

# CUPID: bolometric searches for neutrinoless double beta decay

GDR Neutrino 2019

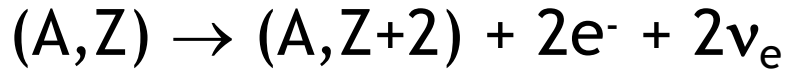
Anastasiia Zolotarova

on behalf of the French CUPID group

# Outline

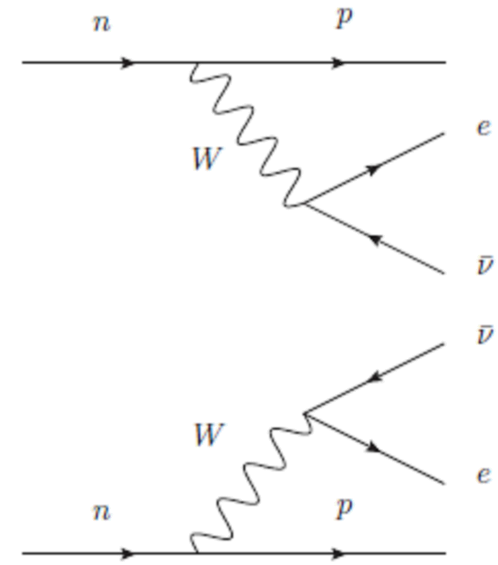
- **Neutrinoless double beta decay**
- **Signal and background**
- **Bolometric approach: from CUORE to CUPID**
- **CUPID-0 experiment**
- **CUPID-Mo experiment**
- **CUPID baseline configuration**
- **CROSS experiment**
- **Summary**

# Double beta decay



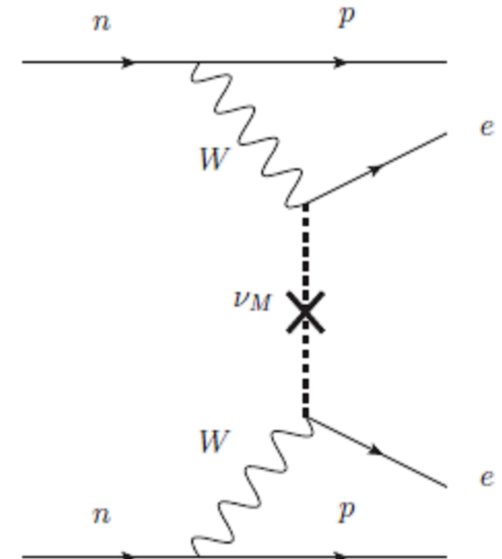
- One of the rarest observed nuclear decays
- Takes place between two even-even isobars
- Energetically allowed in 35 nuclei
- Experimentally observed in 11 isotopes with

$$T_{1/2} (2\nu\beta\beta): \sim 10^{18}-10^{24} \text{ years}$$



- $\Delta L=2$ : total lepton number violation (LNV)
- This process would imply new physics beyond SM
- Never observed, half-life limits:

$$T_{1/2} (0\nu\beta\beta) > 10^{25}-10^{26} \text{ years}$$



# Physics of $0\nu 2\beta$

- If observed, neutrino is Majorana particle

$$\nu \equiv \bar{\nu}$$

- See-saw mechanism explains naturally small neutrino masses
- Lepton number violation gives clues on leptogenesis (matter and antimatter asymmetry)
- Absolute neutrino mass scale determination and information on mass hierarchy

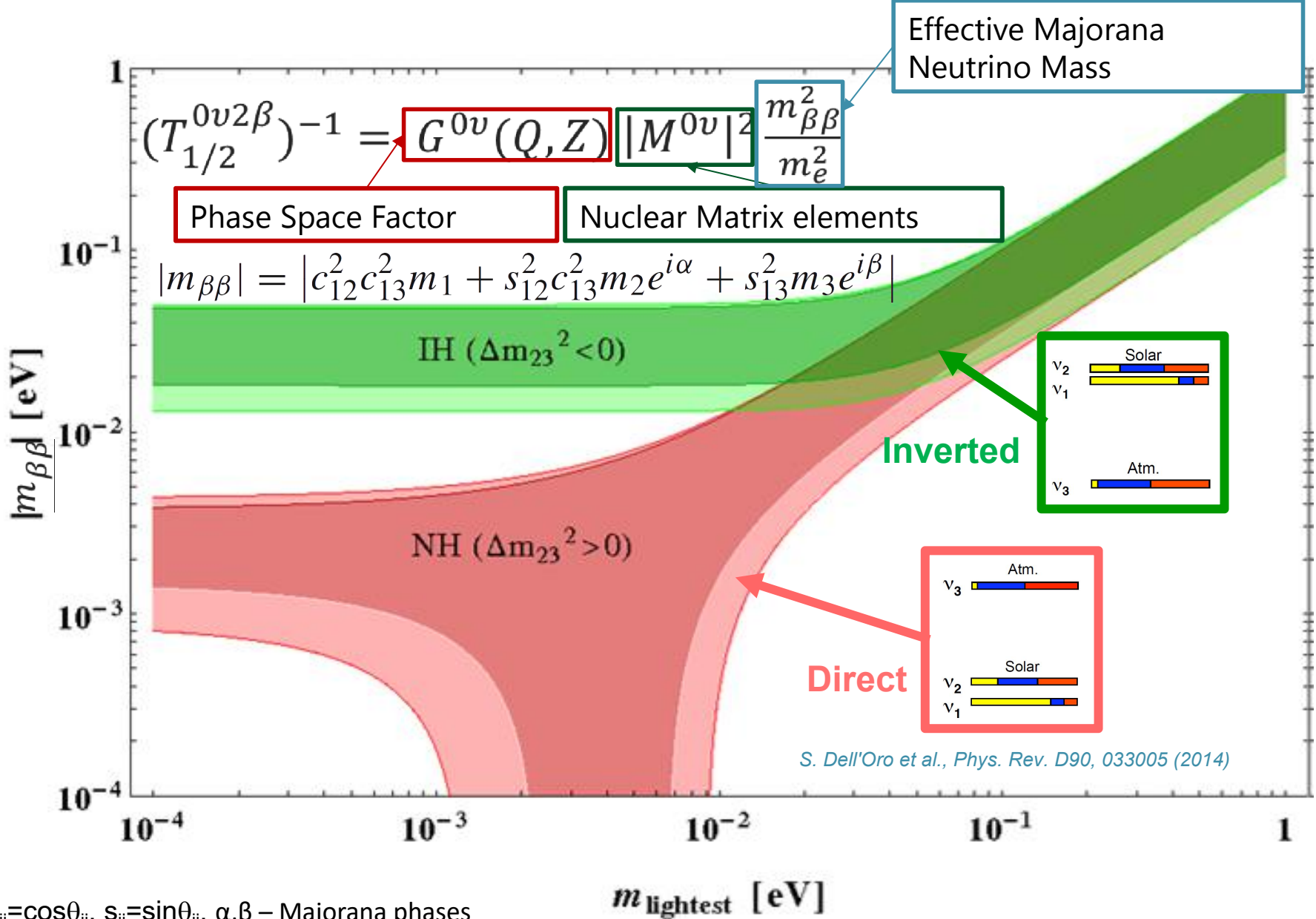
$0\nu 2\beta$  mechanisms

Standard: require minimal extension of SM,  $0\nu 2\beta$  is mediated by light massive Majorana neutrinos

Non-standard: non necessarily neutrino physics

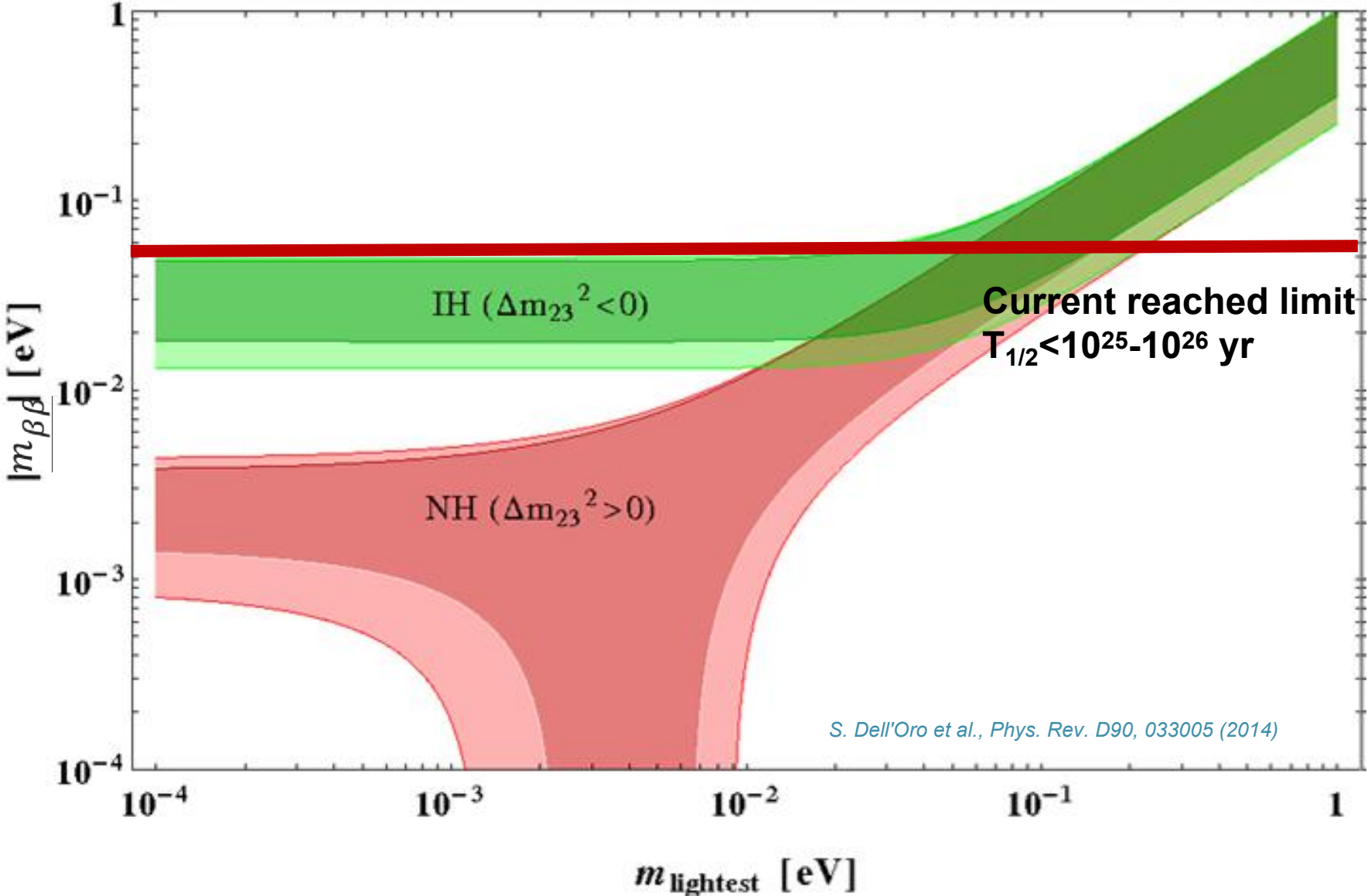


# Neutrino mass hierarchy

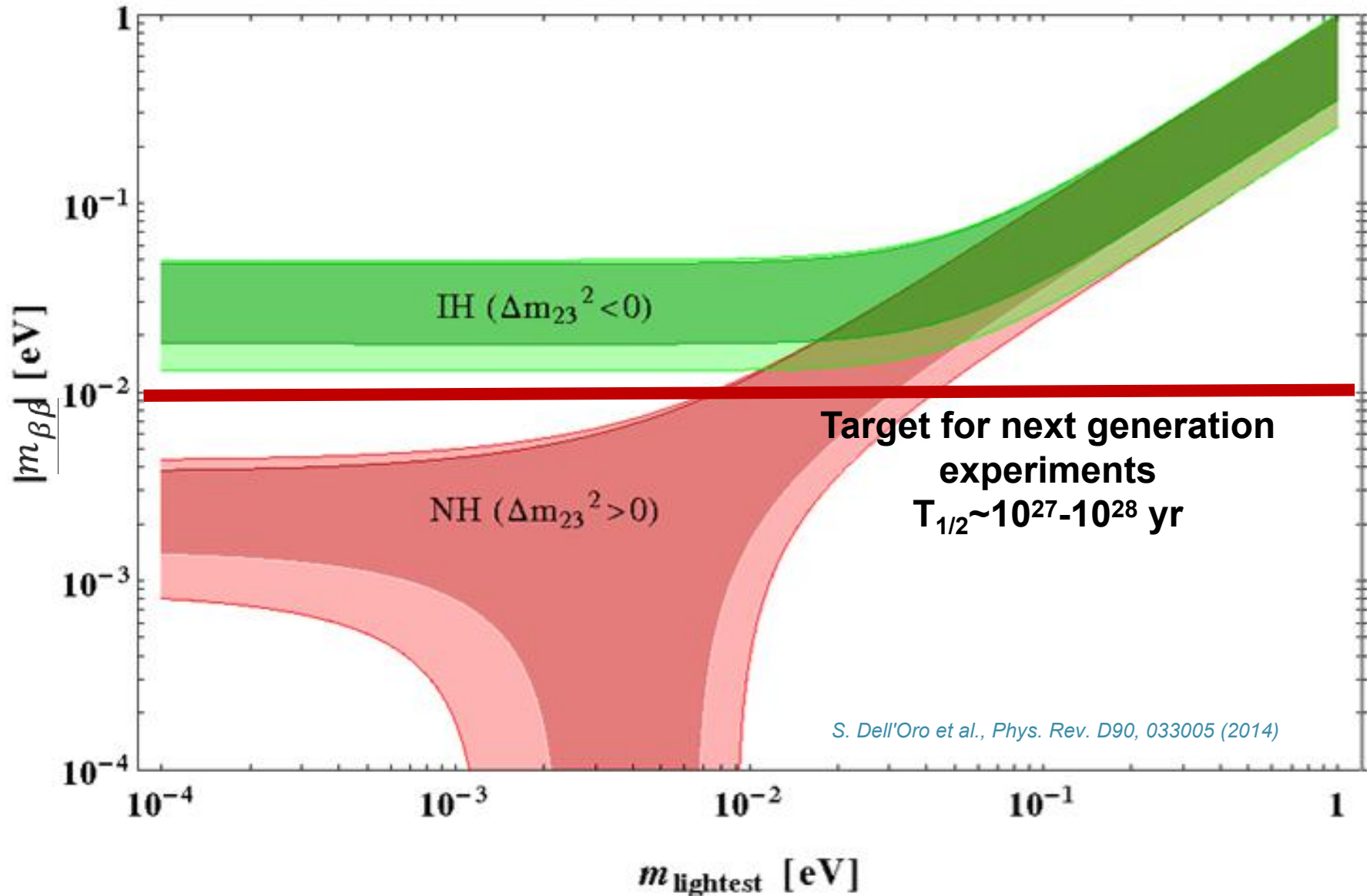


$c_{ij} = \cos\theta_{ij}$ ,  $s_{ij} = \sin\theta_{ij}$ ,  $\alpha, \beta$  – Majorana phases

