





Do neutrinos really travel faster than light?

Do photons travel at the speed of light?

History in the Making?

- 1862: Maxwell found that there should be electromagnetic waves travelling at approximately the (known) speed of light
- 1905: Einstein used universal speed of light as foundation of geometric description of physics
- 2011: OPERA finds 6- σ discrepancy between neutrino speed and that of light

"Life in the fast lane"



LATEST: The US has launched NPP, its \$1.5bn (£0.9bn) next-generation weather and climate satellite

Prosecutors contact Gaddafi son



International prosecutors are in "informal contact" with slain Libya leader Muammar Gaddafi's son, Saif al-Islam, who is wanted for war crimes.

Profile: Saif al-Islam Gaddafi family tree How Gaddafi died Bloody birth of new nation



Commonwealth ends male heir rule

Sons and daughters of future British monarchs will have equal rights to the throne, after the Commonwealth agrees to change centuries-old laws. 🗮 173

Overturning royal rules

Gillard praises succession change



Faster-than-light test runs again

Scientists who announced that sub-atomic particles might be able to travel faster than light are to repeat their experiment in a different way.

Light speed: Flying into fantasy Cern mulls 'crazy' physics find

Measurement of neutrino velocity with the MINOS detectors and NuMI neutrino beam

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MINOS Measurement of ν Speed



Probes of Lorentz Violation in Neutrino Propagation

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Abstract

It has been suggested that the interactions of energetic particles with the foamy structure of space-time thought to be generated by quantum-gravitational (QG) effects might violate Lorentz invariance, so that they do not propagate at a universal speed of light. We consider the limits that may be set on a linear or quadratic violation of Lorentz invariance in the propagation of energetic neutrinos, $v/c = [1 \pm (E/M_{\nu QG1})]$ or $[1 \pm (E/M_{\nu QG2})^2]$, using data from supernova explosions and the OPERA long-baseline neutrino experiment. Using the SN1987a neutrino data from the Kamioka II, IMB and Baksan experiments, we set the limits $M_{\nu QG1} > 2.7(2.5) \times 10^{10}$ GeV for subluminal (superluminal) propagation, respectively, and $M_{\nu OG2} > 4.6(4.1) \times 10^4$ GeV at the 95 % confidence level. A future galactic supernova at a distance of 10 kpc would have sensitivity to $M_{\nu QG1} > 2(4) \times 10^{11}$ GeV for subluminal (superluminal) propagation, respectively, and $M_{\nu QG2} > 2(4) \times 10^5$ GeV. With the current CNGS extraction spill length of 10.5 µs and with standard clock synchronization techniques, the sensitivity of the OPERA experiment would reach $M_{\nu QG1} \sim 7 \times 10^{5}$ GeV ($M_{\nu QG2} \sim$ 8×10^3 GeV) after 5 years of nominal running. If the time structure of the SPS RF bunches within the extracted CNGS spills could be exploited, these figures would be significantly insproved to $M_{\nu QG1} \sim 5 \times 10^7 \text{ GeV}$ ($M_{\nu QG2} \sim 4 \times 10^4 \text{ GeV}$). These results can be improved further if similar time resolution can be achieved with neutrino events occurring in the rock upstream of the OPERA detector: we find potential sensitivities to $M_{\nu QG1} \sim 4 \times 10^8 \text{ GeV}$ and $M_{\nu QG2} \sim 7 \times 10^5$ GeV.

CERN-PH-TH/2008-088

April 2008

2008

hep-pn

arXiv:0805

Constraints from Supernova 1987a

Data from 3 experiments

Kamiokande II E (MeV

20.0

13.5

7.5

9.2

12.8

35.4

21.0

19.8

8.6

13.0

8.9

 σ_E (MeV

2.9

3.2

2.0

2.7

2.9

8.0

4.2

3.2

2.7

2.6

1.9

IMB				
t(s)	E (MeV)	σ_E (MeV)		t (s)
$t \equiv 0.0$	38	7		$t \equiv 0.0$
0.412	37	7		0.107
0.650	28	6		0.303
1.141	39	7		0.324
1.562	36	9		0.507
2.684	36	6		1.541
5.010	19	5		1.728
5.582	22	5		1.915
	Baksan			9.219
t (s)	E (MeV)	σ_E (MeV)		10.433
$t \equiv 0.0$	12.0	2.4		12.439
0.435	17.9	3.6	'	
1.710	23.5	4.7		
7.687	17.6	3.5		
9.099	10.3	4.1		

Arrived hours before γ 's → $\delta v < 10^{-9}$

Rubbia. IE. Harries. Mersegaglia.

