

# Mass vs flavour eigenstates in neutrino asymmetries (or when coherence matters)

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# NEUTRINO OSCILLATIONS:

Two Flavors

flavor eigenstates  $\neq$  mass eigenstates

$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_\mu \\ \nu_\tau \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta & \sin\theta \\ -\sin\theta & \cos\theta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

W's produce  $\nu_\mu$  and/or  $\nu_\tau$ 's

but  $\nu_1$  and  $\nu_2$  are the states  
that change by a phase over time, mass eigenstates.

$$|\nu_j\rangle \rightarrow e^{-ip_j \cdot x} |\nu_j\rangle \quad p_j^2 = m_j^2$$

$\alpha, \beta \dots$  flavor index       $i, j \dots$  mass index

Production:

$$|\nu_\mu\rangle = \cos\theta|\nu_1\rangle + \sin\theta|\nu_2\rangle$$

Propagation:

$$\cos\theta e^{-ip_1 \cdot x}|\nu_1\rangle + \sin\theta e^{-ip_2 \cdot x}|\nu_2\rangle$$

Detection:

$$|\nu_1\rangle = \cos\theta|\nu_\mu\rangle - \sin\theta|\nu_\tau\rangle$$

$$|\nu_2\rangle = \sin\theta|\nu_\mu\rangle + \cos\theta|\nu_\tau\rangle$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_\mu \\ \nu_\tau \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta & \sin\theta \\ -\sin\theta & \cos\theta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\tau) = |\cos\theta(e^{-ip_1 \cdot x})(-\sin\theta) + \sin\theta(e^{-ip_2 \cdot x})\cos\theta|^2$$

$$P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\tau) = |\cos \theta (e^{-ip_1 \cdot x}) (-\sin \theta) + \sin \theta (e^{-ip_2 \cdot x}) \cos \theta|^2$$

Same E, therefore  $p_j = \sqrt{E^2 - m_j^2} \approx E - \frac{m_j^2}{2E}$

$$e^{-ip_j \cdot x} = e^{-iEt} e^{-ip_j L} \approx e^{-i(Et - EL)} e^{-im_j^2 L / 2E}$$

$$P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\tau) = \sin^2 \theta \cos^2 \theta |e^{-im_2^2 L / 2E} - e^{-im_1^2 L / 2E}|^2$$

$$P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\tau) = \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2 \frac{\delta m^2 L}{4E}$$

$\delta m^2 = m_2^2 - m_1^2$  and  $\frac{\delta m^2 L}{4E} \equiv \Delta$  kinematic phase:

$$P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\tau) = |\cos \theta (e^{-ip_1 \cdot x}) (-\sin \theta) + \sin \theta (e^{-ip_2 \cdot x}) \cos \theta|^2$$

Same E, therefore  $p_j = \sqrt{E^2 - m_j^2} \approx E - \frac{m_j^2}{2E}$

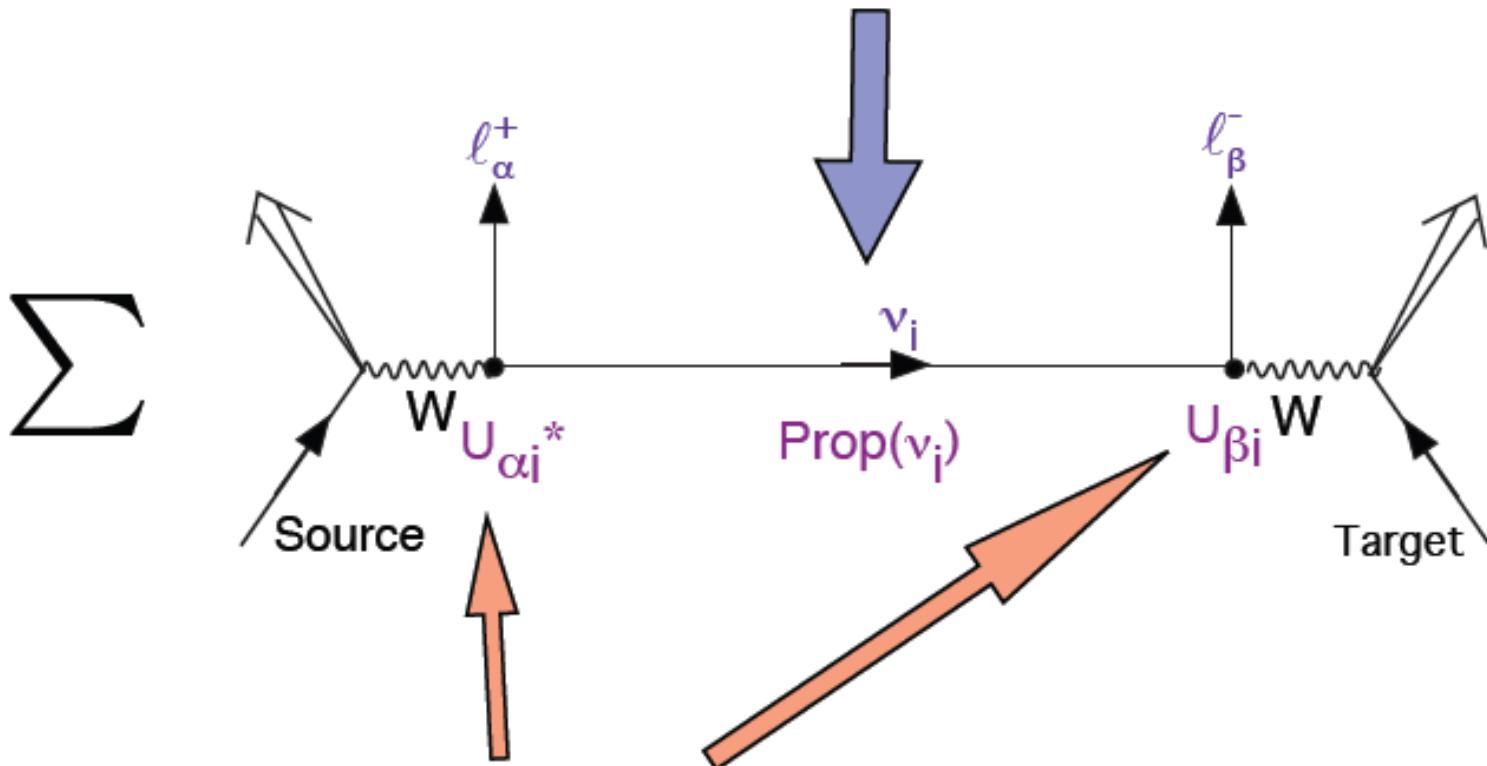
$$e^{-ip_j \cdot x} = e^{-iEt} e^{-ip_j L} \approx e^{-i(Et - EL)} e^{-im_j^2 L / 2E}$$

$$P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\tau) = \sin^2 \theta \cos^2 \theta |e^{-im_2^2 L / 2E} - e^{-im_1^2 L / 2E}|^2$$

$$P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\tau) = \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2 \left( \frac{\delta m^2 L}{4E} \frac{c^4}{hc} \right)$$

Amplitude

$$e^{-im_j^2 L/2E}$$



$$U_{\alpha j} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

**Appearance:**

$$P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\tau) = \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2 \frac{\delta m^2 L}{4E}$$

