

Three, four or more?  
The status and future of sterile neutrino fits.

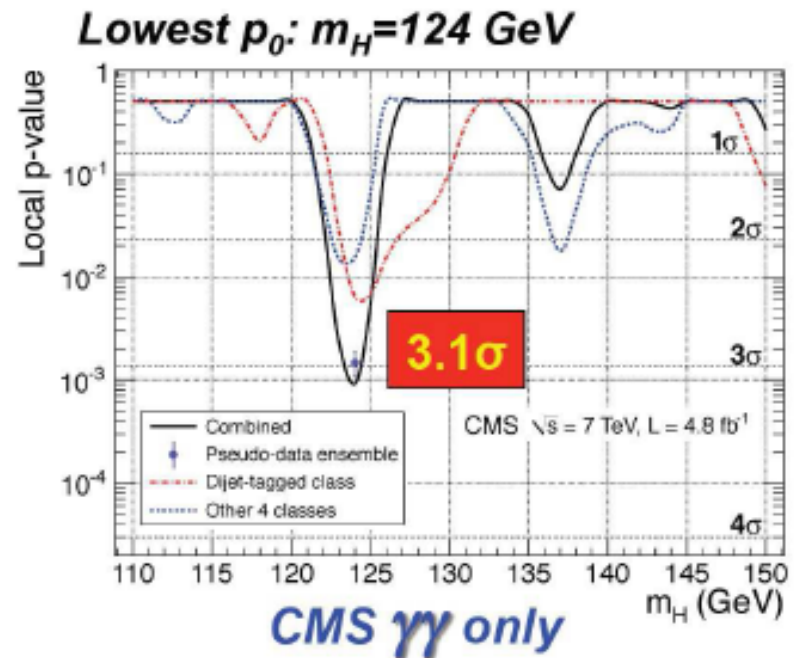
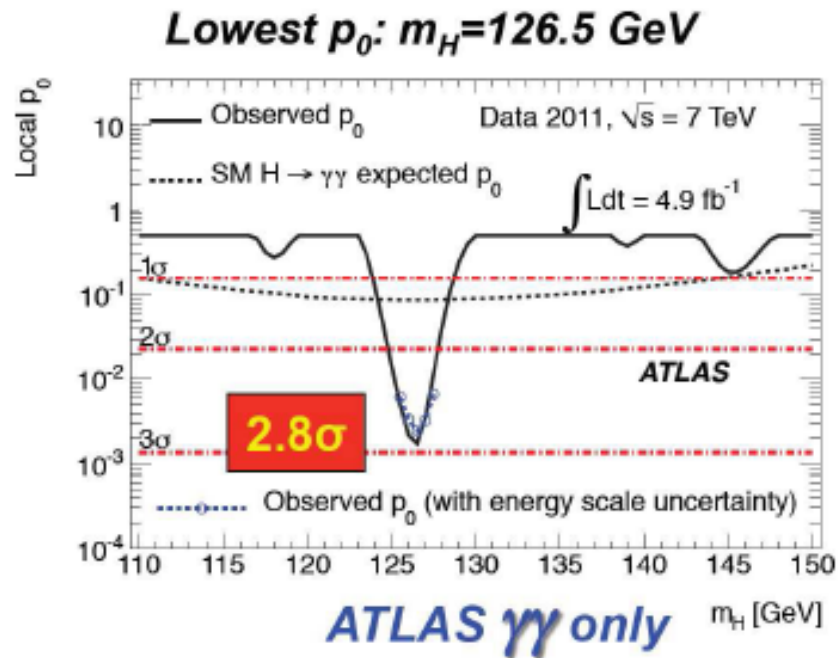
Janet Conrad  
MIT  
Nov. 10, 2014

*Including work by Mike Shaevitz, Gabriel Collin  
(and, in the past, Christina Ignarra, Georgia Karagiorgi, Michel Sorel)*

“Why are you wasting my time?  
low sigma signals always go away!”

# Oh really?

Fall 2011 LHC data release

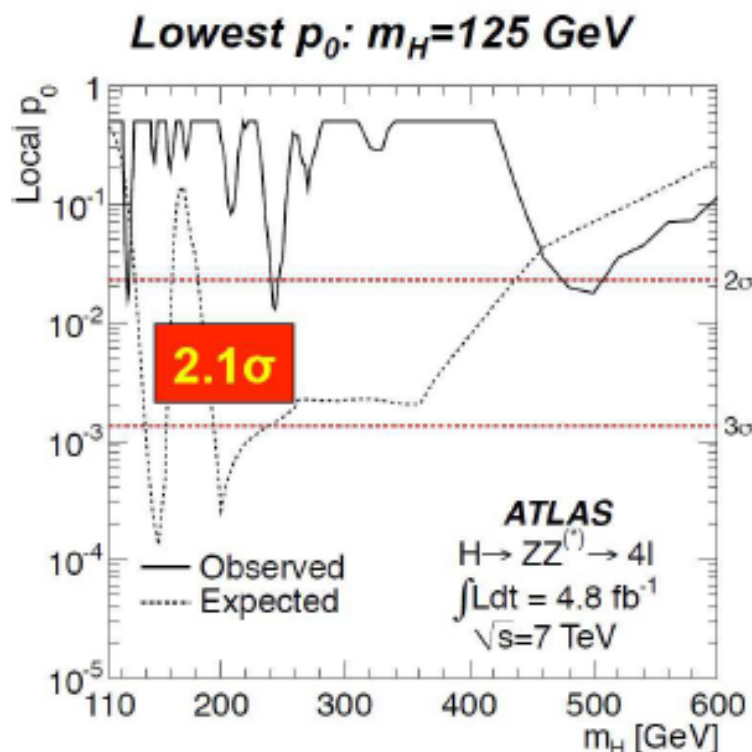


Lower significance than:

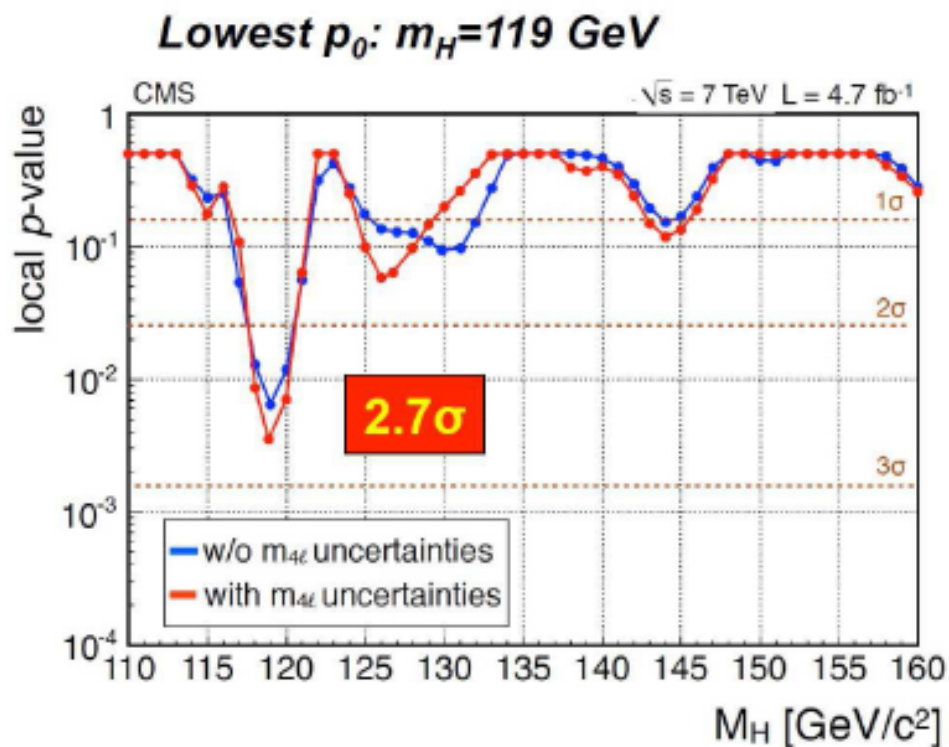
LSND: 3.8  $\sigma$

MiniBooNE nu: 3.4  $\sigma$

Fall 2011 LHC data release



**ATLAS 4-leptons only**



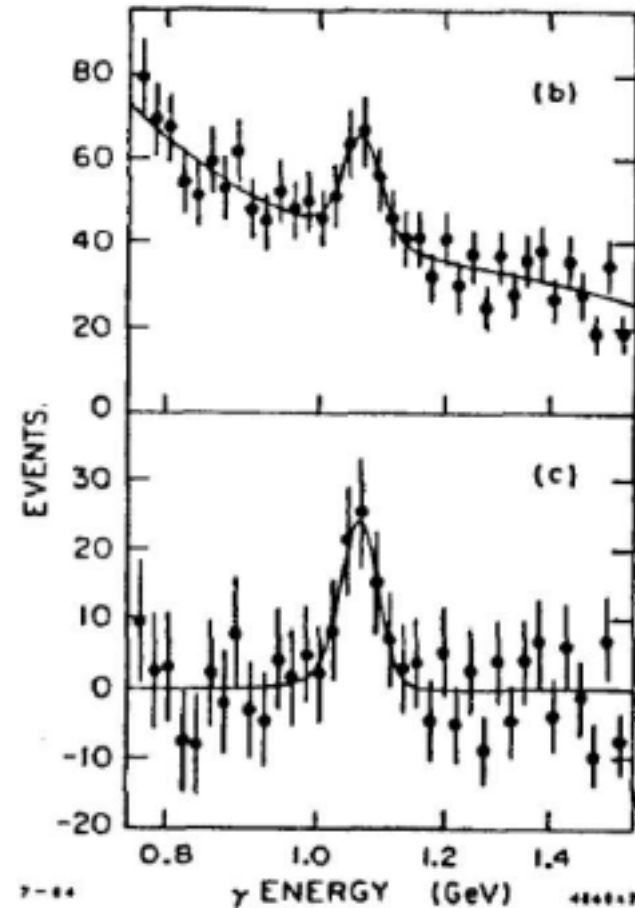
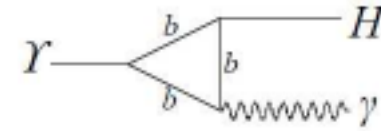
**CMS 4-leptons only**

Reactor and radioactive sources are in the  $>2\sigma$  range.

The original Higgs signal  
from the 1980's

(In fact,  
signals do go away...

>5 $\sigma$  single-channel  
Signals go away!)



Top: *inclusive  $\gamma$  spectrum*  
Bottom: *bkg-subtracted spectrum*

“I meant that low sigma UNEXPECTED signals  
always go away!”

# Oh really?

Which of these unexpected signals were first reported at  $<3\sigma$ ?

- Observation of neutrinos
- Regeneration of Ks
- The LMA solar solution
- $\sin^2 2\theta_{13}=0.1$  (i.e. large)

# Oh really?

Which of these unexpected signals were first reported at  $<3\sigma$ ?

- Observation of neutrinos  
Cowen and Reines, 1953
- Regeneration of Ks  
Adair group, 1962
- The LMA solar solution  
See Bahcall fits, 2001
- $\sin^2 2\theta_{13} = 0.1$  (i.e. large)  
Double Chooz Collab, 2011



“I meant that low sigma UNEXPECTED signals  
which are in tension with limits  
and associated with controversy  
go away”

# You mean like the discovery of the tau?

## THE DISCOVERY OF THE TAU LEPTON\*

MARTIN L. PERL

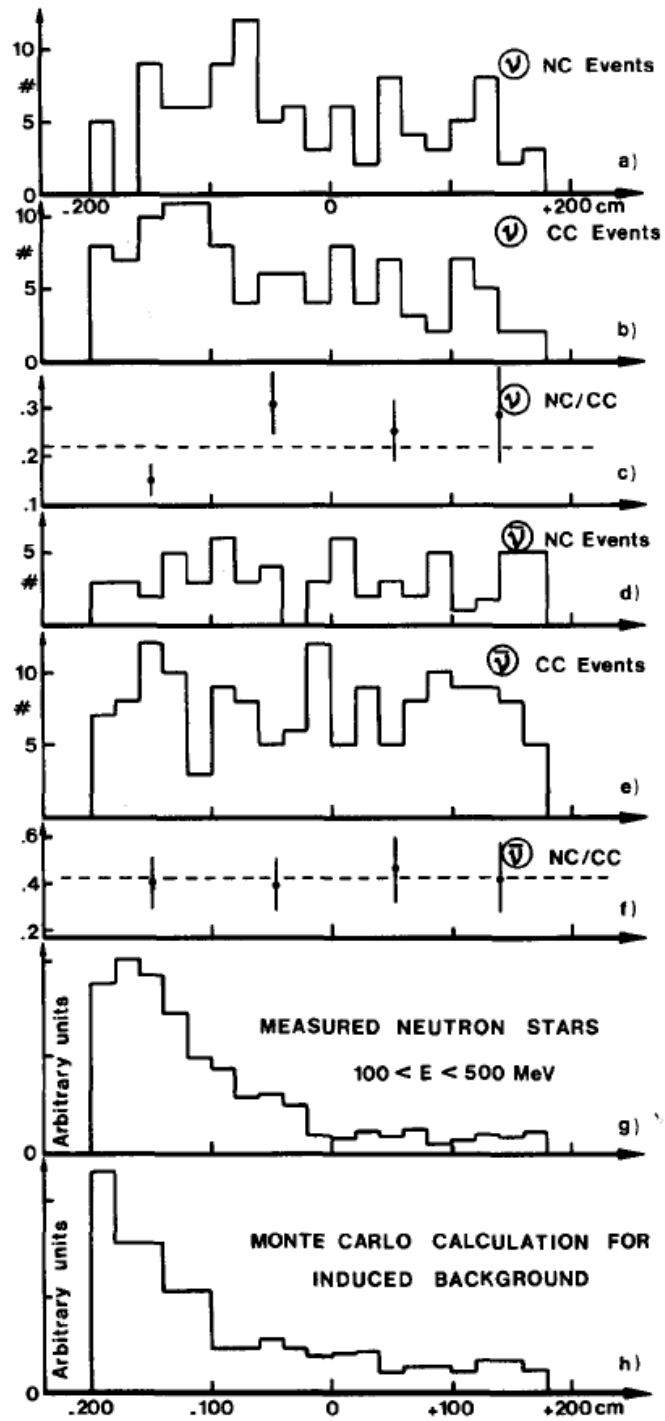
*Stanford Linear Accelerator Center*

*Stanford University, Stanford, California 94309*

Our first publication was followed by several years of confusion and uncertainty about the validity of our data and its interpretation. It is hard to explain this confusion a decade later when we know that  $\tau$  pair production is 20% of the  $e^+e^-$  annihilation cross section below the  $Z^0$ , and when  $\tau$  pair events stand out so clearly at the  $Z^0$ .

There were several reasons for the uncertainties of that period. It was hard to believe that both a new quark, charm, and a new lepton, tau, would be found in the same narrow range of energies. And, while the existence of a fourth quark was required by theory, there was no such requirement for a third charged lepton. So there were claims that the  $e\mu$  events were the complicated result of the decays of charm quarks. There were claims that the other predicted decay modes of tau pairs such as  $e$ -hadron and  $\mu$ -hadron events could not be found. Indeed finding such events was just at the limit of the particle identification capability of the detectors of the mid-1970's.

Or maybe  
you mean  
like the like discovery  
of neutral current  
interactions?

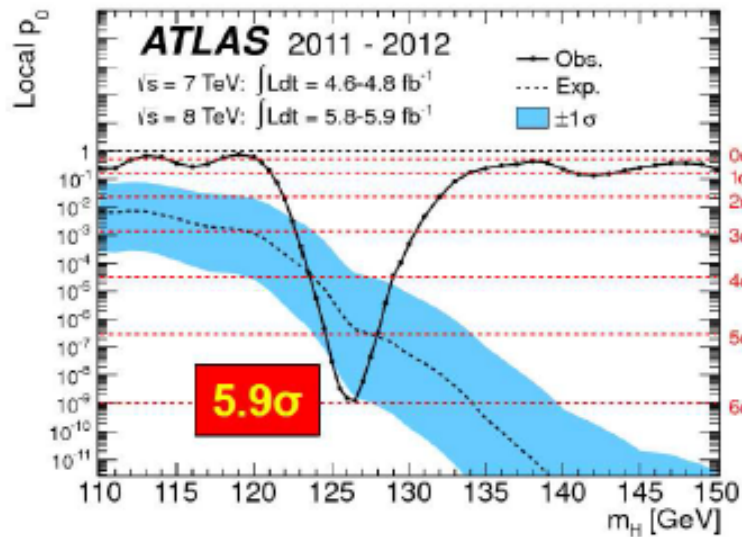


Or maybe  
you mean  
like discovery  
of neutrino  
oscillations?



“Look, If you have to fit a bunch of signals to get  $5\sigma$ ,  
then I don't believe it!”

