

# Neutrino Mass Hierarchy with Atmospheric Neutrinos and Neutrino Telescopes: PINGU, ORCA and INO

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Penn State

This session:

*Mass Hierarchy with Atmospheric Neutrinos and WCDs - Ed Kearns*

*Mass Hierarchy with Atmospheric Neutrinos and Neutrino Telescopes - Doug Cowen*

*Mass Hierarchy with Accelerator Neutrino Experiments -*

*Mass Hierarchy from Man-made Neutrinos (Future Projects) - Xin Qian*

# Neutrino Mass Hierarchy (NMH)

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- The NMH is a fundamental parameter of the neutrino sector: intrinsically interesting
  - Happily, the large  $\theta_{13}$  gives us the ability to measure NMH via earth matter effects
- For many experiments, the NMH is also degenerate with leptonic CPV
  - CPV is considerably *more* interesting
  - NMH can be viewed as a stepping stone to CPV
    - Important question: If we know the NMH, how do we optimize future experiments to focus purely on CPV?

# NMH and Atmospheric Neutrinos

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- Few-GeV atm.  $\nu$  could provide sensitivity to NMH via matter effects
  - Resonant MSW and parametric oscillations for few-GeV earth-crossing neutrinos
  - NMH determines character of oscillations and it is different for  $\nu$  vs  $\bar{\nu}$ 
    - At these energies, use either
      - magnetic field to distinguish  $\mu^-$  from  $\mu^+$  event-by-event [INO]
      - $\sigma(\nu) \sim 2\sigma(\text{anti-}\nu)$  [PINGU, ORCA]
  - Degeneracy with  $\delta_{CP}$  is minimal

# For Each Detector:

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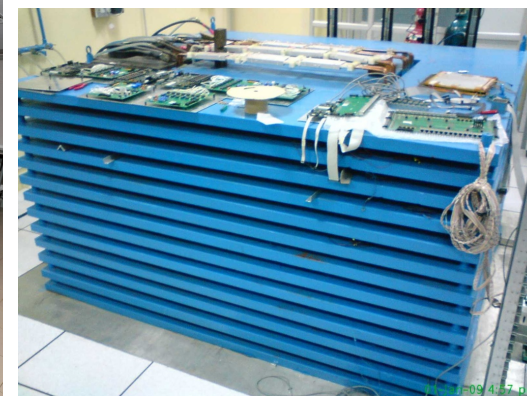
- Design concept
- Measurement principles
- Reach, dependencies, complementarities
- Timescale estimate
- Cost estimate

# INO (India-based Neutrino Observatory)

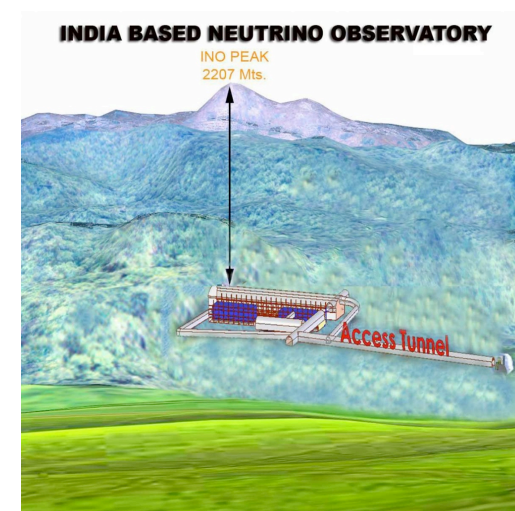
- Design concept:
  - 50 kton magnetized iron calorimeter
    - 1.3 T field
    - 48.4m long x 16m wide x 14.4m high
    - 150 layers 5.6cm Fe interleaved with 28,000 2m x 2m glass Resistive Plate Chambers (RPCs)
  - Bury it all under a mountain in Southern India



