



The Super-Kamiokande Experiment

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The Super-Kamiokande Collaboration

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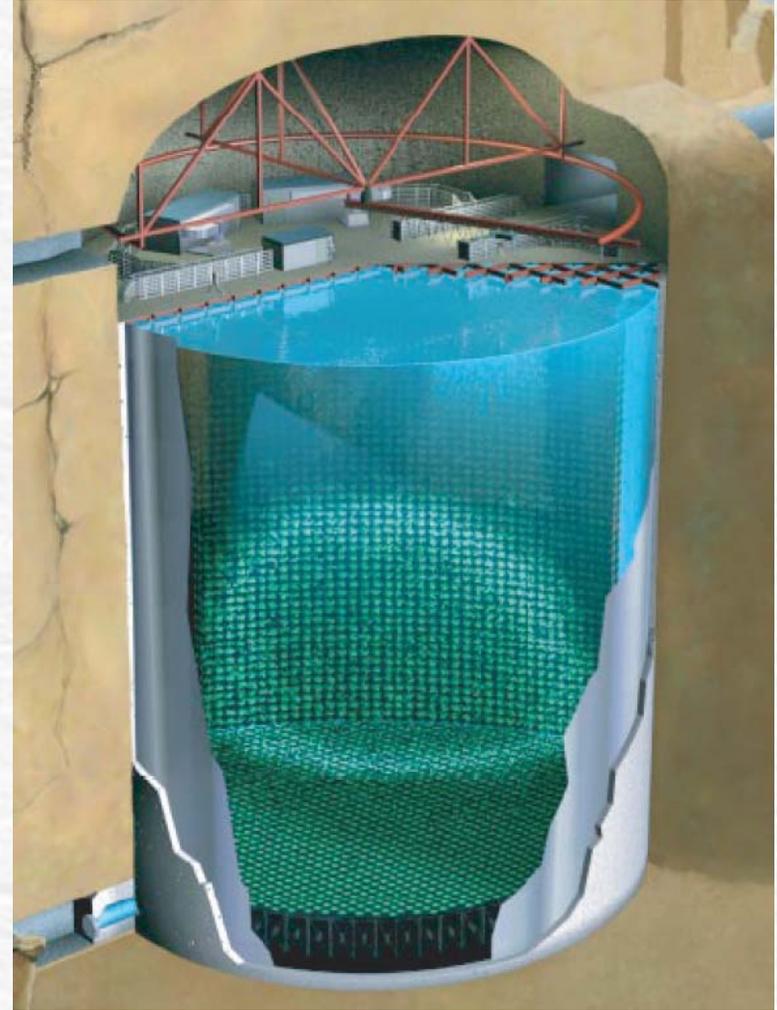
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Outline

- History and Introduction
- How Super-Kamiokande Works
- Solar Neutrino Results
- Atmospheric Neutrino Results
- Proton Decay Results
- Long-Baseline Experiments and Future

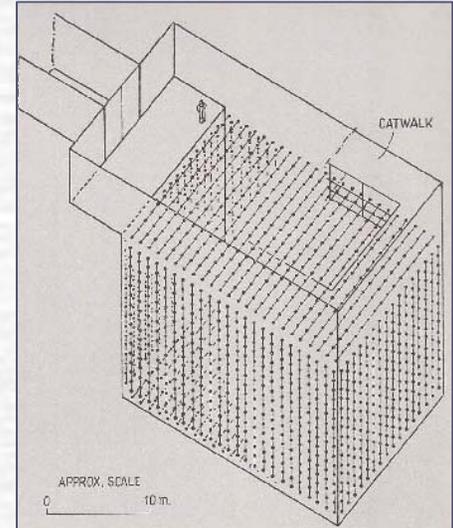
A Bit of History - IMB

Pioneering water Cherenkov detector

- Data-taking 1982-1990
- 8 kton water (3.3 fiducial)
- 2048 5" PMTs (IMB-1)
 - Later upgraded (IMB-2,3)

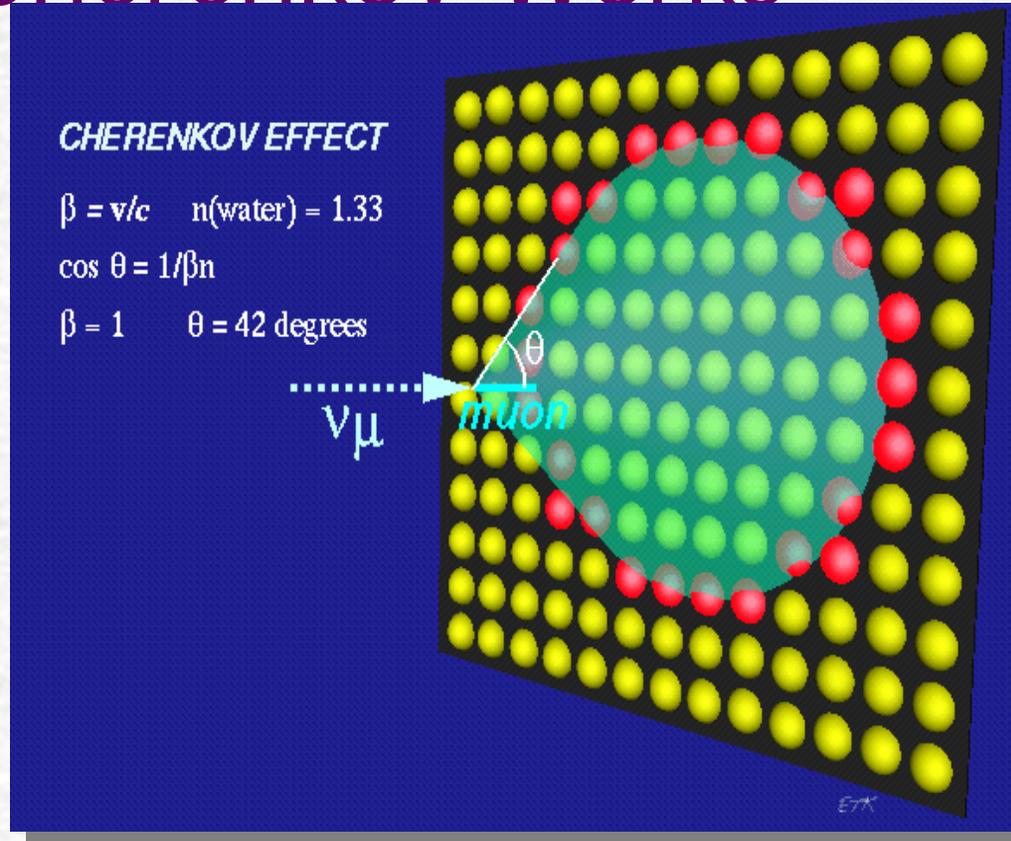
Major accomplishments:

- Excluded minimal SU(5) grand-unified theory
- Observation of supernova neutrinos (with Kamiokande)
- Confirmed atmospheric muon-neutrino deficit



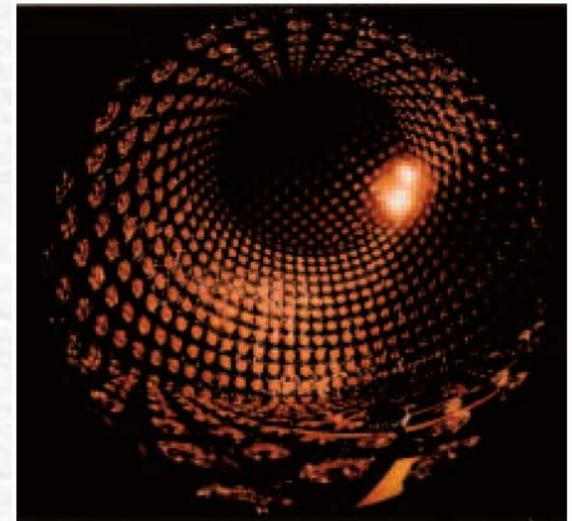
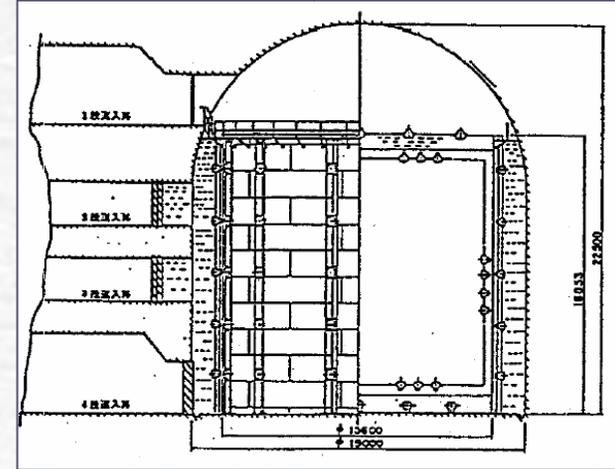
How Water Cherenkov Works

- ✓ Cheap target material
- ✓ Surface instrumentation
- ✓ Vertex from PMT timing
- ✓ Direction from ring edge
- ✓ Energy from pulse height, range and opening angle
- ✓ Particle ID from hit pattern and delayed muon decay signature
- ✓ Cherenkov threshold:
 - ✓ $\beta > 1/n \sim 0.75$



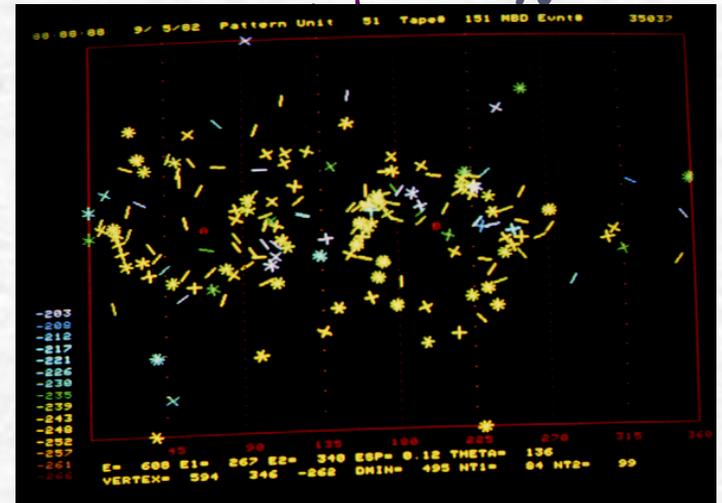
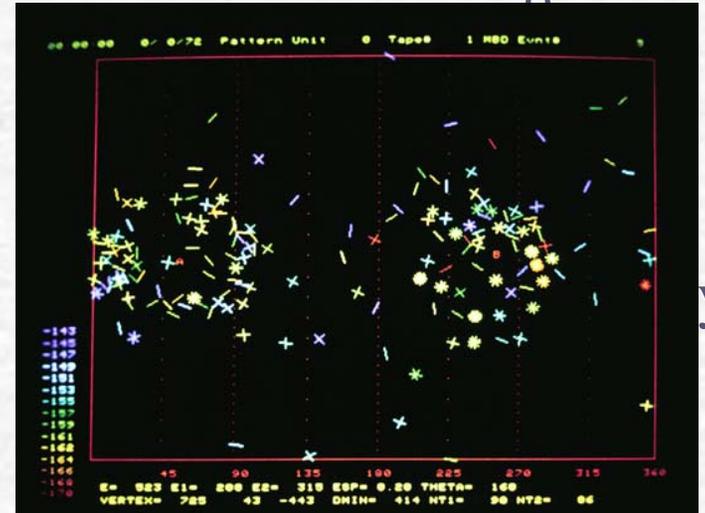
Kamiokande

- Second kiloton water Cherenkov detector
 - Began data-taking 1983
 - Mass ~1 kton
 - 20" PMTs, 20% photocathode coverage
 - Compare to ~1% for IMB-1!
- Major accomplishments
 - Observation of neutrinos from SN1987A (with IMB-3)
 - First real-time solar neutrino measurements (M. Koshiba 2002 Nobel Prize!)
 - First clear evidence for deficit of atmospheric muon neutrinos (confirmed by IMB-3)
- Today, the same tank is used for the KAMLAND experiment



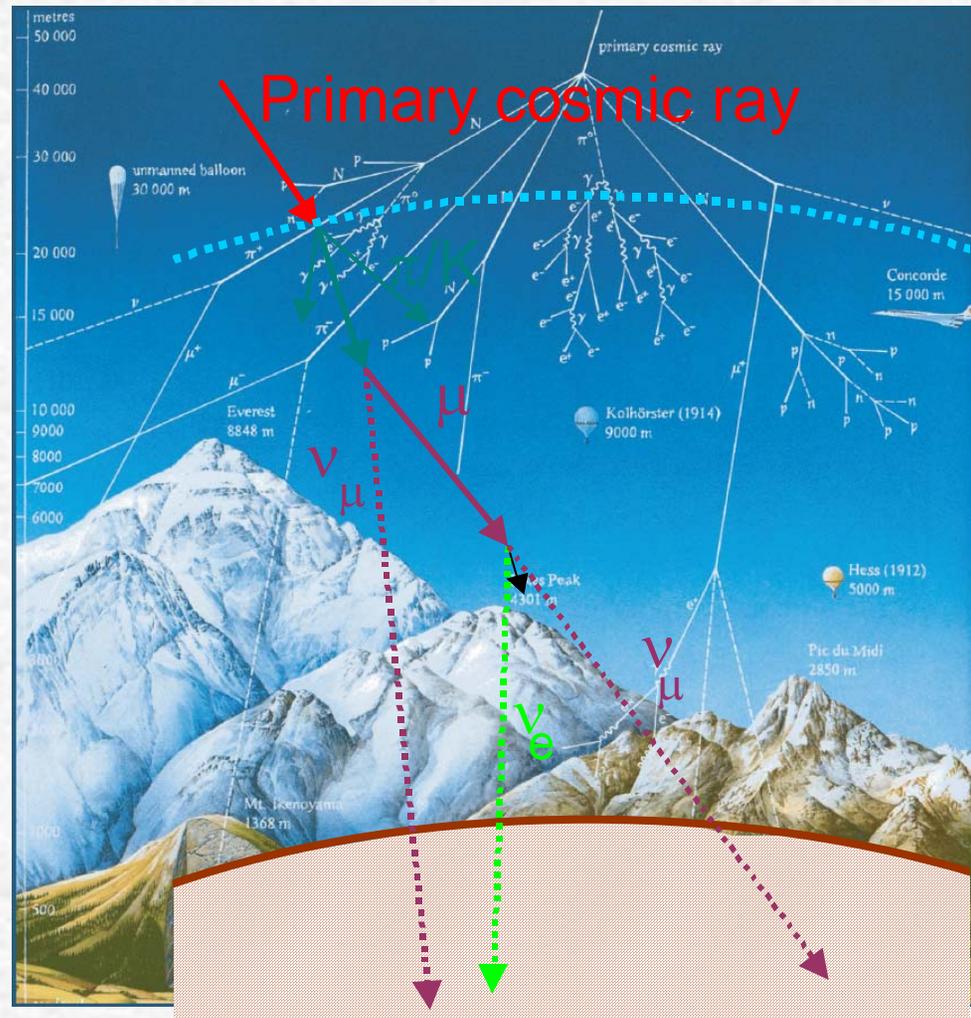
Proton Decay and Neutrinos

- Generic Prediction of most Grand Unified Theories
 - IMB ruled out simplest theory "SU(5)" in 1982
- Lifetime $> 10^{33}$ yr!
 - Requires comparable number of protons
 - Colossal (kiloton) detectors
- Neutrino background proved more interesting than the (non-existent) signal!



