Present knowledge about neutrinos

Neutrinos are massive fermions

There are 3 active neutrino flavors (v_{α})

Neutrino flavor states are mixtures of mass states (v_k)

$$|\nu_{\alpha}\rangle = \sum_{k} U_{\alpha k} |\nu_{k}\rangle$$

 $U = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c_{23} & s_{23} \\ 0 & -s_{23} & c_{23} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{13} & 0 & s_{13}e^{-i\delta} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -s_{13}e^{i\delta} & 0 & c_{13} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{12} & s_{12} & 0 \\ -s_{12} & c_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

Atmospheric / Accelerator

Reactor / Accelerator

Pontecorvo-Maki-Nakagawa-Sakata matrix

Solar / Reactor

Measurements of neutrino parameters from:

- neutrino oscillations
- single beta decay
- neutrinoless double beta decay
- cosmology

To the absolute v mass scale

Cosmology

- neutrinos influence large scale structures.
- very sensitive, but model dependent
- $\sum m_{\nu}$



Direct neutrino mass measurement

- β-decay: the end-point of the β-spectrum is affected by the 'effective electron neutrino mass' (no further assumptions needed)
- β -decay searchs for m(v_e) : Tritium β -, ¹⁸⁷Re β -, ¹⁶³Ho EC
- Time-of-flight measurements (v from supernova): SN1987a -> $m(v_e) < 5.7 \text{ eV}$

Neutrinoless Double Beta Decay

 Ονββ-decay: the decay rate depends on the ''effective Majorana mass''



Limits from cosmology



N. Palanque-Delabrouille et al.: J. Cosm. Astropart. Phys. 1502, 045 (2015).

All limits are ACDM based





m_v > 2 eV (eV scale, current) Neutrinos ruled out as dark matter

 $m_v > 0.2 \text{ eV}$ (degeneracy scale) Impact on cosmology and $0v\beta\beta$ reach



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KATRIN



KATRIN sensitivity:

5 year measurement (60% duty cycle) systematic uncertainty $\sigma_{sys,tot} \approx 0.017 \text{ eV}^2$ statystical uncertainty $\sigma_{stat} \approx 0.018 \text{ eV}^2$

sensitivity for upper limit: 200 meV/c² (90% C.L.) $m(v_e) = 0.35$ eV observable with 5 σ

KATRIN

Magnetic Adiabatic Collimation with Electrostatic Filter (MAC-E)



momentum of an electron relative to the magnetic field direction without retarding potential

- Inhomogeneous magnetic guiding field.
- Retarding potential acts as high-pass filter
- High energy resolution ($\Delta E/E = Bmin/Bmax = 0.93 \text{ eV}$)

KATRIN









- System is complete (except tritium loops and rear wall and calibration system):
 - 1st light in October 2016, ^{83m}Kr calibration measurements in July 2017 very successful
- Tritium data taking: start in 2018
- KATRIN inauguration ceremony: June 11, 2018 (after Neutrino 2018 at Heidelberg)

Holmium experiments

 $^{163}Ho+e^ightarrow\,^{163}Dy^*+
u_e$ Proposed by A. De Rujula and M. Lusignoli, Phys. Lett. B 118 (1982) 429

- calorimetric measurement of the Dy atomic de-excitation (mostly non-radiative)
- rate at the end point depends on (Q–EM1): the proximity to M1 resonance peak enhances the statistics at the end point (i.e. sensitivity on m_v)
- $t_{1/2}$ ~4570 years: few nuclei are needed (2x10¹¹ ¹⁶³Ho nuclei = 1 Bq)



Pile-up

Pile-up is the major difficulty in calorimetric measurements

 $N_{pp}(E) = f_{pp} \times N_{EC} \otimes N_{EC}, \quad with f_{pp} \approx A_{EC} \tau_R$



A_{EC} :activity/detector T_R :time resolution (~rise time)

- fast detectors
- limited activity/detector
- large number of detectors needed

Statistical sensitivity



HOLMES

Detectors: Transition Edge Sensor with ¹⁶³Ho implanted in Au absorbers

Activity: 6.5×10^{13} nuclei per detector \rightarrow 300 dec/s

```
Performances: \Delta E_{FWHM} \approx 1 eV, \tau_R \approx 1 \mu s
```



GOAL

Neutrino mass determination with a sensitivity as low as ~1 eV

- proof potential and scalability of the approach
- precise calorimetric determination of Q
- systematic errors assessment

Two steps approach:

- 64 channels mid-term prototype, (t_M= 1 month, m_v < 10 eV)
- full scale: 1000 channels, 3x10¹³ events collected in 3 years
- 6.5x10^{16 163}Ho nuclei (≈18 mg)

HOLMES (ERC-Adv. Grant 340321) 5 years project started on Feb. 1st 2014



ECHo

Detectors: Au: Er Metallic Magnetic Calorimeter (MMC) with implanted ¹⁶³Ho

Activity: 6.5×10^{13} nuclei per detector \rightarrow 300 dec/s

Performances: $\Delta E \approx 1 \text{ eV}$, $\tau_{R} \approx 1 \mu s$

Prove scalability with medium large experiment ECHo-1k (2015-2018)

- total activity 1 kBq, high purity ¹⁶³Ho source (produced at reactor)
- $\Delta E_{FWHM} < 5 \text{ eV}$, $T_R < 1 \mu s$
- multiplexed arrays → microwave SQUID multiplexing
- 1 year measuring time 10^{10} counts \rightarrow neutrino mass sensitivity m < 10 eV
- Data taking will starting early 2018



15





Project-8



First detection of single-electron cyclotron radiation

Double Beta Decay



$0v-\beta\beta$ and Majorana mass



Sensitivity

Half-life corresponding to the minimum detectable number of events over background at a given confidence level

$$S_{0\nu} = ln(2)N_A \frac{\eta \cdot \epsilon}{W} \sqrt{\frac{M \cdot T}{\Delta E \cdot B}}$$

finite background: $M \cdot T \cdot B \cdot \Delta E > 1$

$$S_{0\nu} = ln(2)N_A \frac{\eta \cdot \epsilon}{W} M \cdot T$$

zero background: M·T·B·ΔE ≲1

M: active detector mass [kg]T: measurement life time [anni]B: background in the ROI [counts keV⁻¹ kg⁻¹ y⁻¹]W: molecular weight

N_A: Avogadro number
η: isotopic abundance
ε: detector efficiency
ΔE: FWHM energy resolution @ Q-value

Is there a preferred isotope?

- Nuclear matrix elements calculations are rapidly improving and today the differences between different methods (IBM, QRPA, ISM) are much smaller than in the past (30% btw QRPA and IBM-2)
- Uncertainty on g_A could play a relevant role: factor 2 in g_A is a factor 16 in decay rate
- inverse correlation observed between phase space and square of the nuclear matrix element (but still large deviations)





Axial vector coupling

Even if QRPA/IBM-2 agree within 30%, other methods of calculation (as ISM) suggest caution

For $2\nu 2\beta$, IBM-2 (and QRPA) overestimate matrix elements much more than 30%

- matrix elements are overestimated because g_A is quenched?
- approximate scaling in IBM-2, $g_A = 1.269 \times A^{-0.18}$
- Possible dramatic impact of gA gnhen. quenching on the experiments results gauark gnucleor 0.1 The "quenching" of g_A is a phenomenological observation; however IH ($\Delta m^2 < 0$) *m_{ββ}* [eV] it is likely to depend upon the 0.01 momentum of the virtual states NH (Δm²>0) - In $0v2\beta$, q^2 is much larger than in $2v2\beta$ 0.001 and g_A could also be larger 10 10⁻⁴ 0.001 0.01 0.1 1

*m*_{lightest} [eV]

Isotope choice

In many cases driven by the detector characteristics.

- ⁷⁶Ge with Germanium diodes
- ¹³⁶Xe with Xenon TPCs
- bolometers and scintillators have multiple choices

Isotopic abundance as high as possible - money issue

Q-value as high as possible

- phase space
- background

2v-DBD half-life as high as possible - energy resolution



Limits vs Discovery

- The irreducible background induced by the 2vββ could be mitigated by the energy resolution
- The effect can be partially attenuated with an asymmetric ROI (but losing efficiency)

Energy resolution is a key issue: a positive result from experiments with a poor energy resolution is anyway weak





Zdesenko, Danevich, Tretyak, J. Phys. G 30 (2004) 971

$$\frac{S}{B} = \frac{m_e}{7Q\delta^6} \frac{\Gamma_{0\nu}}{\Gamma_{2\nu}} = \frac{m_e}{7Q\delta^6} \frac{T_{1/2}^{2\nu}}{T_{1/2}^{0\nu}}$$

Discovery probability

Global Bayesian analysis including v-oscillation, m β m $\beta\beta$, Σm_v

Priors:

- flat Majorana phases
- m1 (scale invariant)



Discovery probability



0vββ decay sensitivity

$F_{\theta v}$ figure of merit = total decay half life corresponding to the minimum detectable signal at a given confidence level.