Cosmic ray test stand

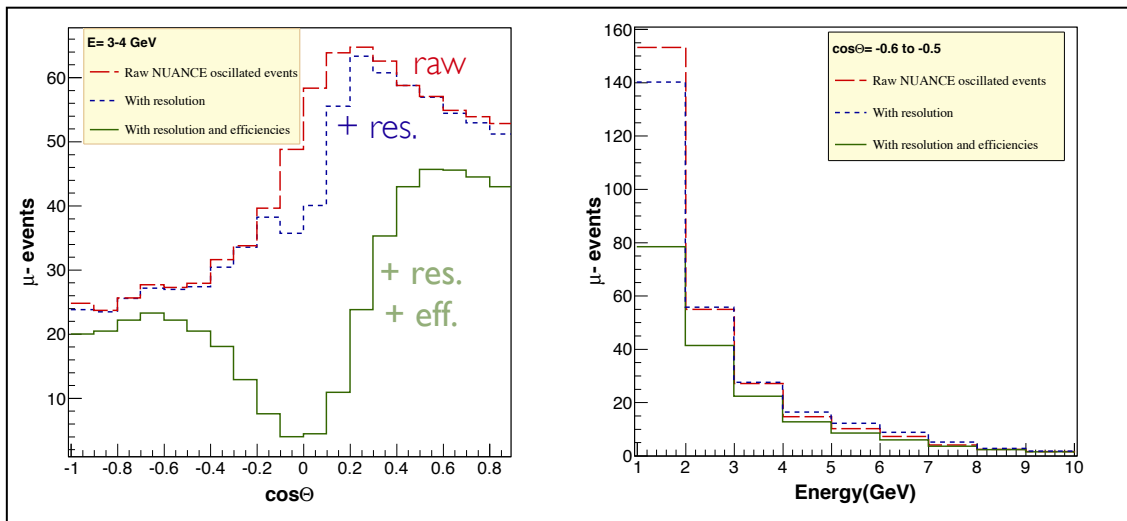


Prototype magnet

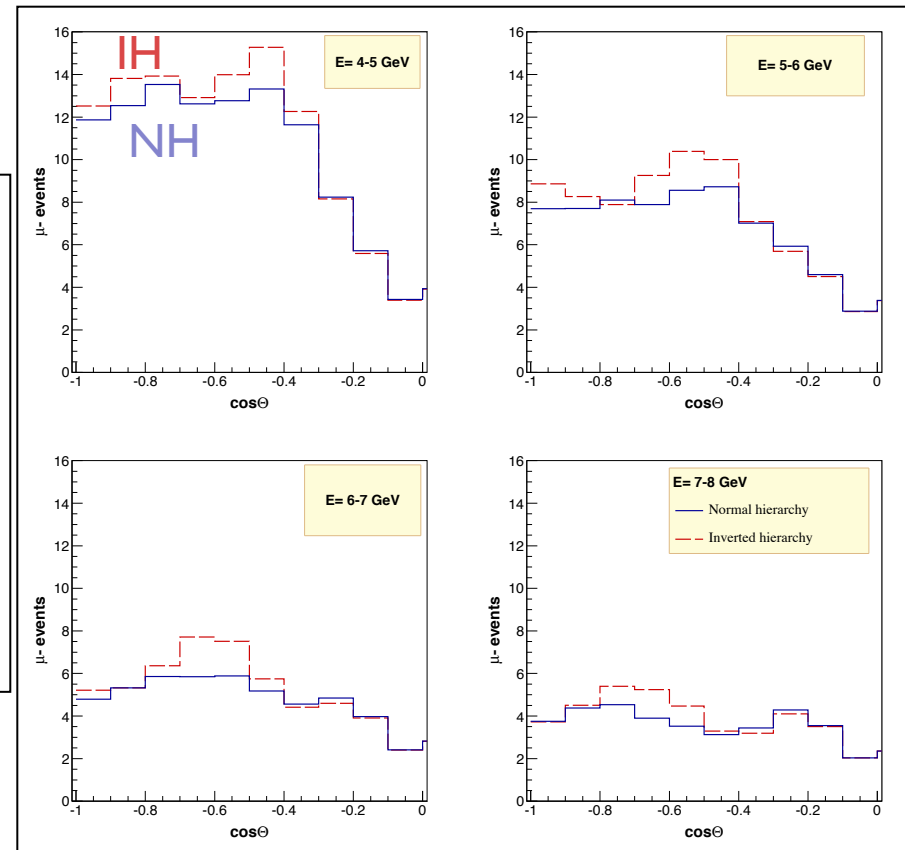


# INO

- Measure energy and angle of  $\mu^-$  and  $\mu^+$ , separately

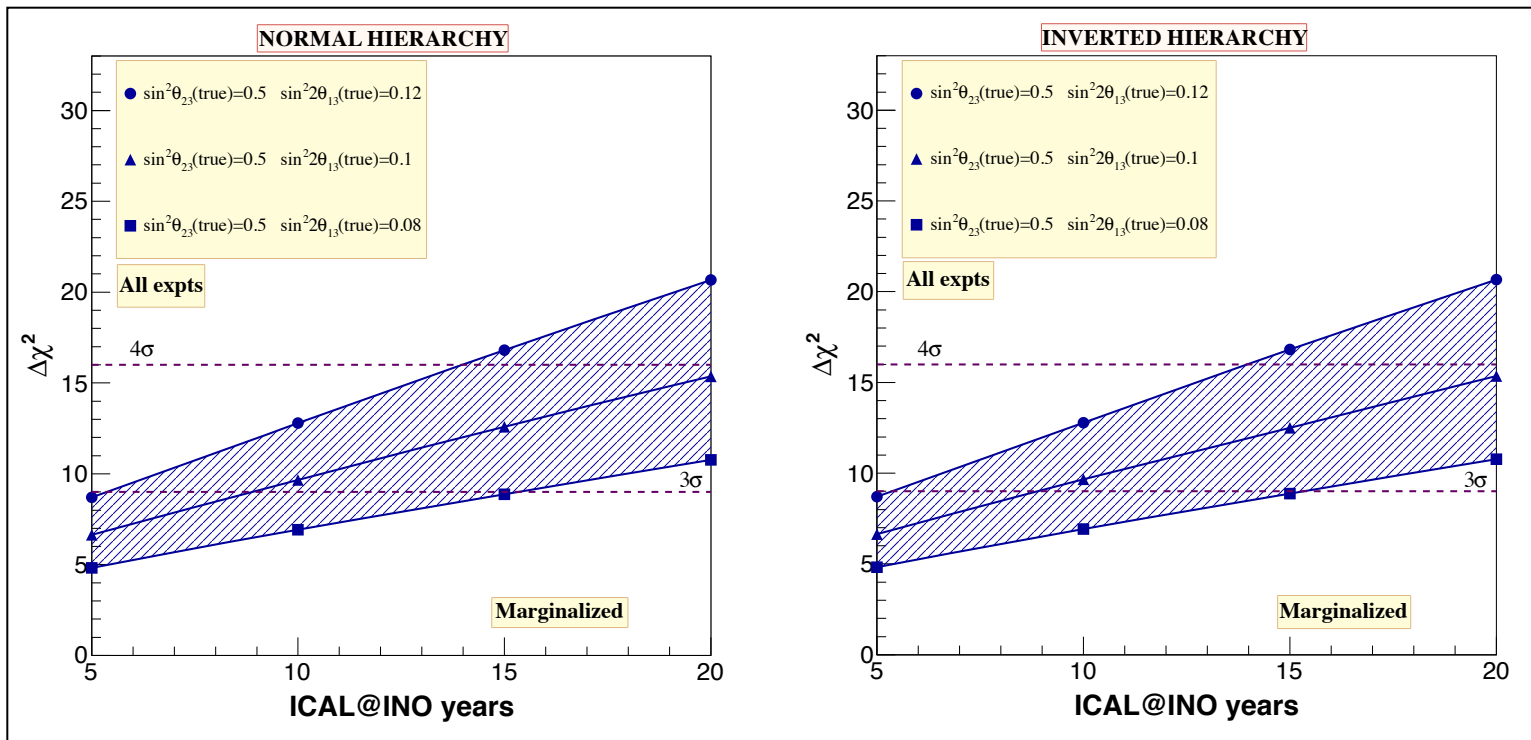


10 years of  $\mu^-$  data shown



# INO

- Sensitivity to NMH



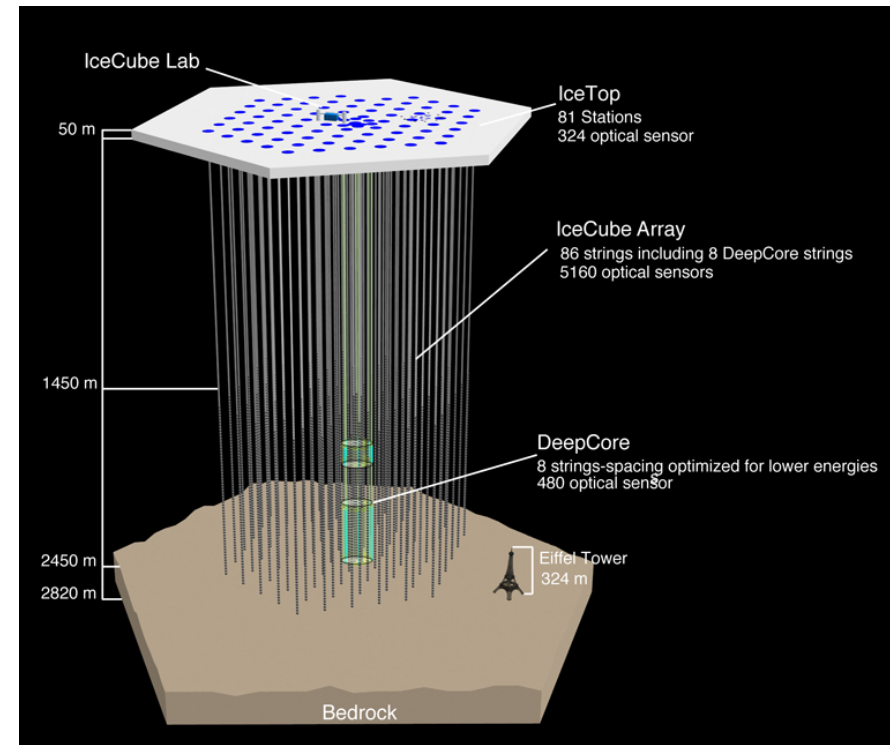
- Start data taking 2017-2018
- $3\sigma$  separation in  $\sim 10$  yrs in combination w/NOvA & T2K
- Cost: \$250M

# PINGU

(Precision IceCube Next Generation Upgrade)



- Design concept:
  - Add in-fill strings to IceCube/DeepCore array