# Neutrino mass hierarchy



# Neutrino mass hierarchy

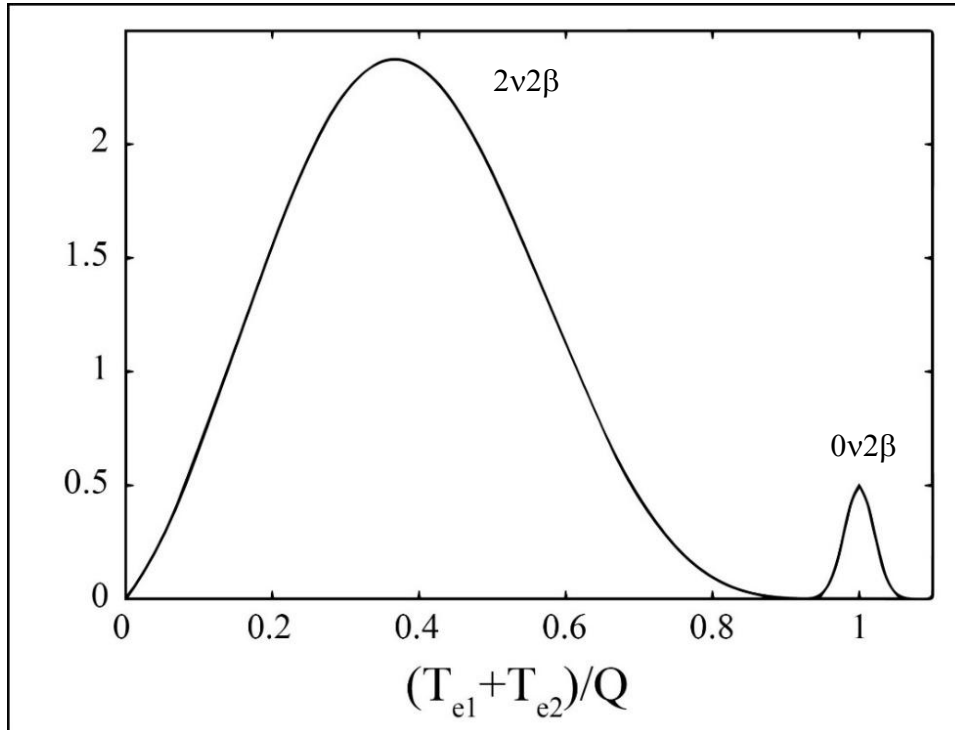


# Outline

- Neutrinoless double beta decay and sensitivity
- **Signal and background**
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# Experimental signature

- The shape of the two-electron sum-energy spectrum enables possibility to distinguish between the  $0\nu$  (new physics) and the  $2\nu$  decay modes



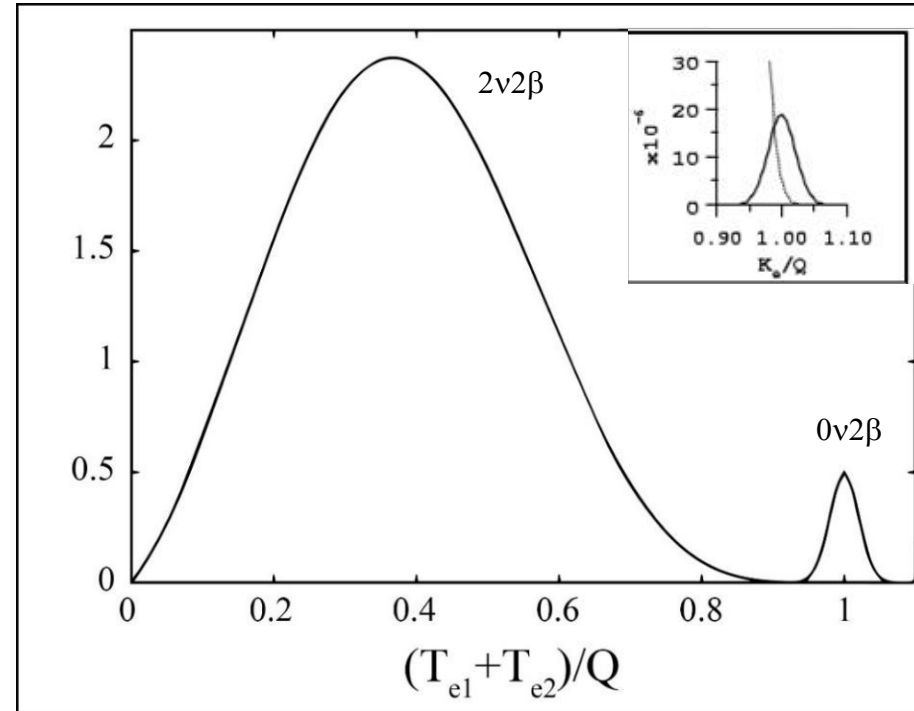
$Q_{\beta\beta} \sim 2-3$  MeV for the most promising candidates

$2\nu 2\beta$ : continuum with maximum at  $\sim 1/3 Q_{\beta\beta}$

$0\nu 2\beta$ : peak enlarged only by the detector energy resolution

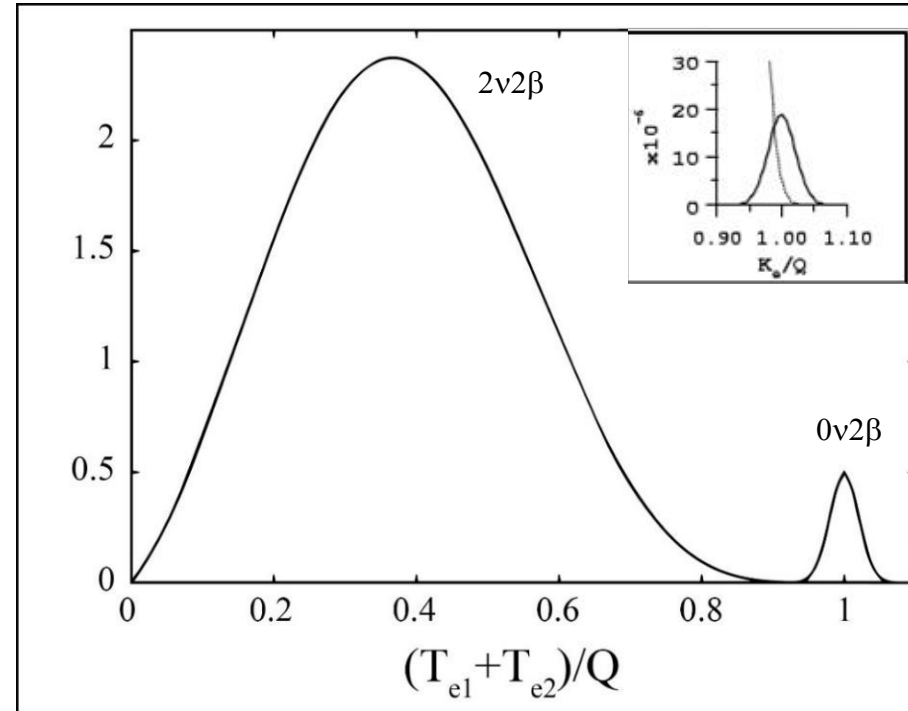
# Signal and background

- **Background sources:**
  - Natural radioactivity of materials: detectors themselves, surrounding structures, radon
  - Cosmogenic induced activity
  - Neutrons
  - $2\nu 2\beta$  decay
- **How to reduce:**
  - underground conditions
  - massive passive / active shields
  - high radiopurity of detectors



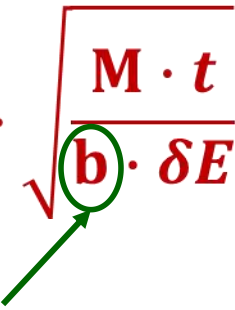
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Background index:  $b \leq 10^{-4}$  counts/(keV kg yr) is mandatory to cover completely inverted hierarchy with a **high energy resolution (<10 keV FWHM)** experiment as CUPID - even lower background levels are required for experiments with lower energy resolution.

# Background index

$$T_{1/2}^{0\nu 2\beta} \propto \mathbf{a} \cdot \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{\mathbf{M} \cdot t}{\mathbf{b} \cdot \Delta E}}$$


What if there is no background?

**Background index** can be so small that background is actually zero with high C.L. for a given exposure real experiment

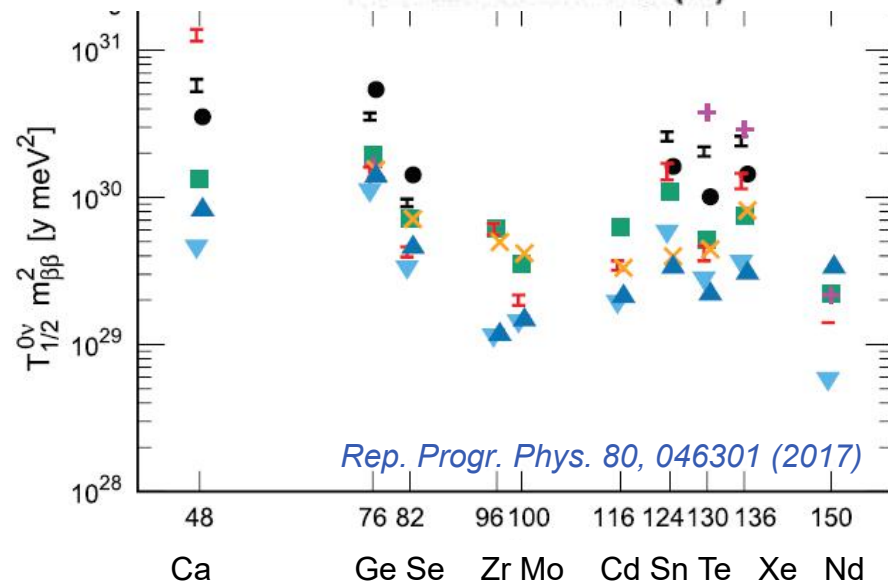
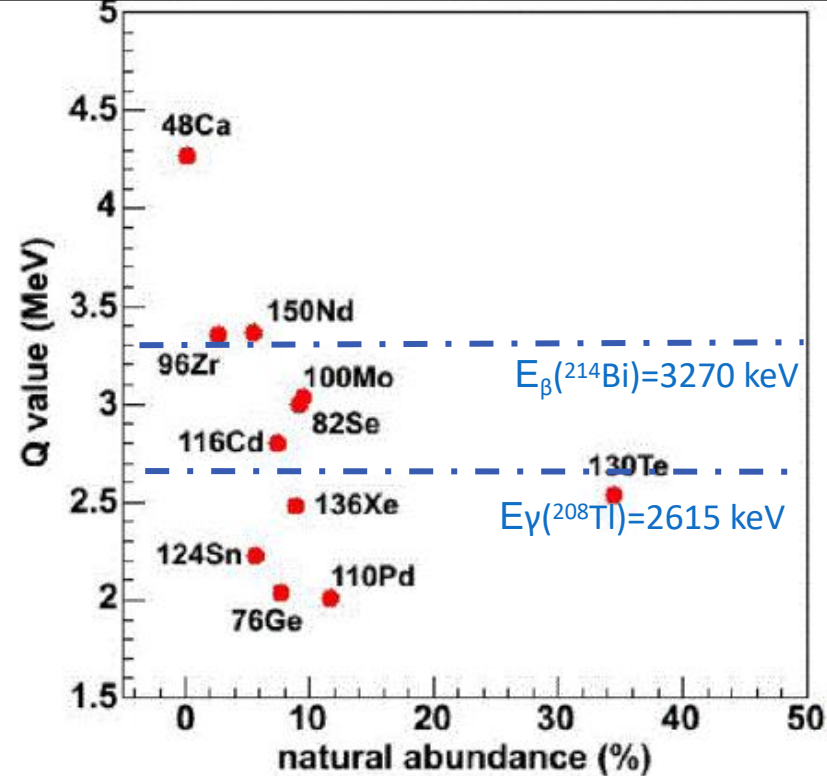
In case of  $\mathbf{b} \cdot \Delta E \cdot \mathbf{M} \cdot t \ll 1$ :

$$T_{1/2}^{0\nu 2\beta} \propto \mathbf{a} \cdot \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \cdot \mathbf{M} \cdot t$$



# Isotopes selection

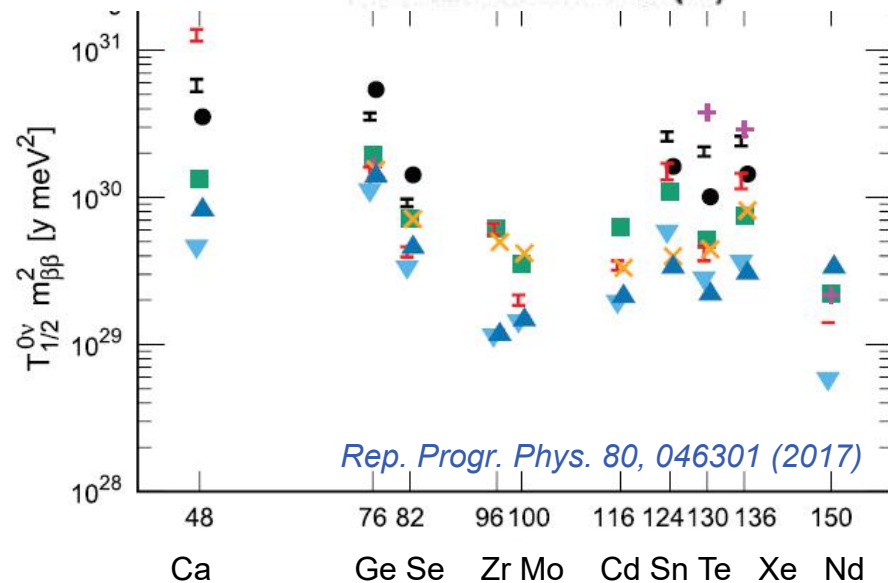
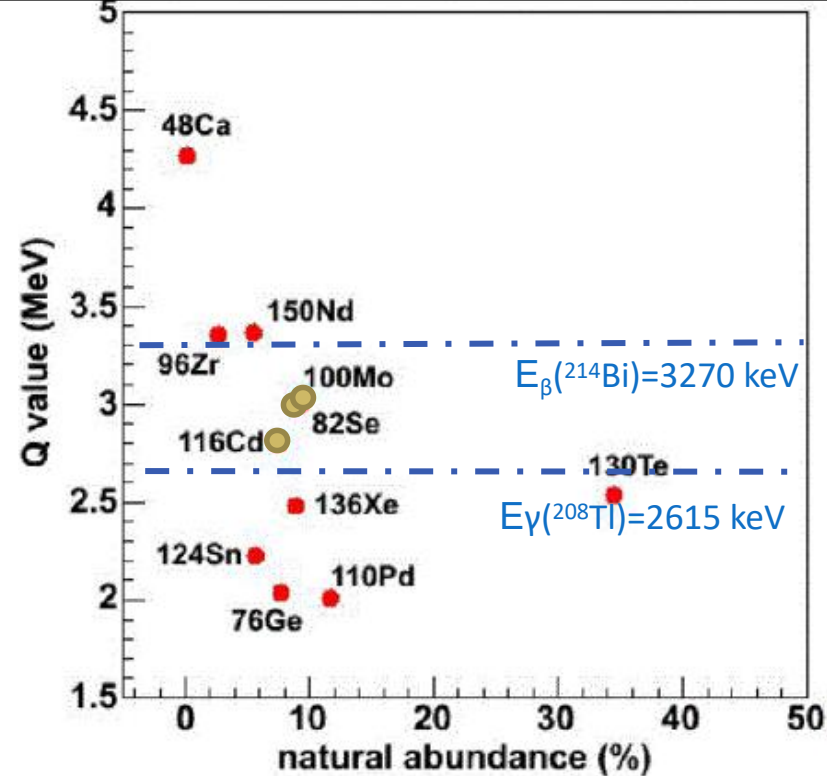
- Energetically allowed only for 35 nuclei
- Q-value is the crucial factor:
  - Phase space factor:  $G(Q,Z) \sim Q^5$
  - Natural background level
- Natural abundance and enrichment possibility are essential
- Theoretical predictions on half-life are important



