

# Reactor Neutrino Oscillation Experiments: Results and Prospects for the Future

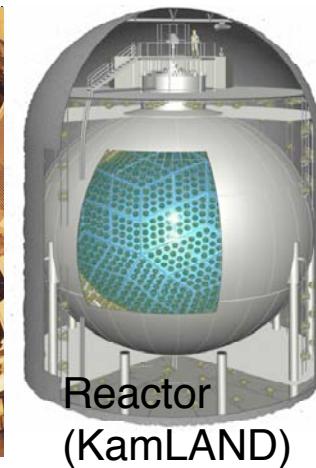
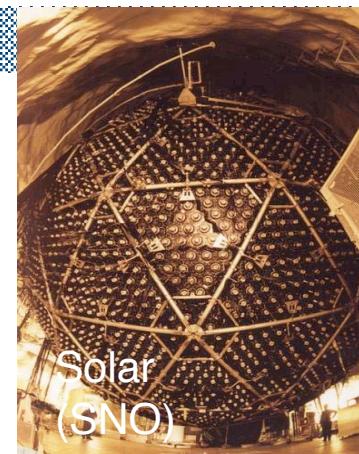
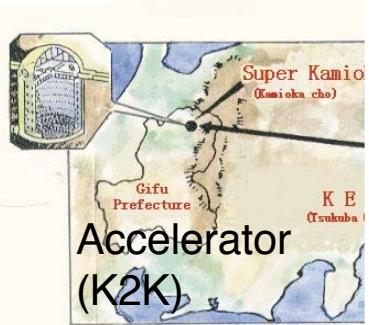
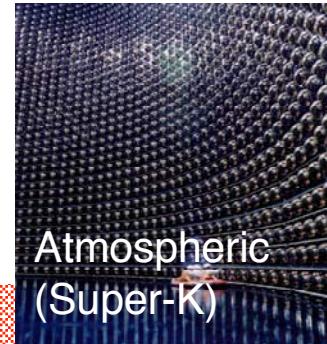
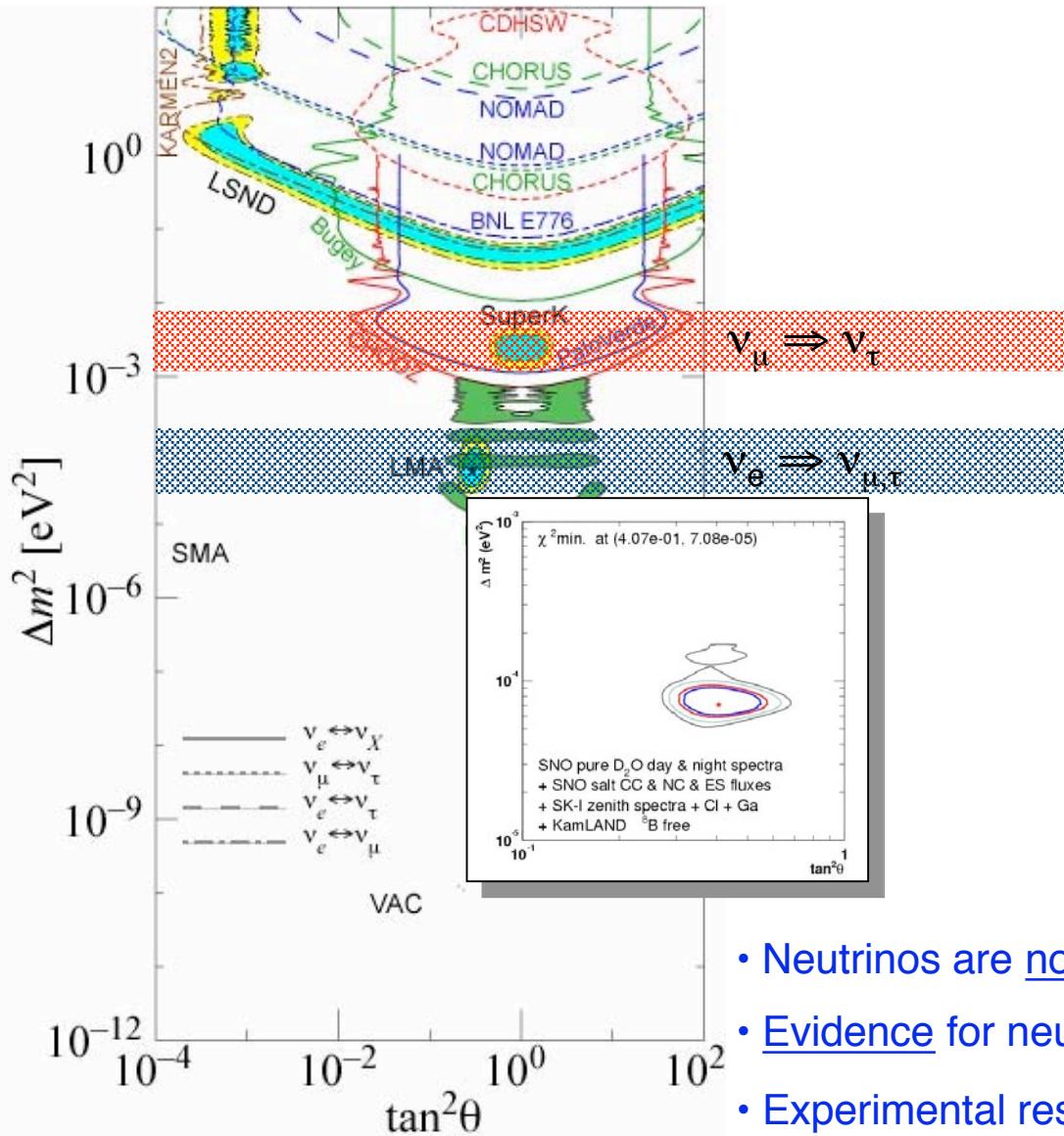
Karsten M. Heeger

*Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory*



**Measuring  $\theta_{13}$  with Reactors**

# Recent Results in Neutrino Physics



- Neutrinos are not massless
- Evidence for neutrino flavor conversion  $\nu_e \leftrightarrow \nu_\mu \leftrightarrow \nu_\tau$
- Experimental results show that neutrinos oscillate

# Oscillation Parameters and Reactor Experiments

Reactor and Beamstop Neutrinos

$$\nu_\mu \Rightarrow \nu_s \Rightarrow \nu_e$$

Atmospheric and Reactor Neutrinos

$$\nu_\mu \Rightarrow \nu_\tau$$

Solar and Reactor Neutrinos

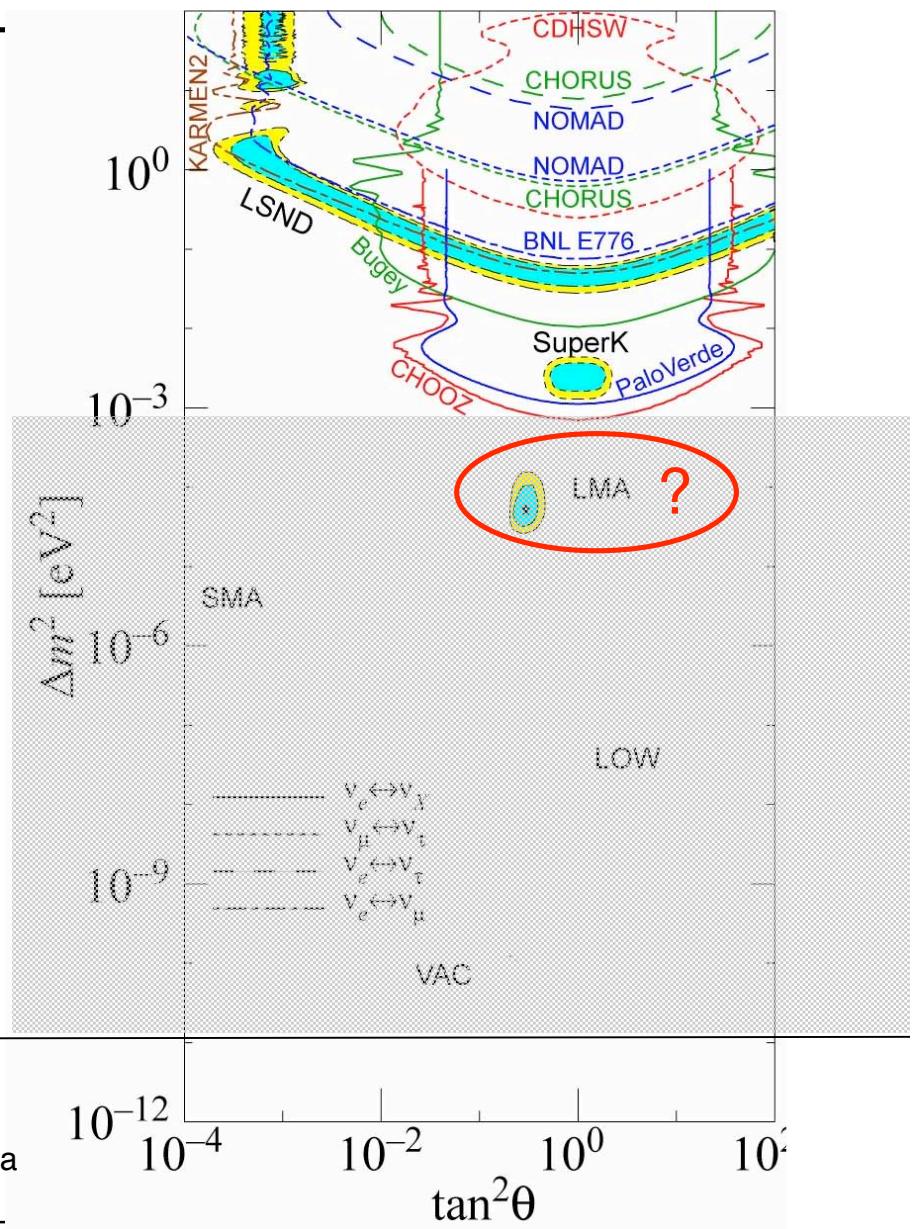
$$\nu_e \Rightarrow \nu_{\mu,\tau}$$

*Large mixing favored*

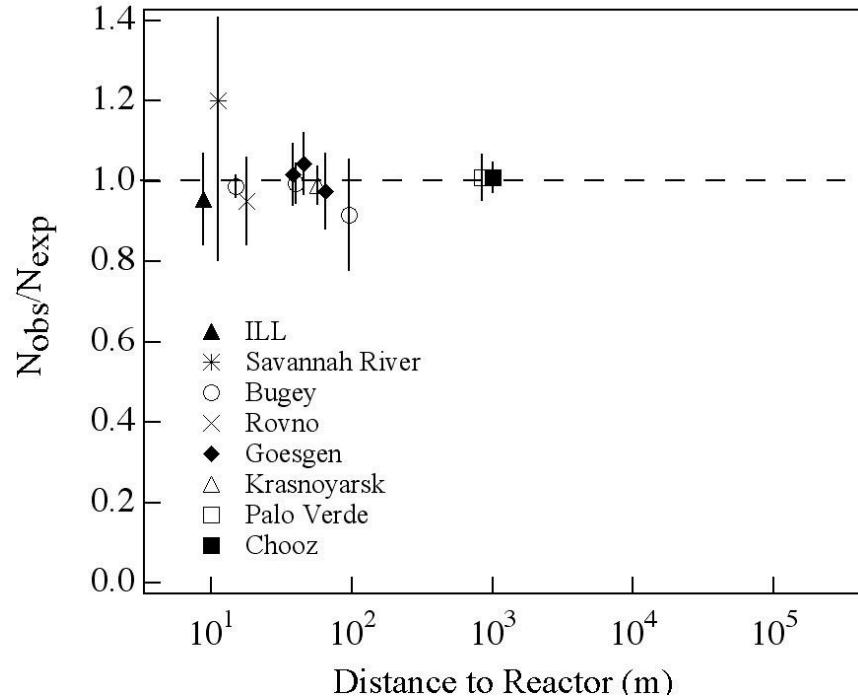
*LMA solution can be tested  
with reactor neutrinos*

Status: Summer 2002

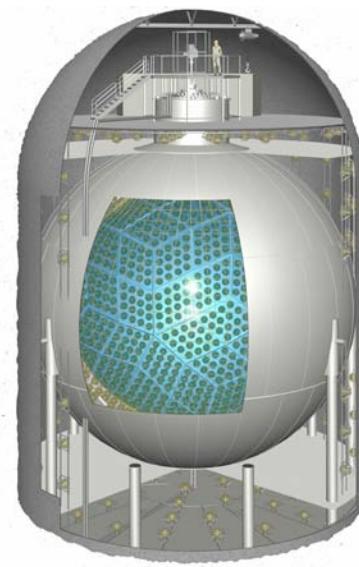
Murayama



# Search for Neutrino Oscillations with Reactor Neutrinos



Results from solar experiments suggest study of reactor neutrinos with a baseline of  $\sim 180$  km



# 50 Years of Reactor Neutrino Physics

## 1953 First reactor neutrino experiment

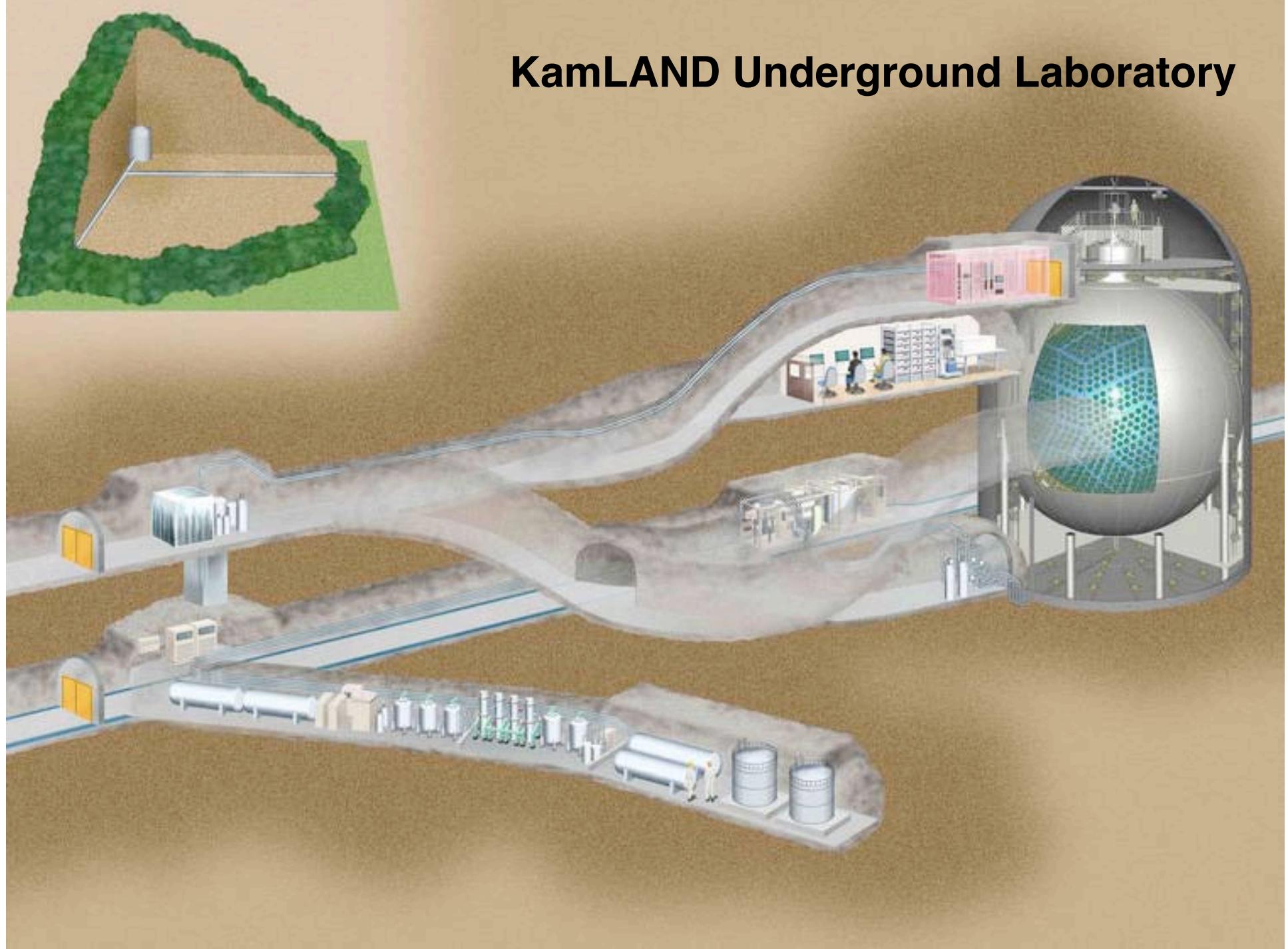
## 1956 “*Detection of Free Antineutrino*”, F. Reines and C.L. Cowan

