

# PRANAVA TEJA SURUKUCHI

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## Education

- 2014 – 2019      **Ph.D., Physics**  
Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, IL, USA  
*Thesis Title: Search for Sterile Neutrino Oscillations with the PROSPECT Experiment*
- 2012 – 2013      **M.S., Physics**  
Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, IL, USA
- 2006 – 2010      **B.Tech., Mechanical Engineering**  
Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, Hyderabad, India

## Appointments

- 2019 – Present      **Postdoctoral Research Associate**  
Yale University, Wright Laboratory, New Haven, CT, USA  
Advisor: Dr. Karsten Heeger
- 2014 – 2019      **Research Assistant**  
Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, IL, USA  
Advisor: Dr. Bryce Littlejohn

## Research Projects

- 2019 – Present      **CUORE and CUPID** (*neutrinoless double beta decay experiments*)
- **WBS lead** on acoustic and vibration sensors for the CUPID experiment
  - Coordinating the data production and high-level analyses for the upcoming search for  $0\nu\beta\beta$
  - Coordinated the design of the muon veto system for the CUORE/CUPID experiment
  - CUORE Vetting Board member (Nov 2019 - Nov 2021)
  - Coordinated and performed efficiency estimations for two  $0\nu\beta\beta$  search campaigns
- 2019 – Present      **Project 8** (*neutrino mass measurement experiment*)
- **Chair** of Phase-III antenna array design working group (June 2020 – Present)
  - **Coordinator** of Phase-III position, track, and event reconstruction group (Oct 2020 – Present)
  - **Early Career Representative** to the science board (Jan 2020 – Jan 2022)
  - Coordinated the fabrication, assembly, commissioning, and data taking of the antenna array CRES demonstrator
  - Developed simulations and signal reconstruction for antenna array radiation detection

2014 – Present     **PROSPECT** (*Reactor oscillation and spectrum experiment*)

- **Convener** of oscillation working group (2017-2019)
- **Lead** of design, fabrication, QA, and assembly of the target segmentation system
- **Developer** of PROSPECT's official sterile neutrino search framework
- Performed PROSPECT's first oscillation search for eV-scale sterile neutrinos
- Member of PROSPECT analysis coordination group (2017-2019)

## Teaching and Mentoring

2022	<b>Coordinator of the Mentorship Committee</b> Yale Postdoctoral Association
2021	<b>PHYS 530/BBS 879: Theory and Practice of Scientific Teaching</b> Poorvu Center for Teaching and Learning, Yale University, New Haven, CT, USA
2021	<b>Mentorship Training Program for Postdocs</b> Yale Postdoctoral Affairs, Yale University, New Haven, CT, USA
2014	<b>Teaching Assistant</b> Department of Physics, Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, IL, USA
2013 - 2016	<b>Graduate Scholar (Tutor)</b> Academic Resource Center, Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, IL, USA
2012	<b>Program Instructor</b> Chicago Public Schools, Chicago, IL, USA

## Students Mentored

<b>Iris Ponce</b>	2020 - Present	Graduate student at Yale University <i>Development of simulations and DAQ for the CUPID muon veto system</i> <i>Efficiency estimation for CUORE's search for <math>0\nu\beta\beta</math></i>
<b>Samantha Pagan</b>	2019 - Present	Graduate student at Yale University <i>Prototyping, design, and data analysis for the CUPID muon veto system</i>
<b>Ridge Liu</b>	2020 - Present	Graduate student at Yale University <i>Correlation analysis between CUORE detectors and auxiliary devices</i> <i>Efficiency estimation for CUORE's search for <math>0\nu\beta\beta</math></i>
<b>Caitlin Gainey</b>	2019 - 2021	Undergraduate student at Yale University <i>Development of Geant4 simulations for the CUPID muon veto system</i>
<b>Gabe Hoshino</b>	2020 - 2021	Now at the University of Chicago <i>Development of Geant4 simulations for the CUPID muon veto system</i>
<b>Yonas Gebre</b>	2016 - 2018	Now at the University of Colorado, Boulder <i>Examine the prospects for measuring individual isotopic fluxes</i>
<b>Trent Rayford</b>	Summer 2022	Pursuing Associate Degree at Manchester Community College <i>Designing a test stand to characterize antennas for the Project 8 experiment</i>