Two scenarios:

>

≤1

 $N_{bkg} = MT B\Delta$

- "finite background" FB: the average number of background events in the ROI collected during the experiment live time is larger than one; the minimum detectable signal at a given C.L. depends on the fluctuation of the number of background events
 - "zero background" ZB: the probability of collecting more than one event event in the ROI during the live time is negligible; the minimum detectable signal only depends on signal fluctuations and is fixed for a given C.L. (nCL = 1.14 for 68% C.L.)

The sensitivity formula for the two cases becomes:



Parameters redefinition

By redefining the experimental parameters the sensitivity formula can be greatly simplified into

$$F_{0\nu} = \begin{cases} \ln 2 \ N_A \times \sqrt{\frac{S}{P}}, & \text{if } P \cdot S > 1 \\ \ln 2 \ \frac{N_A}{n_L} \times S, & \text{if } P \cdot S \lesssim 1 \end{cases}$$

$$\mathsf{FB}$$

$$\mathsf{FB}$$

 $S = \zeta M T$

SCALE: represents the "dimension" of the experiment, both in terms of size and live time. It has the same dimensions of an exposure, expressed as number of moles of detectable emitting isotope times years of live time. **It's a measure of how much signal can be expected in the experiment**

$$P = \frac{B}{\zeta} \Delta$$

PERFORMANCE: measures how good is the experiment in measuring the signal compared to the background level. It's expressed in background counts per mole of detectable emitting isotope per year

$$\zeta = \frac{x\eta\epsilon}{A}$$

DIMENSIONAL FACTOR: moles of "efficient" (=detectable) isotope per unit mass. Gathers properties of the experimental technique (stoichiometric factor \mathbf{x} , isotopic abundance $\mathbf{\eta}$, signal efficiency $\mathbf{\epsilon}$), usually unchanged from one generation to next. Linear effect on sensitivity.

M. Biassoni, O. Cremonesi, P. Gorla, <u>http://arxiv.org/abs/1310.3870</u>

The (P,S,F_{0v}) space

Each experiment can be represented in the same (P,S,F_{Ov}) space as a point on the $F_{Ov}(P,S)$ surface representing the sensitivity



The (P,S,F_{0v}) space

Each experiment can be represented in the same (P,S,F_{OV}) space as a point on the $F_{OV}(P,S)$ surface representing the sensitivity



The (P,S,F_{0v}) space

Each experiment can be represented in the same (P,S,F_{OV}) space as a point on the $F_{OV}(P,S)$ surface representing the sensitivity



Present experiments (F_{0v})

Each experiment can be represented in the (P,S,F_{0v}) space as a point on the $F_{0v}(P,S)$ surface representing the sensitivity



Towards next generation



g_A problem

NME (including Fermi, Gamow-Teller and tensor terms) can be written as:

$$M^{0\nu} = g_A^2 \left(M_{GT}^{0\nu} - \left(\frac{g_V}{g_A}\right)^2 M_F^{0\nu} + M_T^{0\nu} \right)$$

thus factorising out most of the dependence from g_A , which is known to depend on the reaction "environment":

$$\begin{split} g_A^{\text{quark}} &= 1 \\ g_A^{\text{nucleon}} &= 1.27 \\ g_A^{2\nu\beta\beta} &= 1.27 \cdot A^{-0.18} \\ g_A^{0\nu\beta\beta} &= ?? \end{split}$$

$$F^{0\nu} \propto \frac{1}{|M^{0\nu}|^2} \propto \frac{1}{g_A^4}$$

Sensibility strongly depends on g_A: a factor 2 quenching translates into (catastrophic?) factor 16 in T_{1/2} sensitivity



Measuring and understanding g_A dependence on nuclear effects is mandatory for long term planning of neutrino-less double beta decay searches

