

# Phenomenology with sterile neutrinos

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Fermilab, February 2012



based on work done in collaboration with  
Evgeny Akhmedov, Roni Harnik, Boris Kayser,  
Pedro Machado, Michele Maltoni, Thomas Schwetz

# Outline

- 1 Theoretical and experimental motivation
- 2 Oscillations with sterile neutrinos
- 3 Neutrino physics with dark matter detectors
- 4 Conclusions

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# Theoretical motivation

- Standard Model singlet fermions are a very generic feature of “new physics” models
  - ▶ Leftovers of extended gauge multiplets (e.g. GUT multiplets) (typically heavy)
  - ▶ Dark matter (keV ... TeV or above)
- Neutrino–singlet mixing is one of the allowed “portals” between the SM and a hidden sector.
- SM singlet fermions can live at any mass scale
  - ▶ Here: Focus on  $\mathcal{O}(\text{eV})$  sterile neutrinos (accessible to oscillation experiments)
  - ▶ Motivated experimentally
- Typical Lagrangian:

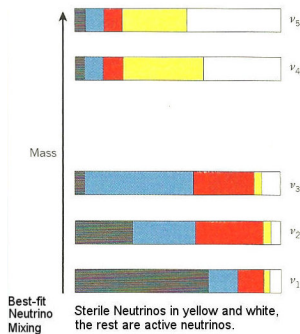
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{mass}} \supset Y_\nu \bar{L} H^* N_R + m_s \bar{\nu}_s N_R + \frac{1}{2} M \overline{N_R^c} N_R + h.c.$$

⇒ mass mixing between active and sterile neutrinos

# Experimental signatures of sterile neutrinos

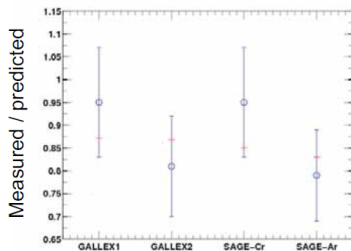
- Disappearance of active neutrinos (e.g.  $\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_s$  oscillations)
- Anomalous transitions Appearance among active neutrinos (e.g.  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_s \rightarrow \nu_e$ )
- Oscillation length  $L^{\text{osc}} = 4\pi E / \Delta m_{41}^2$  different from SM expectation (typically shorter)

Notation:  $\Delta m_{jk}^2 = m_j^2 - m_k^2$ ;  $m_{4,5}$ : mostly sterile,  $m_{1,2,3}$ : mostly active



# Experimental motivation 1: The Gallium anomaly

- Intense radioactive  $\nu_e$  sources ( $^{51}\text{Cr}$  and  $^{37}\text{Ar}$ ) have been deployed in the GALLEX and SAGE solar neutrino detectors
- Neutrino detection via  $^{71}\text{Ga} + \nu_e \rightarrow ^{71}\text{Ge} + e^-$
- Result: Measurements consistently lower than expectation ( $2.7\sigma$ )



Giunti Laveder arXiv:1005.4599, arXiv:1006.3244  
Mention et al. Moriond 2011 talk

- Question: How well are efficiencies of the radiochemical method understood?

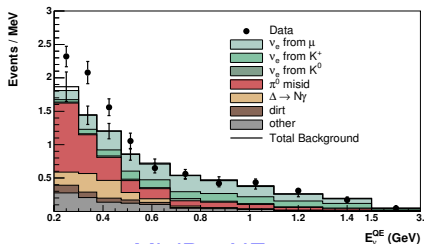
# Experimental motivation 2: LSND and MiniBooNE

## ● LSND:

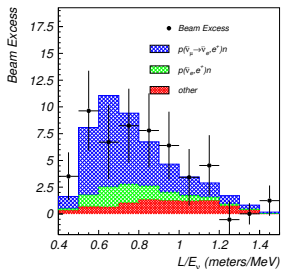
- ▶  $\bar{\nu}_e$  appearance in  $\bar{\nu}_\mu$  beam from stopped pion source ( $3\sigma$ )

## ● MiniBooNE:

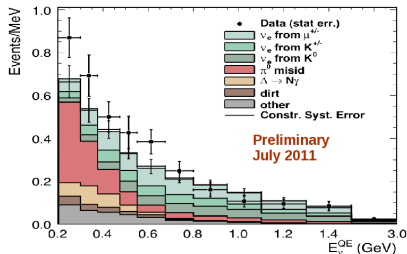
- ▶ No significant  $\nu_e$  or  $\bar{\nu}_e$  excess in the LSND-preferred region
- ▶ but  $\bar{\nu}_e$  consistent with LSND
- ▶ Low- $E$  excess not understood