→ Nobel Prize in 1995

**No signature of neutrino oscillations until 2002!**



# KamLAND Underground Laboratory



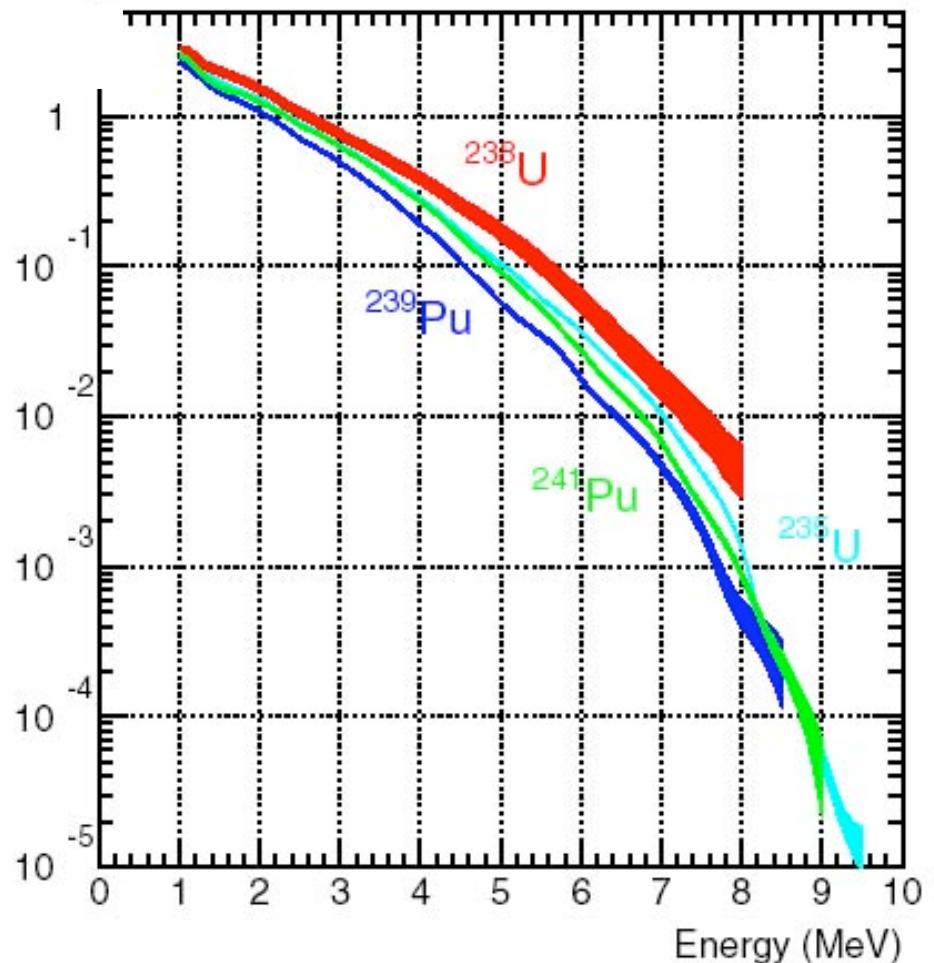
# Reactor Antineutrinos

## Spectrum from Principal Reactor Isotopes

From Japanese Reactors



neutrinos/MeV/fission



~ 200 MeV per fission

~ 6  $\bar{\nu}_e$  per fission

~  $2 \times 10^{20} \bar{\nu}_e/\text{GW}_{\text{th}}\text{-sec}$

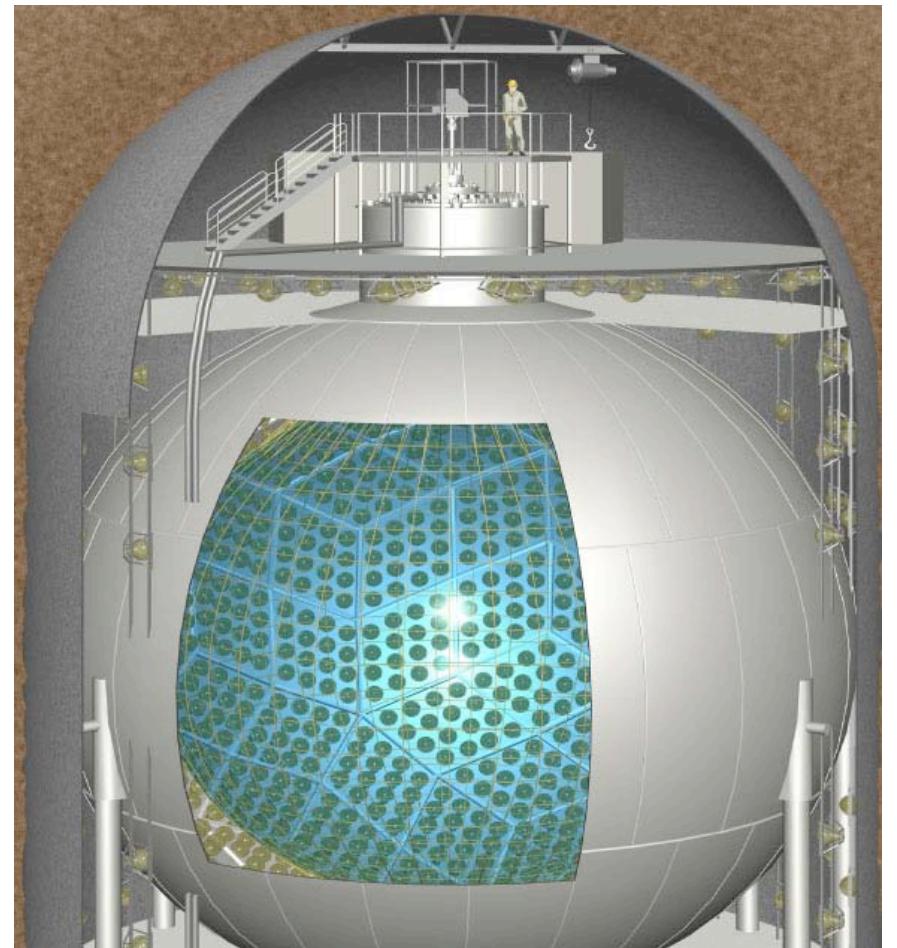
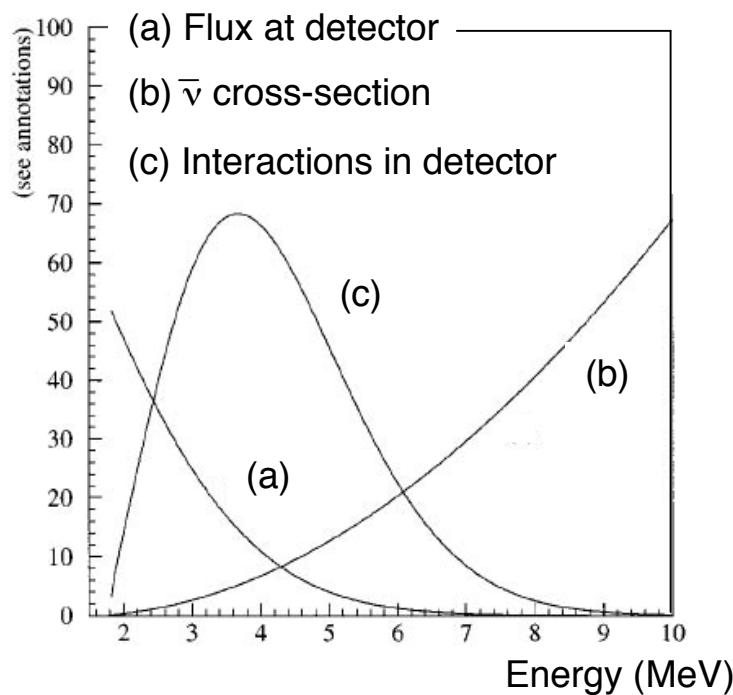
# KamLAND - Kamioka Liquid Scintillator Antineutrino Detector

Uses reactor neutrinos to study  $\bar{\nu}$  oscillation  
with a baseline of  $L \sim 140\text{-}210$  km

Coincidence Signal:  $\bar{\nu}_e + p \rightarrow e^+ + n$

Prompt  $e^+$  annihilation

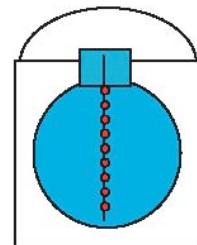
Delayed  $n$  capture,  $\sim 190\ \mu\text{s}$  capture time



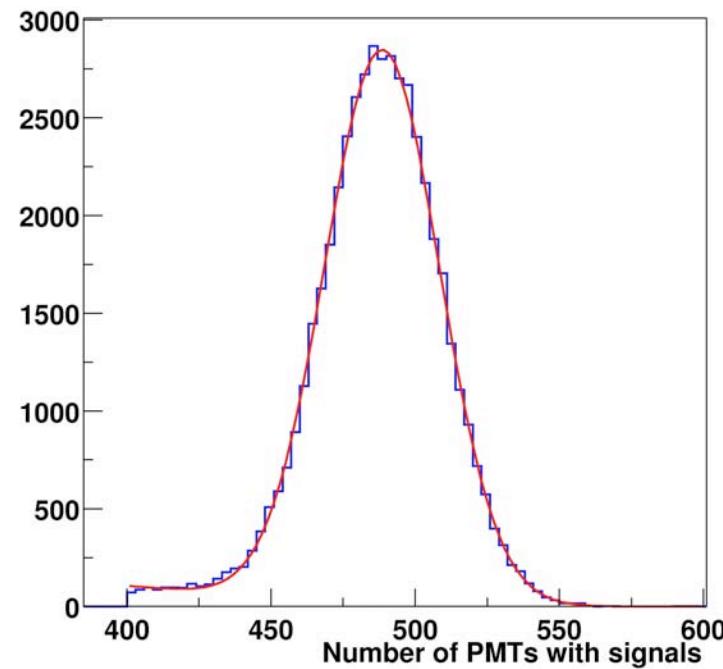
KamLAND studies the disappearance of  $\bar{\nu}_e$  and measures

- interaction rate
- energy spectrum

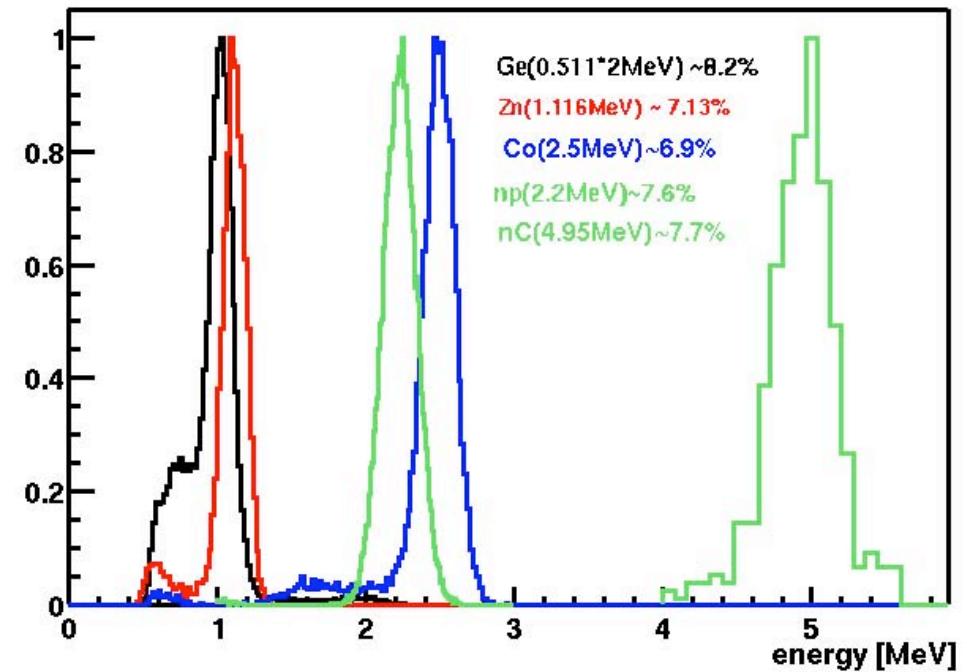
# Detector Energy Scale and Response



Co60 At Center Of Detector



$^{60}\text{Co}$ : 1.173+1.333 MeV



$\Delta E_{\text{syst}} = 1.91\% \text{ at } 2.6 \text{ MeV} \rightarrow 2.13 \% \text{ for } \bar{\nu}_e$

$\Delta E/E \sim 7.5\% / \sqrt{E}$

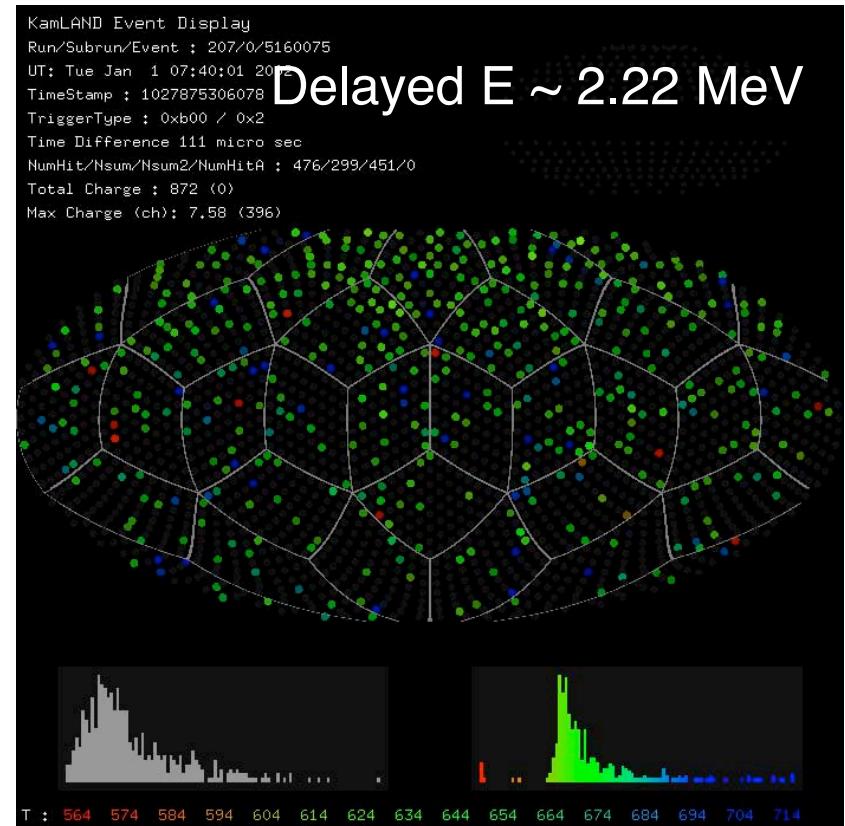
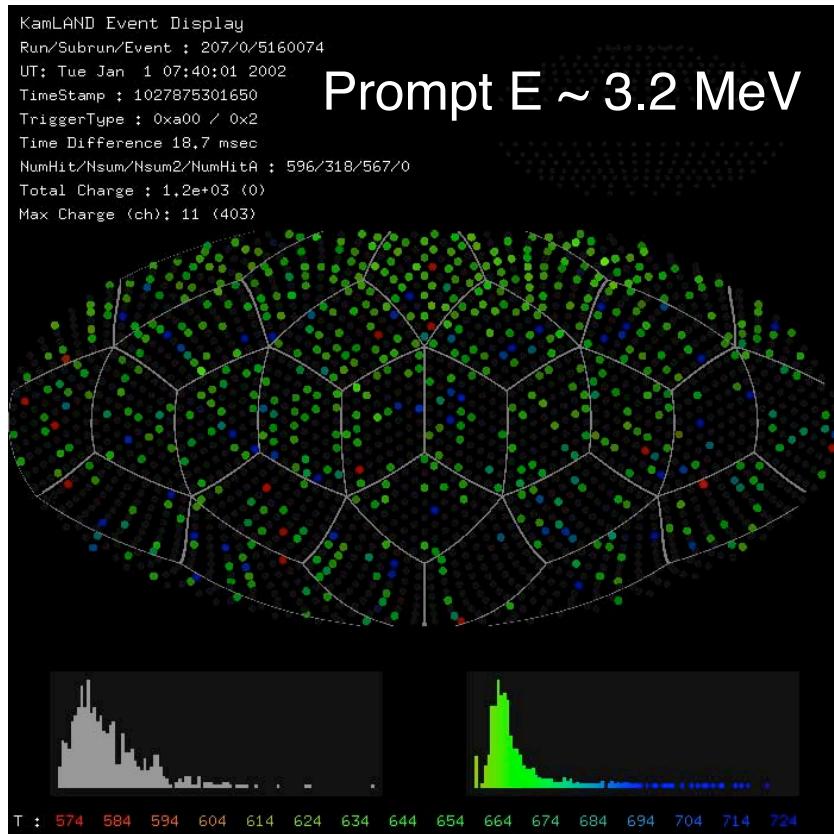
Light yield  $\sim 300\text{p.e./MeV}$

Energy varies by < 0.5% within 10 m.

# Conicidence Event Signal



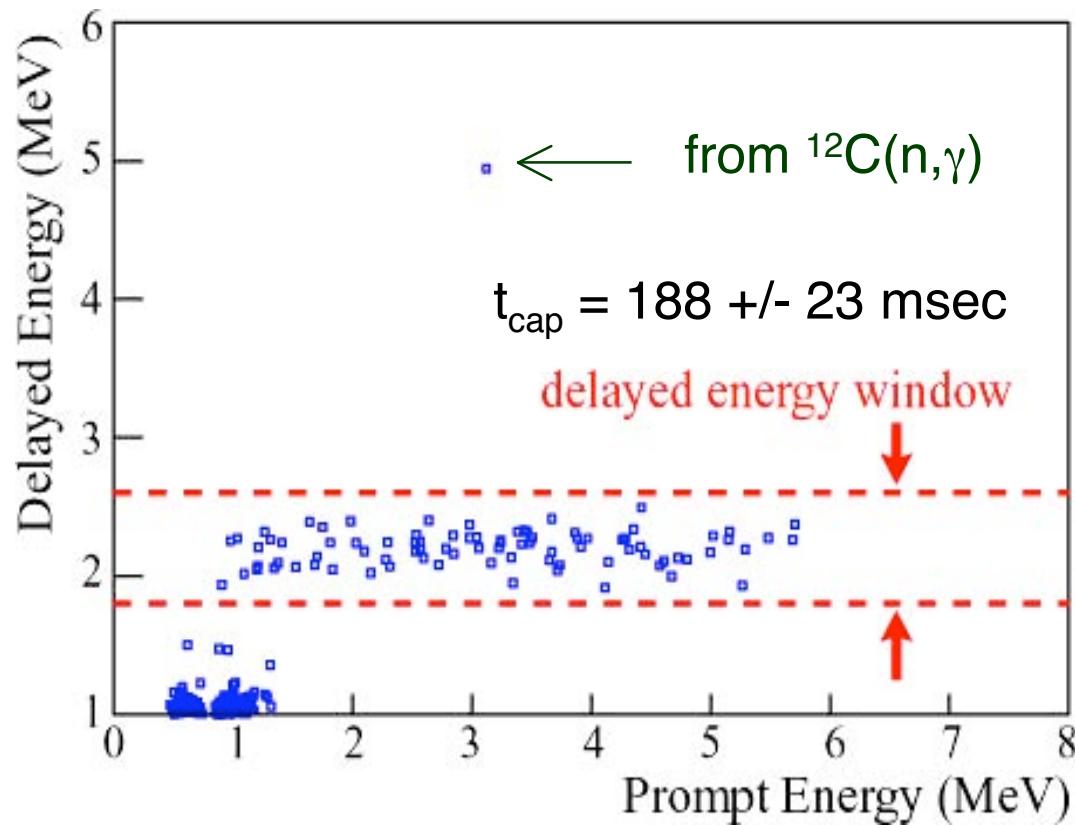
## Candidate Neutrino Event



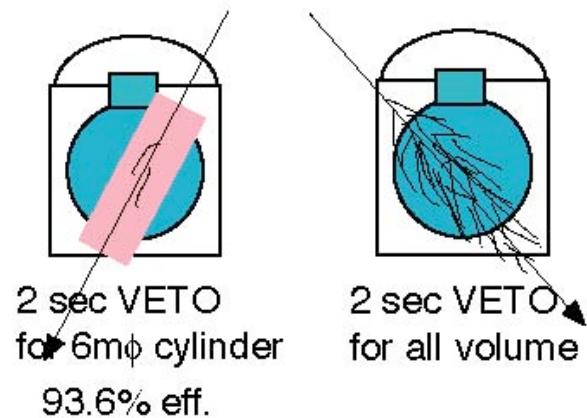
$$\xrightarrow{\Delta t \sim 110 \text{ msec}} \quad \xrightarrow{\Delta R \sim 0.35 \text{ m}}$$

# Event Selection

## Delayed Energy Window



## Muon veto



## Vertex and Time Correlation

$R < 5 \text{ m}$

$0.5 < |dT| < 660 \text{ msec}$

$|dR| < 1.6 \text{ m}$

$|dZ| > 1.2 \text{ m}$

# Reactor Anti-Neutrino Observation at KamLAND

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## Observed

**54 events**  
162 ton•yr,  
 $E_{prompt} > 2.6 \text{ MeV}$

*Excludes physics background  
from geo- $\nu$*

## Expected

**$86.8 \pm 5.6$  events**

## Background

**$1 \pm 1$  events**

*accidental*       $0.0086 \pm 0.0005$   
 $^9\text{Li}^8\text{He}$        $0.94 \pm 0.85$   
*fast neutron*       $< 0.5$

*Measured:  $\Delta t_{pd} = 0.02\text{-}20 \text{ s.}$   
Confirmed by  $\tau$  within 3%.  
From observed  $n$  signal and  
known neutron production in  
rock.*

**Note:** error from background << total systematic error

# KamLAND - Systematic Uncertainties

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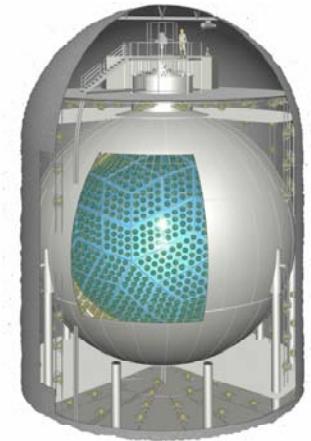
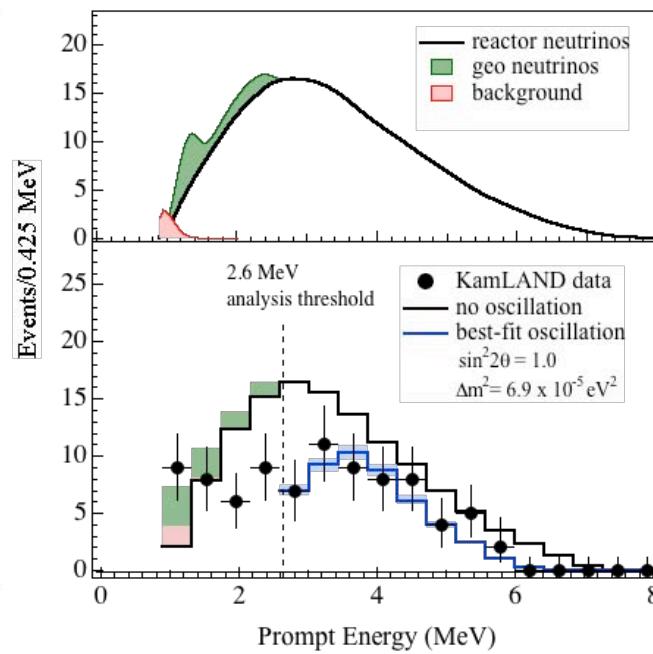
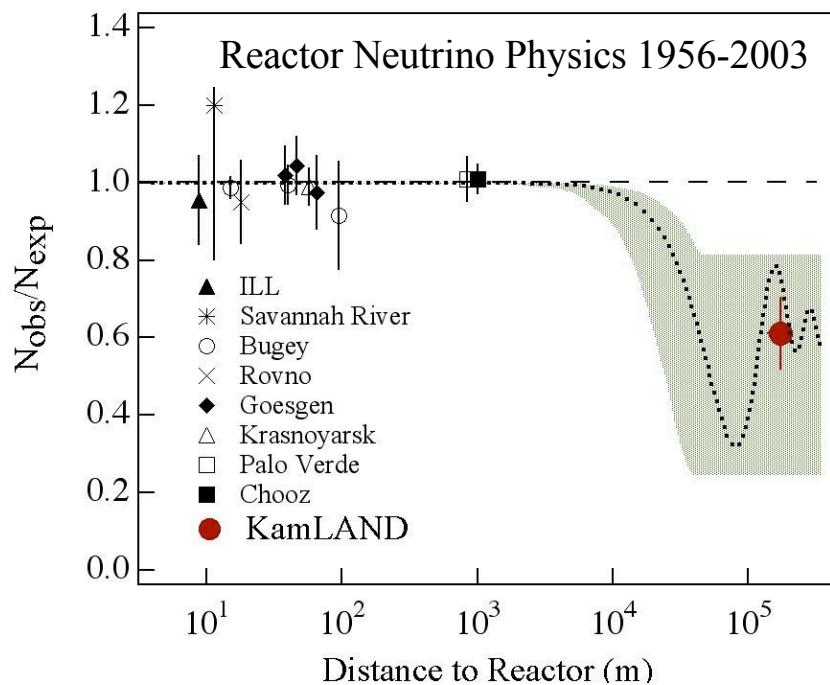
**E > 2.6 MeV**

	%	
Total liquid scintillator mass	2.1	• volume calibration
Fiducial mass ratio	4.1	• energy calibration or analysis w/out threshold
Energy threshold	2.1	• detection efficiency
Tagging efficiency	2.1	
Live time	0.07	
Reactor power	2.0	<i>given by reactor company, difficult to improve on</i>
Fuel composition	1.0	
$\bar{\nu}_e$ spectra	2.5	<i>theoretical, model-dependent</i>
cross section	0.2	
<b>Total uncertainty</b>	<b>6.4 %</b>	

# KamLAND Results in 2002/2003

First Direct Evidence for Reactor  $\bar{\nu}_e$  Disappearance

PRL 90:021802, 2003



- KamLAND provides evidence for neutrino oscillations together with solar experiments.

