

CSU PHYSICS COLLOQUIUM

"Detecting the Tiny Thump of the Neutrino" Kate Scholberg Duke University

Monday April 29th, 2019 at 4:00 pm 120 Engineering (Hammond Auditorium)

Abstract

Neutrinos interact only rarely with matter. Coherent elastic neutrinonucleus scattering (CEvNS) was first predicted in 1974; it's a process in which a neutrino scatters off an entire nucleus. By neutrino standards, CEvNS occurs frequently, but it is tremendously challenging to see. The only way to observe it is to detect the minuscule thump of the nuclear recoil. CEvNS was measured for the first time by the COHERENT collaboration using the unique, high-quality source of neutrinos from the Spallation Neutron Source (SNS) at Oak Ridge National Laboratory. This talk will describe COHERENT's recent measurement of CEvNS, the status and plans of COHERENT's suite of detectors at the SNS, and the physics we will learn from the measurements.

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