

47th Annual Fermilab Users Meeting

June 12nd 2014

Ornella Palamara

Yale University, USA*

on behalf of the ArgoNeuT Collaboration

*on leave of absence from Laboratori Nazionali del Gran Sasso, Italy

Why Liquid Argon?

- Bubble chamber quality of data with added full calorimetry
- Can produce physics results with a "table-top" size experiment:
 - Benchmark -"standard candle" results
 - Physics enabled by LAr capabilities
 - Development towards future large detectors



US based LAr R&D program

This talk

Yale TPC



Bo

Location: Yale University Location: Fermilab Active volume: 0.002 ton Active volume: 0.02 ton operational: 2007

operational 2008



Location: Fermilab Active volume:0.3 ton operational: 2008 First neutrinos: June 2009 **MicroBooNE**

Location: Fermilab Location Fermilab Operational: 2014 Construction start: 2017

SBN @ FNAL

LBNE

Location: Homestake Active volume: 0.1 kton Active volume: 0.05 + 0.6 kton Active volume: 35 kton Construction start 202?





Location: Fermilab Operational: since 2008



Location:Fermilab Purpose: materials test st Purpose: LAr purity demo **Operational: 2011**

LArIAT



Location:Fermilab Purpose:LArTPC calibration Operational:2014 (phase 1)



Location: LANL Purpose: LArTPC calibration Purpose: purity demo Operational:2014

LBNE 35 Ton



Location: Fermilab Operational: 2013



Argoneut in the NUMI beam line

First LArTPC in a low (I-I0 GeV) energy neutrino beam Acquired 1.35 × 10²⁰ POT, mainly in ν_μ mode Designed as a test experiment. But obtaining physics results!









ArgoNeuT in the NUMI beam line

5

240 Kg active volume 47×40×90 cm³, wire spacing 4 mm LAr TPC

~7000 CC events collected Largest data sample of [low energy] neutrino interactions in LArTPC

ArgoNeuT tech-paper

C. Anderson et al., JINST 7 (2012) P10019

MINOS ND as muon spectrometer for ArgoNeuT events* (momentum reconstruction and charge identification (q) of exiting muons)

*ArgoNeuT Coll. is grateful to MINOS Coll. for providing the muon reconstruction







Previous ArgoNeuT results





Charge recombination with stopping protons

R. Acciarri et al. ,2013 JINST 8 P08005

Calorimetry with through-going muons

C.Anderson et al., 2012 JINST 7 P10020

ArgoNeuT

CC Inclusive cross-section in \bar{v}_{μ} mode









Coherent charged Pion Production

$$u_{\mu} + A_{g.s.} \rightarrow \mu^{-} + \pi^{+} + A_{g.s.}$$
 $\bar{\nu}_{\mu} + A_{g.s.} \rightarrow \mu^{+} + \pi^{-} + A_{g.s.}$

Most pions are not contained, so it is not possible to use Q^2 or t as discrimination.

MC used to build a binned background and signal expectation for a *BDT* response (based on kinematic variables).

This is then fit to the data.





10



Coherent charged Pion Production

$$u_{\mu} + A_{g.s.} \rightarrow \mu^{-} + \pi^{+} + A_{g.s.}$$
 $\bar{\nu}_{\mu} + A_{g.s.} \rightarrow \mu^{+} + \pi^{-} + A_{g.s.}$

Most pions are not contained, so it is not possible to use Q^2 or t as discrimination.

MC used to build a binned background and signal expectation for a *BDT* response (based on kinematic variables).

This is then fit to the data.





Observing proton multiplicity

LAr-TPC detectors, providing *full 3D imaging, precise calorimetric energy reconstruction and efficient particle identification* allow for MC independent measurements, Exclusive Topology recognition and Nuclear Effects exploration



EVENT TOPOLOGY: leading muon accompanied by any number (N=0, 1, 2, 3, 4) of protons final state

ArgoNeuT v_{μ} CC 0 pion topological analysis

Topological characterization of the events: Count (Pld) and reconstruct protons at the neutrino interaction vertex^{*} (low proton energy threshold - 21 MeV Kin. En.) Analysis fully exploiting LAr TPC's capabilities



*The muon+Np sample can also contain neutrons. The presence of neutrons in the events cannot be measured, since ArgoNeuT volume is too small to have signicant chances for n to convert into protons in the LAr volume before escaping. ArgoNeuT v_{μ} CC 0 pion topological analysis

Topological characterization of the events: Count (Pld) and reconstruct protons at the neutrino interaction vertex (low proton energy threshold - 21 MeV Kin. En.) Analysis fully exploiting LAr TPC's capabilities