MiniBooNE  $\nu_e$



LSND  $\bar{\nu}_e$



MiniBooNE  $\bar{\nu}_e$

# Experimental motivation 3: The reactor anomaly

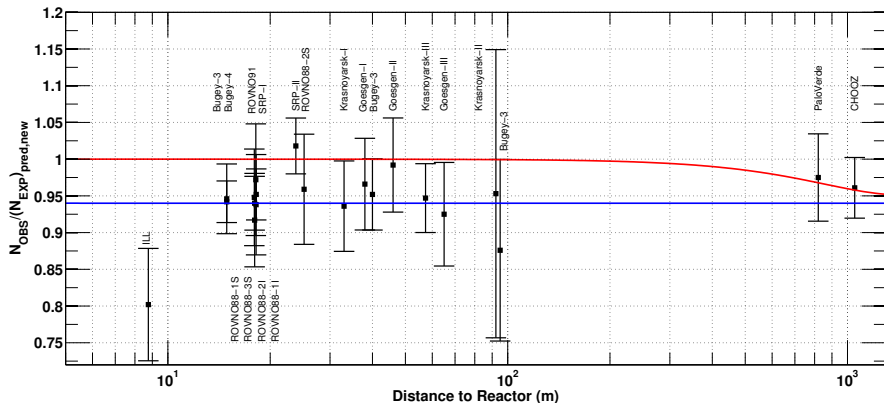
- Recent **reevaluation** of expected reactor  $\bar{\nu}_e$  flux is  $\sim 3.5\%$  **higher** than previous prediction Mueller et al. arXiv:1101.2663, confirmed by P. Huber arXiv:1106.0687
- **Method:** Use measured  $\beta$ -spectra from  $^{238}\text{U}$ ,  $^{235}\text{U}$ ,  $^{241}\text{Pu}$  fission at ILL and convert to  $\bar{\nu}_e$  spectrum (for single  $\beta$ -decay:  $E_\nu = Q - E_e$ )
- **Problem:** Requires knowledge of  $Q$ -values for **all** contributing decays.  
→ take from nuclear databases where available, fit to data otherwise
- **Cross check:**
  - ▶ Simulate **mock  $e^-$  spectra** using few well-understood  $\beta$ -decays
  - ▶ Reconstruct  $\bar{\nu}_e$  spectrum using **old method**: Result is **3% too low**
  - ▶ Reconstruct  $\bar{\nu}_e$  spectrum using **new method**: Result is **exact**.
- **Possible problem:** Poorly understood effects in nuclei with **large  $\log ft$**

Huber arXiv:1106.0687



# The reactor anti-neutrino anomaly

- Have short-baseline reactor experiments observed a  $\bar{\nu}_e$  deficit?



Mention et al. arXiv:1101.2755

red = old reactor  $\bar{\nu}_e$  flux prediction  
blue = new reactor  $\bar{\nu}_e$  flux prediction

# Sterile neutrino oscillations

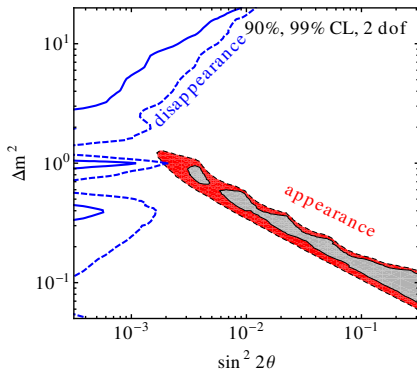
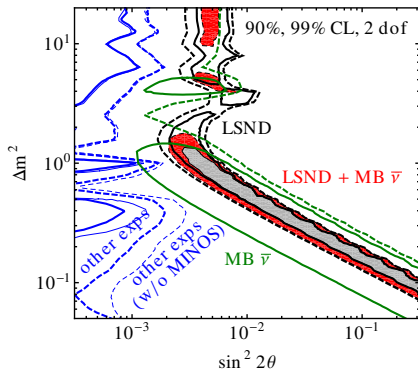
## Idea:

- Introduce extra neutrino flavor  $\nu_s$ , mixing with the active ones
- $\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_s$  oscillations explain Gallium anomaly
- $\bar{\nu}_e \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_s$  oscillations explain reactor anomaly
- $\bar{\nu}_\mu \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_s \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e$  oscillations explain LSND + MiniBooNE

# A 3+1 model: 3 active neutrinos + 1 sterile neutrino

- Short baseline: Standard oscillations **ineffective** ( $\Delta m_{21}^2$ ,  $\Delta m_{31}^2$  too small)
- Add **extra (sterile) neutrino**
- Fit shows: **3+1 neutrino scheme does not work well**

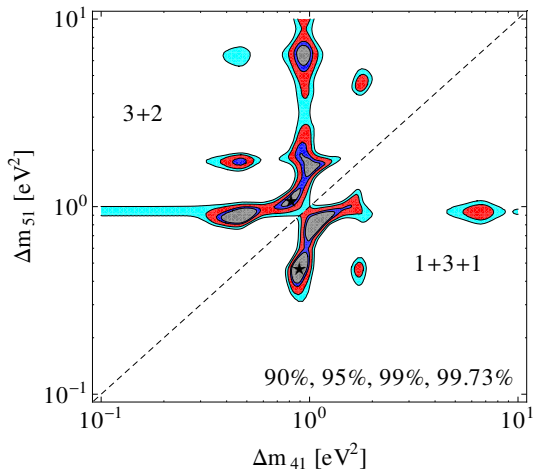
JK Maltoni Schwetz 1103.4570 and work in progress  
see also Giunti Laveder 1107.1452 and 1109.4033; Mention et al. 1101.2755; Karagiorgi et al. 0906.1997 and 1110.3735



“other expts” = NOMAD, KARMEN, MB  $\nu$ , SBL reactors, CDHS, atmospheric  $\nu$ , MINOS  
 $\theta$  = effective mixing angle for  $(\bar{\nu}_\mu \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_s \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e)$  oscillations

# Global fit in a 5-flavor scheme

Check if more than one sterile neutrino improves the fit:



