


Neutrinos from the Heavens & the Earth




Neutrinos from the Heavens & the Earth

J.A. Formaggio

MIT

Fermilab Neutrino
Summer School

A dramatic space scene featuring the Earth's horizon. The Earth is shown as a curved, blue and white sphere, with the sun or a bright star rising directly behind it, creating a powerful lens flare effect that radiates across the entire frame. The background is a deep, dark blue space filled with numerous fine, light blue lines that suggest a vast, dynamic universe.

What we will cover:



What we will cover:

Where do neutrinos come from?



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Neutrinos from the Heavens



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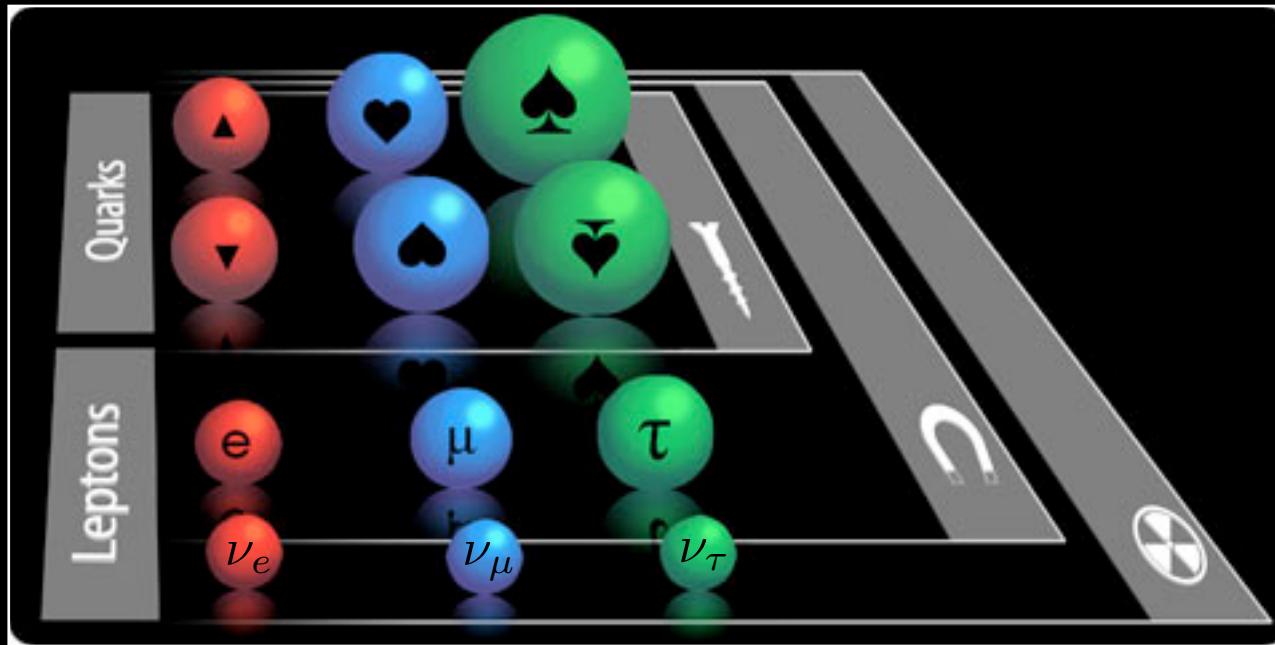
Neutrinos from Man

Where do neutrinos
come from...?

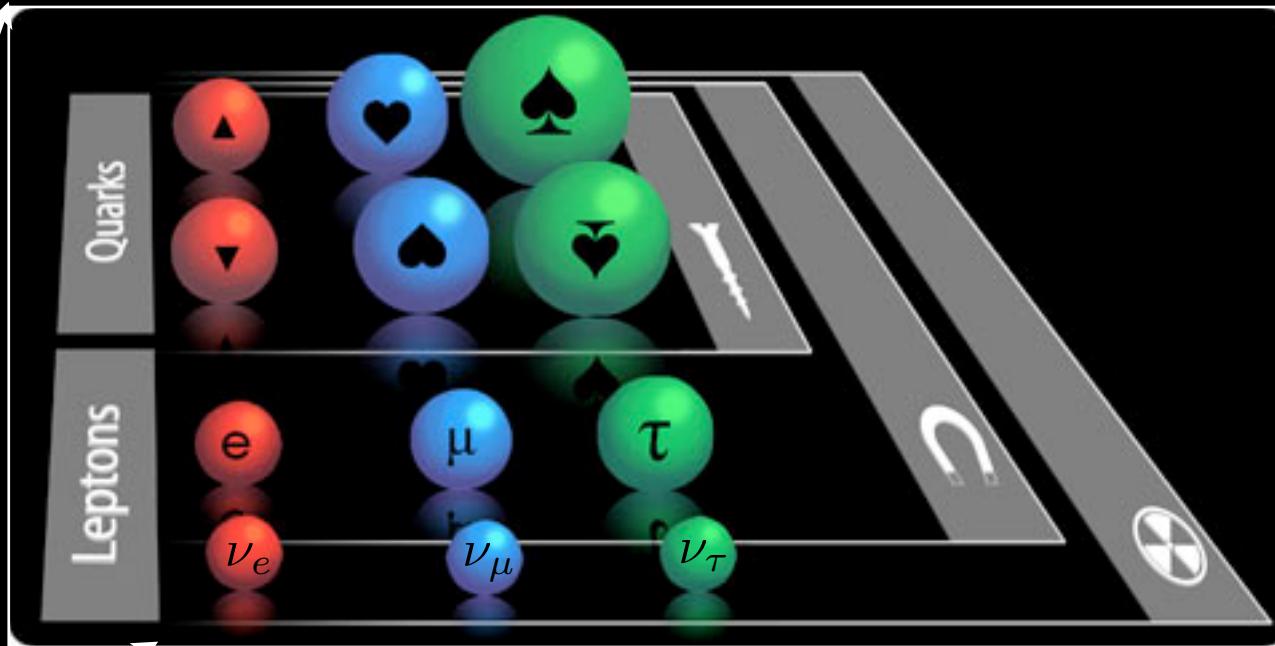


Within the
Framework

Within the Framework

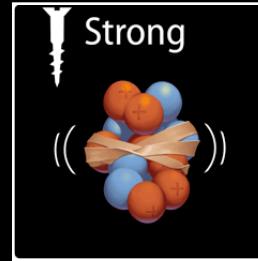


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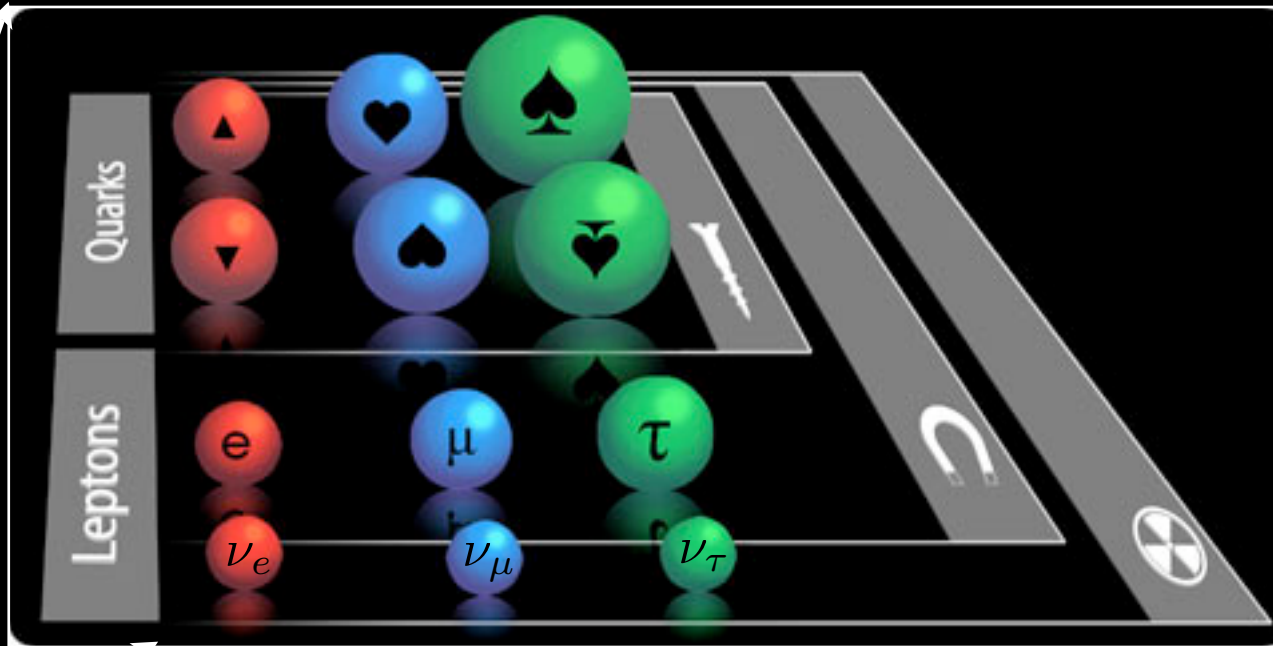


Spin 1/2

Within the Framework

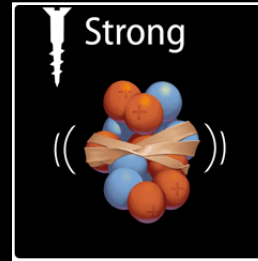


Binds nucleii;
mediated by gluons;
only couples to quarks

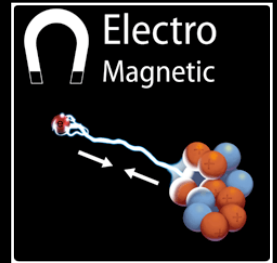


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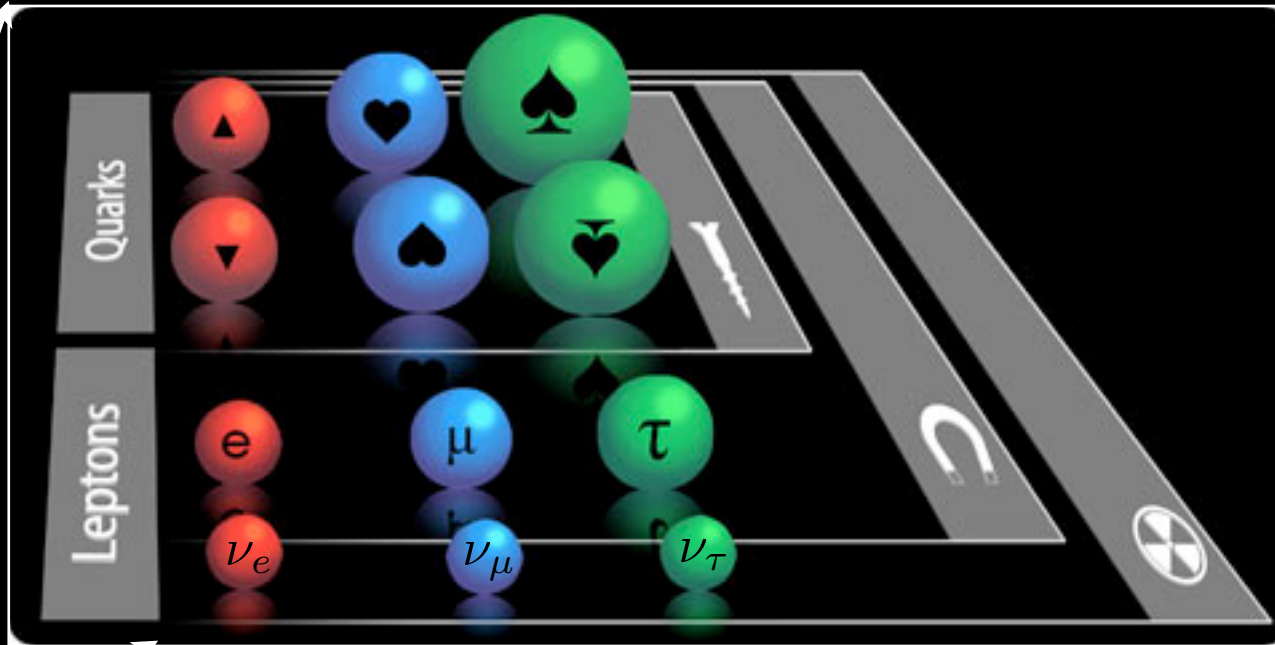
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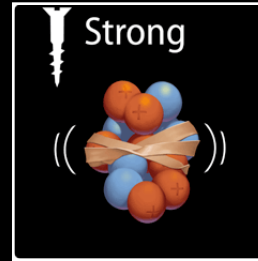


Couples to charge;
mediated by photons;
felt by quarks and leptons

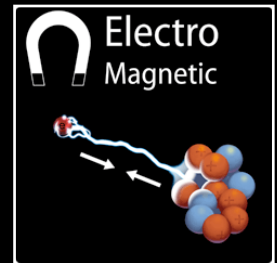


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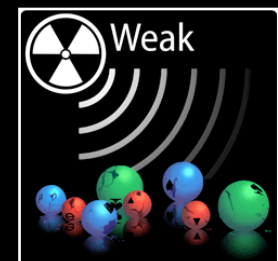
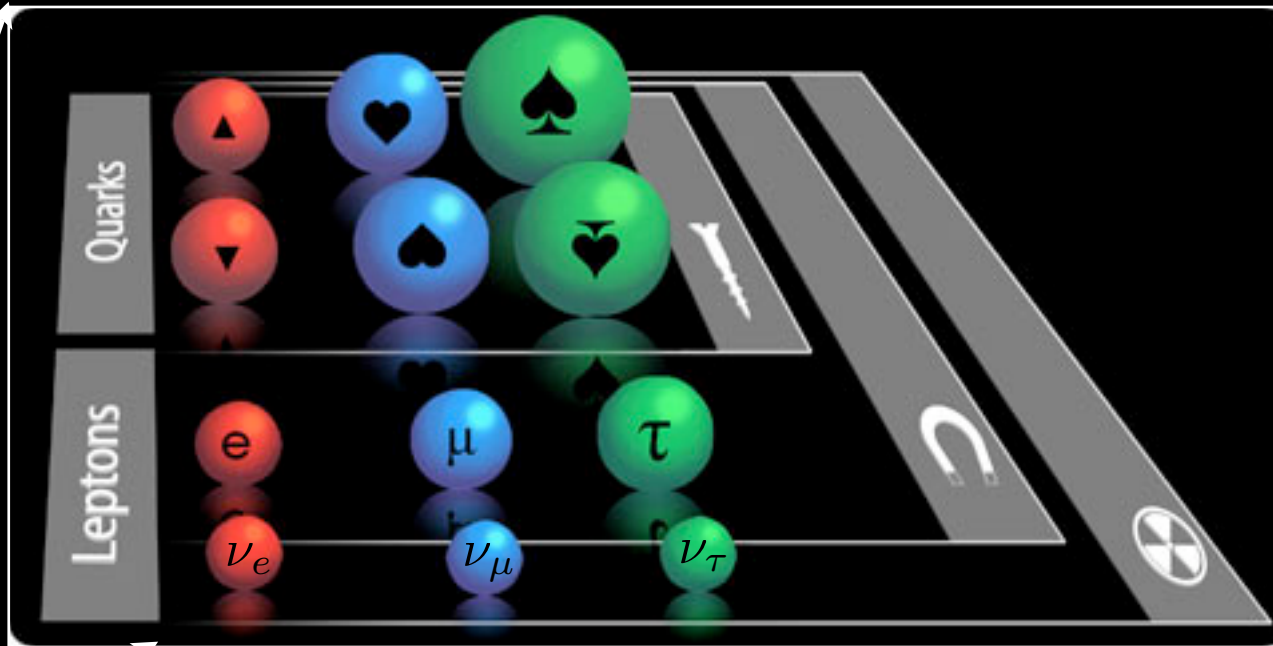
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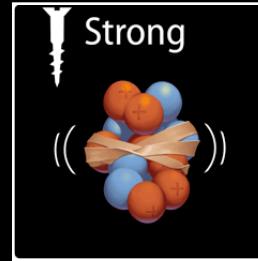
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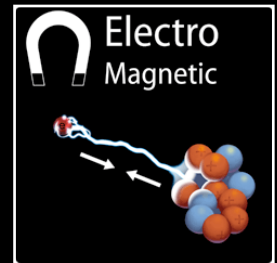
Common to all particles;
mediated by the W^{\pm}/Z^0 bosons.

Spin 1/2

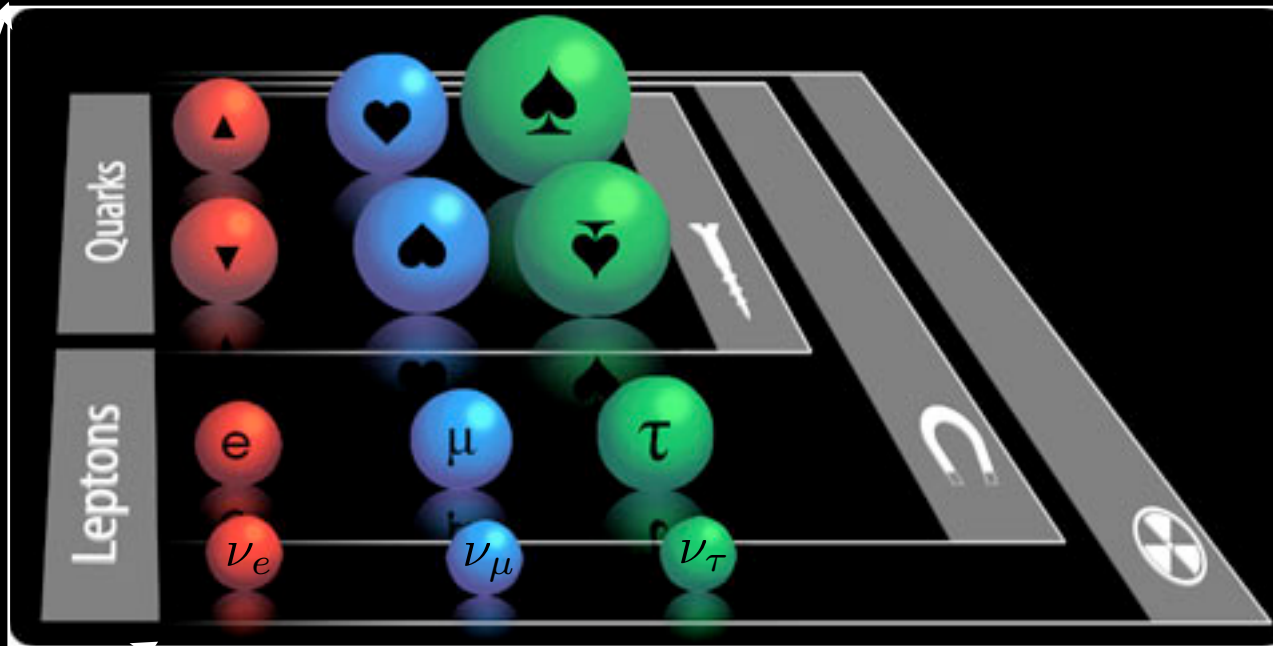
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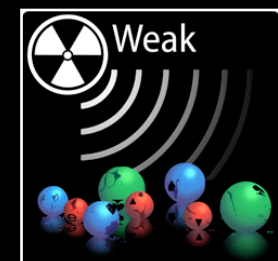
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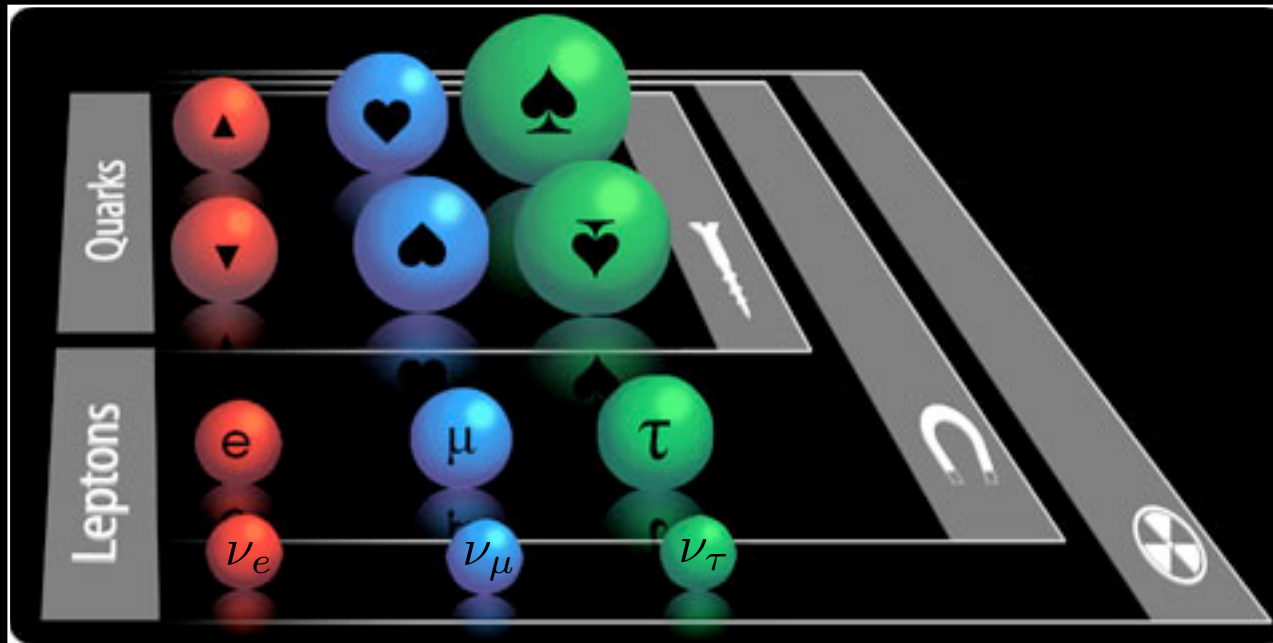
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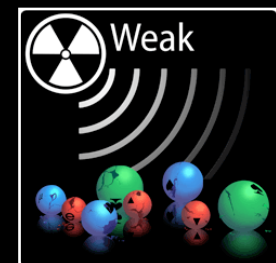
Limited Interactions

Unlike all the other particles, neutrinos can only interact via with the weak force.

The number of interactions, therefore, is quite limited.



