

Recent Results from the Double Chooz Experiment for the Neutrino Mixing Angle Θ_{13}

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Neutrino Oscillations

A short reminder

Neutrino flavors are a superposition of mass eigenstates

$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ \nu_\mu \\ \nu_\tau \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c_{23} & s_{23} \\ 0 & -s_{23} & c_{23} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{13} & 0 & e^{-i\delta} s_{13} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -e^{i\delta} s_{13} & 0 & c_{13} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{12} & s_{12} & 0 \\ -s_{12} & c_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \\ \nu_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Δm_{31}^2 Δm_{31}^2 Δm_{21}^2

$\sin^2 2\theta_{23} \approx 1$ $\sin^2 2\theta_{13} \approx 0.1$ $\sin^2 2\theta_{12} \approx 0.8$

atmospheric ν **accelerator+reactor** solar ν

$c_{ij} = \cos \theta_{ij}$
 $s_{ij} = \sin \theta_{ij}$

Propagation of states leads to oscillation phenomenon

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(\bar{\nu}_e \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e) = & 1 - \sin^2(2\theta_{13}) \sin^2\left(\frac{\Delta m_{31}^2 L}{4E}\right) - \cos^4(\theta_{13}) \sin^2(2\theta_{12}) \sin^2\left(\frac{\Delta m_{21}^2 L}{4E}\right) \\
 & + \sin^2(2\theta_{13}) \sin^2(\theta_{12}) \left[\sin^2\left(\frac{\Delta m_{31}^2 L}{4E}\right) - \sin^2\left(\frac{(\Delta m_{31}^2 - \Delta m_{21}^2) L}{4E}\right) \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

Neutrino Mixing Matrix

Experimental situation by 2010:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \theta_{23} & \sin \theta_{23} \\ 0 & -\sin \theta_{23} & \cos \theta_{23} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta_{13} & 0 & e^{-i\delta} \sin \theta_{13} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -e^{i\delta} \sin \theta_{13} & 0 & \cos \theta_{13} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta_{12} & \sin \theta_{12} & 0 \\ -\sin \theta_{12} & \cos \theta_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Atmospheric

Reactor and LBL

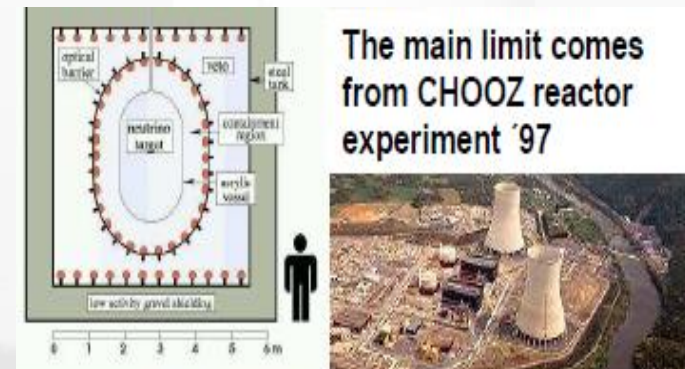
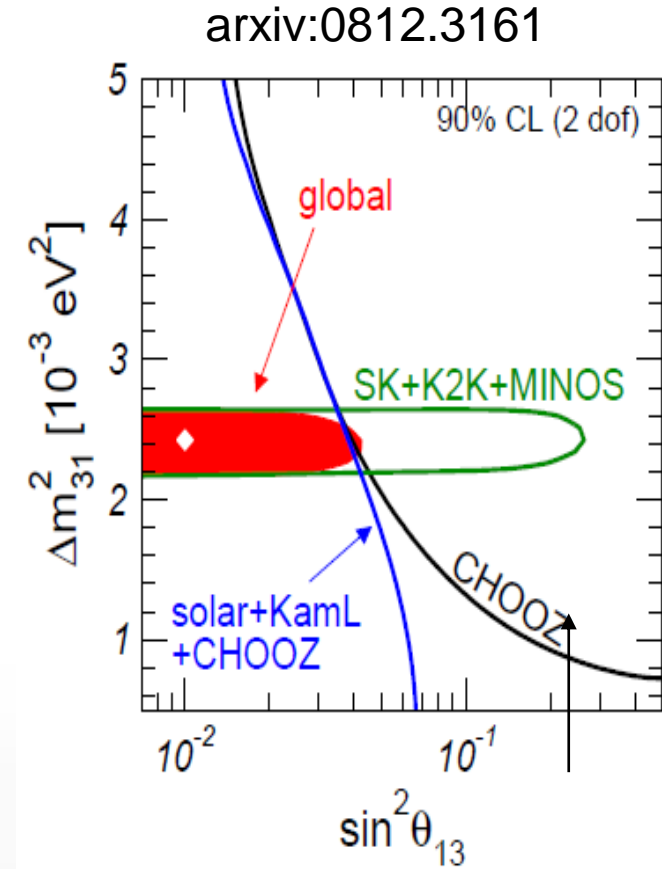
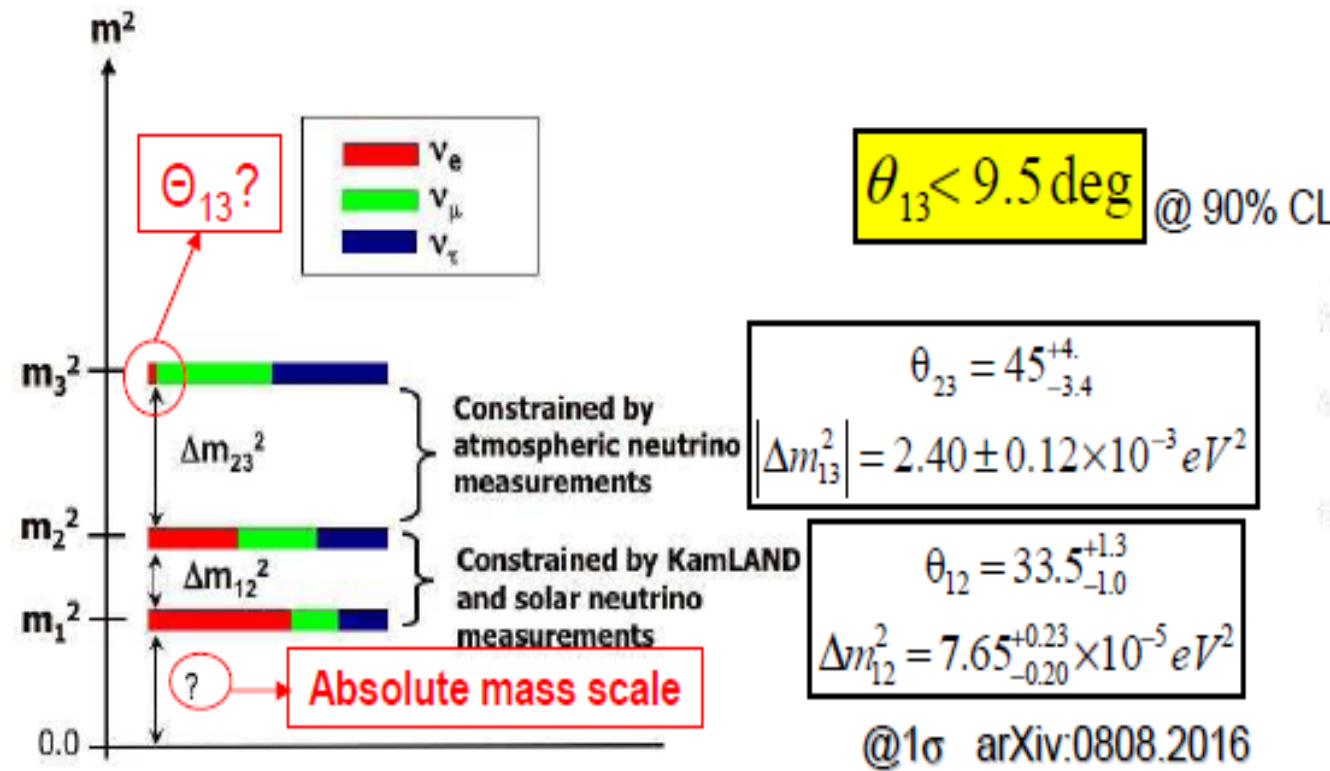
Solar

- The parameters θ_{23} and Δm^2_{23} determined using atmospheric neutrino data from Super-Kamiokande, K2K and Minos. (10% level)
- Data from SNO, KamLAND and Super-Kamiokande used to determine θ_{12} and Δm^2_{12} with 10 – 20% precision.
- Only a limit for θ_{13} by the reactor experiment CHOOZ (2003).

$$\sin^2 (2 \theta_{13}) < 0.2$$

Neutrino Oscillations: open questions 2010

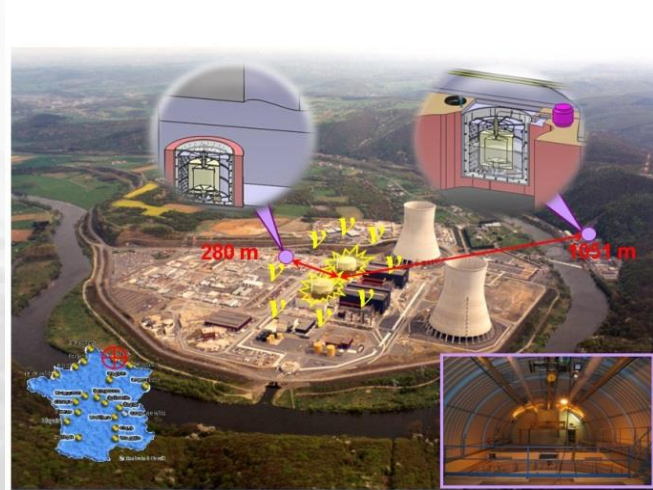
- Size of θ_{13}
- CP violation effects
- Mass hierarchy
- Absolute mass scale



The main goal of upcoming experiments is the determination of θ_{13}

World Competition in Reactor Neutrino Experiments

Experiments	Location	Thermal Power (GW)	Distances Near/Far (m)	Depth Near/Far (mwe)	Target Mass (tons)	$\sin^2(2\theta_{13})$ 90% C.L.
Double-CHOOZ	France	8.7	410/1050	115/300	8/8	0.03
RENO	Korea	17.3	290/1380	120/450	16/16	0.02
Daya Bay	China	17.4	360(500)/1985(1613)	260/910	40X2/80	0.01



11/01/16 Double-CHOOZ



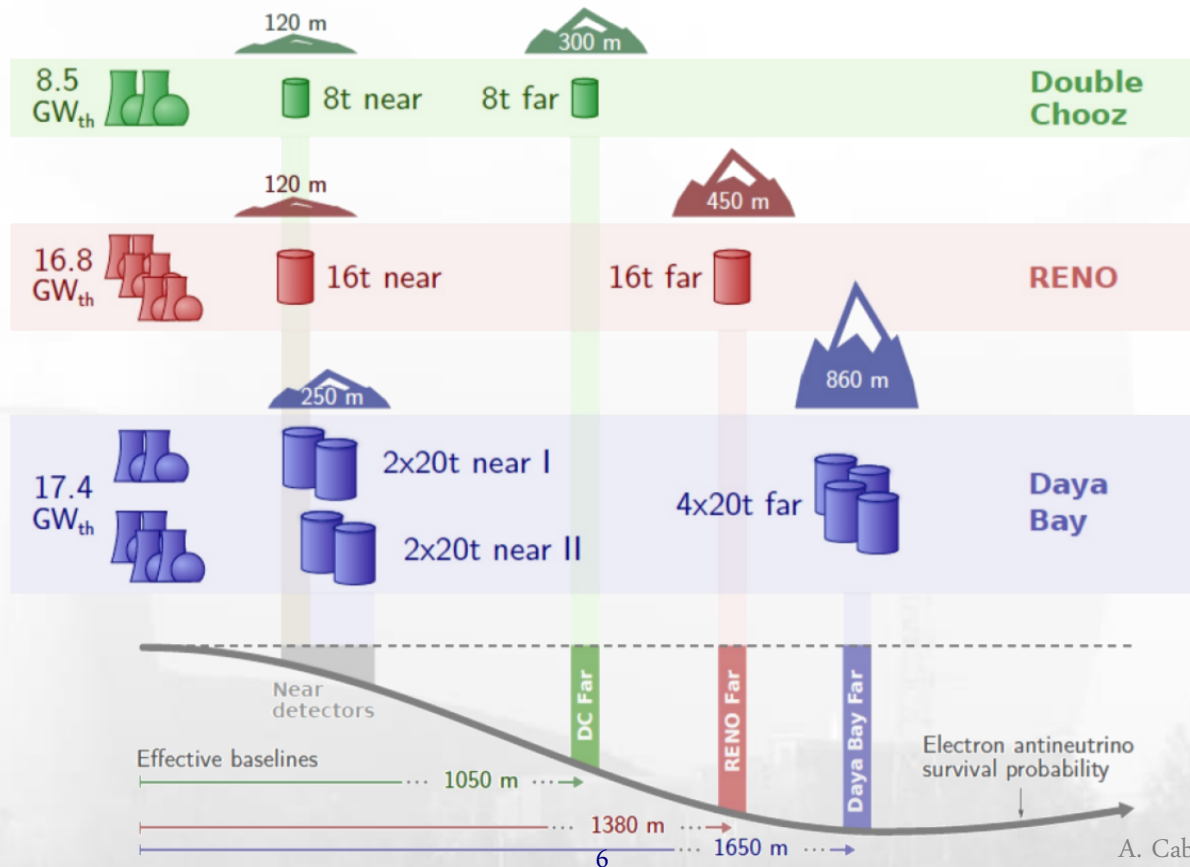
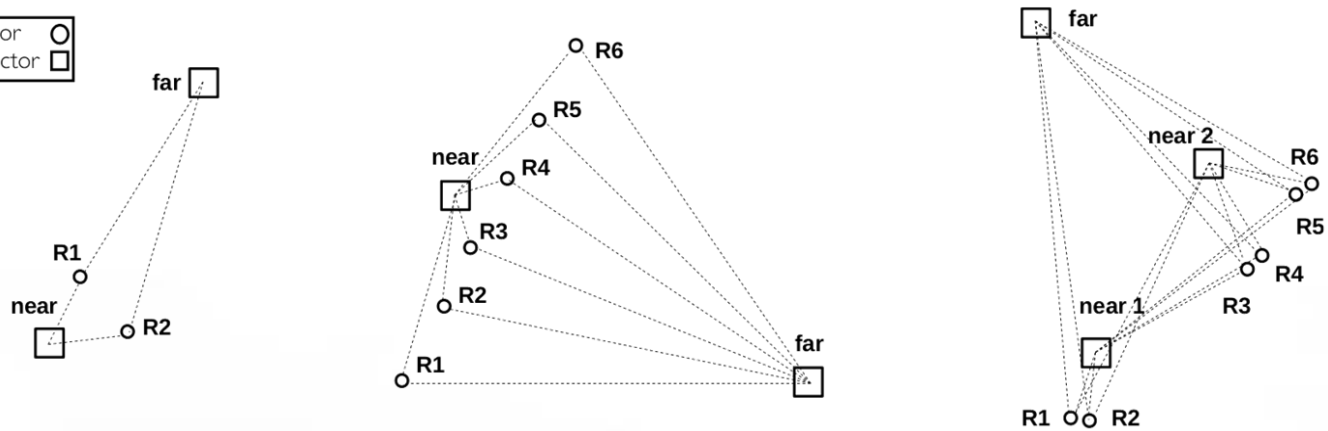
RENO 5



Daya Bay

Experimental Geometries

R = reactor ○
 each detector □



Isoflux lines

Various baselines

Various baselines

Many detectors

Neutrino Oscillations

Reactor neutrino experiments predestined for measuring θ_{13}

- Strongest man-made neutrino sources (good statistics)
- Pure source of antineutrinos (no flavor contaminations)
- Antineutrinos rather than neutrinos (no matter effects)

Tremendous effort: θ_{13} from unknown to best known in a few years

Why are we interested in θ_{13} ?

- Measure CP violation in lepton sector (matter asymmetry in the universe)
- Determine mass hierarchy (\rightarrow future experiments; understanding of \mathbf{V} mass)
- Understand the structure of mixing matrix (guide development of new theories)

Why reactors?

