

Contents

List of Figures	xviii
List of Tables	xix
1 Introduction	1
1.1 Neutrino Physics	1
1.1.1 Neutrino Oscillation	3
1.1.2 The three-flavour picture	5
1.1.3 Matter effects	8
1.1.4 Solar Neutrino experiments	11
1.1.5 KamLand: the reactor neutrino experiment	12
1.1.6 Atmospheric neutrinos	13
1.2 Estimation of neutrino parameters from different experiments	14
1.2.1 The LSND result and the MiniBooNE Experiment	16

1.2.2	MINOS and MiniBooNE results on CPT violation	16
1.2.3	Existence of Tau Neutrino from OPERA Experiment	17
1.3	Future directions in Neutrino Oscillation Experiments	18
1.4	India-based Neutrino Observatory	19
1.4.1	Physics goals of the INO experiment	20
1.5	Motivation of the thesis	22
2	The Iron Calorimeter (ICAL) and Resistive Plate Chamber as active detector for ICAL	25
2.1	Introduction	25
2.2	The Iron Calorimeter for the INO experiment	27
2.3	RPC : The active detector for ICAL	34
2.4	Working principle of RPCs	36
2.4.1	Avalanche mode of operation of RPCs	37
2.4.2	Streamer mode of operation of RPCs	39
3	ICAL prototype detector and the response simulation	42
3.1	Introduction	42
3.2	INO ICAL Prototype Detector	43
3.3	Operation of the prototype detector	46
3.4	Simulation of the prototype detector using GEANT4	49

3.4.1	GEANT4: A detector simulation tool-kit	49
3.4.2	Results	50
3.5	Summary and Conclusions	58
4	Discrimination of muons and hadrons inside the INO Iron Calorimeter using the artificial neural network	60
4.1	Introduction	60
4.2	Artificial Neural Network	64
4.3	Analysis Procedure	67
4.3.1	Detector response simulation	67
4.3.2	Inputs to ANN	70
4.3.3	Application of ANN method	73
4.4	Results	74
4.4.1	For single particle events	74
4.4.2	Performance of ANN using input from NUANCE	78
4.5	Summary and Discussions	79
5	Track Reconstruction by Kalman Filter method	81
5.1	Introduction	81
5.2	Kalman Filter Algorithm	84
5.3	Implementation of Kalman Filter method for track fitting and the results	91

5.4	Summary	97
6	Monte Carlo Simulation to study the effect of surface roughness on the performance of RPC	98
6.1	Introduction	98
6.2	Monte Carlo Simulation to study the RPC performance	100
6.3	Induced Signal	106
6.3.1	Roughness simulation	109
6.4	Results	119
6.5	Summary	120
7	Summary and Conclusions	122
A	Analytic formulation to calculate propagation of a charged particle in magnetic field	126
A.1	Equation of motion	127