Neutrino Physics

D. Naples CTEQ Summer School July 2013

Outline

Part I: Introduction and Neutrinos as Probes

- ► Neutrinos in the SM, brief introduction.
- Neutrino experiment challenges
- \blacktriangleright *v* as Probes : Electroweak
- ν as Probes: Nucleon structure and QCD

Part II: Neutrino oscillations beyond the SM

- ► Neutrino mass and oscillations.
- ► The story of neutrino oscillations.
- ► Some remaining questions and future

Neutrinos in Context

"It's nothing, almost nothing, it is the most tiny quantity of reality ever imagined by a human being". - F.Reines, (detected the first neutrino).



- Neutrinos and photons are by far the most abundant particles in the universe. (340 ν /cm³)
- Stable and abundant ⇒ important role in the evolution of the universe.
- Important for stellar dynamics ⇒ key role in fusion and supernovae processes.



- They have unique properties.
- Recently, neutrinos have surprised us with discoveries of mixing and masses.
 - ▷ Perhaps more surprises...

Neutrino Properties



Neutrinos have unusual properties:

- ► The only *neutral* fermions.
- They only interact via Weak force.
- Masses very small (exact values unknown).



Neutrino Properties (cont'd)

• Every charged fermion has a charge conjugate partner. \rightarrow *Dirac fermions*

 $\text{particle} \leftrightarrow \text{antiparticle}$

$$f \leftrightarrow f^{c}$$
$$e^{-} \leftrightarrow e^{+}$$
$$u \leftrightarrow \overline{u}$$

• Neutral particles can be *majorana* \rightarrow no distinct antiparticle exists.

$$\gamma$$
, $\pi^o = rac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(u\overline{u} + d\overline{d})$

► Neutrinos may be *majorana* fermions.

 Majorana neutrino
 Neutrino is its own chargeconjugate partner.
 (ν)^C = ν



Neutrino Interactions

Neutrinos participate in the SM only through weak interactions.



Challenges of Experimenting with ν 's

They are difficult to produce and directly detect via the weak interaction.

 $\triangleright~$ Interaction cross section for 1 GeV neutrino in matter $\sim 10^{-38} cm^2$

(Compare with pp scattering $\sigma \approx 10^{-25} cm^2$)

* A neutrino can pass through a light-year of steel without interacting.



General features

- Intense neutrino sources (Reactors, high-intensity neutrino beams, sun, etc.)
- Massive detectors (sometimes in remote locations; mines, etc...)
- and patience...



IceCube ...remote, patient and massive



Neutrino Sources

Astrophysical sources (Part 2)







Manmade Sources: First Direct Detection + ν as Probes





▶ Point source <10 MeV $\overline{\nu}_e$.

Accelerator



- Collimated beam (mainly ν_{μ})
- ► Energies 0.5-500 GeV.



"Seeing" Neutrinos (1956)

First Direct Detection

- ~25 years after Pauli's proposed existence of the neutrino.
- Reactor source: Savannah River (11m away,12m underground).
- ► Technique
 - Neutrino target: cadmium doped water
 - Detector: liquid scintillator + PMTs

Inverse β -decay: $\overline{\nu}_e + p \rightarrow n + e^+$ Cross section $\sigma \approx 10^{-43} cm^2$

- ▶ Prompt signal from e⁺ annihilation (2γs, 0.5 MeV)
- ► Delayed *γ* signal from *n* capture on cadmium.



Reines and Cowan 1956, Nobel prize 1995



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Reactor Neutrino Experiments

- Modern reactor expts use same technique (Gd for neutron capture).
- Larger targets
 & better background rejection methods.









Accelerator Neutrino Experiments





Features

- + High-energy, collimated, high-flux source of ν_{μ}
- + Flexibility: tunable energy.
- Large flux prediction uncertainties.