- $\sim 6 \nu$'s/fission, $\sim 200\text{MeV}$ /fission
 $\rightarrow 6 \times 10^{20} \nu/\text{sec}$ for a typical commercial reactor
 (1GW power \sim 3GW thermal)

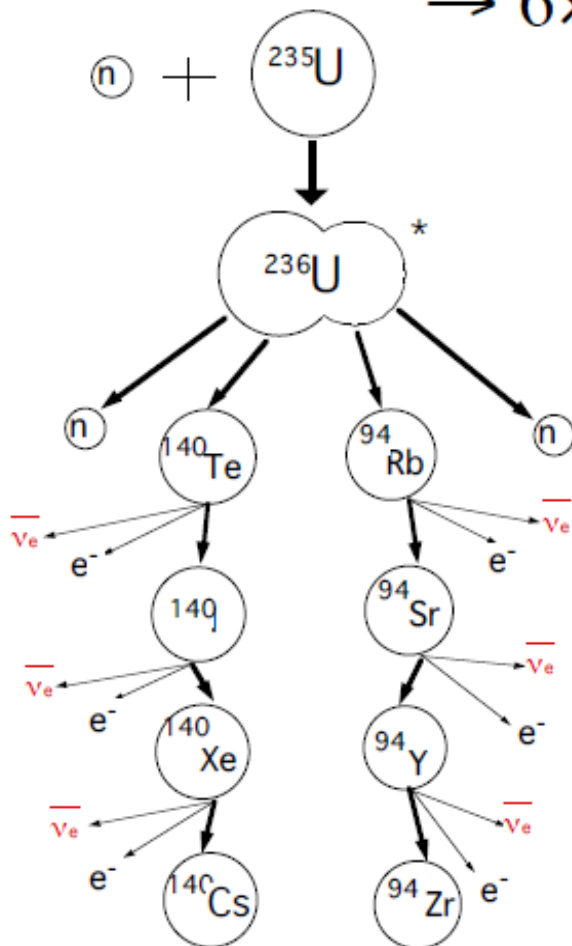
Reactors are powerful and “free” sources of low-energy (isotropic) neutrinos

$E_\nu \sim$ a few MeV

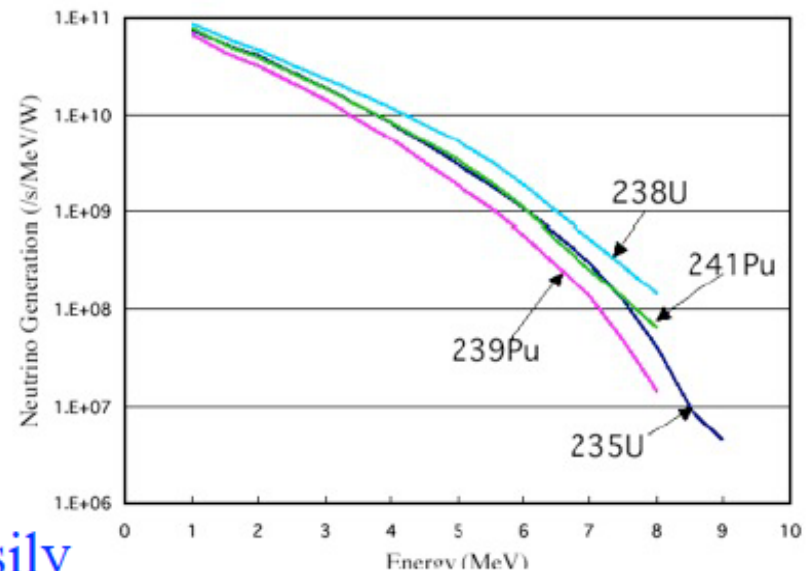
Always full power



Can't switch off easily



(example)



Double Chooz collaboration



Brazil

**CBPF
UNICAMP
UFABC**



France

**APC
CEA/DSM/
IRFU:
SPP
SPhN
SEDI
SIS
SENAC
CNRS/IN2P3:
Subatech
IPHC**



Germany

**EKU Tübingen
MPIK
Heidelberg
RWTH Aachen
TU München
U. Hamburg**



Japan

**Tohoku U.
Tokyo Inst. Tech.
Tokyo Metro. U.
Niigata U.
Kobe U.
Tohoku Gakuin U.
Hiroshima Inst.
Tech.**



Russia

**INR RAS
IPC RAS
RRC
Kurchatov**



Spain

**CIEMAT-
Madrid**



USA

**U. Alabama
ANL
U. Chicago
Columbia U.
UCDavis
Drexel U.
IIT
KSU
LLNL
MIT
U. Notre Dame
U. Tennessee**

Spokesperson:
H. de Kerret (IN2P3)

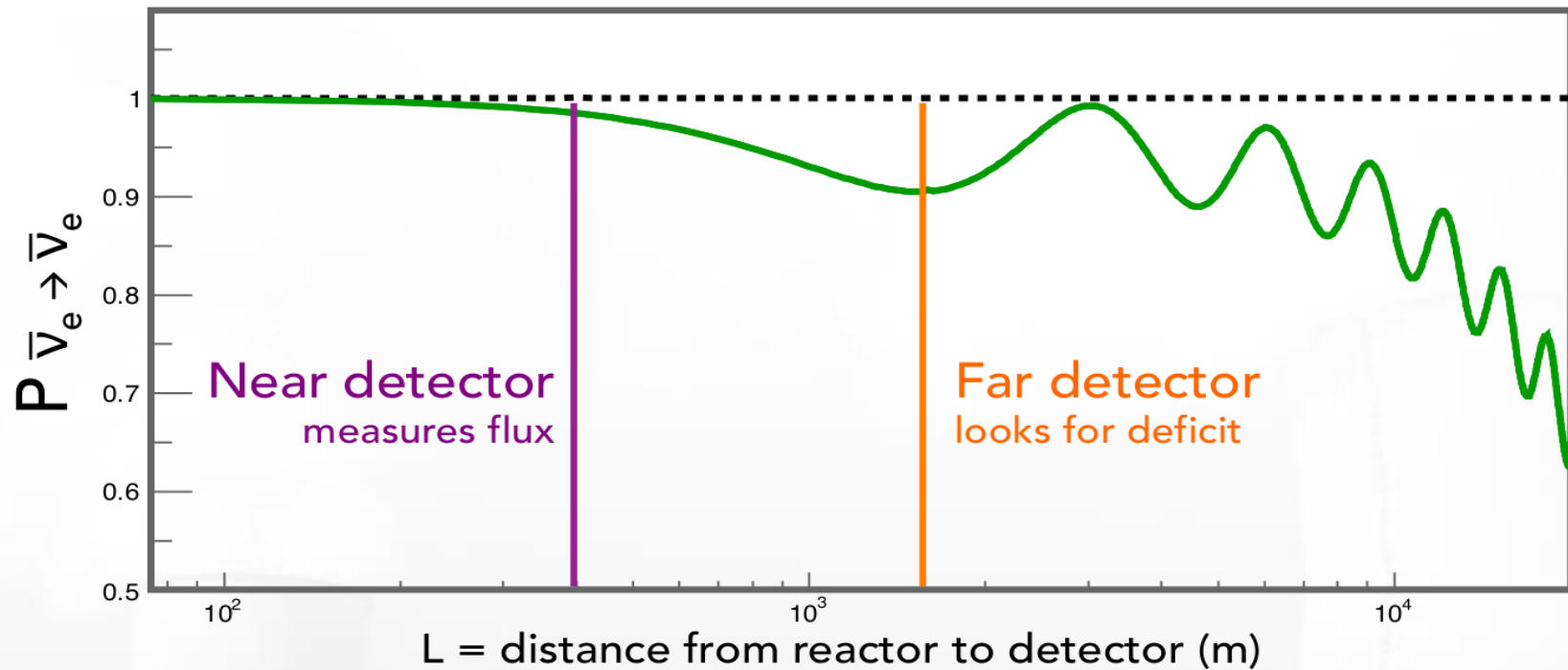
Project Manager:
Ch. Veyssièrre (CEA-Saclay)

Web Site:
www.doublechooz.org/



Experimental Concept

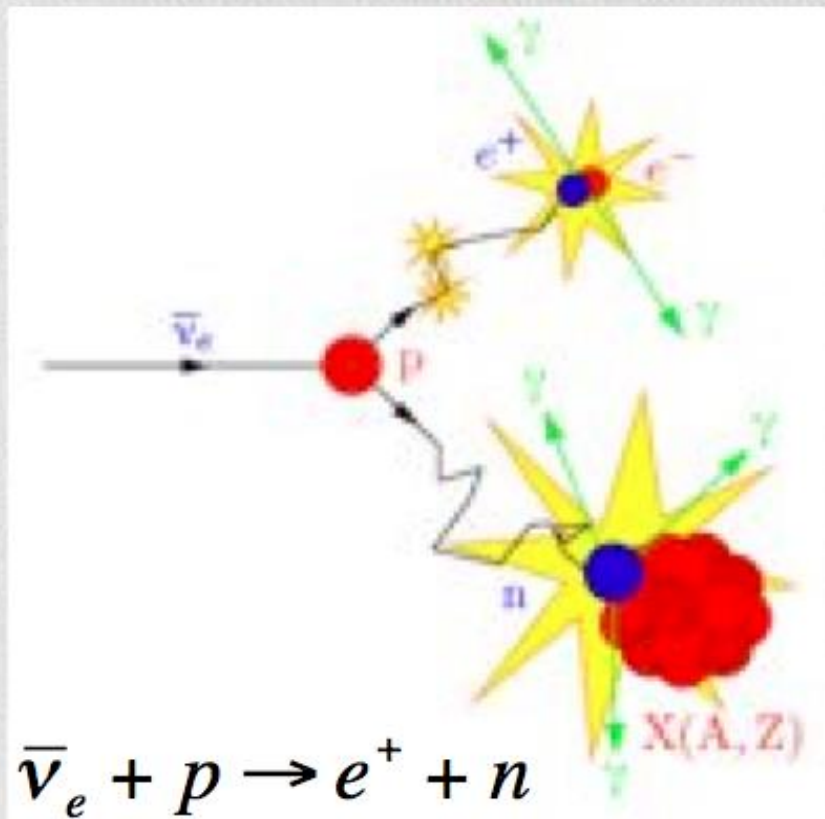
$$P_{\bar{\nu}_e \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e} \approx 1 - \boxed{\sin^2 2\theta_{13}} \sin^2 \left(1.27 \Delta m_{23}^2 (\text{eV}^2) \frac{L(\text{m})}{E(\text{MeV})} \right)$$



- **Short baseline:** reduce parameter correlations
- **Two-detector-concept:** reduction of systematics

θ_{13} measurement with reactor neutrinos

- Reactor is a free and rich electron antineutrino source
- Direct measurement of θ_{13} with no parameter degeneracy
- Background is strongly suppressed by delayed coincidence



Prompt signal:

positron + annihilation γ 's:
1 ~ 12MeV

Delayed signal:

γ 's from neutron capture
on Gd: **8MeV**

Time interval:

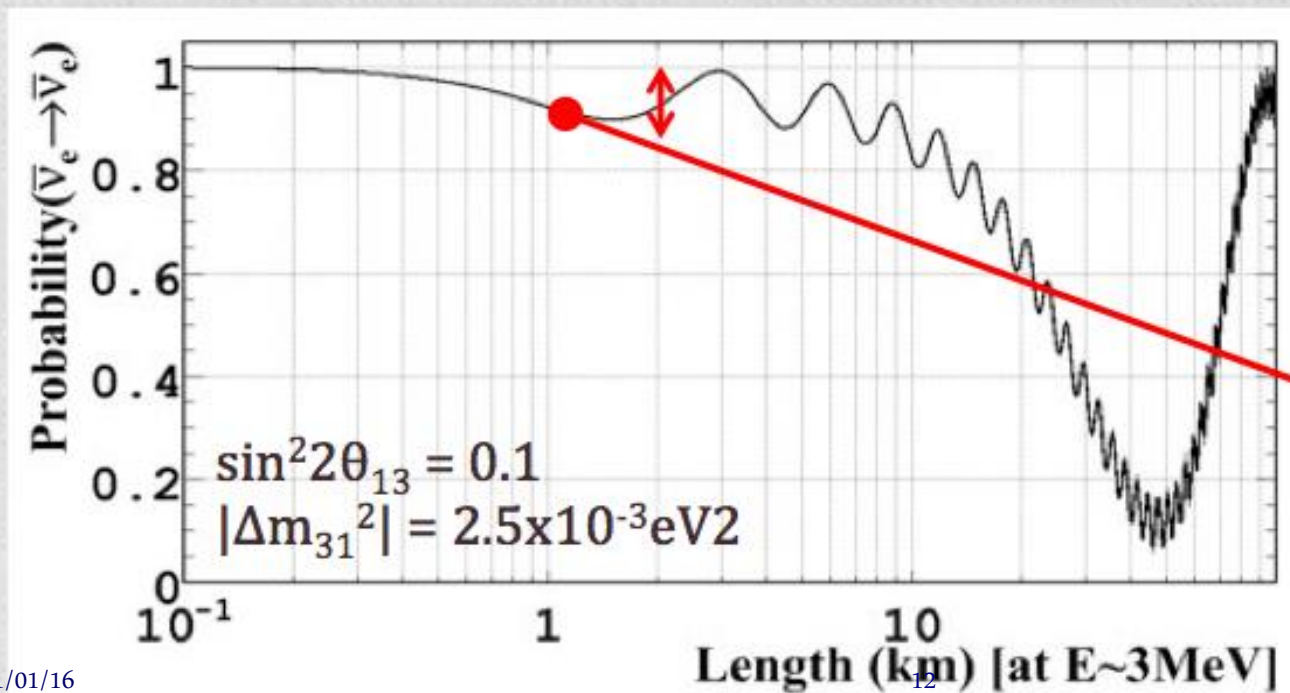
$\Delta t \sim$ **30 μ sec**

θ_{13} measurement with reactor neutrinos

- Reactor is a free and rich electron antineutrino source
- Direct measurement of θ_{13} with no parameter degeneracy
- Reactor neutrino survival probability

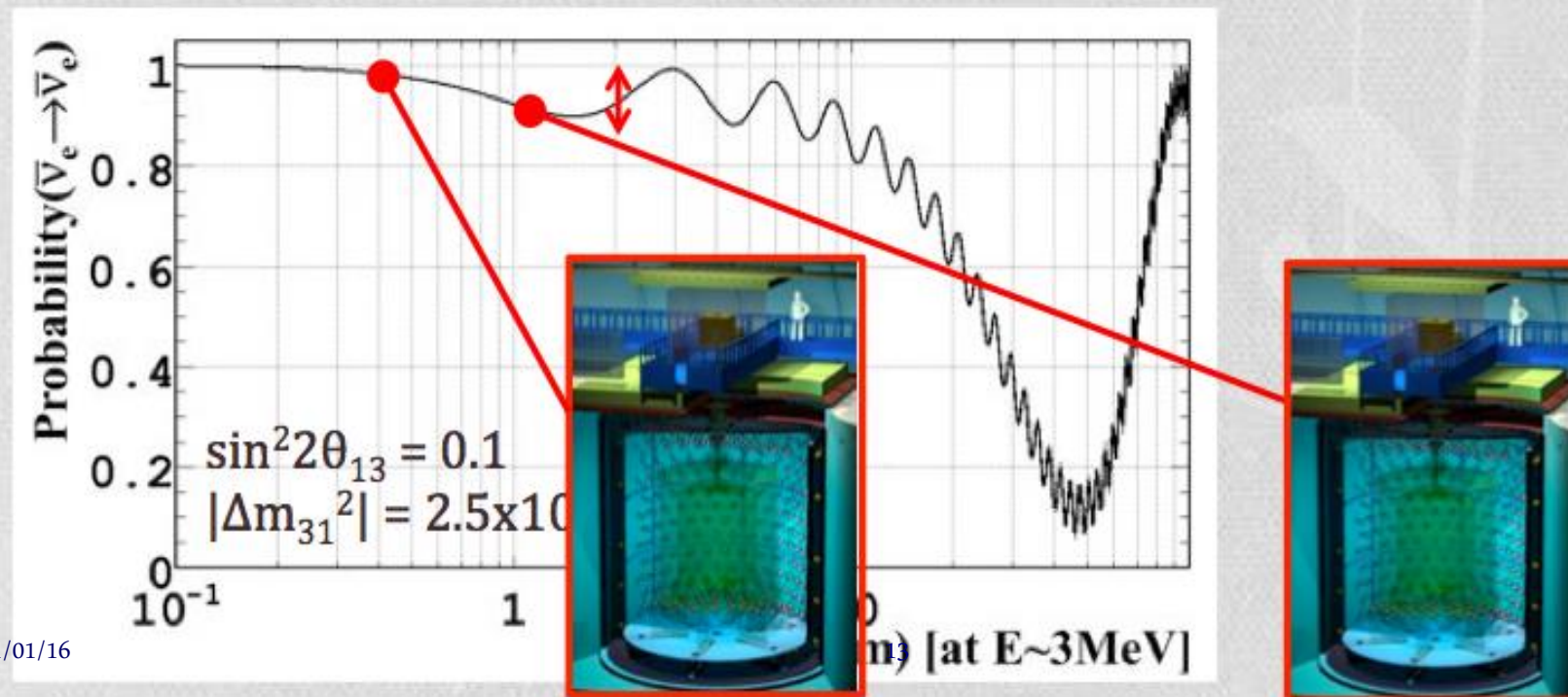
$$P[\bar{\nu}_e \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e] \cong 1 - \boxed{\sin^2 2\theta_{13}} \sin^2\left(\frac{\Delta m_{31}^2 L}{4E}\right) \quad \dots$$

