

### Experimental Questions in Neutrino Physics part 1: The Known Knowns

#### Andrzej M. Szelc University of Manchester

# Outline

- In this lecture I will talk about the history of experimental neutrino physics and where we are now.
- Tomorrow I will talk about measurements that are ongoing or proposed that will expand out understanding of the model.
- I tried to avoid explaining experimental techniques as much as possible – which is not that much.

#### Neutrinos in the Standard Model





### Sources of Neutrinos



A. M. Szelc, LV Krakow School of Theoretical Physics



# Experimental detection

- Fortunately, he was proven right (per theory prediction) and wrong (per experimental prediction) by Reines and Cowan in 1956.
- A clever signature: Inverse Beta Decay (IBD):



Fred Reines Clyde Cowan



C. Cowar

#### Detection of the $\mu$ and $\tau$ neutrinos



• Discovery of the tau neutrino ( $v_{\tau}$ ) Tau neutrino observed by DONUT



In both cases: shoot a 15 GeV beryllium target Pions

 $\nu_{\mu}$ A spark chamber 800GeVproton beam at a<br/>tungsten beam dump, create<br/>that decay into $D_s$  mesons,that decay into<br/>v\_{\tau}v\_{\tau}neutrinos and detect them using<br/>emulsion detector.

#### "known" Questions in v-physics (answered or being answered)

- Experimental neutrino physics in the last decades was driven by the following questions:
  - why do we see less neutrinos from the sun?
  - where are the atmospheric vs?
  - could this be due to oscillations?
  - What are the parameters of

oscillation ?

- Especially, is  $\theta_{13}$  non-zero?
- Is the  $\theta_{23}$  mixing maximal?
- what is going on with neutrino interactions?!

Neutrino physics is an adventurous experimental journey that may be far from over.

# Solar Neutrinos



# Solar Neutrinos



#### **Observing Solar Neutrinos** Experiments р-р, рер Theory <sup>8</sup>B Uncertainties CNO (1 FWHM Results) 1.4 1.0 7.6+1.3

- Used neutrino capture 3 1.2 on <sup>37</sup>Cl, which results in <sup>37</sup>Ar which is radioactive. (0.814 MeV thresh.)
- Via ingenious chemical methods the <sup>37</sup>Ar was extracted and measured (~0.5 atoms produced/day!)
- The number of neutrinos observed was way off from expectation.



A. M. Szelc, LV Krakow School of Theoretical Physics

# A deficit of Solar Neutrinos?

- Other experiments radiochemical using Gallium (0.2 MeV threshold) also saw a deficit.
- As did Water Cherenkov.
- But at a different rate?
- Other measurements of the Sun agree with the Solar Theoretical Model.



# Cherenkov Detectors

- Originally developed to look for proton-decay, but appropriated for neutrino physics.

- Cherenkov light is emitted when a particle travels faster than the speed of light (in the medium).

- Hard to see heavier particles like protons etc...
- But has directionality!



#### Discovery of atmospheric neutrinos and their asymmetry



Super Kamiokande detector misses muon neutrinos from the bottom (but not from the top).



Phys. Rev. Lett. 81, 1562–1567 (1998)

Neutrinos are disappearing. What is happening to them?

#### SNO – resolving the Solar problem

Extremely clever idea: try to observe electron and other neutrinos separately using properties of Heavy Water.

Different reactions have different signatures: CC – isotropic Cherenkov Rings NC – delayed neutron capture (~6.25 MeV) ES – Cherenkov Rings pointing back to the sun



Charged Current	$v_e + d \rightarrow p + p + e^{-1}$	E <sub>th</sub> =1.4 MeV	$CC Rate \propto \Phi(\mathbf{v}_e)$
Neutral Current	$\mathbf{v}_x + d \rightarrow \mathbf{v}_x + p + n$	E <sub>th</sub> =2.2 MeV	<i>NC Rate</i> $\propto \Phi(\mathbf{v}_x)$
Elastic Scattering	$v_x + e^- \rightarrow v_x + e^-$	E <sub>th</sub> ~ 0	$ESRate \propto \Phi(\mathbf{v}_e) + 0.154 \Phi(\mathbf{v}_{\mu} + \mathbf{v}_{\tau})$
0120110	A. M. Szelc, LV Kr	akow School of The	oretical Physics

# SNO (2)



Total flux from the sun agrees with the model. But, we know that the sun only produces  $v_{e}$ .