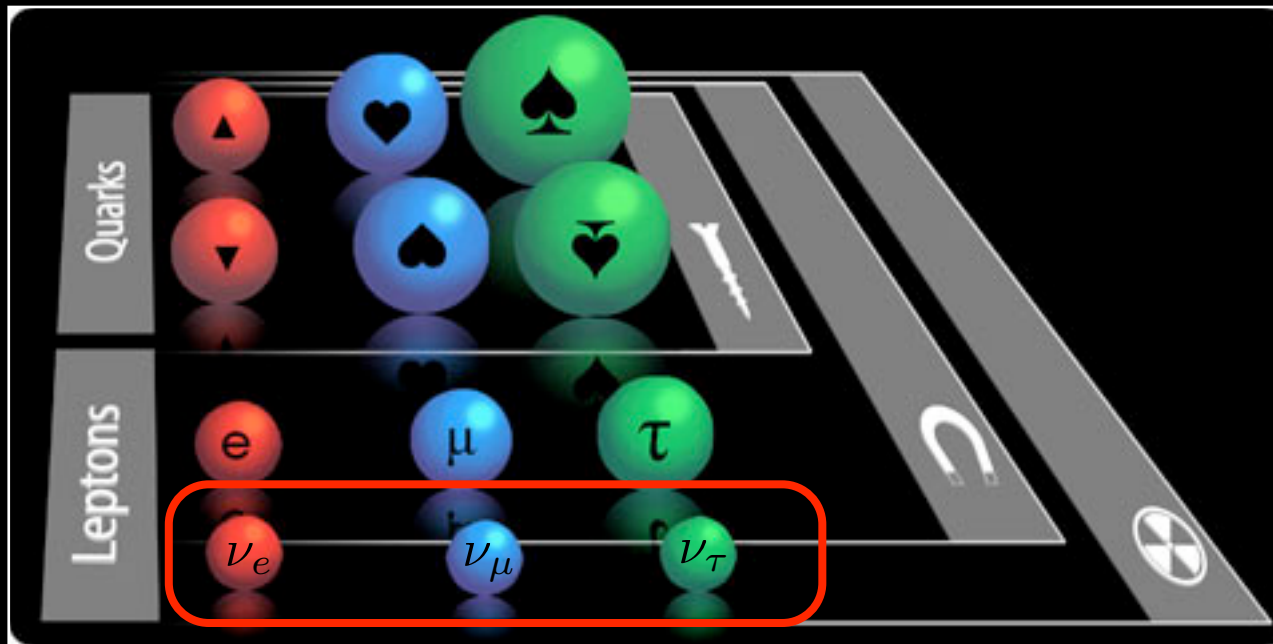
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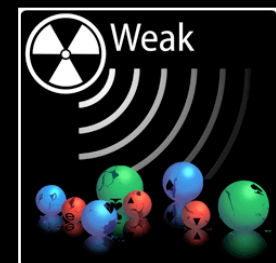
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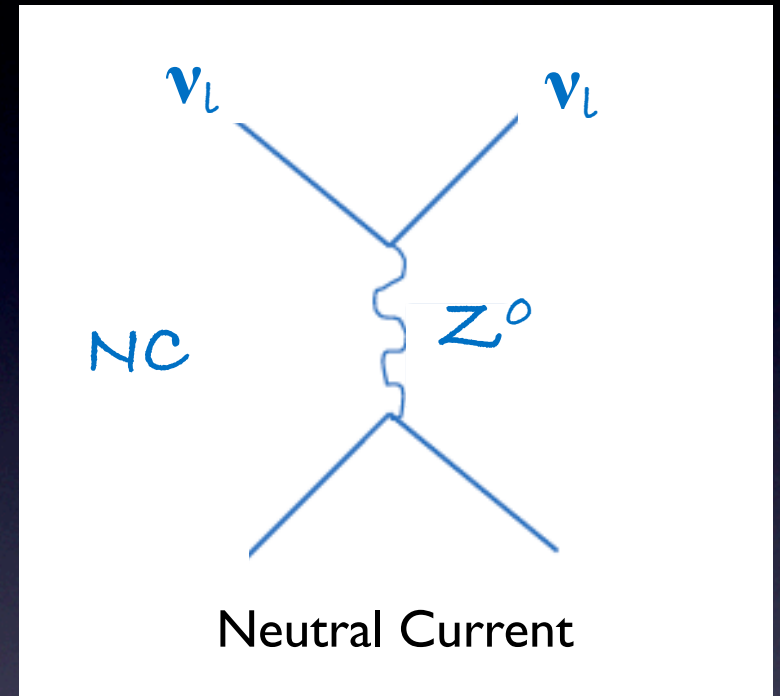
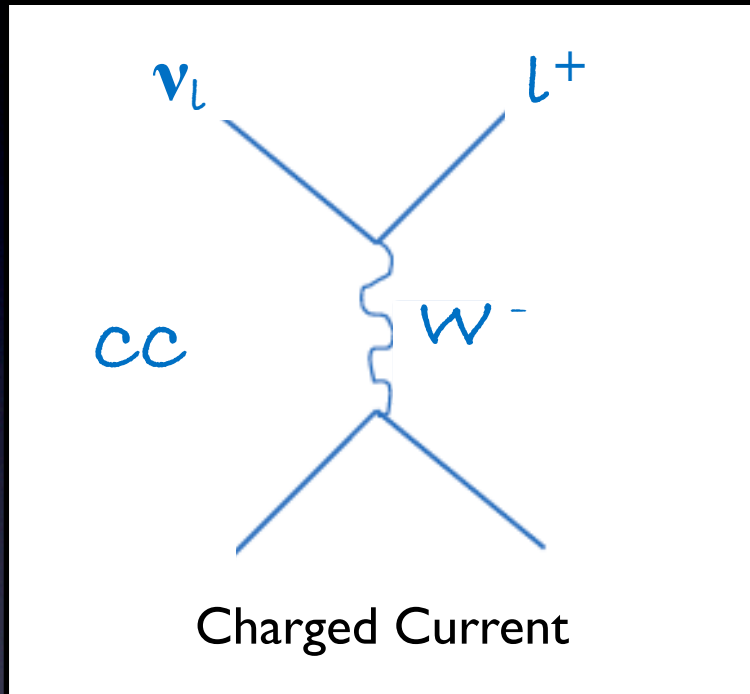
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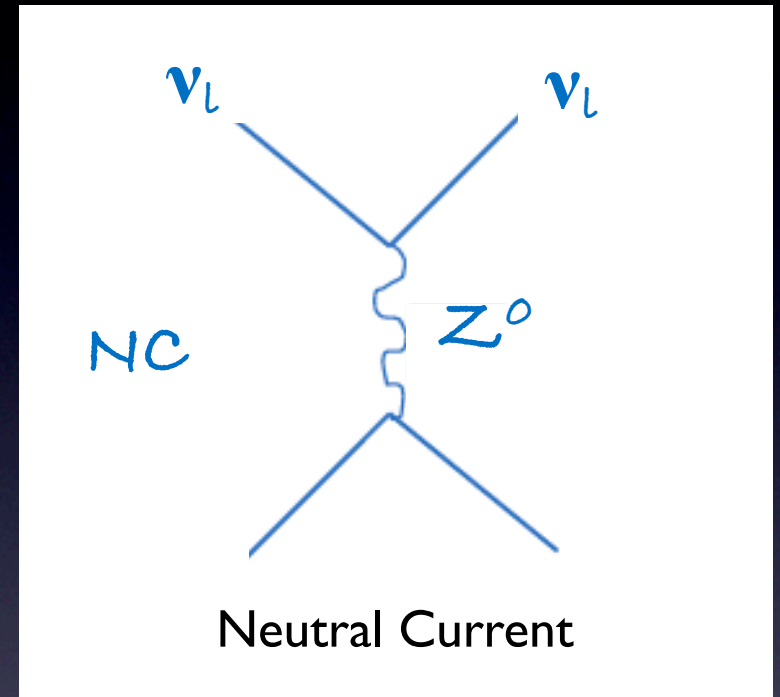
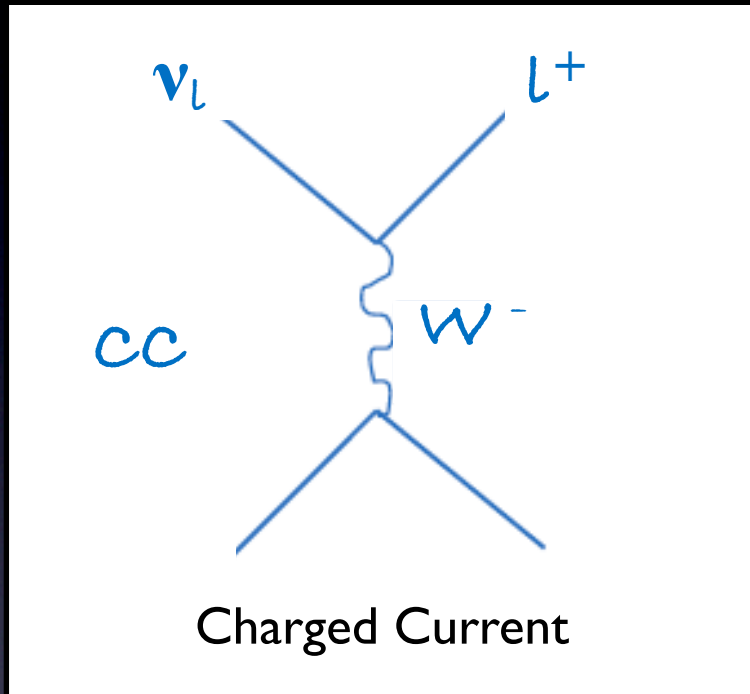


Two Basic Interactions



Most interactions are limited to two basic type of interactions:

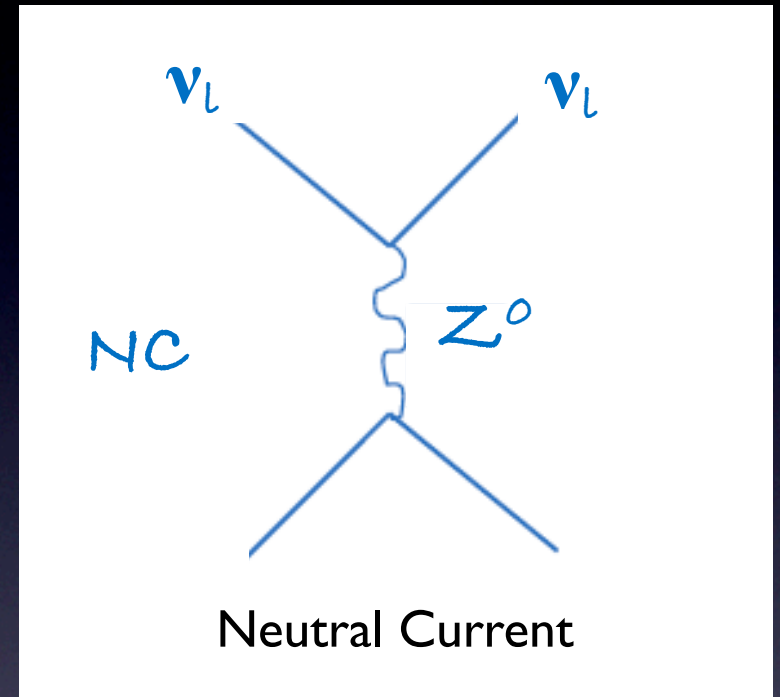
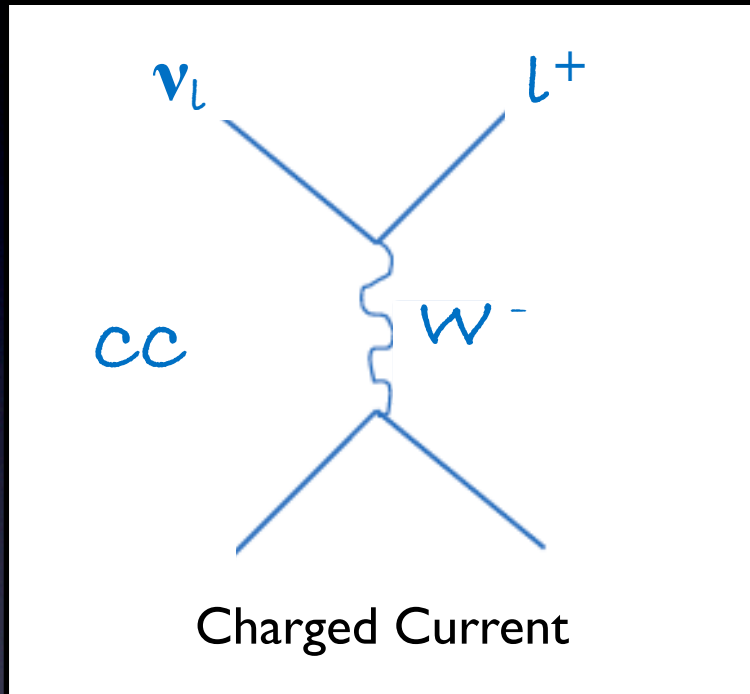
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A charge W^\pm is exchanged: **Charged Current Exchange**

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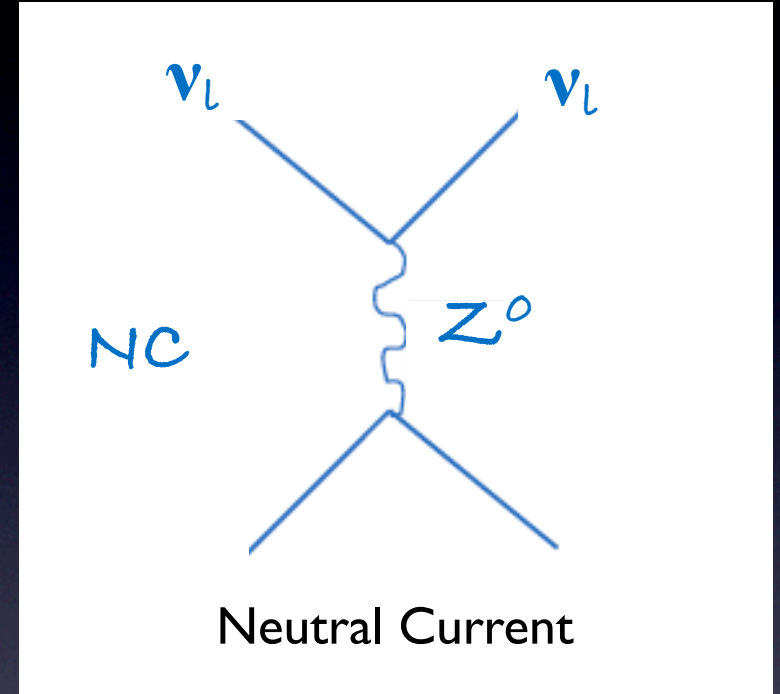
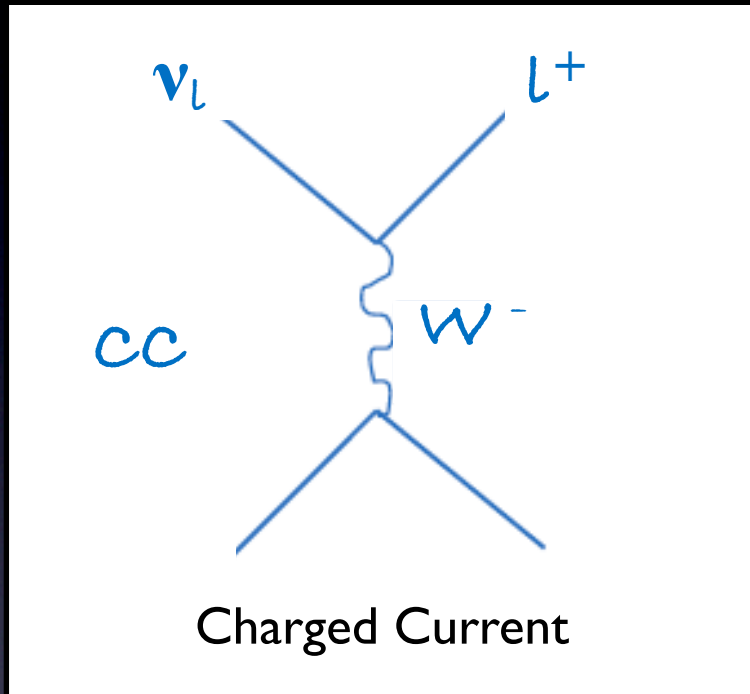


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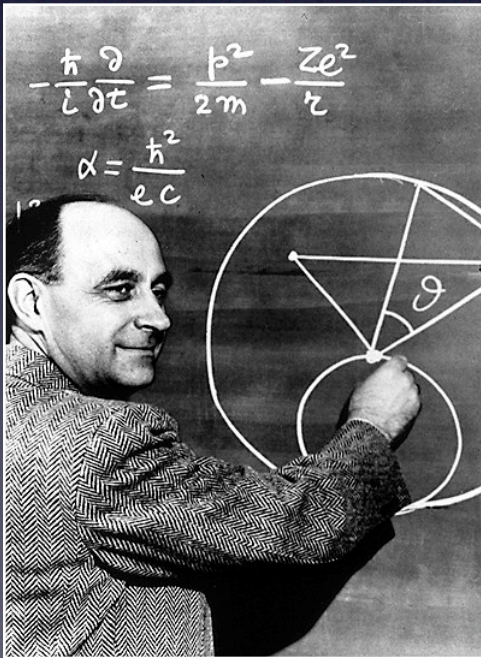
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All neutrino reactions involve some version of these two exchanges.

How Neutrinos Interact

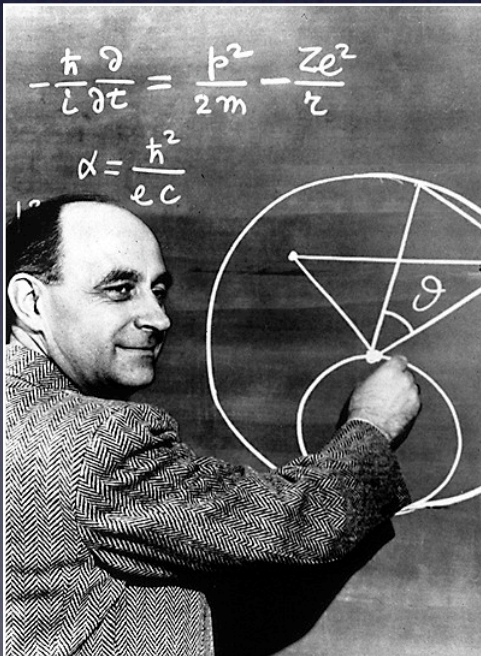
- If we are to consider sources of neutrinos, it is important to review how neutrinos interact with the other particles in the Standard Model.
- Consider the first model of the weak interaction, as proposed by Fermi:



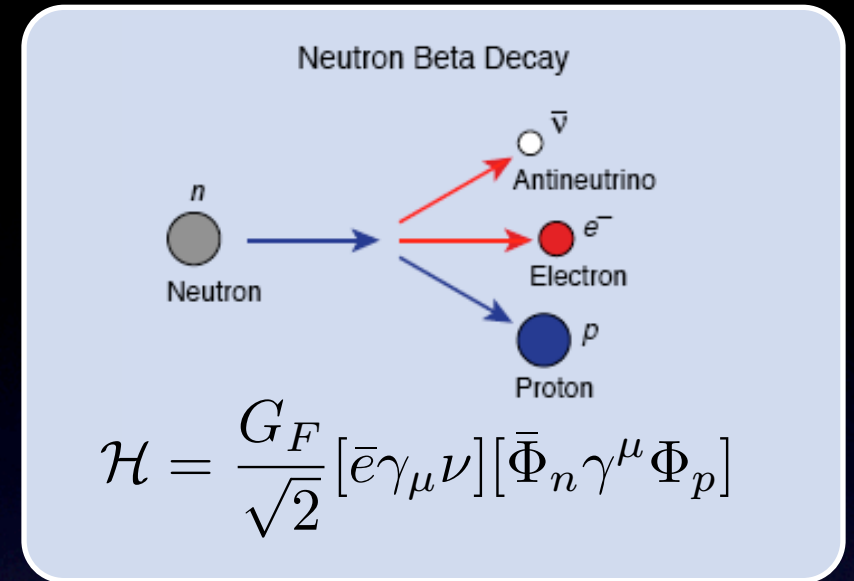
E. Fermi

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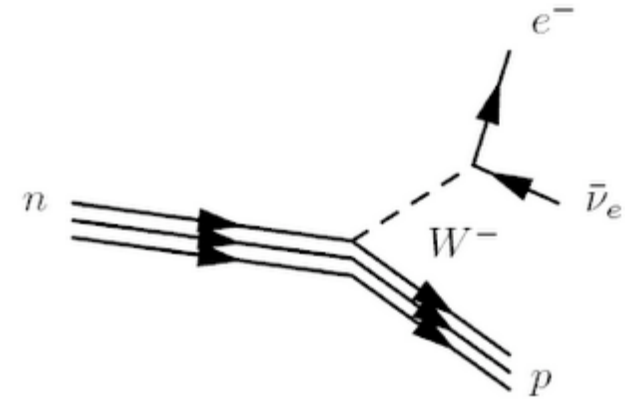


- Here, the theory describes a 4-point interaction (current-current model).
- The system does not have many of the features of the Standard Model, yet still remarkably descriptive.

The strength of the interaction is governed by the fermi constant, G_F

Present-Day Models

- In the Standard Model, the theory is not just a vector theory (like electromagnetism), but has both vector and axial vector components.
- The SM does not treat left-handed and right-handed particles the same!



$$\mathcal{H} = \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} [\bar{e} \gamma_\mu (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_e] [\bar{\Phi}_n \gamma^\mu (V - A \gamma_5) \Phi_p]$$

Note the presence of both **vector (V)** and **axial vector (A)** terms.



Sheldon Glashow, Abdus Salam, and Steven Weinberg sharing the Nobel Prize, 1979

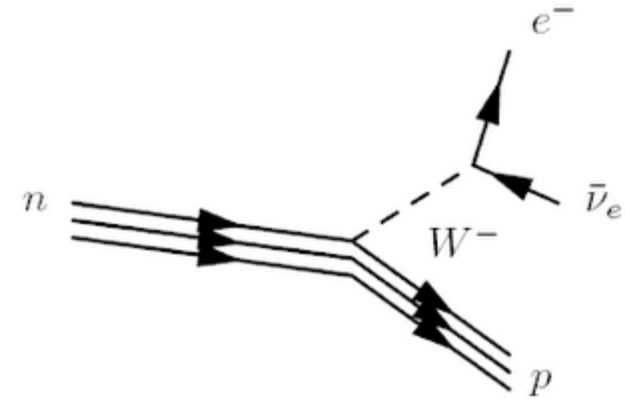
The strength of the interaction is *still* governed by the fermi constant, G_F

A Misnomer

- Consider now the propagator, which is a heavy gauge boson.
- For (massive) gauge bosons, the propagator is dominated by the mass of the exchange particle...

$$\frac{g_W^2}{q^2 - M_W^2}$$

- Even if g_W is the same order as the electromagnetic coupling, the mass of the W-boson makes it extremely small.



$$\mathcal{H} = \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} [\bar{e} \gamma_\mu (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_e] [\bar{\Phi}_n \gamma^\mu (V - A \gamma_5) \Phi_p]$$

G_F is a small number...

$$G_F = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{8} \frac{g_W^2}{M_W^2} = 1.166 \times 10^{-5} \text{GeV}^{-2}$$

What Neutrinos do I Expect?

- The neutrinos that I would expect from a known source depends almost entirely on the energy (and type of matter) that is available for the reaction.
- If lepton flavor is conserved, then even the type of neutrino can be determined. However, neutrino oscillations clearly spoils this rule.

What Neutrinos do I Expect?

$E_\nu \sim \text{keV}$

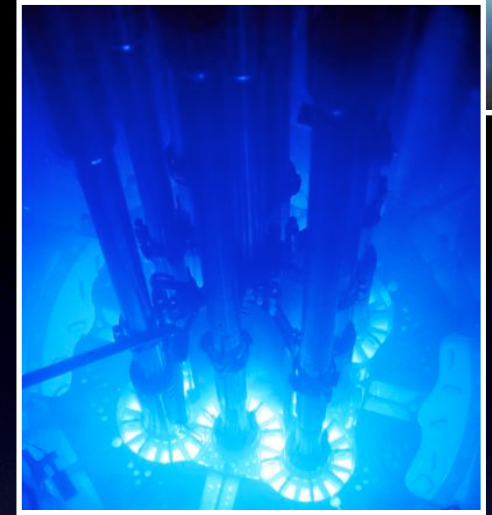


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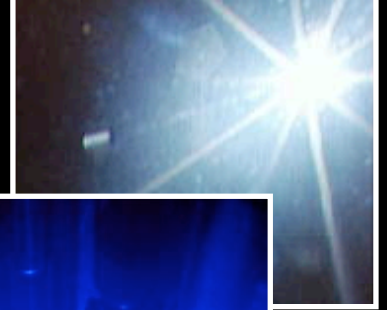
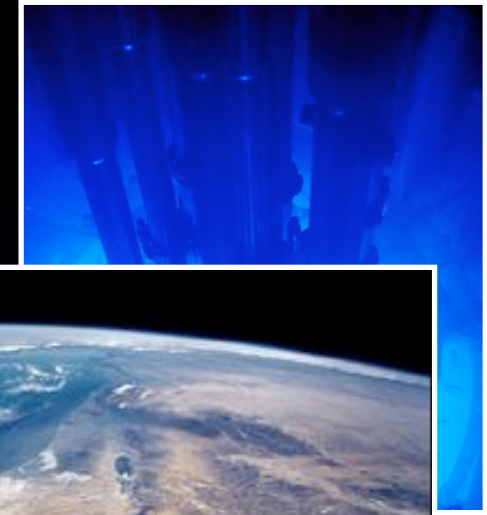
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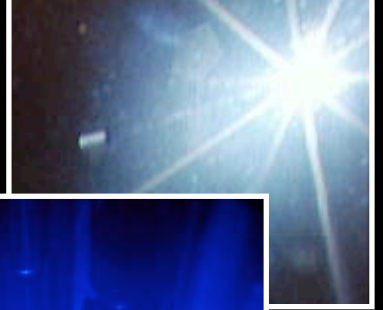
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$E_\nu \sim \text{GeV} - \text{TeV}$



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$E_\nu \gg \text{TeV}$



“...the ancient of days”
W. Blake

What we will cover:

Where do neutrinos come from?

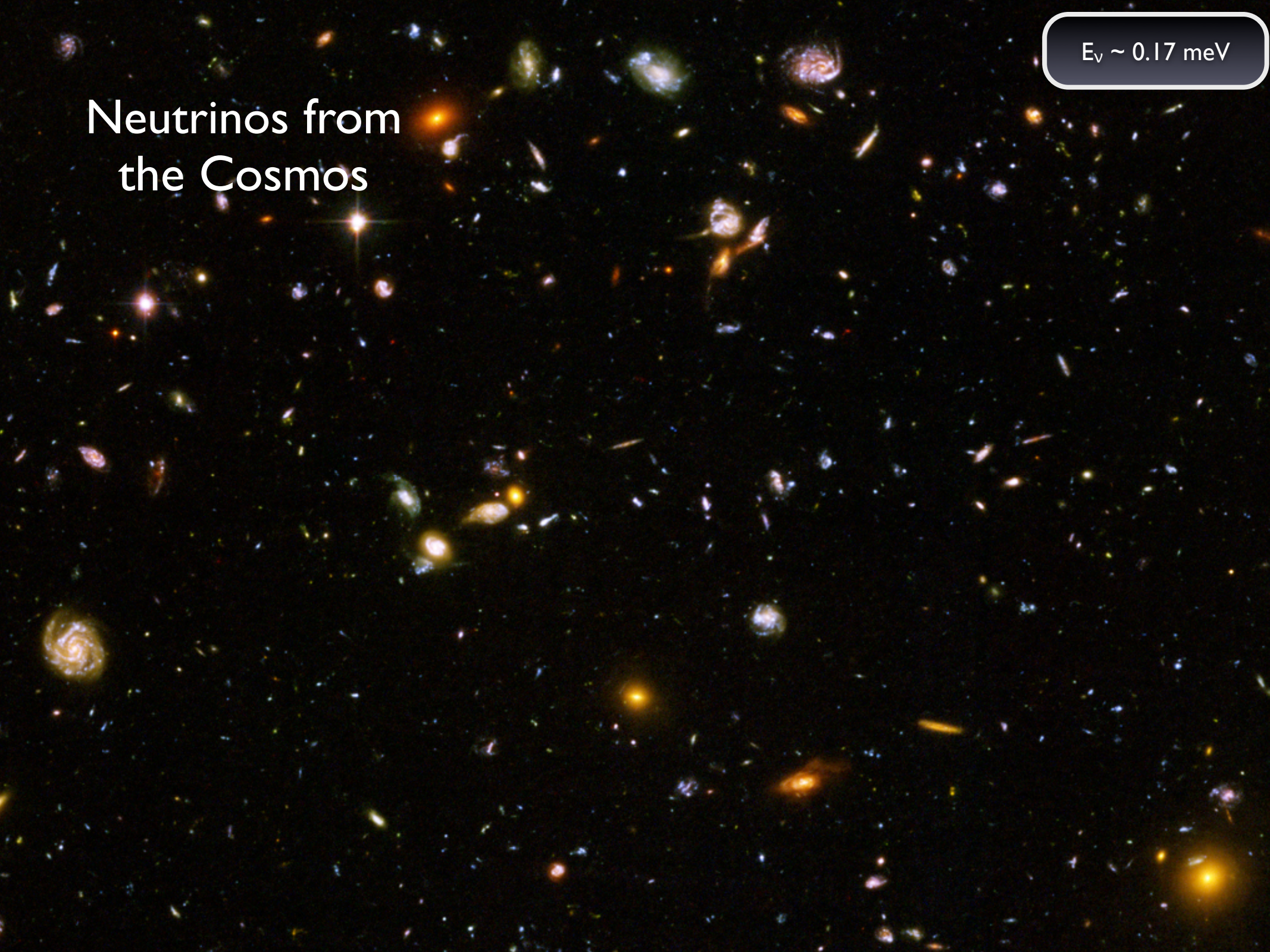
Neutrinos from the Heavens

Neutrinos from the Earth

Neutrinos from Man

$E_\nu \sim 0.17 \text{ meV}$

Neutrinos from the Cosmos



A deep-field astronomical image showing a vast field of galaxies and stars against a black background. The galaxies are of various shapes and sizes, some appearing as bright, colorful clouds of gas and dust, while others are more distant and faint. Stars appear as bright, point-like sources of light. The overall scene represents the large-scale structure of the universe.
$$E_\nu \sim 0.17 \text{ meV}$$

Neutrinos from the Cosmos

- Our understanding of the chronology of the cosmos is directly tied to knowing the existence of neutrinos and the role they play in the standard model.

