

NOvA-T2K Joint Analysis Results

Zoya Vallari, Caltech

On behalf of NOvA & T2K Collaborations

Joint Experimental-Theoretical Physics Seminar, Fermilab

February 16, 2024



Quantum superposition of neutrino mass eigenstates leads to neutrino oscillation.



Joint Analysis Results





Quantum superposition of neutrino mass eigenstates leads to neutrino oscillation.

Oscillation probability (2-flavor approx.)

$$P(\nu_{\alpha} \rightarrow \nu_{\beta}) \sim \sin^{2}(2\theta) \sin^{2}\begin{pmatrix}\Delta m_{ij}^{2}L\\ 4E\end{pmatrix}$$
Amplitude Frequency
where $\Delta m_{ij}^{2} = m_{i}^{2} - m_{j}^{2}$

Experiment design: L (baseline), E (Energy) L/E optimized for maximum oscillation

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Oscillation probability (2-flavor approx.) $P(\nu_{\alpha} \rightarrow \nu_{\beta}) \sim \sin^{2}(2\theta) \sin^{2}\left(\frac{\Delta m_{ij}^{2}L}{4E}\right)$ Amplitude Frequency where $\Delta m_{ij}^{2} = m_{i}^{2} - m_{j}^{2}$

- Mass splitting (Δm_{21}^2 , Δm_{32}^2) governs the frequency of the oscillation.
- Mixing angles (θ₁₂, θ₁₃, θ₂₃) determine the magnitude of oscillation.
 - δ_{CP} phase provides a measure of CP violation in neutrinos.



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Open Questions

• Long-baseline oscillation experiments offer a significant opportunity to address these fundamental physics questions

1. Is the θ_{23} mixing maximal?



If $\theta_{23} = 45^{\circ} \rightarrow |U_{\mu 3}| = |U_{\tau 3}|$



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Open Questions

• Long-baseline oscillation experiments offer a significant opportunity to address these fundamental physics questions

Current Measured Value : $\theta_{23} \sim 45^{\circ}$ Inverted Ordering Normal Ordering Precision : $\sin^2 \theta_{23} \sim 5\%$ ν_3 ν_2 Δm_{21}^2 ν_1 V_{3} (mass)² $\nu_{\mathbf{e}}$ Δm_{32}^2 Andrew Sutton, FSI ν_{e} ν_{μ} Δm_{31}^2 ν_{τ} ν_{μ} ν_{τ} ν_2 Δm_{21}^2 ν_3 ν_1 If $\theta_{23} = 45^{\circ} \rightarrow |U_{\mu 3}| = |U_{\tau 3}|$ v Mass Ordering (MO): **Normal or Inverted?** Implications for $0\nu\beta\beta$, cosmology

1. Is the θ_{23} mixing maximal? **2.** Which neutrino is the lightest?



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Open Questions

Long-baseline oscillation experiments offer a significant opportunity to address these* fundamental physics questions

2. Which neutrino is the lightest? 1. Is the θ_{23} mixing maximal?



*Both T2K and NOvA have extensive physics programs extending beyond 3-flavor neutrino oscillation. However, for the purposes of this joint-fit (and today's discussion), we will limit our scope to this.



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3. Is CP violated in leptons?



Credit: APS/Carin Cain

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Do neutrinos and anti-neutrinos oscillate differently violating the CP symmetry? Is sin $\delta_{CP} = 0$?

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Long-baseline Measurements





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Joint Analysis Results



Complicated dependence on multiple parameters of interest.



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- Opposite impact of matter effect and δ_{CP} for $v_e vs \bar{v}_e$ appearance probability.
- *Matter effect: v_e's interact with the electrons in the Earth modifying oscillation probability.



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Long-baseline oscillation experiments





Why NOvA-T2K joint analysis?

Why NOvA-T2K joint fit?

- The complementarity between the experiments provides the power to break degeneracies.
- Full implementation of:

Energy reconstruction and detector response
 Detailed likelihood from each experiment
 Consistent statistical inference across the full dimensionality

In-depth review of:

Models, systematic uncertainties and possible correlations

Different analysis approaches driven by contrasting detector designs



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Results from NOvA and T2K from 2020 datasets



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Beamlines

- Both experiments are located off-axis to receive a narrow-band, highly pure muon (anti-)neutrino beam.
 - T2K: beam from J-PARC, peaks at 0.6 GeV neutrino energy.
 - NOvA: beam peaks at 2 GeV and is delivered from Fermilab's NuMI.
- The difference in neutrino beam energy leads to qualitatively different neutrino interactions
 - T2K: primarily Quasi-Elastic and 2p2h interactions
 - NOvA: mix of Quasi-Elastic, 2p2h, Resonant and DIS interactions





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Baselines

- Larger matter effect for higher neutrino energy → higher sensitivity to mass ordering.
 - Therefore, associated asymmetry is higher for the longer baseline.

