### Neutrino-Nucleus Interactions

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International School of Physics Enrico Fermi 2023

Villa Monastero, Varenna July 1, 2023



### **Energy spectrum of neutrino sources**



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Grand Unified Neutrino Spectrum at Earth

Edoardo Vitagliano, Irene Tamborra, Georg Raffelt. Oct 25, 2019. 54 pp. MPP-2019-205 e-Print: arXiv:1910.11878 [astro-ph.HE] | PDF



### **Energy spectrum of neutrino sources**

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### **Neutrino interactions with matter**

# Charged Current (CC) $v_{l} + N \rightarrow l^{\pm} + N'$ **Produces** lepton

#### with flavor corresponding to neutrino flavor (must have enough energy

(must have enough energy to make lepton)

## Neutral Current (NC d d d $Z^0$ $v_x$ v\_x

### Flavor-blind

### It's called the weak interaction for a reason



For astrophysics, the weakness of the interaction is both a blessing and a curse...





- neutrinos bring information from deep inside objects, from regions where photons are trapped
- but they require heroic efforts to detect!

#### **Common nomenclature for neutrino interactions**



### Interaction rates in a detector material



### $\propto$ detector mass, $1/D^2$

(Note: fluxes, cross-sections are  $E_v$  dependent)

In fact this may be the neutrino experimentalist's most useful back-of-the-envelope expression...



How many solar neutrinos will interact in your body during your lifetime?

 $\sigma \sim 5 \times 10^{-44} \text{ cm}^2$  (electron scattering cross-section above a few MeV)  $\phi \sim 2 \times 10^6 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$  (flux above a few MeV, mostly from <sup>8</sup>B neutrinos)

### How many solar neutrinos interact in your body during your lifetime?

A. 10^-6
B. 10^-3
C. 10
D. 10^3
E. 10^6

# What do we want from a neutrino detector? depends on the source and the physics:



Geordi La Forge's special visor that can see neutrinos

# What do we want from a neutrino detector? depends on the source and the physics:



Geordi La Forge's special visor would tell us:

- flavor/CP state [nu vs antinu]
- energy
- direction
- time of interaction
- position of interaction

plus pretty much always want:

- high statistics (mass,efficiency)
- low background

#### What you actually *detect* is the secondary(ies)... (and tertiaries...) scattered particle, newly created particles, ejected nuclei, showers...



### **Inverse beta decay** $\bar{\nu}_e + p \rightarrow e^+ + n$ can be categorized as:

- A. charged-current elastic
- B. charged-current quasi-elastic
- C. charged-current inelastic
- D. neutral-current elastic
- E. neutral-current inelastic

Supernova neutrinos range up to about ~50 MeV, and arrive in a burst containing neutrinos and antineutrinos of all flavors

Why are only electron-flavor neutrinos visible via charged-current?

### **Neutrino interaction thresholds**



### Event spectrum as a function of observed energy E', for a realistic detector

 $flux \otimes xscn \otimes interaction \ products \otimes detector \ response$ 



- E': observed energy
- k: observed energy for given neutrino energy
- T: detector efficiency
- V: detector resolution

### Neutrino detection physics is actually physics of electromagneticor strongly-interacting particle detection



- charged particles
  - "heavy" (μ, π, p, ...)
  - e<sup>+</sup>, e<sup>-</sup>
- photons
- neutrons

### Take-away points so far

- <u>Neutrino sources:</u>
  - natural and artificial sources over many orders of magnitude in energy
- <u>Neutrino interactions</u>:
  - CC, NC; elastic, QE, inelastic
  - How to calculate neutrino event rates
- $R = \Phi \ \sigma \ N_t$

- <u>Neutrino detection</u>:
  - Neutrinos are observed via secondaries/tertiaries











### This is the *gentlest* interaction of a neutrino with a nucleus



A tour by neutrino energy scale, of some highlights...



start at the high end

### **IceCube Glashow Resonance**



### Hard to study very high energies in the laboratory...

Some interesting future prospects for  $\nu$  interaction in the  ${\sim}TeV$  range at the Forward Physics Facility at the LHC



Going down a little lower, to few 100 MeV-10 GeV scale



### Long-baseline beam experiments for oscillation physics

Current



Japan

K2K

**KEK to Kamioka** 

250 km, 5 kW



**MINOS (+)** FNAL to Soudan 734 km, 400+ kW





**NOvA** FNAL to Ash River 810 km, 400-700 kW



**T2K (II)** J-PARC to Kamioka 295 km, 380-750 kW →>1 MW



**Future** 

LBNF/DUNE FNAL to Homestake 1300 km, 1.2 MW (→2.3 MW)



Hyper-K J-PARC to Kamioka 295 km, 750 kW (→1.3 MW)

And beyond... ESSnuB, neutrino factories...