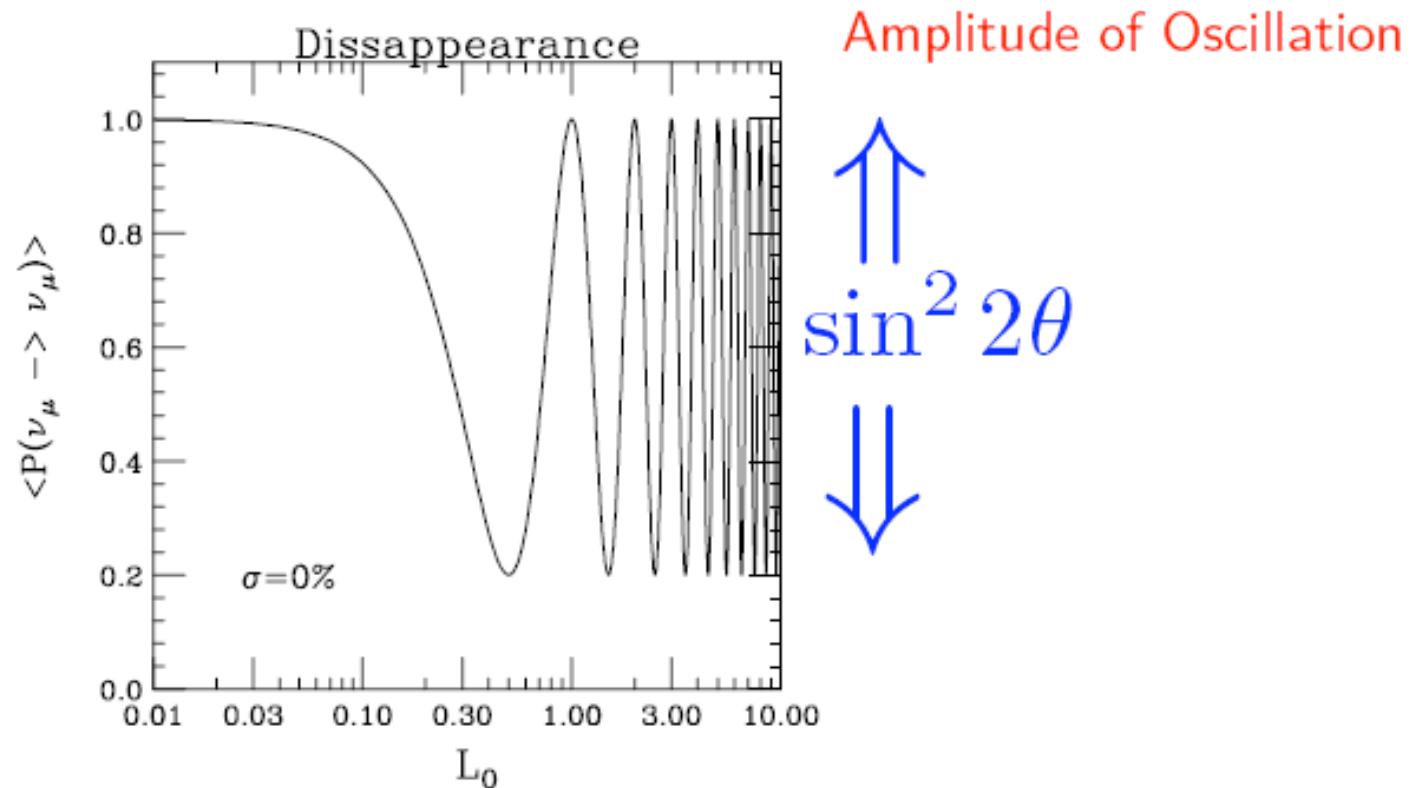
**Disappearance:**

$$P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\mu) = 1 - \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2 \frac{\delta m^2 L}{4E}$$

$$P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\mu) = 1 - \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2 \frac{\delta m^2 L}{4E}$$

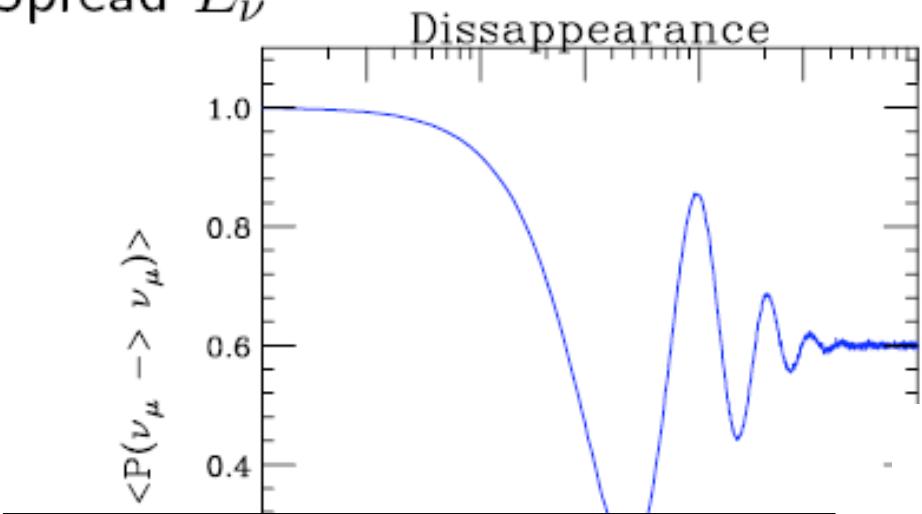
Oscillation Length  $L_0 = 4\pi E / \delta m^2$

Fixed  $E_\nu$



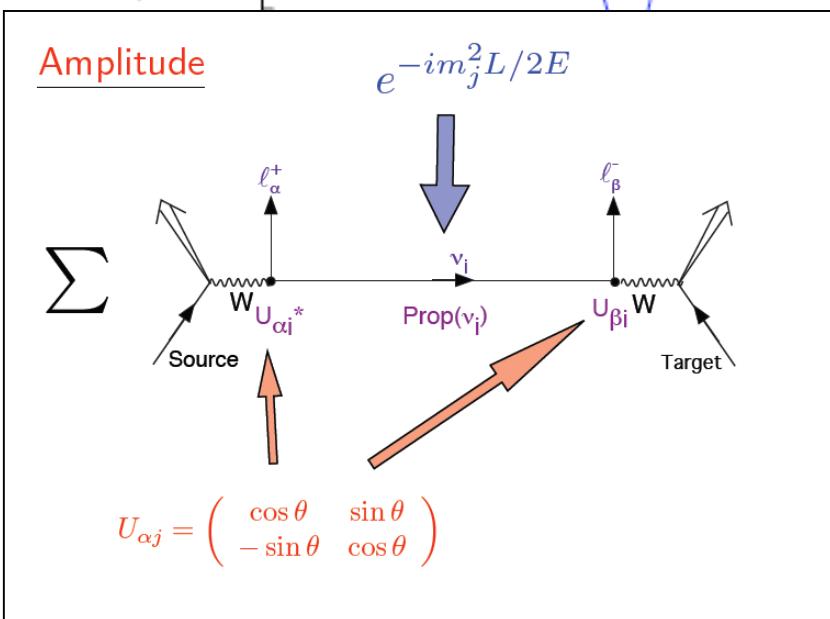
$$\langle P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\mu) \rangle = 1 - \sin^2 2\theta \left\langle \sin^2 \frac{\delta m^2 L}{4E} \right\rangle$$

Spread  $E_\nu$



effectively incoherent  
mass eigenstates

$$1 - \sin^2 2\theta(\tfrac{1}{2}) = \cos^4 \theta + \sin^4 \theta$$



-  $W^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ + \nu_1$  probability  $\cos^2 \theta$

-  $W^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ + \nu_2$  probability  $\sin^2 \theta$

flavour fractions  $|\nu_1\rangle$  and  $|\nu_2\rangle$  during propagation remain unchanged

probability  $\nu_1$  contains  $\nu_\mu$  is  $\cos^2 \theta$

probability  $\nu_2$  contains  $\nu_\mu$  is  $\sin^2 \theta$

# What about $\xi$ ?

One of the open questions in cosmology is the possibility of admitting a large relic neutrino-antineutrino asymmetry

The trick is there are no direct observations of the cosmic neutrino background...

BBN

CMB

## Two flavors

$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ \nu_x \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

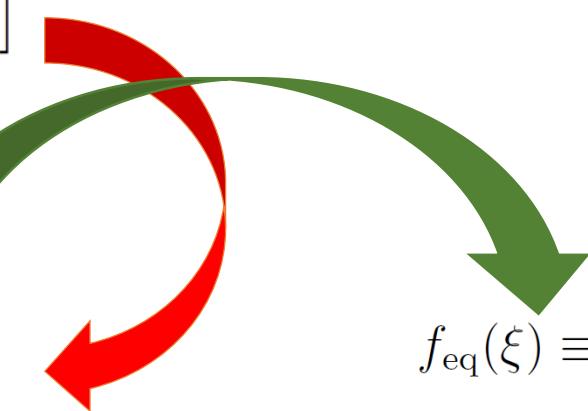
where the same parameterisation applies to the antineutrino system.