	T2K	NOvA
L (baseline)	295 km	810 km
Energy (beam peak)	0.6 GeV	2 GeV
Matter effect*	~ ±9%	~ ±19%
CP effect*	~ ±30%	~ ±25%
	*calculated at beam peak energy	
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Resolving degeneracies

- T2K measurements isolate impact of CP violation while NOvA has significant sensitivity to mass ordering.
- Joint analysis probes both spaces lifting degeneracies of individual experiments.





Joint Analysis Results





T2K Detectors



T2K's FD: Super Kamiokande (SK)



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- T2K employs different detector technologies for Near and Far detectors.
 - ND comprises a set of magnetized detectors employing particle tracking with plastic scintillator as the target material.
 - FD is the 50 kt Water Cherenkov Super Kamiokande detector.



Joint Analysis Results





Electron or muon PID discriminator

- Energy of the incoming neutrino is reconstructed from the lepton kinematics.
 - ND: Selection based on reconstructed muon track and number of pions CC1 μ 0 π , CC1 μ 1 π , CC1 μ N π
 - FD: Particles are identified by their Cherenkov rings and selections use exclusive topologies.



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NOvA Detectors

NOvA FD



- NOvA's ND and FD are functionally identical segmented liquid scintillator detectors.
 - ND: ~290 t and ~100 m underground
 - FD: ~14 kt and on the surface



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NOvA Detectors

- For both ND and FD, neutrino energy is estimated from a combination of lepton and hadronic components:
 - Muon energy is reconstructed via track length.
 - Calorimetric energy estimation is done separately for EM and hadronic clusters.
- NOvA event selection uses inclusive CC interactions for both ν_{μ} and ν_{e} channels.





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- T2K: Uncertainty on FD 1e-like ring v_e event rate goes from ~13% to ~5% after applying constraints from ND data fit
- NOvA: Systematic uncertainties in the FD $\rm v_e$ prediction from ~15% to ~4%



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- T2K: Leverages high-statistics ND data to constrain model parameters and uncertainties prior to oscillations, leading to significant anti-correlations between flux and cross-section.
- NOvA: Model and systematic parameters enter as a ratio of how they impact near vs far detector. This cancelation constraints the variations allowed by systematics, minimizing their correlations with oscillations and nuisance parameters.



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Constructing the NOvA-T2K joint analysis

Constructing the joint-analysis

- The joint-fit is constructed using:
 - Poisson likelihood from each experiment
 - Penalty terms from the systematics pull
 - External constraints on θ_{13} , θ_{12} , Δm_{21}^2 from solar and reactor neutrino experiments
- The other experiment's likelihoods are integrated via a containerized environment.
 - Both experiments can run each other's analysis through these containers.
 - Full access to Monte-Carlo and data.





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Constructing the joint-analysis

- Both T2K and NOvA have used their Bayesian Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) fitters.
- Both produce same output format:
 - Posterior densities and credible intervals for parameters-of-interest.
 - Bayes factor for discrete model preferences (ordering and octant).
- Independent implementation of the framework provided rigorous validation of the joint fit.



Red represents T2K codebase & blue shows NOvA codebase.



Joint Analysis Results





Challenge: When? What? How? to correlate common physics parameters between the two experiments.



Joint Analysis Results





Flux Model

 Challenge: When? What? How? to correlate common physics parameters between the two experiments.

Detector Model

- Strategy:
 - □ Is the overall impact negligible on the result?
 - □ Do we expect any correlations between the experiments?
 - $\hfill\square$ Is the impact of the correlations negligible on the result?

Cross Section Model



Joint Analysis Results





- Different energies
- Different tuning to external data
 - thin target vs thick target data
- Enters the analysis differently

No significant correlations between the experiments



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Flux Model

- Different energies
- Different tuning to external data
 - thin target vs thick target data
- Enters the analysis differently

No significant correlations between the experiments

- Different detector design and targets
- Different selections
 - inclusive vs exclusive outgoing pions
- Different energy reconstruction
 - calorimetric vs lepton kinematics

- Explored possible correlations
- between leptonic energy scales; pion and neutron secondary interactions



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Flux Model

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Detector Model

Flux Model

Joint Analysis Results

Flux Model	 Different energies Different tuning to external data thin target vs thick target data Enters the analysis differently]	No significant correlations between the experiments
Detector Model	 Different detector design and targets Different selections inclusive vs exclusive outgoing pions Different energy reconstruction calorimetric vs lepton kinematics]	No significant correlations between the experiments
Cross Section Model	 As the underlying physics is fundamentative the same, we expect correlations Different neutrino interaction models optimized for different energy ranges Systematics are designed for individual models and analysis strategies 		Investigate the impact of models and correlations on the joint analysis

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NOVA

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Cross-section: Impact of correlations

- Challenge: No direct mapping between the cross-section systematics parameters
 - Exception: Uncertainties in v_e / v_μ and $\overline{v}_e / \overline{v}_\mu$ crosssection have identical origin^{*} and similar treatment
 - Fully correlated in the joint fit.

