

# Physics from the Never-Setting\* Neutrino Sun

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NNPSS 2014

\*  
or anti-setting?

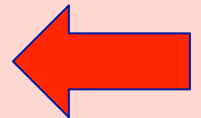
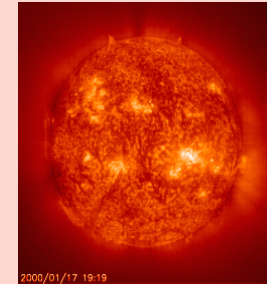
# Lecture Plan

## Lecture #1: Neutrino Mass and Oscillations



## Lecture #2: Solar Neutrinos

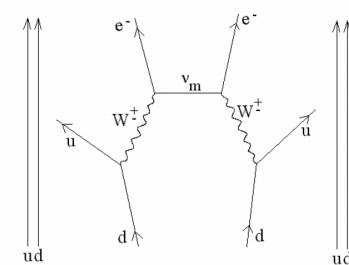
and the rest of the oscillation story



## Lecture #3: Supernova Neutrinos

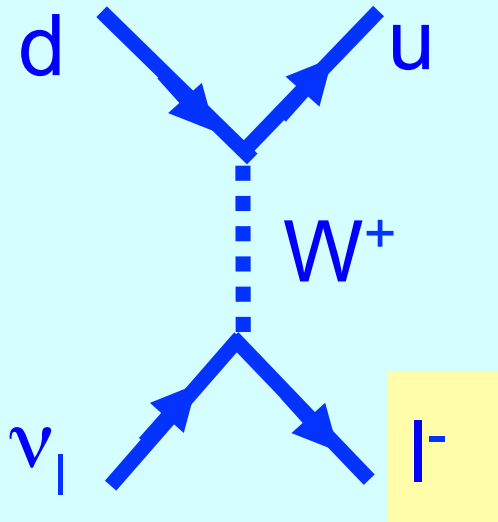


## Lecture #4: Absolute Mass and Neutrinoless Double Beta Decay



# Reminder: neutrino interactions with matter

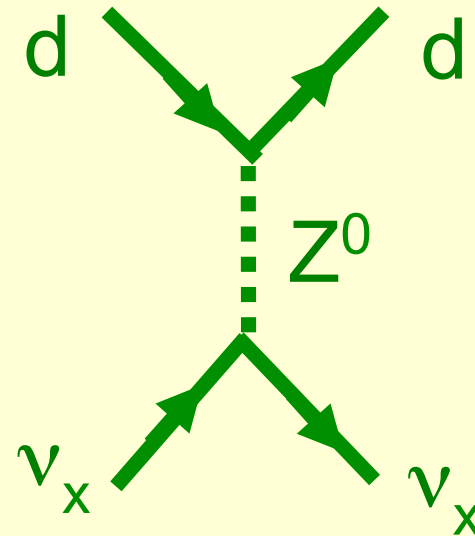
## Charged Current (CC)



Produces lepton  
with flavor corresponding  
to neutrino flavor

(must have enough energy  
to make lepton)

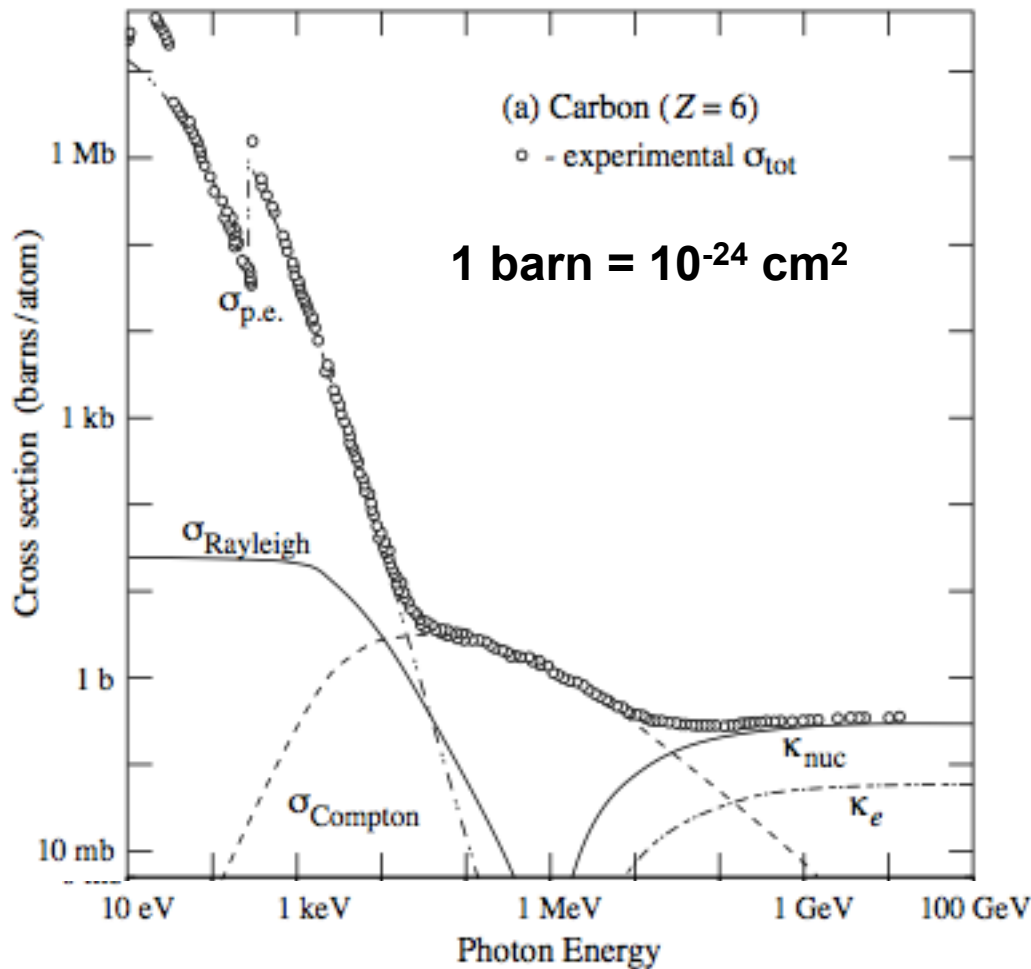
## Neutral Current (NC)



Flavor-blind

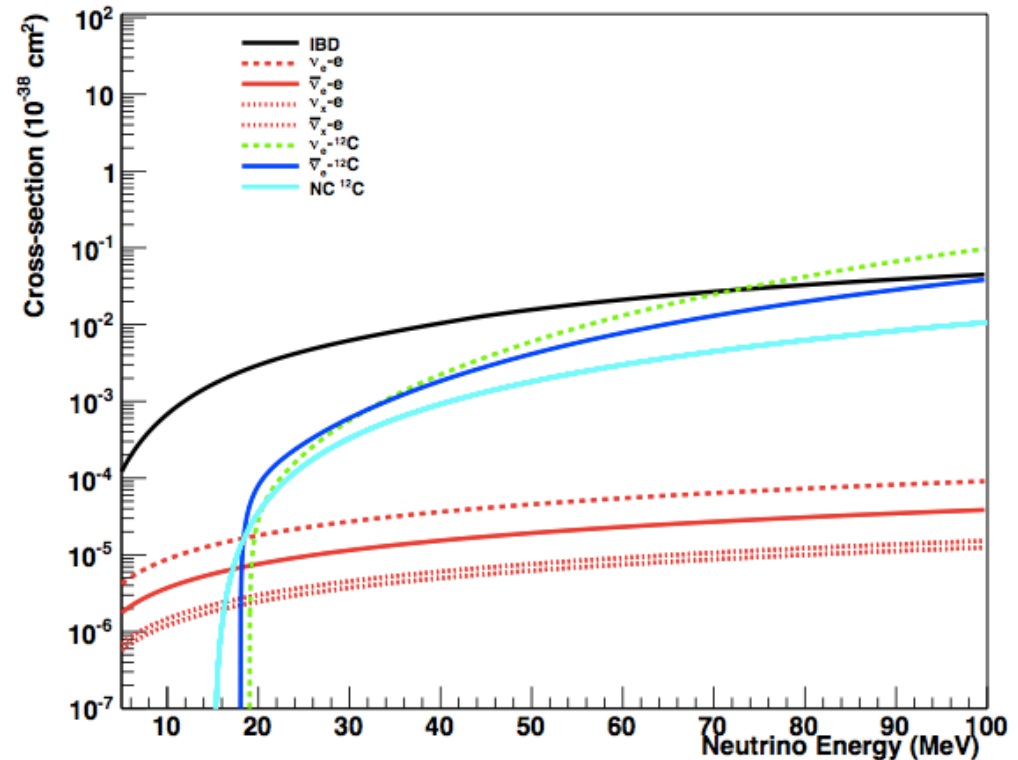
# It's called the weak interaction for a reason

Photon-matter cross-sections



**$\sim 10^{-24} \text{ cm}^2$**

Neutrino-matter cross-sections



**$\sim 10^{-40} \text{ cm}^2$**

**$\sim 16\text{-}17$  orders of magnitude smaller**



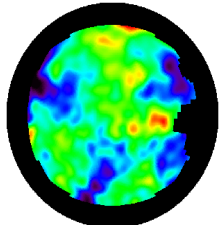
In astrophysics, the weakness of the interaction is both a blessing and a curse...



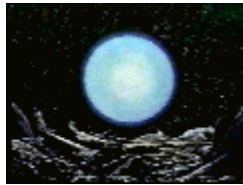
- they bring information from deep inside objects, from regions where photons are trapped
- but they require heroic efforts to detect!

# Sources of wild neutrinos

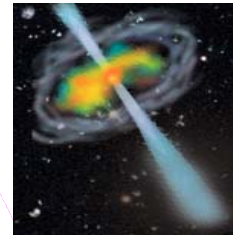
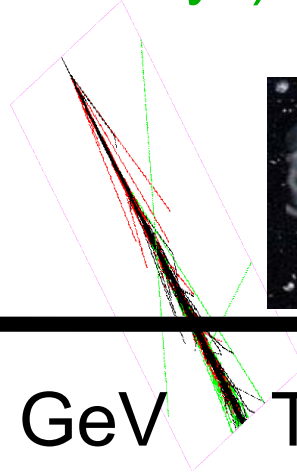
The Big Bang



Super  
novae



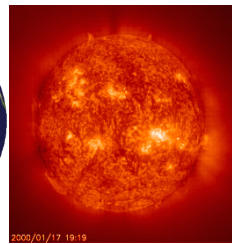
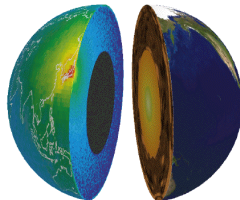
The Atmosphere  
(cosmic rays)



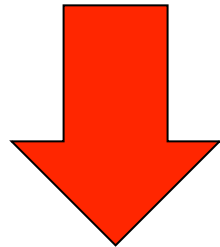
AGN's, GRB's

meV   eV   keV   MeV   GeV   TeV   PeV   EeV

Radioactive  
decay in the  
Earth

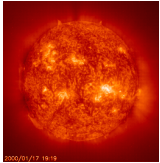


The Sun



neutrinos leak energy  
& bring information from  
deep inside the Sun

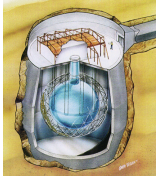
# The Story of Solar Neutrinos



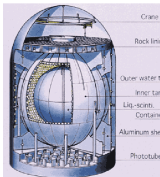
How does the Sun shine?



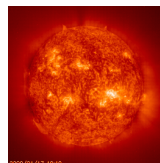
$\nu$ -raying the Sun: a classic problem



An anomaly resolved ... with new physics!

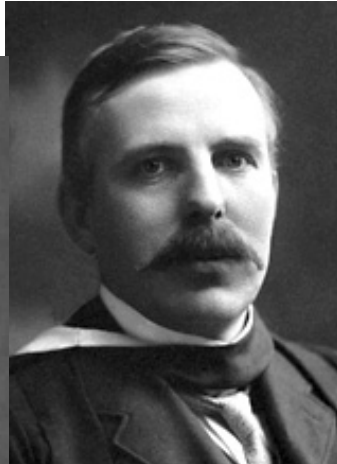
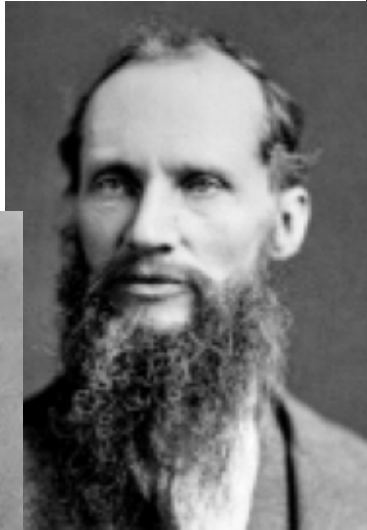


“Tame” neutrinos complement the “wild” ones



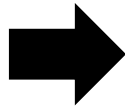
How does the Sun shine?  
(or maybe yet more new physics...)

# How does the Sun shine?

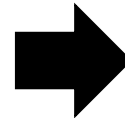


von Helmholtz, Mayer,  
Lord Kelvin:

gravitational  
contraction



radioactivity,  
nuclear  
reactions?



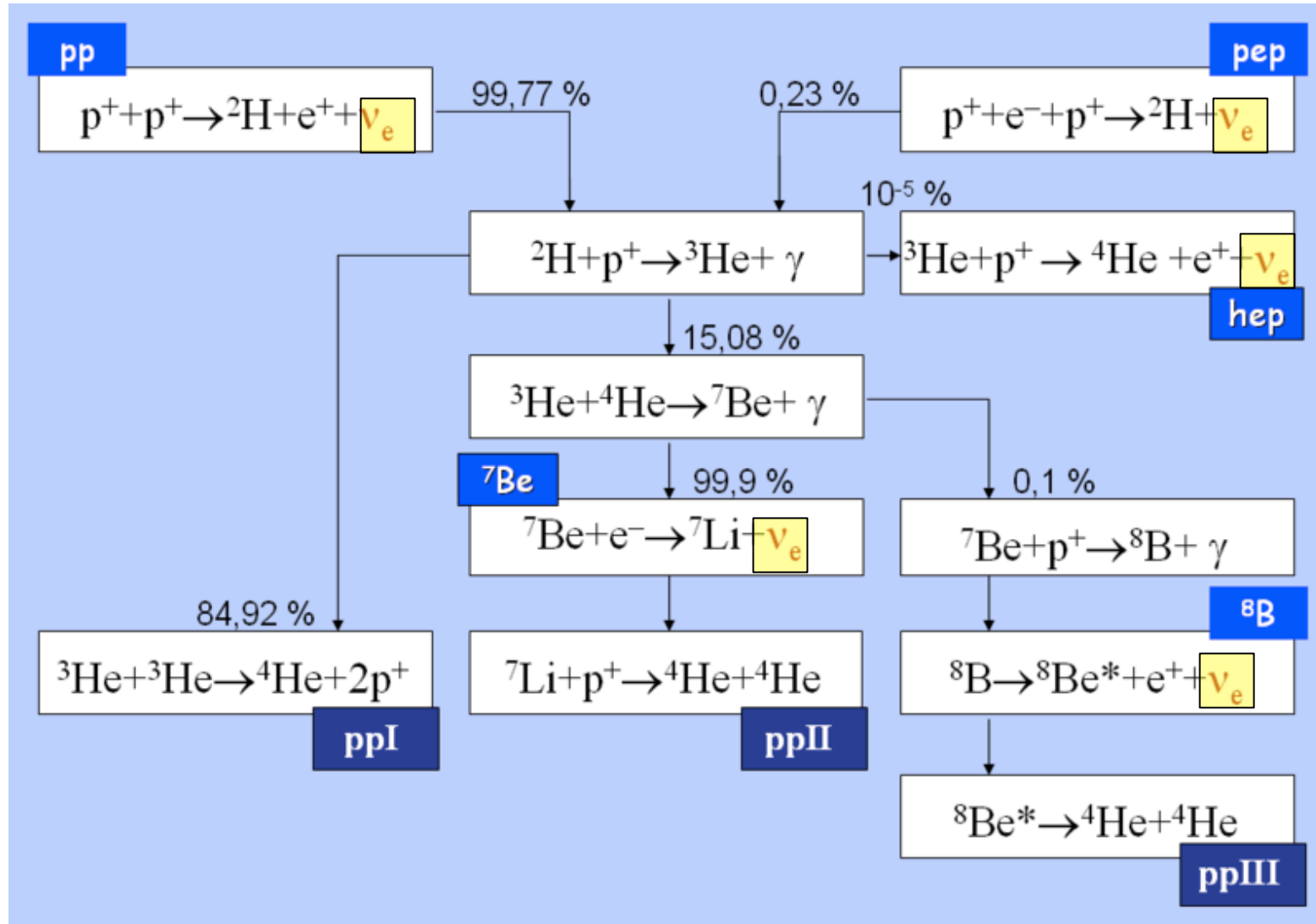
Eddington,  
Gamov, Bethe:

nuclear  
fusion

The sun is a mass of incandescent gas  
A gigantic nuclear furnace  
Where hydrogen is built into helium  
At a temperature of millions of degrees

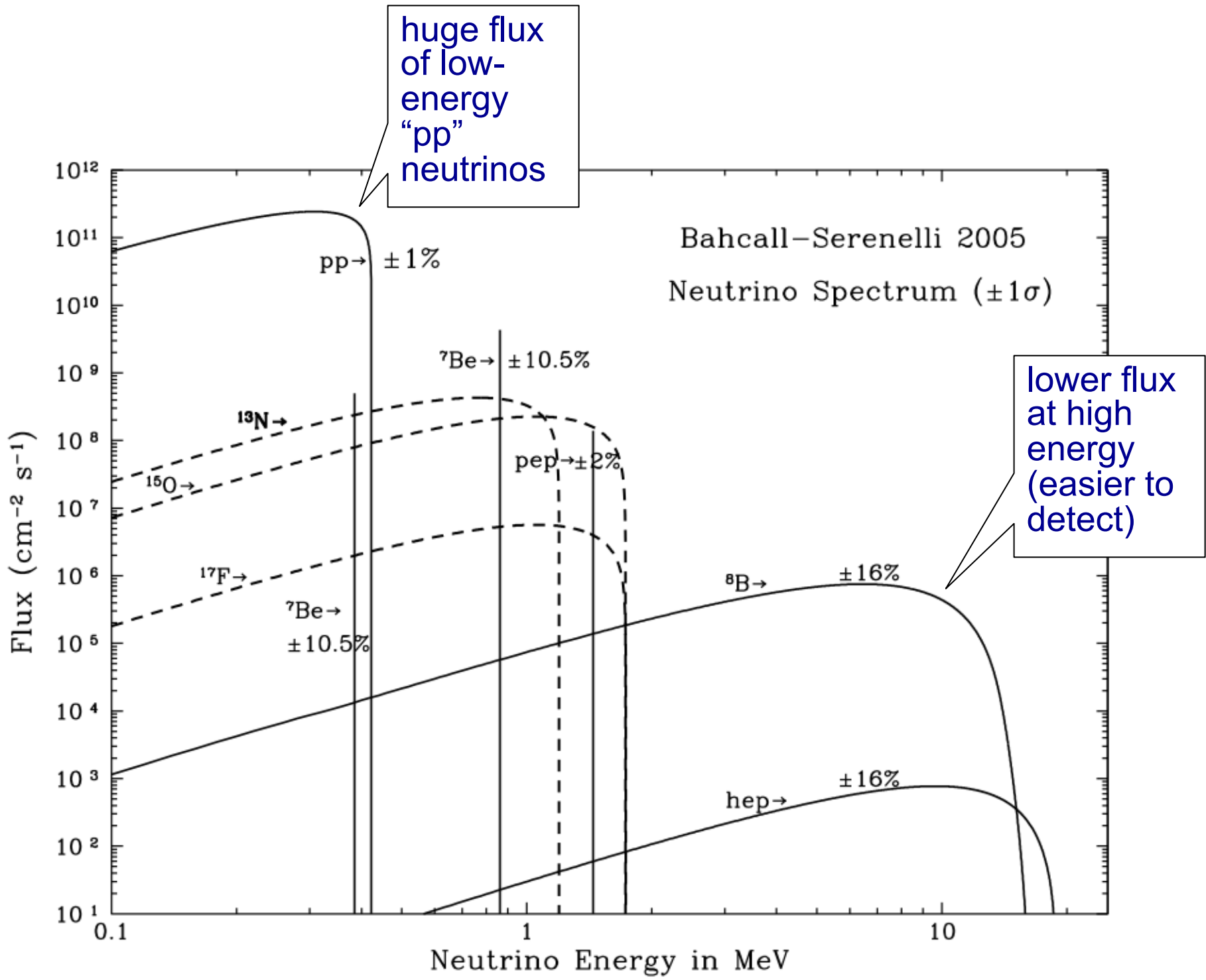
**-They Might Be Giants**

# Solar fusion reactions



Electron flavor neutrinos generated in solar fusion;  
spectrum is pretty well understood from weak physics





# Homestake Chlorine Radiochemical Detector

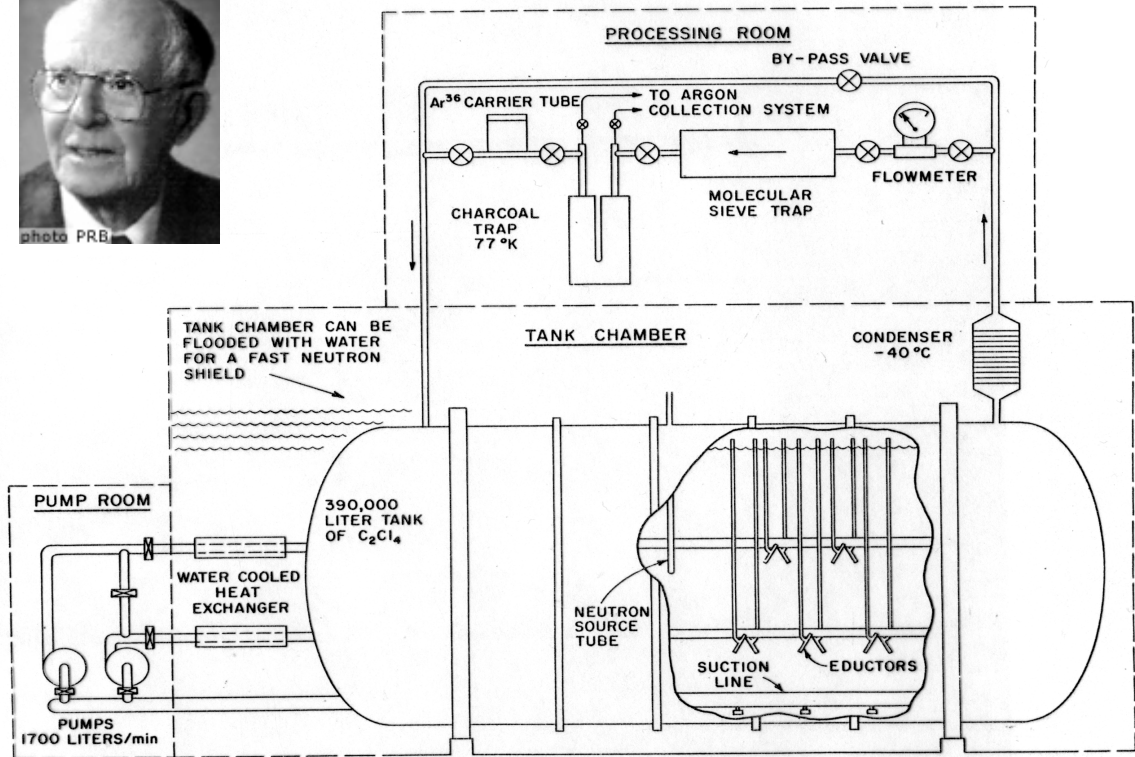
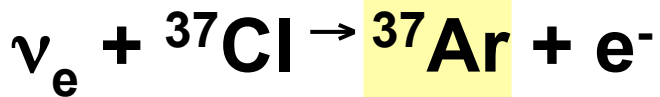


Figure 2.3. Schematic drawing of the argon recovery system. The pump-educator system forces helium gas through the tetrachloroethylene liquid and provides the helium gas flow through the argon collection system.



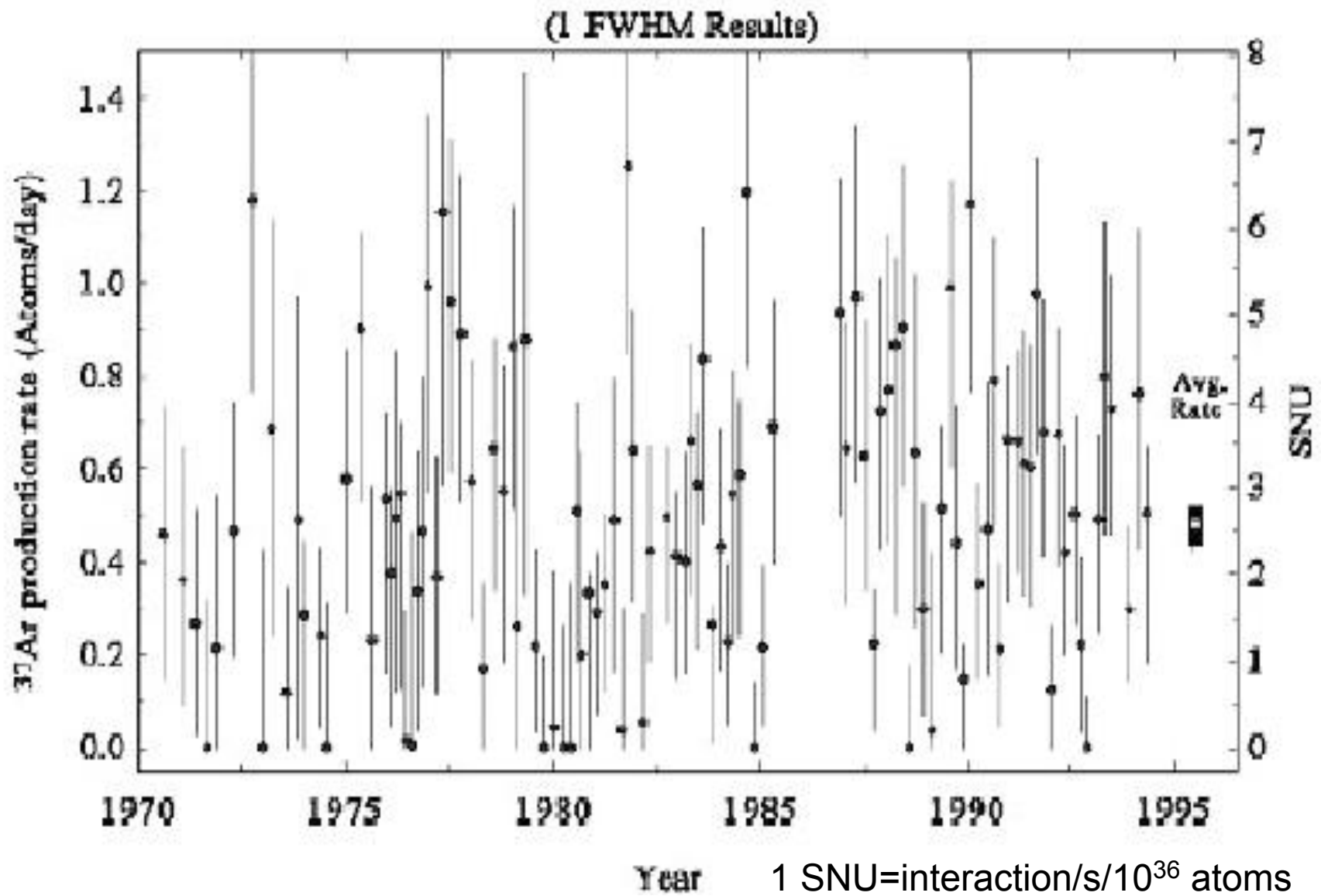
600 tons of cleaning fluid

Threshold: 0.81 MeV

Extract atoms of  ${}^{37}\text{Ar}$  every few months  
and count decays (35-day half life): ~ 12 per month!

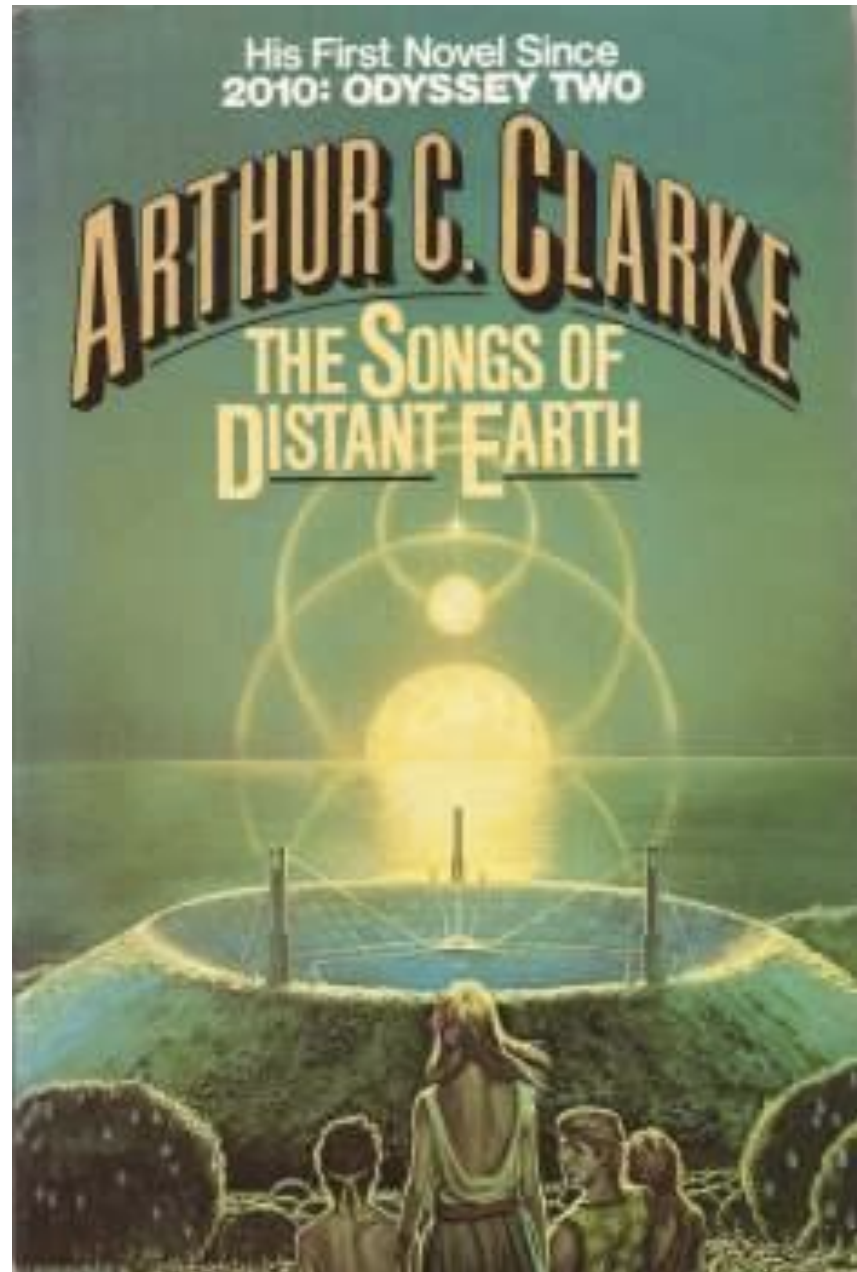
# Davis and Bahcall in 1967





Saw about 1/3 of the expected neutrinos

# Could the Sun be going out??





# Less apocalyptic (and less fine-tuned) ideas:



**blame  
the Sun**

Something wrong with  
the solar model?  
mixing between layers,  
abundances not understood...?



**blame  
the neutrinos**

Something funny  
about neutrinos?  
magnetic moment,  
decay...



