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Nuclear Dependence of Quasi-Elastic Scattering at MINERvA

Minerba Betancourt, Fermilab Joint Experimental-Theoretical Seminar 07 October 2016

- Introduction
- The MINERvA experiment
- Event Selection
- Analysis
- Results

Motivation

- Neutrino interactions are very poorly understood. This has a direct impact in neutrino oscillation experiments
- Oscillation probability depends on neutrino energy E_{ν}
- We need to reconstruct the neutrino energy precisely



Motivation

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- Neutrino interactions are very poorly understood. This has a direct impact in neutrino oscillation experiments
- Oscillation probability depends on neutrino energy E_{ν}
- We need to reconstruct the neutrino energy precisely
- Some experiments use the lepton kinematics only, other experiments use the hadronic energy as well
- A nice example: Probability distribution functions for an event of energy E_{true}=1.45 GeV to be reconstructed at an energy E_{reco}



Motivation



- Having near and far detectors helps reduce some systematics
- Since the flux is different at the near compared to the far detector due to geometry and oscillation, the convolution of flux, cross section, and nuclear effects are different
- We still need a nuclear model to convert from produced to detected energy spectrum and topology in the near and the far detectors



Fig. 1. The $X \times Y \times Z$ total volume of the drift chambers is about $300 \times 300 \times 400$ cm³. Drift chambers [37], made of low Z material served



Modern Neutrino Experiments

- Modern neutrino experiments using neutrino
 - Different detector technologies
 - Detectors made with different targets: carb
- We need to model nuclear effects on a range

The MINERvA Experiment

Fine-grained scintillator tracker surrounded by calor



Front Vi

Neutrino Energies for Different Experiments



• MINERvA flux covers most of the DUNE flux

Plot courtesy of Phil Rodrigues



Charged Current Interactions

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am Zeller, Low Energy Neutrino Cross Sections, NuFact 06/10/08 Intera Ctions



Nuclear Effects

- Fermi motion: In a nucleus, the target nucleon has a momentum.
 Modeled as Fermi gas that fills up all available state until some Fermi momentum
- Pauli blocking: Pauli exclusion principle ensures that states cannot occupy states that are already filled
- Multi nucleon interactions
- Final state interactions









Why We Need to Understand Nuclear Effects

- Nuclear effects modify the true/reco neutrino energy relationship and final-state particle kinematics
- An example of nuclear effects:

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Why We Need to Understand Nuclear Effects

- Plus if the near and far detector are made of different materials, we need to worry about A dependence of nuclear effects
- For example, T2K uses near detector carbon measurements even though the far detector is made of water

T2K Near Detector





T2K Far Detector

• DUNE near detector final design might include a target different than the far detector?



Nuclear Models and Data

- Recent experimental data is not well described by current nuclear models
- For example, recent data from MINERvA compared with simulations



It is crucial to have a reliable nuclear model in the Monte Carlo generator to take

- detector quantities back through the nucleus to produced quantities
- Understanding neutrino interactions with nuclei is vital for precision oscillation measurements

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Studying Nuclear Effects in MINERvA

- Fine-grained scintillator tracker surrounded by calorimeters
- MINERvA has different nuclear targets iron, lead, carbon, helium, and water



Design, calibration, and performance of the MINERvA detector Nuclear Inst. and Methods in Physics Research, A, Volume 743, 11 April 2014, Pages 130-159



Nuclear Targets

• Different targets built with combinations of different materials



Carbon Iron Lead CH



Neutrinos from NuMI Beamline



- I20 GeV protons from the Fermilab Main Injector hit a 1m graphite target,
- I20 GeV protons from the Fermilab Main Injectory producing kaons and pions
 The target and second magnetic horn can be moved relative to the first horn to produce different relative to the first ho

 - medium energy beam



Data Set

• Today's analysis uses 3.06E20 POT of neutrino data

Thanks to the accelerator division





Direct Measurements of Nuclear Effects

- MINERvA has looked at nuclear effects in inclusive and DIS processes
- Ratios of cross sections as a function of Bjorken x

$$x = \frac{Q^2}{2ME_{had}}$$







• Oscillation experiments need to understand the nuclear effects for quasi-elastic and resonance too, not just the inclusive and DIS



Quasi-Elastic Scattering (CCQE)

- The Quasi-elastic process gives the largest contribution for the signal in many oscillation experiments
- We are using heavy targets for oscillation experiments, such as carbon and liquid argon
- Using heavy targets involves modeling nuclear effects
- As an example, a produced resonance interaction of energy E can be detected as quasielastic like candidate of energy E' if the pion is absorbed before leaving the nucleus
- The QE selection varies from experiment to experiment, some experiments use only the muon and others use the proton and muon







