# Identification of nuclear effects at low momentum transfer in $\mbox{MINER}\nu\mbox{A}$

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# Evidence for nuclear effects beyond RFG in $\nu A$ scattering is compelling



Task now is to distinguish between available models

Energy transfer  $q_0$  & three-momentum transfer  $q_3$  distinguish processes



- Produce inclusive CC  $u_{\mu}$  double-differential cross section in this space

# Energy transfer $q_0$ & three-momentum transfer $q_3$ distinguish processes



- RPA-like long range effects and 2p2h events live in distinct regions
- ► Use illustrative Nieves et al. calculations PRC 70, 055503 (2004); PRC 83, 045501 (2011)
- ► GENIE implementation by J. Schwehr (CSU), R. Gran (UMD)

To reconstruct  $(q_0, q_3)$ , we start with an inclusive CC  $\nu_{\mu}$  selection

- Fiducial interaction (CH tracker)
- Negative muon matched to MINOS
- ▶ 2 <  $E_{\nu}$  < 6 GeV,  $p_{\mu}$  > 1.5 GeV,  $\theta_{\mu}$  < 20°

127,420 events, 97% purity



To reconstruct  $(q_0, q_3)$ , we use both lepton and hadron kinematics

$$\begin{array}{rcl} q_0 \equiv \nu & = & f(E_{\mathsf{calo}}) \\ E_{\nu} & = & E_{\mu} + q_0 \\ Q^2 & = & 2E_{\nu}(E_{\mu} - p_{\mu}\cos\theta_{\mu}) - M_{\mu}^2 \\ q_3 & = & \sqrt{Q^2 + q_0^2} \end{array}$$



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Calorimetric energy

Reduce cross-section model dependence with hadronic "available energy":

 $E_{\text{avail}} = \sum$ (Proton and  $\pi^{\pm}$  KE) + (Total E of other particles except neutrons)



# We modify GENIE pion production to agree with deuterium and $\text{MINER}\nu\text{A}$ data



- Scale down nonresonant pion production by 75% (1.5 $\sigma$ )
- $\blacktriangleright$  Further scale down pion production with  $W < 1.8 \ {\rm GeV}$  by 10%
- Applied throughout this talk

# Data disagrees with GENIE in reconstructed variables



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# RPA reweight improves agreement at low $q_3$ , $E_{avail}$



# Data has more strength in dip region than provided by 2p2h model



# Data/MC ratio shows discrepancies are in contiguous regions



# Discrepancy reduced with RPA+2p2h model



#### The inferred cross section shows similar features



Your model goes here!

# Cross section calculation has small MC dependence



100% of difference is taken as "Unfolding model" systematic

#### 10–20% systematic error on cross section > statistical error



# Counting multi-proton events



- Proton Bragg peak produces one high-ph hit in MINERvA
- Count hits above 20 MeV near vertex ( $\pm$ 225mm in z,  $\pm$ 83mm transverse)

#### Counting multi-proton events: results



- Overall  $\chi^2$  reduced from 14.0 to 7.3 with RPA+2p2h (6 dof)
- (Systematic error shown on blue curve only)

# Recap



- ▶ CC inclusive cross section in  $(q_3, E_{avail})$  helps distinguish nuclear effects
- Strong evidence for RPA-like suppression at low energy transfer
- ► Excess in dip region above prediction of RPA+2p2h model
- High-energy hits near vertex provide evidence for multi-nucleon knockout

# Backup slides

# More on GENIE pion production modification



- ▶ Use reanalyzed ANL/BNL deuterium data à la Wilkinson et al. PRD 90, 112017
- Scale down nonresonant pion production by 75% (1.5σ): GENIE's NonRESBGvnCC1pi. Keep 50% fractional uncertainty
- See poster 70 from C. Wilkinson, PR and K. McFarland for an updated deuterium fit. Essential conclusions the same
- ▶ Further scale down pion production with W < 1.8 GeV by 10% based on comparison with MINER $\nu$ A data
- ▶ From comparison with MINER $\nu$ A CC coherent  $\pi^+$ , reduce coherent with  $E_{\pi} < 450$  MeV by 50%

