

# Sterile Neutrinos from the Top Down



- Active-sterile mixing
- The landscape
- Small Dirac/Majorana masses
- The mini-seesaw

- Light Sterile Neutrinos: A White Paper (K. Abazajian et al), 1204.5379
- Neutrino Masses from the Top Down, (PL), ARNPS 62, 1112.5992
- Light Sterile Neutrinos and Short Baseline Neutrino Oscillation Anomalies (JiJi Fan, PL), 1201.6662

## Mixing Between Active and Sterile Neutrinos

- Most  $m_\nu$  models involve sterile neutrinos (quark-lepton symmetry)
- Mass anywhere from sub-eV to  $M_P \sim 10^{19}$  GeV
- LSND/MiniBooNE: possible oscillation between active and sterile
  - Mixing between active and sterile of same helicity
  - Need two types of small (eV-scale) masses (usually Dirac/Majorana)
- Warm dark matter (e.g., keV), pulsar kicks, supernovae, collider implications

## Mixed Models

- Can have simultaneous Majorana and Dirac mass terms

$$-\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \bar{\nu}_L^0 & \bar{\nu}_L^{0c} \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{weak eigenstates}} \begin{pmatrix} m_T & m_D \\ m_D & m_S \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_R^{0c} \\ \nu_R^0 \end{pmatrix} + h.c.$$

$$m_T : \quad |\Delta L| = 2, \quad |\Delta t_L^3| = 1 \quad \text{(Majorana)}$$

$$m_D : \quad |\Delta L| = 0, \quad |\Delta t_L^3| = \frac{1}{2} \quad \text{(Dirac)}$$

$$m_S : \quad |\Delta L| = 2, \quad |\Delta t_L^3| = 0 \quad \text{(Majorana)}$$

## Active-Sterile ( $\nu_L^0 - \nu_L^{0c}$ ) Mixing (LSND/MiniBooNE)

- No active-sterile mixing for Majorana, Dirac, or seesaw
- $m_D$  and  $m_S$  (and/or  $m_T$ ) both small and comparable (mechanism?)  
(or small active-sterile and sterile-sterile Dirac)
- Pseudo-Dirac ( $m_T, m_S \ll m_D$ ):
  - Small mass splitting, small  $L$  violation, e.g.,

$$m_T = \epsilon, m_S = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad |m_{1,2}| = m_D \pm \epsilon/2$$

- But small extra  $\Delta m^2$  could affect Solar/supernova oscillations
- Solar: need  $m_{S,T} \lesssim 10^{-9}$  eV (de Gouvêa, Huang, Jenkins, 0906.1611)

