

SPSC Meeting, June 20th, 2017

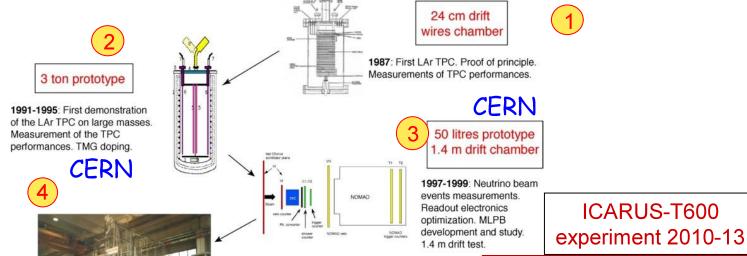
## The ICARUS Collaboration at LNGS

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## The remarkable evolution of v- experiments: the LAr-TPC

- Cherenkov radiation detection has been so-far one of the key choices for exploring neutrinos with k-ton water/ice detectors.
- As an alternative, the Liquid Argon Imaging technology LAr-TPC, an "electronic bubble chamber" which permits to identify unambiguously each ionizing track in complex v events, was originally proposed by C. Rubbia [CERN-EP/77-08].
- With the continuing effort of ICARUS Collab. and INFN support, LAr-TPC technology has been taken to full maturity with the T600, the largest LAr-TPC ever built, 0.76 kt of LAr mass



T600 detector

Pavia

The path to larger LAr detectors

Cooperation with industry:

AirLiquide, Breme, Cinel, CAEN

10 m<sup>3</sup> industrial prototype

1999-2000: Test of final industrial solutions for the

wire chamber mechanics and readout electronics.

LNGS Hall-B



## ICARUS: a summary

- T600 detector concluded in 2013 a successful three year long run at LNGS taking data both with CNGS v beam and cosmic rays. Several relevant physics and technical results have been achieved:
  - > ICARUS demonstrated its excellent performance as tracking device and homogeneous calorimeter with a remarkable P.id capabilities exploiting the measurement of dE/dx vs. range.
  - > Reconstruction of v interaction vertex and measurement of e.m. showers by primary electrons and invariant mass of  $\gamma$  pairs, allowed to reject background in the study of  $v_{\mu}-v_{e}$  transitions to unprecedented level.
- ICARUS performed a sensitive search for LSND-like anomaly with CNGS beam reducing the LSND window to a narrow region at  $\Delta m_s^2 \approx 1 \text{ eV}^2$ , as confirmed by OPERA. Moreover ICARUS contributed to solve the superluminal v claim.
- All these results have marked a milestone for the LAr-TPC technology with a large impact on the future neutrino and astro-particle physics projects, like the current SBN short base-line neutrino program at FNAL with three LAr-TPCs (SBND, MicroBooNE and ICARUS) and the multi-kt DUNE LAr-TPC detector.
- T600 detector underwent an overhauling at CERN before being exposed to ~0.8 GeV Booster v beam at 600 m from target to definitely test the LSND claim with a highly sensitive search for  $v\mu-ve$  in the framework of SBN program.

## Selected ICARUS papers - 1

- 1) F. Arneodo et al., "Observation of long ionizing tracks with the ICARUS T600 first half-module", Nucl. Instr. Meth. in Phys. Res., A508, 287 (2003).
- 2) S. Amoruso et al., "Analysis of the liquid argon purity in the ICARUS T600 TPC", Nucl. Instr. Meth. in Phys. Res. A516, 68 (2004).
- 3) S. Amoruso et al., "Study of electron recombination in liquid Argon with the ICARUS TPC", Nucl. Instr. Meth. in Phys. Res. A523, 275 (2004).
- 4) S. Amoruso et al., "Measurement of the  $\mu$  decay spectrum with the ICARUS liquid Argon TPC" Eur. Phys. J. C33, 233 (2004).
- 5) S. Amerio et al., "Design, construction and tests of the ICARUS T600 detector", Nucl. Instr. Meth. in Phys. Res. A527, 329 (2004).
- 6) A. Ankowski et al., "Characterization of ETL 9357FLA photomultiplier tubes for cryogenic temperature applications", Nucl. Instr. Meth. in Phys. Res. A556, 146 (2006).
- 7) C. Vignoli et al., "ICARUS: an innovative large LAr detector for neutrino physics", Adv. in Cryog. Eng. 51, 1643 (2006).

