

# -Neutrinos- A brief overview of the 'ghost particle'.

A biased account by Sam Jenkins

Based on equally biased slides by Jaiden  
Parlone





Bananas emit around 1,000,000 neutrinos per day, mostly from Potassium-40 beta decay.

You emit around 300,000,000 per day as well.

Both are these are nothing compared to the Sun's output, which leads to around 100,000,000,000,000 (100 trillion) passing through your body every second.

However...

There is only about a 1 in 4 chance of a neutrino interacting within your body within your lifetime.

And if you were holding a banana, it would take about 2 billion years before a neutrino from it interacted with you.

Plenty of time to learn about neutrinos.



# Standard Model of Elementary Particles

three generations of matter (elementary fermions)			three generations of antimatter (elementary antifermions)			interactions / force carriers (elementary bosons)			
	I	II	III	I	II	III			
QUARKS	mass charge spin $\approx 2.2 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ $\frac{2}{3}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ <b>u</b> up	$\approx 1.28 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ $\frac{2}{3}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ <b>c</b> charm	$\approx 173.1 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ $\frac{2}{3}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ <b>t</b> top	$\approx 2.2 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ $-\frac{2}{3}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ <b><math>\bar{u}</math></b> antiup	$\approx 1.28 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ $-\frac{2}{3}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ <b><math>\bar{c}</math></b> anticharm	$\approx 173.1 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ $-\frac{2}{3}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ <b><math>\bar{t}</math></b> antitop	0 0 1 <b>g</b> gluon	$\approx 124.97 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ 0 0 0 <b>H</b> higgs	
	$\approx 4.7 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ $-\frac{1}{3}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ <b>d</b> down	$\approx 96 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ $-\frac{1}{3}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ <b>s</b> strange	$\approx 4.18 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ $-\frac{1}{3}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ <b>b</b> bottom	$\approx 4.7 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ $\frac{1}{3}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ <b><math>\bar{d}</math></b> antidown	$\approx 96 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ $\frac{1}{3}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ <b><math>\bar{s}</math></b> antistrange	$\approx 4.18 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ $\frac{1}{3}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ <b><math>\bar{b}</math></b> antibottom	0 0 1 <b><math>\gamma</math></b> photon	GAUGE BOSONS VECTOR BOSONS	SCALAR BOSONS
	LEPTONS	$\approx 0.511 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ -1 $\frac{1}{2}$ <b>e</b> electron	$\approx 105.66 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ -1 $\frac{1}{2}$ <b><math>\mu</math></b> muon	$\approx 1.7768 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ -1 $\frac{1}{2}$ <b><math>\tau</math></b> tau	$\approx 0.511 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ <b><math>e^+</math></b> positron	$\approx 105.66 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ <b><math>\bar{\mu}</math></b> antimuon	$\approx 1.7768 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ <b><math>\bar{\tau}</math></b> antitau		
$< 2.2 \text{ eV}/c^2$ 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ <b><math>\nu_e</math></b> electron neutrino		$< 0.17 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ <b><math>\nu_\mu</math></b> muon neutrino	$< 18.2 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ <b><math>\nu_\tau</math></b> tau neutrino	$< 2.2 \text{ eV}/c^2$ 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ <b><math>\bar{\nu}_e</math></b> electron antineutrino	$< 0.17 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ <b><math>\bar{\nu}_\mu</math></b> muon antineutrino	$< 18.2 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ <b><math>\bar{\nu}_\tau</math></b> tau antineutrino	$\approx 80.39 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ 1 1 1 <b><math>W^+</math></b> W <sup>+</sup> boson	$\approx 80.39 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ -1 1 1 <b><math>W^-</math></b> W <sup>-</sup> boson	

1 proton : 1 electron : 1 neutron : 1 billion neutrinos

Abundance 2<sup>nd</sup> only to photons!





# To get a neutrino:

three generations of matter (elementary fermions)						three generations of antimatter (elementary antifermions)						interactions / force carriers (elementary bosons)	
	I	II	III	I	II	III	I	II	III				
mass	$\approx 2.2 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 1.28 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	$\approx 173.1 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	$\approx 2.2 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 1.28 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	$\approx 173.1 \text{ GeV}/c^2$				0		0	$\approx 124.97 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
charge	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	$-\frac{2}{3}$	$-\frac{2}{3}$	$-\frac{2}{3}$				0		0	0
spin	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$				1		0	0
QUARKS	<b>u</b> up	<b>c</b> charm	<b>t</b> top	<b><math>\bar{u}</math></b> antiup	<b><math>\bar{c}</math></b> anticharm	<b><math>\bar{t}</math></b> antitop				<b>g</b> gluon			<b>H</b> higgs
	<b>d</b> down	<b>s</b> strange	<b>b</b> bottom	<b><math>\bar{d}</math></b> antidown	<b><math>\bar{s}</math></b> antistrange	<b><math>\bar{b}</math></b> antibottom				<b><math>\gamma</math></b> photon			
	<b>e</b> electron	<b><math>\mu</math></b> muon	<b><math>\tau</math></b> tau	<b><math>e^+</math></b> positron	<b><math>\bar{\mu}</math></b> antimuon	<b><math>\bar{\tau}</math></b> antitau				<b>Z</b> Z <sup>0</sup> boson			
LEPTONS	$< 2.2 \text{ eV}/c^2$	$< 0.17 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$< 18.2 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$< 2.2 \text{ eV}/c^2$	$< 0.17 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$< 18.2 \text{ MeV}/c^2$				0		1	$\approx 80.39 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
	0	0	0	0	0	0				1		1	$\approx 80.39 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$				1		1	
	<b><math>\nu_e</math></b> electron neutrino	<b><math>\nu_\mu</math></b> muon neutrino	<b><math>\nu_\tau</math></b> tau neutrino	<b><math>\bar{\nu}_e</math></b> electron antineutrino	<b><math>\bar{\nu}_\mu</math></b> muon antineutrino	<b><math>\bar{\nu}_\tau</math></b> tau antineutrino				<b><math>W^+</math></b> W <sup>+</sup> boson			<b><math>W^-</math></b> W <sup>-</sup> boson

Make sure it is a fermion  
(spin  $\frac{1}{2}$ )



To get a neutrino:

three generations of matter (elementary fermions)						three generations of antimatter (elementary antifermions)						interactions / force carriers (elementary bosons)	
I		II		III		I		II		III			
mass	$\approx 2.2 \text{ MeV}/c^2$		$\approx 1.28 \text{ GeV}/c^2$		$\approx 173.1 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	$\approx 2.2 \text{ MeV}/c^2$		$\approx 1.28 \text{ GeV}/c^2$		$\approx 173.1 \text{ GeV}/c^2$		0	$\approx 124.97 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
charge	$\frac{2}{3}$		$\frac{2}{3}$		$\frac{2}{3}$	$-\frac{2}{3}$		$-\frac{2}{3}$		$-\frac{2}{3}$		0	0
spin	$\frac{1}{2}$		$\frac{1}{2}$		$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$		$\frac{1}{2}$		$\frac{1}{2}$		1	0
QUARKS	u		c		t	$\bar{u}$		$\bar{c}$		$\bar{t}$		g	H
	up		charm		top	antitop		anticharm		antitop		gluon	higgs
QUARKS	$\approx 4.7 \text{ MeV}/c^2$		$\approx 96 \text{ MeV}/c^2$		$\approx 4.18 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	$\approx 4.7 \text{ MeV}/c^2$		$\approx 96 \text{ MeV}/c^2$		$\approx 4.18 \text{ GeV}/c^2$		0	0
	$-\frac{1}{3}$		$-\frac{1}{3}$		$-\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$		$\frac{1}{3}$		$\frac{1}{3}$		0	0
	$\frac{1}{2}$		$\frac{1}{2}$		$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$		$\frac{1}{2}$		$\frac{1}{2}$		1	1
	d		s		b	$\bar{d}$		$\bar{s}$		$\bar{b}$		$\gamma$	
	down		strange		bottom	antidown		antistrange		antibottom		photon	
LEPTONS	$\approx 0.511 \text{ MeV}/c^2$		$\approx 105.66 \text{ MeV}/c^2$		$\approx 1.7768 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	$\approx 0.511 \text{ MeV}/c^2$		$\approx 105.66 \text{ MeV}/c^2$		$\approx 1.7768 \text{ GeV}/c^2$		$\approx 91.19 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	
	-1		-1		-1	1		1		1		0	1
	$\frac{1}{2}$		$\frac{1}{2}$		$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$		$\frac{1}{2}$		$\frac{1}{2}$		1	1
	e		$\mu$		$\tau$	$e^+$		$\bar{\mu}$		$\bar{\tau}$		$Z^0$	
	electron		muon		tau	positron		antimuon		antitau		$Z^0$ boson	
LEPTONS	$< 2.2 \text{ eV}/c^2$		$< 0.17 \text{ MeV}/c^2$		$< 18.2 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$< 2.2 \text{ eV}/c^2$		$< 0.17 \text{ MeV}/c^2$		$< 18.2 \text{ MeV}/c^2$		$\approx 80.39 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	$\approx 80.39 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
	0		0		0	0		0		0		1	-1
	$\frac{1}{2}$		$\frac{1}{2}$		$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$		$\frac{1}{2}$		$\frac{1}{2}$		1	1
	$\nu_e$		$\nu_\mu$		$\nu_\tau$	$\bar{\nu}_e$		$\bar{\nu}_\mu$		$\bar{\nu}_\tau$		$W^+$	$W^-$
	electron neutrino		muon neutrino		tau neutrino	electron antineutrino		muon antineutrino		tau antineutrino		$W^+$ boson	$W^-$ boson

Take away any colour charge

No strong interactions

Make sure it is a fermion  
(spin  $\frac{1}{2}$ )

To get a neutrino:

three generations of matter (elementary fermions)						three generations of antimatter (elementary antifermions)						interactions / force carriers (elementary bosons)	
		I	II	III			I	II	III				
mass		$\approx 2.2 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 1.28 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	$\approx 173.1 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	$\approx 2.2 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 1.28 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	$\approx 173.1 \text{ GeV}/c^2$			0		0	$\approx 124.97 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
charge		$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	$-\frac{2}{3}$	$-\frac{2}{3}$	$-\frac{2}{3}$			0		0	0
spin		$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$			1		0	0
		u up	c charm	t top	$\bar{u}$ antitop	$\bar{c}$ anticcharm	$\bar{t}$ antitop			g gluon			H higgs
		d down	s strange	b bottom	$\bar{d}$ antidown	$\bar{s}$ antistrange	$\bar{b}$ antibottom			$\gamma$ photon			
		e electron	$\mu$ muon	$\tau$ tau	$e^+$ positron	$\bar{\mu}$ antimuon	$\bar{\tau}$ antitau			Z Z <sup>0</sup> boson			
		$\nu_e$ electron neutrino	$\nu_\mu$ muon neutrino	$\nu_\tau$ tau neutrino	$\bar{\nu}_e$ electron antineutrino	$\bar{\nu}_\mu$ muon antineutrino	$\bar{\nu}_\tau$ tau antineutrino			W <sup>+</sup> W <sup>+</sup> boson			W <sup>-</sup> W <sup>-</sup> boson

Take away any colour charge

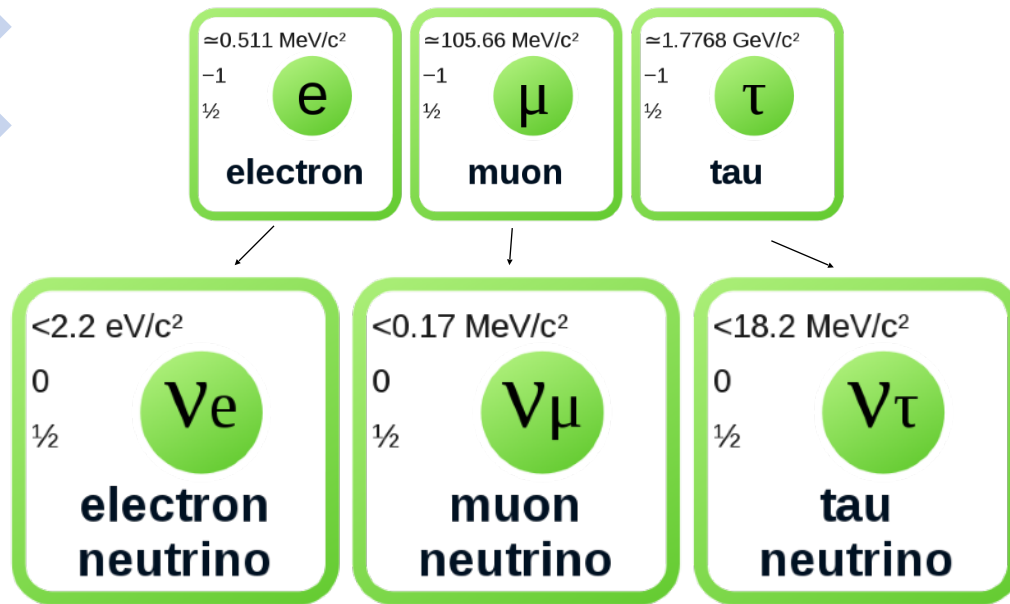
No strong interactions

Take away any electric charge

No electromagnetic interactions

Make sure it is a fermion  
(spin  $\frac{1}{2}$ )





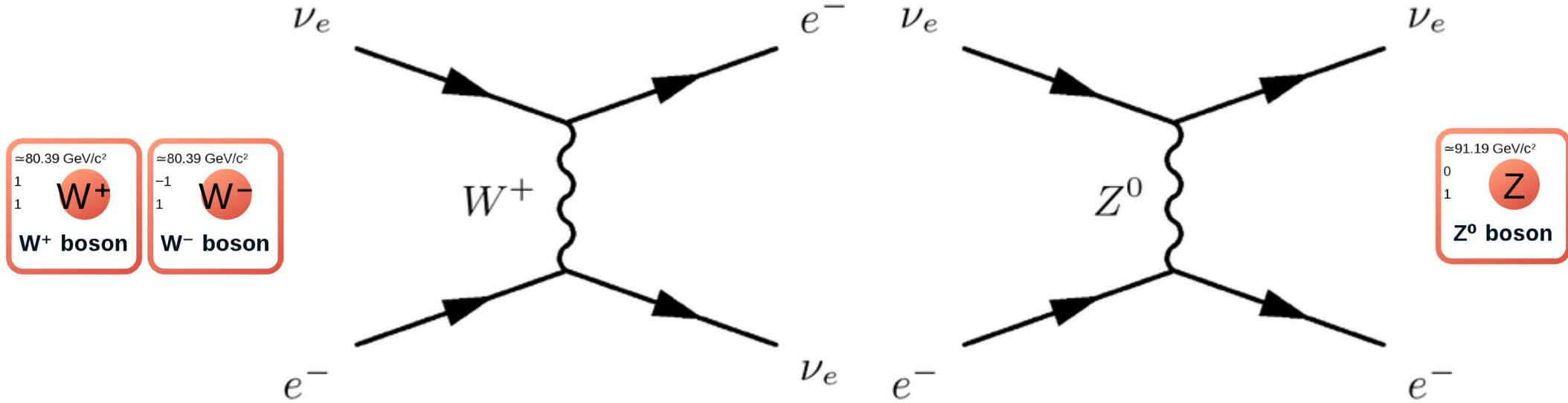
Three 'flavours' of neutrino

*The standard model predicts that (anti)neutrinos should be massless!*



and antineutrino

Because they have no colour charge, or electric charge, neutrinos interact only through the Weak Force (+ gravity, spoilers).



The charge related to this force is called ‘Weak Isospin’.  
(+Weak Hypercharge)

$W^\pm$  mediated interactions are the only known flavour changing interaction and are referred to as the ‘Charged Current’ in many sources.

The fact that the  $W^\pm$  and  $Z^0$  are massive is a result of symmetry breaking in the Higgs Field, the derivation of which tends to be covered in the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> year ‘Gauge Theories’ course.



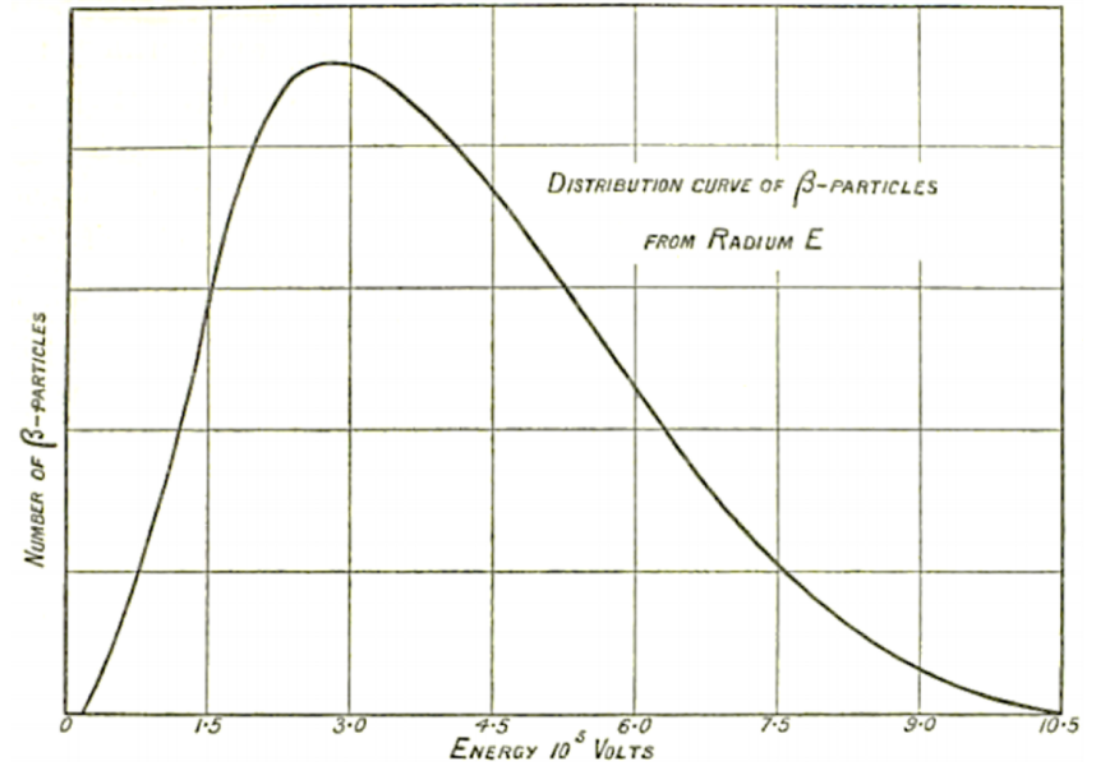
But first, let's step back a little..

In the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century, beta decay was thought to be a two-body process, described by:



In 1914 James Chadwick discovered that the energy spectrum of electrons emitted during beta decay of radium was continuous as opposed to discrete, apparently in violation of conservation of energy.

This type of decay would have also violated later laws of angular momentum and lepton number conservation.



Note that this diagram is actually from a confirmation paper from 1927; Doi: 10.1098/rspa.1927.0168.

In 1930 Pauli first postulated a neutral, spin-  $\frac{1}{2}$  particle with negligible mass that was also produced in this process:

$$n \rightarrow p + e^{-} + \bar{\nu}_e$$

This he named 'neutron' but it was later renamed to 'neutrino' (the italian equivalent of "little neutral one") after Chadwick's discovery of the atomic neutron. This particle would later be fully realised as the electron antineutrino.

