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# Application of Feldman and Cousins "Sense and sensitivity of double beta decay experiments (2011)"

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# About this talk

# Sense and sensitivity of double beta decay experiments

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- Small Double Beta Decay (DBD) introduction
- Sensitivities with Feldman Cousins
- Comparing DBD experiments

DBD? Why is it cool?

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

- Lepton number violated ( $\Delta L = 2$ )
  - Considered the most fundamental implication
  - Baryogenesis through B-L symmetry
- Neutrino is a Majorana particle
- Coupling strength of LNV process with  $0\nu\beta\beta$  half-life
  - ► In the standard interpretation: Determination of effective Majorana neutrino mass *m*<sub>ee</sub>

- $\nu$ -mass scale and mass hierarchy
- Determination of Majorana phases

#### DBD? Why is it cool NOW?

Claim of  $0\nu\beta\beta$  by subset of Heidelberg-Moscow experiment (2002)  $T_{1/2}^{0\nu} = 2.23^{+0.44}_{-0.31} \cdot 10^{25} \text{ yr} \rightarrow |m_{ee}| = (0.11..0.56) \text{ eV}$ 

Mod. Phys. Let. A, Vol.21, 1547 (2006)



#### Test of claim by this generation experiments within < 1 years!

Neutrino Property: Effective Majorana Neutrino Mass

$$|m_{ee}|^{2} = |m_{1}|U_{e1}|^{2} + m_{2}|U_{e2}|^{2}e^{i(\alpha_{2}-\alpha_{1})} + m_{3}|U_{e3}|^{2}e^{-i(\alpha_{1}+2\delta)}|^{2}$$

 $m_{ee}$  Effective Majorana neutrino mass  $m_{1..3}$  Mass of neutrino mass eigenstates  $U_{e1}$  e3 PMNS matrix elements



# How to get $|m_{ee}|$ ?

Standard interpretation: (Light Majorana neutrino propagator)

$$\left[T^{0\nu}_{1/2}\right]^{-1} = G^{0\nu}(Q,Z) \cdot |\mathcal{M}^{0\nu}|^2 \cdot |m_{ee}|^2$$

 $T_{1/2}^{0\nu}$   $0\nu\beta\beta$  half-life

 $G^{0\nu}(Q,Z)$  Phase Space Factor

 $\mathcal{M}^{0\nu}$  Nuclear Matrix Element

 $|m_{ee}|^2$  Effective Majorana neutrino mass



ArXiv:hep-ex/1010.5112v3, 2010





# How to get $T_{1/2}$ ?

Simple decay law:

$$T_{1/2} = \log 2 \cdot \frac{N_A}{A} \cdot \epsilon \cdot \frac{M \cdot t}{n_{\rm obs}}$$

N<sub>A</sub> Avogadros number

- A Atomic weight
- $\epsilon$  Detection efficiency

- M Target mass
  - t Measuring time

Upper limit for count rate is lower limit for half-life:

$$T_{1/2} > \log 2 \cdot \frac{N_A}{A} \cdot \epsilon \cdot \frac{M \cdot t}{n_{
m ul}}$$

Old method for large backgrounds:

Simple sensitivity estimation (no signal):  $n_{\rm ul} = \sqrt{b}$ (Signal counts could hide in a 1 $\sigma$  gaussian background fluctuation) Ideal Experiment: b = 0,  $\mu = 5$ 



- Poisson distribution:  $Po(n; \mu) = \frac{\mu^n}{n!} e^{-\mu}$
- Only 17% of experiments measure n = 5
- Same amount of experiment measure n = 4

Ideal Experiment: b = 0,  $\mu = 5$ 



- Upper limit  $\mu_{\rm up}$ :  $\beta = \sum_{0}^{n_{\rm obs}} Po(n; \mu_{\rm up})$
- $\blacktriangleright$  For  $\alpha=\beta=$  0.05:  $\mu_{\rm lo}=$  1.37 and  $\mu_{\rm up}=$  9.15

Ideal Unlucky Experiment: b = 0,  $\mu = 5$ , n = 0



Chance of being unclucky: 0.7 %

► Report upper limit:  $\beta = \sum_{0}^{n_{obs}=0} Po(n; \mu_{up}) \rightarrow \mu_{up} = -\ln(\beta)$ 

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▶ µ<sub>up</sub> = 3 @ 95 % CL

Ideal Unlucky Experiment: b = 0,  $\mu = 5$ , n = 0



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For no background and no signal the upper limit is fix at a specific CL.

Ideal Unlucky Experiment: b = 0,  $\mu = 5$ , n = 0



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- ▶ µ<sub>up</sub> = 3 @ 95 % CL

For no background and no signal the upper limit is fix at a specific CL.