Atmospheric Neutrinos

- Produced by cosmic-ray proton collisions with the upper atmosphere
 - Power-law ($\sim E^{-2.7}$) energy spectrum
 - Mean energy ~ 1 GeV
 - Neutrinos arrive from all directions
 - Contains muon and electron neutrinos in $\sim 2:1$ ratio
 - Absolute flux is uncertain to 10-20%



Neutrino Interactions

Neutrino/electron scattering (e.g. $\nu + e \rightarrow \nu + e$)

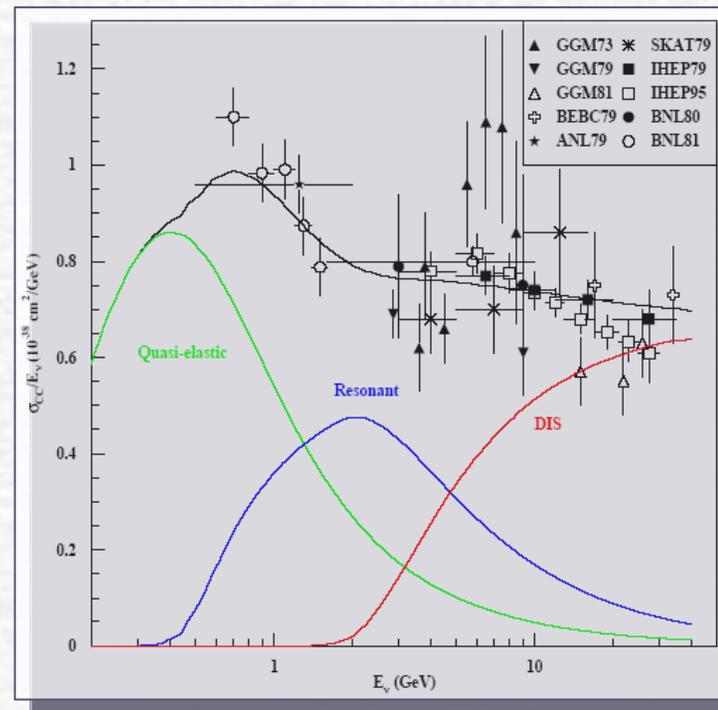
- Only relevant for lowest (solar) neutrino energies
- Suppressed by factor $m_e/m_N \sim 2000$
- Cross-section for ν_μ and ν_τ about 1/7 that for ν_e

Charged-current neutrino-nucleon reactions

- Produces charged lepton with same flavor as neutrino**
- Quasi-elastic (e.g. $\nu + n \rightarrow \ell^- + p$)
 - Recoil nucleon usually invisible in Cherenkov detector
- Resonant (e.g. $\nu + N \rightarrow \ell^- + \Delta$; $\Delta \rightarrow \pi + N'$)
 - One or more pions produced in addition to charged lepton
- Charged-current deep-inelastic scattering (e.g. $\nu + q \rightarrow \ell^- + q'$; $q' \rightarrow \text{hadrons}$)
 - Multiple hadrons produced
- Total charged-current neutrino-nucleon cross-section rises \sim linearly with energy

Neutral-current neutrino-nucleon reactions (e.g. $\nu + N \rightarrow \nu + X$)

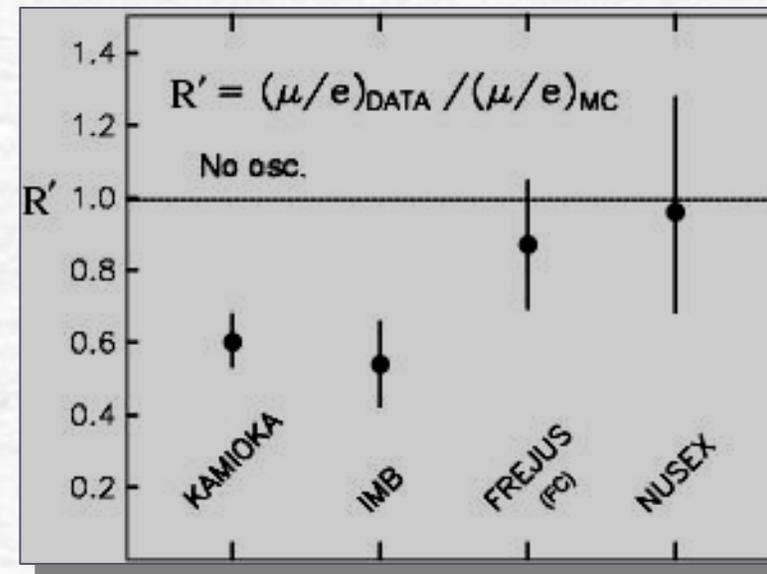
- No charged lepton; suppressed by a factor 2-3 compared to charged-current reactions
- No information about neutrino flavor**



$$\sigma(\nu + N \rightarrow \ell^- + X) / E_\nu$$

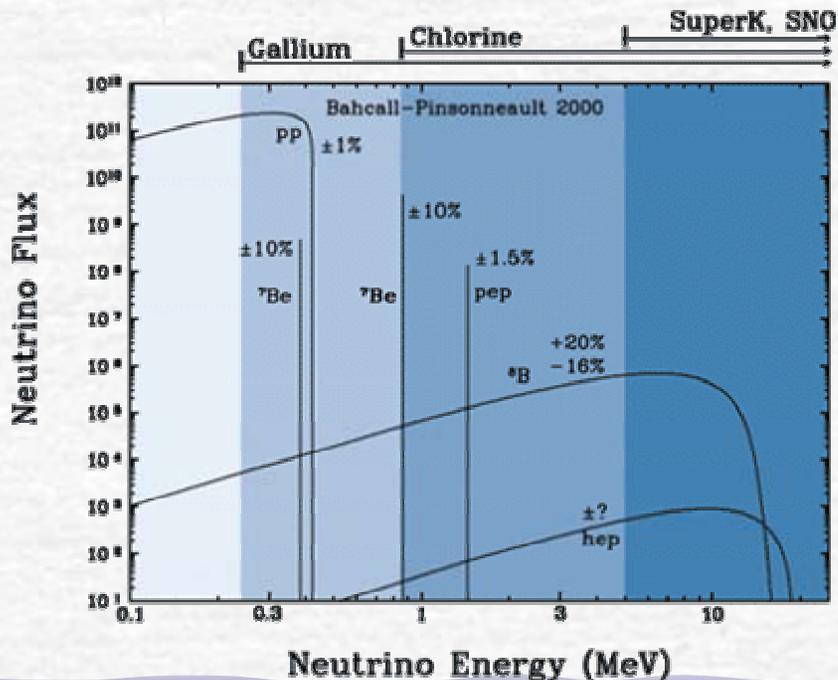
The Atmospheric Neutrino Problem

- While searching for proton-decay, IMB and Kamiokande accumulated large samples of atmospheric neutrino interactions
- Because most interactions are charged-current quasi-elastic, it was possible to study the flavor composition of the atmospheric neutrino flux
- Both found about 40% fewer ν_μ interactions than expected
 - The “atmospheric neutrino problem”
 - Kamiokande found hints of a dependence on the arrival direction
 - Two smaller detectors found no evidence of a deficit



Solar Neutrinos

- Fusion reactions in the Sun also produce low-energy electron neutrinos
- A 20-year experiment using a tank of Chlorine found only 1/3 of the expected rate
 - Ray Davis, 2002 Nobel Prize!

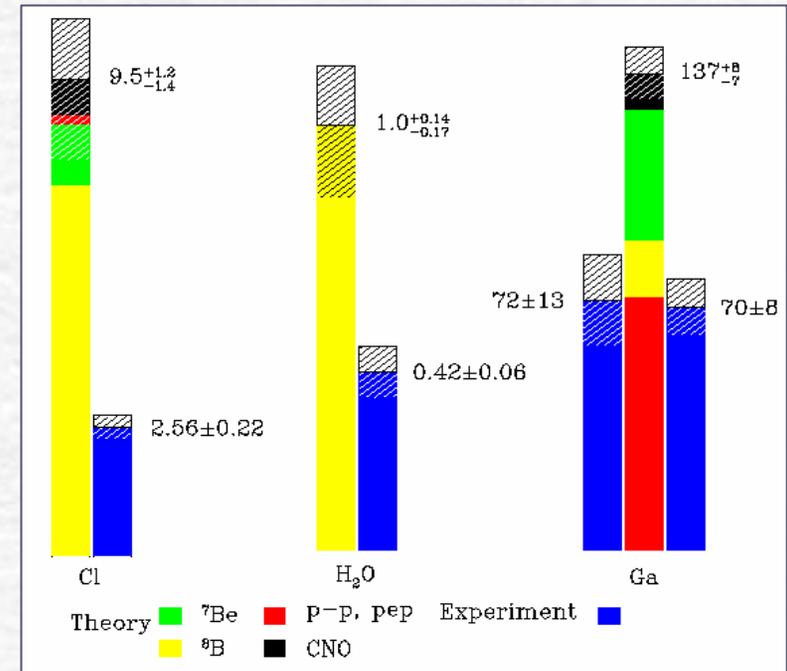


REACTION	TERM. (%)	ν ENERGY (MeV)
$p + p \rightarrow {}^2\text{H} + e^+ + \nu_e$	(99.96)	≤ 0.423
or		
$p + e^- + p \rightarrow {}^2\text{H} + \nu_e$	(0.44)	1.445
${}^2\text{H} + p \rightarrow {}^3\text{He} + \gamma$	(100)	
${}^3\text{He} + {}^3\text{He} \rightarrow \alpha + 2p$	(85)	
or		
${}^3\text{He} + {}^4\text{He} \rightarrow {}^7\text{Be} + \gamma$	(15)	
${}^7\text{Be} + e^- \rightarrow {}^7\text{Li} + \nu_e$	(15)	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 0.863 \text{ 90\%} \\ 0.385 \text{ 10\%} \end{array} \right.$
${}^7\text{Li} + p \rightarrow 2\alpha$		
or		
${}^7\text{Be} + p \rightarrow {}^8\text{B} + \gamma$	(0.02)	
${}^8\text{B} \rightarrow {}^8\text{Be}^* + e^+ + \nu_e$		< 15
${}^8\text{Be}^* \rightarrow 2\alpha$		
or		
${}^3\text{He} + p \rightarrow {}^4\text{He} + e^+ + \nu_e$	(0.00003)	< 18.8

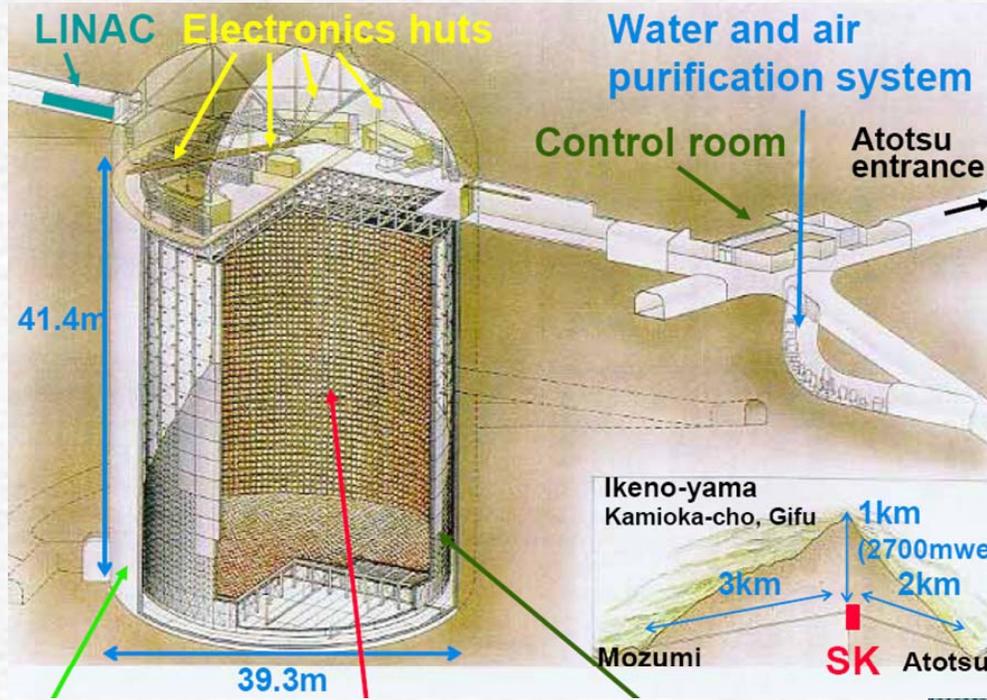
The Solar Neutrino Problem

➤ Kamiokande, together with two experiments using a Gallium target, confirmed this deficit of solar neutrinos

- The “solar neutrino problem”