What can we learn from cosmology

Cosmology is providing more and more stringent limits on .R. Primack et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 74, 2160 (1995) the sum of neutrino masses, approaching oscillation limit. S. W. Allen et al., Mon. Not. R. Astron. Soc. 346, 593 (2003) Data probing different scales (CMB, BAOs, Lyman-a, R. Battye and A. Moss, Phys. Rev. Lett. 112, 051303, (2014) М lensing...) agree (but all results are model dependent). (limit from oscillations) 10^{-2} today Σ^{max} 10⁻³ Reference (95% C.L.) 2000 2005 2010 2015 1995 Publication year P.A.R. Ade et al. (Planck Collaboration), 153 meV arXiv:1502.01589 [astro-ph.CO] (2015) A. J. Cuesta et al., 130 meV IH slightly Phys. Dark Universe 13, 77 (2016) 0.1 E. Di Valentino et al., 126 meV disfavoured Phys. Rev. D 93, 083527 (2016) E. Giusarma et al., 176 meV (excluded arXiv:1605.04320 [astro-ph.CO] (2016) 2σ N. Palanque-Delabrouille et al., 120 meV @1σ) J. Cosm. Astropart. Phys. 1511, 011 (2015) X. Zhang, 177 meV IH Phys. Rev. D 93, 083011 (2016) *m_{ββ}* [eV] $\Sigma < 140 \text{ meV}$ 0.01 (N. Palanque-Delabrouille et al. J. Cosm. Astropart. Phys. 1502, 45 (2015)) 0.08 0.06 m _{ββ} [eV] 600 NH IH 0.001 0.02 3σ NH S. Dell'Oro., S.Marcocci, M. 2σ Viel, F. Vissani, J. Cosm. (95 % C.L.) 0.001 0.01 0.1 0.00 _____ 0.05 Astropart. Phys. 1512, 023 0.10 0.15 0.20 m_{lightest} [eV]

(2015)

 $\Sigma_{\rm cosm}$ [eV]

What can we learn from global fits

F. Capozzi et al., arXiv:1703.04471

"In the global analysis, NO appears to be somewhat favored with respect to IO at the level of $1.9-2.1\sigma$, mainly by neutrino oscillation data (especially atmospheric), corroborated by cosmological data in some cases. This intriguing indication, although not statistically mature yet, deserves to be monitored with future data."



TABLE III: Values of $\Delta \chi^2_{\rm IO-NO}$ from the global analysis of oscillation and non oscillation data (numbered according to the adopted cosmological datasets as in Table II), to be compared with the value 3.6 from oscillation data only [Eq. (9)]. An overall preference emerges for NO, at the level of $1.9-2.1\sigma$.

#	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
$\Delta\chi^2_{ m IO-NO}$	4.3	3.8	4.4	4.2	3.9	4.4	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.7	3.8	3.9

Towards next generation



Comparing present and future experiments

		mass [kg]* (total/FV)	FWHM [keV]	background& [cnt/t yr FWHM]	T _{1/2} limit sensitivity [10 ²⁵ yr] after 4 yr	worst m _{ee} limit [meV] (lowest NME, g _A unquenched)	
Gerda II	Ge	35/27	3	5	15	190 runn	ing
MajoranaD	Ge	30/24	3	5	15	190	
EXO-200	Xe	170/80	88	220	6	240	
Kamland-Z	Xe	383/88 750/??	250	90 ?	6 50	240 85 des	ign
Cuore	Те	600/206	5	230	9	210	
NEXT-100	Xe	100/80	17	30	6	240	
SNO+	Те	2340/260	190	60	17	160	
nEXO	Хе	5000/4300	58	5	600	24 fut	ure
Ge-200	Ge	200/155	3	1	100	75	
Ge-1000	Ge	1000/780	3	0.2	1000	24	

* total= element mass, FV= $0\nu\beta\beta$ isotope mass in fiducial volume (incl enrichment fraction) & kg of $0\nu\beta\beta$ isotope in active volume and divided by $0\nu\beta\beta$ efficiency Note: values are design numbers except for GERDA, EXO-200 and Kamland-Zen

GERDA



GERDA



Results



Upgrade of GERDA Phase II

Upgrade of GERDA Phase II in April 2018

- cables substitution (radiopurity)
- FE modification: protection diodes & substitution of 3 JFET
- new scintillating fibres: larger light yield
- natGe string substituted with new enriched diodes (inverted-coaxial PPC detectors)

upgrade duration ~ 3 months

Main motivation is LEGEND





LEGEND-200

Large Enriched Germanium Experiment for Neutrinoless BB Decay



- Bigger diodes, but same performances of BEGe
- Internal diameter of the cryostat neck will be enlarged to
 610 mm
- Better optical purity of LAr (light yield, attenuation lenght)
- Improved scintillation light readout
- Better material selection to limit U/Th contaminations next to detectors
- Background reduction goal: 3-5 times better respect to GERDA Phase II