Simple 2 flavor oscillation formula is valid at $L \sim 1\text{km}$ with no matter effect



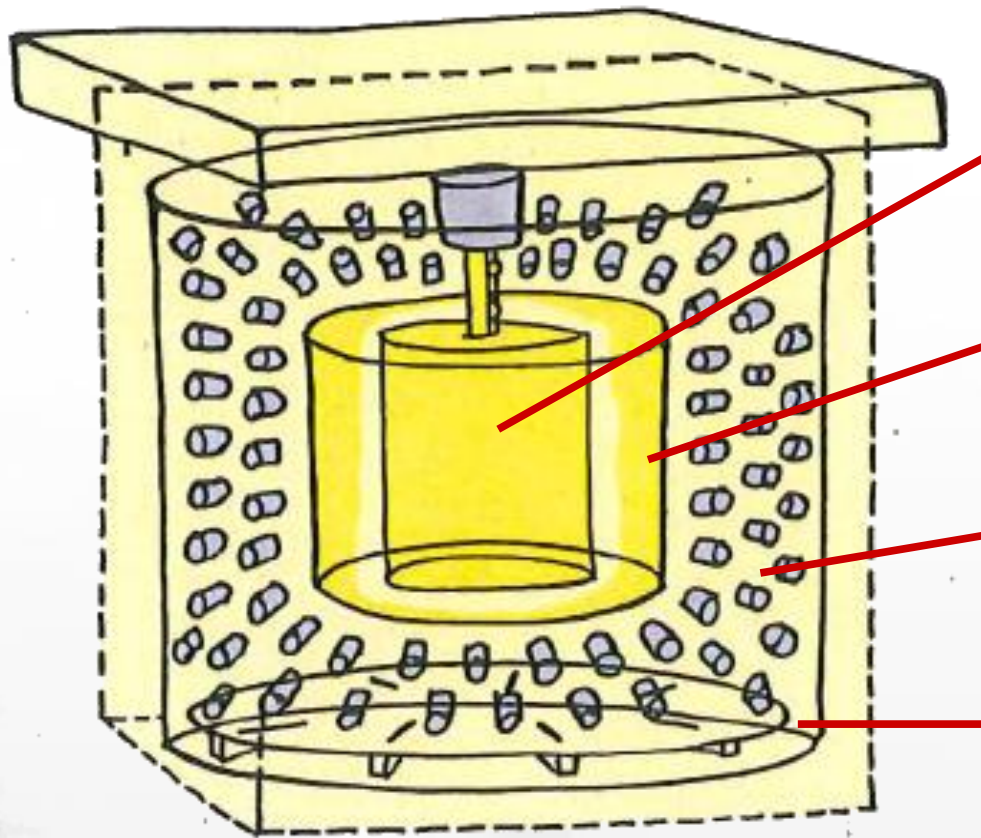
θ_{13} measurement with reactor neutrinos

- Reactor is a free and rich electron antineutrino source
- Direct measurement of θ_{13} with no parameter degeneracy
- Background is strongly suppressed by delayed coincidence
- Flux expectation within 2% uncertainties
- Systematic uncertainties are further reduced (<1%) using two detectors at different baselines



Generic Detector Design

„Standard“ multi-volume organic liquid scintillators detector design



Outer Veto

- Plastic scintillator for muon detection + tracking

Neutrino Target

- Gd-loaded LS for neutrino detection (n-Gd)

Gamma Catcher

- Unloaded LS for γ containment (E-scale)

Buffer Volume

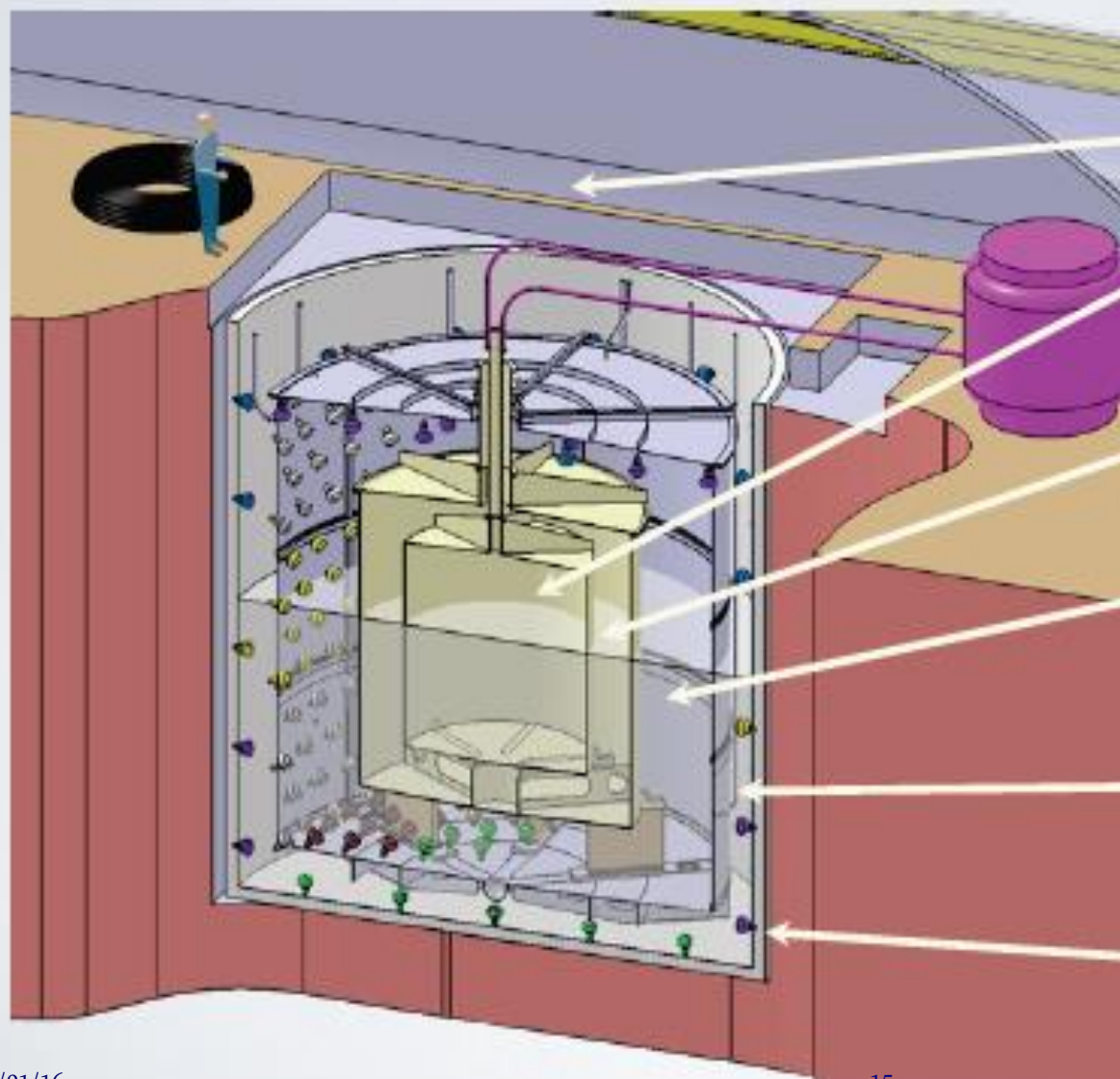
- Mineral oil to shield inner volumes; PMTs

Inner Veto

- Rejection of muons and external radioactivity

Passive Shielding

Detector Design



Outer Veto: plastic scintillator strips

γ -Target: 10.3 m³ scintillator doped with 0.1g/l of Gd compound in an acrylic vessel (8 mm)

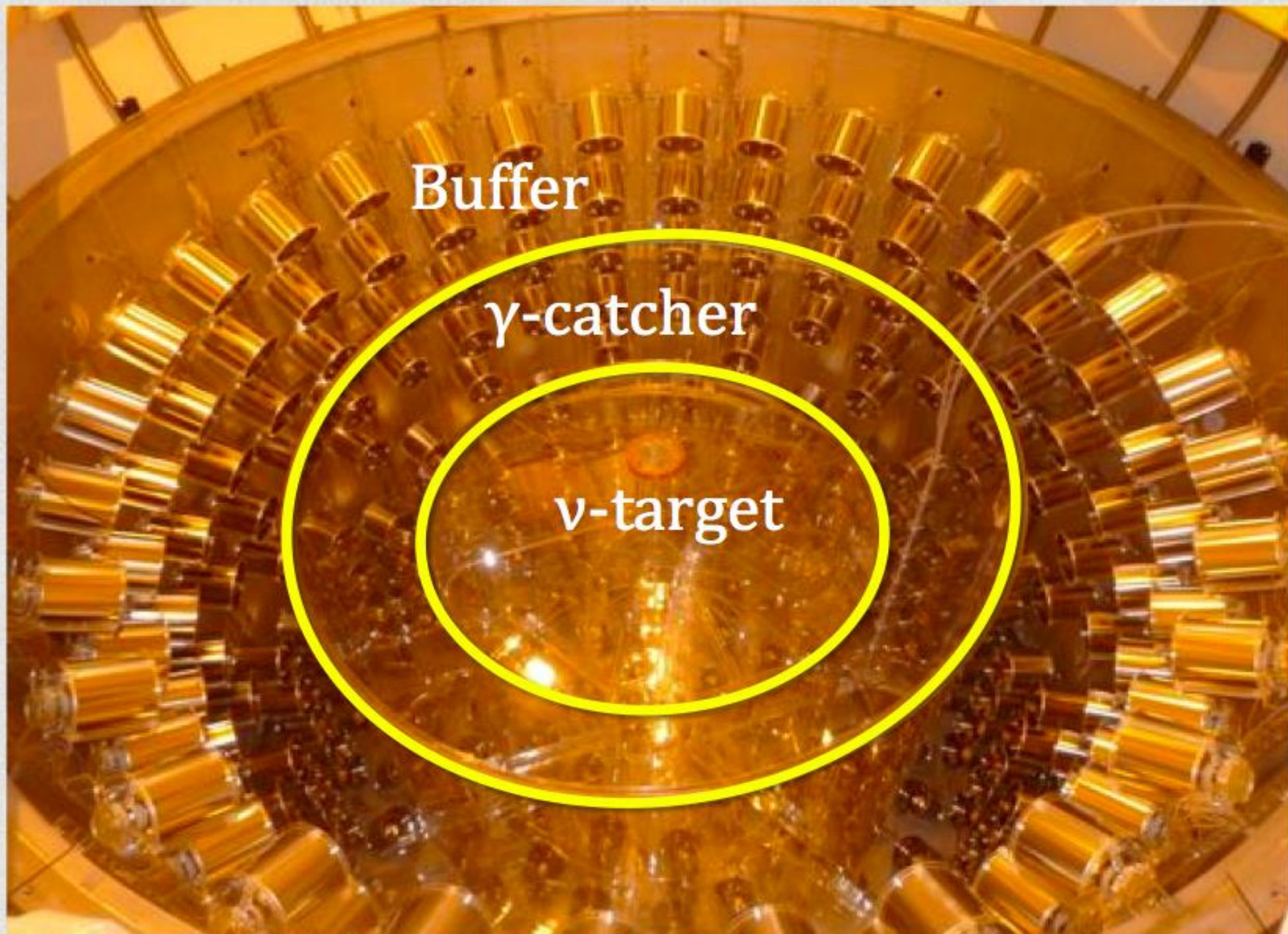
γ -Catcher: 22.3 m³ scintillator in an acrylic vessel (12 mm)

Buffer: 110 m³ of mineral oil in a stainless steel vessel (3 mm) viewed by 390 PMTs (10 inches)

Inner Veto: 90m³ of scintillator in a steel vessel (10 mm) equipped with 78 PMTs (8 inches)

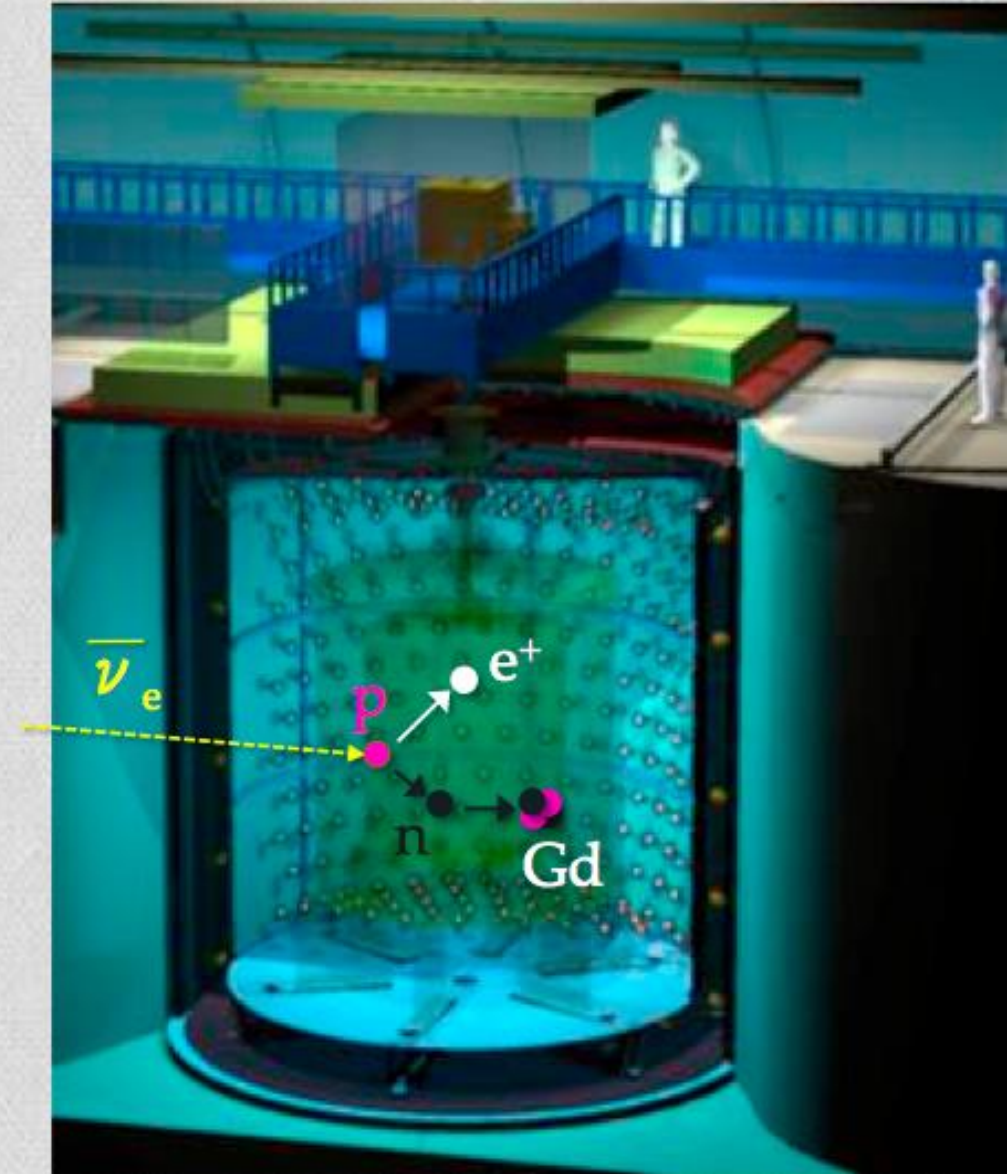
Shielding: about 250t steel shielding (150 mm)