JK Maltoni Schwetz 1103.4570 and work in progress

# Global fit in a 5-flavor scheme (2)

	$ \Delta m_{41}^2 $	$ U_{e4} $	$ U_{\mu 4} $	$ \Delta m_{51}^2 $	$ U_{e5} $	$ U_{\mu 5} $	$\delta/\pi$	$\chi^2/\text{dof}$
3+1	0.48	0.14	0.23					255.5/252
3+2	1.10	0.14	0.11	0.82	0.13	0.12	-0.31	245.2/247
1+3+1	0.48	0.13	0.12	0.90	0.15	0.15	0.62	241.6/247

	LSND+MB( $\bar{\nu}$ ) vs rest		appearance vs disapp.	
	old	new	old	new
$\chi_{\text{PG}_{3+1}}^2/\text{dof}$	27.3/2	25.8/2	15.7/2	14.2/2
$\text{PG}_{3+1}$	$1.2 \times 10^{-6}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-6}$	$3.9 \times 10^{-4}$	$8.2 \times 10^{-4}$
$\chi_{\text{PG}_{3+2}}^2/\text{dof}$	30.0/5	24.8/5	24.7/4	19.5/4
$\text{PG}_{3+2}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-4}$	$5.7 \times 10^{-5}$	$6.1 \times 10^{-4}$
$\chi_{\text{PG}_{1+3+1}}^2/\text{dof}$	24.9/5	21.2/5	19.6/4	10.7/4
$\text{PG}_{1+3+1}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-4}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-4}$	$6.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.1 \times 10^{-2}$

Parameter goodness of fit: Test compatibility of 2 data sets by comparing global  $\chi_{\text{min}}^2$  to  $\chi_{\text{min}}^2$  for separate fits

# Sterile neutrinos in cosmology

Models with one or several  $\mathcal{O}(\text{eV})$  sterile neutrinos are constrained by cosmology:

Sum of neutrino masses

$$\sum m_\nu \lesssim 0.5 \text{ eV}$$

# of relativistic species

$$N_\nu > 3 \text{ mildly preferred}$$

Hamann Hannestad Raffelt Tamborra Wong, arXiv:1006.5276

Ways out:

- *Even more* relativistic degrees of freedom
- *Dark energy* equation of state parameter  $w < -1$
- Neutrino *chemical potential*

Hamann Hannestad Raffelt Wong, arXiv:1108.4136

- *Suppressed production* of sterile neutrinos in the early universe for instance by coupling to a *Majoron field*

Bento Berezhiani, hep-ph/0108064

## Global fits — take home message

Substantial **tension** in the global fit.

- Is one (or all) of the **positive results** not due to neutrino oscillations?
- Is one (or several) of the **null results** wrong?
- Are there **more than 2 sterile flavors**?
- Are there sterile neutrinos **plus something else**?

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# The standard lore on neutrino oscillations

Diagonalization of the mass terms of the charged leptons and neutrinos gives

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{g}{\sqrt{2}} (\bar{e}_{\alpha L} \gamma^\mu U_{\alpha j} \nu_{jL}) W_\mu^- + \text{diag. mass terms} + h.c.$$

(flavor eigenstates:  $\alpha = e, \mu, \tau$ , mass eigenstates:  $j = 1, 2, 3$ )

Assume, at time  $t = 0$  and location  $\vec{x} = 0$ , a flavour eigenstate

$$|\nu(0, 0)\rangle = |\nu_\alpha\rangle = \sum_i U_{\alpha j}^* |\nu_j\rangle$$

is produced. At time  $t$ , location  $\vec{x}$  it has evolved into

$$|\nu(t)\rangle = \sum_i U_{\alpha j}^* e^{-iE_j t + i\vec{p}_j \vec{x}} |\nu_j\rangle$$

Oscillation probability: ( $L_{jk}^{\text{osc}} = 4\pi E / \Delta m_{jk}^2$ )

$$P(\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta) = \left| \langle \nu_\beta | \nu(t) \rangle \right|^2 = \sum_{j,k} U_{\alpha j}^* U_{\beta j} U_{\alpha k} U_{\beta k}^* e^{-i(E_j - E_k)t + i(\vec{p}_j - \vec{p}_k)\vec{x}}$$

## The standard lore on neutrino oscillations (2)

In the two-flavor approximation (working in one dimension and assuming  $t = x \equiv L$ ):

$$\begin{aligned} P(\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta) &= \sum_{j,k} U_{\alpha j}^* U_{\beta j} U_{\alpha k} U_{\beta k}^* e^{-i(E_j - E_k)t + i(\vec{p}_j - \vec{p}_k)\vec{x}} \\ &= \sum_{j,k} U_{\alpha j}^* U_{\beta j} U_{\alpha k} U_{\beta k}^* \exp \left[ -2\pi i \frac{L}{L_{jk}^{\text{osc}}} \right] \\ &\simeq \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2 \frac{\Delta m^2 L}{4E} \end{aligned}$$

( $\theta$  = mixing angle,  $\Delta m^2 = m_2^2 - m_1^2$ ,  $\alpha \neq \beta$ )

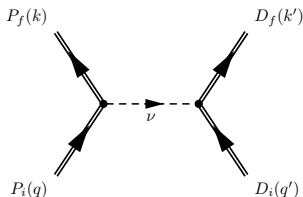
# Going beyond the standard approach

Questions **not answered** by the standard approach:

- How does the **Heisenberg uncertainty** on  $E_j, \vec{p}_j$  ( $\sigma_E, \sigma_p \gg \Delta m^2/2E$ ) due to **localization of the source and detector** affect oscillations?
- How heavy can a **sterile neutrino** be before it can **no longer interfere** with the active neutrinos?
- Is the neutrino **kinematically entangled** with its interaction partners (e.g. the muon in  $\pi \rightarrow \mu\nu$ )?
- ...

