



# Super-Kamiokande latest results

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on behalf of the SK collaboration

# The Super-K collaboration

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# The SK detector

World's largest water Cherenkov detector (to-date)

Located under Mt. Ikenoyama, Gifu prefecture, Japan  
at 1km (2700 mwe) rock overburden

Cylindrical shape, 50 kton of purified water

Fiducial mass : 22.5 kton

Optical separation between :

Inner Detector (ID):

~32kton

~11,129 large 20 inch PMTs

Outer Detector (OD):

~1,885 smaller 8 inch PMTs

2m thick veto around the ID

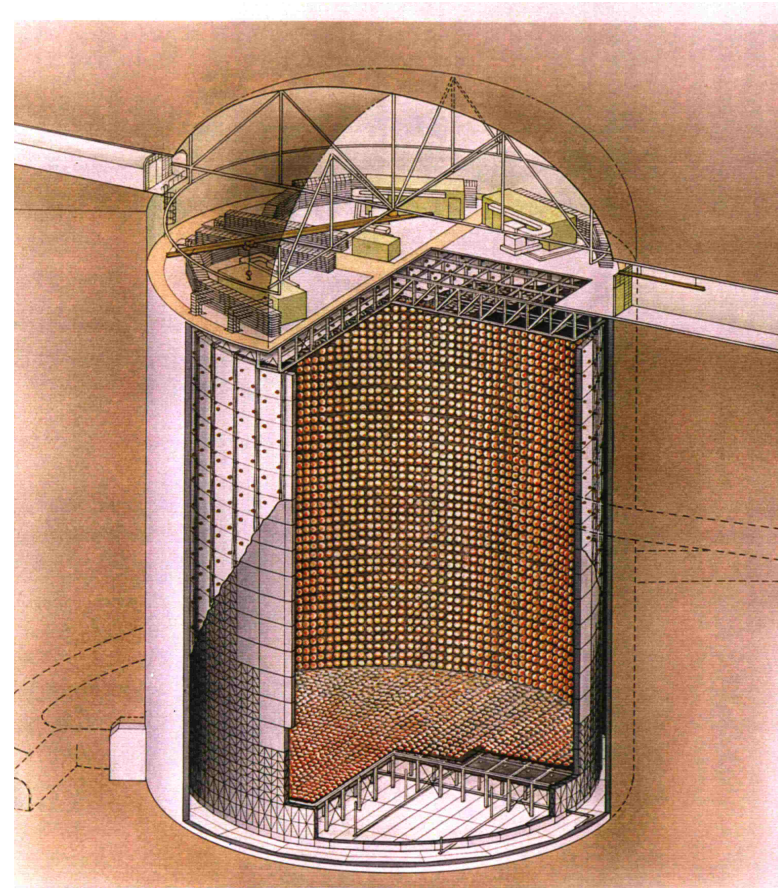
Physics : MeV to TeV scale

Solar neutrinos

Supernovae (and relic SN)

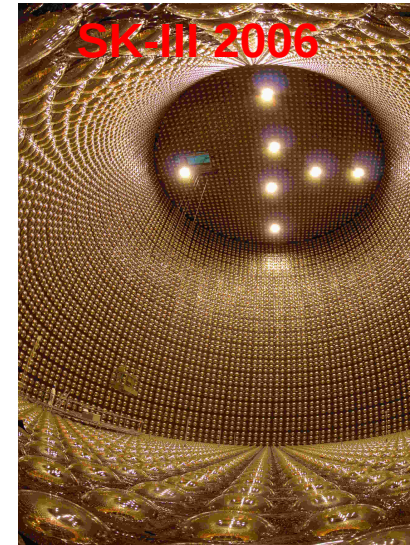
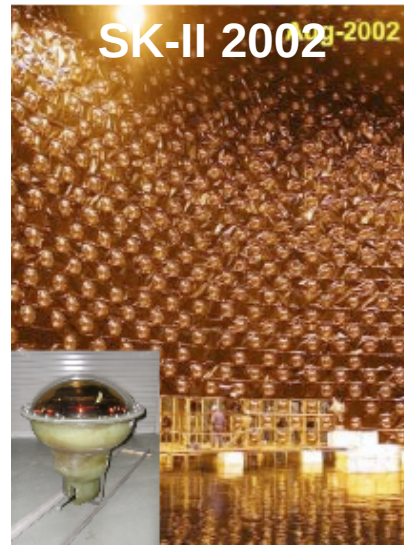
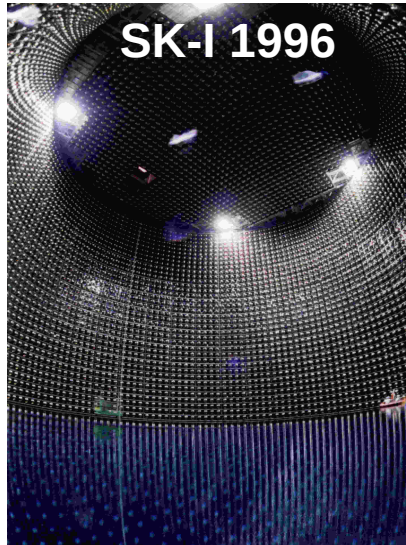
Atmospheric neutrinos

Proton decay [H. Nishino's talk]



PERKAMIOKANDE INSTITUTE FOR COSMIC RAY RESEARCH UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO

# 12 years since first data !



SK-I (1996 to 2001) 40% photo-cathode coverage  
Nov 2001 : accident...

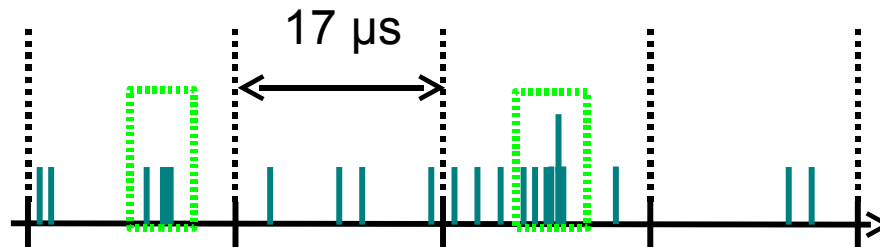
SK-II (2003 to 2005) 20% photo-cathode coverage

SK-III (2006-2008) Full reconstruction, back to 40%

**NEW: SK-IV (fall 2008-....) Electronics upgrade in Sept**

# Electronics upgrade : new DAQ system

- Same readout for ID & OD
- Better performance :
  - Dynamic range
  - Multi hits
  - Reduce SPE threshold
- Use ethernet for read out
- No hardware trigger :
  - record every hit by periodic clock signal  
60 kHz x 17  $\mu$ s TDC window
  - Apply software triggers : variable event window



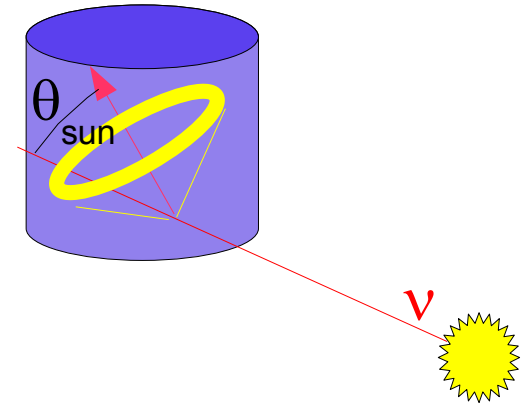
- Being installed as we speak (sept 2008)
- ~ 6 months of commissioning