ArgoNeuT v_{μ} CC 0 pion topological analysis

Topological characterization of the events: Count (Pld) and reconstruct protons at the neutrino interaction vertex (low proton energy threshold - 21 MeV Kin. En.) Analysis fully exploiting LAr TPC's capabilities







Two-nucleon knock-out events in ArgoNeuT

NN SRC have been extensively probed through two-nucleon knock-out reactions in both *pion and electron scattering experiments*





ArgoNeuT: detection of two-nucleon knock-out events from *neutrino interactions*

Discuss topological features as possibly involving NN SRC content in the target argon nuclei

Neutrino scattering experiments, to our knowledge, have never attempted to directly explore SRC through detection of two nucleon knock-out

Argoneur Detection of back-to-back proton pairs



We can see nuclear effects!

4 back-to-back proton pairs events observed in Lab frame.

Possible mechanism is CC RES pionless reactions involving pre-existing SRC np pairs.



4 back-to-back protons in



Argoneur Detection of back-to-back proton pairs



New, LArTPC enabled, physics result!

R. Acciarri et al., ArXiv:1405.4261 Submitted to PRD

4 back-to-back proton pairs events observed in Lab frame.

Possible mechanism is CC RES pionless reactions involving pre-existing SRC np pairs.



4 back-to-back protons in



Electron/gamma separation

- An EM shower that starts after a gap from the vertex is always background (especially if one can see two of them).
- Even if the gap is very small
 - in LAr can reconstruct the charge at the start of the shower - "dE/dx discrimination".







ArgoNeu1





Data-based dE/dx plot

- Gammas defined as EM showers detached from visible vertex.
- Electrons defined as EM showers with visible vertex activity and no gap.
- Electron events require no track matched to MINOS muon.
- Landau-like distribution of electron event. Single hit charge depositions.



Electron/single gamma separation





Data-based dE/dx plot

- Gammas defined as EM showers detached from visible vertex.
- Electrons defined as EM showers with visible vertex activity and no gap.
- Electron events require no track matched to MINOS muon.
- Landau-like distribution of electron event. Single hit charge depositions.

Electron/single gamma separation









Despite the ArgoNeuT modest active LAr mass (~1/4T) and its short (~5 months) exposure to neutrino beams, the experience and the results obtained are highly relevant.

ArgoNeuT was the first LArTPC operating in a low energy neutrino&antineutrino beam, the region of interest for current short-baseline and future long-baseline experiments.

Its primary goal was to serve as technology demonstrator, but indeed made much more than that: ArgoNeuT has provided a wealth of <u>physics results on</u> <u>neutrino interaction mechanisms</u> yet not fully resolved, and is still yielding new intriguing outputs from the on-going studies.



STOPPING TRACKS - CALORIMETRIC RECONSTRUCTION and PID



Measurement of:

- dE/dx vs. residual range along the track
- kinetic energy vs. track length

χ^2 based method is used for PID



Example of Low energy proton reconstruction





ArgoNeuT proton threshold: 21 MeV of Kinetic Energy







Proton Multiplicity (μ +Np events)



The systematic error band on the MC represent the NuMI flux uncertainty



GENIE MC models more higher multiplicity events

CC 0 pion events: MC PREDICTIONS by Physical Process



The MC generators predict varying amounts of proton emission and contributions from non-CCQE.

 $\bar{\nu}_{\mu}$ - anti-neutrino mode run



NEUTRINO ENERGY RECONSTRUCTION



No just muon information

Reconstruction of other kinematic quantity (q, Q^2 , p^T_{miss} etc.)





$(\mu^{-}+2p)$ data sample - **back-to-b** protons in the Lab

 $\cos(\gamma)$ vs momentum of the least energetic proton \mathbf{p}_{P2} in the pair



Back-to-back proton pairs in the Lab frame

Back-to-back pp pairs in the Lab frame can be seen as "snapshots" of the initial pair configuration in the case of RES processes with no or low momentum transfer to the pair.

In all **four "Hammer" events**, both protons have:

- momentum significantly above the Fermi momentum,
- with one almost exactly balanced by the other
- all events show a rather large missing transverse momentum,

 $p_{miss}^T \ge 300 \ MeV/c$

These features look compatible with the hypothesis of CC RES pionless reactions involving pre-existing SRC *np* pairs.

Back-to-back proton pairs in the initial state



The bin size includes the effect of the uncertainty in the transfer momentum reconstruction on the measurement of $cos(\gamma_i)$