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Quy Nhon, Vietnam

Rencontres du Vietnam

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# A $^{100}\text{Mo}$ pilot experiment with scintillating bolometers and related CUPID activities

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*DISAT, University of Insubria, Como, Italy*



Neutrinos

2017  
QUY NHON

# Outline

- CUPID: a next-generation  $0\nu 2\beta$  bolometric experiment
- The  $^{100}\text{Mo}$  way: LUMINEU  $\rightarrow$  CUPID-Mo
- Surface sensitivity: the CROSS project 

# Outline

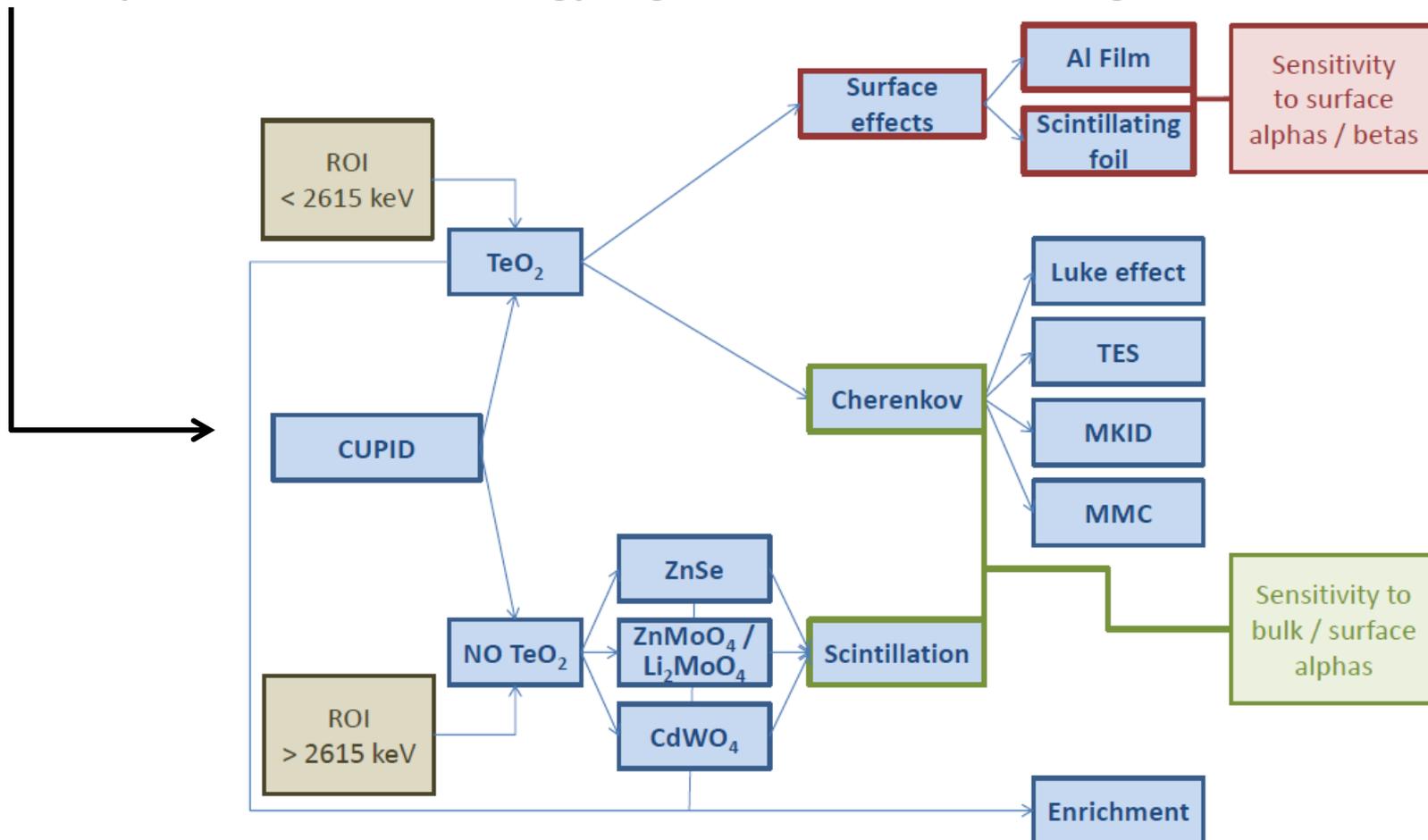
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# CUPID

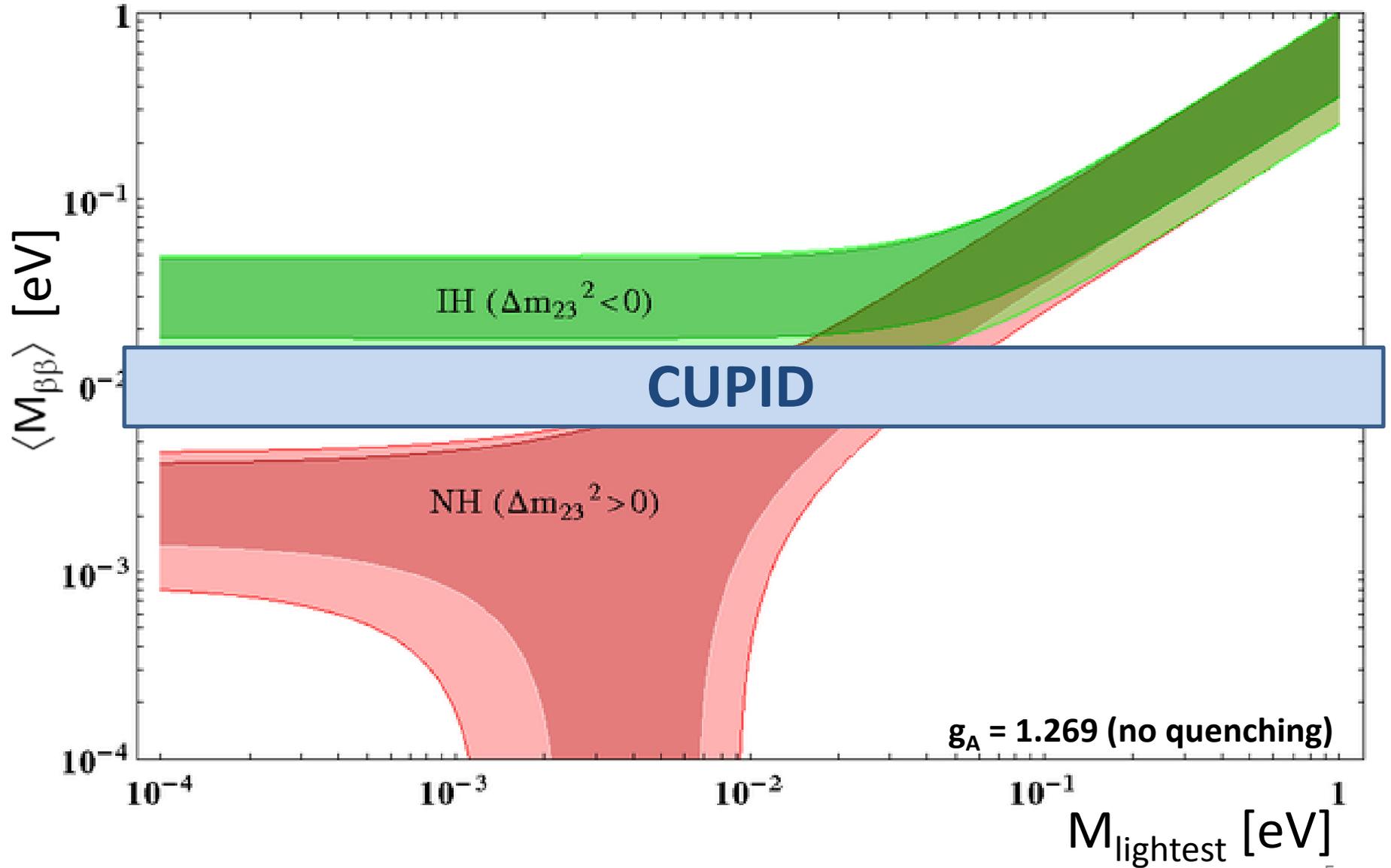
Follow-up to CUORE with background improved by a factor 100

- Keep high energy resolution of CUORE (< 10 keV FWHM)
- Reduce / control background from materials and from muon /neutrons
- Optimize the enrichment-purification-crystallization chain
- **Improve detector technology to get rid of  $\alpha$  / surface background**