Supernova simulation



Constraints from SN1987a

• Fit to possible E-dependent time-lag



Subluminal and superluminal cases

- Linear: $M_{\nu QG1} > 2.7 \times 10^{10} \text{ GeV or } M_{\nu QG1} > 2.5 \times 10^{10} \text{ GeV}$
- Quadratic: $M_{\nu QG2} > 4.6 \times 10^4 \text{ GeV or } M_{\nu QG2} > 4.1 \times 10^4 \text{ GeV}$

IE, Harries, Mersegaglia, Rubbia & Sakharov: arXiv: 0805. 0253

From CERN to the Gran Sasso



The Neutrino Target at CERN



- SPS protons: 400 GeV/c
- Cycle length: 6 s
- Two 10.5 µs extractions (by kicker magnet) separated by 50 ms
- Beam intensity: 2.4 10¹³ proton/extraction
- ~ pure muon neutrino beam (<E> = 17 GeV) travelling through the Earth's crust

Structure of CNGS Beam



Possible Distortion of Spill



Arrival Times for Different Energies

1000-event slices



Rubbia & Sakharov: arXiv: 0805 Mersegaglia

Fits to Simulated OPERA Data

Linear case



Mersegaglia, Rubbia & Sakharov; arXiv: 0805

Fitting Edges of Spill



• Factor ~ 5 less sensitivity to energy dependence

JE, Harries, Mersegaglia, Rubbia & Sakharov: arXiv: 0805. 0253

Using 5ns Bunch Structure



Measurement of the neutrino velocity with the OPERA detector in the CNGS beam

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CERN NEUTRINOS TO GRAN SASSO Underground structures at CERN Access shaft PGCN. SPS/ECA4 Excavated 55m TJ8 Concreted Decay tube (2nd contract) SPS tunnel protons Access galleries LHC/TI8 tunnel Target h chambe Service gallery LEP/LHC tunnel **CNGS** Beam 140m pions kaons Layout at CERN and first muon detecto Connection gallery to TI8/LHC ₂₀₀₃ / 2003 / to Gran Sass CERN-AC-DI-MM

Neutrino Beam Production



Unknown neutrino production point:

$$\Delta t = rac{z}{eta c} - rac{z}{c} = rac{z}{c} \left(rac{1}{eta} - 1
ight) pprox rac{z}{c} rac{1}{2\gamma^2}$$

1)accurate UTC time-stamp of protons 2)relativistic parent mesons (full FLUKA simulation)

TOF_c = assuming *c* from BCT to OPERA (2439280.9 ns) TOF_{true} = accounting for speed of mesons down to decay point $\Delta t = TOF_{true} - TOF_{c}$ $\langle \Delta t \rangle = 1.4 \times 10^{-2} \text{ ns}$

OPERA Beam Structure

Pairs of extractions Negligible cosmic-ray background Fine structure within extractions Clocks drift over time







different timing w.r.t. kicker magnet signal

Timing using the GPS System



Offline coincidence of SPS proton extractions (kicker time-tag) and OPERA events $|T_{OPERA} - (T_{Kicker} + TOFc)| < 20 \ \mu s$

Synchronisation with standard GPS systems ~100 ns (inadequate for our purposes)

Summary of Synchronization Procedure



Principle of OPERA Detector Timing



Use two parallel paths for signal: 1) Measure difference in time delays T_A - T_B 2) Send signal out along one path, back along the other, Measure sum of time delays T_A - T_B **Combination provides both T_A and T_B** (Also used for accelerator timing)