*Phys. Rev. D 86, 053003



Joint Analysis Results





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- Strategy: Explore a range of artificially crafted scenarios to bracket the impact of possible correlations.

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Joint Analysis Results





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 - Exception: Uncertainties in v_e / v_μ and $\overline{v}_e / \overline{v}_\mu$ crosssection have identical origin* and similar treatment
 - Fully correlated in the joint fit.
- Strategy: Explore a range of artificially crafted scenarios to bracket the impact of possible correlations
 - Example: Fabricated systematics equal in size to total statistical uncertainty, causing a correlated bias in the oscillation dip across both experiments.
 - Uncorrelated and correctly correlated (full correlation) credible intervals agree with negligible differences, while incorrectly correlating systematics shows a bias.

*Phys. Rev. D 86, 053003



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Cross-section: Impact of alternate models

*Phys. Rev. D 100, 072005 (2019)

- Evaluate the robustness of the fit against various alternate models
- Generated simulated fake data using reweighting to alternate models for both the near and far detector, then analyze the credible intervals of the full joint-fit
- Pre-decided thresholds for bias:
 - Change in the width of the 1D intervals <10%</p>
 - Change in central value < 50% of systematic</p> uncertainty



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Cross-section: Impact of alternate models

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- Example: Suppression in single pion channel based on the tune to the MINERvA data*
- Additional tests:
 - Cross-experiment models after the ND constraint
 - Impact of alternative nuclear response model: HF-CRPA**
 - Full list available in backup
- No alternate model tests failed the preset threshold bias criteria.
 *Phys. Rev. D 100, 072005 (2019)

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Flux Model	 Different energies Different tuning to external data thin target vs thick target data Enters the analysis differently 	No significant correlations between the experiments
Detector Model	 Different detector design and targets Different selections inclusive vs exclusive outgoing pions Different energy reconstruction calorimetric vs lepton kinematics 	No significant correlations between the experiments
Cross Section Model	 As the underlying physics is fundamentally the same, we expect correlations Different neutrino interaction models optimized for different energy ranges Systematics are designed for individual models and analysis strategies 	 Impact of correlations is negligible on the results at the current statistical significance. Merits continued investigations for higher data exposures.



Joint Analysis Results

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Why NOvA-T2K joint fit?

- The complementarity between the experiments provides the power to **break degeneracies**.
- Full implementation of:



Energy reconstruction and detector response

Detailed likelihood from each experiment

Consistent statistical inference across the full dimensionality

In-depth review of:



Models, systematic uncertainties and possible correlations



Different analysis approaches driven by contrasting detector designs.



Results from NOvA and T2K from 2020 datasets



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Data Results

FD Data Samples

- The joint-fit uses the data collected by each experiment up until 2020.
- Using both experiments data roughly doubles the total statistics at the far detectors.

Channel	NOvA	T2K
v_{e}	82	94 (ν _e) 14 (ν _e 1π)
$\overline{\nu}_{e}$	33	16
$ u_{\mu}$	211	318
$\overline{ u}_{\mu}$	105	137

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Compatibility of datasets

- Posterior predictive p-values (PPP)*
 - Compare likelihood best fit to data and fluctuated predictions
 - A good PPP is around 0.5
- The data from both experiments is described well by the joint fit.

Channel	NOvA	T2K	Combined
v _e	0.90	0.19 (ν _e) 0.79 (ν _e 1π)	0.62
$\overline{\nu}_{e}$	0.21	0.67	0.40
$ u_{\mu}$	0.68	0.48	0.62
$\overline{ u}_{\mu}$	0.38	0.87	0.72
Total	0.64	0.72	0.75
posterior predictive p-value			
Statistica Sinica, vol.	<u>6, no. 4, 1996, pp. 73</u>	<u>33–60. JSTOR</u>	

Joint Analysis Results



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T2K	Joint A	nalysis Results	Zoya V



Mixing angles: $\theta_{23} \& \theta_{13}$

 Without any external constraint from reactor experiments, long-baseline measurements have a degeneracy in sin² θ₂₃ and sin² 2θ₁₃ parameters.





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Mixing angles: $\theta_{23} \& \theta_{13}$

 Without any external constraint from reactor experiments, long-baseline measurements have a degeneracy in sin² θ₂₃ and sin² 2θ₁₃ parameters.

• Using the average constraint on $\sin^2 2\theta_{13} = 0.085 \pm 0.0027$ [PDG 2020], restricts us to a narrow posterior in θ_{13} and lifts this degeneracy.

