#### **MiniBooNE and Sterile Neutrinos**

M. Shaevitz Columbia University SeeSaw Workshop Feb. 23-25,2004

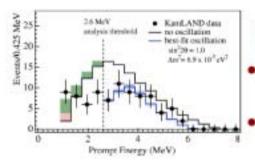
- Extensions to the Neutrino Standard Model: Sterile Neutrinos
- MiniBooNE: Status and Prospects
- Future Directions if MiniBooNE Sees Oscillations

#### **Neutrinos: Open Questions**

Issues	Questions	Theorists' Poll*
# of Light Neutrinos	3 active + ? steriles	Three
Majorana vs Dirac	$\nu=\bar{ u}$ , 2 vs 4 states per $ u$ , L viol.	Majorana
Masses	degenerate, normal/inverted	Seesaw
Mixings	$ heta_{13},  heta_{23} \stackrel{?}{=} \pi/4,$ U real vs complex, CP viol., Leptogenesis	777
Exotics	Non-osc., CPT-V, decays, µ-mom, etc.	None

\* From S.Parke, FNAL, Nov 2003: "At least one theoretical prejudice is wrong"

## **Current Situation**

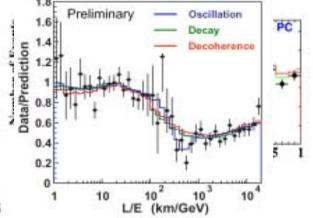


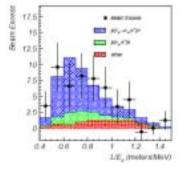
#### Solar Neutrino Oscillations

- Deficit of ν<sub>e</sub> observed from Sun
   CI (Homestake), H<sub>2</sub>O ((Super-)K), Ga (GALLEX, SAGE)
  - Confirmation at SNO and KamLAND (reactor  $\bar{\nu}_e$ )

#### Atmospheric Neutrino Oscillations

- Zenith angle-dependent deficit of ν<sub>μ</sub>: Kamioka, Super-Kamiokande, Soudan, MACRO
- Confirmed by accelerator exp K2K; MINOS will be definitive

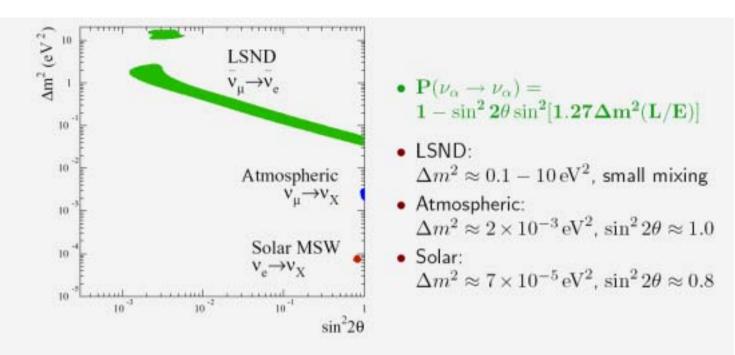




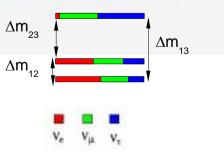
#### LSND Neutrino Oscillations

- Excess of  $\overline{\nu}_e$  in  $\overline{\nu}_\mu$  beam produced from  $\mu^+$  decay-at-rest
- Unconfirmed by other experiments, but not excluded

#### **Three Signal Regions**



- Three distinct neutrino oscillation signals, with:  $\Delta m_{sol}^2 + \Delta m_{atm}^2 \neq \Delta m_{LSND}^2$
- For three neutrinos, expect:  $\Delta m_{21}^2 + \Delta m_{32}^2 = \Delta m_{31}^2$  !



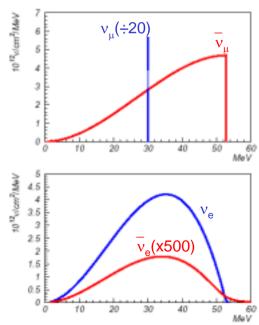
#### How Can There Be Three Distinct $\Delta m^2$ ?

- One of the experimental measurements is wrong
- One of the experimental measurements is not neutrino oscillations
  - Neutrino decay
  - Neutrino production from flavor violating decays
- Additional "sterile" neutrinos involved in oscillations
- CPT violation (or CP viol. and sterile v's) allows different mixing for v's and  $\bar{\nu}'s$

#### **The LSND Experiment**

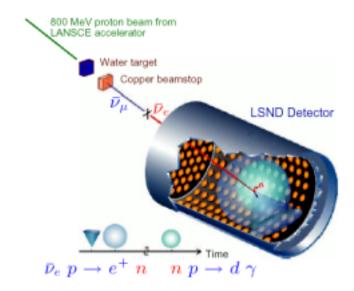
The neutrino source:

- $\bar{\nu}_{\mu}$  from:  $\pi^+ \to \mu^+ \nu_{\mu}$  $\hookrightarrow e^+ \nu_e \ \bar{\nu}_{\mu}$
- $E_{\nu} = 20\text{-}53 \text{ MeV}$ ,  $L_{\nu} = 25\text{-}35 \text{ m}$



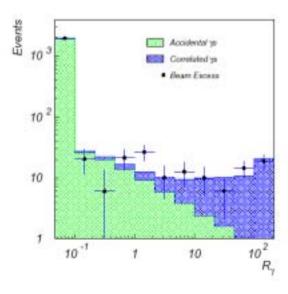
The detector:

- Liquid scintillator detects both Cherenkov and scintillation light. For  $\bar{\nu}_e p \rightarrow e^+ n$ :
  - Č+scintillation light from e<sup>+</sup>
  - Scintillation light from n capture

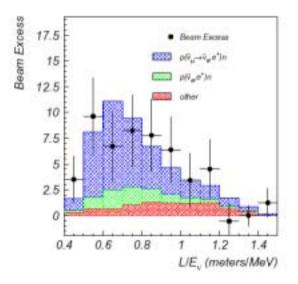


#### LSND Result

- Excess of candidate \(\bar{\nu}\_e\) events
- R<sub>γ</sub> parameter defines likelihood that γ is correlated to e<sup>+</sup>. By fitting R<sub>γ</sub>:
- 87.9 ± 22.4 ± 6.0 excess (3.8σ)
- $\langle P(\bar{\nu}_{\mu} \to \bar{\nu}_{e}) \rangle =$ (0.264 ± 0.067 ± 0.045)%

