Certificate

This is to certify that the thesis titled A study of Quantum Mechanical aspects in Neutrino Oscillations, submitted by Khushboo Dixit (P15PH003) to the Indian Institute of Technology Jodhpur for the award of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, is a bonafide record of the research work done by her under my supervision. To the best of my knowledge, the contents of this report, in full or in parts, have not been submitted to any other Institute or University for the award of any degree or diploma.

Aralou

Dr. Ashutosh Kumar Alok Ph.D.Thesis Supervisor

Declaration

I hereby declare that the work presented in this thesis entitled *A study of Quantum Mechanical aspects in Neutrino Oscillations* submitted to the Indian Institute of Technology Jodhpur in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, is a bonafide record of the research work carried out under the supervision of Dr. Ashutosh Kumar Alok. The contents of this thesis in full or in parts, have not been submitted to, and will not be submitted by me to, any other Institute or University in India or abroad for the award of any degree or diploma.

Knuchboodivert

Khushboo Dixit P15PH003

List of articles

This thesis is based on the following articles:

- 1. Khushboo Dixit, Javid Naikoo, Subhashish Banerjee, Ashutosh Kumar Alok, "Quantum correlations and the neutrino mass degeneracy problem", Eur. Phys. J. C, 78 914 (2018).
- 2. Khushboo Dixit, Javid Naikoo, Subhashish Banerjee, Ashutosh Kumar Alok, "Study of coherence and mixedness in meson and neutrino systems", Eur. Phys. J. C **79** 96 (2019).
- 3. Khushboo Dixit, Ashutosh Kumar Alok, "New physics effects on quantum coherence in neutrino oscillations", Eur. Phys. J. Plus **136** 334 (2021).
- 4. Khushboo Dixit, Ashutosh Kumar Alok, "Effects of Nonstandard Interactions on Coherence in Neutrino Oscillations", Springer Proc. Phys. 248 (2020), 343-347.
- 5. Khushboo Dixit, Ashutosh Kumar Alok, Subhashish Banerjee, Dinesh Kumar, "Geometric phase and neutrino mass hierarchy problem", J. Phys. G 45 (2018) no.8, 085002.
- Khushboo Dixit, Javid Naikoo, Banibrata Mukhopadhyay, Subhashish Banerjee, "Quantum correlations in neutrino oscillations in curved spacetime", Phys. Rev. D 100, 055021 (2019).

Acknowledgment

First and foremost, I wish to extend my deepest gratitude to my supervisor, Prof. Ashutosh Kumar Alok. Without his continual guidance and encouragement, this work could not have been possible. He has been so supportive and friendly through out the time which led me to work with a peaceful mind and helped me to originate interesting research ideas to work on.

I am also grateful to Prof. Subhashish Banerjee for helpful discussions throughout the time. I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to Prof. R. Srikanth, with whom I had regular discussions on Quantum Information Theoretical aspects which were of tremendous help for me to generate some interesting results. Also, I enjoyed having conversations with him in several other non-physics fields. I am also extremely grateful to Prof. Banibrata Mukhopadhyay, Prof. Dinesh Kumar and Prof. Reetanjali Moharana for their valuable suggestions and fruitful discussions to generated interesting outputs. I am also thankful to Prof. S. Uma Sankar and Prof. Amol Dighe for their valuable insights in neutrino physics and to have delightful discussions.

I would like to convey my gratitude to my colleagues Javid Naikoo, Jyoti Saini, Priya Malpani, Sanjoy Chatterjee. They have been a wonderful and joyous company during my stay at IIT Jodhpur. I have learned so much from these people in one way or the other. Specially, I would like to thank Javid Naikoo to keep me motivated and for helping me in difficult situations through out this journey. His determination and passion for physics has always inspired me. I am also grateful to have amazing company of my HEP-Astro group members Trisha Sarkar, Vivek Baruah Thapa, Bhavna Yadav, Arindam Mandal, Neetu Raj, Juhi Vardani, Bhanu Pant, Sunanda and Shalu Yadav. I enjoyed having discussions with them on a variety of topics, from subatomic particles to compact objects like neutron stars. Thank you guys for making such a cheerful and exciting environment. I am also thankful to the office staff Dhani Ram, Narendra Singh, Suresh Gharu and Ashwin for their tremendous help during this period.

Deep down, I am indebted to my parents, Mr. Pramod Kumar & Mrs. Ranjana, and my siblings Divya Dixit and Ishan Dixit for constant support, love and care through out the time. Without the support and encouragement that I received from them, it would not have been possible for me to achieve this milestone in my life.

