

Experiments on neutrino oscillation & OPERA

Benjamin Janutta

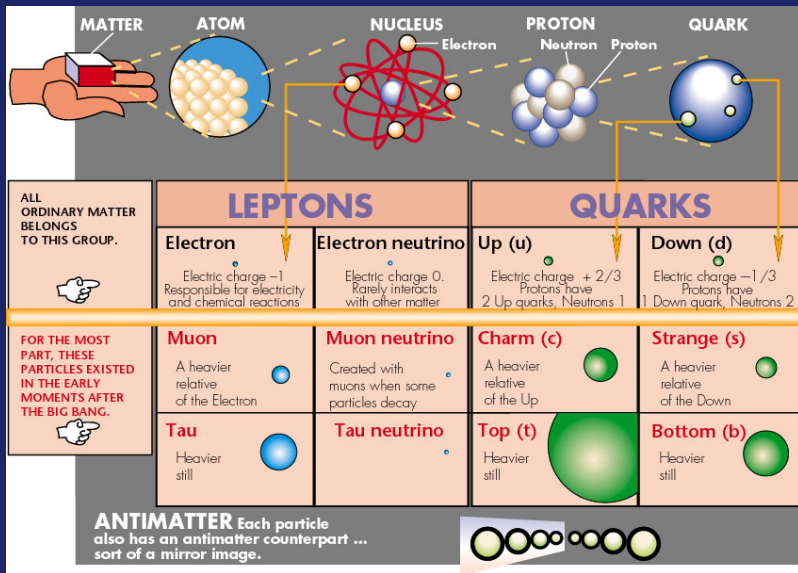
Hamburg student seminar
Institut für Experimentalphysik
Universität Hamburg

25.04.2005

Overview

- 1 A brief neutrino history
- 2 Sources of neutrinos
- 3 The Mechanism of Neutrino Oscillation
- 4 The water Cerenkov Neutrino-Oscillation Experiment Super-KamiokaNDE
- 5 KamLAND
- 6 The Sudbury neutrino observatory
- 7 Summary

A brief history



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- first indirect “detection” already in 1914 by Chadwick, measuring a continuous β -decay spectrum.
- explaining the continuous β -decay spectrum, Wolfgang Pauli postulated “Neutronen” in 1930.
- in 1947 Powell *et al.* observed ν_μ in a balloonborne emulsion experiment.
- Cowan and Reines observed $\bar{\nu}_e$ in a reactor neutrino experiment in 1956, which motivated Pontecorvo to discuss $\nu_e \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e$ oscillations.
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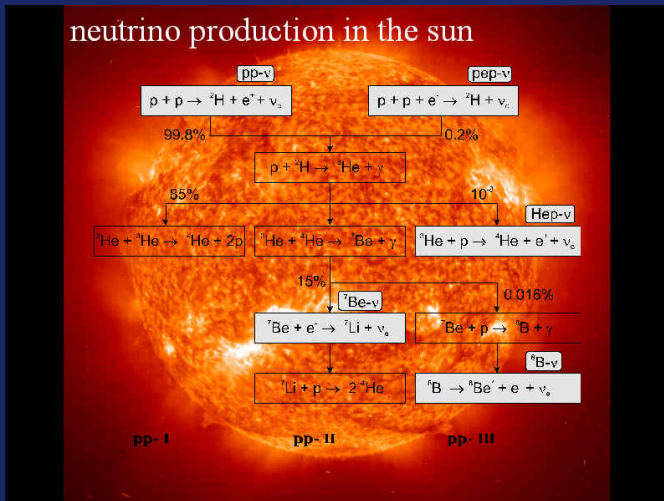
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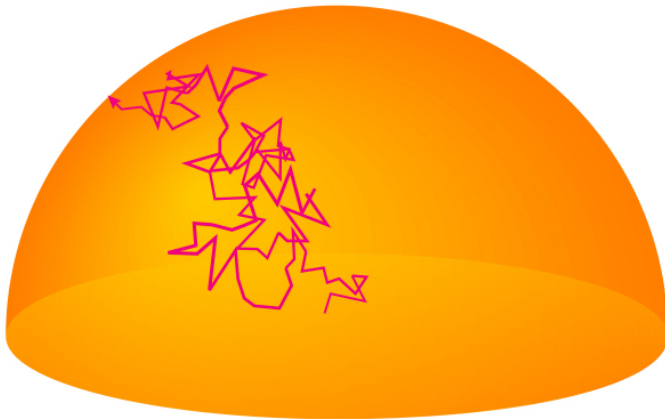
Overview of Neutrinosources

- The sun as a neutrino source
- The earth's atmosphere as neutrino source
- Nuclear powerplants as neutrino sources
- Beamlines as neutrino sources
- The Big Bang as source of the relic neutrino background
- Super Novae as source neutrinos

Mechanisms of neutrino production in the sun



What about gammas??



