

LATEST RESULTS FROM THE CUORE EXPERIMENT

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WIN 2023, Jul 2 – 8, 2023 - Zhuhai (China)



OUTLINE

- ► Double Beta Decay
- ► The CUORE experiment
- Detector performance and data analysis
- > $0v\beta\beta$ results
- ► Other rare decay searches
- ► Conclusions





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DOUBLE BETA DECAY



2nd Arden weak 2 pocess allowed by the SM

Observed in several nuclei with half-life 10^{18} yr - 10^{21} yr

Link to matter/anti-matter asymmetry in the Universe (?)





 $m_{\nu} \neq 0$ and $\Psi \equiv \Psi C$ (unique among fermions)

Half-life $\gtrsim 10^{25-26}$ yr









THE HALF-LIFE









EXPERIMENTAL SENSITIV

- longer than the age of the Universe;
- detect the decay in a single one of them.

Half-life corresponding to the minimum number of detectable signal events above background at a given C.L.





► Probed half-lives so far are of the order of 10²⁵ - 10²⁶ y, many orders of magnitude

Experiments have to monitor thousands of moles of atoms for years and be able to



EXPERIMENTAL SENSITIVITY

- \blacktriangleright Isotopic abundance \rightarrow enrichment
- ► Exposure $(M \cdot T) \rightarrow$ tons of isotope
- Energy resolution:
 - ► high (‰ of $Q_{\beta\beta}$)
 - \blacktriangleright low (% of Q_{ββ})

IMPORTANT TO MITIGATE IRREDUCIBLE BKG FROM 2\nu\beta\beta DECAY AND IDENTIFY AND DISENTANGLE THE VARIOUS CONTRIBUTION TO THE BACKGROUND







Background

- external background: neutrons, gammas and cosmic ray fluxes from the environment
- internal background: trace amounts of radioactivity in the detectors and the materials constituting the experimental apparatus
- 2-neutrino double beta decay of the same isotope
 - events leaking from the 2ν continuum spectrum
 - ▶ pile-up



THE CUORE EXPERIMENT

- Cryogenic Underground Observatory for Rare Events
- ► 988 ^{nat}TeO₂ crystals at ~10 mK
- ► 742 kg TeO₂, 206 kg ¹³⁰Te (34% natural isotopic abundance)
- \blacktriangleright Q_{ββ} = 2527.5 keV above (most) natural γ backgrounds





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Artusa, D.R. (CUORE Collaboration), Adv. High Energy Phys., 879871, 2015 https://doi.org/10.1155/2015/879871



CRYOGENIC BOLOMETERS











Alduino, C. et al. (CUORE Collaboration), J. Inst. 11(07), P07009, 2016 https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-0221/11/07/p07009



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Vignati, M., J. Appl. Phys. 108, 084903, 2010 https://doi.org/10.1063/1.3498808

- ► NTD Ge thermistors biased with constant current
- Si heaters
- ► weak thermal link to heat bath
- particle interactions heat crystals up
- voltage pulses induced in NTDs





THE CUORE CRYOSTAT

- Custom made dilution refrigerator ~ 10 mK base temperature
- ► 5 pulse tube cryocoolers (no helium bath)
- Nested copper vessels at decreasing temperatures
- Low temperature lead shielding (top)
- Low temperature roman lead shielding (side, bottom)







CUORE DATA TAKING



Alduino, C. et al. (CUORE Collaboration), Phys. Rev. Lett. 120, 132501, 2018 https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevLett.120.132501

Adams, D.Q. et al. (CUORE Collaboration), Phys. Rev. Lett. 124, 122501, 2020 <u> https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevLett.124.122501</u>

1 ton \times yr data analysed and published



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- Exposure (kg·yr) 650 600 550 500 450 400 350 300 250 200 150 100 50
- Data taking started in 2017
- Optimization campaigns improved understanding and stability of the experiment
- Since march 2019 steady data taking with >90% uptime
- steadily collecting data at an average rate of ~ 50 - 60 kg × yr / month

- > 2 ton \times yr raw exposure collected
- > 2 ton × yr exposure being reprocessed now







CUORE DATA TAKING

CUORE "data set": 1 month of background (physics) data taking, few days of calibration before and after



CUORE Run Time Breakdown



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- Voltage output continuously sampled (1 kHz) and stored on disk
 - Periods with unstable data taking conditions excluded (e.g. earthquakes)

Operational performance:

- operating T = 11 15 mK
- 99.5% of channels active (984/988)

Year-long cryogenic stability!









