

# **Sensitivity to the neutrino electric millicharge of experiments involving elastic neutrino-electron and coherent elastic neutrino-nucleus processes**



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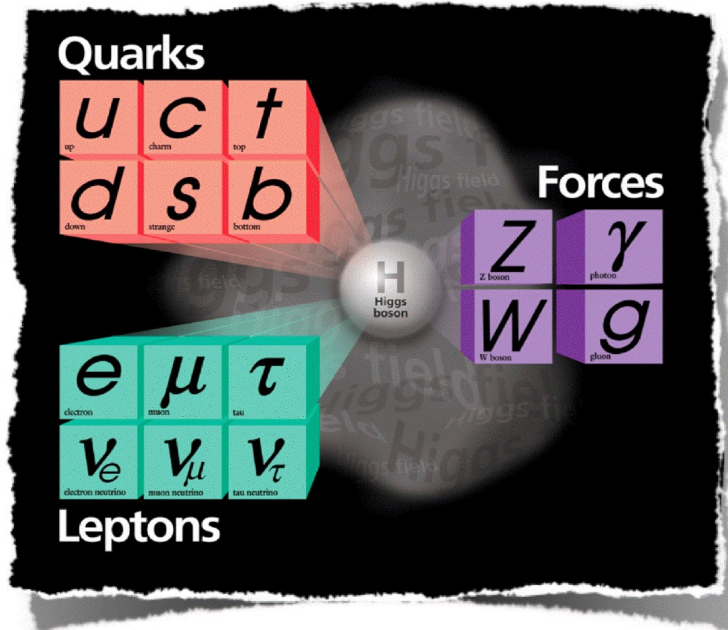
## Outline

- Introduction
- Elastic neutrino-electron scattering (ENES)
- Coherent elastic neutrino-nucleus scattering (CEvNS)
- Bounds on NEM from ENES experiments of reactor antineutrinos.
- Constraints on NEM from CEvNS future experiments of reactor antineutrinos.
- Conclusions.



# Introduction

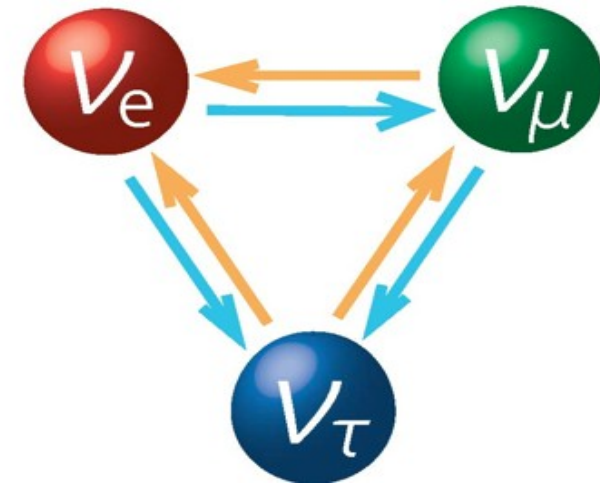
## Standard Model (SM)



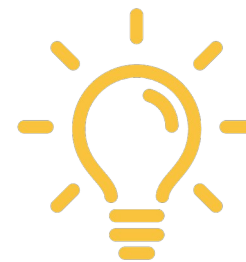
Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory

Neutrinos are massless, electrically neutral, and only interact weakly with charged leptons.

## Neutrino Oscillations



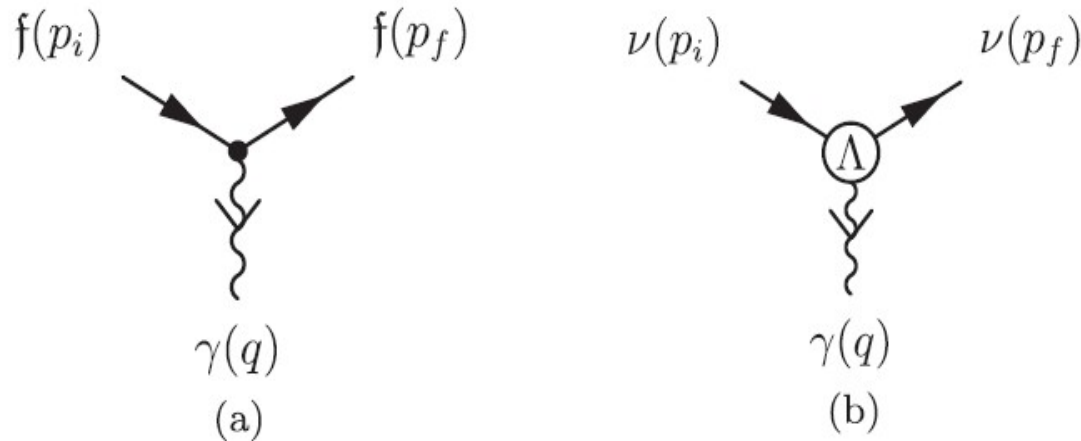
Neutrinos are massive particles



To extend the SM to explain the neutrino mass

# Neutrino electric millicharge (NEM)

Tree level coupling  $f - \gamma$



**Amplitud of neutrino-photon  
electromagnetic interaction**

$$\langle \nu(p_f, s_f) | J_\mu^{EM} | \nu(p_i, s_i) \rangle = i \bar{u}_f \Lambda_\mu(q) u_i$$

**Effective one-photon coupling  $\nu - \gamma$**

The vertex function includes four form factors,

$$\Lambda_\mu(q) = \mathbf{F}_D(q^2) \gamma_\mu + \mathbf{G}_D(q^2) (q^2 \gamma_\mu - 2m i q_\mu) \gamma_5 + \mathbf{M}_D(q^2) \sigma_{\mu\nu} q_\nu + \mathbf{E}_D(q^2) i \sigma_{\mu\nu} q_\nu \gamma_5.$$

