

# **Physics Capabilities of Future Atmospheric $\nu$ -Detectors**

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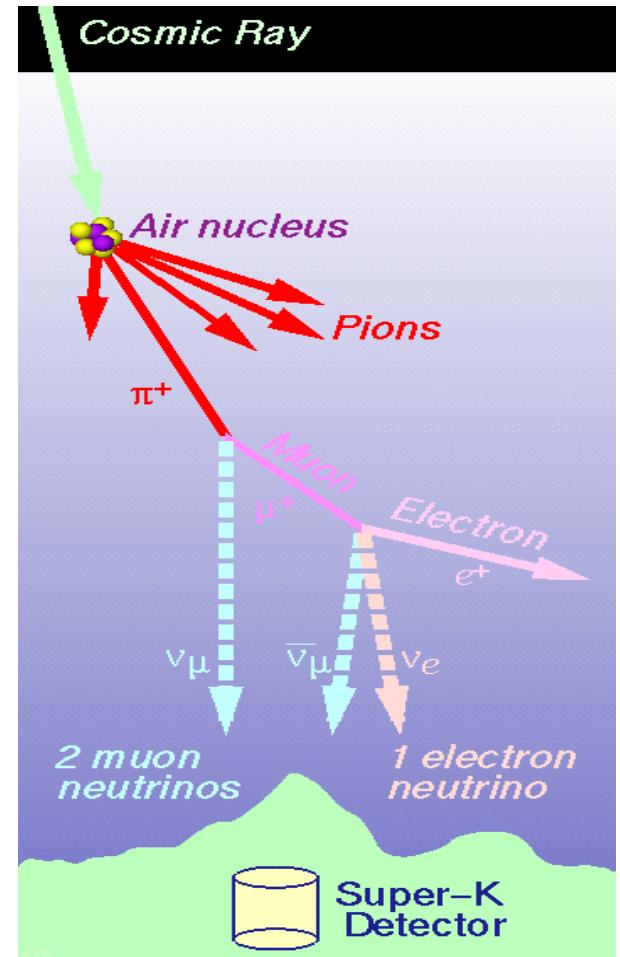
# Atmospheric Neutrinos as Source

Cosmic Ray +  $A_{air}$  →  $\pi^+$  + ...

$\pi^+$  →  $\mu^+$  +  $\nu_\mu$

$\mu^+$  →  $e^+$  +  $\bar{\nu}_\mu$  +  $\nu_e$

- Provides a broad range of **energy** as compared to any other natural and artificial sources
- Provides a wide range of **path-length**
- Hence a broad **L/E** band (1 to  $10^5$  km/GeV).
- The longer baseline allow **matter effects** to develop
- Source of both **neutrinos** and **antineutrinos**
- Source of both  $\nu_e$  and  $\nu_\mu$
- All these for free !!



# Future Detectors for Atm $\nu$

- Magnetized Iron Detector (INO)
  - 50 - 100 kT
  - Muon energy measurement, direction reconstruction and charge discrimination capability
  - Can determine the neutrino energy and direction through Hadron shower reconstruction
- Megaton Water Cerenkov Detector (HK, MEMPHYS)
  - Large volume
  - No charge ID
  - Both electron and muon energy and direction measurement
- Liquid Argon TPC
  - Excellent electron and muon energy and direction measurement
  - Charge ID ?
- Neutrino Telescope (IceCube, PINGU)
  - Huge Volume (Multi-Mton)

# Physics Possibilities with Atmospheric $\nu$ s

- Measurement of  $|\Delta m_{31}^2|$  and  $\sin^2 \theta_{23}$
- Determine if  $\sin^2 \theta_{23}$  is maximal and if not then determination of its octant
- Determination of Mass Hierarchy or  $sgn(\Delta m_{31}^2)$
- CPT violation
- Sterile Neutrinos, Non Standard Interactions, Long Range Forces...,

## Plan of Talk

- Determination of Mass Hierarchy and Octant in magnetized Iron Calorimeter and Liquid Argon Detectors

# Physics Possibilities with Atmospheric νS

- An incomplete list of references...

Petcov (1998), Chizov, Maris, Petcov (1998), Akhmedov (1999), Akhmedov, Dighe, Lipari, Smirnov (1999), Kim (1998), Peres, Smirnov (1999), Bernabeu, Palomares-Ruiz, Perez, Petcov, (2002), Gonzalez-Garcia, Maltoni (2003), Bernabeu, Palomares-Ruiz, Petcov (2003), Peres, Smirnov (2004), Indumathi, Murthy (2004), Gandhi, Ghoshal, Goswami, Mehta, Sankar (2004), Gonzalez-Garcia, Maltoni, Smirnov (2004), Palomares-Ruiz, Petcov (2005), Choubey, Roy (2005), Fogli, Lisi, Marrone, Palazzo (2005); Huber, Maltoni, Schwetz (2005), T. Kajita (2005); E. K. Akhmedov, M. Maltoni and A. Y. Smirnov (2005), Petcov, Schwetz (2006), S. Choubey (2006); Indumathi, Murthy, Rajasekaran, Sinha (2006), E. K. Akhmedov, M. Maltoni and A. Y. Smirnov (2007), R. Gandhi, P. Ghoshal, S. Goswami, P. Mehta, S. U. Sankar and S. Shalgar (2007), E. K. Akhmedov, M. Maltoni and A. Y. Smirnov (2008), Gandhi, Ghoshal, Goswami, Sankar (2008), Mena, Mocioiu, Razzaque (2008), Peres, Smirnov (2009), Gandhi, Ghoshal, Goswami, Sankar (2009), Samanta (2006 - 10), Samanta, Smirnov (2010), Conrad, de Gouvea, Shalgar (2010), Gonzalez-Garcia, Maltoni, Salvado (2011), Barger, Gandhi, Ghoshal, Goswami, Marfatia, Prakash, Raut, Sankar (2012), Blennow, Schwetz (2012), Akhmedov, Razzaque, Smirnov (2012), .....

# India Based Neutrino Observatory Proposal

- Goal : To build an underground laboratory for science with neutrino physics as major activity
- The Detector: Magnetized Iron CALorimeter detector – (**ICAL**) for detection of atmospheric neutrinos in its first phase.
- Detector choice based on
  - Technological capabilities available in the country
  - Complementarity to Existing/Planned neutrino detectors in the world
  - Modularity and the possibility of phasing
  - Compactness and ease of construction
- Other Possibilities
  - Neutrinoless double beta decay, Dark Matter Experiment (DINO)..
  - Second phase end detector for a beam experiment

International participation is welcome

# INO: Approval Status

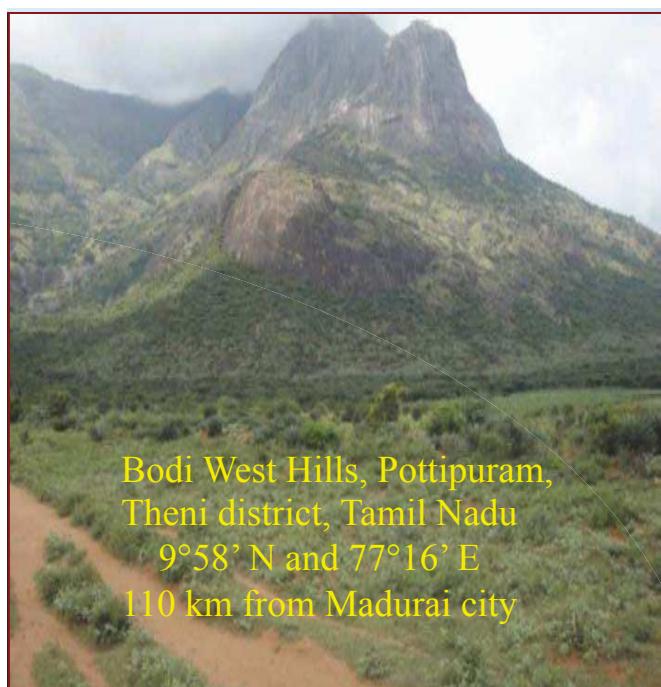
- Approvals from Indian Funding Agencies for
  - Construction of an **underground Laboratory** and surface facilities at Pottipuram village in South India
  - Construction of **50 kton magnetized Iron Calorimeter** detector to study neutrino properties
  - Construction of **INO center** (The National Center for High Energy Physics) at Madurai in South India
  - Human **Resource Development**
  - Detector **R & D**

