

The PTOLEMY experiment, how to have a glance at the first second of the Universe

Marcello Messina Researcher at LNGS-INFN, 7° KSETA Plenary Workshop, Germany, February 2020

Why we believe in Big Bang?

- 1. Expansion of Universe
- 2. Light element abundances
- 3. Cosmic Microwave Background
- 4. Cosmic Neutrino Background

Who told the history of the Universe so far?





$CNB \sim 1 sec$



Neutrino Mass and Future Observations

At less than 1 second after the Big Bang, nearly 50% of the total energy density of the Universe was in the form of neutrino kinetic energy. This is the time when neutrinos thermally decoupled from matter and began free-streaming through the Universe.



S. Dodelson and M. Vesterinen, "Cosmic Neutrino Last Scattering Surface (LSS)," http://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevLett.103.171301



Due the finite mass of the neutrinos and Hubble expansion, the relic neutrinos that arrive at Earth today (after 13.7 billion years of waiting for them) originate from distances less than 2 billion light years away. With extensive galaxy cluster survey data seen with optical and infra-red, we can directly compare to the original seeds of structure recorded by the neutrinos – two images of the same location in space separated by over 10 billion years.

Neutrino flow



The detection methods proposed so far!

The longstanding question (I) Is it possible to measure the CRN? Method 1

The first method proposed for the detection of CRN was based on the fact that given the null mass of the neutrinos (today we know it is small) any variation of v momentum (Δp) implies a variation of the v spin (ΔJ) (R.R. Lewis Phy. Rev. D21 663, 1980):





The longstanding question (II) Is it possible to measure the CRN? Method 1

Unfortunately what assumed by Lewis was shown by Cabibbo and Maiani (Phys. Lett. B114 115,1982) to vanish at first order in Fermi constant G_F .

But there is still an effect (Stodolsky Phys. Rev. Lett. 34, 110) at first order in G_F where a polarized target experiences a force due to the scattering with polarized neutrinos (only a tiny part of the CRN flux). The effect can only be see $f = (v - \overline{v}) \neq 0$



Since the n wave length is ~ mm (λ) can be envisaged an enhancement of the interaction rate due to coherent sum of the invariant scattering amplitudes in a volume λ^3 . Under this assumption:

$$a_{G_F} \approx 10^{-27} \frac{cm}{\sec^2} f\left(\frac{\beta_{earth}}{10^{-3}c}\right)$$

The value of acceleration expected is almost 15 order of magnitude far from the current sensitivity of any accelerometers used today a "Cavendish" experiment.

The longstanding question

Is it possible to measure the CRN ? Method 2



The signature would be a deep in the neutrino flux around 10²² eV or an events excess of photons or protons beyond the GKZ deep (where the photons of CMB are absorbed by protons to produce pions).

The second method propose a resonant annihilation of EECn off CRN into Z-boson that occurs at energy:

$$E_{v_i}^{res} = \frac{m_Z^2}{2m_{v_i}} \approx 4x10^{21} \left(\frac{eV}{m_{v_i}}\right) eV$$



The longstanding question

Is it possible to measure the CRN ? Method 3

The third method propose the observation of interactions of extremely high energy protons from terrestrial accelerator beams with the relic neutrinos.



In this case even with an accelerator ring (VLHC) of ~4x10⁴ km length (Earth circumference) with E_{beam} ~10⁷ TeV the interaction rate would still be negligible.



All methods proposed so far require unrealistic experimental apparatus or astronomical neutrino sources not yet observed and not even hypothesized .

For reviews on this subject see: A.Ringwald "Neutrino Telescopes" 2005 – hep-ph/0505024 G.Gelmini G. B. Gemini Phys.Scripta T121:131-136,2005

Detection principle



A.G. Cocco, G. Mangano and M. Messina, JCAP 06 (2007) 015 S Weinberg, Phys. Rev. (1962) 128:3, 1457

NCB Cross Section

as a function of E_{ν} , Q_{β} for different nuclear spin transitions



Why Tritium target?

