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Neutrino decay: the role of new interactions

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# The Nobel Prize in Physics 2015



Photo: A. Mahmoud

**Takaaki Kajita**

**Prize share: 1/2**

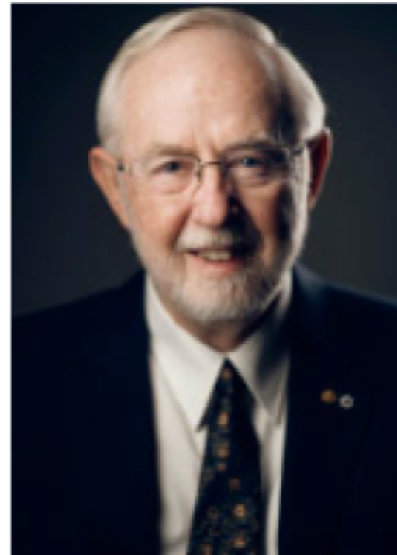


Photo: A. Mahmoud

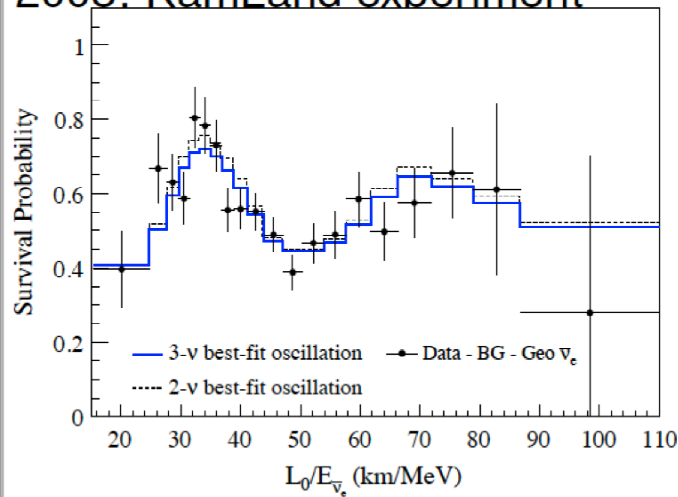
**Arthur B. McDonald**

**Prize share: 1/2**

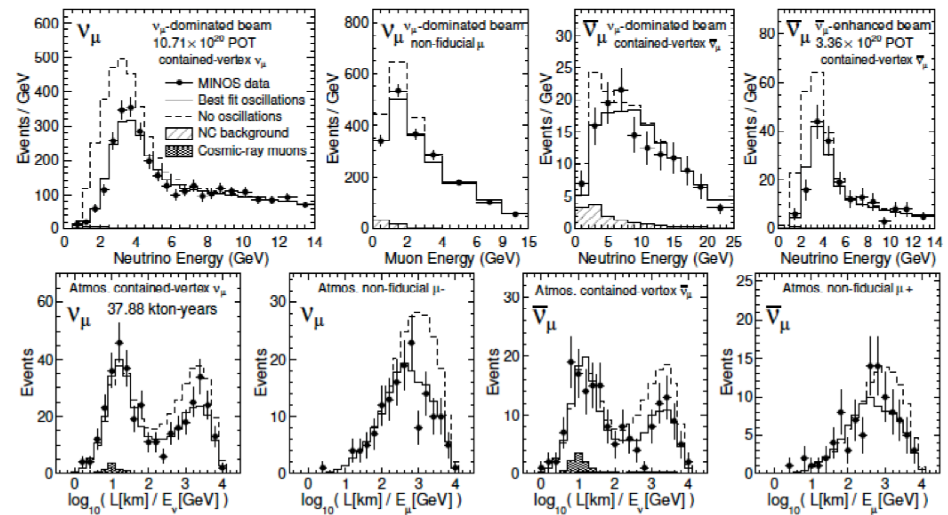
The Nobel Prize in Physics 2015 was awarded jointly to Takaaki Kajita and Arthur B. McDonald *"for the discovery of neutrino oscillations, which shows that neutrinos have mass"*

# Neutrino oscillations are the first signal of Beyond Standard Model (BSM)

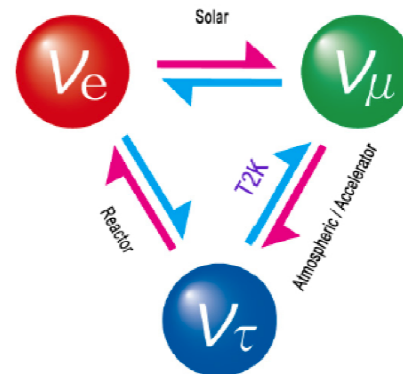
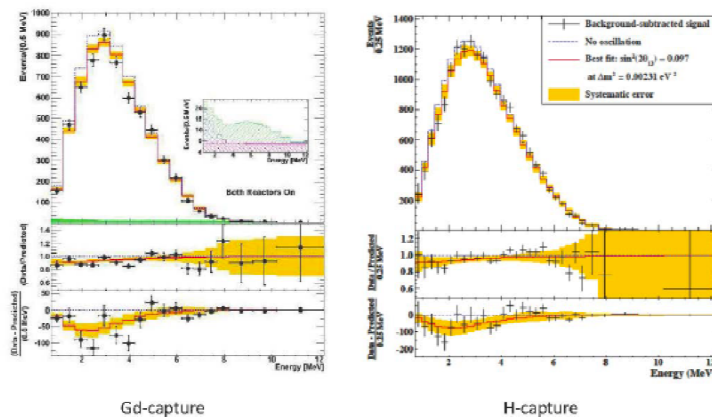
2008: KamLand experiment



