The Daya Bay Reactor Neutrino Experiment

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On Behalf of the Daya Bay Collaboration
HEP2023, Valparaiso, Jan 12, 2023

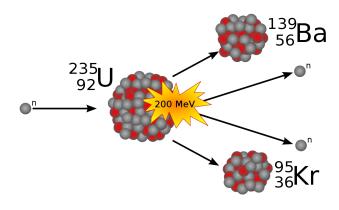


- Neutrino Oscillation: A Brief Review
- Design and Running of Daya Bay
- Highlights of Selected Daya Bay Results
- Summary and Conclusion

Reines&Cowan Detected Reactor Neutrinos in 1956



Cowan and Reines at the Savannah River Power Plant (1956-1959)

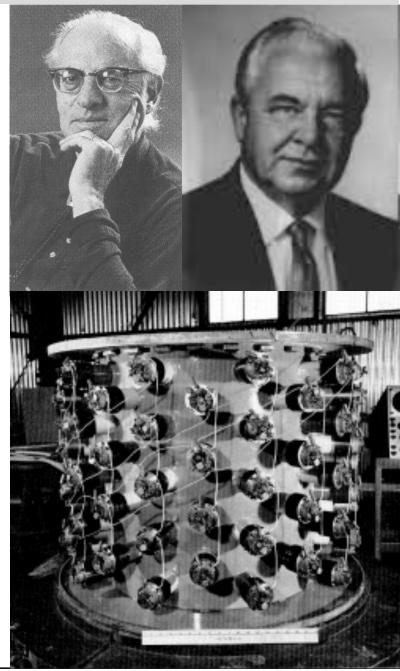


β decay :N \rightarrow N' + e + v

Creation

Inversed β decay

Detection: p+ v \rightarrow e⁺ + n



Neutrino Mixing & Oscillation Proposed





Bruno Pontecorvo in 1957:

Interaction Eigenstates ≠ Mass Eigenstates → Neutrino Mixing and Oscillation

Extended to 3 flavor mixing by Maki, Nakagawa and Sakata, after muon neutrino was discovered at BNL in 1962



S. Sakata 1911-1970

Z. Maki

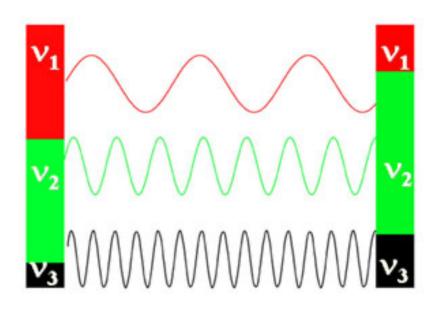
M. Nakagawa

Neutrino Mixing & Oscillation



> Pontecorvo-Maki-Nakagawa-Sakata (PMNS) mixing matrix,

$$U_{PMNS} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos\theta_{23} & \sin\theta_{23} \\ 0 & -\sin\theta_{23} & \cos\theta_{23} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta_{13} & 0 & e^{-i\delta_{CP}}\sin\theta_{13} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -e^{i\delta_{CP}}\sin\theta_{13} & 0 & \cos\theta_{13} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta_{12} & \sin\theta_{12} & 0 \\ -\sin\theta_{12} & \cos\theta_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$



$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ \nu_{\mu} \\ \nu_{\tau} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} V_{e1} & V_{e2} & V_{e3} \\ V_{\mu 1} & V_{\mu 2} & V_{\mu 3} \\ V_{\tau 1} & V_{\tau 2} & V_{\tau 3} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \\ \nu_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

⇒ Oscillation Probability:

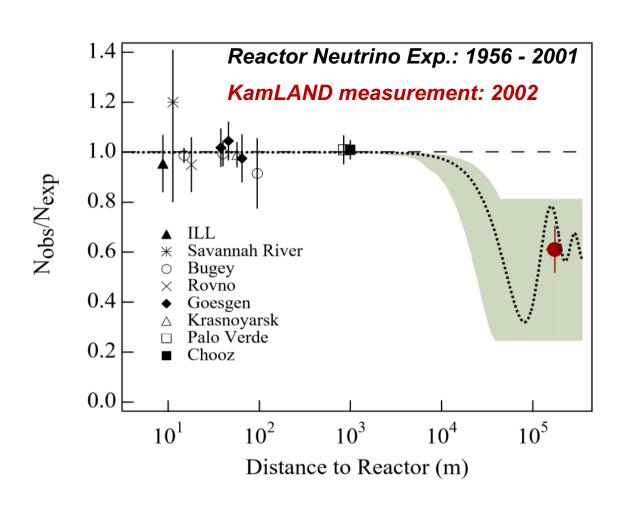
$$P_{\nu_{\alpha} \to \nu_{\beta}} = 1 - 4 \sum_{i < j} |V_{\alpha j}|^2 |V_{\beta i}|^2 \sin^2 \frac{\Delta m_{ji}^2 L}{4E}$$

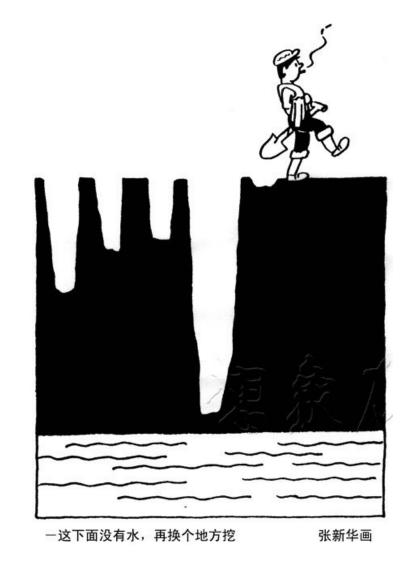
Amplitude $\propto \sin^2 2\theta$

Frequency $\propto \Delta m^2 L/E$

The Search for Neutrino Oscillation 1957-1997







What Reactor Neutrinos Can Measure

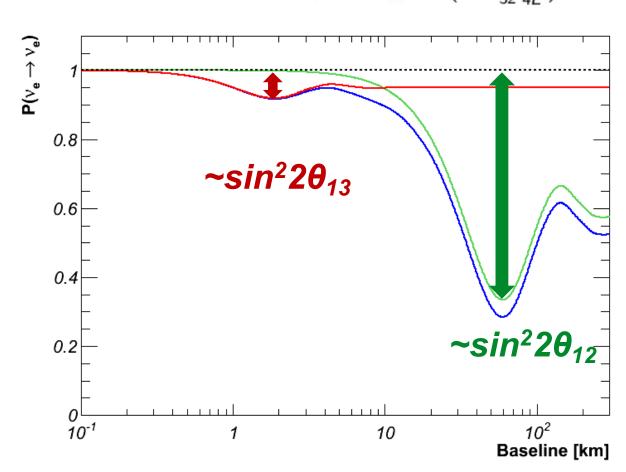


$$P(\overline{v}_{e} \rightarrow \overline{v}_{e}) \approx 1 - \sin^{2} 2\theta_{13} \sin^{2} \left(\frac{\Delta m_{ee}^{2} L}{4E}\right) - \cos^{4} \theta_{13} \sin^{2} 2\theta_{12} \sin^{2} \left(\frac{\Delta m_{21}^{2} L}{4E}\right)$$

$$= \sin^{2} (\Delta m_{ee}^{2} \frac{L}{4E}) \equiv \cos^{2} \theta_{12} \sin^{2} (\Delta m_{31}^{2} \frac{L}{4E})$$

$$+ \sin^{2} \theta_{12} \sin^{2} (\Delta m_{32}^{2} \frac{L}{4E})$$

- At different distances, the survival rate is dominated by different mixing angles
- To measure θ₁₃, a baseline of ~2 km is optimal



Between the Breakthroughs (2002-2012)