#### These make use of ~GeV neutrinos from $\pi$ decay in flight



### It's *critically important* to understand neutrino interactions with nuclei for interpretation of oscillation experiments

The game is to compare observed v flavor and energy spectrum at near and far sites (observable is wiggles as a function of L and E)



$$N_{FD}^{\alpha \to \beta}(E_{reco}) = \sum \phi_{\alpha}(E_{true}) \times \sigma_{\beta}^{i}(E_{true}) \times P_{\alpha\beta}(E_{true}) \times \epsilon_{\beta}(E_{true}) \times R_{i}(E_{true};E_{reco})$$

Oscillation depends on true v energy...

 $\rightarrow$  must reconstruct v energy from observed final state particles

(there are near detector tricks to mitigate uncertainties, but it's hard to get away from needing good understanding)

### Interactions of neutrinos in the few-GeV range



scattering off nucleons, but can blow up the nucleus & create new particles



Neutrino-nucleus interactions in this regime have **complicated final states...** final-state interactions matter



#### Dedicated measurements in process and proposed, + theory, to understand interactions in this regime



#### +T2K, NOvA, DUNE, HK near detectors

### **Electron scattering** measurements can help to constrain neutrino scattering models

	5					
		(a)	Collaborations	Kinematics	Targets	Scattering
$\omega$ (GeV)			E12-14-012 (JLab)	$E_e = 2.222  \mathrm{GeV}$	Ar, Ti	(e, e')
	4		(Data collected: 2017)	$15.5^{\circ} \le \theta_e \le 21.5^{\circ}$	AI, C	e,p
	Ē	wP on electron scattering and		$-50.0^{\circ} \le \theta_p \le -39.0^{\circ}$		in the final state
		neutrino physics:	e4nu/CLAS (JLab)	$E_e=$ 1, 2, 4, 6 GeV	H, D, He,	(e, e')
	3	onvin 2202 06952	(Data collected: 1999, 2022)	$\theta_e > 5^{\circ}$	C, Ar, <sup>40</sup> Ca,	$e,p,n,\pi,\gamma$
	0	<u>arxiv 2203.00033</u>			<sup>48</sup> Ca, Fe, Sn	in the final state
			LDMX (SLAC)	$E_e=$ 4.0, 8.0 GeV		(e, e')
	2		(Planned)	$\theta_e < 40^{\circ}$	W, Ti, Al	$e,p,n,\pi,\gamma$
	4					in the final state
			A1 (MAMI)	$50 \text{ MeV} \lesssim E_e \leq 1.5 \text{ GeV}$	H, D, He	(e, e')
	1		(Data collected: 2020)	$7^{\circ} \le \theta_e \le 160^{\circ}$	C, O, AI	2 additional
	1	- AND - AND -	(More data planned)		Ca, Ar, Xe	charged particles
			A1 (eALBA)	$E_e=$ 500 MeV	C, CH	(e, e')
			(Planned)	- few GeV	Be, Ca	
	0					
	l	0 1 2 3 4 3 0				
		$ \mathbf{q}  \; (\mathrm{GeV})$				

Semi inclusive, exclusive electron scattering measurements constrain vector piece of cross section

- Measurements critical where ND constraints are not applicable (e.g. BSM)
- High multiplicity final state characterization, range of targets (nuclear effects)

Exciting new experimental programs focused on this problem; complementary to ND

K. Mahn, Snowmass Neutrino Colloquium
### Next take-away points

- High-energy (GeV scale) neutrino interactions important for long-baseline experiments
- Nuclei are goopy, complicated places...
- Dedicated measurements + theory needed



Now moving down in energy to the few-100 MeV scale



	Electrons		
	Elastic scattering		
Charged	$\nu + e^- \to \nu + e^-$		
current	<sup>[</sup> √] <sub>e</sub> <b>√</b> e <sup>-</sup>		
Neutral current	v <b>e</b> -		
	Useful for pointing		

	Electrons	Protons	
	Elastic scattering	Inverse beta decay	
Charged	$\nu + e^- \to \nu + e^-$	$ \begin{array}{c} \bar{\nu}_e + p \to e^+ + n \\ \gamma \end{array} $	
current		e⁺_γ	
		n ve	
	e⁻	Elastic	
Neutral	v	scattering P	
current		V	
	Useful for pointing	very low energy recoils	

