# **Physics Opportunities with Muon Beams:** Neutrino Factories and Muon Colliders



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http://puhep1.princeton.edu/~mcdonald/mumu/NSFLetter/

## Past Uses of Muon Beams:

- Measurement of g 2 of the muon.
- Search for "forbidden" processes:  $\mu \to e\gamma, \, \mu N \to eN, \, \dots$
- Study of nuclear structure via  $\mu N \to \mu X$ .

### **New Opportunities:**

- Neutrino factories based on  $\mu \to e \nu_{\mu} \overline{\nu}_{e}$ .
  - Neutrino oscillations.

– Nucleon structure via  $\nu_{\mu}N \rightarrow \mu X$ ; X includes charm...

- A path to muon colliders.
- Muon colliders.
  - -s-channel production of light Higgs.
  - Precision studies of electroweak/supersymmetry physics.
    [Leptonic initial state;
    - Beamstrahlung suppressed by  $(m_e/m_\mu)^2$ .]
  - A new path to the energy frontier.

#### **Oscillations of Massive Neutrinos**

Neutrinos could have a small mass (Pauli, Fermi, Majorana, 1930's). Massive neutrinos can mix (Pontecorvo, 1957).

In the example of only two massive neutrinos, with mass eigenstates  $\nu_1$  and  $\nu_2$  with mass difference  $\Delta m$  and mixing angle  $\theta$ , the flavor eigenstates  $\nu_a$  and  $\nu_b$  are related by

$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_a \\ \nu_b \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta & \sin\theta \\ -\sin\theta & \cos\theta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The probability that a neutrino of flavor  $\nu_a$  and energy E appears as flavor  $\nu_b$  after traversing distance L in vacuum is

$$P(\nu_a \to \nu_b) = \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2 \left( \frac{1.27\Delta m^2 [\text{eV}^2] \ L[\text{km}]}{E[\text{GeV}]} \right)$$

The probability that  $\nu_a$  does not disappear is

$$P(\nu_a \to \nu_a) = \cos^2 2\theta \sin^2 \left( \frac{1.27 \Delta m^2 [\text{eV}^2] \ L[\text{km}]}{E[\text{GeV}]} \right).$$

#### A Sketch of Current Data

- The "anomaly" of atmospheric neutrinos suggests that GeV ν<sub>μ</sub>'s disappear while traversing the Earth's diameter.
   ⇒ Δm<sup>2</sup> ≈ 10<sup>-3</sup> (eV)<sup>2</sup> for sin<sup>2</sup> 2θ ≈ 1.
   (Kamiokande, IMB, Soudan-2, MACRO, Super-Kamiokande)
- The solar neutrino "deficit" suggests that MeV ν<sub>e</sub>'s disappear between the center of the Sun and the Earth.
   ⇒ Δm<sup>2</sup> ≈ 10<sup>-10</sup> (eV)<sup>2</sup> for sin<sup>2</sup> 2θ ≈ 1, if vacuum oscillations. (Homestake, GALLEX, SAGE)
- The LSND experiment at Los Alamos suggests that 30-MeV  $\overline{\nu}_{\mu}$ 's appears as  $\overline{\nu}_{e}$ 's after 30 m.  $\Rightarrow \Delta m^{2} \approx 1 \text{ (eV)}^{2}$ , but reactor data requires  $\sin^{2} 2\theta \lesssim 0.03$ .

The first two results require at least 3 massive neutrinos.

All results together require at least 4 massive neutrinos.

The measured width of the  $Z^0$  boson (LEP)  $\Rightarrow$  only 3 Standard Model neutrinos. A 4th massive neutrino must be "sterile".

#### The Supersymmetric Seesaw

A provocative conjecture is that neutrino mass  $m_{\nu}$  is coupled to two other mass scales,  $m_I$  (intermediate) and  $m_H$  (heavy), according to

$$m_{\nu} = \frac{M_I^2}{M_H}.$$

(Gell-Mann, Ramond, Slansky, 1979)

A particularly suggestive variant takes  $m_I = \langle \phi_{\text{Higgs}} \rangle = 250 \text{ GeV};$ Then

$$m_{\nu} \approx \sqrt{\Delta m^2(\text{atmospheric})} \approx 0.06 \text{ eV} \Rightarrow m_H \approx 5 \times 10^{15} \text{ GeV}.$$

This is perhaps the best experimental evidence for a grand unification scale, such as that underlying supersymmetric SO(10) models.

Neutrino oscillations  $\stackrel{?}{\Rightarrow}$  Supersymmetry.

