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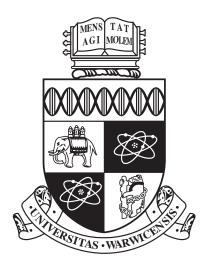
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## A Real Good Title

by

## Paula Friederike Denner

#### Thesis

Submitted to The University of Warwick

for the degree of

Doctor of Philosophy

## Physics

September 2018



"You know, Sir, sometimes I think there's a great ocean of thruth out there and I'm just sitting on the beach playing with...with stones."

PONDER STIBBONS

"Sometimes, if you pay real close attention to the pebbles you find out about the ocean."

TERRY PRATCHETT

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## Acknowledgments

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#### Abstract

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## Introduction

The Standard Model is widely hailed as the most precisely tested model ever. Measurements of the electroweak sector at LEP agree astoundingly well with predictions from theory, and the recent discovery of the Higgs boson at the LHC appears to have completed the picture. Unfortunately the Standard Model has some very large, very obvious flaws. Firstly, it makes no statement about gravity despite it being one of the largest driving forces of the formation of galaxies, stars, and planets. In addition, measurements of the rotational velocities of galaxies have revealed that there is very likely more matter in the universe than we can see. The Standard Model does not make any predictions for what this dark matter could be made of. In fact, recent measurements of distant supernovae suggest that the expansion of the universe is accelerating, requiring some form of energy source - this dark energy is also not predicted anywhere in the Standard Model. The final large flaw is the models current inability to provide the drastic matter-antimatter asymmetry which is seen in the universe today. The discovery of neutrino oscillations in the early 2000s [1, 2], described in chapter 2 has shown one of the first glimpses of new physics beyond the Standard Model, as it demonstrates that neutrinos have mass (though it doesn't tell us exactly what that mass is). This raises new and interesting questions such as what is the neutrinos mass, and why is it so small? Neutrino oscillations allow the possibility of CP-violation in the lepton sector which is required by many new models which generate the matter-antimatter asymmetry in the universe. In addition, some proposals of additional sterile neutrinos can function as dark matter candidates. These sterile neutrinos, if they exist, may be indirectly discovered in oscillation experiments.

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## **Neutrino Physics**

- 2.1 A Brief History of Neutrino Physics
- 2.2 Neutrinos in the Standard Model
- 2.3 Neutrino Oscillations and Neutrino Mass
- 2.3.1 Oscillation Phenomenology
- 2.3.2 Matter effects
- 2.3.3 Absolute Neutrino Mass
- 2.3.4 The Mass Hierarchy
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- 2.3.6 The State of the Field
- 2.4 Neutrino Interactions
- 2.4.1 Neutrino Cross-Section Models

# Contemporary and Next Generation Experiments

- 3.1 Future Long Baseline Experiments
- 3.1.1 Hyper-Kamiokande
- 3.1.2 The Deep Underground Experiment (DUNE)
- 3.2 High Pressure Argon Gas Time Projection Chambers

# The Tokai-to-Kamioka Experiment (T2K)

- 4.1 Super-Kamiokande and the Near Detector (ND280)
- 4.2 The ND280 Software Processing Chain
- 4.2.1 Calibration
- 4.2.2 Reconstruction
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# Event Reconstruction with TREx

- 5.1 The TREx Algorithms
- 5.1.1 Pattern Recognition
- 5.1.2 Track Fitting, Matching and Merging
- 5.2 Adapting TREx for High Pressure Gas TPCs
- 5.3 Short Proton Track Optimisation

# Neutrino Interactions on Argon Gas

- 6.1 The Selection
- 6.2 Systematic Uncertainties
- 6.3 Cross-section Measurement and Results

# Conclusions

# Appendix

Philosophical Essays

What are Objects/Are there Objects?

# Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations

# Bibliography

 $[1]\,$  Someone. A Book Title. A Publisher, A City, Place, 1990.