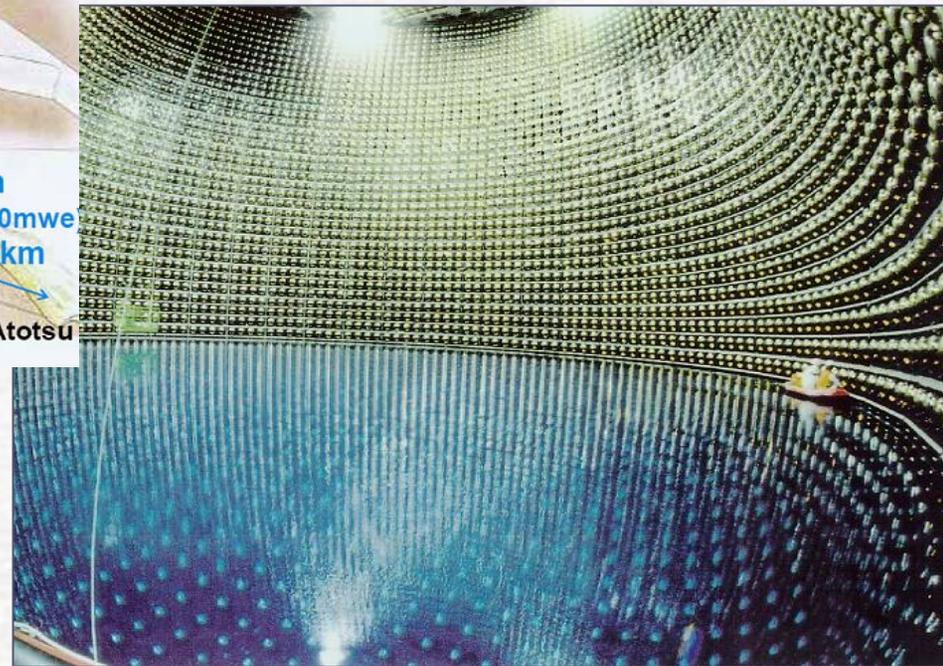


The Super-Kamiokande Detector



In the mid-1990's, Super-Kamiokande was built to study all three puzzles:

- Nucleon decay
- Solar neutrinos
- Atmospheric neutrinos



50,000 ton total mass (22,500 ton fiducial)	Inner detector: 11,186 20" PMTs (40% coverage)	Outer detector: 1885 8" PMTs (veto)
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Super-Kamiokande Milestones

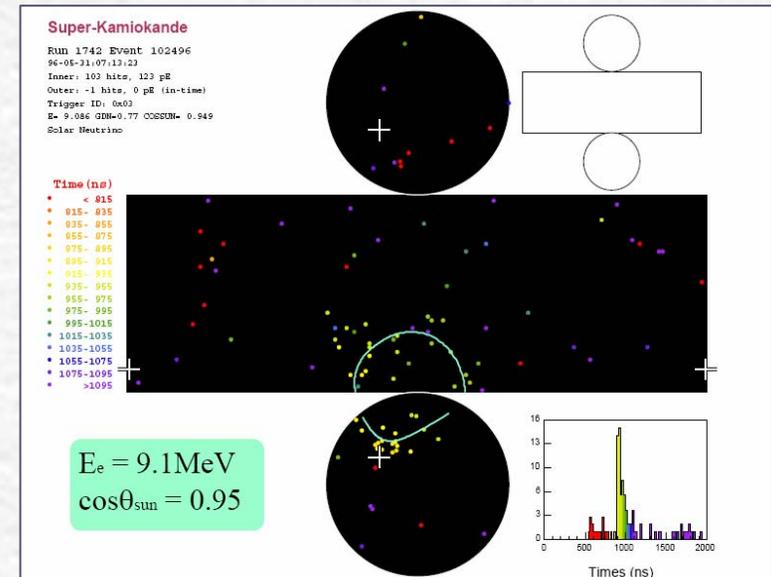
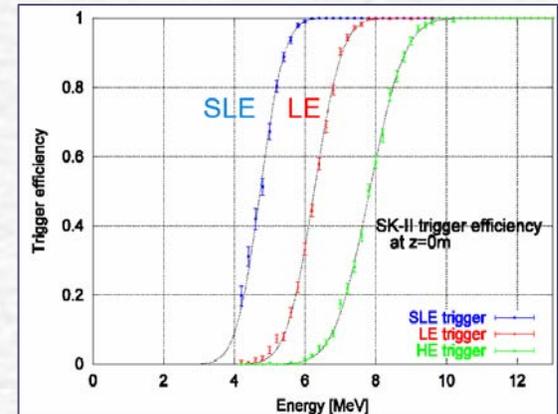
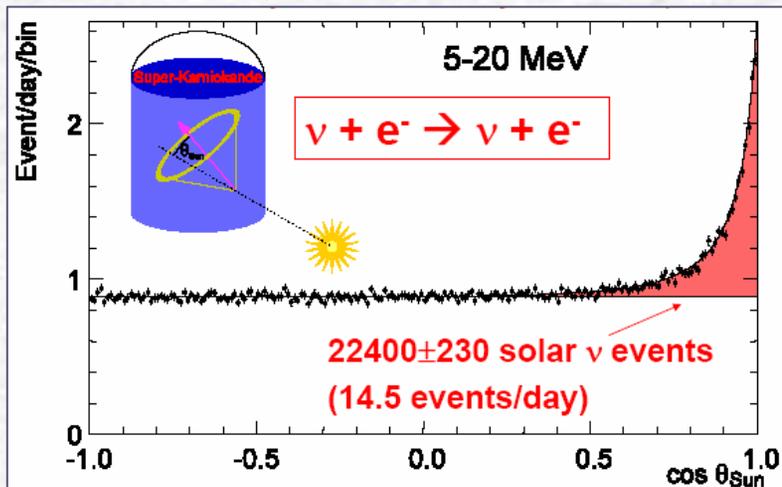
- ☞ April 1996: Data-taking begins
- ☞ June 1998: Evidence for atmospheric oscillation announced
- ☞ Spring 1999: K2K long-baseline experiment begins
- ☞ June 2001: Detector shutdown for PMT maintenance
- ☞ August 2001: Refilling of detector begins
- ☞ November 2001: Implosion disaster; end of SK-I
- ☞ December 2002: SK-II phase begins with half PMT coverage and acrylic housings
- ☞ Summer 2005: K2K long-baseline experiment ends
- ☞ Fall 2005: Restoration of full PMT coverage (SK-III) begins
- ☞ 2008?: Start of T2K long-baseline experiment



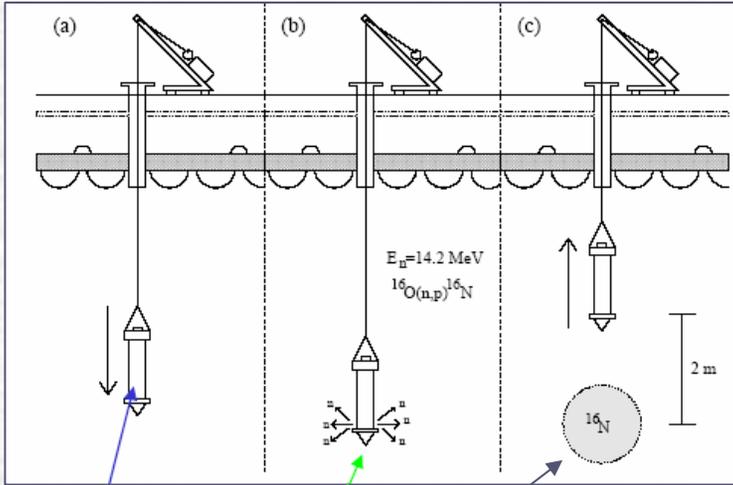
Solar Neutrino Rate

- SK observes a clear excess of electrons pointing from the direction of the Sun
- Principal solar neutrino backgrounds come from Radon, spallation products, and radioactivity
- Only about 40% of the expected interaction rate is observed:

${}^8\text{B}$ flux = $2.35 \pm 0.02 \pm 0.08$ [$\times 10^6/\text{cm}^2/\text{s}$]
 Data / SSM_{BP2004} = $0.406 \pm 0.004(\text{stat.}) + 0.014 - 0.013(\text{syst.})$

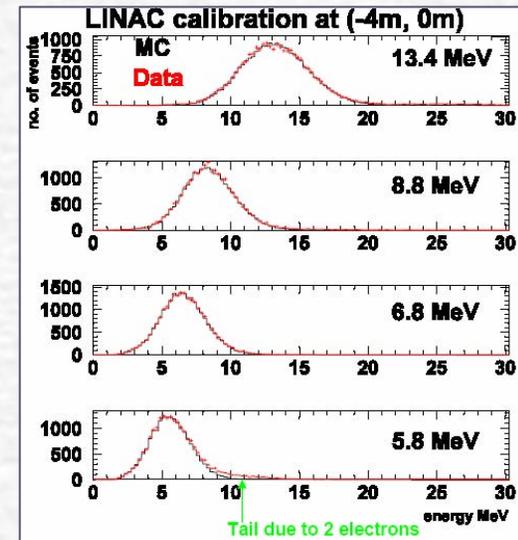
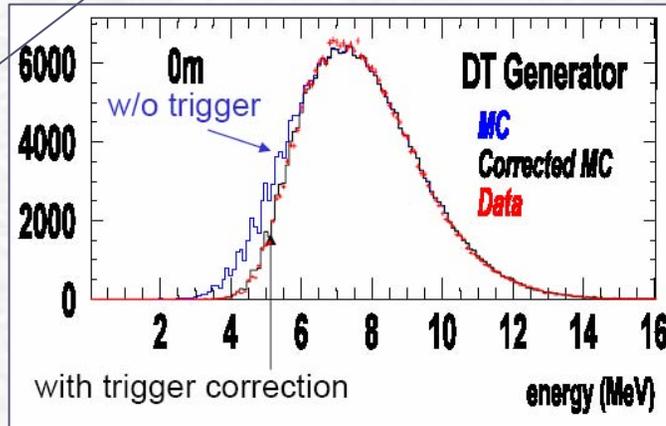
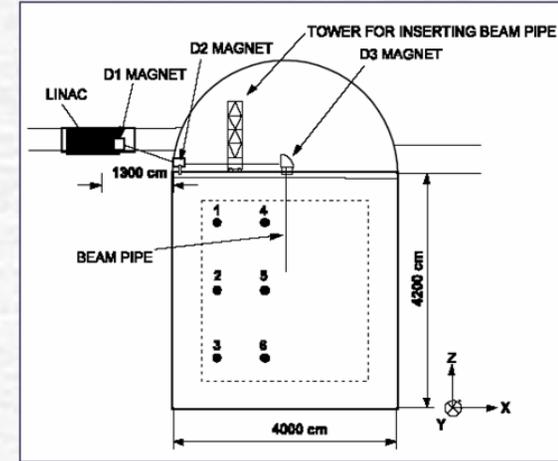


Low Energy Calibrations



At low-energy, SK is calibrated using:

- lasers,
- radioactive sources,
- a "DT" generator,
- and its own LINAC



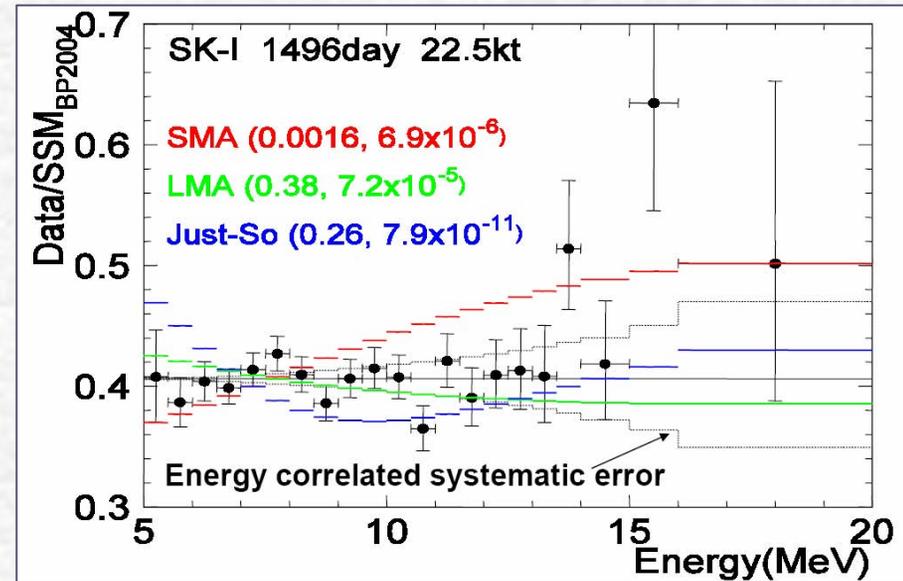
Probing Solar Neutrino Oscillation

- If ν_e from the Sun oscillate to other flavors, the observed rate will be suppressed because ν_μ and ν_τ have a much smaller cross-section than ν_e
- In addition to the rate, SK can look for:
 - Distortions of the neutrino energy spectrum
 - SMA and Vacuum ("Just-So") solutions
 - Day/Night Time Variations
 - Lower part of LMA solution and upper part of LOW solution
 - Seasonal Variations
 - Vacuum solution
- The predicted ${}^8\text{B}$ flux from solar models, and/or data from other experiments, can be used as additional constraints

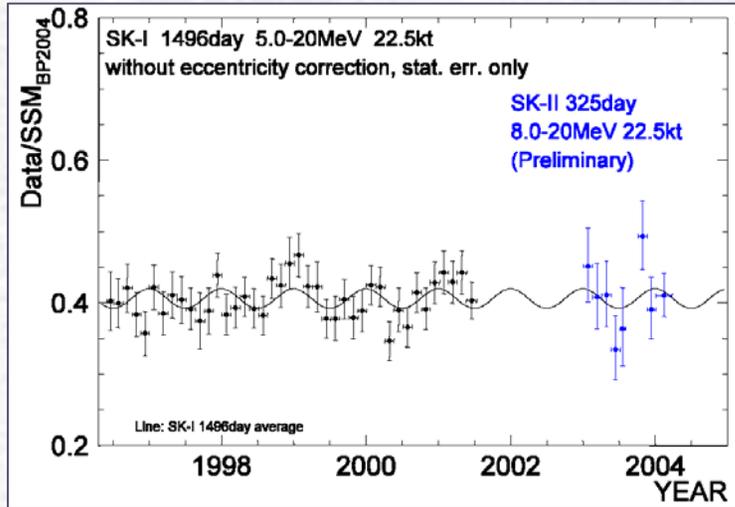
Solar Neutrino Energy Spectrum

Absence of large spectral distortions allowed Super-K to rule out the SMA and "Just-So" (Vacuum) at 95% confidence level solutions prior to the results from SNO and KAMLAND