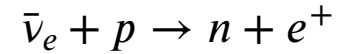
However, due to this particle's properties Pauli famously stated:



I have done a terrible thing, I  
have postulated a particle that  
cannot be detected.

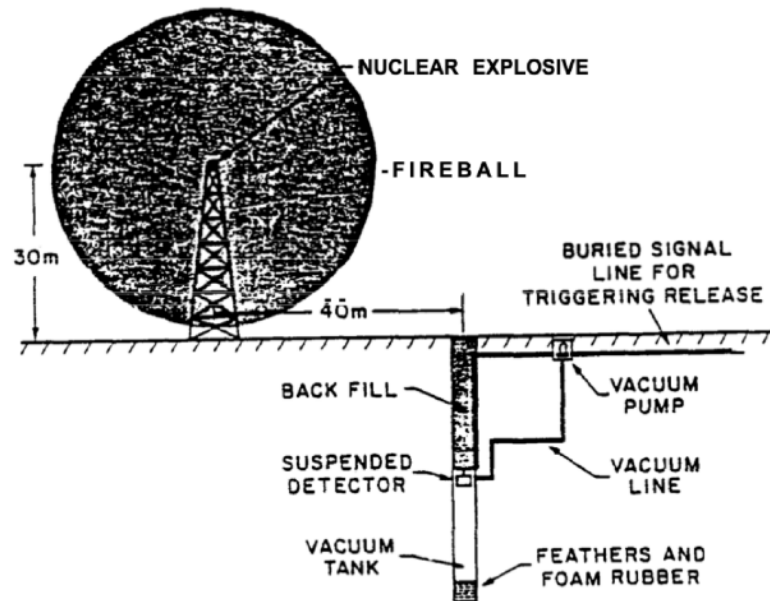


In 1956 the team working on the Cowan-Reines neutrino experiment published results utilising antineutrinos created in a nuclear blast reactor to induce a process known as ‘inverse beta decay’:



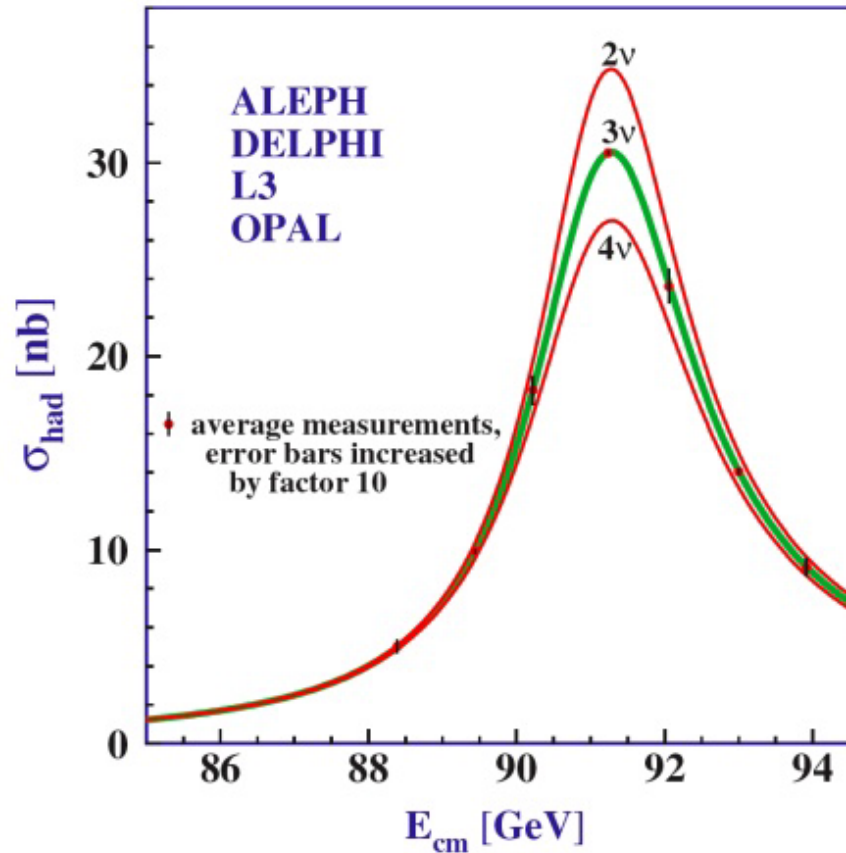
This effort was awarded a Nobel Prize in 1995, almost 45 years later.

However, open questions remained. These neutrinos had only been observed to produce electrons in interactions, whereas there was now another known lepton, the muon. This led to the discovery and distinction of the muon neutrino,  $\nu_\mu$ , by Lederman, Schwartz, and Steinberger in 1962.



### Project “*Poltergeist*”





Studies of  $Z^0$  boson decay allows for the number of light active neutrinos to be determined. This is done through the decay mode;

$$Z^0 \rightarrow \nu_l + \bar{\nu}_l$$

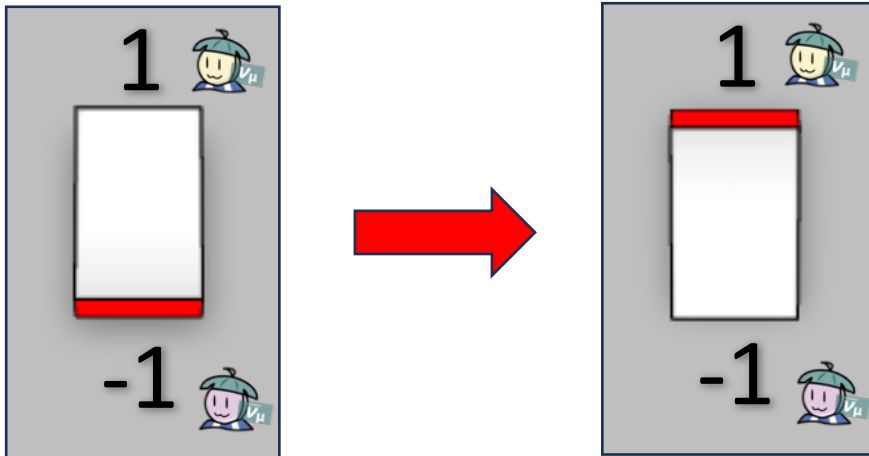
Where each neutrino flavour contributes to the decay width.

From this, the results from LEP determined to the number of light, active neutrino species to be:  $N_\nu = 2.984 \pm 0.008$

This was achieved before the DONUT collaboration discovered the tau neutrino,  $\nu_\tau$ , in July 2000, completing the picture of the three flavours of leptons after finding  $\tau$  in the '70s.

With this, our standard model is complete! (Apart from the Higgs boson in 2012 which obviously no-one cares about)

## Charge (C) Conjugation



Invert all 'charge' quantum numbers:

- Colour
- Electric Charge
- Weak Isospin
- Isospin
- Baryon Number
- Lepton Number

Changes a particle for an antiparticle.

The standard model is constructed from discrete symmetries.

Invert all spatial properties. Flips signs of parity-odd variables:

- Momentum
- Helicity (momentum and spin alignment)

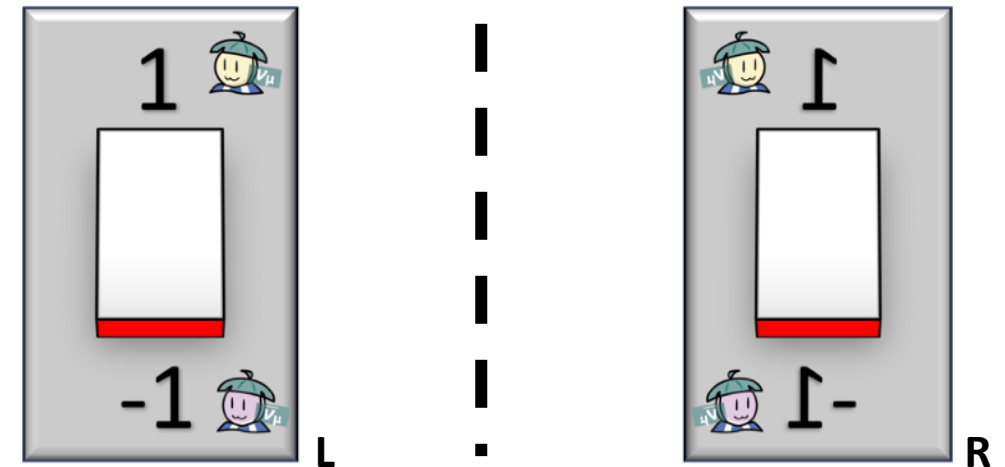
Does not change parity-even properties:

- Spin

Changes 'handedness' of particles!

Particles should act the same in a 'mirror world'.

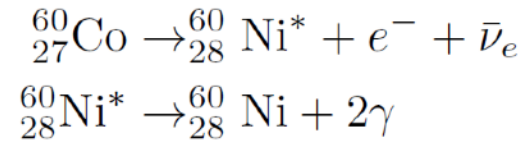
*\*cough\** if they are not chiral *\*cough\**



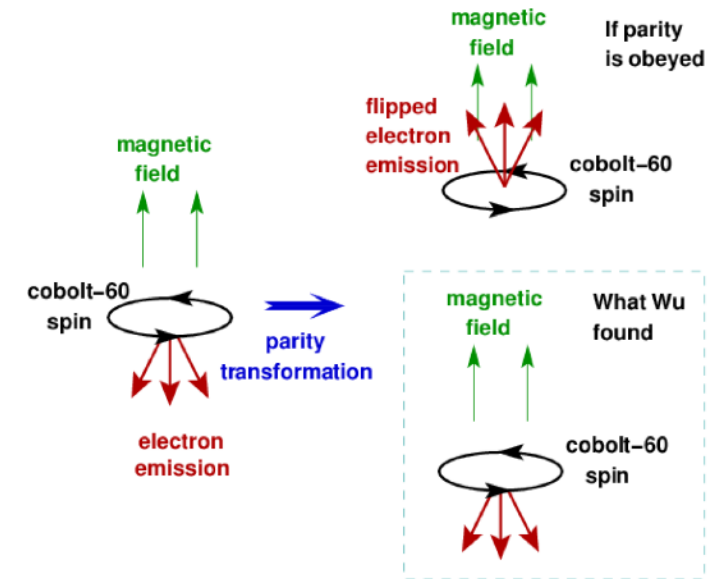
Parity (P) Transformation



Parity-conservation was verified in electromagnetic and strong interactions. C.S. Wu checked this was correct for Weak interactions and in 1957 found that it simply wasn't.



- Apply magnetic field
- Cool apparatus to 0.01 K
- High proportion of  ${}^{60}\text{Co}$  spins are aligned with the magnetic field
- Examine distribution of emitted electrons and photons.



Parity was violated, apparently maximally. This understandably traumatised many physicists. On the plus side, we now had a formal definition of left and right if we were to meet aliens.

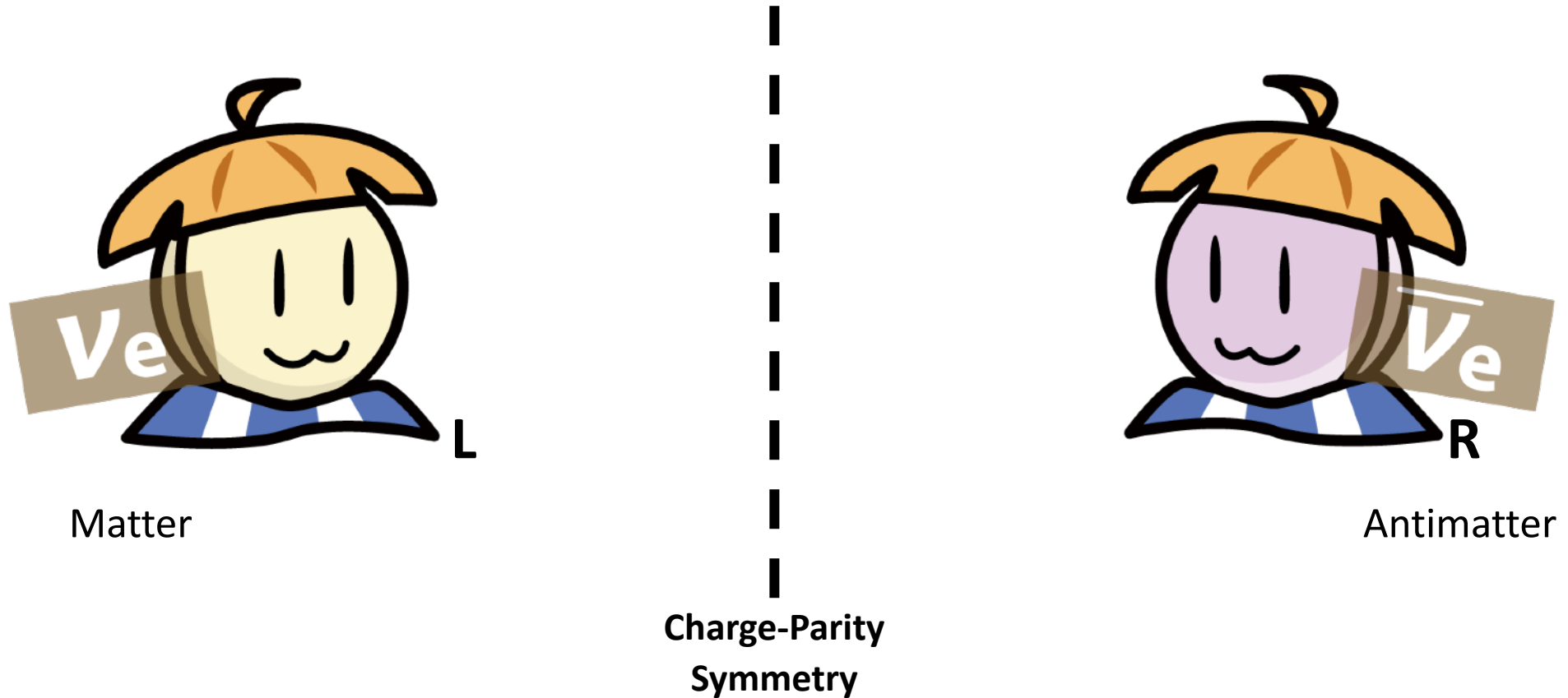
Lee and Yangs' contributions to the theory of Parity violation were rewarded with a Nobel prize in that same year. Though Wu's role was mentioned, she unfortunately wasn't officially honoured until 1978 with the Wolf Prize.

"Although I did not do research just for the prize, it still hurts me a lot that my work was overlooked for certain reasons."



The charged weak bosons only couple to left-handed particles, and right-handed antiparticles. As neutrinos can only interact weakly, only left-handed neutrinos and right-handed antineutrinos exist, but their opposite chiral partners do not (in the standard model). This also means that Charge symmetry (C) is broken.

Therefore, the combination of both, Charge-Parity (CP), was thought to be conserved:



# Standard Model of Elementary Particles

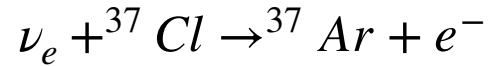
three generations of matter (elementary fermions)						three generations of antimatter (elementary antifermions)			interactions / force carriers (elementary bosons)	
	I	II	III	I	II	III				
mass	$\approx 2.2 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 1.28 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	$\approx 173.1 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	$\approx 2.2 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 1.28 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	$\approx 173.1 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	0		$\approx 124.97 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	
charge	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	$-\frac{2}{3}$	$-\frac{2}{3}$	$-\frac{2}{3}$	0		0	
spin	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1		0	
QUARKS	<div><div>u</div><div>up</div></div>	<div><div>c</div><div>charm</div></div>	<div><div>t</div><div>top</div></div>	<div><div><math>\bar{u}</math></div><div>antiup</div></div>	<div><div><math>\bar{c}</math></div><div>anticharm</div></div>	<div><div><math>\bar{t}</math></div><div>antitop</div></div>	<div><div>g</div><div>gluon</div></div>		<div><div>H</div><div>higgs</div></div>	
	<div><div>d</div><div>down</div></div>	<div><div>s</div><div>strange</div></div>	<div><div>b</div><div>bottom</div></div>	<div><div><math>\bar{d}</math></div><div>antidown</div></div>	<div><div><math>\bar{s}</math></div><div>antistrange</div></div>	<div><div><math>\bar{b}</math></div><div>antibottom</div></div>	<div><div><math>\gamma</math></div><div>photon</div></div>			
	<div><div>e</div><div>electron</div></div>	<div><div><math>\mu</math></div><div>muon</div></div>	<div><div><math>\tau</math></div><div>tau</div></div>	<div><div><math>e^+</math></div><div>positron</div></div>	<div><div><math>\bar{\mu}</math></div><div>antimuon</div></div>	<div><div><math>\bar{\tau}</math></div><div>antitau</div></div>	<div><div>Z</div><div><math>Z^0</math> boson</div></div>			
LEPTONS	<div><div><math>\nu_e</math></div><div>electron neutrino</div></div>	<div><div><math>\nu_\mu</math></div><div>muon neutrino</div></div>	<div><div><math>\nu_\tau</math></div><div>tau neutrino</div></div>	<div><div><math>\bar{\nu}_e</math></div><div>electron antineutrino</div></div>	<div><div><math>\bar{\nu}_\mu</math></div><div>muon antineutrino</div></div>	<div><div><math>\bar{\nu}_\tau</math></div><div>tau antineutrino</div></div>	<div><div><math>W^+</math></div><div><math>W^+</math> boson</div></div>		<div><div><math>W^-</math></div><div><math>W^-</math> boson</div></div>	

With this revelation of broken symmetries, the unified electroweak theory is fully within the standard model. So all is well! Neutrinos are massless\*,

neutral, spin- $\frac{1}{2}$ , chiral elementary fermions. Unless....