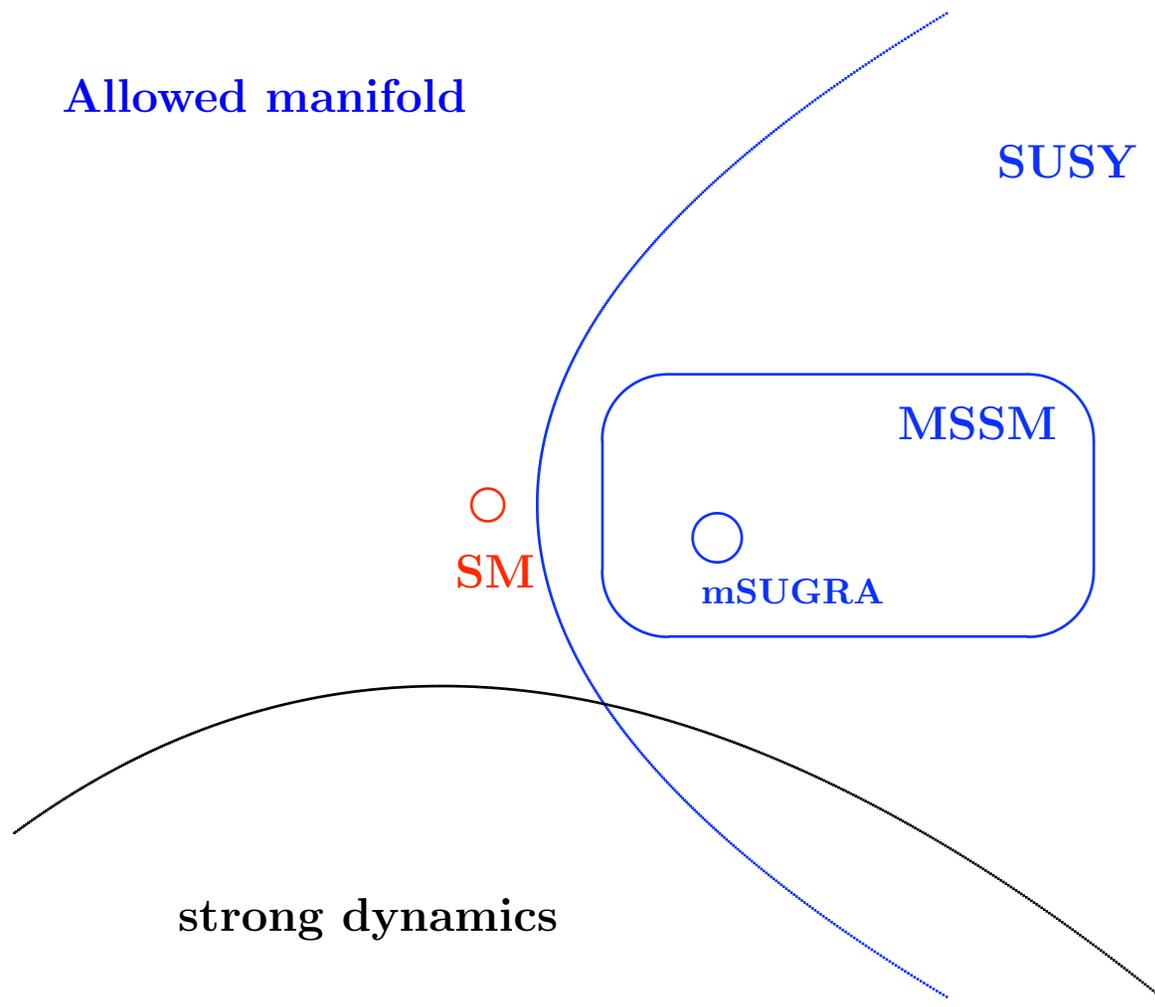
# The Landscape

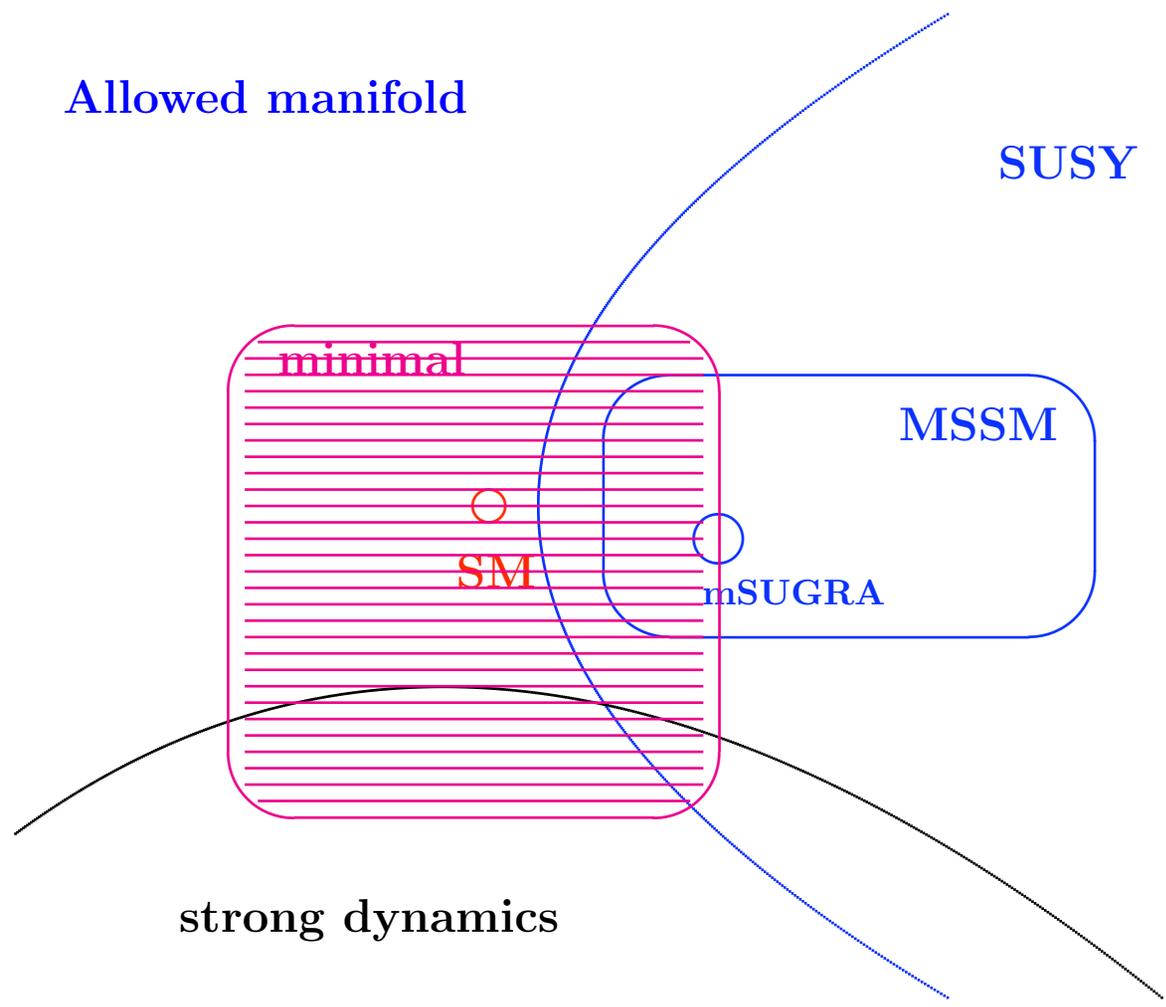
- String vacuum enormously complicated
- Many points not consistent with what we know (but multiverse?)
- **Goal 1:** obtaining the MSSM
  - Possibilities for SUSY breaking/mediation,  $\mu$ ,  $B\mu$ ,  $\mathcal{R}_P$ ,  $\dots$
- **Goal 2:** beyond (instead of) MSSM paradigm (don't prejudge TeV)
  - (just) MSSM is not required by experimental data
  - Many string constructions involve TeV-scale *remnants* or *mechanisms* beyond the MSSM (may be hint)
- Bottom-up models of new physics usually motivated by minimality and/or solving problems

