Latest v's from MicroBooNE

Georgia Karagiorgi University of Manchester

Particle Seminar at Edinburgh February 10, 2016

Intermediate-scale liquid argon time projection chamber detector Situated in the Booster Neutrino Beamline, on-site at Fermilab



WILSON HALL

MiniBooNE

DETE

146 collaborators28 institutions(6 non-U.S., including 4 U.K.)

LEDERMAN SCIENCE CENTER

NOVA

MINOS

SBN FAR DETECTOR



m003





Detector Parameters



- 2.5 m x 2.3 m x 10.2 m TPC
- 170 (89) tons total (active) LAr mass
- 2.5 m drift length
 -128kV on cathode (design)
- 3 wire planes: 0, ±60° from vertical,
 3 mm wire separation
- 8256 wires, digitized at 2MHz
- 32 PMT's digitized at 64MHz for t₀, drift coordinate determination, and triggering for empty beam spill rejection

Cross section of detector:







































LArTPC neutrino event topologies: "wire plane view"



Example simulated neutrino events ($E_v \sim 0.5-1$ GeV)

LArTPC neutrino event topologies: "wire plane view"

Bubble chamberquality data, with calorimetric information (position resolution and ionization dE/dx)

High event selection efficiency and excellent background rejection!

Example simulated neutrino events ($E_v \sim 0.5-1$ GeV)



LArTPC electron/photon separation

A single e and a single γ are indistinguishable in a Cherenkov detector; v_e CC measurements are plagued by NC $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ or other single-photon backgrounds...

but not in a LArTPC!



LArTPC electron/photon separation

Neutrino events with γ are differentiated on the basis of:

- 1. Detached shower vertex from neutrino interaction vertex
- 2. Larger dE/dx deposited at the beginning of the shower (2 MIP vs 1 MIP)



Typical e/ γ separation: ~90% \rightarrow Ideal technology for v_e measurements

Neutrino-physics-driven experimental design

large neutrino flux
argon interaction target
calorimetric reconstruction

precise neutrino-argon cross-sections measurements

~ 0.5-1 GeV neutrino energy electron/photon separation
nature of MiniBooNE "low-energy excess"



Flux Parameters

Neutrino flux at MicroBooNE detector:

>99% muon (anti)neutrino ~0.5% electron (anti)neutrino

Neutrino mode running ongoing (statistics goal: 6.6E20 POT)



Fermilab Booster Neutrino Beamline (BNB)



Beam is pulsed at up to 15 Hz; beam spill is 1.6µs wide.

Argon: target material for many future neutrino detectors

Need more experimental data to learn about nuclear effects and neutrino energy reconstruction





First LArTPC with high-statistics event samples in 1 GeV neutrino energy range (QE and RES regime)!

During its ~3 years of running, MicroBooNE will collect (up to hundreds of) **thousands** of exclusive and inclusive neutrino interactions on argon.

In addition to BNB neutrinos, MicroBooNE will also be able to measure **NuMI off-axis** neutrino interactions.





First LArTPC with high-statistics event samples in 1 GeV neutrino energy range (QE and RES regime)!

In just first 3 months of data taking (1.2E20 POT), thousands of events in several exclusive and inclusive topologies.



What MicroBooNE can add:

- Classification in terms of exclusive final states
- Study of nuclear effects, which we now know play a critical role on event rate and event final state information
- Event topology and final state information (e.g. proton multiplicity in QE-like interactions, final state kinematics) can be studied with sufficiently low momentum reconstruction thresholds
- Investigate the role of hadronic effects and kinematics on energy reconstruction







ArgoNeut Results Phys. Rev. D 90, 012008 (2014)

The detection of back-to-back proton pairs in Charged-Current neutrino interactions with the ArgoNeuT detector in the NuMI low energy beam line

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Ianhattan, KS 66506 USA ast Lansing, MI 48824 USA INFN, L'Aquila, Italy Bern, Switzerland stin, Austin, TX 78712 USA lel Gran Sasso, Assergi, Italy 19, 2014)

Back-to-back "hammer" events

suggest nucleon-nucleon short-range correlations. Inferred kinematics from recoil nucleons in CM frame (before interaction) support this.

Primary physics goal 2: MiniBooNE "low-energy excess"



MicroBooNE will resolve the nature of the MiniBooNE low-energy excess.



