

# 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 **Project 8** (*neutrino mass measurement experiment*)  
<https://www.project8.org>  
Advisor: Dr. Karsten Heeger
- **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 - Present)
  - Developed simulations for antenna array radiation detection and electron reconstruction
  - Detector operator for the experiment's Phase II data taking campaigns
- 2019 - Present **CUORE and CUPID** (*neutrinoless double beta decay experiments*)  
<https://cuore.lngs.infn.it>, <https://cupid.lngs.infn.it/>  
Advisor: Dr. Karsten Heeger
- **WBS lead** on acoustic and vibration sensors for the CUPID experiment
  - Lead on the design of the muon veto system for the CUORE/CUPID experiment
  - Performed efficiency calculations in search for neutrinoless double beta decay on the CUORE experiment
  - CUORE Vetting Board member (Nov 2019 - Nov 2021)
  - Shifter calendar administrator (2019 - Present)

- 2014 - Present     **PROSPECT** (*Precision Reactor Oscillation and Spectrum Experiment*)  
<https://prospect.yale.edu>  
 Advisors: Dr. Bryce Littlejohn and Dr. Karsten Heeger
- **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)

## Awards and Recognition

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

## Synergistic Activities and Service

- Snowmass 2021 Neutrino Oscillations (NF02) - White Paper Editor
- Snowmass 2021 Neutrino Properties (NF05) - 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
- CSIM, IV International Military Games - Volunteer (2007)

## Outreach

- 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)

## Teaching and Mentoring

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>Samantha Pagan</b>	2019 - Present	Graduate student at Yale University <i>Prototyping, design, and data analysis for 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 analysis for CUORE's search for <math>0\nu\beta\beta</math></i>
<b>Iris Ponce</b>	2020 - Present	Graduate student at Yale University <i>DAQ design for CUPID muon veto system</i>
<b>Caitlin Gainey</b>	2019 - 2021	Undergraduate student at Yale University <i>Development of Geant4 simulations for CUPID muon veto system</i>
<b>Gabe Hoshino</b>	2020 - 2021	Now at University of Chicago <i>Development of Geant4 simulations for CUPID muon veto system</i>
<b>Yonas Gebre</b>	2016 - 2018	Now at University of Colorado, Boulder <i>Reactor antineutrino phenomenology</i>

## Invited Seminars and Talks

### [9] Direct Measurement of Neutrino Mass with Project 8 Experiment

Fundamental Physics Directorate seminars, SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory, Remote seminar, Nov 30, 2021

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

Nuclear, Particle, and Astrophysics Seminar, Wright Laboratory, Yale University, Remote seminar, May 19, 2021

### [7] Direct Measurement of Neutrino Mass with the Project 8 Experiment

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

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

Brookhaven National Laboratory Seminar, June 18, 2020

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Conferences and Presentations

**[16] Latest Results from the CUORE Experiment in Search for  $0\nu\beta\beta$**

APS DNP Conference, Remote, 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, Remote, Oct 30, 2020

**[13] Simulation and Signal Extraction for the Project 8 Free Space CRES Demonstrator**

XXIX International Conference on Neutrino Physics and Astrophysics, Remote, June 22 – 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 (PSAPS), Notre Dame University, South Bend, IN, USA, Nov 21, 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] **High sensitivity neutrinoless double-beta decay search with one tonne-year of CUORE data**  
CUORE Collaboration, arXiv:2104.06906 (*Currently under peer review*)  
*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: Analysed and interpreted 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 cross-checks and interpreted 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 simulation and contributed to writing of manuscript*

**[3] First search for short-baseline neutrino oscillations at HFIR with PROSPECT**  
PROSPECT Collaboration, Phys. Rev. Lett. 121 251802 (2018)  
*Contribution: Coordinated and performed primary analysis*

**[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 simulation and contributed to writing of manuscript*

## Other Refereed Publications

**[17] PROSPECT-II Physics Opportunities**  
PROSPECT Collaboration, arXiv:2107.03934 (*Accepted by PRL, undergoing proof edits*)

**[16] Joint Measurement of the  $^{235}\text{U}$  Antineutrino Spectrum by PROSPECT and STEREO**  
PROSPECT and STEREO Collaborations, arXiv:2107.03371 (*Currently under peer review*)

**[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, arXiv:2106.12251 (*Currently under peer review*)

**[14] Bayesian Analysis of a Future Beta Decay Experiment's Sensitivity to Neutrino Mass Scale and Ordering**  
Project 8 Collaboratiion, 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, arXiv:1805.09245, 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, and Preprints

**[3] 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

**[2] CUPID pre-CDR**

CUPID Collaboration, arXiv:1907.09376

**[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*