

3D projection scintillator tracker R&D group



ETH zürich









SLAC FPD Seminar

CERN Chung-Ang University, South Korea ETH Zurich, Switzerland University of Geneva, Switzerland KEK, Japan **IFAE**, Spain Imperial College, UK Institute for Nuclear Research (INR), Russia University of Kyoto, Japan Louisiana State University, USA University of Pennsylvania, USA University of Pittsburgh, USA South Dakota School of Mines and Tech., **USA** Stony Brook University, USA University of Tokyo, Japan



Why neutrinos



Fundamental: Neutrinos are fundamental particles in the standard model.

Abundant: Neutrinos are by far the most abundant particles in the universe. About 100 trillion neutrinos pass through your body every second without interacting with any of the particles in your body.

Elusive: Extremely small cross section through the weak interaction.

Massive: Neutrino has mass, in contradiction to the standard model.

CP violation: Neutrino and antineutrino do not behave the same.

Measured through the neutrino oscillation

Important questions

https://sites.slac.stanford.edu/neutrino /research/neutrino-oscillations



Do neutrinos and antineutrinos oscillate in the same way? Or do they exhibit "CP violation", an asymmetry between matter and antimatter?

What role do neutrinos have in the evolution of the Universe? Are they the reason for why the universe is matter dominated?

Is there a pattern in the fundamental parameters which relate the neutrino flavor and mass states that point to new symmetries or physics?

What is the pattern of neutrino masses and why are they so small, more than a million times smaller than the electron, the next lightest particle? Do they get masses from a different source than other particles (e.g. the Higgs mechanism)?

Are there additional species of neutrinos than those we know about? Do they have exotic properties that can't be explained by the Standard Model?

Neutrino oscillation





Neutrinos interact in the flavor states (ν_e , ν_μ , ν_τ).

Neutrinos propagate in the mass states (v_1 , v_2 , v_3).

Angle between the two states indicate the strength of the oscillation.

The mass split between the mass states indicates the frequency of the oscillation.

Neutrino oscillation





Accelerator-based long-baseline experiments : T2K

Neutrinos generated from hadron decays caused by proton hitting targets

Two opposite horn currents changing focused hadron charge resulting in neutrino (FHC) and antineutrino (RHC) modes

A FD (far detector) with a very long baseline and a ND (near detector) close to the beam

Quite often, FD off-axis to reduce the high energy background





295 km base



Beular DAKOTA Carlington DAKOTA Carlington DAKOTA Carlington DAKOTA Carlington DAKOTA CARLE ANTH DAKOT

RESERVATION



FORT BERTHOLD

Brainerd MINNESOTA Minneapolis KOTA Mankato OFF-RESERVATION Sioux Falls

Lincoln

Powerful beam to deliver unprecedented

Optimized long-baseline setting

Broader band beam to cover more than one oscillation maxima with 1900-km gallala North Platte

ATP sensitive to different particle topologies

Winona Dubuque Rockford 1300 km baseline 🖷 Cedar Rapids Chicago Iowa City

Eagle River

Grand Mara

Lutsen

National Forest

Hayward

Mason City

There are more long-baseline experiments. I am showing these two only to demonstrate the idea. INDIANA

Springfield Decatur

Aurora

Indianapolis

Newberry

Fort Wayne

tional Forest-

Manistique

Main Goal: measuring oscillation probability





Even more, there are neutrinos and antineutrinos.



Tackling the systematic uncertainties



Philosophy:

- Measuring absolute flux at near detector with the channels that have well-known cross sections (nu-e elastic scattering, nuclear effect free etc.) -> target independent
- Measuring as many exclusive differential cross sections as possible to fine tune the interaction models
- Designing similar near and far detectors to cancel as much detector
- systematic uncertainty as possible

Affected by missing neutrons!

Systematic uncertainty induced by missing neutron



Neutrons carry substantial amounts of energy from the neutrino interaction.

The neutron information strongly depends on models.



SLAC FPD Seminar

More problematic: potential bias induced by missing neutrons

20% of the proton kinetic energy assigned to neutrons

Absence of the proton/neutron kinetic energy dials in the systematic pulls

Near detector postfit predictions matching mock data through other systematic pulls

Far detector postfit predictions matched mock data through both systematic pulls and the oscillation parameters





More problematic: potential bias induced by missing neutrons

The systematic uncertainties are highly constrained by the ND.

Due to the lack of proton/neutron kinetic energy systematics, other systematics are forced to change.

The oscillation parameters must be shifted to make FD prediction and mock data match.





How to detect neutron kinematics event-by-event?



