# Cheap as CHIPS

#### Large water Cherenkov detectors: faster and cheaper

Or R&D of Water CHerenkov Detectors In Mine PitS

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Outline:

1. The context &

the premise

2. CHIPS idea:

- physics reach
- challenges
- 3. R&D
- 4. Future

#### Abstract

CHIPS is an R&D program focused on designing and fabricating a costeffective large water Cherenkov detector (WCD) to study neutrino oscillations. Traditional WCD's with a low energy threshold have been built in special large underground caverns. Civil construction of such facilities is costly and the excavation phase significantly delays the detector installation although, in the end, it offers a well-shielded apparatus with versatile physics program.

Following concepts developed for the LBNE WCD (arXiv:1204.2295), we propose to submerge a detector in a deep water reservoir, which avoids the excavation and exploits the directionality of an accelerator neutrino beam for optimizing the detector. Following the LOI (arXiv: 1307.5918), we have submerged a small test detector in a mine pit in Minnesota, 7 mrad off NuMI axis. Borrowing technical ideas and solutions from IceCube and KM3Net, we are now focusing on designing a large (10-20kt) isolated water container to house photodetectors with underwater readout and triggering. We will describe the CHIPS concept and its physics potential in more detail, and will present the ongoing R&D activities.

# Remarkable "Neutrino Years"

(painted with a broad brush)

< 1998<br/>•  $m_v = 0, \quad v = e, \mu, \tau$ 

• solar neutrinos deficit



• *atmospheric* neutrinos *anomaly* 



$$\frac{N(v_{\mu})}{N(v_{e})} \neq 2$$

> 1998 • neutrino oscillations  $\rightarrow m_v \neq 0$ 

- measured  $\Delta m_{sol}^2$  and  $\Delta m_{atm}^2$
- measured 3 out of 4 mixing angles



## Neutrino mixing and oscillations



# Present neutrino landscape



# **Neutrino oscillations - MINOS**



#### **MINOS recent results**



# The CKM matrix: Inspiration and aspiration for the PMNS matrix



#### The main open $\boldsymbol{\nu}$ questions

- What is the mass ordering of neutrino masses?
  - Neutrinos are fundamental constituents
  - Must know their properties
  - ✓ May affect the Majorana transition
- Do neutrinos violate CP?
  - $\checkmark$  -Fundamental parameter of vSM
  - ✓ Why is there more matter than anti-matter?
  - ✓ Can we explain via CPV in the leptonic sector?
  - ✓ There may be connections to dark matter
- What is the absolute neutrino mass?
- What is the nature of neutrinos:
  - ✓ Dirac ?
  - ✓ Majorana ?
- Is θ<sub>23</sub> = 45° or which octant is it in ? (i.e., is the mixing maximal?)



## The principles of measuring MO and $\delta_{\text{CP}}$



#### The context:

Long-term phases of long baseline neutrino program in the US



## Meanwhile: NuMI





- High intensity, flexible beam
  - ⇒ running since 2005
  - ⇒ movable target / 2 horns (→ adjustable energy spectrum)
  - $\Rightarrow$  ~3.5 x 10<sup>13</sup> protons/pulse (~420 kW, 120 GeV beam)
  - ⇒ Recently reached 453 kW
  - ⇒ Proton Improvement Plan (PIP) underway (700 kW)
  - $\Rightarrow$  2.2sec.  $\rightarrow$  1.7sec.  $\rightarrow$  1.33sec. cycle time
- Medium energy beam since 2013 for the off-axis NOvA



## Protons-on-target (POT) history of NuMI



## Idea: Extend the reach of NuMI and exploit/fill the time gap

- NuMI will be the most powerful neutrino beam (700kW) for years (Could be upgraded to 1.2MW)
- $_{\odot}~$  Adding a large detector extends the  $\delta_{\text{CP}}$  reach of NOvA and T2K



Looking into the future: NOvA & T2K & CHIPS-10

- 10 kt CHIPS: 2024
- 10kt CHIPS + NOVA + T2K can push both mass ordering and CPV discovery past 3-sigma



## CHIPS (Water CHerenkov In Mine PitS) concept

- Explore a new technique for a water Cherenkov detector under shallow water overburden
  - ✓ Large mass detector with a cost-saving construction
  - ✓ No conventional civil construction/excavation
  - ✓ Concept (advanced in earlier studies for LBNE)
  - Use applicable ideas (fisheries floating platforms, light structures, ...), IceCube PMT (DOM) deployment
  - ✓ Benefits from earlier studies for
    - GRANDE, MEMPHYS, KM3NeT,....
  - $\checkmark~$  Optimize for a 10  $\mu s$  long beam window and direction
  - ✓ Goal: ~\$200k/kt (presently about \$1M/kt)
- Challenge the "Super-K paradigm"





Aqualine FrøyaRing Sinker Tube



## Cosmic rays background with shallow overburdens

- GEANT4/CRY simulation of cosmic muons
- Muon rate expected to be 30-50kHz
  (for large volumes, depending on details)
- Inside detector events last up to 500ns
- Expected (conservative) dead time 2.5% during a beam spill of 10μs
- High efficiency veto tag (outer detector)