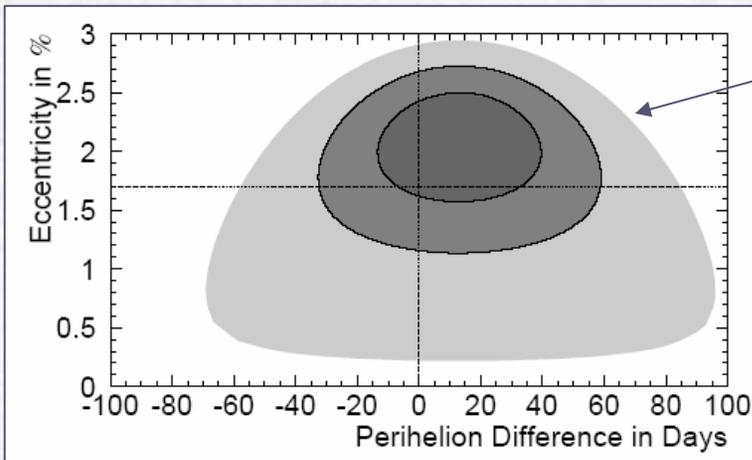
- SK data alone allows only solutions with large mixing



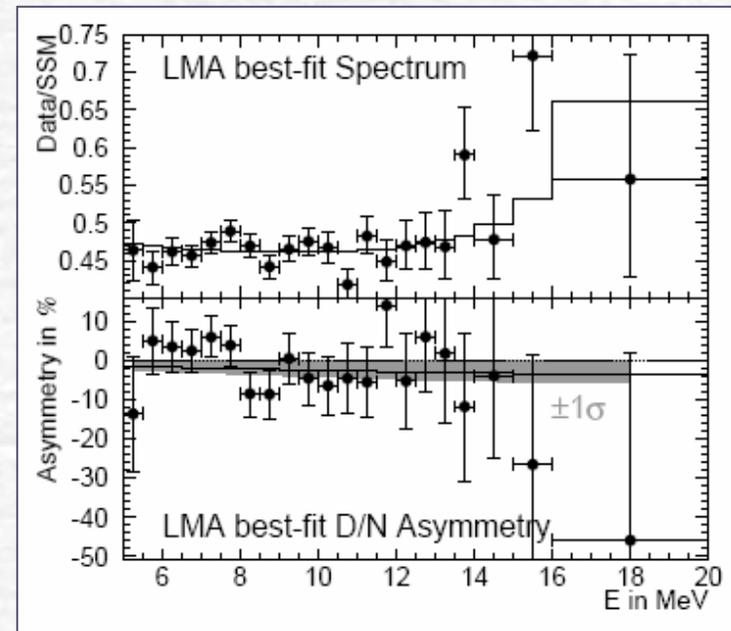
Solar Neutrino Time Variation



- Absence of seasonal variation (apart from $1/r^2$ variation due to eccentricity of the Earth's orbit) also excludes the "Just-So" region
- Day/Night variation is also consistent with zero, excluding a significant portion of the LMA solution

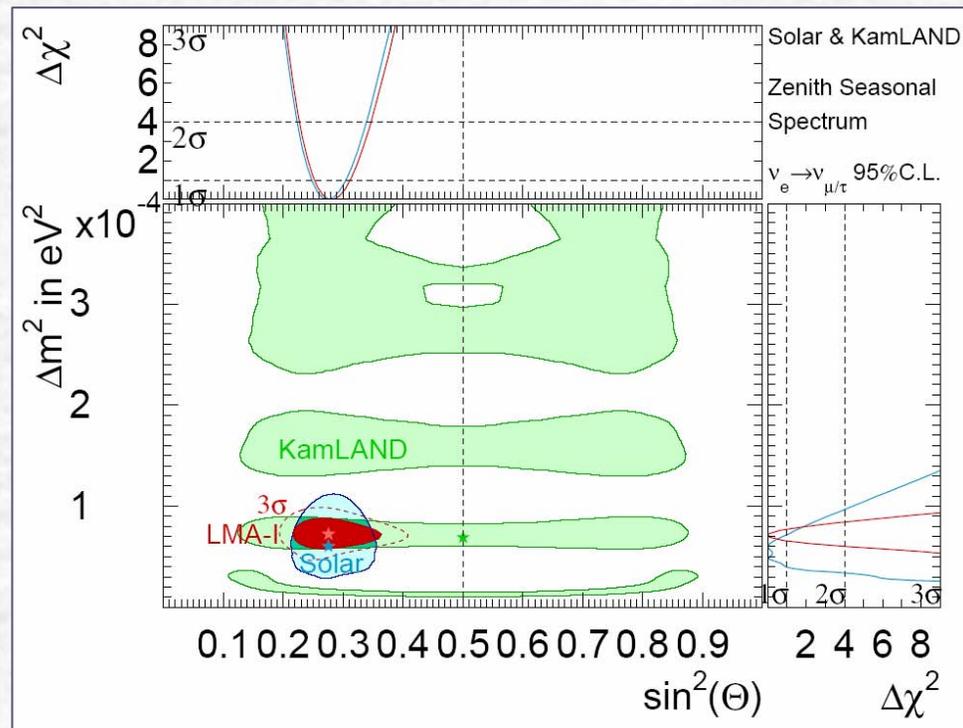
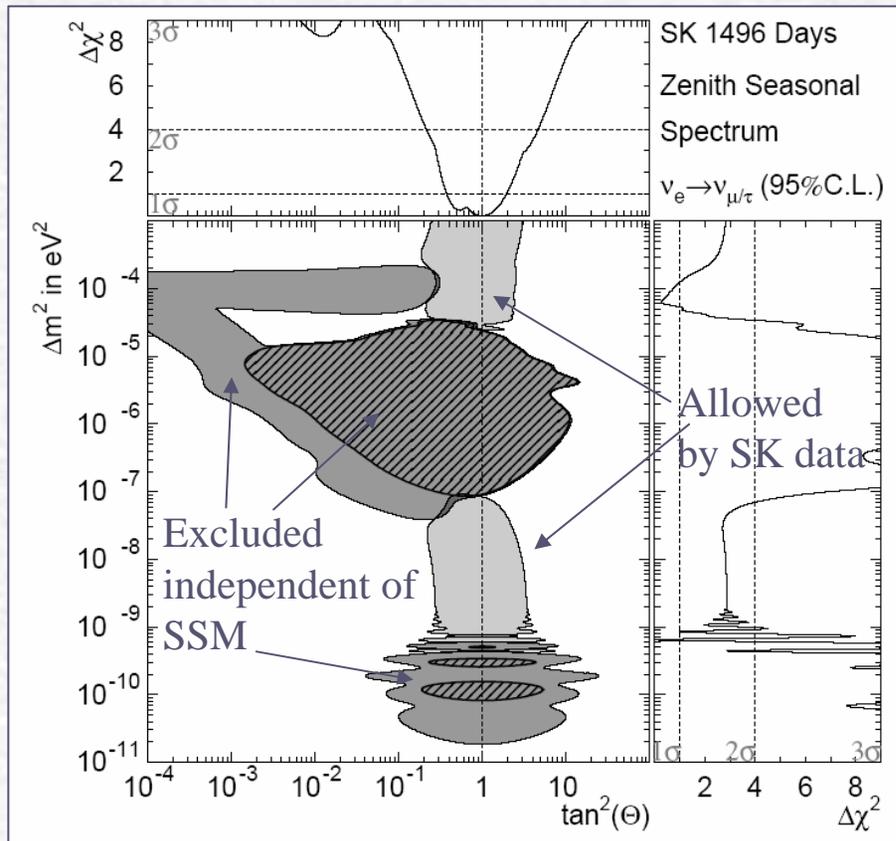


Measurement of Earth's orbital parameters with neutrinos!



$$A_{DN} = -1.8 \pm 1.6 \begin{matrix} +1.3 \\ -1.2 \end{matrix} \%$$

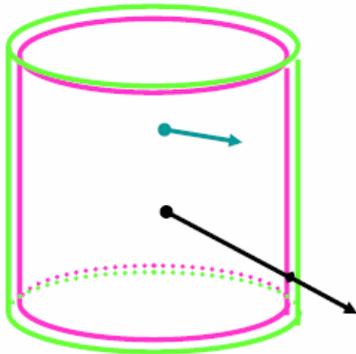
Summary of Solar Neutrinos



Combining Solar neutrino and
KAMLAND results

Atmospheric Neutrinos in Super-K

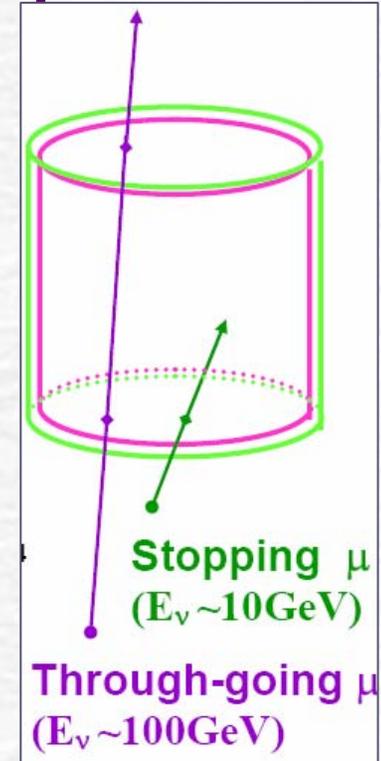
Fully Contained (FC) ($E_\nu \sim 1\text{GeV}$)



Partially Contained (PC) ($E_\nu \sim 10\text{GeV}$)

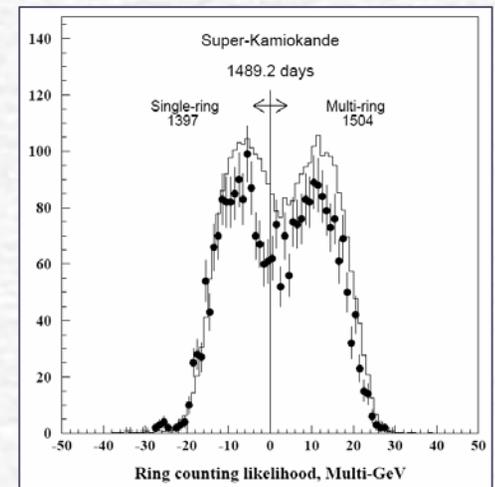
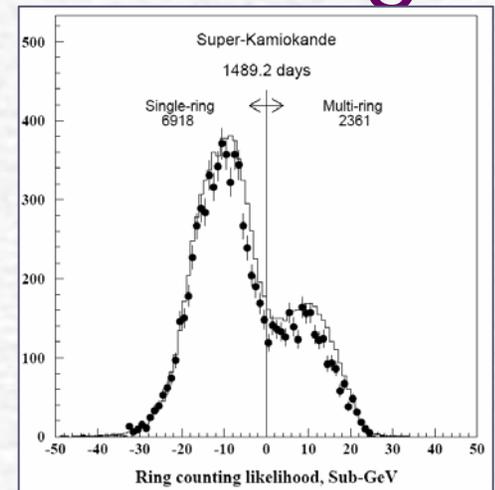
- Atmospheric neutrino data is classified by topology and energy into a variety of categories
- About 80% of the total atmospheric data sample is used in the oscillation analysis

	DATA	MC	C.C. Purity
Sub-GeV 1-ring e-like	3353	2978.8	88.0%
Multi-GeV 1-ring e-like	746	680.5	82.6%
Sub-GeV 1-ring μ -like	3227	4212.8	94.5%
Sub-GeV Multiring μ -like	208	322.6	90.5%
Multi-GeV 1-ring μ -like	651	899.9	99.4%
Multi-GeV Multiring μ -like	439	711.9	95.0%
Partially Contained μ	647	1034.5	97.3%
Stopping Upward μ	417.7	721.4	$\sim 100\%$
Throughgoing Upward μ	1841.6	1684.4	$\sim 100\%$



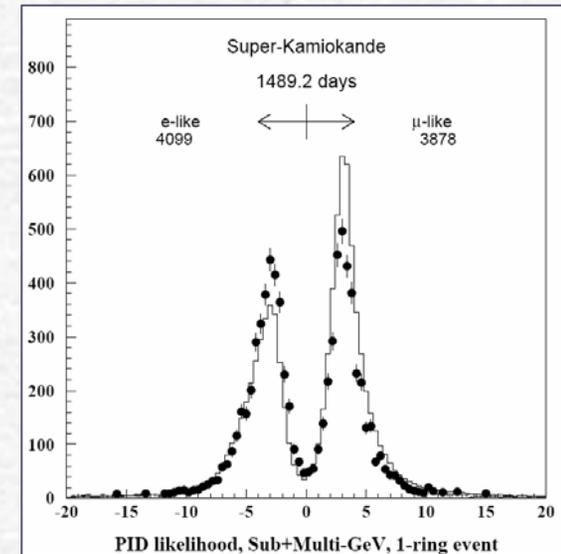
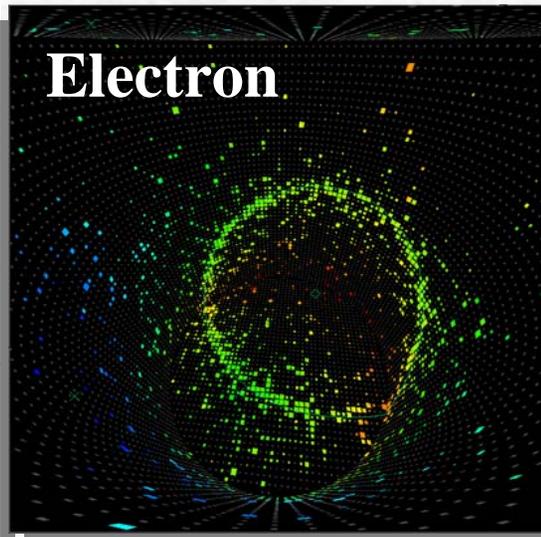
Data Reduction and Ring Counting

- Fully-contained events are selected by requiring no activity in the outer detector
- Partially-contained and upward-muon events are selected by reconstructing the vertex and direction
- Contained events are required to originate at least 2m from the walls
 - Vertex resolution is about 25 cm
- A maximum likelihood algorithm automatically identifies Cherenkov rings