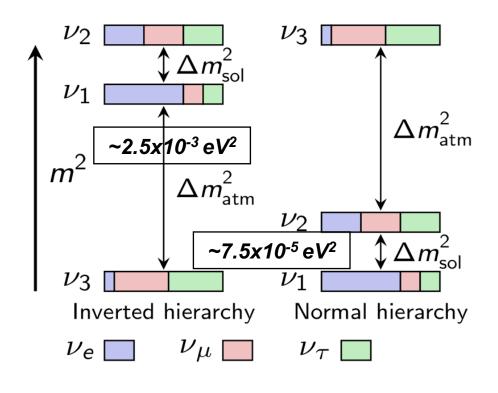


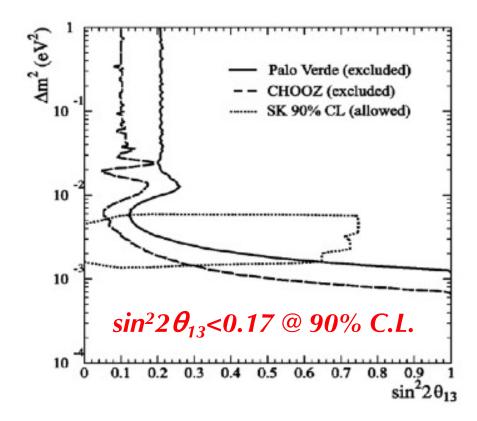
$$U_{PMNS} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos\theta_{23} & \sin\theta_{23} \\ 0 & -\sin\theta_{23} & \cos\theta_{23} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta_{13} & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ -e^{i\delta_{CP}}\sin\theta_{13} & \cos\theta_{13} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta_{12} & \sin\theta_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ -e^{i\delta_{CP}}\sin\theta_{13} & \cos\theta_{13} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta_{12} & \sin\theta_{12} & 0 \\ -\sin\theta_{12} & \cos\theta_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Atmospheric Sector: SK, K2K, T2K, MINOS, etc

Reactor Sector: CHOOZ, Palo Verde SN

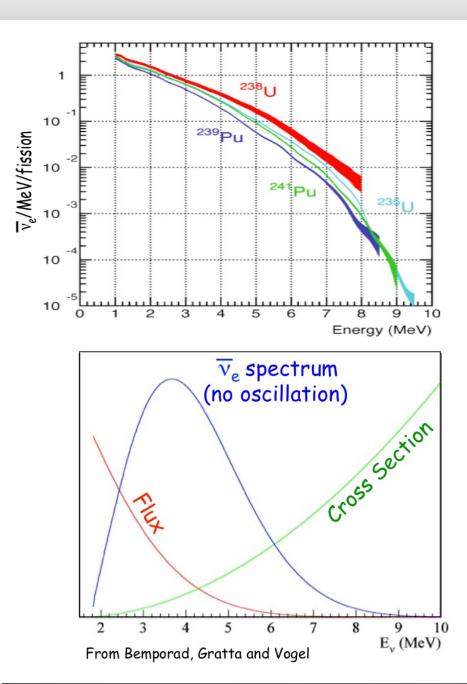
Solar Sector: SNO, SK, KamLAND etc



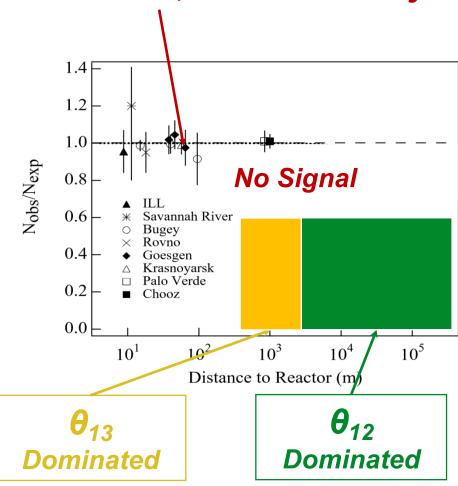


Reactor Neutrinos for Theta13: Challenges





Six antineutrinos/fission: ~2-8MeV, ~5% accuracy



Daya Bay: A Powerful Neutrino Source at an Ideal Location

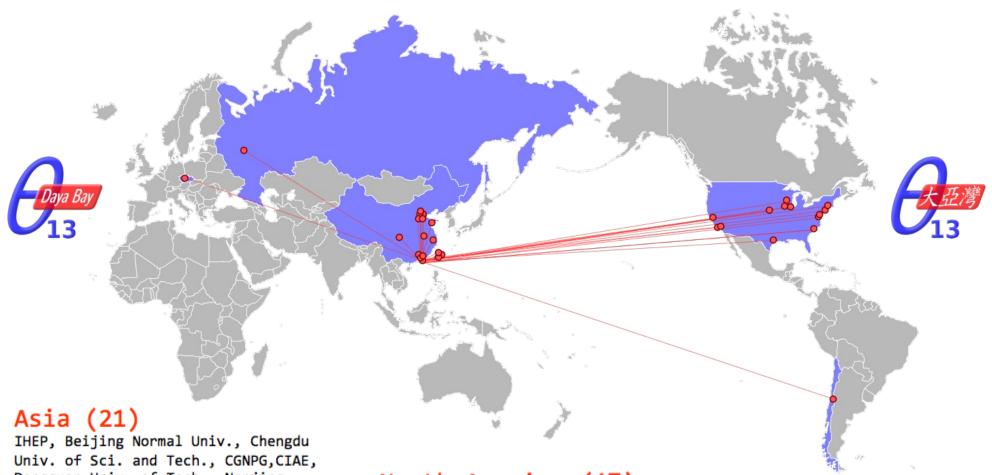


Entrance to Daya Bay experiment tunnels

Among the top 5 most powerful reactor complexes in the world, 6 cores produce 17.4 GW_{th} power, 35×10^{20} neutrinos per second

The Daya Bay International Collaboration





IHEP, Beijing Normal Univ., Chengdu Univ. of Sci. and Tech., CGNPG,CIAE, Dongguan Univ. of Tech., Nanjing Univ., Nankai Univ., NCEPU, Shandong Univ., Shanghai Jiao tong Univ., Shenzhen Univ., Tsinghua Univ., USTC, Xi'an Jiaotong Univ., Sun Yat-sen Univ. Univ. of Hong Kong, Chinese Univ. of Hong Kong, National Taiwan Univ., National Chiao Tung Univ., National United Univ.

North America (17)

BNL, LBNL, Iowa State Univ., RPI, Illinois Inst. Tech., Princeton, UC-Berkeley, UCLA, Univ. of Cincinnati, Univ. of Houston, Univ. of Wisconsin, William & Mary, Virginia Tech., Univ. of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign, Siena, Temple Univ, Yale

Europe (2)

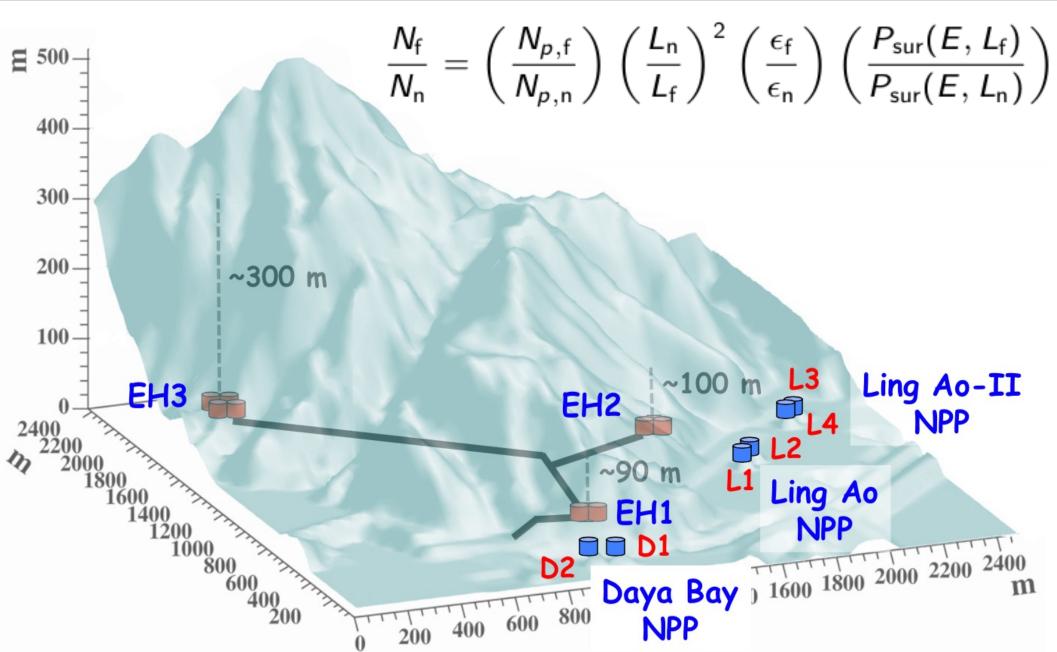
JINR, Dubna, Russia; Charles University, Czech Republic

South America (1)

Catholic Univ. of Chile (2014-2019)

Multi-Baseline and Multi-Detector Design of Daya Bay





The Daya Bay Antineutrino Detector (AD)



