

MINISTERIO DE ECONOMÍA Y COMPETITIVIDAD Ciemat

Centro de Investigaciones Energéticas, Medioambientales y Tecnológicas

Neutrino Physics Inés Gil Botella

CIEMAT - Basic Research Department Experimental High Energy Physics Division

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Neutrinos in Particle Physics

▶ Where do they come from?

▶ Why are they so weird?



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What do they look like? How can we detect them?



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 - ▶ Where do they come from?
- ▶ Why are they so weird?



- What do they look like? How can we detect them?
- 3
- What are the fundamental physical properties of neutrinos that we can measure?



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- What are the fundamental physical properties of neutrinos that we can measure?
 - The big unknowns to be solved

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What do they look like? How can we detect them?



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- What are the fundamental physical properties of neutrinos that we can measure?
 - The big unknowns to be solved
- Messengers of Cosmos

Bibliography

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FERMIONES



Neutrinos in Particle Physics

Particles







Particles

Forces





Neutrinos in the Standard Model



- **3 types** of neutrinos (although extra sterile neutrinos beyond the SM could exist)
- They are electrically neutral particles
- Much **lighter** than their charged leptonic partners
- Very weak interaction with matter

Antiparticles



Dirac neutrinos: particle ≠ antiparticle
Majorana neutrinos: particle = antiparticle

- For each particle, there is an associated antiparticle with the same mass and opposite charge
- Antiparticles are produced in natural processes (as radioactive decays) and particle accelerators
- Neutrinos could be their own antiparticles
- Equals amounts of particles and antiparticles were created after the Big Bang
 - Where are the antiparticles?
 - Why are we made of matter?

Symmetries

- Charge Conjugation (C): transformation of a particle into its antiparticle
- **Parity (P)**: transformation of left to right (world in a mirror)
- Time Reversal (T): running backwards in time
- **CP Symmetry**: It was thought that CP was a valid symmetry however the observation of neutral kaon decays proved that CP is not conserved in weak interactions
 - Could it be also violated for neutrinos?
- CPT Symmetry: conserved in the SM transformations







Left-handed neutrinos

- In the Standard Model, there are not right-handed (v_R) neutrinos
 - \blacktriangleright Neutrinos are left-handed (v_L)
 - ▶ Antineutrinos are right-handed ($\overline{\nu}_R$)





Neutrino (left-handed)

Antineutrino (right-handed)

Neutrinos have negative helicity

Helicity: Projection of the spin in the direction of the linear momentum

CP symmetry in neutrinos



• Magnitudes:

- Neutrinos produced by the Sun (are pretty low energy ~MeV) travel (on average) 1.5 x 10¹⁶ m in lead before interacting
- Neutrinos produced by accelerators (~1000 times more energetic ~GeV) travel (on average) 1.5 x 10¹² m in lead before interacting
- For comparison, a proton ~GeV travels 10 cm in lead!!



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e

 ν_{e}

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Neutrino disappearance

Ve

Number of neutrino types

There are 3 types of neutrinos (families) in the SM



$$\Gamma_{\rm inv} = \Gamma_Z - \Gamma_{\rm had} - 3\Gamma_l$$
$$\Gamma_{\rm inv} = N_\nu \cdot \Gamma_\nu$$

K.A. Olive et al. (Particle Data Group), Chin. Phys. C, 38, 090001 (2014)

Number N = 2.984 ± 0.008 (Standard Model fits to LEP data)

Number N = 2.92 ± 0.05 (Direct measurement of invisible Z width)

Neutrino sources



NATURAL

ARTIFICIAL

Neutrino energies



- Pauli proposed the existence of neutrinos in 1930 as a *desperate remedy* to solve the beta radioactivity "problem"
- In a two-body emission, the electron energy has a fixed value (energy conservation)



Expecte	Expected	

Electron Energy

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- The beta radioactivity presents an **anomaly**
- **Pauli**: "There is a neutral particle able to cross all detectors without leaving any trace and carrying all the missing energy"
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The neutrino discovery (1956)

Savannah River reactor (US)