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“Golden isotopes”:  
 $^{100}\text{Mo}$ ,  $^{82}\text{Se}$ ,  $^{116}\text{Cd}$

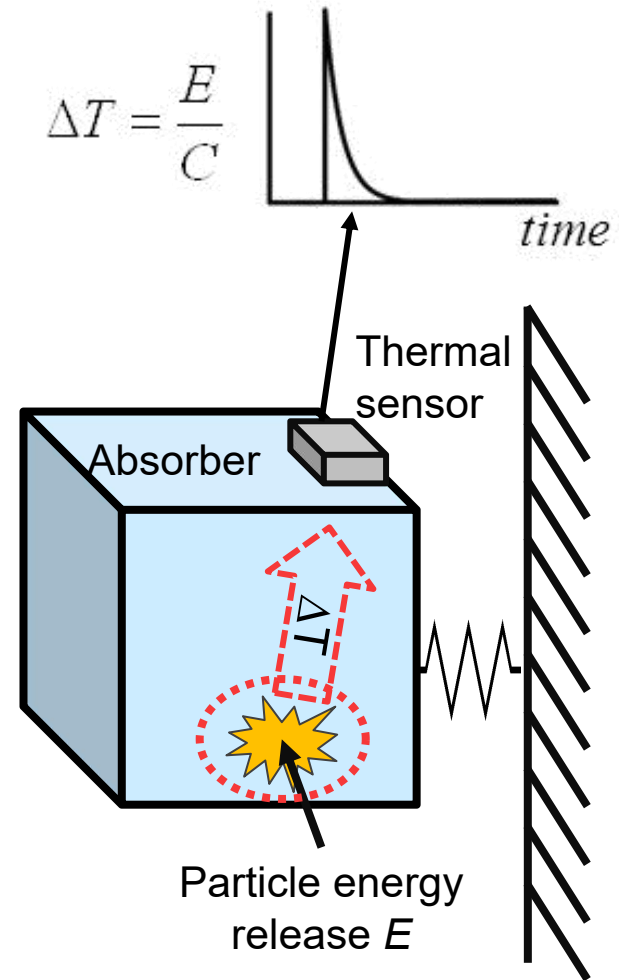


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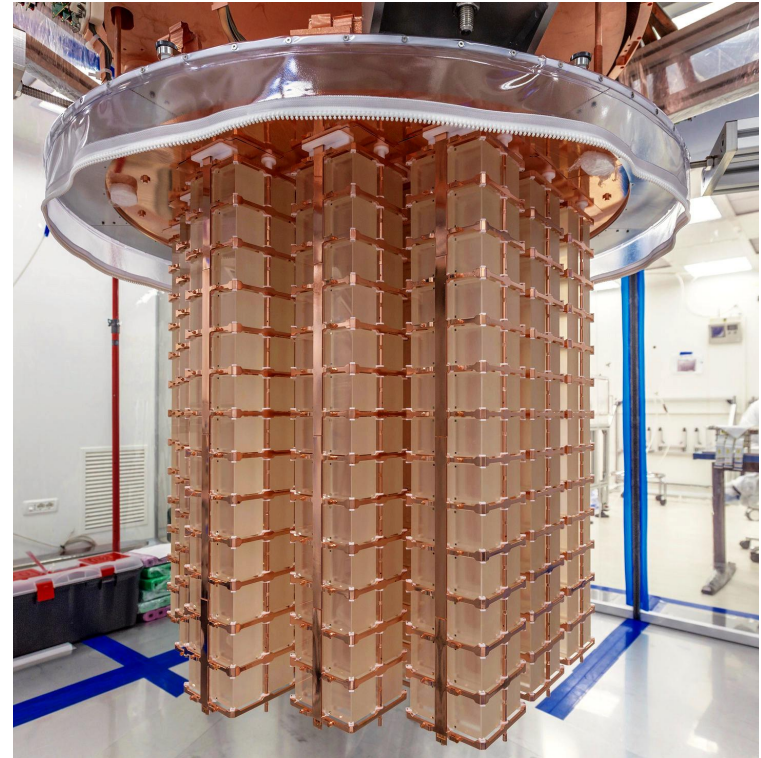
# Bolometers in a nutshell

- **Isotope of interest is embedded** in a crystal → High detection efficiency
- **0.1-1 kg** typical crystal mass: scalability to large masses is possible through arrays
- The deposited **energy is measured as a temperature increase** in a crystal; detectors are operated at  $\sim 10$  mK
- High energy resolution: **5-10 keV ( $\sim 0.2\%$ ) FWHM** in the ROI



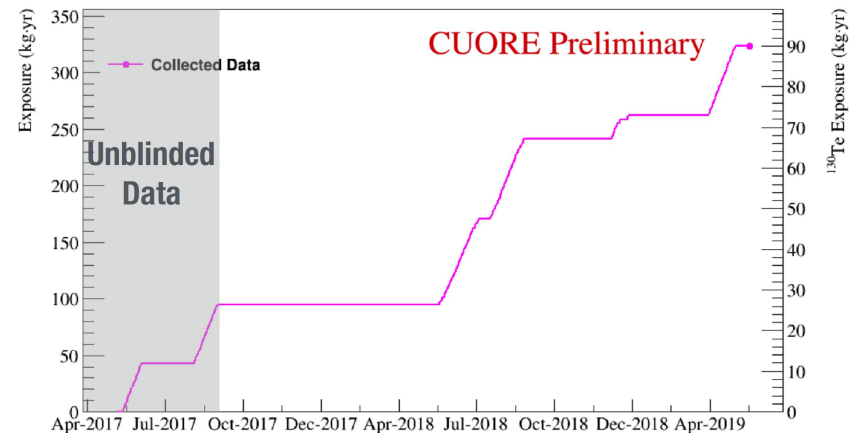
# CUORE: the largest bolometric experiment

- **CUORE**: the Cryogenic Underground Observatory for Rare Events
- **First ton scale** array of cryogenic calorimeters: **988  $\text{TeO}_2$  crystals** (0.75 kg each)
- CUORE cryogenic facility is an unprecedented technological challenge, which is now **taking data in steady and reliable conditions** (after 1 yr of optimization)



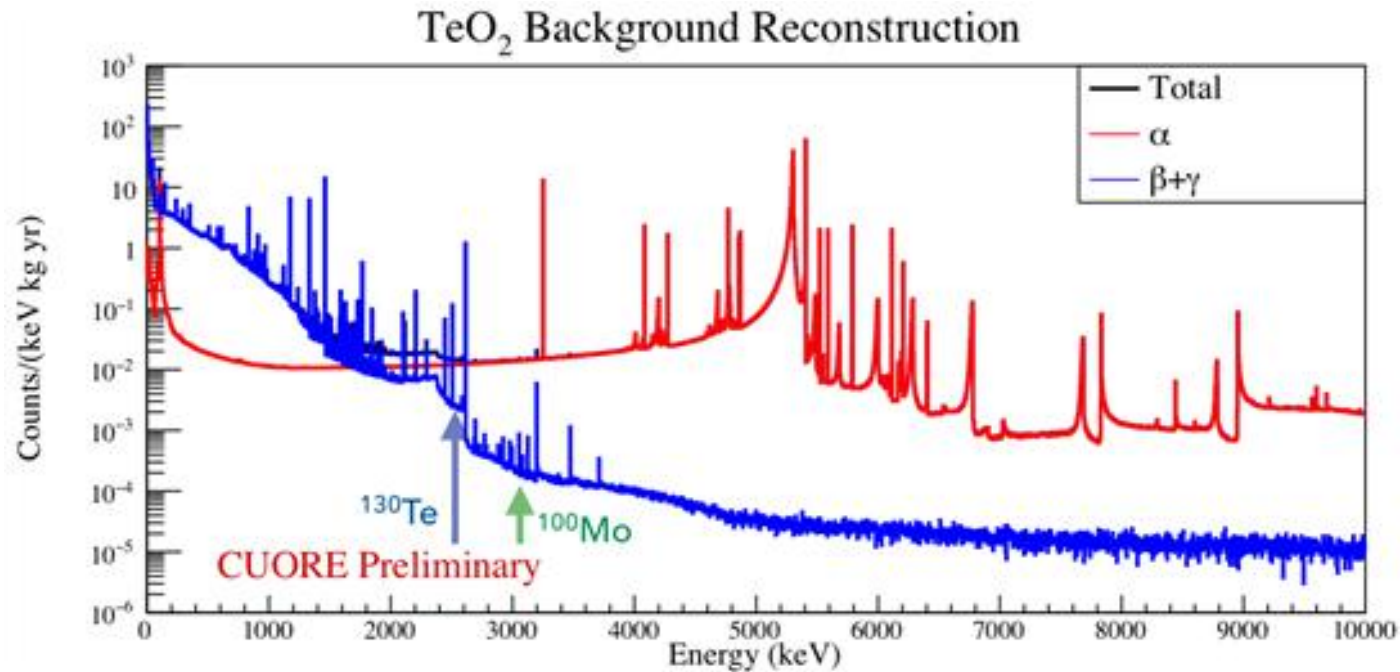
- Limit on half-life of  $^{130}\text{Te}$ :  
 $T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 1.5 \times 10^{25}$  yr (90% C.I.)
- Limit on effective mass:  
 $m_{\beta\beta} < (110 - 520)$  meV (90% C.I.)

Preliminary



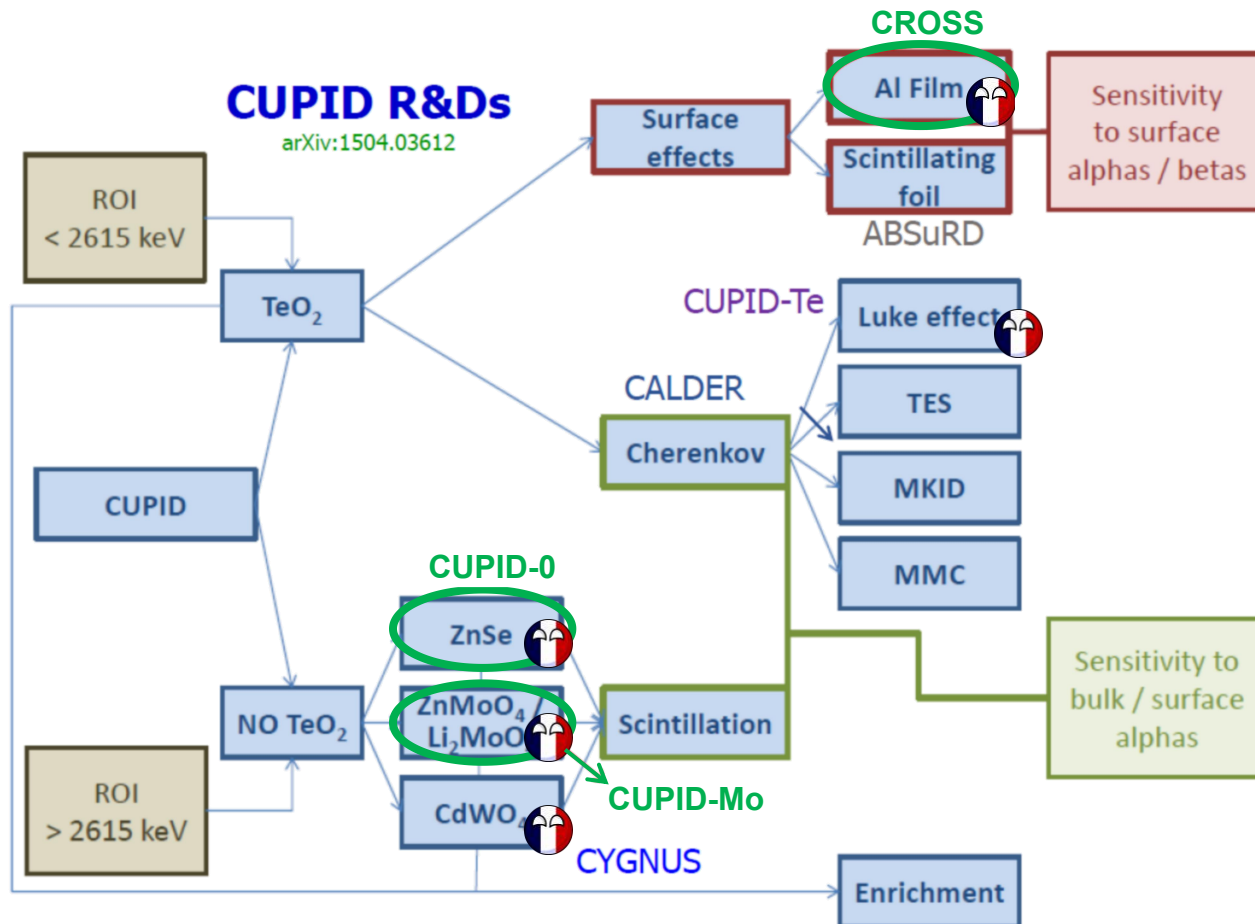
# CUORE lessons

- 90% of background at  $^{130}\text{Te}$   $Q_{\beta\beta}$  induced by degraded  $\alpha$  from surrounding surfaces
- Need to discriminate between  $\alpha$  and  $\beta/\gamma$  or between surface and bulk
- $\beta/\gamma$  background “naturally” lower above the  $^{208}\text{Tl}$  line at 2615 keV
- **If an isotope with  $Q_{\beta\beta} > 2615$  keV is used, a background  $\sim 10^{-4}$  counts/(keV kg yr) is achievable with the CUORE infrastructure**



# From CUORE to CUPID: R&Ds

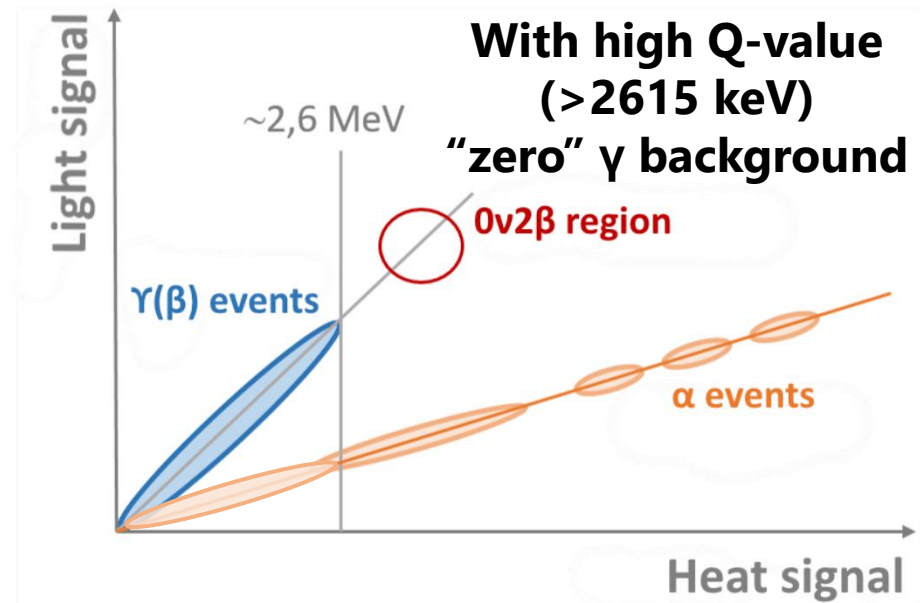
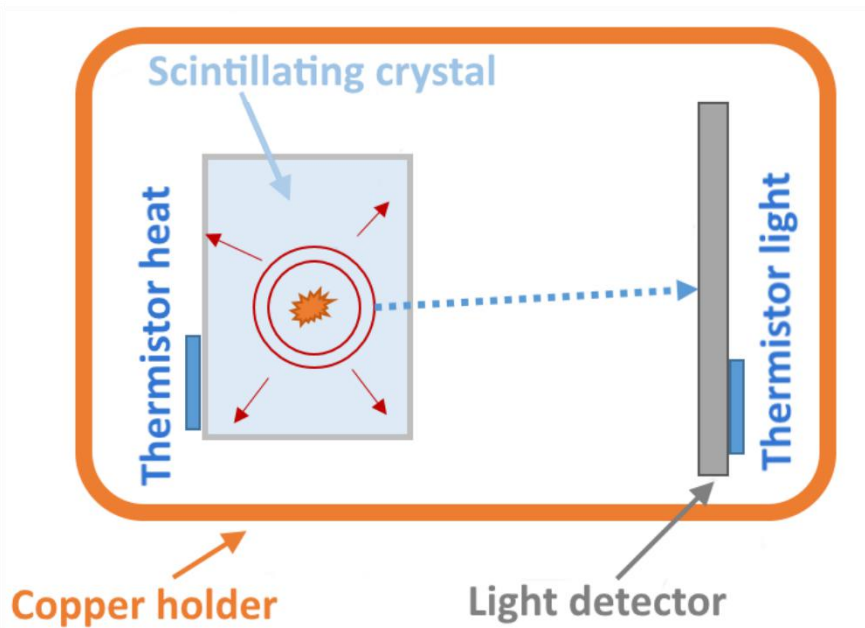
- **CUPID (CUORE Upgrade with Particle Identification):**  
Follow-up using CUORE facility with background improved by a factor 100:  $\sim 10^{-4}$  counts/(keV kg yr)





