Developing the Reconstruction of a Magnetised Gaseous Argon TPC for the DUNE Near Detector

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2

I. Neutrinos and DUNE

- II. ND-GAr and reconstruction
- III. (New) connections between Experiment and Theory













Neutrinos and DUNE

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Standard model and neutrinos

- Neutrinos are massless in the vanilla SM.
- If neutrinos do oscillate then neutrinos MUST be massive.



Neutrino oscillations

Flavour eigenstates



Reactor/accelerator sector

$$U_{\rm PMNS} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c_{23} & s_{23} \\ 0 & -s_{23} & c_{23} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{13} & 0 & s_{13}e^{-i\delta_{CP}} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -s_{13}e^{i\delta_{CP}} & 0 & c_{13} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{12} & s_{12} & 0 \\ -s_{12} & c_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} e^{i\alpha_1/2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\alpha_2/2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Atmospheric sector

- 3 mixing angles: θ_{12} , θ_{23} and θ_{13} .
- 3 CP phases: 1 Dirac + 2 Majorana
- 2 mass splittings: Δm_{21}^2 and Δm_{31}^2 .

5

$$c_{ij} = cc$$

 $s_{ij} = sin$
 $\Delta m_{ij}^2 = m_i$

$$= U_{\text{PMNS}} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \\ \nu_3 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{Mass eigenstates}$$

Majorana phases

Solar sector

In the two flavour approximation...

$$P(\nu_{\alpha} \rightarrow \nu_{\beta}) = \sin^2(2\theta) \sin^2(\theta)$$

$$\left(\frac{\Delta m^2 L}{4E}\right)$$



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Where are we now?



6

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Parameter	Best fit $\pm 1\sigma$	3σ range
$\Delta m_{21}^2 \; [\mathrm{eV}^2 \times 10^{-5}]$	$7.55\substack{+0.22 \\ -0.20}$	6.98 - 8.19
$\left \Delta m_{31}^2\right \ [\text{eV}^2 \times 10^{-3}] \ (\text{NO})$	$2.51\substack{+0.02 \\ -0.03}$	2.43 - 2.58
$\left \Delta m_{31}^2\right \ [\text{eV}^2 \times 10^{-3}] \ (\text{IO})$	$2.41\substack{+0.03 \\ -0.02}$	2.34 - 2.49
$\sin^2 heta_{12}/10^{-1}$	3.04 ± 0.16	2.57 - 3.55
$\sin^2 \theta_{23} / 10^{-1}$ (NO)	$5.64\substack{+0.15 \\ -0.21}$	4.23 - 6.04
$\sin^2 \theta_{23} / 10^{-1}$ (IO)	$5.64\substack{+0.15 \\ -0.18}$	4.27 - 6.03
$\sin^2 \theta_{13} / 10^{-2}$ (NO)	$2.20\substack{+0.05 \\ -0.06}$	2.03 - 2.38
$\sin^2 \theta_{13} / 10^{-2}$ (IO)	$2.20\substack{+0.07 \\ -0.04}$	2.04 - 2.38
δ_{CP}/π (NO)	$1.12\substack{+0.16 \\ -0.12}$	0.76-2.00
δ_{CP}/π (IO)	$1.50\substack{+0.13 \\ -0.14}$	1.11 - 1.87

Valencia global fit globalfit.astroparticles.es (Updated version shown at Neutrino 2024)









Open questions

- What is the origin of the neutrino masses?
- Are neutrinos Majorana particles?
- Do neutrinos violate CP-symmetry?
- Is the mass ordering normal or inverted?
- Is θ_{23} maximal?

7

- Why is the mixing in the quark sector so different?
- Are there more neutrinos?













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Deep Underground Neutrino Experiment



Probability of detecting electron, muon and tau neutrinos

- Wide band high intensity (anti)neutrino beam produced at Fermilab.
- 70-kt liquid argon far detector 1.5km underground in South Dakota.
- Near detector complex to control systematic uncertainties.

9









What will DUNE measure?

- In the FD we will observe both the appearance of ν_{ρ} and the disappearance of ν_{μ} .
- From the disappearance spectrum we get $2\theta_{23}$ and Δm_{32}^2 .
- The appearance spectrum allows for θ_{23} and θ_{13} sensitivity.
- Comparing neutrino and antineutrino modes and the appearance shape we obtain δ_{CP} .

