

UPDATE ON THE



PTOLEMY PROJECT

M MESSINA FROM LNGS AT NOW2022 WORKSHOP ON BEHALF OF THE PTOLEMY COLLABORATION, OSTUNI, SPTEMBER 2022



OUTLINE

Short physics introduction

• PTOLEMY detector concept

Conclusion and Outlook

The Gold-mine of Cosmologist



- Universe is **expanding**: Hubble's law: v = H₀D (~70 km/s/Mpc), 1919.
- Cosmic microwave background, Penzias & Wilson, 1964
- Abundance of primordial elements: ⁴He, ²H, ⁷Li (?)
- Galaxies morphology and stars populations in time
- Primordial gas cloud (without heavy elements), 2011

The Big Bang



V decoupling The present Universe

emerges from an Ultra-dense and high temperature initial state

> Time of decoupling: 1 second neutron/proton ratio @start of nucleosynthesis Temperature: $T_{\nu}=1.95 \text{ K}$ Number density: $n_{\nu}=112/\text{cm}^3$ Velocity distribution: $<v_{\nu}> \sim T_{\nu}/m_{\nu}$

NEUTRINO FEATURES

• What we do know about neutrinos:

they are massive well measured Δm_i^2 cosmic neutrino background should be out there

• What we <u>don't know</u> about neutrinos:

absolute mass

Scale $(m_v < 0.8 eV)$ [KATRIN — Nature Phys. 2022, 2105.08533] $\begin{array}{l} \text{mass ordering} \\ (50_{meV} < m_{light} \simeq m_e \, or \, m_{\tau}) \\ \text{From Cosmology several} \\ \text{limits at 95 \% CL on } \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \text{m}_{\nu} \\ \text{from 0.56 to 0.11 eV} \end{array}$

cosmic neutrino background yet to be seen



JCAP7-06-015

DETECTOR CONCEPT



ELECTROMAGNETIC FILTERS





BOBSLEDDING (PUSHING ELECTRON UP POTENTIAL)





[see PTOLEMY - 1810.06703; PTOLEMY - JINST 2022, 2108.10388]



PTOLEMY: THE IDEA

[see PTOLEMY - 1810.06703; PTOLEMY - JINST 2022, 2108.10388]

• A new electromagnetic filter idea based on RF detection and dynamic E setting ₹B RF Ē B ANTENINA ³H first measurement of the energy via cyclotron RF emission (~ $10\mu s$)

[see PTOLEMY - 1810.06703; PTOLEMY - JINST 2022, 2108.10388]

• A new electromagnetic filter idea based on RF detection and dynamic E setting ₹B RF Ē B ANTENINA ³H first measurement of the energy via enter if within $\sim 10 eV$ from cyclotron RF emission (~ $10\mu s$) endpoint

PTOLEMY: THE IDEA

[see PTOLEMY - 1810.06703; PTOLEMY - JINST 2022, 2108.10388]

• A new electromagnetic filter idea based on

RF detection and dynamic E setting



Many R&Ds ongoing to show the feasibility of the PTOLEMY detector

HV STABILITY AND MONITORING



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Field Mill ~50mV

Gap Opening in Double-Sided Highly Hydrogenated Free-Standing Graphene

Maria Grazia Betti,* Ernesto Placidi, Chiara Izzo, Elena Blundo, Antonio Polimeni, Marco Sbroscia, José Avila, Pavel Dudin, Kailong Hu, Yoshikazu Ito, Deborah Prezzi,* Miki Bonacci, Elisa Molinari, and Carlo Mariani



ABSTRACT: Conversion of free-standing graphene into pure graphane—where each C atom is sp³ bound to a hydrogen atom has not been achieved so far, in spite of numerous experimental attempts. Here, we obtain an unprecedented level of hydrogenation $\approx 90\%$ of sp³ bonds) by exposing fully free-standing nanoporous samples—constituted by a single to a few veils of smoothly rippled graphene—to atomic hydrogen in ultrahigh vacuum. Such a controlled hydrogenation of high-quality and high-specific-area samples converts the original conductive graphene into a wide gap semiconductor, with the valence band maximum (VBM) ~ 3.5 eV below the Fermi level, as monitored by photoemission spectromicroscopy and confirmed by theoretical predictions. In fact, the calculated band structure unequivocally



identifies the achievement of a stable, double-sided fully hydrogenated configuration, with gap opening and no trace of π states, in excellent agreement with the experimental results.