# Neutrino wave packets

One consistent solution: Feynman diagram approach to neutrino oscillations



Akhmedov Cohen Beuthe Cardall Giunti Glashow  
Grimus Jacob Kayser Keister Kiers Kim JK  
Lee Ligeti Lindner Nussinov Polyzou Rich Sachs  
Stockinger Smirnov Weiss, ...

Treat external particles as (Gaussian) wave packets:

	initial state	final state
Production vertex	$\phi_{P_i}(\vec{x}_1 - \vec{x}_P) e^{-iE_{P_i} t_1}$	$\phi_{P_f}(\vec{x}_1 - \vec{x}_P) e^{+iE_{P_f} t_1}$
Detection vertex	$\phi_{D_i}(\vec{x}_2 - \vec{x}_D) e^{-iE_{D_i} t_2}$	$\phi_{D_f}(\vec{x}_2 - \vec{x}_D) e^{+iE_{D_f} t_2}$

# Transition amplitude

$$\begin{aligned}
 i\mathcal{A}_{\alpha\beta} = & \int d^3x_1 dt_1 \int d^3x_2 dt_2 \phi_{Pi}(\vec{x}_1 - \vec{x}_P) e^{-iE_{Pi}t_1} \phi_{Pf}(\vec{x}_1 - \vec{x}_P) e^{+iE_{Pf}t_1} \\
 & \times \phi_{Di}(\vec{x}_2 - \vec{x}_D) e^{-iE_{Di}t_2} \phi_{Df}(\vec{x}_2 - \vec{x}_D) e^{+iE_{Df}t_2} \\
 & \times \sum_j \mathcal{M}_P \mathcal{M}_D U_{\alpha j}^* U_{\beta j} \int \frac{d^4p}{(2\pi)^4} e^{-ip_0(t_2-t_1) + i\vec{p}(\vec{x}_2-\vec{x}_1)} \frac{i(\not{p} + m_j)}{p_0^2 - \vec{p}^2 - m_j^2 + i\epsilon}.
 \end{aligned}$$

(assuming  $\phi_{Pi}$ ,  $\phi_{Pf}$ ,  $\phi_{Di}$ ,  $\phi_{Df}$  to be spinors)

- $dt_1 dt_2$ -integrals  $\rightarrow$  energy-conserving  $\delta$  functions  $\rightarrow p_0$ -integral trivial
- $d^3x_1 d^3x_2$ -integrals can be evaluated if wave packets are Gaussian
- $d^3p$ -integral: Use **Grimus-Stockinger theorem** (limit of propagator for large  $L = |\vec{x}_D - \vec{x}_S|$ ):

W. Grimus, P. Stockinger, Phys. Rev. **D54** (1996) 3414, hep-ph/9603430

$$\int d^3p \frac{\psi(\vec{p}) e^{i\vec{p}\vec{L}}}{A - \vec{p}^2 + i\epsilon} \xrightarrow{|\vec{L}| \rightarrow \infty} -\frac{2\pi^2}{L} \psi(\sqrt{A}\vec{L}) e^{i\sqrt{A}L} + \mathcal{O}(L^{-\frac{3}{2}}).$$

# Oscillation probability

$$P_{\alpha\beta}(L) \propto \sum_{j,k} U_{\alpha j}^* U_{\alpha k} U_{\beta k}^* U_{\beta j} \exp \left[ -2\pi i \frac{L}{L_{jk}^{\text{osc}}} - \left( \frac{L}{L_{jk}^{\text{coh}}} \right)^2 - \frac{(\Delta m_{jk}^2)^2}{32\sigma_m^2 E^2} - 2\pi^2 \xi^2 \left( \frac{\sigma_x}{L_{jk}^{\text{osc}}} \right)^2 - \frac{(m_j^2 + m_k^2)^2}{32\sigma_m^2 E^2} \right],$$

Five terms:

see e.g. Beuthe hep-ph/0109119

- Oscillation ( $L_{jk}^{\text{osc}} = 4\pi E / \Delta m_{jk}^2$ )
- Decoherence during propagation (see below)
- Decoherence at production/detection (see below)
- Localization: Typically requires size of neutrino wave packet  $\sigma_x$  smaller than oscillation length ( $\xi =$  process-dependent parameter, can also be  $\sim 0$ )
- Approximate conservation of average energies/momenta

# Oscillation probability

$$P_{\alpha\beta}(L) \propto \sum_{j,k} U_{\alpha j}^* U_{\alpha k} U_{\beta k}^* U_{\beta j} \exp \left[ -2\pi i \frac{L}{L_{jk}^{\text{osc}}} - \left( \frac{L}{L_{jk}^{\text{coh}}} \right)^2 - \frac{(\Delta m_{jk}^2)^2}{32\sigma_m^2 E^2} - 2\pi^2 \xi^2 \left( \frac{\sigma_x}{L_{jk}^{\text{osc}}} \right)^2 - \frac{(m_j^2 + m_k^2)^2}{32\sigma_m^2 E^2} \right],$$

see e.g. Beuthe hep-ph/0109119

In two-flavor approximation, for not too large  $L$  and  $m_j, m_k$ , the well known formula

$$P(\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta) = \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2 \frac{\Delta m^2 L}{4E}, \quad \Delta m^2 = m_2^2 - m_1^2$$

is approximately recovered.