10

arXiv:2006.16043





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2

2

DUNE Far Detector

- of the beam neutrino spectra.
- decay and other BSM physics.



• 4 underground LArTPCs, allowing for high-resolution and low background measurements

Other exciting physics opportunities: supernova, solar and atmospheric neutrinos, proton



DUNE Near Detector

- Its role is to measure the unoscillated neutrino spectra.
 - Can be used to predict the FD event rates.
- Constrains the systematic uncertainties (flux, cross section and detector response) for the oscillation physics.
- It also allows for precision measurements of neutrino interactions and plenty of BSM opportunities.

- ND-GAr SAND ND-LA v beam
 - ND-LAr
 - TMS/ND-GAr

PRISM

SAND













Phases of DUNE

Parameter	Phase I	
FD mass	20 kt fiducial	40
Beam power	up to $1.2 \ \mathrm{MW}$	
ND config.	ND-LAr, TMS, SAND	ND-LAr,

- DUNE will be built using a staged approach.
- Phase I is sufficient for early physics goals.
- Phase II is necessary to reach the design sensitivity for δ_{CP} .
 - A ND upgrade is needed in order to reach the desired sensitivity!

















ND-GAr and reconstruction

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ND-GAr concept

- ND-GAr is a magnetised high-pressure gaseous argon TPC, surrounded by an ECal and a muon tagger.
 - Lower tracking thresholds and larger angular acceptance.
 - Allow for particle identification and momentum and sign reconstruction.









- Considering the use of GEMs for HPgTPC charge readout.
- ECal combines high-granularity tiles and cross scintillator strips.
- The superconducting magnet provides a 0.5 T field with a 1% uniformity.









ND-GAr and PID

- One of the goals of ND-GAr is to characterise the charged and neutral pion energy spectrum in ν_{μ} and $\bar{\nu}_{\mu}$ CC interactions.
- We need a reliable PID able to identify pions with a high purity and across a broad energy range.



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17



- In order to correctly identify particles, ND-GAr can use a combination of:
 - Calorimetry in the TPC.
 - ECal and muon tagger information.









dE/dx calibration

- Use stopping proton MC sample to calibrate charge deposits.
- Compare truth-level energy deposits to charge using range.
- Bin in dE/dx and fit a log function to account for saturation.



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18



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dE/dx and PID

- Compute mean of truncated distribution to avoid fluctuations due to high-E tail.
- We achieve a 2% resolution in energy loss for MIPs and 5% for protons.
- Good separation of pions below 200 MeV/c and protons up to 1.0 GeV/c.



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PID with ECAL and μ ID

- It's not possible to separate muons and pions in the HPgTPC for momenta $\geq 200 \text{ MeV}/c$.
- Hadronic interactions in the ECal look significantly different from those of muons.



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- 30
- ECal and MuID can provide additional information, as pion interactions will be more hadron-like.
- We can extract a number of variables that encapsulate this information.









BDT approach

- Boosted Decision Trees (BDTs) trained on a collection of ECal features allow for a trackby-track classification.
- A BDT is a good option for this classification problem, as they are easy to interpret and can handle data without any pre-processing.



21

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- Interactions change with energy, train different BDTs in a set of momentum bins.
- We studied the feature importance and optimised the hyperparameters for each BDT.













Muon selection performance

- using FHC neutrino events.
- complemented with dE/dx at low momentum.



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• The training data comes from single particle events, while the performance was assessed

• We achieve 95% purity in the track-by-track muon selection above 1 GeV/c, can be

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ECal Time-of-Flight

• A time-of-flight measurement with the inner layers of the ECal can be used for PID at higher momenta.



23

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Although resolution degrades fast with momentum, it allows for efficient proton selection up to 3.0 GeV/c.













Event selection

- energies.



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The different PID approaches can be combined in order to cover different cases and

• First analyses on their way to understand selection capabilities for the oscillation program.