Completion of project in 6 years

N. Mondal, LP2011

<http://www.ino.tifr.res.in>

# INO: Location

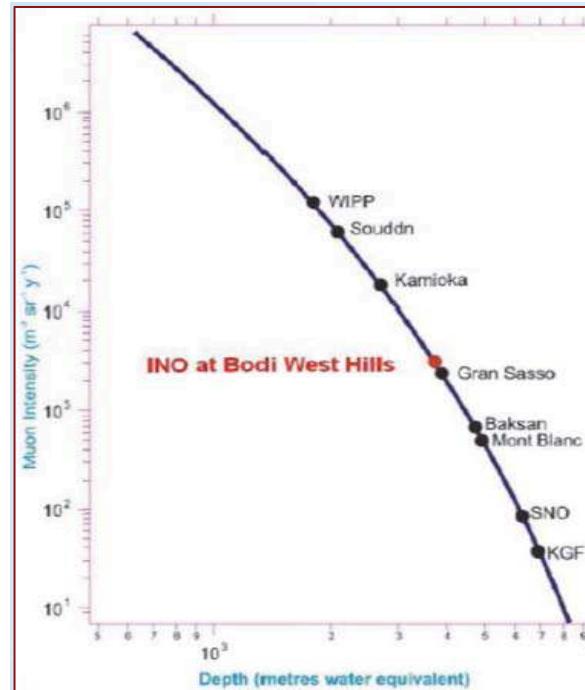
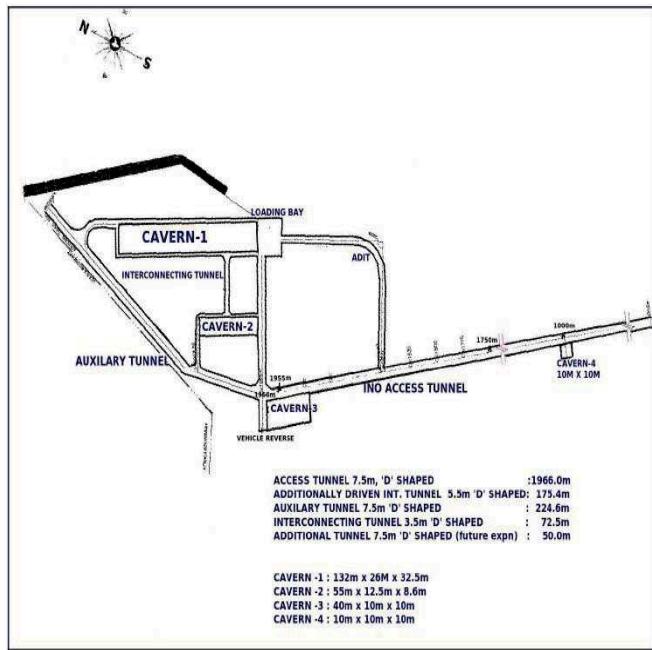


Bodi West Hills, Pottipuram,  
Theni district, Tamil Nadu  
9°58' N and 77°16' E  
110 km from Madurai city



- Flat terrain with good access to major roads
- Low rainfall, low humidity
- Portal outside the RF boundary, surface facilities not on Forest Land, no clearing of forests required
- Environmental and Forest Clearances obtained
- 26 Hectre Land provided free of cost by state Govt.

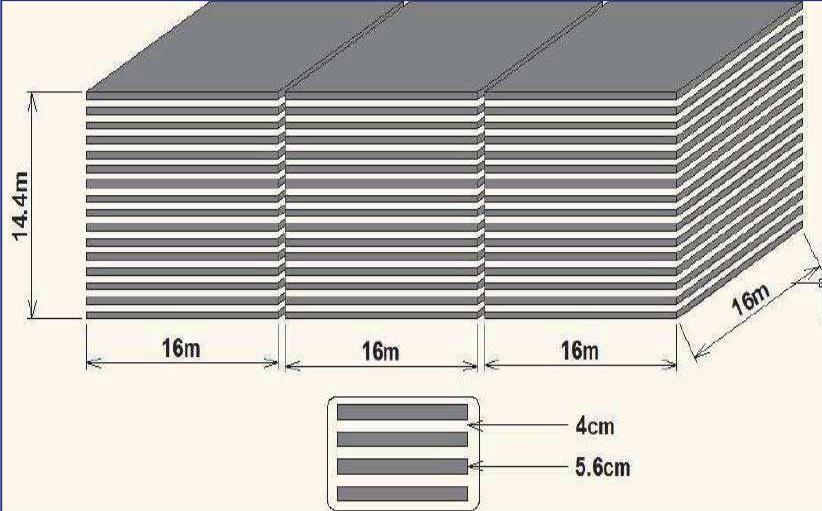
# INO: Site at a Glance



- Cavern set in Charkonite Rock under the **1589 m** peak;
- Vertical cover **1289 m**;
- Accessible through a **2 km** tunnel
- Cavern 1 will host **50 kt** ICAL ( space for 100 kt);
- Other caverns for **multiple** experiments ( $0\nu\beta\beta$ , DM)

# The detector: ICAL@INO

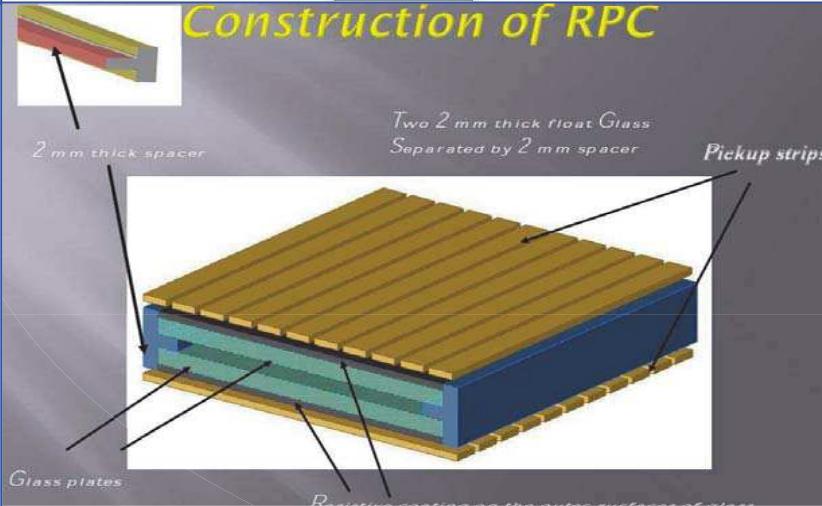
- Active Detector Element : Resistive Plate Chambers made of glass
- Iron plates Separated by RPCs



ICAL	
No. of modules	3
Module dimension	16 m x 16 m x 14.4 m
Detector dimension	48 m x 16 m x 14.4 m
No. of layers	150
Iron plate thickness	~ 5.6 cm
Gap for RPC trays	4.0 cm
Magnetic field	1.3 Tesla

RPC	
RPC unit dimension	1.84 m x 1.84 m x 24mm
Readout strip width	3 cm
No. of RPC units/Road/Layer	8
No. of Roads/Layer/Module	8
No. of RPC units/Layer	192
Total no. of RPC units	~ 28800
No. of electronic readout channels	$3.6864 \times 10^6$

