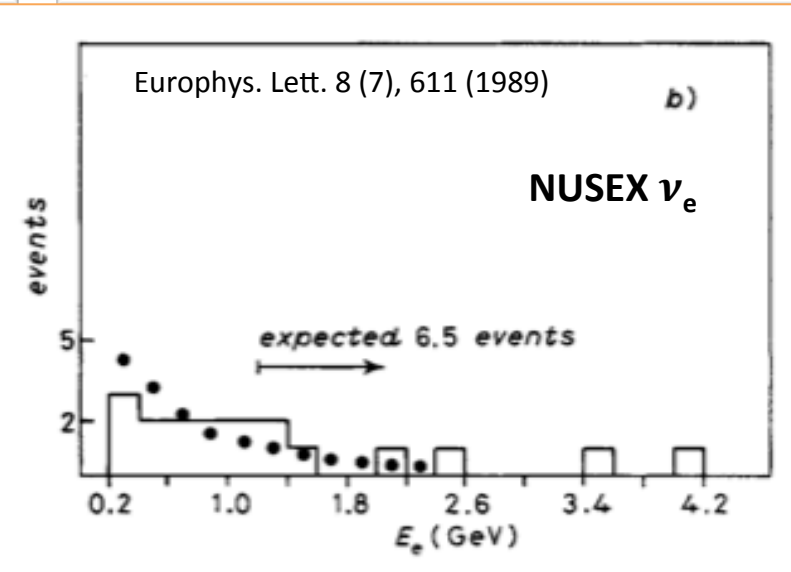
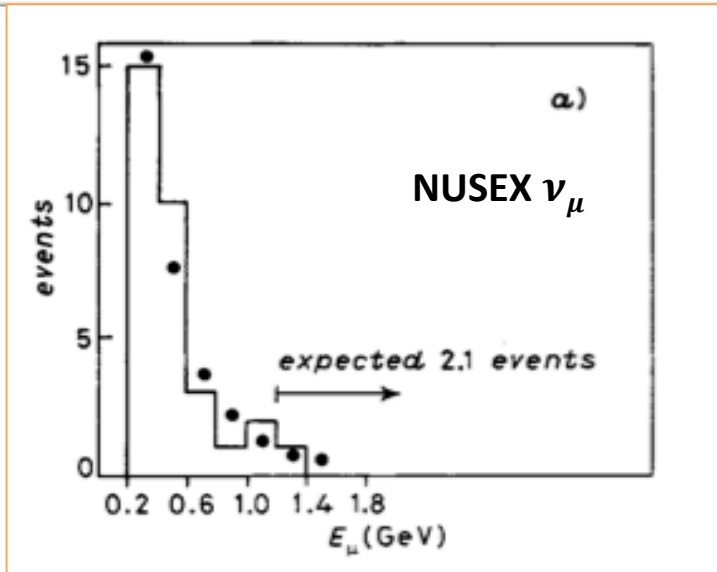
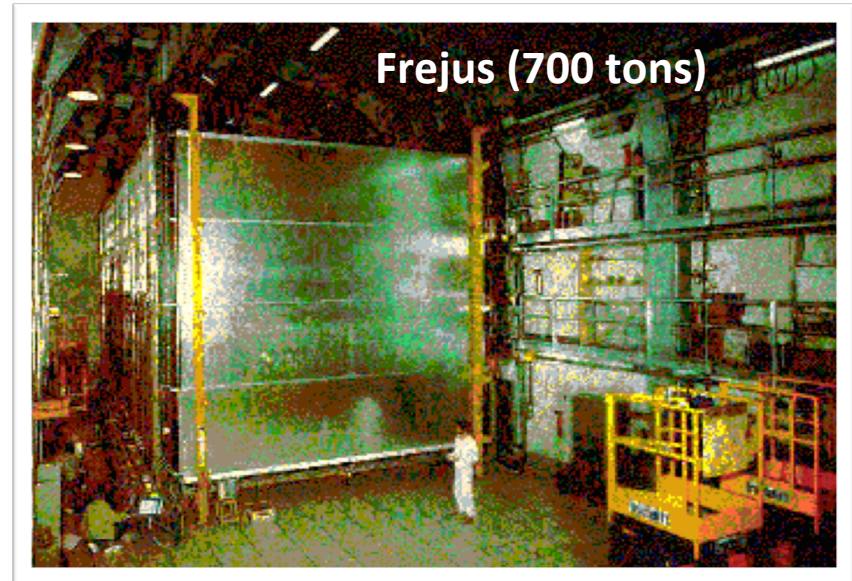
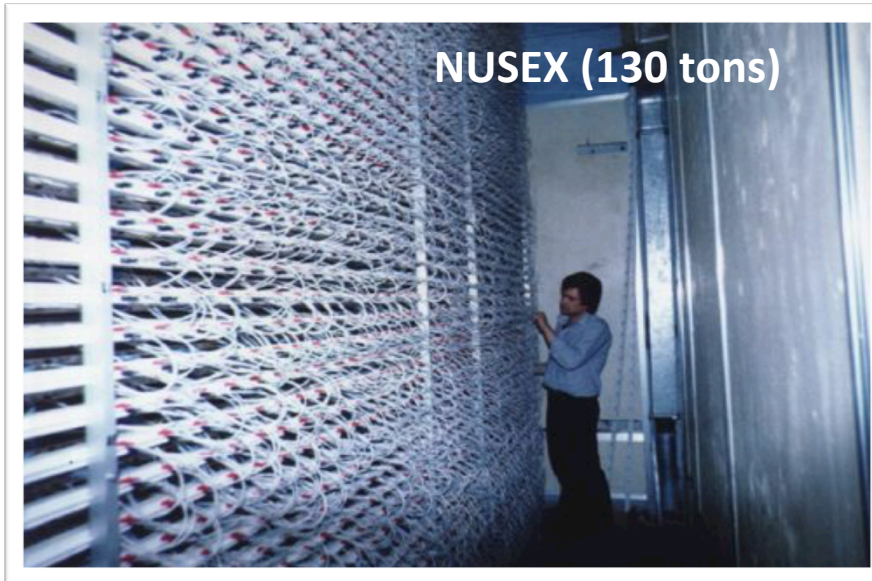
# IMB Atmospheric Neutrino Results

IMB (3300 tons)

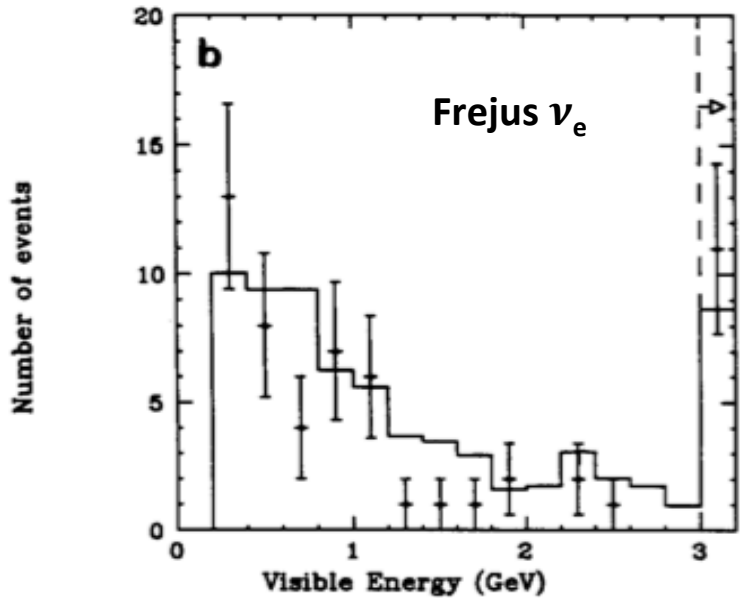
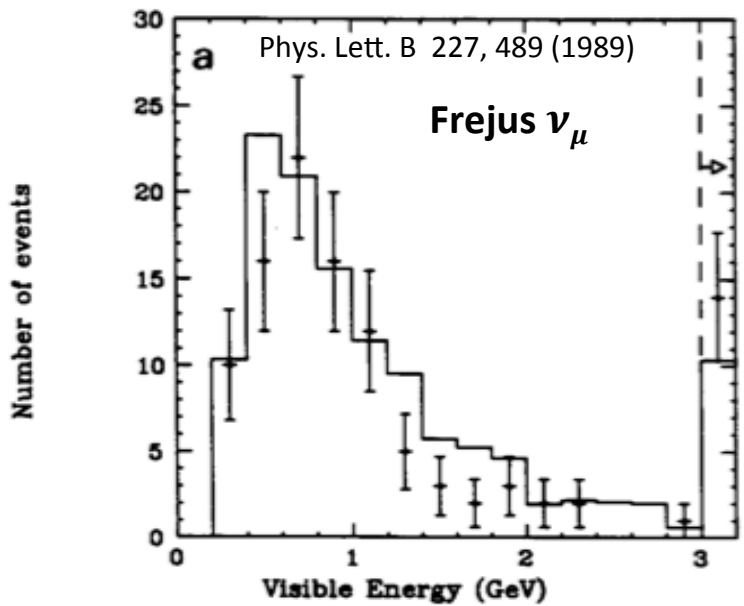
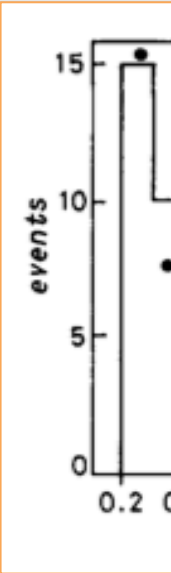


Nuclear Physics B (Proc. Suppl.) 38 (1995) 331–336

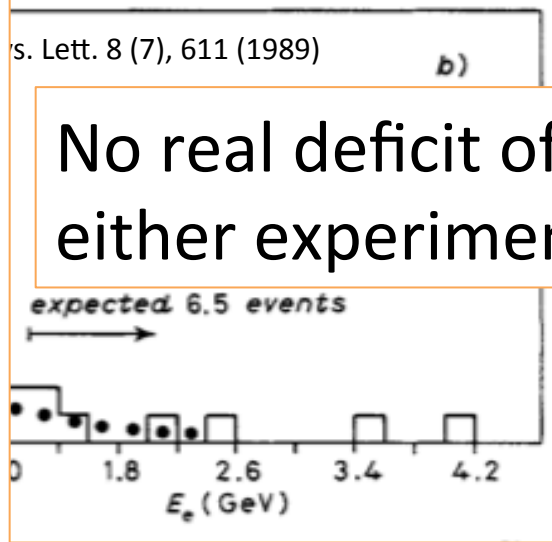
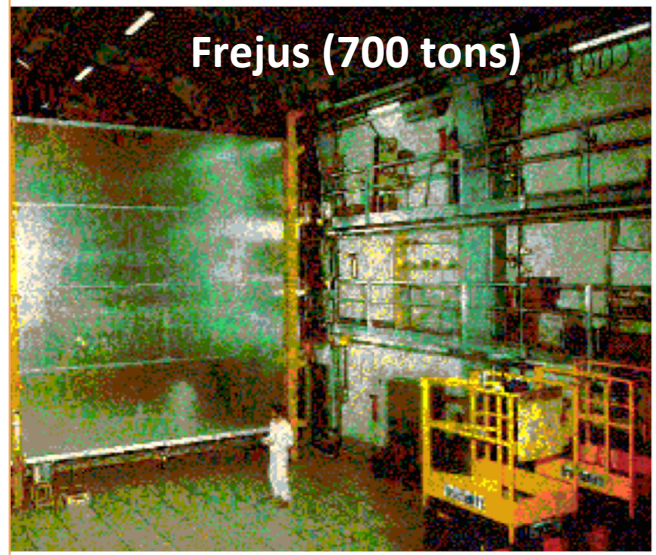
# Atmospheric Neutrinos in Iron Calorimeters



Atm

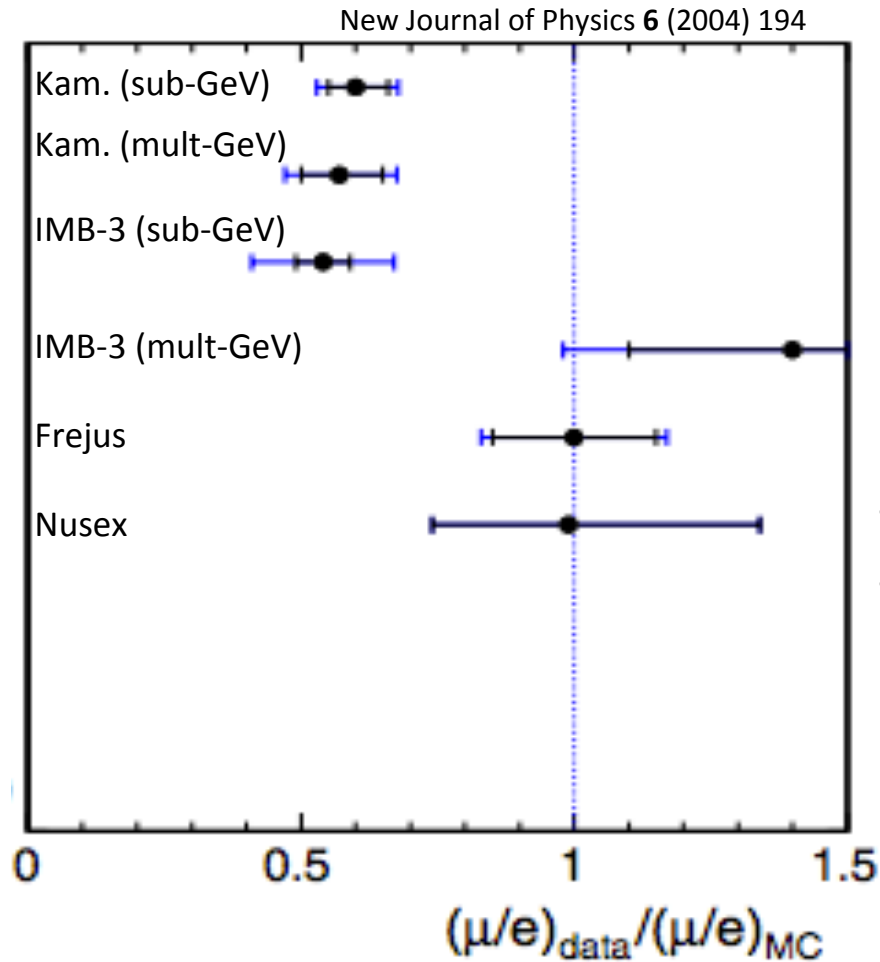


# on Calorimeters



No real deficit of  $\nu_\mu$  in either experiment

# Atmospheric Neutrino Anomaly



Measured flavor ratio in atmospheric neutrino flux:

$$\frac{[(\nu_{\mu} + \bar{\nu}_{\mu})/(\nu_e + \bar{\nu}_e)]_{observed}}{[(\nu_{\mu} + \bar{\nu}_{\mu})/(\nu_e + \bar{\nu}_e)]_{predicted}}$$

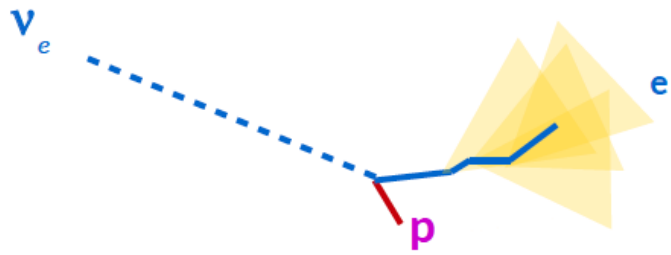
Double ratio:

- Many systematic uncertainties cancel
- If no neutrino oscillations, expect this ratio to be consistent with 1

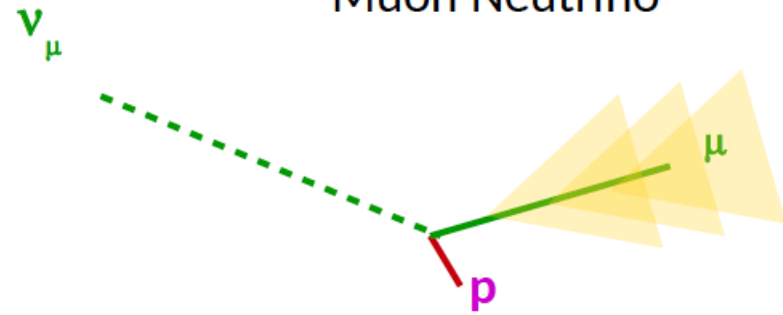
## Anomaly

- Simulations wrong?
- Flux prediction of 2:1 wrong?
- PID incorrect?

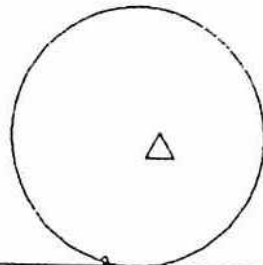
Electron Neutrino



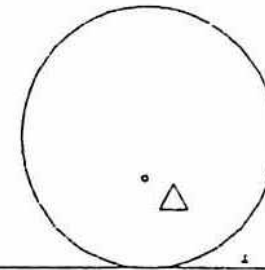
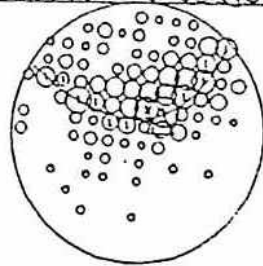
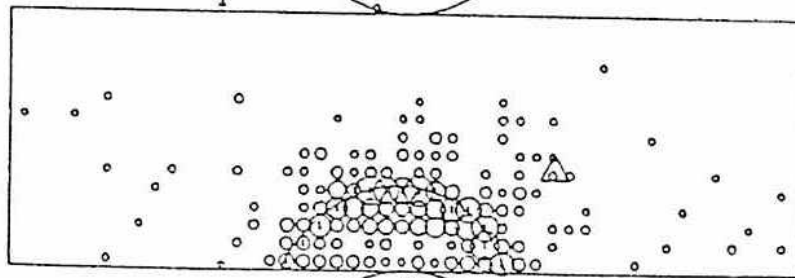
Muon Neutrino



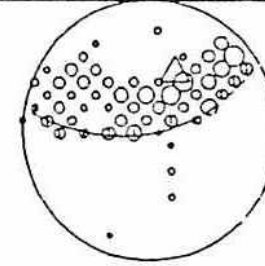
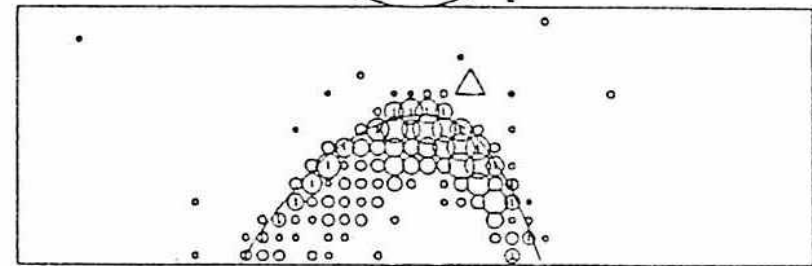
Kamiokande



(a)



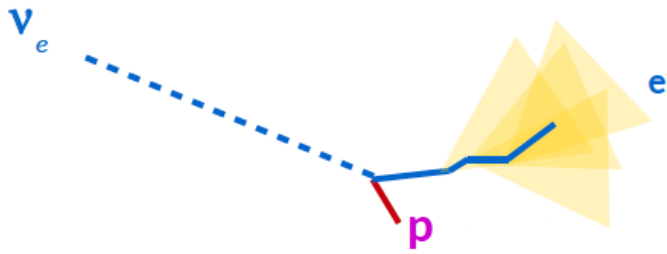
(b)



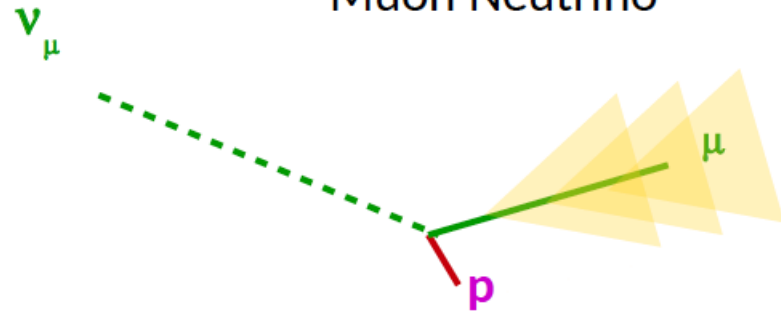
$e$ : electromagnetic shower,  
multiple Coulomb scattering

$\mu$ : straight-line propagation,  
loose energy by ionization loss

## Electron Neutrino



## Muon Neutrino



Kamiokande

The probability of misidentifying the particle species of single-ring events was estimated to be  $2.2 \pm 0.9\%$  and  $1.4 \pm 0.7\%$  for KAM-I and KAM-II, respectively, using Monte Carlo simulated neutrino events <sup>#1</sup>. The method was checked empirically by means of cosmic ray muons which were stopped in the detector. The analysis of stopping muons showed that the misidentification probability of muon-like events was 2% <sup>#1</sup>, and therefore consistent with the Monte Carlo result. Accordingly it is unlikely that the particle identification program gives substantially incorrect assignments to the real fully contained events.

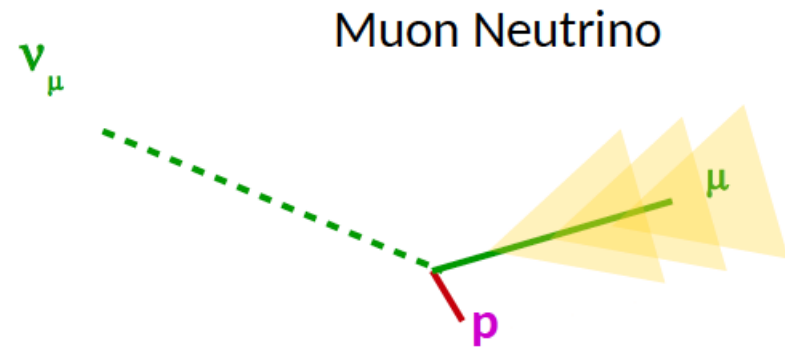
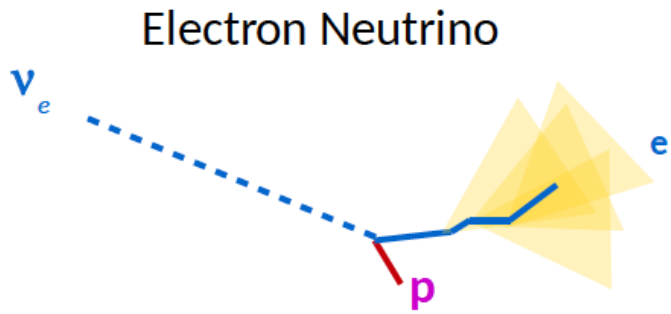
**e**: electromagnetic shower,  
multiple Coulomb scattering

IMB

	$\nu_\mu$	$\nu_e$	NC
$\nu_\mu$ -like	0.95	0.07	0.34
$\nu_e$ -like	0.02	0.85	0.35
NC-like	0.03	0.08	0.31

**μ**: straight-line propagation,  
loose energy by ionization loss





PID found to be correct.  
Perhaps It can be explained by oscillations...

Using atmospheric  $\nu$  for oscillations proposed here

**LEPTON MIXING AND NEUTRINO OSCILLATIONS**

S.M. BILENKY and B. PONTECORVO

*Joint Institute for Nuclear Research, Dubna, USSR*

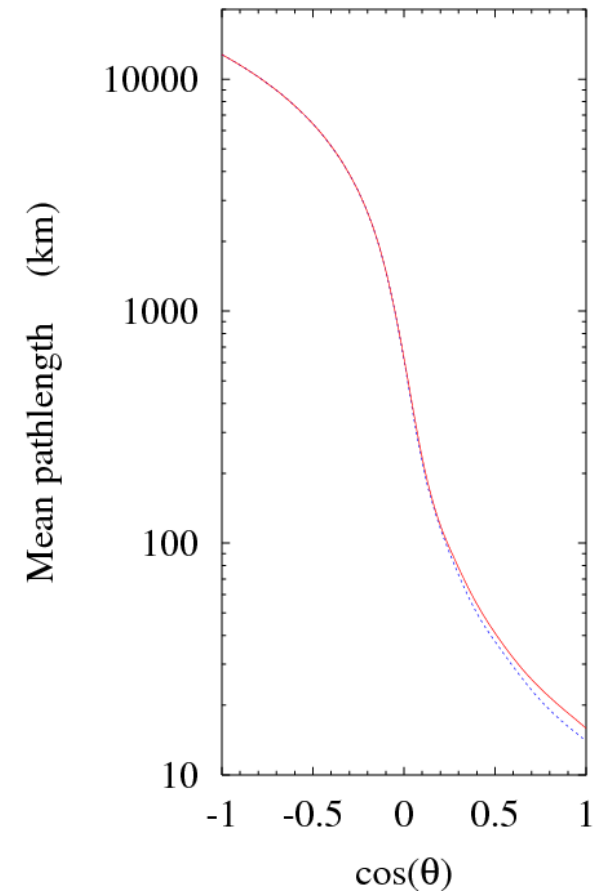
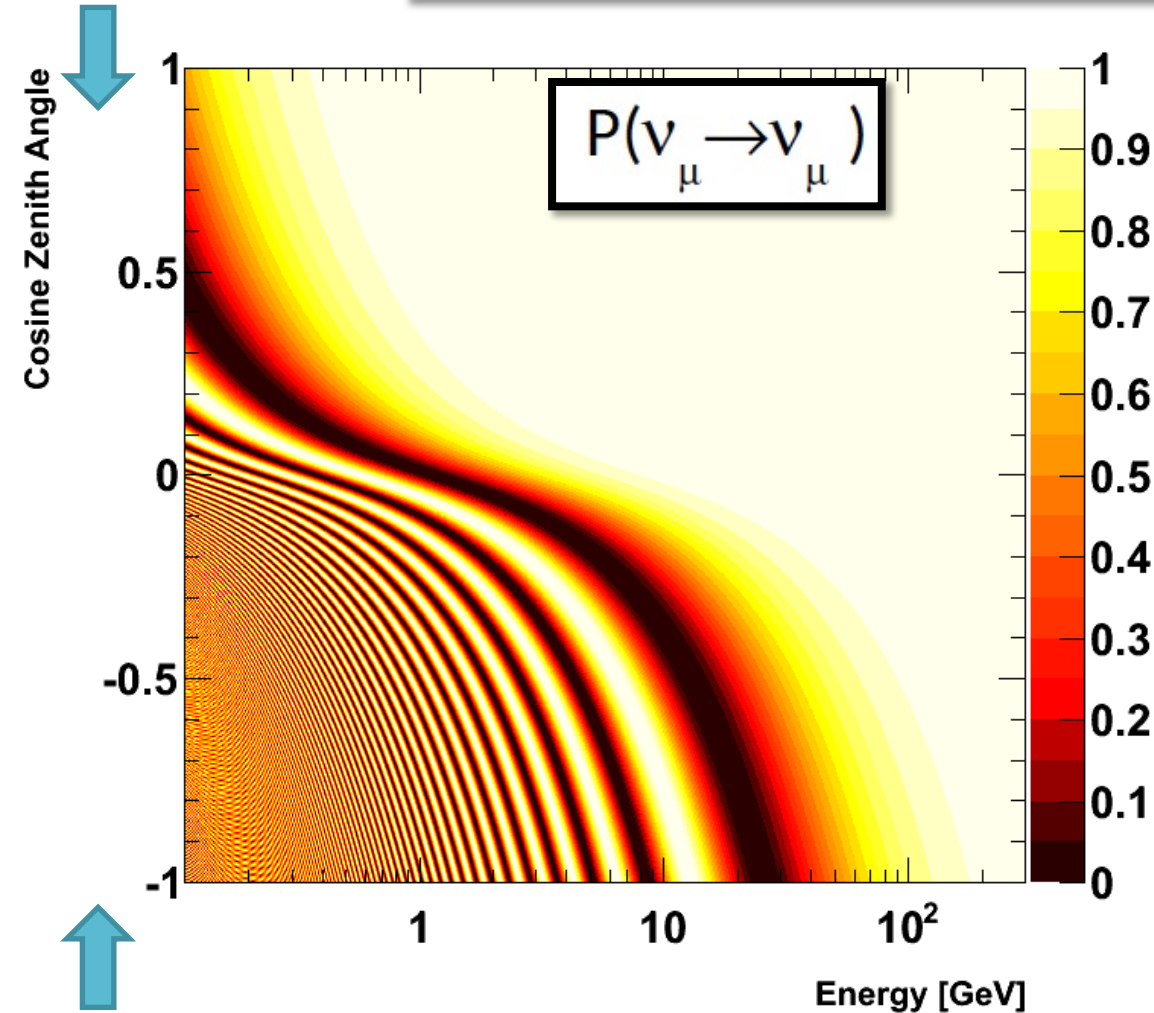
Received 27 June 1977

**e:** electromagnetic shower,  
multiple Coulomb scattering

**μ:** straight-line propagation,  
loose energy by ionization loss

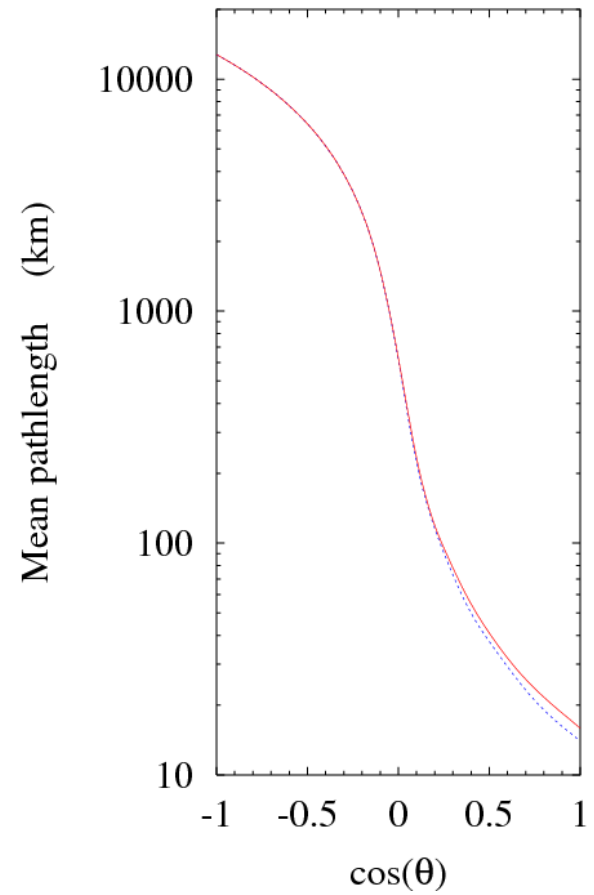
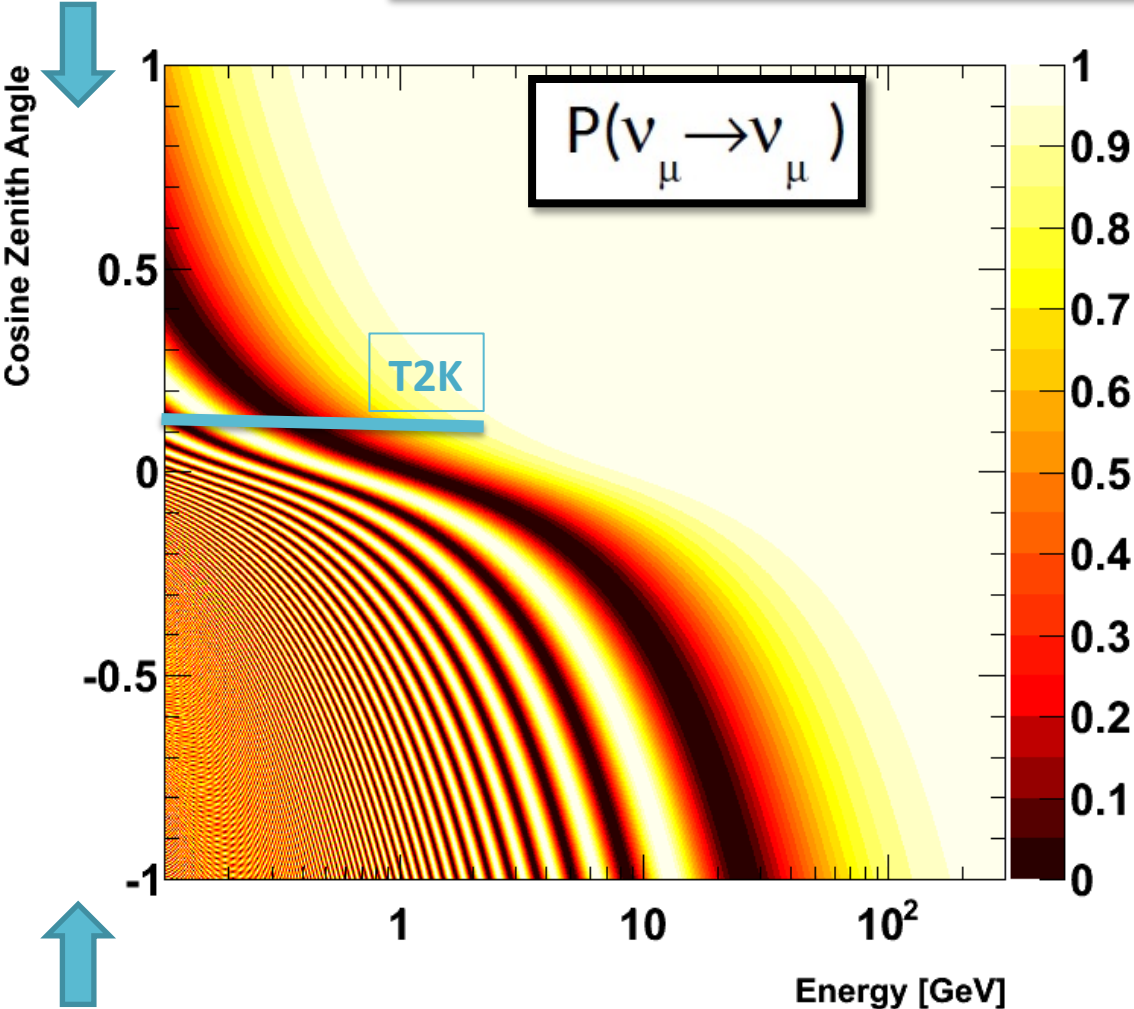
# Atmospheric Neutrino Oscillations (Two-Flavors)

$$P(\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta) = \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2 \left( \frac{1.27 \Delta m^2 (\text{eV}^2) L (\text{km})}{E_\nu (\text{GeV})} \right)$$

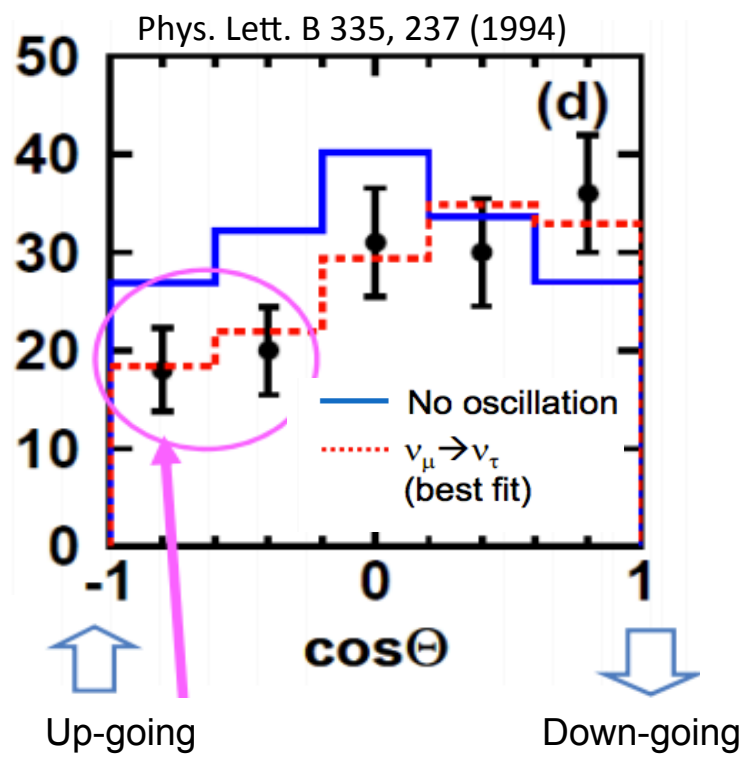


# Atmospheric Neutrino Oscillations (Two-Flavors)

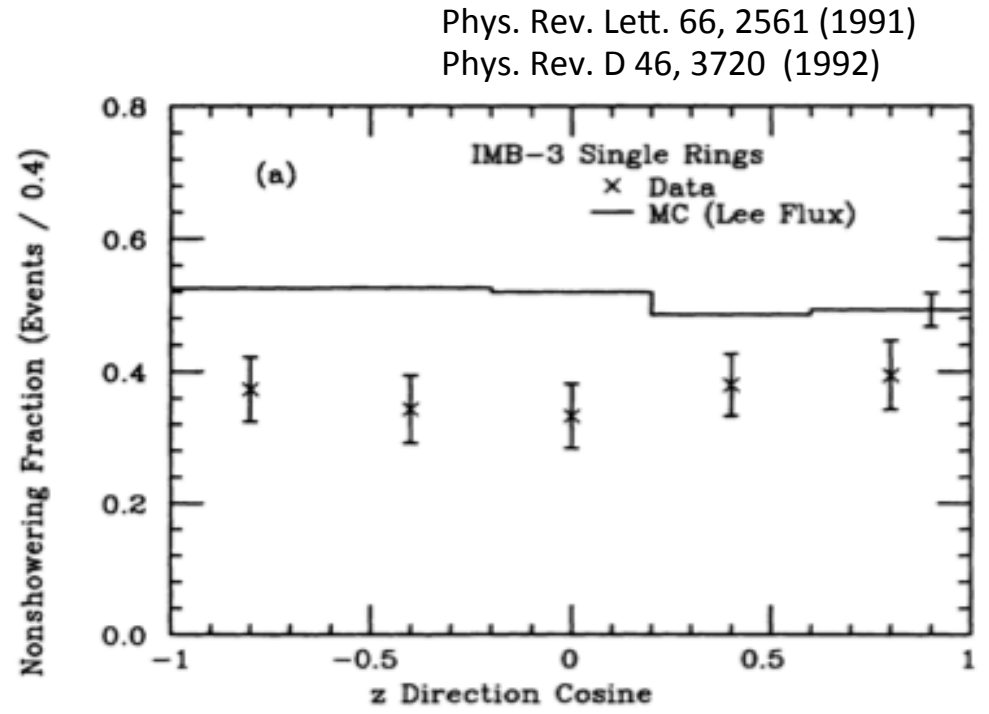
$$P(\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta) = \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2 \left( \frac{1.27 \Delta m^2 (\text{eV}^2) L (\text{km})}{E_\nu (\text{GeV})} \right)$$



# Results from Kamioka and IMB Experiments



$$\text{Up/Down} = 0.58^{+0.13}_{-0.11} (2.9\sigma)$$

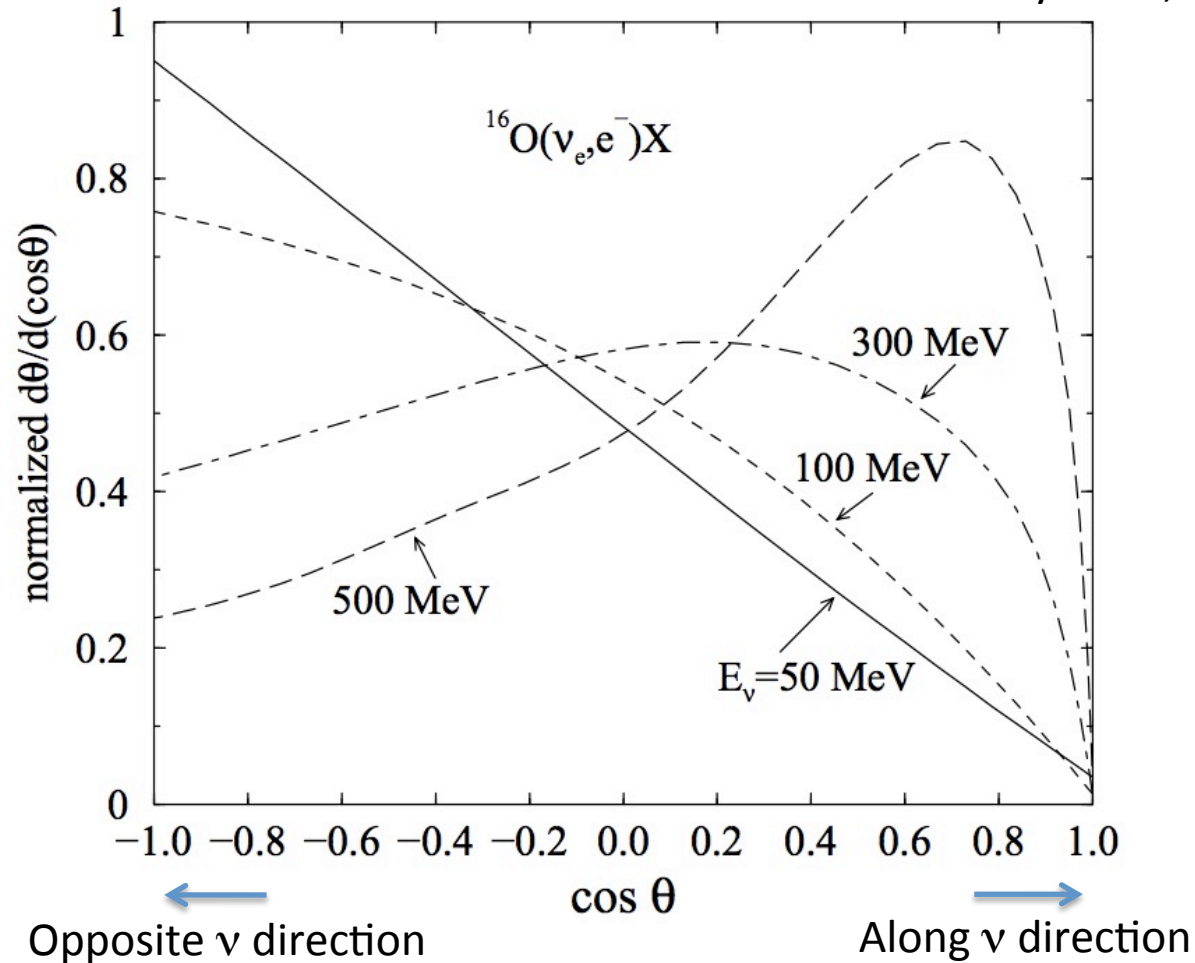


$$\text{Up/Down} = 0.54 \pm 0.05 \pm 0.11$$

Hints of oscillation, but not conclusive  $E < 1330.0 \text{ MeV}$

# Angular Correlation Between $\nu$ and Lepton At Low Energies

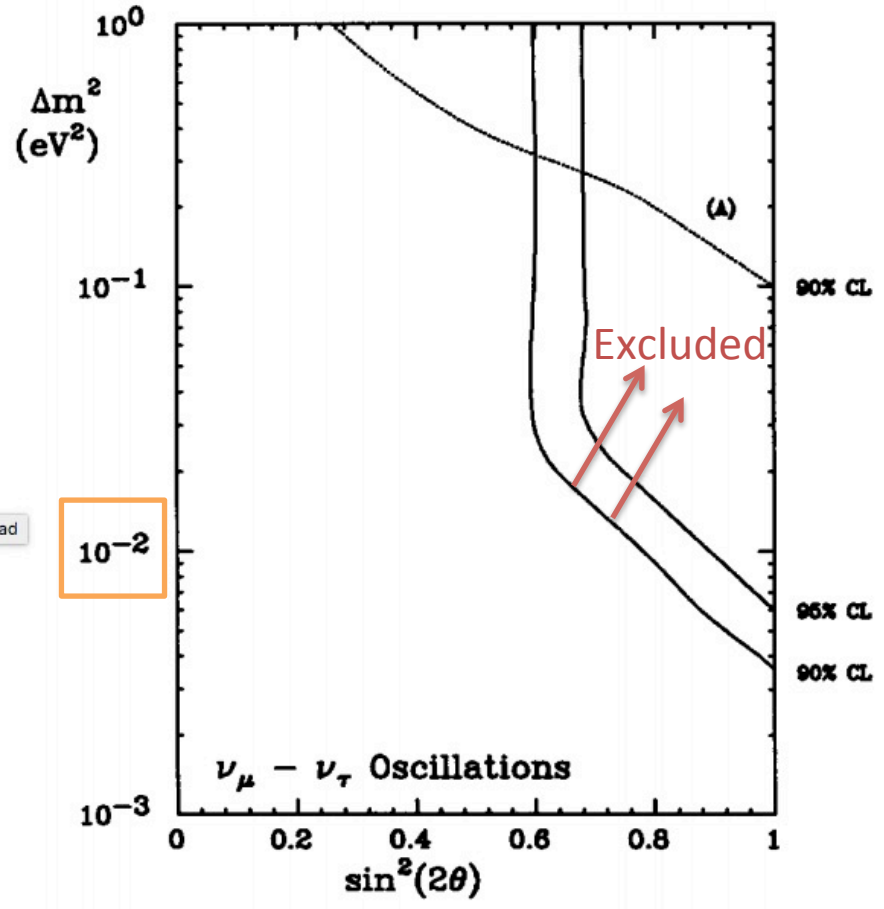
J.Phys.G29,2569,2003



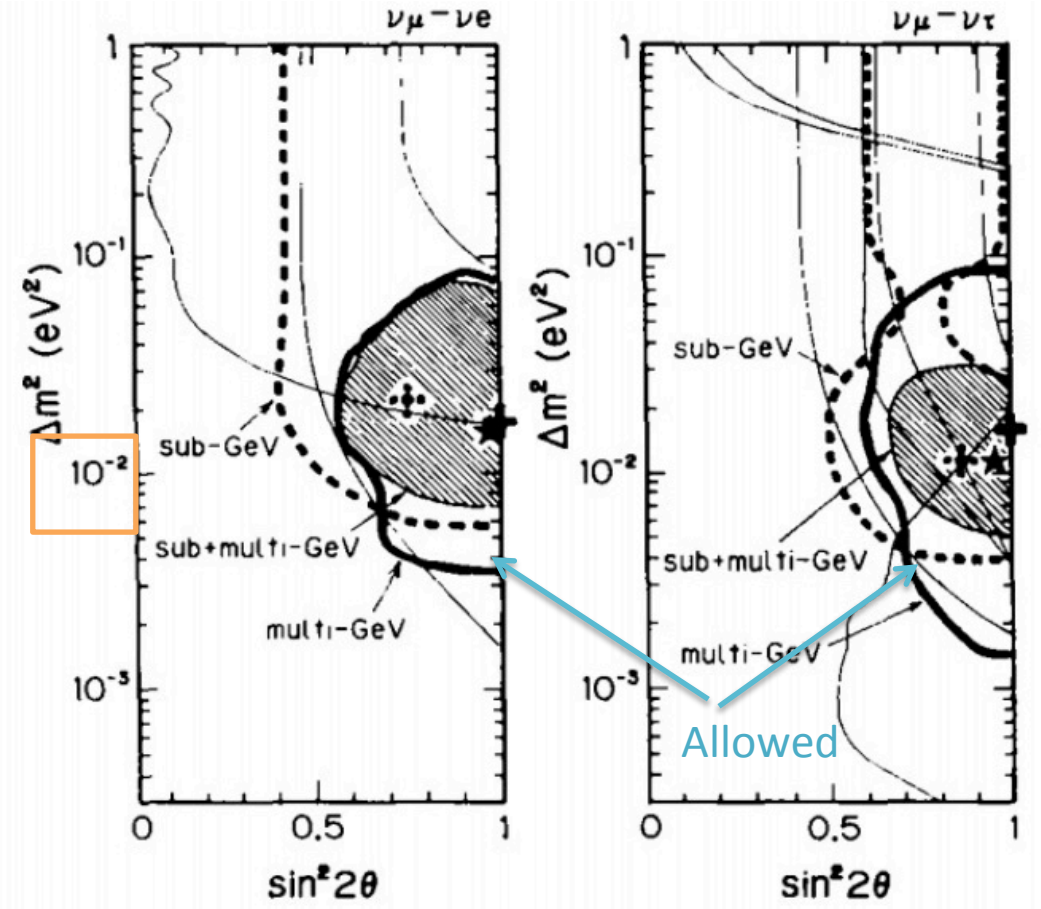
Need higher energy events to better study zenith angle dependence

