



R2D2 Rare Decays with Radial Detector

Pierre Charpentier

Journées R&T IN2P3

université de **BORDEAUX**

Neutrino Nature and **BB** Decay

- neutrinos nature, Dirac or Majorana, is driving global efforts and resources.
- The current most sensitive experimental proof of the Majorana nature of neutrinos is the observation of the $0\sqrt{\beta\beta}$ decay.
 - $2\nu\beta\beta$ decay : (A, Ξ)



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Since the confirmation of neutrinos oscillations, neutrino research has been one of the leading way in the exploration of physics beyond the Standard Model. The





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Introduction **Neutrino Nature and ßß Decay**

- neutrinos nature, Dirac or Majorana, is driving global efforts and resources.
- the observation of the $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay.
 - ► $2\nu\beta\beta$ decay : $(A,Z) \rightarrow (A,Z+2) + 2e^- + 2\overline{\nu}_{\rho}$ first direct observation in 1987.
 - $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay : $(A, Z) \rightarrow (A, Z + 2) + 2e^-$ postulated in 1939.
 - Only possible if neutrino are Majorana particles
 - Violation of total lepton number
 - Total decay energy, $Q_{\beta\beta}$, shared by the two electrons.

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Ovßß Observation



$$T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 10^{21-26}$$
 year



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3 emitter: ⁴⁸Ca, ⁷⁶Ge, ⁸²Se, ⁹⁶Zr, ¹⁰⁰Mo, ¹¹⁶Cd, ¹²⁸Te, ¹³⁶Xe, ¹⁵⁰Nd

S.

I consists in the measurement of a narrow peak at the end of y distribution, i.e the $Q_{\beta\beta}$ of the $\beta\beta$ decay.





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Requirements





 $T^{0}\nu$ ► \¹/2

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• Excellent energy resolution.

Current factor of at least 10³ years between 2vββ half-life and 0vßß half-life limits.

Low (zero) background.

The region of interest is surrounded by natural radioactivity. Ex: ^{136}Xe Q_{BB} is 2.458 MeV and ^{208}Tl gamma is at 2.615 MeV or 3.27 MeV β from ²¹⁴Bi.

Ton scale experiment.

Ton scale experiment is required to fully cover the inverse mass hierarchy region.

$$\Big)^{-1} = G^{0\nu}(Q_{\beta\beta}, Z) \left| M^{0\nu} \right|^2 \left\langle \frac{m_{\beta\beta}}{m_e} \right\rangle^2$$







Requirements



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General Goals

R2D2 is an R&D that explores a single anode HP-TPC¹ solution for $^{136}Xe Ov\beta\beta$ search.

R2D2 Goals and features:



¹HP-TPC: High Pressure Time Projection Chamber

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¹³⁶Xe assets:

Low detection Threshold.

- $T_{1/2}^{2\nu} = 2.16 \pm .02 \cdot 10^{21}$ years.
- One readout channel.
- $T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 2.30 \pm .02 \cdot 10^{26}$ years.

One of the most abundant (8.86 %) and easiest to enrich.







Detectors



The R&D is currently considering two detectors options:

- A grounded spherical cathode with a positively bias central anode readout.
- Both signal and tension go through the anode.
- Electri

Design based on dark matter experiment



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Spherical Proportional Counter (SPC):

Field:
$$\propto \frac{1}{r^2}$$







R2D2

Detectors





- Spherical Proportional Counter (SPC):
 - A grounded spherical cathode with a positively bias central anode readout.
 - Both signal and tension go through the anode.
- Cylindrical Proportional Counter (CPC):
 - A grounded central anode readout and a negatively bias cylindrical cathode.
 - Signal is read through the anode and discoupled from tension applied to the cathode.
 - Electri

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The R&D is currently considering two detectors options:

Electric Field: $\propto \frac{1}{n^2}$

ric Field:
$$\propto \frac{1}{r}$$

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R2D2

Current R&D Experimentations

Current prototype goal: Achieve 1% FWHM energy resolution at 2.458 MeV, ¹³⁶Xe $Q_{\beta\beta}$. • Radioactive sources: α from ²¹⁰Po and ²²²Rn.

- Gas types: Argon and Xenon.
- Gas purity development.
- Gas recirculation and recovery.
- Sensor characterisation and improvement.
- Exploring ionisation and proportional mode.
- Electronics and data acquisition.
- Signal processing development.