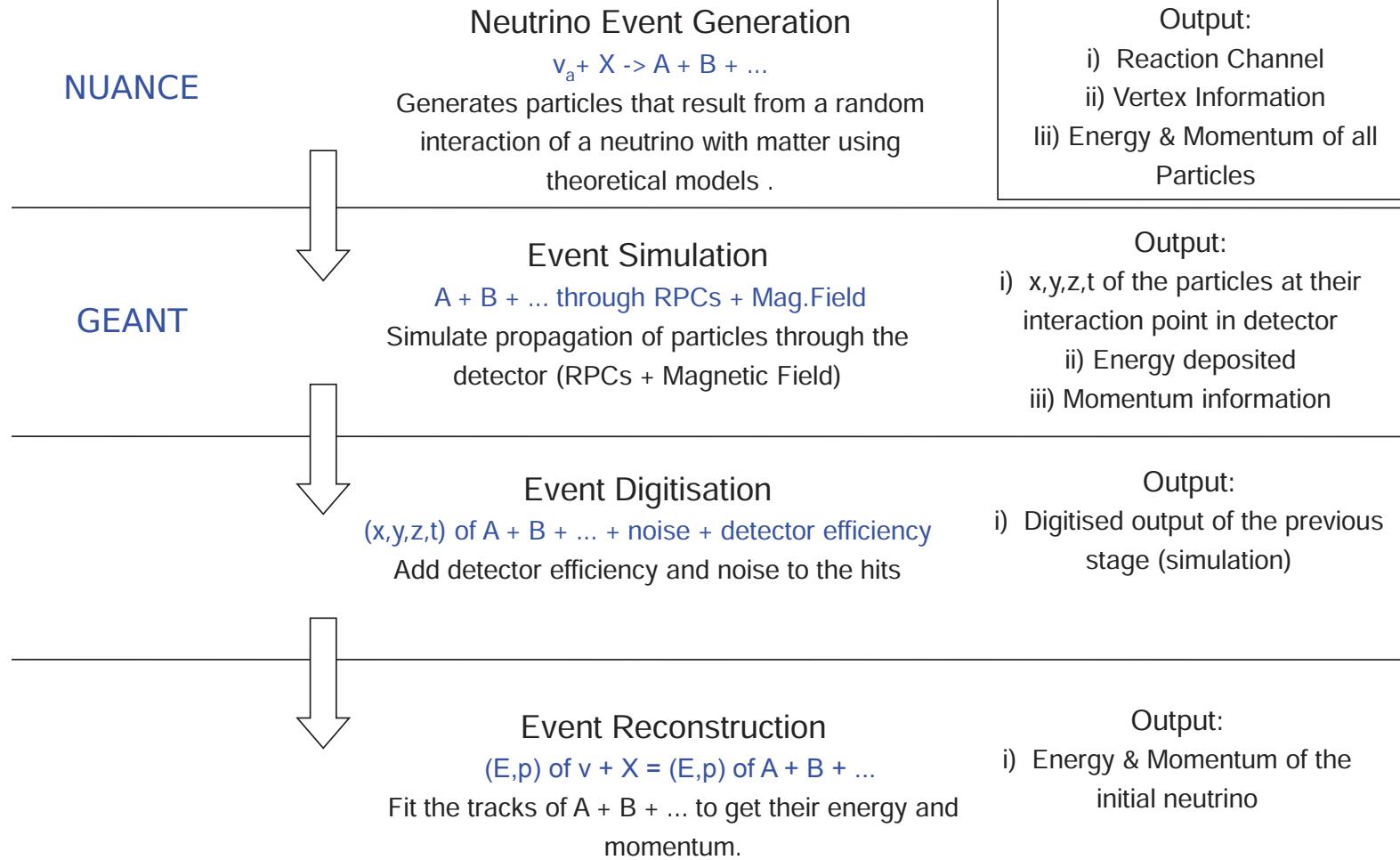
# Salient Features of the Detector

- Sensitive to muons
- Good Energy determination from
  - Track length
  - Track curvature in a magnetic field
- Directionality from tracking and ns timing resolution
- Charge identification from track curvature in magnetic field
- Hadron Shower reconstruction enables to determine the neutrino energy

# Detector R&D Status

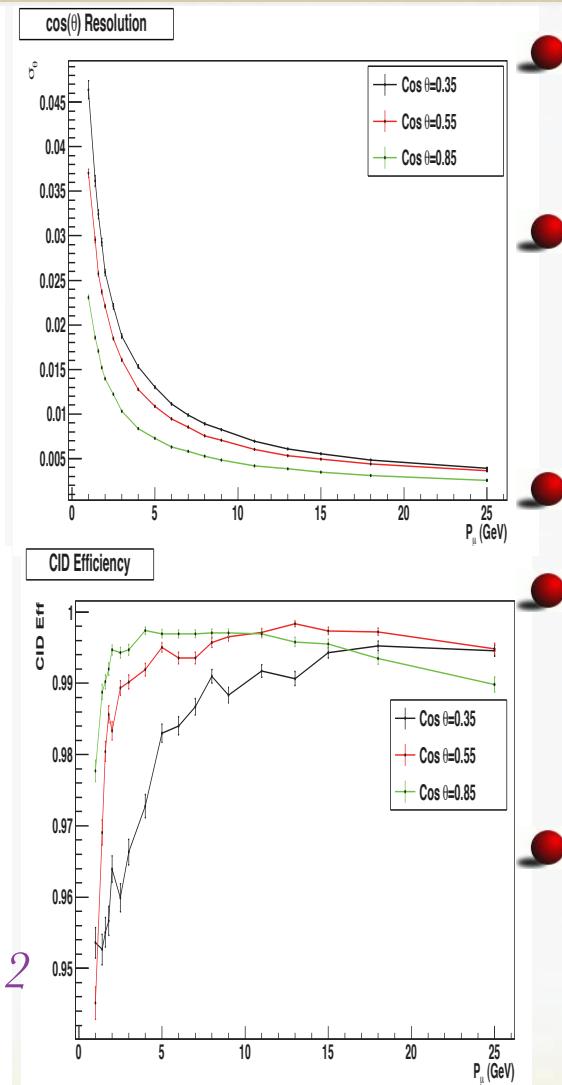
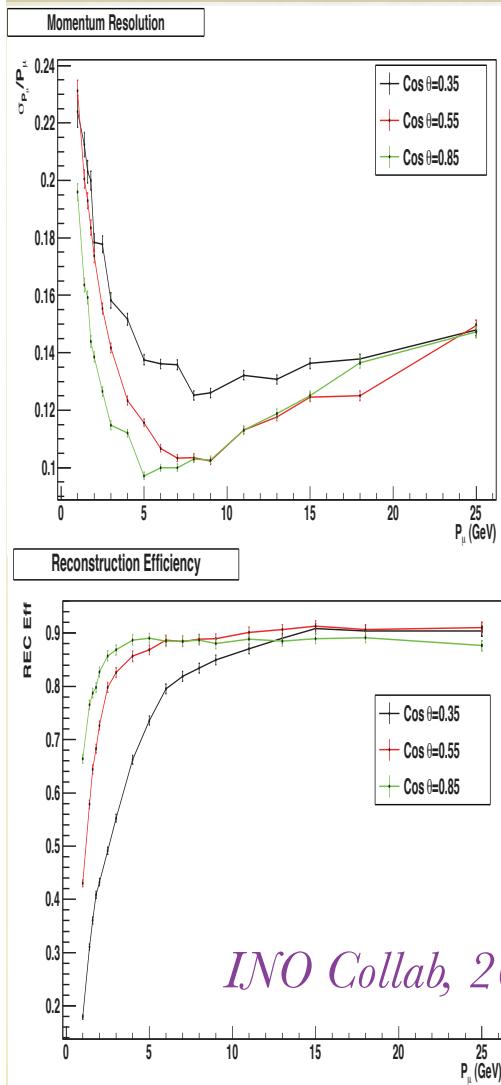
- Development of RPC
  - Full size RPC's (2m X 2m ) being fabricated in INO Labs
  - Large scale production developed with the help of Industry
- Electronics
  - Designing and Prototyping of electronics, trigger and data acquisition systems in progress
- Magnet
  - Prototype magnet running at VECC Calcutta
  - $8m \times 8m \times 20$  layers 800 ton engineering module is being planned