Circa 1990

Frejus



Kamiokande

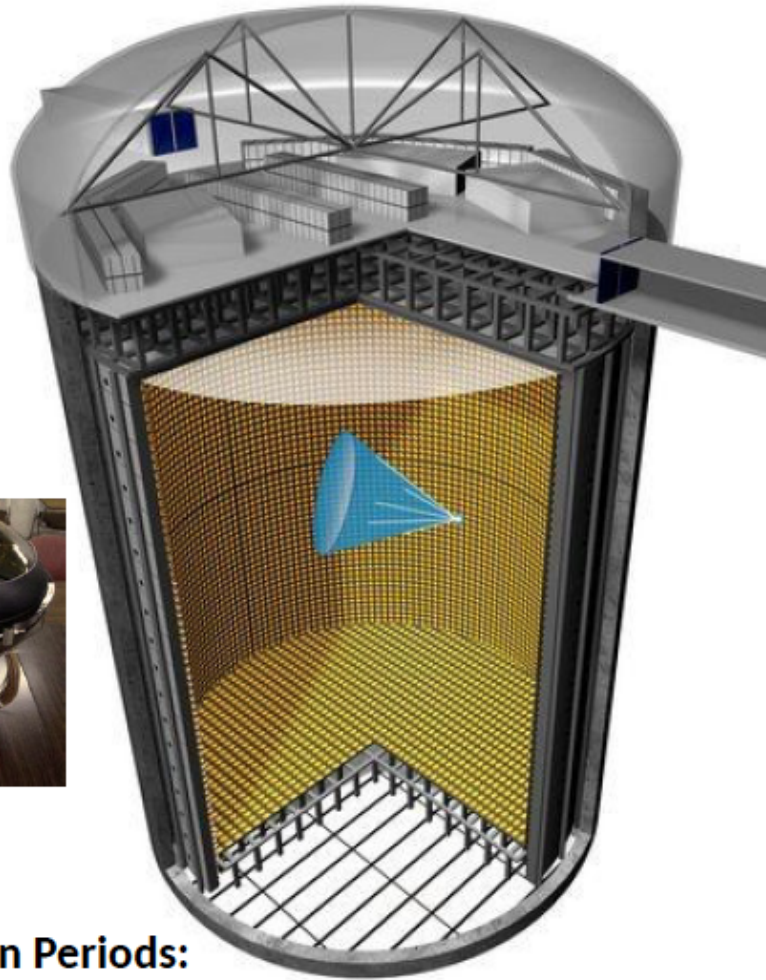


- Incidentally, no signs of proton decay
- SU(5) is dead
  - Limit for  $p \rightarrow e^+\pi^0$ :  $\tau < 2.6 \times 10^{32}$  years (90% C.L)

# Discovery of Oscillations

In order to resolve the atmospheric neutrino anomaly definitively a larger experiment was needed...

# Super-Kamiokande:

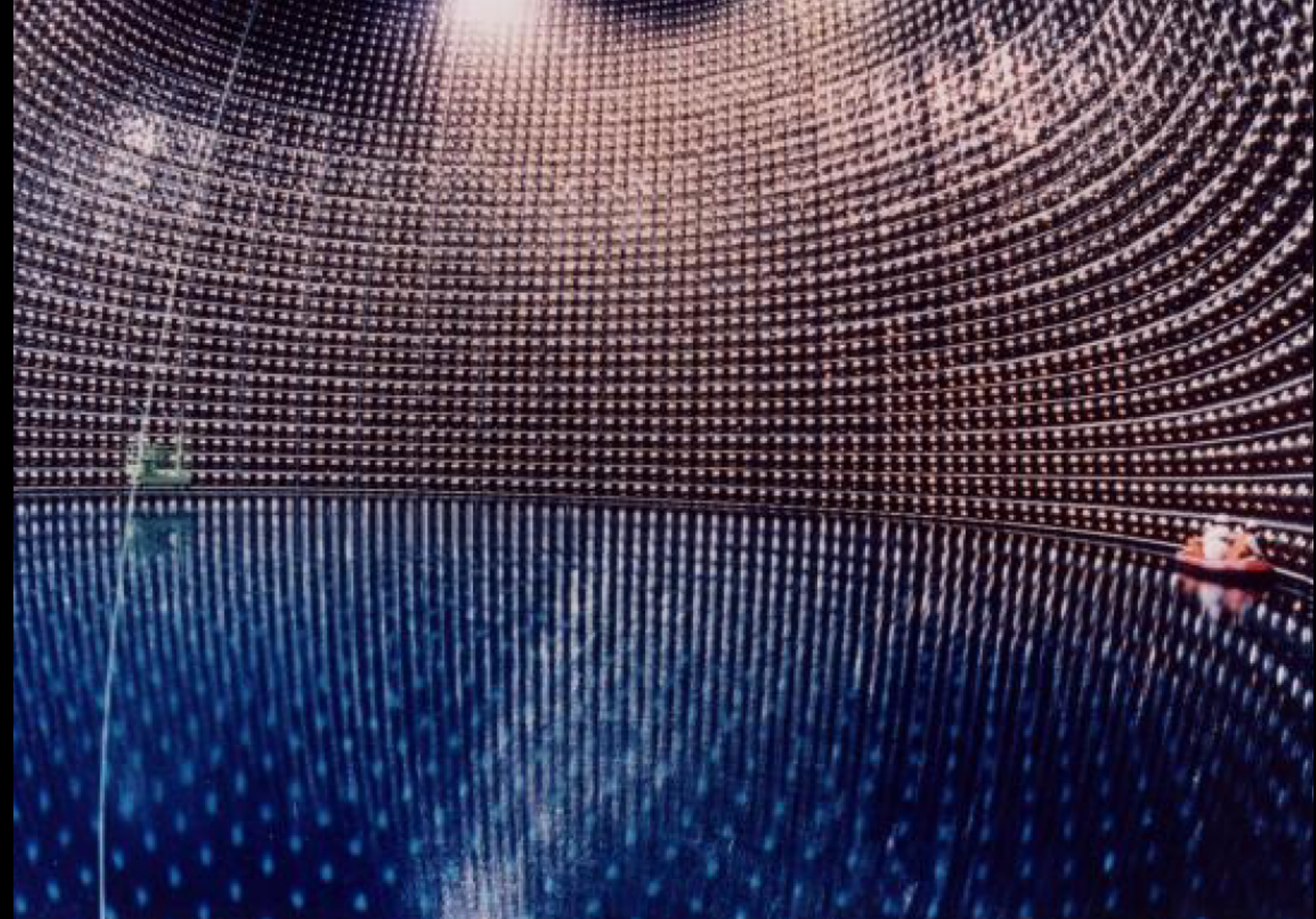


## Four Run Periods:

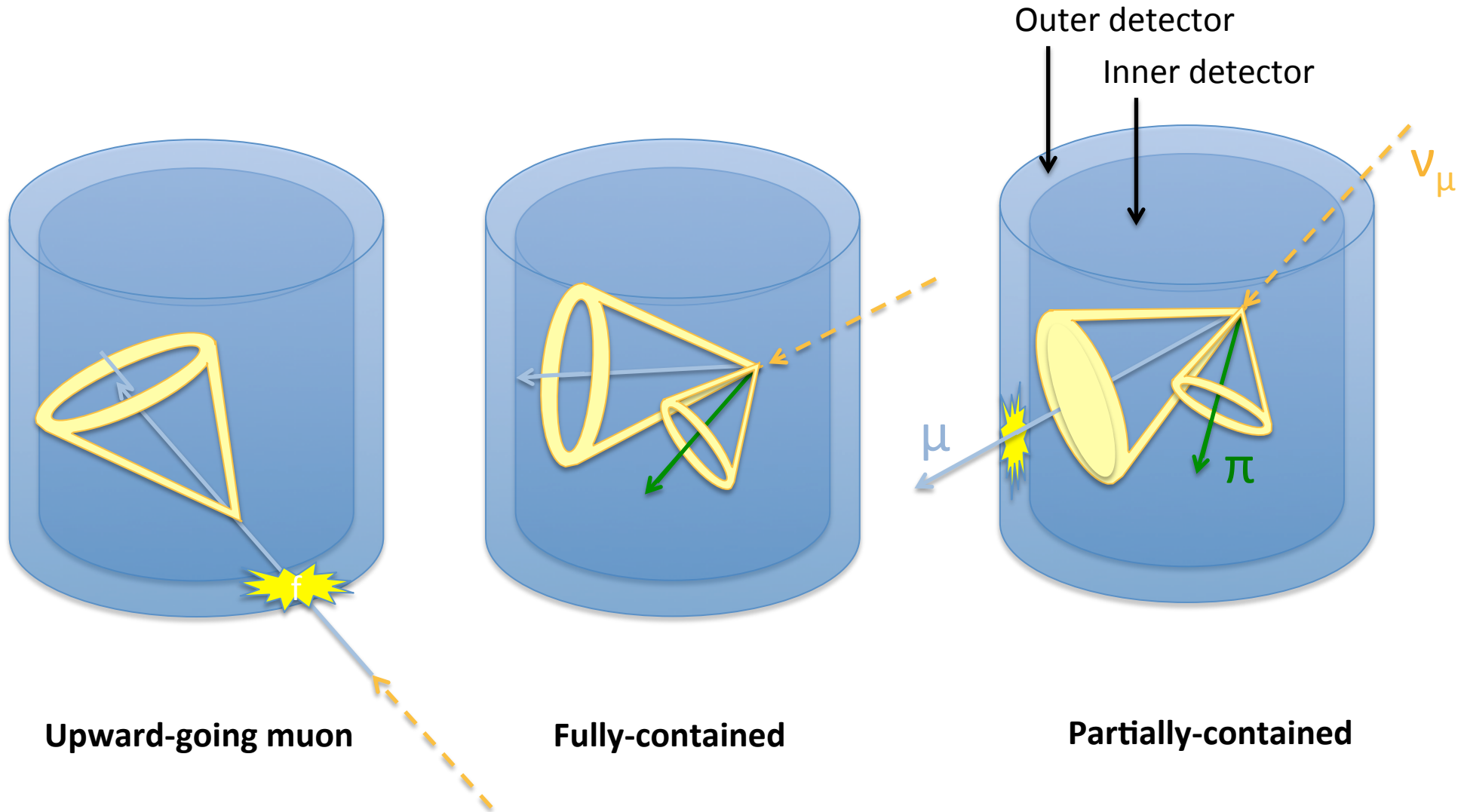
SK-I (1996-2001) SK-II (2003-2005)  
SK-III (2005-2008) **SK-IV (2008-Present)**

- 22.5 kton fiducial volume
- Optically separated into
  - Inner Detector 11,146 20" PMTs
  - Outer Detector 1885 8" PMTs
- No net electric or magnetic fields
- Neutrino direction and energy are unknown
  - Hard to reconstruct directly
- Excellent PID between showering (e-like) and non-showering (m-like)
  - ~ 1% MIS ID at 1 GeV
- As of Today: 4972 days of data
  - 51,000 Events
- Multipurpose machine
  - Solar and Supernova Neutrinos
  - **Atmospheric Neutrinos (this talk)**
  - Nucleon Decay
  - Far detector for T2K





# Basic Neutrino Event Classification in Super-K



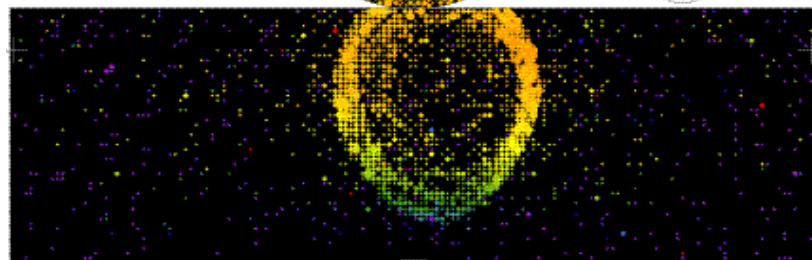
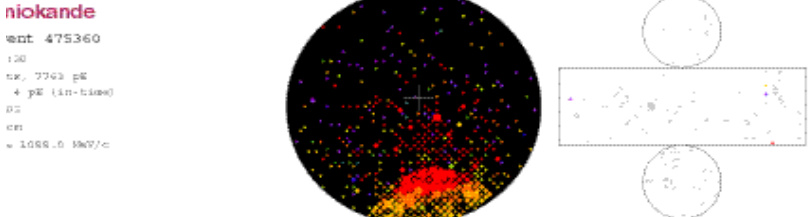
**Upward-going muon**

**Fully-contained**

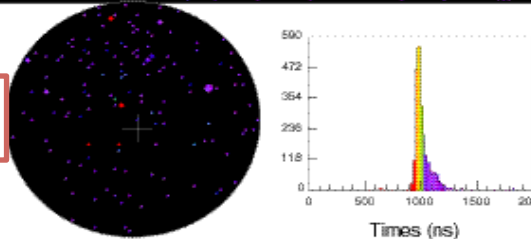
**Partially-contained**

All of these (and more) are used in Super-K analyses

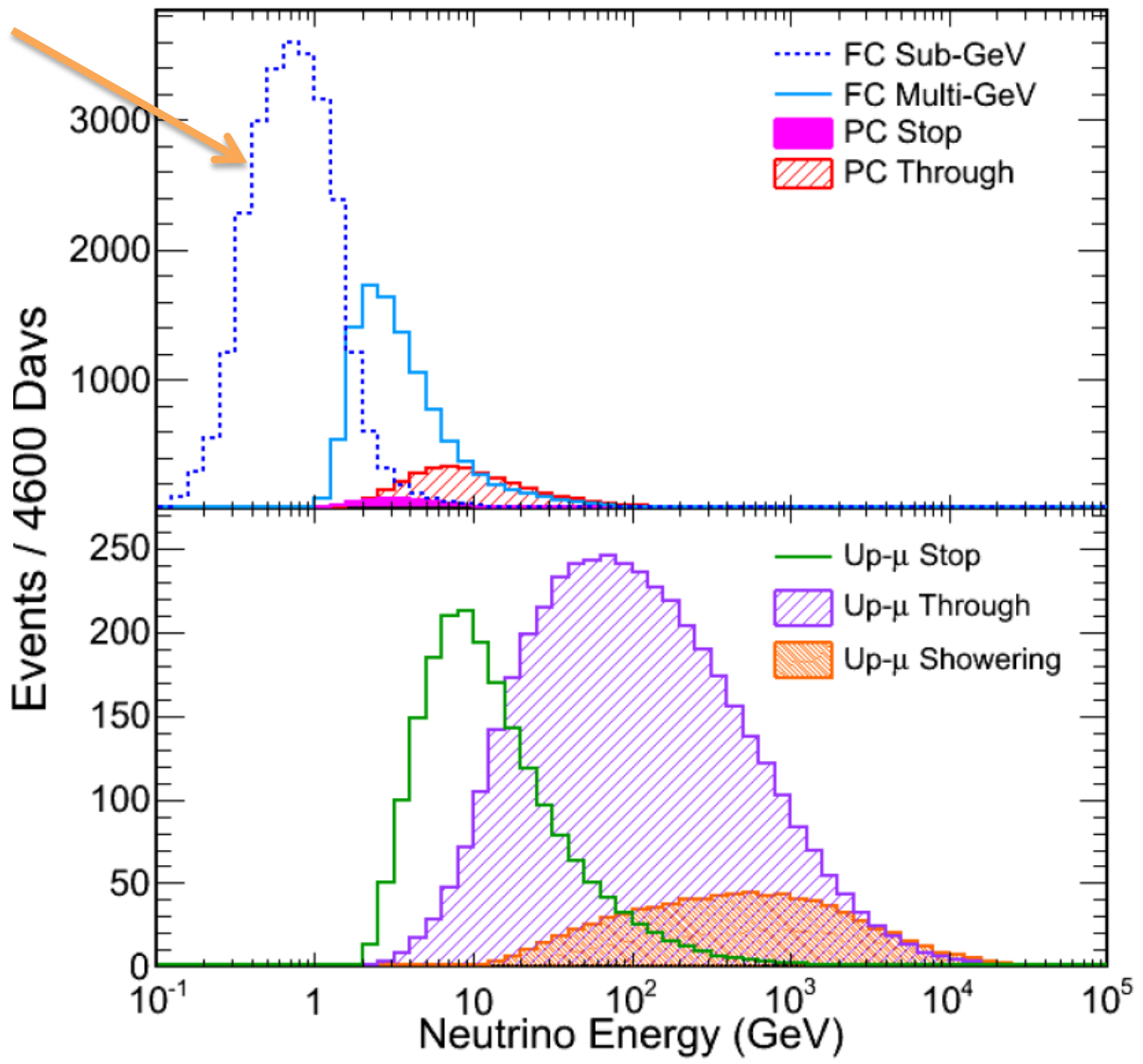
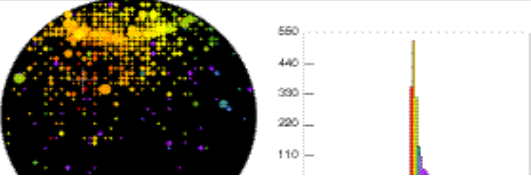
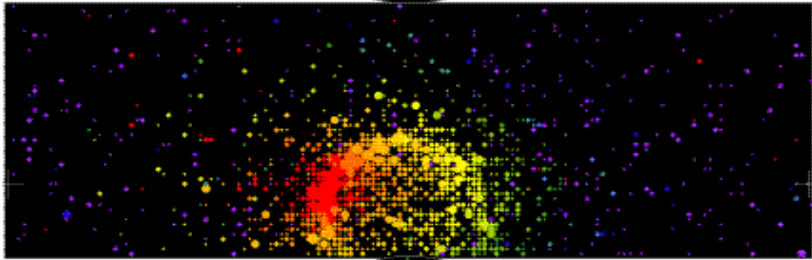
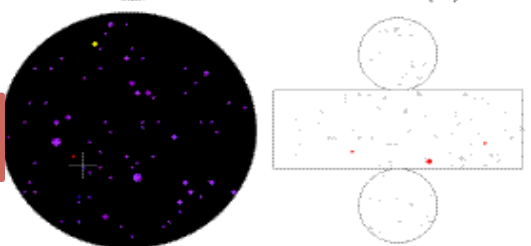
# Super-K Event Types



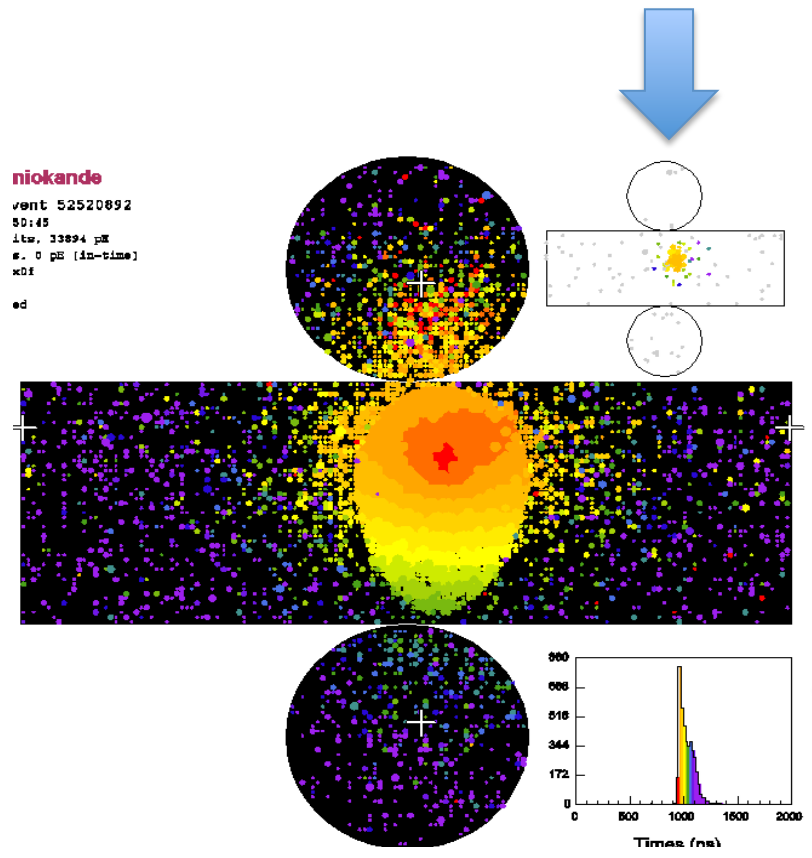
1 ring  $\mu$ -like



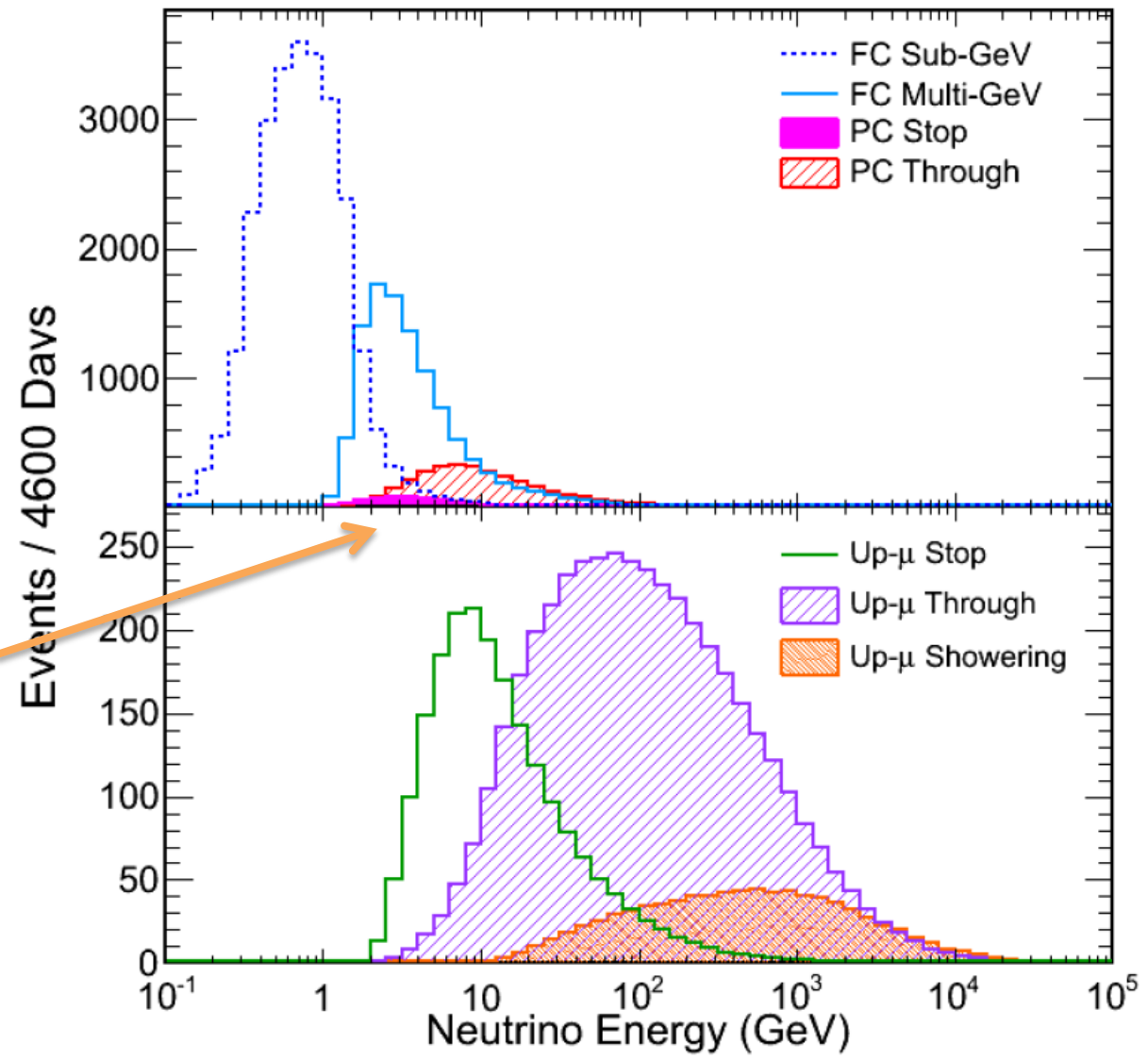
1 ring e-like



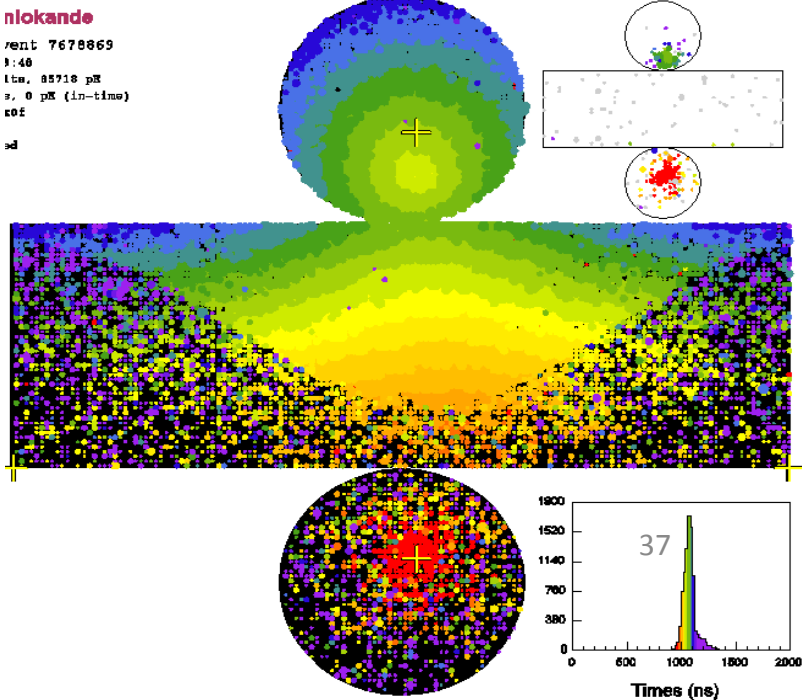
# Super-K Event Types



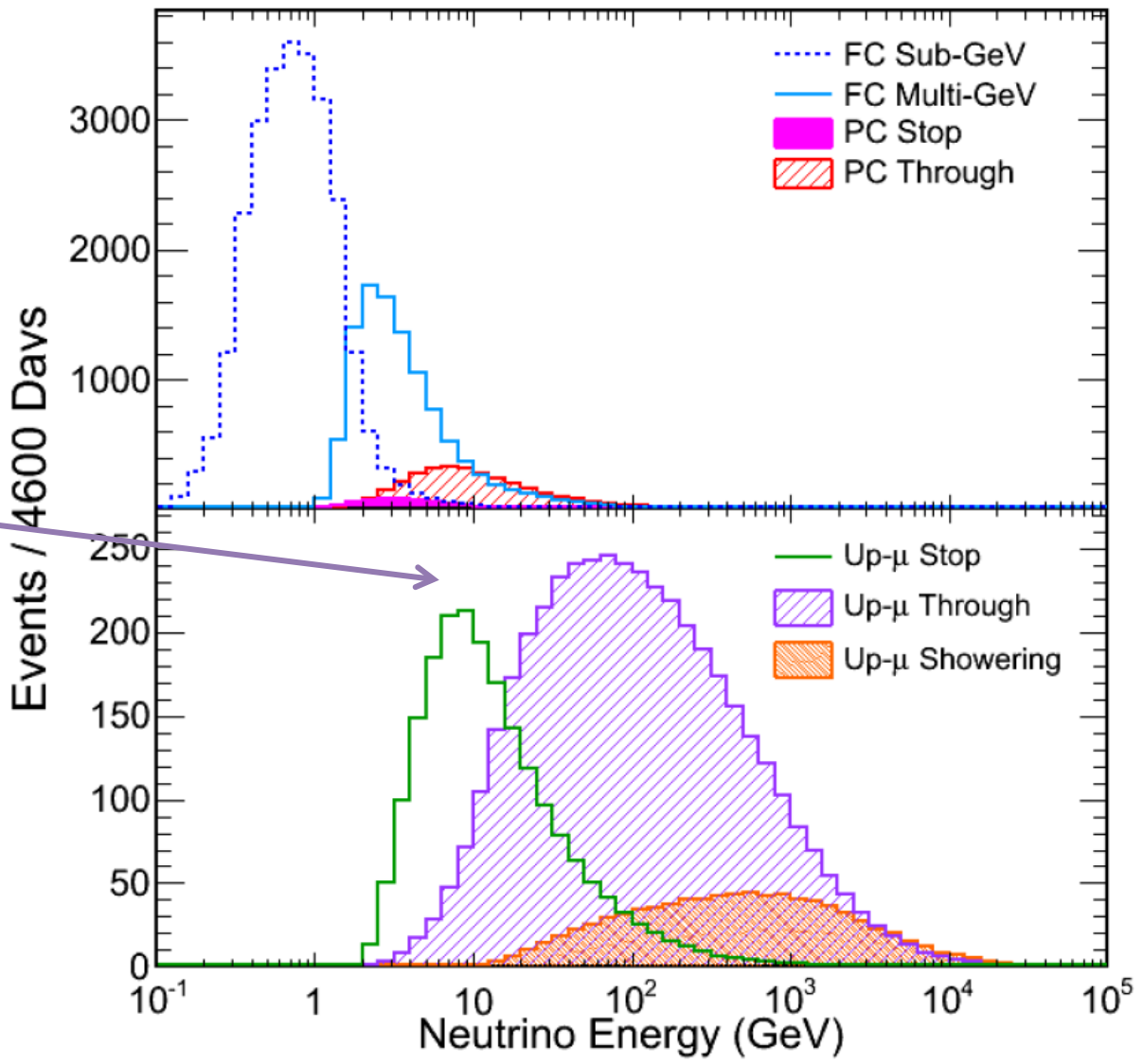
Partially contained



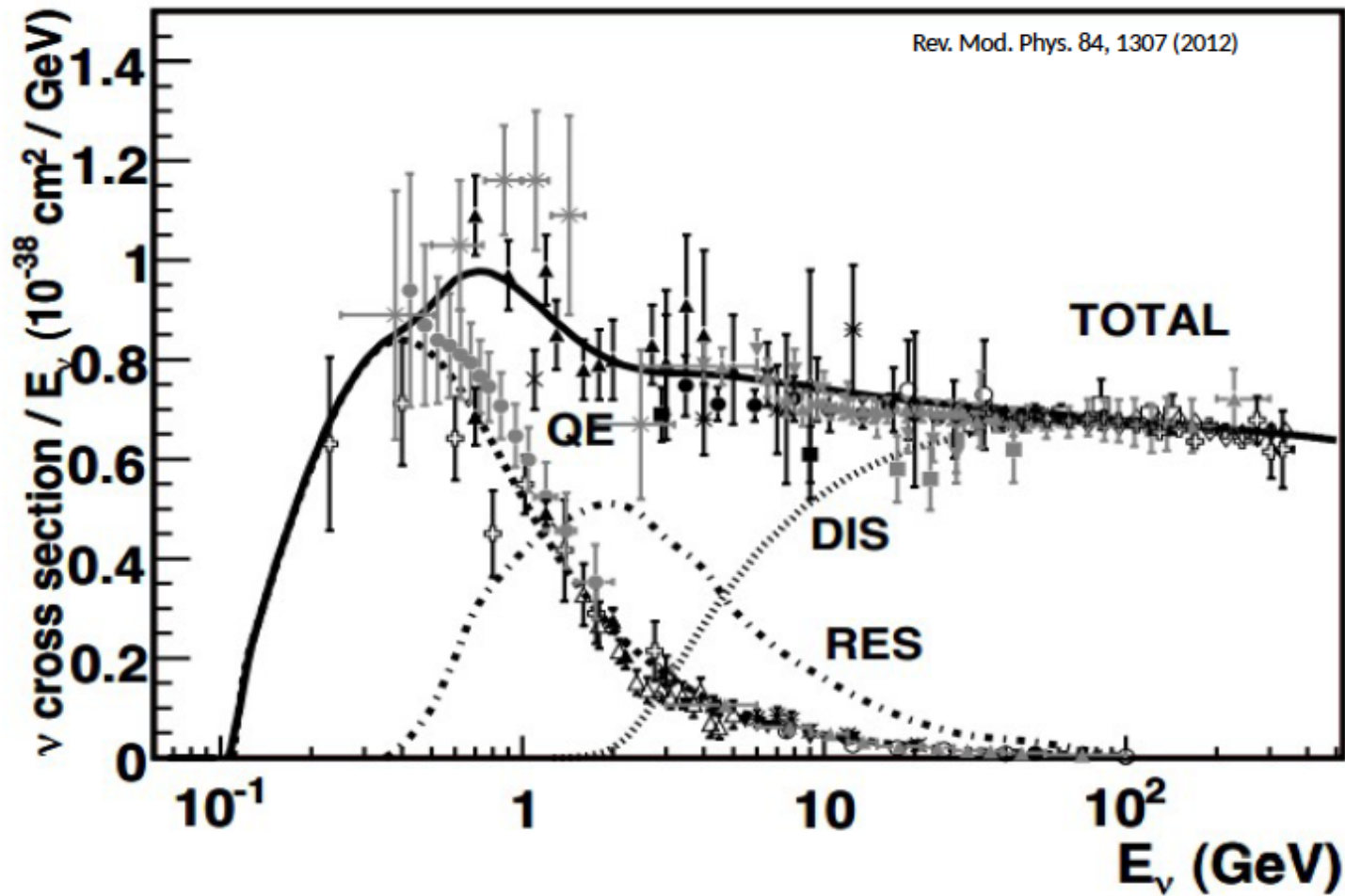
# Super-K Event Types



Upward going  $\mu$

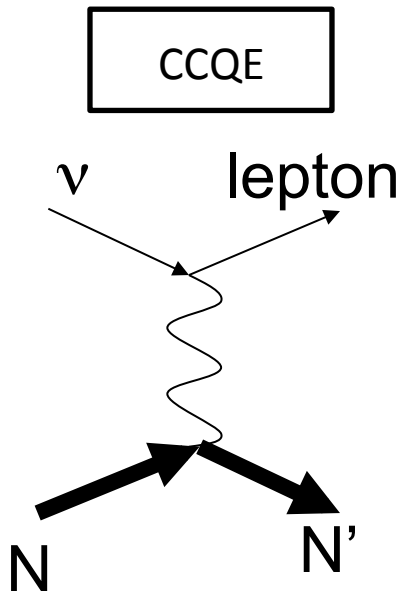


# Atmospheric Neutrino Interactions

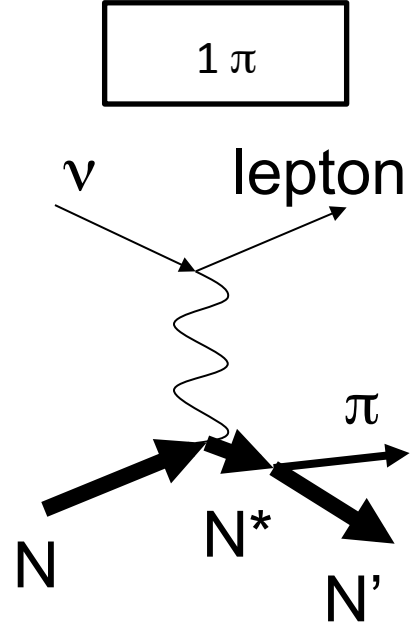


- The flux spans 100 MeV to 100 GeV, so each of these processes are important

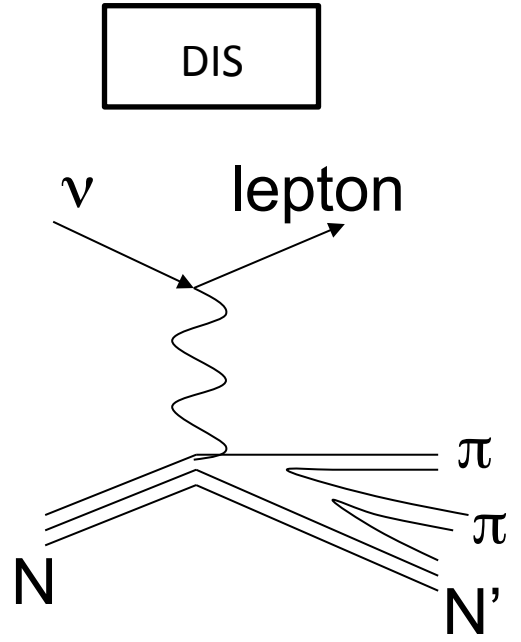
# Atmospheric Neutrino Interactions



1 Cherenkov Ring



More than 1 Cherenkov Ring

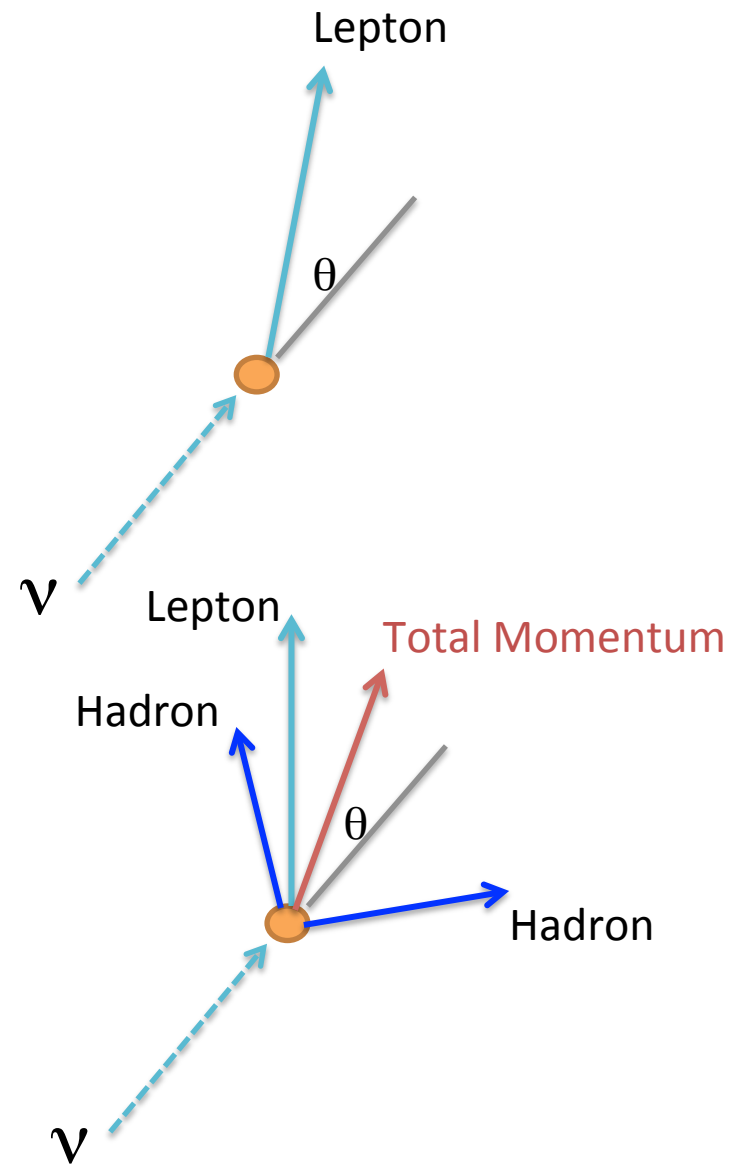
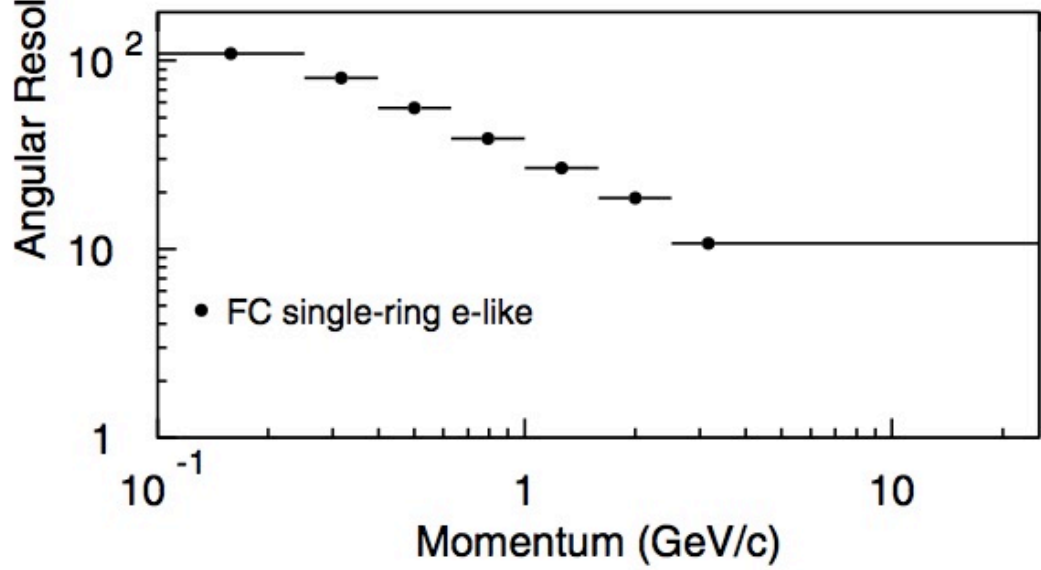
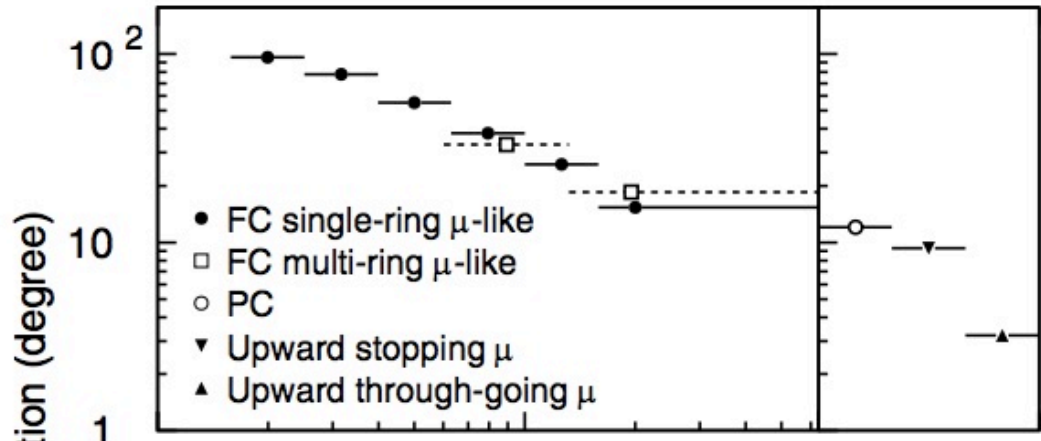