# Decoherence due to wave packet separation

- The neutrino's mass eigenstate components **separate spatially** due to their different group velocities



$$P_{\alpha\beta}(L) \propto \exp \left[ - \left( \frac{L}{L_{\text{coh}}} \right)^2 \right] = \exp \left[ - \left( \frac{L \Delta m_{jk}^2}{4\sqrt{2}\sigma_x E^2} \right)^2 \right]$$

- Decoherence happens **faster** for **short neutrino wave packets** (small  $\sigma_x$ ), **large  $\Delta m^2$** , or **low energy** ( $\rightarrow$  larger velocity difference)
- $\sigma_x$  is an **effective wave packet size** which depends on the localization of the **production process (Prod)** and the **detection process (Det)**

$$\sigma_x^2 = \sigma_{x,\text{Prod}}^2 + \sigma_{x,\text{Det}}^2$$

(spatially **delocalized detection process** can restore coherence even if mass eigenstates are already separated)

- The difficult part:** Estimate  $\sigma_{x,\text{Prod}}$ ,  $\sigma_{x,\text{Det}}$



# Wave packet decoherence in the NuMI beam

- In the NuMI beam
  - ▶  $10^{-9} \text{ cm} \ll \sigma_x \lesssim 10 \text{ cm}$   
lower limit: interatomic distance scale  
upper limit: timing resolution of experimental electronics
  - ▶  $E \sim 5 \text{ GeV}$
  - ▶  $\Delta m_{31}^2 = 2.4 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$

## Coherence length

$$L_{jk}^{\text{coh}} = 4\sqrt{2}\sigma_x E^2 / \Delta m_{jk}^2$$
$$\simeq 6 \times 10^5 \text{ light years} \left( \frac{\sigma_x}{10 \text{ cm}} \right) \left( \frac{E}{5 \text{ GeV}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{2.4 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2}{\Delta m_{jk}^2} \right)$$

... not relevant experimentally

Note: For **supernova neutrinos** (smaller  $\sigma_x$ , lower  $E$ ),  $L^{\text{coh}}$  is *very relevant*

# Decoherence in neutrino production and detection

$$P_{\alpha\beta}(L) \propto \exp \left[ - \frac{(\Delta m_{jk}^2)^2}{32\sigma_m^2 E^2} \right]$$

- This term accounts for two effects:
  - ▶ If the neutrino's parent particle (here: the pion) travels a long distance ( $> L^{\text{osc}}$ ) while decaying, oscillations are **averaged out**.
  - ▶ If the experimental energy- and momentum resolutions are sufficient to **determine the neutrino mass kinematically**, oscillations will **vanish**.
- In the NuMI beam, the first effect dominates and **precludes active–sterile oscillations for**

$$\Delta m_{41}^2 \gtrsim 30 \text{ eV}^2$$

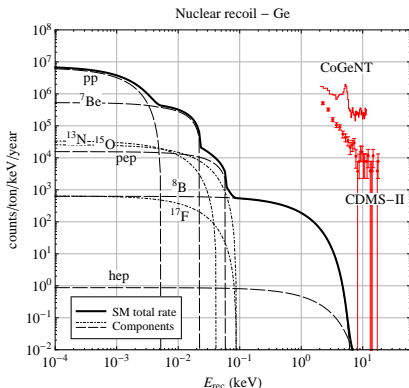
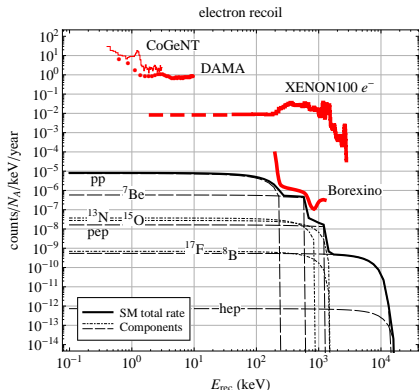
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# Neutrinos and direct dark matter detection

- Solar and atmospheric neutrinos are a well-known **background** to future direct dark matter searches

see e.g. Gütlein et al. arXiv:1003.5530



- If low-energy neutrino interactions are **enhanced** by new physics, this background can be **significantly enhanced**  
→ Possible explanation of DM anomalies?

Pospelov arXiv:1103.3261, Harnik JK Machado (work in progress)

# Enhanced neutrino scattering at low energies

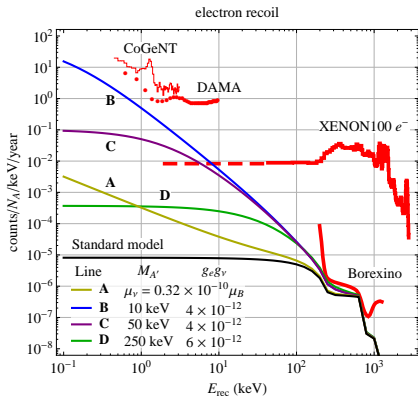
- Introduce new **light** (1 eV ... 1 GeV) **force mediator**  $A'$ , e.g. a  $B - L$  gauge boson, with small couplings  $g'$
- Differential neutrino scattering cross section on **target particle**  $T$  (electron or atomic nucleus):

$$\frac{d\sigma_{\nu e}}{dE_r} \sim \frac{g'^4 m_T}{(M_{A'}^2 + 2E_r m_T)^2}, \quad E_r = \text{recoil energy}$$