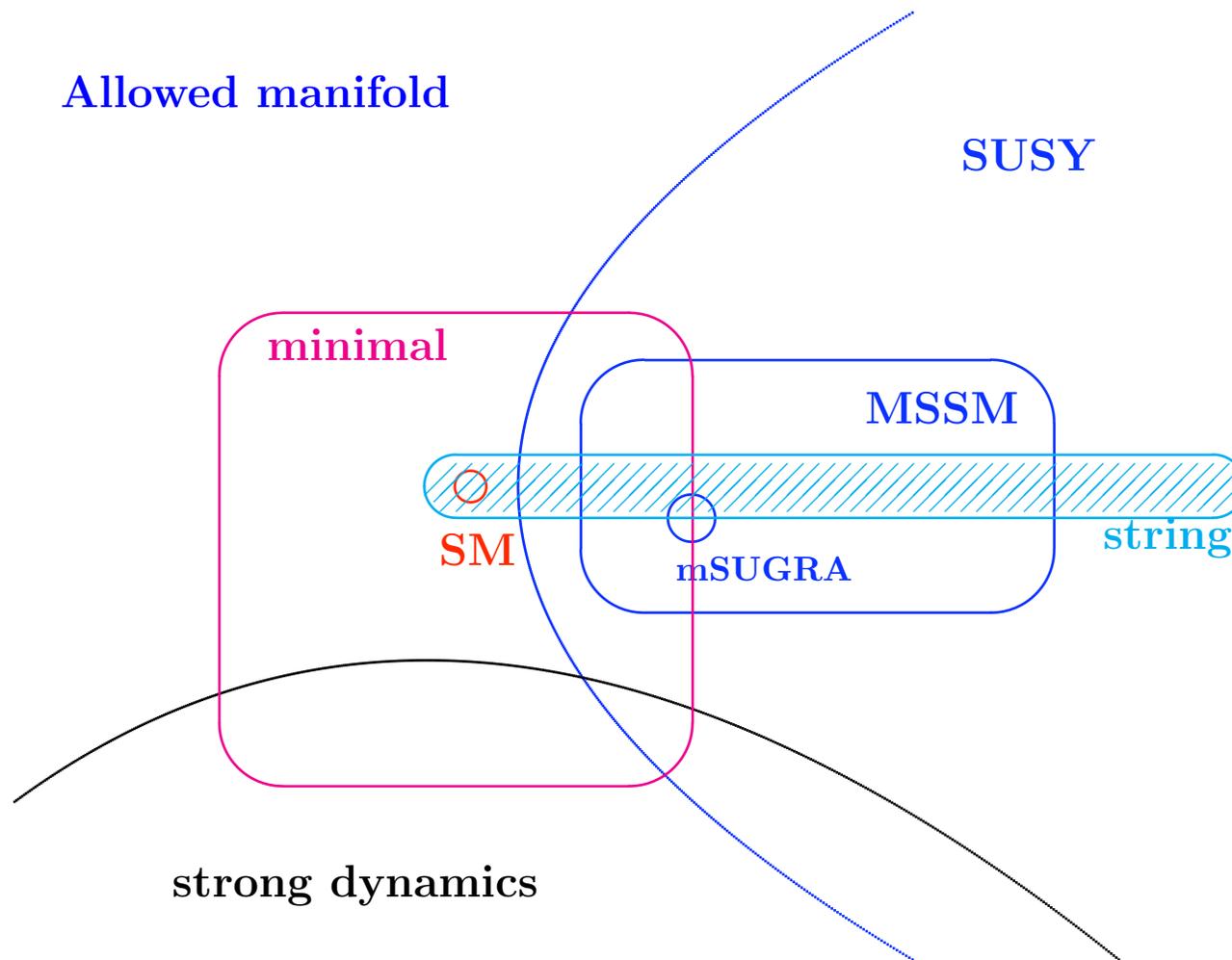
# Minimality



- Top-down string remnants may not be minimal or motivated by SM problems
- Top-down may suggest new physical mechanisms (e.g., string instantons: exponentially suppressed  $\mu$ , Majorana or Dirac  $m_\nu$ , etc)
- Some bottom-up ideas unlikely to emerge from simple/perturbative string constructions (e.g., high-dimensional representations)
- **Goal 3:** mapping of string-likely or unlikely classes of new physics and mechanisms (and contrast with field theory)







- Unlikely to find our exact vacuum
- Study semi-realistic/interesting vacua for suggestive features

## Very Small Masses

- Mechanisms for very small masses (Majorana, Dirac, or both)
  - Very small couplings
  - Loops
  - Geometric suppressions
  - Higher-dimensional operators (HDO)
- Focus on correlated explanations for small Majorana and Dirac

Review: Neutrino Masses from the Top Down, ARNPS 62, 1112.5992

## Apparent Fine-Tuning

- **Dirac:**  $m_D \sim h_\nu \nu$ ,  $\nu = 246 \text{ GeV} \Rightarrow h_\nu \sim 10^{-12}$  for  $m_D \sim 0.1 \text{ eV}$
- **Sterile Majorana:**  
 $m_S \sim \Gamma_S \overline{M}_P$ ,  $\overline{M}_P \sim 2 \times 10^{18} \text{ GeV} \Rightarrow \Gamma_S \sim 10^{-27}$  for  $m_S \sim 1 \text{ eV}$
- May be due to geometric suppression or HDO in underlying theory
- No predictions without further input

# Loops

- Would need very high order (or very small couplings), and suppression mechanism for lower-order
- Often combined with other mechanisms

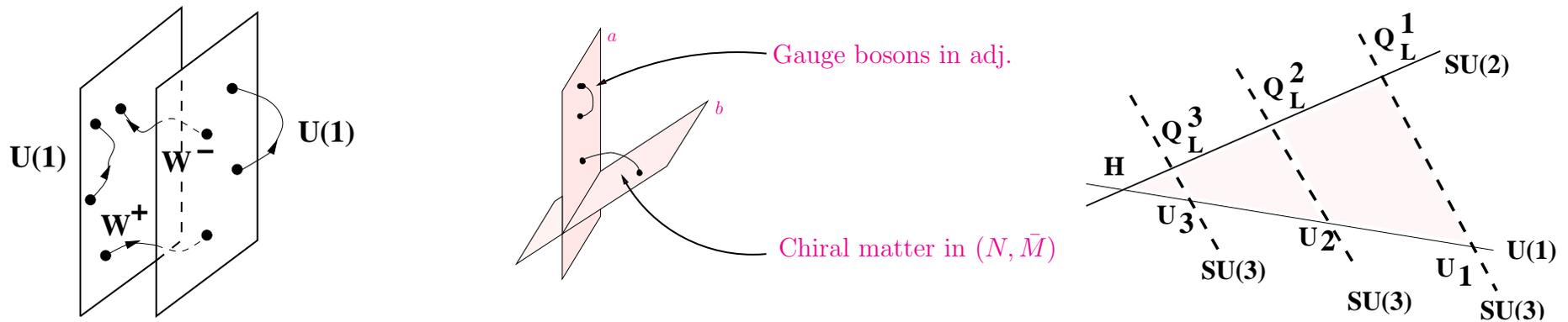
## GeometricSuppressions

- Wave function overlaps in large (and/or warped) extra dimensions, with  $\nu_R$  propagating in bulk (cf., gravity)

$$m_D \sim \frac{\nu M_F}{\overline{M}_P}, \quad M_F = \left( \frac{\overline{M}_P^2}{V_\delta} \right)^{\frac{1}{\delta+2}} = \text{fundamental scale}$$

- $M_F \sim 100 \text{ TeV} \Rightarrow m_D \sim 0.01 \text{ eV}$
- **Kaluza-Klein excitations (Dirac sterile) for  $V_\delta = R^\delta$ :**  
 $m_{KK}/n \sim 1/R \sim M_F (\overline{M}_P/M_F)^{2/\delta} \xrightarrow{M_F \sim 100 \text{ TeV}, \delta=2} 10 \text{ eV}$
- **Mixings too small in simplest versions**
- **Can enhance by additional small mass terms, unequal dimensions**
- **Can add Majorana masses**

- **Worldsheet instantons, e.g., intersecting D-brane (Type IIA)**
  - **Closed strings (gravitons) and open strings ending on D-branes**
  - **D6-branes: fill ordinary space and 3 of the 6 extra dimensions**



- **Yukawa interactions**  $\sim \exp(-A_{ijk}) \rightarrow$  **hierarchies**
- $m_D$ :  $A_{L\nu_L^c H_u}$  **not large enough** (at least in toroidal compactifications)
- $m_S$ : **no Majorana masses at perturbative level**