October 2017 LoI, March 2018 Proposal to the LNGS SC



LEGEND- 1k

- up to 1000 kg (in steps)
- timeline connected to DOE DBD program
- background reduction: 30 respect to GERDA Phase II
- Underground lab to be defined (depth influence 77mGe background)





CUORE

Cryogenic Underground Observatory for Rare Events

- Closely packed array of 988 TeO₂ crystals (19 towers of 52 crystals 5×5×5 cm³, 0.75 kg each)
- Mass of TeO2: 742 kg (~206 kg of ¹³⁰Te)
- Operating temperature: ~ 10 mK
- Mass to be cooled down: ~ 15 tonnes (Pb, Cu and TeO₂)
- Background aim: 10⁻² c/keV/kg/year
- Target energy resolution: 5 keV FWHM @ 2615 keV
- Projected sensitivity in 5 years (90% C.L.): $T_{1/2} > 9 \times 10^{25}$ yr



TeO₂ bolometers

Thermal detectors

- low heat capacity @ Twork (C~T³)
- excellent energy resolution (~0.2% FWHM)
- slowness (suitable for rare event searches)

The absorbed energy is converted into a variation of the crystal temperature, measured by the thermistor



Results

ROI background index: $(1.49_{-0.17}^{+0.18}) \times 10^{-2} c/(keV \cdot kg \cdot yr)$ $(1.35_{-0.18}^{+0.20}) \times 10^{-2} c/(keV \cdot kg \cdot yr)$

Best fit for 60Co mean: (2506.4 ± 1.2) keV

Best fit decay rate: (-1.0 _0.3+0.4 (stat.) ± 0.1 (syst.))×10-25 / yr

- Combining the CUORE result with the existing ¹³⁰Te
 - 19.75 kg·yr of Cuoricino
 - 9.8 kg·yr of CUORE-0
- The combined 90% C.L. limit is $T_{0v} > 1.5 \times 10^{25} \text{ yr} m_{\beta\beta} < 140-400 \text{ meV}$



Resolution improvements



CUPID

Cuore Upgrade with Particle Identification

Main motivation is the discrimination of the degraded alpha background that limits CUORE



Is necessary to adopt a discrimination

- alpha/beta or bulk/surface

CUPID

Two main approches for the background discrimination:

- Scintillating bolometers
- Scintillating crystals @ low T
- High light yield
- Possible PSD
- Simple requirements for the bolometric light detectors

Cherenkov bolometers (TeO₂)

- Non scintillating crystals
- few Cherenkov photons
- Challenging requirements for the bolometric light detectors
- enrichment not strictly needed



ZnSe (Lucifer/CUPID-0)

- 24 Zn⁸²Se bolometers, for a total mass ~ 5.1 kg of ^{82}Se
- 2 ZnSe bolometers ~400 g each, not enriched in ⁸²Se
- $Q_{\beta\beta}(^{82}Se) = 2996 \text{ keV}$
- Light detectors high purity Ge wafers with antireflecting coating
- Thermal sensors: Ge-NTD thermistors
- Detector assembled in 5 towers cooled down in Cuoricino/CUORE-0 cryostat
- Total active mass of the detector ~10.5 kg



ZnSe (Lucifer/CUPID-0)



ZnSe (Lucifer/CUPID-0)



TeO₂



Kamland-Zen



KamLAND-Zen400

- ¹³⁶Xe loaded LS in mini-balloon
- ~3 % of ¹³⁶Xe in LS by weight
- 90% enrichment
- 360 kg of Xe dissolved in $\sim 17 \text{ m}^3 \text{LS}$
- σE/E: ~11% @ Q value
- Position reconstruction for bkg rejection and sources identification



Kamland-Zen



2.3 < E < 2.7 MeV, R < 1 m

	Period-1		Period-2		
	(270.7 da	iys)	(263.8 day	ys)	
Observed events	22		11		
Background	Estimated	Best-fit	Estimated	Best-fit	
136 Xe $2 uetaeta$	-	5.48	-	5.29	
Res	sidual radioae	tivity in	Xe-LS		
²¹⁴ Bi (²³⁸ U series)	0.23 ± 0.04	0.25	0.028 ± 0.005	0.03	
²⁰⁸ Tl (²³² Th series)	-	0.001	-	0.001	
^{110m} Ag		8.5	-	0.0	
Er	ternal (Radio	activity	in IB)	\bigcirc	
²¹⁴ Bi (²³⁸ U series)	-	2.56	-	2.45	
²⁰⁸ Tl (²³² Th series)	-	0.02	-	0.03	
^{110m} Ag	-	0.003	-	0.002	
	Spallation	products	s		
¹⁰ C	2.7 ± 0.7	3.3	2.6 ± 0.7	2.8	
⁶ He	0.07 ± 0.18	80.0	0.07 ± 0.18	0.08	
¹² B	0.15 ± 0.04	0.16	0.14 ± 0.04	0.15	
¹³⁷ Xe	0.5 ± 0.2	0.5	0.5 ± 0.2	0.4	

