Light Sterile Neutrinos: A White Paper

K. N. Abazajian<sup>a, 1</sup> M. A. Acero,<sup>2</sup> S. K. Agarwalla,<sup>3</sup> A. A. Aguilar-Arevalo,<sup>2</sup> C. H. Al S. Anusch,<sup>6</sup> C. A. Argüelles,<sup>7</sup> A. B. Balantekin,<sup>8</sup> G. Barenboim<sup>a</sup>,<sup>3</sup> V. Barger,<sup>8</sup> P. Bernardini,<sup>9</sup> N 201 F. Bezrukov,<sup>10</sup> O. E. Bjaelde,<sup>11</sup> S. A. Bogacz,<sup>12</sup> N. S. Bowden,<sup>13</sup> A. Boyarsky,<sup>14</sup> A. Bravar,<sup>15</sup> D. Brayo Berguño,<sup>16</sup> S. J. Brice,<sup>5</sup> A. D. Bross,<sup>5</sup> B. Caccianiga,<sup>17</sup> F. Cavanna,<sup>18, 19</sup> E. J. Chun,<sup>20</sup> B. 7. Cleveland,<sup>21</sup> A. P. Collin,<sup>22</sup> P. Coloma,<sup>16</sup> J. M. Conrad,<sup>23</sup> M. Cribier,<sup>22</sup> A. S. Cucoanes,<sup>24</sup> C. D'Olivo,<sup>2</sup> S. Das,<sup>25</sup> A. de Gouvêa,<sup>26</sup> A. V. Derbin,<sup>27</sup> R. Dharmapalan,<sup>28</sup> J. S. Diaz,<sup>29</sup> X. J. Ding,<sup>16</sup> Z. Djurcic,<sup>30</sup> A. Donini,<sup>31,3</sup> D. Duchesneau,<sup>32</sup> H. Ejiri,<sup>33</sup> S. R. Elliott,<sup>34</sup> D. J. Ernst,<sup>35</sup> A. Esmaili,<sup>36</sup> J. J. Evans,<sup>37, 38</sup> E. Fernandez-Martinez,<sup>39</sup> E. Figueroa-Feliciano,<sup>23</sup> 00 B. T. Fleming<sup>a</sup>,<sup>18</sup> J. A. Formaggio<sup>a</sup>,<sup>23</sup> D. Franco,<sup>40</sup> J. Gaffiot,<sup>22</sup> R. Gandhi,<sup>41</sup> Y. Gao,<sup>42</sup> \_ G. T. Garvey,<sup>34</sup> V. N. Gavrin,<sup>43</sup> P. Ghoshal,<sup>41</sup> D. Gibin,<sup>44</sup> C. Giunti,<sup>45</sup> S. N. Gninenko,<sup>43</sup> V. V. Gorbachev,<sup>43</sup> D. S. Gorbunov,<sup>43</sup> R. Guenette,<sup>18</sup> A. Guglielmi,<sup>44</sup> F. Halzen,<sup>46,8</sup> [hep-ph] J. Hamann,<sup>11</sup> S. Hannestad,<sup>11</sup> W. Haxton,<sup>47,48</sup> K. M. Heeger,<sup>8</sup> R. Henning,<sup>49,50</sup> P. Hernandez,<sup>3</sup> P. Huber<sup>b</sup>, <sup>16</sup> W. Huelsnitz, <sup>34,51</sup> A. Ianni, <sup>52</sup> T. V. Ibragimova, <sup>43</sup> Y. Karadzhov, <sup>15</sup> G. Karagiorgi, <sup>53</sup> G. Keefer,<sup>13</sup> Y. D. Kim,<sup>54</sup> J. Kopp<sup>a</sup>,<sup>5</sup> V. N. Kornoukhov,<sup>55</sup> A. Kusenko,<sup>56,57</sup> P. Kyberd,<sup>58</sup> P. Langacker,<sup>59</sup> Th. Lasserre<sup>a</sup>,<sup>22,40</sup> M. Laveder,<sup>60</sup> A. Letourneau,<sup>22</sup> D. Lhuillier,<sup>22</sup> Y. F. Li,<sup>61</sup> M. Lindner,<sup>62</sup> J. M. Link<sup>b, 