Fundamental Physics with High-Energy Cosmic Neutrinos

Mauricio Bustamante

Niels Bohr Institute, University of Copenhagen

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Abundant, but hardly interacting **v**



Why study fundamental physics with HE cosmic ν 's?

- 1 They have the highest energies (~PeV)
 → Probe physics at new energy scales
- 2 They have the longest baselines (~Gpc) → Tiny effects can accumulate and become observable
- 3 Neutrinos are weakly interacting
 - → New effects may stand out more clearly

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IceCube – What is it?



- ► Km³ in-ice Cherenkov detector in Antarctica
- ► >5000 PMTs at 1.5–2.5 km of depth
- ► Sensitive to neutrino energies > 10 GeV



How does IceCube see neutrinos?

Two types of fundamental interactions ...



103 contained events between 15 TeV – 2 PeV



I. Taboada, Neutrino 2018

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103 contained events between 15 TeV – 2 PeV

Astrophysical v flux detected at > 7 σ (Normalization ok, but steep spectrum)



I. Taboada, Neutrino 2018

Arrival directions compatible with isotropy



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Flavor composition compatible with equal proportion of each flavor



In the face of astrophysical unknowns, can we extract fundamental TeV–PeV v physics?

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Neutrino physicist-

Fundamental physics with HE cosmic neutrinos

► Numerous new-physics effects grow as ~ $\kappa_n \cdot E^n \cdot L$

► So we can probe $\kappa_n \sim 4 \cdot 10^{-47} \, (E/PeV)^{-n} \, (L/Gpc)^{-1} \, PeV^{1-n}$

• Improvement over current limits: $\kappa_0 < 10^{-29}$ PeV, $\kappa_1 < 10^{-33}$

Fundamental physics can be extracted from:

- Spectral shape
- Angular distribution
- Flavor information
- ► Timing

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Fundamental physics with HE cosmic neutrinos

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Fundamental physics can be extracted from:

► Spectral shape

- Angular distribution
- ► Flavor information

► Timing

In spite of poor energy, angular, flavor reconstruction & astrophysical unknowns














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Measuring the high-energy cross section



Measuring the high-energy cross section



Measuring the high-energy cross section

Optical depth to vN int's = $\frac{\text{Distance from Earth's surface to IceCube}}{\text{Mean free path inside Earth}}$

 $\frac{\text{free from Earth's surface to freeCube}}{\text{Mean free path inside Earth}} \equiv \tau(E_{\nu}, \theta_z) \propto \sigma_{\nu N}$

Below ~ 10 TeV: Earth is transparent



Above ~ 10 TeV: Earth is opaque



























MB & A. Connolly *PRL* 2019 See also: IceCube, *Nature* 2017









Bonus: Measuring the inelasticity (*y*)

► Inelasticity in CC v_{μ} interaction $v_{\mu} + N \rightarrow \mu + X$: $E_X = y E_v$ and $E_{\mu} = (1-y) E_v \Rightarrow y = (1 + E_{\mu}/E_X)^{-1}$

The value of *y* follows a distribution $d\sigma/dy$

► In a HESE starting track:

$$E_X = E_{\rm sh} \text{ (energy of shower)}$$

$$E_{\mu} = E_{\rm tr} \text{ (energy of track)}$$

$$y = (1 + E_{\rm tr}/E_{\rm sh})^{-1}$$

- New IceCube analysis:
 - ▶ 5 years of starting-track data (2650 tracks)
 - Machine learning separates shower from track
 - Different *y* distributions for v and \overline{v}



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IceCube, PRD 2019

New v physics

Acting during ★ Production ➡ Propagation Detection

ffects

Fifeers energy Note: Not an exhaustive list

NSI★→⊜ SUSY→ DM decay★ DM-v interaction \rightarrow Leptoquarks + © Extra dimensions+⊕ Lorentz+CPT violation→

Affects direction

el steile Ditra

Effective operators→ Superluminal $v \rightarrow \oplus$ DM-v coherent★→

Monopoles. Argüelles, **MB**, Conrad, Kheirandish, Palomares-Ruiz, Salvadó, Vincent, In prep. See also: Ahlers, Helbing, De los Heros, EPJC 2018

2.00

"Secret" neutrino interactions between astrophysical v (PeV) and relic v (0.1 meV):

Ø $\mathcal{L} \sim g \phi \nu \bar{\nu}$

Cross section:
$$\sigma = \frac{g^4}{4\pi} \frac{s}{\left(s - M^2\right)^2 + M^2 \Gamma^2}$$

Resonance energy:
$$E_{\rm res} = \frac{M^2}{2m_{\gamma}}$$



.....