The background of the slide is a deep-field astronomical image showing a vast number of galaxies at various distances and orientations. The galaxies appear as bright, colorful spots and streaks against a black background. In the top right corner, there is a dark rounded rectangle containing the text $E_\nu \sim 0.17 \text{ meV}$.
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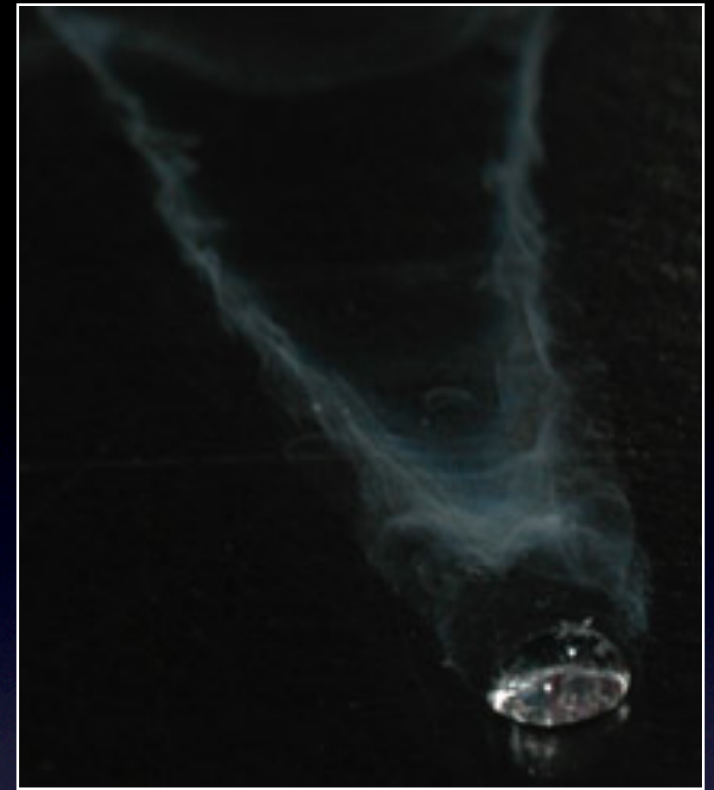
A deep-field astronomical image showing a vast field of galaxies, including spiral, elliptical, and irregular shapes, scattered across a dark cosmic background. Some galaxies are bright and clear, while others are faint and distant. The overall color palette is dominated by blues, greys, and whites, with some warmer tones from distant galaxies.
$$E_\nu \sim 0.17 \text{ meV}$$

Neutrinos from the Cosmos

- Our understanding of the chronology of the cosmos is directly tied to knowing the existence of neutrinos and the role they play in the standard model.
- Cosmology allows us to interpolate events ranging from ~ 1 second after the universe was born to today.

Neutrino Decoupling

- Inference about the existence of the relic neutrino background comes from knowledge of the primordial *photon* background.
- As the universe expands (cools), neutrinos transition from a state where they are in thermal equilibrium with electrons, to one where they are decoupled from them.
- Standard model yields predictions for this decoupling temperature.



Neutrino decoupling occurs when two rates are equal.

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$$\Gamma = \langle \sigma n v \rangle \simeq \frac{16G_F^2}{\pi^3} (g_L^2 + g_R^2) T^5$$

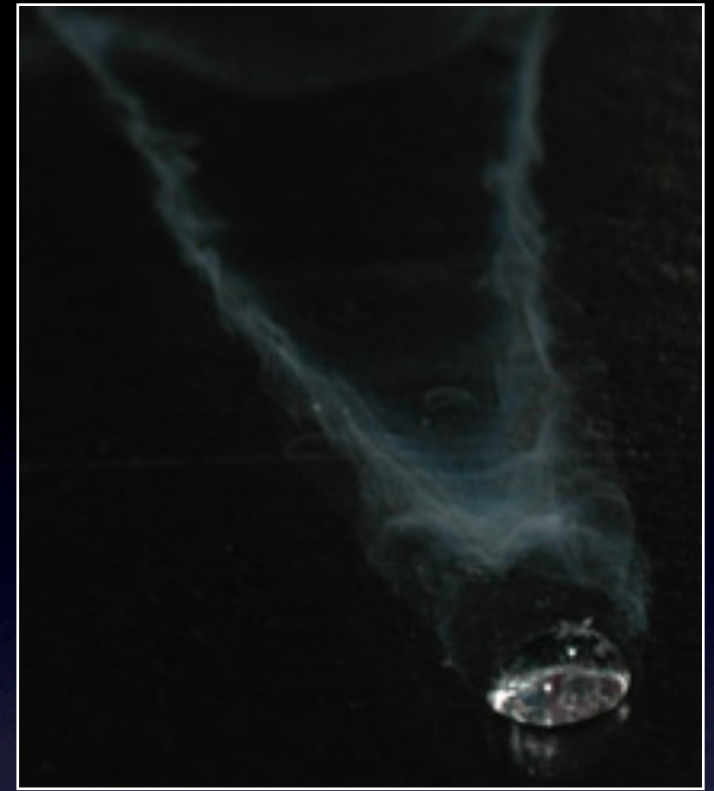
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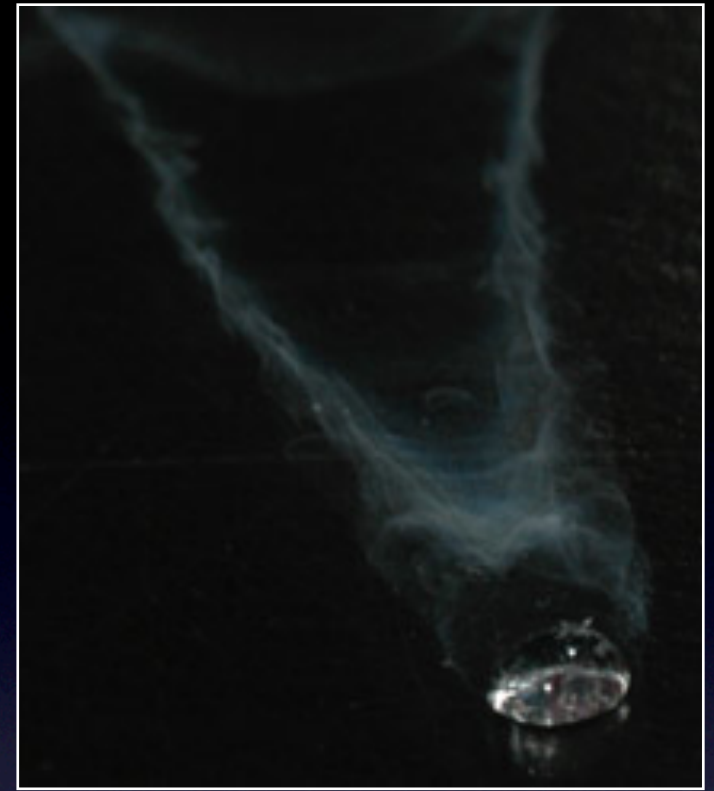
Annihilation Rate

$$H(t) = 1.66g_*^{1/2} \frac{T^2}{m_{\text{Planck}}}$$

Expansion Rate

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Neutrino decoupling occurs when two rates are equal.

$$T_D(\nu_e) \simeq 2.4 \text{ MeV}$$

$$T_D(\nu_{\mu,\tau}) \simeq 3.7 \text{ MeV}$$

$$\Gamma = \langle \sigma n v \rangle \simeq \frac{16G_F^2}{\pi^3} (g_L^2 + g_R^2) T^5$$

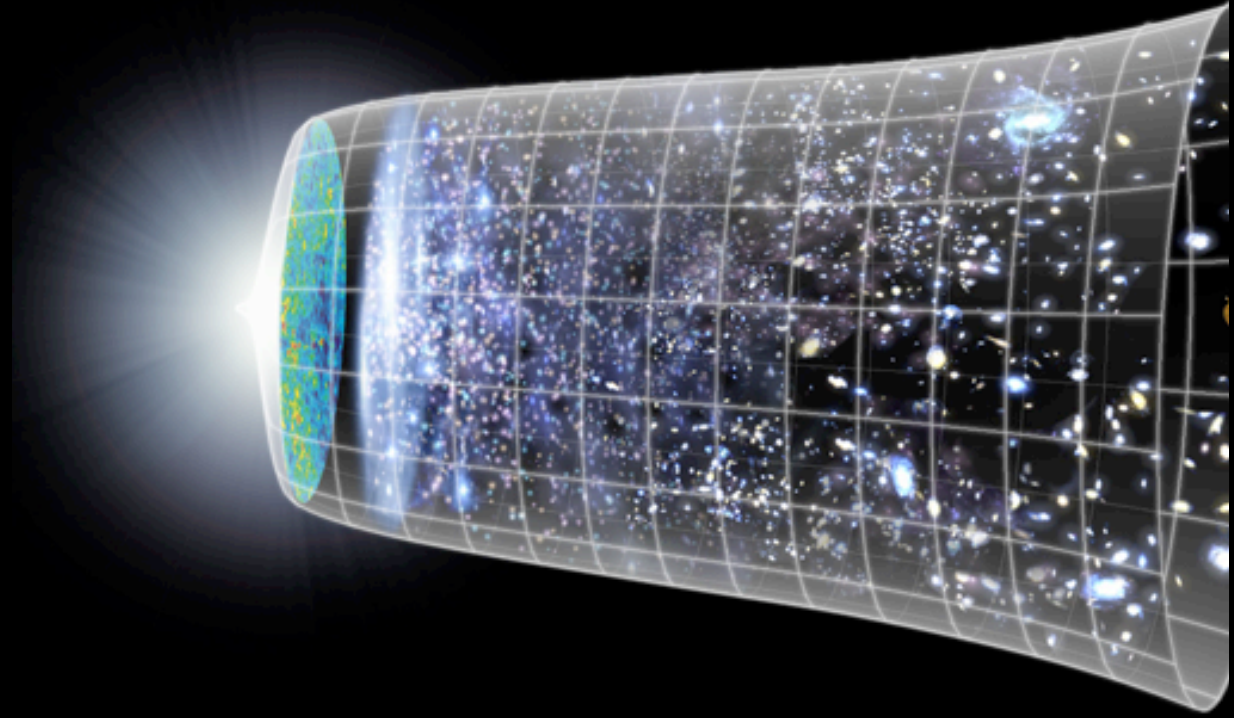
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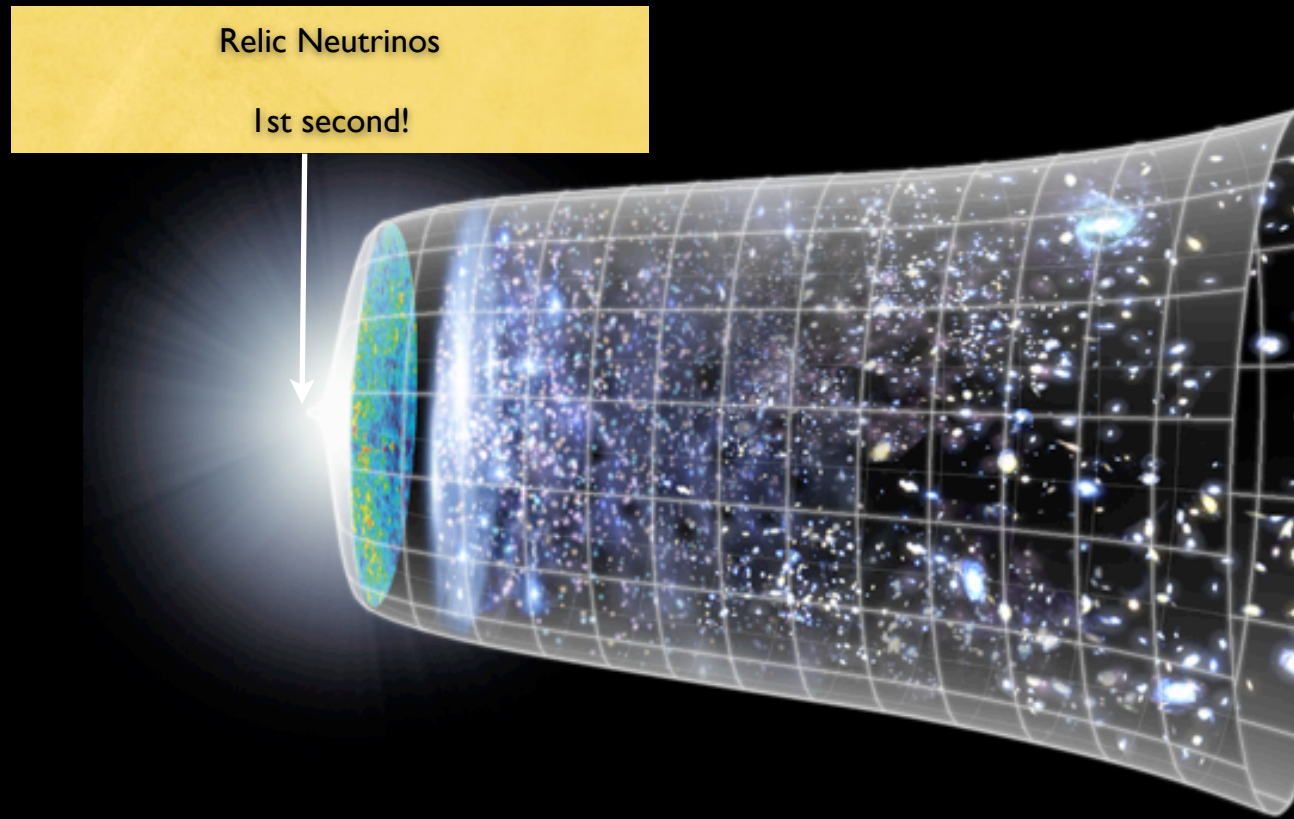
Neutrinos Today

- The presence of neutrinos have a vast impact on our understanding of the universe's chronology.
- Precision cosmology can now look at the consistency of the theory across different epochs. Neutrinos play a role across each of these phases.



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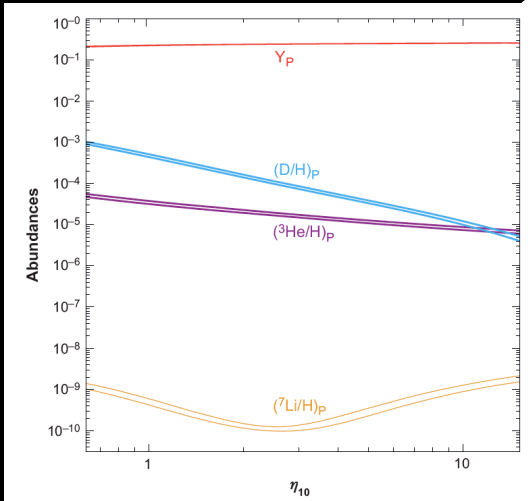
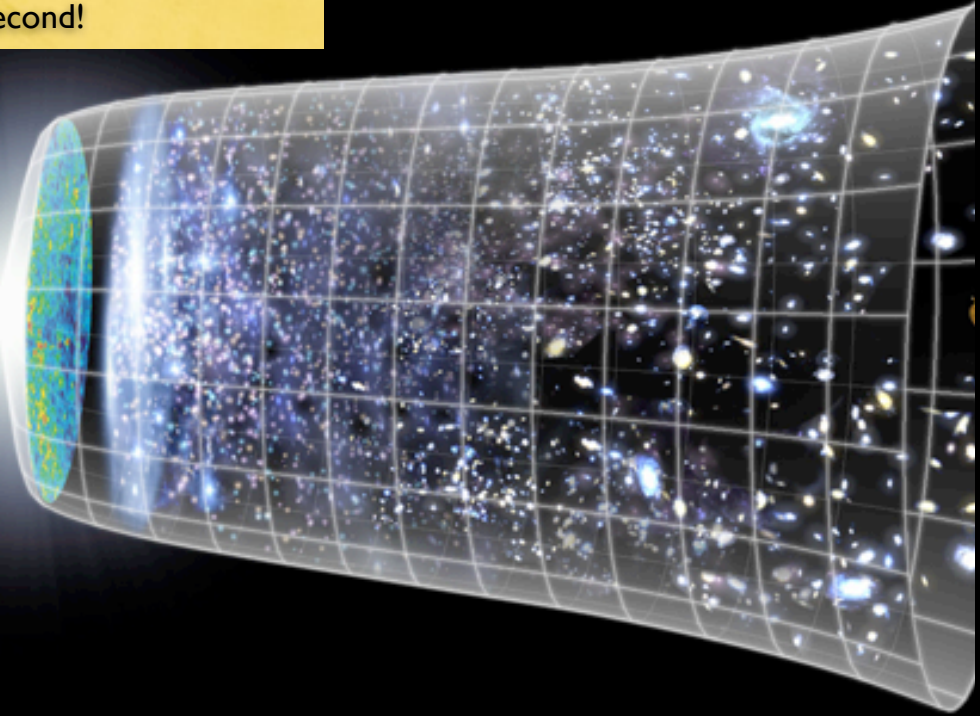


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Relic Neutrinos

1st second!



Primordial Nucleosynthesis

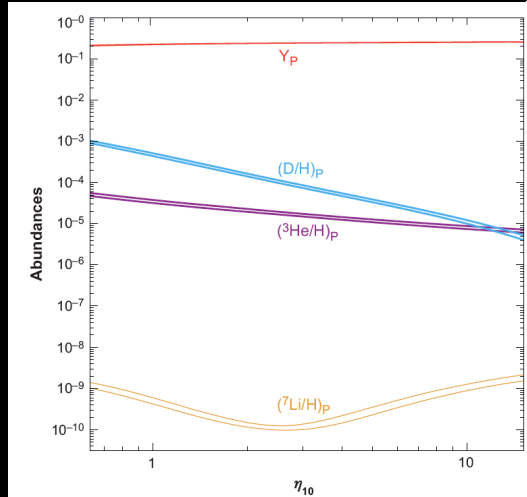
1st few minutes

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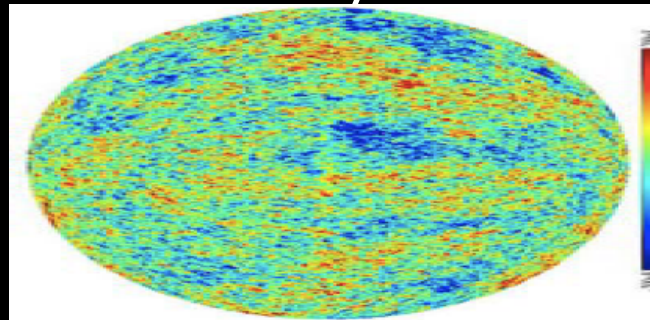
Relic Neutrinos

1st second!



Primordial Nucleosynthesis

1st few minutes



Cosmic Microwave Background

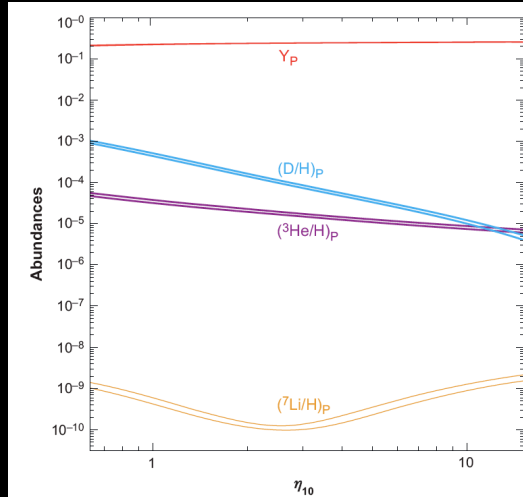
400 kyrs

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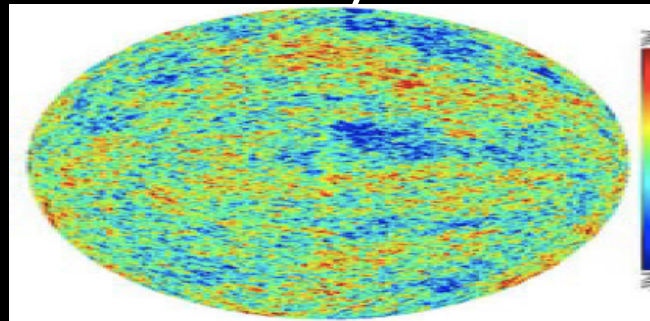
Relic Neutrinos

1st second!



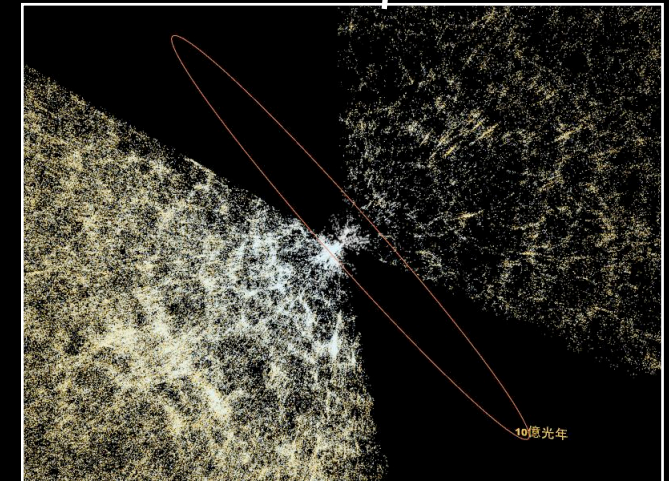
Primordial Nucleosynthesis

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Cosmic Microwave Background

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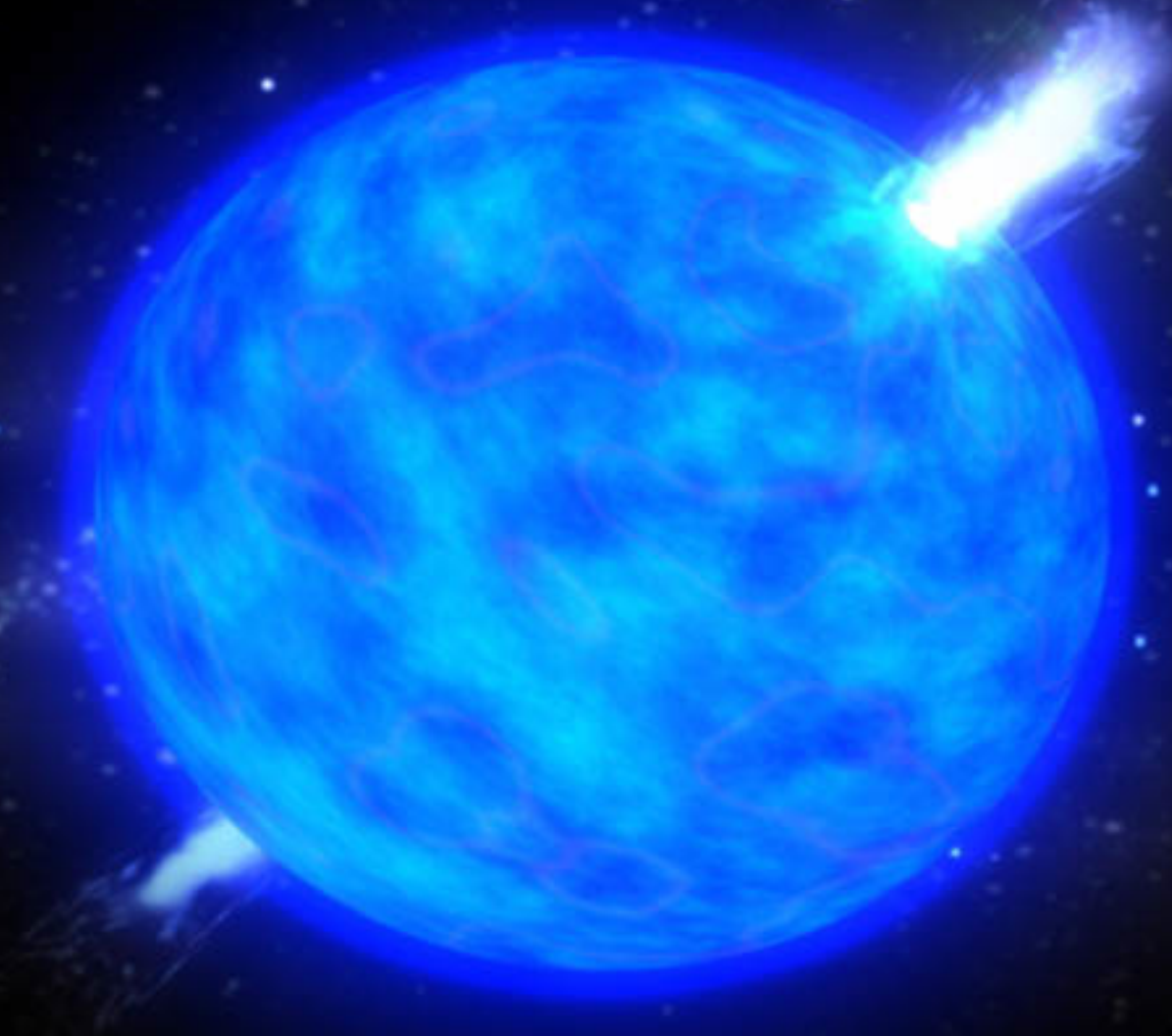
Large Scale Structures

Near Today

$$E_\nu \sim 10\text{-}20 \text{ MeV}$$

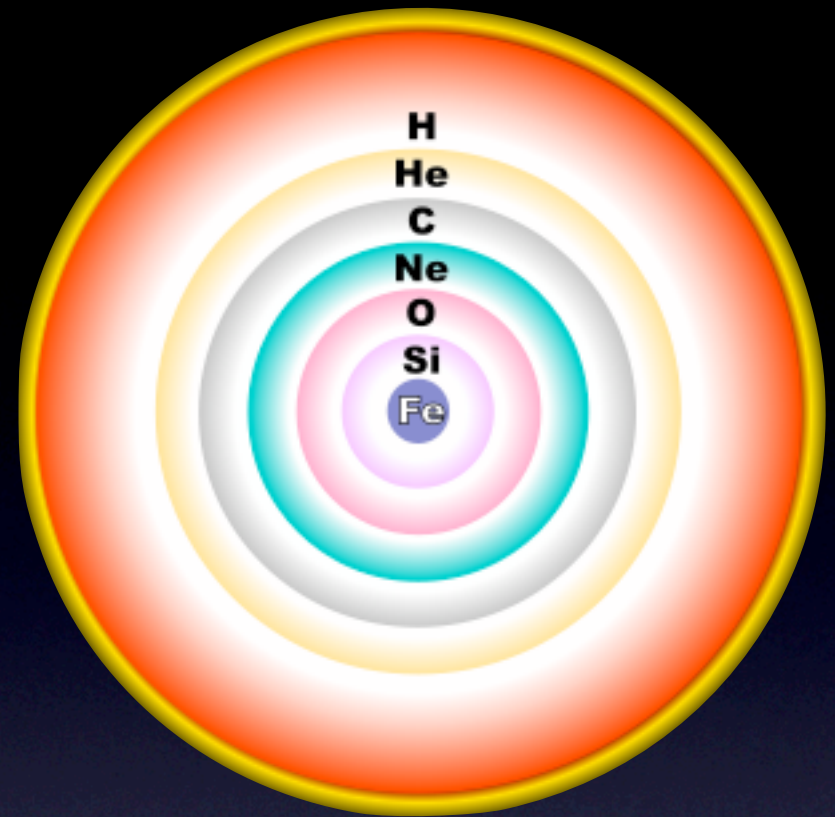
Neutrinos from the Stars

- Stellar deaths are also powerful sources of neutrinos, as nearly all of the gravitational energy from the collapse is radiated away by neutrinos.
- Can be observed via sudden bursts of neutrino flux, with times characteristic of the stellar collapse.