#### Definition of sensitivity:

The average upper limit from an ensemble of experiments with no signal (n = b)

### Sensitivity of an Ideal Experiment

Roadmap:

$$N 
ightarrow T_{1/2} 
ightarrow |m_{ee}|$$

count rate  $\rightarrow$  half life  $\rightarrow$  neutrino mass

From previous equations:  $(K_1 - isotope dependend constant)$ 

$$|m_{ee}| = K_1 \sqrt{\frac{N}{\epsilon M t}}$$

Sensitivity of an ideal experiment: N = 3 @ 95 % CL

$$|m_{ee}| \propto \sqrt{rac{1}{Mt}}$$

#### Realistic Experiment: $b \neq 0$

Poisson pdf with mean  $\mu + b$ :

$$Po(n; \mu + b) = \frac{(\mu + b)^n}{n!} e^{-\mu + b}$$

Lower limit

$$\alpha = \sum_{n_{\rm obs}}^{\infty} \frac{(\mu_{\rm lo} + b)^n}{n!} e^{-\mu_{\rm lo} + b}$$

Upper limit

$$\beta = \sum_{0}^{n_{\rm obs}} \frac{(\mu_{\rm up} + b)^n}{n!} e^{-\mu_{\rm up} + b}$$

#### An Example

Background index 0.001 cts/(kg  $\cdot$  yr  $\cdot$  keV) with  $\Delta E = 5$  keV, M = 100 kg and t = 10 yr

b = 5, n = 5

For  $\beta = \alpha = 0.05$  solve numerically:  $\mu_{up} = 5.51$ ,  $\mu_{lo} = -3.03$ 

Publish: Experiments yields only upper limit for  $\mu$ :  $\mu_{up} = 5.51$ 

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Example with Background: ... Repeat for  $n_{\rm obs} = 4, 3, 2, 1, 0$  and b = 5



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# Example with Background: b = 5



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Classical limit fails for small n with larger background b

Escape: Unified Approach of Feldman and Cousins

# Sensitivity with the Unified Approach

Definition of sensitivity: The average upper limit from an ensemble of experiments with no signal (n = b)

Function for upper limit Feldman Cousins: FC(n, b, CL)

#### Ensemble of experiments with no signal

Poisson distribution with expectation bDifferent n possible with probability Po(n, b)

Sensitivity for different backgrounds b

$$S(b) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} Po(n, b) FC(n, b, CL)$$

# Example b = 5

$$S(5) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} Po(n,5)FC(n,5,90\%)$$
(1)

$$= 0.175 \cdot 4.99 + 0.175 \cdot 3.66 + \dots \tag{2}$$

$$= 5.17$$
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Not correct: S(5) = FC(n, 5, 90%) = 4.99



# Different CLs and Limit for Large Backgrounds



S(b) for 90 % CL and 95 % CL

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#### Limit for large backgrounds

Sensitivity approaches classical limit:  $S(b) \approx a \cdot \sqrt{b}$ a = 1.64 for 90 % CL and a = 1.96 for 95 % CL

# Implementation in ROOT

ROOT class: TFeldmanCousins

Exampled: root/tutorials/math/FeldmanCousins.C

```
TFeldmanCousins FC;
FC.SetCL(0.90);
```

```
Double_t Nobserved = 5.0;
Double_t Nbackground = 5.0;
```

Double\_t ul = FC.CalculateUpperLimit(Nobserved, Nbackground); Double\_t ll = FC.GetLowerLimit();

```
cout<<"UL: "<<ul<<endl;
cout<<"LL: "<<ll<<endl;</pre>
```

Output: UL: 4.99 LL: 0

From before: set N to the classical limit  $\sqrt{b}$ 

$$|m_{ee}| = K_1 \sqrt{rac{\sqrt{b}}{\epsilon M t}}$$

b is the total background in the analysis bin.

Better to compare is the Background Index *B* in cts/(kg · yr · keV)  $b = B \cdot M \cdot t \cdot \Delta E$ 

$$|m_{ee}| = K_2 \cdot \sqrt{1/\epsilon} \cdot \left(\frac{B \cdot \Delta E}{M \cdot t}\right)^{-1/4}$$

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 $|m_{ee}|$  improves very slowly with exposure  $(M \cdot t)^{-1/4}$ 

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 $B\cdot \Delta E$  is absolutely crucial and determined by the technology of the experiment

This is compared now...



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# Some Comments



- > Two population of experiments: Semiconducter and scintillation
- No mass, detection efficiency and isotope properties considered
- > All this-generation experiments have to proof if they can reach their goals
- Personal opinion: This plot is less a benchmark of this-generation experiments but rather a benchmark of technologies for next-generation experiments

# Conclusions

# Double beta decay is cool

- Neutrino property: Effective Majorana neutrino mass
- LNV, Majorana neutrinos
- Feldman Cousins
  - Used in a sensitivity study for this-generation DBD experiments
  - Main usage: Treatment of unphysical reagion
- Comparing experiment
  - Comparison of experiment technology only
  - Two main kind: Semiconducter experiments and scinillation experiments

# BACKUP

### Neutrinoless Double Beta Decay - $0\nu\beta\beta$



$$\frac{2\nu\beta\beta}{(Z,A)} \rightarrow (Z+2,A) + 2e^- + 2\bar{\nu}_e$$

SM process

#### $0\nu\beta\beta$

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

- Lepton number violated:  $\Delta L = 2$
- Neutrino is Majorana particle
- Constraints / measurement on neutrino mass

$$\left(T^{0\nu}_{1/2}
ight)^{-1} = G^{0
u} \cdot |\mathcal{M}^{0
u}|^2 \cdot |m_{ee}|^2$$

Expected spectrum of double beta decay