16</sup> B. L. Littlejohn,<sup>8</sup> P. Lombardi,<sup>17</sup> K. Long,<sup>63</sup> J. Lopez-Pavon,<sup>64</sup> W. C. Louis<sup>a</sup>, <sup>34</sup> L. Ludhova, <sup>17</sup> J. D. Lykken, <sup>5</sup> P. A. N. Machado, <sup>65,66</sup> M. Maltoni, <sup>31</sup> W. A. Mann,<sup>67</sup> D. Marfatia,<sup>68</sup> C. Mariani,<sup>53,16</sup> V. A. Matveev,<sup>43,69</sup> N. E. Mavromatos,<sup>70,39</sup> A. Melchiorri,<sup>71</sup> D. Meloni,<sup>72</sup> O. Mena,<sup>3</sup> G. Mention,<sup>22</sup> A. Merle,<sup>73</sup> E. Meroni,<sup>17</sup> M. Mezzetto,<sup>44</sup> arXiv:1204.5379v G, B, Mills,<sup>34</sup> D, Minic,<sup>16</sup> L, Miramonti,<sup>17</sup> D, Mohapatra,<sup>16</sup> R, N, Mohapatra,<sup>51</sup> C, Montanari,<sup>74</sup> Y. Mori,<sup>75</sup> Th. A. Mueller,<sup>76</sup> H. P. Mumm,<sup>77</sup> V. Muratova,<sup>27</sup> A. E. Nelson,<sup>78</sup> J. S. Nico,<sup>77</sup> E. Noah,<sup>15</sup> J. Nowak,<sup>79</sup> O. Yu. Smirnov,<sup>69</sup> M. Obolensky,<sup>40</sup> S. Pakvasa,<sup>80</sup> O. Palamara,<sup>18,52</sup> M. Pallavicini,<sup>81</sup> S. Pascoli,<sup>82</sup> L. Patrizii,<sup>83</sup> Z. Pavlovic,<sup>34</sup> O. L. G. Peres,<sup>36</sup> H. Pessard,<sup>32</sup> F. Pietropaolo,<sup>44</sup> M. L. Pitt,<sup>16</sup> M. Popovic,<sup>5</sup> J. Pradler,<sup>84</sup> G. Ranucci,<sup>17</sup> H. Ray,<sup>85</sup> S. Razzague,<sup>86</sup> B. Rebel,<sup>5</sup> R. G. H. Robertson,<sup>87,78</sup> W. Rodejohann<sup>a</sup>,<sup>62</sup> S. D. Rountree,<sup>16</sup> C. Rubbia,<sup>39,52</sup> O. Ruchayskiy,<sup>39</sup> P. R. Sala,<sup>17</sup> K. Scholberg,<sup>88</sup> T. Schwetz<sup>a</sup>,<sup>62</sup> M. H. Shaevitz,<sup>53</sup> M. Shaposhnikov,<sup>89</sup> R. Shrock,<sup>90</sup> S. Simone,<sup>91</sup> M. Skorokhvatov,<sup>92</sup> M. Sorel,<sup>3</sup> A. Sousa,<sup>93</sup> D. N. Spergel,<sup>94</sup> J. Spitz,<sup>23</sup> L. Stanco,<sup>44</sup> I. Stancu,<sup>28</sup> A. Suzuki,<sup>95</sup> T. Takeuchi,<sup>16</sup> I. Tamborra,<sup>96</sup> J. Tang,<sup>97,98</sup> G. Testera,<sup>81</sup> X. C. Tian,<sup>99</sup> A. Tonazzo,<sup>40</sup> C. D. Tunnell,<sup>100</sup> R. G. Van de Water,<sup>34</sup> L. Verde,<sup>101</sup> E. P. Veretenkin,<sup>43</sup> C. Vignoli,<sup>52</sup> M. Vivier,<sup>22</sup> R. B. Vogelaar,<sup>16</sup> M. O. Wascko,<sup>63</sup> J. F. Wilkerson,<sup>49,102</sup> W. Winter,<sup>97</sup> Y. Y. Y. Wong<sup>a</sup>,<sup>25</sup> T. T. Yanagida,<sup>57</sup> O. Yasuda,<sup>103</sup> M. Yeh,<sup>104</sup> F. Yermia,<sup>24</sup> Z. W. Yokley,<sup>16</sup> G. P. Zeller,<sup>5</sup> L. Zhan,<sup>61</sup> and H. Zhang<sup>62</sup>

