# Production and radiative decay of heavy neutrinos at the Booster Neutrino Beam

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# Section 1

### Introduction

# Neutrino paradigm

For massive neutrinos the flavor eigenstates do not coincide with the mass eigenstates

■ Mixing → Pontecorvo–Maki–Nakagawa–Sakata matrix

$$\left|\nu_{\alpha}\right\rangle = \sum_{i} U_{\alpha i} \left|\nu_{i}\right\rangle$$

$$\alpha = e, \mu, \tau ; i = 1, 2, 3$$

Oscillations

$$P\left(\nu_{\alpha} \to \nu_{\beta}\right) = \sum_{k,j} U_{\alpha k}^{*} U_{\beta k} U_{\alpha j} U_{\beta j}^{*} \exp\left(-i\frac{\Delta m_{kj}^{2}L}{2E}\right)$$

Questions

- Dirac or Majorana
- Neutrino absolute masses and Mass hierarchy
- Sterile neutrinos
- Values of the parameters:  $\theta_{kj}$ ,  $\Delta m_{kj}^2$  and  $\delta_{CP}$
- Anomalies

Introduction

### Anomalies in oscillation experiments

- LSND was a short baseline experiment that searched for  $\overline{\nu}_e$  appearance in a  $\overline{\nu}_\mu$  flux.
- An excess of  $\overline{\nu}_e$  was found.



A. Aguilar et al. PRD 64.112007 (2001)

• (Originally) interpreted as  $\overline{\nu}_{\mu} \rightarrow \overline{\nu}_{e}$  oscillations.

 MiniBooNE was created to make a further analysis of the LSND signal, and found and excess at low energies



Oscillations: not explained by 1, 2, 3 families of sterile neutrinos.
 J. Conrad et al., Adv. High Energy Phys. 2013, C. Giunti et al., PRD88 (2013)



The MiniBooNE low-energy anomaly is incompatible with neutrino oscillations C. Giunti et al., PRD88 (2013)

#### Introduction

Heavy neutrinos Gninenko, PRL 103 (2009)

- $m_h \approx 50 {
  m MeV}, \ |U_{\mu h}|^2 \approx 10^{-3} 10^{-2}, \ \tau_h < 10^{-9} {
  m s}$
- Simultaneous description of both MiniBooNE and LSND anomalies.



#### Introduction

Heavy neutrinos Gninenko, PRL 103 (2009) , Masip et al., JHEP01(2013)106

• 
$$m_h = 50 \text{MeV}, \ \tau_h = 5 \times 10^{-9} \text{s}, \ BR(\nu_h \to \nu_\mu \gamma) = 0.01$$

• Alleviates tensions with other experiments (radiative  $\mu$  capture at TRIUMF).



We have analyzed this scenario in order to compare with MiniBooNE measurements. Also we have predicted the signal due to this kind of processes for SBN.



• On nucleons  $\nu_{\mu}(\overline{\nu}_{\mu}) + \mathsf{N} \rightarrow \nu_{h}(\overline{\nu}_{h}) + \mathsf{N}$ 

•  $\nu_h = \text{Dirac } \nu$  with  $m \approx 50$  MeV, slightly mixed with  $\nu_\mu$ • A =<sup>12</sup>C (MiniBooNE, CH<sub>2</sub>), <sup>40</sup>Ar (SBN program: SBND, MicroBooNE, Icarus)



### Section 2

### $u_h$ production and decay

Electromagnetic production

### Electromagnetic production

In general Broggini et al., Adv.High Energy Phys (2012)

$$\mathcal{H}_{eff} = \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \overline{\nu}_h \Lambda_\mu^{h\alpha} \nu_\alpha + \overline{\nu}_\alpha \gamma_0 \left[ \Lambda_\mu^{h\alpha} \right]^\dagger \gamma_0 \nu_h \right\} A^\mu \qquad \alpha = e, \mu, \tau$$

Imposing Lorentz and gauge inv.

$$\Lambda^{h\alpha}_{\mu} = \left(\gamma_{\mu} - q_{\mu}\frac{q}{q^2}\right) \left[f^{h\alpha}_Q(q^2) + f^{h\alpha}_A(q^2)q^2\gamma_5\right] - i\sigma_{\mu\nu}q^{\nu} \left[f^{h\alpha}_M(q^2) + if^{h\alpha}_E(q^2)\gamma_5\right]$$

Choice of Masip et al., JHEP 1301 (2013)

$$\Lambda^{h\alpha}_{\mu} = -i\sigma_{\mu\nu}q^{\nu}\mu^{\alpha}_{tr}\left(1-\gamma_5\right)$$