**or neutrino oscillations...?**

Suppose electron neutrinos oscillate into  
 $\nu_\mu$  or  $\nu_\tau$  flavors, which don't have  
the oomph to make  $\mu$  &  $\tau$  via CC,  
... so they effectively disappear



Pontecorvo



# Oscillations, in 2-flavor approximation:

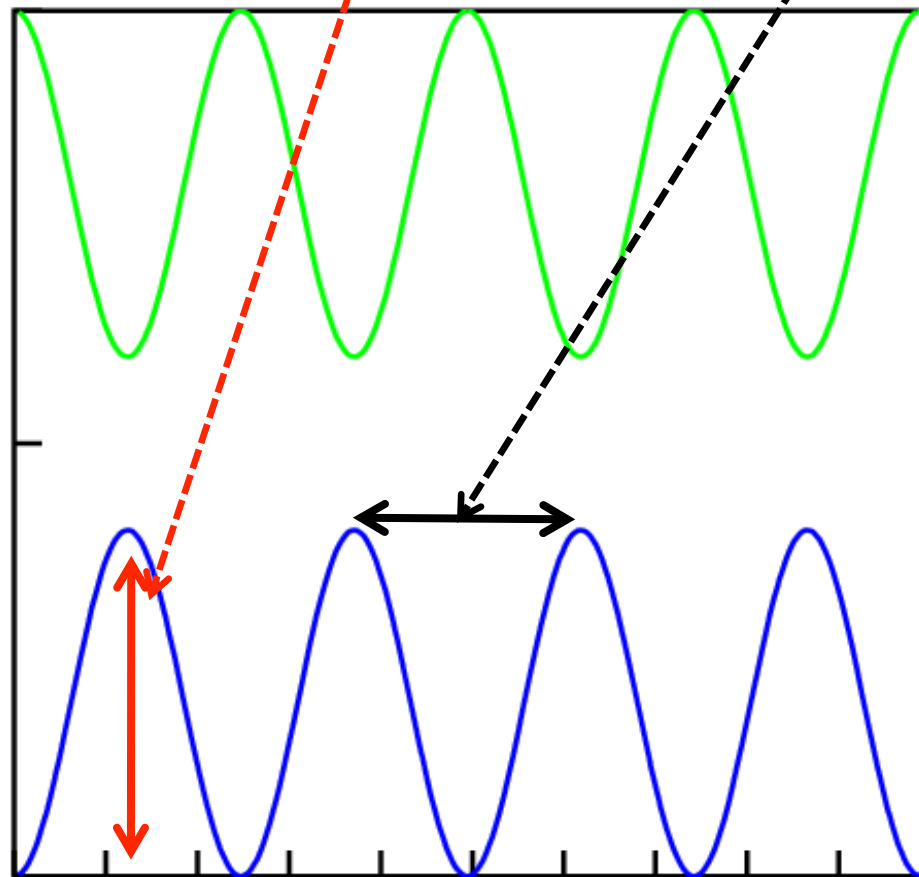
$$P(\nu_f \rightarrow \nu_g) = \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2 \left( \frac{1.27 \Delta m^2 L}{E} \right)$$

amplitude

wavelength =  $\pi E / (1.27 \Delta m^2)$

$P(\nu_f \rightarrow \nu_f)$

$P(\nu_f \rightarrow \nu_g)$



$\Delta m^2$ ,  $\sin^2 2\theta$   
are the  
parameters  
of nature;

$L$ ,  $E$  depend on  
the experimental  
setup

Distance traveled

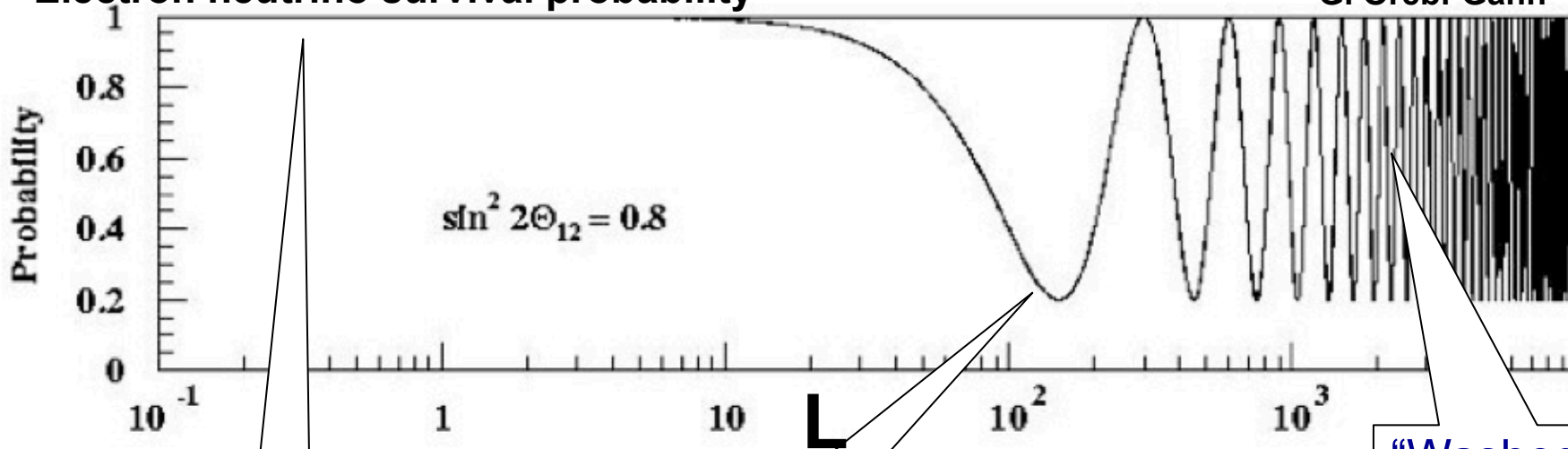
**Does it work out?** Not really: for simplest case  
don't get the right suppression

$$P(\nu_f \rightarrow \nu_g) = \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2 \left( \frac{1.27 \Delta m^2 L}{E} \right)$$

Example of oscillations in vacuum, for fixed  $\nu$  energy

Electron neutrino survival probability

G. Orebi-Gann

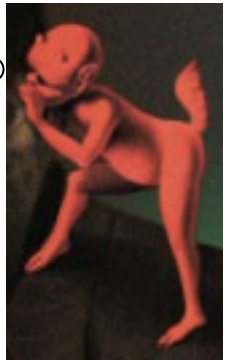


No mixing

In principle can get suppression, but for “just-so” distance, and requires large mixing angle

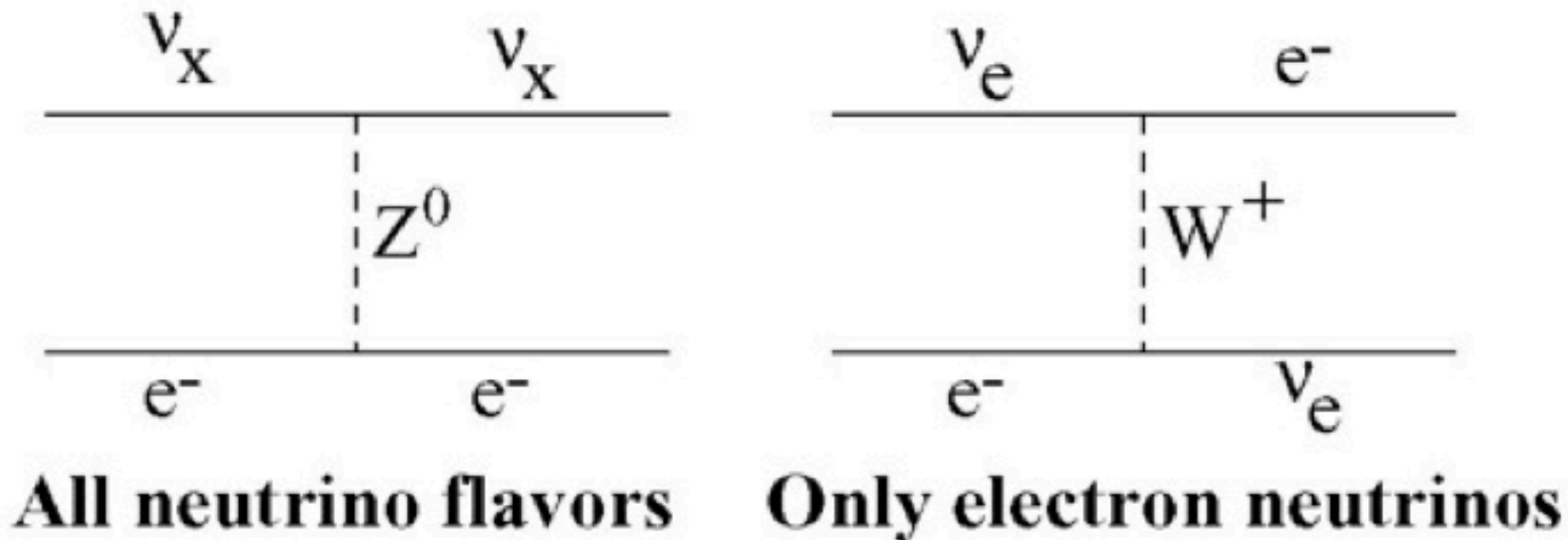
“Washed out”,  $P_{\text{surv}} > \sim 50\%$

Quark mixing angles are small, so neutrino mixing angles must be small too, right?



# Evolving ideas about oscillations...

**AT SOLAR NEUTRINO ENERGIES:**



The Sun tastes like electrons to solar  $\nu_e$



Mikheyev



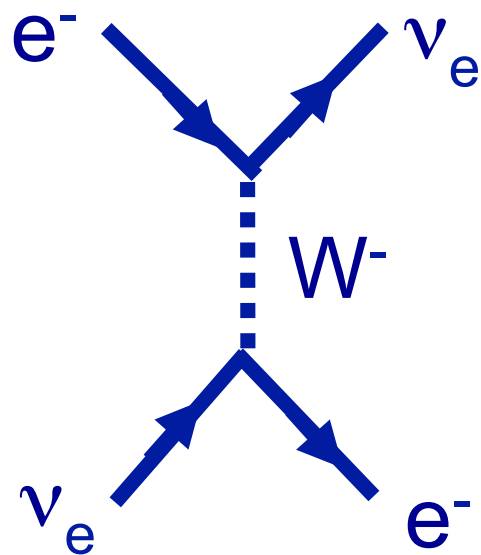
Smirnov



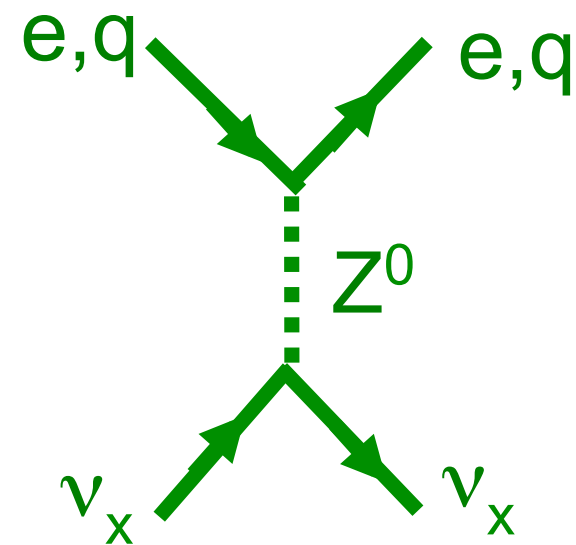
Wolfenstein

# The Mikheyev-Smirnov-Wolfenstein (MSW) Effect a.k.a. "Matter Effects"

The Sun tastes like electrons to solar  $\nu_e$



vs.



extra energy  $\sqrt{2} G_F N_e$  for  $\nu_e$

vs.

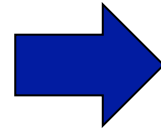
NC only for  $\nu_{\mu, \tau}$

extra forward scattering  
amplitude  $\rightarrow$   
need to modify Hamiltonian

$$|\nu(t)\rangle = a_e(t) |\nu_e\rangle + a_\mu(t) |\nu_\mu\rangle$$

$$i \frac{d}{dx} \begin{pmatrix} a_e \\ a_\mu \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{4E} \begin{pmatrix} 2E\sqrt{2}G_F N_e(x) - \Delta m^2 \cos 2\theta_\nu & \Delta m^2 \sin 2\theta_\nu \\ \Delta m^2 \sin 2\theta_\nu & -2E\sqrt{2}G_F N_e(x) + \Delta m^2 \cos 2\theta_\nu \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a_e \\ a_\mu \end{pmatrix}$$

evolution of flavor states  
depends on matter density  
profile and vacuum  
oscillation parameters



results in *modified  
effective mixing  
parameters*

$$\tan 2\theta_m = \frac{\frac{\Delta m^2}{2E} \sin 2\theta}{\frac{\Delta m^2}{2E} \cos 2\theta - \sqrt{2}G_F N_e}$$

$$\tan 2\theta_m = \frac{\frac{\Delta m^2}{2E} \sin 2\theta}{\frac{\Delta m^2}{2E} \cos 2\theta - \sqrt{2}G_F N_e}$$

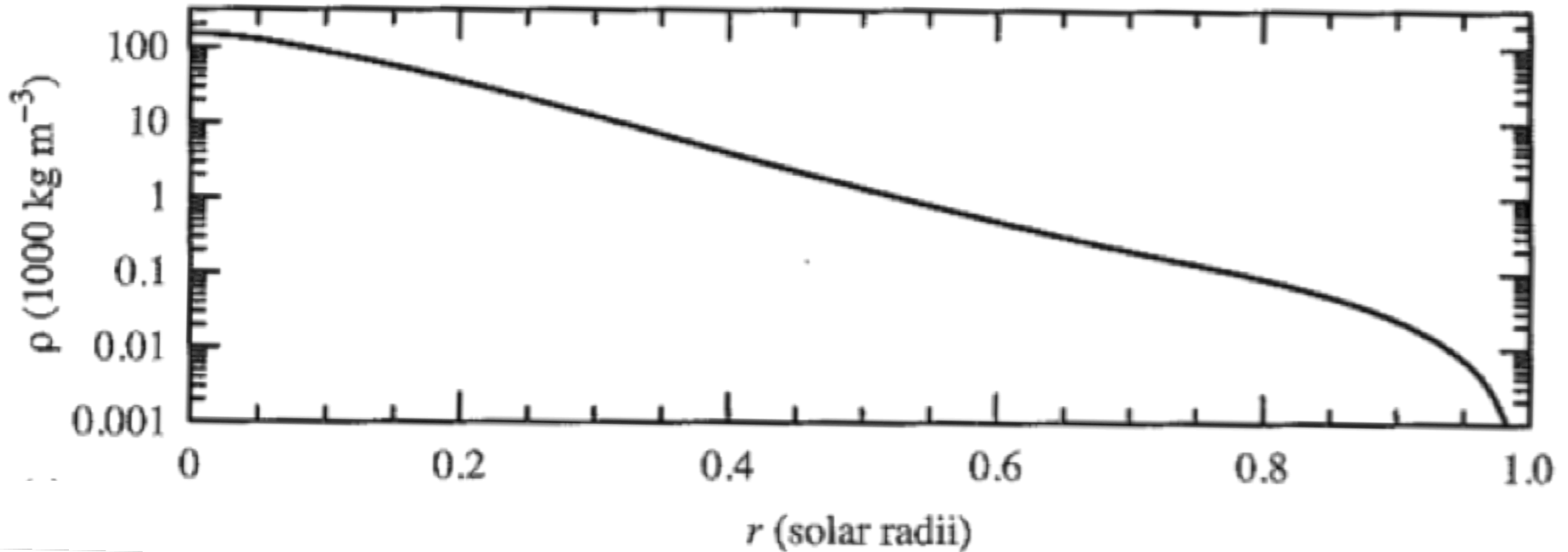
depends  
on matter  
density

Notice the mixing amplitude  
gets large if:

$$\frac{\Delta m^2}{2E} \cos 2\theta = \sqrt{2}G_F N_e$$



## Density varies continuously in the Sun



So for a given  $E$ , *some* density could satisfy the condition

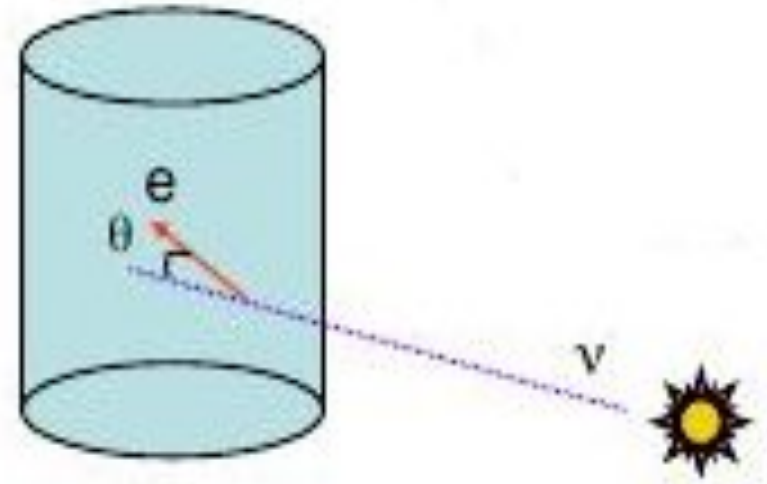
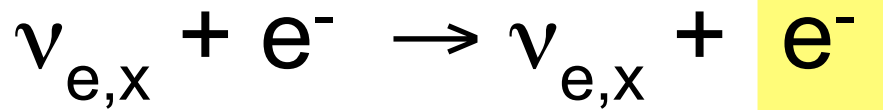
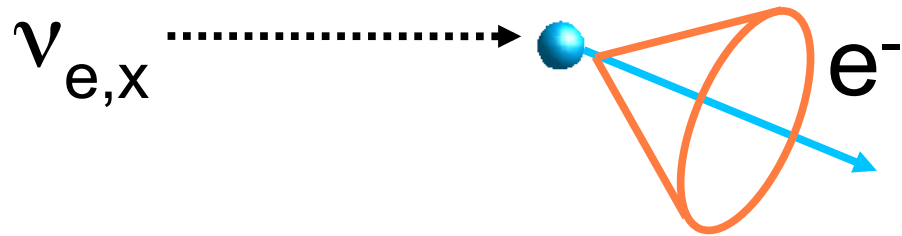
$$\frac{\Delta m^2}{2E} \cos 2\theta = \sqrt{2} G_F N_e$$

and lead to large flavor transition, even for small intrinsic mixing: **MSW resonance**

Is this what's happening?

More experimental information coming in...

## Water Cherenkov Detectors

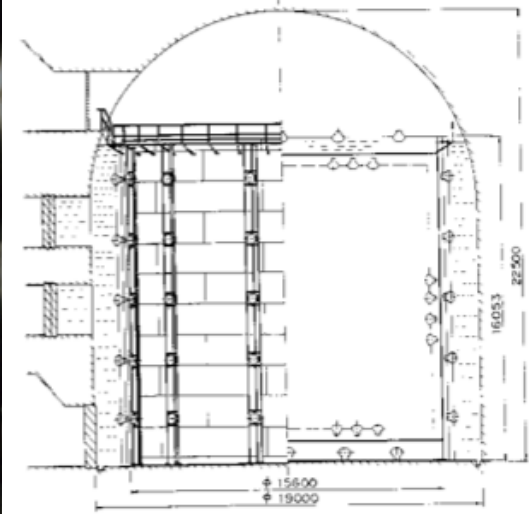
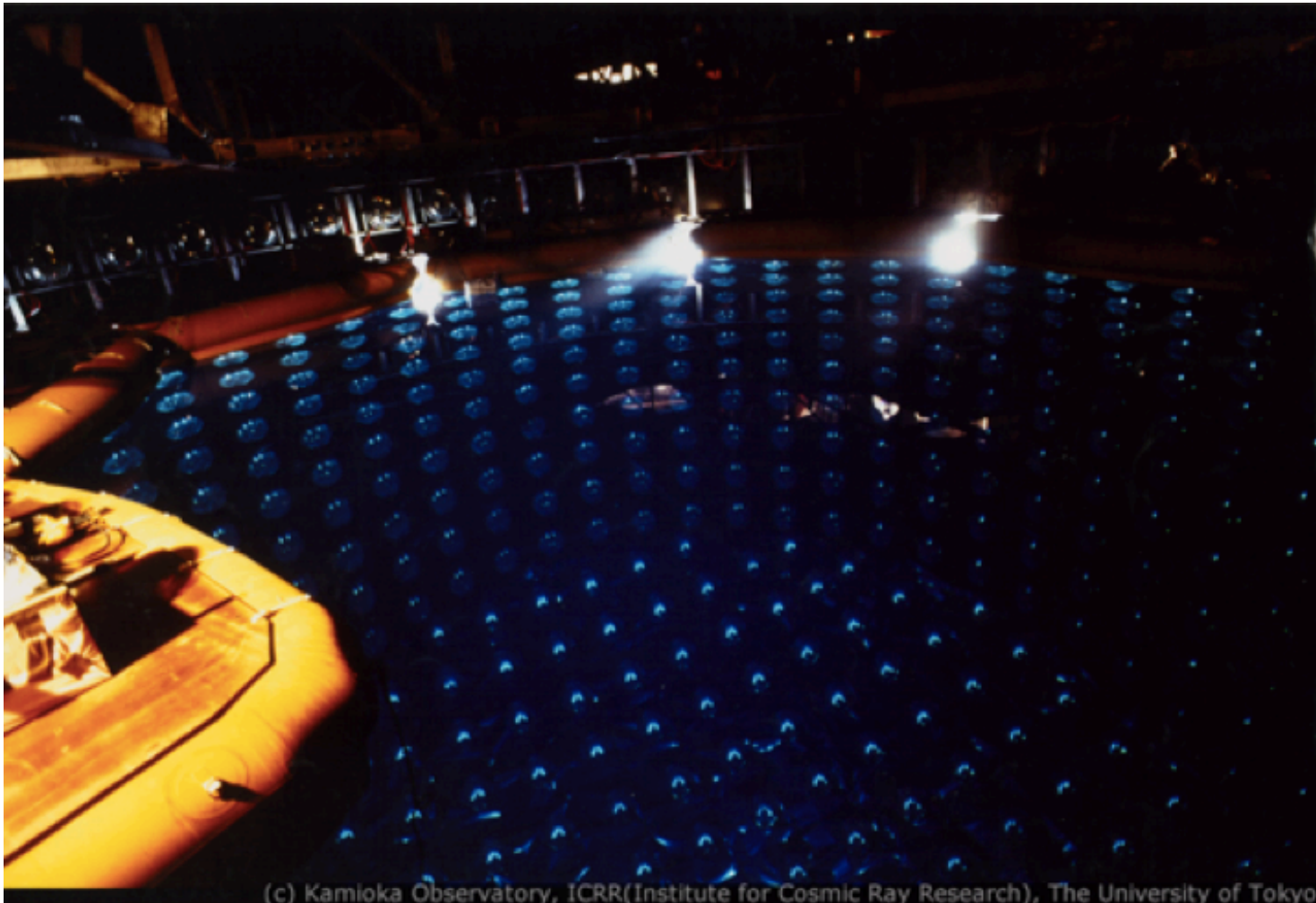


Elastic scattering of  $\sim$ MeV solar  $\nu$ 's  
on electrons

real time detection,  
with *directionality*

# Kamiokande II in Japan

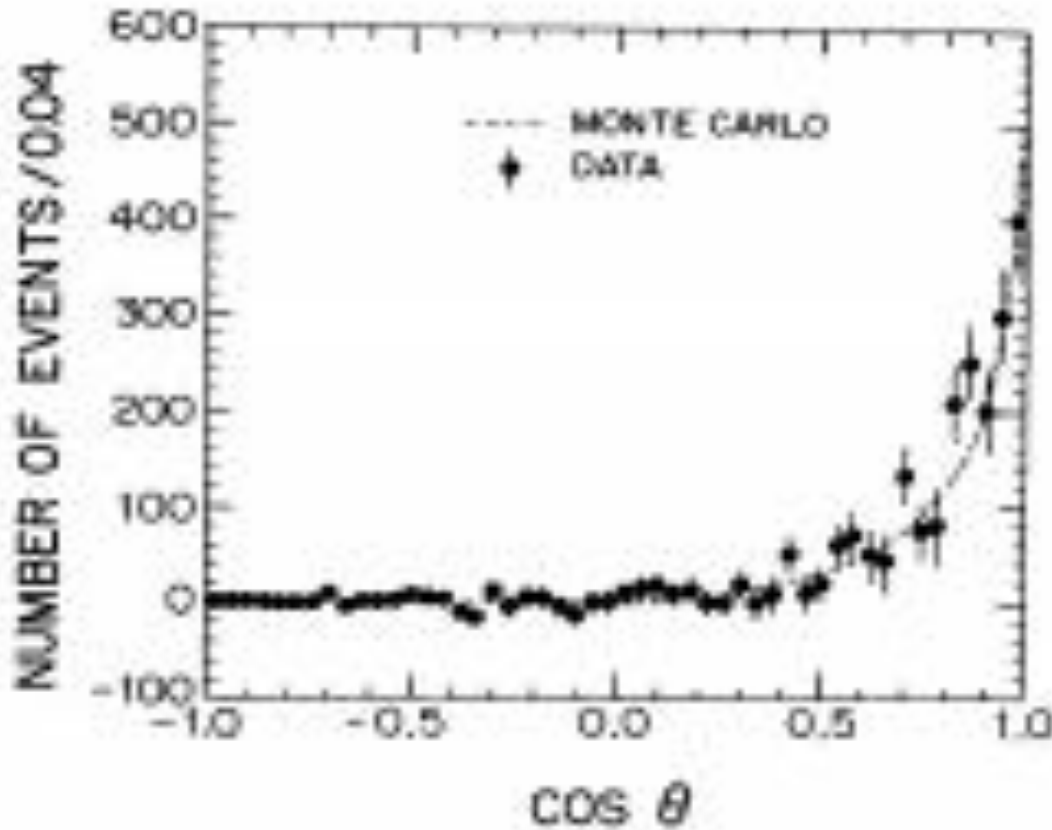
(original motivation: search for proton decay)



2.1 kton

$E > \sim 7 \text{ MeV}$  : sensitive to  ${}^8\text{B}$  tail of spectrum

## Kamiokande-II, 1991



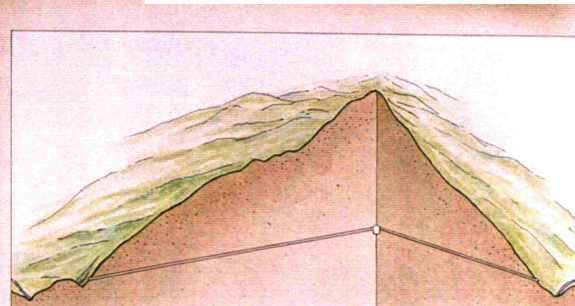
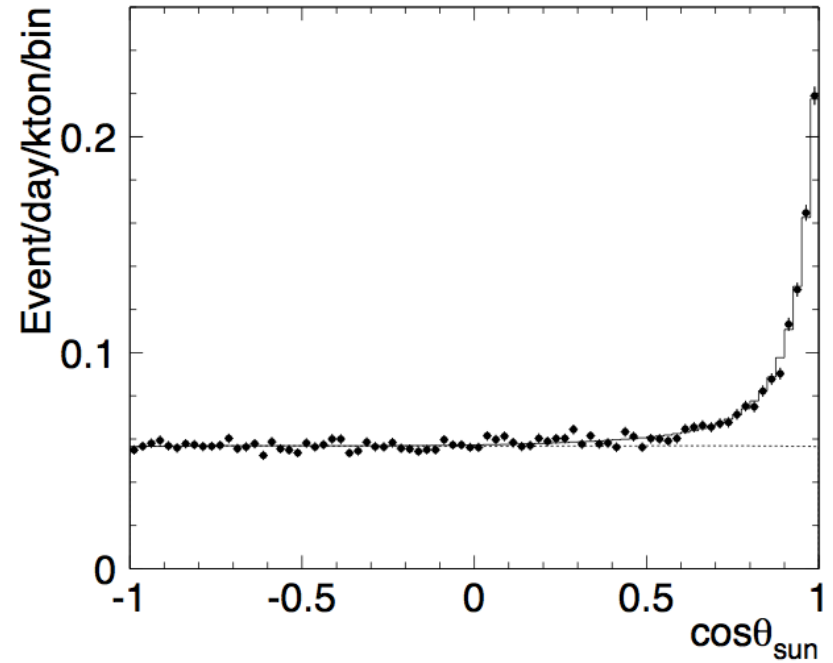
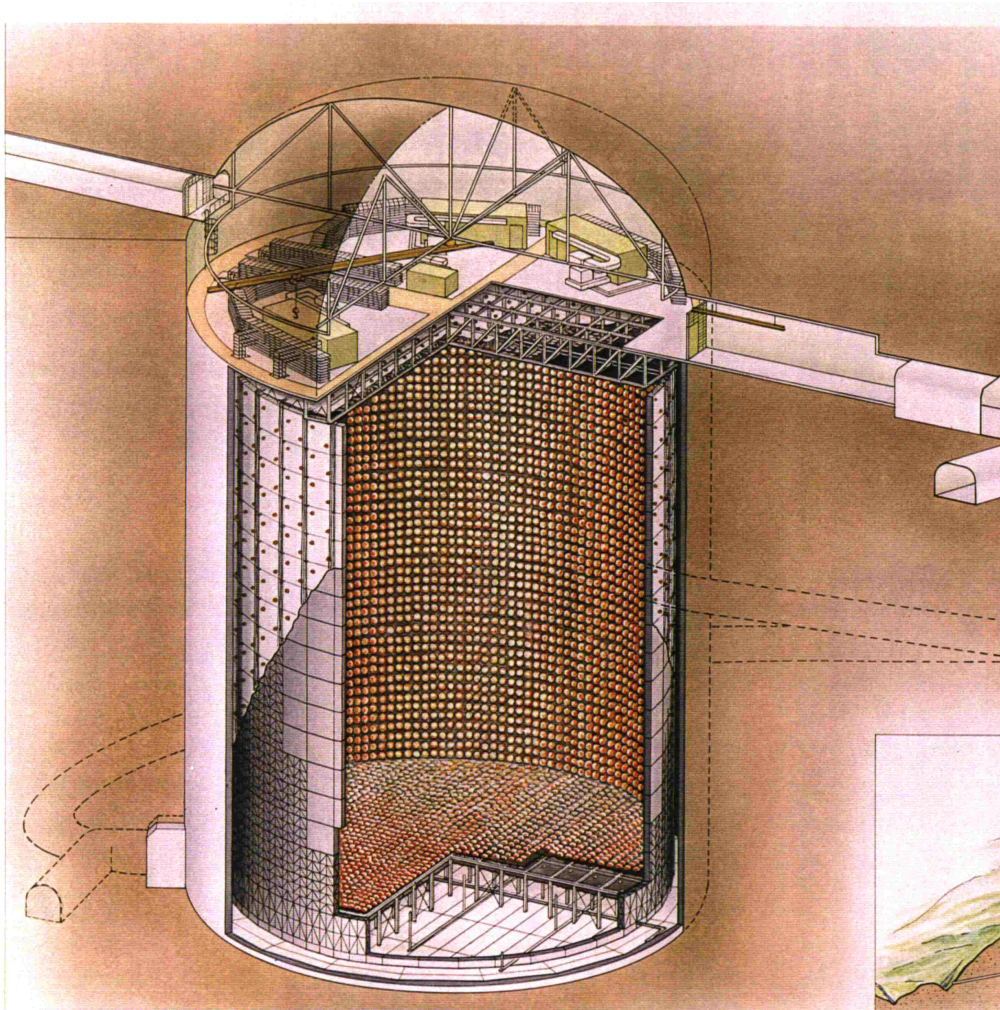
The events  
point back  
to the Sun!

**It's really solar  
neutrinos**

~40% of expectation: still a deficit

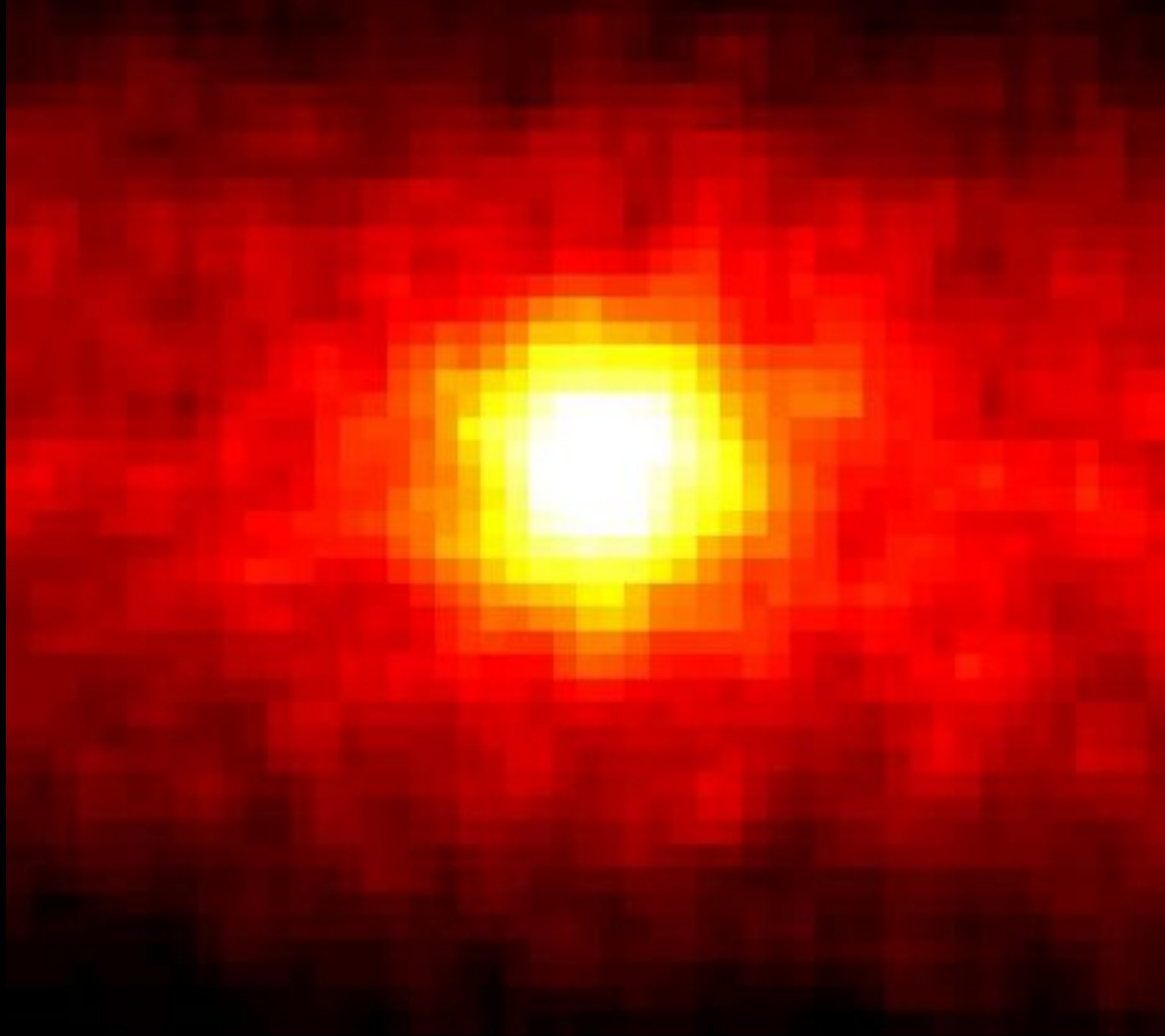


# Later: significant improvement from Super-K (consistent with earlier results)



22.5 kton,  $< \sim 5$  MeV threshold

# The Sun in neutrinos from Super-K

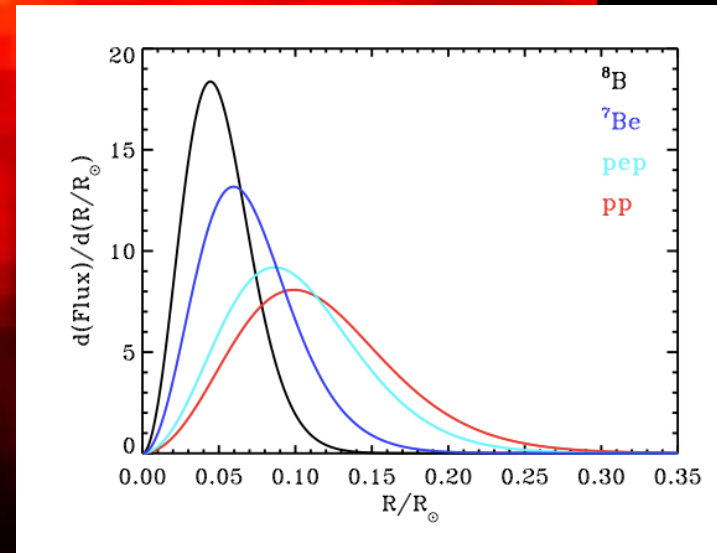




Disclaimer: the visible Sun occupies  $< 1$  pixel,  
and neutrinos emerge from an even smaller region!



