

**Probing Physics Beyond the Standard  
Model  
with Supernova Neutrinos**

**Joe Baker  
University of Arizona**

**INFO 07  
July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2007**

**J.B., Haim Goldberg, Gilad Perez, and Ina Sarcevic, hep-ph/0607281**

# Late Time Neutrino Mass Models\*

- Experimental confirmation that neutrinos have mass
- Theorists still have freedom to construct alternative  $\nu$  mass mechanism (Seesaw, hard to test)
- Introduce new symmetry to Lagrangian only for  $\nu$ 's (Example: U(1) flavor symmetry)

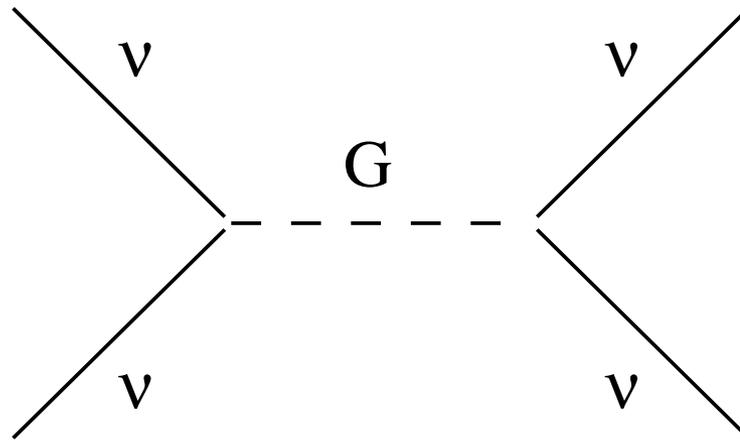
\* Z. Chacko, et. al., *Phys. Rev.* **D70**, 085008 (2004); L.J. Hall and S.J. Oliver, *Nucl. Phys. Proc. Suppl.* **137**, 269 (2004); Z. Chacko, et. al., *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **94**, 111801 (2005); T. Okui, *JHEP* **09**, 017 (2005); H. Davoudiasl, *Phys. Rev.* **D71**, 113004 (2005).

- Effective Lagrangian below the electroweak symmetry breaking scale and close to the neutrino flavor symmetry breaking scale

$$\mathcal{L}_\nu^D = \mathcal{L}_{kin} + y_\nu \phi \nu N + V(\phi), \quad \mathcal{L}_\nu^M = \mathcal{L}_{kin} + y_\nu \phi \nu \nu + V(\phi),$$

- Neutrinos acquire mass,  $m_\nu = y_\nu \times f$ , when symmetry is broken, where  $\langle \phi \rangle = f$ ,  $f \gtrsim 10$  keV
- Pseudo-Goldstone bosons produced with mass  $M_G$  (PGB's are light,  $M_G \ll f$ )
- Neutrinos interact via the new scalar

# New $\nu$ - $\nu$ Interactions in Late Time Neutrino Mass Models



$$E_{\nu}^{Res} = M_G^2 / 2m_{\nu}$$

# How Do Resonance Interactions Affect Neutrino Flux?

- Cross section for resonance in Breit-Wigner form is

$$\sigma_{\text{Res}} \simeq \frac{y_\nu^4}{16\pi} \frac{s}{(M_G^2 - s)^2 + M_G^2 \Gamma_\nu^2}$$

- $\Gamma_\nu$ , the boson decay width into two neutrinos is given by

$$\Gamma_\nu \sim \frac{y_\nu^2 M_G}{4\pi}$$

- For a SRN on resonance  $\sigma_{\text{Res}} \simeq \frac{\pi}{M_G^2}$

- Mean free path for neutrino through the CνB is given by

$$\lambda_{Res} \approx \frac{1}{n_\nu \sigma_{Res}} \sim \frac{M_G^2}{\pi T_\nu^3} \sim \frac{2m_\nu E_\nu^{Res}}{\pi T_\nu^3}$$

