Experimental Neutrino Physics: Lecture 1







Outline

- Motivations
- Neutrino detectors for oscillation experiments
- Neutrino sources
- Long-baseline experiments, near-past, current and future
- Note: I will not be able to cover all experiments involving neutrinos, e.g. I am excluding experiments using cosmological sources. This is very exciting and important physics!

What Do I Mean By Long-Baseline?

- Long-baseline neutrino oscillations:
 - "solar" mass splitting
 - $\Delta m^2_{21} \equiv \Delta m^2_{c} \sim 8 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2$
 - L/E ~ 15000 km/GeV
 - "atmospheric" mass splitting
 - $\Delta m_{32}^2 \approx \Delta m_{31}^2 \equiv \Delta m_{atm}^2 \sim 2 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$
 - L/E ~ 500 km/GeV





Motivations

- You might have heard that neutrinos have mass.
- Depending on your point of view, this is already BSM
- Neutrinos are extremely abundant, and yet we know relatively very little about them:
 - mass ordering
 - absolute mass
 - Dirac or Majorana
 - do they violate CP?
 - cross-sections
- Need to provide guidance to theory
- Three experimental approaches allow for clear answers to some of these questions: neutrino oscillation measurements, direct mass measurements and searches for neutrinoless double-beta decay.

Neutrino Oscillations

The mixing matrix may be factorized into components that are useful to experimentalists:

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c_{23} & s_{23} \\ 0 & -s_{23} & c_{23} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{13} & 0 & s_{13}e^{-i\delta} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -s_{13}e^{+i\delta} & 0 & c_{13} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{12} & s_{12} & 0 \\ -s_{12} & c_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

 ν_{e}

 ∇v_{μ}

- Furthermore, experimentally we have determined:
 - $sin^2 2\theta_{32} \sim 1$
 - $\Delta m_{32}^2 \approx \Delta m_{31}^2 \equiv \Delta m_{atm}^2 \sim 2 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$ (SuperK, MINOS) with characteristic L/E ~ 500 km/GeV
 - $sin^2\theta_{12} \sim 0.3$
 - $\Delta m_{21}^2 \equiv \Delta m_{\odot}^2 \sim 8 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2$ (KamLAND, SNO) with characteristic L/E ~ 15000 km/GeV
 - $sin^2 2\theta_{13} \sim 0.1$



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- Small neutrino masses suggest a heavy partner (eg, see-saw mechanism) - neutrinos provide a window to physics at the GUT scale!
- Want to overconstrain (squeeze) the 3-flavor mixing model - maybe we'll find some inconsistencies driven by new physics.



The Energy Frontier

Origins of Mass

Matter/Anti-matter Asymmetry

Dark matter

Neutrino Physics

Proton Decay

The Intensity Frontier

Unification of Forces New Physics Beyond the Standard Model

Origin of Universe

Dark energy

Cosmic Particles

The Cosmic Frontier



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Long-Baseline v Oscillations

Short-Baseline v Oscillations

Absolute v Mass

Long-Baseline v Oscillations

Short-Baseline v Oscillations

Absolute v Mass

- Probability of a neutrino interaction is ~10⁻³⁸/cm²
- Since neutrinos don't like to interact with matter, we need HUGE detectors!
- Typical size is tens to thousands of tons

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- Two types of neutrino interactions:
 - Charged-current (CC, Wboson exchange). Final state includes a lepton (e, μ or τ) + hadron.
 - Neutral-current (NC, Z-boson exchange). Final state includes a neutrino + hardron. Not seen until 1973!

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Neutrino Detection - Fundamentals



- v_e CC off electron
- Not used by many experiments since cross-section is much smaller than CC interactions with nuclei

Neutrino Detection - Fundamentals



- v_I NC off nucleus
- hadrons (only) in final state
- neutrinos carries off energy

Neutrino Detection - Fundamentals



- v_I CC off nucleus
- charged lepton (+ hadrons) in final state
- energy and flavor of neutrino are observable

Neutrino Detection

- Signal: appearance of photons or charged particles inside a detector.
 - Require no incoming charged particle within vicinity of interaction vertex (often pushes experiments to go deep underground)
 - Interactions in detector are often very "rare", O(0.1-1)/day
 - Signal energies can vary across many orders of magnitudes
 - Particle identification tells us the type of neutrino
 - Energy of incoming neutrino can be measured for CC events only.
 - NOTE: many commonalities between neutrino, proton-decay, dark matter and neutrino-less double beta decay search experiments!
- A VERY wide variety of detectors are used to detect neutrinos
- As in any experiment, the type of detector used depends on energy thresholds, energy resolution, signal identification (efficiency) and background rejection (purity) needed.


































