Perspectives for Atmospheric Neutrino Studies with Hyper-Kamiokande

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Hyper-Kamiokande

Cosmic ray interactions with the atmosphere create neutrinos.

Atmospheric ν production!

- **Primary cosmic rays** interact with nuclei in the Earth's atmosphere.
- Mostly **protons**, they create ٠ secondary rays of hadrons and their decays.
- These interactions leave an • abundance of neutrinos!
- **Difficult to model** these interactions (cosmic ray flux, hadronic interactions, geomagnetic field, etc.)

 e^{-}

 ν_e

Neutrinos travel across the Earth ٠ between ~10 km to ~10000 km!



R.L. Workman et al. (PDG), Prog. Theor. Exp. Phys., 083C01 (2022)

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Atmospheric v cover a broad range of energies (and distances)!

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- These interactions leave an abundance of neutrinos!
- Difficult to model these interactions (cosmic ray flux, hadronic interactions, geomagnetic field, etc.)
- Neutrinos travel across the Earth between ~10 km to ~10000 km!
- Neutrinos also oscillate in vacuum and in matter...!



(several orders of magnitude in energy!)



Neutrino oscillations are a probe for interesting physics.



- Super-Kamiokande (1998) and SNO (2001) experiments find that neutrinos oscillate.
- Fewer ν_{μ} coming from the ground than expected (i.e., they changed flavor while traversing the Earth)!
- Then, neutrinos have (differing) masses! A Nobel Prize...!





(Pontecorvo-Maki-Nakagawa-Sakata)

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Vacuum oscillations probe mixing angles θ and $|\Delta m^2|$.



Here are two open questions for neutrino physics.



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Oscillations in matter are modified by the MSW effect.

$$n_{e,res} \propto \frac{1}{E_{\nu}} \Delta m_{31}^2 \cos 2\theta_{13}$$

MSW resonance features

- The higher the energy, the lower the resonant density required.
- The higher the difference in (squared mass), the higher the density.
- The higher the mixing (maximum at $\theta_{13} = 45^{\circ}$), the lower the density.

Important sign changes!

- Change signs for ν to $\overline{\nu}$.
- Δm_{31}^2 sign depends on mass hierarchy.

(Mikheyev-Smirnov-Wolfenstein effect) $V_{matter} = \sqrt{2}G_F n_e$ for v_e (leads to resonant flavor conversion!)





Phys. Rev. D 97, 072001 (2018)

(we know that $\Delta m_{21}^2 > 0$ from MSW in the sun for v_e and not \bar{v}_e !)

Atmospheric neutrino oscillations can probe δ_{CP} , sign(Δm_{31}^2).



Sensitivity to δ_{CP} is more present at sub-GeV energies.



Sensitivity to MH is more present at GeV energies.



So, let's study atmospheric v_e at both sub-GeV and multi-GeV energies!

Hyper-K is a next-generation water Cherenkov detector.

- Water Cherenkov detector set to take data starting in 2027!
- 20,000 PMTs and 1,000 "multi-PMTs" (more information on light directionality)
- Total volume 260kt with fiducial volume of 190 kt (~8X bigger than that of Super-K)!
- Underground to shield from cosmic ray muons and still off-axis for T2K neutrino beam!

Courtesy of Hyper-K collaboration

パ ハイバーカミオカンデ本体室消ドーム中心到記

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Hyper-K has a multi-faceted physics program.

Photomultiplier tubes are sensitive to Cherenkov radiation.

T. Toyama et al. (CTA consort.) arXiv:1307.5463 [astro-ph.IM] (2013)

Overview of Super-K reconstruction to be adapted for Hyper-K

- We have access to PMT hit charge deposited, timing, and position.
- We are at percent-level precision for reconstructed position, direction, and momentum at the GeV scale!