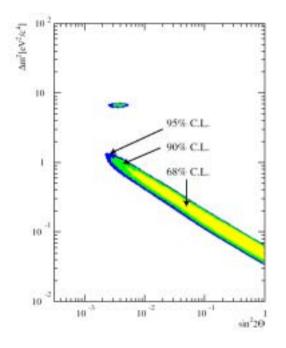


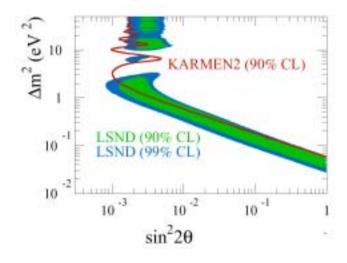
- Clean sample with  $R_{\gamma} > 10 \text{ cut}$
- L<sub>v</sub>/E<sub>v</sub> distribution of the excess agrees well with oscillation hypothesis
- Backgrounds in green, red
- Fit to oscillation hypothesis in blue



#### **KARMEN Experiment**

- Similar beam and detector to LSND
  - Closer distance and less target mass  $\Rightarrow$  x10 less sensitive than LSND
- Joint analysis with LSND gives restricted region (Church et al. hep-ex/0203023)



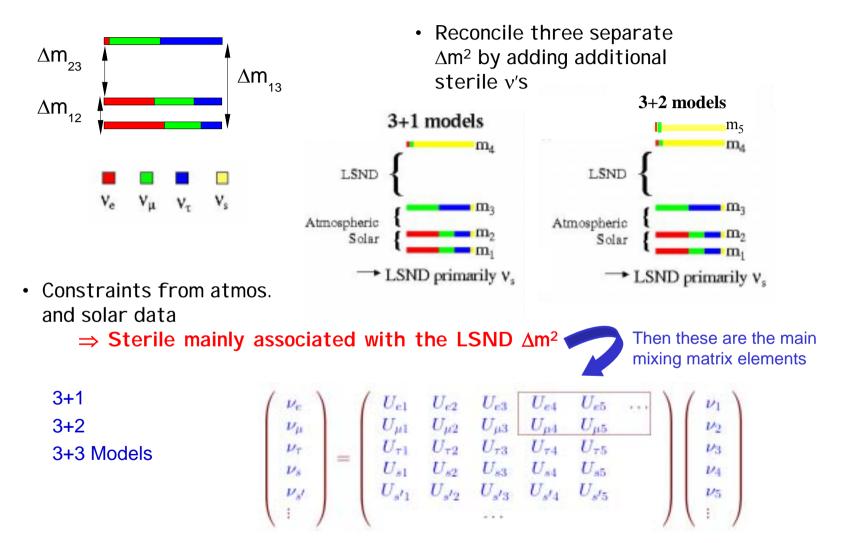


- KARMEN also limits  $\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \ \bar{\nu}_e \nu$  branching ratio: BR < 0.9 x 10<sup>-3</sup> (90% CL)
- LSND signal would require: 1.9x10<sup>-3</sup> < BR < 4.0 x 10<sup>-3</sup> (90% CL)

 $\Rightarrow \mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \overline{\nu}_e \nu$  unlikely to explain LSND signal

(also will be investigated by TWIST exp. at TRIUMF)

#### **Adding Sterile Neutrinos to the Mix**



#### Also Proposals for Sterile v's in Solar Spectrum

- Sterile neutrino component in the ٠ solar oscillation phenomenology Smirnov et al. hep-ph/0307266
  - Proposed to explain:

Super-Kamiokande rate

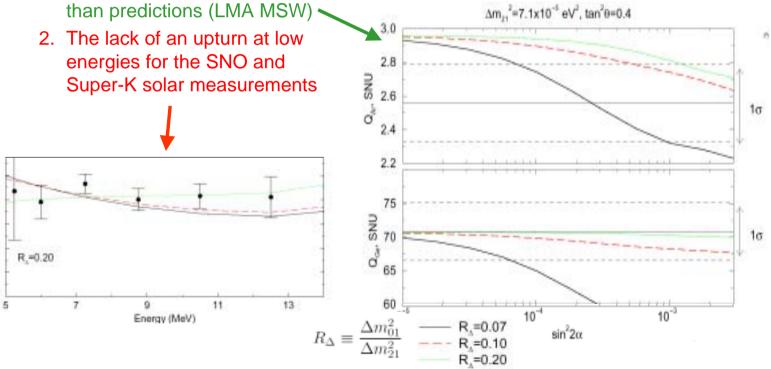
0.48 0.46

0.44

0.42

0.40 0.38 1. Observed Ar rate is  $2\sigma$  lower than predictions (LMA MSW)

- Explain with a light sterile
  - $\Delta m^2 \sim (0.2 \text{ to } 2) \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2$  $\sin^2 2\alpha \sim (10^{-5} \text{ to } 10^{-3})$



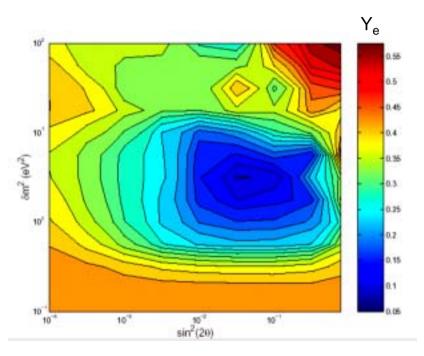
#### **Sterile** v's and the r-process in Supernovae

 Heavy element (A>100) production in supernova (i.e. U) through rapid-neutron-capture (r-process)

(i.e. Patel & Fuller hep-ph/0003034)