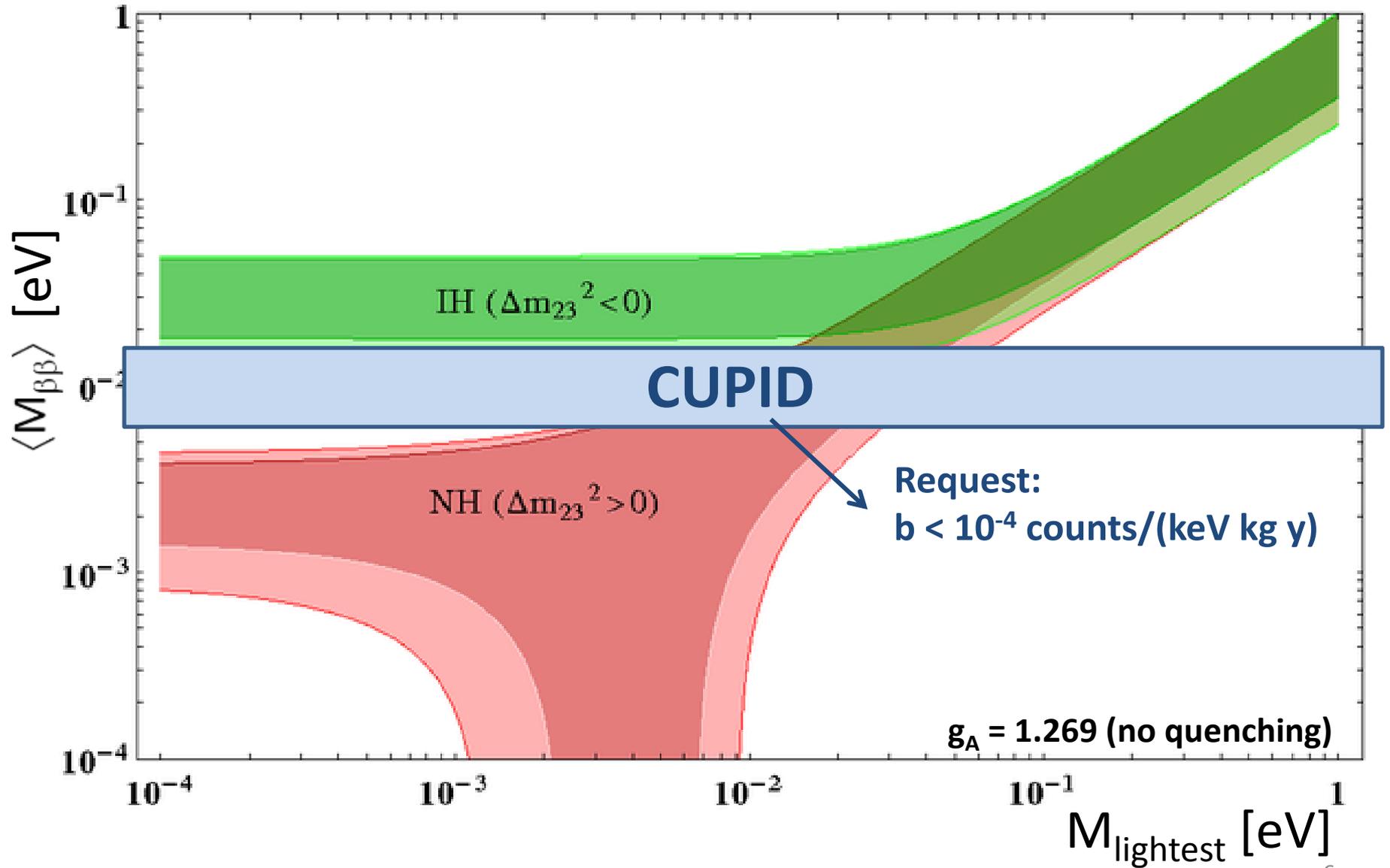
About CUORE  
*see B. Fujikawa's talk*



# CUPID goal



# CUPID goal

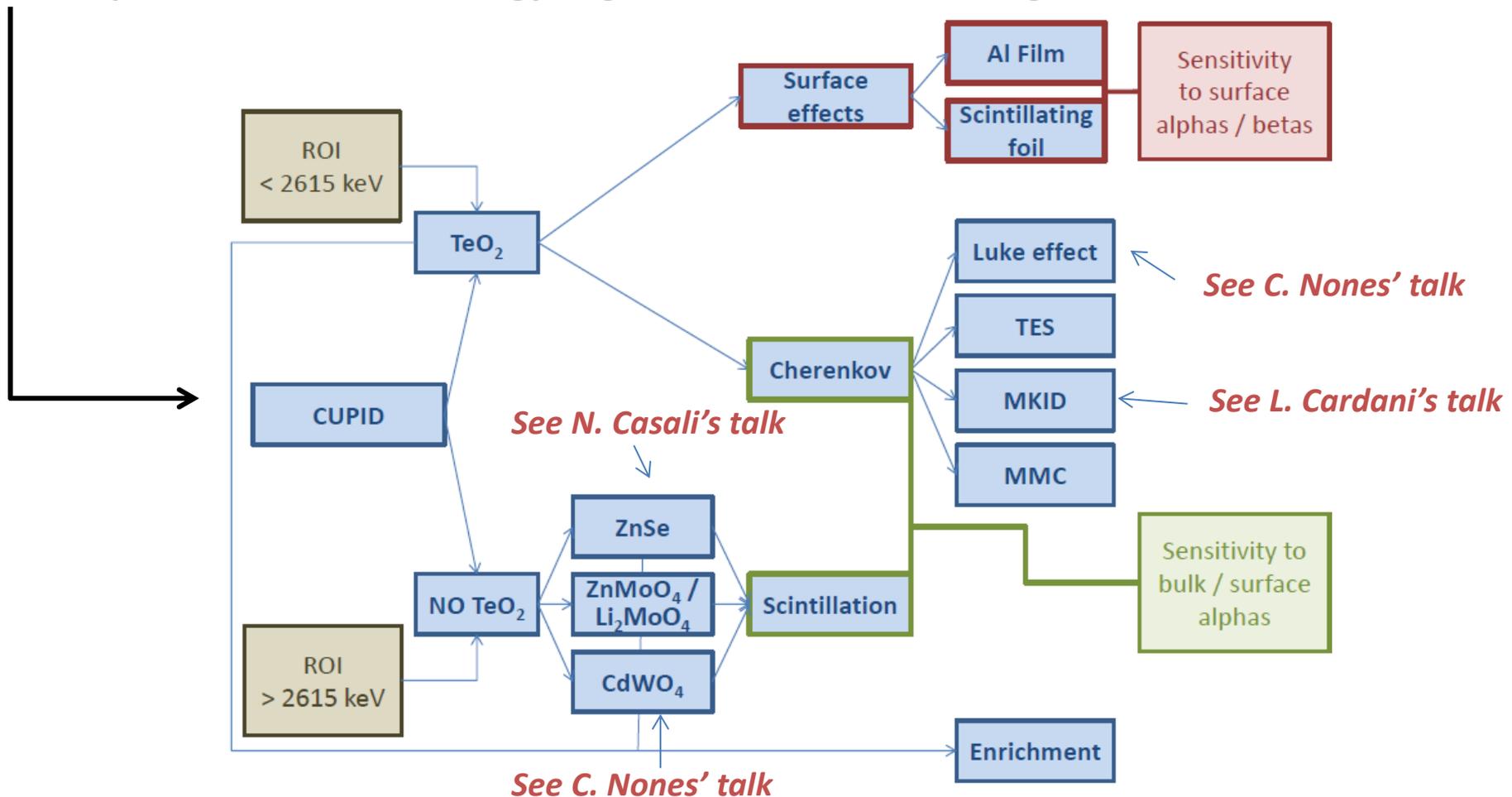


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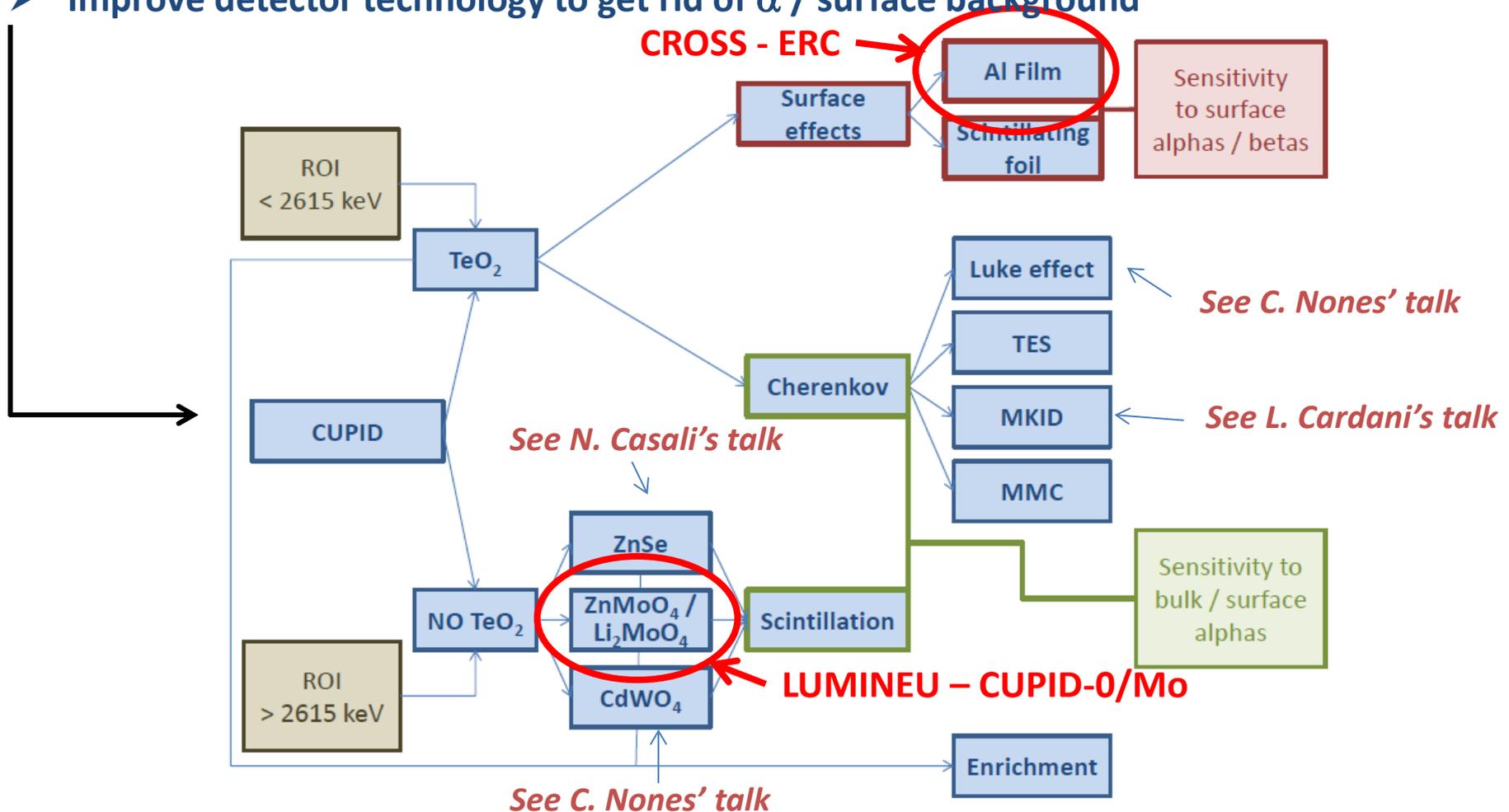


# CUPID – pilot experiments

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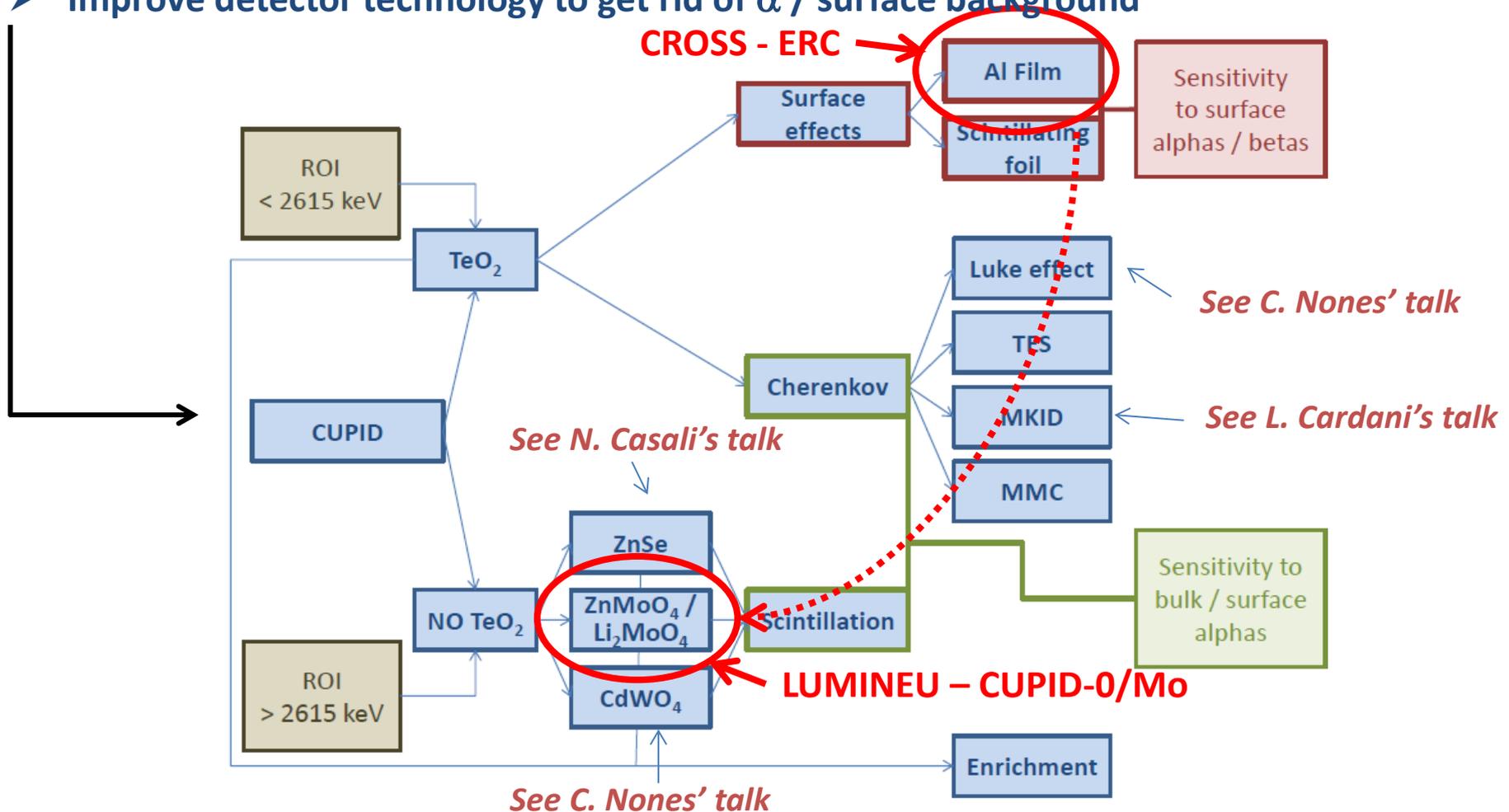


# CUPID – pilot experiments

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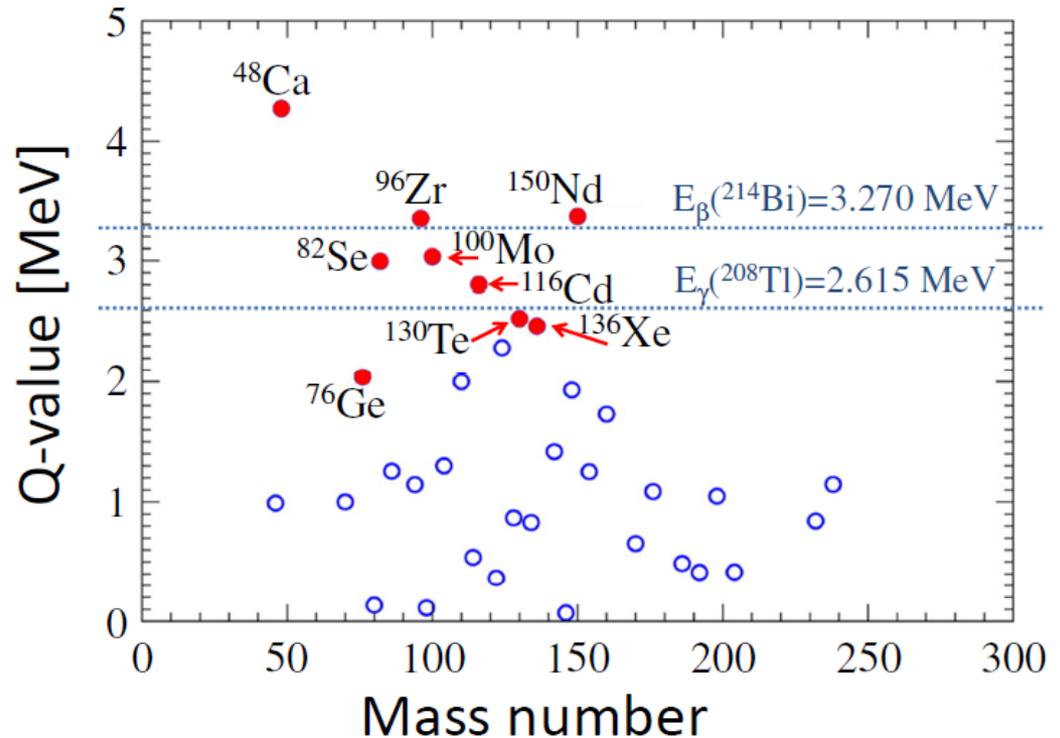


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# Interest of $^{100}\text{Mo}$ as a $0\nu 2\beta$ emitter

- $^{100}\text{Mo} \rightarrow ^{100}\text{Ru} + 2e^-$
- $Q_{\beta\beta} = 3034 \text{ keV}$
- I.A.(100) = 9.7 %
- enrichable by gas centrifugation



## Caveats (but not showstoppers)

- $T_{1/2}(2\nu) = 7.1 \times 10^{18} \text{ y}$  – the fastest one in all  $0\nu 2\beta$  candidates
- $^{214}\text{Bi}$  line at 3054 keV – B.R. 0.021 % - Compton edge 2818 keV

# Viable Mo-based crystals

Crystals successfully tested so far as scintillating bolometers:



**AMoRE** ← *See C. Nones' talk*

Drawbacks:

- Necessity of <sup>48</sup>Ca depletion
- Radiopurity (difficult to purify Ca from U, Th, Ra)

**LUMINEU**

Initial choice (2012): ZnMoO<sub>4</sub>

First tests on large Li<sub>2</sub>MoO<sub>4</sub> crystals: spring 2014

*Astropart. Phys. 72, 38 (2016)*

## Selection of Li<sub>2</sub>MoO<sub>4</sub> for a pilot experiment (March 2016)

- Better bolometric performance
- Easy crystallization / excellent quality
- Outstanding radiopurity