# Particle ID: scintillation light

- Particle identification is a powerful tool for background rejection
- Flash of light is produced by the absorption of a particle
- Different particles produce different amount of light
- Full discrimination of  $\alpha$  particles from ROI



**With use of scintillation light for  $\alpha/\gamma$  discrimination: "zero"  $\alpha$  background**

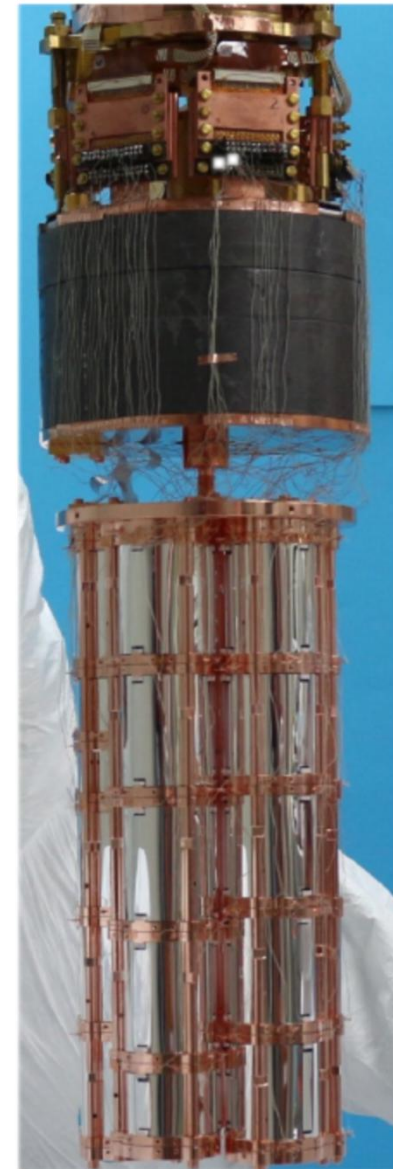
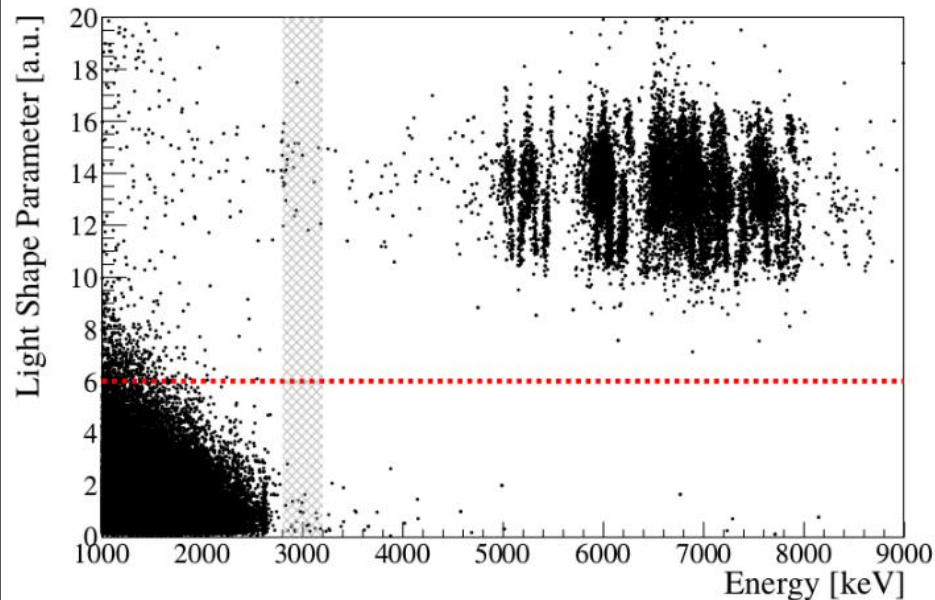


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# CUPID-0 experiment

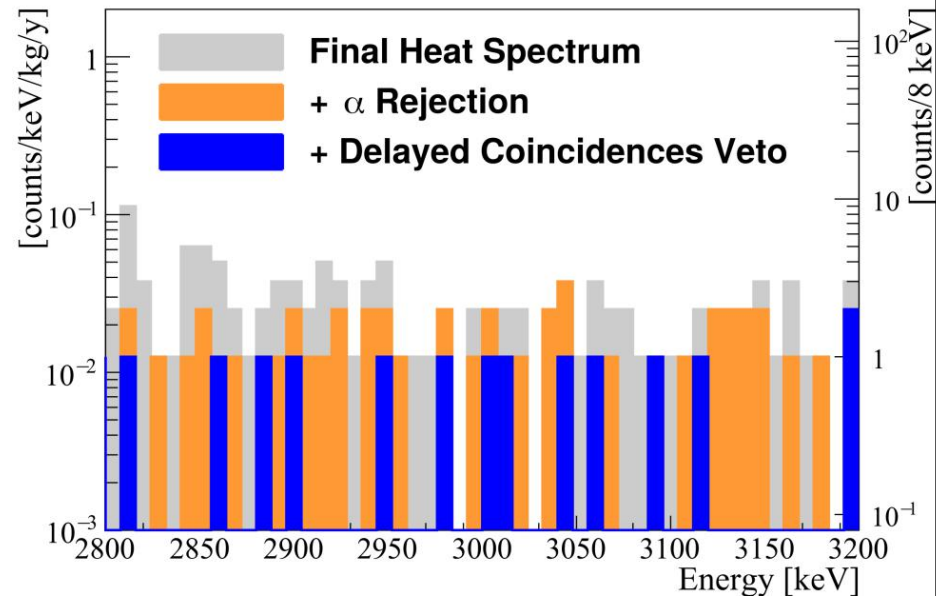
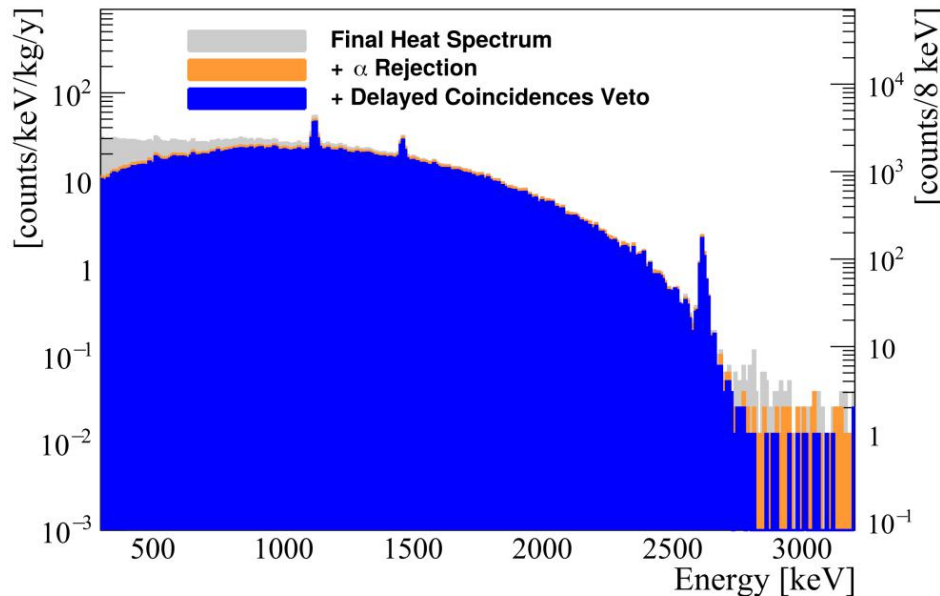
- 24 95%-enriched  $\text{Zn}^{82}\text{Se}$  crystals + 2 natural ones
- 31 Ge light detectors (Provided by CSNSM-CEA)
- Hosted in the CUORE-0 cryostat (LNGS, Italy)
- Total Mass: 10.5 kg (ZnSe) - **5.17 kg ( $^{82}\text{Se}$ )**
- Total signal detection efficiency:  **$(75 \pm 2)\%$**
- $Q_{\beta\beta} = (2997.9 \pm 0.3) \text{ keV}$



# CUPID-0 experiment: results

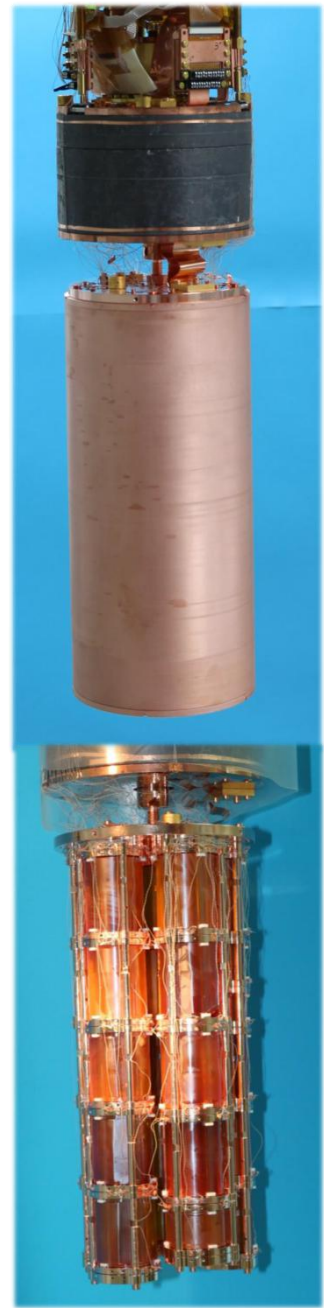
- Final Exposure (Phase I): 9.95 kg × yr (22 Zn<sup>82</sup>Se)
- <sup>82</sup>Se atoms:  $(3.41 \pm 0.03) \times 10^{25}$
- Resolution at  $Q_{\beta\beta}$ :  $(20.05 \pm 0.34)$  keV
- Background:  $3.5 \times 10^{-3}$  counts/(keV kg yr)
- $T_{1/2}$  ( $0\nu 2\beta$  <sup>82</sup>Se)  $> 3.5 \times 10^{24}$  yr (90% C.I. Limit)
- $m_{\beta\beta} < (311 - 638)$  eV

7 articles published in  
2018-2019!  
And more to be  
produced...



# CUPID-0 lessons

- First demonstrator with enriched scintillating bolometers technique in the CUPID framework
- Excellent  $\alpha$  rejection
- Long measurement with good stability and large statistics
- Best limit on  $0\nu 2\beta$  and best measurement of  $2\nu 2\beta$  of  $^{82}\text{Se}$
- Measurements are ongoing with upgraded detector
- ZnSe is interesting material for  $0\nu 2\beta$  searches, but not the best option for full CUPID experiment: complicated crystal growth, high internal contamination, good but not excellent energy resolution ( $\sim 20$  keV FWHM)

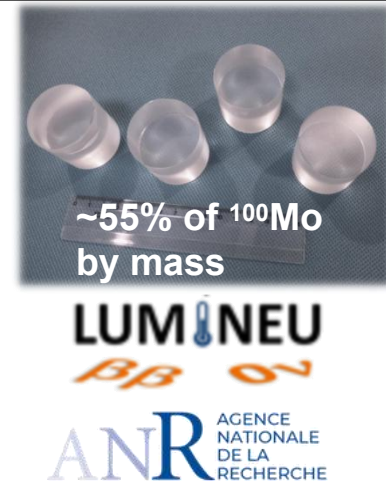


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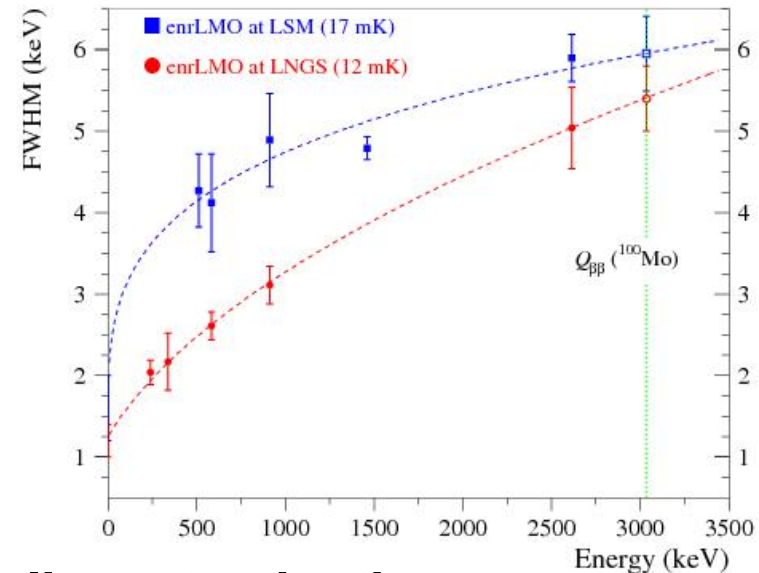
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# CUPID-Mo project

$\text{Li}_2^{100}\text{MoO}_4$  scintillating bolometers technology was developed by LUMINEU project with promising results:



- High optical quality and scintillation properties
- High energy resolution: 5-6 keV in ROI
- Discrimination power of  $\alpha/\beta(\gamma) > 99.9\%$
- Excellent internal radiopurity:  $< 6 \mu\text{Bq/kg}$  in  $^{232}\text{Th}$ ,  $^{238}\text{U}$ ;  $< 5 \text{mBq/kg}$  in  $^{40}\text{K}$



**Contribution from the crystal bulk contamination less than  $10^{-4}$  counts/(keV kg yr)!**



The European Physical Journal C  
November 2017, 77:785 | [Cite as](#)

Development of  $^{100}\text{Mo}$ -containing scintillating bolometers for a high-sensitivity neutrinoless double-beta decay search