More than 1 Cherenkov ring

- Basic strategy is to divide data up by number of rings and PID of leading ring (~lepton)
  - Further divide by energy, decay electrons, etc
- Caution: These pictures are **not necessarily** the final visible state in the detector

# Angular Resolution of the Neutrino

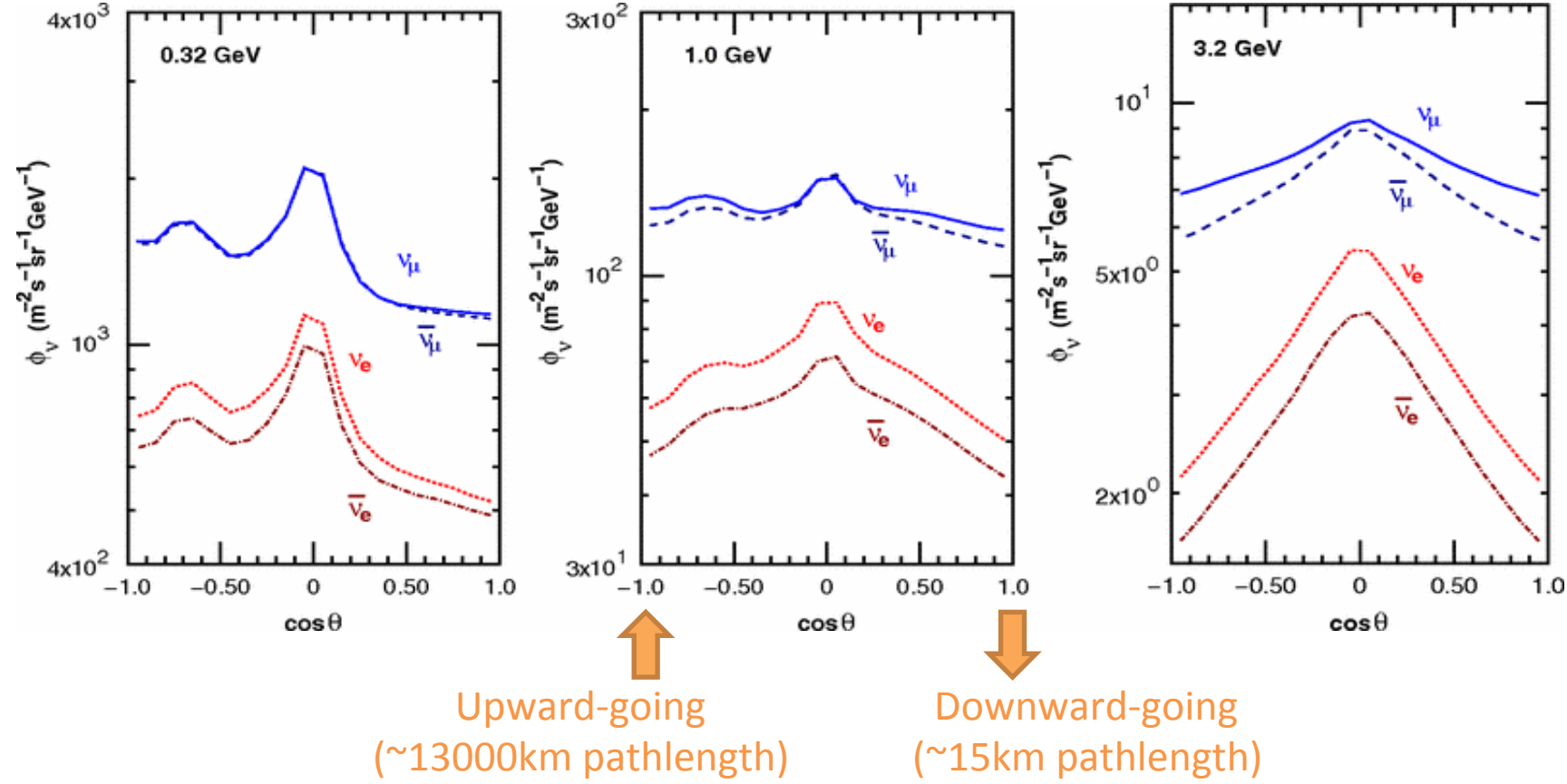
PRD D 71, 112005 (2005)





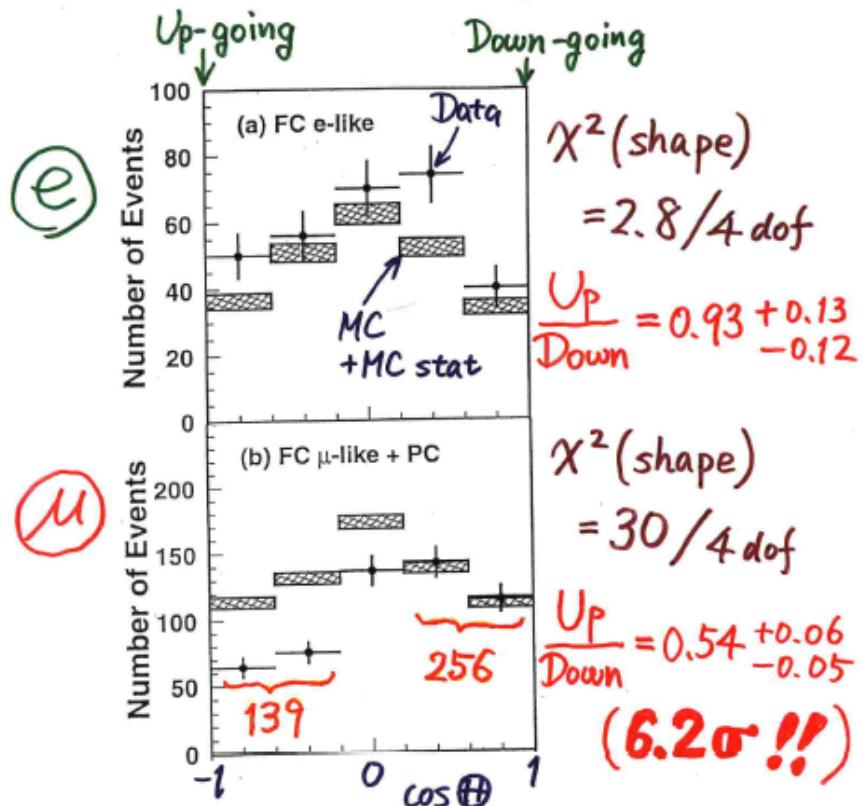
# Basic Analysis Strategy

Phys. Rev. D 83 (2011) 123001



- The Flux is Up/Down Symmetric above a few GeV
- Choose Up/Down Symmetric Binning
- Event Samples binned in several momentum ranges

## Zenith angle dependence (Multi-GeV)



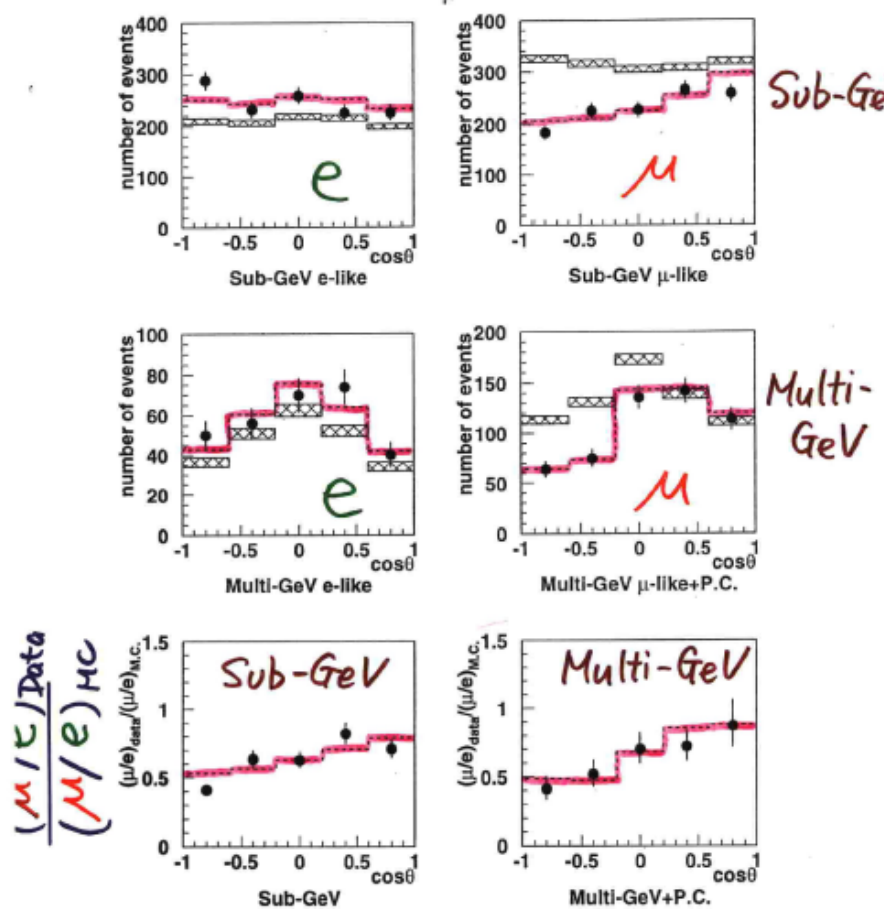
\* Up/Down syst. error for  $\mu$ -like

Prediction (flux calculation  $\dots \lesssim 1\%$   
 1km rock above SK  $\dots 1.5\%$ ) 1.8%

Data (Energy calib. for  $\uparrow\downarrow \dots 0.7\%$   
 Non  $\nu$  Background  $\dots < 2\%$ ) 2.1%

## Data vs. Oscillations

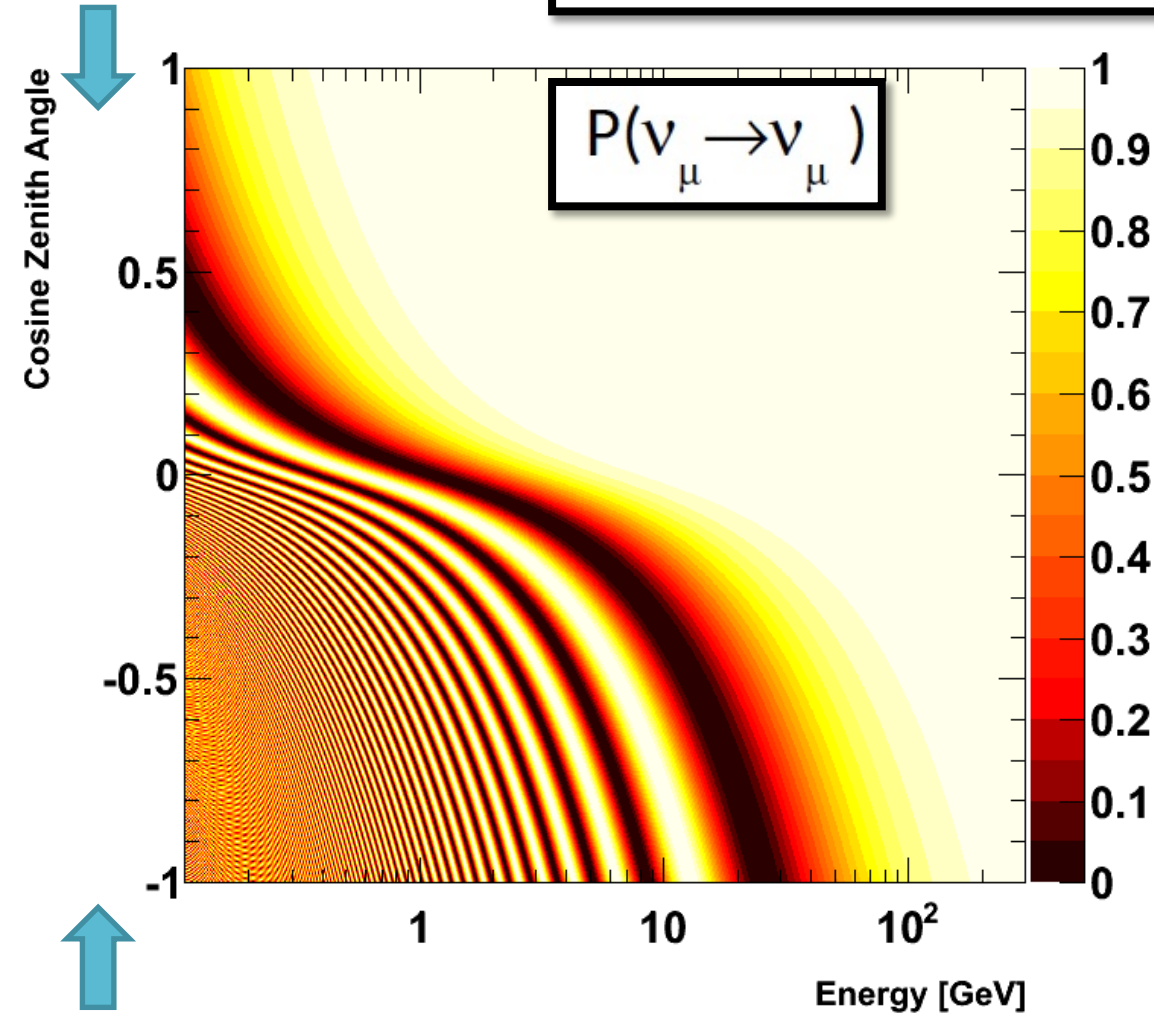
$\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\tau$  ( $\Delta m^2 = 2.2 \times 10^{-3}$ ,  $\sin^2 2\theta = 1$ )



$\chi^2(\text{best fit}) = 65/67 \text{ dof.}$   
 $\chi^2(\text{No oscillation}) = 135/67 \text{ d.o.f.}$   
 $\Delta\chi^2 = 70!$

# Atmospheric Neutrino Oscillations (Two-Flavors)

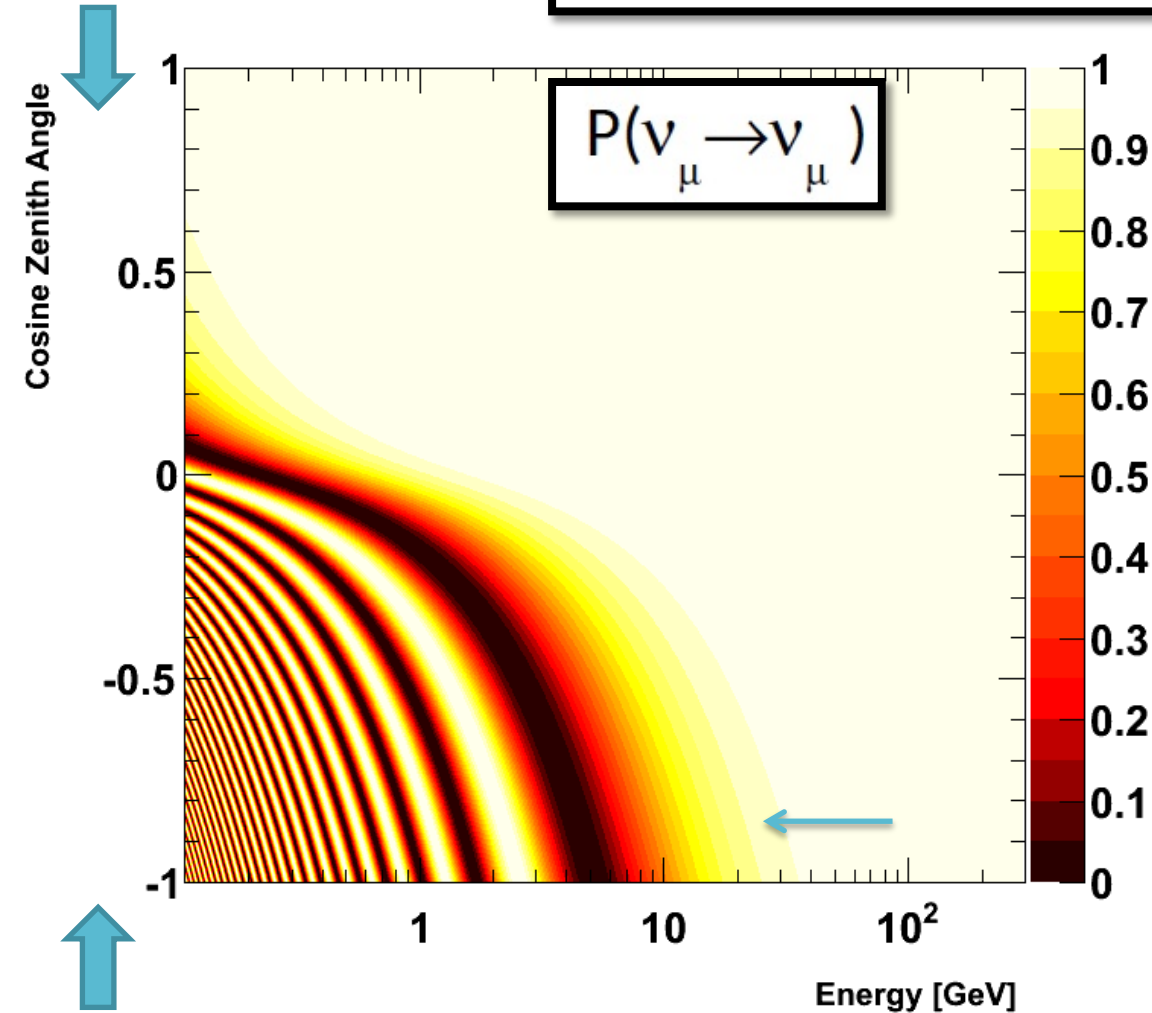
$$P(\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta) = \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2 \left( \frac{1.27 \Delta m^2 (\text{eV}^2) L (\text{km})}{E_\nu (\text{GeV})} \right)$$



$$\Delta m^2 = 2.5 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$$
$$\sin^2 2\theta = 1.0$$

# Atmospheric Neutrino Oscillations (Two-Flavors)

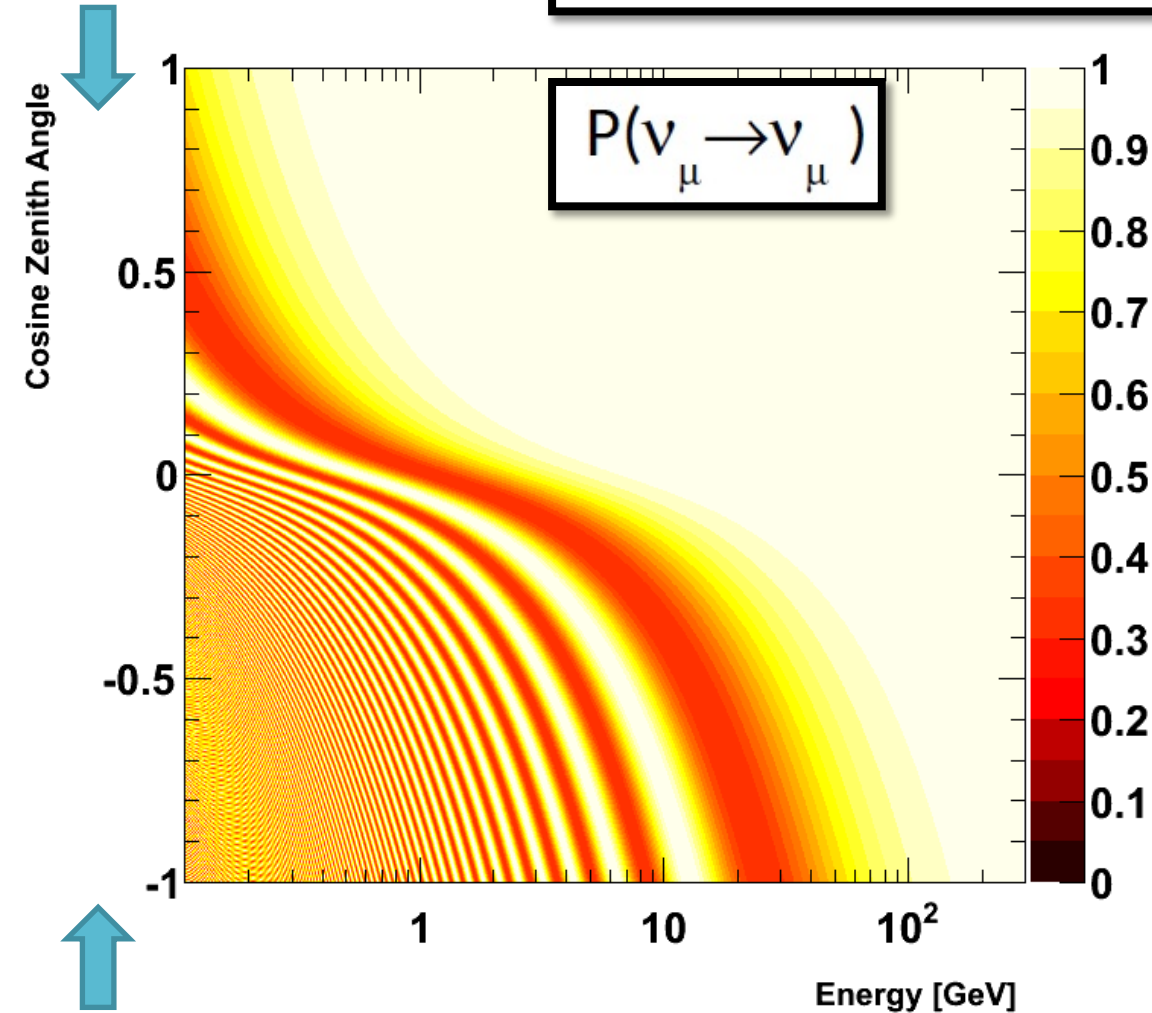
$$P(\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta) = \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2 \left( \frac{1.27 \Delta m^2 (\text{eV}^2) L (\text{km})}{E_\nu (\text{GeV})} \right)$$



$$\Delta m^2 = 0.5 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$$
$$\sin^2 2\theta = 1.0$$

# Atmospheric Neutrino Oscillations (Two-Flavors)

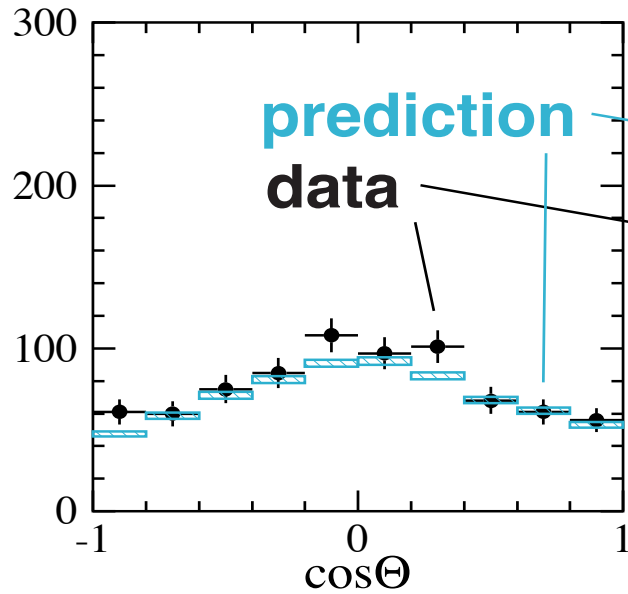
$$P(\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta) = \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2 \left( \frac{1.27 \Delta m^2 (\text{eV}^2) L (\text{km})}{E_\nu (\text{GeV})} \right)$$



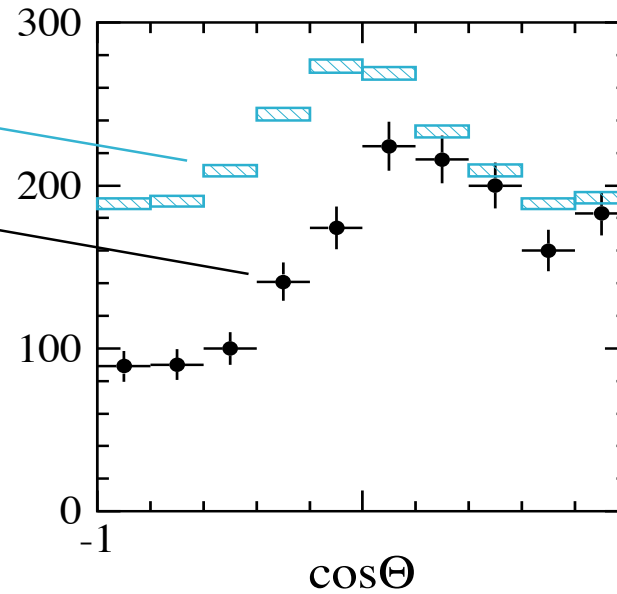
$$\Delta m^2 = 2.5 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$$
$$\sin^2 2\theta = 0.7$$

# Neutrino Oscillation?

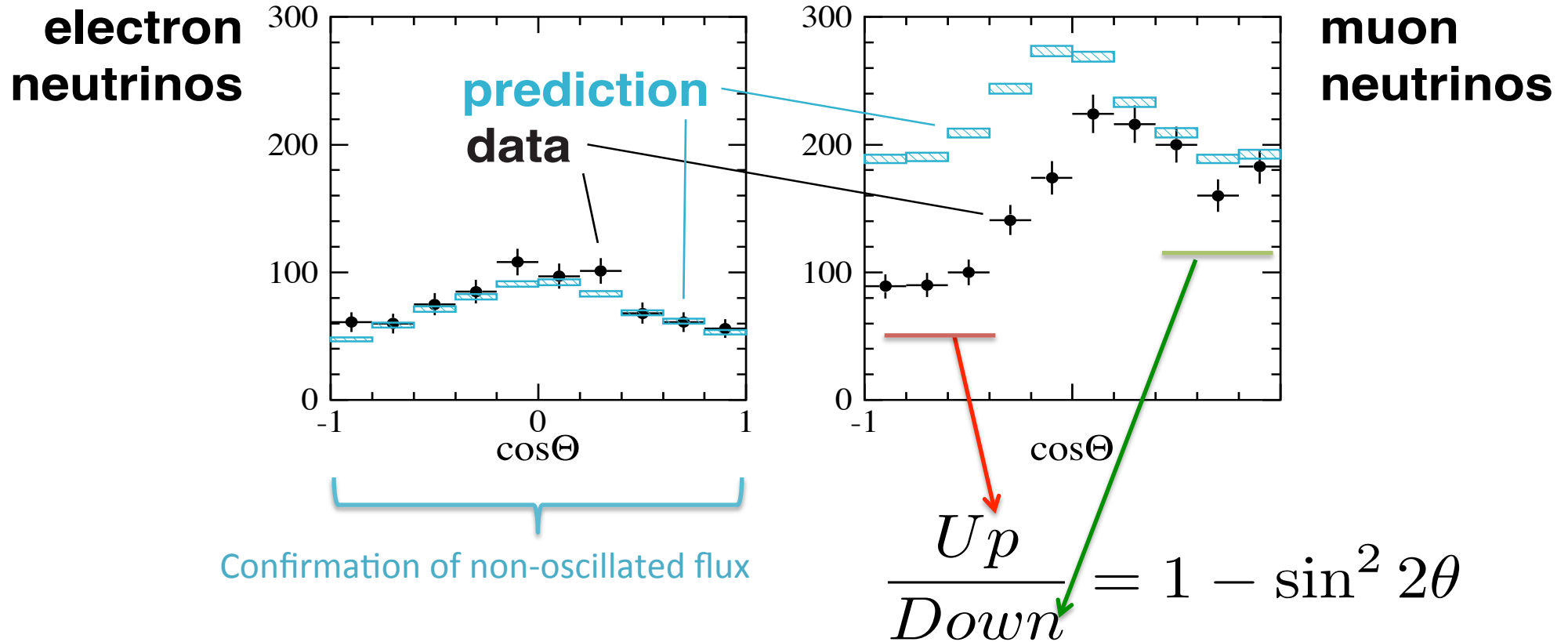
**electron  
neutrinos**



**muon  
neutrinos**



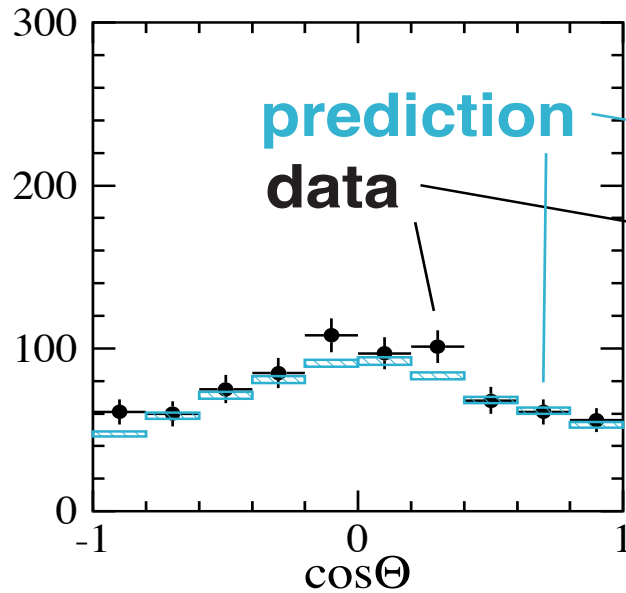
# Estimating the Oscillation Parameters



# Estimating the Oscillation Parameters

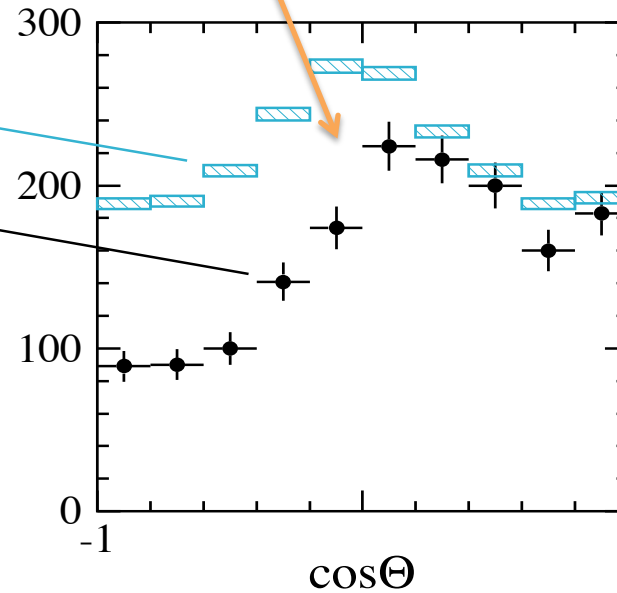
Transition point (in energy)  $\rightarrow \Delta m^2$

**electron  
neutrinos**



**prediction  
data**

**muon  
neutrinos**

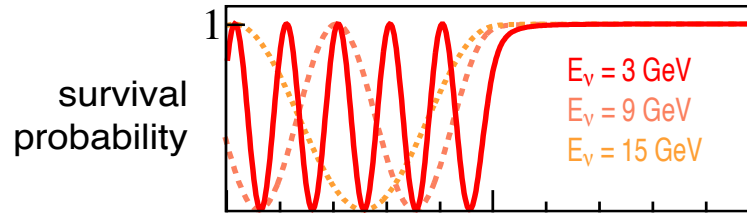


Confirmation of non-oscillated flux

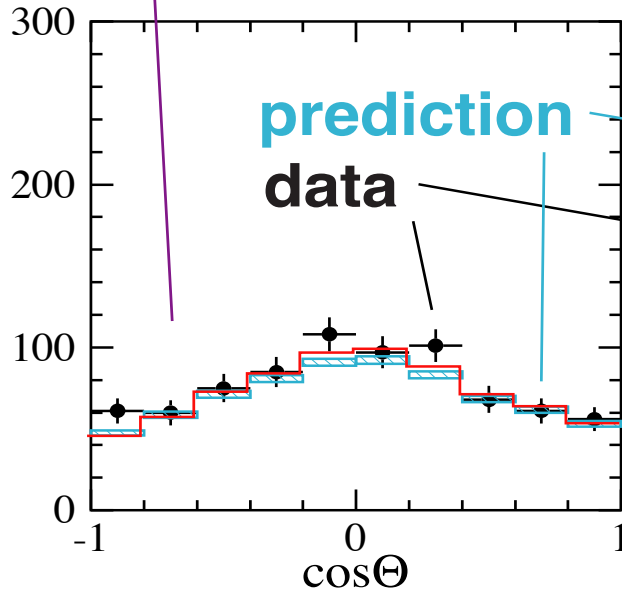


# Neutrino Oscillation

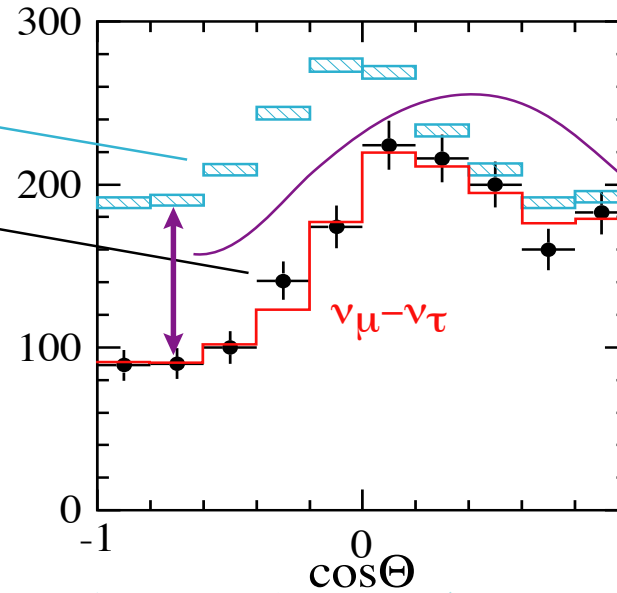
*no electron neutrinos appear here, so not  $\nu_\mu \ll \nu_e$*



**electron neutrinos**



**muon neutrinos**



*missing muon neutrinos*

Neutrino travel distance(L):

12800

6200

700

40

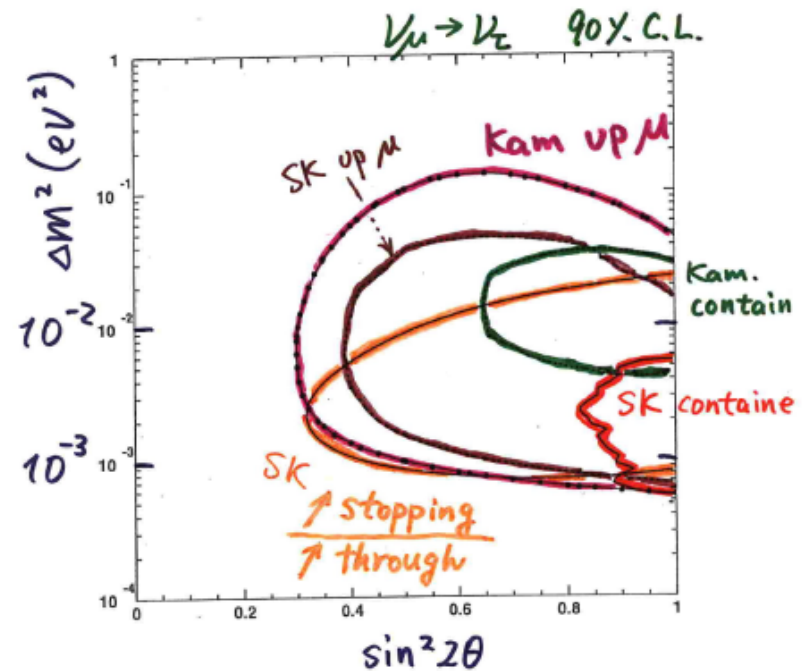
15 km



Neutrino 1998, Takayama, Japan  
 33 kton years of data (535 days)

## Summary

### Evidence for $\nu_\mu$ oscillations



- $$\begin{cases} \sin^2 2\theta > 0.8 \\ \Delta m^2 \sim 10^{-3} \sim 10^{-2} \end{cases}$$

(•  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$  or  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_s$  ?)

# After Neutrino 1998

- Super-K saw definitive evidence for the **disappearance** of atmospheric muon neutrinos
  - No distortion seen in the electron samples

- Data are well fit by  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\tau$  oscillations

$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ \nu_\mu \\ \nu_\tau \end{pmatrix} = \begin{matrix} \text{Atmospheric} \\ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c_{23} & s_{23} \\ 0 & -s_{23} & c_{23} \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \\ \nu_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

- But there are other possibilities

- Oscillations into a sterile state?

- Neutrino Decoherence?

- Neutrino Decay?

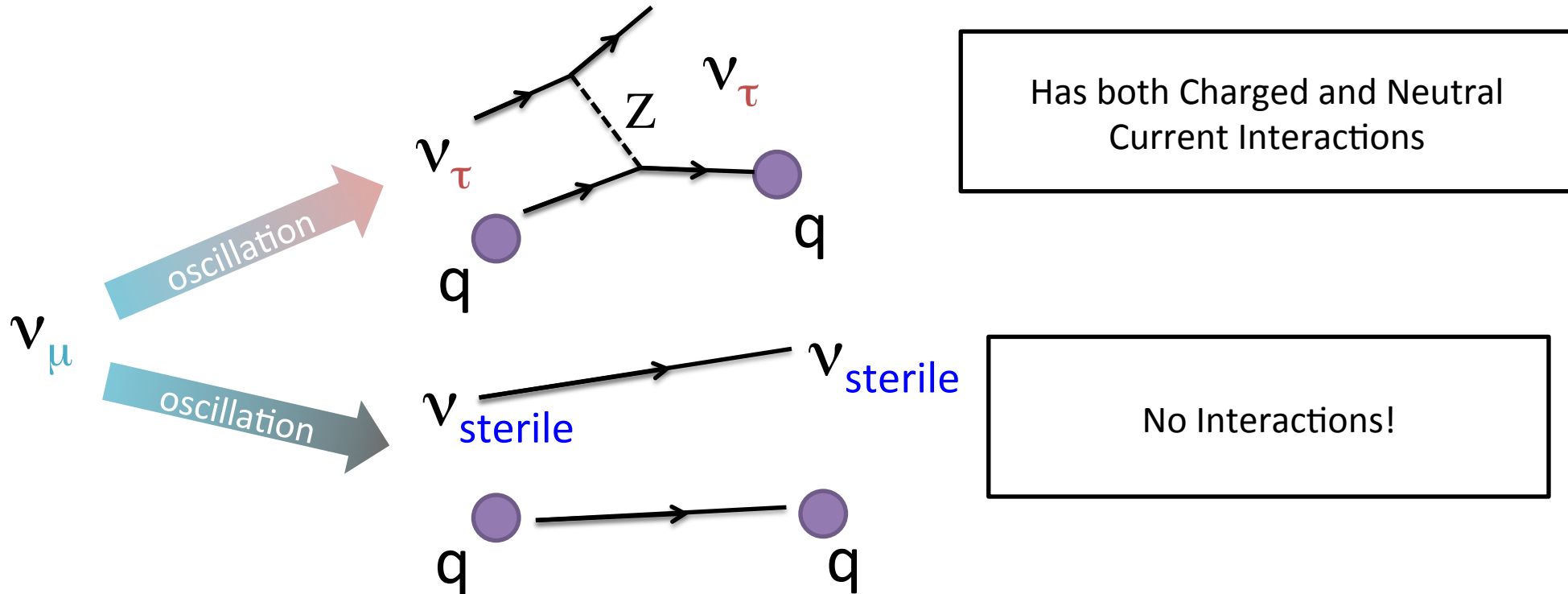
- Can we find the tau neutrinos?

- Need to fully test oscillation hypothesis:

$$P(\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta) = \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2 \left( \frac{1.27 \Delta m^2 (\text{eV}^2) L (\text{km})}{E_\nu (\text{GeV})} \right)$$

# Sterile Oscillations, Hard to Enrich in NC

- Oscillations into a sterile neutrino would also decrease the number of observed  $\mu$ -like events



Look for a decrease in NC interactions...

