

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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- CUORE (CRYOGENIC UNDERGROUND OBSERVATORY FOR RARE EVENTS)** APR. 2016 - *Current*  
*Post-doctoral Scholar, University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)*
- Spearheading development of precision  $\alpha$  background modeling in collaboration with a graduate student with goal for further background reduction to cover inverted neutrino mass hierarchy of  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay in  $^{130}\text{Te}$
  - Mentored and worked with 2 undergraduate students for investigation of shielding structures to mitigate  $\gamma/\beta$  backgrounds for next generation  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay searches requiring ultra-low background levels
  - Implemented bolometer thermal model to create mock data for first data taking
- KAMLAND (KAMIOKA LIQUID SCINTILLATOR ANTINEUTRINO DETECTOR)** 2009 - 2016  
*Research Assistant, University of Hawaii at Manoa*
- Spearheaded development of novel directional neutrino detection technique in scintillator and demonstrated with data for the first time that this can be applied to conduct indirect dark matter searches in scintillator; first ever physics application of neutrino directionality in scintillator
  - Led unprecedented particle ID capability studies in scintillator using track profile reconstruction techniques using never before observed T2K events spilling into KamLAND
  - Was responsible for high energy ( $\gtrsim 1\text{ GeV}$ ) energy calibration using cosmic ray muons and applying this to neutrino analysis for first time
- MINI-TIMECUBE (WORLD'S SMALLEST PORTABLE NEUTRINO DETECTOR)** 2009 - 2016  
*Research Assistant, University of Hawaii at Manoa*
- Led development of Geant4 detector simulation with team of 3 undergraduate students to conducted case studies of neutron capture doping agents in solid scintillator. Simulation results were later used to guide overall detector design during construction
  - Was responsible for background studies associated with long lived cosmogenic isotopes  $^8\text{He}/^9\text{Li}$  to quantitatively determine effect on detector live time

## LEADERSHIP AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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- MENTOR, UCLA** 2016 - *Current*
- Taught weekly Geant4 tutorials to 3 PhD students and 3 undergraduate students for 1 semester; students are now able to take on simulation projects of their own and make original contribution
- TEACHING ASSISTANT, University of Hawaii at Manoa** 2007 - 2009
- Planned classwork and taught 2 weekly undergraduate Physics Laboratory classes of over 20 students each for 3 semesters, received "excellent" reviews
  - Mentored undergraduate students in undergraduate Physics classwork for 2 hours each week for 3 semesters

## SKILLS

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Human Languages: English (native), Japanese/Korean (trilingual proficiency)  
Programming Languages: Proficient in C, C++, Python, Fortran, Mathematica, Bash  
Software/Tools: ROOT, GEANT4, PADS, AUTOCAD

## EDUCATION

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**PHD, EXPERIMENTAL NEUTRINO PHYSICS** 2016  
GPA: 4.0/4.0, University of Hawaii at Manoa  
Dissertation: High Energy Neutrino Analysis at KamLAND and Application to Dark Matter Search

**GRADUATE PROGRAM IN MATHEMATICS** 2006  
GPA: 4.5/4.5, Sun Moon University, S. Korea

**DOUBLE BS, PHYSICS AND MATHEMATICS** 2005  
GPA: 4.3/4.5, Sun Moon University, S. Korea  
President's Award 2005, Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement – Samsung Corp.

## TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

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- (Tentative) Monte Carlo Tools for Beyond the Standard Model Physics, Durham, UK Apr 2018  
Invited Talk: MONTE CARLO TOOLS IN CUORE
- Argonne National Laboratory Feb 2018  
Seminar: CUORE: A BOLOMETRIC SEARCH FOR LEPTON NUMBER VIOLATION
- Division of Nuclear Physics, Pittsburgh/Carnegie Mellon University Oct 2017  
Talk: CUORE AND BACKGROUND REDUCTION CASE STUDIES FOR CUPID
- Conference on Science at SURF, South Dakota May 2017  
Invited talk: STATUS OF THE CUORE  $0\nu\beta\beta$  DECAY SEARCH
- Fermilab - Frontiers of Liquid Scintillator Technology Mar 2016  
Invited talk: PARTICLE ID AND EVENT RECONSTRUCTION ALGORITHMS IN SCINTILLATOR
- Los Alamos National Laboratory Nov 2015  
Seminar: HIGH ENERGY ANALYSIS AT KAMLAND AND APPLICATION TO DARK MATTER SEARCH
- California Institute of Technology Nov 2015  
Seminar: HIGH ENERGY ANALYSIS AT KAMLAND AND APPLICATION TO DARK MATTER SEARCH
- University of California, Los Angeles Oct 2015  
Seminar: HIGH ENERGY ANALYSIS AT KAMLAND AND APPLICATION TO DARK MATTER SEARCH
- DOE project review, Honolulu, Hawaii Jul 2015  
Talk: HIGH ENERGY ANALYSIS AND APPLICATION TO DARK MATTER SEARCH IN KAMLAND
- Neutrino, Kyoto, Japan Jun 2012  
Poster: INDIRECT DARK-MATTER DETECTION THROUGH KAMLAND
- University of Hawaii Campus Open-house Nov 2010, 2011  
Talks: WHAT IS A NEUTRINO?, MINI-TIMECUBE: THE WORLD'S SMALLEST NEUTRINO DETECTOR
- Applied Antineutrino Physics, Sendai, Japan Aug 2010  
Talk: MINI-TIMECUBE: A PORTABLE DIRECTIONAL NEUTRINO DETECTOR
- DOE project review, Honolulu, Hawaii Sep 2009  
Talk: KAMLAND SUMMARY
- Fermilab - International Neutrino Summer School Jul 2009  
Talk: STUDENT PRESENTATION: HOW TO SOLVE  $\theta_{23}$  DEGENERACY

## PUBLICATIONS

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- [1] C. Alduino *et al.*, “Study of Rare Nuclear Processes with CUORE,” *Submitted to: Int. J. Mod. Phys. A*, 2018.
- [2] C. Alduino *et al.*, “First Results from CUORE: A Search for Lepton Number Violation via  $0\nu\beta\beta$  Decay of  $^{130}\text{Te}$ ,” 2017.
- [3] C. Alduino *et al.*, “Search for Neutrinoless  $\beta^+EC$  Decay of  $^{120}\text{Te}$  with CUORE-0,” 2017.
- [4] N. Moggi *et al.*, “Results from CUORE and CUORE-0,” *AIP Conf. Proc.*, vol. 1894, no. 1, p. 020016, 2017.
- [5] C. Alduino *et al.*, “Low Energy Analysis Techniques for CUORE,” *Eur. Phys. J.*, vol. C77, no. 12, p. 857, 2017.
- [6] C. Alduino *et al.*, “CUORE sensitivity to  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay,” *Eur. Phys. J.*, vol. C77, no. 8, p. 532, 2017.
- [7] C. Alduino *et al.*, “The projected background for the CUORE experiment,” *Eur. Phys. J.*, vol. C77, no. 8, p. 543, 2017.
- [8] A. Gando *et al.*, “A search for electron antineutrinos associated with gravitational wave events GW150914 and GW151226 using KamLAND,” *Astrophys. J.*, vol. 829, no. 2, p. L34, 2016. [Erratum: *Astrophys. J.* 851, no. 1, L22(2017)].
- [9] V. A. Li *et al.*, “Invited Article: miniTimeCube,” *Rev. Sci. Instrum.*, vol. 87, no. 2, p. 021301, 2016.
- [10] K. Asakura *et al.*, “Search for the proton decay mode  $p \rightarrow \bar{\nu}K^+$  with KamLAND,” *Phys. Rev.*, vol. D92, no. 5, p. 052006, 2015.
- [11] K. Asakura *et al.*, “KamLAND Sensitivity to Neutrinos from Pre-Supernova Stars,” *Astrophys. J.*, vol. 818, no. 1, p. 91, 2016.
- [12] C. Lane *et al.*, “A new type of Neutrino Detector for Sterile Neutrino Search at Nuclear Reactors and Nuclear Nonproliferation Applications,” 2015.
- [13] K. Asakura *et al.*, “Study of electron anti-neutrinos associated with gamma-ray bursts using KamLAND,” *Astrophys. J.*, vol. 806, no. 1, p. 87, 2015.
- [14] T. I. Banks *et al.*, “A compact ultra-clean system for deploying radioactive sources inside the KamLAND detector,” *Nucl. Instrum. Meth.*, vol. A769, pp. 88–96, 2015.
- [15] A. Gando *et al.*, “ $^7\text{Be}$  Solar Neutrino Measurement with KamLAND,” *Phys. Rev.*, vol. C92, no. 5, p. 055808, 2015.
- [16] S. Abe *et al.*, “Measurement of the 8B Solar Neutrino Flux with the KamLAND Liquid Scintillator Detector,” *Phys. Rev.*, vol. C84, p. 035804, 2011.
- [17] J. Kumar, J. G. Learned, M. Sakai, and S. Smith, “Dark Matter Detection With Electron Neutrinos in Liquid Scintillation Detectors,” *Phys. Rev.*, vol. D84, p. 036007, 2011.