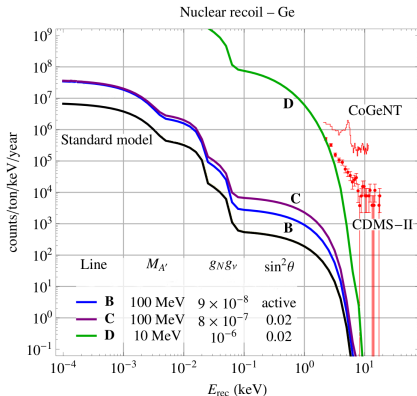
- ▶ Enhanced at low  $E_r$  for **light**  $A'$
- ▶ Negligible compared to SM scattering ( $\sim g^4 m_T / M_W^4$ ) at energies probed in dedicated neutrino experiments

# Enhanced neutrino scattering at low energies

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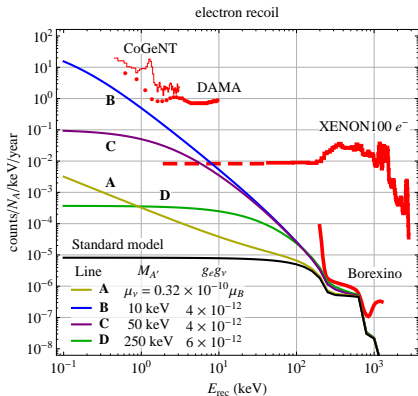
B, C, D:  $U(1)_{B-L}$  boson



B:  $U(1)_{B-L}$  boson

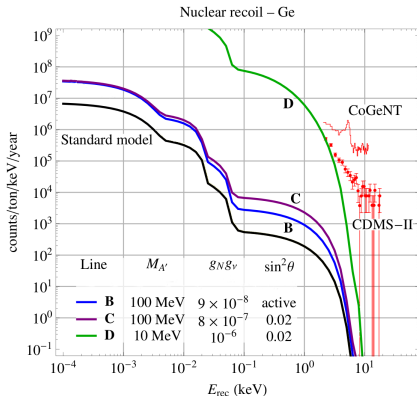
# Enhanced neutrino scattering at low energies

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B, C, D:  $U(1)_{B-L}$  boson

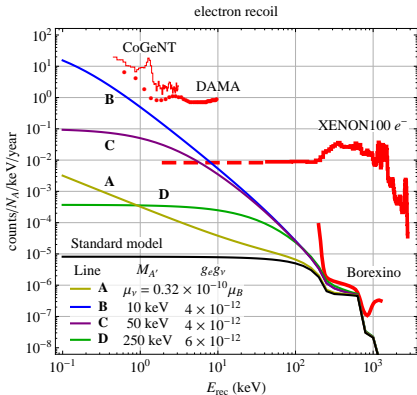
A:  $\nu$  magnetic moment



B:  $U(1)_{B-L}$  boson

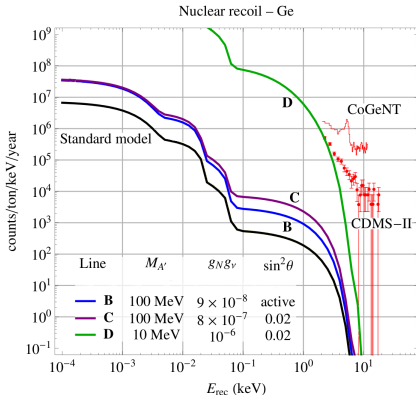
# Enhanced neutrino scattering at low energies

- Introduce new light (1 eV ... 1 GeV) force mediator  $A'$ , e.g. a  $B-L$  gauge boson, with small couplings  $g'$



B, C, D:  $U(1)_{B-L}$  boson

A:  $\nu$  magnetic moment

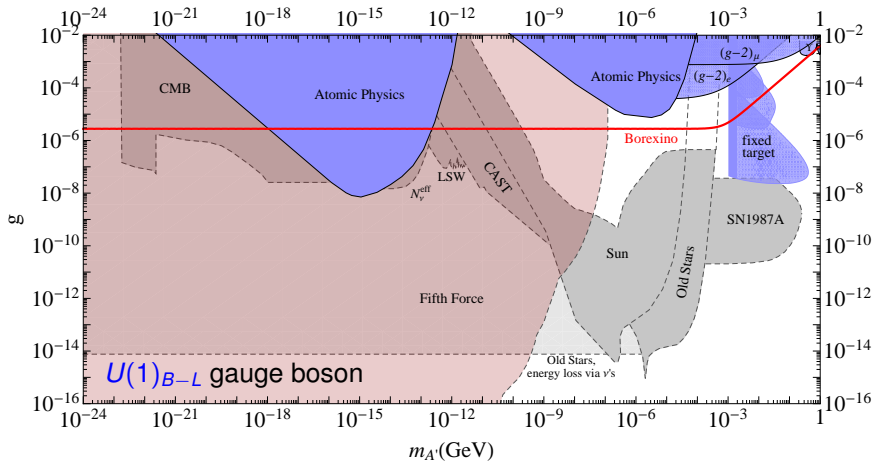


B:  $U(1)_{B-L}$  boson

C, D: kinetically mixed  $U(1)'$  + sterile  $\nu$



# Constraints on light gauge bosons



Harnik JK Machado (work in progress)

most limits taken from compilations by Jaeckel, Redondo, Ringwald;  
Bjorken, Essig, Schuster, Toro;  
and Bordag, Klimchitskaya, Mohideen, Mostepanenko

# Neutrino model building with a light $A'$ gauge boson

A rich toolbox of possibilities:

- Different types of gauge bosons:

- ▶ Gauged  $B - L$
- ▶ A “dark photon” coupled to SM particles via kinetic mixing
- ▶ Gauged baryon number
- ▶ ...