    - further increase module density
      - current detector shown at right...
  - continue to exploit 2km depth and surrounding array as active cosmic ray muon veto
  - optimize and simplify IceCube module design for  $\sim 5$  GeV  $E_\nu$  events, reduced cost
  - co-deploy new calibration devices tuned for lower  $E_\nu$
  - improve refrozen hole ice clarity
- Goal: reach few GeV  $E_\nu$  threshold



The current IceCube/DeepCore detector

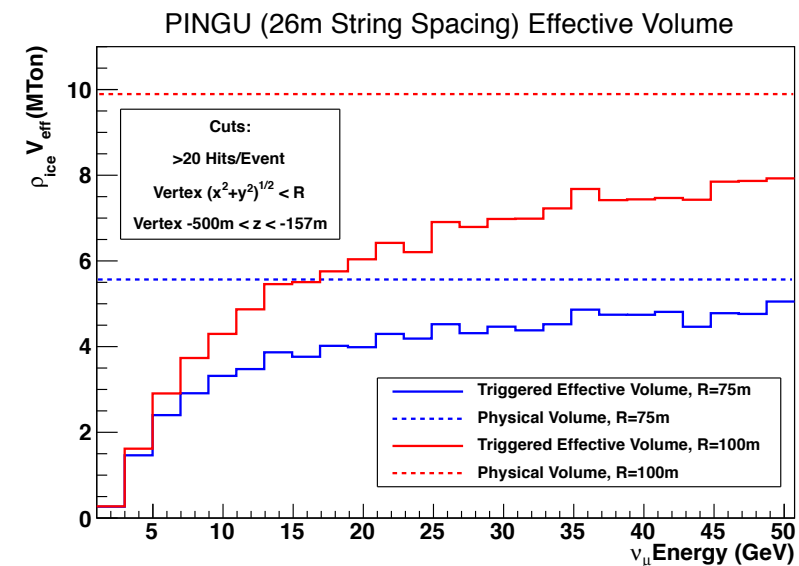
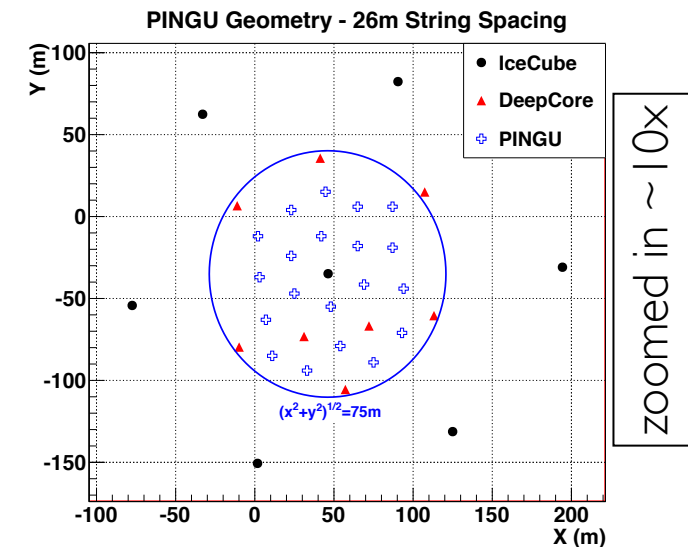


# PINGU

(Precision IceCube Next Generation Upgrade)