Muon track can be identified and momentum and sign can be determined with a magnetized tracker; neutrino interaction vertex also identified

Proton can be identified and energy can be measured with a low-threshold detector

In order to detect neutrons, need to look at all isolated clusters



How to detect neutron kinematics event-by-event?



Fine granularity and fast timing needed to identify the first isolated objects

Fully active volume to avoid neutron interaction in passive material -> change ToF and lever arm Fast timing and fine granularity needed to measure the time-of-flight and drift distance High light yield to enable the visible low energy neutron-induced deposit Fully active! Fast timing! Fine granularity! High light yield!

3D-projection scintillator tracker

3D array of 1 cm³ optically isolated scintillator cubes

3D readout with 3 WLS fibers passing through each cube and connected to MPPCs (multi-pixel photon counters)



2018 JINST 13 P02006 NIM A936 (2019) 136-138





Neutron detection on an event-by-event basis





SLAC FPD Seminar

Demonstration of the neutron detection capability

Using prototypes to prove it => two prototypes with 1cm x 1cm x 1cm cube size

- SuperFGD prototype (SFGD) been used for a charged particle beam test at CERN (size 24 x 8 x 48): <u>JINST 15 (2020) P12003</u>
- US-Japan prototype (USJ) with new designs that will be used in the T2K upgrade (size 8 x 8 x 32).



US-Japan prototype

At LANL

18

US-Japan proto. Assembled In Stony Brook





Neutron beam facility

Los Alamos National Lab LANCSE facility provides neutron beam ranged up to 800 MeV.

2019: 15R 20 m 3 days (SFGD+USJ) + 15L 90 m 2 weeks (SFGD only)

2020: 15L 90 m 2 weeks (SFGD+USJ, various collimator, pulse spacing, detector configuration settings.)







Let's install the detector in the beamline, but before that, say hi to the crew members.



2020 beam test onsite team

Neutron beam time structure

Neutrons are from protons hitting a tungsten target.

Micropulse very short (sub-ns) => able to measure the neutron energy

Gamma flash and t0 available for micropulses

Neutron candidates

Neutron candidates

SLAC FPD Seminar

First physics result

Neutron-CH total cross section from 98 MeV to 688 MeV

- Aim for demonstrating that SuperFGD is able to detect neutron interactions as expected.
- Provide a useful measurement for energy above 500 MeV region, which is not well-known in the nuclear community.
- Region where neutron KE below 98 MeV does not form clear topologies.
- Region where neutron KE above 688 MeV has less statistics and contains gammas.

A total cross-section measurement

The first result of the neutron total cross-section measurement only takes the 2019 SuperFGD prototype data.

A total cross-section measurement

Single track recon.

Voxel: 3D reconstructed cube

SLAC FPD Seminar

Systematic uncertainty included

Dominating !

Detection systematic: Cube, MPPC and passive material non-uniformity

Invisible scattering: Invisible primary interaction vertex

Geometric acceptance: Location dependent acceptance due to limited detector size

Light yield: Light yield variation for each channel

Time resolution: Events shifting across different energy bins

Collimator interaction: Events interacting with the collimator before entering the detector

Major Systematics: Detection

- When compare the event rates of 0 degree and 180 degree configurations, the difference is up to 10% across the z layers.
- **MPPC anisotropy:** Relatively small as the results without the top view are very similar.
- Ruled out the hypothetical reasons of calibration, beam tilting and reconstruction.
- Cube misalignment: In simulation, systematically shifting every 5 layers by 1 mm makes the events rate at z changes up to 10% -> this is the culprit of our best understanding.

Major Systematics: Detection

- When compare the event rates of 0 degree and 180 degree configurations, the difference is up to 10% across the z layers.
- **MPPC anisotropy:** Relatively small as the results without the top view are very similar.
- Ruled out the hypothetical reasons of calibration, beam tilting and reconstruction.
- Cube misalignment: In simulation, systematically shifting every 5 layers by 1 mm makes the events rate at z changes up to 10%
 -> this is the culprit of our best understanding.
- May be less a problem in the neutrino interaction. Still, dedicated alignment study is needed in the future.

Major Systematics: Detection

Dominating !

A certain topology along z results in a total cross section measurement, compare

- Single-track
- Everything above threshold

Single-track

Everything above threshold (called "no-cut")

SLAC FPD Seminar

Major Systematics: Geometric acceptance

The same topology may have different selection acceptance depending its z location.

SLAC FPD Seminar

Major Systematics: Geometric acceptance

Shifting detector z boundary: Remove hit beyond layer m, m is from 47th, 46th to 1st.

Shifting boundary effectively expands the detector!

Ratio between with and without boundary shows the acceptance change due to limited detector size!

