



# The PTOLEMY project: from a dream to a challenge

Marcello Messina, LNGS-INFN, May 2020

# Best summary of the Universe history



- 1. Expansion of Universe
- 2. Light element abundances

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- 3. Cosmic Microwave Background

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- 2. Light element abundances
- 3. Cosmic Microwave Background
- 4. Cosmic Neutrino Background







# 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 to 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



#### $T \approx 1.9 K \Longrightarrow p_{\nu} \approx 0.001 eV$

 $n\approx 56\ cm^{-3}\ x\ 6$ 

# Neutrino flow



# The status of CNB search before 2007

# On 1962

NOVEMBER 1, 1962

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#### Universal Neutrino Degeneracy

STEVEN WEINBERG\* Imperial College of Science and Technology, London, England (Received March 22, 1962)

Modern cosmological theories imply that the universe is filled with a shallow degenerate Fermi sea of neutrinos. In the steady state and oscillating models (and perhaps also the "big bang" theories) it can be shown rigorously that the proportion of filled neutrino levels (plus the proportion of filled antineutrino levels) is precisely one up to a finite Fermi energy  $E_F$ . The proof takes into account both absorption and the repressive effects of already filled levels on neutrino emission. Experiment shows that  $E_F \leq 200 \text{ eV}$  for antineutrinos and  $E_F \leq 1000 \text{ eV}$  for neutrinos. The degenerate neutrinos could be observed (if  $E_F > 10 \text{ eV}$ ) by looking for apparent violations of energy conservation in  $\beta^-$  decay. In the steady state and evolutionary cosmologies  $E_F$  is much too low to ever be observed, but in the oscillating cosmologies  $E_F \simeq 5R_c$  MeV, where  $R_c$  is the minimum radius of the universe in units of its present radius; thus experiment already shows that the universe will contract by a factor over 10<sup>3</sup>, if at all. Astronomical evidence plus Einstein's field equation (without cosmological constant) require in an oscillating cosmology that  $E_F < 2 \times 10^{-3}$  eV (so  $R_c < 10^{-9}$ ) and suggest that higher energy neutrinos may represent the bulk of the energy of the universe. A model universe incorporating this idea is constructed.



FIG. 1. Shape of the upper end of an allowed Kurie plot to be expected in a  $\beta^+$  decay if neutrinos are degenerate up to energy  $E_F$ , or in a  $\beta^-$  decay if antineutrinos are degenerate.



FIG. 2. Shape of the upper end of an allowed Kurie plot to be expected in a  $\beta^-$  decay if neutrinos are degenerate up to energy  $E_F$ , or in a  $\beta^+$  decay if antineutrinos are degenerate.

#### Exploit massless neutrino scattering 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 ( $\Delta p$ ) implies a variation of the v spin (DJ) (R.R. Lewis Phy. Rev. D21 663, 1980):







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 seen if :  $f = (v - v) \neq 0$ 

Laser resonator Persistent magnet Suspension magnet **A B** Balancing mass

Since the  $\nu$  wave length is ~ mm ( $\lambda$ ) can be envisaged an enhancement of the interaction rate due to coherent sum of the invariant scattering amplitudes in a volume  $\lambda^3$ . 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.

# Annihilation in the CMR of Z-boson

Is it possible to measure the CRN ? Method 2



The signature would be a deep in the neutrino flux around  $10^{22}$  eV or an excess of evnts 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:

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



### Extreme acceleration of target

#### 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.

Accelerator



In this case even with an accelerator ring (VLHC) of  $\sim 4x10^4$  km length (Earth circumference) with  $E_{\text{beam}} \sim 10^7$  TeV the interaction rate would still be negligible.

#### Summarizing Is it possible to measure the CNB?

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

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

### On 2007

#### **Cosmological Neutrino Background** Where we are?

- 1. A process where the v can contribute by means of its quantum numbers where no additional energy is required was clearly identified
- 2. Cross section to predict interaction rate evaluated
- 3. Neutrino mass is include in the energy balance?