- For  $T_\nu \sim 9 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}$

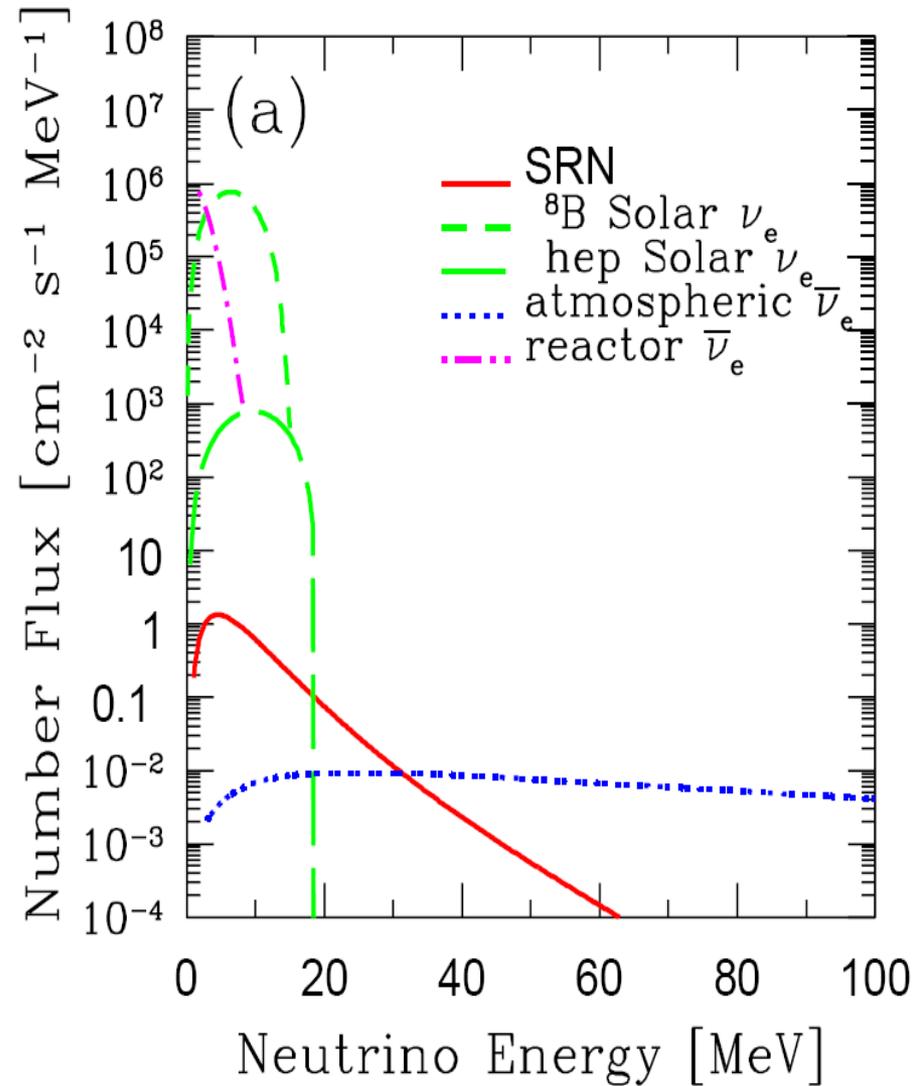
$$\lambda_{Res} \sim 5 \times 10^{-7} pc \frac{m_\nu}{5 \times 10^{-2} eV} \frac{E_\nu^{Res}}{10 MeV}$$

- For standard SRN neutrino energies and sub-eV neutrino masses, mean free path is very small

# What is the Effect of New Interactions on SRN Neutrino Flux?

- SRN neutrino energies will be redistributed at each redshift,  $z$
- Can expect a significant modification of the SRN flux as a result of redistribution
  - SRN flux can have regions of depletion relative to flux without new interactions
  - SRN flux can have regions of enhancement relative to flux without new interactions
- Can these modifications be detected at large neutrino detectors?

# SRN and the Competition!



# Supernova Relic Neutrino Flux

$$F(E_\nu) = \int_0^{z_{max}} R_{SN}(z) \frac{dN(E_\nu)}{dE_\nu} (1+z) \left| c \frac{dt}{dz} \right| dz$$

- $R_{SN}$  is the comoving rate of supernova formation
- $dN/dE$  is the energy spectrum for neutrinos emitted from supernova\*
- $dt/dz$  accounts for cosmological evolution

\*M. Th. Keil, G. G. Raffelt and H. Th. Janka, *Astrophys. J.* **590**, 971 (2003).