Used 2-8 layers as the starting layers and the variations among them is taken as systematics.

Cross-section fitter

Single-track event selection with known incident neutron energy from ToF

- Applying the relative detection acceptance correction to all z layers for each energy range $\frac{1}{2}$ Fitting an exponential function to the Z layer
- Fitting an exponential function to the Z layer distribution for each energy range.

For each energy, number of events in each z has a combined uncertainty from invisible scattering detection, acceptance correction, light yield, timing resolution, collimator interaction -> The event rate randomly varied based on that uncertainty.

Energy range 200 to 250 MeV

2500

2000

Stat. error only

Total cross-section measurement result

Other ongoing effort

Exclusive n-CH cross-section measurements such as proton production and pion production

Neutron secondary scattering model tuning (e.g. inelastic and elastic fraction of the neutron interaction)

Exclusive neutron detection efficiencies

Nuclear modeling probe

Not the end -> Neutron detection in the neutrino interaction

Eventually we need to move this effort to the neutrino interaction.

In the neutrino detector. the travel distance of neutrons will be less than 1 or 2 meters.

We need to

this region

SLAC FPD Seminar

Neutron detection in the neutrino interaction

Neutron detection in the neutrino interaction

The main parameter we can control is the *timing resolution*.

The individual neutron measurement opens a new era of utilizing transverse plane variables.

A lot effort are ongoing.

SLAC FPD Seminar

41

CALIFORNUS DU LA CALIFORNAL

Summary

A lot of neutron interaction data with SuperFGD and US-Japan prototypes have been taken in 2019 and 2020.

A total n-CH cross-section measurement has been completed and *it demonstrated that the 3D-projection scintillator tracker is capable of detecting neutrons.* <u>arXiv: 2207.02685</u>

Lessons learned are being propagated to the SuperFGD physics studies and rich physics topics will be studied in the near future.

More importantly, the individual neutron detection fills the big hole in the puzzle of neutrino interaction-> opens a new era utilizing new variables.

Backups

Biased reconstructed energy

Calorimetrically reconstructing neutrino energy leads to a "feed-down" due to threshold, neutrons etc.

ND and FD are different.

The "feed-down" effects are different in neutrino and antineutrino due to different final state particles.

Wide band beam

A broad band beam in DUNE => complicating the reconstructed to true energy mapping

The fluxes at ND and FD different => Aforementioned "feed-down" cannot be cancelled between ND and FD

Convoluted effects

Neutrino interaction modeling is not satisfactory even with simpler nuclear target-> DUNE has a rather complicated nuclear target.

All the effects above are convoluted in an integral.

Again, it is different in neutrino and antineutrino.

SLAC FPD Seminar

Experimental setup in 2019

Two orientation used in 2019, 0 degree and 180 degree along Y (height) -> to understand the detector anisotropy

The time sampling tick size 2.5 ns, dominating the timing resolution -> single channel time resolution 1.37 ns including t0 resolution (~1.0 ns for single channel)

Top view

Beam profile collimated to 8 mm or 1mm (only for 2020) diameters

Calibration

Gain calibration

- LED runs taken at LANL in 2019
- Gain extracted for each channel and temperature variance included
- Light yield calibration
 - Dedicated cosmic samples selected
 - PE per MeV obtained for each channel

Systematics: collimator and light yield

Collimator interaction reduces neutron energy, in particular those interactions at 90 m may bias the neutron energy

Light yield systematic originated from the cosmic calibration

Outstanding new configurations in 2020

1 mm and 1 cm collimator in 2020 while only 1 cm collimator

in 2019: Provide a better understanding of the invisible scattering before visible energy deposit.

 $3.6 \ \mu s$ pulse spacing

 It pushed to a lower wrap-around threshold, i.e. low energy and high energy neutrons can be understood better

US-Japan prototype in combination with SuperFGD

- A good extension to understand neutron detection in a larger scale

Detector configurations in 2020

All in top view

Even more: with neutron kinematic information

Neutron opens a new era of using transverse kinematics space to understand the neutrino interaction.

A transverse momentum cut can result in a sample relatively free of nuclear effect.

The transverse momentum cut is relatively independent from the nuclear modeling.

Several studies have shown the promising results benefit from using neutron information:

- Phys.Rev.D 101 (2020) 9, 092003
- Phys.Rev.D 105 (2022) 3, 032010

SuperFGD prototype at CERN charged beam facility

A thorough understanding of the detector response to charged particles such as proton, muon, pion, gamma conversion: *JINST* 15 (2020) 12, P12003

Well-motivated neutron detection capability

A ND280 fit with the transverse space variables provide direct constraints on nuclear modeling parameters.