Search for  $\bar{\nu}_e$  from Sun

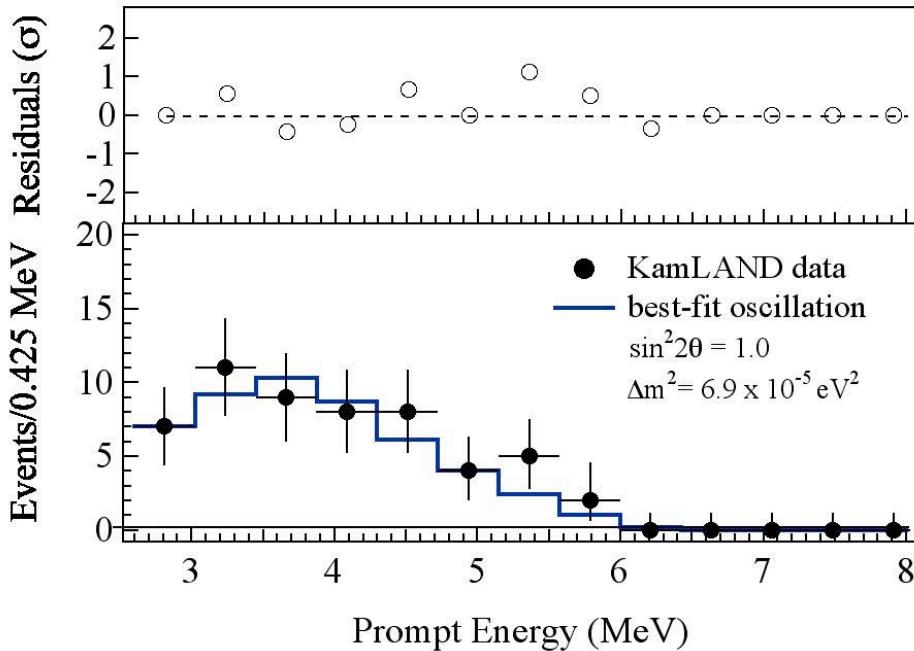
PRL 92:071301, 2004

$$\Phi_{\bar{\nu}_e} = 3.7 \times 10^2 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

Improvement by factor x30

# Is the KamLAND Neutrino Spectrum Distorted?

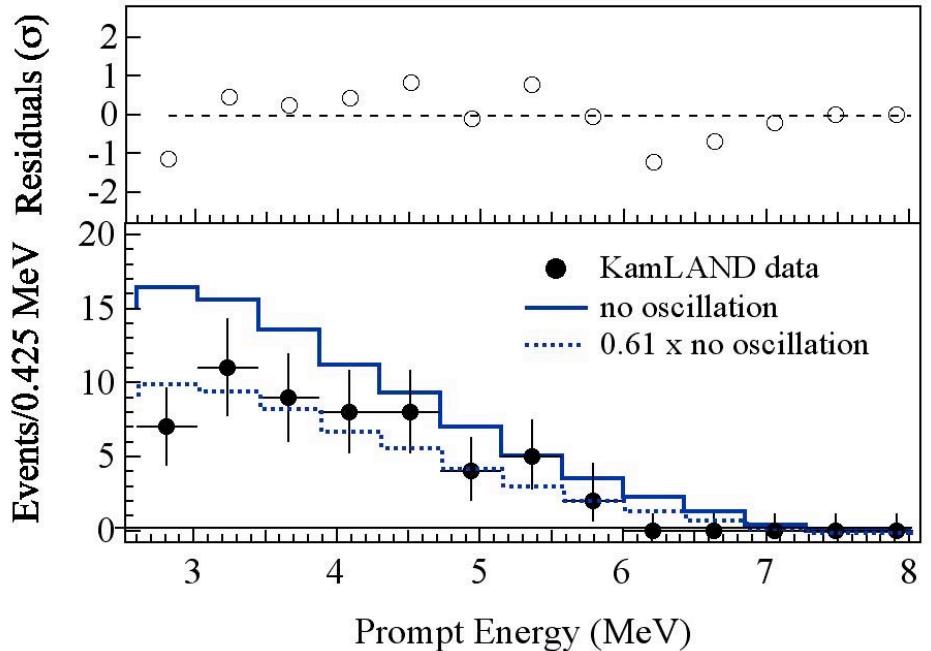
2- $\nu$  oscillation: best-fit



$$\chi^2 / 8 \text{ d.o.f} = 0.31$$

Data and best oscillation fit  
consistent at 93% C.L.

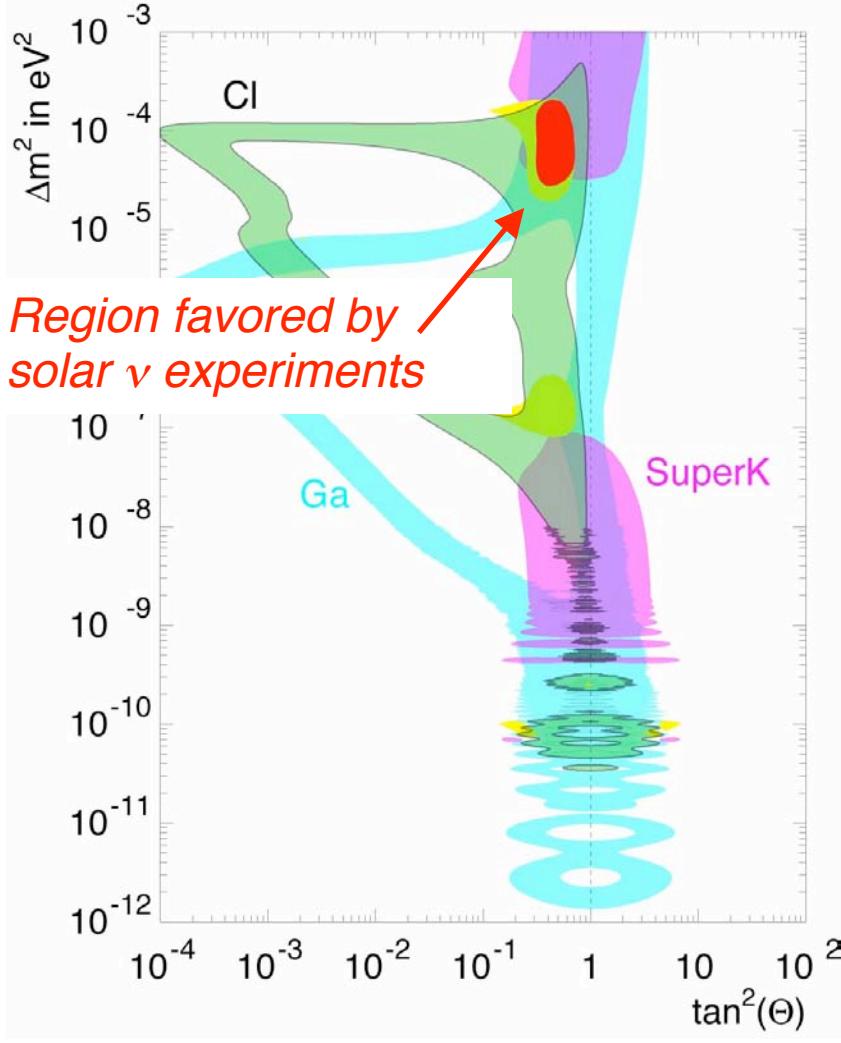
No oscillation, flux suppression



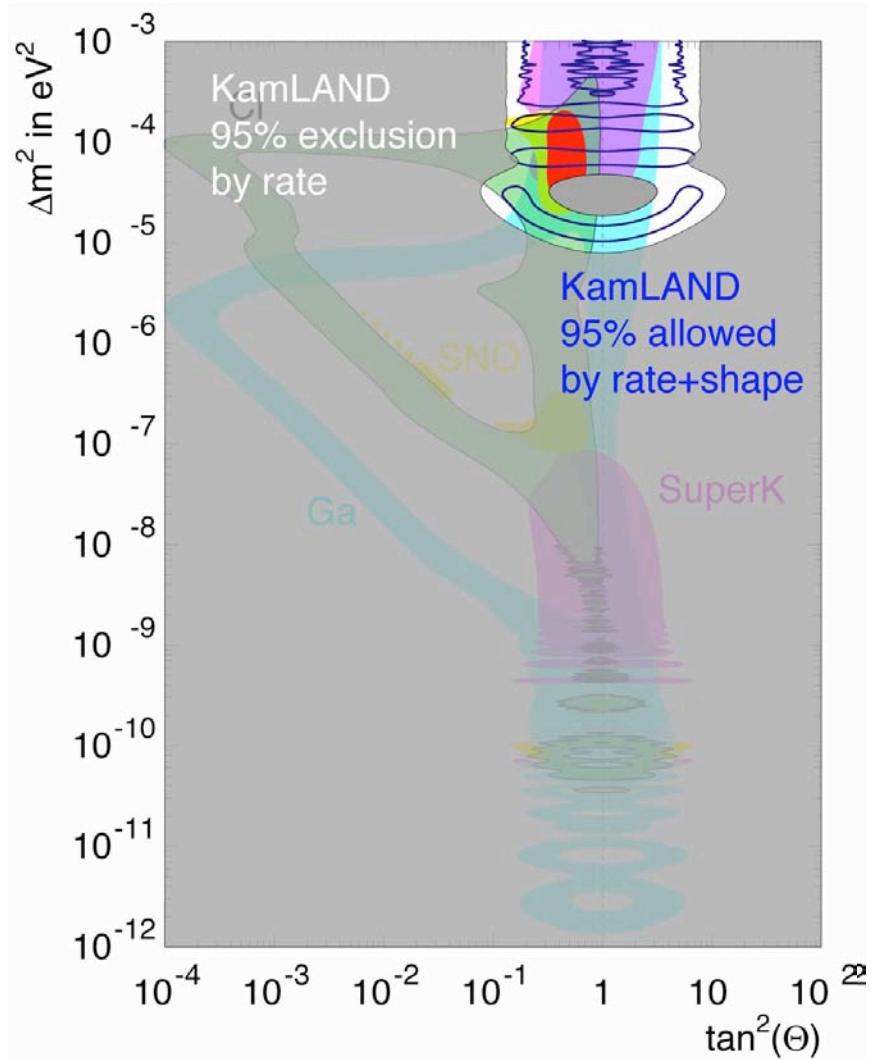
Data and best oscillation fit  
consistent at 53% C.L. as  
determined by Monte Carlo

# Oscillation Parameters *Before* and *After* KamLAND

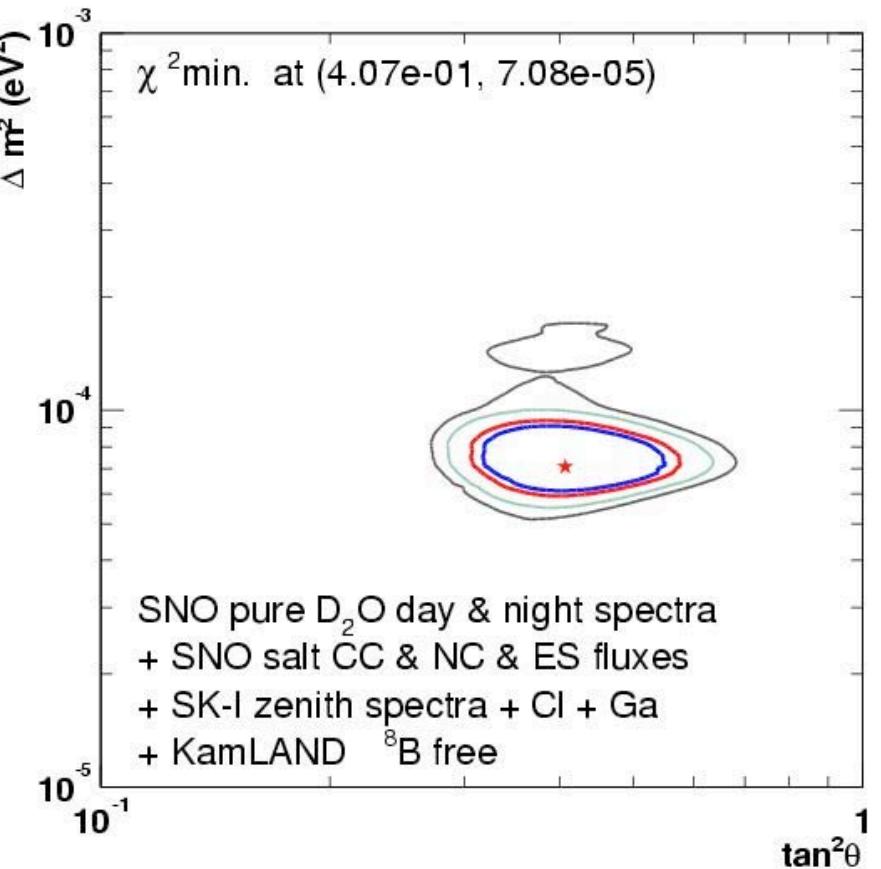
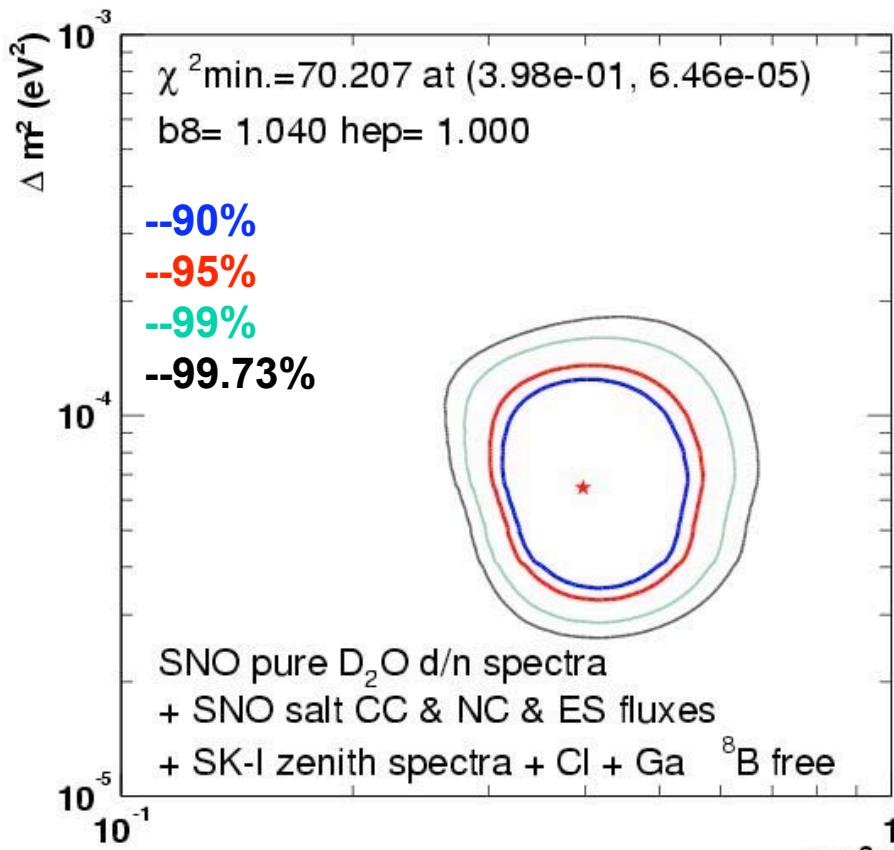
Before KamLAND



After KamLAND



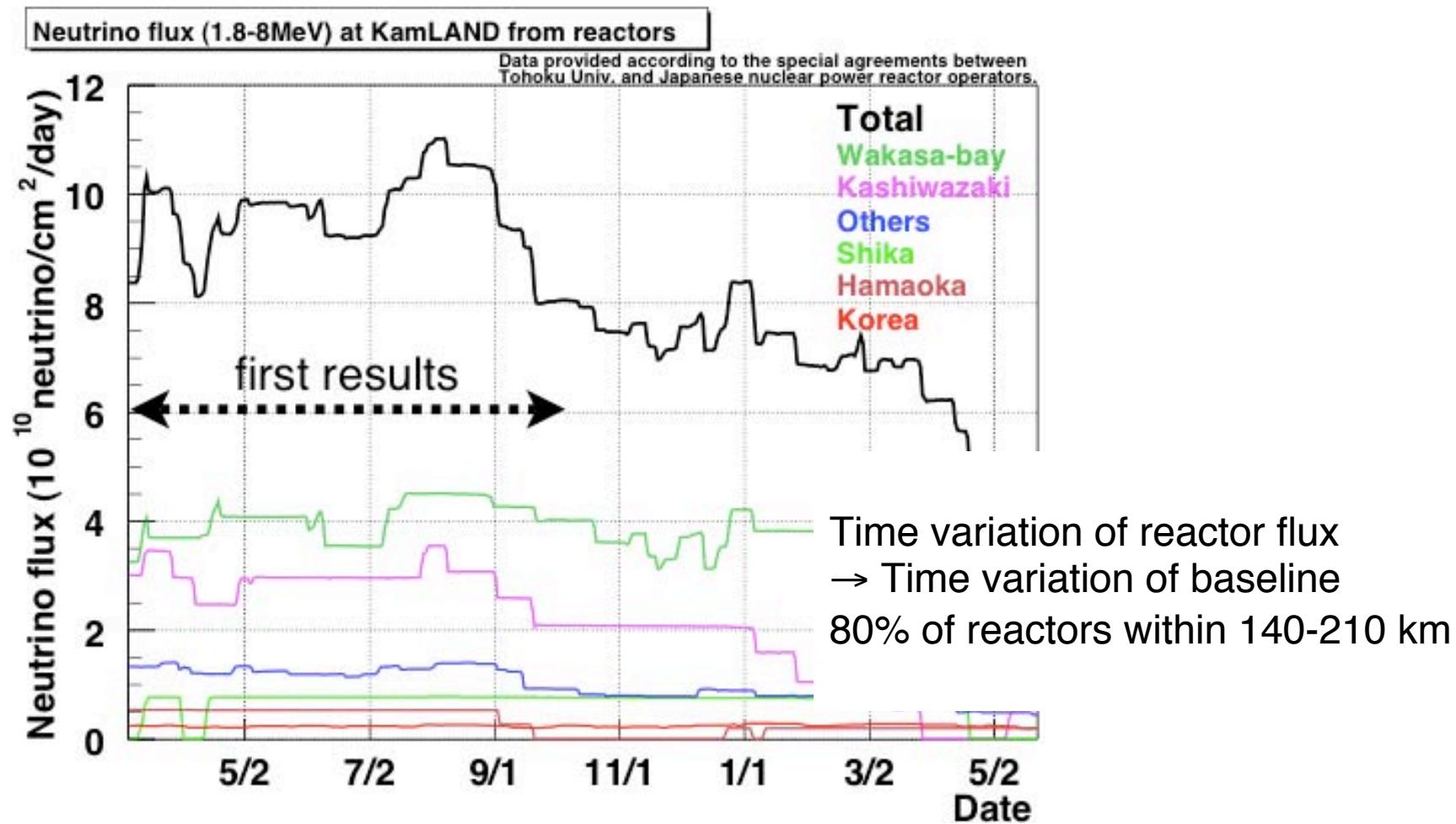
# Determination of Oscillation Parameters $\Delta m_{12}^2$ , $\theta_{12}$



LMA I only at > 99% CL

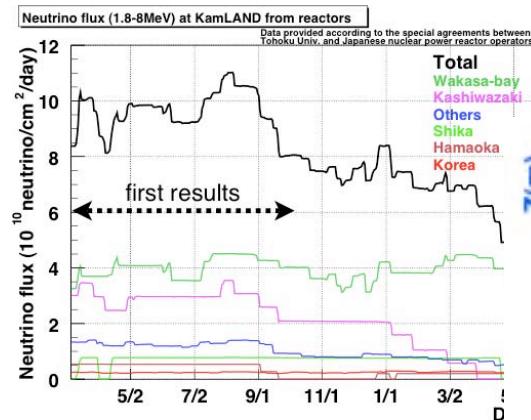
# What's next for KamLAND?