**FULLY READY FOR FIRST T2K BEAM IN 2009**

# Solar neutrino results

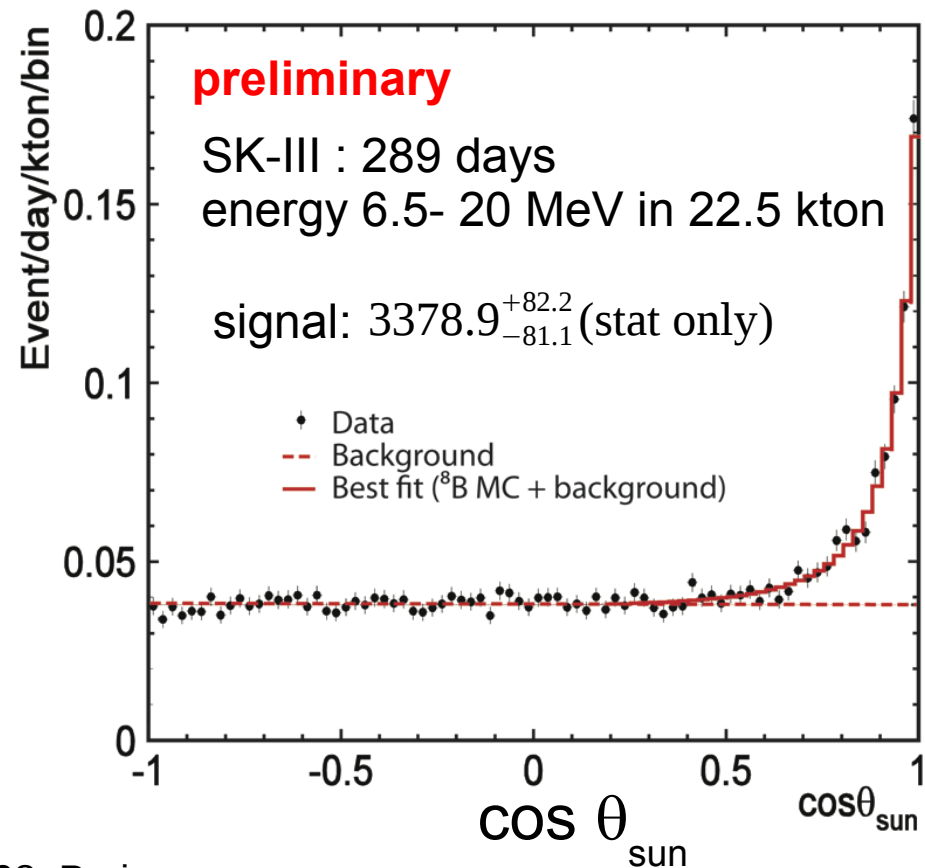
# Solar $\nu$ at SK

- Detection of solar  $^8\text{B}$  neutrinos via  $\nu + e \rightarrow \nu + e$
- Sensitive to all neutrino flavors, but mostly  $\nu_e$
- Reconstruct recoil electrons : energy & angle wrt sun



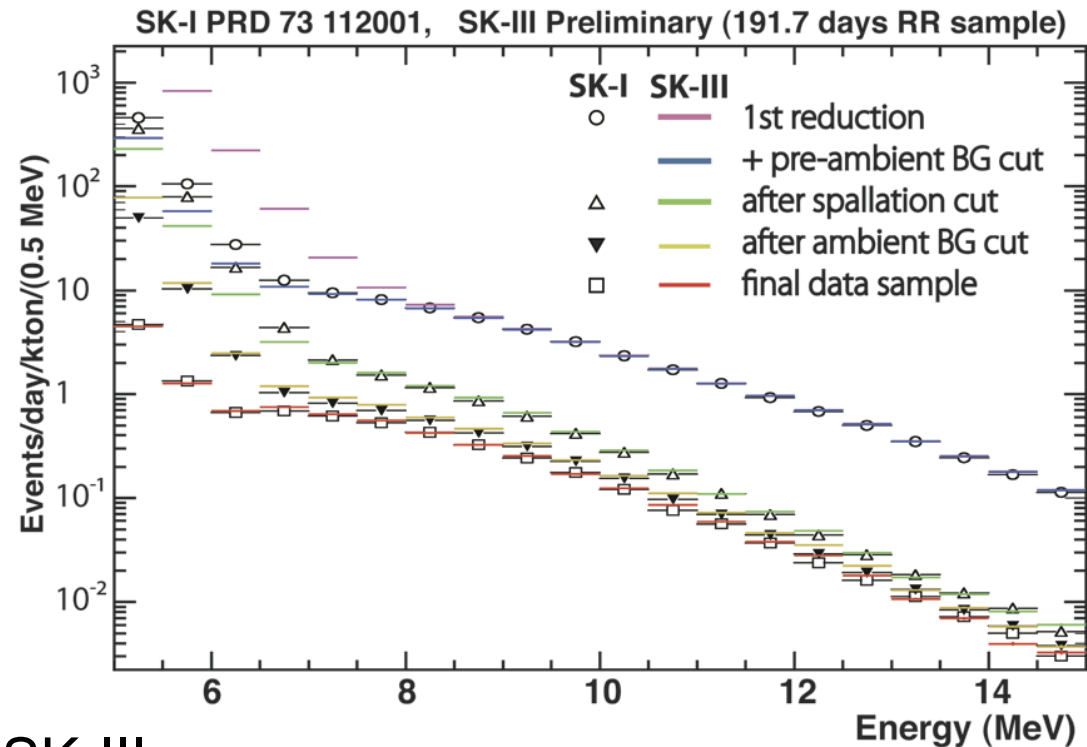
- Measurement goals :
  - Total flux
  - Day night differences
  - Spectrum
- Super-K II 's lower coverage prompted improvement of reconstruction tools
- Now applied to SK-I & SK-III
- Observed rate :  $\sim 15 \nu_e / \text{day}$  above 5 MeV