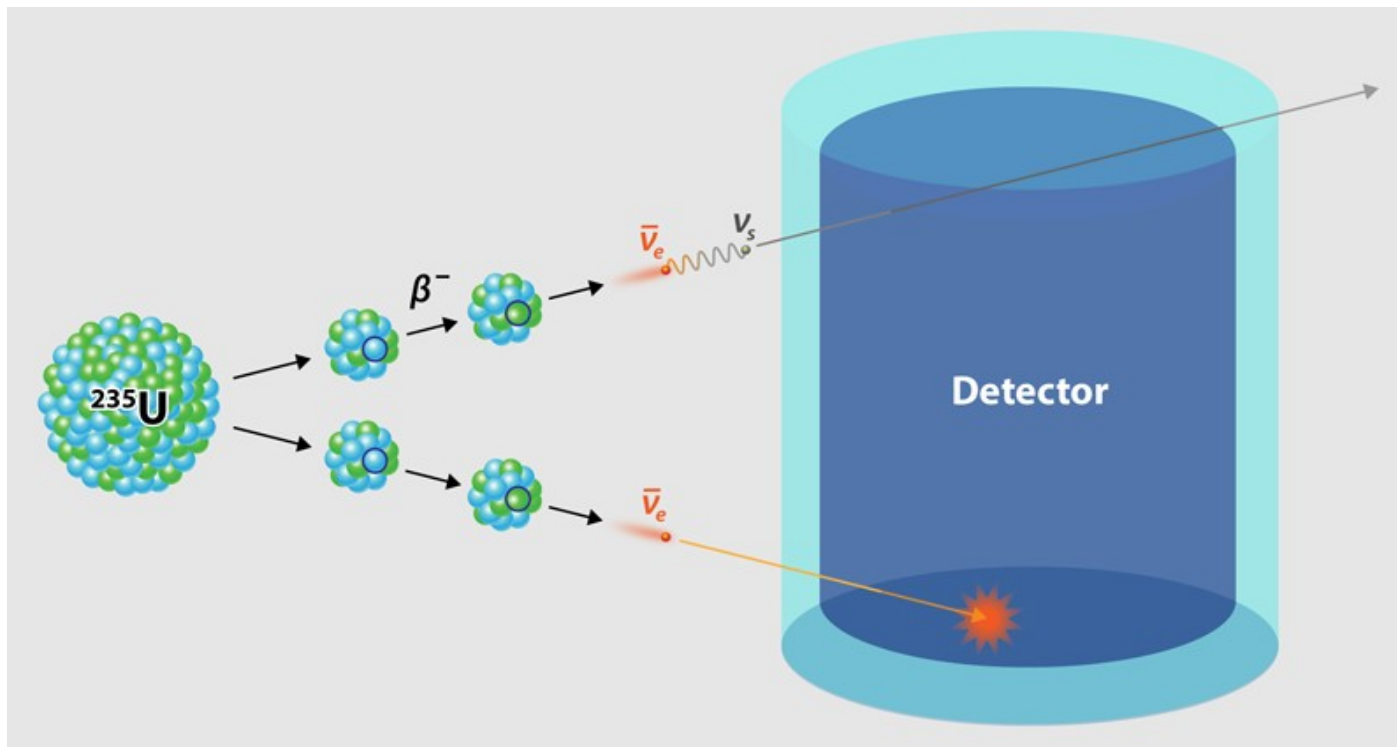
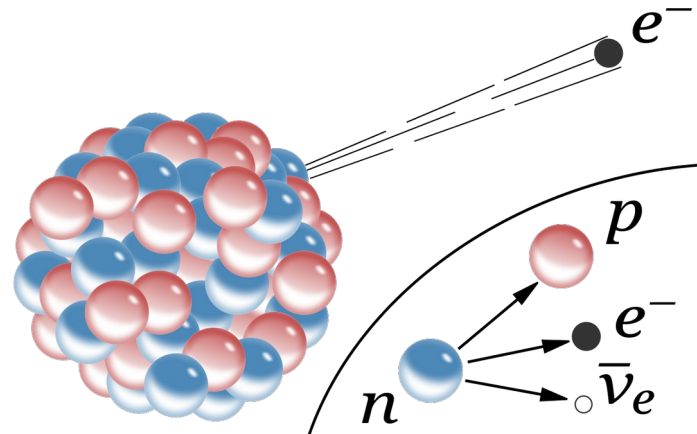
Considering couplings with real photons,

$$\mathbf{F}_D(0) = \mathbf{q}_\nu, \quad G_D(0) = a, \quad M_D(0) = \mu_\nu, \quad E_D(0) = d,$$

[1] C. Giunti and A. Studenikin, Rev. Mod. Phys., 87, 531 (2015).

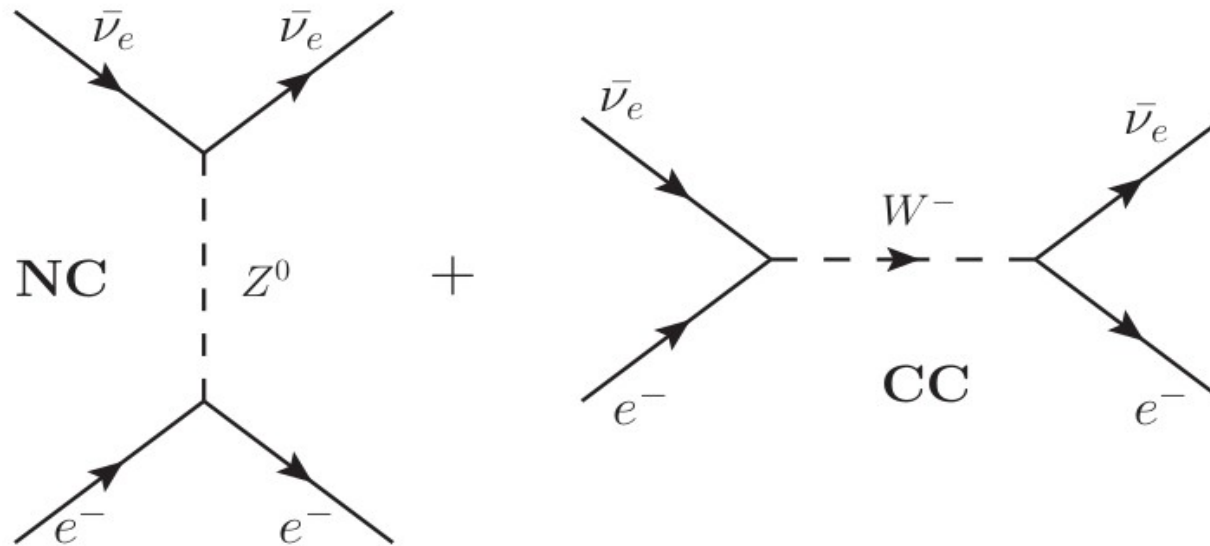
# Antineutrinos from reactor experiments

$\beta$  decay



<https://physics.aps.org/articles/v10/66>

# Elastic neutrino-electron scattering (ENES)



## Antineutrino-electron cross section

$$\left( \frac{d\sigma}{dT_e} \right)_{\text{SM}}^{\bar{\nu}e} = \frac{2G_F^2 m_e}{\pi} \left[ g_L^2 + g_R^2 \left( 1 - \frac{T_e}{E_\nu} \right)^2 - g_L g_R \left( \frac{m_e T_e}{E_\nu^2} \right) \right],$$

$g_L = \sin^2 \theta_W$  and  $g_R = \sin^2 \theta_W + 1/2 \rightarrow$  standard coupling constants.

$$\sigma_{\bar{\nu}-e} \sim 10^{-45} \text{cm}^2/\text{MeV}$$

# Coherent elastic neutrino-nucleus scattering (CEvNS)

## 1974: Theoretical prediction

PHYSICAL REVIEW D

VOLUME 9, NUMBER 5

1 MARCH 1974

### Coherent effects of a weak neutral current

Daniel Z. Freedman<sup>†</sup>

*National Accelerator Laboratory, Batavia, Illinois 60510*

*and Institute for Theoretical Physics, State University of New York, Stony Brook, New York 11790*

(Received 15 October 1973; revised manuscript received 19 November 1973)

“If there is a **weak neutral current**, then the elastic scattering process  $\nu + A \rightarrow \nu + A$  should have a sharp coherent forward peak just as  $e + A \rightarrow e + A$  does”.