## Continued Running

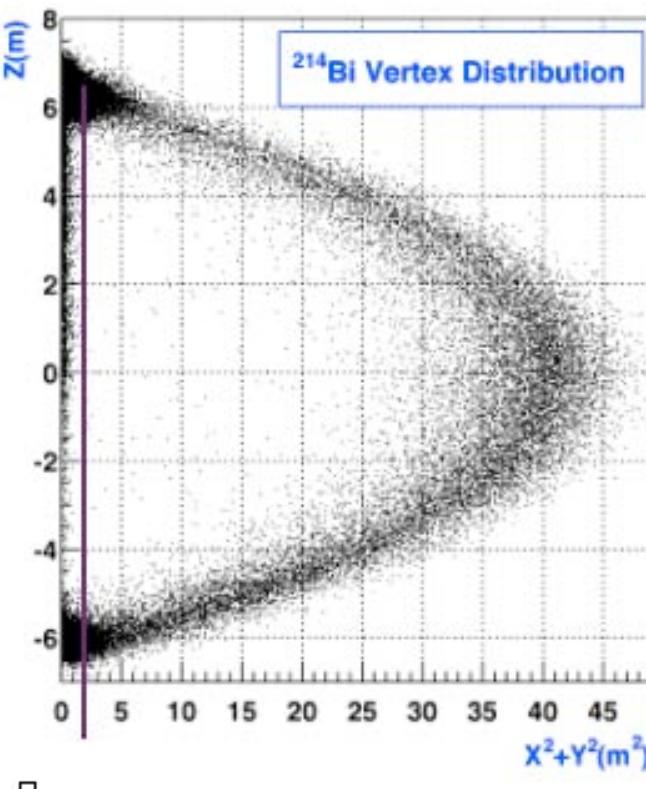


# What's next for KamLAND?

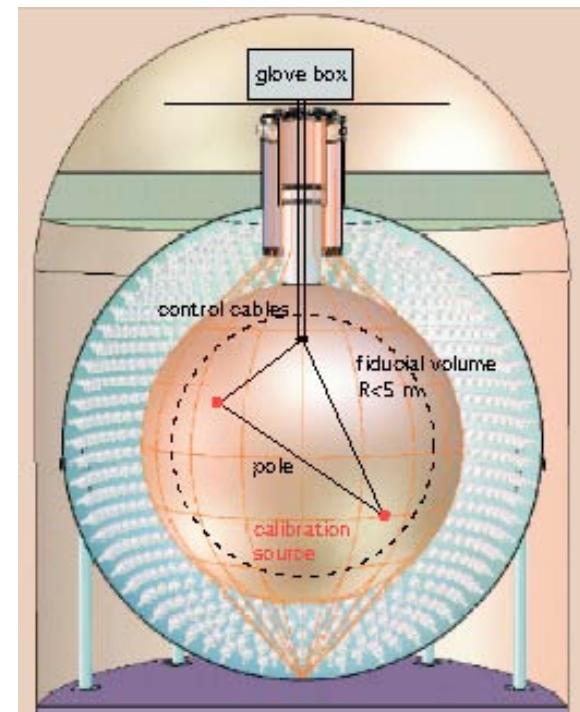
Continued Running



Enlarge Fiducial Volume



Improve Calibration

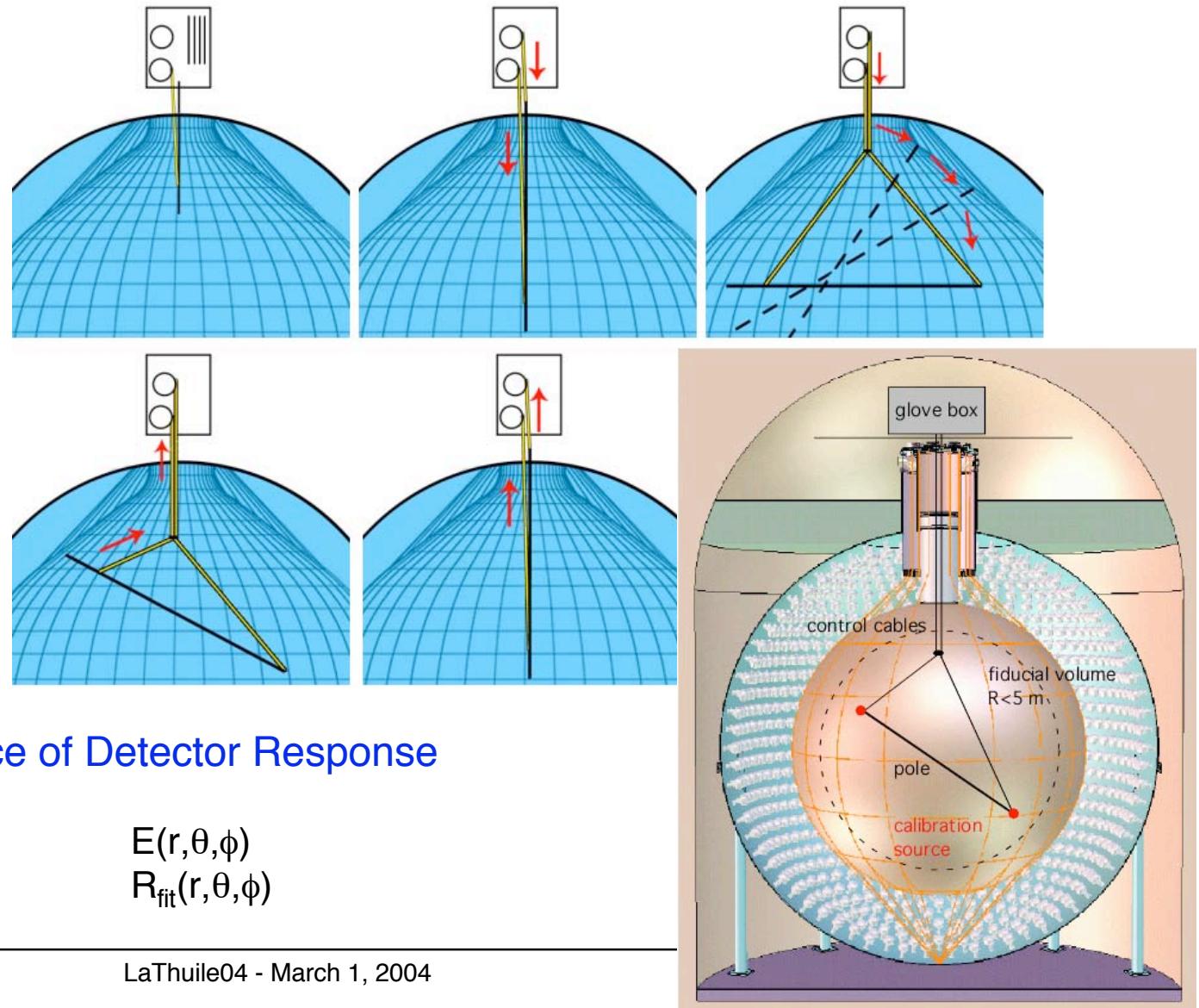


# KamLAND Off-Axis Calibration

Calibration throughout entire detector volume

Fiducial volume:  
 $R < 5 \text{ m}$

$$\Delta R_{FV} = 5 \text{ cm} \\ \rightarrow \Delta V = 3\%$$



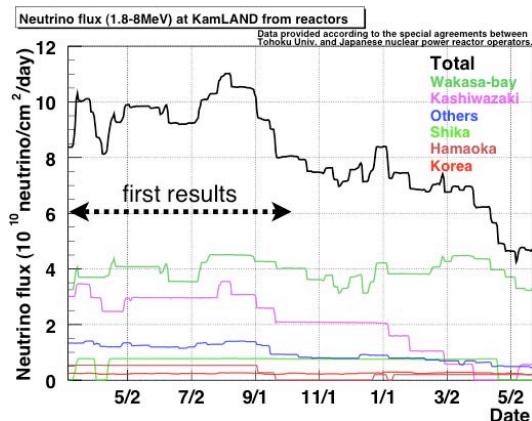
Position Dependence of Detector Response

Event energy  
Vertex reconstruction

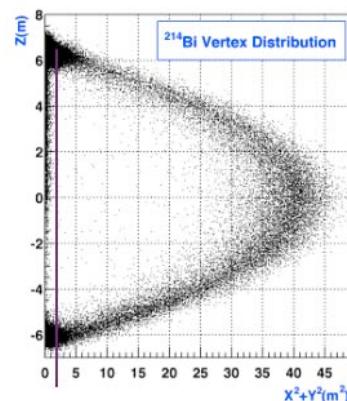
$$E(r, \theta, \phi) \\ R_{fit}(r, \theta, \phi)$$

# What's next for KamLAND?

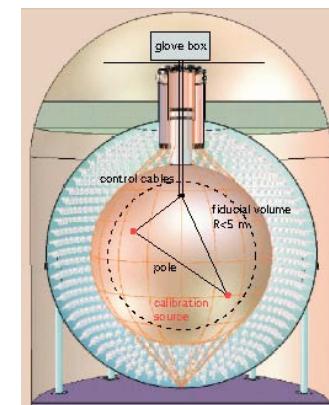
## Continued Running



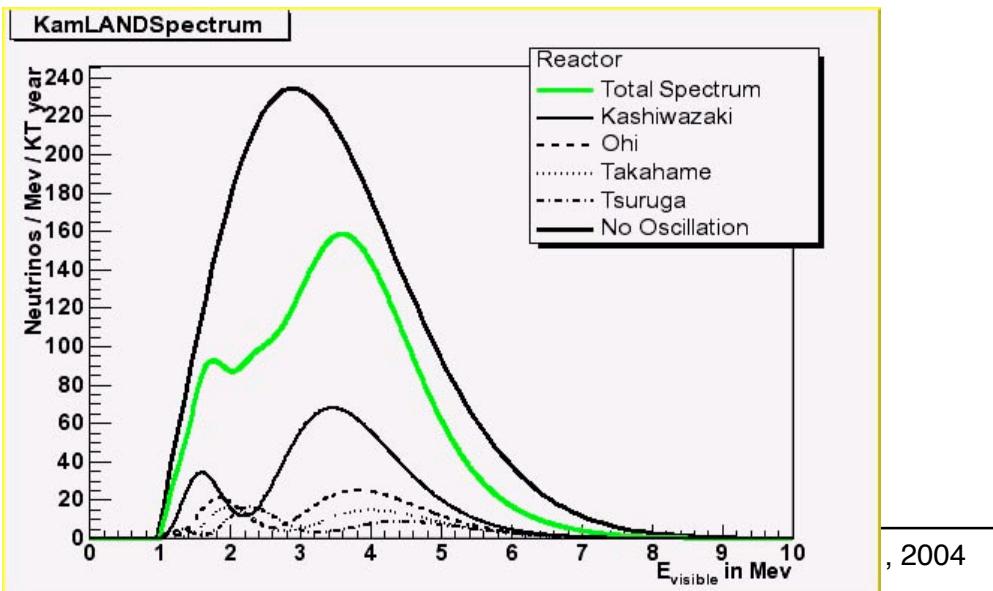
## Enlarge Fiducial Volume



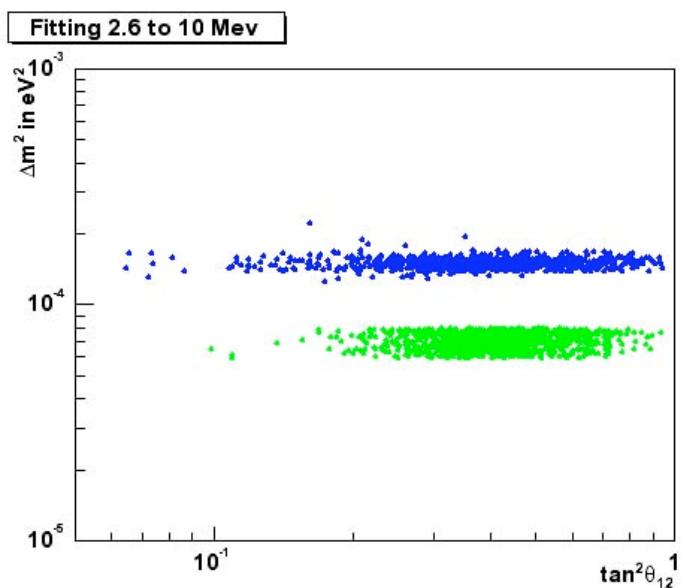
## Improve Calibration



## Search for Spectral Distortions

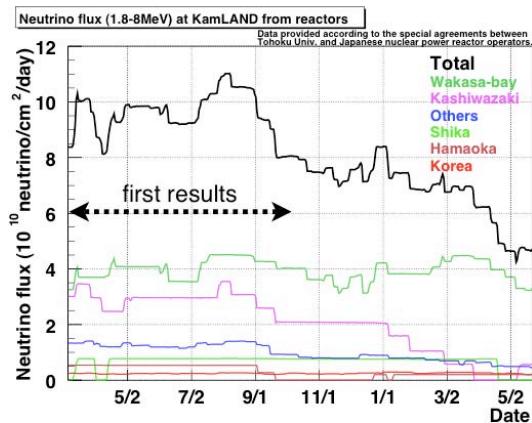


## Improve $\Delta m^2$ and $\theta_{12}$

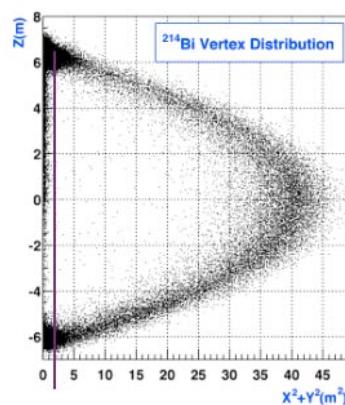


# What's next for KamLAND?

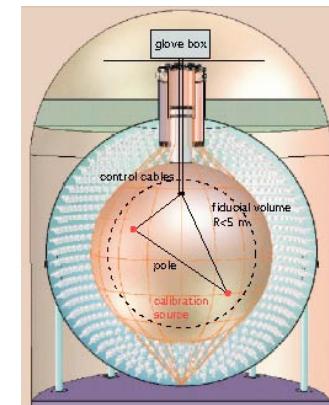
## Continued Running



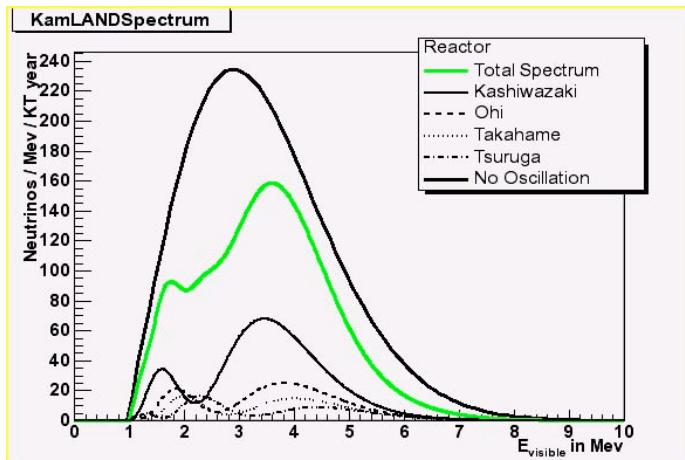
## Enlarge Fiducial Volume



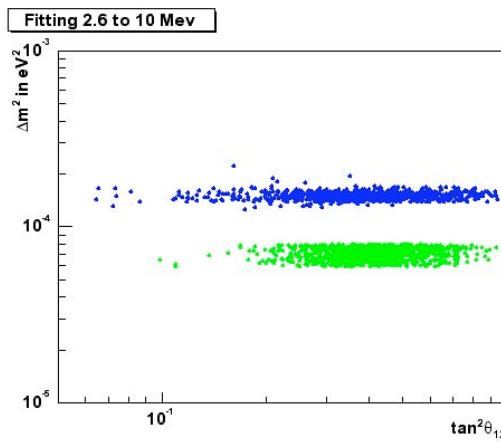
## Improve Calibration



## Search for Spectral Distortions



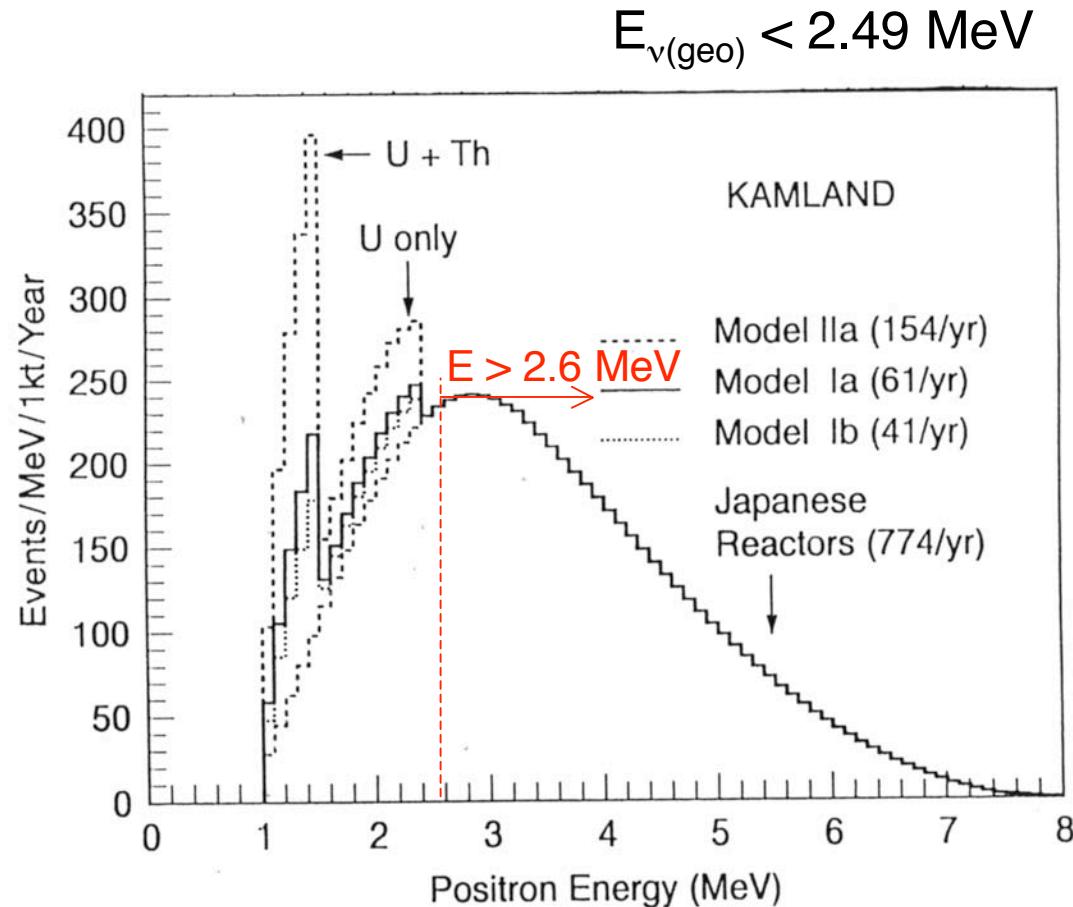
## Improve $\Delta m^2$ and $\theta_{12}$



Search for geo-, supernova, and relic-supernova anti-neutrinos.  
Nucleon decay studies.