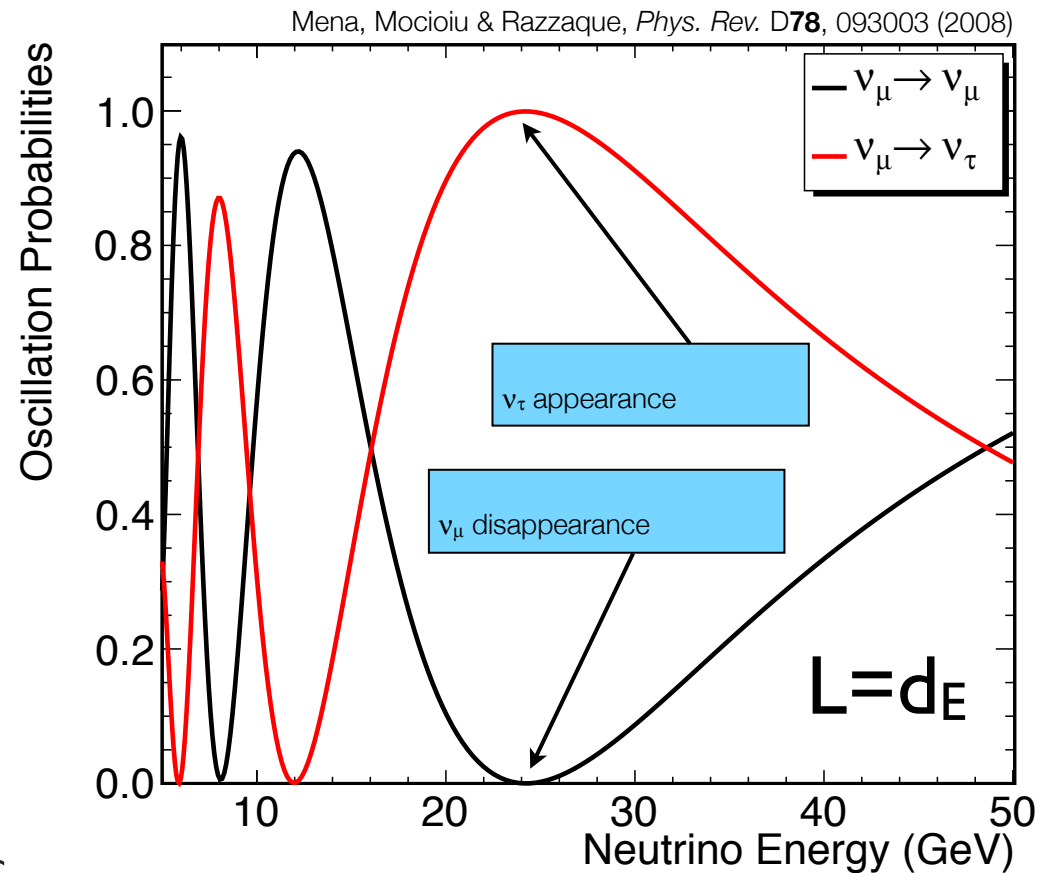


- Design concept:
  - Add in-fill strings to IceCube/DeepCore array
    - further increase module density
      - ...sample new geom. shown at right;  $V \sim \text{few Mt}$
    - continue to exploit 2km depth and surrounding array as active cosmic ray muon veto
    - optimize and simplify IceCube module design for  $\sim 5 \text{ GeV } E_\nu$  events, reduced cost
    - co-deploy new calibration devices tuned for lower  $E_\nu$
    - improve refrozen hole ice clarity
  - Goal: reach few GeV  $E_\nu$  threshold



# PINGU

- Measurement principle [1,2]
  - Exploit MSW & parametric oscillation effects for high-statistics sample of earth-crossing atmospheric neutrinos
  - Measure  $P_{\mu\mu}(E_\nu, \theta)$  for  $\sim 5 < E_\nu < \sim 15$  GeV
  - Take advantage of
$$\sigma(\nu) \sim 2\sigma(\bar{\nu}) \quad \& \quad \phi(\nu) > \phi(\bar{\nu})$$
  - Maybe use inelasticity, too? [3]

