Hadron Production Experiments for the Prediction of Neutrino Fluxes

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Boris A. Popov (DLNP, JINR, Dubna)

- Motivations
- Experiments
- Results
- Impacts
- Possibilities
- Conclusions





The Motivations



Why neutrino physicists care about hadronic cross-sections

the observed event rate compared to prediction is where we look for **interesting new physics**



Why neutrino physicists care about hadronic cross-sections

because most of the uncertainty in the flux prediction comes from the modeling of primary meson production within the target

$$N(E) = \Phi(E) \times \sigma(E) \times \varepsilon_{det}(E)$$



flux prediction parameters	typical normalization error [†]
primary proton beam (targeting, p.o.t., etc)	~2-10%
total interaction cross-sections (p-A, inelastic, QE, etc)	<5%
primary meson production (p+A -> π , p+A -> K, etc)	~10-50%
secondary interactions (p-A, π -A, etc)	~<5%
meson decays	small

[†]typical contributions to normalization errors for lower energy beamlines such as the Fermilab booster beamline, 8.9 GeV/c



Why neutrino physicists care about hadronic cross-sections



- primary proton energies range from ~10-500 GeV
- nuclear targets tend to be lighter elements (Be, C, Al...) due to difficulty in dissipating large heat build-up in high-Z targets
- targets are thick to increase proton reaction rates, but secondary interactions become non-negligible
- relevant meson production is typically forward, but can extend out to ~20 degrees (350 mrad) due to effect of focusing horns
- need to know π^+ , π^- , K^+ , K^- , and K^0 production to fully understand $\stackrel{(-)}{\nu_u}$ and $\stackrel{(-)}{\nu_e}$ fluxes (appearance, disappearance)
- branching ratios and neutrino spectra from meson decays are known and relatively straight-forward to simulate



Why neutrino physicists care about hadronic cross-sections (an example)



different simulations of 8 GeV/c protons on a thick Be target

note :

•some of these generators are at the limits of their ranges of applicability (8.9 GeV/c on Be)

•there are other Geant4 generators which are not shown here (QGSC, QGSP, . . .)

•nevertheless, something very important is learned : widely varying results are possible from available models (at least in this energy range) and care must be taken in constructing a model to simulate a neutrino beam

Why neutrino physicists care about hadronic cross-sections (an example)



fact

The world's conventional neutrino beams

PAST (vcross-section measurements)

- > Argonne ZGS 12.4 GeV/c protons on beryllium [1,2,3]
- > Fermilab 350 GeV/c protons on beryllium oxide [4,5]
- > Brookhaven AGS 28.3 GeV protons on $Al_2O_3[6]$
- > IHEP Protvino 70 GeV protons [7]
- **RECENT / PRESENT** (v cross-sections & oscillations)
 - > KEK PS 12 GeV protons on aluminum [K2K]
 - > Fermilab Booster 8 GeV protons on beryllium [MiniBooNE, SciBooNE]
 - Fermilab M.I. 120 GeV protons on carbon [MINOS, Minerva]
- **FUTURE** (v cross-section & oscillations)
 - J-PARC 50 GeV protons on carbon [T2K]
 - CERN SPS 400 GeV protons on carbon [CNGS]



^[2] Mann, et. al. "Study of the reaction $v + n \rightarrow \mu + p$ " Phys. Rev. Lett., 31, 844 (1973)

- [4] Kitagaki, et. al. "Neutrino flux and total charged-current cross sections in HE n-d interactions", Phys. Rev. Lett., 49, 98 (1982)
- [5] Kitagaki, et. al. "High-energy quasielastic $v + n \rightarrow \mu + p$ scattering in deuterium" Phys. Rev. D, 28, 436 (1983)
- [6] Ahrens, et. al. "Determination of the neutrino fluxes in the Brookhaven wide-band beam" Phys. Rev. D. 34, 75 (1986)

[7] SKAT Collaboration "The characteristics of neutrinonuclear reactions at E = 1-3 GeV" hep:ex/0408128 (2004)



^[3] Barish, et. al. "Study of neutrino interactions in hydrogen and deuterium", Phys. Rev. D, 16, 3103 (1977)

The Experiments



A note on past hadron production measurements

- some data does exist, but an exact match of primary beam energy, nuclear target material and kinematic acceptance between a measurement and a neutrino beam-line are necessary to avoid systematic errors associated with extrapolation or interpolation of data (E_{beam} , A_{targ} , p_{π} , θ_{π})
- above ~15-20 GeV energy scaling laws are applicable and interpolation aided. Below this range it is more difficult. Empirical/Phenomenological parameterizations do exist, however (Sanford-Wang, Tan-Ng, etc)
- most experiments existing before E910, MIPP and HARP were single-arm spectrometers measuring cross-sections in a few angular bins. These modern experiments are simultaneous 4π -acceptance experiments
- normalization uncertainties were often large, making them less constraining in global fits
- in many examples there is clearly tension between results from similar experiments further frustrating efforts to parameterize data sets and interpolate



FIG. 1. Secondary particle beam (not to scale). S1–S9 ar scintillation counters, C1 and C2 are focusing differential Čerenko counters, and C3 is a gas threshold Čerenkov counter.