A Neutrino Beam Primer



A Neutrino Beam Primer





NuMI Neutrino Beam







NuMI Beam ν_{μ} and $\overline{\nu}_{\mu}$ Modes



NuMI Beam ν_{μ} and $\overline{\nu}_{\mu}$ Modes



Predicting Neutrino Flux

• Unlike charged particle beams \rightarrow cannot directly measure ν fluxes.



Multi-stage modeling process: (particle production, optics and particle transport, material and tertiary interactions, etc.)

 Leads to large energydependent uncertainties in flux predictions (10-20%) Techniques for dealing with flux uncertainties

- ex-situ and in-situ dedicated experiments to measure particle production.
- ► Standard candle cross sections $\Phi(E) = \frac{Measured \ Rate(E)}{\sigma^{known}(E)}$
- Experimental technique
 - ▷ Measure ratios (Fluxes cancel).
 - ▷ Near Detectors for flux monitoring.

MINOS Neutrino Detector

magnetized tracking-calorimeter

- TRACKING: scintillator planes (4.1cm wide strips).
- SHOWER
 ENERGY/CONTAINMENT:
 Sampling calorimeter (alternating 1" thick Iron planes)
- AZIMUTHAL B FIELD (coil magnetizes the steel)
 - ▷ track momentum and sign.







Coarse-grained Neutrino Detectors

- Good for tagging high energy final state μ , and measuring high energy shower.
- Other detectors needed for low energy processes or other final state leptons (e, τ)



ν as Probes



Electroweak

- Discovery of the weak neutral current
- ▷ Measurement of weak-mixing angle.
- Neutrino charged-current scattering
 - DIS Probing nucleon structure
 - Neutrino cross sections

Electroweak Unification

► Standard Model: SU(2) ⊗ U(1) Gauge theory unifying EM and weak interactions. (Weinberg-Salam, 1967).



- Theory Predicted Weak NC mediated by massive neutral Z^o Boson.
- ► Physical parameters related through a mixing parameter for the couplings $g = g' \tan \theta_W$.



Electroweak Unification (cont'd)

Three measured parameters are required to define the theory (tree level).

- Z-boson couplings to leptons and quarks depend on *weak mixing* angle.
- Neutrinos only have (left-handed) weak interactions.
 - \triangleright Mediated by W^{\pm}

(or undiscovered) Z-boson.

Z coupling	g_L	g_R
$ u_e, u_\mu, u_ au$	$\frac{1}{2}$	0
e,μ, au	$-\frac{1}{2}+\sin^2\theta_W$	$\sin^2 heta_W$
u,c,t	$\frac{1}{2} - \frac{2}{3}\sin^2 heta_W$	$-rac{2}{3}\sin^2 heta_W$
d,s,b	$-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3}\sin^2\theta_W$	$\frac{1}{3}\sin^2 heta_W$

Good probe for discovering new *Z***-mediated interaction.**

$\nu {\rm 's}~{\rm as}~{\rm Probes:}~{\rm Proving}~{\rm ground}~{\rm for}~{\rm the}~{\rm SM}$

Gargamelle, CERN (summer 1973): Discovery of the weak neutral current



Successful prediction of EW theory

Measure NC/CC Ratios

muon



$\nu {\rm 's}$ and the Weak Mixing Angle

First generation experiments (precision \sim 10%) narrowed in on the value:

 $\sin^2 \theta_{\rm w} = 0.23$ \Rightarrow Prediction for $M_{\rm w} = \sqrt{\frac{\pi \alpha}{\sqrt{2}G_F}} \frac{1}{\sin \theta_{\rm w}} = \frac{37GeV}{\sin \theta_{\rm w}} \approx 77 \, \text{GeV}$

► Second Generation experiments (late 1980's) with precision 1-5%.

$$\sin^2 \theta_W^{\text{on-shell}} \equiv 1 - \frac{M_w^2}{M_z^2} = 0.2277 \pm 0.0036 \Rightarrow M_W = 80.14 \pm 0.19 \text{GeV}$$



Precision Electroweak Tests



► Global electroweak fit (including e^+e^- and νN) predicted $M_{top} = 178 \pm 8^{+17}_{-20}$ before it was measured in 1995.