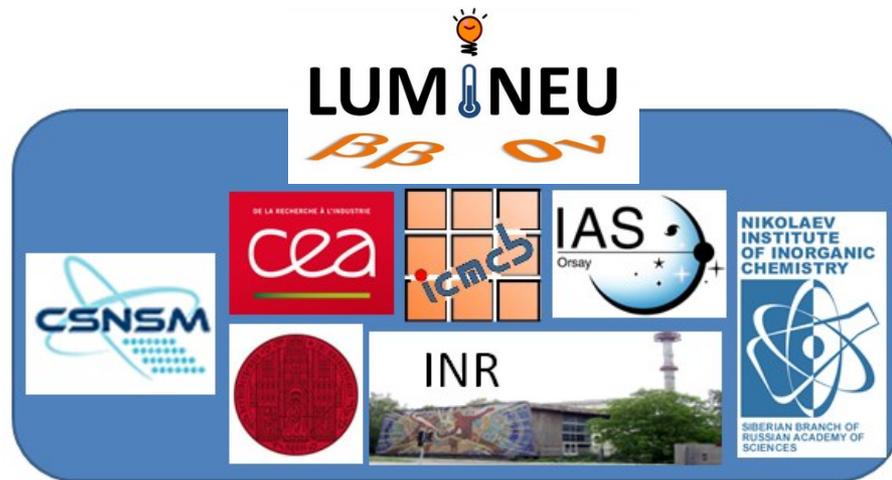
### Caveats

- Hygroscopic material
- <sup>40</sup>K is natural contaminant
- Lower light yield (~0.8 keV/MeV)

# Preparing a $^{100}\text{Mo}$ experiment

## Funding / resources from

- ANR (France) – main fund provider (LUMINEU: 2012-2017)
- CEA-Saclay – substantial funds / PhD
- CSNSM direction – funds for crystals (« AP interne »)
- EDELWEISS – underground facility, electronics & DAQ
- IN2P3 – dedicated personnel (Post-Doc, technician)
- KINR Kiev – radiopure scintillator know-how, simulation, – enriched  $^{100}\text{Mo}$
- ITEP Moscow – enriched  $^{100}\text{Mo}$
- NIIC Novosibirsk - crystals
- INFN / LUCIFER (LNGS / Rome) – underground facility and manpower for R&D



# Extension of the Mo collaboration: CUPID-Mo

## New participants

LAL – Orsay, France

MIT

UCB and LBL

UCLA

USA

Fudan Shanghai

USTC Hefei

China

MoU in preparation

# $\text{Li}_2\text{MoO}_4$ : purification and crystallization

From 2013 to 2016, a series of important milestones were achieved:

- **Mo purification / crystallization protocol** (NIIC, Novosibirsk, Russia) (**Mo irrecoverable losses < 4%**)
- Selection of the **appropriate  $\text{Li}_2\text{CO}_3$  powder** for compound formation
- Successful program to **control internal content of  $^{40}\text{K}$**  (from  $\sim 60$  mBq/kg to  $< 5$  mBq/kg)
  - Random coincidences:  $2\nu 2\beta + ^{40}\text{K} \ll 2\nu 2\beta + 2\nu 2\beta$
- Efficient use of existing  **$\sim 10$  kg of  $^{100}\text{Mo}$  (A.I. 96-99%)** ( $\sim 9$  kg to ITEP-Moscow and  $\sim 1$  kg to KINR-Kiev) (MoU among IN2P3 / INFN / ITEP – February 2015)
  - Natural isotopic abundance: **9.7%**

*NIM A 729, 856 (2013)*

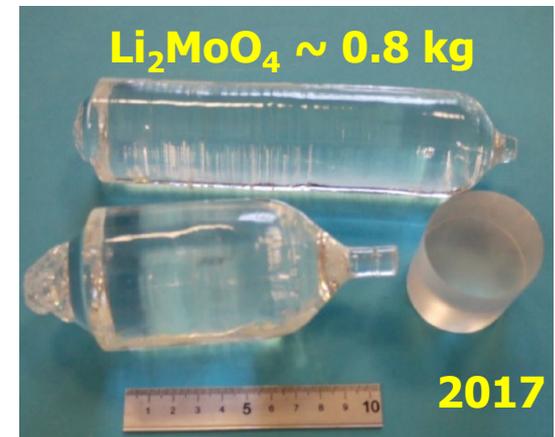
*JINST 9, P06004 (2014)*

*EPJC 74, 3133 (2014)*

*JINST 10, P05007 (2015)*

*<http://arxiv.org/abs/1704.01758>*

*(submitted to EPJC)*



# $\text{Li}_2^{100}\text{MoO}_4$ scintillating bolometers: a mature technology

Multiple tests with natural and enriched crystals (2014-2017) in LSM and LNGS with outstanding results in terms of: <http://arxiv.org/abs/1704.01758>

- Reproducibility → excellent performance uniformity
  - Energy resolution →  $\sim 4\text{-}6$  keV FWHM in RoI
  - $\alpha/\beta$  separation power →  $> 99.9\%$
  - Internal radiopurity →  $< 5 - 10$   $\mu\text{Bq/kg}$  in  $^{232}\text{Th}$ ,  $^{238}\text{U}$ ;  $< 5$  mBq/kg in  $^{40}\text{K}$
- Compatible with  $b \leq 10^{-4}$  [counts/(keV kg y)]

Temperature readout



NTD Ge thermistors

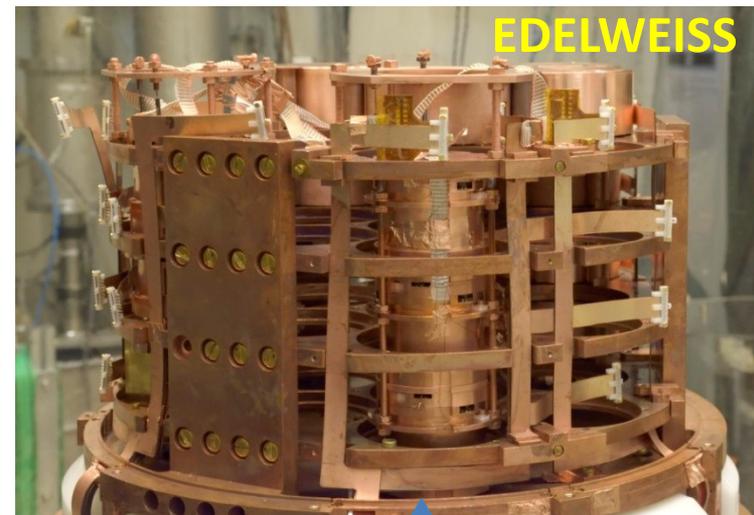
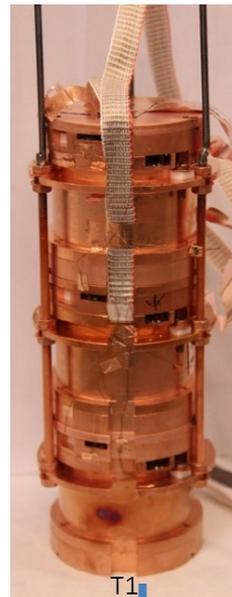
+

Room temperature

electronics (CUORE style)

or

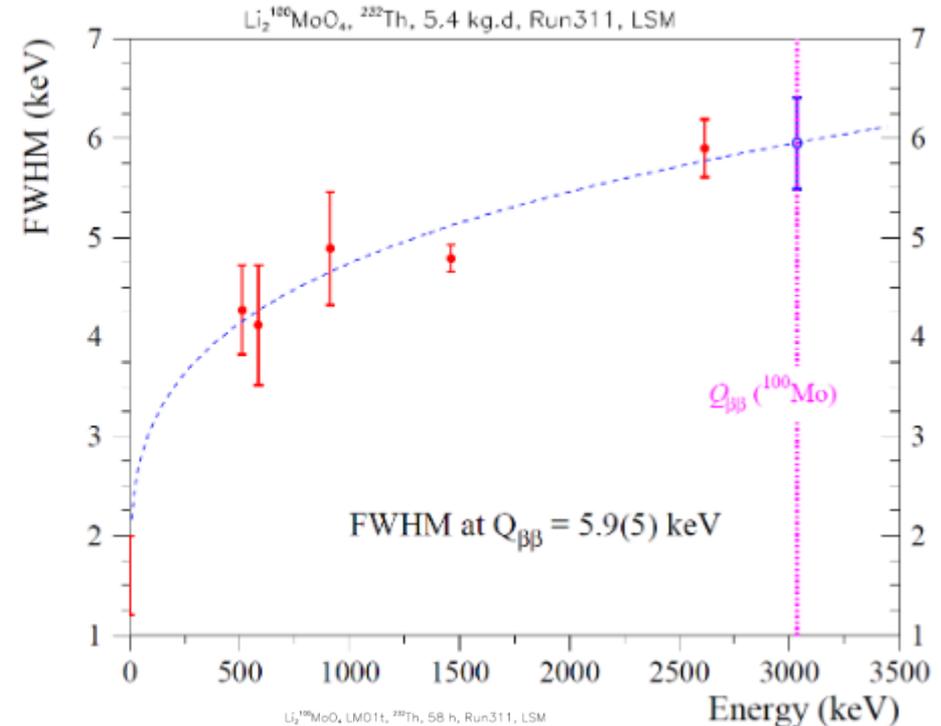
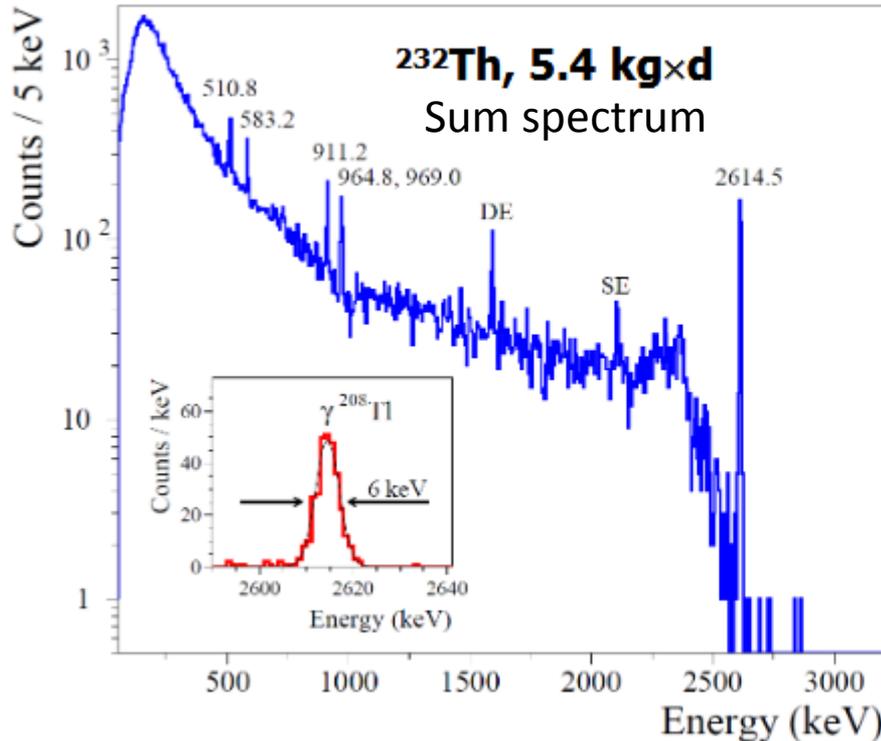
Cooled JFET (EDELWEISS)



EDELWEISS

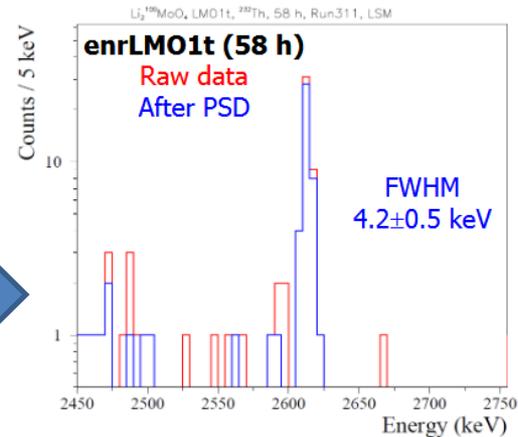
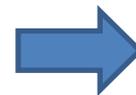
# Energy resolution

Array of **four** enriched detectors, **M** ~ **210 g** ( $\varnothing=44\text{mm-h}=45\text{ mm}$ ), **LSM** (EDELWEISS setup)



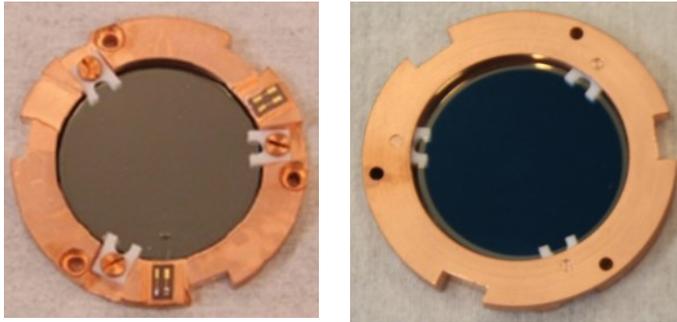
Non-optimal calibration condition:  
**high pile-up effect**

For the detector farther from the source  
(low pile-up effect)  
better energy resolution ( **$\sim 4\text{keV}$  FWHM**)

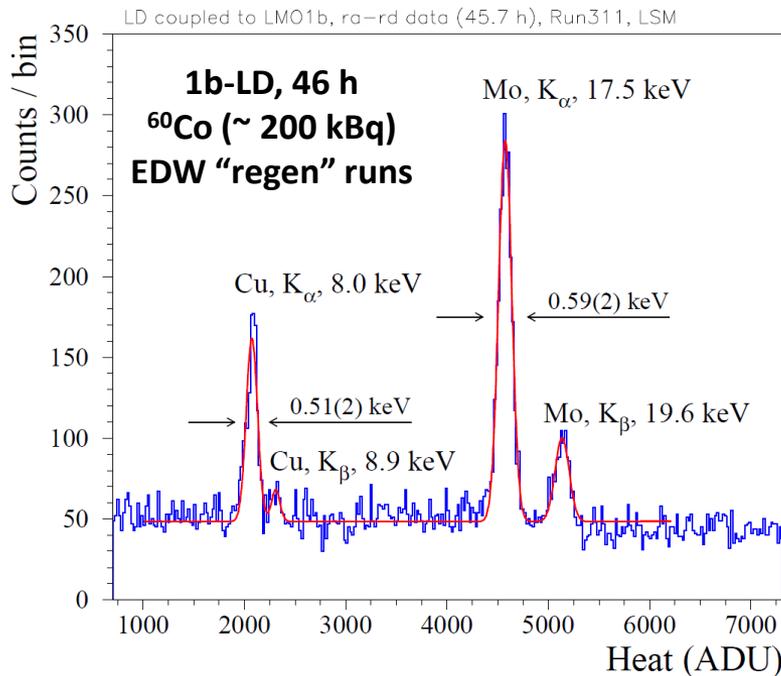


# Light detector performance

Light detectors coupled to  $\text{Li}_2^{100}\text{MoO}_4$  bolometers



- Electronic-grade pure Ge wafer (UMICORE)
- Diameter: 44 mm – Thickness: 0.17 mm
- Equipped with NTD Ge thermistor (~ 5 – 9 mg)
- Exposed side coated with SiO layer (70 nm) to increase light absorption