 $^{235}U + n_{th} \rightarrow X + Y \rightarrow \beta - decay$

Neutrino production in the nuclear reactor cores

Cowan







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 \overline{v}_{e}

distance traveled = ~meters



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Neutrino detection in 1 m³ liquid scintillator (~3 v/h)

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$V_e + p \rightarrow e^+ + n$



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Nobel Prize in Physics in 1995





• 1962: v_µ observed in Brookhaven (US)

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- Discovery of a *second type of neutrino* (muon)



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 Much later, in 2000, the third type of neutrino v₁ (tau) was discovered by the DONUT experiment at Fermilab (US)

Neutrino from accelerators



- It is possible to create an intense beam of neutrinos from an intense beam of protons
- Advantages:
 - the beam can be switched on and off to know when we have neutrinos and when not (signal over background events)
 - the neutrino energy can be selected (within a certain range)

• Disadvantages:

- the neutrino beam is not pure (several types of neutrinos are produced)
- the flux is not very large
- it is expensive!

- **1973**: discovery of the weak neutral currents in the Gargamelle bubble chamber at CERN
- Leptonic NC (interaction of a neutrino with an electron) y hadronic NC (neutrino scattered from a hadron).
 - This was a significant step toward the unification of electromagnetism and the weak force into the electroweak force. The result led to the discovery of the W and Z bosons, which carry the weak force.



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Why are neutrinos so special?

- They are the only **neutral** fermions
- Their **mass**: (value, origin) Why are they much lighter than the other particles?
- Their **nature**: (Dirac, Majorana)? They could be their own antiparticles
- They mix flavors (**oscillation**)
- They are really hard to detect (only interact very weakly with matter)
- They could violate the CP symmetry (matter-antimatter asymmetry in the Universe)
- They are **extremely abundant** in the Universe
- They are **Cosmic messengers**



In the Standard Model, neutrino do not have mass...

... however neutrinos have a long history of unexpected surprises ...



Neutrino interactions in the SM

- **CC interactions**: exchange of W
 - The lepton in the final state determines if it is a neutrino or antineutrino and its flavor
- NC interactions: exchange of Z⁰
- The total lepton number is conserved in the weak interactions observed experimentally:

 $L = L_e + L_\mu + L_\tau$

	L _e	L_{μ}	$L_{ au}$		L _e	L_{μ}	$L_{ au}$
(u_e,e^-)	+1	0	0	(u_e^c,e^+)	-1	0	0
(u_{μ},μ^{-})	0	+1	0	$\left(u_{\mu}^{c},\mu^{+} ight)$	0	-1	0
$(u_{ au}, au^-)$	0	0	+1	$(u^{c}_{ au}, au^{+})$	0	0	-1







$E_v < 100 \text{ MeV}$

Solar, SN, reactors

- Inverse beta decay
- CC & NC interactions with nuclei
- Elastic scattering
- σ well known (1% or better)





σ well known (1% or better)



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Neutrino traps (I) Big detectors



Neutrino traps (I) Big detectors

*** Filled with water or liquid scintillators (~kton) * Surrounded by photosensors to detect the light** produced by the neutrino interactions

(c) Kamioka Observatory, ICRR(Institute for Cosmic Ray Research), The University of Tokyo,

Neutrino traps (II) Underground laboratories

Underground detectors installed in the most deepest mines to be protected from the cosmic rays continuously traversing the Earth





Neutrino detector technologies

• Bubble and spark chambers

First pictures of neutrinos

• Radiochemical experiments (Homestake, GALLEX, SAGE, ...)