Neutrinos from the Stars

- Core-collapse supernovae are truly unique environments in our known universe:
 - Incredible matter densities: 10^{11} - 10^{15} g/cm³
 - Extreme high temperature: 1-50 MeV
 - Highest recorded energetic processes in the Universe: 10^{51-53} ergs
- At these energies, all species of neutrinos can be produced:



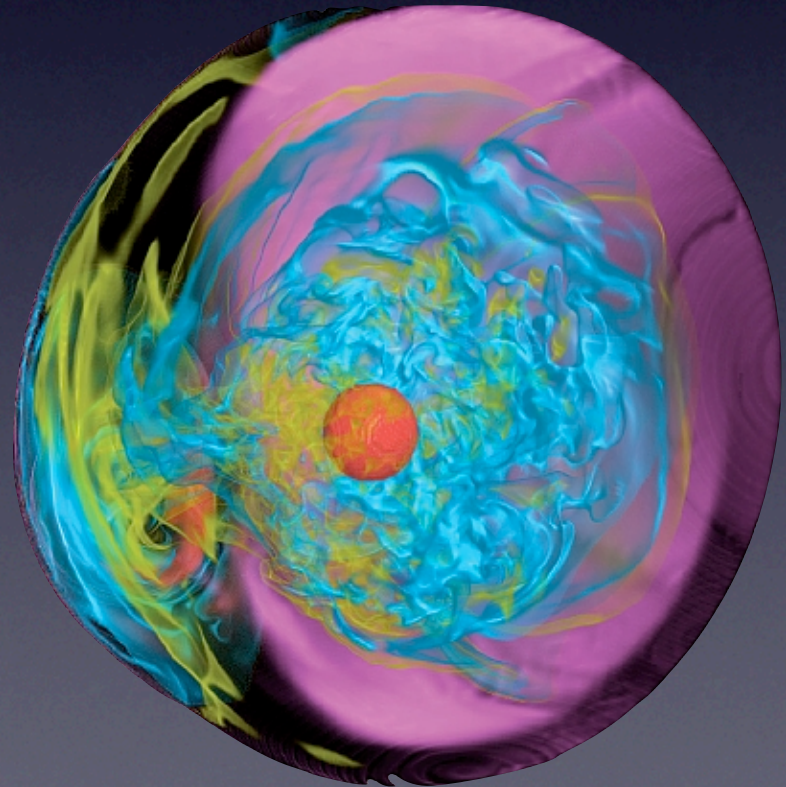
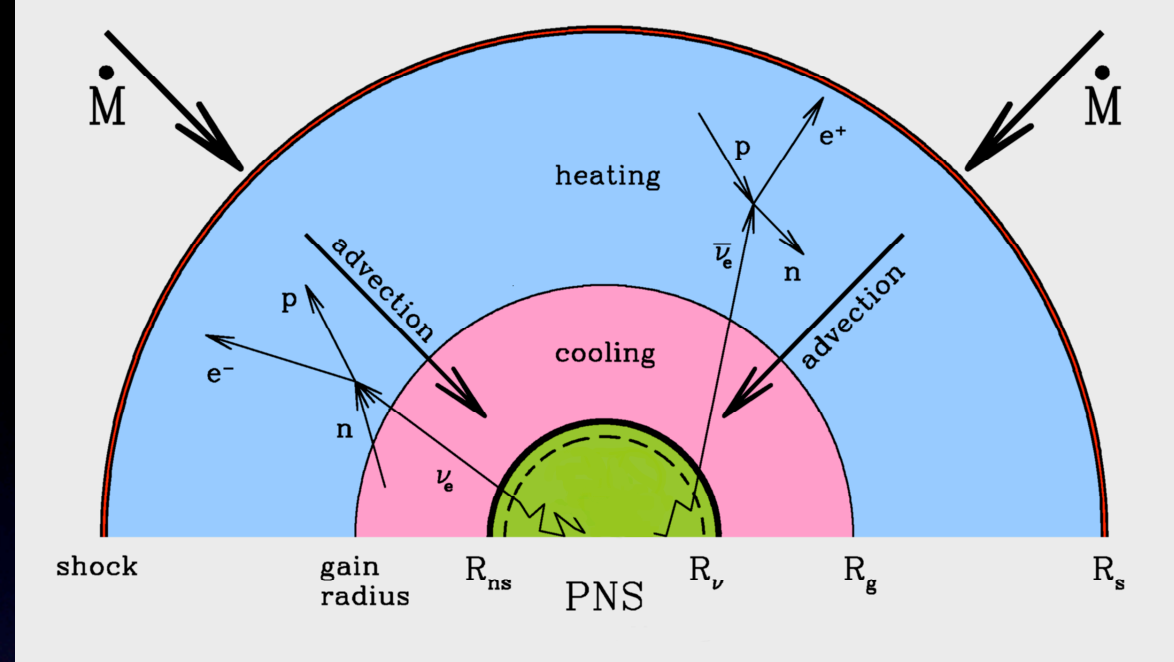
$$e^+ e^- \leftrightarrow \nu_i \bar{\nu}_i$$

$$\nu_e n \leftrightarrow p e^-$$

$$\bar{\nu}_e p \leftrightarrow n e^+$$

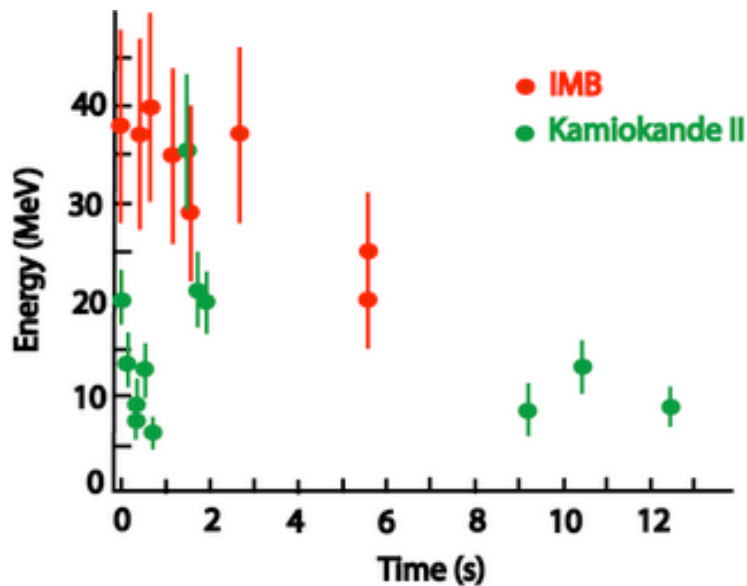
Neutrinos from the Stars

- Eventually nuclear burning is insufficient to maintain the star from collapsing, causing the stellar core to fall inward until core densities reach nuclear levels, causing the core to bounce.
- Most neutrinos remain trapped between core and outer stellar region, heating the star until the energy is released.
- Neutrino flux dense enough for terrestrial detection.



Supernovae Detection

- Supernovae SNI987A detected using neutrino detectors, making use of the characteristic short burst of neutrinos.
- Still waiting for another such type of explosion close enough for detection.



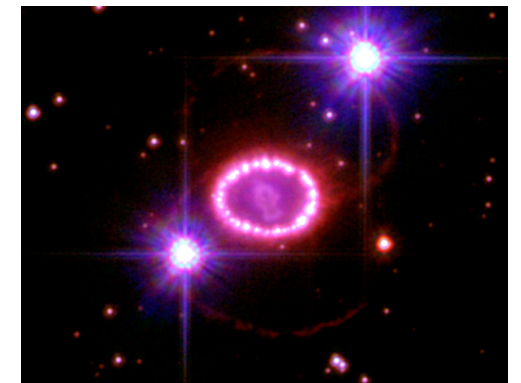
Before



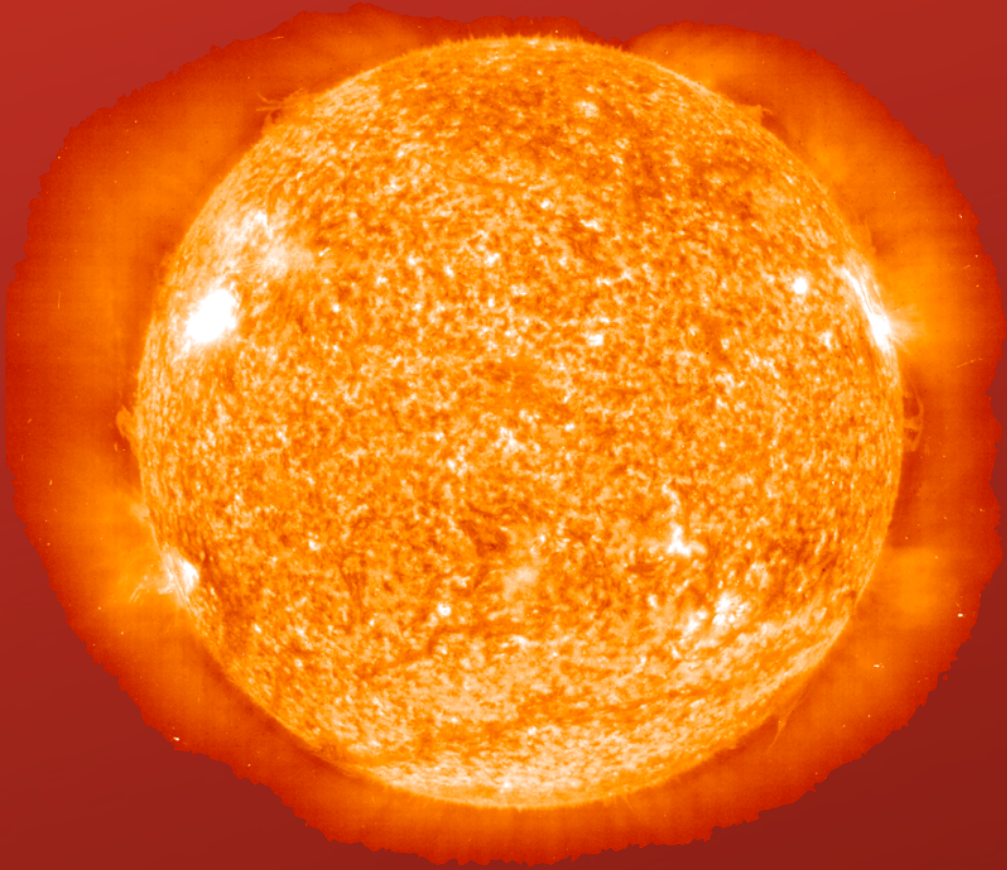
During
(few days later)



After



$E_\nu \sim 0.01\text{-}10 \text{ MeV}$



Neutrinos from our star...
(the Sun)

Energy Production in Stars*

H. A. BETHE

Cornell University, Ithaca, New York

(Received September 7, 1938)

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For fainter stars, with lower central temperatures, the reaction $H + H = D + e^+$ and the reactions following it, are believed to be mainly responsible for the energy production. (§10)

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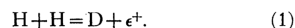
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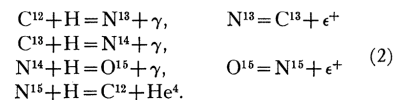
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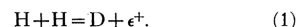
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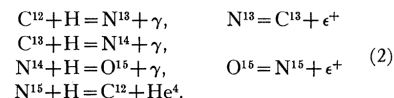
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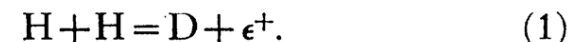


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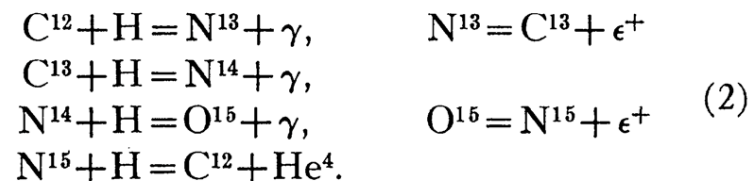
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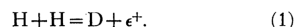
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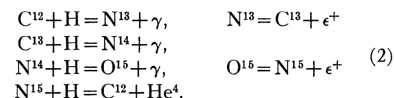
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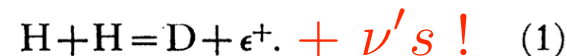


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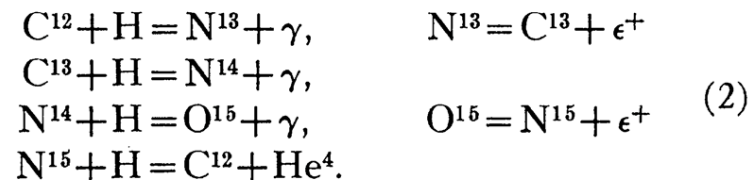
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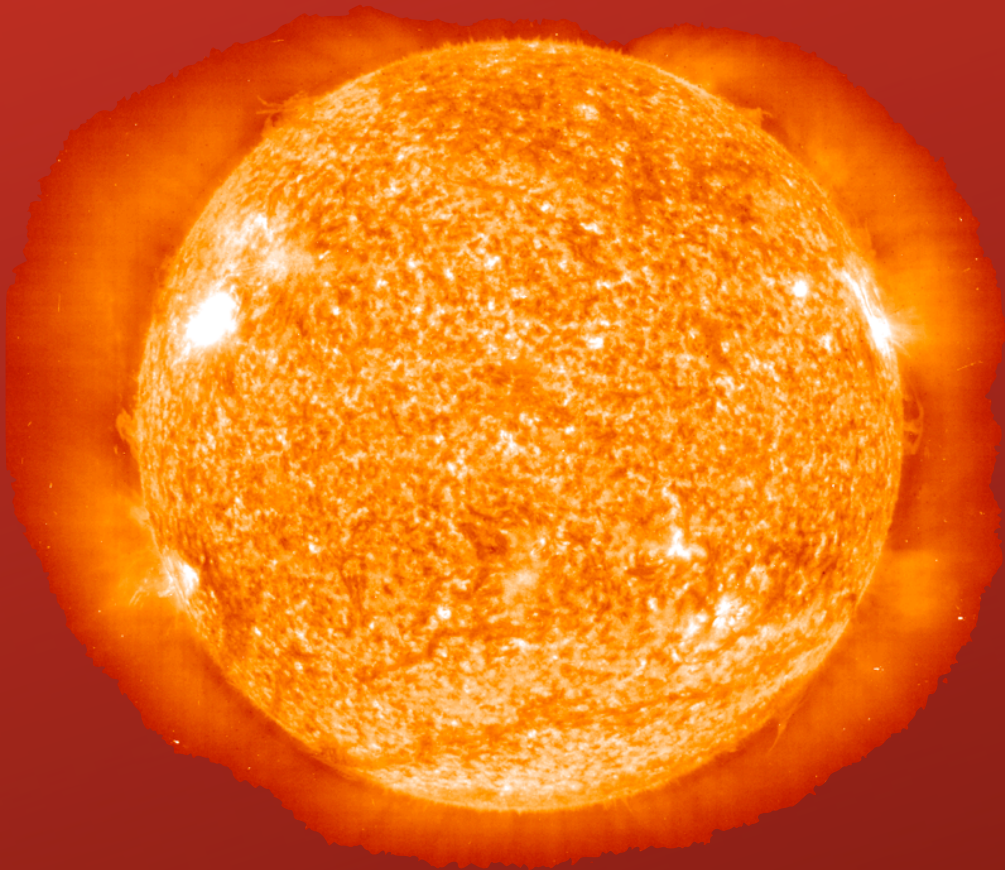
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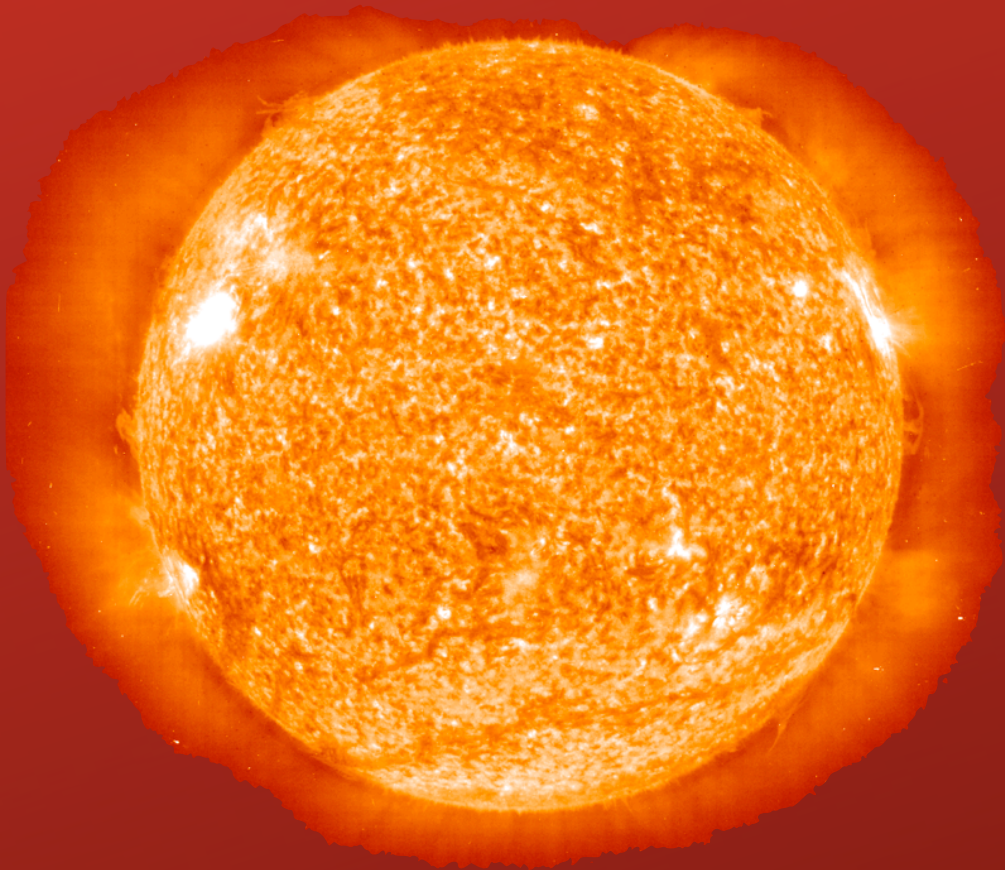


In the sixties, John Bahcall calculates the neutrino flux expected to be produced from the solar pp cycle.

Basic assumptions of what is known as the Standard Solar Model...