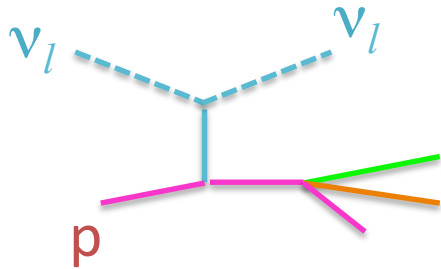
# Sterile Oscillations, Hard to Enrich in NC

## ■ Event Selection

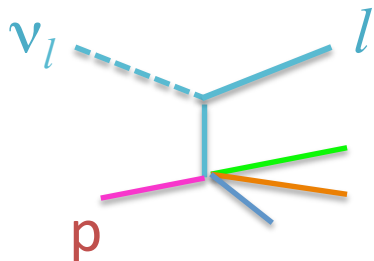
- Fiducial Volume
- Multiple rings
- Most energetic ring is showering
- Visible energy greater than 400 MeV

*Hard to enrich in NC interactions*

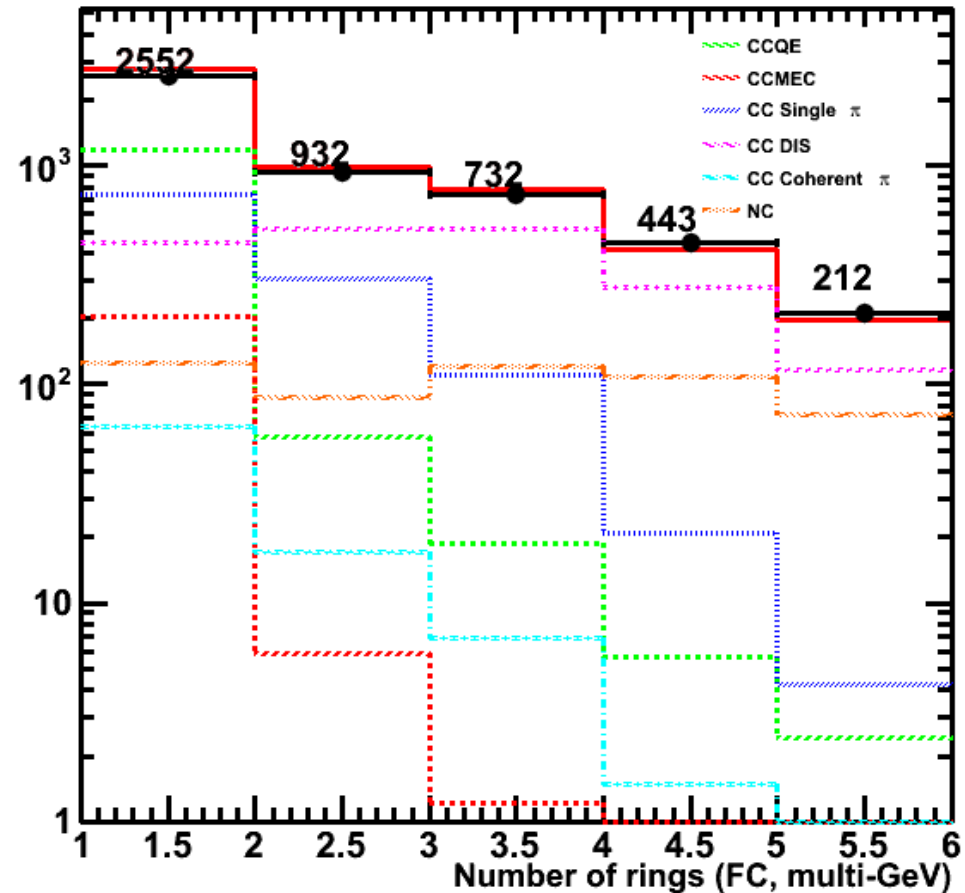
NC



CC



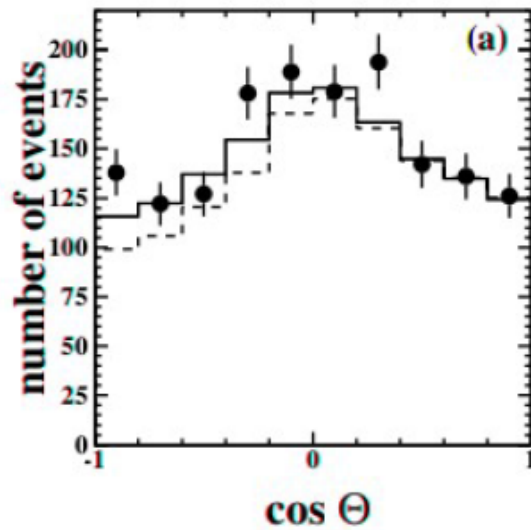
Super Kamiokande IV 2519.9 days : Monitoring



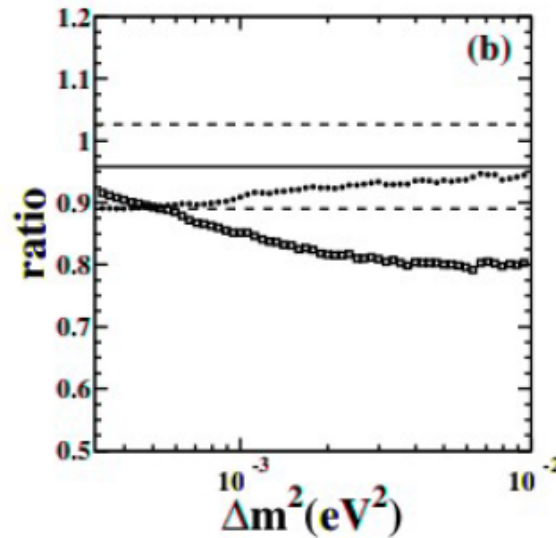
# Rejecting Oscillations into a Sterile State

2000

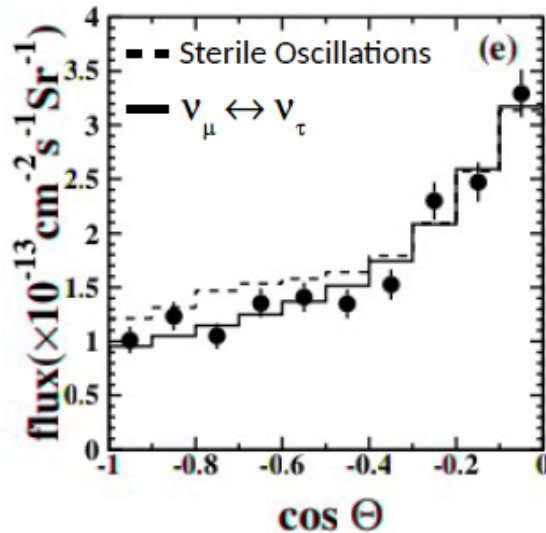
Fully Contained NC Enhanced



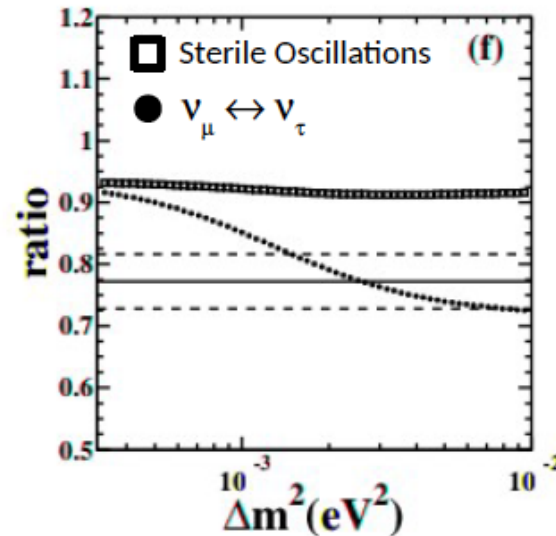
Up / Down Ratio



Upward-going Muons



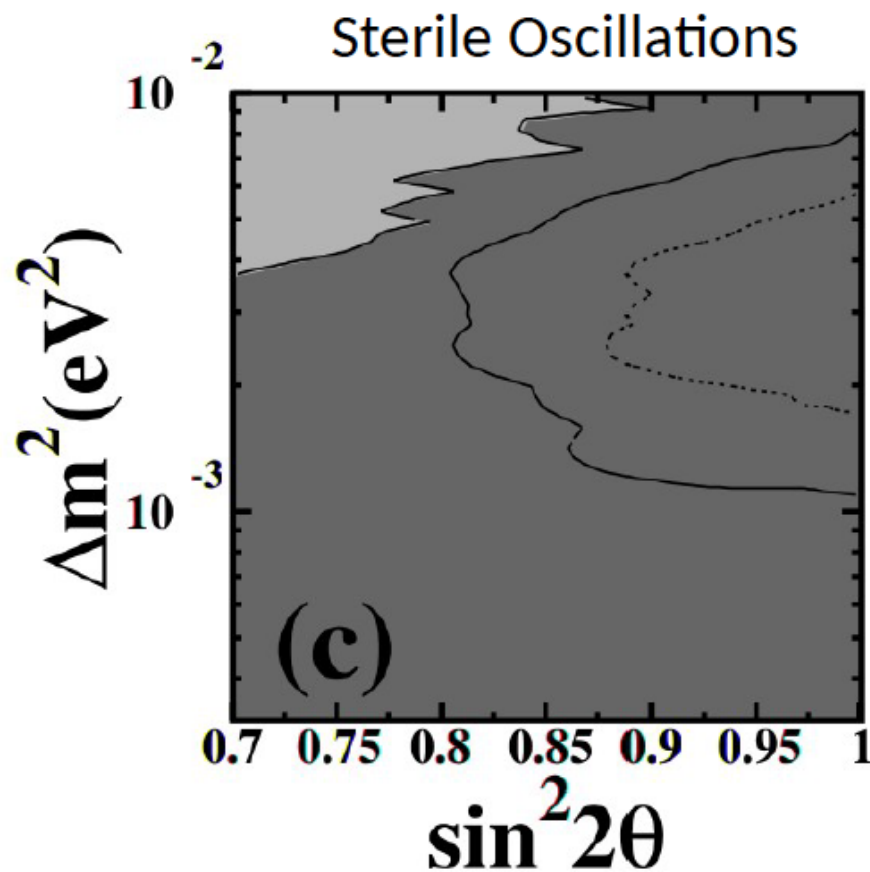
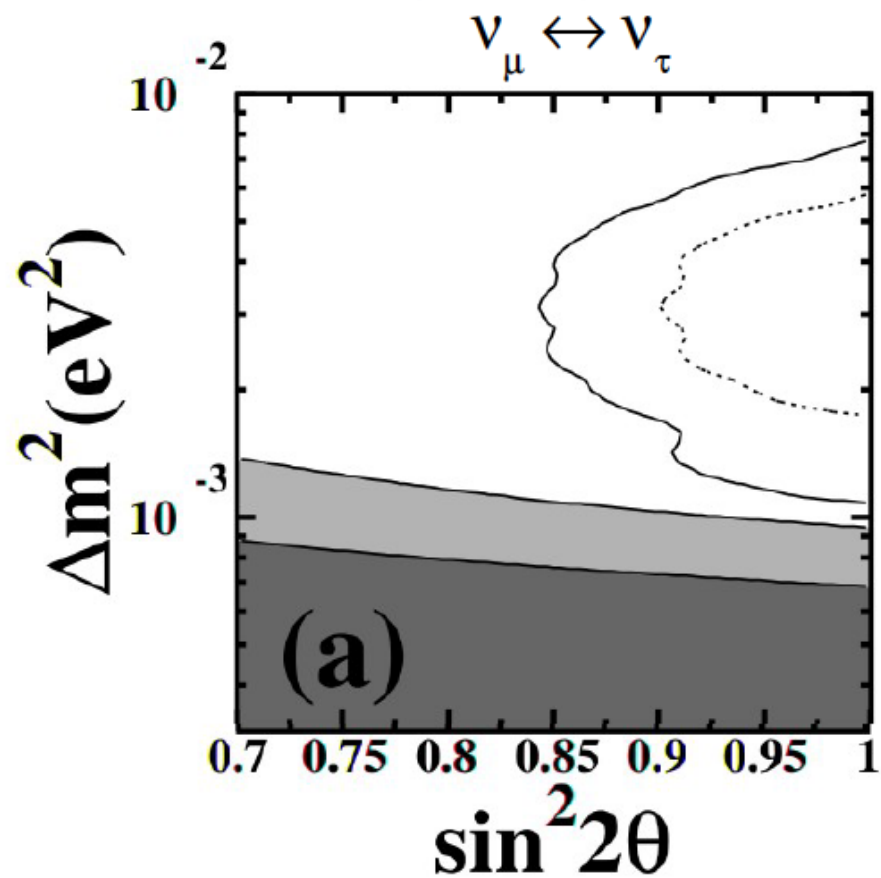
Up / Horizontal Ratio



- For sterile oscillation expect
  - Fewer NC interactions relative to  $\nu_\mu \leftrightarrow \nu_\tau$
  - Oscillation suppression at high energies due to sterile “matter effect”
- Select NC enhanced sample
  - (Multi-ring e-like)
  - NC : 29%
  - CC  $\nu_e$  : 46%
  - CC  $\nu_\mu$  : 25%
- Test hypothesis using ratio measurement
  - NC: Up/Down
  - Up- $\mu$  : Up/Horizontal

# Constraints on (100%) Sterile Oscillations

2000



- Excluded at 99% C.L.
- Excluded at 90% C.L.
- FC Single-Ring Allowed 99%
- Clear preference for standard oscillations

# After Neutrino 1998

- Super-K saw definitive evidence for the **disappearance** of atmospheric muon neutrinos
  - No distortion seen in the electron samples

- Data are well fit by  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\tau$  oscillations

$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ \nu_\mu \\ \nu_\tau \end{pmatrix} = \begin{matrix} \text{Atmospheric} \\ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c_{23} & s_{23} \\ 0 & -s_{23} & c_{23} \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \\ \nu_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

- But there are other possibilities

- ~~Oscillations into a sterile state?~~

- Neutrino Decoherence?

- Neutrino Decay?

- Can we find the tau neutrinos?

- Need to fully test oscillation hypothesis:

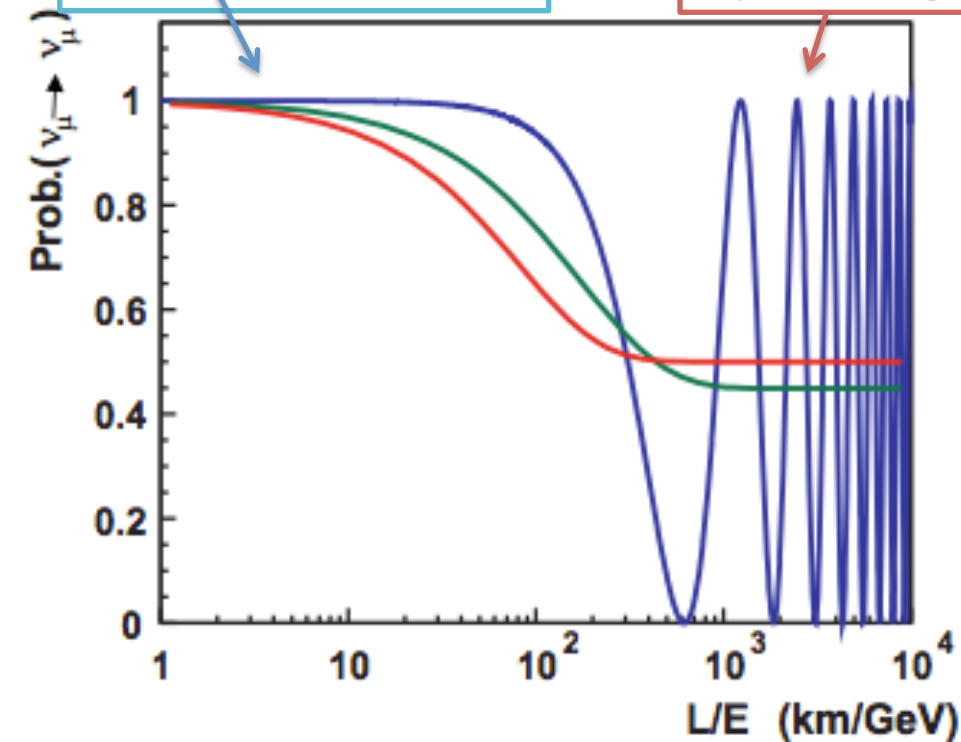
$$P(\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta) = \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2 \left( \frac{1.27 \Delta m^2 (\text{eV}^2) L (\text{km})}{E_\nu (\text{GeV})} \right)$$



# Searching for An Oscillatory Signature

Downward-going

upward-going



$$P(\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta) = \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2 \left( \frac{1.27 \Delta m^2 (\text{eV}^2) L (\text{km})}{E_\nu (\text{GeV})} \right)$$

Decoherence:

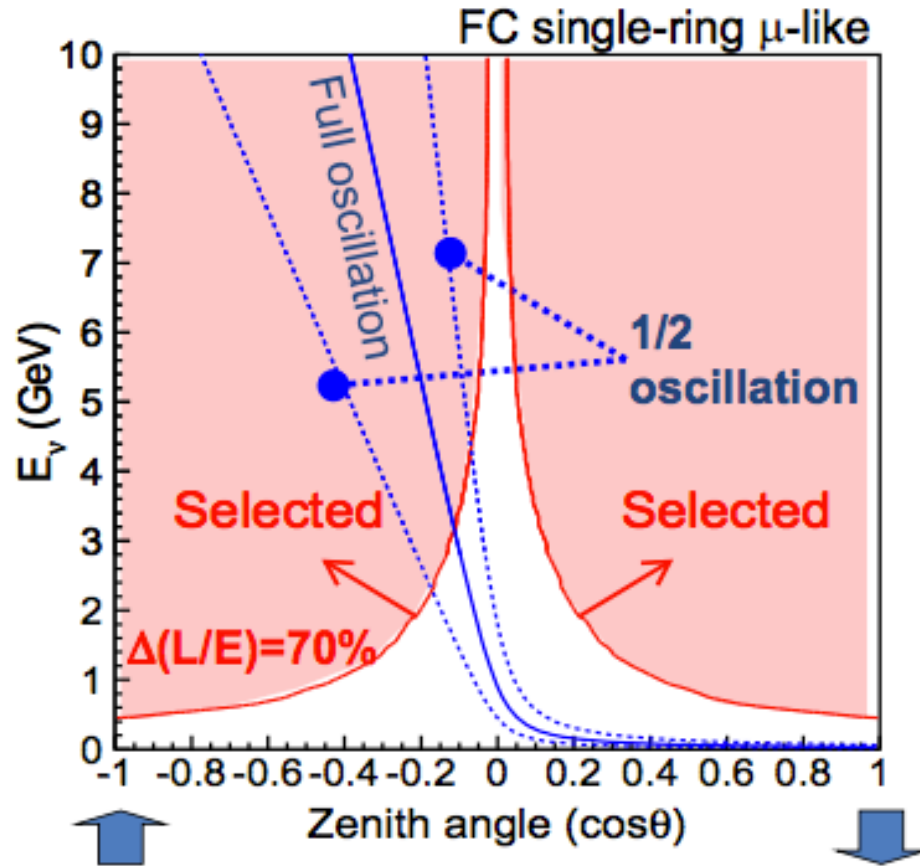
$$P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\mu) = 1 - \frac{1}{2} \sin^2 2\theta \cdot (1 - \exp(-\gamma_0 \frac{L}{E}))$$

Decay:

$$P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\mu) = (\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta \cdot \exp(-\frac{m}{2\tau} \frac{L}{E}))^2$$

- To strengthen evidence for oscillations search of the “L/E” oscillation shape
- (This technique will be used in other modern experiments)

# Searching for An Oscillatory Signature



$$P(\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta) = \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2 \left( \frac{1.27 \Delta m^2 (\text{eV}^2) L (\text{km})}{E_\nu (\text{GeV})} \right)$$

Green arrows point to the  $E_\nu (\text{GeV})$  term in the denominator and the  $\sin^2$  function.

- To strengthen evidence for oscillations search of the “L/E” oscillation shape
- Select event with good resolution in L/E
  - *Remove* low energy events
  - *Remove* events near the horizon

# L/E Analysis Result

2004

--  $\nu$  Decay

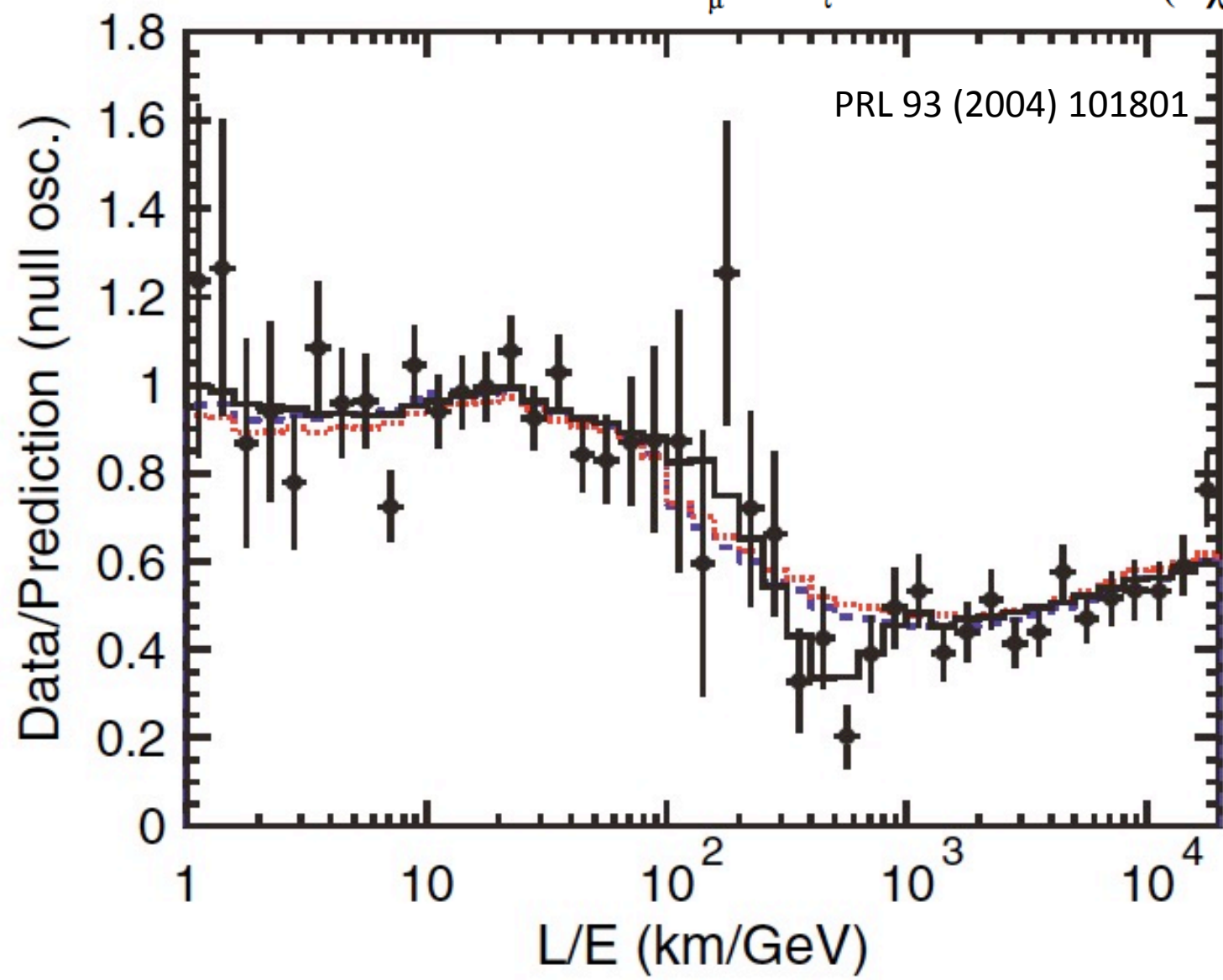
--  $\nu$  Decoherence

—  $\nu_\mu \leftrightarrow \nu_\tau$

$\Delta\chi^2 = 3.4\sigma$

$\Delta\chi^2 = 3.8\sigma$

( $\Delta\chi^2 = 0$ )



# L/E Analysis Result

--  $\nu$  Decay

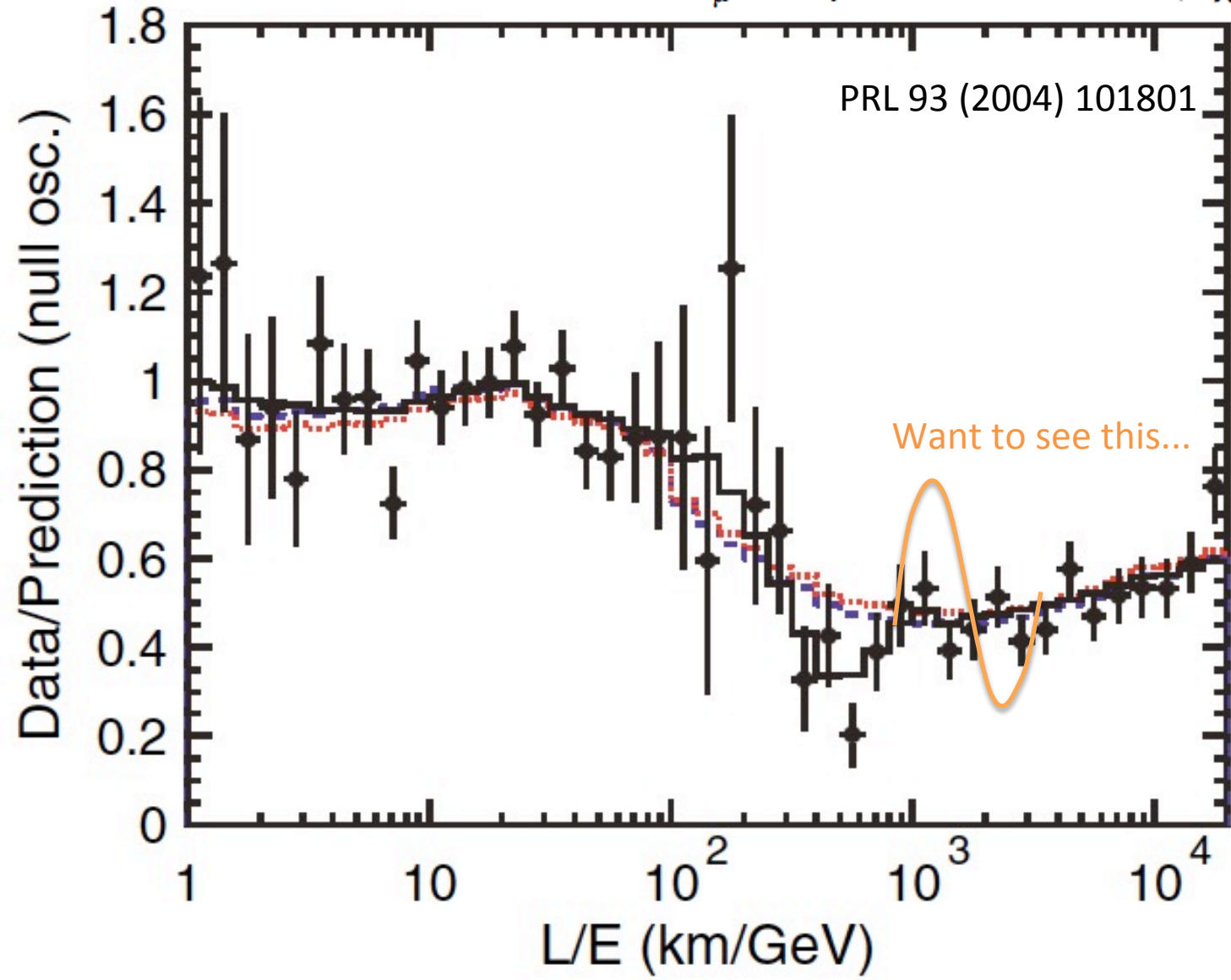
--  $\nu$  Decoherence

—  $\nu_\mu \leftrightarrow \nu_\tau$

$\Delta\chi^2 = 3.4\sigma$

$\Delta\chi^2 = 3.8\sigma$

( $\Delta\chi^2 = 0$ )



# After Neutrino 1998

- Super-K saw definitive evidence for the **disappearance** of atmospheric muon neutrinos
  - No distortion seen in the electron samples

- Data are well fit by  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\tau$  oscillations
  - **By the way, where did the  $\nu_\tau$  go?**

$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ \nu_\mu \\ \nu_\tau \end{pmatrix} = \begin{matrix} \text{Atmospheric} \\ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c_{23} & s_{23} \\ 0 & -s_{23} & c_{23} \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \\ \nu_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

- But there are other possibilities

- ~~Oscillations into a sterile state?~~

- ~~Neutrino Decoherence?~~

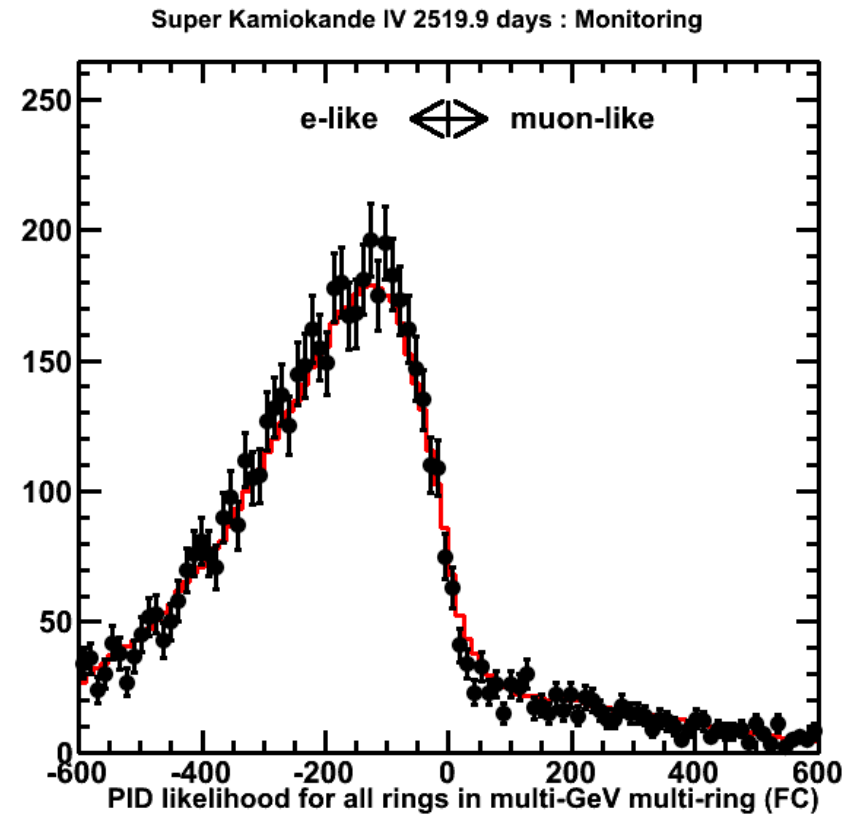
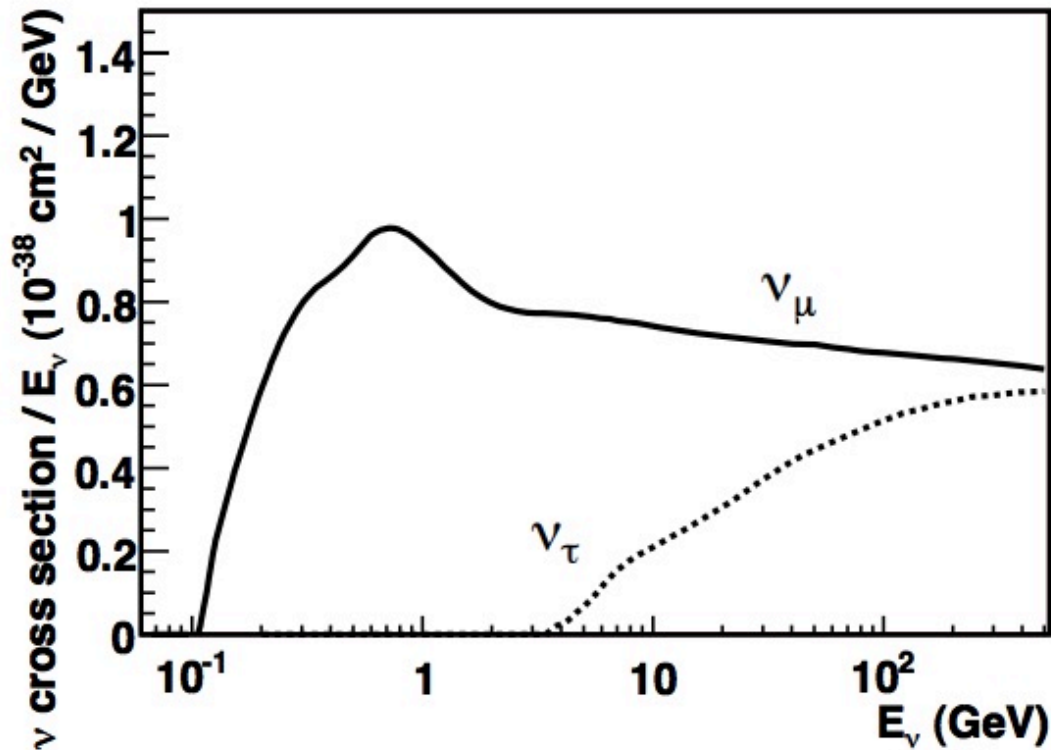
- ~~Neutrino Decay?~~

- **Can we find the tau neutrinos?**

- Need to fully test oscillation hypothesis:

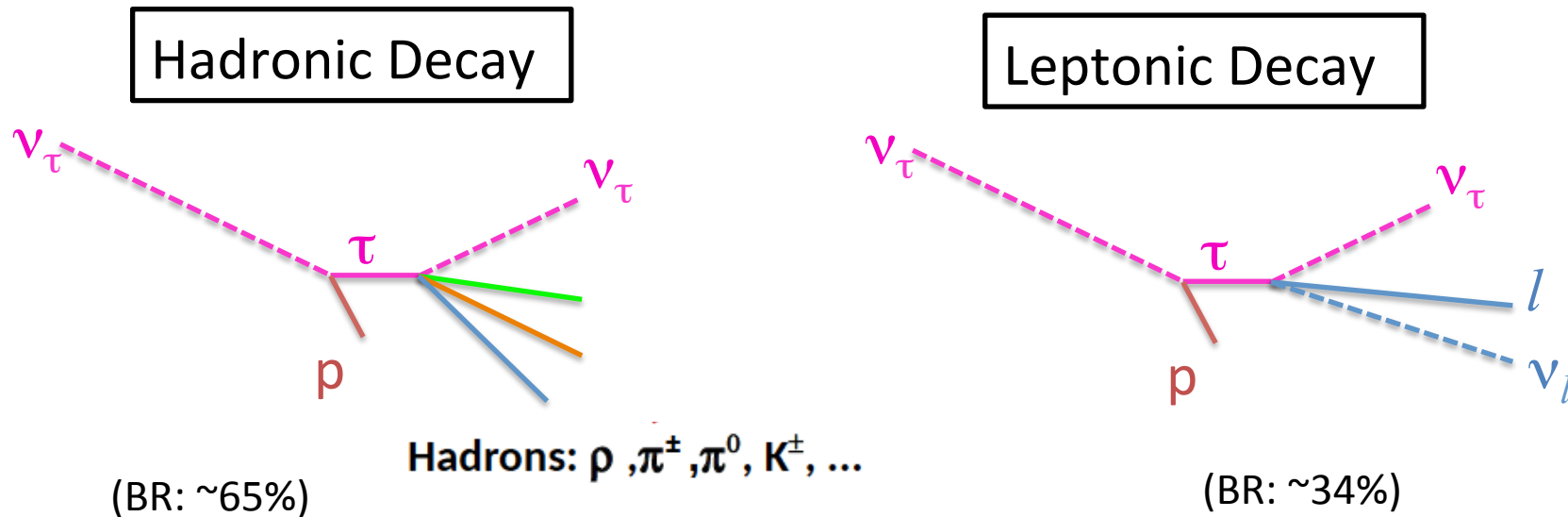
$$P(\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta) = \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2 \left( \frac{1.27 \Delta m^2 (\text{eV}^2) L (\text{km})}{E_\nu (\text{GeV})} \right)$$

# Tau Neutrino Cross Section



- In order to make a tau neutrino in the first place, you need around 3.4 GeV of energy
- Expect on average about 1 ev/kton/year in Super-K, usually look e-like

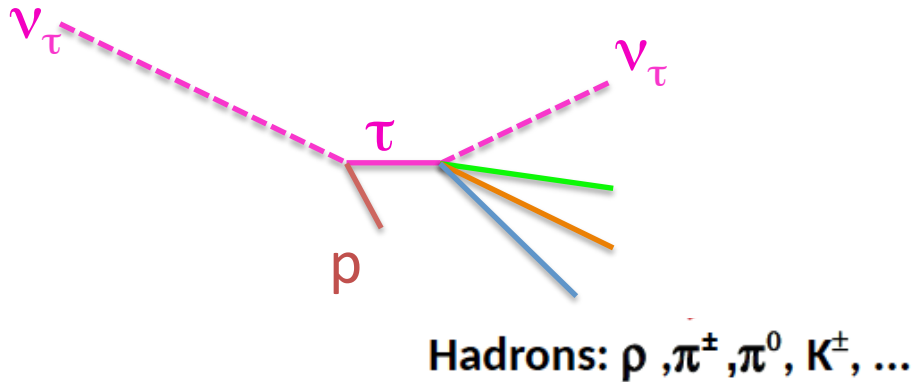
# Searching for Tau Neutrinos



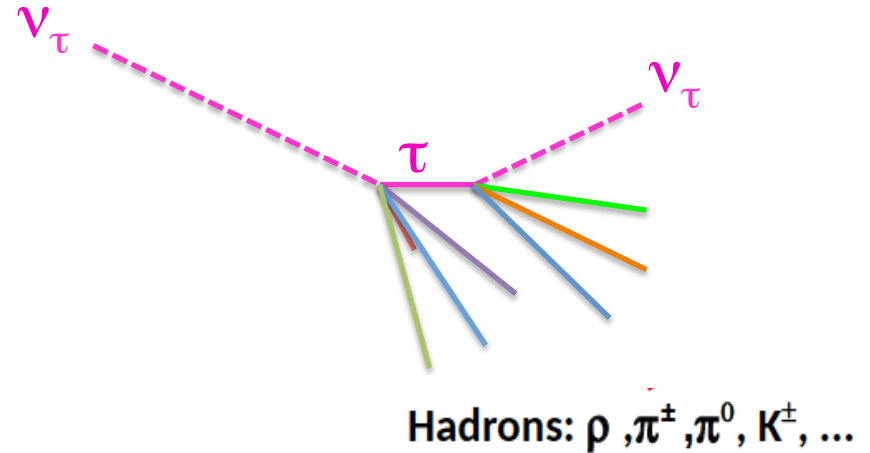
- A 10 GeV  $\tau$  will travel about 0.5 mm
- Leptonic decay is swamped by backgrounds from  $\nu_l$  CC interactions
- Focus on hadronic decay modes
  
- Due to production threshold, many tau neutrino interactions are DIS
  - So *even more* hadrons

# Searching for Tau Neutrinos

CCQE + Hadronic



CC DIS + Hadronic



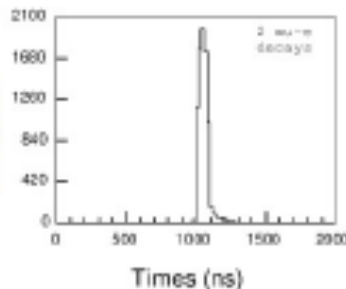
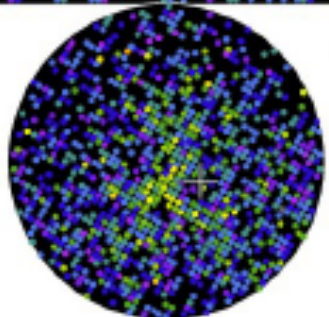
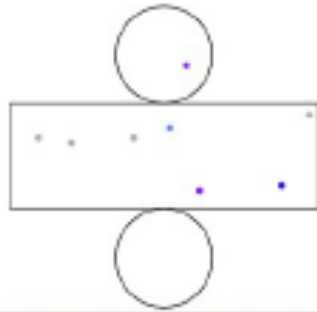
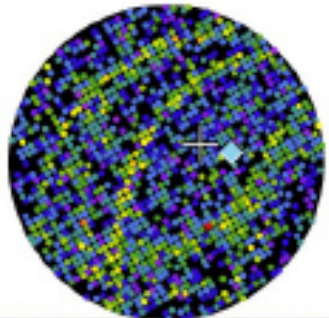
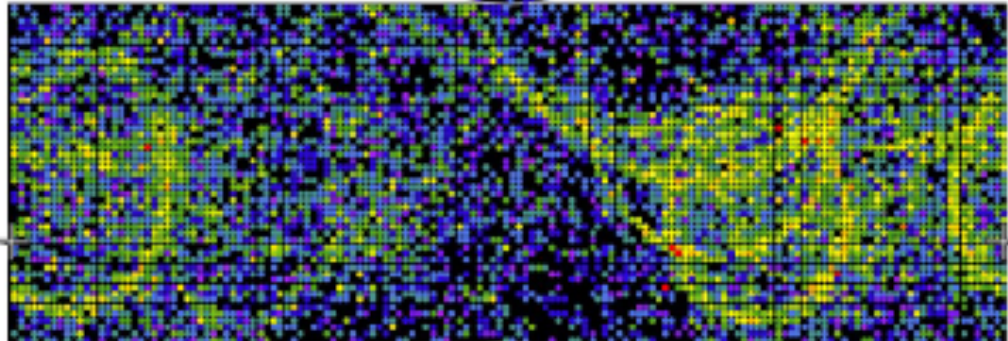
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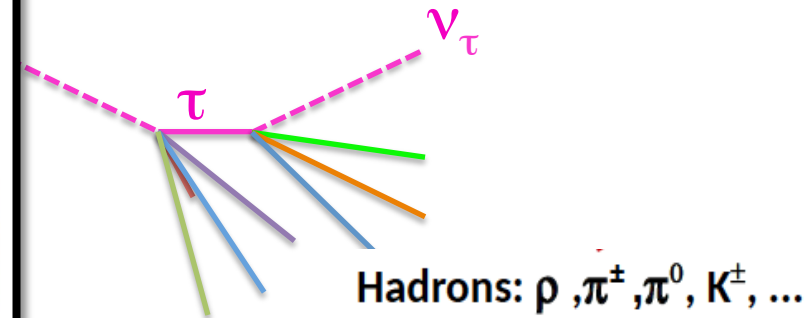
# Searching for Tau Neutrinos

$\nu_\tau$  Signal MC

Charge (pe)



