

# **Mössbauer Antineutrinos: Recoilless Resonant Emission and Absorption of Electron Antineutrinos**

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IV International Pontecorvo Neutrino Physics School

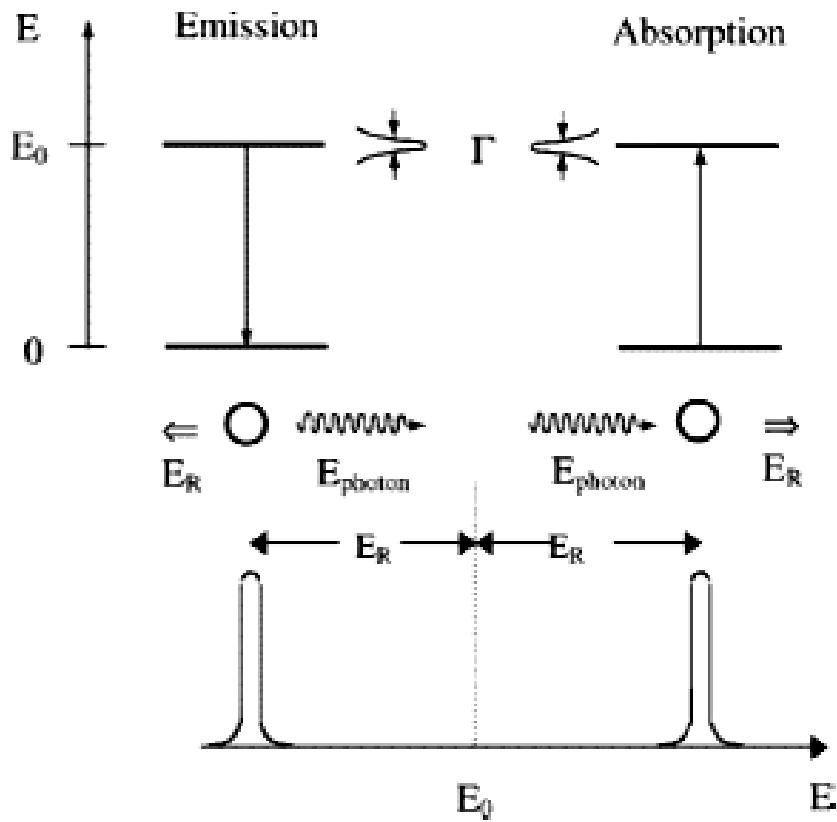
Alushta, Crimea, Ukraine

26 September – 6 October, 2010

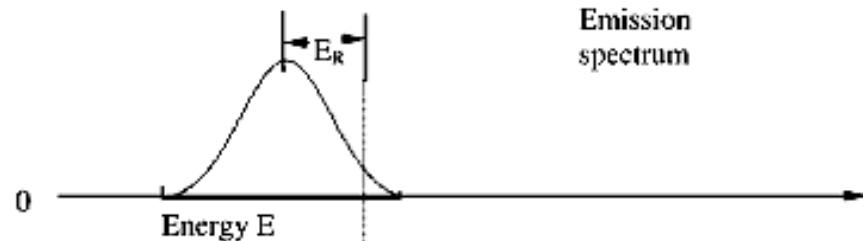
# Outline

- I) Conventional Mössbauer spectroscopy (photons)
- II)  $\beta$ -decay; bound-state  $\beta$ -decay: resonant character  
 $^3\text{H} - ^3\text{He}$  system
- III) Mössbauer  $\bar{\nu}_e$ : Basic questions – Principal problems
  - 1) Phononless transition: Recoilfree fraction; lattice expansion and contraction
  - 2) Linewidth: homogeneous and inhomogeneous broadening
  - 3) Relativistic effects: Second-order Doppler shift
    - a) temperature
    - b) zero-point motion
  - 4) Answers to basic questions
  - 5) Rare-earth systems
- IV) Interesting experiments
- V) Conclusions

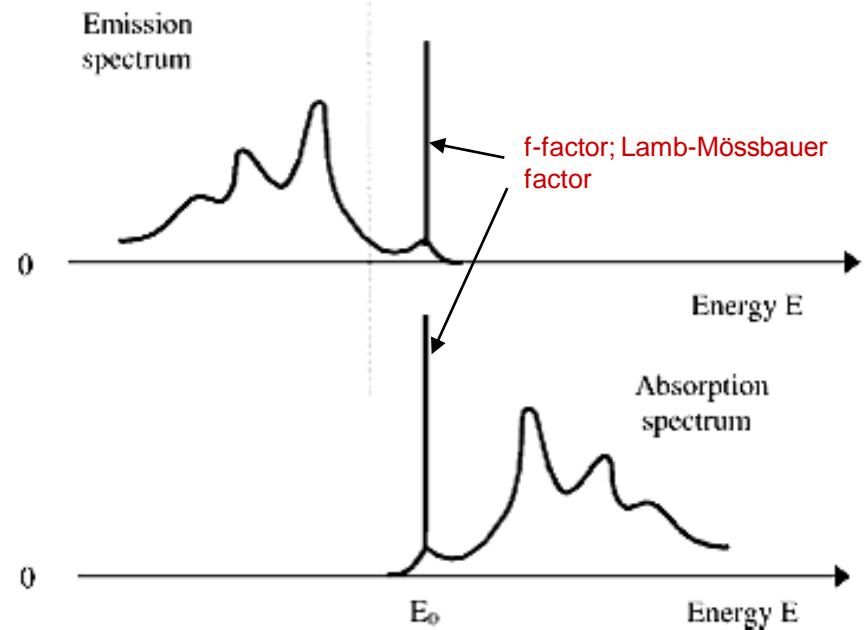
# I) Conventional Mössbauer Spectroscopy



I. Free recoiling nucleus **Thermal motion and recoil**



II. Nucleus bound in a crystal



# I) Conventional Mössbauer Spectroscopy

Mössbauer Isotope	Transition energy $E_0$ [eV]	Recoil energy $E_R$ [eV] $E_R = \frac{E_0^2}{2Mc^2}$	Natural linewidth $\Gamma$ [mm/s] [eV]	Maximal resonance cross section $\sigma_R$ [cm $^2$ ]
$^{57}\text{Fe}$	14 400	$1.9 \times 10^{-3}$	0.09 $\approx 4.3 \times 10^{-9}$ eV	$1.2 \times 10^{-17}$
$^{181}\text{Ta}$	6 300	$0.1 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.2 \times 10^{-3}$ $\approx 6.7 \times 10^{-11}$ eV	$6.2 \times 10^{-17}$
$^{67}\text{Zn}$	93 300	$69.2 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.6 \times 10^{-4}$ $\approx 4.8 \times 10^{-11}$ eV	$2.8 \times 10^{-19}$
$^{109}\text{Ag}$	87 700	$37.6 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.1 \times 10^{-11}$ $\approx 1.2 \times 10^{-17}$ eV	$3.2 \times 10^{-19}$

Recoil energy:

$$E_R = \frac{E_0^2}{2Mc^2} \quad \text{Typical: meV}$$

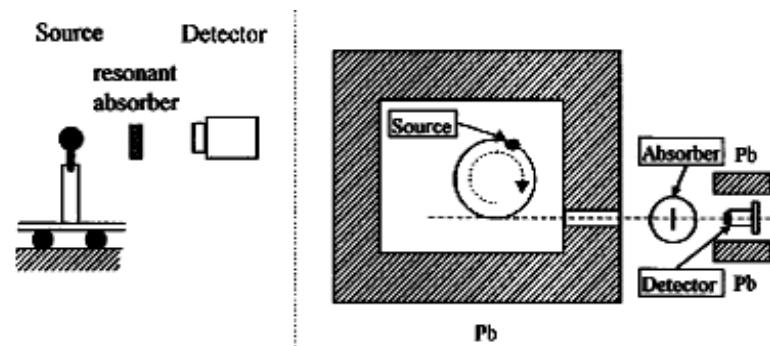
$$\Gamma \ll E_R$$

$$\lambda = \frac{\lambda}{2\pi} \quad \begin{matrix} \leftarrow \\ \text{Wavelength of emitted photon with energy } E_0 \end{matrix}$$

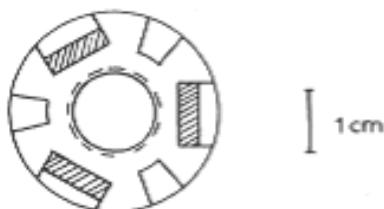
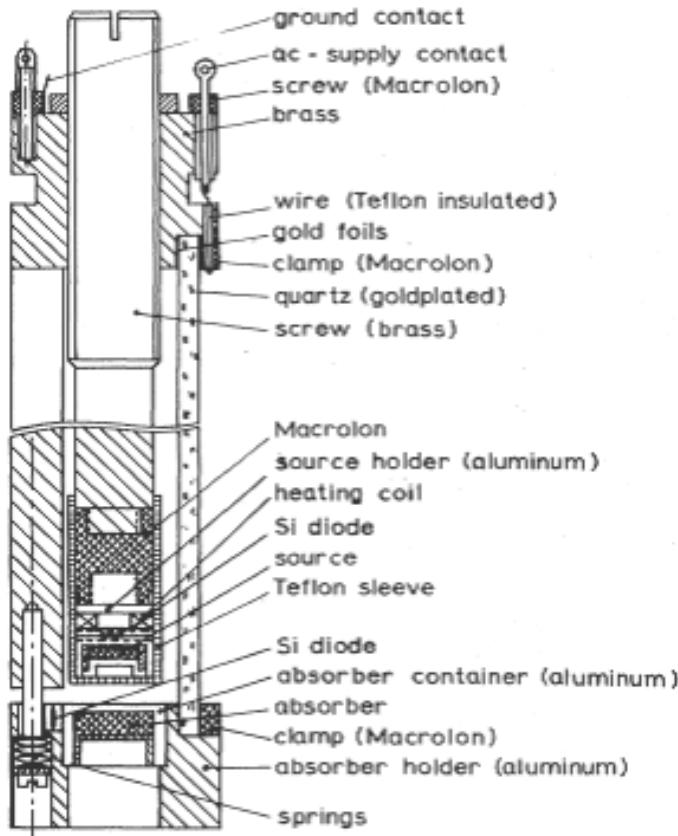
Max. resonance cross section:

$$\sigma_R = 2\pi\hat{\lambda}^2(s^2 f^2) \frac{\Gamma}{\Gamma_{\text{exp}}}$$

Many interesting applications:  
Solid-State Physics, Chemistry,  
Special and General Relativity



# I) Conventional Mössbauer Spectroscopy



Piezoelectric drive used for high-resolution  $^{67}\text{Zn}$  Mössbauer spectroscopy

accuracy:  $(\Delta E/E) \leq 1 \times 10^{-18}$   
i.e.,  $3\text{\AA}/\text{s} \approx 1\text{cm/y}$

W. Potzel et al.,  
Phys. Rev. B30, 4980 (1984)

# Gravitational Redshift Experiment

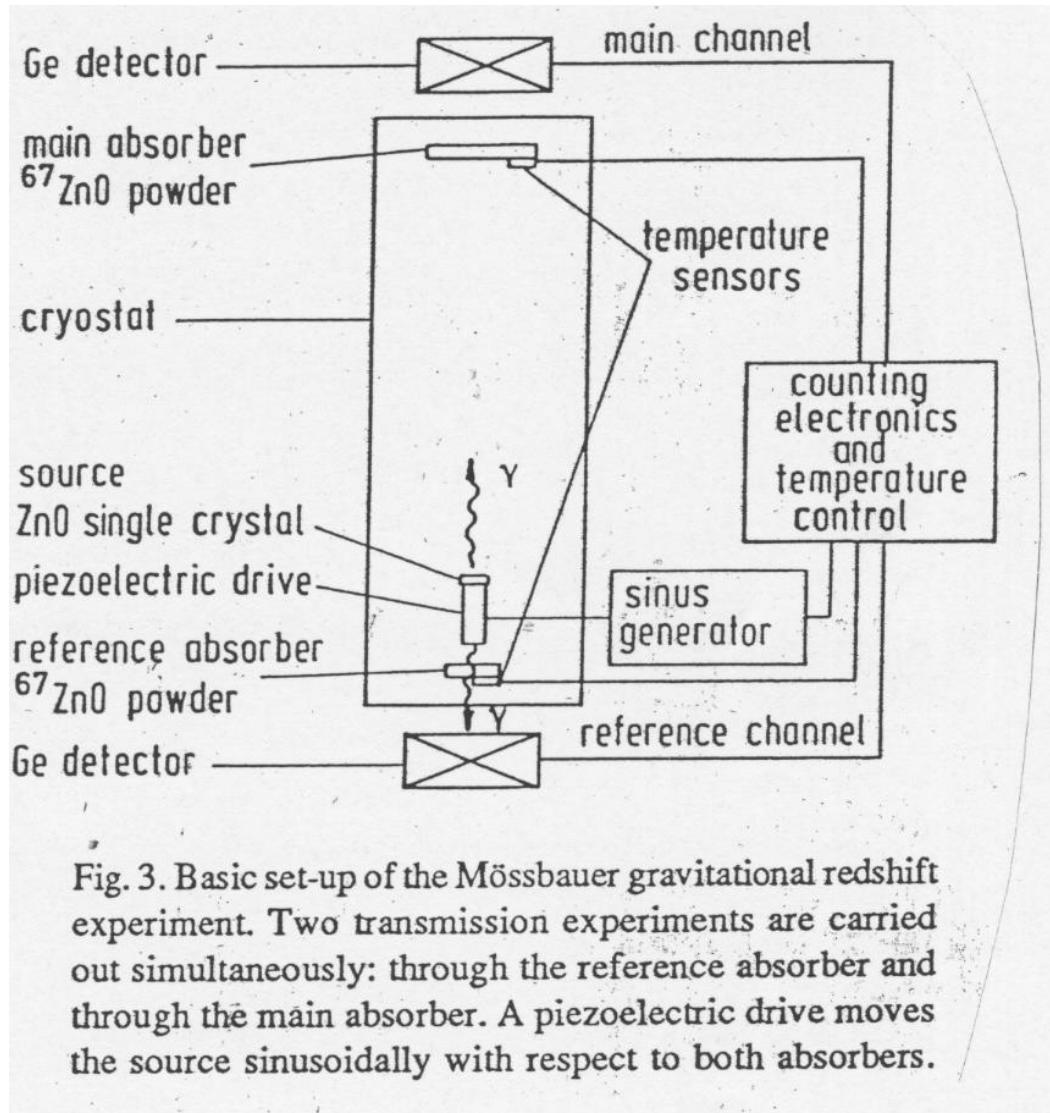
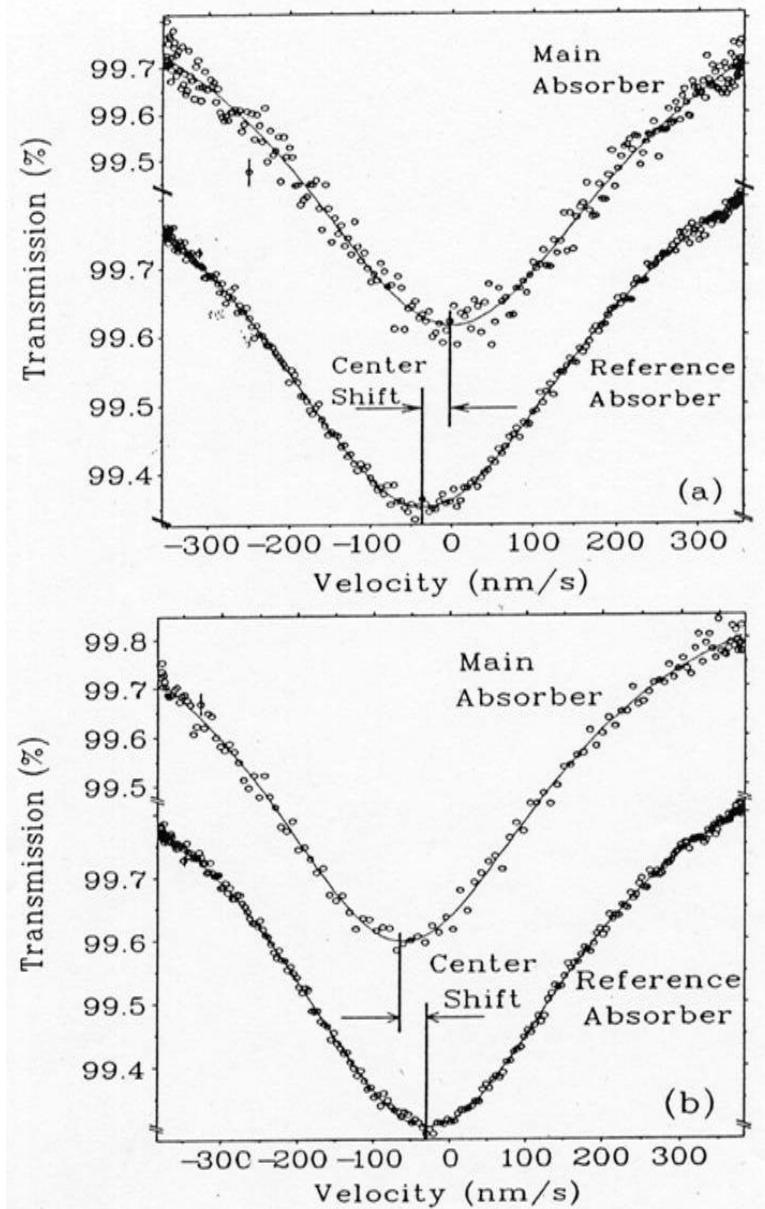