No real time detectors

• Cerenkov detectors:

Suitable for low rate, low multiplicity, energies below GeV (and around TeV)

• Tracking calorimeters:

▶ High rate and multiplicity, energies ~GeV and above

• Unsegmented scintillator calorimeters:

Large light yields at MeV energies

• Emulsions:

▶ High spatial resolution, direct detection of primary vertex

• Liquid Argon TPCs:

Potential for large mass with high granularity

Pictures of real neutrinos

- 1) Neutrinos in CMS
- 2) Neutral currents at CERN
- 3) Cerenkov rings
- 4) PMTs hits in liquid scintillators
- 5) Tracks in T2K, OPERA, ICARUS
- 6) Ultra-energetic neutrinos

Neutrinos in CMS \rightarrow INVISIBLES



Neutrinos in CMS \rightarrow INVISIBLES



CMS Experiment at LHC, CERN Run 133874, Event 21466935 Lumi section: 301 Sat Apr 24 2010, 05:19:21 CEST

Electron $p_T = 35.6 \text{ GeV/c}$ ME_T = 36.9 GeV M_T = 71.1 GeV/c²



Weak neutral currents





 First candidate to leptonic neutral current process in the Gargamelle experiment at CERN (bubble chamber)

$$v_{\mu} e \rightarrow v_{\mu} e$$

 Significant step in the knowledge of the electroweak force and the SM structure

Cerenkov rings



$$p_{\mu} = 603 \text{ MeV}$$

 $p_e = 492 \text{ MeV}$

Neutrinos in liquid scintillators



Prompt signal E = 3.20 MeV

ΔT = 111 μs ΔR = 34 cm Delayed signal E = 2.22 MeV
Neutrinos in T2K



• Tracks of charged particles produced by a neutrino interaction in the T2K near detector

Neutrinos in OPERA



• Detector specially designed to detect the interaction of tau neutrinos

Neutrinos in LAr detectors

 $v_{\mu}CC$ event detected by ICARUS from the CNGS beam



CCQE event: $v_{\mu} n \rightarrow \mu p$

90 cm

12

Very high energy neutrinos













Observables and fundamental quantities

Mass: almost null

- No direct measurement. Only upper limits from lab experiments and cosmological observations
- We know that the mass is not zero because neutrinos oscillate

Charge: null

- Experimental limits derived from the neutrino magnetic moment limit $(<10^{-12} q_e \text{ for } v_e; < 10^{-4} q_e \text{ for } v_\tau)$
- Experimental limits from astrophysical measurements ($<10^{-13}$ - 10^{-15} q_e)

Spin (intrinsic angular momentum): 1/2

• Measured with angular distributions in scattering or decay processes

PDG 2014

PDG K.A. Olive et al., Chin. Phys. C, 38, 090001 (2014)



Best experimental limits:

- Electron neutrino mass
 - ${}^{3}\text{H} \rightarrow {}^{3}\text{He} + e^{-} + v_{e} \text{ MAINZ } m(v_{e}) < 2.2 \text{ eV}$
- Muon neutrino mass
 - $\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu$ PSI **m(\nu_\mu)< 170 keV**
- Tau neutrino mass
 - $\tau \rightarrow 5\pi v_{\tau}$ LEP $m(v_{\tau}) < 18.2$ MeV



Points without error bars are upper limits

Measurement of the neutrino mass



Double beta decay experiments



 $T_{1/2} \sim 10^{21} y$

 $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay



 $(Z,A) \rightarrow (Z+2,A)+2e^{-}$

 $T_{1/2} > 10^{25} y$

Double beta decay with neutrinos (2vββ)

• Observed in more than 10 isotopes

Neutrinoless double beta decay (0vββ)

- Violates the total lepton number conservation
- It requires Majorana neutrino mass
- Measurement: Effective Majorana neutrino mass $\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle$

$$\frac{1}{T_{1/2}} = G |M|^2 \langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle^2$$





Maria Goeppert-Mayer

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Y

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Maria Goeppert-Mayer **Nobel Prize in Physics in 1963**