- High cross-section for neutrino capture
- Sizeable lifetime
- Low Q-value
- Tritium beta decay ~10¹⁵ Bq/gram



Several σ_E and m_v scenarios

PTOLEMY collaboration JCAP 1907 (2019) 047



PTOLEMY experiment

• Goal:

- 1. Find evidence for CvB
- 2. Accurate measurement of neutrino mass
- 3. Light DM detection (not discussed in this talk)
- Key challenges:
 - 1. Extreme energy resolution is required
 - 2. Extreme background rates from the target



PTOLEMY: experiment layout



PTOLEMY: measurement principle

M. G.Betti et al., Progress in Particle and Nuclear Physics, 106 (2019),120-131



p 1
$$E_{electron} = q \cdot (V_{anode} - V_{source}) + E_{calorimeter}$$

A new way of storing atom.

Ste



Step 2 **Electron RF emission is detected** Trigger good particles and give a preliminary evaluation of E and PT

$$2\pi f_c = \frac{qB}{m_e c^2} \cdot \frac{1}{\gamma}$$
$$P_{tot} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{8\pi^2 q^2 f_c^2}{3c} \frac{\beta_{\perp}^2}{1-\beta}$$

$$\mathbf{V}_D = \mathbf{V}_\perp = \left(qE + F - \mu\nabla B - m\frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dt}\right) \times \frac{\mathbf{B}}{qB^2}$$
$$\frac{dT_\perp}{dt} = -qE \cdot V_D = -qE \left(qE - \mu\nabla(B)\right) \times \frac{B}{qB^2} \quad \mu = \frac{mv_\perp^{*2}}{2B}$$

0.06 Position Z (m)

Between Step 3-4 Electrostatic barrier will reduce TL

Step 4 The particle is driven into the TES: Ttot=q(Vanode -Vsource)+ Ecal

PTOLEMY: The source

- Use atomic T
 - No vibrational modes in final state like for ³He-³T final state.
 - Limit to energy resolution not determined by target itself

Molecular Broadening



Tritiated-Graphene Target

H/D approach to graphene leads to chemical bond formation coincident with sp^2 to sp^3 -like rehybridization of a C atom.





When hydrogen hits a graphene carbon if the incidence energy passes over the barrier, it forms a C-H covalent bond. Graphene dissipates energy in two ways: an up and down vibration of the sheet and a shock wave moving out across its surface.¹

Ref: Jiang H. et al. Imaging covalent bond formation by H atom scattering from graphene. Science 26 Apr 2019. Vol. 364, Issue 6438, pp. 379-382

→ Final-state molecular smearing will be measured directly by repeating the recoil energy analysis in Reference¹ (done with ¹H) with ³He atoms

Advantages:

- → Statistical uniformity achieved for ~1% coverage
- → Stable at room temperature and in vacuum and/or air
- → Conductive at 1% coverage and provides a precision voltage reference
- → Sufficient for R&D program @LNGS

Cold Plasma Loading

🚺 Н



XPS Hydrogenation Results from Princeton





Investigation in the field of Co-Planar Waveguide started

The voltage signal propagating to a SMA connector is shown by arrow map. Exercise form COMSOL library



RF Antenna



Parallel-Plate Waveguide interfaced to WR42 Rectangular Waveguide on both e



Electron in cyclotron motion passes through parallel-plate region, slowly drifting between waveguide plates capturing ~0.1 fW of RF power (~10,000 bounces in ~10 microseconds)

Dynamical Simulation of RF Signal



Mac-E filter

This device consist of a magnetic bottle where particles are injected from the edge plus an electrostatic filter.