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How Are Neutrinos Produced?

- The universe if full of neutrinos! About 10 x 10¹²
 v's pass through your body each second!
- Nature provides many sources of neutrinos:
 - The Big Bang (411/cm³ everywhere in the universe)
 - Supernovae (99% of the energy in carried off by neutrinos!)
 - The sun (neutrinos regulate solar fusion)
 - Cosmic ray interactions with the upper atmosphere.
 - Bananas! (~1 million neutrinos/day!)
- Man also creates neutrinos:
 - Nuclear reactors
 - Particle accelerators













How Are Neutrinos Produced?





PRL, 9(1):36-44, Jul 1962

- First accelerator-based neutrino beam: Brookhaven, 1962
- 15 GeV proton beam struck Be target producing secondary hadrons (mostly π's)
- π's decay to neutrinos
- neutrinos interact in detector to produce electrons or muons
- detector: spark chamber



PRL, 9(1):36-44, Jul 1962





- Modern-day neutrino beams are not all that different.
- Main improvement is use of magnetic focusing horns, increase flux by ~6x.





The Solar Neutrino Problem

- We expect to see only v_e coming from the sun.
- Precise solar models allow us to predict the energy spectra of neutrinos from the sun.
- A deficit (~1/2) of v_es has been observed since the 1960's.





The Sudbury Neutrino Oscillation (SNO) Detector

- 1 kton of D2O (²H₂O)
- Sensitive to:

• CC:
$$\nu_e + {}^2H \rightarrow p + p + e^-$$

- ES: $\nu_{\alpha} + e^- \rightarrow \nu_{\alpha} + e^-$
- NC: $\nu_{\alpha} + {}^{2}H \rightarrow n + p + \nu_{\alpha}$

$$R_E = \frac{R_{CC}}{R_{ES}} \neq 1$$
 or $R_N = \frac{R_{CC}}{R_{NC}} \neq 1$

means:
$$\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_{\mu,\tau}$$

| Pure D ₂ O | Salt | ³ He Counters |
|-----------------------------|---|---|
| Nov 99 – May 01 | Jul 01 – Sep 03 | Nov 04 – Nov 06 |
| $n+d \rightarrow t+\gamma$ | $n+{}^{35}\text{CI}^{36}\text{CI}+\Sigma\gamma$ | $n + {}^{3}\text{He} \rightarrow t + p$ |
| (E _γ = 6.25 MeV) | $(E_{\Sigma\gamma} = 8.6 \text{ MeV})$ | proportional counters σ = 5330 b |
| | enhanced NC rate and separation | |
| | | event-by-event separation |



The Sudbury Neutrino Oscillation Detector

Solar Neutrino Problem



The Sudbury Neutrino Oscillation Detector

Solar Neutrino Problem Resolved



The Sudbury Neutrino Oscillation Detector



arXiv:1109.0763

The KamLAND Experiment

- 1 kton of liquid scintillator
- Antineutrinos came from 20 nuclear reactors in Japan and South Korea; flux weighted average baseline in ~180 km.
- Tests solar neutrino oscillations on Earth.





KamLAND Results



The Borexino Experiment

- 300 tons (100 ton fiducial) of liquid scintillator, surrounded by outer layer of ultra-pure water which acts as a shield against neutrons and gamma rays
- 2000 PMTs (20 cm diameter)
- Very radiopure environment
- Designed to detect
 very low energy
 solar neutrinos





The Borexino Experiment



E, [MeV]

0.8

0.7

0.6

0.5

0.4

0.3

0.2

0.1

10-1

E_v [MeV]

survival probability

° °

.. е

The Atmospheric Neutrino Anomaly



Atmospheric Neutrinos

The Super-Kamiokande Detector (Japan)

- Located in the Japanese Alps in a zinc mine.
- Covered by 1000m of rock.
- 50 kton water Cherenkov detector (39 m diameter, 42 m tall)
- Over 11,000 50 cm photomultiplier tubes (PMTs) detect faint light signals from neutrino interactions with pure water inside the tank.
- Began operation in 1996.



The Super-Kamiokande Detector (Japan)

- Neutrino energy is determined by the amount of light captured by the PMTs.
- Super-K is sensitive to a very wide range neutrino energies: 4.5 MeV - 1 TeV!
- Electron and muon neutrino interactions identified (separated) by the shape ("fuzziness") of the Ckov ring.



