



# LArTPC Calibration

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### Introduction



- <u>Goal of LArTPC calibration</u>: measure charge and position associated with ionization signal in unbiased manner and as precisely as possible
  - Noise, detector effects lead to bias, resolution loss
  - With calibrations in place, can then look at higher-level candles to study particle reconstruction (e.g. cosmic muons, Michel electrons, photons from  $\pi^{\circ}$  decays)
- Crucial for LArTPC experiments to reach physics goals!
- In what follows, will describe relevant detector effects and calibration techniques using **MicroBooNE** as an example
  - Operational single-phase LArTPC: plenty of data to begin looking at these effects
  - Also reference **test stand measurements** where relevant



# Case Study: MicroBooNE



- "Micro Booster Neutrino Experiment"
  - Accelerator v experiment @ FNAL
  - LArTPC with 89 ton active mass
  - Non-evacuated liquid argon fill
  - Cold (in LAr) front-end electronics
  - Near-surface operation
  - UV laser calibration system

- Physics goals:
  - Investigate MiniBooNE lowenergy excess
  - Measure first low-energy v-Ar cross sections
  - R&D for future detectors
  - Key step for Short Baseline Neutrino (SBN) program







### MicroBooNE TPC



- Two induction planes (U, V) and one collection plane (Y); drifted ionization in LAr puts signal on all three
  - Drift E field at 273 V/cm, ~uniform via surrounding field cage
  - 8000+ channels in total with front-end electronics in LAr
- 3D event reconstruction by combining signals from all three planes (minimum two needed), each with 3 mm wire pitch
  - Millimeter-scale spatial resolution







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### **Raw Waveform Output**









### **Raw Waveform Output**









LArTPC Imaging

#### Image Credit: C. Adams



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### **Different Plane Views**

#### "Collection" Plane (Y)

#### "Induction" Plane (U, V)





20

10 0 -10 -20

Ω

200

400

### **Deconvolution:** $S(\omega) = \frac{M(\omega)}{R(\omega)}$

#### "Collection" Plane (Y)

#### "Induction" Plane (U, V)

 $F(\omega)$ 

→ Reconstruct Tracks/Showers

1800

1400



1000

Filter (F): Prevents Blow-up of Noise During Deconvolution

2000





- Must understand detector effects to develop LArTPC technology
  - Essential for SBN and DUNE
  - Noise removal, space charge effects (SCE), wire response, energy scale, diffusion, e- lifetime, etc.





# **Reducing Noise Levels**



- Significantly more noise "out of the box" on induction planes (top row)
- All planes look very clean after software noise filtering (bottom row)



### **Final Noise Levels**

Wire Noise Level in MicroBooNE



- After software noise filtering on MicroBooNE data, see noise levels expected from bench measurements of cold front-end electronics
  - Scales linearly with wire length (capacitance)
  - Thanks to cold front-end electronics and noise-filtering techniques, low ENC achievable in 100-ton-scale LArTPC: ENC < 400 e<sup>-</sup>



- Must remove correct field response of wires in deconvolution to enable unbiased charge estimation
- Simulated field response (Garfield) needs verification with **data**
- Measurement with MIPs in situ folds in track extent across wire pitch
- BNL test stand aiming to make measurement with point-like source from laser pulsed on photocathode – "LArFCS"



### **Dynamic Induced Charge**



- Nominally assume ionization leads to signal on only one wire
- In reality, nearby wires also see some signal
  - Characteristics of this induced signal dynamically dependent on track angle "Dynamic Induced Charge" or DIC
  - Effect leads to cancellation of signals on waveform for tracks at high angles → hits lost → problems in track/shower reconstruction
- Solution is to account for DIC when removing detector response in deconvolution to extract charge – improves imaging



### **Another DIC Example**



- Effect can be studied in depth at **LArFCS** with point-like source
- Smaller effect for larger wire spacing (e.g. 5 mm for DUNE)



## **Space Charge Effects**



- Looking at cosmic data, noticed offsets in track start/end points from top/bottom of TPC
  - Very suggestive of space charge effects (SCE) at MicroBooNE, a near-surface experiment (20-30 cosmics per 4.8 ms readout window)
  - **Space charge**: build-up of slow-moving Ar<sup>+</sup> ions due to e.g. cosmic muons impinging active volume of TPC (via ionization)
  - Leads to E field distortions, spatial distortions in ionization position