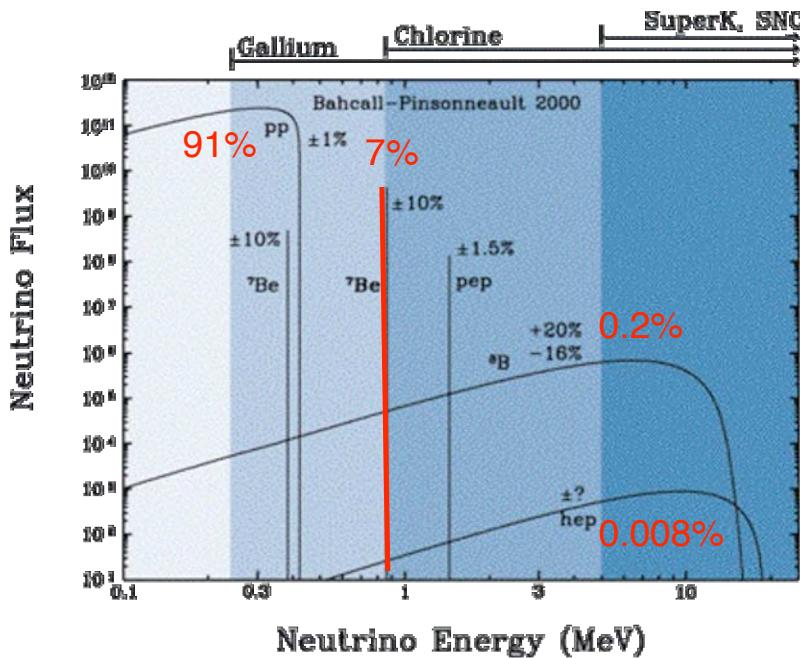
# Geo-Neutrino Signal

U/Th decays in the Earth produce radiogenic heat (40-60% of 40TW)

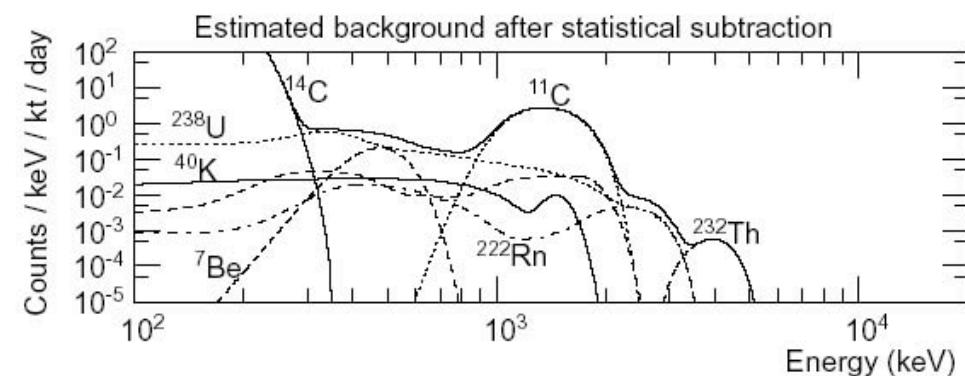


Raghavan et al. PRL 80 (1998)

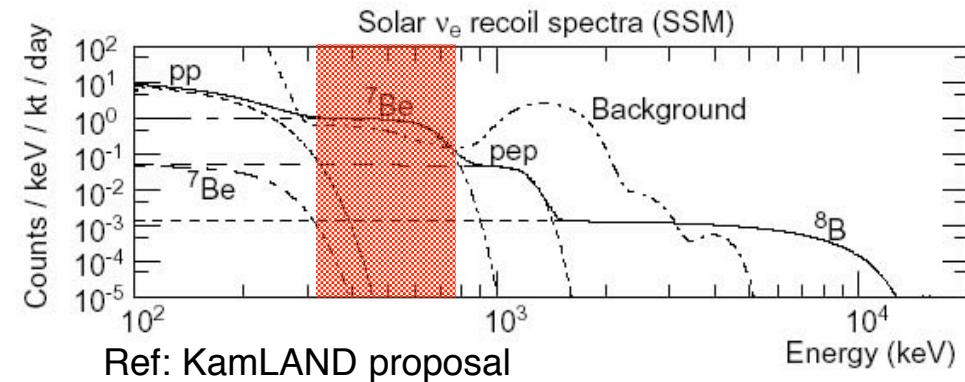
# A Background Challenge: ${}^7\text{Be}$ Solar Neutrinos at KamLAND



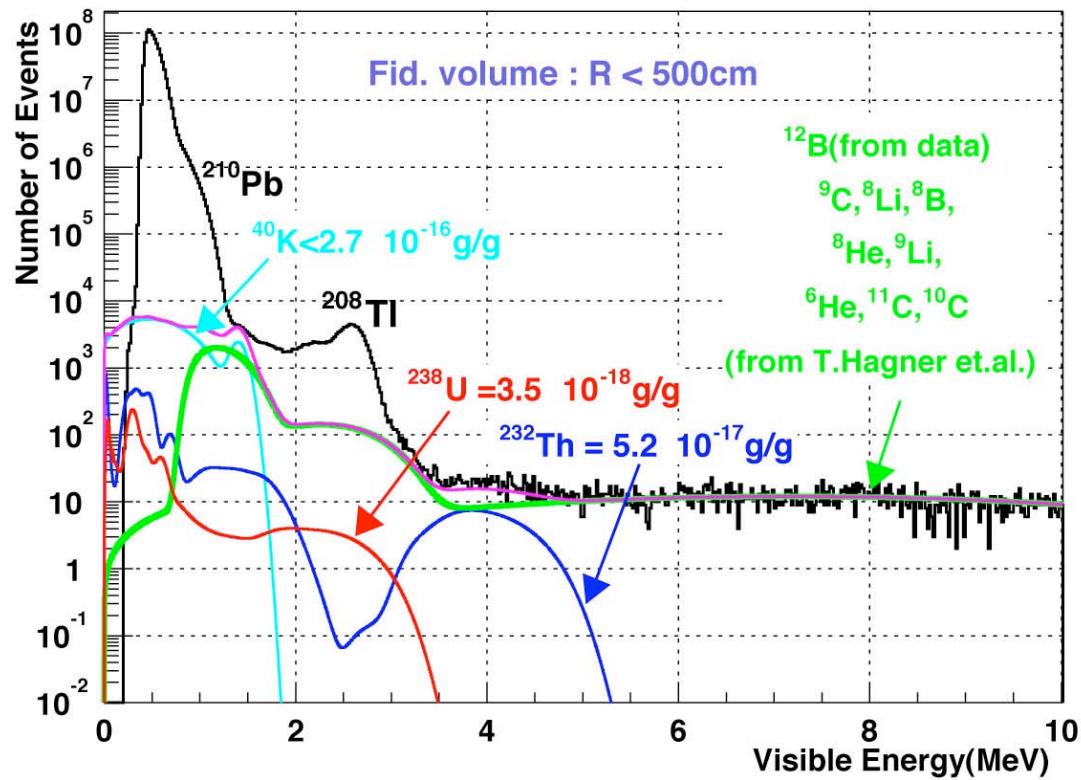
Direct detection of solar  ${}^7\text{Be}$  neutrinos  
through elastic scattering  
→ Singles signal



- ${}^7\text{Be} \nu_e$  measurement can improve solar models.
- Unlikely to improve on  $\theta_{12}$ .
- Checks oscillation prediction of  ${}^7\text{Be} \nu_e$  flux.



# A Background Challenge: ${}^7\text{Be}$ Solar Neutrinos at KamLAND



- Backgrounds in the  ${}^7\text{Be}$  signal region currently about  $10^6$  times too high
- Working on purification methods to remove  
 ${}^{85}\text{Kr}$  (from nitrogen used in purification)  
 ${}^{210}\text{Pb}$ ,  ${}^{210}\text{Po}$  (from decay of radon that got into the system)



# $U_{\text{MNSP}}$ , $\theta_{13}$ , and CP

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## U<sub>MNSP</sub> Neutrino Mixing Matrix

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} U_{e1} & U_{e2} & U_{e3} \\ U_{\mu 1} & U_{\mu 2} & U_{\mu 3} \\ U_{\tau 1} & U_{\tau 2} & U_{\tau 3} \end{pmatrix} \underbrace{\quad}_{\text{atmospheric, K2K}} \times \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta_{13} & 0 & e^{-i\delta_{CP}} \sin \theta_{13} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -e^{i\delta_{CP}} \sin \theta_{13} & 0 & \cos \theta_{13} \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{reactor and accelerator}} \underbrace{\quad}_{\text{?}} \times \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta_{12} & \sin \theta_{12} & 0 \\ -\sin \theta_{12} & \cos \theta_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{SNO, solar SK, KamLAND}} \times \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\alpha/2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & e^{i\alpha/2+i\beta} \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{0v}\beta\beta}$$

atmospheric, K2K

$\theta_{23} = \sim 45^\circ$

*maximal*

reactor and accelerator

$\tan^2 \theta_{13} < 0.03$  at 90% CL

*small ... at best*

SNO, solar SK, KamLAND

$\theta_{12} \sim 32^\circ$

*large*

No good ‘ad hoc’ model to predict  $\theta_{13}$ .  
If  $\theta_{13} < 10^{-3} \theta_{12}$ , perhaps a symmetry?

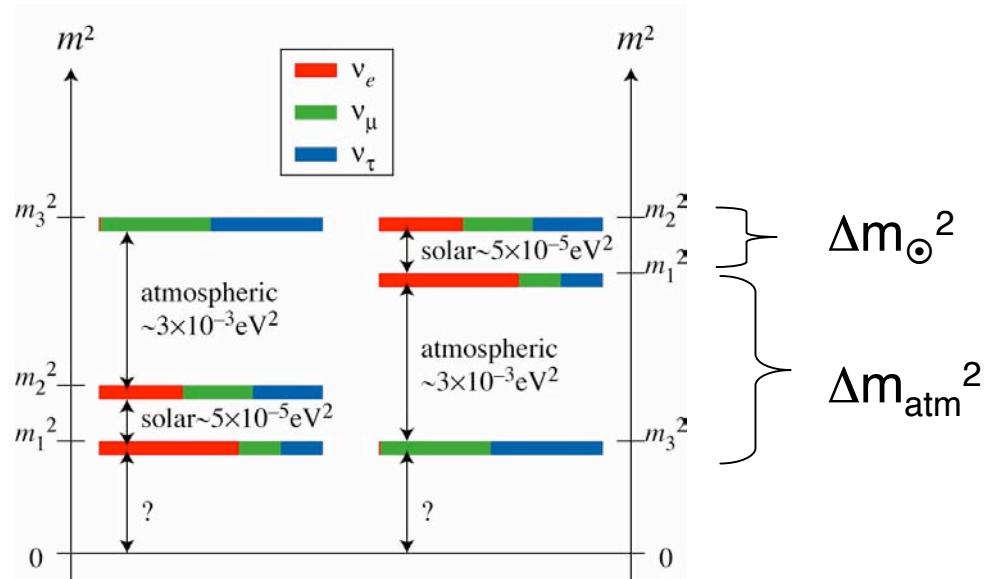
$\theta_{13}$  yet to be measured  
determines accessibility to CP phase

# Outstanding Questions

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I) What is size of  $\sin^2(2\theta_{13})$ ?

II) What Is the mass hierarchy? Sign of  $\Delta m_{13}^2$

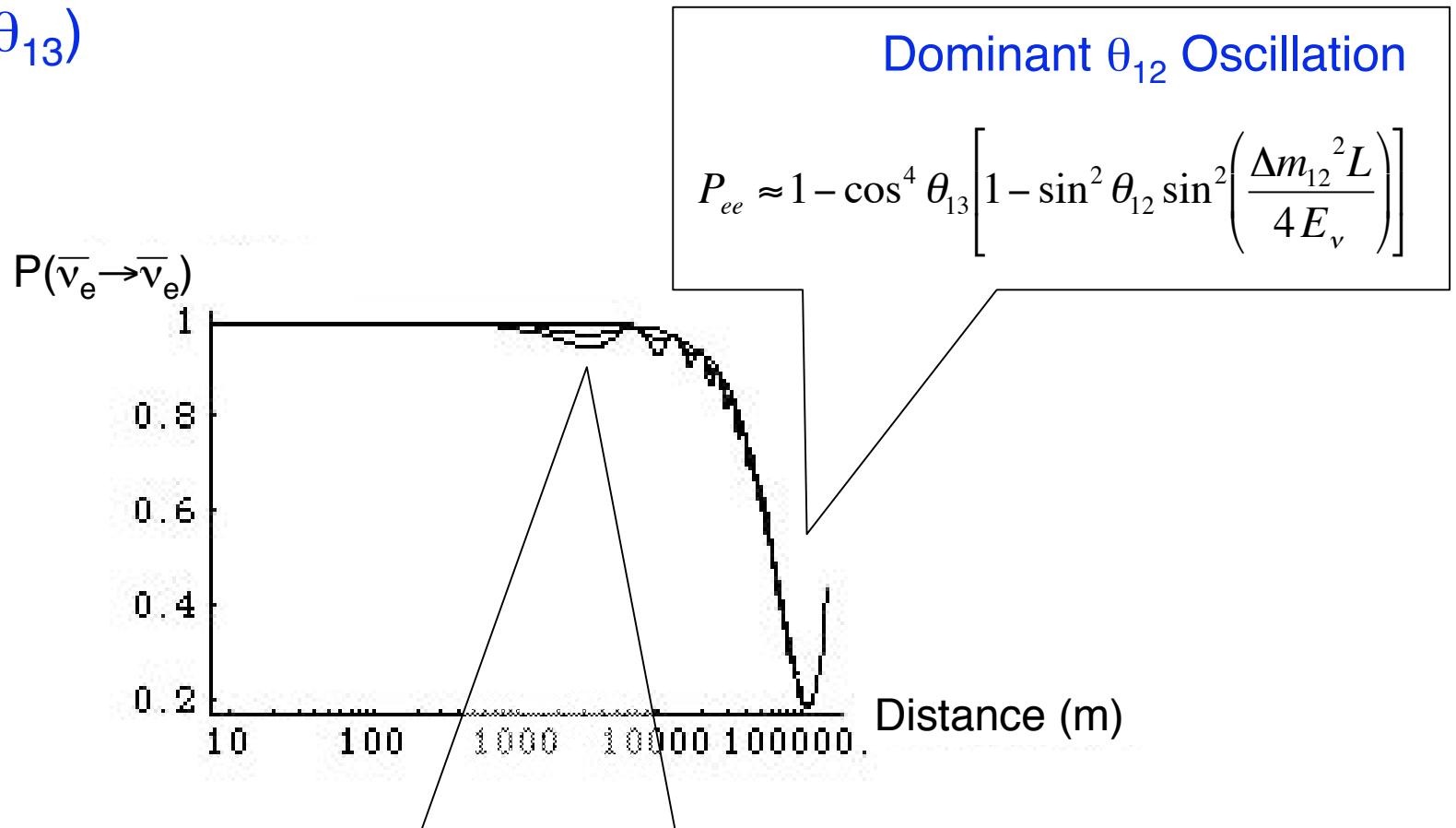


III) Is there CP violation? Measure  $\delta$ .

Amount of CP violation is given by  $J_{\text{lepton}} \sim \underbrace{\cos^2(\theta_{13})}_{\sim 1} \underbrace{\sin(2\theta_{12})}_{\sim 0.9} \underbrace{\sin(2\theta_{23})}_{\sim 1} \underbrace{\sin(2\theta_{13})}_{\sim 1} \sin(\delta_{\text{CP}})$

# Search for Subdominant Oscillation Effects

$\sin^2(2\theta_{13})$



Subdominant  $\theta_{13}$  Oscillation

$$P_{ee} \approx 1 - \sin^2 2\theta_{13} \sin^2 \frac{\Delta m_{31}^2 L}{4 E_\nu} + \left( \frac{\Delta m_{21}^2 L}{4 E_\nu} \right) \cos^4 \theta_{13} \sin^2 2\theta_{12}$$

# Oscillation Measurements Probe Fundamental Physics

Physics at high mass scales, physics of flavor, and unification:

- Why are the mixing angles *large, maximal, and small?*
- Is there CP violation, T violation, or CPT violation in the lepton sector?
- Is there a connection between the lepton and the baryon sector?

$$U_{MNSP} =$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \text{big} & \text{big} & \text{small?} \\ \text{big} & \text{big} & \text{big} \\ \text{big} & \text{big} & \text{big} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$V_{CKM} =$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \text{big} & \text{small} & \text{tiny} \\ \text{small} & \text{big} & \text{tiny} \\ \text{tiny} & \text{tiny} & \text{big} \end{pmatrix}$$



$\theta_{13}$

- Leptogenesis and the role of neutrinos in the early Universe

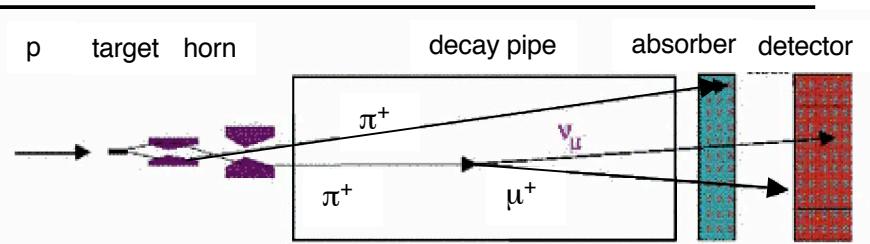


# Measuring $\theta_{13}$

## Method 1: Accelerator Experiments

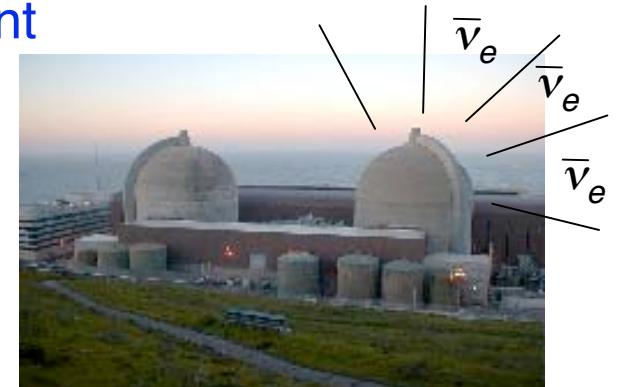
$$P_{\mu e} \approx \sin^2 2\theta_{13} \sin^2 2\theta_{23} \sin^2 \frac{\Delta m_{31}^2 L}{4E_\nu} + \dots$$

- appearance experiment  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$
- measurement of  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$  and  $\bar{\nu}_\mu \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e$  yields  $\theta_{13}, \delta_{CP}$
- baseline  $O(100 - 1000 \text{ km})$ , matter effects present



## Method 2: Reactor Neutrino Oscillation Experiment

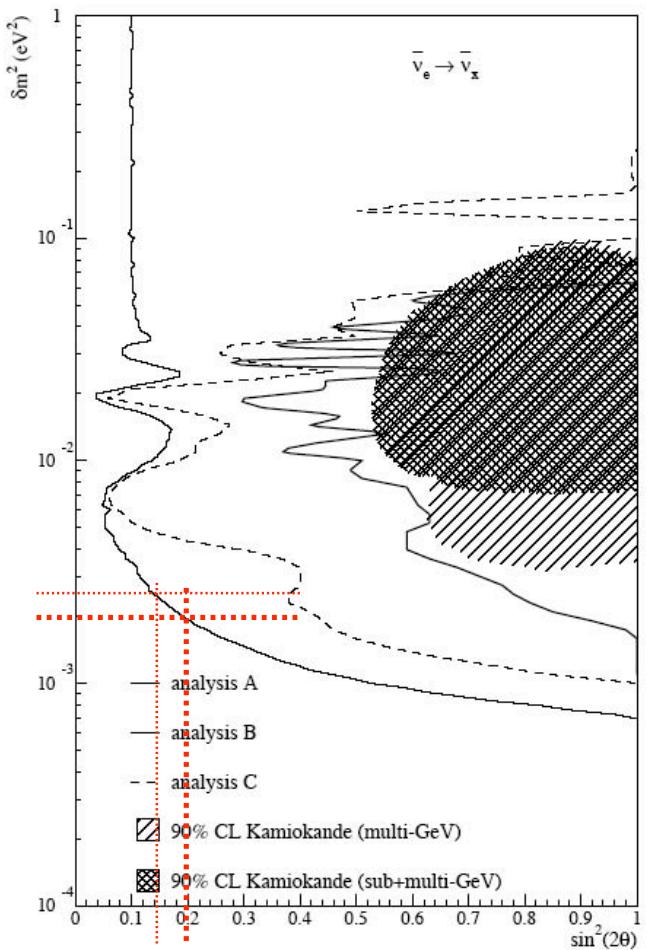
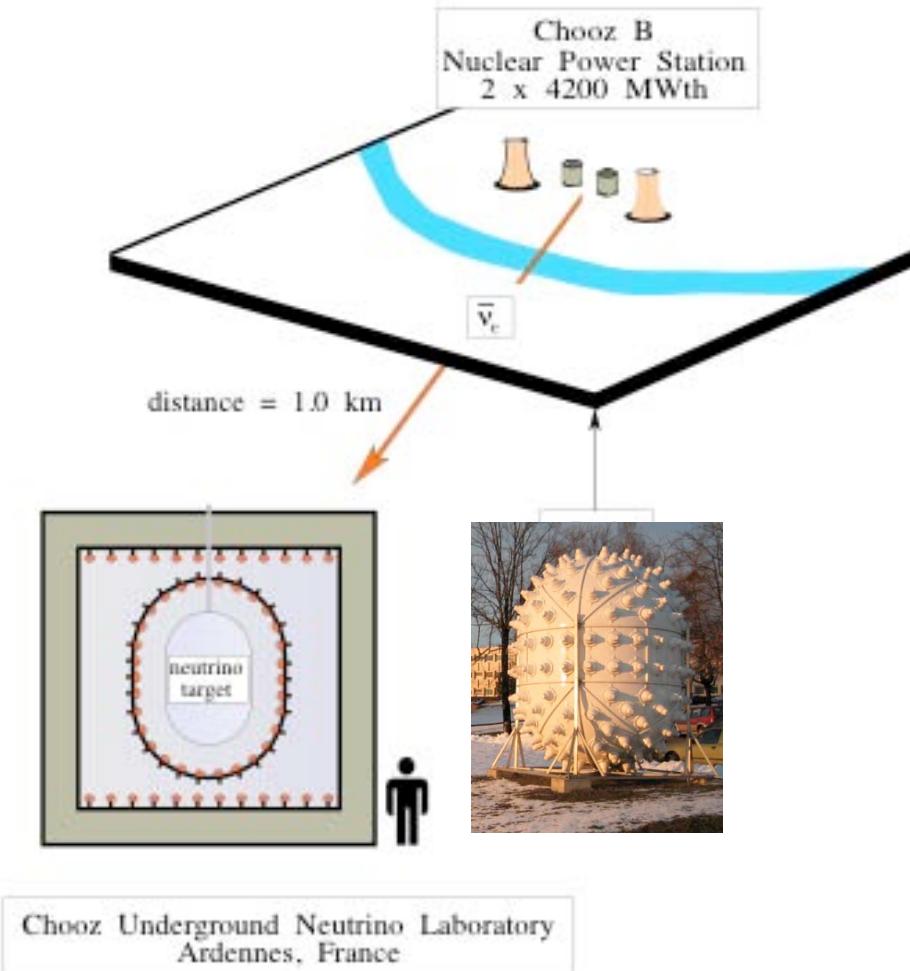
$$P_{ee} \approx 1 - \sin^2 2\theta_{13} \sin^2 \frac{\Delta m_{31}^2 L}{4E_\nu} + \left( \frac{\Delta m_{21}^2 L}{4E_\nu} \right) \cos^4 \theta_{13} \sin^2 2\theta_{13}$$