# Solar neutrino problem

In the late 1960s Raymond Davis Jr., a chemist by trade, knew that electron neutrinos interacting with chlorine would produce a radioactive isotope of argon:

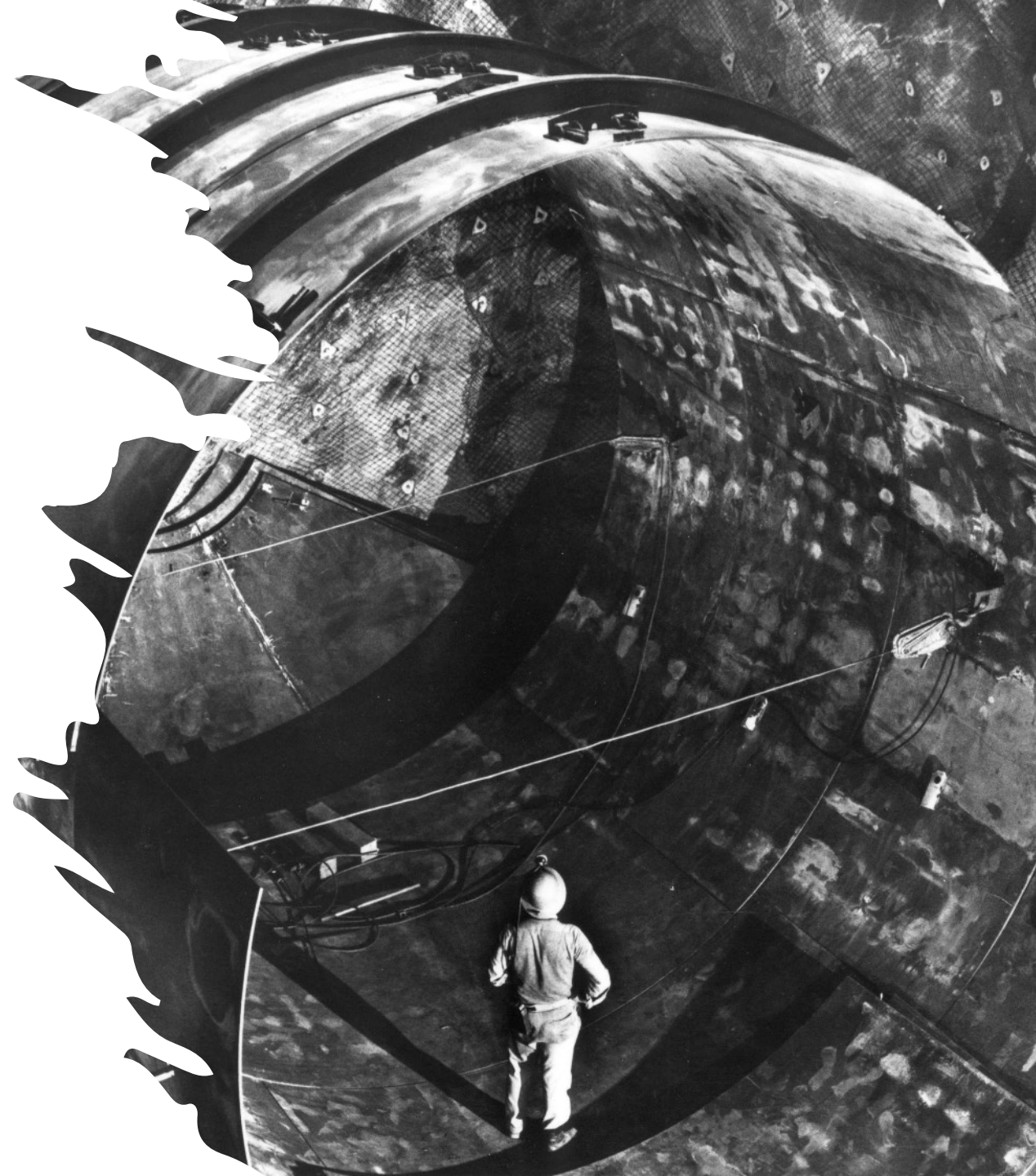


The idea was to fill a 380 cubic meter tank with perchloroethylene (dry-cleaning fluid), place it 1,478 meters underground to shield from cosmic rays, and count solar neutrinos (produced by fusion chains) by extracting and counting the resulting argon.

With a week's operation, the experiment could expect to create 10 atoms of argon, compared to the  $9 \times 10^{30}$  chlorine atoms present in the tank.

However Davis did not find the expected 10 atoms, but instead 3. Many thought this to be experimental error, or an inaccurate prediction, but many later experiments confirmed this result.

This came to be known as the 'solar neutrino problem'.



# Atmospheric neutrino problem

Atmospheric neutrinos are typically produced about 15 kilometres above the Earth's surface. When a cosmic ray (usually a proton) interacts with an atomic nucleus in the atmosphere, it forms a cascade of particles:

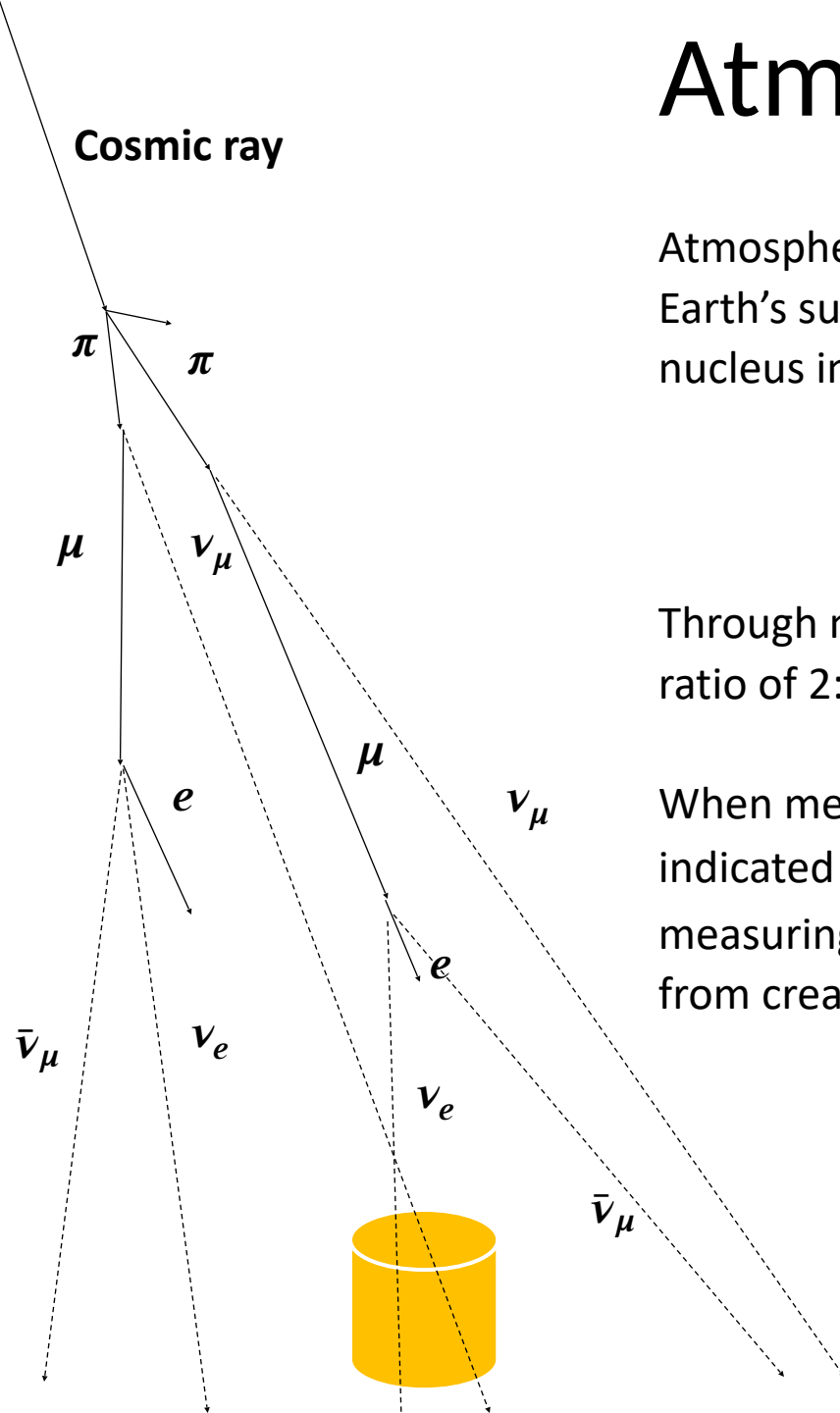
$$\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ + \nu_\mu$$

$$\mu^+ \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_\mu + e^+ + \nu_e$$

Through many decays of the unstable products, neutrinos are produced with a ratio of 2:1 of muon: electron flavour.

When measured, this ratio was different to the prediction. Many experiments indicated a disappearance of  $\nu_\mu$  and an appearance of  $\nu_e$ , but only when measuring neutrinos coming up through the earth (longer distance travelled from creation)

Something was clearly going on.





# A possible solution?

Inspired by Kaon oscillations proposed by Gell-Mann and Pais, Bruno Pontecorvo proposed a possibility that another neutral particle, neutrinos, might oscillate between two states.

The proposals he made were:

- $\nu_L \leftrightarrow \nu_R$
- $\nu_L \leftrightarrow \bar{\nu}_L$  and  $\nu_R \leftrightarrow \bar{\nu}_R$

and more importantly:

- $\nu_e \leftrightarrow \nu_\mu$ , allowing a neutrino to violate lepton flavour conservation, changing between the two lepton flavours known at the time.

The change between these flavours is called oscillation, after the sinusoidal probability change over distance. This change can only occur if neutrinos had mass and arises because of difference between their definite mass and definite flavour.



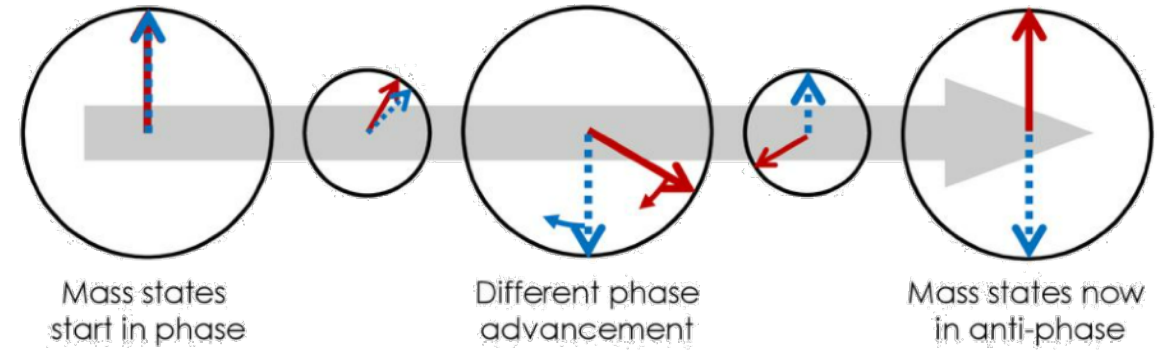
Warning,  
maths  
incoming.

These proposals can all be found in:  
Soviet Physics JETP. 26.984-988.

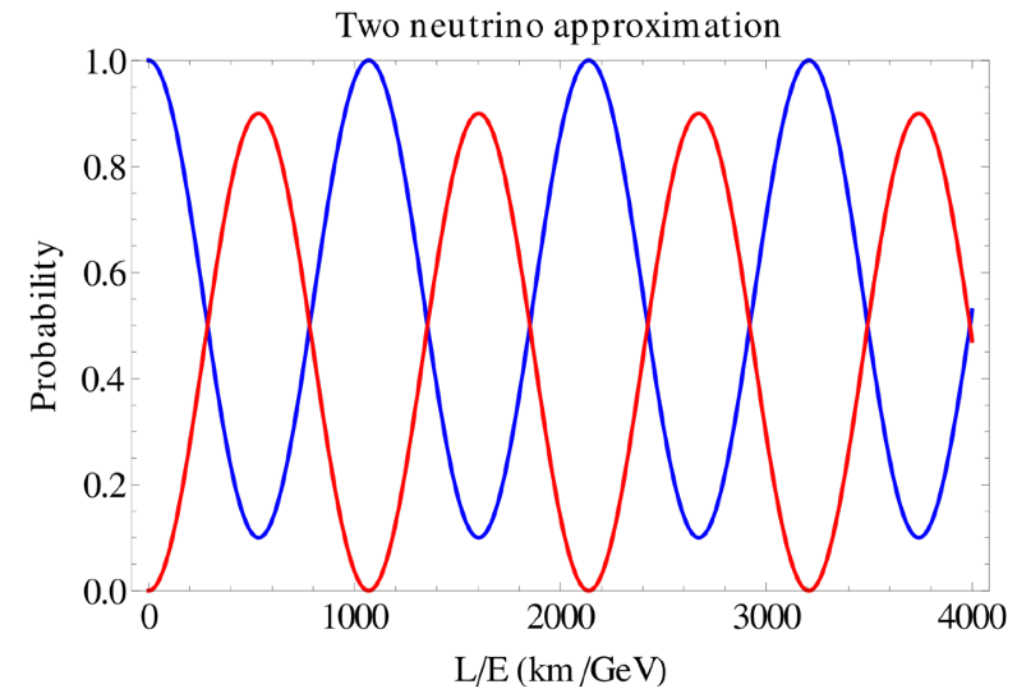


If we start off in a two flavour world, this rotation matrix becomes familiar;

$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ \nu_\mu \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \end{pmatrix}$$



As the mass states propagate, they become out of phase. When they interact at a later time (in their flavour state), the probability of the neutrino being a certain flavour state has changed



If we start off in a two flavour world, this rotation matrix becomes familiar;



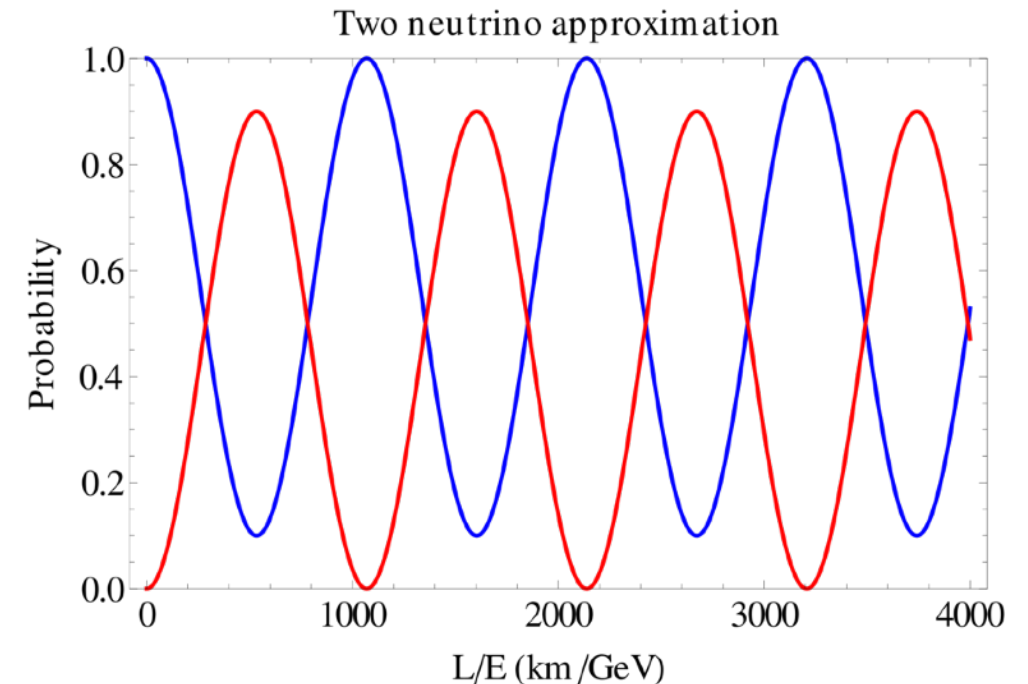
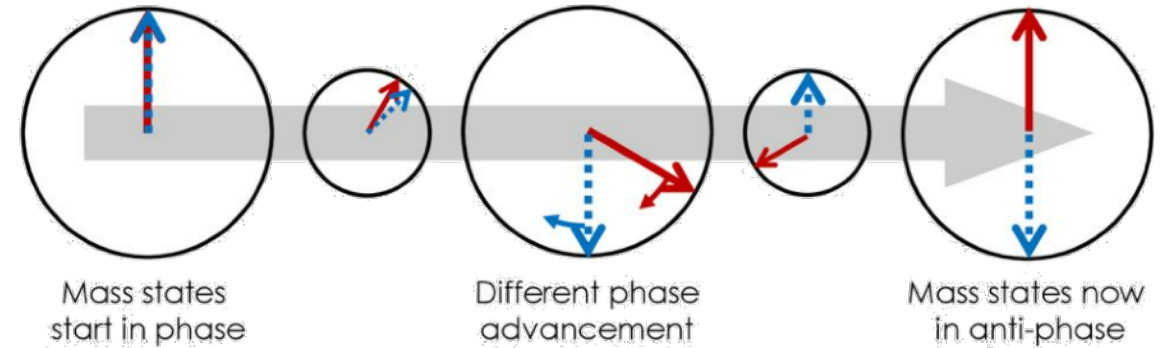
$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ \nu_\mu \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

The survival probability of a flavour can be derived to be;

$$\begin{aligned} P(\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_e) &= 1 - \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2 \left[ \frac{(m_2^2 - m_1^2)x}{2E} \right] \\ &= 1 - \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2 \left[ \frac{1.27 \Delta m^2 L}{E} \right] \end{aligned}$$