# Flavor Composition of Neutrino Flux that Emerges from a Supernova

- Matter oscillation effects lead to neutrinos emerging as mass eigenstates
- Relationship between emergent flux and production flux depends on neutrino mass hierarchy\*

$$F_{\nu_e} = P_H |U_{e2}|^2 F_{\nu_e}^0 + (1 - P_H |U_{e2}|^2) F_{\nu_x}^0$$

$$F_{\bar{\nu}_e} = |U_{e1}|^2 F_{\bar{\nu}_e}^0 + |U_{e2}|^2 F_{\nu_x}^0$$

Normal Mass Hierarchy

$$F_{\nu_e} = |U_{e2}|^2 F_{\nu_e}^0 + |U_{e1}|^2 F_{\nu_x}^0$$

$$F_{\bar{\nu}_e} = \bar{P}_H |U_{e1}|^2 F_{\bar{\nu}_e}^0 + (1 - \bar{P}_H |U_{e1}|^2) F_{\nu_x}^0$$

Inverted Mass Hierarchy

$$P_H(\bar{P}_H) = 0 \quad \text{adiabatic}$$

$$P_H(\bar{P}_H) = 1 \quad \text{nonadiabatic}$$

\*A. S. Dighe and A. Y. Smirnov,  
*Phys. Rev.* **D62**, 033007 (2000)

$$|U_{e1}|^2 = \cos^2(\theta_{12}), \quad |U_{e2}|^2 = \sin^2(\theta_{12}), \quad |U_{e3}|^2 \approx 0, \quad \theta_{12} = \theta_{\odot}$$

# Modified SRN Flux

- Position of dip cutoff for neutrino mass eigenstate  $i$  is

$$E_i = M_G^2 / 2m_i$$

- Resonance process is blind to the type of neutrino that produced resonance
  - Branching fractions given by

$$P_j \approx m_j^2 / \sum_{i=1}^3 m_i^2$$

- Modified flux of  $j^{\text{th}}$  mass eigenstate is given by

$$\widetilde{F}_j = F_j - F_j^{Res} + P_j \times \sum_{i=1,2,3,\bar{1},\bar{2},\bar{3}} F_{i \rightarrow j}^{Res}$$

- Observed electron antineutrino flux is then

$$\widetilde{F}_{\bar{\nu}_e} = \cos^2 \theta_{12} \widetilde{F}_{\bar{\nu}_1} + \sin^2 \theta_{12} \widetilde{F}_{\bar{\nu}_2}$$

# Accumulative Resonance Effect

- Signal in SRN flux will be combination of absorption and replenishment from G decay over range of  $z$
- Which neutrinos will interact?
  - For neutrinos emitted with energy greater than the resonance energy at redshift  $z$ , they can produce G at resonance at  $z^*$  if

$$E_{\nu}^{Res} = E_{\nu}^{SN} \frac{1 + z^*}{1 + z}$$

- Energy lower than resonance energy will never produce G.
- Neutrinos from G decay get redistributed, i.e.  
 $E_{\nu}^G = f E_{\nu}^{Res}, 0 \leq f \leq 1$

- Energy observed today is

$$E_{\nu}^{Obs} = \frac{f E_{\nu}^{Res}}{1 + z^*} = \frac{f E_{\nu}^{SN}}{1 + z} = f E_{unscattered}$$

where  $E_{unscattered} = E_{\nu}^{SN}/(1+z)$  would be observed energy of neutrinos without resonant process

