Cosmological measurements of neutrino properties

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The concordance flat ACDM model...

The simplest model consistent with present observations.



Plus flat spatial geometry+initial conditions from single-field inflation

The neutrino sector beyond $\Lambda CDM...$

There are many ways in which the neutrino sector can be extended beyond the standard picture.

Masses larger than 0.05 eV.

$$\Omega_{v,0}h^2 = \sum \frac{m_v}{94 \,\mathrm{eV}} = ??$$

This talk

- No reason to fix at the minimum mass.
- Laboratory upper limit $\Sigma m_y < 7 \text{ eV}$ from β -decay endpoint.
- More than three flavours. $N_{\text{eff}} \neq 3??$
 - Sterile neutrinos? (LSND/MiniBooNE/Reactor anomalies)
- Hidden interactions
 - Neutrino-neutrino, neutrino-dark matter, neutrino-dark energy.

1. Measuring neutrino masses with cosmology...

Free-streaming neutrinos...

For most of the observable history of the universe neutrinos have significant speeds.



Consider a neutrino and a cold dark matter particle encountering two gravitational potential wells of different sizes in an expanding universe:



→ Cosmological neutrino mass measurement is based on observing this freestreaming induced potential decay at $\lambda << \lambda_{FS}$. Large-scale matter distribution...

 $P(k) = \langle |\delta(k)|^2 \rangle$



CMB anisotropies...



Pre-Planck constraints...



Pre-Planck constraints...



Pre-Planck constraints...



Pre-Planck constraints: buyers beware!!



Post-Planck... Ade et al.[Planck] 2013



Post-Planck... Ade et al.[Planck] 2013



A quick summary about neutrino masses...

• Formally, the best minimal (7-parameter) upper bound on Σm_v is still hovering around 0.3 eV post-Planck.

- The bound has however become more robust against uncertainties:
 - Less nonlinearities in BAO than in the matter power spectrum.
 - Does not rely on local measurement of the Hubble parameter...
 - ... or on the choice of lightcurve fitters for the Supernova la data.
- **Dependence on cosmological model** used for inference?

2. The fourth neutrino??

Evidence for N_{eff} > 3 circa 2011...

Some pre-Planck observations preferred an excess of non-interacting relativistic energy density \rightarrow "extra neutrinos".



Dunkley et al. [Atacama Cosmology Telescope] 2010

Keisler et al. [South Pole Telescope] 2011

Then the evidence disappeared again... largely...

New data from WMAP, ACT and SPT in late 2012 – early 2013 favour an N_{eff} value compatible with the standard value of 3.046. WMAP 9 years, 1212.5226;

ACT 3 seasons, 1301.0824 SPT (2540 deg²), 1212.6267

 1σ error bars

 W9+ACT	W9+ACT	W9+ACT	W9+ACT	W9+ACT	W9+ACT
	+ HST	+BAO	+SNLS3	+BAO+HST	+BAO+SNLS3

 $N_{\rm eff} \ 2.74 \pm 0.47 \ 3.12 \pm 0.38 \ 2.77 \pm 0.49 \ 2.79 \pm 0.47 \ 3.43 \pm 0.36 \ 2.83 \pm 0.47$



Post-Planck N_{eff} ...

Planck-inferred $N_{\rm eff}$ compatible with 3.046 at better than 2σ .

2σ error bars	Planck+WP		Planck	Planck+WP+BAO		Planck+WP+highL		Planck+WP+highL+BAO	
Parameter	Best fit	95% limits	Best fit	95% limits	Best fit	95% limits	Best fit	95% limits	
Ω_K	-0.0105	$-0.037^{+0.043}_{-0.049}$	0.0000	$0.0000^{+0.0066}_{-0.0067}$	-0.0111	$-0.042^{+0.043}_{-0.048}$	0.0009	$-0.0005^{+0.0065}_{-0.0066}$	
$\Sigma m_{\nu} [eV] \ldots$	0.022	< 0.933	0.002	< 0.247	0.023	< 0.663	0.000	< 0.230	
<i>N</i> _{eff}	3.08	$3.51_{-0.74}^{+0.80}$	3.08	$3.40^{+0.59}_{-0.57}$	3.23	$3.36^{+0.68}_{-0.64}$	3.22	$3.30^{+0.54}_{-0.51}$	
$Y_{\rm P}$	0.2583	$0.283^{+0.045}_{-0.048}$	0.2736	$0.283^{+0.043}_{-0.045}$	0.2612	$0.266^{+0.040}_{-0.042}$	0.2615	$0.267^{+0.038}_{-0.040}$	
$dn_{\rm s}/d\ln k\ldots$	-0.0090	$-0.013\substack{+0.018\\-0.018}$	-0.0102	$-0.013^{+0.018}_{-0.018}$	-0.0106	$-0.015\substack{+0.017\\-0.017}$	-0.0103	$-0.014^{+0.016}_{-0.017}$	
<i>r</i> _{0.002}	0.000	< 0.120	0.000	< 0.122	0.000	< 0.108	0.000	< 0.111	
w	-1.20	$-1.49^{+0.65}_{-0.57}$	-1.076	$-1.13^{+0.24}_{-0.25}$	-1.20	$-1.51\substack{+0.62\\-0.53}$	-1.109	$-1.13^{+0.23}_{-0.25}$	