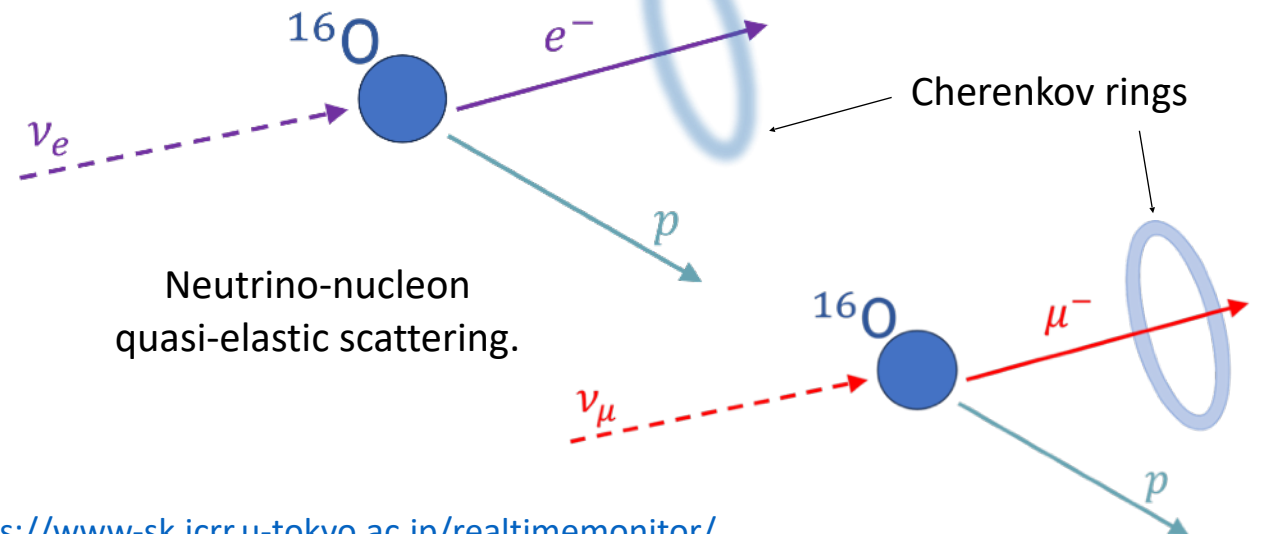
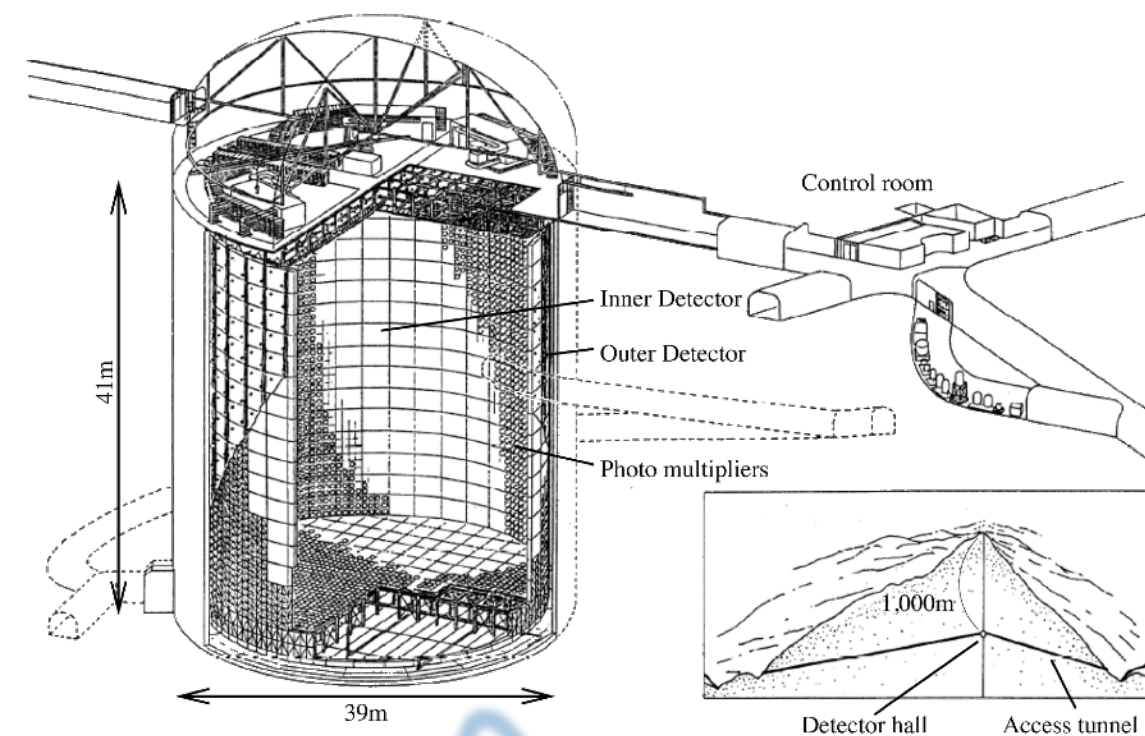
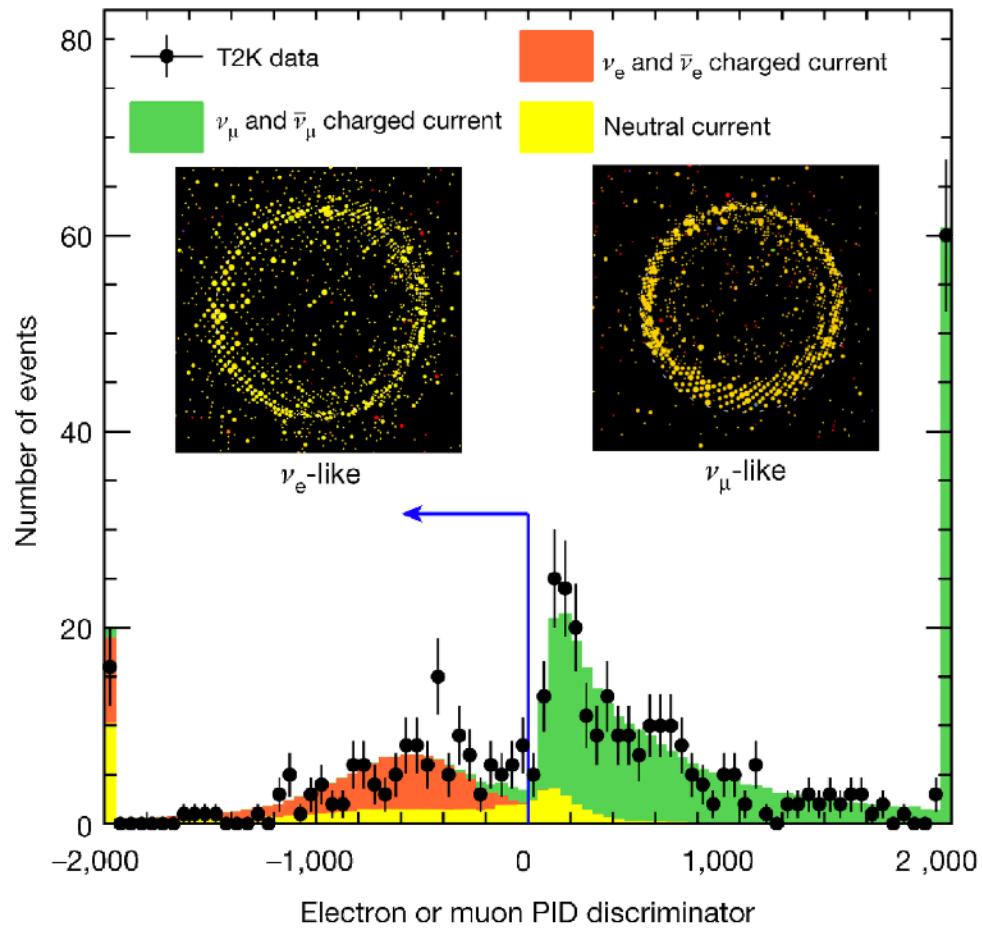
From here we can see a couple of things;

- If the mass difference is 0, no oscillations can occur.
- Theta, named the mixing angle, defines how different the flavour states are from mass states. This determines amplitude of oscillation and is maximal at  $\frac{\pi}{4}$ .
- There are two free parameters that are either set for us by nature, or we can freely control;
  - ❖ Length, L, is the distance a neutrino will propagate.
  - ❖ Energy, E, is the energy of that neutrino.



# Super-size that Kamiokande

- 50 kton water Cherenkov detector.
- ~11,000 20" PMTs
- Super-K is located 1,000 m (3,300 ft) underground in the Mozumi Mine in Hida's Kamioka area, Japan.



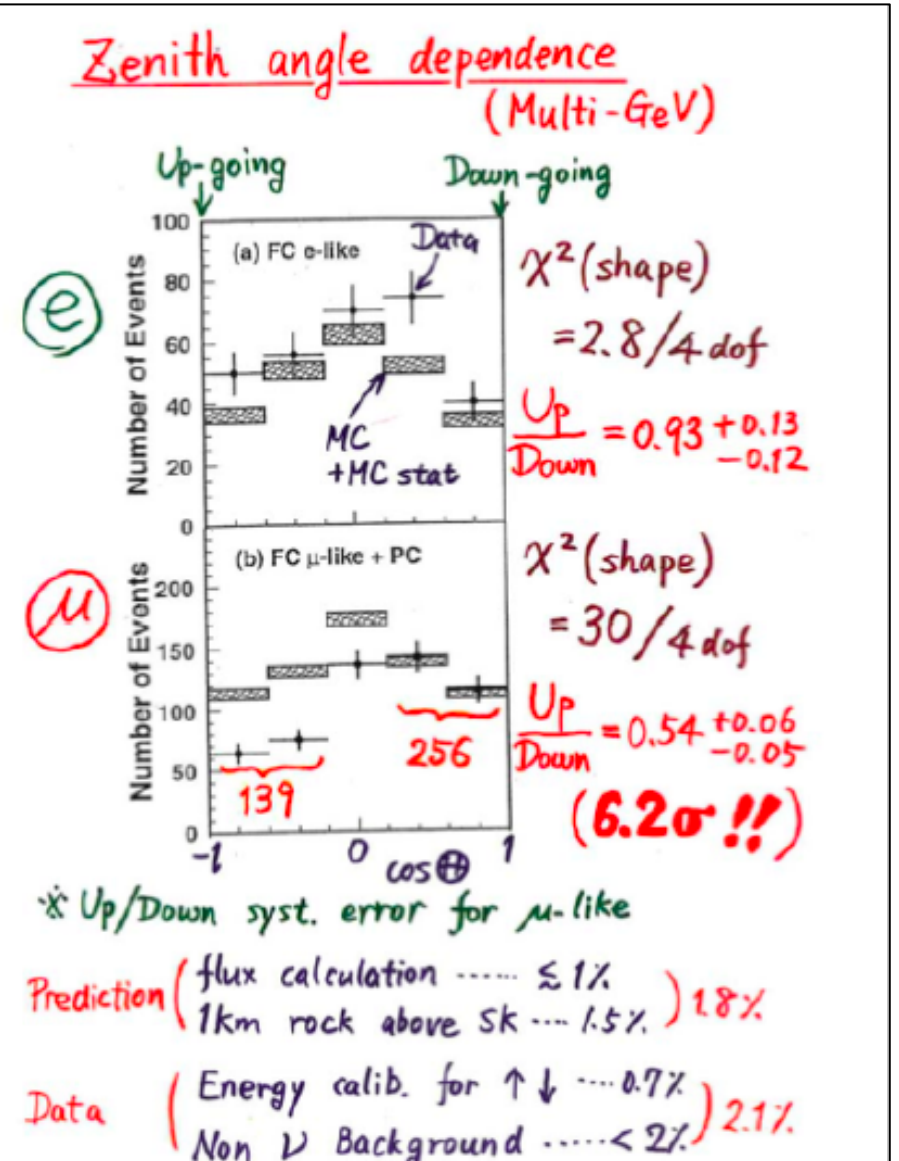
<https://www-sk.icrr.u-tokyo.ac.jp/realtime-monitor/>

Disclaimer: Almost all events are cosmic ray muon events.



# A complete confirmation

In 1998, the Super-Kamiokande water Cherenkov detector achieved the first measurement of atmospheric neutrino flavour disappearance, with the energy dependent pattern expected of oscillation phenomena.



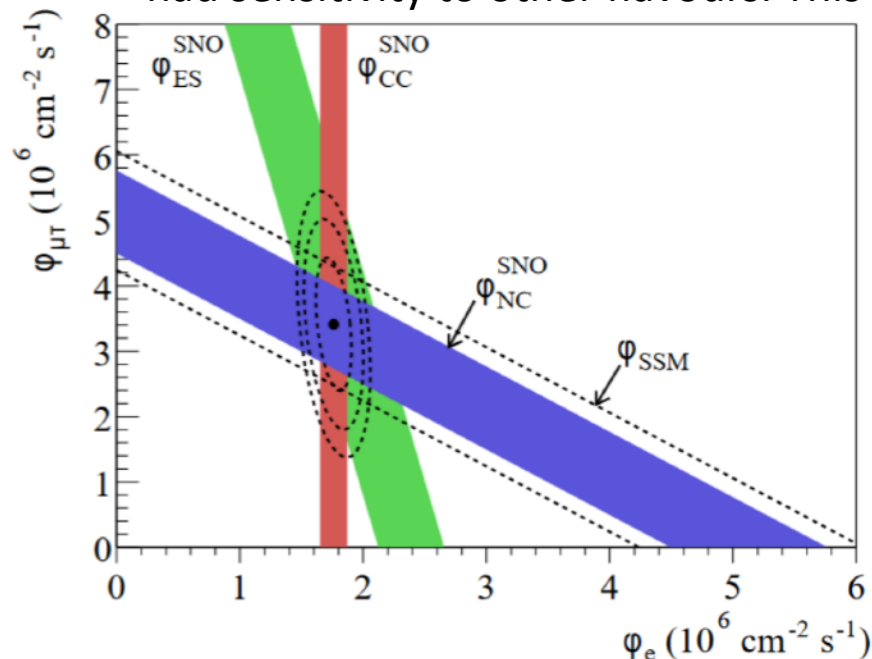
On the right is shown the dependence on zenith angle (i.e. the angle the neutrino entered the detector from, with from below being  $\cos\theta = -1$  and above  $\cos\theta = 1$ ) and therefore the distance travelled by the neutrino (from atmosphere above or through Earth as well).



# SNO place like home.

In 2002 the Sudbury Neutrino Observatory, a kiloton heavy water Cherenkov detector announced that it had measured solar neutrinos using three different interaction channels.

- The first, a charged current interaction, was sensitive to only  $\nu_e$ . This saw the deficit Davis had at the Homestake experiment.
- The second, a neutral current interaction, was sensitive to all  $\nu$ . This saw neutrino flux matching that predicted by the solar model.
- The third, an Elastic Scattering interaction, primarily sensitive to  $\nu_e$  but had sensitivity to other flavours. This mostly gave directional info.

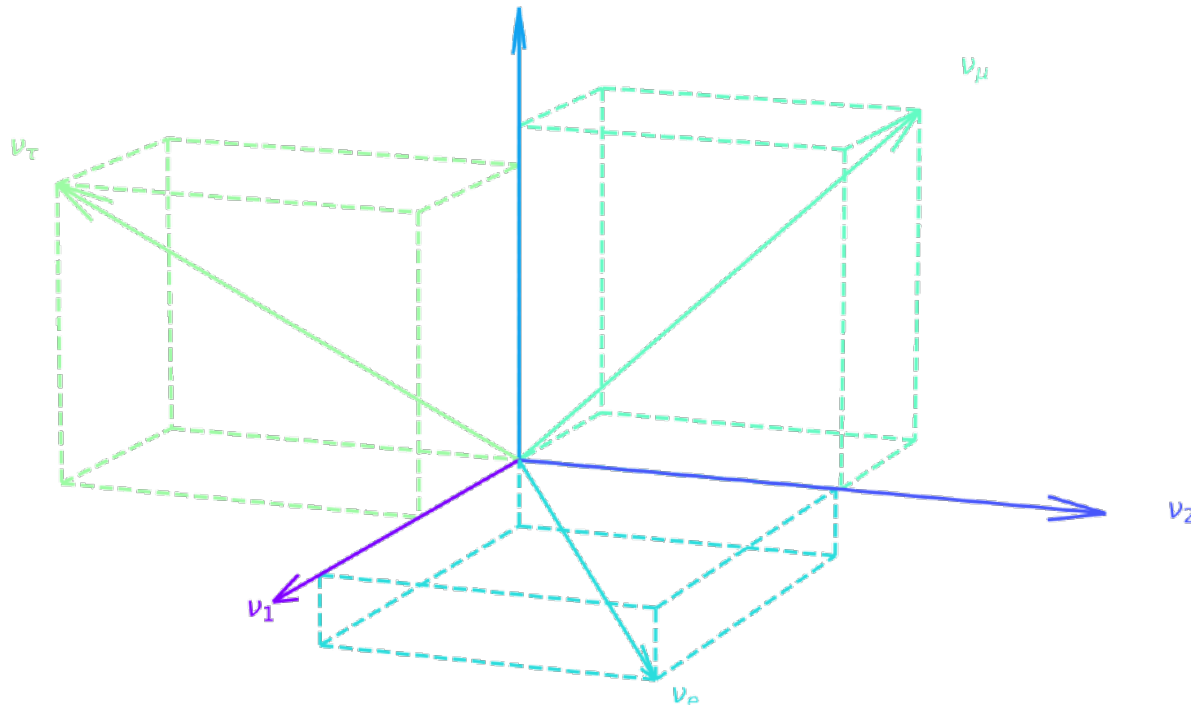


With these detections, the community was sure that neutrino flavour oscillations were occurring! However this realisation came with a troubling conclusion. **Neutrinos had mass.**

With 3 flavour oscillations, which we now need to consider, things get more complex (no pun intended) but remain familiar.

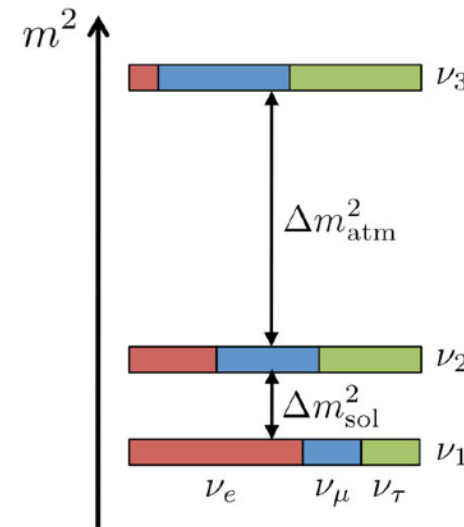
Rotate from flavour to mass states:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ \nu_\mu \\ \nu_\tau \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} U_{e1} & U_{e2} & U_{e3} \\ U_{\mu1} & U_{\mu2} & U_{\mu3} \\ U_{\tau1} & U_{\tau2} & U_{\tau3} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \\ \nu_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

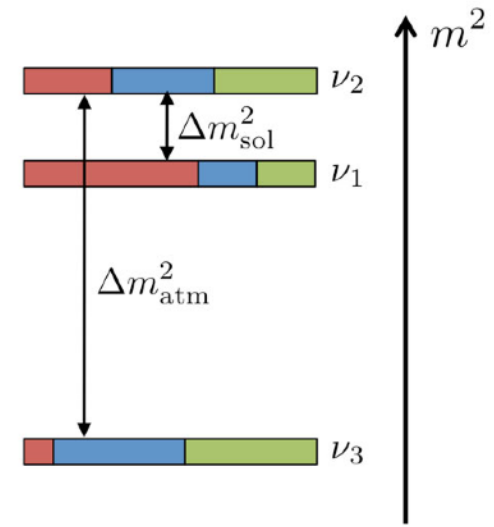


Now we have three states, we aren't sure what order they are in.