Double Chooz detector



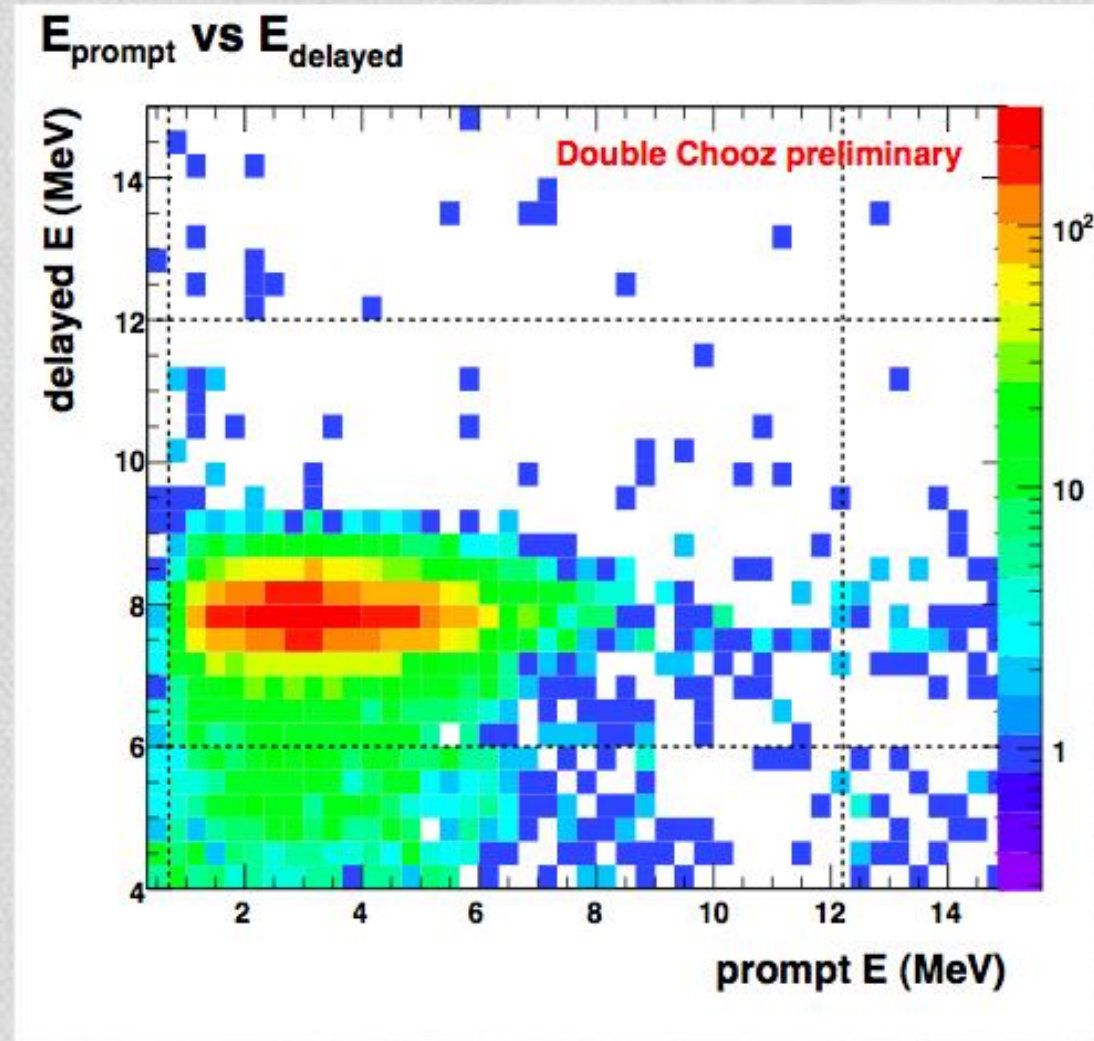
Neutrino selection

- **Muon veto**
 - No coincidence signal in IV
 - $\Delta t_{\mu} > 1 \text{ msec}$
 - **Prompt event**
 - $0.7 < E_{\text{vis}} < 12.2 \text{ MeV}$
 - PMT light noise cuts
 - **Delayed event**
 - $6 < E_{\text{vis}} < 12 \text{ MeV}$
 - PMT light noise cuts
 - **Delayed coincidence**
 - $2 < \Delta t < 100 \mu\text{sec}$
 - **Multiplicity**
 - No extra events around signal
-
- **Further BG reduction**
 - $\Delta t_{\mu} > 500 \text{ msec}$ ($E_{\mu} > 600 \text{ MeV}$)
 - No coincidence signal in OV

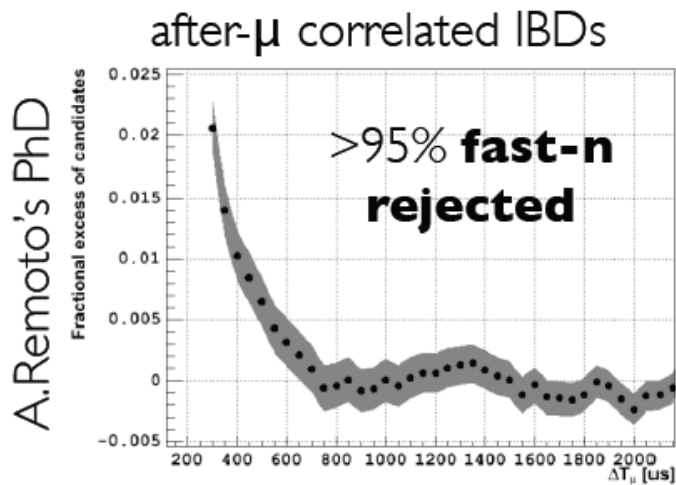
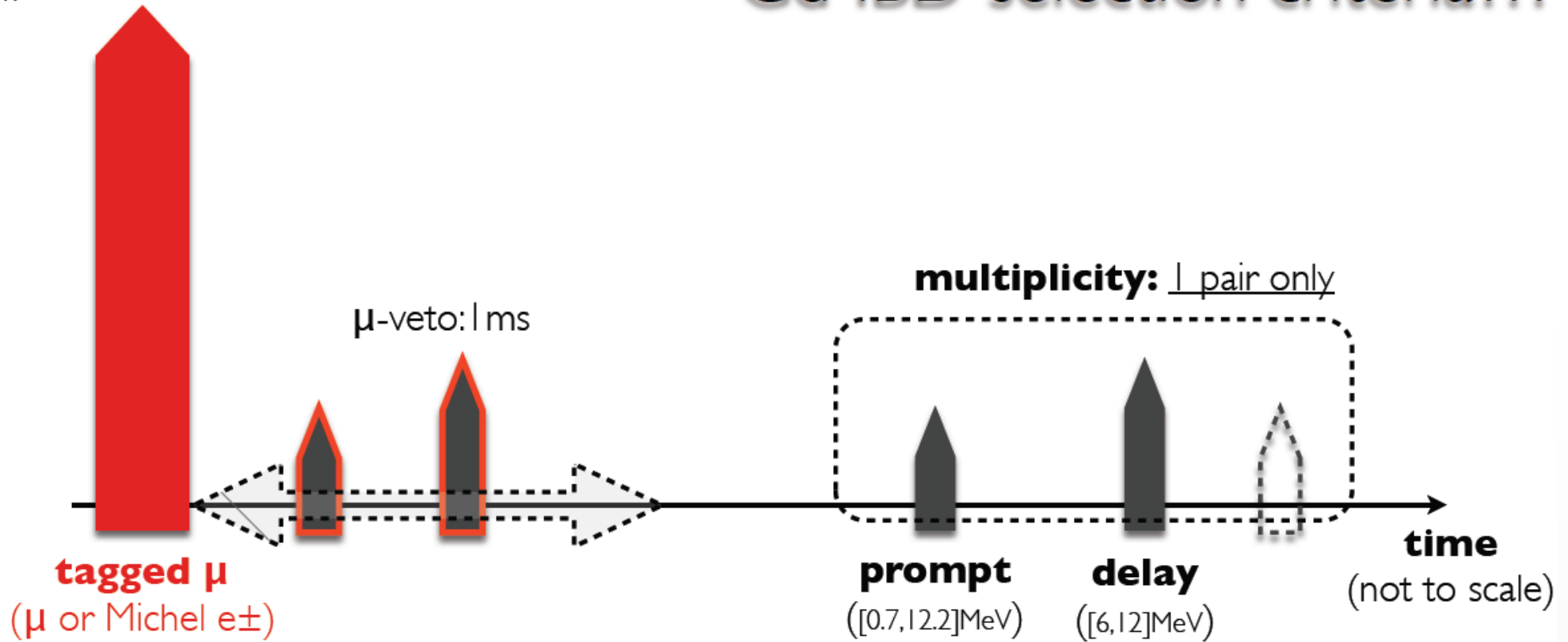
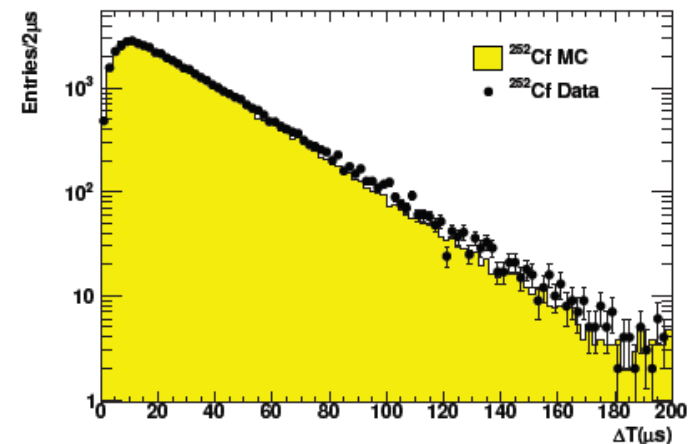


Neutrino selection

- **Muon veto**
 - No coincidence signal in IV
 - $\Delta t_{\mu} > 1$ msec
 - **Prompt event**
 - **$0.7 < E_{vis} < 12.2$ MeV**
 - Light noise cuts
 - **Delayed event**
 - **$6 < E_{vis} < 12$ MeV**
 - Light noise cuts
 - **Delayed coincidence**
 - $2 < \Delta t < 100$ μ sec
 - **Multiplicity**
 - No extra events around signal
-
- **Further BG reduction**
 - $\Delta t_{\mu} > 500$ msec ($E_{\mu} > 600$ MeV)
 - No coincidence signal in OV



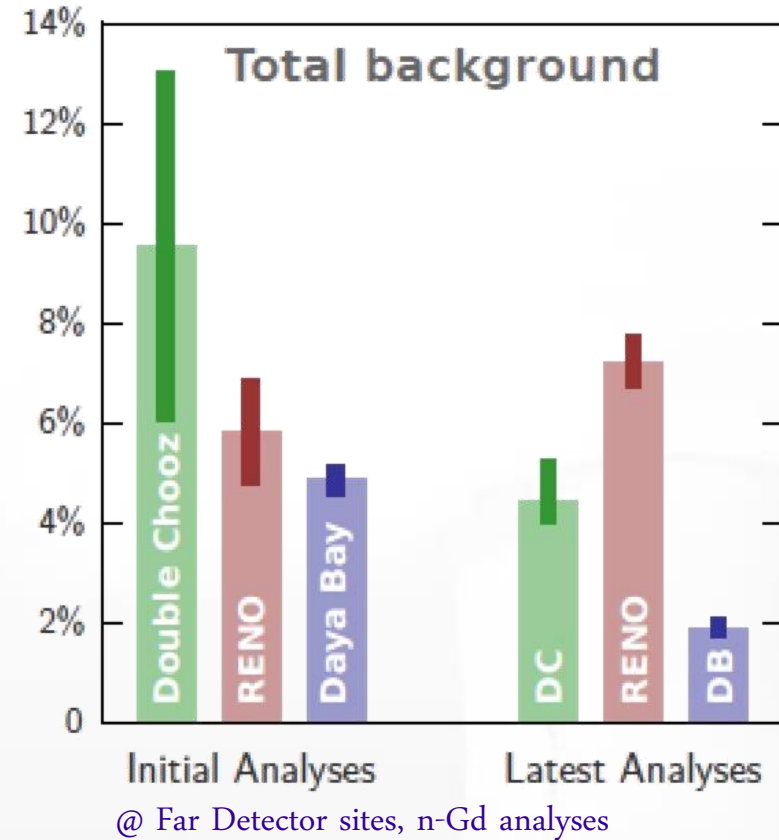
Gd-IBD selection criteria...

IBD $\Delta t(n \sim e^+)$ correlation (**Cf@Target**)

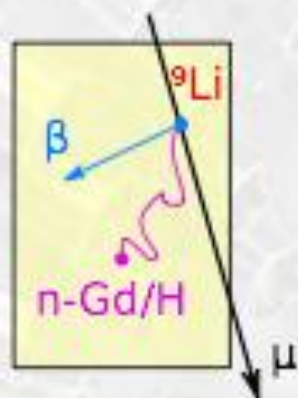
Anatael Cabrera (CNRS-IN2P3 & APC)

Background Contributions

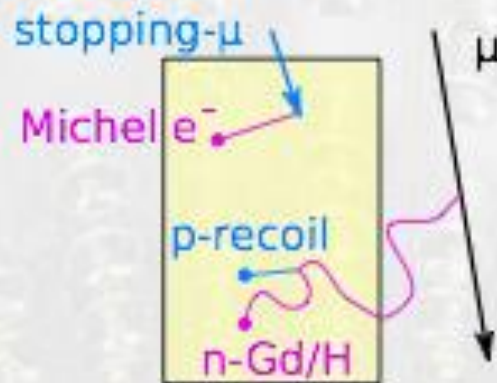
- **Accidentals:** negligible for n-Gd, still important for n-H
- **Correlated (stopping- μ , fast n):** μ -induced, reduced with increasing overburden
- **Cosmogenic β -n emitters (^9Li , ^8He):** concern to all experiments
- All experiments significantly improved their BG understanding
- New methods developed to reject BG



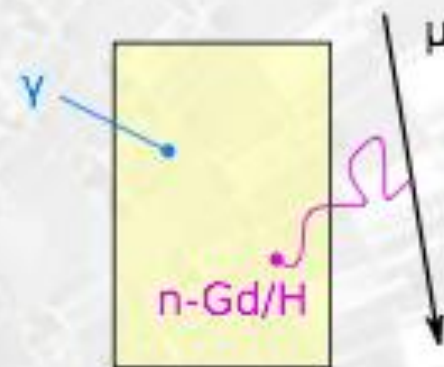
Background



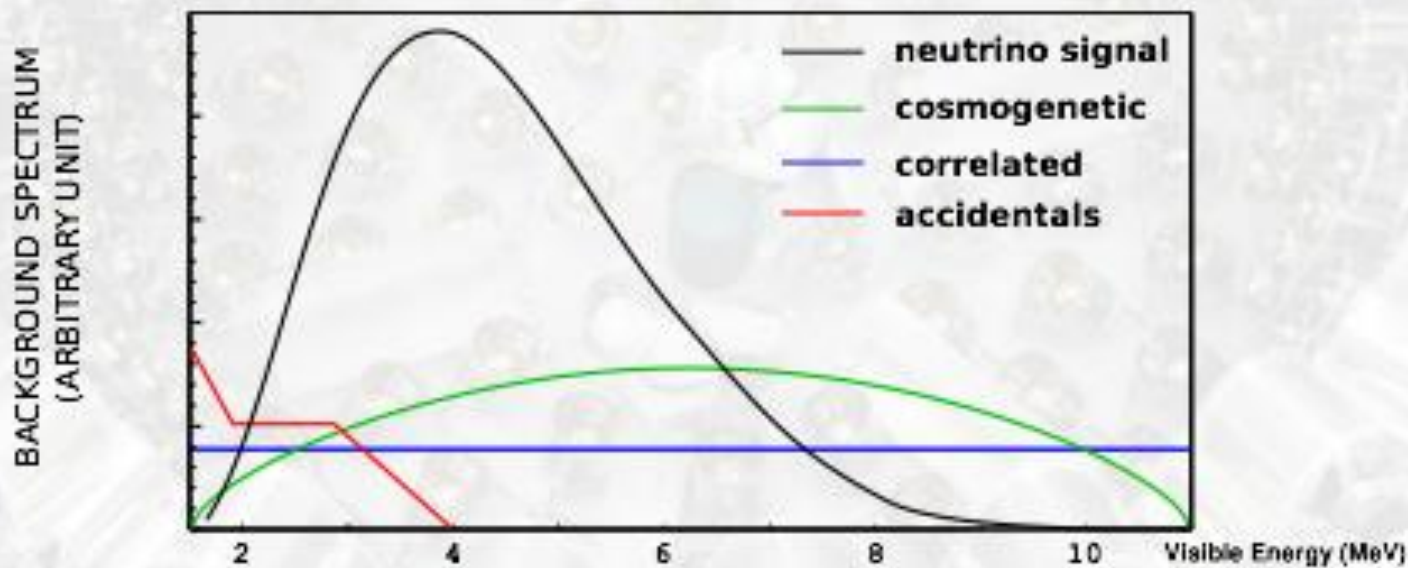
COSMOGENETIC
long lifetime β -n emitter
(mainly ${}^9\text{Li}$)



CORRELATED
fast neutrons from μ spallation,
stopping- μ (acceptance hole)



ACCIDENTALS
natural radioactivity: ${}^{40}\text{K}$, ${}^{208}\text{Tl}$
→ dominant in H-analysis



New θ_{13} Results



Daya Bay



Double Chooz



RENO

New Analysis started around 2013

2 new ideas:

Neutron Capture on Hidrogen

- Look for IBD interactions in the Gamma-Catcher volume (22.3 tons), twice the target volume (10.3 tons) looking at neutron capture in hidrogen.