CC DIS + Hadronic



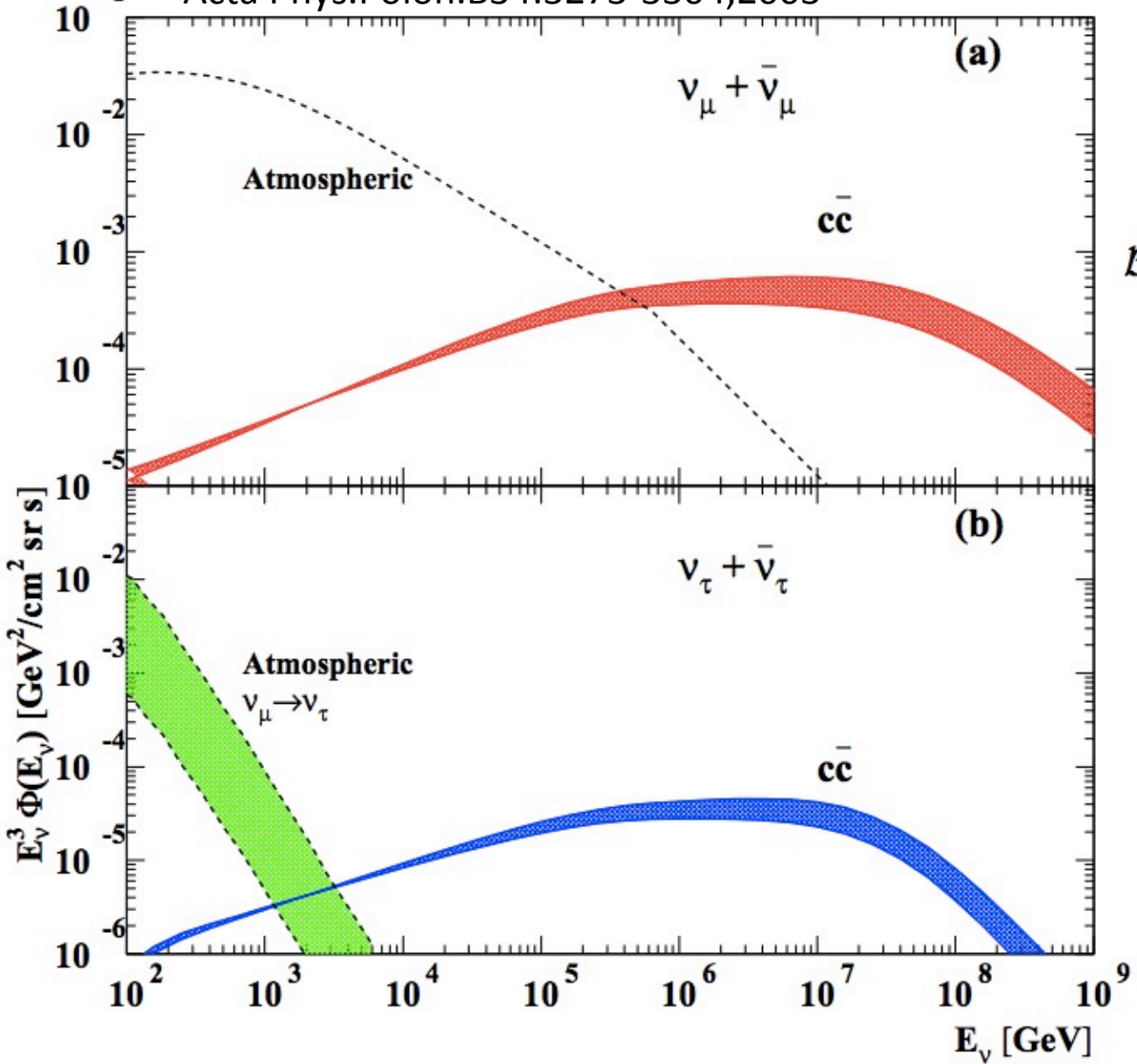
from  $\nu_l$  CC interactions

neutrino interactions are DIS

*Identifying tau interactions is a challenge*

# Background Tau Neutrinos and the "Prompt" Flux

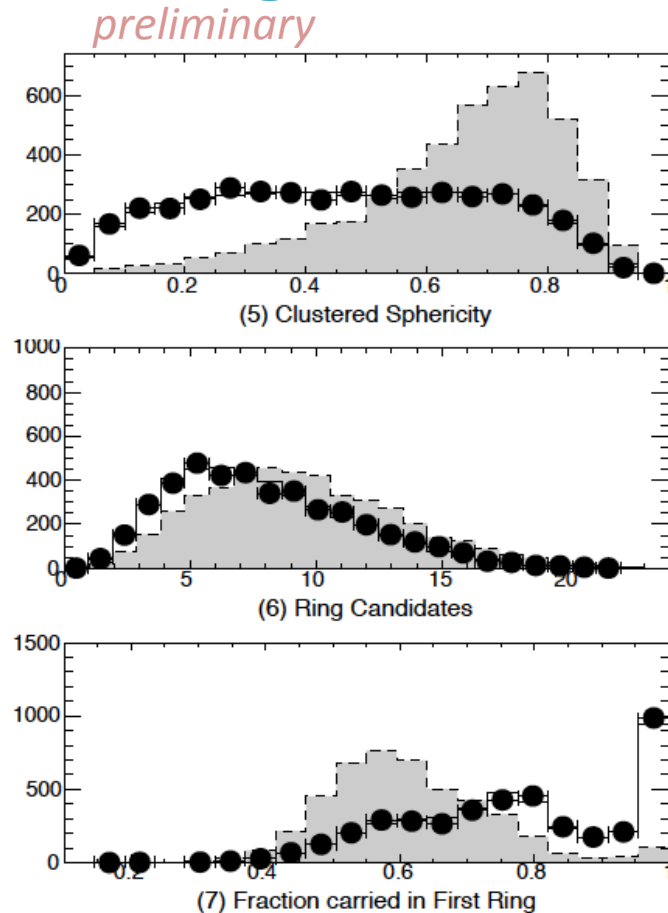
Acta Phys.Polon.B34:3273-3304,2003



$$\mathcal{B}(D_s^+ \rightarrow \tau^+ \nu_\tau) = (6.6 \pm 0.6) \times 10^{-2}$$

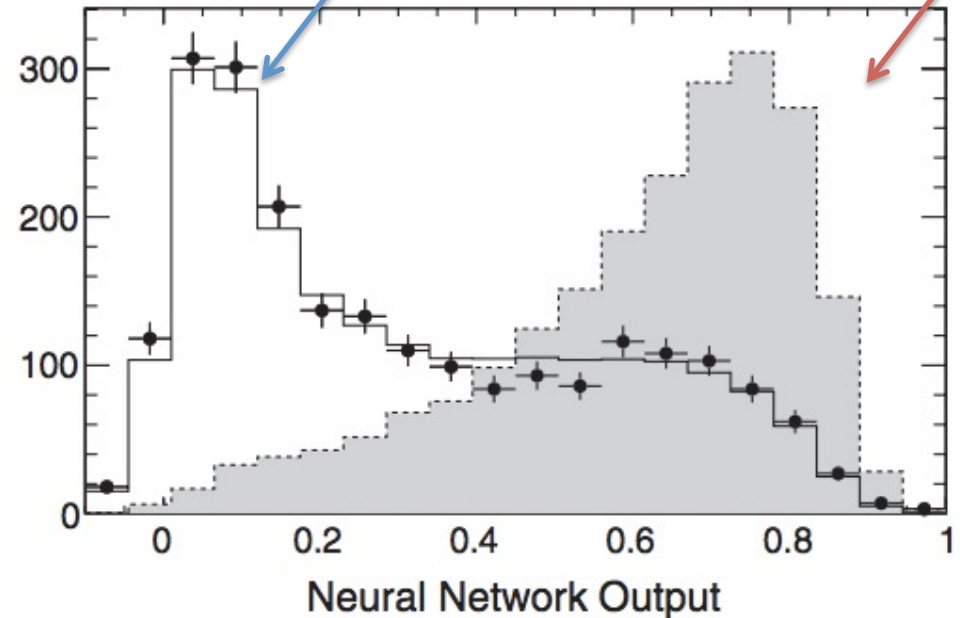
- Tau neutrinos from charmed particle decays
- Only important at high energies

# Searching for Tau Neutrinos



Downward-going data and MC

Signal MC

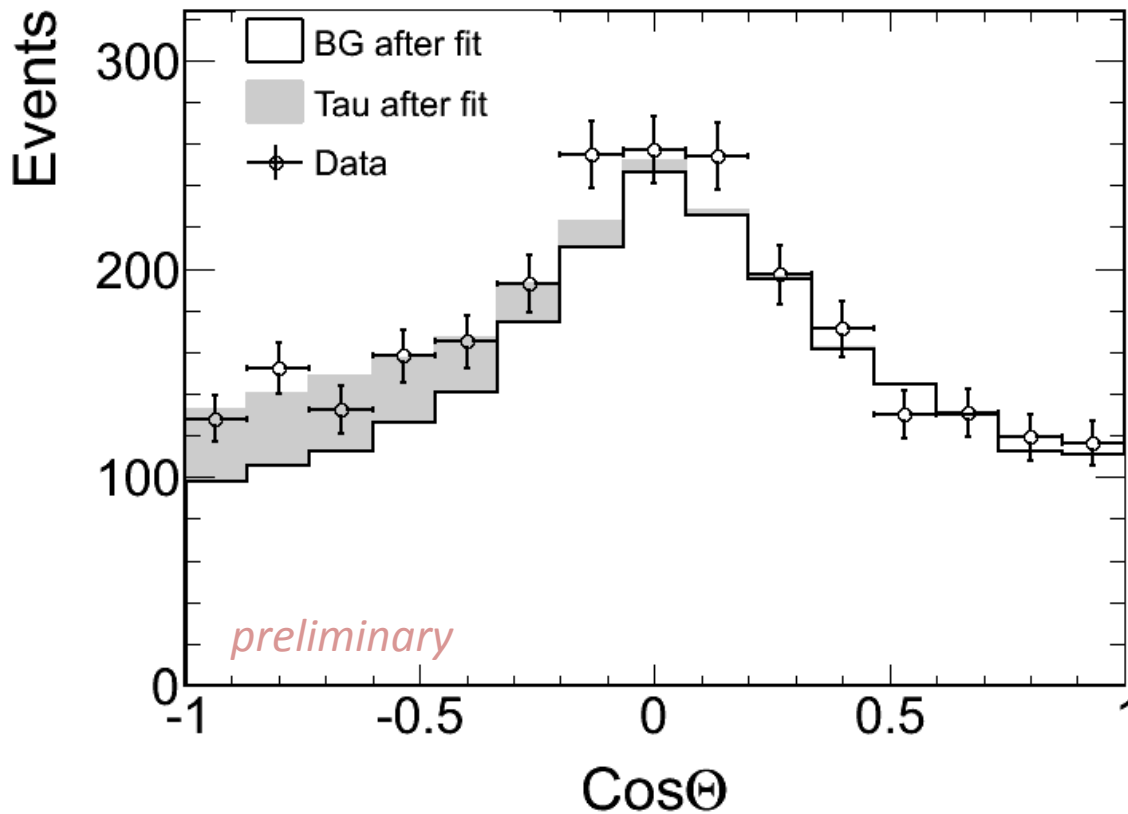


$\tau$ -like

- Use a multi-variate approach to try and identify
- Expect tau events only in upward-going data
  - I.e., where the muon events disappeared
- Downward-going data can be used to train and test

Evidence for  $\nu_\tau$  Appearance at Super-K $\alpha = 0$ , no  $\nu_\tau$ 

$$Data = PDF_{BG} + \alpha \times PDF_{tau} + \sum \epsilon_i \times PDF_i$$

Best fit  $\alpha = 1.47 \pm 0.32$  (tot.)

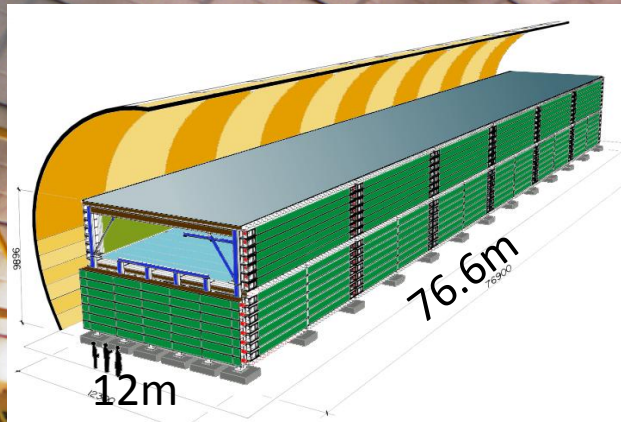
This corresponds to a significance of  $4.6\sigma$  for rejecting the no-tau hypothesis

Tau neutrinos have been seen in the atmospheric data

# Other Experiments From Around the Same Time

- Many other experiments saw oscillations, in several channels
- Several of those experiments have also tested the sterile oscillation hypotheses and other types of disappearance to verify PMNS mixing
- Opera experiment has also observed  $\nu\tau$  appearance (more cleanly)

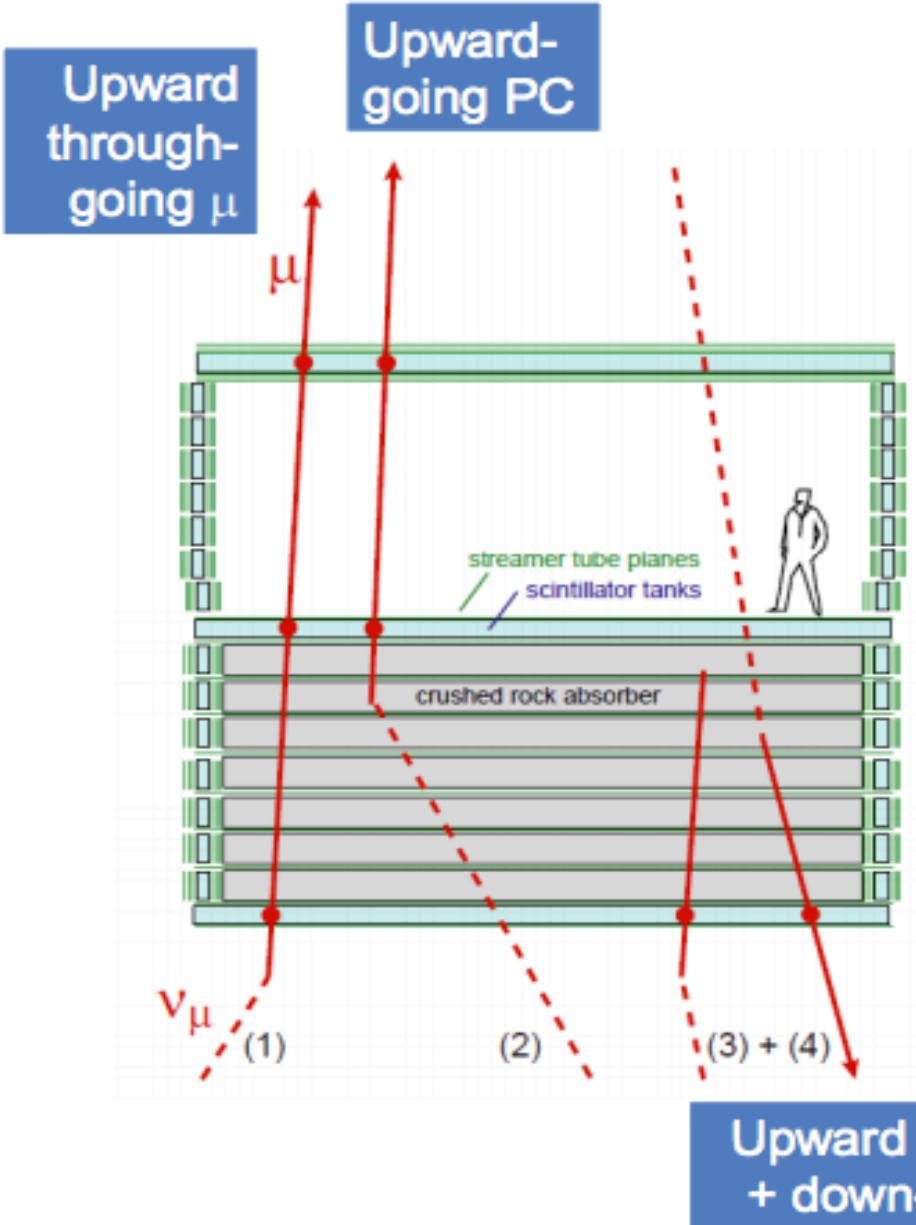
# MACRO (Monopole Astrophysics Cosmic Ray Observatory)



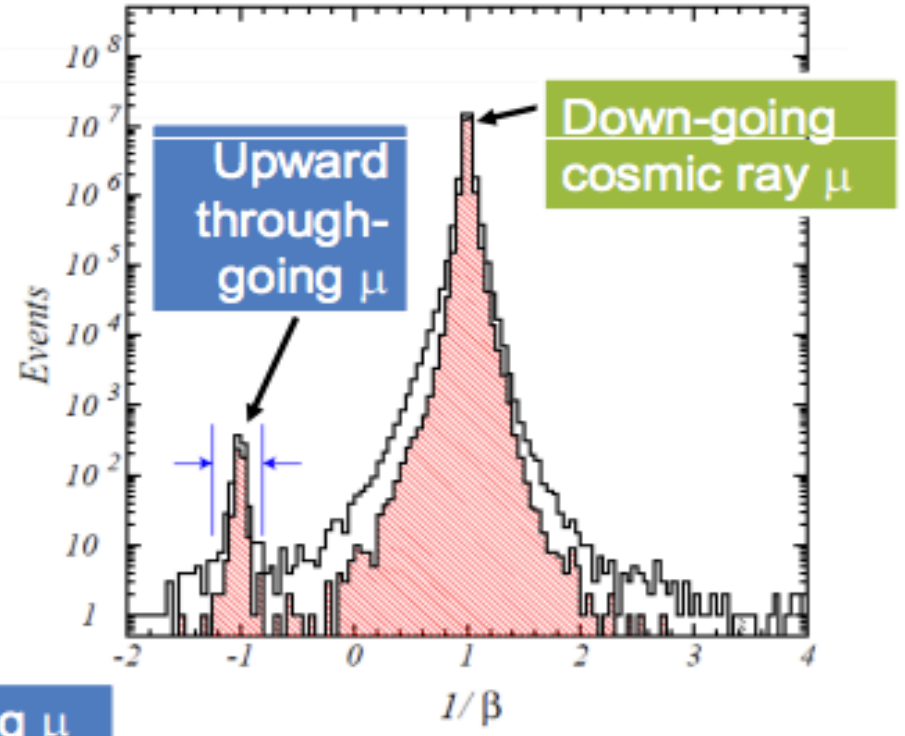
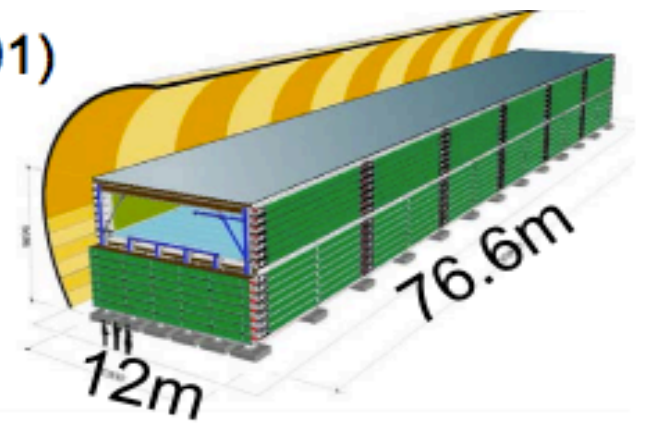
Operated from 1989-2000 (LGNS)  
5300 tons  
Streamer tubes & scintillator planes



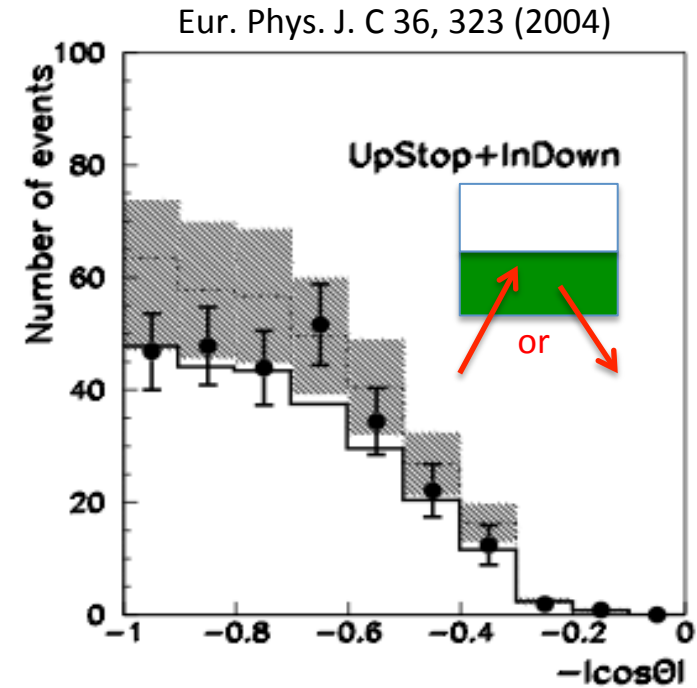
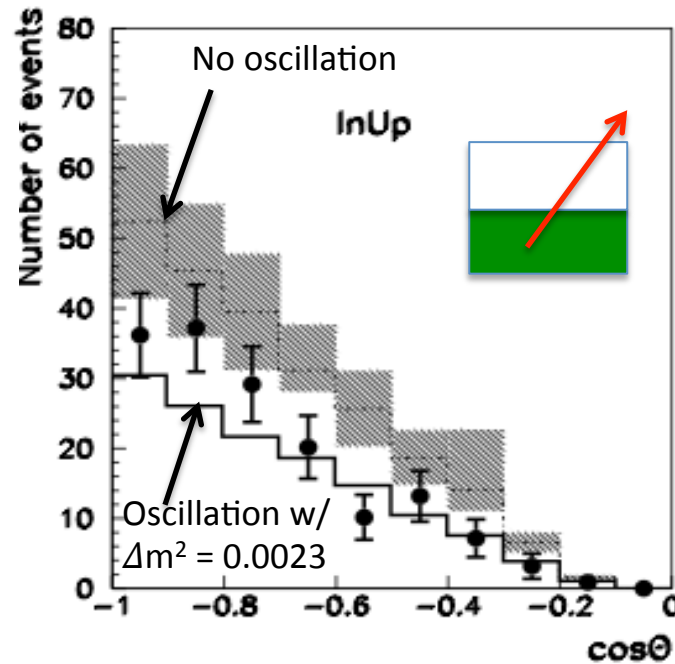
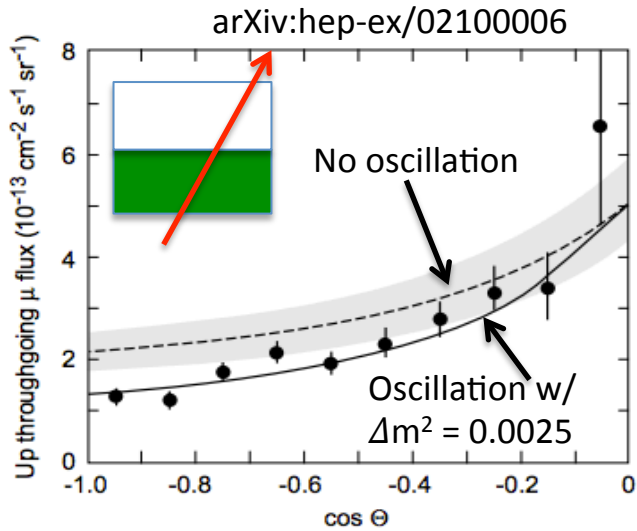
# Event Classification in MACRO



(1989-2001)



# MACRO Results



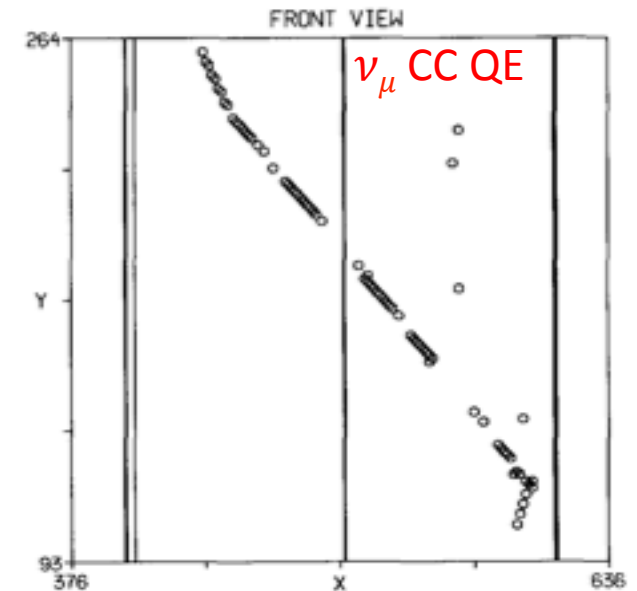
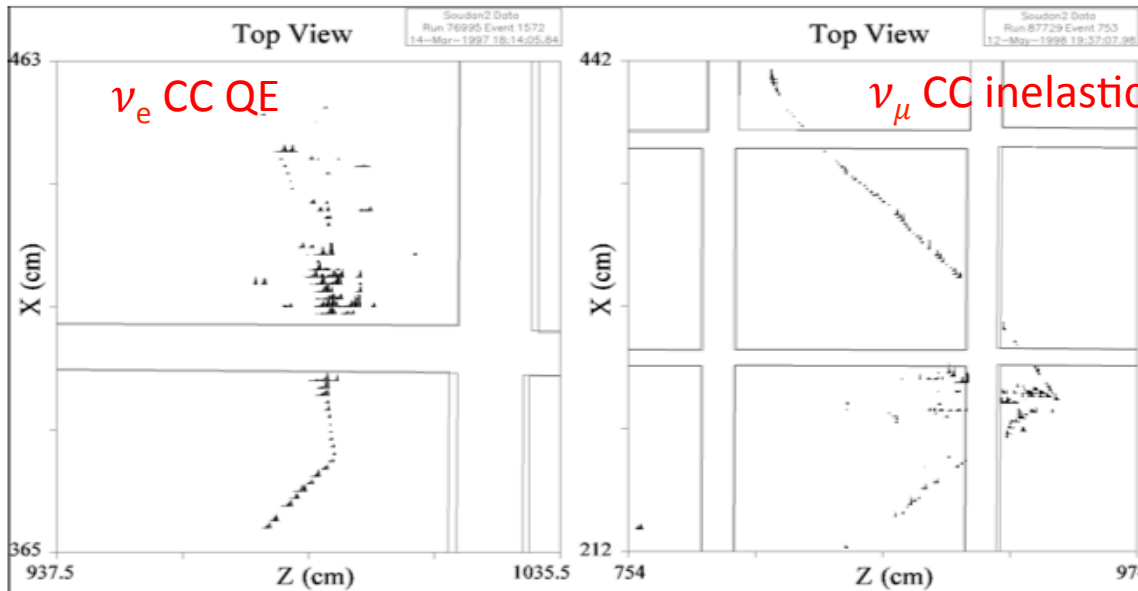
- Also saw zenith distortion of upward-going muons
- First experiment to independently confirm Super-K's atmospheric  $\nu$  oscillation signal



# Soudan-2

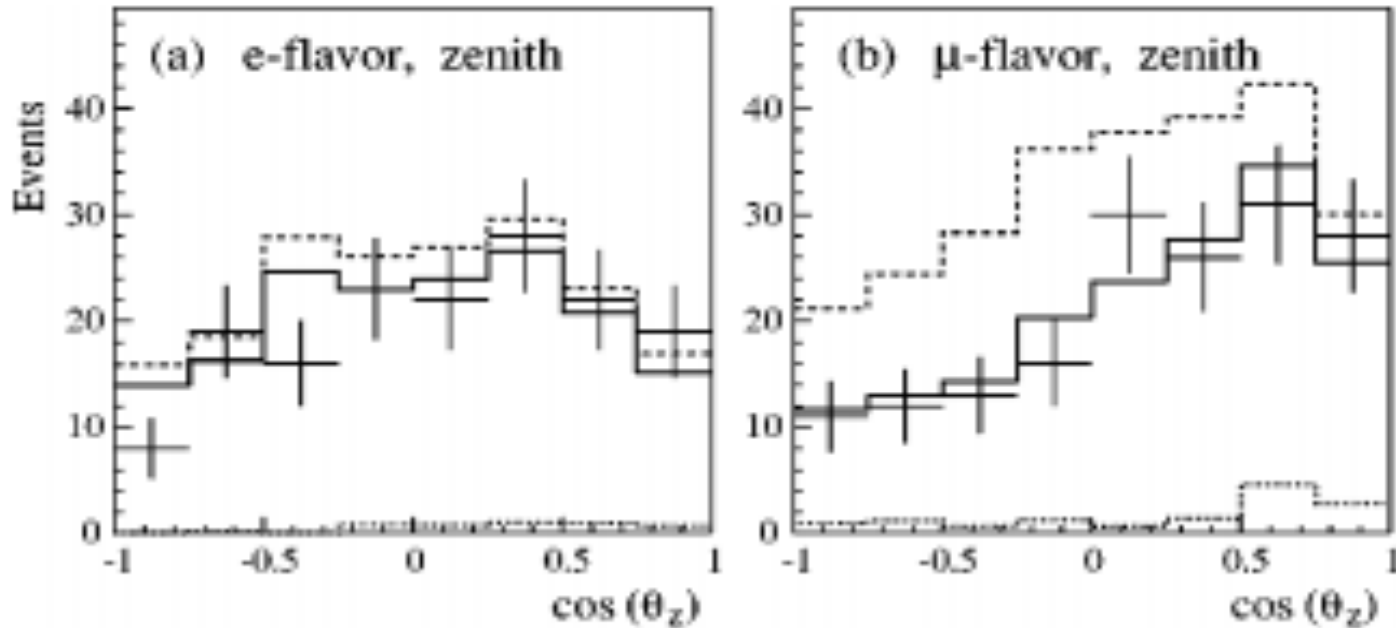
- Fine-grained iron tracking calorimeter
- Operated in Soudan (U.S.) from 1989-2001
- 770 ton fiducial mass
- Event classification:

Operated from 1989-2001  
770 ton fiducial mass



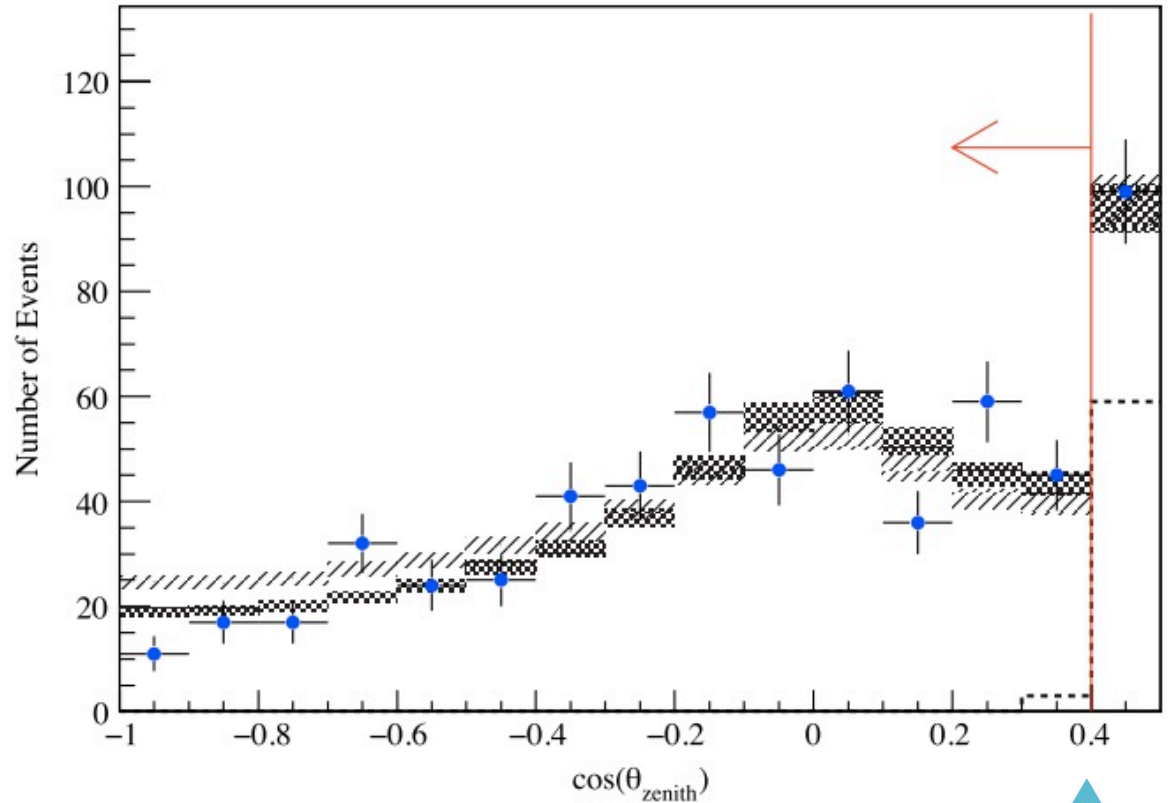
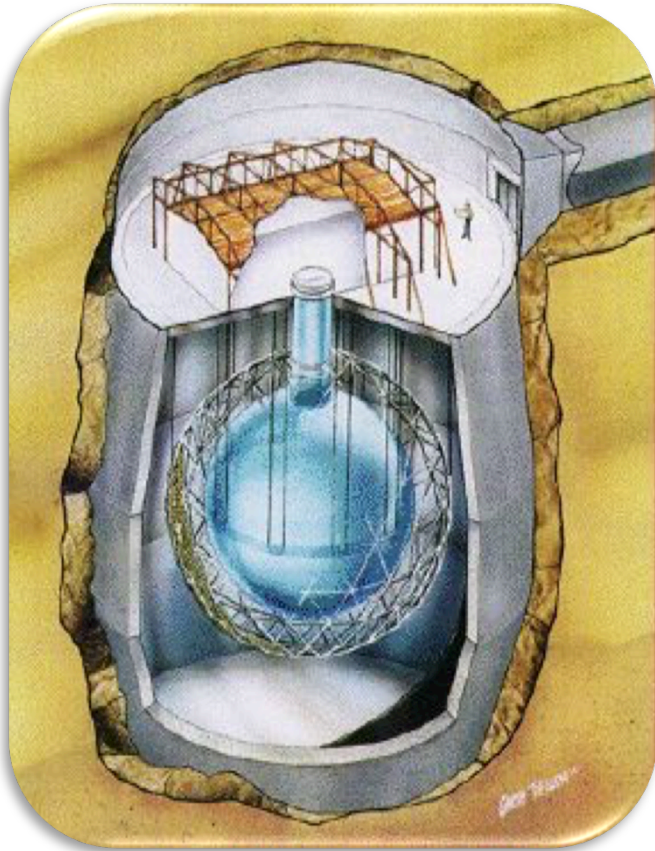
# Soudan-2 results

Phys. Rev. D 68, 113004 (2003)



Again, confirmed zenith distortion, consistent with oscillation of  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\tau$

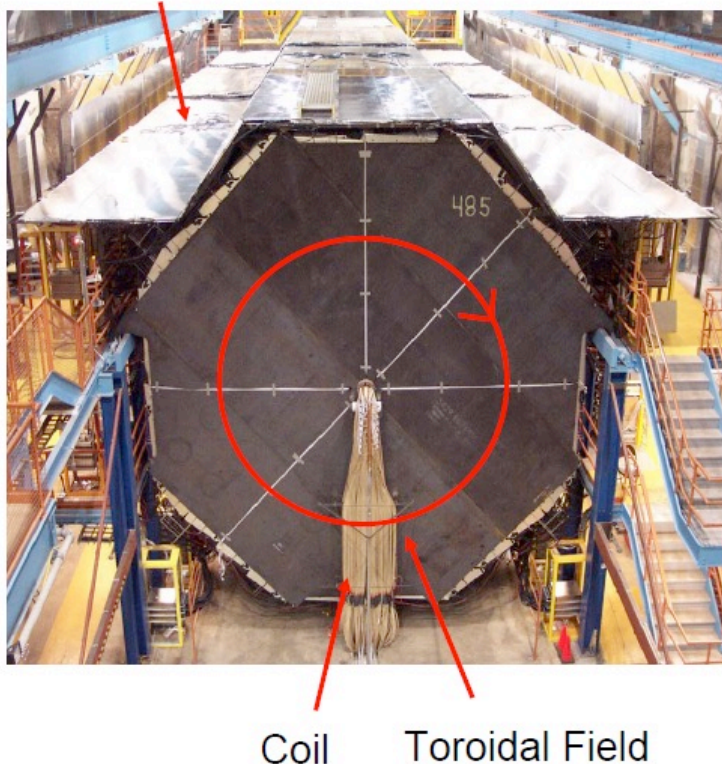
# SNO, Not Just Solar Neutrinos



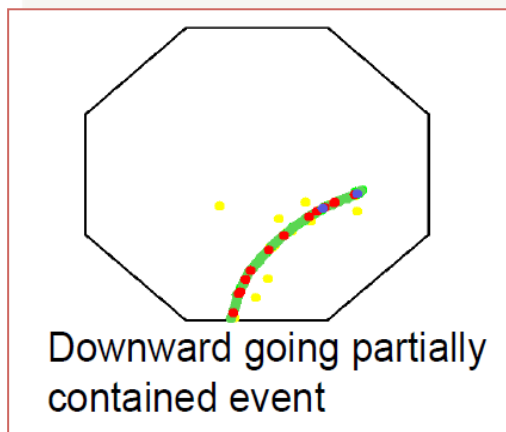
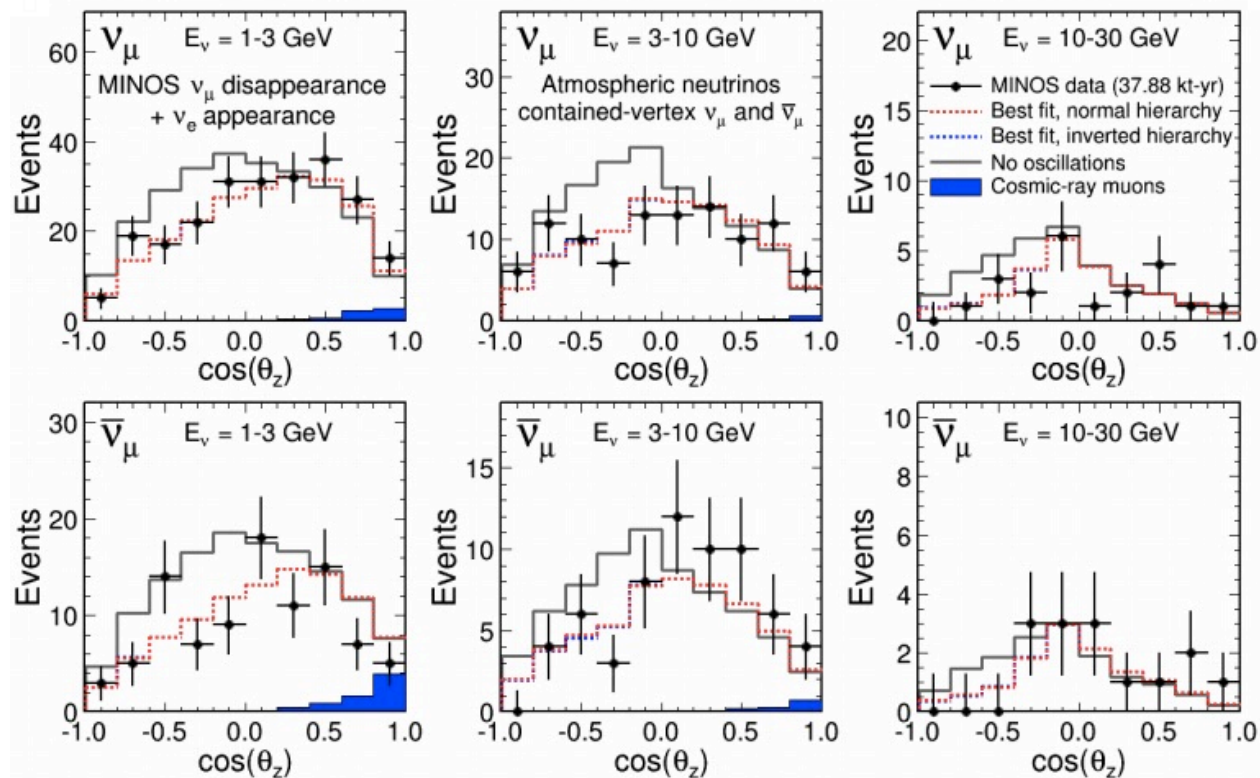
- Located 2.09 km underground
- 1 kton of  $D_2O$
- Sensitive to downward-going neutrino-induced muons from rock interactions due to depth

# MINOS

Veto shield



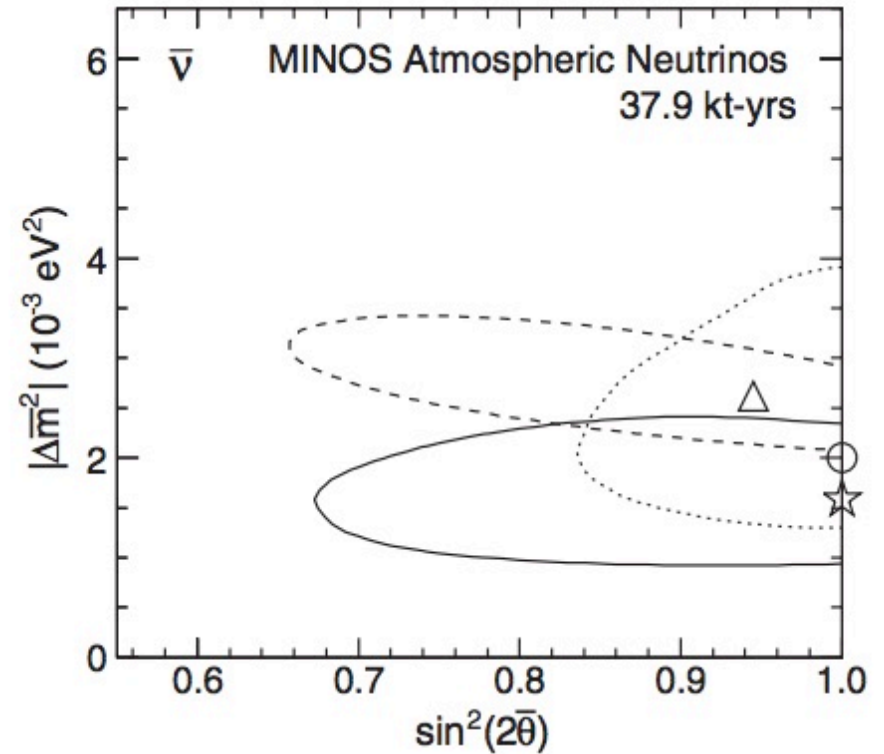
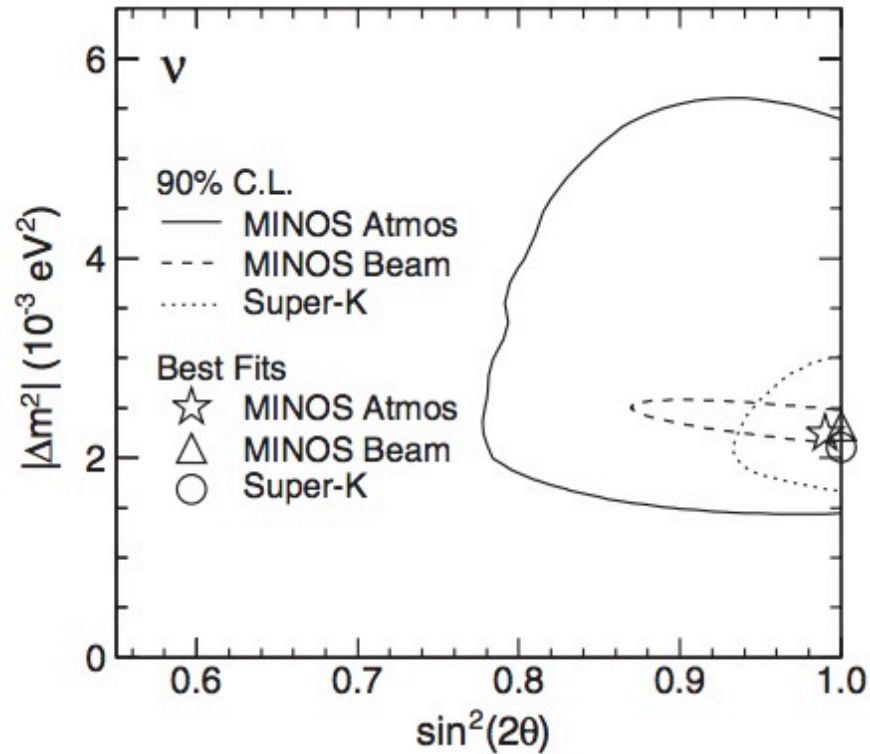
## Separation of $\nu_\mu$ and anti- $\nu_\mu$



- Operated from 2005-2016 in Soudan Mine (U.S.)
- 5.4 kton mass, magnetized steel and plastic scintillator
- Allows separation of neutrinos and antineutrinos on an event-by-event basis!