# RPA reweight function



• Reweight applied to QE events as a function of  $(q_0, q_3)$ 

# Selection efficiency 1



- GENIE nominal (with pion production reweighted)
- Selection efficiency is high everywhere
- $\blacktriangleright$  Signal def'n: CC  $\nu_{\mu}$  with 2  $< E_{\nu} < 5$  GeV,  $p_{\mu} > 1.5$  GeV and  $\theta_{\mu} < 20^{\circ}$

Selection efficiency 2



Same as previous, but just for the GENIE 2p2h events

# "Available energy" resolution: GENIE nominal



- This plot shows the resolution of E<sub>avail</sub>, in the six q<sub>3</sub> regions we're quoting, for nominal GENIE (plus pion weights).
- ► It's not quite the same as the migration matrix used in the analysis, because events with the wrong q<sub>3</sub> are included here

# "Available energy" resolution: GENIE 2p2h



- Same as previous, but just for the GENIE 2p2h sample
- Resolution is a little worse than nominal

# Selection: GENIE w/o RPA or MEC, data/MC ratio



Data/MC ratio is clearly larger than systematic uncertainties

# Selection: GENIE plus RPA, data/MC ratio



- This plot is the same as the previous, but the RPA effect has been applied to MC QE events as a reweight
- This improves low-energy region

# Selection: GENIE plus RPA+2p2h, data/MC ratio



This plot is the same as previous, with simulated 2p2h events added

# 2p2h prediction by initial state nucleon pair



- ► This plot shows the reconstructed variables with the 2p2h component (×5) split up by whether the initial nucleon pair is nn or np (the pp prediction is ≈ 0).
- Both *nn* and *np* fill in the dip, and are similar up to higher  $q_3$

# Covariance matrix on reconstructed sample



Strong positive correlations between elements

# 2D reconstructed event distribution plots



► These plots show the reconstructed selected event distribution in 2D. The top plot is data, and the bottom row is MC, with nominal (plus pion weights), RPA and RPA+2p2h

# 2D data/MC ratio in reco variables, GENIE w/o RPA or 2p2h



This plot shows the ratio of data to MC in reconstructed variables

# 2D data/MC ratio in reco variables, GENIE plus RPA



Same as previous, but MC now has RPA applied

# 2D data/MC ratio in reco variables, GENIE plus RPA+2p2h



Same as previous, but MC now has RPA applied and 2p2h included

#### Uncertainties on MC prediction



# Could the discrepancy just be an energy scale error?



#### Could the discrepancy just be an energy scale error?



This is the same as the previous, but now as a ratio to the central value MC 39

# Reconstructed W in bins of $Q^2$ , GENIE nominal



$$0.2 < Q^2/\text{GeV} < 0.4$$



- Do the same in  $(Q^2, W)$
- GENIE is nominal with pion weights

• 
$$Q^2 = 2E_{\nu}(E_{\mu} - p_{\mu}\cos\theta_{\mu}) - m_{\mu}^2$$

• 
$$W = M_N^2 + 2M_N\nu - Q^2$$
  
 $(M_N = (M_p + M_n)/2)$ 

# Reconstructed W in bins of $Q^2$ , GENIE plus RPA



 $0.2 < Q^2/\text{GeV} < 0.4$ 

- Do the same in  $(Q^2, W)$
- Each plot shows W in a slice of  $Q^2$
- GENIE has pion weights and RPA

# Reconstructed W in bins of $Q^2$ , GENIE plus RPA+2p2h



 $0.2 < Q^2/{
m GeV} < 0.4$ 



- Do the same in  $(Q^2, W)$
- Each plot shows W in a slice of Q<sup>2</sup>
- GENIE has pion weights and RPA+2p2h

#### Cross section



• MC with QE and  $\Delta$  components

#### Cross section: MC with RPA



This plot is the same as the previous one, but the prediction is now GENIE with pion weights and RPA applied to the QE component

#### Cross section: MC with RPA+2p2h



This plot is the same as the previous one, but the prediction is now GENIE with pion weights, RPA applied to the QE component, and 2p2h

#### Covariance matrix on cross section



Total covariance and correlation matrices on the cross section

# How does this relate to the 2013 MINER $\nu$ A CCQE result?





- ► Select true CCQE events, split them up by the 2013 CCQE true Q<sup>2</sup><sub>QE</sub> bin they come from, and find their true (q<sub>3</sub>, E<sub>avail</sub>). Draw each bin with contours
- Underneath is the data/MC cross section ratio
- Right is plot from CCQE 2013 neutrino paper