	Electrons	Protons	Nuclei
	Elastic scattering $\nu + e^- \rightarrow \nu + e^-$	Inverse beta decay $\bar{\nu}_e + p \rightarrow e^+ + n$	$ \nu_e + (N, Z) \to e^- + (N - 1, Z + 1) $ $ \bar{\nu}_e + (N, Z) \to e^+ + (N + 1, Z - 1) $
Charged current	<sup>[</sup> √] <sub>e</sub> ·····► ✓ e <sup>-</sup>	γ e <sup>+</sup> γ ν <sub>e</sub> γ	v <sup>n</sup> √ v <sup>n</sup> − v <sup>n</sup> − v <sup>n</sup> − v <sup>n</sup> − v <sup>n</sup> − v <sup>n</sup> − v <sup>n</sup> − v <sup>n</sup> − v <sup>n</sup> − v <sup>n</sup> −
Neutral current	ν <b>e</b> -	Elastic scattering v	$   \nu + A \rightarrow \nu + A^* $ $   \nu \dots \qquad $
	Useful for pointing	very low energy recoils	$ \nu + A \rightarrow \nu + A $ Coherent elastic (CEvNS)

Simple targets... ~well understood

	Electrons	Protons	Nuclei
	Elastic scattering $\nu + e^- \rightarrow \nu + e^-$	Inverse beta decay $\bar{\nu}_e + p \rightarrow e^+ + n$	$ \nu_e + (N, Z) \to e^- + (N - 1, Z + 1) $ $ \bar{\nu}_e + (N, Z) \to e^+ + (N + 1, Z - 1) $
Charged current	<sup>[</sup> √] <sub>e</sub> ►	$\gamma$ $e^+$ $\gamma$ $\overline{v_e}$	$r_{v_e}$ $r_{v$
Neutral current	v <b>e</b> -	Elastic scattering v	$   \nu + A \rightarrow \nu + A^* $ $   \nu \dots \gamma $ $   n $ $   \gamma $ $   n $ $   \gamma $ $   A $
	Useful for pointing	very low energy recoils	$ \nu + A \rightarrow \nu + A $ Coherent elastic (CEvNS)
			Generally more complicated!

### Low-energy neutrino detector types



# Very little experimental information on inelastic neutrino-nucleus interactions in this regime!

.. previously <sup>12</sup>C was the only "heavy" nucleus with v interaction x-sections well (~10%) measured in the tens of MeV regime

LSND Karmen Phys. Rev. C 66 (2002) 015501 Phys. Lett. B 423 (1998) 15-20 Cross Section  $(10^{-42} \text{ cm}^2)$ 30 Events / MeV 40 25 20 30 15 10 20 5 0 -5 10 -10 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 E/MeV <sup>0</sup>20 30 40 50 60 <sup>12</sup>C( $\nu_{\mu}\nu_{\mu}'$ )<sup>12</sup>C \*(1+,1;15.1 MeV)  ${}^{12}C(\nu_e, e^-){}^{12}N_{q.s.}$ 

Need: oxygen (water), lead, argon, ...

### Coherent elastic neutrino-nucleus scattering (CEvNS)

$$v + A \rightarrow v + A$$

A neutrino smacks a nucleus via exchange of a Z, and the nucleus recoils as a whole; **coherent** up to  $E_v \sim 50$  MeV





### Coherent elastic neutrino-nucleus scattering (CEvNS)

$$v + A \rightarrow v + A$$

A neutrino smacks a nucleus via exchange of a Z, and the nucleus recoils as a whole; **coherent** up to  $E_v \sim 50$  MeV





Nucleon wavefunctions in the target nucleus are **in phase with each other** at low momentum transfer

For  $QR \ll 1$ , [total xscn] ~ A<sup>2</sup> \* [single constituent xscn]

A: no. of constituents

Image: J. Link Science Perspectives

### First proposed >47 years ago!

PHYSICAL REVIEW D

#### VOLUME 9, NUMBER 5

1 MARCH 1974

#### Coherent effects of a weak neutral current

Daniel Z. Freedman<sup>†</sup>

National Accelerator Laboratory, Batavia, Illinois 60510 and Institute for Theoretical Physics, State University of New York, Stony Brook, New York 11790 (Received 15 October 1973; revised manuscript received 19 November 1973)

Our suggestion may be an act of hubris, because the inevitable constraints of interaction rate, resolution, and background pose grave experimental difficulties for elastic neutrino-nucleus scattering. We will discuss these problems at the end of this note, but first we wish to present the theoretical ideas relevant to the experiments.