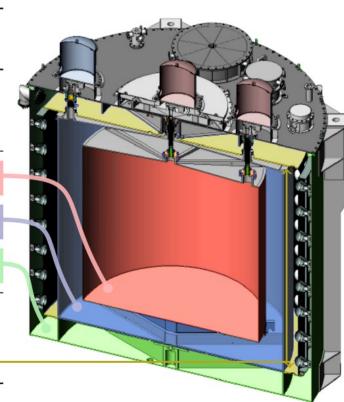
8 functionally identical detectors reduce systematic uncertainties

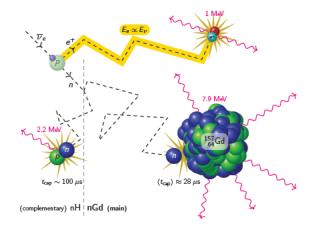
3 zone cylindrical vessels

	Liquid	Mass	Function
Inner acrylic	Gd-doped liquid scint.	20 t	Antineutrino target
Outer acrylic	Liquid scintillator	20 t	Gamma catcher
Stainless steel	Mineral oil	40 t	Radiation shielding

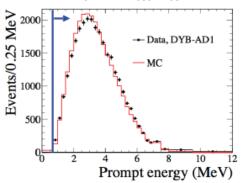
192 8 inch PMTs in each detector

Top and bottom reflectors increase light yield and flatten detector response

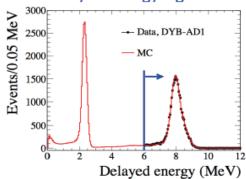


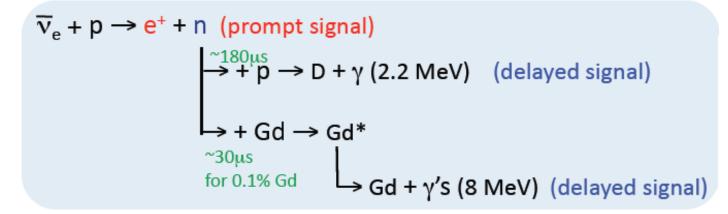


Prompt Energy Signal



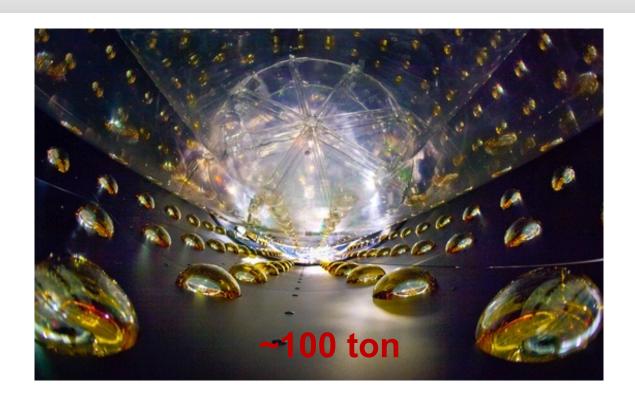




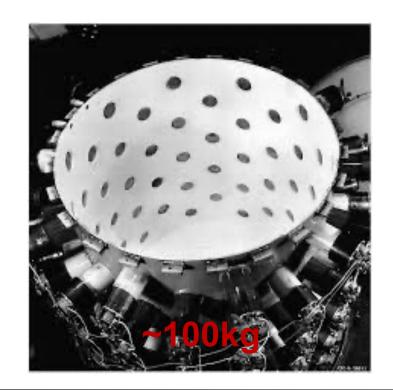


The Daya Bay Detector and the Reines&Cowan Design





"Standing on the shoulder of giants"



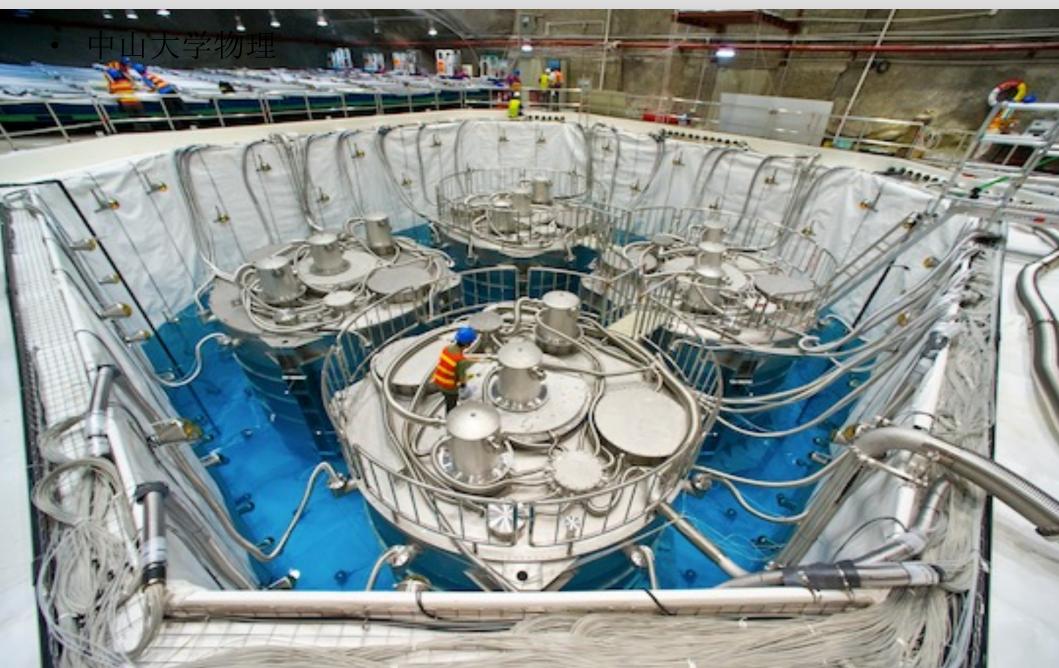
A Small Big Science Project





A Small Big Science Project

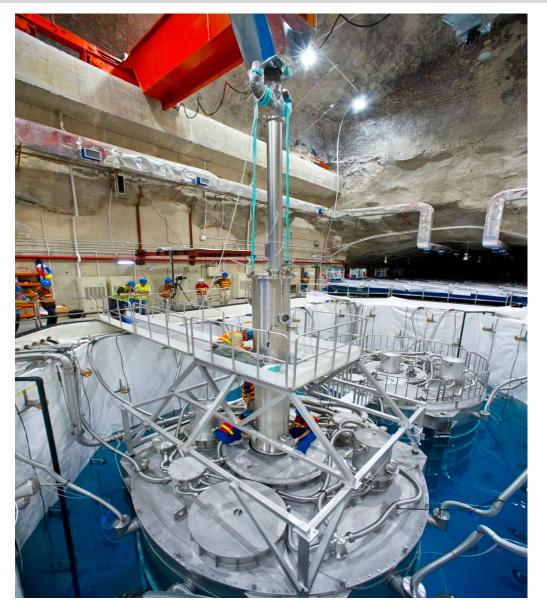




Daya Bay Calibration Systems







- Automatic Calibration Units (ACUs)
- Manual calibration by CIAE

The Daya Bay Running & Data Taking



Date	Operation	Duration
Dec 24, 2011	Data taking with 6 ADs EH1: 2 ADs EH2: 1 AD EH3: 3 ADs	217 Days
Jul 28 – Oct 19, 2012	Special calibration runs; Installation of the last 2 ADs	
Oct 19, 2012	Data taking with 8 ADs	1,524 Days
Dec 20, 2016 – Jan 26, 2017	Special calibration runs EH1 AD1 used for JUNO LS studies	
Jan 26, 2017	Data taking with 7 ADs EH1: 1 ADs EH2: 2 AD EH3: 4 ADs	1,417 Days
Dec 12, 2020	Shutdown; Decommissioning started	/

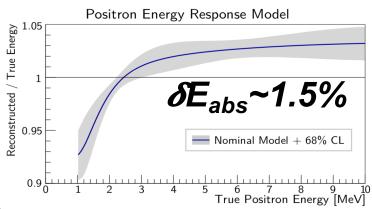
Understanding the Detector to Extreme



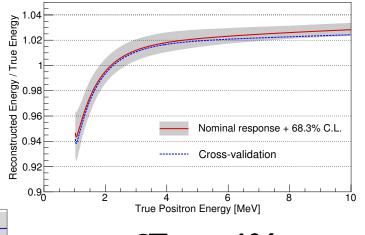
2012

Detector						
	Efficiency	Correlated	Uncorrelated			
Target Protons		0.47%	0.03%			
Flasher cut	99.98%	0.01%	0.01%			
Delayed energy cut	90.9%	0.6%	0.12%			
Prompt energy cut	99.88%	0.10%	0.01%			
Multiplicity cut		0.02%	< 0.01%			
Capture time cut	98.6%	0.12%	0.01%			
Gd capture ratio	83.8%	0.8%	< 0.1%			
Spill-in	105.0%	1.5%	0.02%			
Livetime	100.0%	0.002%	< 0.01%			
Combined	78.8%	1.9%	0.2%			