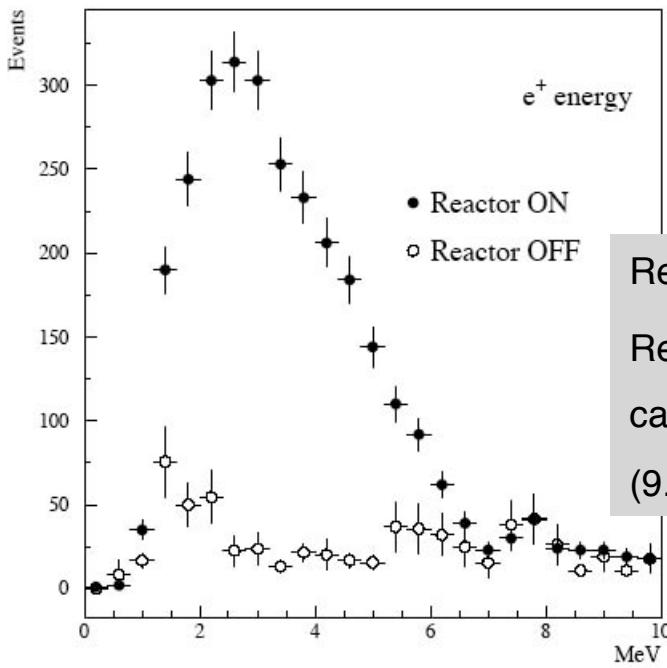
- disappearance experiment  $\bar{\nu}_e \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_x$
- look for rate deviations from  $1/r^2$  and spectral distortions
- observation of oscillation signature with 2 or multiple detectors
- baseline  $O(1 \text{ km})$ , no matter effects

# Current Knowledge of $\theta_{13}$ from Reactors

Reactor anti-neutrino measurement at 1 km at Chooz + Palo Verde:  $\bar{\nu}_e \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_x$

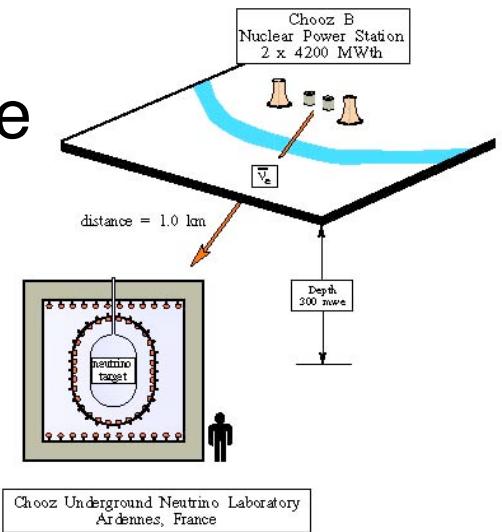


M. Appollonio, hep-ex/0301017



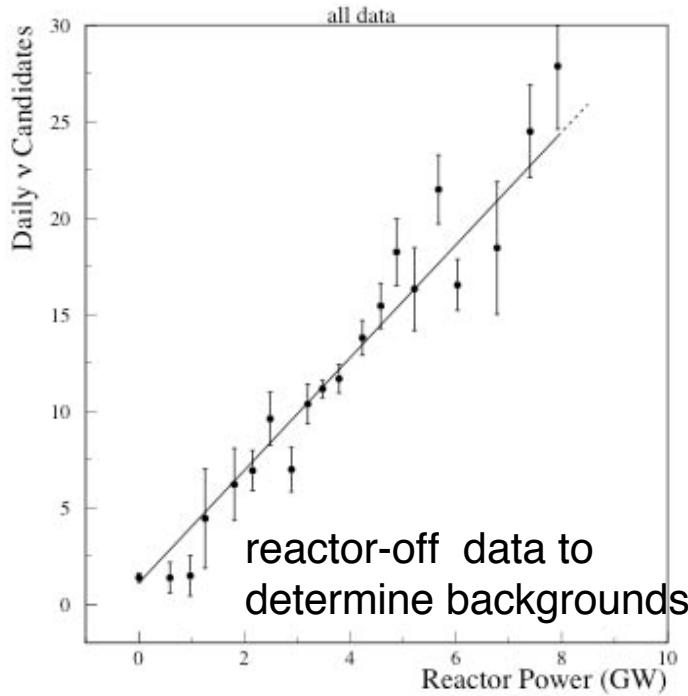
Reactor on: 2991  
 Reactor off: 287  
 candidate  $\bar{\nu}_e$  events.  
 (9.5% backgrounds!)

## Chooz, France

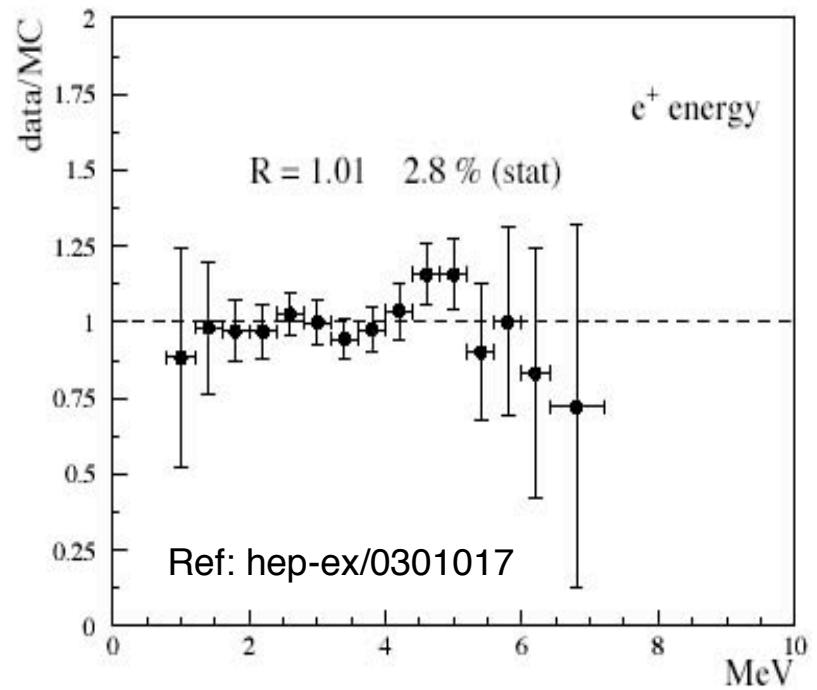


Chooz Underground Neutrino Laboratory  
Ardennes, France

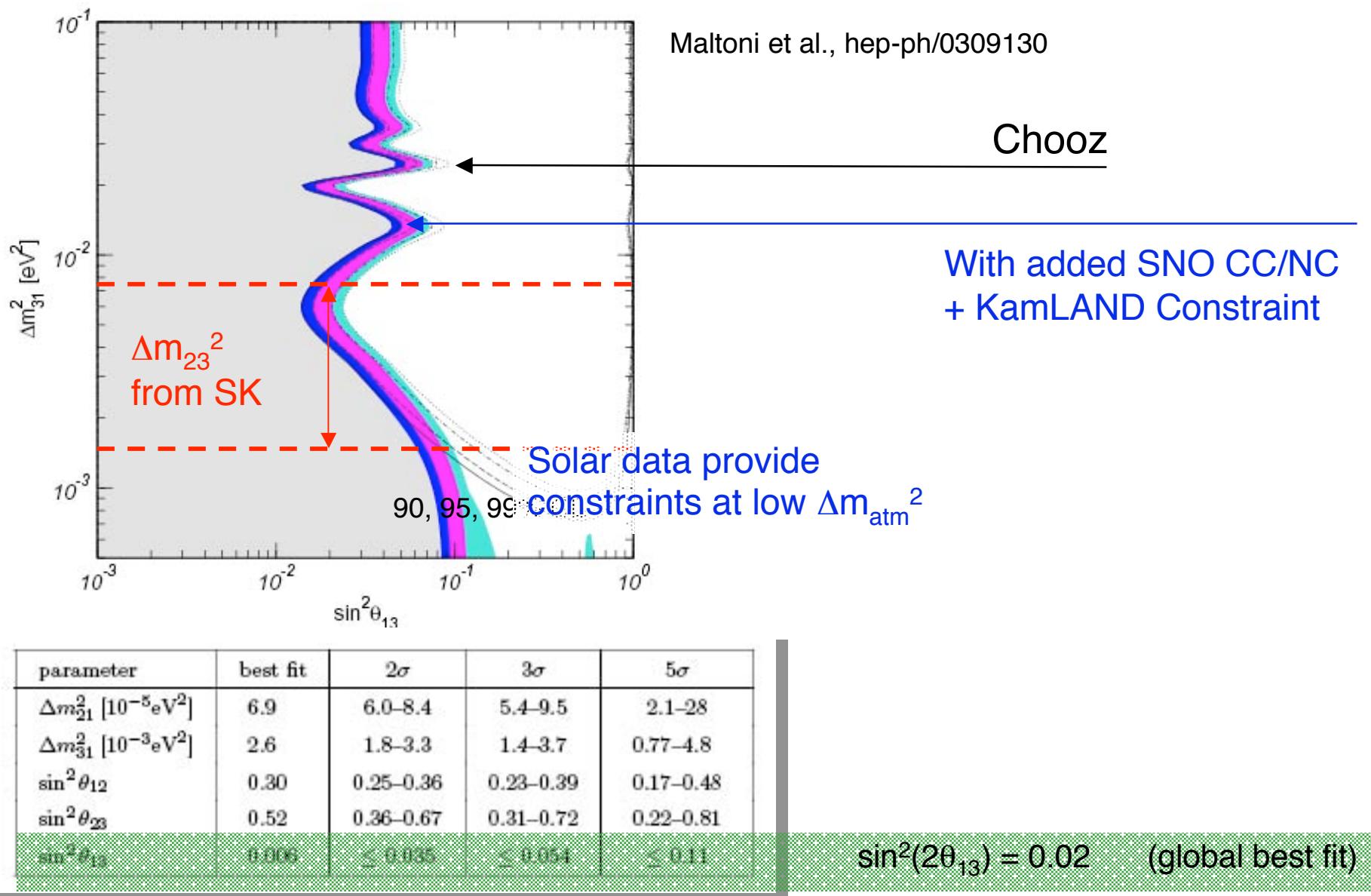
Chooz was unique! Determined backgrounds during reactor-off period



04 - March 1, 2004



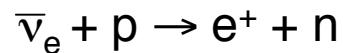
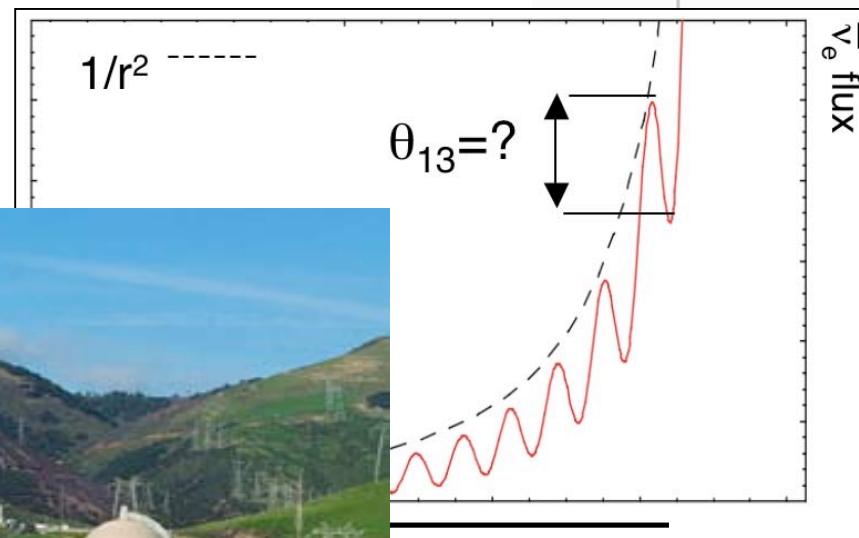
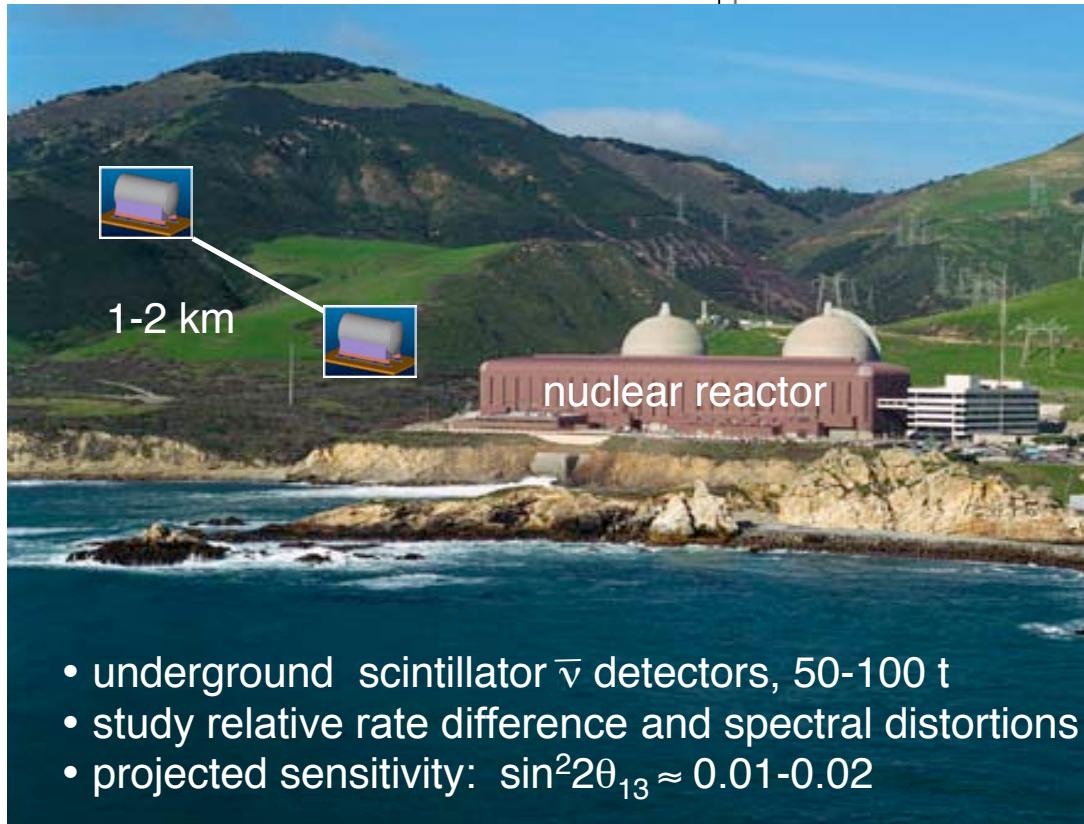
# Global Constraints on $\theta_{13}$



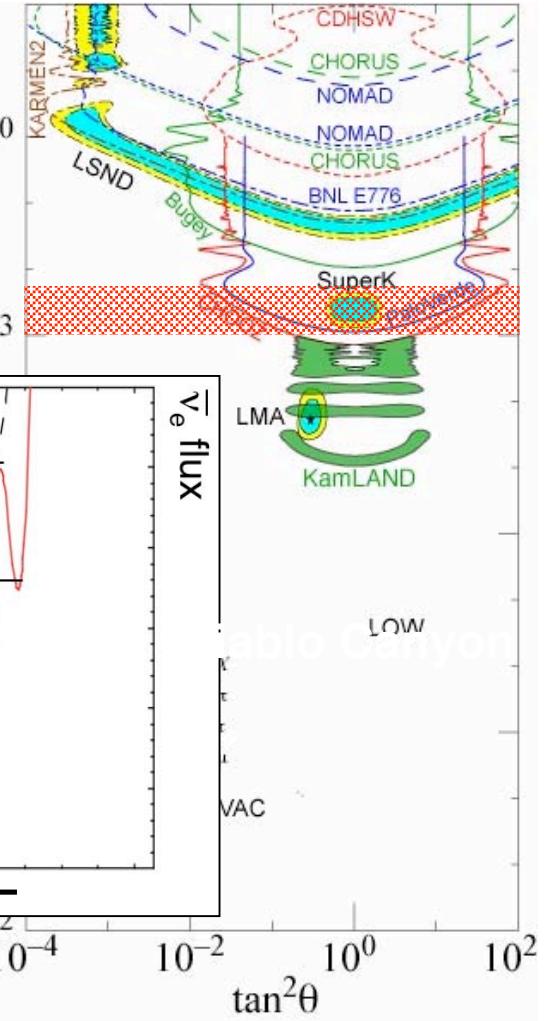
# Measuring $\theta_{13}$ with Reactor Neutrinos

$$P_{ee} \approx 1 - \sin^2 2\theta_{13} \sin^2 \frac{\Delta m_{31}^2 L}{4E_\nu} + \left( \frac{\Delta m_{21}^2 L}{4E_\nu} \right) \cos^4 \theta_{13} \sin^2 2\theta_{12} - \sin^2 2\theta_{\text{sterile}} \sin^2 \frac{\Delta m_{\text{sterile}}^2 L}{4E_\nu}$$

atmospheric frequency dominant,  
sterile contribution possible



coincidence signal  
 prompt  $e^+$  annihilation  
 delayed  $n$  capture (in  $\mu s$ )



# Site Criteria for a $\theta_{13}$ Reactor Experiment

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## Site Criteria

- powerful reactor
- overburden ( $> 300$  mwe)
- underground tunnels or detector halls

→ Variable/flexible baseline for *optimization* to  $\Delta m^2_{atm}$  and *to demonstrate subdominant* oscillation effect.

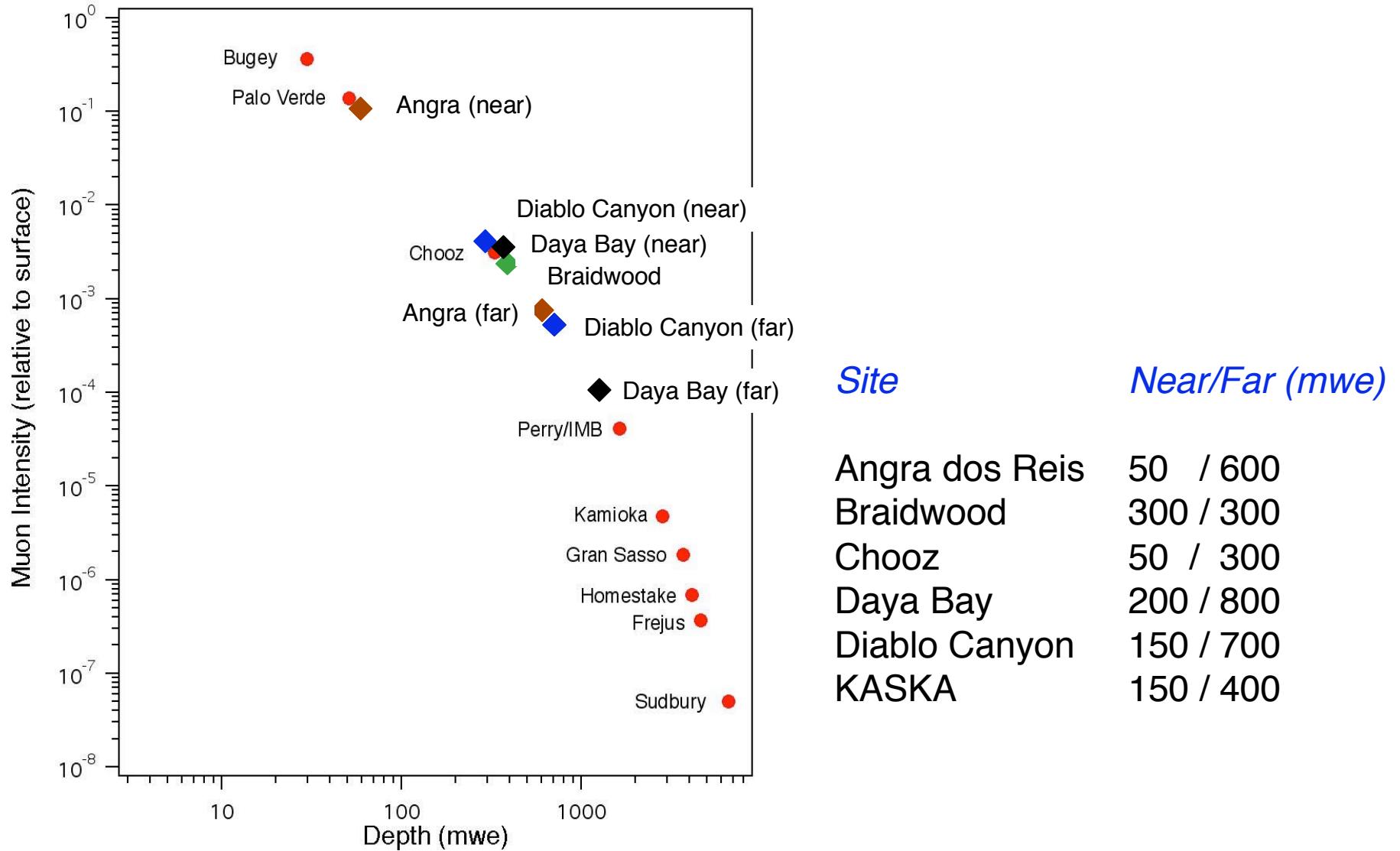
→ Optimization of experiment specific to site. Site selection critical