John Bahcall
1934 - 2005



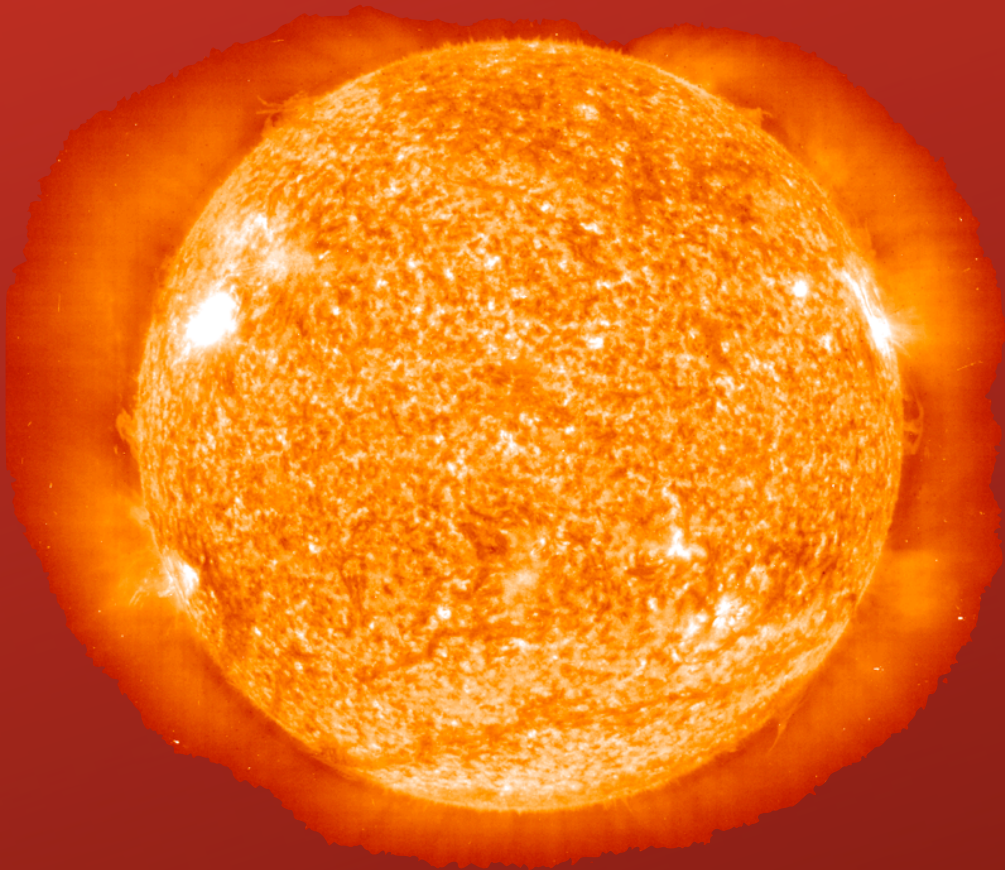
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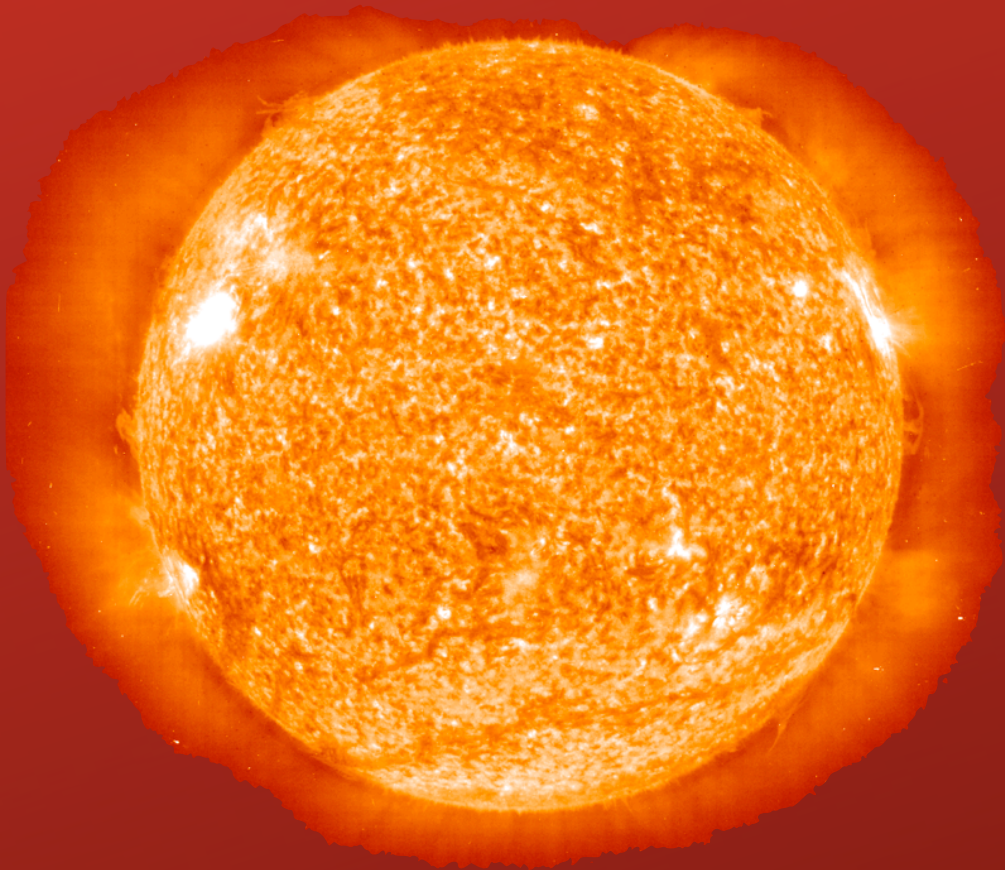
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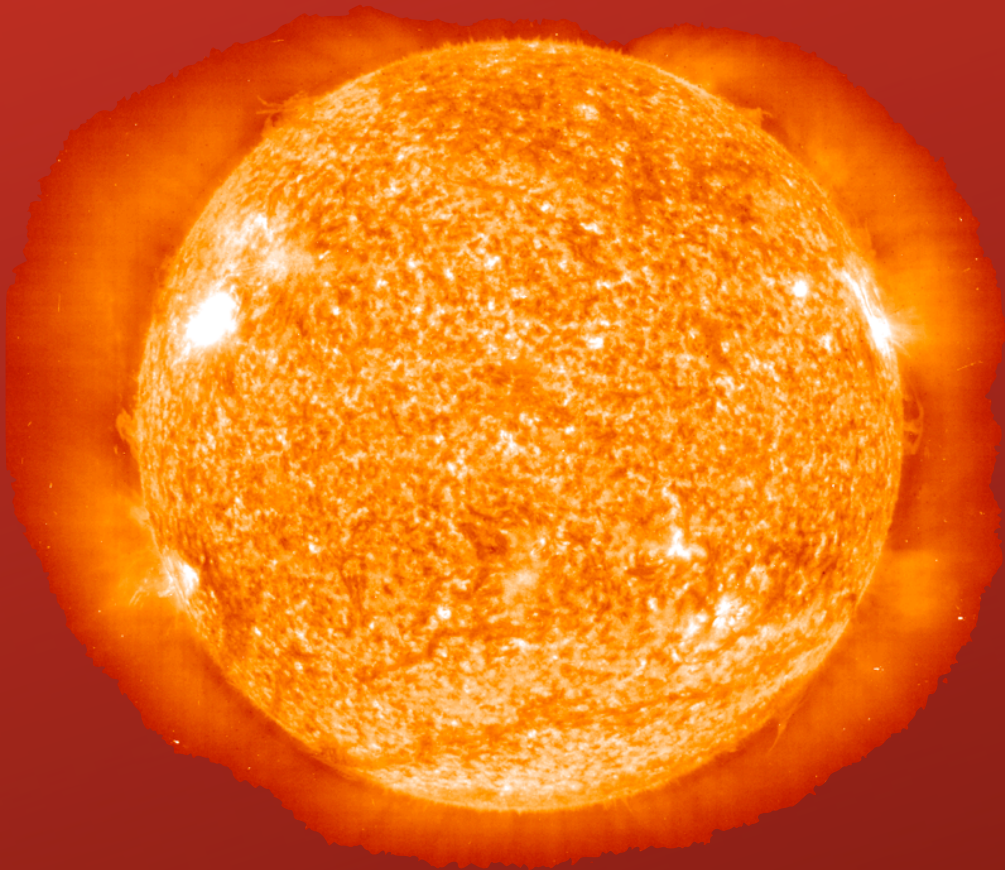
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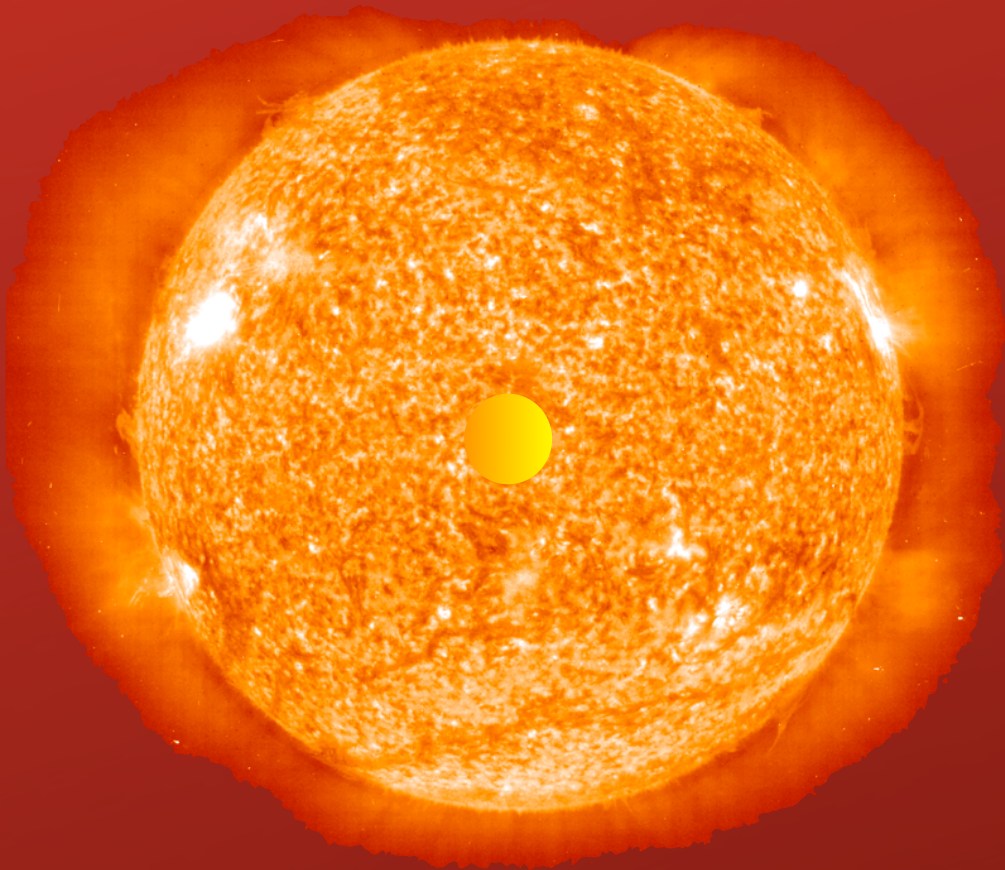
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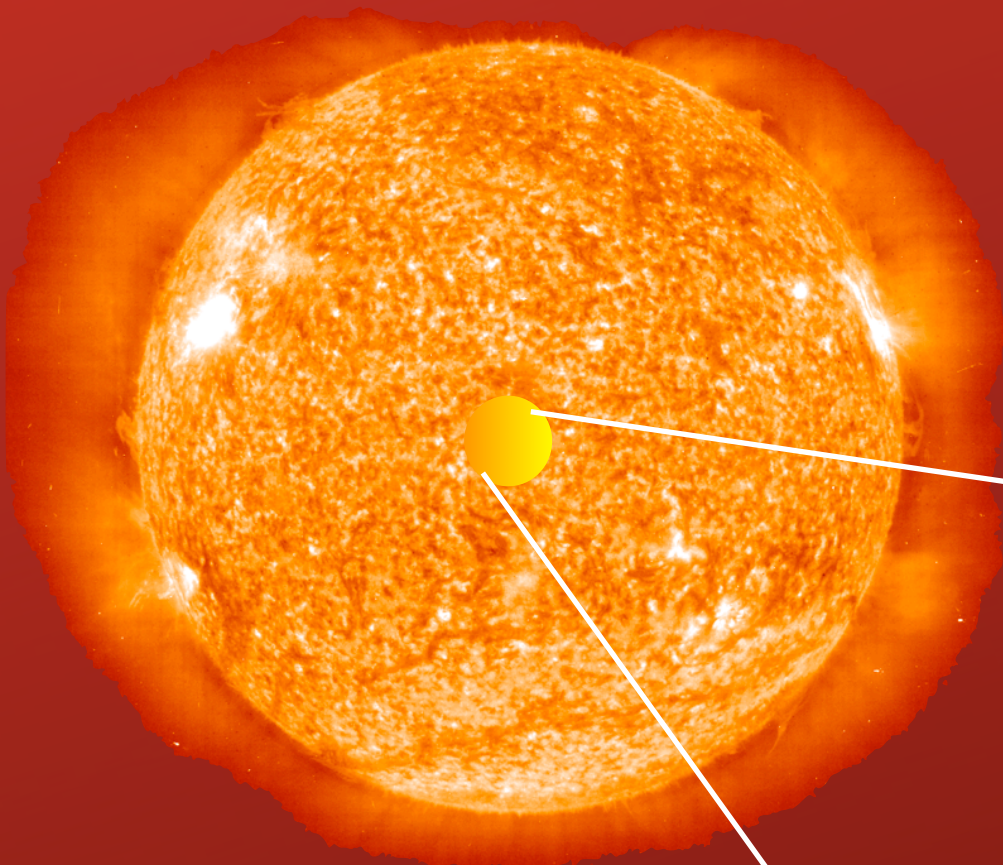


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Basic Process:

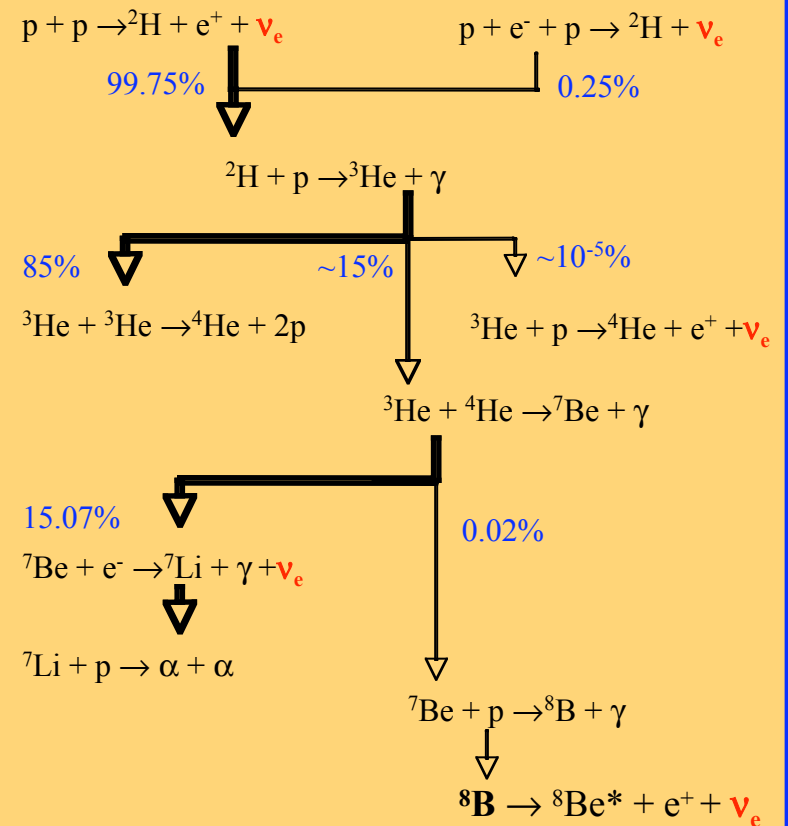




Basic Process:



Light Element Fusion Reactions

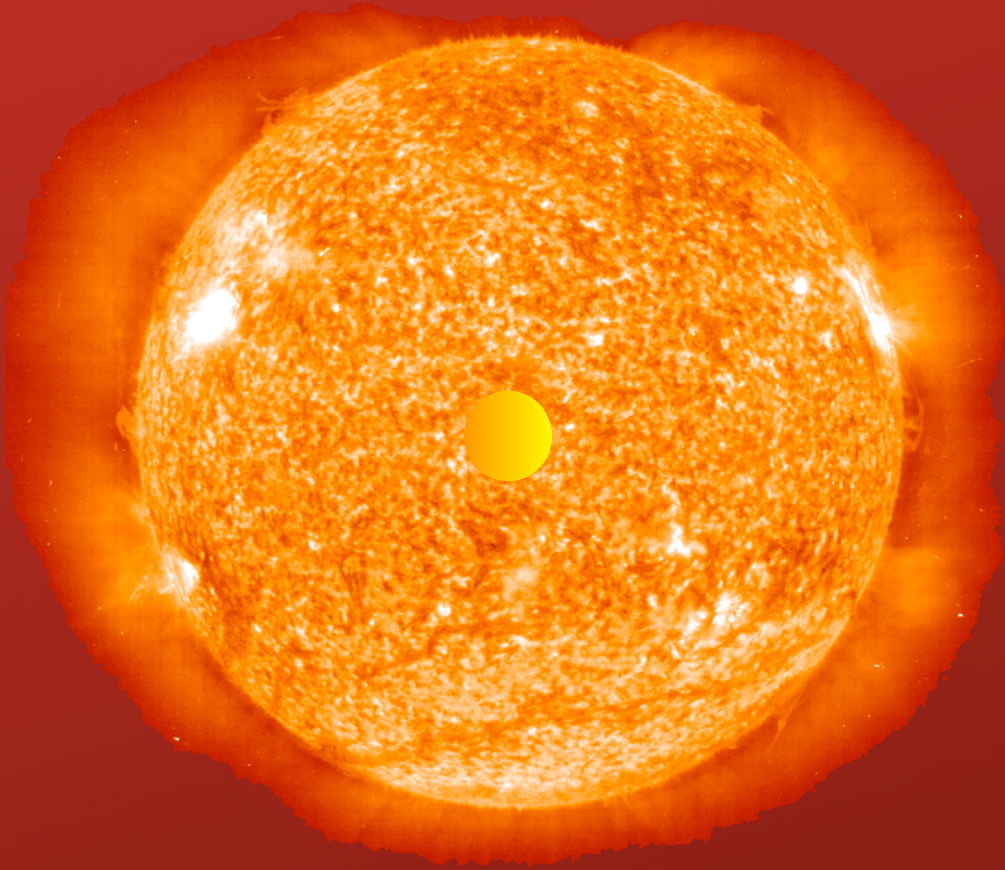


More detailed...

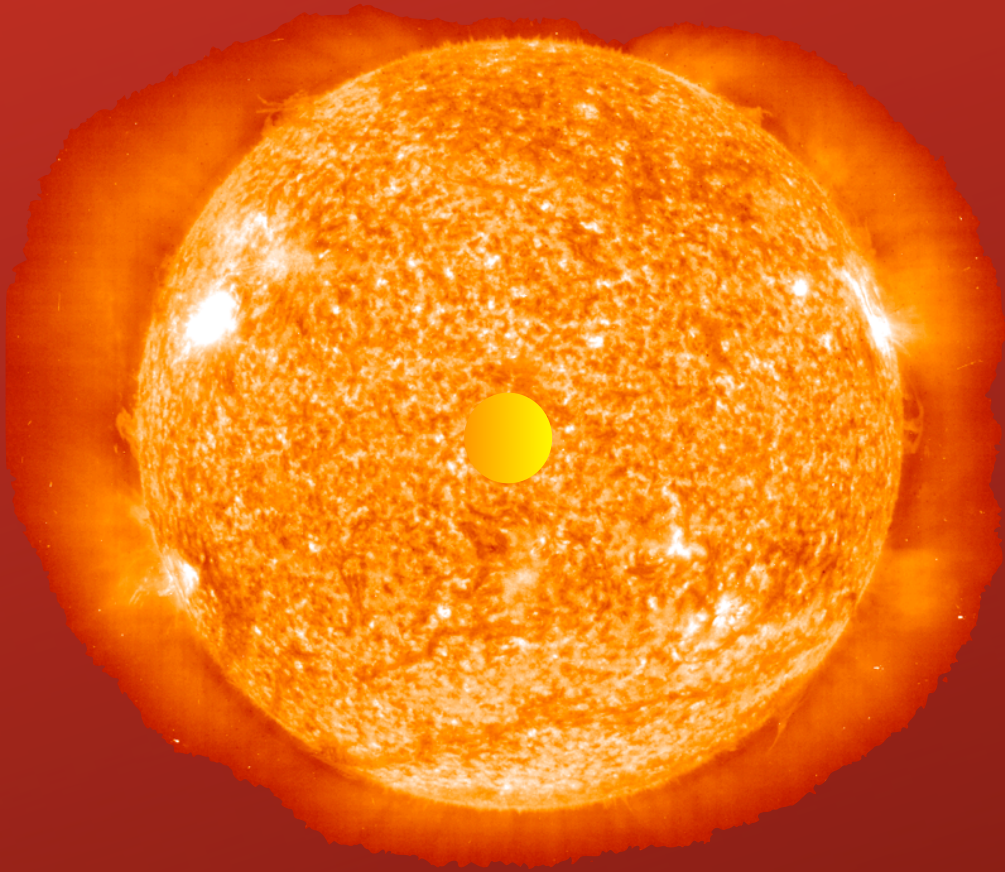
This is known as the pp fusion chain.

Sub-dominant CNO cycle also exists.

The Solar Neutrino Spectrum

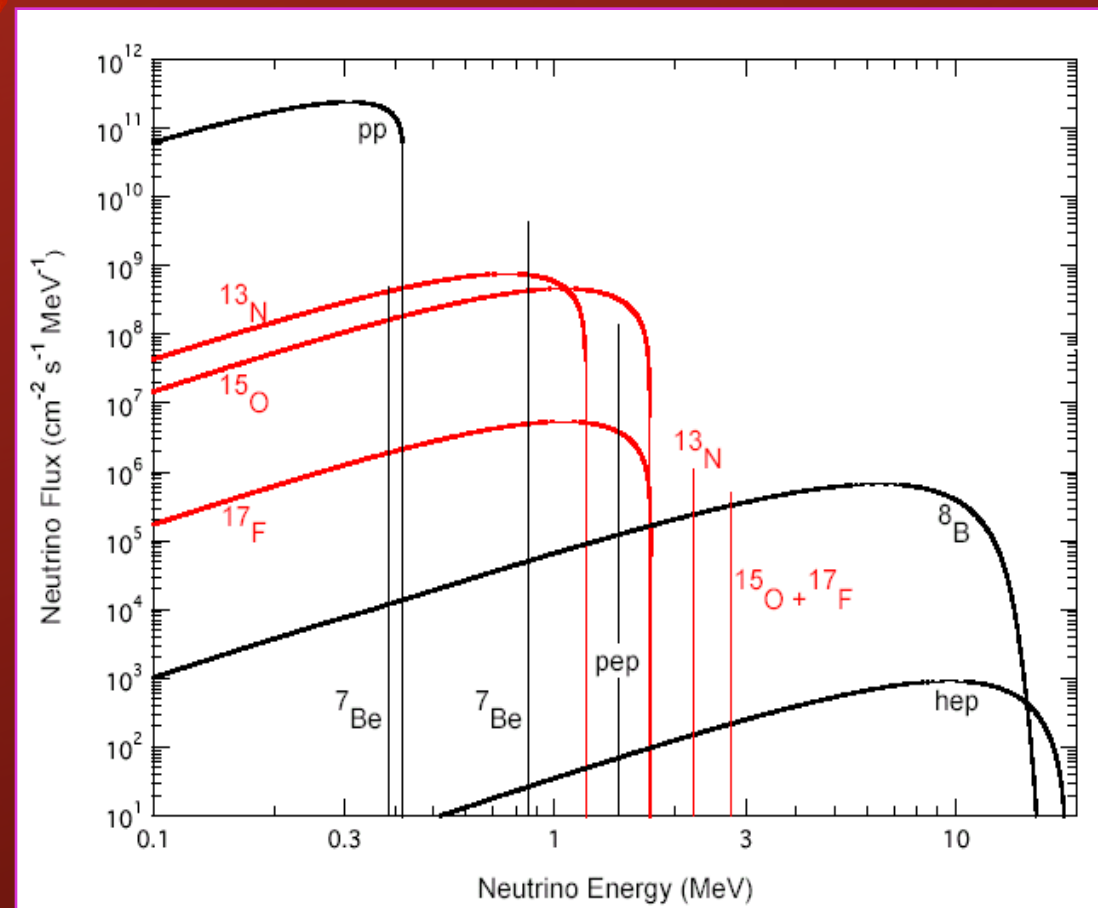


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- Spectrum dominated mainly from pp fusion chain, but present only at low energies.



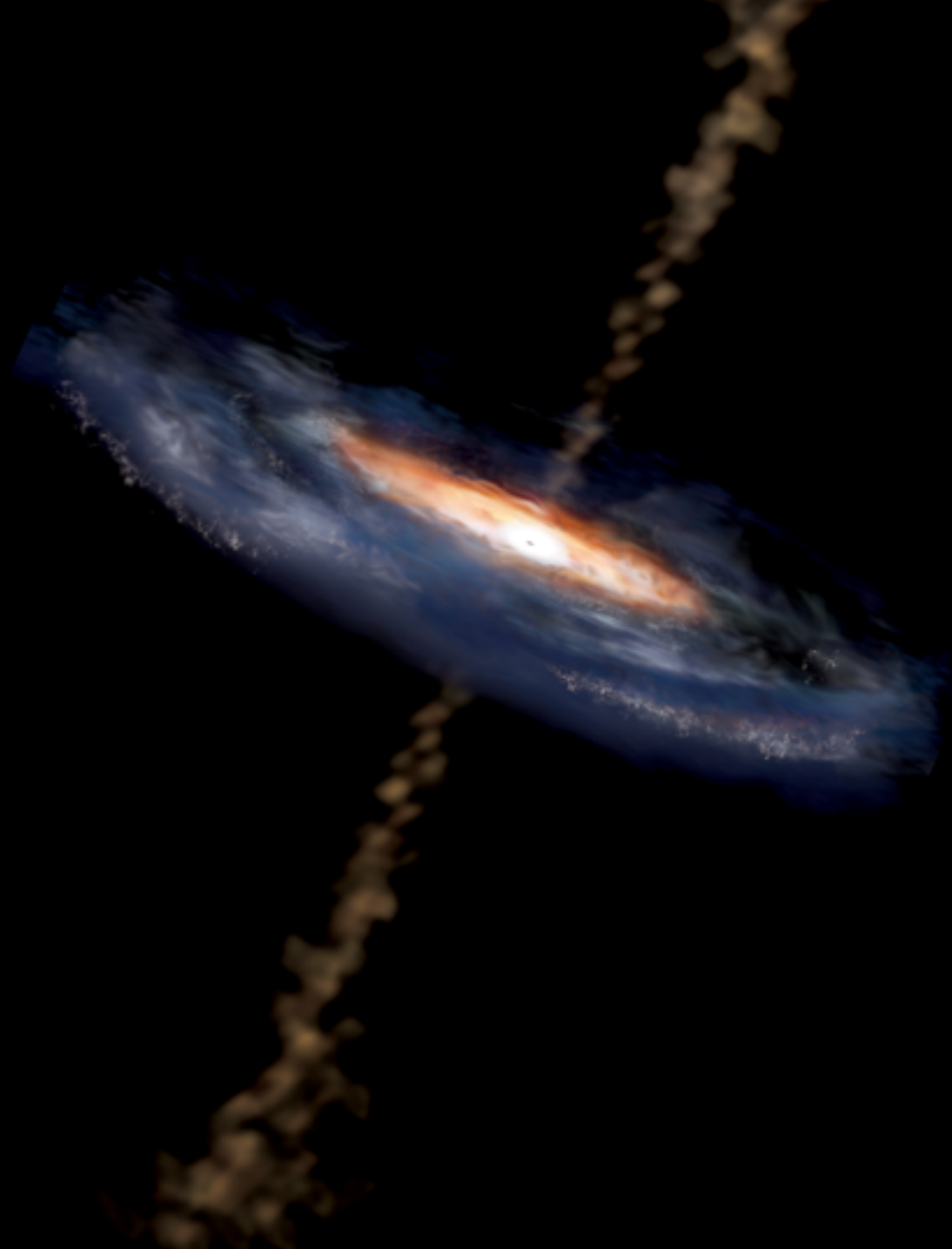
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Ultra-High Energy Neutrinos

$E_\nu > 1 \text{ TeV}$



Ultra-High Energy Neutrinos

- Galactic and extra-galactic celestial objects are known sources of extremely high energy cosmic rays (protons, etc.) and neutrinos.
- Three possible creation mechanisms:
 - (1) Acceleration processes
 - (2) GZK neutrinos
 - (3) Annihilation and decay of heavy particles.



Acceleration Processes

- Evidence of ultra-high energy neutrinos would prove the validity of proton acceleration models.
- Neutrinos would be produced from the decay of unstable mesons (π^0 , π^\pm , K^\pm , etc.).

$$pp \rightarrow NN + \text{pions}; \quad p\gamma \rightarrow p\pi^0, \quad n\pi^+$$

$$\pi^+ \rightarrow \nu_\mu + \mu^+$$

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- For extremely high energy cosmic rays or extra-galactic sources, extreme acceleration environments such as AGNs and GRBs need to be considered.