Reactor						
Correlated Uncorrelated						
Energy/fission	0.2%	Power	0.5%			
$\overline{\nu}_e$ /fission	3%	Fission fraction	0.6%			
		Spent fuel	0.3%			
Combined	3%	Combined	0.8%			



2015





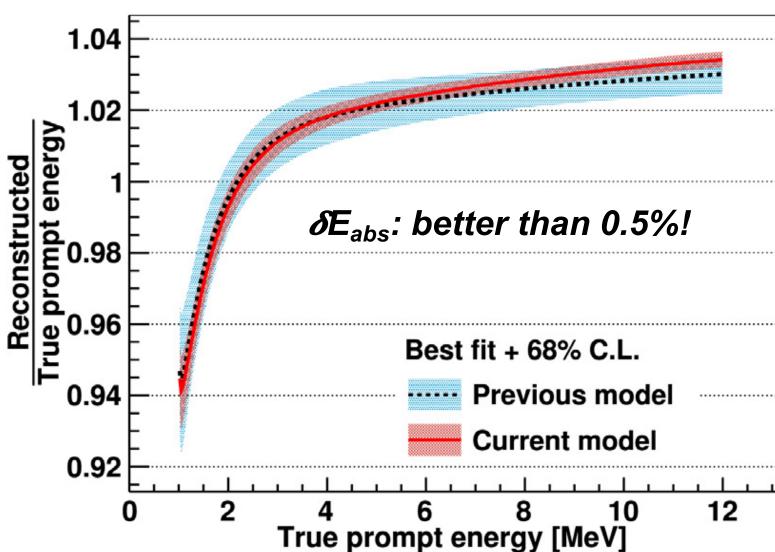
	2	2018
Full nonlinearity	8	E _{abs} ~0.5%
0.98	1	Best fit + 68% C.L. (in 2015)
0.94		Best fit + 68% C.L. (in 2018)
0	2 4	6 8 10 12 Positron energy [MeV]

	Efficiency	Uncertainty	
		Correlated	Uncorrelated
Target protons	-	0.92%	0.03%
Flasher cut	99.98%	0.01%	0.01%
Prompt Energy cut	99.8%	0.10%	0.01%
Multiplicity cut	-	0.02%	0.01%
Capture time cut	98.7%	0.12%	0.01%
Delayed neutron cut	81.48%	0.74%	0.13%
Live time	-	0.002%	0.01%
Combined	80.2%	1.2%	0.13%

The Best Understood LS Reactor Neutrino Detector



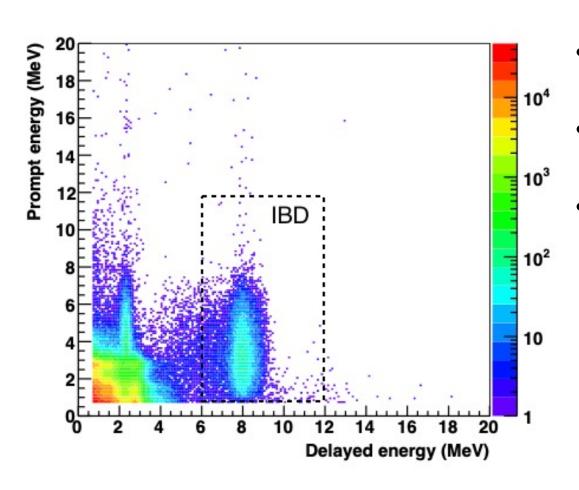




For Details: Nuclear Inst. and Methods in Physics Research, A 940 (2019) 230–242

How to Select Antineutrino Events





Daya Bay Collaboration, PRD95 (2017) 072006

- First apply flasher cuts to clean up the data
- Muon veto to get rid of cosmogenic products
- IBD cuts
 - Prompt energy cut: (0.7, 12) MeV
 - Delayed energy cut: (6, 12) MeV
 - Time correlation (Multiplicity) cut to pick up IBD pairs

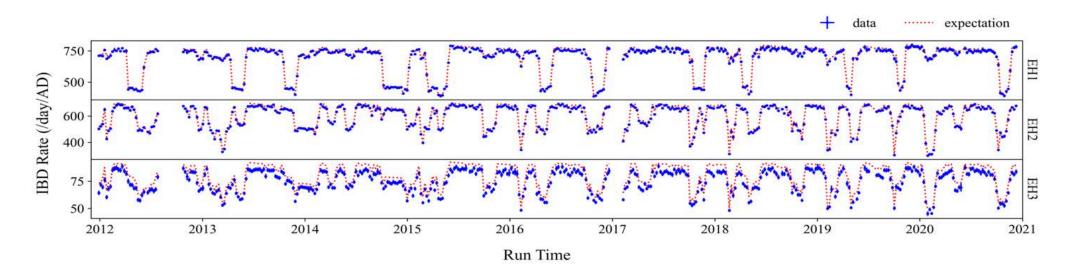
Inversed Beta Decay Like Background Events

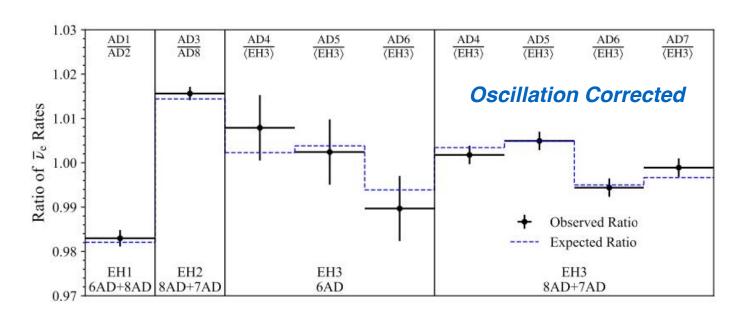


- Uncorrelated background: accidental pairs
- Correlated backgrounds:
 - Fast neutron: cosmogenic outside → AD
 - 9Li/8He: cosmogenic from spallation products of cosmic-ray muons
 - 241Am-13C: ACU neutron calibration sources
 - ¹³C(α ,n)¹⁶O: α decay of natural radioactive isotopes
 - New backgrounds: Residual PMT flasher & Muon-x

Event Rates at Daya Bay Detectors







 Daya Bay uses a combined Huber-Muller model to predict reactor neutrino fluxes
 the HM model

The Latest Daya Bay Oscillation Results



$$\begin{array}{c} 15 \\ 2.8 \\ 2.7 \\ 2.6 \\ 2.3 \\ 2.4 \\ 2.3 \\ 0.075 \quad 0.08 \quad 0.085 \quad 0.09 \quad 0.095 \quad 5 \quad 1015 \\ \sin^2 2\theta_{13} \qquad \qquad \Delta \chi^2 \end{array}$$

$$\sin^2 2\theta_{13} = 0.0852 \pm 0.0024$$

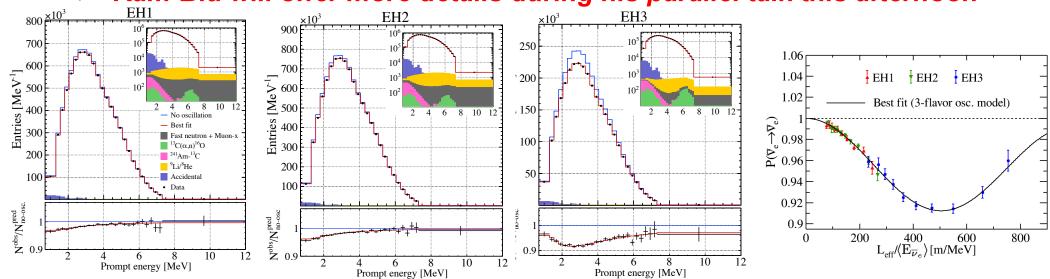
 $\left| \Delta m_{ee}^2 \right| = (2.519 \pm 0.060) \times 10^{-3} \ eV^2$

$$\Delta m_{32}^2 = (2.466 \pm 0.060) \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$$

 $\Delta m_{32}^2 = -(2.571 \pm 0.060) \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$

- \bullet θ_{13} measured to a precision of 2.8%, \bullet Also the most precise Δm^2_{atm} currently the best known mixing angle