Particle Identification

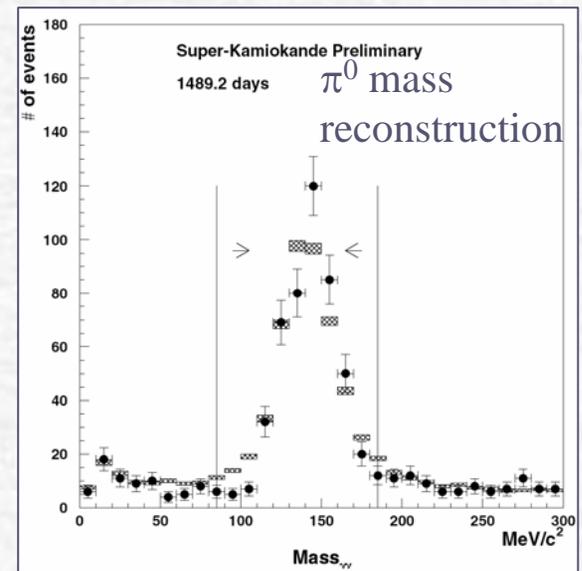
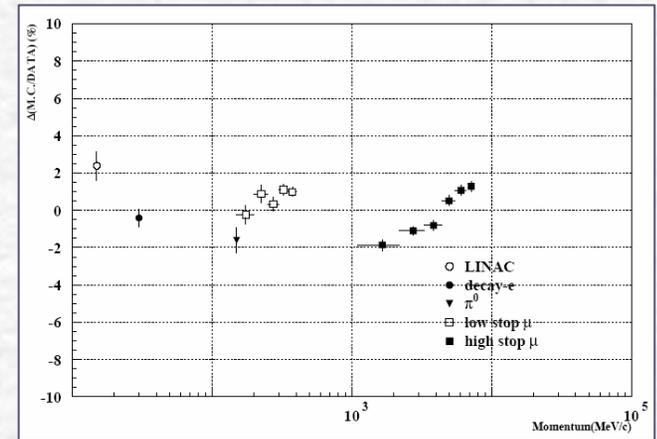
- Single-ring events are identified as e-like or μ -like, based on the geometry of the Cherenkov cone
 - e-like events shower
 - μ -like events have a sharp ring edge



- Particle ID performance can be tested on cosmic-ray muons, muon-decay electrons, π^0 . It has also been verified in a test beam

High-Energy Calibration

- For high-energy events, the energy scale is calibrated using:
 - Through-going cosmic-ray muons
 - Stopping cosmic-ray muons
 - Electrons from muon decay
 - Reconstructed π^0 from neutral-current interactions
- The energy scale for all types of events agrees to within about 2%

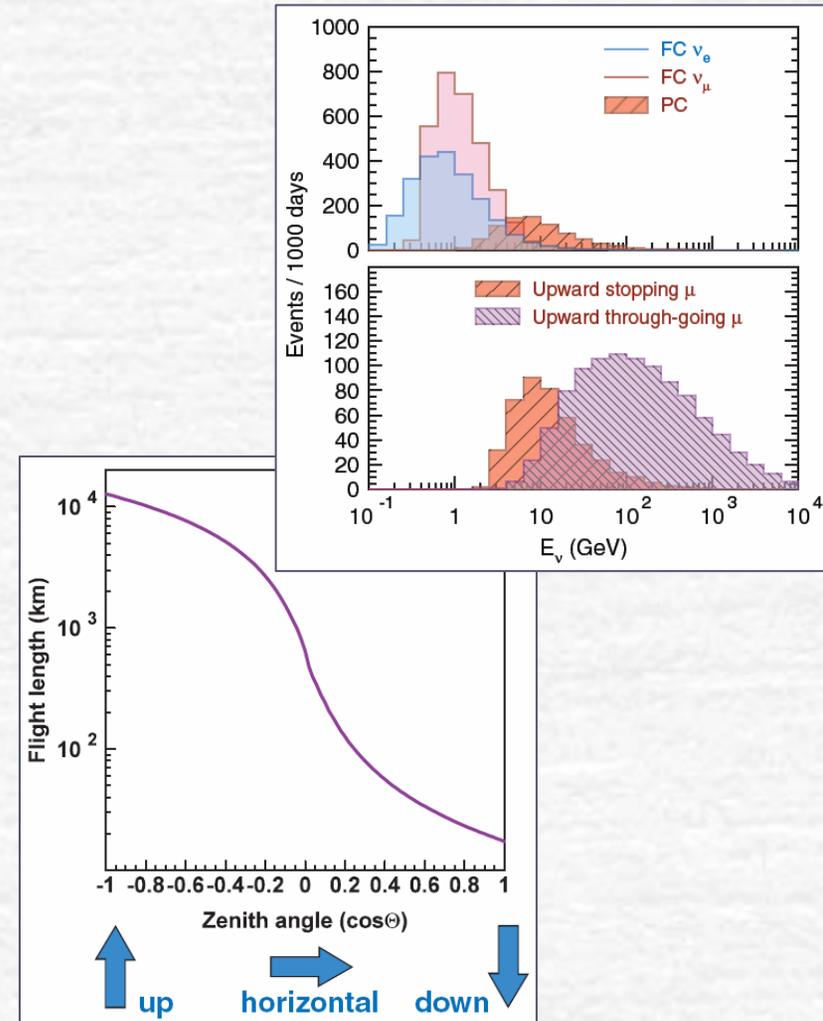


Atmospheric Neutrino Oscillation

In the simplest, two-flavor, oscillation case, the survival probability depends on $\Delta m^2 \times L/E_\nu$

- The various atmospheric neutrino sub-samples span a range of five decades in neutrino energy E_ν
 - From ~ 100 MeV to 10 TeV
- Depending on the neutrino's arrival direction, L spans a range of three decades
 - From ~ 15 km to 13000 km

Broad Δm^2 sensitivity



Two-Flavor Oscillation Analysis

- We study $\sin^2 2\theta$ and Δm^2 by binning our real and simulated data in $\cos\theta_z$ and p , then minimizing χ^2 to find the best-fit values
- Since there are many sources of systematic uncertainty, we also include many "systematic" terms in the χ^2
 - If some combination of systematic effects can account for the features of the data, oscillation will not be necessary

number of p, θ bins

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{180} \frac{\left(N_i^{obs} - N_i^{exp} \left(1 + \sum_{j=1}^{39} f_j^i \cdot \epsilon_j \right) \right)^2}{\sigma_i^2} + \sum_{j=1}^{38} \left(\frac{\epsilon_j}{\sigma_j} \right)^2$$

number of sys. effects (normalization is free)

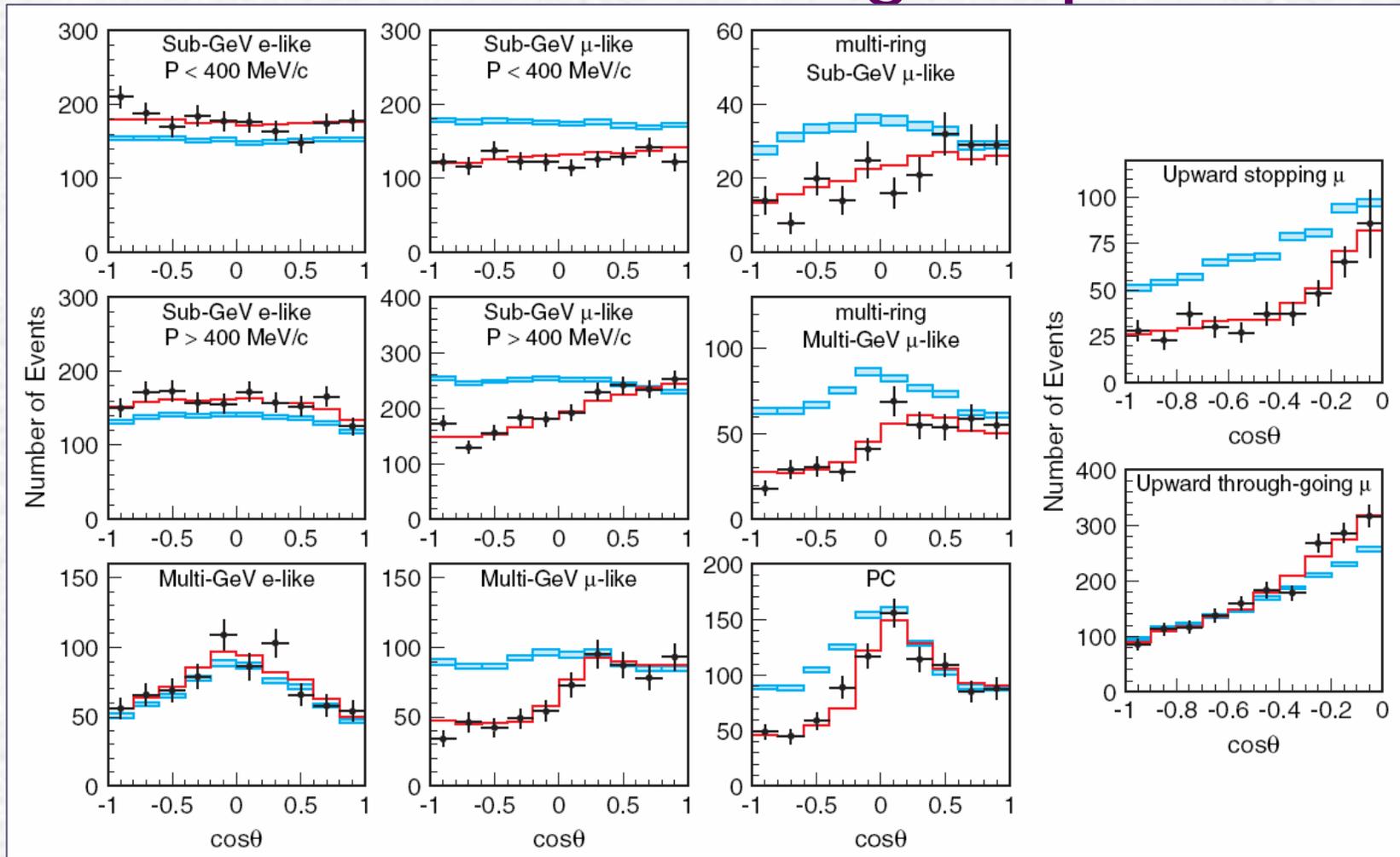
solve set of linear equations:

$$N_i^{exp} = N_i^0 \cdot P(\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta) \cdot \left(1 + \sum_{j=1}^{39} f_j^i \cdot \epsilon_j \right)$$

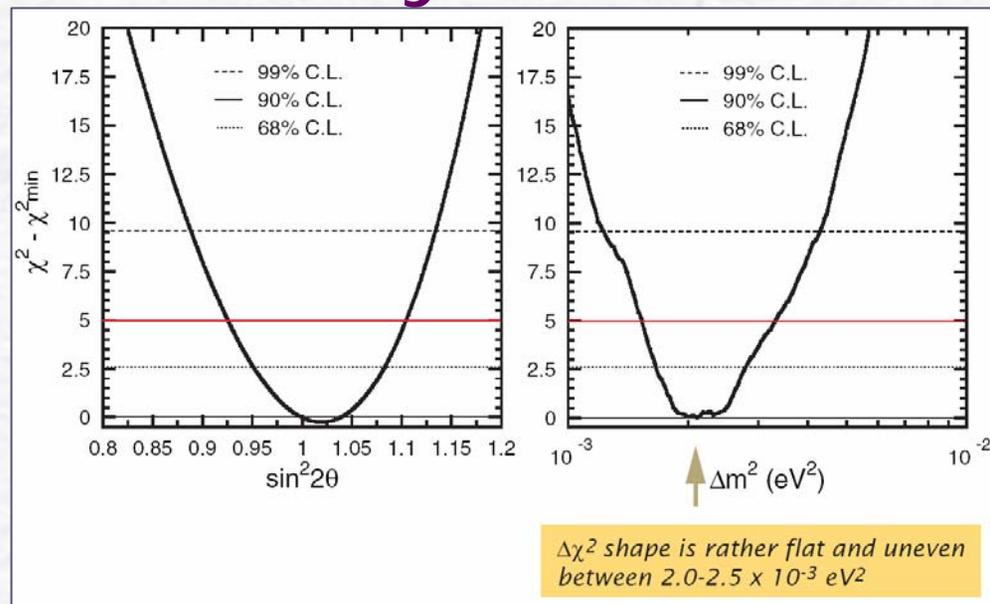
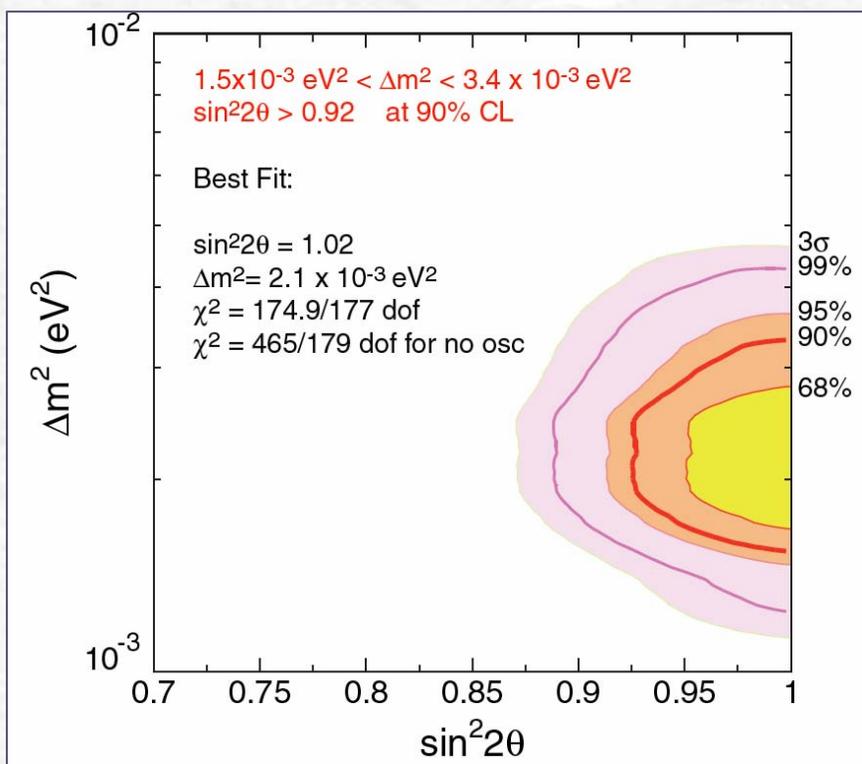
fractional change in predicted event rate due to variation in systematic parameter ϵ

$$\sum_{j=1}^{38} \left[\frac{1}{\sigma_j^2} \delta_{jk} + \sum_{i=1}^{180} \left(\frac{N_i^{exp} \cdot N_i^{exp} \cdot f_j^i \cdot f_k^i}{\sigma_i^2} \right) \right] \cdot \epsilon_k = \sum_{i=1}^{180} \frac{\left(N_i^{obs} - N_i^{exp} \right) \cdot N_i^{exp} \cdot f_k^i}{\sigma_i^2}$$

