

1.2

1.4 1.5

E<sub>v</sub><sup>QE</sup> (GeV)

# **Comparing MicroBooNE Low Energy Excess Analyses**

Jingyuan Shi for MicroBooNE collaboration

University of Cambridge; shijy@hep.phy.cam.ac.uk.

2. Micro Booster Neutrino Experiment (MicroBooNE)

► MicroBooNE is designed to investigate the LEE using a Liquid Argon Time Projection Chamber (LArTPC)  $\rightarrow$ ► A LArTPC can easily distinguish photons and electrons as shown in Figure 5.



Figure 1: Black dots are electron-like events measured by MiniBooNE as a function of neutrino energies  $E_{\nu}^{QE}$  and coloured histograms are the predictions. The noticeable discrepancy between data and predictions at the low energy region is called LEE [1].

0.8

- The excess of electron-like events in a  $\nu_{\mu}$  beam was observed by MiniBooNE [1] as shown in Figure 1 and LSND.
  - Possible explanations include: ▷ Neutrino decay.

0.2

0.4

0.6

- $\triangleright$  Sterile neutrino: 3+1 and 3+n.
- Misidentifying photon as electron.
- Equipped with a Cerenkov light detector, it was difficult for MiniBooNE to distinguish photons from electrons.



Figure 2: Event display of an electromagnetic shower from MiniBooNE [2].



## Figure 4: The design of the MicroBooNE LArTPC. Ionization electrons drift to the anode under the electric field $\overleftarrow{E}_{drift}$ [5].



(a)



(b)

Figure 5: (a) is an event display with a photon shower and (b) is an event display with an electron shower [6]. Both events happened in the MicroBooNE detector.

MicroBooNE will also act as a test bed for Deep Underground Neutrino Experiment (DUNE), which employs the similar technology [7].

## 4. MicroBooNE results

#### 3. MicroBooNE analyses comparison

2 5	

MicroBooNE Observed

- MicroBooNE investigates the LEE using four individual methodologies. Two electron-like methodologies are compared here:
  - ▷ "Pion-less" searches for "1eNp" events using the Pandora reconstruction
  - "CCQE" searches for "1e1p" quasi-elastic events using Deep-Learning based methods [4].
- Geometric reconstruction comparison True and reconstructed values agree well for Pion-less and CCQE:

Variable	Difference between	
	true and reconstruction	
Vertex position	1 cm	
Shower angle	7 deg	
Proton angle	10 deg	

Table 1: Ranges that include over 90% of events in truth and reconstruction comparison. A smaller range suggests a better agreement between the truth and the reconstruction.

Energy reconstruction comparison:





Figure 6: (a) is the rate of  $1\gamma 1p$  events, suggesting the excess is not incurred by photons [8]. (b) is the ratio of data compared with predictions in each channel, indicating no excess is observed [9]

 $\blacktriangleright$  The rate of photon events agrees with predictions as shown in Figure 6(a).  $\blacktriangleright$  No excess in the channels we have searched, as shown in Figure 6(b).

## **5.** References

- [1] A. Aguilar-Arevalo et al., "Unexplained Excess of Electron-Like Events From a 1-GeV Neutrino Beam," Phys. Rev. Lett., vol. 102, p. 101802, 2009.
- [2] "UA Physicists Play Key Role in Fermilab Experiment Resolving Long-Standing Neutrino Question." https://news.ua.edu/2007/ 04/ua-physicists-play-key-role-in-fermilab-experiment-resolving-long-standing-neutrino-question/ Accessed 11/03/2022.
- [3] R. Acciarri et al., "The Pandora multi-algorithm approach to automated pattern recognition of cosmic-ray muon and neutrino events in the MicroBooNE detector," Eur. Phys. J. C, vol. 78, no. 1, p. 82, 2018.



Figure 3: (a) Differences between the true proton kinetic energy and the Pion-less reconstruction for 1e1p events. (b) Differences between the true neutrino energy and the Pion-less reconstruction for 1e1p events.

These comparisons add confidence to our results.

- [4] P. Abratenko et al., "Search for an anomalous excess of charged-current quasi-elastic  $\nu_e$  interactions with the MicroBooNE experiment using Deep-Learning-based reconstruction," 10 2021.
- [5] R. Acciarri et al., "Design and Construction of the MicroBooNE Detector," JINST, vol. 12, no. 02, p. P02017, 2017.
- "MicroBooNE Approved Plots." https://microboone-exp.fnal.gov/public/approved\_plots/Event\_Displays.html Accessed 11/03/2022.
- [7] B. Abi et al., "The DUNE Far Detector Interim Design Report Volume 1: Physics, Technology and Strategies," 7 2018.
- [8] P. Abratenko et al., "Search for Neutrino-Induced Neutral Current  $\Delta$  Radiative Decay in MicroBooNE and a First Test of the MiniBooNE Low Energy Excess Under a Single-Photon Hypothesis," 10 2021.
- [9] P. Abratenko et al., "Search for an Excess of Electron Neutrino Interactions in MicroBooNE Using Multiple Final State Topologies," 10 2021.

### Acknowledgments