Modern experimental goals and capabilities

• PS214 (HARP) at CERN

- large-angle particle production in p-A collisions applicable to neutrino factory designs
- reduce systematics on atmospheric neutrino flux predictions by measuring production from liquid cryogenic targets (H₂, D₂) and (N₂, O₂)
- checking/improving simulations such as Geant4 hadronic libraries
- reducing systematics on flux predictions for neutrino experiments using lower energy primary beams to create their neutrino beams (K2K, MiniBooNE, SciBooNE)
- E910 at Brookhaven National Laboratory
 - part of the heavy-ion program at BNL; study strangeness and resonance production in p-A collisions
 - large acceptance particle production measurements in p-A and A-A collisions

• E907 (MIPP) at Fermilab

- scaling laws in secondary particle production at incident beam energies in the range 20-120 GeV/c on a wide range of nuclei, hydrogen-uranium
- directly measure particle production from the NuMI target
- NA49 at CERN
 - study charged and neutral hadron production to search for deconfinement transition predicted by lattice QCD
 - large acceptance particle production measurements in p-p and p-A collisions
- NA56 (SPY) at CERN
 - measured p, K production in p+Be collisions at 450 GeV/c; used to predict fluxes by the NOMAD experiment



HARP – PS214 at CERN

HARP collaboration M.G. Catanesi, E. Radicioni Università degli Studi e Sezione INFN, Bari, Italy R. Edgecock, M. Ellis¹, S. Robbins^{2,3}, F.J.P. Soler⁴ Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Chilton, Didcot, UK C. Gäßling Institut für Physik, Universität Dortmund, Germany S. Bunyatov, A. Chukanov, D. Dedovitch, M. Gostkin, A. Guskov, D. Khartchenko, O. Klimov, A. Krasnoperov, D. Kustov, B. Popov⁵, V. Serdiouk, V. Tereshchenko, A. Zhemchugov Joint Institute for Nuclear Research, JINR Dubna, Russia E. Di Capua, G. Vidal-Sitjes^{6,1} Università degli Studi e Sezione INFN, Ferrara, Italy A. Artamonov⁷, P. Arce⁸, S. Giani, S. Gilardoni⁶, P. Gorbunov⁷, A. Grant, A. Grossheim⁶, P. Gruber⁶, V. Ivanchenko⁹, A. Kavis-Topalsu¹⁰, J. Panman, I. Papadopoulos, J. Pastemak⁶, E. Tcherniaev, I. Tsukennan⁷, R. Veenhof, C. Wiebusch³, P. Zucchelli^{11,12} CERN, Geneva, Switzerland A. Blondel, S. Borghi, M. Campanelli, M.C. Morone, G. Prior^{6,13}, R. Schroeter Section de Physique, Université de Genève, Switzerland C. Meurer. Institut für Physik, Universität Karlsruhe, Germany I. Kato¹⁴, T. Nakaya¹⁴, K. Nishikawa¹⁴, S. Ueda¹⁴ University of Kyoto, Japan U. Gastakli Laboratori Nazionali di Legnaro dell' INFN, Legnaro, Italy G. B. Milk¹⁵ Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, USA J.S. Graulich¹⁶, G. Grégoire Institut de Physique Nucléaire, UCL, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium M. Bonesini, M. Calvi, A. De Min, F. Ferri, M. Paganoni, F. Pakari Università degli Studi e Sezione INFN, Milano, Italy M. Kirsanov Institute for Nuclear Research, Moscow, Russia A. Bagulya, V. Grichine, N. Polukhina P. N. Lebedev Institute of Physics (FIAN), Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia V. Palladino Università "Federico II" e Sezione INFN, Napoli, Italy L. Coney¹⁵, D. Schmitz¹⁵ Columbia University, New York, USA G. Barr, A. De Santo¹⁷, C. Pattison, K. Zuber¹⁸ Nuclear and Astrophysics Laboratory, University of Oxford, UK F. Bobisut, D. Gibin, A. Gugliehni, M. Laveder, A. Menegolli, M. Mezzetto Università degli Studi e Sezione INFN, Padova, Italy J. Dumarchez, F. Vannucci LPNHE, Universités de Paris VI et VII, Paris, France V. Ammosov, V. Koreshev, A. Semak, V. Zaets Institute for High Energy Physics, Protvino, Russia U. Dare Università "La Sapienza" e Sezione INFN Roma I, Roma, Italy D. Orestano, F. Pastore, A. Tonazzo, L. Tortora Università degli Studi e Sezione INFN Roma III, Roma, Italy C. Booth, C. Buttar⁴, P. Hodgson, L. Howlett



