Calculation of the WIMPs-nucleus interaction cross-section

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{g^2}{2M_w^2} \sum_q (\bar{\chi}\gamma^\mu \gamma_5 \chi \bar{\psi}_q \gamma_\mu [V_q + A_q \gamma_5]] \psi_q + (\bar{\chi}\chi S_q \frac{m_q}{M_W} \bar{\psi}_q \psi_q) + (\bar{\chi}\gamma_5 \chi P_q \bar{\psi}_q \gamma_5 \psi_q) + (\bar{\chi}\gamma_5 \chi P_q \bar{\chi}\gamma_5 \psi_q) + (\bar{\chi}\gamma_5 \chi P$$

> Spin-dependent cross-section

$$\sigma_{\rm SD} = \frac{32\mu^2}{\pi} G_F^2 J (J+1) \Lambda^2$$
$$\Lambda \equiv \frac{1}{J} \Big(a_{\rm p} \langle S_{\rm p} \rangle + a_{\rm n} \langle S_{\rm n} \rangle \Big)$$

- G_F is the Fermi constant, J is the spin of the nucleus
- <*S_P*> and <*S_n*> are the average spin contributions from the proton and neutron groups, respectively
- a_P and a_n are the effective couplings to the proton(neutron)

> Spin-independent cross-section

$$\sigma_{\rm SI} = \frac{4}{\pi} \mu^2 \left[Z f_{\rm p} + (A - Z) f_{\rm n} \right]^2$$

- The reduced mass $\mu = \frac{m_N m_{\chi}}{m_N + m_{\chi}}$ where m_N is the nuclear mass
- Z and A-Z are the number of protons and neutrons in the nucleus, respectively
- $f_p(f_n)$ is the effective coupling to the proton(neutron)
- For identical couplings $(f_p = f_n)$

$$\sigma_{\rm SI} = \frac{\mu^2}{\mu_{\rm p}^2} A^2 \, \sigma_{\rm p,SI}$$

Investigation of the Alpha Background in CUORE



- The CUORE experiment searches for neutrinoless double-beta (0vββ) decay of ¹³⁰Te.
- A dominant source of background in the 0vββ decay region of interest (ROI) are degraded alpha particles originating from contaminated surfaces facing the detector.
- Using Geant4 simulations, we study the background alpha spectrum shape to identify background sources and their locations in the CUORE detector.



Addressing backgrounds for CUPID (Joe C.)

CUPID: a $0\nu\beta\beta$ search using cryogenic bolometric technique

- 1. Monte-Carlo studies of 2vββ tagging in full detector geometry
- 2. Fast neutron activation data from TUNL



Scintillating Bolometer









A Heavy Water Detector for Flux Normalization at COHERENT

Karla Tellez-Giron-Flores on behalf of the COHERENT Collaboration



VIRGINIA TECH



 Coherent Elastic Neutrino-Nucleus Scattering -> CEvNS

The Center for

Neutrino Physics

- **COHERENT** is a suite of detectors dedicated to the study of CEvNS, using neutrinos produced by SNS.
- •COHERENT made the **first-ever** observation of CEvNS!
- Largest systematic uncertainty, common to all COHERENT systems: SNS neutrino flux uncertainty.
- **Fix:** a **D**₂**O detector** to measure the flux!
- This poster: details about the detector and expected performance.

Invisible Tri-nucleon decay in ¹³⁰Te with CUORE

- CUORE is a bolometric search for rare decays
- Tri-nucleon decay is one of the most promising processes to look for baryon number violation
 - Supported by multiple BSM models
- Tri-proton decay in ¹³⁰Te can be searched for by searching for decay signatures of daughter nuclei in the CUORE detector volume
 - Delayed coincidence-based analysis





VIRGINIA TECH.

T2K And NO ν Anomalies

- The mass ordering, normal ordering (NO) or inverted ordering (IO), has remained unknown
- We do not know if θ₂₃ is in the Lower Octant (LO), i.e. θ₂₃ < 45° or in the Higher Octant (HO), i.e. θ₂₃ > 45°.
- The value of CP phase is unclear



Figure 1: $\sin^2 \theta_{23}$ vs δ_{CP} with the 68% and 90% confidence level. The cross represents the NO ν A's best-fit value and the square represents the T2K's.

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Halliday-Suranyi Method for the Anharmonic Oscillator

- An anharmonic oscillator with a quartic perturbation is one of the simplest toy models to study the behavior of QFTs. Its perturbation series is known to diverge.
- When it is regulated and split in a specific manner, the series expansion for the energy eigenvalues converges regardless of the size of the coupling.
- It is possible to optimize the convergence by appropriately selecting the value of that regulator.
- The approximation found using the most effective method is better than 0.1% for a 3rd order perturbative calculation, without any small expansion parameter.
- The extension of this method to d+1 dimensions could give new insights into more realistic QFTs.

Upgrades to MiniCHANDLER



- We are doing a second data taking run with an upgraded MiniCHANDLER; a 3D plastic segmented mobile surface-level antineutrino detector.
- New optics and photomultiplier tubes increase the energy resolution by over a factor of 2.
- We have cut the segments in half and added additional lithiated sheets in between half-layers, increasing our neutron capture efficiency and decreasing our neutron capture time.