KamLAND-Zen400 (completed)

Phase-2: 2013/12/11 - 2015/10/27: 534.5 days (504 kg-yr) Sensitivity: > 5.6 10²⁵ yr (90% C.L.)

- Unconstraint fit: > 9.2 10²⁵ yr (90% C.L.)
- Phase I + II: > 1.07 10²⁶ yr (90% C.L.)
- mββ < (61-165) meV @90 % C.L

- KamLAND-Zen800 (coming soon)
- The first 800 balloon failed but the second one has been constructed with a lot of improvements.

Kamland-Zen



CURRENT STATUS:

 \checkmark Improved welding technique

- \checkmark Improved cutting technique to avoid shape distortion
- \checkmark Finish manufacturing and cleaning sub-components
- ✓ Leak check & repair
- Folding and packing
- Delivery to KamLAND site
- New LS purification (half done)
- Installing the miniBalloon filled with Xe-less LS
- Replacing the Xe-less LS with Xe-loaded LS

25 µm Nylon6 transparency 99.4% @400nm Xe barrier < 220 g/year



Borexino - Xe

Feature	Current Borex *	Borex-Xe 4t **	Borex-Xe 7t *** 300003	
Total Mass [kg]	6200ª	18000 ^a		
Fiducial Mass [kg, 136Xe]	1174	4295	7158	
Enrichment [%]	90	90	90	
FWHM Energy resolution[%]	6.7	4.2	4.2	
2v in ROI [c ton(136Xe) ⁻¹ yr ⁻¹]	4	0.25	0.25	
Other bkg in ROI [c ton(136Xe) ⁻¹ yr ⁻¹]	122	29	1.3	
Bkg in ROI [c ton(136Xe)-1 yr-1]	126	29	1.5	
Total bkg in ROI 5 y [c]	1007	630	51	
•T1/2 90% c.l. sensitivity [yr] computed by us (their live time or 5yr if new exp.)	4.6 10 ²⁶	1.5 10 ²⁷	8 10 ²⁷	

SNO+



25 µm Nylon6 transparency 99.4% @400nm Xe barrier < 220 g/year

780 t Liquid scintillator + 3.9 t Tellurium 0.5% Te (~1300 kg ¹³⁰Te)



nEXO



NEXT

¹³⁶Xe high-pressure (10-15 bar) TPC

NEXT-NEW (5 kg) 2015-2018

Underground & radio-pure operations, background, $2\nu\beta\beta$

NEXT-100 (100 kg) 2018-2020's



 $0\nu\beta\beta$ search





PTOLEMY

Project aiming at demonstrating the capability to detect Cosmological Relic Neutrinos



Detection Concept: neutrino capture



Experimental Perspective

Project aiming at demonstrating the capability to detect Cosmological Relic Neutrinos



Emitted electron density of states vs kinetic energy for neutrino capture on beta decaying nuclei. The spike at Q + 2m is the CNB signal

PTOLEMY Experimental Concept



PTOLEMY proof-of-principle at LNGS

The proposed work plan for the activities to be carried out in three to five years in order to complete the PTOLEMY phase-I can be summarized as follows

- Validate graphene as target substrate, measure hydrogen/tritium bond characteristics (width of the bound state), measure electron-graphene interaction properties.
- Achieve an electron energy measurement resolution of 0.05 eV to separate the CNB signal from the β-decay spectrum, couple detector with spectrometer magnetic field,
- Commission the prototype with high stability HV and (single) electron gun
- Operate the prototype and measure the background rate in the CNB signal region (using a pure graphene tritium-free target)
- further reduce background by implementing high radio-pure graphene -- eventually exploiting a concurrent program in MeV dark matter searches
- Implement RF antenna for triggering on single electrons in coincidence with an energy measurement, and
- Design and simulate a scalable target mass setup with high acceptance kinematic filtering.