Free streaming



Blum, Hook, Murase, 1408.3799

2.00"Secret" neutrino interactions between Free streaming \mathbf{ST} With attenuation 1.75 astrophysical v (PeV) and relic v (0.1 meV): -With attenuation + regeneration Ś 2 1.50 cm M = 10 MeVGeV g = 0.031.25 $m_v = 0.1 \text{ eV}$ $\mathcal{L} \sim g \phi \nu \bar{\nu}$ [10] 1.00 \bar{v} flux at Earth $E^2 I$ New coupling 0.75 Cross section: $M^2\Gamma^2$ 0.50 = 500 TeMediator mass 0.25 +Resonance energy: $E_{res} =$ 0.00 <u>-</u> 10³ 2 10^{5} 10^{4} 10^{6} Neutrino energy *E* [GeV]

MB, Rosenstroem, Tamborra, In prep. Ng & Beacom, PRD 2014 Cherry, Friedland, Shoemaker, 1411.1071 Blum, Hook, Murase, 1408.3799

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 10^{8}

 10^{7}



New physics in the angular distribution: v-DM interactions

Interaction between astrophysical neutrinos and the Galactic dark matter profile -



Expected: Fewer neutrinos coming from the Galactic Center Observed: Isotropy

New physics in the angular distribution: v-DM interactions

Interaction between astrophysical neutrinos and the Galactic dark matter profile -



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New physics in the energy & angular distribution

Lorentz invariance violation – Hamiltonian: $H \sim m^2/(2E) + a^{(3)} - E \cdot c^{(4)} + E^2 \cdot a^{(5)} - E^3 \cdot c^{(6)}$







New physics in timing — TeV–PeV

Multiple secret vv scatterings may delay the arrival of neutrinos from a transient



See also: Alcock & Hatchett, ApJ 1978

New physics in timing — TeV–PeV



New physics in timing — MeV

- Secret vv interactions delay the arrival of the burst of supernova v
- Look for changes in:
 - Start time of the v light curve (hard)
 - Shape of the v light curve (easier)
- Sensitive to mediator masses of keV
- > Probes the same parameter as vv in early Universe, but differently

(Ahlgren, Ohlsson, Zhou, PRL 2013)



New physics in the flavor composition



Reading a ternary plot

Assumes underlying unitarity – sum of projections on each axis is 1

How to read it: Follow the tilt of the tick marks, *e.g.*,

 $(e:\mu:\tau) = (0.30:0.45:0.25)$



Flavor content of neutrino mass eigenstates

Flavor content for every allowed combination of mixing parameters –





IceCube flavor composition



Flavor – there and here

At the sources

 $(f_e; f_\mu; f_\tau)_{\rm S} = (1/3:2/3:0)_{\rm S}$









Flavor composition – Standard allowed region

At the sources

At Earth

All possible flavor ratios



Flavor composition – Standard allowed region



Flavor – What is it good for?

Trusting particle physics and learning about astrophysics



Trusting astrophysics and learning about particle physics



Two classes of new physics

▶ Neutrinos propagate as an incoherent mix of v_1 , v_2 , v_3

Each one has a different flavor content:



Flavor ratios at Earth are the result of their combination

► New physics may:

- Only reweigh the proportion of each v_i reaching Earth (*e.g.*, v decay)
- ▶ Redefine the propagation states (*e.g.*, Lorentz-invariance violation)

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Flavor ratios accessible with decay-like physics



Flavor ratios accessible with decay-like physics



Measuring the neutrino lifetime

Earth



Measuring the neutrino lifetime

Earth





MB, Beacom, Murase, PRD 2017





What lies beyond? *Take your pick*

- High-energy effective field theories
 - Violation of Lorentz and CPT invariance
 [Barenboim & Quigg, PRD 2003; MB, Gago, Peña-Garay, JHEP 2010; Kostelecky & Mewes 2004]
 - Violation of equivalence principle [Gasperini, PRD 1989; Glashow et al., PRD 1997]
 - Coupling to a gravitational torsion field [De Sabbata & Gasperini, Nuovo Cim. 1981]
 - Renormalization-group-running of mixing parameters
 [MB, Gago, Jones, JHEP 2011]
- Active-sterile mixing

[Aeikens et al., JCAP 2015; Brdar, JCAP 2017]

- Flavor-violating physics
 - New vv interactions

[Ng & Beacom, PRD 2014; Cherry, Friedland, Shoemaker, 1411.1071; Blum, Hook, Murase, 1408.3799]

New neutrino-electron interactions

[MB & Agarwalla, PRL 2019]

New physics – High-energy effects For n = 0 $H_{\text{tot}} = H_{\text{std}} + H_{\text{NP}}$ (similar for n = 1) $H_{\text{std}} = \frac{1}{2F} U_{\text{PMNS}}^{\dagger} \operatorname{diag}\left(0, \Delta m_{21}^2, \Delta m_{31}^2\right) U_{\text{PMNS}}$ $H_{\rm NP} = \sum \left(\frac{E}{\Lambda_n}\right)^n U_n^{\dagger} \operatorname{diag}\left(O_{n,1}, O_{n,2}, O_{n,3}\right) U_n$ This can populate *all* of the triangle – 0.6 • Use current atmospheric bounds on $O_{n,i}$: 0.8 $O_0 < 10^{-23}$ GeV, $O_1 / \Lambda_1 < 10^{-27}$ GeV 0.2().()Sample the unknown new mixing angles Argüelles, Katori, Salvadó, PRL 2015 See also: Rasmusen et al., PRD 2017; MB, Beacom, Winter PRL 2015; MB, Gago, Peña-Garay JCAP 2010;