- Derivative trigger: online analysis for quick
- Offline re-triggering (Optimum Trigger)
 - disentangle small signals from noise





Detector Response modelled on the 2615 keV line from ²³²Th chain. Accounts for non idealities.







Trigger

Optimum Filter

Gain Correction

Energy Calibration

Coincidences

Pulse Shape Discrimination (PSD)

Blinding







multi-site (background-like)

Principal Component Analysis (PCA) where the leading component is the average pulse



single-site (signal-like)

- $\sim -88\%$ of $0v\beta\beta$ events involve just one crystal
- assign multiplicity (number of involved crystals) and total energy
- apply anti-coincidence veto for $0v\beta\beta$ analysis



DATA





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1 TONNE-YR DATA RELEASE: FIGURES

Parameters

Number of datasets

Number of channels

 TeO_2 exposure

¹³⁰Te exposure

FWHM at 2615 keV in calib

FWHM at $Q_{\beta\beta}$ in physics da

Total analysis efficiency

Reconstruction efficiency

Anticoincidence efficiency

PSD efficiency

Containment efficiency



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	Values
	15
	~934 average per dataset
	1038.4 kg yr
	288 kg yr
bration	$(7.78 \pm 0.03) \text{ keV}$
ita	$(7.8 \pm 0.5) \text{ keV}$
	$(92.4 \pm 0.2)\%$
	$(96.418 \pm 0.002)\%$
	$(99.3 \pm 0.1)\%$
	$(96.4 \pm 0.2)\%$
	$(88.35 \pm 0.09)\%$



Adams, D.Q. et al. (CUORE Collaboration) tps://doi.ora/10.1038/s41586–022–04497–4.



FIT RESULT



 $b = 1.49(4) \times 10^{-2} \text{ counts/(keV kg yr)}$

Adams, D.Q. et al. (CUORE Collaboration), Nature 604, 53–58 (2022) <u>https://doi.org/10</u>.1038/s41586–022–04497–4



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$$T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 2.2 \times 10^{25} \text{ yr} (90 \% \text{ C}.\text{ I.})$$





SENSITIVITY





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- Median exclusion sensitivity 2.8 10²⁵ yr
- \blacktriangleright 10⁴ toy experiments in background-only hypothesis
- ► background and ⁶⁰Co event rate from fit to the data
- fit with signal + background model
- ► 72% chance of obtaining stronger limit than the one observed





FIT RESULT





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- oscillation parameters from NUFIT2020
 - Esteban, I. et al., J. High En. Phys. 2020 (178) https://doi.org/10.1007/JHEP09(2020)178
- ► all limits are 90% C.I. and shaded areas in the normal (inverted) hierarchy correspond to 3σ uncertainty
- sensitivity from

Alduino, C. et al. (CUORE Collaboration), Eur. Phys. J. C (2017) 77: 532 <u>https://doi.org/10.1140/epjc/s10052-017-5098-9</u>

$$m_{\beta\beta} < 90 - 305 \text{ meV}$$







BACKGROUND IN THE REGION OF INTEREST (ROI)





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α region

fit flat background in [2650,3100] keV $1.40(2) \ 10^{-2} \ counts/(keV kg yr)$

$Q_{\beta\beta}$ region

fit background + 60Co peak in [2490,2575] keV $1.49(4) \ 10^{-2} \text{ counts/(keV kg yr)}$

source

~90% of the background in the ROI is given by degraded alpha interactions





BACKGROUND MODEL





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- ► GEANT4 simulation + detector response to produce expected spectra
- ► 62 simulated sources (bulk, surface, muons)
- use coincidences to constrain source location
- MCMC binned Bayesian fit
- uniform priors (except muons)





STANDARD MODEL DOUBLE BETA DECAY (GROUND STATE)





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Systematic uncertainties

- ► 2vββ model (SSD-HSD)
- energy threshold (300-800 keV)
- geometrical splitting
- ➤ ⁹⁰Sr removal / source list













FUTURE OF CUORE

- Ultimate goal of collecting > 3 tonne yr of exposure
- CUORE will run until the beginning of the CUPID commissioning
- Working on other rare events searches such as
 - $2v\beta\beta$ of ¹³⁰Te
 - $0v\beta\beta$ and $2v\beta\beta$ decay on ¹³⁰Te excited states and ¹²⁸Te
 - $\beta + \beta + \beta + EC / ECEC$ searches on ¹²⁰Te
 - low energy analyses (dark matter, axions, supernova neutrinos, ...)
- Working to investigate and mitigate noise sources to improve resolution
 - diagnostic devices (accelerometers, microphones, seismometers)
 - noise de-correlation