For each momentum  $p$ , we write down the one-body reduced density matrices  $\rho$  and express them in terms of the function  $P_0$  and a “polarization” vector  $\mathbf{P}$

$$\rho = \begin{pmatrix} \rho_{ee} & \rho_{ex} \\ \rho_{xe} & \rho_{xx} \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} [P_0 + \mathbf{P} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}]$$

$$f_{\nu_e} = \frac{1}{2} [P_0 + P_z] f_{\text{eq}}(0)$$

$$f_{\nu_x} = \frac{1}{2} [P_0 - P_z] f_{\text{eq}}(0)$$



$$f_{\text{eq}}(\xi) \equiv \frac{1}{1 + e^{p/T-\xi}}$$

$$\dot{\vec{P}} = + \left[ \frac{\Delta m^2}{2p} \vec{B} - \frac{8\sqrt{2}G_F p}{3m_W^2} E_{ee} \vec{z} \right] \times \vec{P} + \sqrt{2} G_F (\vec{J} - \bar{\vec{J}}) \times \vec{P}$$

$$\vec{\dot{P}} = + \left[ \frac{\Delta m^2}{2p} \mathbf{B} - \frac{8\sqrt{2}G_F p}{3m_W^2} E_{ee} \mathbf{z} \right] \times \vec{P} + \sqrt{2}G_F (\mathbf{J} - \bar{\mathbf{J}}) \times \vec{P}$$

**B** =  $(\sin 2\theta, 0, \cos 2\theta)$

electron-positrón energy density

$$\dot{\bar{\mathbf{P}}} = + \left[ \frac{\Delta m^2}{2p} \mathbf{B} - \frac{8\sqrt{2}G_F p}{3m_W^2} E_{ee} \mathbf{z} \right] \times \bar{\mathbf{P}} + \sqrt{2}G_F (\mathbf{J} - \bar{\mathbf{J}}) \times \bar{\mathbf{P}}$$

$\mathbf{B} = (\sin 2\theta, 0, \cos 2\theta)$

electron-positrón energy density

self-interaction term

$$\mathbf{J} = \frac{1}{2\pi^2} \int \mathbf{P} f_{\text{eq}}(0) p^2 dp$$

$$\dot{\bar{P}} = - \left[ \frac{\Delta m^2}{2p} B - \frac{8\sqrt{2}G_F p}{3m_W^2} E_{ee} z \right] \times \bar{P} + \sqrt{2}G_F (\mathbf{J} - \bar{\mathbf{J}}) \times \bar{P}$$

**electron-positrón energy density**

**self-interaction term**

$$\mathbf{J} = \frac{1}{2\pi^2} \int \mathbf{P} f_{\text{eq}}(0) p^2 dp$$

$B = (\sin 2\theta, 0, \cos 2\theta)$

where we are ignoring (so far) the collision term which may or may not be relevant

$$\Gamma^{-1} \sim (G_F^2 p T^4)^{-1}$$

$$L \sim 2\pi(V_x^2 + V_z^2)^{-1/2}$$

$$\dot{\bar{P}} = - \left[ \frac{\Delta m^2}{2p} \mathbf{B} - \frac{8\sqrt{2}G_F p}{3m_W^2} E_{ee} \mathbf{z} \right] \times \bar{P} + \sqrt{2}G_F (\mathbf{J} - \bar{\mathbf{J}}) \times \bar{P}$$

$\mathbf{B} = (\sin 2\theta, 0, \cos 2\theta)$

$$V_x = \frac{\Delta m^2}{2p} \sin 2\theta$$

$$V_z = -\frac{\Delta m^2}{2p} \cos 2\theta - \frac{8\sqrt{2}G_F p}{3m_W^2} E_{ee}$$

where we are ignoring (so far) the collision term which may or may not be relevant

$$\Gamma^{-1} \sim (G_F^2 p T^4)^{-1}$$

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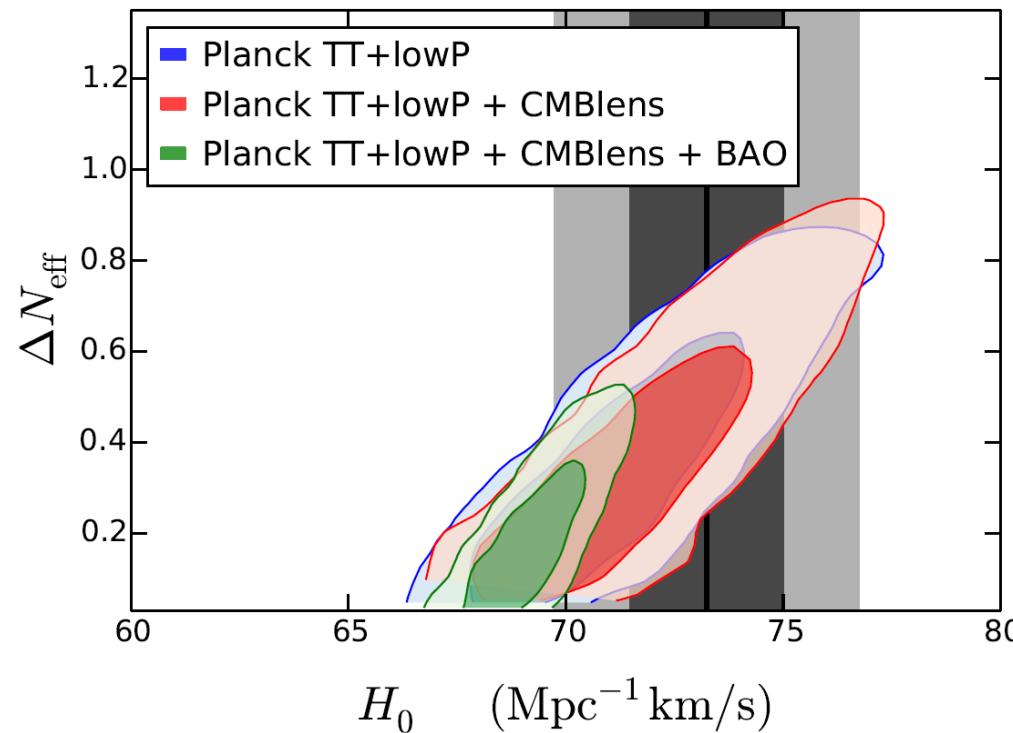
Riess et al (2016)