- **D-brane instantons**

- **Anomalous  $U(1)'$ :  $M_{Z'} \sim M_{str}$ ; acts like perturbative global symmetry** (may forbid  $\mu$ ,  $R_P$  violation,  $\nu_L^c \nu_L^c$ ,  $L \nu_L^c H_u$ ,  $Q U^c H_u$ , ...)
- **Field theory instantons: nonperturbative  $e^{-1/g^2}$  effects from topologically non-trivial classical field configurations** (e.g.,  $B + L$  violation in SM)
- **D instantons: nonperturbative violation of global symmetries**

$$\exp(-S_{inst}) \sim \exp \left( -\frac{2\pi}{\alpha_{GUT}} \underbrace{\frac{V_{E2}}{V_{D6}}}_{f(\text{winding})} \right)$$

- **Examples of small Dirac, small or intermediate  $M_S$  (ordinary seesaw), stringy Weinberg operator ( $LH_u LH_u / \mathcal{M}$ )**
- **No known reason for correlated  $m_D, m_S$**

## Higher-Dimensional Operators (HDO)

- Let  $\mathcal{O}$  be an operator, such as  $L\nu_L^c$  (Dirac mass),  $\nu_L^c\nu_L^c$  (sterile Majorana), or  $LL$  (active Majorana)  
 $(L \equiv \begin{pmatrix} \nu \\ e^- \end{pmatrix}_L$ , Dirac and  $SU(2)$  indices suppressed)
- $L\nu_L^c$  and  $LL$  forbidden by  $SU(2)$ ;  $\nu_L^c\nu_L^c$  by new physics (usually)  $\Rightarrow$

$$\mathcal{L} \sim h_\nu LH_u\nu_L^c, \quad h_S S\nu_L^c\nu_L^c, \quad \frac{C}{\mathcal{M}} \underbrace{LH_u LH_u}_{\text{Weinberg op}}$$

$H_u$  = Higgs doublet,  $S$  = singlet,  $\mathcal{M}$  = new physics scale (HDO)

- **Seesaw:**  $h_S \langle 0|S|0 \rangle \sim 10^{14}$  GeV ( $\ll \overline{M}_P$ ),  $h_\nu \sim 1 \Rightarrow$   
 (Field theory) **Weinberg operator**,  $\mathcal{M}/C \sim h_S \langle 0|S|0 \rangle$ ,  $m_\nu \sim 0.1$  eV  
 (or  $h_S \langle 0|S|0 \rangle \sim 10$  TeV for  $h_\nu \sim 10^{-5} \sim m_e/\nu$ )
- $\mathcal{M}$  may also be induced by heavy triplet, neutralinos, string excitations, KK or winding modes, moduli,  $\dots$

- **Additional symmetries** (gauge, global, discrete) or **string constraints** (heterotic or type II) **may further suppress coefficients**

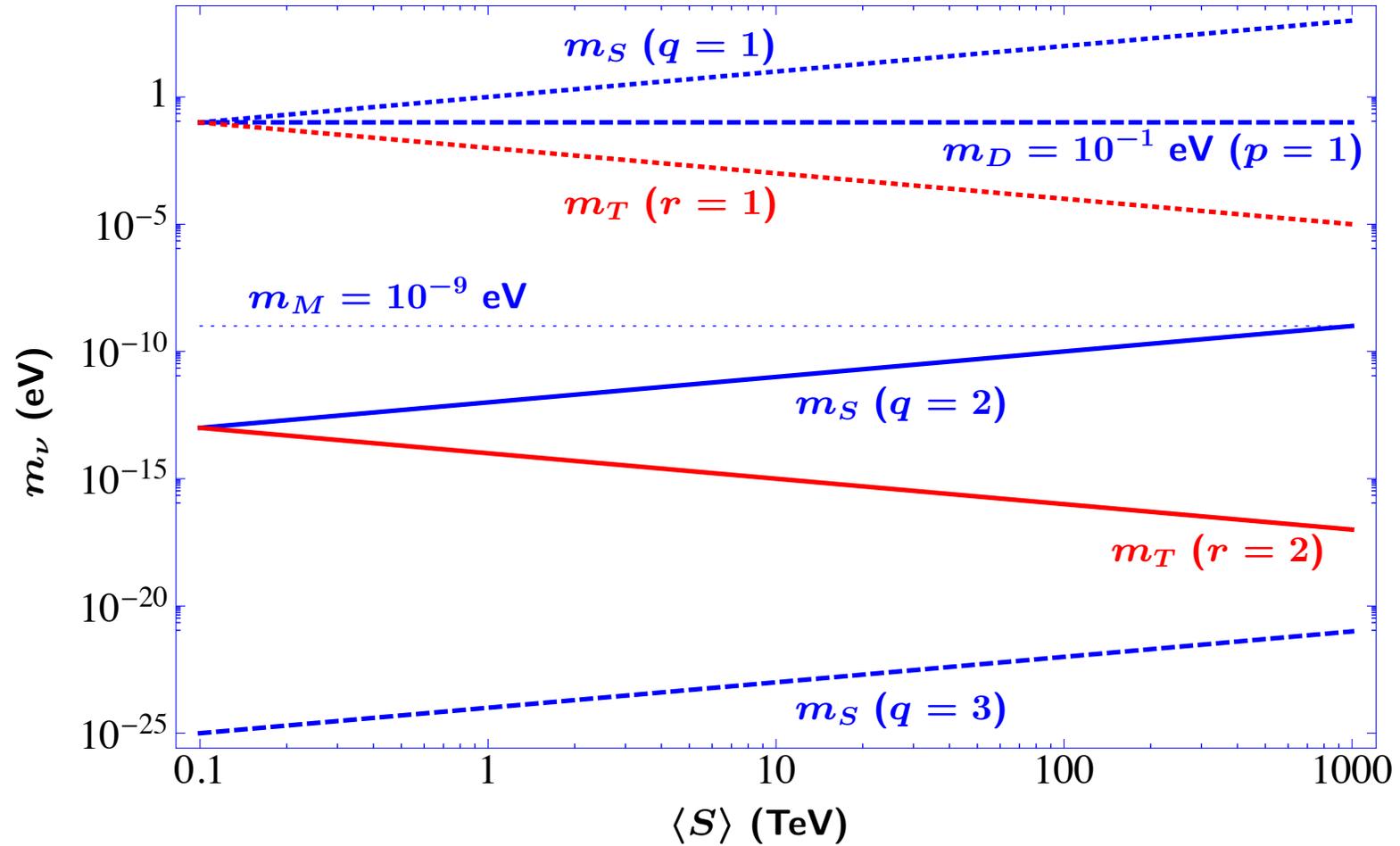
$$\mathcal{L} \sim \frac{S^p}{\mathcal{M}^p} LH_u \nu_L^c, \quad \frac{S^{q+1}}{\mathcal{M}^q} \nu_L^c \nu_L^c, \quad \frac{S^{r-1}}{\mathcal{M}^r} LH_u LH_u$$