- Observed abundance of heavy elements
  - Much larger than standard model prediction since available neutron density is too small
- Required neutron density can be explained if oscillations to sterile neutrinos
  - Then matter effects can suppress the  $v_e$  with respect to  $v_e$  which can then produce a substantial neutron excess

$$\bar{\nu}_e + p \rightleftharpoons e^+ + n, \ \nu_e + n \rightleftharpoons e^- + p$$

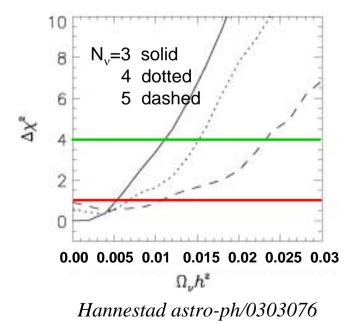


 $Y_e = 1/(1+(n/p))$ ( $Y_e$  small has neutron excess)

#### **Sterile Neutrinos: Astrophysics Constraints**

- Constraints on the number of neutrinos from BBN and CMB
  - Standard model gives N<sub>v</sub>=2.6±0.4 constraint
  - If <sup>4</sup>He systematics larger, then  $N_v$ =4.0±2.5
  - If neutrino lepton asymmetry or non-equilibrium, then the BBN limit can be evaded.
     *K. Abazajian hep-ph/0307266 G. Steigman hep-ph/0309347*
  - "One result of this is that the LSND result is not yet ruled out by cosmological observations." *Hannestad astro-ph/0303076*

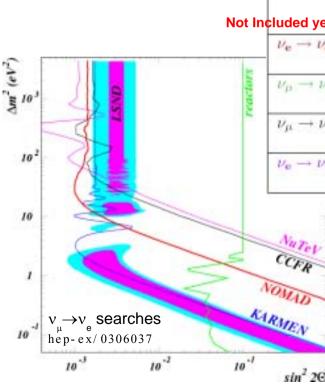
- Bounds on the neutrino masses also depend on the number of neutrinos (active and sterile)
  - Allowed Σm<sub>i</sub> is 1.4 (2.5) eV
     4 (5) neutrinos



#### Experimental Situation: Fits of 3+1 and 3+2 Models to Data

Channel Francisco 1 Laurent A 2

 Global Fits to high ∆m<sup>2</sup> oscillations for the SBL experiments including LSND positive signal.

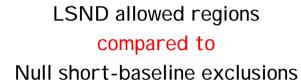


	Channel	Experiment	Lowest $\Delta m^2$	sin <sup>-</sup> 20 Constraint (90% CL)	
		0.5%	Reach (90% CL)	High $\Delta m^2$	Optimal $\Delta m^2$
	$\nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \nu_{e}$	LSND	$3 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$> 2.5 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$> 1.2 \cdot 10^{-3}$
		KARMEN	$6 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$<1.7\cdot10^{-3}$	$<1.0\cdot10^{-3}$
: In	cluded yet	NOMAD	$4 \cdot 10^{-1}$	$<1.4\cdot10^{-3}$	$<1.0\cdot10^{-3}$
	$\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_q$	Bugey	$1 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$< 1.4 \cdot 10^{-1}$	$< 1.3 \cdot 10^{-2}$
L'enclosed	01040 10A	CHOOZ	$7 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$< 1.0 \cdot 10^{-1}$	$< 5 \cdot 10^{-2}$
	$\nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \nu_{\mu}$	CCFR84	$6 \cdot 10^{0}$	none	$< 2 \cdot 10^{-1}$
		CDHS	$3 - 10^{-1}$	none	$< 5.3 \cdot 10^{-1}$
	$\nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \nu_{\tau}$	NOMAD	$7 \cdot 10^{-1}$	$< 3.3 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$< 2.5 \cdot 10^{-4}$
		CHORUS	$5 \cdot 10^{-1}$	$< 6.8 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$<4.5\cdot10^{-4}$
	$\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_\tau$	NOMAD	$6 - 10^{0}$	$<1.5\cdot10^{-2}$	$< 1.1 \cdot 10^{-2}$
	and the second	CHORUS	$7 \cdot 10^{0}$	$<5.1\cdot10^{-2}$	$< 4 \cdot 10^{-2}$

- Only LSND has a positive signal
  - CDHS near detector  $2\sigma$  low also contributes
- Is LSND consistent with the upper limits on active to sterile mixing derived from the null short-baseline experiments? (M.Sorel, J.Conrad, M.S., hep-ph/0305255)

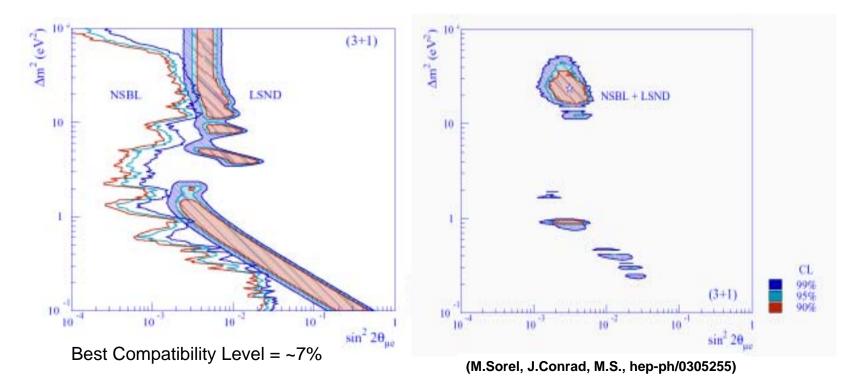
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#### 3 + 1 Model Fits to SBL Data