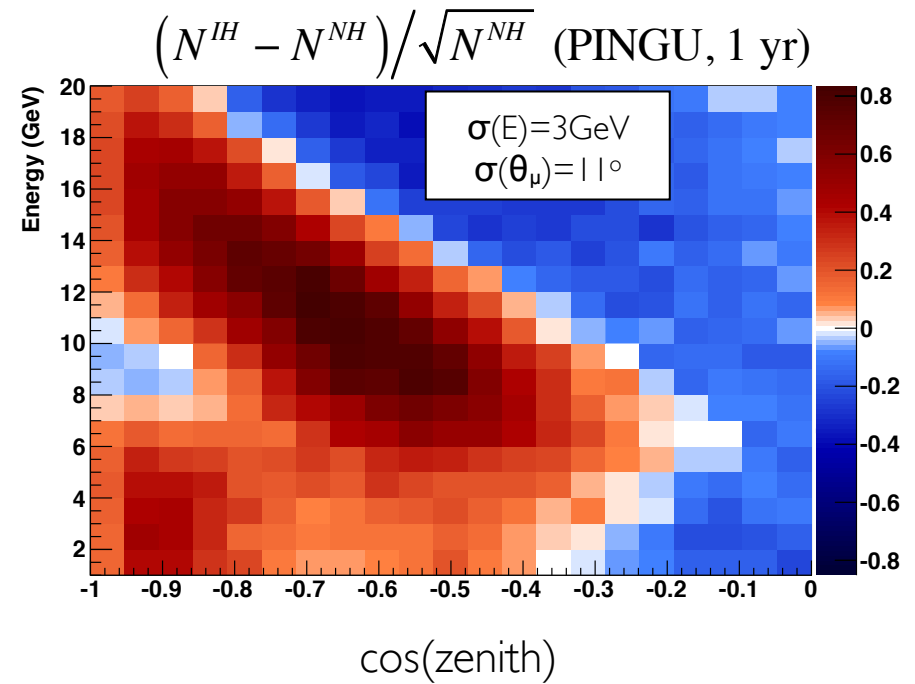
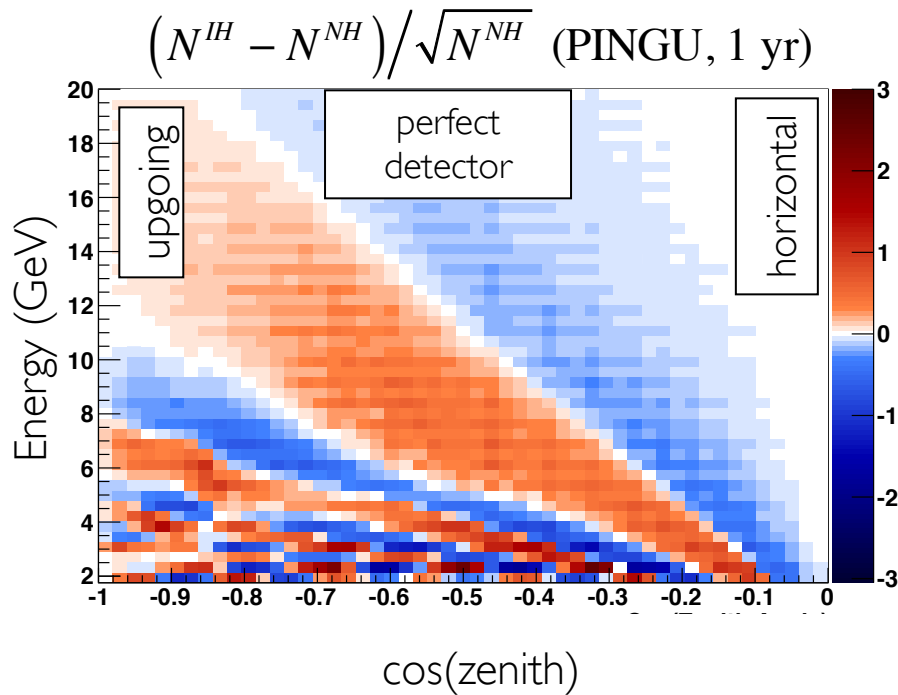


- [1] Mena, Mocioiu, and Razzaque 0803.3044
- [2] Akhmedov, Razzaque, and Smirnov 1205.7071
- [3] Ribordy and Smirnov, 1303.0758

# PINGU

- Following Ref. [2], define “distinguishability” as

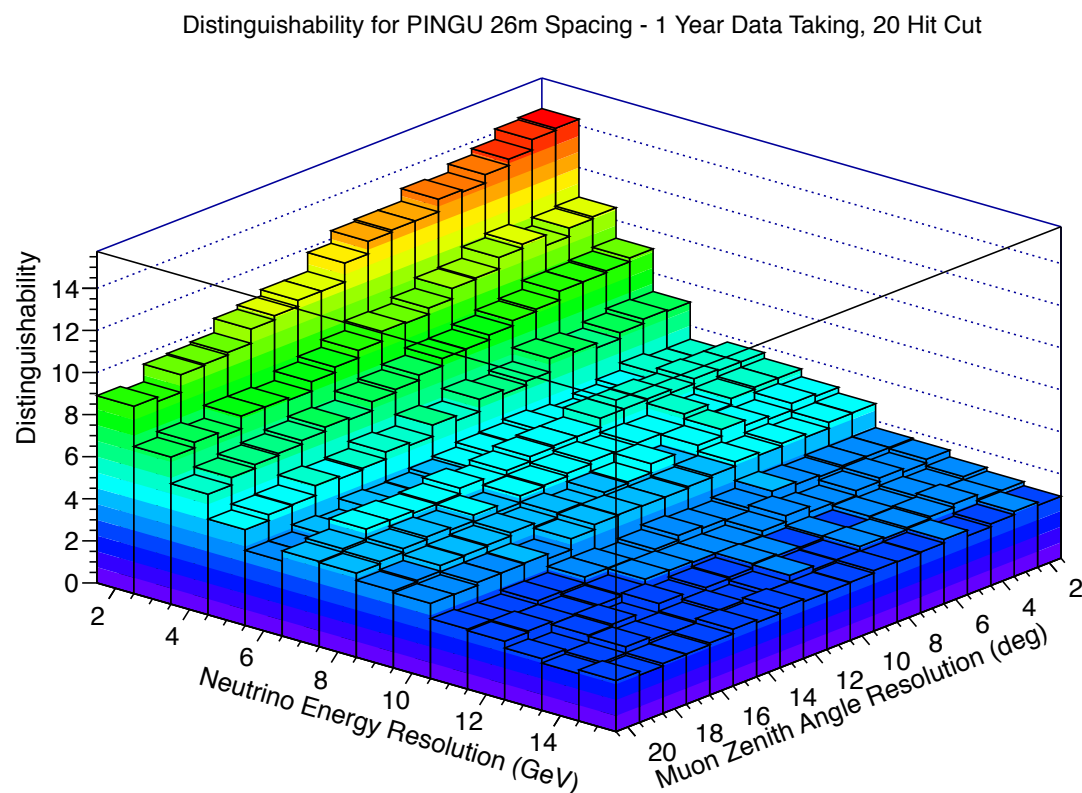
$$S_{tot} = \sqrt{\sum_{ij} \frac{(N_{ij}^{IH} - N_{ij}^{NH})^2}{N_{ij}^{NH}}}$$