- $_{\odot}~$  The goal: find and reconstruct  $\nu_{e}$  produced from the  $\nu_{\mu}$  beam
- The main background to  $v_e$ CC appearance is  $\pi^0$ -->  $\gamma\gamma$  in NC
- Reject NC background: discriminate between e<sup>-</sup> and γγ
- Then compare  $v_e$  in  $v_\mu$  beam with  $\overline{v}_e$  in  $\overline{v}_\mu$  beam



#### A suitable location: Wentworth Mine Pit 2W site of Cliffs Natural Resources





#### Wentworth pit: 7 mrad off NuMI axis

#### GLOBES calculations

- $\checkmark$  -Figure of Merit: resolution on  $\delta_{\text{CP}}$
- ✓ 20% photocathode coverage of standard QE 10" PMTs, equivalent to 12% coverage of HQE 12"

#### • Assume Super-K old-style efficiencies

- New algorithms a la MiniBooNE better for efficiency and background rejection are now available
- Off-axis between 7-10mrad gives best reach in  $\delta_{cp}$ 
  - ✓ More on-axis increases background, more off-axis reduces rate

#### • Ability to run in both ME and LE beam



## PMTs & underwater front-end readout & logic

- PMTs and front-end electronics are the major cost drivers
- Cost & time savings: learn, borrow, adopt, and adapt from recent/past R&D
- Discussions & visits with LBNE, KM3NeT, IceCube, MEMPHYS teams
- Small(er) PMTs offer an attractive segmentation (topology) option
  - $_{\odot}$   $\,$  simulations and reconstruction work in progress











#### To get our feet wet: CHIPS-M



Construction accomplished mostly by students and postdocs!

# **CHIPS-M elements**



# Liner



#### Deployment Day August 8, 2014



#### Umbilical: carries water and signals





## **Tugging CHIPS-M**



#### Sonar at the Wentworth mine pit



## Now (winter) at the pit





#### Water filtration



- CHIPS under ~6 bar pressure
  - Bubbles (produce scattering centers increasing light attenuation) are squeezed
  - Scattering attenuation length difficult to measure in the lab as the bubbles expand
    - Super-K biggest problem is bubbles, not a problem deep-see detectors

#### Water filtering

- ✓ Need to remove particulates in the
- Need a carbon filter to eliminate life
  + a UV sterilizer to make sure
- ✓ Need reverse osmosis and deionizing filter
- CHIPS-M with in-situ LEDs
  - Presently LEDs on the IceCube DOM's can be flashed
- Attenuation length important for simulations / benchmarking

#### Shortly after submerging... (overnight changes)



## Unfriendly water...

- Investigating the reasons for (too) slow improvement despite continuous filtration (A light leak implies water leak)
- This is (obviously) one of critical parameters
  --> increasing the R&D effort
- Need to improve reversed osmosis and deionization stages



- Filters getting very dirty
  - Zinc sulfide
- Yet to be fully understood ...





#### Some data analysis

#### • Trigger rate

- ✓ Light leak apparent
- ✓ Jumps coincide with full moon
- ✓ Run overnight only



#### • Events rate

- ✓ 4 PMTs hit in coincidence
- ✓ Slow rise could be effect of water
- ✓ Sudden reduction in event rate is correlated with pump stop/start

## CHIPS-M and beyond

# CHIPS-M

- Bring up and inspect
- Understand what went right and wrong

# CHIPS-M+

- Fix/improve environmental monitoring units
- Test underwater photodetector assembly modules
  - ✓ KM3NeT FE board ( 31 x 3" PMT's )
  - ✓ PARISROC FE board (16 x 12" PMT's)
- Test structural ideas

# CHIPS-10

- Main prongs of effort
  - ✓ Simulations and reconstruction
  - Mechanical design and installation
  - ✓ Water filtration
  - Underwater front-end electronics and daq
  - ✓ Environmental monitoring
- Possible time line



## Simulations / reconstruction

#### Simulations

- WCSIM package (based on GEANT4) relatively easy, although needs photodetector details (unknown at this point)
- ✓ Non-homogeneous PMT distribution, including different size PMT's
- Guide geometry optimization for a directional neutrino beam
- Reconstruction much more challenging



#### Reconstruction

#### State of the SK/T2K art: APFit --> fitQun

- ✓ fitQun significantly improves low energy reco
- ✓ Based on the miniBooNE algorithm
- Includes charge and time likelihood
- $\checkmark$  Improves efficiency for  $\pi^0$  and resolutions
- MC calculates the likelihood for a given combination of track hypothesis and hit pattern

#### CHIPS reco – builds upon fitQun ideas

- ✓ Non-uniform PMT size and their distribution
- Flexibility in geometry
- ✓ A lot of new code
- Preliminary fitter is working

#### ... Will soon start helping guide our choices



simultaneous electron tracks



## Ideas

#### Side view of the wall with PMT's

- We optimize for the beam direction
- o Including smaller PMT's ?
  - ✓ Has additional topological info
  - Increase the effective fiducial volume
  - ✓ New reconstruction code can cope with it