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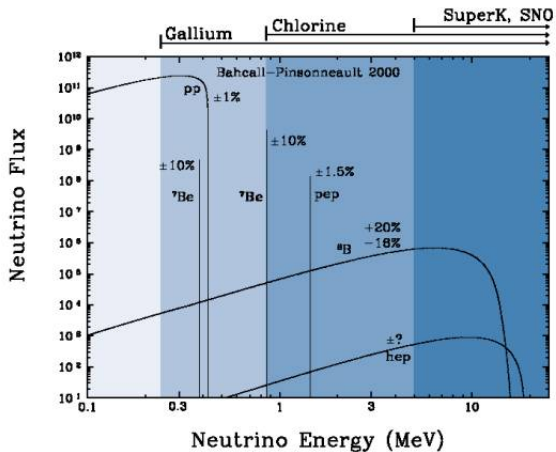
Mechanisms of neutrino production in the sun

Since the 1960's John Bahcall and others perform calculations to predict the solar ν_e flux on the earth. In this Standard Solar Model (SSM), there are basically 5 nuclear reactions that contribute to the solar ν -flux. Those are:

Reaction	Label	Flux($\text{cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$)
$p + p \rightarrow {}^2\text{H} + e^+ + \nu_e$	pp	$5.95 \cdot 10^{10}$
$p + e^- + p \rightarrow {}^2\text{H} + \nu_e$	pep	$1.40 \cdot 10^8$
${}^3\text{He} + p \rightarrow {}^4\text{He} + e^+ + \nu_e$	hep	$9.3 \cdot 10^3$
${}^7\text{Be} + e^- \rightarrow {}^7\text{Li} + \nu_e$	${}^7\text{Be}$	$4.77 \cdot 10^9$
${}^8\text{B} \rightarrow {}^8\text{Be}^* + e^+ + \nu_e$	${}^8\text{B}$	$5.05 \cdot 10^6$

The spectrum of these reactions looks as follows.

Expected flux of solar neutrinos

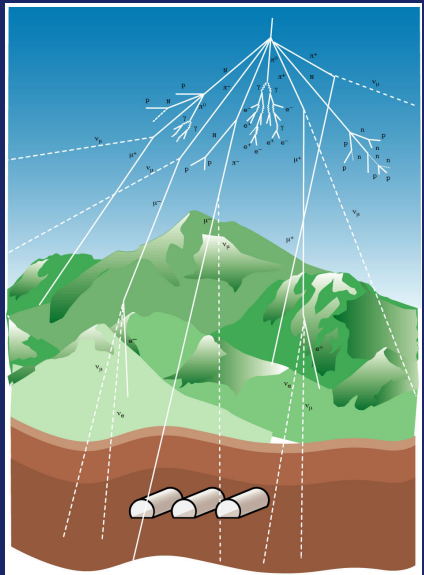


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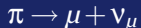
Atmospheric neutrino production

The atmospheric neutrinos emerge from the following reaction in the earth's atmosphere:

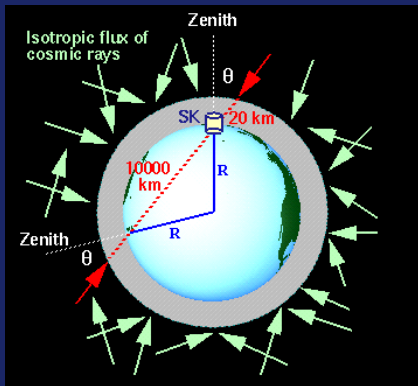


Atmospheric neutrino production

The atmospheric neutrinos emerge from the following reaction in the earth's atmosphere:



Taking into account matter effects one can show that the probability of detecting certain ν_s depends on the zenith angle θ .



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Neutrinos emerging from nuclear powerplants

One of the typical decays in nuclear power plants is for example:



Thus we have $6\bar{\nu}_e$ for each nuclear fission. For a powerplant with a thermal power of $P_{\text{therm}} = 3.8\text{GW}$ and energy release of $E \approx 200\text{MeV}$ /fission in fissions of ${}^{235}\text{U}$, ${}^{239}\text{Pu}$, ${}^{238}\text{U}$ and ${}^{241}\text{Pu}$ one then gets $7.1 \cdot 10^{20}$ neutrinos per second. Thus we get a very strong, isotrop source of $\bar{\nu}_e$.