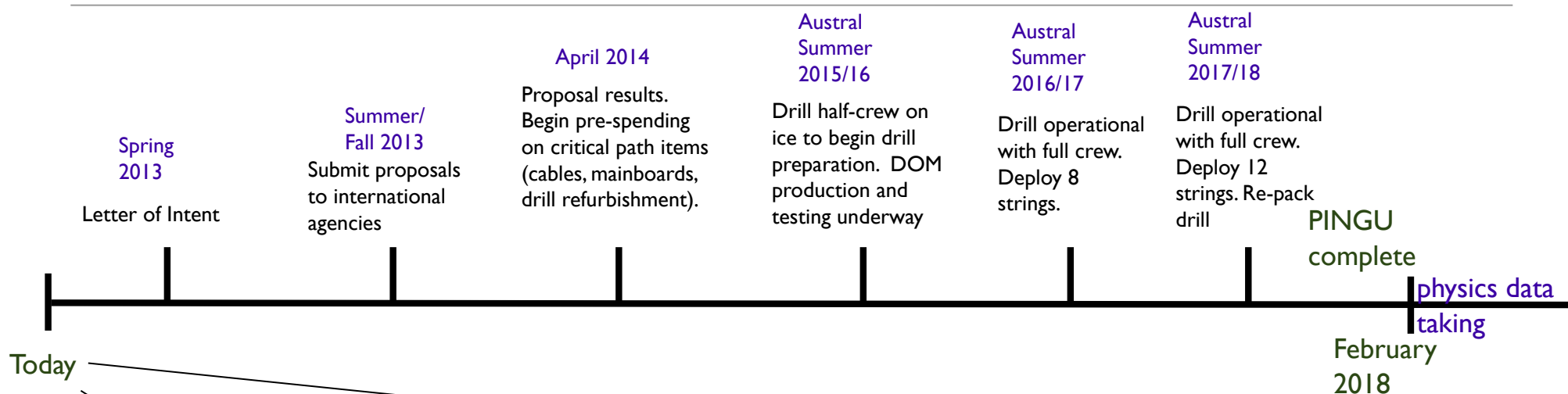
$$N_{i,j}^{NH} = P(\nu_\mu)_{i,j}^{NH} * \Phi(\nu_\mu)_{i,j} * \sigma(\nu_\mu)_j * V_{i,j}^{eff} + P^{NH}(\bar{\nu}_\mu)_{ij} * \Phi(\bar{\nu}_\mu)_{i,j} * \sigma(\bar{\nu}_\mu)_j * V_{i,j}^{eff}$$

# PINGU

- Current status
  - Actively working on reco. & geom. optimization to estimate  $\sigma$ 's from sim.
    - As a *proxy* for reco. efficiency, require at least 20 detected Cherenkov  $\gamma$ s
- Near-future work
  - Evaluate impact or mitigation of anticipated systematics (uncertainties in ice properties, module efficiencies, energy scale, angular reconstruction, cross sections, atm nu fluxes, earth profile, ...)
- Theoretical issues
  - $\delta_{CP}$ : small (but with a beam[4], PINGU might *measure*  $\delta_{CP}$ )
  - $\Delta(m_{31})^2$ : non-negligible degeneracy with NMH, but manageable



# PINGU: Timescale & Cost



Today

## Current Status

- Detailed MC simulations nearing completion
- Enhanced low-E reconstruction algorithms from DeepCore being applied to simulated PINGU events
- Estimation of sensitivity to NMH with full reconstruction and estimation of systematics underway
- Letter of Intent in preparation

## Rough cost estimate

- Drill setup costs: \$10M
- Hardware + deployment cost per string: \$1.25M
  - A 20-string in-fill would cost roughly \$35M, shared between NSF and European agencies

# ORCA (Oscillation Research with Cosmics in the Abyss)

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- Design:
  - deploy a dense array of KM3NeT modules ~4km underwater in Mediterranean
    - module prototype exists
    - engineering deployment tests for KM3NeT have been performed
- Measurement principle ~same as PINGU
  - greater depth reduces muon flux relative to PINGU by ~50x, but absence of surrounding array for active muon veto may be challenging
- Timescale and cost
  - In principle have funds already, but they're intended for UHE  $\nu$  KM3NeT
    - would have to convince agencies to repurpose funds for ORCA
    - cost would be larger than for PINGU but would be partly “amortized” as KM3NeT prototyping
  - Timescale dependent on numerous unknowns regarding module design and detector deployment, but in principle similar to that of PINGU

# Conclusions

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- Atmospheric neutrino telescopes are the lucky beneficiaries of a known high  $\theta_{13}$  and a prolific, free neutrino source
- With such generous friends, neutrino telescopes may be able to measure NMH
  - PINGU:
    - gratifyingly short time scale and modest cost
    - construction is straightforward and very low risk
    - now addressing reconstruction and systematics challenges
  - ORCA:
    - somewhat behind PINGU but may already have funding
  - INO:
    - can measure NMH but suffers from low statistics

