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Neutrino Oscillation Phenomenology - I

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T. Schwetz, Neutrino Oscillation Phenomenology – p.1

Outline

Lecture 1:

- Neutrino oscillations oscillations in vacuum and matter
- Present neutrino oscillation experiments solar, atmospheric, reactor, accelerator

Lecture 2:

- Global three flavour analysis discussion of three flavour effects summary of present status and open questions
- the LSND puzzle and recent MiniBooNE results

Flavours:	1	2	3
Quarks:	$u \\ d$	$c \\ s$	$t \\ b$
Leptons:	$ \frac{ \nu_e}{e} $	$rac{ u_{\mu}}{\mu}$	$ u_{ au} $

The Fermions in the Standard Model come in three generations ("Flavours")

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The Fermions in the Standard Model come in three generations ("Flavours")

Neutrinos are the "partners" of the charged leptons (precisely: form a doublet under the SU(2) gauge symmetry) A neutrino of flavour α is defined by the charged current interaction with the corresponding charged lepton:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\rm CC} = -\frac{g}{\sqrt{2}} W^{\rho} \sum_{\alpha = e, \mu, \tau} \bar{\nu}_{\alpha L} \gamma_{\rho} \ell_{\alpha L} + \text{h.c.}$$

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for example

$$\pi^+ \to \mu^+ \nu_\mu$$

the muon neutrino ν_{μ} comes together with the charged muon μ^+

Flavour neutrinos



Let's give mass to the neutrinos

Majorana mass term:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\mathrm{M}} = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha,\beta=e,\mu,\tau} \nu_{\alpha L}^{T} C^{-1} \mathcal{M}_{\alpha\beta} \nu_{\beta L} + \mathrm{h.c.}$$

 \mathcal{M} : symmetric mass matrix In the basis where the CC interaction is diagonal the mass matrix is in general not a diagonal matrix

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any complex symmetrix matrix \mathcal{M} can be diagonalised by a unitary matrix as

$$U_{\nu}^{T}\mathcal{M}U_{\nu}=m\,,\qquad m:$$
 diagonal, $m_{i}\geq 0$

Lepton mixing

$$\mathcal{L}_{CC} = -\frac{g}{\sqrt{2}} W^{\rho} \sum_{\alpha=e,\mu,\tau} \sum_{i=1}^{3} \bar{\nu}_{i} \underbrace{U^{*}_{\alpha i}}_{\rho} \ell_{\alpha L} + \text{h.c.}$$
$$\mathcal{L}_{M} = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{3} \nu^{T}_{iL} C^{-1} \nu_{iL} m^{\nu}_{i} - \sum_{\alpha=e,\mu,\tau} \bar{\ell}_{\alpha R} \ell_{\alpha L} m^{\ell}_{\alpha} + \text{h.c.}$$

The unitary lepton mixing matrix:

$$(U_{\alpha i}) \equiv U_{\text{PMNS}} = V^{\text{Dirac}} D^{\text{Maj}}$$

 $D^{\text{Maj}} = \text{diag}(e^{i\alpha_i/2})$

Neutrino oscillations



Neutrino oscillations



 $|\nu_{\alpha}\rangle = U_{\alpha i}^{*}|\nu_{i}\rangle \qquad e^{-i(Et-p_{i}x)} \qquad |\nu_{\beta}\rangle = U_{\beta i}^{*}|\nu_{i}\rangle$

propagating states are states with definite mass

oscillation amplitude:

$$\mathcal{A}_{\nu_{\alpha} \to \nu_{\beta}} = \langle \nu_{\beta} | \text{ propagation } | \nu_{\alpha} \rangle$$
$$= \sum_{i,j} \langle \nu_{j} | U_{\beta j} \ e^{-i(Et - p_{i}x)} \ U_{\alpha i}^{*} | \nu_{i} \rangle$$

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oscillation probability:

$$P_{\nu_{\alpha} \to \nu_{\beta}} = \left| \mathcal{A}_{\nu_{\alpha} \to \nu_{\beta}} \right|^2$$

The oscillation probability in vacuum

$$P_{\nu_{\alpha} \to \nu_{\beta}}(L) = \sum_{jk} U_{\alpha j} U_{\beta j}^{*} U_{\alpha k}^{*} U_{\beta k} \exp\left[-i\frac{\Delta m_{kj}^{2}L}{2E_{\nu}}\right]$$

 $\Delta m_{kj}^2 \equiv m_k^2 - m_j^2$: oscillations are sensitive only to mass-squared differences (not to absolute mass!)