# INO: Simulation Framework at a Glance



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# INO: Simulation Status



- Inhomogeneous magnetic field implemented
- Muon energy and direction resolution from tracks achieved – improvements possible
- Hadron energy resolution available
- Neutrino energy and direction resolution using muon and hadron information possible
- Optimization of iron plate thickness in progress

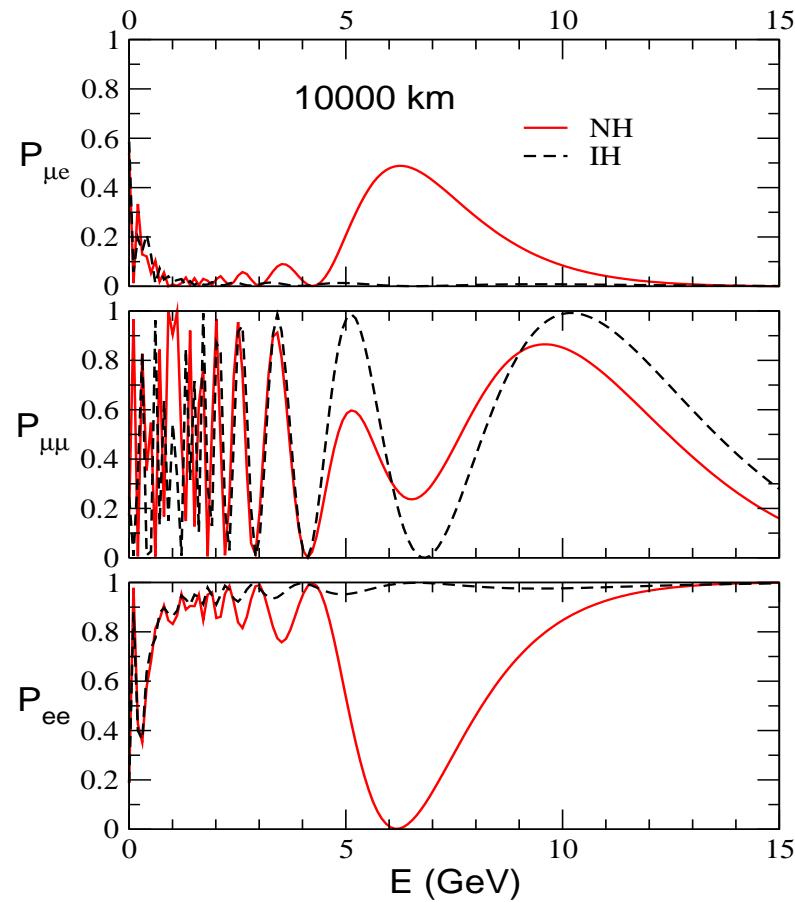
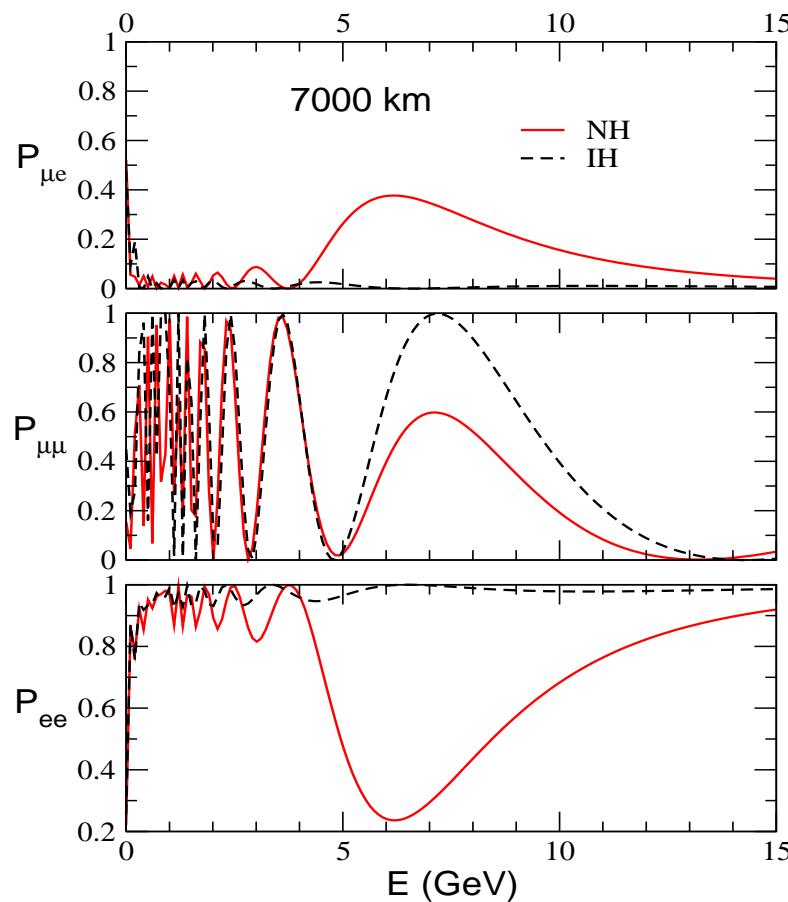
# Mass Hierarchy Sensitivity

- Crux of the matter : Matter Effect

$$\tan 2\theta_{13}^m = \frac{\Delta m_{31}^2 \sin 2\theta_{13}}{\Delta m_{31}^2 \cos 2\theta_{13} \pm 2\sqrt{2}G_F n_e E}$$

- For  $\Delta m_{\text{atm}}^2 > 0$  matter resonance in neutrinos
- For  $\Delta m_{\text{atm}}^2 < 0$  matter resonance in anti neutrinos
- Experiments sensitive to **matter effects** can probe the mass hierarchy
- **Matter effects** for  $\Delta m_{\text{atm}}^2$  channel depend crucially on  $\theta_{13}$
- Thus both parameters get related
- Large measured  $\theta_{13} \implies$  good news
- Detectors with **charge id** that can **discriminate** between neutrinos and antineutrinos can be crucial

# Matter effect at large baselines



- Large matter effects at long baselines in both  $\mu$  and  $e$  events  $\Rightarrow$  Hierarchy Sensitivity
- $\nu_\mu$  survival probability can rise or fall in matter
- Energy and angular smearing important

# Atmospheric Neutrinos at INO

- Sensitive only to Muons
- Differential Number of Muons

$$\frac{d^2N_\mu}{d\Omega_m dE_m} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_1^{100} dE_t \int d\Omega_t R(E_t, E_m) R(\Omega_t, \Omega_m) [\Phi_\mu^d P_{\mu\mu} + \Phi_e^d P_{e\mu}] \sigma \epsilon$$