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Neutrino Beams



Overview of Neutrinosources

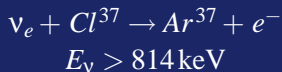
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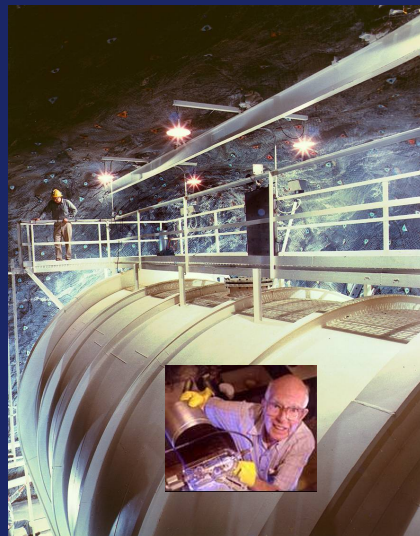
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- **Super Novae as source neutrinos**

Solar Neutrinos: pioneer experiment Homestake

Since about 1970 R. Davis and his collaborators detect ν_e in the Homestake experiment through the following radiochemical reaction:



The deficit of solar ν_e gave rise to the idea of neutrino oscillations.



Neutrinooscillations in the vacuum

Oscillations can occur if flavour eigenstates for the active neutrino types ($l = e, \mu, \tau$) are related to mass eigenstates (i) via the MNSP¹ mixing matrix U_{li} : with

$$| \nu_l \rangle = \begin{pmatrix} c_{12} & s_{12} & 0 \\ -s_{12} & c_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c_{23} & s_{23} \\ 0 & -s_{23} & c_{23} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & e^{-i\delta} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} c_{13} & 0 & s_{13} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -s_{13} & 0 & c_{13} \end{pmatrix} | \nu_i \rangle$$

where $c_{ij} = \cos\theta_{ij}$ and $s_{ij} = \sin\theta_{ij}$ and δ is called the CP-violating angle. The θ_{ij} are the so called mixing angles.

¹Maki-Nakagawa-Sakata-Pontecorvo

Neutrino oscillation in the 2 Flavour case

Taking into account only 2 neutrino flavours, we get:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_{\mu} \\ \nu_{\tau} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} c_{23} & s_{23} \\ -s_{23} & c_{23} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_2 \\ \nu_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Where θ_{12} is the solar mixing angle θ_{sol} . The oscillation probability for $\nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \nu_{\tau}$ oscillations is given by:

$$P_{\mu \rightarrow \tau} = \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2 \left(1.27 \frac{\Delta m^2 L}{E} \right)$$

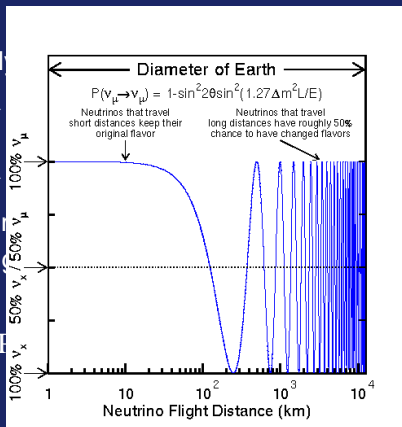
where $\Delta m \equiv m_3^2 - m_2^2$.

Neutrino oscillation in the 2 Flavour case

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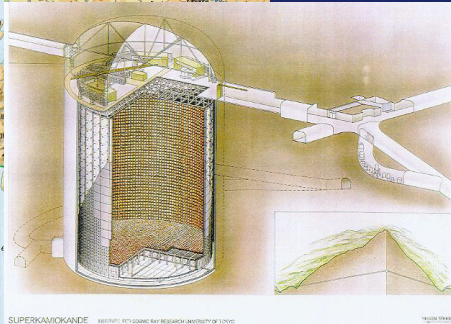
The location