## Outreach

- CUPID collaboration - **Outreach Coordinator** (2022–Present)
- Yale Physics Olympics 2019 - **Executive Member**
- Academy of Urban School Leadership 7<sup>th</sup> annual STEAM fair 2018 - **Judge**
- International Conference on High Energy Physics 2016 - **Outreach Volunteer**
- Math Club, Illinois Institute of Technology - **Vice President** (2012-2013)
- IIT High School Math Competition - **Executive Member** (2013, 2012)
- Skyway Enrichment Program - **Program Developer** (2012)

## Synergistic Activities and Service

- Snowmass 2021 White Paper on Light Sterile Neutrino Searches and Related Phenomenology - **Editor**
- APS DNP 2022 - **Session Chair**
- APS DNP Conference Experience for Undergraduates 2022 - **Mentor**
- Snowmass 2021 Neutrino Properties (NF05) - **Early Career Liaison**
- Nuclear Particle and Astrophysics Seminar Series - **Organizer** (2020–2021)
- Snowmass 2021 Early Career Long-Term Organization - **Team Leader** (2020)
- APS DNP Conference Experience for Undergraduates 2020 - **Chair**
- APS DNP Conference Experience for Undergraduates 2020 - **Mentor**
- APS DNP Conference Experience for Undergraduates 2019 - **Mentor**
- Chicago Area STEM Exhibition 2018 - **Judge**
- Chicago Area Undergraduate Research Symposium 2017 - **Judge**

## Awards and Recognition

2017	<b>2017 APS April meeting Travel Grant</b> Awarded to support travel to APS April meeting to present research work
2016, 2015	<b>IIT Annual BCPS poster presentation award</b> First(2016), second(2015) prize for presenting a research poster at the Annual Biology, Chemistry, and Physics poster session
2015	<b>Faculty nominated member to Sigma Pi Sigma</b>

## Invited Seminars and Talks

**[15] Beta Decays as Probes of Sterile Neutrinos**

Snowmass 2021 Community Summer Study Workshop, University of Washington, June 17–26, 2022

**[14] Status of Searches for Sterile Neutrinos with Reactor and Radioactive Sources**

Snowmass 2021 Community Summer Study Workshop, University of Washington, June 17–26, 2022

**[13] Search for  $0\nu\beta\beta$  with CUPID**

CoSSURF 2022, South Dakota School of Mines & Technology, May 11–13, 2022

**[12] Latest Results from the CUORE Experiment**

CoSSURF 2022, South Dakota School of Mines & Technology, May 11–13, 2022

**[11] Measurement of Neutrino Mass with Project 8**

Fermi National Laboratory Neutrino Seminar, March 24, 2022

**[10] Direct Measurement of Neutrino Mass with Project 8 Experiment**

Fundamental Physics Directorate seminars, SLAC, Remote seminar, Nov 30, 2021

**[9] Latest Status on the Search for Sterile Neutrinos**

40<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Physics in Collision (PIC 2020), Aachen, Germany, Sep 14 – 17, 2021

**[8] Latest Results from the CUORE Experiment**

20<sup>th</sup> Lomonosov Conference on Elementary Particle Physics, Moscow, Russia, Aug 19 – 25, 2021

**[7] Near Future Reactor Antineutrino Inputs to Nuclear Data**

Nuclear Data for Reactor Antineutrino Measurements Workshop, Brookhaven National Laboratory, June 2021

**[6] Latest Results from the CUORE Experiment**

Nuclear, Particle, and Astrophysics Seminar, Yale University, May 19, 2021

**[5] Direct Measurement of Neutrino Mass with the Project 8 Experiment**

Kavli Institute for Cosmological Physics Seminar Series, University of Chicago, Feb 25, 2021

**[4] CUORE, CUPID, and the Nature of Neutrino Mass**

Brookhaven National Laboratory Seminar, June 18, 2020

**[3] First search for short-baseline neutrino oscillations at HFIR with PROSPECT**

Fermilab Joint Experimental-Theoretical Physics Seminar, Fermilab, Batavia, IL, USA, Aug, 2018

**[2] Prospects for Sterile Neutrino Searches at Reactors (Invited)**

Nu Horizons VII, Harish Chandra Research Institute, Allahabad, India, Feb 22, 2018