Also: D. Z. Freedman et al., "The Weak Neutral Current and Its Effect in Stellar Collapse", Ann. Rev. Nucl. Sci. 1977. 27:167-207



### This is *not* coherent pion production, a strong interaction process *(inelastic)*



### How do you pronounce "CEvNS"?

A. "KEVENS"

B. "KENZ"

C. "KENSE"

D. "SEVENS"

E. "SENSE"

F. "SENZ"

### \begin{aside}

### Literature has CNS, CNNS, CENNS, ...

- I prefer including "E" for "elastic"... otherwise it gets frequently confused with coherent pion production at ~GeV neutrino energies
- I'm told "NN" means "nucleon-nucleon" to nuclear types
- CEvNS is a possibility but those internal Greek letters are annoying

# Sevens of the meme! Sevens of the meme!

### \end{aside}

#### **Standard Model prediction for CEvNS differential cross section** $Q = \sqrt{(2 M T)}$ :

momentum transfer

(probability of kicking a nucleus with recoil energy T)



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(probability of kicking a nucleus with recoil energy T)





momentum transfer





#### Standard Model prediction for differential cross section $Q = \sqrt{(2 \text{ M T})}$ :

(probability of kicking a nucleus with recoil energy T)



momentum transfer



$$\frac{d\sigma}{dT} \simeq \frac{G_F^2 M}{2\pi} \frac{Q_W^2}{4} F^2(Q) \left(2 - \frac{MT}{E_\nu^2}\right)^{\text{F.: neutrino energy}}_{\text{M: nuclear recoil energy}} \underset{\text{M: nuclear mass}}{\overset{\text{G.: neutrino energy}}{\overset{\text{M: nuclear mass}}{\overset{\text{G.: Nucl$$



# Large cross section (by neutrino standards) but hard to observe due to tiny nuclear recoil energies:



### The only experimental signature:

tiny energy deposited by nuclear recoils in the target material



→ WIMP dark matter detectors developed over the last ~decade are sensitive to ~ keV to 10's of keV recoils

## **CEvNS: what's it good for?**

CEvNS as a **signal** for signatures of *new physics* 

CEvNS as a **signal** for understanding of "old" physics

CEvNS as a **background** for signatures of new physics

CEvNS as a signal for astrophysics

CEvNS as a **practical tool** 



(not a complete list!)









# **CEvNS: what's it good for?**

### CEvNS as a **signal** for signatures of *new physics*

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CEvNS as a **signal** for *astrophysics* 

CEvNS as a practical tool













### The cross section is cleanly predicted in the Standard Model

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\sigma}{dT} &= \frac{G_F^2 M}{\pi} F^2(Q) \left[ (G_V + G_A)^2 + (G_V - G_A)^2 \left( 1 - \frac{T}{E_\nu} \right)^2 - (G_V^2 - G_A^2) \frac{MT}{E_\nu^2} \right] \\ & \underset{\text{L}_\nu: \text{ neutrino energy}}{\text{E}_\nu: \text{ neutrino energy}} \\ & \underset{\text{M: nuclear recoil energy}}{\text{M: nuclear mass}} \\ & \underset{\text{Q}}{\text{Q}} = \sqrt{(2 \text{ M T}): \text{ momentum transfer}} \end{aligned}$$

### $G_{V}$ , $G_{A}$ : SM weak parameters

vector 
$$G_V = g_V^p Z + g_V^n N$$
,  $\leftarrow$  dominates  
axial  $G_A = g_A^p (Z_+ - Z_-) + g_A^n (N_+ - N_-)$   $\leftarrow$  small for  
most nuclei,  
zero for  
spin-zero  
 $g_V^p = 0.0298$   
 $g_V^n = -0.5117$   
 $g_A^p = 0.4955$   
 $g_A^n = -0.5121$ .

### The cross section is cleanly predicted in the Standard Model

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dT} = \frac{G_F^2 M}{\pi} \frac{F^2(Q)}{\pi} \left[ (G_V + G_A)^2 + (G_V - G_A)^2 \left( 1 - \frac{T}{E_\nu} \right)^2 - (G_V^2 - G_A^2) \frac{MT}{E_\nu^2} \right]$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \mathsf{E}_\nu: \text{ neutrino energy} \\ \mathsf{T}: \text{ nuclear recoil energy} \\ \mathsf{M}: \text{ nuclear mass} \\ \mathsf{Q} = \sqrt{(2 \text{ M T})}: \text{ momentum transfer} \end{array} \right]$$

### *F(Q)*: nuclear form factor, <~5% uncertainty on event rate



The CEvNS rate is a clean SM prediction



A deviation from  $\alpha$  N<sup>2</sup> prediction can be a signature of beyond-the-SM physics

### **Searching for BSM Physics with CEvNS**

A first example: simple counting to constrain **non-standard interactions (NSI)** of

neutrinos with quarks

Davidson et al., JHEP 0303:011 (2004) Barranco et al., JHEP 0512:021 (2005)

