



# Searching for neutrinoless double beta decay With AMoRE

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## Neutrinoless double beta decay (0vββ) ?

Double β decay

=> In most even-even nuclei, single  $\beta$  decay forbidden But, for a large number of them, double  $\beta$  decays allowed.

=> Two modes :  $2\nu\beta\beta$  (T~10<sup>18</sup>-10<sup>22</sup> yrs),  $0\nu\beta\beta$  (T>10<sup>26</sup> yrs)



## Why $0v\beta\beta$ ?

Lepton number non-conserving process => Process beyond the standard model => Leptogenesis / Baryon asymmetry

Revealing unknown properties of neutrinos

=> Unambiguous signature for Majorna nature of neutrinos Annu.Rev.Nucl.Part.Sci

=> Absolute Neutrino mass

$$[T_{1/2}^{0\nu}]^{-1} = G^{0\nu} |M_{0\nu}|^2 \langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle^2$$



## **AMoRE** experiment

#### **0v**ββ source :<sup>100</sup>Mo isotope

=> relatively high Q-value : 3034 keV shorter half-life expected => high natural abundance of 9.8 % => Isotope with long DBD search history

#### Detector : cryogenic calorimeter with scintillating molybdate crystal

=> Cryogenic calorimeter with massive crystal absorber: Source equals detector Excellent energy resolution

Scintillating crystal:
Alpha signal rejection in ROI
Simultaneous light signal depending on the particle type
Different pulse shape

## **Principle of AMoRE detector**



MMC (Metallic Magnetic Calorimeter)

=> Paramagnetic material Metallic host (Au or Ag) + Magnetic ions (Er)

- = > Magnetization (**M**) very sensitive to **T**
- => MMC implemented with superconducting current (I) loop to provide B-field
- $=> \Delta I$  induced by  $\Delta M$  as a function of  $\Delta T$
- => SQUID measures  $\Delta I$  as signal



## **AMoRE detector**

# Au film (phonon collector) on opposite side Molybdate crys

Crystal mass : ~ 300g

Details keep changing...



## Scintillating Molybdate crystals

#### Calcium molybdate crystal (CaMoO<sub>4</sub>), "CMO"

- => Highest light output molybdate
- => Easy crystal handling
- => Good energy resolution / Particle identification demonstrated
- => Annealing necessary for the optical quality
- => <sup>48</sup>Ca depletion required

## Lithium molybdate crystal (Li<sub>2</sub>MoO<sub>4</sub>), "LMO"

- => High molybdenum content
- => Simple crystal growth : low melting point, no need of annealing
- => Low radioactive background
- => Good energy resolution demonstrated
- => Small light output
- => Hygroscopic surface

#### **Detector performance**

#### operation $T = 10 \sim 20 \text{ mK}$



## **Detector performance**



#### Alpha particle rejection based on light/heat ratio

## Experimental site : Yangyang (Y2L) underground lab



700 m minimum vertical depth (2000 m.w.e)

**Radon free air supplied** 

**Neighbor of COSINE experiment** 



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## **AMoRE** pilot





\* ckky = cnts/kg/keV/yr

## **AMoRE** pilot

#### A lot of learnings about the background control



Config. 2 : Removing "hot" radioactive components (epoxy, pin connector, holder...) Config. 3 : Neutron shielding

## AMoRE pilot Background Modeling



#### **Results with 0.68 kg yr exposure :**

 $T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 3.4 \times 10^{23} \mathrm{yrs}$  (90% C.I.)



## **AMoRE-I**





## **AMoRE-I** status



## **AMoRE-II**



Period : 2022 - 2027 100 kg of <sup>100</sup>Mo Hundreds of detectors Total mass : ~200 kg Mostly, LMO (NIIC + CUP) Aiming at 10<sup>-4</sup> ckky at ROI

Built in two phases Located in new lab (Yemilab)



New vibration damping => Hanging by kevlar wire system => suspending ~3.4 tone

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## Yemilab



Jeongseon, Korea 1000 m vertical depth Underground lab with 2600 m<sup>2</sup> Open in October this year!

#### **Current view of AMoRE Hall**

# Filtered air

Dust proof door Radon free air to the detector room during the assembly work Cleanness : Hall (100K), Detector room(10K), Preparation room(100)

### **Detector room**



## **Detector R&D for AMoRE-II**

**Optimization : Performance, A lot of detectors in time** 

Mainly, LMO : humidity, large crystal, surface treatment, thermal connection ...

Currently, demonstrating : => FWHM < 7 keV at 2.6 MeV with a crystal of 516 g => DP = 14 at 5-6 MeV by light/heat ratio (~10 at ROI)



## **Expectation of AMoRE-II Backgrounds**





## Conclusion

Search for 0vββ from <sup>100</sup>Mo using CMO/LMO crystals

Cryogenic calorimeter with simultaneous light detection using MMC

AMoRE-pilot demonstrated the potential for  $0\nu\beta\beta$  probe =>  $T_{1/2}^{0\nu}$  >  $3.4 \times 10^{23}$ yrs, 90% C.I. with the exposure of 0.68 kg yr => Opportunity to identify background in ROI

AMoRE-I experiment is currently running with 6.2 kg detector mass => Reaching 5 kg yr, Bkg level < 0.06 ckky => Expecting competitive sensitivity as other <sup>100</sup>Mo based search

Preparing for AMoRE-II with 100 kg of <sup>100</sup>Mo => Built in two phases, Early phase start at the end of this year => R&D improvement : FWHM@2.6MeV <7 keV, DP@5-6MeV = 14 => New experimental hall at Yemilab, Better material screening => Aiming at  $T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 10^{27} \mathrm{yrs}$  by 2030

## Acknowledgement : AMoRE collaboration



#### ~107 members, 25 institutes, 9 countries

## Back up