# MINOS Neutrino and Antineutrino Measurements

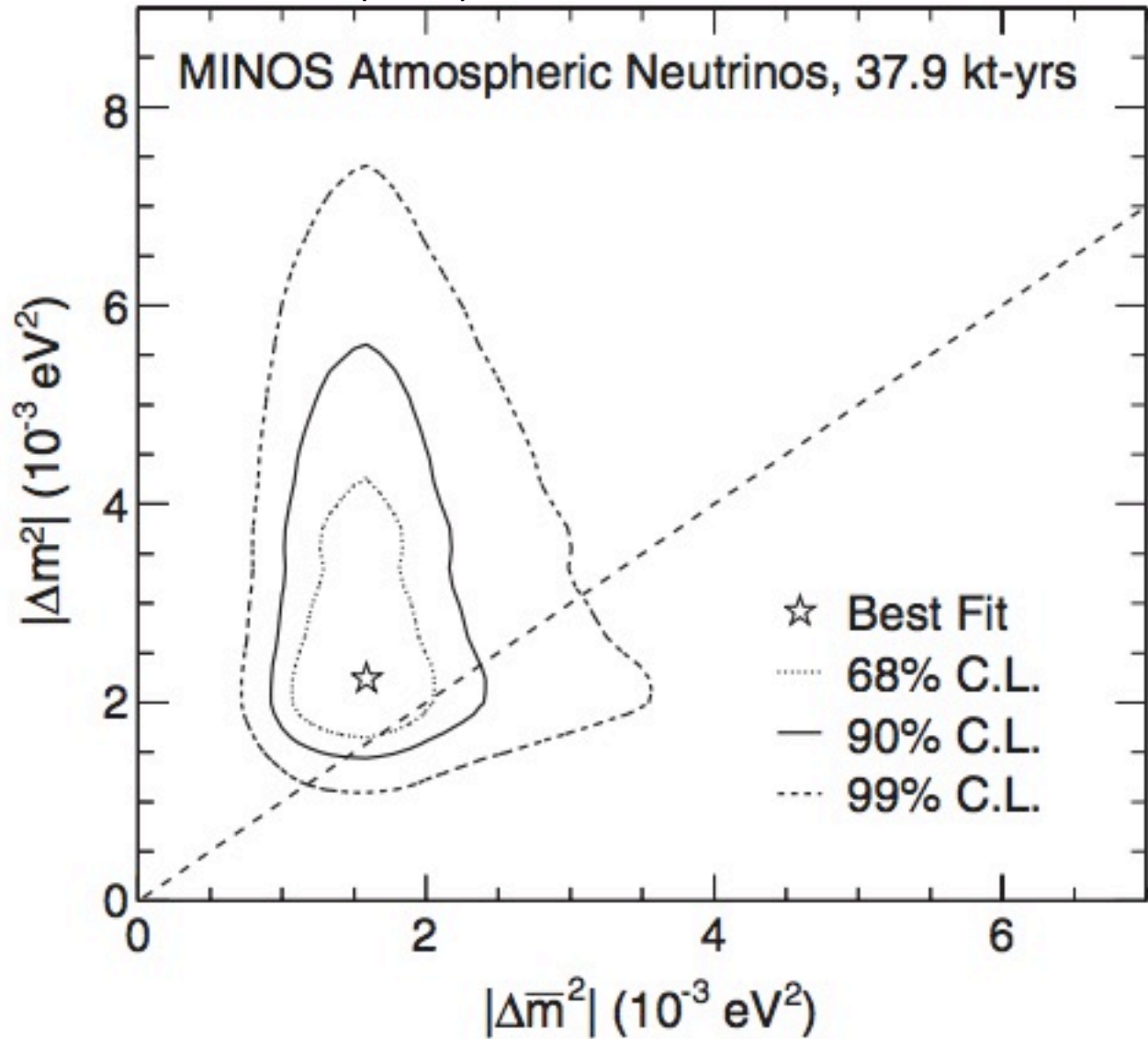
PHYSICAL REVIEW D 86, 052007 (2012)



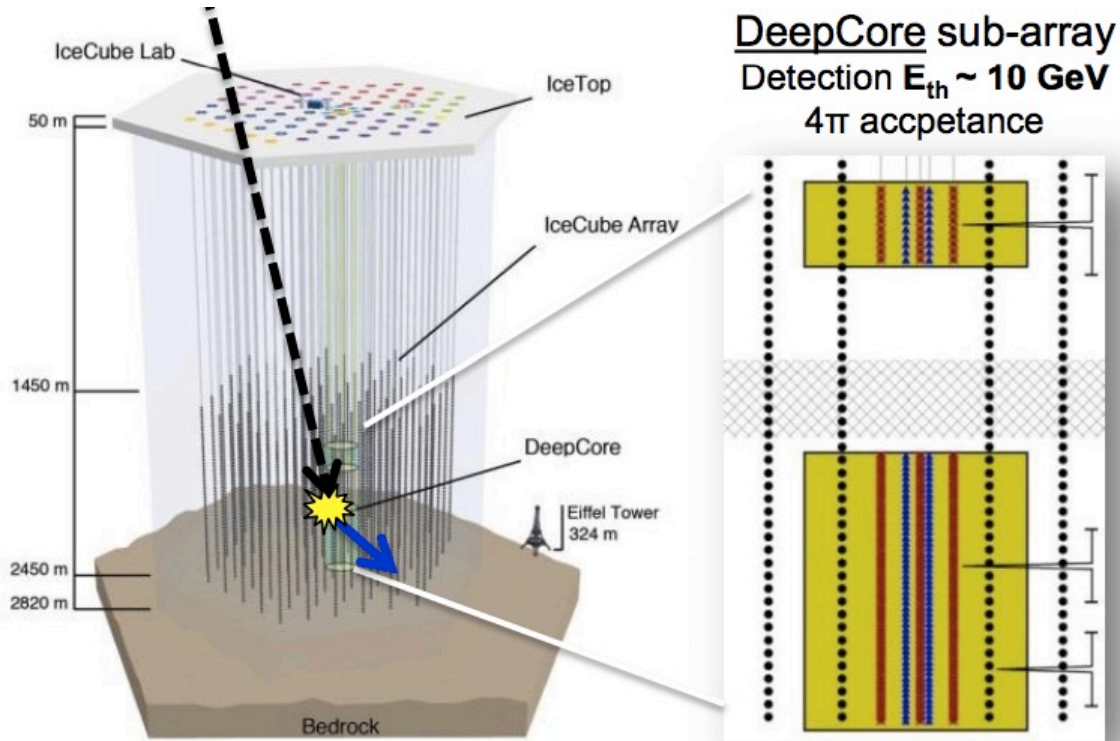
- Independent measurements of neutrino and antineutrino mixing
- Test for *ad hoc* CPT violation

# MINOS ad hoc CPT Violation Constraints c

PHYSICAL REVIEW D 86, 052007 (2012)

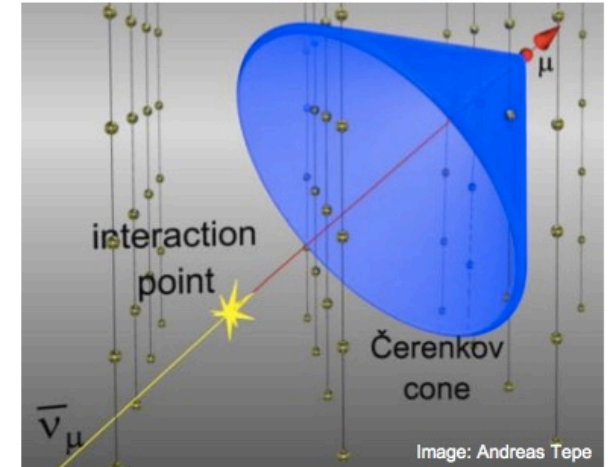


# IceCube Experiment



**DeepCore sub-array**  
 Detection  $E_{th} \sim 10 \text{ GeV}$   
 $4\pi$  acceptance

Detection principle



IceCube: 5,160 PMTs over  $\sim 1 \text{ km}^3$   
 DeepCore:  $\sim 600$  PMTs over  $0.02 \text{ km}^3$

- Cubic kilometer of instrumented ice near the south pole
- PMT spacing
  - IceCube : 125 m (x-y) , 17 m (z)
  - DeepCore: 40-70m (x-y), 7 m (z)

IceCube	DeepCore
---------	----------

PMT density	
-------------	--

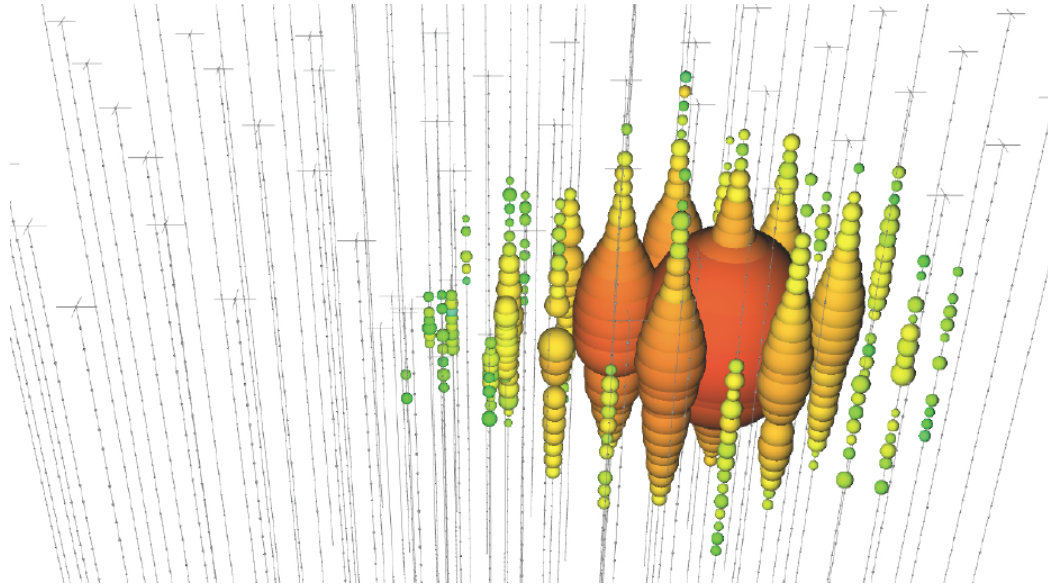
Energy Threshold	
------------------	--

$\sim 100 \text{ GeV}$	
------------------------	--

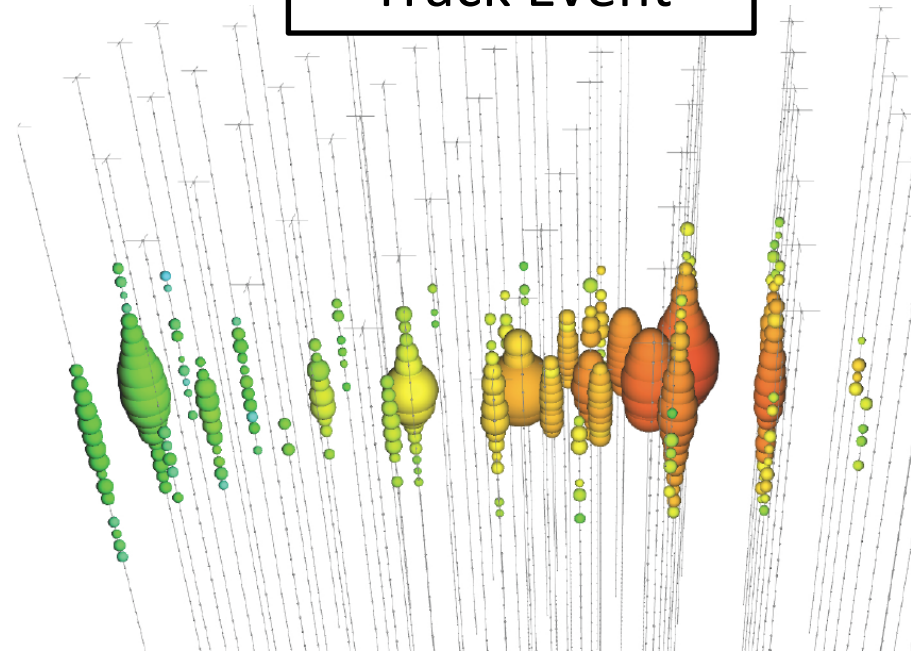
$\sim 10 \text{ GeV}$
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# IceCube Event Topologies

Cascade Event



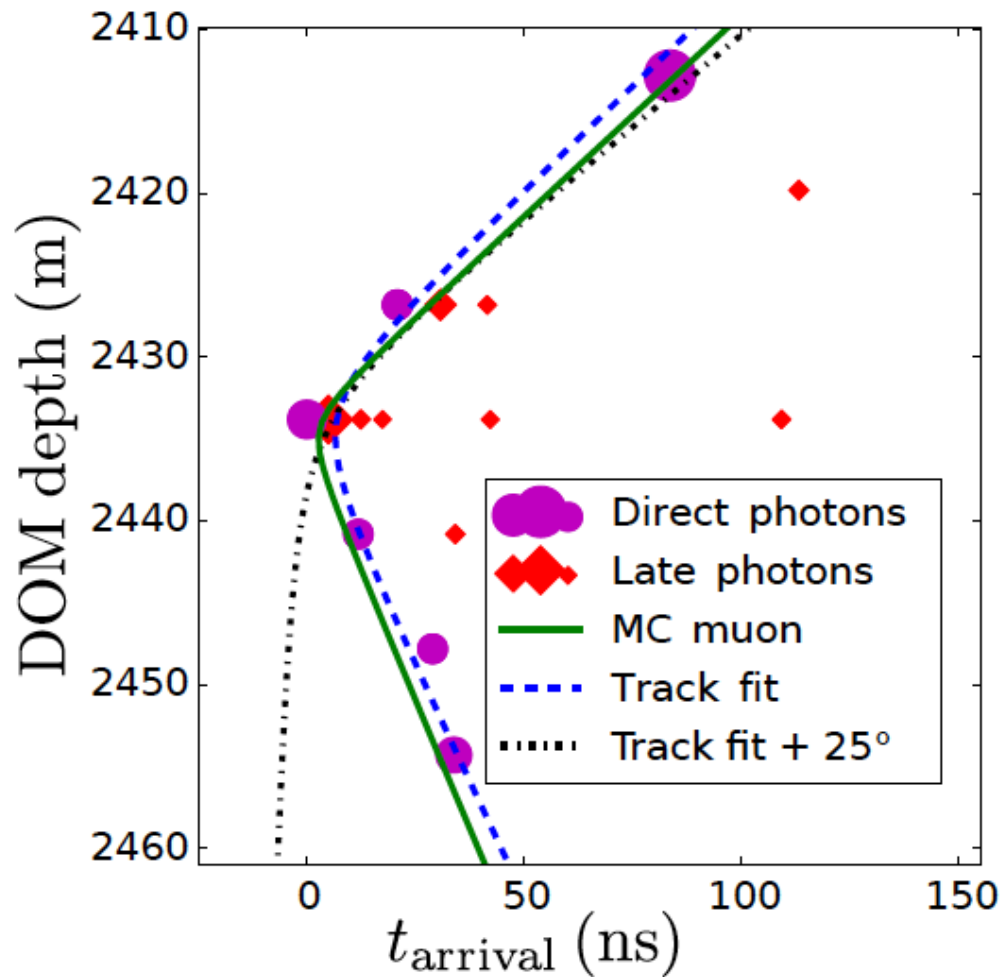
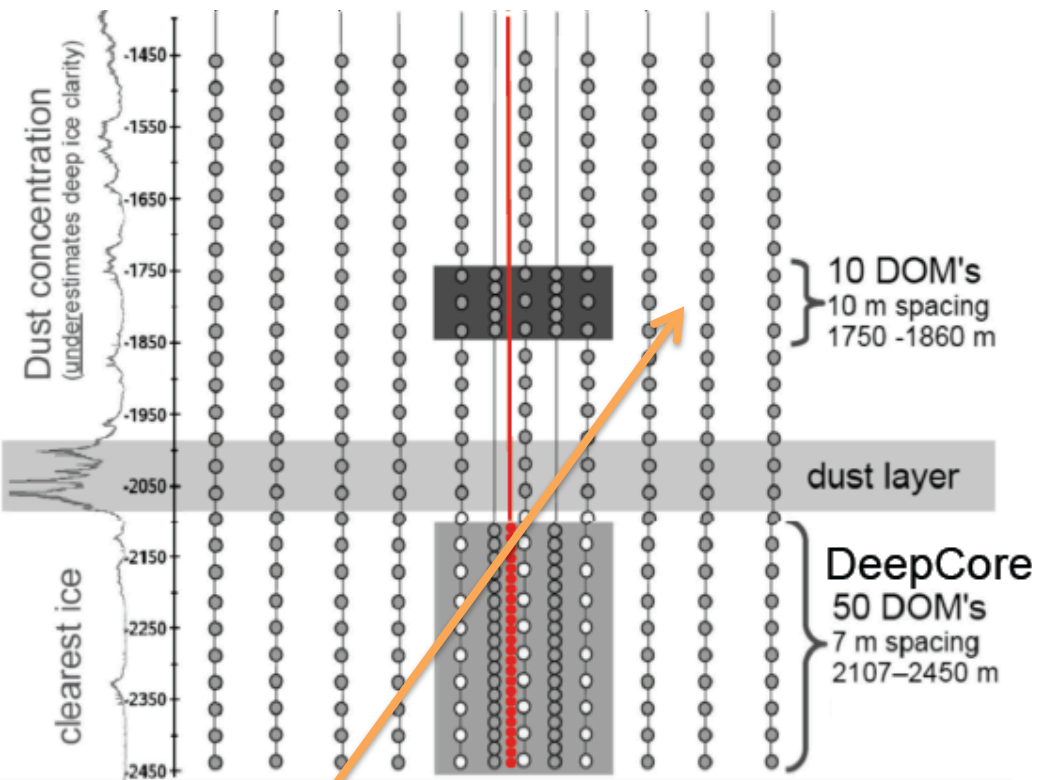
Track Event



- Cascade-like events are mostly CC  $\nu_e$ , NC, and CC  $\nu_\tau$  interactions
  - Difficult to separate these!
- Track-like events are almost purely CC  $\nu_\mu$  interactions
- IceCube strings can be used as a veto for the DeepCore sub detector



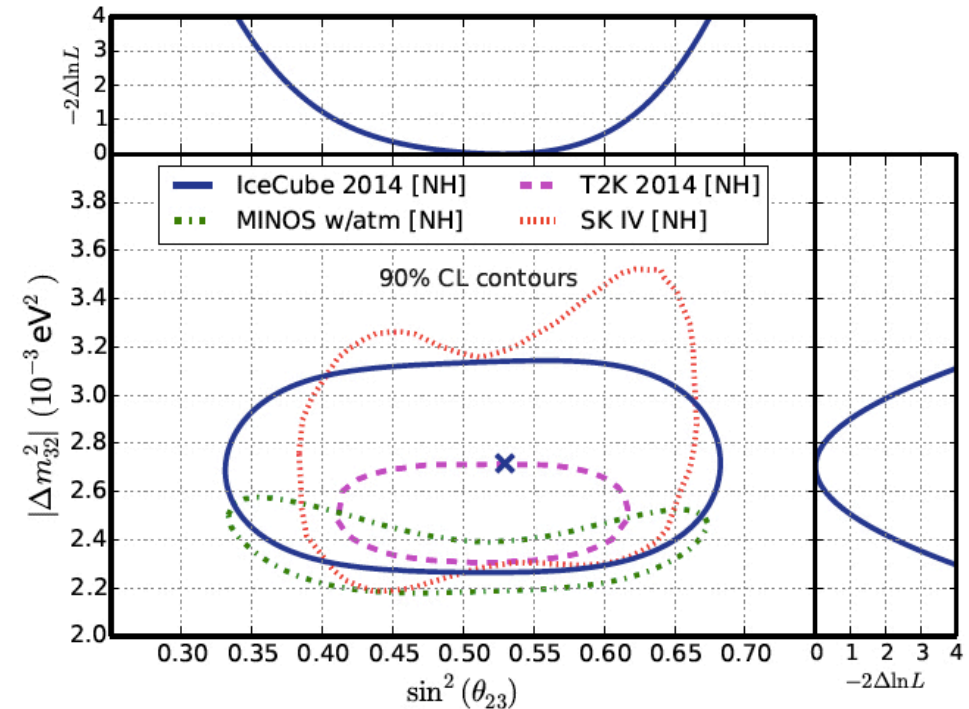
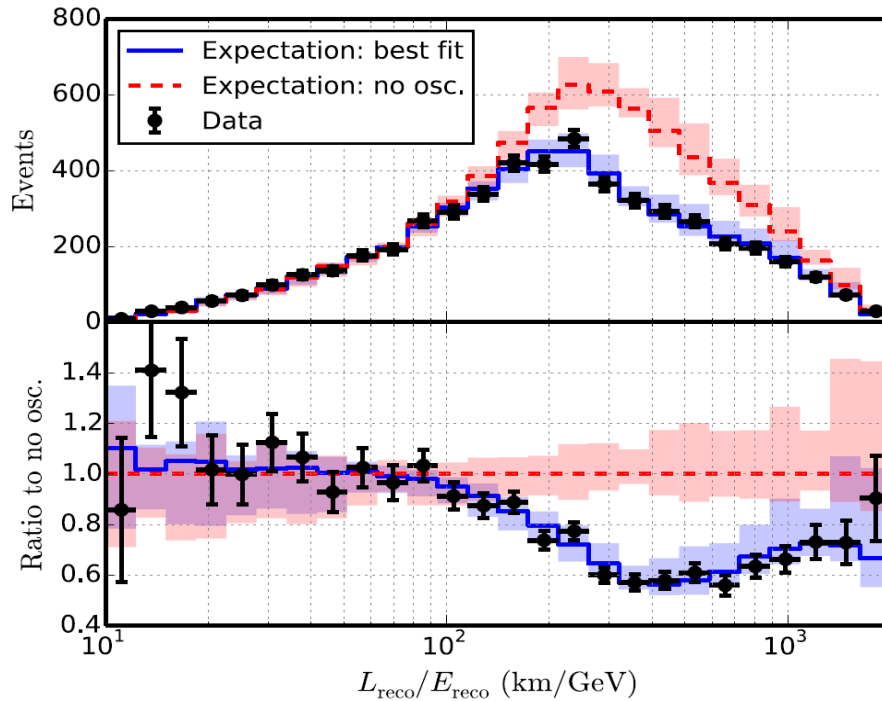
# IceCube Events



- Minimize the effects of scattering/absorption in ice by reconstructing tracks using “direct” (on-time) photons

# IceCube Atmospheric $\nu$ Mixing

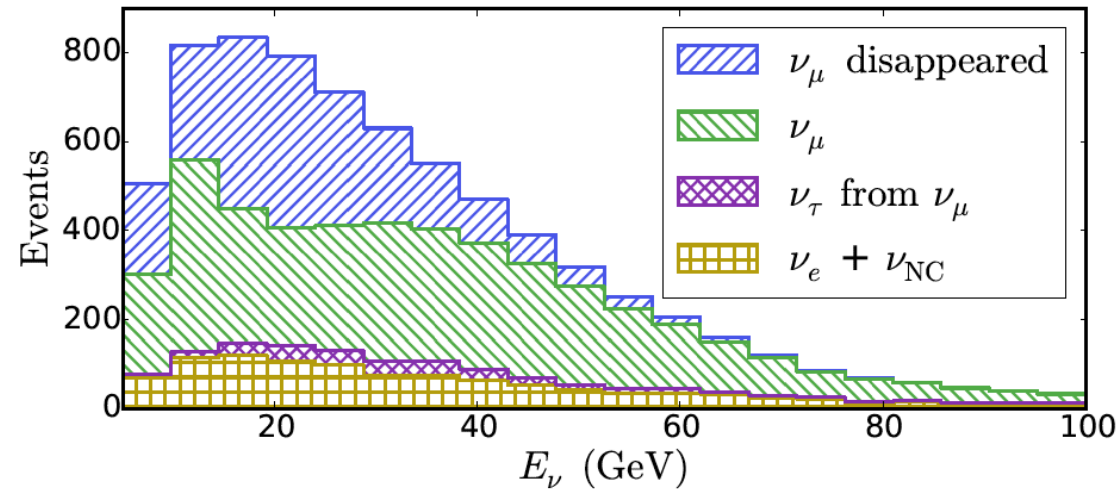
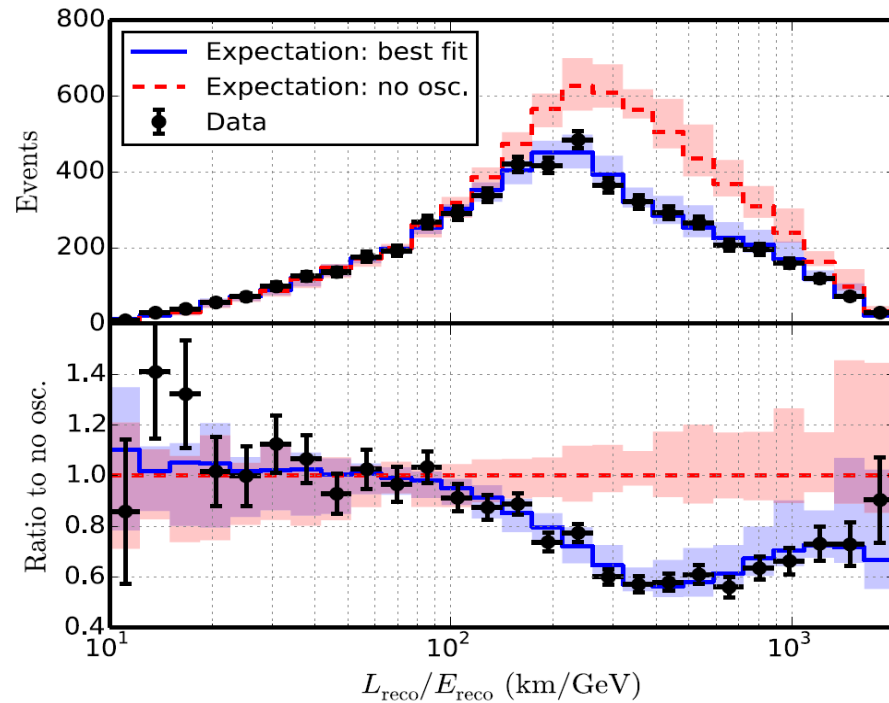
arXiv:1410.7227v2



- Select clear muon tracks (no sign selection)
- Observe : 5174 events
- Without oscillations expect 6830
- “Atmospheric” oscillations are clearly seen using high threshold (10 GeV)

# IceCube Atmospheric $\nu$ Mixing

arXiv:1410.7227v2



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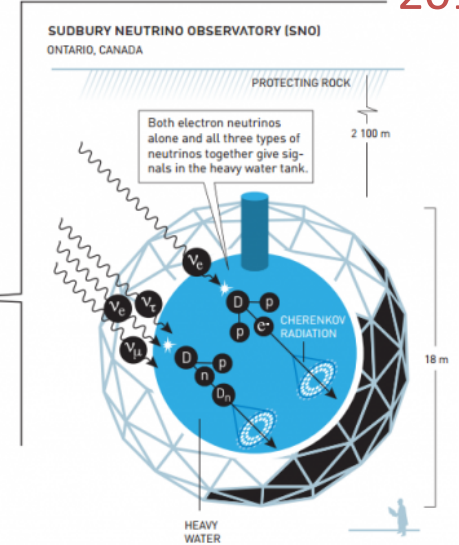
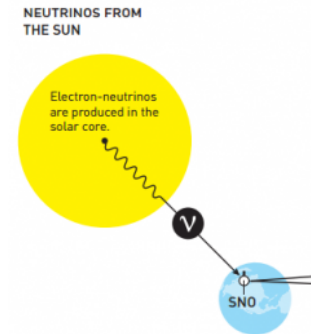
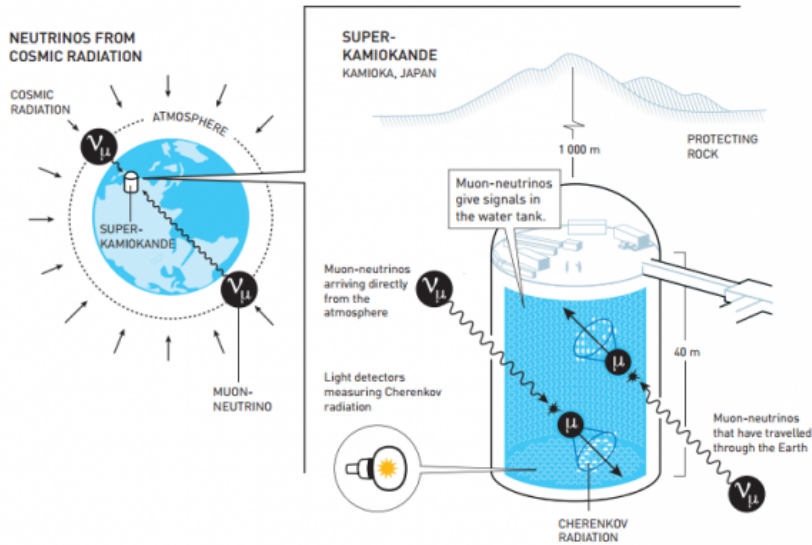


Photo: A. Mahmoud  
**Takaaki Kajita**  
Prize share: 1/2



Photo: A. Mahmoud  
**Arthur B. McDonald**  
Prize share: 1/2

The Nobel Prize in Physics 2015 was awarded jointly to Takaaki Kajita and Arthur B. McDonald *"for the discovery of neutrino oscillations, which shows that neutrinos have mass"*

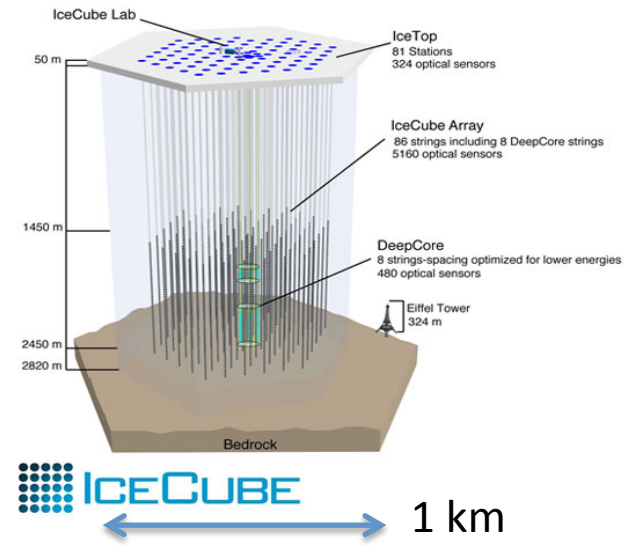
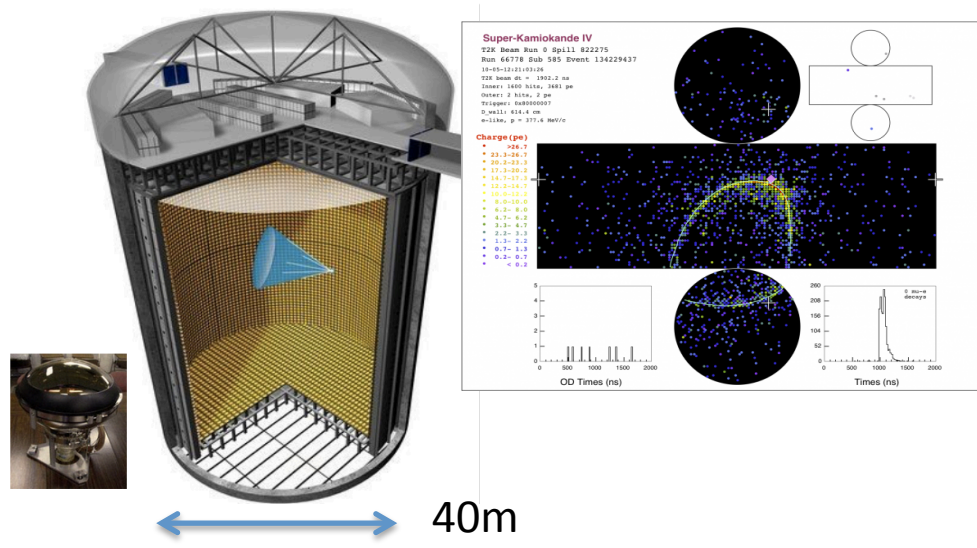
## Summary So Far

- Wide range of energies and pathlengths in the atmospheric neutrino flux make them a useful, but complicated tool
- Atmospheric neutrino measurements were the first place that oscillations were seen and since then oscillations, both atmospheric and man-made, have been seen in a variety of experiments
- The atmospheric neutrinos themselves have been used to verify that these oscillations are muon neutrinos into tau neutrinos
  - This has been verified (with better precision) in several experiments

# The Three Flavor Era

- Thanks to measurements of reactor neutrinos,  $\theta_{13}$  is known to be non-zero and there is a connection between the “solar” and “atmospheric” mixing

# Atmospheric Neutrino Experiments:



Super-Kamiokande	IceCube
50,000 Ton Ultrapure Water	1 km <sup>3</sup> of Antarctic Ice
11,000 20" PMTs (ID) 1885 8" (OD)	5100 Digital Optical Modules (DOM)
Ring-Imaging	"String" Imaging
40% Cathode Coverage	86 Strings, 17m / 7m DOM Spacing
0.1 ~ 10 <sup>3</sup> GeV	10 ~ 10 <sup>5</sup> GeV
Excellent e/μ PID, MIS PID 1%	Cascade (e/NC) and Track (μ)

Both are Cherenkov detectors without event-by-event ν/ν separation

# Open Questions in Neutrino Physics

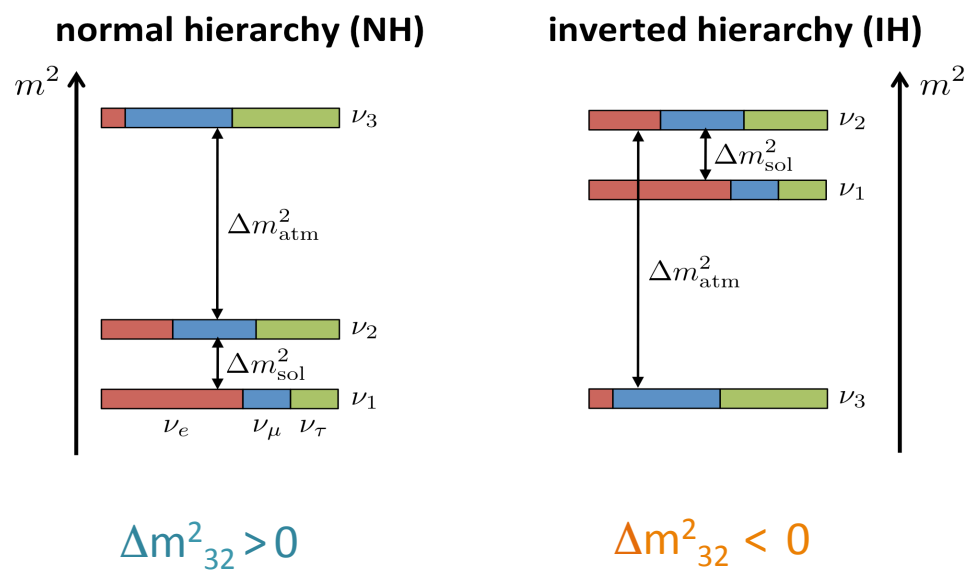
$$U = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c_{23} & s_{23} \\ 0 & -s_{23} & c_{23} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{13} & 0 & s_{13}e^{-i\delta_{CP}} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -s_{13}e^{i\delta_{CP}} & 0 & c_{13} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{12} & s_{12} & 0 \\ -s_{12} & c_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Atmospheric

Solar

- Three mixing angles, two independent mass differences ( $\Delta m^2_{21}$ ,  $\Delta m^2_{32}$ ), and a CP violating phase  $\delta_{cp}$
- Currently, **all** parameters have been measured, though  $\delta_{cp}$  is the least well constrained and the topic of much interest
- However, several open questions remain
  - Neutrino Mass hierarchy

*Mass Ordering is Unknown*





# Open Questions in Neutrino Physics

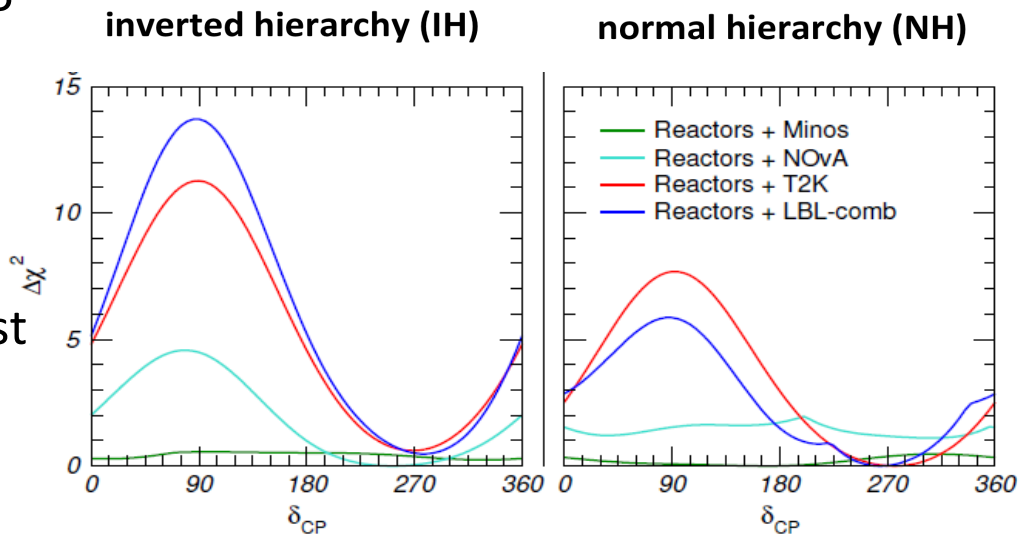
$$U = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c_{23} & s_{23} \\ 0 & -s_{23} & c_{23} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{13} & 0 & s_{13}e^{-i\delta_{CP}} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -s_{13}e^{i\delta_{CP}} & 0 & c_{13} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{12} & s_{12} & 0 \\ -s_{12} & c_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Atmospheric

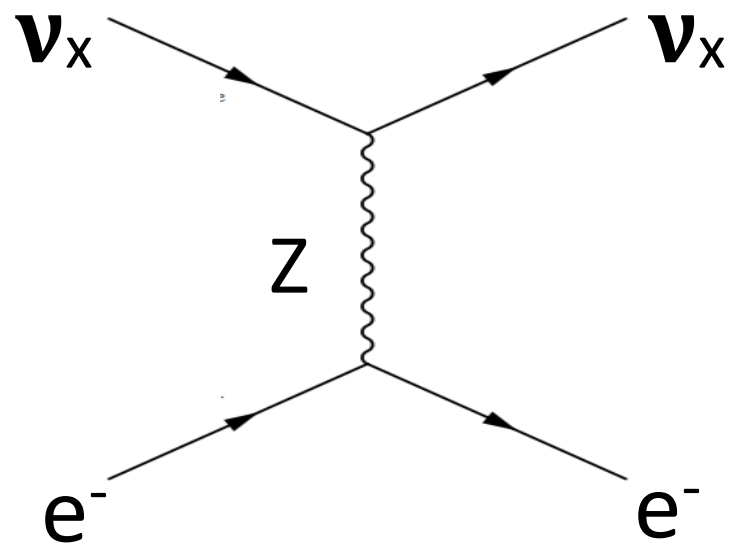
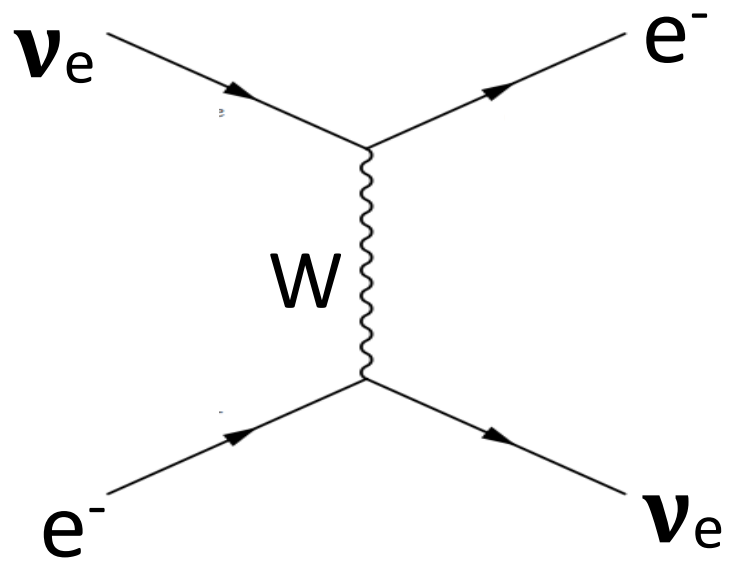
Solar

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- Currently, **all** parameters have been measured, though  $\delta_{cp}$  is the least well constrained and the topic of much interest
- However, several open questions remain
  - Neutrino Mass hierarchy

*Is CP Violated in Neutrino Mixing?*



# Matter Effects Matter



$$V_{cc}^{\nu_e} = \pm \sqrt{2} G_F N_e = \pm 7.56 \times 10^{-14} \left( \frac{\rho}{g/cm^3} \right) Y_e eV$$

$G_F$  is Fermi Constant,  $N_e$  is electron density

$\rho$  is matter density

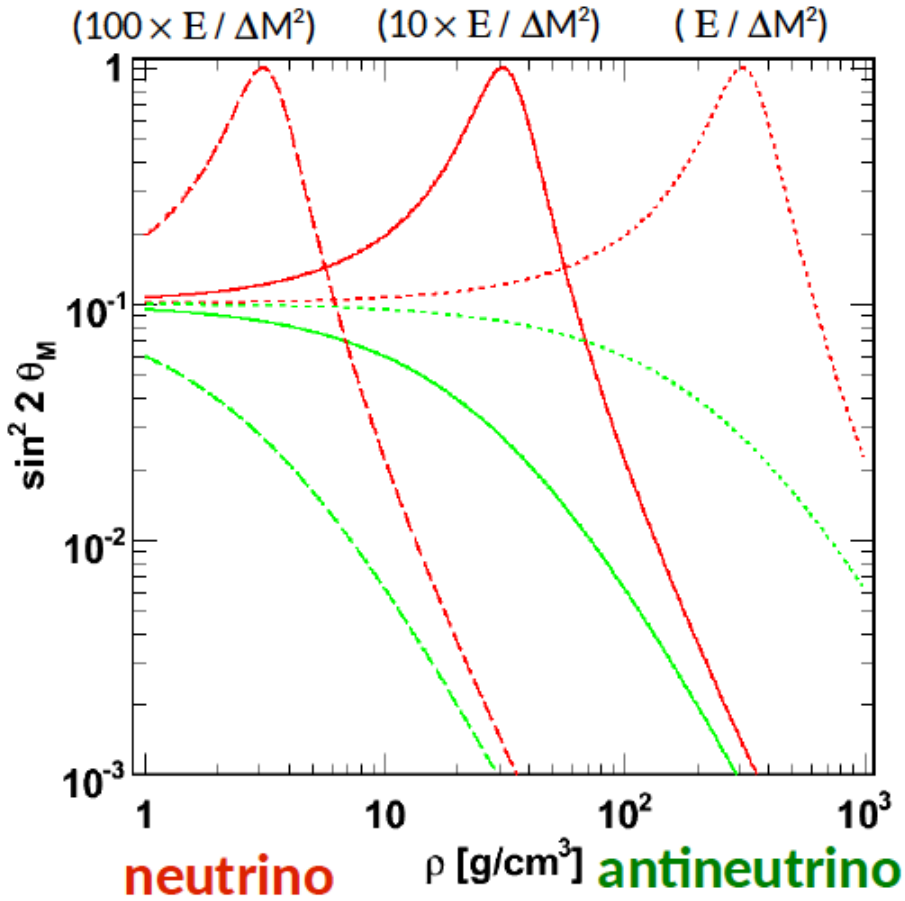
$Y_e$  is electron to nucleon ratio ( $\approx 0.5$  in Earth)

+ for  $\nu_e$ , - for  $\bar{\nu}_e$

- Hamiltonian of neutrino passing through matter affected by coherent  $\nu_e$  CC scattering

# Matter Effects Matter

$$P(\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_\alpha) = \frac{\sin^2 2\theta}{\sin^2 2\theta - (\pm \sqrt{2} G_F n_e E / \Delta m^2 - \cos 2\theta)^2} \sin^2 \left( \frac{1.27 \Delta M^2 L}{E} \right)$$



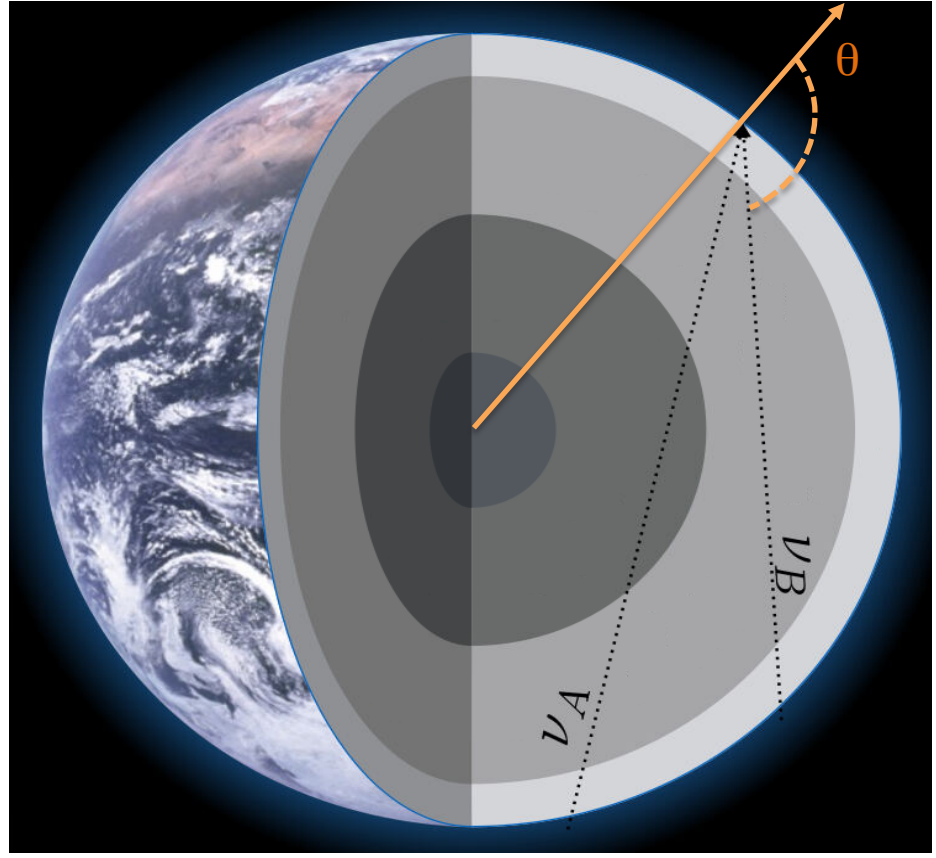
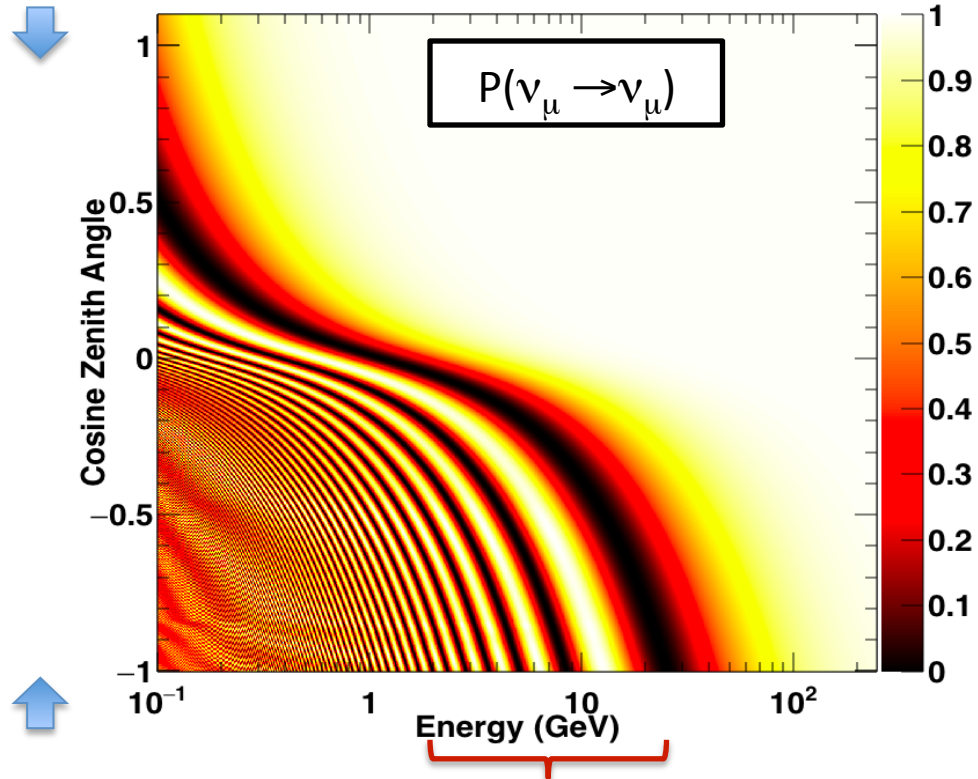
neutrino (+)  
antineutrino (-)

Sign of Δm<sup>2</sup> matters  
ie, hierarchy

- Additional matter potential gives rise to resonantly enhanced oscillations
- Resonance is for either neutrinos or antineutrinos - not both!
- Depends on the sign of the mass hierarchy
  - Look for this resonance to determine the mass hierarchy!

