

# Neutrinoless double beta decay

Stefan Schönert, MPIK Heidelberg

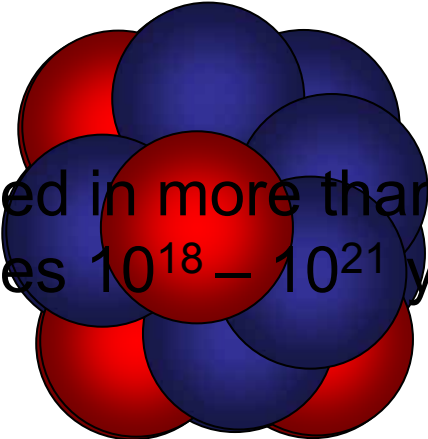
Rencontres de Moriond EW 2007  
La Thuile, March 10-17, 2007

# Outline

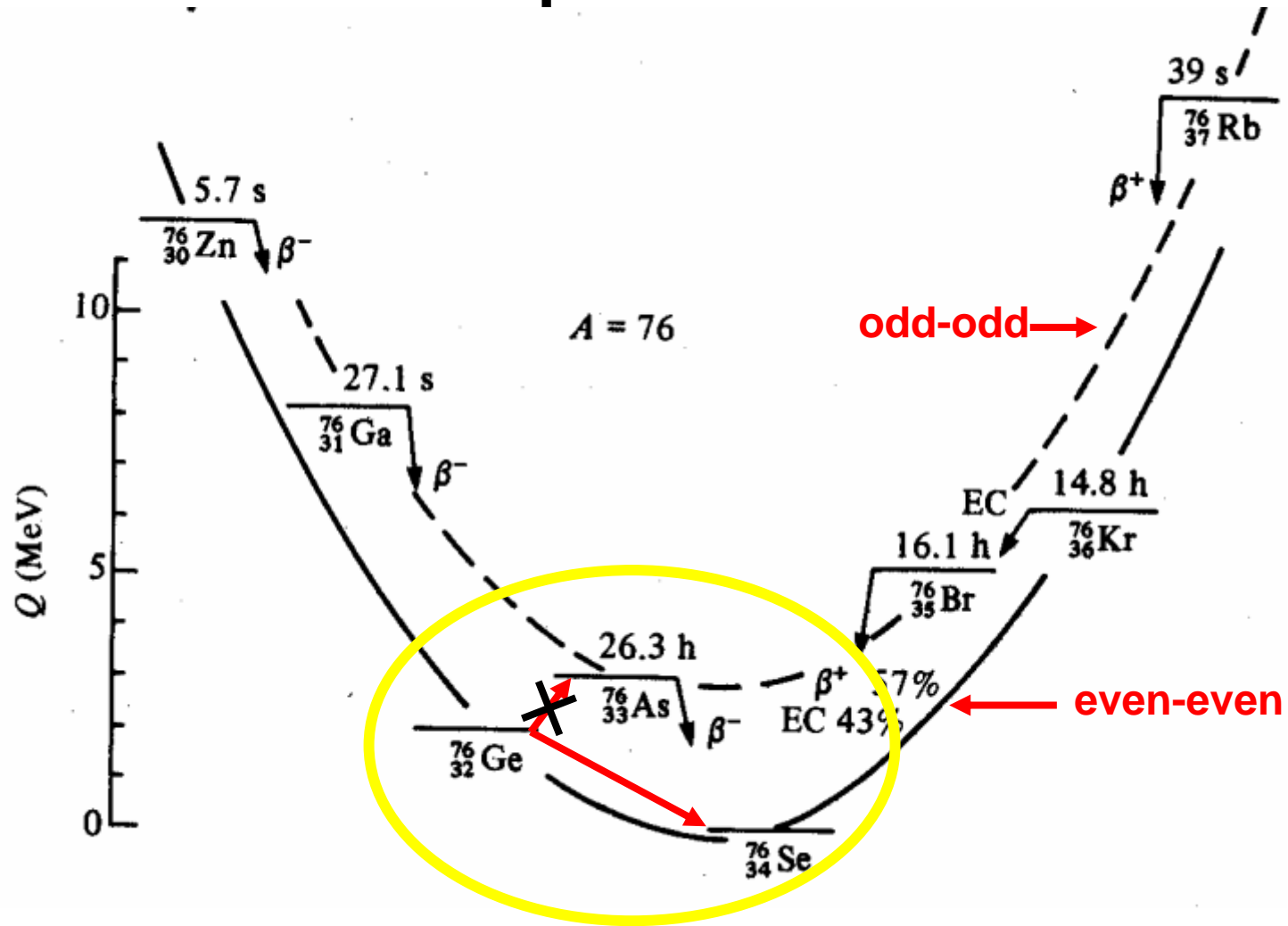
- Introduction DBD
  - Status NME
  - CP phases
- Experimental approaches
- Current experimental status
  - Claim for evidence
  - Running experiments
- Upcoming experiments
  - Overview
  - GERDA

# $2\nu$ - $\beta\beta$ Decay

Observed in more than 10 isotopes  
Life times  $10^{18} - 10^{21}$  years

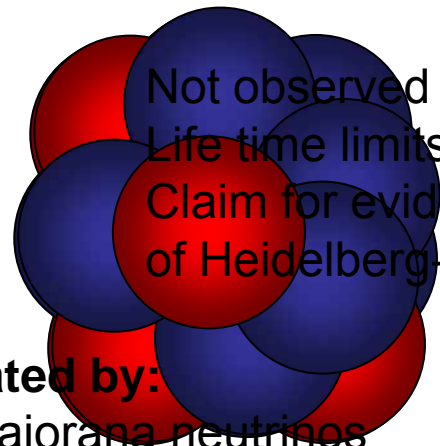


# Mass parabolas



Ground states of even-even nuclei:  $0^+$

# $0\nu\beta\beta$ Decay

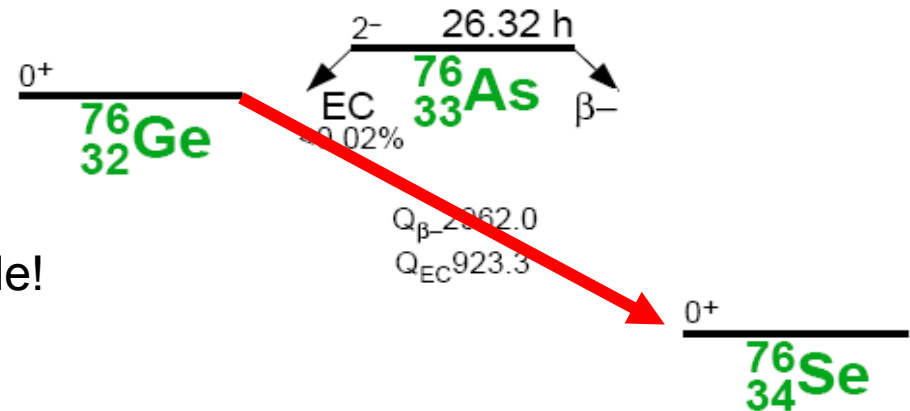


Not observed yet;  
 Life time limits  $> 10^{24} - 10^{25}$  y;  
 Claim for evidence in Ge-76 by part  
 of Heidelberg-Moscow Collab.

$0\nu\beta\beta$  can be generated by:

- exchange of light Majorana neutrinos
- SUSY
- .....

Schechter & Valle:  
 if  $0\nu\beta\beta$  observed  $\Rightarrow \nu$  is Majorana particle!



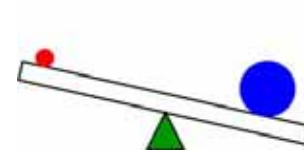
# Physics motivations

1) Dirac vs. Majorana particle: (i.e. its own anti-particle)?

$0\nu\beta\beta \Rightarrow$  Majorana nature

Majorana  $\Rightarrow$  See-Saw mechanism

$$m_\nu = \frac{m_D^2}{M_R} \ll m_D$$



For  $m_3 \sim (\Delta m_{\text{atm}}^2)^{1/2}$ ,  $m_D \sim m_t \Rightarrow M_R \sim 10^{15} \text{ GeV}$

Majorana  $\Rightarrow$  CP violation in  $M_R \Rightarrow$  higgs + lepton  $\Rightarrow$  Leptogenesis  $\Rightarrow$  B asymmetry

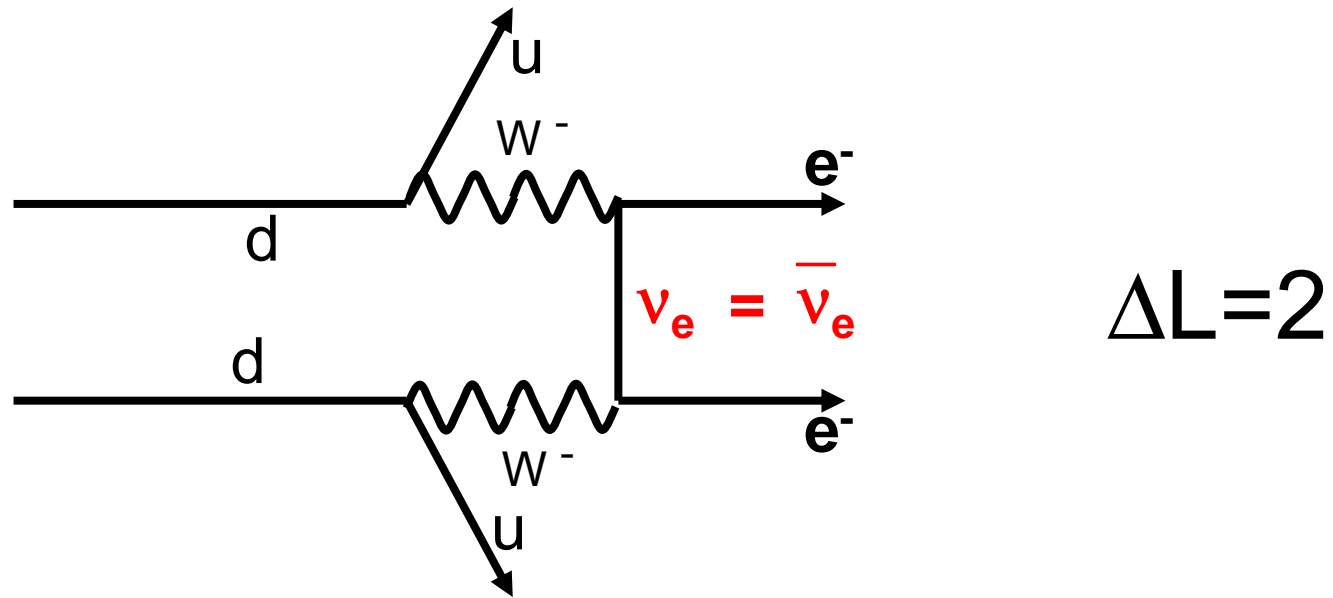
2) Absolute mass scale:

Hierarchy: degenerate, inverted or normal

(effective) neutrino mass

# $0\nu$ - $\beta\beta$ Decay

$$(A, Z) \rightarrow (A, Z + 2) + e_1^- + e_2^-$$



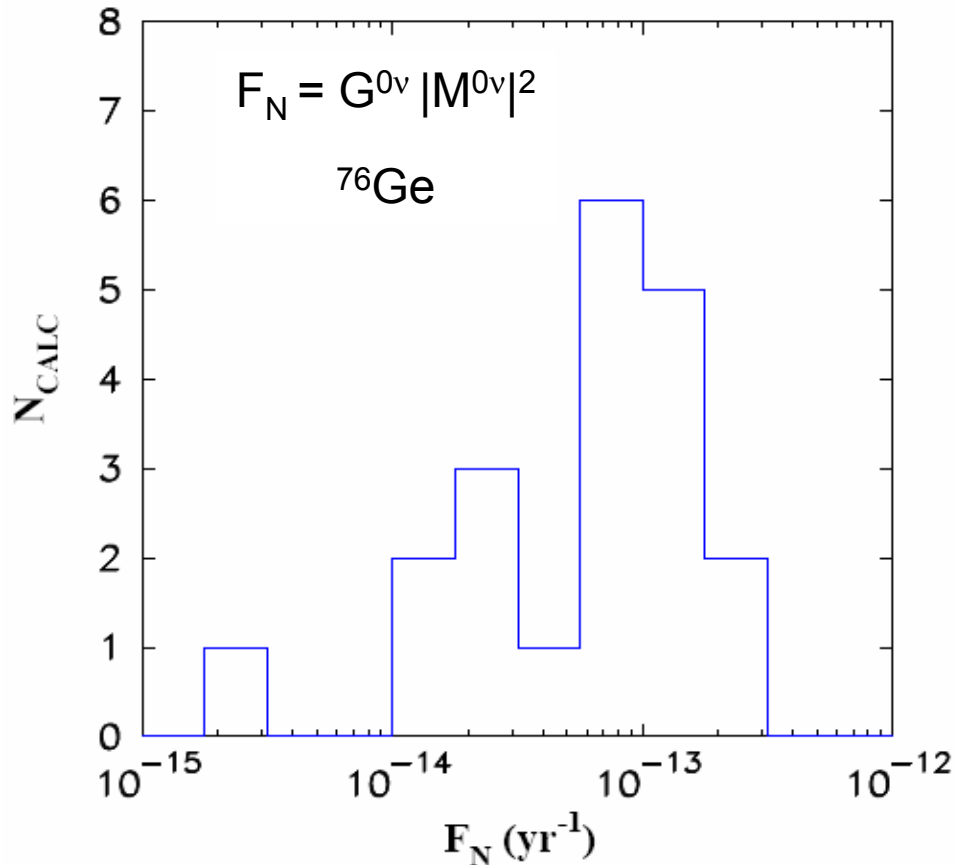
Assume leading term is exchange of light Majorana neutrinos

$$T_{1/2} (0\nu)^{-1} = G M^2 m_{ee}^2$$

← Phase space
← Nuclear matrix element
← Effective neutrino mass

# Nuclear matrix elements

hep-ph/0403167 (Bahcall, Murayama, Pena-Garay)



Bahcall, Murayama, Pena-Garay (2004): “compilation 20 calculation range factor 100 for  $|M^{0\nu}|^2$  !!”