"known" Questions in v-physics (answered or being answered) Experimental neutrino physics in the last decades was driven by the following questions:

- why do we see less neutrinos

from the sun?

- where are the atmospheric vs?

- could this be due to oscillations?
- What are the parameters of

oscillation ?

6/26/15

- Especially, is  $\theta_{13}$  non-zero?
- Is the  $\theta_{23}$  mixing maximal?
- what is going on with neutrino interactions?!

Knowing that neutrinos oscillate has opened a whole new field of experimental physics.

# **Neutrino Oscillations**





**B.** Pontecorvo

- We know three neutrino flavors:  $\nu_{_{e}}\!,\nu_{_{\mu}}$  and  $\nu_{_{\tau}}.$
- SNO and Super-K tell us that neutrinos are not disappearing. They're changing into one another. Oscillating.
- Then  $v_1$ ,  $v_2$  mass eigenstates = eigenstates of free Hamiltonian.
- $v_{e}$ ,  $v_{u}$  eigenstates of interaction Hamiltonian



$$\begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\nu_e} \\ \boldsymbol{\nu_{\mu}} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta & \sin\theta \\ -\sin\theta & \cos\theta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\nu_1} \\ \boldsymbol{\nu_2} \end{pmatrix}$$

## **Measuring Neutrino Oscillations**



- In oscillation physics we usually start with one type of neutrino and measure how it changes into another type.
- We can do this by detecting the new neutrinos (appearance) or registering the loss of original (disappearance).
- We can tell neutrinos apart by the effect of their "Charged Current" interactions.

In a two neutrino model, the probability of this oscillation looks like this:

Nucleon

ν,

$$P\left(\nu_{\mu} \to \nu_{e}\right) = \sin^{2} 2\theta \, \sin^{2} \left(\frac{\Delta m_{12}^{2} L}{4 E_{\nu}}\right)$$

# Things to note

- Oscillations are only possible if neutrinos have mass
- But we don't know what it is, only the squared difference (a parameter).
- Mixing angles are another parameter.
- Adjusting L/E allows us to measure different mixings.

$$P(\nu_{\mu} \to \nu_{e}) = \sin^{2} 2\theta \sin^{2} \left(\frac{\Delta m^{2}}{4} \frac{L}{E_{\nu}}\right)$$

$$\Delta m_{12}^2 = m_1^2 - m_2^2$$

$$\frac{\Delta m^2 L}{4E} \ll 1$$
Oscillations did not have  
a chance to happen
$$\frac{\Delta m^2 L}{4E} \gg 1$$
Oscillations averaged out –  
only sensitive to mixing angle

# Expanding to three flavours



$$U = \begin{bmatrix} c_{12}c_{13} & s_{12}c_{13} & s_{13}e^{-i\delta} \\ -s_{12}c_{23} - c_{12}s_{23}s_{13}e^{i\delta} & c_{12}c_{23} - s_{12}s_{23}s_{13}e^{i\delta} & s_{23}c_{13} \\ s_{12}s_{23} - c_{12}c_{23}s_{13}e^{i\delta} & -c_{12}s_{23} - s_{12}c_{23}s_{13}e^{i\delta} & c_{23}c_{13} \end{bmatrix}$$

6/26/15

A. M. Szelc, LV Krakow School of Theoretical Physics

#### Filling out the PMNS mixing matrix

- For precise measurements we need:
  - Large detectors (statistics)
  - Control of flux (how many neutrinos do we have?)
  - Energy resolution both at source and in detector
     Experiment L/E [km/MeV]
  - Patience

Change L/E in order to probe different ∆m<sup>2</sup> and mixing angles.