**normal hierarchy (NH)**

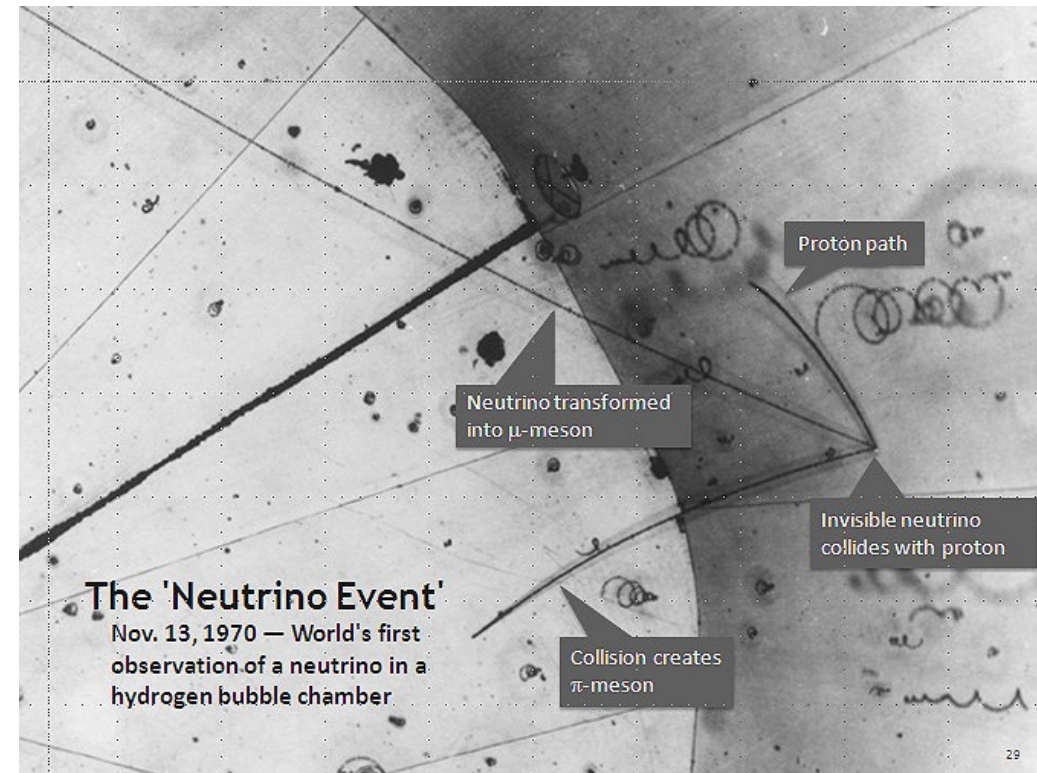
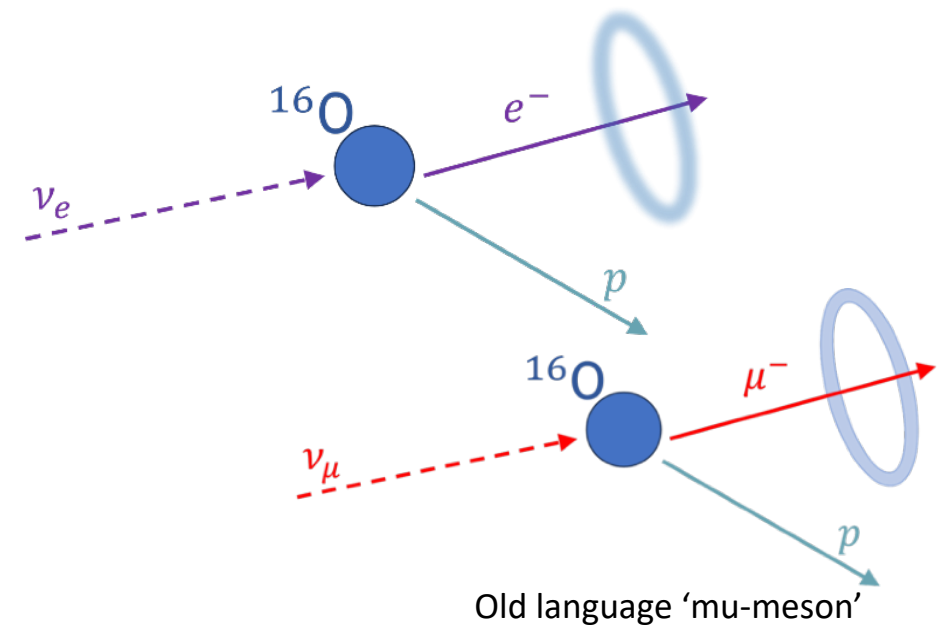


**inverted hierarchy (IH)**





- A neutrino has no charge so is invisible to electric and magnetic fields in a detector.
- In most circumstances we measure neutrino interactions through neutrino-nucleon quasi-elastic scattering.
- Lepton flavour is preserved during neutrino interaction, with a charged lepton of the same generation produced.
- Neutrinos interact rarely (low cross-section for interaction) meaning you very rarely see events.
- Electron, muon, tau leptons have different signatures in detectors.
- $\tau$  are suppressed due to the high energy threshold to produce (rest mass of  $\sim 1.777$  GeV), and decay very quickly.
- Signals get messy at higher energies as more pions start being produced during nucleon scatter.





T2K (Tokai to Kamioka) is a long-baseline neutrino experiment that utilises multiple detectors in the goal of measuring the properties of neutrinos and their oscillations. This is a ‘precision era’ of neutrino physics.

## Super-K

- Off-axis water-based Cherenkov far detector.
- Topology based PID.
- CCQE dominant interactions.

## Super-Kamiokande

## Near Detectors

## J-PARC

Mt. Ikeno-Yama  
1,360 m

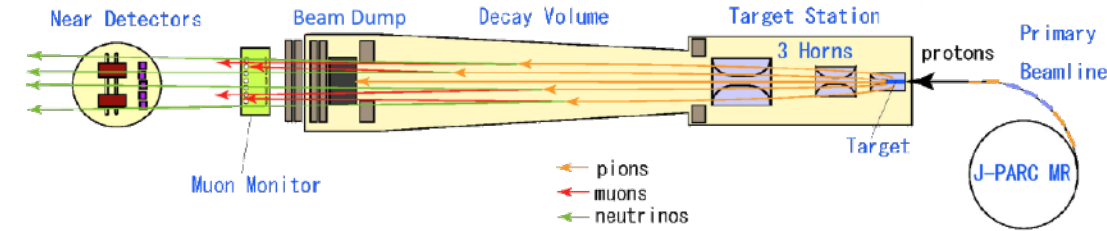
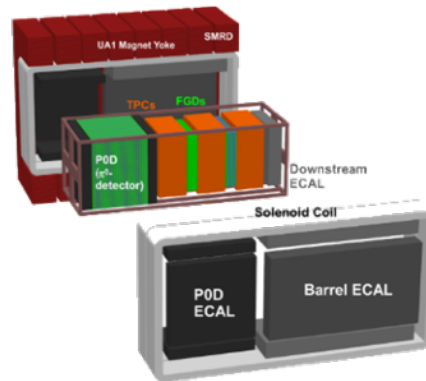
1,700 m below sea level

Neutrino Beam

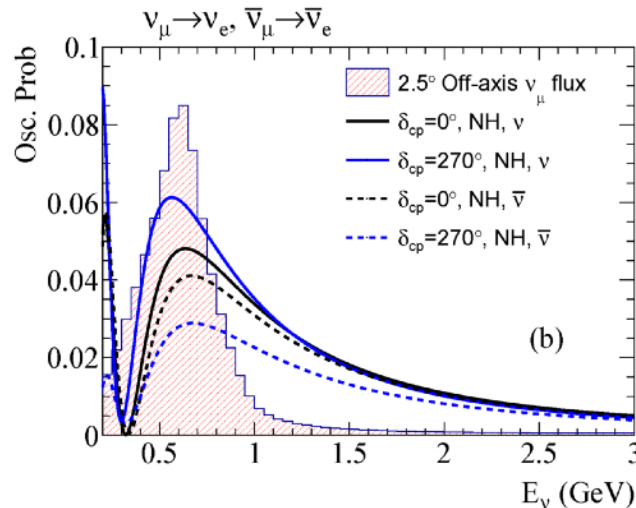
295 km

## ND280

## J-PARC

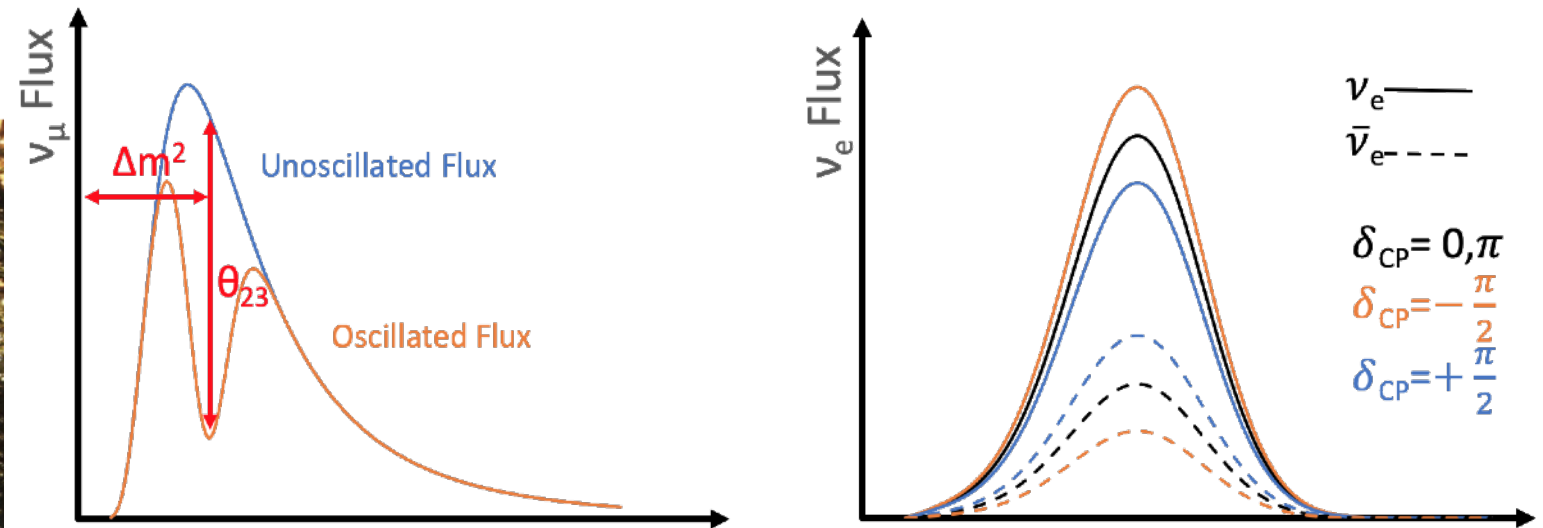


Cherenkov rings detected at SK. (a) is a muon event, (b) is an electron event.



- Magnetised composite near detector.
- Off-axis (replicates SK energy spectra).
- Constrains flux and cross-section uncertainties.

- ‘Off axis’ beam tuned to 0.6 GeV for oscillation max at SK.
- Produces pure  $\nu_\mu/\bar{\nu}_\mu$  flux (mostly...)
- Able to be run in  $\nu$  or  $\bar{\nu}$  mode.



CP violation would mean:  $P(\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta) \neq P(\bar{\nu}_\alpha \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_\beta)$

The magnitude of CP effect is given by the Jarlskog Invariant:

$$J_{CP}^{PMNS} = \frac{1}{8} \sin 2\theta_{12} \sin 2\theta_{13} \sin 2\theta_{23} \cos \theta_{13} \sin \delta_{CP}$$

$$J_{CP}^{PMNS} = 0.035 \sin \delta_{CP}$$

$$J_{CP}^{CKM} \approx (3 \pm 1) \times 10^{-5}$$

Indications that the value of  $\delta_{CP}$  is near maximal, and thus leptonic CP violation is large. This could explain the matter-antimatter asymmetry!



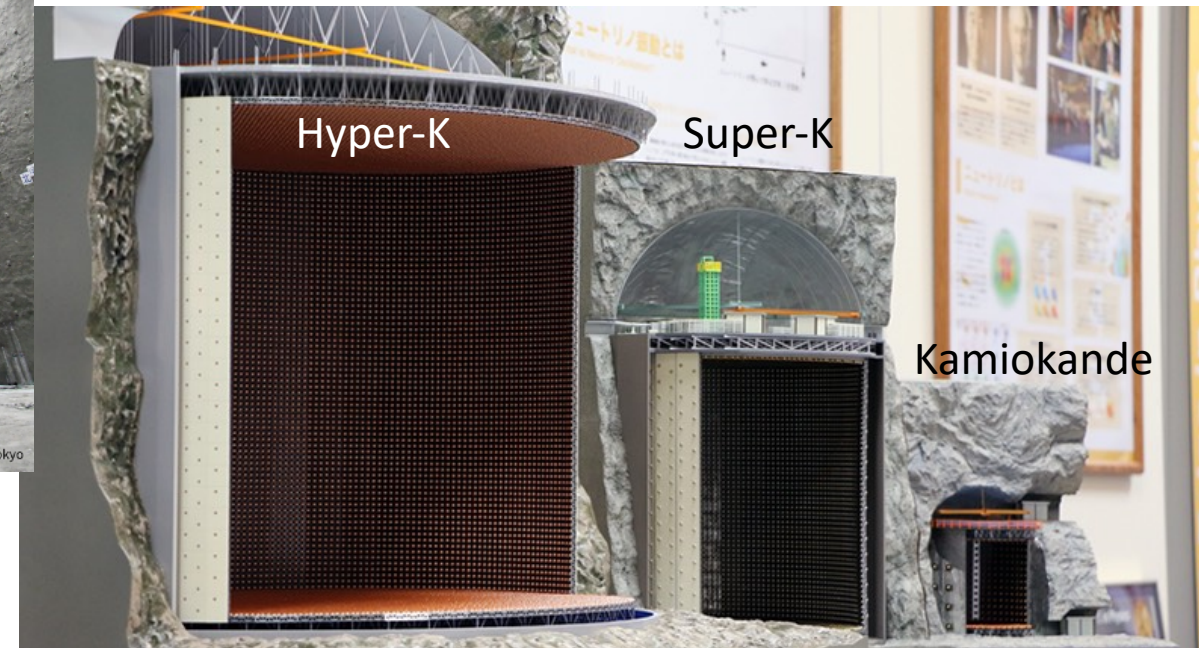
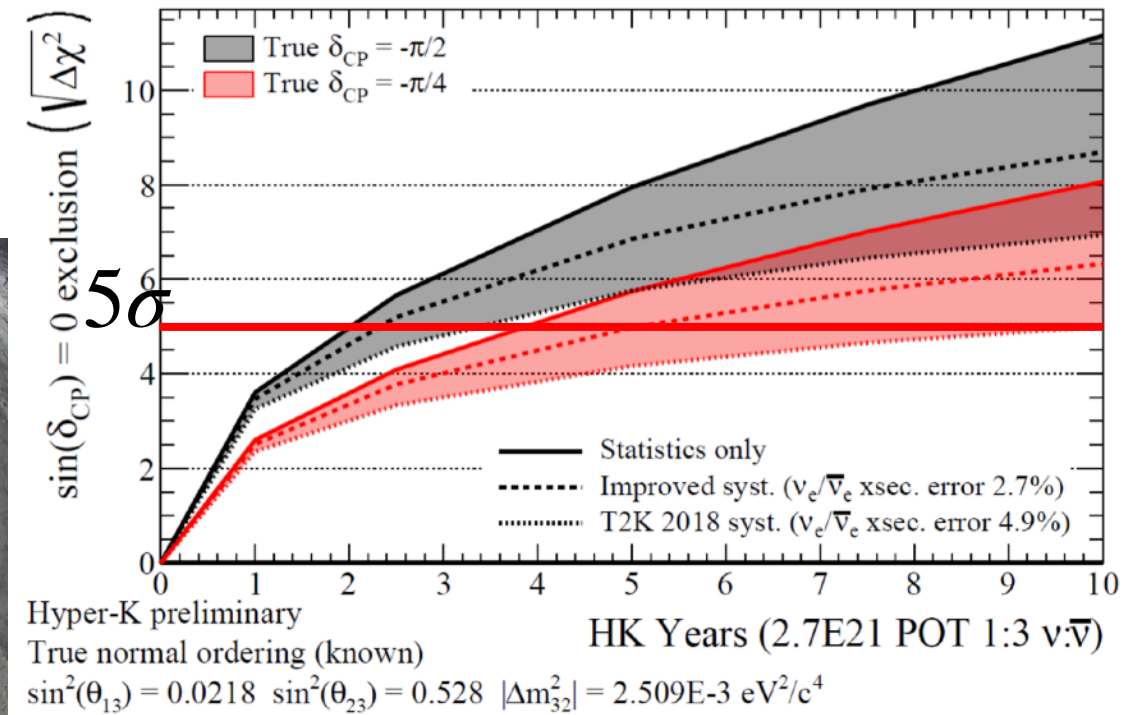


# Hyper-Kamiokande

256 kt water Cherenkov detector being built in Japan  
72m tall, 68m diameter  
Similar principle as Super-K, but 8.3x bigger

Can rule out CP symmetry to  $5\sigma$  (99.99994267 % certainty) in  $\sim 3$  years (if maximal)

Cavern has just finished excavation, and construction is now beginning. Due to start taking data in 2028





# DUNE

1300 km baseline experiment between Fermilab (Illinois) and SURF (South Dakota), which gives it high sensitivity to matter effects

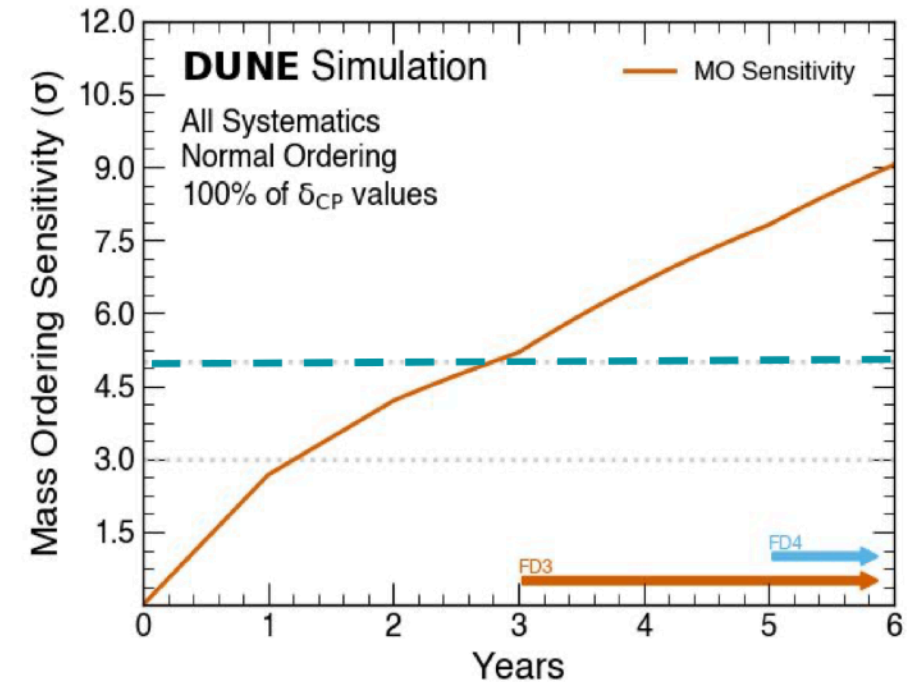
Far detector will use 4 liquid argon TPCs (40 kt active volume)

Projected to resolve mass ordering to  $5\sigma$  in 3 years

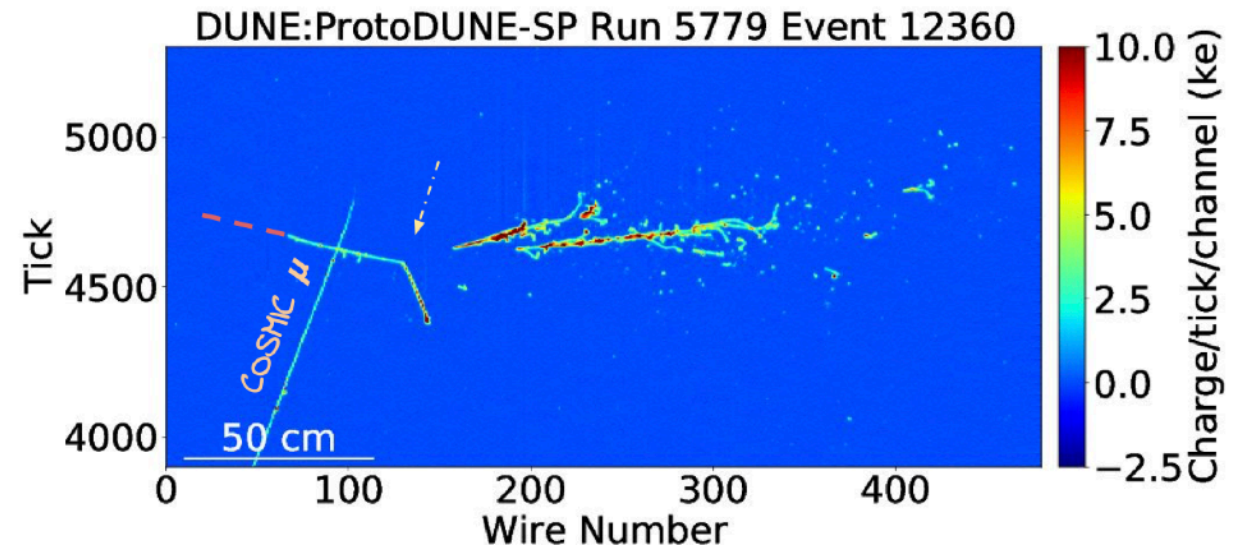
ProtoDUNE (detector prototypes) housed at CERN neutrino platform

