



Isolating neutrino-hydrogen interactions using kinematic separation

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ECT*, Trento, October 2024

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Nuclear targets are hard



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... nucleon targets are not



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Where it started (2015)



- Single pion production happens on the H or CH in plastic scintillator
- δp_{TT} balances for H, but not for C:



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- Single pion production happens on the H or CH in plastic scintillator
- δp_{TT} balances for H, but not for C:
- Unfortunately, this was a tricky topology to measure at the time

 Limited statistics (~350 evts for T2K)
 Low purity (~50%)



Meanwhile, at Fermilab (~2018)

Neutron measurements from antineutrino hydrocarbon reactions

M. Elkins,^{1,*} T. Cai,² J. Chaves,³ J. Kleykamp,² F. Akbar,⁴ L. Albin,¹ L. Aliaga,^{5,6} D. A. Andrade,⁷ M. V. Ascencio,⁶ A. Bashyal,⁸ L. Bellantoni,⁹ A. Bercellie,² M. Betancourt,⁹ A. Bodek,² A. Bravar,¹⁰ H. Budd,² G. Caceres,¹¹ M. F. Carneiro,⁸ D. Coplowe,¹² H. da Motta,¹¹ S. A. Dytman,¹³ G. A. Díaz,^{2,6} J. Felix,⁷ L. Fields,^{9,14} A. Filkins,⁵ R. Fine,² N. Fiza,¹⁵ A. M. Gago,⁶ R. Galindo,¹⁶ A. Ghosh,^{16,11} R. Gran,¹ J. Y. Han,¹³ A. Habig,¹ D. A. Harris,⁹ S. Henry,²
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(MINERvA Collaboration)

Phys. Rev. D 100, 052002

MINERvA demonstrates neutron-tagging!



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• MINERvA demonstrates neutron-tagging!



• With a 3D position and sufficient timing resolution, the neutron energy could be reconstructed. But this isn't doable at MINERvA (Kevin's fault).

Meanwhile, within T2K (~2018)

• T2K is busy building an upgrade to its near detector (arXiv:1901.03750)



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The idea:

- Absolute time resolution is fixed
- Time resolution relative to neutron travel time is better when *d* is large
- Cut: d > L, the "lever arm" required



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Best combination: $L = 10 \ cm$, $\delta p_T < 40 \ MeV$







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The idea:

75

70

65

60

55

50

45 40

35

Hydrogen Purity [%]

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10 cm

30 cm

40 cm

50 cri

60 cm

Back to MINERvA (~2023)



Nature, 614, 48-53 - see next talk!



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Adding a new variable for the Super-FGD

Considering longitudinal and transverse imbalance in both momenta and angle may allow Hydrogen purities of over 90%





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Good news for precision form-factor tests (and potential in-situ flux constraints)

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Also important: STT in DUNE (~2018)

• Proponents of using an STT CH_2 detector for DUNE's SAND ND complete a more general analysis: arXiv:1809.08752

Idea:

- Cut generally in a multi-dimensional space covering TKI and simple particle kinematics to maximise H purity for fixed efficiency
- Consider multiple interaction topologies

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Summary and next steps

- Measuring neutrino interactions on hydrogen is useful:

 In-situ flux shape constraints (perfect energy reconstruction)
 Untangle nucleon and nuclear interaction physics
- Deviations from kinematic imbalance allows separation of interactions on H from a CH target (scintillator)
- Reconstruction of neutrons provides a measure of kinematic imbalance for $\bar{\nu}$ CCQE interactions
- First measurement from MINERvA: constraints on F_A!
 No information on neutron momentum (insufficient ToF resolution) leads to a relatively low purity ~30%
- T2K's new SuperFGD offers potential for measurements
 Use of TKI: ~60% purity, use of T+GKI: ~90% purity
 Expect first measurements in the next ~2 years
- Further improvements possible with DUNE's ND