MINOS experiment 2010: UFG/USP/UNICAMP



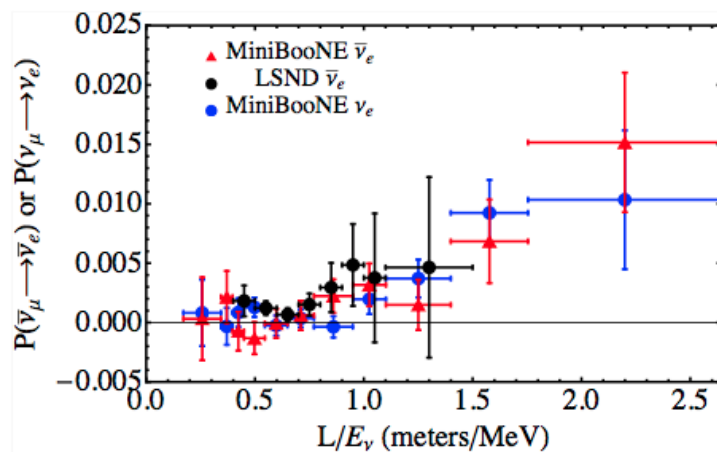
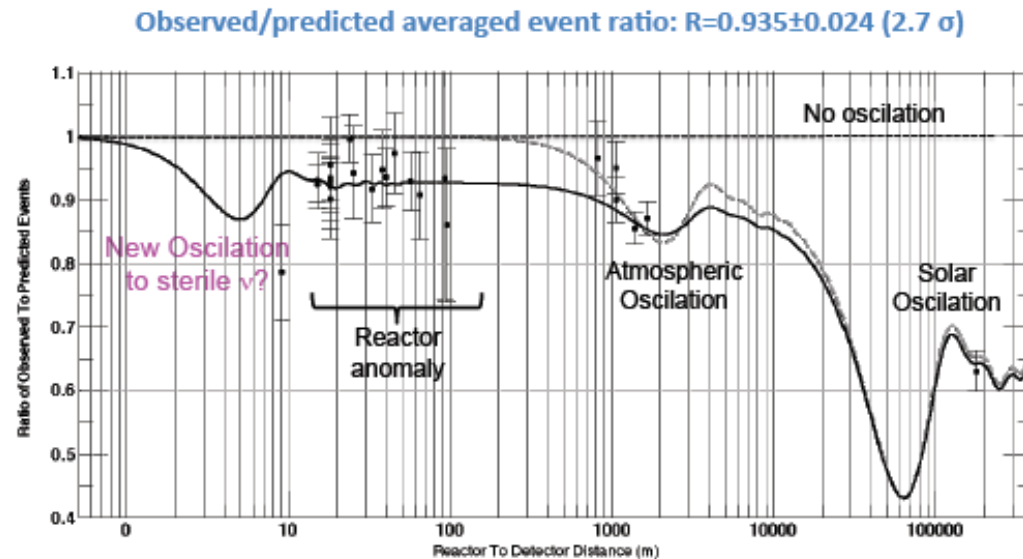
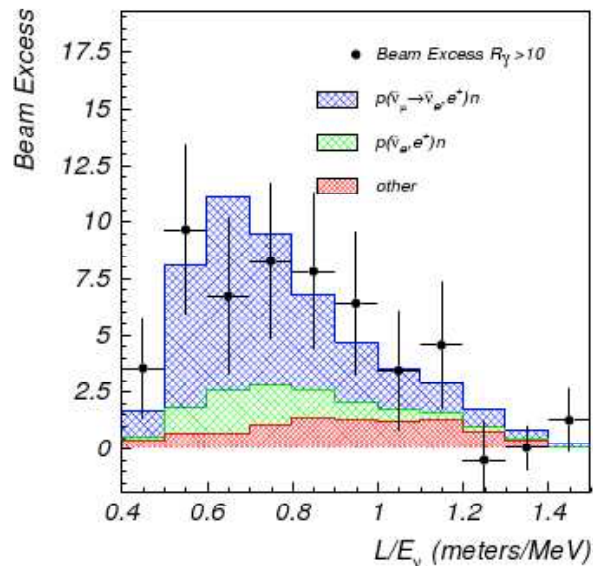
2013: UNICAMP/UFABC/CBPF



# There are other signal of BSM ?

Not yet, search for sterile neutrinos, NSI (Non-standard neutrino interactions), Non-unitary scenarios, open quantum systems....

## Hints from LSND,MINI-BOONE, Reactor Anomaly



# Neutrino decay

**Old idea:** Neutrino Decay in Gauge Theories , **G.T. Zatsepin, A.Yu. Smirnov**, Yad.Fiz. 28 (1978) 1569-1579  
The Processes  $\mu \rightarrow e \gamma$ ,  $\mu \rightarrow e e \text{ anti-}e$ , Neutrino'  $\rightarrow$  Neutrino  $\gamma$  in the Weinberg-Salam Model with Neutrino Mixing, **S.T. Petcov**, Sov. J. Nucl.Phys. 25 (1977) 340

**Renewed interest:** A Combined treatment of neutrino decay and neutrino oscillations, **Manfred Lindner, Tommy Ohlsson, Walter Winter**, Nucl.Phys. B607 (2001) 326-354, DOI: [10.1016/S0550-3213\(01\)00237-1](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0550-3213(01)00237-1), e-Print: [hep-ph/0103170](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/0103170) | [PDF](#)

**First point:** which states the neutrino can decay?

Common scenario:  $\nu' \rightarrow \nu + \gamma$

Scenario discussed here:

$$\nu' \rightarrow \nu + \phi$$

$\phi$  **Massless scalar**

$$\mathcal{L} = - \sum_{i,j} g_{ij} \overline{\nu}_i^C \nu_j \phi$$

## Neutrino decay, what are the possible ways?

In the literature it was studied two possibilities

- (I) **Heavy neutrino**(“sterile”) decaying into **lighter neutrinos+scalar**
- (II) **Lighter neutrino**(“active”) decaying into the **lightest neutrinos+scalar**

Also we can have two scenarios (Dirac/Majorana)

- (I) **No Daughter neutrino**(“sterile” or “right-handed neutrino”)
- (II) **Daughter neutrino**(“active”)

And depending our choice (Dirac/Majorana)