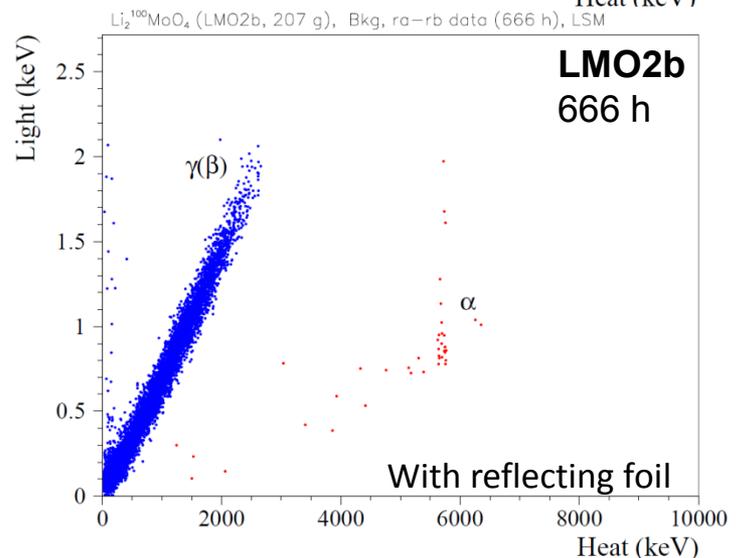
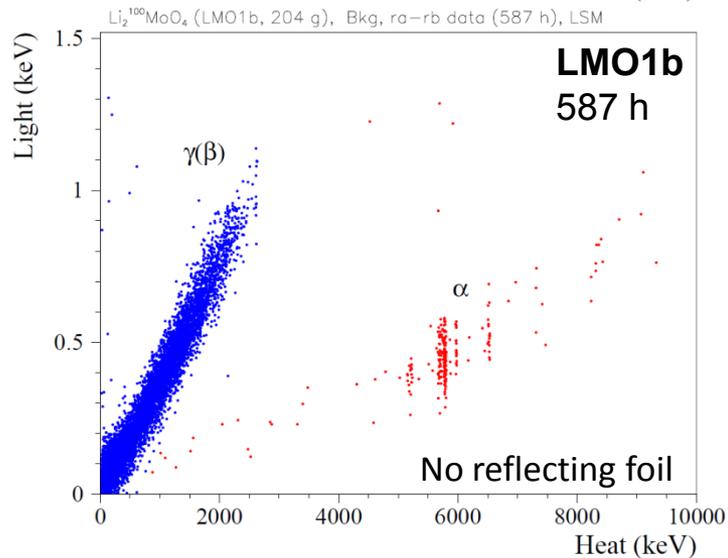
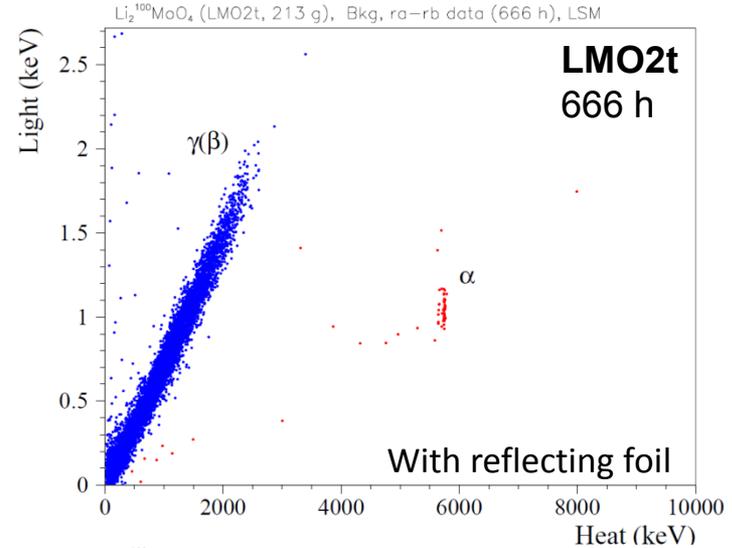
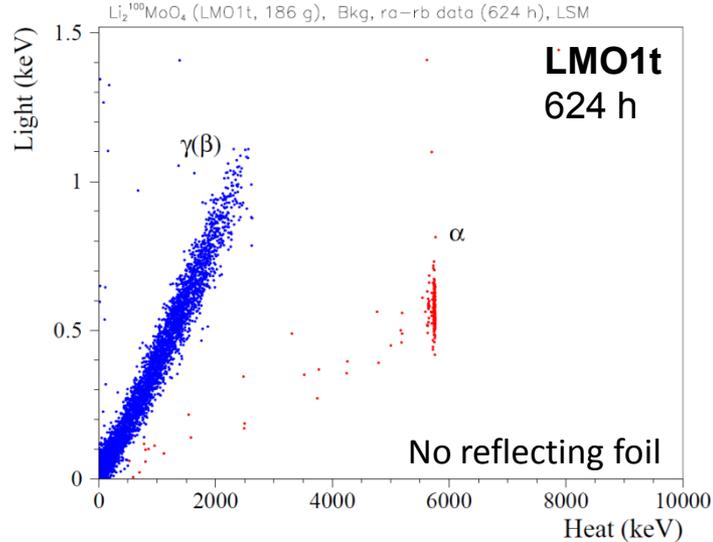


Light detector	Conditions	Signal $\mu\text{V}/\text{keV}$	$\text{FWHM}_{\text{Bsl}}$ keV
1b-LD	optimal	1.3	0.08
	over bias	0.7	0.11
1t-LD	optimal	2.4	0.07
	over bias	1.2	
2b-LD	optimal	1.5	0.11
	over bias	1.1	0.12
2t-LD	optimal	1.1	0.09
	over bias	0.85	

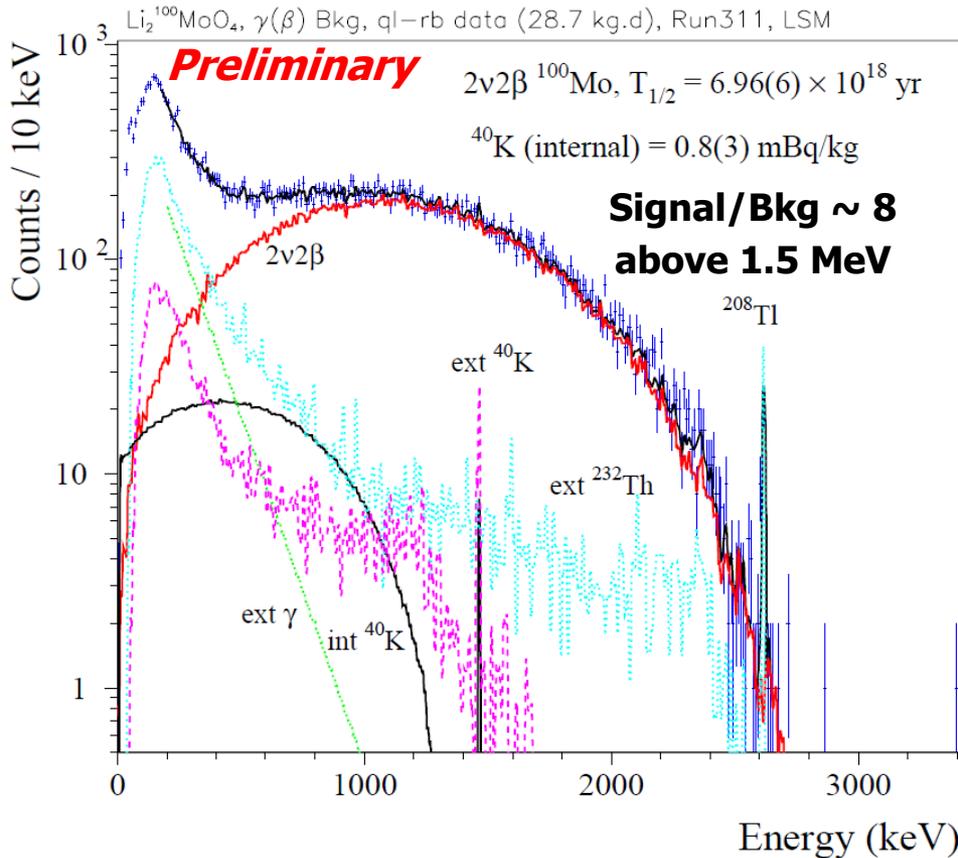
Satisfactory performance (~100 eV FWHM baseline) – Good reproducibility

# $\alpha$ rejection

99.9%  $\alpha$  rejection with > 99 %  $\beta$  acceptance (LY  $\sim$  0.4-0.7 keV/MeV)



# Investigation of $^{100}\text{Mo}$ $2\nu 2\beta$ decay



## Investigation of $^{100}\text{Mo}$ $2\nu 2\beta$ :

- Exposure: 28 kg×d
- Enrichment: 96.9% of  $^{100}\text{Mo}$
- $\text{eff}_{\text{PSD}}$ : 97%
- Fit: 160-2650 keV  $\Rightarrow$   
Effect =  $24320 \pm 229$  decays



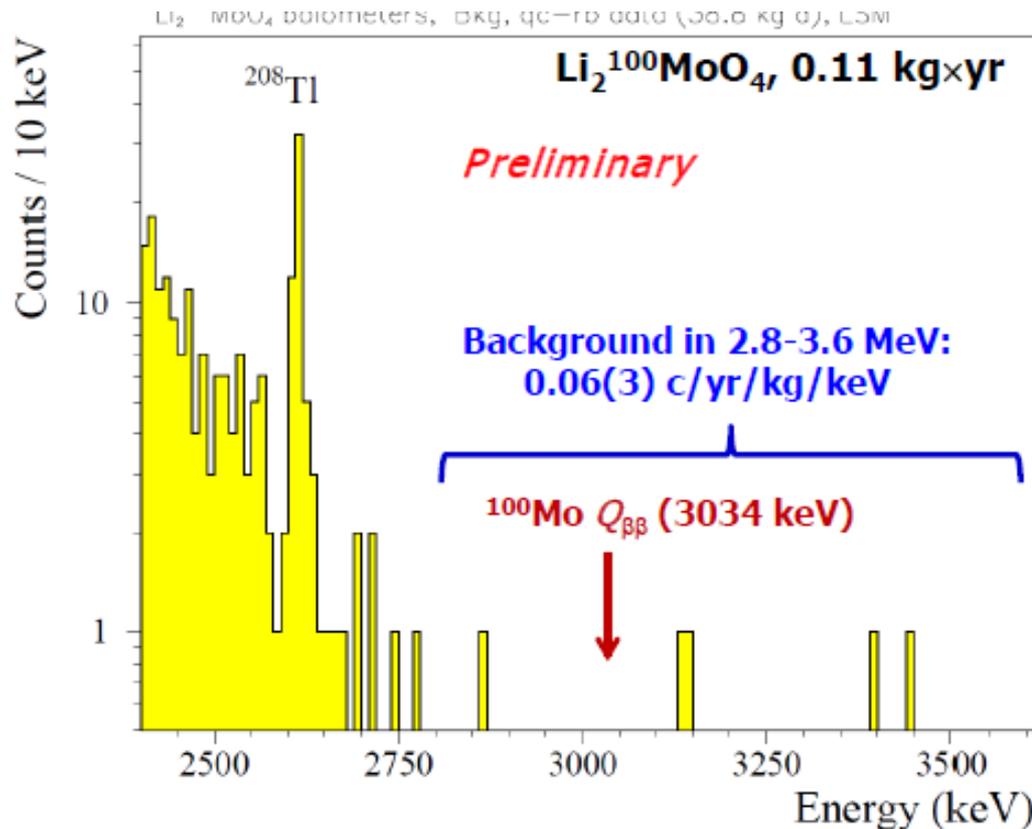
$$T_{1/2} = [6.96 \pm 0.06] \times 10^{18} \text{ yr}$$

**One of the most precise  
 $^{100}\text{Mo}$  half-life values**

$T_{1/2}$ [ $10^{18}$ yr]	Exposure	Experiment	Ref.
<b><math>7.11 \pm 0.02(\text{stat}) \pm 0.54(\text{syst})</math></b>	7.37 kg×yr	NEMO-3	PRL 95 (2005) 182302
<b><math>7.15 \pm 0.37(\text{stat}) \pm 0.66(\text{syst})</math></b>	0.08 kg×yr	LUCIFER	JPG 41 (2014) 075204
<b><math>6.90 \pm 0.15(\text{stat}) \pm 0.42(\text{syst})</math></b>	0.03 kg×yr	LUMINEU	arXiv:1704.01758
<b><math>6.96 \pm 0.06(\text{stat}) \pm 0.35(\text{syst})</math></b>	0.08 kg×yr	LUMINEU	Presented here

# Investigation of $^{100}\text{Mo}$ $0\nu 2\beta$ decay

We performed  $0\nu 2\beta$  search joining the two runs involving enriched crystals at LSM



## Sensitivity to $^{100}\text{Mo}$ $0\nu 2\beta$ :

- $Q_{\beta\beta}(^{100}\text{Mo}) = 3034$  keV
- ROI = 10 keV window @  $Q_{\beta\beta}$
- $\text{eff}_{0\nu 2\beta} = 73\%$  in ROI
- $\text{eff}_{\text{PSD}} = 97\%$
- Enrichment = 96.9% of  $^{100}\text{Mo}$
- Exposure = 39 kg×d
- BI: 0.06 cnts/yr/kg/keV  
⇒ Bkg: 0.064 counts
- 90% CL sensitivity (by F-C.):  
limS: 2.49 counts

lim  $T_{1/2} = 0.7 \times 10^{23}$  y @ 90% C.L.

