Future prospects of electron/photon separation & Neutral Current π⁰ measurements with Liquid Argon TPCs and other methods



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- Importance of e/γ identification
 - Electron (v_e) signals
 - Oscillations
 - Supernova Neutrinos
 - Photon signals
 - Neutral Current Production
 - Axion Searches
 - Background to oscillation

Liquid Argon e/γ identification

- ICARUS
- ArgoNeuT
- MicroBooNE
- ArgoNeuT Neutral Current π^0 analysis
- Going forward

Importance of e/y identification: Electron (v) signals



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Importance of e/γ identification: <u>Electron (v_) signals</u>

Supernova Neutrinos Most of the neutrinos coming from the "neutronization" during the

supernova (p+e \rightarrow n + v)



We can learn an enormous amount from <u>supernova neutrinos</u>

- Requires low energy reconstruction (~5 MeV) of electrons in your detector
- Requires an understanding of v_{a} interactions on your

detector medium to extract the astrophysics

- Requires you to be lucky and ready!

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Importance of e/y identification: Photon signals

Neutral Current π^0 is both a sparsely measured crosssection as well as being an important background to oscillation analysis.

At the heart of both of these points is understanding photon identification



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Importance of e/y identification: Photon signals Lots of interesting ways to get Single <u>Photon (γ) signals</u> R. Essig Snowmass 2013 Photon entering your detector Standard Model Dark Sector $g_{W^{\pm},Z} \gamma$ A' (massive) Ρ $\cdot \pi^0 \to \gamma A' \cdot$ Detector Dirt Target Shield Decay Detector pipe Asymmetric π^{0} decay for low A' masses, can also get $A' \leftrightarrow \gamma$ "oscillation" (like v's) π^0 Detector

Could be signal

Could be background

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Importance of e/y identification: Photon signals

<u>Photons (γ) also a background for oscillation physics</u>



Depending on your model, single photon processes can greatly effect your oscillation results radiative Δ -decay V Z γ γ Δ γ N

Credit: T. Katori @ INT 2013

generalized Compton scattering



anomaly mediated triangle diagram



Poorly understood (possibly) background

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Liquid Argon e/y identification

LArTPC's utilize the fine grain resolution of the detector to distinguish electron's (minimum ionizing) from photons ($\gamma \rightarrow e^+e^-$) by analyzing the charge distribution at the beginning of the shower





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Possible to make this distinction based on both topological information (gap between vertex, shower profile, etc...) and dE/dX information of the shower itself

ICARUS LArTPC was the pioneer in this technology



Cryostat Volume	~ 600 Tons
TPC Volume	476 Tons
# Electronic Channels	~54,000
Wire Pitch	3 mm
Max. Drift Length	1.5 m
Light Collection	74 8" PMT's
Beam	CNGS

D. Gibin "ICARUS Status and Plans" NNN13

cathol 1.5m Certification of the second seco

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ICARUS e/y identification

(Photon Identification)



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ICARSU e/γ identification (Electron Identification)



Identification of $v_{\mu} \rightarrow v_{e}$ candidate events in the CNGS beam used for a search for the "LSND anomaly" *Eur.Phys.J.* C73 (2013) 2345

ArgoNeuT LArTPC is pushing forward this effort





Cryostat Volume	0.76 Tons
TPC Volume	0.26 Tons
# Electronic Channels	480
Wire Pitch	4 mm
Max. Drift Length	0.47 m
Light Collection	None
Beam	NuMI



ArgoNeuT e/y identification

(Photon Identification)

Utilizing topological information to select shower candidates in a <u>fully-automated</u> way



Talks @ NuINT14 from ***

ArgoNeuT e/y identification

(Electron Identification)

Utilizing topological information to select shower candidates in a



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MicroBooNE LArTPC is the next generation experiment

	Wilson Hall Booster	Artf
Cryostat Volume	170 Tons	Readout wires
TPC Volume	80 Tons	
# Electronic Channels	8256	Drr Direction
Wire Pitch	3 mm	
Max. Drift Length	2.5 m	Cathoda
Light Collection	32 8" PMT's	Cathode
Beam	BNB / NuMI	

MicroBooNE e/γ identification



MicroBooNE sits at a lower energy neutrino beam

- \rightarrow Lower energy showers
- → Cluster and EM-shower identification will require additional tools

First step:

Identify likely "shower-like" or "track-like" clusters <u>Good News:</u>

Build on the tools developed in ArgoNeuT!

Next, decide if the "shower-like" cluster needs additional reconstruction to correctly associate all the charge together

MicroBooNE e/γ identification



argon TPC

50

dE/dx (MeV/cm)

"...sometimes, the neutrino opts to play ding-dongditch instead, depositing a fraction of its energy in the detector before speeding away. This is called a neutral current event, and, in many cases, it is the bane of the modern neutrino physicist's existence...."