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to observe oscillations one needs

- non-trivial mixing $U_{\alpha i}$
- non-zero mass-squared differences Δm_{ki}^2
- a suitable value for L/E_{ν}

The oscillation phase

$$\phi = \frac{\Delta m^2 L}{4E_{\nu}} = 1.27 \frac{\Delta m^2 [\text{eV}^2] L[\text{km}]}{E_{\nu} [\text{GeV}]}$$

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- "short" distance: $\phi \ll 1$: no oscillations can develop and $P_{\nu_{\alpha} \to \nu_{\beta}} = \delta_{\alpha\beta}$ because of $\sum_{j} U_{\alpha j} U^*_{\beta j} = \delta_{\alpha\beta}$.
- "long" distance: $\phi \gtrsim \pi/2$: oscillations are observable
- "very long" distance: φ ≫ 2π: oscillations are averaged out (indep. of L and E_ν):

$$P_{\nu_{\alpha} \to \nu_{\beta}} = \sum_{j} |U_{\alpha j}|^2 |U_{\beta j}|^2$$

2-neutrino oscillations

Two-flavour limit:

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}, \qquad P = \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2 \frac{\Delta m^2 L}{4E_{\nu}}$$

2-neutrino oscillations

Two-flavour limit:



Appearance vs. disappearance

• appearance experiments:

$$P_{\nu_{\alpha} \to \nu_{\beta}}$$
, $\alpha \neq \beta$

"appearance" of a neutrino of a new flavour $\beta \neq \alpha$ in a beam of ν_{α}

Appearance vs. disappearance

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disappearance experiments:

$$P_{\nu_{\alpha} \to \nu_{\alpha}}$$

measurement of the "survival" probability of a neutrino of given flavour

$$P_{\nu_{\alpha} \to \nu_{\beta}} = \sum_{jk} U_{\alpha j} U_{\beta j}^* U_{\alpha k}^* U_{\beta k} \exp\left[-i\frac{\Delta m_{kj}^2 L}{2 E_{\nu}}\right]$$

• Unitarity: $\sum_{\beta} P_{\nu_{\alpha} \to \nu_{\beta}} = 1$

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- Phases in U induce CP violation: $P_{\nu_{\alpha} \to \nu_{\beta}} \neq P_{\bar{\nu}_{\alpha} \to \bar{\nu}_{\beta}}$
- there is no CP violation in disappearance experiments:

$$P_{\nu_{\alpha} \to \nu_{\alpha}} = P_{\bar{\nu}_{\alpha} \to \bar{\nu}_{\alpha}} = \sum_{k,j} |U_{\alpha k}|^2 |U_{\alpha j}|^2 e^{-i\Delta m_{kj}^2 L/2E}$$

(but $P_{\alpha\alpha}$ may still depend on $\cos \delta$, $\sin^2 \delta$, ...)

The evolution of the flavour state can be described by an effective Schrödinger equation:

$$i\frac{d}{dt}\left(\begin{array}{c}a_e\\a_\mu\\a_\tau\end{array}\right) = H_{\rm vac}\left(\begin{array}{c}a_e\\a_\mu\\a_\tau\end{array}\right)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} H_{\text{vac}}^{\nu} &= U \text{diag}\left(0, \frac{\Delta m_{21}^2}{2E_{\nu}}, \frac{\Delta m_{31}^2}{2E_{\nu}}\right) U^{\dagger} \\ H_{\text{vac}}^{\bar{\nu}} &= U^* \text{diag}\left(0, \frac{\Delta m_{21}^2}{2E_{\nu}}, \frac{\Delta m_{31}^2}{2E_{\nu}}\right) U^T \end{aligned}$$

