Exp. Methods in Astroparticle Physics (SS 2020) - Problem sheet 10

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Neutrino Beams

10.1 Neutrino beam production 4 Points

Let us consider that after an energetic proton beam hits onto a carbon target, a $10 \,\text{GeV}$ beam consisting of positive pions and kaons is created. This beam is then brought into a $500 \,\text{m}$ long decay pipe.

- **a)** What is the fraction of pions and kaons (respectively) decaying in the tube? *Note: Look up the meson masses and lifetimes.*
- **b)** Determine the maximum energy of the generated neutrino beam from pion and kaon decay.
- c) Demonstrate that the minimum neutrino energy is vanishing in good approximation.

10.2 Energy profile of neutrino beams 4 Points

A neutrino beam of energy $\langle E_{\nu} \rangle = 20 \,\text{GeV}$ is produced from the decay of charged pions.

a) Write down all decay channels leading to neutrinos.

Estimate:

- **b)** the energy of the pion beam that has generated the neutrino beam (assuming monochromaticity)
- c) the divergence of the neutrino beam at the far detector located at a distance of $100 \,\mathrm{km}$ downstream of the beam pipe
- **d)** the order of magnitude of the neutrino-nucleus cross section. Take into account the different contributions showcased in Figure 1
- e) the mean free path of those neutrinos in water.



Figure 1: Total neutrino and antineutrino per nucleon CC cross sections (for an isoscalar target) divided by neutrino energy and plotted as a function of energy. Also shown are the various contributions from quasi-elastic (QE), resonance production (RES), and deep-inelastic scattering (DIS). *From: Formaggio, Zeller Rev. Mod. Phys.* 84, 1307 (2012)

10.3 Measuring δ_{CP} 2 Points

Neutrino beams offer a very good tool to determine the value of δ_{CP} . Which parameter should be derived in order to determine this value? Briefly describe the strategy used by the two upcoming experiments T2HK and DUNE.