- Sterile neutrinos  $\nu_s$ :

- ▶  $A'$  can couple more strongly to  $\nu_s$  than to SM particles (e.g.  $\nu_s$  carries  $U(1)'$  charge, SM particles couple only through small kinetic mixing)
- ▶  $\mathcal{O}(\text{keV-MeV})$  sterile neutrinos make it easier to avoid certain bounds

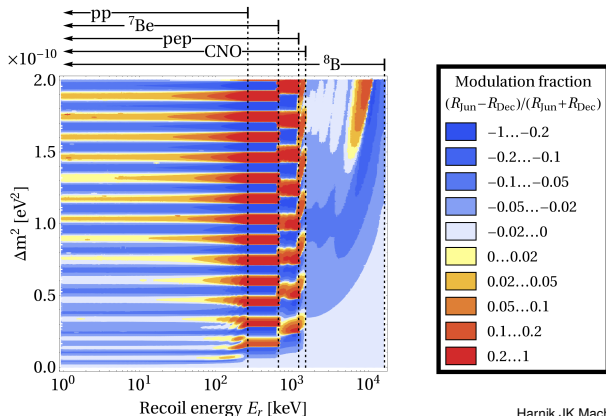
- Neutrino magnetic moments:

- ▶ Magnetic moment interactions also enhanced at low energy

# Temporal modulation of neutrino signals

Signals of **new light force mediators** and/or **sterile neutrinos** can show **seasonal modulation**:

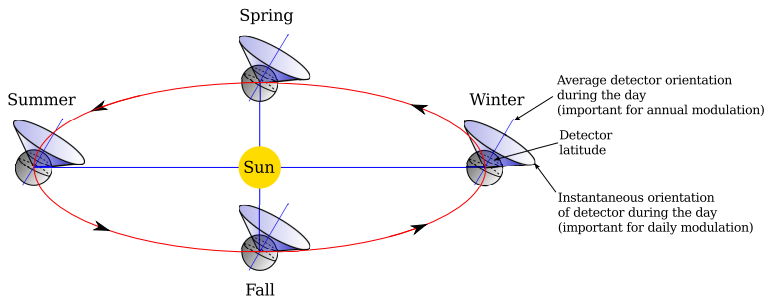
- The **Earth–Sun distance**: Solar neutrino flux **peaks in winter**.
- **Active–sterile neutrino oscillations**: For oscillation lengths  $\lesssim 1$  AU, sterile neutrino appearance depends on the time of year.



Harnik JK Machado, work in progress

## Temporal modulation of neutrino signals (2)

- **Sterile neutrino absorption:** For strong  $\nu_s$ - $A'$  couplings and not-too-weak  $A'$ -SM couplings, sterile neutrino cannot traverse the Earth.  
→ lower flux at night. And nights are longer in winter.
- **Earth matter effects:** An MSW-type resonance can lead to modified flux of certain neutrino flavors at night. And nights are longer in winter.
- **Direction-dependent detection efficiencies:** If channeling effects are important, detection rates depend on the position of the Sun.



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# Outline

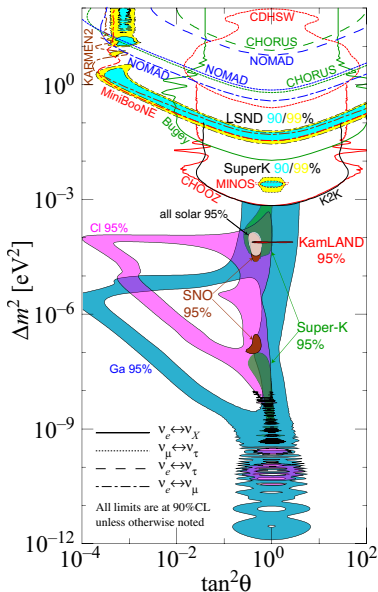
- 1 Theoretical and experimental motivation
- 2 Oscillations with sterile neutrinos
- 3 Neutrino physics with dark matter detectors
- 4 Conclusions**

# Conclusions

- Light sterile neutrinos are well motivated experimentally and theoretically
  - ▶ Two  $3\sigma$  effects, several  $2\sigma$  hints
  - ▶ But: In the simplest models, severe tension with null results
- Sterile neutrinos are a testing ground for the quantum mechanics of neutrino oscillations
- Rich and interesting neutrino phenomenology in dark matter detectors
  - ▶ Enhanced  $\nu-e$  and  $\nu-N$  scattering rates at low energy
  - ▶ Huge model-building toolbox: Various types of light gauge bosons, sterile neutrinos at different mass scales, magnetic moments, . . .
  - ▶ Daily, semi-annual, and annual modulation signals possible

Thank you!