Fig. 3. Basic set-up of the Mössbauer gravitational redshift experiment. Two transmission experiments are carried out simultaneously: through the reference absorber and through the main absorber. A piezoelectric drive moves the source sinusoidally with respect to both absorbers.

W. Potzel et al., Hyp. Interact.  
72, 197 (1992)

# Red(blue)shift $^{67}\text{ZnO}$ -Mössbauer exp.



gravitational redshift

difference in height: 1m  
in gravitational field of Earth

gravitational blueshift

accuracy:  $(\Delta E/E) \leq 1 \times 10^{-18}$   
i.e.,  $3\text{\AA}/\text{s} \approx 1\text{cm/y}$

W. Potzel et al., Hyp. Interact.  
72, 197 (1992)

# Gravitational shift $^{109m}\text{Ag}$

$^{109m}\text{Ag}$ : gravitational spectrometer

$$\Gamma \approx 1.2 \cdot 10^{-17} \text{ eV} \quad \tau \approx 40 \text{ s}$$

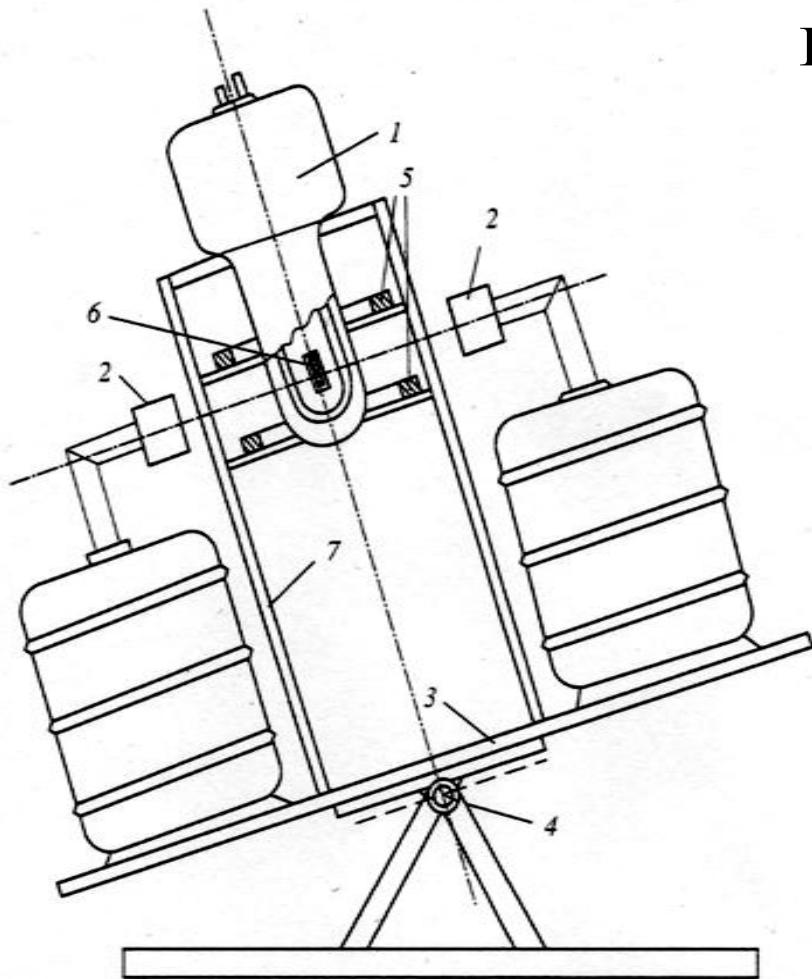
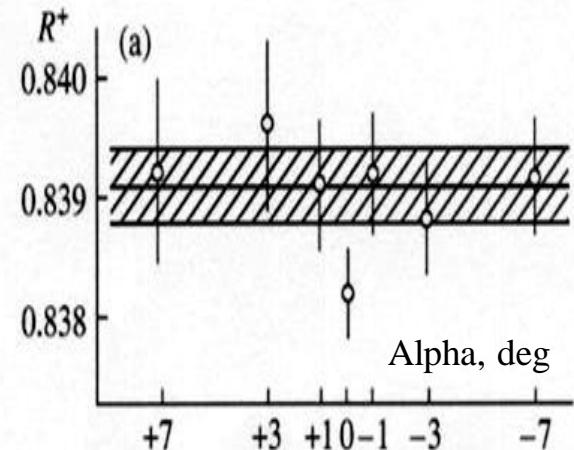


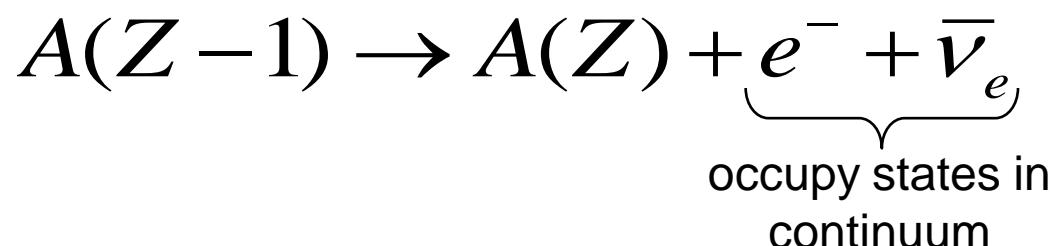
Fig. 1. Scheme of the gravitational gamma spectrometer: (1) cryostat, (2) germanium gamma detectors, (3) rotating platform, (4) support of cryostat and Helmholtz coils, (5) Helmholtz coils, (6) gamma sources, and (7) rotation axis of the platform.



V.G. Alpatov et al., Laser Physics 17 (2007) 1067  
Yu.D. Bayukov et al., JETP Letters 90 (2009) 499

## II) $\beta$ -decay

### 1) Usual $\beta$ -decay



neutron transforms  
into a proton

3-body process:  $e^-$ ,  $\bar{\nu}_e$  show (broad) energy spectra

Maximum  $\bar{\nu}_e$  energy:  $E_{\bar{\nu}_e}^{\max} = Q$

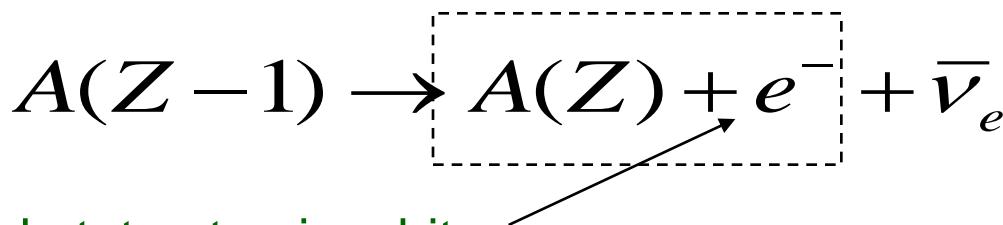
where  $Q = (M_{Z-1} - M_Z)c^2$

is the end-point energy

## II) Bound-state $\beta$ -decay

### 2) Bound-state $\beta$ -decay

J. N. Bahcall, Phys. Rev. 124, 495 (1961)

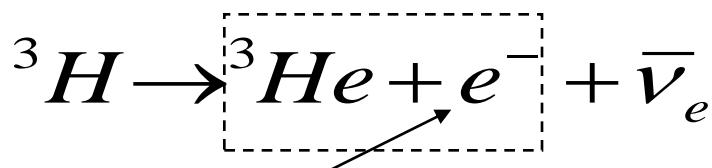


$\bar{\nu}_e$  - source  
mono-energetic

Bound-state atomic orbit.

Not a capture of  $e^-$  initially created in a continuum state (less probable).

Example:



Atomic orbit in  ${}^3\text{He}$

2-body process,  $\bar{\nu}_e$  has a fixed energy:

$$E_{\bar{\nu}_e} = Q + B_z - E_R \quad \text{where}$$

$Q = (M_{Z-1} - M_Z)c^2$  end-point energy

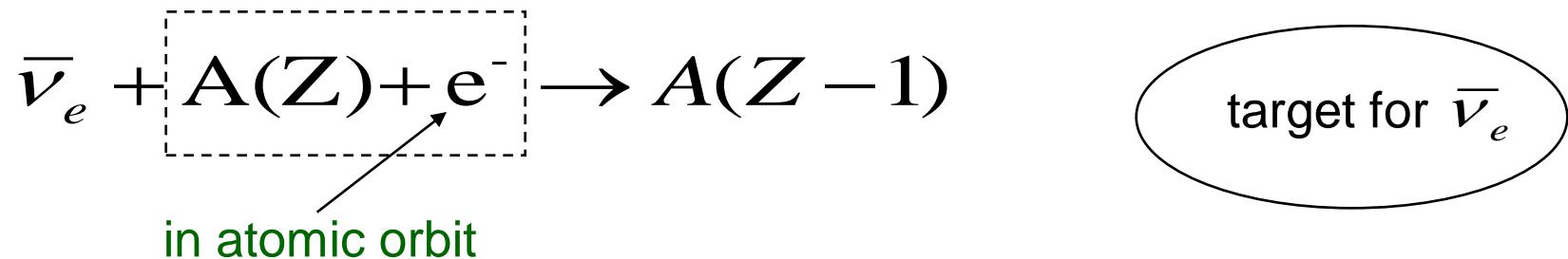
$B_z$  binding energy of electron

$E_R$  recoil energy

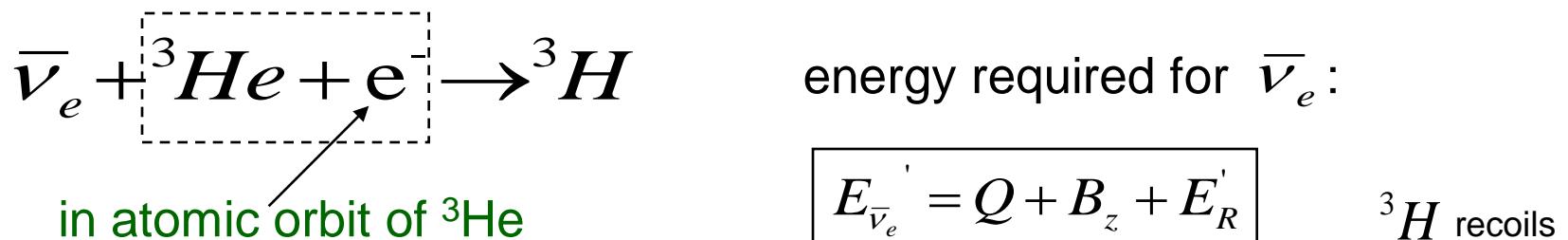
${}^3\text{He} + e^-$  recoils

## II) Bound-state $\beta$ -decay

Reverse process (absorption):



Example:



Bound-state  $\beta$ -decay has a resonant character which is (partially) destroyed by the recoil in source and target.

