Reactor Neutrino Experiments - Lecture I

- The First 50 Years: From the Discovery of the Antineutrino to the First Observation of Antineutrino Disappearance -

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http://neutrino.physics.wisc.edu

Outline

Lecture I - The First 50 Years: From The Discovery of the Antineutrino to the First Observation of Antineutrino Disappearance

- Discovery of the Free Antineutrino
- The Reactor as an Antineutrino Source
- Detection of Antineutrinos
- Search for Neutrino Oscillation with Reactor Antineutrinos
- Observation of Reactor Antineutrino Disappearance at KamLAND
- Other Reactor Neutrino Experiments

Lecture II - Precision Oscillation Physics with Reactor Antineutrinos

- Precision Measurement of Δm_{12}^2 at KamLAND
- Evidence for Oscillation of Reactor Antineutrinos at KamLAND
- Search for the Unknown Neutrino Mixing angle θ_{13}
- Future Opportunities: Precision Measurement of θ_{12}
- Applied Neutrino Physics: Reactor Monitoring with Antineutrinos

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1956



2006









Neutrinos from the Big Bang ~330 neutrinos per cm³ 0.5 proton per cm³





Supernova Neutrinos

Atmospheric Neutrinos

High Energy Cosmic Neutrinos

Geo Neutrinos

Accelerator&Reactor Neutrinos

Solar Neutrinos





Neutrino Energies

Big-Bang neutrinos ~ 0.0004 eV



Neutrinos from the Sun < 20 MeV depending of their origin.

Atmospheric neutrinos ~ GeV





Antineutrinos from nuclear reactors < 10.0 MeV

Neutrinos from accelerators up to GeV (10⁹ eV)



Neutrino Flux on Earth

Solar neutrinos

Primordial neutrinos from the Big Bang What produces the largest neutrino flux on Earth?

The Sun, the Big Bang, or a nuclear reactor?

Reactor neutrinos



Neutrino Flux on Earth

Solar neutrinos 7 x 10¹⁰

Primordial neutrinos from the Big Bang

 3×10^{12}

What produces the largest neutrino flux on Earth?

The Sun, the Big Bang, or a nuclear reactor?

Reactor neutrinos







Wolfgang Pauli

Offener Brief an die Gruppe der Madicaktiven bei der Geuvereins-Tagung zu Tübingen.

Absobrigt

Physikelisches Institut der Eidg. Technischen Hochschule Zürich

Zirich, 4. Des. 1930 Dioriastrasse

Marinal Publication of Sec 0393 Absobrist/15.12.5 1

Liebe Radioaktive Damen und Herren;

Wie der Veberbringer dieser Zeilen, den ich huldvollat ansuhören bitte, Ihnen des näheren sussinendersetsen wird, bin ich angesichts der "falschen" Statistik der N- und Li-6 Kerne, sowie des kontinuierlichen beta-Spektrums auf einen versweifelten Ausweg verfallen um den "Wecheelsats" (1) der Statistik und den Energiesats zu retten. Mämlich die Mäglichkeit, es könnten elektrisch neutrels Telloben, die ich Neutronen nennen will, in den Lernen existieren, Velche den Spin 1/2 heben und das Ausschliessungsprinzip befolgen und alas von Lichtquanten unseerdan noch dadurch unterscheiden, dass sie **wight** wit Lichtgeschwindigkeit laufen. Die Masse der Neutronen figste von derselben Grossenordnung wie die Elektronenwasse sein und joinfalls might grosper als 0.01 Protonemansses - Das kontinuierliche bein- Socktrum wäre dann varständlich unter der Annahme, dass bein beta-Zerfall ait dem blektron jeweils noch ein Meutron emittiert wird, derart, dass die Summe der Energien von Meutron und Miektron konstant ist.

Professor Pauli proposed that an undetectable particle shared the energy of beta decay with the emitted electron.

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Univ. of Chicago

Fermi's Theory of Beta Decay based on Pauli's Letter of Regrets

Experiment: $M_n c^2 \neq E_p + E_e$ Conjecture: $M_n c^2 = E_p + E_e + E_v$

Consistency requires that E_{v} is not observable!

Mr. Fermi's amazingly theory still stands (parity violation added in the 50s).

1949 IN COMO: Pontecorvo, (??), Fermi



Pontecorvo



Pauli

Fermi







Reactors are intense and pure sources of \overline{v}_e

B. Pontecorvo Natl.Res.Council Canada Rep. (1946) 205 Helv.Phys.Acta.Suppl. 3 (1950) 97

Good for systematic studies of neutrinos.

1956: First Direct Detection of the Antineutrino



Clyde Cowan Jr.



