Search for neutrinoless double beta decay in NEMO 3 and SuperNEMO

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>Introduction to the $\beta\beta$ -decay theory/experiment

NEMO-3 detector and its results

>SuperNEMO: basic R&D directions and its current status

≻Conclusion

Double beta decay basic statements



Double beta decay basic formulas

$$A^{0\nu} = (T_{1/2}^{0\nu})^{-1} = G^{0\nu}(Q,Z) |M^{0\nu}|^2 \langle m_{\nu} \rangle^2 / m_{e}^2 \sim Q^7 Z^2 |M^{0\nu}|^2$$

$$< m_{\nu} \geq |U_{el}|^2 m_1 + |U_{e2}|^2 e^{i\alpha_1} m_2 + |U_{e3}|^2 e^{i\alpha_2} m_3 - \text{effective neutrino Majorana mass}$$

$$M^{0\nu} : \text{nuclear matrix element}$$

$$G^{0\nu} : \text{phase space factor}$$

$$T^{0\nu}_{1/2}(y) \geq \frac{\ln 2 \cdot N}{k_{CL}} \cdot \frac{\epsilon}{A} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{M \cdot t}{N_{Bckg} \cdot \Delta E}}$$

$$M : \text{mass (g)}$$

$$\epsilon : \text{efficiency}$$

$$K_{C.L.} : \text{confidence level}$$

$$N : \text{Avogadro number}$$

$$t : \text{exposition time (y)}$$

$$N_{Bckg} : \text{background events/ (keV/kg/y)}$$

$$\Delta E : \text{energy resolution (keV)}$$

$$- \text{effective neutrino Majorana mass}$$

$$THEORY$$



Neutrino mass hierarchy patterns and $0\nu\beta\beta$ -decay





- Natural background (<2614 keV) extra-low setup radiopurity NEMO-3 (200 t) activity ~300 Bq, human body (60 kg) ~5000 Bq
- Neutrons active/passive shielding
- Cosmics deep underground sites for setup location

Long-time exposition

• years of data taking - setup stability required



Experimental techniques to observe $\beta\beta$ -decay





Experimental drawbacks

• A few ββ-isotopes can be measured ⁷⁶Ge,¹³⁰Te up to now.

- Unavoidable natural background.
- We don't see electrons, just energy released - no absolute proof, that we see
 ββ0v-peak and not something else (γ-line)!

difficult to accept large mass
smaller efficiency (for tracko-calo)

- worth resolution
- background (for TPC)

NEMO-3/SuperNEMO collaboration

Neutrino Ettore Majorana Observatory (Neutrino Experiment on MOlybdenum – historical name) A REAL Ň Japan Morocco U Saga USA Fes U KEK MHC INL U Osaka (U Texas) UK Finland Poland Russia UCL JINR Dubna U Jyvaskyla **U** Warsaw **U** Manchester **ITEP Moscow Kurchatov Institute Imperial College** Ukraine **INR Kiev** France **ISMA Kharkov CEN Bordeaux IReS Strasbourg** Slovakia LAL ORSAY (U. Bratislava) Spain LPC Caen **U** Valencia **Czech Republic** LSCE Gif/Yvette **U** Saragossa Charles U Praha **U** Barcelona **IEAP CTU Praha**

~ 80 physicists, 12 countries, 27 laboratories

The NEMO3 host laboratory



The NEMO3 detector

Fréjus Underground Laboratory : 4800 m.w.e.



Source: 10 kg of $\beta\beta$ isotopes cylindrical, S = 20 m², 60 mg/cm²

Tracking detector:

drift wire chamber operating in Geiger mode (6180 cells) Gas: He + 4% ethyl alcohol + 1% Ar + 0.1% H₂O

<u>Calorimeter</u>: 1940 plastic scintillators coupled to low radioactivity PMTs

Magnetic field: 25 Gauss Gamma shield: Pure Iron (18 cm) Neutron shield: borated water (~30 cm) + Wood (Top/Bottom/Gapes between water tanks)

Able to identify e^- , e^+ , γ and α -delayed



Cathodic rings Wire chamber

Calibration tube

Assembling of NEMO 3



Nool **Opening Day, July 2002**

$\beta\beta$ decay isotopes in NEMO-3 detector



ββ-events selection in NEMO-3

Typical $\beta\beta 2\nu$ event observed from ¹⁰⁰Mo



Criteria to select $\beta\beta$ events:

- 2 tracks with charge < 0
- 2 PMT, each > 200 keV
- PMT-Track association
- Common vertex