# What have we learned since 2012?

DIF & DAR neutrinos from Accelerator & Atmospheric sources over the past decade

#### Mark Ross-Lonergan

NF02: Understanding Experimental Neutrino Anomaly @ Snowmass July 21<sup>st</sup> 2022



# Introduction

- For a lot of the past decade, focus of results surrounding the anomalies remained on the more "traditional" 3+1 sterile neutrino interpretations.
  - While this is definitely **shifting in recent years** to include **more exotic** Ο scenarios, the majority of results I'll discuss today were still focused this way
  - Despite its shortcoming in stitching together global data, "3+1" sterile neutrino 0 analyses (and 2-v approximations) provides an excellent benchmark to paint a picture of the global landscape
  - 10 years in 15 mins is tough, so I very much apologize in advance if I skip over 0 some experiments. Focus also on experimental publications, and not independent re-analyses

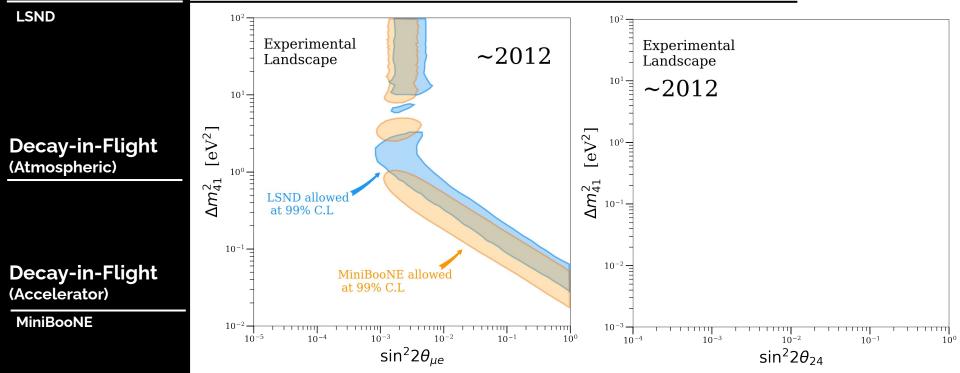


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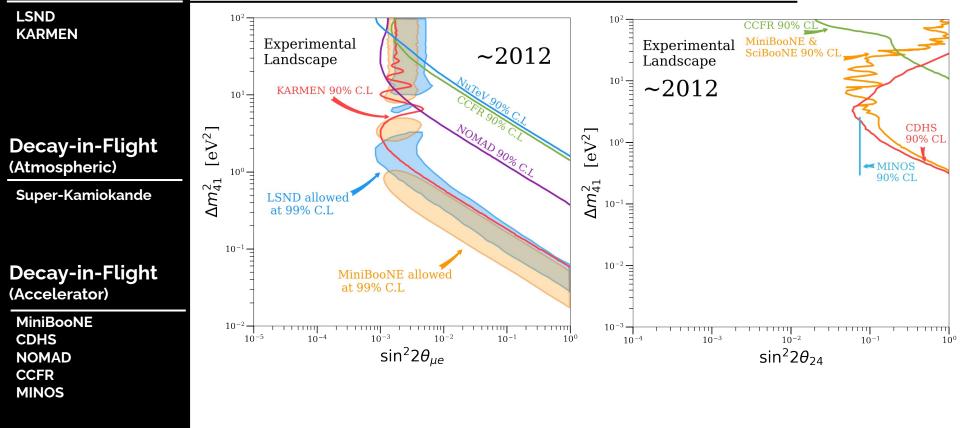
V

μ

# Decay-at-Rest The experimental anomalies in 2012



# Decay-at-Rest The experimental landscape in 2012



Caveat: In the interest of time, this is **not** a 100% comprehensive list, Apologies!

LSND KARMEN



#### Decay-in-Flight (Atmospheric)

Super-Kamiokande IceCube/DeepCore ANTARES

#### Decay-in-Flight (Accelerator)

MiniBooNE CDHS NOMAD CCFR OPERA MINOS/MINOS+ NOvA T2K uBooNE Big increase in atmospheric results

# What's new in 2022?

A huge increase in both long and short baseline results

LSND KARMEN

#### Decay-in-Flight (Atmospheric)

Super-Kamiokande IceCube/DeepCore ANTARES

#### Decay-in-Flight (Accelerator)

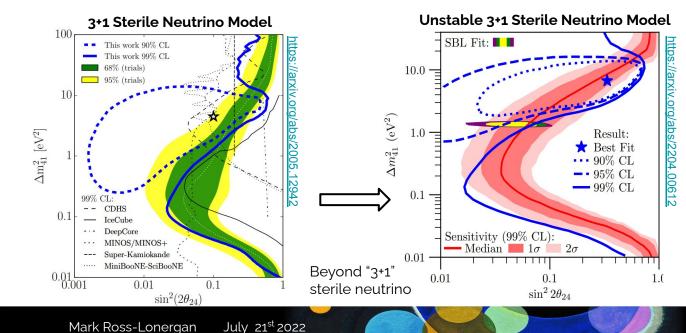
MiniBooNE CDHS NOMAD CCFR OPERA MINOS/MINOS+ NOVA T2K uBooNE

# lceCube/DeepCore

Detects atmospheric neutrinos whose energies span over **5 orders of magnitude**, baselines of **20-12,750 km**, with over a **Gigaton** of polar ice.