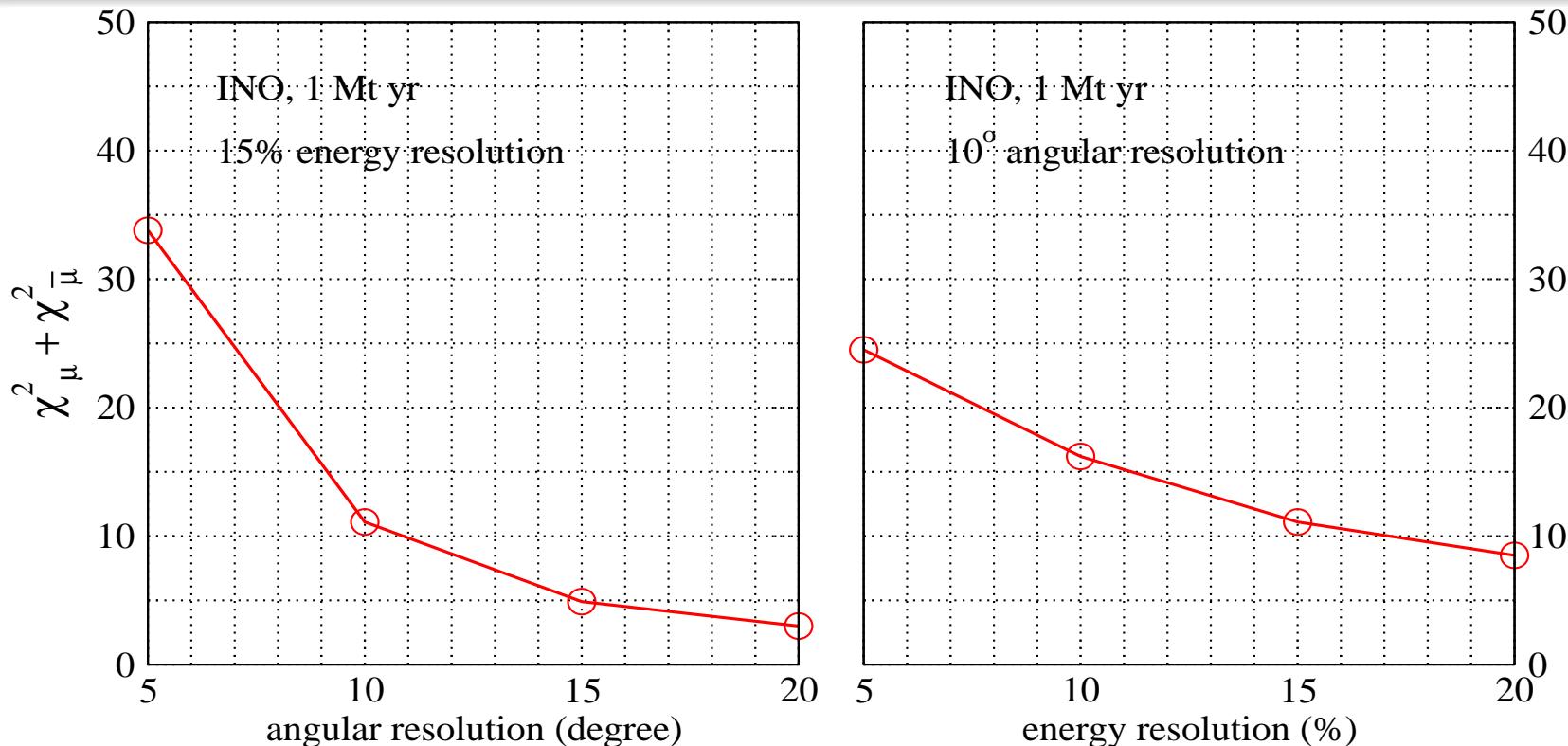
- Energy and Angular Smearing Functions

$$R(\Omega_t, \Omega_m) = N \exp \left[ -\frac{(\theta_t - \theta_m)^2 + \sin^2 \theta_t (\phi_t - \phi_m)^2}{2(\Delta\theta)^2} \right].$$

$$R(E_m, E_t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp \left[ -\frac{(E_m - E_t)^2}{2\sigma^2} \right].$$

- Simplest Approach  
Use fixed widths for energy and angular smearing

# Effect of Smearing on muon $\chi^2$



- With increased energy or angular smearing the  $\chi^2$  for muon like events decrease.
- Effect of energy smearing is more

R. Gandhi, P. Ghoshal, S.G., P. Mehta, S. Shalgar, S. Umashankar, PRD, 2007

Also, T. Schwetz and S.T. Petcov, Nucl. Phys. B, 2006

# Hierarchy Sensitivity at INO

- Events generated from NUANCE (50 kT, 10 yr exposure)
- Two sets of energy/angular resolutions: 'high' (10%, 10°) and 'low' (15%, 15°)
- Energy threshold 2 GeV, charge ID 100%, constant reconstruction efficiency 85%
- True normal hierarchy,  $(\theta_{23})_{tr} = 45^\circ$ ,  $\delta_{CP} = 0$ ,  $(\sin^2 2\theta_{13})_{tr} = 0.1$ ,  $\Delta m_{31}^2 = 2.4 \times 10^{-3}$  eV<sup>2</sup>,  $\Delta m_{21}^2 = 7.8 \times 10^{-5}$  eV<sup>2</sup>,  $\sin^2 \theta_{12} = 0.31$

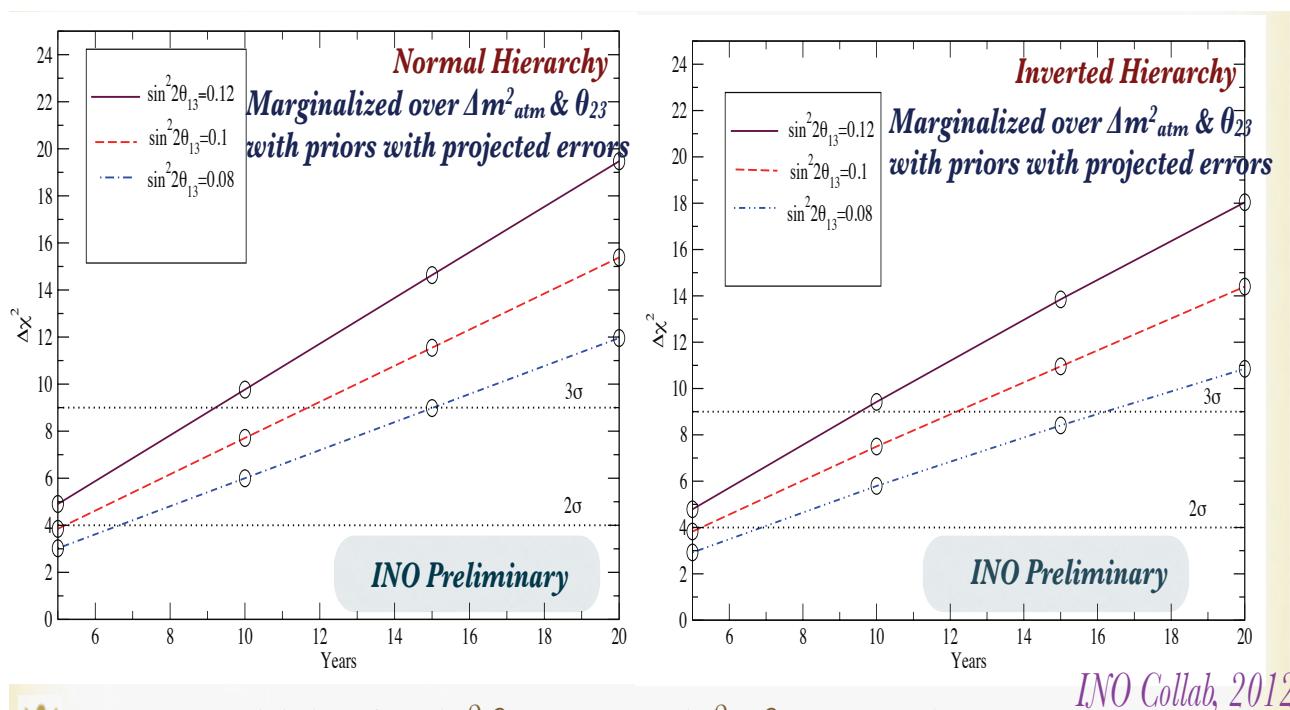
Res set	$\chi^2_{marg,no-pri}$	$\chi^2_{marg,pri}$	$\chi^2_{fp}$
Low	1.5	3.1	4.5
High	5.4	8.2	9.7

- Using Projected priors:  $\Delta m_{31}^2 = 2\%$ ,  $\sin^2 \theta_{23} = 0.006$  and fixed  $\theta_{13}$
- $> 2\sigma$  to  $\sim 3\sigma$  sensitivity to mass Hierarchy in 10 years

See also Blenow and Schwetz, 2010

# Hierarchy Sensitivity from INO simulation

- Using 50 Kton detector and events generated from NUANCE
- Using ICAL resolutions in Muon energy and Zenith Angle
- Using efficiency and Charge-ID from ICAL simulations