Best-Fit Zenith Angle Spectra



Combined Oscillation Analysis Results

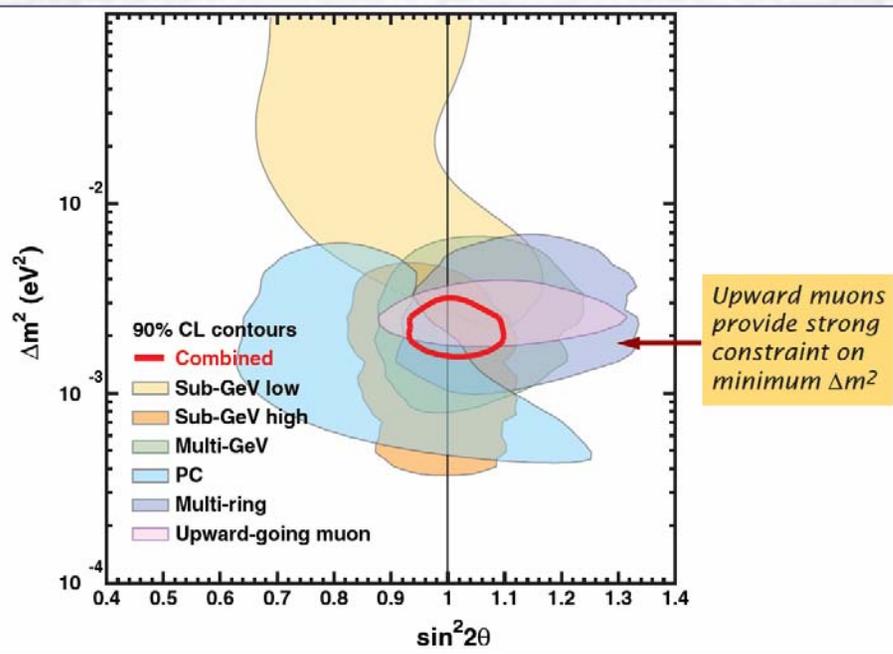


- Two-flavor $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\tau$ oscillation gives an excellent fit to the data
- Even allowing for systematic uncertainties, the no-oscillation hypothesis is statistically ruled out

Atmospheric Neutrino Sub-Samples

Each sub-sample looks at different ranges of neutrino energy, so they individually allow quite different regions

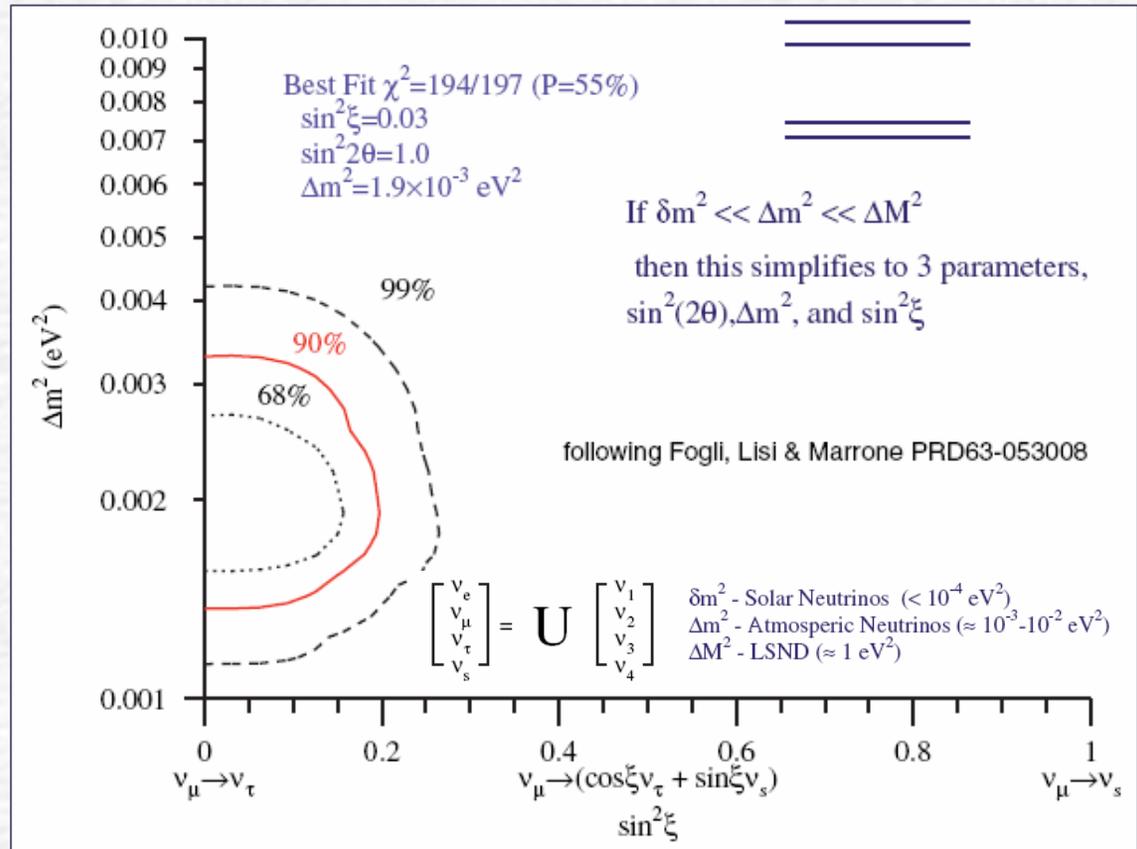
All sub-samples are consistent with the global best-fit region



$\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\tau$ and/or $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_{\text{sterile}}$?

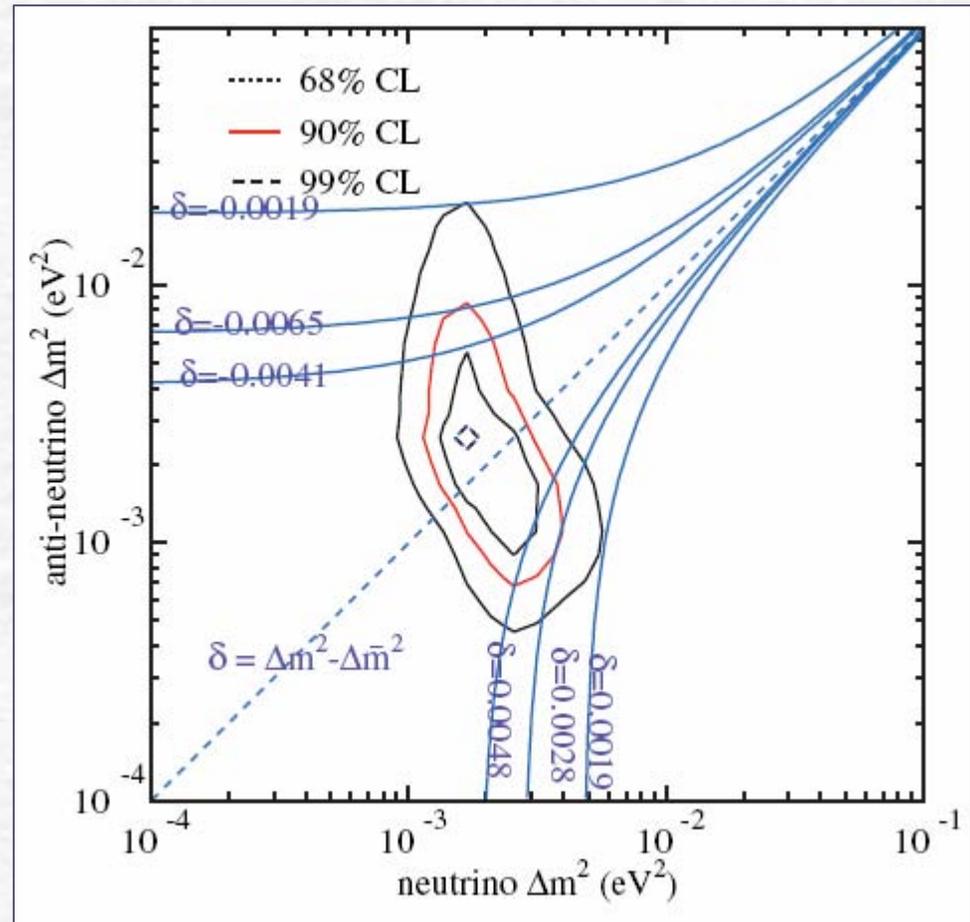
Matter effects discriminate between oscillation into active and sterile neutrinos

- Only a small admixture of sterile neutrino oscillation is allowed

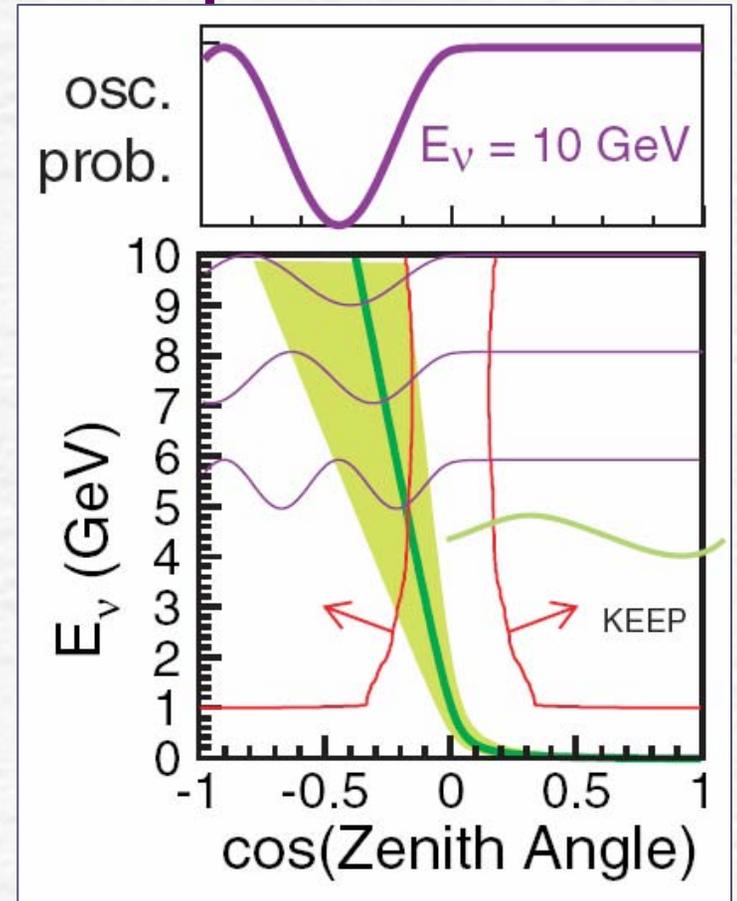
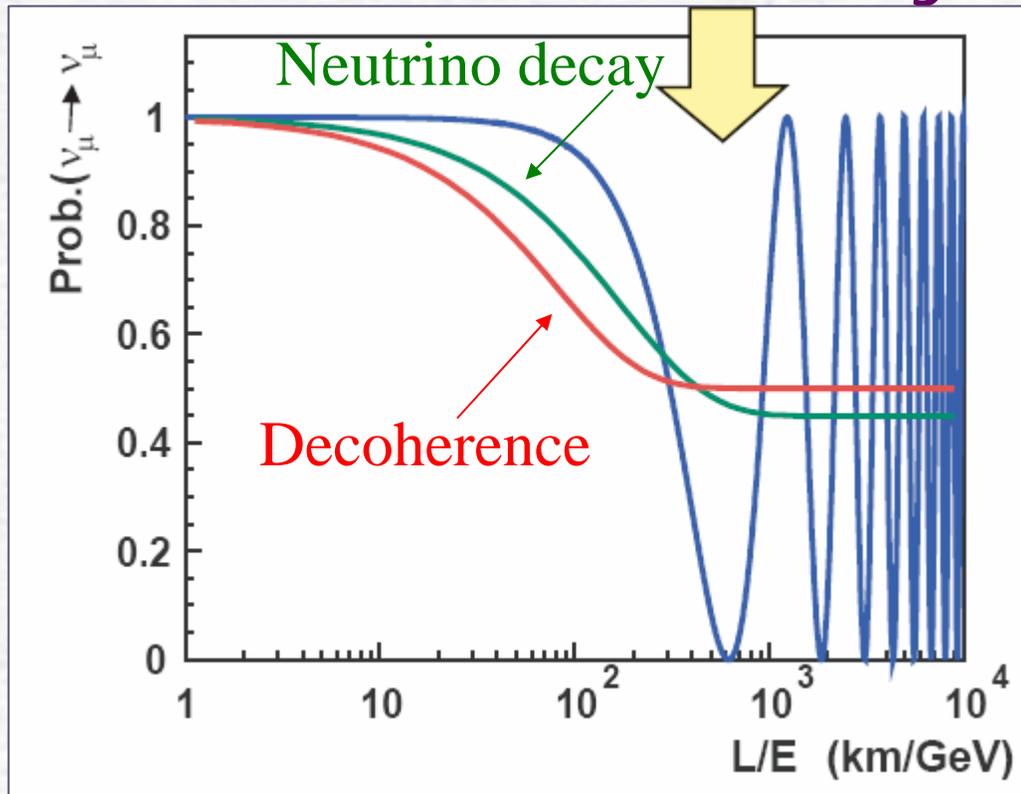


Exotic Explanations

- LSND can be reconciled with solar and atmospheric mixing if CPT symmetry is violated
 - Neutrinos and anti-neutrinos have different masses
- Our data strongly disfavors this scenario