## II) Bound-state $\beta$ -decay

### Resonance cross section

$$\sigma = 4.18 \cdot 10^{-41} g_0^2 \cdot \frac{\rho(E_{\bar{\nu}_e}^{res})}{ft_{1/2}} [cm^2]$$

L.A. Mikaélyan, et al.: Sov.  
J. Nucl. Phys. 6, 254 (1968)

$$g_0 = 4\pi \left( \frac{\hbar}{mc} \right)^3 |\Psi|^2 \approx 4 \left( \frac{Z}{137} \right)^3$$

for low  $Z$ , hydrogen-like  $\psi$   
m: electron mass  
 $\psi^2$ : probability density of e in  $A(Z)$

$\rho(E_{\bar{\nu}_e}^{res})$ : resonant spectral density, i.e., number of  $\bar{\nu}_e$  in an energy interval of 1MeV around  $E_{\bar{\nu}_e}^{res}$

$ft_{1/2}$  value: reduced half-life of decay

$ft_{1/2} \approx 1000$  : super-allowed transition

# II) $^3\text{H}$ - $^3\text{He}$ system

<i>Decay</i>	$E_{\bar{\nu}_e}^{res}$	$ft_{1/2}$	$B\beta / C\beta$
$^3\text{H} \rightarrow ^3\text{He}$ $\tau = 17.81\text{y}$	18.60 keV	1132 sec	$\alpha = 6.9 \times 10^{-3}$ (80% ground state, 20% excited states)

Resonance cross section (without Mössbauer effect):  $\sigma \approx 1 \times 10^{-42} \text{ cm}^2$

To observe bound-state  $\beta$ -decay: 100-MCi sources ( $^3\text{H}$ ) and kg-targets ( $^3\text{He}$ ) would be necessary

Thermal motion:

Doppler energy profile,  
width: 0.16 eV

Recoil energy:

$$E_R = \frac{(E_{\bar{\nu}_e}^{res})^2}{2Mc^2} \approx 0.06\text{eV}$$

Source and target imbedded  
in solid-state lattices

Mössbauer effect:  $\sigma_R = \underbrace{2\pi\lambda^2}_{7.1 \times 10^{-18} \text{ cm}^2} (s^2 \alpha^2 f^2) \frac{\Gamma}{\Gamma_{\text{exp}}}$

W. M. Visscher, Phys. Rev. 116, 1581 (1959)

W. P. Kells and J. P. Schiffer, Phys. Rev. C 28, 2162 (1983)

R. S. Raghavan, hep-ph/0601079 v3, 2006

For  $^3\text{H} / ^3\text{He}$ :  $\sigma_R \approx 1.8 \times 10^{-22} \text{ cm}^2$  (maximal)

# Mössbauer Resonance Cross Section

For Mössbauer neutrinos:

W. M. Visscher, Phys. Rev. 116, 1581 (1959)  
W. P. Kells and J. P. Schiffer, Phys. Rev. C 28, 2162 (1983)

$$\sigma_R = 2\pi\lambda^2(s^2\alpha^2f^2)\frac{\Gamma}{\Gamma_{\text{exp}}}$$

Breit-Wigner formula

${}^3\text{H} - {}^3\text{He}$  system, bound-state  $\beta$ -decay  
Resonant, transition energy: 18.6 keV

$$\sigma_R = 1.8 \times 10^{-22} \text{ cm}^2 \quad (\text{as compared to } 1.1 \times 10^{-42} \text{ cm}^2)$$

Although weak interaction !

## II) $^3\text{H}$ - $^3\text{He}$ system

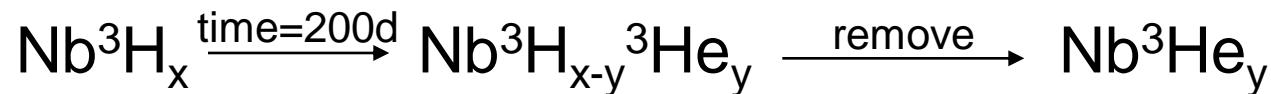
### Preparation of source and target

#### Source:

$^3\text{H}$  chemically loaded into metals to form hydrides (tritides), e.g., Nb: in tetrahedral interstitial sites (IS).

#### Target:

$^3\text{He}$  accumulates with time due to the **tritium trick**:



Remove  ${}^3\text{H}$  by isotopic exchange  ${}^3\text{H} \rightarrow \text{D}$

## II) $^3\text{H}$ - $^3\text{He}$ system

How much metal for source and target?

Source:

1 kCi of  $^3\text{H}$  ( $\sim$ 100mg  $^3\text{H}$ ): ~3g of Nb $^3\text{H}$

for NMR studies: 0.5 kCi  $^3\text{H}$  in 2.4g PdH<sub>0.6</sub>

Target:

100mg of  $^3\text{He}$  implies ~100g of Nb $^3\text{H}$  aged for 200 d

# III) Mössbauer Nu's: Basic Questions

## 1) Phononless transition:

### a) Recoilfree fraction:

Stop thermal motion!

Make  $E_R$  negligibly small!

$^3\text{H}$  as well as  $^3\text{He}$  in metallic lattices:  
freeze their motion → no Doppler broadening.

$M \rightarrow M_{\text{lattice}} \gg M$

Leave lattice unchanged, leave phonons  
unchanged.

recoil energy:

$$E_R = \frac{(E_{\bar{\nu}e}^{\text{res}})^2}{2Mc^2}$$

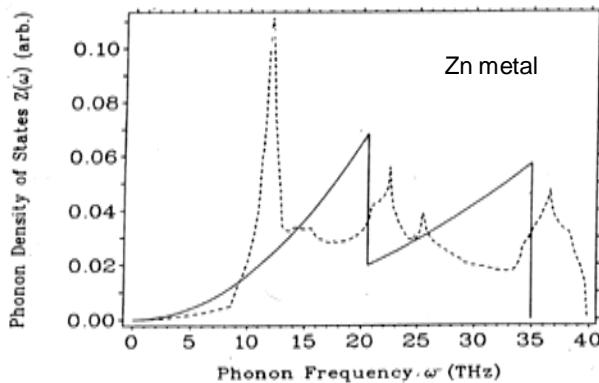
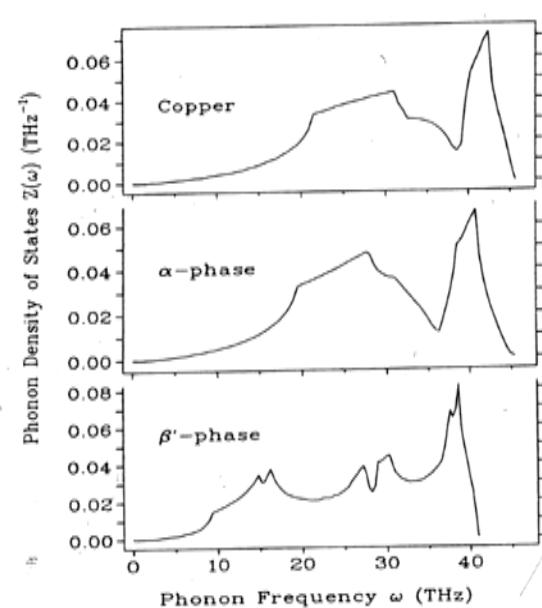
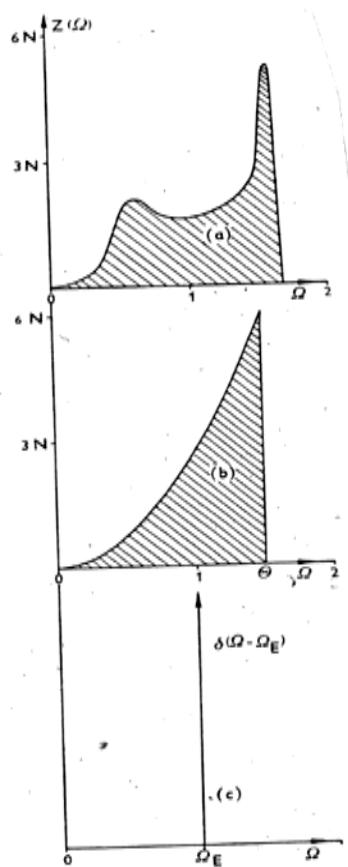
zero-point energy

Energy of lattice with N particles:  $E_L = \sum_{s=1}^{3N} (n_s + 1/2)\hbar\omega_s$       ( $n_s = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ )  
3N normal modes

$$E_L = \int_0^{\omega_{\text{max}}} (\overline{n(\omega)} + 1/2) \omega \cdot Z(\omega) d\omega \quad \text{with} \quad \overline{n(\omega)} = 1/(\exp(\hbar\omega/k_B T) - 1)$$

$Z(\omega) \cdot d\omega$ : number of oscillators with frequency  $\omega$  between  $\omega$  and  $\omega + d\omega$

# Phonon density of states



# III) Mössbauer Nu's: Basic Questions

## 1) Phononless transition:

a) Recoilfree fraction:

$$f = e^{-\left(\frac{E}{\hbar c}\right)^2 \cdot \langle x^2 \rangle} \longrightarrow f < 1$$

Conventional Mössbauer effect (with photons):

**Source and absorber (target) involve the same type of atoms, e.g., the isotope  $^{57}\text{Fe}$ .**

recoil energy:

$$E_R = \frac{(E_{\bar{\nu}e}^{res})^2}{2Mc^2}$$

Debye model:

$$T \rightarrow 0: \quad f(T \rightarrow 0) = \exp \left\{ -\frac{E^2}{2Mc^2} \cdot \frac{3}{2k_B \Theta} \right\}$$

↑  
recoil energy

$f$  depends on: transition energy E  
mass M of the atom  
Debye temperature  $\Theta$

Example:  $^3\text{H} - ^3\text{He}$

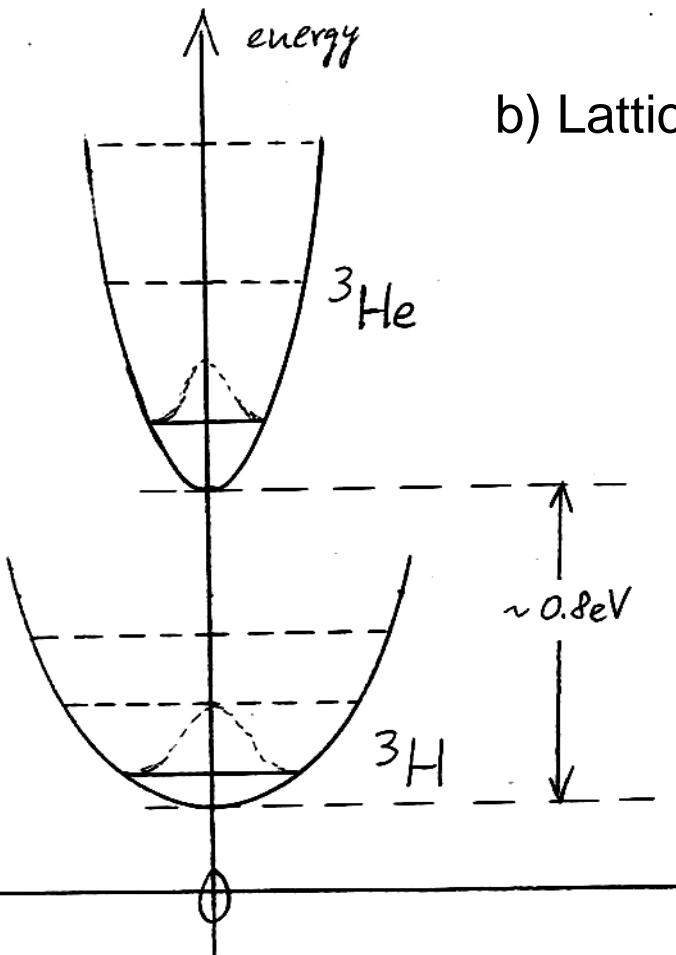
typically:  $f(0) \approx 0.27$  for  $\Theta \approx 800\text{K}$

Emission and absorption:

$$f^{^3\text{H}} \cdot f^{^3\text{He}} \approx 0.07 \text{ for } T \rightarrow 0$$

### III) Mössbauer Nu's: Basic Questions

$^3\text{H}$  as well as  $^3\text{He}$  in metallic lattices:  
**Nb metal, tetrahedral interstitial sites**



b) Lattice expansion and contraction: in addition to recoil

Nuclear transformations occur when  $\bar{\nu}_e$  is emitted or captured.  $^3\text{He}$  and  $^3\text{H}$  use different amounts of lattice space. Will this cause lattice excitations (phonons)?

**Lattice-deformation energies of  $^3\text{H}$  and  $^3\text{He}$  in Nb metal:**

$$E_L(^3\text{H}) = 0.099\text{eV}; E_L(^3\text{He}) = 0.551\text{eV}$$

$$f^L(T \rightarrow 0) \leq \exp\left\{-\frac{E_L(^3\text{He}) - E_L(^3\text{H})}{k_B \Theta}\right\} \approx 1 \cdot 10^{-3}$$

$$f^L(0)^2 \approx 1 \cdot 10^{-6} \quad \text{and} \quad f(0)^2 \cdot f^L(0)^2 \approx 7 \cdot 10^{-8}$$

→ Theoretical calculations:

David Ceperley, Univ. of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
USA

# III) Mössbauer Nu's: Basic Questions

## 2) Linewidth

minimal width (natural width):  $\Delta E^{nat} = \Gamma = \hbar / \tau$        $\tau$ : lifetime

${}^3\text{H}$ :  $\tau = 17.81 \text{ y} \longrightarrow \Delta E^{nat} = \Gamma = 1.17 \cdot 10^{-24} \text{ eV}$       (extremely narrow)

R.S. Raghavan: possible to reach nat. width  
Phys. Rev. Lett. **102**, 091804 (2009)

Unfortunately: not possible  
W. Potzel and F.E. Wagner  
Phys. Rev. Lett. **103**, 099101 (2009)  
and arXiv: 0908.3985 [hep-ph];  
J.P. Schiffer  
Phys. Rev. Lett. **103**, 099102 (2009)

Two types of line broadening:

a) homogeneous broadening



due to fluctuations, e. g. of magnetic fields, **stochastic processes**

b) inhomogeneous broadening

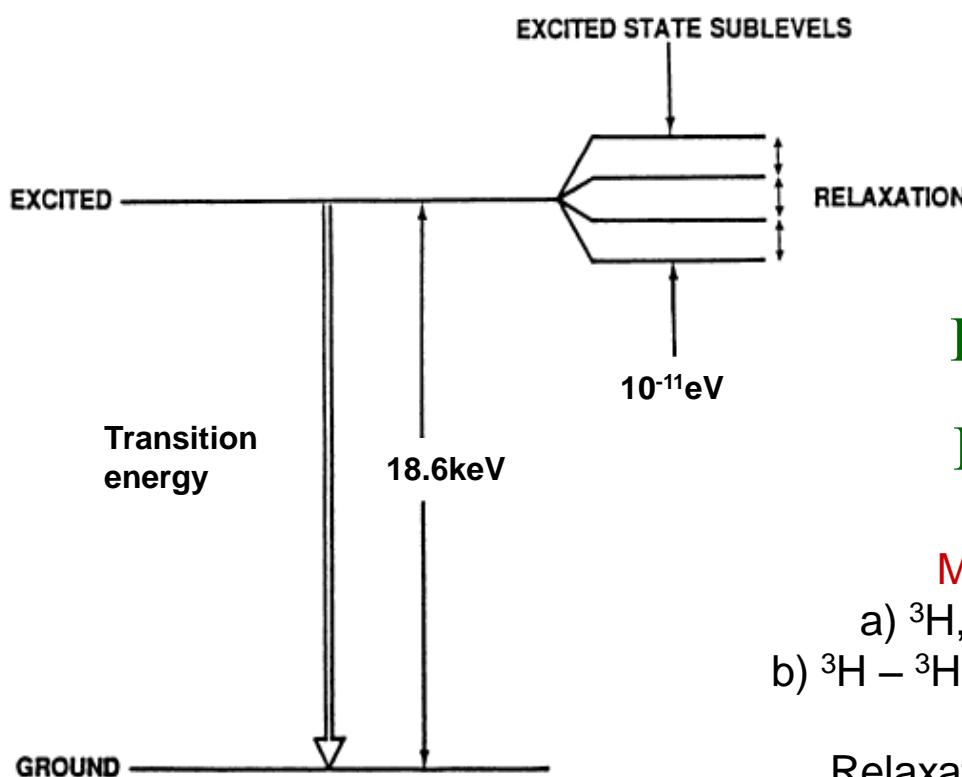


due to stationary effects, e.g. impurities, **lattice defects which cause variations of line shifts**

How big are these broadening effects?