# World of Proposed Reactor Neutrino Experiments

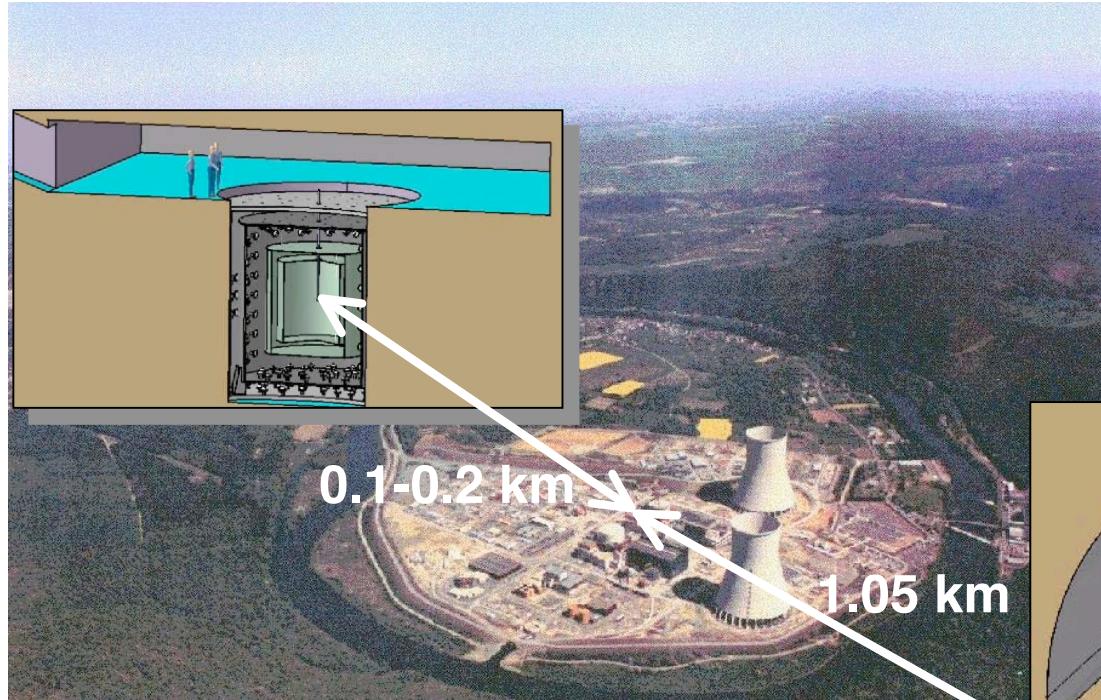


# Overburden and Muon Flux

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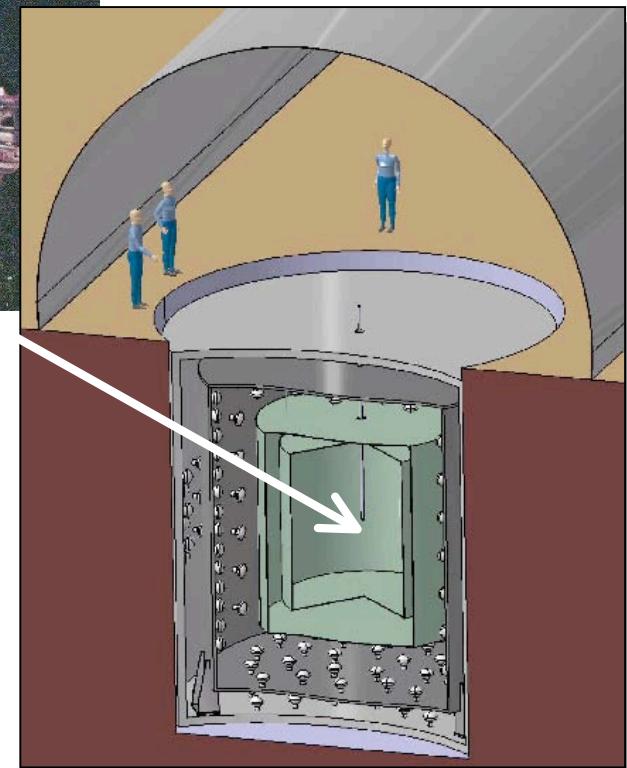


# Chooz, France



## 'Double-Chooz' Project

10-20 tons detectors  
8.4 GW<sub>th</sub> reactor power  
300 mwe overburden at far site  
50 mwe overburden at near site



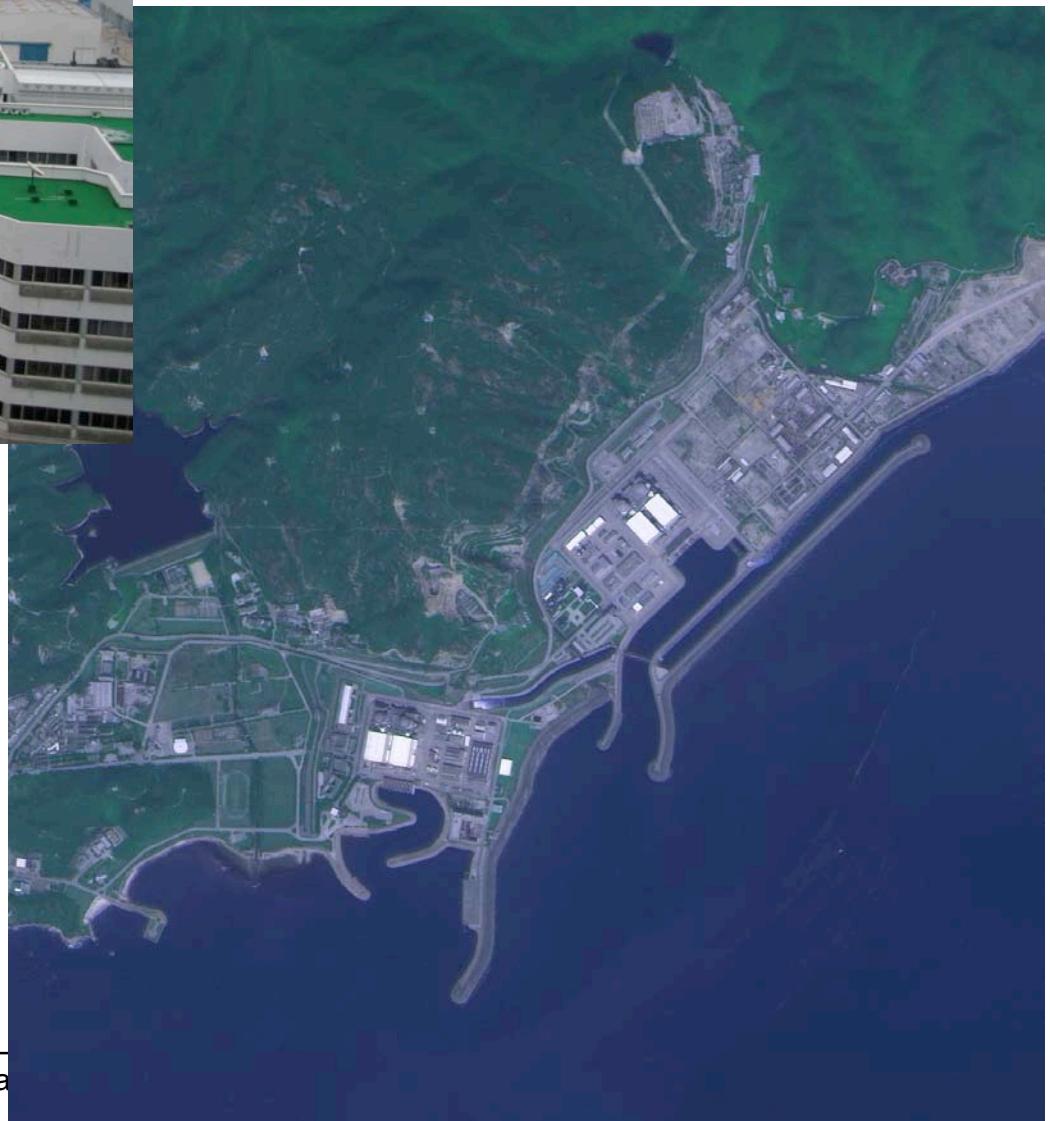
## 'Double-Chooz' Sensitivity

$$\sin^2(2\theta_{13}) < 0.03 \text{ at 90% CL}$$

$$\text{after 3 yrs, } \Delta m_{\text{atm}}^2 = 2 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$$



Daya Bay, China



## Power

11.6 GW<sub>th</sub> (17.4 GW<sub>th</sub> by 2010)

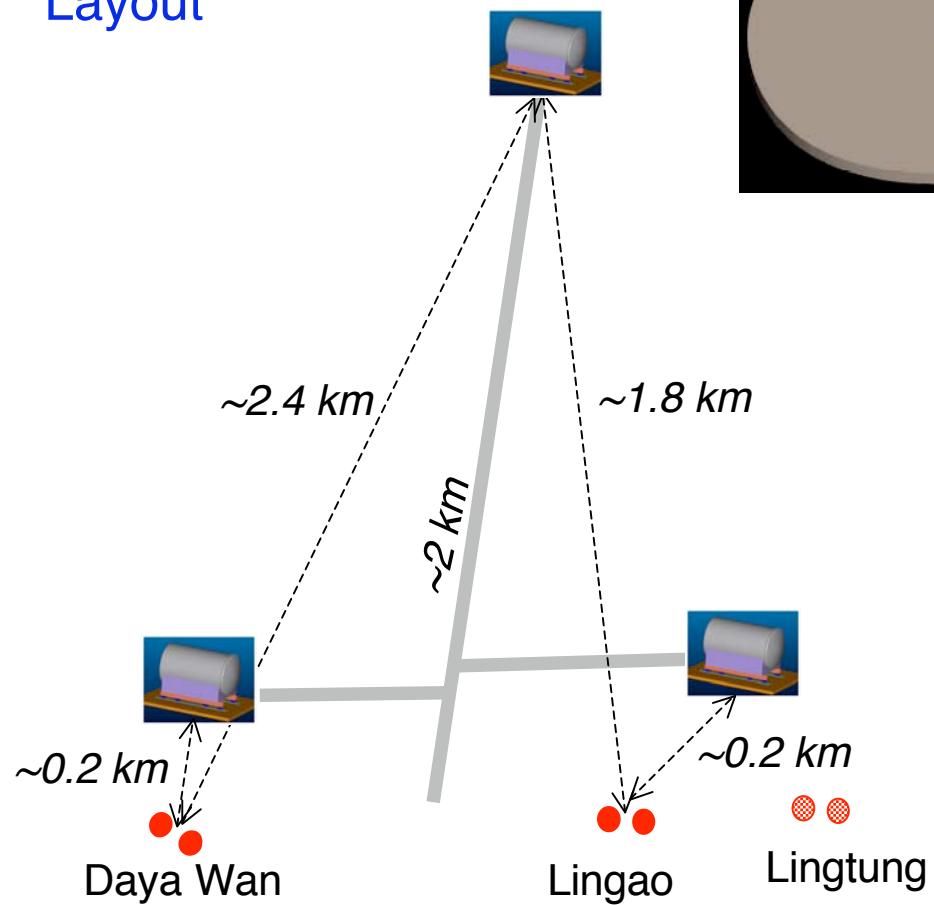
## Overburden

Near 200-300 mwe

Far >700 mwe

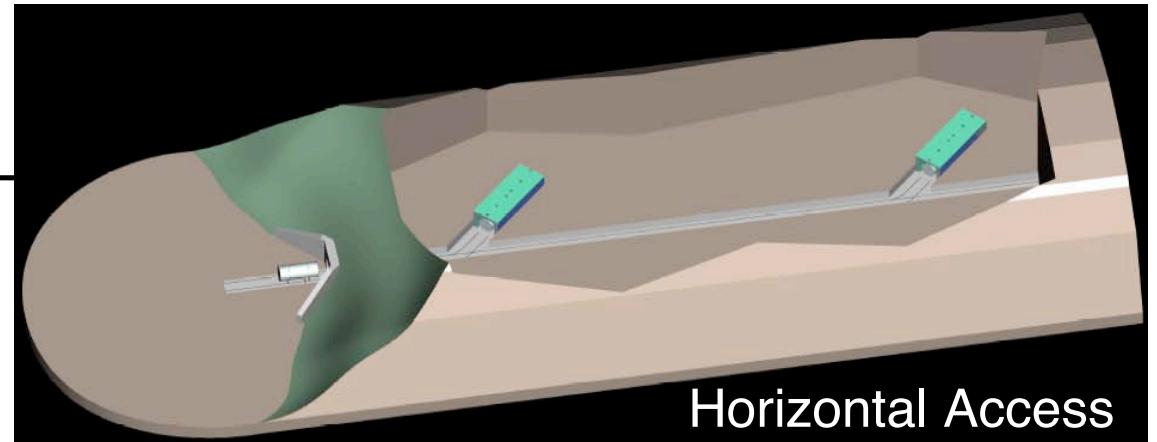
# Daya Bay, China

## Layout



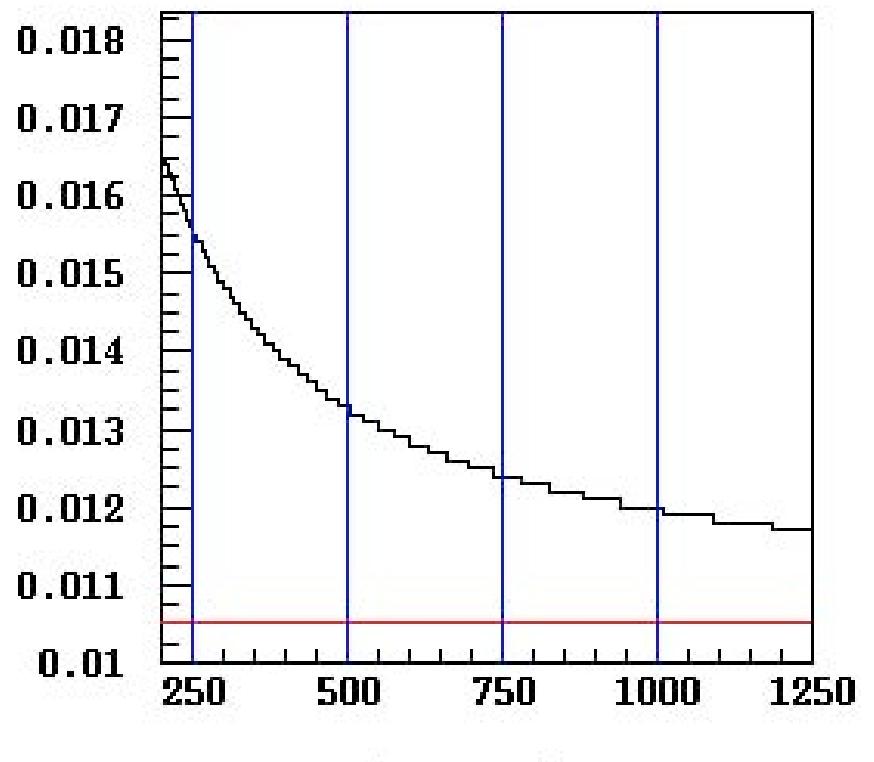
assume

- detector uncorrelated error is 0.5%
- reactor uncorrelated error 2%



Horizontal Access

## Sensitivity

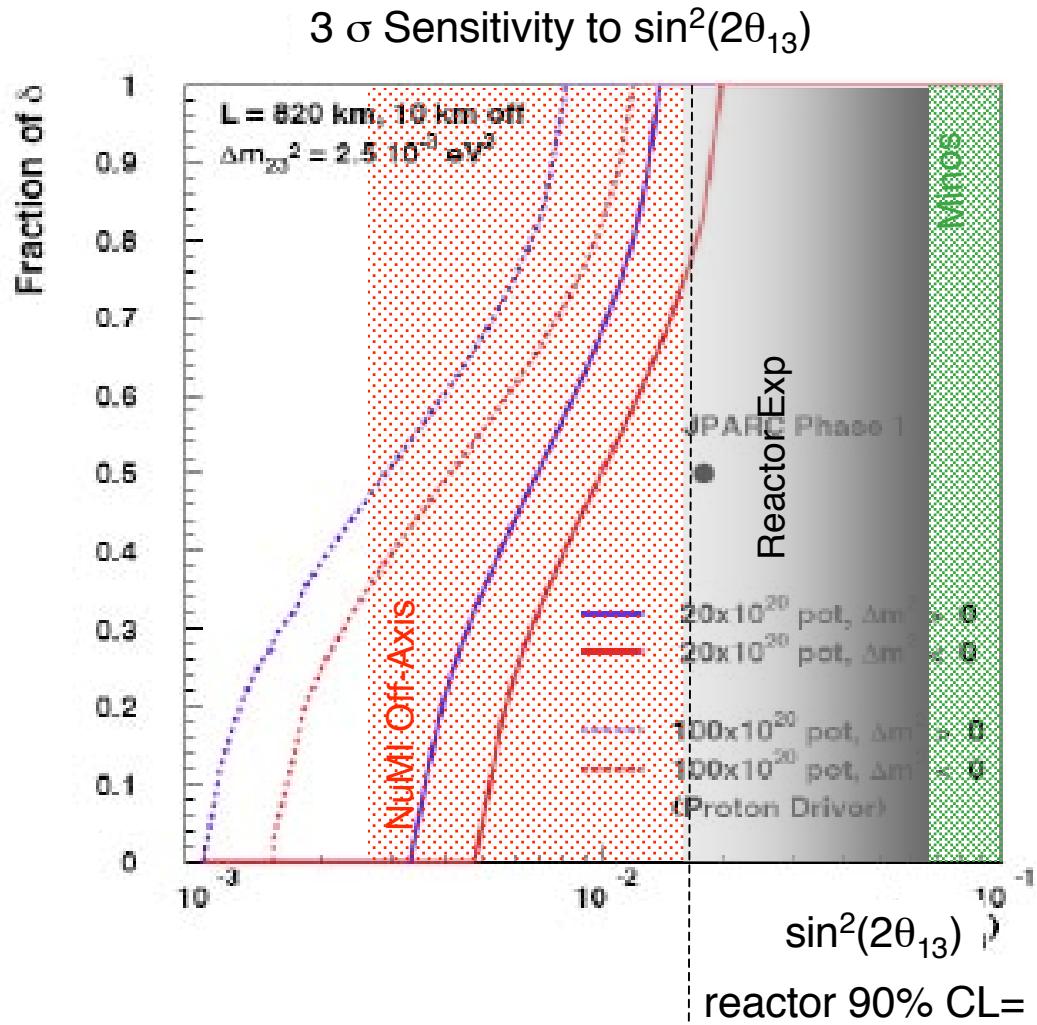


# Future Constraints on $\theta_{13}$

<b><i>Experiment</i></b>	<b><math>\sin^2(2\theta_{13})</math></b>	<b><math>\theta_{13}</math></b>	<b><i>When?</i></b>
CHOOZ	< 0.11	< 10	
NUMI Off- Axis (5 yr)	< 0.006-0.015	< 2.2	2012
JPARC-nu (5 yr)	< 0.006-0.015	< 2.2	2012
MINOS	< 0.07	< 7.1	2008
ICARUS (5 yr)	< 0.04	< 5.8	2011
OPERA (5 yr)	< 0.06	< 7.1	2011
Angra dos Reis (Brazil)	< 0.02-0.03	< 5	?
Braidwood (US)	< 0.02-0.03	< 5	[2009]
Chooz-II (France)	< 0.03	< 5	[2009]
Daya Bay (China)	< 0.012	< 3	[2009]
Diablo Canyon (US)	< 0.01-0.02	< 2.9	[2009]
Krasnoyarsk (Russia)	< 0.016	< 3.6	?
Kashiwazaki (Japan)	< 0.026	< 4.6	[2008]

# Reactor & Long Baseline Experiments

## Measuring $\sin^2(2\theta_{13})$



Chooz

90% CL

$$\sin^2(2\theta_{13}) \leq 0.14$$

Minos

3- $\sigma$  sensitivity

$$\sin^2(2\theta_{13}) = 0.07$$

$\theta_{13}$  Reactor Exp

90% CL

$$\sin^2(2\theta_{13}) < 0.01-0.02$$

NuMI Off-Axis

3- $\sigma$  sens.

$$\sin^2(2\theta_{13}) < 0.007$$

at  $\Delta m_{\text{atm}}^2 = 2.5 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$