Paper triggered discussion on “democratic approach” (Faessler)


⇒ Discussion in ILIAS/IDEA (shell models vs. QRPA; QRPA:  $g_{pp}$  fit to  $2\nu\beta\beta$  or  $\beta$ ,  $g_A$ , short range correlations, ...)

⇒ Comprehensive analysis of differences of QRPA calculations (V.A. Rodin *et al.* / *Nuclear Physics A* 766 (2006))

Convergence of QRPA results: “We show that in most, albeit not all, cases these differences can be understood”



# NME: Shell model vs. QRPA



$M_{0\nu}$	LSSM	QRPA(1)	1+(hoc)	QRPA(hoc)(2)
$^{76}\text{Ge}$	2.58	3.60	2.80	2.40
$^{82}\text{Se}$	2.49	3.40	2.64	2.12
( $^{116}\text{Cd}$ )	2.94	2.58	2.05	1.43
$^{128}\text{Te}$	2.67	2.96	2.17	1.60
$^{130}\text{Te}$	2.41	2.50	1.80	1.47
$^{136}\text{Xe}$	2.00	1.02	0.66	0.98

factor 2 or less  
difference

(hoc), including higher order corrections, their need is still under debate

(1) renormalized QRPA with the standard value of the strength of the particle-particle interaction. Simkovic, Pantis, Vergados, Faessler (1999)

(2) renormalized QRPA with the value of the strength of the particle-particle interaction adjusted to the  $2\nu$  lifetimes on a nucleus by nucleus basis (also under debate) Rodin, Faessler, Simkovic, Vogel (2006)

A. Poves, Ilias general meeting, Chambéry 2007

# Comparison of DBD Isotopes

$$T_{1/2} (0\nu)^{-1} = G M^2 m_{ee}^2$$

GERDA, Majorana

$$N_{sig} = N_{Avg} \cdot \frac{mass \cdot t}{A} \cdot \ln 2 \cdot \Gamma \cdot M^2 \cdot \langle m_{ee} \rangle^2$$

isotope	$Q_{\beta\beta}$	nat. abund.	rel. A	rel $\Gamma$	rel. $M^2$	$N_{sig}$
$^{76}\text{Ge} \rightarrow ^{76}\text{Se}$	2039 keV	7.4%	1	1	1	2.4
$^{82}\text{Se} \rightarrow ^{82}\text{Kr}$	2995 keV	9.2%	0.93	4.4	0.71	7.0
$^{100}\text{Mo} \rightarrow ^{100}\text{Ru}$	3034 keV	9.6%	0.76	7.2	0.23	3.0
$^{130}\text{Te} \rightarrow ^{130}\text{Xe}$	2529 keV	34%	0.58	6.9	0.33	3.2
$^{136}\text{Xe} \rightarrow ^{136}\text{Ba}$	2479 keV	8.9%	0.56	7.4	0.15	1.5

for 1000 kg y,  $\langle m_{ee} \rangle = 50$  meV,  $M^2$  from V.A.Rodin et al, Nucl. Phys. A766 (2006) 107.

Super-Nemo

Nemo3

Cuoricino/Cuore

EXO

# Effective Majorana mass

$$m_{ee} = \left| \sum_i U_{ei}^2 m_i \right|$$

$U_{ei}$  complex:

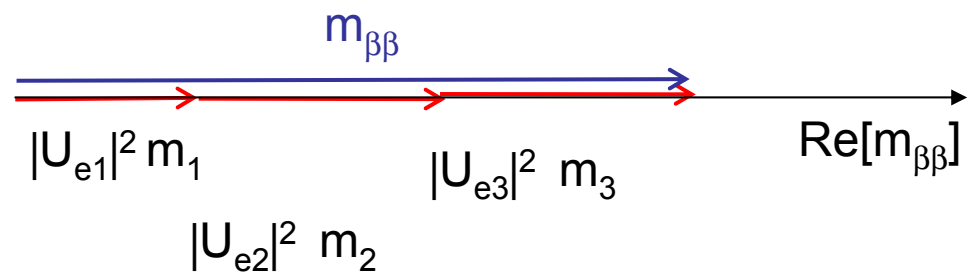
⇒ sensitive to CP phases (optimist☺)

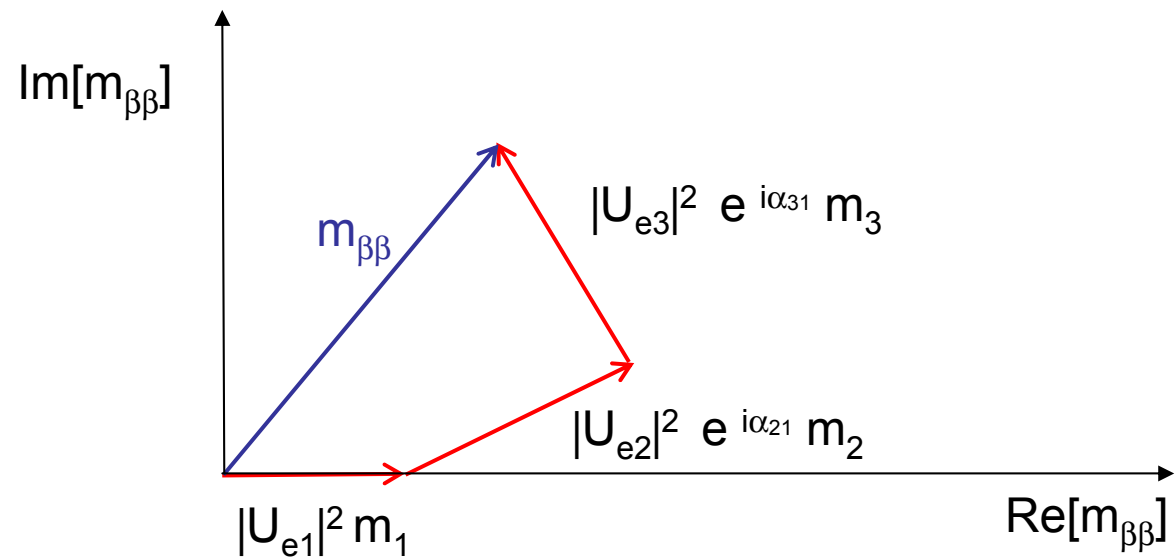
⇒ cancellation possible (pessimist)

NB: Beta-endpoint (KATRIN)

$$m_{\nu_e} = \left( \sum_i |U_{ei}|^2 m_i^2 \right)^{1/2}$$

If CP is conserved:



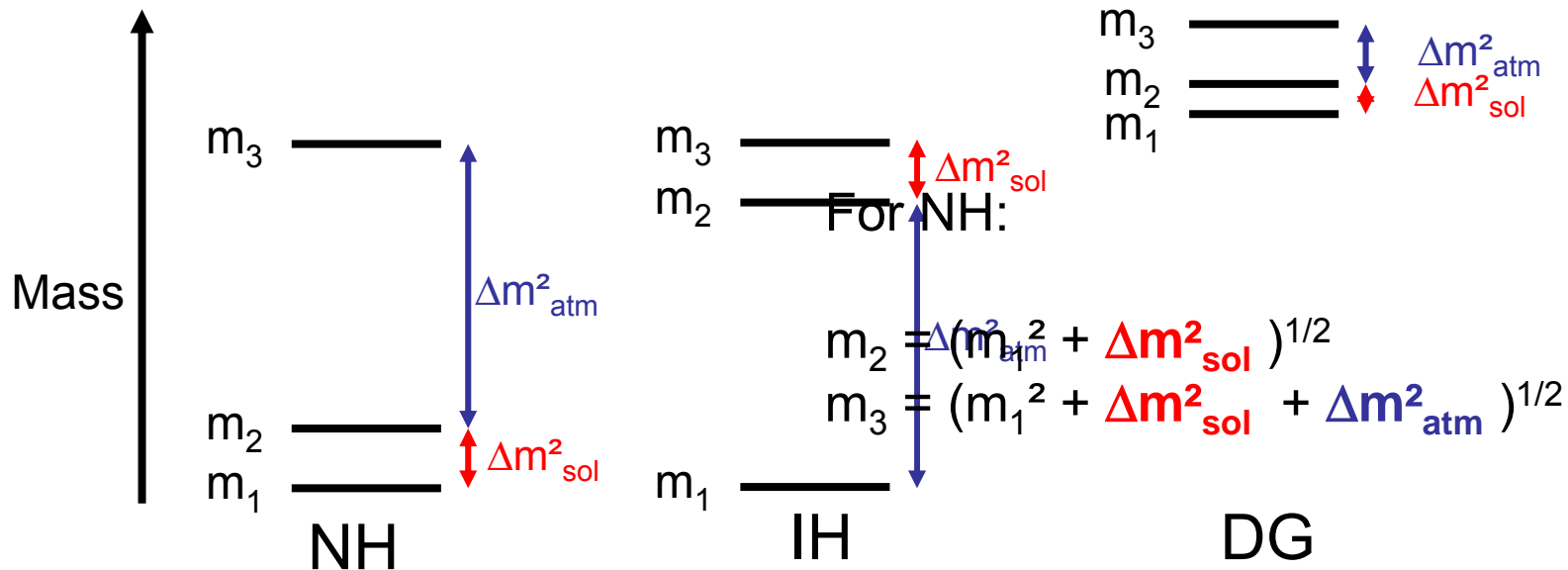


# Input for $m_{ee}$ from $\nu$ -oscillations

Solar/Reactor  $\nu$ :  $\theta_{12}, \Delta m^2_{sol}$

Atmosph.- $\nu$ :  $\Delta m^2_{atm}$

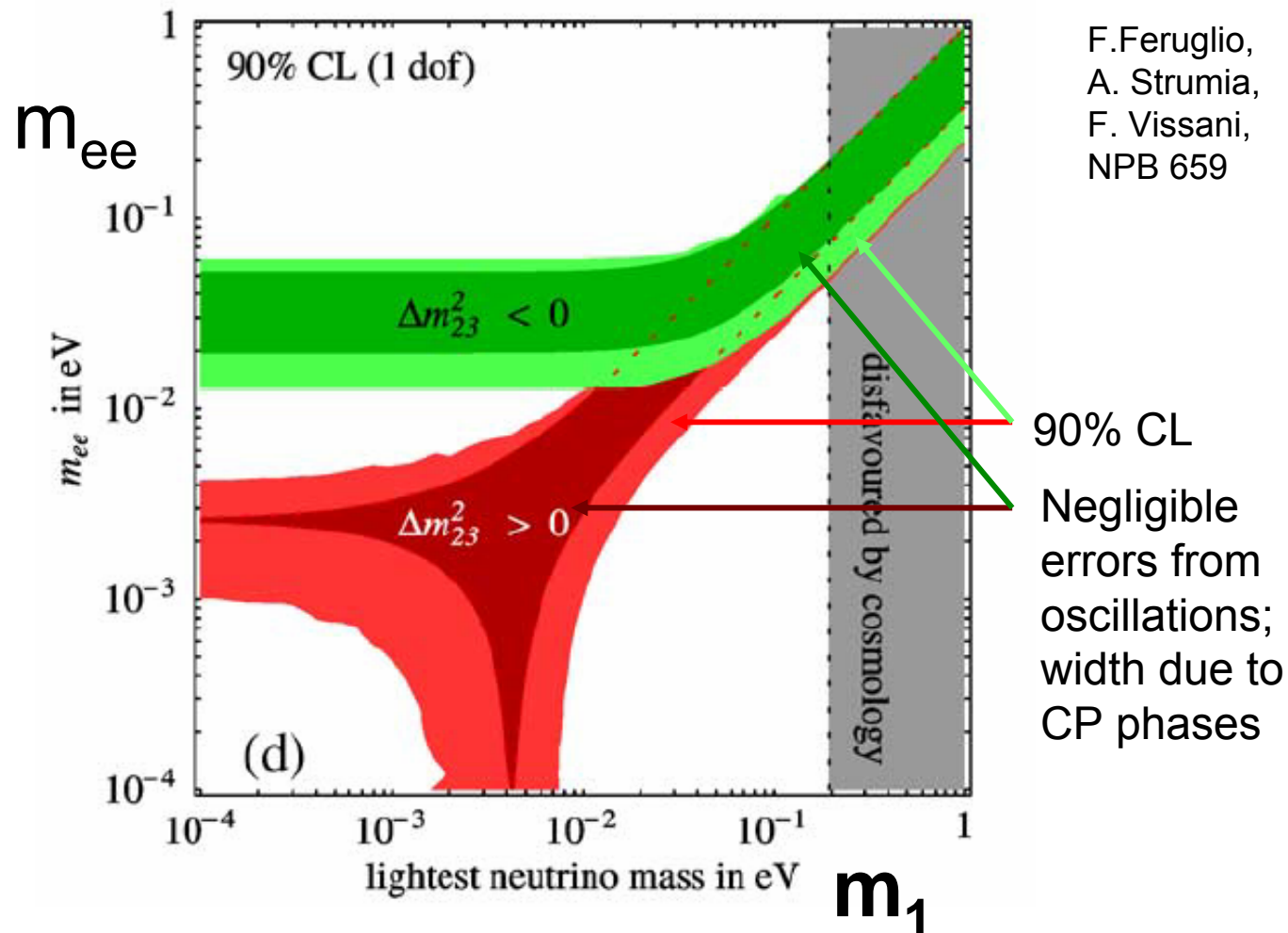
Reaktor- $\nu$ :  $\theta_{13}$



$$m_{ee} = \left| \cos^2 \theta_{13} (m_1 \cos^2 \theta_{12} + m_2 e^{2i\alpha} \sin^2 \theta_{12}) + m_3 e^{2i\beta} \sin^2 \theta_{13} \right|$$

$$\Rightarrow m_{ee} = f(m_1, \Delta m^2_{sol}, \Delta m^2_{atm}, \theta_{12}, \theta_{13}, \alpha, \beta)$$

# Predictions from oscillation experiments



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NPB 659

# Experimental sensitivity

Without background:  $\langle m \rangle \leq \frac{\text{const}}{(M T)^{1/2}}$  (M T: exposure [kg y])

With background:  $\langle m \rangle \leq \text{const.} \cdot \left( \frac{b \Delta E}{M T} \right)^{1/4}$

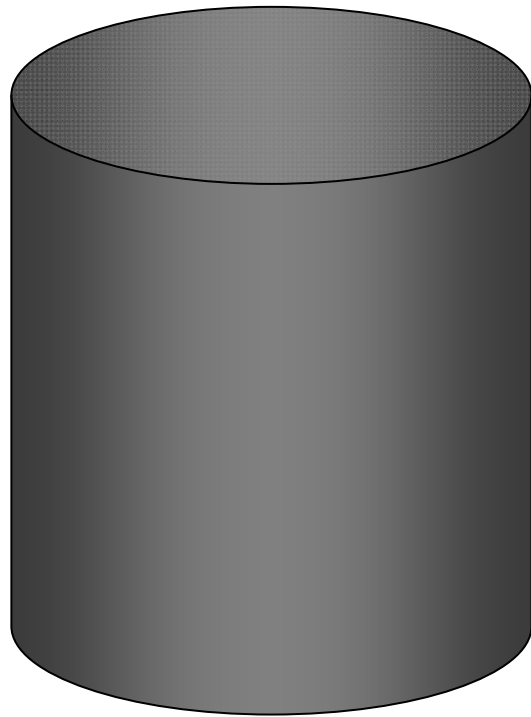
b: background rate at  $Q_{\beta\beta}$  [cts/kg/keV/year]  
 $\Delta E$ : energy resolution

- ⇒ Maximize number of isotopes under observation
- ⇒ Minimize background (radioactivity, cosmics) in energy window at  $Q_{\beta\beta}$
- Explore inverted hierarchy mass range completely
- ⇒ 1 ton of isotopes AND  $b \cdot \Delta E \sim 10^{-3} - 10^{-4} / \text{kg y}$



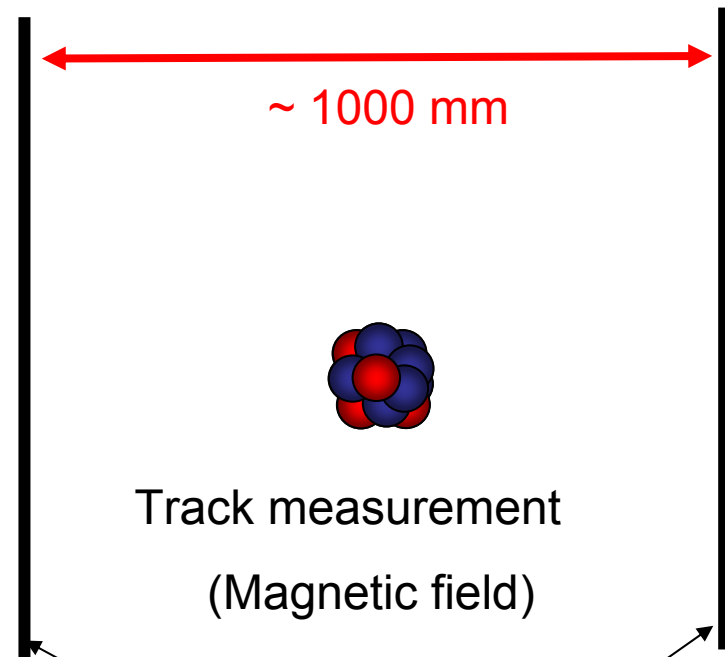
# Two ways to measure $0\nu\text{-}\beta\beta$ decay

Source = Detector



~ 1 mm

Source  $\neq$  Detector



Track measurement  
(Magnetic field)

Energy measurement

# Heidelberg-Moscow Experiment @ LNGS (completed 2003)

Technical parameters of the five enriched  $^{76}\text{Ge}$  detectors

Detector number	Total mass (kg)	Active mass (kg)	Enrichment in $^{76}\text{Ge}$ (%)	PSA
No. 1	0.980	0.920	$85.9 \pm 1.3$	No
No. 2	2.906	2.758	$86.6 \pm 2.5$	Yes
No. 3	2.446	2.324	$88.3 \pm 2.6$	Yes
No. 4	2.400	2.295	$86.3 \pm 1.3$	Yes
No. 5	2.781	2.666	$85.6 \pm 1.3$	Yes



Fig. 1. The HEIDELBERG–MOSCOW  $\beta\beta$ -experiment in the Gran Sasso (top), and four of the enriched detectors during installation (bottom left). The fifth detector was installed in an extra shielding using electrolytic copper as inner shield (bottom right).

Data acquisition and analysis of the  $^{76}\text{Ge}$  double beta experiment in Gran Sasso 1990–2003

H.V. Klapdor-Kleingrothaus<sup>\*1</sup>, A. Dietz, I.V. Krivosheina<sup>2</sup>, O. Chkvorets

NIM A 522 (2004)

10-17

# Claim: Evidence for $\beta\beta(0\nu)$



Available online at [www.sciencedirect.com](http://www.sciencedirect.com)



Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research A ■■■■■ ■■■■■ ■■■■■



NIM A 522 (2004)

## Data acquisition and analysis of the $^{76}\text{Ge}$ double beta experiment in Gran Sasso 1990–2003

H.V. Klapdor-Kleingrothaus<sup>\*,1</sup>, A. Dietz, I.V. Krivosheina<sup>2</sup>, O. Chkvorets

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### Abstract

Data acquisition in a long-running underground experiment has its specific experimental challenges, concerning data acquisition, stability of the experiment and background reduction. These problems are addressed here for the HEIDELBERG–MOSCOW experiment, which collected data in the period August 1990–May 2003. The measurement and the analysis of the data are presented. The duty cycle of the experiment was  $\sim 80\%$ , and the collected statistics is 71.7 kg year. The background achieved in the energy region of the  $Q$  value for double beta decay is 0.11 events/kg year keV. The two-neutrino accompanied half-life is determined on the basis of more than 100 000 events. The confidence level for the neutrinoless signal has been improved to a 4 $\sigma$  level.

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PACS: 14.60.Pq; 23.40.–s; 29.40.–n; 95.55.Vj

S. S

*Keywords:* Neutrino mass and mixing; Beta decay; Double beta decay; HEIDELBERG – MOSCOW experiment; High purity; Ge-detectors; Majorana neutrino

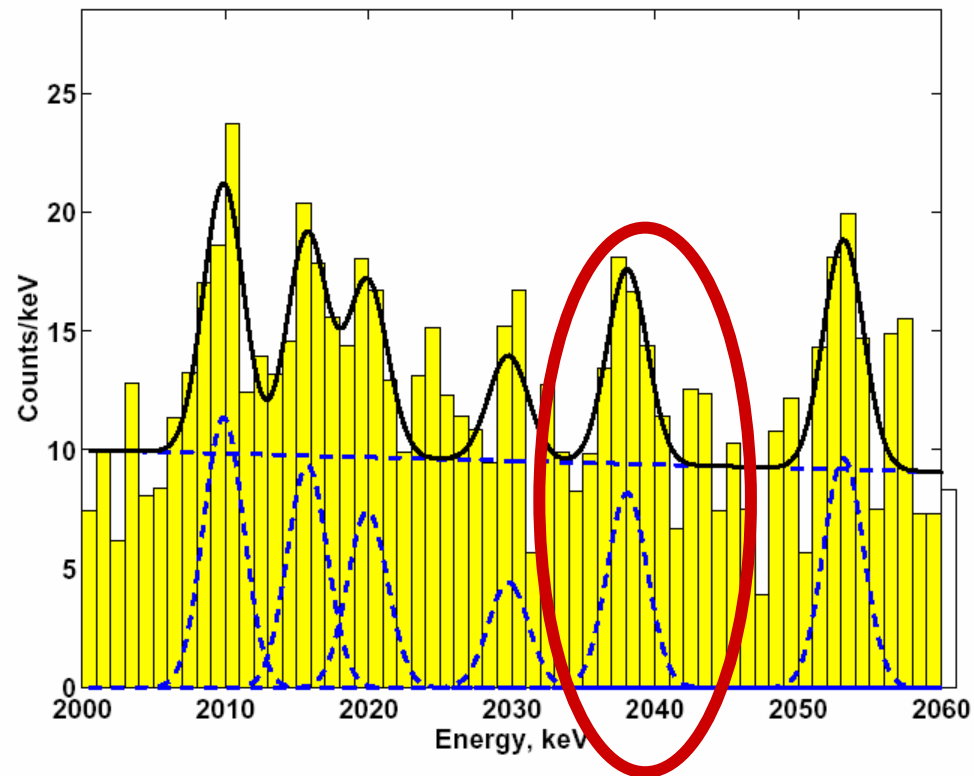


Fig. 17. The total sum spectrum of all five detectors (in total 10.96 kg enriched in  $^{76}\text{Ge}$ ), for the period November 1990–May 2003 (71.7 kg year) in the range 2000–2600 keV and its fit (see Section 3.2).