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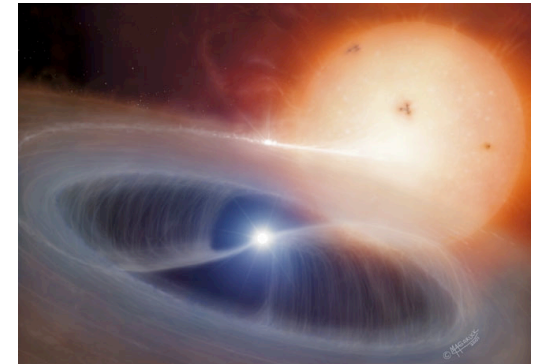
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Binary
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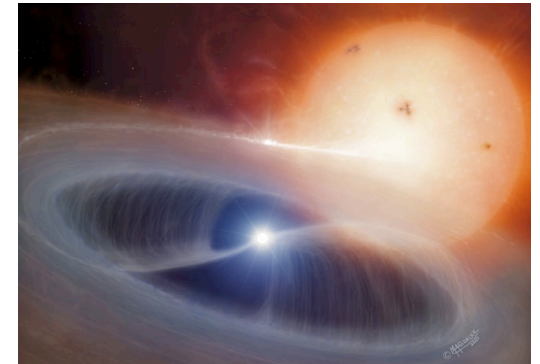
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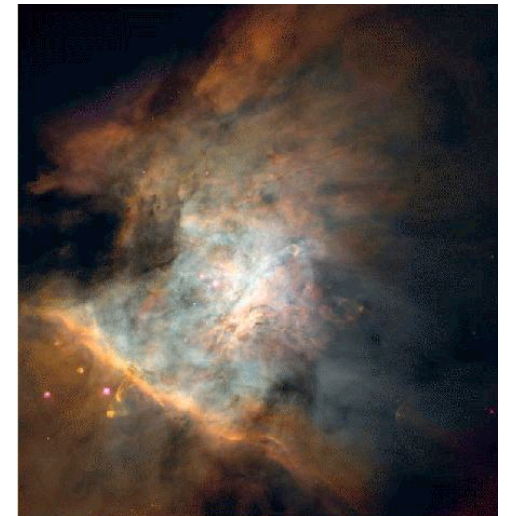
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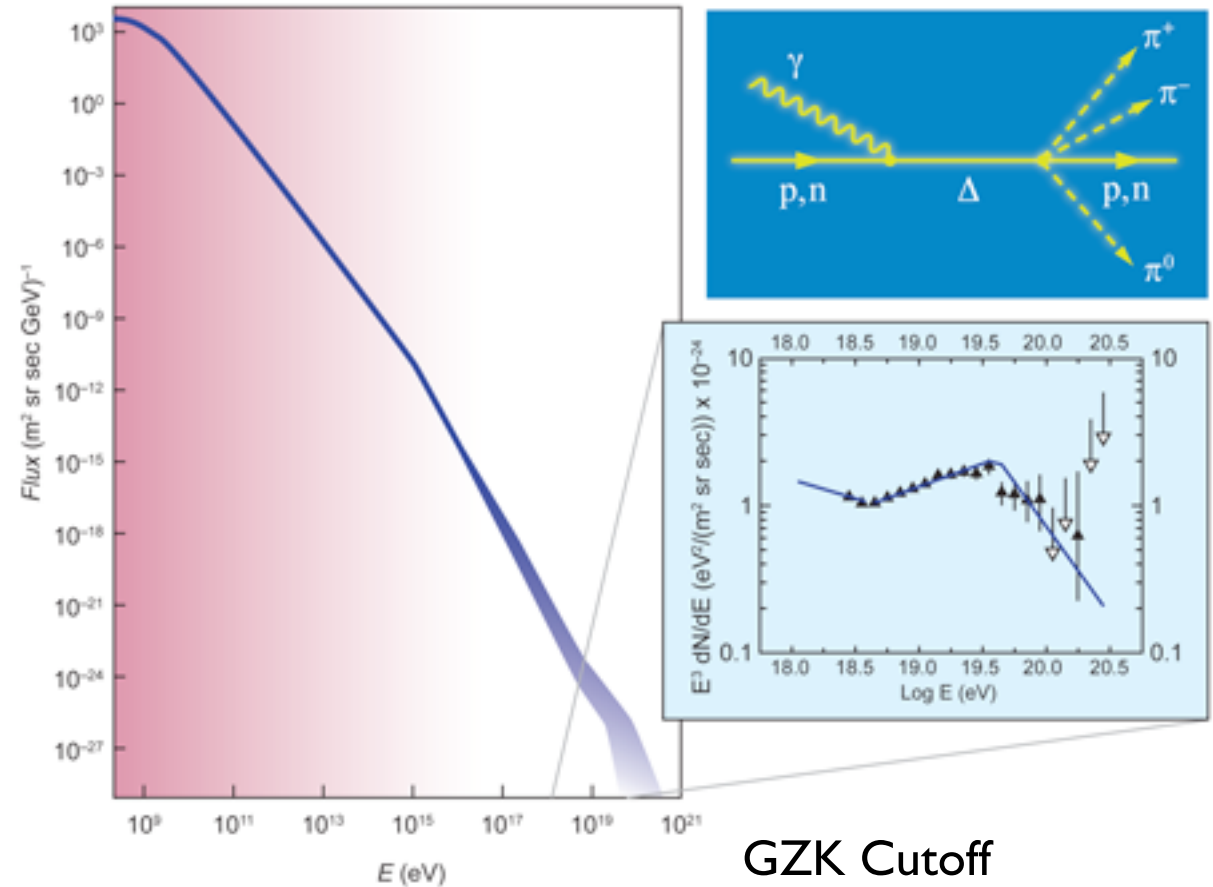


Interaction with interstellar medium

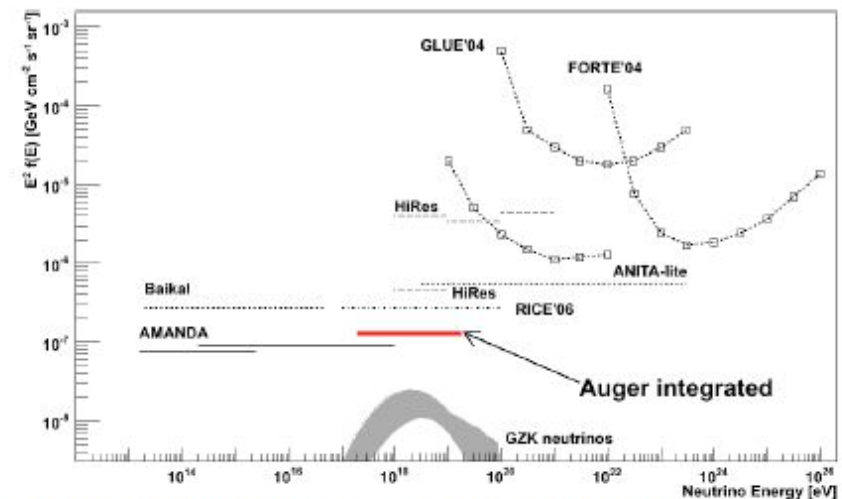


GZK Neutrinos

- At high enough energies, protons interact with the cosmic microwave background, providing a mechanism to create high energy neutrinos.
- Due to the known existence of high energy cosmic rays and the CMB, GZK neutrinos are a guaranteed signal.
- In addition, one can also look for massive particles that decay into high energy neutrinos as a signature for physics beyond the standard model.



GZK Cutoff



Pierre Auger Collaboration, *Phys. Rev. Letters* 100 (2008) 211101



“...down they fell, driven headlong
from the pitch of heaven, down into
this deep...”, Paradise Lost

What we will cover:

Where do neutrinos come from?

Neutrinos from the Heavens

Neutrinos from the Earth

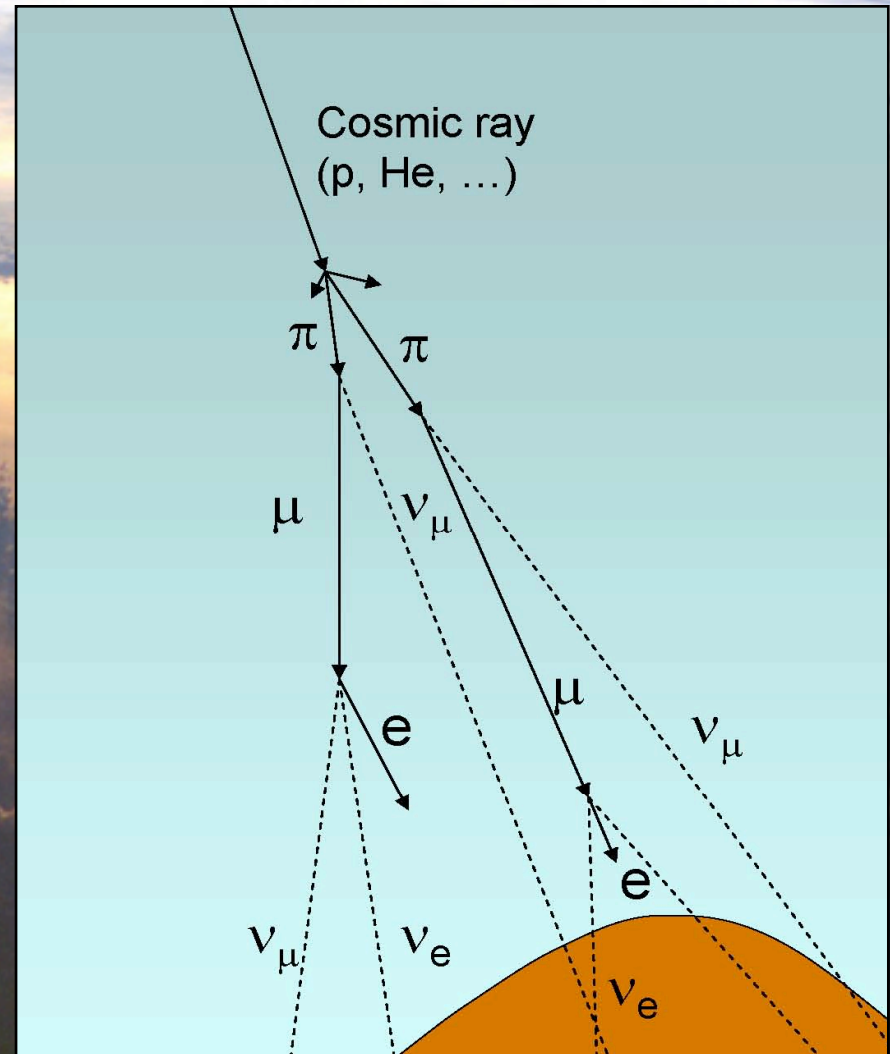
Neutrinos from Man

Atmospheric Neutrinos

$E_\nu \sim 1\text{-}100 \text{ GeV}$

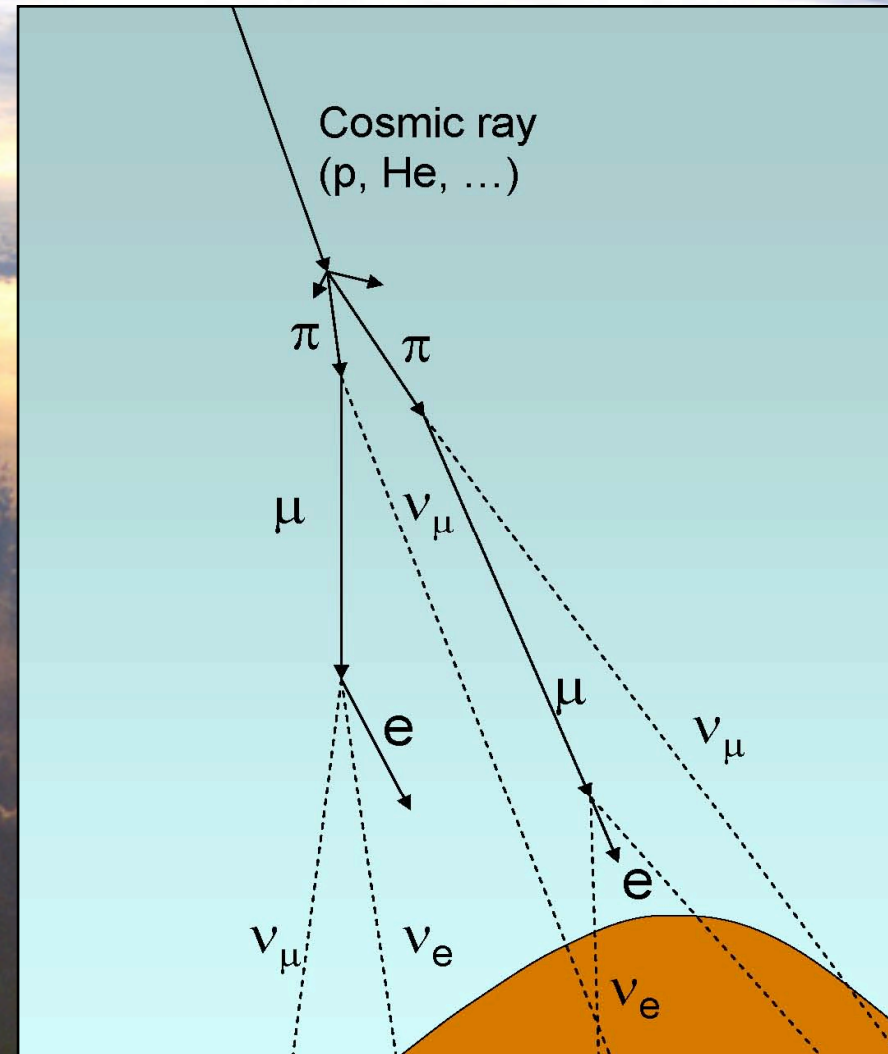
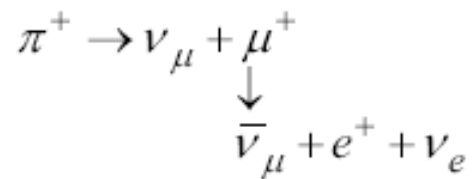
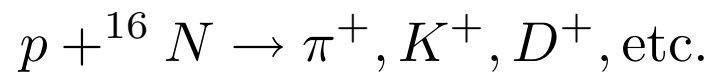


Atmospheric Neutrinos



Atmospheric Neutrinos

- Created by high energy cosmic rays impeding on the Earth's upper atmosphere.
- Dominant production mechanism comes from pion decay.



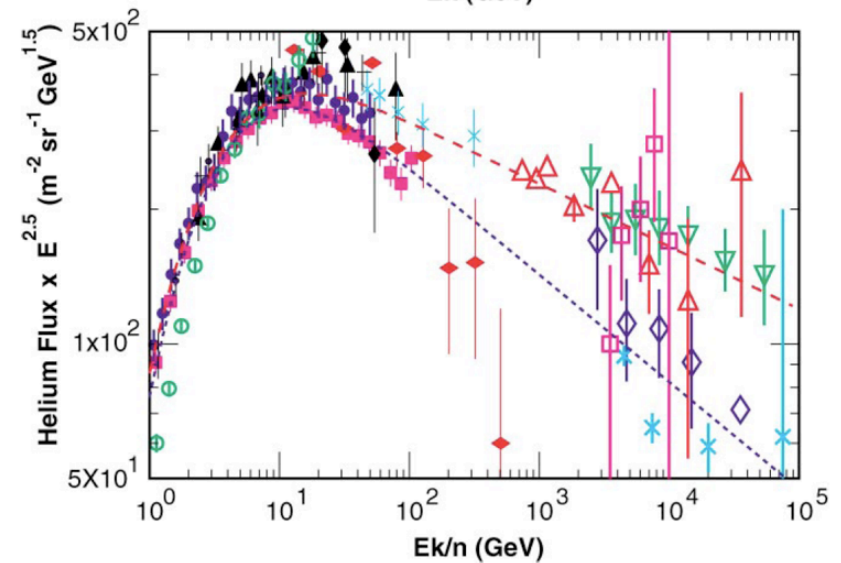
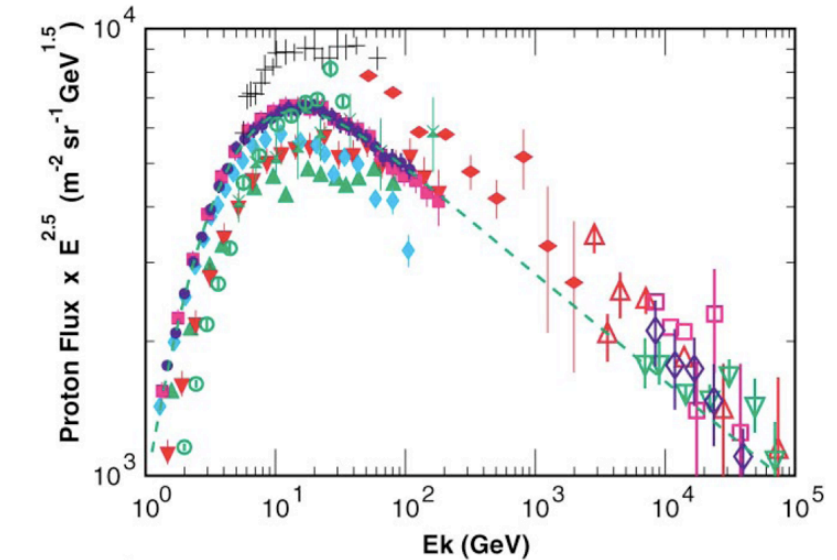
Atmospheric Neutrinos

- To calculate the predicted neutrino flux, a number of key steps must be taken into account:
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 3. Optical depth, decay length and transport.
- Often one needs to take into account other subtle effects such as the Earth's magnetic field. Important at low energies.

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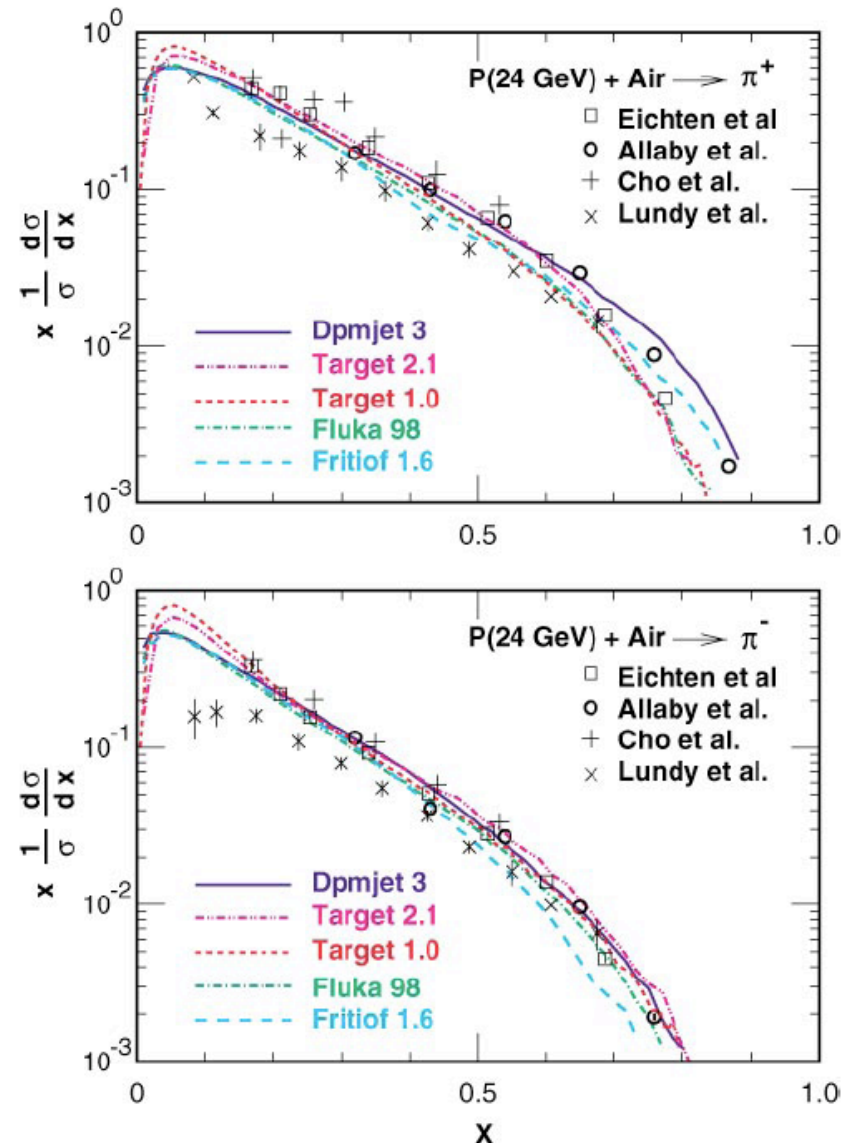
Primary CR flux



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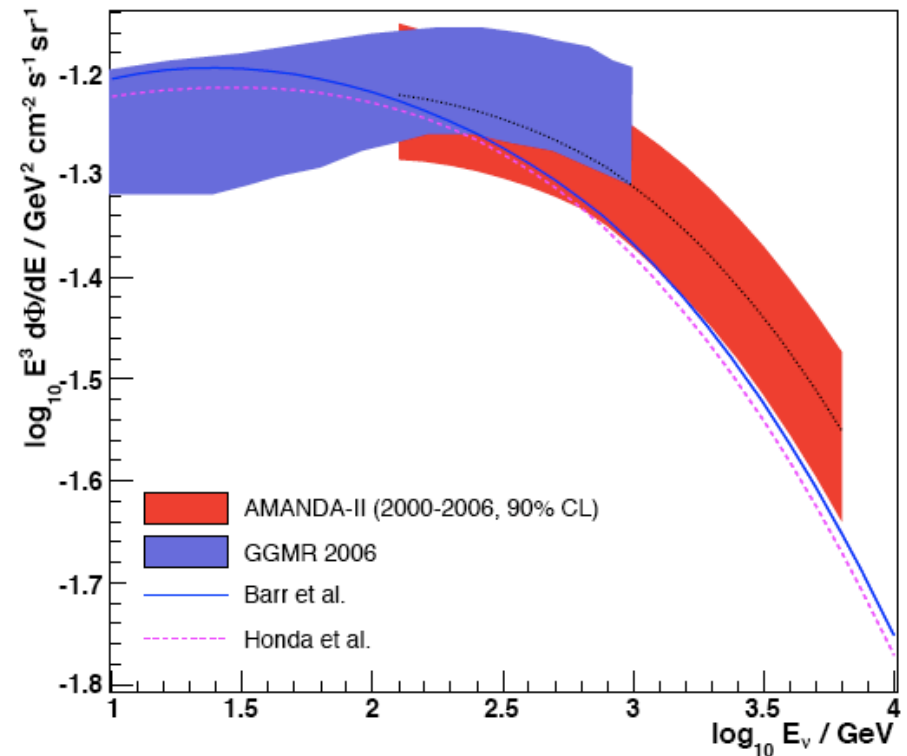
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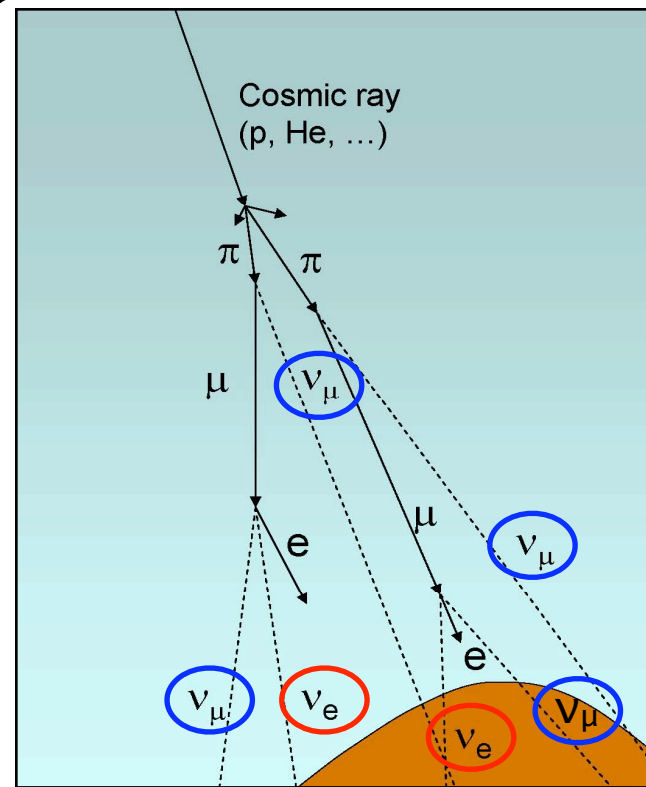
Predicted and Measured Atmospheric ν_μ Flux



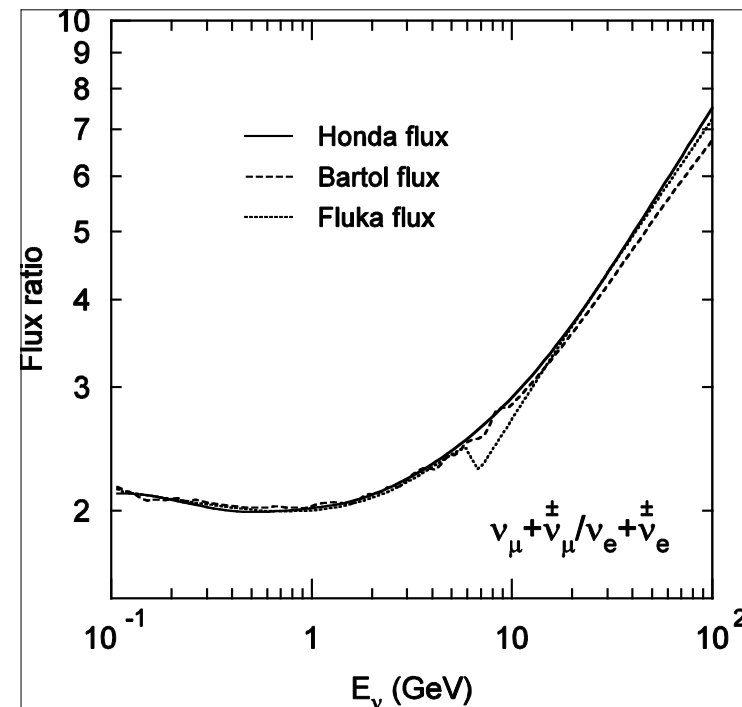
Uncertainties on the absolute flux near $\pm 20\%$

Atmospheric Neutrinos

- The absolute flux uncertainty is fairly high, so people use other useful properties of the atmospheric neutrino flux:
 - $\nu_\mu:\nu_e$ ratio: This ratio is fixed from the pion/muon cascade.
 - Zenith variation: Allows one to probe neutrinos at very different production distances (essential for oscillation signatures).
 - Compare cosmic muon flux