IceCube proves very sensitive to eV scale sterile neutrinos due to the **matter enhanced resonant disappearance** when crossing the Earth's core, as well as searching for fast oscillations that have average out at lower energies

A closed contour at the 90% level, but results overall consistent with standard 3v paradigm





# **ANTARES & Updated Super-Kamiokande**

LSND KARMEN

**Decay-in-Flight** (Atmospheric)

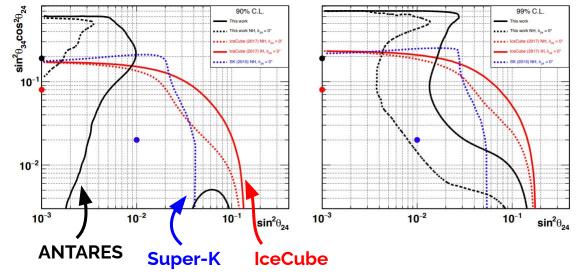
Super-Kamiokande lceCube/DeepCore ANTARES

Decay-in-Flight (Accelerator)

**MiniBooNE** CDHS NOMAD **CCFR OPERA** MINOS/MINOS+ NOvA T2K uBooNE

In addition to ice, atmospheric neutrinos are well probed by water Cherenkov detectors, both ultra-pure water in Super-Kamiokande and salt-water in the ANTARES neutrino telescope.

These are insensitive to mass squared differences, and so constraints placed on the  $|U_{\tau 4}|^2$  vs.  $|U_{\mu 4}|^2$  parameter space



ANTARES: https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.1812.08650 Super-K: https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevD.91.052019

# **Decay-at-Rest** Adding tau's to the mix with OPERA

LSND KARMEN

#### Decay-in-Flight (Atmospheric)

Super-Kamiokande IceCube/DeepCore ANTARES

#### Decay-in-Flight (Accelerator)

MiniBooNE CDHS NOMAD

CCFR

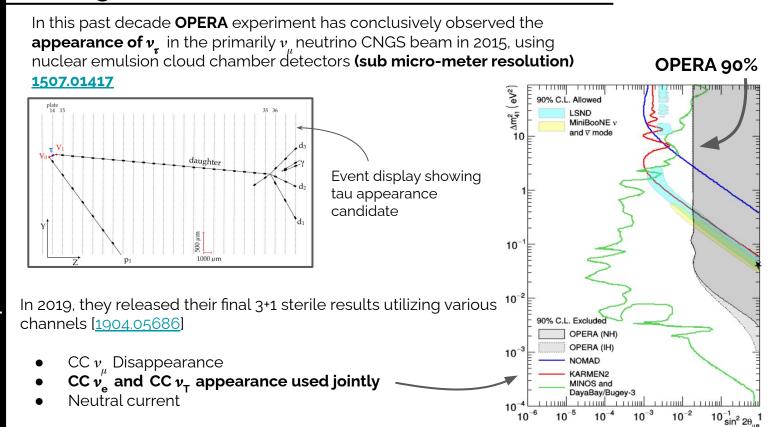
OPERA

MINOS/MINOS+

NOvA

T2K

uBooNE



LSND KARMEN

#### Decay-in-Flight (Atmospheric)

Super-Kamiokande IceCube/DeepCore ANTARES

#### Decay-in-Flight (Accelerator)

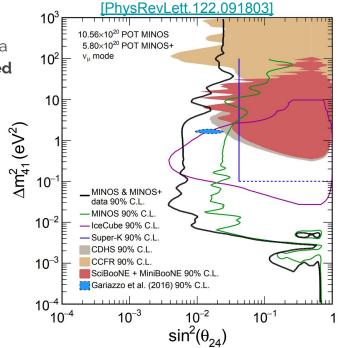
MiniBooNE
CDHS
NOMAD
CCFR
OPERA
MINOS/MINOS+
NOvA
T2K
uBooNE

# Addition of MINOS+

While first **MINOS** searches for sterile neutrinos were pre-2012, the last decade saw both a large re-analysis and the addition of the higher energy **MINOS+** dataset

- Analysis combined **both charged muon and neutral current selections** and saw no evidence for 3+1 sterile neutrinos
- Stringent constraints on  $v_{\mu}$  disappearance across a wide range of  $\Delta m^2$  was achieved by this **combined short and long baseline**, **two detector fit.**





# Off-axis & long-baseline experiments

LSND KARMEN

#### Decay-in-Flight (Atmospheric)

Super-Kamiokande lceCube/DeepCore ANTARES

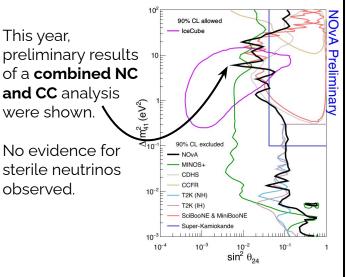
#### Decay-in-Flight (Accelerator)

MiniBooNE CDHS NOMAD CCFR OPERA MINOS/MINOS+ NOvA T2K uBooNE



300 ton near detector @ 1km 14,000 ton far detector @ 810km 0.8 Degrees off-axis

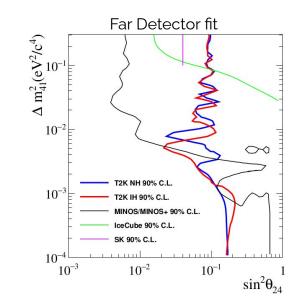
Two previous sterile neutrino searches using both neutrino[<u>Ref</u>] and anti-neutrino mode [<u>Ref</u>] **neutral current** searches show no evidence for sterile neutrinos





Multi-detector complex @ 280m Super-K as far detector @ 295km 2.5 Degrees off-axis

Searches for sterile neutrinos have been performed with both <u>Near</u> and <u>Far</u> detectors (Super-K) separately over the past decade.