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(New) connections between Experiment and Theory

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ND-GAr and BSM

- The DUNE ND will sit next to the most powerful neutrino beam to date.
 - Privileged position to look for new physics.
- BSM searches strengthen the ND-GAr physics case.
- DUNE Phase II ND Workshop @ Imperial received lots of interest from the theory community.
- Searching on INSPIRE for "dune near detector" gives 125 papers since 2014 (published, subject phenomenology-HEP).

26



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BSM phenomenology

- The theory community has shown its interest in the BSM physics potential on ND-GAr.
 - Potential to reach into phase space predicted by type-I seesaw models (Pascoli et al).



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BSM phenomenology

- The theory community has shown its interest in the BSM physics potential on ND-GAr.
 - Potential to reach into phase space predicted by type-I seesaw models (Pascoli et al).
 - Searches for LLPs, improve current limits up to one order of magnitude (Coloma et al).



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arXiv:2309.06492

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BeamHNL

- We need to re-evaluate our HNL sensitivities using end-to-end reconstruction.
- ND-GAr group is pursuing the integration of BeamHNL into its simulation and reconstruction.
 - GENIE module to generate long-lived particle events.
- Could help systematically explore the HNL phase space for multiple channels.
- First events generated, expect to use it in future analyses.



Credit K.J. Plows and FML













Anomalous tau neutrino appearance

- sterile neutrino mixing.
- The excellent reconstruction in ND-GAr for tau decay into muons at high energies $(E_{\mu} \ge 6 \text{ GeV})$ enhances the reach of DUNE for Phase II.



• Other promising analyses, like ν_{τ} appearance from short-baseline oscillations driven by





Conclusions

- and take neutrino oscillation physics to a precision era.
- ND-GAr is a key component of DUNE, it's needed to reach its ultimate physics goals.
- The ND-GAr simulation and reconstruction software is in a mature state, ready to use in production soon.
 - Current goal is to check impact on oscillation physics with full reconstruction.
- The DUNE ND, and ND-GAr in particular, offers plenty of BSM opportunities.
 - Perfect ground for connections between theorists and experimentalists.

31

• DUNE will give a definitive answer to the neutrino mass hierarchy, θ_{23} and δ_{CP} questions,













Backup slides













Neutrino oscillations



33













ND-GAr requirements

- It must track the muons exiting ND-LAr, in order to measure the ν_{μ} and $\bar{\nu}_{\mu}$ spectra.
- It must measure neutrino interaction off argon with a kinematic acceptance similar to that of the FD, to constrain systematics not accessible to ND-LAr.
- It must be able to characterise the charged and neutral pion energy spectrum in ν_{μ} and $\bar{\nu}_{\mu}$ CC interactions from a few GeV down to the low energy region where FSI are expected to have their largest effect.





GArSoft

- GArSoft is ND-GAr's simulation and reconstruction toolkit.
- Five event generators are provided (SingleGen, GENIE, CRY, RadioGen and TextGen), producing truth data products.
- The GArG4 module runs a Geant4 simulation using the detector geometry.
- It simulates the electron drift, the electronics response and the digitisation of the raw data.
- Low (hits and clusters) and high level (fitted tracks, vertices and associations) reconstruction products are also produced.











ND-GAr and pions

- One of the goals of ND-GAr is to **character spectrum** in ν_{μ} and $\bar{\nu}_{\mu}$ CC interactions.
 - Measure low energy pions in order to distinguish between different FSI models.
 - Select topologies with 0π , 1π and $\geq 2\pi$ so as to inform the pion mass correction in the FD prediction. FHC beam ν_{μ} -CC interactions
- We need a reliable PID able to identify pions with a high purity and across a broad energy range.
- Current reconstruction provides low-level reconstruction objects (tracks, clusters, ...), now we need to develop the high-level reconstruction (PID, energy reconstruction, flavour estimation, ...).

This is what I'm going to talk about today!

One of the goals of ND-GAr is to characterise the charged and neutral pion energy



Different PID approaches

- In order to correctly identify electrons, muons, pions, kaons and protons ND-GAr can use a combination of:
 - Calorimetry in the TPC.
 - ECal and muon tagger information.
- For charged particles, we can use the HPgTPC dE/dx as a starting point for the PID.
- new observables to help with PID.
- In the case of neutral particles information from the ECal exists.





Then, using the associations between the tracks and the ECal/MuID activity we can build