– Symmetry Magazine, May 06th 2014



LArTPC's response to neutrinos "ding-dong-ditch" games



Important channel for oscillation searches and cross-section measurements.

 \rightarrow Particularly insidious background for v_e appearance

searches

Y → Despite the small volume and limited statistics in ArgoNeuT we want to begin to explore the capabilities of analyzing this channel in LAr

The "prototypical" charged current analysis from ArgoNeuT looks for a muon track inside the TPC that is matched to a track in the MINOS near detector



For the neutral current analysis we explicitly require that there is <u>no track</u> originating from the ArgoNeuT TPC that can be matched to the MINOS near detector <u>nor any evidence of a</u> <u>muon track near a vertex</u>



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1500

1000



 \rightarrow However, we are exploring how to utilize this data and identify NC π^0 production



Radiation length (X_{o}) in LAr ~ 14 cm

Utilizing the tracking power of LArTPC's

Break the EM-showers into smaller "track-like" segments and reconstruct the shower's "tracksegments" to identify them as photons



Candidate neutral current π⁰ events should have <u>two highly</u> ionizing "track-segments" consistent with dE/dX profile for a photon pointed back to a common point

2000 ArgoNeuT $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma MC$ 1500 1000 500 2000 Track segments 1500 1000 500

Reconstruction of photon "tracksegments" done using fully automated reconstruction

$\gamma \rightarrow e^+e^-$ candidate track segment requirement

- Greater than 75% of the hits must have a dE/dX > 3.5 MeV/cm (not minimum ionizing)

- Track pairs spatially separated (looking for photon candidate)
- Track particle ID not consistent with proton, muon, pion hypothesis (not minimum ionizing)

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- Since the ArgoNeuT detector is too small to contain the majority of photon showers from π⁰'s we develop a MC based set of energy corrections based on the topology of the event



 $\mathbf{Representation of template corrections}}_{100}$

Example topological corrections applied to the reconstructed energy of the photons

 Worth noting that for larger LArTPC (e.g. MicroBooNE) these sort of correction will be less necessary due to the increased containment of electromagnetic showers



Reconstruct the photon showers in the candidate events $M_{\gamma\gamma} \sim 135$ +/- 21 MeV (stat. error only)

→ Work continuing to refine the energy corrections and analyze the full data set

Represents 1/8th of the total data







THE ONLY WAY OUT IS THROUGH

- Robert Frost

When thinking about the future I start with an **American poet** ...but to be fair he was published in **England before** he was recognized in the U.S.

De-excitation γ candidates in ArgoNeuT 2000 1.3 MeV Preliminary 1500 2 MeV 1 MeV 0.9 MeV 1000 0.34 MeV -----ArgoNeuT 500 0.5 MeV -1.1 MeV 0.4 MeV ~ 3cm 2860 **13 MeV Electron** 76.00 ~ 3cm 2510 Supernova energy (v) electrons

Low energy electrons and photons produced at MicroBooNE will present new challenges to LArTPC's that <u>will be overcome</u> to examine to explore low energy cross-sections and oscillation results

Event Selections Improvements

Enhanced π^o Rejection

Likelihood Ratio vs nº Mass



Slides from T2K Presentation @ NNN13

You should go talk to Michael Wilking (Fermilab Fantasy Football reigning Champion) about this...

Careful not to mention v-Prisim though or you'll end up buying a very large water detector :-)

Revisiting and enhancing our reconstruction techniques can greatly improve our sensitivities and our background rejection

 A robust test beam program (LArIAT, CAPTAIN, LBNO-DEMO) will go a long way to helping us understand e/γ interactions in LAr



CAPTAIN

LArIAT



cryogenic PMTS Wavelength shifting reflector foil lining the TPC





- NC-π⁰ + (n)proton(s) measurement using near/far detectors w/ LAr1-ND & MicroBooNE may be a decisive way to search for sterile neutrinos in a short baseline
 - Will require excellent π^0 reconstruction
 - This requires top-notch e/γ identification





I Ar1-ND

at 100 m

Taken from LAr1-ND proposal to Fermilab PAC

http://www.fnal.gov/directorate/program_planning/Jan2014PACPublic/LAr1ND_Proposal.pdf

Closing thoughts











We can utilize the tracking and calorimetry information to further veto potential charged current backgrounds that aren't matched to MINOS

Here we look for two or more tracks that point back to a common point (+/- 5cm) and have a dE/dX consistent with being a muon + proton/ $\pi^{+/-}$



We also look for through going muons from the beam that enter at a boundary but aren't matched to MINOS.

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