Dept. of Physics, University of Sheffield, UK M. Bogomikov, M. Chizhov, D. Kolev, R. Tsenov Faculty of Physics, St. Kliment Ohridski University, Sofia, Bulgaria S. Piperov, P. Temnikov Institute for Nuclear Research and Nuclear Energy, Academy of Sciences, Sofia, Bulgaria M. Apollonio, P. Chimenti, G. Giannini, G. Santin¹⁹ Università degli Studi e Sezione INFN, Trieste, Italy Y. Hayato¹⁴, A. Ichikawa¹⁴, T. Kobayashi¹⁴ KEK, Tsukuba, Japan J. Burguet-Castell, A. Cervera-Villanucva, J.J. Gómez-Cadenas, J. Martin-Albo, P. Novella, M. Sorel, A. Tornero Instituto de Física Corpuscular, IFIC, CSIC and Universidad de Valencia, Spain



HARP – PS214 at CERN

HARP is a large angle spectrometer to measure hadron production from various nuclear targets and a range of incident beam momenta

- Nuclear target materials : A = 1 200
- Nuclear target thickness : $\lambda = 2 100 \%$
- Beam particles : $h = p, \pi^{+-}, e^{+-}$
- Beam momenta : $p_{beam} = 1 15 \text{ GeV/c}$
- Secondaries measured : $h = p, \pi^{+-}, K^{+-}$
- Kinematic acceptance of forward spectrometer

p = 0.5 - 8.0 GeV/c



hadron production measurements in "seven dimensions"

 $\theta = 20 - 250 \text{ mrad}$

Ingredients for Cross-section Calculation

$$\frac{d^2 \sigma^{\pi}}{dp d\Omega} \sim \frac{\Delta N^{\pi}}{\Delta p \Delta \theta} \cdot \frac{\text{correction factors}(p, \theta)}{N_{pot}}$$

•Select events identified as primary protons interacting in the target

•For each event, reconstruct tracks and their 3-momentum

Identify pions among secondary tracks

•Apply corrections, for reconstructed-to-true pion yield conversion:

- Momentum resolution
- Spectrometer angular acceptance
- Track reconstruction efficiency
- Efficiency and purity of pion identification
- Other
- Count protons on target corresponding to selected events
- Multiply by physics constants and accurately measured target properties



Recipe for a cross-section





The Cross-section



Primes denote reconstructed quantities i,j are momentum and angular bins α is the particle type



Correction Factors

Correction Type	Impact On Cross-section	Method
Momentum Resolution	Shape	MC/Data
Track Rec Efficiency	~5% up	Data
Geometric Acceptance	~100-160% up	Analytic
Pion ID	Efficiency: ~2-5% up	Data
Pion ID	π -proton: migration<1% down	Data
Absorption/decay	10-30% up	MC
Tertiary Production	< 5% down	MC
Electron Veto Eff	1% up	MC
Kaon Subtraction	0-3% down	Data/MC
Target-out subtraction	~20%	Data

• for each correction applied a systematic error has been separately estimated



Event selection



• Event selection for protons on target ("normalization trigger"):

- Well-behaved transverse impact point and direction of primaries via 4 MWPCs and scintillators (BS, TDS, HALO A, HALO B)
- Primaries identified as protons via beam ToF and Cerenkov systems (TOFA, TOFB, BCA, BCB). Beam ToFs also used for interaction time.
- Event selection for proton inelastic interactions ("*physics trigger*"):
 - Same as normalization trigger, plus signal in forward trigger scintillator plane (FTP)



Track reconstruction efficiency

• four overlapping downstream drift chamber modules and two independent methods of momentum reconstruction given a downstream segment



HARP – PS214 at CERN



Momentum resolution



• momentum resolution can be mapped out directly from data using :

>empty target data (bottom)

>deconvolve beta and momentum (top)

>elastic scattering events (not shown)

• simulation can be adjusted to match data resolutions so one can use Monte Carlo to generate unsmearing matrices

(C. Meurer and J. Panman)