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Point-like events response: ²¹⁰Po is fixed, and ²²²Rn is scattered over the cathode.

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Experimental setup overview Prototype Setup Evolution At LP2I Bordeaux



SPC-1 (2018) 40 cm Ø Up to 1 bar¹



SPC-2 (2021) 40 cm Ø Up to 40 bar²

¹ No Pressure certification ² Pressure certified

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CPC-1 (2022) 1m x 37 cm Ø Up to 1 bar¹

CPC-2 (2023) 27cm x 20 cm Ø Up to 40 bar²

CPC Made at



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CPC-2.5 (2023) 27cm x 20 cm Ø Up to 40 bar²

CPC Made at



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Experimental setup overview 1st SPC Prototype



¹ JINST 16 (2021) 03, P03012 [arXiv:2007.02570]

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Experimental setup overview 1st SPC Prototype

A detailed simulation has confirmed our detector understanding: the agreement between data and simulation is very good and the detector behaviour is well understood.

Proportional mode

¹ JINST 16 (2021) 03, P03012 [arXiv:2007.02570]

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● In 2018 the R2D2 was funded as R&D by the IN2P3: 1st SCP prototype was built.

A 20 cm radius sphere made of Aluminium (i.e. no low) background but much cheaper) was built at LP2IB and a custom made low noise electronics (OWEN project) was developed.

The detector was commissioned and was operated with ArP2 at LP2IB at pressures up to 1.1 bar. First resolution and localisation in proportional mode results were published¹.

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A detailed simulation has confirmed our detector understanding: the agreement between data and simulation is very good and the detector behaviour is well understood.

The resolution was computed at 200 mbar and 1.1 bar in proportional mode: we obtained a similar resolution showing no impact due to the length of the tracks (from 3-4 cm at 1.1 bar to 15-20 cm at 200 mbar).

Experimental setup overview 2nd SPC Prototype

In 2021 the second SPC prototype, certified to be operated up to 40 bar, was built by an external company.

In the meantime the xenon recirculation and recuperation system was finalized and commissioned.

In 2022 the detector was operated with ArP2 with pressures up to 3 bar. A set of measurement was carried out with a resolution below 1.4% up to 3 bar.

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Pressure (mbar)

Experimental setup overview 1st CPC Prototype

May 2022, new CPC detector is installed. First validation in ArP2 showed a resolution comparable with SPC, 1.2% at 1 bar in proportional mode but at lower voltage.

- Inox Tube: $1m50 \times 40cm \emptyset$.
- Copper cathode: 1m x 35 cm Ø.
- Tungsten anode: 50 μ m Ø.
- ²¹⁰Po source.

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Experimental setup overview 2nd CPC Prototype

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high pressure.

- Early 2023 the second prototype for CPC was conceived and built at Substech.
- The CPC is designed to be operated inside the sphere (SPC 2nd prototype) in order to test the detector at
- First test in Ar showed a good behavior of the CPC up to 10 bars in ionisation mode. Tests in xenon were carried out up to 6 bars in ionisation mode as well.
- The technical limits of the current purification (hot getter: 10 bar max) and recovery (gas recovery bottle)
 - setup has been reached.

Experimental setup overview 2nd CPC Prototype

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Technical development Electronics and DAQ

To achieve the energy resolution requirement, a dedicated low noise electronics chain is essential.

 A low noise preamplifier was developed and a DAQ
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 chain is under development (foreseen for end-2023) while we use in the meantime the CALI card developed for EDELWEISS and used today in NEWS-G.

This work is carried out in the framework of the OWEN project (IdEX Emergence Université Bordeaux) which includes a dedicated development of onboard technology for a fast data processing.

The use of a new specific and low noise FEE for resistive anode is in development. It will enables longitudinal localisation by reading both end of the anode.

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• Purification:

- High purity is a strong requirement.
- Circulation inside getters.
- Recirculation:
 - Recirculation system.
 - Controlled flow.
- Recovery:
 - Implementation of a cryopumping system.
 - Pressure controlled valve.

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Results

Preliminary resolution Results

Results in Ar and Xe are similar.

- Ourrent result are dominated by noise.
- Resolution remain steady over 10 bar for Ar or 6 bar for Xe (technical limits).