- $\frac{S^p}{\mathcal{M}^p} \rightarrow \frac{S_1 \dots S_p}{\mathcal{M}_1 \dots \mathcal{M}_p}$
- **Similar to Froggatt-Nielsen** (but for overall scales)
- **Stringy or field-theoretic operators**
- **Wide range of  $S/\mathcal{M}$ ,  $\mathcal{M}$  possible**
- **E.g.,  $S/\mathcal{M} \sim 1/10$ ; large  $p, q$ ;  $\mathcal{M} \sim \overline{M}_P$  in heterotic seesaw (anomalous  $U(1)'$ )**
- **Many modified/extended/inverted/radiative seesaws** (various symmetries,  $S, \mathcal{M} \gtrsim \text{TeV}$  scale)
- **May also be loop factors**
- **Can extend to flavor structure**

- **Small Dirac for  $p > 0$**

- $m_D \sim 0.1$  eV for  $S/\mathcal{M} \sim 10^{-12}$ , e.g.,  $\mathcal{M} = \overline{M}_P$ ,  $S \sim 10^3$  TeV (e.g., non-anomalous  $U(1)'$ )
- **Majorana masses may be forbidden** ( $\Rightarrow$  pure Dirac)
- **Alternative: pseudo-Dirac with  $q \geq 2, r \geq 2$  ( $m_{S,T} < 10^{-9}$  eV)**

$$m_D \sim \frac{S^p \nu}{\mathcal{M}^p} \sim 0.1 \text{ eV} , \quad m_S \sim \frac{S^{q+1}}{\mathcal{M}^q} , \quad m_T \sim \frac{S^{r-1} \nu^2}{\mathcal{M}^r}$$



# The Low-Scale Seesaw

- **Operators**

PL, 9805281; Sayre, Wiesenfeldt, Willenbrock, 0504198; Chen, de Gouvêa, Dobrescu, 0612017

- **Motivations**

Foot, Volkas, 9505359; Berezhiani, Mohapatra, 9505385; Ma, 9507348; Arkani-Hamed, Grossman, 9806223; Dvali, Nir, 9810257; Borzumati, Hamaguchi, Yanagida, 0011141; Appelquist, Shrock, 0204141; Babu, Seidl, 0405197; PL, 0801.1345; McDonald, 1010.2659; Barry, Rodejohann, Zhang, 1105.3911; Zhang, 1110.6838

- **Analysis**

Casas, Ibarra, 0103065; de Gouvêa, 0501039; Smirnov, Zukanovich, 0603009; de Gouvêa, Jenkins, Vasudevan, 0608147; Donini, Hernandez, Lopez-Pavon, Maltoni, 1106.0064; Blennow, Fernandez-Martinez, 1107.3992; Xing, 1110.0083; de Gouvêa, Huang, 1110.6122; Fan, PL, 1201.6662

## The Low-Scale Seesaw

- Both  $m_S$  and  $m_D$  suppressed by symmetries, e.g.,  $p = q = r = 1$

$$m_D \sim \Gamma_D \frac{S \nu_u}{\mathcal{M}}, \quad m_S \sim \Gamma_S \frac{S^2}{\mathcal{M}} \sim 1 \text{ eV}, \quad m_T \sim \Gamma_T \frac{\nu^2}{\mathcal{M}}$$

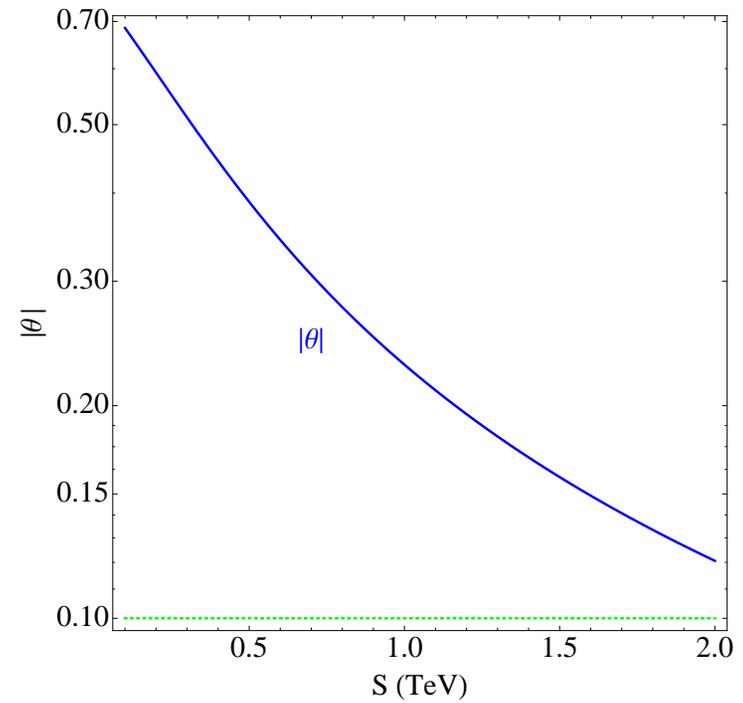
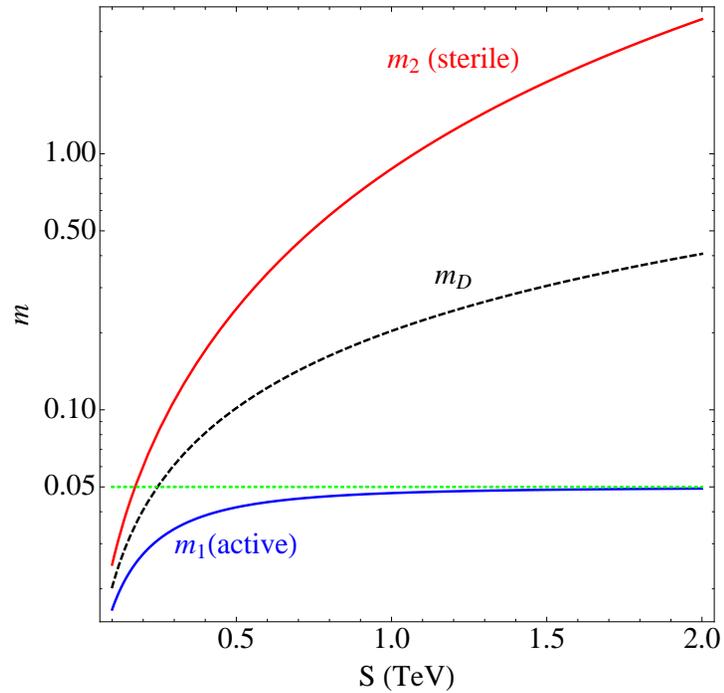
- Example, minimal mini-seesaw (MMS): ( $S \gg \nu$ ) with  $\Gamma_D = \Gamma_S = 1, \Gamma_T = 0 \Rightarrow$

$$m_1 \sim -\frac{(\nu S/\mathcal{M})^2}{S^2/\mathcal{M}} = -\frac{\nu^2}{\mathcal{M}}, \quad m_2 \sim \frac{S^2}{\mathcal{M}}$$

$$|\theta| \sim \frac{\nu}{S} \sim \sqrt{\frac{|m_1|}{m_2}}, \quad \mathcal{M} \sim 10^{15} \text{ GeV}$$