# III) Mössbauer Nu's: Basic Questions

a) homogeneous broadening: **stochastic processes**, average rate is **not** connected to frequency of lattice vibrations; present at all temperatures



Measurements:  ${}^3\text{H}$  (Pd),  ${}^3\text{H}$  (Ti-H), NbH

Typical relaxation times:  
 $T_2 \sim 2\text{ms}$ ,  $79\mu\text{s}$

$$\Gamma_{\text{exp}} \sim 5 \times 10^{-11} \text{ eV} \sim 4 \times 10^{13} \text{ } \Gamma$$

$$\Gamma_{\text{exp}} \sim \Gamma ({}^{67}\text{Zn})$$

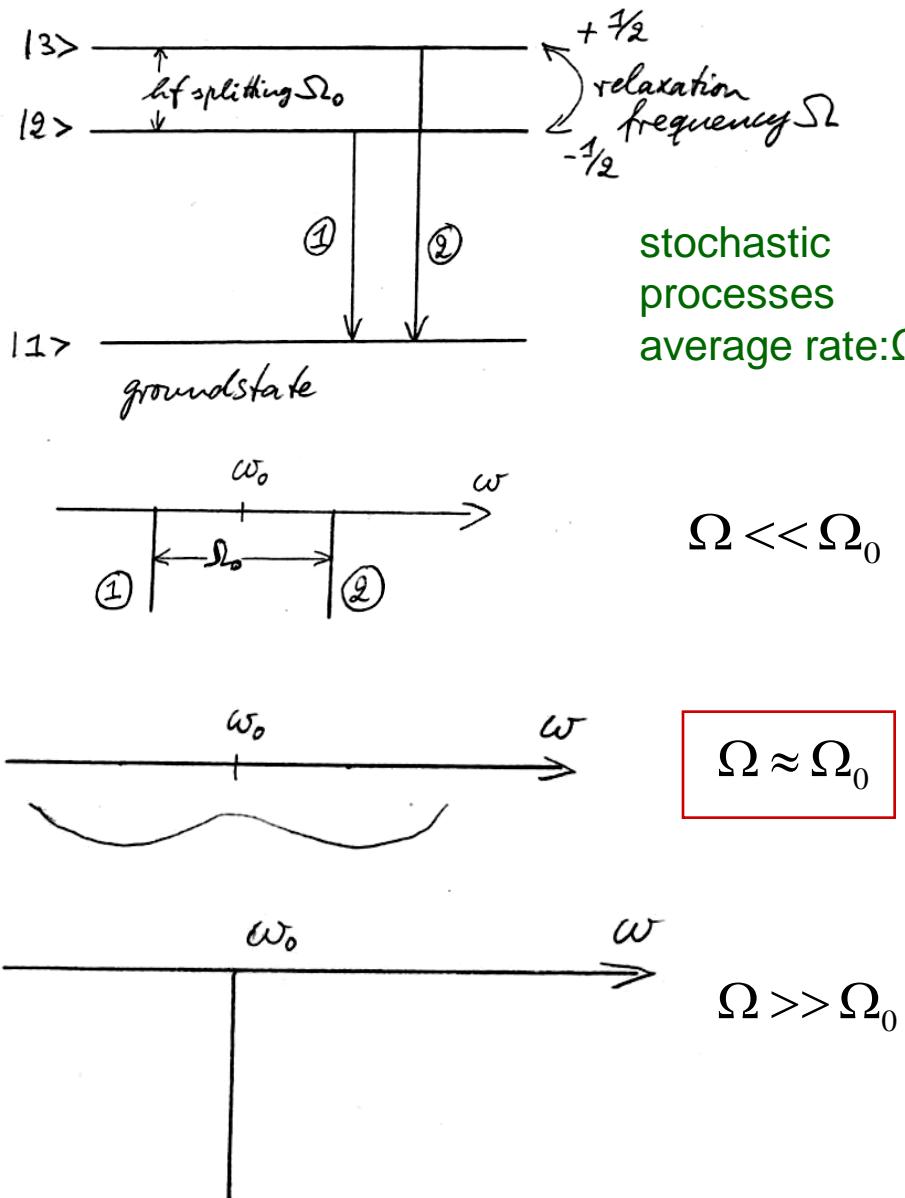
Magnetic interactions:

- a)  ${}^3\text{H}$ ,  ${}^3\text{He}$  with nuclei of metallic lattice
- b)  ${}^3\text{H}$  –  ${}^3\text{H}$  magnetic dipolar spin-spin interaction

Relaxation between the sublevels affects the lineshape and the total linewidth.

The linewidth is determined by the relaxation rate.

# Homogeneous Broadening: Magnetic Relaxation



Simplest magnetic relaxation model

Sudden, irregular transitions (relaxation) between hyperfine-split states

→ irregular (random) phase changes of transitions to ground state, no correlation to original phase  
→ it might take a long time to come back to the original frequency

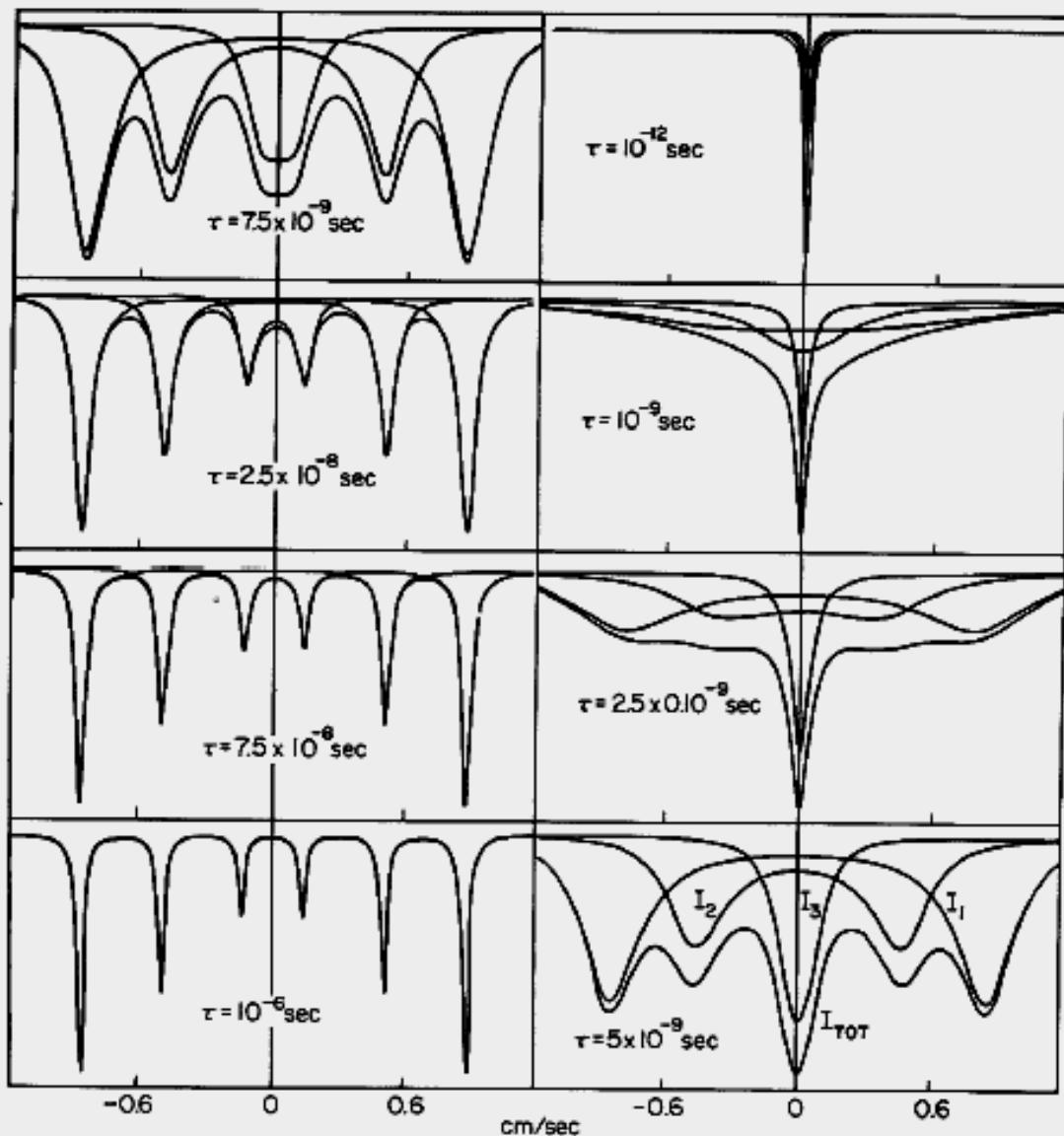
Two lines of (almost) natural width:  
With increasing  $\Omega$ , the lines broaden  
→ effective lifetime (time-energy uncertainty princ.)

Intensity is distributed over a broad pattern, which extends over the total hf splitting  $\Omega_0$  as suggested by the time-energy uncertainty principle. **Broad lines can not be decomposed into multiple sharp lines.**

**$^3\text{H}/^3\text{He}$  system in Nb metal:  $\Omega_0 \sim 10^5 \text{ s}^{-1}$  and  $\Omega \sim 8 \times 10^4 \text{ s}^{-1}$ .  $\rightarrow \Gamma_{\text{exp}} \sim 5 \times 10^{-11} \text{ eV} \sim 4 \times 10^{13} \text{ } \Gamma$ .**

**Motional narrowing:** one line at the center of the hf splitting of practically natural width.  
Stochastic frequency changes: between lines 1 and 2. Averaging process over many short parts of the lifetime. **Not the case for  $^3\text{H}/^3\text{He}$ .**

# III) Mössbauer Nu's: Basic Questions



Relaxation spectra for  $^{57}\text{Fe}$   
Superposition of 3 doublets

Average relaxation rate:  $\Omega = 2\pi / \tau$

H.H. Wickman and G.K. Wertheim in:  
*Chemical Applications of Mössbauer Spectroscopy*, V.I. Goldanskii and R. Herber, editors; pp. 548 (New York: Academic Press, 1968)

# III) Mössbauer Nu's: Basic Questions

## b) inhomogeneous broadening:

Stationary effects: lattice defects, impurities

**Conventional Mössbauer spectroscopy:** Different binding strengths due to inhomogeneities affect the energy of the photons in the **same type** of nucleus in source and target.

→ Shift of photon energy by typically  $10^{-7} - 10^{-9}$  eV (**hyperfine interaction**)

In the best single crystals: inhomogeneities cause shifts of  $10^{-13}$  to  $10^{-12}$  eV.

For  $\bar{\nu}_e$ : corresp. to  $10^{11} \Gamma$  or  $10^{12} \Gamma$  or even larger.

$10^{12} \Gamma$  would still be fine; →  $\sigma_R \approx 1.8 \times 10^{-34} \text{ cm}^2$ .

Binding energies of  ${}^3\text{H}$  and  ${}^3\text{He}$  in an inhomogeneous metallic lattice **directly** influence the  $\bar{\nu}_e$  energy.

Binding energies per atom: ~eV range (**Coulomb interaction**).

→ Variation of the  $\bar{\nu}_e$  energy much larger than neV, **typically: meV range**.

→ Variation of the  $\bar{\nu}_e$  energy by only  $10^{-6}$  eV →  $10^{18} \Gamma$ .

# III) Mössbauer Nu's: Basic Questions

## 3) Relativistic effects

Second-order Doppler shift due to mean-square atomic velocity  $\langle V^2 \rangle$

Time-dilatation effect: 
$$\Delta t = \frac{\Delta t'}{\sqrt{1 - (V/c)^2}}$$

moving system  
↓  
stationary system

Frequencies:  $\omega = \omega' \sqrt{1 - (V/c)^2} \approx \omega' \left(1 - \frac{V^2}{2c^2}\right)$

Second-order Doppler shift:  $\Delta\omega = \omega - \omega' = -\omega' \frac{V^2}{2c^2}$

Reduction of frequency (energy)

### III) Mössbauer Nu's: Basic Questions

Within the Debye model:

$$\frac{\Delta E}{E} = \frac{9k_B}{16Mc^2}(\Theta_s - \Theta_t) + \frac{3k_B}{2Mc^2} \left[ T_s \cdot f\left(\frac{T_s}{\Theta_s}\right) - T_t \cdot f\left(\frac{T_t}{\Theta_t}\right) \right]$$

where

$$f\left(\frac{T}{\Theta}\right) = 3\left(\frac{T}{\Theta}\right)^3 \cdot \int_0^{\Theta/T} \frac{x^3}{\exp x - 1} dx$$

Zero-point energy

If  $|T_s - T_t| = 1$  degree  $\rightarrow \Delta E = 1.9 \cdot 10^{-9} eV \approx 1.6 \cdot 10^{15} \Gamma$

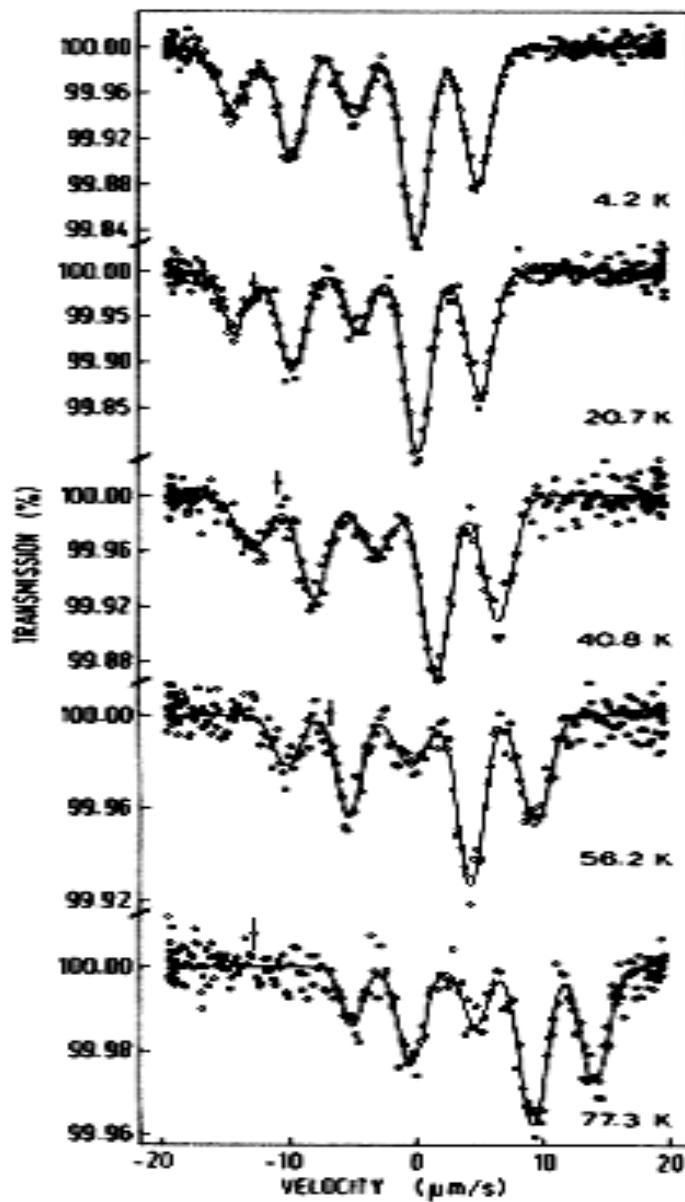
Low temperatures:  $T_s \approx T_t \approx 0 \longrightarrow [....] \approx 0$

However, zero-point energy remains!