**[1] PROSPECT: A Precision Reactor Oscillation and Spectrum Experiment**

Indian Institute of Technology, Hyderabad, India, Feb 19, 2016

## Conferences and Presentations

**[20] Antenna Arrays for Cyclotron Radiation Emission Spectroscopy in Project 8**

APS DNP Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA, Oct 30, 2022

- [19] **Physics Opportunities Beyond the Neutrino Mass Measurement with Project 8**  
Neutrino 2022, Seoul, South Korea, May 30–June 4, 2022
- [18] **Physics Opportunities Beyond the Neutrino Mass Measurement with Project 8**  
APS April Meeting, New York, USA, Apr 9–12, 2022
- [17] **Physics Potential of the PROSPECT-II Experiment**  
Workshop on New Physics Opportunities at Neutrino Experiments, University of Pittsburgh, PA, Feb 2022
- [16] **Latest Results from the CUORE Experiment in Search for  $0\nu\beta\beta$**   
APS DNP Conference, Oct 12, 2021
- [15] **Event Reconstruction in the Project 8 Free Space CRES Demonstrator**  
APS April Meeting, remote conference, Apr 19, 2021
- [14] **Analysis Techniques for Background Reduction and Event Identification in the Search for  $0\nu\beta\beta$  with CUORE**  
APS DNP Conference, Oct 30, 2020
- [13] **Simulation and Signal Extraction for the Project 8 Free Space CRES Demonstrator**  
Neutrino 2020, Fermilab, June 22 – July 2, 2020
- [12] **Modeling Transmitting Antennas to Simulate Phase-III of the Project 8 Experiment**  
APS DNP Conference, Arlington, Virginia, USA, Oct 16, 2019
- [11] **Measurement of Reactor Antineutrino Spectrum from  $^{235}\text{U}$  using PROSPECT**  
APS DPF Conference, Northeastern University, Boston, MA, USA, Aug 8, 2019
- [10] **Searching for Sterile Neutrino Oscillations with the PROSPECT Experiment (Poster)**  
51st Annual Users Meeting, Fermilab, Batavia, IL, USA, Jun 20, 2018
- [9] **Prospects for Improved Understanding of Isotopic Reactor Antineutrino Fluxes**  
5th Annual PIKIO Conference, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, IL, USA, Mar 17, 2018
- [8] **Design of the PROSPECT Experiment (Poster)**  
International Neutrino Summer School, Chicago, IL, USA, Aug 16, 2017
- [7] **PROSPECT: Precision Reactor Oscillation and Spectrum Experiment**  
APS DPF Conference, Fermilab, Chicago, IL, USA, Aug 8, 2017
- [6] **Sterile Neutrino Search with the PROSPECT Experiment**  
New Perspectives Conference, Fermilab, Chicago, IL, USA, Jun 6, 2017
- [5] **A Precision Reactor Oscillation and Spectrum Experiment**  
IPA 2017, Chicago, IL, USA, May 9, 2017
- [4] **Sterile Neutrino Search with the PROSPECT Experiment**  
APS April Meeting, Washington DC, USA, Jan 28, 2017
- [3] **Design of the PROSPECT Experiment (Poster)**  
International Conference on High Energy Physics, Chicago, IL, USA, Aug 6, 2016
- [2] **Background and Detector Response Studies for PROSPECT Experiment**

Prairie Section American Physical Society Meeting, Notre Dame University, South Bend, IN, USA, Nov 2015

**[1] PROSPECT: A Precision Reactor Oscillation and Spectrum Experiment**

New Perspectives Conference, Fermilab, Chicago, IL, USA, Jun 8, 2015

## Significant Refereed Publications

*(Publications where I made significant contributions)*

**[10] Search for Majorana neutrinos exploiting millikelvin cryogenics with CUORE**

CUORE Collaboration, Nature (2022) 604, pages 53–58

*Contribution: Mentored a team of students to perform efficiency analysis crucial for  $0\nu\beta\beta$  search*

**[9] CUORE Opens the Door to Tonne-scale Cryogenics Experiments**

CUORE Collaboration, PNP (2021) 103902

*Contribution: Primary co-author and coordinator of the manuscript*

**[8] Improved Limit on Neutrinoless Double-Beta Decay in  $^{130}\text{Te}$  with CUORE**

CUORE Collaboration, Phys. Rev. Letter. 124, 122501 (2020)

*Contribution: Performed efficiency analysis crucial for  $0\nu\beta\beta$  search*

**[7] Diagnosing the Reactor Antineutrino Anomaly with Global Antineutrino Flux Data**

C. Giunti, Y.F. Li, B.R. Littlejohn, P.T. Surukuchi, Phys. Rev. D 99, 073005 (2019)

*Contribution: Analyzer of the global neutrino data*

**[6] Measurement of the Antineutrino Spectrum from  $^{235}\text{U}$  Fission at HFIR with PROSPECT**

PROSPECT Collaboration, Phys. Rev. Lett. 122, 251801 (2019)