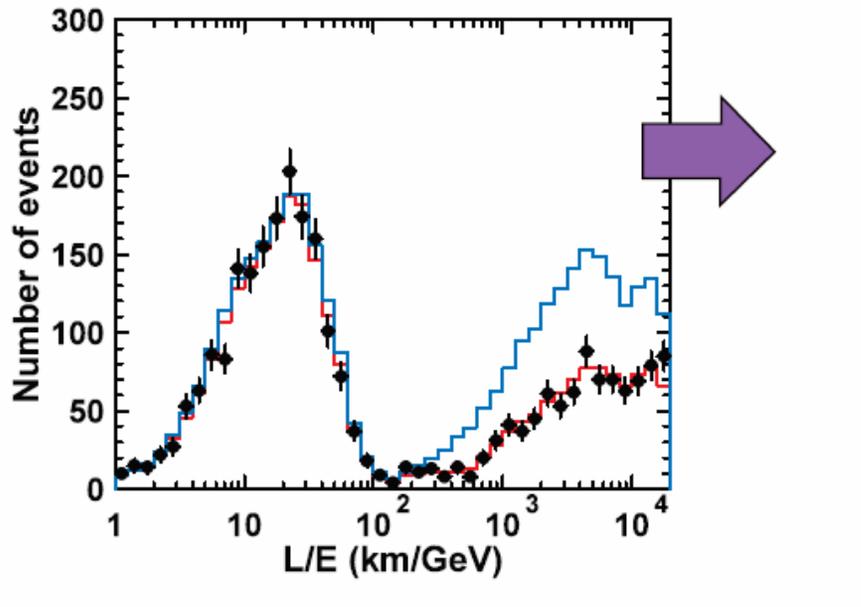


Search Oscillatory L/E dependence

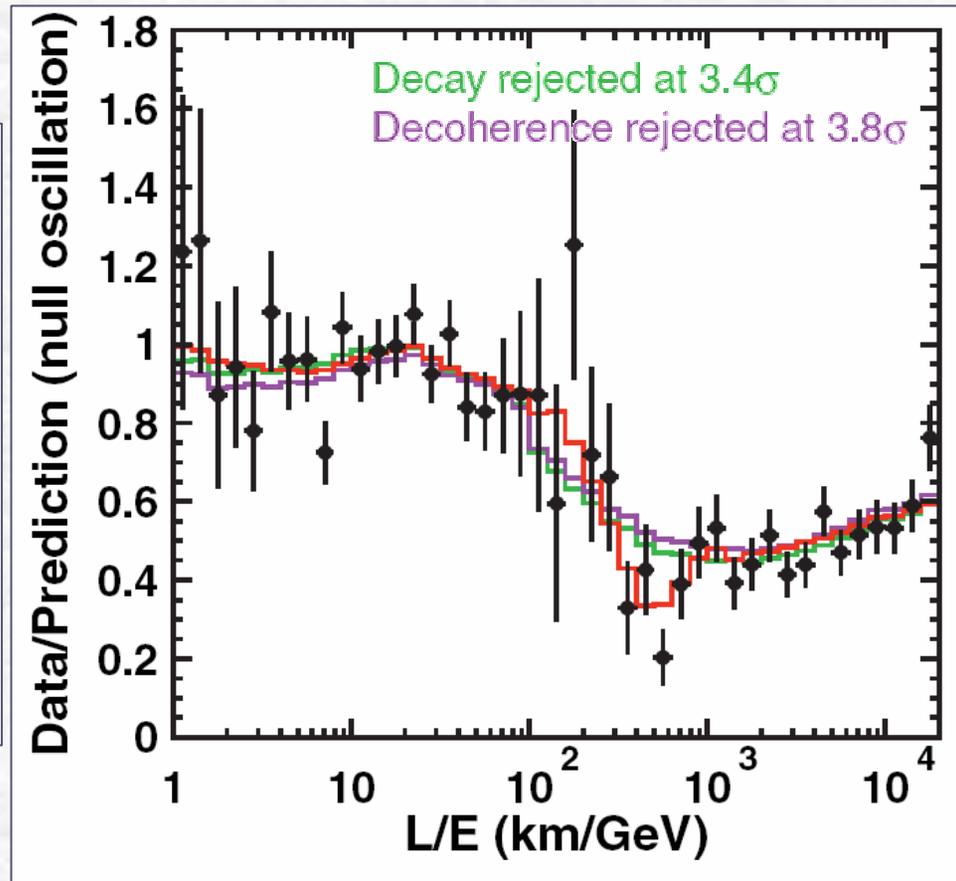


- Search for direct oscillatory dependence on L/E requires using a high-L/E resolution sub-sample

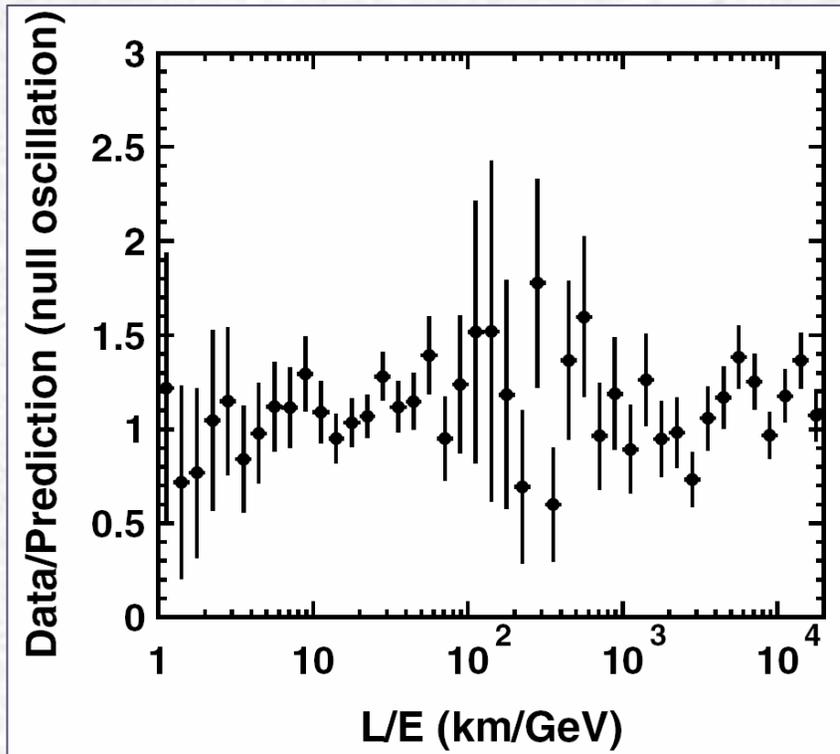
"Direct" Evidence for Oscillation



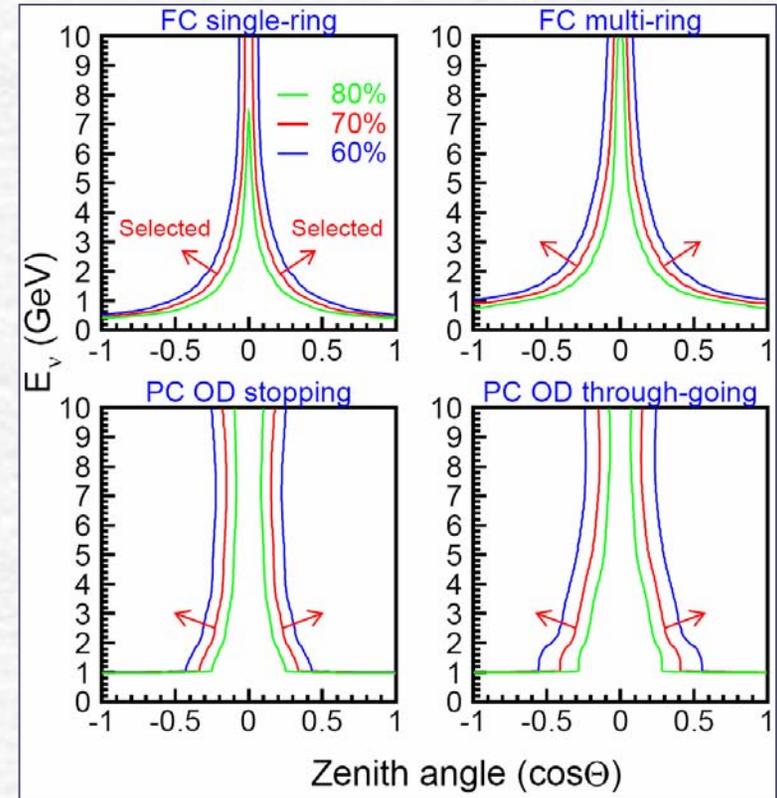
High L/E -resolution μ -like data sample



Checks on L/E Analysis



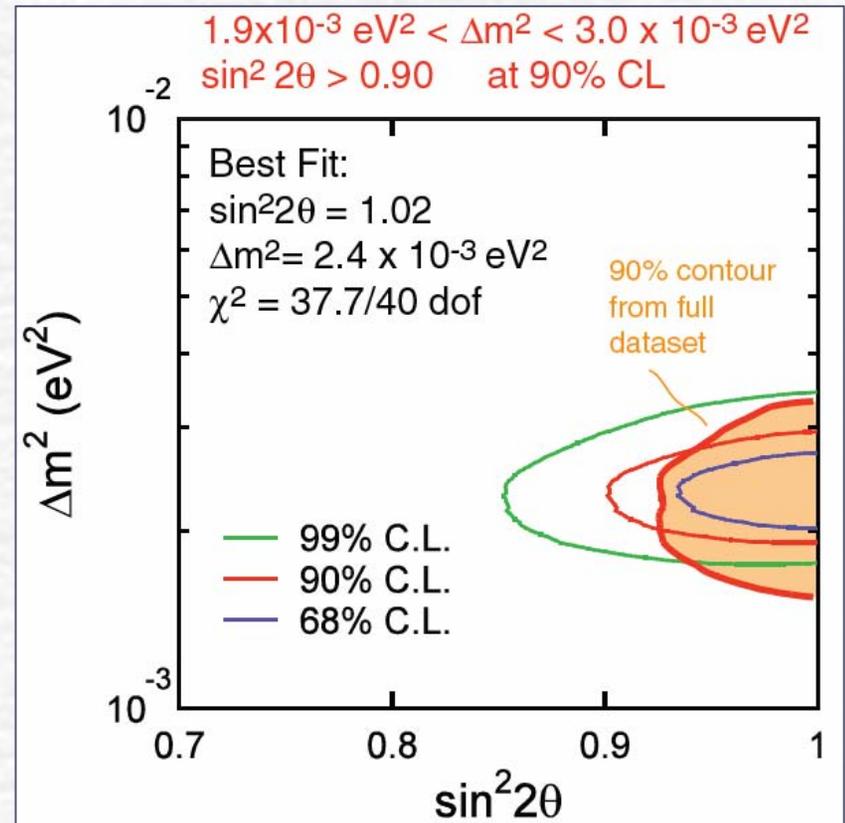
No “dip” seen in high-L/E resolution e-like data



Vary the L/E resolution cut from 60-80%

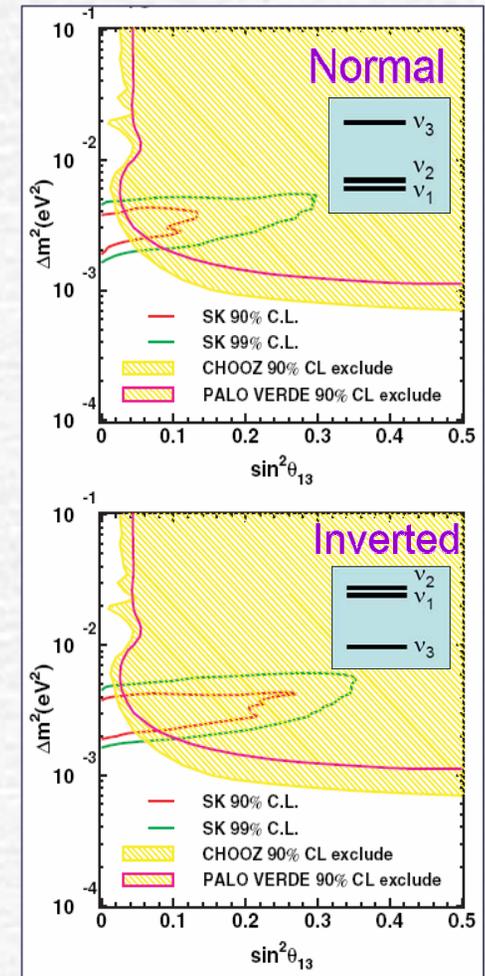
L/E Analysis Results

- A fit to the high-L/E resolution sample gives results consistent with the global (non-L/E) analysis
 - Note samples are not independent
 - Slightly better constraint on minimum value of Δm^2



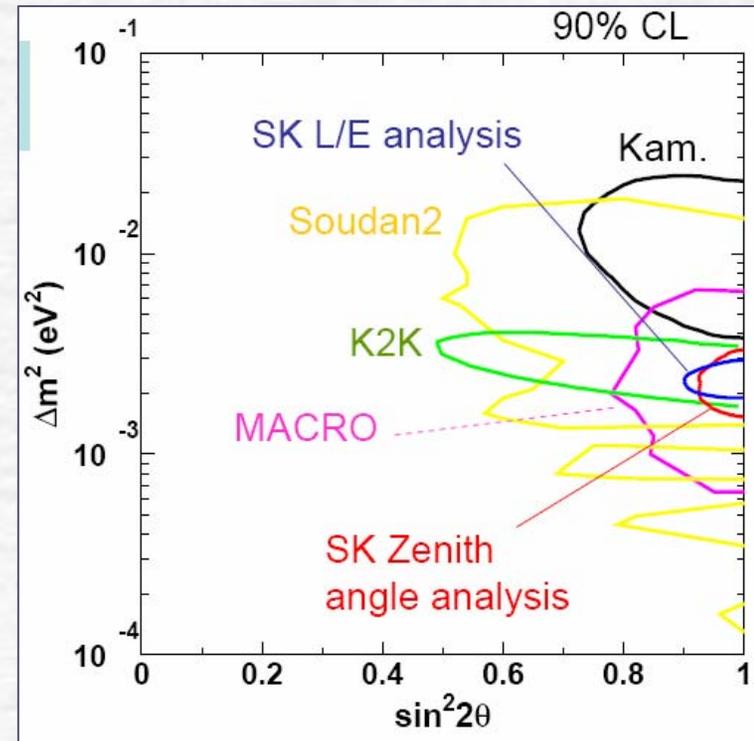
Three-Flavor Analysis

- We can also do a full three-flavor oscillation analysis, and search for ν_e appearance
 - Indicator of non-zero θ_{13}
- Our current limits do not improve on those set by the CHOOZ experiment