MiniBooNE's search for electron neutrino appearance in the BNB due to oscillations at an L/E ~ 1m/MeV, revealed an unexplained excess of events at low reconstructed neutrino energy.

The search looks for events with a single electromagnetic shower cherenkov ring. Events with either a single observable electron or a single observable photon contribute indistinguishably to the electron neutrino sample in MiniBooNE.
The MiniBooNE low-energy excess

The MiniBooNE excess can be interpreted as sterile neutrino oscillations at an L/E ~ 1m/MeV,.

However, this interpretation conflicts with constraints from other (null) short-baseline experiments.

The L/E shape of the excess is also somewhat problematic...



Unaccounted v_e / v_μ disappearance?

Energy (mis)reconstruction? Cross-section/ nuclear effects?

Misestimated or new electron-like background? Misestimated or new photon-like background?

Primary physics goal 2: MiniBooNE "low-energy excess"

- If an excess is observed and found to be due to **photons**, MicroBooNE could make the first measurement of a novel photonproduction mechanism, to be included in neutrino interaction generators, as it could impact future v_e appearance measurements
- If the excess is due to
 electrons:
 MicroBooNE could be
 seeing v_e appearance
 (sterile neutrino oscillations,
 NSI, extra dimensions) or
 be in position to measure
 some other novel

production mechanism (?)





SBN @ Fermilab

MicroBooNE is part of a larger Short-Baseline Neutrino (SBN) programme at Fermilab.

SBN physics goal: Perform a definitive test of MiniBooNE/LSND sterile neutrino oscillation interpretation



Near/Mid/Far comparison of neutrino flux MicroBooNE: First out of three SBN detectors, already operational



SBN @ Fermilab: Appearance search

SBND's high statistics constrain the expected v_e background event rates

ICARUS' large mass provides necessary statistical power for an electron neutrino appearance search



[[]SBN Proposal 2015]

- The dominant background: beam intrinsic backgrounds
- The dirt and cosmic backgrounds depend greatly on the detector geometry and location within the beam

SBN @ Fermilab: Appearance search

10^{2} 10² Δm^2 (eV²) T600, 6.6e+20 POT (600m) MicroBooNE (470m) MicroBooNE, 1.32e+21 POT (470m) Calo Energy (no neutrons) LAr1-ND, 6.6e+20 POT (100m) v mode, CC events 10 10E 90% CL Ē v mode, CC Events Reconstructed Energy 3 or CL 80% v, Efficiency $\Delta m^2 (eV^2)$ Stat., X-Sec., Flux, Cosmics, Dirt 5 or CL v. Only Fit - 90% CL — 3σ CL ---5σ CL 10-1 10^{-1} LSND 90% CL LSND 90% CL LSND 99% CL LSND Best Fit LSND 99% CL * Global Best Fit (arXiv:1303.3011) ; Global Fit 90% CL (arXiv:1303.3011) Global Best Fit (arXiv:1308.5288) .,,,,, * LSND Best Fit Global Fit 90% CL (arXiv:1308.5288) 10⁻² 10⁻² 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 10⁻² 10⁻³ 10-4 10⁻¹ 10⁻³ 10⁻² 10⁻⁴ 10⁻¹ $sin^2 2\theta_{\mu e}$ $\sin^2 2 \theta_{\mu e}$

[SBND Proposal 2013, SBN Proposal 2015]

Three-detector SBN program

MicroBooNE-only, 6.6e20 POT 20% uncorrel. systematic uncertainty on backgrounds

SBN @ Fermilab: Disappearance search

SBN can also perform a competitive search for **muon neutrino disappearance**.

Needed to fully interpret any excess of electron neutrino events as oscillations involving sterile neutrinos:

a corresponding disappearance of muon neutrinos with ~greater than or equal probability



Additional MicroBooNE physics goals



- Demonstrate background rejection capabilities and constrain cosmogenic background predictions to future searches for baryon number violation (proton decay, neutron-antineutron oscillations,...)
- Search for supernova core collapse neutrinos, should a nearby supernova occur during MicroBooNE's life span
 SN neutrinos in LAr



Seeking definitive answers to "Big Questions" in neutrino physics

What is the value of δ_{CP} ?

Fundamental questions

Pressing experimenta questions

Is the neutrino mass spectrum normal, or inverted?

What are the absolute neutrino masses?