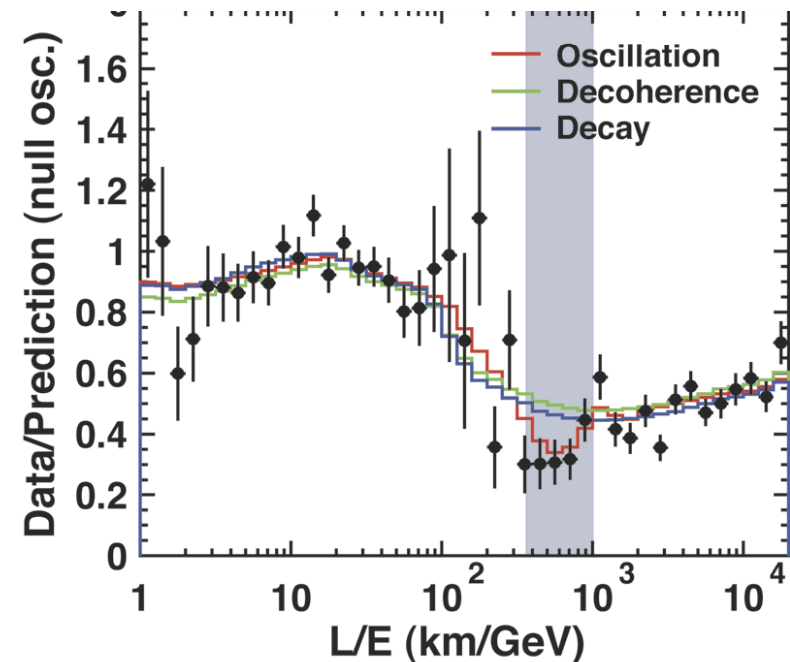
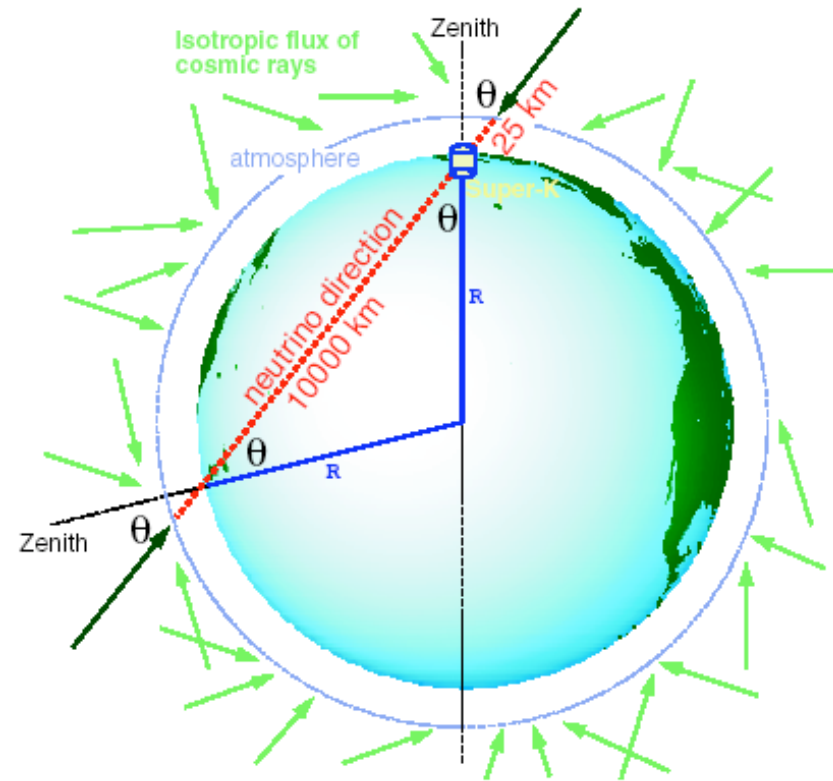



$\nu_\mu:\nu_e$ ratio
near 2:1



Atmospheric Neutrinos

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$E_\nu \sim 0.1\text{-}5 \text{ MeV}$

Neutrinos from
Radioactivity

Neutrinos from Radioactivity

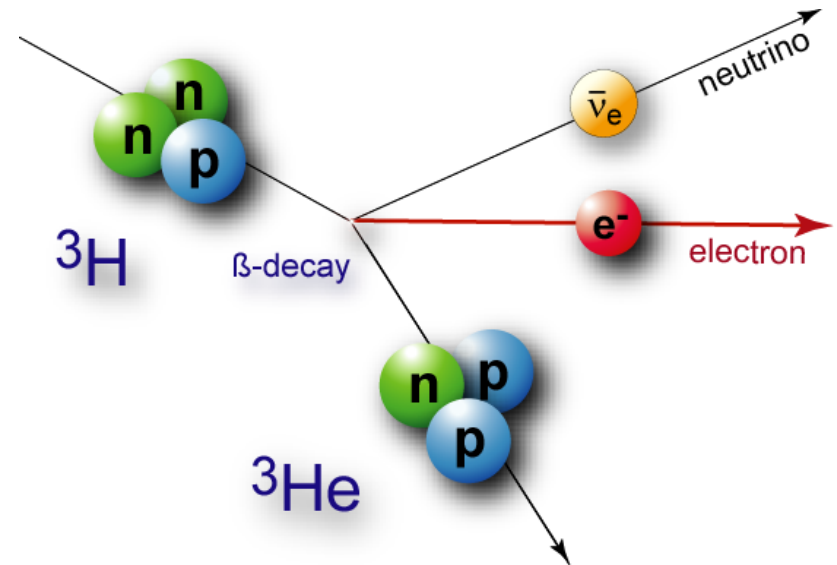
- Nuclear transitions, such as beta decay, allow for the changing of the atomic number (Z) with no change in the atomic mass (A).
- One can consider three such reactions:

$$(Z, A) \rightarrow (Z + 1, A) + e^- + \bar{\nu}_e \quad (\beta^- \text{ Decay})$$

$$(Z, A) \rightarrow (Z - 1, A) + e^+ + \nu_e \quad (\beta^+ \text{ Decay})$$

$$(Z, A) + e^- \rightarrow (Z - 1, A) + \nu_e \quad (\text{Electron Capture})$$

- In each of these cases, a neutrino (or anti-neutrino) is produced. Prominent in many neutrino production interactions (such as in the sun).



Sample β -decay



Neutrinos from Radioactivity

- To determine the rate of a particular reaction, one needs to take into account of a number of factors:

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$$\frac{dN}{dE} = C \times \underbrace{|M|^2}_{\text{Matrix Element}} \overbrace{F(Z, E)}^{\text{Fermi Function}} p_e (E + m_e^2) (E_0 - E) \underbrace{\sum_i |U_{ei}|^2}_{\text{Phase space}} \sqrt{(E_0 - E)^2 - m_i^2}$$

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Transition	ΔI	Parity change?
Superalowed	$0, \pm 1$	No
Allowed	$0, \pm 1$	No
1 st Forbidden	$0, \pm 1$	Yes
Unique 1 st Forbidden	± 2	Yes
2nd Forbidden	± 2	No
3rd Forbidden	± 3	Yes

Spin of states govern type of exchange
E.g.: $0^+ \rightarrow 0^+$ is superallowed

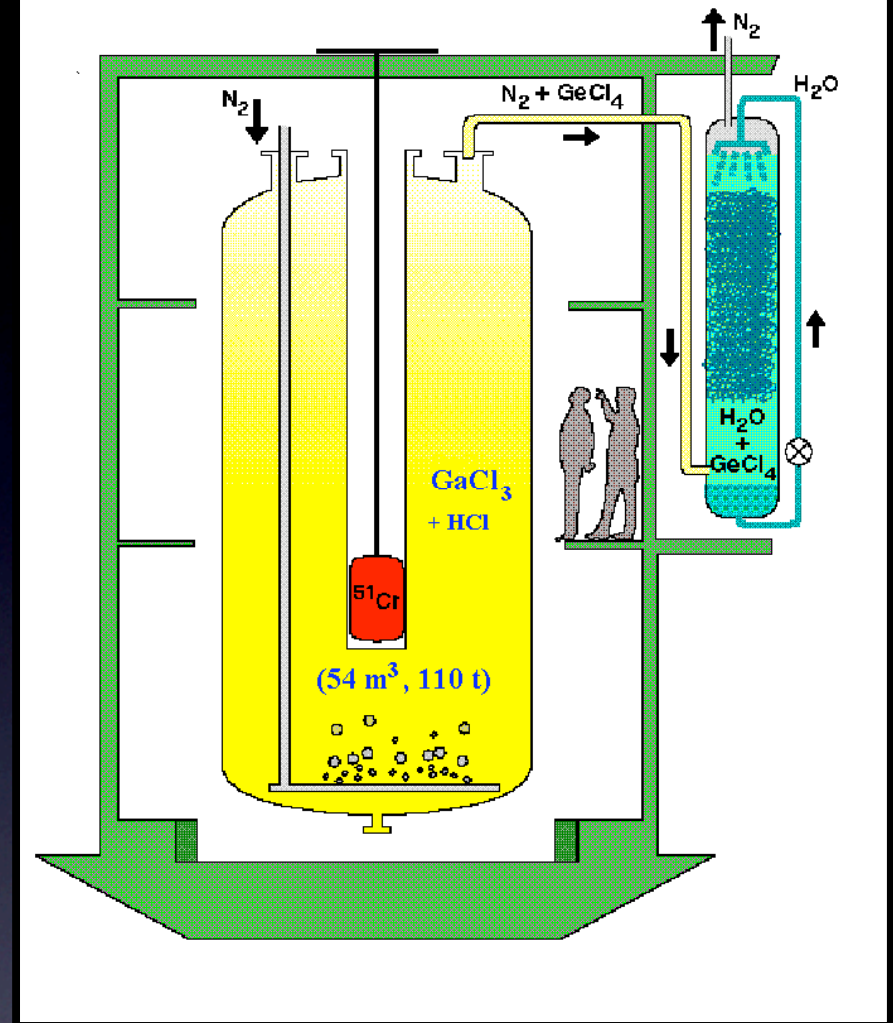
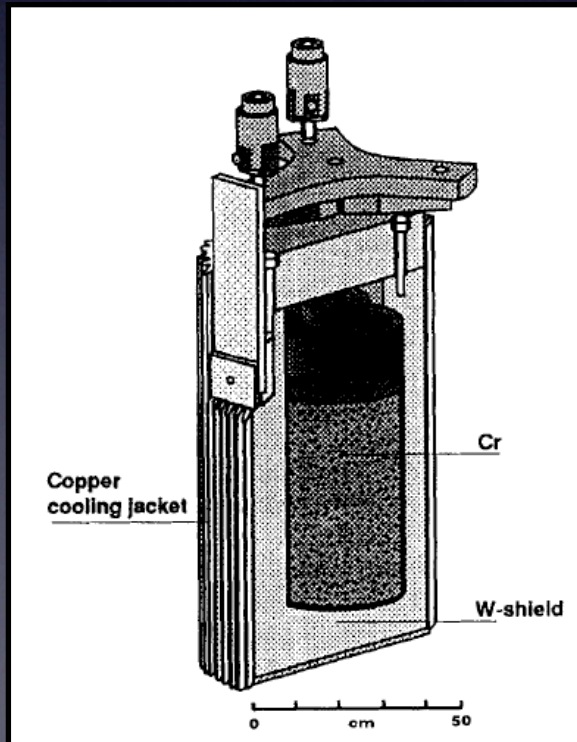
$$\frac{dN}{dE} = C \times \underbrace{|M|^2}_{\text{Matrix Element}} \underbrace{F(Z, E)}_{\text{Fermi Function}} p_e (E + m_e^2) (E_0 - E) \sum_i \underbrace{|U_{ei}|^2}_{\text{Phase space}} \sqrt{(E_0 - E)^2 - m_i^2}$$

Possible Source?

- Though neutrinos from radioactive decay play an important role in many astrophysical sources, we rarely use them as a source, per se.
- Except we did to calibrate some of our solar neutrino detectors!

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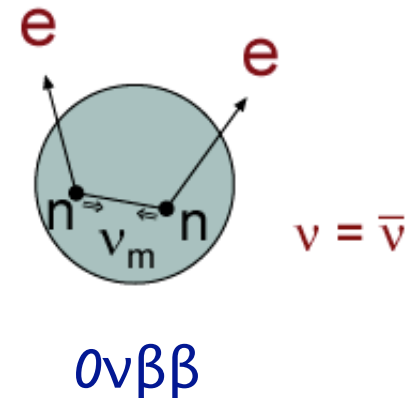
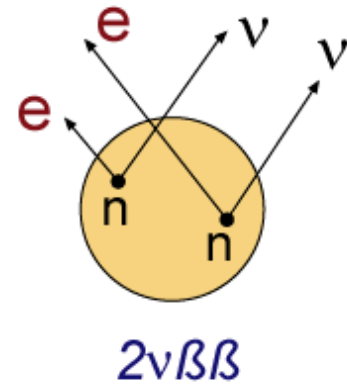


Total activity of the source: 60 PBq!

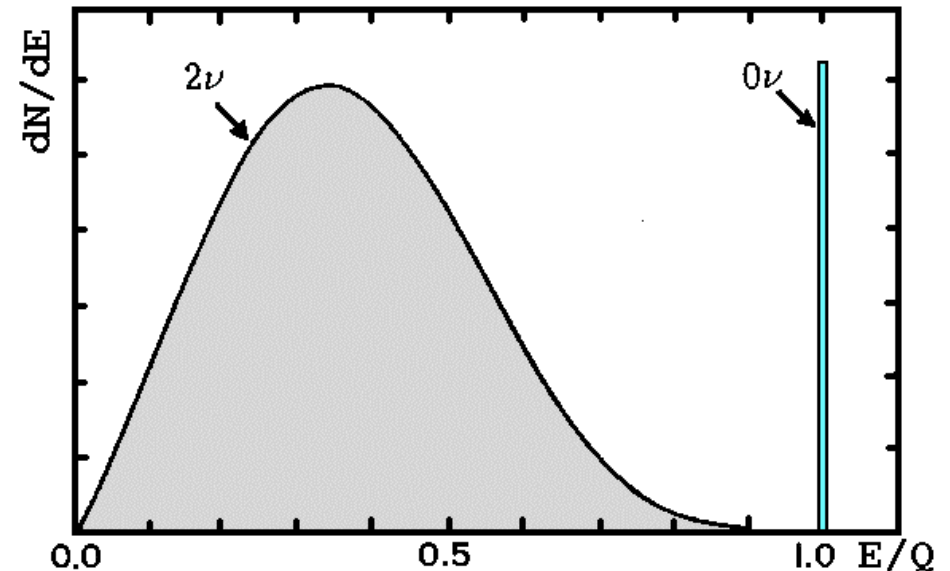
Emitted ~300 W of heat

You can do it twice...

- It is possible to have a nucleus undergo beta decay twice (as long as it is allowed from energy and spin considerations).
- Highly suppressed due to G_F^4 suppression.
- If the neutrino is its own anti-particle, then the neutrino can mediate the reaction. No neutrinos are emitted.
- This is not a neutrino source per se, except its has incredible consequences.



The signature



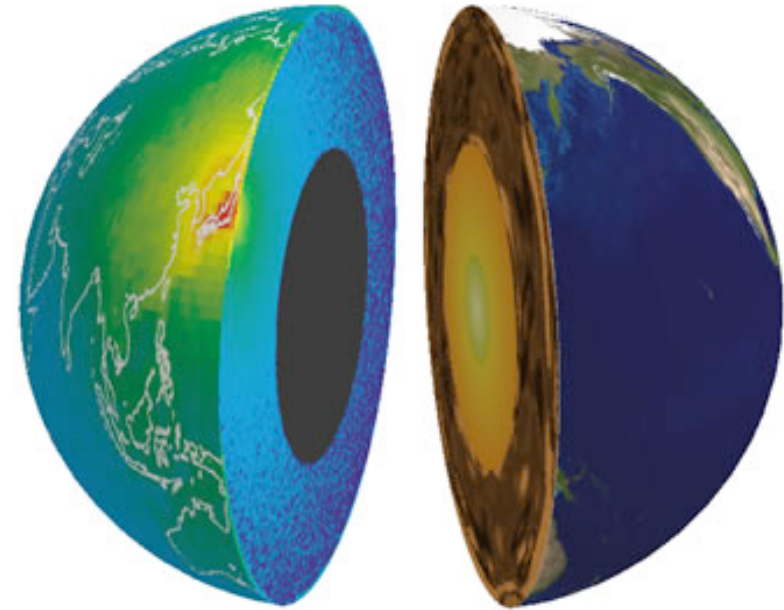
$E_\nu \sim 1 \text{ MeV}$

Geoneutrinos



Geoneutrinos

- Radiogenic heat from U and Th decays in the earth's crust and mantle provide a sufficient flux of neutrinos at low energies.
- Radiogenic heat is expected to be a significant portion of the Earth's heating source (~40-60% of 40 TW).
- First geoneutrinos detected only recently (from Kamland).



Vol 436|28 July 2005|doi:10.1038/nature03980

nature

ARTICLES

Experimental investigation of geologically produced antineutrinos with KamLAND

T. Araki¹, S. Enomoto¹, K. Furuno¹, Y. Gando¹, K. Ichimura¹, H. Ikeda¹, K. Inoue¹, Y. Kishimoto¹, M. Koga¹, Y. Koseki¹, T. Maeda¹, T. Mitsui¹, M. Motoki¹, K. Nakajima¹, H. Ogawa¹, M. Ogawa¹, K. Owada¹, J.-S. Ricol¹, I. Shimizu¹, J. Shirai¹, F. Suekane¹, A. Suzuki¹, K. Tada¹, S. Takeuchi¹, K. Tamae¹, Y. Tsuda¹, H. Watanabe¹, J. Busenitz², T. Classen², Z. Djurcic², G. Keefer², D. Leonard², A. Piepke², E. Yakushev², B. E. Berger³, Y. D. Chan³, M. P. Decowski³, D. A. Dwyer³, S. J. Freedman³, B. K. Fujikawa³, J. Goldman³, F. Gray³, K. M. Heeger³, L. Hsu³, K. T. Lesko³, K.-B. Luk³, H. Murayama³, T. O'Donnell³, A. W. P. Poon³, H. M. Steiner³, L. A. Winslow³, C. Mauger⁴, R. D. McKeown⁴, P. Vogel⁴, C. E. Lane⁵, T. Miletic⁵, G. Guillian⁶, J. G. Learned⁶, J. Maricic⁶, S. Matsuno⁶, S. Pakvasa⁶, G. A. Horton-Smith⁷, S. Dazeley⁸, S. Hatakeyama⁸, A. Rojas⁸, R. Svoboda⁸, B. D. Dieterle⁹, J. Detwiler¹⁰, G. Gratta¹⁰, K. Ishii¹⁰, N. Tolich¹⁰, Y. Uchida¹⁰, M. Batygov¹¹, W. Bugg¹¹

“...and Prometheus was punished for giving fire back to mankind...”



What we will cover:

Where do neutrinos come from?

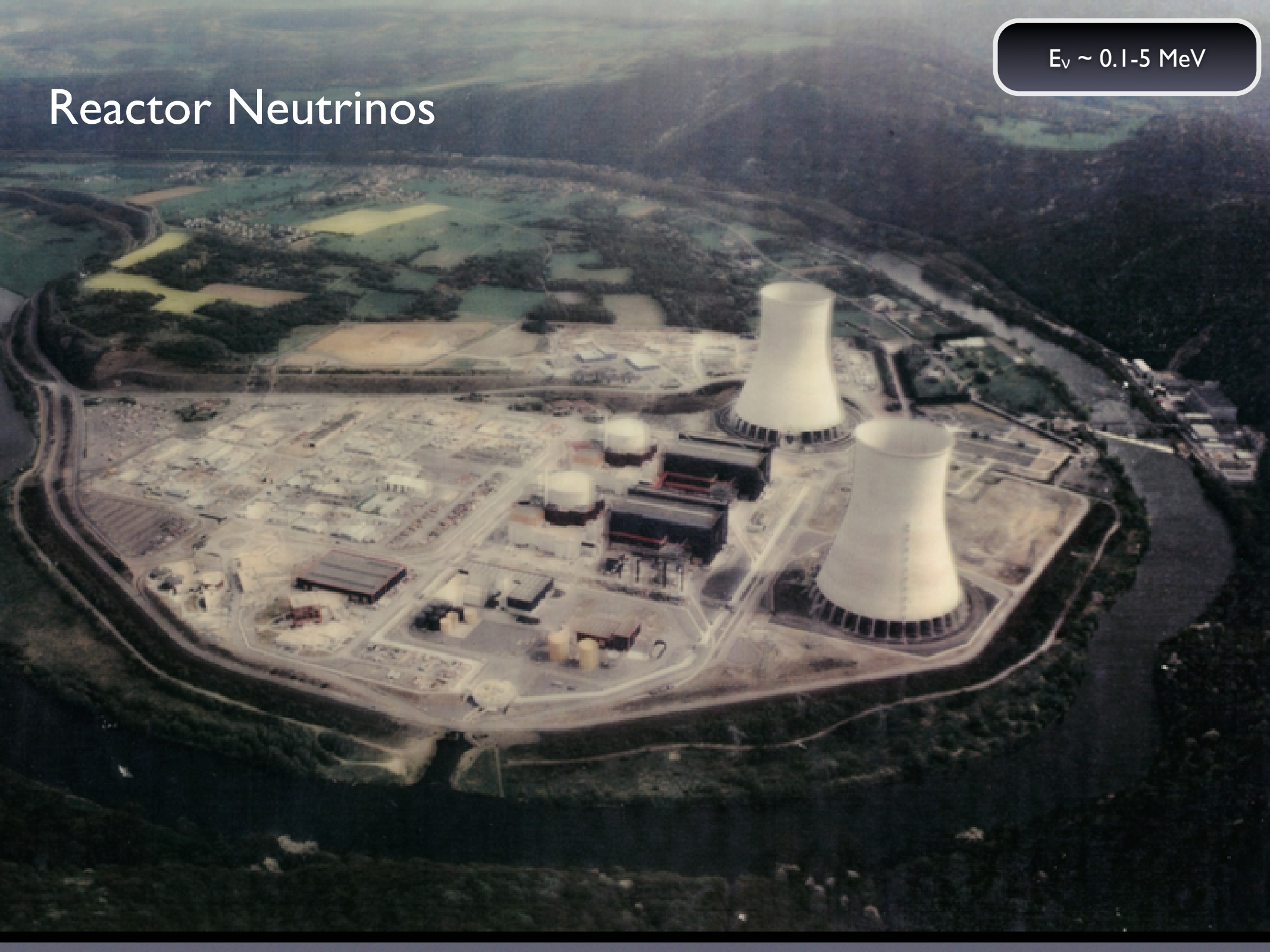
Neutrinos from the Heavens

Neutrinos from the Earth

Neutrinos from Man

$E_\nu \sim 0.1\text{-}5 \text{ MeV}$

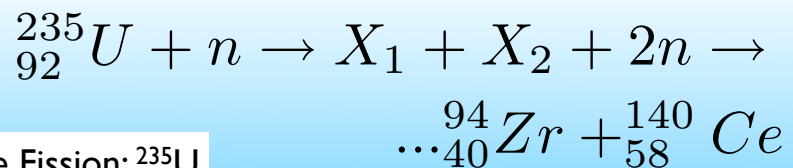
Reactor Neutrinos



Neutrinos from Fission

- Reactor neutrinos stem mostly as a by-product from fission, as numerous unstable nuclei are produced and beta decay to more stable isotopes.
- Four main neutrino fuel sources:

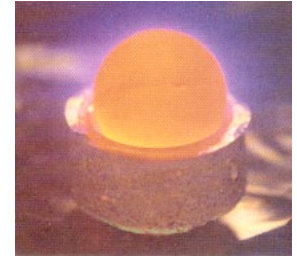
^{238}U , ^{235}U , ^{239}Pu and ^{241}Pu



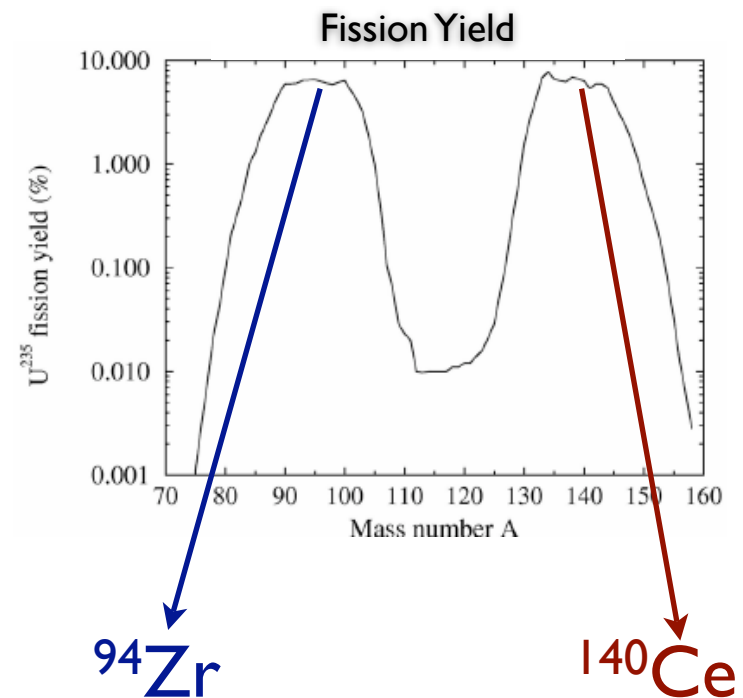
Sample Fission: ^{235}U



^{235}U



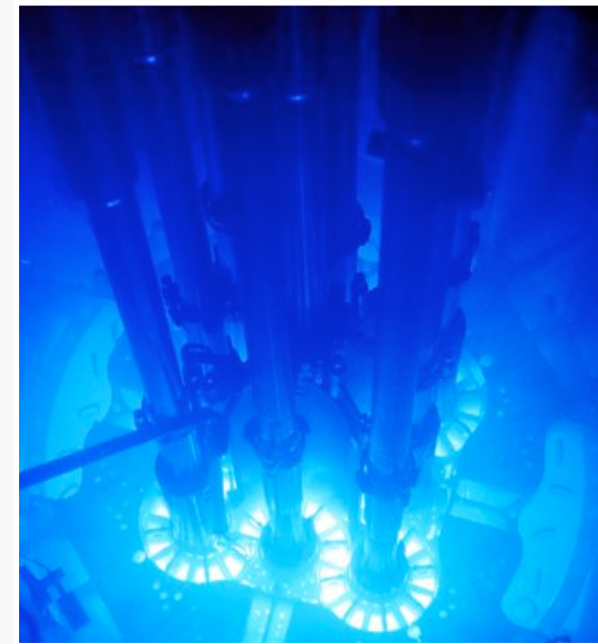
^{239}Pu



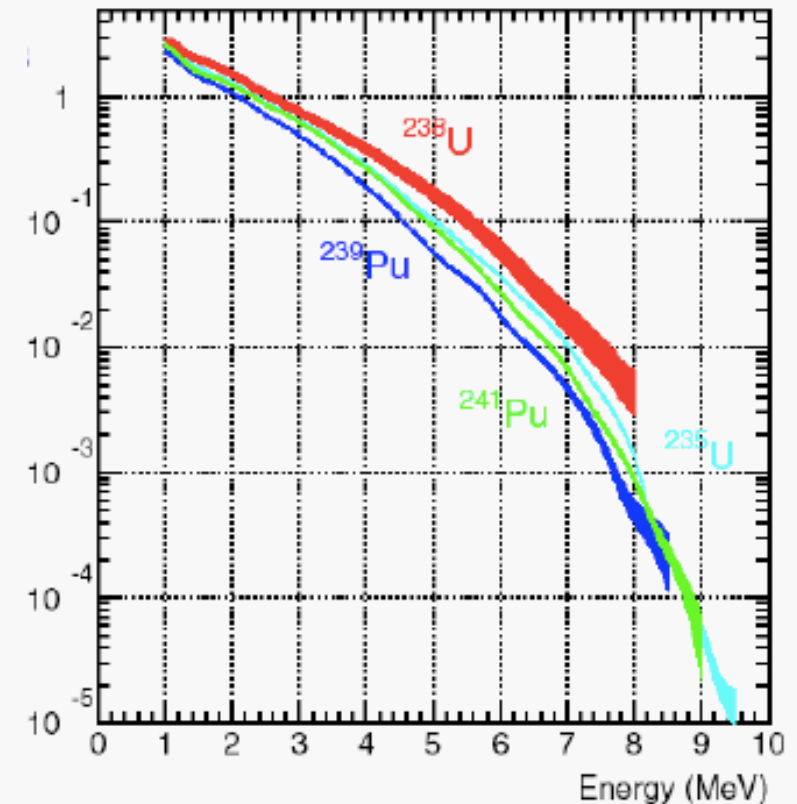
Neutrinos from Fission

- Eventually reaction produces stable isotopes, such as Zr and Ce. In the process, 6 protons must have beta-decayed to 6 neutrons.
- About 6 anti-neutrinos are produced per fission. Since each fission cycle produces 200 MeV, one can convert power to neutrino flux.