Summary of Timing Uncertainties

Item	Result	Method
CERN UTC distribution (GMT)	10085 ± 2 ns	Portable Cs
		• Two-ways
WFD trigger	30 ± 1 ns	Scope
BTC delay	580 ± 5 ns	Portable Cs
		Dedicated beam experiment
LNGS UTC distribution (fibers)	40996 ± 1 ns	• Two-ways
		Portable Cs
OPERA master clock distribution	4262.9 ± 1 ns	• Two-ways
		Portable Cs
FPGA latency, quantization curve	24.5 ± 1 85	Scope vs DAQ delay scan
		(0.5 ns steps)
Target Tracker delay	50.2 ± 2.3 ns	UV picosecond laser
(Photocathode to FPGA)		
Target Tracker response	9.4 ± 3 ns	UV laser, time walk and photon
Scintillator-Photocathode,		arrival time parametrizations, full
trigger time-walk, quantisation)		
CERN-LNGS intercalibration	2.3 ± 1.7 ns	METAS PolaRx calibration
		PTB direct measurement

LNGS Geodesy

GPS

Prism

Polygonal in

Scheme of

tunnel

station/prisms

positions in the

the tunnel

1.5 m

Station positions

zoom

GPS

200 m

meing

EICA Total Station

Resulting distance: BCT to OPERA reference frame $731278.0 \pm 0.2 \text{ m}$

> Analysis in Collaboration with Swiss and German National Institutes of Metrology, Checked by International Bureau of Standards in Paris, Belgian Royal Institute



Continuous Distance Monitoring



Classes of OPERA Events

1900

1000

Z (cm)

Z (cm)

810



The Main Result



Fits to Different Extractions



Consistent results with leading and trailing edges of both extractions Also consistent over 3 years 2009, 2010, 2011

Distortion of Energy Spectrum?



Events seen up to very high energies >> $<E_{\nu}> = 28.1$ GeV No apparent distortion of kinematic observables (relevant to possibility of Čerenkov radiation)

Special and General Relativity

- Sagnac effect (rotation of Earth during travel): $\delta t \simeq \frac{\vec{\omega} \cdot (\vec{r_1} \times \vec{\Delta r})}{c^2} \mathbf{5} \mathbf{t} = +2.16 \text{ ns}$
- Tends to increase travel time
- Smaller than total error taken into account
- Schwartzschild effects ~ $\epsilon = \frac{r_s}{L} = \frac{2GM_e}{Lc^2} \simeq 1.2 \times 10^{-8}$ Neutrinos follow geodesic, re-evaluate Euclidean distance

 $\delta_e^{(1)} \simeq \delta_e^{(2)} = -1.22 \times 10^{-9} \quad , \quad \delta_e^{(2)} - \delta_e^{(1)} \approx \times 10^{-12}$

• Non-inertial effects, redshifts of clocks, dipole field, frame-dragging all negligible

KIFITSIS & NITTI: OPERA public note 1

Comparison of Neutrino Constraints







Space-Time Foam?



Nature of Quantum Gravity Vacuum

- Expect quantum fluctuations in fabric of space-time
- In natural Planckian units: $\Delta E, \Delta x, \Delta t, \Delta \chi \sim 1$
- Fluctuations in energy, space, time, topology of order unity
- "Space-time foam" J.A.Wheeler
- Induce Lorentz violation?



Probes of Lorentz Violation for Photons

• Time delay from distant object:

 $\Delta t \sim \xi \frac{E}{E_{\rm OG}} \frac{L}{c}$ Amelino-Camelia, JE, Mavromatos, Nanopoulos + Sarkar: 1997

- Compare arrivals of photons of different energies from astrophysical source with small intrinsic δ t
- Gamma-Ray Bursters, pulsars, active galaxies, ...