- Nov 1990- May 2003
- 71.7 kg year
- **Bgd 0.11 / kg y keV**
- $28.75 \pm 6.87$  events (bgd:~60)
- 4.2 sigma evidence for  $0\nu\beta\beta$

- $0.34\text{-}2.03 \times 10^{25}$  y (3 sigma)
- Best fit  $1.19 \times 10^{25}$  y

- $m_{ee} = 0.1\text{-}0.9$  eV
- best fit 0.44 eV

**NB. Statistical significance depends on background model!**

# Compilation of running or proposed experiments

Name	Nucleus	Method	Location	European Members	Others
<i>Running experiments</i>					
CUORICINO	$^{130}\text{Te}$	bolometric	LNGS	IT, NL, ES	US
NEMO-3	$^{100}\text{Mo}$ $^{82}\text{Se}$	tracko-calo	LSM	FR, CZ, UK ES, FIN	US, RU, JP
<i>Construction funding</i>					
CUORE	$^{130}\text{Te}$	bolometric	LNGS	IT, NL, ES	US
GERDA	$^{76}\text{Ge}$	ionization	LNGS	DE, BE, IT, PO	RU
<i>Substantial R&amp;D funding</i>					
EXO	$^{136}\text{Xe}$	tracking	WIPP	CH	US, RU, CAN
SuperNEMO	$^{150}\text{Nd}$ or $^{82}\text{Se}$	tracko-calo	LSC or LSM	FR, CZ, UK, SK, PL, ES, FIN	US, RU, JP UKR
<i>R&amp;D and/or conceptual design</i>					
CANDLES	$^{48}\text{Ca}$	scintillation	Oto Lab	-	JP
CARVEL	$^{48}\text{Ca}$	scintillation	Solotvina	-	UKR, RU, US
COBRA	$^{116}\text{Cd}$ , $^{130}\text{Te}$	ionization	LNGS	UK, DE, IT, PO, SK	US
DCBA	$^{150}\text{Nd}$	tracking	t.b.d.	-	JP
MAJORANA	$^{76}\text{Ge}$	ionization	SNOLAB or DUSEL	-	US
MOON	$^{100}\text{Mo}$	tracking	t.b.d.	-	JP
SNO++	$^{150}\text{Nd}$	scintillation	SNOLAB	-	CAN, US + ...
<i>other decay modes</i>					
TGV	$^{106}\text{Cd}$	el. capture, running	LSM	FR, CZ	RU

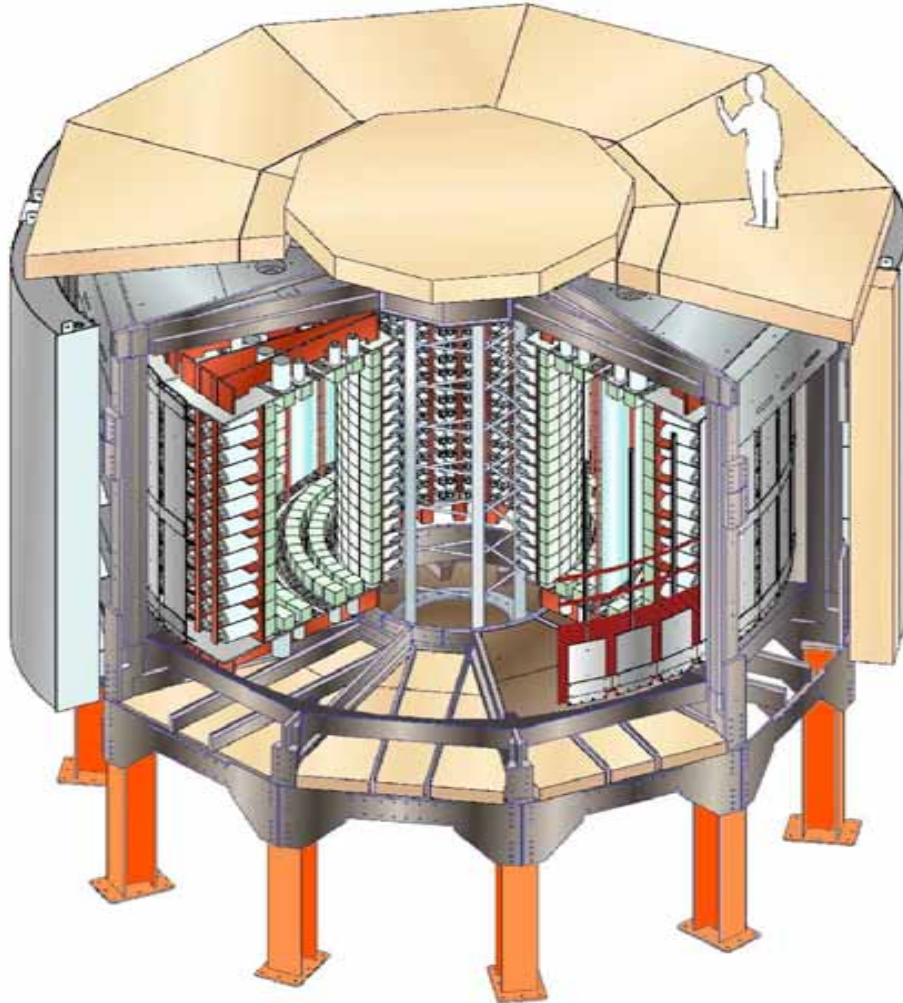
← Silvia Capelli

← this talk

Table from  
APPEC  
Roadmap draft

# The NEMO3 detector

Fréjus Underground Laboratory : 4800 m.w.e.



Source: 10 kg of  $\beta\beta$  isotopes  
cylindrical,  $S = 20 \text{ m}^2$ ,  $e \sim 60 \text{ mg/cm}^2$

Tracking detector:

drift wire chamber operating  
in Geiger mode (6180 cells)

Gas: He + 4% ethyl alcohol + 1% Ar + 0.1% H<sub>2</sub>O

Calorimeter:

1940 plastic scintillators  
coupled to low radioactivity PMTs

**Magnetic field: 25 Gauss**

**Gamma shield: Pure Iron ( $e = 18 \text{ cm}$ )**

**Neutron shield: 30 cm water (ext. wall)**

**40 cm WOOD (top and bottom)**

(since march 2004: water + boron)

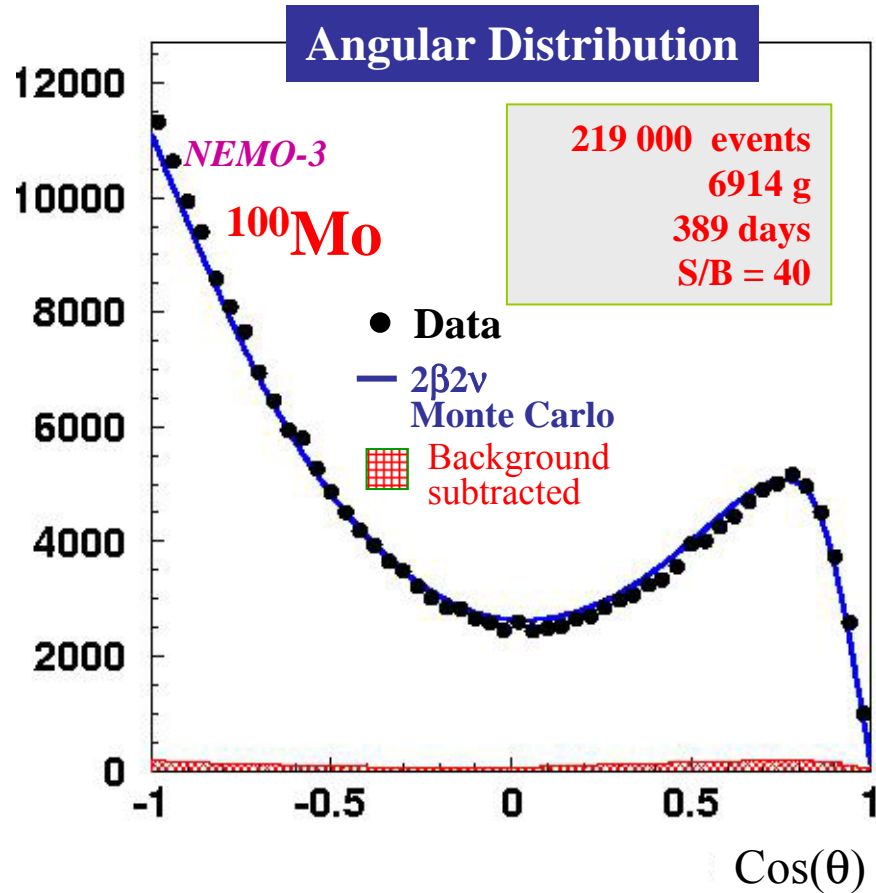
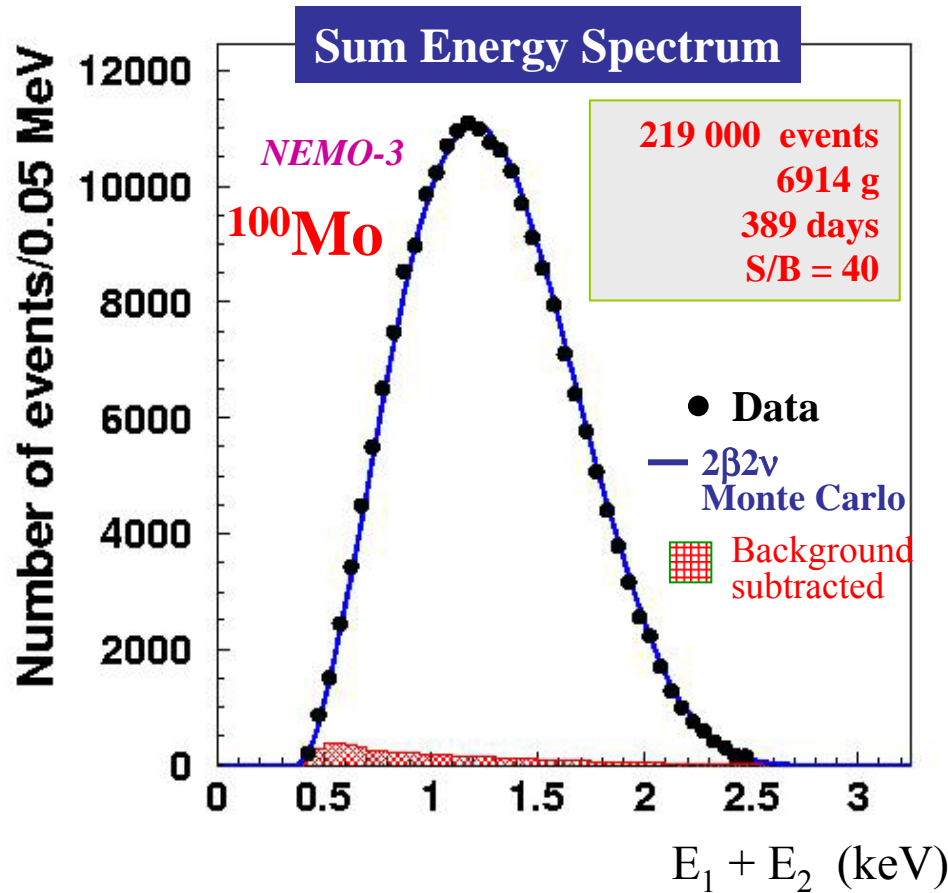


**Able to identify  $e^-$ ,  $e^+$ ,  $\gamma$  and  $\alpha$**



# $^{100}\text{Mo}$ $2\beta 2\nu$ preliminary results

(Data Feb. 2003 – Dec. 2004)



7.37 kg.y

$T_{1/2} = 7.11 \pm 0.02$  (stat)  $\pm 0.54$  (syst)  $\times 10^{18}$  y

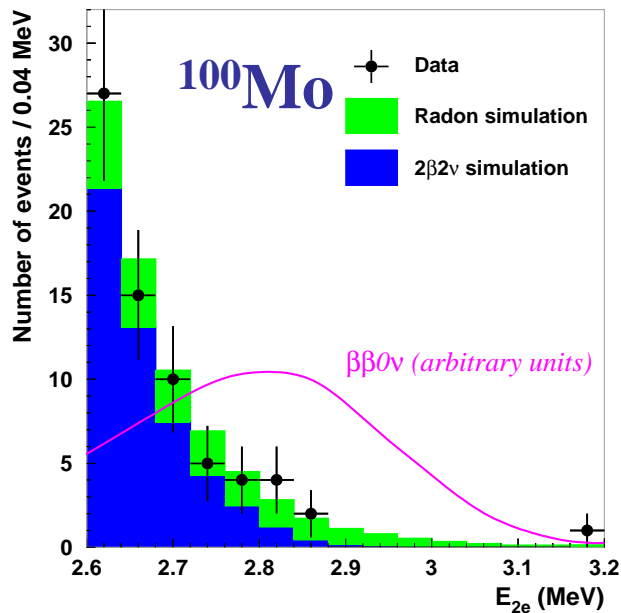
# Limit on the effective mass of the Majorana neutrino