ALTERNATIVES

- Preliminary studies show that this is a feasible solution
- When passivated with hydrogen,

[PTOLEMY - 2203.11228]

the nanotube potential looks like



external B-field could also **prevent the formation of molecules** if two atoms are in the same nanotube

Fullerene sphere with **single T** atom very promising even though prototypal idea



CALORIMETER



E_e=e(V_cal-V_target)+E_cal

Now: 0.11 eV @ 0.8 eV and 106 mK and 10x10 μm² TiAuTi 90nm [Ti(45nm) Au(45nm)] (τ ~137 ns)

Design Goal (PTOLEMY): $\Delta E_{FWHM} = 0.05 \text{ eV}$ @ 10 eV

translates to $\Delta E \propto E^{\alpha}$ ($\alpha \leq 1/3$)

Δ*EFWHM* = 0.022 eV @ 0.8 eV

$$\Delta E_{FWHM} \approx 2.36 \sqrt{4k_B T_c^2 \frac{C_e}{\propto} \sqrt{\frac{n}{2}}}$$

 $\Delta E \propto T^{3/2} \Rightarrow T_c = 36 \text{ mK} @ 10 \times 10 \text{ } \mu\text{m}^2 (t=90 \text{ nm})$

 \Rightarrow T_c= 46 mK @10x10 µm² (t=45 nm)

DEMONSTRATOR MAGNET

Being rebuilt at LNGS in a larger size.



Simulated B-map





Measured B field shape as expected



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A taste of the results that PTOLEMY can achieve

Even in absence of capture events spectral analysis will allow to achieve mass measurement with the percentage uncertainty reported below: energy resolution versus lights neutrino mass for 10 mg x yr of exposures



Conclusion and Outlooks

- PTOLEMY aims at detecting cosmic neutrino background on a long term time scale
- The detector prototype will be ready at LNGS by next year
- Prototype baseline option is: T embedded on graphene; New concept EM filter in final configuration; electron energy resolution measured in several steps (MCP/SDD). Ultimately operate TES with sub-eV energy resolution.
- Possible intermediate results from Prototype on neutrino mass measurements
- Ultimate goals of demonstrator: instrumented mass ~ hundreds of µg, energy resolution 50-100 meV, T storage solution will come from optimisation of atomic T support structure. Time scale 5 years.

BACK UP

• Distributing tritium on flat graphene has one

spatial a work and a constrainty on tritium's momentum

spread in final electron energy

[Cheipesh, Cheianov, Boyarsky - PRD 2021, 2101.10069]

• A simple semi-classical calculation returns $\Delta K_{\beta} = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{p}_{e} \cdot \Delta \mathbf{p}_{T} \\ \text{Spread of initial tritium}_{He} & 1 \\ \text{Wave function} & 0.6 - 0 \\ \text{M}_{He} & \text{M}_{T} \\ \text{Spread of initial tritium}_{He} & 1 \\ \text{M}_{He} & \text{M}_{T} \\ \text{Spread of initial tritium}_{He} & 1 \\ \text{Spread of initial tritium}_{He} & 1 \\ \text{Spread of initial tritium}_{He} & 0.6 - 0 \\ \text{Spread of initial trit$

A more accurate calculation for the rate,



[PTOLEMY - 2203.11228]

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A POSSIBLE SOLUTION

• To reduce the quantum spread we need to delocalize the initial tritium ($\Delta x_T \sim few^A$ should be enough) try to realize an approximate momentum eigenstate

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A POSSIBLE SOLUTION

Preliminary studies show that this is a feasible solution
solution
potential along the axis
When passivated with a notube potential loc and a notube potential

 $-1 \int_{1}^{-1} \int_{2}^{-1} \int_{3}^{-1} \int_{4}^{-1} \int_{5}^{-1} \int_{6}^{-1} \int_{7}^{-1} \int_{8}^{-1} \int_{8}^$

[PTOLEMY - 2203.11228]

WHY HYDROGENATED NANOTUBES?

• The reason to passivate the nanotubes with



TRITIUM-GRAPHENE POTENTIAL

- The tritium-graphene potential is strongly dependent on covera and curvature of the sheet
- For very concave sheets (nanotu the potential is essentially not binding anymore
- The highest the coverage the deeper is the potential

[PTOLEMY - 2203.11228]



MORE DETAILS ON THE ELECTRON SPECTRUM

- Two extreme cases for the ${}^{3}He^{+}$ wave function (near the endpoint)
- Free helium:

$$\psi_{He}(\mathbf{x}) \sim e^{i\mathbf{k}_{He}\cdot\mathbf{x}} \Longrightarrow \mathcal{M}_{fi} \sim \exp(-\Delta x_T^2 |\mathbf{k}_{He} + \mathbf{k}_e|^2)$$

- maximize the probability when $\mathbf{k}_{He} \simeq -\mathbf{k}_{e}$ probability is maximum in a region $\Delta k_{He} \sim 1/\Delta x_{T}$ large quantum spread
- Bound helium:

 $\psi_{He}(\mathbf{x}) \simeq \psi_T(\mathbf{x}) \Longrightarrow \mathcal{M}_{fi} \sim \exp(-\Delta x_T^2 k_e^2) \ll 1$

no spread but the event is exponentially unlikely

[PTOLEMY - 2203.11228]