Kam-Biu will offer more details during his parallel talk this afternoon



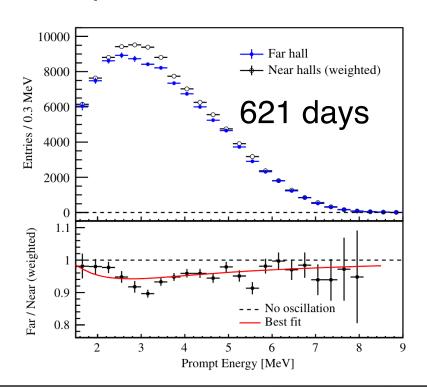
sin²2θ₁₃ from nH-IBD analysis

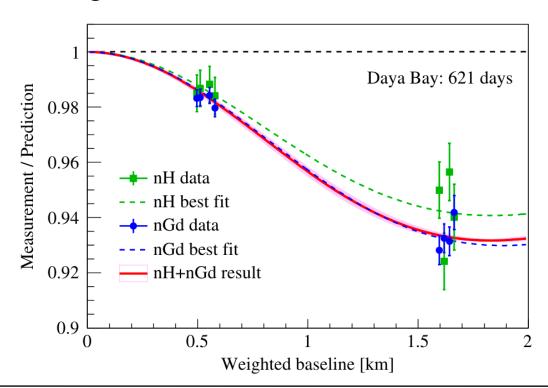


Independent sin²2θ₁₃ measurement

PRD 93 072011 (2016)

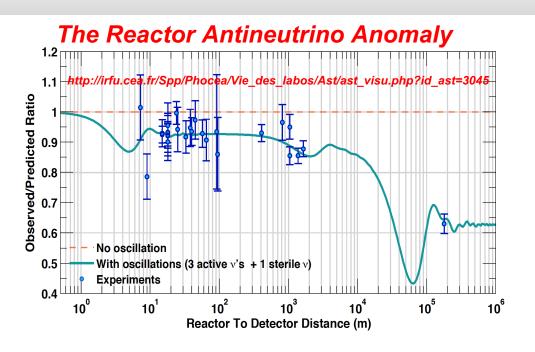
- Challenging: much more low-energy backgrounds
 - Signal to background ratio is about 1:1 at the far hall
- Rate-only analysis result: $\sin^2 2\theta_{13} = 0.071 \pm 0.011$
- Improved measurement is coming soon

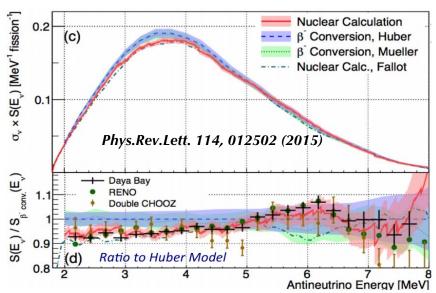


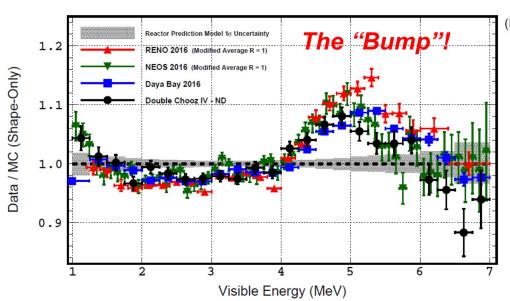


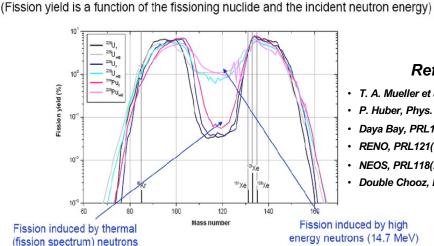
Reactor Neutrinos NOT Perfect: RAA and a "Bump"









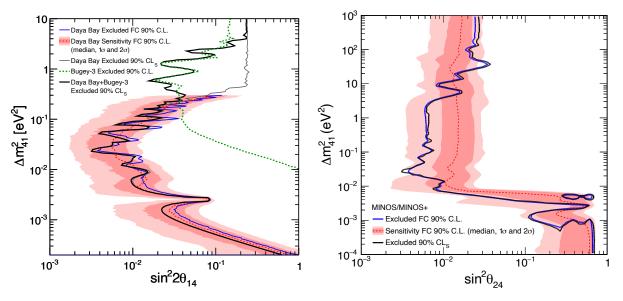


References

- T. A. Mueller et al., PRC83, 054615 (2011)
- P. Huber, Phys. Rev. C84, 024617 (2011)
- Daya Bay, PRL116(2016), PRL123(2019)
- RENO, PRL121(2018)
- NEOS, PRL118(2017)
- Double Chooz, Nature Physics 16(2020)

Sterile Neutrino Searches at Daya Bay (and Combined with MINOS/MINOS+ & Bugey-3)





Appearance probability:

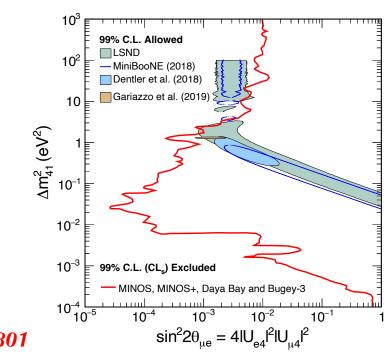
$$4|U_{e4}|^2|U_{\mu4}|^2\sin^2\left(\frac{\Delta m_{41}^2L}{4E}\right)$$

Where:

$$4|U_{e4}|^2|U_{\mu 4}|^2 = \sin^2 2\theta_{14} \sin^2 \theta_{24} \equiv \sin^2 2\theta_{\mu e}$$

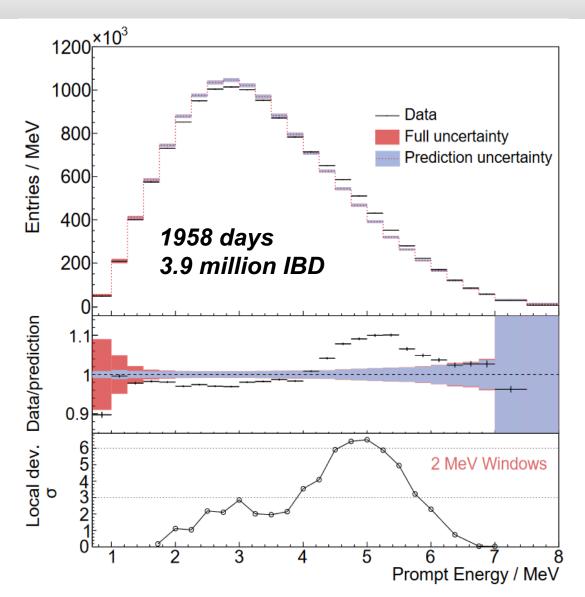
For details, see Daya Bay, PRL125 (2020) 7, 071801 PRL113 (2014) 141802, PRL117 (2016), PRL117 (2016) 15, 151801

- Daya Bay has multiple baselines
- Daya Bay and MINOS are sensitive to ~0.1 eV² but different flavors
- Together, better sensitivity to the LSND result



Measuring the Reactor Antineutrinos Spectrum





- With 1958 days of data,
 Daya Bay has confirmed
 the discrepancy between
 4-6 MeV (visible energy)
 with a ~6σ significance
- This discrepancy, the "Bump", is not correlated with burn-up, i.e. the operation of reactors, or the operations of the Daya Bay detectors

• For details, see PRL 123 (2019) 111801, PRL 116 (2016) 061801

Fuel Evolution and Responsible Fuel Components



• See PRL 118 (2017) no.25, 251801 and CPC, 2017, 41(1) for details

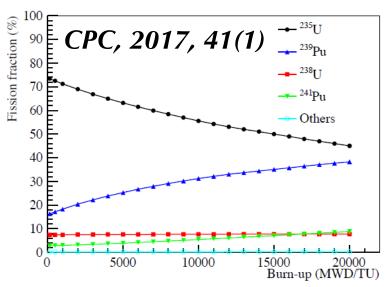
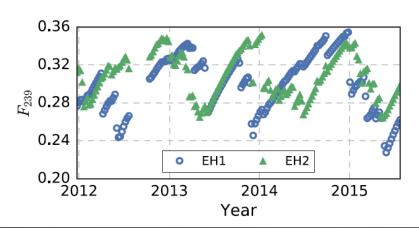
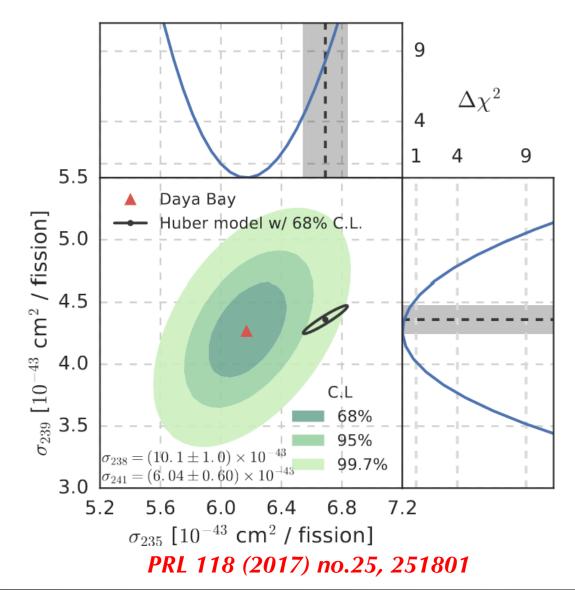


Fig. 4. Fission fractions of isotopes in reactor core D1 as a function of cycle burn-up from a simulation of a complete refueling cycle. Other isotopes contribute less than 0.3%.