• Typical sensitivities:

Source	Distance	E	Δt	Sensitivity to M
GRB 920229 a	$3000 { m Mpc} (?)$	200 keV	$10^{-2} { m s}$	$0.6 imes 10^{16} { m ~GeV} (?)$
GRB 980425 a	$40 { m Mpc}$	$1.8 \mathrm{MeV}$	10^{-3} s (?)	$0.7 imes 10^{16} { m ~GeV} (?)$
GRB 920925 c a	$40 { m Mpc} (?)$	$200~{\rm TeV}~(?)$	$200 \mathrm{~s}$	$0.4 imes 10^{19} { m ~GeV}$ (?)
Mrk 421 b	$100 { m Mpc}$	$2 { m TeV}$	280 s	$> 7 imes 10^{16}~{ m GeV}$
Crab pulsar c	2.2 kpc	$2 {\rm GeV}$	$0.35 \mathrm{\ ms}$	$> 1.3 \times 10^{15} { m ~GeV}$
GRB 990123	$5000 { m ~Mpc}$	$4 { m MeV}$	1 s (?)	$2\times 10^{15}~{\rm GeV}~(?)$

Robust Analysis of GRB Data

• Corrected treatment of redshift



• Improved lower limit: $M > 1.4 \times 10^{16} \text{ GeV}$

GRB	z	z Refs.	$\Delta t_{\rm total}^{(O_{\rm hoga} - D_{\rm low})}(s)$
		BATSE (64 ms)	
970508	0.835	[24]	-0.059 ± 0.044
971214	3.418	[25]	-0.098 ± 0.045
980329	3.9	[23]	-0.084 ± 0.036
980703	0.966	[26]	0.138 ± 0.053
990123	1.600	[27]	-0.155 ± 0.041
990308	1.2	[28]	$0.0188 {\pm} 0.0138$
990510	1.619	[29]	-0.0017 ± 0.0143
991216	1.020	[30]	-0.0091 ± 0.0012
990506	1.3060	[31]	-0.0503 ± 0.0075
		HETE (164 ms)	
010921	0.45	[32]	0.0357 ± 0.0585
020124	3.198	[33]	-0.0046 ± 0.0455
020903	0.25	[34]	-0.0150 ± 0.0386
020813	1.25	[35]	-0.1602 ± 0.0794
020819	0.41	[36]	0.222 ± 0.145
021004	2.33	[37]	-0.0402 ± 0.1109
021211	1.01	[23]	-0.0202 ± 0.0639
030226	1.99	[23]	-0.0227 ± 0.0568
030323	3.372	[38]	-0.0148 ± 0.0570
030328	1.52	[23]	$0.00825 {\pm} 0.07661$
030329	0.168	[39, 23]	0.0037 ± 0.0219
030429	2.66	[40]	-0.0123 ± 0.0965
040924	0.859	[23]	-0.2516 ± 0.0801
041006	0.716	[23]	0.1179 ± 0.1228
050408	1.2357	[23]	-0.0562 ± 0.0989
		SWIFT (64 ms)	
050319	3.24	[41]	$0.0054 {\pm} 0.0109$
050401	2.9	[23]	-0.0135 ± 0.0285
050416	0.653	[23]	-0.1491 ± 0.1075
050505	4.3	[23]	-0.0012 ± 0.0561
050525	0.606	[23, 42]	$0.1261 {\pm} 0.0159$
050603	2.821	[23]	-0.0032 ± 0.0047
050724	0.258	[43]	0.131 ± 0.1681
050730	3.968	[44]	0.094 ± 0.1361
050820	2.612	[23]	0.033 ± 0.0569
050904	6.29	[45]	0.004 ± 0.0852

Time Delay from Markarian 501?

- Arrival time delay of ~ 4 minutes reported for photons in highest-energy bin
- Sensitive to M_{QG1} ~ 10¹⁶ GeV



Results for AGN Markarian 501

- Significance of time delay < 95%
- Linear dispersion: (E/M_{QG1})
 - One- σ range: $M_{QG1} = (0.34 \text{ to } 0.78) \times 10^{18} \text{ GeV}$
 - -95% CL lower limit: $M_{QG1} > 0.26 \times 10^{18}$ GeV
- Quadratic dispersion: $(E/M_{QG2})^2$
 - One- σ range: $M_{QG2} = (0.47 \text{ to } 1.1) \times 10^{11} \text{ GeV}$
 - -95% CL lower limit: $M_{QG2} > 0.27 \times 10^{11}$ GeV
- Cannot exclude initial time delay at source