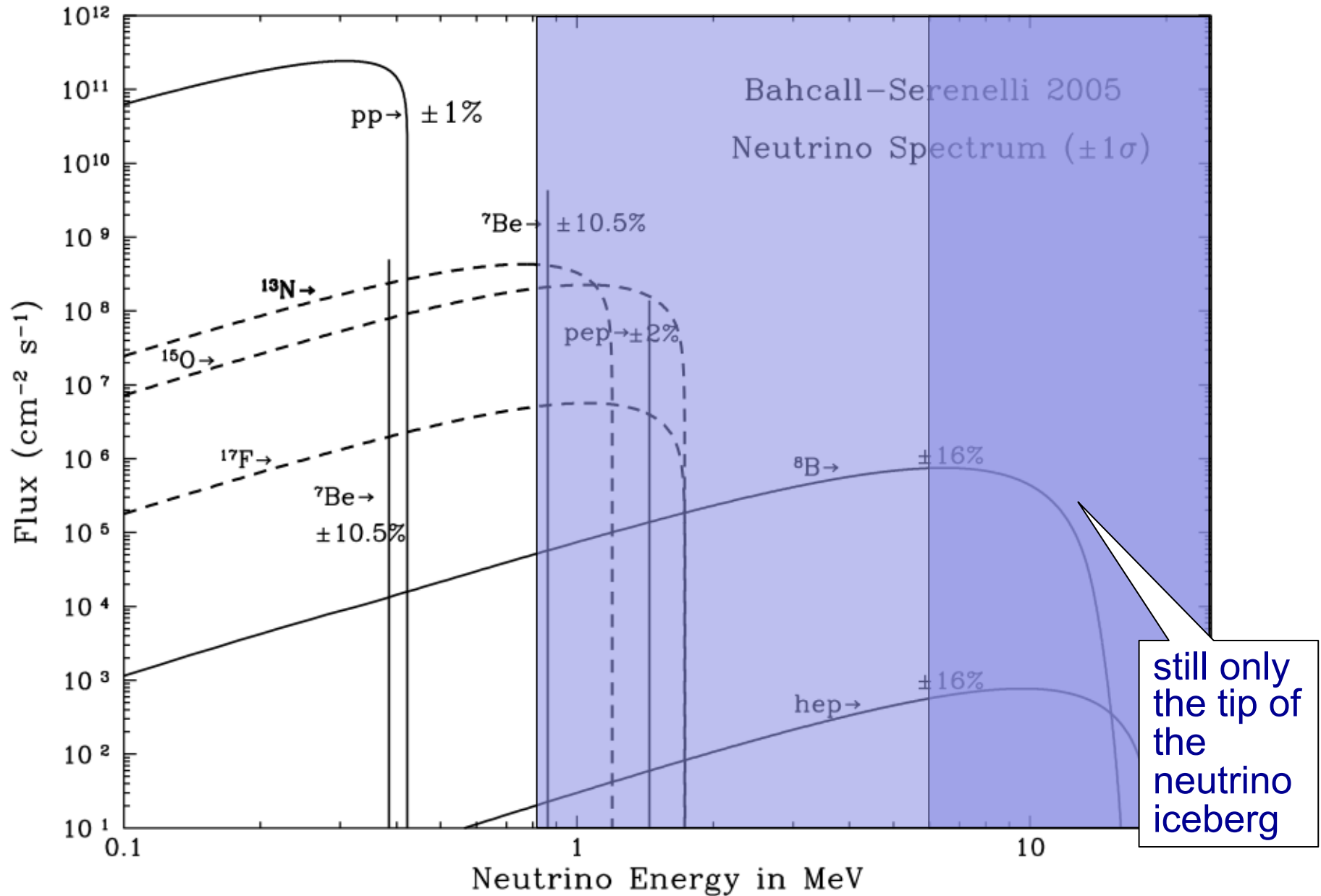
2000/01/17 19:19



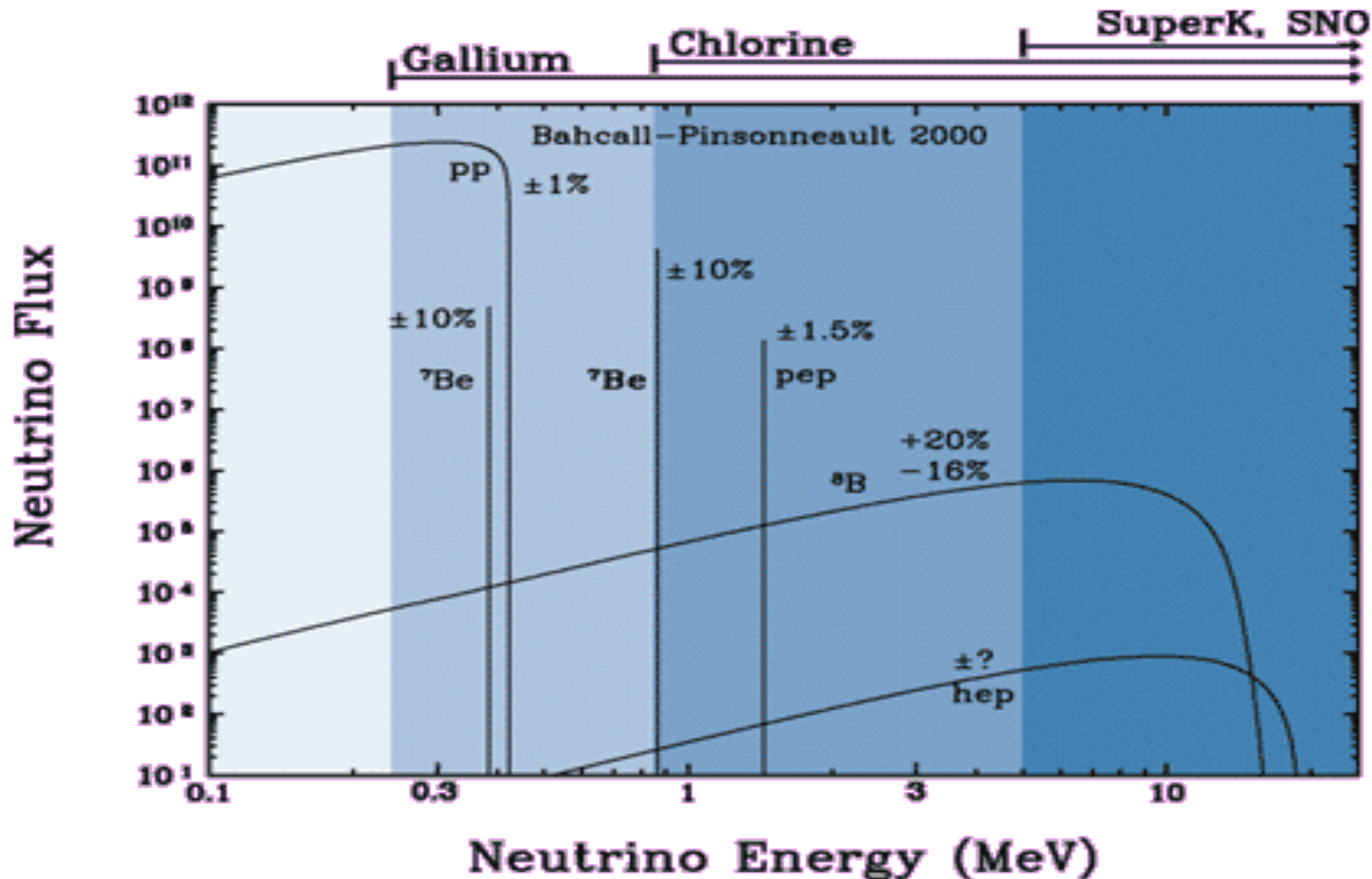
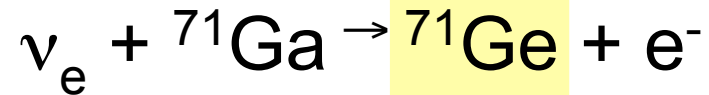
# Two measurements at two energy thresholds

➤ **Cl**

➤ **Water**

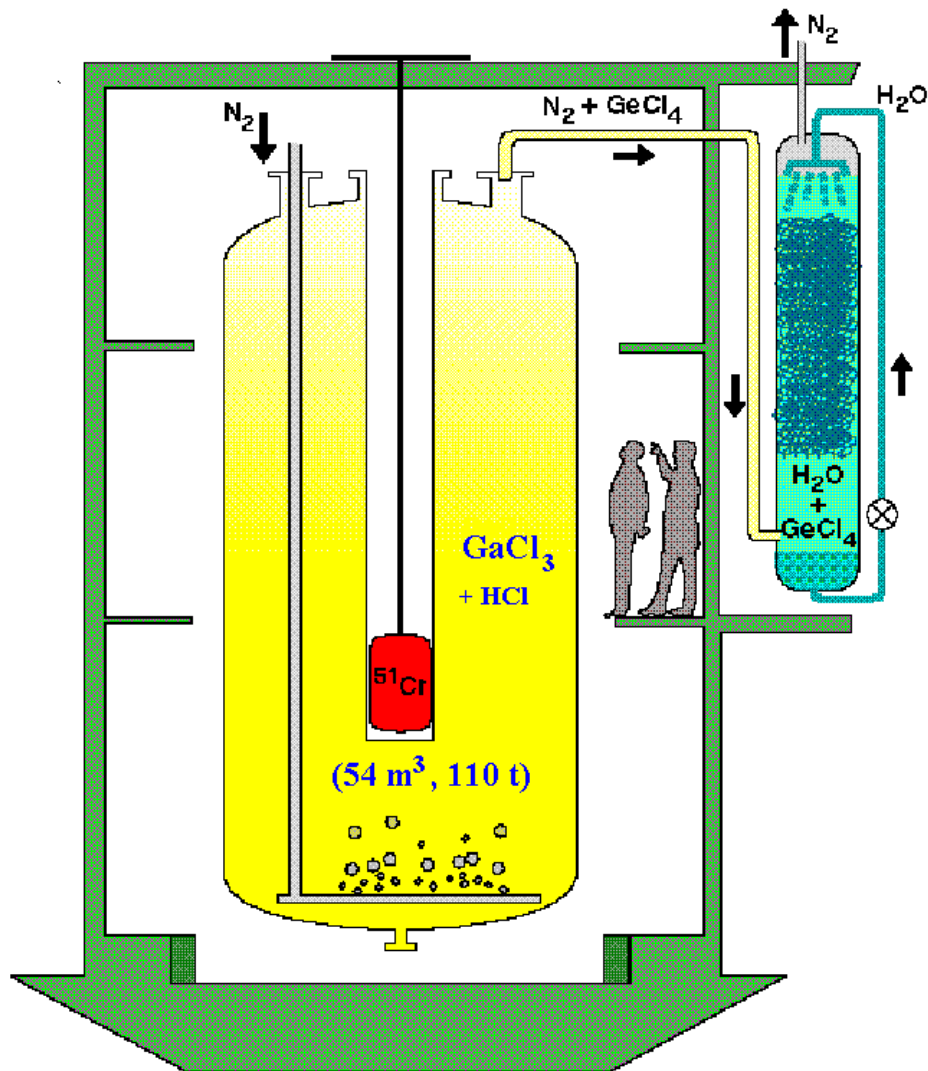


# Next: gallium radiochemical experiments



Threshold: 0.23 MeV, 11 day half-life  
Sensitive to *pp* neutrinos

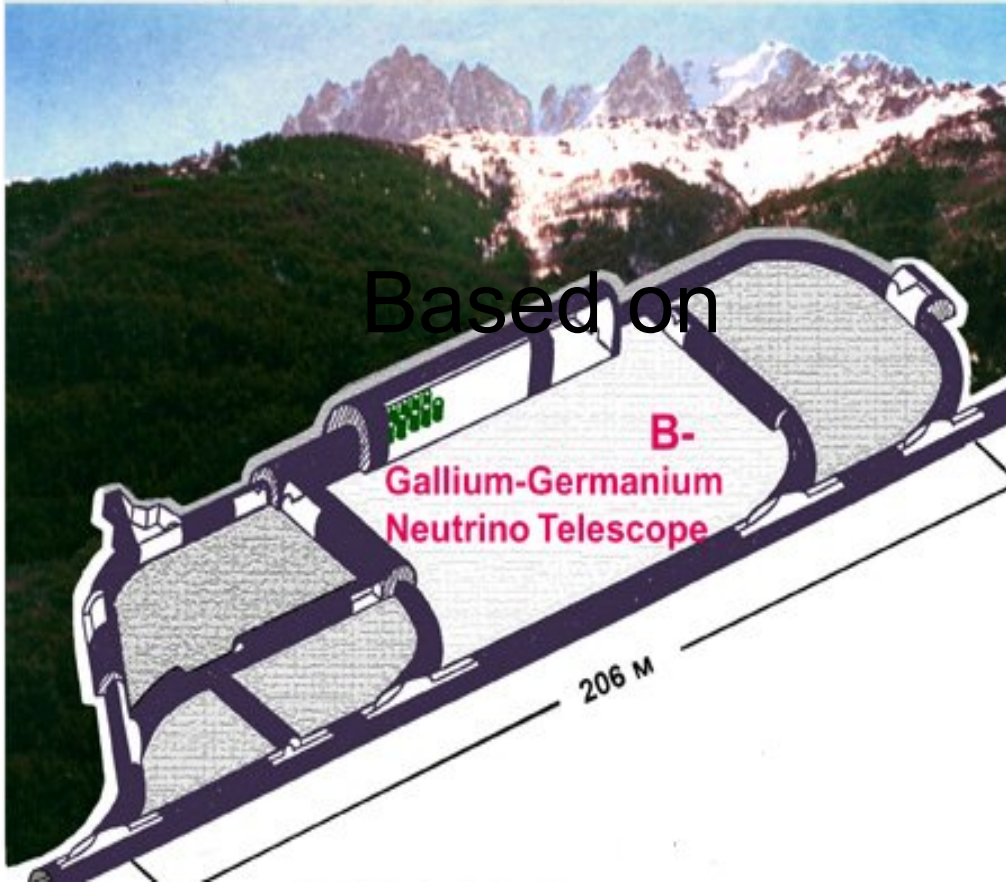
# Gallex/GNO (Gallium Neutrino Observatory) at LNGS, Italy: 1991-2006



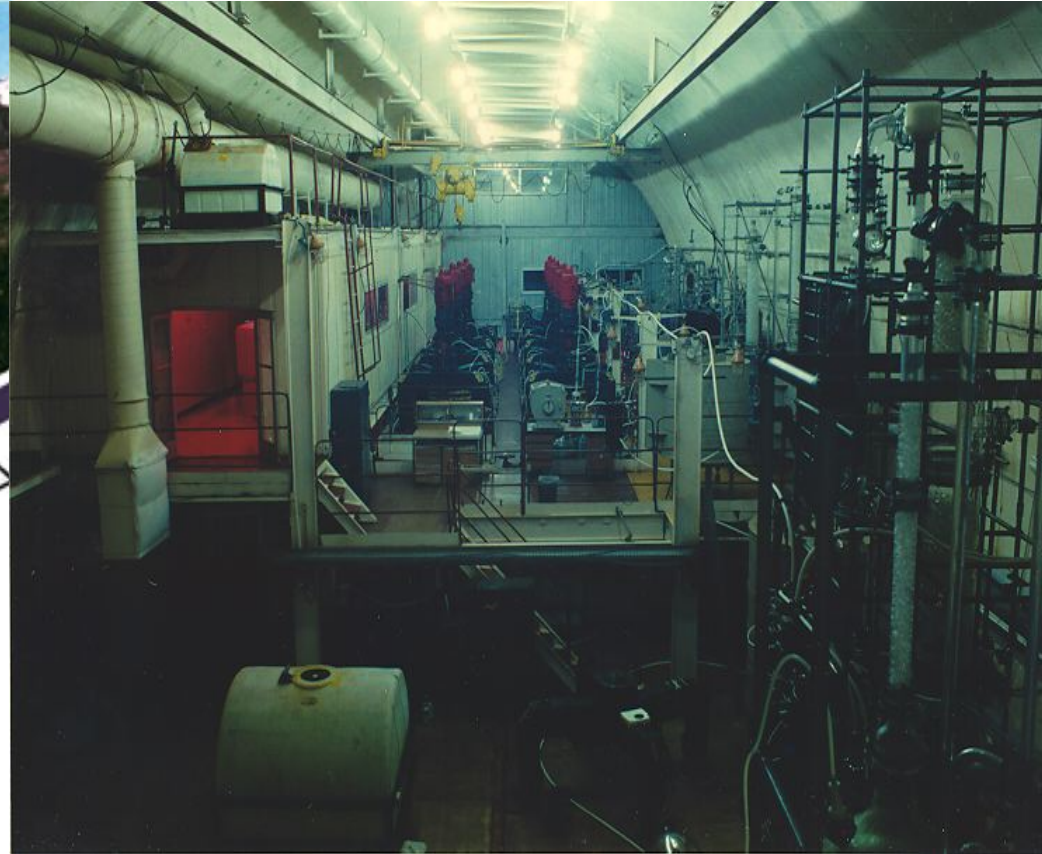
Used gallium chloride (30 tons of Ga)



# The SAGE Experiment



Caucasus mountains, Russia



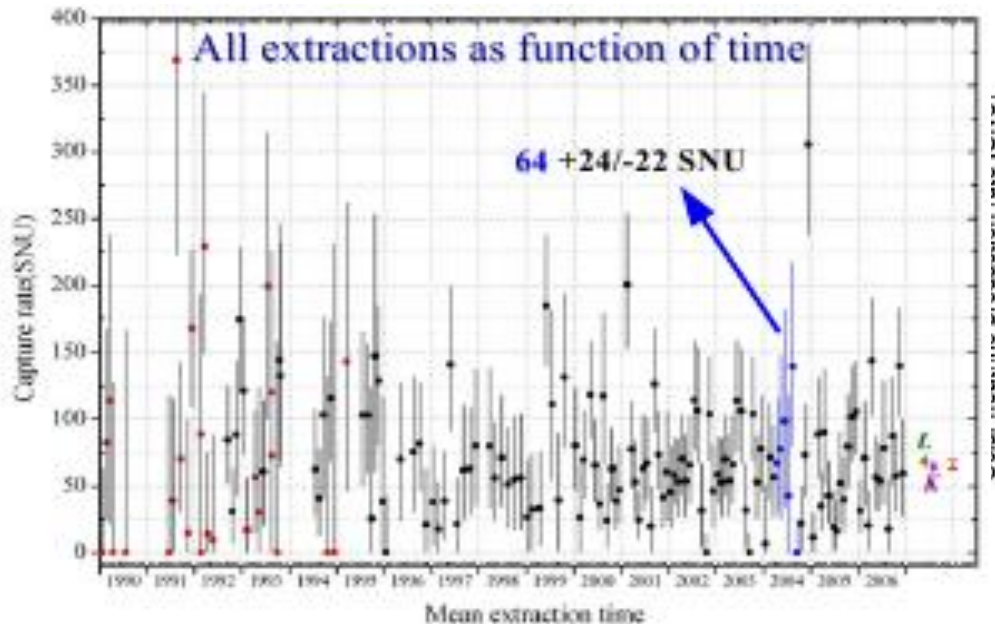
Based on liquid gallium  
50 tons

1990-2007

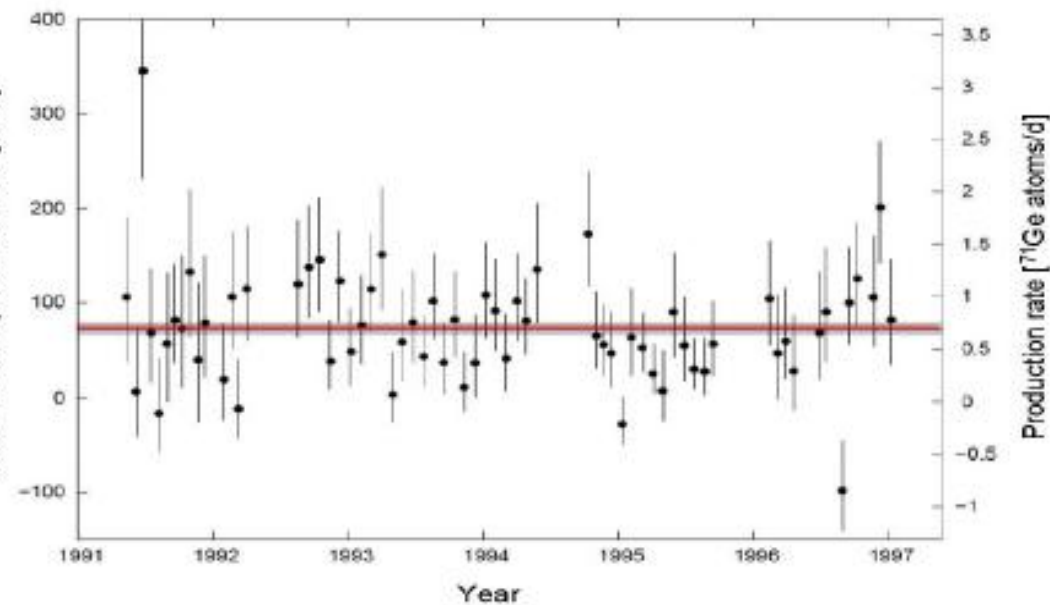
# Gallium solar neutrino results

D. Hahn, Nu2008

## SAGE

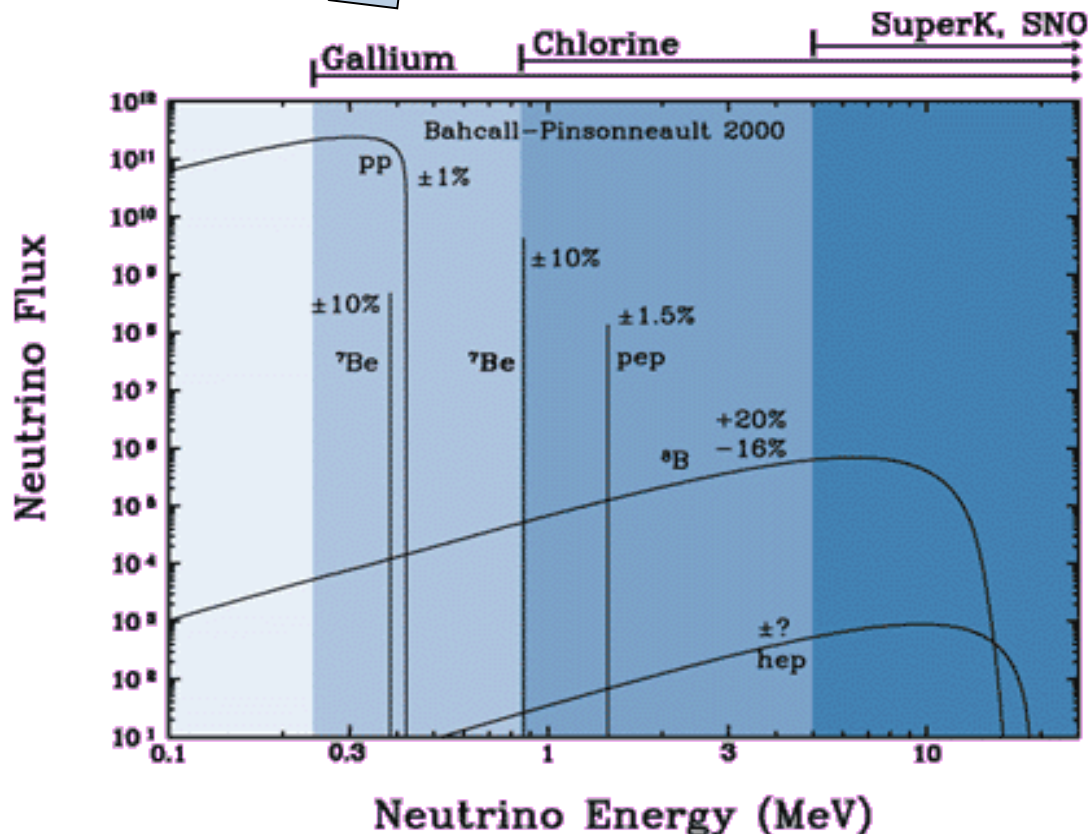
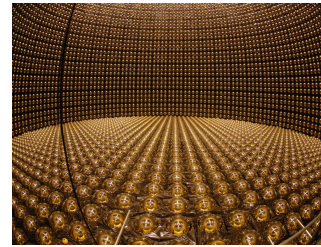
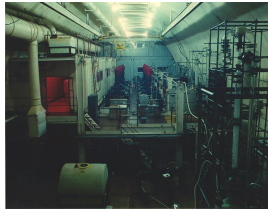
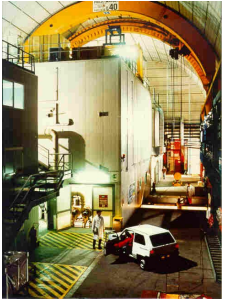


## GALLEX



Again clear shortfall: about 60% of standard solar model expectation (pp neutrinos)

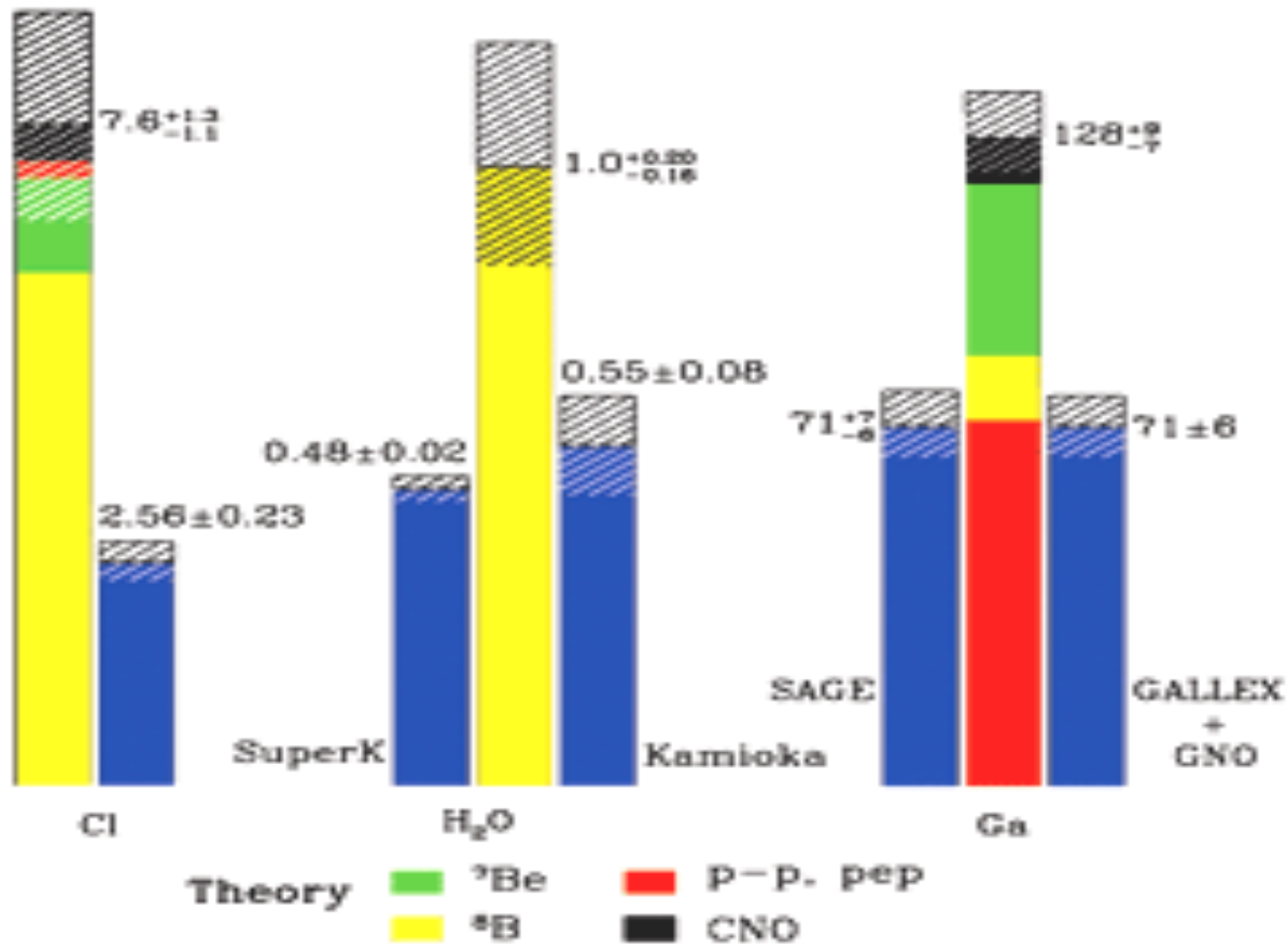
# The picture in the mid-1990's: the “classic” solar neutrino problem



Different detectors are sensitive to different neutrino energy ranges



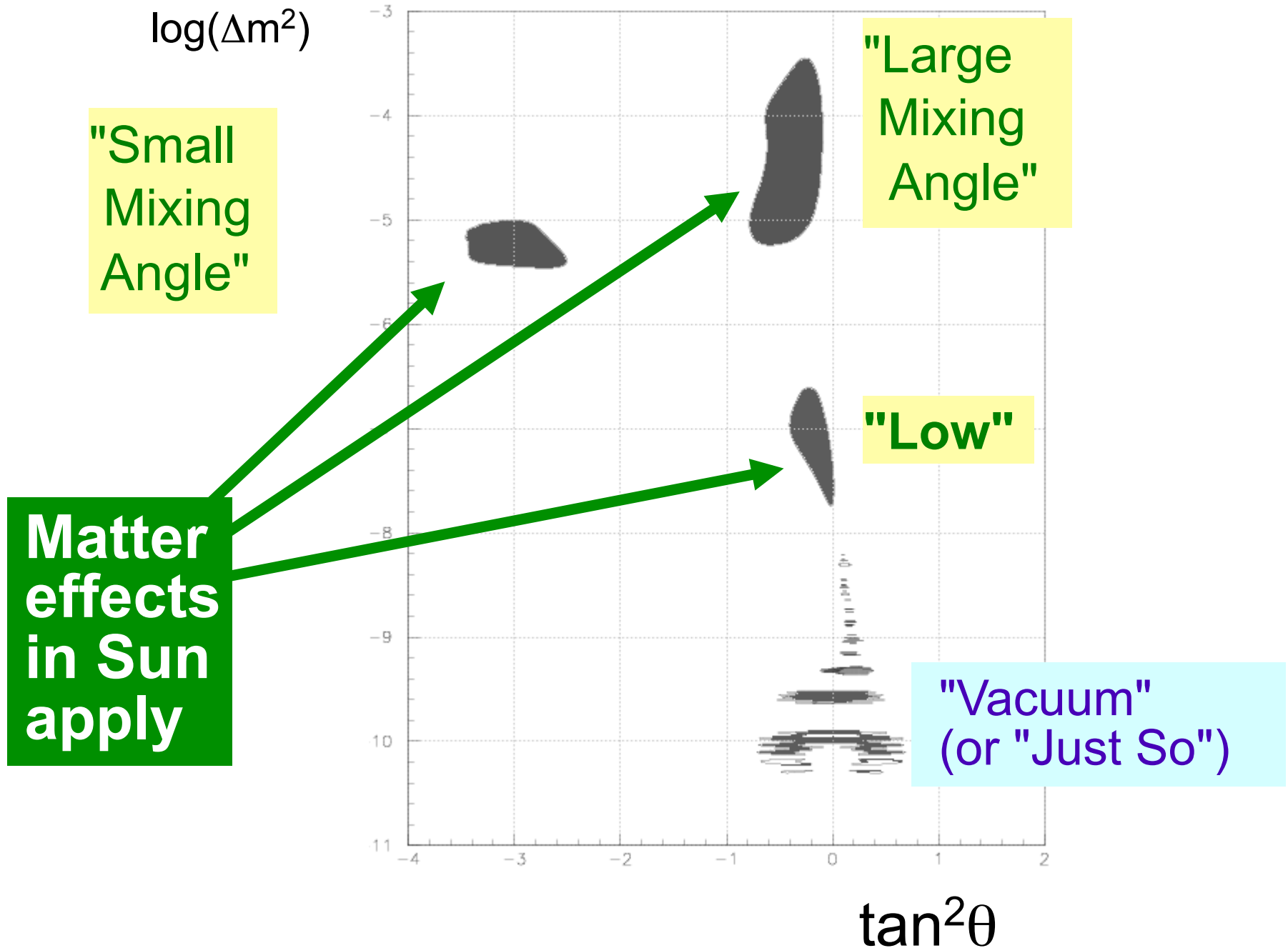
# Energy-dependent suppression observed



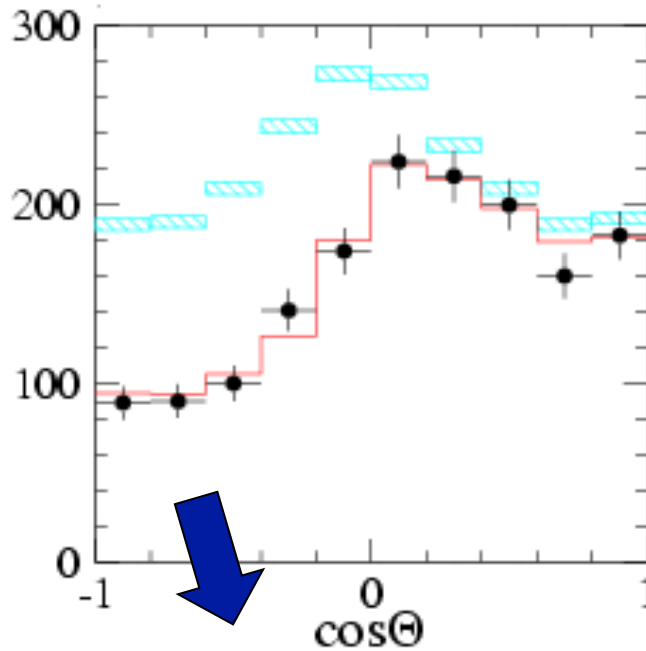
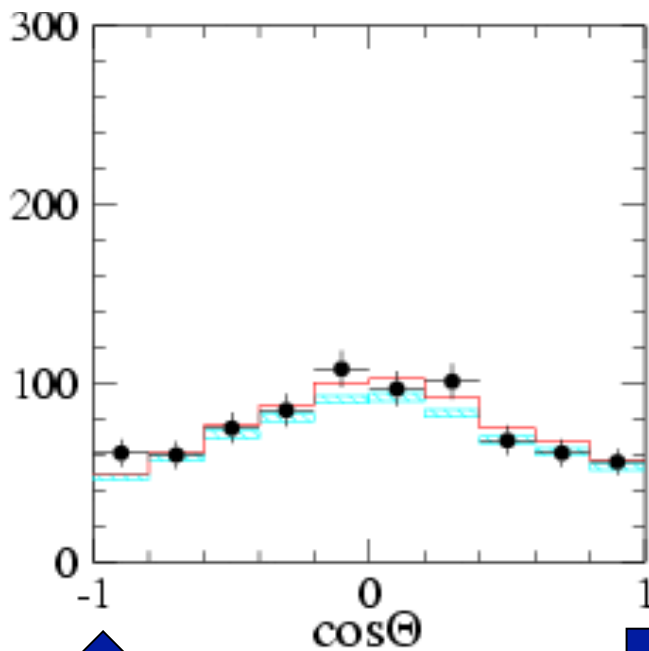
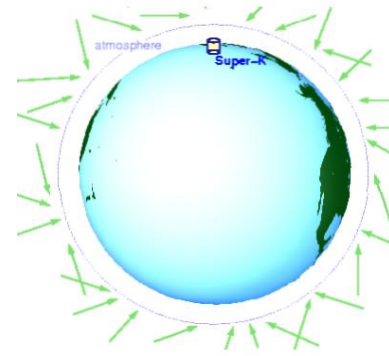
No known solar model could explain...  
could it be  $\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_{\mu, \tau}$ ?