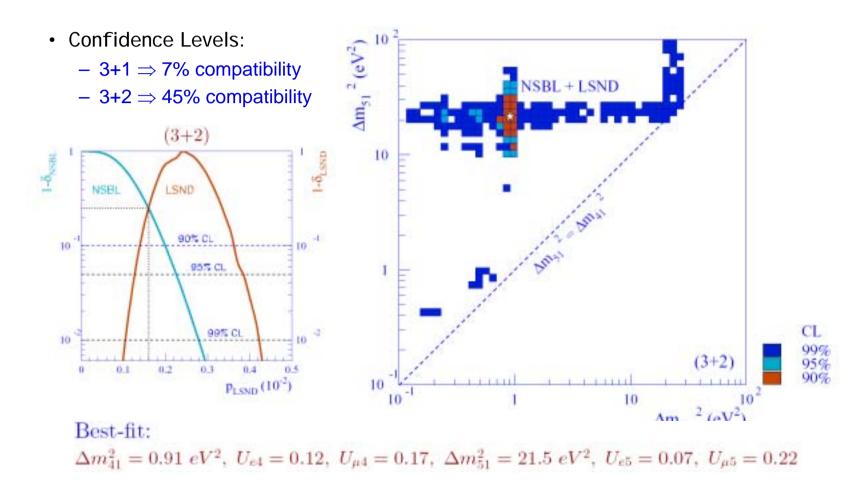


- Doing a combined fit with null SBL and the positive LSND results
  - Yields compatible regions at the 90% CL

Best-fit:  $\Delta m^2 = 23.8 \ eV^2$ ,  $U_{e4} = 0.13$ ,  $U_{\mu 4} = 0.22$ 



#### Combined LSND and NSBL Fits to 3+2 Models



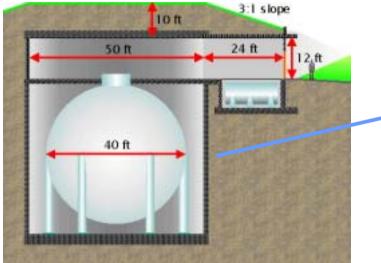
(M.Sorel, J.Conrad, M.S., hep-ph/0305255)

### **Next Step is MiniBooNE**

- MiniBooNE will be one of the first experiments to check these sterile neutrino models
  - Investigate LSND Anomaly
    - Is it oscillations?
    - Measure the oscillation parameters
  - Investigate oscillations to sterile neutrino using  $v_{\mu}$  disappearance

#### **MiniBooNE Experiment**

Use protons from the 8 GeV booster  $\Rightarrow$  Neutrino Beam  $\langle E_{v} \rangle \sim 1$  GeV



12m sphere filled with mineral oil and PMTs located 500m from source

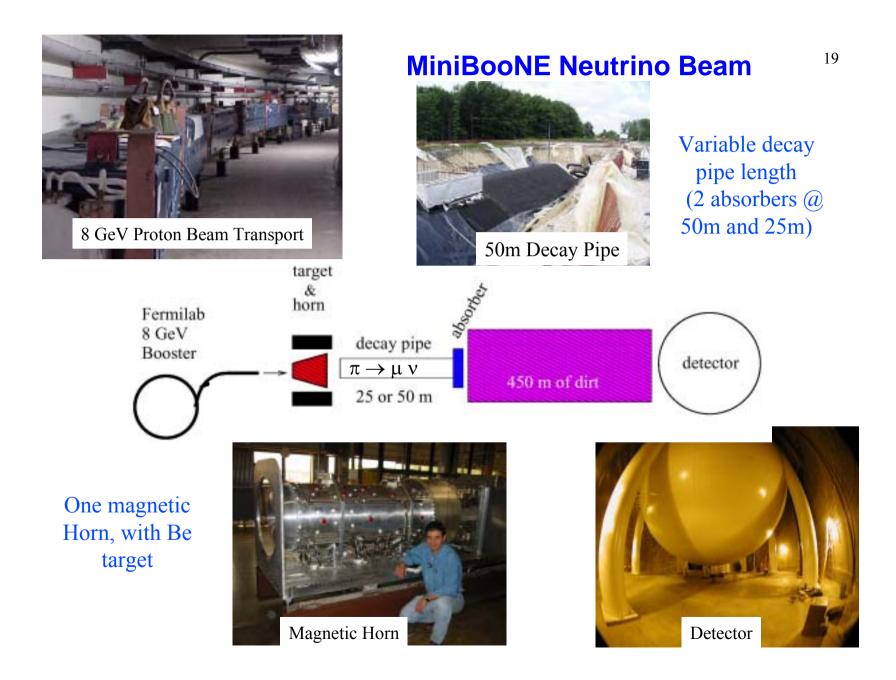


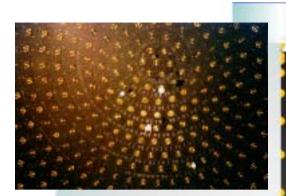
#### **MiniBooNE Collaboration**

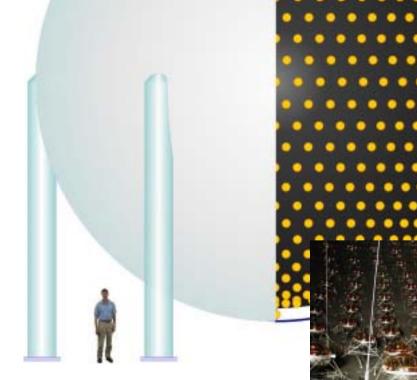


## MiniBooNE consists of about 70 scientists from 12 institutions.

- Y. Liu, I. Stancu Alabama
- S. Koutsoliotas Bucknell
  - E. Hawker, R.A. Johnson, J.L. Raaf Cincinnati
- T. Hart, R.H. Nelson, E.D. Zimmerman Colorado
- A. Aguilar-Arevalo, L.Bugel, L. Coney, J.M. Conrad,
- J. Formaggio, J. Link, J. Monroe, K. McConnel,
- D. Schmitz, M.H. Shaevitz, M. Sorel, L. Wang,
- G.P. Zeller Columbia
- D. Smith Embry Riddle
  - L.Bartoszek, C. Bhat, S J. Brice, B.C. Brown,
  - D.A. Finley, B.T. Fleming, R. Ford, F.G.Garcia,
  - P. Kasper, T. Kobilarcik, I. Kourbanis,
  - A. Malensek, W. Marsh, P. Martin, F. Mills,
  - C. Moore, P. Nienaber, E. Prebys,
  - A.D. Russell, P. Spentzouris, R. Stefanski,
  - T. Williams Fermilab
- D. C. Cox, A. Green, H.-O. Meyer, R. Tayloe Indiana
  - G.T. Garvey, C. Green, W.C. Louis, G.McGregor,
  - S.McKenney, G.B. Mills, V. Sandberg,
  - B. Sapp, R. Schirato, R. Van de Water,
  - D.H. White Los Alamos
- R. Imlay, W. Metcalf, M. Sung, M.O. Wascko Louisiana State
- J. Cao, Y. Liu, B.P. Roe, H. Yang *Michigan* 
  - A.O. Bazarko, P.D. Meyers, R.B. Patterson,
  - F.C. Shoemaker, H.A.Tanaka Princeton