#### Mixing of Three Neutrinos

 $\begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ \nu_\mu \\ \nu_\tau \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} c_{12}c_{13} & s_{12}c_{13} & s_{13}e^{-i\delta} \\ -s_{12}c_{23} - c_{12}s_{13}s_{23}e^{i\delta} & c_{12}c_{23} - s_{12}s_{13}s_{23}e^{i\delta} & c_{13}s_{23} \\ s_{12}s_{23} - c_{12}s_{13}c_{23}e^{i\delta} & -c_{12}s_{23} - s_{12}s_{13}c_{23}e^{i\delta} & c_{13}c_{23} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \\ \nu_3 \end{pmatrix}$ where  $c_{12} = \cos \theta_{12}$ , etc. (Maki, Nakagawa, Sakata, 1962).

Three massive neutrinos  $\Rightarrow$  six independent parameters:

- Three mixing angles:  $\theta_{12}$ ,  $\theta_{13}$ ,  $\theta_{23}$ ,
- A phase  $\delta$  related to CP violation,
- Two differences of the squares of the neutrino masses. Ex:  $\Delta m_{12}^2 = \Delta m^2$ (solar) and  $\Delta m_{23}^2 = \Delta m^2$ (atmospheric).

Measurement of these parameters is a primary goal of experimental neutrino physics.

If four massive neutrinos, then 6 mixing angles, 3 phases, 3 independent squares of mass differences.

[Theorists find the MNS matrix more analyzable than the CKM matrix.]

#### Matter Effects

 $\nu_e$ 's can interact with electrons via both W and  $Z^0$  exchanges, but other neutrinos can only interact via  $Z^0$  exchange.

$$\Rightarrow \sin^2 2\theta_{\text{matter}} = \frac{\sin^2 2\theta_{\text{vac}}}{\sin^2 2\theta_{\text{vac}} + (\cos 2\theta_{\text{vac}} - A)^2},$$

where  $A = 2\sqrt{2G_F N_e E}/\Delta m^2$  depends on sign of  $\Delta m^2$ .

At the "resonance",  $\cos 2\theta_{\text{vac}} = A$ ,  $\sin^2 2\theta_{\text{matter}} = 1$  even if  $\sin^2 2\theta_{\text{vac}}$  is small (Wolfenstein, 1978, Mikheyev, Smirnov, 1986).

 $\Rightarrow$  3 MSW solutions to the solar neutrino problem:



#### Survival Probabilities

### **Too Many Solutions**

There are 8 scenarios suggested by present data:

- Either 3 or 4 massive neutrinos.
- Four solutions to the solar neutrino problem:
  - 1. Vacuum oscillation (VO) solution;  $\Delta m_{12}^2 \approx (0.5 - 5.0) \times 10^{-10} \text{ eV}^2, \sin^2 2\theta_{12} \approx (0.7 - 1.0).$
  - 2. Low (Just So) MSW solution;  $\Delta m_{12}^2 \approx (0.5 - 2.0) \times 10^{-7} \text{ eV}^2, \sin^2 2\theta_{12} \approx (0.9 - 1.0).$
  - 3. Small mixing angle (SMA) MSW solution;  $\Delta m_{12}^2 \approx (4.0 - 9.0) \times 10^{-6} \text{ eV}^2, \sin^2 2\theta_{12} \approx (0.001 - 0.01).$
  - 4. Large mixing angle (LMA) MSW solution;  $\Delta m_{12}^2 \approx (0.2 - 2.0) \times 10^{-4} \text{ eV}^2, \sin^2 \theta_{12} \approx (0.65 - 0.96).$
- Atmospheric neutrino data  $\Rightarrow \Delta m_{23}^2 \approx (3-5) \times 10^{-4} \text{ eV}^2$ ,  $\sin^2 \theta_{12} > 0.8$ .
- $\theta_{13}$  very poorly known;  $\delta$  completely unknown.

#### The Next Generation of Neutrino Experiments

- Short baseline accelerator experiments (miniBoone, ORLAND, CERN) will likely clarify the LSND result.
- Super-Kamiokande + new long baseline accelerator experiments (K2K, Minos, CERN) will firm up measurements of  $\theta_{23}$ and  $\Delta m_{23}^2$ , but will provide little information on  $\theta_{13}$  and  $\delta$ .
- New solar neutrino experiments (BOREXino, SNO, HELLAZ, HERON, ....) will explore different portions of the energy spectrum, and clarify possible pathlength-dependent effects.
  SNO should provide independent confirmation of neutrino oscillations via comparison of reactions ν+<sup>2</sup>H → p+p+e and ν+<sup>2</sup>H → p + n + ν.
- Each of these experiments studies oscillations of only a single pair of neutrinos.
- The continued search for the neutrinoless double-beta decay  $^{78}\text{Ge} \rightarrow ^{78}\text{Se} + 2e^-$  will improve the mass limits on Majorana neutrinos to perhaps as low as 0.001 eV (hep-ex/9907040).