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The location



SUPERKAMIKANDE
JAPAN
 PHOTO: RIKI GOSAKI, KEIJI HOSOKAWA, UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO

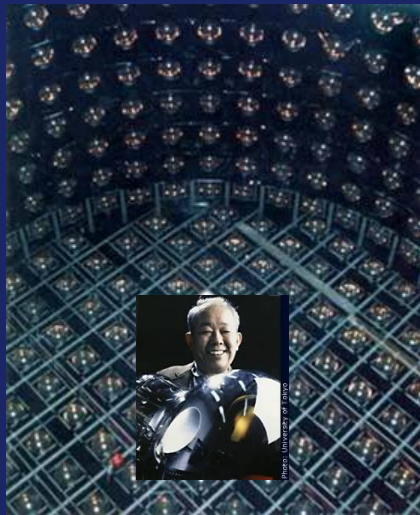
SuperKamiokande

- SuperK is the follow-up of the KamiokaNDE² and located in a mine near Kamioka close to the old KamiokaNDE facility.
- Just like KamiokaNDE, SuperK uses PMTs to detect Cerenkov light rings. The number of PMTs has been increased to 13000, the target mass was increased to 50kt of ultra pure H₂O, compared to 2140t used at KamiokaNDE.

²Kamioka nucleon decay experiment

Kamiokande

The KamiokaNDE is one of the pioneer experiments in neutrino-physics. Originally build to detect the proton decay, it was the first real time neutrino experiment, using photo multiplier tubes (PMT) to detect the cherenkov lightcones produced elastically scattered electrons/muons. In 2002 Masatoshi Koshiba was rewarded the noble price for the realtime meadurement of neutrinos.

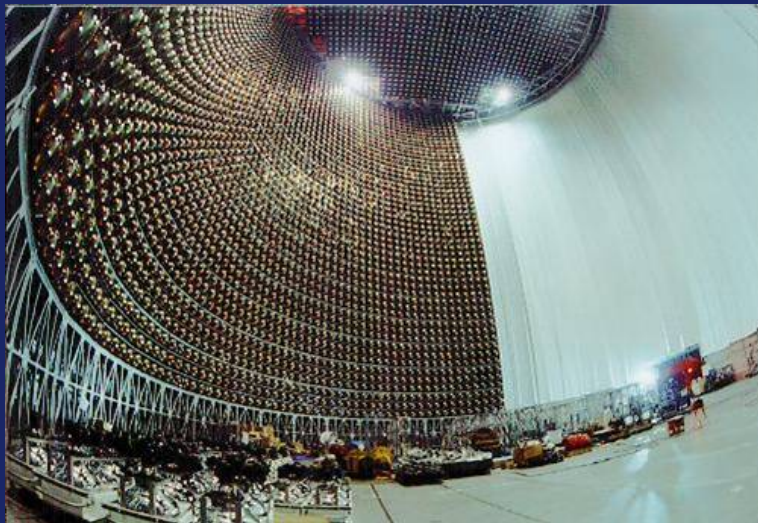


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SuperK interieur



SuperK physics

- solar neutrinos (sensitive to $^8\text{B } \nu_e$)
- atmospheric neutrinos (ν_e, ν_μ with a few GeV)
- K2K accelerator neutrinos (ν_μ about 1GeV)
- start ~ 1009 : T2K off axis super neutrino beam

Solar neutrinos at SuperK

The solar neutrinos are observed through elastic scattering (ES) reaction:

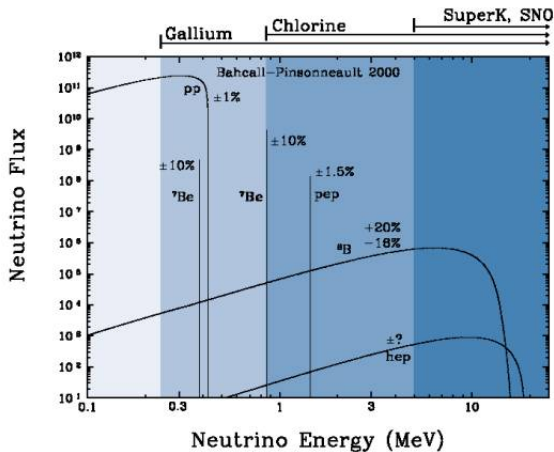
$$\nu_x + e^- \rightarrow \nu_x + e^-$$

Light water detectors like SuperK are thereby mainly sensitive to ν_e because of the reduced cross-section of

$$\sigma(\nu_{\mu,\tau} + e^- \rightarrow \nu_{\mu,\tau} e^-) \approx 0.15\sigma(\nu_e + e^- \rightarrow \nu_e + e^-).$$

SuperK could detect ν_s with an energy as low as 5 MeV (^8B neutrinos).