• Resolution remain steady for point-like event on fix (Po) or scatter (Rn) sources. Journées R&T IN2P3 **Pierre Charpentier** 07/11/2023

Results

Ionisation & Proportional

- The CPC allows exploration of the ionisation mode, which has several benefits. Among them:
 - Ionisation require a lower high voltage.
 - Lower high voltage produce fewer electronic noise.
 - No avalanche fluctuations.
- Such advantages are the reason for the use ionisation mode for futur detector.

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Futur Development

Options For Constructing

Closed tank

New option: Composite H₂ tank.

> Anode Plastic liner. Smooth, inert, corrosion-resistant internal finish. Precision-machined thread. High-performance carbon-fiberoverwrap in epoxy resin matrix

- Solved issues: Remaining uncertainties:
 - Radioactive background. Anode.
 - Cathode layer. End-caps.

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Open tank

Backup conventional option.

Independant CPC inserted in the tank, like PANDA-X III.

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- The R2D2 R&D primary goal is considered reached.
- Those efforts have led to the validation of the detector resolution stability from 200 mbar up to 10 bar in Ar and up to 6 bar in Xe.
- Several important results and developments where not or barely mention in this
 - talk such as signal processing and event localisation.
- Several new improvements are already in development. A dedicated low noise FEE
 - and a new tank technology.

Conclusion

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9/06/2023

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Journée Atelier Détecteur Gazeux

Backups

R2D2 collaboration

- 2023).
- \bullet energy resolution which is the major showstopper.

R. Bouet,^{*a*} J. Busto,^{*b*} V. Cecchini,^{*a*} C. Cerna,^{*a*} P. Charpentier,^{*a*} A. Dastgheibi-Fard,^{*c*} F. Druillole,^{*a*} C. Jollet,^{*a*,1} P. Hellmuth,^{*a*} I. Katsioulas,^{*d*} P. Knights,^{*d*,*e*} I. Giomataris,^{*e*} M. Gros,^e P. Lautridou,^f A. Meregaglia,^a X. F. Navick,^e T. Neep,^d K. Nikolopoulos,^d F. Perrot,^a F. Piquemal,^a M. Roche,^a B. Thomas,^a R. Ward^d

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A proto-collaboration has been formed (Czech colleagues from Prague joined R2D2 in April

R2D2 is today approved as IN2P3 R&D to assess in particular the possibility to reach the desired

Sensitivity studies

- ulletbackground and to evaluate the possible sensitivity on the searched signal.
- ulletxenon corresponding to the foreseen prototype.

Xenon active volume

Mass of 50 kg

Radius of 37 cm

Pressure of 40 bar

This choice, based on the results of a pressure and radius scan, is driven by the need of containing at least 80% of the $\beta\beta0\nu$ electrons.

Liquid scintillator volume

Thickness of 1.5 m Assumed to be LAB

The thickness is chosen in order to have a background rate below 0.1 events per year from the ²⁰⁸TI contamination of the liquid scintillator vessel.

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37 cm radius inner volume of Xe gas

0.5 cm thick Cu structure

1.5 m thick liquid scintillator

2 cm thick Cu structure

20 cm thick Pb + 5 cm thick Cu shielding

Shielding volume

20 cm Lead

5 cm Copper

The choice was made to match the shielding used in measurements performed at LSM to have a reliable and less complicated MC.

A full Monte Carlo simulation was developed to assess our capability to reject

We considered a geometry including active and passive veto and a small mass of 50 kg of

Released results

PAPERS

- "Performance of a spherical high pressure gas TPC for neutrino magnetic moment measurement" R. Bouet et al. JINST 18 (2023) 03, P03031 [arXiv:2201.12621]
- "Simultaneous scintillation light and charge readout of a pure argon filled Spherical Proportional Counter" R. Bouet et al. Nucl.Instrum.Meth.A 1028 (2022) 166382 "[arXiv:2201.12621]
- "R2D2 spherical TPC: first energy resolution results" R. Bouet et al. JINST 16 (2021) 03, P03012 "[arXiv:2007.02570] •
- "Study of a spherical Xenon gas TPC for neutrinoless double beta detection" A.Meregaglia et al. JINST 13 (2018) no.01, P01009 "[arXiv:1710.04536] 🚽