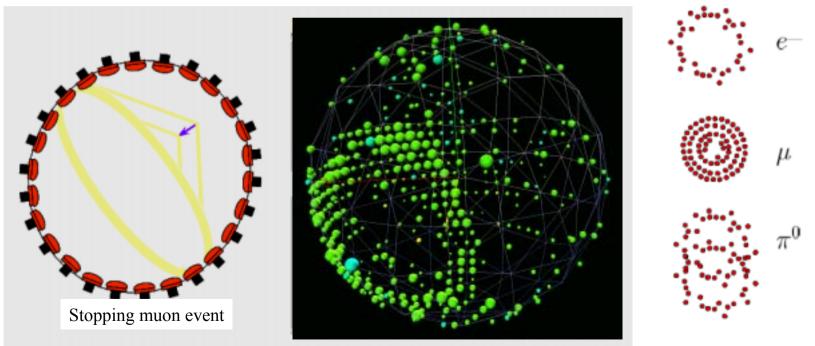


## The MiniBooNE Detector

- 12 meter diameter sphere
  - Filled with 950,000 liters (900 tons) of very pure mineral oil
    - Light tight inner region with 1280 photomultiplier tubes
    - Outer veto region with 241 PMTs.
    - Oscillation Search Method:
      - Look for  $v_e$  events in a pure  $v_\mu$  beam

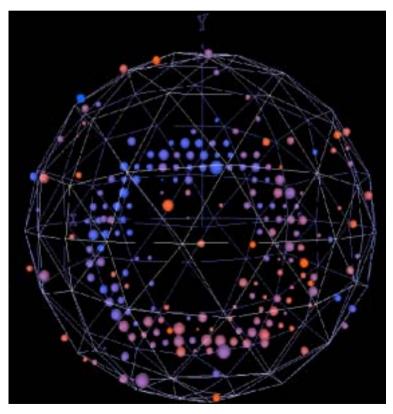
#### **Particle Identification**

- Separation of  $\nu_{\mu}$  from  $\nu_{e}$  events
  - Exiting  $\nu_{\mu}$  events fire the veto
  - Stopping  $\nu_{\mu}$  events have a Michel electron after a few  $\mu \text{sec}$
  - Also, scintillation light with longer time constant  $\Rightarrow$  enhanced for slow pions and protons
  - Čerenkov rings from outgoing particles
    - Shows up as a ring of hits in the phototubes mounted inside the MiniBooNE sphere
    - Pattern of phototube hits tells the particle type

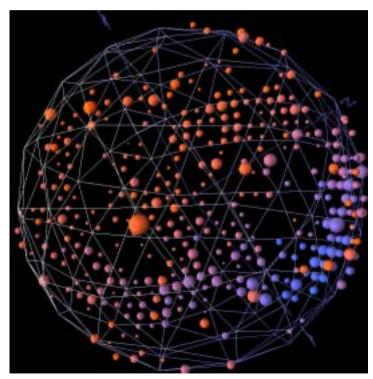


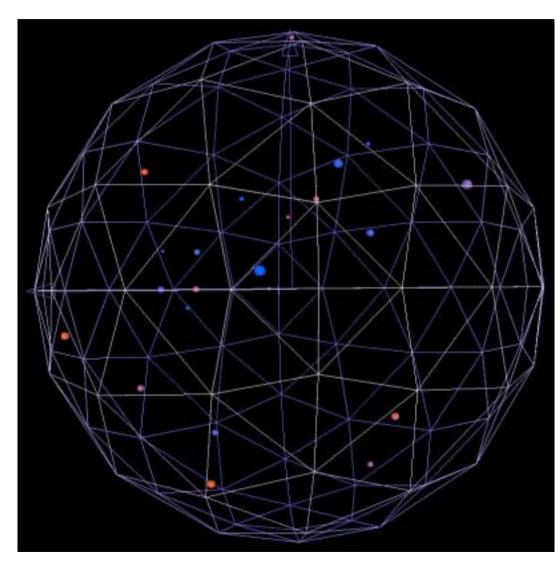
#### **Examples of Real Data Events**

Charged Current  $\nu_{\mu} + n \rightarrow \mu^{-} + p$ with outgoing muon (1 ring)



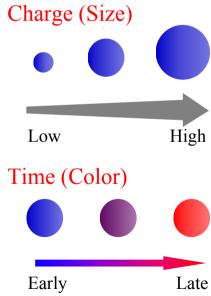
Neutral Current  $\nu_{\mu} + n \rightarrow \nu_{\mu} + \pi^{0} + p$ with outgoing  $\pi^{0} \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$  (2 rings)





Muon Identification Signature:  $\mu \rightarrow e \nu_{\mu} \nu_{e}$ after ~2µsec

<u>Animation</u> Each frame is 25 ns with 10 ns steps.