*Contribution: Performed secondary cross-checks and interpretation of the results*

**[5] A Low Mass Optical Grid for the PROSPECT Reactor Antineutrino Detector**

PROSPECT Collaboration, JINST 14, P04014 (2019)

*Contribution: Instrumentation lead and primary co-author of the paper*

**[4] The PROSPECT Reactor Antineutrino Experiment**

PROSPECT Collaboration, Nuclear Inst. and Methods in Physics Research, A (2018), Pages 287-309

*Contribution: Performed sensitivity estimation and contributed to the writing of the manuscript*

**[3] First search for short-baseline neutrino oscillations at HFIR with PROSPECT**

PROSPECT Collaboration, Phys. Rev. Lett. 121 251802 (2018)

*Contribution: Led design, fabrication, QA, and assembly of the target segmentation system. Furthermore coordinated and performed the search for sterile neutrinos which was the basis for my Ph.D., thesis.*

**[2] Prospects for improved understanding of isotopic reactor antineutrino fluxes**

Y.Gebre, B. R. Littlejohn, P. T. Surukuchi, Phys. Rev. D 97, 013003 (2017)

*Contribution: Primary analyzer and corresponding author*

**[1] The PROSPECT Physics Program**

PROSPECT Collaboration, J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys. 43 113001 (2016)

*Contribution: Performed sensitivity studies and contributed to the writing of the manuscript*

## Other Refereed Publications

[21] **An Energy-dependent Electro-thermal Response Model of CUORE Cryogenic Calorimeter**

CUORE Collaboration, JINST 17, P11023 (2022)

[20] **New direct limit on neutrinoless double beta decay half-life of  $^{128}\text{Te}$  with CUORE**

CUORE Collaboration, Phys. Rev. Lett., 129 (2022), 222501

[19] **Search for Neutrinoless  $\beta^+EC$  Decay of  $^{120}\text{Te}$  with CUORE**

CUORE Collaboration, Phys. Rev. C., 105 (2022), 065504

[18] **Viterbi decoding of CRES signals in Project 8**

Project 8 Collaboration, J. Phys. G 24 053013

[17] **PROSPECT-II Physics Opportunities**

PROSPECT Collaboration, J. Phys. G 49 070501

[16] **Joint Measurement of the  $^{235}\text{U}$  Antineutrino Spectrum by PROSPECT and STEREO**

PROSPECT and STEREO Collaborations, Phys. Rev. Lett., 128 (2021), 081802

[15] **Joint Determination of Reactor Antineutrino Spectra from  $^{235}\text{U}$  and  $^{239}\text{Pu}$  Fission by Daya Bay and PROSPECT**

Daya Bay and PROSPECT Collaborations, Phys. Rev. Lett., 128 (2021), 081801

[14] **Bayesian Analysis of a Future Beta Decay Experiment's Sensitivity to Neutrino Mass Scale and Ordering**

Project 8 Collaboration, Phys.Rev.C., 103 (2021) 6, 065501

[13] **Measurement of the  $2\nu\beta\beta$  Decay Half-Life of  $^{130}\text{Te}$  with CUORE**

CUORE Collaboration, Phys.Rev.Lett., 126 (2021) 17, 171801

[12] **Search for Double-Beta Decay of  $^{130}\text{Te}$  to the  $0^+$  States of  $^{130}\text{Xe}$  with CUORE**

CUORE Collaboration, Eur.Phys.J.C volume 81 (2021) 567

[11] **Characterization of cubic  $\text{Li}_2^{100}\text{MoO}_4$  crystals for the CUPID experiment**

CUPID Collaboration, Eur.Phys. J. C 81 (2021) 2, 104

[10] **A CUPID  $\text{Li}_2^{100}\text{MoO}_4$  scintillating bolometer tested in the CROSS underground facility**

CUPID Collaboration, JINST 16, P02037 (2021)

[9] **A novel technique for the study of pile-up events in cryogenic bolometers**

CUPID Collaboration, Phys. Rev. C., 104, 015501 (2021)

[8] **Limits on Sub-GeV Dark Matter from the PROSPECT Reactor Antineutrino Experiment**