$$H_0 = 73.24 \pm 1.74 \text{ km/s/Mpc}$$

vs

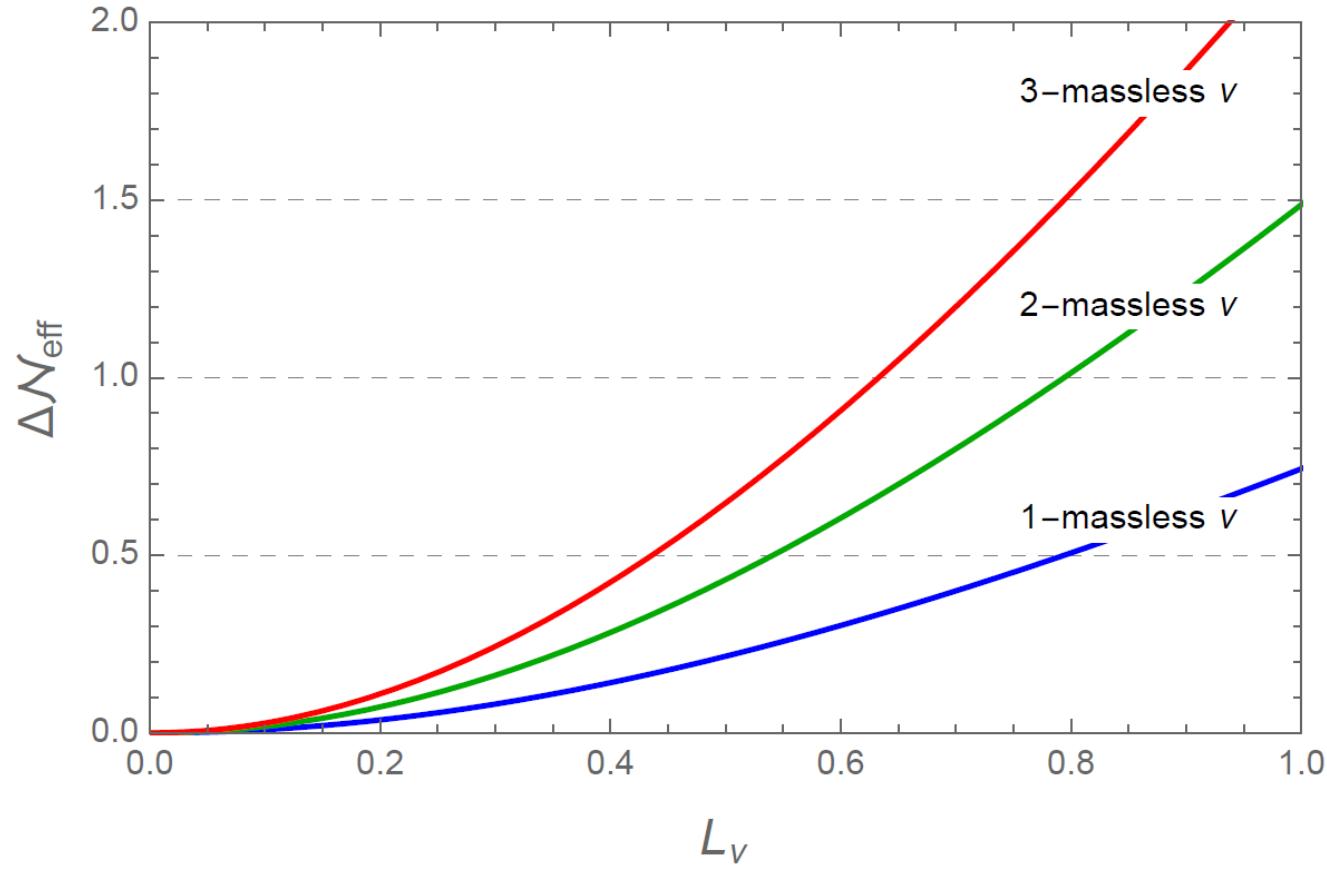
CMB fit

$$H_0 = 67.8 \pm 0.9 \text{ km/s/Mpc}$$



Under the assumption of thermal distribution,

$$L_\alpha = \frac{\pi^3}{12\zeta(3)} \left( \frac{\xi_\alpha}{\pi} \right) \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{\xi_\alpha}{\pi} \right)^2 \right], \quad \Delta N_{\text{eff}} = \frac{15}{7} \sum_\alpha \left( \frac{\xi_\alpha}{\pi} \right)^2 \left[ 2 + \left( \frac{\xi_\alpha}{\pi} \right)^2 \right]$$



BBN constrains  $L_\alpha$

## BBN constrains $L_\alpha$

$$Y_p \equiv \frac{\rho(^4He)}{\rho_{\text{baryon}}} = \frac{2(n/p)}{1 + (n/p)}$$

the ratio of neutron-proton number densities  
(depends on weak interaction rate)

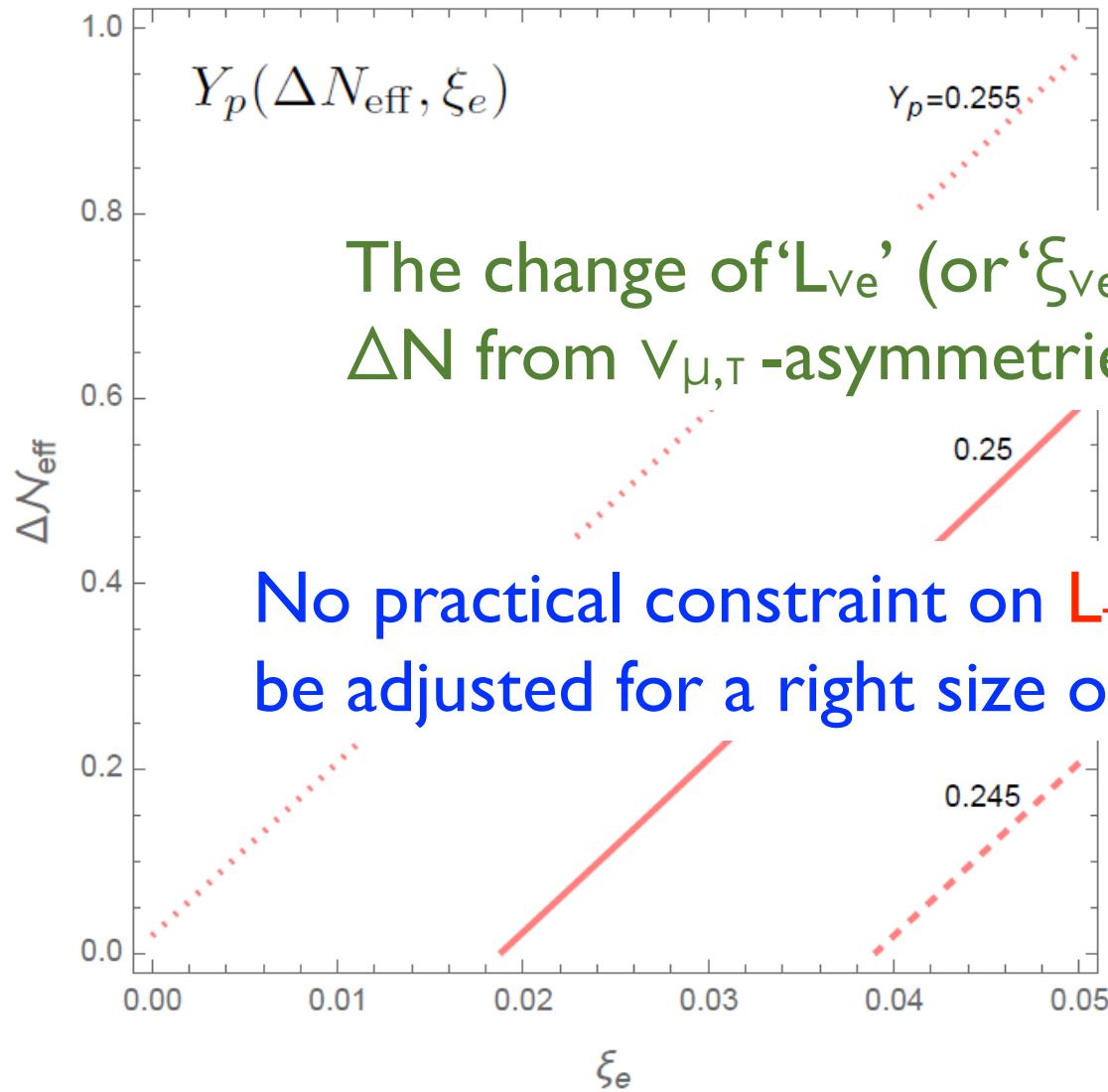
**Helium abundance:** affected by **expansion rate** and  **$V_e$ -asymmetry**

$$Y_p = [a(B) + b(B)\Delta N] e^{-\xi\nu_e}$$

[ JHEP 11 (1999) 015 ]

c.f.  $Y_p^{\text{obs}} \sim 0.245 - 0.255$

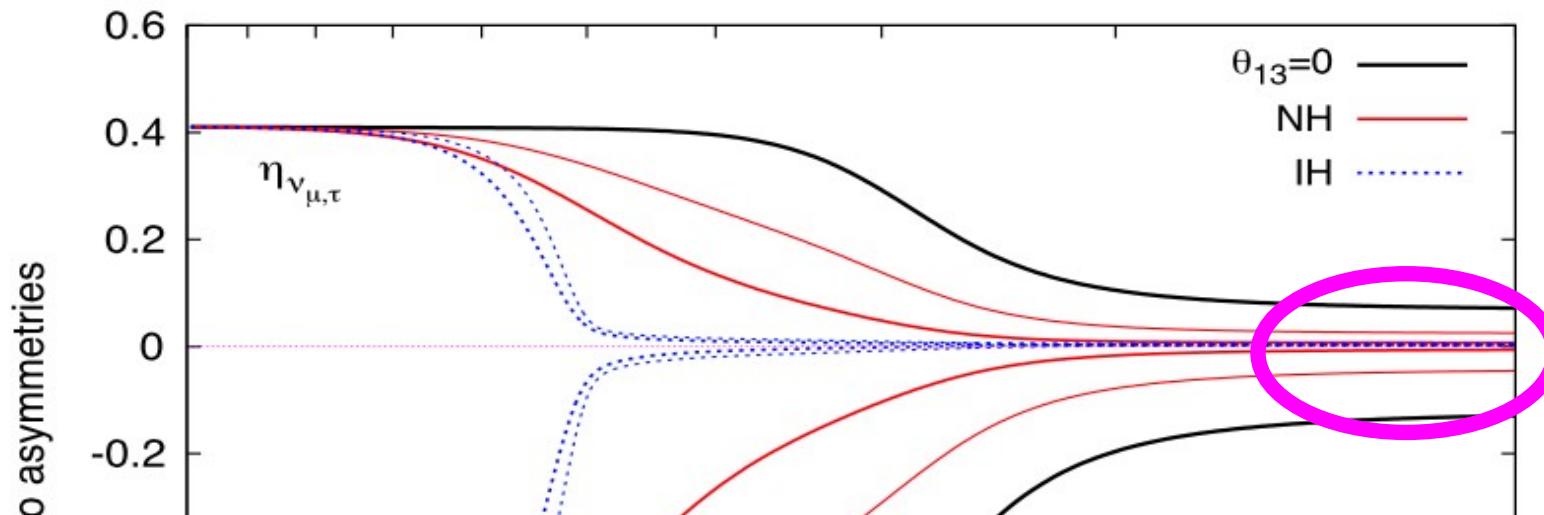
See also 'Mon.Not.Roy.Astron.Soc.445 (2014) no.1,778;  
JCAP 07,011 (2015)'