Phase 1 (Feb. 2003 – Sept. 2004: 1.08 y of data) with radon bkg (limits @ 90% CL)

$^{100}\text{Mo}$  (6.914 kg)

$T_{1/2}(\beta\beta 0\nu) > 4.6 \cdot 10^{23}$  y

$\langle m_\nu \rangle < 0.66 - 2.81$  eV



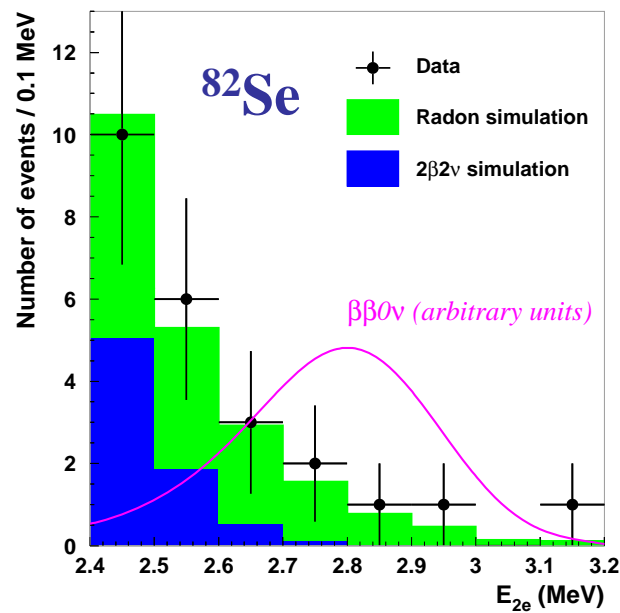
[2.8-3.2] MeV:  $\epsilon(\beta\beta 0\nu) = 8\%$   
 Expected bkg =  $8.1 \pm 1.3$   
 $N_{\text{observed}} = 7$  events

Previous limits:  $T_{1/2}(\beta\beta 0\nu) > 5.5 \cdot 10^{22}$  y  
 Ejiri et al. (2001)

$^{82}\text{Se}$  (0.932 kg)

$T_{1/2}(\beta\beta 0\nu) > 1.0 \cdot 10^{23}$  y

$\langle m_\nu \rangle < 1.75 - 4.86$  eV

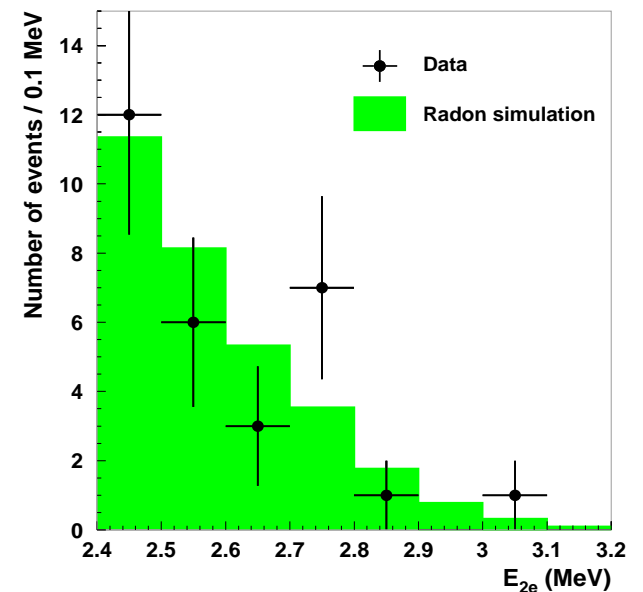


[2.7-3.2] MeV:  $\epsilon(\beta\beta 0\nu) = 13\%$   
 Expected bkg =  $3.1 \pm 0.6$   
 $N_{\text{observed}} = 5$  events

Previous limits:  $T_{1/2}(\beta\beta 0\nu) > 9.5 \cdot 10^{21}$  y  
 Arnold et al. (1992)

$\text{Cu} + \text{natTe} + ^{130}\text{Te}$

In agreement with only  
 Radon bkg expected

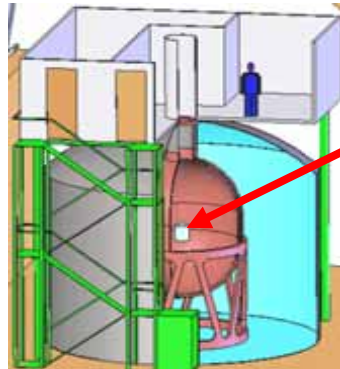




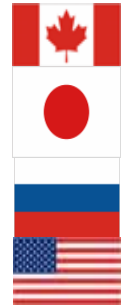
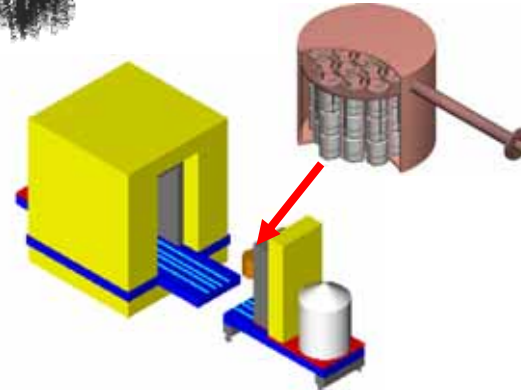
# Two new $^{76}\text{Ge}$ Projects:



**GERDA**



**Majorana**



- 'Bare'  $^{enr}\text{Ge}$  array in liquid argon (nitrogen)
- Shield: high-purity liquid Argon (N) /  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$
- Phase I: ~18 kg (HdM/IGEX diodes)
- Phase II: add ~20 kg new enr. Detectors; total ~40 kg

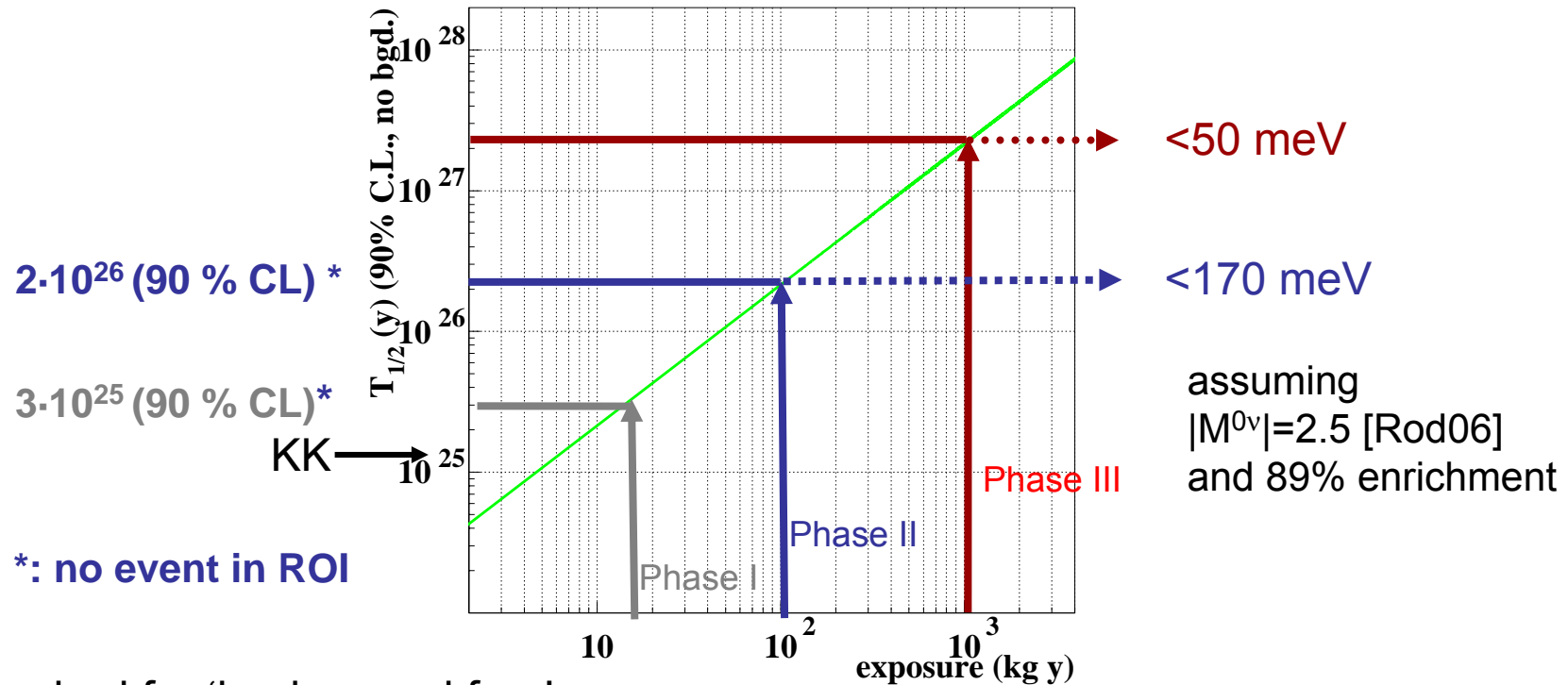
- Array(s) of  $^{enr}\text{Ge}$  housed in high-purity electroformed copper cryostat
- Shield: electroformed copper / lead
- Staged approach based on 60 kg arrays (60/120/180 kg)

**Physics goals:** degenerate mass range  
**Technology:** study of bgds. and exp. techniques

**Lol** • open exchange of knowledge & technologies (e.g. MaGe MC)  
 • consider to merge for O(1 ton) exp. ( inv. Hierarchy)



# Phases and Physics reach of GERDA



required for 'background free'

exp. with  $\Delta E \sim 3.3$  keV (FWHM):  $O(10^{-3})$   $O(10^{-4})$  counts/(kg·y·keV)

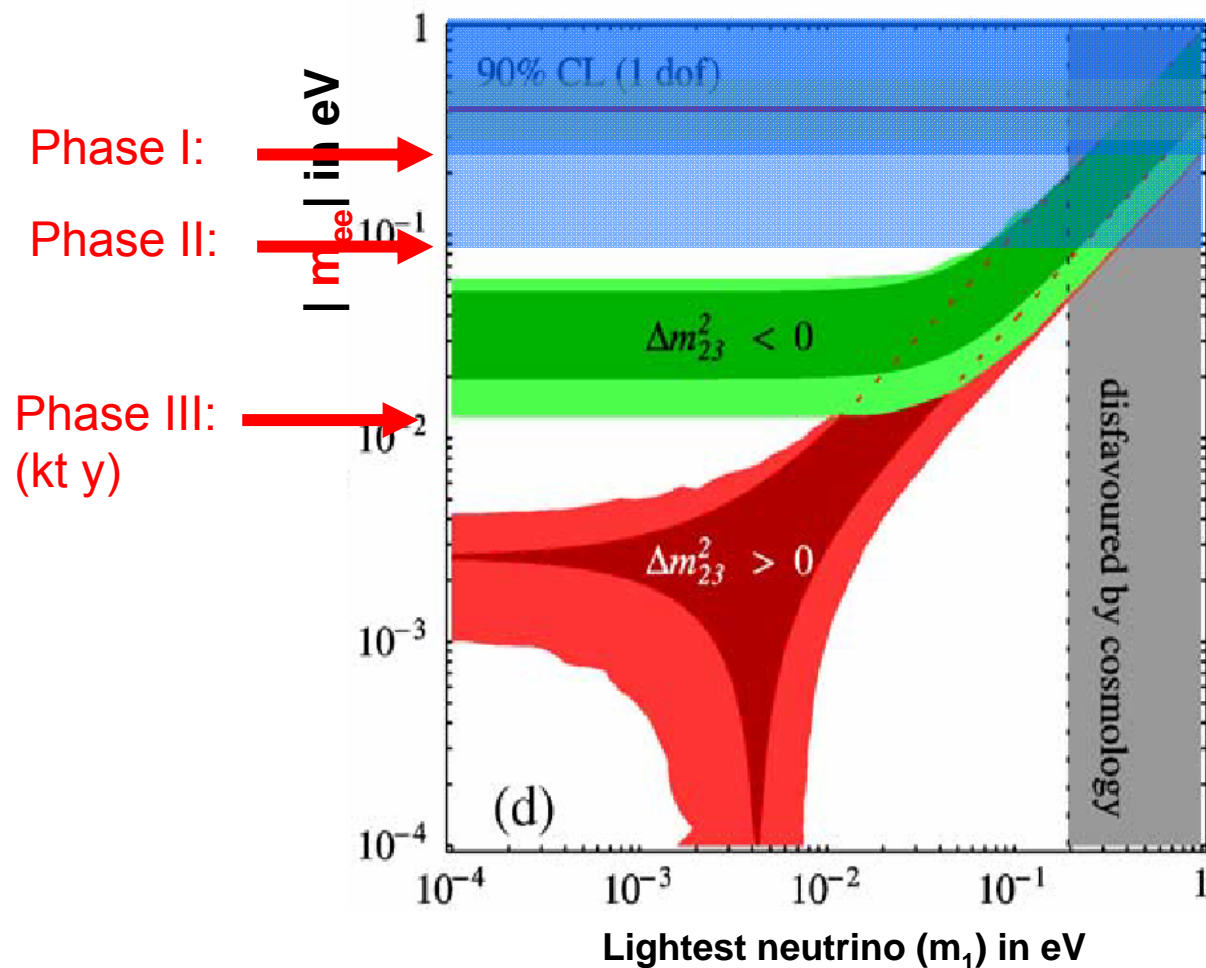
## Background requirement for GERDA:

$\Rightarrow$  Background reduction by factor  $10^2 - 10^3$  required w.r. to precursor exps.