Theta13 via a reactor rate modulation analysis

Look for antineutrino disappearance as a function of the reactor power fitting the observed IBD rate as a function of the predicted rate, which depends on the reactor power.

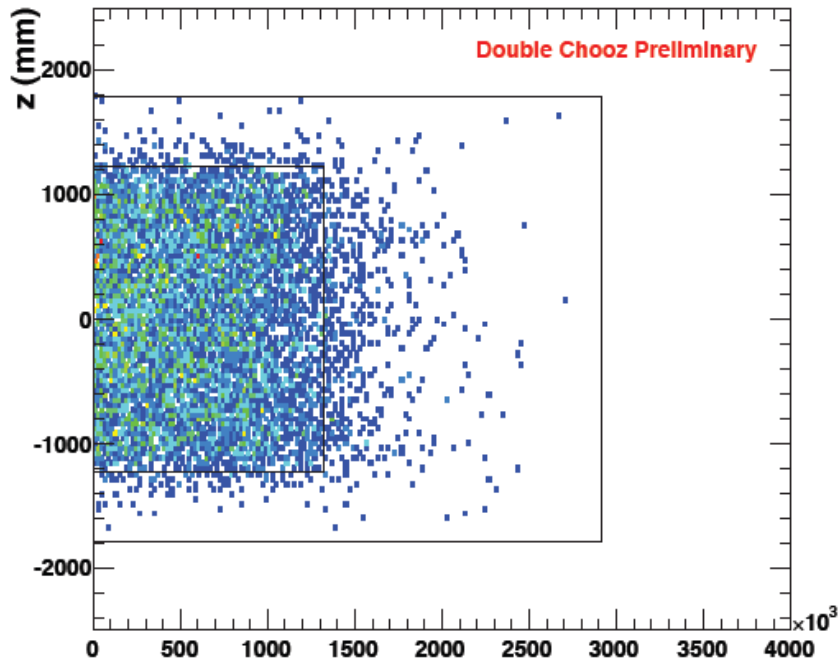
- Good Background constraint thanks to two reactor OFF periods
- Background model independent fit (no constraints on B)

This method is independent of the reactor $\bar{\nu}_e$ flux energy distribution, a fact that became important after the observation of unexpected distortions of the reactor flux at about 6MeV $\bar{\nu}_e$ energy

Neutron capture from IBD in **Gd** or in **H**

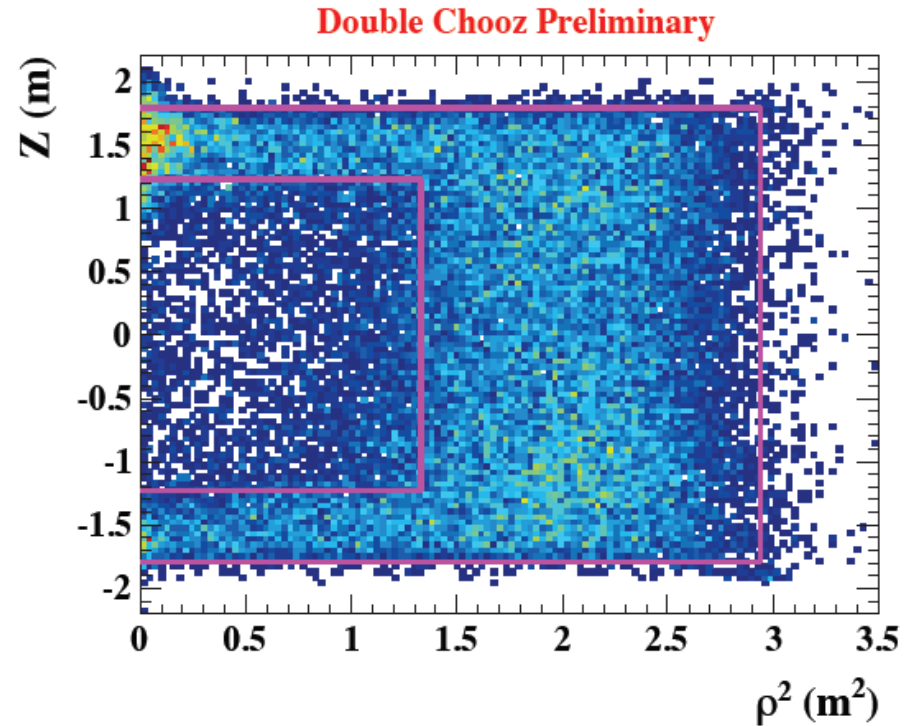
IBD features...

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Gd-IBD

Signal/BG ~ 19

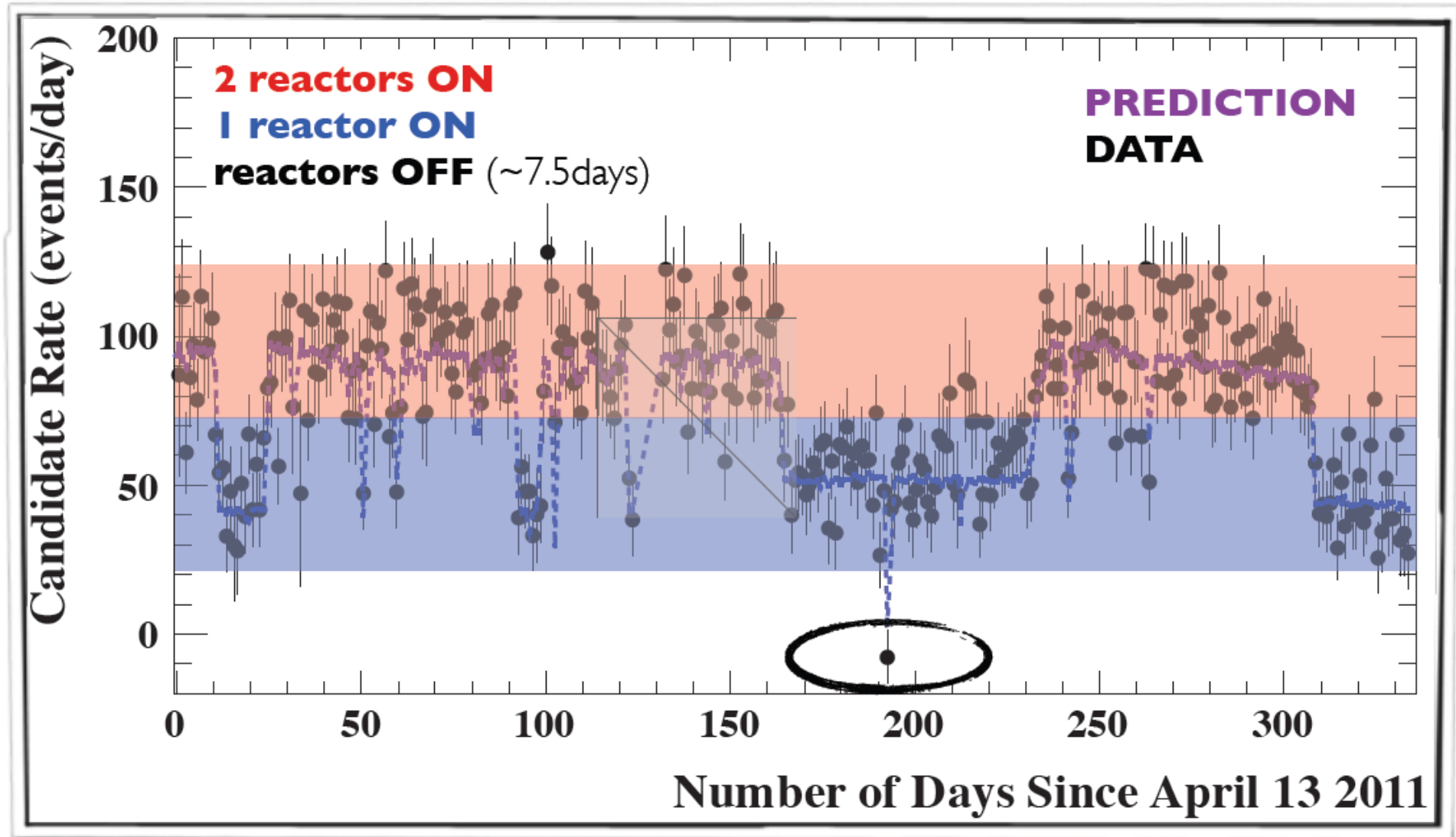


H-IBD

Signal/BG ~ 0.95

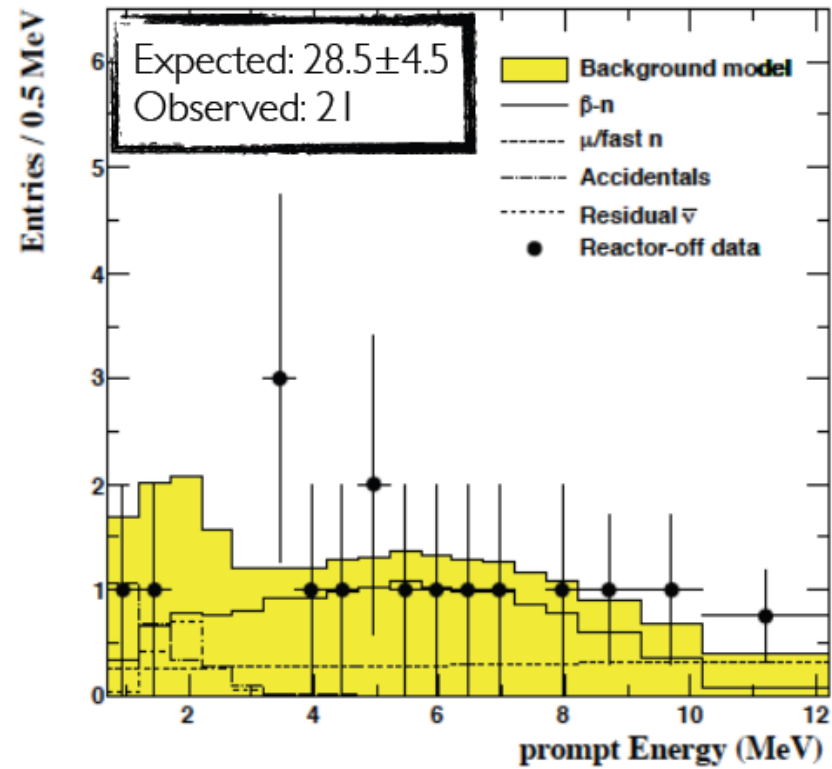
(First n-H paper)

observed vs expected rate...

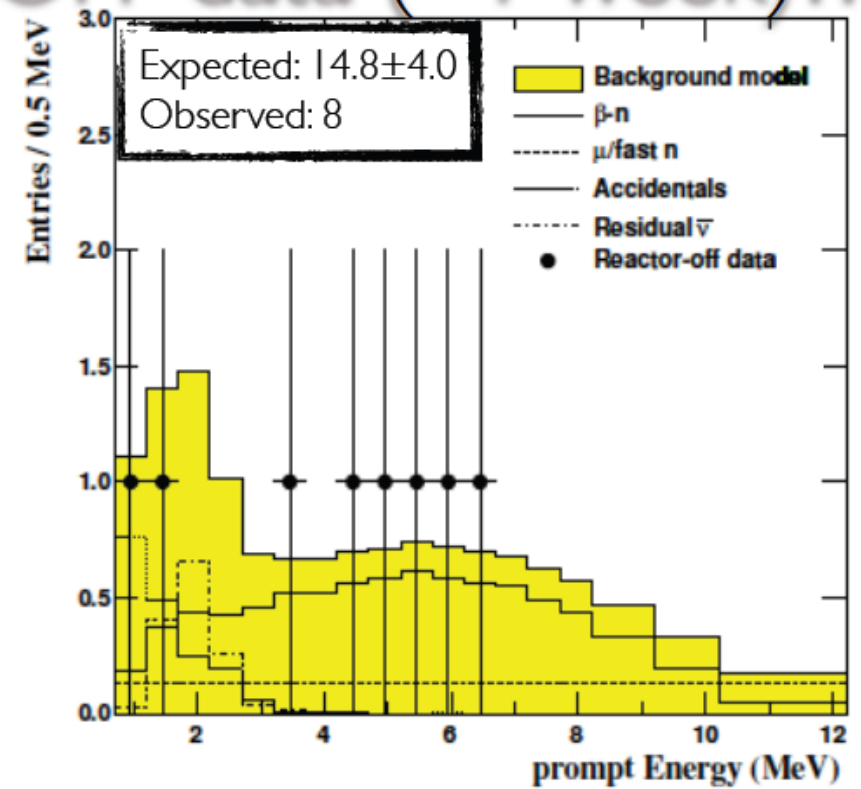


next: plot observed vs expected IBD rate per day

Background reactor OFF data (~1 week)...



Gd Selection (no BG rejection cuts)
(2x more BG)



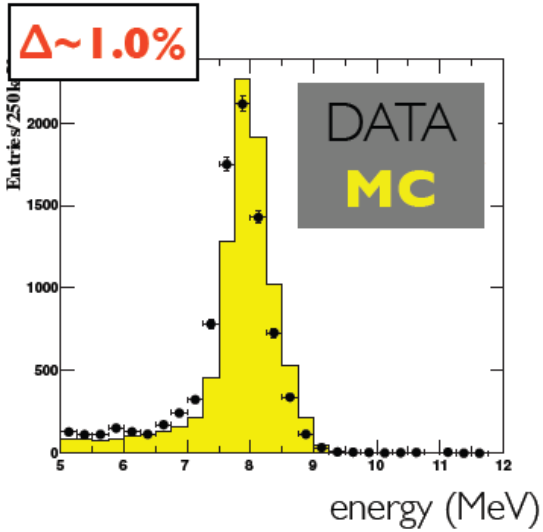
Gd Selection (standard)
(mainly Spallation- μ veto)

Rate (day ⁻¹)	β -n	Accidental	μ /fast n	Total Est.	Total Obs.
DCI	2.10 \pm 0.57	0.35 \pm 0.02	0.93 \pm 0.26	3.4 \pm 0.6	2.7 \pm 0.6
DCII	1.25 \pm 0.54	0.26 \pm 0.02	0.44 \pm 0.20	2.0 \pm 0.6	1.0 \pm 0.4

two different selections "DC-I" & "DC-II" (BG rate varies ~2x)

BG(observed) < BG(expected)
agreement within ~1.5 σ (statistics limited)

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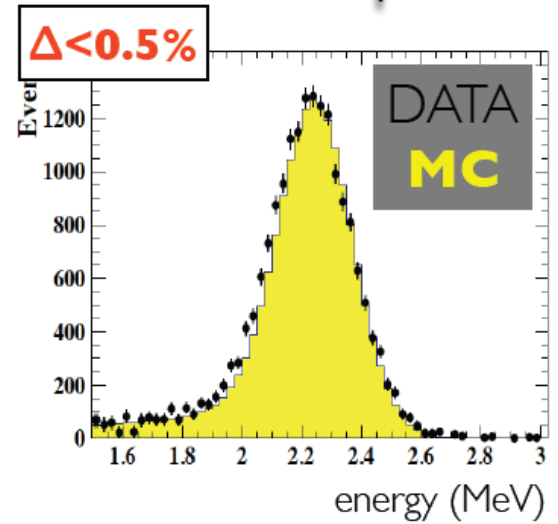
$\delta(\text{energy}): 1.13\%$

$\sim 1.0\%$
(non-linear)

Gd-IBD

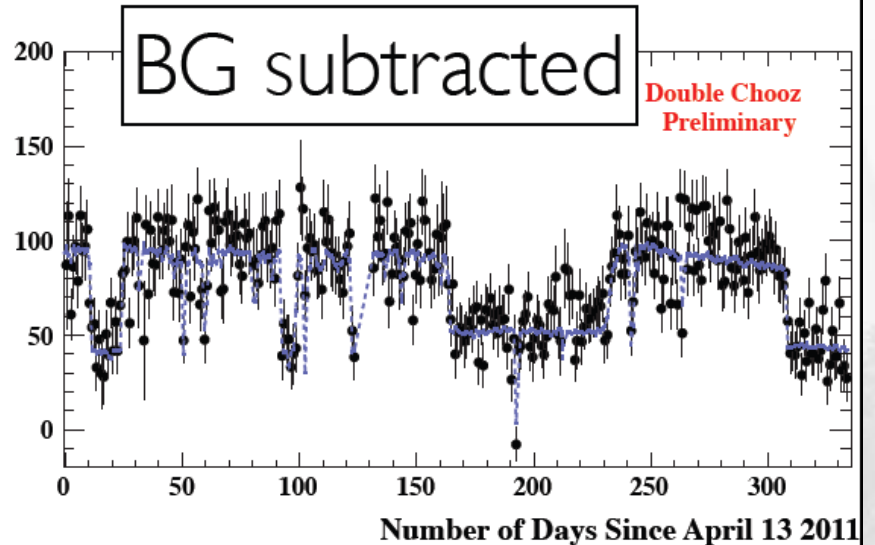
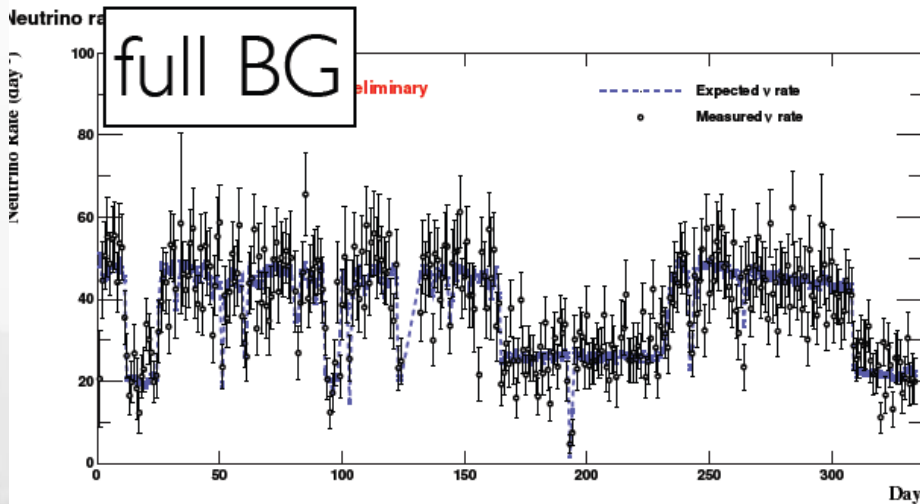
Signal/BG ~ 19

selections output...