• if  $\mu_{tr}^{\alpha} \in \mathsf{R} \Rightarrow \mathsf{CP}$  conserved

Electromagnetic production

### Electromagnetic production

Effective lagrangian of the interaction, Masip et al., JHEP01(2013)106:

$$\mathcal{L}_{eff} = \frac{1}{2} \mu_{tr}^{i} \left[ \overline{\nu}_{h} \sigma_{\mu\nu} \left( 1 - \gamma_{5} \right) \nu_{i} + \overline{\nu}_{i} \sigma_{\mu\nu} \left( 1 + \gamma_{5} \right) \nu_{h} \right] \partial^{\mu} A^{\nu} ,$$

Inclusive process  $\nu_i(k) + A(p) \rightarrow \nu_h(k') + X(p')$ 



$$i\mathcal{M} = \frac{ie\,\mu_{tr}^{i}}{2\left(q^{2} + i\epsilon\right)}\,\overline{u}(k')\,q_{\alpha}\,\sigma^{\alpha\mu}(1-\gamma_{5})u(k)\,\langle X|J_{\mu}|N\rangle\,.$$

Electromagnetic production

General expression for the inclusive cross section:

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dk'^0 \, d\Omega} = \frac{|\vec{k'}|}{|\vec{k}|} \frac{\alpha \, (\mu_{tr}^i)^2}{16 \, \pi \, q^4} L_{\mu\nu} W^{\mu\nu}$$

Leptonic tensor

$$L_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{4} \operatorname{Tr} \left[ (k' + m_h) \sigma_{\mu\alpha} (1 - \gamma_5) \not k (1 + \gamma_5) \sigma_{\nu\beta} \right] q^{\alpha} q^{\beta}$$

Hadronic tensor

$$\begin{split} W^{\mu\nu} &\equiv \frac{1}{2M} \left( \prod_i \int \frac{d^3 p'_i}{(2\pi)^3 2E'_i} \right) (2\pi)^3 \delta^{(4)} (k+p-k'-p') H^{\mu\nu} \\ H^{\mu\nu} &= \overline{\sum_{\text{polar.}}} \left\langle X | J^{\nu} | N \right\rangle^* \left\langle X | J^{\mu} | N \right\rangle \end{split}$$

Production and radiative decay of heavy neutrinos at the Booster Neutrino Beam

Electromagnetic production

### QE scattering on nucleons



$$\frac{d\sigma}{dt} = \frac{\alpha \left(\mu_{tr}^{i}\right)^{2}}{4 \left(s - M^{2}\right)^{2} t^{2}} \frac{1}{1 - \frac{t}{4M^{2}}} \left(G_{E}^{2} R_{E} - G_{M}^{2} R_{M}\right),$$

 $G_E$ ,  $G_M$  are the Sachs form factors

$$R_E = -t \left(2s + t - 2M^2\right)^2 + m_h^2 t \left(4s + t\right) - 4m_h^4 M^2$$
$$R_M = \frac{t}{4M^2} \left[-4t \left(\left(M^2 - s\right)^2 + s t\right) + 2m_h^2 t \left(2s + t - 2M^2\right) - 2m_h^4 \left(t - 2M^2\right)\right]$$

Production and radiative decay of heavy neutrinos at the Booster Neutrino Beam

Electromagnetic production

### Coherent scattering on scalar nucleus



$$\frac{d\sigma}{dt} = \frac{\alpha \left(\mu_{tr}^{i}\right)^{2}}{4 \left(s - M_{A}^{2}\right)^{2} t^{2}} F^{2} R_{E}$$
$$R_{E} = -t \left(2s + t - 2M_{A}^{2}\right)^{2} + m_{h}^{2} t \left(4s + t\right) - 4m_{h}^{4} M_{A}^{2}$$

$$F(q^2) = \int d^3r \, e^{i\vec{q}\cdot\vec{r}} \rho(\vec{r})$$

Electromagnetic production

### Incoherent scattering on scalar nucleus

Case of QE interaction with the nucleons forming the nucleus.