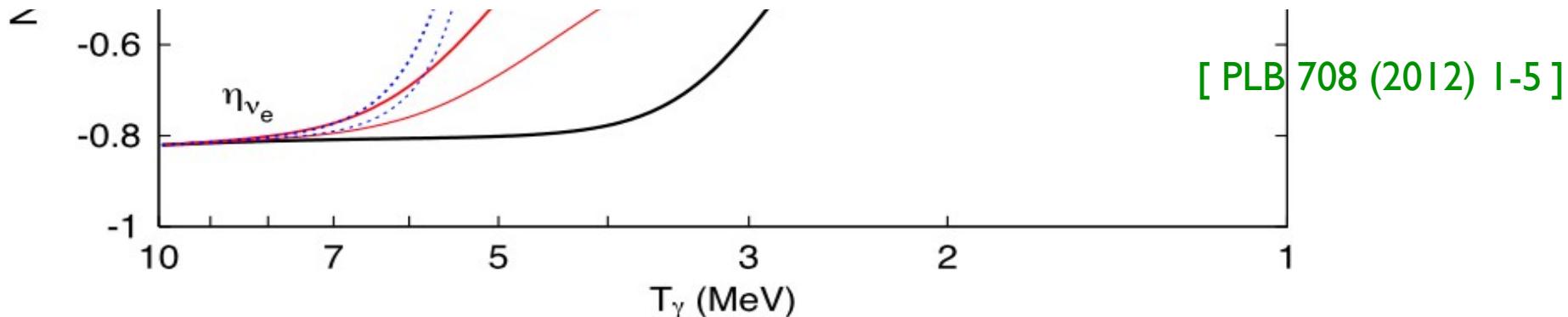
The change of ' $L_{\nu e}$ ' (or ' $\xi_{\nu e}$ ') can be compensated by  $\Delta N$  from  $\nu_{\mu, \tau}$ -asymmetries

No practical constraint on  $L_{\text{TOT}}$  as long as the  $L_\alpha$  can be adjusted for a right size of  $L_{\nu e}$ .

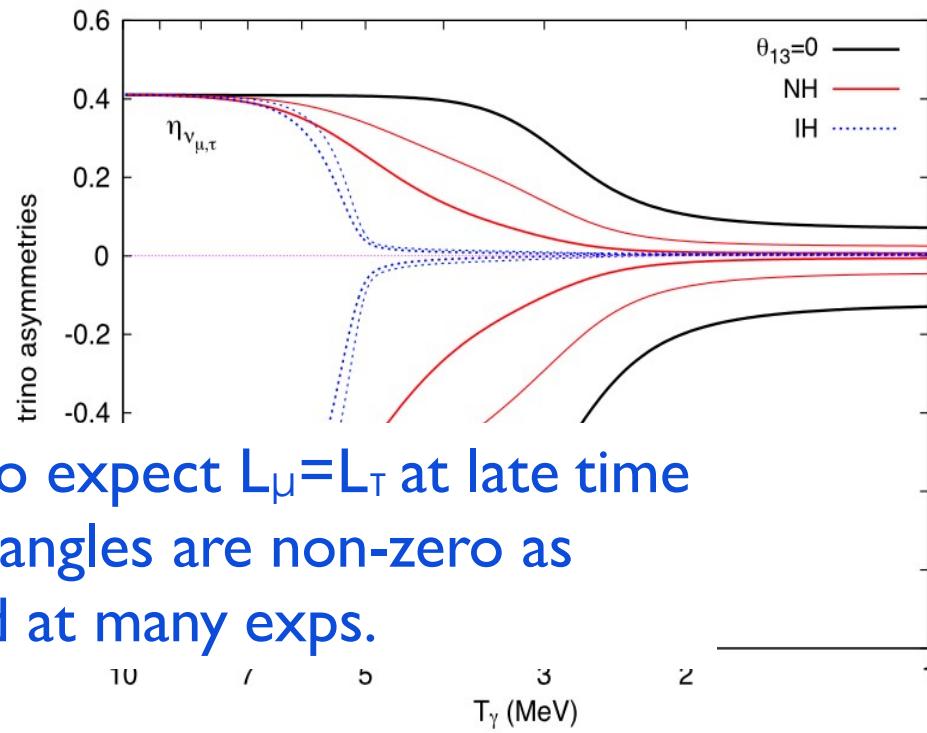
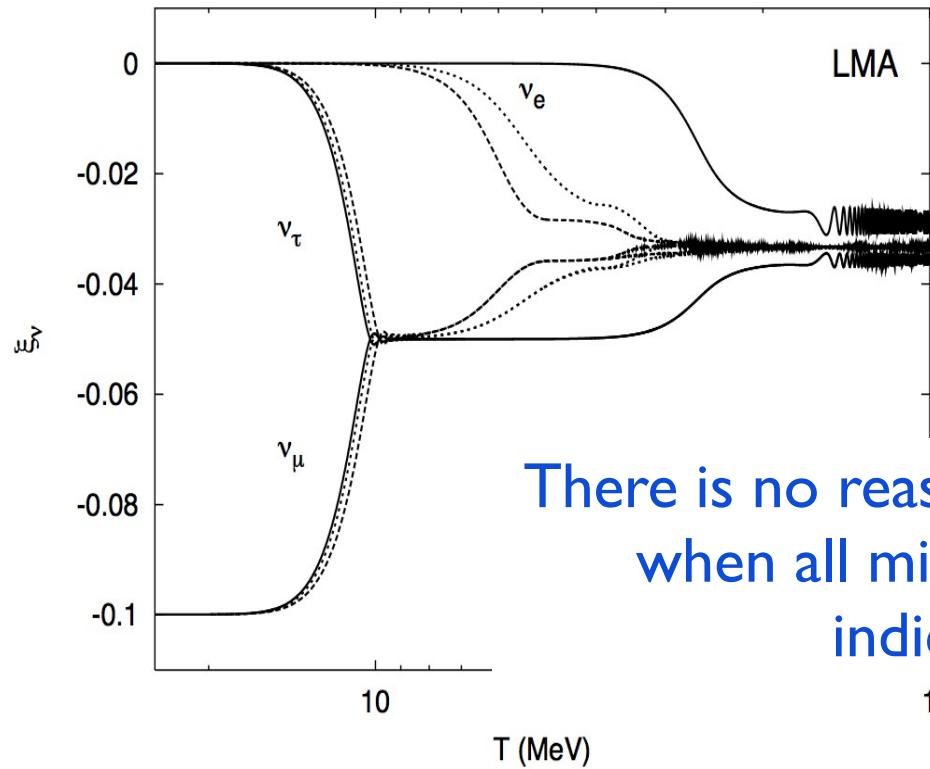
**Neutrino oscillations:** In the early universe before BBN,  
oscillations mix asymmetries of all neutrino flavors before BBN starts.



So, the current bound on  $\theta_{13}$  applies to all L's if  $L_{TOT}$  is zero



**Equalization of  $L_\mu$  &  $L_\tau$ :** once equalized, never separated afterward.



There is no reason to expect  $L_\mu=L_\tau$  at late time  
when all mixing angles are non-zero as  
indicated at many exps.

$$4m_\mu(m_\mu T/2\pi)^{3/2} \exp(-m_\mu/T)$$

$$\frac{1}{2p} U \begin{pmatrix} m_1^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & m_2^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & m_3^2 \end{pmatrix} U^\dagger - \frac{8\sqrt{2}G_F p}{3m_W^2} \begin{pmatrix} E_{ee} + E_{\mu\mu} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & E_{\mu\mu} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Very simple to decipher !!!