- **SK-III flux consistent with SK-I & SK-II (flux measurement being prepared)**



# SK-III & SK-I

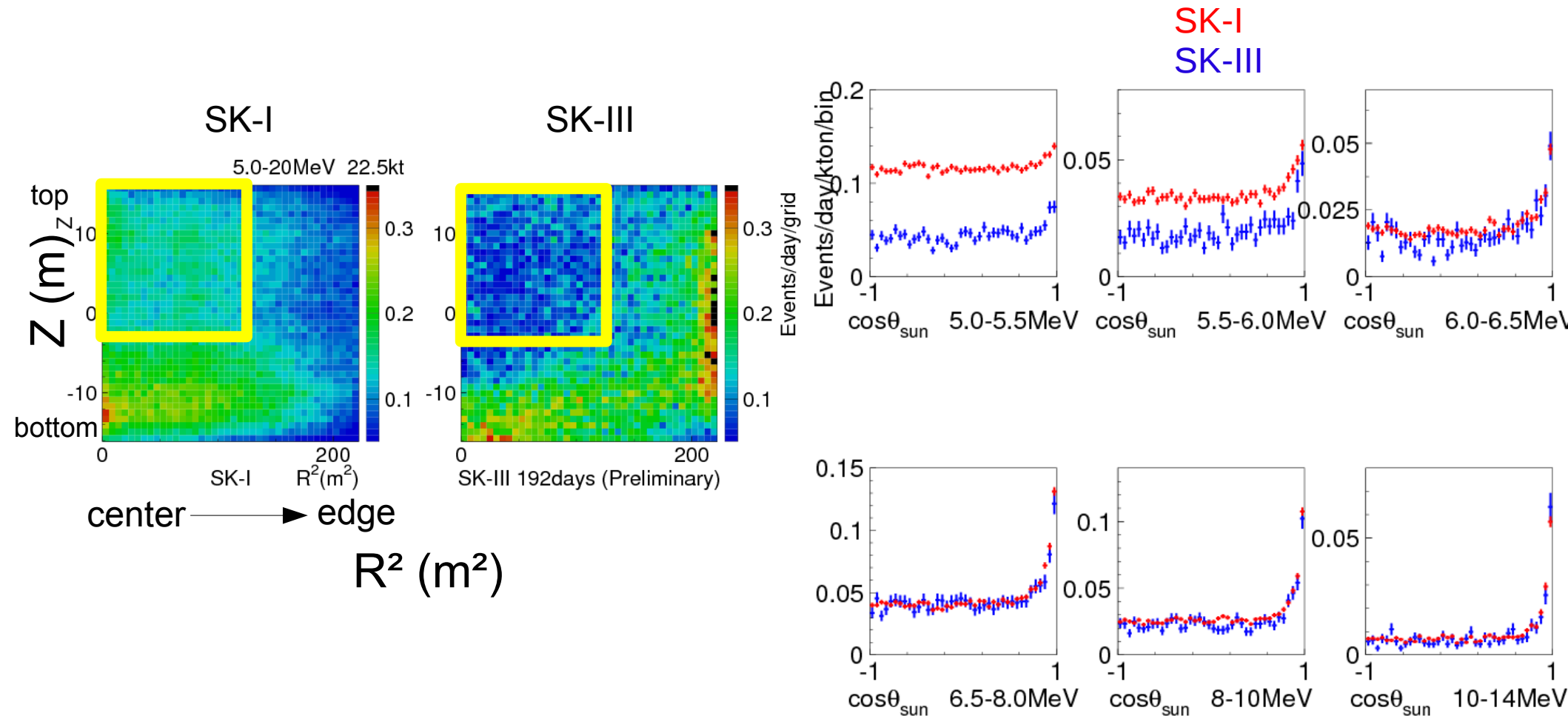
- SK-I “full final” sample
  - Energy > 6.5 MeV
  - Livetime 288.9 days
- SK-III RR (Radon reduced sample)
  - Period from jan 07 to march 08  
livetime 191.7 days
  - high radon activity periods rejected
  - 100% trigger efficiency above 5 MeV
- Good agreement between SK-I & SK-III



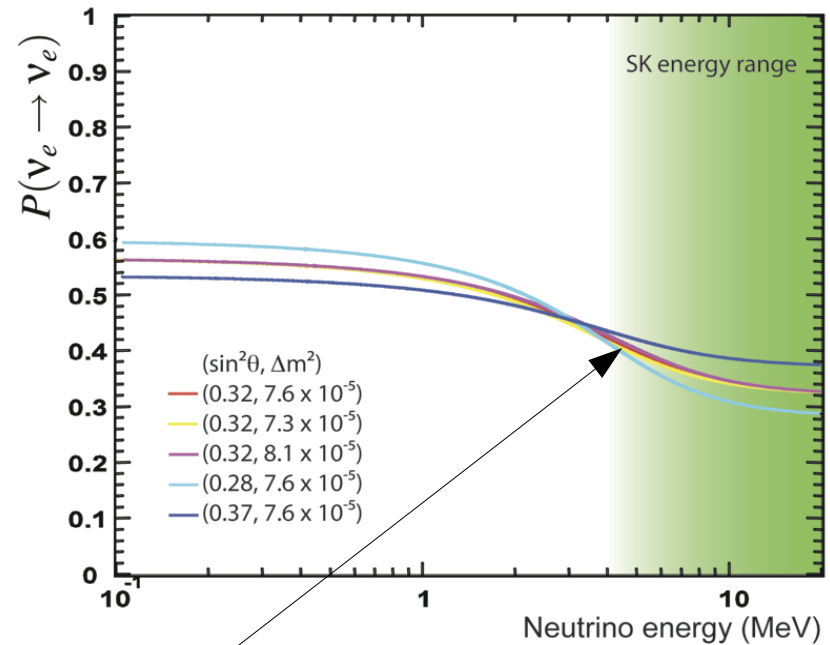
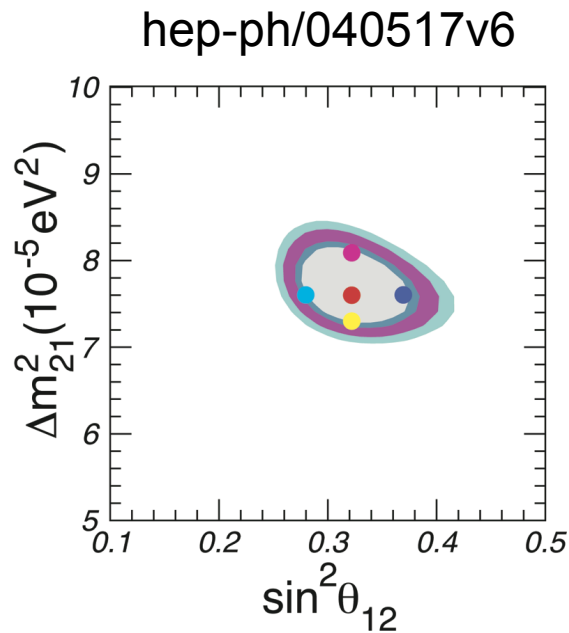


# Improved Backgrounds

- **Background in SK-III's central region is lower than in SK-I** thanks to improvements in the water system
- Threshold below 5 MeV



# Prospects for SK-IV



- Test of standard oscillation model  
→ look for upturn at low energy predicted by LMA solution
- ~ 10 % effect in SK
- Observation requires :
  - Lowering threshold to 4 MeV
  - Reducing energy correlated systematics (to  $\frac{1}{2}$  SK-I)
  - Running longer...

