TEXONO's vA_{el} @ KSNL : Results & Status



Henry T. Wong / 王子敬 Academia Sinica / 中央研究院 June 2024



Magnificent CEvNS 2024







AS, KSNPS, NTU, NDHU, IHEP, CIAE, THU, SCU, BHU, CUSB, GLAU, HNBGU, METU, DEU.....

TEXONO Program [since 1997]:

Low Energy Neutrino (SM+EM) physics at Kuo-Sheng Neutrino Laboratory (KSNL), 28 m from 2.9 GW_{th} reactor core, $\phi_{\nu} \sim 6 \times 10^{12} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$

- **Founding partner of CDEX@CJPL Dark Matter Experiment** [since 2008]
- □ Theory Program [since 2010]









(Our) Evolution [with Twists]

"CEvNS" theoretically considered, Freedman 1974 "

TEXONO @ KSNL:

- ✓ Idea (Ge for reactor vA_{el}) first raised in TAUP2003 etc., following μ_v results with threshold MeV→ 10 keV ,
- ✓ requiring "sub-keV" sensitivities (Ge Detectors)
- Spin-off to "Light Dark Matter" searches, first results (20 g ULEGe @ 220 eV) 2007
- **Inspire theory program on** $(\nu/\chi/\alpha)$ -Atom cross-sections
- **CEvNS proposed with v@\pi-DAR, Scholberg 2006**

Experimental ObservationS since 2017, and BEYOND.

> CoGeNT

- **Demonstration of** *"Point-Contact Ge"* **2007**
- $\blacksquare \quad \text{large modular mass detectors} \rightarrow vA_{el} + LDM + 0v\beta\beta$

CDEX @ CJPL:

- **Ge for** vA_{el} : catalyzed *foundation of CJPL* in China & CDEX program
- **Dedicated LDM experiment with Ge, starts 2010**
- **2015: explore future** $0\nu\beta\beta$ with Ge
- **\checkmark** ~2023: return to NG Reactor vA_{el} at Sanmen.

QM Coherency as a Qualifier for vA_{el} [PRD16; PRD21]

- **Coherent** Vs **Elastic** are TWO distinct aspects of C+E-vNS !!
- **QM Coherency (for a EW-process) is central**
- **Coherency is a** *continuous* variable dependent on q^2 via $E_v \& Target A(Z,N)$ in vA_{el}
- **Define** a *quantifiable* parameter beyond qualitative descriptions
- ✓ Parametrize: α(q²) ≡ cos <φ> ∈ [0,1], where <φ>(q²) is the QM *phase mis-alignment angle* between two non-identical nucleons in A(Z,N)
- ☑ Unified Description for all A(Z,N) ; consistent comparison possible.

Coherency in Neutrino-Nucleus Elastic Scattering [PRD16, PRD21]

- **Quantify transitions between QM Coherency & Decoherency**
- Universal Characterization between different Sources & Target

 vA_{el} with Reactor Neutrinos:

\bigcirc Different kinematics regimes : $q^2 \rightarrow 0$; Form Factor F(q^2)=1

☑ Full QM Coherency [DAR- ₩ @~0.6 - 0.7]

☑ BSM/NSI Searches → no degeneracy with nuclear physics FF uncertainties







vA_{el} Data Analysis Strategies:

- **Events identified in 8 categories**
 - CR[±] AC[±] B/S [Cosmic-Ray / Anti-Compton / Bulk or Surface]
 - **CR**⁻ \otimes AC⁻ \otimes B are *PHYS* candidate (ν/χ) events, uncorrelated with other signals
 - others are "background/benchmark" samples, in situ with PHYS data
- Benchmark samples for optimizing analysis parameters & procedures, monitor stability & performance, measuring efficiencies, & reducing systematic uncertainties
 Optimized procedures & parameters applied to analysis of PHYS Samples