Frederick Reines

1953: Project Poltergeist

Experiment at Hanford



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300 liters of liquid scintillator loaded with cadmium



Hanford Experiment





signal: delayed coincidence between positron (2-5 MeV) and neutron capture on cadmium (2-7 MeV)

high background (S/N \sim 1/20) made the experiment inconclusive 0.41+/- 0.20 events/minute

1956: Savannah River Experiment

tanks I, II, and II were filled with liquid scintillator and instrumented with 5" PMTs

target tanks (blue) were filled with water+cadmium chloride



K



inverse beta decay would produce prompt and delayed signal in neighboring tanks

Oscilloscope Traces of Data

photographically recorded



1956: Savannah River Experiment



Electronics trailer

Shielding: 4 ft of soaked sawdust



1956: First Observation Observation of the Antineutrino

by April 1956, a reactor-dependent signal had been observed: signal/reactor independent background ~ 3:1

in June 1956, they sent a telegram to Pauli



•A Science article reported that the observed cross section was within 5% of the 6.3×10^{-44} cm² expected (although the predicted cross section has a 25% uncertainty).

•In 1959, following the discovery of parity violation in 1956, the theoretical cross section was increased by $\times 2$ to $(10\pm1.7)\times10^{-44}$ cm²

•In 1960, Reines and Cowan reported a reanalysis of the 1956 experiment and quoted $\sigma = (12^{+7}_{-4}) \times 10^{-44} \text{ cm}^2$

Reactors as Antineutrino Sources





U and Pu fission

- about 200MeV / fission is released
- fission rate is ~1.2x10²⁰ fissions / sec

reactors are copious, isotropic sources of $\overline{\nu}_e$

 β^{-} decay of neutron rich fission fragments

Example: ²³⁵U Fission



Antineutrino Production in Nuclear Fuel

> 99.9% of \overline{v}_e are produced by fissions in ²³⁵U, ²³⁸U, ²³⁹Pu, ²⁴¹Pu



Plutonium breeding over fuel cycle(~250 kg over fuel cycle) changes antineutrino rate (by 5-10%) and energy spectrum

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Prediction of the \overline{v}_e Flux and Spectrum

>99.9% of v_e are produced by fissions in $^{235}U,\,^{238}U,\,^{239}Pu,\,^{241}Pu$

 $\sim 90\%$ of v_e are produced by fissions in $^{235}U,~^{239}Pu$

Measurements

β-spectra resulting from fission of ²³⁵U, ²³⁸U, ²³⁹Pu, ²⁴¹Pu has been experimentally measured (use thin layer of fissile material in beam of thermal neutrons, e.g. Schreckenbach et al., Hahn et al.)

 \rightarrow can be converted to \overline{V}_{e} spectra

Calculations ²³⁸U beta spectra not available since fast fissions → determined from theory (+/-10%) (²³⁸U is only 10% of rate)



Bugey Experiment

Derived v Spectrum Checked Against Data

- β-spectra measured for ²³⁵U, ²³⁹Pu, ²⁴¹Pu. Converted into v-spectra.
- theoretical calculations for ²³⁸U



spectra derived from β -spectra: +/-1.4% agreement

\overline{v}_e Spectrum



threshold: neutrinos with E < 1.8 MeV are not detected

Goesgen Experiment

Comparison of Predicted Spectra to Observations

two curves are from fits to data and from predictions based on Schreckenbach et al.

3 baselines with one detector









Reactor Refueling

3-6 week shutdown every12-18 months

1/4-1/3 of fuel assemblies are replaced, remaining fuel repositioned

\overline{v}_e flux from reactor has time variation



Ρ



Burn-Up Corrections

- Burn-up correction needed
 - The percentage of the different primary isotopes change with time
 - Different fuel components yield different spectra
- Experiments receive information from reactor company who understand this very well
 - Use information to calculate a time dependent rate of neutrinos vs energy





coincidence signature between prompt e⁺ and delayed neutron capture on H, (or Cd, Gd)





including E from e⁺ annihilation, $E_{prompt}=E_{v}$ - 0.8 MeV

Neutrino Oscillation Search with Reactor Antineutrinos



Chooz: Operation and Data Taking

Chooz data taking: April 97- July 98

	Time (h)	$\int W dt$ (GWh)
Run	8761.7	
Live time	8209.3	
Dead time	552.4	
Reactor 1 only ON	2058.0	8295
Reactor 2 only ON	1187.8	4136
Reactors 1 & 2 ON	1543.1	8841
Reactors 1 & 2 OFF	3420.4	

~2.2 evts/day/ton with 0.2-0.4 bkg evts/day/ton ~total sample included 3600 v events

Chooz started data collection before reactor began operating.

UNIQUE possibility to measure backgrounds



Pontecorvo Neutrino Physics School, September 260,
Chooz: Signal and Correlated Background



Correlated Background



neutrons from cosmic ray μ interaction in the rock

e⁺-like signal faked by the proton recoil

$$\sum_{i} E_{\gamma_{i}} \cong 8 \text{ MeV}$$

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Backgrounds for Reactor Experiments

 Backgrounds to the e⁺ - n coincidence signal

Uncorrelated Backgrounds

- ambient radioactivity
- accidentals
- cosmogenic neutrons

Correlated Backgrounds

- cosmic rays induce neutrons in the surrounding rock and buffer region of the detector
- cosmogenic radioactive nuclei that emit delayed neutrons in the detector

eg. ⁸He (T1/2=119ms) ⁹Li (T1/2=178ms)



from M. Shaevitz



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Chooz: Positron Spectrum



Chooz: Reactor On/Off Data



Chooz: Results

~3600 events in 335 days

~2.2 events/day/ton with 0.2-0.4 bkgd events/day/ton

2.7% uncertainty

number of protons detection efficiency

reactor power

combined

reaction cross section (flux)

energy released per fission

parameter



Pontecorvo Neutrino Ph

relative error (%)

1.9%0.8%

1.5%

0.7%

0.6%

2.7%



Attenuation degrades by ~0.4% per day.