If  $|\Theta_s - \Theta_t| = 1$  degree (0.08meV)  $\rightarrow \Delta E / E \approx 2 \cdot 10^{-14} \longrightarrow \Delta E \approx 4 \cdot 10^{-10} eV \approx 3 \cdot 10^{14} \Gamma$

Similar conclusion as reached from different binding energies.

### III) Mössbauer Nu's: Basic Questions



$^{67}\text{Zn}$  Mössbauer absorption spectra

Source:  $^{67}\text{GaZnO}$  single crystal at various temperatures.

Absorber:  $^{67}\text{ZnO}$  powder at 4.2K.

C. Schäfer et al., Phys. Rev. B<sup>37</sup>, 7247 (1988)

# $^3\text{H}$ - $^3\text{He}$ system

## Event rates for $^3\text{H} - ^3\text{He}$ recoilless resonant capture of antineutrinos

Base line	$^3\text{H}$	$^3\text{He}$	Antineutrino capture per day	$R\beta(\Delta t=65\text{d})$ per day
5 cm	1 kCi	100 mg	$\sim 40 \times 10^3$	$\sim 40$
10 m	1 MCi	1 g	$\sim 10^3$	$\sim 10$

1) only homogeneous broadening, assuming  
 $\rightarrow \Gamma_{\text{exp}} = 9 \times 10^{-12} \text{ eV} \approx 8 \times 10^{12} \text{ eV}$   
 $\sigma_{\text{res}} \approx 3 \times 10^{-33} \text{ cm}^2$

2) **no** lattice expansion and contraction

$R\beta(\Delta t)/\text{day}$ : Reverse  $\beta$ -activity rate after growth period  $\Delta t=65\text{d}=0.01\tau$

# 4) Answers to Basic Questions

## A) Principal difficulties

- 1) Probability for phononless emission and detection:  $\sim 7 \times 10^{-8}$  ?  
Due to lattice expansion and contraction (not present with conventional Mössbauer effect) and due to recoil.Show Stopper
- 2) Homogeneous line broadening:  $\Gamma_{\text{exp}} > 4 \times 10^{13} \Gamma \approx 5 \times 10^{-11} \text{ eV}$ . Acceptable!
- 3) Inhomogeneous line broadening due to random distribution of  ${}^3\text{H}$  and  ${}^3\text{He}$  in metal lattice (entropy) → **direct** influence of binding energies.  
 $\Gamma_{\text{exp}} \gg 10^{12} \Gamma$ , maybe that even  $\Gamma_{\text{exp}} \approx 10^{18} \Gamma \approx 10^{-6} \text{ eV}$   
(200 times broader than the  ${}^{57}\text{Fe}$  Mössbauer resonance). Critical!
- 4) Relativistic effects (zero point energy) due to different binding energies:  
 $\Gamma_{\text{exp}} > 3 \times 10^{14} \Gamma \approx 3 \times 10^{-10} \text{ eV}$ . Acceptable!

# 4) Answers to Basic Questions

## B) Technological difficulties (to mention only two)

- 1) Heat production in source of 1kCi is 0.1 W, → temperature gradients  $\Delta T$ .  
For natural width  $\Gamma$ ,  $\Delta T \ll 10^{-11} K$  (relativistic effect).
- 2) Stability of apparatus for continuous measurement:  
e.g., mechanical and temperature variations must be negligible for time comparable to lifetime, i.e. for  $\sim 20$  years.

# 4) Answers to Basic Questions

## C) Age of the source

To use  ${}^3\text{H}$  sources produced at different times: The age itself of the  ${}^3\text{H}$  source does **not** influence the linewidth.

For an exponential decay (constant  $\Gamma$ ):

Fourier transform from  $t=0$  to  $t \rightarrow \infty$ :  $F(\Omega)$

Fourier transform from  $t=t_0 > 0$  to  $t \rightarrow \infty$ :  $F(\Omega) \cdot e^{-(\Gamma/2)t_0}$

Only amplitude is reduced, width is the same.

In an  $\bar{\nu}_e$  experiment, the clock is started together with the measurement when source and target are arranged in their **fixed** positions.

# Candidates for recoilless neutrino emission and absorption

TABLE I. Candidates for recoilless neutrino absorption.

Nuclide	$Q$ (keV)	$\tau$ (yr)	$f_R^a$ Recoilless fraction	$\alpha$ ( $10^{-4}$ )	$\gamma$ ( $10^{-16}$ )	$\sigma_{\text{eff}}$ ( $10^{-36} \text{ cm}^2$ )	$\sigma_{\text{eff}}/\tau^b$
$^3\text{H}$	18.6	12.3	0.40	200 <sup>c</sup>	8	0.1	1.0
$^{63}\text{Ni}$	68	92	0.07	1	1	$10^{-9}$	$10^{-9}$
$^{93}\text{Zr}$	60	$1.5 \times 10^6$	0.18	1	$7 \times 10^{-5}$	$10^{-12}$	$10^{-16}$
$^{107}\text{Pd}$	33	$6 \times 10^6$	0.62	1	$2 \times 10^{-5}$	$10^{-11}$	$10^{-16}$
$^{151}\text{Sm}$	76	90	0.11	1	1	$10^{-9}$	$2 \times 10^{-9}$
$^{171}\text{Tm}$	97	1.9	0.04	1	50	$5 \times 10^{-9}$	$3 \times 10^{-7}$
$^{187}\text{Re}$	2.6	$4 \times 10^{10}$	1.0	1000 <sup>d</sup>	$10^{-9}$	$2 \times 10^{-7}$	$10^{-15}$
$^{193}\text{Pt}$	61	50	0.29	1	2	$3 \times 10^{-8}$	$8 \times 10^{-8}$
$^{157}\text{Tb}$	58	150	0.29	0.4 <sup>d</sup>	0.7	$2 \times 10^{-9}$	$10^{-9}$
$^{163}\text{Ho}$	2.6	7000	1	73 <sup>d</sup>	0.01	$7 \times 10^{-3}$	$1 \times 10^{-4}$
$^{179}\text{Ta}$	115	1.7	$10^{-2}$	0.5 <sup>d</sup>	60	$10^{-10}$	$6 \times 10^{-9}$
$^{205}\text{Pb}$	60	$1.4 \times 10^7$	0.3	8 <sup>d</sup>	$10^{-5}$	$10^{-11}$	$10^{-16}$

<sup>a</sup> Recoilless fraction calculated for effective Debye temperatures assuming that the nuclei are imbedded in  $W$ , and that the simple approximations in the text are valid.

<sup>b</sup> Normalized to 1.0 for  $^3\text{H}$ .

<sup>c</sup> From Ref. 4.

<sup>d</sup> Estimated from atomic wave function calculations of the relevant shells.

W. P. Kells and J. P. Schiffer,  
Phys. Rev. C 28, 2162 (1983)

# 5) Rare Earth Systems?

W. P. Kells and J. P. Schiffer,  
Phys. Rev. C 28, 2162 (1983)

Next-best case:  $^{163}\text{Ho}/^{163}\text{Dy}$

- Advantages:
- a) large mass → relativistic effects are smaller comp. to  $^3\text{H}/^3\text{He}$
  - b) low Q value, 2.6 keV, → high recoilfree fraction
  - c) More similar chemical behaviour of Rare Earth  
→ lattice expansion and contraction more favourable  
→ larger probability of phononless transitions in source  
and target.

- Disadvantages:
- a) Rare Earth atoms have large magnetic moments  
(4f electrons)  
→ magnetic relaxation phenomena are decisive
  - b) less technological knowledge concerning fabrication  
of high-purity materials and of single crystals.
  - c) large amounts of  $^{163}\text{Ho}$  (kg) and  $^{163}\text{Dy}$  (100kg) necessary.

# IV) Interesting experiments

- 1) Do Mössbauer (anti)neutrinos oscillate?
- 2) Oscillating Mössbauer neutrinos
  - 2.1) Ultra-short base lines
  - 2.2) Determination of mass hierarchy and oscillation parameters  
 $\Delta m_{32}$  and  $\Delta m^2_{12}$ : 0.6% and  $\sin^2 2\theta_{13}$ : 0.002
  - 2.3) Search for sterile neutrinos
  - 2.4) Gravitational redshift experiments (Earth).

# IV) Interesting experiments

## 1) Question: Do Mössbauer neutrinos oscillate?

### A) Evolution of neutrino state in time

Schrödinger equation for evolution of any quantum state:

$$i \frac{\partial |\psi(t)\rangle}{\partial t} = H |\psi(t)\rangle \longrightarrow |\psi(t)\rangle = e^{-iHt} |\psi(0)\rangle$$

$$P(\nu_l \rightarrow \nu_{l'}) = \left| \sum_{k=1}^3 U_{l'k} e^{-i(E_k - E_l)t} U_{lk}^* \right|^2$$

No matter what the neutrino momenta are !

If  $E_k = E_i$ , there will be no neutrino oscillations:  $P(\nu_l \rightarrow \nu_{l'}) = \delta_{l'l}$   
The neutrino state is stationary

If  $E_k$  are different, neutrino state is non-stationary.  
→ time-energy uncertainty relation holds:

$$\Delta E \cdot \Delta t \geq 1$$

$\Delta t$  is the time interval during which the state of the system is significantly changed

If  $E_k \neq E_i$ , the time-energy uncertainty relation takes the form:  $(E_k - E_i) \cdot t \approx \frac{\Delta m_{1k}^2}{2E} t$

# IV) Interesting experiments

## B) Evolution of neutrino state in time and space

Mixed neutrino state at space-time point  $x = (t, \vec{x})$ :

$$|\nu_l\rangle_x = \sum_{k=1}^3 e^{-ip_k x} U_{lk}^* |\nu_k\rangle \quad \longrightarrow \quad P(\nu_l \rightarrow \nu_{l'}) = \left| \sum_{k=1}^3 U_{l'k} e^{-i(p_k - p_1)x} U_{lk}^* \right|^2$$

with  $(p_k - p_1)x = \frac{E_k^2 - E_1^2}{E_k + E_1} t - (p_k - p_1)L$  and  $E_i^2 = p_i^2 + m_i^2$

ultra-relativistic neutrinos:  $t \approx L \quad \longrightarrow \quad (p_k - p_1)x \approx \frac{\Delta m_{1k}^2}{2E} L \quad \text{oscillatory phase}$

Mössbauer neutrinos: different masses have the **same energy**

$\longrightarrow$  neutrino wave function is stationary in time, but **oscillatory in space**

$$\longrightarrow p_k \neq p_i : \quad (p_k - p_i)x = \frac{\Delta m_{1k}^2}{2E} L \quad P(\nu_l \rightarrow \nu_{l'}) = \left| \sum_{k=1}^3 U_{l'k} e^{-i\Delta m_{1k}^2 \frac{L}{2E}} U_{lk}^* \right|^2$$

# IV) Interesting experiments

## 1) Do Mössbauer neutrinos oscillate?

Different approaches to neutrino oscillations

A) Evolution of the neutrino state  $\Psi(t)$  in time:

Neutrino oscillations occur if  $\Psi(t)$  is a superposition of states of neutrinos with different energies

→ non-stationary phenomenon

→ No oscillations for Mössbauer neutrinos, since very narrow energy distribution

B) Evolution of the neutrino state in space and time:

→ Oscillations are possible in both the non-stationary and also in the stationary case (Mössbauer neutrinos: wave function oscillates in space)

# IV) Interesting experiments

## 2) Oscillating Mössbauer neutrinos:

### 2.1) Ultra-short base lines for neutrino-oscillation experiments

For only two flavors:  $P(\nu_a \rightarrow \nu_b) = \sin^2 2\Theta \cdot \sin^2(\pi L / L_0)$

Oscillation length:  $L_0 = 4\pi\hbar c \frac{E}{|\Delta m^2|} \approx 2.480 \frac{E / \text{MeV}}{|\Delta m^2| / \text{eV}} \text{ [m]}$

A) Determination of  $\Theta_{13}$ :  $E=18.6 \text{ keV}$  instead of  $3 \text{ MeV}$ .

$\Delta m_{23}^2$  observed with *atmospheric* neutrinos

Chooz experiment:  $\sin^2 2\Theta_{13} \leq 2 \cdot 10^{-1}$       Oscillation base line:  $L_0/2 \sim 9.3 \text{ m}$

—————> Base line  $L$  of  $9.3 \text{ m}$  instead of  $1500 \text{ m}$

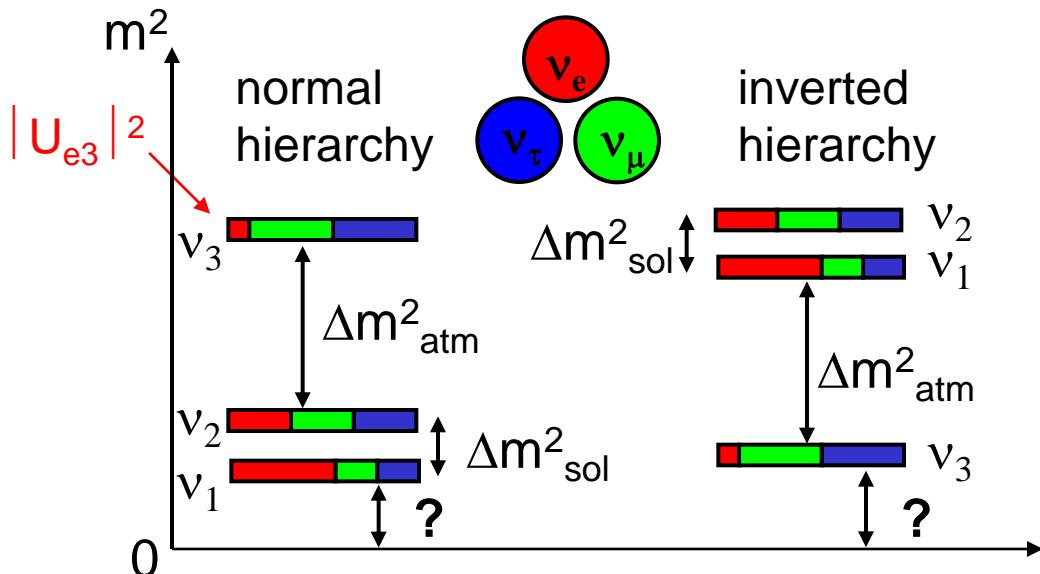
B) Determination of oscillation parameters of solar neutrinos

$\Delta m_{12}^2$  observed with *solar* neutrinos

Amplitude:  $\sin^2 2\Theta_{12} \approx 0.82$       Oscillation base line:  $L_0/2 \sim 300 \text{ m}$

# IV) Interesting experiments

## 2.2) Mass hierarchy and oscillation parameters



H. Minakata et al.: hep-ph/0701151

S. Parke et al.: 0812.1879 (hep-ph)

Phase changes of atmosph. w.r. to solar oscill.

$$\text{NH: } |\Delta_{31}| > |\Delta_{32}|$$

$$\text{IH: } |\Delta_{31}| < |\Delta_{32}|$$

Phase of atm. osc.  
advances  
retarded

by  $2\pi \sin^2 \Theta_{12}$  for every solar osc.