- •external event rejection by TOF
- No other isolated PMT hit (γ rejection)
- No delayed track (²¹⁴Bi rejection)

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- <u>Trigger</u>:
- at least 1 PMT > 150 keV
 - \geq 3 Geiger hits (2 neighbour layers + 1)

Trigger rate = 7 Hz

$\beta\beta$ events: 1 event every 2.5 minutes

Background tagging in NEMO-3







e⁻Nγ event to measure ²⁰⁸Tl





¹⁰⁰Mo 2β2ν results (2003-2004)





New results: ¹³⁰Te $\beta\beta$ 2v



$\beta\beta$ and Fermi coupling constant G_f

 $\beta\beta$ is sensitive to G_f variations (~G_f⁴)

old minerals ($\sim 10^6 - 10^9 \text{ yr}$)



extractor and mass-spectrometer



ββ decay was first detected in geochemical experiments (¹³⁰Te \rightarrow ¹³⁰Xe) Daughter isotope (¹³⁰Xe) extracted from an old mineral and number

of atoms counted

¹³⁰Te geochemical measurements: $(25 \pm 2) \ge 10^{20}$ yrs (Kirsten 83) $(27 \pm 2) \ge 10^{20}$ yrs (Bernatowicz 93) $(8 \pm 1) \ge 10^{20}$ yrs (Manuel 91, Takaoka 96) \implies "new" samples (few $\ge 10^{6}$ yrs)

NEMO3 result ("present" $\beta\beta$ rate): <u>(7.6 ± 1.7) x 10²⁰ yrs</u> Difference between $\beta\beta$ rates in past and present due to time dependence of Fermi constant???

Suggestion: Carry out geochemical isotope analyses with ${}^{100}Mo \rightarrow {}^{100}Ru$, ${}^{96}Zr \rightarrow {}^{96}Mo$ (daughter not gas) etc and compare with direct measurements (precise NEMO3 results available).



23/54



Our knowleges&experience from NEMO 3

- to identify and measure all sources of background
- to control internal and external backgrounds at the level of 10 kg of enriched isotopes
- to purify $\beta\beta$ isotopes by removing ²¹⁴Bi and ²⁰⁸Tl contaminants
- to prove the reliability of the chosen techniques
- to remove radon background
- to develop ultra low background HPGe detectors
- to develop radon detectors sensitive to 1 mBq/m³

Technique can be extrapolated for larger mass next generation detector to reach 50 meV!

Program for 2005-2008 R&D is carring out. Major contributors: UK, France, Spain

From NEMO to SuperNEMO

NEMO-	3
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SuperNEMO

$7 \text{ kg }^{100}\text{Mo}$ T _{1/2} (ββ2ν) = 7. 10 ¹⁸ y	Mass of isotope	$\frac{100\text{-}200 \text{ kg }^{82}\text{Sel} ^{150}\text{Nd}}{T_{1/2}(\beta\beta2\nu)=10^{20}\parallel 10^{19}\text{ y}}$	
$T_{1/2}(ββ0ν) > 2. 10^{24} y$ <m<sub>v> < 0.3 – 1.3 eV</m<sub>	Sensitivity	$T_{1/2}(ββ0ν) > 2. 10^{26} y$ <m<sub>ν> < 40 - 110 meV</m<sub>	
FWHM ~ 12% at 3 MeV (dominated by calorimeter ~ 8%)	Energy resolution (FWHM of the ββ0v ray)	Total: FWHM ≤8 % at 3 MeV Calorimeter: ≤4 % at 3 MeV	
$\mathbf{E}(\beta\beta 0\mathbf{v}) = 8 \%$	Efficiency	E (ββ0ν) ~ 30 %	
²¹⁴ Bi < 300 μBq/kg ²⁰⁸ Tl < 20 μBq/kg	Internal contaminations in the source foils in ²⁰⁸ Tl and ²¹⁴ Bi	(If ⁸² Se) ²¹⁴ Bi < 10 μ Bq/kg ²⁰⁸ Tl < 2 μ Bq/kg	
Longit: 1.3 cm Transv: 0.6 cm	Vertex resolution	Longitudinal: 1.3 cm Transversal: 0.3 cm	
$\beta\beta2\nu \sim 2 \text{ cts} / 7 \text{ kg} / \text{ y}$ (²⁰⁸ Tl, ²¹⁴ Bi) ~ 0.5 cts/ 7 kg /y	Background	$\beta\beta2\nu=1, {}^{208}\text{Tl}=0.5$ ${}^{214}\text{Bi}=0.5 \text{ counts/y}$	
3 MEuro (without source & PS) Price	~50 MEuro	