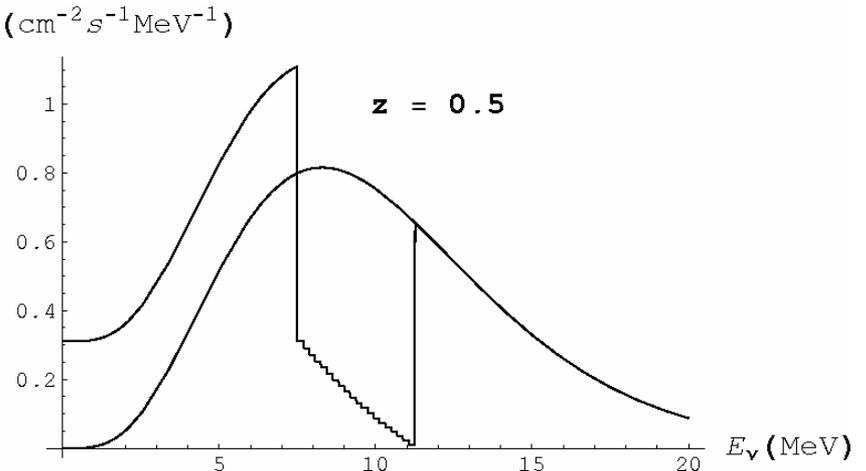
# SRN Flux with New Interactions

- Depletion of flux in region

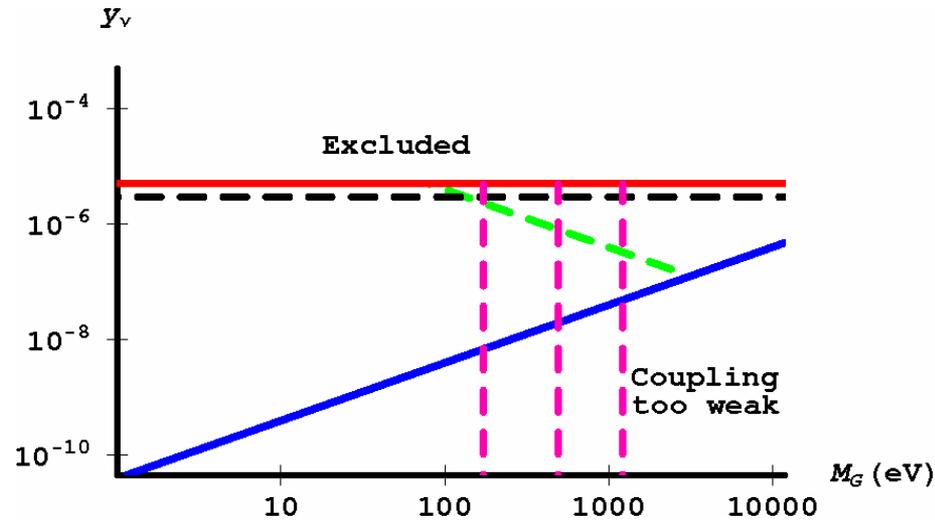
$$E_{\nu}^{Res} / (1 + z) \leq E_{\nu}^{Obs} \leq E_{\nu}^{Res}$$

- Replenishment of flux from zero energy up to  $E_{\text{unscattered}}$  for each neutrino energy in resonance region

Final effect will be accumulative  
(from a range of redshift)



# Parameter Space



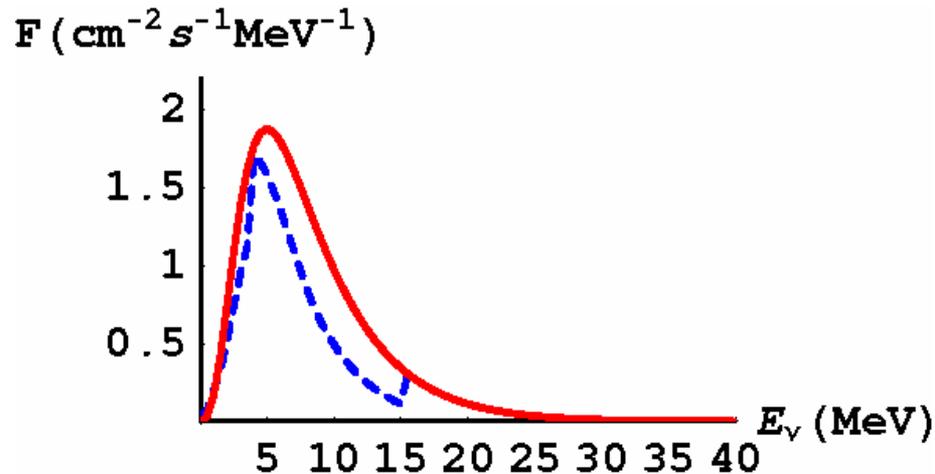
- Coupling must be strong enough for effect to occur (blue diagonal line)
- Red horizontal line from BBN (Dirac case) or SN cooling (Majorana case), green diagonal line for multiple scalars
- Off-resonance process important in very small window of parameter space, black horizontal line ( $\nu\nu \rightarrow 4\nu$ 's)
- For a 0.001 eV, 0.008 eV, or 0.05 eV neutrino, vertical lines are minimum values of  $M_G$  to give depletion signal above anti- $\nu_e$  reactor background