Nieves, Amaro, Valverde, PRC70.055503 (2004)

With the local density approximation.

$$W^{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{\alpha} \int \frac{d^3r}{4\pi^2} \Theta(q^0) e^2 \int \frac{d^3p}{4\pi^2} A^{\mu\nu} \delta\left(p^0 + q^0 - E\left(\vec{p} + \vec{q}\right)\right) \frac{n(\vec{p})\left(1 - n\left(\vec{p} + \vec{q}\right)\right)}{4p^0\left(p^0 + q^0 + E(\vec{p} + \vec{q})\right)} \Theta(p^0)$$

Electromagnetic production

### Incoherent scattering on scalar nucleus

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Occupation number:

$$n(\vec{p}) = \Theta(k_F - |\vec{p}|); \qquad k_F^N(r) = (3\pi^2 \rho^N(r))^{1/3}$$

Production and radiative decay of heavy neutrinos at the Booster Neutrino Beam

-Neutral current production

### Neutral current production

Effective lagrangian of the interaction:

$$\mathcal{L}_I = -\frac{g}{2\cos\theta_W} j^{\mu} Z_{\mu}; \qquad j^{\alpha} = \frac{1}{2} \overline{\nu}_{\mu} \gamma^{\alpha} (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_{\mu},$$

Inclusive process  $\nu_i(k) + A(p) \rightarrow \nu_h(k') + X(p')$ ,



- Neutral current production

General expression for the inclusive cross section:

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dk'^0 \, d\Omega} = \frac{|\vec{k'}|}{|\vec{k}|} \frac{|U_{\mu h}|^2 \, G_F^2}{32 \, \pi^2} L_{\mu \nu} W^{\mu \nu}$$

Leptonic tensor

$$L_{\mu\nu} = \text{Tr}\left[ (k' + m_h) \gamma_{\mu} (1 - \gamma_5) \, k \, \gamma^{\nu} (1 - \gamma_5) \right]$$

Hadronic tensor

$$\begin{split} W^{\mu\nu} &\equiv \frac{1}{2M} \left( \prod_{i} \int \frac{d^{3}p'_{i}}{(2\pi)^{3}2E'_{i}} \right) (2\pi)^{3} \delta^{(4)}(k+p-k'-p') H^{\mu\nu} \\ H^{\mu\nu} &= \overline{\sum_{\text{polar.}}} \left\langle X|J^{\nu}|N \right\rangle^{*} \left\langle X|J^{\mu}|N \right\rangle \end{split}$$

-Neutral current production

### QE scattering on nucleons

Process  $\nu_{\mu} + N \rightarrow \nu_{h} + N$ 

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dt} = \frac{\left|U_{\mu h}\right|^2 G_F^2}{16 \pi M^2 k_0^2} \left[F_1^2 R_1 + F_2^2 R_2 + F_1 F_2 R_{12} + F_A^2 R_A + F_P^2 R_F + F_A F_1 R_{A1} + F_A F_2 R_{A2} + F_A F_P R_{AP}\right],$$

 $F_1$ ,  $F_2$ ,  $F_A$ ,  $F_P$  are the weak nucleon form factors for neutral currents.

$$\begin{split} R_1 &= -m_h^2(2s+t) + 2(M^2-s)^2 + 2st + t^2 \\ R_2 &= \frac{1}{8M^2} \left[ -4m_h^4 M^2 + t^2(m_h^2 + 8M^2 - 4s) - t(m_h^2 + 2M^2 - 2s)^2 \right] \\ R_{1\,2} &= 2t^2 - m_h^2(m_h^2 + t) \\ R_A &= m_h^2(4M^2 - 2s - t) + 2M^4 - 4M^2(s+t) + 2s^2 + 2st + t^2 \\ R_P &= \frac{m_h^2 t \left( t - m_h^2 \right)}{2M^2} \\ R_{A\,1} &= R_{A\,2} = 2t(2s + t - m_h^2 - 2M^2) \\ R_{A\,P} &= 2m_h^2(t - m_h^2) \end{split}$$

Production and radiative decay of heavy neutrinos at the Booster Neutrino Beam

- Neutral current production

### Coherent scattering on scalar nucleus



$$\frac{d\sigma}{dt} = \frac{|U_{\mu h}|^2 G_F^2}{32 \pi M_A^2 k_0^2} F_W^2 \left( m_h^4 - m_h^2 (4s+t) + 4 \left[ \left( M_A^2 - s \right)^2 + st \right] \right)$$

 $F_W$  is te weak form factor of the nucleus,

$$F_W(Q^2) = \frac{F_p(Q^2) \left(1 - 4\sin^2 \theta_W\right) - F_n(Q^2)}{2}$$
$$F_N(q^2) = \int d^3r \, e^{i\vec{q}\cdot\vec{r}} \rho_N(\vec{r})$$

-Neutral current production

### Incoherent scattering on scalar nucleus

Case of QE interaction with the nucleons forming the nucleus.