## Neutrino decay, recent activity?

In the literature, it was studied

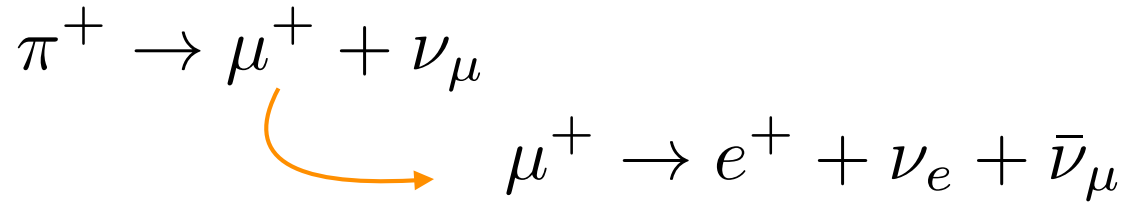
- (I) Long-Baseline experiments, T2K, MINOS, DUNE, T2K,
- (II) Atmospheric neutrinos SK, ICECUBE
- (III) Reactor Neutrinos KamLand, JUNO
- (IV) Short-baseline experiments, LSND, MINI-BOONE, SBND
- (V) Solar neutrino experiments,
- (VI) Cosmology

- (I) Gomes<sup>2</sup>, OLGP, de Salas and Tortola, Ascencio-Sosa and Gago and Jones-Peres, Ghosal and Meloni, Choubey and Pramanick, Choubey and Goswami, Coloma and OLGP, Gago and Gomes<sup>2</sup> and OLGP and Jones-Perez
- (II) Beacom and Bell, Meloni and Ohlsson, Dorame and Valle, Choubey, Denton and Tombora
- (III) Minakata and Nunokawa, Porto-Silva, Prakash and O.L.G.P.
- (IV) Palomares-Ruiz, Pascoli, Dentler and Esteban and Machado, Schwetz, Gouvea and Stenico and Prakash and OLGP
- (V) Joshipura and Mohanty, Beacom, Choubey and Goswami, Picoreti, Guzzo and OLGP
- (VI) Hannestad, Escudero

# Neutrino decay phenomenology

Can neutrino decay to be the solution of short-baseline electron appearance?


## Main Idea




## Assumption:

**MeVish neutrino state**

$$\nu_\mu = \dots + U_{\mu 4} \nu_4$$


$$\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_{1,2,3} + \phi$$

$$\nu_\mu \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_{1,2,3} + \phi$$


$$\nu_e / \bar{\nu}_e$$

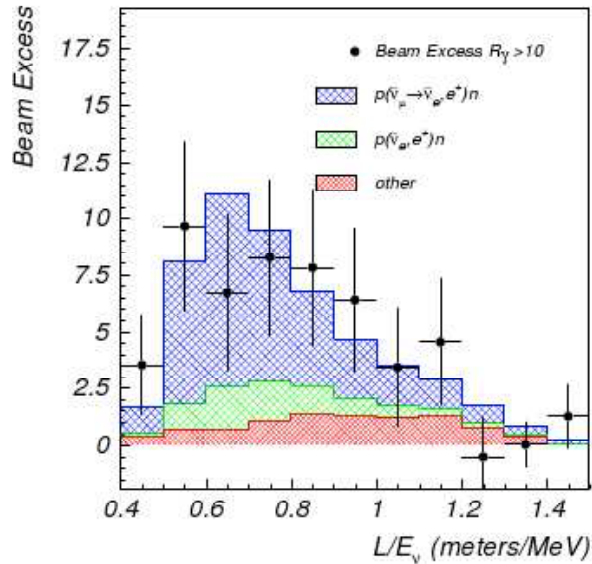
## Oscillation scenario:

**electron neutrino appearance**

$$\bar{\nu}_\mu \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e$$

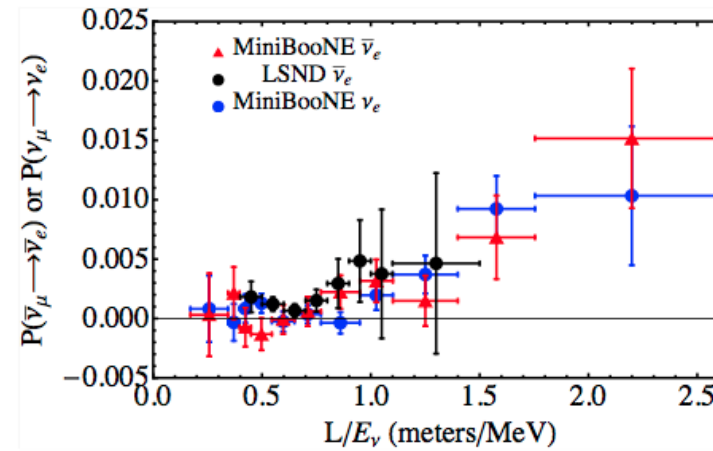


## LSND experiment



pion decay at rest: MeVish energies

## MINI-BOONE experiment



pion decay in flight: GeVish energies

For the analysis of the data: Daughter neutrinos were included.

$$\Gamma_{4e} = \left[ \frac{(g_M m_4)^2}{16\pi E_4} + \frac{(g_D m_4)^2}{32\pi E_4} \right]$$