MINER ν A discriminates betw

Quasi-Elastic Scattering (CCQE) u



Quasi-Elastic Scattering using the Proton Kinematics

- At the beginning of last year, MINERvA published the first differential cross section as a function Q² determined from the proton, Tammy Walton's PhD thesis, Phys. Rev. D. 91, 071301 (2015)
- Q^2 is reconstructed using the leading proton from the event (different from the muon kinematic Q^2)
- Using the QE hypothesis and assuming scattering from a free nucleon at rest

$$Q^{2} = (M')^{2} - M_{p}^{2} + 2M'(T_{p} + M_{p} - M')$$

- M' = M_n -E_b
- E_b is the binding energy
- T_p is the proton kinetic energy
- M_n is the mass of the neutron
- M_P is the mass of the proton

• Good news: we can use the proton to reconstruct the Q^2 !



Quasi-Elastic Scattering using the Proton Kinematics

- Differential cross section as a function of the proton Q^2
- Using at least one proton with momentum >450 MeV/c



Phys. Rev. D. 91, 071301 (2015)

- Data was compared against different generators, the GENIE used was 2.6.2 and a earlier version of NuWro
- From the shape analysis, GENIE best describes the data
- The analysis I am presenting today is an extension of the earlier analysis, with a new event sample: the nuclear target region
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Simulations

- We have made considerable progress in modeling neutrino interactions lately
- We use GENIE (2.8.4) Monte Carlo generator
- For detector response we use GEANT4 (4.9.2)
- Quasi-elastic scattering from nuclei is simulated using:
 - Relativistic Fermi Gas model with Bodek-Ritchie tail
 - Using the old dipole axial form factor assumption and axial mass $M_{\text{A}}\text{=}0.99~\text{GeV}$
 - We still need to update to the latest model independent axial form factor "z-Expansion" tuned with deuterium data, Phys. Rev. D93 (2016), 113015
 - Fermi momentum k_f =221 MeV
 - BBBA05 model for vector form factors
 - Final state interaction simulation





Final State Interaction Model (FSI)

Final state interactions are very important; they modify the particles coming from the initial interaction before $\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$ om the nucleus



• We are using the default GENIE's effective FSI model

courtesy of Tomasz Golan



Reconstructed Muon Q² vs Proton Q² (Plastic)

 Comparing the Q² reconstructed from muon kinematics and the Q² reconstructed from proton kinematics



• Q² from proton kinematics is affected by final state interactions



Reconstructed Muon Q² vs Proton Q² (Different Nuclei)

• Comparing each of the nuclei we are going to measure



GENIE simulation

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• Note that GENIE has similar FSI for different nuclei



Simulation Updates

- MINERvA-specific tune:
 - We scale down the cross section for non-resonance pion production to match bubble chamber data
 - Include multi nucleon interactions using the Valencia model



NonResonance Pion Production

• We modify the GENIE non-resonance pion production to agree with deuterium data, Rodrigues P., Wilkinson C. & McFarland K. Eur. Phys. C (2016) 76:474



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• Scale down the non-resonance pion production by 57%

Including 2p2h model

 Inclusion of the multi nucleon emission channel (np-nn) gives better agreement with data
 An explanation of this puzzle

An explanation of this puzzle



Including 2p2h model

 From a low recoil energy analysis, MINERvA found a big data excess in the region where neither 2p2h nor Delta make big contribution, even with the improvements to the model, we don't agree with data where 2p2h effects show up



Including 2p2h model

- We use a 2d Gaussian in true variables (q_3, v) as a reweighting function applied to the 2p2h events, and fits its parameters to get the best agreement between data and MC (QE and RES are unchanged)
- We will include 2p2h in the MC for our analysis with this reweighting



• 2p2h events can involve an initial-state nn or np pair. For <u>a</u> systematic, we take extreme cases of only reweighting events on an nn pair, and only reweighting events on an np pair. We can again apply these weights to the CCQE analysis ¹⁰: Fermilab

0.2

Including Random Phase Approximation (RPA)

- Analogous to screening of electric charge in a dielectric
- For neutrino scattering in a nucleus, imagine the W as having a weak charge and polarizing the nuclear medium
- Calculated using Random phase approximation (RPA), PRC 70, 055503 (2004)
- We add the RPA to GENIE by reweighting the QE events
- Suppress cross sections at low four momentum transfer Q^2





Effect of 2p2h and RPA

 Comparisons of differential cross sections with different simulations no 2p2h, 2p2h, and 2p2h+RPA