#### Neutrino events

beam comes in spills @ up to 5 Hz each spill lasts 1.6  $\mu sec$ 

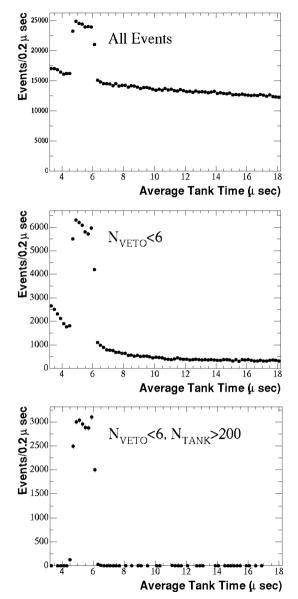
trigger on signal from Booster read out for 19.2 μsec; beam at [4.6, 6.2] μsec

no high level analysis needed to see neutrino events

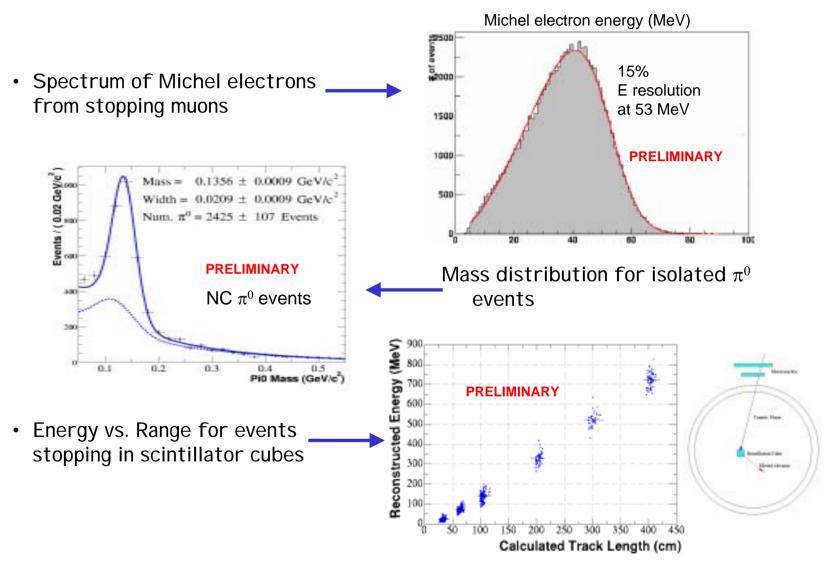
backgrounds: cosmic muons decay electrons

simple cuts reduce non-beam backgrounds to ~10<sup>-3</sup>

Current Collected data: 220k neutrino candidates for 2 x 10<sup>20</sup> protons on target



#### **Energy Calibration Checks**

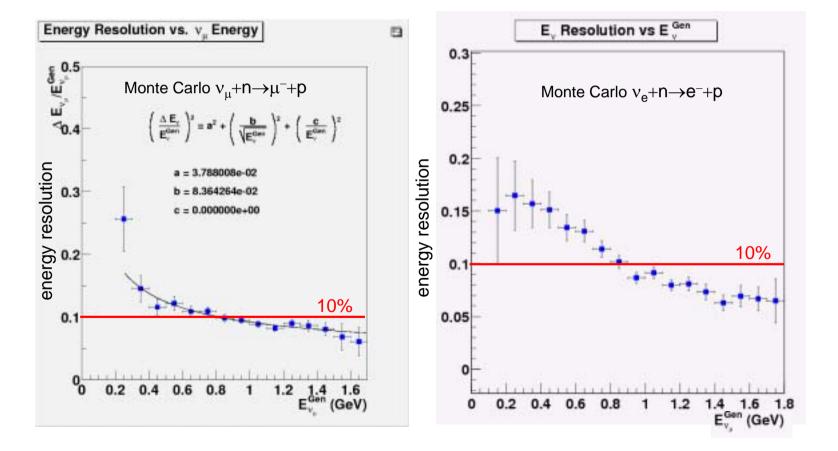


#### **Neutrino Energy Reconstruction**

For quasi-elastic events (  $v_{\mu}$ +n $\rightarrow$  $\mu^{-}$ +p and  $v_{e}$ +n $\rightarrow$ e<sup>-</sup>+p)

 $\Rightarrow \quad \mbox{Can use kinematics to} \\ \mbox{find } E_{\nu} \mbox{ from } E_{\mu(e)} \mbox{ and } \theta_{\mu(e)} \\ \end{tabular}$ 

$$E_{\nu}^{QE} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{2ME_l - m_l^2}{M - E_l + P_l \cos \theta_e}$$



#### **Oscillation Analysis: Status and Plans**

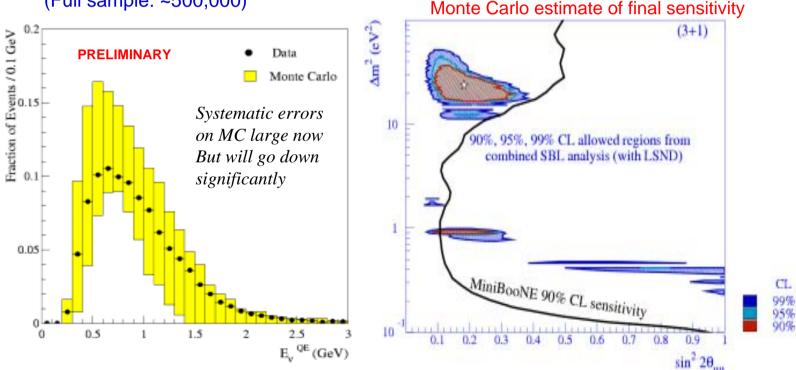
- Blind (or "Closed Box")  $v_{e}$  appearance analysis you can see all of the info on some events or some of the info on all events but you cannot see all of the info on all of the events
- Other analysis topics give early interesting physics results and serve as a cross check and calibration before "opening the  $v_e$  box"
  - $-v_{\mu}$  disappearance oscillation search
  - Cross section measurements for low-energy v processes
  - Studies of  $v_{\mu} \text{ NC } \pi^0$  production  $\Rightarrow$  coherent (nucleus) vs nucleon
  - Studies of  $v_u$  NC elastic scattering

 $\Rightarrow$  Measurements of  $\Delta s$  (strange quark spin contribution)

## On the Road to a $\nu_{\mu}$ Disappearance Result

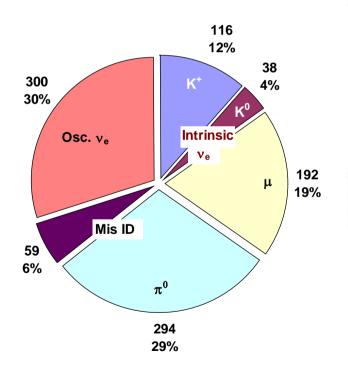
- Use  $v_{\mu}$  quasi-elastic events  $v_{\mu}+n \rightarrow \mu^{-}+p$ 
  - Events can be isolated using single ring topology and hit timing
  - Excellent energy resolution
  - High statistics: ~30,000 events now (Full sample: ~500,000)