“**The experiments are very difficult**, although the estimated cross sections (about  $10^{-38}$  cm<sup>2</sup> on Carbon) are favorable”.

[2] D. Z. Freedman, Phys. Rev. D 9, 1389 (1974)



## 2017: Observation of CEvNS by COHERENT Collaboration

RESEARCH

NEUTRINO PHYSICS

### Observation of coherent elastic neutrino-nucleus scattering

“**We observed this process at a  $6.7\sigma$  confidence level**, using a low background, 14.6-Kilogram CsI[Na] scintillator exposed to the neutrino emissions from the Spallation Neutron Source at Oak Ridge National Laboratory”.

[3] D. Akimov et al., Science 357, no. 6356, 1123 (2017)

## 2020: Detection of CEvNS on Argon

“**We report the first detection of CEvNS on argon** using the CENNS-10 liquid argon detector at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory Spallation Neutrino Source”.

[4] D. Akimov et al, arXiv: 2003.10630

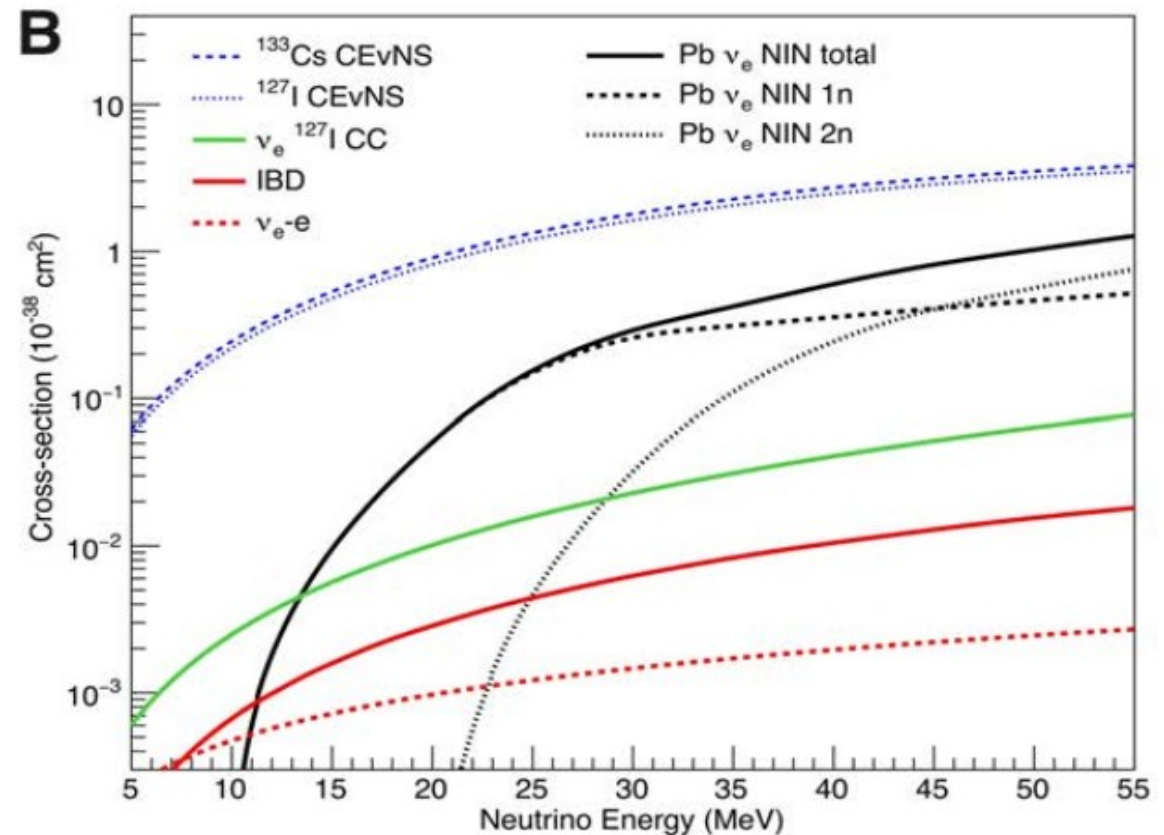
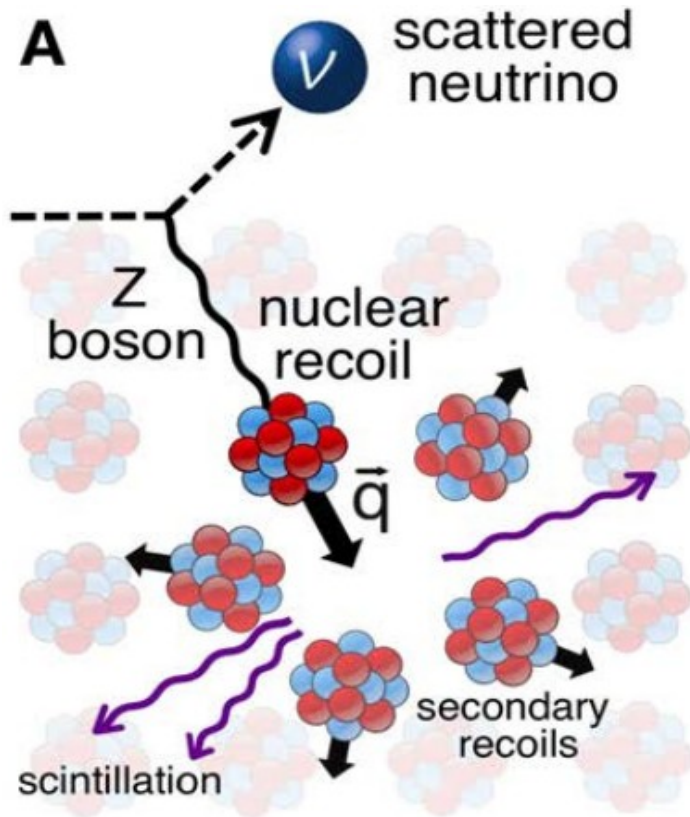


