

A preliminary investigation into determining $CC0\pi$ cross-section sensitivities in SBND



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1st year PhD report

Abstract

Random stuff

1. Introduction

Neutrino physics is at the core of current high energy research. One of the profound discoveries made in recent years was the observation of neutrino flavour oscillations by the Super-Kamiokande experiment, which was the first confirmation that physics existed beyond the standard model of particle physics. In brief, neutrinos described by the standard model would be massless particles, but since the flavours are made up of superpositions of mass states, the oscillation of the flavour states implies that the mass states are different, and therefore non-zero [?].

Future, long-baseline, neutrino experiments such as the Deep Underground Neutrino Experiment (DUNE) and Hyper-Kamiokande (Hyper-K) are hoping to investigate some of the most fundamental questions we are still asking: Why does the universe consist of matter, and not anti-matter? What is the neutrino mass hierarchy?

Neutrino research is an extremely active field. Optimising the current and future detectors to maximise the accuracy of all interaction analyses is a crucial step towards obtaining concrete answers to these questions.

1.1. Neutrino interactions

Due to the elusive nature of the neutrino, directly observing one in a detector isn't possible. It is therefore necessary to infer their existence from particles produced when they interact. Since this process relies upon the reconstruction capability of the experiment, purpose-built detectors will attempt to maximise the efficiency of this.

Another property of the neutrino which poses a significant difficulty within detectors is their interaction probability, or cross-section. A typical neutrino cross-section is on the order of 10^{-44} cm² which translates to ~ 1 interaction every 10 light years in steel, for neutrinos with only a few MeV energy [?]. This fact introduces the need for the interacting neutrinos to have high energies in these dedicated experiments, if we are to sufficiently reduce their mean free path.

More detail on this topic will be discussed in section 2.

1.2. GENIE

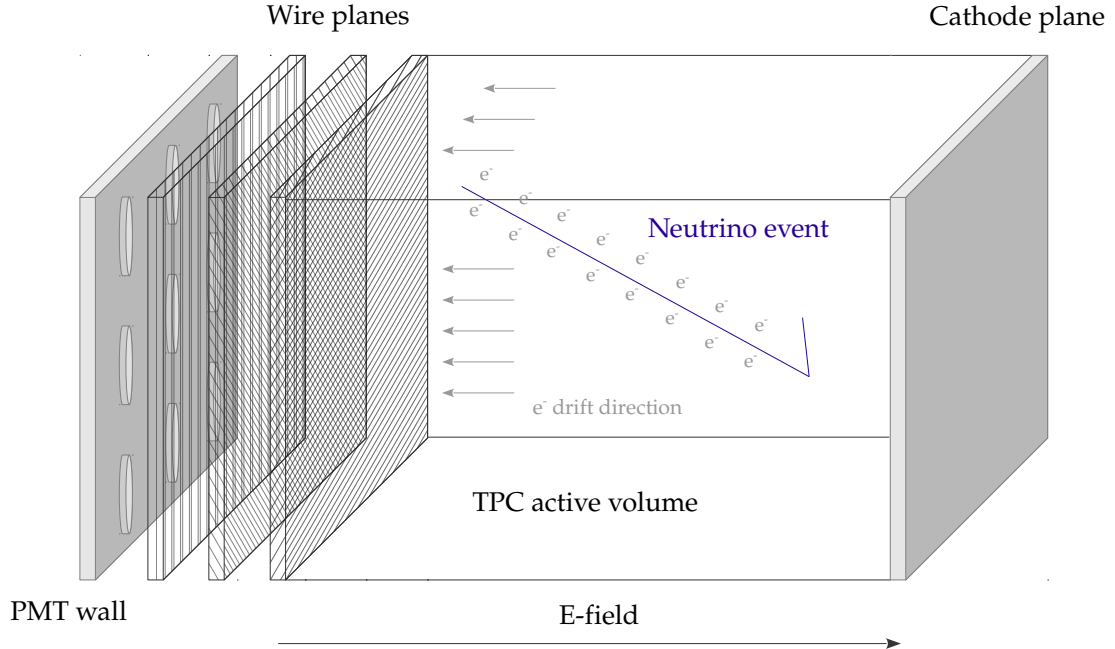
GENIE is the world leading neutrino interaction generator.

1.3. Cross-sections

- Why?
 - Simulation
 - GENIE
- Historical

- Current knowledge
- Needs for future
 - LArTPCs
 - Statistics

Process		No. Events
<hr/>		
ν_μ Events		
CC 0 π	$\nu_\mu N \rightarrow \mu + Np$	3,551,830
CC 1 π^\pm	$\nu_\mu N \rightarrow \mu + nucleons + 1\pi^\pm$	1,161,610
CC $\geq 2\pi^\pm$	$\nu_\mu N \rightarrow \mu + nucleons + \geq 2\pi^\pm$	97,929
CC $\geq 1\pi^0$	$\nu_\mu N \rightarrow \mu + nucleons + \geq 1\pi^0$	497,963
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NC 0 π	$\nu_\mu N \rightarrow nucleons$	1,371,070
NC 1 π^\pm	$\nu_\mu N \rightarrow nucleons + 1\pi^\pm$	260,924
NC $\geq 2\pi^\pm$	$\nu_\mu N \rightarrow nucleons + \geq 2\pi^\pm$	31,940
NC $\geq 1\pi^0$	$\nu_\mu N \rightarrow nucleons + \geq 1\pi^0$	358,443
<hr/>		
Total ν_μ & ν_e events		7,251,948



1.4. SBND

- LArTPC general functionality

- LArTPC resolution benefits
- Comparison with other detector materials
 - Example event display?
- SBND specifics
 - Dimensions
 - Beamline
 - Flux
 - Statistics
- Cross-section precision capabilities

1.5. GENIE-Professor global fits

2. Neutrino Interaction Phenomenology in the few-GeV Energy Range

2.1. Dominant topologies

2.2. Golden channel

2.3. Signal

2.4. Potential backgrounds

2.5. Maybe some results here?

3. Theory and Recent Measurements of $CC0\pi$ Cross-Section

3.1. Cross-sections

Inc. equations

3.2. Method

3.3. Unfolding

3.4. Results

Plots and cross-section values

4. A Global Fit of $CC0\pi$ Data

4.1. Experiments involved

4.2. Process

4.3. Results

5. Prospects for a $\text{CC}0\pi$ Measurement at SBND and Sensitivity Estimates

5.1. SBND sensitivity

5.2. Future

6. Discussion