Several studies have shown the promising results benefit from using neutron information:

- Phys.Rev.D 101 (2020) 9, 092003
- Phys.Rev.D 105 (2022) 3, 032010

1×10^{22} POT	$\delta p_T; E_{\rm vis}$	$\delta \alpha_T; E_{\rm vis}$	$p_N; E_{\rm vis}$
1p1h (ν)	1.9%	1.8%	1.5%
lplh $(\bar{\nu})$	3.3%	3.9%	2.6%
npnh (ν)	6.5%	13%	5.3%
npnh $(\bar{\nu})$	12%	17%	11%
$E_{rmv}(\nu)$	0.55 MeV	0.38 MeV	0.53 Me
$E_{rmv}(\bar{\nu})$	1.3 MeV	1.0 MeV	1.3 Me
Pion FSI (ν)	6.6%	14%	4.8%
Pion FSI $(\bar{\nu})$	34%	35%	30%
Undetected pions (ν)	9.7%	14%	8.2%
Undetected pions $(\bar{\nu})$	37%	36%	31%
Nucleon FSI (ν)	1.1%	0.76%	0.98%
Nucleon FSI $(\bar{\nu})$	2.3%	1.9%	2.4%
Flux (ν)	1.8%	1.9%	1.6%
Flux $(\bar{\nu})$	2.4%	2.3%	2.2%
Total (ν)	1.8%	2.1%	1.6%
Total $(\bar{\nu})$	2.7%	2.7%	2.5%
Hydrogen $(\bar{\nu})$	3.3%	4.0%	2.9%

Invisible scattering uncertainty

SLAC FPD Seminar

Important questions to be answered

- · Facts about neutrino oscillation that we know
 - Neutrinos interact in flavor states and propagate in mass states \rightarrow oscillation nature
 - All three mixing angles are none zero \rightarrow room for a CP violation phase measurement
- Key questions to be answered by DUNE long-baseline program
 - How well we know about the CP violation phase? Very confident that CP is not conserved?
 - How well we can determine the mass hierarchy? Normal or Inverted?

CP violation phase measurement

All mixing angles non-zero and being measured

CP violation phase to be measured by comparing neutrino and antineutrino muon flavor to electron flavor oscillations

SLAC FPD Seminar

What we know from current long-baseline experiments?

- T2K and NovA have great sensitivity to the CP violation measurement \rightarrow not enough to conclude, yet

What we know from current long-baseline experiments?

- Both T2K and NOvA are largely rate-based measurement on the CP violation phase.
- Bi-event plot shows almost the full power of T2K and NOvA, but not for those with capability of spectral measurement.

What we know from current long-baseline experiments?

- Both T2K and NOvA are largely rate-based measurement on the CP violation phase.
- Bi-event plot shows almost the full power of T2K and NOvA, but not for those with capability of spectral measurement.
 - DUNE will utilize a wide-band beam covering more than 1 oscillation maxima.

SLAC FPD Seminar

Light yield

Light yield obtained using cosmic data taken at LANL Random fluctuation of light yield from nominal propagated as the uncertainty of the event rate in each energy bin and layer

Collimator interaction

Multiple interactions inside the collimators

None of which interacts in first collimator arrive to the detector while the second can contribute to energy smearing (feed-down bias)

Smearing the neutron energy using MC estimations of the energy lost by neutrons showed minimal impact

Invisible scattering

Undetected neutron interactions introduce a smearing to the neutron energy estimation

The invisible scattering mainly cause a displacement of the vertex

Transverse spread of the beam used to characterize such scattering

Tuned transverse spread in MC (Geant4 Bertini and INCLXX lists) to data assuming it was all due to invisible scattering (very conservative)

2% of invisible scattering for energy > 98 MeV is taken as systematic error

Elastic scattering and inelastic scattering later

Inelastic scattering with charged particles undetected

Detection uncertainty

Cube mis-alignment plays a big role: vertical shift of every 5 cube layers by 1 mm causes up 10% difference in event rate between Z layers

Relatively small contribution from MPPC type differences

Difference between single-track selection and "no-cut" case propagated as the uncertainty to the event rate in each energy bin and layer

Detector uncertainty

0.20

0.18

0.16

0.14 0.12

0 10

0.08 0.06

0 04

0.02

0.00

Geometric acceptance

Geometric acceptance:

Limited size of our detector can introduce a bias in the single track selection:

A multiple-track event can be selected as single track

Cut on number of voxels and upper limit on the fitting range (layer 40) used to mitigate this effect

Data driven method used to estimate such uncertainty:

Expand or reduce the detector size by shifting hits boundary

Ratio between event rate (energy vs z-layer) with and without boundary

is taken as systematic error