# What can we Learn about $\nu$ 's from Interactions?

Can neutrino-neutrino interactions through a new light scalar allow one to distinguish

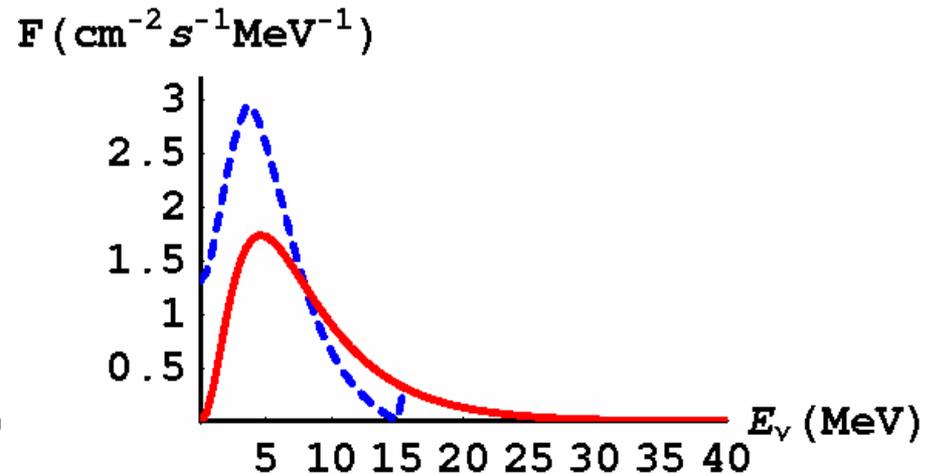
- Neutrino mass hierarchy?
  - Normal mass hierarchy ( $m_1 \simeq m_2 \ll m_3$ )
  - Inverted mass hierarchy ( $m_1 \simeq m_2 \gg m_3$ )
- Dirac vs Majorana neutrinos?
- Absolute scale of neutrino masses?

# Normal vs. Inverted Neutrino Mass Hierarchy



## Normal Hierarchy

- $m_1 \simeq 0.002 \text{ eV}$ ,  $m_2 \simeq 0.009 \text{ eV}$ ,  
 $m_3 \simeq 0.05 \text{ eV}$
- For  $0.002 \text{ eV } \nu$  to have  $E_{\text{Res}} \approx 15 \text{ MeV}$ ,  
 $M_G \approx 250 \text{ eV}$
- G decays dominantly to  $\nu_3$  which  
does not contribute to anti- $\nu_e$  flux



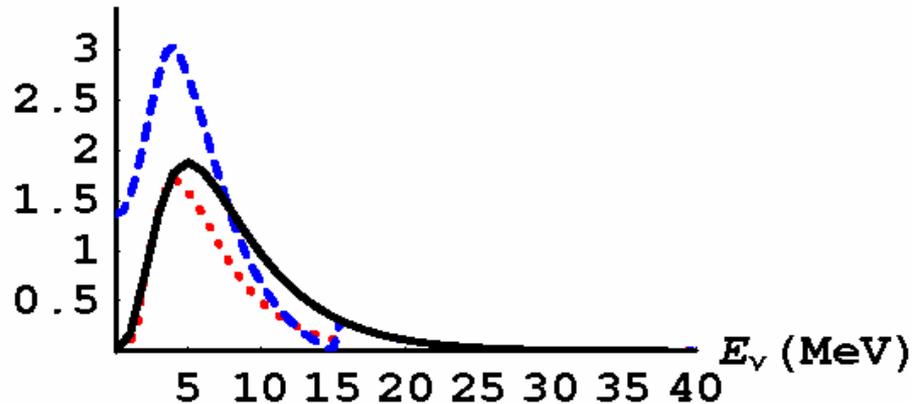
## Inverted Hierarchy

- $m_1 \simeq m_2 \simeq 0.05 \text{ eV}$ ,  
 $m_3 \simeq 0.008 \text{ eV}$
- For  $0.05 \text{ eV } \nu$  to have  $E_{\text{Res}} \approx 15 \text{ MeV}$ ,  
 $M_G \approx 1.2 \text{ keV}$
- G decays dominantly to  $\nu_1$  and  $\nu_2$   
which do contribute to anti- $\nu_e$  flux