**Work in progress....**

# Atmospheric neutrino results

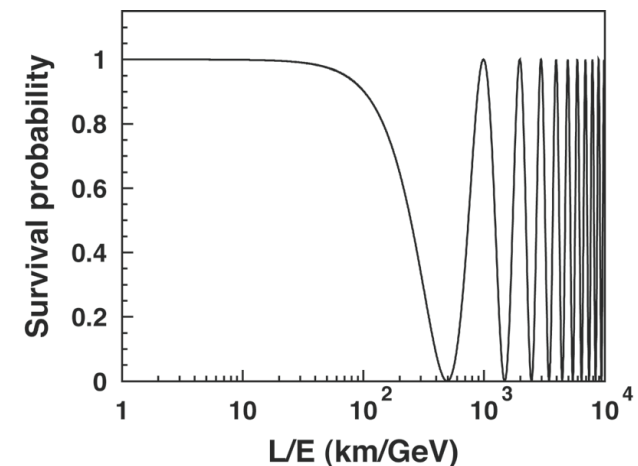
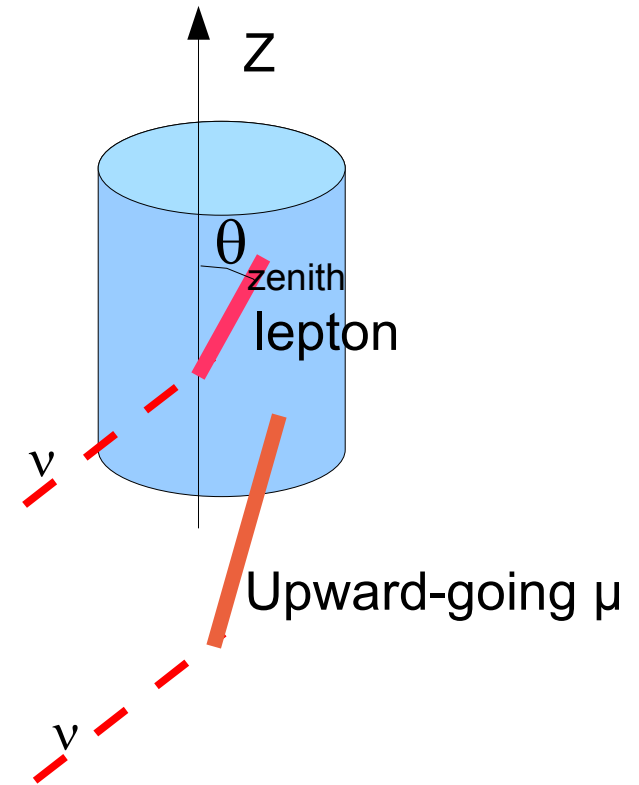
# Atmospheric neutrino analyses

- **Zenith angle analysis :**

- Reconstruct leading lepton track and upward-going muons
- Angular correlation with incoming neutrino
- Fit Data & MC zenith angle distributions

- **L/E analysis :**

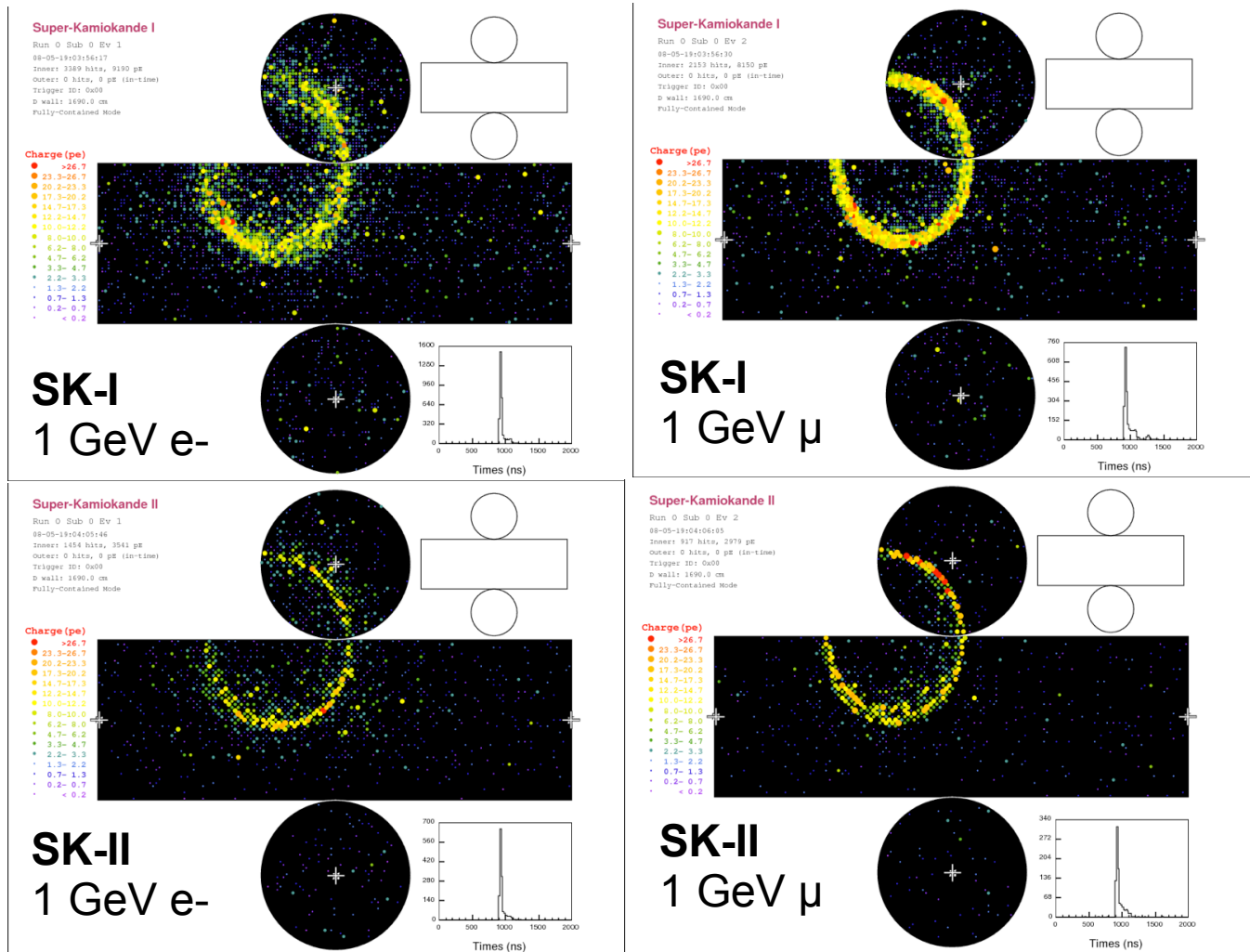
- Reconstruct leading lepton track
- Estimate neutrino flight length  $L$  and energy  $E$
- Look for oscillatory shape in  $L/E$  distribution



# Reconstruction improvements

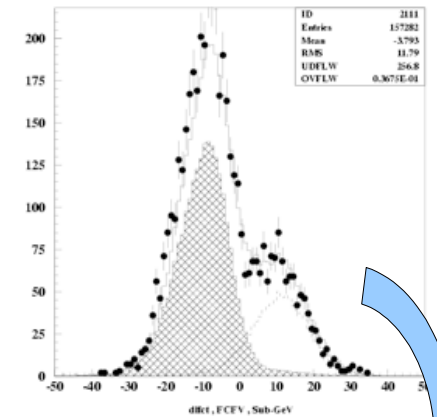
SK-II only had 20% coverage : careful studies of vertex fitters, ring counting and particle ID algorithms were needed  
 Improvements were applied to SK-III and SK-I