Current and expected future limits

• 90% CL lower limits on $T^{0v}_{1/2}$ and upper bounds on $m_{\beta\beta}$

$\beta\beta^-$ decay	experiment	$T_{1/2}^{0\nu}$ [y]	$m_{\beta\beta}$ [eV]	
$^{48}_{20}\mathrm{Ca} ightarrow ^{48}_{22}\mathrm{Ti}$	ELEGANT-VI [119]	$> 1.4 \times 10^{22}$	< 6.6 - 31	
	Heidelberg-Moscow [224]	$> 1.9 \times 10^{25}$	< 0.23 - 0.67	
$^{76}_{32}\mathrm{Ge} ightarrow ^{76}_{34}\mathrm{Se}$	IGEX [226]	$>1.6 imes10^{25}$	< 0.25 - 0.73	
	GERDA [32]	$> 2.1 \times 10^{25}$	< 0.22 - 0.64	
$^{82}_{34}\mathrm{Se} ightarrow ^{82}_{36}\mathrm{Kr}$	NEMO-3 [120]	$> 1.0 \times 10^{23}$	< 1.8 - 4.7	
$^{100}_{42}\mathrm{Mo} ightarrow ^{100}_{44}\mathrm{Ru}$	NEMO-3 [121]	$> 2.1 \times 10^{25}$	< 0.32 - 0.88	
$^{116}_{48}\mathrm{Cd} \rightarrow ^{116}_{50}\mathrm{Sn}$	Solotvina [234]	$> 1.7 \times 10^{23}$	< 1.5 - 2.5	
$^{128}_{52}\text{Te} \rightarrow ^{128}_{54}\text{Xe}$	CUORICINO [235]	$> 1.1 \times 10^{23}$	< 7.2 - 18	
$^{130}_{52}\text{Te} \rightarrow ^{130}_{54}\text{Xe}$	CUORICINO [236]	$> 2.8 \times 10^{24}$	< 0.32 - 1.2	
$^{136}_{~54}{\rm Xe} \rightarrow {}^{136}_{~56}{\rm Ba}$	EXO [239]	$> 1.1 \times 10^{25}$	< 0.2 - 0.69	
	KamLAND-Zen [241]	$> 1.9 imes 10^{25}$	< 0.15 - 0.52	
$^{150}_{60}\mathrm{Nd} \to ^{150}_{62}\mathrm{Sm}$	NEMO-3 [243]	$> 2.1 \times 10^{25}$	< 2.6 - 10	arXiv:1411.4791

- Next generation of experiments between 100 kg and 1 ton with different isotopes and different experimental techniques
- Goal: <m_{ββ}> ~ 0.01 0.1 eV

Neutrino mass from cosmology

- Neutrinos are very abundant. Their mass contribute to the energy density of the Universe
- The presence and interactions of neutrinos in the Universe must be incorporated to the astrophysical and cosmological models
- Precision cosmology measurements can constrain the sum of neutrino masses (Σm_v) and the effective number of neutrinos (N_{eff})





```
Σm<sub>ν</sub> ≤ 0.23 eV (95% CL)
```

Planck TT + low P + lensing + ext (BAO + JLA + H_0)

 $Neff = 3.04 \pm 0.18$

```
Planck TT, TE, EE + lowP+ BAO
```

arXiv:1502.01589

















Prediction (J. Bahcall): 1 Ar atom per day









Prediction (J. Bahcall): 1 Ar atom per day Measurement (R. Davis): 1/3 of prediction!!









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Kamiokande and IMB detected atmospheric neutrinos in the 80's



Kamiokande and IMB detected atmospheric neutrinos in the 80's



• **Expected:** 2 times more v_{μ} than v_{e}

Kamiokande and IMB detected atmospheric neutrinos in the 80's



 Expected: 2 times more v_µ than v_e

2**v**_µ∼**v**_e

Kamiokande and IMB detected atmospheric neutrinos in the 80's



 Expected: 2 times more v_µ than v_e

$$2v_{\mu} \sim v_{e}$$

• Found:

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- Found:
 - $V_{\mu} \sim V_{e}$

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Quantum interference phenomenon in which a neutrino of a certain flavor is transformed into a neutrino of a different flavor





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This phenomenon is only possible if neutrinos have different masses

Oscillations and waves

- Fundamental particles can sometimes behave like waves
- When two waves of same frequency are moving with the same speed in the same direction **superimpose** on each other
- When the waves have slightly different frequencies, the resulting wave exhibits **interference ("beats")**:
 - Sometimes the component waves add together
 - Sometimes they cancel each other