Reconstruction	fiTQun	APFit				
True CCQE ν_e sample						
Vertex Resolution	$20.6~{\rm cm}$	$24.9~\mathrm{cm}$				
Direction Resolution	1.48°	1.68°				
Momentum Bias	0.43%	0.63%				
Momentum Resolution	2.90%	3.56%				
Mis-PID rate	0.02%	0.50%				
${\bf True} \ {\bf CCQE} \ \nu_{\mu} \ {\bf sample}$						
Vertex Resolution	$15.8~{\rm cm}$	$17.3~{\rm cm}$				
Direction Resolution	1.00°	1.28°				
Momentum Bias	-0.18%	0.54%				
Momentum Resolution	2.26%	2.60%				
Mis-PID rate	0.05%	0.91%				

(performance at 1 GeV, fully-contained events)

Atmospheric v event selection uses inner/outer detectors.

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Cherenkov ring properties distinguish between μ and e flavors.

Cherenkov ring properties distinguish between μ and e flavors.

(We want sub-to-multi GeV v_e !)

ID/OD event topology

• Fully contained events have better reconstruction.

Ring topology for e/μ

• Muons create sharper rings than electrons.

Separators for $\nu/\overline{\nu}$

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Ring topology for e/μ

 Muons create sharper rings than electrons.

Separators for $\nu/\overline{\nu}$

M. Jiang (2019), PhD Thesis, Kyoto University

(but gets more complicated with multi-rings!)

Three factors determine a likelihood for $\nu/\bar{\nu}$ separation.

(We want sub-to-multi GeV v_e !)

ID/OD event topology

• Fully contained events have better reconstruction.

Ring topology for e/μ

 Muons create sharper rings than electrons.

Separators for $\nu/\overline{\nu}$

Number of rings, number of decay-e, transverse momentum

(CC v_e interactions) $v_e + N \rightarrow e^- + N' + \pi^+$ $\downarrow \mu^+ + \nu_\mu$ $\downarrow e^+ + \nu_e + \overline{\nu}_\mu$ (CC \overline{v}_e interactions) $\overline{\nu}_e + N \rightarrow e^+ + N' + \pi^-$ (more particles in the end!) (more forward!)

Three factors determine a likelihood for $\nu/\bar{\nu}$ separation.

• Fully contained events have better reconstruction.

Ring topology for e/μ

• Muons create sharper rings than electrons.

Number of rings, number of decay-e, transverse momentum

Here are the final samples for the sub-to-multi GeV ν_e !

Sample	Energy bins	$\cos \theta_z$ bins	CC ν_e	CC $\bar{\nu_e}$	$\mathrm{CC} \ \nu_{\mu} + \bar{\nu_{\mu}}$	CC ν_{τ}	NC	Data	MC	
Fully Contained e-like, Single-rin	(FC) Sub-GeV g									(low energies
0 decay-e	$5 e^{\pm}$ momentum	10 in [-1, 1]	0.717	0.248	0.002	0.000	0.033	10294	10266.1	needed for δ_{CP})
1 decay-e	5 e^{\pm} momentum	single bin	0.805	0.019	0.108	0.001	0.067	1174	1150.7	
μ -like, Single-rin	g	_								
0 decay-e	5 μ^{\pm} momentum	10 in [-1, 1]	0.041	0.013	0.759	0.001	0.186	2843	2824.3	
1 decay-e	5 μ^{\pm} momentum	10 in $[-1, 1]$	0.001	0.000	0.972	0.000	0.027	8011	8008.7	
2 decay-e	5 μ^{\pm} momentum	single bin	0.000	0.000	0.979	0.001	0.020	687	687.0	
π^0 -like										
Single-ring	5 e^{\pm} momentum	single bin	0.096	0.033	0.015	0.000	0.856	578	571.8	
Two-ring	5 π^0 momentum	single bin	0.067	0.025	0.011	0.000	0.897	1720	1728.4	
Multi-ring			0.294	0.047	0.342	0.000	0.318	(1682)	(1624.2)	
Fully Contained	(FC) Multi-GeV									
Single-ring										
ν_e -like	4 e^{\pm} momentum	10 in [-1, 1]	0.621	0.090	0.100	0.033	0.156	705	671.3	
$\bar{\nu}_e$ -like	4 e^{\pm} momentum	10 in [-1, 1]	0.546	0.372	0.009	0.010	0.063	2142	2193.7	
µ-like	$2 \mu^{\pm}$ momentum	10 in $[-1, 1]$	0.003	0.001	0.992	0.002	0.002	2565	2573.8	
Multi-ring										(high energies
ν_e -like	3 visible energy	10 in [-1, 1]	0.557	0.102	0.117	0.040	0.184	907	915.5	needed for MH
$\bar{\nu}_e$ -like	3 visible energy	10 in [-1, 1]	0.531	0.270	0.041	0.022	0.136	745	773.8	needed jor with
µ-like	4 visible energy	10 in [-1, 1]	0.027	0.004	0.913	0.005	0.051	2310	2294.0	
Other	4 visible energy	10 in [-1, 1]	0.275	0.029	0.348	0.049	0.299	1808	1772.6	