### NCB Cross Section

as a function of  $E_{\nu}$ ,  $Q_{\beta}$  for different nuclear spin transitions





## NCB Cross Section Evaluation

specific cases

Isotope	$Q_{\beta}$ (keV)	Half-life	$\frac{\sigma_{\rm NCB}(v_{\nu}/c)}{(10^{-41}~{\rm cm}^2)}$
		(Sec)	
$^{10}\mathrm{C}$	885.87	1320.99	$5.36 \times 10^{-3}$
$^{14}O$	1891.8	71.152	$1.49 \times 10^{-2}$
$^{26m}$ Al	3210.55	6.3502	$3.54 \times 10^{-2}$
$^{34}Cl$	4469.78	1.5280	$5.90 \times 10^{-2}$
$^{38\mathrm{m}}\mathrm{K}$	5022.4	0.92512	$7.03 \times 10^{-2}$
$^{42}\mathrm{Sc}$	5403.63	0.68143	$7.76 \times 10^{-2}$
$^{46}V$	6028.71	0.42299	$9.17 \times 10^{-2}$
$^{50}Mn$	6610.43	0.28371	$1.05 \times 10^{-1}$
$^{54}\mathrm{Co}$	7220.6	0.19350	$1.20 \times 10^{-1}$

Super-allowed  $0^+ \rightarrow 0^+$ 

Isotope	Decay	$\overline{Q}$	Half-life	$\sigma_{ m NCB}(v_{ u}/c)$
		$(\mathrm{keV})$	(sec)	$(10^{-41} \text{ cm}^2)$
$^{3}\mathrm{H}$	$\beta^{-}$	18.591	$3.8878 \times 10^{8}$	$7.84 \times 10^{-4}$
<sup>63</sup> Ni	$\beta^{-}$	66.945	$3.1588 \times 10^{9}$	$1.38 \times 10^{-6}$
$^{93}$ Zr	$\beta^{-}$	60.63	$4.952 \times 10^{13}$	$2.39 \times 10^{-10}$
$^{106}$ Ru	$\beta^{-}$	39.4	$3.2278 \times 10^{7}$	$5.88 \times 10^{-4}$
$^{107}$ Pd	$\beta^{-}$	33	$2.0512 \times 10^{14}$	$2.58 \times 10^{-10}$
$^{187}$ Re	$\beta^{-}$	2.64	$1.3727 \times 10^{18}$	$4.32 \times 10^{-11}$
$^{11}C$	$\beta^+$	960.2	$1.226 \times 10^{3}$	$4.66 \times 10^{-3}$
$^{13}N$	$\beta^+$	1198.5	$5.99  imes 10^2$	$5.3 \times 10^{-3}$
$^{15}\mathrm{O}$	$\beta^+$	1732	$1.224 \times 10^2$	$9.75 \times 10^{-3}$
$^{18}$ F	$\beta^+$	633.5	$6.809 \times 10^{3}$	$2.63 \times 10^{-3}$
$^{22}$ Na	$\beta^+$	545.6	$9.07 \times 10^7$	$3.04 \times 10^{-7}$
$^{45}$ Ti	$\beta^+$	1040.4	$1.307 \times 10^4$	$3.87 \times 10^{-4}$

Nuclei having the highest product  $\sigma_{\text{NCB}} t_{1/2}$ 



е

 $m_{v} m_{v}$ 

# Why Tritium target?

- High cross-section for neutrino capture
- Sizeable lifetime
- Low Q-value
- Tritium beta decay ~10<sup>15</sup> Bq/gram



# Dreaming with opened eyes



# Why do we need an electrostatic filter?

Answer:



Electrons to be analyzed for 1 g of T will be  $5.610^{14} \times (250-20000) \cdot 10^{-14} = (10^3-10^5)$  event/s

### Mac-E filter

The device consist of a magnetic bottle where particles are injected form the edge plus an electrostatic barrier



Jackson Fig 12.6

$$\propto \overrightarrow{\mu} \bullet \overrightarrow{\nabla} B$$

F

Tends to straighten the particle momentum across field line direction

### Limiting factor of a Mac-E filter



Remain only one possibility: removing  $p_T$  in a controlled manner

# PTOLEMY detector concept became feasible

#### Progress in Particle and Nuclear Physics 106 (2019) 120-131

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journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/ppnp

#### Review



A design for an electromagnetic filter for precision energy measurements at the tritium endpoint

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### New filter Concept

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



Total phase-averaged velocity of CGS trajectory with

parallel and perpendicular component w.r.t. B field.