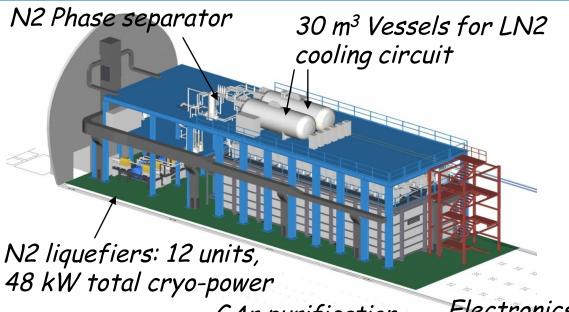
# Selected ICARUS papers - 2

- 8) A. Ankowski et al., "Measurement of through-going particle momentum by means of multiple scattering with the ICARUS T600 TPC", Eur. Phys. J. C 48, 667(2006).
- 9) F. Arneodo et al., (ICARUS and Milano Coll.s), "Performance of a liquid argon time projection chamber exposed to the CERN West Area Neutrino Facility neutrino beam", Phys. Rev. D74, 112001 (2006).
- 10) A. Ankowski et al., "Energy reconstruction of electromagnetic showers from  $\pi O$  decays with the ICARUS T600 liquid argon TPC", Acta Phys. Pol. B41, 103 (2010).
- 11) C. Rubbia et al., "Underground operation of the ICARUS T600 LAr-TPC: First results", J. Instr.6, P07011 (2011).
- 12)M. Antonello et al., "A search for the analogue to Cherenkov radiation by high energy neutrinos at superluminal speeds in ICARUS", Phys. Lett. B 711, 270 (2012).
- 13)M. Antonello et al., "Measurement of the neutrino velocity with the ICARUS detector at the CNGS beam", Phys. Lett. B713, 17 (2012).
- 14)M. Antonello et al., "Precision measurement of the neutrino velocity with the ICARUS detector in the CNGS beam", J. H.E.P., 2012 (11), art. no. 049 (2012).

# Selected ICARUS papers- 3

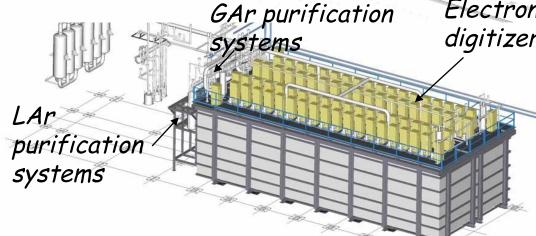
- 15)M. Antonello et al., "Experimental search for the "LSND anomaly" with the ICARUS detector in the CNGS neutrino beam", Eur. Phys. J. C,73, art. no. 2345, 1 (2013).
- 16)M. Antonello et al., "Search for anomalies in the ve appearance from a vµ beam", Eur. Phys. J. C73, art. no. 2599, 1 (2013).
- 17)M. Antonello et al., "Precise 3D track reconstruction algorithm for the ICARUS T600 liquid argon time projection chamber detector", Adv. in H.E.P. 260820 (2013).
- 18)M. Antonello et al., "The trigger system of the ICARUS experiment for the CNGS beam", J. Inst. 9, P08003 (2014).
- 19)M. Antonello et al., "Experimental observation of an extremely high electron lifetime with the ICARUS-T600 LAr-TPC", J. Inst. 9, P12006 (2014).
- 20)M. Antonello et al., "Operation and performance of the ICARUS T600 cryogenic plant at Gran Sasso underground Laboratory", J. Inst. 10, P12004 (2015).
- 21)M. Antonello et al., "Muon momentum measurement in ICARUS-T600 LAr-TPC via multiple scattering in few-GeV range", J. Inst., 12 P04010 (2017).

## ICARUS-T600 plant @ LNGS Hall B: 0.77 kton LAr-TPC





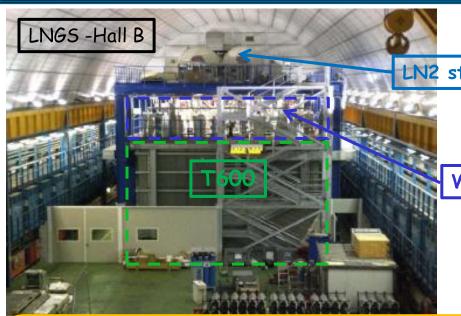
Electronics ch. (54000 low noise charge amplifiers + digitizers, S/N > 7)



A superb Cryogenic plant: excellent performance, & safe operation guaranteed by the local group

Electronic racks

## The ICARUS T600 detector

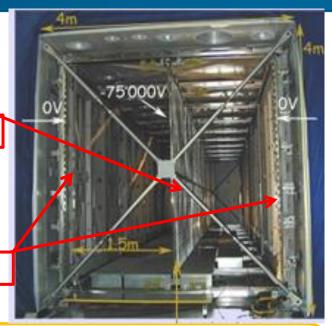


LN2 storage + cryo (behind)

Cathode

Warm Electronics

TPC wires (anodes)



Two identical modules, 4 wire chambers

- 3.6  $\times$  3.9  $\times$  19.6 m  $\approx$  275 m<sup>3</sup>
- Total active mass ≈ 476 ton
- 2 TPCs per module, with common central cathode -> 1.5 m drift length
- $E_{drift}$  = 0.5 kV/cm,  $v_{drift}$  = 1.55 mm/ $\mu$ s) (sub-mm resolution in drift direction).

#### TPC Warm Electronics

 Continuous read-out, digitization, waveform recording, 0.4 µs sampling time (sub-mm resolution in drift direction).

#### Charge and light detectors

- 3 "non-distructive" readout wire planes per TPC, wires at 0°, ±60° (Ind1, Ind2, Coll. View)
- •≈54000 wires (150 μm Ø, 3 mm pitch)
- •54+20 photomultipliers (8" Ø) + wls (TPB), sensitive at 128 nm (VUV)

#### Cryogenics

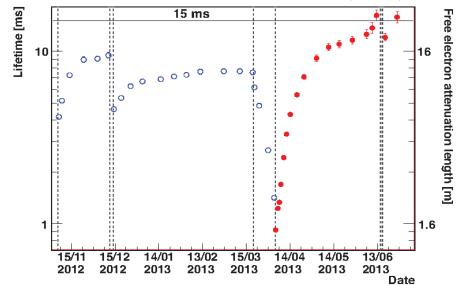
- Liquid and gas Ar recirculation;
- Passive insulation + dual phase N<sub>2</sub> shield
- High purity ~ 20 ppt  $O_2$  equiv. ( $\tau_e$  > 16 ms).