40 %

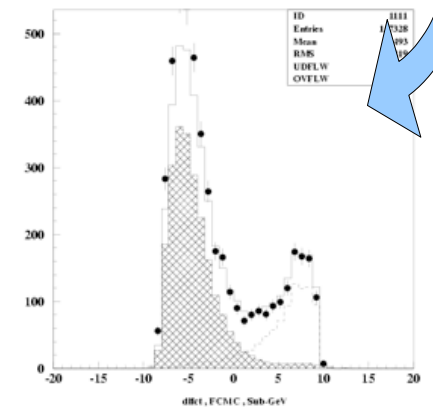


20 %

OLD ring counting



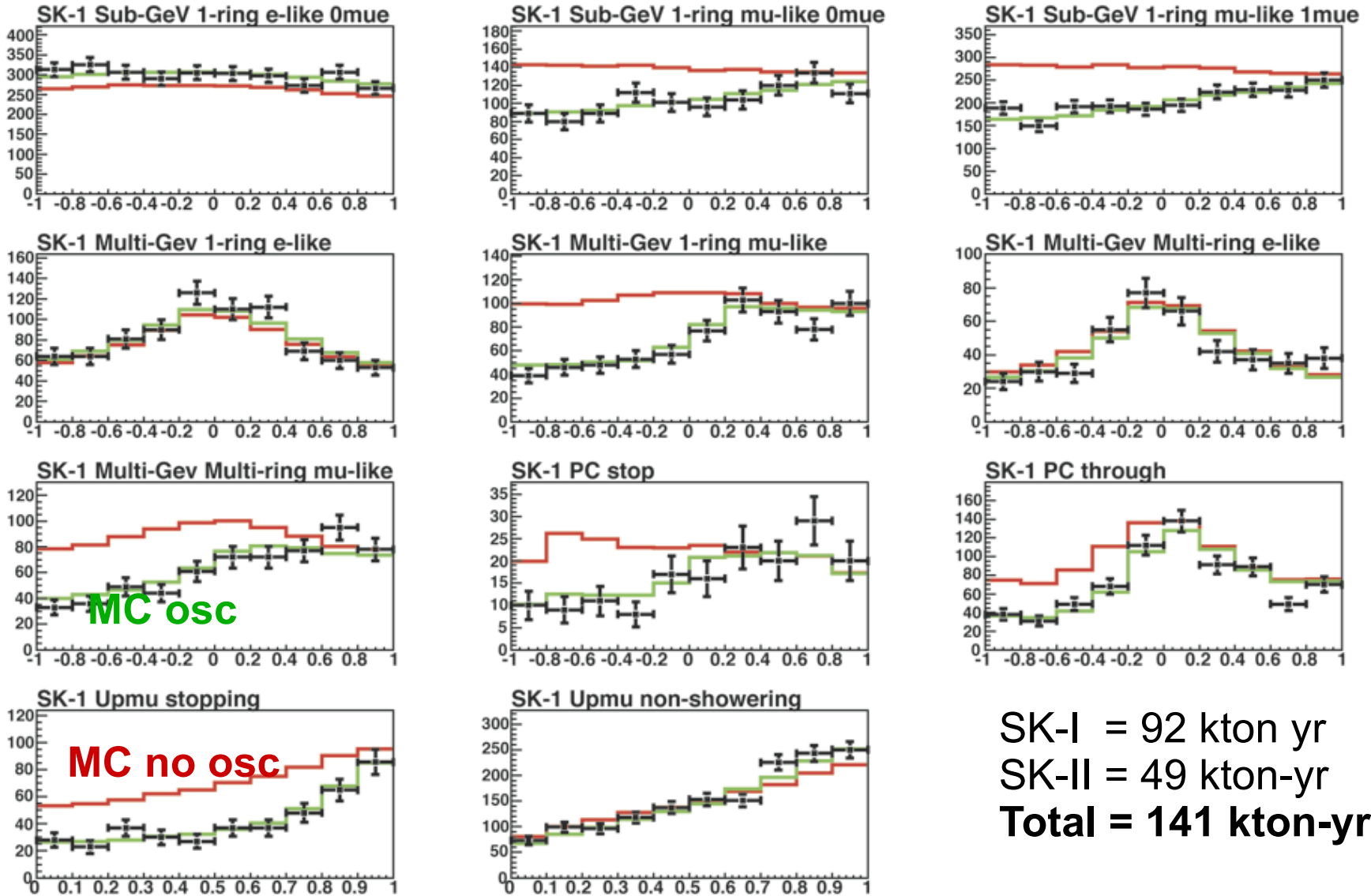
NEW ring counting



# Other improvements

- New cosmic ray flux model
  - matches cosmic muon data better (Honda 2006)
- Neutrino cross-section Monte-Carlo improvements:
  - $M_A = 1.2 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
  - Improved single pi resonant production model (added  $\Delta \rightarrow N\gamma$ , lepton mass effects)
  - Improved of single pi coherent production model (Rein-Sehgal with lepton mass correction)
  - Improved DIS model (GRV98 pdfs with Bodek-Yang correction)
- Detector simulation improvements :
  - Better tuning of scattering & reflections
  - Improved OD tuning
- Higher Monte-Carlo statistics :
  - 500 yrs of SK-I & 500 yrs of SK-II MC generated
- Improved reconstruction :
  - Re-evaluate systematics of the experiment