$$1 \text{ GW (thermal)} \approx 1.8 \times 10^{20} \bar{\nu}_e / \text{second}$$

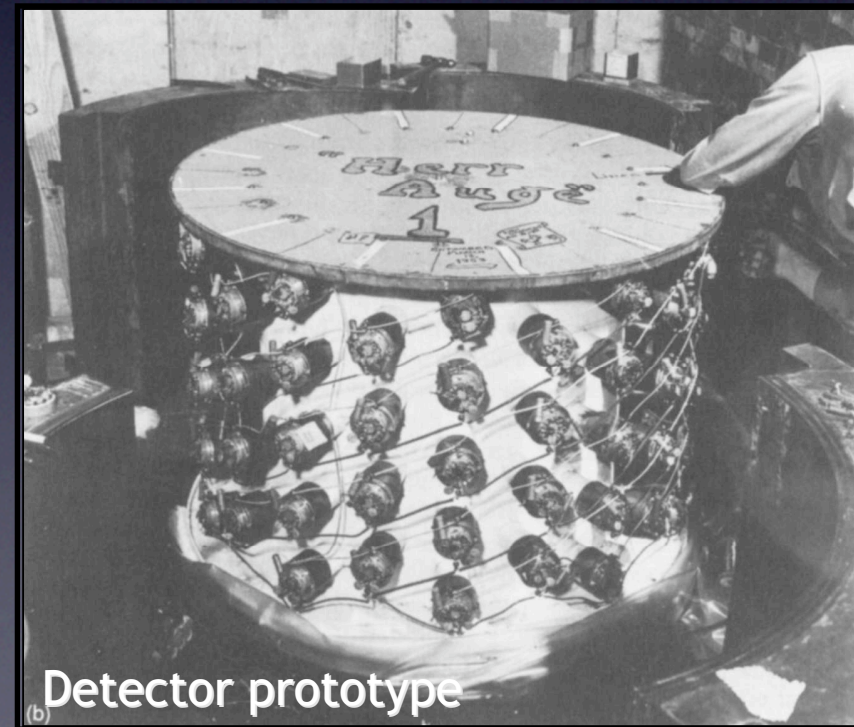
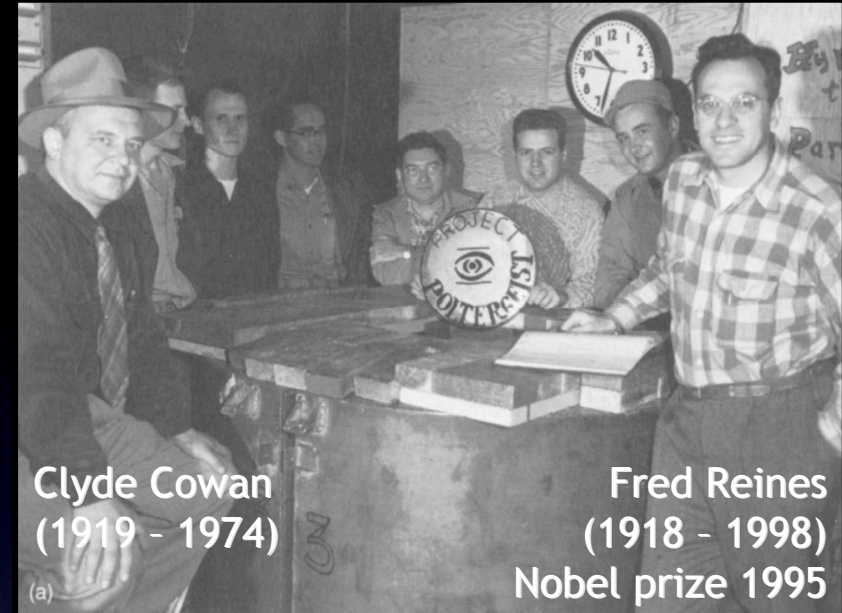
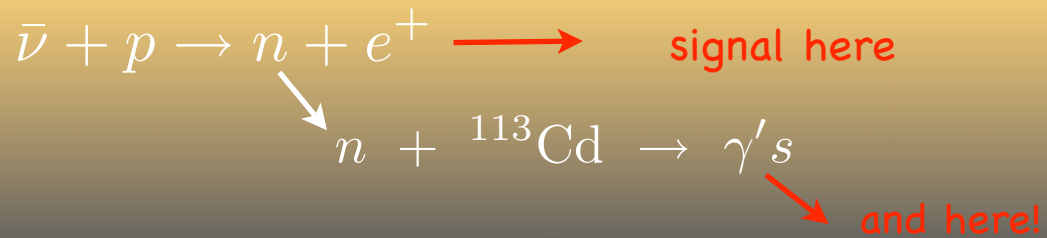


neutrinos/MeV/fission



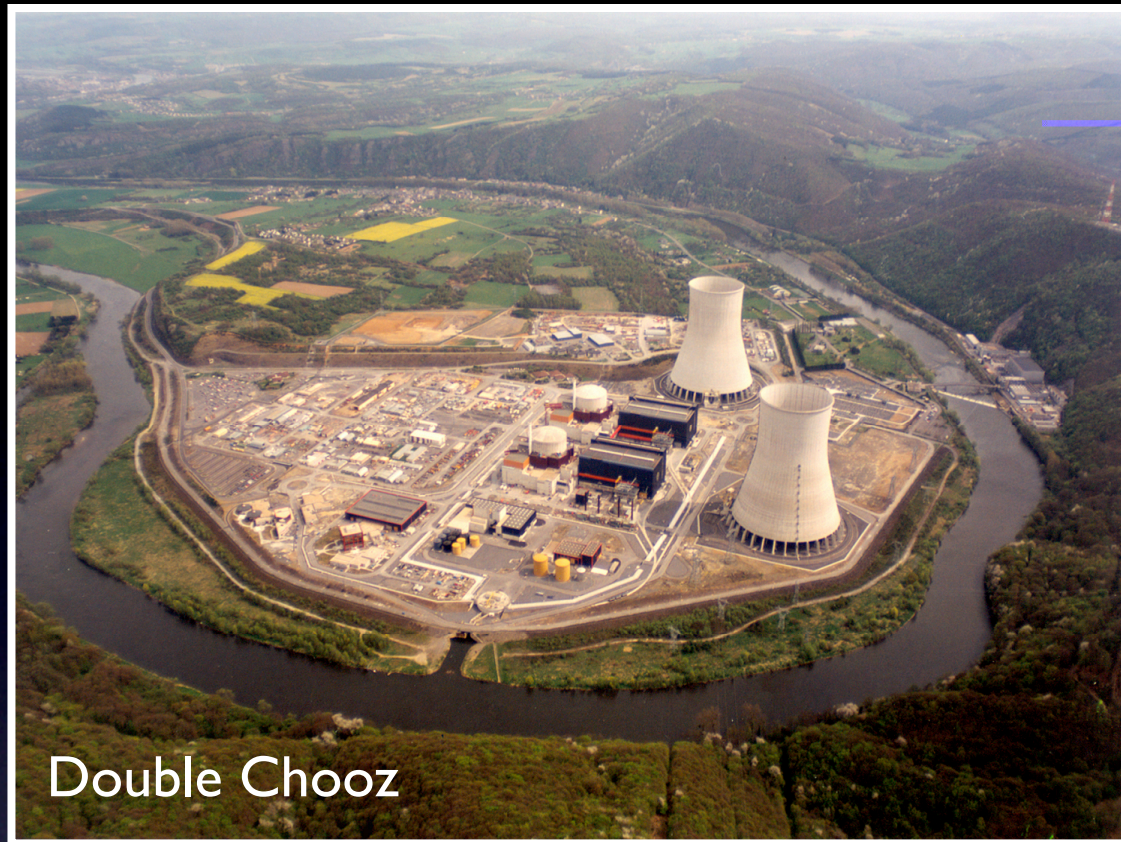
Reactor Experiments: Pioneer Efforts

First experimental detection of neutrinos came indeed from the high flux of neutrinos created in reactors.



Upcoming Reactor Experiments

- Advanced development of new reactor experiments (Double Chooz, Daya Bay, RENO, and Angra).
- All experiments will push down on the last unmeasured oscillation mixing angle in next few years.



Double Chooz

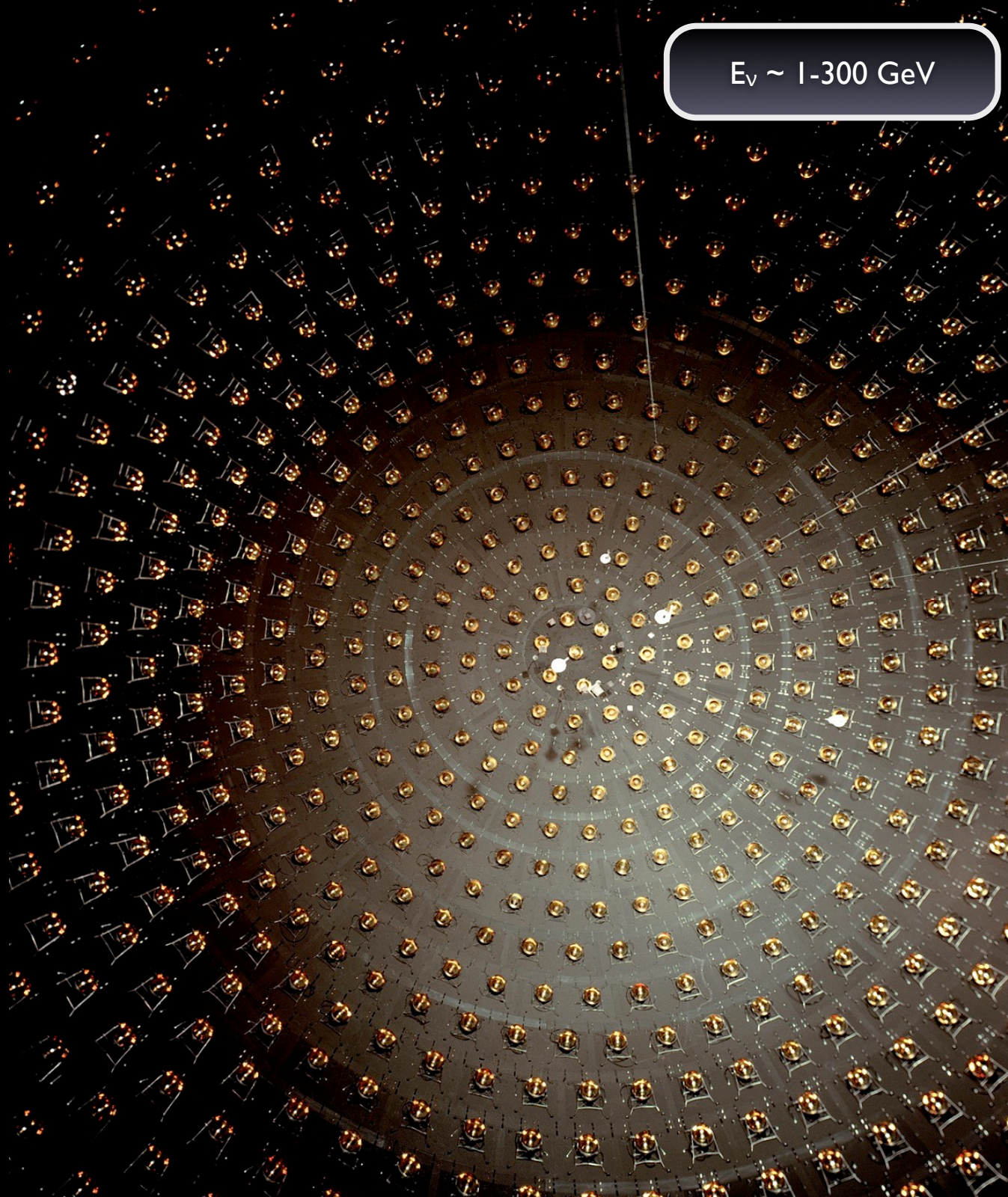
Daya Bay



$E_\nu \sim 1\text{-}300 \text{ GeV}$

Accelerator Neutrinos

- We can consider three very broad types of accelerator neutrino sources:
 - (a) Proton driver (or “conventional”) beams
 - (b) Beta beams
 - (c) Muon storage beam (“neutrino factories”)



Conventional Beams

- Beam creation very similar to atmospheric neutrinos (protons drive the production mechanism; neutrinos produced from pion decay).
- Beam creation allows for greater selectivity of the beam properties. Typical the beam user will create beam with a given:



CERN's WA21 beamline

(a) Neutrino flavor purity,

(b) Selected energy range & distance,

(c) Intensity

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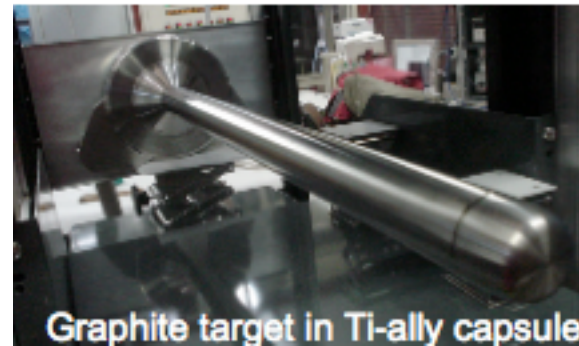


You always want more...

Stages

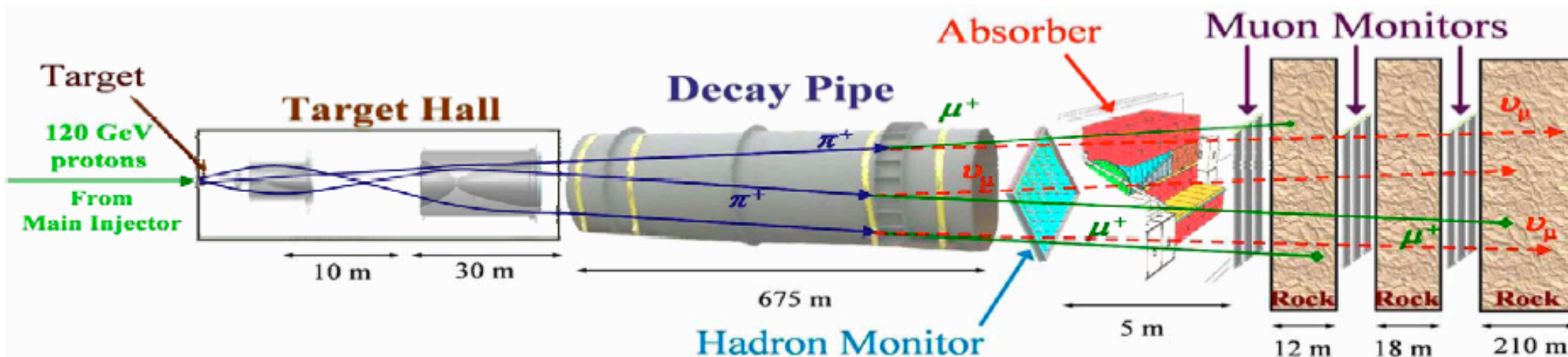
- Basic ingredients of target, focusing region, decay region, absorber, and detector found in almost all accelerators.
- How system is optimized depends on type of beam desired.

Target Region



Region of primary interaction.

Concerns include heating and attenuation of particles



Stages

- Basic ingredients of target, focusing region, decay region, absorber, and detector found in almost all accelerators.
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Focusing Region



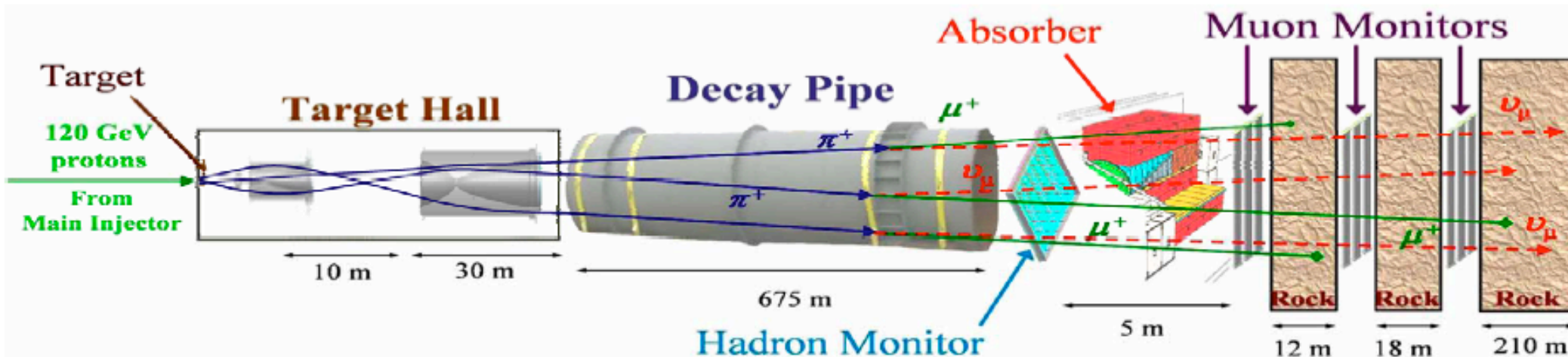
$$\pi^+ \longrightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu$$

or

$$\pi^- \longrightarrow \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu$$

Selects pion/kaon charge (neutrino or anti-neutrino running)

Can also be used to ensure beam purity.



Stages

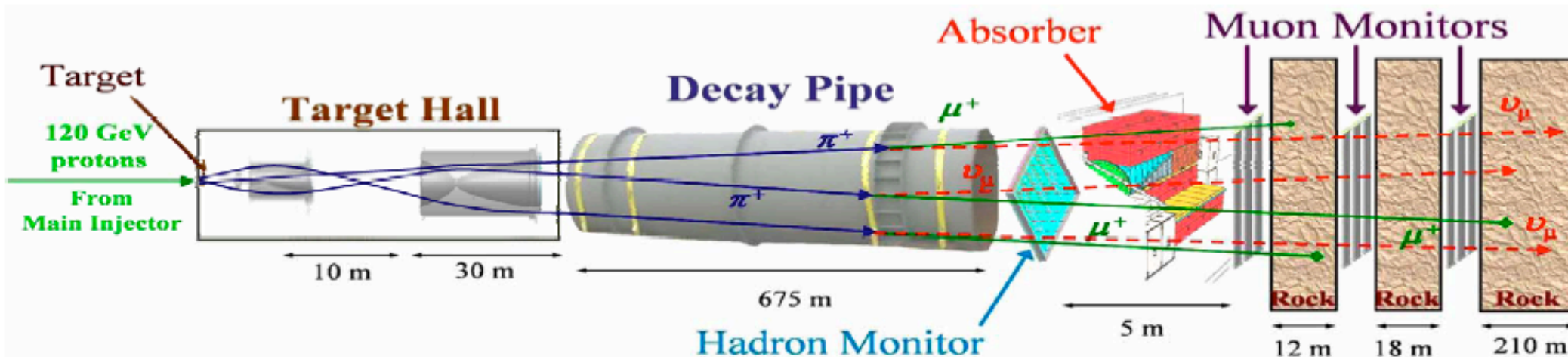
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Decay/Absorber Region



Region for pion/kaon decay to occur.

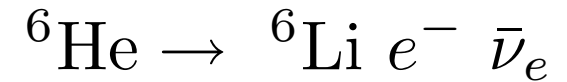
Absorber removes unwanted charged particles & neutrons on route to detector



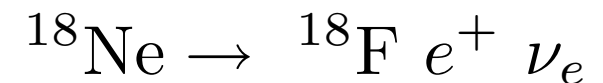
Beta Beams

- Different from conventional beams, as they use accelerated beta-decaying ions as the source of neutrinos.
- Extremely pure beam of electron (or anti-electron neutrinos).
- Spectrum extremely well known, since it comes from a boosted beta decay rather than a complex nucleon production scheme.
- Production of ion source still considerable challenge, but research is ongoing.

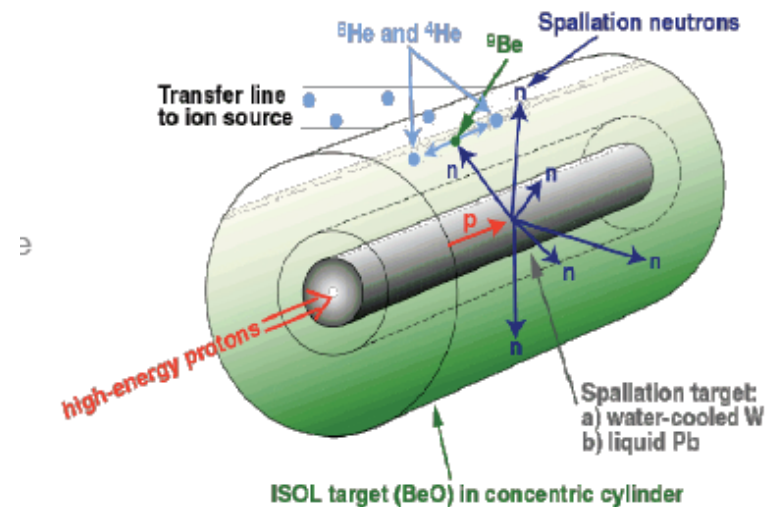
Neutrinos from Beta Decay



Electron Anti-neutrino Source



Electron Neutrino Source



Neutrino Factories

- Driving mechanism comes from muon decay rather than pion decay.
- Ideal “beam” for many oscillation studies.

Main Advantages

Extremely pure beam due to use of delayed decays.

Well known beam profile

Typically intense source envisioned.

Main Disadvantages

Both neutrino & anti-neutrino present in the beam at once

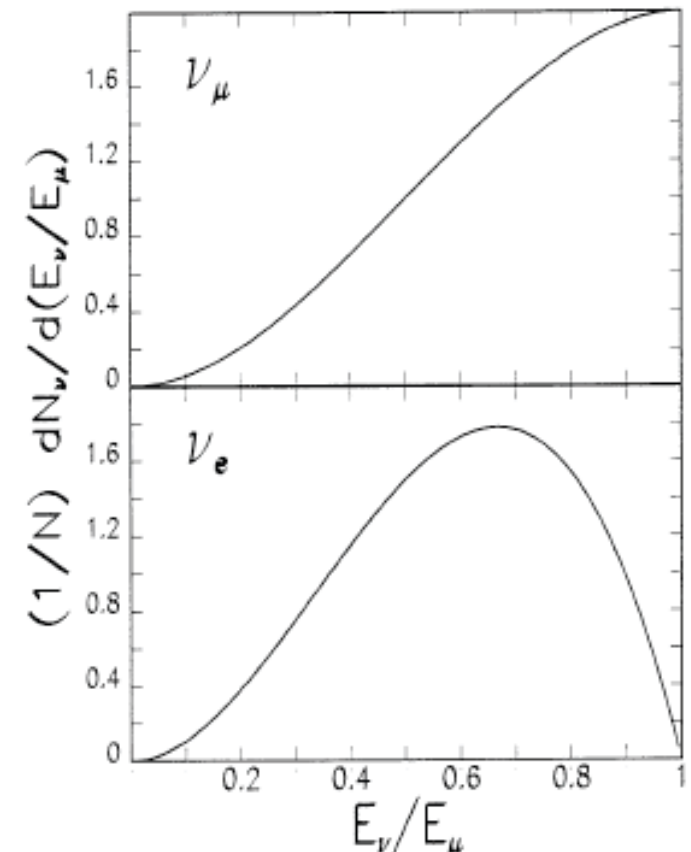
Extremely short storage times

Challenging technology

Neutrinos from Muon Decay

$$\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \bar{\nu}_\mu$$

$$\mu^- \rightarrow e^- \bar{\nu}_e \nu_\mu$$



$E_\nu \sim 50 \text{ MeV}$

Spallation Neutron Sources



- Any reaction that can produce an intense pion source is effectively an excellent neutrino source.
- In this case, there is no boost from a relativistic proton (pions created at rest).
- The Spallation Neutron Source (high intensity neutron source) can also double as an excellent neutrino source.
 1. Pulsed beam ensures clean tagging of neutrino events.
 2. Intensity neutrino source (10^{15} v/s)
 3. Can be used for oscillation studies & coherent neutrino scattering.



SNS as a Neutrino Source

- As you can see, neutrinos are EVERYWHERE in the universe; playing a crucial role in many natural interactions.
- Given so many abundant sources of neutrinos, they provide an excellent means to probe the universe around us.
- How? Stay tuned...



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Texts I find useful...

- “Neutrino Physics”, by Kai Zuber
- “Particle Physics and Cosmology”, by P.D.B. Collins, A.D. Martin, and E.J. Squires.
- “The Physics of Massive Neutrinos,” (two books by the same title, B. Kayser and P.Vogel, F. Boehm
- “Los Alamos Science: Celebrating the Neutrino”, a good 1st year intro into neutrinos, albeit a bit outdated now.
- “Massive Neutrinos in Physics and Astrophysics,” Mohapatra and Pal.





Fin