# Neutrino Oscillation

# Phenomenology

#### NASA Hubble Photo

Boris Kayser Pontecorvo School September, 2019

#### What Are Neutrinos Good For?

Energy generation in the sun starts with the reaction —

$$p + p \to d + e^+ + v$$
  
Spin:  $\frac{1}{2}$   $\frac{1}{2}$   $1$   $\frac{1}{2}$   $\frac{1}{2}$ 

## Without the neutrino, angular momentum would not <u>be conserved</u>.

Uh, oh .....



#### **The Neutrinos**

Neutrinos and photons are by far the most abundant known elementary particles in the universe. There are 340 neutrinos/cc.

The neutrinos are spin -1/2, electrically neutral, leptons.

The only known forces they experience are the weak force and gravity.

This means that they do not interact with other matter very much at all. Thus, neutrinos are difficult to detect and study.

Their weak interactions are successfully described by the Standard Model.

# The Neutrino Revolution (1998 – ...)

#### Neutrinos have nonzero masses!

Leptons mix!

#### The 2015 Nobel Prize in Physics went to **Takaaki Kajita** and **Art McDonald** for the experiments that proved this.







Sudbury Neutrino Observatory, Canada The discovery of neutrino mass and leptonic mixing comes from the observation of *neutrino flavor change (neutrino oscillation)*.

## The Physics of Neutrino Oscillation

### Preliminaries

#### **The Neutrino Flavors**

There are three flavors of charged leptons: e ,  $\,\mu$  ,  $\,\tau$ 

There are three known flavors of neutrinos:  $v_e$ ,  $v_{\mu}$ ,  $v_{\tau}$ 

We *define* the neutrinos of specific flavor,  $v_e$ ,  $v_{\mu}$ ,  $v_{\tau}$ , by W boson decays:



As far as we know, when a neutrino of given flavor interacts and turns into a charged lepton, that charged lepton will always be of the same flavor as the neutrino.



The weak interaction couples the neutrino of a given flavor only to the charged lepton of the same flavor.

Neutrino Flavor Change ("Oscillation") If neutrinos have masses, and leptons mix, we can have —



Give a v time to change character, and you can have

for example: 
$$v_{\mu} \longrightarrow v_{e}$$

The last 21 years have brought us compelling evidence that such flavor changes actually occur.

#### Flavor Change Requires *Neutrino Masses*

There must be some spectrum of neutrino mass eigenstates  $v_i$ :



Mass  $(v_i) \equiv m_i$ 

#### Flavor Change Requires *Leptonic Mixing*

The neutrinos  $V_{e, \mu, \tau}$  of definite flavor

 $(W \rightarrow e v_e \text{ or } \mu v_\mu \text{ or } \tau v_\tau)$ 

must be superpositions of the mass eigenstates:

$$| v_{\alpha} \rangle = \sum_{i} U^{*}_{\alpha i} | v_{i} \rangle .$$
Neutrino of flavor  
 $\alpha = e, \mu, \text{ or } \tau$ 

$$PMNS^{"} \text{ Leptonic Mixing Matrix}$$

$$Pontecorvo$$

The leptonic mass eigenstates are  $e, \mu, \tau$ , and  $v_1, v_2, v_3$ .

Notation:  $\ell$  denotes a charged lepton.  $\ell_e \equiv e, \ \ell_{\mu} \equiv \mu, \ \ell_{\tau} \equiv \tau$ .

Since the only charged lepton  $v_{\alpha}$  couples to is  $\ell_{\alpha}$ , the 3  $v_{\alpha}$  must be orthogonal.

To make up 3 orthogonal  $v_{\alpha}$ , we must have at least 3  $v_i$ . Unless some  $v_i$  masses are degenerate, all  $v_i$  will be orthogonal.



*Leptonic mixing* is easily incorporated into the Standard Model (SM) description of the  $\ell vW$  interaction.

For this interaction, we then have —



The SM interaction conserves the Lepton Number L, defined by  $L(v) = L(\mathbf{l}^-) = -L(\overline{v}) = -L(\mathbf{l}^+) = 1.$ 



## How Neutrino Oscillation In Vacuum Works





Neutrino sources are  $\sim$  constant in time.

Averaged over time, the

$$e^{-iE_{1}t} - e^{-iE_{2}t} \text{ interference}$$
  
is 
$$\left\langle e^{-i(E_{1}-E_{2})t} \right\rangle_{t} = 0 \text{ unless } E_{2} = E_{1}.$$

Only neutrino mass eigenstates with a common energy E are coherent.

(Stodolsky)

For each mass eigenstate  $v_i$ ,

$$p_i = \sqrt{E^2 - m_i^2} \cong E - \frac{m_i^2}{2E}$$

Then the plane-wave factor  $e^{i(p_i L - E_i t)}$  is —

$$e^{i\left(p_{i}L-E_{i}t\right)} \cong e^{i\left(1-\frac{m_{i}^{2}}{2E}\right)L-Et^{2}} = e^{iE\left(L-t\right)}e^{-im_{i}^{2}\frac{L}{2E}}$$
  
Irrelevant overall phase factor

Then –





#### Probability of Neutrino Oscillation in Vacuum

$$P\left(\nu_{\alpha} \rightarrow \nu_{\beta}\right) = \left|\operatorname{Amp}\left(\nu_{\alpha} \rightarrow \nu_{\beta}\right)\right|^{2} =$$

$$= \delta_{\alpha\beta} - 4 \bigsqcup_{i>j} \operatorname{Re}\left(U_{\alpha i}^{*}U_{\beta i}U_{\alpha j}U_{\beta j}^{*}\right) \sin^{2} \bigsqcup_{i}^{\Box} \Delta m_{i j}^{2} \frac{L}{4E} \bigsqcup_{i>j}^{\Box}$$

$$+ 2 \bigsqcup_{i>j} \operatorname{Im}\left(U_{\alpha i}^{*}U_{\beta i}U_{\alpha j}U_{\beta j}^{*}\right) \sin \bigsqcup_{i}^{\Box} \Delta m_{i j}^{2} \frac{L}{2E} \bigsqcup_{i>j}^{\Box}$$
where  $\Delta m_{i j}^{2} \Box m_{i}^{2} - m_{j}^{2}$ .