Cavern excavation completed, cryostat installation to commence soon

Targeting first physics data in 2030

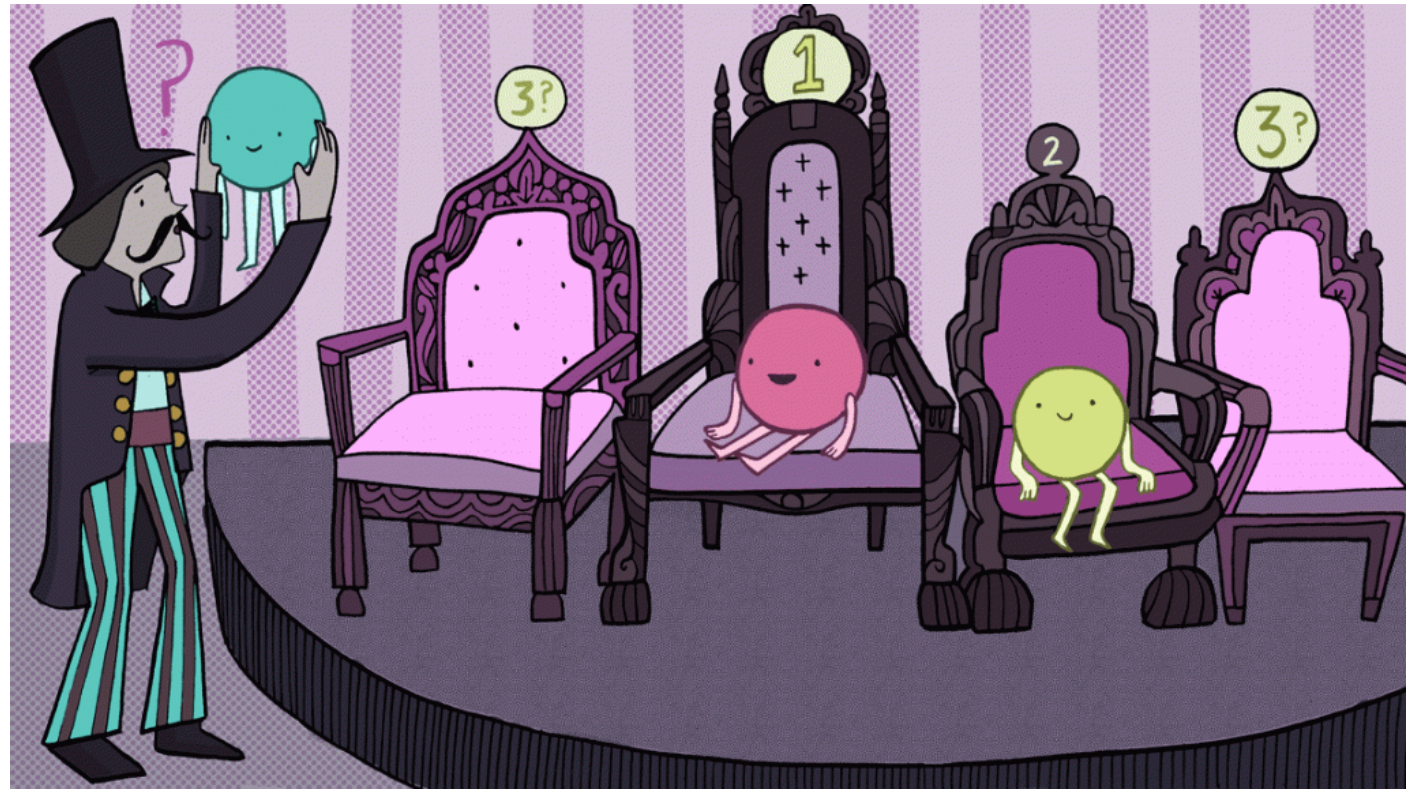


## 1<sup>st</sup> ProtoDUNE run - Beam Event Example



# Other open questions

- Neutrinos have mass, where does this come from? (Neutrinoless double beta decay)
- Are neutrinos Majorana particles?
- Which order are these masses in? This is called neutrino mass 'hierarchy'. (Matter effects)
- Is there another neutrino which does not interact like the rest? (Short baseline experiments)
  - Anomalies detected, anomalies ruled out.
- Is  $\theta_{23}$  maximal or which side of  $\frac{\pi}{4}$  does it lie.







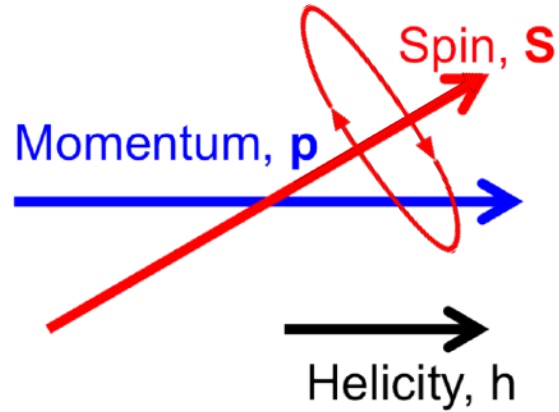
# Questions?

Is it not a strange fate that we should suffer so much fear and doubt for so small a thing?—  
Boromir

**BACKUP**



Helicity is defined as the projection of the spin on to the direction of the particle's momentum.



$$h = \frac{\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{p}}{|\mathbf{p}|}$$

Right helicity = spin aligned with direction of momentum.  $\vec{\sigma} \uparrow\uparrow \vec{p}$

Left helicity = spin anti-aligned with direction of momentum.  $\vec{\sigma} \uparrow\downarrow \vec{p}$

Chirality is a bit more abstract, and is best thought about in terms of transformations (i.e. a reflection of a chiral object is not the same), but in the relativistic limit, helicity and chirality become equivalent.

When a parity operation (flip coordinates) is performed on helicity:

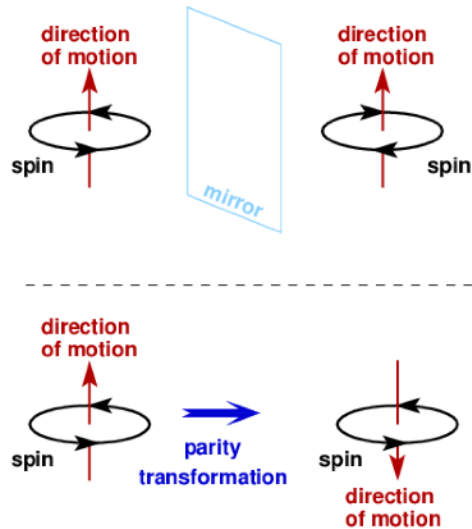
Momentum: Polar vector, changes sign:  $\mathbf{p} \rightarrow -\mathbf{p}$

Spin: Axial vector,  $\boldsymbol{\sigma} \rightarrow \boldsymbol{\sigma}$

Therefore helicity should always change under parity transformation... right?

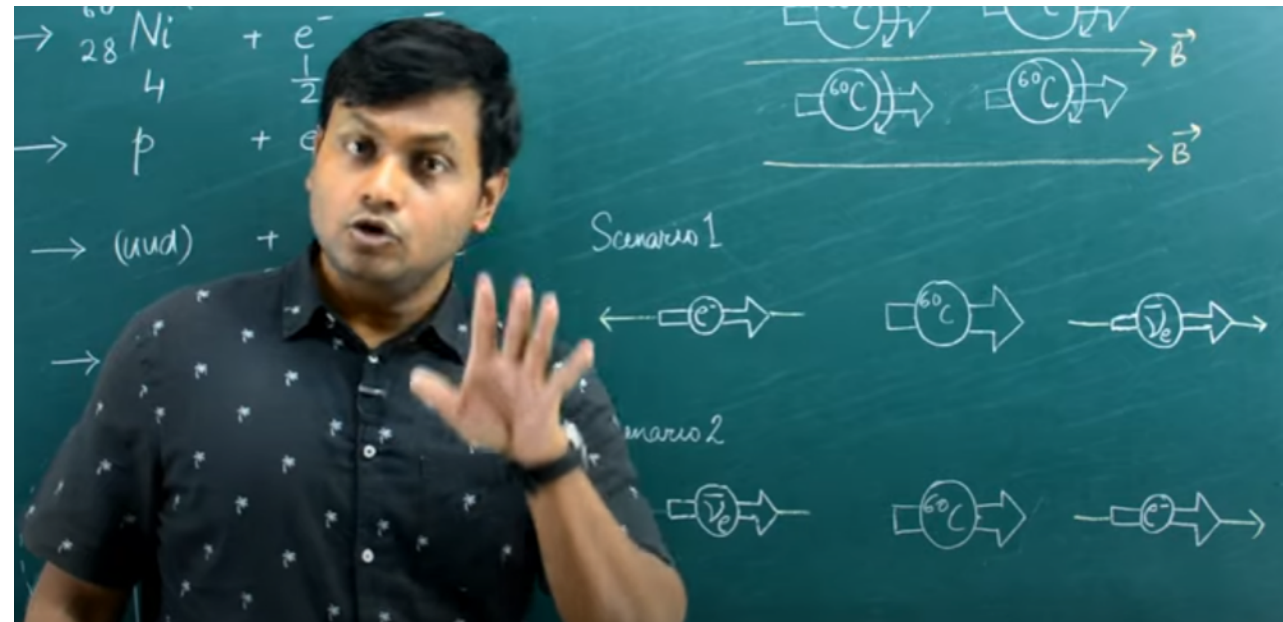
# Time to get interactive

- Curl your hands!
- The direction of axial vector/ pseudo-vector follows a curling right hand.
  - The curl is the rotation (or similar in other examples), and in classical examples is formed of the combination (cross product) of two perpendicular polar (regular) vectors.
  - The thumb is the direction of the vector.

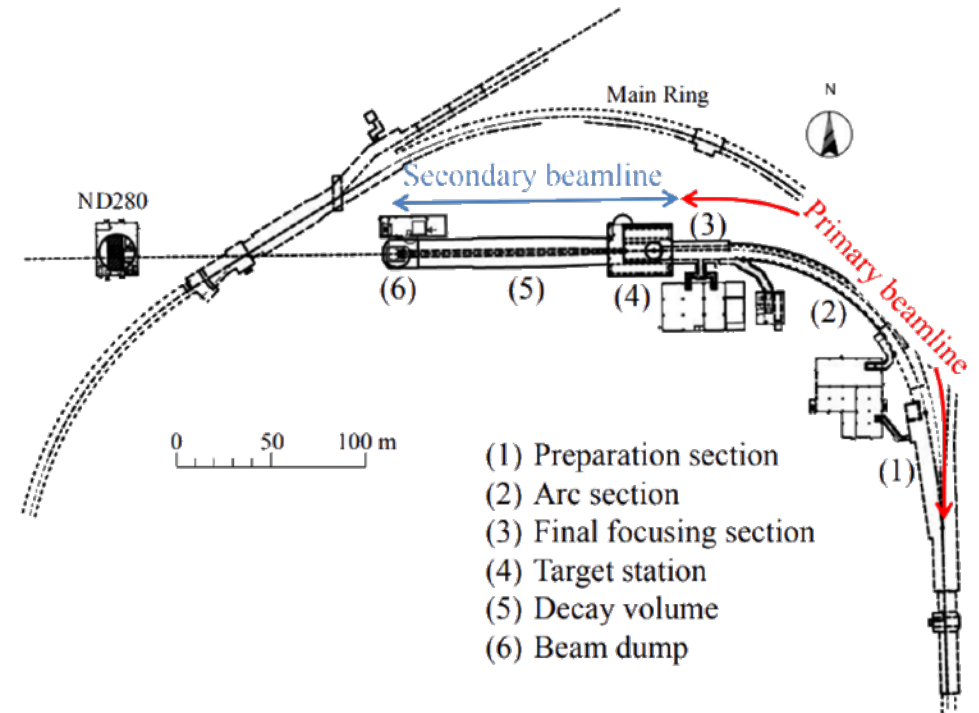
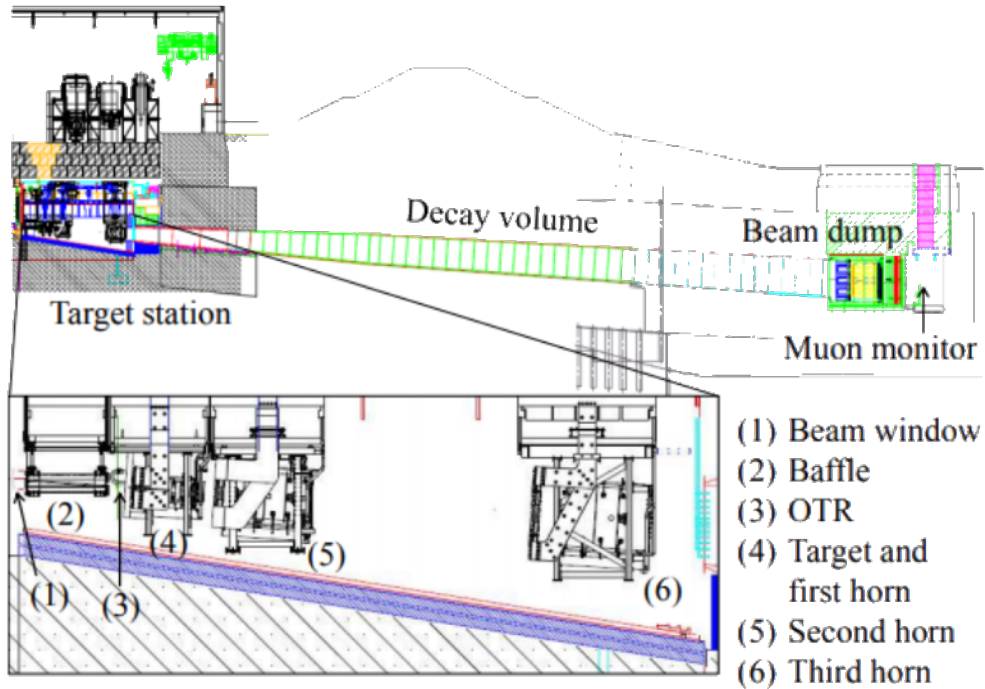


- We can also use this curling hand trick to visualise the 'handedness' of a particle, aligning or unaligning momentum with spin.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v44jEXN4sSY>



# J-PARC beam production facility



Multi-purpose beam production facility (meaning that not all the time is neutrino time ☹)

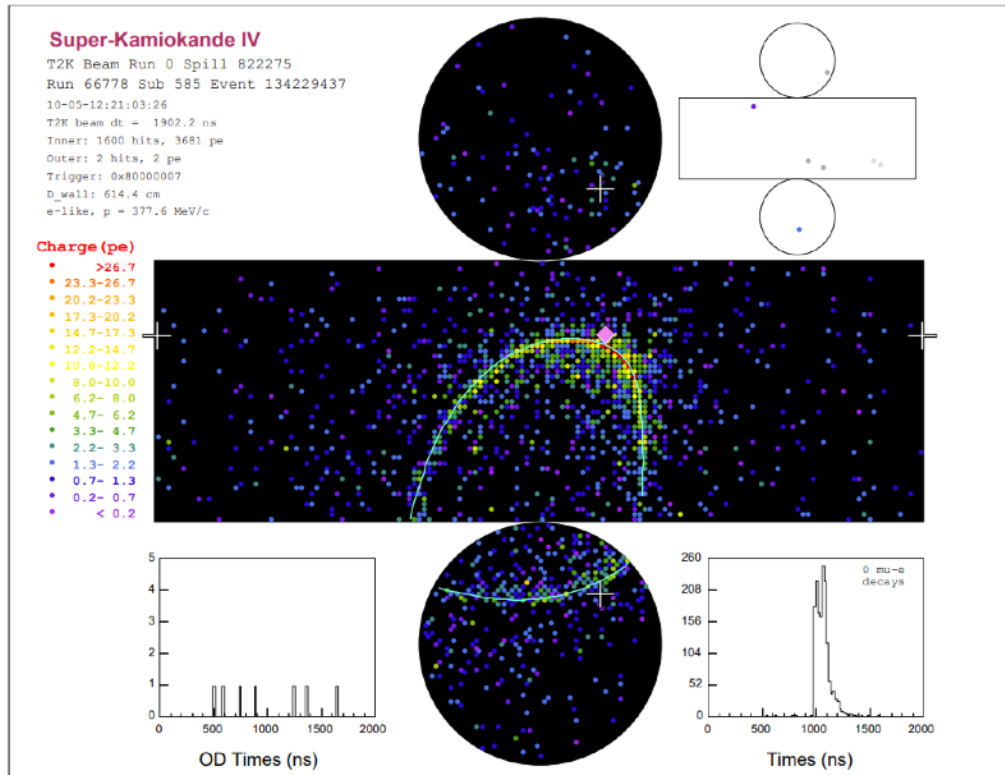
Utilises pion decay to produce almost pure flavour beam.

Able to run in  $\nu$  or  $\bar{\nu}$  mode by selection of pion charge. This is known as Forward or Reverse Horn Current.