Adiabaticity condition

$$\rho_c \ll \left| \frac{B}{\nabla B} \right|, \left| \frac{E}{\nabla E} \right|; \text{ and}$$
 $\tau_c \ll \left| \frac{B}{dB/dt} \right|, \left| \frac{E}{dE/dt} \right|;$ 

With v\* the velocity of particle in CGS

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

 $v = v_{\perp} + v_{\parallel}$  by  $v_{\perp}^* = v_{\perp} - V_D$  and  $v_{\parallel}^* = v_{\parallel} - V_{\parallel} \approx 0$ .

First adiabatic invariant:

 $\boldsymbol{V} = \boldsymbol{V}_{\perp} + \boldsymbol{V}_{\parallel}$ 

 $\mu = \frac{mv_{\perp}^{*2}}{2B}$ 

Where T<sub>1</sub> kinetic energy of gyromotion in CGS

#### New concept EM filter





Static fields configuration

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

#### New concept EM filter





Static fields configuration

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

#### New concept EM filter





Static fields configuration

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



### New concept EM filter Dynamic tuning





### Filter configuration and performance



#### Eilton and figuration and norfarmana












# PTOLEMY: measurement principle M. G.Betti et al., Progress in Particle and Nuclear Physics, **106 (**2019),120-131



Step 1 A new way of storing atomic T



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

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

 $R^2$ 

#### Step 3

Transverse kinetic energy is removed. Field properly set on ms time scale. "Wrong particle will end up on one of the electrodes and the right one will pass"



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

Between Step 3-4 Electrostatic barrier will reduce TL Step 4 The particle is driven into the TES: Ttot=q(Vanode -Vsource)+ Ecal

# PTOLEMY: measurement principle M. G.Betti et al., Progress in Particle and Nuclear Physics, **106 (**2019),120-131



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



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

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

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

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

#### Implementation of fundamental concepts on the PTOLEMY filter

1. The electron is transported from the graphene support to the RF region

2. A preliminary estimation of the total and transverse kinetic energy is obtained. The feasibility of this measurement was already shown by the Project8 experiment.

$$f_{\gamma} \equiv \frac{f_{\rm c}}{\gamma} = \frac{eB}{2\pi\gamma m_{\rm e}} \qquad P(\gamma, \theta) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{2}{3} \frac{e^4}{m_{\rm e}^2 c} B^2(\gamma^2 - 1) \sin^2\theta,$$

- 3. Depending on the measured value of the transverse kinetic energy, the voltage levels in the filter are adjusted, prior to the electron entering the filter, such that for a given transverse kinetic energy, the electron drifts along a straight trajectory through the filter to within the accuracy of the initial RF measurement and in this process the transverse momentum is removed by rising up an electrostatic barrier.
- 4. At the exit of the filter the electron guided into the microcalorimeter to accomplish the final energy measurement based on a differential measurement.

### PTOLEMY experiment

PIOLEMY

- 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

The Target

### PTOLEMY: The source

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

### Molecular Broadening



### Cold Plasma Loading





**XPS Hydrogenation Results from Princeton** 





### The RF detector

### Ptroject8 experiment

status detection of the RF from single e

Selected for a Viewpoint in *Physics* week ending PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS PRL 114, 162501 (2015) 24 APRIL 2015 S

#### Single-Electron Detection and Spectroscopy via Relativistic Cyclotron Radiation

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The Project 8 Collaboration has constructed an experiment designed to detect cyclotron radiation from single electrons. At the heart of the experiment is a small volume hereafter referred to as the "cell," in which a gaseous radioactive isotope is present at low pressure. In a uniform magnetic field (1T), electrons from decays inside the cell emit cyclotron radiation. The cell consists of a section of rectangular waveguide sized to capture and transmit the microwave radiation to the input of a low-noise radiofrequency receiver (LowNoiseFactory amplifier) and digitizer. The radioactive isotope 83mKr is a gamma-emitting isomer of 83Kr with a half-life of 1.8 h, in which internal conversion produces monoenergetic electron lines with kinetic energies of 17 830.0(5), 30 227(1), 30 424(1), 30

The gain of this amplifier cascade is 54 dB, making the noise contribution from the components following these amplifiers negligible. The frequency band of interest (from 25 to 27 GHz) is mixed down with a local 24.2 GHz oscillator to a center frequency of 1.8 GHz. A second mixer with a variable local oscillator frequency combines with a ow-pass filter to select a frequency sub-band of 125 MHz for narrow-band signal analysis. Signals are digitized at 250 mega-samples per second with a free-running 8-bit digitizer and recorded to disk.