Nieves, Amaro, Valverde, PRC70.055503 (2004)

With the local density approximation.

$$W^{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int d^3r \,\theta(q^0) \int \frac{d^3p}{4\pi^2} A^{\mu\nu} \delta\left(p^0 + q^0 - E\left(\vec{p} + \vec{q}\right)\right) \frac{n(p)\left(1 - n\left(\vec{p} + \vec{q}\right)\right)}{p^0\left(p^0 + q^0 + E\left(\vec{p} + \vec{q}\right)\right)} \theta(p^0)$$

Antineutrino production

### Antineutrino production

### Electromagnetic production

The antisymmetric part of  $L_{\mu\nu}$  changes sign but  $W_{\mu\nu}$  is symmetric  $\rightarrow$  same results as neutrino electromagnetic interaction.

### Neutral current production

The antisymmetric part of  $L_{\mu\nu}$  changes sign:

- $\blacksquare$  QE scattering with nucleons  $\rightarrow$  change of sign in the antisymmetric terms.
- Coherent scattering with scalar nucleus → same result as neutrino neutral current scattering.
- Incoherent scattering with scalar nucleus → change of sign in the antisymmetric terms.

Production and radiative decay of heavy neutrinos at the Booster Neutrino Beam

Decay of the heavy sterile neutrino

### Decay of the heavy sterile neutrino



- $\theta_{\gamma}$  is the angle of the photon respect the  $\nu_h$  spin direction.
- Electromagnetic production flips quirality  $\rightarrow \nu_{hR}$
- Neutral current production keeps quirality  $\rightarrow \nu_{hL}$
- At high energies (~ 1 GeV) contributions of other helicity components are negligible.

Production and radiative decay of heavy neutrinos at the Booster Neutrino Beam

Decay of the heavy sterile neutrino

Number of photons inside the detector,

$$N_{\gamma} = \frac{M_{det}}{V_{det}} N_A N_{POT} \sum_t f_t \int dE_{\nu} \phi(E_{\nu}) \int dk'_0 d\cos\theta_h d\varphi_h \frac{d\sigma}{dk'_0 d\cos\theta_h d\varphi_h} \int d^3 r P$$

$$P(k'_0, r, \theta, \varphi, \theta_h, \varphi_h) = 1 - e^{\frac{-\Delta l}{\lambda}}$$

$$\lambda = \tau_0 c \frac{k'_0}{m_h} \sqrt{1 - \frac{m_h^2}{(k'_0)^2}}; \qquad \tau_0 = \frac{1}{\Gamma}$$

We can calculate the energy and the angular distributions of the photons:



# Section 3

Results

### Parameters

Choice of parameters from M. Masip et al, JHEP 1301 (2013):

 $\blacksquare$  Mass of the heavy neutrino,  $m_h=50~{\rm MeV}$ 

• Mixing angle, 
$$|U_{\mu h}|^2 = 3 \times 10^{-3}$$

• Lifetime,  $\tau_h = 5 \times 10^{-9} \mathrm{s}$ 

Branching ratio, 
$$BR_i = \frac{(\mu_{tr}^i)^2}{\sum\limits_i (\mu_{tr}^i)^2} \rightarrow BR_\mu = 10^{-2}$$

### $u_h$ production cross sections

EM: dominated by the coherent mechanism



NC: dominated by the incoherent mechanism



Results	

- MiniBooNE

# MiniBooNE



- Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory is a with 149 m of diameter.
- A 8 GeV protons beam is generated in FNAL and focused to a beryllium target.
- A secondary beam of mesons is produced and filtered with magnetic fields

#### - MiniBooNE

# MiniBooNE

- Cherenkov detector.
- Spherical tank with 12.2 m of diameter.
- 806 tons of mineral oil, CH<sub>2</sub>.
- MiniBooNE measurements were made with:
  - $6.46 \times 10^{20}$  POT in neutrino mode.
  - $11.27 \times 10^{20}$  POT in antineutrino mode.







Aguilar-Arevalo et al, PRD 79 (2009)

#### L MiniBooNE

### MiniBooNE

- Cherenkov detector.
- Spherical tank with 12.2 m of diameter.
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- MiniBooNE measurements were made with:
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  - $11.27 \times 10^{20}$  POT in antineutrino mode.