Neutrino oscillations in matter

When neutrinos pass through matter the interactions with the particles in the background induce an effective potential for the neutrinos

The coherent forward scattering amplitude leads to an index of refraction for neutrinos

L. Wolfenstein, Phys. Rev. D 17, 2369 (1978); *ibid.* D 20, 2634 (1979)

Effective Hamiltonian in matter

$$H_{\text{mat}}^{\nu} = U \text{diag} \left(0, \frac{\Delta m_{21}^2}{2E_{\nu}}, \frac{\Delta m_{31}^2}{2E_{\nu}} \right) U^{\dagger} + \text{diag}(\sqrt{2}G_F N_e, 0, 0)$$

$$H_{\text{mat}}^{\bar{\nu}} = U^* \text{diag} \left(0, \frac{\Delta m_{21}^2}{2E_{\nu}}, \frac{\Delta m_{31}^2}{2E_{\nu}} \right) U^T - \frac{\text{diag}(\sqrt{2}G_F N_e, 0, 0)}{V_{\text{mat}}}$$

 $N_e(x)$: electron density along the neutrino path

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 $N_e(x)$: electron density along the neutrino path

for non-constant matter the Hamiltonian depends on time:

$$i\frac{d}{dt}a = H_{\rm mat}(t)a$$

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 $N_e(x)$: electron density along the neutrino path

Remember: $U = V^{\text{Dirac}} D^{\text{Maj}}$

Majorana phases do not show up in oscillations

Effective matter potential - 1

Effective 4-point interaction Hamiltonian in the SM

$$H_{\rm int}^{\nu_{\alpha}} = \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} \bar{\nu}_{\alpha} \gamma_{\mu} (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_{\alpha} \underbrace{\sum_{f} \bar{f} \gamma^{\mu} (g_V^{\alpha, f} - g_A^{\alpha, f} \gamma_5) f}_{J_{\rm mat}^{\mu}}$$
Effective matter potential - 1

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ordinary matter: e^-, p, n non-relativistic, unpolarised, neutral $\langle \bar{f}\gamma^\mu f \rangle = rac{1}{2} N_f \delta_{\mu 0}, \quad \langle \bar{f}\gamma_5\gamma^\mu f \rangle = 0, \quad N_e = N_p$

Effective matter potential - 2

$$J_{\text{mat}}^{\mu} = \frac{1}{2} \delta_{\mu 0} \sum_{f=e,p,n} N_f g_V^{\alpha,f}$$

= $\frac{1}{2} \delta_{\mu 0} \left[N_e \left(g_V^{\alpha,e} + g_V^{\alpha,p} \right) + N_n g_V^{\alpha,n} \right]$

Effective matter potential - 2

$$J_{\text{mat}}^{\mu} = \frac{1}{2} \delta_{\mu 0} \sum_{f=e,p,n} N_f g_V^{\alpha,f}$$

= $\frac{1}{2} \delta_{\mu 0} \left[N_e \left(g_V^{\alpha,e} + g_V^{\alpha,p} \right) + N_n g_V^{\alpha,n} \right]$

$$\begin{array}{c|ccccc} g_V & e^- & p & n \\ \hline \nu_e & 2\sin^2\Theta_W + \frac{1}{2} & -2\sin^2\Theta_W + \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} \\ \nu_{\mu,\tau} & 2\sin^2\Theta_W - \frac{1}{2} & -2\sin^2\Theta_W + \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} \\ \end{array}$$

$$\Rightarrow & V_{\text{mat}} \propto \left(N_e - \frac{1}{2}N_n, -\frac{1}{2}N_n, -\frac{1}{2}N_n \right)$$

Effective matter potential - 3

$$V_{\text{mat}} = \sqrt{2G_F} \text{diag} \left(N_e - N_n/2, -N_n/2, -N_n/2 \right)$$