LEP Electroweak Working Group, (1995), CERN-PPE-95-172.

▶ Push precision below second generation level (1-5%) for $\nu N \rightarrow$ need new technique with reduced systematic uncertainty.

Neutrino WMA Measurement Techniques

Purely leptonic channel $\nu_{\mu}e^{-} \rightarrow \nu_{\mu}e^{-}$ Rate suppressed by e^{-} target mass : $s = m_e^2 + 2m_e E_{\nu}$ $\sigma_{TOT} = \frac{G_F^2 s}{\pi} \left(\frac{1}{4} - \sin^2 \theta_{\rm W} + \frac{4}{3} \sin^4 \theta_{\rm W}\right)$ CHARM II ~ 2700 evts for each ν and $\overline{\nu}$. $\sin^2 \theta_{\rm W} = 0.232 \pm 0.008$



CCFR, CDHSW (syst. limited). Must correct for

- higher-order cross section effects: R_L, target mass, etc.
- ► radiative corr.
- ▶ non-isoscalarity ($N_p \neq N_n$)
- ► heavy quark effects.
 - ▷ Large theoretical uncertainty.



► Suppression of CC cross section for interactions with massive charm quark in final state → must be modeled.

NuTeV WMA Measurement



Charged-current ν **N DIS**



Neutrino-Nucleon DIS



Neutrino CC Scattering Cross-Section:

$$\frac{d^2 \sigma^{\nu(\overline{\nu})}}{dxdy} = \frac{G_F^2 M E_{\nu}}{\pi (1 + \frac{Q^2}{M_W^2})^2} \left[\left(1 - y - \frac{Mxy}{2E_{\nu}} \right) F_2^{\nu(\overline{\nu})} + \frac{y^2}{2} 2x F_1^{\nu(\overline{\nu})} \pm y (1 - \frac{y}{2}) x F_3^{\nu(\overline{\nu})} \right]$$

(neglects final-state lepton mass terms).

ν -quark Scattering

► Parity violation in CC weak-interactions ⇒ Imposes constraints on angular dependence of *v*-quark and *v*-antiquark scattering.



Y-Dependence ν vs. $\overline{\nu}$ Cross Sections

 $\frac{d^2 \sigma^{\nu}}{dx dy} = \frac{G^2 sx}{\pi} \left[\mathbf{q}(\mathbf{x}) + \overline{\mathbf{q}}(\mathbf{x})(1-y)^2 \right]$ $\frac{d^2 \sigma^{\overline{\nu}}}{dx dy} = \frac{G^2 sx}{\pi} \left[\overline{\mathbf{q}}(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{q}(\mathbf{x})(1-y)^2 \right]$



Neutrino SFs in the Parton Model

QPM: scattering off the nucleon is the incoherent sum of elastic scattering off the constituents.

- ► Assume no spin 0 constituents: Callan-Gross relation (R=0) $F_2(x) = 2xF_1(x)$.
- ► Relate SFs to PDFs by matching y-dependence in cross section terms.

Neutrino Structure Functions $F_2(x) = 2\Sigma x (q(x) + \overline{q}(x))$ $xF_3(x) = 2\Sigma x (q(x) - \overline{q}(x))$

Flavor sensitivity: lepton number and charge conservation.

