The experiment Neutrino-4 on the search for sterile neutrino at SM-3 reactor

The direct observation of sterile neutrino oscillation in Neutrino-4 experiment
 Possibility of experimental confirmation of the 3 + 1 neutrino model with one sterile neutrino

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## **Neutrino-4 collaboration**

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## The direct observation of effect of oscillation in Neutrino-4 experiment on search for sterile neutrino

### A.P. Serebrov, et al. PHYSICAL REVIEW D 104, 032003 (2021)



The period of oscillation for neutrino energy 4 MeV is 1.4 m

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Due to some peculiar characteristics of its construction, reactor SM-3 provides the most favorable conditions to search for neutrino oscillations at short distances. However, SM-3 reactor, as well as other research reactors, is located on the Earth's surface, hence, cosmic background is the major difficulty in considered experiment.

## **Movable and spectrum sensitive antineutrino detector at SM-3 reactor**



Range of measurements is 6 – 12 meters

*Liquid scintillator detector* 50 sections 0.235х0.235х0.85м<sup>3</sup>

Passive shielding - 60 tons

- detector (5x10 cells)
- internal active shielding
- external active shielding
- steel and lead
- borated polyethylene
- moveable platform
- feed screw
- step motor
- shielding







The correlated signal produced by the cosmic background measured over the whole time (up). The correlated ON-OFF signal over the whole time (down).



The distribution of deviations from average value of correlated events rates background (OFF) and differences (ON-OFF) normalized on their statistical uncertainties.

## **Energy calibration of the full-scale detector**





Presence of that structure in the energy spectrum indicates that energy calibration of the detector was the same in all measurements.

Energy resolution of the detector  $\sigma$ =250 keV which does not depend on the energy of a positron.

## Comparison of MC spectrum of antineutrino for <sup>235</sup>U with the experimental ON-OFF spectrum



$$\begin{array}{c}
N(E_{i},L_{k}) \\
Number of antineutrino events
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
P(\tilde{v}_{e} \rightarrow \tilde{v}_{e}) = 1 - \sin^{2} 2\theta_{14} \sin^{2}(1.27 \frac{\Delta m_{14}^{2}[eV^{2}]L[m]}{E_{\tilde{v}}[MeV]}) \quad (1) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{E_{v},MeV}^{E_{v}=1} \int_{E_{v},MeV}^{E_{$$

The denominator is significantly simplified with a range of measurement distances significantly greater than the characteristic oscillation period:

S(E) - Spectrum

 $\mathcal{E}(E)$  - Detector efficiency

$$R_{ik}^{\text{th}} \approx \frac{1 - \sin^2 2\theta_{14} \sin^2 (1.27\Delta m_{14}^2 L_k / E_i)}{1 - 1/2 \sin^2 2\theta_{14}} \xrightarrow[\theta_{14}=0]{} 1$$

$$\sum_{i,k} \left[ (R_{i,k}^{\exp} - R_{i,k}^{th})^2 / (\Delta R_{i,k}^{\exp})^2 \right] = \Delta \chi^2 (\sin^2 2\theta_{14}, \Delta m_{14}^2)$$

## The results of the analysis of optimal parameters $\Delta m_{14}^2$ and $\sin^2 2\theta_{14}$ using $\Delta \chi^2$ method



We observed the oscillation effect at C.L. 2.9  $\sigma$  in vicinity of :

$$\Delta m_{14}^2 \approx 7.25 \text{eV}^2$$
$$\sin^2 2\theta_{14} \approx 0.36$$





 $\Delta m_{14}^2$  $= 7.30 \pm 0.13_{st} \pm 1.16_{svst}$ 

 $sin^2 2\theta_{14} = 0.36 \pm 0.12$ 

The period of oscillation for neutrino energy 4 MeV is 1.4 m

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125, 250, 500 keV.  $\sigma$ =±250 energy resolution. 1st cycle.  $\Delta m = 7.2 \text{eV}^2$ , sin<sup>2</sup>2θ = 0.39. 2.5σ CL



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Best fit oscillation parameters  $\Delta m_{14}^2, \sin^2 2\theta_{14}$ 7.2 eV<sup>2</sup>, 0.39(2.5 $\sigma$ ) 7.3 eV<sup>2</sup>, 0.36(2.9 $\sigma$ )

 $\chi^2$ /d.o.f. (Reduced  $\chi^2$ ) fit w/ and w/o oscillation

**15.61/17(0.92)** 24.59/19 (1.29) **20.61/17(1.21)** 31.90/19 (1.68)

Goodness of fit w/ and w/o oscillation

0.55 0.17 0.24 0.03

# There is a maximum at zero, from here the process of oscillations begins



It should be noted that the experimental points should be fitted with such a sinusoidal dependence, which has a maximum at the origin, since the process of oscillations starts from the source. This significantly reduces the set of sinusoids available for fitting. FIG. shows the complete curve of the oscillation process starting from the reactor.