# Adiabatic vs. Nonadiabatic?

- For nonadiabatic flavor evolution, neutrino flux emerging from supernova is independent of neutrino mass hierarchy
- With new interactions, difference remains.
  - Normal hierarchy,  $G \rightarrow m_3$  state dominantly, depletion
  - Inverted hierarchy,  $G \rightarrow m_1$  and  $m_2$  states dominantly, depletion and enhancement

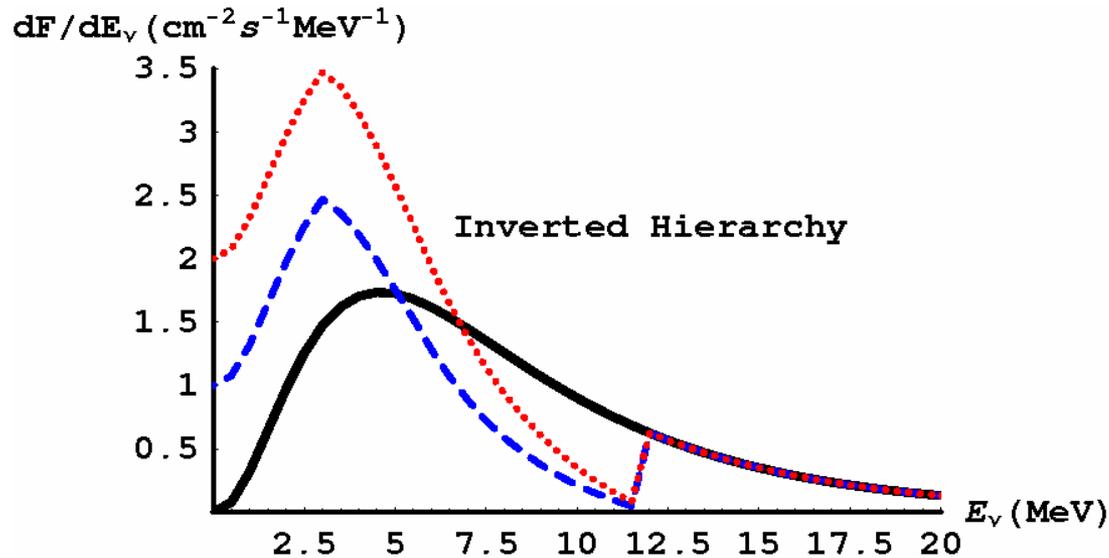
$F$  ( $\text{cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1} \text{MeV}^{-1}$ )



$$F_{\nu_e} = \sin^2(\theta_\odot) F_{\nu_e}^0 + \cos^2(\theta_\odot) F_{\nu_x}^0$$

$$F_{\bar{\nu}_e} = \cos^2(\theta_\odot) F_{\bar{\nu}_e}^0 + \sin^2(\theta_\odot) F_{\nu_x}^0$$

