

Analysis and interactive visualization of neutrino event topologies registered in the OPERA experiment.

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Abstract/brief description:

CERN **Open Data Portal** [1] is the access point to a growing range of data produced through the research performed at CERN. It disseminates the preserved output from various research activities and includes accompanying software and documentation needed to understand and analyze the data. In the last two years the portal hosted a first non-LHC experiment open data issued by the **OPERA** Collaboration [2]. The OPERA experiment has discovered the transmutation of muon neutrinos into tau neutrinos along their flight from CERN to the INFN Gran Sasso laboratory (Italy) where they were caught, by observing ten tau neutrino candidates. While searching for tau neutrinos, the Collaboration has also deeply studied the interactions of muon and electron neutrinos, since the OPERA hybrid apparatus [3], consisted of an emulsion/lead target with a big (~1.2 kt) mass and a micrometric resolution, complemented by electronic detectors, was unique in identifying all three types of neutrinos. The corresponding data samples, published on the Open Data Portal, were extracted from the official OPERA data repository and supplemented with detailed descriptions. All the data samples contain two separate data sets, one for the electronic detectors and the other for the emulsion films. Each data set is compressed into a **.zip** archive containing text **.csv** (comma separated values) files with information of registered neutrino events. The events can be interactively visualized on the portal using an embedded browser based event display. Any data files or the whole data sets can also be freely downloaded by users for their study and analysis.

In this project students can learn how the OPERA **.csv** files from the Open Data Portal can be read and how the neutrino event topology features can be analyzed with help of programs written in the **C++** language [4]. Results of the analysis (such as histograms, etc.) could be interactively displayed in the **ROOT** data analysis framework [5] and/or saved to image files. Also it will be shown how to develop elements of 2D or 3D event display in a web browser using the **HTML** [6] and the **CSS** [7] languages as well as the **JavaScript** [8] graphics libraries (such as **D3.js** [9] and **three.js** [10]) in order to visualize typical topologies of neutrino interaction events.

Tasks:

- 1) Download the OPERA emulsion dataset for the neutrino-induced charmed hadron production studies from the Open Data Portal. Develop a C++ program for analysis of the dataset. Read the positions of the primary and the secondary interaction vertices as well as the parameters of the charm decay daughter particle tracks. Calculate and save to histograms **a)** the flight lengths of charmed hadrons and **b)** the impact parameters of the daughter particle tracks with respect to the primary neutrino interaction vertices. Save the histograms to a ROOT or to an image file. Compare the results with the ones published in the corresponding OPERA paper.

- 2) Download the OPERA emulsion dataset for the charged hadron multiplicity studies from the Open Data Portal. Develop a C++ program for analysis of the dataset. Read the positions of the primary neutrino-lead interaction vertices as well as the parameters of the secondary charged particle tracks. Find and save to histograms **a)** the multiplicities of all produced charged particles and **b)** the angles of the muon tracks. Save the histograms to a ROOT or to an image file. Compare the results with the ones published in the corresponding OPERA paper.
- 3) Download the OPERA electronic detectors dataset for the tau neutrino appearance studies from the Open Data Portal. Develop a browser based 2D event display to view electronic detector hits registered in XZ and YZ projections of the 10 tau neutrino candidate events using the D3.js graphics library.
- 4) Download the OPERA emulsion dataset for the tau neutrino appearance studies from the Open Data Portal. Develop a browser based 3D event display to view tracks and vertices reconstructed in nuclear emulsions of the 10 tau neutrino candidate events using the three.js graphics library.

Required skills:

Basic knowledge of **Linux**, **C++**, **HTML**, and **JavaScript**.

A personal laptop or a working computer/remote server with a Linux system installed.

English or Russian language for communication.

Acquired skills:

Acquaintance with the CERN Open Data Portal;

Ability to work with the CERN ROOT data analysis framework and to write C++ programs using ROOT libraries;

Experience in interactive visualization of experimental data in a web browser with help of advanced JavaScript graphics libraries (D3.js and three.js).

References and recommended reading:

[1] About the CERN Open Data Portal (<http://opendata.cern.ch/docs/about>);

[2] About the OPERA neutrino oscillation experiment (<http://operaweb.lngs.infn.it/spip.php?rubrique1>);

[3] The OPERA experiment in the CERN to Gran Sasso neutrino beam (<https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1748-0221/4/04/P04018/pdf>);

[4] C++ language tutorial (<https://www.cplusplus.com/files/tutorial.pdf>);

[5] CERN ROOT online manual (<https://root.cern>);

[6] HTML tutorial (<https://www.w3schools.com/html/>);

[7] CSS tutorial (<https://www.w3schools.com/css/>);

[8] JavaScript guide (<https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/JavaScript/Guide>);

[9] D3.js graphics library: (<https://d3js.org/>);

[10] three.js graphics library: (<https://threejs.org/>).