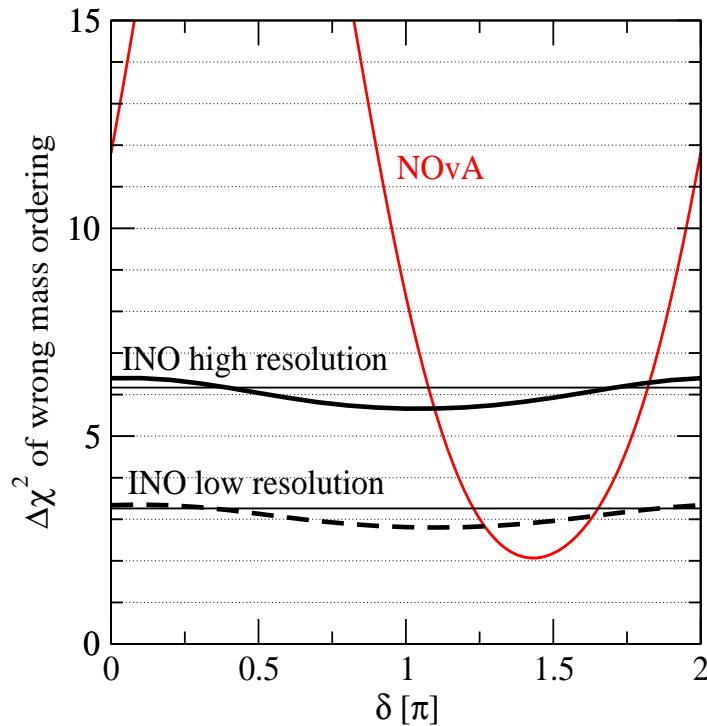
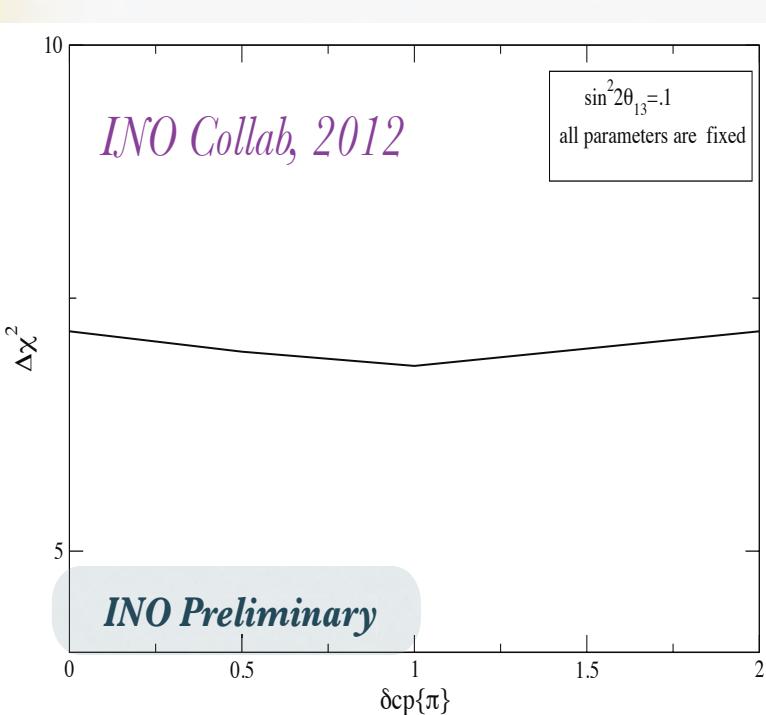


True Values:

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta m_{31}^2 &= 2.4 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2 \\ \sin^2 \theta_{23} &= 0.5 \\ \Delta m_{21}^2 &= 7.8 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2 \\ \sin^2 \theta_{12} &= 0.31 \\ \delta_{CP} &= 0\end{aligned}$$

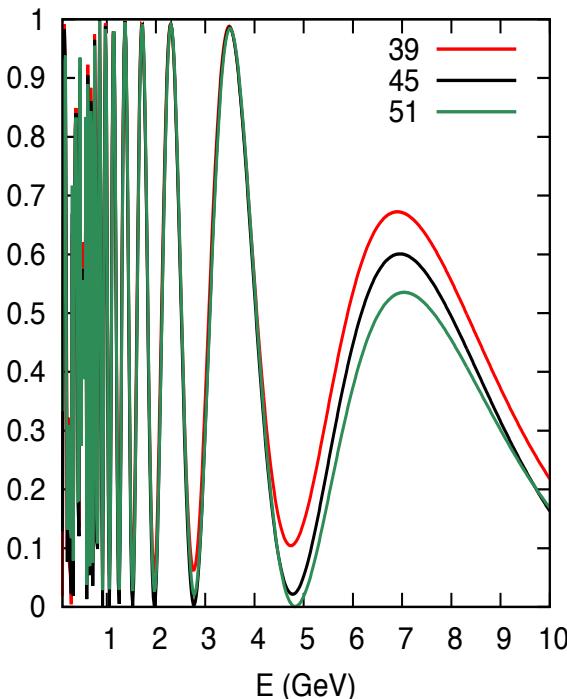
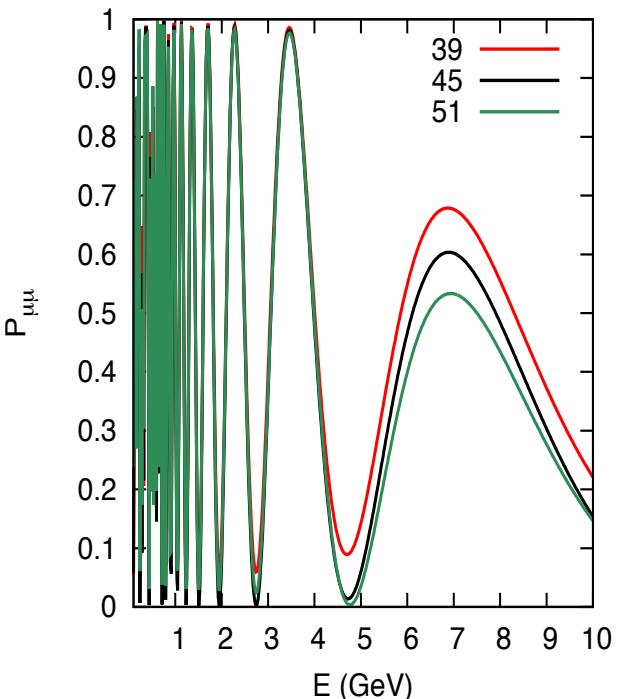
- For  $\sin^2 2\theta_{13} = 0.1$   $\chi^2_{proj-pri} = 6.97 \sim 2.7 \sigma$  sensitivity in 10 years  
(Using Projected priors:  $\Delta m_{31}^2 = 2\%$ ,  $\sin^2 \theta_{23} = 0.006$  and fixed  $\theta_{13}$ )

# Effect of $\delta_{CP}$ on hierarchy sensitivity



- Data simulated for NH and  $\delta_{CP} = 0$  and fitted for IH with varying  $\delta_{CP}$
- MH sensitivity with atmospheric neutrinos almost independent of  $\delta_{CP}$
- Complementarity with LBL experiments

# Octant sensitivity in $P_{\mu\mu}$



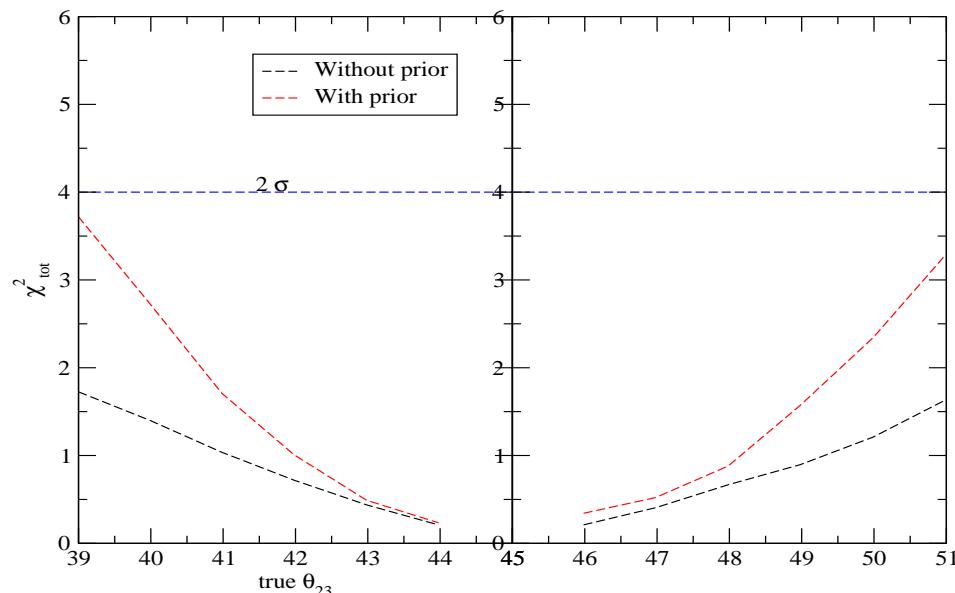
- $D \equiv 1/2 - \sin^2 \theta_{23}$
- $|D|$  gives the deviation of  $\sin^2 \theta_{23}$
- $\text{sgn}(D)$  gives the octant of  $\sin^2 \theta_{23}$