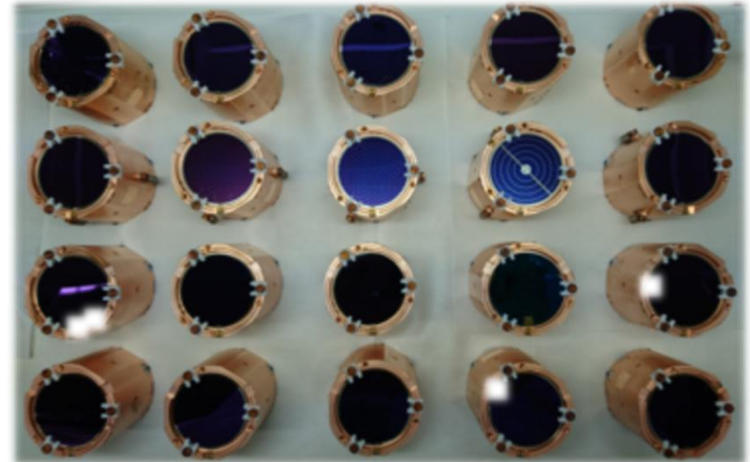
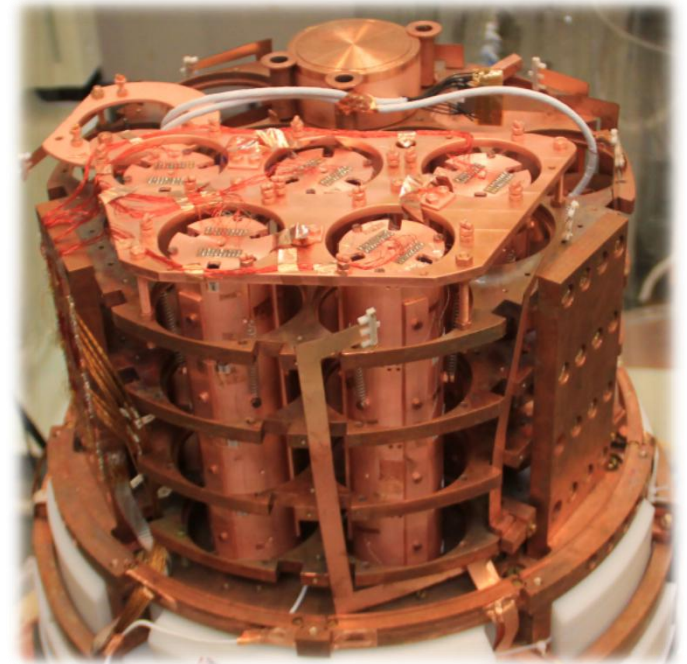


# CUPID-Mo experiment

- 20  $\text{Li}_2^{100}\text{MoO}_4$  (2.34 kg of  $^{100}\text{Mo}$ )
- 20 Ge light detectors
- EDELWEISS set-up (LSM, France)
- Commissioned in winter 2019
- Data taking is ongoing

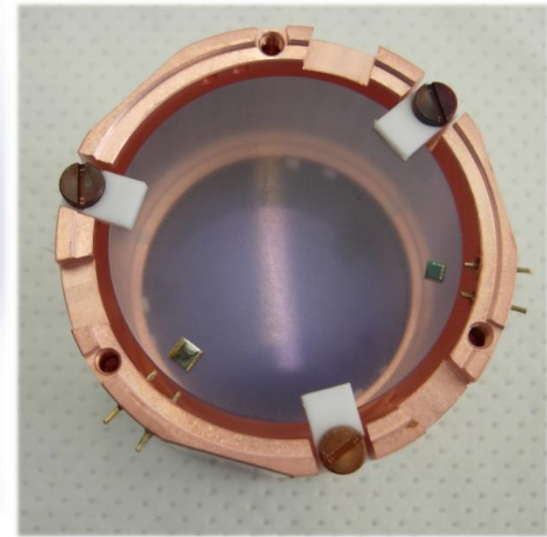
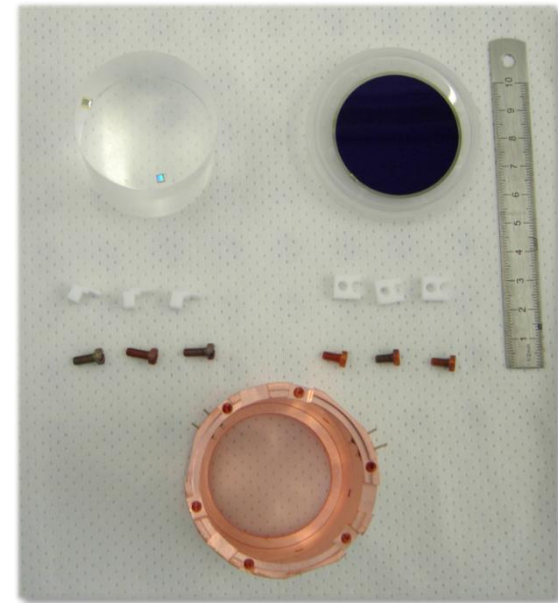
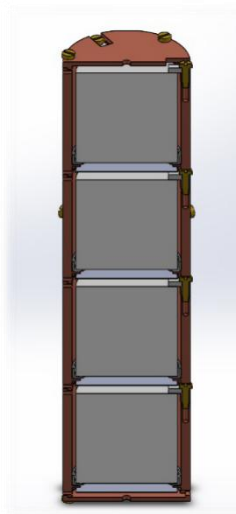
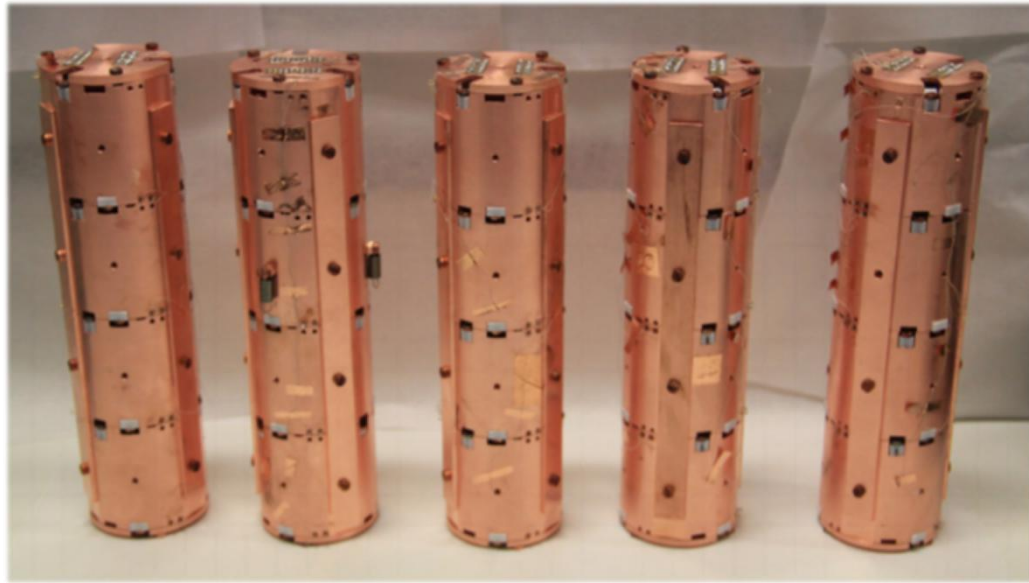


<http://cupid-mo.mit.edu>



# CUPID-Mo detectors

- Absorber:  $\text{Li}_2^{100}\text{MoO}_4$  -  $\text{Ø}$  43.8×45 mm, ~210 g mass
- Light detector: Ge wafer  $\text{Ø}$  44.5 mm x 170  $\mu\text{m}$  with  $\text{SiO}$  coating on both sides
- NOSV copper holders
- PTFE for thermal and mechanical coupling
- 4 modules in each tower, 5 towers

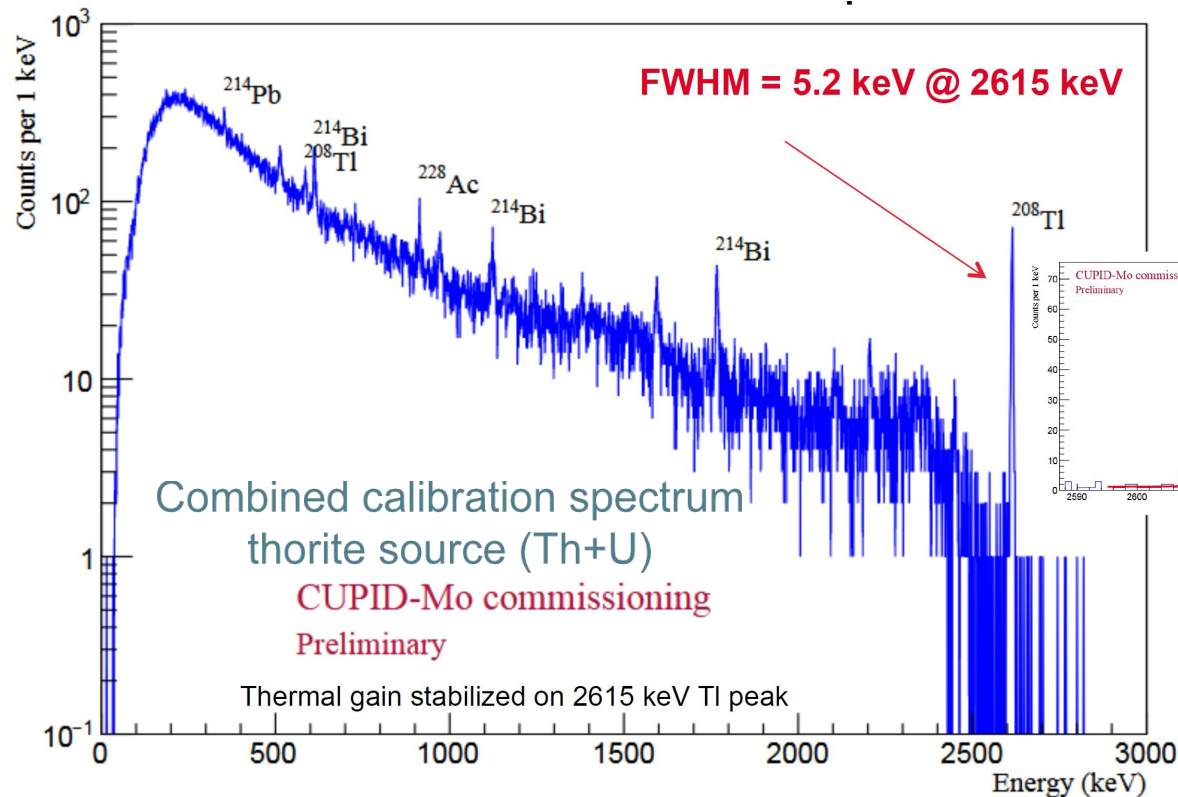




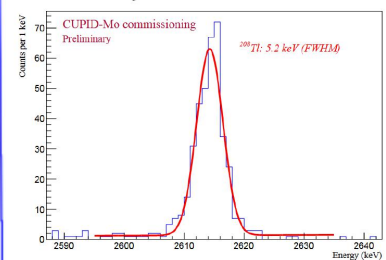
# CUPID-Mo: performance

Preliminary

- High energy resolution (0.2 % FWHM)
- Stable data taking @20.7 mK since April 2019 (after some cryogenic issues)
- Analyzed ~32 days of background (~126 kg×day of  $\text{Li}_2^{100}\text{MoO}_4$ )
- Total live time ~ 93 days (62 days of bkg + various calibrations)

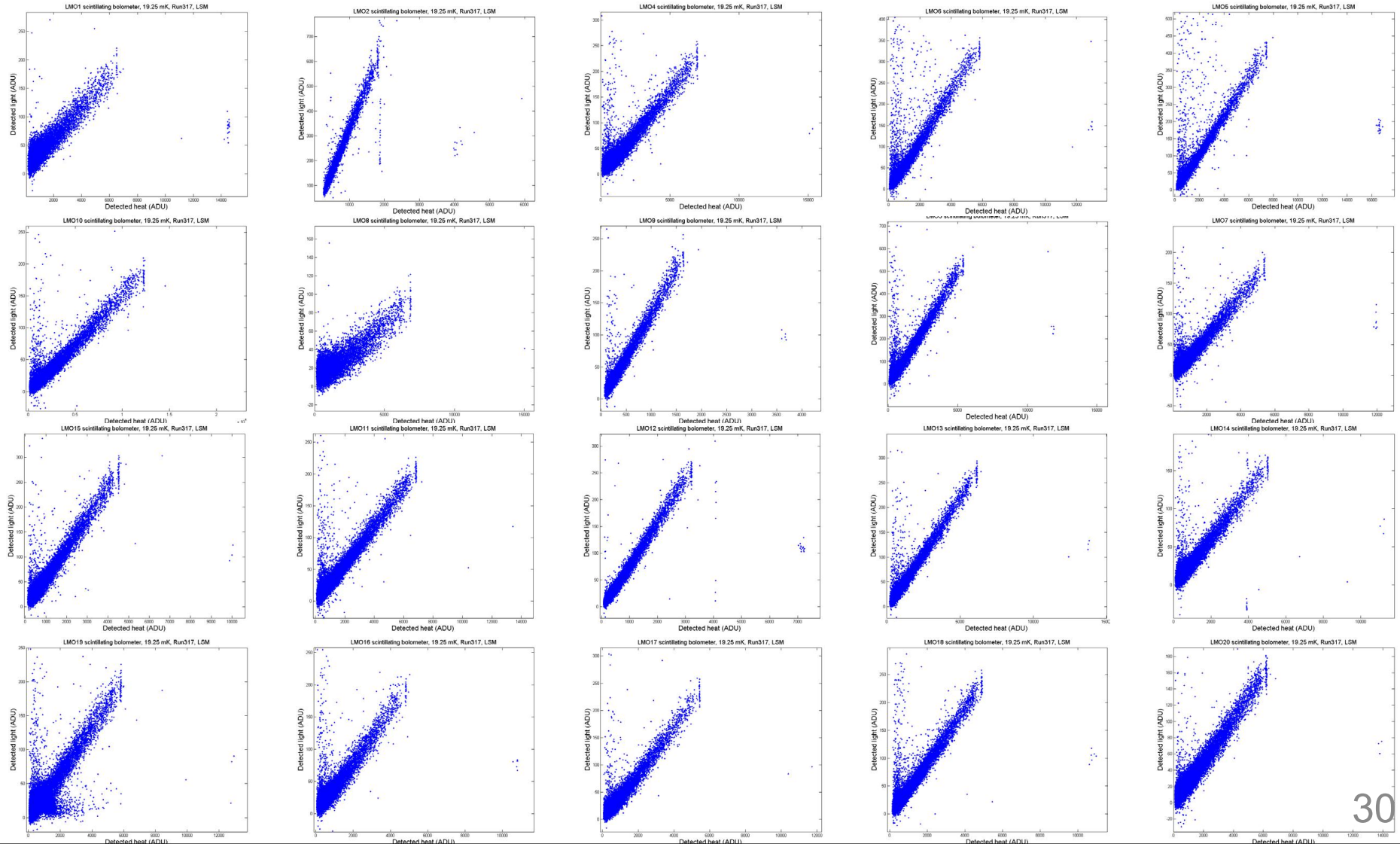


CUPID-Mo paper  
is in preparation!