# Neutral Current (NC) interaction



The momentum exchanged is smaller than the inverse of the nuclear size

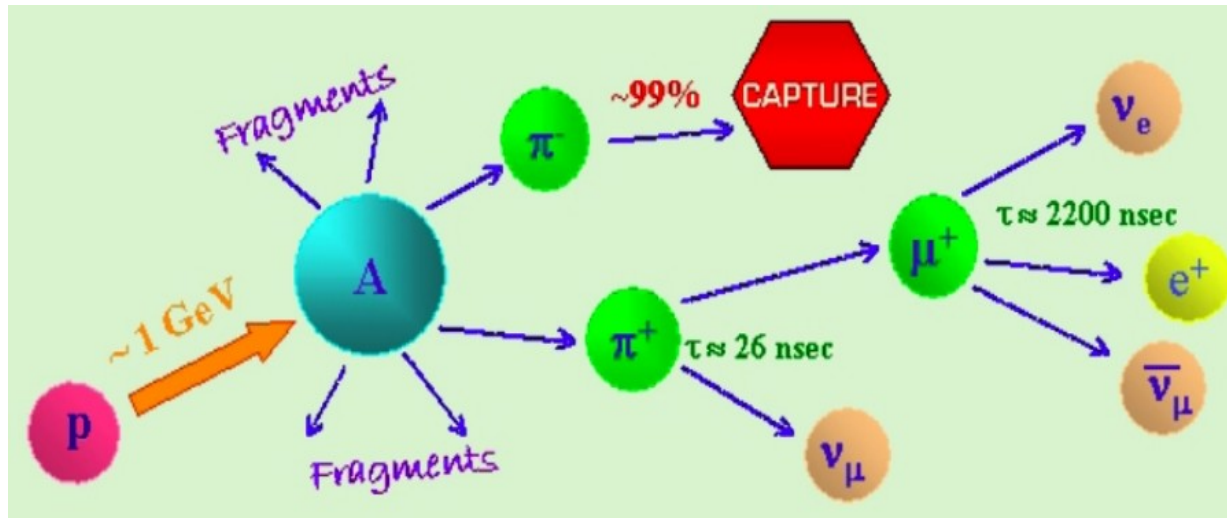
$$qR \leq 1 \quad E_\nu \leq 100 \text{ MeV}$$



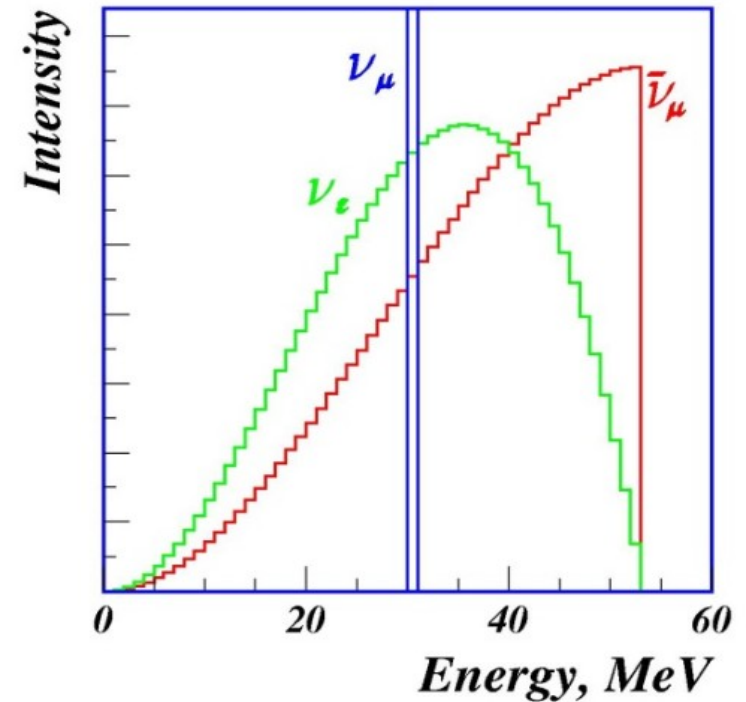
$$\sigma_{\nu_\alpha - N} \sim 10^{-38} \text{ cm}^2$$

D. Akimov et al., Science 357, no. 6356, 1123 (2017)

# Neutrinos production at the SNS



arXiv: 1211.5199v1



$$\frac{dN_{\nu_{\mu}}}{dE} = \eta \delta \left( E - \frac{m_{\pi}^2 - m_{\mu}^2}{2m_{\pi}} \right)$$

$$\frac{dN_{\bar{\nu}_{\mu}}}{dE} = \eta \frac{64E^2}{m_{\mu}^3} \left( \frac{3}{4} - \frac{E}{m_{\mu}} \right)$$

$$\frac{dN_{\nu_e}}{dE} = \eta \frac{192E^2}{m_{\mu}^3} \left( \frac{1}{2} - \frac{E}{m_{\mu}} \right)$$

# Perspectives for exploring new physics in CEvNS

- NSI Interactions
- Sterile neutrinos
- Neutrino magnetic moment
- Neutrino couplings to new massive or light scalars (vector) mediators
- Leptoquarks
- Neutrino electric millicharge

[ArXiv: 1805.01798](#), [arXiv: 1907.04942](#), [arXiv: 2003.12050](#), and references therein.

## Some limits on NEM from different sources

- Based on the neutrality of matter [5]  $\longrightarrow q_\nu \leq 3 \times 10^{-21} e$
- Neutrino Star Turning mechanism [6]  $\longrightarrow q_\nu \leq 1.3 \times 10^{-19} e$
- Analysis of SN 1987 A neutrinos [7]  $\longrightarrow q_\nu \leq 2 \times 10^{-15} e$
- From TEXONO experiment data [8]  $\longrightarrow q_\nu \leq 3.7 \times 10^{-12} e$
- From GEMMA experiment data [9]  $\longrightarrow q_\nu \leq 1.5 \times 10^{-12} e$
- Involving electron neutrino flavor  
(from COHERENT experiment data)  
[10]  $\longrightarrow q_{\nu x} \sim 1 \times 10^{-7} e (x = e, \mu, \tau)$

[5] G. G. Raffelt, Physics Reports, vol. 320, no 1-6, pp. 319-327. 1999

[6] A. I. Studenikin and I. Tokarev, Nuclear Physics B, vol 884, pp. 396-407, 2014.

[7] G. Barbiellini and G. Cocconi, Nature, vol. 329, no. 6134, pp. 21-22, 1987.

[8] S. N. Gninenko, N. V. Krasnikov and A. Rubbia, Phys. Rev. D 75, 075014 (2007).

[9] A. Studenikin, EPL 107, no. 2, 21001 (2014) Erratum: [EPL 107, no. 3, 39901 (2014)].