Main NEMO/SuperNEMO R&D tasks



Collaborative competition between labs for tasks and detector design

SuperNEMO basic design

Plane geometry

Source (40 mg/cm²) 12m², tracking volume (~3000 channels) and calorimeter (~1000 PMT)



Water shielding



NEED A CAVITY ~ 60m x 15m x15m

Possible in LNGS (Gran Sasso, 3500 m.w.e) or in LSM (Modane, 4800 m.w.e) if there is a new excavation



Alternative SuperNEMO MOON-like design



MOON module with 20kg of source



SuperNEMO location: future extension of LSM laboratory



SuperNEMO location: new LSC Canfranc laboratory



Characteristic of the new LSC			
Depth	900 m (2450 mwe)		
Main experiment al hall	600 m ² (oriented to CERN)		
Low background lab	150 m ²		
Clean room	45 m ² (100/1000 type)		
General services	135 m ²		
Offices	80 m ²		



R&D plans for calorimeter

Goal: main: To reach 4% (FWHM) at 3 MeV (7% at 1 MeV) with plastic scintillators coupled to PMTs others: To reduce number of PMT To control quality with test mass production of ~100 units

To reduce backscattering in order to improve $\beta\beta0\nu$ efficiency

Scintillators: search for maximal light yields, homogenity of response.

scintillator materials tests (organic plastic PS or liquid LS, non-organic plastic), improvement and developement of new scintillators (Kharkov&Dubna)
design of scintillator cell: sizes, shapes, entrance window (minimal e-backscaterring), coating, reflectors, antical contacts lighterial shape ato

optical contacts, lightguide shape, etc.

• Studies of scintillator bars

Photomultipliers: hunting for maximal resolution and low radioactivity keeping resonable other parameters: big size, timing, linearity, and high CR stability

In France, joint studies with Photonis company according to special agreement.
In US and UK, tests of new Hamamatsu and ETL PMTs, work in close connections with companies.

R&D for PS

Resolution required has been reached for small sizes (up to ~ 6 x 6 x 2 cm)



Tests realised with e- spectrometer





Advantages: high light yield + very good uniformity and transparency

Challenge: mechanical contraints particularly for the entrance window (electron detection)





75×75×20 mm LS + light guide + 3" PMT Relative pulse amplitude is 16% more than that with plastic of the same sizes

Comparable results have been obtained for LS and PS with small samples

09/09/z6 17.06

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R&D for bar scintillators

11-12% resolution has been obtained without optimization New tests with improved setup will be done in 2008





Shitov Yuriy, IC HEP seminar, 16.01.2008

R&D calorimeter status

Scintillators:

- Demonstrated the 7% at 1 MeV (FWHM) resolution for small samples
- The focus now is to retain this for larger blocks (8" PMT)

Photomultiplier tubes:

- 3" high (35–40%) quantum efficiency PMT developed by Hamamatsu/Photonis
- 8" PMT will be available by the end of the year
- Ultra-low background PMT glass intensive R&D at Photonis

Four main options for the final calorimeter design:

- Plastic scintillator with a large hemispherical PMT (>= 8")
- Liquid scintillator in a container with a large PMT and an ultra-thin window
- Hybrid detector. Liquid scintillator as a light guide and for gamma detection, and a 2 cm entrance window from plastic scintillator for electron detection
- 2 m long scintillator bars read out at both ends by 3" or 5" PMT

R&D for tracker

Drift cell worked In Geiger mode

Goal: optimization of tracker operating performance

- sizes of wires and cell
- wire material, gas mixture
- simulation for optimal tracker desing
- readout
- desing of automatic wiring equipment



• 9-cell prototype has been built (see photos) in Manchester U. and is testing with cosmics

- 100-cell prototype in 2008
- 300-cell prototype is discussing



R&D for wiring robot

- About 500 000 wires to be strung, crimped, terminated
- Wiring robot is being developed at Mullard Space Science Lab (UCL)



Choise of nucleus for measurements



Nuclear matrice elements Theoretical calculations

Recent calculation done systematically on several experimental interesting nuclei

- Shell Model: Caurier et al. (2004)&private com.
- QRPA Simkovic et al. (1999)
- Stoica et al. (2001)
- Suhonen et al. (1998 and 2003)
- Rodin, Simkovic (2005)

Nucleus choice depends on: > enrichment possibilities > experimental techniques >NME value (not very strong due to calculation uncertainties

- > Q_{ββ} values (phase space factor, background)
- > high $\beta\beta(2\nu)$ life-time