$\Rightarrow$  Degenerate mass scale  $O(10^2 \text{ kg}\cdot\text{y}) \Rightarrow$  Inverted mass scale  $O(10^3 \text{ kg}\cdot\text{y})$



# Phases and Physics reach of GERDA



F. Feruglio, A. Strumia, F. Vissani, NPB 659



# GERDA at LNGS

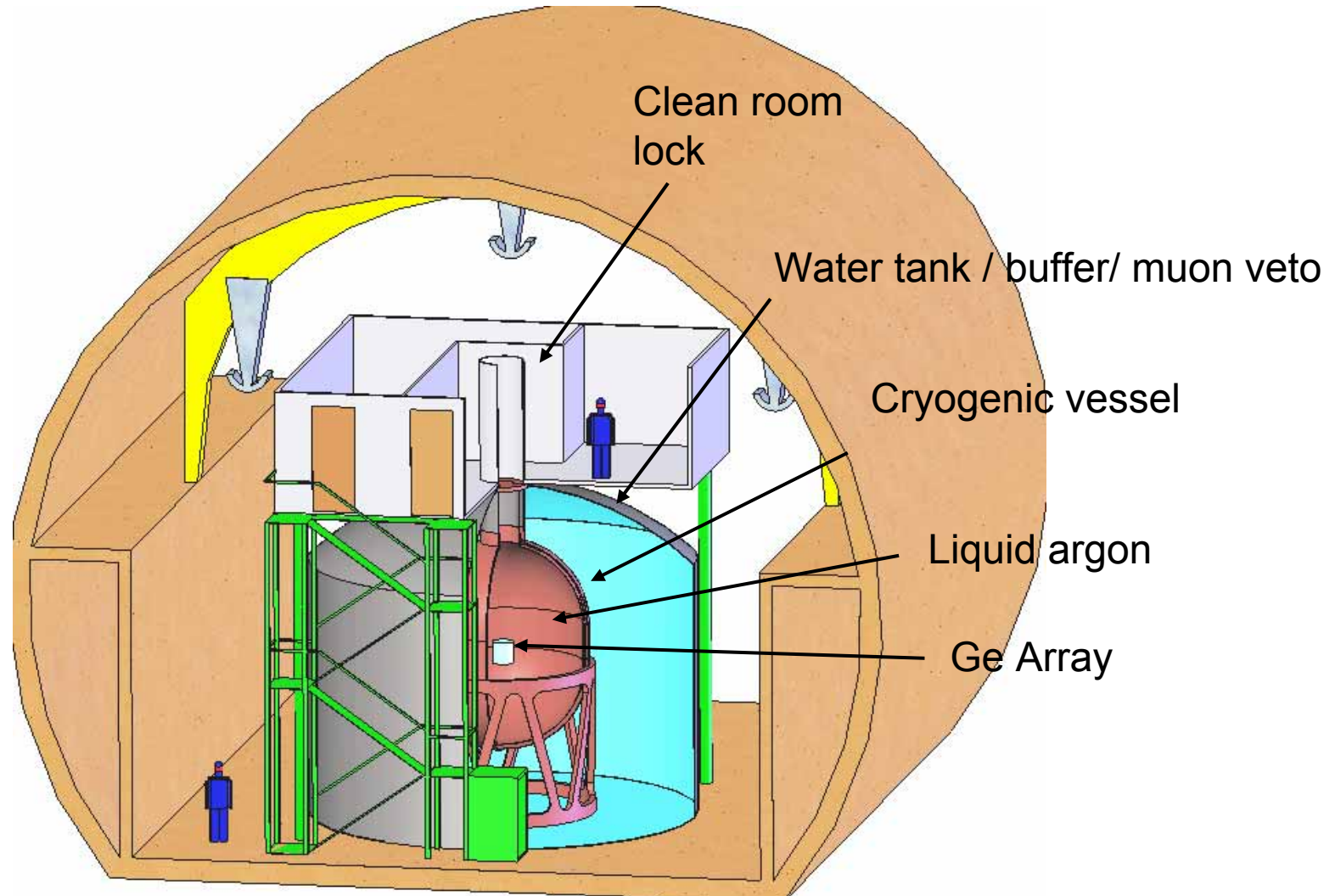


GERDA location:  
hall A of LNGS





# GERDA design

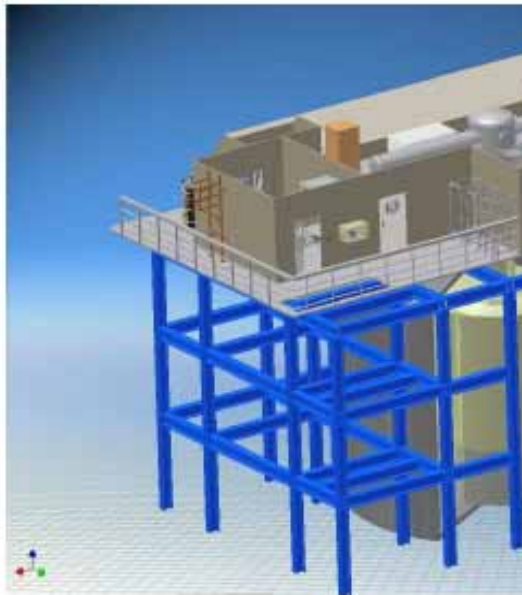




# GERDA in hall A of LNGS

Lock with tubes for cables

Clean room with lo



Rail system to lower position and lower individual strings



# Phase I Detectors:

aintenance and Measurements in Undergrond detector laboratory (LArGe facility)



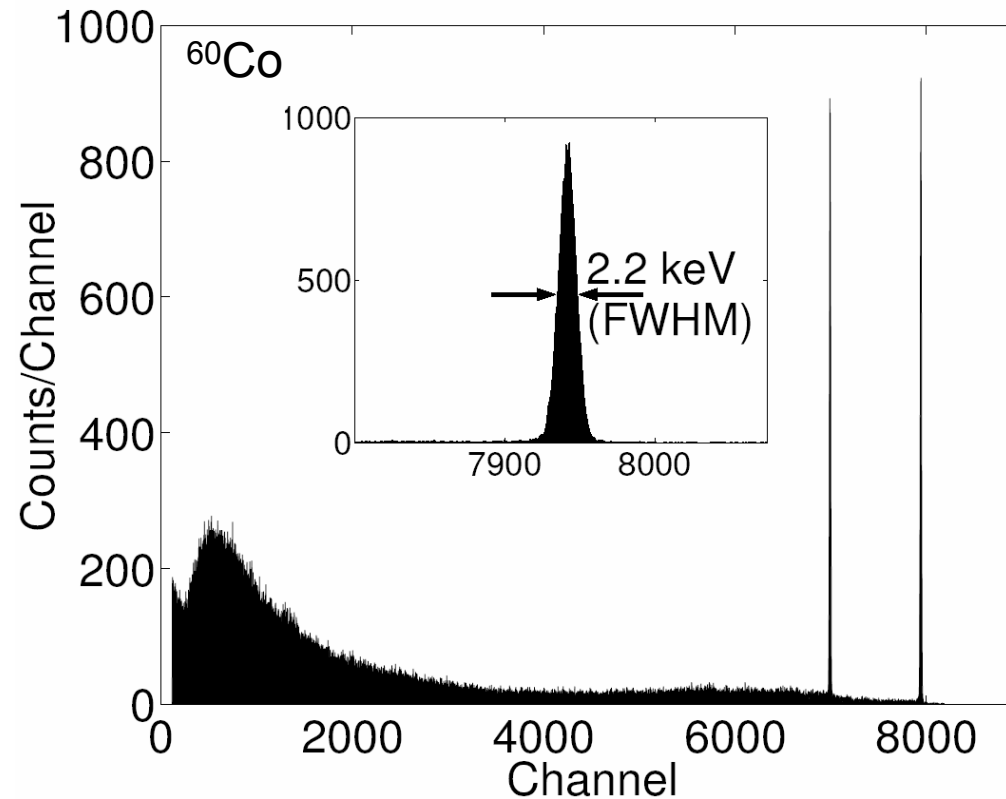
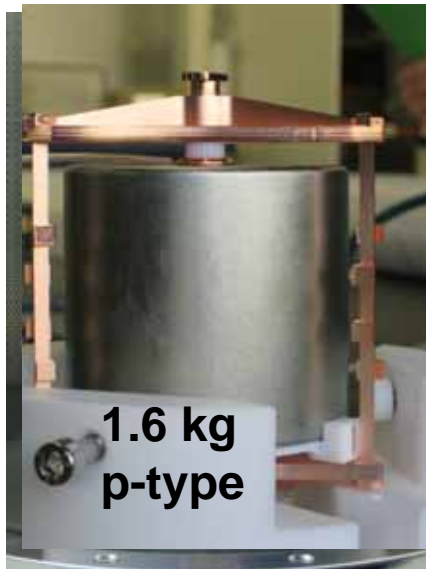
**Since Nov. 2005: 17.9 kg of enriched Ge-detectors underground at LNGS; Characterization completed**





# Phase I Detectors:

prototype tests of (natural) low-mass detector assembly in liquid nitrogen

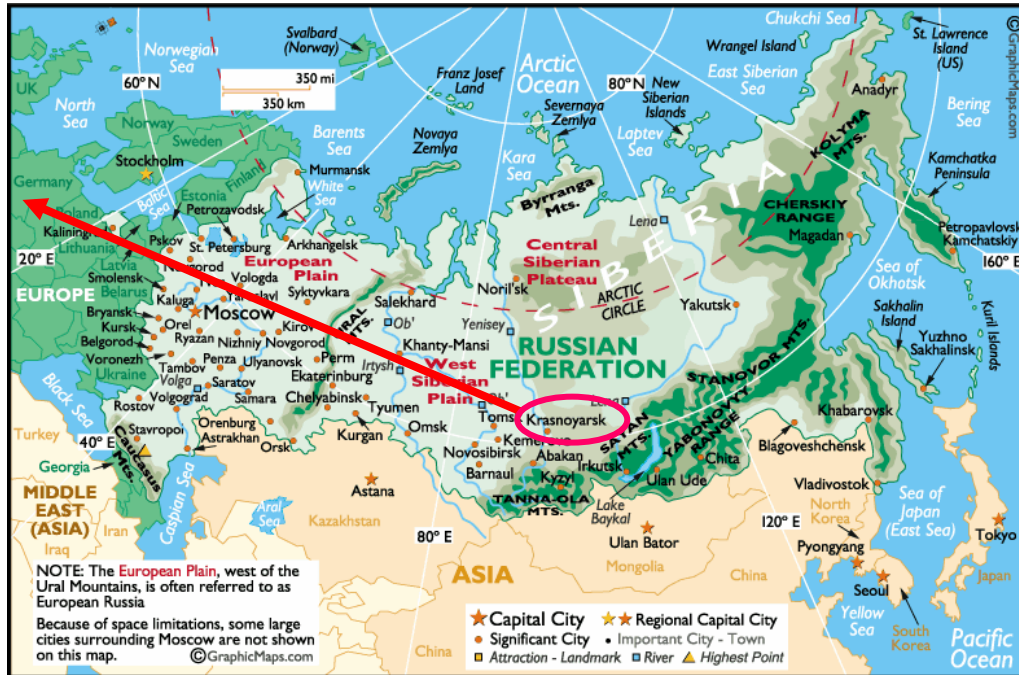


Enriched detectors are currently re-processed and prepared for testing





# Phase II Detectors: Procurement of enriched Ge



• Enrichment of 37.5 kg Ge-76 completed in Sep.05

• Transportation of Material to Europe by truck in spring for further processing

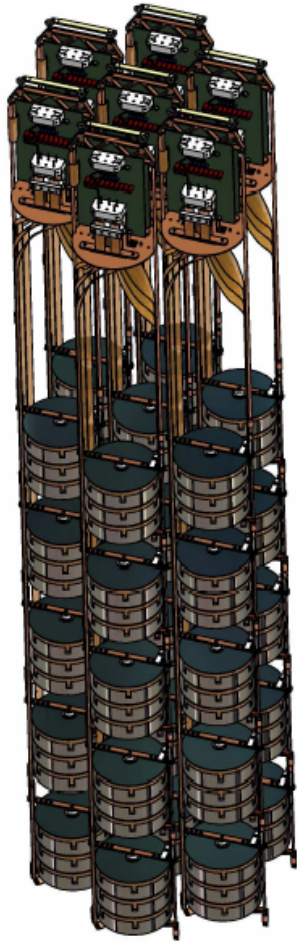
• Specially designed protective steel container reduces activation by cosmic rays by factor 20