- $m_T$  comparable for  $\Gamma_T \sim 1$

# Light Active



$$M = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \Gamma_D \frac{\nu S}{\mathcal{M}} \\ \Gamma_D \frac{\nu S}{\mathcal{M}} & \Gamma_S \frac{S^2}{\mathcal{M}} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Gamma_D = \Gamma_S = 1$$

$$\mathcal{M} = 1.2 \times 10^{15} \text{ GeV}$$

$$\nu = 246 \text{ GeV}$$

- Can extend to  $2 + 3 [1 + 3]$ 
  - Inverted [normal] hierarchy favored for  $\Gamma_T \sim 0$
  - Can incorporate flavor structures, e.g., tri-bimaximal
- Examples from  $U(1)'$ , mirror worlds, TC/ETC (including loops)
- Hybrids with other schemes (e.g., ordinary high-scale seesaw) possible
- Alternative: heavy active ( $\sim 1$  eV) with  $\Gamma_D = \Gamma_T = 1, \Gamma_S = 0, S < \nu$

## Extension to 1 + 3 and 2 + 3

- 1 + 3 scheme:  $m_1 = m_2 = 0$

$$U_{\alpha 4} = i \frac{M_D^{\alpha 4}}{M_4} = \pm i \underbrace{A_L^{\nu \alpha 3}}_{\text{PMNS}} \sqrt{\frac{m_3}{M_4}}, \quad \alpha = e, \mu, \tau$$

- $|U_{e4}|$  too small for LSND/MiniBooNE anomaly

$$|U_{e4}| \sqrt{M_4} = |A_L^{\nu e 3}| \sqrt{m_3} \sim 0.033 \sqrt{\text{eV}}$$

$$|U_{\mu 4}| \sqrt{M_4} = |A_L^{\nu \mu 3}| \sqrt{m_3} \sim 0.16 \sqrt{\text{eV}}$$

- No  $CP$  violation

- **2 + 3 scheme:**  $m_3 = 0$  (IH) or  $m_1 = 0$  (NH)

$$U_{\alpha i} = i A_L^{\nu\alpha j} \sqrt{m_j} R_{ji} \frac{1}{\sqrt{M_i}}$$

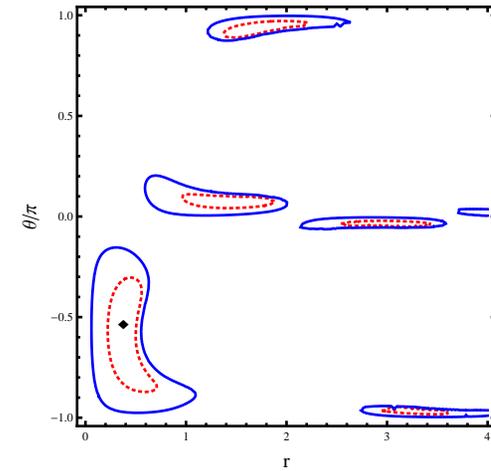
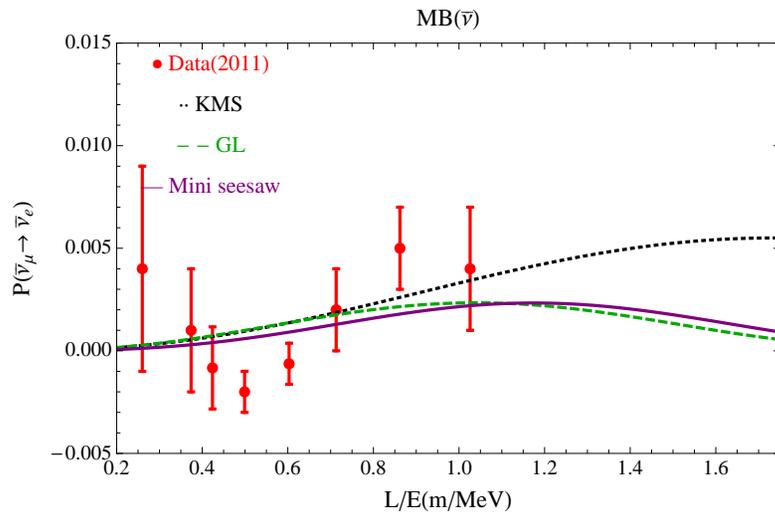
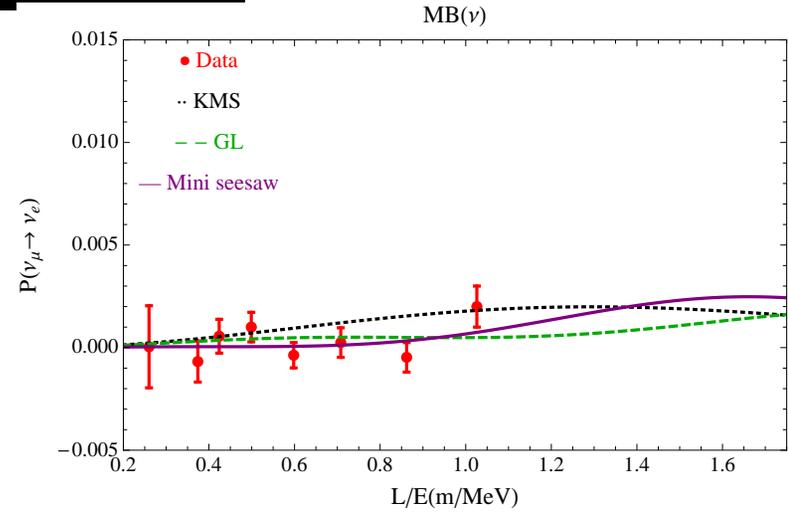
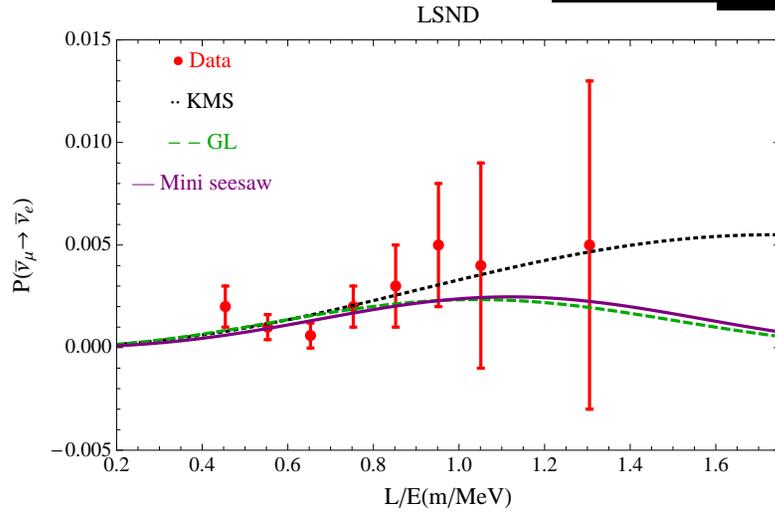
- $R \equiv R(z) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos z & \sin z \\ -\sin z & \cos z \end{pmatrix}$  ( $2 \times 2$  complex rotation matrix )  
(Casas,Ibarra, 0103065)
- $U_{\alpha i}$  determined up to  $z \equiv r e^{i\theta}$  and one Majorana phase by masses and PMNS