Create neutrinos to our specifications.

Experiment	L/E [km/MeV]	$\Delta m^2$ sensitivity
Reactor LBL	~1	~10 <sup>-3</sup> eV <sup>2</sup>
Reactor VLBL	~100	~10 <sup>-5</sup> eV <sup>2</sup>
Accelerator SBL	~10 <sup>-3</sup>	~10 <sup>-5</sup> eV <sup>2</sup>
Accelerator LBL	~1	~10 <sup>-3</sup> eV <sup>2</sup>
Atmoshperic	~10	~10 <sup>-4</sup> eV <sup>2</sup>

#### Man-Made Neutrinos: Reactor

- Used to discover first neutrinos.
- Cheap (apparently people use them for other things.)





- Energy range is fixed.
- The neutrino spectrum is a result of a complicated system.

#### Man-Made Neutrinos: Reactor



Nuclear reactor fuel and subsequent fission fragments are neutron rich and decay by turning neutrons to protons and emitting antineutrinos.

99% of neutrinos comes from 4 isotopes <sup>235</sup>U, <sup>239</sup>Pu, <sup>238</sup>U and <sup>241</sup>Pu.

#### • Ab Initio approach:

Calculate spectrum branch-by-branch using beta branch databases: endpoints, decay schemes  $\rightarrow$  needs some guessing with rare beta decays.

Conversion approach
 Measure beta spectra directly, convert to v<sub>e</sub> using
 'virtual beta branches'. → This is not that well
 defined. Carter, et al, Phys. Rev. 113 (1959)
 King and Perkins, Phys. Rev. 113 (1958)



In general, anti-neutrino flux follows the heat Emission of the reactor

#### Man-Made neutrinos: Accelerator

- Need:
  - Beam of protons
  - Target
  - Focusing horn (magnetic field)

Costs more, but have more control over energy.

Calculating spectra is also difficult.



#### Man-Made neutrinos: Accelerator (2)



Off-axis give better energy resolution, But less events.

A. M. Szelc, LV Krakow School of Theoretical Physics

# Minos/Minos+

Far Detector (5.4 kton)



Near Detector (1 kton)



600

500

A00 GeV 200 200

100

2

Reconstructed v<sub>u</sub> Energy (GeV)



Reconstructed v<sub>µ</sub> Energy (GeV)

A. Blake

6/26/15

### Tokai to Kamioka (T2K)



A. M. Szelc, LV Krakow School of Theoretic

Ev (GeV)

### $\theta_{23}$ measurements





Inverted Hierarchy  $\left|\Delta m_{32}^2\right| = 2.37^{+0.11}_{-0.07} \times 10^{-3} \text{eV}^2$   $\sin^2 \theta_{23} = 0.43^{+0.19}_{-0.05}$  $0.36 < \sin^2 \theta_{23} < 0.65$  (90% C.L.)

Normal Hierarchy  $|\Delta m_{32}^2| = 2.34^{+0.09}_{-0.09} \times 10^{-3} \text{eV}^2$   $\sin^2 \theta_{23} = 0.43^{+0.16}_{-0.04}$  $0.37 < \sin^2 \theta_{23} < 0.64$  (90% C.L.)



6/26/15

A. M. Szelc, LV Krakow School of Theoretical Physics

# OPERA and $\tau$ appearance

 $v_{\tau}$  extremely hard to detect – need high energy to create  $\tau$ and great resolution to see it.

Emulsion detectors.



#### NATURE | NEWS

< 🛛 🔒

#### Neutrinos found to switch to elusive 'tau' flavour

Experiment that once claimed faster-than-light observation achieves its original goal.

#### Davide Castelvecchi

#### Now a 5 sigma measurement.



Rights & Permissions

16 June 2015



#### 6/26/15

A. M. Szelc, LV Krakow School of Theoretical Physics

### Solar neutrinos

 The best measurement of the Solar Mixing angle comes from a reactor experiment (KamLand).