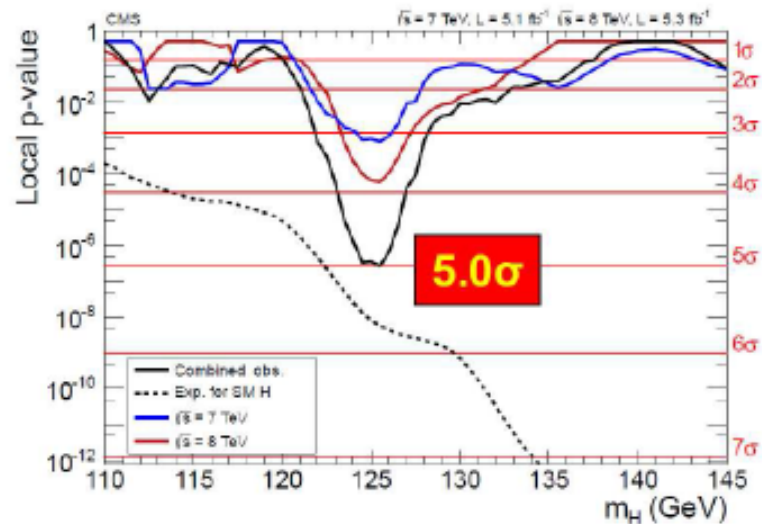
# Oh really?



**ATLAS** [PLB 716 \(2012\) 1-29](#), Sept 17 (2012)

**Largest local excess:**  
 **$5.9\sigma$  at  $m_H = 126.5 \text{ GeV}$**

$H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma, bb, \tau\tau, WW(l\nu\nu, l\nu qq), ZZ(4l, ll\nu\nu, llqq)$



**CMS** [PLB 716 \(2012\) 30-61](#), Sept 17 (2012)

**Largest local excess:**  
 **$5.0\sigma$  at  $m_H = 125.5 \text{ GeV}$**

$H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma, bb, \tau\tau, WW(l\nu\nu), ZZ(4l, ll\tau\tau, ll\nu\nu, llqq)$

Sizes of the individual excesses in 2012:

$\gamma\gamma$ :  $4.5\sigma$  (Atlas);  $4.1\sigma$  (CMS)

4 leptons:  $3.4\sigma$   $3.2\sigma$

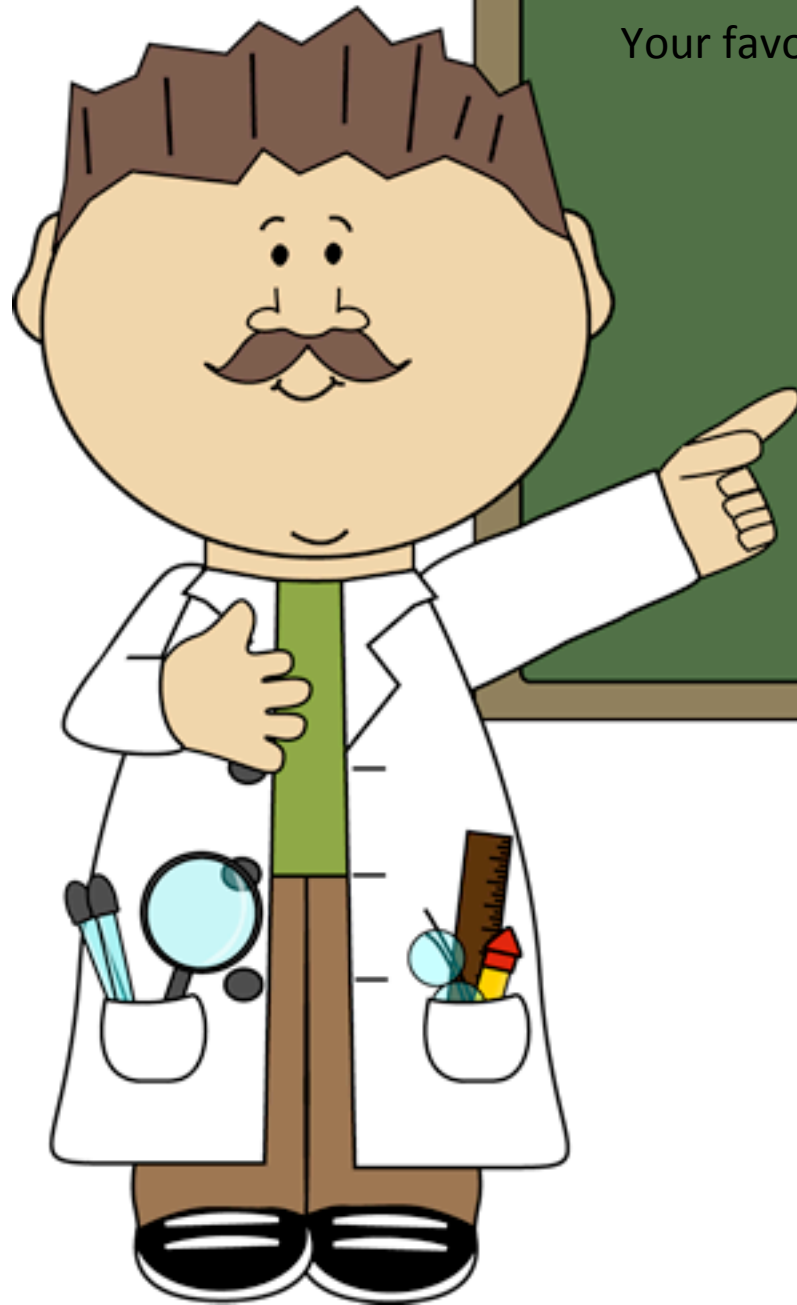
(BTW, this fit has  $> 1000$  pull parameters.)



*Applause, applause!*  
*July 4, 2012*

“Look,  
data set x rules out data set y at 90% CL,  
so why are we even discussing global fits  
to more data?”





Your favorite 7<sup>th</sup> grade science teacher says:

You are not allowed  
To pick and choose  
Your data points.

“The problem with fits is that  
With 4 parameters I can fit an elephant  
And with 5, I can make his trunk wiggle.”

Actually, this one could be true...

## Drawing an elephant with four complex parameters

Jürgen Mayer

*Max Planck Institute of Molecular Cell Biology and Genetics, Pfotenhauerstr. 108, 01307 Dresden, Germany*

Khaled Khairy

*European Molecular Biology Laboratory, Meyerhofstraße. 1, 69117 Heidelberg, Germany*

Jonathon Howard

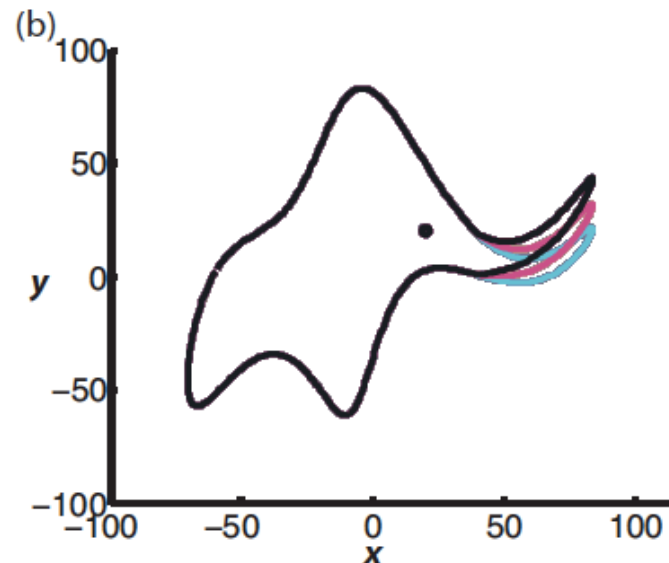
*Max Planck Institute of Molecular Cell Biology and Genetics, Pfotenhauerstr. 108, 01307 Dresden, Germany*

(Received 20 August 2008; accepted 5 October 2009)

We define four complex numbers representing the parameters needed to specify an elephantine shape. The real and imaginary parts of these complex numbers are the coefficients of a Fourier coordinate expansion, a powerful tool for reducing the data required to define shapes. © 2010 American Association of Physics Teachers.

[DOI: 10.1119/1.3254017]

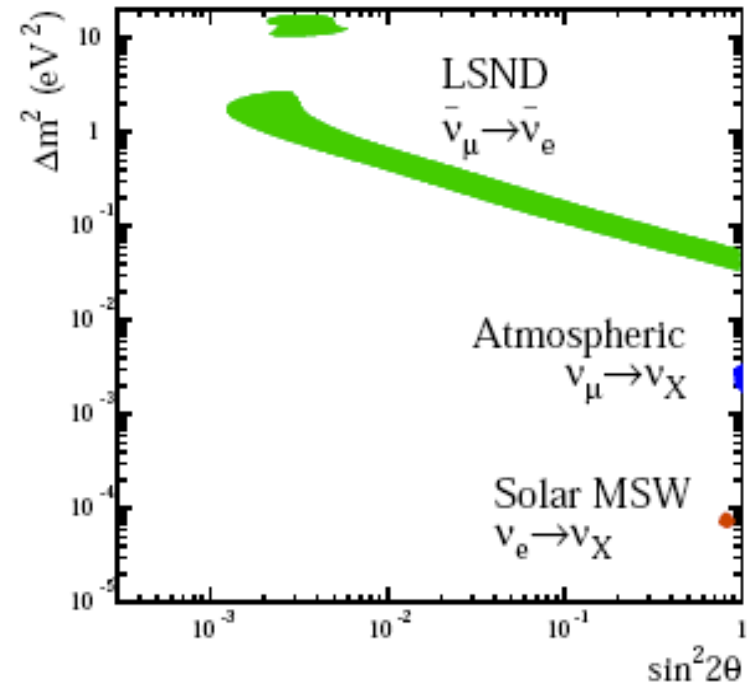
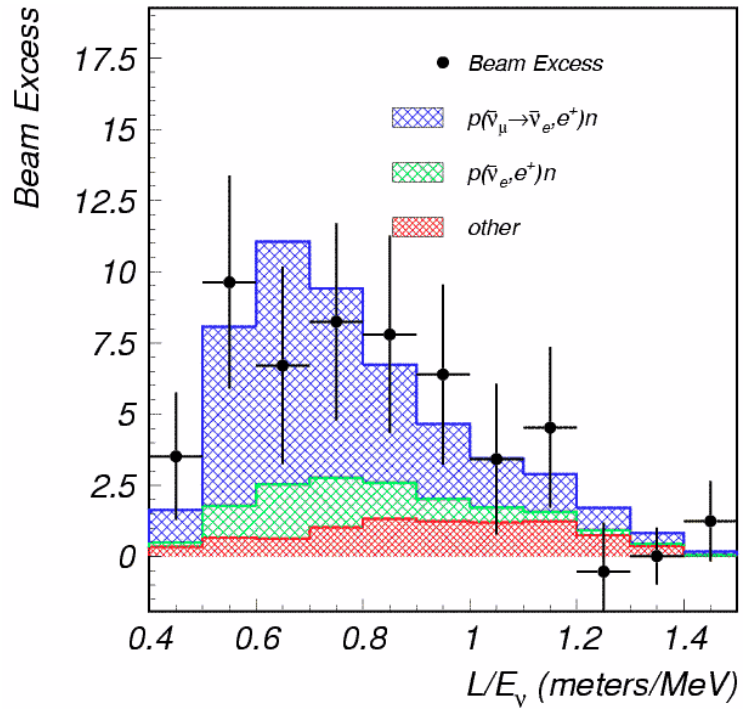
5<sup>th</sup> parameter makes  
his nose wiggle