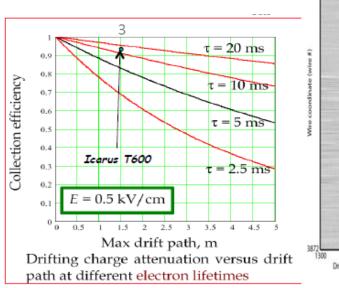
# A key feature of LAr imaging: very long e<sup>-</sup> mobility

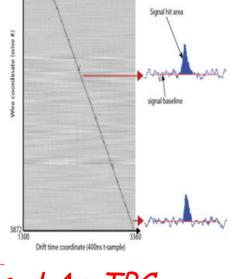
- Level of electronegative impurities in LAr must be kept exceptionally low to ensure ~m long drift path of ionization e<sup>-</sup> signal without attenuation;
- New industrial/lab purification methods have been developed to continuously filter and re-circulate both liquid (2.5 m³/hour) and gas (100 Nm³/day) phases;

• e<sup>-</sup> lifetime  $\tau_{ele}$  > 7 ms (<40 p.p.t [O2] eq. impurities) measured with cosmic  $\mu$ 's : 12% max. charge attenuation on 1.5 m drift.

With a new not-immersed pump on East cryostat:  $\tau_{ele}$ >15 ms!







ICARUS demonstrated the effectiveness of single phase LAr-TPC technique paving the way to huge detectors with longer drift distances as required for LBNF/DUNE project.

# ICARUS experiment at LNGS

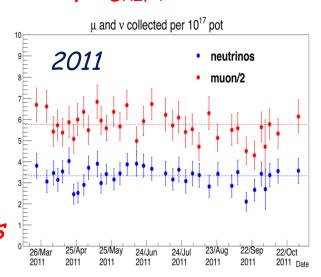
• Exposed to CNGS  $\vee$  beam ICARUS concluded in 2013 a successful-3 years long run, collecting 8.6  $\times$  10<sup>19</sup> pot statistics with a remarkable detector live time > 93%, recording also c-rays induced events (0.73 kt y effective exposure).

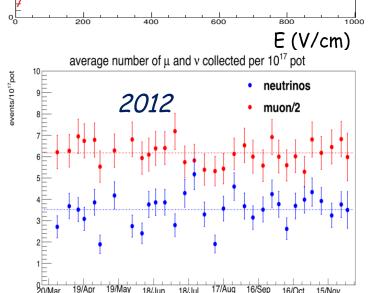
Several physics and technical results were achieved, including detailed studies
of all technical aspects of LAr-TPC detection technique and the development of

advanced reconstruction algorithms.

Different operating conditions have been successfully tested in last months of run proving that ICARUS can safely stand up to  $\sim 1 \text{ kV/cm}$  drift field without any discharges. Measured e- drift velocity  $v_{DRTFT} \sim \sqrt{E}$ 

Collected CNGS  $vs + \mu s$  normalized to  $10^{17}$  pot:  $3.4 vs + 12 \mu s$  on average. Data statistics consistent within 6% with predictions





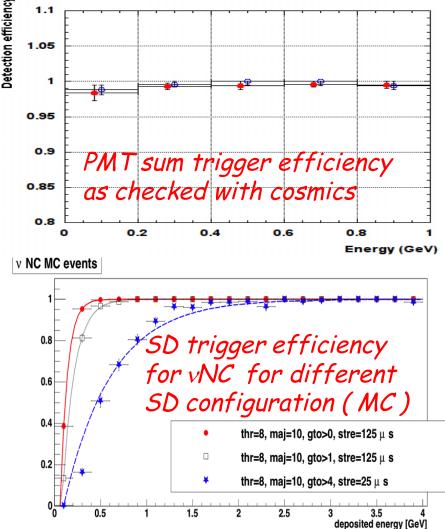
E=500 V/cm

 $F\sim1 \text{ kV/cm}$ 

## ICARUS-T600 trigger system - 1

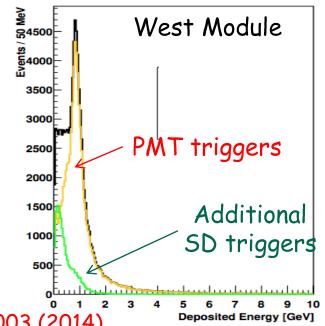
• ICARUS-T600 relies on its self-triggering capability by both scintillation light and charge signals by ionizing particles in LAr to detect CNGS and c-ray events, spanning a wide range of  $E_{DEP} \sim 100$  MeV  $\div$  10 GeV, with event topologies significantly different from each other.