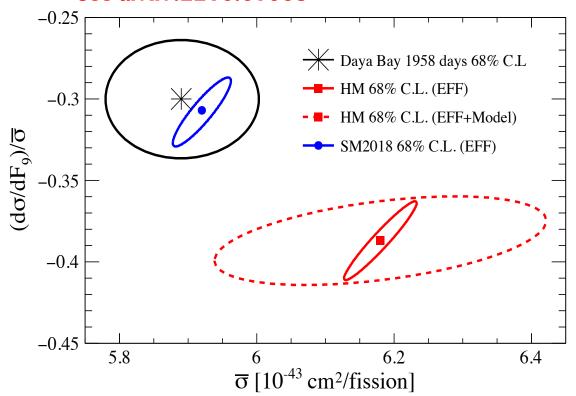


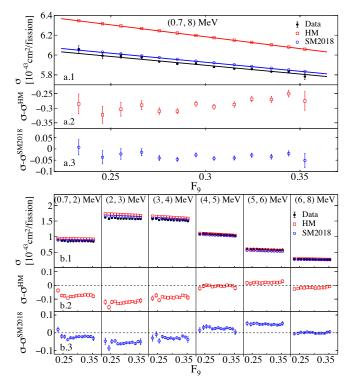


The Lates Fuel Evolution Analysis



 An improved analysis on fuel evolution by the Daya Bay Collaboration just released, see arXiv:2210.01068



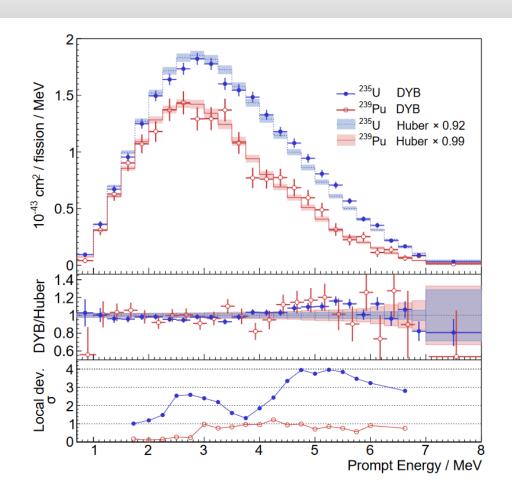


Analysis Improvements besides more statistics (1230 days → 1958 days)

- SM2018: a new summation method by M. Estienne et al., PRL123, 022502 (2019)
- Better correlated and uncorrelated detector uncertainties
- Improved reactor related uncertainties
- Checking two characteristic variables: average neutrino yields and their evolution slope wrt. F₉, the ²³⁹Pu fraction bred within the reactor

Decomposing Reactor Antineutrino Components





- The very first measurement of the ²³⁵U and ²³⁹Pu spectra at commercial reactors
- An excess, data over prediction, around 4-6 MeV for ²³⁵U is more pronounced but the ²³⁹Pu one is consistent with null bump

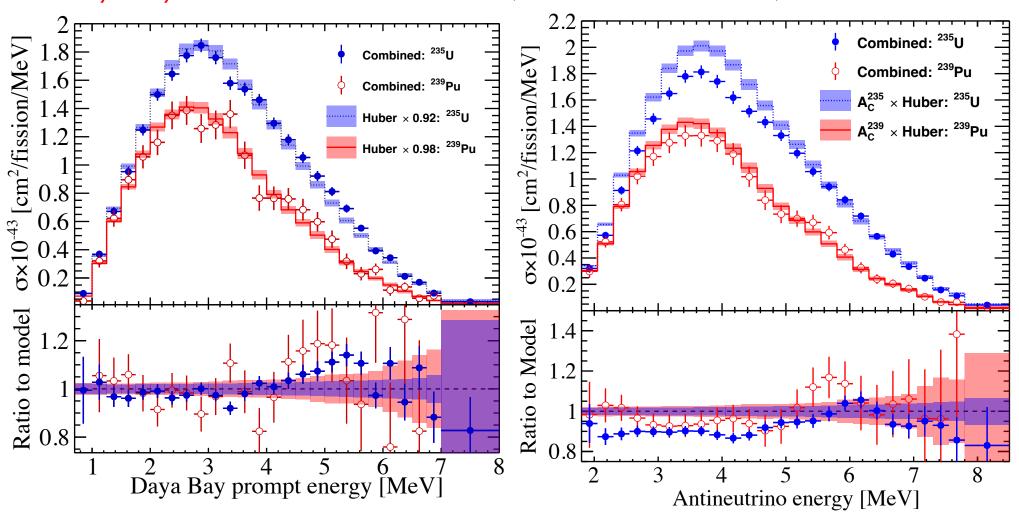
²³⁵U: a 4σ effect; ²³⁹Pu: a 1.2σ effect

• For details of the isotope decomposition analysis, see PRL 123 (2019) no.11, 111801

Combined Flux Analysis of Daya Bay and PROSPECT



•Daya Bay + PROSPECT Collaborations, see PRL 128 (2022) 8, 081801

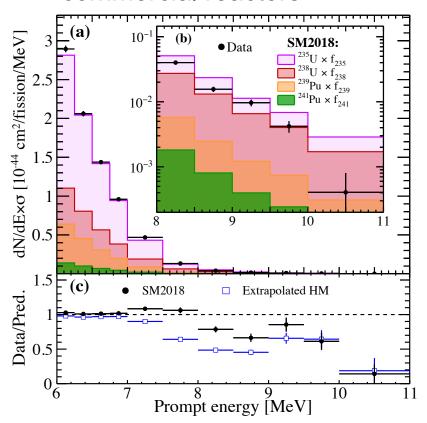


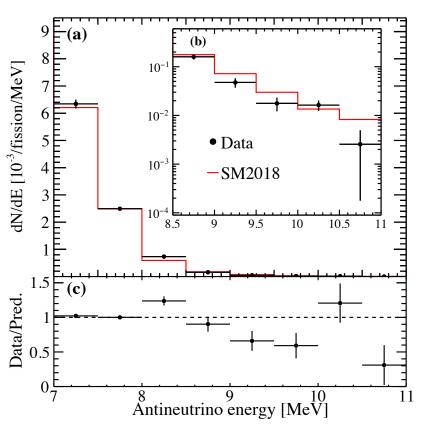
- First ever results: A HEU reactor + LEU reactors (commercial PWR reactors)
- 235U flux improved to 3%; Degeneracy between U and Pu contributions reduced

First Evidence of High-Energy Reactor Neutrinos



- Daya Bay discovers reactor neutrinos above 10MeV with a 6.2σ significance for the first time
- A deficit of 29% in the high-E region (8-11MeV) is observed compared with the SM2018 ab-initio prediction
- The first direct observation of antineutrinos from several high- Q_{β} isotopes in commercial reactors