# "Classic" allowed parameters for solar neutrino oscillations (Ga+Cl+ water)



In 1998, atmospheric neutrinos results from Super-K show  $\sim$  GeV neutrinos are oscillating



↑  
up-going

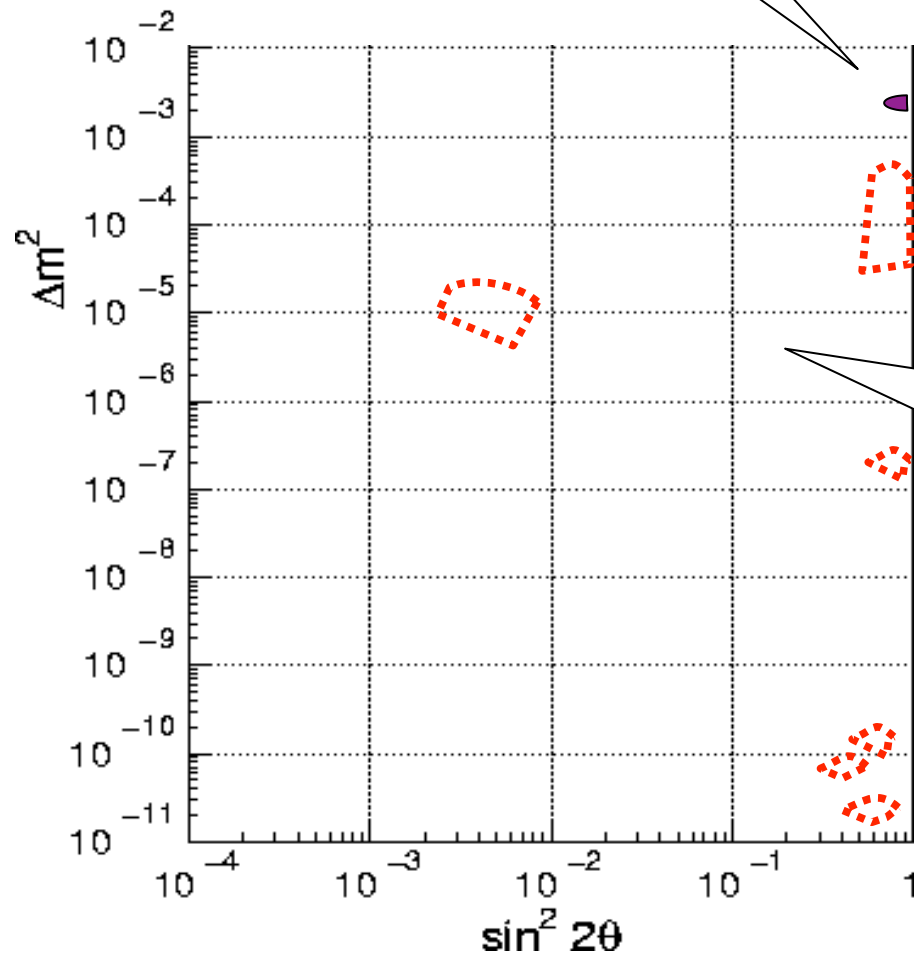
↓  
down-going

—  $\nu_\mu - \nu_\tau$  oscillation (best fit)

Huge deficit of  $\nu_\mu$  from below, consistent with  $\nu_\mu$  to  $\nu_\tau$  oscillation

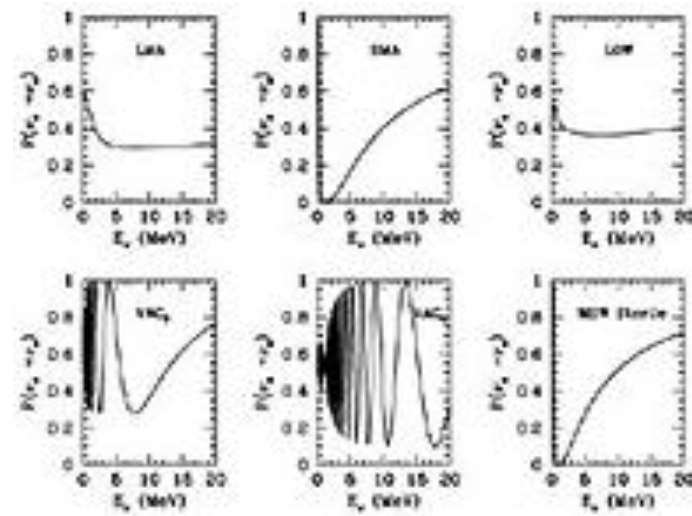


Atmospheric oscillations occupy a different oscillation parameter regime



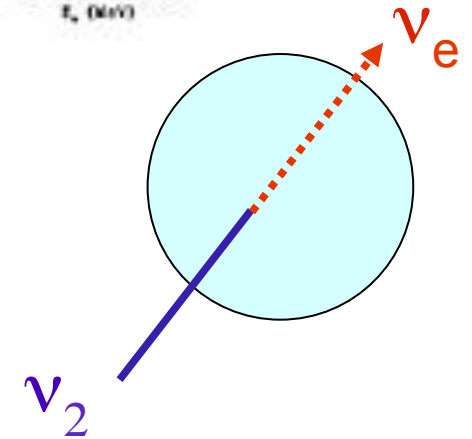
But now solar neutrino oscillations (low energy, longer wavelength) are even more motivated!

# Hunting for "Smoking Guns": oscillation signatures

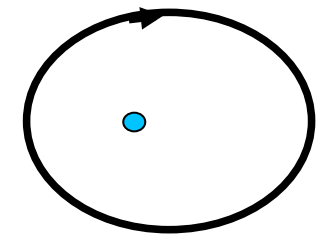


- Spectral distortion

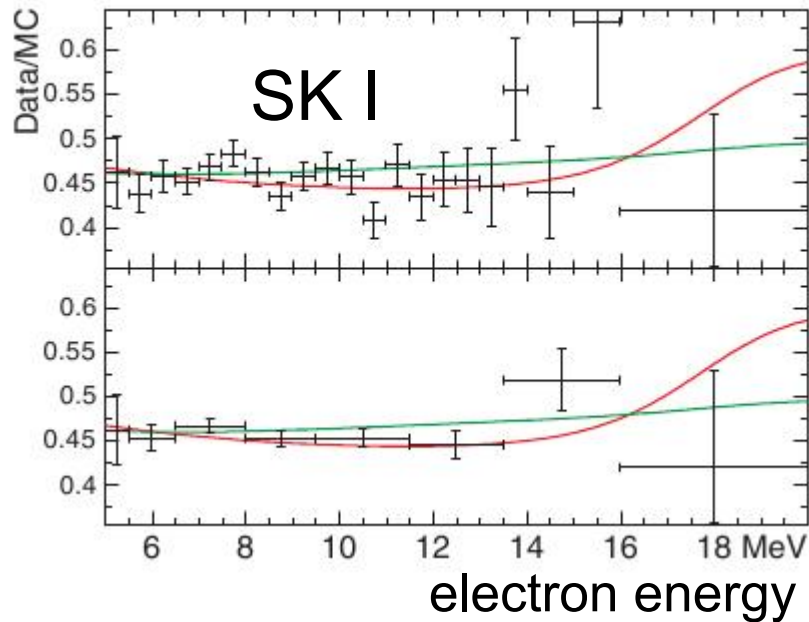
- Day/night effect: regeneration of  $\nu_e$  in Earth due to matter effect enhances  $\nu_e$  flux at night for some parameters



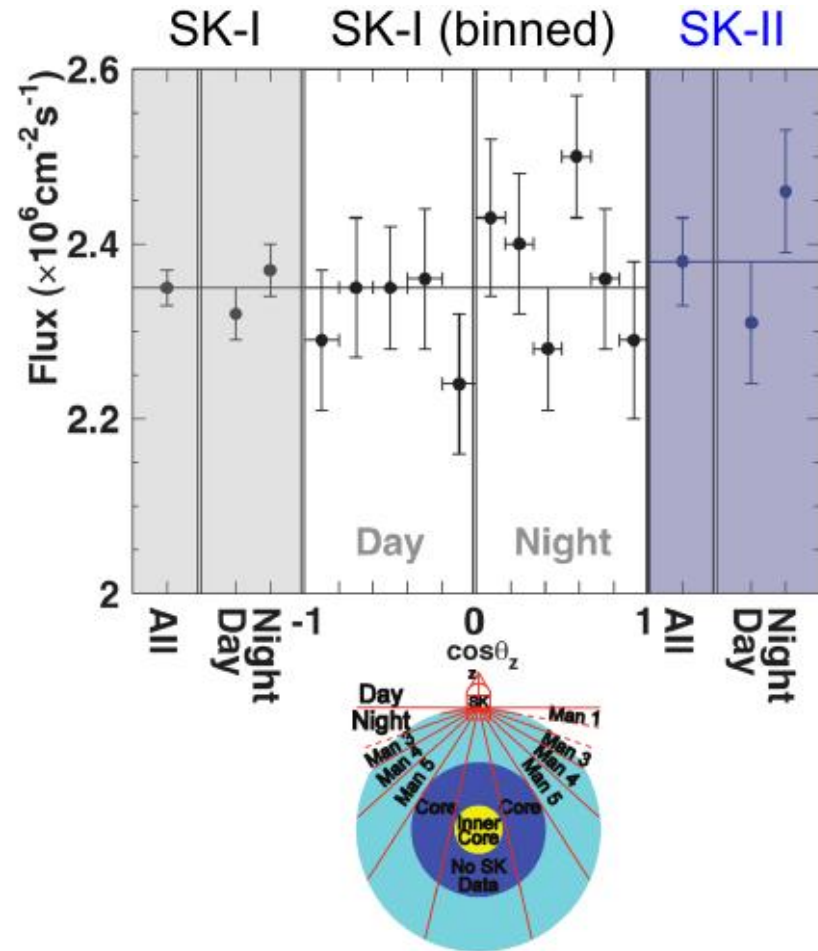
- Seasonal variation: variation with  $L$  for vacuum oscillation (beyond 7% expected from Earth orbit)



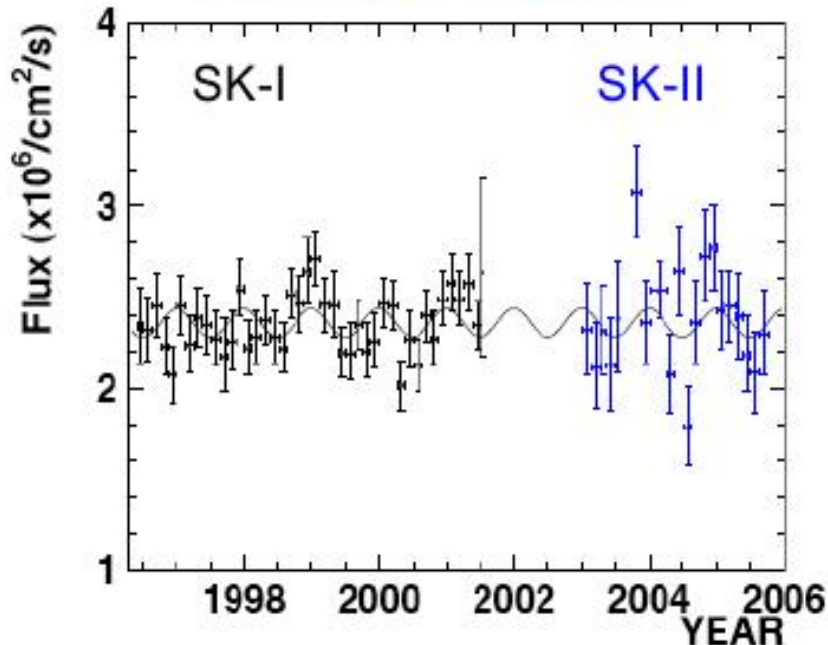
# Recoil energy spectrum



# Day/night asymmetry



# Seasonal variation



No strong effects  
(besides suppression)  
observed at Super-K  
⇒ constrain parameters

# But there's another smoking gun...

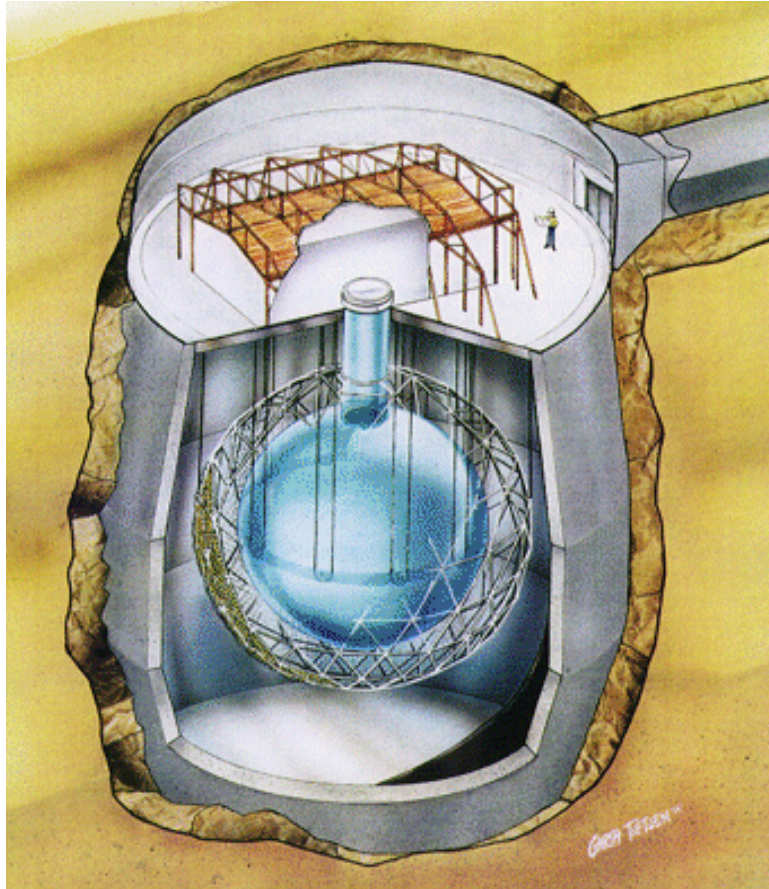
- Spectral distortion
- Day/night effect: regeneration of  $\nu_e$  in Earth due to matter effect enhances  $\nu_e$  flux at night for some parameters
- Seasonal variation: variation with  $L$  (beyond 7% expected from Earth orbit)

No strong effects observed at Super-K (constrain parameters)

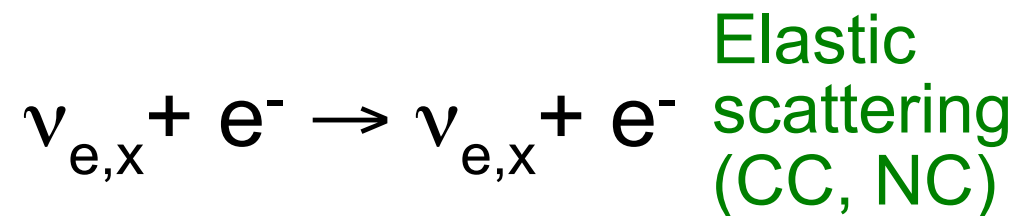
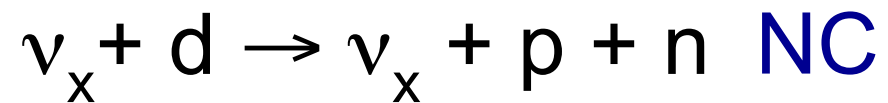
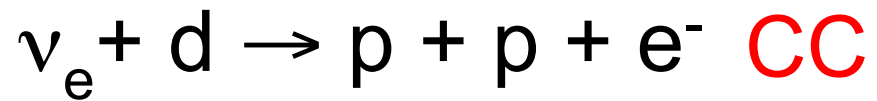
Neutral Current Excess: *direct evidence* for flavor transformation



# The Sudbury Neutrino Observatory



1 kton D<sub>2</sub>O, 1.7 kton H<sub>2</sub>O

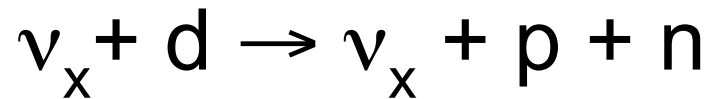


**Sudbury, Canada**

Cherenkov light from  $e^-$   
Neutron detection



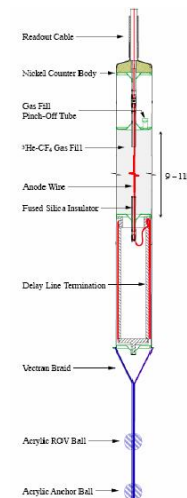
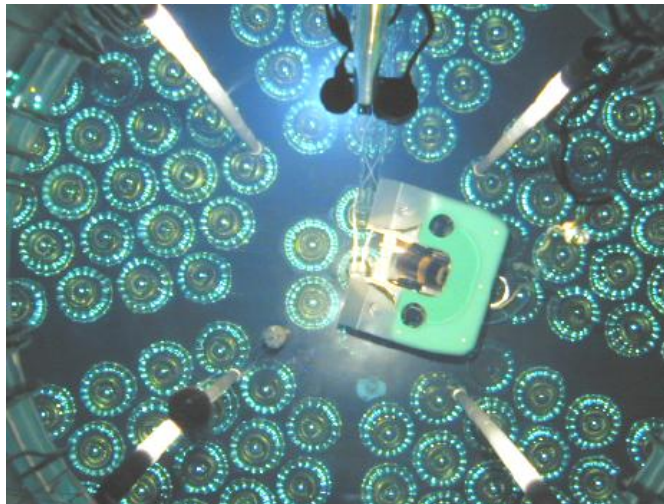
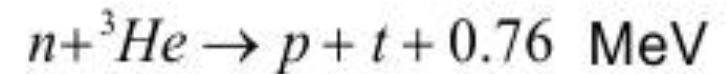
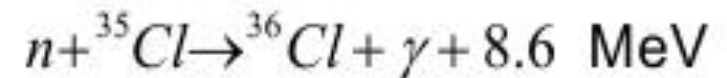
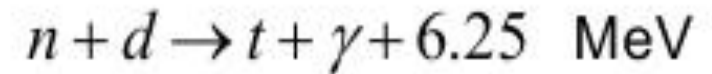
# SNO's unique feature: NC detection



flavor-blind

## Tag NC via detection of neutron

- Phase I: capture on d ( $D_2O$ )
- Phase II: capture on Cl (salt, NaCl)
- Phase III: neutron detectors (NCD)



# Neutrino flavor information from SNO

$\nu_e + d \rightarrow p + p + e^-$  **CC** specifically tags  $\nu_e$  component

$$\phi_{\text{CC}} = \phi(\nu_e)$$

$\nu_x + d \rightarrow \nu_x + p + n$  **NC** flavor-blind  $\Rightarrow$  measure *total active flux*

$$\phi_{\text{NC}} = \phi(\nu_e) + \phi(\nu_{\mu,\tau}) \sim \text{total flux}$$

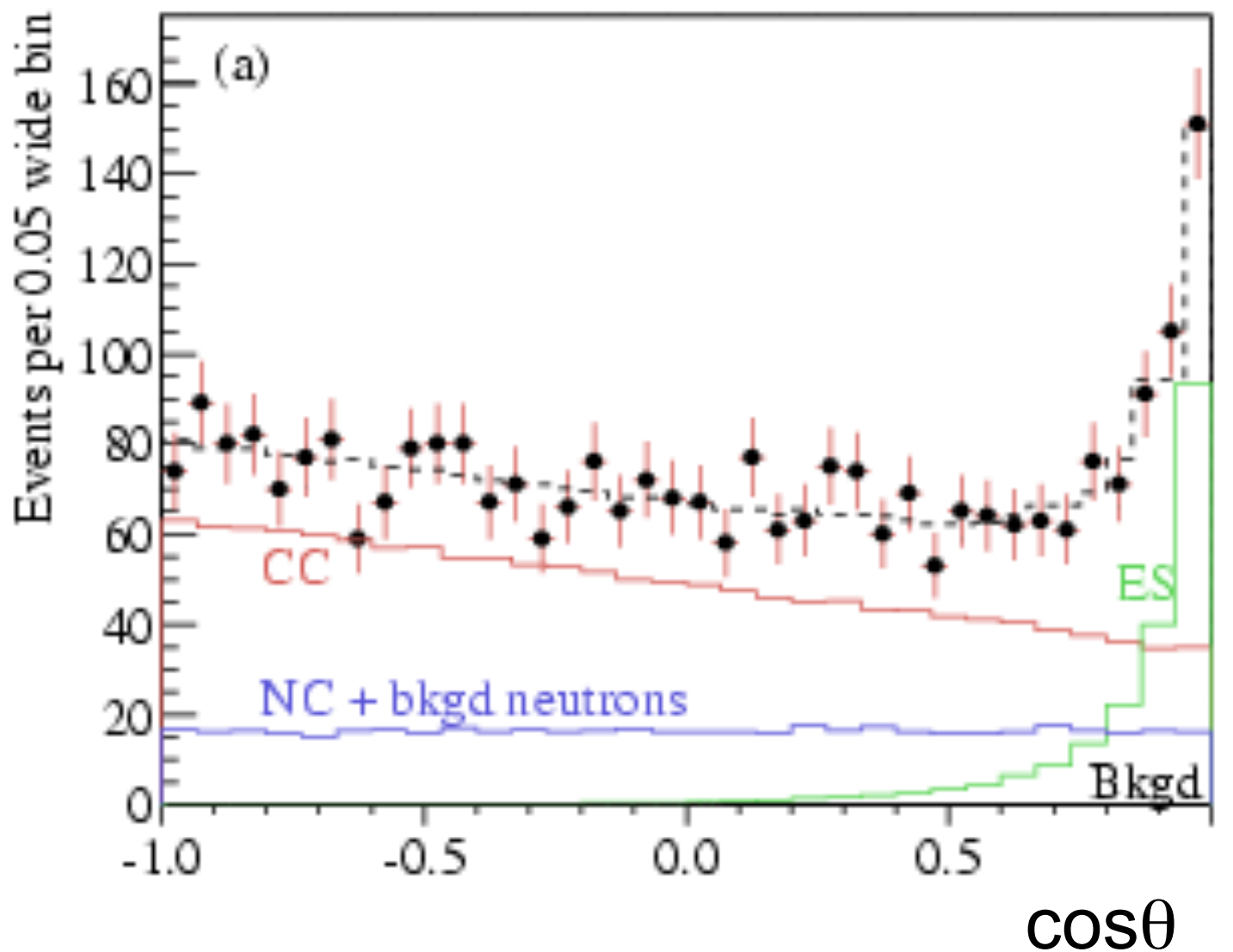
$\nu_{e,x} + e^- \rightarrow \nu_{e,x} + e^-$  **Elastic scattering (CC, NC)**

mixture of  $\nu_e$  and all with *known ratio*

$$\phi_{\text{ES}} = \phi(\nu_e) + 0.15\phi(\nu_{\mu,\tau})$$

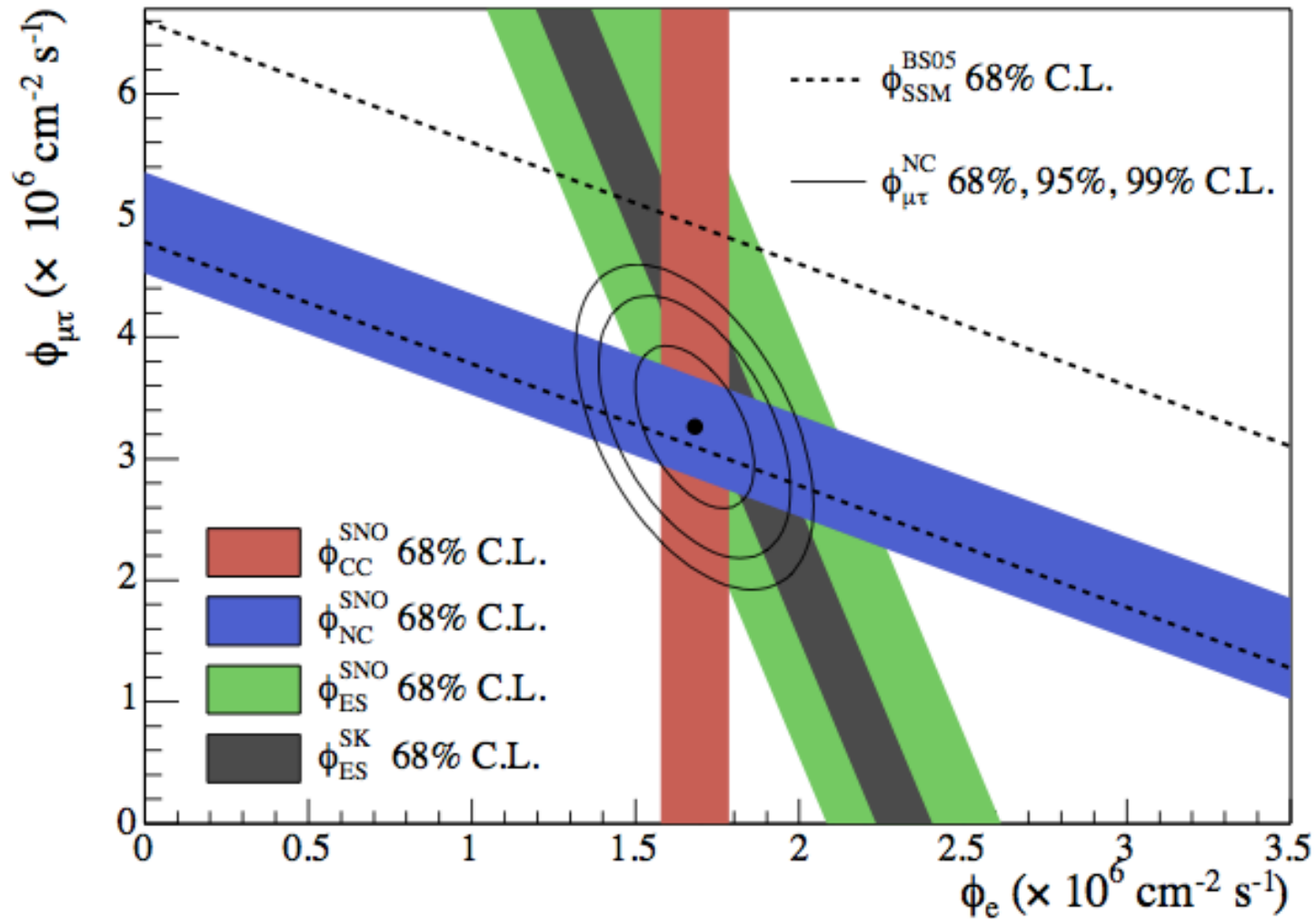
Also look for distortion of CC spectrum,  
night enhancement

# Phase I SNO Results, 2002



Fit data for CC, NC, ES components

# Clear evidence from SNO for oscillation to $\nu_{\mu,\tau}$

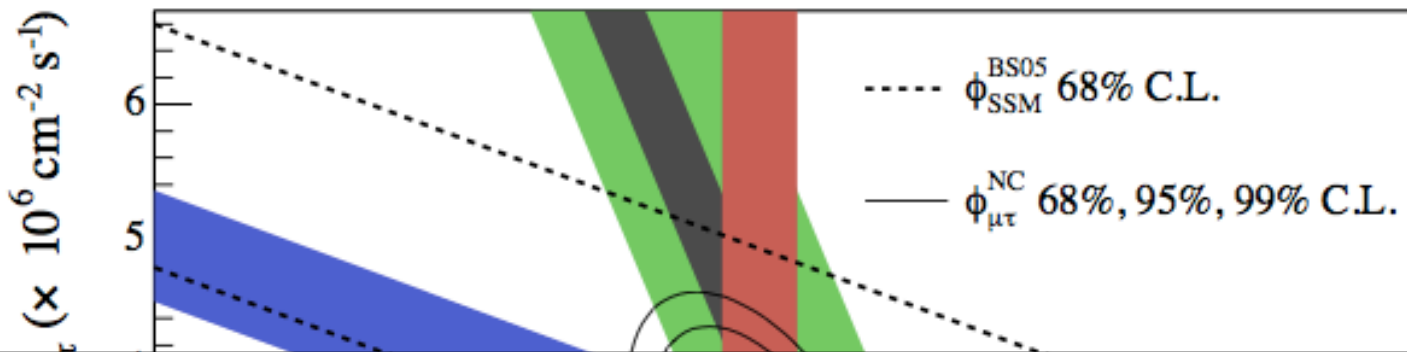


$$\phi_{\text{CC}} = \phi(\nu_e)$$

$$\phi_{\text{NC}} = \phi(\nu_e) + \phi(\nu_{\mu,\tau}) \sim \text{total flux}$$

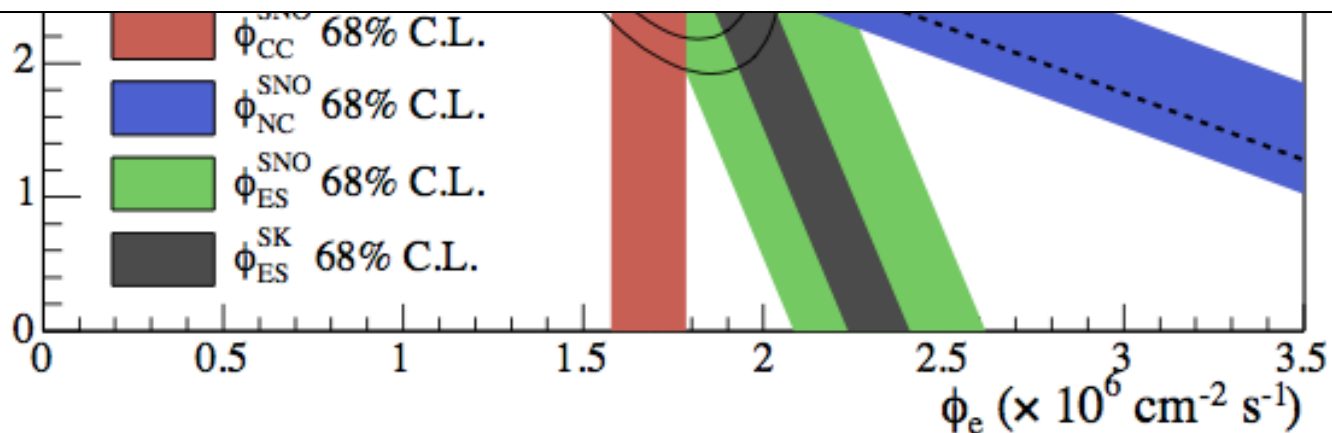
$$\phi_{\text{ES}} = \phi(\nu_e) + 0.15\phi(\nu_{\mu,\tau})$$

# Clear evidence from SNO for oscillation to $\nu_{\mu,\tau}$



Conclusion:  $\nu_e$ 's are oscillating into active  $\nu$ 's!