- $E_{\nu}$  distribution well understood from pion production by 8 GeV protons
  - Sensitivity to  $\nu_\mu \! \to \nu_\mu$  disappearance oscillations through shape of E\_ $_{\!\nu}$  distribution

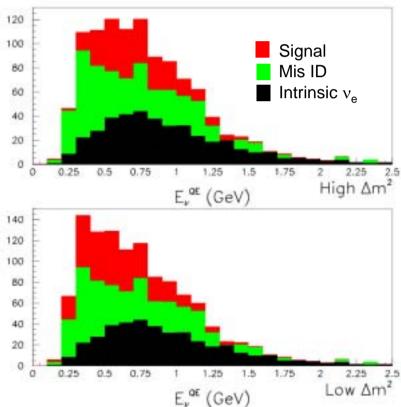


## Estimates for the $\nu_{\mu} \! \rightarrow \! \nu_{e}$ Appearance Search

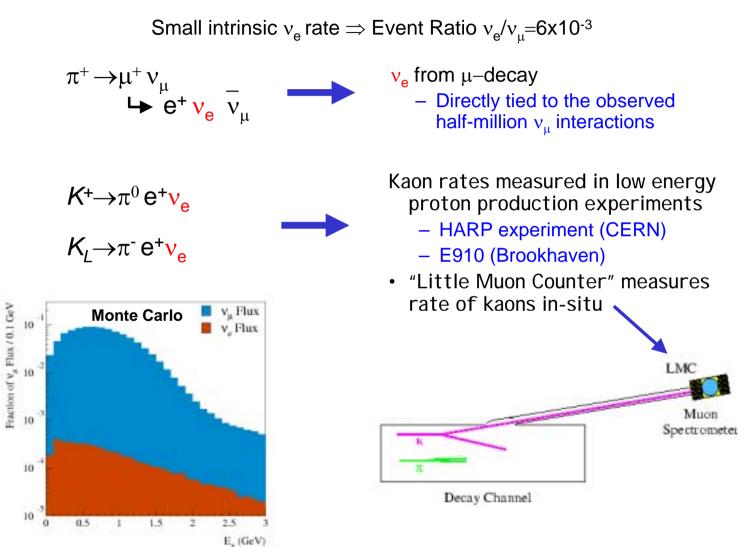
- Look for appearance of  $v_e$  events above background expectation
  - Use data measurements both internal and external to constrain background rates



- Fit to  ${\rm E}_{\rm v}$  distribution used to separate background from signal.



#### Intrinsic $v_e$ in the beam

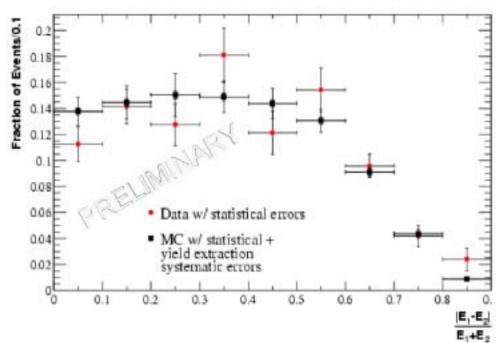


#### **Mis-identification Backgrounds**

- Background mainly from NC  $\pi^0$  production

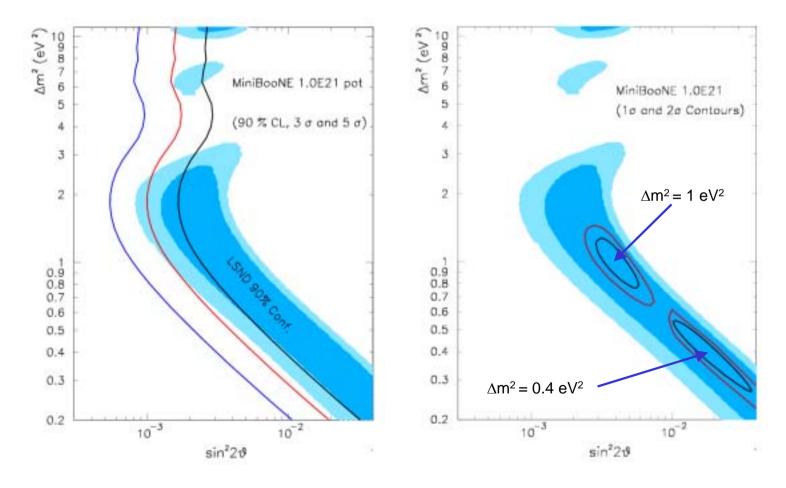
```
v_{\mu} + p \rightarrow v_{\mu} + p + \pi^{0}
followed by
\pi^{0} \rightarrow \gamma \gamma
where one \gamma is lost
because it is too low
energy
```

- Over 99.5% of these events are identified and the π<sup>0</sup> kinematics are measured
  - ⇒ Can constrain this background directly from the observed data



#### **MiniBooNE Oscillation Sensitivity**

- Oscillation sensitivity and measurement capability
  - Data sample corresponding to 1x10<sup>21</sup> pot
  - Systematic errors on the backgrounds average ~5%



## **Run Plan**

- At the current time have collected 2x10<sup>20</sup> p.o.t.
  - Data collection rate is steadily improving as the Booster accelerator losses are reduced
  - Many improvement being implemented into the Booster and Linac (these not only help MiniBooNE but also the Tevatron and NuMI in the future)
- Plan is to "open the box" when analysis has been substantiated and experiment has collected 1x10<sup>21</sup> p.o.t.