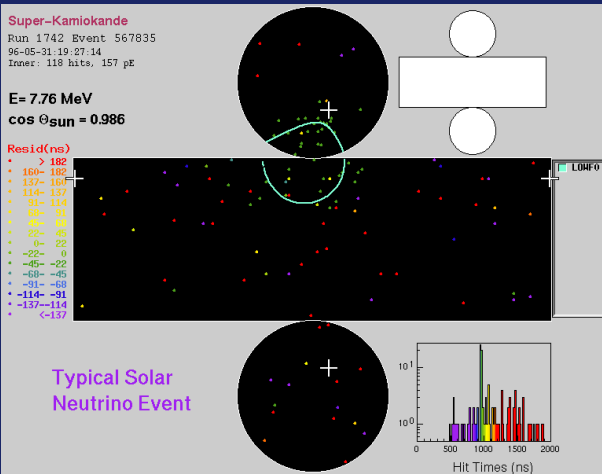
Expected flux of solar neutrinos



Solar neutrinos at SuperK

- What does a solar ν_e look like in the detector, what does it tell us?
- How could one distinguish actual solar ν events from possible background³?
- So what do we learn from SuperK??

³e.g. radioactive spalations, spalation products from cosmic rays

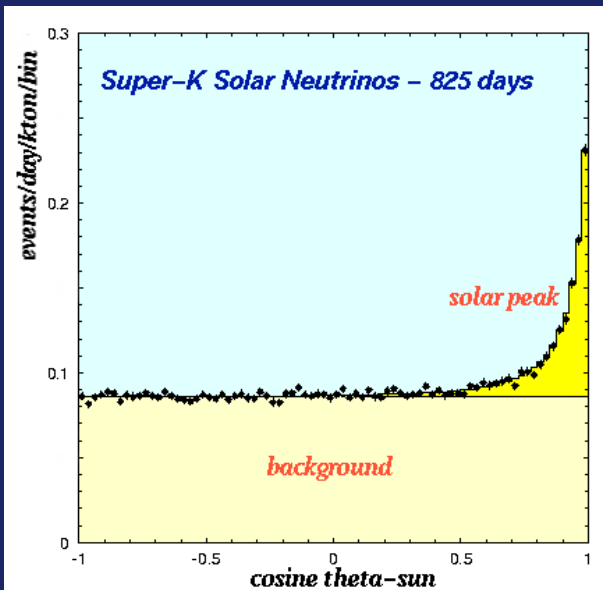
Solar ν_e seen by SuperK

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Distinguishing solar ν_e from background signals



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SuperK solar results

The SuperK data allows the precise determination of the ES neutrino flux

$$\Phi_{\text{ES}} = (2.35 \pm 0.02_{\pm}) \cdot 10^6 \text{cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$$

While the shape of the spectrum agrees well with the one predicted from the ν -spectrum of the ${}^8\text{B}$ β -decay. The measurements of the absolute flux, however, is about 46.5% of that predicted by the SSM.

Atmospheric neutrinos at SuperK

Although the higher energy of the atmospheric ν s leads to the production of pions or numerous hadrons in the final state one again looks for the ES events.

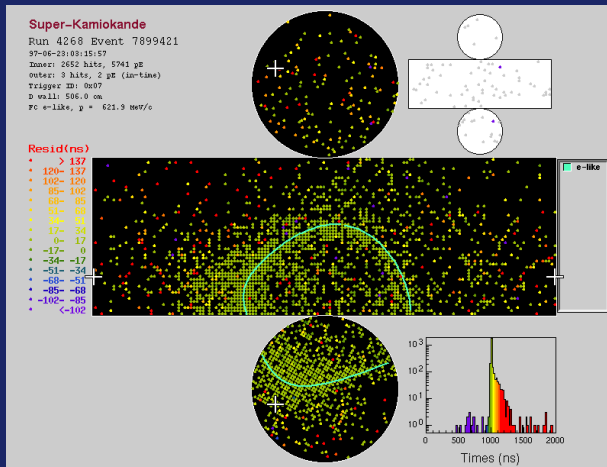
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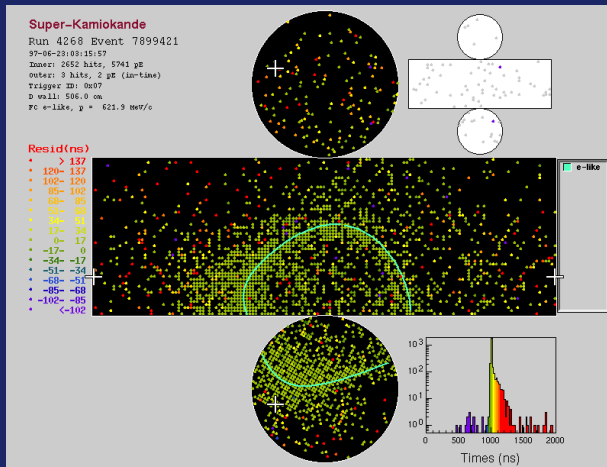