lim  $\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle = 1.2\text{-}2.1$  eV

**NEMO-3 (34.3 kg×yr):**

$T_{1/2} \geq 1.1 \times 10^{24}$  yr @ 90% CL

*PRD 92 (2015) 072011*

## Possible origin of the background:

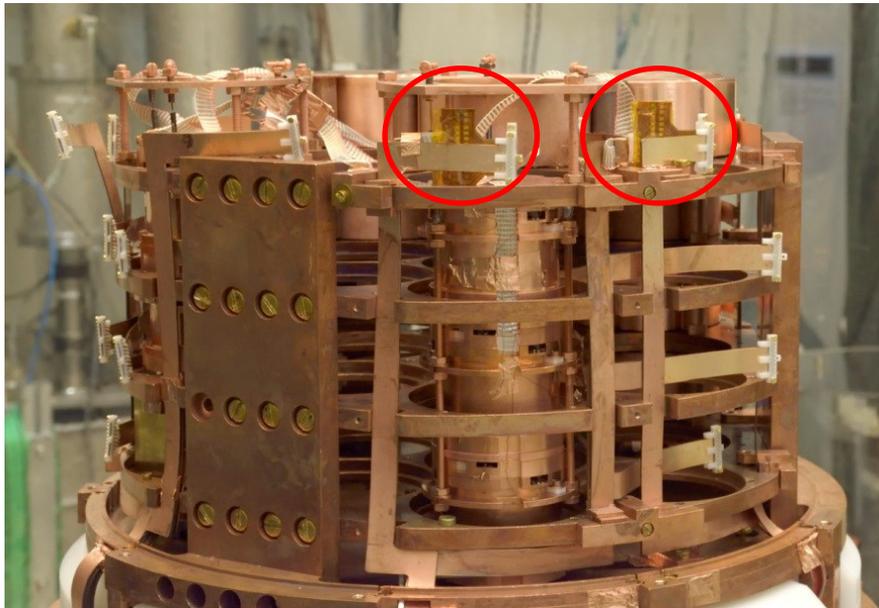
- 2615+583 keV from close Th contamination [ $^{208}\text{Tl}$  peak 40x wrt Cuoricino]
- Multiple high energy  $\gamma$ 's induced by muons [no coincidence study in our analysis]

# Measures to mitigate the background

## Remove known Th sources in the vicinity of the detectors

- Connectors and cables belonging to the EDELWEISS setup

Substantial  
simplification of the  
cabling system



## Activate coincidences among detectors and with the muon veto

- EDELWEISS data on  $\gamma$ 's above 2.6 MeV show a substantial contribution to background coming from events in coincidence

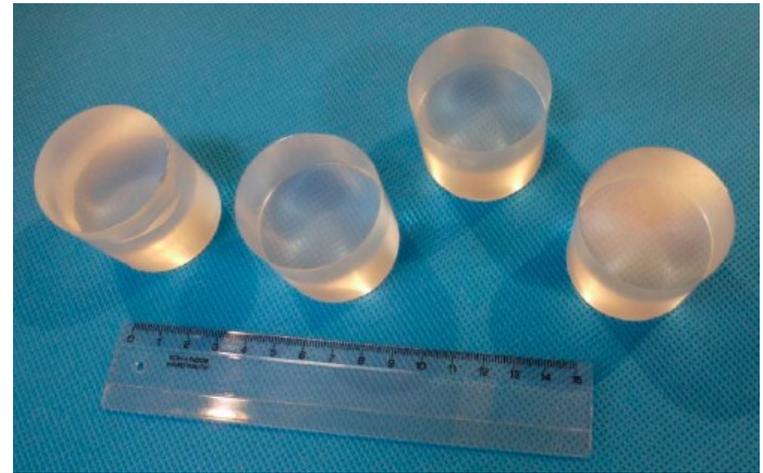
**Goal:** background reduction by one order of magnitude  
in the  $\beta$  band above 2.6 MeV  $\rightarrow$   **$b \sim 10^{-3}$  counts/(keV kg y)**

# Next pilot experiments

## CUPID-Mo Phase I (20 crystals):

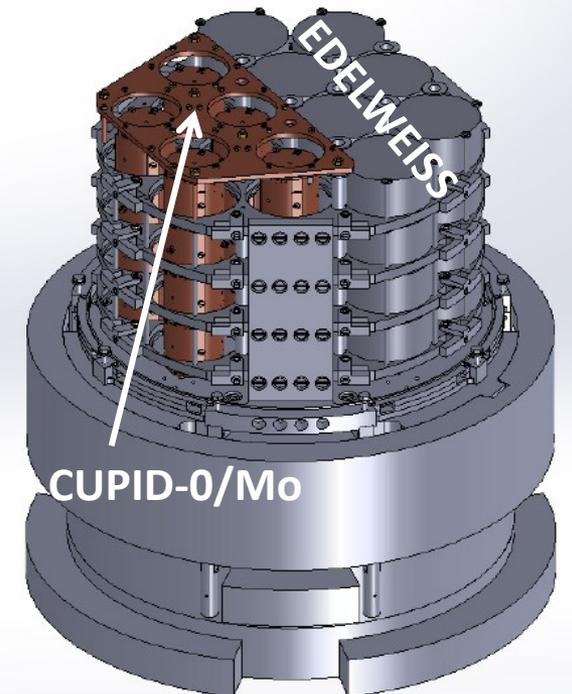
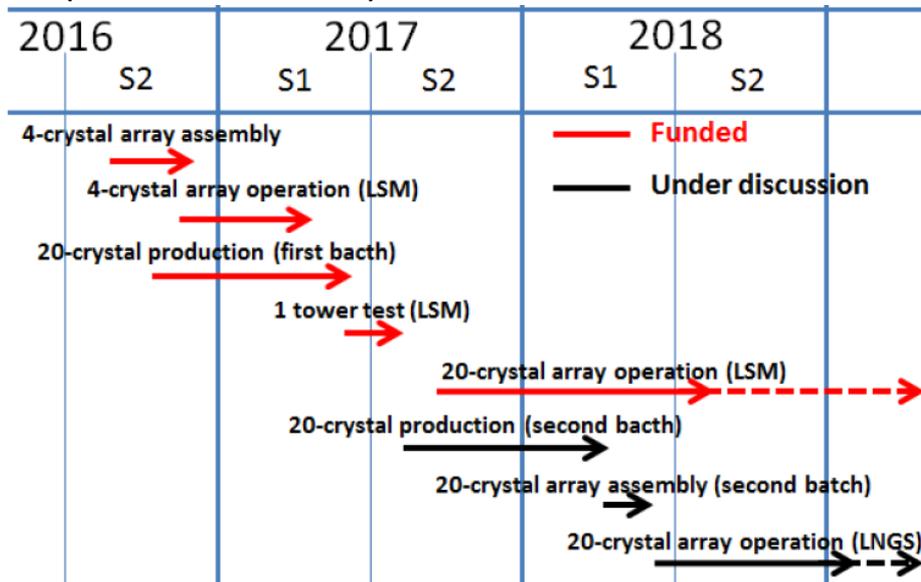
- 20  $^{100}\text{Mo}$ -enriched (97%)  $\text{Li}_2\text{MoO}_4$  presently in France ( $\varnothing 44 \times 45$  mm, 0.21 kg each; 4.18 kg total)  
 $\Rightarrow$  2.34 kg of  $^{100}\text{Mo}$  ( $1.37 \times 10^{25}$   $^{100}\text{Mo}$  nuclei)
- 20 Ge light detectors ( $\varnothing 44 \times 0.175$  mm)+SiO
- EDELWEISS set-up @ LSM (France)

**START DATA TAKING: December 2017**

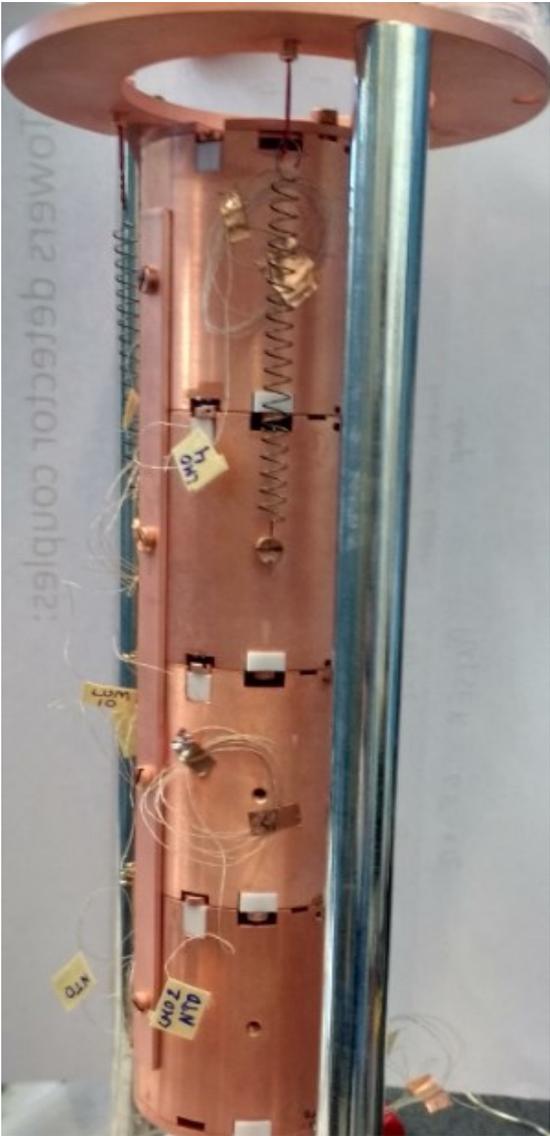
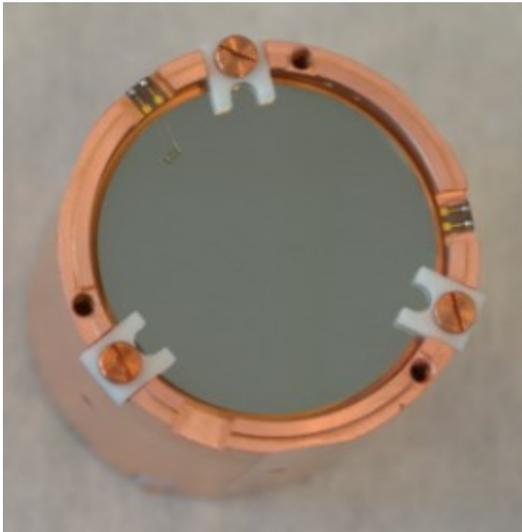
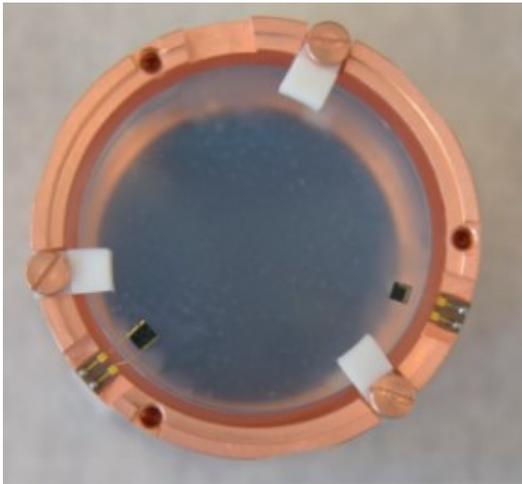
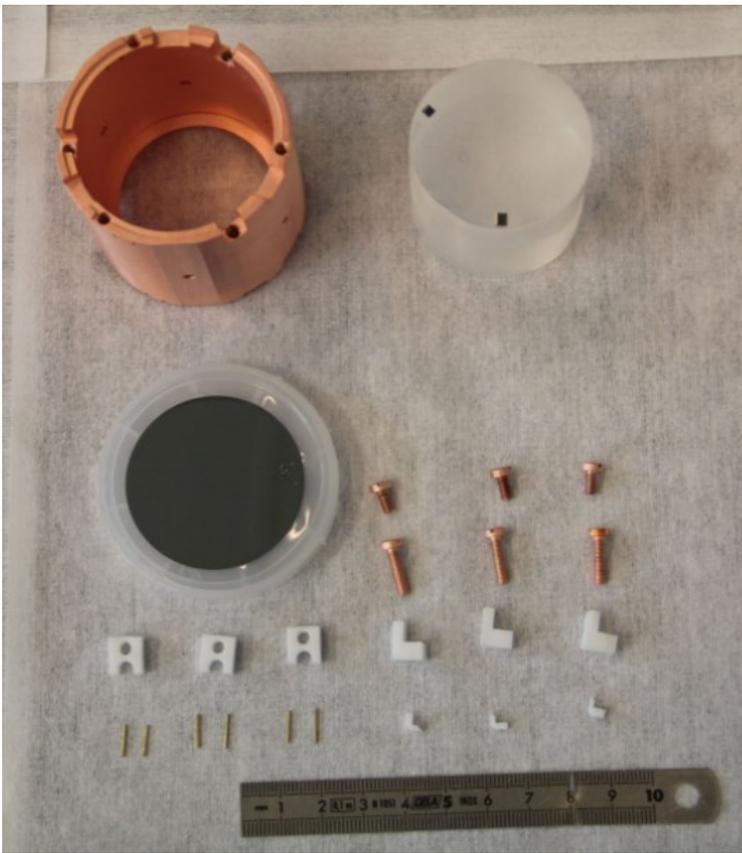


## CUPID-Mo Phase II (20+20 - or more - crystals):

- At least additional 20  $\text{Li}_2^{100}\text{MoO}_4$
- CUPID-0 set-up in hall A @ LNGS (Italy)  
 (under discussion)