## Comparison of mini-seesaw with LSND and MiniBooNE

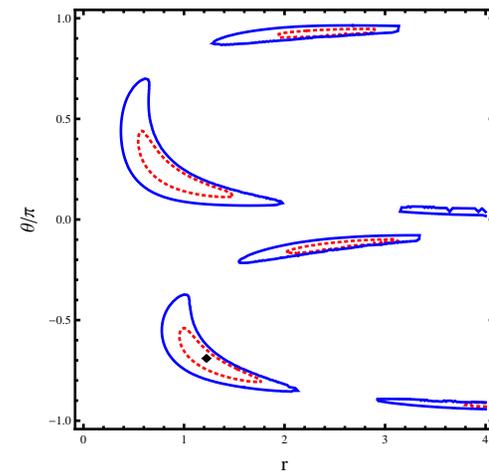
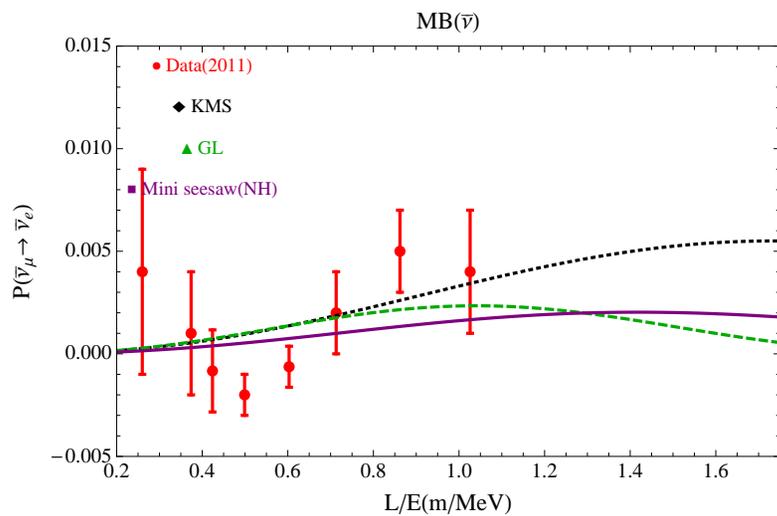
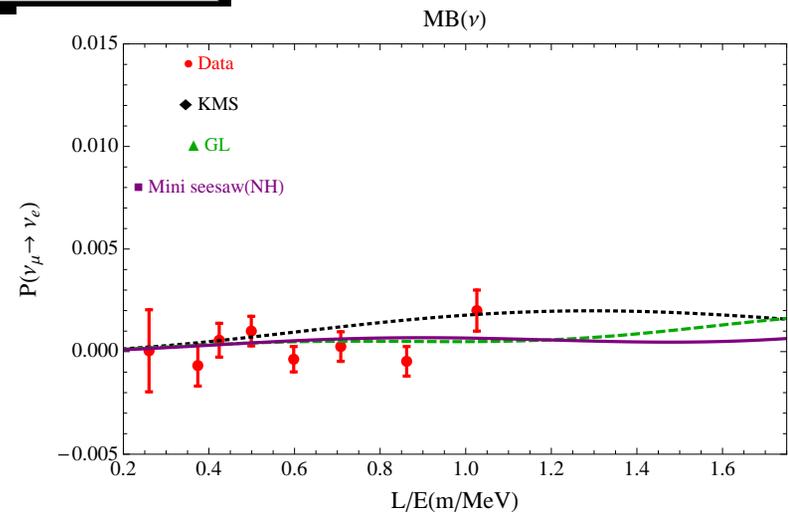
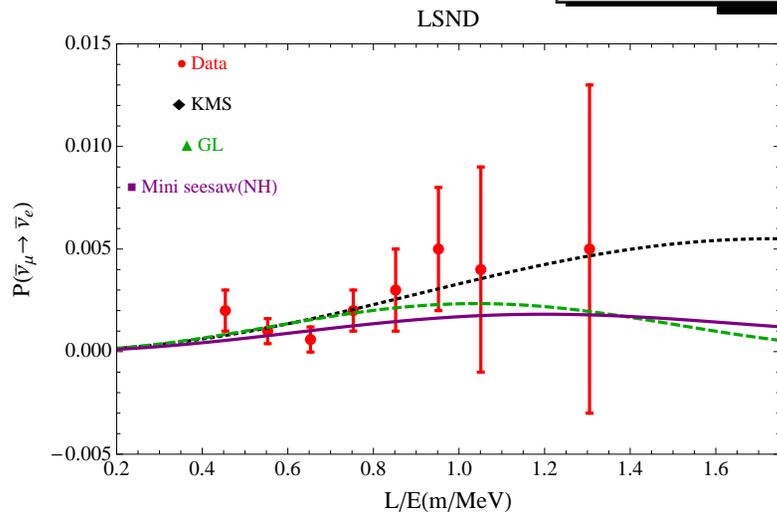
- Fit  $z \equiv r e^{i\theta}$ ,  $\alpha_2$  or  $\alpha_3$  (Majorana phase),  $M_4$ ,  $M_5$  to LSND/MiniBooNE  
 (mock up other experiments by upper limit 0.15 on mixings)  
 (Fan,PL, 1201.6662)
- Rough agreement with full analysis with general parameters by KMS (Kopp,Maltoni,Schwetz, 1103.4570), GL (Giunti,Laveder, 1107.1452)