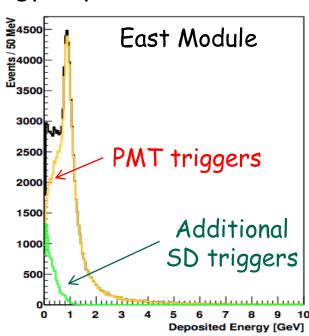
- T600 exploited a GPS time-base shared at CERN & LNGS to open on-line a 60 ms gate at v bunch arrival time, as predicted by SPS "early warning" proton extraction (+2.44 ms CERN /LNGS v tof):
  - Few mHz trigger for CNGS events by coincidence of PMT sum signal in at least one TPC with CNGS gate guaranteeing a ~ full detection eff. E<sub>DEP</sub> >300 MeV;
  - Charge recognition on TPC wires by Super Daedalus chip (SD) to further increase efficiency at low  $E_{DEP}$  by detecting wire signals with a majority logic: 99% (91%) efficiency for vCC (vNC).



# ICARUS-T600 trigger system - 2

- The SD trigger allowed also to directly qualify PMT trigger on the basis of a "minimum bias" request, i.e. the presence of a ~5 cm long track in the TPC.
- The analysis of  $\sim 2.5 \cdot 10^{19}$  pot event statistics collected with the SD trigger proved the ~full PMT trigger efficiency for both v interactions in the LAr active volume and crossing muon. The SD trigger allowed to significantly increase the detection efficiency below 500 MeV energy deposition.
- Cosmic-ray induced events have been triggered with > 90% efficiency for E<sub>DEP</sub> > 500 MeV requiring the coincidence of PMT sum signals in two adjacent chambers or a single SD minimum bias signal, out of CNGS spill.





M. Antonello et al. J. Inst. 9, P08003 (2014)

Successful operation of ICARUS T600 trigger system: high reliability, efficiency and live-time: a robust baseline for next ICARUS exp. at FNAL and future developments in multi-kt LAr-TPC

## **ICARUS LAr-TPC performance**

- From the analysis of CNGS v and of c-ray induced events:
  - > Tracking device: precise 3D event topology with ~1 mm³ resolution for any ionizing particle;
  - $\succ$  Global calorimeter: full sampling homogeneous calorimeter; total energy reconstructed by charge integration with excellent accuracy for contained events; momentum of non contained  $\mu$  by Multiple Coulomb Scattering with  $\Delta p/p \sim 15\%$  in 0.4-4 GeV/c range;
  - Measurement of local energy deposition dE/dx: remarkable  $e/\gamma$  separation (0.02 $X_0$  sampling,  $X_0$ =14 cm, particle id. by dE/dx vs range):

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Low energy electrons:

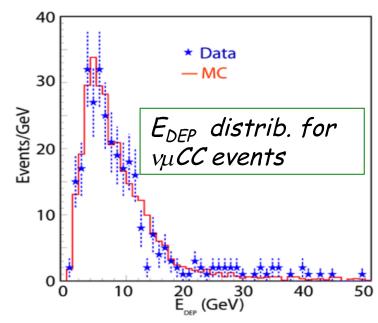
\sigma(E)/E = 11\%/J E(MeV)+2\%

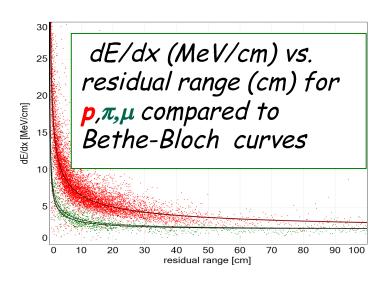
Electromagnetic showers:

\sigma(E)/E = 3\%/J E(GeV)

Hadron showers:

\sigma(E)/E \approx 30\%/J E(GeV)
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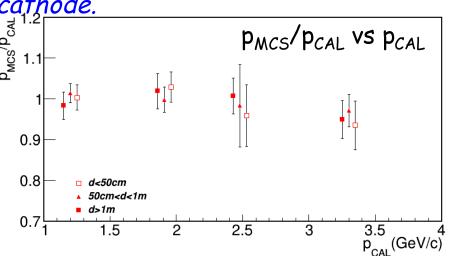


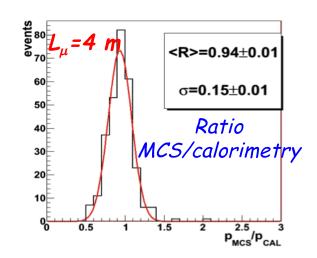
## Muon momentum measurement via multiple Coulomb scattering

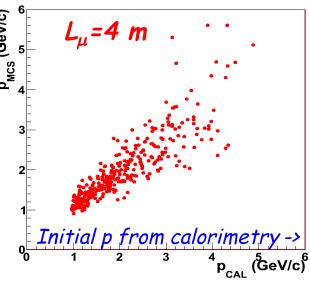
- •Muon momentum measurement by *Multiple Coulomb Scatt*. has been validated comparing  $p_{MCS}$  with corresponding calorimetric measurement  $p_{CAL}$  for ~500 stopping  $\mu s$  produced by CNGS  $v_{\mu}$  interactions in upstream rock;
- • $p_{MCS}$  is well correlated with  $p_{CAL}$ .

  Unexpected  $p_{MCS}$  under-estimation is detected at p >3 GeV/c for  $\mu$ s travelling close to TPC cathode, due to its  $\Delta y \sim \pm 25$  mm non-perfect planarity which affect electron drift velocity (percent  $E_D$  distortions)
- These effects have been accounted for applying the actual computed electric field to MC events to extract average corrections to  $p_{MCS}$  as a function of  $\mu$  momentum and distance from cathode.

 $p_{MCS} \sim p_{CAL} data$  within ~5%.

