



## Isolating neutrino-hydrogen interactions using kinematic separation

### Stephen Dolan

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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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## ... nucleon targets are not





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## ... nucleon targets are not



![](_page_4_Picture_2.jpeg)

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# Where it started (2015)

![](_page_5_Figure_1.jpeg)

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

![](_page_5_Figure_4.jpeg)

# Where it started (2015)

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- Single pion production happens on the H or CH in plastic scintillator
- $\delta p_{TT}$  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%)

![](_page_6_Figure_5.jpeg)

# Meanwhile, at Fermilab (~2018)

#### Neutron measurements from antineutrino hydrocarbon reactions

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

Phys. Rev. D 100, 052002

MINERvA demonstrates neutron-tagging!

![](_page_7_Figure_6.jpeg)

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(MINERvA Collaboration)

Phys. Rev. D 100, 052002

• MINERvA demonstrates neutron-tagging!

![](_page_8_Picture_7.jpeg)

• 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)

![](_page_9_Figure_2.jpeg)

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![](_page_10_Figure_2.jpeg)

Phys. Rev. D 101, 092003

![](_page_11_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_12_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_12_Figure_2.jpeg)

Phys. Rev. D 101, 092003

![](_page_13_Figure_2.jpeg)

Phys. Rev. D 101, 092003

![](_page_14_Figure_2.jpeg)

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Phys. Rev. D 101, 092003

### 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

![](_page_15_Figure_6.jpeg)

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![](_page_16_Figure_5.jpeg)

![](_page_16_Figure_6.jpeg)

![](_page_16_Figure_7.jpeg)

Phys. Rev. D 101, 092003

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![](_page_17_Figure_6.jpeg)

Phys. Rev. D 101, 092003

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

![](_page_18_Figure_6.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Figure_7.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Figure_8.jpeg)

### Phys. Rev. D 101, 092003

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The idea:

75

70

65

60

55

50

45 40

35

Hydrogen Purity [%]

- Absolute time resolution is fixed
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- Cut: d > L, the "lever arm" required

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

![](_page_19_Figure_6.jpeg)

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0

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### ECT\*, Trento, October 2024

10 cm

30 cm

40 cm

50 cri

60 cm

## Back to MINERvA (~2023)

![](_page_20_Picture_1.jpeg)

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

![](_page_20_Picture_3.jpeg)

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![](_page_21_Figure_0.jpeg)

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![](_page_22_Figure_0.jpeg)

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Back to MINERvA (~2023)

![](_page_23_Figure_1.jpeg)

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![](_page_24_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_25_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_26_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_27_Figure_1.jpeg)

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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%

![](_page_28_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_28_Figure_3.jpeg)

#### Stephen Dolan

### 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%

![](_page_29_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_29_Figure_3.jpeg)

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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![](_page_31_Figure_5.jpeg)

## 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<sub>A</sub>!
   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