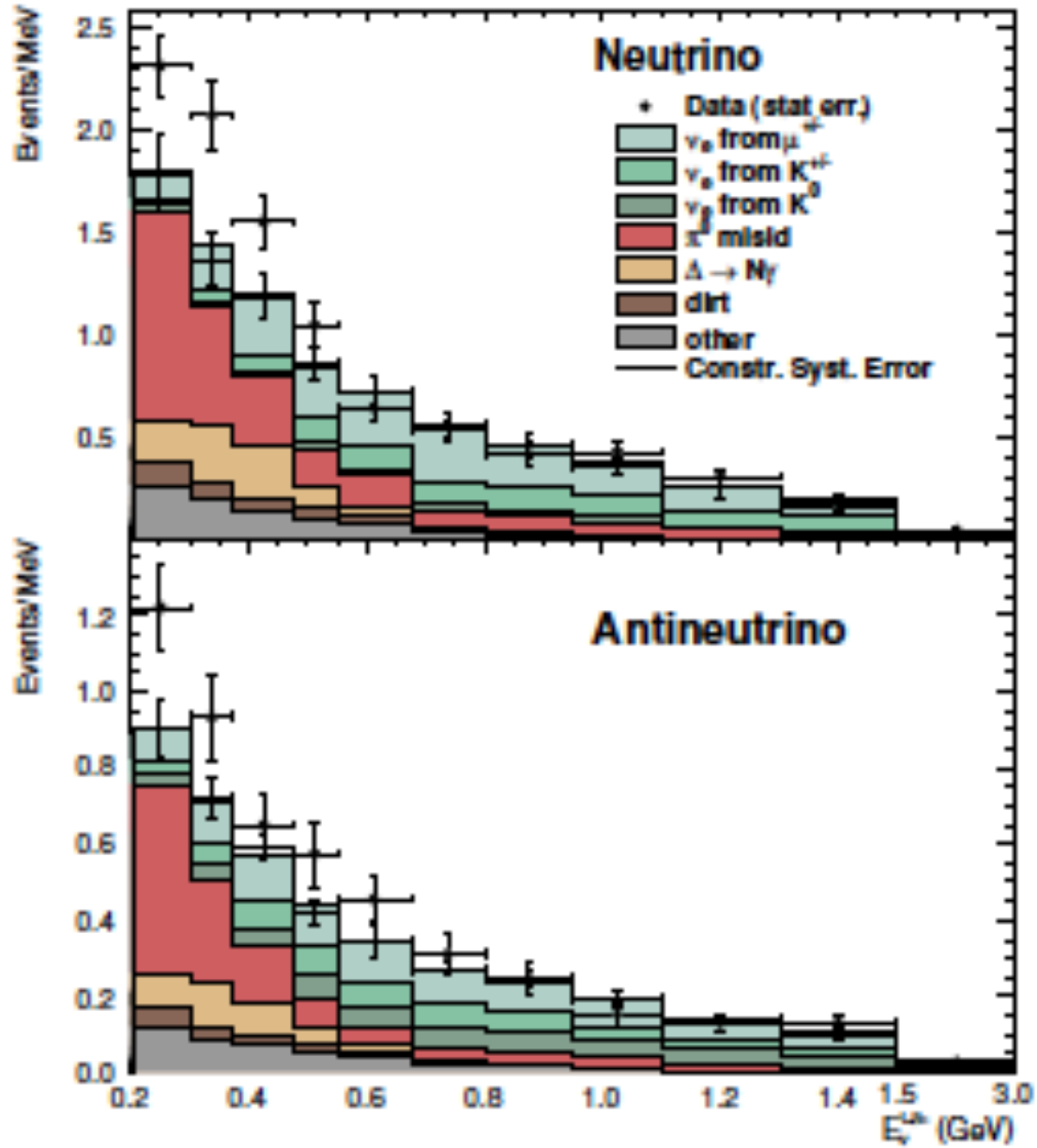
Lets discuss

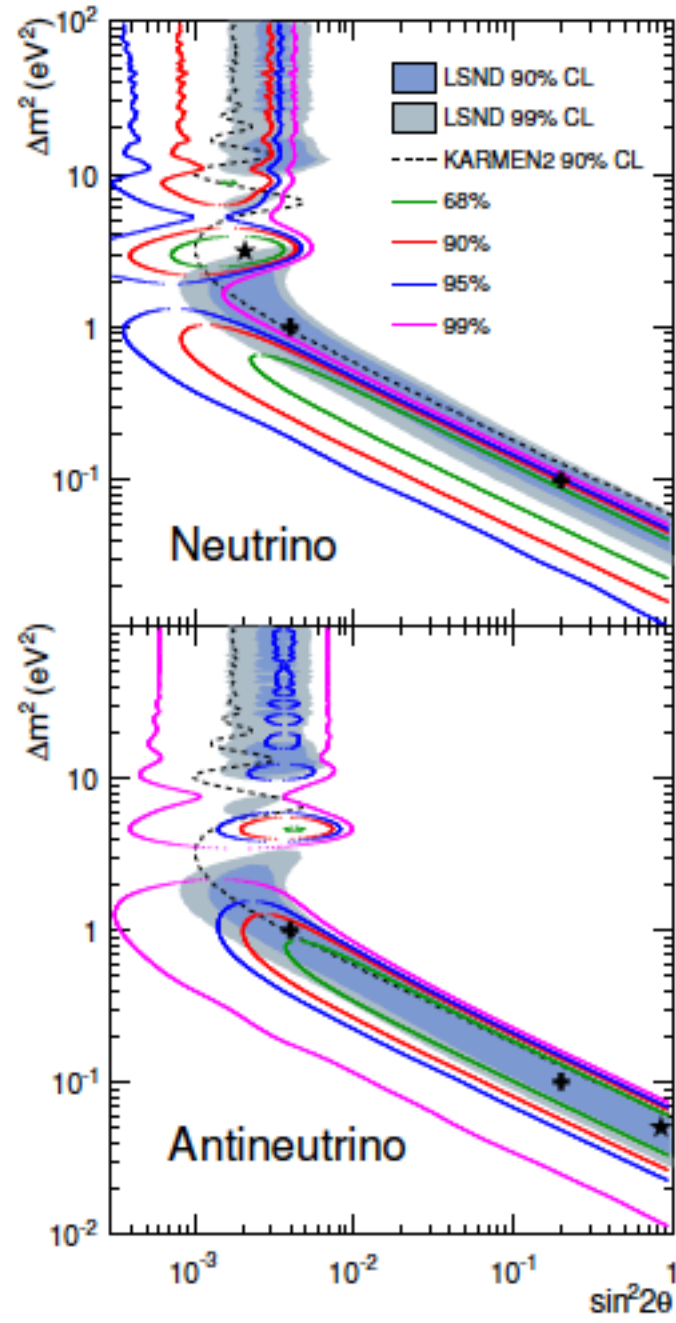
## Global fits for sterile neutrinos

# LSND



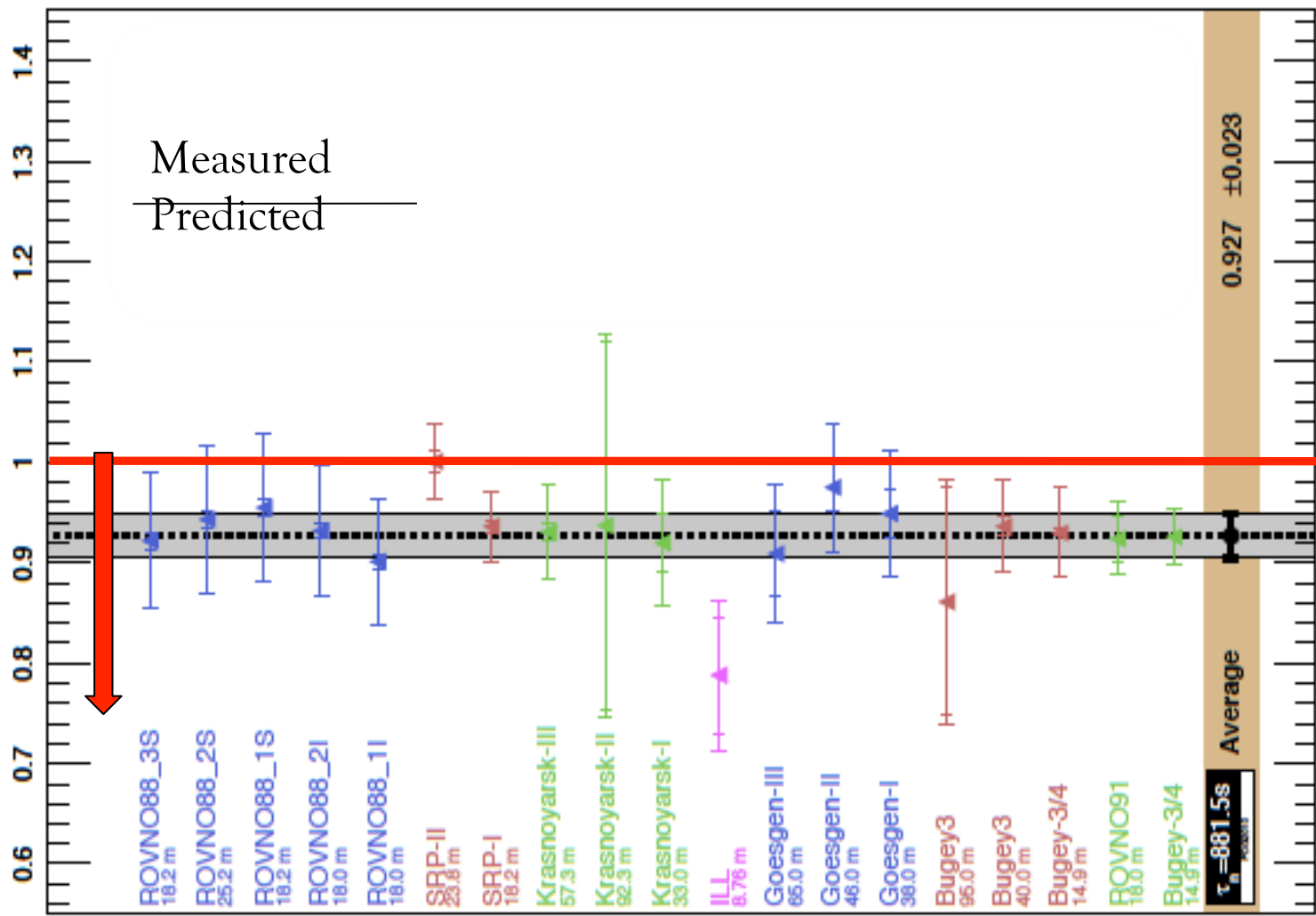
# MiniBooNE



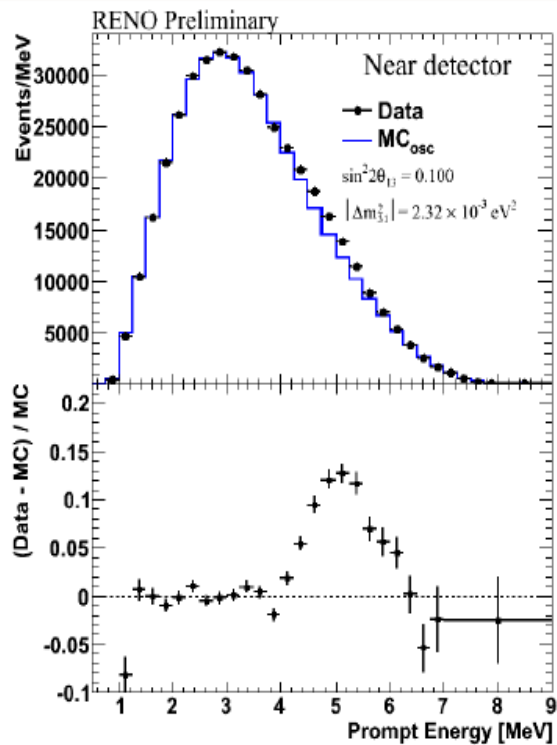


$$\begin{aligned}
P = & \quad (\sin^2 \theta_{23} \sin^2 2\theta_{13}) (\sin^2 \Delta_{31}) \\
& \mp \sin \delta (\sin 2\theta_{13} \sin 2\theta_{23} \sin 2\theta_{12}) (\sin^2 \Delta_{31} \sin \Delta_{21}) \\
& + \cos \delta (\sin 2\theta_{13} \sin 2\theta_{23} \sin 2\theta_{12}) (\sin \Delta_{31} \cos \Delta_{31} \sin \Delta_{21}) \\
& \quad + (\cos^2 \theta_{23} \sin^2 2\theta_{12}) (\sin^2 \Delta_{21}).
\end{aligned}$$

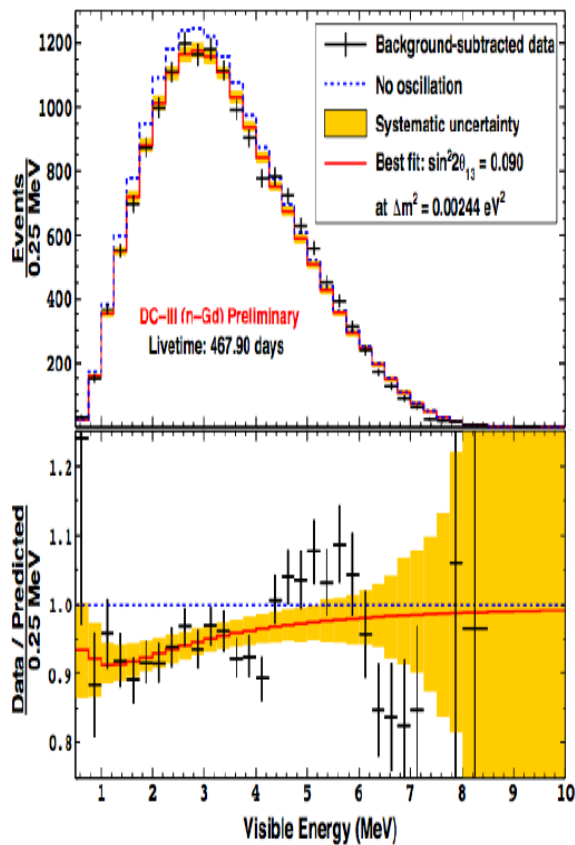




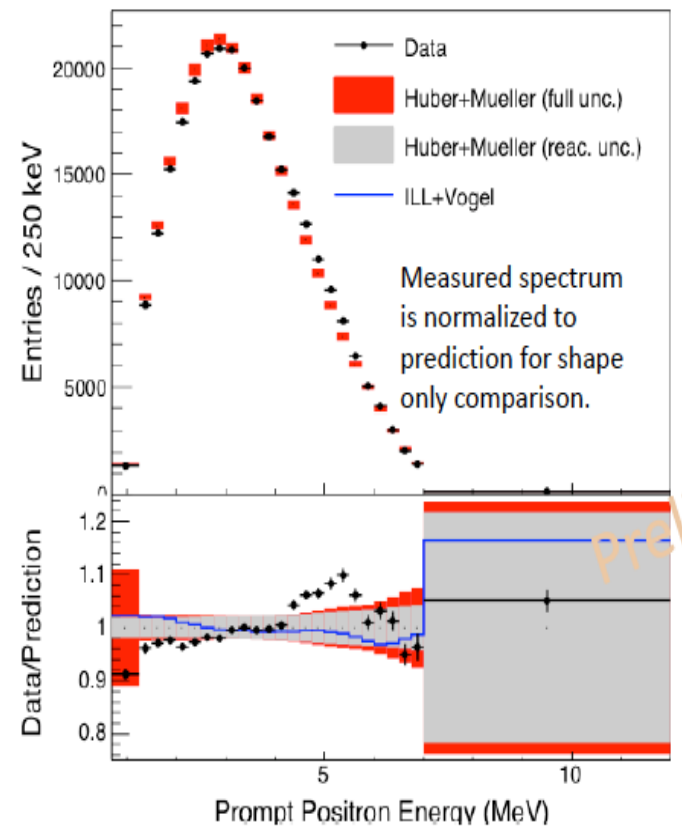
## RENO



## Double Chooz



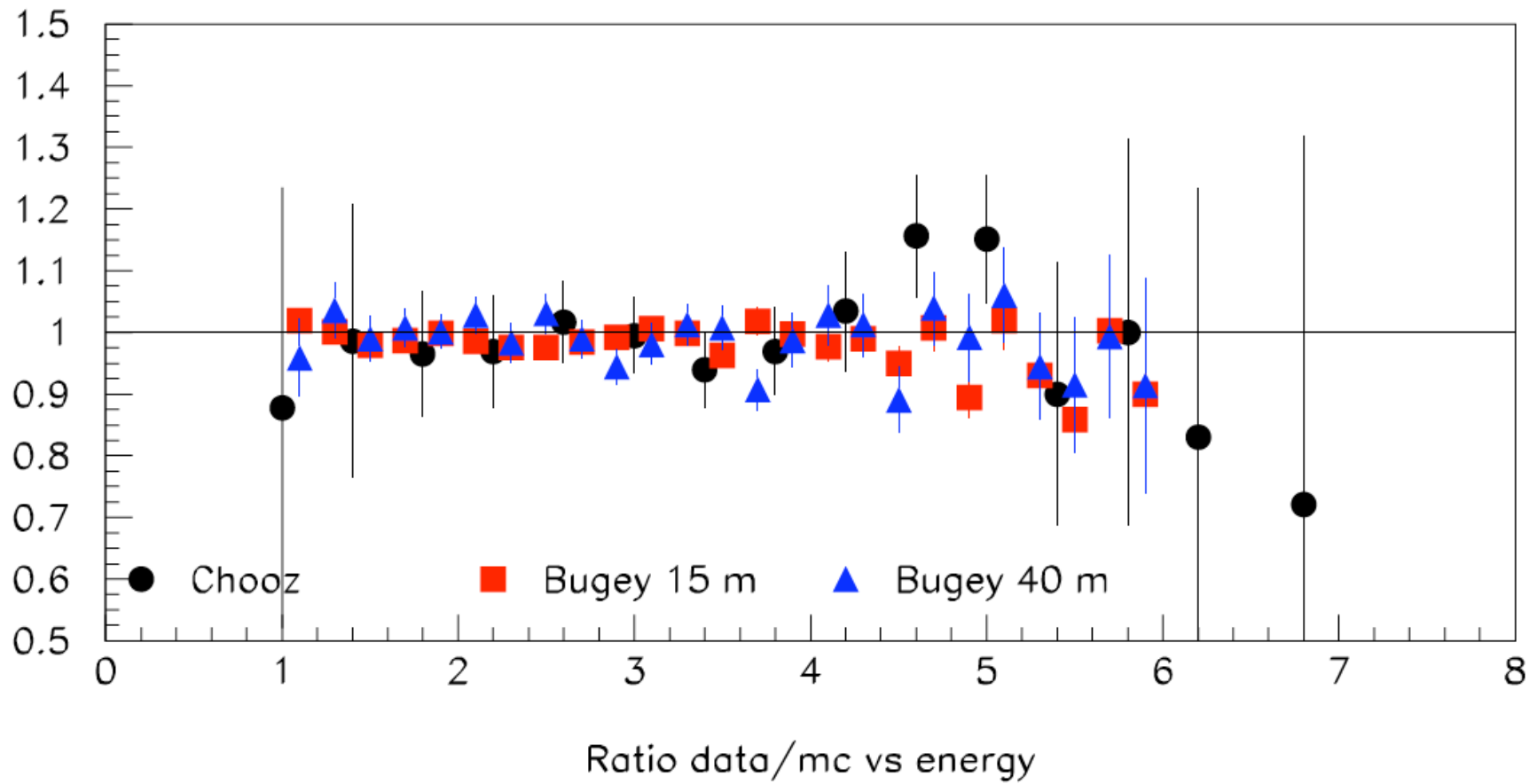
## Daya Bay

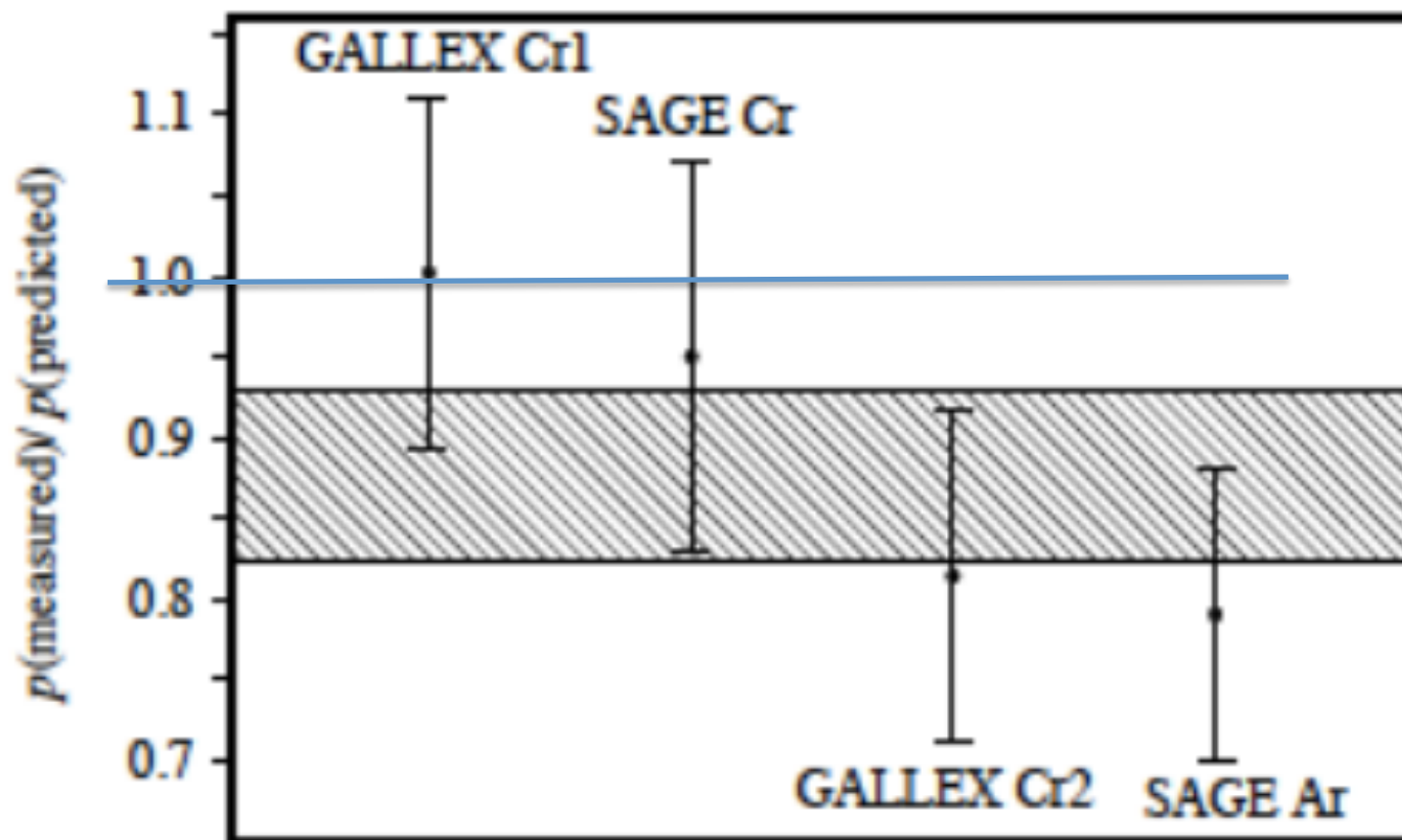


Dwyer and Langford (arXiv:1407.1281)

Suggests decays that may be the origin of the bump

This plot has the pre-anomaly prediction for normalization!





<http://arxiv.org/abs/arXiv:1210.5715>

TABLE IV. Gallium cross section (in units of  $10^{-46} \text{ cm}^2$ ) and its ratio with the corresponding Bahcall cross section (Eqs. (6) and (7)) for  $^{51}\text{Cr}$  and  $^{37}\text{Ar}$  neutrinos in the three cases discussed in the text.