 $\nu \text{ selects: } d, s, \overline{u}, \overline{c} \qquad q^{\nu p}(x) = d^p(x) + s^p(x) \qquad \overline{q}^{\nu p}(x) = \overline{u}^p(x) + \overline{c}^p(x)$ $\overline{\nu} \text{ selects: } u, c, \overline{d}, \overline{s} \qquad q^{\overline{\nu} p}(x) = u^p(x) + c^p(x) \qquad \overline{q}^{\overline{\nu} p}(x) = \overline{d}^p(x) + \overline{s}^p(x)$

Neutrino Structure Functions

More practical: *isoscalar* target $(N_n = N_p)$

- ► (Neutrino experiments use nuclear target/detectors).
- ► Isospin symmetry $\begin{array}{l} u(x) \equiv u^p(x) = d^n(x) & d(x) \equiv d^p(x) = u^n(x) \\ \overline{u}(x) \equiv \overline{u}^p(x) = \overline{d}^n(x) & \overline{d}(x) \equiv \overline{d}^p(x) = \overline{u}^n(x) \end{array}$
- Assume symmetric heavy quark seas $s = \overline{s}$ and $c = \overline{c}$

$$F_2^{\nu N} = F_2^{\overline{\nu}N} = x \left(u + \overline{u} + d + \overline{d} + 2\overline{s} + 2c \right)$$
$$xF_3^{\nu N} = x \left(u + d - \overline{u} - \overline{d} + 2s - 2\overline{c} \right)$$
$$xF_3^{\overline{\nu}N} = x \left(u + d - \overline{u} - \overline{d} + 2\overline{s} - 2c \right)$$

$F_2^{\nu N}$	all quarks	
xF_3	valence quarks	
$\Delta x F_3$	=4x(s-c)	
	heavy quark seas.	

Measuring ν Cross Sections and SFs

► Cross sections and structure functions measurements require a precise method to determine v and v beam fluxes.



Low- ν Flux extraction technique

• ν (energy transferred to hadronic system) is related to inelasticity $\nu = yE(=E_{\rm HAD})$

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}^2 \sigma^{\nu,\overline{\nu}}}{\mathrm{d} \mathrm{x} \mathrm{d} \nu} = \frac{\mathrm{G}^2 \mathrm{M}}{\pi} \left[\left(1 - \frac{\nu}{\mathrm{E}} - \frac{\mathrm{M} \mathrm{x} \nu}{2\mathrm{E}^2} + \frac{\nu^2}{2\mathrm{E}^2} \frac{1 + 2\mathrm{M} \mathrm{x}/\nu}{1 + \mathrm{R}} \right) \mathrm{F}_2(\mathrm{x}) \pm \frac{\nu}{\mathrm{E}} \left(1 - \frac{\nu}{2\mathrm{E}} \right) \mathrm{x} \mathrm{F}_3(\mathrm{x}) \right]$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Integrate } d^2 \sigma / dx d\nu \text{ over x} \\ & \frac{d\sigma}{d\nu} = A \left(1 + \frac{B}{A} \frac{\nu}{E} - \frac{C}{A} \frac{\nu^2}{2E^2} \right) \\ & = -\frac{G^2 M}{\pi} \int [F_2(x, Q^2) \mp x F_3(x, Q^2)] dx \\ & C = B - \frac{G^2 M}{\pi} \int F_2(x, Q^2) \left(\frac{1 + \frac{2Mx}{\nu}}{1 + R(x, Q^2)} - \frac{Mx}{\nu} - 1 \right) dx \end{aligned}$$

Low- ν **Flux (cont'd)**

• At low ν and high $E \Rightarrow (\frac{\nu}{E})$ and $(\frac{\nu}{E})^2$ $\frac{d\sigma}{d\nu} = A\left(1 + \frac{B}{A}\frac{\nu}{E} - \frac{C}{A}\frac{\nu^2}{2E^2}\right)$ terms are small. $\frac{d\sigma}{d\nu}^{\nu}_{\lim \nu \to 0} = \frac{d\sigma}{d\nu}^{\overline{\nu}}_{\lim \nu \to 0} = A \quad \text{constant, independent of } E_{\nu}.$ $\Phi(E) \propto N(E, \nu < \nu_o)$ (up to corrections of order $\frac{\nu_o}{E}$, $(\frac{\nu_o}{E})^2$) • Correct for small energy dependent terms (using $\frac{dN}{d\nu}$ data or model). • Determines the flux shape with energy \rightarrow must use external normalization. ▷ World average (30-200 GeV): $\frac{\sigma^{\nu}}{E} = 0.677 \pm 0.014 \times 10^{-38} \frac{\text{cm}^2}{\text{GeV}}$ 0.8 Neutrino 0.7 Test of flux \rightarrow Measure σ_{TOT}