Neutrino flavor change implies neutrino mass!

#### Neutrinos vs. Antineutrinos

$$\left[\overline{\nu}_{\alpha}(\mathrm{RH}) \rightarrow \overline{\nu}_{\beta}(\mathrm{RH})\right] = \mathrm{CP}\left[\nu_{\alpha}(\mathrm{LH}) \rightarrow \nu_{\beta}(\mathrm{LH})\right]$$

A difference between the probabilities of these two oscillations in vacuum would be a leptonic violation of CP invariance.

Assuming CPT invariance —

$$P\left[\overline{\nu}_{\alpha}(\mathrm{RH}) \rightarrow \overline{\nu}_{\beta}(\mathrm{RH})\right] = P\left[\nu_{\beta}(\mathrm{LH}) \rightarrow \nu_{\alpha}(\mathrm{LH})\right]$$
Probability

$$P\left(\overline{\nu}_{\alpha} \rightarrow \overline{\nu}_{\beta}\right) =$$

$$= \delta_{\alpha\beta} - 4 \bigsqcup_{i>j} \operatorname{Re}\left(U_{\alpha i}^{*}U_{\beta i}U_{\alpha j}U_{\beta j}^{*}\right) \sin^{2} \bigsqcup_{i}^{\Box} \Delta m_{i j}^{2} \frac{L}{4E} \bigsqcup_{i>j}^{\Box} \left(U_{\alpha i}^{*}U_{\beta i}U_{\alpha j}U_{\beta j}^{*}\right) \sin^{2} \bigsqcup_{i>j}^{\Box} \Delta m_{i j}^{2} \frac{L}{2E} \bigsqcup_{i>j}^{\Box}$$

In neutrino oscillation, CP non-invariance comes from phases in the leptonic mixing matrix U. The plane-wave treatment of neutrino oscillation is not completely correct, since  $\Delta x \Delta p \ge \frac{\hbar}{2}$ .

The expression for the oscillation probability resulting from this treatment is wrong at very large *L*.

But a wave packet treatment shows that the plane-wave expression is correct under almost all circumstances.

### — Comments —



3. One can detect  $(v_{\alpha} \rightarrow v_{\beta})$  in two ways:

See  $v_{\beta \neq \alpha}$  in a  $v_{\alpha}$  beam (Appearance)

See some of known  $v_{\alpha}$  flux disappear (Disappearance)

4. Including  $\hbar$  and c

 $\sin^2[1.27\Delta m^2(\text{eV})^2 \frac{L(\text{km})}{E(\text{GeV})}]$  becomes appreciable when its argument reaches  $\mathcal{O}(1)$ .

An experiment with given L/E is sensitive to

5. Flavor change in vacuum oscillates with L/E. Hence the name "neutrino oscillation". {The L/E is from the proper time τ.}

6. P ( $\overline{v}_{\alpha} \rightarrow \overline{v}_{\beta}$ ) depends only on squared-mass splittings. Oscillation experiments cannot tell us (mass)<sup>2</sup>  $\mathbf{0}$ 

7. Neutrino flavor change does not change the total flux in a beam.

It just redistributes it among the flavors.

$$\sum_{\text{All }\beta} P(\vec{\nu}_{\alpha} \to \vec{\nu}_{\beta}) = 1$$

But some of the flavors  $\beta \neq \alpha$  could be sterile.

Then some of the *active* flux disappears:

Important Special Cases Three Flavors

For  $\beta \neq \alpha$ ,

$$e^{-im_{1}^{2}\frac{L}{2E}}\operatorname{Amp}^{*}(\nu_{\alpha} \to \nu_{\beta}) = \sum_{i} U_{\alpha i} U_{\beta i}^{*} e^{im_{i}^{2}\frac{L}{2E}} e^{-im_{1}^{2}\frac{L}{2E}}$$
$$= U_{\alpha 3} U_{\beta 3}^{*} e^{2i\Delta_{31}} + U_{\alpha 2} U_{\beta 2}^{*} e^{2i\Delta_{21}} \underbrace{-(U_{\alpha 3} U_{\beta 3}^{*} + U_{\alpha 2} U_{\beta 2}^{*})}_{\text{Unitarity}}$$
$$= 2i [U_{\alpha 3} U_{\beta 3}^{*} e^{i\Delta_{31}} \sin \Delta_{31} + U_{\alpha 2} U_{\beta 2}^{*} e^{i\Delta_{21}} \sin \Delta_{21}]$$

where 
$$\Delta_{ij} \equiv \Delta m_{ij}^2 \frac{L}{4E} \equiv (m_i^2 - m_j^2) \frac{L}{4E}$$

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$$\begin{split} P(\overline{\nu_{\alpha}}^{} \to \overline{\nu_{\beta}}) &= \left| e^{-im_{1}^{2} \frac{L}{2E}} \operatorname{Amp}^{*}(\overline{\nu_{\alpha}}^{} \to \overline{\nu_{\beta}}) \right|^{2} \\ &= 4[|U_{\alpha 3}U_{\beta 3}|^{2} \sin^{2} \Delta_{31} + |U_{\alpha 2}U_{\beta 2}|^{2} \sin^{2} \Delta_{21} \\ &+ 2|U_{\alpha 3}U_{\beta 3}U_{\alpha 2}U_{\beta 2}| \sin \Delta_{31} \sin \Delta_{21} \cos(\Delta_{32} \underset{(-)}{+} \delta_{32})] \end{split}$$

Here  $\delta_{32} \equiv \arg(U_{\alpha 3}U^*_{\beta 3}U^*_{\alpha 2}U_{\beta 2})$ , a CP – violating phase.

Two waves of different frequencies, and their *SP* interference.