[10] M. Cadeddu, F. Dordei, C. Giunti, Y. Li, and Y. Zhang, Physical Review D, 101, no. 3, 033004, 2020.

# Analysis from ENES experiments of reactor antineutrinos

## Antineutrino-electron cross section

$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{dT_e}\right)_{\text{tot}}^{\bar{\nu}e} = \left(\frac{d\sigma}{dT_e}\right)_{\text{SM}}^{\bar{\nu}e} + \left(\frac{d\sigma}{dT_e}\right)_{\text{EM}}^{\bar{\nu}e} + \left(\frac{d\sigma}{dT_e}\right)_{\text{INT}}^{\bar{\nu}e}$$

## The Standard Model contribution

$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{dT_e}\right)_{\text{SM}}^{\bar{\nu}e} = \frac{2G_F^2 m_e}{\pi} \left[ g_L^2 + g_R^2 \left(1 - \frac{T_e}{E_\nu}\right)^2 - g_L g_R \left(\frac{m_e T_e}{E_\nu^2}\right) \right],$$

$g_L = \sin^2 \theta_W$  and  $g_R = \sin^2 \theta_W + 1/2$  are the standard coupling constants.

## The Electromagnetic and interference contributions

$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{dT_e}\right)_{\text{EM}}^{\bar{\nu}e} \simeq \frac{2\pi\alpha}{m_e T_e^2} q_\nu^2, \quad \left(\frac{d\sigma}{dT_e}\right)_{\text{INT}}^{\bar{\nu}e} = \frac{2\sqrt{2}\alpha G_F}{T_e} q_\nu$$



# Reactor antineutrino experiments

**Rovno** nuclear power plant (Ukraine)

**Krasnoyarsk** nuclear power plant (Russia)



<https://uatom.org/index.php/en/general-information/rivne-npp/>

<http://large.stanford.edu/courses/2017/ph241/buttinger2/>

**GEMMA** at Kalinin nuclear power plant (Russia)



Kalinin-Nuclear-Power-Plant

**MUNU** experiment at Bugey NPP (France)



<https://www.entrepriseetdecouverte.fr/property/edf-bugey-nuclear-power-plant/?lang=en>

**TEXONO** experiment at Kuo Sheng NPP (Taiwan)



<https://www.taiwannews.com.tw/en/news/3406044>

## Features of the reactor experiments

Experiment	Baseline (m)	Mass (Kg)	Material	Cross section/ Events
Rovno [11]	15	75	Silicon	$12.6 \times 10^{-45} \text{cm}^2 / \text{fission}$
Krasnoyarsk [12]	—	103	Fluororganic scintillator	$4.5 \times 10^{-45} \text{cm}^2 / \text{fission}$
MUNU [13]	18	-	CF <sub>4</sub>	$1.07 \text{ evt} \cdot \text{day}^{-1}$
TEXONO [14]	28	187	CsI(Tl)	$0.7 \text{ evt} \cdot \text{day}^{-1}$
GEMMA [15]	13.9	1.5	Germanium	—

[11] A. Aguilar-Arevalo, et al, Journal of Instrumentation, vol 11, no 7, 012057, 2016.

[12] Y. Farzan, et al., Journal of High Energy Physics, vol 2018, no 5, 66, 2018.

[13] G. Agnolet, et al., Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research, vol 853, pp. 53-60, 2017

[14] D. Y. Akimov, et al., Journal of Instrumentation, vol 12, no. 6, C06018, 2017

[15] H. T. Wong, Nuclear Physics A, Vol. 844, no. 1-4, pp. 229C-233c, 2010.



## Theoretical number of events (in the $i$ th bin)

$$N^{\text{th}} = \kappa \int_{E_{\nu_{\min}}}^{E_{\nu_{\max}}} \int_{T_i}^{T_{i+1}} \int_{T_{\min}}^{T_{\max}} \lambda(E_{\nu}) \left( \frac{d\sigma}{dT_e} \right)_{\text{tot}}^{\bar{\nu}e} \times R(T_e, T_e') dT_e dT_e' dE_{\nu},$$

where the resolution function corresponds to

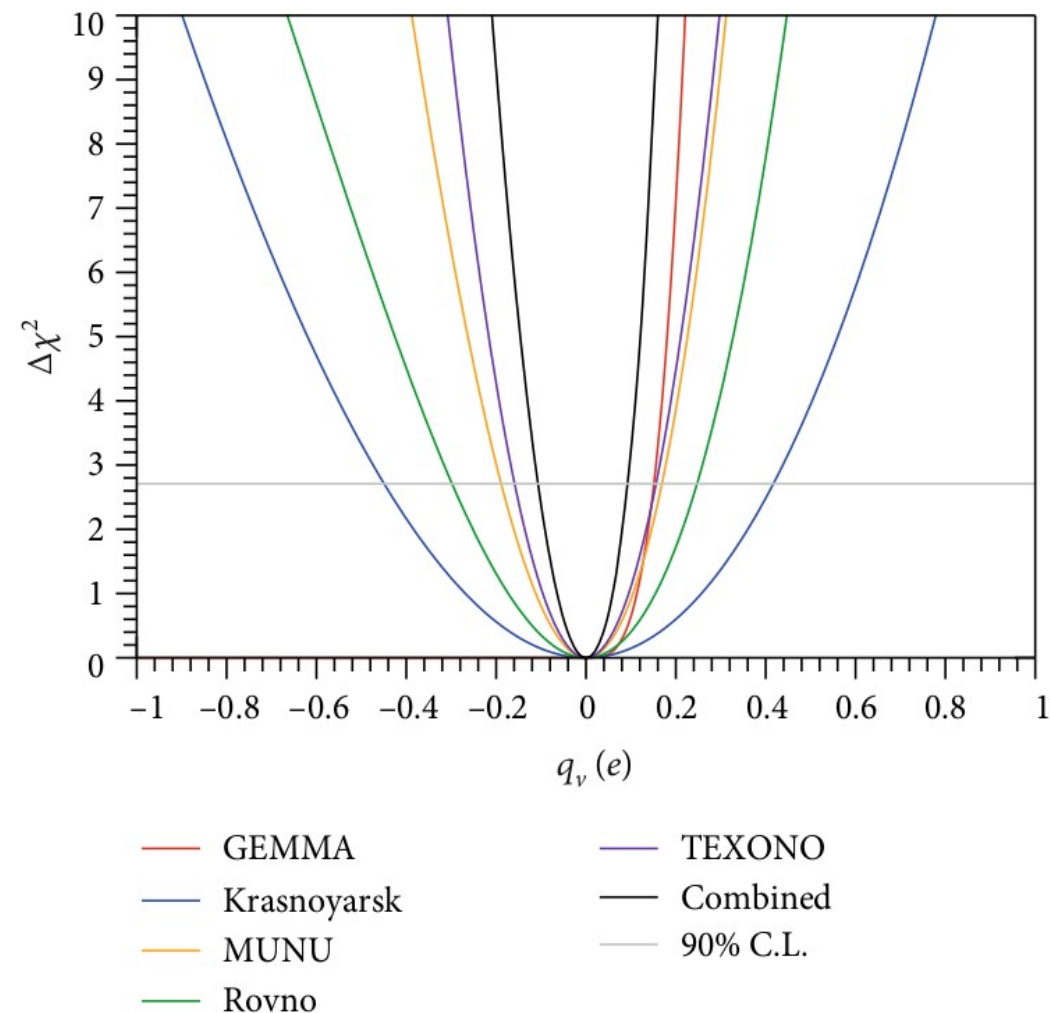
$$R(T_e, T_e') = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp \left( \frac{-(T_e - T_e')^2}{2\sigma^2} \right).$$