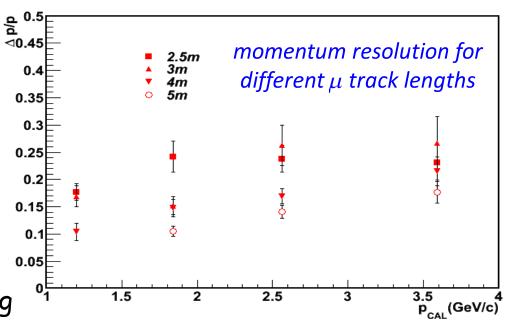






### Resolution of muon momentum measurement via MCS

- The resolution on p<sub>MCS</sub> measurement depends from the muon momentum and from the track length used for the MCS measurement.
- For 4 m muon track length, the resolution of the method is ~15% in 0.4-4 GeV /c momentum range.
- Moreover a better resolution on  $\mu$  momentum measurement by MCS is expected after the T600 overhauling at CERN:
  - the cathode has been flattened with few mm residual non-planarity.
  - > the new TPC read-out electronics will provide a fully synchronized digitization of the wire signals.

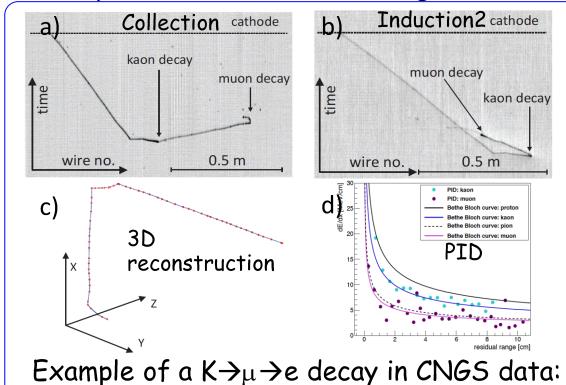


The method is applicable to momentum range of interest of the proposed short/long baseline experiments.

M. Antonello et al., J. Inst., 12 P04010 (2017)

### Tools for event reconstruction in LAr

- Bubble chamber like reconstruction of the event topology in conjunction with calorimetric measurement of global and local energy deposits perfectly suitable for detailed visual analysis of the event.
- The large amount of data collected with CNGS-vs and cosmic rays required the use of automatic tools, to assist and complement the visual scanning.
- Innovative approach: direct 3D reconstruction with simultaneous optimization and matching of hits identified in the different 2D views.
- > All available information is used
- > Applied to reconstruction of tracks, shower objects, interaction vertices and to global event analysis
- > Improves the PID

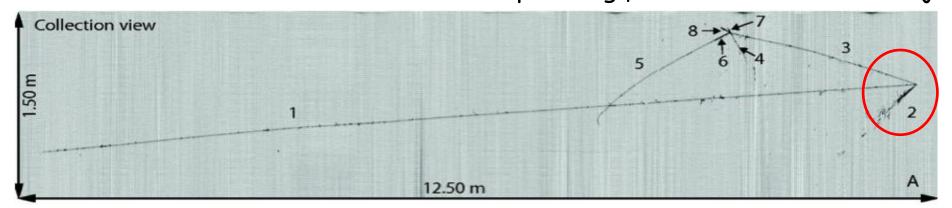


a) Collection & b) Induction2 views;

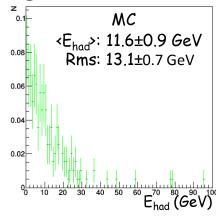
c) 3D reconstruction; d). PID

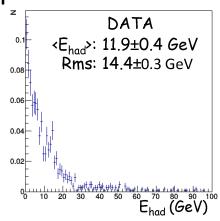
## v, CC events in CNGS neutrino beam

- $v_{\mu}$  CC/anti- $v_{\mu}$ CC were selected, with a ~70% efficiency and a rejection factor ~60 for NC events, requiring the  $\mu$  track to be longer than 2.5 m.
- Globally 1285  $v_{\mu}$  and anti- $v_{\mu}$  CC events have been selected in a 6.7 x 10<sup>19</sup> pot event statistics (2011 and 2012 runs). All these events have been visually measured and reconstructed in detail separating  $\mu$  tracks from hadronic jet.

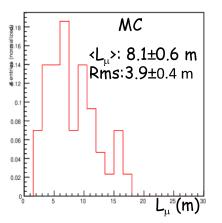


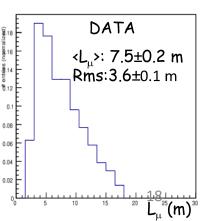
The reconstructed hadronic energy in agreement with expectations