The evolution of the three flavor system can be broken down into three separate two flavor systems

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ c_{23} & s_{23} & 0 \\ -s_{23} & c_{23} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{13} & 0 & s_{13} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -s_{13} & 0 & c_{13} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{12} & s_{12} & 0 \\ -s_{12} & c_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Delta m_{\text{atm}}^2 / 2\tilde{p} \simeq (8\sqrt{2}G_F\tilde{p}/3m_W^2)E_{\mu\mu}$$

(i) at T=12 MeV when  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\tau$  oscillations cease to be matter suppressed

$$\nu_\mu \longrightarrow \nu_x \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\nu_\mu - \nu_\tau), \quad \nu_\tau \longrightarrow \nu_y \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\nu_\mu + \nu_\tau).$$

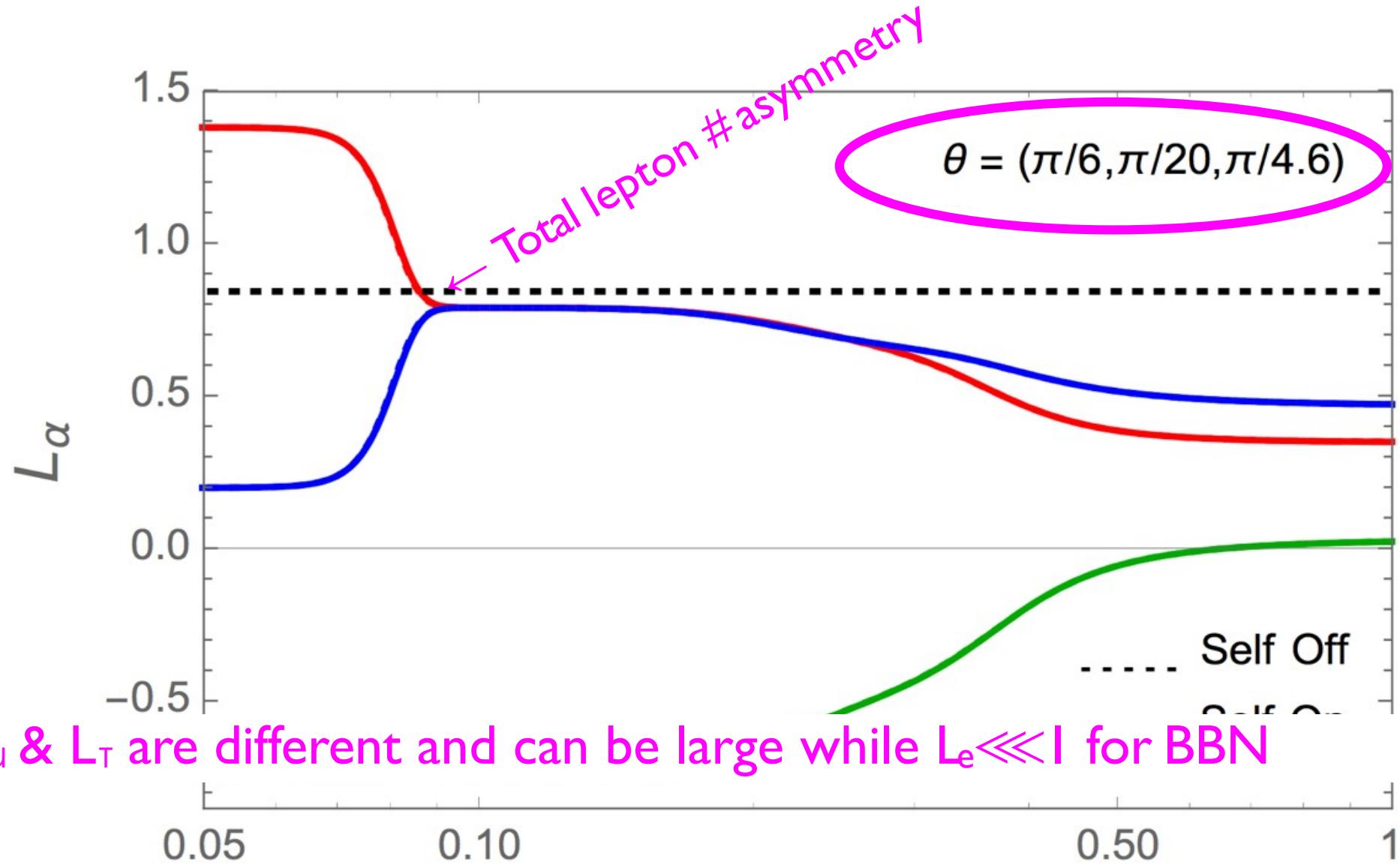
(ii) at T=5 MeV only if  $\theta_{13}$  is non zero

$$(\Delta m_{\text{atm}}^2 + c_{12}^2 \Delta m_{\text{sun}}^2) / 2\tilde{p} \simeq (8\sqrt{2}G_F\tilde{p}/3m_W^2)(E_{ee} + E_{\mu\mu}/2)$$

$$\nu_e \longrightarrow c_{13}\nu_e - s_{13}\nu_y, \quad \nu_y \longrightarrow s_{13}\nu_e + c_{13}\nu_y,$$

(iii) at T=2 MeV  $c_{13}\nu_e - s_{13}\nu_y \longrightarrow c_{12} c_{13} \nu_e - \left(\frac{c_{12}}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{s_{12}}{\sqrt{2}}\right) \nu_\mu + \left(\frac{s_{12}}{\sqrt{2}} - \frac{c_{12}}{\sqrt{2}}\right) \nu_\tau$

$$\nu_x \longrightarrow s_{12} c_{13} \nu_e + \left(\frac{c_{12}}{\sqrt{2}} - \frac{s_{12}}{\sqrt{2}}\right) \nu_\mu - \left(\frac{c_{12}}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{s_{12}}{\sqrt{2}}\right) \nu_\tau$$



$$L_\alpha = \frac{\pi^3}{12\zeta(3)} \left(\frac{\xi_\alpha}{\pi}\right) \left[1 + \left(\frac{\xi_\alpha}{\pi}\right)^2\right] \rightarrow \Delta N_{\text{eff}} = \frac{15}{7} \sum_{\alpha} \left(\frac{\xi_\alpha}{\pi}\right)^2 \left[2 + \left(\frac{\xi_\alpha}{\pi}\right)^2\right]$$

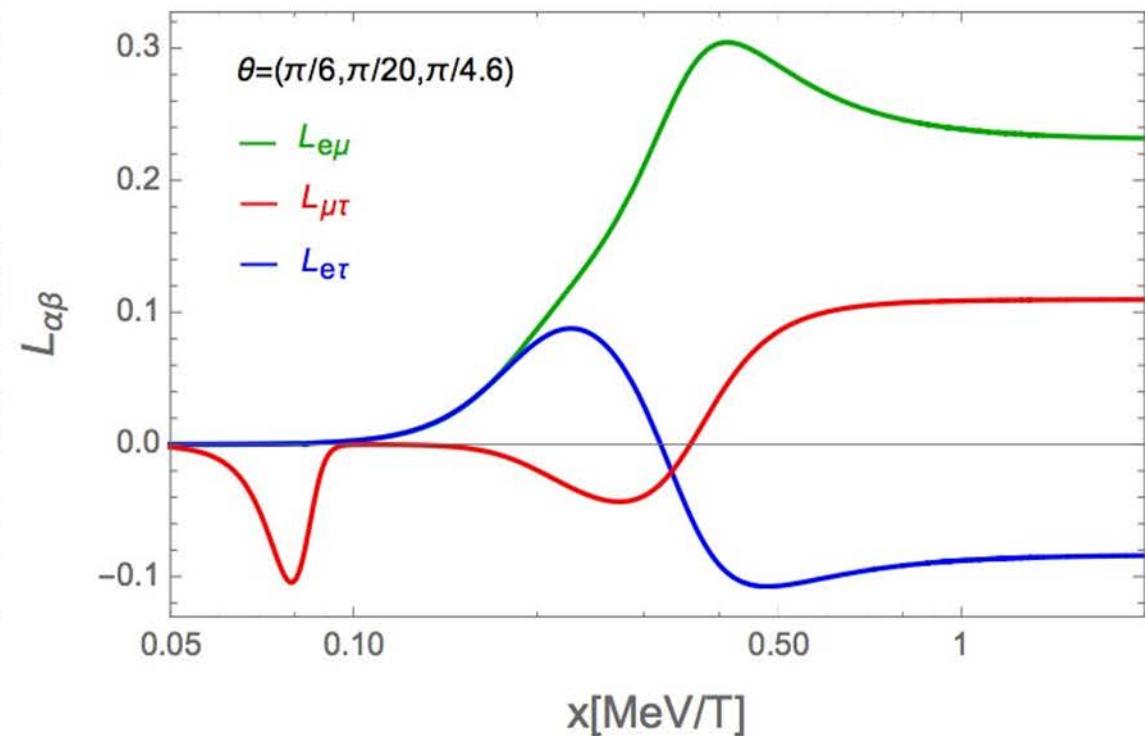
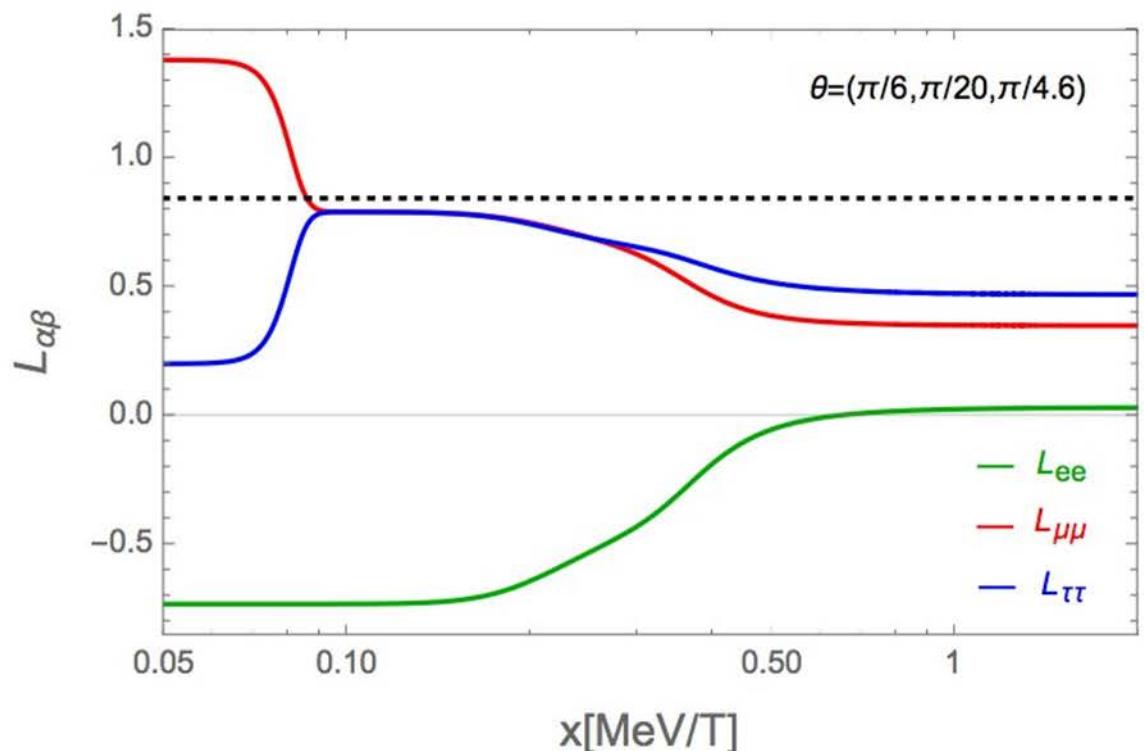
It is valid only if neutrino flavor-mixings are absent.