Helicity conserving

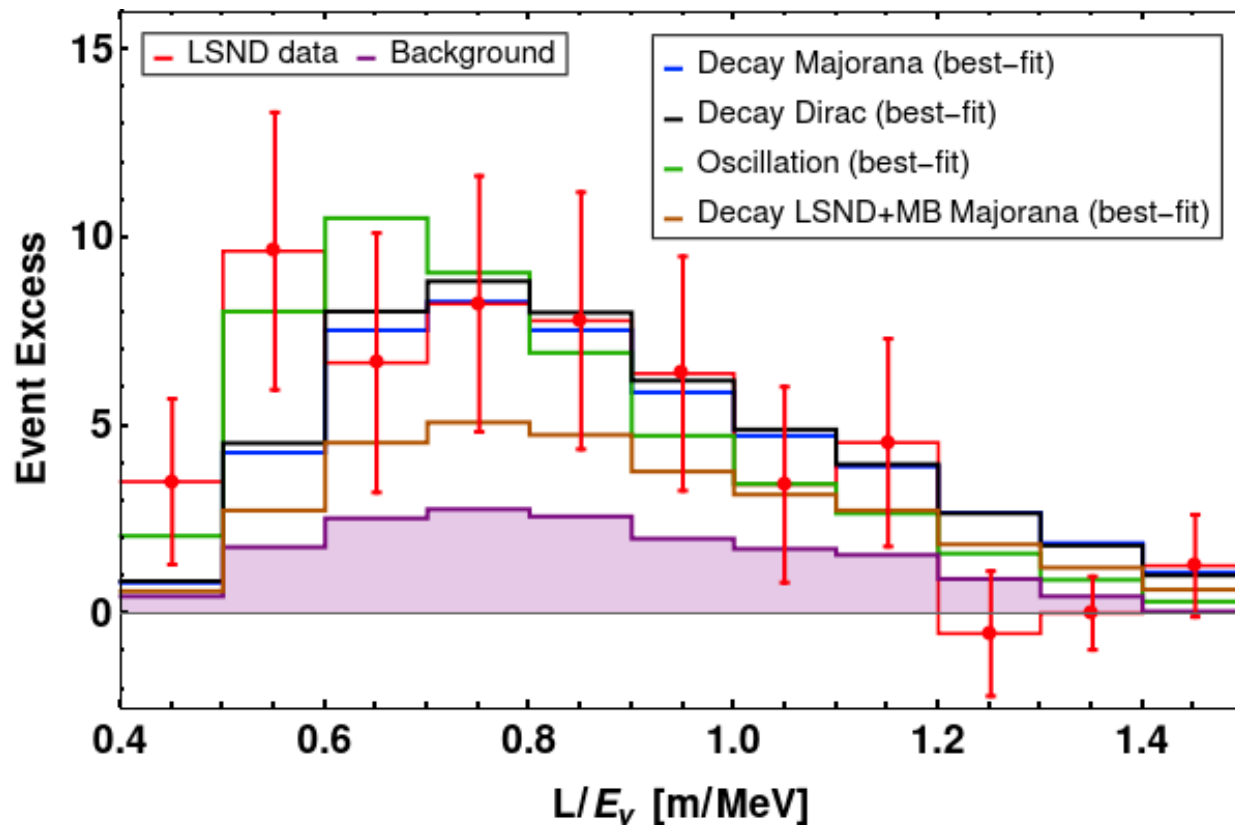


Helicity conserving/flipping

## Spectrum of Daughters neutrino: Helicity conserving/Helicity flipping

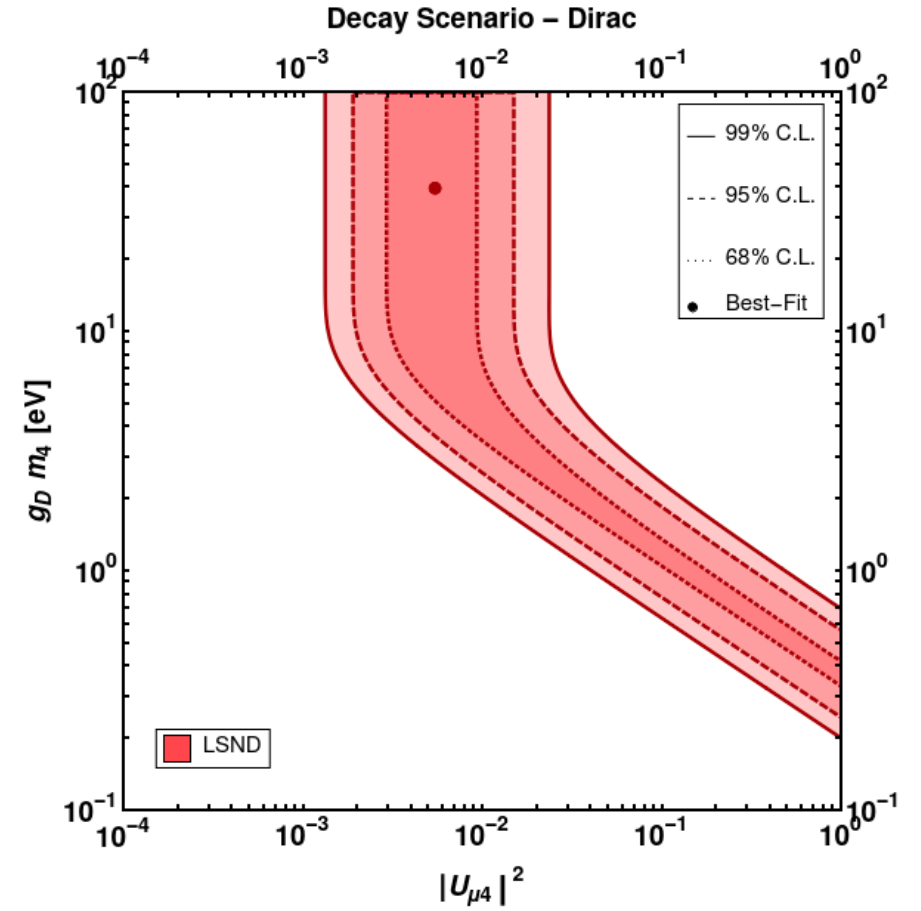
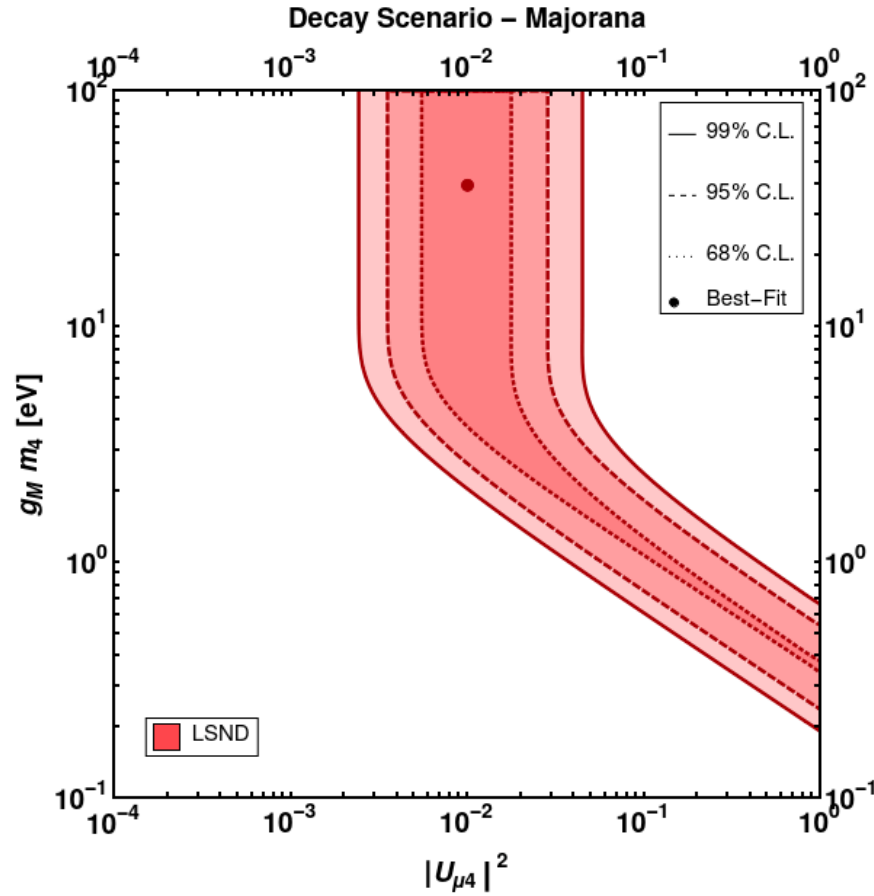
$$|\mathcal{M}_{rs}|^2 = |g_M|^2 m_4^2 \times \begin{cases} E_e/E_4 & r = s \\ (1 - E_e/E_4) & r \neq s \end{cases} .$$