H. Nunokawa et al., hep-ph/0503283

To determine mass hierarchy:

Measure  $\Delta m^2$  in reactor-neutrino and muon-neutrino (accelerator long-baseline) disappearance channels to better than a fraction of 1%

H. Minakata et al., hep-ph/0602046

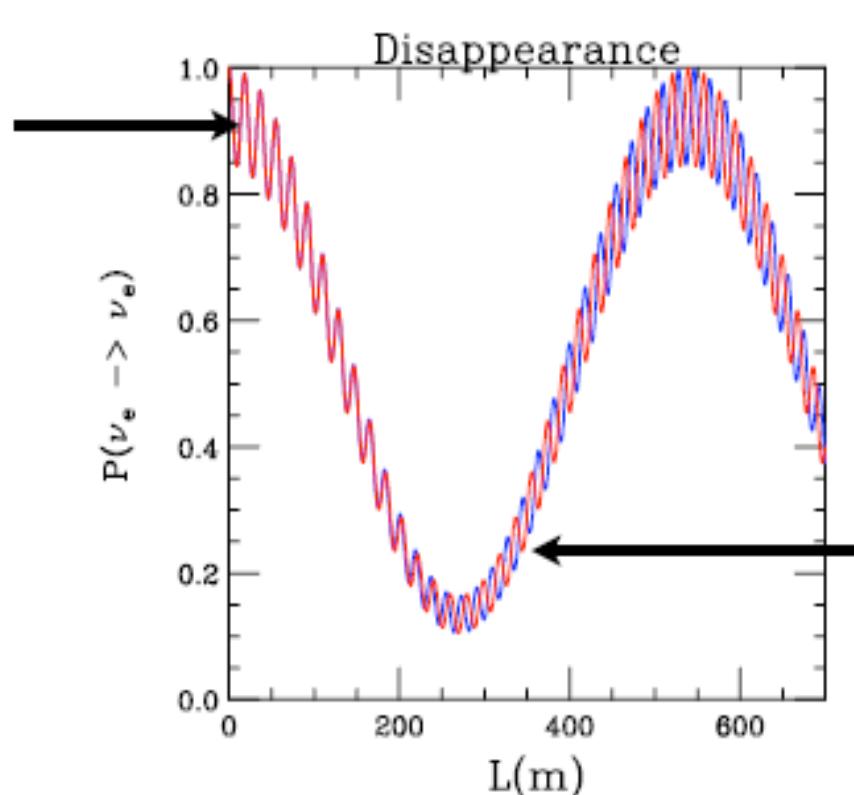
For  $\sin^2 2\theta_{13} = 0.05$  and 10 different detector locations one can reach uncertainties:

in  $\Delta m^2_{31}$  and  $\Delta m^2_{12}$ : 0.6%,

in  $\sin^2 2\theta_{13}$ : 0.002

# IV) Interesting experiments

in phase



$$\delta m_{31}^2 > 0$$

$$\delta m_{31}^2 < 0$$

out of phase by  $\pi/2$

Long period: solar oscillation  $\Delta m_{12}^2$   
Short period: atm. oscillation  $\Delta m_{32}^2$

S. Parke et al.: Nucl. Phys. Proc. Suppl. 188, 115 (2008);  
arXiv: 0812.1879 [hep-ph]

$$L_o = 2.48 \frac{E / \text{MeV}}{\left| \Delta m_{ij} \right|^2 / \text{eV}^2} m$$

# IV) Interesting experiments

## 2.3) Search for conversion of $\bar{\nu}_e \rightarrow \nu_{sterile}$

LSND experiment:  $\Delta m^2 \approx 1\text{eV}^2$  and  $\sin^2 2\theta \sim 0.1$  to 0.001

(not completely excluded by MiniBooNE, experiment  
not conclusive)

Possibility:  $\bar{\nu}_e \rightarrow \nu_{sterile}$

V. Kopeikin et al. : hep-ph/0310246

Test: Disappearance experiment with 18.6 keV antineutrinos  
(2.6 keV,  $^{163}\text{Ho}$ )

→ Oscillation length  $L_0 \sim 5\text{cm!}$   
(~1 cm,  $^{163}\text{Ho}$ )

→ Ultra-short base line, difficult to reach otherwise

# IV) Interesting experiments

## 2.4) Gravitational redshift experiments (Earth)

Gravitational redshift:  $\frac{\delta E}{E} = \frac{gh}{c^2}$

Experimental linewidth:  $\Gamma_{\text{exp}} = \Delta = 5 \cdot 10^{-11} \text{ eV}$

$\Delta = \frac{\hbar\omega}{c^2} gh_\Delta$  where  $h_\Delta$  is height corresponding to 1 experimental linewidth

—————  $h_\Delta \approx 25 \text{ m}$  realistic experiment

For  $\Gamma_{\text{exp}} \approx 10^{-6} \text{ eV}$  ————— unrealistic

Can **not** be used to determine the neutrino mass

Gravitational spectrometer

# V) Conclusions

A) Phononless resonant emission and detection of antineutrinos:  
 ${}^3\text{H} - {}^3\text{He}$  system.

B) Experiment is very difficult, if not impossible.

**Not possible to reach natural width.**

W. Potzel and F.E. Wagner  
Phys. Rev. Lett. **103**, 099101 (2009)  
and arXiv:0908.3985 [hep-ph]

J.P. Schiffer  
Phys. Rev. Lett. **103**, 099102 (2009)

1) Principal difficulties:

a) Probability for phononless emission and detection might be smaller than expected due to lattice expansion and contraction after the transformation of the nucleus:

Additional reduction factor of  $1 \times 10^6$ .

b) Homogeneous broadening (stochastic processes) and inhomogeneous broadening (variation of binding energies and of zero-point energies).

$$\longrightarrow \Gamma_{\text{exp}} \approx 10^{18} \Gamma \approx 10^{-6} \text{ eV}$$

# V) Conclusions

2) Many technological difficulties, for example:

- a) Production of  ${}^3\text{H}$  source and  ${}^3\text{He}$  target in Nb metal
- b) Temperature differences within the source and between source and target (temperature shift)
- c) Stability (mechanical and temperature) of apparatus for continuous measuring times of several years.

C) Rare Earth Systems, e.g.,  ${}^{163}\text{Ho}/{}^{163}\text{Dy}$  ?

- Larger probability of phononless transitions in source and target
- Smaller relativistic effects, experiment at room temperature
- However, magnetic relaxation phenomena are critical

D) Interesting experiments:

- a) Do Mössbauer neutrinos oscillate?
- b) Mass hierarchy and accurate determination of oscillation parameters
- c) Search for sterile neutrinos (LSND experiment, MiniBooNE?)
- d) Gravitational redshift experiments (Earth).

# Papers

Earlier papers:

W. M. Visscher, Phys. Rev. **116**, 1581 (1959)

W. P. Kells and J. P. Schiffer, Phys. Rev. C **28**, 2162 (1983)

More recent papers:

R. S. Raghavan, hep-ph/0601079 v3, 2006

W. Potzel, Phys. Scrip. **T127**, 85 (2006)

S. M. Bilenky, F. von Feilitzsch, and W. Potzel, J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys. **34**, 987 (2007);

J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys. **35**, 095003 (2008); **36**, 078002 (2009); arXiv: 0903.5234 [hep-ph]

E. Kh. Akhmedov, J. Kopp, and M. Lindner, J. High Energy Phys. **0805**, 005 (2008); arXiv: 0802.2513 [hep-ph]

W. Potzel, J. Phys. Conf. Ser. **136**, 022010 (2008); arXiv: 0810.2170 [hep-ph]

R. S. Raghavan, Phys. Rev. Lett. **102**, 091804 (2009)

W. Potzel and F. E. Wagner, Phys. Rev. Lett. **103**, 099101 (2009); arXiv: 0908.3985 [hep-ph]

J. P. Schiffer, Phys. Rev. Lett. **103**, 099102 (2009)

R. S. Raghavan, Phys. Rev. Lett. **103**, 099103 (2009)

W. Potzel, Acta Physica Polonica **B40**, 3033 (2009); arXiv: 0912.2221 [hep-ph]

J. Kopp, J. High Energy Phys. **0906**, 049 (2009); arXiv: 0904.4346 [hep-ph]

D. V. Naumov and V. A. Naumov, J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys. **37**, 105014 (2010);  
arXiv: 1008.0306 [hep-ph]

# Extra slides

# Neutrinos

Example: Oscillations between two neutrino flavours (e.g.,  $\nu_e \leftrightarrow \nu_\mu$ )

$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ \nu_\mu \end{pmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}}_U \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

mixing angle:  $\theta$

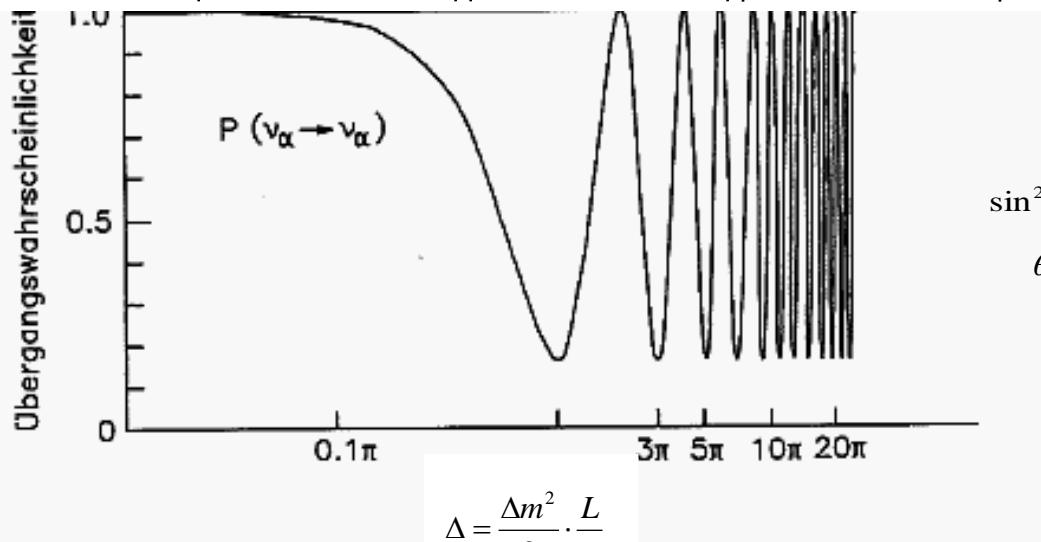
Oscillations, if  $\theta \neq 0$  and  $\Delta m_{21}^2 = m_2^2 - m_1^2 \neq 0$

$$P(\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_\mu) = \sin^2 2\theta \cdot \sin^2 \left( \frac{\Delta m_{21}^2}{4} \cdot \frac{L}{E} \right) = \sin^2 2\theta \cdot \sin^2 \left( \pi \frac{L}{L_o} \right)$$

where  $L_o = 2.48 \frac{E / \text{MeV}}{|\Delta m_{12}|^2 / \text{eV}^2} m$

$L \ll L_o$        $L \approx L_o$        $L \gg L_o$

$L$ : distance between source and detector



$$\sin^2 2\theta = 0.83$$

$$\theta \approx 33^\circ$$

N. Schmitz: Neutrino-Physik,  
Teubner Studienbücher Physik,  
B.G. Teubner, Stuttgart 1997, p. 252

# Neutrinos: Mass Matrix

$$\langle \nu_i | M | \nu_j \rangle = m \delta_{ij} \text{ and } m_i - m_j \neq 0 \text{ for } i \neq j \quad M: \text{mass operator}$$

diagonal in  $|\nu_i\rangle$ -representation

In flavour representation:

$$m_{\alpha\beta} \equiv \langle \nu_\beta | M | \nu_\alpha \rangle = \sum_{i,j} \underbrace{\langle \nu_\beta | \nu_i \rangle}_{U_{\beta i}^*} \underbrace{\langle \nu_i | M | \nu_j \rangle}_{m_i \delta_{ij}} \underbrace{\langle \nu_j | \nu_\alpha \rangle}_{U_{\alpha j}} = \sum_i m_i U_{\alpha i} U_{\beta i}^*$$

In general not diagonal!

Masses of flavour eigenstates are the expectation values of the mass operator, i.e., weighted averages of the masses  $m_i$ :

$$m_\alpha \equiv m_{\alpha\alpha} = m(\nu_\alpha) = \langle \nu_\alpha | M | \nu_\alpha \rangle = \sum_i |U_{\alpha i}|^2 m_i$$

For  $n=2$ :  $m_e = m_1 \cos^2 \theta + m_2 \sin^2 \theta$        $m_\mu = m_1 \sin^2 \theta + m_2 \cos^2 \theta$

$$m_{e\mu} = (m_2 - m_1) \sin \theta \cdot \cos \theta$$

$$\longrightarrow \quad m_{1,2} = \frac{1}{2} \left[ m_e + m_\mu \mp \sqrt{(m_\mu - m_e)^2 + 4m_{e\mu}} \right] \quad \tan 2\theta = \frac{2m_{e\mu}}{m_\mu - m_e}$$

# Quark mixing

Charged weak current (CC) transitions between quark families  
can change the quark flavour

Unitary 3x3 mixing matrix U (Kobayashi-Maskawa matrix)

$$\begin{pmatrix} d \\ s \\ b \end{pmatrix} = U \begin{pmatrix} d \\ s \\ b \end{pmatrix} \longrightarrow \text{three quark families} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} u \\ d \\ c \\ s \\ t \\ b \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{in three families}}$$

For weak interaction: weak CC transitions occur  
only within each of the three families

$$\begin{aligned} u &\leftrightarrow d' \\ c &\leftrightarrow s' \\ t &\leftrightarrow b' \end{aligned}$$

Neutral weak-currents: do not change the quark flavour.