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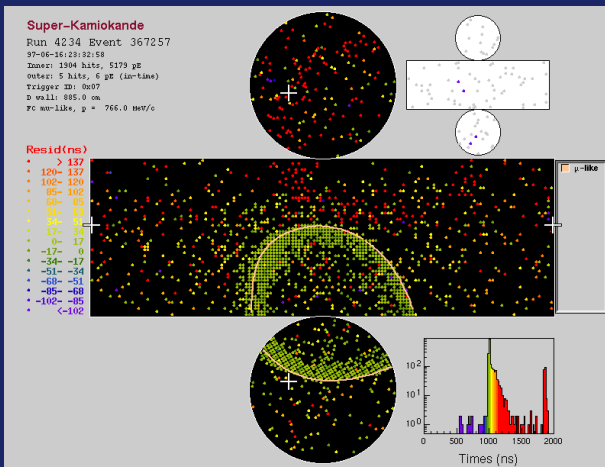
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Solar ν seen by SuperK



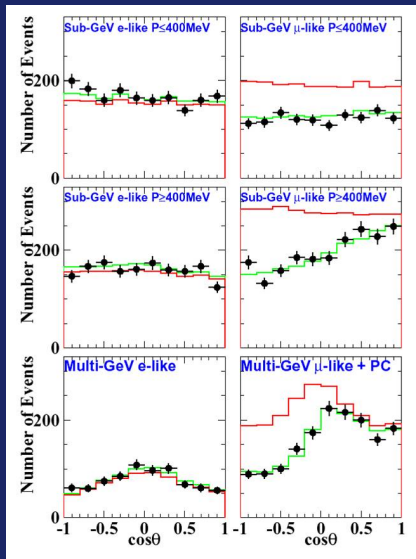
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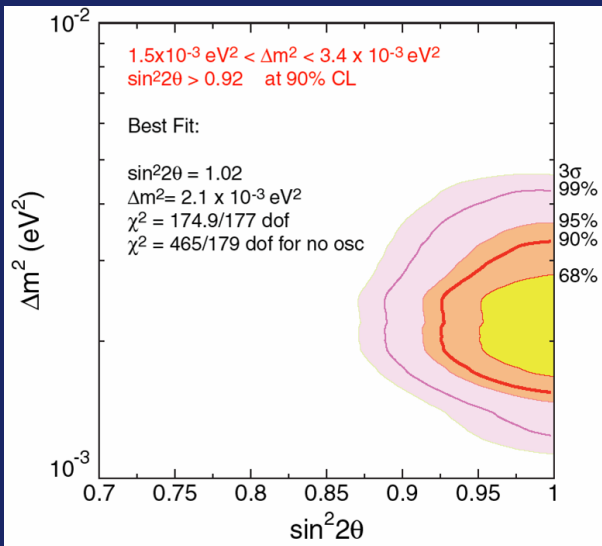
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SuperK atmospheric results

The green lines show the the Monte Carlo for a model with oscillations and the red line shows the Monte Carlo results for a model without oscillations.



SuperK atmospheric results



The K2K beamline at KEK

- K2K⁴ uses a ν_{μ} -beam from the KEK facility to SuperK.
- It was build to confirm the hypothesis of neutrino-oscillations.
- To analyze the outgoing beam, a second near detector was build. This detector consists of a small scaled down replica of the SuperK detector and a muon spectrometer.