### LSND experiment



# On The Decaying-Sterile Neutrino Solution to the Electron (Anti)Neutrino Appearance Anomalies

André de Gouvêa, O.L.G. Peres, Suprabh Prakash, G.V. Stenico. : [arXiv:1911.01447](https://arxiv.org/abs/1911.01447)

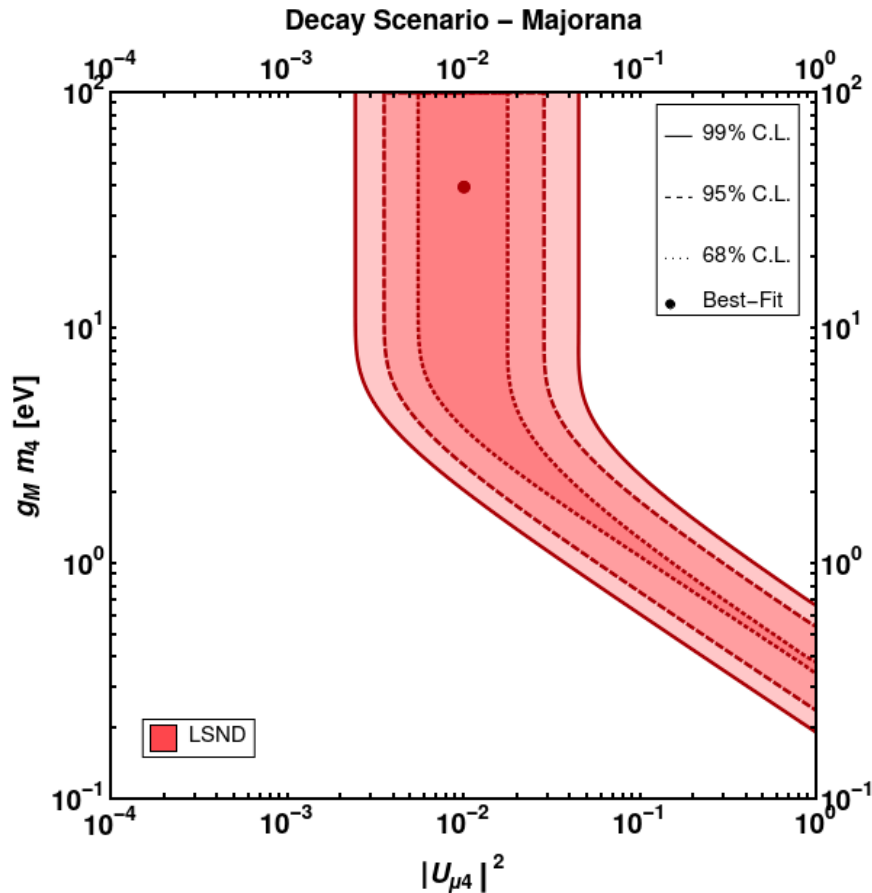


$$\Gamma_{4e} = \left[ \frac{(g_M m_4)^2}{16\pi E_4} + \frac{(g_D m_4)^2}{32\pi E_4} \right]$$

$$\nu_\mu = \dots + U_{\mu 4} \nu_4$$

# How to understand the allowed region plot?

Assume the initial flux is a power-law



For smaller lifetimes

$$\frac{\phi_{\nu_e}(E_{\nu_e})}{\phi_{\nu_\mu}(E_{\nu_e})} = \Gamma_{4e} L \left( \frac{2|U_{\mu 4}|^2 B_e}{1 + \alpha} \right)$$