It has been conventional even if flavor-mixings were confirmed several decades ago. What's wrong with it?

**$L_\alpha$  under flavor mixings:** There are mixed states contributing to energy density

$$L_\alpha \equiv \frac{\rho_\alpha - \rho_{\bar{\alpha}}}{n_\gamma} ; \quad \rho_\alpha / \rho_{\bar{\alpha}} = \text{density matrix of } \nu_\alpha / \bar{\nu}_\alpha$$

This is a matrix having off-diagonal entries as well as diagonal ones.



$\Delta N(\xi_\alpha)$  is missing off-diagonal contributions!

from flavor eigenstates

I will not miss again the off diagonal contributions  
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$\Delta N(\xi_\alpha)$  is missing off-diagonal contributions!  
from flavor eigenstates

### Asymmetries ( $L_i$ ) in mass basis:

Neutrinos free-stream after decoupling at  $T \sim 2$  MeV before BBN starts.

Free-streaming neutrinos are in mass-eigenstates.

The late-time asymmetries should be diagonal in mass-basis.

$\Delta N(\xi_i)$  contains all contributions!  
from mass eigenstates

Then, manifestly,

$$\mathbf{L}_m = D^{-1} \mathbf{L}_f D$$

Asymmetries in mass-basis (diagonal)

diagonalization matrix

Then, manifestly,

$$L_m = D^{-1} L_f D = U_{\text{PMNS}}^{-1} L_f U_{\text{PMNS}}$$

diagonalization matrix      well-known neutrino mixing matrix

Asymmetries in mass-basis (diagonal)      Asymmetries in flavor-basis (non-diagonal)

We numerically confirmed

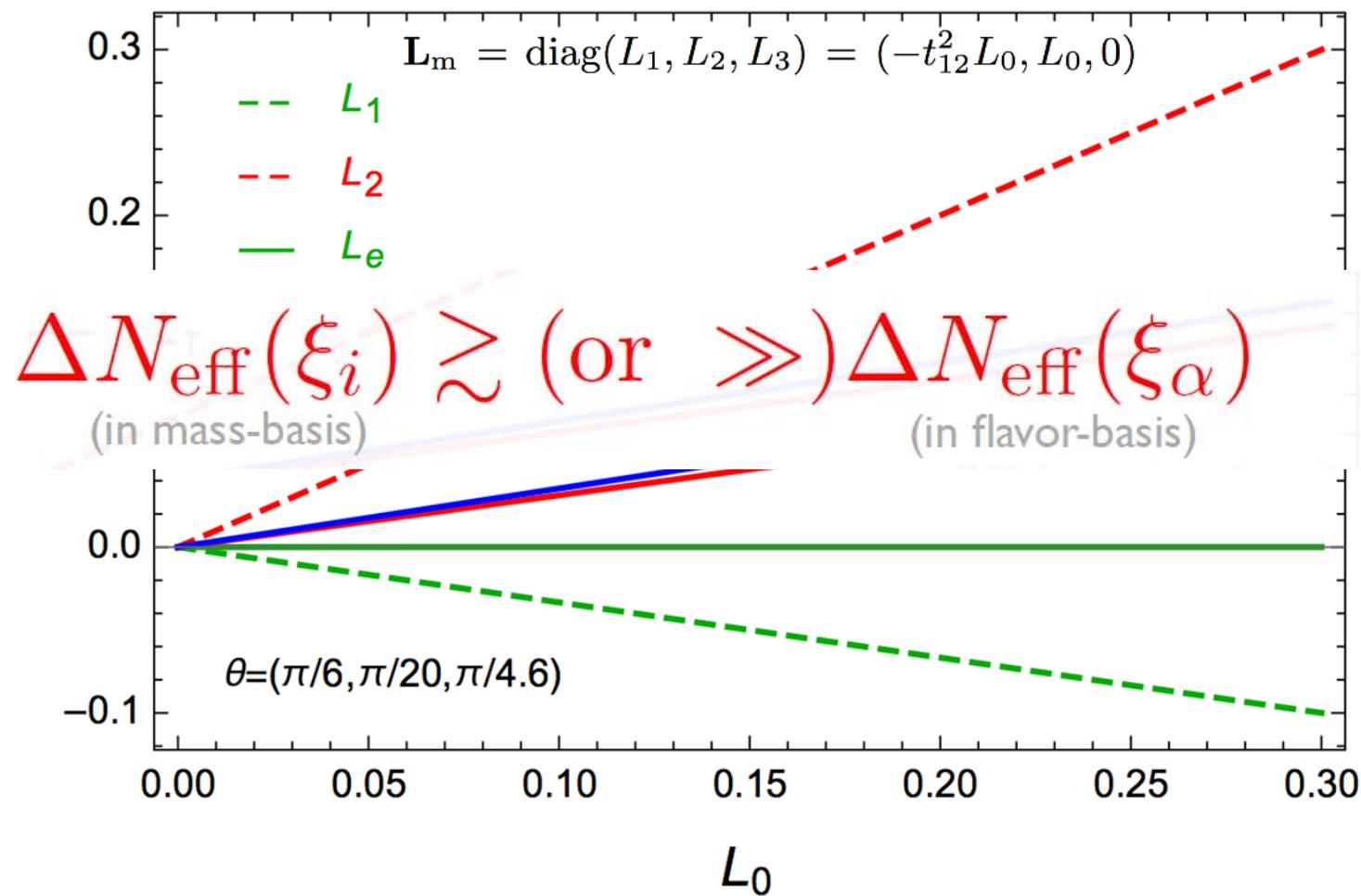
$$D = U_{\text{PMNS}}$$

with sub-% level errors.