 $\Rightarrow$  Current estimate is sometime in 2005

- · Which then leads to the question of the next step
  - If MiniBooNE sees no indications of oscillations with  $\nu_{\mu}$

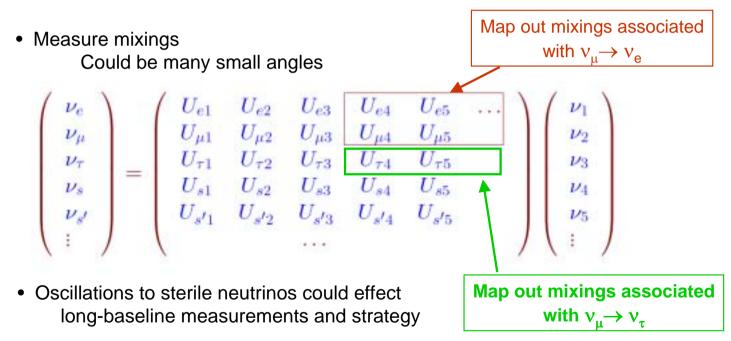
 $\Rightarrow$  Need to run with  $\bar{\nu}_{\mu}$  since LSND signal was  $\bar{\nu}_{\mu} \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_{e}$ 

If MiniBooNE sees an oscillation signal
 ⇒ Then .....

#### **Experimental Program with Sterile Neutrinos**

If sterile neutrinos then many mixing angles, CP phases, and  $\Delta m^2$  to include

• Measure number of extra masses  $\Delta m_{14}{}^2$ ,  $\Delta m_{15}{}^2$  ...

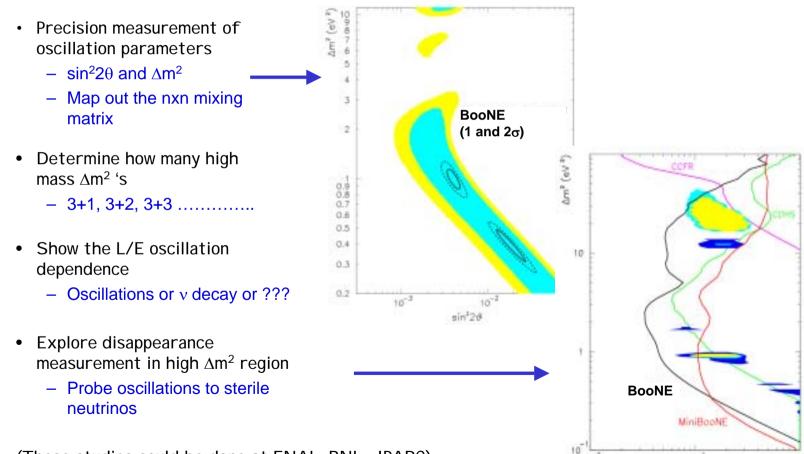


• Compare  $v_{\mu}$  and  $\overline{v}_{\mu}$  oscillations  $\Rightarrow$  CP and CPT violations

#### **Next Step: BooNE: Two (or Three) Detector Exp.**

> Far detector at 2 km for low  $\Delta m^2$  or 0.25 km for high  $\Delta m^2 \leftarrow BooNE$ 

Near detector at ~100m (Finesse Proposal) for disappearance and precision background determination



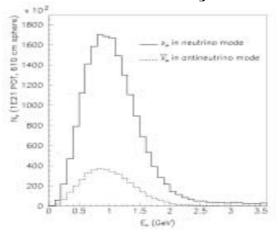
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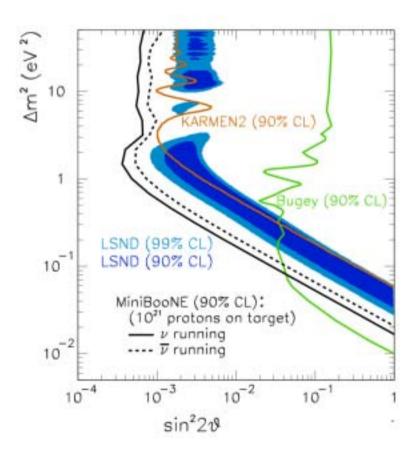
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(These studies could be done at FNAL, BNL, JPARC)

#### If MiniBooNE sees $v_{\mu} \rightarrow v_{e}$ (or not) then: Run BooNE with anti-neutrinos for $v_{\mu} \rightarrow v_{e}$

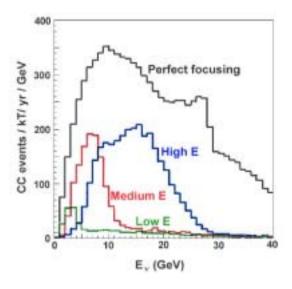
- Direct comparison with LSND
- Are  $v_{\mu}$  and  $\overline{v}_{\mu}$  the same? – Mixing angles,  $\Delta m^2$  values
- Explore CP (or CPT) violation by comparing  $v_{\mu}$  and  $\overline{v}_{\mu}$  results
- Running with antineutrinos takes about x2 longer to obtain similar sensitivity



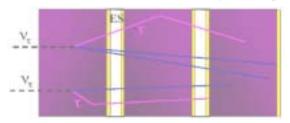


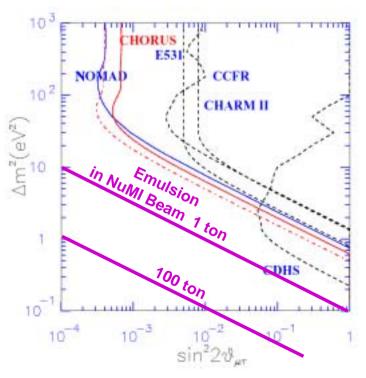
# Another Next Step: Do $\nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \nu_{\tau}$ Appearance Experiment at High $\Delta m^2$

- Appearance of  $\nu_\tau$  would help sort out the mixings through the sterile components
- Need moderately high neutrino energy to get above the 3.5 GeV  $\tau$  threshold (~6-10 GeV)
- Example: NuMI Med energy beam 8 GeV with detector at L=2km (116m deep)



#### Emulsion Detector or Liquid Argon





#### Conclusions

- Neutrinos have been surprising us for some time and will most likely continue to do so
- Although the "neutrino standard model" can be used as a guide,

the future direction for the field is going to be determined by what we discover from experiments.

• Sterile neutrinos may open up a whole  $\mathbf{v}$  area to explore