Particle identification



HARP – PS214 at CERN

ELSEVIER

Available online at www.sciencedirect.com



Nuclear Physics B 732 (2006) 1-45



First HARP Physics Publication

Measurement of the production cross-section of positive pions in p-Al collisions at 12.9 GeV/c

HARP Collaboration

Abstract

A precision measurement of the double-differential production cross-section, $d^2\sigma^{\pi^+}/dp d\Omega$, for pions of positive charge, performed in the HARP experiment is presented. The incident particles are protons of 12.9 GeV/c momentum impinging on an aluminium target of 5% nuclear interaction length. The measurement of this cross-section has a direct application to the calculation of the neutrino flux of the K2K experiment. After cuts, 210 000 secondary tracks reconstructed in the forward spectrometer were used in this analysis. The results are given for secondaries within a momentum range from 0.75 to 6.5 GeV/c, and within an angular range from 30 mrad to 210 mrad. The absolute normalization was performed using prescaled beam triggers counting protons on target. The overall scale of the cross-section is known to better than 6%, while the average point-to-point error is 8.2%.

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HARP – PS214 at CERN



Nucl. Phys. B732 (2006) 1 hep-ex/0510039

 $\theta_{\pi} = [30, 60, 90, 120, 150, 180, 210] \text{ mrad}$ $p_{\pi} = [0.75 - 6.5] \text{ GeV/c}$

typical error on point = 8.7 %

error on integral = 4.7 %

full covariance error matrix generated and used for fitting to parameterizations

diagonal errors shown on data points

$$p(12.9 \text{ GeV/c}) + \text{Al} \rightarrow \pi^+ + X$$



Comparison to other aluminum cross-section measurements

Nucl. Phys. B732 (2006) 1 hep-ex/0510039



 find experiments that measured pion cross-sections from aluminum at near 13 GeV/c proton momentum and forward angles

Sugaya 98	12.9 GeV/c	89 mrad
Voronstov 88	10.1 GeV/c	61 mrad
Voronstov 83	10.1 GeV/c	61 mrad
Abbott 92	14.6 GeV/c	134-200 mrad

• use smooth fit to HARP data to extrapolate to p_{beam} and p_{π} , θ_{π} of other experimental results



Upcoming HARP Physics Publication

Measurement of the production cross-section of positive pions in the collision of 8.9 GeV/c protons on beryllium

HARP Collaboration

December 14, 2006

Aostract

The double-differential production cross section of positive pions, $d^2 \sigma^{\pi^+}/dpd\Omega$, measured in the HARP experiment is presented. The incident particles are 8.9 GeV/c protons directed onto a beryllium target with a nominal thickness of 2.0455 cm or approximately 5% of a nuclear interaction length. This cross-section has a direct impact on the prediction of neutrino fluxes for the MiniBooNE and SciBooNE experiments at Fermilab. After cuts, 13 million protons on target produced 96,000 reconstructable secondary tracks which were used in this analysis. Cross-section results will be presented in the kinematic range from 0.75 GeV/c $\leq p_{\pi} \leq 6.5 \text{ GeV}/c$ and 30 mrad $\leq \theta_{\pi} \leq 210$ mrad in the laboratory frame.



HARP – PS214 at CERN



Internal draft

$$\theta_{\pi} = [30, 60, 90, 120, 150, 180, 210] \text{ mrad}$$

 $p_{\pi} = [0.75 - 6.5] \text{ GeV/c}$

typical error on point = 9.8%

error on integral = 4.9%

analysis includes significant improvements relative to Al measurement in PID and momentum resolution description

$$p(8.9 \text{ GeV/c}) + Be \rightarrow \pi^+ + X$$

HARP – PS214 at CERN



"neutrino beam-line parameter space"





E910 at Brookhaven

R. A. Fernow, S. Gushue, H. G. Kirk, R. B. Palmer, L. Remsberg Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, New York 11973

I. Chemakin, B. A. Cole, H. Hiejima, M. Moulson, D. L. Winter, X. Yang, W. A. Zajc, Y. Zhang Columbia University, New York, New York 10027

> A. D. Frawley, N. Maeda Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida 32306

> > M. Rosati Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa 50010

> > M. Justice Kent State University, Kent, Ohio 44242

> > > G. Rai

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley, California 94720

V. Cianciolo, E. P. Hartouni, M. N. Namboodiri, R. A. Soltz, J. H. Thomas Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Livermore, California 94550

M. Gilkes, R. L. McGrath, Y. Torun State University of New York at Stony Brook, Stony Brook, New York 11794

S. Mioduszewski, D. Morrison, K. Read, S. Sorensen University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee 37996

> J. H. Kang, Y. Shin Yonsei University, Seoul 120-749, Korea



• the main objective is to study nuclear processes relevant to relativistic heavy ion collisions