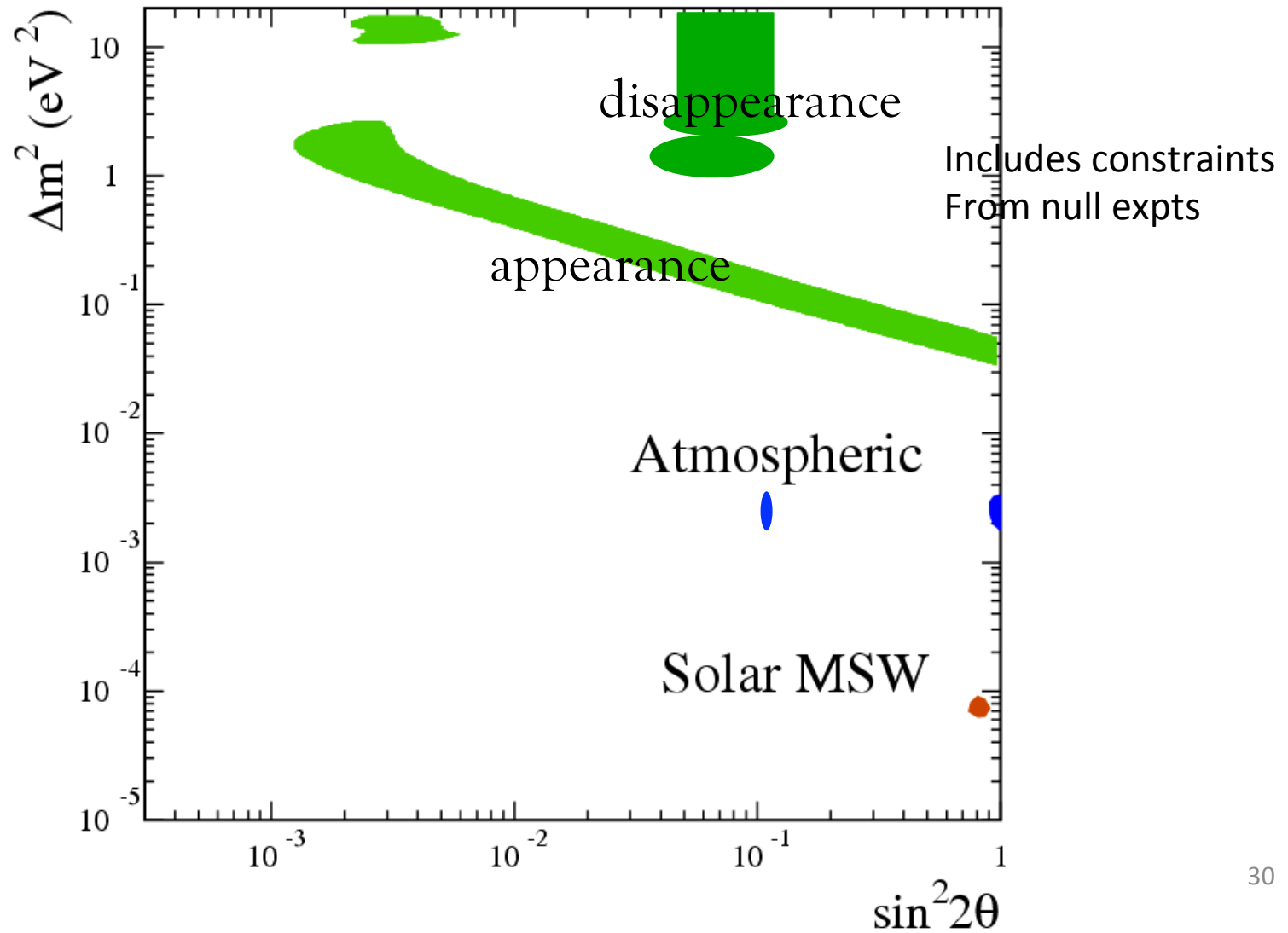
	$^{51}\text{Cr}$		$^{37}\text{Ar}$	
	$\sigma$	$\sigma/\sigma_B$	$\sigma$	$\sigma/\sigma_B$
HK	$63.9 \pm 6.5$	$1.10 \pm 0.11$	$77.2 \pm 8.1$	$1.10 \pm 0.12$
FF	$59.2 \pm 1.1$	$1.02 \pm 0.02$	$71.5 \pm 1.4$	$1.02 \pm 0.02$
HF	$64.9 \pm 6.5$	$1.12 \pm 0.11$	$78.5 \pm 8.1$	$1.12 \pm 0.12$

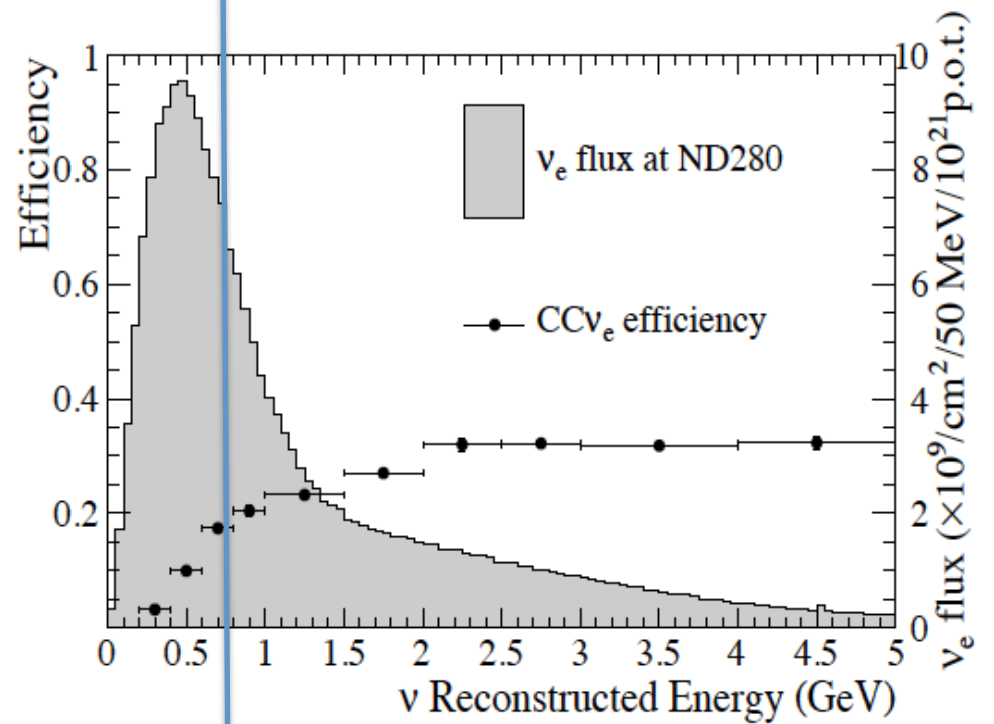
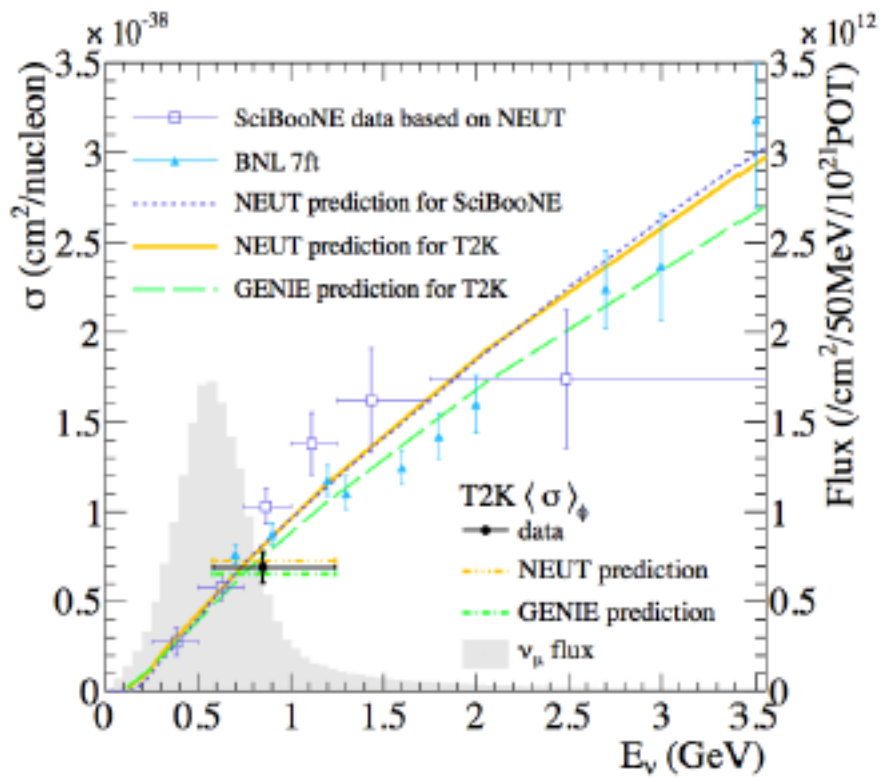
TABLE V. Values of  $\chi^2$ , goodness-of-fit (GoF) for 2 degrees of freedom and best-fit values of the 3+1 oscillation parameters obtained from the three fits of Gallium data described in the text.

	HK	FF	HF
$\chi_{\min}^2$	4.8	7.9	4.6
GoF	9.1%	1.9%	9.9%
$\Delta m_{41}^2 [\text{eV}^2]$	2.24	2.1	2.24
$\sin^2 2\vartheta_{ee}$	0.50	0.30	0.52

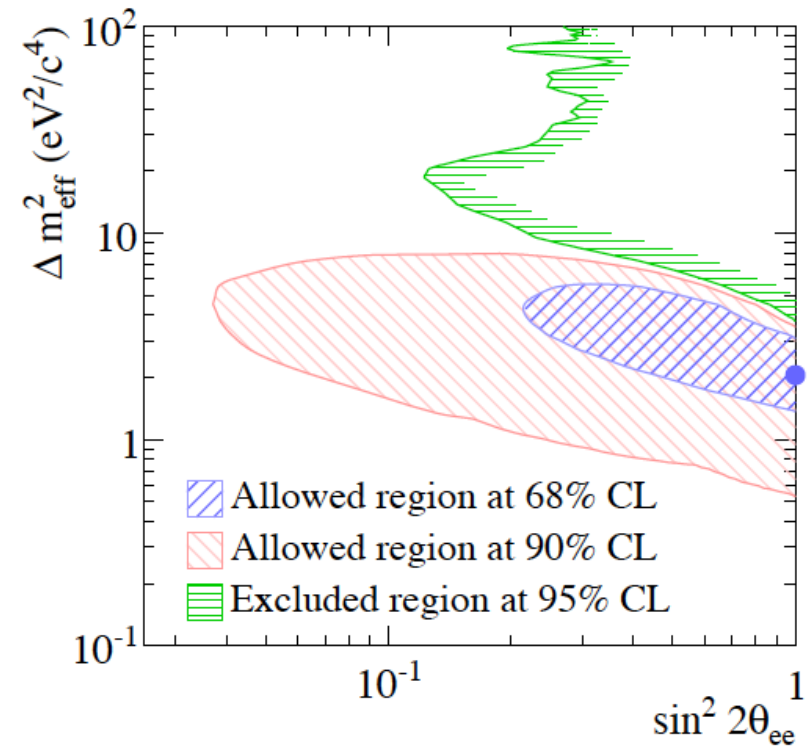
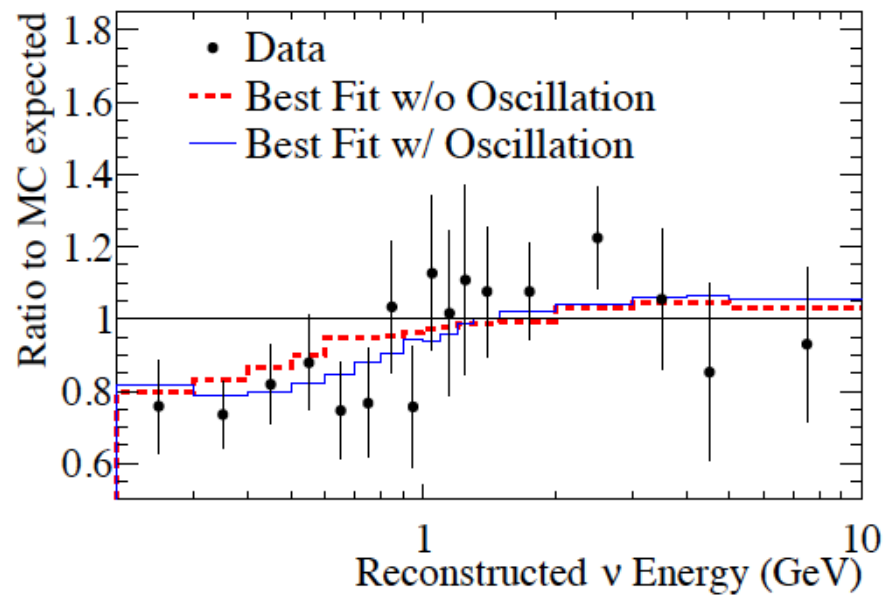
Add this uncertainty as a systematic?

Signals: LSND, MB (nu and nubar), Reactor, Gallium





T2K  $\nu_e$  disappearance: 1410.8811





## Data Release for A.A. Aguilar-Arevalo et al., "[A Search for Electron Neutrino Appearance at the \$\Delta m^2 \sim 1 \text{ eV}^2\$ Scale](#)", arXiv:0704.1500 [hep-ex], Phys. Rev. Lett. 98, 231801 (2007)

The following MiniBooNE information from the first oscillation paper in 2007 is made available to the public:

### • Energy Range for Default Oscillation Fit (475 MeV - 3000 MeV reconstructed neutrino energy)

- [tuple file](#) of official MiniBooNE  $\sin^2(2\theta)$  sensitivity and upper limit curves as a function of  $Dm^2$ , for a 2-neutrino muon-to-electron oscillation fit, and 90% and 3sigma confidence levels. The file contains 100 rows, one for each  $Dm^2$  value in the range  $10^{-2} < Dm^2 (\text{eV}^2) < 10^2$ , and 5 columns per row with the following format:

$(Dm^2 (\text{eV}^2), \sin^2(2\theta)_{\text{max}, 90\% \text{ CL}}, \sin^2(2\theta)_{\text{max}, 3\text{sigma CL}}, \sin^2(2\theta)_{\text{sens}, 90\% \text{ CL}}, \sin^2(2\theta)_{\text{sens}, 3\text{sigma CL}})$

where  $\sin^2(2\theta)_{\text{max}}$  and  $\sin^2(2\theta)_{\text{sens}}$  indicate the upper limit and sensitivity, respectively, and 90% and 3sigma CL indicate the confidence levels corresponding to those numbers.