# We are still looking at the Sun



 Was able to reduce natural radioactivity enough to lower their threshold to ~100 keV

6/26/15

#### Observation of the pp-cycle in Borexino



6/26/15

A. M. Szelc, LV Krakow School of Theoretical Physics

# The state of affairs as of 2011

- We knew that 3 neutrinos exist.
- Two mass splittings  $\Delta m^2_{sol}$ ,  $\Delta m^2_{atm}$ and mixing angles measured.
- We do not know the mass hierarchy (normal or inverted?).
- We do know the neutrino masses are very small.
- Biting our nails, hoping the mixing angle:  $\theta_{13}$  is big enough so that a measurement of the CP violation phase is possible (tomorrow's lecture).



#### Daya-Bay – an example of an LBL reactor neutrino experiment.



- Detection via scintillation light (liquid scintillator)
- Use Inverse Beta Decay signature.
- Doped with Gd to increase neutron capture.



A. M. Szelc, LV Krakow school of fineoretical rhysics

#### Daya-Bay/Reno/Double Chooz



# The 5 MeV bump



A. M. Szelc, LV Krakow School of Theoretical Physics

# Ab-initio calculations

- Making different assumptions can reproduce bump.
- But has problems with the beta spectra.
- There are other things that are fishy with the fluxes (more on that tomorrow).



A. M. Szelc, LV Krakow School of Theorem at russies

# $\theta_{13}$ by $v_{P}$ appearance

In parallel, long baseline neutrino experiments have measured  $v_{P}$  appearance

7.3 sigma evidence for electron neutrino appearance in T2K.

 $\rightarrow v_e$  appearance

🗕 Data

Reconstructed Energy (GeV)

Background

v, CC Signal

v CC Signal

- First ever conclusive evidence of neutrino flavour appearance

α<sub>LEM</sub> > 0.8

v Mode

30

10

Events 00



40

**MINOS** 

# "known" Questions in v-physics (answered or being answered) Experimental neutrino physics in the last decades

- was driven by the following questions:
  - why do we see less neutrinos from the sun?
  - where are the atmospheric vs?
  - could this be due to oscillations?
  - What are the parameters of
    - **Oscillation** ?

6/26/15

- Especially, is  $\theta_{13}$  non-zero?
- Is the  $\theta_{23}$  mixing maximal?
- what is going on with neutrino interactions?!

Let's take a step back

and see what we know.

#### The Current State of Knowledge The neutrino model

- Our picture of Neutrinos in the standard model is almost complete.
- Large "mixing" angle  $\theta_{13}$  opens the way to measurements of CP violation in the neutrino sector (not guaranteed).
- The mixings are very different than in the quark sector.
- We do not know the absolute neutrino mass.



# "known" Questions in ν-physics (answered or being answered) Experimental neutrino physics in the last decades

was driven by the following questions:

- why do we see less neutrinos from the sun?
- where are the atmospheric vs?
- could this be due to oscillations?
- What are the parameters of
  - **Oscillation** ?
  - Especially, is  $\theta_{13}$  non-zero?
- Is the  $\theta_{23}$  mixing maximal?
- what is going on with neutrino interactions?!



Interesting things happening in neutrino nucleus interactions

# How to measure v interactions in a LArTPC

- The LArTPC and its bubble chamber like-data gives us strong background rejection tools.
- As well as extremely powerful tools to see e.g. nuclear effects.





A. M. Szelc, LV Krakow School of Theoretical Physics

# LArTPC Operation



# **Final State Interactions**

- LArTPCs, and their resolution and calorimetric capabilities of allow us to reconstruct exclusive topologies.
- We can see if nuclear effects play a key role in neutrino-nucleus interactions in nuclear targets.
- Due to intra-nuclear re-scattering (FSI) Final State interactions additional nucleons, many de-excitation γ's and and soft pions appear in the Final State.
- ArgoNeuT was one of the first detectors to be able to observe these effects.