### SCE Data/MC Comparison







- SCE simulation qualitatively reproduces effect
  - Assumes linear space charge profile
  - Agreement in normalization, basic shape features, but offset near anode in data... consistent with impact from **liquid argon flow**
  - Can impact track/shower reconstruction and calorimetry – calibrate out in 3D using UV laser system, cosmic muon tracks



### **Ion Recombination**





- Charge quenching from prompt recombination of ionization electrons with argon ions leads to charge loss
  - <u>Sizable</u>: ~**50%** Q loss (@ 273 V/cm)
- Correction depends on E field, dE/dx
  - Tracks (muon, proton, etc.): **simple**
  - Electromagnetic showers: apply to individual charge depositions based on dE/dx **more complicated**



### **Electron Lifetime**





- Electron lifetime, as measured by purity monitors, consistently **above 6 ms** for majority of run thus far – design: **3 ms** 
  - **6 ms**: conservative lower bound
- <u>Important conclusion</u>: can operate
  LArTPCs in non-evacuated cryostats
  with high electron lifetime
- Calibrate out via measurement of charge from TPC tracks vs. drift distance



### Diffusion





- Diffusion can reduce the spatial resolution of reconstructed particle trajectories, especially for longer drift times → **must measure, simulate**
- Important for e.g. supernova neutrinos vs. alpha/beta decays (track-like vs. point-like)
- Measure longitudinal diffusion at **BNL test stand**



- $\sigma_{L/T} = \sqrt{\frac{2 \cdot \varepsilon_{L/T} \cdot d}{E}} \cdot \frac{t}{d}$
- E: electric field
- d: drift distance
- t: drift time
- $\sigma$ : width of electron cloud
- $\varepsilon$ : electron energy



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### Michel e<sup>-</sup> Spectrum

### Tag Michel electrons from cosmic muon decay using "kink" topology and muon Bragg peak

- Uses automated reconstruction
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 Tag Michel electrons from cosmic muon decay using "kink" topology and muon Bragg peak
 Uses automated reconstruction
 Important calibration sample for energy scale, tuning reconstruction








- LArTPC calibration essential for unbiased, precise determination of ionization charge
- This requires first removing noise to find signals
- Then account for detector effects, including wire response, to obtain charge information correctly
- Finally use high-level candles (e.g. Michel electrons) to tune particle trajectory/energy reconstruction
- Extensive process, but necessary before producing robust physics measurements











# Backup



# Why Liquid Argon?

	-16	Ne	Ar	Kr	Xe	Water
Boiling Point [K] @ 1atm	4.2	27.1	87.3	120	165	373
Density [g/cm <sup>3</sup> ]	0.125	1.2	1.4	2.4	3	1
Radiation Length [cm]	755.2	24	14	4.9	2.8	36.1
dE/dx [MeV/cm]	0.24	1.4	2.1	3	3.8	1.9
Scintillation [γ/MeV]	19,000	30,000	40,000	25,000	42,000	
Scintillation $\lambda$ [nm]	80	78	128	150	175	
Approx. Cost [\$/kg]	52	330	5	330	1200	

- ♦ Argon is cheap: ~1% of atmosphere
- Dense target (more v-N interactions per unit time)
- High scintillation light yield, argon transparent to own light
- Relatively small radiation length for EM shower containment



#### **Electronics** Chain



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#### **Event Reconstruction**



- Multiple ways to get to 3D:
  - Identify clustered tracks/showers in 2D, match across planes
  - Create 3D hits from wire triplets (matching charge) and directly cluster tracks/showers
    - "Wire-Cell" method (see images)



#### Example MC Interaction Event (2D Projection of 3D)



http://www.phy.bnl.gov/wire-cell/bee/



# Looking at Noise Data



- First look at noise data: during TPC and cryogenics commissioning (April-July 2015)
- TPC noise level dropped during purge/cool-down
  - Expected (desired) feature of cold electronics; noise level as expected from design
- TPC noise level slowly rose with LAr fill
  - Increased capacitance w/ LAr





#### **Detector Stability**



Issue	# Channels Affected
Unresponsive ASICs	~300
Shorted Wires	~400
Noisy Channels	~50
Uninstrumented	~100

- High detector uptime only handful of cathode, pump trips in first year of operations
  - Gaining operational experience with large LArTPCs essential for running future LArTPC experiments
- Both high-level and low-level features in data stable over time
- Number of unresponsive/noisy channels very stable w.r.t. time
  - 10% unresponsive/noisy, but 97% of detector volume has at least two planes operational (minimum needed for 3D reco.)