- [tuple file](#) of official MiniBooNE 2-dimensional chi2 surface as a function of  $(Dm^2, \sin^2(2\theta))$  in the range  $(10^{-2} < Dm^2 (\text{eV}^2) < 10^2, 3 \cdot 10^{-4} < \sin^2(2\theta) < 1)$ . The file contains 20,000 rows, one for each  $(Dm^2, \sin^2(2\theta))$  pair of values, and 3 columns per row with the following format:

$(Dm^2 (\text{eV}^2), \sin^2(2\theta), \text{chi}2)$

Note: the value quoted in the third column is the total, and not the reduced, chi2 value (*ie*, it has not been divided by the number of degrees of freedom)

- [1D array](#) of bin boundaries in electron neutrino reconstructed neutrino energy
- [1D array](#) of observed electron neutrino candidate events per reconstructed neutrino energy bin
- [1D array](#) of predicted background electron neutrino candidate events per reconstructed neutrino energy bin
- [2D array](#) of (systematic + statistical uncertainty) predicted background fractional covariance matrix per reconstructed neutrino energy bins
- [tuple file](#) of 9,934 predicted muon-to-electron full transmutation events, containing information on reconstructed neutrino energy, true neutrino energy, neutrino baseline, and event weight for each event
- [2D array](#) of (systematic uncertainty only) predicted muon-to-electron full transmutation fractional covariance matrix per reconstructed neutrino energy bins

### • Low Energy Threshold Range (300 MeV - 3000 MeV reconstructed neutrino energy)

- [1D array](#) of bin boundaries in electron neutrino reconstructed neutrino energy
- [1D array](#) of observed electron neutrino candidate events per reconstructed neutrino energy bin
- [1D array](#) of predicted background electron neutrino candidate events per reconstructed neutrino energy bin
- [2D array](#) of (systematic + statistical uncertainty) predicted background fractional covariance matrix per reconstructed neutrino energy bins
- [tuple file](#) of 9934 predicted muon-to-electron full transmutation events, containing information on reconstructed neutrino energy, true neutrino energy, neutrino baseline, and event weight for each event (same file as one for default energy range)
- [2D array](#) of (systematic uncertainty only) predicted muon-to-electron full transmutation fractional covariance matrix per reconstructed neutrino energy bins

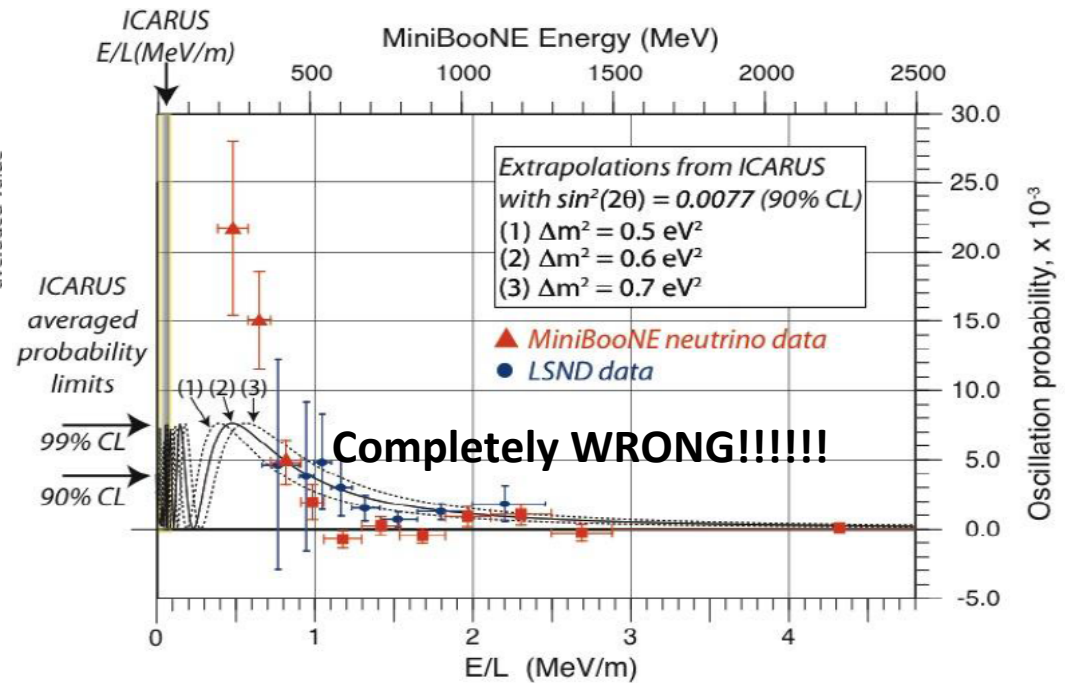
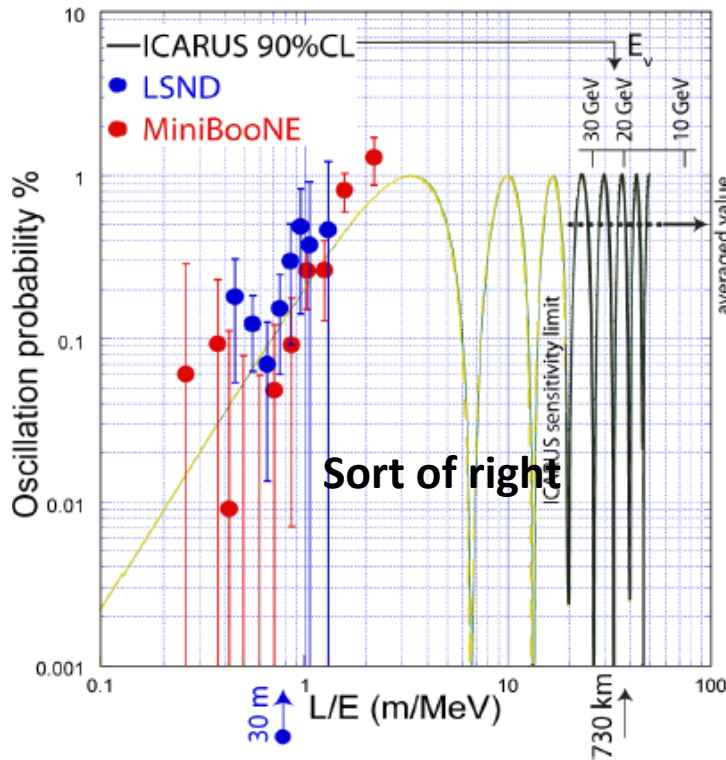
## Instructions

Instructions on how to use this information can be found [here](#). A FORTRAN program implementing these instructions to perform an example oscillation fit can be found [here](#) (note: you will need CERNLIB libraries, including LAPACK libraries, to build this program).

## Contact Information

- For clarifications on how to use MiniBooNE public data or for enquiries about additional data not linked from this page, please contact: [Steve Brice](#) or [Richard Van de Water](#)

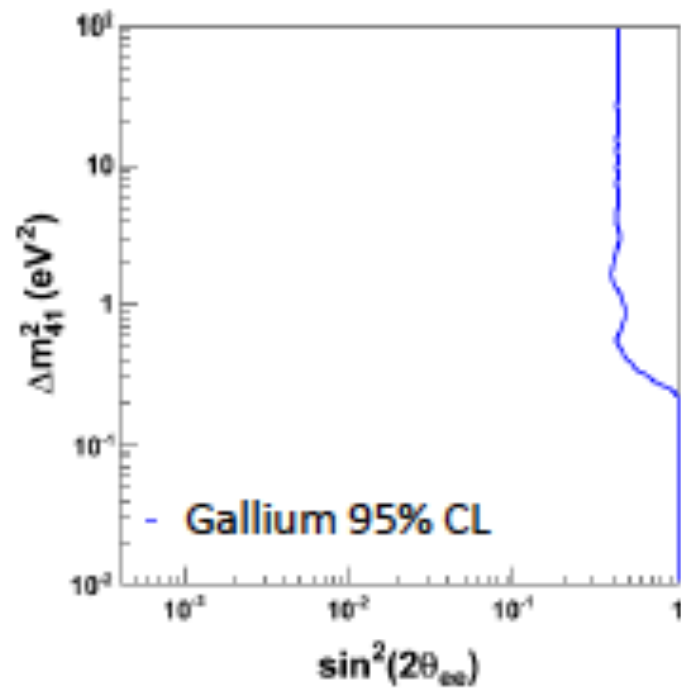
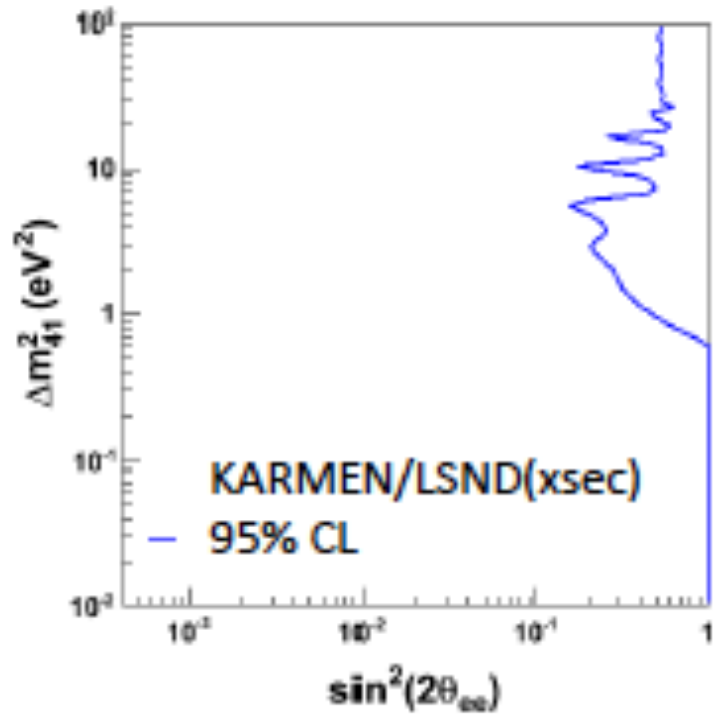
# Two completely contradictory plots from **same** ICARUS Nu2014 talk



## Using $L/E$ Oscillation Probability Distributions

<http://arxiv.org/abs/arXiv:1407.3304>

This paper explores the use of  $L/E$  oscillation probability distributions to compare experimental measurements and to evaluate oscillation models. In this case,  $L$  is the distance of neutrino travel and  $E$  is a measure of the interacting neutrino's energy. While comparisons using allowed and excluded regions for oscillation model parameters are likely the only rigorous method for these comparisons, the  $L/E$  distributions are shown to give qualitative information on the agreement of an experiment's data with a simple two-neutrino oscillation model. In more detail, this paper also outlines how the  $L/E$  distributions can be best calculated and used for model comparisons. Specifically, the paper presents the  $L/E$  data points for the final MiniBooNE data samples and, in the Appendix, explains and corrects the mistaken analysis published by the ICARUS collaboration.



## 2012 data sets

### Appearance:

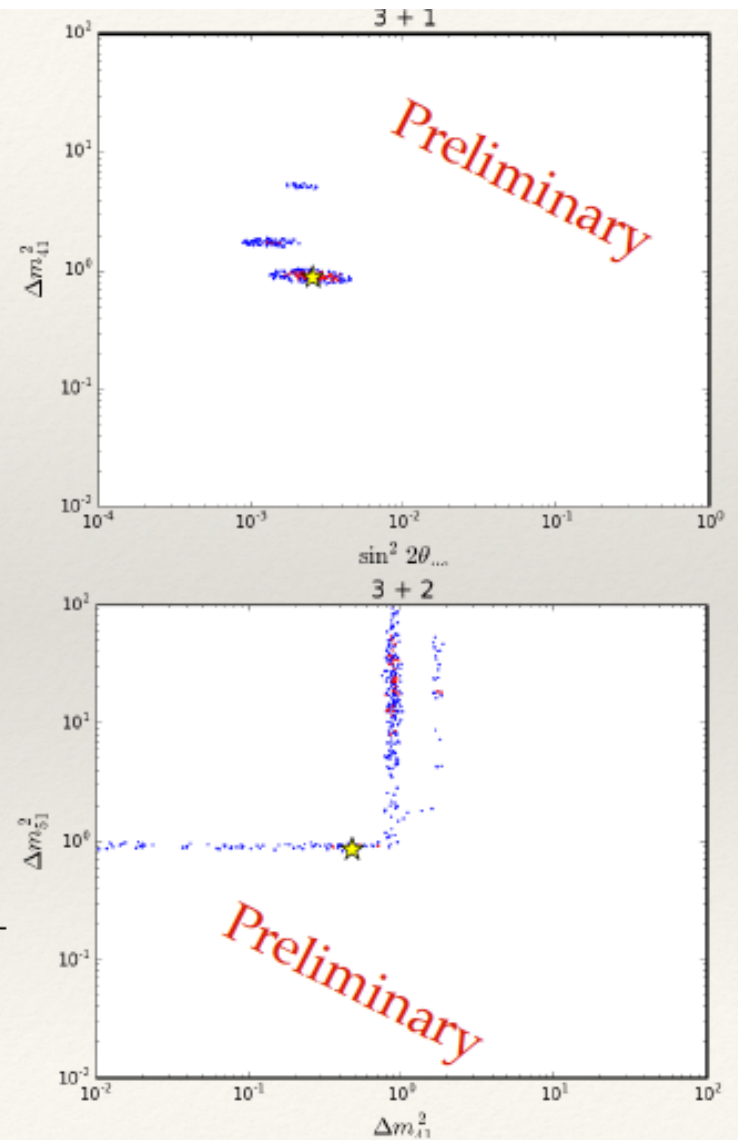
- ◆ MiniBooNE-BNB:  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e, \bar{\nu}_\mu \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e$
- ◆ MiniBooNE-NuMI,
- ◆ NOMAD,
- ◆ LSND,
- ◆ KARMEN,

### Disappearance:

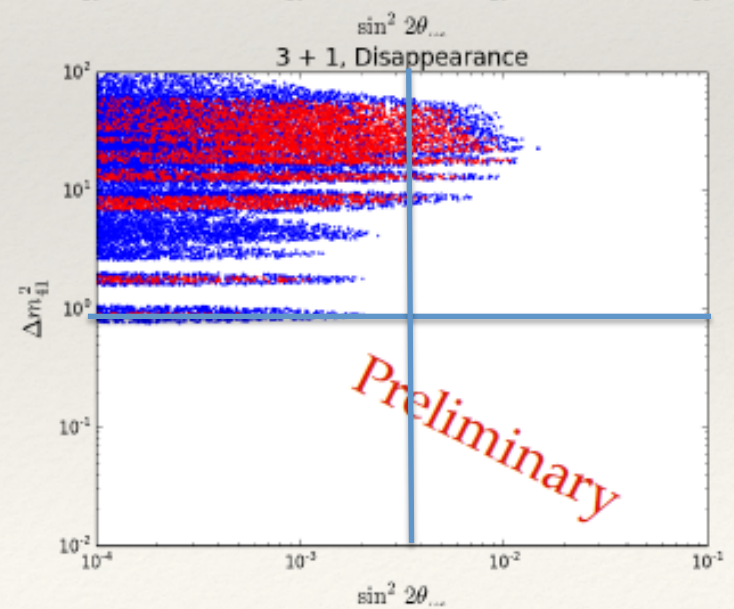
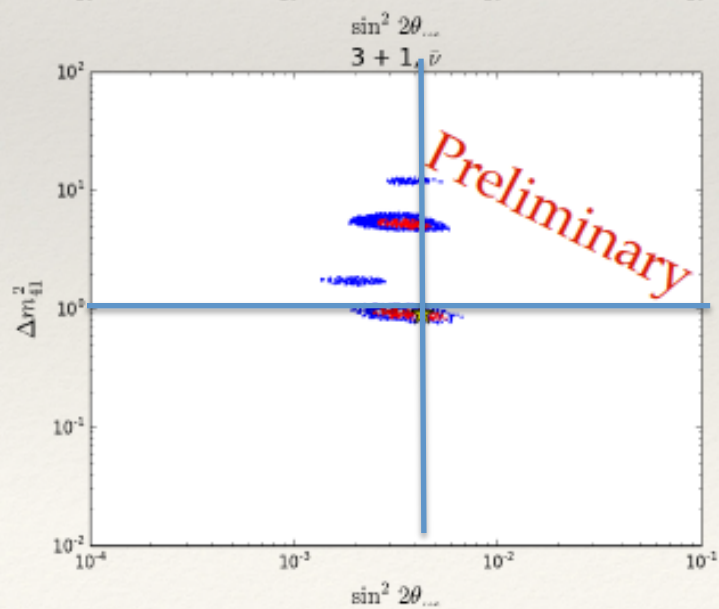
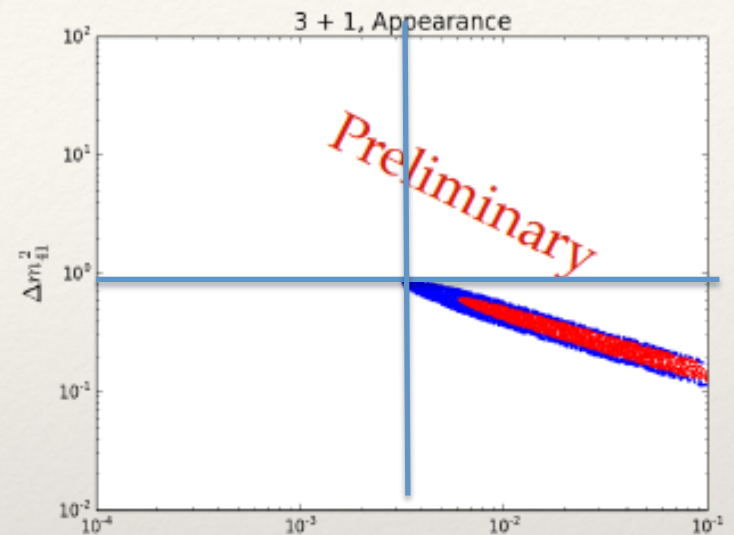
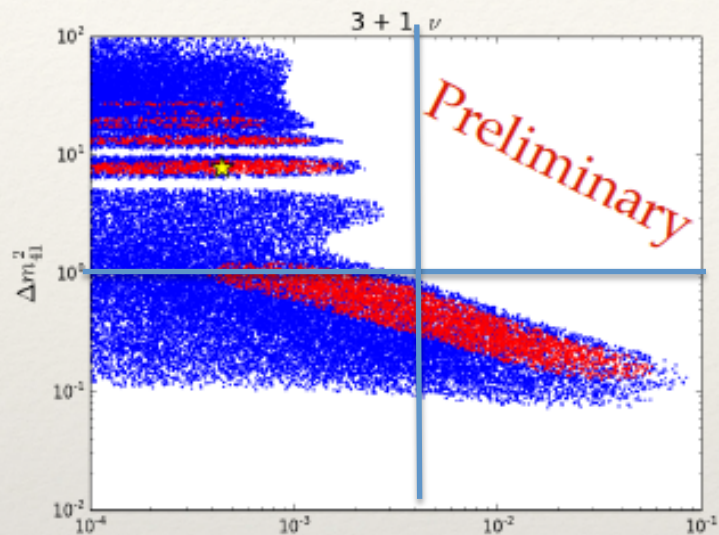
- ◆ MiniBooNE-BNB:  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\mu$
- ◆ GALLEX/SAGE,
- ◆ KARMEN/LSND  $\chi$ sec,
- ◆ CCFR84,
- ◆ CDHS,
- ◆ Atmospheric,
- ◆ Bugey,
- ◆ MINOS