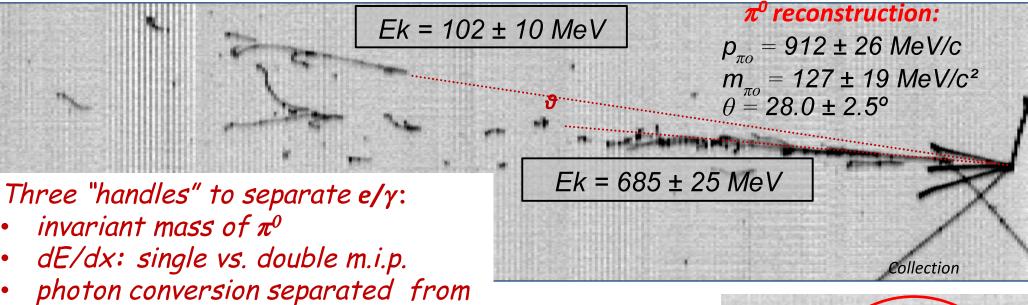


The  $\mu$  length matches its expected distribution



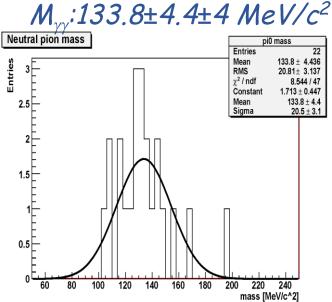


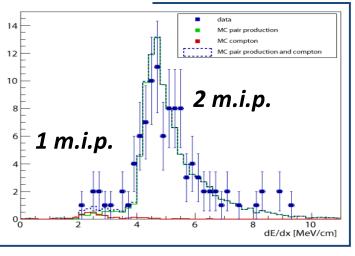
# Unique feature of ICARUS: e/ $\gamma$ separation, $\pi^0$ reconstruction



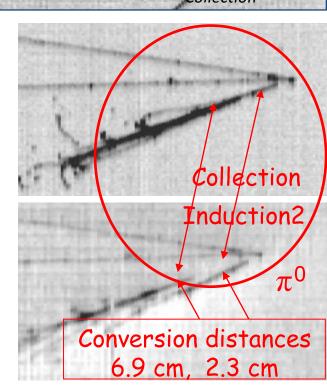


primary vertex



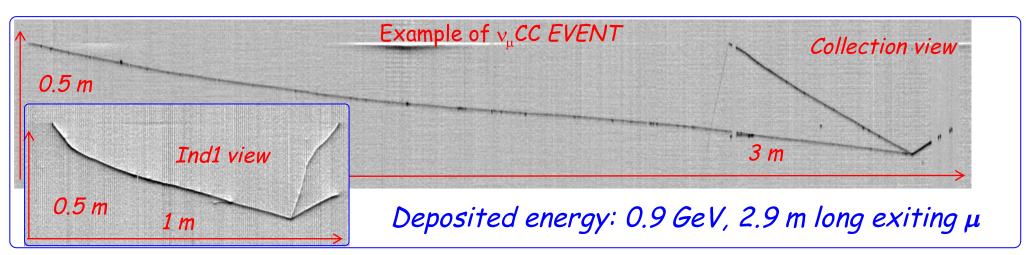


Crucial for NC rejection in v<sub>e</sub>-physics

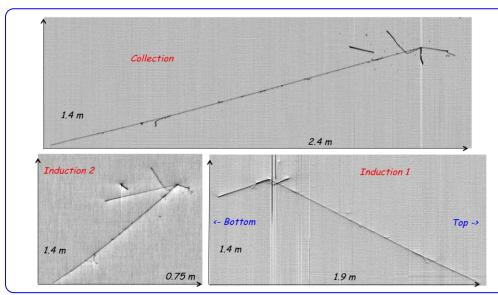


# Towards automatic neutrino search: atmospheric v -1

- Cosmic ray events recorded in  $\sim$ 0.48 kton y exposure (2012-2013 run), are being analyzed to study atmospheric  $\vee$  events, of interest since they cover the energy range of the upcoming SBN experiment at FNAL.
- Incoming c-rays are rejected (by factor ~100) and  $\vee$  candidates pre-selected by two automatic procedures, then validated by visual scanning:
  - a) reconstruction of vertex of multi-prong candidates (~30% MC eff.for vCC);
     ~42% of the exposure analyzed;
  - b) selection optimized for  $v_eCC$  rejecting straight incoming tracks with ~70%, ~18% MC eff. for  $v_eCC$  and  $v_uCC$  respectively); ~65% of sample analyzed;
- Globally 7  $v_{\mu}CC$  and 8  $v_{e}CC$  atmospheric v events have been so far identified.

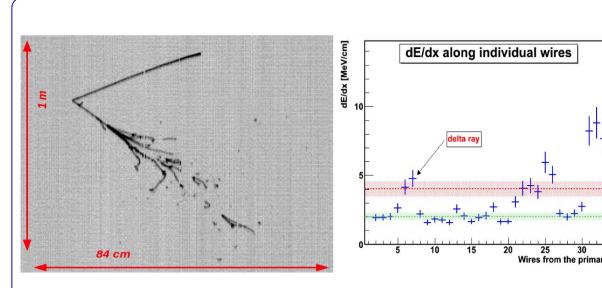


# Towards automatic neutrino search: atmospheric v - 2



## Upward-going v<sub>u</sub>CC:

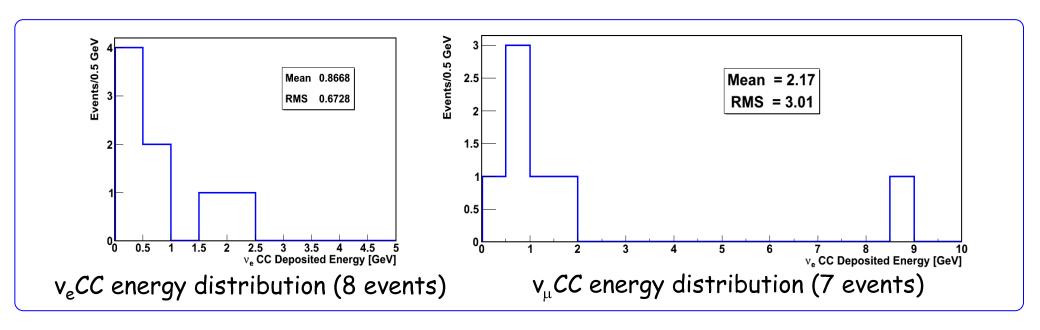
- E<sub>Dep</sub>= 1.7 GeV.
- 4 m escaping muon.
- Muon momentum = 1.8 ± 0.3 GeV/c. from multiple scattering.