Bazo, MB, Gago, Miranda IJMPA 2009; + many others

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0.0

1.0

(1:2:0)

(1:0:0)

(0:1:0)

(0:0:1)

0.4

0.8

 \mathcal{Q}

0.2

0.0.1.0

0.2

0.4

8.0

0.6

 $lpha_{e}^{\,\oplus}$

0.4

0.6

New physics – High-energy effects 0.0.1.0For n = 0 $H_{\text{tot}} = H_{\text{std}} + H_{\text{NP}}$ (1:2:0)(similar for n = 1) (1:0:0) $H_{\text{std}} = \frac{1}{2F} U_{\text{PMNS}}^{\dagger} \operatorname{diag}\left(0, \Delta m_{21}^2, \Delta m_{31}^2\right) U_{\text{PMNS}}$ 8.0 0(0:1:0)(0:0:1) $H_{\rm NP} = \sum \left(\frac{E}{\Lambda_n}\right)^n U_n^{\dagger} \operatorname{diag}\left(O_{n,1}, O_{n,2}, O_{n,3}\right) U_n$ 0.4 0.6 2 E This can populate *all* of the triangle – 0.6 0.4► Use current atmospheric bounds on $O_{n,i}$: $O_0 < 10^{-23}$ GeV, $O_1/\Lambda_1 < 10^{-27}$ GeV 0.8 0.2 0.00.6 0.80.20.41.0().()Sample the unknown new mixing angles Argüelles, Katori, Salvadó, PRL 2015 $lpha_{e}^{\,\oplus}$ See also: Rasmusen et al., PRD 2017; MB, Beacom, Winter PRL 2015; MB, Gago, Peña-Garay JCAP 2010; Bazo, MB, Gago, Miranda IJMPA 2009; + many others 37 Mauricio Bustamante (Niels Bohr Institute)

Using unitarity to constrain new physics

H_{tot} = H_{std} + H_{NP}
 ▶ New mixing angles unconstrained

- Use unitarity $(U_{NP}U_{NP}^{\dagger} = 1)$ to bound all possible flavor ratios at Earth
- Can be used as prior in new-physics searches in IceCube

Ahlers, **MB**, Mu, *PRD* 2018 See also: Xu, He, Rodejohann, *JCAP* 2014



Ultra-long-range flavorful interactions

Simple extension of the SM: Promote the global lepton-number symmetries L_e-L_{μ} , L_e-L_{τ} to local symmetries

They introduce new interaction between electrons and v_e and v_{μ} or v_{τ} mediated by a new neutral vector boson (Z'):

Affects oscillations

► If the *Z*′ is *very* light, *many* electrons can contribute

X.-G. He, G.C. Joshi, H. Lew, R. R. Volkas, *PRD* 1991 / R. Foot, X.-G. He, H. Lew, R. R. Volkas, *PRD*A. Joshipura, S. Mohanty, *PLB* 2004 / J. Grifols & E. Massó, *PLB* 2004 / A. Bandyopadhyay, A. Dighe, A. Joshipura, *PRD*M.C. González-García, P..C. de Holanda, E. Massó, R. Zukanovich Funchal, *JCAP* 2007 / A. Samanta, *JCAP*S.-S. Chatterjee, A. Dasgupta, S. Agarwalla, *JHEP*

The new potential sourced by an electron

Under the L_e - L_μ or L_e - L_τ symmetry, an electron sources a Yukawa potential —



A neutrino "feels" all the electrons within the interaction range $\sim (1/m')$

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$$H_{tot} = H_{vac}$$

Standard oscillations: Neutrinos change flavor because this is non-diagonal



$$H_{\text{tot}} = H_{\text{vac}} + \underbrace{V_{e\beta}}_{\cdot}$$

New neutrino-electron interaction: This is diagonal




$$H_{tot} = H_{vac} + V_{e\beta}$$





... We can use high-energy astrophysical neutrinos

Potential:

$$V_{e\beta} \propto \frac{1}{r} e^{-m'_{e\beta}r}$$

























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Quo vadis? Ultra-high-energy neutrinos



Quo vadis? Ultra-high-energy neutrinos



Quo vadis? Ultra-high-energy neutrinos





What are you taking home?

Cosmic neutrinos are the *only* feasible way to probe TeV–PeV physics

► We can extract TeV–PeV v physics *now*, in spite of astrophysical unknowns

▶ New physics is possibly sub-dominant – so we need to be thorough

► Forthcoming improvements: statistics, better reconstruction, higher energies

More information in our Astro2020 white papers:

Fundamental physics with high-energy cosmic neutrinos, 1903.04333

► Astrophysics uniquely enabled by observations of high-energy cosmic neutrinos, 1903.04334