• $\frac{\sigma^{\nu}}{E_{\nu}}$ for DIS is flat as function of E_{ν} • $\frac{\sigma^{\overline{\nu}}}{\sigma^{\nu}} \sim 0.5$ agrees with world average

 $(r = 0.499 \pm 0.007).$



Differential Cross Sections



Neutrino-Iron Structure Functions



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Massive Detectors \Rightarrow **Nuclear Effects**



- Neutrinos are scattering off of nucleons embedded in a nuclear target.
- ► To compare with theory → Nuclear corrections must be applied (from charge-lepton scattering).



- Nuclear effects could be different for neutrino probes.
- Need to systematically measure *v*-A (Miner*v*A)

Probing the Strange Sea





Heavy Quark Production



- LO slow-rescaling model to extract s(x)
 - \triangleright rescaling variable depends on m_c

$$x = \frac{Q^2}{2M\nu} \longrightarrow \xi = \frac{Q^2 + m}{2M\nu}$$

► Kinematic suppresses of cross section due to heavy quark in final state $\left(1 - \frac{m_c^2}{2ME_{\nu}\xi}\right)$

$$\frac{d^2 \sigma(\nu_\mu N \to cX)}{d\xi \, dy} \propto \left(1 - \frac{m_c^2}{2ME_\nu \xi}\right) \left[\frac{[u(\xi, Q^2) + d(\xi, Q^2)]}{2} |V_{cd}|^2 + (s(\xi, Q^2) |V_{cs}|^2\right]$$



- ► LO $s(x) \sim 40\%$ of light quark sea. $s = \kappa \left(\frac{\overline{d} + \overline{u}}{2}\right) (1 - x)^{\alpha}$ NuTeV LO fit $\kappa = 0.38 \pm 0.08$ $\alpha = -2.07 \pm 0.96$
- Now experiments provide differential cross sections for NLO model fit.

Total ν -N CC Cross Section

▶ Dominated at high energies (> 10 GeV) by DIS



• Low energy region ? $\rightarrow \frac{\sigma}{E}$ rises due to non-DIS contributions.



Neutrino Scattering Contributions



- ν scatters off an entire nucleon.
- cays into low multiplicity final states.
- constituents.

Current Status at Low-Energies



- Most data (E < 10 GeV) from 70's and 80's (Gargamelle, BEBC, ANL-12ft, BNL-7ft, etc.)</p>
 - $\triangleright~$ Bubble chambers *low statistics* \rightarrow limited data, w/precision 10-20%
- Interest from oscillation measurements \rightarrow Revival
 - New generation of experiments with *fine-grained* detectors and high statistics. (MinervA, MiniBooNE/SciBoone, Argoneut/MicroBoone, ND280, etc.)

Example: Miner ν **A Experiment**



- ► Fully-active scintillator-tracker in central region ⇒ much improved ability to identify exclusive final states.
- ► Shower containment (ECAL & HCAL), muon spectromenter (MINOS).
- ► Incorporates nuclear targets (helium, carbon, water, iron, lead).

Summary Part I

- Neutrinos have unique properties \rightarrow interesting and important to study.
- ► Experiments need special techniques to produce and detect them → massive detectors, high-flux sources.
- They are useful as probes and have made unique contributions to understanding
 - Electroweak standard model
 - > QCD and nucleon structure
- Understanding of low-energy scattering and nuclear environment is important for future oscillation measurements.