"Model-independent" parameterization

$$\mathcal{L}_{\nu H}^{NSI} = -\frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} \sum_{\substack{q=u,d\\\alpha,\beta=e,\mu,\tau}} \left[ \bar{\nu}_{\alpha} \gamma^{\mu} (1-\gamma^5) \nu_{\beta} \right] \times \left( \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{qL} \left[ \bar{q} \gamma_{\mu} (1-\gamma^5) q \right] + \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{qR} \left[ \bar{q} \gamma_{\mu} (1+\gamma^5) q \right] \right)$$

$$\epsilon's \text{ parameterize new interactions}$$

"Non-Universal":  $\varepsilon_{ee}$ ,  $\varepsilon_{\mu\mu}$ ,  $\varepsilon_{\tau\tau}$ 

Flavor-changing:  $\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}$ , where  $\alpha \neq \beta$ 

 $\Rightarrow$  some are quite poorly constrained (~unity allowed)

# Signatures of **Beyond-the-Standard-Model Physics** Look for a CEvNS **excess** or **deficit** wrt SM expectation Csl



### Other new physics results in a distortion of the recoil spectrum (Q dependence)

### **BSM Light Mediators**

SM weak charge

(1)

Effective weak charge in presence of light vector mediator Z'

specific to neutrinos and guarks

e.g. arXiv:1708.04255

**Neutrino (Anomalous) Magnetic Moment** 

 $2 2 \pi^2 / 4 \pi / \pi$ 

e.g. arXiv:1505.03202, 1711.09773

~1/T upturn

$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{dT}\right)_m = \frac{\pi \alpha^2 \mu_\nu^2 Z^2}{m_e^2} \left(\frac{1 - T/E_\nu}{T} + \frac{T}{4E_\nu^2}\right) \quad \text{Specific ~1/T upturn} \text{ at low recoil energy}$$

### **Sterile Neutrino Oscillations**

$$P_{\nu_{\alpha} \to \nu_{\alpha}}^{\text{SBL}}(E_{\nu}) = 1 - \sin^2 2\theta_{\alpha\alpha} \sin^2 \left(\frac{\Delta m_{41}^2 L}{4E_{\nu}}\right)$$

"True" disappearance with baseline-dependent Q distortion

e.g. arXiv: 1511.02834, 1711.09773, 1901.08094

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CEvNS as a **signal** for *astrophysics* 

CEvNS as a **practical tool** 







So







#### What can we learn about nuclear physics with CEvNS?

#### Nuclear neutron form factor from neutrino-nucleus coherent elastic scattering

#### PS Amanik and G C McLaughlin

Department of Physics, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695-8202, USA

Received 19 June 2008 Published 30 October 2008 Online at stacks.iop.org/JPhysG/36/015105

#### Abstract

We point out that there is potential to study the nuclear neutron form factor through neutrino nucleus coherent elastic scattering. We determine numbers of events for various scenarios in a liquid noble nuclear recoil detector at a stopped pion neutrino source.



#### Neutrino-nucleus coherent scattering as a probe of neutron density distributions

Kelly Patton<sup>1</sup> Jonathan Engel<sup>2</sup> Gail C. McLaughlin<sup>1</sup> and Nicolas Schunck<sup>1</sup> <sup>1</sup>Physics Department, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, North Carolina 27695, USA <sup>2</sup>Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27599, USA <sup>3</sup>Physics Division, Lawrence Livermore Laboratory, Livermore, California 94551 USA (Dated: July 4, 2012)

Neutrino-nucleus coherent elastic scattering provides a theoretically appealing way to measure the neutron part of nuclear form factors. Using an expansion of form factors into moments, we show that neutrinos from stopped pions can probe not only the second moment of the form factor (the neutron radius) but also the fourth moment. Using simple Monte Carlo techniques for argon, germanium, and xenon detectors of 3.5 tonnes, 1.5 tonnes, and 300 kg, respectively, we show that the neutron radii can be found with an uncertainty of a few percent when near a neutrino flux of  $3 \times 10^7$  neutrinos/cm<sup>2</sup>/s. If the normalization of the neutrino flux is known independently, one can determine the moments accurately enough to discriminate among the predictions of various nuclear energy functionals.

#### Observable is recoil spectrum shape



Neutron radius and "skin" (R<sub>n</sub>-R<sub>p</sub>) relevant for understanding of neutron stars

#### Effect of form-factor *uncertainty* on the recoil spectrum: estimate as R<sub>n</sub> +/- 3%



At current level of experimental precision, form factor uncertainty is small effect So: if you are hunting for BSM physics as a distortion of the recoil spectrum ... uncertainties in the form factor are a nuisance!