FIG. 47. Complete curve of the oscillation process starting from the reactor core center.



## **RESULT OF THE EXPERIMENT NEUTRINO-4**

$$\Delta m_{14}^2 = 7.30 \pm 0.13_{st} \pm 1.16_{syst} = 7.30 \pm 1.17$$

 $sin^2 2\theta_{14} = 0.36 \pm 0.12(2.9\sigma)$ 

#### Monte Carlo based statistical analysis gave an estimation of the confidence level at $2.7\sigma$ .







FIG. 54. *T* distribution for MC based approach to the statistical analysis (blue line) and  $\chi^2$  with 2 degrees of freedom function, which is claimed by Wilks's theorem.

Possibility of experimental confirmation of the 3 + 1 neutrino model with one sterile neutrino

## THE STRUCTURE OF 3+1 NEUTRINO MODEL AND REPRESENTATION OF PROBABILITIES OF VARIOUS OSCILLATIONS

$$\begin{bmatrix} v_{e} \\ v_{\mu} \\ v_{\tau} \\ v_{s} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} U_{e1} & U_{e2} & U_{e3} & U_{e4} \\ U_{\mu 1} & U_{\mu 2} & U_{\mu 3} & U_{\mu 4} \\ U_{\tau 1} & U_{\tau 2} & U_{\tau 3} & U_{\tau 4} \\ U_{s1} & U_{s2} & U_{s3} & U_{s4} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_{1} \\ v_{2} \\ v_{3} \\ v_{4} \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\begin{aligned} & |U_{e4}|^{2} = \sin^{2}(\theta_{14}) \\ & |U_{\mu 4}|^{2} = \sin^{2}(\theta_{24}) \cdot \cos^{2}(\theta_{14}) \\ & |U_{\tau 4}|^{2} = \sin^{2}(\theta_{34}) \cdot \cos^{2}(\theta_{24}) \cdot \cos^{2}(\theta_{14}) \end{aligned}$$

$$P_{\nu_e\nu_e} = 1 - 4|U_{e4}|^2 \left(1 - |U_{e4}|^2\right) \sin^2\left(\frac{\Delta m_{14}^2 L}{4E_{\nu_e}}\right) = 1 - \sin^2 2\theta_{ee} \sin^2\left(\frac{\Delta m_{14}^2 L}{4E_{\nu_e}}\right)$$
$$P_{\nu_\mu\nu_\mu} = 1 - 4|U_{\mu4}|^2 \left(1 - |U_{\mu4}|^2\right) \sin^2\left(\frac{\Delta m_{14}^2 L}{4E_{\nu_\mu}}\right) = 1 - \sin^2 2\theta_{\mu\mu} \sin^2\left(\frac{\Delta m_{14}^2 L}{4E_{\nu_\mu}}\right)$$

$$P_{\nu_{\mu}\nu_{e}} = 4|U_{e4}|^{2}|U_{\mu4}|^{2}\sin^{2}\left(\frac{\Delta m_{14}^{2}L}{4E_{\nu_{e}}}\right) = \sin^{2}2\theta_{\mu e}\sin^{2}\left(\frac{\Delta m_{14}^{2}L}{4E_{\nu_{e}}}\right)$$

## The relations of oscillations parameters required for comparative analysis of experimental results are:

 $\sin^2 2\theta_{ee} \equiv \sin^2 2\theta_{14}$  $\sin^2 2\theta_{\mu\mu} = 4\sin^2 \theta_{24}\cos^2 \theta_{14}(1 - \sin^2 \theta_{24}\cos^2 \theta_{14}) \approx \sin^2 2\theta_{24}$  $\sin^2 2\theta_{\mu e} = 4\sin^2 \theta_{14}\sin^2 \theta_{24}\cos^2 \theta_{14} \approx \frac{1}{4}\sin^2 2\theta_{14}\sin^2 2\theta_{24}$ 