# The End

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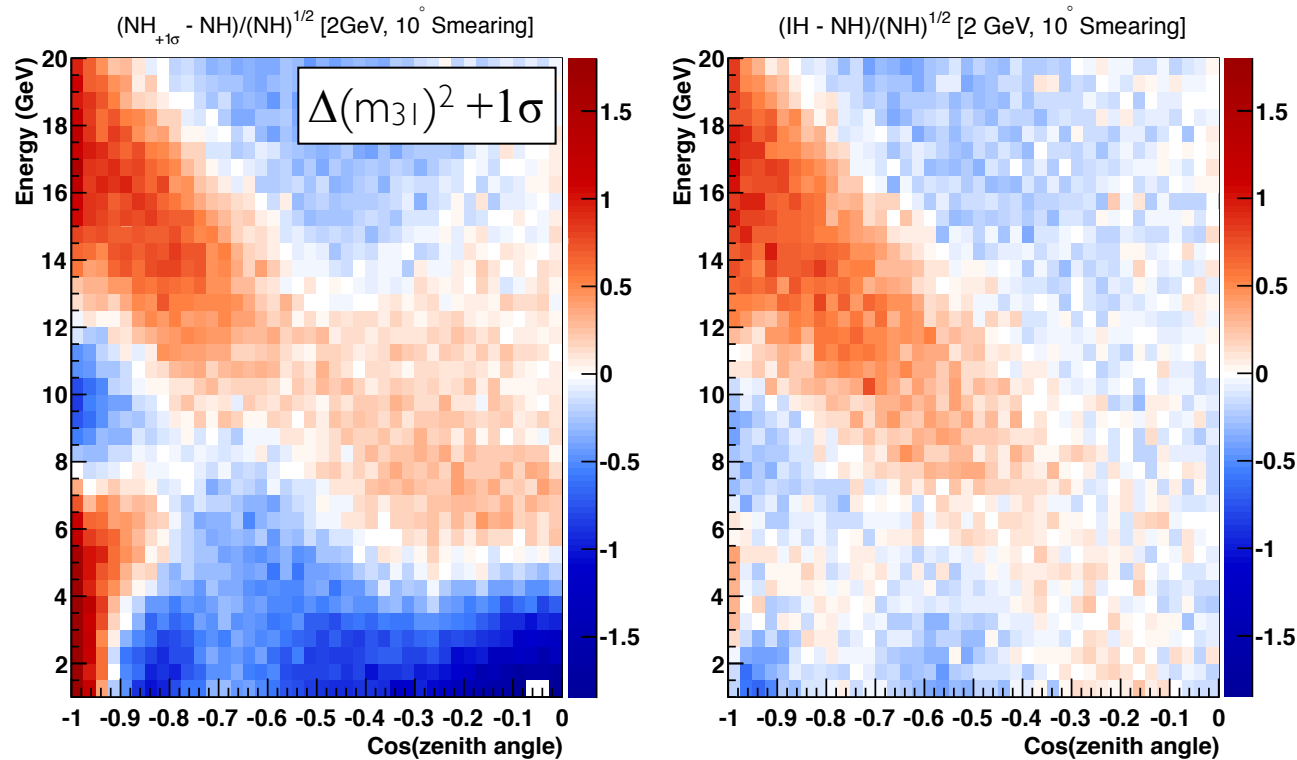
# .not.(T2K or NOvA):

Existing & their upgrades  
Future atmospheric  
Future man-made

Expt. (A-Z)	$\nu$ source	Method	Dataset for $3\sigma$ :	Earliest Year for $3\sigma$	$-\delta_{CP}$ range (NH)	Cost	Status	Comple-mentarity	Location
CHIPS	NuMI	WCD, $\nu_e$ app., $1\% \sin^2 2\theta_{23}$	3+3	~2021	30-120°	\$120M	R&D	NOvA, T2K	Minnesota Mine Pits
Daya Bay II	Daya Bay Reactors	$\bar{\nu}_e$ dis.	3	2023	All	?	R&D		China
GLADE	NuMI	LAr (5-10kt)	3+3	NOvA+10	30-140°	\$1-200M	R&D	NOvA, T2K	Ash River (NOvA)
Super-K, Hyper-K	Atm.	WCD $\bar{\nu}_e, \nu_e$ app.	2-10 yrs	~2022	All	\$1B	R&D	JPARC	Japan
INO	Atm.	Fe Calorim. $\nu_\mu$ vs. $\bar{\nu}_\mu$ dis.	~15 yrs	~2030	All	\$250M	Under construction	NOvA, T2K, DB, RENO	India
Large WCD	NuMI, Atm.	WCD	~1 yr, > ~6 yrs	?	?, All	\$500M	R&D (LBNE)	LBNE LAr TPC	Sanford
LBNE	LBNE beam	LAr	5+5	~2025	-180-36°, 126-180°	\$1B	Approved	NOvA, T2K	Sanford
MINOS+	NuMI	MINOS	NOvA	N/A	N/A	?	R&D	NOvA, T2K	Soudan
ORCA (KM3NeT)	Atm.	WCD $\nu_\mu$ dis. (ocean)	~few yrs?	~2021	All	?	R&D		Mediterranean
PINGU (IceCube)	Atm.	WCD $\nu_\mu$ dis. (ice)	2-3 yrs	2021	All	~\$50M	R&D		Antarctica
RENO-50	Yonggwang	$\bar{\nu}_e$ dis.	?	?	All	?	R&D		South Korea

# PINGU: $\Delta(m_{3l})^2$

- Uncertainty in  $\Delta(m_{3l})^2$  creates some degeneracy in the distinguishability metric
  - Plots have perfect event ID and 100% selection efficiency, but include energy and angle smearing