There are degeneracies in the observables between "old" (but still mysterious) physics



We will need to think carefully about how to disentangle these effects and understand uncertainties, for the longer term

[See also: D. Aristizabal Sierra et al. arXiv:1902.07398, recent INT workshop "Weak Elastic Scattering with Nuclei"]
Summary of what we can get at experimentally

# **Observables:**

Event rate Recoil spectrum (T=Q<sup>2</sup>/2M) [In principle: scattering angle... hard]



# Knowable/controllable parameters:

Neutrino flavor, via source, and timing (reactor:  $v_e$ -bar, stopped- $\pi$ :  $v_e$ ,  $v_\mu$ -bar,  $v_\mu$ ) N, Z via nuclear target type Baseline Direction with respect to source

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EvNS as a **background** for signatures of new physics (DM) CEvNS as a **background** 

CEvNS as a **signal** for *astrophysics* 

**CEvNS** as a **practical tool** 



So

Things



(not a

complete list!)







# CEvNS from natural neutrinos creates ultimate background for direct DM search experiments



cdms.berkeley.edu

#### The so-called "neutrino floor" (signal!) for direct DM experiments



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# **CEvNS: what's it good for?**

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CEvNS as a signal for astrophysics

CEvNS as a **practical tool** 



So











### Natural neutrino fluxes



### Natural neutrino fluxes



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# Search for CEvNS from solar neutrinos with the XENON-1T experiment



*Phys.Rev.Lett.* 126 (2021) 091301, arXiv: <u>2012.02846</u>



Limit only so far ... but will eventually hit the floor... sometimes there are interesting things to see if you look down...



# Neutrinos from core-collapse supernovae

When a star's core collapses, ~99% of the gravitational binding energy of the proto-nstar goes into v's of *all flavors* with ~tens-of-MeV energies

### Energy *can* escape via v's Mostly $v-\overline{v}$ pairs from proto-nstar cooling



Timescale: prompt after core collapse, overall  $\Delta t$ ~10's of seconds



















# Detector example: XENON/LZ/DARWIN

dual-phase xenon time projection chambers



#### The so-called "neutrino floor" for DM experiments



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#### Think of a SN burst as "the v floor coming up to meet you"



J. Billard, E. Figueroa-Feliciano, and L. Strigari, arXiv:1307.5458v2 (2013). L. Strigari

# How to measure CEvNS

The only experimental signature:

tiny energy deposited by nuclear recoils in the target material



Adetectors developed over the last ~few decades are sensitive to ~ keV to 10's of keV recoils

### Low-energy nuclear recoil detection strategies













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# How to detect CEvNS?



# What do you want for your v source?

- ✓ High flux
- ✓ Well understood spectrum
- ✓ Multiple flavors (physics sensitivity)
- ✓ Pulsed source if possible, for background rejection
- ✓ Ability to get close
- ✓ Practical things: access, control, ...







### **Neutrinos from nuclear reactors**



- v<sub>e</sub>-bar produced in fission reactions (one flavor)
- huge fluxes possible: ~2x10<sup>20</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> per GW
- several CEvNS searches past, current and future at reactors, but recoil energies<keV and backgrounds make this very challenging

# Both cross-section and maximum recoil energy increase with neutrino energy:



# **Stopped-Pion (**π**DAR)** Neutrinos



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When the beam is **pulsed**,

make use of the time structure to reject background



- Only look for stopped- $\pi$  v's within few  $\mu$ s of proton pulse
- Measure the steady-state background off-pulse
- You only care about sqrt of steady-state bg...
- (Beam-related bg is more pernicious...



- "Duty factor" or "duty cycle" = fraction of time beam is on
- $\circ$  Inverse duty factor  $\rightarrow$  "background rejection factor"

### **Stopped-Pion Neutrino Sources Worldwide**



### Comparison of stopped-pion v sources



### **Spallation Neutron Source**

Oak Ridge National Laboratory, TN

15523



Proton beam energy: 0.9-1.3 GeV Total power: 0.9-1.4 MW Pulse duration: 380 ns FWHM Repetition rate: 60 Hz Liquid mercury target

### The neutrinos are free!

### The SNS has large, extremely clean stopped-pion v flux

0.08 neutrinos per flavor per proton on target



a.u.

### **Time structure of the SNS source** 60 Hz *pulsed* source



#### COHERENT in Neutrino Alley at the ORNL Spallation Neutron Source







# The COHERENT collaboration

http://sites.duke.edu/coherent





~90 members, 23 institutions 4 countries


#### Siting for deployment in SNS basement

View looking down "Neutrino Alley"

(measured neutron backgrounds low,

~ 8 mwe overburden)



Isotropic  $\nu$  glow from Hg SNS target

#### **Expected recoil energy distribution**



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If 100 counts are expected in 10 kg of argon at 20 m, how many are expected in 100 kg at 40 m?

