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Pion Production at MINERvA

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Pion production is the primary process by which neutrinos are identified in running oscillation experiments such as Nova and proposed experiments such as DUNE. MINERvA has completed a variety of charged current cross section measurements of this type for CH targets. The coherent pion measurements have the final state nucleus in the ground state. This process becomes an important background in oscillation electron neutrino appearance experiments.

MINERvA has published the most complete data set.

The inelastic pion production cross section is much larger.

This process must be modeled well in Monte Carlo simulation since it is an important signal in oscillation experiments.

Here, a comprehensive data set for both π^+ and π^0 production with both neutrino and antineutrino beams are available.

While pion final state interactions in the residual nucleus are the focus of the pion energy and angle data, the muon energy and angle and invariant momentum transfer provide information on the influence of the nuclear initial state. Data will be compared with theoretical calculations available.

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