LSND

KARMEN

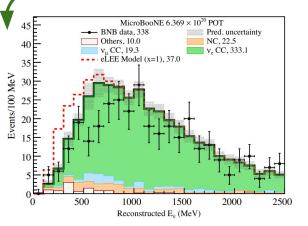
# **Probing Low-Energy Excess Anomaly**



MicroBooNE is a Liquid Argon Time Projection Chamber (**LArTPC**) neutrino detector.

In the same Booster Neutrino Beam as MiniBooNE, ~50m upstream.

Its primary goal is to identify the source of the MiniBooNE low-energy excess, if it's truly **electron in origin**, or **mis-identified photons** 

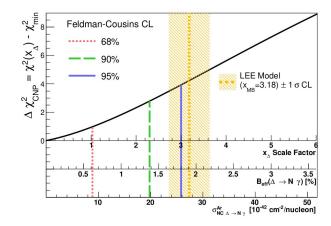


MicroBooNE observed **no excess of electrons** that could explain the MiniBooNE excess. Subsequent re-analysis of this data has placed **a direct bound on 3+1**  $v_{\mu} \rightarrow v_{e}$  **appearance** (see next slides..)

https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevLett.128.241801

Mark Ross-Lonergan July 21<sup>st</sup> 2022

First results have ruled out one of the leading photon interpretations, NC  $\Delta$  radiative decay, at the ~95% CL



https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevLett.128.111801

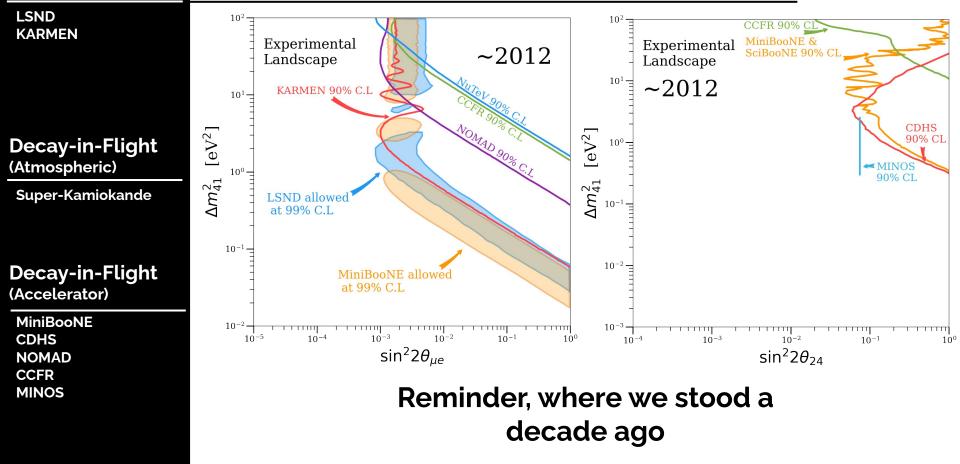
#### Decay-in-Flight (Atmospheric)

Super-Kamiokande IceCube/DeepCore ANTARES

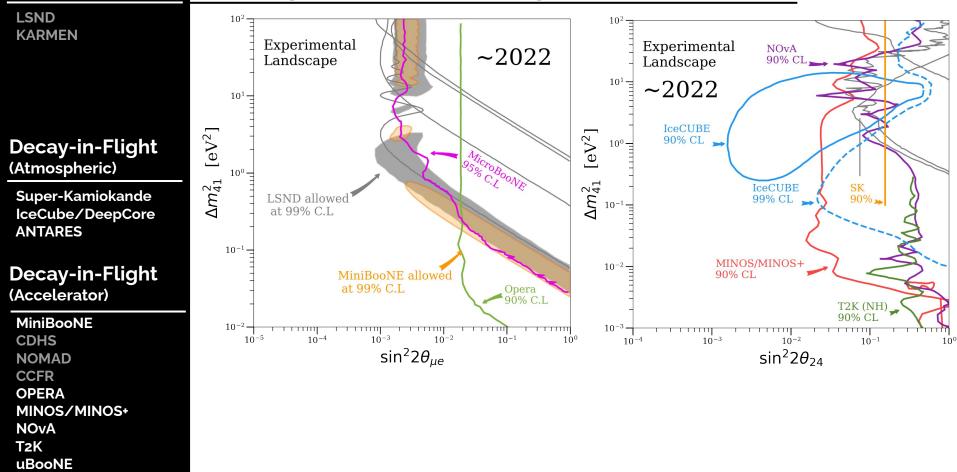
#### Decay-in-Flight (Accelerator)