PROSPECT Collaboration, Phys.Rev.D., 104 (2021) 1, 012009

[7] **Improved Short-Baseline Neutrino Oscillation Search and Energy Spectrum Measurement with the PROSPECT Experiment at HFIR**

PROSPECT Collaboration, Phys. Rev. D., 103, 032001 (2021)

[6] **Nonfuel antineutrino contributions in the ORNL High Flux Isotope Reactor**

PROSPECT Collaboration, Phys.Rev.C., 101 (2020)

**[5] The Radioactive Source Calibration System of the PROSPECT Reactor Antineutrino Detector**

PROSPECT Collaboration, Nuclear Inst. and Methods in Physics Research, A (2019), 162465

**[4] Lithium-loaded Liquid Scintillator Production for the PROSPECT experiment**

PROSPECT Collaboration, JINST 14, P03026 (2019)

**[3] Performance of a segmented  $^6\text{Li}$ -loaded liquid scintillator detector for the PROSPECT experiment**

PROSPECT Collaboration, JINST 13, P06023 (2018)

**[2] Background radiation measurements at high power research reactors**

PROSPECT Collaboration, Nuclear Inst. and Methods in Physics Research, A (2016), pp. 401-419

**[1] Light collection and pulse-shape discrimination in elongated scintillator cells for the PROSPECT reactor antineutrino experiment**

PROSPECT Collaboration, JINST 10, P11004 (2015)

## **Proposals, Reports, Preprints, and Proceedings**

**[14] Neutrinoless Double Beta Decay**

community-driven document prepared for Nuclear Science Advisory Committee Long Range Plan, arXiv:2212.11099

**[13] Improved Measurement of the  $^{235}\text{U}$  Antineutrino Spectrum by PROSPECT**

Project 8 Collaboration, arXiv:2212.10669

**[12] SYNCA: A Synthetic Cyclotron Antenna for the Project 8 Collaboration**

Project 8 Collaboration, arXiv:2212.08026

**[11] Tritium Beta Spectrum and Neutrino Mass Limit from Cyclotron Radiation Emission Spectroscopy**

Project 8 Collaboration, arXiv:2212.05048

**[10] Calibration strategy of the PROSPECT-II detector with external and intrinsic sources**

PROSPECT Collaboration, arXiv:2211.09582

**[9] Toward CUPID-1T**

CUPID Collaboration, arXiv:2203.08386

**[8] White Paper on Light Sterile Neutrino Searches and Related Phenomenology**

Snowmass 2021 Neutrino Frontier, arXiv:2203.07323

**[7] Physics Opportunities with PROSPECT-II**

PROSPECT Collaboration, arXiv:2202.12343

**[6] The Project 8 Neutrino Mass Experiment**

Project 8 Collaboration, arXiv:2203.07349

**[5] Note on arXiv:2005.05301, 'Preparation of the Neutrino-4 experiment on search for sterile neutrino and the obtained results of measurements'**

PROSPECT Collaboration and STEREO Collaboration, arXiv:2006.13147



[4] **Measurement of the Reactor Antineutrino Spectrum from  $^{235}\text{U}$  Fission using PROSPECT**  
in Meeting of the Division of Particles and Fields of the American Physical Society 2019, arXiv:1910.04924

[3] **CUPID pre-CDR**  
CUPID Collaboration, arXiv:1907.09376

[2] **Design of the PROSPECT Experiment**  
In 38<sup>th</sup> International Conference on High Energy Physics 2016, PoS., 10.22323/1.282.0938

[1] **PROSPECT - A Precision Reactor Oscillation and Spectrum Experiment at Short Baselines**  
PROSPECT Collaboration, arXiv:1309.7647

## Technical Skills

Programming Languages	C, C++, ROOT, Bash, Java, LaTeX Mathematica, Python, MySQL, PostgreSQL, Geant4
Platforms	Linux, Mac OSX, Microsoft Windows
Tools and Technologies	AutoCAD Inventor, Microsoft Office, Additive manufacturing techniques

## Other Work Experience

2012 - 2015	<b>IT Manager</b> TechNews, student-run newspaper at Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, IL, USA
2012 - 2014	<b>Help Desk Assistant</b> Office of Technical Services, Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, IL, USA
2010 - 2011	<b>Assistant Systems Engineer</b> Tata Consultancy Services, Mumbai, India

## Languages

English	Full professional proficiency
Hindi	Native proficiency
Telugu	Native proficiency

*References available upon request*