Are neutrinos dirac or majorana fields?

Are there additional, "sterile" neutrino states?

Do we understand exclusive and inclusive neutrino cross sections on nuclear targets?





Seeking definitive answers to "Big Questions" in neutrino physics

Fundamental questions Addressed by future What is the value of δ_{CP} ? Is the neutrino mass spectrum normal, or inverted? What are the absolute neutrino masses? Are neutrinos dirac or majorana fields? Are there additional, "sterile" neutrino states? Do we understand exclusive and inclusive neutrino cross sections on nuclear targets? Pressing experiments questions Directly addressed by MicroBooNE

Driving Nu Physics...



... and LArTPC R&D!

Driving LArTPC R&D

Longest drift distance in a LArTPC detector

2.5m

- Cold (LAr) electronics operation (CMOS ASICs)
 - Usage of surge protection devices along voltage divider chain
 - Steerable UV lasers for electric field calibration
 - Purity without evacuation, via argon gas purge



Driving LArTPC R&D

Publications by MicroBooNE collaborators:

- 1. B. Carls, et al., "Design and Operation of a Setup with a Camera and Adjustable Mirror to Inspect the Sense Wires of the TPC Inside the MicroBooNE Cryostat", JINST 10, T08006 (2005)
- 2. J. Conrad et al., "The Photomultiplier Tube Calibration System of the MicroBooNE Experiment", arXiv: 1502.04159 [physics.ins.det]
- 3. L.F. Bagby et al., "Breakdown Voltage of Metal Oxide Resistors in Liquid Argon", JINST 9, T11004 (2014)
- 4. R. Acciarri et al., "Liquid Argon Dielectric Breakdown Studies with the MicroBooNE Purification System", JINST 9, P11001 (2014)
- 5. A. Ereditato et al., "First Working Prototype of a Steerable UV Laser System for LAr TPC Calibrations", JINST 9, T11007 (2014)
- 6. J. Asaadi et al., "Testing of High Voltage Surge Protection Devices for Use in Liquid Argon TPC Detectors", JINST 9, P09002 (2014)
- 7. M. Auger et al., "A Method to Suppress Dielectric Breakdowns in Liquid Argon Ionization Detectors for Cathode to Ground Distances of Several Millimeters", JINST 9, P07023 (2014)
- 8. A. Blatter et al., "Experimental Study of Electric Breakdown in Liquid Argon at Centimeter Scale", JINST 9, P04006 (2014)
- T. Briese et al., "Testing of Cryogenic Photomultiplier Tubes for the MicroBooNE Experiment", JINST 8, T07005 (2013)
- 10. B.J.P. Jones et al., "Photodegradation Mechanisms of Tetraphenyl Butadiene Coatings for Liquid Argon Detectors", JINST 8 P01013 (2013)
- 11. B.J.P. Jones et al., "A Measurement of the Absorption of Liquid Argon Scintillation Light by Dissolved Nitrogen at the Part-Per-Million Level", JINST 8 P07011 (2013)
- 12. C.S. Chiu et al., "Evironmental Effects on TPB Wavelength-Shifting Coatings", JINST 7, P07007 (2012)
- A. Ereditato et al., "Design and Operation of ARGONTUBE: a 5m Long Drift Liquid Argon TPC", JINST 8, P07002 (2013)

TPC construction: 2013



TPC construction: 2013



Verified every wire's tension prior to installation of TPC in cryostat

Tension of U wires





Power-washing of cryostat

PMT system installation: Dec. 2013







TPC insertion into cryostat



Detector move to LArTF: June 23, 2014





Everything in the cryostat went along:

electronics, TPC (including wires), and PMTs (not full of argon yet though)

At LArTF, detector insulated with foam: July 2014



Detector components (readout electronics, trigger, control systems, cryogenics) installed, cabled up, and granted final safety clearance **Dec. 10, 2014**



Prior to cooling and filling the detector:

DAQ and readout commissioning; exercised to understand detector electronics response, noise levels, grounding issues, ...