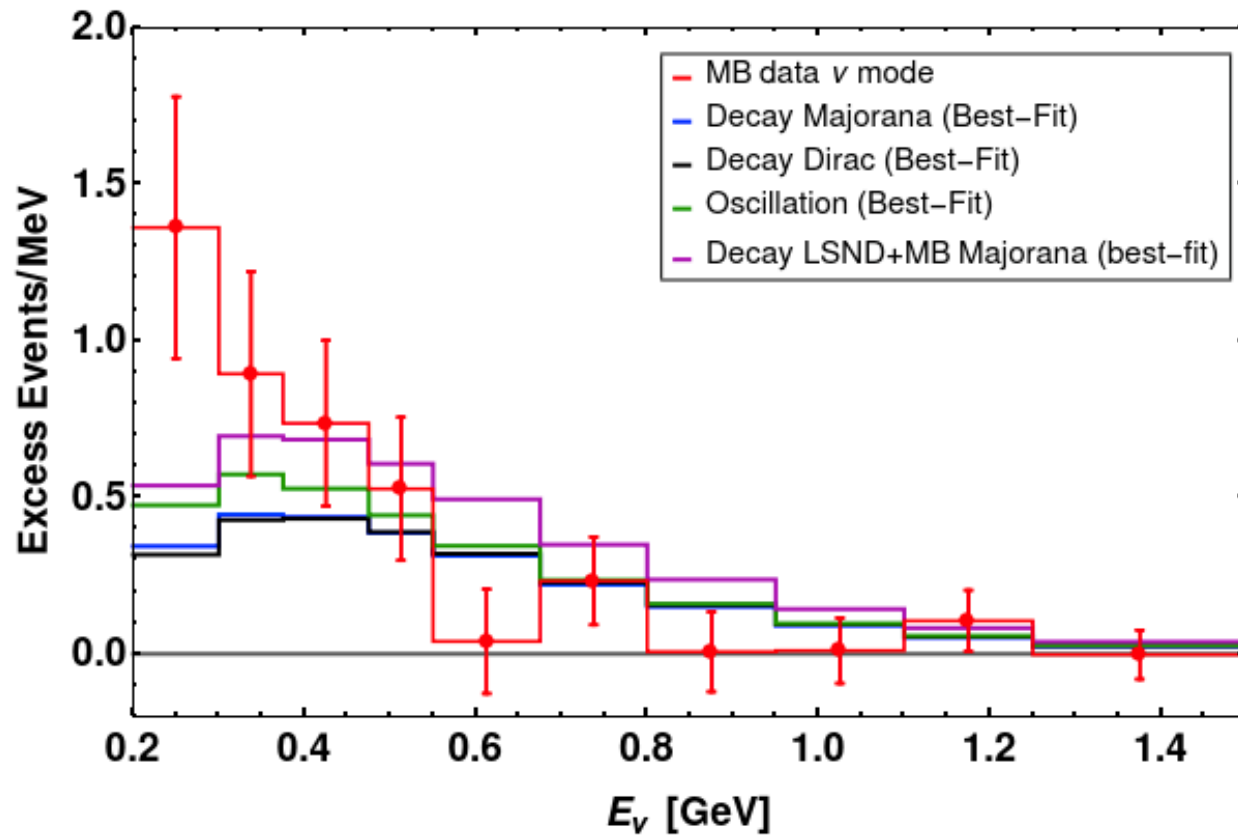
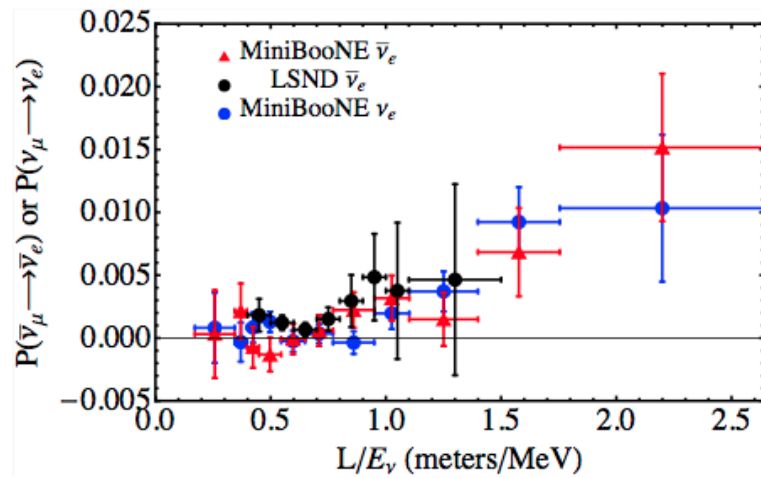
For larger lifetimes

$$\frac{\phi_{\nu_e}(E_{\nu_e})}{\phi_{\nu_\mu}(E_{\nu_e})} = \left( \frac{|U_{\mu 4}|^2 2B_e}{1 + \alpha} \right)$$

$$\Gamma_{4e} = \left[ \frac{(g_M m_4)^2}{16\pi E_4} \right. \\ \left. \frac{(g_D m_4)^2}{32\pi E_4} \right]$$