## $\chi^2$ Analysis

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{bin}}} \frac{(N^{\text{SM}} - N^{\text{th}}(q_{\nu}))^2}{\Delta_i^2}$$

## Results from ENES experiments

$\Delta\chi^2$  sensitivity profile for  $q_\nu$  (in units of  $10^{-11}e$ )



90% C.L. Limits on  $q_\nu$  (in units of  $10^{-12}e$ )

Experiment	Limit
Rovno	$-3.0 < q_\nu < 2.5$
Krasnoyarsk	$-4.5 < q_\nu < 4.2$
MUNU	$-1.9 < q_\nu < 1.7$
TEXONO	$-1.6 < q_\nu < 1.6$
GEMMA	$q_\nu < 1.5$
Combined	$-1.1 < q_\nu < 0.93$

**Combined limit:**

$$-1.1 \times 10^{-12}e < q_\nu < 0.93 \times 10^{-12}e$$

[16] A. Parada, Adv. High Energy Phys. 2020 (2020) 5908904.

## Cross section of CEvNS

$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{dT}\right)_{\text{tot}}^{\text{coh}} = \left(\frac{d\sigma}{dT}\right)_{\text{SM}}^{\text{coh}} + \left(\frac{d\sigma}{dT}\right)_{\text{EM}}^{\text{coh}} + \left(\frac{d\sigma}{dT}\right)_{\text{INT}}^{\text{coh}}$$

## Standard Model contribution

$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{dT}\right)_{\text{SM}}^{\text{coh}} = \frac{G_{\text{F}}^2 M}{\pi} \left[1 - \frac{MT}{2E_{\nu}^2}\right] (g_V^p Z + g_V^n N)^2 F(Q^2),$$

where  $g_V^p$  and  $g_V^n$  represent the vector couplings,

$$g_V^p = \rho_{\nu N}^{NC} \left(\frac{1}{2} - 2\hat{\kappa}_{\nu N} \hat{S}_Z^2\right) + 2\lambda^{uL} + 2\lambda^{uR} + \lambda^{dL} + \lambda^{dR},$$

$$g_V^n = -\frac{1}{2}\rho_{\nu N}^{NC} + \lambda^{uL} + \lambda^{uR} + 2\lambda^{dL} + 2\lambda^{dR}$$

$F(Q^2)$  corresponds to the nuclear form factor.

## Electromagnetic and interference contributions

$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{dT}\right)_{\text{EM}}^{\text{coh}} = \frac{2\pi Z^2}{MT^2} \left(1 - \frac{MT}{2E_\nu^2}\right) q_\nu^2$$

$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{dT}\right)_{\text{INT}}^{\text{coh}} = \frac{\sqrt{8}G_F C_V Z}{T} \left(1 - \frac{MT}{2E_\nu^2}\right) q_\nu$$

$$\text{with } C_V = g_V^p Z + g_V^n N$$

## CEvNS experiments

**TEXONO** experiment at Kuo Sheng NPP(Taiwan)



<http://wikimapia.org/197066/Kalinin-Nuclear-Power-Plant>

**CONNIE** experiment at Angra NPP (Brasil)



<https://elperiodicodelaenergia.com/la-central-nuclear-brasilena-construida-en-medio-de-un-paraiso/>



**CONUS** experiment at Brokdorf NPP (Germany)

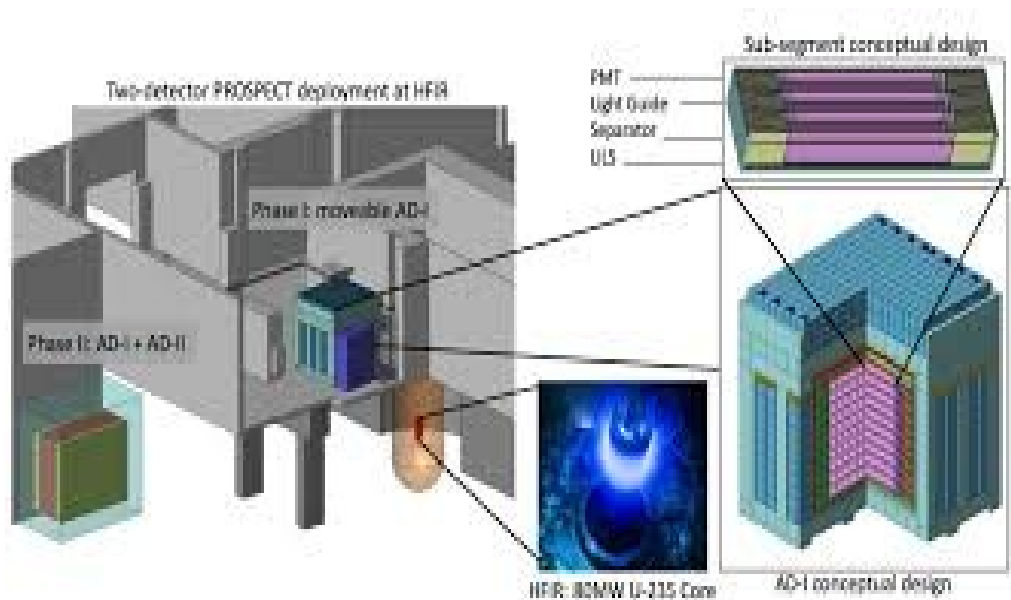


Kernkraftwerk Brokdorf.