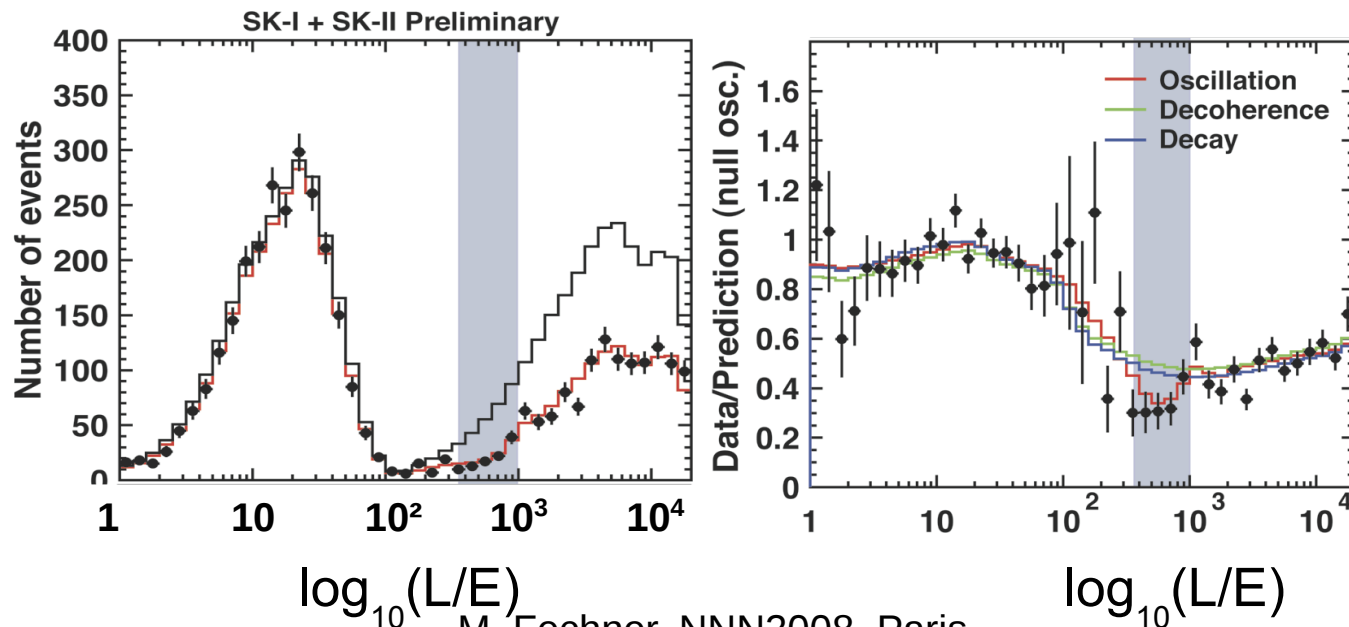
# Zenith angle analysis



SK-I = 92 kton yr  
 SK-II = 49 kton-yr  
**Total = 141 kton-yr**

# L/E analysis

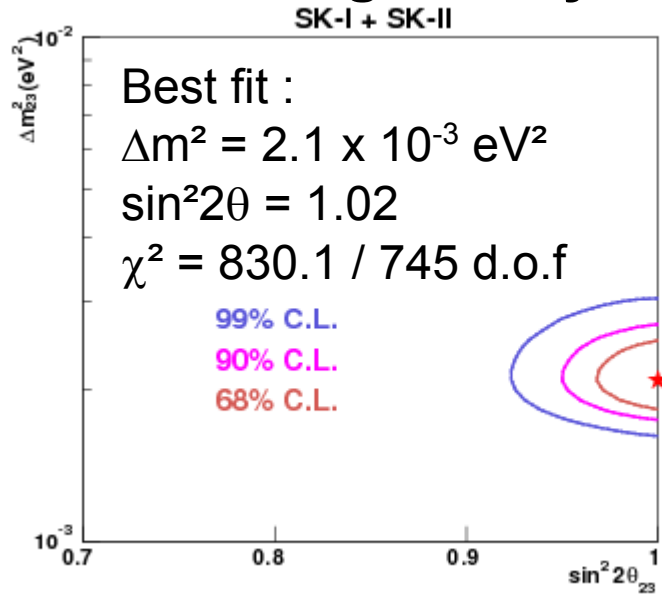
- Select events with good L/E resolution (<70%)
  - Need good pointing accuracy & momentum fitting
  - High energy muons essential for this analysis  
→ include partially-contained muons
- Compare (Data/MC no osc) to (MC / MC no osc)
- Oscillatory shape (“dip”) allows to compare different hypotheses for observation :
  - Decoherence model disfavored at  $5.0 \sigma$  compared to osc.
  - Neutrino decay model disfavored at  $4.1 \sigma$  compared to osc



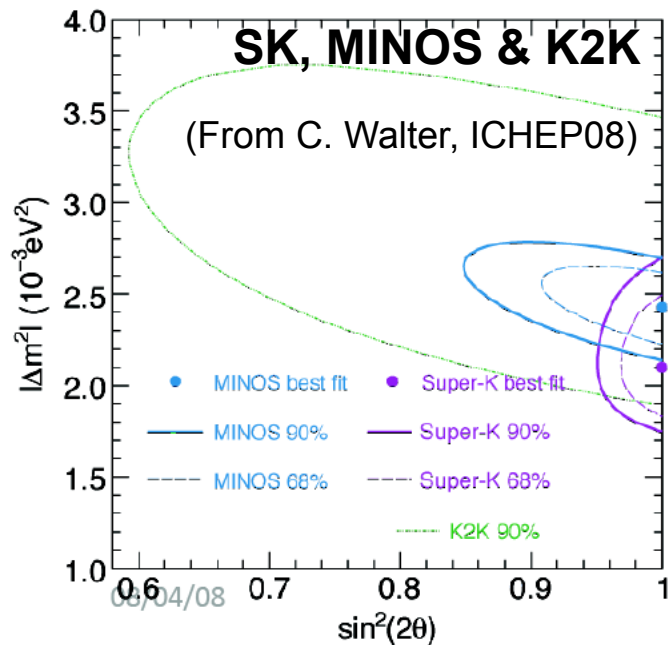
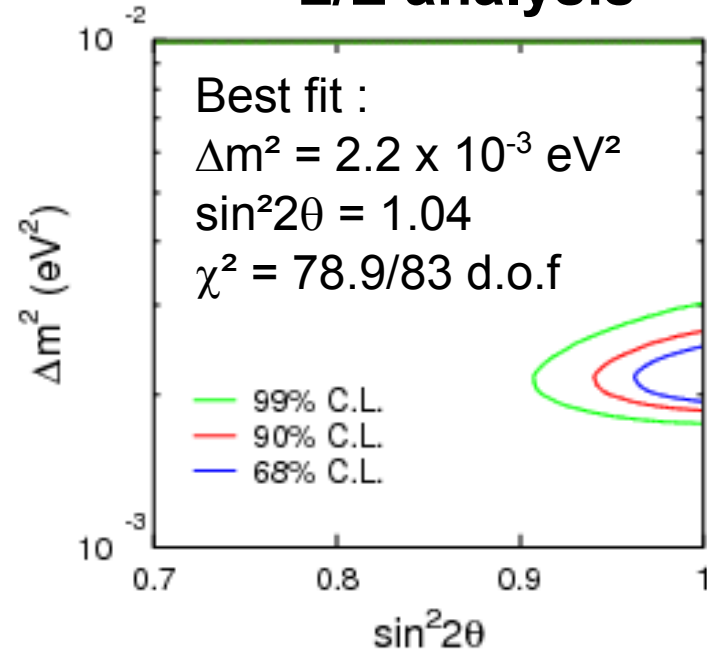