#### When the Spectrum Is—



#### For $\beta \neq \alpha$ , (-) (-) $|^2 \sin^2(\Delta m^2 \frac{L}{4E})$ .

For no flavor change,

(---)

Experiments with flavor content of  $v_3$ .

can determine the

#### When There are Only Two Flavors and Two Mass Eigenstates





#### Neutrino Flavor Change In Matter



Coherent forward scattering via this W-exchange interaction leads to an extra interaction potential energy —

$$V_{W} = \begin{cases} +\sqrt{2}G_{F}N_{e}, & v_{e} \\ -\sqrt{2}G_{F}N_{e}, & \overline{v_{e}} \end{cases}$$
  
Fermi constant \_\_\_\_\_\_ Electron density

This raises the effective mass of  $v_e$ , and lowers that of  $\overline{v_e}_{35}$ .

The fractional importance of matter effects on an oscillation involving a vacuum splitting  $\Delta m^2$  is —



The matter effect —

— Grows with neutrino energy E

— Is sensitive to  $Sign(\Delta m^2)$ 

— Reverses when  $\nu$  is replaced by  $\overline{\nu}$ 

This last is a "fake CP violation" that has to be taken into account in searches for genuine CP violation.
Evídence For Flavor Change

#### <u>Neutrinos</u>

### Evidence of Flavor Change

Solar Reactor (Long-Baseline)

Atmospheric Accelerator (Long-Baseline)

Accelerator, Reactor, and Radioactive Sources (Short-Baseline) Compelling Compelling

Compelling Compelling

"Interesting"



### The (Mass)<sup>2</sup> Spectrum





Measurements of the tritium  $\beta$  energy spectrum bound the average neutrino mass —

$$\langle m_{\beta} \rangle = \sqrt{\left| U_{ei} \right|^2 m_i^2}$$
 (Farzan & Smirnov)

Presently: 
$$\langle m_{\beta} \rangle < 2 \text{ eV}$$
 (Mainz & Troitzk)

(Lecture by Kathrin Valerius)

### Leptonic Mixing

### Mixing means that —

$$| v_{\alpha} \rangle = \sum_{i} U^{*}_{\alpha i} | v_{i} \rangle .$$
Neutrino of flavor
$$\alpha = e, \mu, \text{ or } \tau$$
Neutrino of definite mass  $m_{i}$ 

Inversely, 
$$|v_i\rangle = \sum_{\alpha} U_{\alpha i} |v_{\alpha}\rangle$$
. (*if* U is unitary)

Flavor- $\alpha$  fraction of  $v_i = |U_{\alpha i}|^2$ .

When a  $v_i$  interacts and produces a charged lepton, the probability that this charged lepton will be of flavor  $\alpha$  is  $|U_{\alpha i}|^2$ . Experimentally, the flavor fractions are —



Observations We Can Use To Understand The Flavor Fractions



Isotropy of the  $\geq 2 \text{ GeV cosmic rays} + \text{Gauss' Law} + \text{No } \nu_{\mu} \text{ disappearance}$   $\Rightarrow \frac{\phi_{\nu_{\mu}} (\text{Up})}{\phi_{\nu_{\mu}} (\text{Down})} = 1$ . But Super-Kamiokande finds for  $E_{\nu} > 1.3 \text{ GeV}$ —





the solar splitting is largely invisible. Then—

Reactor – Neutrino Experiments and  $|U_{e3}|^2 = \sin^2\theta_{13}$ 

Reactor  $\overline{v}_e$  have  $E \sim 3$  MeV, so if  $L \sim 1.5$  km,

$$\sin^{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1.27 \Delta m^{2} (eV^{2}) \frac{L(km)}{E(GeV)} \end{bmatrix}$$
 will be sensitive to —

$$\Delta m^2 = \Delta m_{\rm atm}^2 = 2.5 \, \mathrm{x} \, 10^{-3} \mathrm{eV}^2 = \frac{1}{400} \mathrm{eV}^2$$

but not to —

$$\Delta m^2 = \Delta m_{sol}^2 = 7.6 \text{ x } 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2 \approx \frac{1}{13,000} \text{ eV}^2$$

Then —

$$P(\overline{v}_{e} \rightarrow \overline{v}_{e}) \cong 1 - 4|U_{e3}|^{2} (1 - |U_{e3}|^{2}) \sin^{2} [1 \cdot 27\Delta m_{atm}^{2} \frac{L(km)}{E(GeV)}]$$

Measurements by the Daya Bay, RENO, and Double CHOOZ reactor neutrino experiments, (and by the T2K accelerator neutrino experiment)



(Lecture by Yifang Wang)

## The Change of Flavor of Solar { e

Nuclear reactions in the core of the sun produce  $v_e$ . Only  $v_e$ .

The Sudbury Neutrino Observatory (SNO) measured, for the high-energy part of the solar neutrino flux:

$$v_{sol} d \rightarrow e p p \Rightarrow \phi_{v_e}$$

 $v_{sol} d \rightarrow v n p \implies \phi_{v_e} + \phi_{v_{\mu}} + \phi_{v_{\tau}}$  (v remains a v)

From the two reactions,

$$\frac{\phi_{\nu_e}}{0 \phi_{33} \phi_{\nu_{\mu}} + \phi_{\nu_{\tau}}} = 0.301 \pm$$

For solar neutrinos,  $P(v_e \rightarrow v_e) = 0.3$ 

# The Significance of $P(v_e \rightarrow v_e)$

For SNO-energy-range solar neutrinos, there is a very pronounced solar matter effect. (Mikheyev, Smirnov, Wolfenstein)

At these energies —

A solar neutrino is born in the core of the sun as a  $v_e$ .

But by the time it emerges from the outer edge of the sun, with 91% probability it is a  $v_2$ .

(Nunokawa, Parke, Zukanovich-Funchal)

Then 
$$P(v_e \rightarrow v_e)$$
 at earth  $= \left| \left\langle v_e \right| v_2 \right\rangle \right|^2 = \left| U_{e2} \right|^2$ .