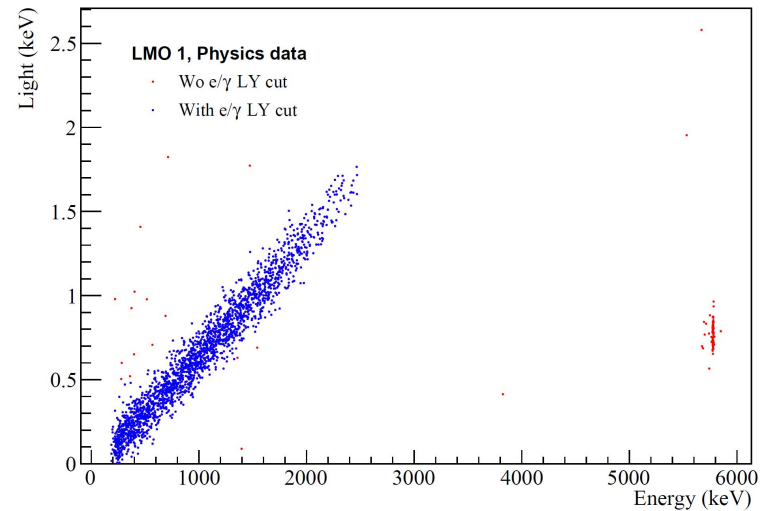
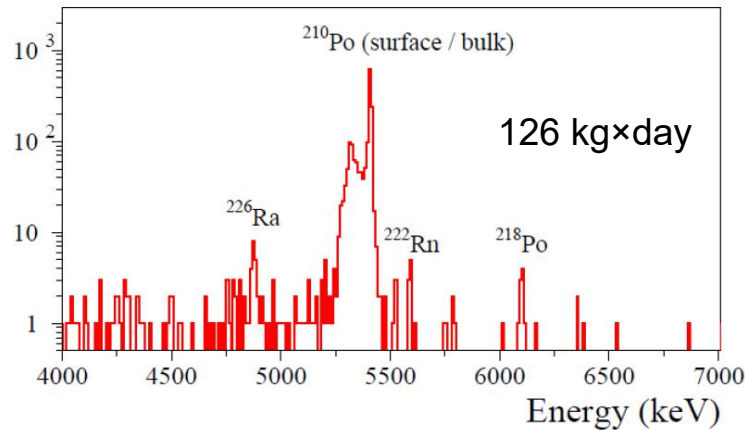
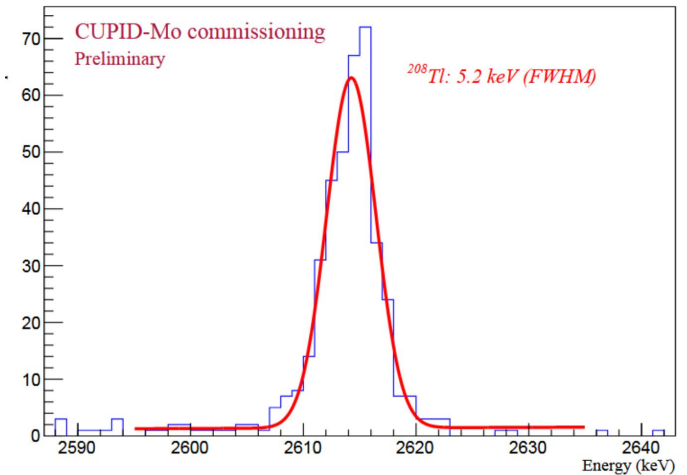
# CUPID-Mo: performance

- Full  $\alpha/\gamma$  discrimination with scintillation light for all channels



# Goals for CUPID-Mo

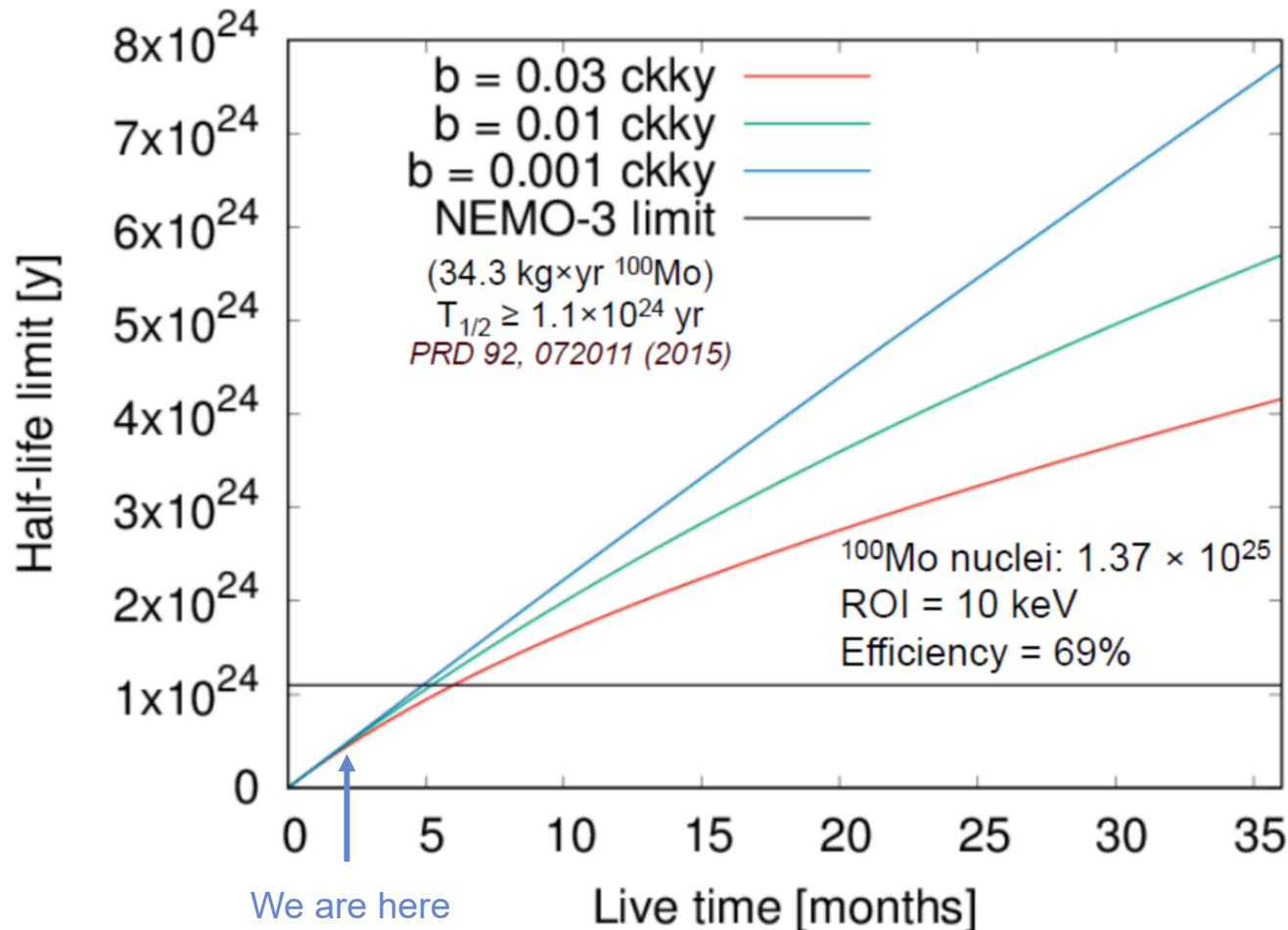
- ☑ High energy resolution:  $\sim 5$  keV FWHM
- ☑ Full  $\alpha/\beta(\gamma)$  discrimination: DP  $\sim 14\sigma$
- ☑ High internal radiopurity:  $< 2$  uBq/kg (Th/U),  $\sim 100$  uBq/kg  $^{210}\text{Po}$



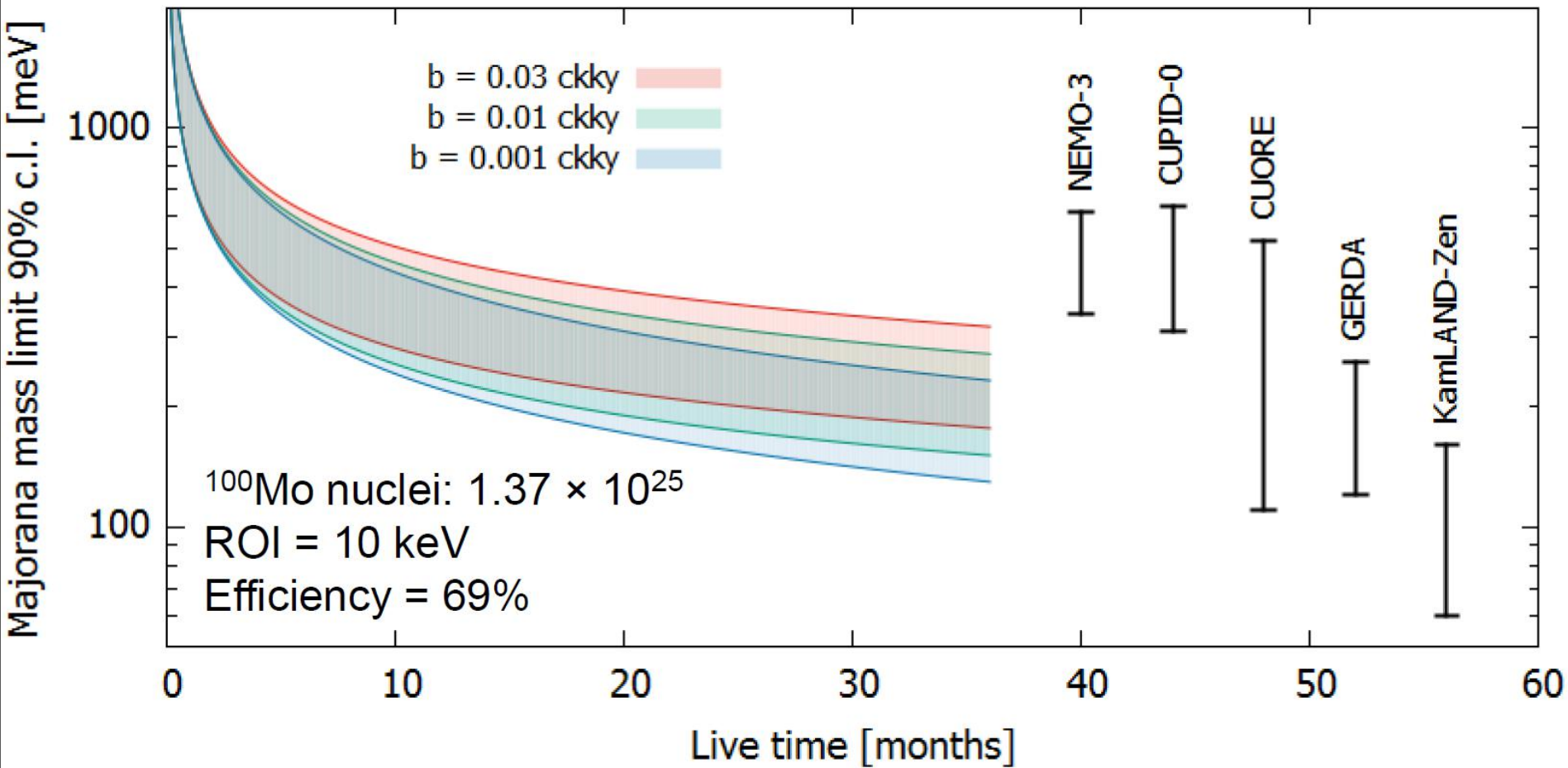
All CUPID-Mo goals are achieved  
with the demonstrator: mature  
technology for ton-scale experiment!

# CUPID-Mo sensitivity

- In less than one year of measurements CUPID-Mo can establish new limit on  $0\nu 2\beta$  decay half-life of  $^{100}\text{Mo}$



# CUPID-Mo sensitivity



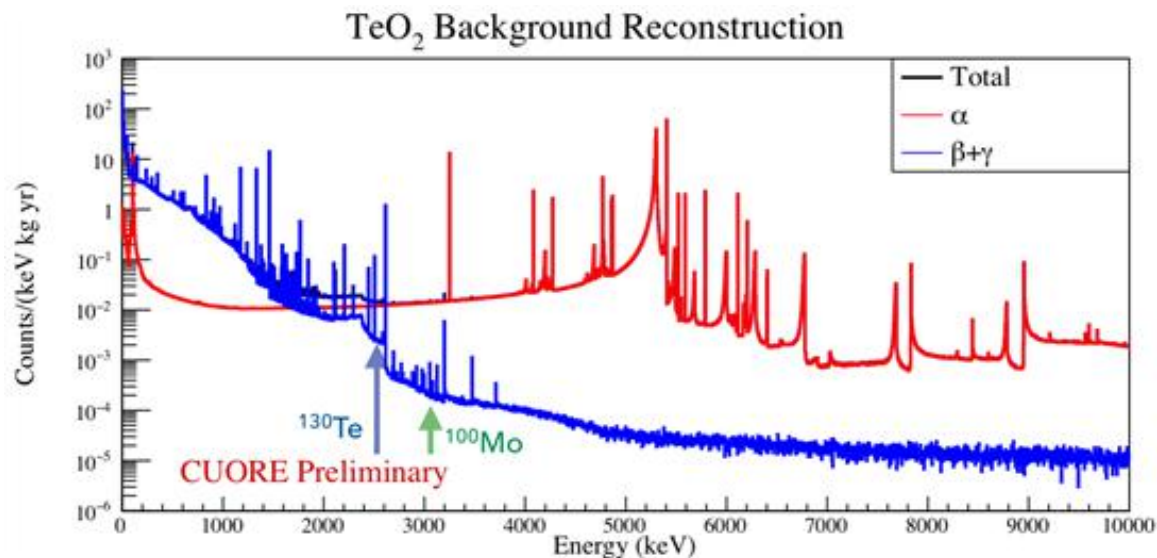
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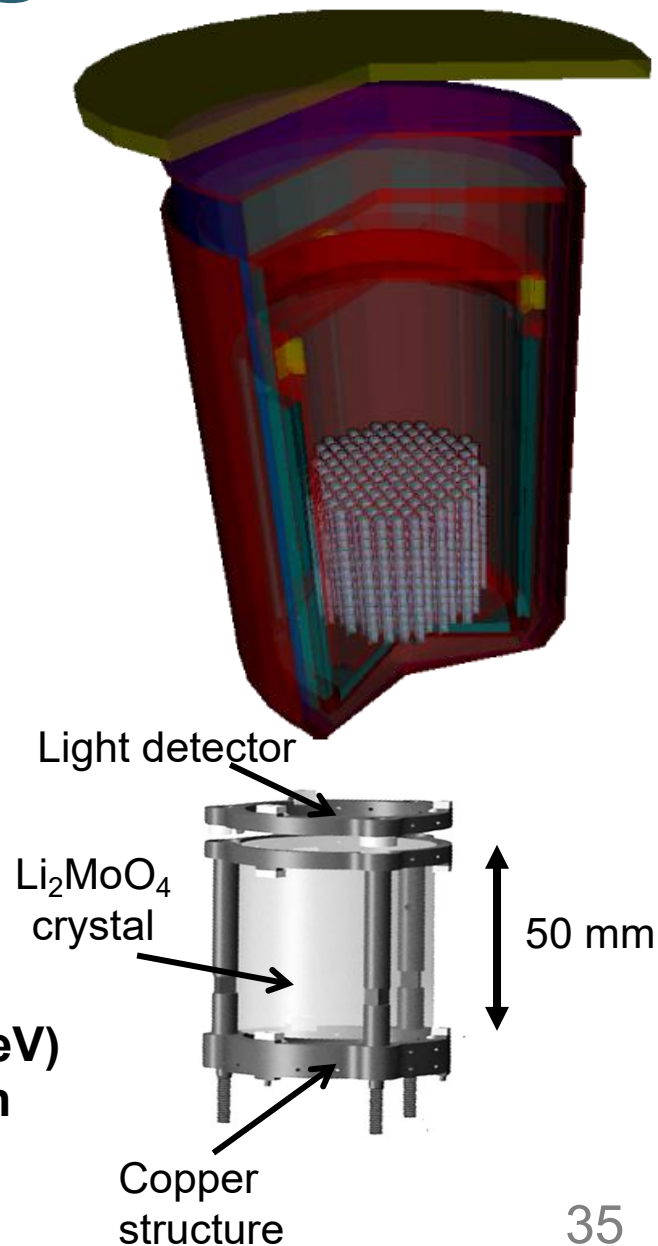