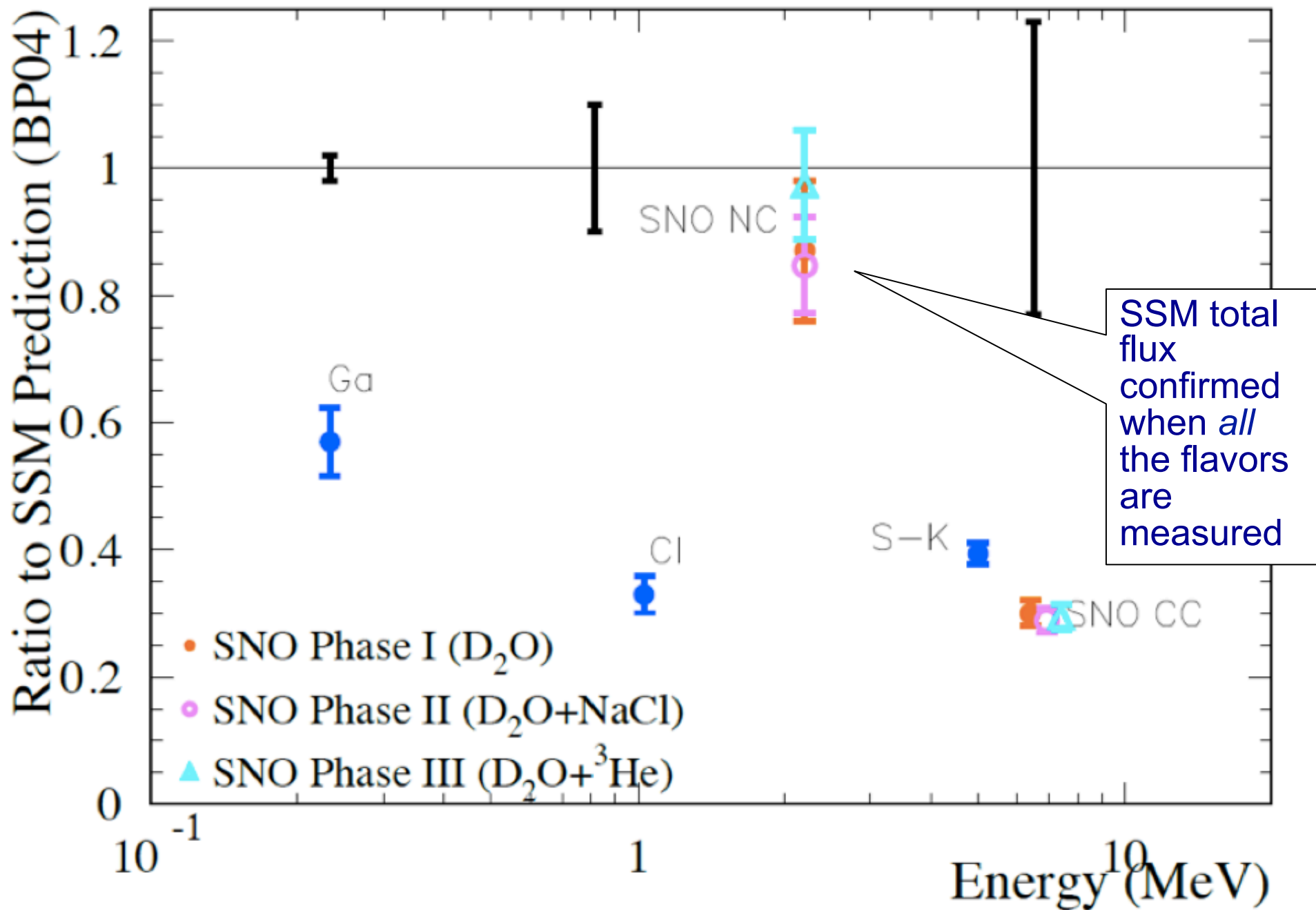
**The solar neutrino problem solved!**



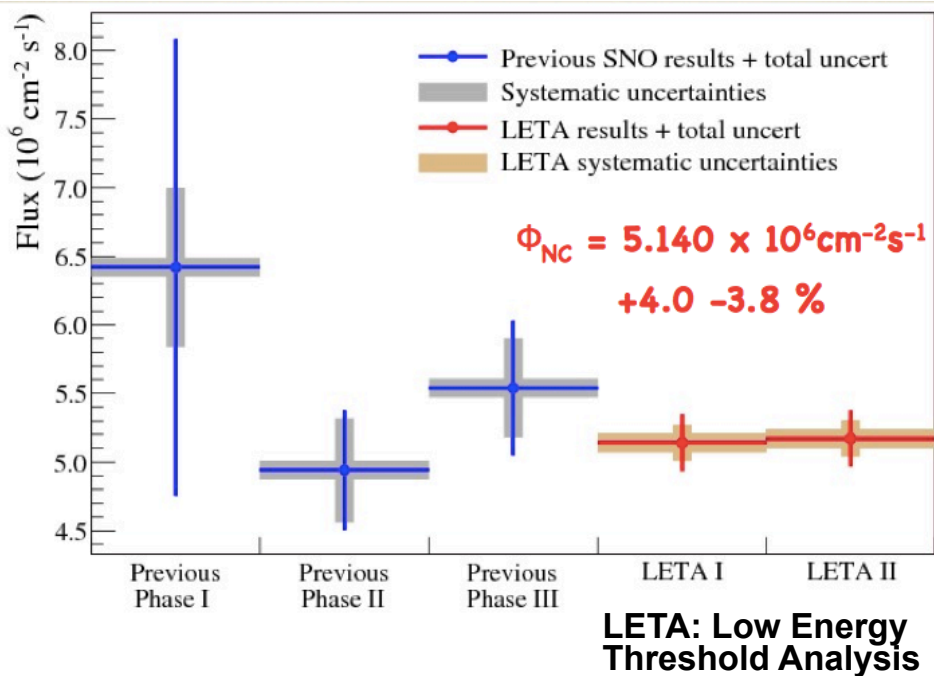
$$\phi_{CC} = \phi(\nu_e)$$

$$\phi_{NC} = \phi(\nu_e) + \phi(\nu_{\mu,\tau}) \sim \text{total flux}$$

$$\phi_{ES} = \phi(\nu_e) + 0.15\phi(\nu_{\mu,\tau})$$

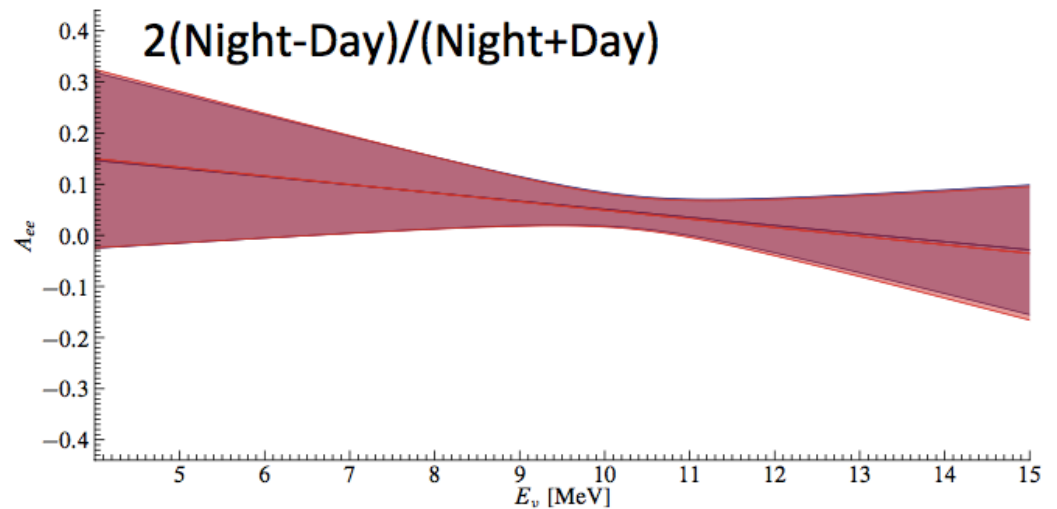
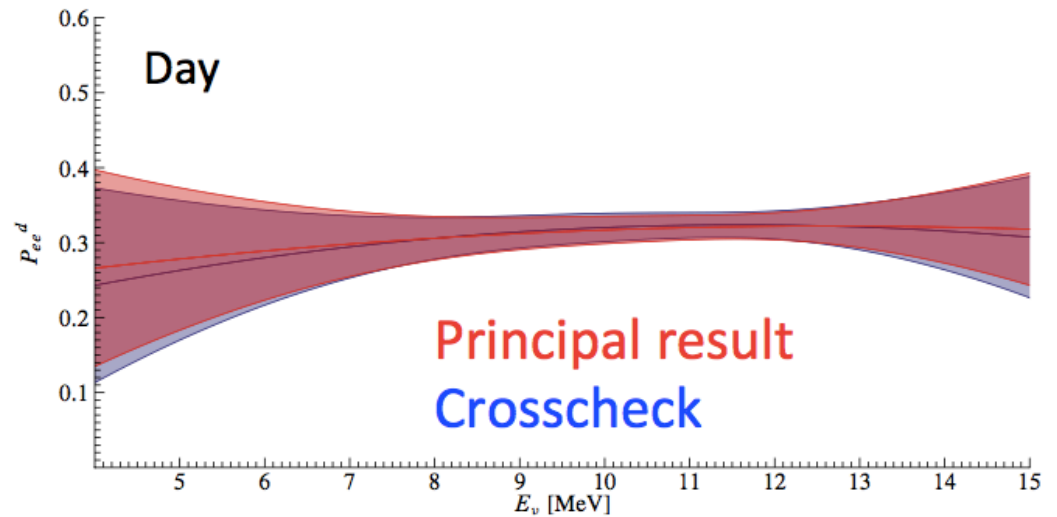


# SNO Final Analysis Results



Energy spectrum & day/night effect (matter in Earth) from SNO & SK constrain oscillation parameters

Electron neutrino survival probability vs  $\nu$  energy

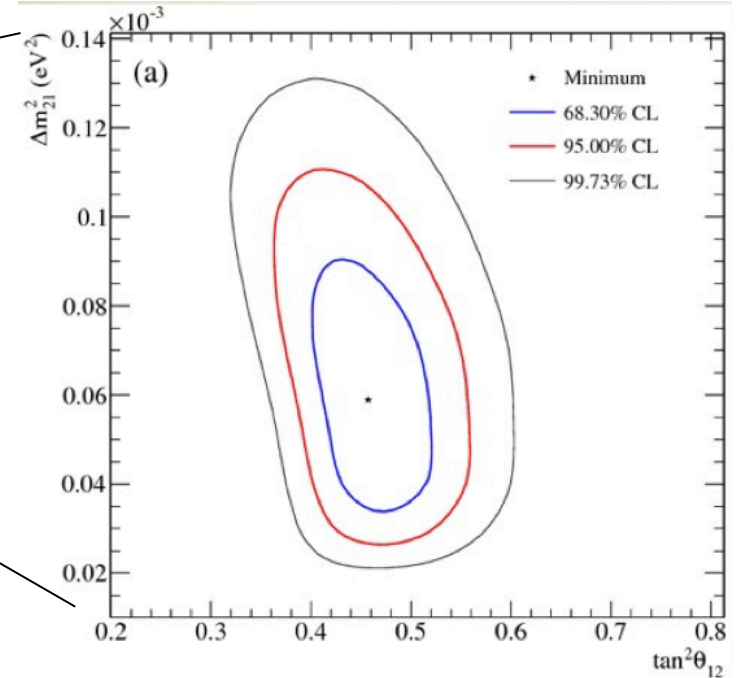
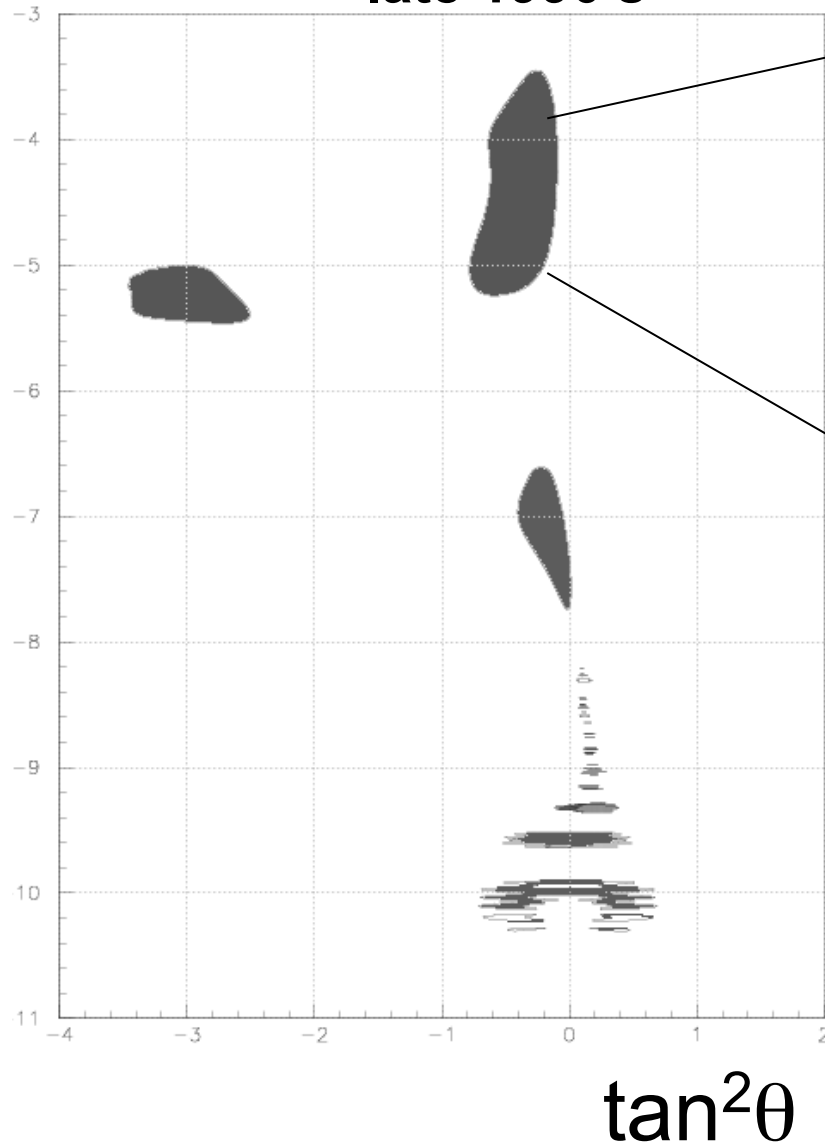




# Oscillation parameters measured with “wild” solar neutrinos...

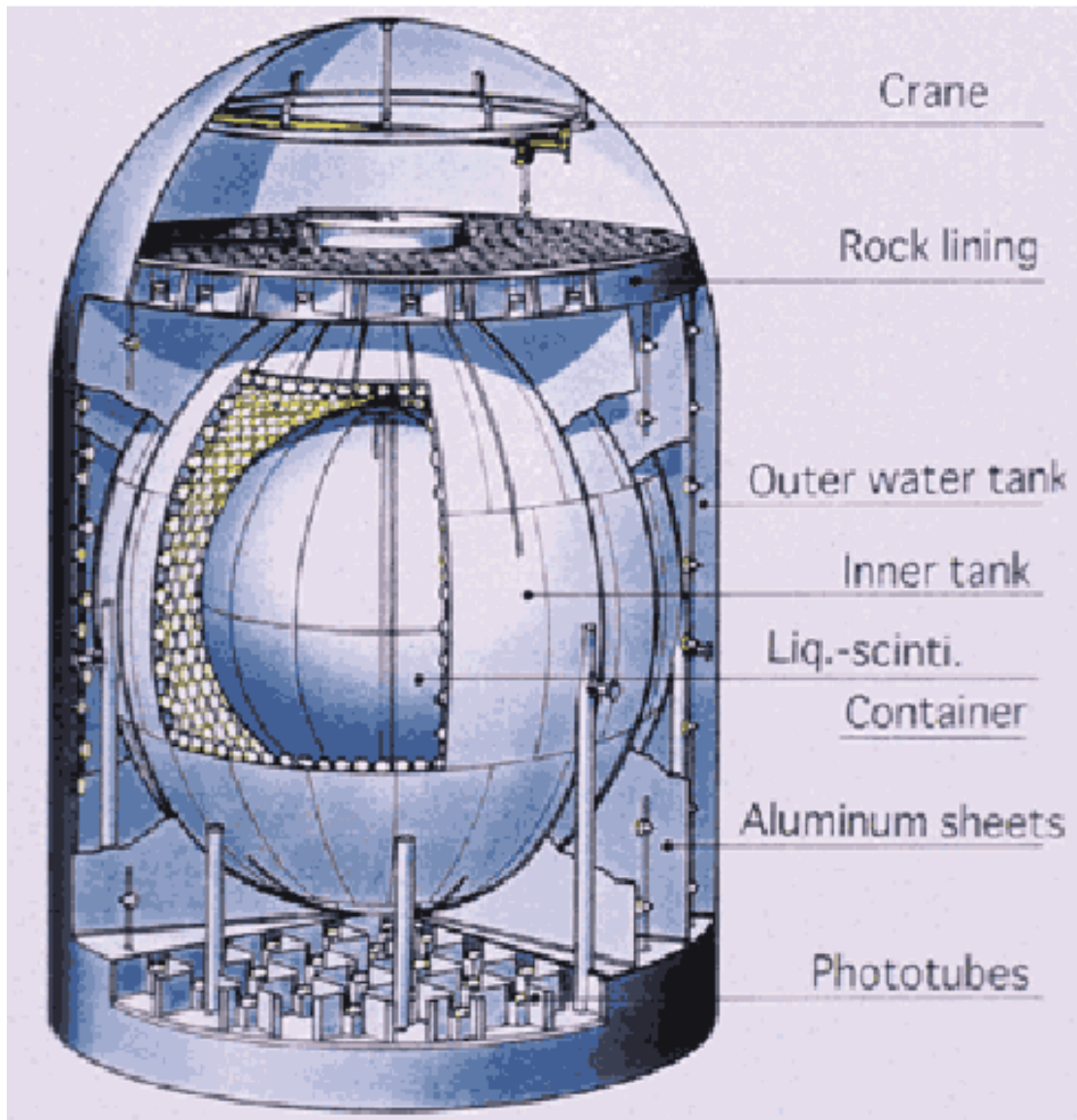
$\log(\Delta m^2)$

late 1990's



... next, an independent check and more information with “tame” ones...

# The KamLAND Experiment

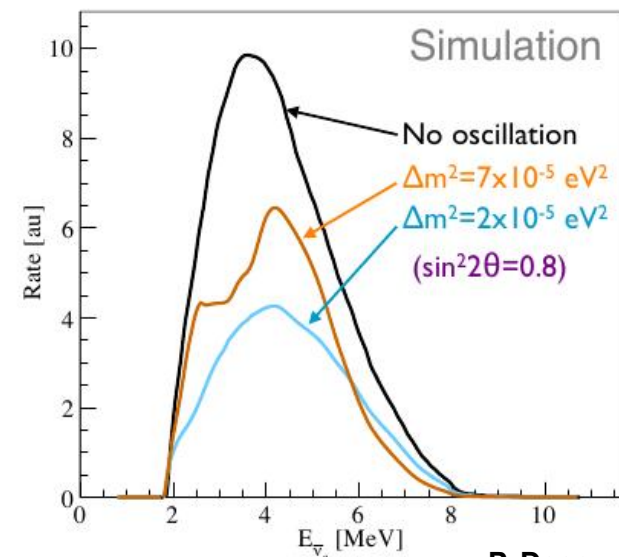


Mozumi, Japan

Look at solar LMA  
parameter space  
using  
*reactor  
antineutrinos*

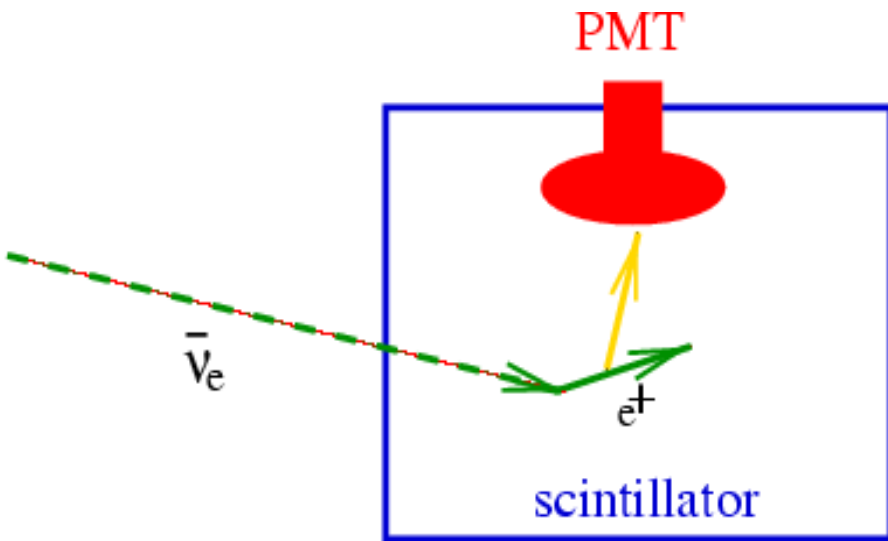
Sum of reactor  
fluxes from Japan, Korea

$E_{\nu} \sim \text{few MeV}$ ,  $L \sim 180 \text{ km}$   
(no matter effects)



P. Decowski

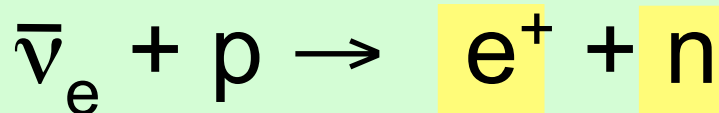
# Scintillation detectors



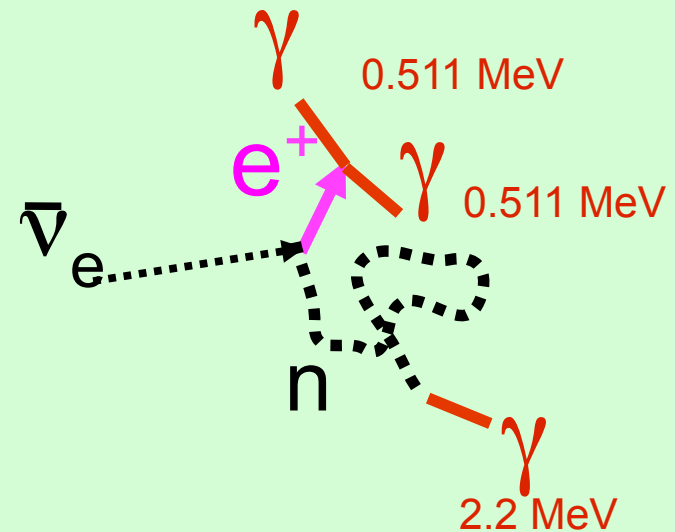
Liquid scintillator  $C_nH_{2n}$  volume surrounded by photomultipliers

- lots of photons  
→ low threshold, good neutron tagging possible
- little directional capability (light is ~isotropic)

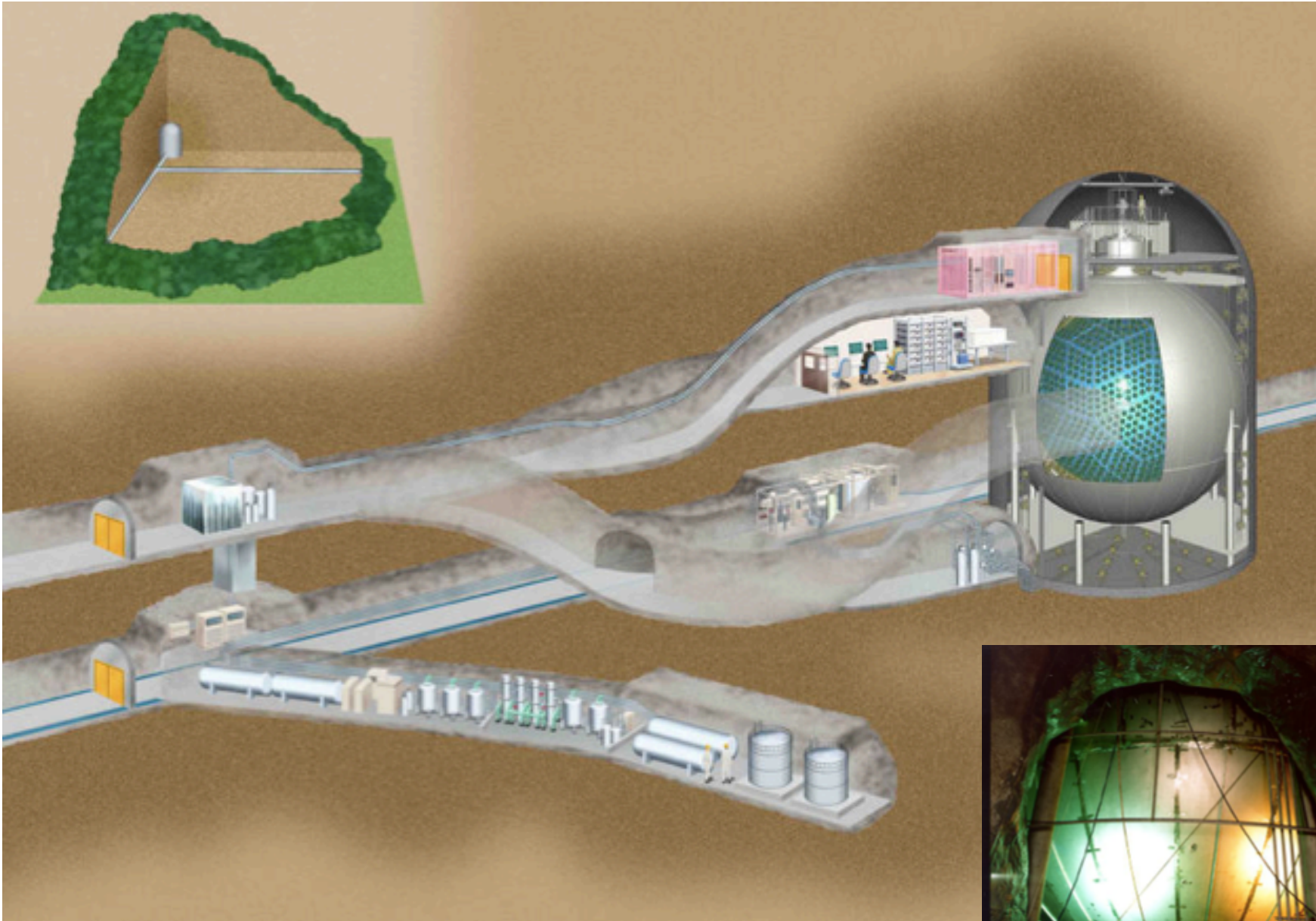
## Inverse Beta Decay (CC)