Khushboo Dixit

Acronyms

CP	Charge conjugation - Parity
NuMI	Neutrinos at the Main Injector
MINER <i>v</i> A	Main Injector Experiment for V-A
LBL	Long Baseline
NOνA	NuMI Off-Axis ν_e Appearance
T2K	Tokai-to-Kamioka
DUNE	Deep Underground Neutrino Experiment
PMNS	Pontecorvo-Maki-Nakagawa-Sakata
SM	Standard Model
NSI	Nonstandard Interaction
NC	Neutral Current
CC	Charged Current
NO	Normal Ordering
ΙΟ	Inverted Ordering
LGI	Leggett-Garg Inequality
KamLAND	Kamioka Liquid Scintillator Antineutrino Detector
GP	Geometric Phase
AA	Aharonov and Anandan
RENO	Reactor Experiment for Neutrino Oscillation
СРТ	Charge conjugation - Parity - Time reversal
EPR	Einstein - Podolsky - Rosen
CHSH	John Clauser, Michael Horne, Abner Shimony, Richard Holt

NIM	Noninvasive measurement
LOCC	Local Operations and Classical Communication
BNL	Brookhaven National Laboratory
DONUT	Direct observation of the nu tau
MSW	Mikheyev-Smirnov-Wolfenstein
SSM	Standard Solar Model
LSND	Liquid Scintillator Neutrino Detector
MiniBooNE	Mini Booster Neutrino Experiment

List of Figures

2.1	Hierarchy of the strength of various nonclassicality measures has been described here. It can be seen that nonlocality is the subset of all the classes defined here which means a system showing nonlocality will definitely carry the quantum cor- relations defined by the steering, entanglement and quantum discord. Hence, non- locality is the strongest measure of nonclassical features so far. In this figure, the darker is the blue color, the stronger is the measure	12
4.1	DUNE: The maximum of various quantum correlations such as Flavour entropy (First row), Geometric entanglement (second row), Mermin parameters (M_1, M_2) (third row) and Svetlichny parameter (σ) (fourth row) depicted with respect to the CP violating phase δ for DUNE experiment. The left and right panels pertain to the neutrino and antineutrino case, respectively. Solid(blue) and dashed(red) curves correspond to the positive and negative signs of Δm_{31}^2 , respectively. The mixing angles and the squared mass differences used are $\theta_{12} = 33.48^\circ$, $\theta_{23} = 42.3^\circ$, $\theta_{13} = 8.5^\circ$, $\Delta m_{21}^2 = 7.5 \times 10^{-5} eV^2$, $\Delta m_{32}^2 \approx \Delta m_{31}^2 = 2.457 \times 10^{-3} eV^2$. The energy range used is $E = 1 - 10$ GeV and the baseline used is 1300 km. The neutrinos pass through a matter density of $2.8gm/cc$.	36
4.2	NO ν A: Quantum correlations such as Flavour entropy (first), Geometric entangle- ment (second), Mermin parameter (M_1, M_2) (third) and Sevtlichny parameter (σ) (fourth) parameters, plotted with respect to the <i>CP</i> violating phase δ for NO ν A experiment for the case of neutrinos. The energy is varied between $1.5 - 4$ GeV and the baseline is taken as 810 km. The various mixing angles and squared mass differences used are the same as for Fig. 4.1	37
4.3	T2K: Showing Flavour entropy (first), Geometric entanglement (second), Mermin parameter (M_1, M_2) (third) and Sevtlichny parameter (σ) (fourth) parameters, as function of the <i>CP</i> violating phase δ . The energy is taken between $0.1 - 1$ GeV and the baseline is 295 km.	38
5.1	<i>Neutrino system</i> (LSND decoherence model): Coherence parameter $\chi(\rho)$ (left), mixedness parameter $\eta(\rho)$ (middle) and complementarity parameter $\beta(\rho)$ (right), plotted as a function of neutrino energy E_{ν} (MeV) with CP violating phase $\delta = 0$. The maximum value of decoherence parameter, defined in Eq. (3.24), corresponds approximately to 30 MeV (vertical dashed line). At this energy the coherence and the mixedness parameter attain their minimum and maximum values, respectively.	43
5.2	Coherence parameter χ as defined in Eq. (5.2), for the state in Eq. (5.5), is plotted with respect to the CP violating phase δ and the energy E_{ν} of the neutrino. The blue and red surfaces correspond to the cases with and without decoherence parameter, respectively. The minimum of the coherence parameter occurs for $E_{\nu} \approx 30 \text{ MeV}$ and $\delta = \pi$.	43