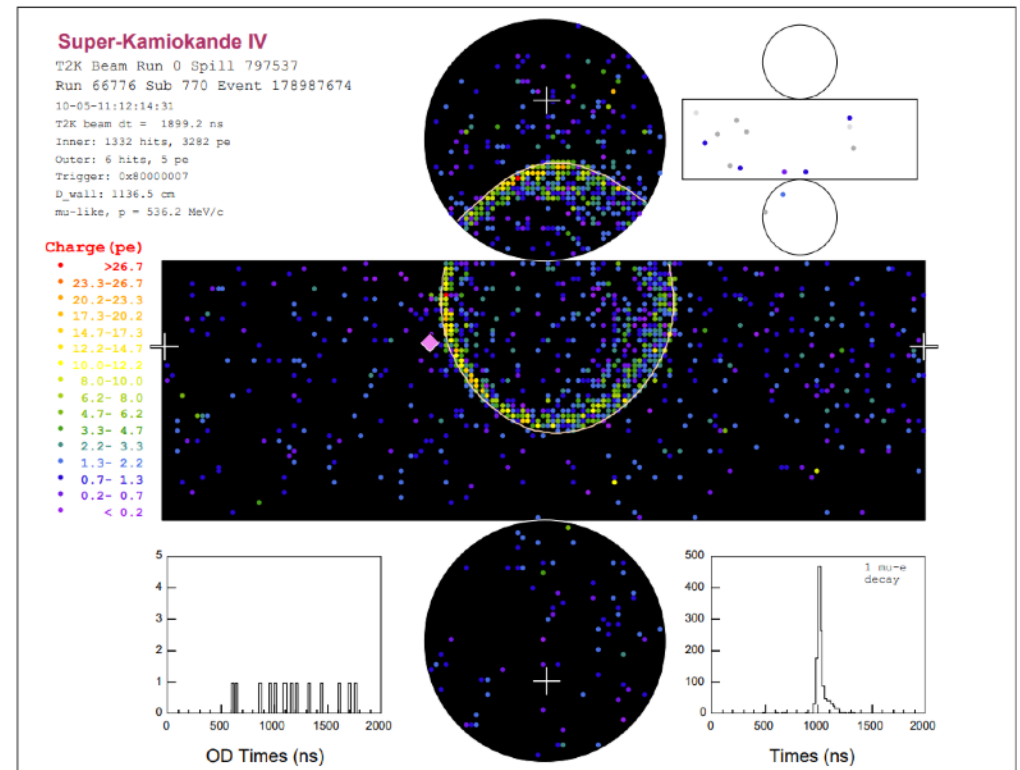
$$\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ + \nu_\mu$$

$$\pi^- \rightarrow \mu^- + \bar{\nu}_\mu$$

# More clear SK displays



An electron neutrino candidate

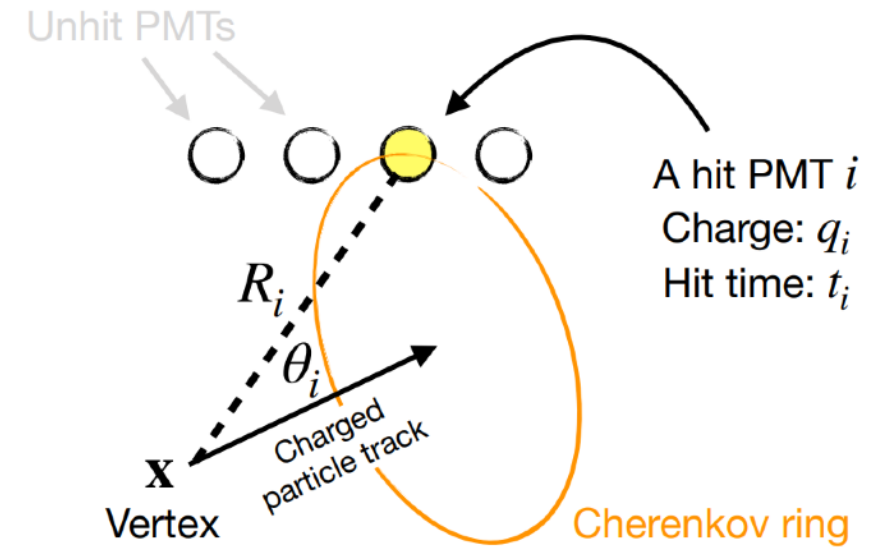
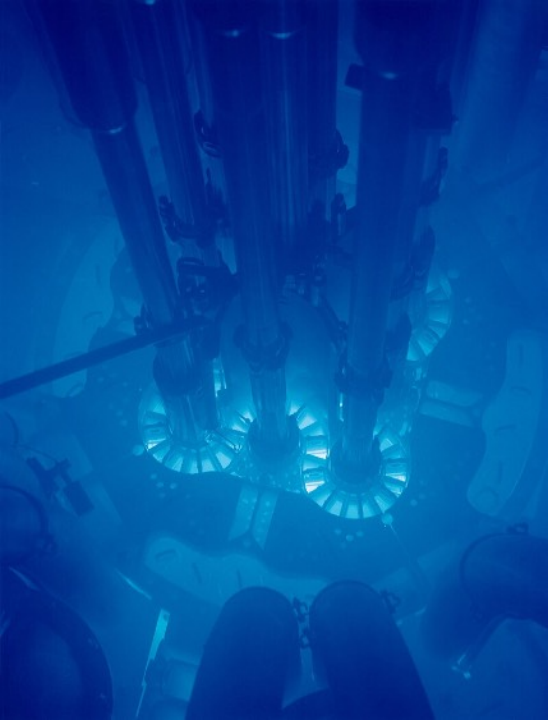


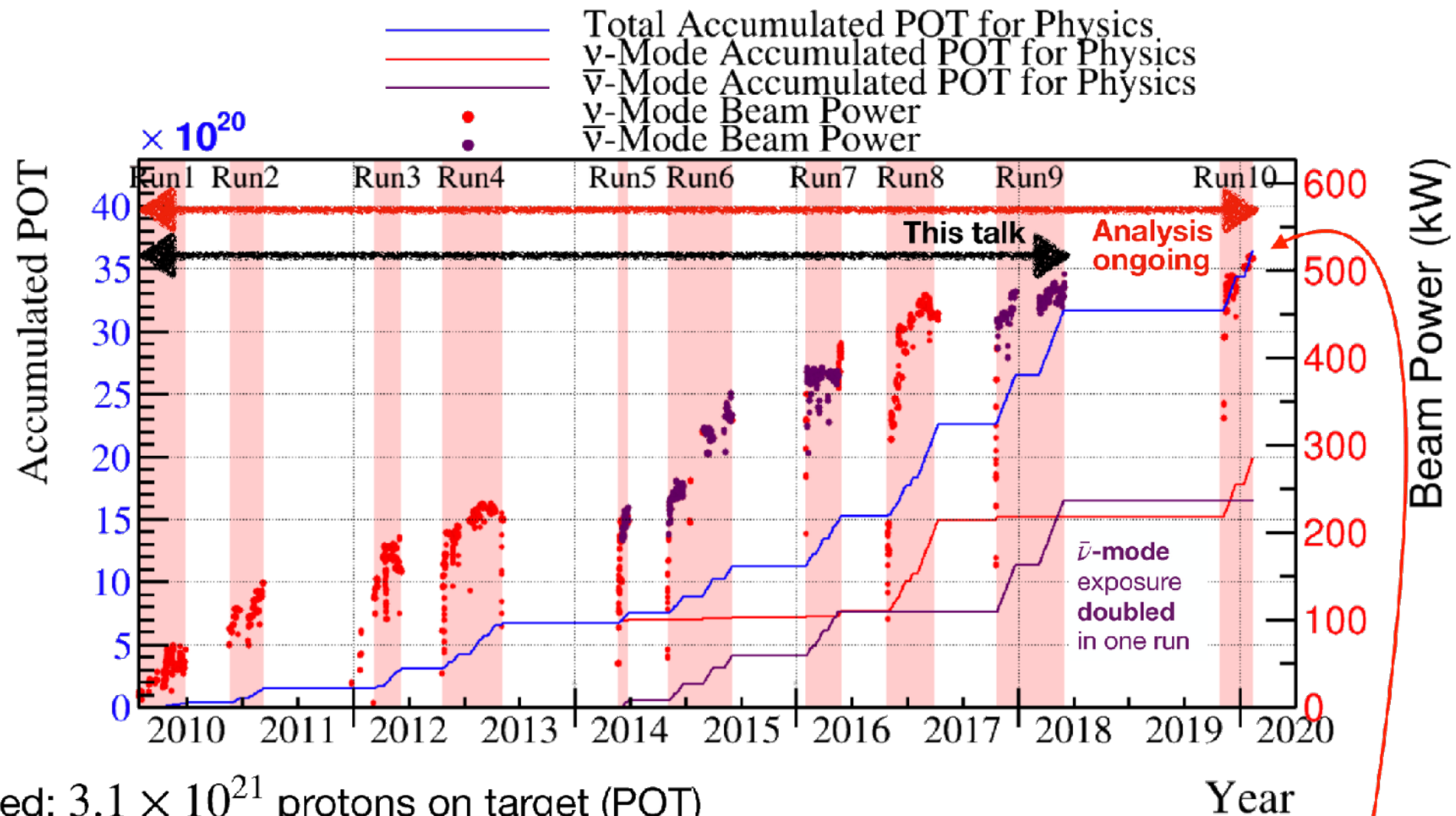
A muon neutrino candidate



# Cherenkov Radiation

Blue glow resultant when a charged particle passes through a polarisable medium at ultra-relativistic speeds.





Analyzed:  $3.1 \times 10^{21}$  protons on target (POT)

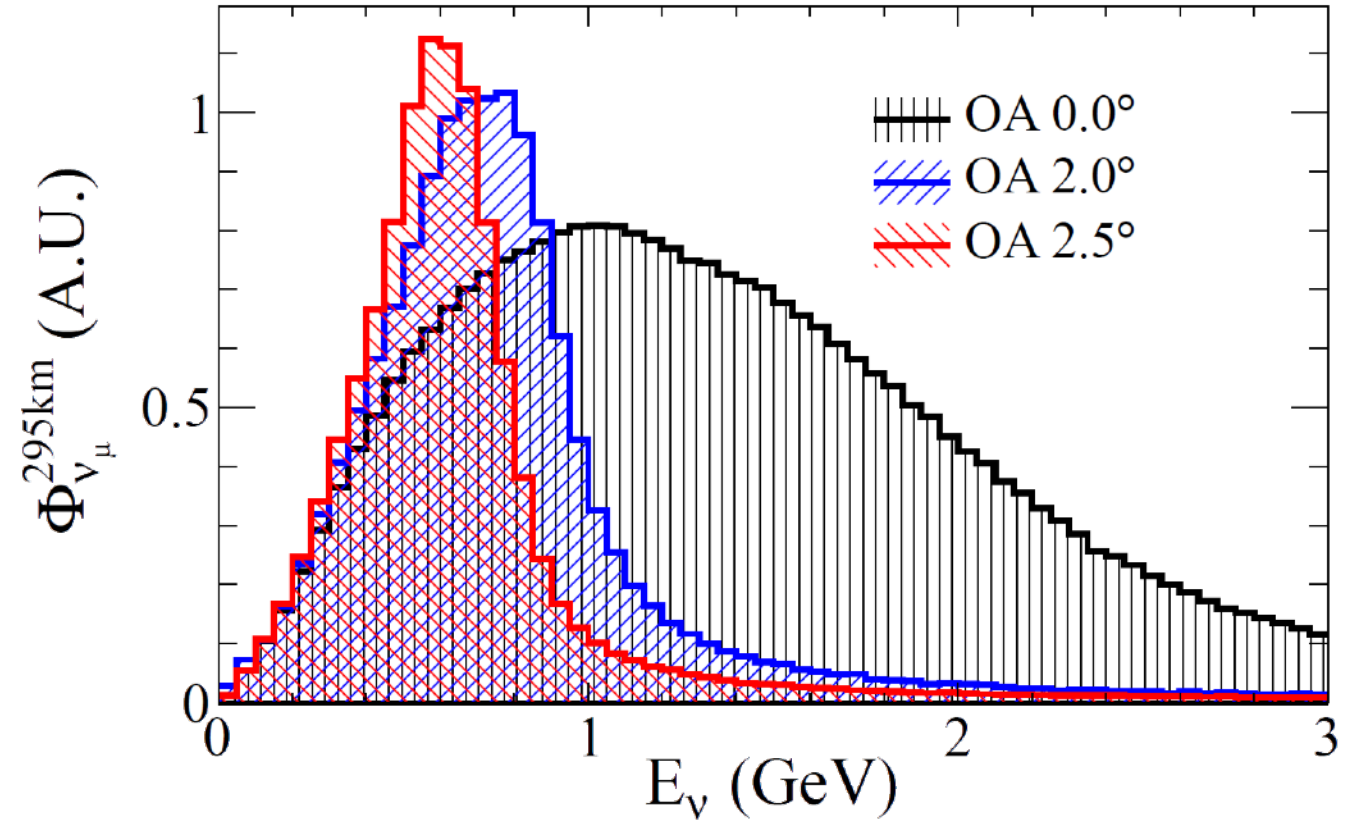
$\nu$ -mode :  $\bar{\nu}$ -mode  $\sim 50 : 50$

**515 kW operation achieved recently!**

33% increase of  $\nu$ -mode data in upcoming analysis.

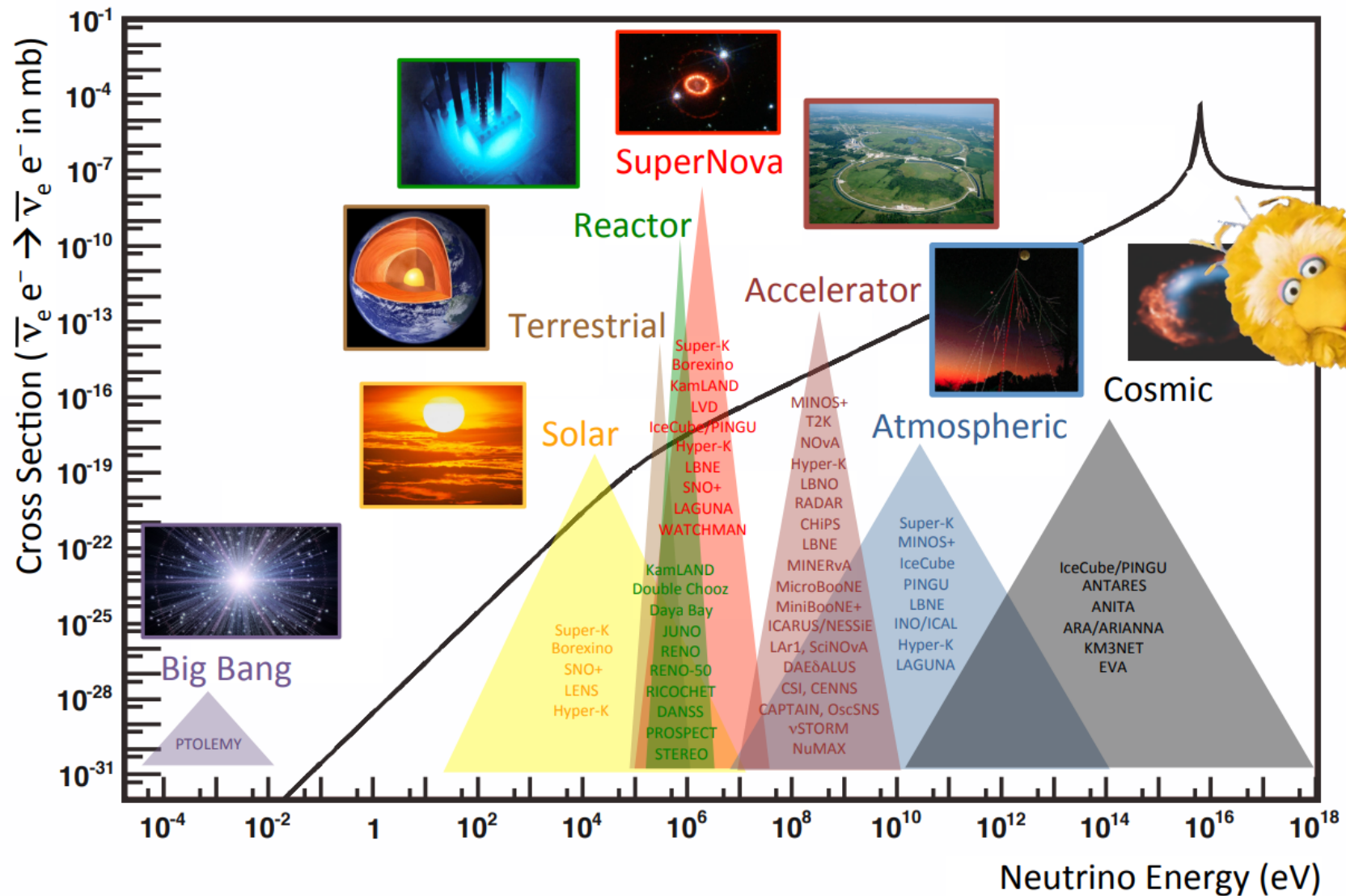
$$E = \frac{E^*}{\gamma(1 - \beta \cos \theta)}$$

$E^*$  is neutrino energy in centre of mass frame of the decaying meson.  
 $\gamma$  is the neutrino's Lorentz factor.  
 $\beta$  is the neutrino's Lorentz velocity.  
 $\theta$  is the neutrino's angle in the lab frame.



T2K is the first experiment in which the off-axis concept was implemented. This decreases the amount of neutrinos at high energies (decreasing more complicated interaction types and also tightening flux around osc max).

Our neutrino detection capabilities span an incredible range of energies, with many neutrino experiments trying to achieve many different measurements.





# ND280 detector suite

- Same off-axis angle as Super-K (2.5 degrees).
- Measures  $\nu_\mu$  and  $\nu_e$  spectrum before the oscillation  $\rightarrow$  TPCs + FGDs
- Measure background processes to oscillation (NC $\pi^0$ , NC $1\pi$ , CC $1\pi$ ...)
- Compare Carbon and Oxygen interactions (FGD2 and P0D)

SMRD (Side Muon Range Detector): scintillator planes in magnet yokes. Measure high angle muons

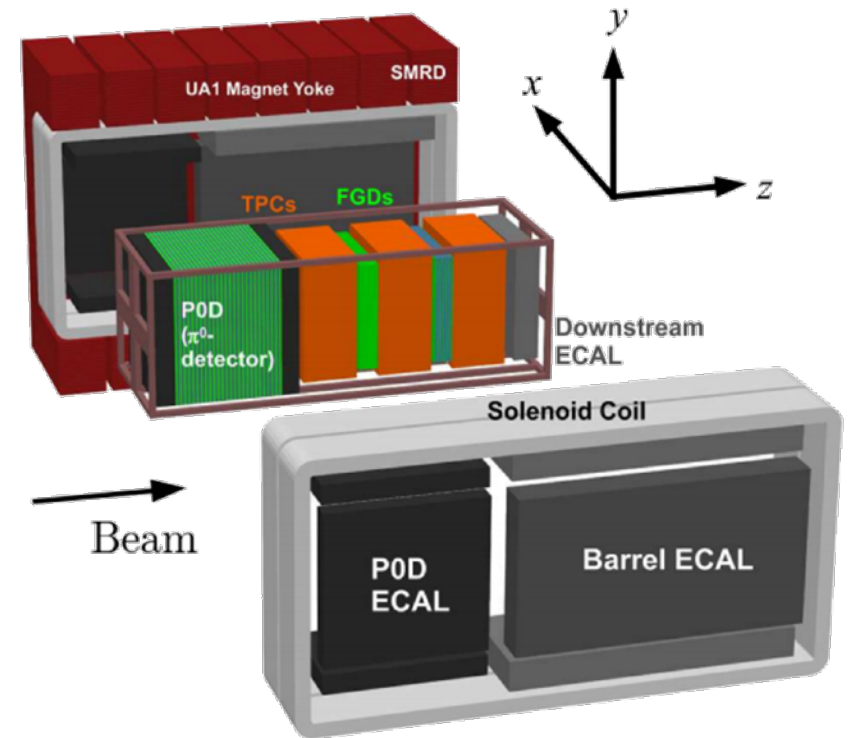
2 FGDs (Fine Grained Detector): active target mass for the tracker, optimized for p/ $\pi$  separation Carbon+Water target in FGD2

P0D ( $\pi^0$  detector): scintillator bars interleaved with fillable water target bags and lead and brass sheets. Optimised for  $\gamma$  detection