- $P_{\mu\mu}^m \sim \sin^4 \theta_{23} \sin^2 2\theta_{13}^m \sin^2 (1.27 \Delta_{31}^m L/E)$
- Octant sensitivity from the  $\sin^4 \theta_{23}$  term

S.Choubey. and P. Roy hep-ph/0509197  
 Indumathi,Murthy, Rajasekaran,Sinha hep-ph/0603264

# Octant Sensitivity at INO

- Events generated from NUANCE (50 kT, 10 yr exposure)
- Results for 'high' (10%, 10°) resolutions
- Energy threshold 2 GeV, charge ID 100%, reconstruction efficiency 85%



True Parameters  
Normal Hierarchy

$$\begin{aligned}(\theta_{23})_{tr} &= 45^\circ, \\ \delta_{CP} &= 0, \\ (\sin^2 2\theta_{13})_{tr} &= 0.1, \\ \Delta m_{21}^2 &= 7.8 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2 \\ \sin^2 \theta_{12} &= 0.31\end{aligned}$$

- < 2 $\sigma$  sensitivity for  $|\theta_{23} - \pi/4| > 5^\circ$
- Analysis using INO simulation code in progress

# Magentized Liquid-Ar TPC

- 50-100 Kton Magnetized LiqAr detector –
- Energy threshold 1 GeV
- Sensitive to both muons and electrons
- 100% CID for muons and 20% for electrons in the energy range 1-5 GeV
- $\sigma_{E_e} = \sigma_{E_\mu} = 0.01; \quad \sigma_{E_{had}} = \sqrt{(0.15)^2/E_{had} + (0.03)^2}$
- $\sigma_{E_\nu} = \sqrt{(\sigma_{E_l})^2 + (0.15)^2/(yE_\nu) + (0.03)^2};$   
 $y \rightarrow$  average rapidity = 0.45
- $\sigma_{\theta_e} = 1.72^\circ; \quad \sigma_{\theta_\mu} = \sigma_{\theta_{had}} = 2.29^\circ; \quad \sigma_{\theta_{\nu e}} = 2.8^\circ; \quad \sigma_{\theta_{\nu \mu}} = 3.2^\circ$

Barger,Gandhi,Ghosal,Goswami,Marfatia,Prakash,Raut,Umeshankar, Phys. Rev.Lett., 2012

# Hierarchy and Octant with electron events

excess of electron-like events:

$$\frac{N_e}{N_e^0} - 1 \simeq (r s_{23}^2 - 1) P_{2\nu}(\Delta m_{31}^2, \theta_{13})$$

$\theta_{13}$ -effects

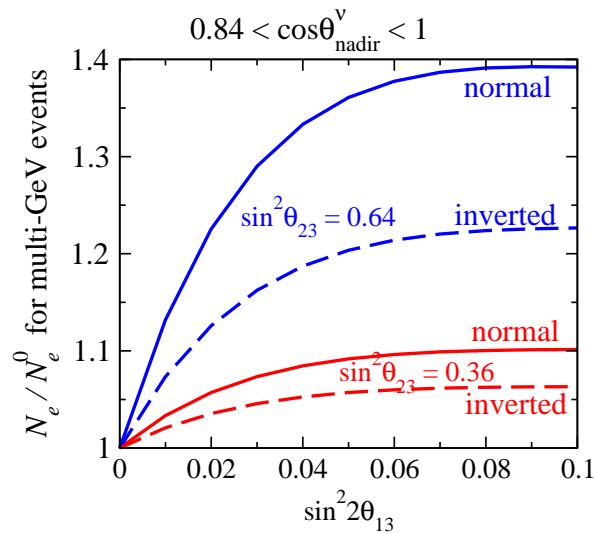
$$+ (r c_{23}^2 - 1) P_{2\nu}(\Delta m_{21}^2, \theta_{12})$$

$\Delta m_{21}^2$ -effects

$$- 2s_{13}s_{23}c_{23} r \operatorname{Re}(A_{ee}^* A_{\mu e})$$

interference:  $\delta_{\text{CP}}$

$$r = \frac{F_\mu^0}{F_e^0} \rightarrow \text{the flux ratio}$$



Bernabeu, Palomares-Ruiz, Petcov, hep-ph/0305152

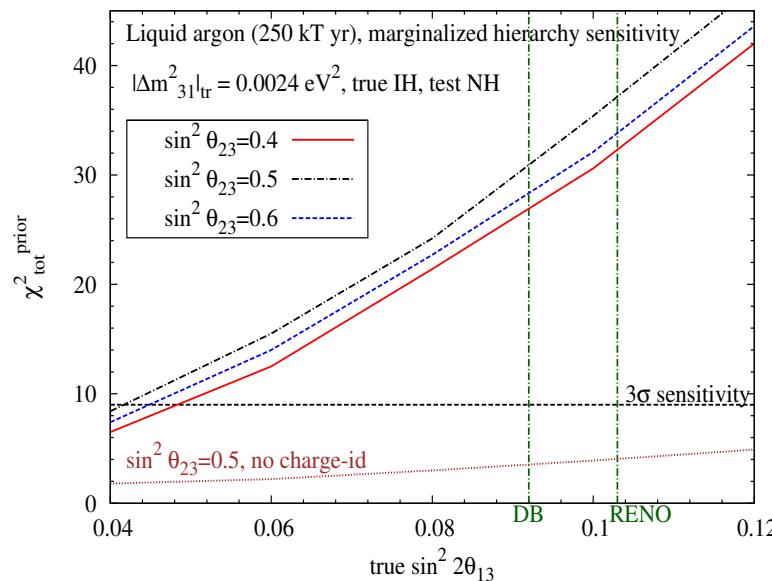
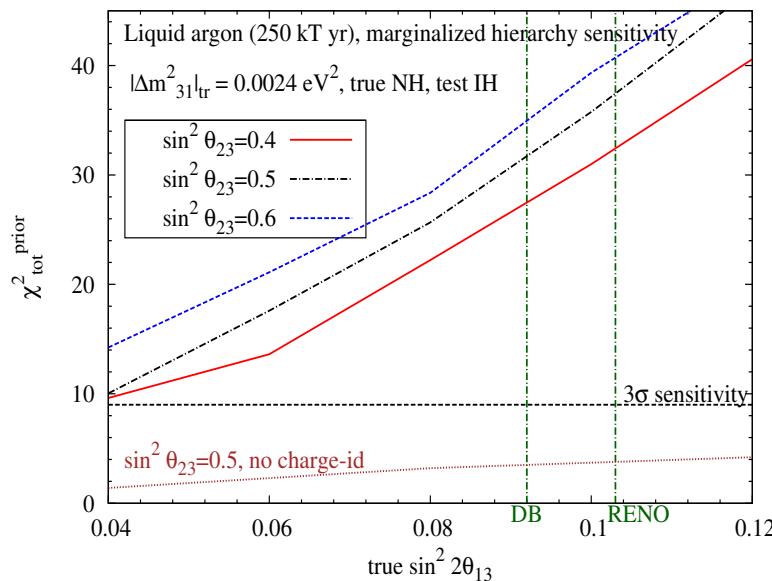
- Resonant matter effect in  $P_{2\nu}(\Delta m_{31}^2, \theta_{13})$  for multi-GeV neutrinos .