"Antiproton production in *p*+A collisions at 12.3 and 17.5 GeV/*c*" (Phys.Rev.C64:064908)

"Semi-inclusive \wedge° and K_{s} production in *p*-Au collisions at 17.5 *GeV/c*" (Phys.Rev.Lett.85:4868)

"Measuring centrality with slow protons in proton-nucleus collisions at 18 GeV/*c*" (Phys.Rev.C.60:024902)

"Strange particle production and an H-dibaryon search in p+A collisions at the AGS" (Nucl.Phys.A639:407-416)



Particle identification





"Inclusive soft pion production from 12.3 and 17.5 GeV/c protons on Be, Cu and Au" (Phys. Rev. C65:024904)



Pion production by protons on a Be target at 6.4, 12.3 and 17.6 GeV/c using E910 data (in preparation)

• first published pion cross-section measurement was for low momentum, large angle production with a minimal impact on a conventional neutrino beam

> p_{beam} = 12.3, 17.6 GeV/c p = 0.1 – 1.2 GeV/c

 $\theta = 300 - 800 \text{ mrad}$

• the analysis by J. Link (contribution to NuFact'06) extended this measurement to forward angles and higher momenta

 $p_{beam} = 6.4, 12.3, 17.6 \text{ GeV/c}$

p = 0.4 - 5.6 GeV/c

 $\theta = 0 - 320 \text{ mrad}$











MIPP – E907 at Fermilab

D.Isenhower.M.Sadler.R.Towell.S.Watson Abilene Christian University **R.J.Peterson** University of Colorado, Boulder W.Baker, D.Carey, M.Demarteau, C.Johnstone, H.Meyer, R.Raja, W.Wester Time of Flight Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory G. Feldman, A.Lebedev, S.Seun Harvard University P.Hanlet, O.Kamaev, D.Kaplan, H.Rubin, N.Solomey Illinois Institute of Technology U.Akgun, G.Aydin, F.Duru, E.Gülmez, Y.Gunaydin, Y.Onel, A.Penzo Chambers University of Iowa N.Graf, M. Messier, J.Paley Indiana University Jolly Green Giand V.Avdeichicov, R.Leitner, J.Manjavidze, V.Nikitin, I.Rufanov, T. Topuria Joint Institute for Nuclear research, Dubna Cerenkov EM shower detector D.M.Manley, Kent State University P.D.BarnesJr., E.Hartouni, M.Heffner, J.Klay, D.Lange, R.Soltz, D.Wright Ròsie Lawrence Livermore Laboratory H.R.Gustafson, M.Longo, T.Nigmanov, D.Rajaram University of Michigan S.P.Kruglov, I.V.Lopatin, N.G.Kozlenko, A.A.Kulbardis, D.V.Nowinsky, A.K.Radkov, V.V.Sun Petersburg Nuclear Physics Institute, Gatchina, Russia RICH A.Bujak, L.Gutay, D.E.Miller Purdue University Neutron Calorimeter, T.Bergfeld, A.Godley, S.R.Mishra, C.Rosenfeld University of South Carolina C.Dukes, C.Maternick, K.Nelson, A.Norman University of Virginia





• Uses 120 GeV/c protons from the Fermilab Main Injector to produce a secondary beam of p^+ , π^+ , K^+ from 5 – 85 GeV/c

Nuclear target materials : H, Be, C, Al, Bi, U

- I20 GeV/c protons on NuMI replica target
- particle ID with TPC, threshold Cerenkov, time-of-flight and RICH

Data Summary 27 February 2006		Acquired Data by Target and Beam Energy Number of events, x 10 ⁶										
	Target			Е								
Z	Element	Trigger Mix	5	20	35	40	55	60	65	85	120	Total
	Empty ¹	Normal		0.10	0.14			0.52			0.25	1.01
0	K Mass ²	No Int.				5.48	0.50	7.39	0.96			14.33
	Empty LH ¹	Normal		0.30				0.61		0.31		7.08
1	LH	Normal	0.21	1.94				1.98		1.73		
4	B o	<i>p</i> only									1.08	1.75
4 Ве	De	Normal			0.10			0.56				
	С	Mixed						0.21				1.22
6	C 2%	Mixed		0.39				0.26			0.47	1.55
	NuMI	<i>p</i> only									1.78	1.78
13	Al	Normal			0.10							0.10
83	B i	<i>p</i> only									1.05	2.83
03	Ы	Normal			0.52			1.26				
92	U	Normal						1.18				1.18
	Total		0.21	2.73	0.86	5.48	0.50	13.97	0.96	2.04	4.63	31.38

2005-2006 physics data set



Tracking and particle identification

. 80 40 20 0 20

Ъ.