**RED100** experiment at Kalinin NPP (Russia)



Kalinin-Nuclear-Power-Plant



**MINER** experiment at the Nuclear Science Center at Texas A&M University.

## Experiment's characteristics

Experiment	Baseline (m)	$\bar{\nu}_e$ flux ( $\text{cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ )	Mass (Kg)	Material	Events expected
CONNIE [9]	30	$7.8 \times 10^{12}$	1	Silicon	$16.1 \text{ evt} \cdot \text{Kg}^{-1} \cdot \text{day}^{-1}$
CONUS [10]	17	$2.5 \times 10^{13}$	4	Germanium	$31200 \text{ evt} \cdot \text{day}^{-1}$
MINER [11]	1	$2.5 \times 10^{13}$	4	$^{72}\text{Ge}$ and $^{28}\text{Si}$	$5 - 20 \text{ evt} \cdot \text{Kg}^{-1} \cdot \text{day}^{-1}$
RED100 [12]	19	$1.35 \times 10^{13}$	100	$^{136}\text{Xe}$	$1020 \text{ evt} \cdot \text{day}^{-1}$
TEXONO [13]	28	$1 \times 10^{13}$	1	Germanium	$27962 \text{ evt} \cdot \text{year}^{-1}$

[9] A. Aguilar-Arevalo, et al, Journal of Instrumentation, vol 11, no 7, 012057, 2016.

[10] Y. Farzan, et al., Journal of High Energy Physics, vol 2018, no 5, 66, 2018.

[11] G. Agnolet, et al., Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research, vol 853, pp. 53-60, 2017

[12] D. Y. Akimov, et al., Journal of Instrumentation, vol 12, no. 6, C06018, 2017

[13] H. T. Wong, Nuclear Physics A, Vol. 844, no. 1-4, pp. 229C-233c, 2010.

## Theoretical number of events

$$N^{\text{th}} = t\phi_0 \frac{M_{\text{detector}}}{M} \int_{E_{\nu\text{min}}}^{E_{\nu\text{max}}} \lambda(E_{\nu}) dE_{\nu} \int_{T_{\text{min}}}^{T_{\text{max}}(E_{\nu})} \left( \frac{d\sigma}{dT} \right)_{\text{tot}}^{\text{coh}} dT$$

$t \rightarrow$  experiment's exposure time,  $\phi_0 \rightarrow$  antineutrino flux from the reactor

## $\chi^2$ statistical analysis

$$\chi^2 = \frac{(N^{\text{SM}} - N^{\text{th}}(q_{\nu}))^2}{\sigma_{\text{stat}}^2 + \sigma_{\text{syst}}^2}$$

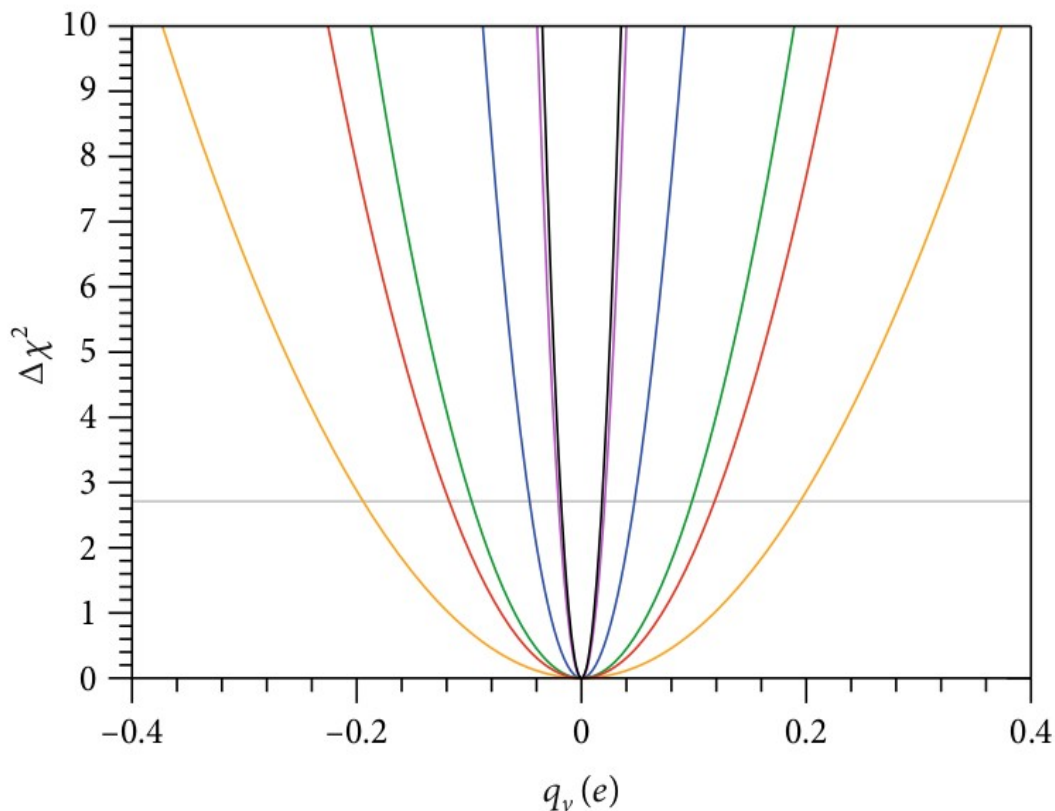
- Only statistical errors ( $\sigma_{\text{stat}} = \sqrt{N^{\text{SM}}}$ )
- By including statistical and systematic uncertainties ( $\sigma_{\text{syst}} = pN^{\text{th}}$ )



## Results from CEvNS experiments

$\Delta\chi^2$  sensitivity profile for  $q_\nu$  (in units of  $10^{-12}e$ )

Only statistical errors



— CONNIE  
 — CONUS  
 — MINER  
 — RED100  
 — TEXONO  
 — Combined  
 — 90% C.L.

90% C.L. Limits on  $q_\nu$  (in units of  $10^{-14}e$ )

Experiment	Limit
CONNIE	$-4.6 < q_\nu < 4.7$
CONUS	$-9.8 < q_\nu < 9.8$
MINER	$-2.0 < q_\nu < 2.1$
RED100	$-19 < q_\nu < 19$
TEXONO	$-12 < q_\nu < 12$
Combined	$-1.8 < q_\nu < 1.8$