1 g of tritium gives 5.6 10¹⁴ Hz of decay rate that thanks to the attenuation factor

$$\begin{aligned} &J_i = \oint p_i dq_i \to J = \oint P_\perp dl = \frac{e}{c} (B\pi a^2) \\ &v_{||}^2 = v_0^2 - v_{\perp 0}^2 \frac{B(z)}{B_0} \end{aligned}$$

$$\left(\frac{\Delta E}{Q}\right)^3$$

is reduced to 700 Hz if ΔE ~ 2 eV

New filter Concept

Formulas from Progress in Particle and Nuclear Physics 106 (2019) at pg 122

$$\mathbf{V}_{D} = \mathbf{V}_{\perp} = \left(q\mathbf{E} + \mathbf{F} - \mu\nabla B - m\frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dt}\right) \times \frac{\mathbf{B}}{qB^{2}}$$

$$\mathbf{V}_{D} = \mathbf{V}_{\perp} = \left(q\mathbf{E} + \mathbf{F} - \mu\nabla B - m\frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dt}\right) \times \frac{\mathbf{B}}{qB^{2}}$$

$$\mathbf{V}_{D} = \mathbf{V}_{\perp} + \mathbf{V}_{\parallel}$$

$$\mathbf{V}_{L} = \mathbf{V}_{\perp} - \mathbf{V}_{D} \text{ and } \mathbf{v}_{\parallel}^{*} = \mathbf{v}_{\parallel} - \mathbf{V}_{\parallel} \approx 0.$$

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$$\frac{dT_{\perp}}{dt} = -q\boldsymbol{E} \cdot \boldsymbol{V}_{D} = -q \,\boldsymbol{E} \cdot (q\boldsymbol{E} - \mu \boldsymbol{\nabla} B) \times \frac{\boldsymbol{B}}{qB^{2}} = \frac{\mu}{B^{2}} \,\boldsymbol{E} \cdot (\boldsymbol{\nabla} B \times \boldsymbol{B})$$

Where T_{\perp} kinetic energy of gyromotion in CGS



M.G. Betti et al., Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 106 (2019) 120-131

New concept EM filter

 $E_x = 0 ,$ $E_y = E_0 \cos\left(\frac{y}{\lambda}\right) e^{-z/\lambda} ,$ $E_z = -E_0 \sin\left(\frac{y}{\lambda}\right) e^{-z/\lambda} ,$

$$B_x = B_0 \cos\left(\frac{x}{\lambda}\right) e^{-z/\lambda} ,$$

$$B_y = 0 ,$$

$$B_z = -B_0 \sin\left(\frac{x}{\lambda}\right) e^{-z/\lambda}$$







New concept EM filter Dynamic tuning



New concept EM filter Dynamic tuning







Block Diagram of the PTOLEMY Spectrometer



1 meter

Block Diagram of the PTOLEMY Spectrometer



Principle of Operation:

- 1. Electrons from weakly-bound tritium originate from a cold target surface.
- 2. Electrons drift through an RF Antenna region where the electron momentum components are measured to ~ few eV resolution.
- 3. Filter electrodes are set \sim 1 msec in advance of electrons entering filter.
- 4. Kinetic energy of electrons drained as they climb a potential under gradient-B drift.
- 5. Electrons of ~ few eV in a low B field region are transported into a microcalorimeter.

R&D Program:

Small-scale resolution studies and Filter Concept evaluation

Physical Layout of First Spectrometer



(Left) Cross-Sectional View (Sliced in Half): Red – Iron Yoke, Pink – Current Coils, Brown – Electrodes, Rainbo

Initial Implementation of Filter Electrodes

Voltage profile on filter electrodes fixed according to B field Only the overall magnitude of the voltage/charge is adjusted

Major Challenge:

Fixed voltage division electrode array is charged up in ~100 microsec

- → Capacitances in series with a leading ~few pF HV electrode
- → Charge stored locally is transferred to the final LV electrode of the low capacitance series filter array and allowed to settle for ~10 time constants
- → Remaining electron momentum parallel to B field removed by final LV electrode voltage difference relative to grounded micro-calorimeter surface.
- → Precision/Stability of Target to microcalorimeter voltage difference sets HV resolution, not filter voltages – filter voltages affect transmission efficiency.