# Tower structure in CUPID-Mo



# Sensitivity of CUPID-Mo

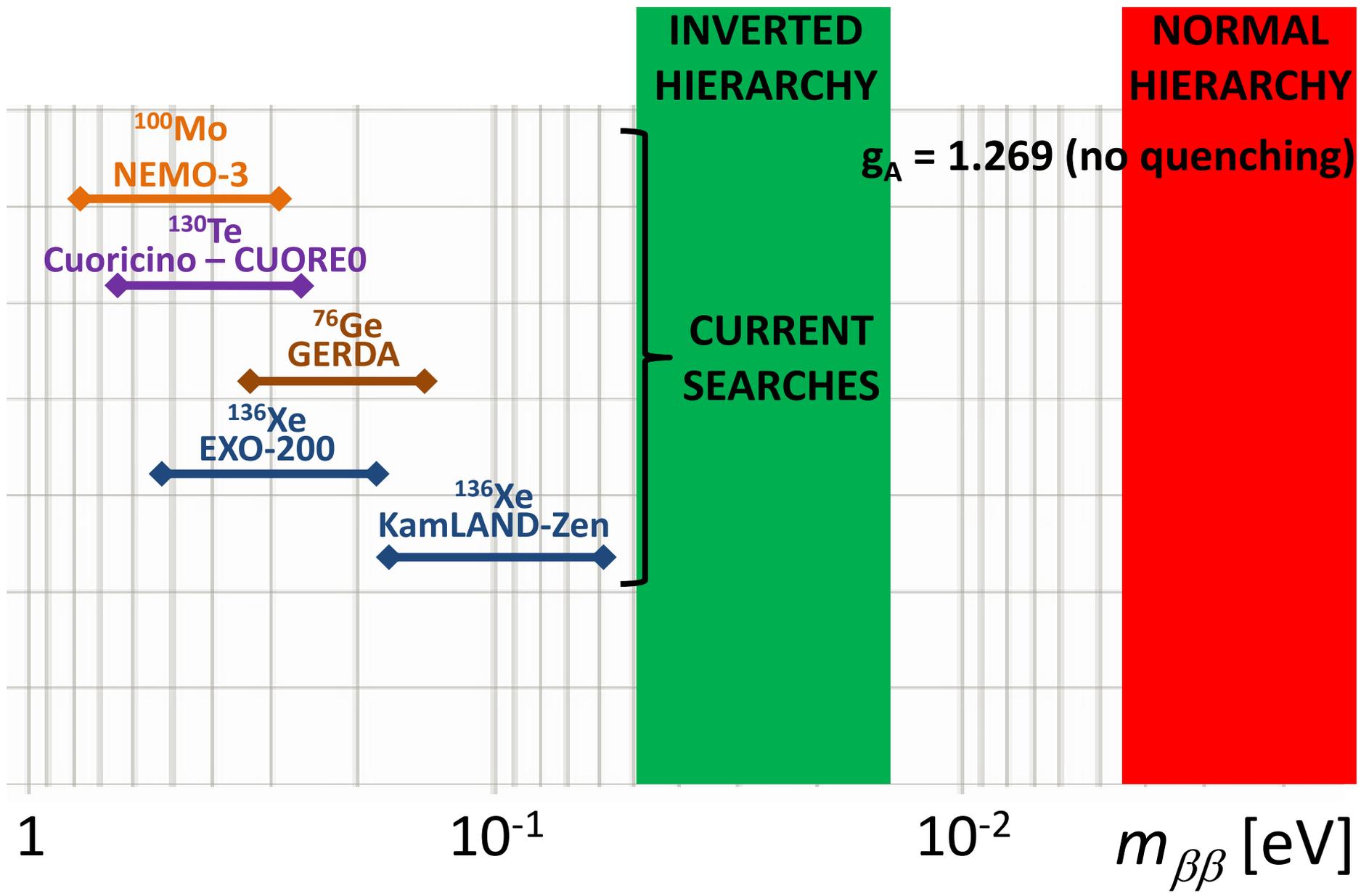
The primary aim of CUPID-0/Mo is to demonstrate **the maturity of the  $\text{Li}_2^{100}\text{MoO}_4$  technology** in terms of crystal purity, bolometric performance, active methods for background rejection and reproducibility of all the relevant parameters. However, **the physics reach of CUPID-Mo is quite interesting.**

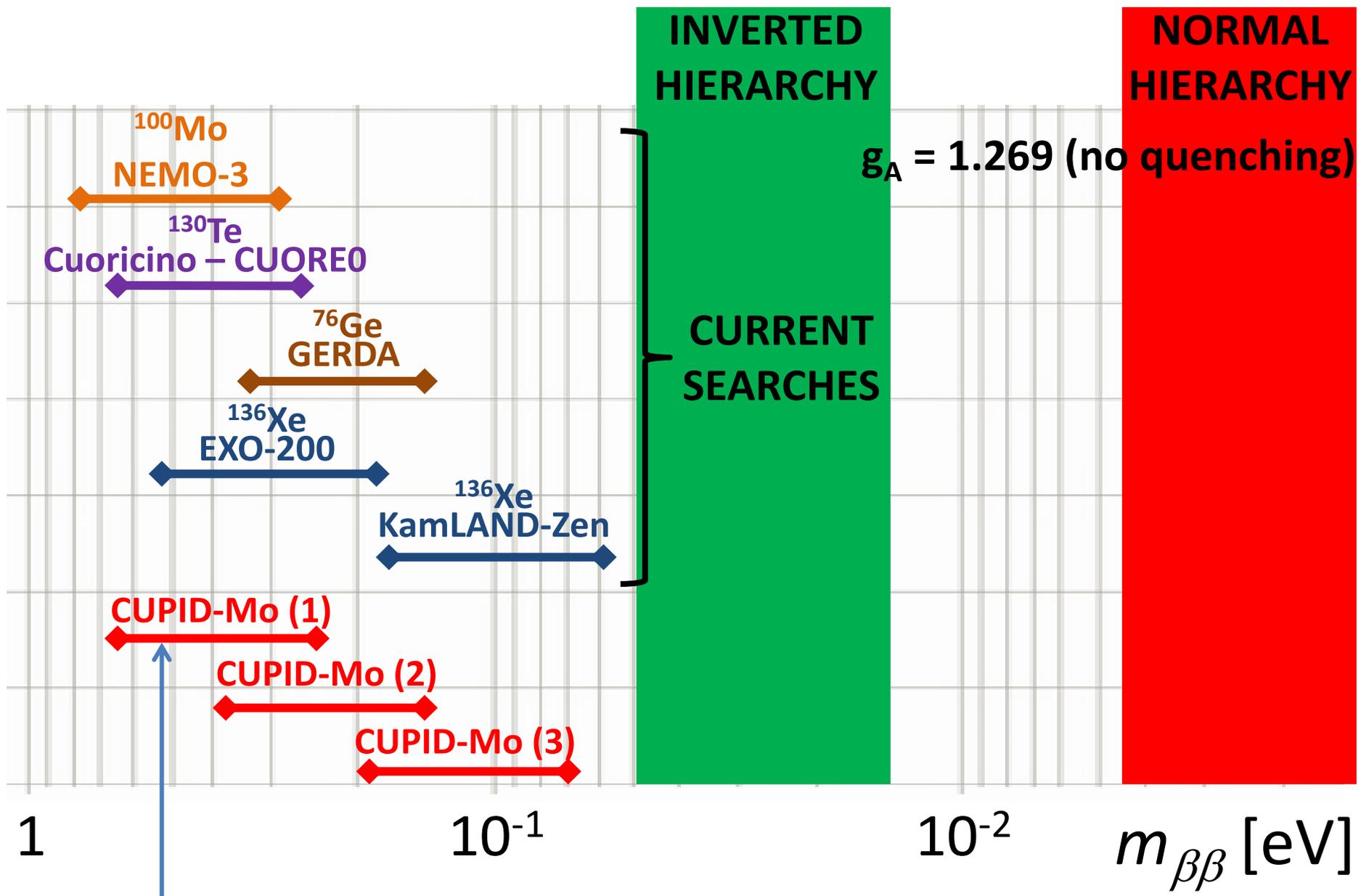
In calculating the sensitivity (90% C.L.), we will assume:

- **$b = 1 \times 10^{-3}$  counts/(keV kg y)**
- **8 keV** energy window
- **78%** efficiency

Configuration	Half life limit [90% c.l.]	$M_{\beta\beta}$ [meV]
(1) 20 crystal [20×0.5 cr.xy]	$1.4 \times 10^{24}$	240 – 670
(2) 20 crystal [20×1.5 cr.xy]	$4.2 \times 10^{24}$	140 – 390
(3) 40 crystal [40×3 cr.xy ]	$1.7 \times 10^{25}$	70 – 200

First two options sensitivities substantially unchanged by  **$b = 1 \times 10^{-2}$  counts/(keV kg y)**

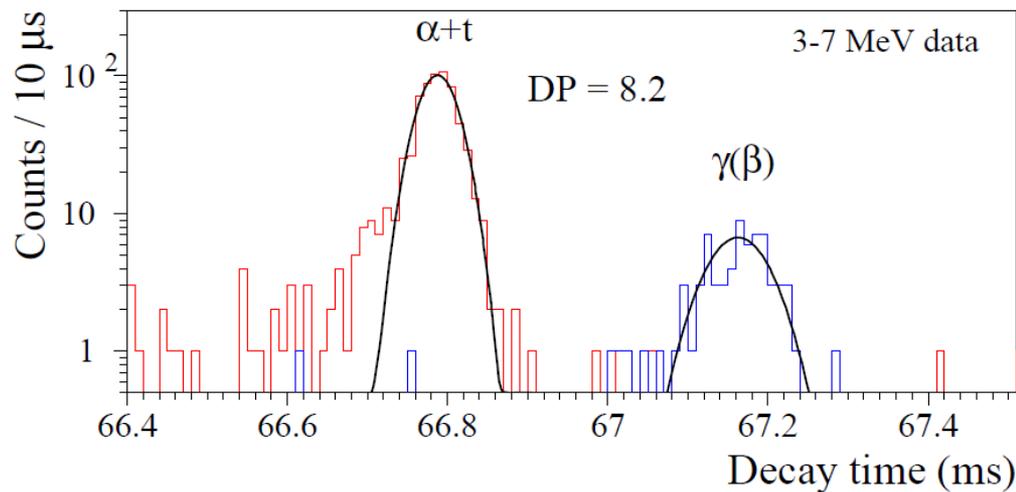
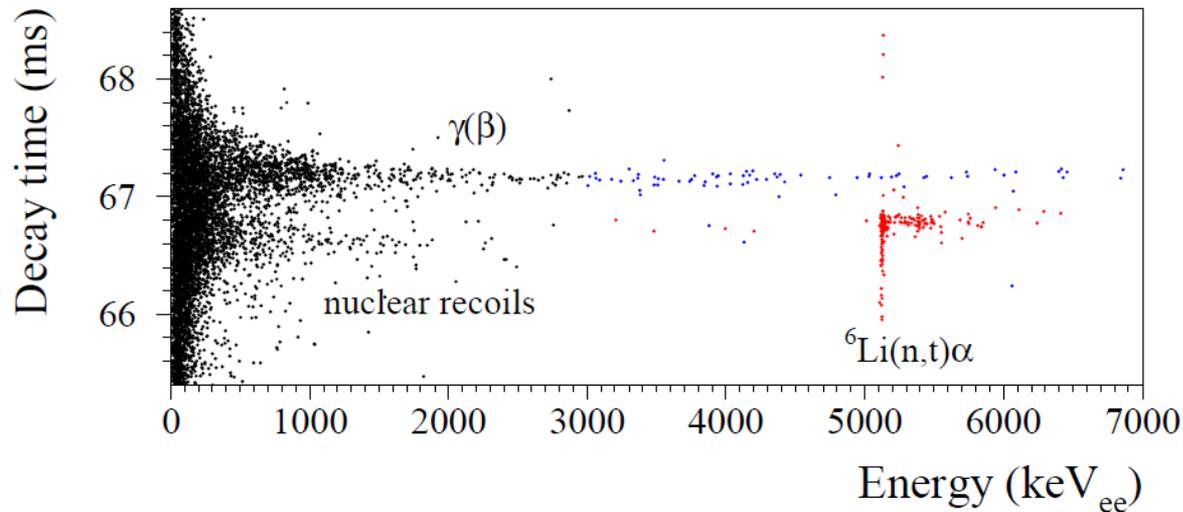




This can be achieved in **2018 in only 6 months !**

# $\alpha/\beta$ separation without light detectors

We performed a specific study on a natural 150 g  $\text{Li}_2\text{MoO}_4$  detector operated in LNGS. A calibration with an AmBe source provided enough statistics in the  $\beta$  and  $\alpha$ -like bands



# Possible configurations in CUPID

Single element	Number of elements	Isotope mass [kg]	Number of $^{100}\text{Mo}$ nuclei
$\text{Ø}50 \times 50 \text{ mm} - 300 \text{ g}$	1260	213	$1.2 \times 10^{27}$
$\text{Ø}60 \times 40 \text{ mm} - 350 \text{ g}$	1092		
$45 \times 45 \times 55 \text{ mm} - 340 \text{ g}$	1110		

If PSD works for  $\alpha$  particle rejection (as preliminary results seem to demonstrate), a very simple configuration **without light detectors** can be envisaged.

If light detectors are kept, the available volume for the source will be reduced by  $\sim 10\%$ .