Choise of nucleus for measurements

Nucleus	Q _{ββ} (keV)	T _{1/2} (ββ2ν), y	G ⁰ v, 10 ⁻¹⁴ y ⁻¹	√ G^{0v}/G^{0v}_{76Ge}	M ⁰ ^{∨ a)}	Abundance(%)
⁴⁸ Ca	4272	4.2·10 ¹⁹	6.43	3.19	0.76 ^{b)}	0.187
⁷⁶ Ge	2039	1.74.10 ²¹	0.63	1	2.58-6.36	7.4
⁸² Se	2996	9.2.10 ¹⁹	2.73	2.08	2.49-4.60	9.2
⁹⁶ Zr	3350	2.10 ¹⁹	5.7	3.00	1.12-4.32	2.8
¹⁰⁰ Mo	3034	7.11.10 ¹⁸	4.58	2.70	2.78-4.85	9.6
¹¹⁶ Cd	2805	3.1.10 ¹⁹	4.68	2.73	1.96-4.93	7.5
¹²⁸ Te	867	2.5·10 ²⁴ (geo)	0.17	0.52	2.54-5.84	32
¹³⁰ Te	2529	7.6.10 ²⁰	4.14	2.56	2.34-5.44	34.5
¹³⁶ Xe	2468	-	4.37	2.63	1.26-3.72	9
¹⁵⁰ Nd	3367	9.10 ¹⁸	13.4	4.61	4.16-4.74 ^{c)}	5.6

 $(T_{1/2}^{0\nu})^{-1} = G^{0\nu}(Q,Z) |M^{0\nu}|^2 \langle m_{\nu} \rangle^2 / m_e^2 \sim Q^7 Z^2 |M^{0\nu}|^2$

a) Compilation of QRPA & Shell model $M^{0\nu}$ calculations from MEDEX'07 workshop

b) Shell model only

c) For completeness only. Deformation is not included in the calculations

R&D for ⁸²Se sources



Enrichment

Goal: To be able to produce 100 kg of ⁸²Se

- Facilities exist in Russia
 - 30 kg of ⁷⁶Ge for GERDA
 - 100 kg of ⁸²Se possible in 3 years
 - Distillation of ⁸²Se (for purification) possible Distillation of ¹¹⁶Cd tested with NEMO3
 - 3.5 kg of ⁸²Se funded by ILIAS^(*) (2005-2007)



Purification

 $\frac{Goal:}{^{208}Tl} < 2 \ \mu Bq/kg$ $^{214}Bi < 10 \ \mu Bq/kg$

 Collaboration with INL (chemical method)
 - 600 g of ^{nat}Se done

-1 kg ⁸²Se done All funded by ILIAS

Collaboration with Kurchatov and Nijni-Novgorod Institutes (distillation)

-2 kg of ^{nat}Se done



Source foils production

Goal: 250 m² of ⁸²Se foils of 40 mg/cm²

NEMO3: ITEP (Moscow) powder + glue (60mg/cm²) =>Extrapolation 100 kg possible if very clean conditions Or new technique in test in LAL

R&D for ¹⁵⁰Nd

- technically it is potencially possible to enrich Nd (MENPHIS/CEA), strongly supported by the international double beta decay community
- > ¹⁵⁰Nd advantages
 - no constraint for Radon and ²¹⁴Bi
 - constraint less severe for ²⁰⁸Tl
 - phase space: 100 kg 150 Nd \approx 1 700 kg of 76 Ge \approx 400 kg of 82 Se or 130 Te \approx 4000 kg of 136 Xe
 - nuclear matrix element : could be good but ?
 - if SUSY is a mediator : very good for Nd
 - search to $\beta\beta$ -transition to excited state level very promising too
- Nd is the candidate for SuperNEMO (2 electrons search) and for SNO++ (pure calorimeter)

¹⁵⁰Nd R&D: MENPHIS facility support

Based on AVLIS (Atomic Vapor Laser Isotope Separation) method of enrichement

Design : 2001 Building : 2002 1st test : early 2003 1st full scale exp. : june 2003 Evaporator Dye laser chain Yag laser Copper vapor laser

- Production of 200 kg of enriched U at 2.5 % in few days
- Results in agreement with simulation expectation

MENPHIS simulation shows that enrichment of 150 Nd is doable (ton scale), ~ 100 kg in few weeks !!!