	$z$	$\alpha_2(\alpha_3)$	$\Delta m_{41}^2$	$\Delta m_{51}^2$	$ U_{e4} $	$ U_{\mu 4} $	$ U_{e5} $	$ U_{\mu 5} $	$\delta/\pi$	$\chi^2/\text{dof}$
MMS-IH	$0.38 e^{-i0.54\pi}$	1.92	0.89	1.76	0.15	0.15	0.07	0.15	1.21	24.3/19
MMS-NH	$1.22 e^{-i0.69\pi}$	1.53	0.46	1.08	0.11	0.15	0.09	0.13	1.72	27.8/19
KMS			0.47	0.87	0.128	0.165	0.138	0.148	1.64	110.1/130
GL			0.90	1.60	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.08	1.52	22.2/5

# Inverted Hierarchy



# Normal Hierarchy



# Implications

- Parameters for tritium  $\beta$  decay,  $\beta\beta_{0\nu}$ , cosmology

	3+2 (eV)	3+2 MSS-IH (eV)	3+2 MSS-NH (eV)	EXP (eV)
$m_\beta$	$\sim 0.2$	0.18	0.12	$(1 - 2) \rightarrow 0.2$
$m_{\beta\beta}$	$0 - 0.08$	0	0	$(0.2 - 0.7) \rightarrow (0.01 - 0.03)$
$\Sigma$	$\sim 2$	2.4	1.9	$(0.5 - 1) \rightarrow (0.05 - 0.1)$

- Sum rules,  $n \geq 2$ , (de Gouvêa, Huang, 1110.6122)

$$\sum_{i=4}^{n+3} |U_{\alpha i}|^2 M_i \geq \left| \sum_{j=1}^3 A_L^{\nu\alpha j} \sqrt{m_j} \right|^2$$

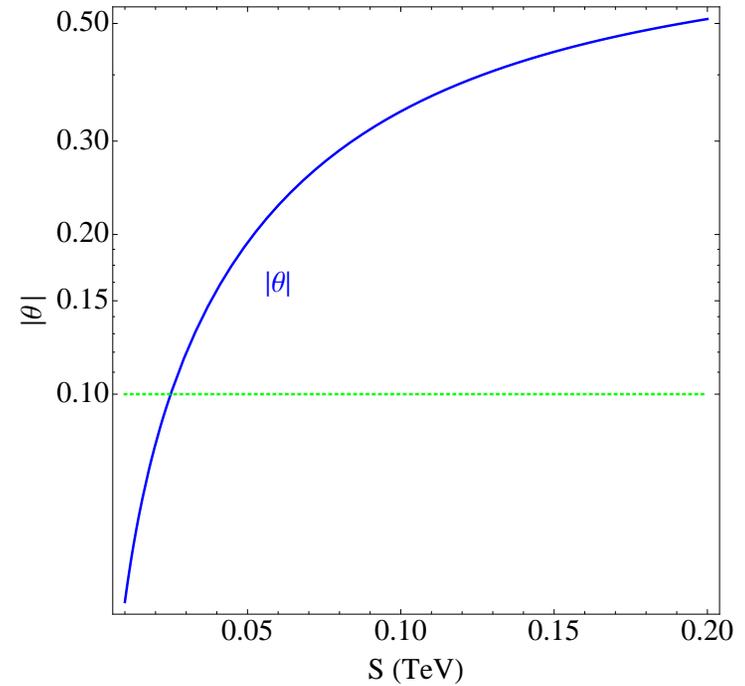
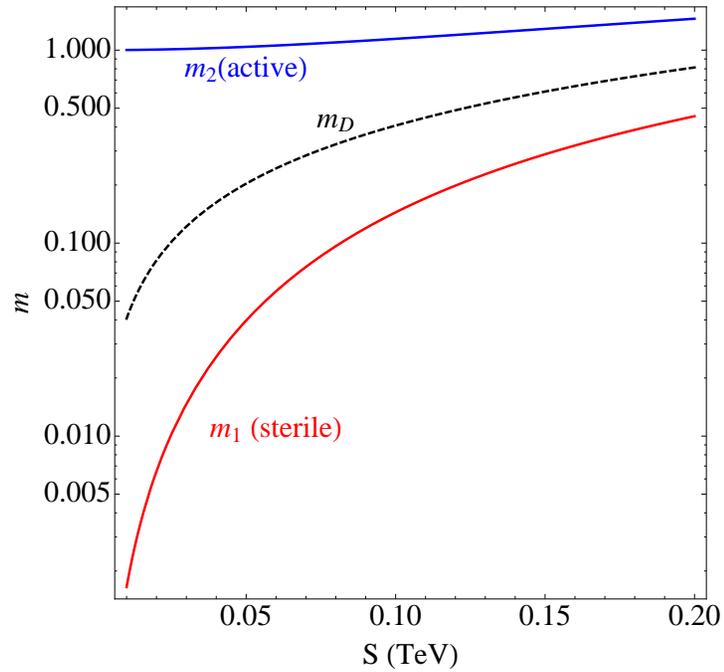
$$\xrightarrow{n=2, \text{IH}} \begin{pmatrix} 0.003 \\ 0.0014 \\ 0.0014 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{n=2, \text{NH}} \begin{pmatrix} 0.001 \\ 0.02 \\ 0.02 \end{pmatrix}$$

- New MiniBooNE analysis?

## Conclusions

- Sterile neutrinos present in most theories
- LSND/MiniBooNE: need (small) active-sterile mixing (same helicity)
  - *Not* pure Majorana or Dirac, pseudo-Dirac, high-scale seesaw
  - The three miracles!
- Need mechanism for two types of small masses (usually Dirac and Majorana)
- Small masses from HDO, string instantons, large/warped extra dimensions
- Low-scale seesaw: Dirac and Majorana masses both suppressed by symmetries (mass-mixing relation) (cf. Froggatt-Nielsen)  
~consistent with data (new MiniBooNE?)

# Heavy Active



$$M = \begin{pmatrix} \Gamma_T \frac{\nu^2}{\mathcal{M}} & \Gamma_D \frac{\nu S}{\mathcal{M}} \\ \Gamma_D \frac{\nu S}{\mathcal{M}} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Gamma_D = \Gamma_T = 1$$

$$\mathcal{M} = 6 \times 10^{13} \text{ GeV}$$

$$\nu = 246 \text{ GeV}$$