



2047-34

Workshop Towards Neutrino Technologies

13 - 17 July 2009

Towards neutrino mass spectroscopy and relic detection using atomic targets; experimental aspects

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Towards neutrino mass spectroscopy and relic detection using atomic targets; experimental aspects

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#### Summary of neutrino physics

# Present status of neutrino physics

- Results of oscillation experiments
  - Finite mass
  - Flavor mixing
  - Only mass-squared difference can be measured.
- Future experiments
  - T2K/Double choose etc
  - mixing angle  $\theta_{13}$
  - CP phase δ
    - Need neutrino factory??



### Important questions to be answered

- Majorana vs Dirac?
  - Neutral fermions obey Majorana or Dirac?
- Absolute mass scale and hierarchy
  - Support see-saw mechanism?
- Mixing angles and phases
  - Give clues for unified theory?
  - Explain matter dominated universe?
- Cosmic neutrino background
  - Big-bang cosmology true?



# Neutrino spectroscopy with atoms

-- Observable physics quantities ---

Principle of the neutrino spectroscopy
Observable physics quantities

Absolute mass scale
Mixing angle
Majorana vs Dirac mass
Cosmic neutrino background



$$\omega_{ij} = \frac{\Delta}{2} - \frac{(m_i + m_j)^2}{2\Delta}$$

#### Absolute mass

- Photon spectrum
  - Similar to  $\mu$ -> evv
  - Thresholds (there are 6) are determined by masses.
  - Rough mass scale may be known with 10<sup>3</sup>-10<sup>4</sup> events.





# Super-radiance and its characterMacro-coherenceCoherent target

#### $N_0 exp(-t/\tau)$







# Super radiance

- Theoretical prediction
  - R.H.Dicke (PR93,99(1954))
- Characteristic features
  - Radiation intensity
    - Proportional to N<sup>2</sup> (N being # of excited atoms)
    - If spontaneous emission, prop to N.
  - Development of quantum coherent states
  - Non-linear phenomena different from stimulated emission.
- Experimental evidences
  - Skiribanowitz et.al. (PRL30,309(1973))
  - Huge number of papers



1916 - 1997

Super-radiance experimental features —Example of experimental setup—



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#### Super radiance experimental features —Intensity—

#### Proportional to N<sup>2</sup>(gas pressure)

Exclude stimulated emission (proportional to N)



### Triggered Super-radiance

 Super-radiance may be triggered by laser injection with appropriate wavelength and power.

Super-radiance occurs along laser beam



# Macro-coherence: a way to overcome limitation in super-radiance

Coherence region of super-radiance is limited to a volume characterized by a wavelength.

In case of multi-particle emission, an extra condition, namely momentum conservation, will remove this limitation.

#### Two-photon macro-coherence



 $\left|\sum_{i=1}^{N} \exp\left\{i\left(\vec{k_1} + \vec{k_2}\right) \cdot \vec{r_j}\right\}\right|^2 \implies N^2 \text{ if } \vec{k_1} + \vec{k_2} = 0$ 

- Prepare excited atoms in a coherent state.
  - Two photon rate is expressed by

$$\Gamma = \int \left( \prod_i \frac{d^3 k_i}{(2\pi)^3} \right) 2\pi \delta(\Delta - \sum_i \omega_i) |n \int_V d^3 r e^{i\sum_i \vec{k}_i \cdot (\vec{r} - \vec{r}_0)} \mathcal{M}(\vec{k}_i)|^2$$

- Two photon emission may be enhanced to N<sup>2</sup>
- Characteristic features
  - Energy and angle
    - Peak at ∆/2
    - Back-to-back
- Proof of principle experiment
  - No observation in the past !