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- In the SM neutrinos are 3 distinct particles but when they propagate they are a combination of 3 different waves (1,2,3)
- As a neutrino travels through space, the waves combine in different ways depending on the **distance** the neutrino has travelled and its **energy**



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During the journey the combination between 1, 2 and 3 might change:

- Sometimes the combination might look like a v_{μ}
- Then later, the waves might combine to look like a v_{τ}



Ev

production





production

- Weak interaction produces neutrinos of a certain flavor
- We know which kind of neutrino is by detecting its associated particle





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L = distance

propagation

Neutrinos travel a distance and mix





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- We know which kind of neutrino is by detecting its associated particle

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Neutrinos travel a distance and mix Ve? Ve? ν_μ? ν_μ? ν_τ? ν_τ?

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Oscillation Probability

$$P_{\alpha\beta} = \sin^2 2\theta \cdot \sin^2 \left(\frac{\Delta m^2 \cdot L}{4 \cdot E_v} \right)$$

Ve? Ve? νμ? νμ? τ ν_τ?

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For 3 neutrinos:

2 values of Δm^2 (Δm^2_{21} , Δm^2_{32}) 3 values of θ (θ_{12} , θ_{23} , θ_{13}) Ve? Ve? Vμ? Vμ? T V_τ?

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$$P(v_{\alpha} \rightarrow v_{\beta}) = \sin^2 2\theta \cdot \sin^2 \left(\frac{\Delta m^2 \cdot L}{4 \cdot E_v}\right)$$


















Flavor mixing



Flavor mixing



Flavor mixing



Failed attempts...

► Looking for v_e → v_? (disappearance)

 ILL, Goesgen, Bugey, Palo Verde and CHOOZ in reactors

b Looking for $v_{\mu} \rightarrow v_{\tau}$ (appearance)

CHORUS and NOMAD at CERN (1995-1998)

b Looking for $\overline{\mathbf{v}}_{\mu} \rightarrow \overline{\mathbf{v}}_{e}$ (appearance)

- KARMEN
- LSND / MiniBooNE (oscillation observed??)





Schematic Neutrino Beam Line





Theory (no osc.)



Super-Kamiokande detector in the Kamioka mine (Japan) (50 kton water, 11000 PMTs)



Theory (no osc.)

Theory (no osc.)

Solar neutrino anomaly solved (2001)

- SNO: 1000 ton heavy water (D₂O) in the Sudbury mine (Canada)
- Able to measure *all types of neutrinos* from the Sun
- Reaction sensitive to all types of neutrinos (NC) $V_x + d \Rightarrow p + n + V_x$
- Reaction only sensitive to electron neutrinos (CC) $V_e + d \Rightarrow p + p + e^-$
- In case of no oscillations: $\Phi_{NC} = \Phi_{CC}$
- If neutrinos oscillate: $\Phi_{NC} \neq \Phi_{C}$

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Result: $\Phi_{cc} / \Phi_{Nc} = 0.301 \pm 0.033$ Φ_{NC} in agreement with SSM Part of v_e converted into v_μ and/or v_τ

Reactor neutrino oscillations

KAMLAND (2002)

Long-baseline (~180 km)

- Confirmation of solar neutrino oscillations
- Disappearance of $\overline{v}_{\rm e}$

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Observed oscillations

Experiment	Mode	Neutrino source	Measured parameters
IMB, Kamiokande, SK, K2K, MINOS, T2K	$\begin{array}{c} \nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \nu_{\mu} \\ \overline{\nu}_{\mu} \rightarrow \overline{\nu}_{\mu} \end{array}$	Atmosphere / Accelerators	Δm ² 32 θ ₂₃
T2K, MINOS	$v_{\mu} \rightarrow v_{e}$	Accelerators	θ ₁₃
Double Chooz, Daya Bay, RENO	$\overline{v_e} \rightarrow \overline{v_e}$	Reactors	θ ₁₃
Homestake, GNO, GALLEX, SAGE, SK, SNO, Borexino, KamLAND	$v_e \rightarrow v_e$ $\overline{v}_e \rightarrow \overline{v}_e$	Sun / Reactors	$\Delta m_{21}^2 \theta_{12}$
OPERA	$v_{\mu} \rightarrow v_{\tau}$	Accelerators	