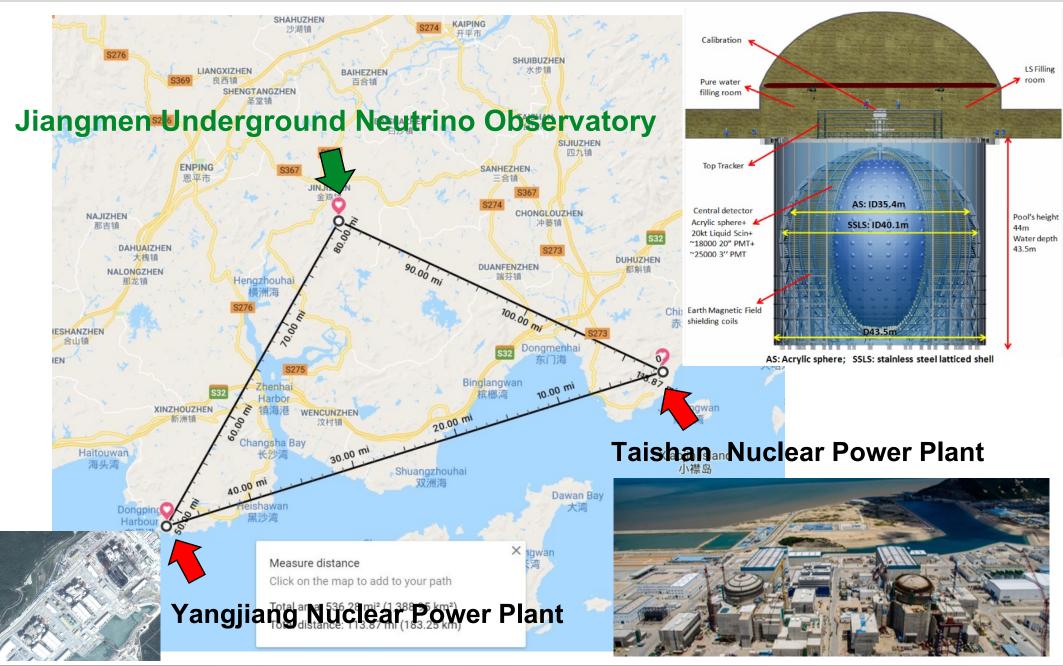




For details, see PRL 129 (2022) 4, 041801

Future Reactor Neutrino: JUNO for Neutrino Mass Ordering

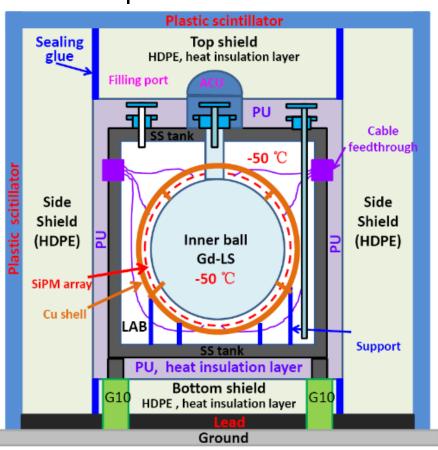




JUNO-TAO: A Satellite Experiment of JUNO



- Taishan Antineutrino Observatory (TAO), a ton-level, high energy resolution LS detector, at 30-35 m from a 4.6 GW_{th} core, a satellite exp. of JUNO
- 2.6 ton Gd_LS | acrylic vessel | SiPM and Cu shell | Cryogenic vessel | water or HDPE



- ◆ TAO will be used to measure reactor neutrino spectrum
- ◆ Full coverage of SiPM with PDE > 50% Operate at -50 °C (lower SiPM dark noise)
 - > 4500 p.e./MeV \rightarrow 1.5% $\sqrt{E(MeV)}$
- ◆ Taishan Nuclear Power Plant 2000 IBD/day (4000)

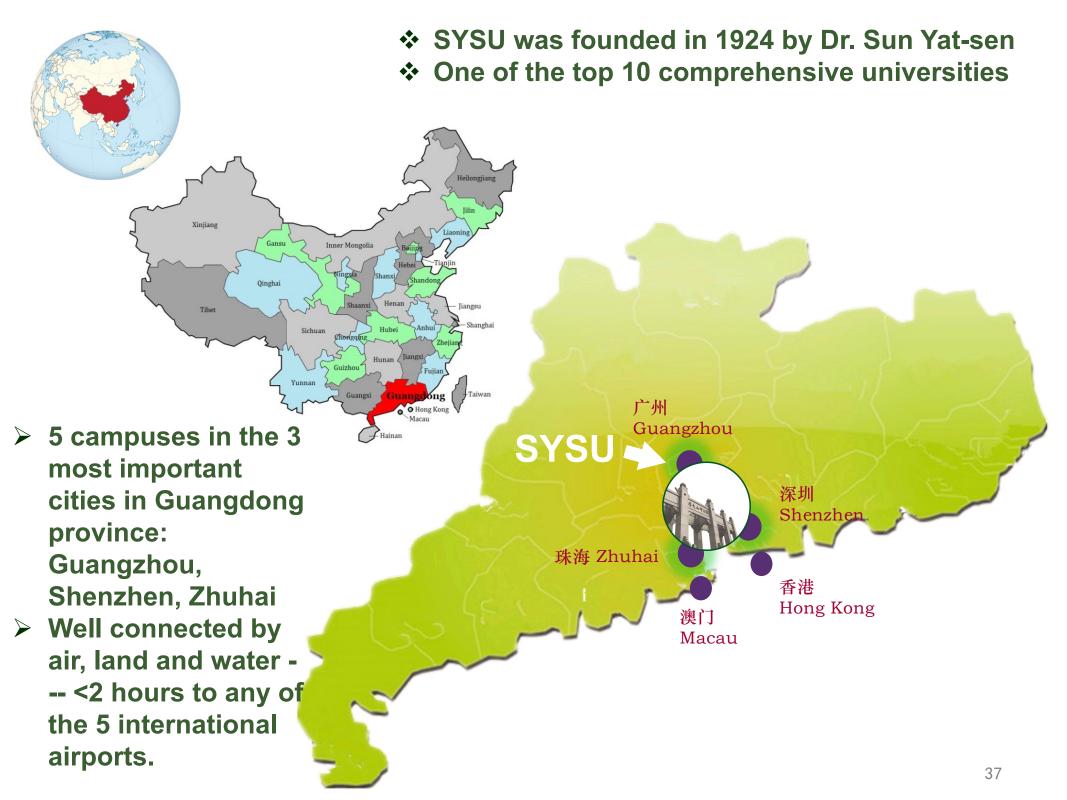
Summary and Conclusion



- Reactor neutrino has played irreplaceable roles in neutrino studies
- Daya Bay has made the most precise measurement of sin²2θ₁₃, which makes
 - mass ordering resolution possible using reactor antineutrinos; CP phase measurement possible
- Daya Bay has made precise measurements of reactor antineutrino flux, its spectrum and contributions of the 2 major fission isotopes
 - Confirms Reactor Antineutrino Anomaly and the spectrum discrepancy
 - Both direct search (combined) and fuel evolution analysis disfavor sterile neutrino assumptions
 - Provide the best flux measurements of commercial reactors for future reactor neutrino experiments such as JUNO
 - "Repaying" the nuclear energy community: a different perspective for nuclear data studies relevant to reactor physics
- Daya Bay data will be open to the scientific community: proposals welcome!

Thanks for your Attention!





Welcome to Sun Yat-sen University (Zhuhai Campus) for Weak Interactions and Neutrinos 2023: July 3-8



Guangzhou South Campus

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Guangzhou North Campus

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The Latest Daya Bay Reactor Neutrino Data Set



Summary of the Daya Bay data sample:

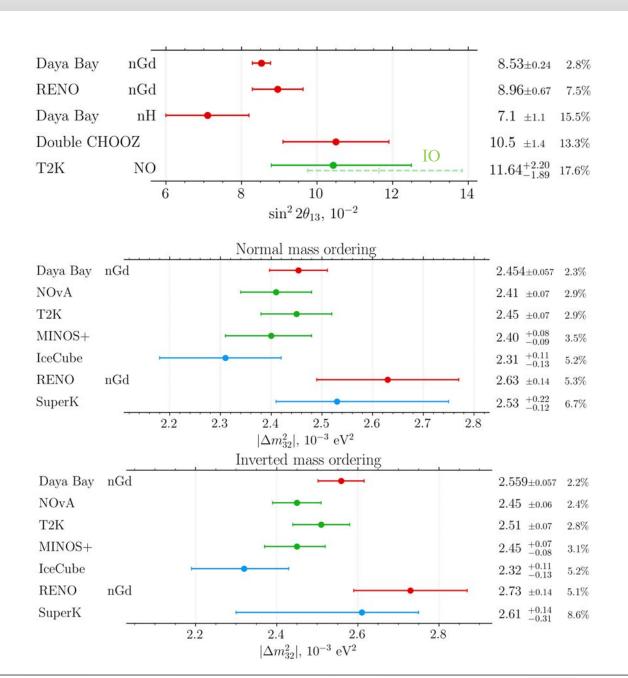
TABLE I. Summary of IBD signal and background. Rates are corrected for the muon veto and multiplicity selection efficiencies $\varepsilon_{\mu} \times \varepsilon_{m}$. The sum of the fast neutron and muon-x background rates is reported as "Fast n + muon-x". The AD numbering scheme reflects the time order of AD fabrication and deployment.