MiniBooNE CDHS NOMAD CCFR OPERA MINOS/MINOS+ NOvA T2K uBooNE

# Decay-at-Rest The experimental landscape in 2012



# The experimental landscape in 2012 2022



LSND KARMEN JSNS<sup>2</sup> / JSNS<sup>2</sup>-II Coherent Coherent CAPTAIN-Mills IsoDAR

Decay-in-Flight (Atmospheric)

Super-Kamiokande IceCube/DeepCore ANTARES

Decay-in-Flight (Accelerator)

MiniBooNE CDHS NOMAD CCFR OPERA MINOS/MINOS+ NOvA T2K uBooNE SBN (SBND & ICARUS)



2022 ... and beyond

Upcoming full SBN short-baseline program

July 21<sup>st</sup> 2022

# Direct probe of LSND



LSND KARMEN JSNS<sup>2</sup> / JSNS<sup>2</sup>-II Coherent Coherent CAPTAIN-Mills IsoDAR

#### Decay-in-Flight (Atmospheric)

Super-Kamiokande IceCube/DeepCore ANTARES

#### Decay-in-Flight (Accelerator)

MiniBooNE
CDHS
NOMAD
CCFR
OPERA
MINOS/MINOS+
NOvA
T2K
uBooNE
<b>SBN (SBND &amp; ICARUS)</b>

JSNS<sup>2</sup>: J-PARC Sterile Neutrino Search at the J-PARC Spallation Neutron Source

- Proposed in 2013, JSNS<sup>2</sup> provides a **clean** and **direct test of the LSND anomaly.**
- Uses the same neutrino source ( $\mu^+$  decay-at-rest), same target, and same detection principle (Inverse-beta-decay) as LSND.
- Combination of low-duty factor beam, and Gadolinium doped liquid scintillator gives excellent signal/noise ratio

# 1st Phase: JSNS<sup>2</sup> [1310.1347]

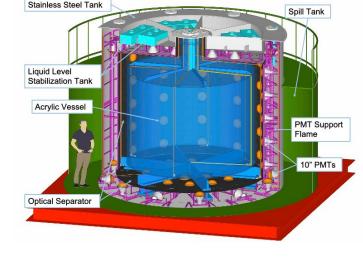
- Commissioned 2020, First physics data in 2021
- By May 2022, already has 23 % of the approved POT!

### 2nd Phase: JSNS<sup>2</sup>-II [2012.10807]

Upgrade to two detectors, Has been granted stage-2 approval

- Near@24m (17 tons, 120 10" PMTs
- Far @ 28m (32 tons, 220 10" PMTs)

Greatly improves 3+1 sensitivity. Data taking aim to start around the end of 2023



LSND KARMEN JSNS<sup>2</sup> / JSNS<sup>2</sup>-II Coherent Coherent CAPTAIN-Mills IsoDAR

#### Decay-in-Flight (Atmospheric)

Super-Kamiokande IceCube/DeepCore ANTARES

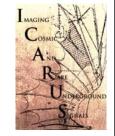
#### Decay-in-Flight (Accelerator)

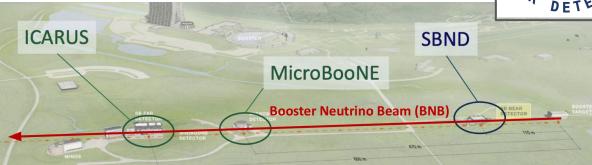
MiniBooNE CDHS NOMAD CCFR OPERA MINOS/MINOS+ NOvA T2K uBooNE SBN (SBND & ICARUS)

# The Fermilab Short-Baseline Program

Three detectors in the same neutrino beam. All with the same nuclear target (Ar) and detector technology (LArTPC). Goal is **discovery** or **definitive exclusion** of ~1 eV scale sterile neutrino mass region









Mark Ross-Lonergan July 21<sup>st</sup> 2022

LSND KARMEN JSNS<sup>2</sup> / JSNS<sup>2</sup>-II Coherent **Coherent CAPTAIN-Mills** IsoDAR

#### Decay-in-Flight (Atmospheric)

Super-Kamiokande lceCube/DeepCore **ANTARES** 

#### Decay-in-Flight (Accelerator)

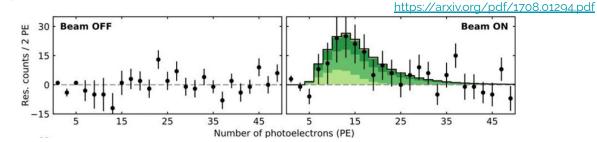
**MiniBooNE** CDHS NOMAD CCFR **OPERA** MINOS/MINOS+ NOvA T<sub>2</sub>K uBooNE

**SBN (SBND & ICARUS)** 

# **Emergence of a new probe, CEvNS**

The discovery of Coherent elastic neutrino-nucleus scattering (CEvNS) in 2017 opened up an entire new field to probe these anomalies.