We have presented the obtained results at various international conferences. •

TALKS

- Journé Matière Sombre France 2017 Paris 2017: "The R2D2 project" A.Meregaglia
- Double Beta France workshop Paris 2018: "Status of the R2D2 project" A.Meregaglia
- GET workshop Bordeaux 2018: "The R2D2 project" A.Meregaglia
- 9th Symposium on Large TPCs for low-energy rare event detection Paris 2018: "A new neutrinoless do A.Meregaglia
- Low Radioactivity Techniques Canfranc 2019: "A new neutrinoless double beta decay experiment: R2D2
- TAUP 2019 Toyama 2019: "A new neutrinoless double beta decay experiment: R2D2" C.Jollet (Talk given
- ICHEP2020 Prague 2020: "First results of the R2D2 project" A.Meregaglia
- XIX International workshop on Neutrino Telescopes Venice 2021: "Latest results of the R2D2 project"
- TIPP2021 Virtual 2021: "Latest results of the R2D2 project" A.Meregaglia
- TAUP2021 Virtual 2021: "Status of the R2D2 project A future 0vββ experiment" I.Katsioulas
- 10th LTPC symposium Paris 2021: "R2D2: An R&D program for the research of 2b0n decay with a SPC" P
- XeSAT2022 Coimbra 2022: "R2D2: a xenon TPC for neutrinoless double beta decay search" A.Meregaglia

POSTERS

- Neutrino2020 Chicago 2020: "R2D2: a spherical high pressure TPC for the neutrinoless double beta deca
- Neutrino2022 Seoul Virtual 2022: "R2D2: a xenon TPC for the neutrinoless double beta decay search" P.

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We have published 4 papers and recently submitted a new one on the first results on xenon.

uble beta decay experiment: R2D2"	
" A.Meregaglia	
by G.Gerbier)	
TNeen	
in eep	
P.Lautridou	
a	
ay search" V.Cecchini	
Charpentier	

Technical developments **High Voltage**

- High voltages at the level of more than 20 kV might be needed when working at 40 bars (a possible back up option is to work in ionisation mode).
- At the moment we need however a feed through with several features:
 - Good for vacuum and high pressure
 - Good up to 10 kV (possibly more in the future)
 - Good for temperatures up to 100 degrees for detector heating.
 - Low noise
- We tested several commercial options but each feed through • has to be welded by a certified company and the behavior in terms of noise is not guarantee to be the same after and before.
- Discussion ongoing with AXON company (already collaborating) in JUNO) and prototype expected in 2023.

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Leakage current

Not shielded (noise)

Not certified for HP

Note: This is an issue only for SPC

OWEN **Optimal Waveform recognition Electronic Node**

Hardware developments:

- Very low noise front end
- Optimized waveform digitization with High resolution (18 bits)
- Embedded processor in integrated shape @ 1Gb/s

On-Line Embedded Artificial Intelligence: •

- Offline classification waveform (classic AI) to possibly reconstruct two-electrons track signature
- Research of a good neural network architecture to fulfill R2D2 needs
- Research of a process to integrate AI algorithm in embedded system
- Digital signal processing to tag events online (with embedded AI)

Full system expected to be ready for experiments in 2023

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Technical developments Light readout

- \bullet the radial position of the deposited energy with a precision of the order of few cm.
- (electron/gamma rejection).
- We run the detector in pure argon to observe the • scintillation light and use it as trigger for the first time in a SPC detector.
- We used a 6x6 mm² SiPM from Hamamatsu with a 15% • QE at 128 nm.
- We observed two signals on the SiPM: a trigger given by • the scintillation light (S1) and a second signal on time with the SPC signal due to the light emitted in the avalanche (S2).
- The time between the S1 and S2 gives the electrons drift • time and can be used to validate the Garfield++ simulation. An excellent agreement is found for alphas emitted at about 19 cm from the anode as expected.

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So far spherical TPC (NEWS-G or SEDINE detectors) used the waveform rise time to reconstruct

Having an event trigger (T_0) and knowing the drift velocity a sub-cm precision can be reached which is important for any fiducialization of the volume or to identify multiple energy depositions

LOW NOISE TRANSIMPEDANCE AMPLIFIER

- "R&T BICMOS", projet transverse de l'IN2P3 : ~5 building blocks dont 1 TIA pour R2D2 1 Fonderie en technologie SiGe:C, IHP 130nm
- HBT Transistor ==> **low flicker noise**, high intrinsic gain
- TIA optimized for detectors **D** with Rdet from $2k\Omega$ to $5k\Omega$, Zc det=415 Ω , Ldet=2m
- Architecture:
 - A : **TIA**, 33k Ω gain
 - **B** : single to diff amplifier : gain 3V/V
 - C: B-class differential power amp, +/- 2Vp on 300Ω diff. load
 - ==> low consumption : tot ~ 25mW
 - matched 150ohm load thru twinax cable ==> allow > 10m length to diff ADC Noise : 82% noise detector dominated for $5k\Omega$ det. (92% for $2k\Omega$ det.)