In any detector with lots of free protons (e.g. water, scint) this dominates

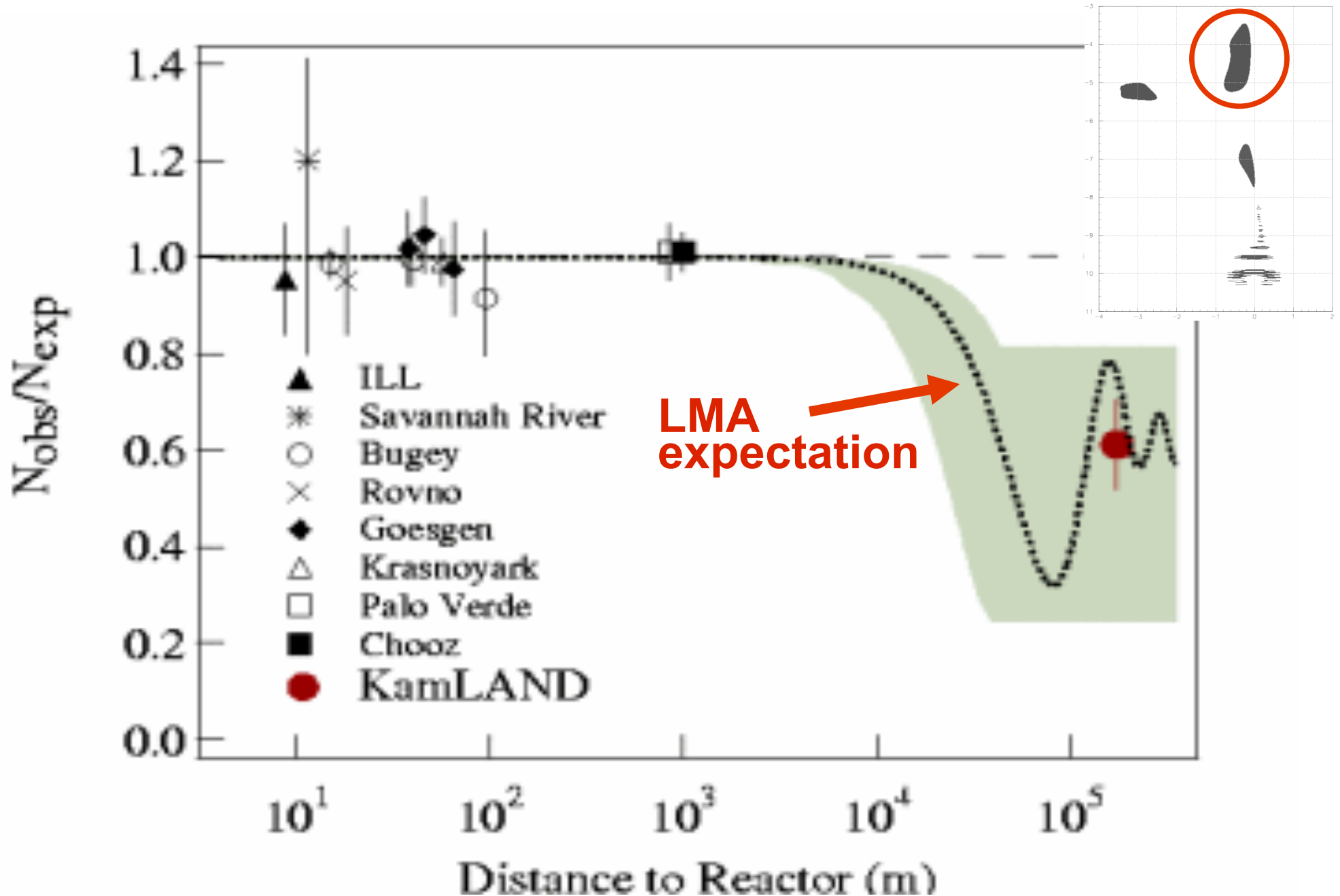


# KamLAND: 1 kton scintillator

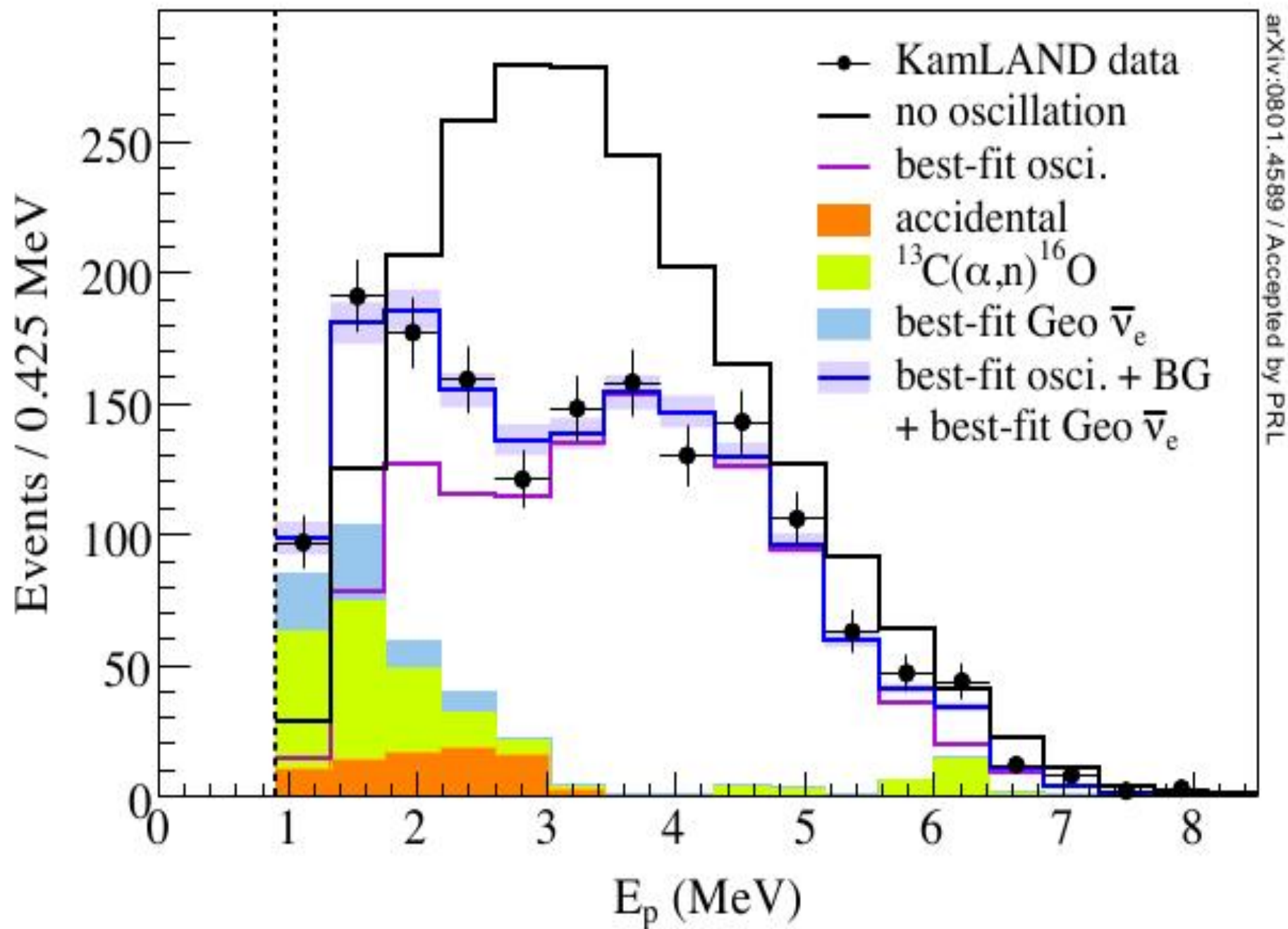




# First KamLAND result (2003): observed suppression of reactor $\bar{\nu}_e$ s selects the LMA region



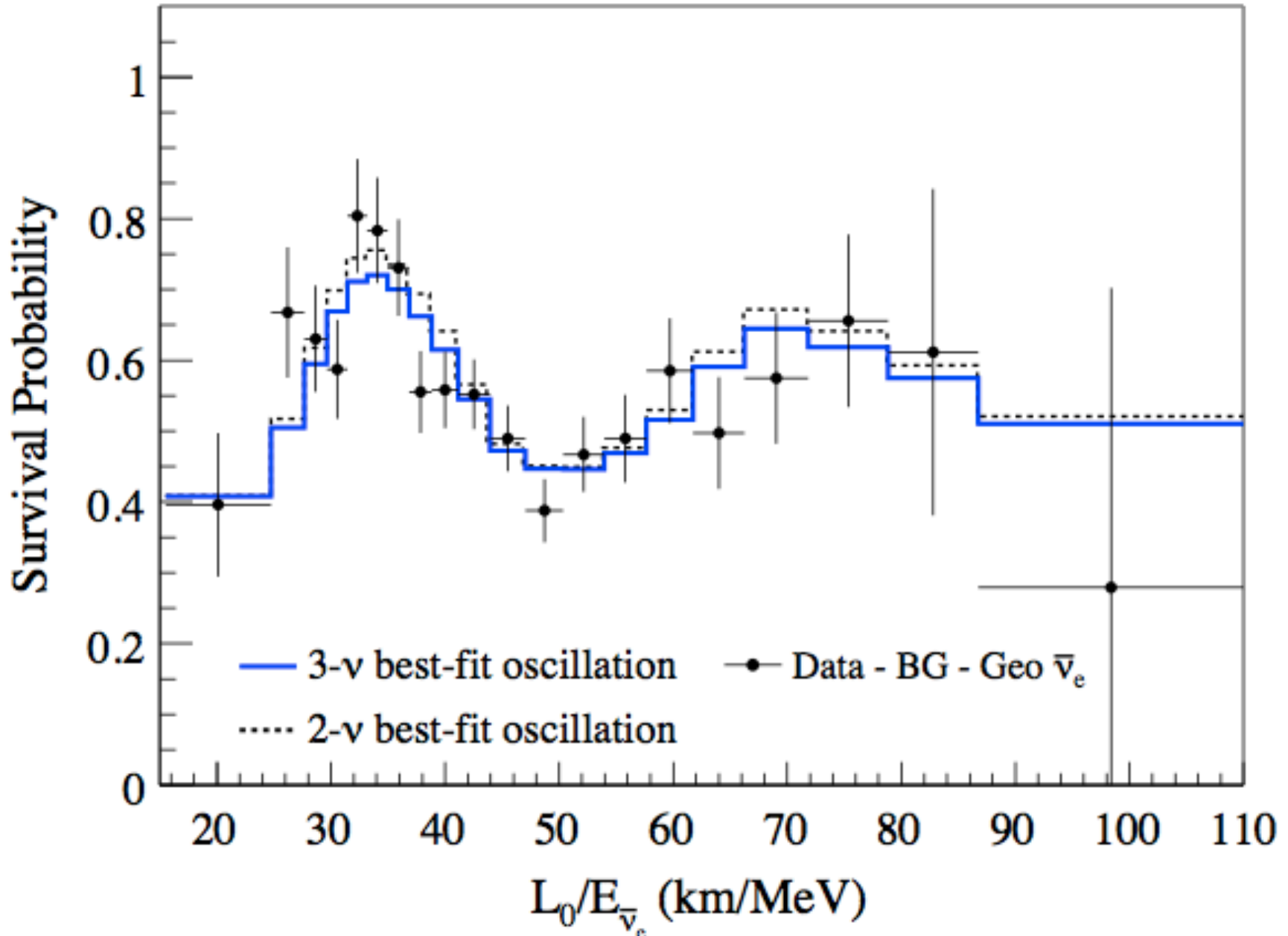
# KamLAND observed spectrum





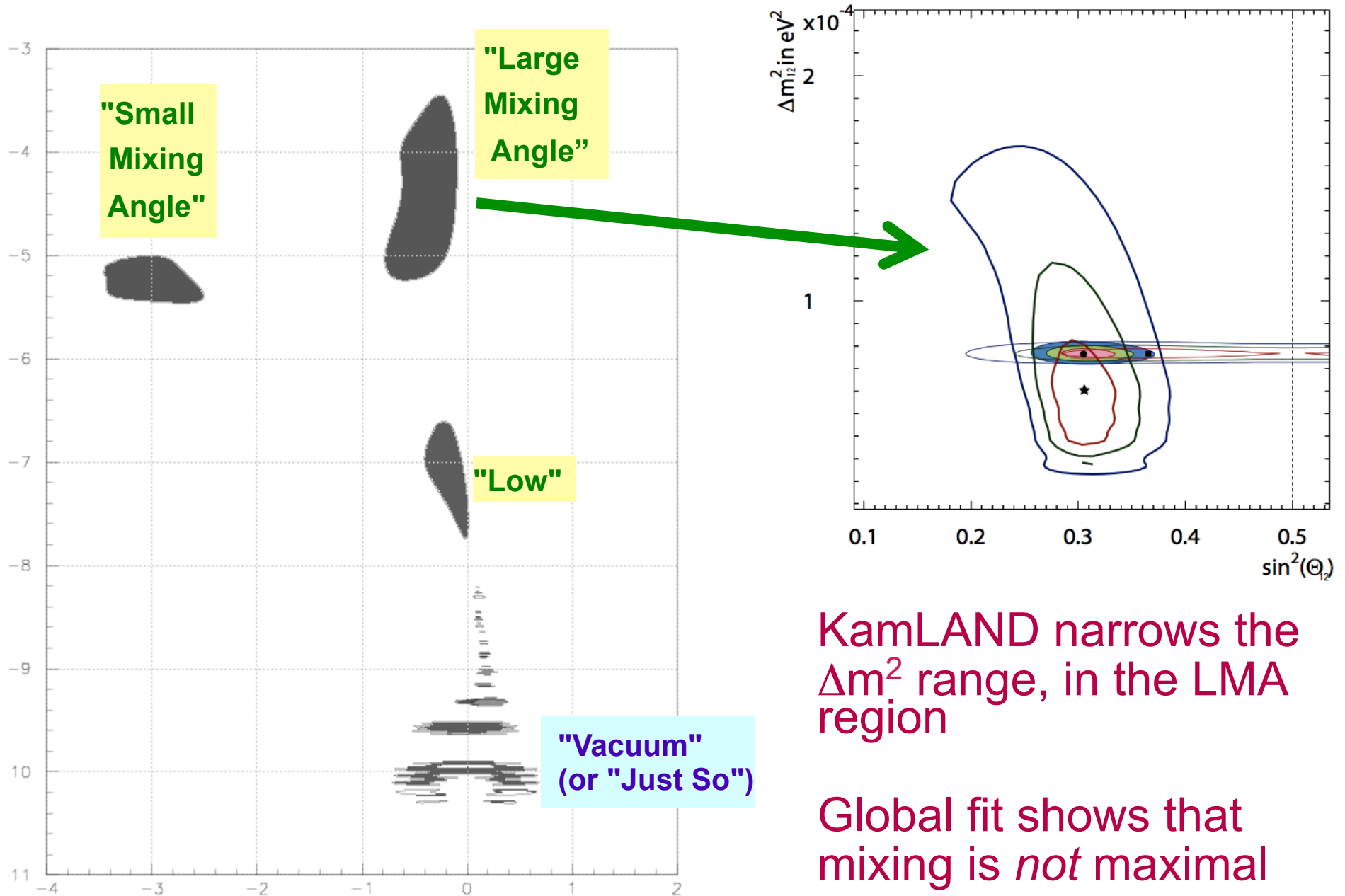
# KamLAND oscillation pattern from measured antineutrino spectrum

$$P(\nu_f \rightarrow \nu_g) = \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2 \left( \frac{1.27 \Delta m^2 L}{E} \right)$$



Average flux-weighted baseline  $L_0 = 180$  km

# Overall fit to the solar+KamLAND data

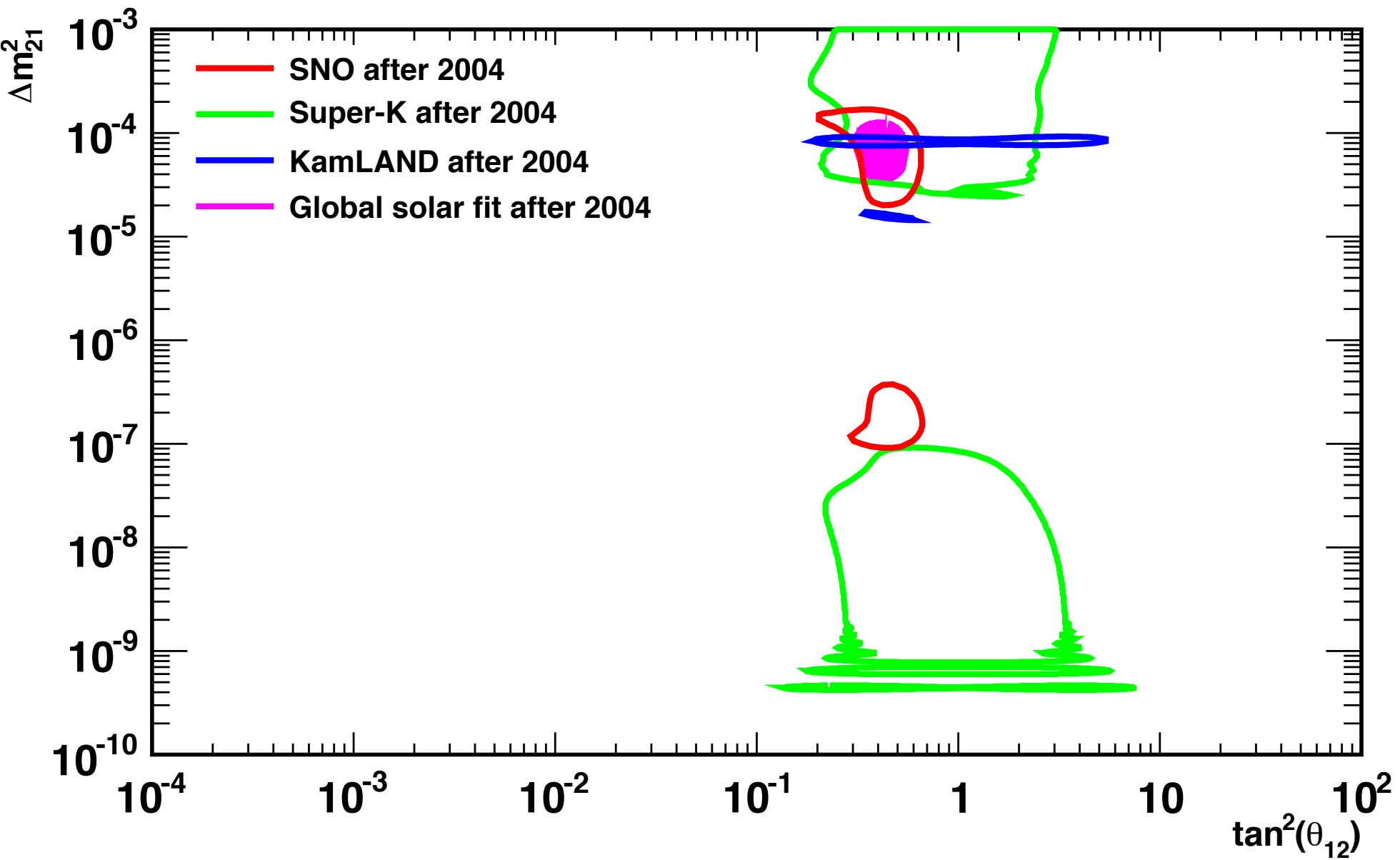


KamLAND narrows the  $\Delta m^2$  range, in the LMA region

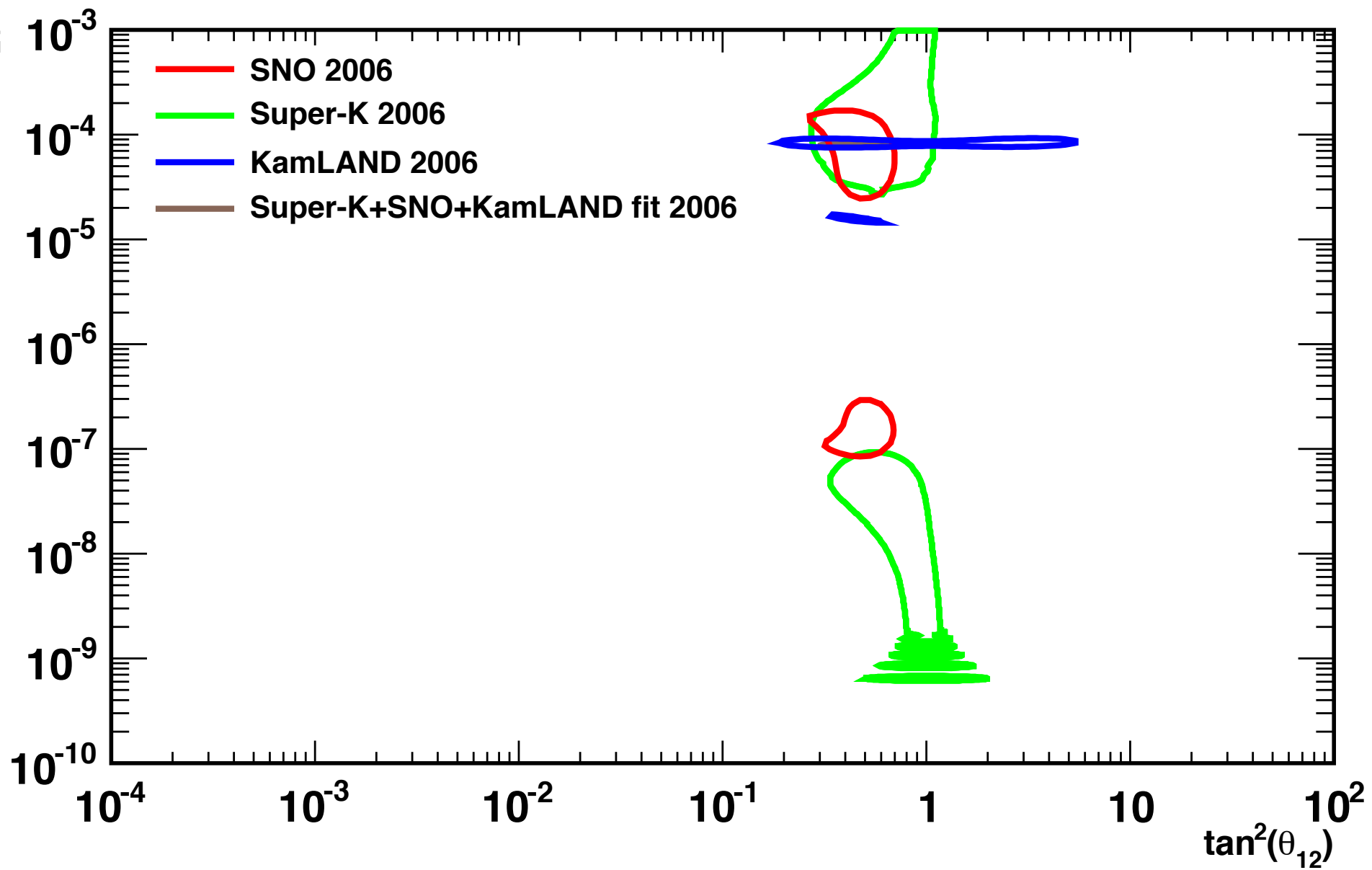
Global fit shows that mixing is *not* maximal

# **A “movie” over 8 years of solar parameter space**

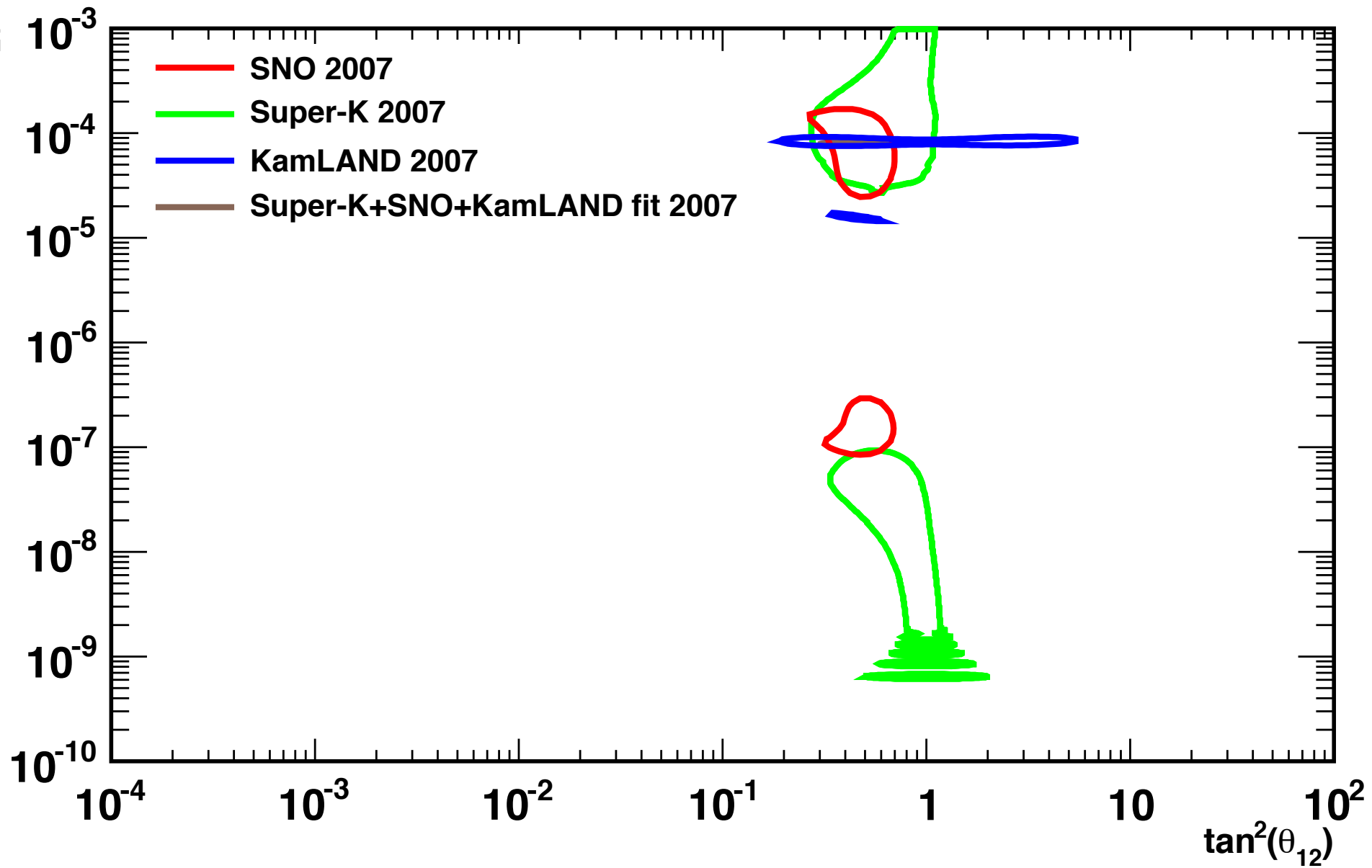
**plots made by H. Lim from  
H. Murayama’s PDG web page**