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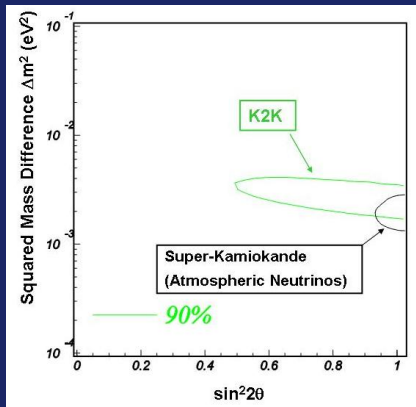
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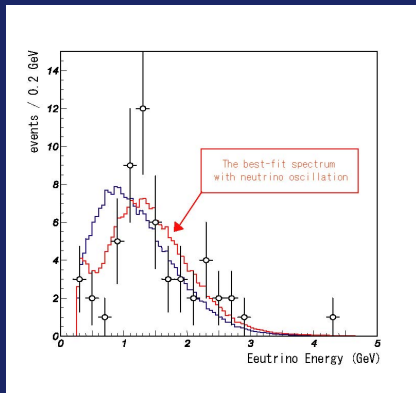
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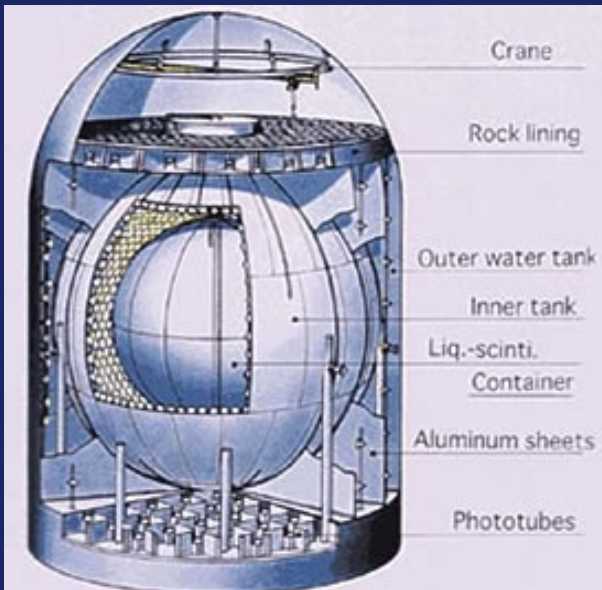
K2K results



KamLAND

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- Instead of water it uses 1000t of liquid scintillator.
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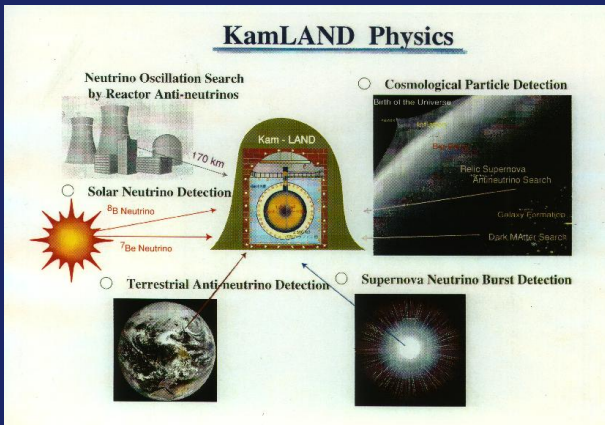
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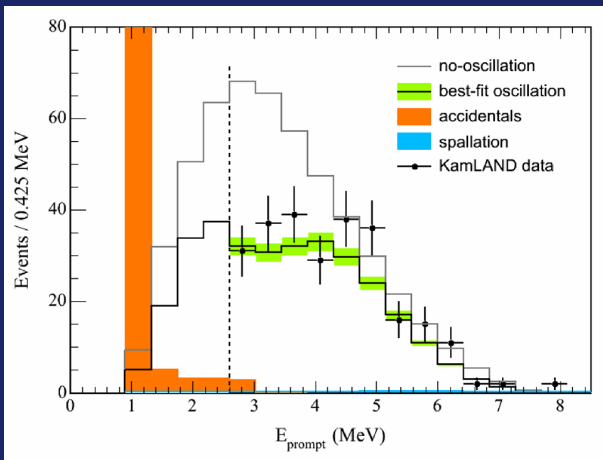
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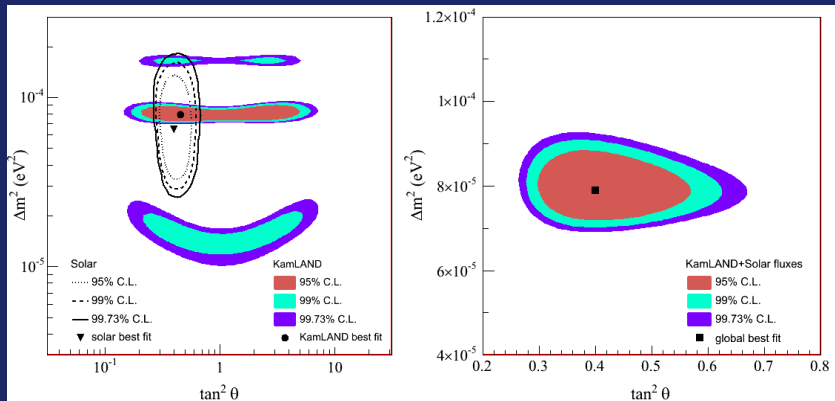
KamLAND physics program