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Evidence for Neutrino Oscillations from Super-K

- Number of detected electron neutrino events agree very well with predicted number.
- Number of detected muon neutrino events strongly disagrees with the predicted number.
- Explained by $v_{\mu} \rightarrow v_{\tau}$ oscillations!



Super-K L/E Analysis



Divide data by prediction to look for L/E dependence of oscillation probability

The MINOS Experiment

1ion

liscons

30

Soundan

485

Far Detector
 5:4*kT
 735 km from target

Minneapolis

Near Detector • 0.98 kT • 1.04 km from target

Fermilab Chicago

Both detectors are magnetized tracking calorimeters.

age © 2008 TerraMetrics 2008 Europa Technologies © 2008 Tele Atlas
Identifying Events in MINOS

 v_{μ} CC event



 v_e CC event



NC event



Long µ track + shower at vertex

Short event with EM shower profile.

Short, diffuse event.

 E_{μ} determined from curvature and/or range, E_{shower} determined from MC tuned to external data.

MINOS Results



Looking to the Near Future...

The Tokai to Kamioka (T2K) Experiment



T2K Goals

- Primary goals:
 - Observe $v_{\mu} \rightarrow v_e$ oscillations and measure mixing angle θ_{13}
 - Search for CP violation in the neutrino sector.
- Secondary goals:
 - Improve measurement of $sin^2(2\theta_{23})$
 - Search for sterile neutrinos
 - Measure neutrinos from galactic supernovae
 - Cross-section measurements using ND
- Currently taking data and beginning to show exciting results.

T2K Results from 2012



NOVA: NUMION-AXIS

Chicago -Fermilab

•

Illinois

lowa

Wisconsin

Minr 63 m

MINOS Far Detector

-

A-A-A-GET

NOVA Far Detector

NOVA: NUM Off-Axis

810 Wernin

-

Chicago - Fermilal

lowa

14.6 mrad off-axis from the NuMI beamline.

NOvA Far Detector

Placed as far north as possible to maximize matter effect.



NOVA: NUM Off-Axis

810 Waranin

Chicago - Fer NOVA Near Detector at FNALs

330 tons

14.6 mrad off-axis from the NuMI beamline.

NOvA Far Detector

Placed as far north as possible to maximize matter effect.



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 - Improved measurement of sin²(2θ₂₃) (few % uncertainty)
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 - Measure neutrinos from galactic supernovae
 - Cross-section measurements using ND
- Has begun taking data, first results expected in early 2015. Data taking will continue until at least 2020.

Events in NOvA



The NOvA detectors are specifically designed to detect electrons, in the search for $v_{\mu} \rightarrow v_{e}$ appearance.

NOvA Sensitivities



NOvA Sensitivities



MINOS+

- With the recent NuMI upgrades, the MINOS FD should see ~4000 v_μ events/year at higher energies.
- Offers an opportunity for a precise test of three-flavor mixing paradigm.
- Also sensitive to "exotic" signals as well as ~80 v_τ CC events.

10⁻³

10⁻⁴

10⁻²

10⁻¹

 \sin^2

10²

10

10⁻¹

10⁻²

 10^{-1}

 Δm^2 (eV²)

MINOS Preliminary

MINOS data: 10.56×10²⁰ POT

 v_{μ} mode

LSND 90% CL

LSND 99% CL

OPERA 90% CL

ICARUS 90% CL**

MiniBooNE 90% CL
MiniBooNE 99% CL

MINOS/Bugey* 90% CL

GLoBES 2012 fit with new reactor

10⁻⁵

 $\sin^2 2\theta_{ue} =$

fluxes, courtesy of P. Huber *From arXiv/1307.4699

10⁻⁶



;2

Looking to the Not-too-Distant Future...

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I Megaton (~20x larger than SuperK!)



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- 99000 20" PMTs



- 1 Megaton (~20x larger than SuperK!)
- 99000 20" PMTs
- > 295 km baseline



- 1 Megaton (~20x larger than SuperK!)
- 99000 20" PMTs
- 295 km baseline
- Could also improve proton-decay limits by ~10x

The Long-Baseline Neutrino Facility (USA)



The Long-Baseline Neutrino Facility (USA)



Summary

- Long baseline experiments have guided the development of the three-flavor neutrino mixing paradigm.
- The next decade promises to be very exciting as we make better and better measurements.
- Next lecture: Short-baseline and absolute mass experiments



Questions to Students

- List as many ways to reduce the following backgrounds in a long-baseline experiments:
 - cosmic rays
 - NC interactions
- Large uncertainties in neutrino fluxes and cross sections are often a limiting systematic in neutrino oscillation experiments. How may these uncertainties be mitigated? Are there any downsides to your approach? Any limitations?