# Allowed regions

## Zenith angle analysis

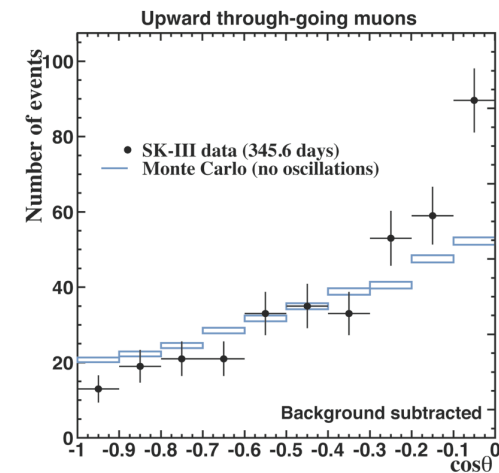
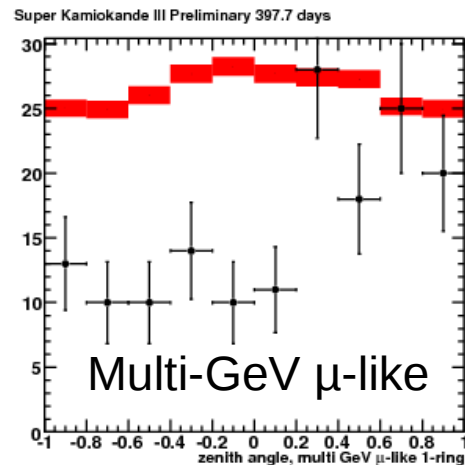
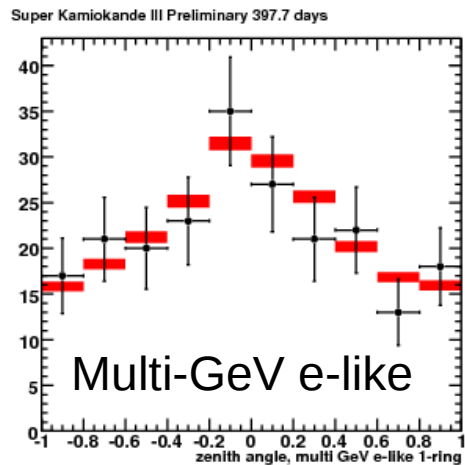
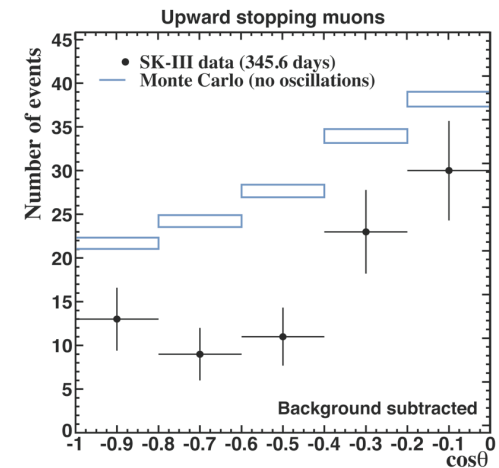
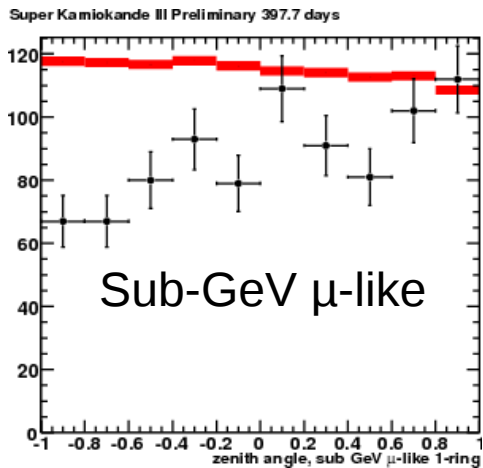
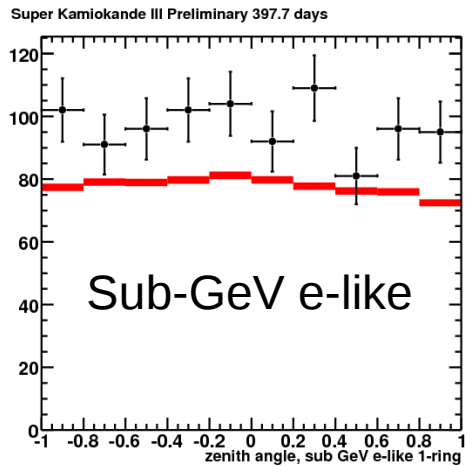


## L/E analysis



**Current best measurement of  $\theta_{23}$  :**  
 **$\sim 45 \pm 4^\circ$  (10% accuracy)**

# SK-III preliminary results



No oscillation analysis yet... but clear zenith angle distortion effects.

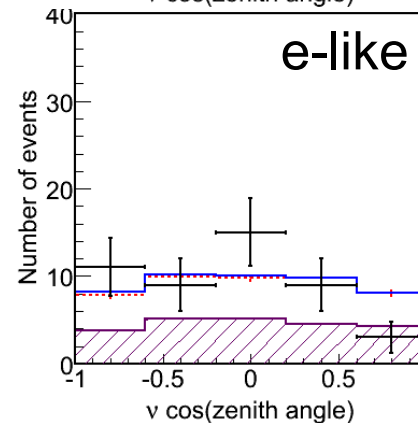
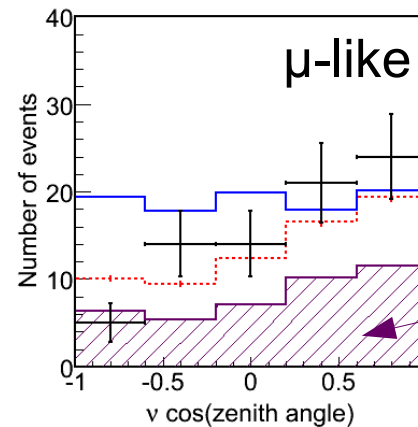
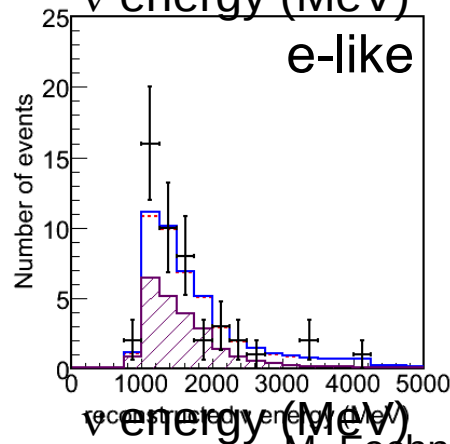
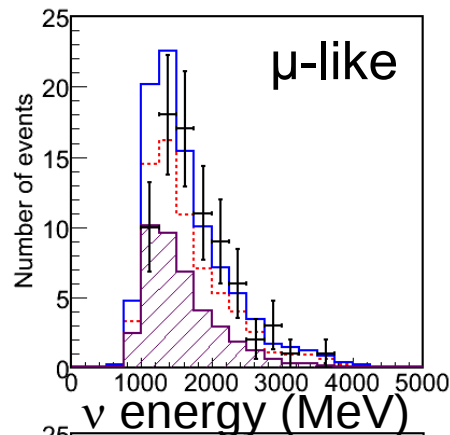
# Observation of recoil protons

- Particle ID was extended to identify recoil protons from  $\nu$  scattering
- Cherenkov threshold in water  $\sim 1070$  MeV/c for protons
- Two main analyses :
  - NC elastic events  $\nu + p \rightarrow \nu + p$  [not covered today]
  - CCQE events  $\nu + n \rightarrow \text{lepton} + \text{proton}$
- Goals of recoil proton search in CCQE events :
  - Complete kinematic reconstruction of incoming neutrino energy & zenith angle
  - Selection of a quasi-pure neutrino sample  $\nu/\bar{\nu} \sim 9$