# Experimental situation



<http://hitoshi.berkeley.edu/neutrino>

Plot: Hitoshi Murayama, global fit: Schwetz Törtola Valle 1108.1376

## “Atmospheric oscillations:”

- $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\tau$  oscillations
- $\Delta m^2 = (2.50_{0.16}^{+0.09}) \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$
- Confirmed by Super-K, K2K, MINOS, T2K

## “Solar oscillations:”

- $\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_\mu, \nu_\tau$  oscillations
- $\Delta m^2 = (7.59_{0.18}^{+0.20}) \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2$
- Confirmed by solar neutrino detectors and KamLAND

## Anomalous effects:

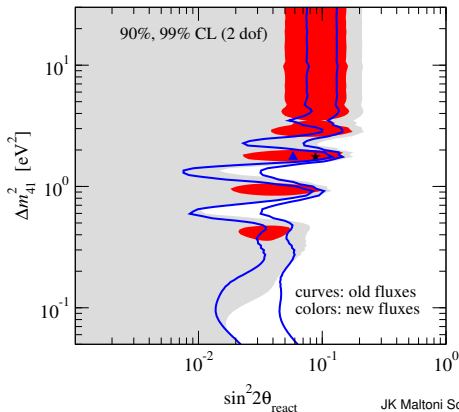
- LSND:  $\Delta m^2 \gtrsim 0.1 \text{ eV}^2$
- Reactor anomaly:  $\Delta m^2 \gtrsim \text{few} \times 0.1 \text{ eV}^2$
- MiniBoone?
- Gallium anomaly?



# Fit to reactor anti-neutrino data in a 3+1 model

Assume 3 active neutrinos + 1 sterile neutrino

( $\rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e$  can oscillate into sterile neutrinos)



$\theta_{\text{react}}$  = effective mixing angle for  $\bar{\nu}_e \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_s$  oscillations

# Our fitting procedure

- Atmospheric neutrinos: Eight classes of events: Sub-GeV  $e, \mu$  ( $p < 400 \text{ GeV}/c$ ), Sub-GeV  $e, \mu$  ( $p > 400 \text{ GeV}/c$ ), Multi-GeV  $e, \mu$ , Upward stopping  $\mu$ , upward throughgoing  $\mu$ , 10 zenith angle bins each
- MINOS: Include NC and CC disappearance search  
(based on 1001.0336 and Neutrino 2010 talk by P. Vahle)
- Reactor experiments: Bugey 3 (incl. spectrum), Bugey 4, Chooz (incl. spectrum), Goesgen 1–3, ILL, Krasnoyarsk 1–3, Palo Verde, Rovno
- SBL  $\nu_e$  appearance experiments: LSND, KARMEN, MiniBooNE ( $\nu$  (2010) and  $\bar{\nu}$  data, consider only  $E > 475 \text{ MeV}$ , i.e. low- $E$  excess in  $\nu_e$  sample not included)
- Gallium anomaly **not included**
- SBL  $\nu_\mu$  disappearance experiments: CDHS, NOMAD
- All codes reproduce the individual fits from the respective experiments.

JK Maltoni Schwetz 1103.4570 and work in progress

# The Grimus-Stockinger theorem

Let  $\psi(\vec{p})$  be a three times continuously differentiable function on  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , such that  $\psi$  itself and all its first and second derivatives decrease at least like  $1/|\vec{p}|^2$  for  $|\vec{p}| \rightarrow \infty$ . Then, for any real number  $A > 0$ ,

$$\int d^3p \frac{\psi(\vec{p}) e^{i\vec{p}\vec{L}}}{A - \vec{p}^2 + i\epsilon} \xrightarrow{|\vec{L}| \rightarrow \infty} -\frac{2\pi^2}{L} \psi(\sqrt{A}\frac{\vec{L}}{L}) e^{i\sqrt{A}L} + \mathcal{O}(L^{-\frac{3}{2}}).$$

⇒ Quantification of requirement of on-shellness for large  $L = |\vec{L}|$ .

W. Grimus, P. Stockinger, Phys. Rev. **D54** (1996) 3414, hep-ph/9603430

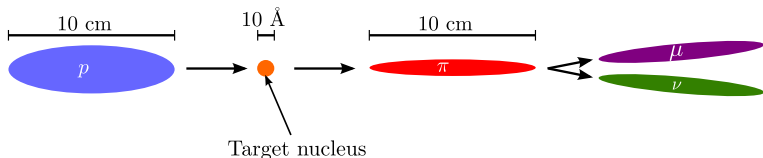
# Neutrino wave packets in a long-baseline experiment

Consider neutrino production via  $\pi \rightarrow \mu\nu$  in the NuMI beam.

- Length of proton, pion, muon, neutrino wave packets:

$$1 \text{ fm} \ll \sigma_{x,\text{Prod}} \lesssim 10 \text{ cm}$$

(localization of particle in accelerator:  $\sim 1 \text{ ns} \times c$ )



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Uncertainties in neutrino detection are much smaller:

- Interaction vertex localized to  $\sim 1\text{--}10 \text{ \AA}$ .
- Duration of detection process:  $\lesssim 1 \text{ ns} \sim 10 \text{ cm}$   
(typical time resolution of detector electronics)

$\Rightarrow$  Spatial/Temporal uncertainty of  $\nu$  detection process:

$$\sigma_{x,\text{Det}} < 10 \text{ cm}$$

Length of neutrino wave packet

$$\Rightarrow \sigma_x = \sqrt{\sigma_{x,\text{Prod}}^2 + \sigma_{x,\text{Det}}^2} \lesssim 10 \text{ cm}$$