# Mass Hierarchy Determination: Matter-Effects

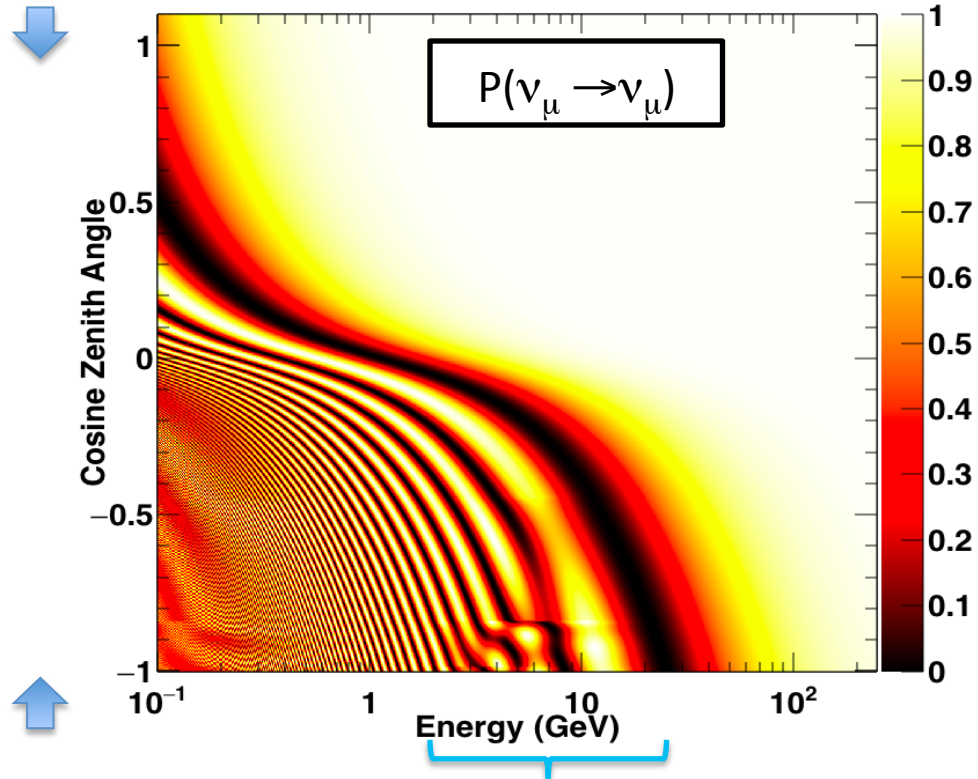
Normal Hierarchy



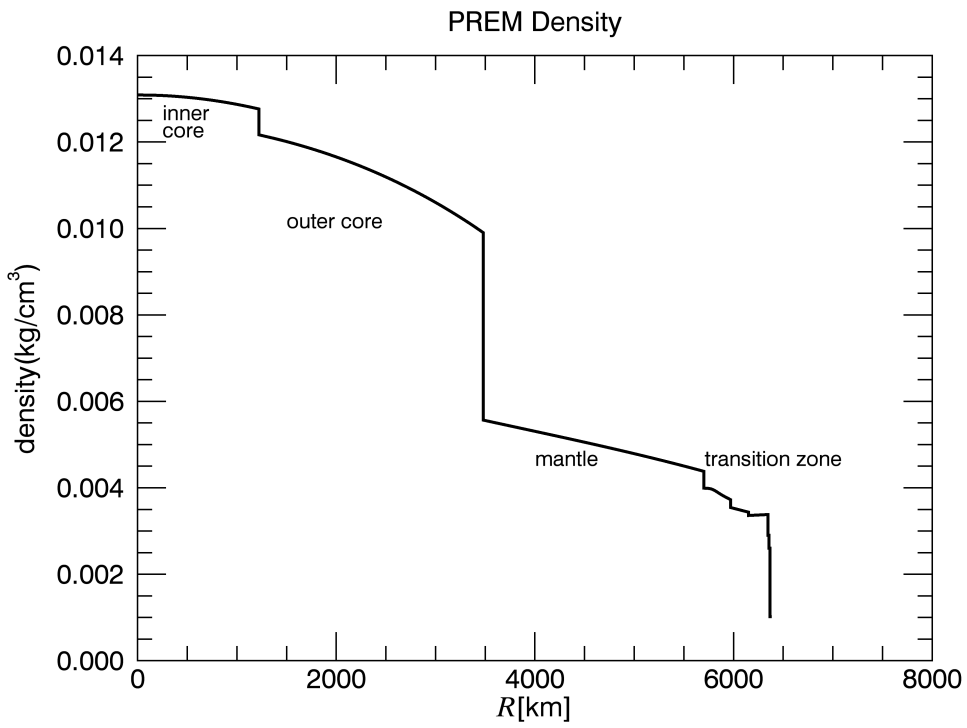
- Presence of electrons (as opposed to muons) induces asymmetric oscillations between electron-type neutrinos and antineutrinos

# Mass Hierarchy Determination: Matter-Effects

Normal Hierarchy



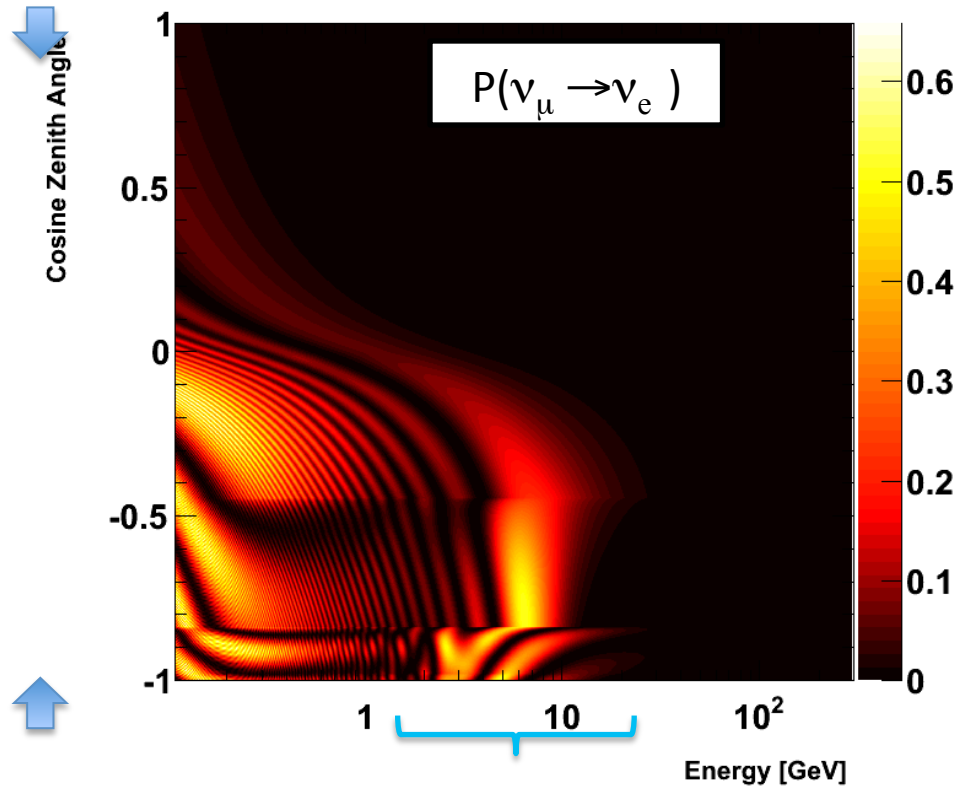
Astrophys.J. 814 (2015) no.2, 122



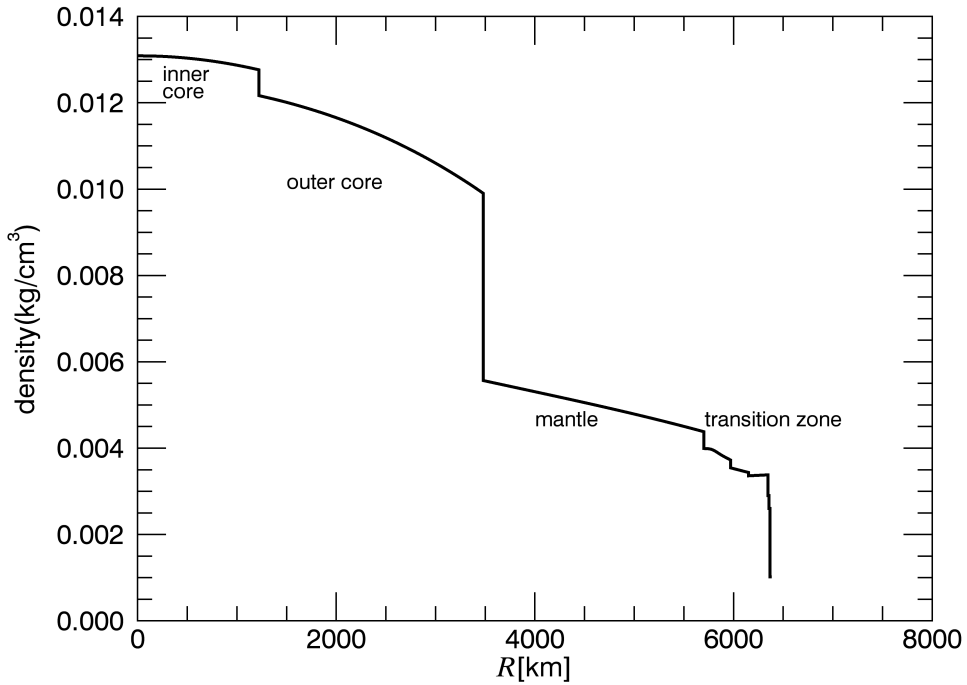
- Expect slightly *more* muon neutrino disappearance for neutrinos travelling through the core of the earth

# Mass Hierarchy Determination: Matter-Effects

## Normal Hierarchy



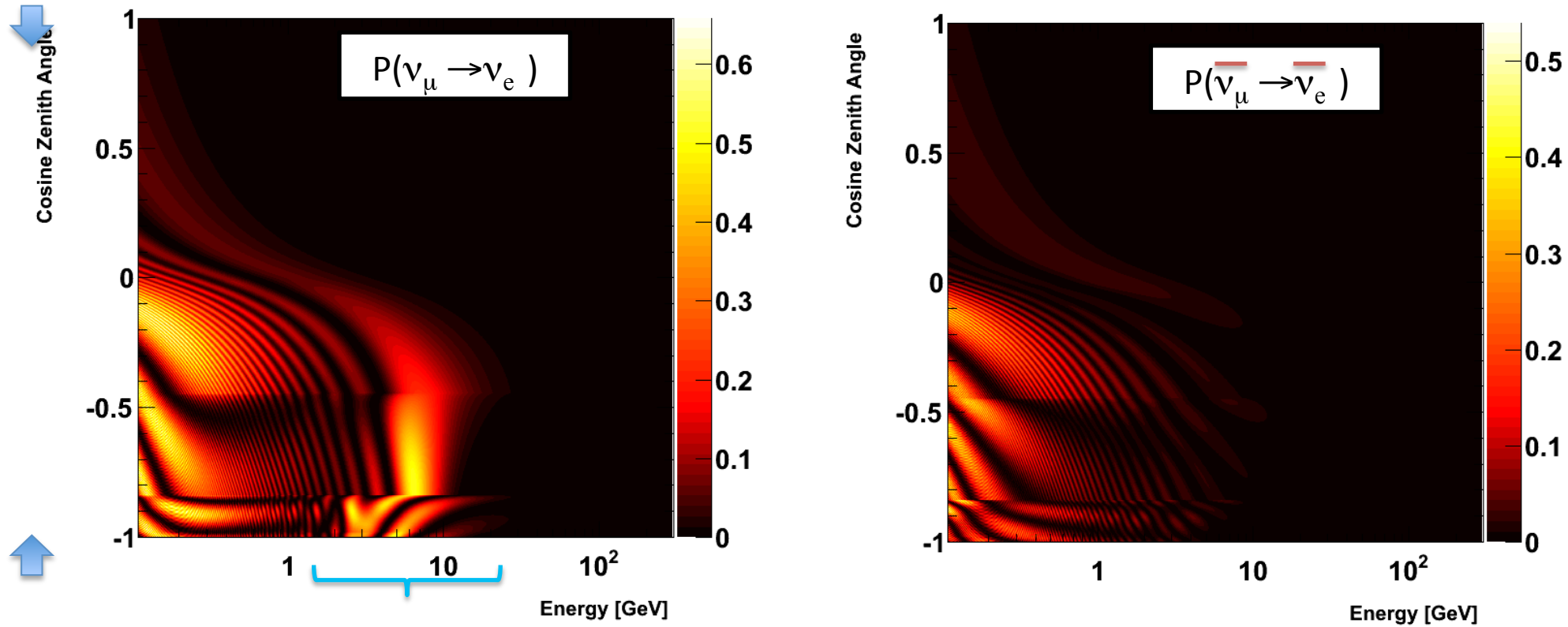
Astrophys.J. 814 (2015) no.2, 122  
PREM Density



- Resonance effects are expected to enhance the number of upward-going electron neutrinos
- Size of the effect depends on  $\theta_{13}$ , which has been measured precisely by reactor experiments

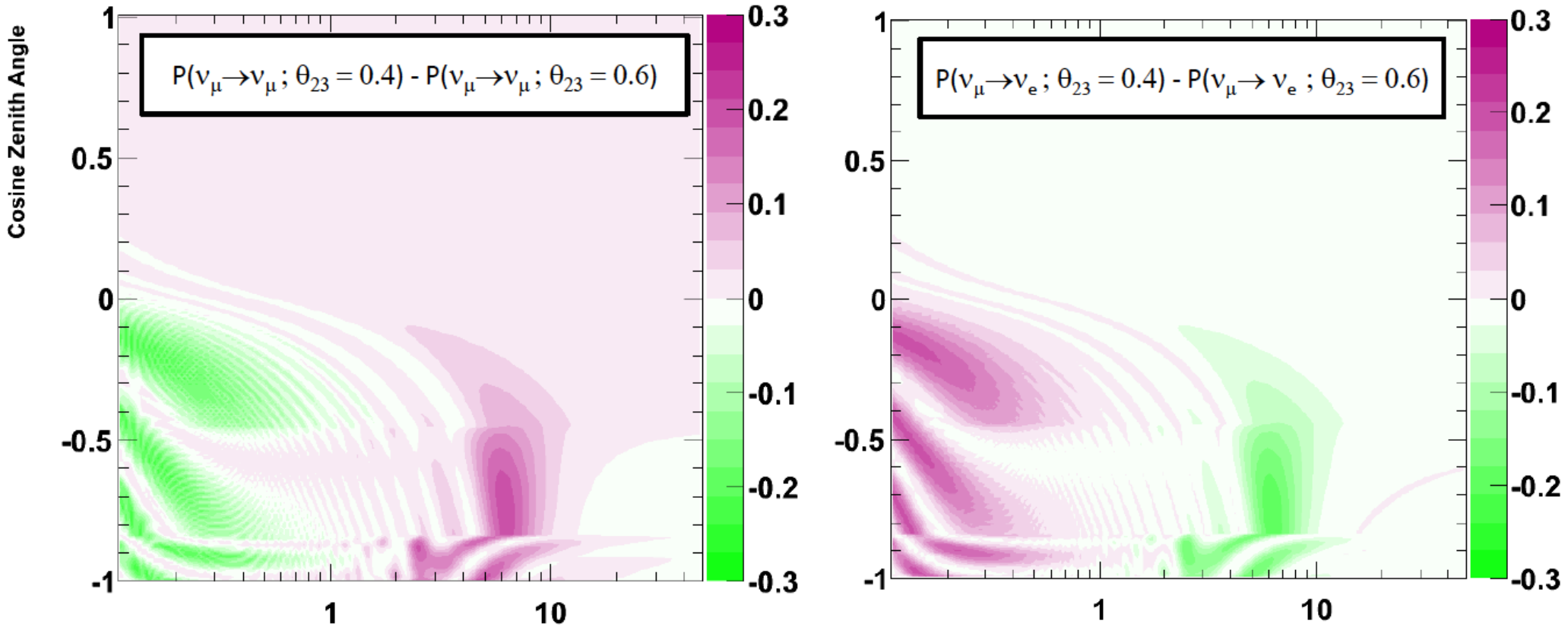
# Mass Hierarchy Determination: Matter-Effects

## Normal Hierarchy



- Resonance effects are expected to enhance the number of upward-going electron neutrinos
- Enhancement expected for **antineutrinos** if the hierarchy is *inverted*
- *Muon neutrinos also sensitive (ICAL-INO)*

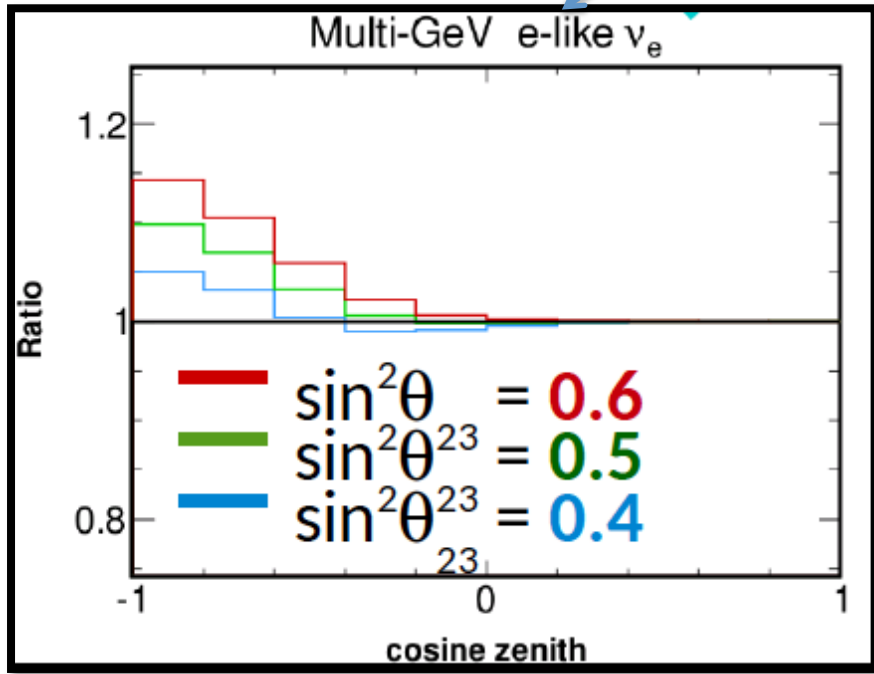
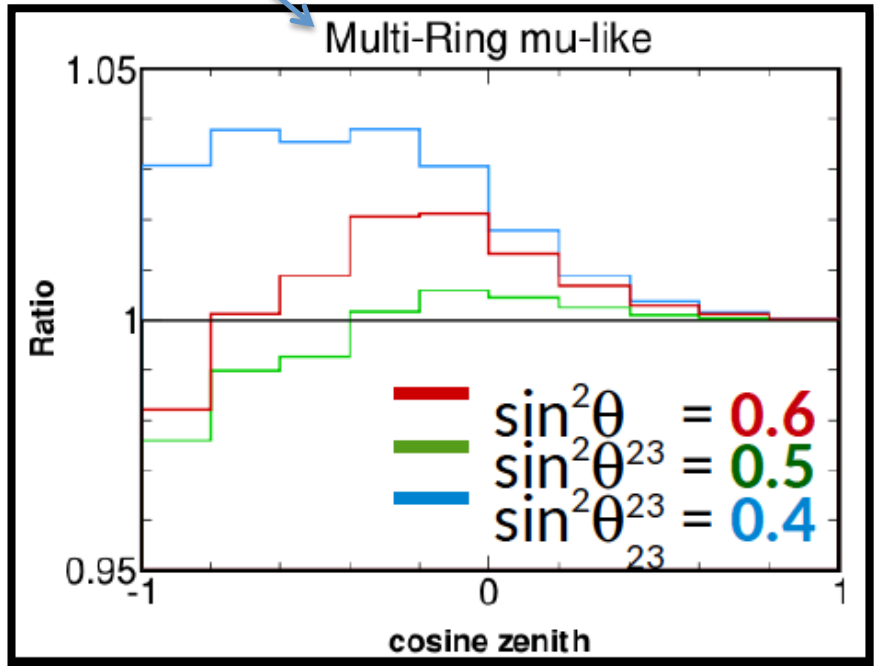
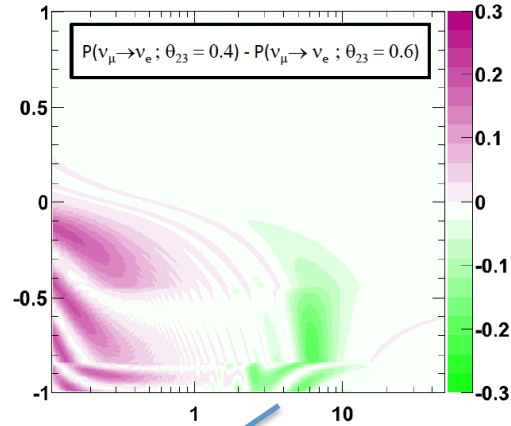
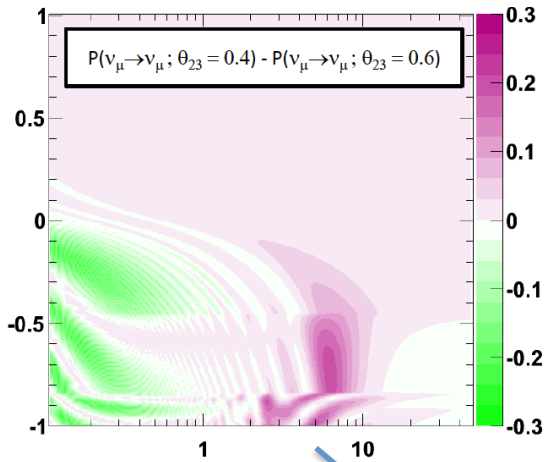
# P(1<sup>st</sup> Octant) - P(2<sup>nd</sup> Octant)



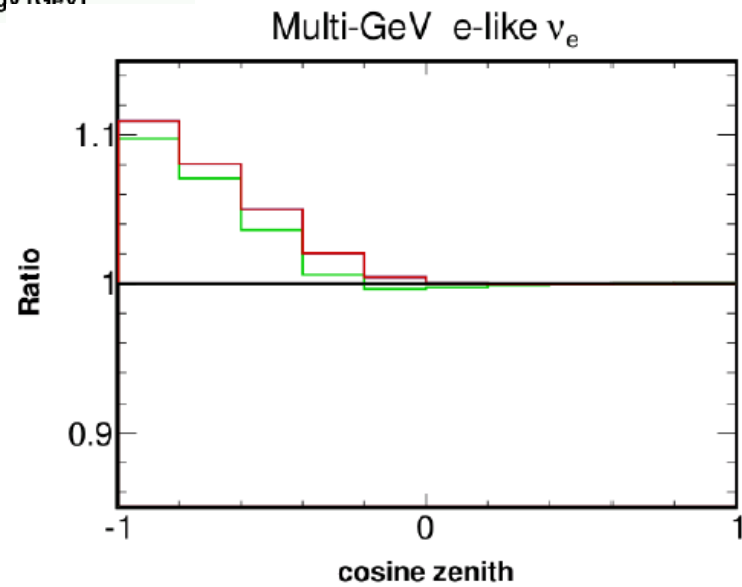
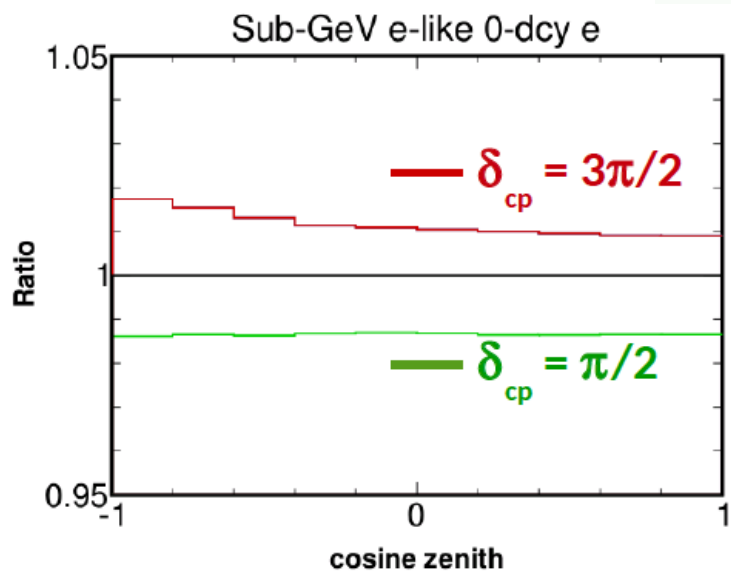
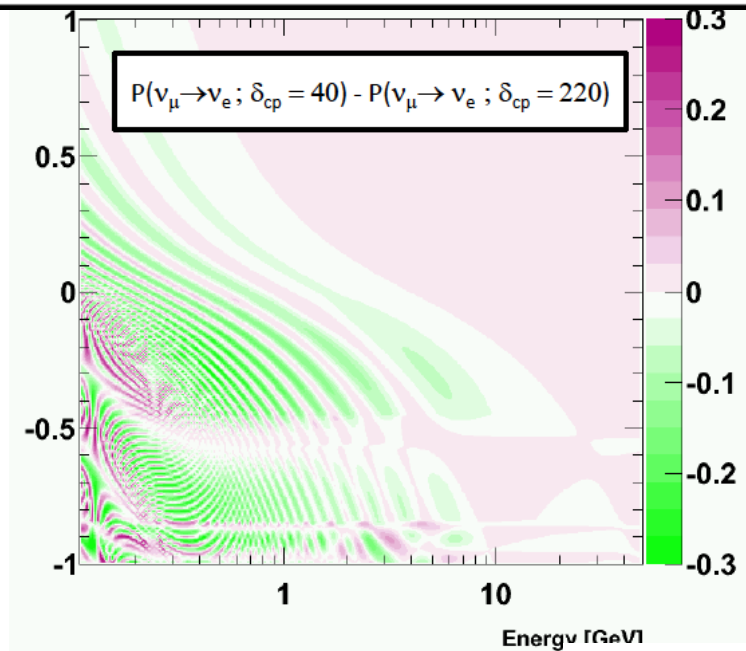
$\sin^2\theta_{23} = 0.4$ vs $0.6$	$P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\mu)$	$P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e)$
$E \sim$ Sub-GeV	More disappearance	More appearance
$E \sim$ Multi-GeV	Less disappearance	Less appearance



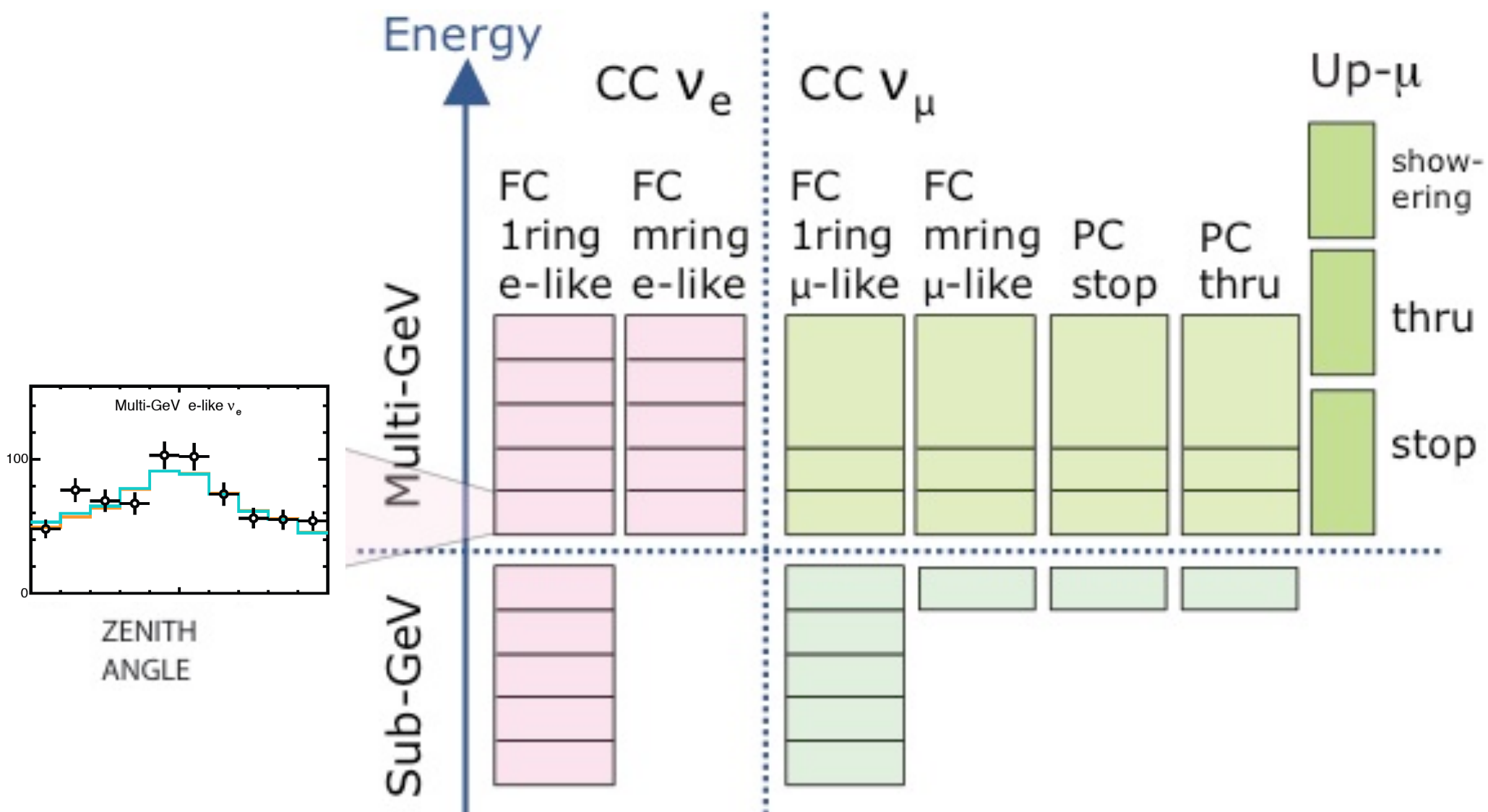
# P(1<sup>st</sup> Octant) - P(2<sup>nd</sup> Octant)



# P(40 degrees) - P(220 degrees)

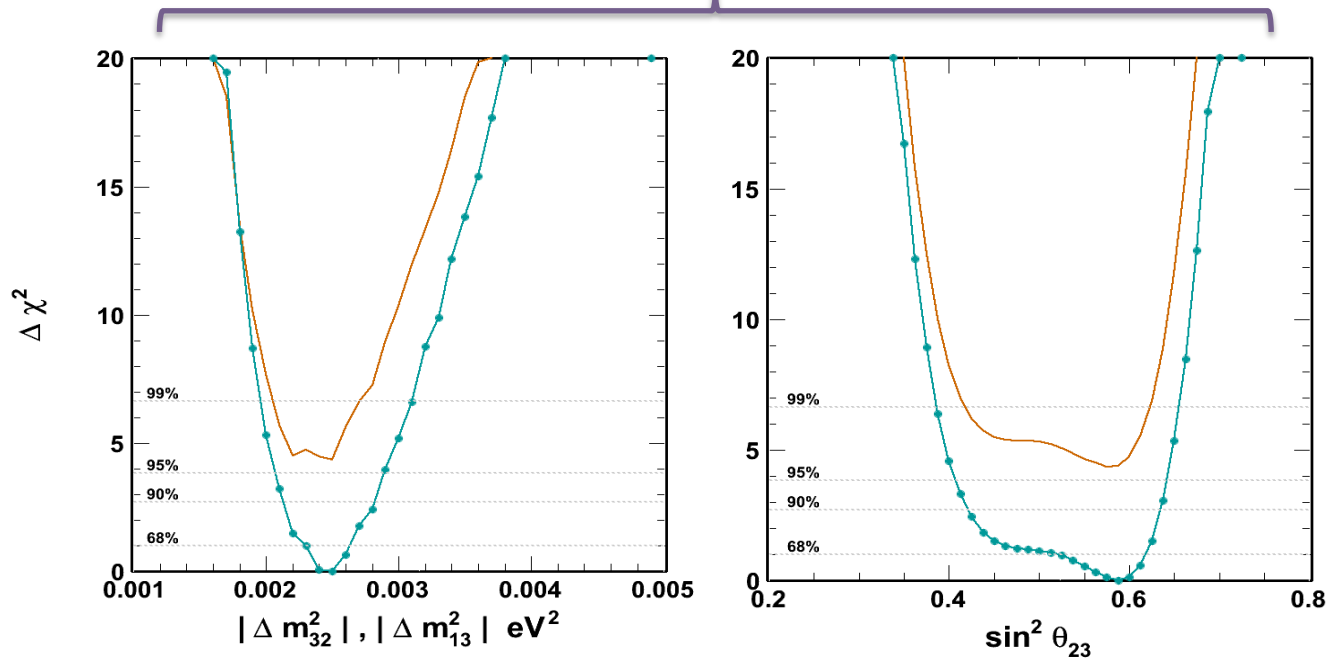


# Super-Kamiokande Analysis Samples

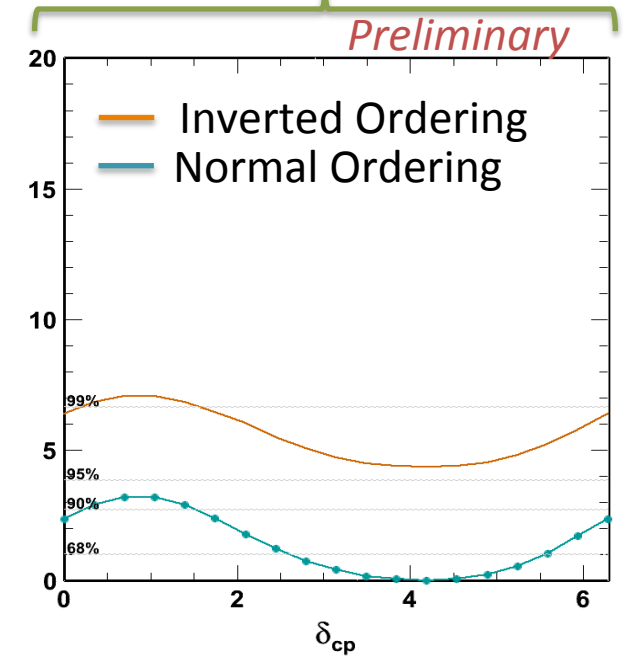


# Atmospheric Mixing + $\delta_{cp}$ : Super-Kamiokande

Muon Samples



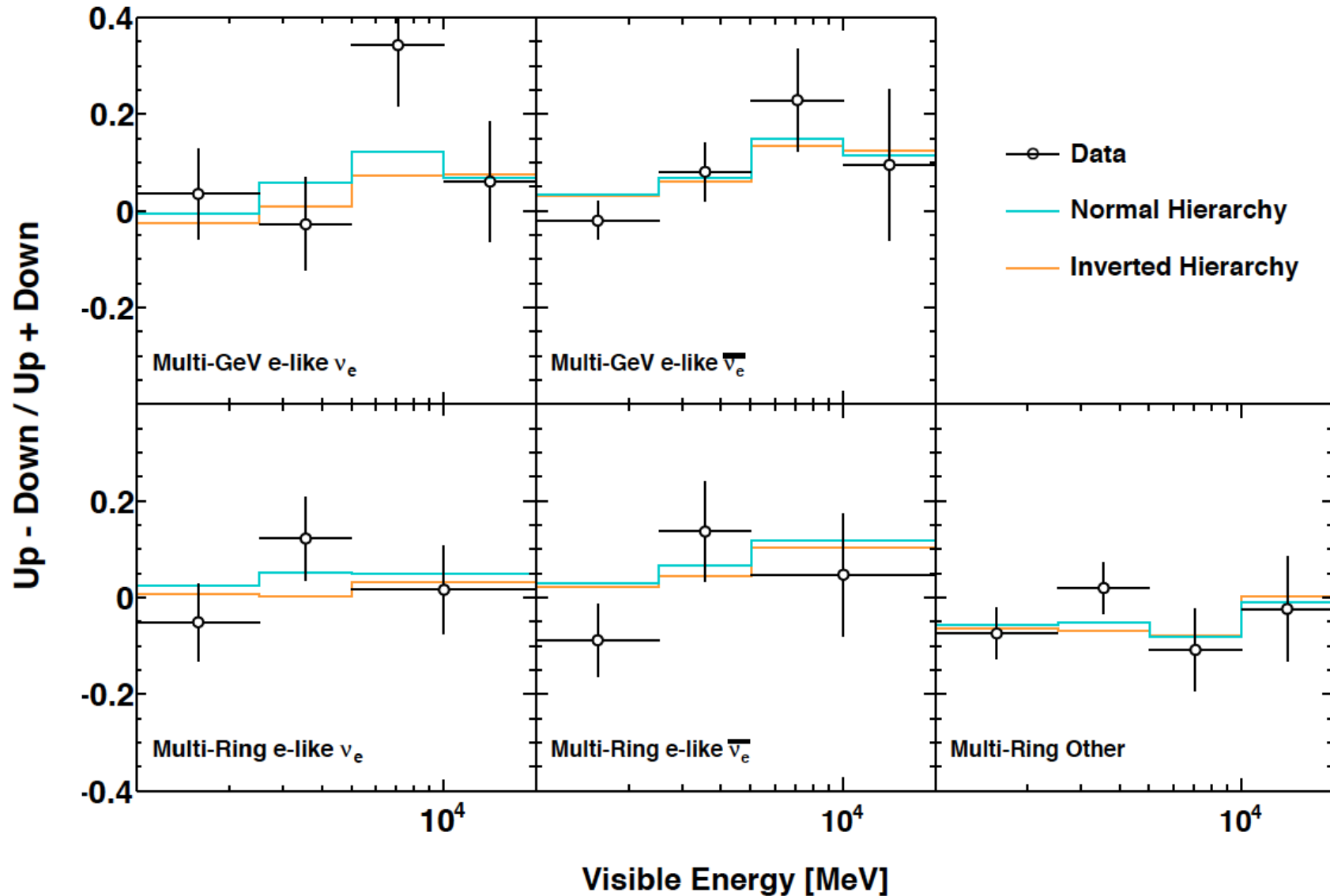
Electron Samples



- Comparatively weak constraint on atmospheric mixing
- Observe an excess of upward-going electron neutrino events weakly favoring the *normal hierarchy*
  - $\Delta\chi^2$  (NH - IH) = -4.3
  - P(NH|IH) : 3.1%
- Weak hint for  $\delta_{cp} \sim 1.33\pi$