Red: 90% CL  
Blue: 99% CL

	$\chi_{\text{best}}^2$	Pr
Null	290	1.5%
3+1	240	43%
3+2	235	45%
	6	



# Compare Allowed Regions for Nu/Nubar and Appearance/Disappearance

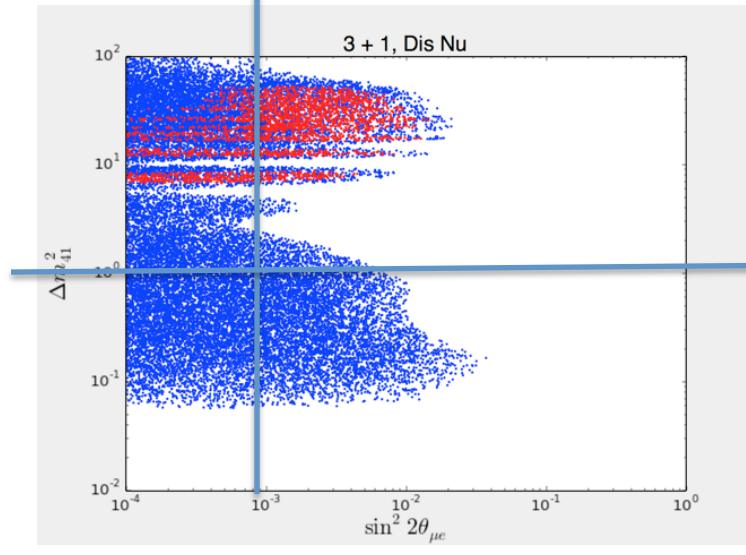
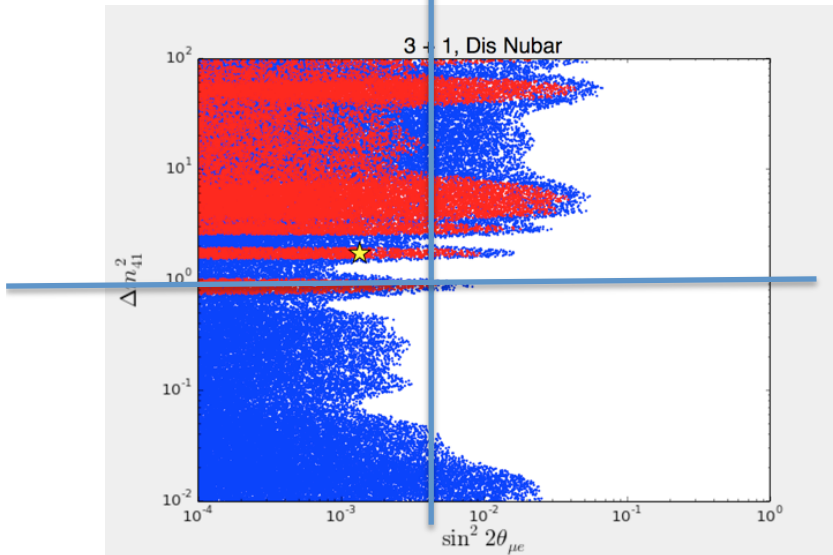
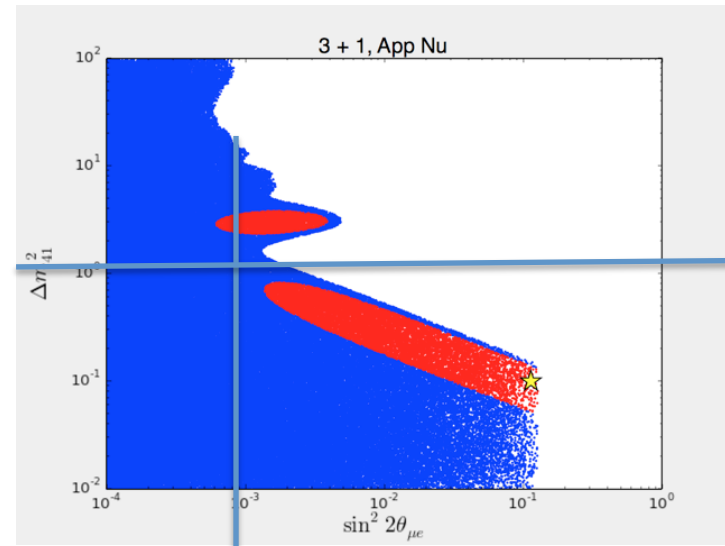
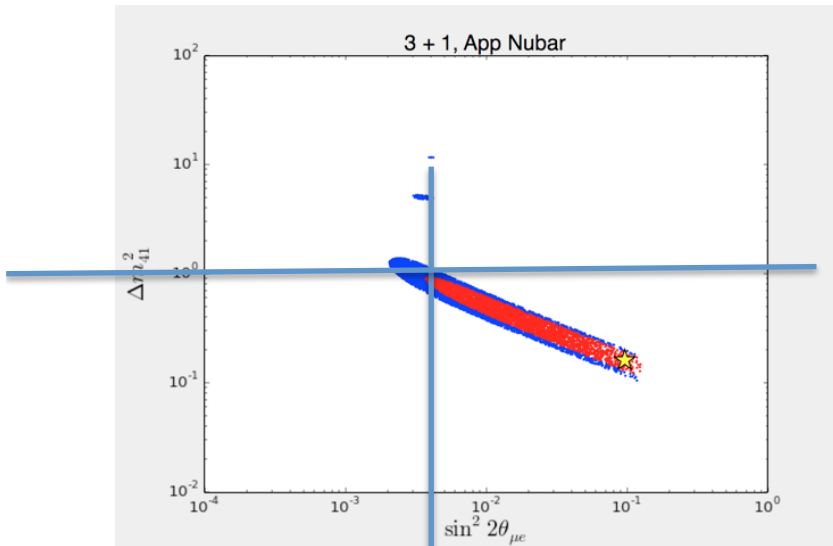


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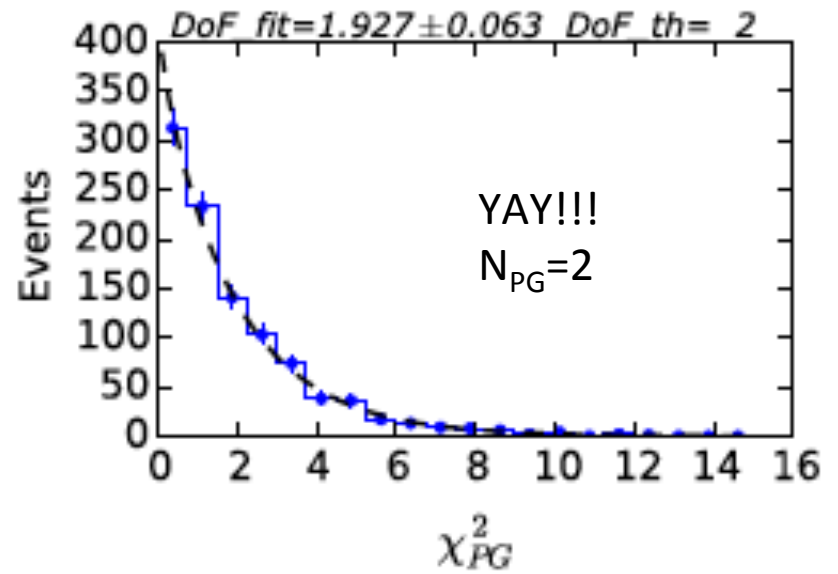
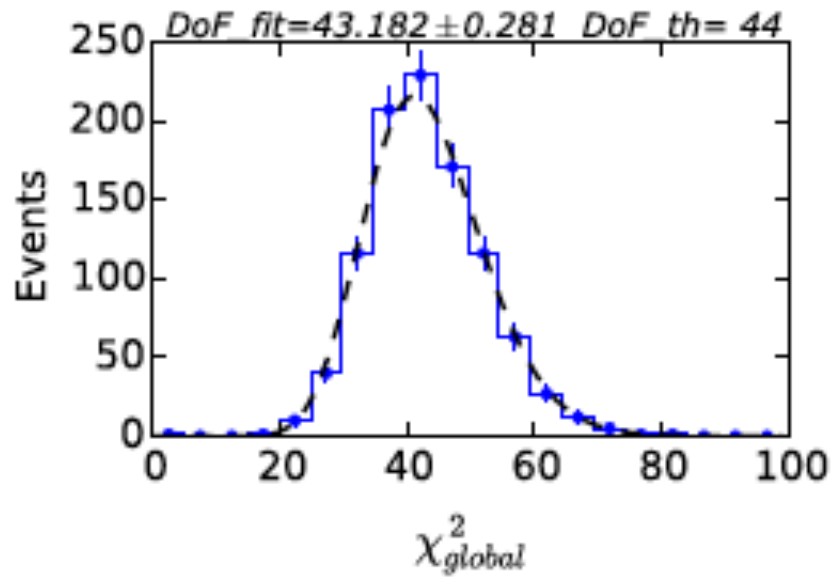
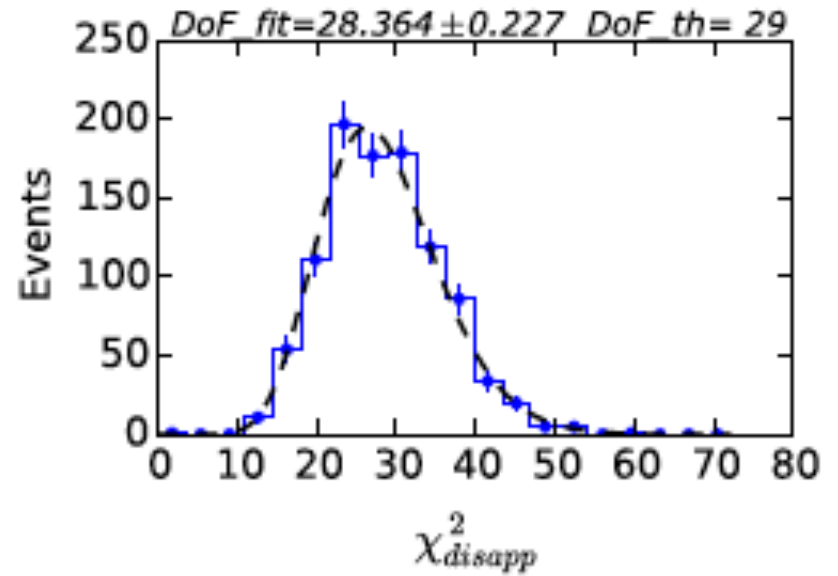
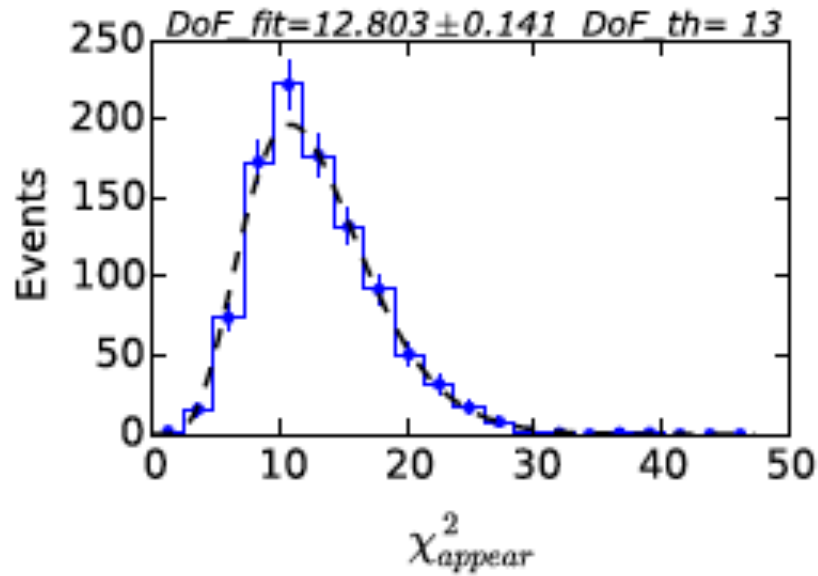
Appearance vs Disappearance in 3+1 separately for nu and nubar...

Nubar 3+1

Nu 3+1

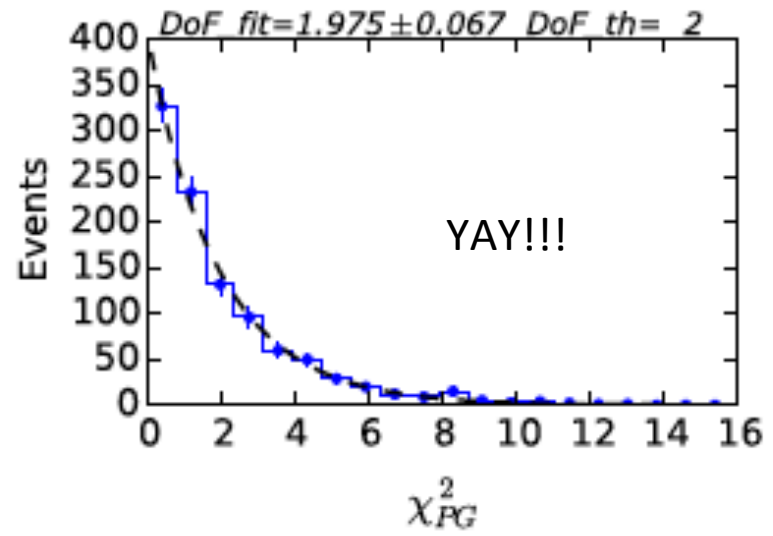
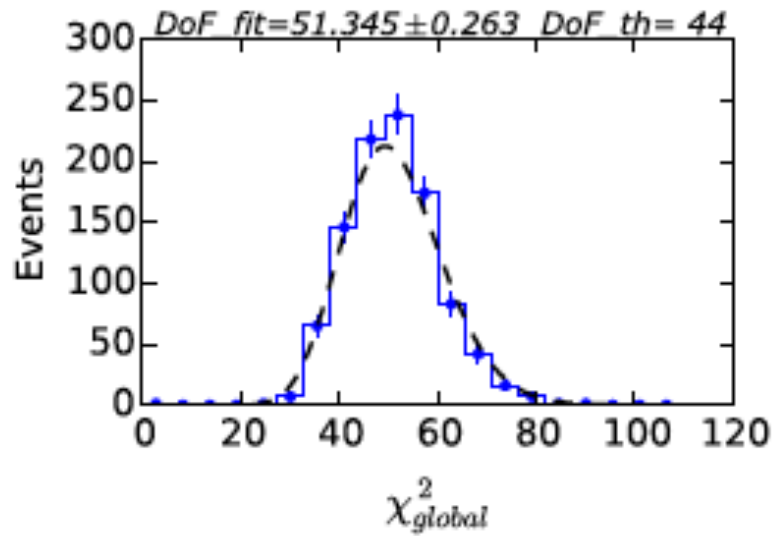
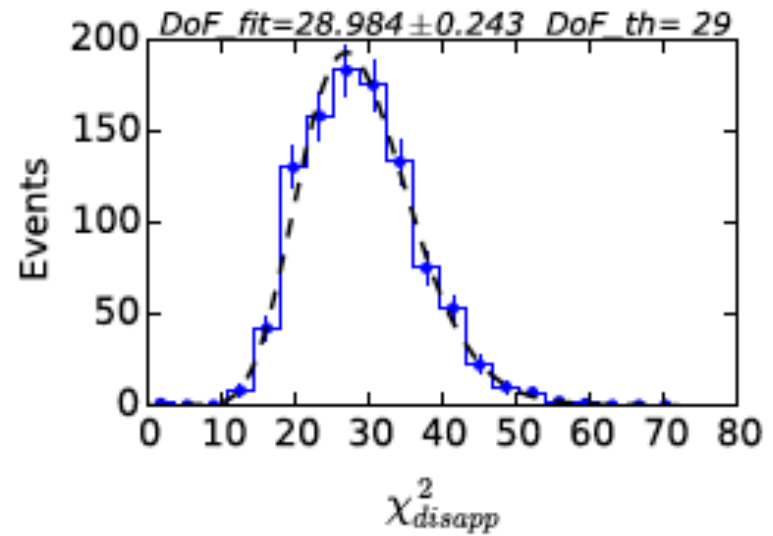
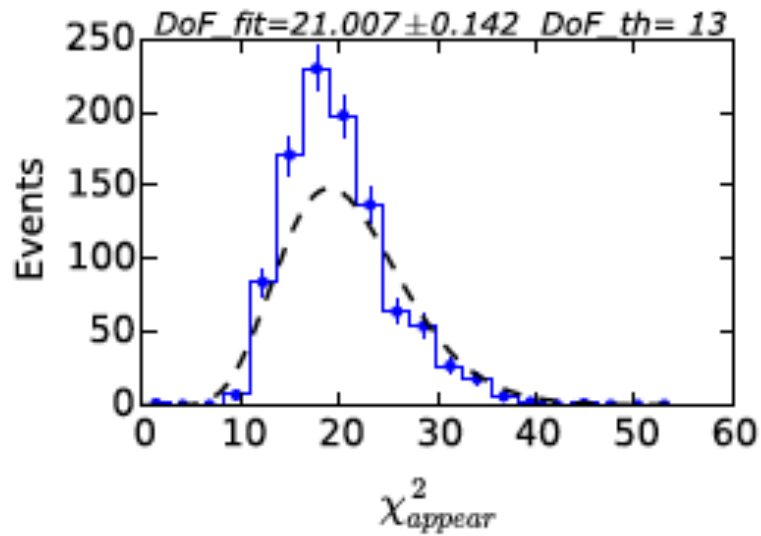