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## Constructing the Approximate Mixing Matrix (A Blackboard Exercise)

The result —





 $\bigvee v_{e}[|U_{ei}|^{2}] \qquad \bigvee v_{\mu}[|U_{\mu i}|^{2}] \qquad \bigvee v_{\tau}[|U_{\tau i}|^{2}]$ 

### The Lepton Mixing Matrix U

 $U = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & | & c_{13} & 0 & s_{13}e^{-i\delta} & | & c_{12} & s_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & c_{23} & s_{23} & | & | & 0 & 1 & 0 & | & s_{12}e^{-i\delta} & | & s_{12}e^{-i\delta} & 0 & | & s_{12}e^{-i\delta} & | & s_{12}e^{-i\delta} & 0 & | & s_{12}e^{-i\delta} & | & s_{12}e^{-i\delta}$  $\begin{bmatrix} e^{j\alpha_1/2} & 0 & 0^{\Box} \\ \times \Box & 0 & e^{j\alpha_2/2} & 0 \\ \Box & 0 & 0 & 1_{\Box} \end{bmatrix}$  $c_{ij} \equiv \cos \theta_{ij}$  $s_{ij} \equiv \sin \theta_{ij}$ Note big mixing! Majorana phases  $\theta_{12} \approx 35^{\circ}$ ,  $\theta_{23} \approx 42-51^{\circ}$ ,  $\theta_{13} \approx 8.5^{\circ} \leftarrow Not very small!$ The phases violate CP.  $\delta$  would lead to  $P(\overline{\nu}_{\alpha} \rightarrow \overline{\nu}_{\beta}) \neq P(\nu_{\alpha} \rightarrow \nu_{\beta})$ . But note the crucial role of  $s_{13} \equiv \sin \theta_{13}$ . There is already a  $2\sigma$  hint of  $e^{p}(\sin \delta \neq 0)$  from T2K.

### The Majorana **CP** Phases

The phase  $\alpha_i$  is associated with neutrino mass eigenstate  $v_i$ :

 $U_{\alpha i} = U_{\alpha i}^0 \exp(i\alpha_i/2)$  for all flavors  $\alpha$ .

 $\begin{array}{l} \operatorname{Amp}(\nu_{\alpha} \rightarrow \nu_{\beta}) = \sum_{i} U_{\alpha i}^{*} \exp(-im_{i}^{2}L/2E) \ U_{\beta i} \\ \text{is insensitive to the Majorana phases } \alpha_{i} \, . \end{array}$  $\begin{array}{l} \operatorname{Only the phase } \delta \operatorname{can cause CP violation in} \\ \operatorname{neutrino oscillation.} \end{array}$ 

# There Is Nothing Special About $\theta_{13}$

All mixing angles must be nonzero for *CP* in oscillation.

For example —  $P(\overline{v}_{\mu} \rightarrow \overline{v}_{e}) - P(v_{\mu} \rightarrow v_{e}) = 2\cos\theta_{13}\sin2\theta_{13}\sin2\theta_{12}\sin2\theta_{23}\sin\delta$   $\times \sin\left(\Delta m^{2}_{31}\frac{L}{4E}\right)\sin\left(\Delta m^{2}_{32}\frac{L}{4E}\right)\sin\left(\Delta m^{2}_{21}\frac{L}{4E}\right)$ 

In the factored form of U, one can put  $\delta$  next to  $\theta_{12}$  instead of  $\theta_{13}$ .

# Looking to the Future

# Open Questions

•Are neutrinos their own antiparticles?

•Is the physics behind the masses of neutrinos different from that behind the masses of all other known particles?

•What is the absolute scale of neutrino mass?

•Is the spectrum like  $\equiv$  or  $\equiv$ ?

• Is  $\theta_{23}$  maximal?

•Do neutrino interactions violate CP? Is  $P(\bar{\nu}_{\alpha} \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_{\beta}) \neq P(\nu_{\alpha} \rightarrow \nu_{\beta})$ ?

•Is CP violation involving neutrinos the key to understanding the matter – antimatter asymmetry of the universe? •What can neutrinos and the universe tell us about one another?

Are there *more* than 3 mass eigenstates?
Are there "sterile" neutrinos that don't couple to the W or Z?

• Do neutrinos have Non-Standard-Model interactions? • Do neutrinos break the rules?

- Violation of Lorentz invariance?
- Violation of CPT invariance?
- Departures from quantum mechanics?

Are Neutrinos Their Own Antiparticles? (The Majorana vs. Dirac Question)

Is each neutrino mass eigenstate, such as  $v_1$ , **a Majorana fermion**  $\overline{v_1}(h) = v_1(h)$ or  $\overline{v_1}(h) = v_1(h)$ HeliCit y **a Dirac fermion**  $\overline{v_1}(h) \neq v_1(h)$ 

This question is particularly interesting because of its relation to another question:

# What is the origin of the neutrino masses? (Lectures by Alexei Smirnov)

In particular, are there neutrino *Majorana mass terms*?

Imagine a world with just one flavor, and correspondingly, just one neutrino mass eigenstate.

Acting on underlying, distinct, neutrino states v and  $\overline{v}$  out of which the mass eigenstate "v<sub>1</sub>" is composed, a Majorana mass has the effect —



A Majorana mass for any fermion f causes  $f \leftrightarrow f$ .

*Quark* and *charged-lepton* Majorana masses are **forbidden** by electric charge conservation.

Among the fundamental fermions, only *neutrinos* may have Majorana masses.

Having them would make the neutrinos special.

### The Mass Eigenstates When There Are Majorana Masses

For any fermion mass eigenstate, e.g.  $v_1$ , the action of its mass must be —



The mass eigenstate must be sent back into itself:

$$H|\nu_1\rangle = m_1|\nu_1\rangle$$

Recall that —



Then the mass eigenstate neutrino  $v_1$  must be —

$$v_1 = v + \overline{v}$$
,

since this is the neutrino that the Majorana mass term sends back into itself, as required for any mass eigenstate particle:



Consequence: The neutrino mass eigenstates  $v_1$ ,  $v_2$ ,  $v_3$  are their own antiparticles.