- Quasi-elastic  $v_eCC$  with  $E_{Dep}$ = 0.9 GeV.
- Proton identified by dE/dx.

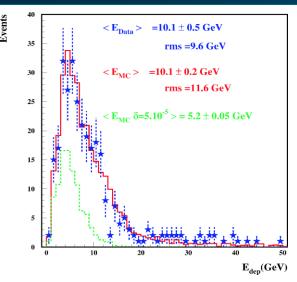
• Clear primary electron initiating (single m.i.p.) shower.

# Towards automatic neutrino search: atmospheric v - 3



- By-product: addressing nucleon decay search in selected channels involving kaons (competitive with PGD limits):
  - study on a single event basis with virtually zero background:  $n \rightarrow K^+e^-$ ;
  - a first study of MC events indicates an overall ≈80% selection and identification efficiency of the automatic pre-filter.

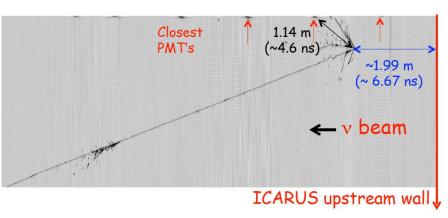
# Search for superluminal neutrinos



- Search of effects of v energy loss by analogous to the Cherenkov rad. emission (Cohen, Glashow, PRL 107 2011)
- No distortion in the measured deposited v energy, no observed  $e^+e^-$  pair  $\rightarrow \delta = (v_n^2-c^2)/c^2 < 2.5 \cdot 10^{-8} \cdot 0.90\% CL$  [  $\delta < 1.4 \cdot 10^{-8} \cdot (5K \cdot atmosph. v)$ ;  $\delta < 4 \cdot 10^{-9} \cdot (5N1987A)$  ]

M. Antonello et al., Phys. Lett. B., 711, 270-275 (2012)

Direct measurement of CERN to T600 v t.o.f. with special bunched beam:



M. Antonello et al., JHEP 049 (2012)

- First measurement in 2011:  $7 \vee \text{events} \rightarrow \delta t = \text{tof}_c \text{tof}_v = 0.3 \pm 4.9_{\text{stat}} \pm 9.0_{\text{syst}} \text{ ns}$ M. Antonello et al., Phys. Lett. B., 713, 17-22 (2012)
- Precision measurement in 2012: 25 v events (new precision geodesy, 4 timing systems, special PMT DAQ)

 $\delta t = +0.10 \pm 0.67_{stat} \pm 2.39_{syst}$  ns

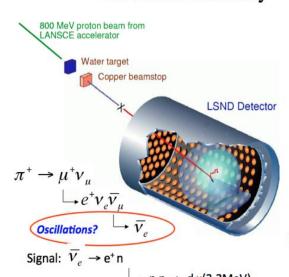
Demonstration of ICARUS capability to measure the event absolute time with ns resolution, a key feature for the next shallow depth operation

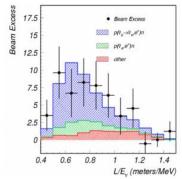
## Persisting anomalies in the neutrino sector

• Neutrino oscillations established a coherent picture with the mixing of physical  $v_e, v_\mu, v_\tau$  with small mass difference. However three main classes of anomalies have been reported, namely the observation of:

The LSND Anomaly  $\frac{8}{8}$  17.5 • Some Excess

- Electron-v excess signals from muon-v at accelerators by LSND  $(3.8\sigma)$  + MiniBooNE
- $\triangleright$  Disappearance of anti- $v_e$  by near-by nuclear reactor experiments (event rate R = 0.938±0.023).
- $\triangleright$  Disappearance of  $v_e$  hinted by solar  $v_e$  experiments in the calibration with Mega-Curie v sources (R=0.86±0.05).