# CUPID baseline configuration

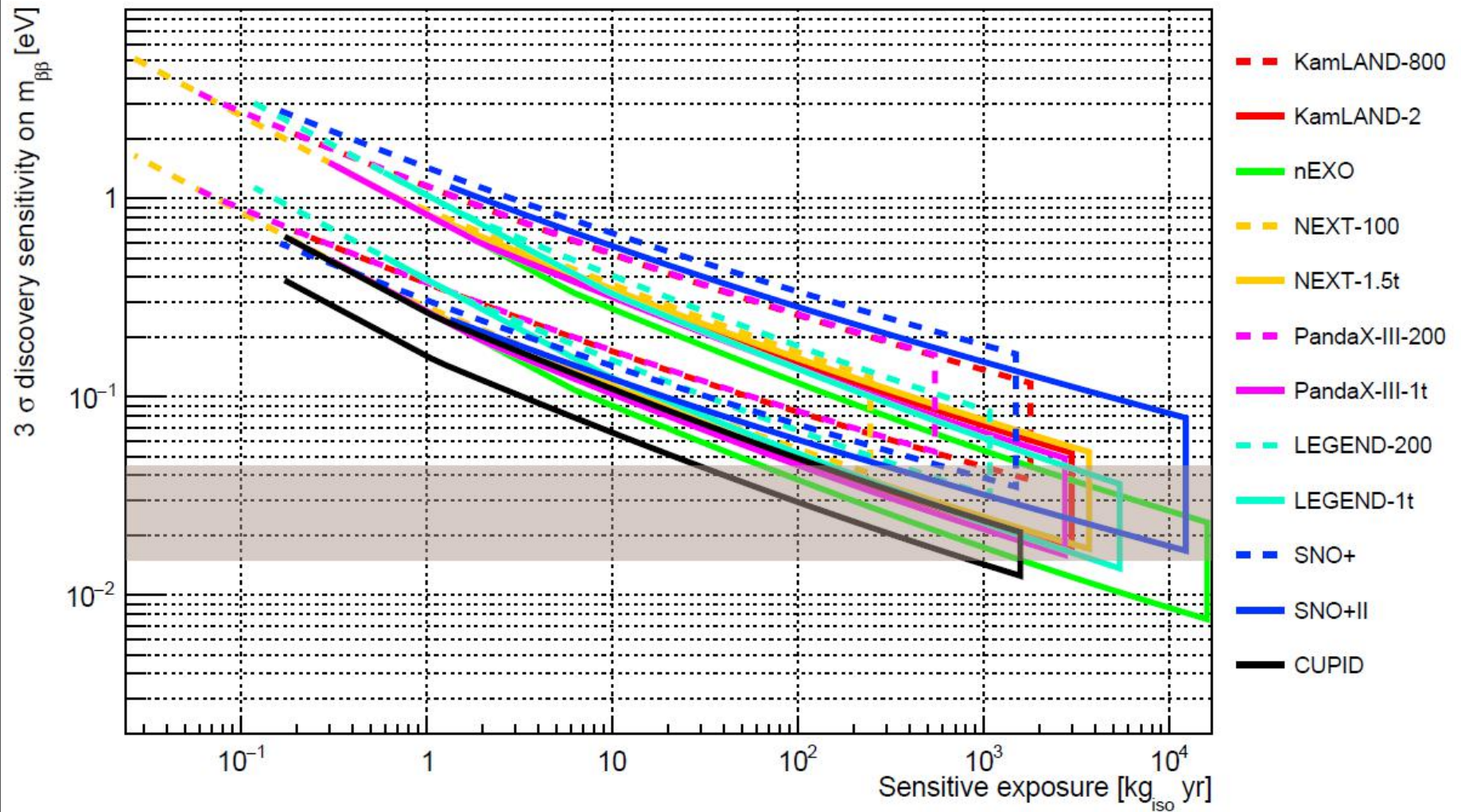
- Single module:  $\text{Li}_2^{100}\text{MoO}_4$   $\varnothing 50 \times 50$  mm
- 118 towers of 13 floors each - 1534 crystals
- $\sim 250$  kg of  $^{100}\text{Mo}$  for  $>95\%$  enrichment
- $1.6 \times 10^{27}$   $^{100}\text{Mo}$  atoms



**b  $\sim 10^{-4}$  counts/(keV kg yr) in the ROI of  $^{100}\text{Mo}$  ( $\sim 3$  MeV) supported by detailed Monte Carlo simulation with LMO crystals (CDR in preparation)**



# Discovery potential





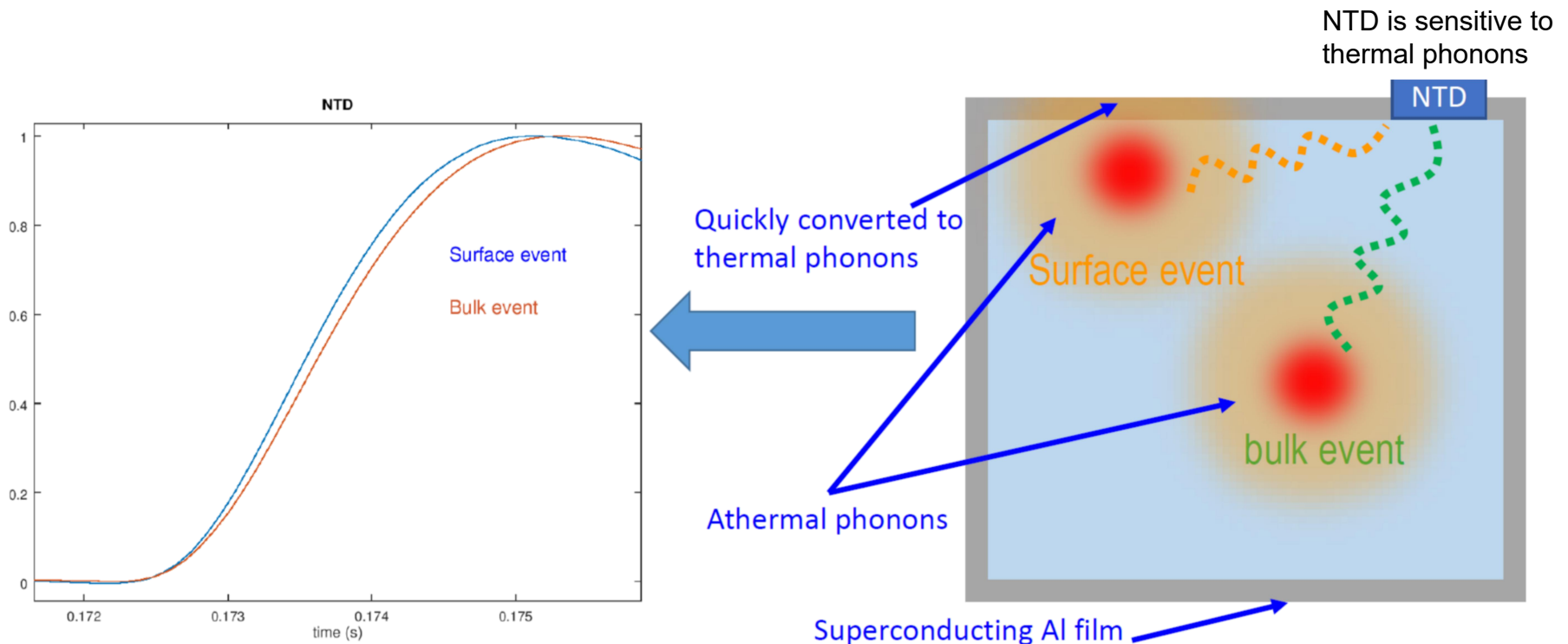
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# CROSS: surface sensitivity



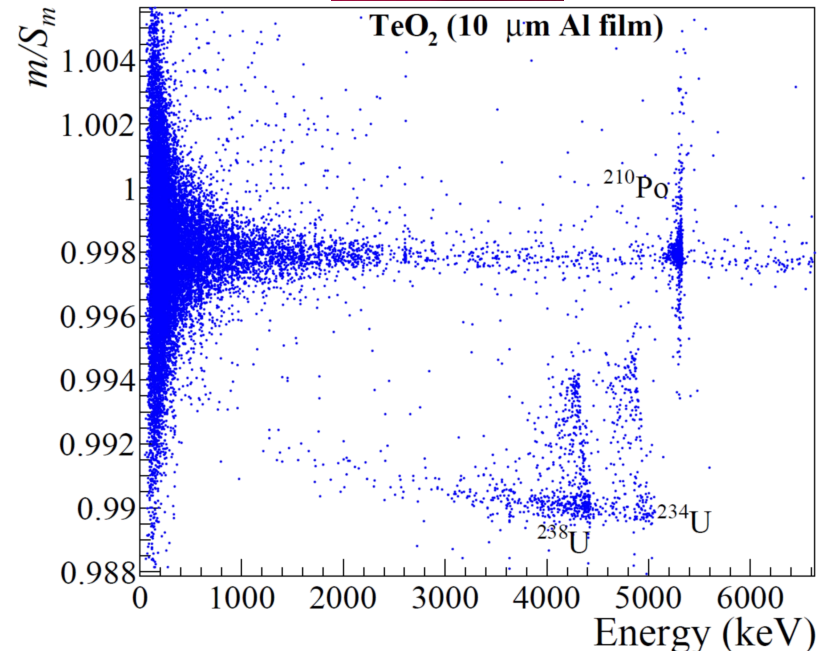
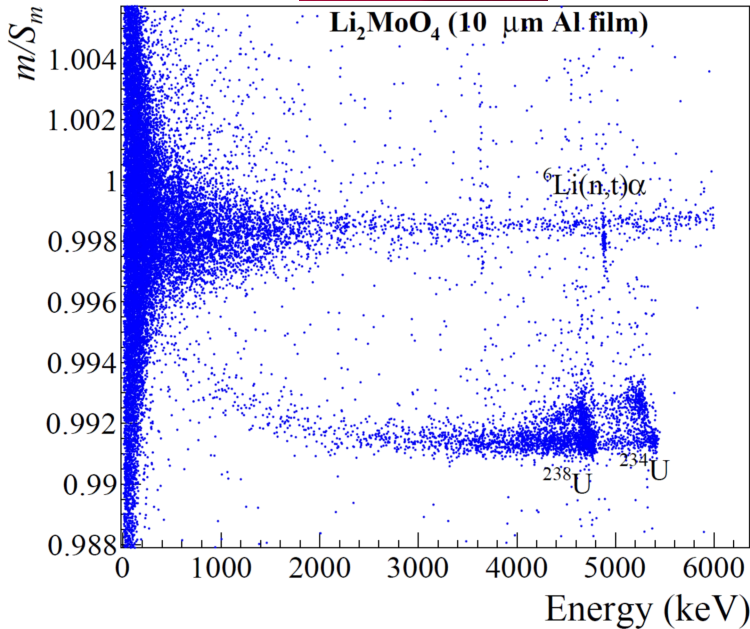
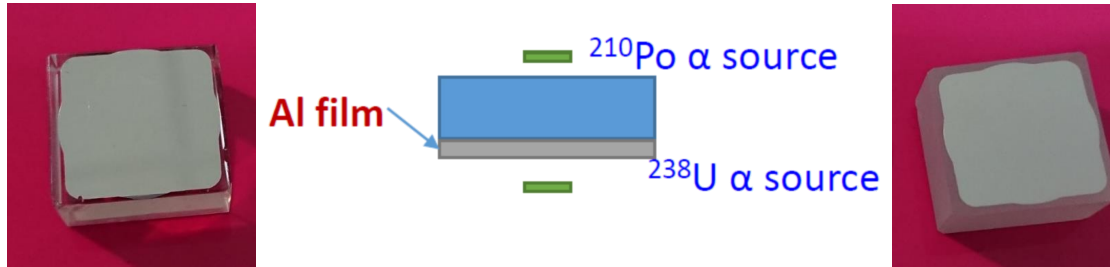
- Cryogenic Rare-event Observatory with Surface Sensitivity
- Bolometers with superconducting films to identify near surface events (No light detector is needed)



# CROSS prototypes

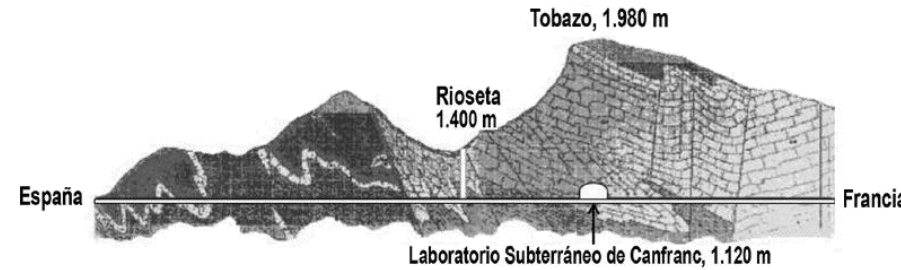
Article is already on arxiv:  
<http://arxiv.org/abs/1906.10233>

- Prototype tests of Al coated  $\text{TeO}_2$  &  $\text{Li}_2\text{MoO}_4$  crystals are in process
- CROSS with up to 60 crystal array of enriched  $^{130}\text{TeO}_2$  &  $\text{Li}_2^{100}\text{MoO}_4$  bolometers is in preparation



# LSC: CROSS underground facility

- Cryostat installed and commissioned in April 2019
- Three detectors are installed for performance check and background estimations, data acquisition is ongoing
- This facility will be used also for the final definition of the CUPID structure
- The CROSS method could be used in second phase of CUPID
- A mixed configuration with Al film replacing the reflector is under study

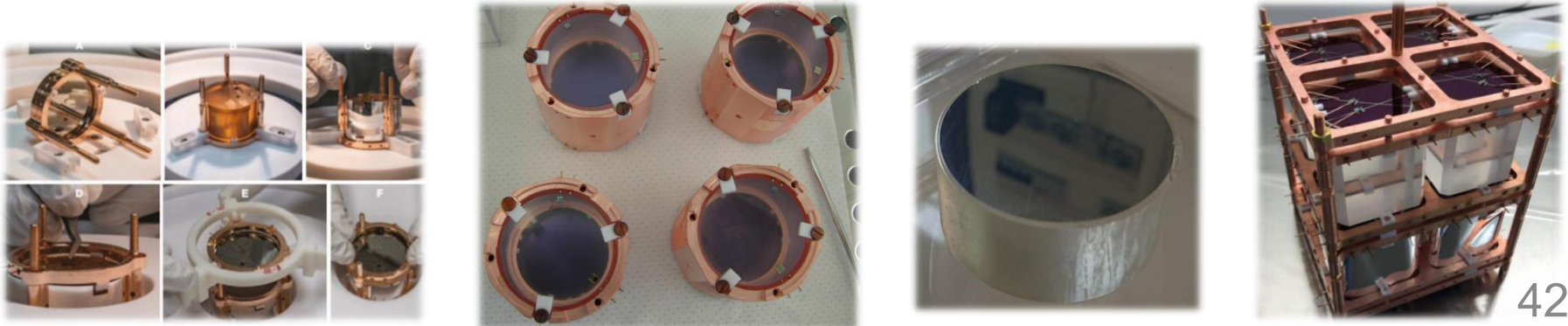


# Outline

- Neutrinoless double beta decay
- Signal and background
- Bolometric approach: from CUORE to CUPID
- CUPID-0 experiment
- CUPID-Mo experiment
- CUPID baseline configuration
- CROSS experiment
- **Summary**

# Summary: CUPID R&Ds

- $0\nu 2\beta$  decay is a key process in particle physics, neutrino physics and cosmology
- The **bolometric approach is extremely competitive** (CUORE), new technologies are developed for sensitivity improvement → **CUPID tests are ongoing:**
  - **CUPID-0** demonstrated excellent results with  $\text{Zn}^{82}\text{Se}$  scintillating bolometers
  - **CUPID-Mo** provided  $\text{Li}_2^{100}\text{MoO}_4$  technology, chosen for **CUPID** baseline configuration
  - The **CROSS** project is developing **surface sensitive bolometers**, with possibility to use this technology for CUPID





# Summary: CUPID

**CUPID** is an outstanding next-generation experiment, whose core technology was conceived, developed and verified in France. It is:

- **technologically ready:**  $\text{Li}_2^{100}\text{MoO}_4$  detectors are well-studied and ready for mass production, including enrichment process;
- **data driven:** precise background model of the cryostat; significant experience with data analysis of large arrays of bolometers;
- **based on existing infrastructure**, which is already optimized and well-tested in CUORE;
- **cost effective**

**CUPID aims to cover completely inverted and part of normal hierarchy regions**

# Thank you for attention...

And you are welcome to join!