2004

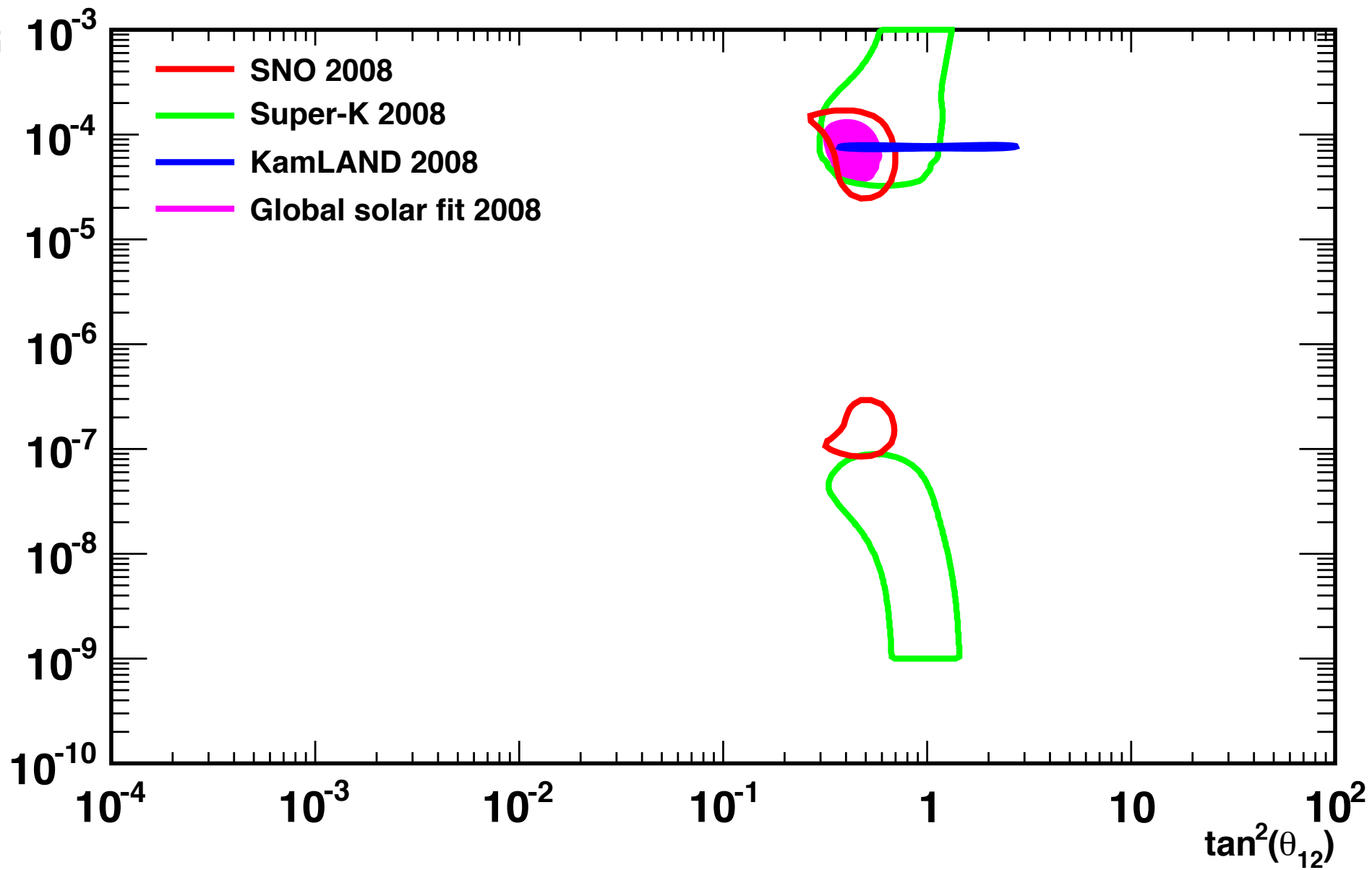


**2006**

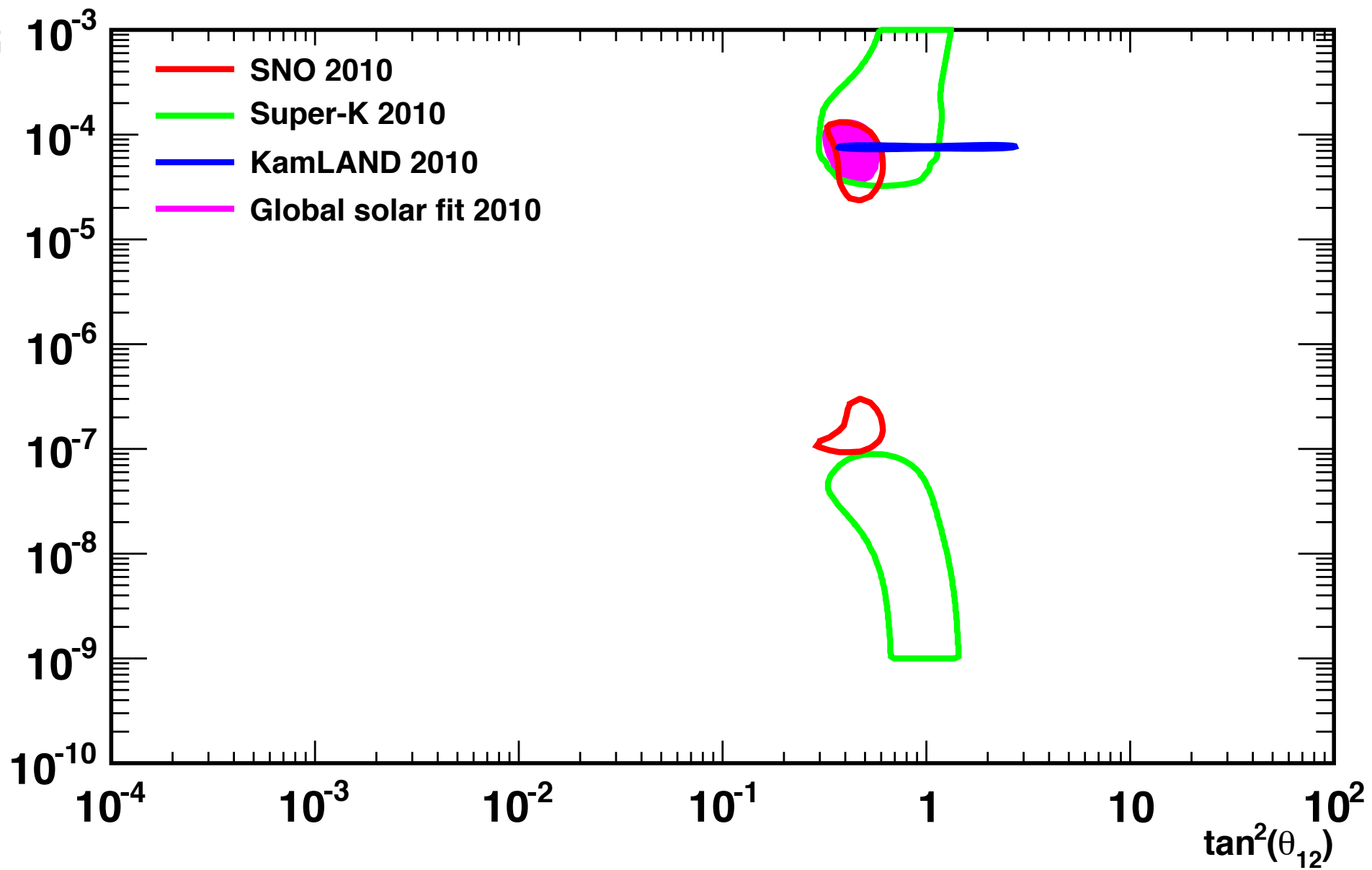


**2007**

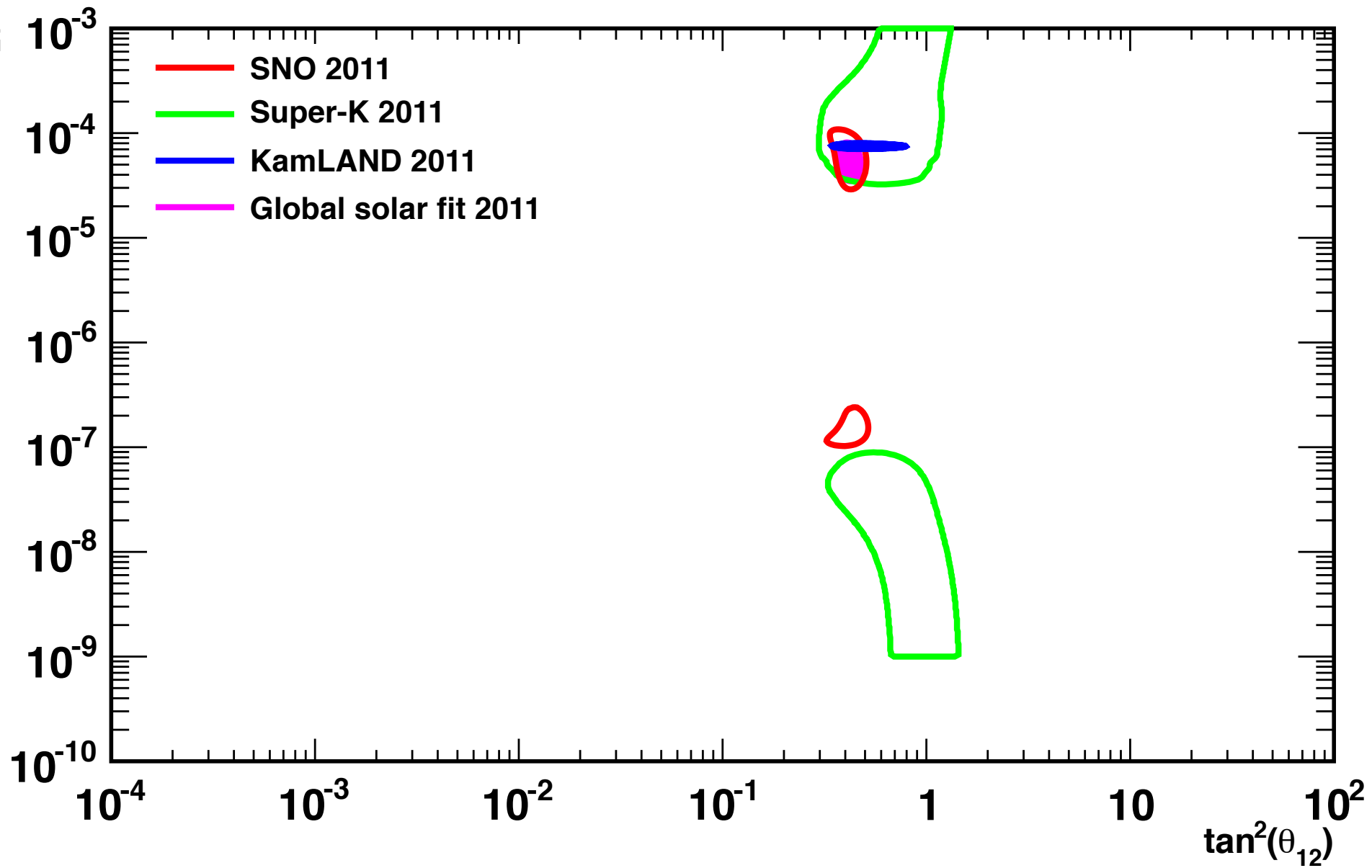




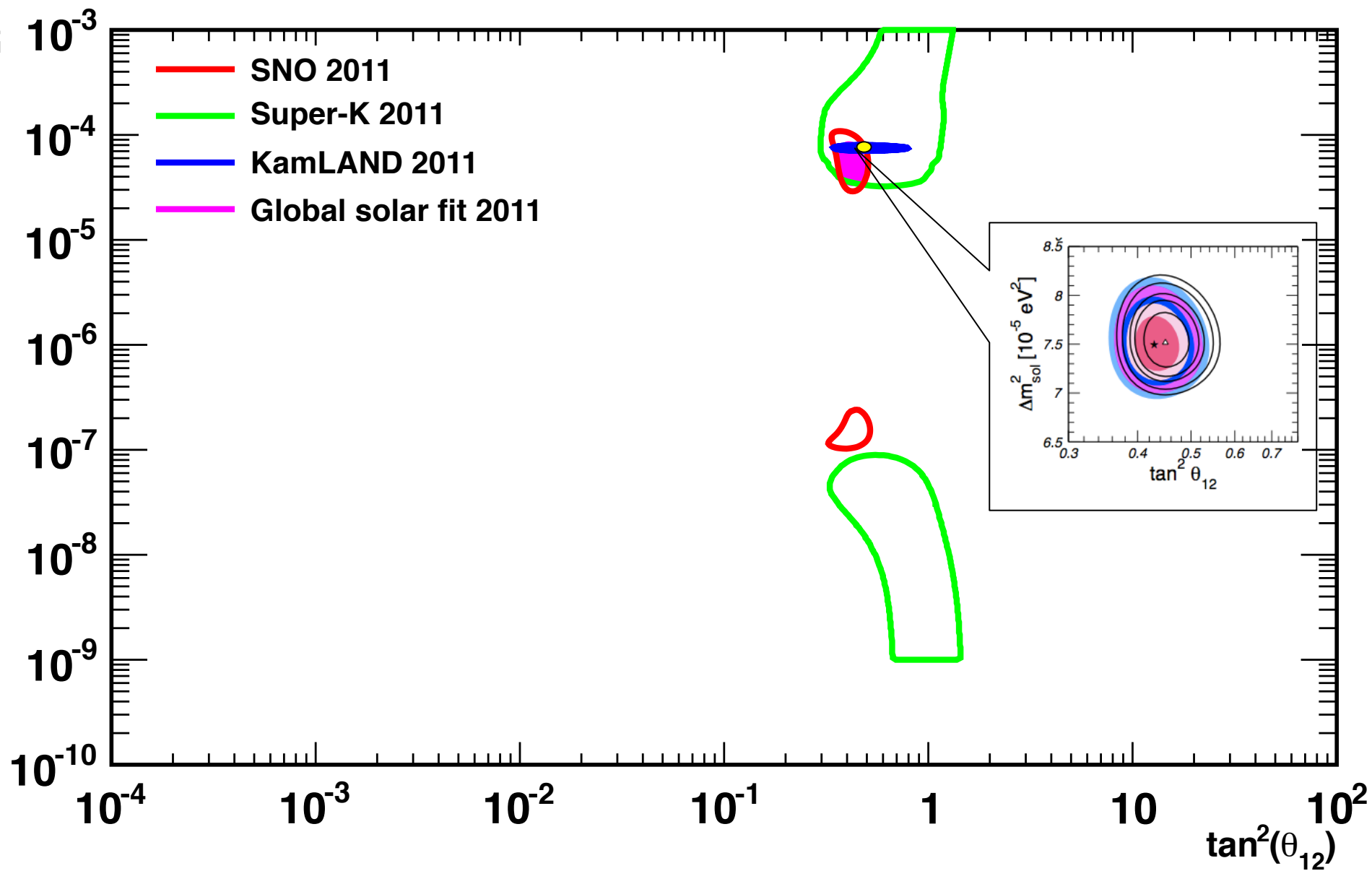
**2008**



**2010**



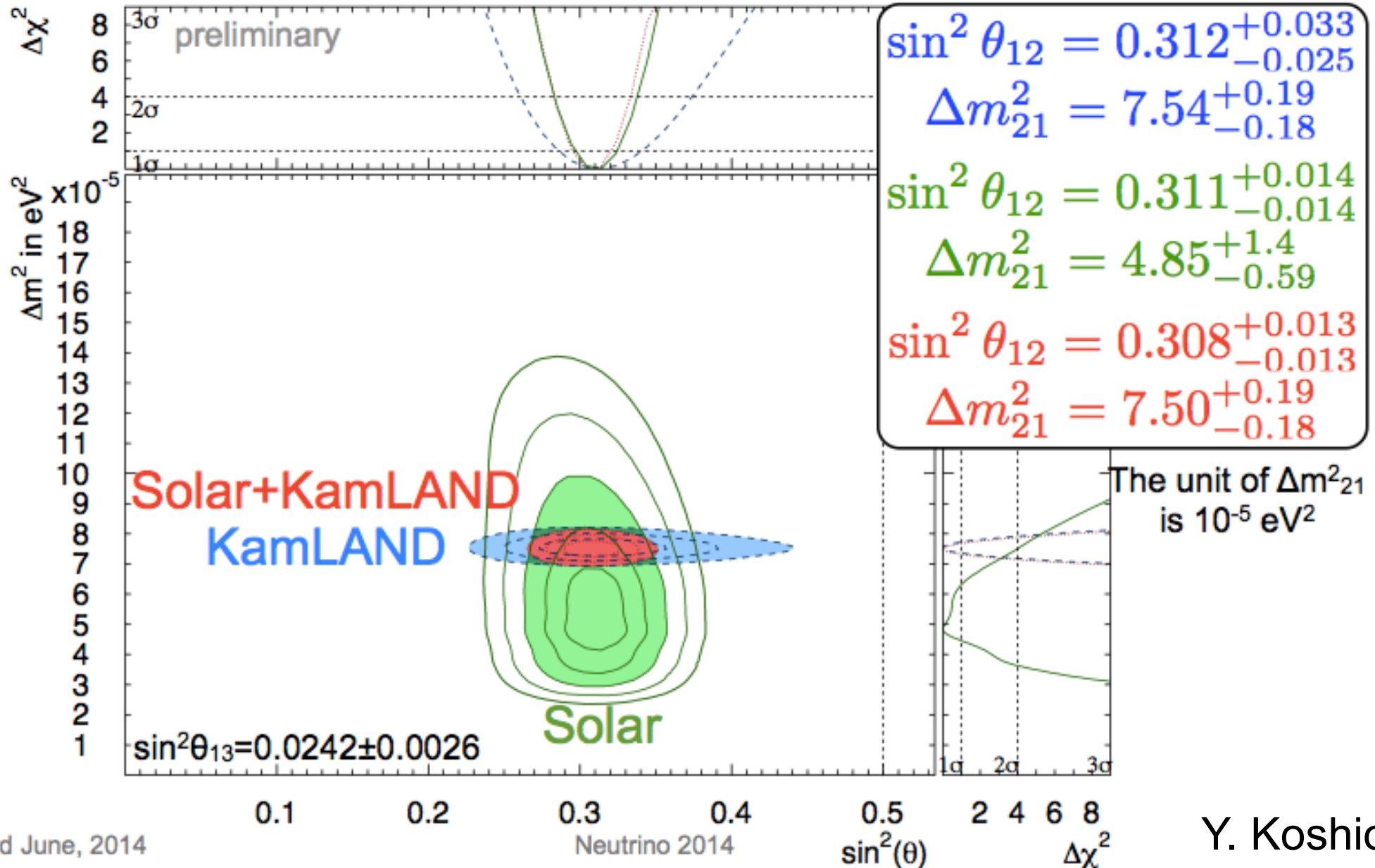
**2011**



**2011**

Recent global fit (solar + KL) from C. Gonzalez-Garcia, ICHEP 2012

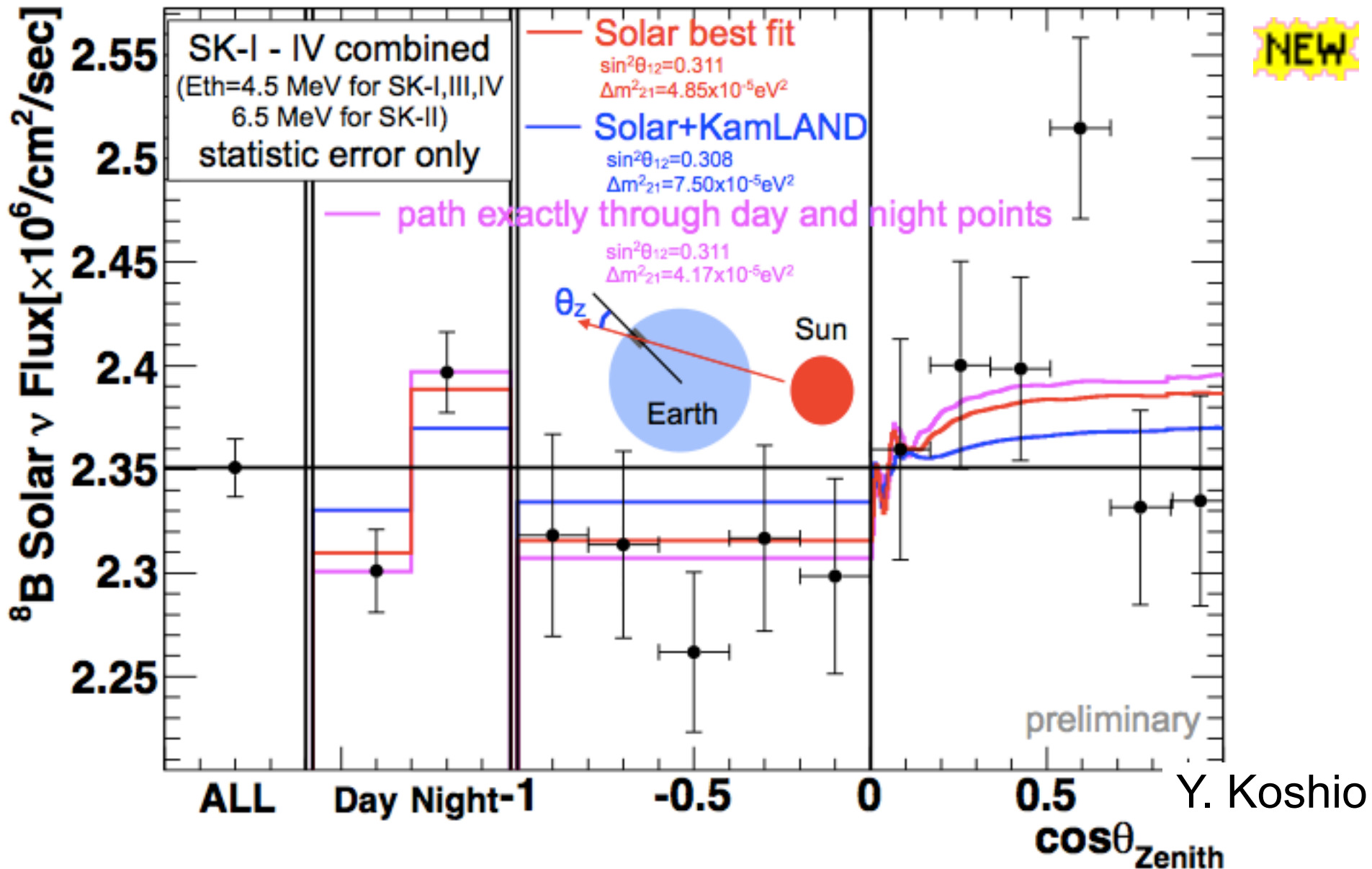
# The very latest global fit



# And new from SK:

day/night asymmetry observed:  
first direct observation of matter effects

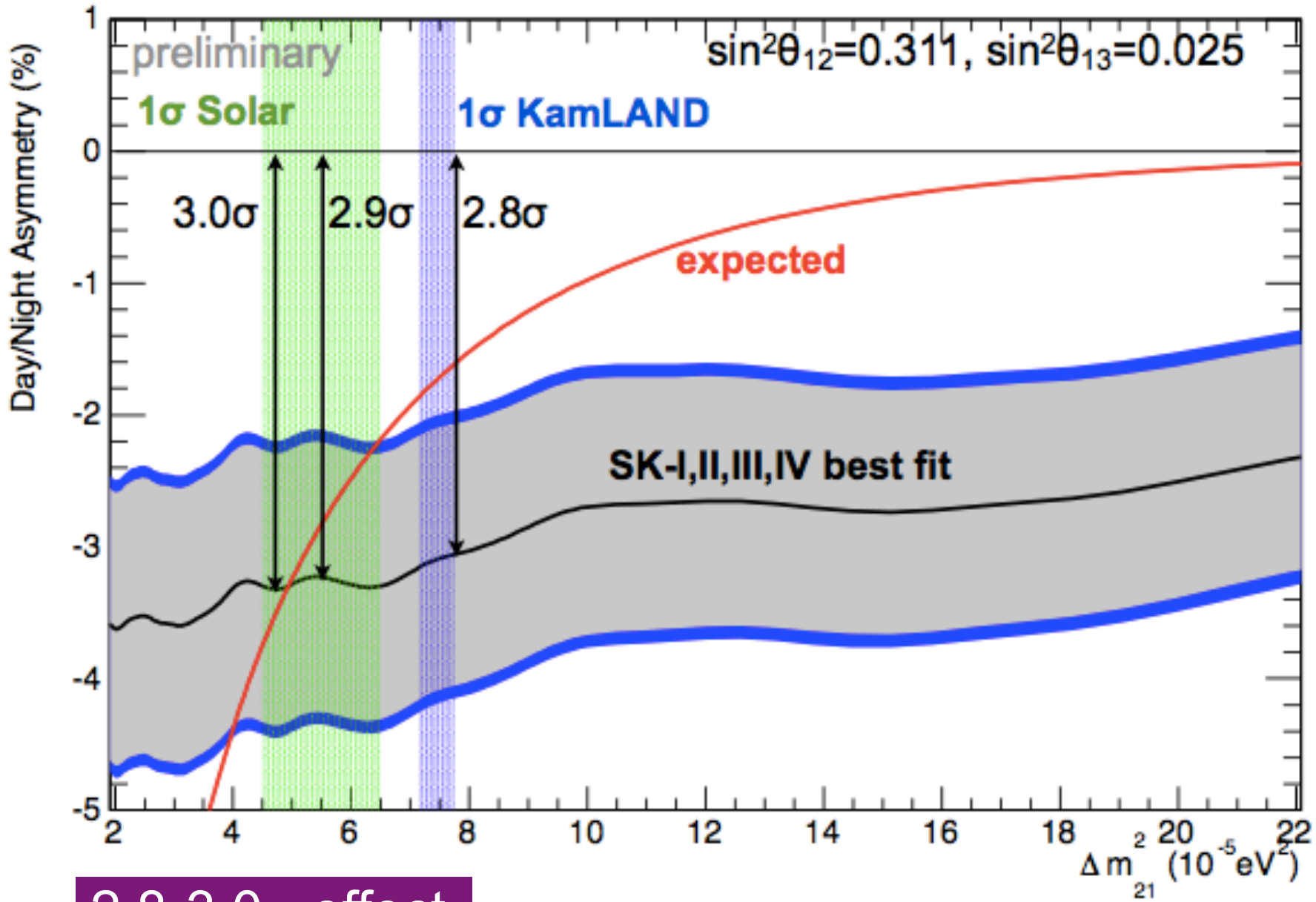
NEW





NEW

# SK-I/II/III/IV Combine Day/Night Asymmetry

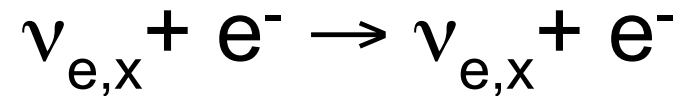
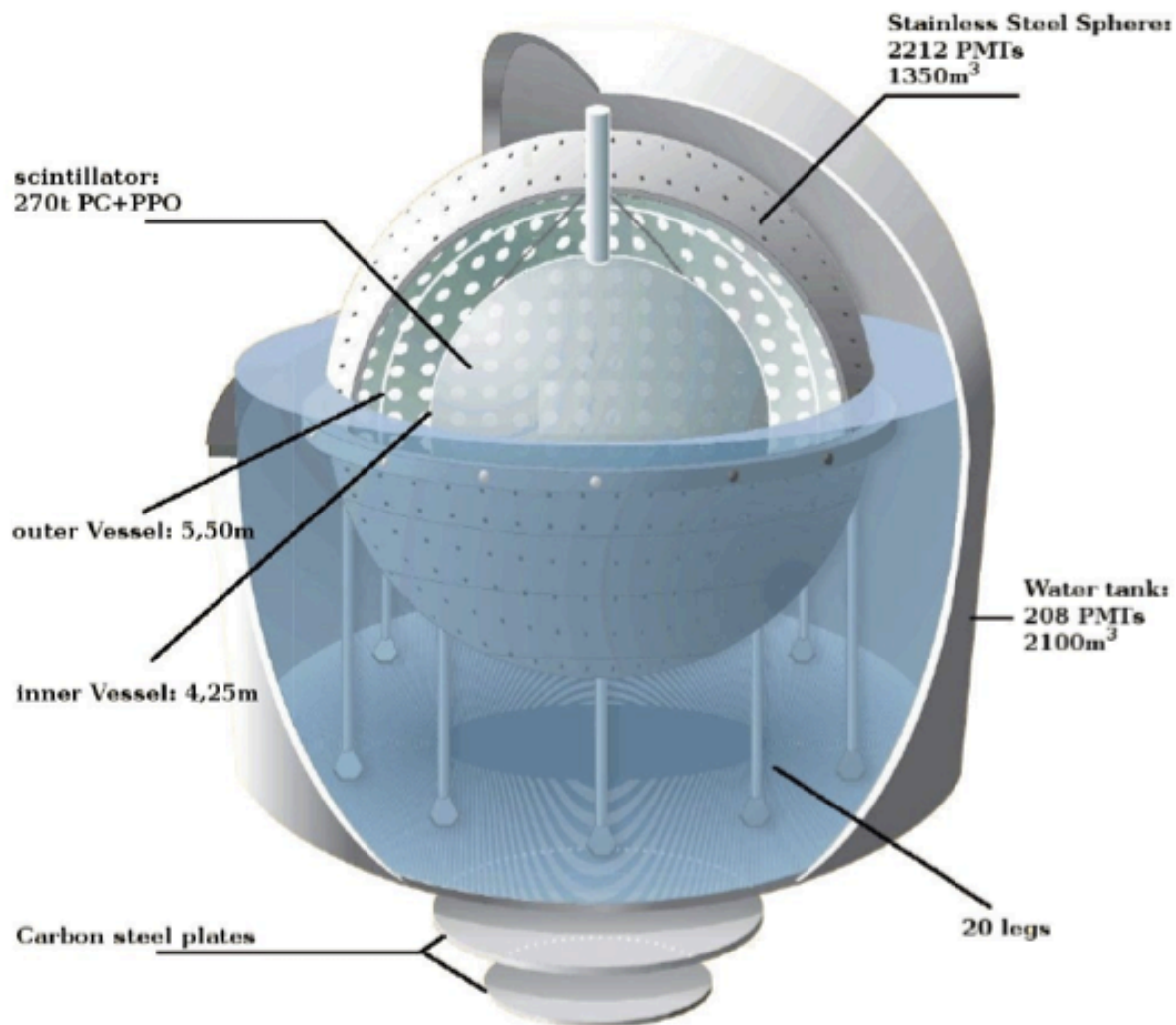


2.8-3.0σ effect

Y. Koshio

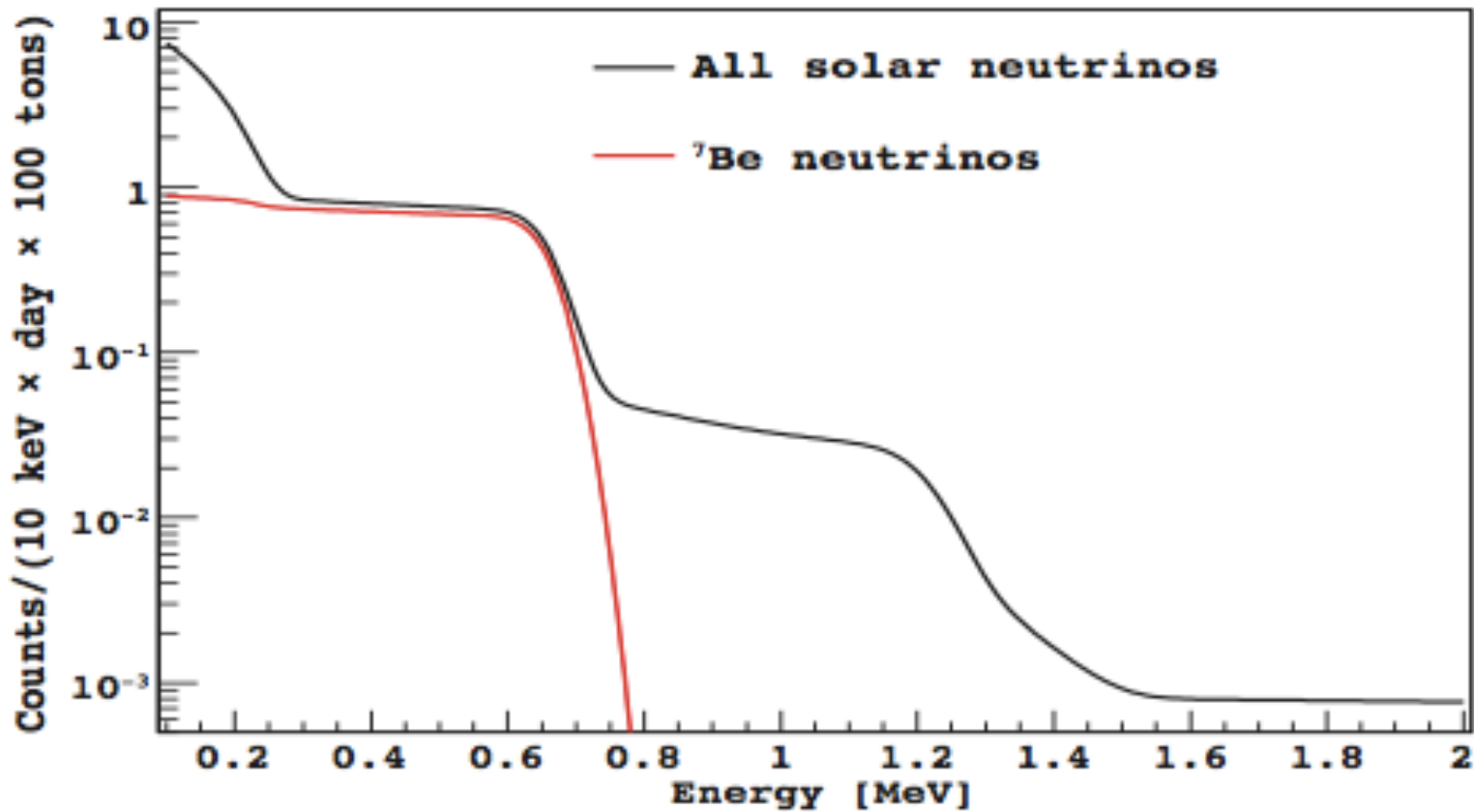
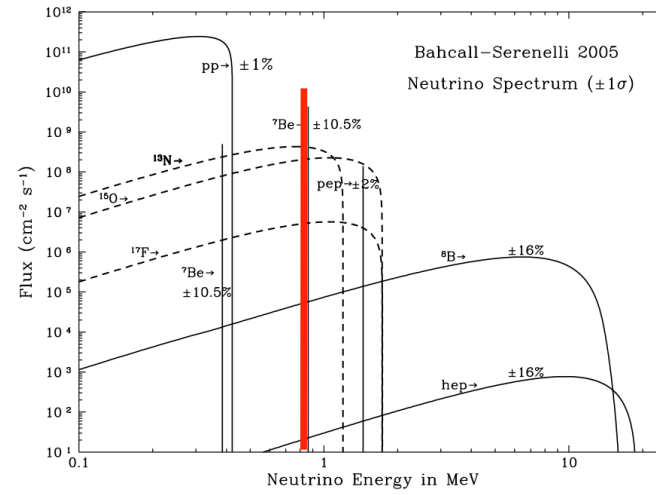
# But there's more: the Borexino Experiment

Gran Sasso, Italy

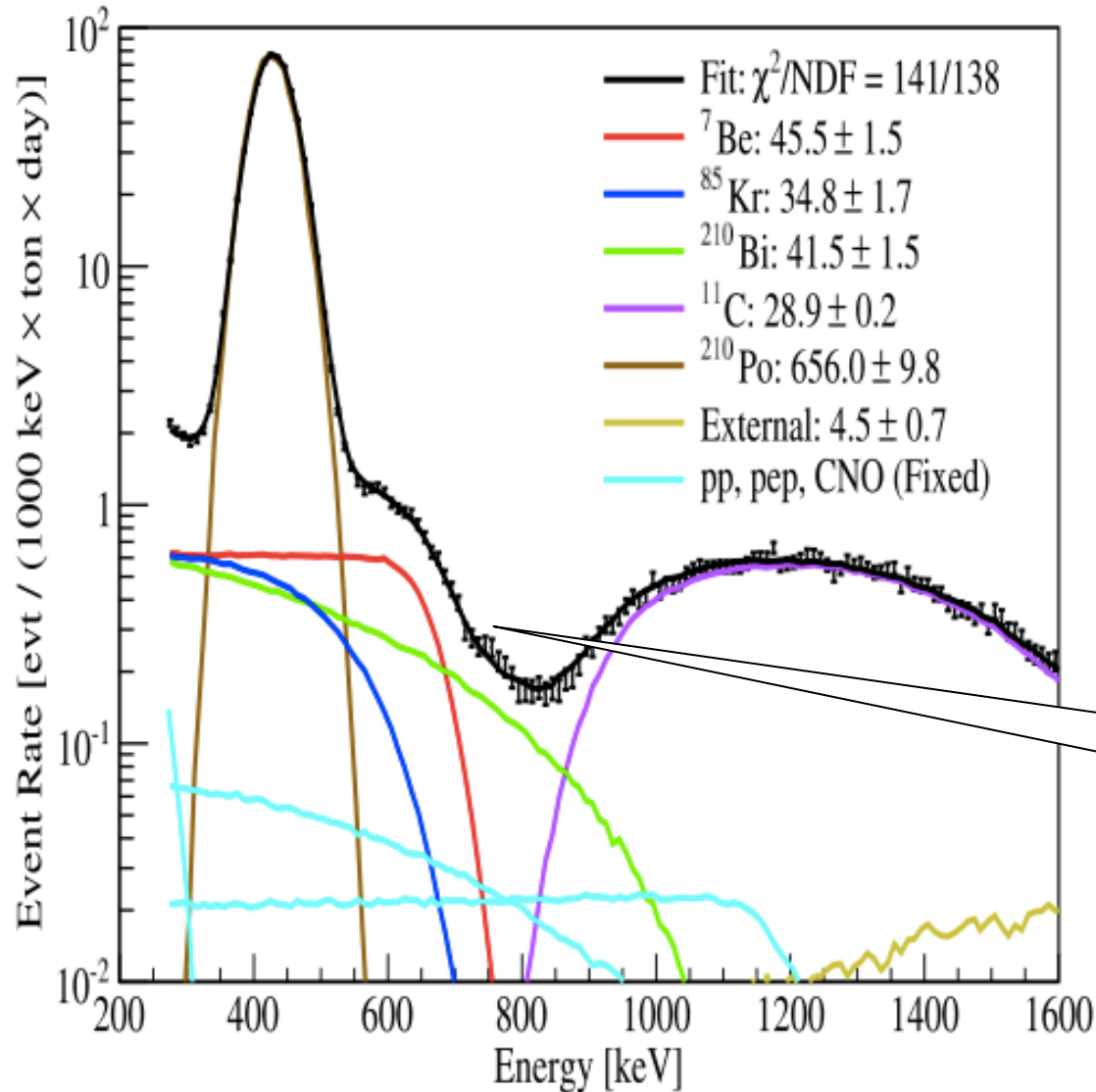


- Scintillator (300 ton)
- Very low threshold (down to ~200 keV)
- Very low radioactivity
- Real time

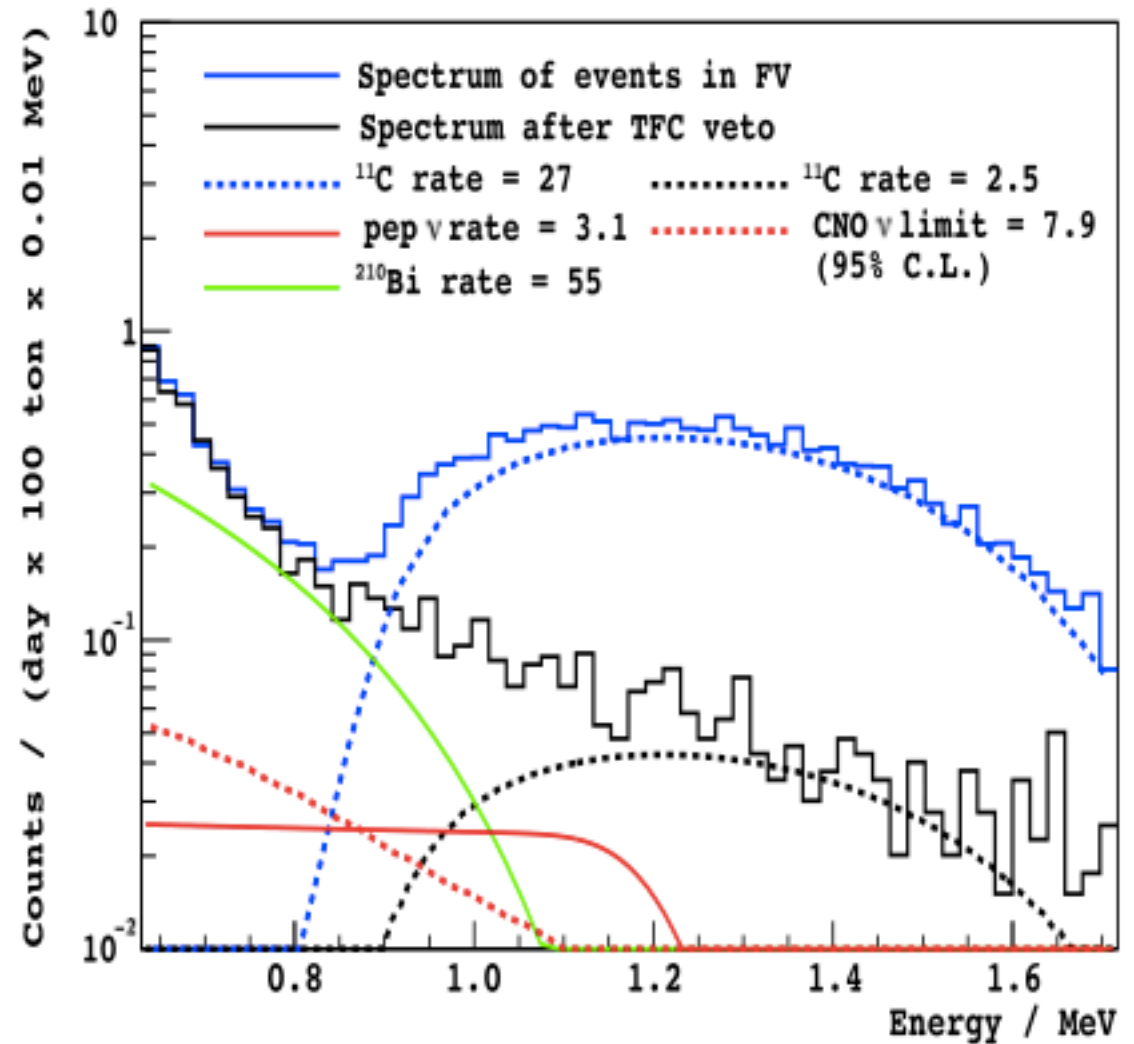
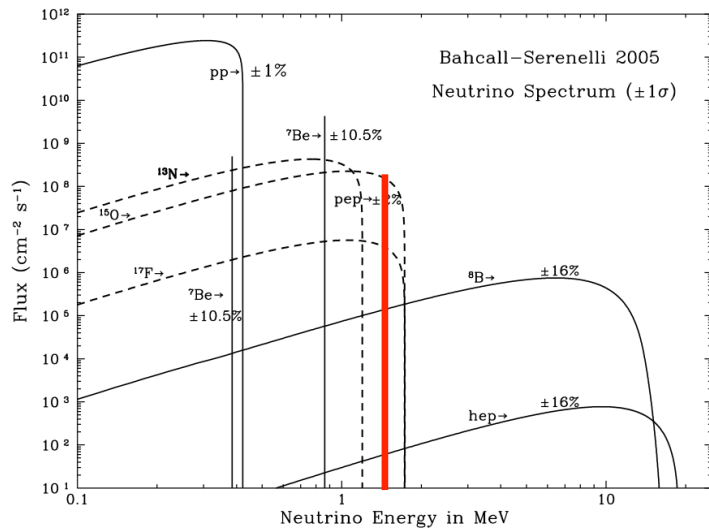
Go after recoil  
electrons  
from the  ${}^7\text{Be}$  line



# Heroic (and successful) struggle with radioactive (ambient & cosmogenic) backgrounds

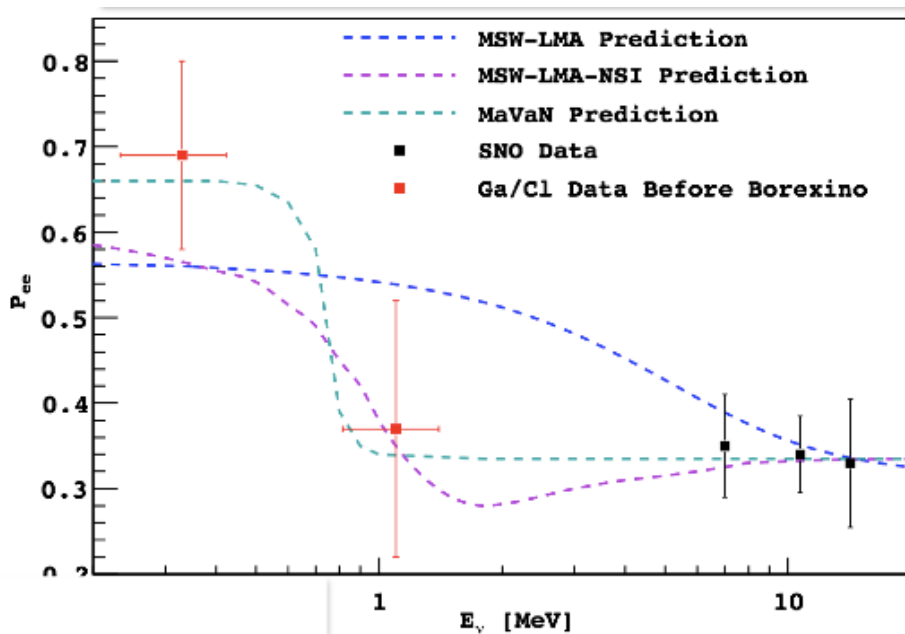


# Even more heroic extraction of pep neutrino rates (and limits on CNO neutrinos)

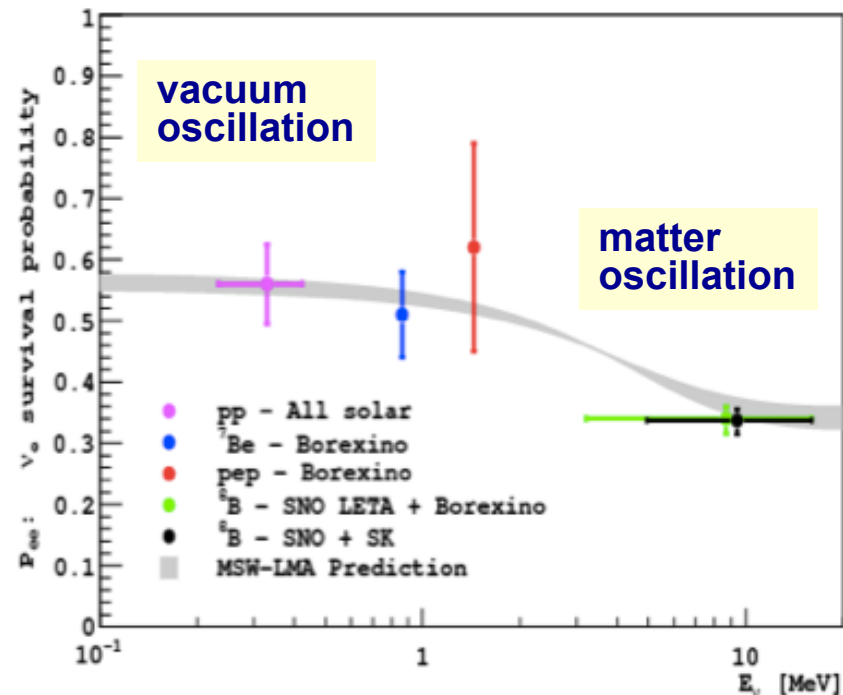




# Borexino solar neutrino data at low energy can constrain exotic models



Before: exotic oscillation scenarios allowed



After: consistent with standard solar model and standard matter oscillation scenario