#### The Opportunity for a Neutrino Factory

- Many of the neutrino oscillation solutions permit study of the couplings between 2, 3, and 4 neutrinos in accelerator based experiments.
- More neutrinos are needed!
- Present neutrino beams come from  $\pi, K \to \mu \nu_{\mu}$  with small admixtures of  $\overline{\nu}_{\mu}$  and  $\nu_{e}$  from  $\mu$  and  $K \to 3\pi$  decays.
- Higher (per proton beam power), and better characterized, neutrino fluxes are obtained from  $\mu$  decay.

Collect low-energy  $\mu$ 's from  $\pi$  decay, accelerate the  $\mu$ 's to the desired energy, and store in a ring while they decay via



0.8

#### **6** Classes of Experiments at a Neutrino Factory

$\nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \ \nu_{e} \rightarrow e^{-}$	(appearance),	(1)
$ u_{\mu}  ightarrow \  u_{\mu}  ightarrow \mu^{-}$	(disappearance),	(2)
$ u_{\mu}  ightarrow  u_{ au}  ightarrow  au^{-}$	(appearance),	(3)
$\overline{\nu}_e \to \ \overline{\nu}_e \to e^+$	(disappearance),	(4)
$\overline{ u}_e  ightarrow \ \overline{ u}_\mu  ightarrow \mu^+$	(appearance),	(5)
$\overline{\nu}_e \rightarrow \ \overline{\nu}_{ au} \rightarrow  au^+$	(appearance).	(6)

[Plus 6 corresponding processes for  $\overline{\nu}_{\mu}$  from  $\mu^+$  decay.]

Processes (2) and (5) are easiest to detect, via the final state  $\mu$ . Process (5) is noteworthy for having a "wrong-sign"  $\mu$ . Processes (3) and (6) with a final state  $\tau$  require  $\mu$ 's of 10's of GeV.

Processes (1) and (4) with a final state electron are difficult to detect.

Finely segmented, magnetic detectors of 10's of kilotons will be required.

## The Rates are High at a Neutrino Factory

<u>Onargeu current event rates per Ku yr.</u>			
(L = 732  km)	$ u_{\mu}$	$\overline{ u}_e$	
Neutrino Factory	$(2 \times 10^{20})$	$ u_{\mu}/\mathrm{yr})$	
$10 { m GeV}$	2200	1300	
$20 \mathrm{GeV}$	$18,\!000$	$11,\!000$	
$50 \mathrm{GeV}$	$2.9 \times 10^5$	$1.8 \times 10^5$	
$250 \mathrm{GeV}$	$3.6 \times 10^7$	$2.3 \times 10^7$	
MINOS (WBB)			
Low energy	460	1.3	
Medium energy	1440	0.9	
High energy	3200	0.9	

Charged current event rates per kt-yr.

Even a low-energy neutrino factory has high rates of electron neutrino interactions.

A neutrino factory with  $E_{\mu} \gtrsim 20$  GeV is competitive for muon neutrino interactions.

#### Scaling Laws for Rates at a Neutrino Factory



Neutrino oscillation probability varies with L/E,

 $\Rightarrow$  Rate  $\propto E$  for fixed L/E.



 $\tau$  appearance suppressed at low energy. Larger  $E \Rightarrow$  larger L.

## $\nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \ \nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \mu^{-}$ Disappearance



 $\nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \nu_{\tau} \rightarrow \tau^{-}$  Appearance

$\frac{\Delta m^2_{23}}{(\text{eV}^2)}$	Events (per 10 kt-yr)	
0.002	1200	For conditions as above.
0.003	1900	
0.004	2000	
0.005	1800	

## Measuring $\theta_{13}$

Many ways:

$$P(\overline{\nu}_{e} \to \overline{\nu}_{\mu}) = \sin^{2} 2\theta_{13} \sin^{2} \theta_{23} \sin^{2} \frac{1.27 \Delta m_{23}^{2} L}{E_{\nu}},$$
$$P(\overline{\nu}_{e} \to \overline{\nu}_{\tau}) = \sin^{2} 2\theta_{13} \cos^{2} \theta_{23} \sin^{2} \frac{1.27 \Delta m_{23}^{2} L}{E_{\nu}},$$
$$P(\nu_{\mu} \to \nu_{\tau}) = \cos^{4} \theta_{13} \sin^{2} 2\theta_{23} \sin^{2} \frac{1.27 \Delta m_{23}^{2} L}{E_{\nu}}.$$



Measuring the Sign of  $\Delta m_{23}^2$  via Matter Effects



The matter effect resonance depends on the sign of  $\Delta m^2$  (p. 7).