 $\overline{\mathbf{v}_i} = \mathbf{v}_i$  For given helicity

If the masses of the neutrino mass eigenstates Come from <u>both</u> Majorana mass terms and Standard Model-style "Dirac" mass terms, the neutrino mass eigenstates will still be Majorana partiCles. (Bilenky and Petcov)

### And going the other way —

If the neutrino mass eigenstates are Majorana particles, we can have  $- \mathbf{w}^+$   $\mathbf{w}^-$ 





# The Interactions of Dirac, and Especially Majorana, Neutrinos

## **SM Interactions Of A Dirac Neutrino**

We have 4 mass-degenerate states:



## **SM Interactions Of A Majorana Neutrino**

We have only 2 mass-degenerate states:



The SM weak interactions violate *parity*. (They can tell *Left* from *Right*.)

An incoming left-handed neutral lepton makes  $\ell^{\Box}$ . An incoming right-handed neutral lepton makes  $\ell^+$ .

### Note: "v" and " $\overline{v}$ " are *produced* with opposite helicity.



The weak interactions violate *Parity*. *Particles with lefthanded and right-handed helicity can behave differently*.
For *ultra-relativistic Majorana* neutrinos, *helicity* is a "substitute" for lepton number.

Majorana neutrinos behave indistiguishably from Dirac neutrinos.

However, for *non-relativistic* neutrinos, there can be a big difference between the behavior of Majorana neutrinos and Dirac neutrinos.

# To Determine Whether $\overline{v} \equiv v$

## The Major Approach — Seek Neutrinoless Double Beta Decay [0vββ]

(Lectures by Andrea Giuliani and Javier Menendez)



Observation at any non-zero level would imply —

≻Lepton number L is not conserved (∆L = 2)
 ≻Neutrinos have Majorana masses
 ≻Neutrinos are Majorana particles (self-conjugate)

Whatever diagrams cause  $0\nu\beta\beta$ , its observation would imply the existence of a Majorana mass term:

#### (Schechter and Valle)



 $\overline{\mathbf{v}} \rightarrow \mathbf{v}$ : A (tiny) Majorana mass term

An Alternative Approach: Study the Decays of a <u>Heavy</u> Neutral Lepton

Of course, this requires the *existence* of a heavy neutral lepton.

(Lecture by Dmitry Gorbunov)

A heavy neutral lepton is being sought at CERN, J-PARC, Fermilab, and perhaps elsewhere.

### How Decays Can Be Revealing

Suppose there is a heavy neutral lepton *N*.

A chain (say at the LHC) like —



would violate lepton number conservation, and signal that *N* is a Majorana neutrino.

To look for this, a detector must have charge discrimination.  $\frac{78}{78}$ 

### **Working Without Charge Discrimination**

The angular distributions in the decays —

could also reveal whether *N* is a Dirac or a Majorana particle.

(Balantekin, de Gouvêa, B. K.)

Depending on the mass of *N*, we could have —

$$X = \gamma$$
,  $\pi^0$ ,  $\rho^0$ ,  $Z^0$ , or  $H^0$ 

The leptons *N* are expected to be highly polarized by their production mechanism. Nevertheless —

From nothing but rotational and CPT invariance, if *N* is a Majorana particle, the angular distribution of daughter *X* in the *N* rest frame will be *isotropic*.

But if *N* is a Dirac particle, then —  $\frac{d\Gamma(N \to v + X)}{d(\cos \theta_X)} = \Gamma_0 \left(1 + \alpha \cos \theta_X\right)^{W.r.t. \vec{s}_N}$ 

with —

X	$\gamma$	$\pi^0$	$ ho^0$	$Z^0$	$H^0$
Quite non-isotropic					

If *N* is a Majorana particle, then <u>*all*</u> the neutrinos are Majorana particles.





## The Search for CP Violation When It Might Be That $\overline{v} = v$

## Whether neutrino interactions violate CP invariance is a major open question.

The experimental approach to testing for this violation is almost always described as the attempt to see whether —

$$P(\overline{\nu}_{\mu} \to \overline{\nu}_{e}) \neq P(\nu_{\mu} \to \nu_{e}).$$

This description is valid if  $\overline{\nu} \neq \nu$ , but not if  $\overline{\nu} = \nu$ .

However, the present and future experimental probes of leptonic CP-invariance violation are valid probes of this violation whether  $\overline{v} \neq v$  or  $\overline{v} = v$ .

These experiments are *completely insensitive* to whether  $\overline{v} \neq v$  or  $\overline{v} = v$ .

For any process 
$$i \to f$$
, and its CP-mirror image  
 $CP(i) \to CP(f)$ , CP invariance means that —  
 $\left| \left\langle f | T | i \right\rangle \right|^2 = \left| \left\langle CP(f) | T | CP(i) \right\rangle \right|^2$ .

#### So, compare two CP-mirror-image processes.

#### If they have different rates, CP invariance is violated.

Acting on a particle  $\psi$  with momentum  $\vec{p}$  and helicity *h*,

Rotation
$$(\pi)$$
CP $|\psi(\vec{p},h)\rangle = \eta |\overline{\psi}(\vec{p},-h)\rangle$ 

└── Irrelevant phase factor





**Important Notice** 

To correct for our not using an anti-detector, we must know how the cross sections for left-handed and right-handed neutrinos to interact in a detector compare.

Experiments to determine these cross sections are very important.

(Lecture by Jan Sobczyk)

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"Light Sterile Neutrinos: A White Paper," K. Abazajian et al., arXiv:1204.5379.



# Back Up

## The Origin of Neutrino Mass

The fundamental constituents of matter are the *quarks*, the *charged leptons*, and the *neutrinos*.

The discovery and study of the *Higgs boson* at CERN's Large Hadron Collider has provided strong evidence that the *quarks* and *charged leptons* derive their masses from an interaction with the *Higgs field*.