There are no "right" answers!

See me during before Friday to discuss or send your thoughts to jpaley@fnal.gov

BACKUP

Some Neutrino History

▶ 1956: Reines and Cowan are the first to directly detect neutrinos via inverse beta decay ($v_e + p \rightarrow e^+ + n$) at the Savannah River Nuclear Plant.





Reines and Cowan

- Note: over 50 years later, modern-day experiments continue to implement this same technique of delayed coincidence!
- 1957: Neutrinos are found to be *left-handed* by Goldhaber, Grodzins and Sunyar by measuring the polarization.
- 1962: Muon neutrinos, different from electron neutrinos, are discovered by Ledermen, Schwartz, Steinberger and colleagues. *Neutrinos have flavor*!



(L to R) Steinberger, Schwartz and Ledermen

Some Neutrino History

- 1968: Ray Davis and colleagues measure neutrino solar flux in the Homestake Mine (SD). The flux is too low by ~2x; this deficit becomes known as the "solar neutrino problem".
- 1985: IMB and Kamiokande experiments observe the "atmospheric neutrino anomaly".
 Note: both of these experiments were originally designed to search for proton-decay!
- 1996: Super-Kamiokande collaboration reports finding neutrino oscillations; muon neutrinos







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 Neutrino oscillations occur because v-flavor states are a quantum superposition of mass eigen states.

$$|\nu_{\alpha}\rangle = \sum_{i} U_{\alpha i}^{*} |\nu_{i}\rangle$$
$$P(\nu_{\alpha} \to \nu_{\alpha}) = \left|\sum_{j}^{i} U_{\alpha j}^{*} e^{-i\frac{m_{j}^{2}L}{2E}} U_{\alpha j}\right|^{2}$$

In vacuum:

$$P(\nu_{\mu} \to \nu_{e}) = \left| 2U_{\mu3}^{*} U_{e3} \sin \Delta_{31} e^{-i\Delta_{32}} + 2U_{\mu2}^{*} U_{e2} \sin \Delta_{21} \right|^{2}$$

$$\Delta_{ij} \equiv \frac{1.27\Delta m_{ij}^2 [\text{eV}^2] L[\text{km}]}{E[\text{GeV}]}$$

Ve

Cross-Sections & Fluxes

Cross-Sections & Fluxes

Generally speaking, need to know how many neutrinos one expects to see in a detector

 $N_v(E) = \Phi_v(E)\sigma_v(E)$

- In oscillation experiments, this knowledge can be ~circumvented by using two detectors to cancel out our ignorance. One detector located near the source to measure N_v(E) before the v's oscillate, one detector located farther away after v's have oscillated.
- However, this is not exactly a silver bullet:
 - some experiments only have one detector
 - some experiments have two detectors, but made of different materials/ geometry
 - some experiments want to measure the cross-section

Cross-Sections



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- Various targets will cover large A-range.













NuStorm: Future Solution to the Flux Problem?



NuStorm: Future Solution to the Flux Problem?

- Staged approach to building high intensity neutrino factory
- Can be built TODAY with known technology
- Well understood neutrino source:

 $\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \, \overline{\nu}_{\mu} \, \nu_e$

 $\mu^{{}_{-}} \rightarrow e^{{}_{-}} \nu_{\mu} \, \overline{\nu}_{e}$

Near absolute flux determination!



| ŀ | $\mu^+ \to e^+ \nu_e \overline{\nu}_\mu$ | $\mu^- \to e^- \overline{\nu}_e \nu_\mu$ | |
|---|---|--|-------------------------------|
| | $\overline{ u}_{\mu} ightarrow \overline{ u}_{\mu}$ | $ u_{\mu} ightarrow u_{\mu}$ | disappearance |
| | $\overline{\nu}_{\mu} \rightarrow \overline{\nu}_{e}$ | $ u_{\mu} ightarrow u_{e}$ | appearance (challenging) |
| | $\overline{ u}_{\mu} ightarrow \overline{ u}_{	au}$ | $ u_{\mu} \rightarrow \nu_{\tau} $ | appearance (atm. oscillation) |
| | $\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_e$ | $\bar{\nu}_e \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e$ | disappearance |
| | $ u_e \rightarrow \nu_\mu $ | $\bar{\nu}_e ightarrow \bar{\nu}_\mu$ | appearance: "golden" channel |
| | $ u_e ightarrow u_{	au}$ | $\bar{\nu}_e \to \bar{\nu}_{\tau}$ | appearance: "silver" channel |

8/12 channels accessible!