- There is an A dependence in the 2p2h model
- Most of the RPA suppression is below the proton threshold 450 MeV



Analysis



Signal (CCQE-Like)

- Signal:
 - One muon
 - No pions
 - At least one proton with momentum >450 MeV/c







Event Selection Overview

- At least two tracks
- Reconstructed vertex is in the target material
- Proton particle identification score: remove events with pions
- Michel electron cut: remove events with low-energy pions by searching for Michel electron

$$\pi^{\pm} \to \mu^{\pm} + \nu_{\mu}(\bar{\mu_{\nu}}) \longrightarrow \qquad \mu^{-} \to e^{-} \bar{\nu_{e}} \nu_{\mu}$$
$$\mu^{+} \to e^{+} \nu_{e} \bar{\nu_{\mu}}$$

• Cut on energy far from the vertex: remove inelastic events with untracked pion



Analysis includes events with muons

that exit the sides of MINERvA

Analysis includes events with muons matched to MINOS



Selecting Events with Protons (Proton pID Score Cut)

- Require events with a proton candidate
 - Fit each hadron track energy loss dE/dx profile to both pion and proton loss profile for particle identification
 - Use the χ^2/dof values from pion and proton fits to create a score and select the proton candidate


Selecting Events with Protons

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Removing Background Events Safely

• We define a variable called unattached visible energy, which is the sum of the visible energy that is outside of the sphere (radius=10cm)



Unattached Visible Energy (GeV)



Removing Background Events

• We define a variable called unattached visible energy, which is the sum of the visible energy that is outside of the sphere (radius=10cm) $\frac{\times 10^3}{\nu_{\mu} Fe \rightarrow \mu^2 P}$



Unattached Visible Energy vs Q² Cut

- The unattached visible energy is used to reject background events
- Distributions for signal and background events



Iron

Unattached Visible Energy vs Q² Cut

- The unattached visible energy is used to reject background events
- Distributions for signal and background events



Lead

Michel Veto

• Removing events with a Michel electron found near the interaction vertex

$$\pi^{\pm} \to \mu^{\pm} + \nu_{\mu}(\bar{\mu_{\nu}}) \longrightarrow \qquad \mu^{-} \to e^{-} \bar{\nu_{e}} \nu_{\mu}$$
$$\mu^{+} \to e^{+} \nu_{e} \bar{\nu_{\mu}}$$





Selected Sample

• Events passing the analysis selection cuts



- The dominant background is from resonance events
 - Resonance background events ~30%, deep inelastic background events 10%

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Background Constraint Procedure file/pnfs/minerva/mc_reconstructed/mc-reco-pool/mc/v10r8p9/00/...erva_00011200_0013_Reco_v10r8p4_v10r

Backgrounds:

ed/mc-reco-pool/mc/v10r8p9/00/...erva_00011200_0013_Reco_v10r8p4_v10r8p9.rootentry375_undefined 10/3/16, 10:43 AM I. Scintillator background: events that occurred outside the nuclear targets 10/3/16, 10:43 AM

- 2. Non-CCQE like background: where the pions have been misidentified as proton, not remove by cuts

Scintillator background



Non-CCQE Background



DIS interaction



Scintillator background: events that occurred outside the nuclear targets

Scintillator background



Interaction outside the target



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Sidebands to Constrain the Scintillator Background

- Removing the z cut, tails of the distributions are scintillator dominated events
- Regions outside the fiducial volume are used to constrain the scintillator background
- We fit the tails of the distributions for each target separately and extract a scale factor for the scintillator background



Non-CCQE like Background

• Pions have been misidentified as proton, not remove by cuts



Non-CCQE Background

DIS interaction



Background Constraint Procedure for Non-CCQE like

- Using the unattached visible energy for the events passing the proton pID for two different bins of Q² in the tracker
- Using the background dominated region in the unattached visible energy distribution
- Let the background float in the fit while keeping the signal constant until the total matches the data distributions



Before the constraint

First Method

• Signal is fixed in the fit, background scale factor (0.93+/-0.01)



Q²<0.5GeV²

Q²>0.5GeV²



Second Method

• Separating the background components into RES and DIS, letting the fit float the background components and keeping the signal fixed

Before the constraint

Q²<0.5GeV²

Q²>0.5GeV²

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Second Method Separate the Backgrounds into his Components



 $Q^{2} < 0.5 GeV^{2}$

 $Q^{2}>0.5GeV^{2}$



Background Constraint Procedure

- For the tracker, the predicted background from both methods differ by ~10%
- In the nuclear targets we have less information in the unattached visible energy distribution and much fewer statistics compared with data from the tracker region
- The two component fit is not as stable for iron, lead and carbon for some regions of Q² as for the tracker, due to similar shapes in the resonance and deep inelastic scattering distributions
- We use the one component fit in the analysis and assign an extra systematic uncertainty (10%) to account for the difference between the procedures