Background [counts/(keV kg y)]	Number of BKG counts [8 keV, 10 y]	Count limit [90% c.l.]	Half life limit [90% c.l.]	$M_{\beta\beta}$ [meV]
$1 \times 10^{-4}$	3	4.4	$1.4 \times 10^{27}$	7.3 – 21
$2 \times 10^{-5}$	0.6	2.9	$2.2 \times 10^{27}$	5.9 – 17

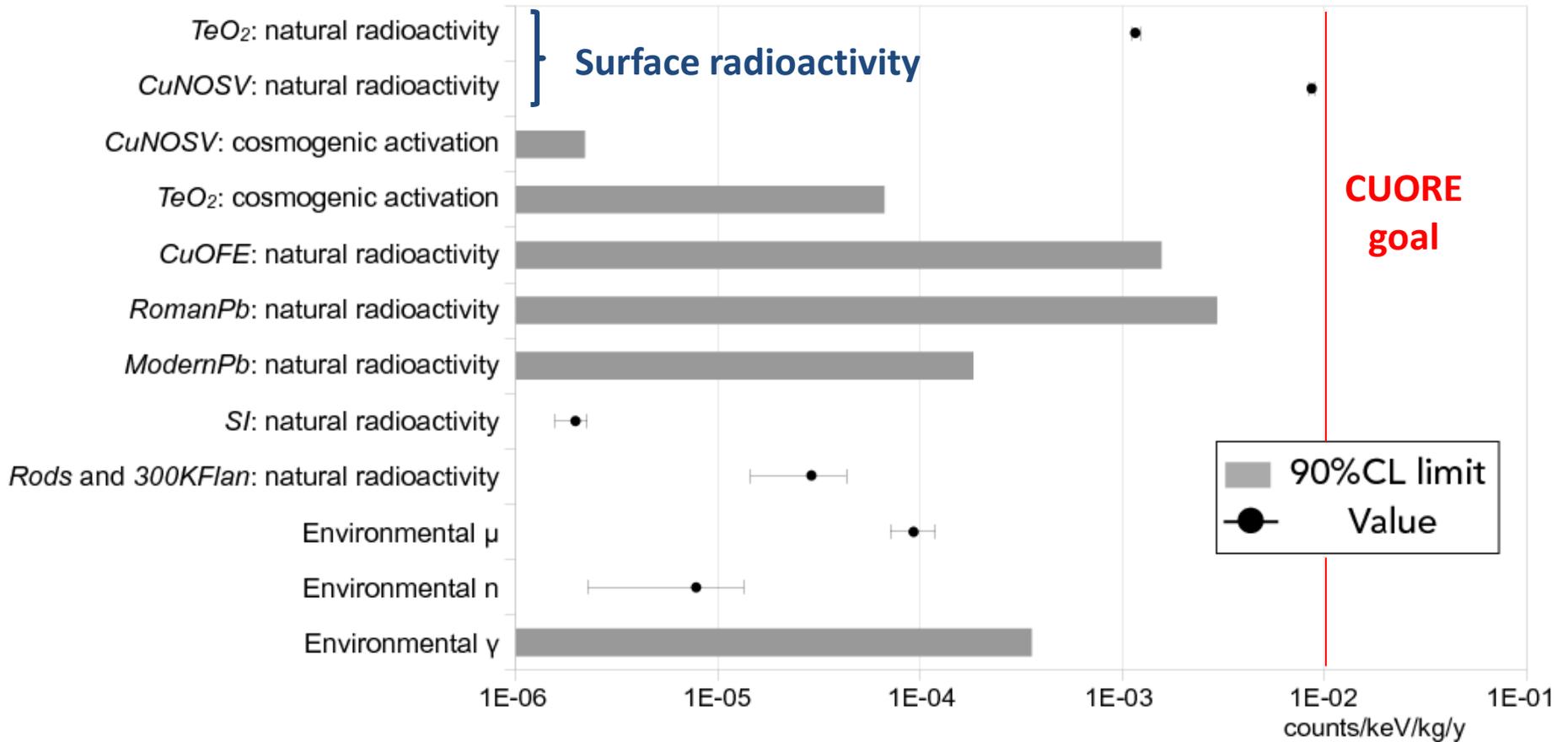
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- **Surface sensitivity: the CROSS project** 

# Current role of surface radioactivity

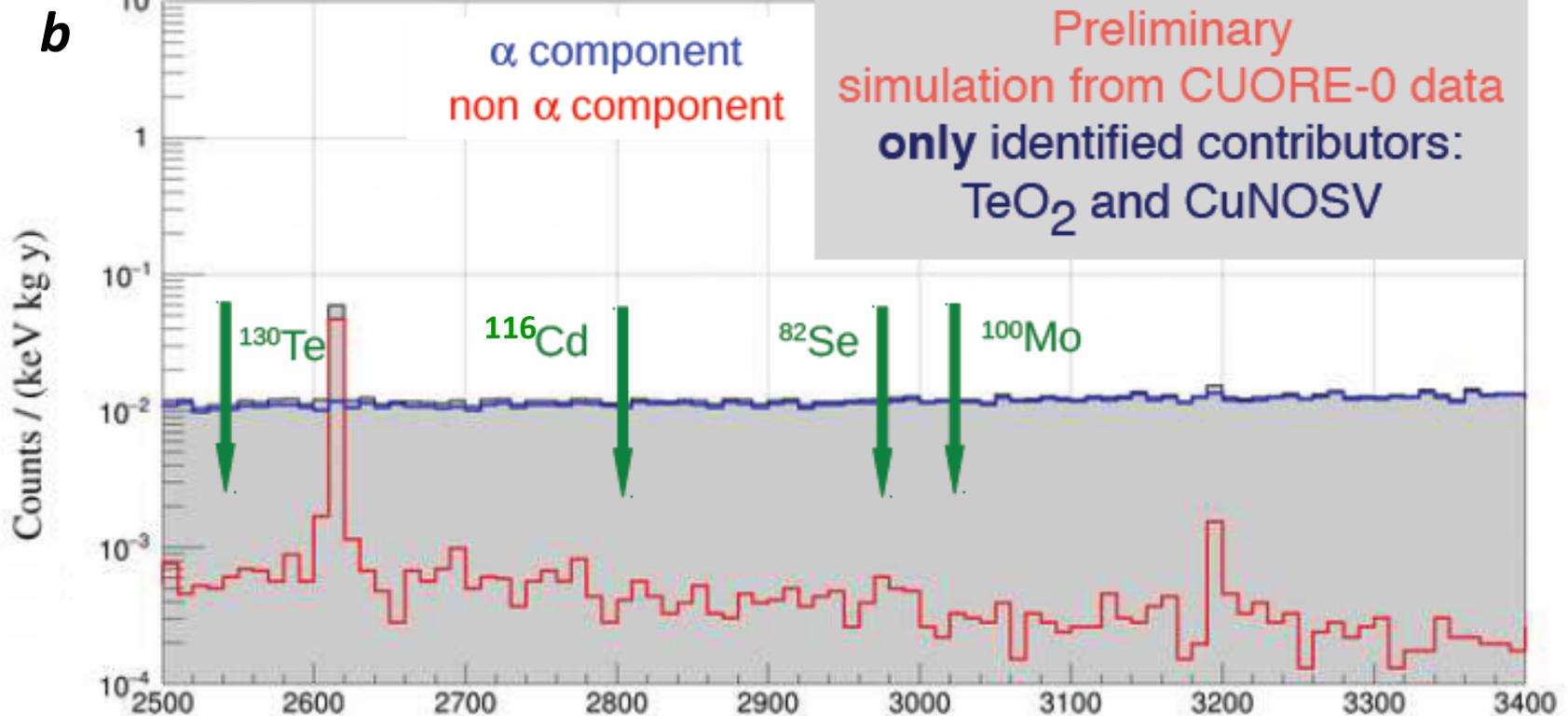
## CUORE background model

*arXiv:1704.08970 [physics.ins-det]*



# Eliminating surface $\alpha$ 's is enough?

M. Vignati, DBD16, 8-10 november 2016, Osaka

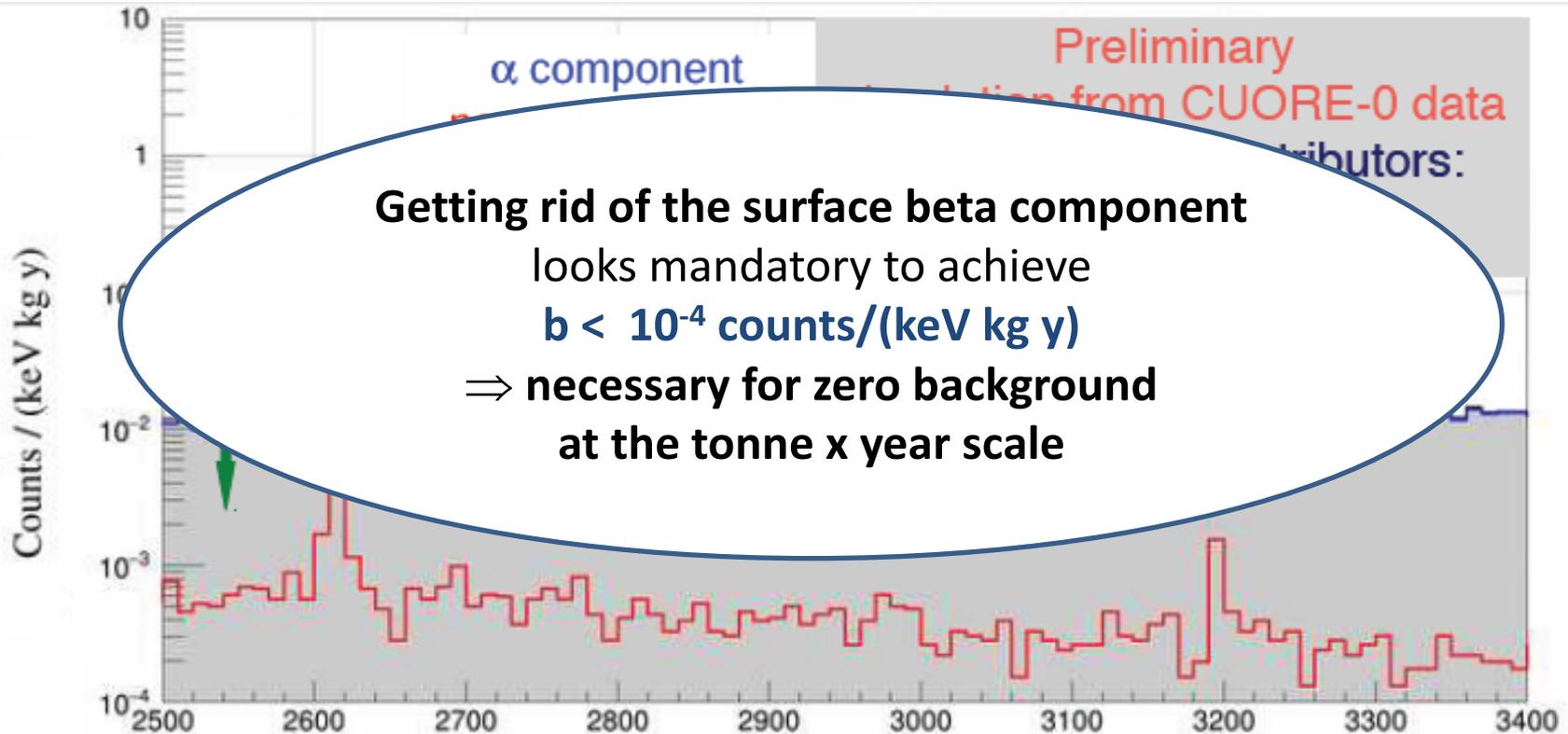


The residual background after alpha rejection comes mainly from **high Q-value beta emitters from surface contamination**

$^{226}\text{Ra}$  – generates  $^{214}\text{Bi}$  – 3.27 MeV endpoint

$^{228}\text{Th}$  – generates  $^{208}\text{Tl}$  – 5.00 MeV endpoint

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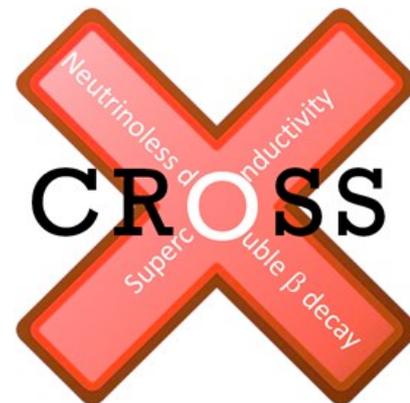
# CROSS: new advancement opportunity

## ERC advanced grant CROSS



Cryogenic Rare-event Observatory with Surface Sensitivity

CROSS is a bolometric experiment to search for  $0\nu$ -DBD



### ➤ Core of the project (high risk / high gain)

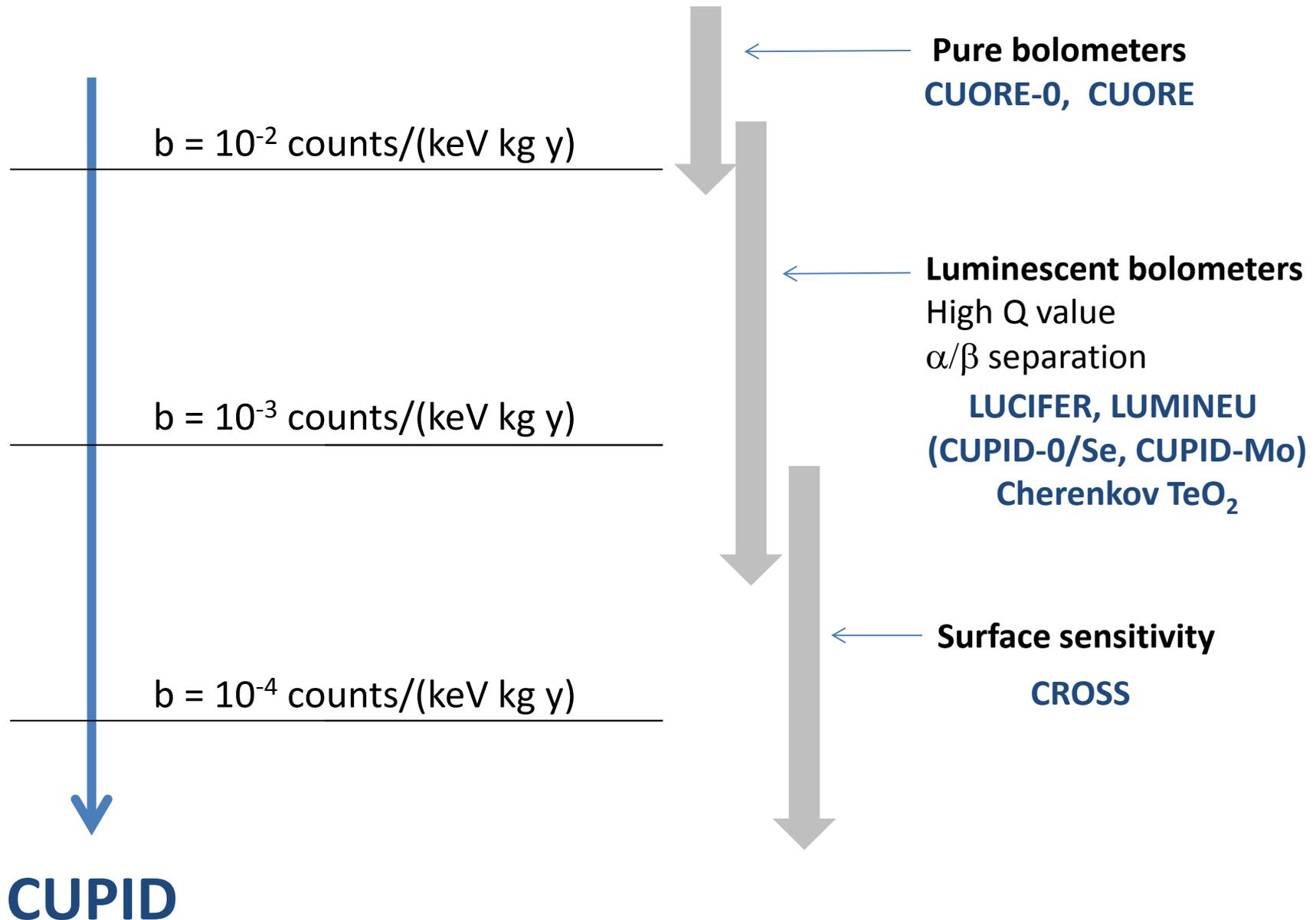
Background rejection through **pulse shape discrimination**