#### Peak Signal-to-Noise Ratio



- Peak Signal-to-Noise Ratio (PSNR signal height divided by noise RMS) very high after software noise filtering
  - <u>Note</u>: here calculated for all signals in event (not just MIPs)
  - Collection plane: **PSNR > 40**
  - Induction planes: **PSNR > 12** (note bipolar nature of signal)
- ◆ Higher PSNR post-filtering → charge resolution improves



### **Low-Frequency Noise**



- Majority of noise present before filtering is due to low-frequency (10-30 kHz) noise coherent across all channels on a cold motherboard pair – thought to be associated with voltage regulators
- Almost completely filtered out with software algorithm that takes advantage of coherent nature of noise
- Hardware fix: upgrade service boards (this summer)



#### **Other TPC Noise Features**



- Another major noise source primarily on first induction plane: narrow-band noise associated with cathode HV power supply
  - Can filter out easily in software (compare left to middle)
  - Hardware fix: install second filter pot for cathode HV (this summer)
- High-frequency pick-up noise on downstream side of TPC (right)
  - Suppressed by higher shaping time, easily filtered out with low-pass filter



#### **Effects of ASIC Saturation**



- Occasionally ASICs found to "saturate" leading to dead regions of TPC waveforms
  - Charge builds up too fast on capacitor in ASIC circuit
  - Current source believed to be from vibrating wires worse for longer wires
- Solution is to use higher bias current ("leakage current") setting in ASIC – occurrence small in MicroBooNE, but accounted for in software noise filtering step
  - New ASIC design includes higher leakage current settings



#### **Signal Processing Chain**





#### Weighting potential of a wire







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#### **Deconvolution Filter**



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# **Shockley-Ramo** Theorem



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The deconvolution is employed to estimate the true ionization signal *S* from the measured signal *M* on the raw waveform, with

$$R(t,t_0) \equiv R(t-t_0), \qquad \qquad M(t_0) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} R(t,t_0) \cdot S(t) \cdot dt.$$

This process is done in the frequency domain and utilizes a known full response *R* (field + electronics) and a filter *F*:

A 2D (time vs. wire) deconvolution is done for the U/V planes in order to account for different responses from nearby wires:

$$\begin{pmatrix} M_1(\omega) \\ M_2(\omega) \\ \vdots \\ M_{n-1}(\omega) \\ M_n(\omega) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} R_0(\omega) & R_1(\omega) & \dots & R_{n-2}(\omega) & R_{n-1}(\omega) \\ R_1(\omega) & R_0(\omega) & \dots & R_{n-3}(\omega) & R_{n-2}(\omega) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ R_{n-2}(\omega) & R_{n-3}(\omega) & \dots & R_0(\omega) & R_1(\omega) \\ R_{n-1}(\omega) & R_{n-2}(\omega) & \dots & R_1(\omega) & R_0(\omega) \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} S_1(\omega) \\ S_2(\omega) \\ \vdots \\ S_{n-1}(\omega) \\ S_n(\omega) \end{pmatrix}$$

The 2D version (*R* matrix inversion) recovers reconstructed tracks at high angles with respect to the anode plane.



#### **Muon Counter System**



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#### **SCE Analysis Overview**







- ♦ Utilize MuCS for track t<sub>o</sub> tags
  - Probe features in drift direction
- See strange feature in data
- Seems like SCE feature, so take a look at SCE simulation
- Data vs. MC: similar, but differences
- Attempt partial correction can reduce impact of effect in data 5



#### **SCE E Field Distortions**







### **SCE Spatial Distortions**



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#### **SCE** Laser Calibration





- Qualitatively, SCE very clear in laser event displays
- Can make point-to-point SCE correction throughout TPC using crossing point of two laser tracks



- Uses t<sub>o</sub>-tagged tracks: anode-cathode crossing tracks, anode/cathode-piercing tracks and MuCS-tagged tracks
- ◆ Calibrate points in TPC using single tracks (TPC faces) and pairs of tracks (TPC bulk) – utilize ~straight tracks using MCS measurement (high momentum → ~straight)



### **SCE Corr.** Validation



- Validate SCE calibration using separate sample of t<sub>o</sub>-tagged tracks
  - Look at track angles, track hit density, etc.
  - Also characterize time-dependence of effect **important!**
- MicroBooNE SCE public note gives example of this type of validation using MuCS-tagged tracks (angular residuals)



## Michel e<sup>-</sup> Energy Loss







#### Michel e<sup>-</sup> Reconstruction

#### Topology ("Kink")

**Calorimetry (Bragg Peak)** 



- Tag Michel electrons from cosmic muon decay using characteristic topology and calorimetric information
  - 2D reconstruction for now (collection plane only)
  - Yields a high purity (80-90%) and low efficiency (2-3%) sample of Michel electrons



# **Special Runs**





 Also have taken special runs for calibrations and detector physics – laser, cosmic, special ASIC settings, etc.