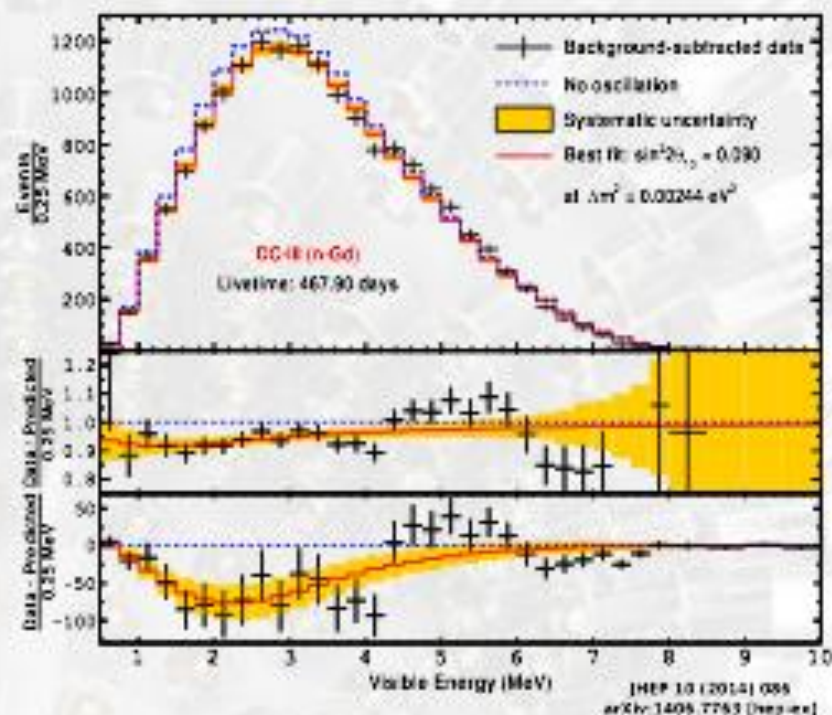
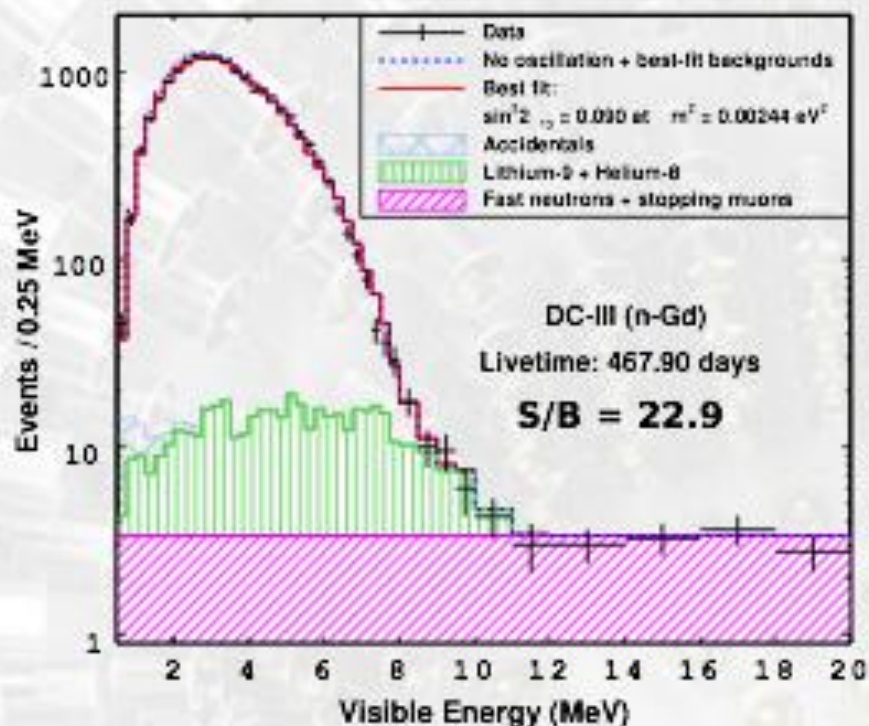


H-IBD

Signal/BG ~ 0.95



Highlight of last Gd analysis (2014)



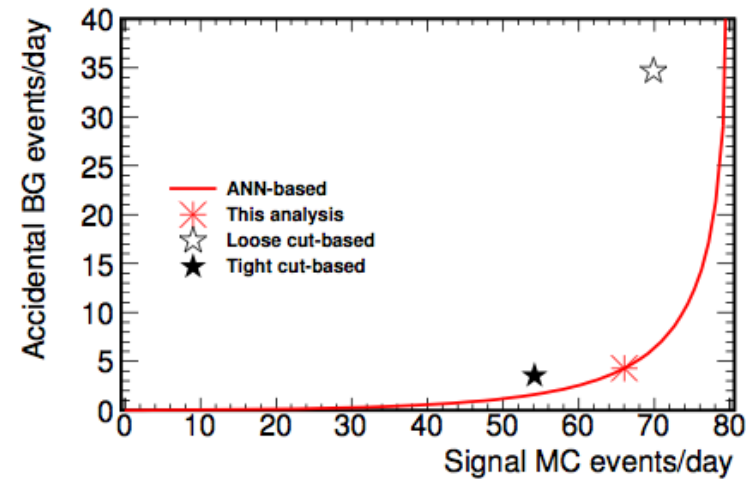
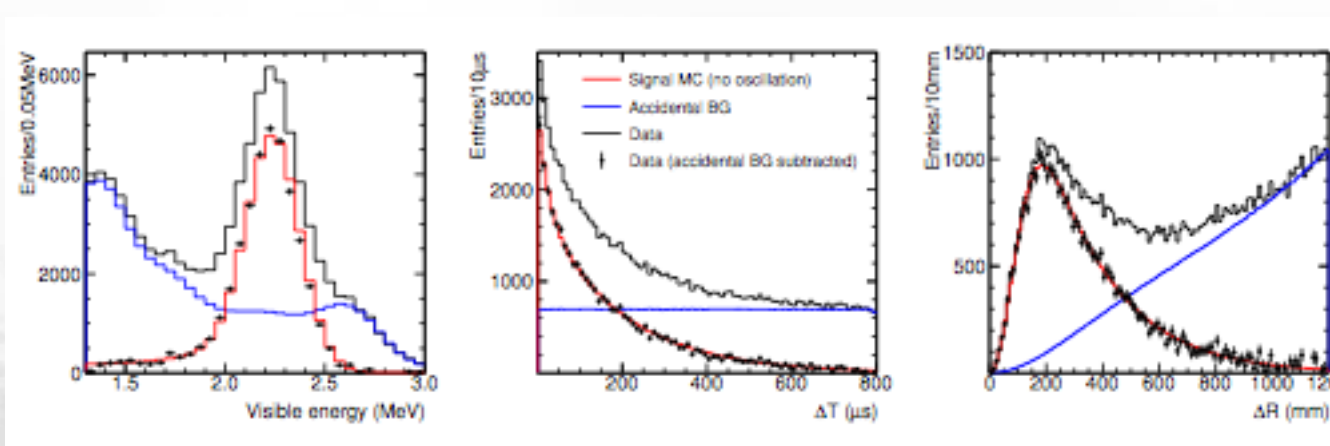
- new analysis with opened selection (more signal) + new vetos (less background)
- excellent spectral distortion in 0.5 – 4 MeV region constraining θ_{13} fit
 $\sin^2(2\theta_{13}) = 0.090^{+0.032}_{-0.029}$ previous Gd results: 0.109 ± 0.039
- unexpected E/L structure > 4 MeV (only published experimental observation)

Double Chooz θ_{13} new Results

New n-H analysis

Multiple Variable analysis instead of cut based approach:

- Input: delayed energy, time and space correlation
- Maximise signal/background for unprecedented accidental reduction
- Multivariate BG rejection ANN (artificial neural network based)

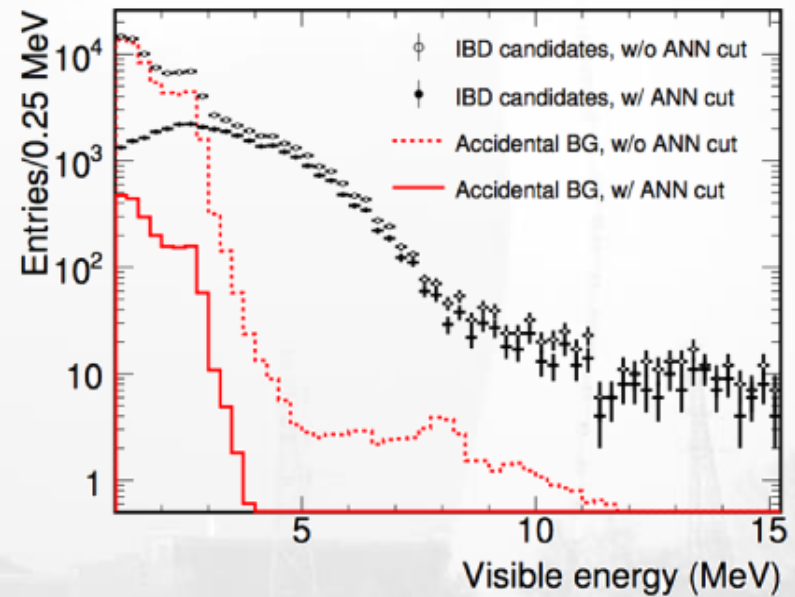
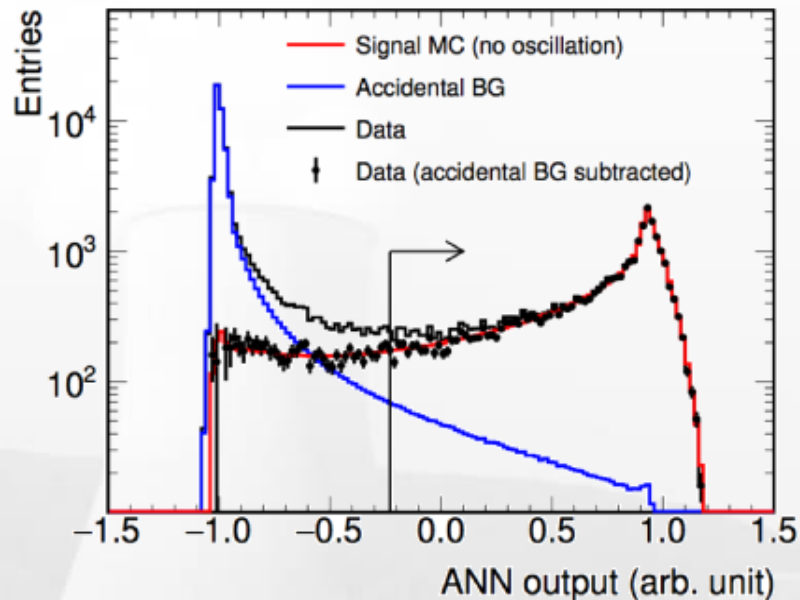


Double Chooz θ_{13} Results

n-H analysis

Improvements over last nH result:

- Significantly larger data set (~ 240 days $\rightarrow \sim 460$ days)
- Multivariate BG rejection ANN (artificial neural network based)
- Multiplicity Pulse Shape veto against FN (Fast Neutrons)

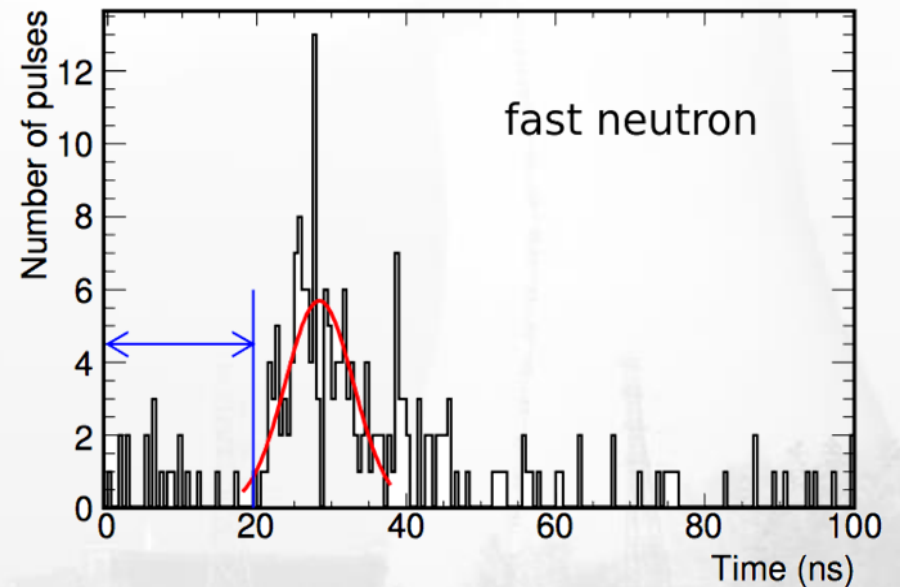
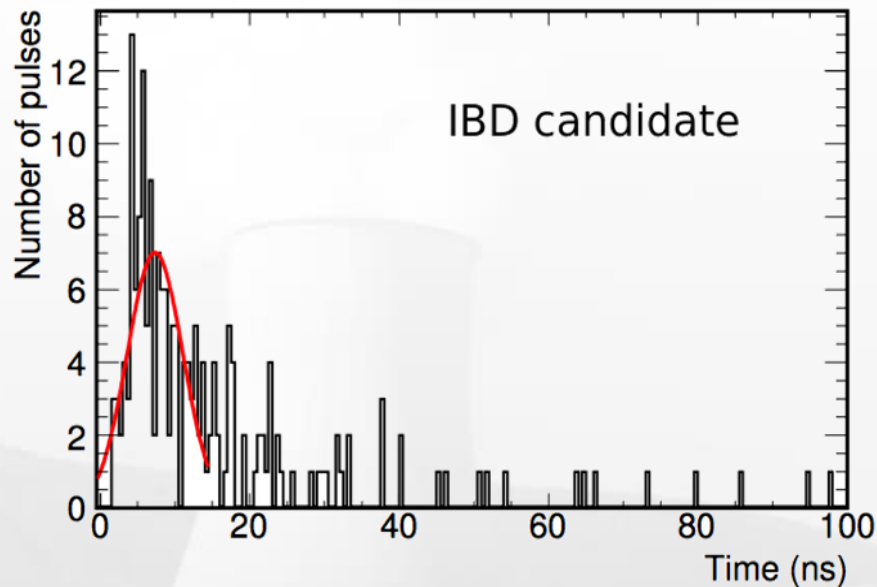


Double Chooz θ_{13} Results

n-H analysis

Improvements over last nH result:

- Significantly larger data set (~ 240 days \rightarrow ~ 460 days)
- Multivariate BG rejection (ANN-based)
- Multiplicity Pulse Shape (MPS) veto against Fast Neutrons - FN



Double Chooz θ_{13} new Results

n-HIII analysis (Rate + Shape)

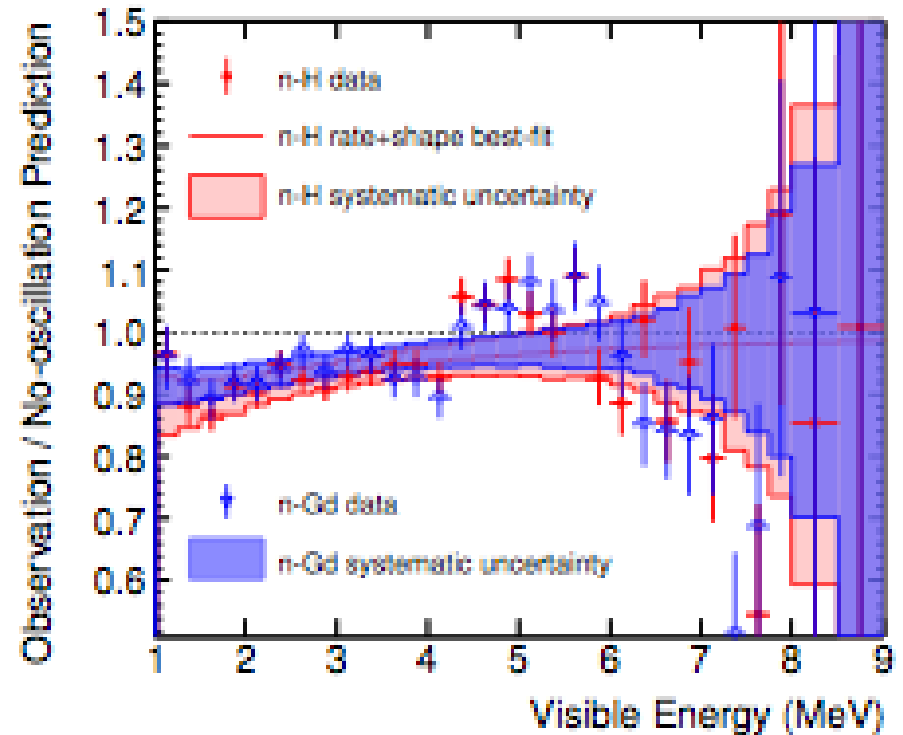
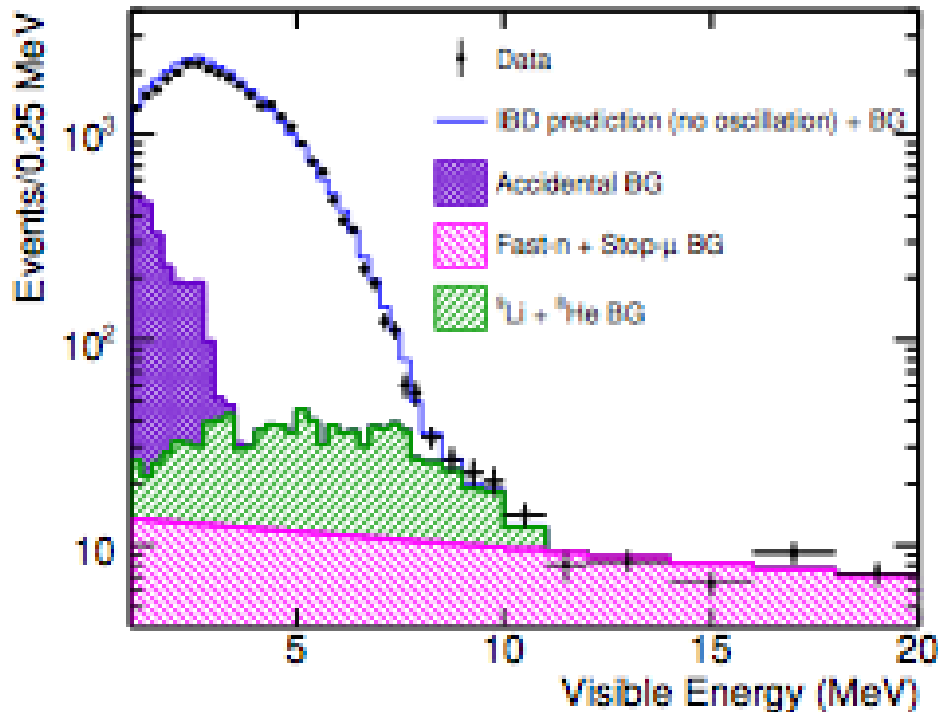
⇒ S/BG ratio improved by factor of ~20!

Rate+shape analysis: $\sin^2 2\theta_{13} = 0.124$

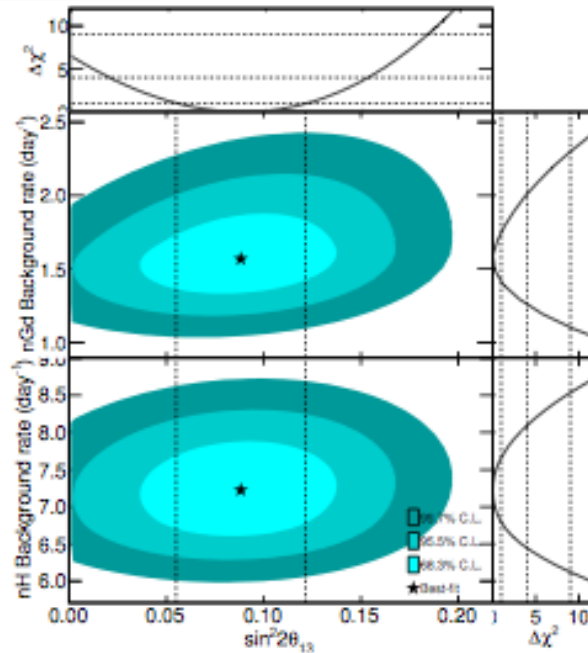
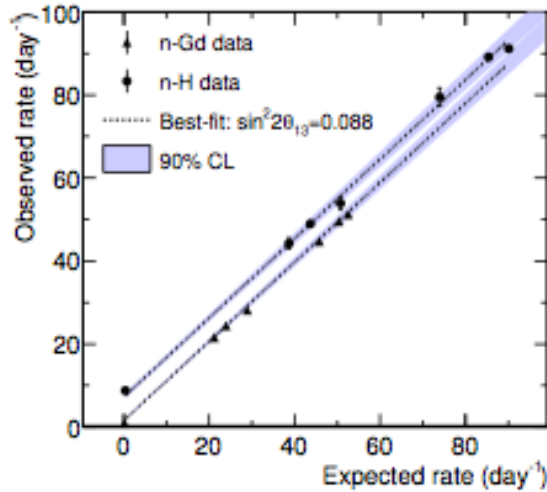
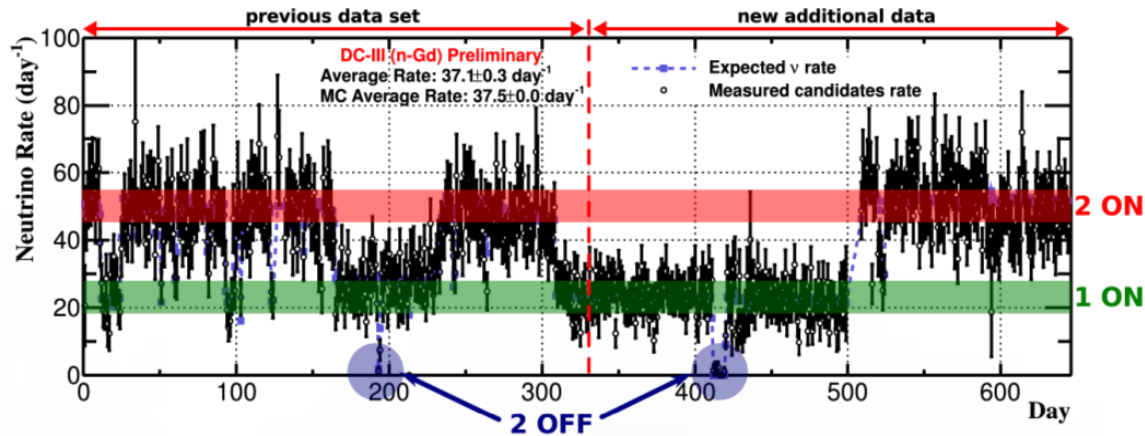
+0.030

-0.039

Gd-III: 0.090 $^{+0.032}_{-0.029}$
 H-II: 0.097 ± 0.048



Double Chooz θ_{13} Results



Reactor-Rate-Modulation

- Compares IBD rates for different reactor powers
- Measurement of θ_{13} and BG rate at the same time
- Independent of neutrino energy distribution
- BG model independent measurement or using BG model to increase precision
- Combined Gd-III + H-III fit:

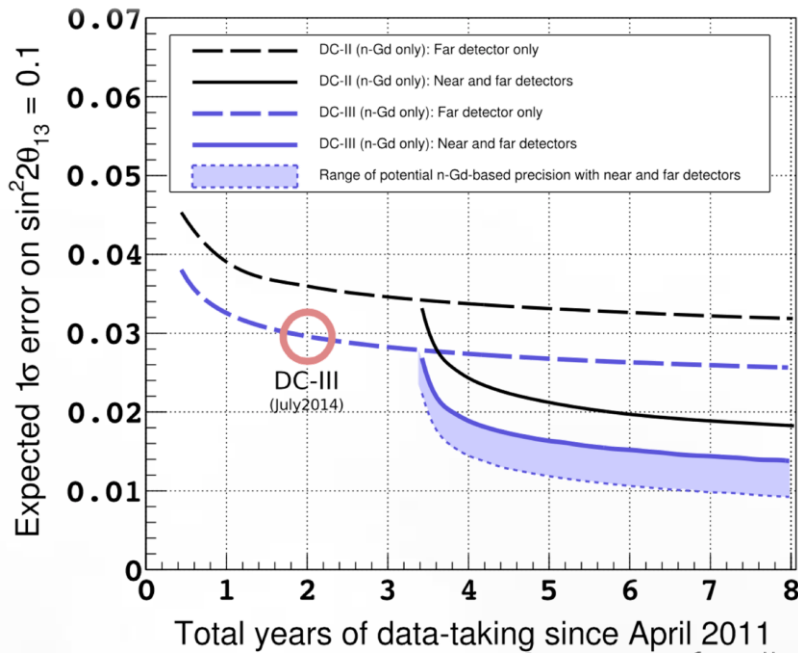
$$\sin^2 2\theta_{13} = 0.088 \pm 0.033$$

$$\text{BG rate} = 7.27 \pm 0.49 \text{ d}^{-1}$$

Double Chooz θ_{13} new Results

- ◆ n-H analysis results - Reactor Rate Modulation:
- ◆ Measurement based in 462.72 live days data at FD
- ◆ Novel techniques developed to reduce background
- ◆ Accidental coincidences suppressed by factor > 10
- ◆ Improvements demonstrate capacity of precise measurements of reactor antineutrinos without Gadolinium loading.
- ◆ Fit to event rate as a function of reactor power (RRM)
- ◆ n-H analysis result $\sin^2 2\theta_{13} = 0.095$ (stat+syst)
- ◆ Reactor Rate Modulation combined fit: $+0.038$
- ◆ n-H + n-Gd result $\sin^2 2\theta_{13} = 0.088 \pm 0.33$ (stat+syst) -0.039

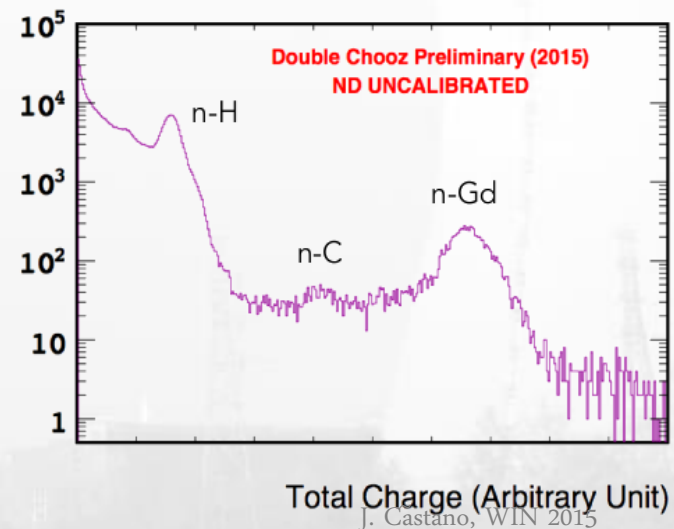
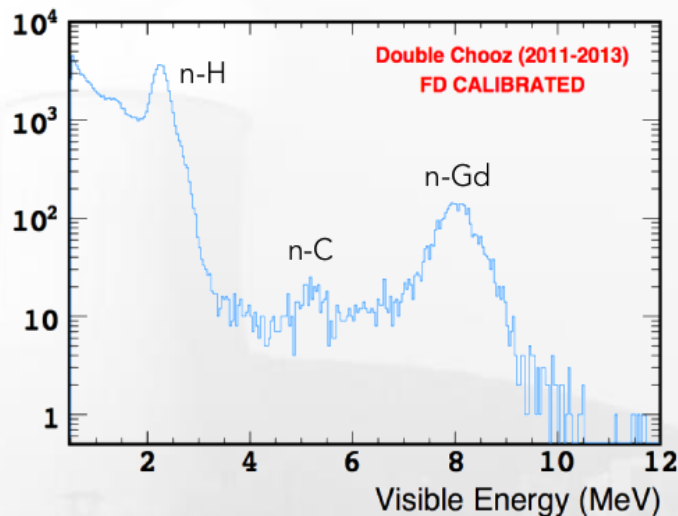
Double Chooz θ_{13} outlook



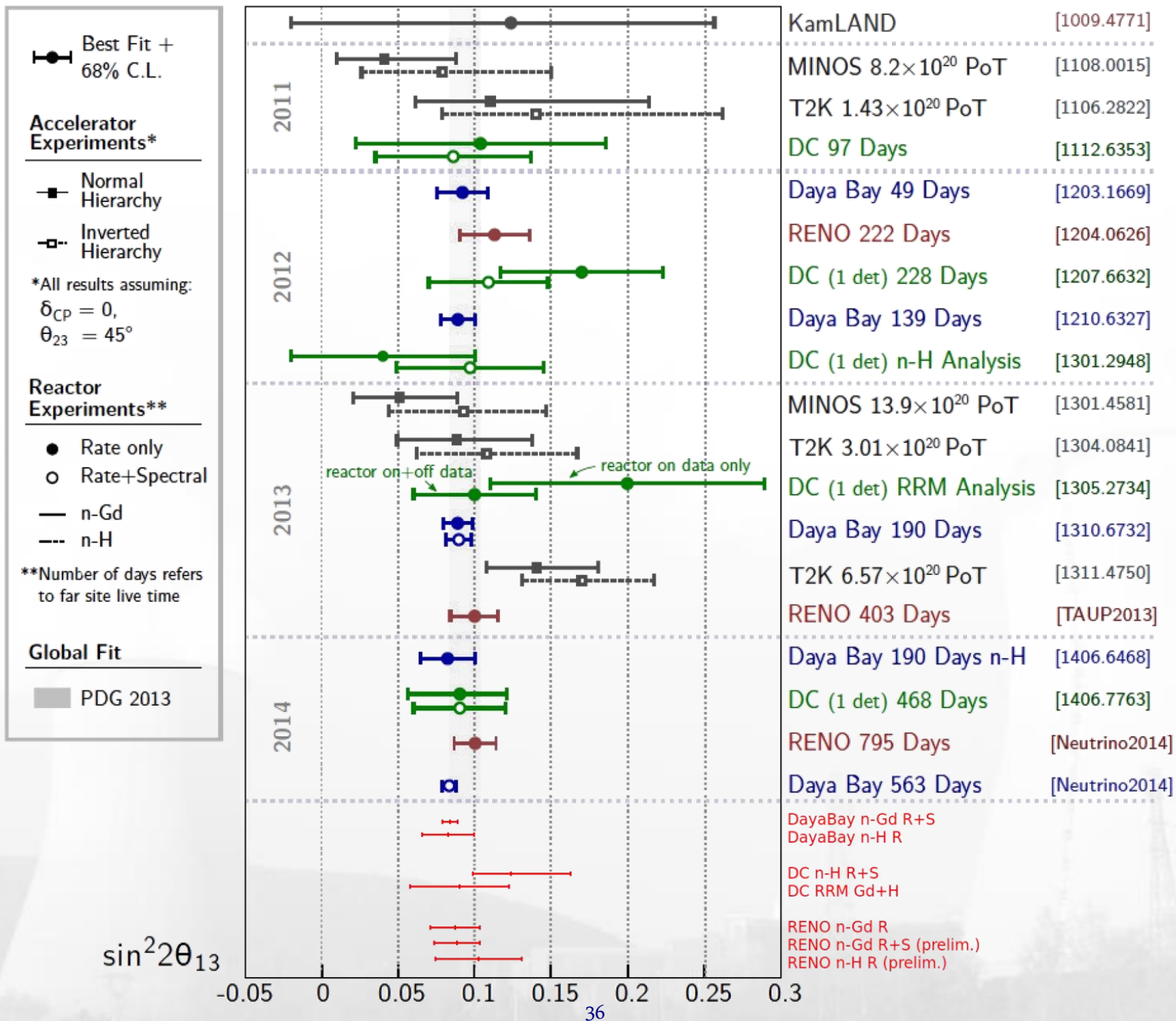
2-detector phase

- Near detector completed
- Taking data since January 2015
- Prospect to lower 1σ -uncertainty to below 10% in 3 years.