Most theorists strongly suspect that the origin of the neutrino masses is different from the origin of the quark and charged lepton masses.

The Standard-Model *Higgs field* is probably still involved, but there is probably something more something way outside the Standard Model —

Majorana masses.

More later .....





#### Gran Sasso Lab, Italy



# Is the Origin of Neutrino Mass Different?

## Neutrino Masses Without Field Theory

We will describe what the quantum field theory does, but without equations.

For simplicity, let us treat a world with just one flavor, and correspondingly, just one neutrino mass eigenstate.

We start with underlying neutrino states v and  $\overline{v}$  that are distinct from each other, like other familiar fermions, and are not the mass eigenstates.

We will have to see what the mass eigenstates are later.

#### We can have two types of masses:

#### <u>Dirac Mass</u>

Dirac mass

Dirac mass

A Dirac mass has the effect:



#### <u>Majorana Mass</u>

A Majorana mass has the effect:







Majorana masses mix v and  $\overline{v}$ , so they do not conserve the Lepton Number L that distinguishes leptons from antileptons:

$$L(v) = L(\ell^{-}) = -L(v) = -L(\ell^{+}) = 1$$

If there are no visibly large non-SM interactions that violate lepton number L, any violation of L that we might discover would have to come from Majorana neutrino masses. A Majorana mass for any fermion f causes  $f \leftrightarrow \overline{f}$ .

*Quark* and *charged-lepton* Majorana masses are **forbidden** by electric charge conservation.

But *neutrinos* are electrically neutral, so they **can** have Majorana masses.

Neutrino Majorana masses would make the neutrinos *very* distinctive, because —

Majorana neutrino masses have a different origin than the quark and charged-lepton masses. (Lectures by Alexei Smirnov)

## The Terminology

Suppose  $v_i$  is a *mass eigenstate*,

with given helicty h.

ΟΥ

•  $\overline{v_i}(h) = v_i(h)$  *Majorana neutrino* 

•  $\overline{v_i}(h) \neq v_i(h)$  *Dirac neutrino* 

We have just shown that if the underlying neutrino masses are *Majorana masses*, then the mass eigenstates are *Majorana neutrínos*. What Tritium  $\beta$  Decay Measures

Tritium decay:  ${}^{3}H \rightarrow {}^{3}He + e^{-} + \overline{v}_{i}$ ; i = 1, 2, or 3

There are 3 distinct final states.

The amplitudes for the production of these 3 distinct final states contribute *incoherently*.

$$BR({}^{3}H \rightarrow {}^{3}He + e^{-} + \overline{\nu}_{i}) \propto \left|U_{ei}\right|^{2}$$

In  ${}^{3}H \rightarrow {}^{3}He + e^{-} + \overline{\nu}_{i}$ , the bigger  $m_{i}$  is, the smaller the maximum electron energy is.

There are 3 separate thresholds in the  $\beta$  energy spectrum.

The  $\beta$  energy spectrum is modified according to —

$$(E_0 - E)^2 \Theta[E_0 - E] \square \square |U_{ei}|^2 (E_0 - E) \sqrt{(E_0 - E)^2 - m_i^2} \Theta[(E_0 - m_i) - E]$$

 $\beta$  energy —

Present experimental energy resolution is insufficient to separate the thresholds.

Measurements of the tritium  $\beta$  energy spectrum bound the average neutrino mass —

 $\langle m_{\beta} \rangle = \sqrt{\frac{|U_{ei}|^2}{i}} (Farzan \& Smirnov)$ 

Presently:  $\langle m_{\beta} \rangle < 2 \text{ eV}$  (Mainz & Troitzk)

(Lectures by Igor Tkachev & Loredana Gastaldo)

#### "Full" Joint Analysis Results on $\delta_{CP}$ (with Reactors' Measurement of $\sin^2\theta_{13}$ as a Constraint)



Chang Kee Jung



## Parametrizing the 3 X 3 Unitary Leptonic Mixing Matrix

Caution: We are *assuming* the mixing matrix U to be  $3 \ge 3$  and unitary.

$$\mathcal{L}_{SM} = -\frac{g}{\sqrt{2}} \prod_{\substack{\alpha = \mathbf{e}, \mu, \tau \\ i = 1, 2, 3}} \left( \overline{\boldsymbol{\ell}}_{L\alpha} \gamma^{\lambda} \boldsymbol{U}_{\alpha i} \boldsymbol{v}_{Li} \boldsymbol{W}_{\lambda}^{-} + \overline{\boldsymbol{v}}_{Li} \gamma^{\lambda} \boldsymbol{U}_{\alpha i}^{*} \boldsymbol{\ell}_{L\alpha} \boldsymbol{W}_{\lambda}^{+} \right)$$

$$(CP)\left(\overline{\ell}_{L\alpha}\gamma^{\lambda}U_{\alpha i}\nu_{Li}W_{\lambda}^{-}\right)(CP)^{-1}=\overline{\nu}_{Li}\gamma^{\lambda}U_{\alpha i}\ell_{L\alpha}W_{\lambda}^{+}$$

Phases in *U* will lead to CP violation, unless they are removable by redefining the leptons.

$$U_{\alpha i} \text{ describes} - \underbrace{V_{i}}_{\nu_{i}} \underbrace{\ell_{\alpha}}_{\ell_{\alpha}} W^{+} |H| \nu_{i} \rangle$$

When 
$$|v_i\rangle \rightarrow |e^{i\varphi}v_i\rangle$$
,  $U_{\alpha i} \rightarrow e^{i\varphi}U_{\alpha i}$ , all  $\alpha$   
When  $|\ell_{\alpha}^-\rangle \rightarrow |e^{i\varphi}\ell_{\alpha}^-\rangle$ ,  $U_{\alpha i} \rightarrow e^{-i\varphi}U_{\alpha i}$ , all i

Thus, one may multiply any column, or any row, of U by a complex phase factor without changing the physics.

Some phases may be removed from U in this way.