ε(Trig)~1 at T>120 eVee

⇒ Room to reduce threshold on ε(Selection) with improving new software

 \Rightarrow improve phys reach of same data



Coincidence in Benchmark Samples ⇒ Background Lower Threshold than Phys. ⇒ Improve in PSD B/S/Noise ID

"Preliminary" (Intermediate) Results Presented at TAUP-2023



 Reactor ON/OFF: 65/438 kg-days G3++
 ρ : ratio of measured to SM cross-sections
 3σ allowed for k from QF measurement d
 TEXONO [with 200 eV threshold]
 @90%CL Upper Limit : ρ < 4.2 @ Lindhard SM k=0.157

CONUS Latest Results [arXiv2401] $\rho < 2$ at SM-k [Similar experimental performance, but T with lower flux, less mass]

June 2024: Despite being an original target & hard efforts by the team [towards completing 245/560 kg-days G3++ ON/OFF data], we are not ready to update these results. Apologies !

Near-threshold Analysis Procedures Require:

- Produce Numerous Expected Features with in situ Benchmark samples
- **Challenges for THIS analysis:**

 Most data taken during the difficult times of COVID lockdown
 DAQ @ KSNL are unattended & hardware operating at suboptimal conditions without repairs for long time
 Workable DAQ Live Time-to-Real Time Ratio ~ only 1/2 to 2/3
 Instabilities detection & correction with subsequent analysis requires big efforts

Status:

Not all analysis of all benchmark data sets are producing expected features & uncertainties YET

Reactor ON-related ¹³⁵Xe Background -- 250-keV γ



□ A Decay Product of ²³⁵U- β
 ¹³⁵Xe → ¹³⁵Cs* + *v*_e + e⁻ [Half-life = 9.14 h]
 ¹³⁵Cs* → ¹³⁵Cs + γ (249.8 keV)

 □ Very Good Neutron Absorber Poison For Reactor

 □ Contributes 2.9 ± 0.8 counts.kg⁻¹.keV⁻¹.day⁻¹

 @ sub-keV energy region
 □ Reactor ON PHYS background
 ~90 counts.kg⁻¹.keV⁻¹.day⁻¹
 i.e. Minor and known background source.



¹³⁵Xe Background and Correction



Time Variation of Xe135 LE flat continuum background correlated with 250-keV peak
 Accurately measured LE background to subtract in ON—OFF residual spectra
 At 200-eV threshold, Xe-continuum ~3% of PHYS--Reactor ON counts



Global Bulk-Surface (BS) Analysis with in situ data [NIM A 886, 13 (2018)]
 Validity: Benchmark data sets AND TEST Pulser events give consistent τ-distributions, per energy bin, as above.
 Status: Some data set have not yet passed this criteria

Check: Validity of Bulk/Surface Fits



- ✓ Valid analysis: should produce flat spectra (from input rising spectra with surface contaminated events)
- ✓ Status : Some data set not yet passed this criteria









65Zn

vA_{el} @ KSNL: Projected (Hypothetical) Sensitivities





Prospects:

⊠ KSNL (2.9GW, 28m):

- **G3 (200-eV)** Data ON/OFF ~ >500 / >800 kg-days
- > v Decommissioned : 2023, Access till at least end of 2025
- ✓ R&D: G4 (@150 eV noise edge demonstrated) & PSD at threshold

☑ New site under preparation (under CDEX): [L.T. Yang's talk] Sanmen (三門) Reactor (3.4GW) @ Zhejiang (浙江)

possibility of site at ~11 m !



Prospects & Outlook



Our Pursuit of C+E vNS has convoluted evolutions & spinoffs vAel @ KSNL with TEXONO Complete G3+ & G3++ analysis expecting ON/OFF [>500/>800 kg-day] New Reactor Site at Sanmen with CDEX \rightarrow Complementing to/Enhancing CDEX DM & $0\nu\beta\beta$ @ CJPL with Ge > Theory: LE v/χ /ALP cross-sections, BSM searches, QM coherency, Follow our nose