The first important conclusion of the 3 + 1 model is that the oscillation frequency in all processes should be the same, i.e. it is determined by the value  $\Delta m_{14}^2$ 

The second important relation for experimental verification of the 3 + 1 model.  $sin^2 2\theta_{\mu\nu} \approx \frac{1}{4} sin^2 2\theta_{14} sin^2 2\theta_{24}$ 

This relationship can be interpreted in a fairly simple way. The appearance of electron neutrinos in a muon neutrino beam: this is a second-order process, i.e. transition of a muon neutrino to a sterile neutrino, and then the transition of a sterile neutrino into an electron neutrino.



#### **COMPARISON OF NEUTRINO-4 MASS PREDICTION WITH MEASUREMENT OF NEUTRINO MASS**

 $\mathbf{m}_{\nu_e}^{\text{eff}} = \sqrt{\sum \mathbf{m}_i^2 |U_{ei}|^2}$  $\Delta m_{14}^2 \approx m_4^2, \dots |U_{14}^2| \ll 1$  $m_4 = (2.70 \pm 0.22) \mathrm{eV}$  $m_{\nu_{e}}^{\rm eff} = (0.59 \pm 0.11) \, {\rm eV}$  $m(0\nu\beta\beta) = \sum |U_{ei}|^2 m_i$ 

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	Neutrino-4	KATRIN	GERDA $m(0\nu\beta\beta)$
Effective mass and masss quared $(m_{\nu_e}^{eff}, m_{\nu}^2)$	$m_v = 0.59 \pm 0.11$ $m_v^2 = 0.35 \pm 0.13$	$m_v < 0.8@(90\%)$ $m_v^2 = 0.26 \pm 0.34$	
Maiorana mass (m(0νββ))	$m(0\nu\beta\beta) = (0.13 \pm 0.04) \text{eV}.$		<i>m<sub>ββ</sub></i> < [0.80 – 0.182]eV

#### Neutrino flavors mixing scheme including sterile neutrino and effective mass hierarchy

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**PMNS matrix for 3 + 1 model** 





## Conclusion

#### **2.** Possibility of experimental confirmation of the 3 + 1 neutrino model with one sterile neutrino



#### **3. COMPARISON OF NEUTRINO-4 MASS PREDICTION** WITH MEASUREMENT OF NEUTRINO MASS



4. Neutrino flavors mixing scheme including sterile neutrino and effective mass hierarchy

#### **5. PMNS matrix for 3 + 1 model**



$U_{PMNS}^{(3+1)} =$	$ \begin{pmatrix} 0.824^{+0.007}_{-0.008} \\ 0.409^{+0.036}_{-0.060} \\ 0.392^{+0.025}_{-0.048} \\ < 0.24 \end{pmatrix} $	$\begin{array}{c} 0.547^{+0.011}_{-0.011}\\ 0.634^{+0.022}_{-0.065}\\ 0.547^{+0.056}_{-0.028}\\ < 0.30 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 0.147^{+0.003}_{-0.003}\\ 0.657^{+0.044}_{-0.014}\\ 0.740^{+0.012}_{-0.048}\\ < 0.26 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 0.224^{+0.025}_{-0.025} \\ 0.160^{+0.08}_{-0.05} \\ < 0.229 \\ > 0.93 \end{array} \right)$

Thus, the analysis performed provides quite interesting generalizations and an indication of the possibility of the validity of the 3 + 1 neutrino model with one sterile neutrino.

#### 1.The direct observation of sterile neutrino oscillation in Neutrino-4 experiment

 $\gamma^2$ /DoF 20.61/17 (1.21)

2.0

2.5

Average 125, 250, 500 keV

 $\Delta m^2 = 7.3 \text{ eV}^2$ ,  $\sin^2(2\theta) = 0.36$ 

1.5

L/E

 $\sin^2 2\theta = 0.36 \pm 0.12_{stat}(2.9\sigma)$ 

 $\Delta m_{14}^2 = 7.30 \pm 0.13_{st} \pm 1.16_{syst}$ 

Unity

16

§ 1.4

0.8 -

0.6

1.0

N(L, E)/N(L,E)<sub>ave</sub>