## When the Neutrino Mass Eigenstates Are Their Own Antiparticles

When this is the case, processes that do not conserve the lepton number  $L \equiv #(Leptons) - #(Antileptons)$  can occur.



The amplitude for any such *L*-violating process contains an extra factor.

When we phase-redefine  $v_i$  to remove a phase from U, that phase just moves to the extra factor.

It does not disappear from the physics.

Hence, when  $\overline{\nu_i} = \nu_i$ , *U* can contain extra physically-significant phases.

These are called Majorana phases.

#### How Many Mixing Angles and CP Phases Does U Contain?

Real parameters before constraints:		
Unitarity constraints — $\Box U_{\alpha i}^{*} U_{\beta i} = \delta_{\alpha \beta}$		
Each row is a vector of length unity:	- 3	
Each two rows are orthogonal vectors:	- 6	
Rephase the three $\ell_{\alpha}$ :	-3	
Rephase two $v_i$ , if $\overline{v_i} \neq v_i$ :	-2	
Total physically-significant parameters:		
Additional (Majorana) $\mathcal{P}$ phases if $\overline{v}_i = v_i$ :		
#### How Many Of The Parameters Are Mixing Angles?

The *mixing angles* are the parameters in U when it is *real*.

U is then a three-dimensional rotation matrix.

Everyone knows such a matrix is described in terms of 3 angles.

Thus, U contains 3 mixing angles.

**Summary** 

Mixing angles	$\mathcal{F}$ phases if $\overline{v}_i \neq v_i$	$\mathcal{CP}$ phases if $\overline{v}_i = v_i$	
3	1	3	

#### Multiplied out, the leptonic mixing matrix U is —

$$s_{ij} \equiv \sin \theta_{ij}$$

$$V_{1}$$

$$V_{2}$$

$$V_{3}$$

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} c_{12}c_{13} & s_{12}c_{13} & s_{3}e^{-i\delta} \\ -s_{12}c_{23} - c_{12}s_{23}s_{13}e^{i\delta} & c_{12}c_{23} - s_{12}s_{23}s_{13}e^{i\delta} & s_{23}c_{13} \\ -s_{12}s_{23} - c_{12}c_{23}s_{13}e^{i\delta} & -c_{12}s_{23} - s_{12}c_{23}s_{13}e^{i\delta} & c_{23}c_{13} \end{bmatrix} \tau$$

$$\times diag(e^{i\alpha_{1}/2}, e^{i\alpha_{2}/2}, 1)$$

 $c_{ij} \equiv \cos \theta_{ij}$ 

### Probability of Flavor Change in Matter of Constant Density (Freund; Nakamura & Petcov PDG review)

We quote an approximate expression for neutrinos from an accelerator traveling through earth matter to a detector hundreds of kilometers away.

Let 
$$A \Box \sqrt{2}G_F N_e \frac{2E}{\Delta m_{31}^2}$$
,  $\Delta \Box \frac{\Delta m_{31}^2 L}{4E}$ , and  $\alpha \Box \frac{\Delta m_{21}^2}{\Delta m_{31}^2}$ .  
Also, let —  
 $T_{CP} \Box - \mathrm{Im} \left( U_{\mu 3}^* U_{e 3} U_{\mu 2} U_{e 2}^* \right) = \frac{1}{8} \cos \theta_{13} \sin 2\theta_{13} \sin 2\theta_{12} \sin 2\theta_{23} \sin \delta \theta_{23}$ .  
This quantity, the **leptonic Jarlskog invariant**,

is one measure of how big leptonic CP violation is.

In terms of these quantities —

$$P\left(\nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \nu_{e}\right) \cong P_{0} + P_{\sin\delta} + P_{\cos\delta} + P_{3}$$
where
$$P_{0} = \sin^{2}\theta_{23}\sin^{2}2\theta_{13}\frac{\sin^{2}\left[\left(1-A\right)\Delta\right]}{\left(1-A\right)^{2}}$$

$$P_{\sin\delta} = -\alpha\left(8J_{CP}\right)\sin\Delta\frac{\left(\sin A\Delta\right)\left(\sin\left[\left(1-A\right)\Delta\right]\right)}{A\left(1-A\right)}$$

$$P_{\cos\delta} = \alpha\left(8J_{CP}\cot\delta\right)\cos\Delta\frac{\left(\sin A\Delta\right)\left(\sin\left[\left(1-A\right)\Delta\right]\right)}{A\left(1-A\right)}$$
and
$$P_{3} = \alpha^{2}\cos^{2}\theta_{23}\sin^{2}2\theta_{12}\frac{\sin^{2}A\Delta}{A^{2}}$$

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This approximation keeps terms up to 2<sup>nd</sup> order  
in 
$$|\alpha| \approx 0.03$$
 and  $\sin^2 \theta_{13} \approx 0.02$ .  
 $P(\overline{\nu}_{\mu} \rightarrow \overline{\nu}_{e}) = P(\nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \nu_{e})$  with  $\delta \rightarrow -\delta$  and  $A \rightarrow -A$ 

The  $P_{sin\delta}$  term is the only one that changes due to *intrinsic CP violation* when we go from neutrino oscillation to antineutrino oscillation.

But even if there is no intrinsic CP violation ( $\sin \delta = 0$ ), the neutrino and antineutrino oscillation probabilities will differ due to the matter effect ( $A \square 0$ ).