- NH – neutrinos    IH - antineutrinos

- All three terms important for sub-GeV neutrinos

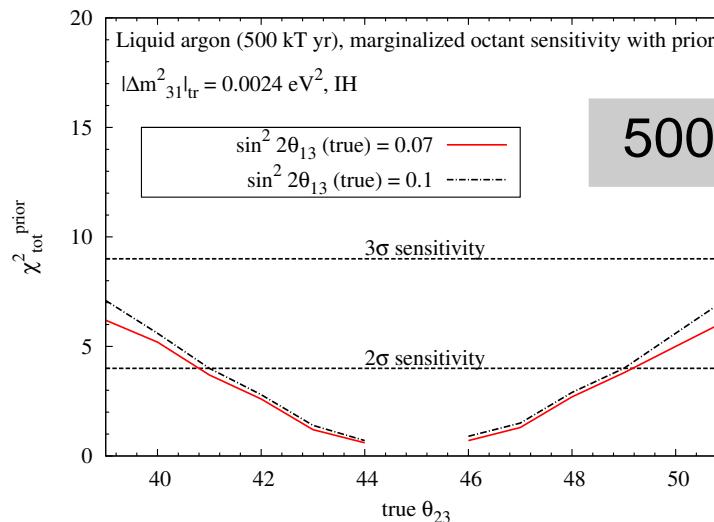
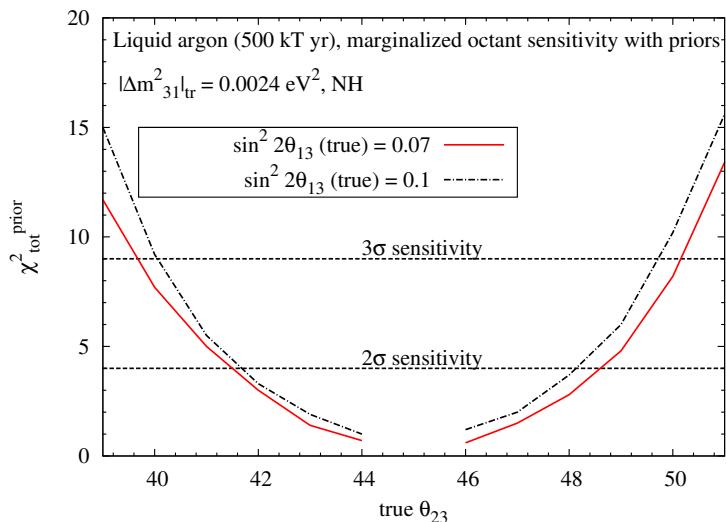
- Sensitivity to both Hierarchy and Octant

# Hierarchy Sensitivity using LiqAr TPC



- $\chi^2 = \chi^2_\mu + \chi^2_{\bar{\mu}} + (\chi^2_e + \chi^2_{\bar{e}})_{1-5\text{GeV}} + (\chi^2_{e+\bar{e}})_{5-10\text{GeV}} + \chi^2_{\text{prior}}$
- True values of undisplayed Parameters:  $(|\Delta m_{31}^2|) = 2.4 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$ ,  $(\delta_{CP}) = 0$ ,  $\Delta m_{21}^2 = 8 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2$ ,  $\theta_{12} = 34^\circ$
- Marginalized over all parameters
- $> 5\sigma$  sensitivity for  $\sin^2 2\theta_{13} = 0.1$  and  $\sin^2 \theta_{23} = 0.5$
- Drastic drop in sensitivity if no CID is assumed.

# Octant Sensitivity using LiqAr TPC



- NH :  $2\sigma$  discrimination for  $|\theta_{23} - \pi/4| > 3.5^\circ$  ( $\sin^2 2\theta_{23} < 0.985$ ).  
 $3\sigma$  Discrimination for  $|\theta_{23} - \pi/4| > 5^\circ$
- IH :  $2\sigma$  Discrimination for  $|\theta_{23} - \pi/4| > 4^\circ$  ( $\sin^2 2\theta_{23} < 0.985$ ).

NH

$\theta_{23}$	$\chi^2_{cid}$	$\chi^2_{no-cid}$
$39^\circ$	15	12.5
$42^\circ$	3.3	2.8

IH

$\theta_{23}$	$\chi^2_{cid}$	$\chi^2_{no-cid}$
$39^\circ$	7.1	5.1
$43^\circ$	2.8	1.2

Not having CID does not affect the results so drastically.

# Conclusion

- In view of large  $\theta_{13}$  determination of mass hierarchy and octant using matter effect in atmospheric neutrinos look very promising
- INO a strong contender because of the possibility of magnetization and charge identification
- $\sim 3\sigma$  sensitivity to mass hierarchy in 10 years for 50 kton detector
- Hierarchy sensitivity from atmospheric neutrinos independent of  $\delta_{CP}$
- Complimentary information to Long Baseline Experiments..
- INO R&D going on full swing
- Liquid Argon detectors with charge-id provides excellent hierarchy sensitivity  $> 5\sigma$  for 250 ktyrs
- Non-Magnetized LArTPC would necessarily need larger volume/exposure
- Other possibilities ..CPT violation, Sterile Neutrinos, NSI, .....

# Acknowledgements

## ● INO collaboration

*Ahmadabad : Physical Research Lab.*

*Aligarh : Aligarh Muslim University*

*Allahabad : HRI*

*Calicut : University of Calicut*

*Chandigarh : Panjab University*

*Chennai : IIT, Madras IMSc*

*Delhi : University of Delhi*

*Guwahati : IIT, Guwahati*

*Hawaii (USA) : University of Hawaii*

*Indore : IIT, Indore*

*Jammu : University of Jammu*

*Kalpakkam : IGCAR*

*Kolkata : Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda University,  
SINP, VECC, University of Calcutta*

*Lucknow : Lucknow University*

*Madurai : American College*

*Mumbai : BARC*

*Mumbai : IIT, Bombay TIFR*

*Mysore : University of Mysore*

*Sambalpur : Sambalpur University;*

*Srinagar : University of Kashmir*

*Varanasi : Banaras Hindu University*



*Special Thanks : Animesh Chatterjee, Sandhya Choubey, Anushree Ghosh, Pomita Ghoshal, Sushant Raut, Nita Sinha, Tarak Thakore*

# INO: Timeline

SN	Description of work	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
<b>Civil work at Pottipuram</b>							
1	Land acquisition and pre-project work	↔					
2	Architectural and Engineering consultancy	↔					
3	Tendering and award of contracts	↔					
4	Mining of access portal		↔				
5	Excavation of tunnel			↔			
6	Excavation of cavems				↔		
7	Installation of services, cranes, lifts etc.					↔	
8	Civil work for magnet support bed					↔	
9	Surface facilities	↔		↔			
<b>Magnet</b>							
10	Procurement of steel plates			↔			
11	Machining job for steel plates			↔			
12	Transportation of machined plates at site			↔			
13	Procurement of copper coils				↔		
14	Assembly/erection of magnet (3 modules)					↔	
<b>RPC</b>							
15	Finalization of all design details, tendering	↔					
16	Procurement of components	↔					
17	Fabrication and assembly of 30000 pcs		↔				
18	Transportation to site and tests			↔			
19	Procurement of electronics, gas handling			↔			
20	Installation and commissioning				↔		

N. Mondal, LP2011

# Background

- A preliminary study using a GEANT based simulation of cosmic ray muon background in INO shows that these are unlikely to mimic the signal

Indumathi and Murthy, hep-ph/0407336

- NC background: the 6 cm thickness of the iron plates is sufficient to absorb any pions and kaons in the 1–10 GeV range before they can decay.
- Oscillated  $\nu_\tau$  induced muons softer in energy and can be eliminated by suitable energy cuts

Agarwalla, Raychaudhuri, Samanta, hep-ph/0505015