## The devil it is in details

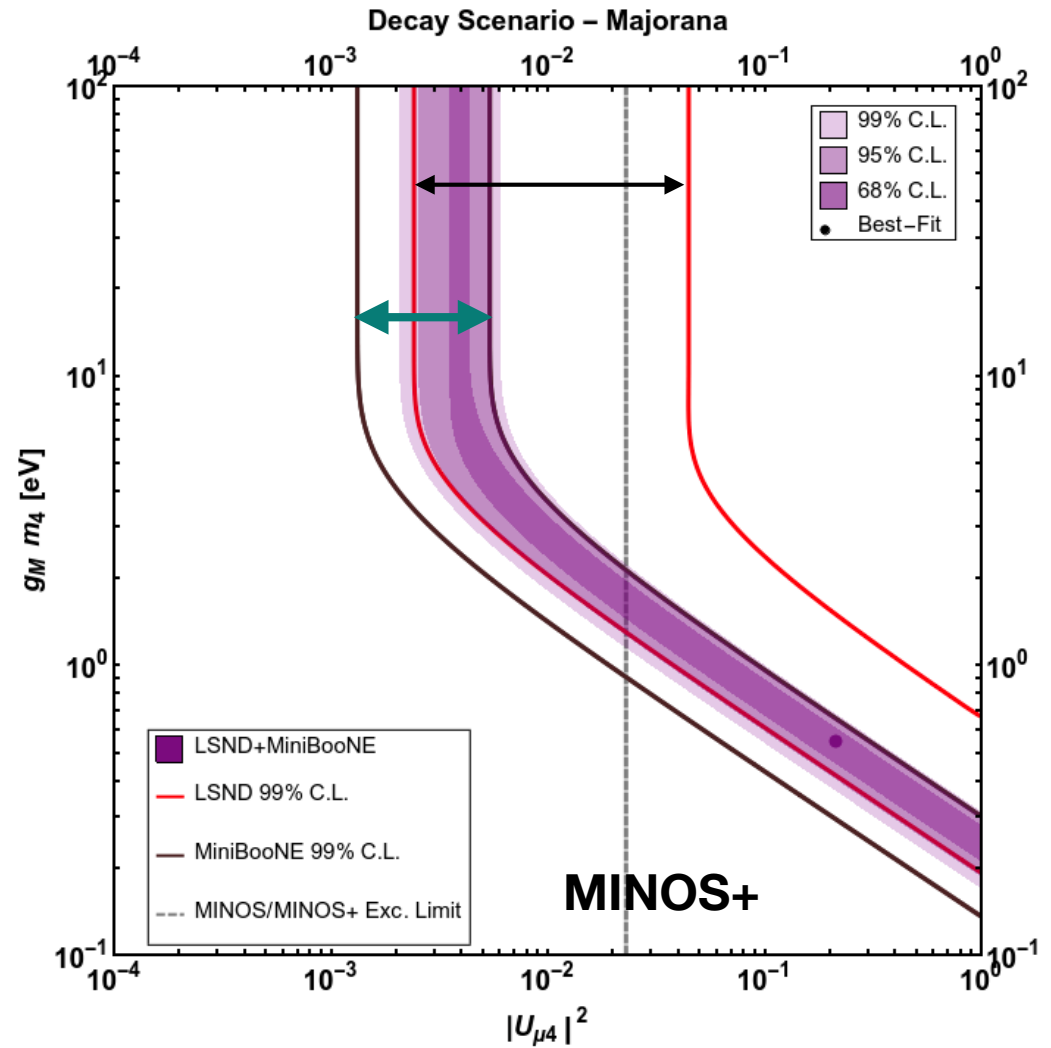
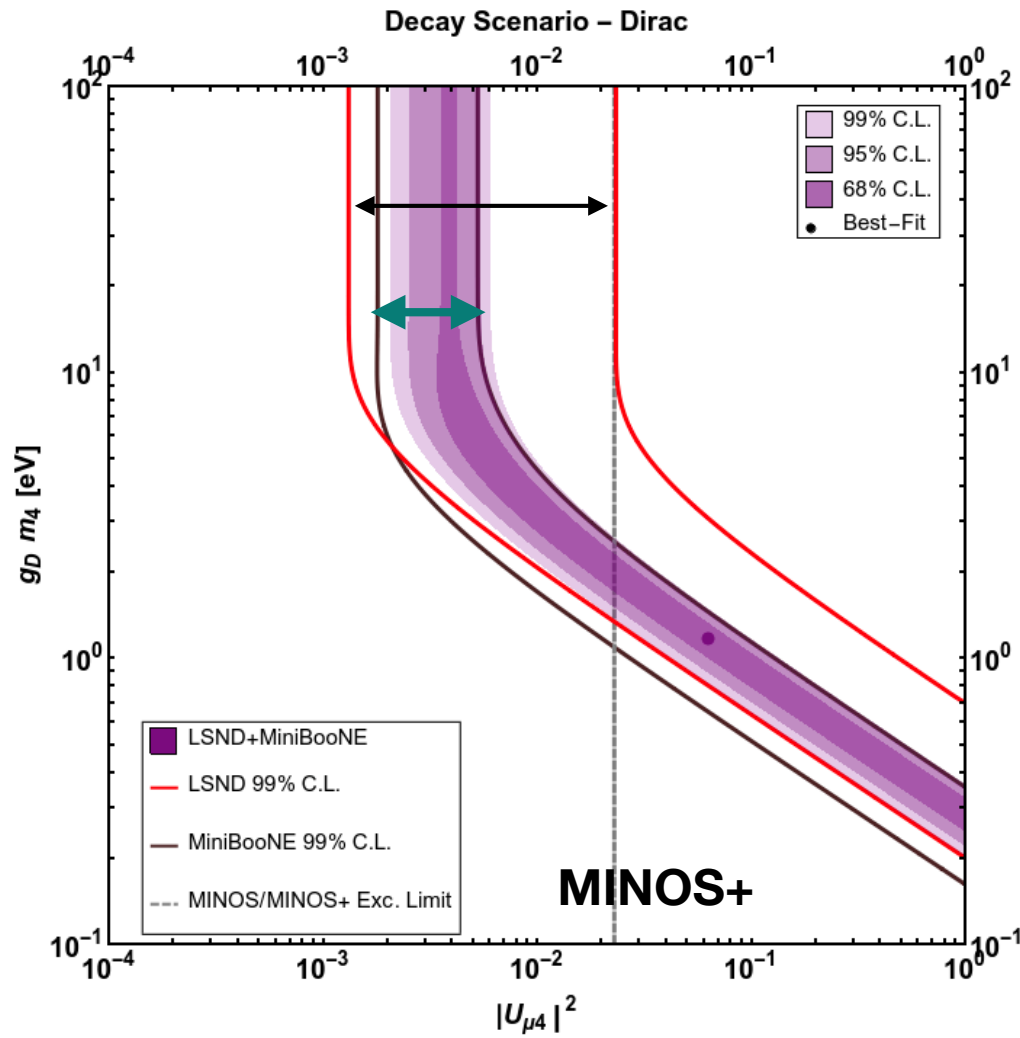
There is slight difference of L/Enu of LSND/MINI-BOONE