Large effect of  $\Delta m_{23}^2$  in  $\nu_{\mu}$  (disappearance) if  $\sin^2 2\theta_{13} \approx 0.1$ .



For smaller  $\sin^2 2\theta_{13}$ , may be better to use  $\overline{\nu}_e \to \overline{\nu}_\mu$  (appearance).





#### Measuring $\delta$ via CP Violation

The phase  $\delta$  is accessible to terrestrial experiment in the large mixing angle (LMA) solution to the solar neutrino problem (or if there are 4 massive neutrinos).

CP violation:

$$A_{\rm CP} = \frac{P(\nu_e \to \nu_\mu) - P(\overline{\nu}_e \to \overline{\nu}_\mu)}{P(\nu_e \to \nu_\mu) + P(\overline{\nu}_e \to \overline{\nu}_\mu)} \approx \left| \frac{2\sin\delta}{\sin 2\theta_{13}} \sin \frac{1.27\Delta m_{12}^2 L}{E} \right|,$$
  
assuming  $\sin^2 2\theta_{12} \approx \sin^2 2\theta_{23} \approx 1$  (LMA).



Matter effects dominate the asymmetry for L > 1000 km.

#### Measuring $\delta$ via T Violation

If the small mixing angle (SMA) solutions holds, may still be able to measure  $\delta$  via T violation:

$$P(\nu_e \to \nu_\mu) - P(\nu_\mu \to \nu_e) =$$

$$4J\left(\sin\frac{1.27\Delta m_{12}^2 L}{E} + \sin\frac{1.27\Delta m_{13}^2 L}{E} + \sin\frac{1.27\Delta m_{23}^2 L}{E}\right),$$

$$J = \frac{1}{8}\cos\theta_{13}\sin 2\theta_{13}\sin 2\theta_{12}\sin 2\theta_{23}\sin\delta = \text{Jarlskog invariant}$$

Matter effects could make  $\sin 2\theta_{12}$  resonance for  $E \approx 100$  MeV and  $L \approx 10,000$  km (hep-ph/9911258).



However, not easy to measure  $\nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \nu_{e} \rightarrow e^{-}$  (appearance) against background of  $\overline{\nu}_{e} \rightarrow \overline{\nu}_{e} \rightarrow e^{+}$  in a large, massive detector in which the electrons shower immediately. [Rates low also.]

#### Controlling the $\nu_e$ Flux via Muon Polarization

For  $\mu^-$  decay in flight,

$$\begin{split} \frac{dN_{\nu_{\mu}}(\theta_{\nu_{\mu}}=0)}{dx} &= 2Nx^2[(3-2x)+P(1-2x)],\\ \frac{dN_{\overline{\nu}_e}(\theta_{\overline{\nu}_e}=0)}{dx} &= 12Nx^2(1-x)(1+P), \end{split}$$

where  $x = 2E_{\nu}/m_{\mu}$ , and **P** is the muon polarization.

 $[\theta_{\nu} = 0 \Rightarrow \text{colinear decay}; \text{ at } P = -1, \text{ all colinear decays forbidden}$ for  $\theta_{\nu_e} = 0$ , but one is allowed for  $\theta_{\nu_{\mu}} = 0.$ ]

Modulate the muon polarization to modulate the relative rates of  $\nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \nu_{e} \rightarrow e^{-}$  and  $\overline{\nu}_{e} \rightarrow \overline{\nu}_{e} \rightarrow e^{+}$ .



(Blondel, http://alephwww.cern.ch/~bdl/muon/nufacpol.ps)

## Summary

- The physics program of a neutrino factory/muon collider is extremely diverse, and of scope to justify an international laboratory.
- The first step is a neutrino factory capable of systematic exploration of neutrino oscillations.
  - With  $\gtrsim 10^{20} \nu$ 's/year can go well beyond other existing or planned accelerator experiments.
  - Beams with  $E_{\nu_e} \lesssim 1$  GeV are already very interesting.
  - Higher energy is favored: Rate  $\propto E$  at fixed L/E;  $\nu_{\tau}$  appearance practical only for  $E \gtrsim 30$  GeV.
  - Detectors at multiple distances needed for broad coverage of parameter space  $\Rightarrow$  triangle or "bowtie" storage rings.
  - CP and T violation accessible with  $\gtrsim 10^{21}~\nu{\rm 's/year}.$
  - Control of muon polarization extremely useful when studying  $\nu_e \rightarrow e$  modes.