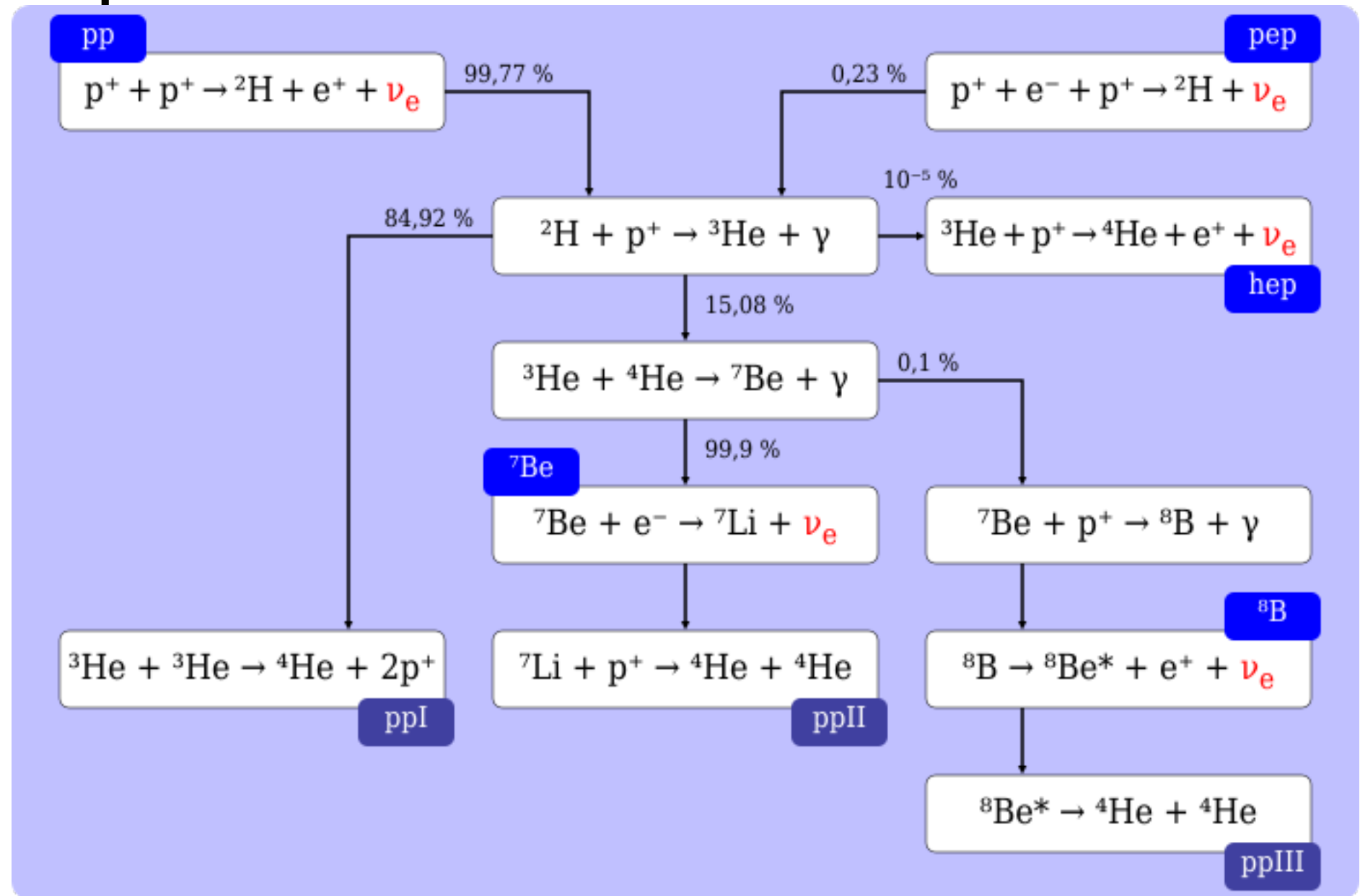
3 TPCs (Time Projection Chambers): measure momentum and charge of particles from FGD and P0D, PID capabilities through dE/dx

P0D, Barrel and Downstream ECAL: scintillator planes with radiator to measure EM showers

ND280 installed in ex-UA1 magnet (0.2 T) 3.5x3.6x7.3 m



# Solar neutrino production



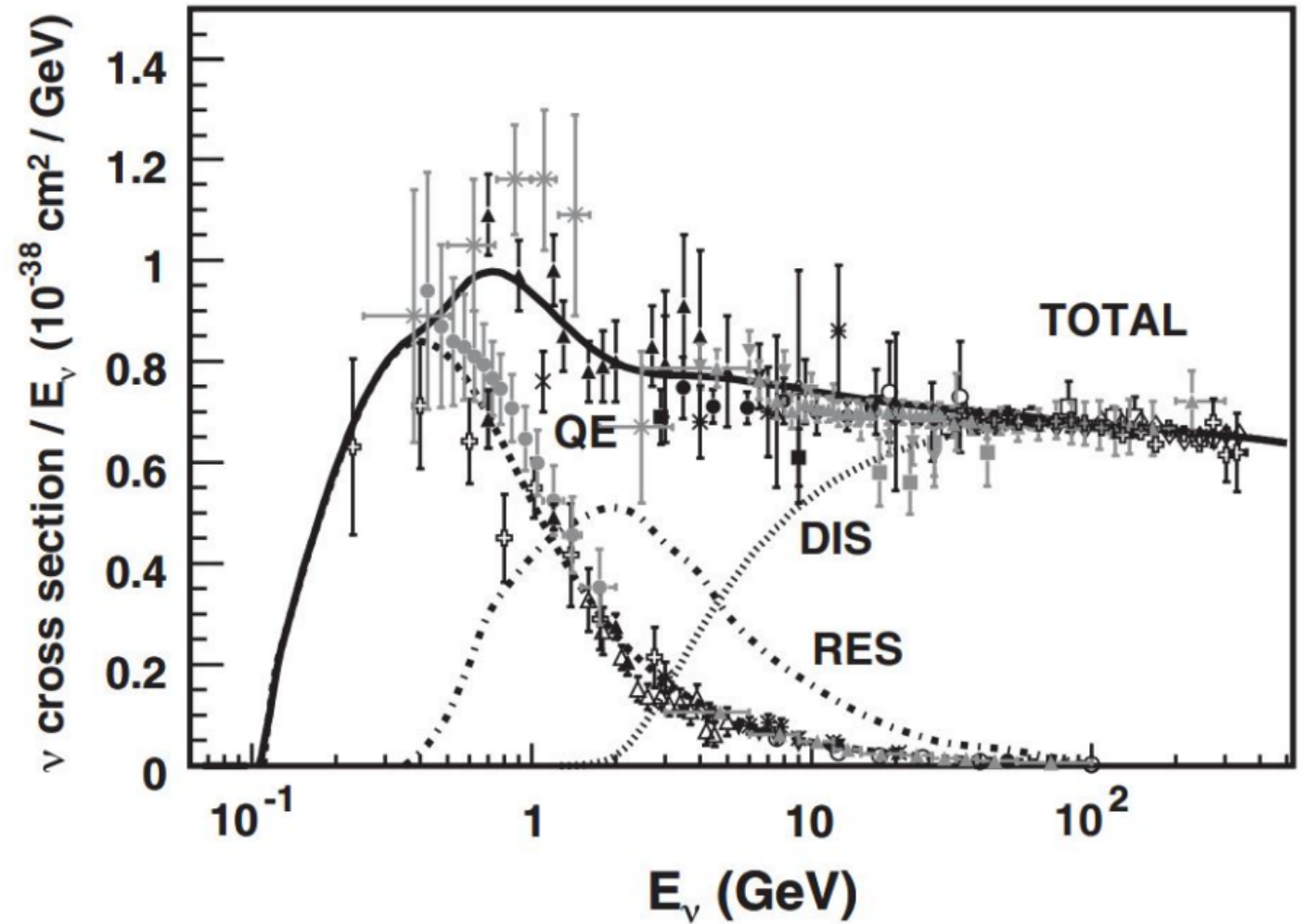
Neutrinos in cosmology.

Neutrinos decoupled during the big bang at  $\sim 2$  seconds.

Neutrinos carry away 100 times the energy of photons from core collapse supernovae.

Cross section between any two particles is the area transverse to their relative motion within which they must meet in order to interact (effective size).

There are no hard spheres and cross section depends on many things, we mostly deal with cross section in terms of energy.





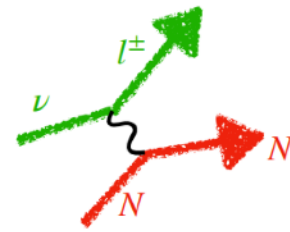
# Phase Space

As neutrino energy increases, there is more 'room' available to create more particles, and have increasingly inelastic collisions.

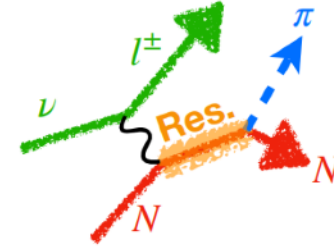
Things get messy, as things always do with hadrons, and new signals get introduced, with charged pions often looking very similar to muons in our detector.

Deep Inelastic Scattering processes occur when neutrinos resolve the quarks themselves instead of the nucleon as a whole and create large showers.

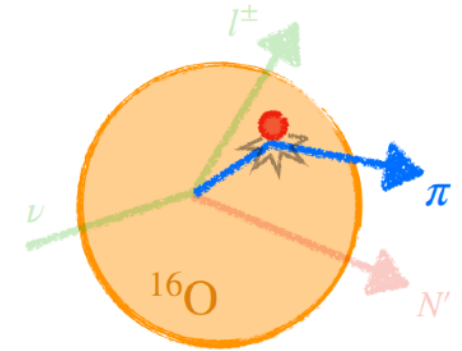
Finally extra nuclear effects come into play, where pions can re-interact within a nucleus or with another nearby nucleus, and that signal gets lost or changed.



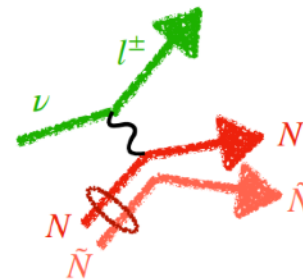
quasi-elastic



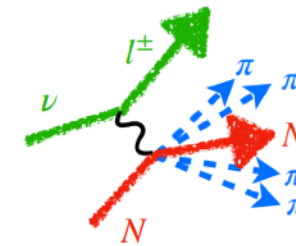
resonant



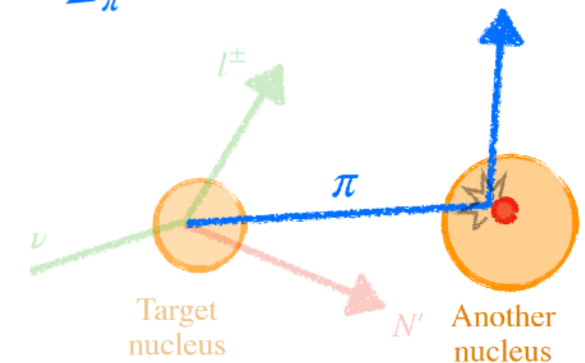
FSI



2p2h

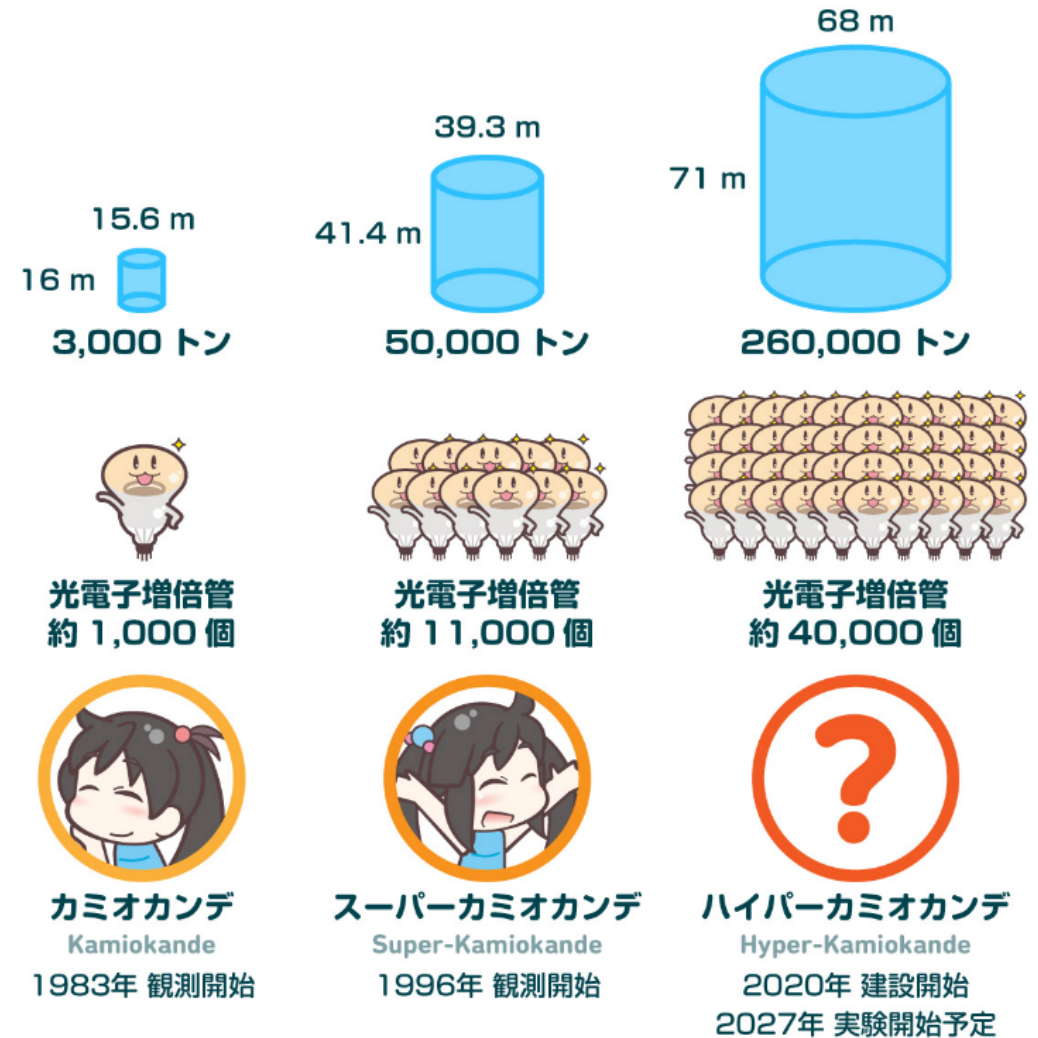


DIS



SI

# Hyper-Kamiokande

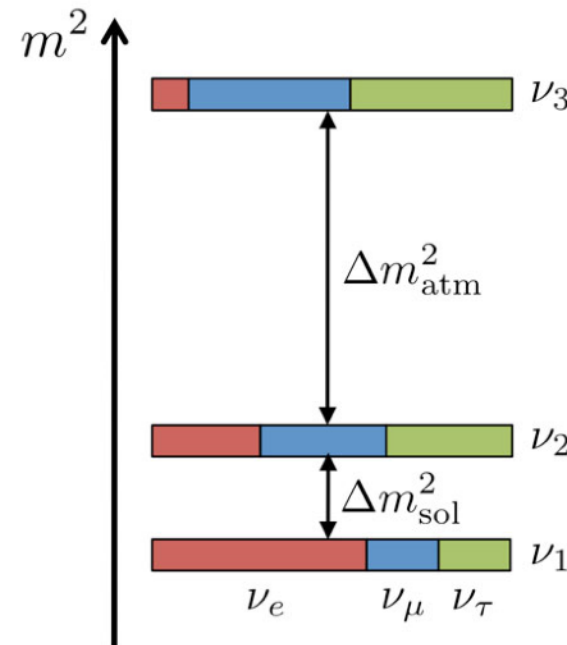


With these detections, the community was sure that neutrino flavour oscillations were occurring! However this realisation came with a troubling conclusion. **Neutrinos had mass.**

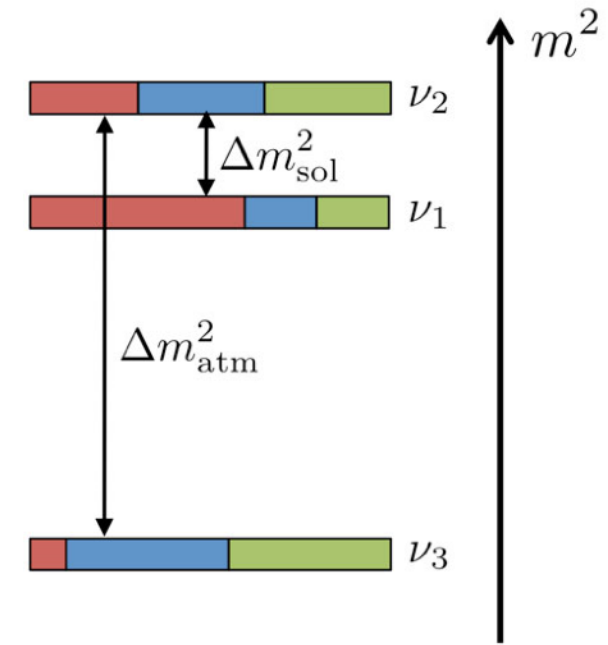
Well, kind of. What they actually required in theory was a mass difference between three, set, well defined states. And then each set neutrino flavour must be a transformation from these states, each flavour ending up as a mix of the three masses. This transformation is given by a rotation (contained in a matrix) from the mass states to the flavour states (or visa versa).

$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ \nu_\mu \\ \nu_\tau \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} U_{e1} & U_{e2} & U_{e3} \\ U_{\mu 1} & U_{\mu 2} & U_{\mu 3} \\ U_{\tau 1} & U_{\tau 2} & U_{\tau 3} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \\ \nu_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

**normal hierarchy (NH)**



**inverted hierarchy (IH)**



Warning,  
maths  
incoming.

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

$$P_{\alpha \rightarrow \beta} = \delta_{\alpha\beta} - 4 \sum_{i>j} \text{Re} \left( U_{\alpha i}^* U_{\beta i} U_{\alpha j} U_{\beta j}^* \right) \sin^2 \left( \frac{\Delta m_{ij}^2 L}{4E} \right) \\
+ 2 \sum_{i>j} \text{Im} \left( U_{\alpha i}^* U_{\beta i} U_{\alpha j} U_{\beta j}^* \right) \sin \left( \frac{\Delta m_{ij}^2 L}{2E} \right),$$

With 3 flavour oscillations, things get more complex (no pun intended), but remain familiar;

- There are now 2 mass differences, the large and the small;  $\Delta m_{32}^2$  &  $\Delta m_{21}^2$ . Note that because of the squared mass terms, the signs are not detectable without extra effects.
  - ❖  $\Delta m_{21}^2 = 7.53 \times 10^{-5} eV^2$
  - ❖  $\Delta m_{32}^2 \approx \Delta m_{13}^2 = 2.45 \times 10^{-3} eV^2$
- There are 3 mixing angles;  $\theta_{12}$ ,  $\theta_{23}$ , and  $\theta_{13}$ . These values (shown below in terms of  $\sin^2(\theta)$ ) are large, especially  $\theta_{23}$  which is nearly maximal.
  - ❖  $\sin^2(\theta_{12}) = 0.307$
  - ❖  $\sin^2(\theta_{23}) = 0.547$
  - ❖  $\sin^2(\theta_{13}) = 0.0220$

The value for  $\theta_{13}$  was found to be surprisingly large (though still smaller than the others) and opened up a whole new possibility; measuring the CP-violating phase factor,  $\delta_{CP}$