Bethe-Bloch Equation



Time Projection Chamber





- (x,z) position → pad locations, y position → drift time.
- Active volume of ~1 m³ and a resolution of ~0.5 cm³.
- \circ PID via <dE/dx> below ~1 GeV/c.

Calorimeters

- Detector designed to measure energy deposition and direction for electromagnetic (EM) or hadronic (H) showers.
- EM calorimeters are characterized by distance for an EM interaction to occur, the "radiation length", X₀
 - 13.8 g cm⁻² (Fe)
 - 6.0 g cm⁻² (U)
- Hadronic calorimeters are characterized by distance for a nuclear interaction to occur, the "interaction length", λ_{I}
 - 132.1 g cm⁻² (Fe)
 - 209 g cm⁻² (U)
- Calorimeters are usually many "lengths" deep in order to contain as much of the energy as possible
- EM calorimeters are usually placed in front of H calorimeters

Time-of-Flight Detectors

- Some knowns:
 - momentum (p)
 - traversal time (t)

$$m^2 = p^2 \left(\frac{t^2}{L^2} - 1\right)$$

- distance (L)
- Note: separation "power" of detector depends on time resolution:

$$\delta t^2 = t_2^2 - t_1^2 = \frac{L^2}{p^2} (\Delta m^2)$$

 Typical timing resolution for ToF detectors: ~100 ps, usually good enough to separate particles up to a few GeV

Cherenkov Radiation

$$\cos \theta_c = (1/n\beta)$$
$$\frac{d^2 N}{dx d\lambda} = \frac{2\pi \alpha z^2}{\lambda^2} \left(1 - \frac{1}{\beta^2 n^2(\lambda)}\right)$$



Common refractive indices & thresholds:

Particle velocity $v = \beta c$

| Material | Index | Muon momentum threshold (GeV): | Proton momentum threshold (GeV): |
|----------------|----------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Air (at STP) | 1.000277 | 4.490 | 39.849 |
| CO2 | 1.00045 | 3.523 | 31.263 |
| Aerogel | 1.07 | 0.278 | 2.464 |
| Water (Ice) | 1.31 | 0.125 | 1.108 |
| Water (at 20C) | 1.333 | 0.120 | 1.064 |
| Ethanol | 1.361 | 0.114 | 1.016 |
| Pyrex | 1.47 | 0.098 | 0.871 |
| Diamond | 2.419 | 0.048 | 0.426 |

Large Area Photodetectors: Future Technology?

- Size of neutrino detectors creates an enormous strain on funding.
- Photodetectors are a cost driver; need to reduce cost, while increasing coverage inside detector (improved energy resolution = more precise measurements)







10.7

10.8

10.5

10.6

- 2 mm spatial resolution!
- ~60 ps timing resolution using economical anode design.



- Designed for $v_{\mu} \rightarrow v_{\tau}$ appearance detection.
- Extremely challenging due to the short distance that the tau travels before decaying!
- Need an extremely finegrained detector.





• So far, two v_{τ} events have been reported



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Future Solar Neutrino Experiments (Beyond those already in operation)

| pep/CNO | Medium | Status | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| SNO+ | 780 kg LAB Liq scintillator | Construction, start 2013 | | | | |
| Kamland-2 | 780 lb Liq Scintillator | Following KamLAND-Zen | | | | |
| For pp, ⁷ Be neutrinos, measuring CC plus ES could extract electron and total neutrino fluxes | | | | | | |
| pp via ES | | | | | | |
| XMASS | 20 tons Liq Xe | 835 kg since 2010 for ββ | | | | |
| CLEAN | 50 tons Liq Ne | MiniClean (500 kg) start 2013 | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| P, ⁷ Be via CC | | | | | | |
| LENS | 10 tons ¹¹⁵ In | µLENS under development | | | | |
| MOON | 3 tons ¹⁰⁰ Mo | R&D in progress | | | | |
| IPNOS | ¹¹⁵ ln | R&D in progress | | | | |
| MEGAPROJECTS | Threshold defines: ⁸ B + ? | | | | | |
| HyperK, MEMPHYS | Megaton Water Cerenkov | | | | | |
| LBNE, GLACIER | 50 to 100 kTon Liquid Ar | | | | | |
| LENA | 50 kTon Liq Scintillator | McDonald - Neutrino 202 | | | | |