- only ν_e fell CC (there are no μ, τ in normal matter)
- NC is the same for all flavours ⇒ potential proportional to identiy has no effect on the evolution
- NC has no effect for 3-flavour active neutrinos, but is important in the presence of sterile neutrinos

diagonalize the Hamiltonian in matter:

$$H_{\text{mat}}^{\nu} = U \text{diag}\left(0, \frac{\Delta m_{21}^2}{2E_{\nu}}, \frac{\Delta m_{31}^2}{2E_{\nu}}\right) U^{\dagger} + \text{diag}(\sqrt{2}G_F N_e, 0, 0)$$
$$= U_m \text{diag}\left(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3\right) U_m^{\dagger}$$

Same expression for oscillation probability, but replace "vacuum" parameters by "matter" parameters

2-neutrino oscillations in constant matter

Two-flavour case:

$$P_{\rm mat} = \sin^2 2\theta_{\rm mat} \, \sin^2 \frac{\Delta m_{\rm mat}^2 L}{4E}$$

with

$$\sin^2 2\theta_{\text{mat}} = \frac{\sin^2 2\theta}{\sin^2 2\theta + (\cos 2\theta - A)^2}$$
$$\Delta m_{\text{mat}}^2 = \Delta m^2 \sqrt{\sin^2 2\theta + (\cos 2\theta - A)^2}$$
$$A \equiv \frac{2EV}{\Delta m^2}$$

2-neutrino oscillations in constant matter

$$\sin^2 2\theta_{\rm mat} = \frac{\sin^2 2\theta}{\sin^2 2\theta + (\cos 2\theta - A)^2} \qquad A \equiv \frac{2EV}{\Delta m^2}$$

resonance for $\cos 2\theta = A$: "MSW resonance"



Evidences for neutrino oscillations

Neutrino oscillation experiments

natural neutrino sources:

- solar neutrinos Homestake, SAGE+GNO, Super-K, SNO, Borexino
- atmospheric neutrinos
 Super-Kamiokande

artificial neutrino sources:

- reactor neutrinos
 Chooz (1 km), KamLAND (180 km)
- long-baseline accelerator experiments K2K (250 km), MINOS (735 km)

3-flavour oscillation parameters

$$\Delta m_{31}^{2} \qquad \qquad \Delta m_{21}^{2}$$

$$\mathsf{U} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c_{23} & s_{23} \\ 0 & -s_{23} & c_{23} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{13} & 0 & e^{-i\delta}s_{13} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -e^{i\delta}s_{13} & 0 & c_{13} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{12} & s_{12} & 0 \\ -s_{12} & c_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

atmospheric+LBL

Chooz

solar+KamLAND

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$$atmospheric+LBL \qquad Chooz \qquad solar+KamLAND$$

3-flavour effects are suppressed because $\theta_{13} \ll 1 \text{ und } \Delta m^2_{21} \ll \Delta m^2_{31}$

 \Rightarrow dominant oscillations are well described by effective two-flavour oscillations

Solar neutrinos and the parameters Δm^2_{21} , $heta_{12}$



Solar neutrino experiments

summary of solar neutrino experiments



Solar noutring ornorimonts

Total Rates: Standard Model vs. Experiment Bahcall-Serenelli 2005 [BS05(0P)] 126^{+9}_{-7} $1.0^{+0.16}_{-0.16}$ $8.1^{+1.2}_{-1.2}$ $1.0^{+0.16}_{-0.16}$ $1.0\substack{+0.16 \\ -0.16}$ 0.88 ± 0.06 0.48 ± 0.07 69±5 67 ± 5 0.41 ± 0.01 2.56 ± 0.23 0.30 ± 0.02 SAGE GALLEX $_{\nu_{\rm e}}^{\rm SNO}$ SNO GNO SuperK All ν H_2O Kamiokande D,0 D,0 Cl Ga Experiments p-p, pep ²Be ∣ Theory 8B CNO Uncertainties 🖾

SNO:
$$\nu_e + d \rightarrow p + p + e^-$$

 $\nu_x + d \rightarrow p + n + \nu_x$ $\frac{\phi_{CC}}{\phi_{NC}} = 0.301 \pm 0.033$