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PDG K.A. Olive et al., Chin. Phys. C, 38, 090001 (2014)
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$$\begin{split} & \sin^2(2\theta_{12}) = 0.846 \pm 0.021 \\ & \Delta m_{21}^2 = (7.53 \pm 0.18) \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2 \\ & \sin^2(2\theta_{23}) = 0.999^{+0.001}_{-0.018} \quad (\text{normal mass hierarchy}) \\ & \sin^2(2\theta_{23}) = 1.000^{+0.000}_{-0.017} \quad (\text{inverted mass hierarchy}) \\ & \Delta m_{32}^2 = (2.44 \pm 0.06) \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2 \ [i] \quad (\text{normal mass hierarchy}) \\ & \Delta m_{32}^2 = (2.52 \pm 0.07) \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2 \ [i] \quad (\text{inverted mass hierarchy}) \\ & \sin^2(2\theta_{13}) = (9.3 \pm 0.8) \times 10^{-2} \end{split}$$

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[*i*] The sign of Δm_{32}^2 is not known at this time. The range quoted is for the absolute value.

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 - CP violation phase

Big questions to be answered

4

- Neutrino masses: value, origin...
- Type of particle: Dirac or Majorana
- Relation with the other particles
- Do neutrino interactions violate the CP symmetry?
- Are there more than 3 neutrinos?

The neutrino mass

Model of the equation of the equation Direct measurements: $m_{v_e}^2 = \sum |U_{ei}|^2 \cdot m_{v_i}^2$

Tritium beta decay experiments:

- Troitsk & Mainz: m < 2 eV (95% CL)
- KATRIN (goal): m < 0.2 eV (90% CL)

Meutrinoless double beta decay: $m_{\beta\beta} = \left| \sum U_{ei}^2 \cdot m_{v_i} \right|$

- If measured, neutrinos are Majorana particles
- GERDA, EXO, CUORICINO, KamLAND-Zen, NEMO-3: m_{ββ} < 0.2-0.4 eV (90% CL)
- Future ton scale experiments: $m_{\beta\beta} < 10 \text{ meV}$

Modified the measurements (Cosmology): $m = \sum m_{v_i}$

PLANCK 2015 (arXiv:1502.01589)

- Σm_v < 0.23 eV (Planck TT+lowP+lensing+ext.)
- $N_{eff} = 4$ excluded at > 99%CL
- $N_{eff} = 3.15 \pm 0.23$ (Planck TT+lowP+BAO)

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Direct proof of Majorana neutrinos existence

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Direct proof of Majorana neutrinos existence
Neutrino nature

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 - There are currently many experiments looking for this process
- If neutrinos are Majorana particles, this could naturally explain why they are much lighter than any charged fermion and...
- this could explain the matter-antimatter asymmetry in the Universe:
 - \Rightarrow LEPTOGENESIS



Direct proof of Majorana neutrinos existence

• Relation with the Higgs boson?

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• Relation with the Higgs boson?



• Relation with quarks?

• Relation with the Higgs boson?



• Relation with quarks?



• Relation with the Higgs boson?



• Relation with quarks?



• Relation with the other leptons: why are neutrinos much lighter?

Relation with the Higgs boson? ullet

ullet



<



Relation with the other leptons: lacksquare< (v₃) < v₁ < v₂ < (v₃) τ. why are neutrinos much lighter? μe keV me Mev e۷ G Ð Φ <

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- WA105 (LBNO-DEMO): construction, operation and exposure to charged particles beam of a 6 x 6 x 6 m³ double phase liquid argon TPC





Anomalies: a forth neutrino?