## 10", 5", and 3" PMT diameter – $v_{\mu}$ event (crisp ring)

 $E_v$ =5.7 GeV

- The same event in three PMT sizes (all at 10% surface coverage)
- $\int_{0}^{500} \int_{0}^{4} \int_$
- Clear topological difference
- PMT numerology for FULL coverage of the surface (overkill, likely will need ½)

50					
	Bottor	Тор	Barrell	Total PMTs	Size
	1045 <sup>.</sup>	10451	33840	54742	3"
-50	3680	3680	12320	19680	5"
50	893	893	3240	5026	10"





## 10", 5", and 3" PMT diameter – $v_{e}$ event (fuzzy ring)

The same event in three PMT sizes (all at 10% surface coverage)



- Clear topological difference
- PMT numerology for FULL coverage of the surface (overkill, likely will need <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>)



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 $\phi = atan(y/x)$ 

## 10", 5", and 3" PMT diameter – NC w/ $\pi^0$ event (2 rings)

 The same event in three PMT sizes (all at 10% surface coverage)

Clear topological difference

PMT numerology for FULL

(overkill, likely will need ½)

coverage of the surface

E<sub>v</sub>=3.1 GeV  $\phi = \operatorname{atan}(y/x)$ 1000 -1000  $\phi = \operatorname{atan}(y/x)$ 



## Mechanics

## Large structure ("space frame")

- Need to be modular for assembly
- ✓ Need a veto volume
- Wall material
  - ✓ Flexible liner (a la CHIPS-M) ?
  - ✓ More rigid (fiber glass) panel ?

#### Buoyancy issue

✓ Choose neutral as much as possible







## Spaceframe

Radome (radar dome)?Contacting manufacturers







K. Lang, U. of Texas at Austin: Cheap as CHIPS, LAPP, April 3, 2015

Need to establish flat

"landing" platform for the bottom of pit

## **Conceptual development**



## Wall panels (options)

#### A la MEMPHYS (below)





- NIKHEF idea (Paul Koojimans)
- Masters students with a UCL student will build one plane of KM3NeT tubes and electronics ("unfolded" OM)







## The front-end challenge: underwater intelligence

- Bringing individual signals to surface is too expensive (and cumbersome)
- Signals, time stamping etc. must be performed underwater
- "Intelligent" hit information packets must be (multiplexed) to an on-shore daq PC
- Underwater connections are a challenge to cost
- Integration of front-end and mechanics under 6 bars may be also demanding
- Examining/pursuing three ASIC's / approaches
  - ✓ KM3NeT
  - ✓ PARISROC (from MEMPHYS, 100 ASIC's--> UCL)
  - ✓ SAMPIC (from SuperNEMO, ...)



Need underwater signal processing, trigger and timing

To daq (on surface)

#### PMTs landscape: Hamamatsu, HZC, ETL/ADIT

- Hamamatsu (new and old)
  - ✓ KM3NeT will use 3" PMTs in their OMs
  - ✓ We have 400 of old 3" PMTs from NEMO-3
  - ✓ We have worked extensively with an 8" (R5912) for SuperNEMO
- HZC ('The Chinese Photonis')
  - ✓ Recently received a 3" PMT
  - ✓ They are working on large PMT's
- ADIT/ETL (Sweetwater, TX and Uxbridge, London)
  - ✓ Developing large PMT's (for the Watchman Experiment, a new 11" PMTs (w/ 12 stages)
    - Pressure resistant to 8 bars
    - Water resistant
    - Low radioactivity ("Borexino" glass)
  - ✓ Developing 5" with similar features
  - ✓ Their 3" competes well with Hamamatsu
    - Has a short stem



HPK R 12199 (80mm)





## Future off axis CHIPS at LBNF (20 mrad) – reuse most hardware



2<sup>nd</sup> oscillation maximum at ~ 0.8 <u>GeV</u>

- 2<sup>nd</sup> oscillation maximum will be a valuable augmentation to LAr
- Large QE cross-section suitable for water Cherenkov detectors
  - ✓ High efficiency for QE events



## Summary and outlook





- NuMI era (soon at 700 kW) offers unique capabilities until DUNE is built ca.2024
- Adding massive detectors (CHIPS) extends its physics reach
- New construction would fill the time gap and advance
  - ✓ Physics
  - ✓ Technology
  - Training of younger generation
    - (It's a win-win-win situation)
- R&D on-going --> are the goals achievable?
- Great time to join and shape the future
- Support acknowledgements: Leverhulme Trust, U. of Minnesota, UCL, U. of Texas at Austin, U. of Manchester, Royal Society, DOE, STFC
- Post Scriptum: P5 endorses this R&D program although not the experiment (yet).
- LOI:

arXiv:1307.5918v3 [physics.ins-det] 23 Sep 2013

# Disclaimer

# It's tough to make predictions, especially about the future.

Lawrence Peter "Yogi" Berra (baseball player)