Just statistics, no underlying systematic

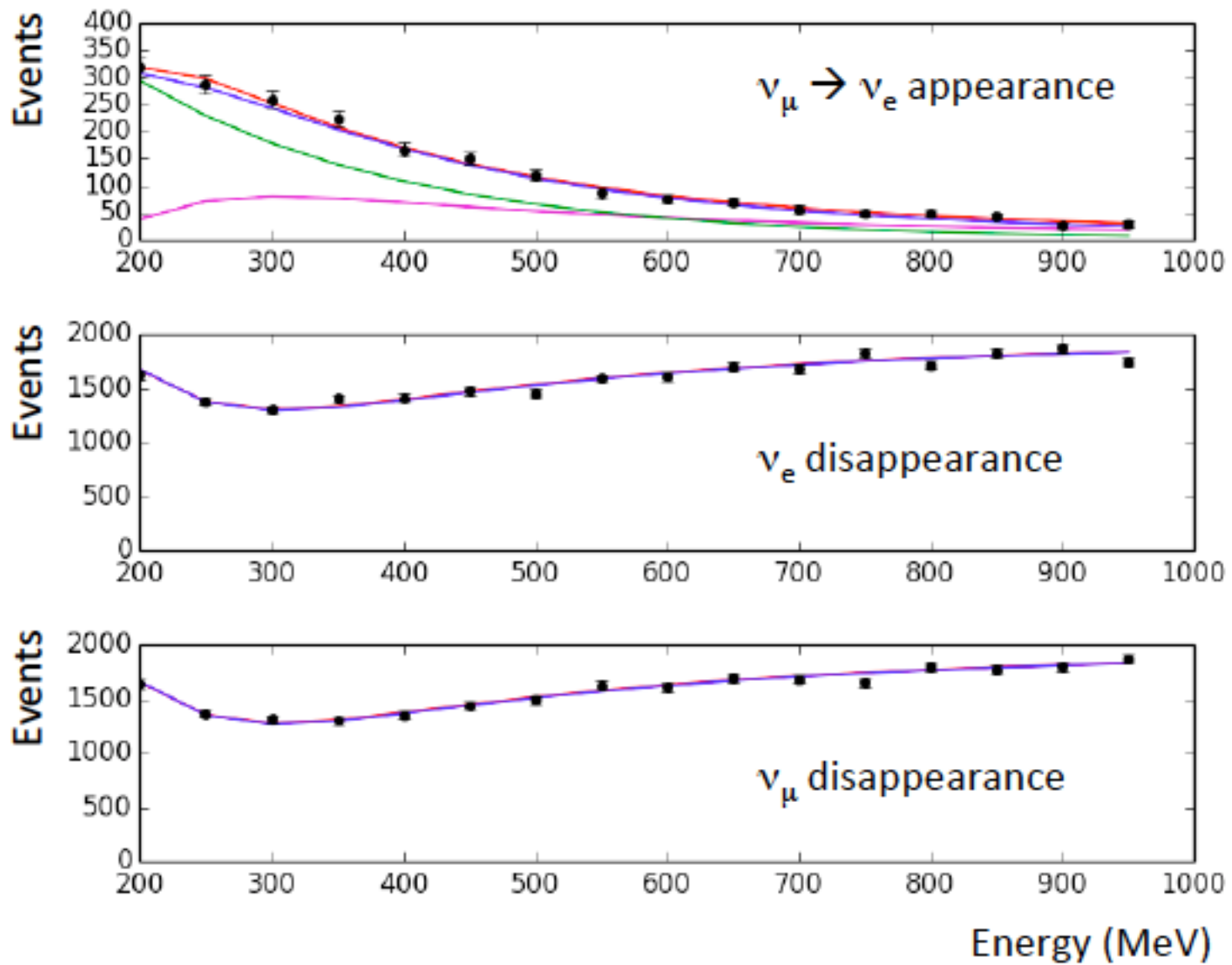


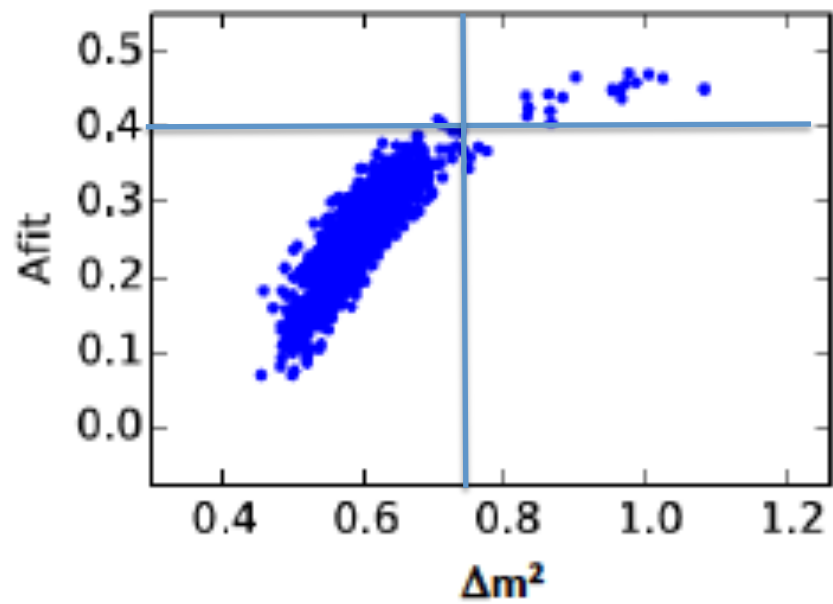
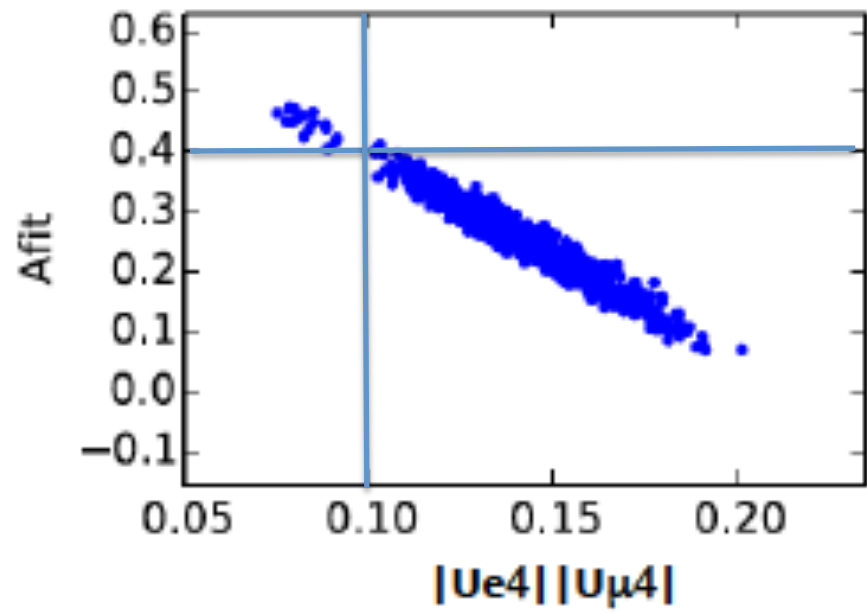
$$\begin{aligned}
\chi_{\nu_e app}^2 &= \sum_{i=1}^{16} \frac{(d_i^{\nu_e app} - (osc_i^{\nu_e app} + b_i^{\nu_e app} (A_{fit})))^2}{(\sigma_i^{\nu_e app})^2} + \frac{(A_{fit} - A_{exp})^2}{\sigma_{A_{exp}}^2} \\
\chi_{disapp}^2 &= \sum_{i=1}^{16} \frac{(d_i^{\nu_\mu disapp} - osc_i^{\nu_\mu disapp})^2}{(\sigma_i^{\nu_\mu disapp})^2} + \sum_{i=1}^{16} \frac{(d_i^{\nu_e disapp} - osc_i^{\nu_e disapp})^2}{(\sigma_i^{\nu_e disapp})^2} \\
\chi_{global}^2 &= \sum_{i=1}^{16} \frac{(d_i^{\nu_e app} - (osc_i^{\nu_e app} + b_i^{\nu_e app} (A_{fit})))^2}{(\sigma_i^{\nu_e app})^2} + \frac{(A_{fit} - A_{exp})^2}{\sigma_{A_{exp}}^2} \\
&\quad + \sum_{i=1}^{16} \frac{(d_i^{\nu_\mu disapp} - osc_i^{\nu_\mu disapp})^2}{(\sigma_i^{\nu_\mu disapp})^2} + \sum_{i=1}^{16} \frac{(d_i^{\nu_e disapp} - osc_i^{\nu_e disapp})^2}{(\sigma_i^{\nu_e disapp})^2}
\end{aligned}$$

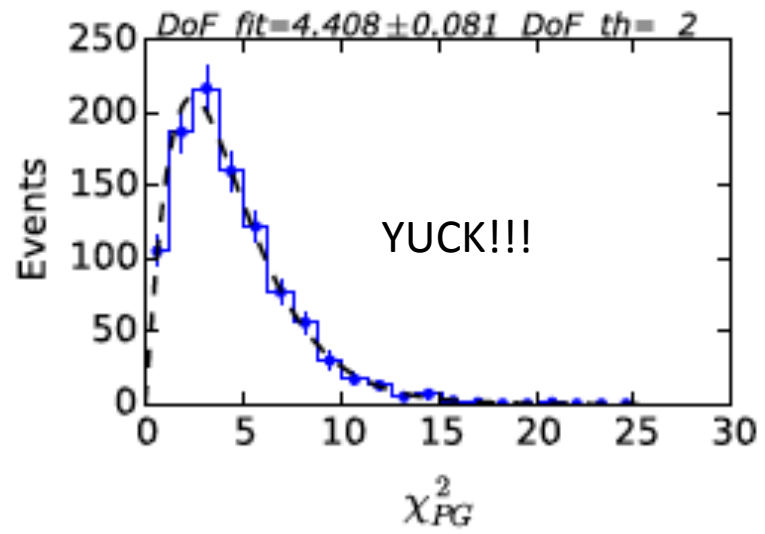
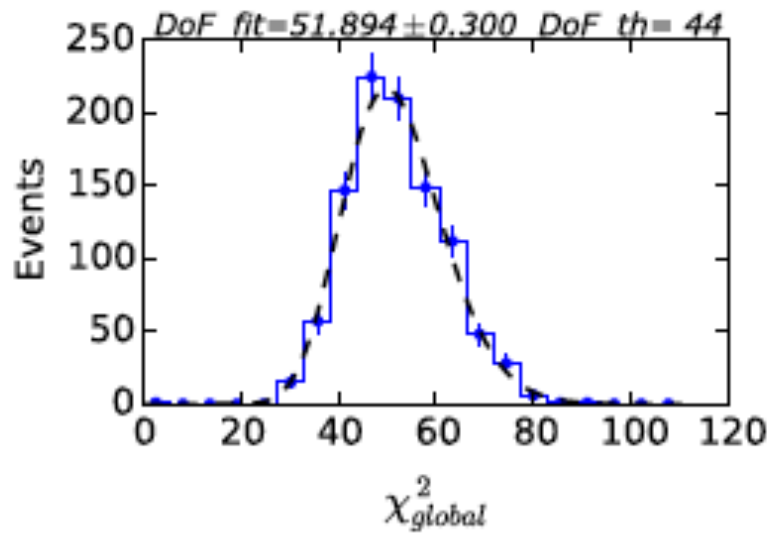
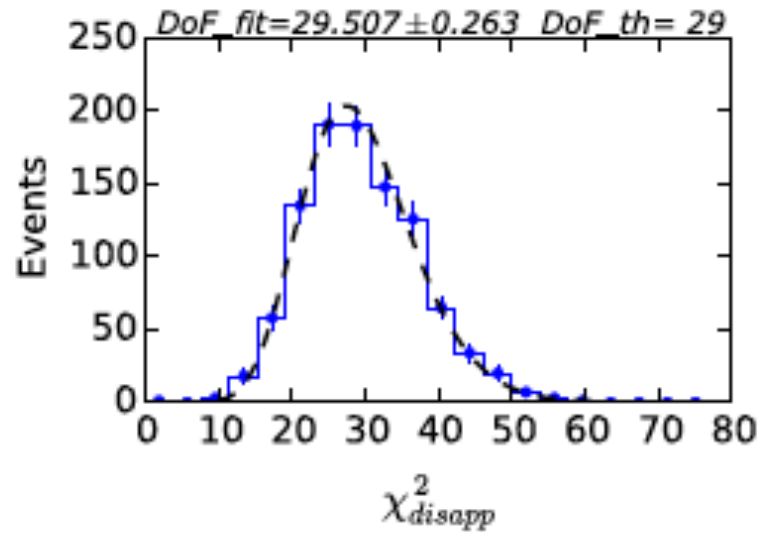
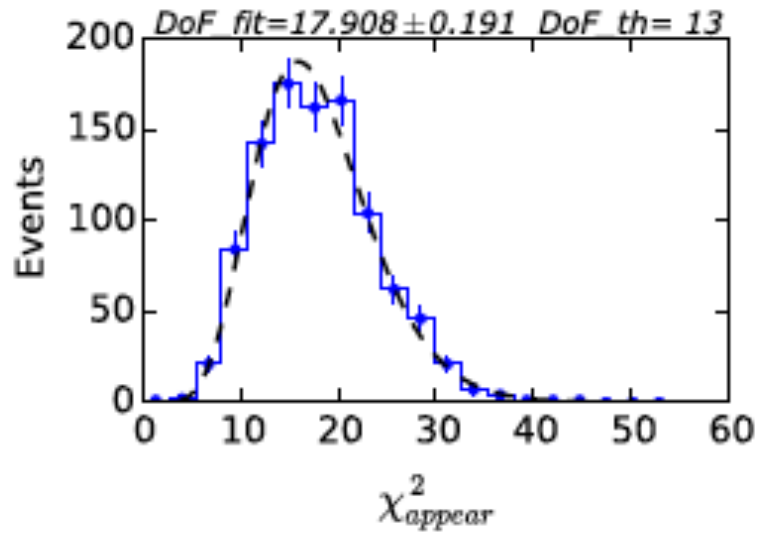




True even for very large normalization of residual background, Atrue







September 1, 2014

# FITTING THEORY TO DATA IN THE PRESENCE OF BACKGROUND UNCERTAINTIES

BYRON ROE

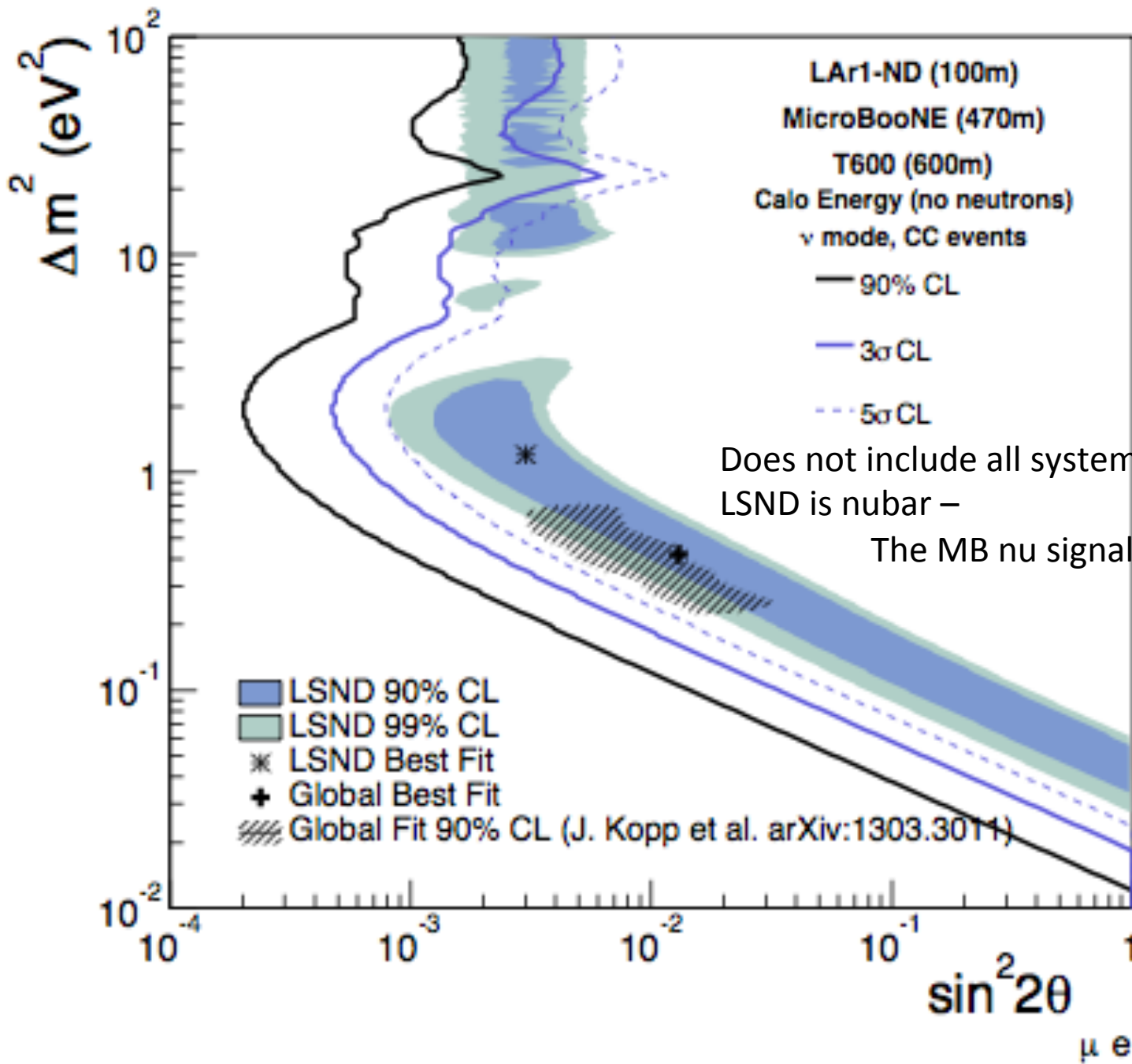
## 8. SUMMARY

Methods are given for using the  $\chi^2$  method when regression correlations between the shapes of backgrounds and theoretical models being fitted occur. These methods are appropriate whenever these correlations exist.