40

-40

-20

40





Tracking and particle identification



Tracking and particle identification

Purve to a good place to 36 seemed a good plack up. Wake people back up.



And all experiments use my personal favorite detector. . . the physicist.



Preliminary particle distributions



• very preliminary charged multiplicity distribution (bottom) and inclusive momentum distribution (top) for NuMI target at 120 GeV/c

comparison is to a FLUKA simulation



"neutrino beam-line parameter space"





NA49 at CERN

NA49 Physics Author List

last modified: June 21, 2008

C. Alt⁹, T. Anticic²¹, B. Baatar⁸, D. Barna⁴, J. Bartke⁶, L. Betev¹⁰, H. Bialkowska¹⁹, C. Bhume⁹, B. Boimska¹⁹, M. Botje¹, J. Bracinik³, R. Bramm⁹, P. Bunčić¹⁰, V. Cerny³, P. Christakoglou², O. Chvala¹⁴, J.G. Cramer¹⁶, P. Csat5⁴, P. Dinkelaker⁹, V. Eckardt¹³, D. Flietl⁹, Z. Fodor⁴, P. Foka⁷, V. Frieze⁷, J. Gál⁴, M. Gaździcki^{9,11}, V. Genchev¹², G. Georgopoulos², E. Gladysz⁶, K. Grebieszkow²⁰, S. Hegyi⁴, C. Höhne⁷, K. Kachja²¹, A. Karev¹³, M. Kliemant⁹, S. Kniege⁹, V.I. Kolesnikov³, E. Kornas⁶, R. Korus¹¹, M. Kowalski⁶, I. Kraus⁷, M. Kreps³, A. Laszlo⁴, M. van Leeuwen¹, P. Lévai⁴, L. Litov¹⁷, B. Lungwitz⁹, M. Makariev¹⁷ A.I. Malakhov², M. Mateev¹⁷, G.L. Melkumov², A. Mischke¹, M. Mitrovski⁹ J. Molnár⁴, St. Mrówczyński¹¹, V. Nicolic²¹, G. Pálla⁴, A.D. Panagiotou² D. Panayotov¹⁷, A. Petridis², M. Pikna³, D. Prindle¹⁶, F. Pühlhofer¹², R. Renfordt⁶, C. Roland⁶, G. Roland⁶, M. Rybezyński¹¹, A. Rybicki⁶, A. Sandoval⁷, N. Schmitz¹³, T. Schuster⁹, P. Seyboth¹³, F. Siklér⁴, B. Sitar³, E. Skrzypczak²⁰, G. Stefanek¹¹. R. Stock⁹, C. Strabel⁹, H. Ströbele⁹, T. Susa²¹, I. Szentpétery⁴, J. Sziklai⁴ P. Szymanski^{10,19}, V. Trubnikov¹⁹, D. Varga^{4,10}, M. Vassiliou², G.I. Veres^{4,5}, G. Vesstergombi⁴, D. Vranić⁷, A. Wetzler⁹, Z. Włodarczyk¹¹ I.K. Yco¹⁵, J. Zimányi⁴



many publications; these are the most recent. . .

"Inclusive production of charged pions in p+p at 158 GeV/c beam momentum" (Eur.Phys.J.C45:343-381,2006)

"High p(T) spectra of identified particles produced in Pb+Pb collisions at 158-GeV/nucleon beam energy" (Nucl.Phys.A774:473-476,2006)

"Elliptic flow of Lambda hyperons in Pb+Pb collisions at 158-AGeV" (Nucl.Phys.A774:499-502,2006)

"Upper limit of D0 production in central Pb-Pb collisions at 158-A-GeV" (Phys.Rev.C73:034910,2006)

"Pion production in Pb Pb collisions at the SPS" (Nucl.Phys.A749:304-308,2005)



NA49 at CERN

and here is the most relevant. . .