A. 2.5
B. 25
C. 100
D. 250
E. 2500

### Backgrounds

Usual suspects: cosmogenics ambient and intrinsic radioactivity

- detector-specific noise and dark rate

#### Neutrons are especially not your friends\*



Steady-state backgrounds can be *measured* off-beam-pulse ... in-time backgrounds must be carefully characterized

#### A "friendly fire" in-time background: Neutrino Induced Neutrons (NINs)



- potentially non-negligible background from shielding
- requires careful shielding design
- large uncertainties (factor of few) in xscn calculation
- [Also: a signal in itself, e.g, HALO SN detector]



#### The CsI Detector in Shielding in Neutrino Alley at the SNS





A hand-held detector!



Almost wrapped up...

Layer	HDPE*	Low backg. lead	Lead	Muon veto	Water
Thickness	3"	2"	4"	2"	4"
Colour		///			



# First light at the SNS (stopped-pion neutrinos) with 14.6-kg CsI[Na] detector



D. Akimov et al., *Science*, 2017 http://science.sciencemag.org/content/early/2017/08/02/science.aao0990

# Neutrino non-standard interaction constraints for current CsI data set:



\*CHARM constraints apply only to heavy mediators



## Single-Phase Liquid Argon

- ~24 kg active mass 2 x Hamamatsu 5912-02-MOD 8" PMTs
  - 8" borosilicate glass window
  - 14 dynodes
  - QE: 18%@ 400 nm
- Wavelength shifter: TPB-coated Teflon walls and PMTs
- Cryomech cryocooler 90 Wt
  PT90 single-state pulse-tube cold head







Detector from FNAL, previously built (J. Yoo et al.) for CENNS@BNB (S. Brice, Phys.Rev. D89 (2014) no.7, 072004)

### Likelihood fit in time, recoil energy, PSD parameter

Beam-unrelated-background-subtracted projections of 3D likelihood fit



- Bands are systematic errors from 1D excursions
- 2 independent analyses w/separate cuts, similar results (this is the "A" analysis)



#### Remaining CsI[Na] dataset, with >2 x statistics + improved detector response understanding + improved analysis



arXiv: 2110.07730



#### And squeezing down the possibilities for new physics...



#### **COHERENT future CEvNS deployments in Neutrino Alley**



## Sodium Iodide (Nal[TI]) Detectors

- 3.3 tons, 5 modules
- QF measured
- PMT base refurbishment (dual gain) to enable low threshold for CEvNS on Na measurement





**NalvE:** 185 kg deployed at SNS to go after  $v_e$ CC on <sup>127</sup>I

#### **NaIVETE:** 3.3 tonnes for CEvNS + $v_e$ CC on <sup>127</sup>I

- first commissioning data from first module 22/23
- second module now deployed

## **High-Purity Germanium Detectors**

#### P-type Point Contact



- Excellent low-energy resolution
- Well-measured quenching factor
- Reasonable timing
- 8 Canberra/Mirion 2 kg detectors in multi-port dewar
- Compact poly+Cu+Pb shield
- Muon veto
- Designed to enable additional detectors





- first commissioning data 22/23
- campaign-2 now with 6/8 detectors

#### Heavy water detector in Neutrino Alley

Dominant current uncertainty is ~10%, on neutrino flux from SNS

 $\nu_e + d \longrightarrow p + p + e^-$ 

cross section known to ~1-2%





- Measure electrons to determine flux normalization
- Inelastics on <sup>16</sup>O [studying dedicated light water detector]

- commissioning w/light water 22/23
- nearly ready for D<sub>2</sub>O fill

So far considered signal from faint recoils... bright signals are possible too... Neutrinos: eES, inelastic neutrino-nucleus interactions, [inelastic DM interactions, axions...]



#### Low-energy neutrino interactions

	Electrons	Protons	Nucl	ei
Charged current	Elastic scattering $\nu + e^- \rightarrow \nu + e^-$ $[\nabla_{v_e}]$	Inverse beta decay $\bar{\nu}_e + p \rightarrow e^+ + n$ $\gamma$ $e^+ \gamma$ $\nabla_e$	$\nu_e + (N, Z) \rightarrow e^- + \overline{\nu}_e + (N, Z) \rightarrow e^+ + \overline{\nu}_e + (N, Z) \rightarrow e^+ + \overline{\nu}_e$	-(N-1,Z+1) $-(N+1,Z-1)$ +/- Various possible
Neutral current	ve vv Useful for pointing	Elastic scattering vp very low energy recoils	$\nu + A \rightarrow \nu + A^{*}$ $\nu + A \rightarrow \nu + A$	* ejecta and deexcitation products *

#### Neutrino interaction signals in the few to few-tens of MeV range



Stopped-pion neutrinos relevant for supernova burst regime



- understanding of SN processes & detection
- understanding of weak couplings (g<sub>A</sub> quenching) • & nuclear transitions