## STATEMENT OF RESEARCH

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I have been involved with the CUORE (Cryogenic Underground Observatory for Rare Events) experiment at the University of California, Los Angeles since 2016. The main objective of the experiment is to hunt for lepton number violation by observing neutrinoless double beta ( $0\nu\beta\beta$ ) decay in  $^{130}\text{Te}$ . CUORE employs an almost 20 fold increase in detector mass compared to its previously successful pilot experiment CUORE-0. My work in the collaboration currently involves development of a precision background model together with a graduate student colleague to better understand the radioactive contaminations in the detector. The energy spectrum of the backgrounds in the so called  $\alpha$  region ( $\gtrsim 2.5$  MeV) exhibit peculiar features that, if understood correctly, will better explain the types of contamination sources and their distributions in the materials comprising the experiment. This can potentially help us to better understand our backgrounds in the energy region of interest (2465 keV to 2575 keV) for  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay in  $^{130}\text{Te}$ . I have previously also mentored 2 undergraduate students and worked together with them to simulate and investigate new radioactivity shielding schemes for further background reduction in future  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay experiments that aim to cover the inverted hierarchy region of the effective Majorana neutrino mass. A paper for our first  $0\nu\beta\beta$  analysis using CUORE data was recently accepted by PRL for publication.

I developed a novel directional event reconstruction algorithm for high-energy  $\gtrsim\text{GeV}$  scale neutrinos while working with KamLAND (Kamioka Liquid Scintillation Antineutrino Detector), and demonstrated with data that this technique can be applied to indirect dark matter search by looking for a directional flux of neutrinos from the core of the Sun and Earth. Studies done with Monte Carlo suggest that the accuracy of deducing the neutrino direction using this new method is better than that of water-Cherenkov detectors (the conventional method for directional neutrino detection) by  $\sim 10^\circ$  in this energy regime. This method was verified using never before observed neutrino events spilling into KamLAND from the T2K neutrino beam-line. The results were consistent with expectation. According to my knowledge, this is the first ever physics application of neutrino directionality in scintillator.

My work with KamLAND further involved demonstration of 3-dimensional topological event imaging techniques, originally developed in the LENA (Low Energy Neutrino Astronomy) collaboration, using data for the first time. The  $\sim 3.5$  ns timing resolution of the PMTs (photomultiplier tubes) employed in KamLAND are not good enough to do a detailed imaging of all the individual tracks in a neutrino event. Nevertheless  $\gtrsim\text{GeV}$  muon tracks and high enough energy tracks in a neutrino event were imaged as well as the overall direction of the final state particles to resolve the incoming neutrino direction. In addition  $\frac{dE}{dx}$  profiles were investigated to perform unprecedented particle ID studies in scintillator at these energies. A paper employing these techniques I developed to conduct an indirect dark matter search is currently under preparation.

In addition, I have worked as the lead Geant4 simulation designer for the mini-TimeCube collaboration at University of Hawaii at Manoa. mini-TimeCube is an ambitious project to build the world's smallest portable neutrino detector. In this project, I mentored 3 undergraduate students and worked in collaboration with them to conduct case studies for optimizing the detector design, test candidate neutron capture doping elements in plastic scintillator, and simulate the response of the multi-channel-plate (MCP) PMTs deployed in the detector. The studies were used during construction of the detector, and to develop directional algorithms that are now being tested in analyses of neutrons from test sources as well as neutrinos from nuclear reactors at NIST. Working with the mini-TimeCube project has further involved designing and fabricating PCB boards as well as contributing to the FPGA firmware for the readout electronics. A paper summarizing our accomplishments was published in 2016 (V. A. Li et al. Invited Article: miniTimeCube. Rev. Sci. Instrum., 87(2):021301, 2016, 1602.01405).

As a prospective postdoctoral researcher at the University of North Carolina, I would like to continue to my hunt for solving the mysteries of the neutrino. My past experiences in the commissioning phase of a world-class  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay experiment as well as innovative endeavors spearheading the development of novel methods in neutrino event reconstruction makes me a strong candidate to apply for your position. I believe I can make a significant impact in your team at UNC.

## REFERENCES

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Supplied upon request or please contact in person.

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