 7σ evidence for a non-zero $\nu_{\mu,\tau}$ flux from the sun

'Solar' parameters



Probing solar properties with neutrinos

Neutrinos as messengers from the center of the sun:

boron-8 neutrino flux $\Phi \propto T^{20}$

where T is the temperature at the center of the sun

the measurement of the solar neutrino flux allows a determination of T with an accuracy of 1%:

 $T = 15.7(1 \pm 0.01) \times 10^{6} \,\mathrm{K}$

The electron density in the sun



evolution is adiabatic if

$$\left(\frac{1}{\theta_m}\frac{d\theta_m}{dx}\right)^{-1} \gg L_{\rm osc}$$

using $\Delta m^2 = 8 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2$ the oscillation length is

$$L_{\rm osc} = \frac{4\pi E}{\Delta m^2} \simeq 30 \, \rm km \left(\frac{E}{\rm MeV}\right)$$

for large mixing angles (sin² $\theta_{12} \simeq 0.3$):

$$\left(\frac{1}{\theta_m}\frac{d\theta_m}{dx}\right)^{-1} \sim \left(\frac{1}{V}\frac{dV}{dx}\right)^{-1} \sim \text{size of sun} \gg 30 \,\mathrm{km}$$

\Rightarrow adiabatic evolution

the electron neutrino is born at the center of the sun as

$$|\nu_e\rangle = \cos\theta_m |\nu_1\rangle + \sin\theta_m |\nu_2\rangle$$

then $|\nu_1\rangle$ and $|\nu_2\rangle$ evolve adiabatically to the Earth

the electron neutrino is born at the center of the sun as

$$|\nu_e\rangle = \cos\theta_m |\nu_1\rangle + \sin\theta_m |\nu_2\rangle$$

then $|
u_1
angle$ and $|
u_2
angle$ evolve adiabatically to the Earth

$$P_{ee} = P_{e1}^{\text{prod}} P_{1e}^{\text{det}} + P_{e2}^{\text{prod}} P_{2e}^{\text{det}}$$

 $P_{e3}^{\rm prod} \approx \sin^2 \theta_{13} \approx 0$, interference term averages out

$$P_{e1}^{\text{prod}} = \cos^2 \theta_m , \quad P_{1e}^{\text{det}} = \cos^2 \theta$$
$$P_{e2}^{\text{prod}} = \sin^2 \theta_m , \quad P_{2e}^{\text{det}} = \sin^2 \theta$$

$$\Rightarrow \qquad P_{ee} = \cos^2 \theta_m \cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta_m \sin^2 \theta$$

in the center of the sun we have

$$A \equiv \frac{2EV}{\Delta m^2} \simeq 0.2 \left(\frac{E_{\nu}}{\text{MeV}}\right) \left(\frac{8 \times 10^{-5} \,\text{eV}^2}{\Delta m^2}\right)$$

resonance occurs for

 $A = \cos 2\theta = 0.4$

$$\Rightarrow \qquad E_{\rm res} \simeq 2 \,{\rm MeV}$$





SNO evidence for the MSW effect

CC/NC measurment of SNO:



- constrains $\sin^2 \theta_{12}$: $\phi_{\rm CC}/\phi_{\rm NC} \approx P_{ee}^{\rm SNO} \approx \sin^2 \theta_{12}$
- $\phi_{\rm CC}/\phi_{\rm NC} < 1/2$: evidence for matter eff. and MSW reson.

new CC/CN from SNO NCD phase





new CC/CN from SNO NCD phase





Testing the transition region

BOREXINO: measurment of the Be7 neutrino line at 0.862 MeV by $e\nu \rightarrow e\nu$ scattering (\Rightarrow)



Reactor neutrino experiments

... have played always an important role in neutrino physics

Starting from the discovery of the neutrino in the Reines-Cowan experiment C.L. Cowan et al., Science 124 (1956) 103

there have been many important experiments, e.g.:

Gösgen G. Zacek et al., Phys. Rev. D34 (1986) 2621 Bugey Y. Declais et al., Nucl. Phys. B434 (1995) 503 CHOOZ M. Apollonio et al., Phys. Lett. B466 (1999) 415 Palo Verde F. Boehm et al., Phys. Rev. D64 (2001) 112001 KamLAND Eguchi et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 90 (2003) 021802

- Nuclear power reactors are an intense source of $\bar{\nu}_e$
- Inverse β-decay offers a detection process with a clear experimental signature:

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

prompt positron + delayed neutron capture.