**Combined limit:**

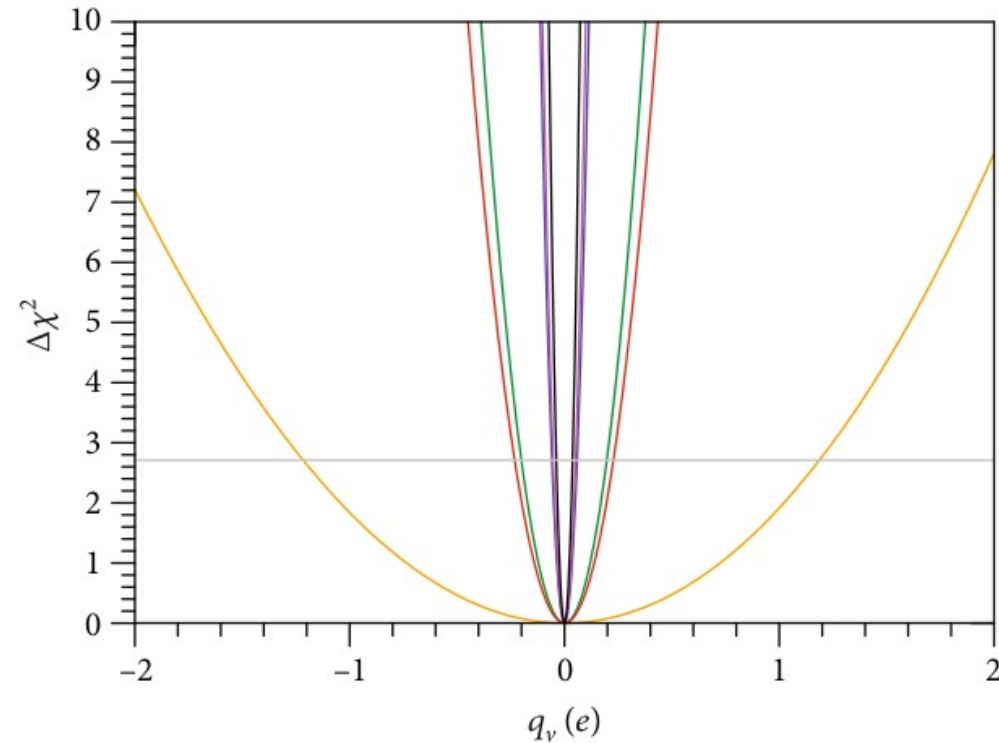
$$-1.8 \times 10^{-14}e < q_\nu < 1.8 \times 10^{-14}e$$

A. Parada, Adv. High Energy Phys. 2020 (2020) 5908904.

# Results from CEvNS experiments

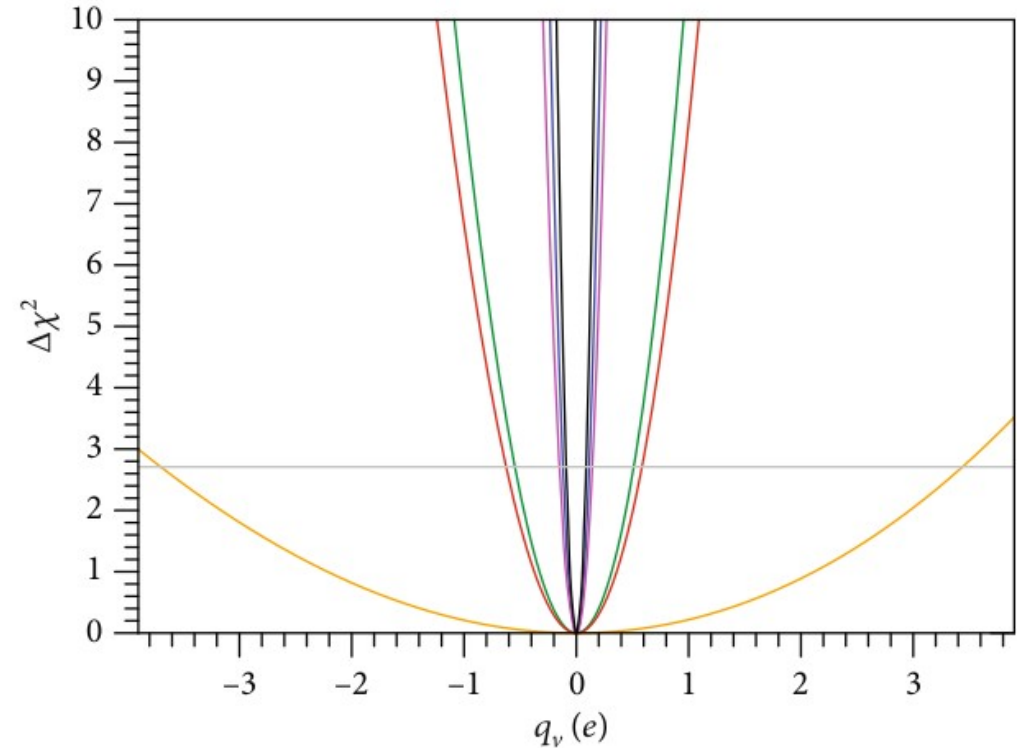
$\Delta\chi^2$  sensitivity profile for  $q_\nu$  (in units of  $10^{-12}e$ )

$\sigma_{syst} = 1\%N^{th}$



— CONNIE  
 — CONUS  
 — MINER  
 — RED100  
 — TEXONO  
 — Combined  
 — 90% C.L.

$\sigma_{syst} = 3\%N^{th}$



— CONNIE  
 — CONUS  
 — MINER  
 — RED100  
 — TEXONO  
 — Combined  
 — 90% C.L.

A. Parada, Adv. High Energy Phys. 2020 (2020) 5908904.

## Results from CEvNS experiments

90% C.L. Bounds on  $q_\nu$  (in units of  $10^{-14}e$ )

Experiment	Limit ( $p = 1\%$ )	Limit ( $p = 3\%$ )
CONNIE	$-5.9 < q_\nu < 5.9$	$-12 < q_\nu < 12$
CONUS	$-20 < q_\nu < 20$	$-55 < q_\nu < 51$
MINER	$-5.3 < q_\nu < 5.2$	$-15 < q_\nu < 14$
RED100	$-120 < q_\nu < 120$	$-370 < q_\nu < 340$
TEXONO	$-23 < q_\nu < 23$	$-63 < q_\nu < 59$
Combined	$-3.8 < q_\nu < 3.8$	$-9.0 < q_\nu < 8.8$

Combined limit for  $\sigma_{\text{syst}} = 3\%N^{\text{th}}$

$$-9.0 \times 10^{-14}e < q_\nu < 8.8 \times 10^{-14}e$$

A. Parada, Adv. High Energy Phys. 2020 (2020) 5908904.

## Conclusions

- We carried out a phenomenological study to constraint the neutrino electric millicharge by using data from ENES and CEvNS experimental proposals of reactor antineutrinos.
- In the context of ENES experiments, we obtained combined limits:  $-1.1 \times 10^{-12}e < q_\nu < 9.3 \times 10^{-13}e$  at 90% C.L.
- Regarding CEvNS proposals, we achieved combined bounds:  $-9.0 \times 10^{-14}e < q_\nu < 8.8 \times 10^{-14}e$  at 90% C.L, including statistical and systematic uncertainties.
- In the near future CEvNS experiments of reactor antineutrinos would be an important option to probe the neutrino electric millicharge.