CONCLUSION

- CUORE has exceeded 2 ton y of exposure and is in stable data taking
- No evidence of $0v\beta\beta$ decay with 1038 kg yr of data
 - ► Bayesian 90% C.I. limit
 - Effective Majorana Mass limit



- ► Most precise evaluation of ¹³⁰Te half life to date
- Many other results on rare decays

Adams, D.Q. et al. (CUORE Collaboration) https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2205.03132

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Adams, D.Q. et al. (CUORE Collaboration) Phys.Rev.C 105 (2022) 065504 tps://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevC.105.065504



Proves feasibility of large-scale bolometric detectors: CUPID



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 $T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 2.2 \times 10^{25} \text{ yr} (90 \% \text{ C}.\text{ I.})$ Adams, D.Q. et al. (CUORE Collaboration) htt<u>ps://arxiv.org/abs/2104.0690</u> $m_{\beta\beta} < 90 - 305 \text{ meV}$ $T_{1/2}^{2\nu} = 7.71_{-0.06}^{+0.08} (stat.)_{-0.15}^{+0.12} (syst.) \times 10^{20} \text{ yr}$ Adams, D.Q. et al. (CUORE Collaboration) https://arxiv.org/abs/2012.11749 Adams, D.Q. et al. (CUORE Collaboration) Eur. Phys. J. C 81, 567 (2021) https://doi.org/10.1140/epjc/s10052-021-09317-z

SEE TALK FROM LONG MA IN THIS SESSION







BACKUP



FIT METHOD



 $P(\vec{\theta} \mid \vec{E}, H_{S+B}) = -$



Input from data

- detector response function for each channel-dataset pair
- resolution and bias scaling from calibration to physics data
- ► efficiency numbers



Minimal model

- \succ signal rate $\Gamma_{0\nu}$
- linear background

G. FANTINI – INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NEW FRONTIERS IN PHYSICS, KOLYMBARI, CRETE – 31/08/22



$$\frac{\mathscr{L}(\vec{E} \mid \vec{\theta}, H_{S+B}) \cdot \pi(\vec{\theta} \mid H_{S+B})}{\int_{\Omega} \mathscr{L}(\vec{E} \mid \vec{\theta}, H_{S+B}) \pi(\vec{\theta} \mid H_{S+B}) d\vec{\theta}}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} pdf_{0\nu\beta\beta}(E_i \mid \vec{\theta}) + \frac{C}{\lambda} pdf_{60}C_0(E_i \mid \vec{\theta}) + \frac{b}{\lambda} pdf_{bkg}(E_i \mid \vec{\theta}) \right)$$

 \succ ⁶⁰Co peak rate, modulated in each dataset by its lifetime

Systematics (<0.8% effect on limit)

- analysis efficiency (Gaussian prior)
- containment efficiency (Gaussian) prior)
- isotopic abundance (Gaussian prior)
- bias and resolution scaling (Multivariate prior)





NEUTRINOLESS DOUBLE BETA DECAY ANALYSIS - NLL DISTRIBUTION





NEUTRINOLESS DOUBLE BETA DECAY ANALYSIS - FREQUENTIST LIMIT

- Frequentist limit with Rolke method
- Profile likelihood obtained from the
 Markov Chain generated for Bayesian
 fit
 - ► -2logL as χ^2 with 1 degree of freedom
 - 90% C.L. limit obtained from rate
 1.35 NLL units above the best fit

$$T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 2.6 \times$$



 10^{25} yr (90 % C.L.)



COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS RESULTS



different pulse shape discrimination, analysis efficiency ► 90% of reconstructed events common to both analyses > 3% probability of obtaining old limit $T_{1/2} > 3.2 \ 10^{25}$ yr (or stronger) with new event reconstruction > re-analysis yields $T_{1/2} > 2.0 \ 10^{25}$ yr limit, in the top 30% of expected results































2480 KEV STRUCTURE



> Previously found 2σ hints of unexpected peak at ~2480 keV

Statistical significance decreased with new data (< 1 σ with just new data)





CUORE BACKGROUND BUDGET

TeO₂: natural radioactivity NOSV Cu: natural radioactivity NOSV Cu: cosmogenic activation TeO₂: cosmogenic activation OFE Cu: natural radioactivity Roman Pb: natural radioactivity Modern Pb: natural radioactivity Superinsulation: natural radioactivity Stainless steel: natural radioactivity Environmental muons Environmental neutrons Environmental gammas 10⁻⁶





M2 SPECTRUM FIT (JAGS)





M2-SUM SPECTRUM FIT (JAGS)





EFFECT OF 90SR REMOVAL











- ► Online analysis for quick data quality feedback (DT)
- ► Offline re-triggering (OT)
 - disentangle small signals from noise fluctuations
 - median trigger threshold < 10 keV
 - ► 40 keV analysis threshold guarantees 97% of channels have > 90% trigger efficiency
 - > minimize γ background from low energy Compton scattering events







Matched filter maximizes signal-to-noise ratio











- Use fixed energy heater events to correct amplitude dependence on operating temperature
- ► Interpolate calibration peak at 2615 keV for non-functional or underperforming heaters











- ► First 3 datasets used internal ²³²Th source
- ► Internal calibration system replaced with simpler external one in later datasets





► Data is now calibrated with external ²³²Th-⁶⁰Co source

> 2nd order polynomial calibration function with 0 intercept fits 511, 1173, 1333, 2615 keV calibration lines







- $\sim -88\%$ of $0v\beta\beta$ events involve just one crystal
- when multiple bolometers fire in a small (5 ms) time window, the event is likely to be due to radioactive contaminations or muons
- assign multiplicity (number of involved) crystals) and total energy
- > apply anti-coincidence veto for $0v\beta\beta$ analysis

single-site (signal-like)

multi-site (background-like)























 Random fraction of events in ²⁰⁸Tl line shifted to Q_{ββ} and vice versa

- Original energies stay encrypted until unblinding
- Unblinding happens

 only after full
 analysis procedure is
 finalized





⁶⁰Co Sum Peak





CUORE DATA ANALYSIS – DETECTOR RESPONSE

- ► Fit 2615 keV calibration peak for each channel
 - a) 3-Gaussian signal peak
 - b) Compton background
 - c) Flat background
 - d) 30 keV X-ray escape peak (background)
 - e) 30 keV X-ray sum peak (background)
- Detector response function is just component (a)
- \blacktriangleright Exclude channels with FWHM > 19 keV for this analysis









CUORE DATA ANALYSIS – DETECTOR RESPONSE





Background resolution vs. energy, 1-sigma uncertainty (ds3606)





- Scale detector response fit from 2615 keV calibration to multiple peaks in physics data to determine
 - energy bias 2nd order polynomial function of energy, < 0.7 keV
 - ► <u>resolution</u> linear function of energy FWHM harmonic mean @ Q_{BB} 7.8 keV

DOUBLE BETA DECAY TO EXCITED STATES

Pattern	BR [%]	Energy γ_1	Energy γ ₂	Ener
Α	86%	1257 keV	536 keV	-
В	12%	671 keV	586 keV	536
С	2%	1122 keV	671 keV	

- 2527.5 keV
- 1793.5 keV
- 1122.1 keV
- 536.1 keV

- ► $Q_{\beta\beta} = 734 \text{ keV}$ **rgy** γ₃
- keV
- signature: coincidence of beta and de-excitation gamma rays

DOUBLE BETA DECAY TO EXCITED STATES

- \succ Fully contained events only ($\beta\beta$ and de-excitation ys all detected)
- Coincident events up to 3 crystals
- Only most sensitive experimental signatures

$$\Gamma_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 5.9 \times 10^{24} \text{ yr} (90 \% \text{ C} . \text{ I.})$$

$$\Gamma_{1/2}^{2\nu} > 1.3 \times 10^{24} \text{ yr} (90 \% \text{ C}.\text{ I.})$$

Adams, D.Q. et al. (CUORE Collaboration) <u>https://arxiv.org/abs/2101.10702</u>

Literature (CUORE-0)

 $T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 1.4 \times 10^{24} \text{ yr} (90 \% \text{ C} . \text{L})$

 $T_{1/2}^{2\nu} > 0.25 \times 10^{24} \text{ yr} (90 \% \text{ C} . \text{L})$

Alduino, C. et al (CUORE-O Collaboration), Eur. Phys. J. C, 79(9):795, 2019 https://doi.org/10.1140/epic/c10052_010_7075_5

