Trigger studies and measurements of gas mixtures for the OPERA experiment

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# Trigger studies and measurements of gas mixtures for the OPERA experiment

Mădălina Chera and Alexandros Theodoridis

**DESY Summer School 2009** 

10 September 2009

# Topics'overview



Trigger studies and measurements of gas mixtures for the OPERA experiment

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#### Overview

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#### OPERA

Noise studie

Event studie

Triggerless

Learning

Neutrino Physics

OPERA Experiment

Noise and Event Studies

Triggerless Events

## Neutrino Physics at OPERA



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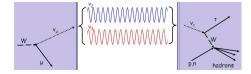
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Neutrino Oscillations





- ullet Experimental evidence for u oscillations
- OPERA: direct detection of  $\nu_u \leftrightarrow \nu_\tau$  oscillation
- Importance of experimental observation of  $\nu_{\mu} \leftrightarrow \nu_{ au}$ 
  - $\Rightarrow$  experimental evidence and explanation of atmospheric  $\nu_{\mu}$  disappearance

# The OPERA Experiment



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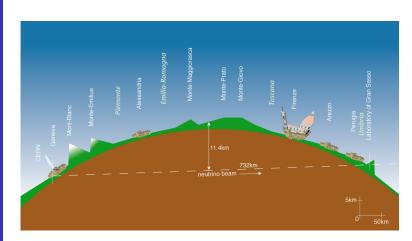
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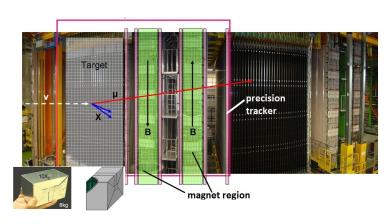
$$\nu_{\tau} + N \longrightarrow \tau^{-} + X$$

# The OPERA Experiment



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Detector characteristics

# The Hamburg Experimental Setup



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stop signal T\_Delay

pre-amp

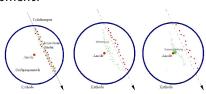
discriminator YES

TDC

drift time!

$$t_{Drift} = t_{Delay} - t_{TDC}$$

- Always room for development!
- Gas mixtures
- Electronics
- Trigger techniques



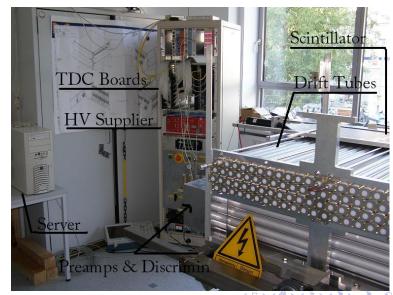
# The Hamburg Experimental Setup



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## Noise studies



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\_earning experience • Purpose of study: the device is noisy!

Main source: the electronics

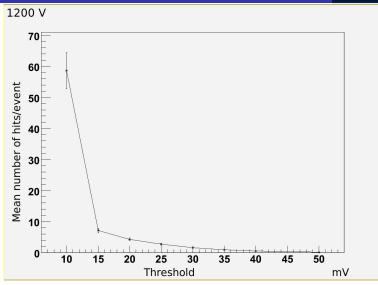
- ➤ Events with too few number of drift tubes activated (hits)
- Events with too many tubes activated
- Investigation technique
- Through the OTB software the OTB send test pulses
- Record Data
  - → for a range of thresholds 10-50mV
  - **⇒** for a range of High Voltage 0–2600V

## Noise studies: results



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Noise studies

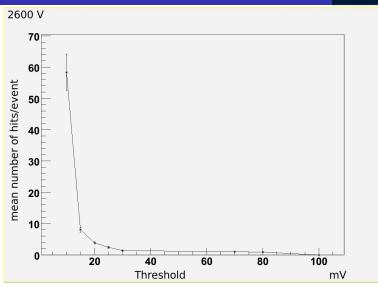


## Noise studies: results



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Noise studies



## **Event studies**



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Event studies

Triggerl events

> earning experience

 Strong correlation between the number of detected events and high voltage

- Very important for the calibration of the setup
- Examination of Cosmic Event in perspective of the threshold and the voltage
  - **▶** Large statistics of cosmic events
  - Examination of mean number of hits per event
  - ⇒ 50 mV, 75 mV and 100 mV thresholds
  - **→** 2000-2630V high voltage

#### Event studies: results



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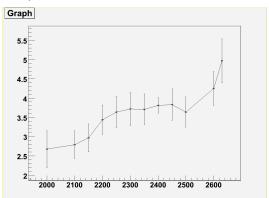
Event studies

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#### Masking the data

Clear picture of the detection behaviour of the test setup



## Trigger studies



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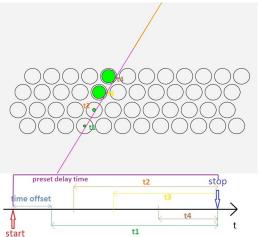
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Track reconstruction



## Trigger studies



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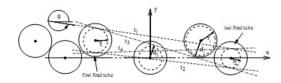
\_earning experienc Track parameters

 $\Rightarrow \alpha =$ the fit angle

p=starting position

• Fit quality control:

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{1}{\sigma_i^2} (d_{m,i} - d_{t,i})^2$$



## Trigger studies



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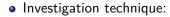
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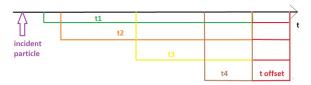
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Triggerless events

\_earning experience • Purpose of study: improvement of the data



Simulation of triggerless events



- Track reconstruction with triggerless events
- Comparison with original data

## Trigger studies: results

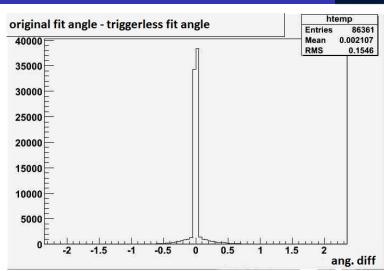


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Triggerless

events





## Trigger studies: results

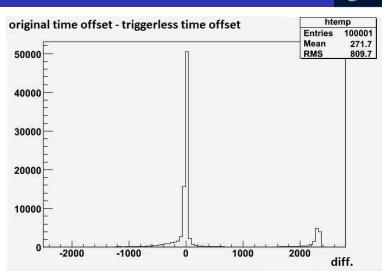


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## Trigger studies: results



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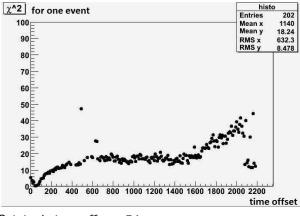
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- Original time offset=54;
- Triggerless time offset=40;
- Original fit angle=3.25717;
- Triggerless fit angle= 3.25784;



#### What have we learned...



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Learning experience

On a professional level

- The importance of studying neutrinos
- The true challenges of experimental neutrino physics
- Valuable knowledge regarding research techniques and tools
- On a personal level
  - We learned what the daily work in a research group is like

## Acknowledgements



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