MAGIC Collaboration + JE, Mavromatos, Nanopoulos, Sakharov, Sarkisyan: arXiv:0708:2889 [astro-ph]

Analysis of AGN PKS 2155-304

• Observation by HESS of multiple flaring of AGN at larger redshift with more statistics



Analysis of AGN PKS 2155-304

- Comparison between HESS data in different energy bins [cm⁻²s⁻¹] 200-800 GeV[cm⁻²s⁻¹] 0.2 0.15 >800 GeV0.1 60 t [min]
- No significant differences in arrival times
- Lower limit on $m_{OG} > 2.1 \times 10^{18} \text{ GeV}$

HESS Collaboration: arXiv:1101:33650 [astro-ph]

Fermi Analysis of GRB 090510

- Redshift $z = 0.903 \pm 0.003$
- γ energies up to 31 GeV
- No hint of energydependent time delay
- Lower limit on m_{QG} depends sensitively on assumptions

boration: arXiv:0908.



Comparison of Electron Constraints



Lifshitz-Type Field Theory

- Time and space dimensions scale differently (Interesting for quantum gravity, mass generation)
- Anisotropy parameter *z*
- Model for neutrino velocity: [t] = -z = -3, [x] = -1
- Action: $S_{4ferm} = \int dt d\vec{x} \left(\overline{\psi} i \gamma_0 \dot{\psi} \overline{\psi} (M^2 \Delta) (i \vec{\partial} \cdot \vec{\gamma}) \psi + g(\overline{\psi} \psi)^2 \right)_{\Delta} \equiv -\partial_i \partial^i = \vec{\partial} \cdot \vec{\partial}_i$
- Dispersion relation: $\tilde{\omega}^2 = \mu_{dyn}^2 + p^2 + \frac{2}{M^2}p^4 + \frac{p^6}{M^4}$
- Group velocity: $v_g \frac{\partial \tilde{\omega}}{\partial p} > c$
- Superluminal propagation: $\delta v \sim E^2$

Lorentz-Violating Gauge Theory

- Background vector or axial U(1) gauge field:
- $\mathcal{L}_{V,A} = -\frac{1}{4}G_{\mu\nu}\left(1 \frac{\Delta}{M^2}\right)G^{\mu\nu} + \overline{\psi}\left(i \ \partial g_{V,A} \ \not B\Gamma\underline{\tau}\right)\psi m\overline{\psi}\psi$ • Dispersion relation:

$$\left(1 - \frac{\alpha_{V,A}}{\pi} [2\ln 2 - 1]\right)^2 \omega^2 = \left(1 - \frac{\alpha_{V,A}}{\pi} [25/9 - (10/3)\ln 2]\right)^2 p^2 + m^2$$

• Group velocity:

$$v_g = 1 - \frac{\alpha_{V,A}}{\pi} \left(\frac{34}{9} - \frac{16}{3} \ln 2 \right) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_{V,A}^2) < 1$$

• Subluminal propagation

(so far ...)

Background Gauge Field

- Add background gauge field:
- $\mathcal{L}_{\text{bckgrd}} = \overline{\psi} \left(i \ \partial g_{V,A} \ B^{(0)} \Gamma \underline{\tau} \right) \psi m \overline{\psi} \psi$ • Disersion relations: $\omega_{\nu} = \sqrt{(\vec{p} - g_{V,A} \vec{B})^2 + m^2} + g_{V,A} B_0$
 - $(\nu \neq \text{anti-}\nu)$ $\omega_{\overline{\nu}} = \sqrt{(\vec{p} \mp g_{V,A}\vec{B})^2 + m^2} \pm g_{V,A}B_0$
- Subluminal group V: $v_g = \frac{\partial \omega_v}{\partial p} = 1 \frac{1}{2p^2} (g_{V,A}^2 B^2 \sin^2 \vartheta + m^2) + \cdots$
- Include anisotropic background: $g_{0i} = \vec{V_i}$, i = 1, 2, 3• Group velocity may be super- or subluminal. $v_g = 1 - V \cos\varphi - \frac{g_{V,A}^2 B^2 \sin^2 \vartheta + m^2}{2 2} + O(V^2)$

Dependent on direction!