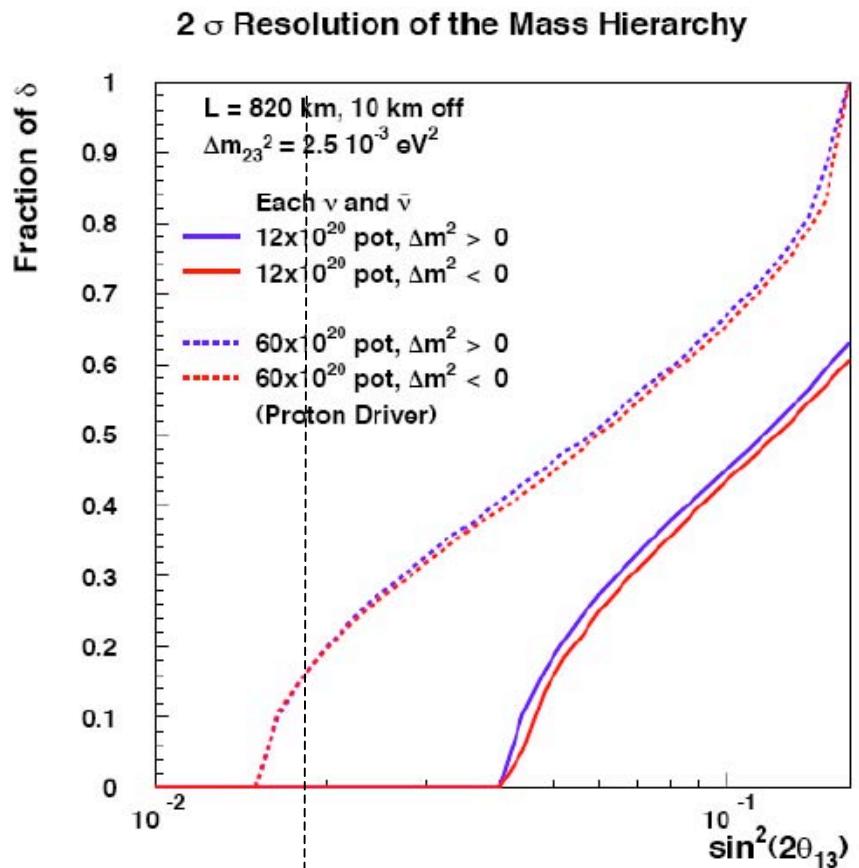
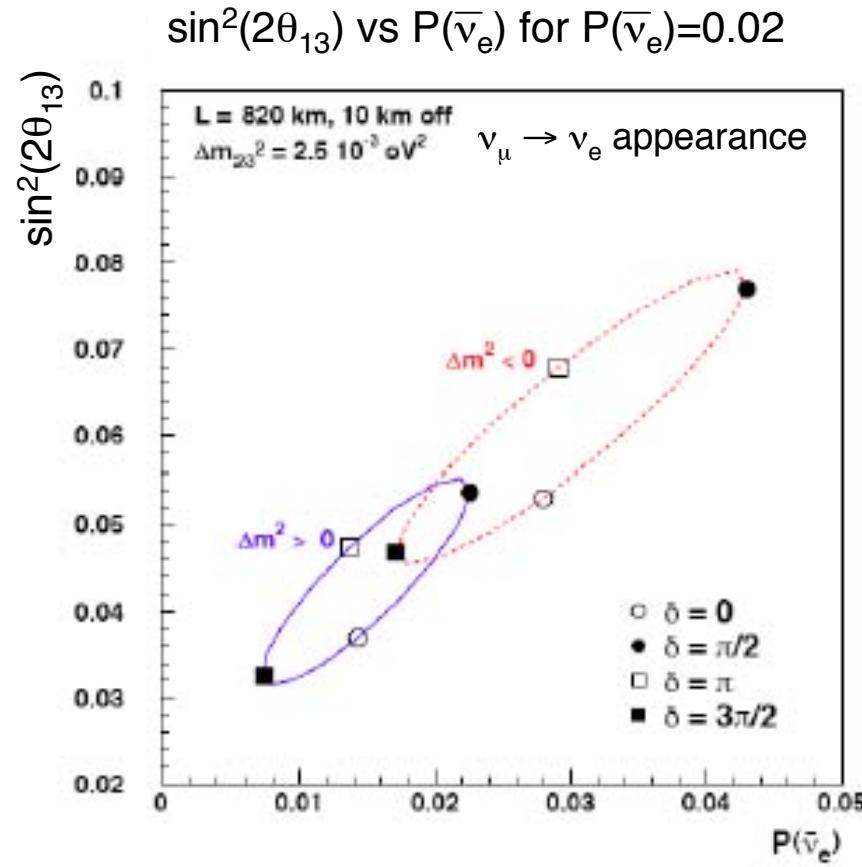
Ref: NuMI Off-Axis Collaboration, Progress Report 12/2003

Karsten Heeger, LBNL

LaThuile04 - March 1, 2004

# Reactor & Long Baseline Experiments

## Determining Mass Hierarchy



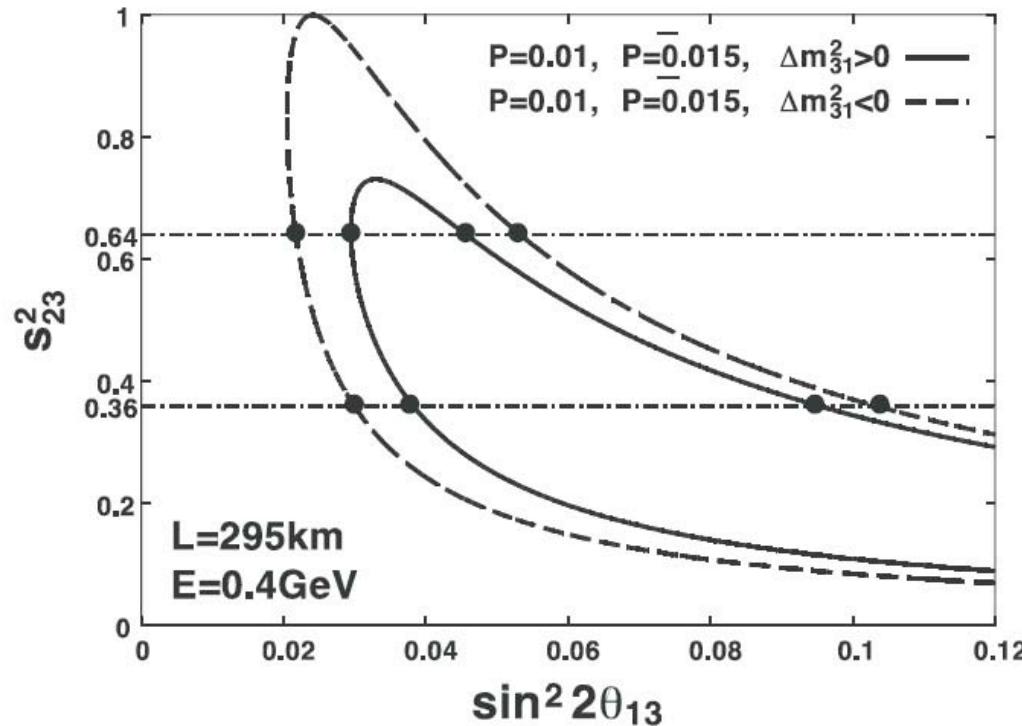
Ref: NuMI Off-Axis Collaboration, Progress Report 12/2003

reactor 90% CL= 0.01  
and  $\delta(\sin^2(2\theta_{13})) = 0.006$

# Reactor & Long Baseline Experiments

## Parameter Degeneracy

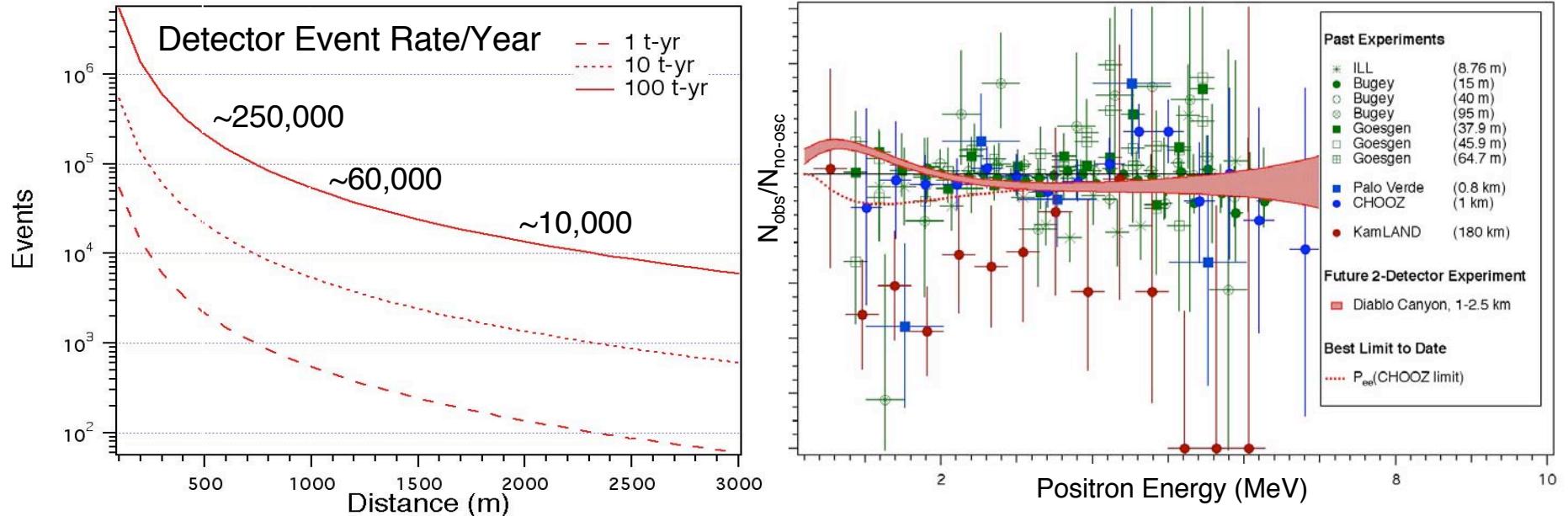
Reactor experiments help resolve the parameter degeneracy. Help with  $\sin^2\theta_{23}$  ambiguity, especially if  $\sin^2\theta_{23} \neq 1$



Ref: hep-ph/0211111

Sensitivity of  $\sin^2\theta_{13} \sim 0.01$  has discovery potential and is interesting for future accelerator experiments and neutrino models.

# Statistics and Systematics



Statistical error:  $\sigma_{\text{stat}} \sim 0.5\%$  for  $\mathcal{L} = 300\text{t-yr}$

## Reactor Flux

- near/far ratio, choice of detector location

$$\sigma_{\text{flux}} < 0.2\%$$

## Detector Efficiency

- near and far detector of same design
- calibrate *relative* detector efficiency

$$\sigma_{\text{rel eff}} \leq 1\%$$

## Target Volume &

- no fiducial volume cut

$$\sigma_{\text{target}} \sim 0.3\%$$

## Backgrounds

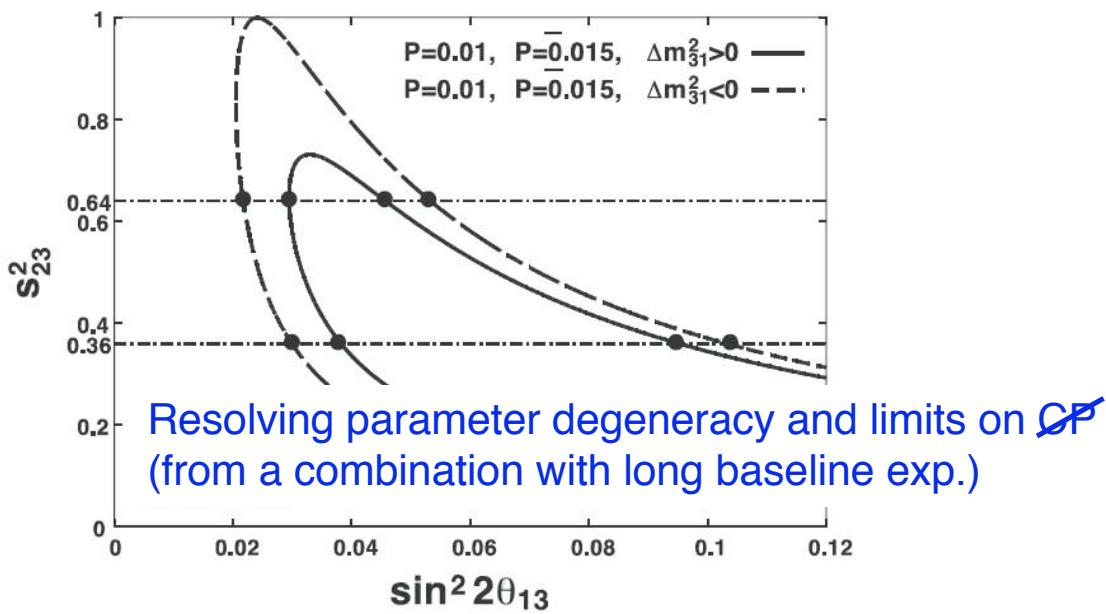
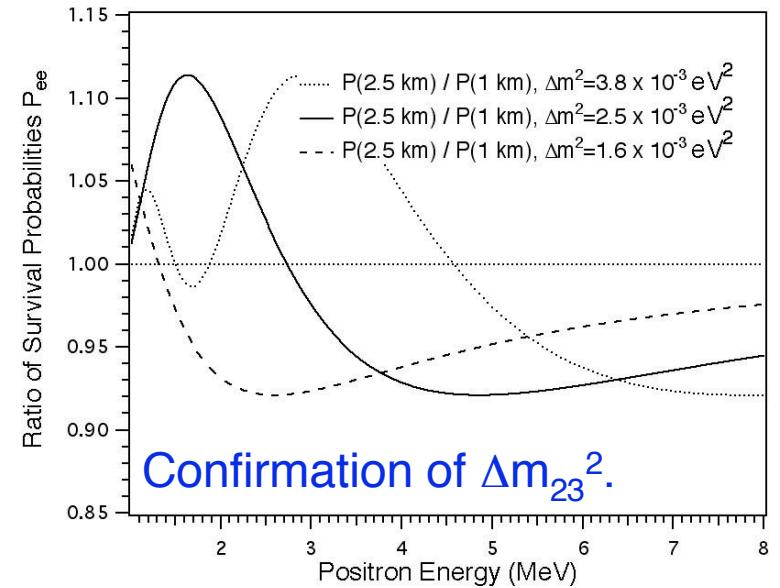
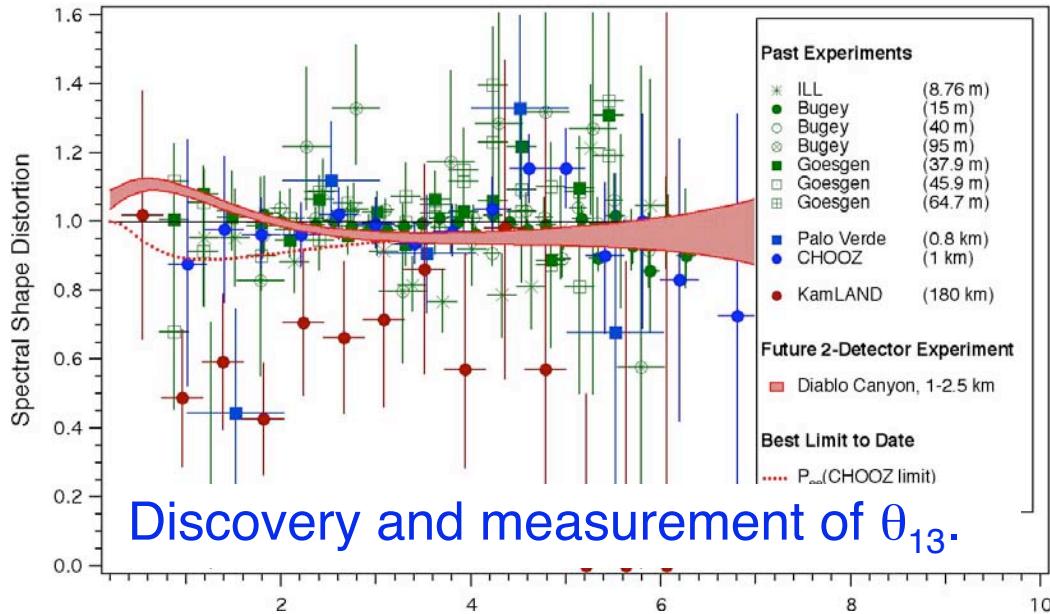
- external active and passive shielding

$$\sigma_{\text{acc}} < 0.5\%$$

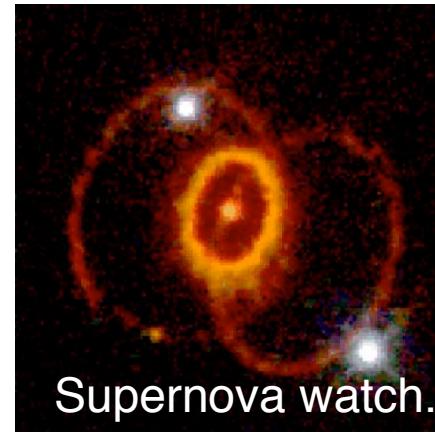
$$\sigma_{\text{n bkgd}} < 1\%$$

Total Systematics  $\sigma_{\text{syst}} \sim 1-1.5\%$

# Goals of a Reactor Neutrino Oscillation Experiment

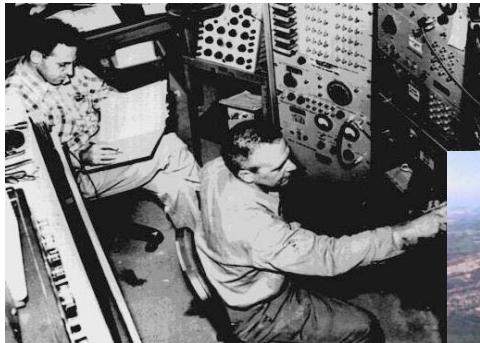


Search for the effect of sterile  $\nu$ .



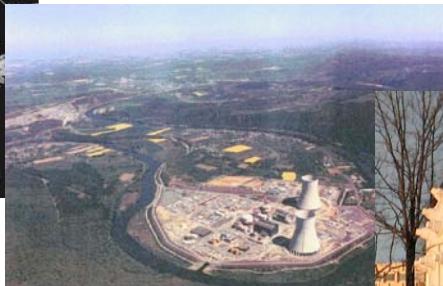
Supernova watch.

# Neutrino Physics at Reactors



**1956**

First observation  
of neutrinos



**1980s & 1990s**

Reactor neutrino flux  
measurements in U.S. and Europe



**1995**

Nobel Prize to Fred Reines  
at UC Irvine



**2002**

Discovery of massive  
neutrinos and oscillations



**2004 and beyond**

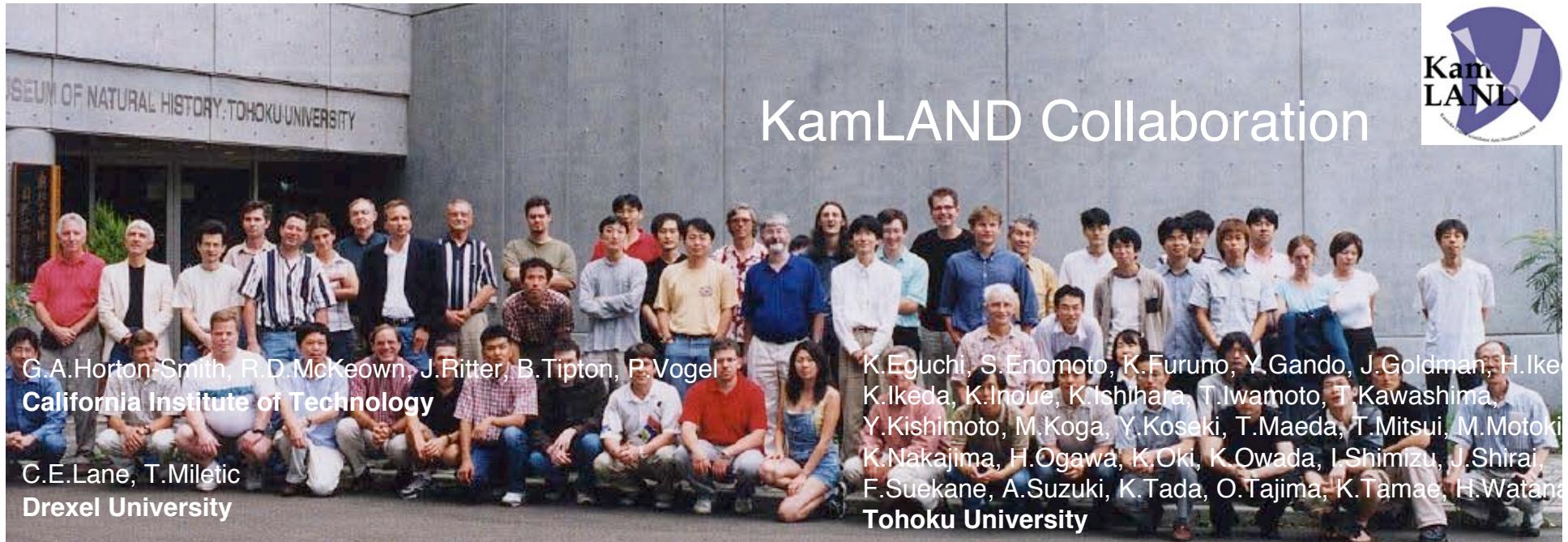
Understanding the role of  
neutrinos in the universe

## Past Experiments

Hanford  
Savannah River  
ILL, France  
Bugey, France  
Rovno, Russia  
Goesgen, Switzerland  
Krasnoyark, Russia  
Palo Verde  
Chooz, France  
Reactors in Japan



# KamLAND Collaboration



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