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 Also have taken special runs for calibrations and detector physics – laser, cosmic, special ASIC settings, etc.





◆ <u>Four stages</u>: (1) purge (2) cool-down (3) LAr fill (4) recirculation and purification → operating at least 2-3 times design purity!





### LArTPC: Early History



#### Early History of the Development of LArTPC

- W. Willis and V. Radeka, Liquid argon ionization chambers as total absorption detector, NIMA 120:221 (1974)
- D. R. Nygren, The Time Projection Chamber: A New 4π Detector for Charged Particles. eConf. C740805:58 (1974)
- H. H. Chen et al. A Neutrino detector sensitive to rare process. I. A study of neutrino electron reactions. FNAL-Proposal-0496 (1976)
- C. Rubbia, The liquid argon time projection chamber: a new concept for neutrino detector, CERN-EP/77-08 (1977)





V. Radeka





D. R. Nygren



C. Rubbia



### **LArTPC** Experiments



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#### **MicroBooNE** Physics Goals







# Low-Energy Excess

- Low-energy v<sub>e</sub>/v<sub>e</sub> candidate excess seen at MiniBooNE
  - MiniBooNE: Cherenkov detector (also on BNB)
  - Baseline too short (541 m) for 3flavor  $v_{\mu} \rightarrow v_{e}$  oscillation
- No e<sup>±</sup>/γ separation... is excess misunderstood background, sterile neutrino, or... ?







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#### Low-Energy Excess (cont.)

- Can discriminate e<sup>±</sup>/γ with MicroBooNE's LArTPC
  - Shower displacement from vertex ("gap") for γ also provides separation
  - Separation with dE/dx
- <u>End result</u>: either discover new particle or improve MC for future experiments









#### **Cross Section Measurements**

- Cross-section measurements at MicroBooNE will teach us more about nuclear effects, neutrino energy reconstruction, etc.
  - e.g. nucleon-nucleon correlations





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### Supernova v, Exotic Physics

- Additional topics include studies related to supernova neutrinos and exotic physics
  - If we're lucky, supernova neutrinos (~10 MeV) captured using continuous readout stream and SNEWS alert system
    - Also study zero suppression, triggering schemes
  - Can study proton decay backgrounds in MicroBooNE's LArTPC
    - Signal:  $\mathbf{p} \rightarrow \mathbf{K}^+ + \mathbf{v}$
    - Background (cosmogenic):  $\mathbf{K}^{\mathbf{0}}_{\mathbf{L}} + \mathbf{p} \rightarrow \mathbf{K}^{+} + \mathbf{n}$
- Both helpful to DUNE physics program









# **Detector Physics**

- Must understand detector effects to develop LArTPC technology
  - Essential for SBN and DUNE
  - Space charge effects (SCE), wire response, energy scale, noise studies, diffusion, e<sup>-</sup> lifetime, etc.





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### **Booster Neutrino Beam**



### **Fermilab Neutrino Experiments**

#### **Booster Neutrino Beam: "BNB"**

- Receives 8 GeV Protons from Booster
- $-v_{\mu}(\overline{v}_{\mu})$  beam

#### MicroBooNE @ BNB:

- On-axis at 470 m baseline
- First three years in  $v_{\mu}$  mode (pre-SBN)

Booster v beam MicroBooNE, SBN program

NuMI v beam

Booster proton energy: 8 GeV

### Main Injector proton energy: 120 GeV

DUNE v beam



### **BNB** Overview



- Protons hit beryllium target producing mesons
- Magnetic field of horn focuses positive mesons, defocuses negative mesons
- 50 m decay pipe for  $\pi^+$  and  $\mathbf{K}^+$  decay to primarily  $\mu^+$  and  $\mathbf{v}_{\mu}$
- Layers of steel and concrete absorb charged particles
- <u>Result</u>:  $\mathbf{v}_{\mu}$  beam





## **BNB** Overview