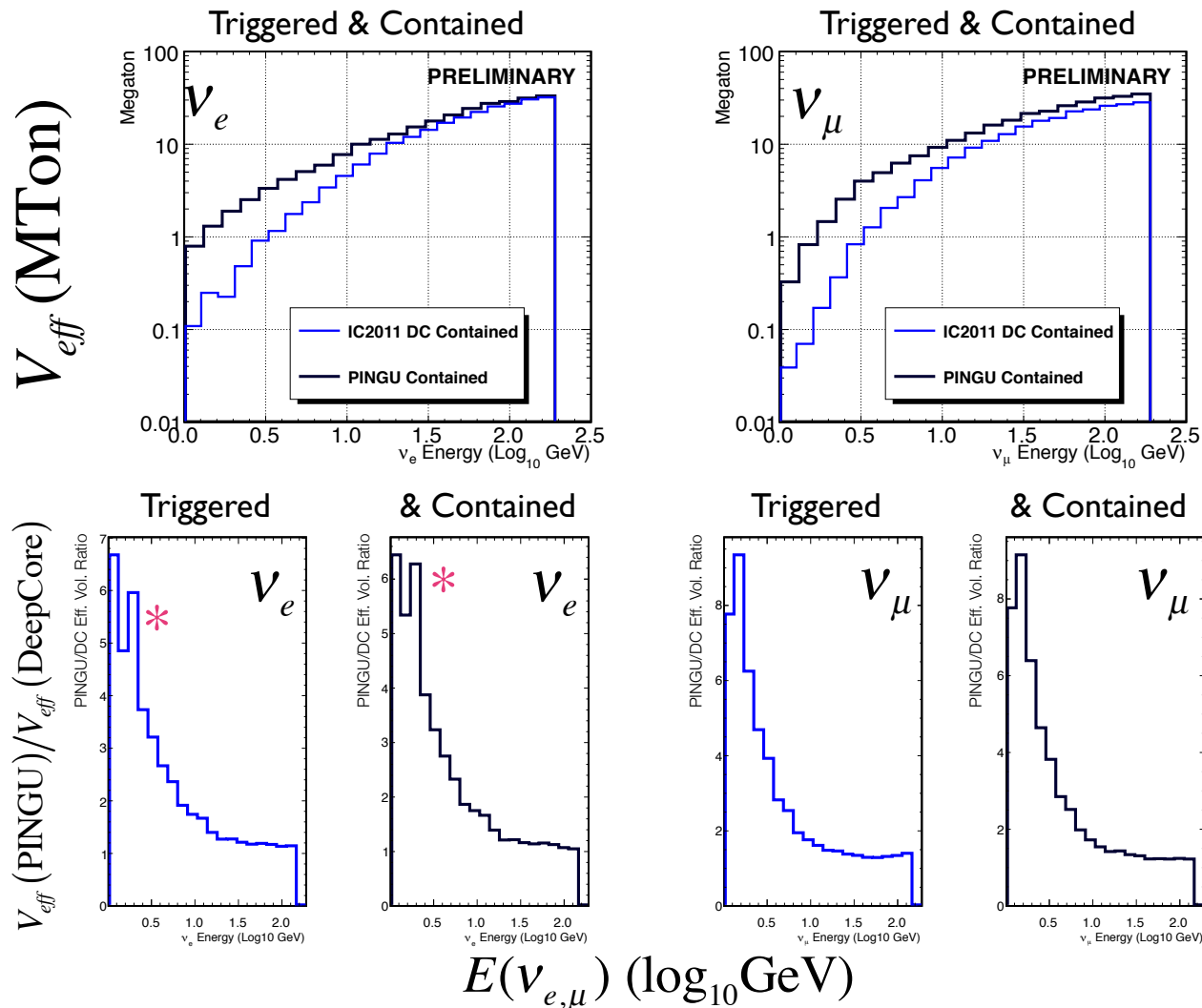
# Neutrino Hierarchy and Parametric Resonances

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- Parametric resonances can occur as neutrinos cross regions of distinct density
  - Flavor transitions enhanced due to matter-induced modifications in oscillation phase
    - (MSW occurs through modifications in neutrino mixing angle)
  - If travel through periodically varying density, transition probabilities can add up and become large, but generally speaking need lots of periods
- Relevant Exception: For matter densities close to MSW resonance densities, can have parametric enhancement of oscillations with a very small number of periods
  - This is the case for Earth and neutrinos at  $\sim 5$  GeV(!!) *and*
  - The character of the effect depends strongly on the hierarchy. 😊

# PINGU Effective Volumes

- $V_{\text{eff}}$  increased by  $\sim 8\times$  at  $\sim 1$  GeV relative to DeepCore



J. Koskinen/Penn State

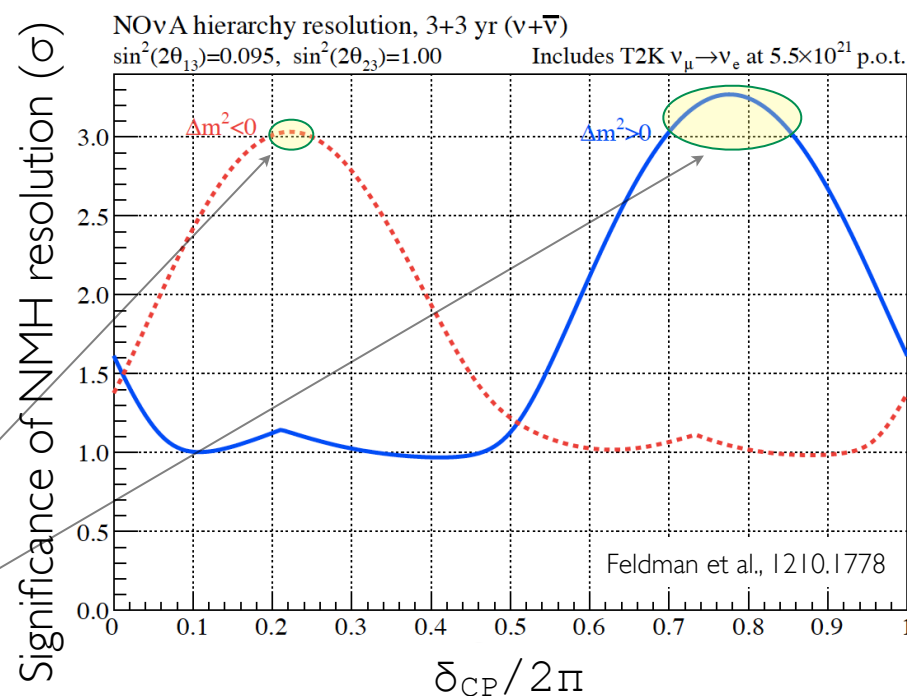
“Triggered”:  
Event satisfies  
trigger  
condition of 3  
neighboring  
hits within  $1\mu\text{s}$ .

“Contained”:  
Event’s true  
vertex is within  
fiducial volume.

\* Wiggles due to low MC statistics

# Existing\* NMH Experiments

- T2K (running) and NOvA (fully constructed early 2014)
  - search for  $\nu_e$  appearance over long baselines
    - $L_{\text{T2K}} = 295\text{km}$ ;  
 $L_{\text{NOvA}} = 810\text{km}$
  - situated off-axis to get narrow  $E_\nu$  peak
    - $E_{\text{T2K}} = \sim 0.6\text{ GeV}$ ;  
 $E_{\text{NOvA}} = \sim 2\text{ GeV}$
- Sensitivity to NMH: Limited
  - Can only determine NMH to  $3\sigma$  when  $\delta_{\text{CP}} \sim \pm 90^\circ$ .



\*Existing = running or under construction