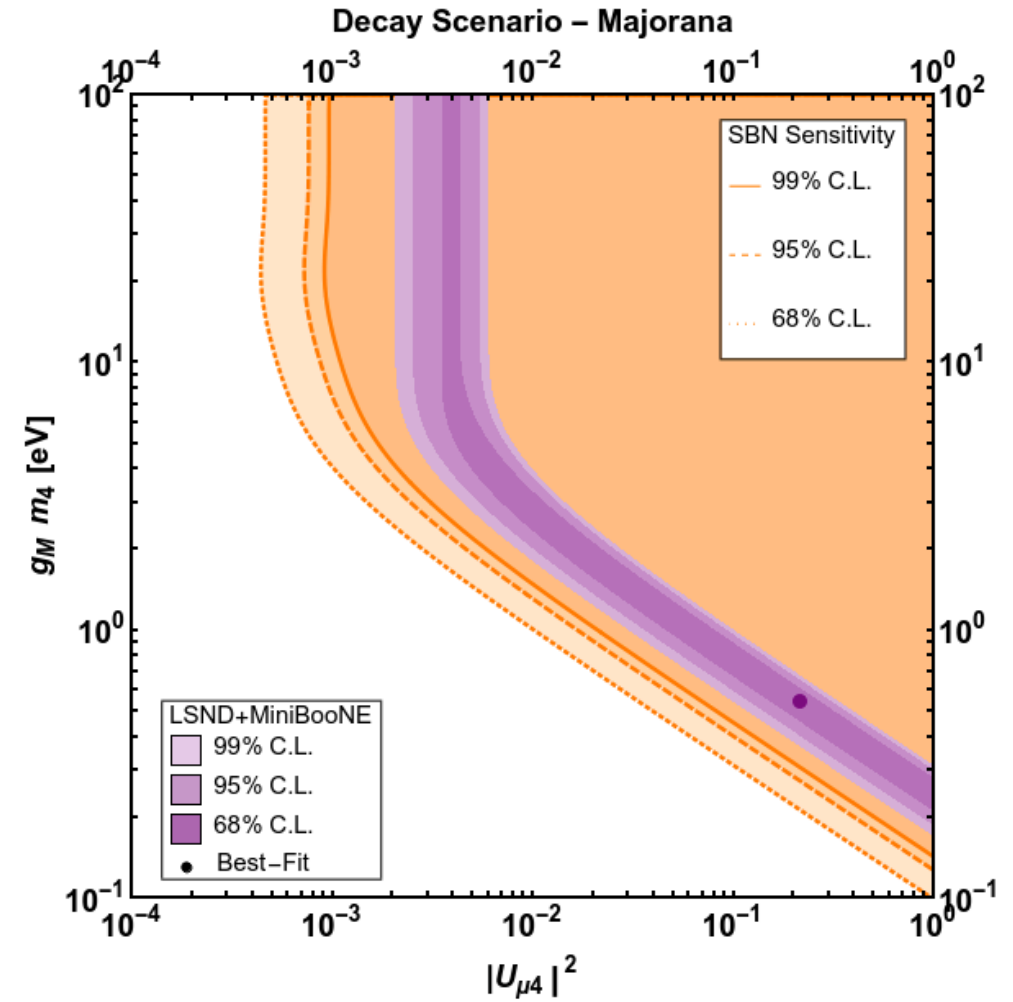
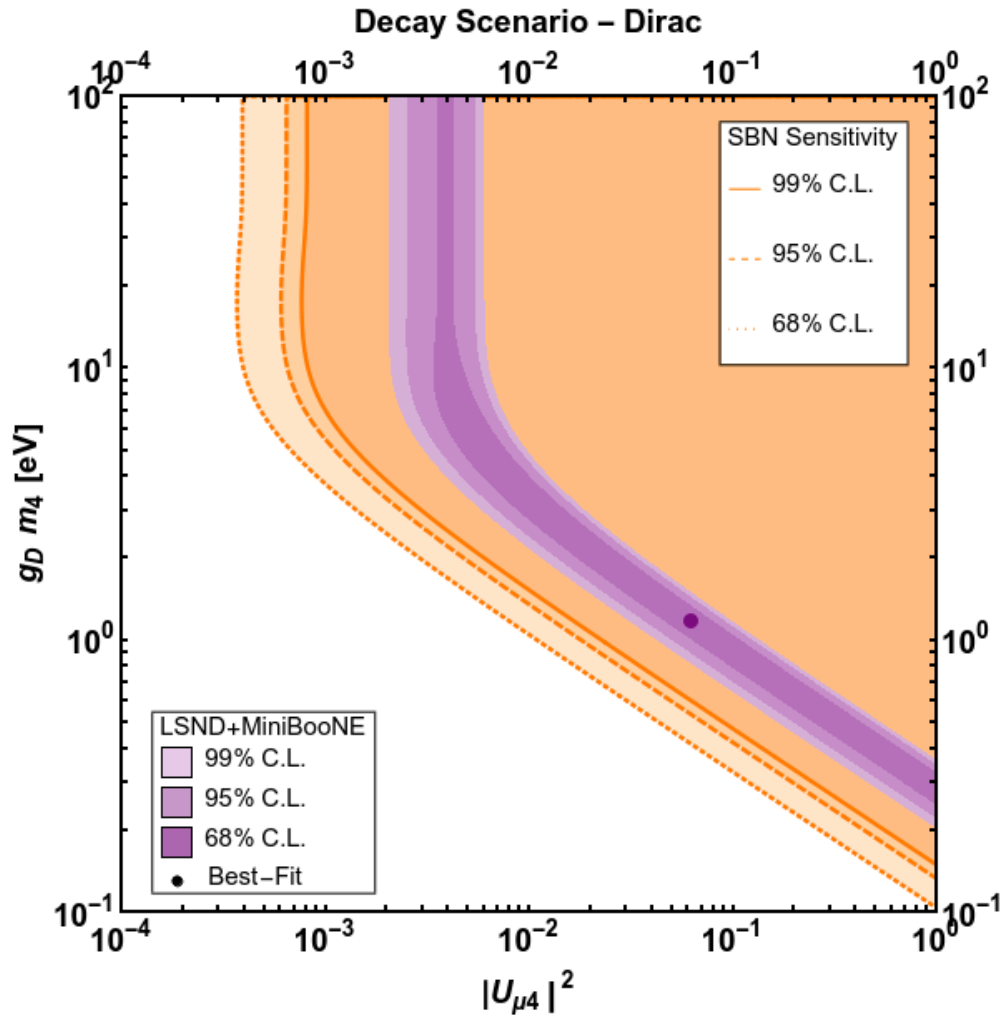
# The devil is in details

↔ LSND

↔ MINI-BOONE



# SBND experiment



**SBND can test both cases : Dirac/Majorana**

**The SBND sensitivity was made using Gabriela Stenico's GLOBES input files.**

# Conclusions

**Neutrino decay** is now a topic of interest in neutrino phenomenology

**Neutrino decay** can be possibly another explanation for LSND/MINI-BOONE

Constraints from LSND/MINI-BOONE in neutrino/anti-neutrino mode were made.

Joint analysis shows an allowed region for lifetime  $\times$  mixing angle

Dirac/Majorana scenarios can be tested in SBND experiment