- 6.1 The parameter χ plotted with respect to E and δ in the context of DUNE (L = 1300km & E = 1 10GeV) experiment. (a) The upper and lower panels correspond to normal and inverted mass ordering, respectively. Further, the figures in the left most panel represent the effect of SM interaction whereas the middle and right panel of figures (a) show the effects of NSI for LMA-Light and LMA-Dark solutions, respectively. The $\epsilon_{\alpha\beta}$ parameters associated with LMA-Light and LMA-Dark solutions are taken from the first analysis given ref. [68]. (b) The upper and lower panels correspond to the LMA-Light+NO and LMA-Dark+IO combinations, respectively. The $\epsilon_{\alpha\beta}$ parameters are taken from the second analysis given in ref. [69]. Minimum value (zero) of χ parameter represents the complete loss of coherence whereas the maximally coherent state is represented by $\chi = 2$
- 6.2 In the left panel probabilities $P_{\nu_{\mu} \to \nu_{\mu}}$ (blue), $P_{\nu_{\mu} \to \nu_{e}}$ (red) and $P_{\nu_{\mu} \to \nu_{\tau}}$ (green) are plotted with respect to E in the context of DUNE (L = 1300 km) experiment for $\delta = \pi/2$ where solid and dashed lines correspond to the SM and NSI interaction, respectively. The upper and lower panels correspond to normal mass hierarchy (with SM and LMA-L scenario) and inverted mass ordering (with SM and LMA-D scenario), respectively. The right panel shows the variations of χ parameter with E for $\delta = \pi/2$. The upper right and lower right panels correspond to the NO (with SM and LMA-L scenario) and IO (with SM and LMA-D scenario), respectively. The $\epsilon_{\alpha\beta}$ parameters are taken from recently updated analysis given in ref. [69]. . . 50

48

- 7.1 The top and bottom figures show the variation of $\beta_{\mu\mu}$ and $\beta_{\mu e}$ with L (in Km), respectively in vacuum for different values of δ . Here neutrino energy E = 1 GeV. 53
- First and second figures from top depict $\beta_{\mu e}$ vs E (GeV) plots for T2K and NO ν A 7.2 experimental set-ups, respectively whereas the third and fourth figures show the variation of $\beta_{e\mu}$ with E (MeV) for Daya-Bay and RENO set-ups, respectively for different *CP*-violating phases $\delta = 0$ (blue), $\delta = \frac{\pi}{4}$ (pink), $\delta = \frac{\pi}{2}$ (green) and $\delta = \pi$ (brown). Solid and dashed lines in these plots correspond to positive and negative signs of Δm_{31}^2 , respectively. 54 From top, the first and second figures show $\beta_{e\mu}$ vs δ plots for Daya-Bay experi-7.3 mental set-up. The third and fourth figures show variation of $\beta_{e\mu}$ and $\beta_{\mu e}$ with δ , for RENO and T2K experimental set-ups, respectively. Solid curves in these plots correspond to that specific value of neutrino energy at which a cycle of GP gets completed. The solid curves in first and second figures, for Daya-Bay, correspond to 1 and 2 MeV, respectively. The solid curve for RENO and T2K correspond to 1.4 and 100 MeV, respectively. Dashed and dotted curves correspond to lower and upper limits of neutrino energies for which the GP predictions for both signs of Δm_{31}^2 are different. Blue and red curves correspond to predictions for positive and 7.4 $\beta_{\mu e}$ Vs. L: This figure shows the variation of $\beta_{\mu e}$ with respect to L at $\delta = 90^{\circ}$. Left and right figures correspond to + and - signs of Δm^2_{31} , respectively. 56 8.1 Gravitational "Zeeman-splitting": Weak gravitational effect, as given by Eq. (8.3), is considered for the ease of demonstration. 60 8.2 Neutrino-antineutrino oscillations in (a) one-flavour, and (b) two-flavour scenarios. 61 8.3 Fixed flavour case: (a) Survival probability, and (b) von Neumann entropy, as functions of gravitational potential and distance traveled by neutrino/antineutrino,

for the massive states $\nu_1 \leftrightarrow \nu_2$ corresponding to neutrino-antineutrino oscillation. The various parameters used are: $m = 5 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}, |\vec{B^g}| \sim 10^{-2} \text{ eV}. \dots \dots 63$

XX

8.4	Left panel: The variation of von Neumann entropy for 2-flavour neutrino-antineutrino
	oscillation with respect to the distance (L) traveled by neutrinos and the gravi-
	tational potential (B_0^g) . Right panel: The contributions to flavour entropy from
	neutrino-neutrino oscillations depicted by blue (plane) surface and neutrino-antineutrino
	oscillations shown by pink (meshed) surface, with the magnitude of $\mathcal S$ enhanced
	10 times in the later case
8.5	(a) Mermin M_4 and (b) Svetlichny S_4 parameters with respect to the distance (L)
	traveled by neutrinos with $B_0^g = 5 \times 10^{-2}$. Black lines correspond to the classical
	bounds of these parameters
10.1	<i>Meson system</i> : Coherence parameter $\chi(\rho)$ (left), mixedness parameter $\eta(\rho)$ (mid-
	dle) and complementarity parameter $\beta(\rho)$ (right) as function of the dimensionless
	quantity $t/\tau_{K(B_d,B_s)}$. Top, middle and bottom panels pertain to the case of K, B_d
	and B_s mesons, respectively. The solid (red) and dotted (blue) correspond to the
	case with and without decoherence, respectively. In all the three cases, the average
	mixedness increases for about one lifetime of the particles