Reconstructed Proton Q²

• After all the cuts



- Background has been tuned
- Distributions contain the background from the scintillator



Coplanarity Angle

- Protons are very sensitive to final state interactions
- A clear effect of final state interactions can be shown with the coplanarity angle, which is the angle between the V-muon and V-proton plane



$$\varphi = \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{\left(\widehat{\mathbf{p}}_{\nu} \times \widehat{\mathbf{p}}_{\mu} \right) \cdot \left(\widehat{\mathbf{p}}_{\nu} \times \widehat{\mathbf{p}}_{p} \right)}{\left| \widehat{\mathbf{p}}_{\nu} \times \widehat{\mathbf{p}}_{\mu} \right| \left| \widehat{\mathbf{p}}_{\nu} \times \widehat{\mathbf{p}}_{p} \right|} \right)$$

• Detector resolution on φ is 3.8 degrees, the width is due to Fermi motion, inelastic scattering and FSI effects



Phys. Rev. D. 91, 071301 (2015)

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- - Using the same definition a
- - Using the same definition

Coplanarity Anc

• After all the cuts



Measuring Differential Cross Section

• Standard equation to measure the differential cross section





Efficiencies

• We have different efficiencies for each target, the most upstream targets, target I, target 2 and target 3, are less efficient



Systematics

- We evaluated different systematics uncertainties
 - Flux
 - Detector response
 - Final state interactions
 - Hadron interactions
 - Cross section models



Iron $d\sigma/dQ^2$ Data Uncertainties



Flux Prediction

 ${\cal V}_{\mu}$ μ Simulation has been tuned to hadron production data from and constrained using neutrino scattering on electrons Z^0





120-

110-

100-

90-80-

70-60-50-40-30-

20-

10-

V

Proton Interaction Systematic

- GEANT hadron cross sections differ from data
- In MC, we can reweight MC to account for the uncertainty in the cross section
- Evaluated for proton, neutron and pion
- Based on GEANT to data comparison we assign

 δ = 10% in C = 15% in Fe = 20% in Pb



FSI Systematics



• Different final state interactions models are evaluated

Parameter	Uncertainty
pion/nucleon mean path	20%
pion/nucleon charge exchange	50%
pion absorption	30%
pion/nucleon inelastic cross section	40%





Iron

• do/dQ² Data Uncertainties

Dominant systematics: pion absorption and inelastic pion

Since the proton is very sensitive to FSI, this systematic enters primarily from the efficiency correction





Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A789 (2015) 28-42

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Results



Differential Cross Section Measurements

Results compared against FSI GENIE with and without 2p2h simulation



Data prefers the simulation including 2p2h



Uncertainties



Comparing with Generators (GENIE vs NuWro)

Data prefers the simulation with final state interactions



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• The A dependence in NuWro seems to be more favored by the data

GENIE and NuWro

• The one pion absorption difference between GENIE and NuWro is contributing to the A dependence



Ratios Carbon/Iron/Lead to Scintillator



Uncertainties



Future

- Nuclear effects using different variables with the same muon+proton sample, arXiv: 1608.04655
- Measurements of quasi-elastic on iron, lead, and carbon using the NuMI medium energy beam yielding high statistics and a larger Q² range
 - We have over I0E20POT in the medium energy beam and plan to take advantage of that data set in the future
- Many of the exclusive measurements done for the tracker will be performed with the nuclear targets, for example pion production measurements





Conclusions

- We report new measurements of quasi-elastic like events on multiple nuclei (carbon, iron and lead) in an identical neutrino beam
- Both FSI effects and the 2p2h effect take energy from the leptonic system (2p2h) or pions (FSI) and move it into nucleons, which then affect the energy estimation in neutrino oscillation measurements
- We are measuring this directly by looking at muon+proton events
- Data prefers the simulated enhancement that the 2p2h model predicts
- There are similar 2p2h predictions in GENIE and NuWro, but different FSI predictions as a function of A. Data prefers NuWro
- These results will allow us to provide a constraint on the A dependence of nuclear effects
- Oscillation experiments depend on modeling nuclear effects correctly for precision oscillation measurements!



Thanks


The NuMI Flux





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Fields I Recent Results from MINERvA

05/07/16

Neutrino Electron Scattering





Migration Matrices





Reconstructed Z Positons

· Selected events in each of the nuclei and the scintillator background



• For events passing the analysis selection cuts