- Positive signal of LSND and MiniBooNE ($\overline{v}_{\mu} \rightarrow \overline{v}_{e}$)
 - Observed oscillation not compatible with 3 neutrinos (different frequency): m₄ >> m₃,m₂,m₁
 - Not confirmed by KARMEN & ICARUS
- Galio experiments
 - v_e deficit observed from intense radioactive neutrino sources (⁵¹Cr & ³⁷Ar)
- Very short-baseline reactor experiments
 - \overline{v}_e deficit at short distances (few meters from reactors)



More than 3 neutrinos?

Sterile neutrinos (v_s):

- Do not interact weakly with other particles
- They only feel the gravitational force
- They can mix with active neutrinos
- Possibilities:

 $v_{\mu} \rightarrow v_{s} \rightarrow v_{e}$ or $v_{e} \rightarrow v_{s}$



Could they be related with dark matter?



Cosmic messengers

5

News from far away...

SN1987A

60.000 l.y.

Large Magellanic Cloud

160.000 light-years

SN1987A

60.000 l.y.

Large Magellanic Cloud

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23 February 1987 The explosion was visible to the naked eye

Las Campanas Observatory (Chile) C Anglo-Australian Observatory

SN1987A: first detection of extragalactic neutrinos

- 10⁵⁸ neutrinos were emitted from the Supernova 1987A 160.000 years ago
- About 5 ×10¹⁷ crossed the Kamiokande detector
- 10 neutrinos detected!!



Koshiba



Kamiokande



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Koshiba



Nobel Prize in Physics 2002

Kamiokande



Origin and detection of HE neutrinos

Origin of HE neutrinos

WIMP decay products?



HE neutrinos are the decay sub-products of the <u>annihilation</u> of <u>WIMPs</u> which may concentrate in astrophysical objects





HE neutrinos appear as the subproduct of interactions of <u>accelerated protons</u> or nuclei with matter or radiation

 $\chi + \chi \to q\overline{q}, \dots \to X + \nu\overline{\nu}$



Detection of HE neutrinos



- v_{μ} are well suited for high energy detection (since its cross-section and muon range increase with energy) although v_e and v_{τ} can also be detected
- An array of photomultiplier tubes detect the Cerenkov light from charged particles produced by neutrino interactions
- The Cerenkov cone needs to be reconstructed to determine the energy and direction of the muon



50 m

IceTop

Amundsen–Scott South Pole Station, Antarctica A National Science Foundationmanaged research facility








Very HE neutrinos observed in IceCube

- IceCube has detected **37 very high**
 energy neutrino events between May
 2010 and May 2013 (5.7σ significance).

 This is a solid evidence of astrophysical neutrinos from a cosmic source.
- The astrophysical neutrinos observed so far do not allow us to identify any individual source
- Neutrino flux in the energy range of 30 to 2000 TeV and isotropic arrival directions
- More data are needed to understand the source of this astrophysical flux
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Other proposals in Europe



- **KM3NeT:** 1 km³ second-generation neutrino telescope in the Mediterranean Sea
- 3 installation sites located in Toulon (France), Sicily (Italy) and Pylos (Greece)
- ANTARES was the first undersea neutrino telescope: 12 lines (885 PMTs) providing an excellent angular resolution. Taking data until the end of 2016.

History of the Universe



Neutrinos from the Big Bang



CMB as seen by PLANCK



- A cosmic neutrino background is expected (~330 neutrinos per cm³)
- Still not directly detected...

Neutrinos from the Big Bang



CMB as seen by PLANCK



- A cosmic neutrino background is expected (~330 neutrinos per cm³)
- Still not directly detected...

The SM neutrinos cannot explain dark matter but they could be the key to understanding the matter-antimatter asymmetry in the Universe



Conclusions

Wrap up

• Neutrinos are **special among elementary particles**

- Their masses are extremely small (the exact value is unknown)
- They interact extremely weakly with matter
- They mix flavors (oscillation)
- They could be their own antiparticle
- Neutrinos are **extremely abundant** in the Universe
 - They carry crucial information about the phenomena in the Cosmos
- Neutrinos could explain the excess of matter in the Universe

Neutrinos still have surprises for us!