Energy threshold: $E_{\nu} \geq m_e + m_n - m_p \approx 1.8 \text{ MeV}$

Reactor experiments

Bemporad, Gratta, Vogel, Rev.Mod.Phys.74(2002)297 [hep-ph/0107277]



 $\langle E_{\nu} \rangle \approx 3 - 4 \,\mathrm{MeV}$

A reactor neutrino experiment can only be a $\bar{\nu}_e$ disappearance experiment,

since for $E_{\nu} \sim 4$ MeV neither μ nor τ can be produced in the detector

The 3-flavour $\bar{\nu}_e \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e$ survival probability:



The 3-flavour $\bar{\nu}_e \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e$ survival probability:



The KamLAND reactor neutrino experiment

Kamioka Liquid scinitillator Anti-Neutrino Detector



detection of $\bar{\nu}_e$ produced in surrounding nuclear power plants

70 GW of nuclear power (7% of world total) is generated at a distance 175 ± 30 km from Kamioka
neutrino energy from nuclear reactors: $E_{\nu} \simeq 4 \,\mathrm{MeV}$

$$\Rightarrow \qquad \frac{E_{\nu}}{L} \sim \frac{4 \,\mathrm{MeV}}{175 \,\mathrm{km}} \sim 2 \times 10^{-5} \mathrm{eV}^2$$

just the correct order of magnitude to test the LMA-MSW solution for the solar neutrino problem

Reactor distribution in KamLAND



The KamLAND energy spectrum



evidence for flux suppression and oscillations in $1/E_{\nu}$



 $\Delta m_{21}^2 = 7.6 \pm 0.2 \times 10^{-5} \,\mathrm{eV}^2$, $\sin^2 \theta_{12} = 0.31^{+0.016}_{-0.023}$

The "atmospheric" parameters Δm^2_{31} , $heta_{23}$

Atmospheric neutrinos



Atmospheric neutrinos





Super-K atmospheric neutrino data



Oscillations of atmospheric neutrinos

$$P_{ee}^{\text{atm}} \approx 1 - \mathcal{O}(\theta_{13}, \Delta m_{12}^2)$$
$$P_{\mu\mu}^{\text{atm}} \approx 1 - P_{\mu\tau}^{\text{atm}} \approx 1 - \sin^2 2\theta_{23} \sin^2 \frac{\Delta m_{31}^2 L}{4E_{\nu}}$$

0

with

$$\sin^2 2\theta_{23} \approx 1$$
, $|\Delta m_{31}^2| \simeq 0.0024 \,\mathrm{eV}^2$

Oscillatory signal in atmospheric neutrinos



Long-baseline experiments

first generation of LBL experiments $(\nu_{\mu}$ -disappearance)



The neutrino source



neutrino production via pion decay $\Rightarrow \nu_{\mu}$ beam

K2K vs MINOS

	K2K	MINOS
source	KEK	Fermilab
detector	Super-K	Soudan
baseline	250 km	735 km
neutrino energy	1.3 GeV	3 GeV
$E_{ u}/L$ [eV²]	5.2×10^{-3}	4.1×10^{-3}
channel	$ u_\mu ightarrow u_\mu$	$ u_\mu ightarrow u_\mu$
obs. events	112	848
expect. w/o osc.	$158.1^{+9.2}_{-8.6}$	1065 ± 60

MINOS energy spectrum



MINOS survival probability



Super-K + K2K + MINOS





 $\Delta m_{31}^2 = 2.4 \pm 0.15 \times 10^{-3} \,\mathrm{eV}^2$, $\sin^2 \theta_{23} = 0.50 \pm 0.063$