(example from SK analysis)

gies MH)

Phys. Rev. D 97, 072001 (2018)

Sub-GeV, O-decay e-like events drive δ_{CP} sensitivity.

Multi-ring v_e events drive the MH sensitivity.

Multi-ring v_e events drive the MH sensitivity (more than beam)!

Summary of atmospheric neutrinos at Hyper-Kamiokande

- Atmospheric neutrinos are created by interactions of primary cosmic rays in the atmosphere.
- Energies span $\mathcal{O}(100 \text{ MeV})$ to as high as $\mathcal{O}(10000 \text{ GeV})$ with baselines between $\mathcal{O}(10 \text{ km})$ to $\mathcal{O}(10000 \text{ km})$.
- Matter effects on neutrino oscillations permit atmospheric neutrinos to probe CP-violation and neutrino mass hierarchy.
- Hyper-Kamiokande is a next-generation water Cherenkov experiment with fiducial volume ~8X that of Super-Kamiokande to start taking data in 2027.
- The reconstruction and PID capabilities of Hyper-K will lead to studying data samples enhanced with ν_e at sub-GeV and multi-GeV energies.
- Atmospheric sub-GeV v_e samples at Hyper-K will be sensitive to δ_{CP} .
- Atmospheric multi-GeV v_e will provide more sensitivity to the neutrino mass hierarchy compared to beam v.
- Mass hierarchy determination assists δ_{CP} sensitivity.

Hyper-K will be sensitive to Earth composition.

Neutrino oscillations in the 2-flavor picture

$$|v_{\alpha}\rangle = \sum_{i} U_{\alpha i} |v_{i}\rangle$$

$$|v_{e}\rangle = \cos \theta |v_{1}\rangle + \sin \theta |v_{2}\rangle$$

$$|v_{e}(t, \vec{x})\rangle = e^{-ip_{1}x} \cos \theta |v_{1}\rangle + e^{-ip_{2}x} \sin \theta |v_{2}\rangle$$

$$p_{i}x = E_{i}t - \vec{p_{i}} \cdot \vec{x} \approx (E_{i} - p_{i})L, \quad x = L \approx t$$

$$p_{i}x \approx (E - p_{i})L, \quad E_{i} \approx E, \forall i$$

$$p_{i}x \approx \frac{m_{i}^{2}L}{2E}, \quad p_{i} \approx E \Rightarrow \sqrt{E^{2} - m_{i}^{2}} = E \sqrt{1 - \frac{m_{i}^{2}}{E^{2}}} \approx E - \frac{m_{i}^{2}}{2E}$$

$$|v_{e}(L)\rangle = e^{-\frac{im_{1}^{2}L}{2E}} \cos \theta |v_{1}\rangle + e^{-\frac{im_{2}^{2}L}{2E}} \sin \theta |v_{2}\rangle$$

$$P_{ee} = |\langle v_{e} |v_{e}(L)\rangle|^{2} = 1 - \sin^{2} 2\theta \sin^{2} \left(\frac{\Delta m^{2}L}{4E}\right)$$

(approximations)

MSW effect and its influence on supernova neutrinos

A new matter basis...

$$H_V = \frac{\Delta m^2}{4E} \begin{pmatrix} -\cos 2\theta & \sin 2\theta \\ \sin 2\theta & \cos 2\theta \end{pmatrix} + \sqrt{2}G_F n_e \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Resonance occurs for $H_{ee} = H_{\chi\chi}$...