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Mixing angles: $\theta_{23} \& \theta_{13}$

- Modest preference for lower octant from the joint-analysis.
- This preference shifts to a small preference for the upper octant when

the reactor constraint on θ_{13} is applied.





Δm^2_{32} and $\sin^2 \theta_{23}$

- Marginalizing over each mass ordering, we note a small but distinct difference in the $\sin^2 \theta_{23}$ and Δm_{32}^2 phase space.
- Measurements remain consistent with the maximal mixing hypothesis for θ_{23} mixing angle.



Mass Ordering





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CP Violation

- For both mass orderings, $\delta_{CP} = \pi/2$ lies outside 3-sigma credible interval.
- Normal Ordering allows for a broad range of permissible δ_{CP}
- For the Inverted Ordering, CP conserving values of δ_{CP} (0, π) lie outside the 3-sigma credible interval.





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CP Violation: Jarlskog

 Jarlskog-invariant is a parameterization independent way^{*} to measure CP violation.

 $J = \sin \theta_{13} \cos^2 \theta_{13} \sin \theta_{12} \cos \theta_{12} \sin \theta_{23} \cos \theta_{23} \sin \delta_{CP}$

J=0: CP-Conservation $J \neq 0$: CP-Violation

- For Normal Ordering, a considerably wider range of probable values for J
- J = 0 lies outside the 3σ interval for the **Inverted Ordering**
 - for priors that are both uniform in δ_{CP} and uniform in sin δ_{CP}



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Comparisons

Comparison with NOvA-only & T2K-only fits

The joint-fit splits the difference in the Normal Ordering where the individual experiments preferred differing phase-spaces and provides tighter constraint in the Inverted Ordering where there was good agreement between NOvA-only and T2K-only fits.

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Comparison with **NOvA-only** & T2K-only fits

- The 1D posterior in Δm_{32}^2 highlights the switch in the mass ordering preference when NOvA and T2K are combined.
- The joint-fit enhances the precision of Δm_{32}^2 over individual experiments.

Bayes factor

Global Comparisons - δ_{CP}

- The δ_{CP} measurements are consistent across all experiments and their combinations.
- The uncertainty on δ_{CP} remains large.

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Global Comparisons – θ_{13}

- Daya Bay leads the precision on the measurement of θ₁₃ with 2.8% uncertainty.
- Overall, the long-baseline measurements are consistent with reactor experiments, with larger consistency in the normal ordering than the inverted ordering.

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Global Comparisons - Δm_{32}^2

• This analysis has the smallest uncertainty on $|\Delta m_{32}^2|$ as compared to other previous measurements.

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Joint Analysis Results

NOvA+T2K+Daya Bay

- Enhanced precision in Δm_{32}^2 presents a "new" lever on measuring neutrino mass-ordering*.
- In the true mass ordering, reactor and longbaseline measurements of Δm_{32}^2 would be consistent but in the incorrect mass ordering would be wrong by different amounts.

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NOvA+T2K+DayaBay

- Including the Δm²₃₂ constraint from the Daya Bay*, reverse the mass ordering preference back to the Normal Ordering.
- Overall, this analysis does not show a significant preference for either mass ordering.

*Phys. Rev. Lett. 130, 161802, 2023

Summary & Outlook

Summary

- The joint analysis of NOvA and T2K demonstrates simultaneous compatibility with both datasets.
- The constraint on θ_{13} from reactor experiments resolves the degeneracy in the measurement of θ_{23} and θ_{13} , shifting the octant preference from lower to upper.
- The joint analysis shows:
 - Very strong constraint on $|\Delta m_{32}^2|$.
 - Mass Ordering preference remains inconclusive.
 - Small preference for the Inverted Ordering in the joint fit whereas individual experiments prefer Normal Ordering.
 - Reverts to a weak preference for Normal ordering on adding simultaneous constraint on $|\Delta m_{32}^2|$ and $\sin^2 2\theta_{13}$ from Daya Bay.
 - $\delta_{CP} = \pi/2$ lies outside 3-sigma credible interval for both mass ordering.
 - Normal ordering permits a wide range of permissible δ_{CP}, while CP conserving values for the Inverted Ordering fall outside the 3-sigma range.
 - Similar conclusions for Jarlskog.

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Outlook

- Both experiments continue to collect high quality data and improve their analyses -
 - Data collected by both experiments is expected to double before the end of their operational lifetimes.
 - Updated interaction models, detector response, and new data samples to better constraint systematic uncertainties are being incorporated for both experiments.
- This has been a productive process -
 - Active collaboration and knowledge sharing between the experiments.
 - Mutual exchange of information has resulted in a deeper understanding of the analyses conducted by both groups.
- We are actively exploring the scope and timeline for the next steps to take this work forward!

Joint Analysis Results