After decades of searching, COHERENT using Spallation Neutron Source at Oak Ridge found 6.70 evidence for CEvNS with rate consistent with SM



By building multiple detectors at the SNS, COHERENT plans to search for sterile neutrinos through NC CEvNS disappearance

- 610 kg LAr calorimeter at 28 m
- 50 kg germanium PPC detector at 22 m
- 10-kg CsI scintillation detector at 19.3 m

Coherent CAPTAIN-Mills at the Los Alamos Neutron Science Center explores this space of **CEvNS** to probe the LSND result by both measuring v's \_ from *π*+ decay-at-rest as well as using  $\pi^{\circ}$  decay in flight to probe complementary dark sector physics: https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRe vD.106.012001



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LSND KARMEN JSNS<sup>2</sup> / JSNS<sup>2</sup>-II Coherent Coherent CAPTAIN-Mills IsoDAR

#### Decay-in-Flight (Atmospheric)

Super-Kamiokande IceCube/DeepCore ANTARES

#### Decay-in-Flight (Accelerator)

MiniBooNE CDHS NOMAD CCFR OPERA MINOS/MINOS+ NOvA T2K uBooNE SBN (SBND & ICARUS)

# Towards Isotope Decay-at-Rest sources

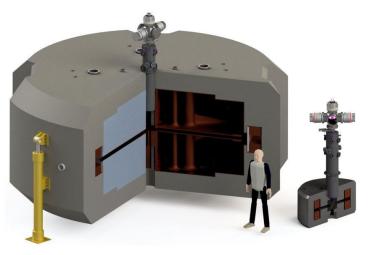
Goal is a extremely well known and very high intensity isotope DAR source by developing a compact isochronous cyclotron

- Cyclotron gives 600kW, continuous wave 60 MeV protons
- Proton beam strikes Be target  $\rightarrow$  n  $\rightarrow$  captures on <sup>7</sup>Li  $\rightarrow$  <sup>8</sup>Li  $\rightarrow$  V<sub>a</sub>
- Prototype cyclotron under construction

This is just the neutrino source, needs to be paired with a kTon scale detector.

Preliminary approval has been granted to run
isoDAR@YemiLab, where could be paired with the planned Liquid Scintillation Counter detector (2110.10635)

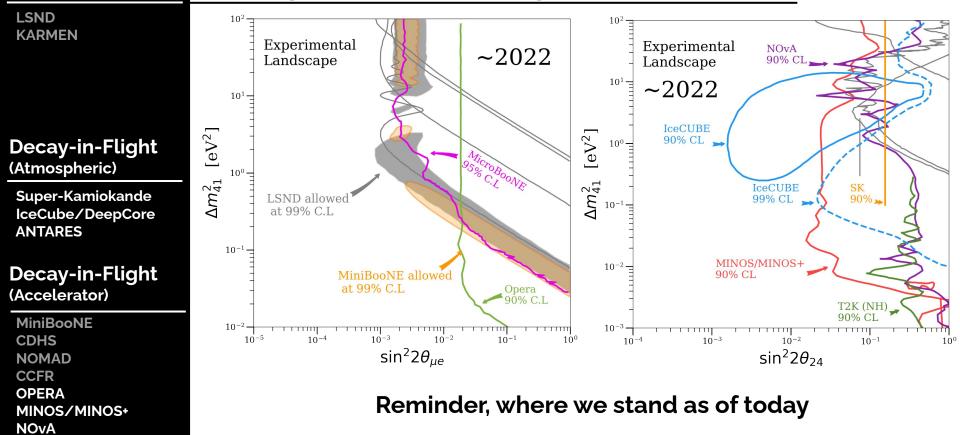
#### Compact Isochronous Cyclotron



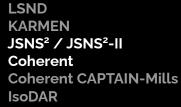


T2K uBooNE

# The experimental landscape in 2012 2022



# The experimental landscape in 2012 2022 202x?

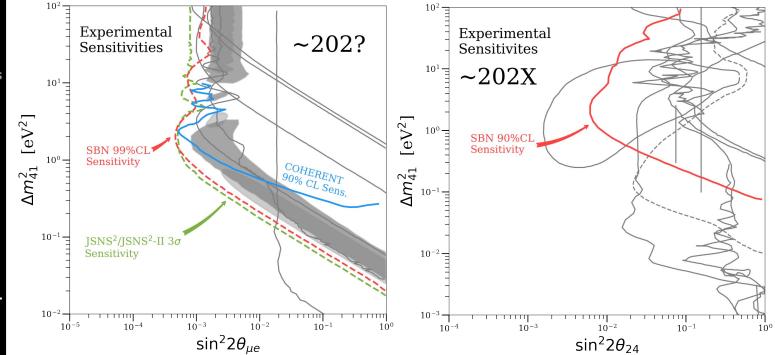


#### Decay-in-Flight (Atmospheric)

Super-Kamiokande IceCube/DeepCore ANTARES

#### Decay-in-Flight (Accelerator)

MiniBooNE CDHS NOMAD CCFR OPERA MINOS/MINOS+ NOvA T2K uBooNE SBN (SBND & ICARUS)



