GRAIN: a novel liquid argon detector for imaging of neutrino interactions in the DUNE near detector

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The DUNE experiment and the Near Detector

The Deep Underground Neutrino Experiment (DUNE) is a new generation long-baseline neutrino oscillation experiment

Main goals:

- High precision measurements of the neutrino oscillation parameters
- Supernova and solar neutrinos detection
- Beyond the Standard Model Searches
- Study of CP violation



- High-power proton beam of 1.2 MW upgradable to 2.4 MW
- High-power, wide-band neutrino beam (~GeV energy range)
- Near detector at 575 m from the v source
- Far detector in South Dakota (~1300 km) and 1.5 km deep underground



- ND-LAr (segmented LAr TPC similar to the FD)
- TMS (magnetized muon spectrometer, to be substituted by the ND-GAr in the phase 2)
- ND-LAr and TMS will move in order to "scan" over the spectrum of v energies
- SAND (on axis magnetized spectrometer)



The SAND detector

The System for on-Axis Neutrino Detection (SAND)

- Superconducting magnet (0.6 T)
- Electromagnetic calorimeter
- Straw Tube Tracker with CH₂, C targets
- GRAIN : 1 t LAr Active target

From the KLOE experiment at Frascati National Laboratories (Italy)



Its physics goals include

- Monitoring of the on-axis $\nu/\overline{\nu}$ spectra to detect beam variations on a weekly basis
- ν_{μ} , ν_{e} on-axis flux measurement
- Perform neutrino cross-section studies on different nuclear targets



target

GRAIN: GRanular Argon for Interactions of Neutrinos

The GRAIN detector

- **1-ton LAr target** •
- Cryostat made of C-composite materials and Aluminum
- Overall radiation length of $\sim 1 X_0$ ٠ (cryostat+LAr)

GRAIN will be used as active target

- To study ν -Ar interactions, in synergy with STT and ECAL
- To perform imaging on prompt VUV scintillation light (readout by arrays of Silicon Photo-Multipliers)

Reconstruct particle tracks using only scintillation light

1 C MODULE GRAIN STT YY straws XX straws target

9 CH₂

MODULES

ECAL



Supporting Structure

Cryostat

LAr

Kloe calorimeter

Inner Tracker

The GRAIN detector

Reconstruct particle tracks using only scintillation light

Requirements

- Segmented sensors on the inner cryostat walls •
- Spatial resolution < 1 cm
- Time resolution < 1 ns
- Light sensors operating in the VUV range (127 nm)
- Sensors and electronics operating in LAr (87 K)





UV gas filled Lenses

Match between LAr and lenses (wavelength λ and refractive index n)

- Use inverted lenses with gas filled gap (N₂) with n=1
- Use Xe doping to raise λ for better transmission through the lens









Coded Aperture Masks

Coded aperture masks

- Xe doping not strictly necessary
- Good depth of field, compact
- Worse contrast than lenses



Coded mask system



3D event reconstruction

- Iterative algorithm based on Maximum Likelihood Expectation **Maximization**
- Directly reconstructs in 3D the initial photon source distribution in a segmented volume (voxels)
- **Requires significant GPU resources**



[*] Andreotti, M., et al. "Coded masks for imaging of neutrino events." The European Physical Journal C 81 (2021): 1-15.



Tests on prototypes



Cold tests at the ARTIC facility at the University and INFN - Genova

- Facility to test the imaging of charged particle tracks (and interaction vertexes), thanks to the scintillation light in liquid Ar
- Use of lenses or coded masks coupled with SiPM matrices
- Tests with light source and with cosmic rays (using a cosmic ray tagger)



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Outer vessel







GRAIN full scale prototype Laboratori Nazionali di Legnaro (LNL)

Summary and conclusion

- The GRanular Argon for Interactions of Neutrinos (GRAIN) will be one of the subdetectors of SAND, in the near detector site of the DUNE experiment
- It will be the first detector to image LAr scintillation
- GRAIN will be used as an active target to perform a 3D reconstruction of the tracks and to study ν -Ar interactions
- Many activities are ongoing to define the optimal design of GRAIN and to be ready for the first beam in the DUNE near detector

Thank you for the attention







Image reconstruction with Lenses

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3D event reconstruction

- Track fit on individual views
- Epipolar and Multiple-View Projective Geometry methods applied to
 - Muon Track 3D reconstruction
 - Two tracks Vertex 3D reconstruction
 - Matching conditions for multiple
 2D Views and Image Transfer

- Excellent resolution from simulation
- Limited depth of field compared to the camera size



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Multiple view track reconstruction

Cameras involved: 15,16,19,20,23,24, 31-36





Global track reconstruction