**PRELIMINARY  
SK-I&II data**

$\nu_e$  &  $\nu_\mu$  energy  
& zenith angle  
distributions

Clear zenith angle  
distortion for  $\mu$ -like  
events



MC no osc  
MC osc

CCQE

# Summary

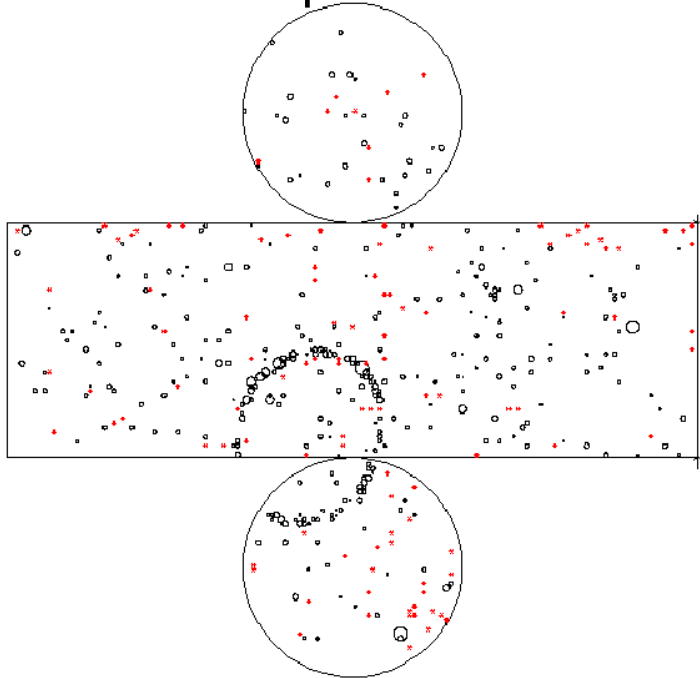
- SK-III has been running for 2 years as of today
  - SK-I+II+III data set : > 25,000 atm  $\nu$  events
  - Results are compatible with previous observations
  - Reduced background for solar analyses
  - Improved simulation & systematics for analyses
- SK-IV : starting in a few weeks
  - Complete replacement of ID & OD electronics
  - Ready for T2K beam
- Current physics :
  - 23% admixture of sterile neutrinos is allowed
  - $\theta_{23}$  measured to  $\sim 45 \pm 4^\circ$  (10% accuracy)
  - Results on  $\theta_{13}$  coming soon (current limit  $\sin^2\theta_{13} < .14$ )
- Future physics goals :
  - See the upturn in solar neutrinos
  - Further constrain atmospheric models & parameters

Thank you

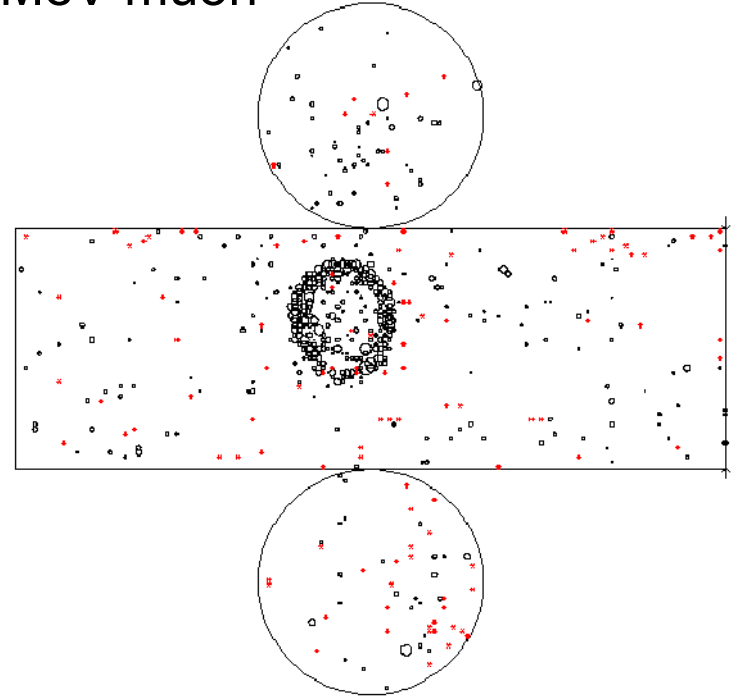
# Backup slides

# Proton vs muon

~ 1400 MeV proton

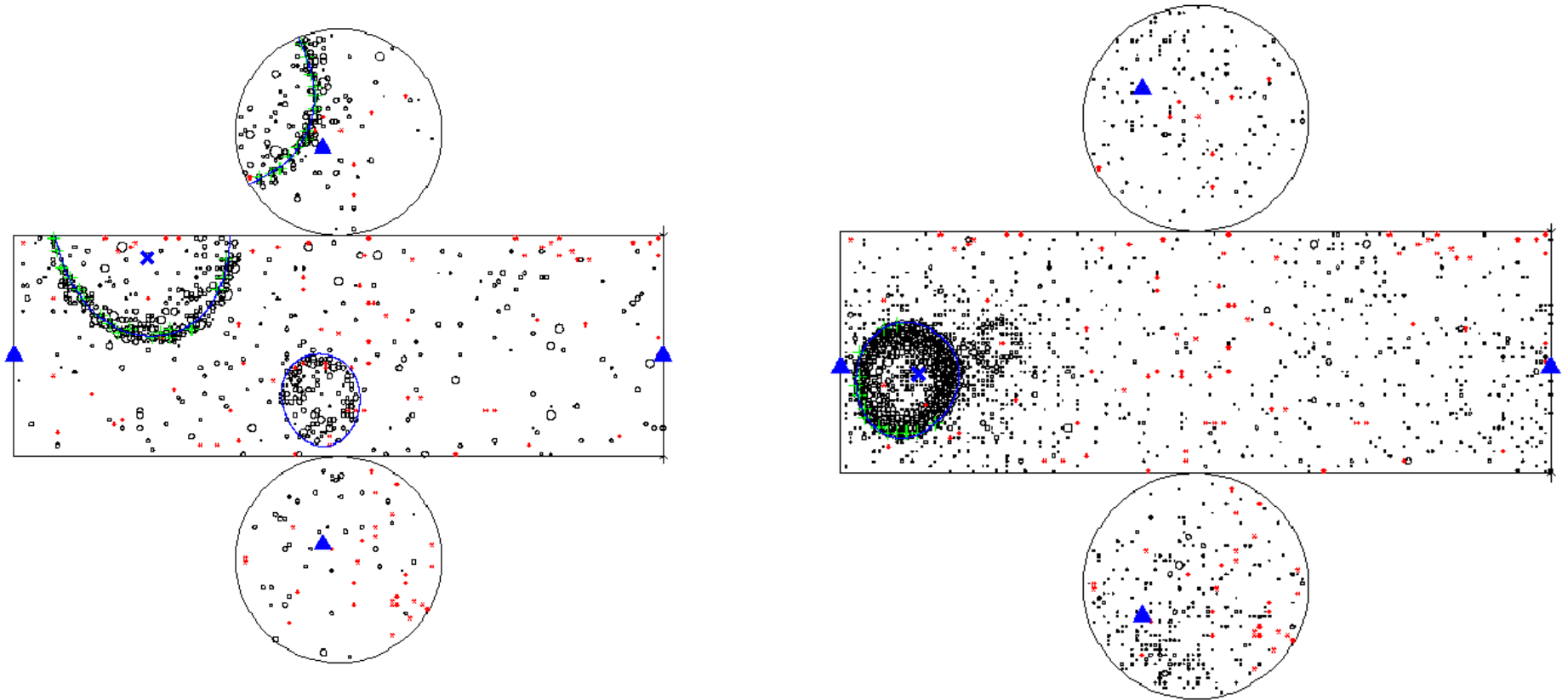


~ 300 MeV muon



Proton ID relies on :  
smaller opening angle  
“thinness” of the ring  
different light density

# CCQE search



CCQE events :

identified as 2 rings by standard ring finder

identified as 1 ring but found by dedicated CCQE search algorithm