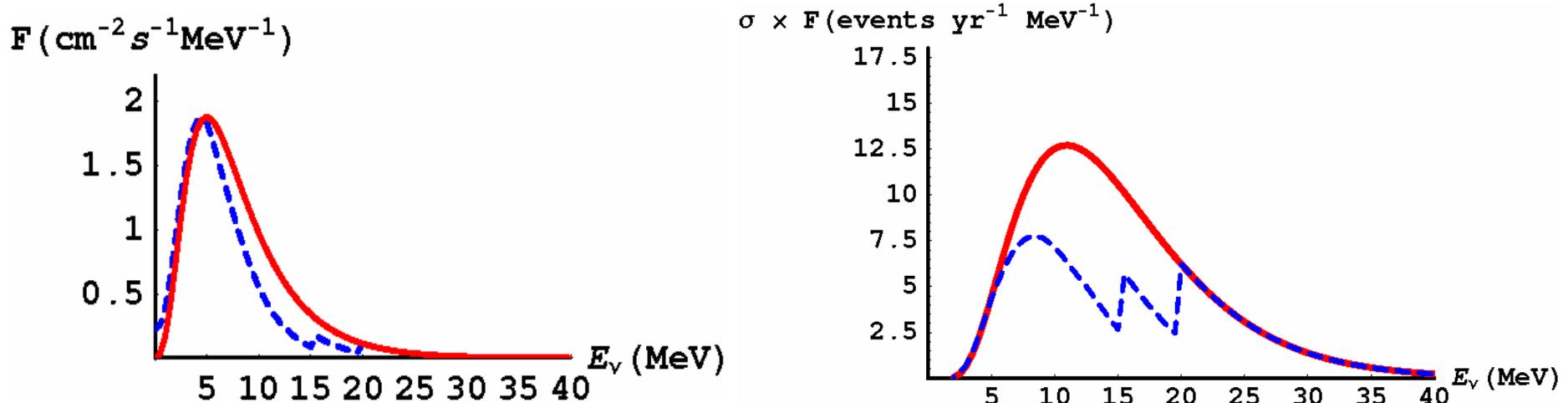
# Dirac vs. Majorana Neutrinos



- If neutrinos are Majorana particles (red dotted curve), each G decay produces 2 active neutrinos
- If neutrinos are Dirac particles (blue dashed curve) then G decays to  $\nu$  N-bar or to N  $\nu$ -bar

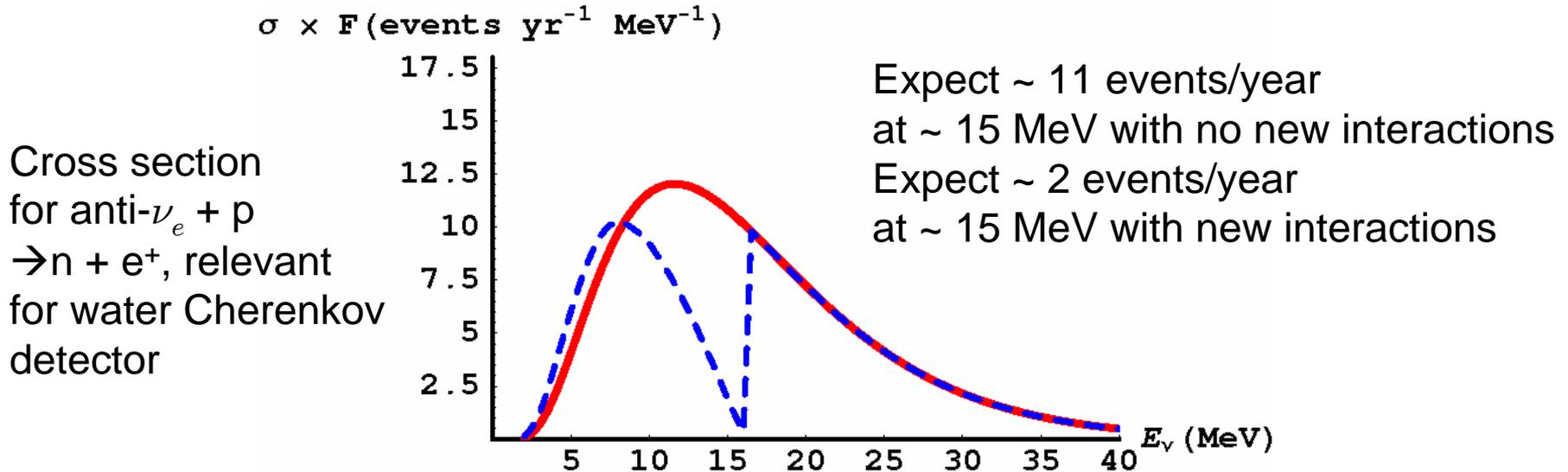
Overall factor of  $\frac{1}{2}$  for Dirac vs. Majorana particles

# Multiple Dips



- Two neutrinos could visibly go through resonance, i.e. two light nearly degenerate neutrino masses  $\sim 0.01$  eV, one neutrino mass approximately 0.05 eV ( $M_G \approx 630$  eV)
- Ratio of peak positions is ratio of the masses of the neutrinos
- Differential flux folded with cross section for  $\text{anti-}\nu_e + p \rightarrow n + e^+$  is relevant for water Cerenkov detector
- Cross section for antineutrinos on protons is increasing function of the neutrino energy  
Main features, i.e. dip locations, remain unchanged