# Up-to-date tests of non-standard models

Light sterile neutrino

PRD 83:113011 (2011)

Non-standard MSW Dynamics

PRD 83:101701 (2011)

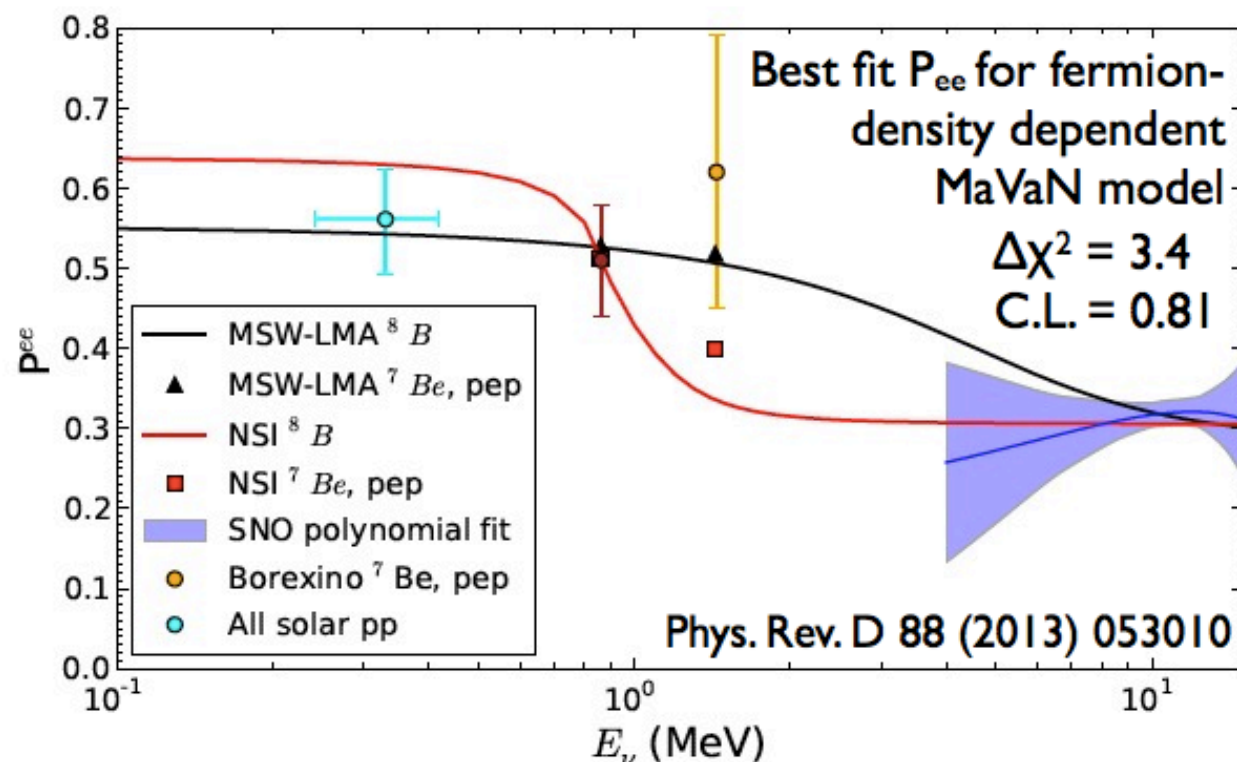
Non-Standard Models, Solar Neutrinos and Large  $\theta_{13}$

PRD 88:053010 (2013)

- ▶ Non-standard forward scattering
- ▶ Mass-varying neutrinos
- ▶ Long-range leptonic forces
- ▶ Non-standard solar model

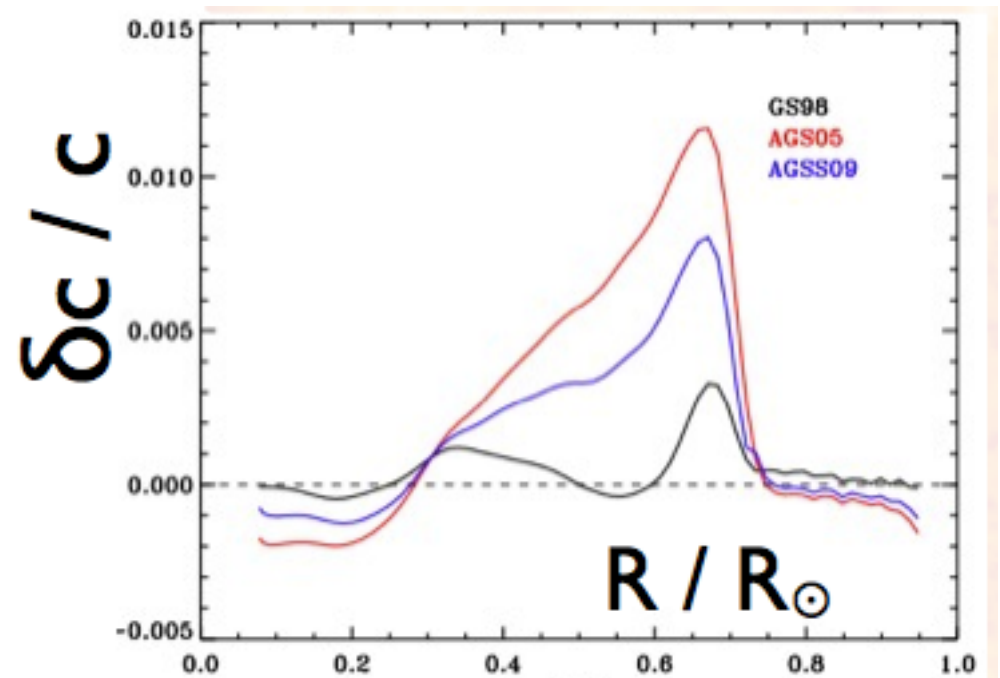
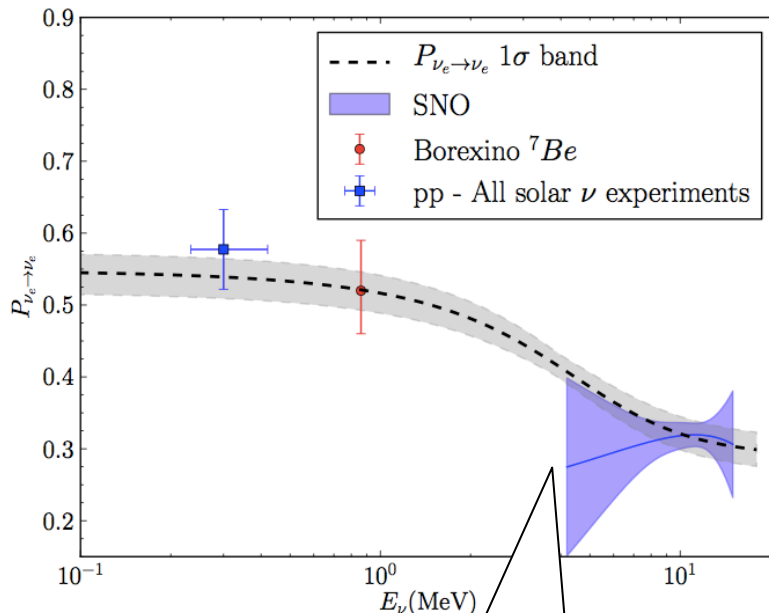
**No significant effects  
( $< 2\sigma$ )**

Results limited by  
experimental precision



# What's next for solar neutrinos?

We now have the basic picture, but there are still gaps & discrepancies...

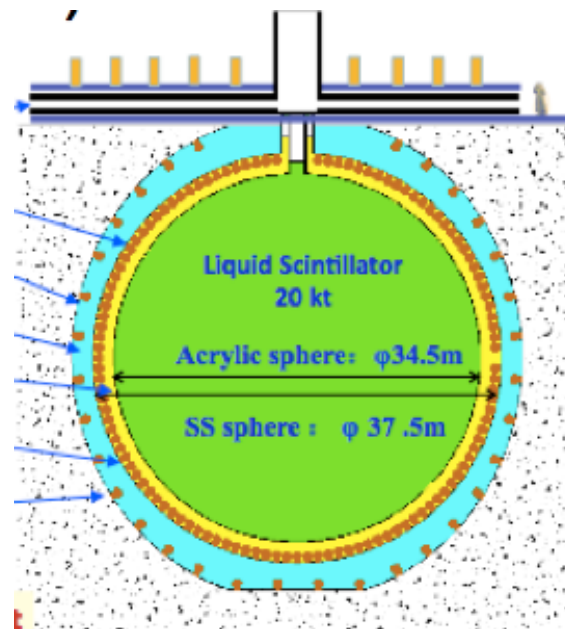
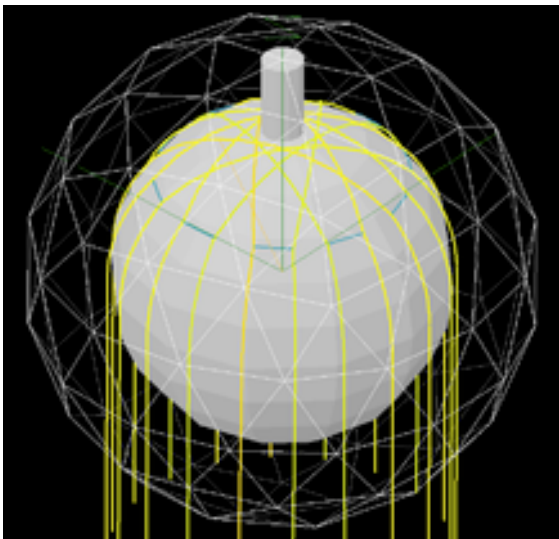


Low energy region  
still poorly measured  
... still room for  
new physics?

Latest solar metallicities  
inconsistent with  
helioseismology  
... neutrino info can help

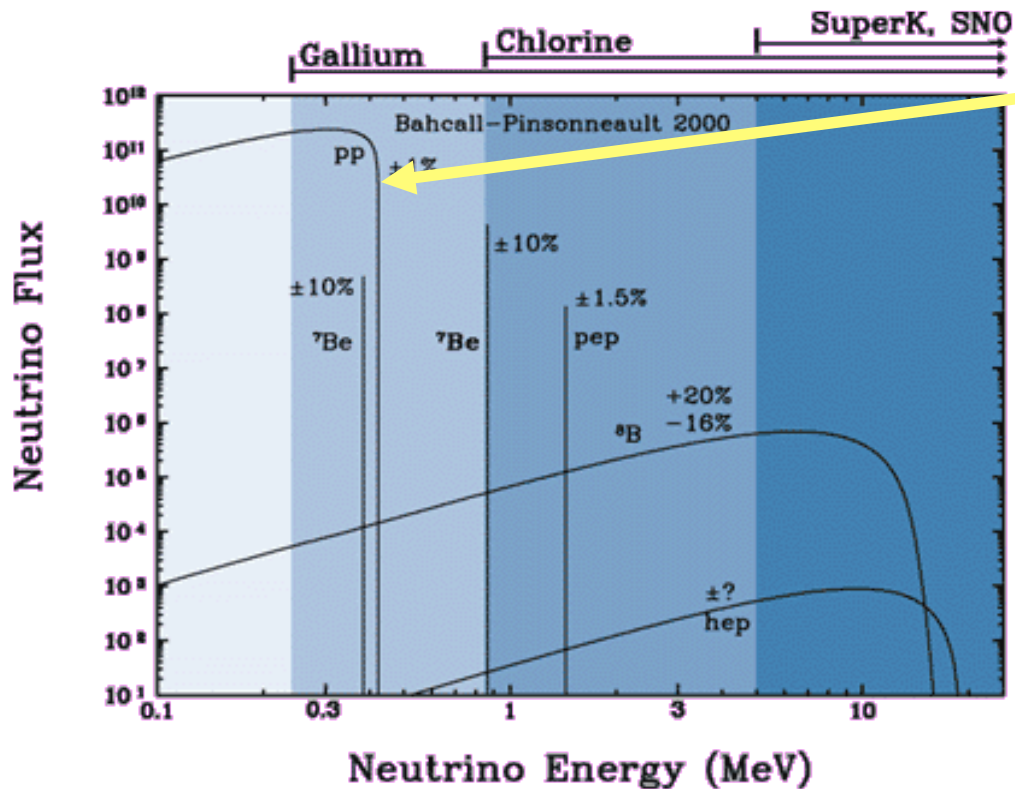
# What experiments are next for solar neutrinos?

- SK and Borexino still running
- SNO+: SNO acrylic vessel filled with scintillator (+Nd for  $\theta_{\text{MNSB}}$ )
- Next: JUNO in CHINA
- Possible farther future: LENA, 50 kt scintillator in Finland
- Water-based scintillator? Load w/ e.g.  ${}^7\text{Li}$ ?

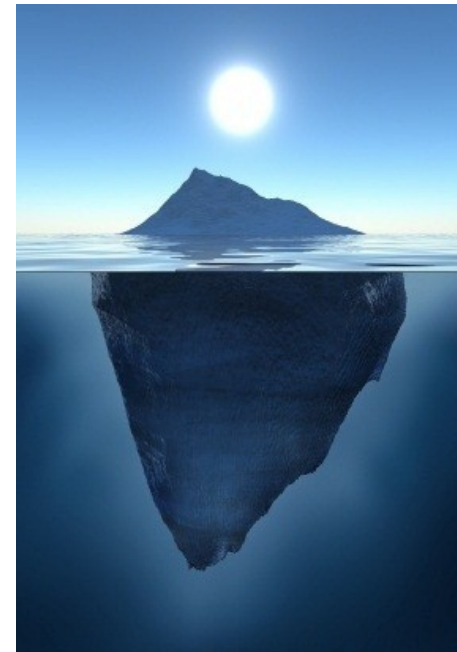


# The Frontier?

Ultra-low energy (sub MeV) ?  
real-time solar pp  $\nu$  detectors



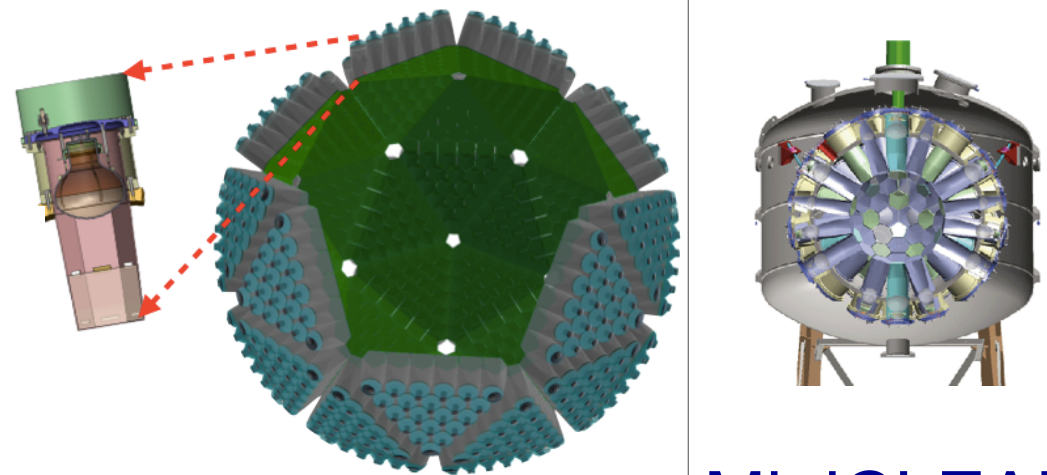
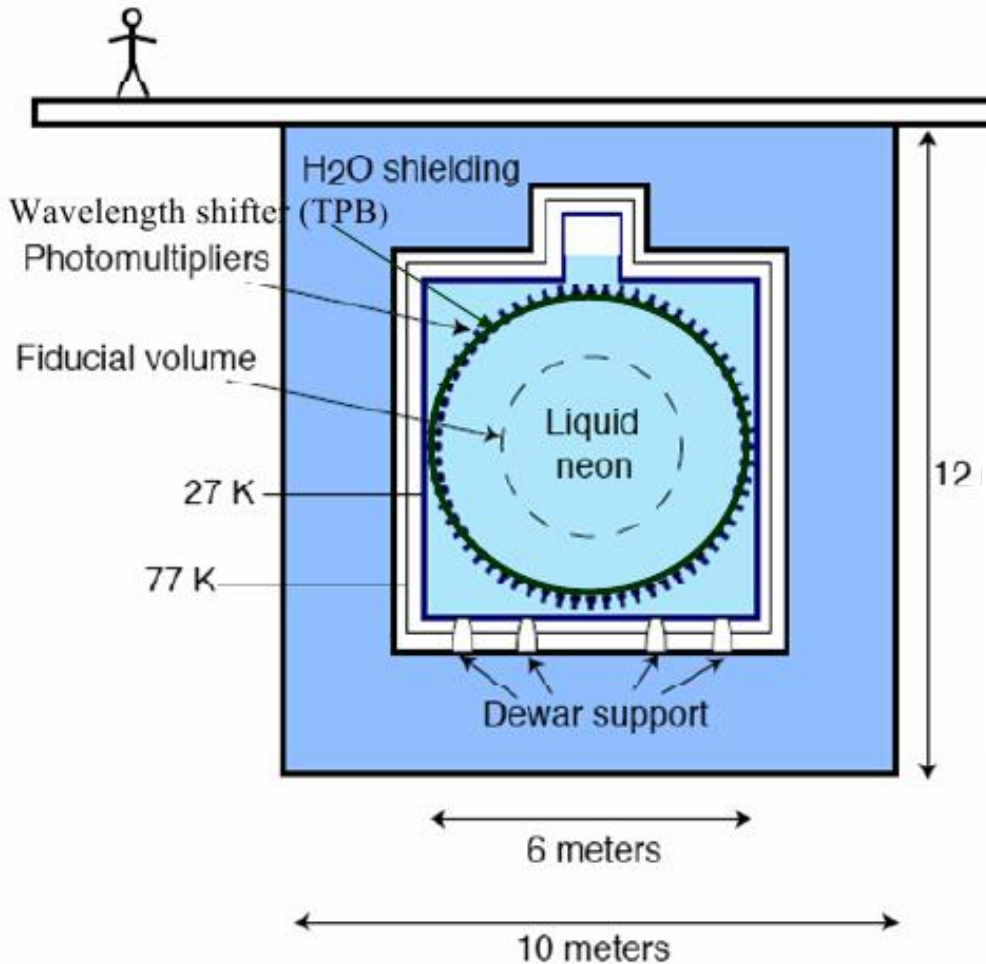
Vast pp neutrino flux  
barely touched!



- detectors can be relatively small (~10 tons) thanks to huge pp flux
- want real-time energy resolution
- must be ultra-clean to defeat radioactive background



# CLEAN: liquid neon (argon)

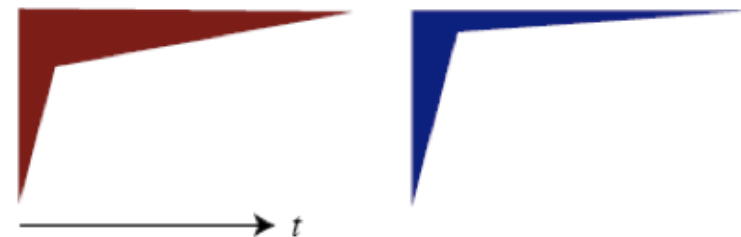


MiniCLEAN

## Pulse-shape discrimination

Electronic recoils

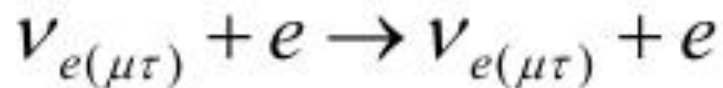
Nuclear recoils



Fast component: < 10 ns

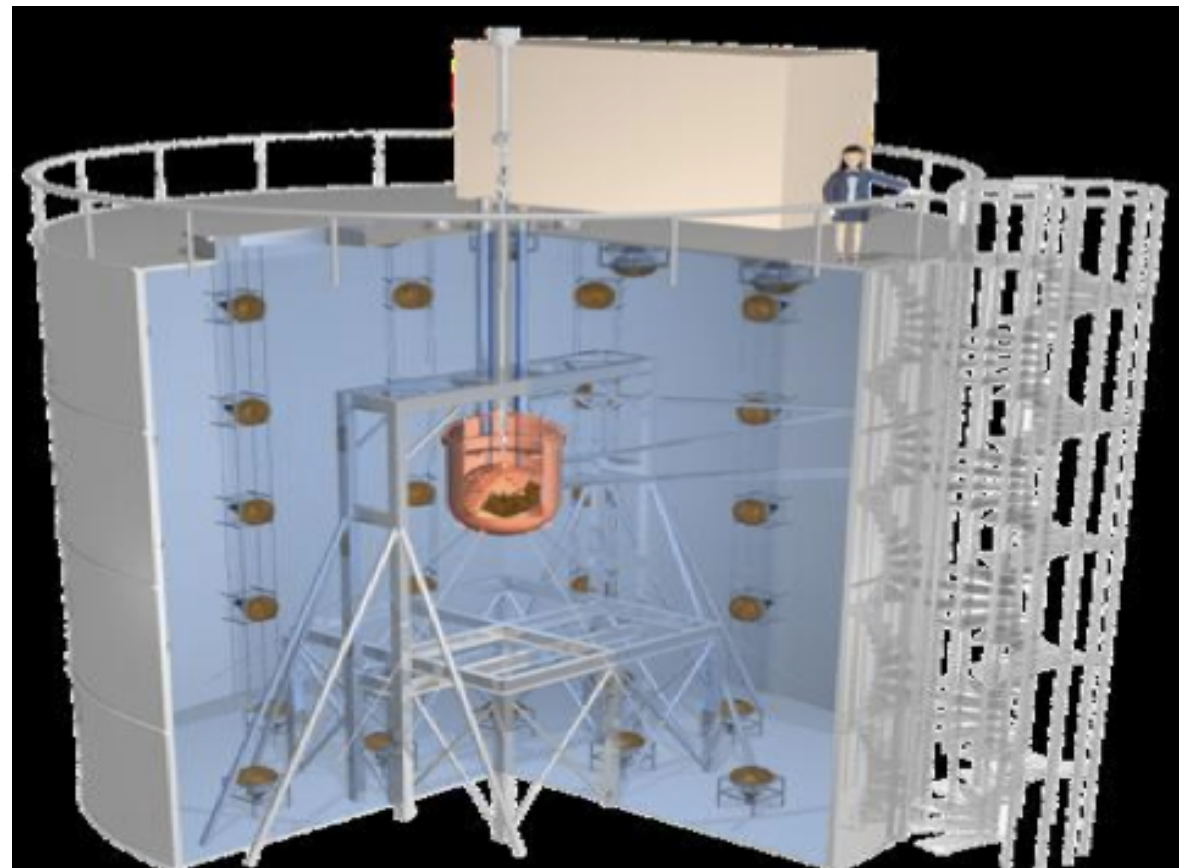
Slow component: 1.6 μs (LAr), 15 μs (LNe)

Discriminate based on fraction of light in first 100 ns (Fprompt)



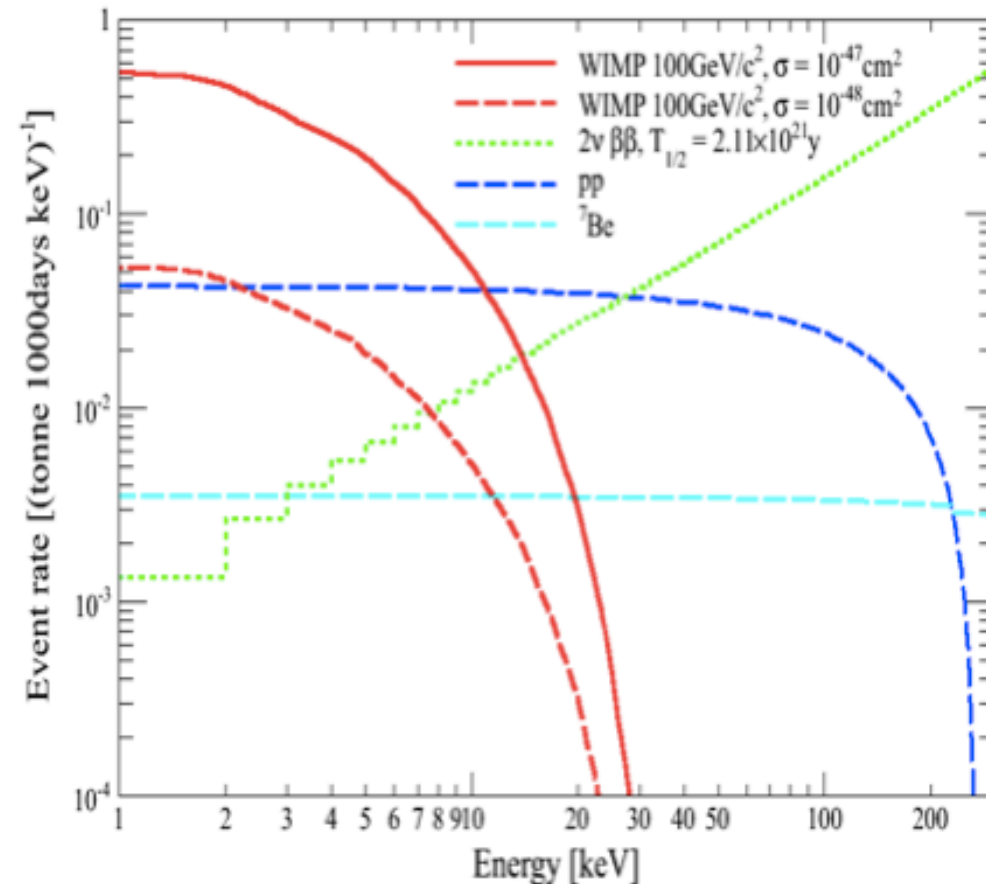
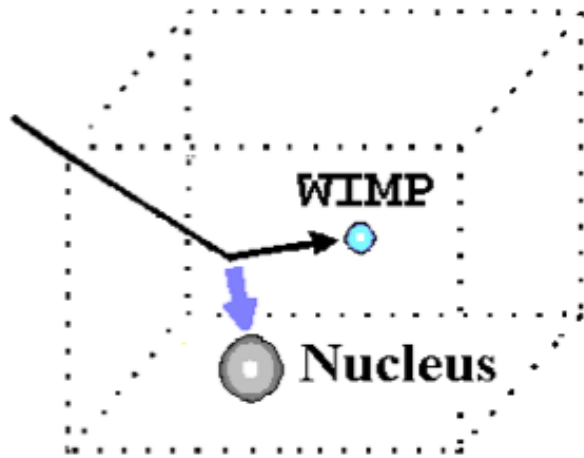
# XMASS: liquid xenon

$$\nu_{e(\mu\tau)} + e \rightarrow \nu_{e(\mu\tau)} + e$$



Note: noble liquid detectors have gotten “distracted” by WIMP searches...

## Measured recoil energy spectrum in xenon

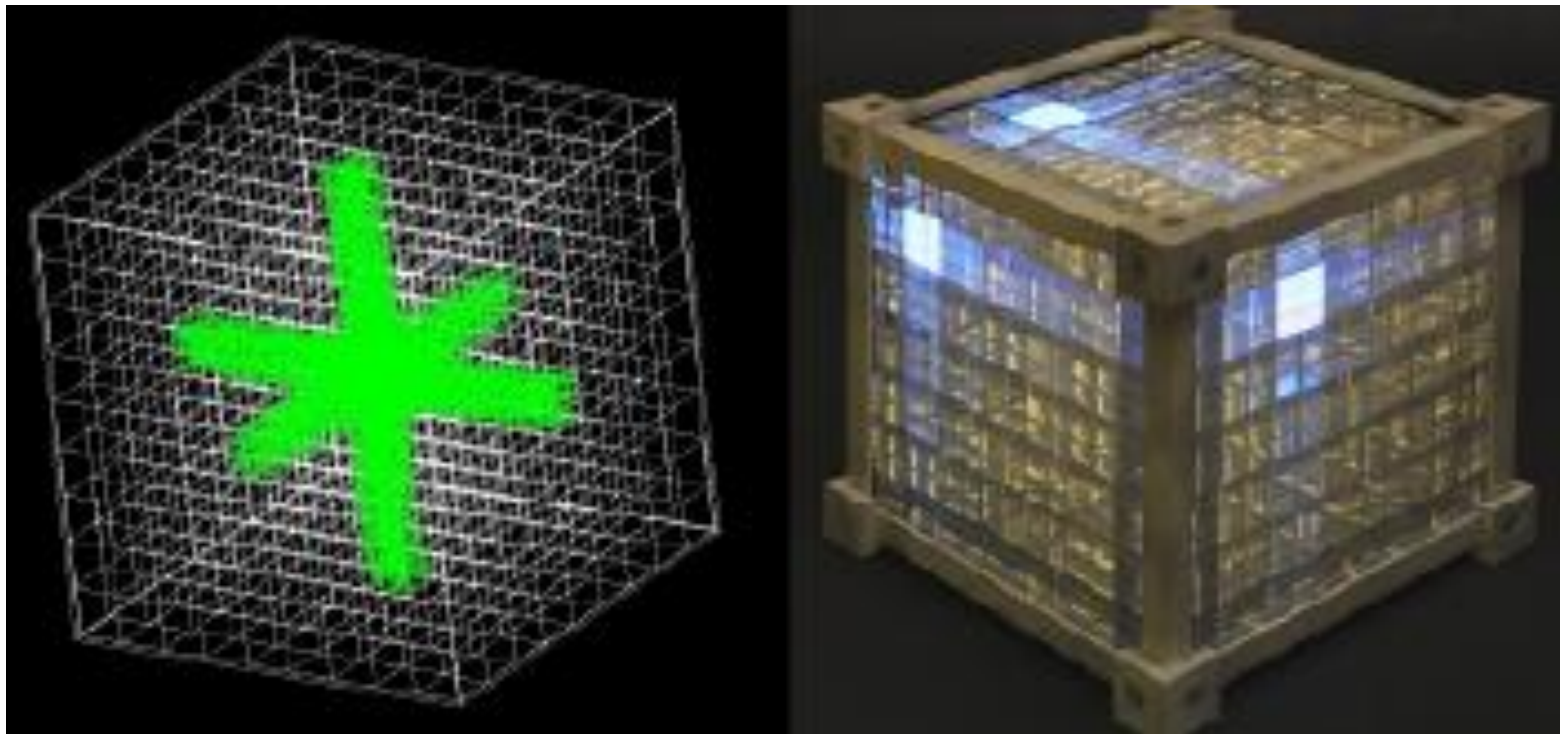
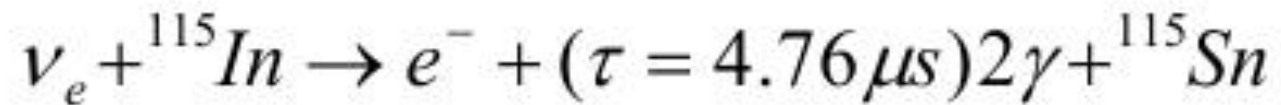


**Nuclear recoils induced by DM may be an easier signal!**

# A dedicated future solar neutrino experiment:

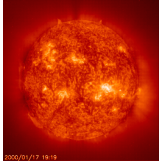
LENS: indium-loaded  
scintillator

use delayed triple  
coincidence to  
reject background





# The Story of Solar Neutrinos



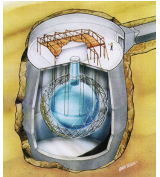
How does the Sun shine?

It's a gigantic nuclear furnace



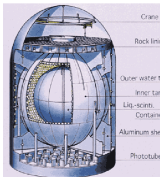
$\nu$ -raying the Sun: a classic problem

Electron neutrinos gone missing



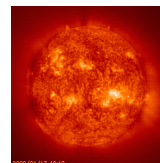
An anomaly resolved ... with new physics!

The SSM holds;  $\nu$ 's are oscillating



“Tame” neutrinos complement the “wild” ones

Reactor neutrinos help squeeze the parameters



How does the Sun shine?  
(or maybe yet more new physics...)

Still some discrepancies... more to learn about the Sun and maybe neutrinos!