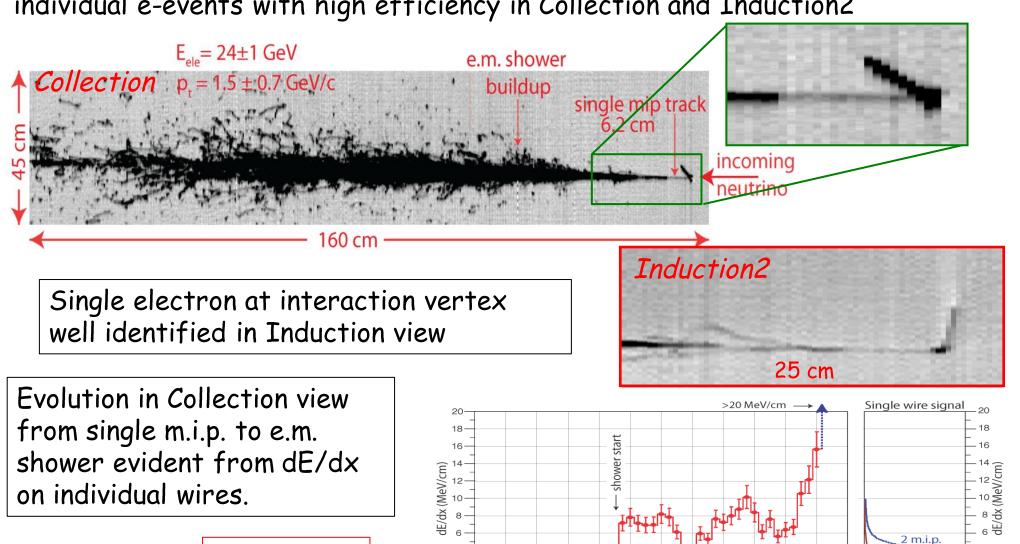


Saw an excess of  $\overline{\nu}_e$ :  $87.9 \pm 22.4 \pm 6.0$  events. With an oscillation probability of  $(0.264 \pm 0.067 \pm 0.045)\%$ .

- Other anomalies have been recently risen from reactors (NEOS anti-ve spectrum), atmospheric v (IceCube latest results on  $v\mu$  disappearance), CMB (constraint of massive sterile v to  $m_s$  <0.26 eV at 95% CL).
- All these independent signals may all point out to the possible existence of at least a 4th non standard/heavier "sterile" v state driving oscillations at small distances, with  $\Delta m^2_{new}$  < 1 eV<sup>2</sup> and relatively small  $\sin^2(2\theta_{new})$  mixing angles.
- ICARUS addressed the LSND anomaly with the CNGS beam performing a sensitive search for a possible LSND-like  $v_u \rightarrow v_e$  oscillations.

## v<sub>e</sub>CC identification in CNGS beam

 The unique detection properties of the LAr-TPC allow to identify unambiguously individual e-events with high efficiency in Collection and Induction2



Wire number along track direction

Single m.i.p.

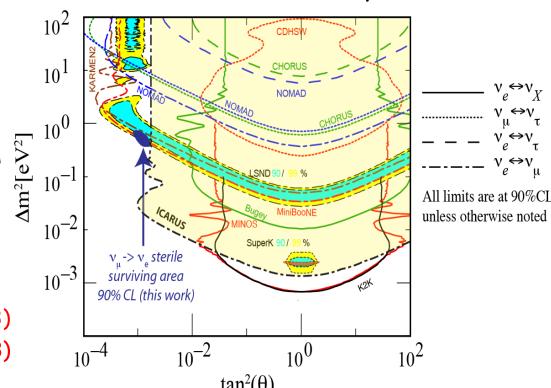
## LSND-like search by the ICARUS experiment at LNGS

- ICARUS searched for  $v_e$  excess related to L/E<sub>v</sub>~1 m/MeV LSND anomaly on CNGS  $v_u$  beam (~1% intrinsic  $v_e$ ) in 10-30 GeV E<sub>v</sub> range at L=732 km;
- At CNGS L/E, ~36.5m/MeV: LSND-like oscillation signal averages to  $\sin^2(1.27\Delta m^2_{new}\ L/E)\sim1/2$ . Compared to MINOS and T2K, ICARUS operated in L/E, range where contributions from standard oscillations not yet relevant.
- Globally 7 e-like events found in 7.93x10<sup>19</sup> pot statistics consistent with the 8.4±1.1 expectation from intrinsic ve beam + standard oscill. providing the limits in 2 v oscillation framework:

 $P(v\mu \rightarrow ve) \le 3.92 \times 10^{-3} \text{ at } 90 \% CL$  $P(v\mu \rightarrow ve) \le 7.83 \times 10^{-3} \text{ at } 99 \% CL$ 

M. Antonello et al., Eur. Phys. J. C 73 2345(2013)

M. Antonello et al., Eur. Phys. J. C 73 2599(2013)



ICARUS, and OPERA, results constrained the allowed parameters to a narrow region at  $\Delta m^2 < 1 \text{ eV}^2$ , where all the experimental results can be coherently accommodated at 90% C.L, calling for a definitive experiment.

### Conclusions

- The LAr-TPC detection technique has been taken to full maturity with ICARUS T600. It is a result of many years of R&D with continuous support of INFN.
- ICARUS completed in 2013 a successful continuous three year run at LNGS exposed to CNGS v's and c-rays obtaining remarkable physics and technical achievements and proving the effectiveness of the single phase LAr-TPC technology for v physics.
- The ability in reconstructing v interactions with complex topologies in a broad energy range, combined with an efficient identification of primary electrons and an unique  $e/\gamma$  separation, allows rejecting backgrounds in the search for  $v_u \rightarrow v_e$  transitions at an unprecedented level.
- ICARUS performed a sensitive search for a potential  $v_e$  excess related to LSND-like anomaly with CNGS defining, with the other experimental results, a narrower region at  $\Delta m^2 < 1 \text{ eV}^2$ , which has to be investigated to definitively settle the LSND hint of sterile v. Atmospheric neutrinos have been identified in the ongoing data analysis.
- ICARUS underwent a major overhauling at CERN before to be exposed to FNAL BNB aiming at a definitive experiment covering with  $5\sigma$  the LSND hint for sterile v's.