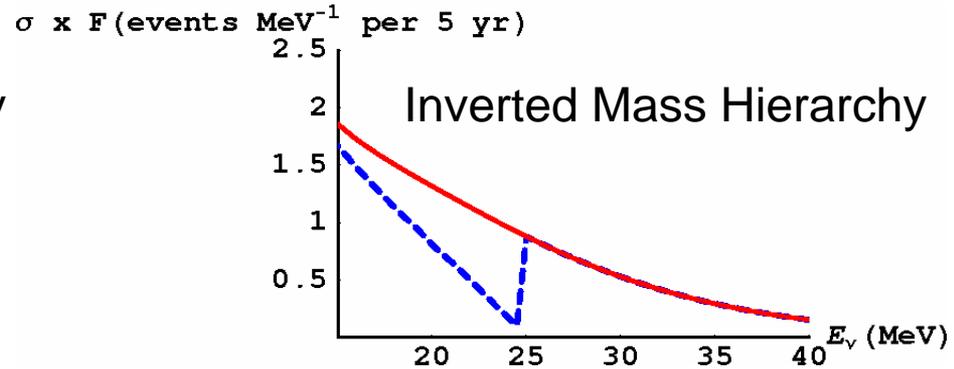
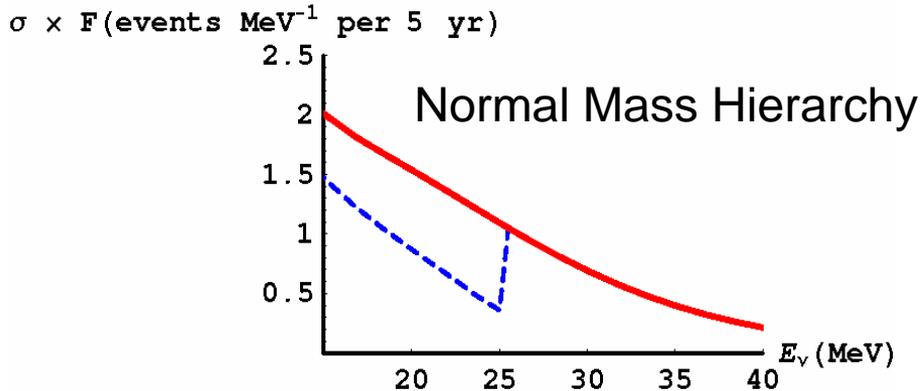
# Signal Detection



- Depletion of flux at energies above  $\sim 8$  MeV relative to no interactions
- In Gd-enhanced water Cherenkov detector, reactor antineutrinos main source of background (bg is small above  $\sim 12$  MeV\*)
- In 5 years with no new interactions, 55 events,  $\sigma \sim 7.5$  events
- Signal is event deficit,  $55 - 10 = 45$  events, so  $45/7.5 \rightarrow$  approx.  $6 \sigma$  effect

\*L. J. Hall, H. Murayama and G. Perez, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **95**, 111301 (2005);  
G. L. Fogli, E. Lisi, A. Mirizzi and D. Montanino, *JCAP* **0504**, 002 (2005)

# Liquid Argon Detector



- LAr detectors can measure the electron neutrino flux by interaction with Argon nucleus
- Solar neutrinos provide large background below  $\sim 19$  MeV, and atmospheric neutrinos provide background above  $\sim 40$  MeV
- In window from 19 MeV to 40 MeV, could see  $\sim 25\%$  reduction in expected integrated event rate (Normal: 0.001 eV with 250 eV for  $M_G$ , Inverted: 0.05 eV with 1.6 keV for  $M_G$ )

# Summary

- In late time neutrino mass models, additional light bosons are generically present
- Interactions between the SRN and  $C\nu B$  can lead to dramatic changes of the SRN flux
- Measurements of these effects are well within reach of future neutrino experiments
  - Cannot distinguish between mass hierarchy, or Majorana vs. Dirac neutrinos because of reactor antineutrino/solar neutrino backgrounds
  - Indicates the presence of the cosmic neutrino background
  - Could see a multiple dip signal leading to ratio of neutrino masses
  - Can directly test some values of the parameters for late time neutrino mass generation models