### Ptroject8 experiment (II)

status detection of the RF from single e





#### 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



#### 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



#### 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



## Dynamical simulation of RF signal



## **RF** signal simulation



#### Test different Antennas geometry





### RF detection

two different approaches

Two Possible approaches

 Detect RF signal fast enough: 0.5 μs and study its features. In this time frame the energy lost is negligible.

2. Exploit multiple deflections and correct for it. The RF signal will tell us how many reflections the e had and so the trajectory.

Consequences

Consequences

**Reference number:** 

An electron with 18.6 keV transverse energy in 1 T field radiate 7.3 meV/ $\mu s$  (1.2 fW) at 27 GHz

Fast witch of voltage setting. Discrete sets of ntuple-V values? No critical. This will affect only The electron transfer function.

$$E=q(V_{anode}-V_{target})+E_{cal}$$

Possible systematic effect on total Energy measurement

 $E=q(V_{anode}-V_{target})+E_{cal}+RF_{correction}$ 

## The Magnet

# Magnet geometry under study This is a key ingredient to realize efficiently the whole elector transport form graphene

support to the RF region, then to the filter and finally to the TES.





#### Still working on coil placement (alternative coil path)











#### Magnet geometry under study This is a key ingredient to realize efficiently the whole elector transport

This is a key ingredient to realize efficiently the whole elector transport form graphene support to the RF region, then to the filter finally to the TES.



#### Magnetic Field for Transverse Drift



#### Possible multiple channels geometry

~ 1 m<sup>2</sup> of graphene per module with 0.2 mg of T (full loading) x 12 modules ~ 2 mg of T



## The µCalorimeter

#### 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

## Microcal Energy Resolution

- Pushing down microcal resolution 0.15eV@100eV (~100mK) no longer the focus
  - Most TES work is headed toward extremely low heat capacitance (absorber thickness ~15µm → 10nm for ~10eV electron)
  - 0.05eV@10eV (and further linear improvements from pushing down to 50mK)

Example:

IR TES cameras also very active (~0.3 eV resolution achieved at 0.8 eV for single IR photons)



### **Microcal for IR Photons**

IR TES achieve 0.12 eV resolution at 0.8 eV for



### The LNGS laboratory


### Experimental site at LNGS



### Voltage generation with extreme stability

Required by energy scale requirement

### LNGS R&D activities

#### Exploded view of the HV-HS system



#### Field Mill concept



### Preliminary data





# Voltage Generation with High Stability

20 boards able to generate 20 kV. The output can be any voltage from 0 to 20kV with step of 40 V  $\,$ 



Circuit based on REF5010 from Texas Instrument. The stability aimed at is  $\sim 10^{-6}$  at 20 kV. The Russian National Institute of Metrology achieved a similar results.



### e-source with energy definition <0.5 eV PhD work of K. Rozwadowska

# E-gun at LNGS











### Light Dark Matter search

Side project potentially very much interesting

- Hochberg, et. al, 2016. "Directional Detection of Dark Matter with 2D Targets", Phys. Lett. **B772**, (2017), 239.
- 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 <sup>14</sup>C contamination at better than one per 10<sup>18</sup>
- electron selection capability
- and very high energy resolution





## World-map of the PTOLEMY Collaboration



### The first two papers

1) M. G.Betti et al.,

"A design for an electromagnetic filter for precision energy measurements at the tritium endpoint" Progress in Particle and Nuclear Physics, **106** (2019),120-131 https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ppnp.2019.02.004

2) M. G.Betti et al., "Neutrino Physics with the PTOLEMY project", JCAP\_047P\_0219, arXiv:1902.05508

### To Conclude

- 1. Something completely different
- 2. Physics program: Relic Neutrino's, Light DM, Neutrino mass
- 3. Technological challenge: New support for T, extreme high rate, extreme energy resolution