# Observing proton multiplicities

- The granularity of the LArTPC allows seeing actual final state topologies.
- Measuring cross sections as a function of proton multiplicity.



A. M. Szelc, LV Krakow School of Theoretical Physics



### **Back-to-Back Protons**



We can see nuclear effects!

#### ArXiv:1405.4261

PRD**90**, 012008 (2014) 6/26/15 4 back-to-back 2-proton events observed in Lab frame.

Possible mechanism is CC RES pionless reactions involving pre-existing SRC np pairs.



A. M. Szelc, LV Krakow School of Theoretical Physics

P.

# Summary of Part 1

- The 3 neutrino model seems almost sorted out.
- We have understood many of the first questions in experimental neutrino physics thanks to the phenomenon of oscillations.
- There are interesting things happening in the neutrino-nucleus interactions.
- Tomorrow: what are the experimental questions that are driving the field today and in the future.

#### The v-interaction conundrums



6/26/15

A. M. Szelc, LV Krakow School of Theoretical Physics



### **Coherent Pion Production**

$$\nu_{\mu} + \mathbf{A}_{g.s.} \rightarrow \mu^{-} + \pi^{+} + \mathbf{A}_{g.s.}$$
 $\bar{\nu}_{\mu} + \mathbf{A}_{g.s.} \rightarrow \mu^{+} + \pi^{-} + \mathbf{A}_{g.s.}$ 



Both **ArgoNeuT** and **MINERVA** measured coherent pion production.



51



A.M. Szelc, LV Krakow School of Theoretical Physics

#### New MINOS+ Data

#### Combined MINOS and MINOS+ beam data are well-described by standard neutrino oscillations:



 MINOS+ data provide significant statistical improvement at multi-GeV energies.

★ Full MINOS+ data set (>10×10<sup>20</sup> POT) will further improve precision of ∆m<sup>2</sup><sub>32</sub> measurement.

### **Reactor SBL oscillation**

$$P_{\bar{\nu_e} \to \bar{\nu_e}} = 1 - \sin^2 2\theta_{13} \sin^2 \left( \Delta m_{ee}^2 \frac{L}{4E} \right) - \sin^2 2\theta_{12} \cos^4 \theta_{13} \sin^2 \left( \Delta m_{21}^2 \frac{L}{4E} \right)$$



6/26/15

A. M. Szelc, LV Krakow School of Theoretical Physics

#### The IceCube Neutrino Observatory

#### IceCube:

- 78 strings, 125 m/17 m spacing
- Energy range: ~ 100 GeV to ≥ 10 PeV
- 1 km<sup>3</sup> volume of south pole ice as v target, and medium for Cherenkov light production.

#### DeepCore:

- 8 additional strings, ~ 40 70 m / 7 m spacing
- Spans ~ 10 100 GeV
- Targets atmospheric v oscillations and dark matter searches



Timothy C. Arlen

WIN 2015, 1

#### **Atmospheric Neutrino Oscillations**

- Neutrinos available over a wide range of energies and baselines
  - + Oscillations produce a distinctive pattern in energy-angle space
  - +  $v_{\mu}$  1st survival minimum ~ 25 GeV, and hierarchy-dependent matter effects below ~ 12 GeV.
- Large detector required to provide sufficient statistics to make this approach feasible
  - DeepCore event rates

type	triggered	analysis level
νµ	~70 k/yr	~1-10 k/yr
Ve	~10 k/yr	~0.1-3 k/yr



#### Atmospheric Oscillations with IceCube-DeepCore

+ Projection onto reconstructed  $L/E_{\nu}$  for illustration purposes



A. M. Szelc, LV Krakow School of Theoretical Physics

# UHE neutrinos in IceCube

#### Coherence of Conventional Neutrino Beams

Neutrinos are finite wave packets. Different masses should travel with different velocities – how long are they coherent?

For Pion DIF it depends on the size of the pion wave packet – clculate that and you know how long the coherence sticks.
 Re(ψ) Source Osc Max

P(f)

6/26/15

Kicks in sooner with big Δm2 or small packet width