"Inclusive production of charged pions in p+C collisions at 158 GeV/c beam momentum" (hep-ex/0606028)



NA49 at CERN

"neutrino beam-line parameter space"



The Impacts



Four examples of the impacts of these data

- The **K2K** v_{μ} disappearance experiment at KEK/SK
 - HARP p+Al pion measurement has been used to predict the K2K F/N ratio
 - the final K2K oscillation paper which uses the HARP measurements is available Phys.Rev.D74:072003,2006
- **The MiniBooNE** oscillation experiment at Fermilab
 - HARP and E910 p+Be pion measurements are being used to predict neutrino fluxes
- Preliminary comparisons to some hadronic models
- Impact on atmospheric neutrino flux predictions



K2K F/N flux ratio prediction

"neutrino beam-line parameter space"





K2K F/N flux ratio prediction



• HARP Al cross-section results have provided an important cross-check on previous K2K flux predictions. completely consistent in shape

Phys. Rev. D74:072003,2006



• F/N ratio no longer dominant systematic error

K2K F/N flux ratio prediction



Phys. Rev. D74:072003,2006





MiniBooNE v_{μ} flux prediction

"neutrino beam-line parameter space"





An aside on the SW parameterization

$$\frac{d^2\sigma(\mathbf{p}+\mathbf{A}\to\pi^++X)}{dpd\Omega}(p,\theta) = c_1 p^{c_2} (1-\frac{p}{p_{\text{beam}}}) \exp\left[-c_3 \frac{p^{c_4}}{p_{\text{beam}}^{c_5}} - c_6 \theta (p-c_7 p_{\text{beam}} \cos^{c_8} \theta)\right]$$

- X : any other final state particle
- p_{beam} : proton beam momentum (GeV/c)
- p, θ : pion lab-frame momentum (GeV/c) and angle (rad)
- $c_1,..., c_8$: empirical fit parameters

Parameter	Value	Parameter	c_1	c_2	c_3	$c_4 = c_5$	c_6	c_7	c_8
C1	$(4 4 + 1 3) \cdot 10^2$	c_1	1.000						
	(1.1 ± 1.0) 10 (9.5 ± 9.4) 10–1	c_2	-0.056	1.000					
c_2	$(8.5 \pm 3.4) \cdot 10^{-2}$	c_3	-0.145	-0.691	1.000				
c_3	(5.1 ± 1.3)	$c_4 = c_5$	-0.322	-0.890	0.831	1.000			
$c_4 = c_5$	(1.78 ± 0.75)	c_6	-0.347	0.263	-0.252	-0.067	1.000		
Св	(4.43 ± 0.31)	c_7	-0.740	0.148	-0.067	0.077	0.326	1.000	
c_7	$(1.35 \pm 0.29) \cdot 10^{-1}$	c_8	0.130	-0.044	0.205	-0.040	-0.650	0.189	1.000
c_8	$(3.57 \pm 0.96) \cdot 10^{1}$								

example of HARP measurements for p-Al at 12.9 GeV/c

J. R. Sanford and C. L. Wang "Empirical formulas for particle production in p-Be collisions between 10 and 35 BeV/c", Brookhaven National Laboratory, AGS internal report, (1967) (*unpublished*)



Sanford-Wang Parameterization

$$\frac{d^2\sigma(\mathbf{p}+\mathbf{A}\to\pi^++X)}{dpd\Omega}(p,\theta) = c_1 p^{c_2} (1-\frac{p}{p_{\text{beam}}}) \exp\left[-c_3 \frac{p^{c_4}}{p_{\text{beam}}^{c_5}} - c_6 \theta (p-c_7 p_{\text{beam}} \cos^{c_8} \theta)\right]$$

Parameter	Value	Parameter	c_1	c_2	c_3	$c_4 = c_5$	c_6	c_7	c_8
I di dificiti		c_1	1.000						
c_1	$(4.4 \pm 1.3) \cdot 10^2$	c_2	-0.056	1.000					
() a	(8.5 ± 3.4) , 10^{-1}	c_3	-0.145	-0.691	1.000				
c_2	$(0.5 \pm 3.4) \cdot 10$	$c_4 = c_5$	-0.322	-0.890	0.831	1.000			
c_3	(5.1 ± 1.3)	c_6	-0.347	0.263	-0.252	-0.067	1.000		
0 - 0	(1.79 ± 0.75)	c_7	-0.740	0.148	-0.067	0.077	0.326	1.000	
$c_4 = c_5$	(1.78 ± 0.75)	c_8	0.130	-0.044	0.205	-0.040	-0.650	0.189	1.000
c_6	(4.43 ± 0.31)	*							
c_7	$(1.35 \pm 0.29) \cdot 10^{-1}$								
c_8	$(3.57\pm 0.96)\cdot 10^{1}$								

HARP measurements for p-Al at 12.9 GeV/c



MiniBooNE v_{μ} flux prediction



MiniBooNE v_{\parallel} flux prediction



. the E910 and HARP data sets are extremely compatible in normalization, with some tension in shape

normalization pull term	fit result
n _{HARP}	1.00
n _{E910 6.4}	1.02 +- 0.06
n _{E910 12.3}	0.97 +- 0.03



MiniBooNE v_{μ} flux prediction



. the E910 and HARP data sets are extremely compatible in normalization, with some tension in shape