M. Yoshimura et.al.; arXiv:0805.1970

#### Macro-coherent target

- Requirements (for neutrino pair emission)
  - Number of target atoms;
    - Close to Avogadro number
    - Gas target is not enough
  - Long coherent time
    - Assemble of isolated dense atoms
  - Lambda type energy level
- Candidates
  - Rare gas embedded in matrix (p-H2 or rare gas)
  - Atoms embedded in C<sub>60</sub> fullerene
    - Experiments suggest N/H2/Xe etc inside C<sub>60</sub> are isolated, weakly interacting with environment.
  - Semiconductor at low temperature
    - Donor hole in the p-n junction depletion layer





Fig. 6. Schematic view of nitrogen inside  $C_{60}$ . The size of the sphere corresponds to the van der Waals radius of nitrogen [12]. The dashed line marks the border of the inner cavity of the  $C_{60}$  shell if van der Waals radii are assumed for the carbon atoms [12]. In the lower part of the figure the calulated potential amergy of ritrogen in  $C_{60}$  is thown as a function of the displacement from the center [4]. In the calculation, no relaxation of the carge atoms is assumed. The energy scale is relative to the energy of nitrogen at infinity.

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# **Experimental Status**

- Cascade super-radiance from Rb
- Xe in p-H2/Ar
  - Note that Xe is one of the candidate atoms for radiative neutrino pair emission

#### Cascade super radiance from Rb

- To obtain general understandings and techniques related to superradiance.
- Level Diagrams



# Setup and results





 (top) Pump laser light and SR signal are seen.
 (Note; life time is 110+51 nsec)

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# Correlation between intensity and delay time



Super-radiance experiment: -summary and prospect--

- Observation of SR
  - Delay time(5-10nsec) < < natural life time(110+51nsec)</li>
  - Anti-correlation between delay time and intensity
  - Angular distribution; forward/backward peak
  - SR from  $4D_{3/2}(1.48um)$  observed.
- Future work
  - Need to observe the 1<sup>st</sup> stage SR(2.79um, 2.29um)
  - Theoretical analysis including pump laser width (2-3nsec) and lateral relaxation time(T2,T2\*)
  - Prove N<sup>2</sup> dependence

# Matrix preparation

- Xe in Ar
  - With Prof. Wakabayashi (Kinki Univ.)
- Xe in para- $H_2$ 
  - With Prof. Momose (UBC)





# What is matrix?

 Matrix is a host material made by molecular crystals of rare gas or p-H2, aiming to confine guest atoms or molecules

- Interaction with host material is weak.
- Can suppress rotation.



IAN R. DUNKIN Matrix-Isolation Techniques







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#### Xe in Ar Matrix absorption spectrum

Prepared Xe in Ar matrxi.





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Xe

# Xe in p-H<sub>2</sub> matrix

- Why para-H2?
  - Quantum solid
    - Large zero point vibration
    - Large lattice constant
      - Spacing a=3.8 A.
  - Nuclear spin=0
    - Spherical wave functions
    - Less interactive with 2000thers. Towa Towa











# Xe in p-H<sub>2</sub> matrix (previous study)

P. L. Raston and D. T. Anderson, Journal of Molecular Spectroscopy 244, 138 (2007).





Fig. 2. Infrared absorption spectra in the 4480–4490 cm<sup>-1</sup> region recorded at 2.0 K for as-deposited samples. Trace  $(pH_2)$  is for a 2.8(1) mm thick neat  $pH_2$  solid containing 100 ppm of  $oH_2$ . The other spectra are Rg atom doped samples with thicknesses and Rg atom concentrations as follows (Ne) 2.8(1) mm, 1000 ppm, (Ar) 1.8(1) mm, 1300 ppm, (Kr) 1.6(1) mm, 440 ppm, and (Xe) 2.5(1) mm, 260 ppm.

Fig. 3. The wavenumber shift of the Rg  $S_1(0)$  satellite line from the unperturbed value as a function of the difference in polarizability between the Rg atom and  $pH_2$ .

# Setup for radiative neutrino pair emission



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# Summary and prospects

- Proposed a new method of neutrino spectroscopy
  - Use of atomic levels
  - Use of a new mechanism;
    - Macro-coherent amplification
- Present status
  - Preliminary experiments in progress
    - Super-radiance from Rb cascades
    - Xe in matrix
- Future prospects
  - Observe super-radiance from matrix
  - Observe two-photon super-radiance
    - Proof-of-principle experiment for macro-coherent amplification
  - Observe atomic neutrino
    - Majorana/Dirac mass spectroscopy