•

Rdet	N_in* pA/√Hz	-1dB_BW	Gain tot
5k @ 0°K	1.7 @ 1MHz		
	1.9 @ 100Hz		
5k@300°K	4 @ 1MHz	11 MHz	50kΩ matched (100kΩ highZ)
	4.1 @ 100Hz		
2k@300°K	6.2 @ 1MHz	40 MHz	idem
	6.3 @ 100Hz		

*current source at **middle detector**, 1/2 for LNA input : **<1pA**/ \sqrt{Hz}

Experimental signal With Mini-CPC Anode: D=1,2mm) Gas: Xe, 3bar HV: 3000V FEE: Ortec 142PC **Mode: Ionization**

Signal simulation

Signal & Observables

S: Deconvolved signal - Sr : Reintegrated signal 0 sw

Radial localization

SPC simulation with track length of 2 cm - non-uniform ionization (clusters) - 10000 e⁻ - ArP2 gas - prop. mode (G=8)

- Ptmax, Pt are deduced from plot (Qt, Pt)
- RreconsQtPt = r_{max} * (Pt / Pt_{max})^{1/a} is then compared to the initial distance R set for the simulated event through residues analysis

=> Second result of the simulation: A track localization can be obtained.

Technical development

SPC Sensor

Multi channel sensor (Achinos) was also tested but channel equalisation is currently an issue for resolution.

Pierre Charpentier

Journées R&T IN2P3

07/11/2023

First Xenon Results CPC Xenon: Cosmic Background

- Output Content SPC, the geometry and orientation of our CPC prototype makes it more sensible to cosmic muons background.
- The energy deposit of a muon in Xe at 1 § bar is significantly enough degrade the energy resolution of the α particles.
- This explain the right hand tail of the CPC reconstructed integral distribution.
- Nevertheless the final experiment shall take place in underground facilities, avoiding such inconveniences.

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IRN Neutrino

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IRN Neutrino

First Xenon Results SPC Xenon: Main Difficulties

Switching from Ar to Xe implied a lot of challenges to overcome. Aside from the previously discussed technical consideration: Gain (ne) Argon

- Xe electrons drift time is one order of magnitude larger than Ar.
- Electronegative impurities become more
 critical. Purity is paramount.
- A stronger electric field is needed across the whole medium.
 - Higher $HV \rightarrow$ higher noise.
 - Larger anode \rightarrow lonisation mode only.

17/11/2022

IRN Neutrino

Références

EJC 2023 - Lecture on Double beta decay- Anastasiia Zolotarova

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Neutrinoless double beta decay rate

 $(T_{1/2}^{0\nu 2\beta})^{-1} = G(Q,Z)g_A^4 |NME|^2$

Phase space factor

- Represent the distortion • of the electronplane waves in the Coulomb field of the nucleus
- Can be calculated with high precision

g_A is the coupling to the nucleon hard to compute (lattice QCD) but can be measured in other decays: quenching is not defined well

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Effective Majorana mass, the unknown

Nuclear matrix elements

 $m_{\beta\beta}$

- Represent nuclear structure of the initial and final nuclei
 - To calculate it exactly we need the full wavefunction of the nucleus before and after the decay: $M \propto \langle N_f | J_1 J_2 | N_i \rangle$

 $\left(T_{1/2}^{0\nu2\beta}\right)^{-1} = G^{0\nu}(Q_{\beta\beta}, Z) \left| M^{0\nu2\beta} \right|^2 \left\langle \frac{m_{\beta\beta}}{m} \right\rangle^2$ ain source of unsertanties m_e for $0v2\beta$ experiments sensitivity

Enrichment capability

- Isotopic enrichmentby centrifugation currently, the only viable large scale method
- Costs: 10-80 eur/g big fraction of the total cost of the experiment
- Market of stable isotopes for medical applications
- Geopolitics impacts access to production: **Russian agression** in Ukraine impacts some DBD experiments directly

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Uranium enriched