Exotic Possibilities

- Neutrino speed \neq antineutrino speed?
- Speed depends on direction?
- Possibility of diurnal variation as Earth rotates
- If no diurnal variation, V aligned with Earth's rotation axis
- In this case:
 - Neutrino going North (MINOS) subluminal
 - Null effect for neutrinos travelling East-West (T2K)

Cerenkov Radiation by Neutrinos

- $\nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \begin{cases} \nu_{\mu} + \gamma & \text{Possible if speed} > \text{light} \\ \nu_{\mu} + \nu_{e} + \overline{\nu}_{e} \\ \nu_{\mu} + e^{+} + e^{-} \text{ ninant process Bremsstrahlung of } e^{+}e^{-} \end{cases}$
- Energy loss rate: $\frac{dE}{dr} = -k \frac{G_F^2}{192\pi^3} E^6 \delta^3$: $k = \frac{25}{448}$
- Difference between initial/final energies, terminal energy E_T : $E^{-5} - E_0^{-5} = 5k\delta^3 \frac{G_F^2}{102\pi^3} L \equiv E_T^{-5}$
- Sensitive to $\delta = 2 \delta v$ and its E dependence
- Does not apply to models with distorted metrics
- Applied to IceCube data suggests $\delta < 1.7 \times 10^{-11}$

Revisiting Lorentz Violation with SN

11'5

- 2D SN simulations suggest 'ringing' on millisec scale
- If seen can be used to bound Lorentz violation
 - Analyze emissions using Wavelets
- Smear with $\delta v(E)$
- Potential for strong bound on $\delta v(E)$

E, Janka, Mavromatos, Sakharov & Sarkisyan: arXiv: 1109.6562



Revisiting Lorentz Violation with SN 11'5 • Short time-scale power disappears for time delay $\tau > 0.04 \, (s/MeV)$ Amount of signal above 95% level: linear case, scales 2 - 3 ms • Possible constraints $M_{\nu \rm LV1} > 2.68 \, [2.61] \times 10^{13} \, {\rm GeV}$ 25 in linear case $M_{\nu LV2} > 0.97 [0.96] \times 10^6 \text{ GeV}$

-0.04

-0.02

0.02

0.06

τ (s/MeV)

in quadratic case

- For subluminal (superluminal) propagation
- Detectable in IceCube?

Constraints from ICARUS



Cohen & Glashow: arXiv: 1109.6562

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Gravitational Čerenkov Radiation

- Possible if speed > gravity waves, assumed = c
- Gravitational Čerenkov radiation: with OPERA $\delta v \sim 2.5 \times 10^{-5}$, maximum propagation time: $t_{max} \sim \frac{2 \times 10^8}{[E_\nu (\text{GeV})]^3}$ years
- Excludes GZK neutrinos ($E_{\Box} \sim 10^{10}$ GeV, t ~ 10^8 y) by many orders of magnitude
- IceCube sees no neutrinos with $E_{\Box} > 2 \times 10^{6}$ GeV: would have $t_{max} < 10^{-4}$ s

The Story so far

- No technical error found
- No theoretical error found
- Difficult to reconcile with other constraints (SN1987a, Cohen-Glashow radiation, ...)
- No direct contradiction with other experiments
- OPERA carrying out test with separated bunches
- Other experiments are preparing to check
- This is how science should be done (technical scrutiny, verification, tests, theory)

"Scientists do not seek to impose their needs and wants on Nature, but instead humbly interrogate Nature and take seriously what they find. We understand human imperfection. We insist on independent, and to the extent possible, quantitative verification of proposed tenets of belief. We are constantly prodding, challenging, seeking contradictions or small persistent residual errors, proposing alternative explanations, encouraging heresy." – Carl Sagan, cosmologist