- (1) If the background shape correlations with the theoretical model are not taken into account,  $\chi^2$  fits will not give correct results. The experimental  $\chi^2$  usually will not have a  $\chi^2$  distribution.
- (2) Fake data studies without including these correlations will not be optimum. The use of “effective number of degrees of freedom” will help the situation, but will not be as precise as the methodology introduced here.
- (3) One must use caution in applying the Maltoni-Schwetz theorem to find the compatibility of two sets of data to a theoretical model hypothesis. The theorem may incorrectly indicate incompatibility if there are correlations between the backgrounds and the theoretical model and/or if there are problems with the estimations of background variables.

“Why would you want to reach  $5\sigma$  in less than a year?  
It is like killing puppies with elephant guns...”

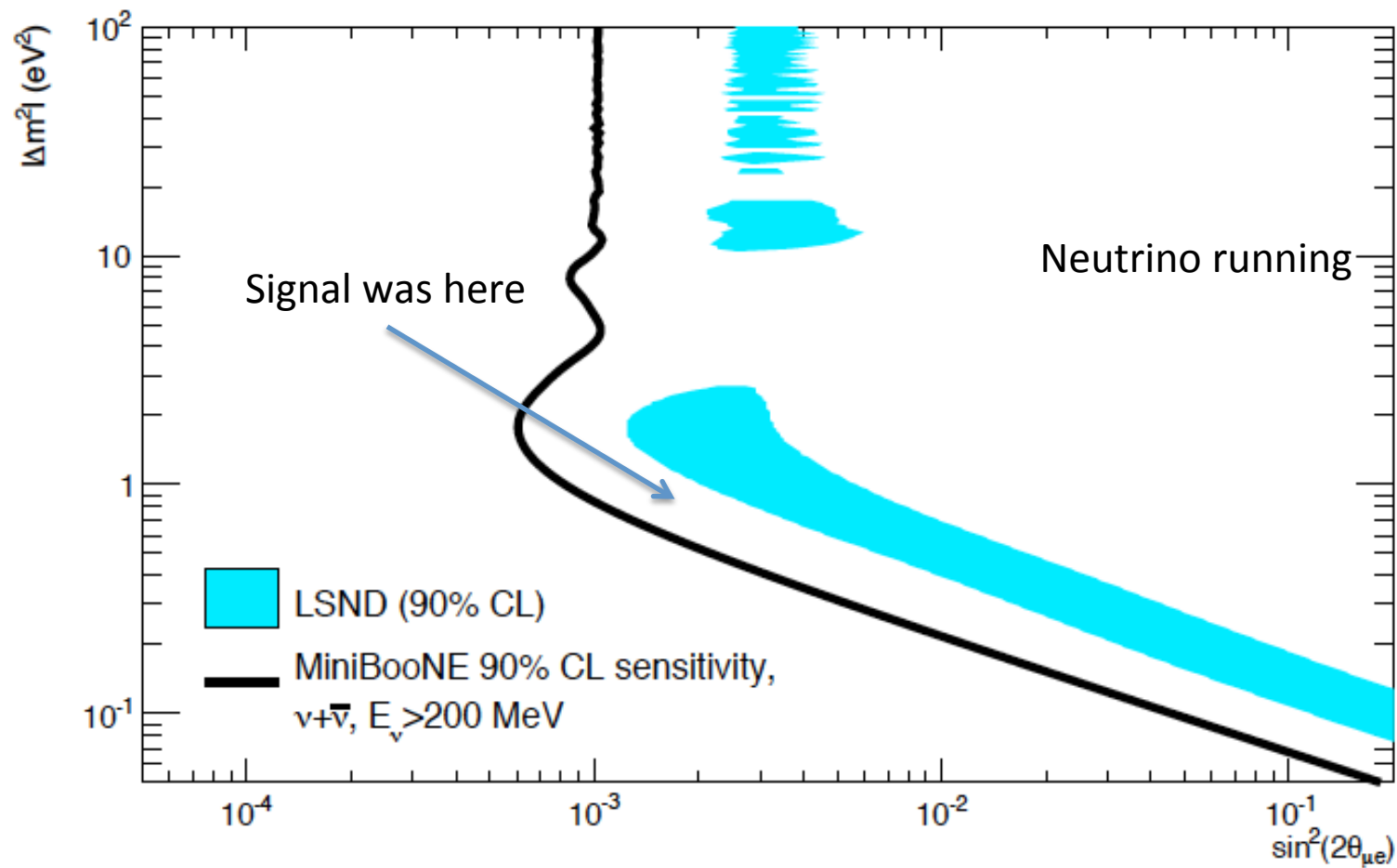
-Dave Wark



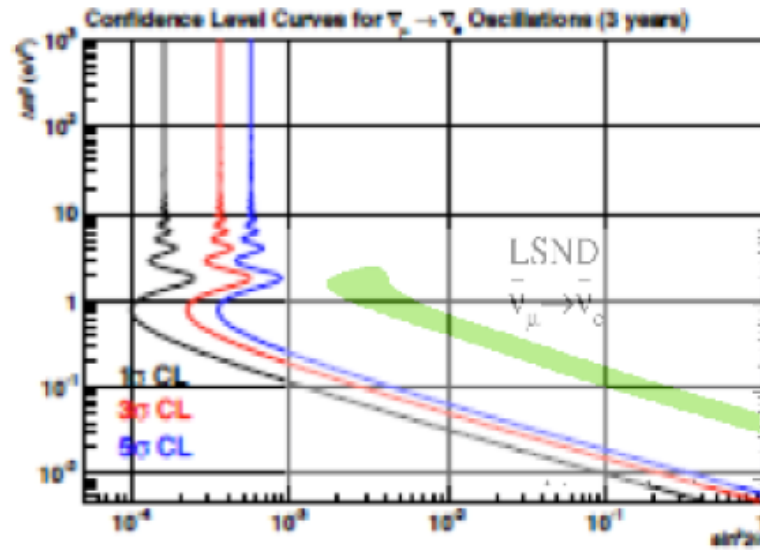
Does not include all systematics yet!  
 LSND is nu bar –  
 The MB nu signal is to the left

# What was MiniBooNE's sensitivity\*?

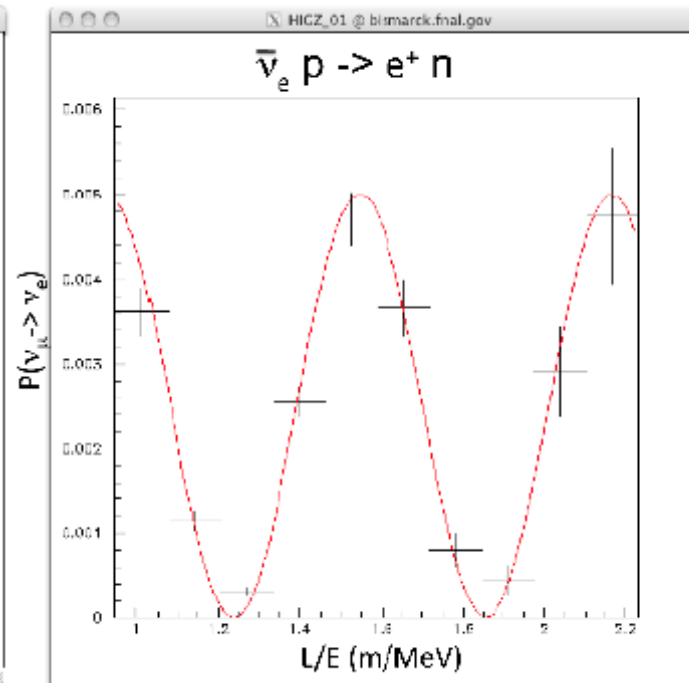
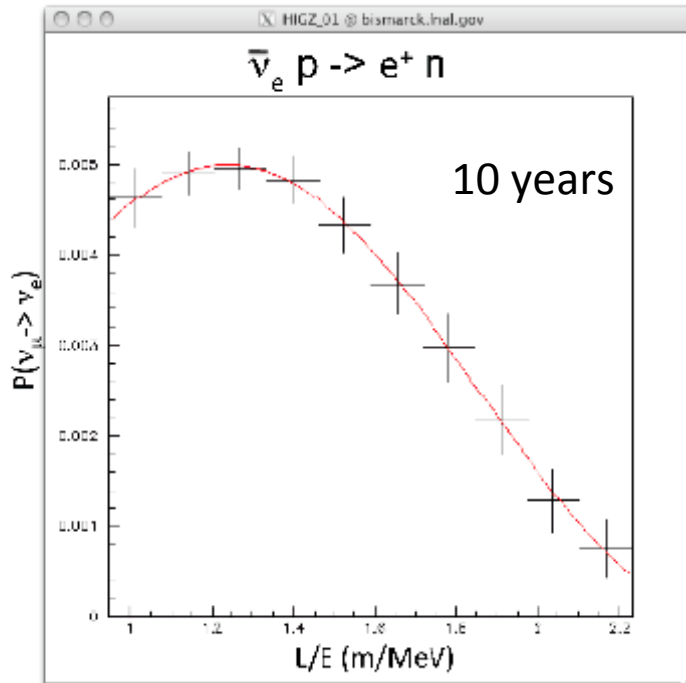
\*The *actual* experimental sensitivity achieved  
(not from the proposal)



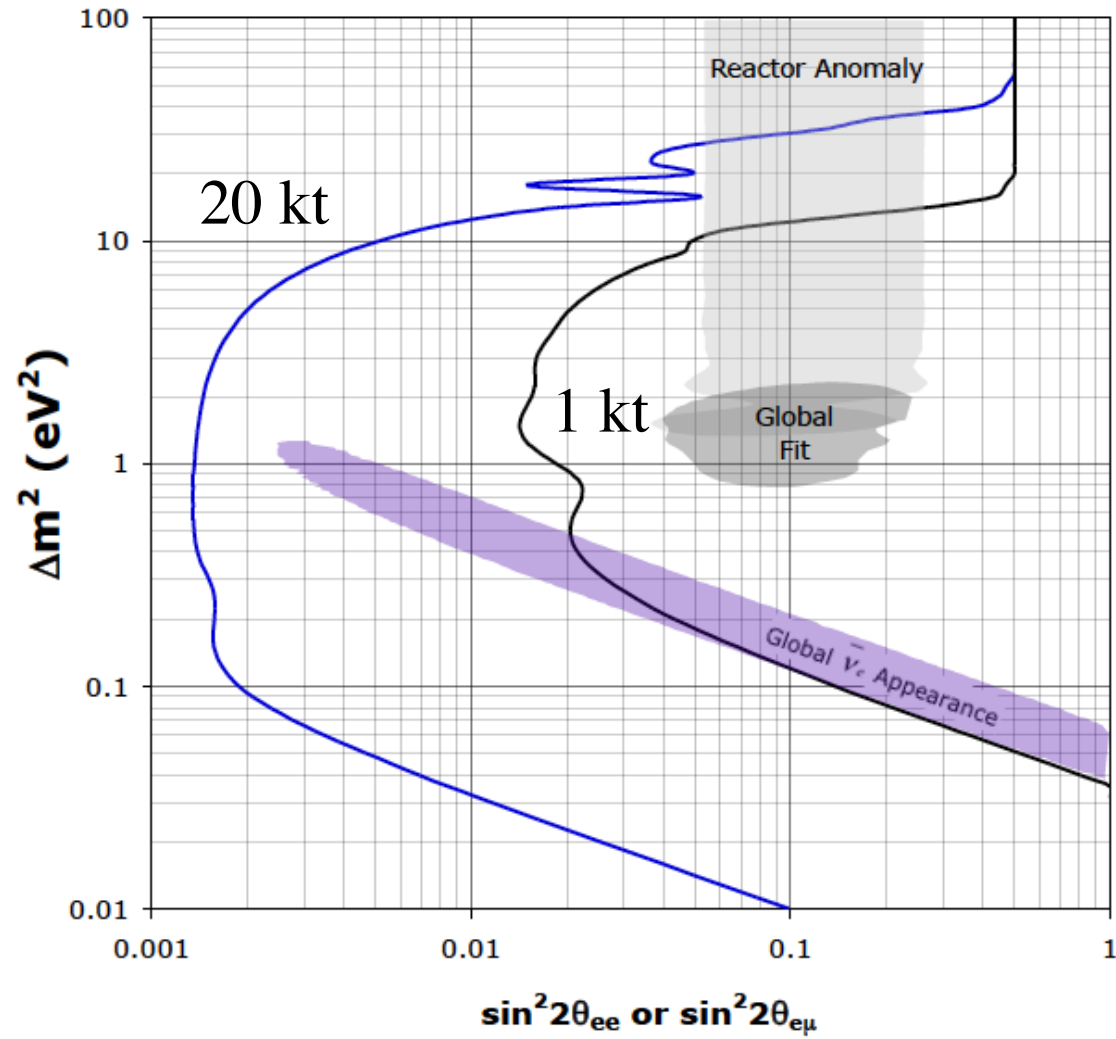


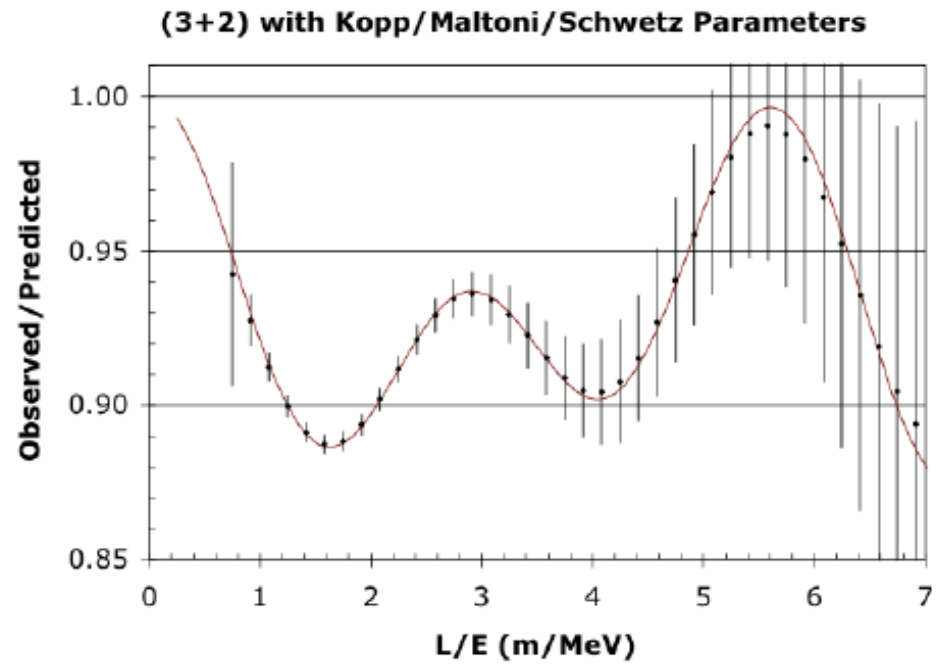
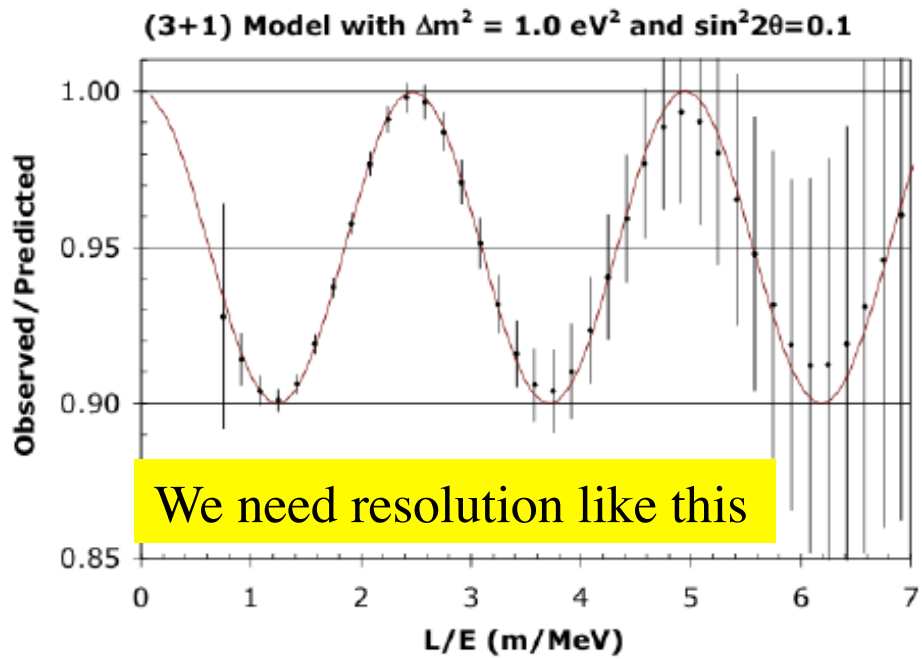


3 years



# IsoDAR -- Fully doped scintillator – $5\sigma$





5 years