Spectrum of spallation neutron captures following crossing muons



θ_{13} Summary





Thank you for your attention!

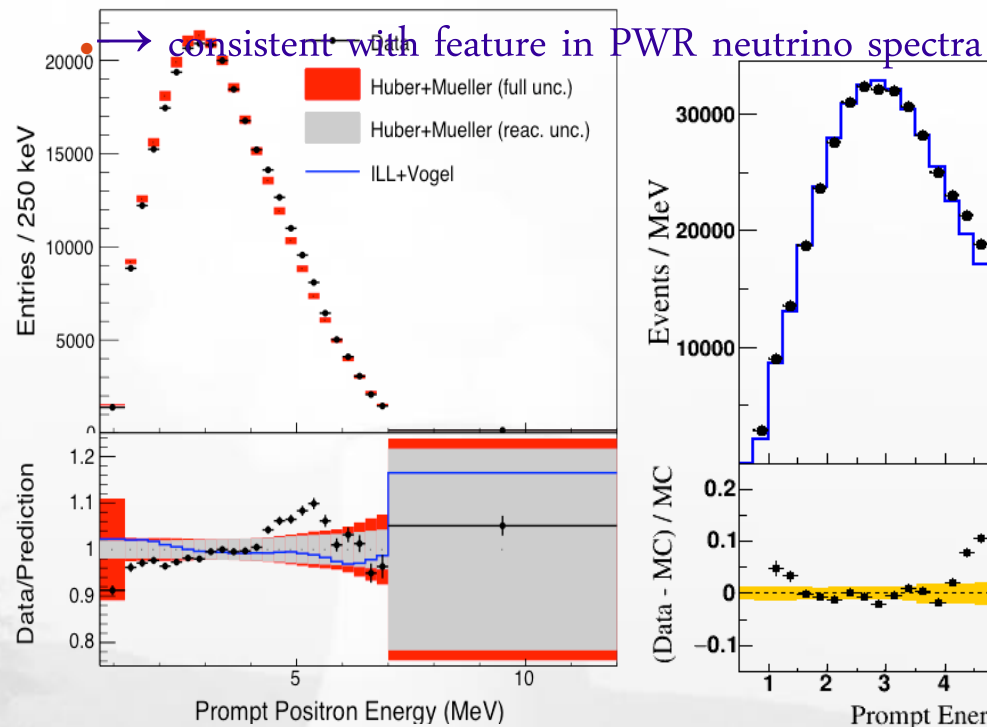


New Results Beyond θ_{13}

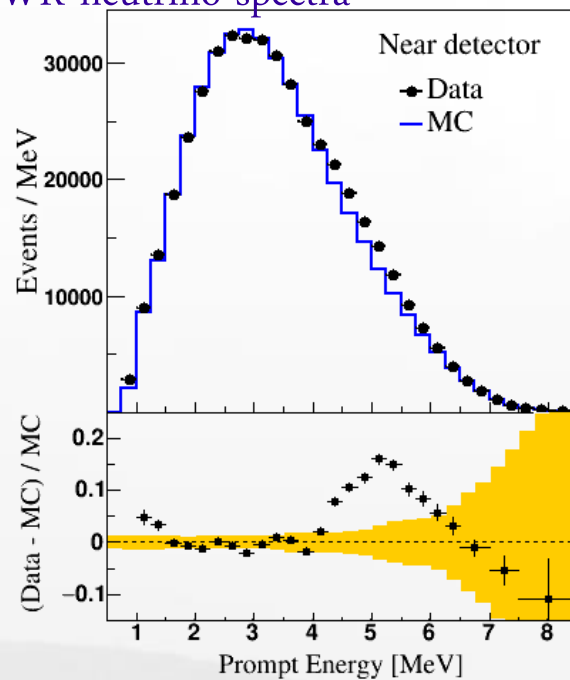
Spectral Distortion

„5 MeV bump“ observed in all three experiments (in ND and FD)

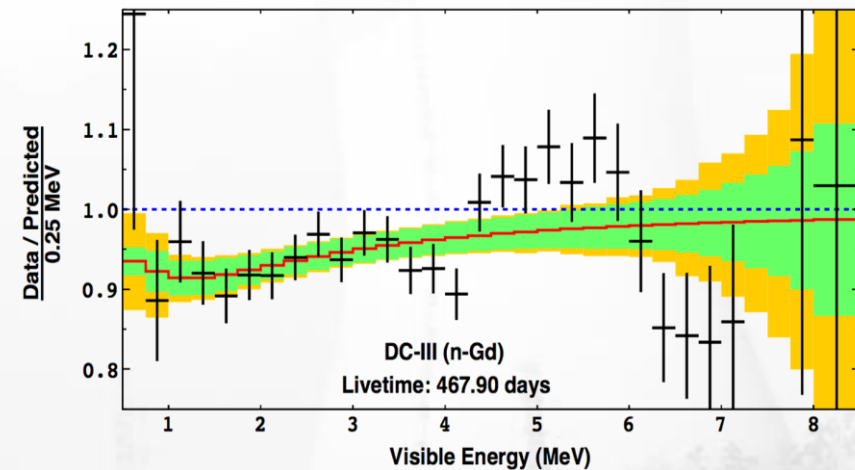
- Events have IBD characteristics
- Correlation with reactor power
- Appears in Gd and H analyses alike
- Measurement of θ_{13} is not affected!



Daya Bay ND



RENO ND



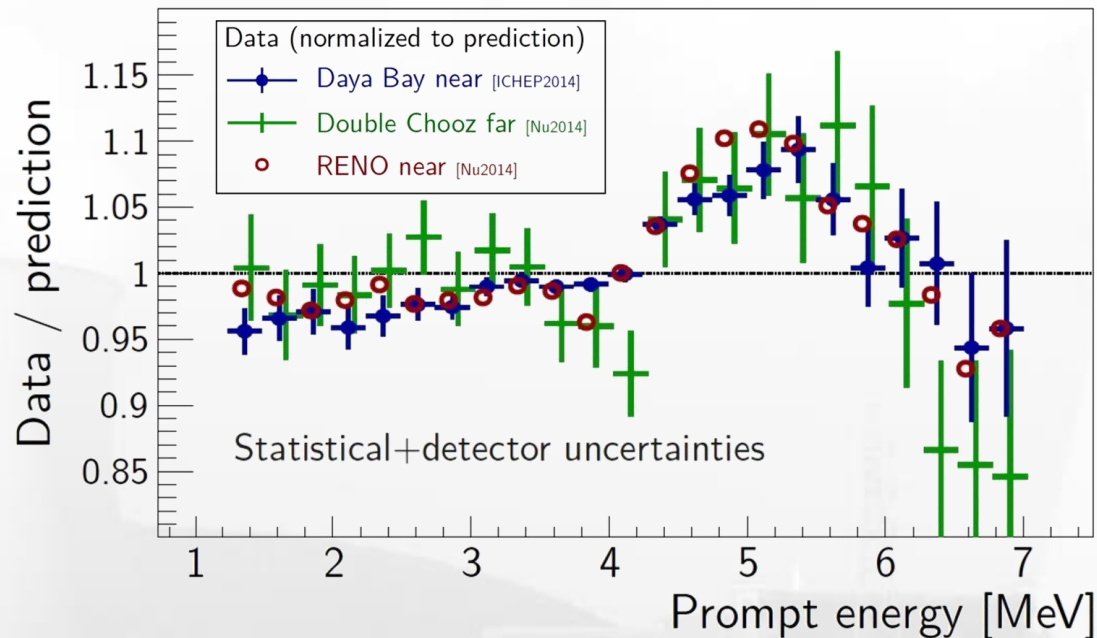
Double Chooz FD

Spectral Distortion

Possible SM explanations are available [e.g. PR D 92, 033015 (2015)]

- Non-fission contributions
- Forbidden transitions
- U-238 fission daughters
- PWR neutron spectrum
- Possible error in original measurement at ILL

Need for new reactor neutrino experiments with different reactor types



Conclusions

Improved results for θ_{13} (all compatible)

- Daya Bay: $\sin^2 2\theta_{13} = 0.084 \pm 0.005$ (n-Gd R+S), also $|\Delta m_{ee}^2| = (2.42 \pm 0.11) \cdot 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$
- Double Chooz: $\sin^2 2\theta_{13} = 0.088 \pm 0.033$ (RRM Gd+H)
- RENO: $\sin^2 2\theta_{13} = 0.087 \pm 0.016$ (n-Gd R)

Further improvements expected

- General improvements in data analysis and understanding of BG
- DC will start 2-detector phase
- RENO is preparing R+S analysis and n-H analysis

Physics beyond θ_{13}

- Discovery of spectral distortion by all three experiments
- No sterile neutrinos found in $0.001 \text{ eV}^2 < \Delta m_{41}^2 < 0.1 \text{ eV}^2$ by DB
- Broad physics program possible

Sterile Neutrino Results

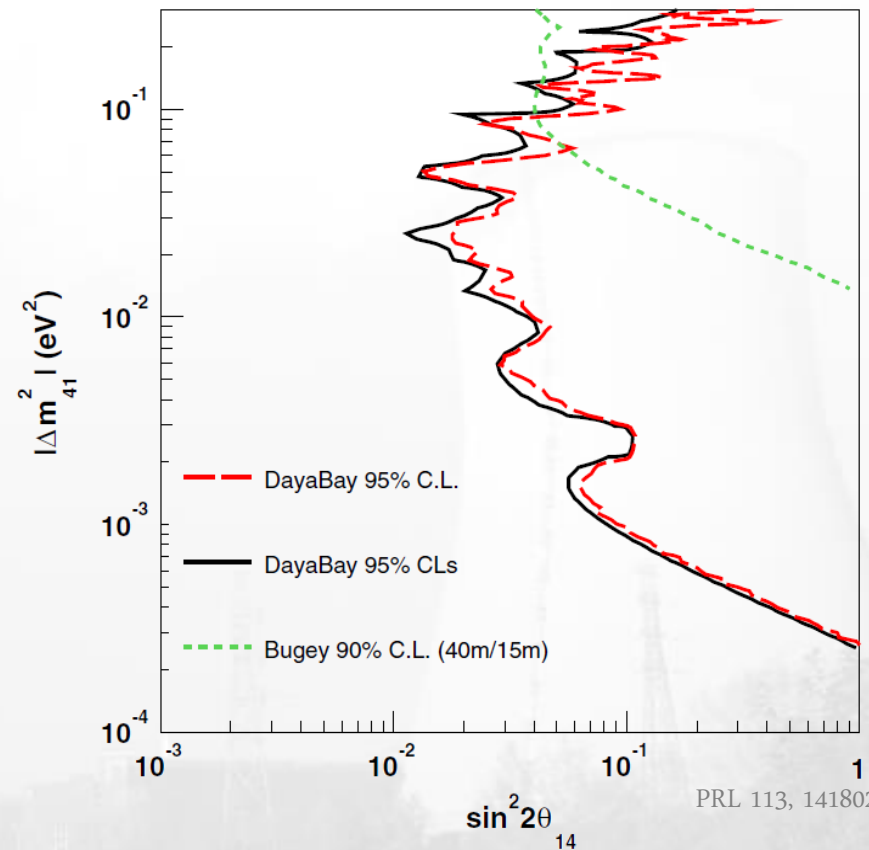
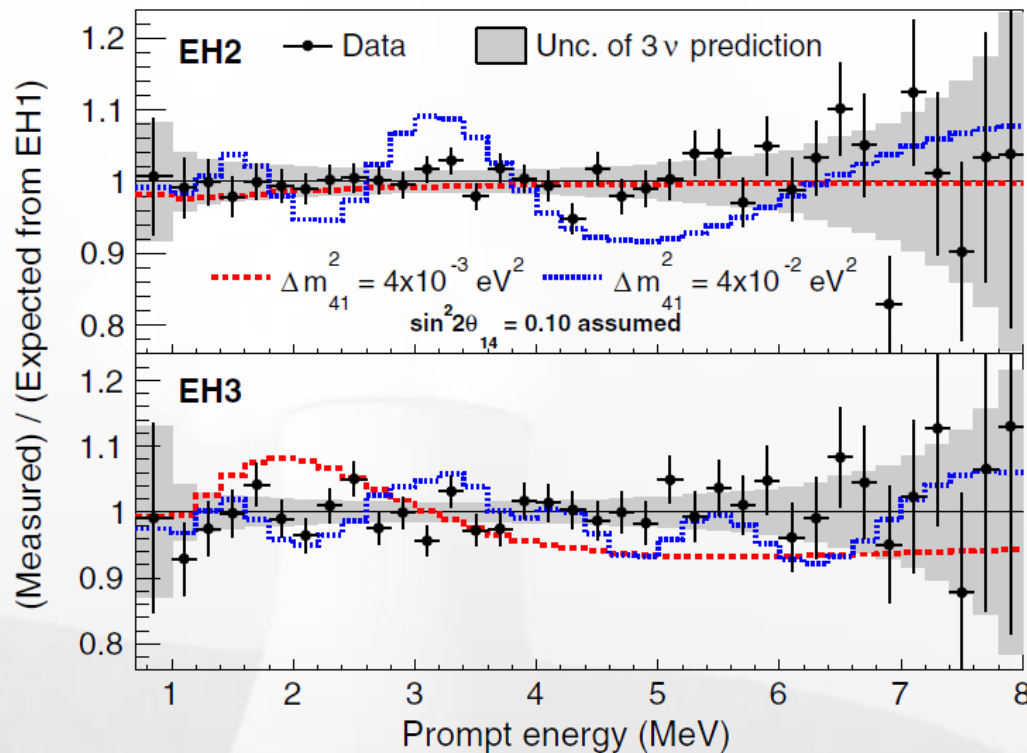
⇒ Talk by C. Giunti later this session

Search for light sterile ν_s performed by DB

- Relative measurements at various baselines (350, 500, 1600m)

- No signal observed, consistent with standard 3 oscillation

- Most stringent limit for $0.001 \text{ eV}^2 < \Delta m_{41}^2 < 0.1 \text{ eV}^2$



PRL 113, 141802 (2014)

Further Studies

Other physics results and development of analysis methods
of general interest

- Background studies [1210.3748]
- Test of Lorentz violation [1209.5810]
- o-Positronium detection [1407.6913]
- Muon reconstruction [1405.6227, 1407.0275]
- Supernova neutrinos ?
- Nonstandard interactions
- Neutrino directionality
- Pulse shape analyses

Achievements of Double Chooz

- **Pioneered reactor experiments (improvements from CHOOZ)**
 - Experimental concept to use two detectors
 - New detector structure
 - 4 layers detector structure becomes standard of forthcoming reactor experiments
 - Low background measurement (S/N ~ 20) proved by reactor OFF
 - Stable Gd loaded LS developed
- **Announced results in November 2011**
 - First θ_{13} measurement by reactor experiment since CHOOZ
 - Indication of non-zero θ_{13} at 94% C.L. and hint for a large value of θ_{13}
 - Evidence for non-zero θ_{13} at 3σ by combination with long baseline experiments (MINOS & T2K)

$$R^{obs} = \left(1 - \sin^2(2\theta_{13}) \sin^2\left(\frac{\Delta m_{13}^2 L}{4E}\right) \right) R^{IBD} + B$$

The background of the slide is a reproduction of the painting 'The Starry Night' by Vincent van Gogh. It features a turbulent, swirling night sky with a prominent crescent moon and numerous bright, glowing stars. In the foreground, a dark, jagged cypress tree stands on the left, and a small town with a church spire is visible in the distance.

THANK YOU

Neutrino Oscillations:
Unveiling the last mixing angle

João dos Anjos

UTFSM, Valparaiso, Chile
11 January 2016