KamLAND results



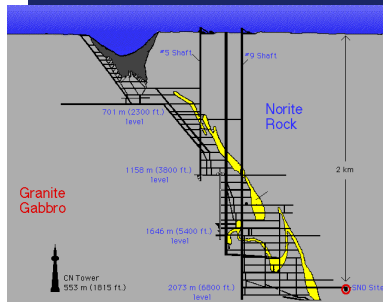
KamLAND results



Location of the sudbury neutrino observatory

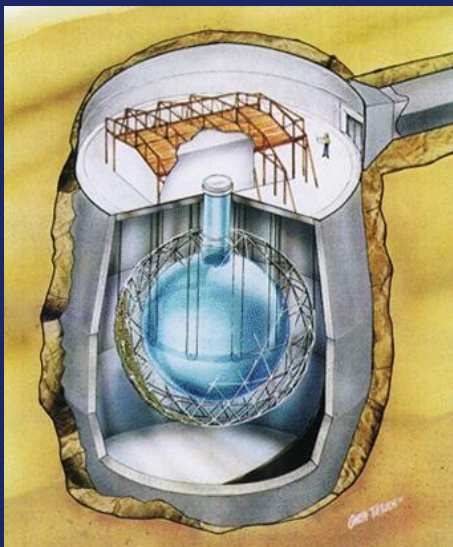


Location of the sudbury neutrino observatory



Sudbury Neutrino Observatory (SNO)

- Like SuperK SNO is a water Cerenkov light detector.
- There will be at least three different configurations of the detector.
 - starting in Mar 1999 with 1000 t of D_2O in SNO's acrylic vessel
 - in June 2001 there was an addition of ~ 2000 kg NaCl to SNO's ~ 1000 t of D_2O
 - in October 2003 the NaCl was removed and additional drift tubes were installed in the acrylic vessel
- SNO observes 3 different kind of interactions:



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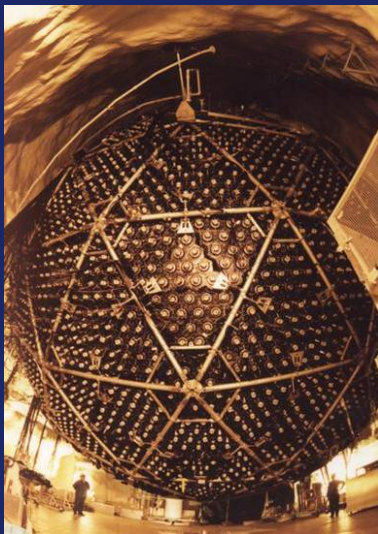
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Observed interactions at SNO

- The NC interactions are equally sensitiv to all non sterile ν



This interaction is observed through 3 different techniques in the separated phases of the experiment.

- The CC interactions are specific to ν_e interactions,



where the e^- energy is strongly correlated to the ν_e energy, which makes SNO sensitiv to possible spectral distortions.

- The ES reaction has a substantial lower cross section and as mentioned before is predominantly sensitiv to ν_e .

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- The CC interactions are specific to ν_e interactions,



where the e^- energy is strongly correlated to the ν_e energy, which makes SNO sensitiv to possible spectral distortions.

- The ES reaction has a substantial lower cross section and as mentioned before is predominantly sensitiv to ν_e .

SNO-results

An extended maximum-likelihood fit to the fluxes of active-flavor neutrinos from ^8B yields:

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi_{CC} &= 1.68_{-0.06}^{+0.06} {}_{-0.09}^{+0.08} \cdot 10^6 \text{cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1} \\ \Phi_{ES} &= 2.35_{-0.22}^{+0.22} {}_{-0.15}^{+0.15} \cdot 10^6 \text{cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1} \\ \Phi_{NC} &= 4.94_{-0.21}^{+0.21} {}_{-0.34}^{+0.38} \cdot 10^6 \text{cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

These results are consistent with those expected for neutrino oscillations with the so called Large Mixing Angle parameters and also with an undistorted ^8B spectrum.

Summary

The best fits at the Moment are:

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta m_{\text{sol}}^2 &= 8.2_{-0.5}^{+0.6} \cdot 10^{-5} eV^2 \\ \tan^2 \theta_{\text{sol}} &= 0.40_{-0.07}^{+0.09}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta m_{\text{A}}^2 &= 2.1 \cdot 10^{-3} eV^2 \\ \sin^2 \theta_{\text{A}} &= 1.0\end{aligned}$$

What's left to do??

- ν_{τ} appearance needed
- precision on Δm^2 and mixing angles
- unknown mixing angle θ_{13}
- sign of Δm_{13}
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You wanna know more???

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