$$\tan \theta_{M} = \frac{2H_{ex}}{H_{ee} - H_{xx}} = \frac{\frac{\Delta m^{2}}{2E} \sin 2\theta}{-\frac{\Delta m^{2}}{4E} \cos \theta + \sqrt{2}G_{F}n_{e}}$$
$$-\cos 2\theta \frac{\Delta m^{2}}{4E} + \sqrt{2}G_{F}n_{e} = \cos 2\theta \frac{\Delta m^{2}}{4E}$$
$$(1) \Delta m_{21}^{2} > 0 \text{ from Sun}$$
$$(2) \operatorname{sign}(\Delta m_{31}^{2}) \text{ unknown}$$

(2) sign(Δm_{31}^2) unknown

Source: C. Volpe (2013), Ann. Phys. 525, 8-9, p. 588

MSW effect and its influence on supernova neutrinos

$$(NH, v_e)$$

$$F_{v_e,NH} = [P_H(1 - P_L) \sin^2 \theta_{12} + P_H P_L \cos^2 \theta_{12} + (1 - P_H) \sin^2 \theta_{13}] F_{v_e}^0 + \cdots$$

$$F_{v_e,NH} = [P_H(1 - P_L) \sin^2 \theta_{12} + P_H P_L \cos^2 \theta_{12} + 0] F_{v_e}^0 + \cdots, \quad \sin^2 \theta_{13} \approx 0$$

$$F_{v_e,NH} = [P_H \sin^2 \theta_{12} + 0 + 0] F_{v_e}^0 + \cdots, \quad P_L = 0$$

$$F_{v_e,NH} = [0 + 0 + 0] F_{v_e}^0 + \cdots, \quad P_H = 0$$

$$F_{v_e,NH} = pF_{v_e}^0 + (1 - p) F_{v_x}^0, \quad p = 0$$

$$(NH, \bar{v}_e)$$

$$F_{\bar{v}_e,NH} = \cos^2 \theta_{12} F_{\bar{v}_e}^0 + \sin^2 \theta_{12} F_{v_{\mu}'}^0 + \sin^2 \theta_{13} F_{v_{\tau}'}^0$$

$$F_{\bar{v}_e,NH} = \cos^2 \theta_{12} F_{\bar{v}_e}^0 + (1 - \cos \theta_{12}^2) F_{v_x}^0, \quad F_{v_{\mu}'}^0 = F_{v_x}^0$$

$$F_{\bar{v}_e,NH} = pF_{\bar{v}_e}^0 + (1 - p) F_{v_x}^0, \quad \bar{p} = \cos^2 \theta_{12} \approx 0.68$$

Source: C. Volpe (2013), Ann. Phys. 525, 8-9, p. 588

We want to study sub-GeV and multi-GeV atmospheric v_e !

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SK sensitivities compared for δ_{CP} and MH rejection

HK δ_{CP} rejection sensitivity with main sample

HK MH rejection sensitivity with main sample

HK δ_{CP} rejection for both $\delta_{CP}=0^\circ$, 90°

HK fraction of δ_{CP} values covered at 3σ

HK wrong octant rejection

Atmospheric samples in HK with and w/o oscillations

Vertex reconstruction SK/HK

FIGURE 6.6: Single-ring electron (left) and muon (right) direction resolution for FC CCQE events in atmospheric neutrino MC, compared between APFit (dashed line) and fiTQun (solid line). The resolution is defined as the 68 percentile of the respective distributions which is shown by corresponding vertical line.

Vertex reconstruction SK/HK

FIGURE 6.5: Vertex resolution of FC single-ring charged current quasi-elastic (CCQE) event as a function of visible energy. Left figure is for CC ν_e events and right figure is for CC ν_{μ} events. The performance of fiTQun is indicated by the full triangles, while that for APFit is indicated by the open circles.

Direction reconstruction SK/HK

FIGURE 6.7: Direction resolution of single-ring electron (left) and muon (right) events in the FC CCQE event sample in the atmospheric neutrino MC, plotted as a function of visible energy. The full triangles indicate the performance of fiTQun and the open circles are for APFit.