	EH1		EH2		EH3			
	AD1	AD2	AD3	AD8	AD4	AD5	AD6	AD7
$\overline{\overline{\nu}_e}$ candidates	794335	1442475	1328301	1216593	194949	195369	193334	180762
DAQ live time [days]	1535.111	2686.110	2689.880	2502.816	2689.156	2689.156	2689.156	2501.531
$arepsilon_{\mu} imesarepsilon_{m}$	0.7743	0.7716	0.8127	0.8105	0.9513	0.9514	0.9512	0.9513
Accidentals $[day^{-1}]$	7.11 ± 0.01	6.76 ± 0.01	5.00 ± 0.00	4.85 ± 0.01	0.80 ± 0.00	0.77 ± 0.00	0.79 ± 0.00	0.66 ± 0.00
Fast $n + \text{muon-x} [\text{day}^{-1}]$	0.83 ± 0.17	0.96 ± 0.19	0.56 ± 0.11	0.56 ± 0.11	0.05 ± 0.01	0.05 ± 0.01	0.05 ± 0.01	0.05 ± 0.01
$^{9}\text{Li}/^{8}\text{He }[\text{AD}^{-1}\text{ day}^{-1}]$	2.92 =	± 0.78	2.45 ± 0.00	± 0.57		0.26 ± 0.00	± 0.04	
241 Am- 13 C [day $^{-1}$]	0.16 ± 0.07	0.13 ± 0.06	0.12 ± 0.05	0.11 ± 0.05	0.04 ± 0.02	0.04 ± 0.02	0.04 ± 0.02	0.03 ± 0.01
$^{13}C(\alpha, n)^{16}O [day^{-1}]$	0.08 ± 0.04	0.06 ± 0.03	0.04 ± 0.02	0.06 ± 0.03	0.04 ± 0.02	0.04 ± 0.02	0.03 ± 0.02	0.04 ± 0.02
$\overline{\nu}_e$ rate $[\mathrm{day}^{-1}]$	657.16 ± 1.10	685.13 ± 1.00	599.47 ± 0.78	591.71 ± 0.79	75.02 ± 0.18	75.21 ± 0.18	74.41 ± 0.18	74.93 ± 0.18

- Largest Reactor Neutrino Data Ever:
 - More than 5.5 million IBDs (~0.7 million at far site)

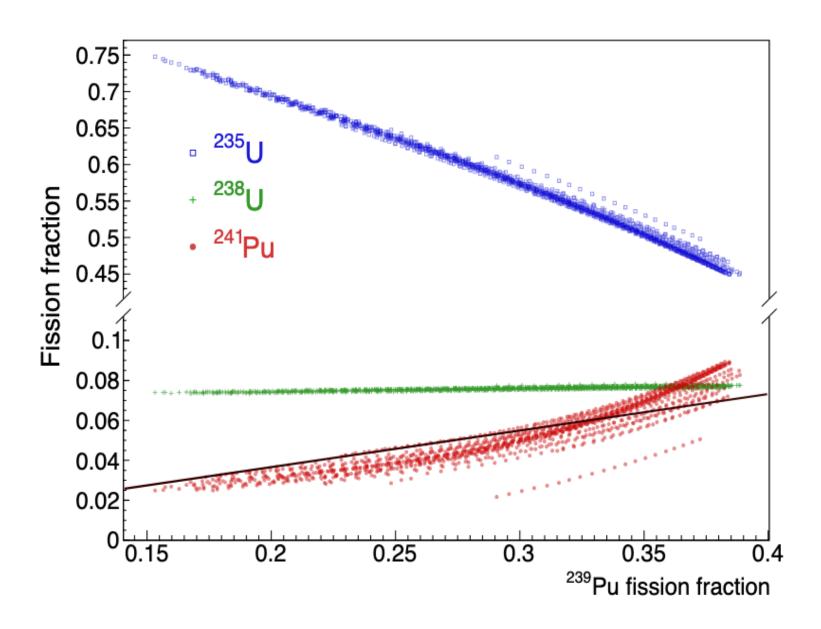
Daya Bay Oscillation Results and Global Comparison





Fission Fraction Evolution





Sterile Neutrino Search Advantages of Daya Bay



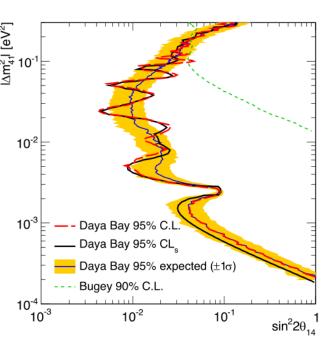
Unique multi-baseline opportunity

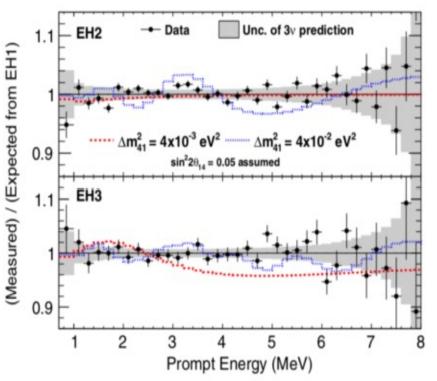
Exclusion Contours \lessgtr

- Two-hypothesis test for 3ν and $3+1-\nu$
- Gaussian CLs^[4]
 approach to set
 exclusion contour

$$CL_s = \frac{1 - p_1}{1 - p_0}.$$

$$p_0$$
: 3v p_1 : 3+1-v





e- / μ-Flavor "Senses" Mass Ordering Differently



A fair question to ask: Why care $|\Delta m_{\rm ee}^2|$ from reactor experiments?

$$P_{\nu_{\mu} \to \nu_{\mu}} = 1 - P_{21}^{\mu} - \cos^2 \theta_{13} \sin^2 2\theta_{23} \sin^2 \frac{(\Delta m_{32}^2 \pm \phi)L}{4E}$$

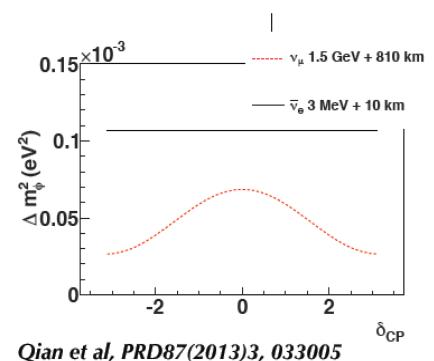
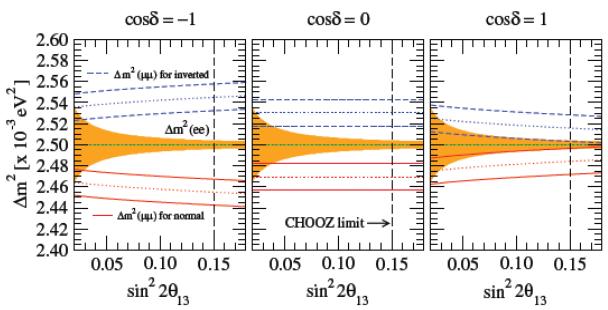


FIG. 6: The dependence of effective mass-squared difference $\Delta m_{ee\phi}^2$ (solid line) and $\Delta m_{\mu\mu\phi}^2$ (dotted line) w.r.t. the value of δ_{CP} for $\bar{\nu}_e$ and ν_{μ} disappearance measurements, respectively.

Impractical: Need 1% accuracy!



Minakata et al PRD74(2006), 053008

Also See: Zhang&Ma, arXiv:1310.4443/ Mod. Phys. Lett. A29 (2014) 1450096

Global Efforts Resolving v Mass Hierarchy



Source / Principle	Matter Effect	Interference of Solar&Atm Osc. Terms	Collective Oscillation	Constraining Total Mass or Effective Mass
Atmospheric ν	Super-K, Hyper-K, IceCube PINGU, ICAL/INO, ORCA, DUNE	Atm μ + JUNO		
Beam 1/4	T2K, NOvA, T2HKK, DUNE	Beam и + JUNO		
Reactor ν_e		JUNO, JUNO+Beam <i>י</i> µ		
Supernova Burst v			Super-K, Hyper-K, IceCube PINGU, ORCA, DUNE, JUNO	
Interplay of Measurements				Cosmo. Data, KATRIN, Proj-8, 0νββ

Known θ13 Enables Neutrino Mass Hierarchy at Reactors



$$P_{\bar{\nu}_e \to \bar{\nu}_e} = 1 - \cos^4 \theta_{13} \sin^2 2\theta_{12} \sin^2 \Delta_{21}$$
$$-\sin^2 2\theta_{13} (\cos^2 \theta_{12} \sin^2 \Delta_{31} + \sin^2 \theta_{12} \sin^2 \Delta_{32})$$

Petcov&Piai, Phys. Lett. B533 (2002) 94-106