First Run of Transverse Drift Filtering

Only electrons entering the filter with a transverse Kinetic Energy matching the programmed electrode voltages will remain on the central drift plane and have their transverse KE drained away.

First Results – Finer Adjustment Needed

Calorimetric measurement based on Transition Edges Sensors technology

Resolution of ~0.55eV at 1keV and ~0.15eV at 0.1keV operating at 70-100mK under investigation (Clarence Chang ANL, Moseley et. al. GSFC/NASA)

100 eV electron can be stopped in a very small absorber absorber i.e. small C

SPIDER island TES example

Micro-Calorimeter Total Resolution: $E_e = e(V_{cal} - V_{target}) + E_{cal} + RF_{corr}$

Design Goal (PTOLEMY): $\Delta E_{FWHM} = 0.05 \text{ eV} @ 10 \text{ eV}$ translates to $\Delta E \propto E^{\alpha} \ (\alpha \leq 1/3)$ $\Delta E_{FWHM} = 0.022 \text{ eV} @ 0.8 \text{eV}$

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

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

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

T_c=42 mK with: Ti=11 nm and Au=27 nm

Best solution in terms of heat capacity

Microcal for IR Photons

IR TES achieve 0.12 eV resolution at 0.8 eV for single IR photons

Initial Tests of Transition Curves (Films and TES) Experimental Films TESs

Backscatter Simulations

Experimental site at LNGS

Light Dark Matter search

Side project potentially very much interesting

- 1. Hochberg, et. al, 2016. "Directional Detection of Dark Matter with 2D Targets", Phys. Lett. **B772**, (2017), 239.
- 2. GL Cavoto et. Al, "Sub-GeV Dark Matter Detection with Electron Recoils in Carbon Nanotubes "Phys.Lett. **B776** (2018) 338-344

In both papers the interaction of light DM with electrons in C nano-structure are discussed. With two different approaches, some directionality features of C nano-ribbon or nano-tube structure are shown. Thus a technical run of the PTOLEMY detector without T would provide interesting results in a region of sensitivity lacking of DM hunting activity. Any electron popping up form C nano-structure could be signature of DM interaction.

The requirements crucial for the PTOLEMY CNB detection project could be also very much beneficial for Light DM search:

- C with with ¹⁴C contamination at better than one per 10¹⁸
- electron selection capability
- and very high energy resolution

World-map of the PTOLEMY Collaboration

Recent Publications [PTOLEMY COLLABORATION] <u>http://ptolemy.lngs.infn.it</u>

New ExB Filter concept:

A design for an electromagnetic filter for precision energy measurements at the tritium endpoint, M.G. Betti et al., Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. **106** (2019) 120-131, <u>https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ppnp.2019.02.004</u>, e-Print: <u>arXiv:1810.06703</u>

TES Microcalorimeters for PTOLEMY, M. Rajteri, M. Biasotti, M. Faverzani, E. Ferri, R. Filippo, F. Gatti, A. Giachero, E. Monticone, A. Nucciotti, A. Puiu, J. Low Temp. Phys. (2019). https://doi.org/10.1007/s10909-019-02271-x

Physics Program (CNB, Mass, Sterile): Neutrino physics with the PTOLEMY project, M.G. Betti et al., JCAP 07 (2019) 047, https://doi.org/10.1088/1475-7516/2019/07/047, e-Print: arXiv:1902.05508

To Conclude

We hope that PTOLEMY R&D is providing an interesting set of possibilities for the future of neutrino mass observables

Significant progress has been made in the last year towards the design of a new filter concept and we are evaluating with simulation the parameter specifications that will be required in the construction process

Our overlap with the neutrino mass measurement community has been and continues to be of enormous help to our effort