# Direct neutrino mass search

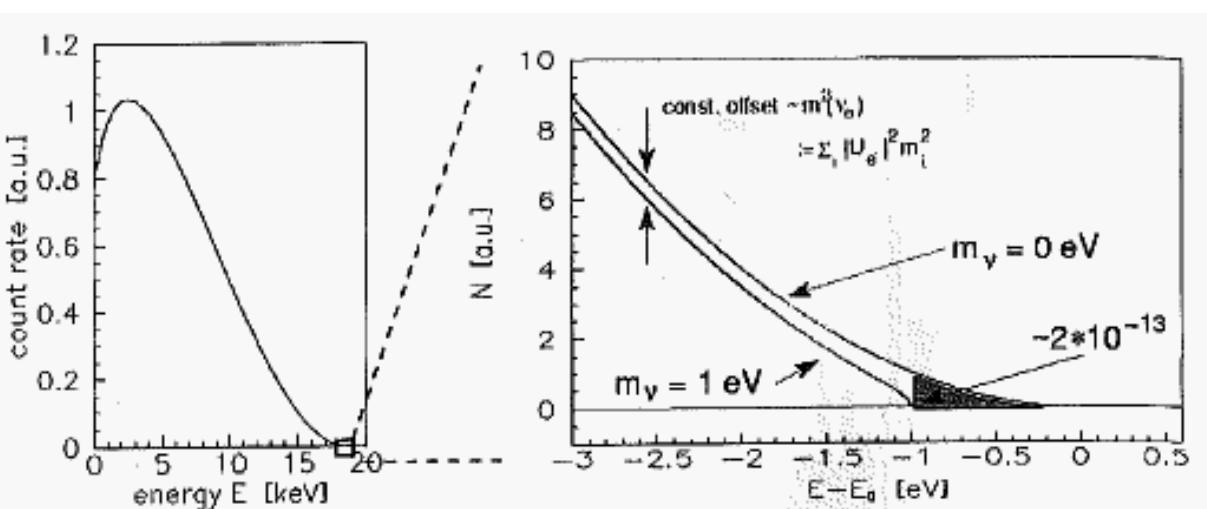
$\beta$ -decay, e.g. KATRIN:  ${}^3H \rightarrow {}^3He + e^- + \bar{\nu}_e$

$\beta$ -spectrum:  $N(E) = \frac{dN}{dE} = K \cdot F(E, Z) \cdot pE(E_0 - E) \cdot \sum_{i=1}^3 U_{ei}^2 \cdot \sqrt{(E_0 - E)^2 - m_i^2}$

$$E_0 = E_{\max} (m_\nu = 0) \quad m_\nu \geq 0: \text{end-point energy } E_{\max} = E_0 - m_\nu$$

Kurie plot:  $K(E) = \sqrt{\frac{N(E)}{K \cdot F(E, Z) \cdot pE}} = \left[ (E_0 - E) \cdot \sum_{i=1}^3 U_{ei}^2 \cdot \sqrt{(E_0 - E)^2 - m_i^2} \right]^{1/2}$

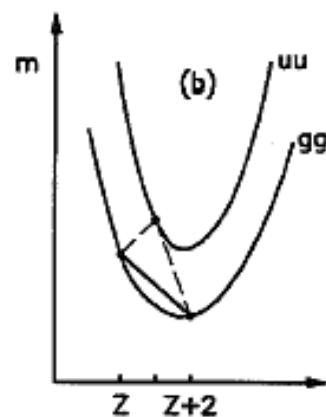
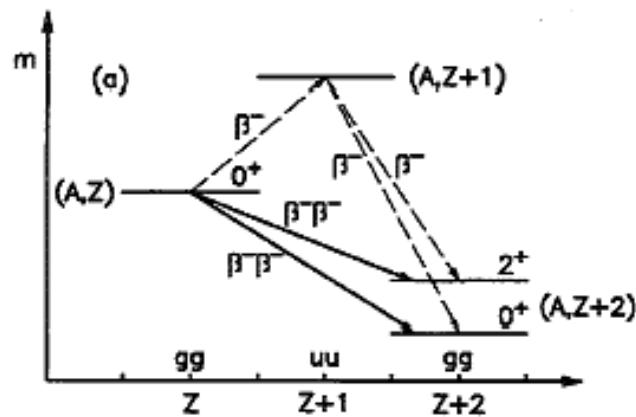
three spectra with end-point energies:  $E_0 - m_i \quad (i = 1, 2, 3)$



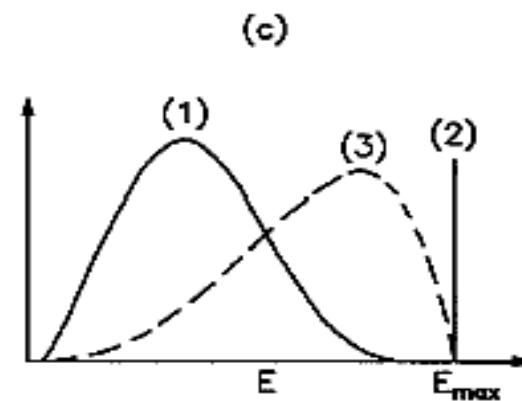
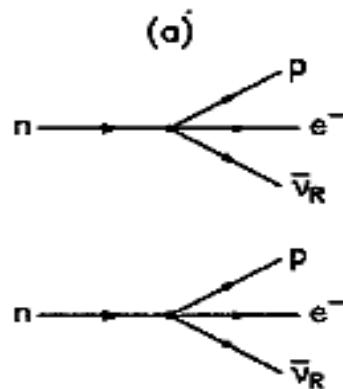
C. Weinheimer,  
Nucl. Phys. B(Proc. Suppl.)  
118, 279 (2003)

# Neutrinoless double $\beta$ decay ( $0\nu\beta\beta$ )

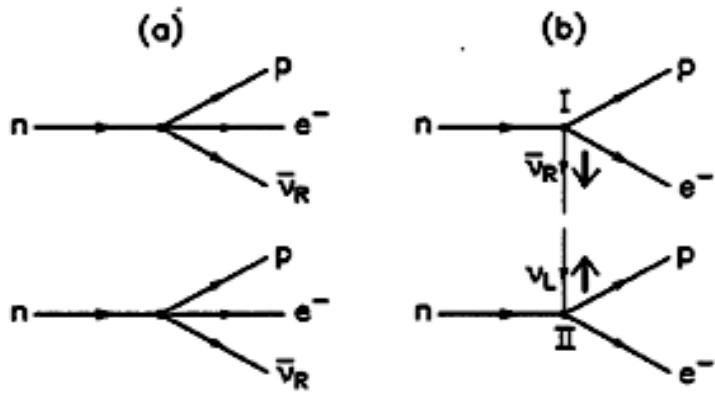
Are neutrinos Majorana or Dirac particles?



N. Schmitz: Neutrinophysik,  
Teubner Studienbücher Physik,  
B.G. Teubner, Stuttgart 1997, p. 302,303



# Neutrinoless double $\beta$ decay ( $0\nu\beta\beta$ )



Vertex I:  $n \rightarrow p + e^- + \bar{\nu}_R$        $H=+1$ , for  $m_\nu=0$

$\Delta L=2$

Vertex II:  $\nu_L + n \rightarrow p + e^-$        $H=-1$ , for  $m_\nu=0$

Possible, if two conditions are fulfilled:

- 1)  $\nu = \bar{\nu} = \nu^M$       Two helicity states:  $\nu_L \equiv \bar{\nu}_L$      $\nu_R \equiv \bar{\nu}_R$        $\Delta L=2$ 
  - a) Helicity has to be changed from  $H=+1$  to  $H=-1$
  - 2)  $m_\nu > 0 \rightarrow$  Helicity is not a good quantum number.
  - b) In addition to left-handed charged current exists a (small) contribution of right-handed charged current.
- a) and b) may contribute independently

Measured quantity: effective Majorana mass  $\langle m_\nu \rangle$

$$\left[ T_{1/2}^{0\nu} (0^+ \rightarrow 0^+) \right]^{-1} = \underbrace{\left| M_{GT}^{0\nu} - \frac{g_\nu^2}{g_A^2} M_F^{0\nu} \right|^2}_{\text{nuclear matrix elements}} \underbrace{\left( \frac{\langle m_\nu \rangle}{m_e} \right)^2 G_1^{0\nu}}_{\text{phase-space integral}}$$

$$\langle m_\nu \rangle = \left| \sum_j U_{ej}^2 m_j \right| = \left| \sum_j \left| U_{ej}^2 \right|^2 e^{i2\alpha_j} m_j \right|$$

CP phases:  $\alpha_j$ . If CP is conserved:  $\alpha_j = k\pi$

At least one  $m_j \neq 0$  for  $0\nu\beta\beta$  to happen.

Possible interference among mass terms in contrast to simple  $\beta$  decay.

→ Complementary methods and results.

# Neutrinoless double $\beta$ decay ( $0\nu\beta\beta$ )

Overview of next-generation double beta decay experiments

Name	Nucleus	Mass*	Method	Location	Expected start date	Estimated capital cost (millions of US dollars)
<b>CUORE</b>	$^{130}\text{Te}$	200 kg	Bolometric	LNGS	2012	21
<b>EXO-200</b>	$^{136}\text{Xe}$	160 kg	Liquid TPC, ionization, scintillation	WIPP	2010	10
<b>GERDA I/II</b>	$^{76}\text{Ge}$	35 kg	Ionization	LNGS	2010	21
<b>Majorana</b>	$^{76}\text{Ge}$	26 kg	Ionization	Homestake	2012	15
<b>SNO+</b>	$^{150}\text{Nd}$	40 kg	Scintillation	SNOlab	2011	10
<b>SuperNEMO</b>	$^{82}\text{Se}$ , $^{150}\text{Nd}$ , or $^{48}\text{Ca}$	100 kg	Tracking, calorimetry	LSM	2013	45–60

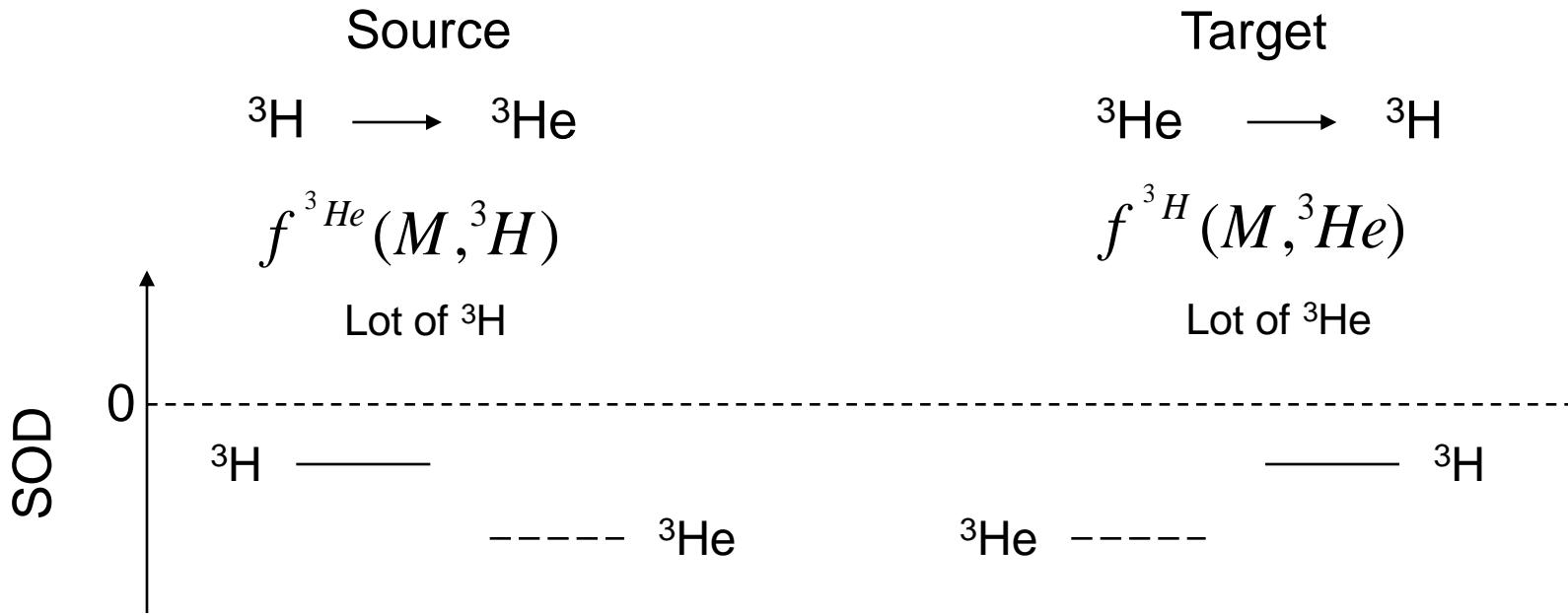
\*Double beta decay isotopes.

TPC = time projection chamber; LNGS = Gran Sasso National Laboratory, Italy; WIPP = Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, New Mexico; Homestake is a former gold mine in South Dakota; SNOlab = Sudbury Neutrino Observatory, Canada; LSM = Laboratoire Souterrain de Modane, France.

Toni Feder: Physics Today, January 2010, p. 20

# Recoilless antineutrino ...

What does this mean for the effective values  $\Theta_s$  and  $\Theta_t$ ?

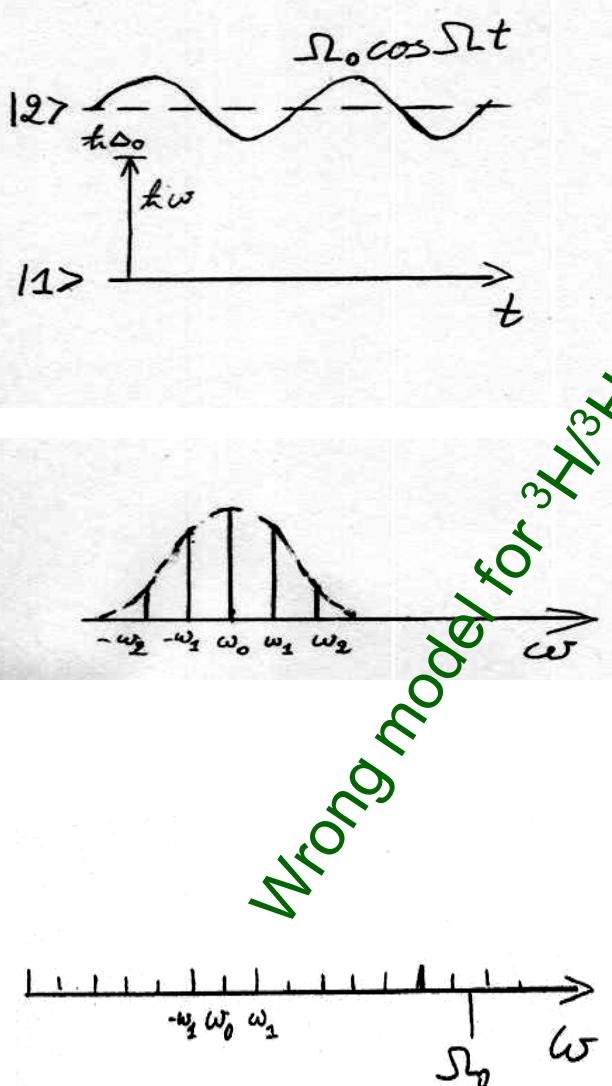


The differences of these SOD values in source and target have to be the same. In a practical experiment this means:

The Debye temperature for  ${}^3\text{H}$  has to be the same in source and target. The same holds for  ${}^3\text{He}$ . The Debye temperatures of  ${}^3\text{H}$  and  ${}^3\text{He}$  in the metal matrix do not have to be equal.