# Signature of the Mass hierarchy

*Preliminary*

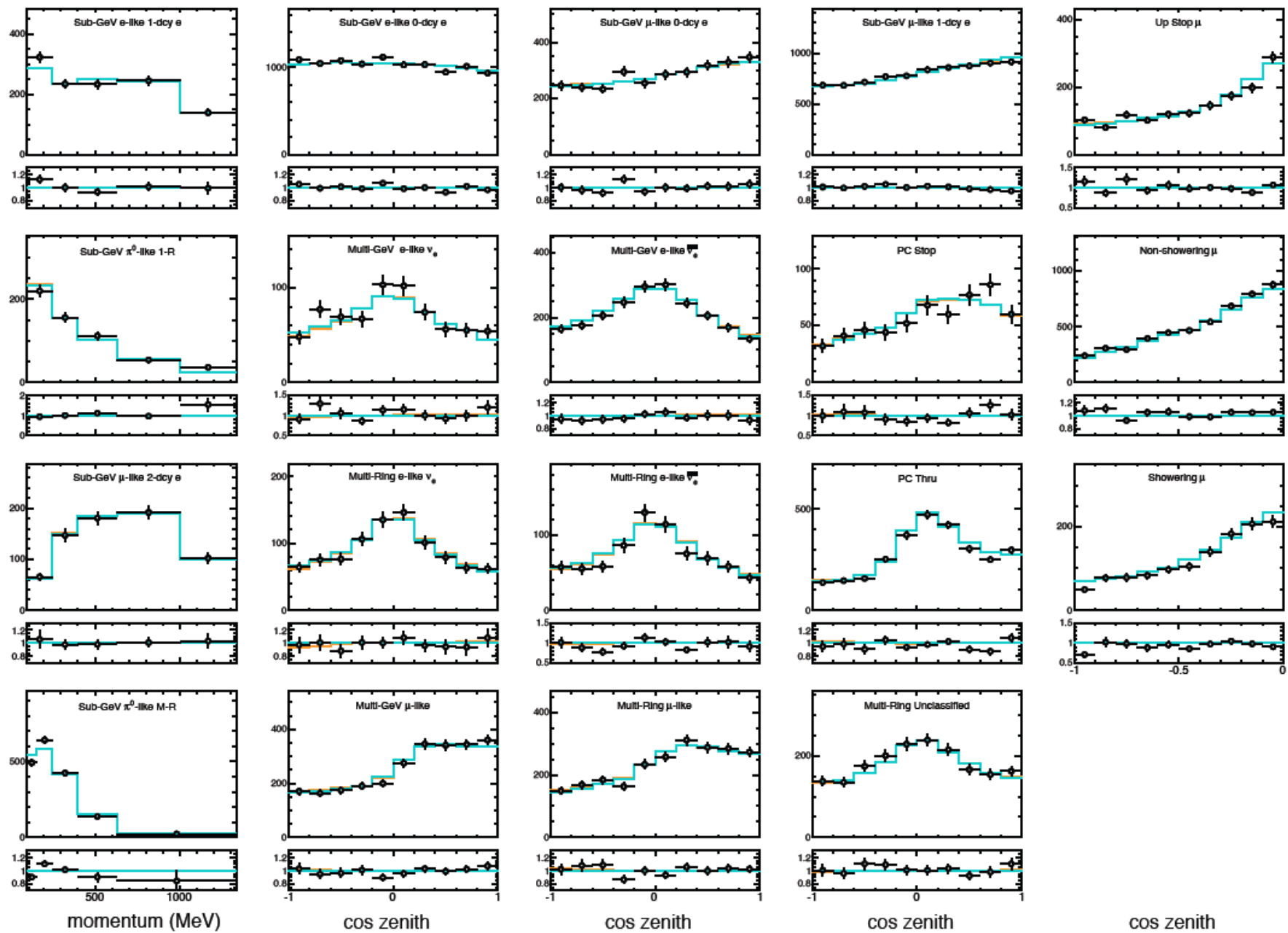


- Some indication of expected upward-going electron neutrino appearance, but not conclusive

## Summary So Far

- Wide range of energies and pathlengths in the atmospheric neutrino flux make them a useful, but complicated tool
- Atmospheric neutrino measurements were the first place that oscillations were seen and since then oscillations, both atmospheric and man-made, have been seen in a variety of experiments
- The atmospheric neutrinos themselves have been used to verify that these oscillations are muon neutrinos into tau neutrinos
  - This has been verified (with better precision) in several experiments
- Matter effects and a non-zero  $\theta_{13}$  allow for studies of the neutrino mass hierarchy and  $\delta_{cp}$  with these neutrinos

# Zenith Angle Distributions

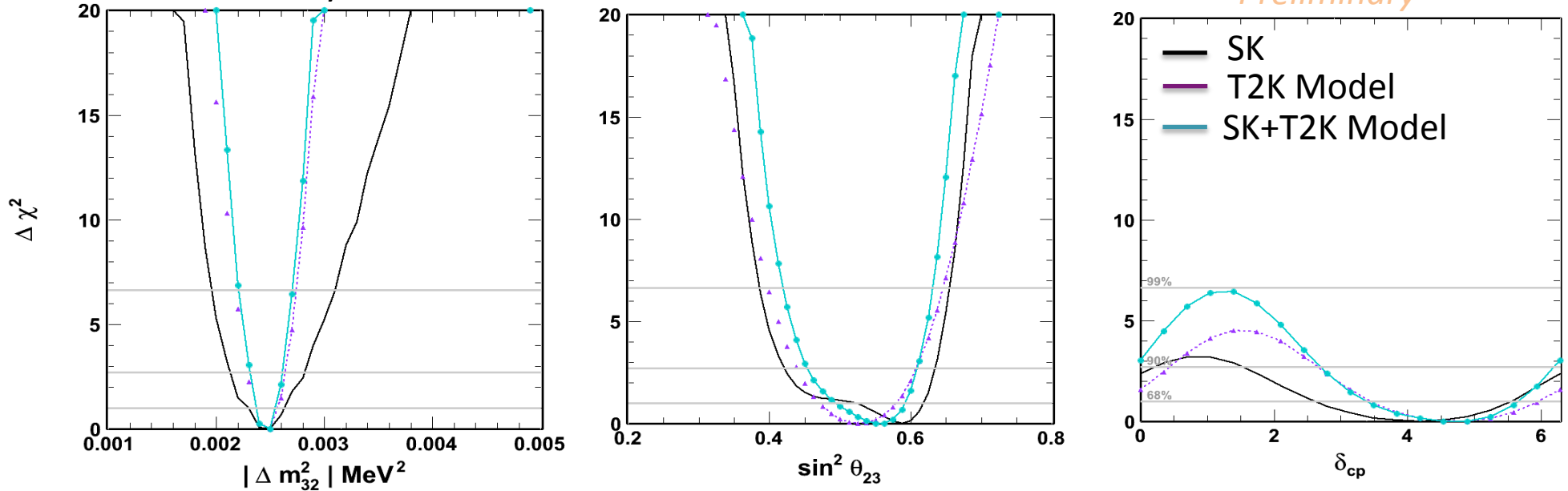


Supplements



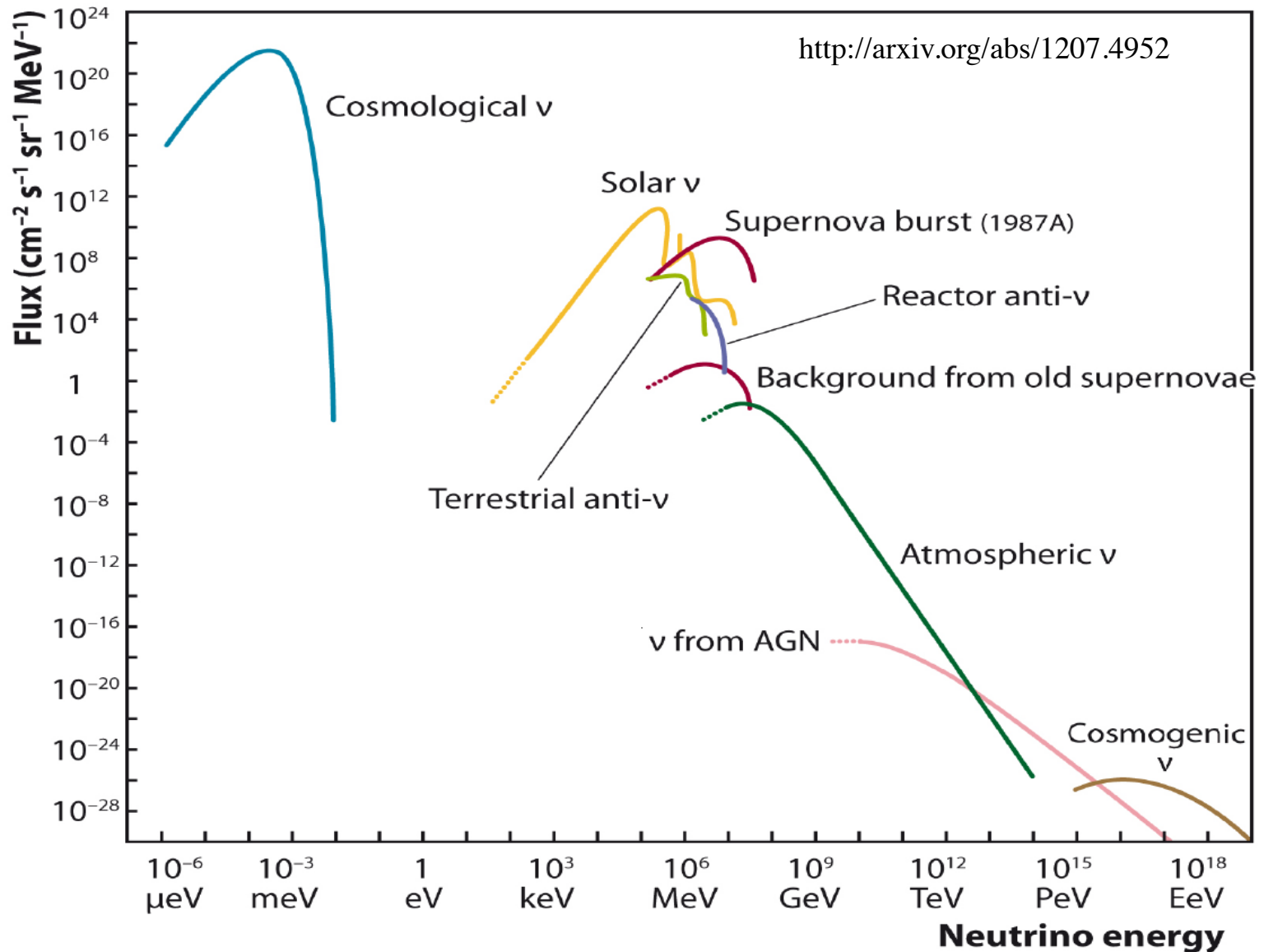
# Into the Future: Combining T2K-SK?

Normal Hierarchy

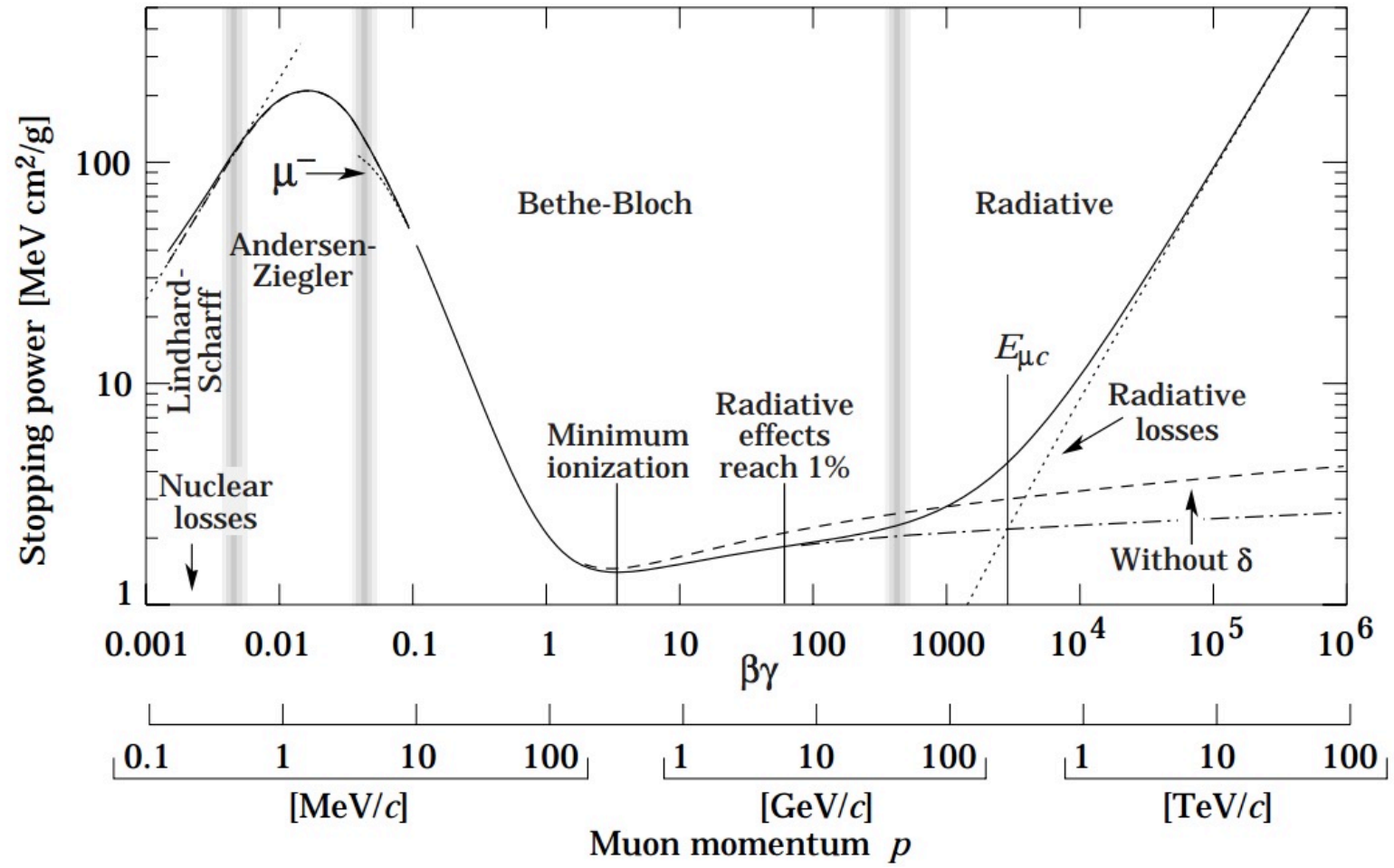


- Super-K collaboration has used *publicly available* information to model and fit the T2K experiment together with atmospheric neutrinos
- Atmospheric mixing constraint improves NH preference
  - $\Delta\chi^2$  ( NH – IH ) = -5.1 (-4.3 SK Only)
  - P(NH|IH) : 2.7%
- Better constraint with correlated systematics between experiments: future?!
- T2K + NOvA combination also in discussion

# Sources of Neutrinos



# A Sense of Scales

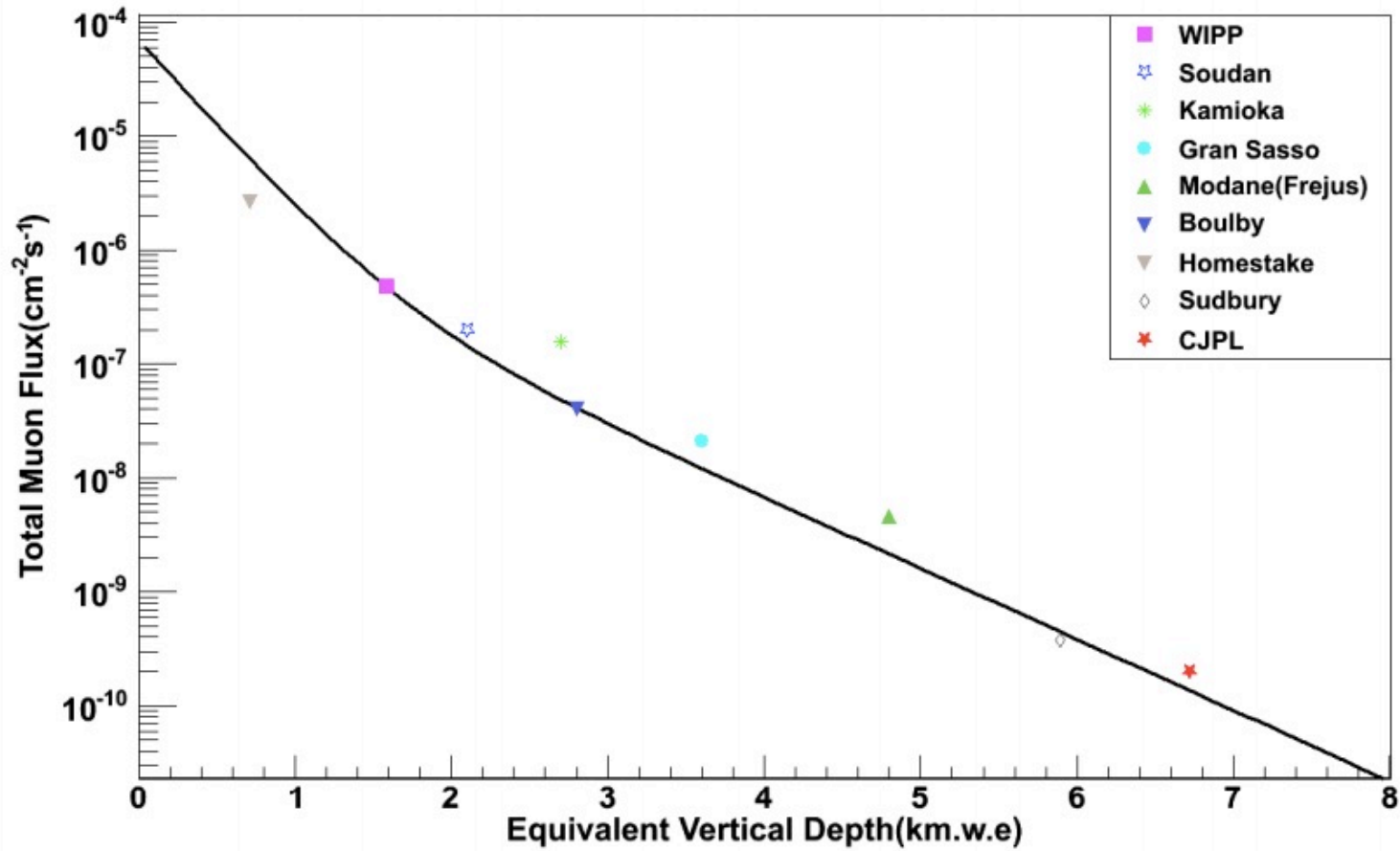


$\langle -dE/dx \rangle_{\min}$  1.688  $\text{MeV cm}^2/\text{g}$  in “Standard Rock”

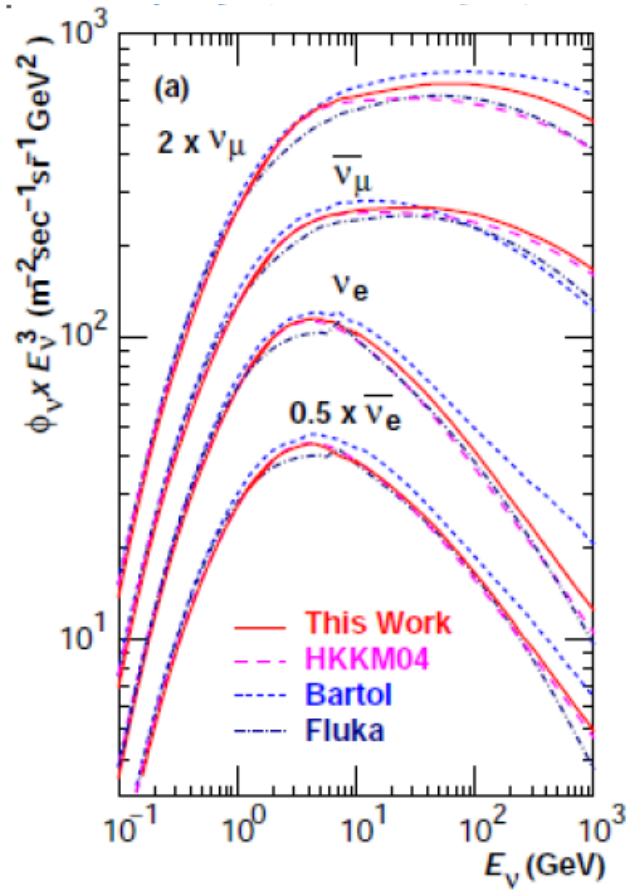
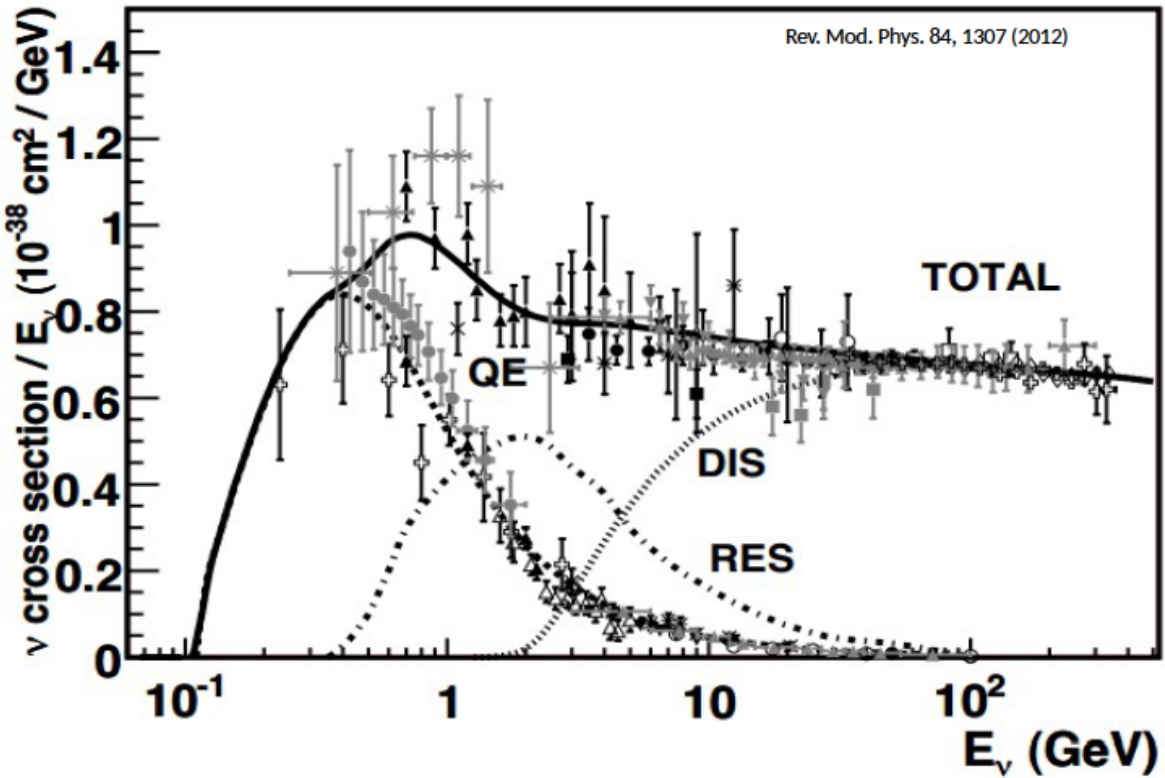
100  $\text{GeV } \mu$  travels  $O(1 \sim \text{km})$

# How do we know it's a neutrino

<https://arxiv.org/pdf/1305.0899.pdf>



# How Many Atmospheric Neutrinos Are Expected



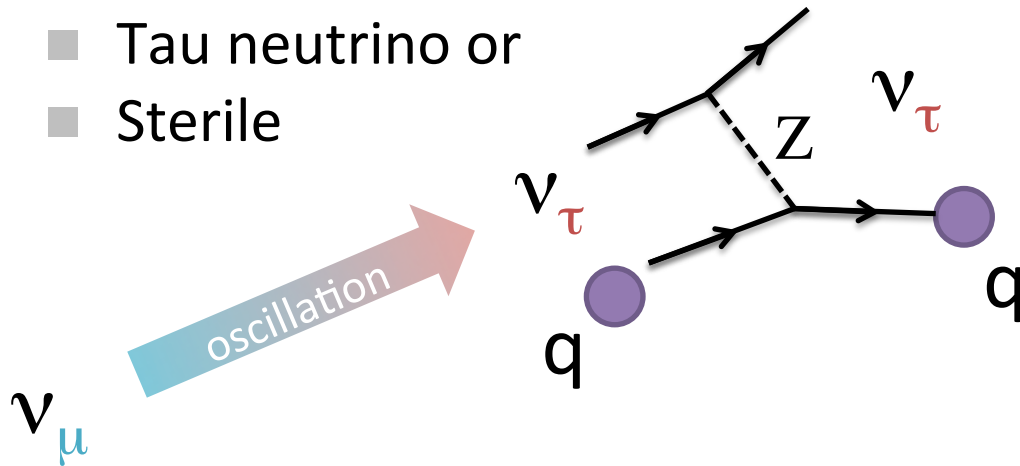
- IMB has diagonal length of 33m
- Kamioka is about 22m
- Most energetic muon that can be reconstructed is about 4 – 5 GeV
- $F \phi \sim E_{\nu}^{-3.7}$
- Expect about 0.5  $\nu$ /kton/day
- $\sigma_{\text{tot}} \sim E_{\nu} \times 10^{-38} \text{ cm}^2$  at 1 GeV

# Sterile Oscillations

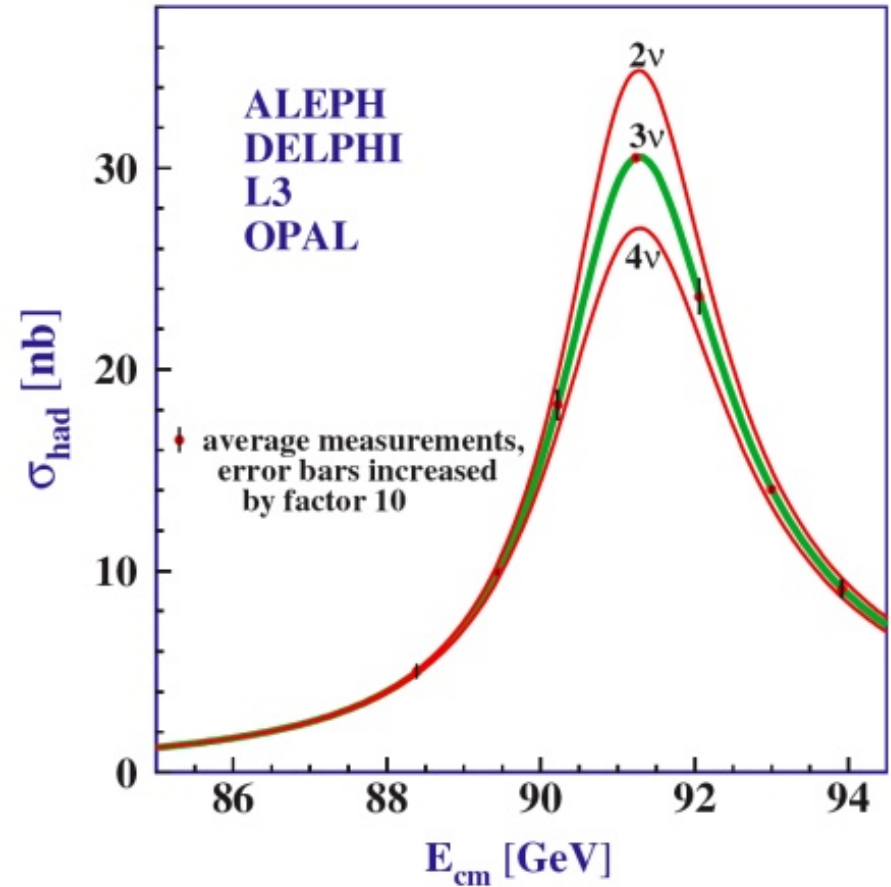
- Muon neutrinos have oscillated into something

- Either

- Tau neutrino or
- Sterile

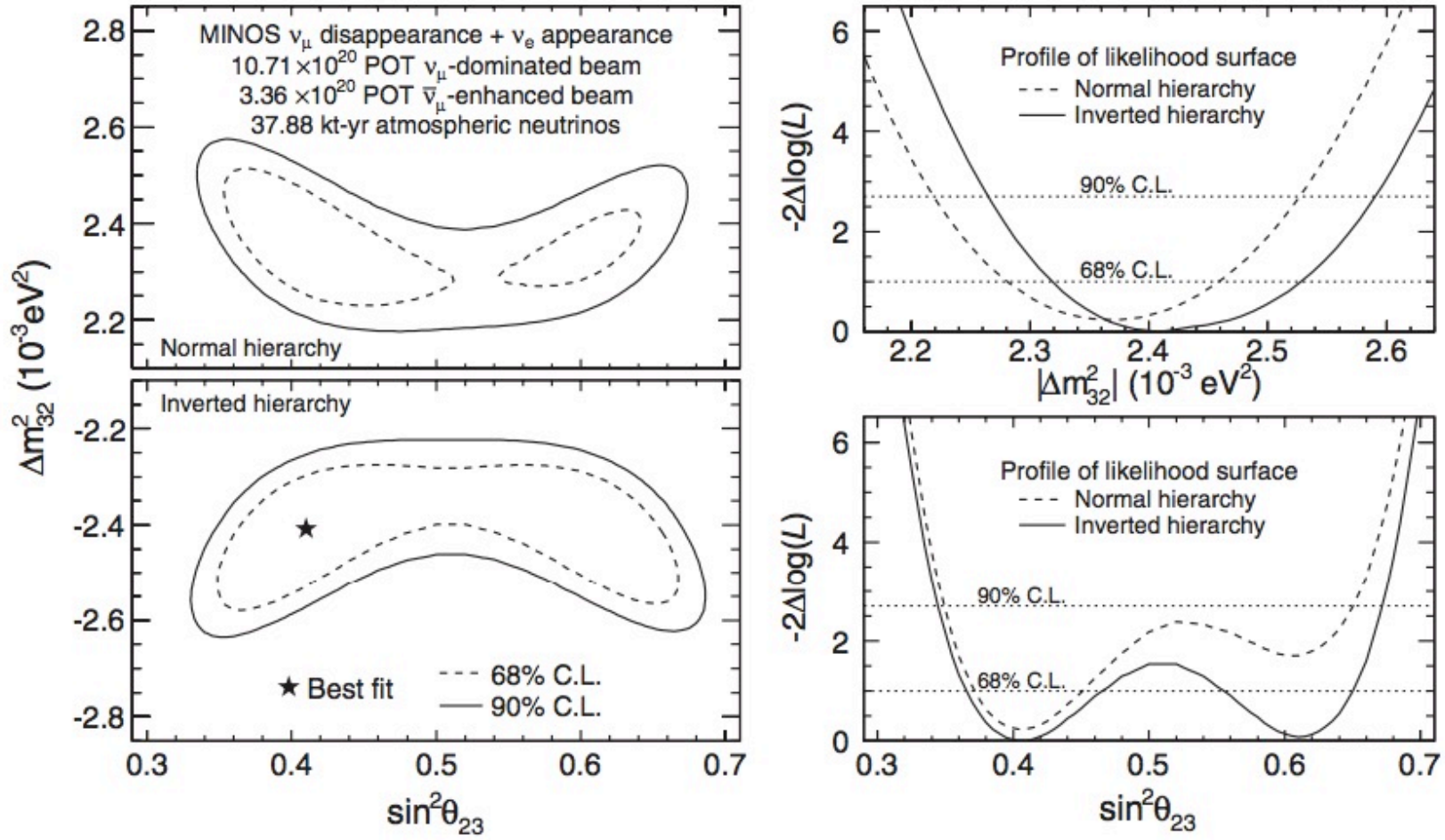


- Sterile neutrino will not participate in weak interactions



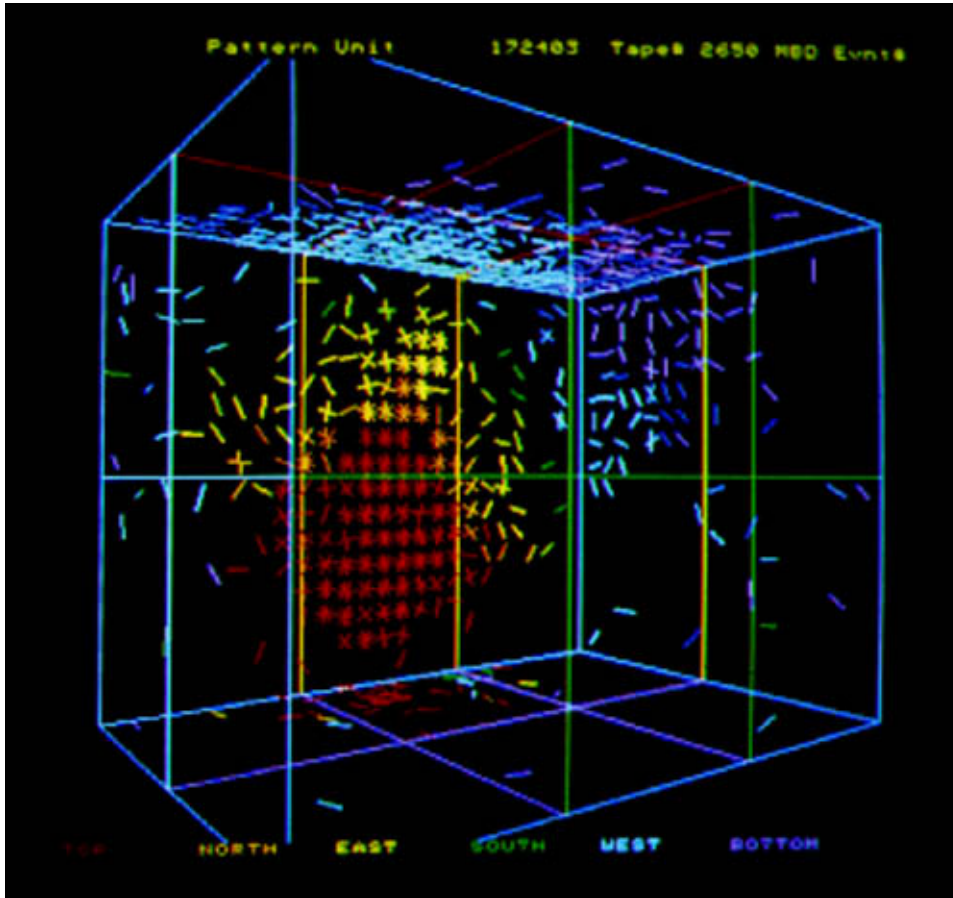
# MINOS Combined Beam and Atmospheric $\nu$ Measurement

PRL 112, 191801 (2014)



- First experiment to combine atmospheric and beam neutrino data
- Improves hierarchy sensitivity (more later)
- This result weakly favors the inverted hierarchy

# Example Event From the IMB Experiment

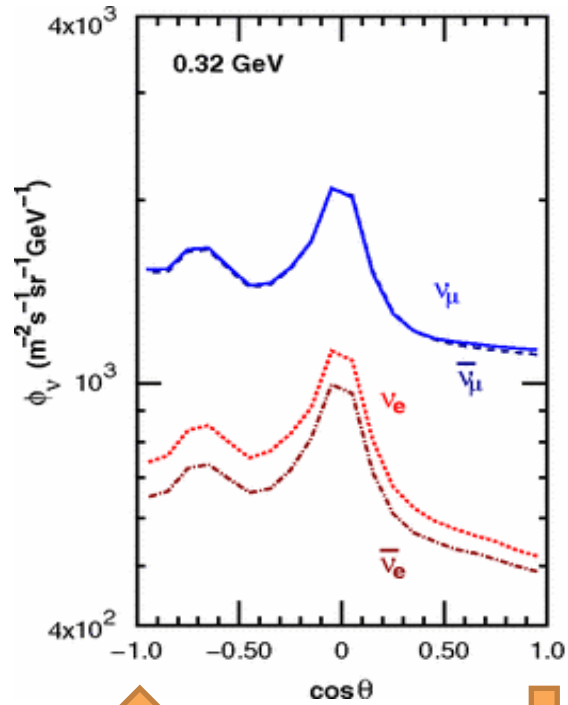


- Each colored mark represents a hit PMT
- The color indicates the hit timing
  - Red: early
  - Late: blue
- Size of the marks indicates the collected charge



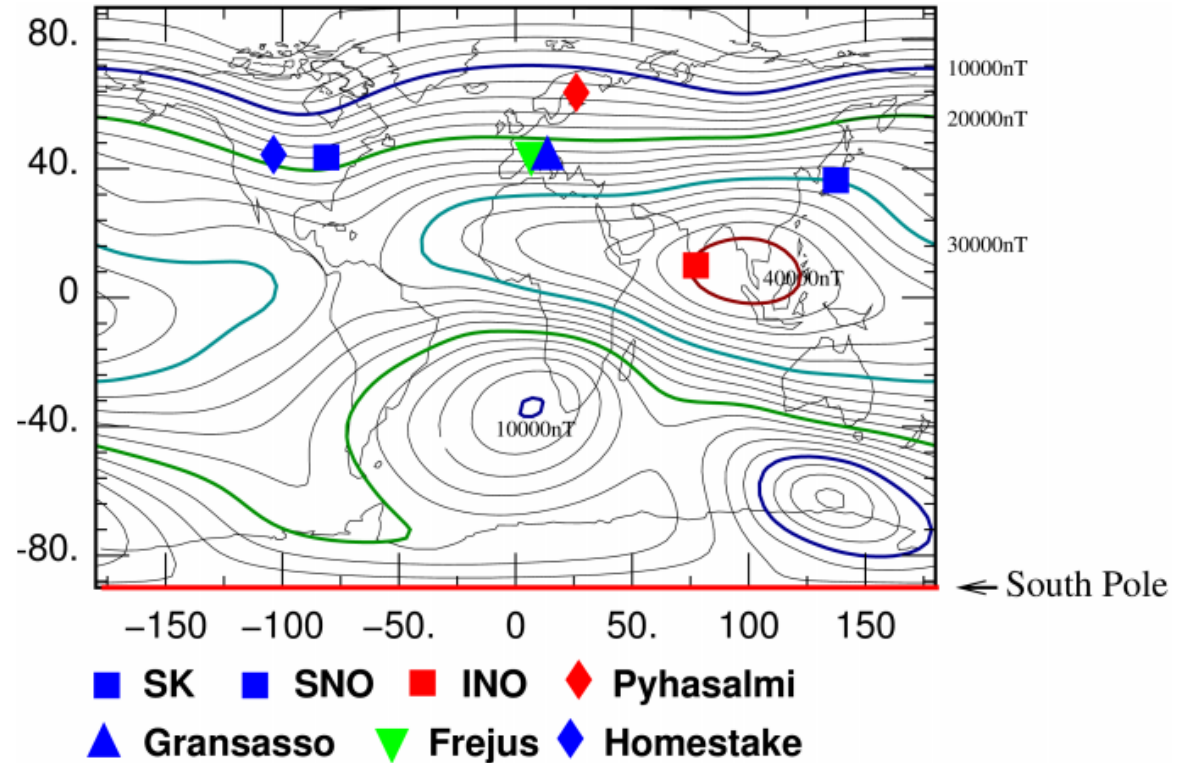
# Analysis Strategy

Phys. Rev. D 83 (2011) 123001



↑  
Upward-going  
(~13000km pathlength)

↓  
Downward-going  
(~15km pathlength)



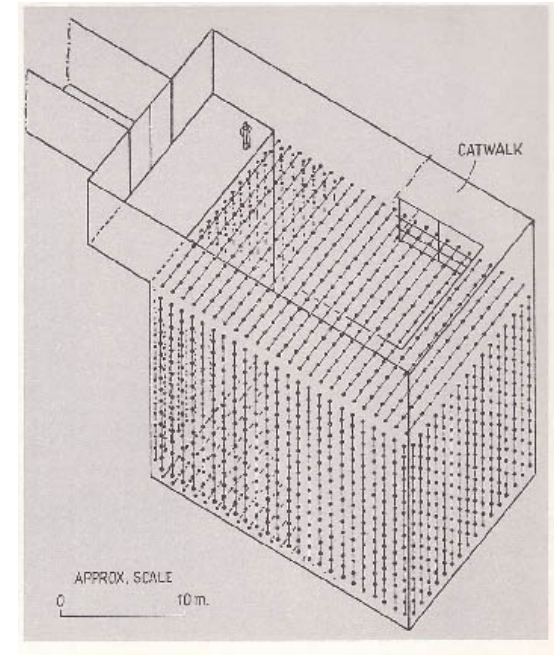
- The Flux is Up/Down Symmetric above a few GeV
- Choose Up/Down Symmetric Binning
- Event Samples binned in several momentum ranges

# Proposal for the IMB Experiment

A PROPOSAL  
TO TEST FOR BARYON STABILITY  
TO A LIFETIME OF  $10^{33}$  YEARS

## Abstract

We have studied the properties of, and the expected backgrounds in, a totally active, 10,000 ton water Cerenkov detector located deep underground and sensitive to many of the conjectured decay modes of the nucleons in it. Sensitivity to  $\pi$ ,  $\mu$  and  $\gamma$  secondaries, good energy resolution, and good angular resolution provide sufficient background rejection in the proposed device and will permit us to obtain significant information about several decay channels, should they



We have studied the properties of, and the expected backgrounds in, a totally active, 10,000 ton water Cerenkov detector located deep underground and sensitive to many of the conjectured decay modes of the nucleons in it. Sensitivity

atmospheric neutrinos imposes an inherent limit.

# L/E Analysis Result

--  $\nu$  Decay

--  $\nu$  Decoherence

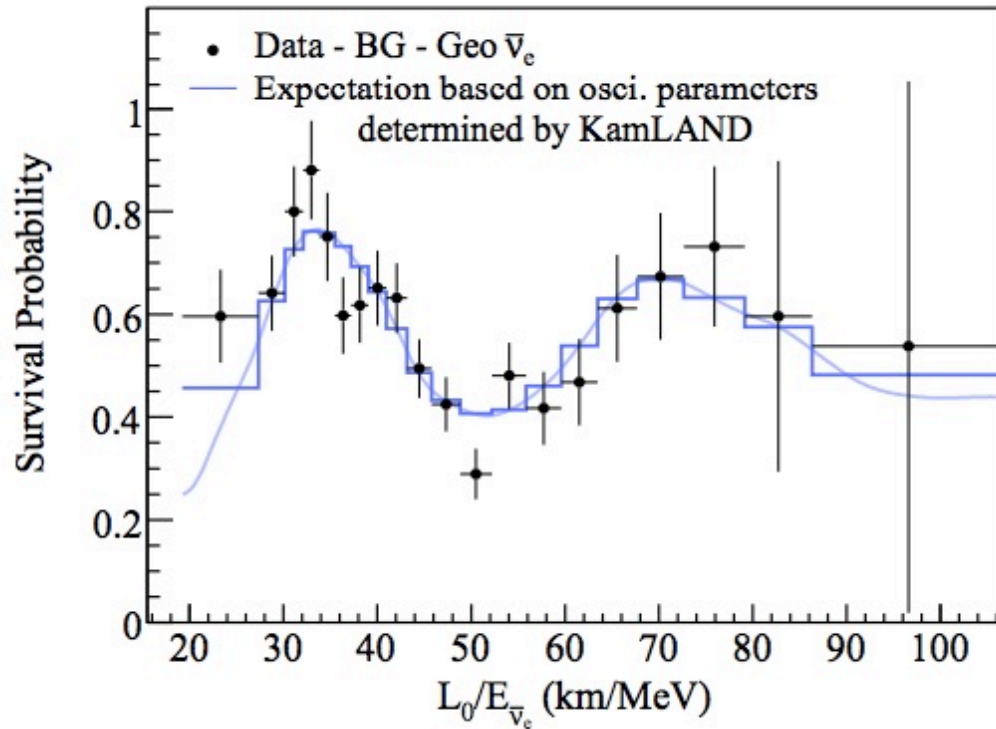
—  $\nu_\mu \leftrightarrow \nu_\tau$

$$\Delta\chi^2 = 3.4\sigma$$

$$\Delta\chi^2 = 3.8\sigma$$

$$(\Delta\chi^2 = 0)$$

PhysRevLett.100.221803



PRL 93 (2004) 101801