⁴⁸Ca enrichment is theoriticaly doable. Studies must be done Expression of Interest of SuperNEMO, SNO++ and Japan to keep MENPHYS for Nd enrichment

R&D for low radioctivity measurements

Goals: To develop detector capable to meausre 5 kg of foil (12 m², 40 mg/cm²) in one month with sensitivity of 2 μBq/kg in ²⁰⁸Tl and 10 μBq/kg in ²¹⁴Bi To improve HPGe detectors for selection of materials for SuperNEMO To develop detectors sensitive to 0.1 mBq/m³ of radon

Ge detectors

Today best NEMO HPGe 400 cm³ sensitive to 60 μ Bq/kg in ²⁰⁸Tl and 200 μ Bq/kg in ²¹⁴Bi (1 month, 1 kg)

Development with Canberra-Eurysis: larger volume (up to 1000 cm³), background reduced by a factor 10

and higher mass measurement.

Need of new set of measurements to select very pure materials for both cryostat and shielding. This development is done in the frame of ILIAS.

Radon detectors

Present radon detector sensitive to 1 mBq/m³ (based on Po ions collection in 70 l volume) Development of 1000 l detectors or new methods like drift chambers or using liquid scintillator. **R&D for BiPo detector**



Current status:

> BiPo-I protype is testing now in LSM (calibration, background measurements, development of β - α -discrimination technique)

» BiPo-II will be tested in 2008

Simulations

- SuperNemO VAlidation (SNOVA)
- Geant4 based application







Simulations: tracking performance

- Full detector simulation GEANT4
- Reconstruction
- Tracks reconstructed from tracker hits
- · Event vertex found in the foil
- Tracks matched with calorimeter hits
- Charge measured from curvature
- Track reconstruction efficiency ~ 90%
- Charge id efficiency ~ 98%
- Vertex reconstruction efficiency ~99%
- Vertex resolution ~2 cm





Simulations: sensitivity estimations for basic design setup



47

2.807

0.1397



Expected sensitivity in comparison with other projects

Experiment	Nucleu s	Mass (kg)	FWHM at $Q_{\beta\beta}$ (keV)	Background Counts/ fwhm.kg.y	T _{1/2} (0v) limit (years)	<m<sub>ββ> limit (meV)</m<sub>	Starting taking data
NEMO 3	¹⁰⁰ Mo ⁸² Se	7 1	350 350	~ 0.5 ~ 0.1	2. 10 ²⁴ 8. 10 ²³	300 - 1300 600 - 1500	
CUORICINO	¹³⁰ Te	10	7	~ 0.2	4. 10 ²⁴	250 - 850	
GERDA Phase 1 Phase 2 Phase 3	⁷⁶ Ge	15 35 300	4 4 4	0.04 0.004 0.004	3. 10 ²⁵ 2. 10 ²⁶ 6. 10 ²⁷	$250 - 780 \\ 100 - 320 \\ 20 - 65$	2008 ? ?
SuperNEMO	⁸² Se ¹⁵⁰ Nd	100	210	0.01	1. 10 ²⁶ 6. 10 ²⁵	45 – 130 70	2012 2012
CUORE if enrich ^{mt 130} Te	^{nat} Te ^{nat} Te ¹³⁰ Te	700 700 700	5 5 5	0.05 0.005 0.005	2. 10 ²⁶ 6.6 10 ²⁶ 2. 10 ²⁷	35 - 120 20 - 65	2012 ? ?

Nuclear Matrice elements: Shell Model: Caurier (2004) private com.

Stoica et al. (2001)

Suhonen et al. (1998 and 2003)

QRPA Rodin, Simkovic, Faessler (2005)

Conclusion

- The $0\nu\beta\beta$ -decay is a test of physics beyond the Standard Model by the search of the leptonic number violation and would determine the nature of the neutrino (Majorana)

-NEMO-3 works stable with perfomance expected. Backround was precisely measured and reduced (radon). New results for both 2nbb and 0nbb-decay to ground and exited states have been obtained for a set of nuclei

- NEMO technique can be extrapolated at ~100 kg to be sensititive to 2.10²⁶ y Only tracko-calo and gas TPC can identify the 2 emitted electrons. It also allows to measure single energy and angular correlation to determine the process leading to $\beta\beta(0v)$: light neutrino exchange, right-handed current, supersymetry,...

- SuperNEMO R&D program is carrying out and it is in good shape

- Several experiments are needed to measure different sources with several techniques

- SuperNEMO detector will be competitive with the other next generation $0\nu\beta\beta$ -experiments

- The next generation of $\beta\beta(0\nu)$ detectors will improve by a factor of 100 the sensitivity on the $T_{1/2}$ period for the search of leptonic number violation. The sensitivy on the physical $\langle m_{\nu} \rangle$, $\langle g_{M} \rangle$, ... will be improve by a factor 10.