## **L<sub>a</sub> vs L<sub>i</sub> (numerical analysis):**

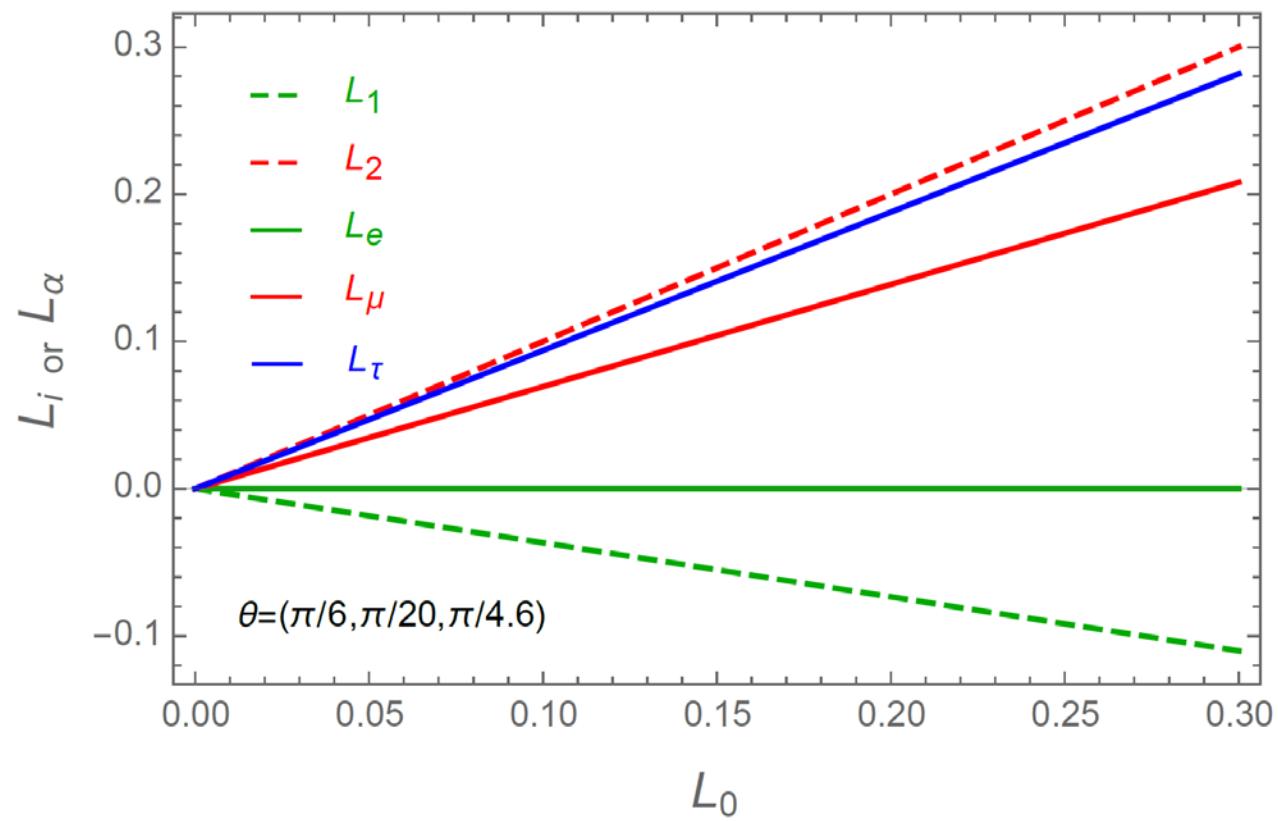
$L_a$  can be expressed in terms of  $L_i$  (diagonal entries of  $L_m$ ).

**BBN constraint:**  $L_e = c_{13}^2 (c_{12}^2 L_1 + s_{12}^2 L_2) + s_{13}^2 L_3$



$$L_e = c_{13}^2 \left( c_{12}^2 L_1 + s_{12}^2 L_2 \right) + s_{13}^2 L_3$$

$$\mathbf{L}_m=\text{diag}(-(t_{12}^2+t_{13}^2/c_{12}^2)L_0,L_0,L_0)$$



Set  $L_1$  such that

$$L_e = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} L_\mu &= c_{23} [(1 - t_{12}^2)c_{23} - 2s_{13}s_{23}t_{12}] L_2 \\ &\quad + [(1 - t_{13}^2)s_{23}^2 - t_{12}t_{13}^2c_{23}(2s_{13}s_{23} + t_{12}c_{23})] L_3 \\ L_\tau &= s_{23} [(1 - t_{12}^2)s_{23} + 2s_{13}c_{23}t_{12}] L_2 \\ &\quad + [(1 - t_{13}^2)c_{23}^2 + t_{12}t_{13}^2s_{23}(2s_{13}c_{23} - t_{12}s_{23})] L_3 \end{aligned}$$

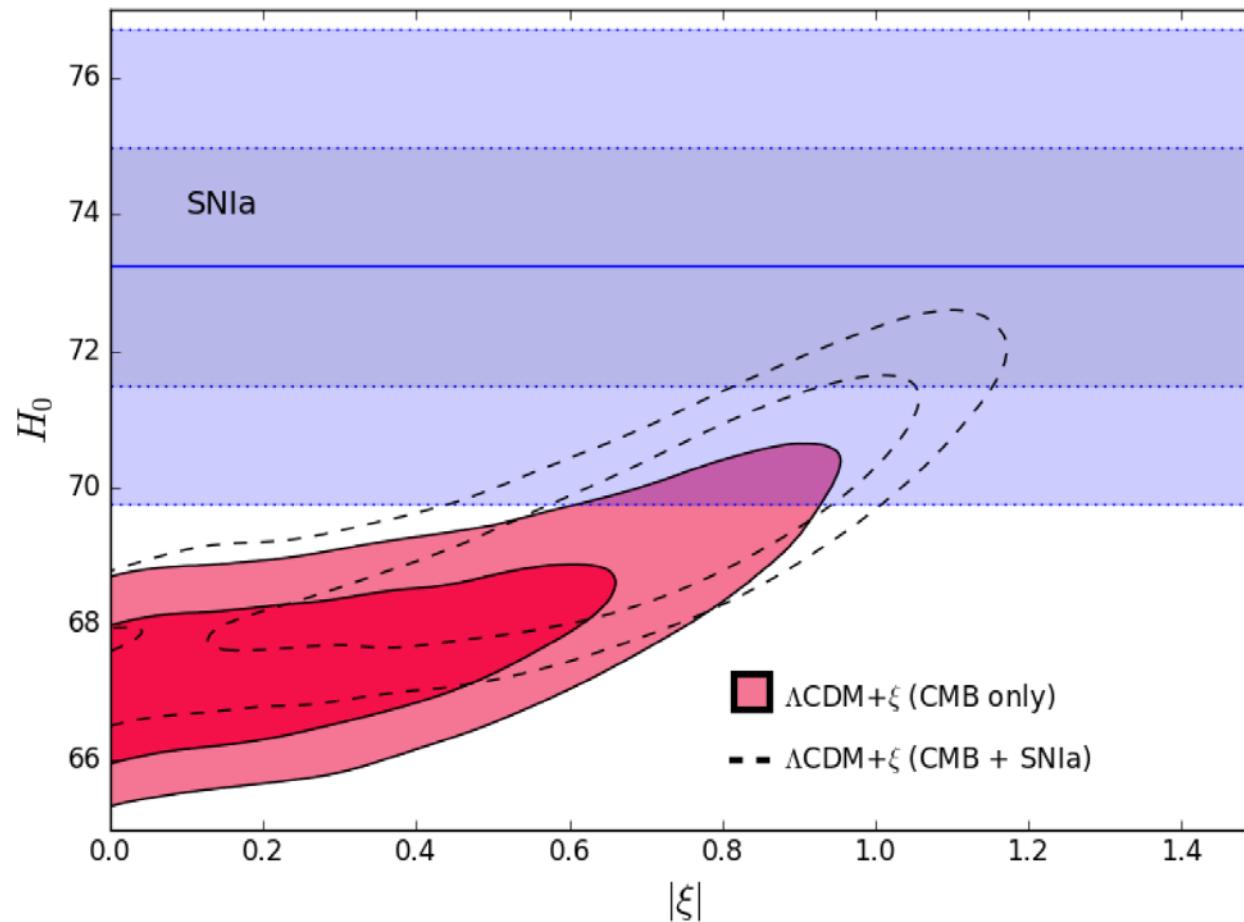
or

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta N_{\text{eff}} &= \frac{15}{7} \sum_{i=1,2} \left( \frac{\xi_i}{\pi} \right)^2 \left[ 2 + \left( \frac{\xi_i}{\pi} \right)^2 \right] \\ &\approx \frac{15}{7} \left( \frac{\xi_2}{\pi} \right)^2 \times \\ &\quad \left\{ (1 + t_{12}^4)2 + [1 + (4 + t_{12}^4)t_{12}^4] \left( \frac{\xi_2}{\pi} \right)^2 \right\} \end{aligned}$$

$$L_3 = 0$$

$$L_1 \approx -t_{12}^2 L_2$$

two variables to play with !!!



# Conclusions

A large extra radiation contribution (or  $\Delta N$ ) can arise from neutrino asymmetries without disturbing BBN.

The  $\Delta N$  coming from neutrino asymmetries should be estimated not from flavor-eigenstates but from mass-eigenstates.

Unfortunately the SIMPLEST version (only one degree of freedom) is not the final answer.



