# LArTPC Testbeam:

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## Outline

#### miniCAPTAIN (neutrons) & LArIAT (charged species)

- Liquid Argon TPC Test Beams for Neutrino Physics
  - Physics goals
  - R&D goals
- Experimental Setups
  - Incident Beams
  - Inside the cryostat
- Beautiful data
- Future plans



## LArTPCs Test Beams for Neutrino Physics

Liquid argon time projection chambers (LArTPCs) capture neutrino interaction final products in unprecedented detail



Dedicated calibration effort needed





**MicroBooNE** 

#### MiniCAPTAIN

#### Cryogenic Apparatus for Precision Tests of Argon Interactions with Neutrinos

## **MiniCAPTAIN**

1m Ø LArTPC in neutron beam at Weapons Neutron Research facility

#### **Physics goals:**

Ar\* nuclear de-excitations Neutron scatters at known  $E_n$  Neutron-induced  $\pi^{\pm}$  production



#### Los Alamos National Lab Los Alamos Neutron Science Center



## **Incident Beam**



Known neutron energy from Time of Flight

- Beam on target starts clock
- Cryogenic PMTs stop it

Neutron beam energy spectrum will be closely matched to cosmic-induced neutron energy spectrum

### Inside the cryostat



## The time projection chamber

- MicroBooNE cold electronics
- 3 planes @ 3 mm pitch
- Drift field ~500 V/cm



#### LArIAT Liquid Argon In A Testbeam

## LArIAT

#### "Table-top" (170L) LArTPC in a test beam at Fermilab Test Beam Facility

- Repurposed ArgoNeuT detector
- Physics goals:
  - $\pi$ -Ar interactions
  - e/γ shower ID
  - $\mu$ -Ar capture
  - non-magnetic charge determination
  - kaon studies
  - Geant4 validation

#### - R&D goals:

Optimize PID algorithm, calorimetry with charge & light, and 2D/3D event reconstruction



#### Fermilab Test Beam Facility

30. N

Linac

Main Injector

Booster

### **Beamline Plan View**



### **Beamline Plan View**



## **Tertiary Beamline**



## Tertiary Beamline







Momentum windows in excellent agreement with simulation





#### **MWPCs** + bending magnet

Full and Half momentum settings/magnet currents cover MicroBooNE neutrino event secondary momentum range









Aerogel Cherenkov counters for further PID

Possible  $\pi$  vs.  $\mu$ discrimination using combination of thresholds and pulse height

Effective for TPC-contained  $\pi/\mu$  range: 230-400 MeV/c





**Muon range stack** for discrimination of throughgoing muons/pions

Effective for high-p  $\pi/\mu$  range: 400+ MeV/c

Some commissioning still ongoing



#### Inside the cryostat





#### The time projection chamber

- Repurposed from ArgoNeuT
- New wire planes, 240 wires each
  - shield
  - induction
  - collection
- Drift field ~500 V/cm



### Inside the cryostat





RL:1.0

#### Light collection system

- 2 PMTs + 3 SiPMs
- VUV scintillation light wavelengthshifted at TPB-coated reflector foils lining field cage



#### First data

April 30, 2015 – TPC turned on, first cosmic-triggered track!



LArIAT TPC readout



Sample number; 250 m/Sample; 384 µs total

#### First data

#### ...and first beam events soon after...





## Tired, Happy Scientists



#### Primer on beam events











#### Distinguishable using dE/dx at start of shower









## A few ongoing analyses...

#### Eye scan of a small fraction of the data

#### Topology breakdown

among the unambiguous, single-track events

A rich physics program will emerge from analyses!



#### **Reconstruction status**

Rapid progress in reconstructing both beamline & TPC ionization tracks

> axis (cm) TPC heigh 7 6-

5

2 0

I. Nutini

Interaction point

Entering point (27.9423, 7.2, 0.46188)

15 20 25

Beam



## N<sub>2</sub> levels with scintillation light

N<sub>2</sub> content in LAr suppresses scintillation light

From fits to scintillation light extract "late" light time component and determine  $N_2$  concentration

Results agree with gas analyzers







Nitrogen concentration (/ppm)

## Electron lifetime / $O_2$ levels with cosmic $\mu$ 's

Dedicated paddles for cosmic-µ triggers



Fit to charge vs. drift time for measurement of electron lifetime

Able to calculate O<sub>2</sub> concentration below sensitivity of our gas analyzers

Current results show  $O_2 < 1$  ppb, agreement with gas analyzers





R. Acciarri

#### Pion interactions I – elastic scattering

$$\sigma_{tot} = \sigma_{el} + \sigma_{reac}$$

$$\sigma_{reac} = \sigma_{inel} + \sigma_{abs} + \sigma_{chex} + \sigma_{\pi prod}$$
inclusion observation observation pion

scatter on Ar exchange production

#### **Pion-Argon elastic scattering**

#### Look for kinks in incoming

#### pion-tagged tracks

Preliminary 3D Reconstructed Track in the TPC volume (Run5835sp46)







### Pion interactions II – absorption

#### **Pion absorption**

- Incident tagged  $\pi$ , no  $\pi$ 's in final state
- Often accompanied by protons/neutrons



## Pion single charge exchange

Active effort to ID and reconstruct

- $\pi^0$  mass peak from m<sub>vv</sub>
- Cross section

MC studies to understand containment of these events in TPC





### **Michel electrons**

LAr scintillation-based trigger to record stopping/decaying cosmic  $\mu$ 's

- Initial reconstruction focused on light signals only
  - Track/shower algorithms to follow
- Eventual use as energy calibration source and measurement of  $\mu^-$  nuclear capture rate



1000

2000

3000

4000

5000

6000

7000

8000

## Summary

LArTPC test beams are getting underway!

MiniCAPTAIN has just seen its calibration laser track

- Neutron beam running will begin soon

LArIAT's run 1 was a success – lots of new data to analyze

- Offline event reconstruction actively evolving day-by-day
- Several analyses underway with more to come
- Actively preparing for **Run II** this Autumn

Detailed calibration, cross sections, etc. on the horizon!

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#### Backup

#### Beam commissioning

Punchthrough approximat



Installation of beamline detectors and TPC-less running to test them (and characterize the beam)

#### Completed summer 2014



## Cryogenic Ultra-Pure LAr



#### Powerful, flexible trigger system



## **Incident Beam**



#### Time of Flight $\rightarrow E_n$

- Beam on target starts clock
- Cryogenic PMTs stop it

#### Time structure of *n* beam:

- 625 µs macropulses of
- sub-ns micropulses @ 1.8 µs
  - 40 Hz macropulse rate

Neutron beam closely matched to cosmic-induced neutron spectrum



#### Time Structure of the Beam



## Summary of Run I

#### Beam data taking ran about 2 months

May 2015								June 2015							July 2015						
S	М	Т	w	Т	F	S	S	М	Т	w	Т	F	S	S	М	Т	w	Т	F	S	
					1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	17	14	15	16	17	18	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28		30					26	27	28	29	30	31		
31																					

#### **Beam-taking**

Low-E source running