Test  
transportation  
March 05



# Phase II Detectors: “True-coaxial” natural detectors

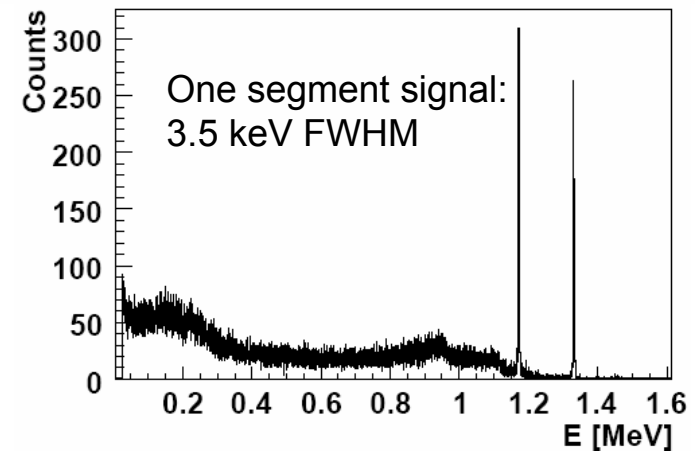
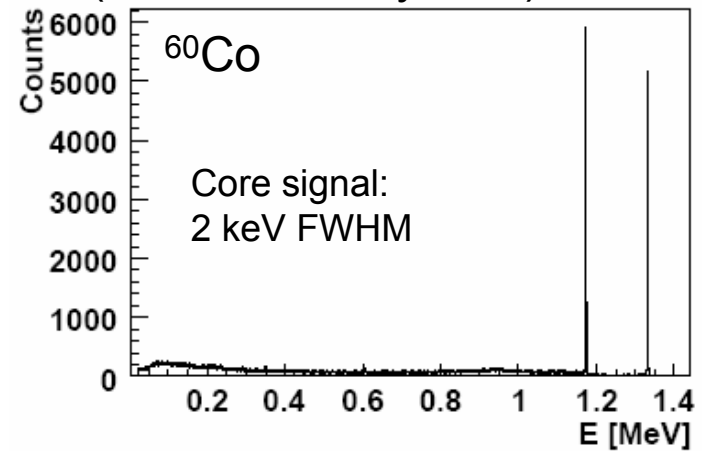


mock-up



18-fold (6- $\phi$ ; 3-z)  
segmented n-type

18-fold segmented detector  
(in standard cryostat)





# Backgrounds in GERDA

Source	B [ $10^{-3}$ cts/(keV kg y)]
Ext. $\gamma$ from $^{208}\text{Tl}$ ( $^{232}\text{Th}$ )	$\ll 1$
Ext. neutrons	$< 0.05$
Ext. muons (veto)	$< 0.03$
Int. $^{68}\text{Ge}$ ( $t_{1/2} = 270$ d)	12
Int. $^{60}\text{Co}$ ( $t_{1/2} = 5.27$ y)	2.5
$^{222}\text{Rn}$ in LN/LAr	$< 0.2$
$^{208}\text{Tl}$ , $^{238}\text{U}$ in holder	$< 1$
Surface contam.	$< 0.6$

Muon veto

180 days exposure after enrichment + 180 days underground storage

30 days exposure after crystal growing

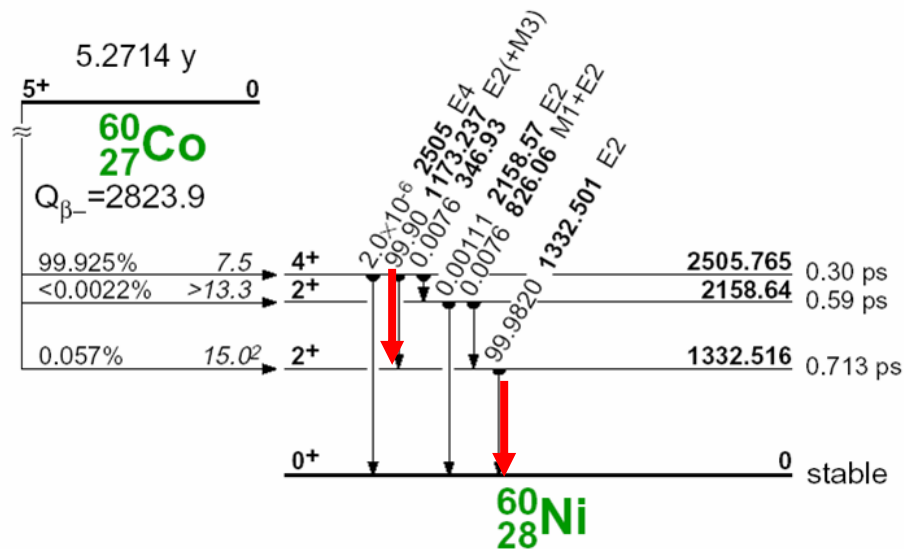
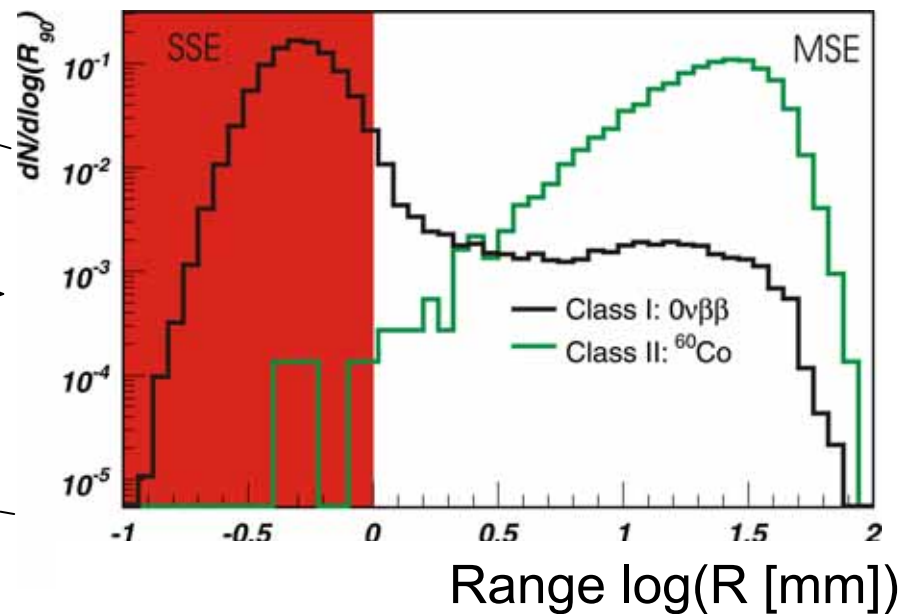
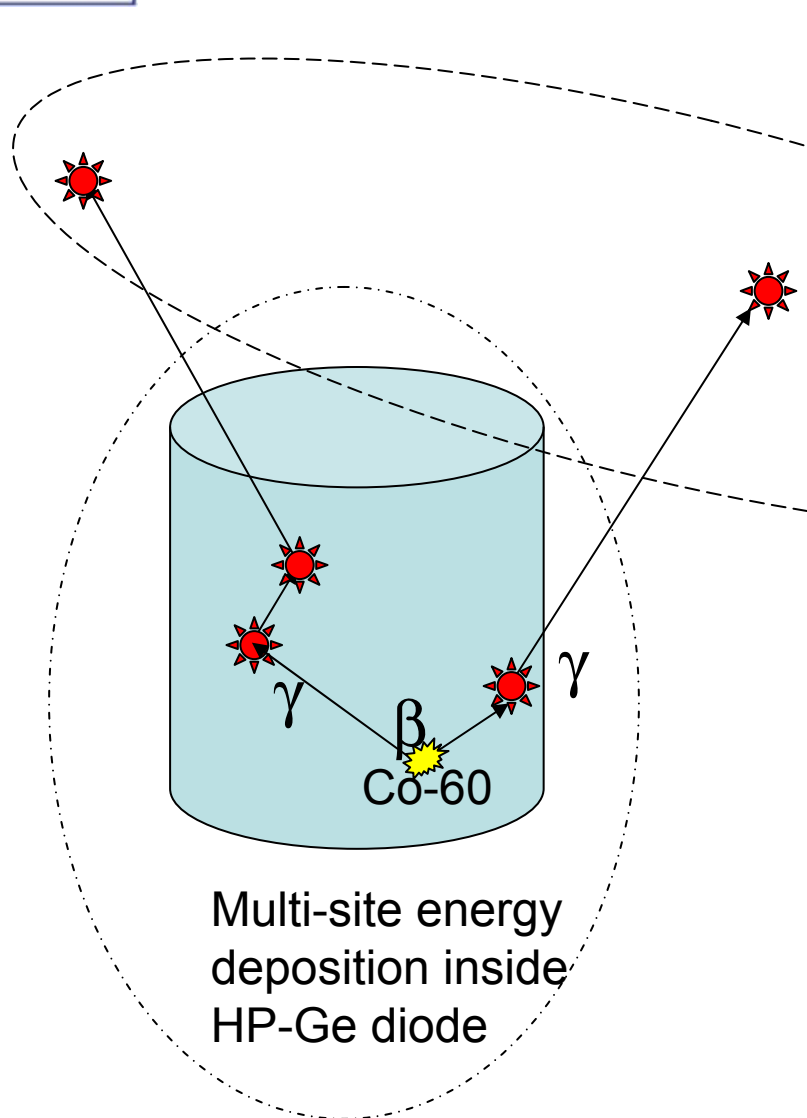
derived from measurements and MC simulations

**Target for phase II:  $\Sigma B \leq 10^{-3}$  cts/(keV kg y)**

**$\Rightarrow$  additional bgd. reduction techniques**



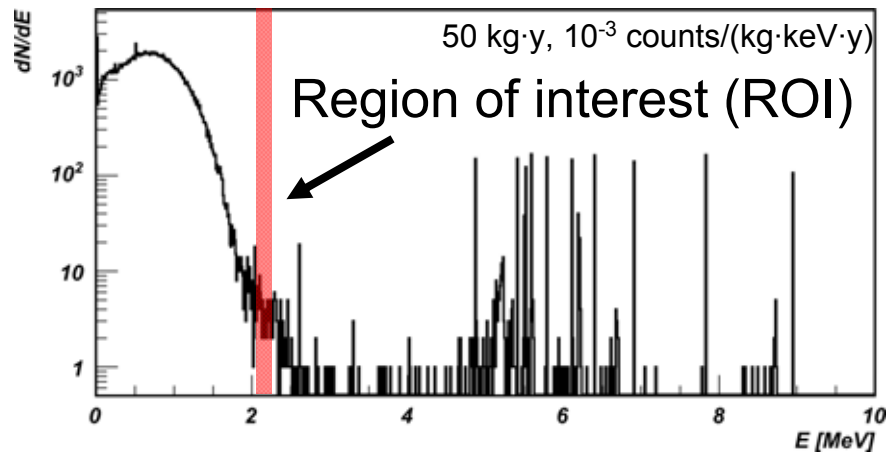
# Example of background topology



# Analysis Chain: Electron / Photon Distinction

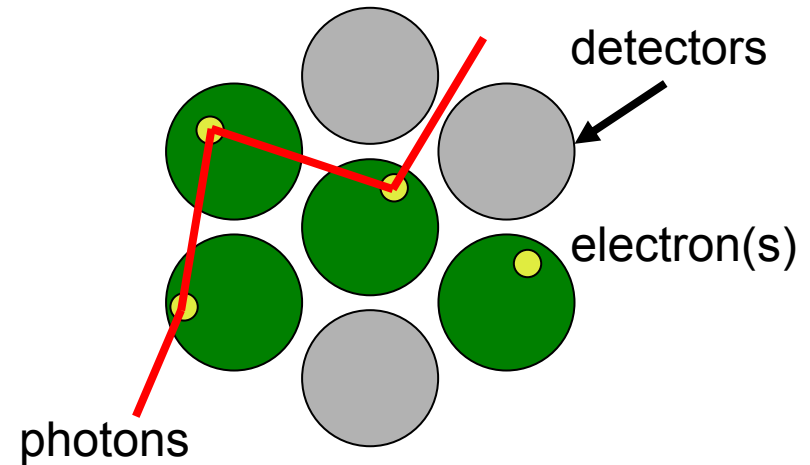
1.