Direction reconstruction SK/HK

FIGURE 6.4: Single-ring electron(left) and muon(right) vertex resolution for FC true-fiducial CCQE events in atmospheric neutrino MC, compared between APFit(dashed line) and fiTQun(solid line). The resolution is defined as the 68 percentile of the respective distributions, which is shown by corresponding vertical line.

Energy reconstruction SK/HK

FIGURE 6.8: Single-ring electron (left) and muon (right) momentum resolution for FC CCQE events in atmospheric neutrino MC, compared between APFit (dashed line) and fiTQun (solid line). The bias (resolution) is defined as the mean (RMS) value of the ratio distribution between the reconstructed momentum and true momentum.

Energy reconstruction SK/HK

Beam oscillations for J-PARC to Hyper-K

FIG. 129. Oscillation probabilities as a function of the neutrino energy for $\nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \nu_{e}$ (left) and $\overline{\nu}_{\mu} \rightarrow$ (right) transitions with L=295 km and $\sin^{2} 2\theta_{13} = 0.1$. Black, red, green, and blue lines correspond $\delta_{CP} = 0^{\circ}$, 90°, 180° and -90°, respectively. Solid (dashed) line represents the case for a normal (invertee mass hierarchy.

T2K beam energies

T. Ovsiannikova et al. 2016 J. Phys.: Conf. Ser. 675 012030

Atmospheric $\boldsymbol{\nu}$ event selection in SK

Decay electrons for v_e vs \overline{v}_e

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Vertex reconstruction for BONSAI

Effect of the $heta_{23}$ octant for neutrino oscillations when $r\sim 2$

Gains in PMT performance for HK come from dynodes.

Slides C. Bronner (2018) workshop on new γ detectors

Ring reconstruction gets harder with multiple rings.

True Number	fiTQun Reconstruction			APFit Reconstruction			
of Rings	1 ring	2 rings	$\geq 3 \text{ rings}$	1 ring	2 rings	≥ 3 rings	
True 1 ring	95.0%	4.64%	0.41%	95.9%	3.85%	0.29%	
True 2 rings	27.8%	66.7%	5.56%	42.5%	52.8%	4.63%	
True ≥ 3 rings	7.04%	25.5%	67.5%	20.2%	33.0%	46.8%	

TABLE 6.2: Ring counting performance on FC atmospheric neutrino events. Both result of APFit and fiTQun are shown here. The number of reconstructed rings are denoted by columns and the number of true rings are denoted by rows. The true rings are defined as only final state particles with energy 30 MeV higher than the Cherenkov threshold.

Ring reconstruction gets harder with multiple rings.

FIGURE 6.12: PID likelihood distributions of the most energetic ring for fully contained multi-ring events. Left figure shows the results of sub-GeV events while right figure are for multi-GeV events. Distribution for atmospheric neutrino data is denoted by the points and the MC prediction including neutrino oscillations is denoted by the histogram. The component of ν_{μ} charged-current interactions is shown by the shaded histogram. The statistical error are denoted by error bars. The reconstructed event vertex to the nearest ID wall (D_{wall}) is required to be larger than 200 cm.

$\nu/\bar{\nu}$ separation for *e*-flavor

For CC ν_e interaction:

$$\nu_e + N \rightarrow e^- + N' + \pi^+$$

$$\downarrow \quad \mu^+ + \nu_\mu$$

$$\downarrow e^+ + \nu_e + \overline{\nu}_\mu$$

An decay electron (actually a positron) is produced finally.

For $CC\overline{\nu}_e$:

$\overline{\nu}_e + N \to e^+ + N' + \pi^-$

where π^- is more easy to be absorbed by oxygen nuclei and no decay electron is observed. Therefore multi-GeV single-ring *e*-like sample can be separated based the number of decay electrons as follows:

> Number of decay electrons $> 0 \rightarrow \nu_e$ -like, Number of decay electrons $= 0 \rightarrow \overline{\nu}_e$ -like.