Then, from room T air to high-purity liquid argon in 4 steps:

- 1. Argon gas purge
- 2. Argon gas cooling
- 3. Liquid argon fill
- 4. Liquid argon filtration

1. Argon gas circulation (purging without evacuation): April - May 2015



Reduced O_2 from 70 ppm \Rightarrow 20 ppb over the course of 300 volume exchanges





300∟ 300

250

200

Gas Temperature [Kelvin]

150

100

Detector cooled down before introduction of liquid argon

ASIC noise decreases as expected during gaseous Argon cool-down

Cold electronics: excellent signal:noise performance (40:1, 4x ICARUS) 57

3. Liquid argon fill completed: July 9, 2015

It took 9 tanker trucks and ~34,000 gallons of high-purity liquid argon (28 days)





PMT's turned on same day!

Coincident pulses seen on adjacent PMTs



µBooNE PMT Channel Number JUI 64 MHz Sample Tick

Days After Filling

Days After Filling



Days After Filling



4. Drift electron lifetime in liquid argon, after a two week liquid argon filtration process (5-6 volume exchanges):



Achieved (surpassed!) one of our main R&D goals: High purity without evacuation of a fully-instrumented cryostat

HV ramp-up: August 6, 2015



MicroBooNE: First cosmic track data!



First MicroBooNE recorded cosmic event. Collection plane image. Drift HV: 58 kV (half the design HV)

MicroBooNE: Laser run data

µBooNE 70 cm 70 cm UV Laser Run 1306 Event 134. August 10th 2015 11:03

The two UV lasers produce tracks we know are straight

We can calibrate for space charge and other field distortions

Allows measurements of the electron drift lifetime

Cosmic tracks automated 3D hit reconstruction



Reconstructed MicroBooNE Cosmic Data at 58 kV

Cosmic tracks automated 3D reconstruction

LArSoft event display, showing 3D Tracks

Red wireframe represents the physical detector Display shows the full readout time of 4.8 ms (longer than drift time)



Reconstructed MicroBooNE Cosmic Data at 58 kV

MicroBooNE: Beam on!

On **Oct. 15, 2015**, BNB neutrino beam was turned on!

Excellent detector and DAQ uptime since then.

DAQ typically running at >97% uptime (when receiving beam)

Typically running at 6 Hz with capability to run up to 10 Hz



MicroBooNE: Beam on!

On **Oct. 15, 2015**, BNB neutrino beam was turned on!

Excellent detector and DAQ uptime since then.

Collecting significant POT – months of 5Hz running!

We have already collected **more than 1.2E20 POT** since the start of data taking (~2x what we had projected)

Goal for physics analyses: 6.6E20 POT



Finding neutrinos...

Not every beam spill will produce a neutrino interaction in the detector. Most recorded beam events contain only cosmic induced tracks.

Cosmic muon tracks come randomly (flat distribution). Neutrinos come during the beam spill window (1.6 μ s).



First fully automated reconstruction and selection

Reconstruct events in 2D & 3D

- Select neutrino-like topology
- Aiming for: minimum reconstruction effort, and high purity, but not high efficiency

Total number of events that pass the optical cuts and the 3D topological selection, along with the expected background of non-beam-induced interaction event:

MicroBooNE Preliminary First ν identification 1.86 × 10¹⁸ POT, BNB

Number of events	Optical + 3D-based	Optical + 2D-based
Non-beam background (expected from off-beam measurements)	4.6 ± 2.6	385 ± 24
Total observed (during beam)	18	463 72
First fully automated reconstruction and selection

TPC neutrino ID possible with cuts on a few key quantities

For example, the analysis using **automated** 3D-reconstruction:

- Two or more reconstructed tracks with start points within 5cm of each other
- All tracks must be fully-contained
- Longest track must satisfy $\cos(\theta) > 0.8$
- >5sigma CL observation of neutrinos with the TPC!

Have a similar **automated** algorithm for 2D reconstruction

MicroBooNE Preliminary First ν identification 1.86 × 10¹⁸ POT, BNB

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Press release on Nov. 2, 2015 (MicroBooNE's 8th birthday!)



µBooNE







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      WBOONE

      BOONE

      BOONE
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Current status

Neutrino data is being collected as we speak.

- Work ongoing to understand the detector
- -Recombination
- -Diffusion
- -Lifetime measurements
- -Field distortions

Reconstruction and analyses in development. Aiming for first cross-section results in time for summer conferences.

Detector operation upgrades: —PMT trigger commissioning —Continuous data readout (with lossy zero suppression) commissioning

Latest v's from MicroBooNE

MicroBooNE has successfully started operations and is observing beautiful neutrino interactions.