# Homogeneous Broadening: Frequency Modulation

M. Salkola and S. Stenholm, Phys. Rev. A **41**, 3838 (1990)



$$A \propto \sum_{k=-\infty}^{k=+\infty} J_k^2(\eta) \frac{1}{[(\Delta_0 / \Gamma) - k\xi]^2 + 1}$$

$\Omega_0$  : max. freq. deviation

$\Omega$  : relaxation frequency

$$\eta = \frac{\Omega_0}{\Omega} : \text{modulation index}$$

sum of Lorentzians,  
located at  
 $\omega = \omega_0 \pm k\Omega$   
 $\Delta_0 = \omega_0 - \omega$

$\Gamma$  : linewidth

$$\xi = \frac{\Omega}{\Gamma}$$

motional narrowing:  $\Omega \gg \Omega_0 \Rightarrow \eta \approx 0$   
only center line at  $\omega_0$  survives

$$\eta \approx 1 \Rightarrow \Omega \approx \Omega_0$$

$$\Gamma \ll \Omega$$

For the  ${}^3\text{H}/{}^3\text{He}$  system:  $\Omega_0 \approx 10^5 \text{ s}^{-1}$  and  $\Omega \sim 8 \times 10^4 \text{ s}^{-1}$   
However, not continuous but stochastic oscillations;  
→ time-energy uncertainty relation determines width

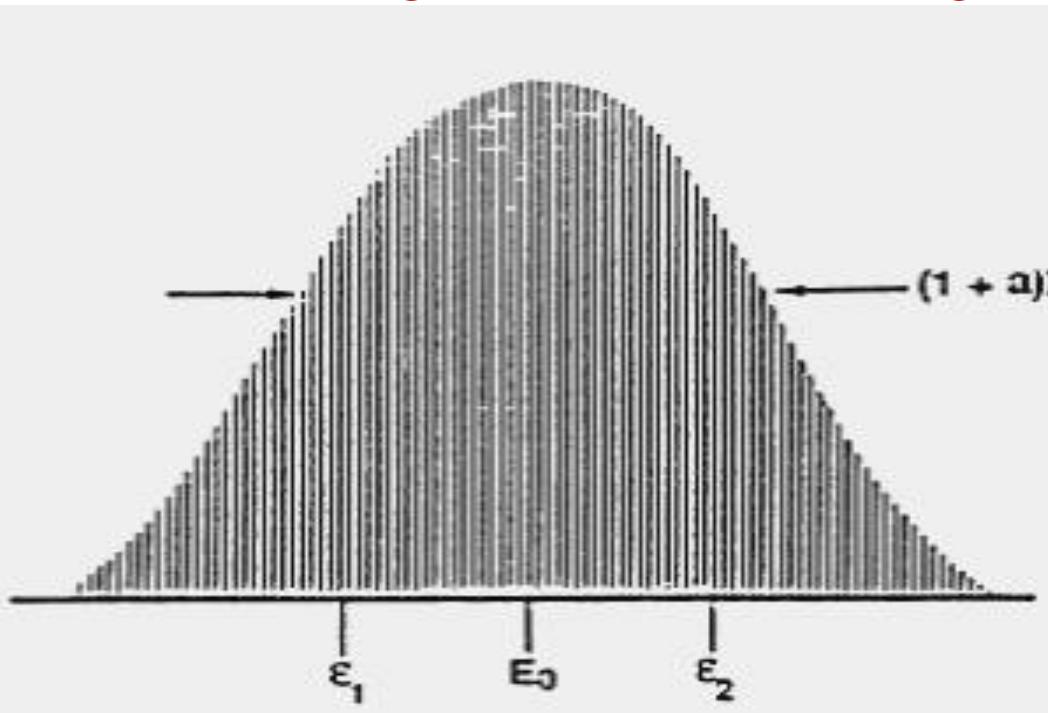
$$\Omega_0 \gg \Omega \Rightarrow \eta \gg 1$$

many sidebands → at  $\omega_0$   
very little intensity

motional narrowing: not possible

# Recoilless antineutrino ...

b) inhomogeneous broadening

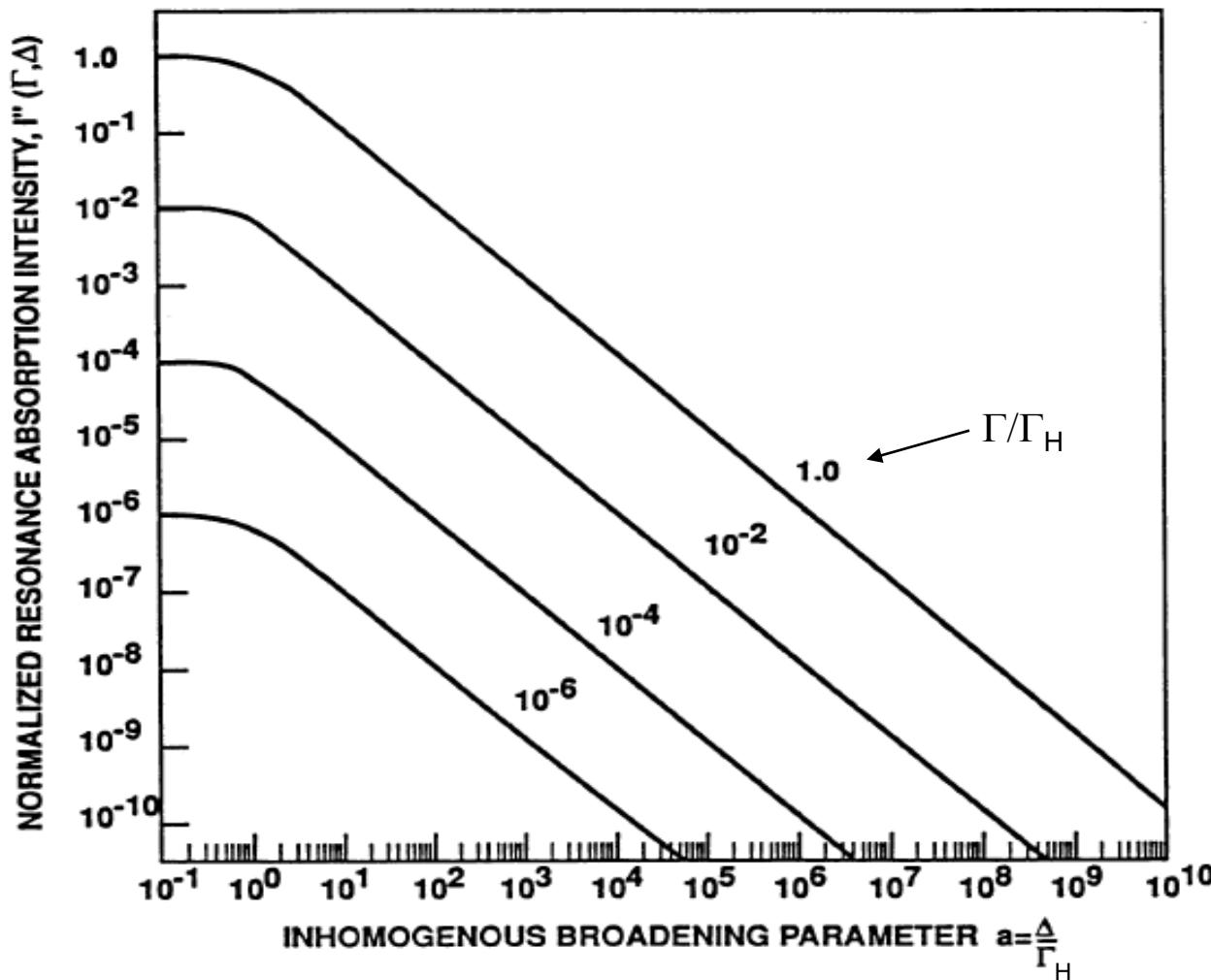


Many individual resonances displaced from the nonperturbed resonance energy  $E_0$

In the best single crystals:  $(1 + a)\Gamma \sim 10^{-13} \text{ eV}$  corresp. to  $10^{11} \Gamma$  or larger

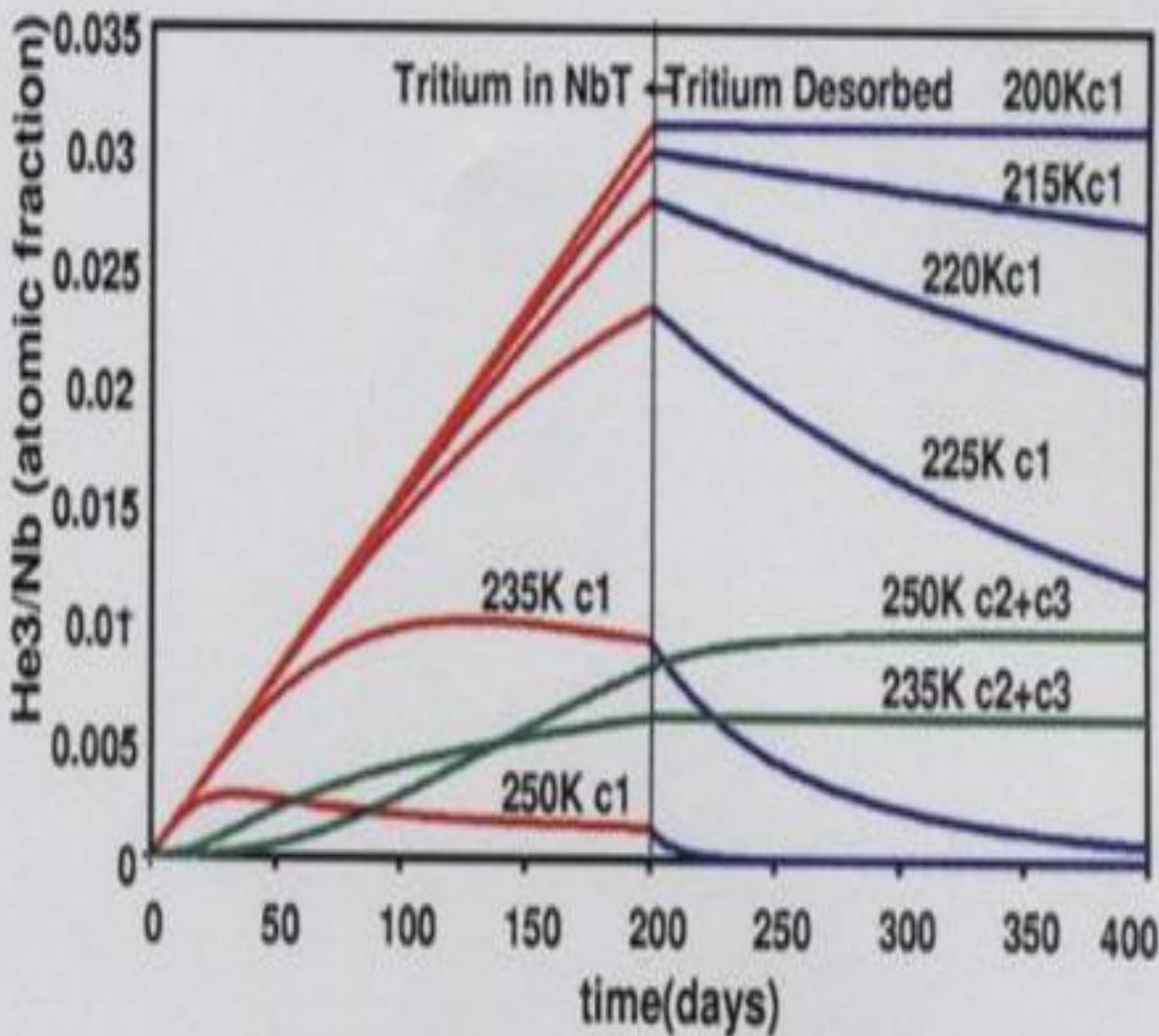
Both types of broadening reduce the resonant reaction intensity

# Recoilless antineutrino ...



B. Balko, I. W. Kay, J. Nicoll, J. D. Silk, and G. Herling,  
Hyperfine Interactions **107**, 283 (1997).

# System NbT



${}^3\text{He}$  generated in Nb:  
c1: concentration in  
interstitial sites for  
different temperatures  
and times. The He in  
the T-free absorber be-  
low 200K is almost all  
interstitial.

R.S. Raghavan:  
[hep-ph/0601079](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/0601079)  
revised v3; calcu-  
lations: Sandia Natl.  
Lab., USA

# System NbT

*Table 1 He transport parameters in NbT at 200K*

M <sub>1</sub> T <sub>1</sub>	E1 eV	E2 eV	E3 eV	D/cm <sup>2</sup> s
M=Nb	0.9 <sup>a</sup>	0.13 <sup>b</sup>	0.43 <sup>b</sup>	1.1E-26 <sup>c</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Ref. 7; <sup>b</sup> Ref. 9; <sup>c</sup> Assumes tritium pre-exponential D<sub>0</sub> (ref. 6)

*Table 2. Theoretical (Ref. 7) EST & ZPE for T and <sup>3</sup>He in Nb interstitial sites (IS)*

Site	EST (eV)		ZPE (eV)	
	T	He	T	He
TIS	-0.133	-0.906	0.071	0.093
OIS	-0.113	-0.903	0.063	0.082

6 TIS  
3 OIS

EST: self-trapping energy  
ZPE: zero-point energy

*Table 3. Nearest neighbor (NN) Displacements(%) and measured<sup>6</sup> activation energies Eac(eV) in NbIS (Ref. 7)*

	1 <sup>st</sup> NN Displacement			2 <sup>nd</sup> NN Displacement.		
	H	D	T	H	D	T
TIS	4.1	3.9	3.9	-0.37	-0.36	-0.35
OIS	7.7	7.5	7.4	0.2	0.19	0.19
Eac <sup>6</sup>	0.106	0.127	0.135			

Little difference between Deuterium and Tritium

← theoretical

← experimental activation energies

# Interesting experiments

## 5) Real-time, ${}^3\text{H}$ -specific signal of $\bar{\nu}_e$ resonance

- a) sudden change of the magnetic moment from  
 $-2.1\text{nm }({}^3\text{He}) \rightarrow +2.79\text{nm }({}^3\text{H})$

→ transient ( $\sim 0.1\text{ms}$ ) magnetic field which couples to  
electron moment of  ${}^3\text{H}$  via hyperfine interaction  
→ Read-out by SQUID

- b) new electrons appear in the Nb bands when  ${}^3\text{H}$  is formed.  
These electrons cause additional specific heat that grows  
linearly with  ${}^3\text{H}$  concentration.

→ detectable by ultra-sensitive (micro)-calorimeters ?