See:Workshop on Neutrino Interaction Measurements for Supernova Neutrino Detection https://indico.phy.ornl.gov/event/217/



# COHERENT results for neutrino-induced neutrinos (NINs) on Pb



• 1.8 $\sigma$  significance, >4 $\sigma$  disagreement with MARLEY model

#### Lower than expectation

Scholberg



## COHERENT results for CC $v_e$ on <sup>127</sup>I



## Especially interesting to measure electron neutrino interactions on on argon in the few tens of MeV range

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{CC} & \nu_e \texttt{+}^{40}\text{Ar} \rightarrow e^- \texttt{+}^{40}\text{K}^* \\ \text{NC} & \nu_x \texttt{+}^{40}\text{Ar} \rightarrow \nu_x \texttt{+}^{40}\text{Ar}^* \end{array}$$

- critical to understand (differential) cross sections for supernova physics in DUNE
- large theoretical uncertainties on cross sections
- **no** existing measurements



More soon from COHERENT!

#### **Tonne-scale LAr Detector**



- 750-kg LAr will fit in the same place, will reuse part of existing infrastructure
- Could potentially use
   underground argon



CC/NC **inelastic** in argon of interest for supernova neutrinos

 $\begin{array}{ll} \text{CC} & \nu_e \texttt{+}^{40}\text{Ar} \rightarrow e^\texttt{-} \texttt{+}^{40}\text{K}^* \\ \\ \text{NC} & \nu_x \texttt{+}^{40}\text{Ar} \rightarrow \nu_x \texttt{+}^{40}\text{Ar}^* \end{array}$ 

If ~7000 CEvNS interactions per year are detected in 1 ton of argon at the SNS, about how many v<sub>e</sub>CC events would be expected?

A. 70000 **B.** 3000 C. 300 D. 70 E. 3 F. 0.1

#### **Future LArTPC**



Yun-tse Tsai, SLAC

- Proposed: 250 kg Ar (50x60x60 cm<sup>3</sup>) [larger for STS]
- DUNE-like, relevant for SN burst & solar detection
- R&D test bed (e.g. pixelated readout, photon detectors, ...)

#### SNS upgrades: Beam Power and Second Target Station

PPU and STS upgrades will ensure SNS remains the world's brightest accelerator-based neutron source

Today	2024 after PPU	early 2030's
<ul> <li>900 users</li> <li>Materials at atomic resolution and fast dynamics</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>1000+ users</li> <li>Enhanced capabilities</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>2000+ users</li> <li>Hierarchical materials, time- resolution and small samples</li> <li>STS 0.7 MW 15 Hz</li> </ul>
1.4 MW	2.0 MW	2.8 MW
1 GeV	1.3 GeV	1.3 GeV
25 mA	27 mA	38 mA
60 Hz	60 Hz	60 Hz
FTS	FTS	FTS
1.4 MW	2 MW	2 MW
60 Hz	60 Hz	<b>45 pulses/sec</b>

## STS will make optimal use of the SNS accelerator capability



\*animation courtesy of Matt Stone

#### From Ken Herwig



Many exciting possibilities for v's + DM!

## Many CEvNS Efforts Worldwide [incomplete]

Experiment	Technology	Location	Source
COHERENT	Csl, Ar, Ge, Nal	USA	πDAR
ССМ	Ar	USA	πDAR
ESS	Csl, Si, Ge, Xe	Sweden	πDAR
CONNIE	Si CCDs	Brazil	Reactor
CONUS	HPGe	Germany	Reactor
MINER	Ge/Si cryogenic	USA	Reactor
NUCLEUS	Cryogenic CaWO <sub>4</sub> , Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> calorimeter array	Europe	Reactor
vGEN	Ge PPC	Russia	Reactor
RED-100	LXe dual phase	Russia	Reactor
Ricochet	Ge, Zn bolometers	France	Reactor
TEXONO	p-PCGe	Taiwan	Reactor









+ DM detectors, +directional detectors +more... many novel low-background, low-threshold technologies!!

#### **Summary of CEvNS Results**



... looking forward to more soon!

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## Final set of take-away points

- CEvNS:
  - large cross section, but tiny recoils,  $\alpha N^2$
  - accessible w/low-energy threshold detectors, plus extra oomph of stopped-pion neutrino source
- First measurement by COHERENT Csl[Na] at the SNS... now Ar, + more Csl data!
- Meaningful bounds on beyond-the-SM physics
- Other CEvNS experiments will join the fun! (CCM, TEXONO, CONUS, CONNIE, MINER, RED, Ricochet, NUCLEUS...)
- Inelastics in tens of MeV regime:
  - fewer but brighter, important for SN & solar