Energy cut



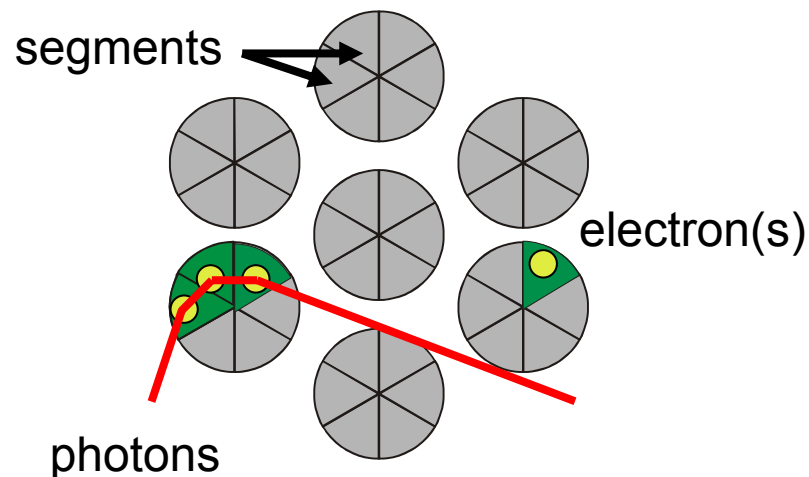
Crystal anti-coincidence

2.



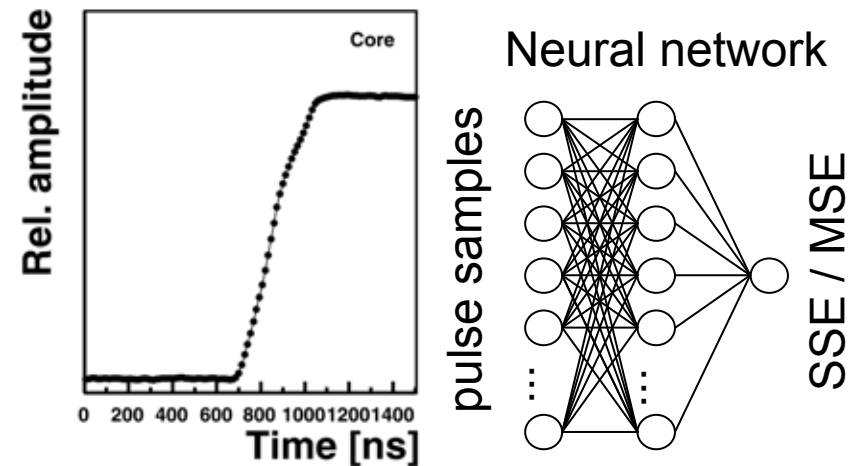
3.

Segment anti-coincidence



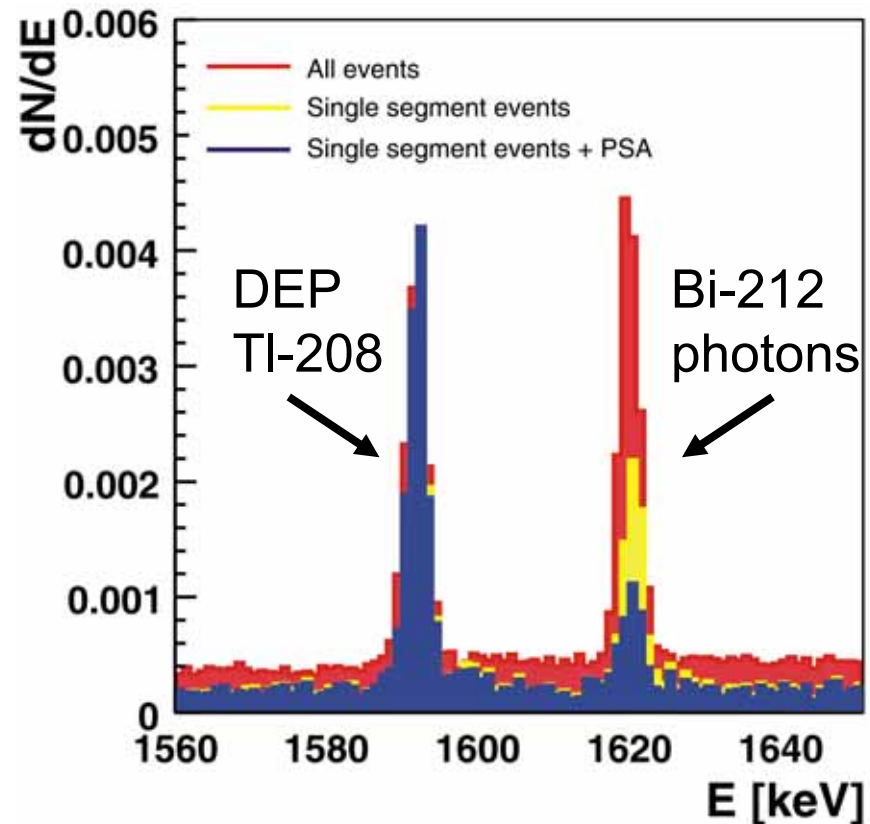
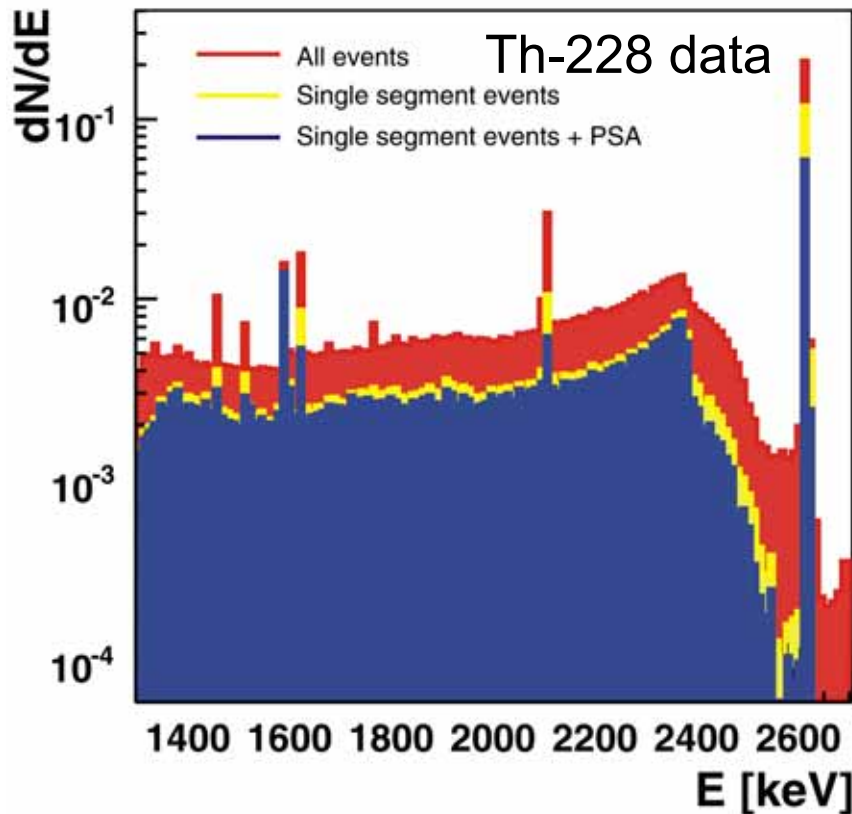
Pulse shape analysis

4.





# Photon discrimination with segmented detectors



- Core energy spectrum
- **Segmentation reduces**

## **Compton-background in ROI**

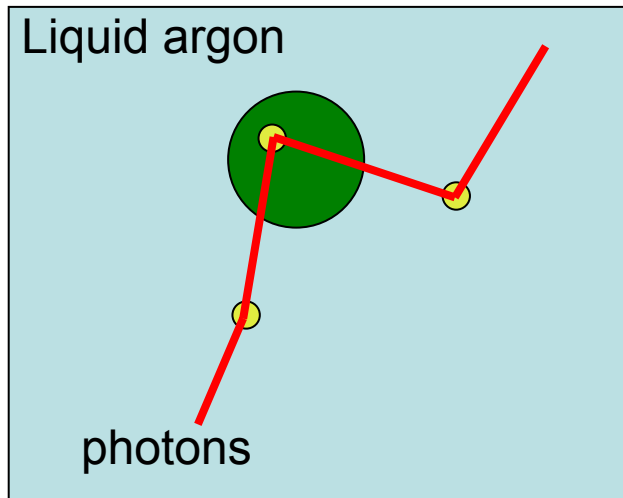
- Correct identification of electrons and photons

- **PSA confirms signal**

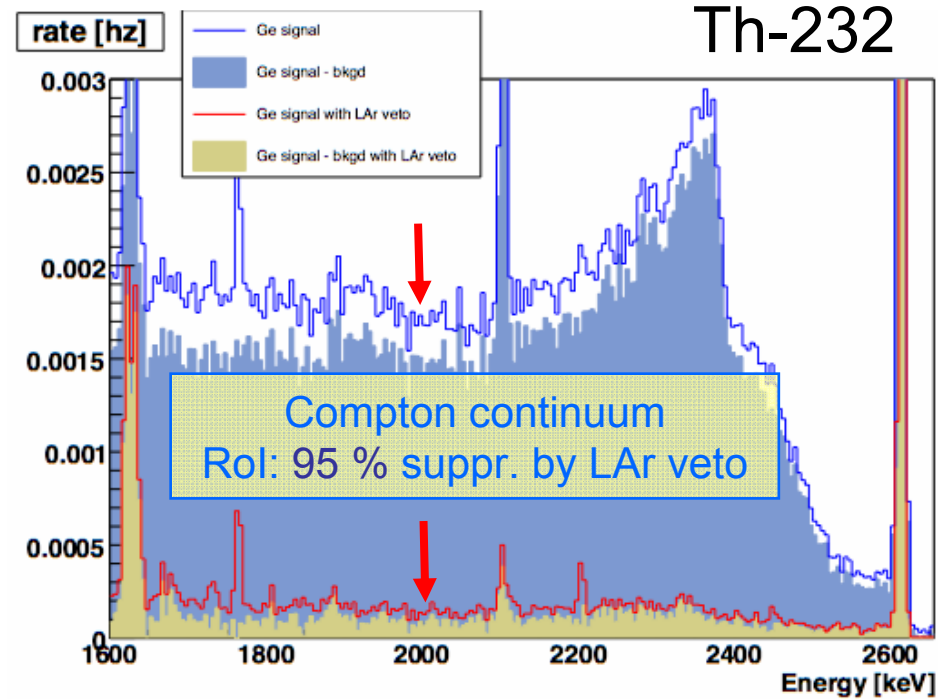


# R&D: LAr anti-coincidence

## LAr anti-coincidence



Simultaneous detection  
of scintillation light



Suppression limited by size of Dewar (20 cm Ø )

# Summary & Outlook

- Search for  $0\nu\beta\beta$  rated at highest priorities
- Convergence of NME calculations – more efforts needed
- At least 3 different experiments (isotopes) required
- KK claim for evidence has many open questions, in particular PSA analysis
- Currently only two running experiments (Cuoricino, Nemo-3)
- New experiments under preparation
- GERDA: probe Majorana nature of neutrino with sensitivity down to inverse mass hierarchy scale
  - phase I** : background 0.01 cts / (kg·keV·y)
    - ▶ scrutinize KKDC result within 1 year
  - phase II** : background 0.001 cts / (kg·keV·y)
    - ▶  $T_{1/2} > 2 \cdot 10^{26}$  y ,  $\langle m_{ee} \rangle < 0.09 - 0.29$  eV
  - phase III** : world wide collaboration
    - ▶  $T_{1/2} > \sim 10^{28}$  y ,  $\langle m_{ee} \rangle \sim 10$  meV
- 2007: Experimental installations (Cryotank, water tank, building etc.)
- End of 2008: target for detector readiness