MiniBooNE v_{\parallel} flux prediction



. errors generated by the SW fit are propagated to the predicted neutrino flux at the MiniBooNE detector

• avg. uncertainty on CCQE event rate coming from the flux prediction is < 10%



Hadronic models in Geant4



p+Aluminum 12.9 GeV/c



Hadronic models in Geant4



p+Beryllium 8.9 GeV/c



Atmospheric neutrino flux predictions

• the HARP p+C @ 12 GeV/c and the NA49 p+C @ 158 GeV/c are both relevant to the prediction of atmospheric neutrino fluxes





The Possibilities



Coming soon for MiniBooNE / SciBooNE

• HARP data is the one relevant to the 8.9 GeV/c Fermilab booster line

• in addition to the π^+ cross-section measured from the thin beryllium target data at $p_{beam} = 8.9 \text{ GeV/c}$ (shown today), there is a plan to provide :

•a π - **measurement** for anti-neutrino running mode in the booster beam line

.a K^{+} measurement for prediction of intrinsic ν_{e} backgrounds from K decays

 particle yields from thick beryllium targets and MiniBooNE replica targets

50%λ		
100% 2		

No target	5.7 M events	Subtraction
5% Be Disc	7.3 M events	p+Be x-section
50% λ MB replica	5.2 M events	Effects specific to MB target reinteraction
100% λ MB replica	6.4 M events	absorption scattering







Much more data. . .

• the **HARP** experiment recorded ~400 M triggers

1.5 / 3 / 5 / 8 / 8.9 / 12 / 12.9 / 15 GeV/c BeamsH₂/D₂/Be/C/N₂/O₂/Al/Cu/Sn/Ta/Pb Targets (5%,100%)

 possibility for careful study of energy dependence and A dependence of hadron production – development of scaling laws and improved parameterizations

- π +A interactions as well as p+A interactions
- cryogenic targets for atmospheric neutrino production
- large-angle analyses incorporating the TPC and RPCs



Important MIPP upgrade

• the limiting factor in MIPP data taking rate is TPC electronics (1990 vintage ~60Hz max, ~20Hz for complex events)

• proposal to replace electronics with those developed for the ALICE collaboration at the LHC. will increase data acquisition rate to 3000Hz - x100

• by upgrading all systems to 3kHz a data taking rate of 5 million events per day should be achievable.

• the entire data set recorded in 05-06 can be achieved in ~ 1 week!!

multiple beam momenta and both charges H₂/D₂/Li/Be/B/C/N₂/O₂/Mg/Al/Si/P/S/Ar/K/Ca/Fe/ Ni/Cu/Zn/Nb/Ag/Sn/W/Pt/Au/Hg/Pb/Bi/U Targets

• full data set will be used to tune hadronic shower generators across energies and atomic masses

• 10 million events from NuMI target



Similar NA49 upgrade

• Proposal submitted to CERN SPSC in November, "Study of Hadron Production in Collisions of Protons and Nuclei at CERN SPS"

• will also increase TPC data taking rate by using ALICE electronics technology (~x20 to 30 Hz)

• Proposal includes a measurement of π and K production from carbon targets at 30, 40 and 50 GeV/c with direct relevance to the **T2K experiment**

• these same p+C and π +C cross-sections are also directly relevant to **atmospheric neutrino flux** predictions



The Conclusions



"neutrino beam-line parameter space"



data taken at exactly the beam momentum with a replica target from the experiment

SPY 450 GeV/c on Be NA49

158 GeV/c on C

MIPP

35, 60, 120 GeV/c on Be 20, 35, 60, 120 GeV/c on C 35 GeV/c on Al

HARP

3, 5, 8, 12, 15 GeV/c on Be, C, Al E910

6.4, 12.3, 17.5 GeV/c on Be



"neutrino beam-line parameter space"



SPY NA49 upgrade MIPP upgrade HARP full data E910

with upgrades there becomes a nearly continuous coverage across beam momenta and nuclear targets

with overlap regions between different experiments allowing for important crosschecks

Conclusions

- hadron production experiments like **HARP**, **E910**, **MIPP** and **NA49** have already made important contributions to hadronic cross-sections relevant to neutrino experiments
- there is more data to be analyzed already on disk from HARP and MIPP
 - kaons
 - thick targets
 - other nuclear materials
 - range of beam momenta
- proposed MIPP and NA49 upgrades could provide the data to definitively constrain hadronic simulators in the next few years
- we have, or are near to having, all the hadronic data we need to **tightly constrain the fluxes from the world's present and near future neutrino beams**. . . need physicists and time to analyze and interpret the wealth of data