Reactor \overline{v}_e Flux Measurements at Different Distances

flux measurements at distances up to ~1km consistent with expectations



Reactor \overline{v}_e Flux Measurements at Different Distances



Nuclear Reactors in the World

Longer baselines for reactor antineutrino flux measurements require

- large \overline{v}_{e} source
- large detectors
- deep experimental site



Japanese Reactors



Japan



reactor $\bar{\nu}$ flux ~ 6x106/cm²/sec

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Anti-Neutrino Detection through inverse β -decay

 $\overline{v_e} + p \rightarrow e^+ + n$





Baseline Distribution at KamLAND

A limited range of baselines contributes to the flux of antineutrinos at KamLAND



KamLAND Underground Facility

n-line computers

km

r generators

liquid scintillator purification

data-taking electronics

1 1:

water purification

P BT

1000 ton liquid scintillator detector



Going Underground to Detect Neutrinos











Detecting (Anti)Neutrinos in KamLAND











Routine Calibration Sources

⁶⁸ Ge	e+	2 x 0.511 MeV
⁶⁵ Zn	γ	1.116 MeV
⁶⁰ Co	γ	2.506 MeV
AmBe	γ, n	2.22, 4.44, and 7.65 MeV
Laser and LEDs		





60Co: 1.173+1.333 MeV in the detector

σ = 6.2% / √E

light yield: 239 p.e./MeV

Fiducial Volume Determination



KamLAND in 2003: First Direct Evidence for Reactor \overline{v}_e Disappearance





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Pontecorvo









Spectral Distortions:A unique signature of neutrino oscillation!Simple, rescaled reactor spectrum is excluded at 99.6% $CL(\chi^2=37.3/18)$

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Spectral Distortions:A unique signature of neutrino oscillation!Simple, rescaled reactor spectrum is excluded at 99.6% $CL(\chi^2=37.3/18)$

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E > 2.6 MeV	%
Fiducial volume	4.7
Energy threshold	2.3
Efficiency of cuts Live time	1.6 0.06
Reactor power Fuel composition	2.1 1.0
v _e spectra cross section	2.5 0.2
Total uncertainty	6.5 %

E > 2.6 MeV	%	
Fiducial volume	4.7	
Energy threshold	2.3	
Efficiency of cuts Live time	1.6 0.06	
Reactor power Fuel composition	2.1 1.0	given by reactor company, difficult to improve on
v_{e}^{-} spectra cross section	2.5 0.2	theoretical, model-dependent
Total uncertainty	6.5 %	



E > 2.6 MeV	%	
Fiducial volume	4.7	volume calibration
Energy threshold	2.3	energy calibration or analysis w/out threshold
Efficiency of cuts	1.6	
Live time	0.06	
Reactor power	2.1	given by reactor company,
Fuel composition	1.0	difficult to improve on
v_{o} spectra	2.5	
cross section	0.2	theoretical, model-dependent
Tatal was autointy		
iotal uncertainty	0.5 %	

Measuring Neutrino Oscillation Parameters

Solar Neutrinos



Measuring Neutrino Oscillation Parameters



Agreement between oscillation parameters for $\overline{\nu}$ and ν

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Measuring Neutrino Oscillation Parameters



Discovery Era in Neutrino Physics: 1998 - Present



Other Reactor Neutrino Physics: Texono

- TEXONO Collaboration Academia Sinica-based and run, with groups from China, Turkey & India, close partnership with KIMS group in Korea.
- Facilities Kuo-Sheng Reactor Neutrino Laboratory in Taiwan; YangYang Underground Laboratory in South Korea.
- Program Low Energy Neutrino and Astroparticle (Dark Matter) Physics. Neutrino Magnetic Moments, Neutrino Radiative Decays, Axions



Reactor Neutrino Interaction Cross-Sections


Texono 2007 Highlights



Improved Limits in Neutrino Magnetic Moments (PRL-03, PRD-07)

 $\mu_v(v_e) < 7.4 \text{ X } 10^{-11} \mu_B$ @ 90% CL

Bounds on neutrino radiative decays.

Reactor Axion (PRD-07):

Improved laboratory limits axion mass 10²-10⁶ eV

Exclude DFSZ/KSVZ Models for axion mass 10⁴-10⁶ eV

On-Going – measurements of neutrino-electron scattering cross-sections (i.e. $\sin^2\theta_w$ at MeV)

- Future develop 100 eV threshold + 1 kg mass detector for
 - ⇒ First observation of neutrino-nucleus coherent scattering
 - ⇒ Dark matter searches for WIMP-mass less then 10 GeV
 - ⇒ Improvement of neutrino magnetic moment sensitivities

from Jun Cao, Lepton/Photon