\*Note, different CL's on these plots

# Summary

- We have learned a lot in the past decade, but the "decay-at-rest" LSND and "decay-in-flight" MiniBooNE anomalies are as of yet unexplained
- We are on the cusp, however, of a plethora of results that will **directly probe them** 
  - A direct test of the LSND Anomaly using an improved decay-at-rest beam facility and experimental arrangement has just begun in the form of the JSNS<sup>2</sup>/JSNS<sup>2</sup>-II experiment.
  - A direct test of **MiniBooNE** has already begun with **MicroBooNE**, and will continue once the **full SBN program at Fermilab** comes online
- Increased atmospheric sector gives access to many orders of magnitude of neutrino energies & baselines with which to probe the SBL anomalies
- **Isotope decay-at-rest sources** are close to becoming a reality that delivers powerful probes of relevant sterile parameter space
- Entire new direction to search are opening up with the use of **CEvNS** to search for sterile neutrinos and dark-sector particles



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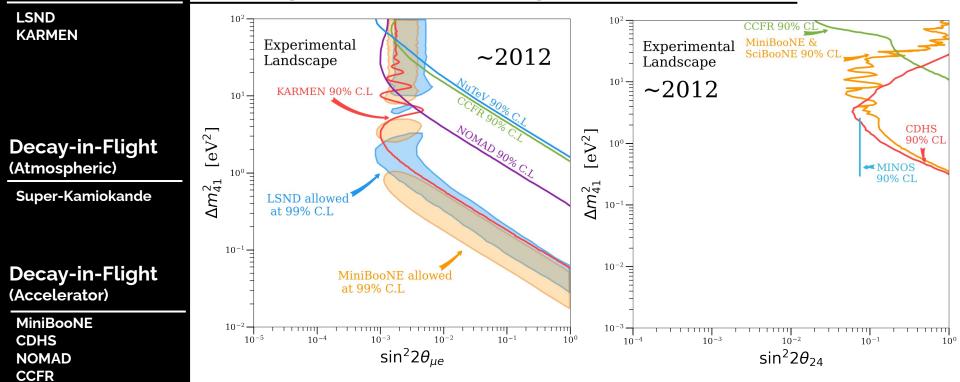
V

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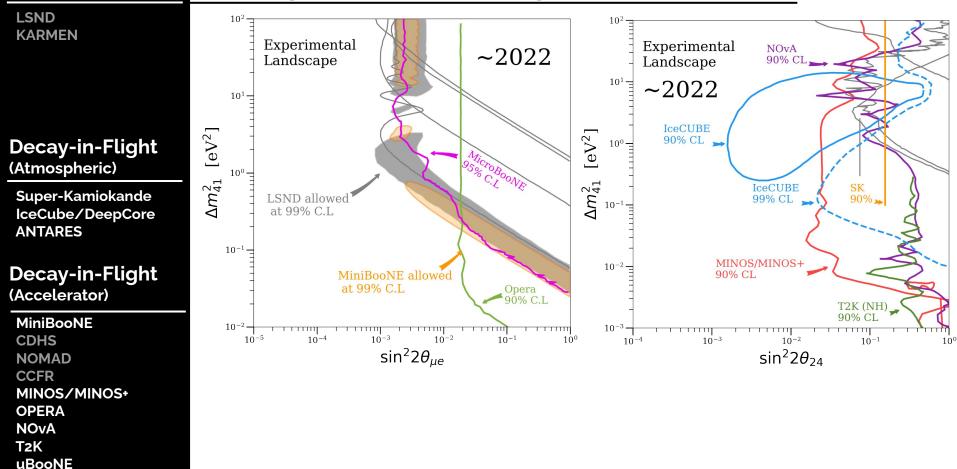
# Backup Slides

# Decay-at-Rest The experimental landscape in 2012

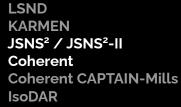
MINOS



# The experimental landscape in 2012 2022



# The experimental landscape in <del>2012</del> 2022 202x?



#### Decay-in-Flight (Atmospheric)

Super-Kamiokande IceCube/DeepCore ANTARES

#### Decay-in-Flight (Accelerator)

MiniBooNE CDHS NOMAD CCFR MINOS/MINOS+ OPERA NOvA T2K uBooNE SBN (SBND & ICARUS)