#### MiniBooNE Detector





http://www-boone.fnal.gov/for\_
physicists/data\_release

#### - Results

- MiniBooNE





└─ <sub>MiniBoo</sub>NE



#### - Results

- MiniBooNE





- MiniBooNE

### Antineutrino mode

### Energy and angular distributions



Res	ults	
1103	uita	

### Parameters

Choice of parameters from M. Masip et al, JHEP 1301 (2013):

- $\blacksquare$  Mass of the heavy neutrino,  $m_h=50~{\rm MeV}$
- Mixing angle,  $|U_{\mu h}|^2 = 3 \times 10^{-3}$
- Lifetime,  $\tau_h = 5 \times 10^{-9} \mathrm{s}$
- Branching ratio,  $BR_i = \frac{(\mu_{tr}^i)^2}{\sum\limits_i (\mu_{tr}^i)^2} \rightarrow BR_\mu = 10^{-2}$
- does not explain the MiniBooNE excess of events  $\Rightarrow \chi^2/\text{DoF} = 127/54$

L MiniBooNE

## Parameters and limits

LSND compatible limits for the parameters by Gninenko, PRD 83, 015015 (2011):

- Mass of the heavy neutrino,  $m_h$ :
  - Lower bound:  $m_h \ge 40 \text{ MeV} \rightarrow \text{KARMEN}$  experiment.
  - Upper bound:  $m_h \leqslant 80 \text{ MeV} \rightarrow \text{LSND } \nu_h$  production suppressed by phase space factor.
- Mixing angle:
  - Lower bound:  $|U_{\mu h}|^2 \ge 10^{-3} \rightarrow \text{muon lifetime.}$
  - Upper bound:  $|U_{\mu h}|^2 \leq 10^{-2} \rightarrow \text{LEP}$  experiments  $Z \rightarrow \nu \nu_h$  decay
- Lifetime:

• Upper bound:  $\tau_h \leq 10^{-8} \text{s} \rightarrow \text{Gninenko LSND results}$ 

L MiniBooNE

### Parameters and limits

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  - Lower bound:  $|U_{\mu h}|^2 \ge 10^{-3} \rightarrow \text{muon lifetime.}$
  - Upper bound:  $|U_{\mu h}|^2 \leq 10^{-2} \rightarrow \text{LEP}$  experiments  $Z \rightarrow \nu \nu_h$  decay
- Lifetime:

• Upper bound:  $\tau_h \leq 10^{-8} \text{s} \rightarrow \text{Gninenko LSND results}$ 

Our fit:  $\chi^2/{\rm DoF}=101/54$ 

- $\blacksquare m_h = 68.6 \text{ MeV}$
- $|U_{\mu h}|^2 = 10^{-2}$
- $\tau_h=2.5\times 10^{-9}~{\rm s}$
- $BR_{\mu} = 8.4 \times 10^{-4} \Leftrightarrow \text{EM } \nu_h$  production strongly suppressed

### Fitted parameters



Production and radiative decay of heavy neutrinos at the Booster Neutrino Beam

Results		
└─SBN		

35

# SBN



Results	
CDN	

# MicroBooNE

- LArTPC detector (large liquid argon time projection chamber).
- $\blacksquare$  TPC of 2.3 m  $\times$  2.6 m  $\times$  10.4 m.
- Cylindrical deposit with 170 tons of liquid argon (active mass: 86.6 tons).
- Same L/E as MiniBooNE approx.
- Run plan of  $6.6 \times 10^{20}$  POT.





Zarko Pavlovic, private communication.

∟<sub>SBN</sub>

### MicroBooNE, parameters of Masip et al.



L\_SBN

### MicroBooNE, fitted parameters



#### ∟<sub>SBN</sub>



Prediction for SM predominant photon emission from  $\Delta(1232) \rightarrow n\gamma$ , Wang, Alvarez-Ruso, Nieves, PRC89.015503 (2014)



### └─ <sub>Results</sub>

### LaR1-ND

- LArTPC detector (large liquid argon time projection chamber).
- TPC of 5  $\times$  4  $\times$  4 m.
- Active mass: 112 tons.
- Run plan of  $6.6 \times 10^{20}$  POT.





Zarko Pavlovic, private communication.

#### ∟<sub>SBN</sub>

### LaR1-ND, fitted parameters



Results	

# **ICARUS**

- LArTPC detector (large liquid argon time projection chamber).
- $\blacksquare$  TPC of 18  $\times$  3  $\times$  2 m.
- 2 TPC of 238 tons.
- Run plan of  $6.6 \times 10^{20}$  POT.





Zarko Pavlovic, private communication.

SBN

### At each TPC of ICARUS, fitted parameters



# Section 4

### Conclusions

# Conclusions

- The origin of MiniBooNE anomaly is still not understood.
- Production and radiative decay of heavy sterile neutrino could be a solution.
- We have made an analysis of this scenario using our understanding about neutrino interactions with matter.
- In the range of parameter values consistent with LSND anomaly this scenario does not fully describe MiniBooNE anomaly, but could be sizable contribution.
- We can predict the impact in SBN measurements and test the model.

# Thank for your attention!