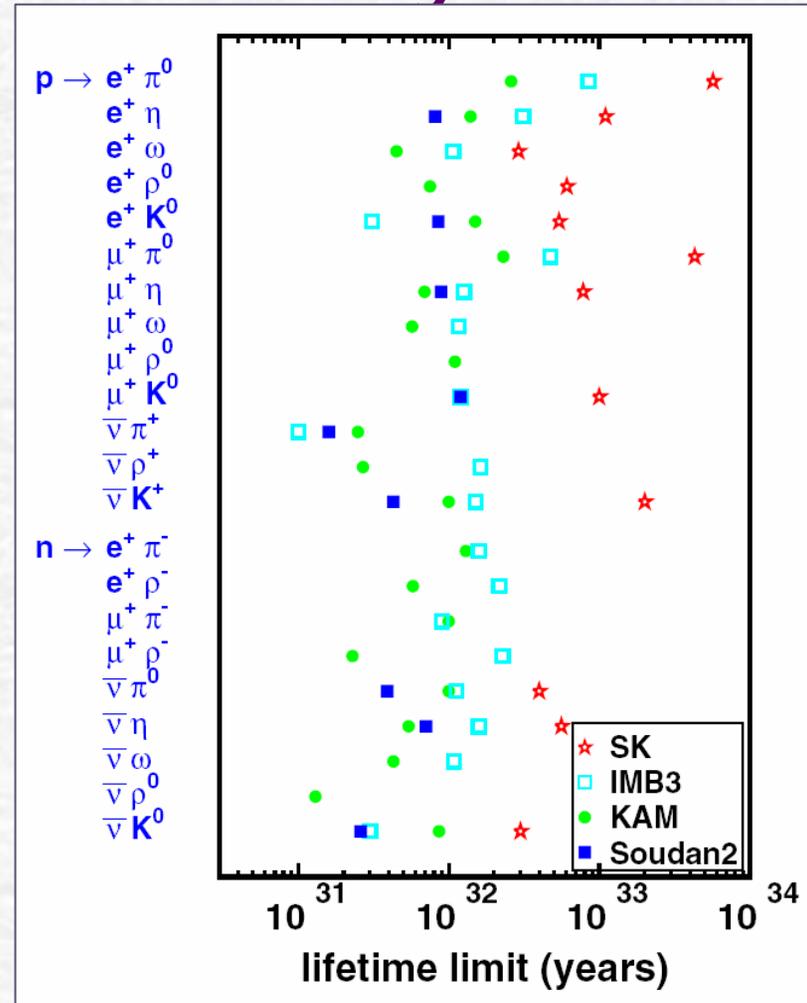
Atmospheric Neutrino Summary

- Super-K atmospheric neutrino data show strong evidence for $\nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \nu_{\tau}$ oscillation, with near-maximal mixing and $\Delta m^2_{23} \sim (2-3) \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$

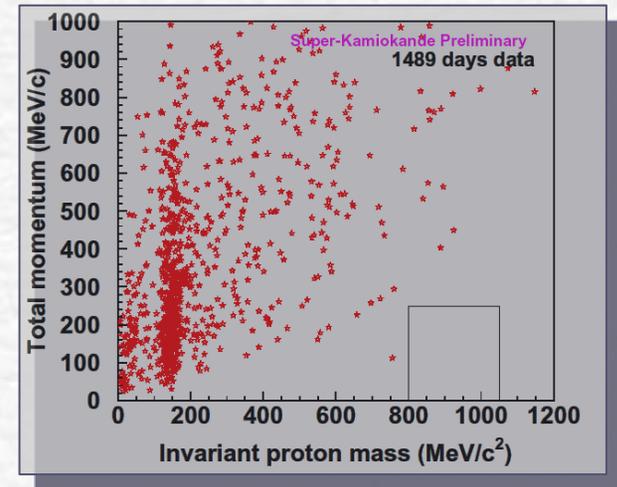
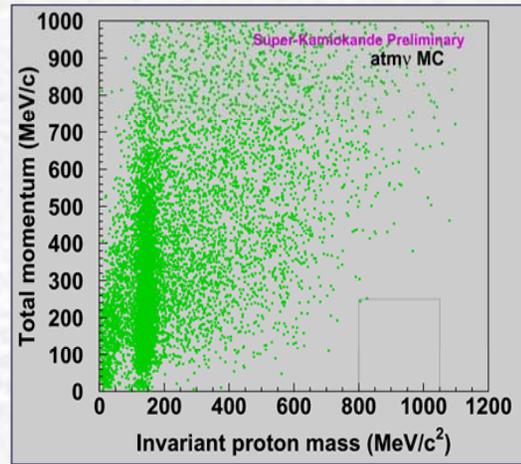
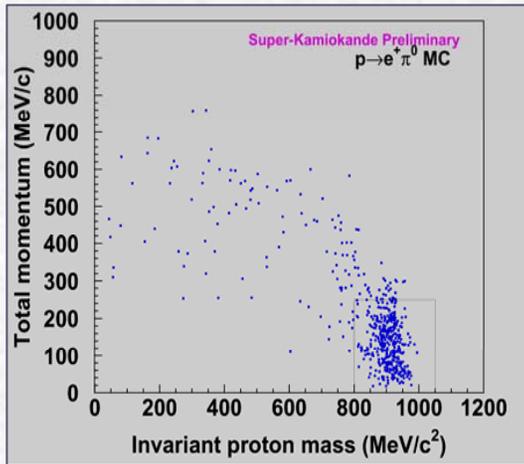


Search for Proton Decay

- Proton decay remains a high priority, as no known symmetry requires the proton to be stable
 - No evidence of a nucleon decay signal has appeared
 - SuperK has set limits on a wide range of possible decay modes



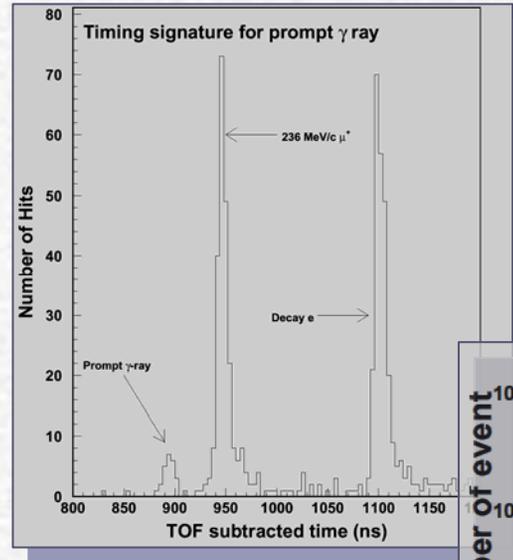
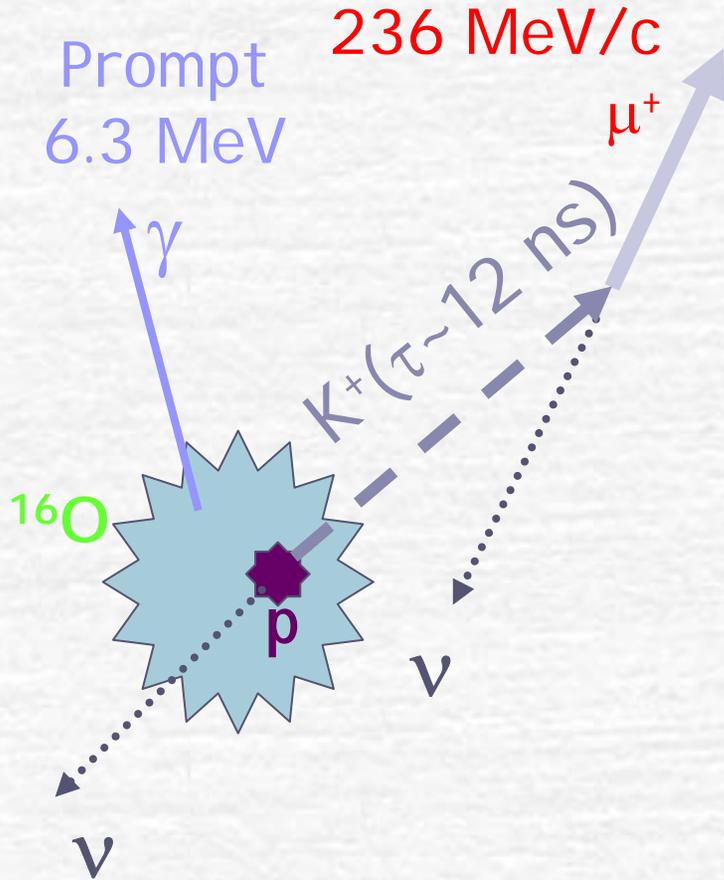
SuperK I: $p \rightarrow e^+ \pi^0$ Results



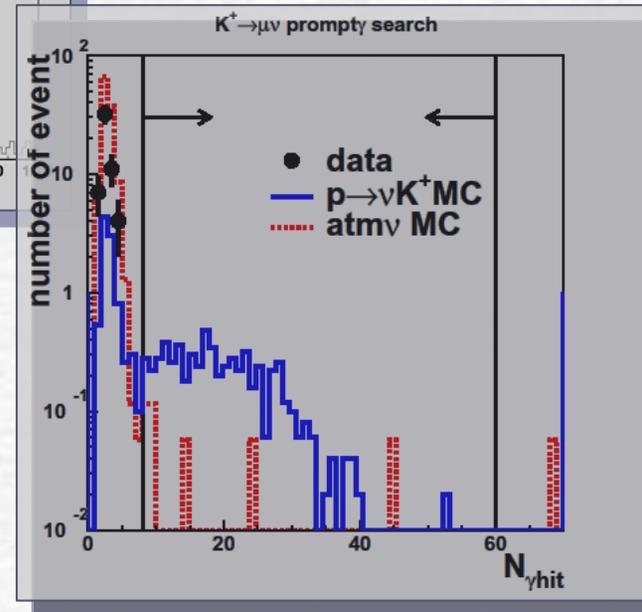
- Require 2-3 showering rings, 0 $\mu \rightarrow e$
- π^0 mass cut if 3 rings
- Overall Detection Efficiency: 43%
- No candidates
- $\tau/\beta > 5.7 \times 10^{33}$ yrs (90% CL)

SuperK I:
1489 days = 0.091 Mty

SuperK I: $^{16}\text{O} \rightarrow ^{15}\text{N}^* + \nu K^+ (K^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu)$



No candidates



SuperK I: $p \rightarrow \nu K^+$ Summary

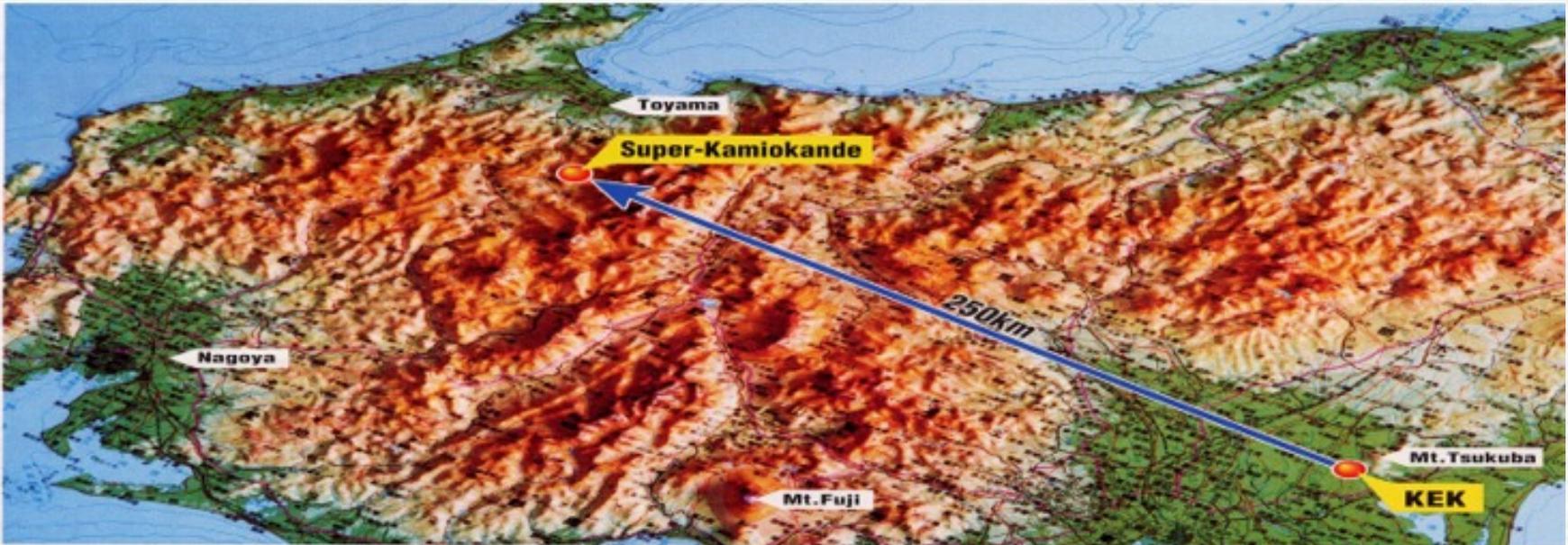
mode	efficiency	background	data	limit (10^{32} yr)
prompt γ	8.8 \rightarrow 8.7%	0.5 \rightarrow 0.3	0	11.5
spectrum fit	33%	---	---	5.5
$\pi^+ \pi^0$	6.8 \rightarrow 6.5%	1.7 \rightarrow 0.9	1 \rightarrow 0	5.9 \rightarrow 8.6

Combined Limit: $1.6 \rightarrow 2.0 \times 10^{33}$ years

Particle Astrophysics

- Diverse studies of particle astrophysics, including:
 - Supernova watch
 - Search for relic supernova neutrinos
 - Search for neutrinos from gamma-ray bursts
 - Searches for point-sources of neutrinos
 - Searches for neutrinos from dark-matter (WIMP) annihilation in the Sun and Earth

The K2K Long-Baseline Experiment



The Future: T2K Long-baseline

- Use 0.75 MW, 50-GeV proton synchrotron for 295km neutrino beam to Super-K
- Factor 20 improvement in θ_{13} sensitivity over CHOOZ
- Measure $\sin^2 2\theta_{23}$ to 1%
- Measure Δm_{23}^2 to few %
- CPV search in phase 2