# BACKUPS

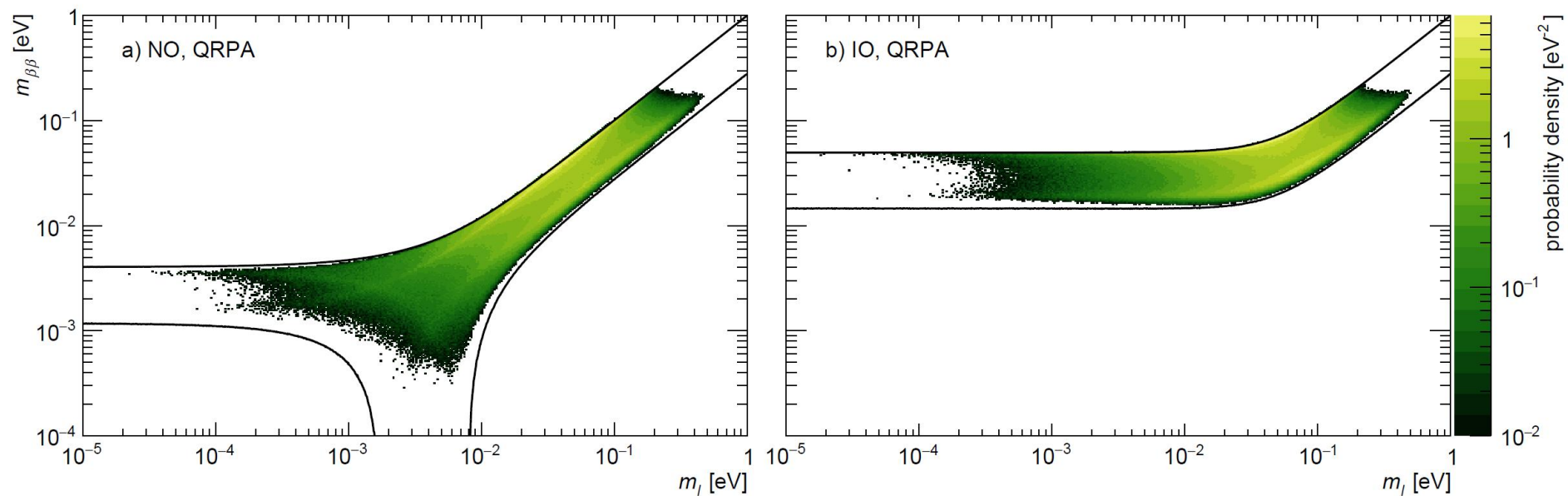


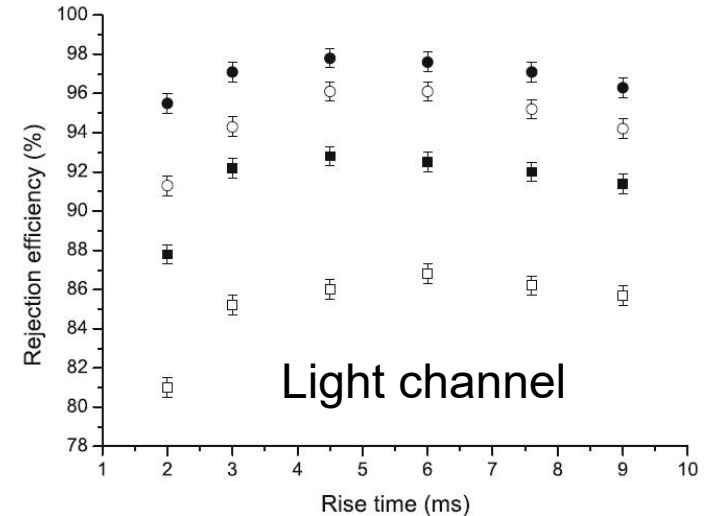
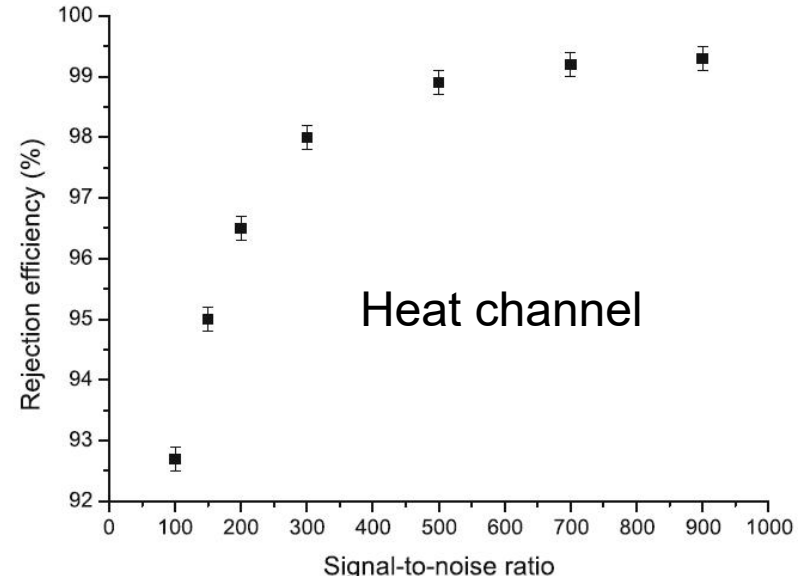
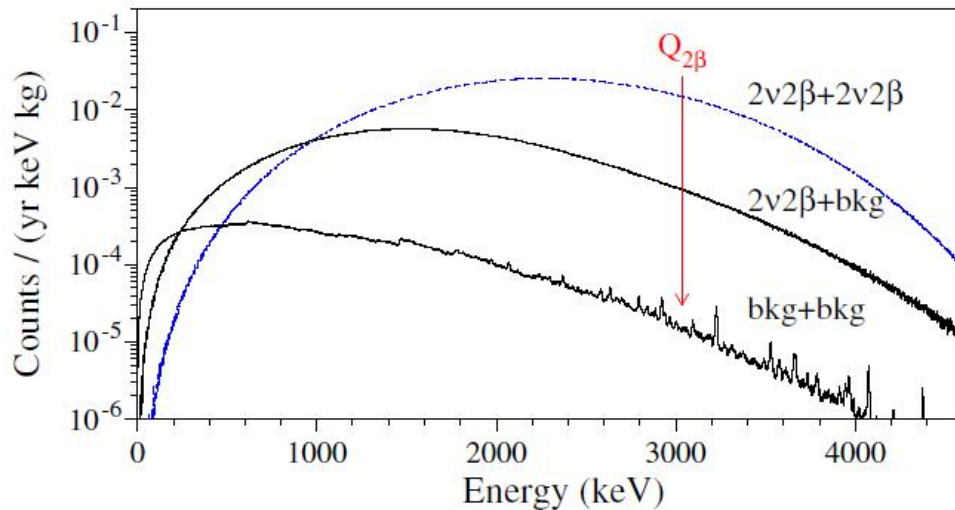
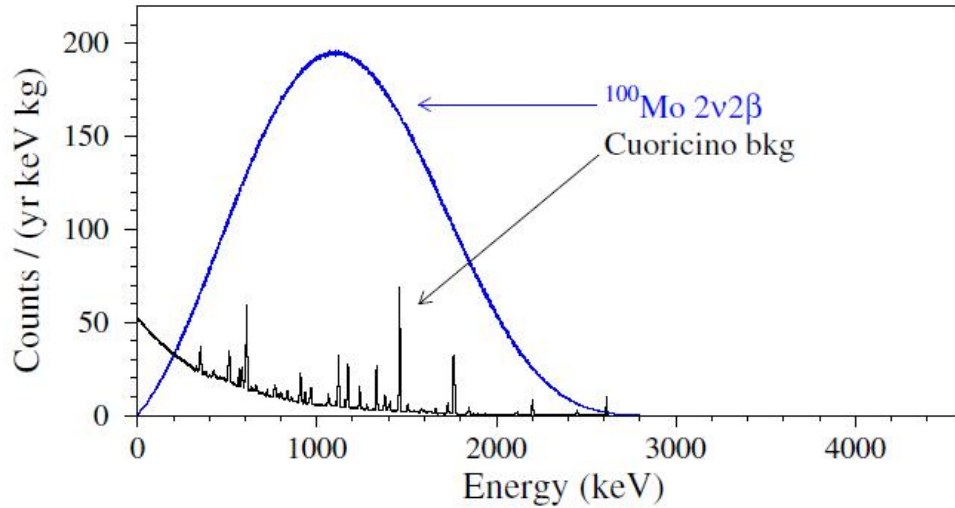
FIG. 1. Marginalized posterior distributions for  $m_{\beta\beta}$  and  $m_l$  for NO (a) and IO (b). The solid lines show the allowed parameter space assuming  $3\sigma$  intervals of the neutrino oscillation observables from nu-fit [12]. The plot is produced assuming QRPA NMEs and the absence of mechanisms that drive  $m_l$  or  $m_{\beta\beta}$  to zero. The probability density is normalized by the logarithm of  $m_{\beta\beta}$  and of  $m_l$ .

# Activities for next 2-3 years

- LNGS test with 8 crystals (summer 2019)
- Light detectors production
- NTD production
- Crystal growth
- Optimization of detectors design
- Pile-ups rejection

# Pile-ups from $2\nu 2\beta$

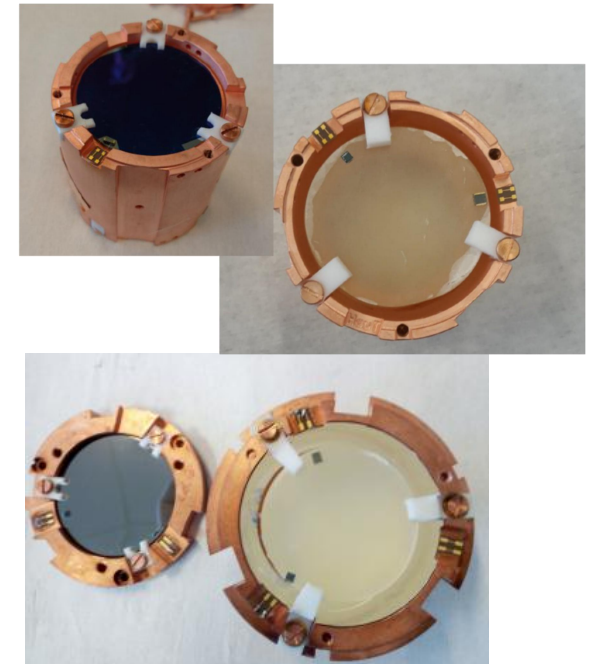
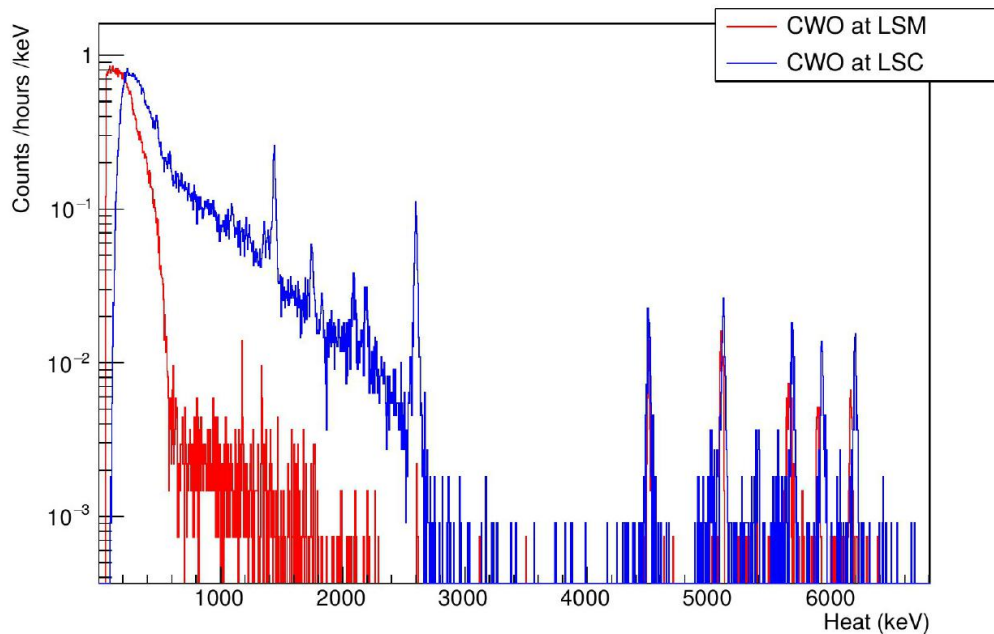
- Irreducible background, but can be rejected by pulse-shape or li



# CYGNUS

- Using existing radiopure  $^{116}\text{CdWO}_4$  crystals
- One crystal is installed in LSM
- One crystal is installed in LSC

Both crystals were used as scintillators in the Aurora experiment  
Phys. Rev. D 98, 092007 (2018) [1]

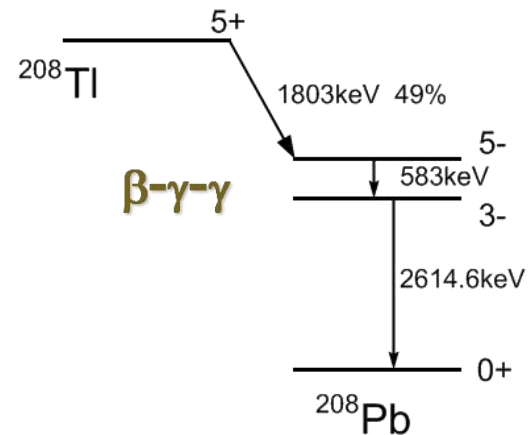


# Zero-background bolometric experiment

In scintillating bolometers, dangerous bulk contaminants are  
**high energy  $\beta$  decays**

$^{214}\text{Bi} \rightarrow$  Q -value 3.270 MeV  
(progenitors:  $^{238}\text{U}$ ,  $^{226}\text{Ra}$ ,  $^{228}\text{Th}$ )

$^{208}\text{Tl} \rightarrow$  Q -value 4.999 MeV  
(progenitors:  $^{232}\text{Th}$ ,  $^{228}\text{Th}$ )



**Target for internal contamination in ton-scale experiment with high energy resolution ( $\sim 0.2\%$ ):**

$$A(^{228}\text{Th}) \leq 10 \mu\text{Bq/kg}$$



$$b \sim 10^{-4} \text{ counts/keV/kg/yr}$$