Very possibly the end of the N_{eff} story...



Alleviating discrepancy using N_{eff}?

The Planck-inferred Hubble parameter is incompatible with HST measurement.

	Planck		Planck+lensing		Planck+WP	
Parameter	Best fit	68% limits	Best fit	68% limits	Best fit	68% limits
σ_8	0.8344	0.834 ± 0.027	0.8285	0.823 ± 0.018	0.8347	0.829 ± 0.012
<i>z</i> _{re}	11.35	$11.4^{+4.0}_{-2.8}$	11.45	$10.8^{+3.1}_{-2.5}$	11.37	11.1 ± 1.1
H_0	67.11	67.4 ± 1.4	68.14	67.9 ± 1.5	67.04	67.3 ± 1.2
$10^9 A_{\rm s}$	2.215	2.23 ± 0.16	2.215	$2.19_{-0.14}^{+0.12}$	2.215	$2.196\substack{+0.051\\-0.060}$
$\Omega_{\rm m} h^2$	0.14300	0.1423 ± 0.0029	0.14094	0.1414 ± 0.0029	0.14305	0.1426 ± 0.0025

Ade et al. [Planck collaboration] 2013

Hubble space telescope

$$H_0 = 73.8 \pm 2.4 \,\mathrm{km \, s^{-1} \, Mpc^{-1}}$$

Riess et al. 2011

Exploit the $N_{\rm eff} - H_0$ degeneracy and introduce to a large $N_{\rm eff}$ to bring HST and Planck in line with one another.

Planck + HST $N_{\rm eff} = 3.62 \pm 0.25(1 \, \sigma)$



The impact of additional astrophysical data is particularly complex in our investigation of neutrino physics (Sect. 6.3). We will use the effective number of relativistic degrees of freedom, $N_{\rm eff}$ as an illustration. From the CMB data alone, we find $N_{\rm eff} = 3.36 \pm 0.34$. Adding BAO data gives $N_{\rm eff} = 3.30 \pm 0.27$. Both of these values are consistent with the standard value of 3.046. Adding the H_0 measurement to the CMB data gives $N_{\rm eff} = 3.62 \pm 0.25$ and relieves the tension between the CMB data and H_0 at the expense of new neutrino-like physics (at around the 2.3 σ level). It is possible to alleviate the tensions between the CMB, BAO, H_0 and SNLS data by invoking new physics such as an increase in N_{eff} . However, none of these cases are favoured significantly over the base ΛCDM model by the Planck data (and they are often disfavoured). Any preference for new physics comes almost entirely from the astrophysical data sets. It is up to the reader to decide how to interpret such results, but it is simplistic to assume that all astrophysical data sets have accurately quantified estimates of systematic errors. We have therefore tended to place greater weight on the CMB and BAO measurements in this paper rather than on more complex astrophysical data.



- Precision cosmological observables can be used to "measure" the absolute neutrino mass scale based on the effect of neutrino free-streaming.
- Existing precision cosmological data already provide strong constraints on the neutrino mas sum.
 - No significant formal improvement between the best pre-Planck and post-Planck upper bounds (at least not for the minimal 7-parameter model).
 - But the **post-Planck** bound is **arguably more robust**.
- Maybe there's a "**fourth neutrino**", or maybe not, depending on how much you trust the HST determination of H_0 .
 - Either way, things are looking very bad for the SBL sterile neutrino, unless there's some **new physics** to suppress its production in the early universe.