*How* they differ 
$$\longrightarrow$$
 Sign (A)  $\longrightarrow$  Sign $\left(\Delta m_{31}^2\right)$ 

# **Selected Questions:**

Why They Are

# Interesting, and How They May Be

Answered



(Lectures by Carlo Giunti & Jonathan Link)

Sterile Neutrino One that does not couple to the SM W or Z boson

A "sterile" neutrino may well couple to some non-SM particles. These particles could perhaps be found at LHC or elsewhere. The Hints of eV-Mass Sterile Neutrinos Probability (Oscillation)  $\propto \sin^2 \left[ 1.27 \Delta m^2 \left( eV^2 \right) \frac{L(m)}{E(MeV)} \right]$ 

There are several hints of oscillation with  $L(m)/E(MeV) \sim 1$ :

These  $\longrightarrow$  a  $\Delta m^2 \sim 1 \text{ eV}^2$ , bigger than the two established splittings. At least 4 mass eigenstates $^{1}_{I}$ At least 4 flavors  $\frac{\Gamma(Z \to v\overline{v})\big|_{\text{Exp}}}{\Gamma(Z \to \text{One } v\overline{v} \text{ Flavor})\big|_{\text{SM}}} = 2.984 \pm 0.009$ Then At least 1 sterile neutrino

# Resource Slides

# KamLAND Evidence for O<sup>s</sup>cilatory Behavior

The KamLAND detector studied  $\overline{v_e}$  produced by Japanese nuclear power reactors ~ 180 km away.

For KamLAND,  $x_{Matter} < 10^{-2}$ . Matter effects are negligible.

The  $\overline{\nu}_{\epsilon}$  survival probability,  $P(\overline{\nu}_{e} \rightarrow \overline{\nu}_{e})$ , should oscillate as a function of L/E following the vacuum oscillation formula.

In the two-neutrino approximation, we expect —

$$P(\overline{\nu}_e \to \overline{\nu}_e) = 1 - \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2 \left[ 1.27 \Delta m^2 \left( eV^2 \right) \frac{L(km)}{E(GeV)} \right].$$



 $L_0 = 180$  km is a flux-weighted average travel distance.

 $P(\overline{v}_e \rightarrow \overline{v}_e)$  actually oscillates!

## The Behavior of Reactor ↑e In KamLAND



The leptonic mixing matrix U is —  

$$\begin{array}{c}
c_{ij} \equiv \cos \theta_{ij} \\
s_{ij} \equiv \sin \theta_{ij}
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
V_1 & V_2 & V_3 \\
c_{12}c_{13} & g_2c_{13} & g_3e^{-i\delta} \\
U = F_{g_2}c_{23} - c_{12}s_{23}g_3e^{i\delta} & c_{12}c_{23} - g_{12}s_{23}g_3e^{i\delta} & s_{23}c_{13} \\
g_{12}s_{23} - c_{12}c_{23}g_3e^{i\delta} & -c_{12}s_{23} - g_{12}c_{23}g_3e^{i\delta} & c_{23}c_{13} \\
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
c_{ij} \equiv \cos \theta_{ij} \\
s_{ij} \equiv \sin \theta_{ij}
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
V_3 \\
g_{12}c_{13} & g_{12}c_{13} & g_{12}c_{13} & g_{13}e^{-i\delta} \\
c_{12}c_{23} - g_{12}s_{23}g_3g_3e^{i\delta} & s_{23}c_{13} \\
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
c_{ij} \equiv \cos \theta_{ij} \\
s_{ij} \equiv \sin \theta_{ij}
\end{array}$$



#### Has leptonic CP violation already been seen?

CP violation  $\propto \sin \delta_{CP}$ 



• Prefers large CP violation,  $\delta_{CP}=0$  disfavored at 90% C.L.

• In combination with reactor results, disfavors  $\delta_{CP}=0$  at  $2\sigma$ 

#### **Current Issues**

#### Is $\theta_{23}$ maximal (45°)?

If so, there may well be a symmetry behind that.



#### Has leptonic CP violation already been seen?

#### CP violation $\propto \sin \delta_{CP}$

When combined with reactor measurements, the hypothesis of CP conservation ( $\delta_{CP} = 0 \text{ or } \pi$ ) is excluded at 90% confidence level.

T2K, July 5, 2017

### But —

	$3\sigma$ range	
$\sin^2 heta_{12}$	0.271  ightarrow 0.345	
$\theta_{12}/^{\circ}$	$31.38 \rightarrow 35.99$	Global fit of Esteban, et al.
$\sin^2 heta_{23}$	0.385  ightarrow 0.638	
$ heta_{23}/^{\circ}$	38.4  ightarrow 53.0	
$\sin^2 heta_{13}$	0.01934  ightarrow 0.02397	
$\theta_{13}/^{\circ}$	7.99  ightarrow 8.91	
$\delta_{ m CP}/^{\circ}$	$0 \rightarrow 360$	
$rac{\Delta m^2_{21}}{10^{-5}~{ m eV}^2}$	7.03  ightarrow 8.09	
$rac{\Delta m^2_{3\ell}}{10^{-3}~{ m eV}^2}$	$ \begin{bmatrix} +2.407 \rightarrow +2.643 \\ -2.629 \rightarrow -2.405 \end{bmatrix} $	

Most theorists strongly suspect that, unlike the quarks and the charged leptons, neutrinos have Majorana masses.

If true, this would make the neutrinos quite Special.

So, what are Majorana masses?

# Majorana Masses — In Pictures, Without Quantum Field Theory

## The Possible Origins of Majorana Masses

According to the Standard Model —

Quark and charged lepton masses arise from an interaction with the Higgs field.

*Dirac* neutrino masses would arise in the same way.

But *Majorana* neutrino masses cannot arise as the quark and charged lepton masses do.

*Majorana* neutrino masses are from physics way outside the Standard Model.

A *Majorana* neutrino mass can arise without interaction with any Higgs field,

 or through interaction with a Higgs-like field which is not in the Standard Model,
 and carries a different value of the "weak isospin" quantum number than the Standard Model Higgs,

— or through interaction with the Standard Model Higgs, but not the same kind of interaction as would generate the quark masses. When an underlying v has only a *Dirac* mass, the resulting mass eigenstate is *one Dirac* neutrino.

We have seen that when an underlying v has only a *Majorana* mass, the resulting mass eigenstate is *one Majorana* neutrino.

When there are *both* Dirac and Majorana masses, *two Majorana* mass eigenstates result.

## What Happens?

The Majorana mass term splits a Dirac neutrino into two Majorana neutrinos.