Fully-automated reconstruction is being optimized and physics analyses are being developed.

We will be able to produce interesting physics results using the data accumulated during the first few months of beam running.



Background studies for BNV

Additional physics opportunities (II):

• Investigate backgrounds to baryon number violating processes for larger (underground) detectors



Background studies for BNV

Additional physics opportunities (II):

- Investigate backgrounds to baryon number violating processes for larger (underground) detectors
- E.g. neutron-antineutron oscillation

"Star event" topology: multiple pions from \overline{n} annihilation with nearby p or n (in Ar nucleus)

- Cannot look for this rare process with MicroBooNE; instead,
 - Develop reconstruction, particle ID & event selection.
- Use simulated events, cosmogenic backgrounds, high-energy neutrinos and in-situ data rates to test signal selection and background rejection.



Supernova neutrino detection

Additional physics opportunities (I):



Off-beam searches are challenging!

A lot of data, which we cannot afford to record continually and without data loss

Each MicroBooNE event: 160 MB

8256 wires read over 4.8 ms (3x drift size window) digitized at 2 MHz 12-bit ADC (16-bit packets)

Event rate of ~0.1-15 Hz → need compression: Huffman (lossless) compression for beam/trigger provides sufficient (x ~few) reduction

Being 100% live for SuperNova neutrino search: >30 GB/s !

Solution: Implement additional zero suppression to achieve x 80 reduction and only retain ~few hrs of data on tape at any time



Per event.

MicroBooNE will record

10x more data than

ATI AS

MicroBooNE commissioning highlights

TPC and Readout: 90% of channels operational Three wire planes – redundant so even with 10% of channels not operational, we have >95% of the detector with 2 wire plane readout Non operational wires largely due to unresponsive channels associated with ASICs in a bad state or consecutive channels grouped by ASIC or wire carrier board that are unresponsive

Cold Electronics: Excellent performance at liquid argon temperatures Signal to Noise of 40:1 (ICARUS: 10:1)

MicroBooNE commissioning highlights

DAQ: Excellent performance, typically running at >97% uptime (when receiving beam) Typically running at 6Hz with capability to run up to 10 Hz (5 Hz BNB + 0.7 Hz Numi + ~0.2 Hz external triggers)

Electrical Integration:

Comprehensive noise studies to understand and eliminate noise sources. Some eliminated, others mitigated in software.

Drift HV:

Running at 70kV – below design voltage but operationally fine, given excellent purity

PMTs: All operational and running at design voltages

Muon tagger system: Operational and regular runs with tagger for calibration data

Laser system: Operational – images coming up

Possible interpretation: sterile neutrino

Additional neutrino "flavor" (and mass) state which has **no weak interactions** (through the standard W/Z bosons)

Additional mass state is assumed to be produced through mixing with the standard model neutrinos

> → Can affect neutrino oscillations through mixing



Sterile Neutrino Oscillation Formalism

Oscillation effects:

$$\mathbf{v}_{\mu} \rightarrow \mathbf{v}_{e}$$
 appearance*:
 $P(\mathbf{v}_{\mu} \rightarrow \mathbf{v}_{e}) = \sin^{2} 2\vartheta_{\mu e} \sin^{2}(1.27\Delta m^{2}L/E)$

$$4|U_{e4}|^{2}|U_{\mu 4}|^{2}$$

Explains LSND result but needs independent confirmation!



*Approximation: $m_1, m_2, m_3 \ll m_4$ \rightarrow $m_1, m_2, m_3 = 0$

Sterile Neutrino Oscillation Formalism

 $v_{\mu} \rightarrow v_{e}$ appearance implies v_{μ} and v_{e} disappearance!



*Approximation: $m_1, m_2, m_3 \ll m_4 \rightarrow m_1, m_2, m_3 = 0$

Sterile Neutrino Oscillation Formalism

 $v_{\mu} \rightarrow v_{e}$ appearance implies v_{μ} and v_{e} disappearance!



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Extended models: E.g. CP violation

Can have more than one new state...



Extended models: E.g. CP violation





Extended models: E.g. CP violation

(3+2) global best fit



(3+2) with CP violation cannot explain MiniBooNE low E excess, unless we throw out disappearance constraints!

> [Conrad, Ignarra, GK, Shaevitz, Spitz, Adv.High Energy Phys. 2013 (2013) 163897]