- Surface sensitivity through superconductive Al film coating
- Fast NbSi high-impedance TES to replace / complement NTDs

➔ get rid of light detectors

- Complete crystallization of available  $^{100}\text{Mo}$  (10 kg) in  $\text{Li}_2\text{MoO}_4$  elements
- Purchase / crystallize  $^{130}\text{Te}$  (up to 17 kg) in  $\text{TeO}_2$  elements
- Run demonstrator in a dedicated cryostat (LSC – Spain)

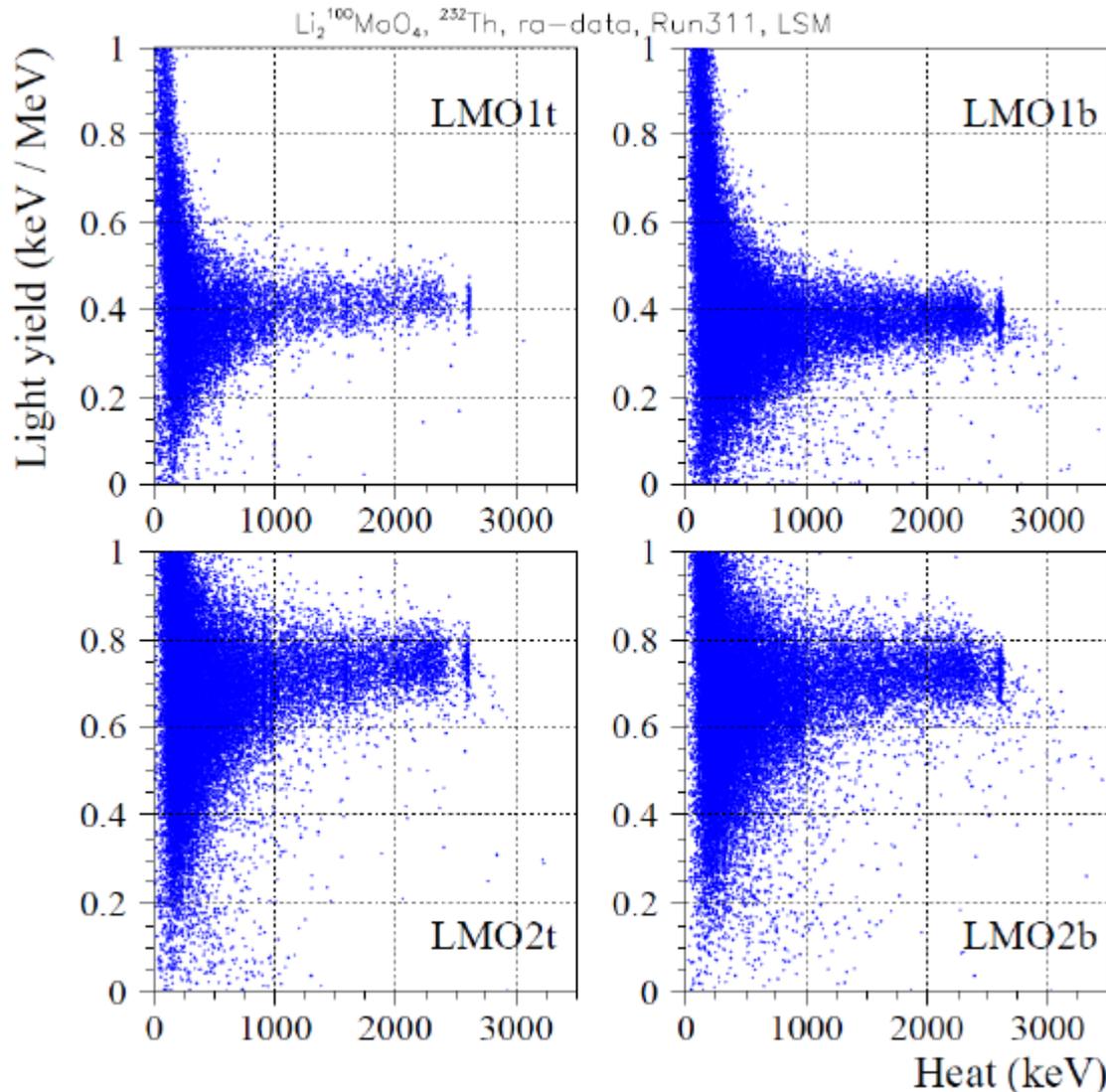
# The evolution of the bolometric technique



**BACK UP**

# Light yield

Light-yield plots with  $^{232}\text{Th}$  calibration



Without  
reflecting  
foil

Significant  
LY reduction  
without  
reflecting  
foil

With  
reflecting  
foil

However,  $\alpha/\beta$  separation  
is sufficient even without  
reflecting foil

# 2νββ decay random coincidences

Contribution to the background index in the ROI:  $\varnothing 50 \text{ mm} \times 50 \text{ mm}$  (300 g)

$$\text{BKG(rc)} [\text{counts}/(\text{keV kg y})] = 3 \times 10^{-4} [T_R / 1 \text{ ms}] [M / 300 \text{ g}]$$

## Our approach (partial simulation + PSD)

- Take a large value for  $T_R$  (typically  $T_R \sim 3 \times$  rise time)
- Use real-shape pulses
- Use real noise baselines
- Generate pulses with correct 2ν pulse amplitude distribution
- Calculated rejection efficiency by PSD of pulse-pair separated by less than  $T_R$
- Multiply the above formula by rejection efficiency

*EPJ C 72, 1989 (2012)*  
*EPJ C 74, 2913 (2014)*  
*arXiv:1606.02287v1*

In a real case (heat channel):

$$T_R = 45 \text{ ms}$$

Rejection efficiency by PSD = 99.3 % (using the so-called **mean-time method**)  
(95% acceptance)

$$\text{BKG(rc)} [\text{counts}/(\text{keV kg y})] \sim 1 \times 10^{-4}$$

## It can be improved:

- Full simulation
- Advanced pulse shape parameters (after optimum filtering)

# Neutrons



$\sigma = 940 \text{ barn}$   
(thermal neutrons)

$Q = 4.78 \text{ MeV}$

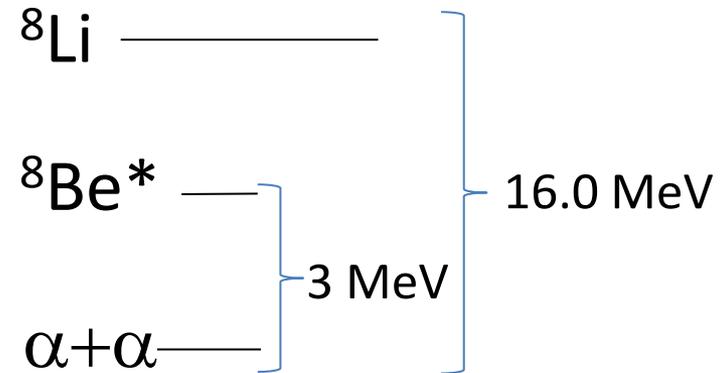
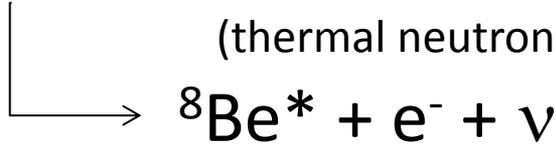
**Harmless**

No associated  $\beta$  radiation

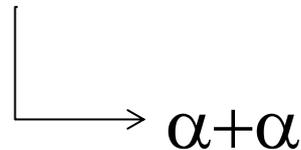
Huge internal energy deposition



$\sigma = 45.4 \text{ mbarn}$   
(thermal neutrons)



Prompt ( $\Gamma \sim 1.5 \text{ MeV}$ )

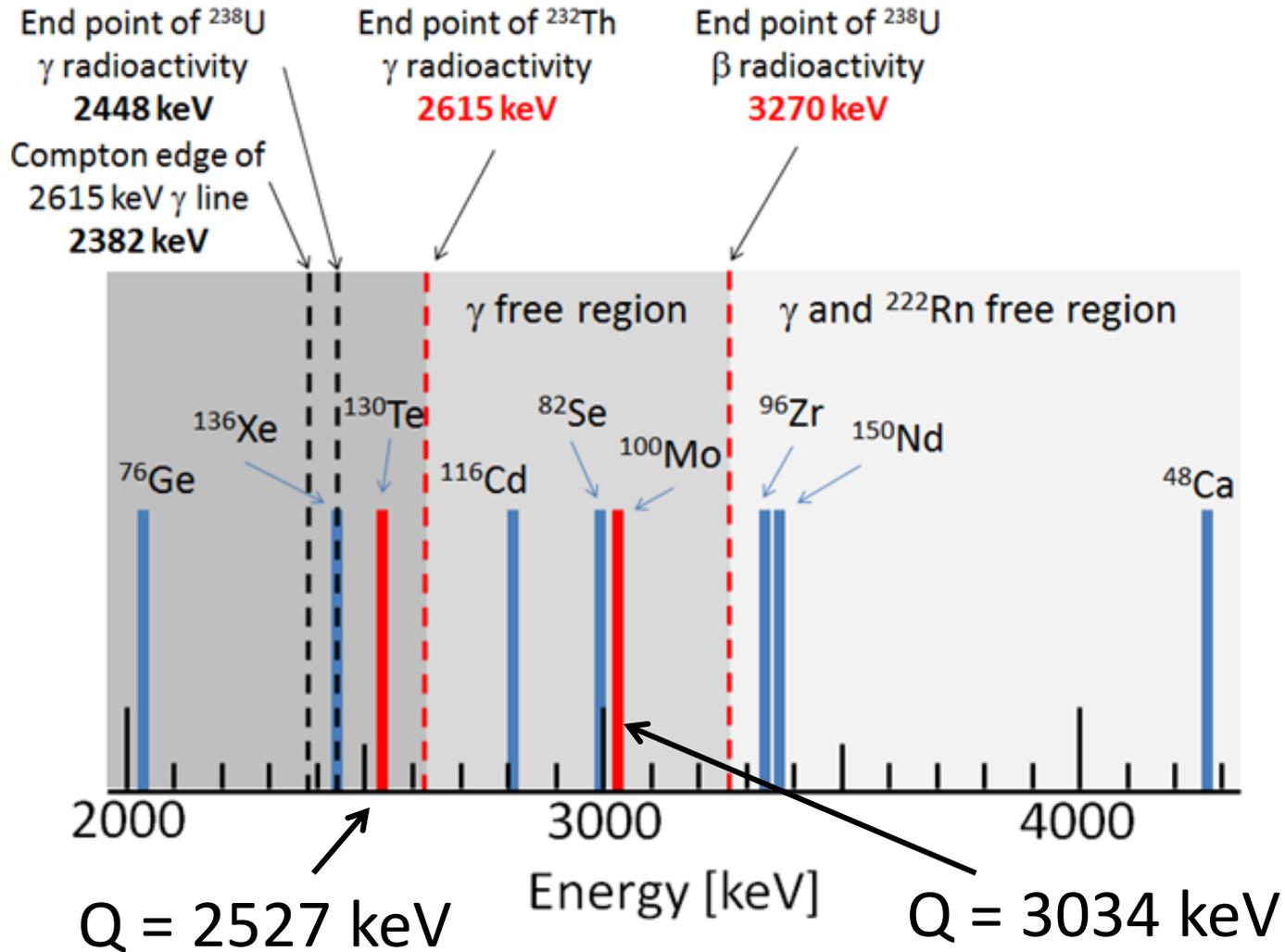


**Harmless**

Very low cross section

Mixed events with  $\alpha$  component

# Choice of CROSS material ( $^{100}\text{Mo}$ – $^{130}\text{Te}$ )



# Choice of CROSS material ( $^{130}\text{Te}$ )

- Crystallization / purification chain for  $\text{TeO}_2$  extensively studied in CUORE and precursors in natural crystals (SICCAS, Shanghai, China)
- Excellent results in terms of performance and radiopurity
  - ⇒ Internal contamination in  $^{226}\text{Ra}$  and  $^{228}\text{Th}$  are less than  $1 \mu\text{Bq/kg}$
- Recently, the study was extended to enriched crystals (USC et al., SICCAS)
  - **Irrecoverable losses ~ 28 %** (less good than  $^{100}\text{Mo}$  but lower isotope price)
  - Detector performance of natural crystals is confirmed

Chain	Nuclide	$^{130}\text{TeO}_2\text{-1}$ [ $\mu\text{Bq/kg}$ ]	$^{130}\text{TeO}_2\text{-2}$ [ $\mu\text{Bq/kg}$ ]
$^{232}\text{Th}$	$^{232}\text{Th}$	<4.3	<4.8
	$^{228}\text{Th}$	<2.3	<3.1
$^{238}\text{U}$	$^{238}\text{U}$	$7.7 \pm 2.7$	$15.1 \pm 4.4$
	$^{234}\text{U}$	<6.3	<5
	$^{230}\text{Th}$	<5.7	<3.8
	$^{226}\text{Ra}$	<2.3	<3.1
	$^{210}\text{Po}$	$3795 \pm 60$	$6076 \pm 88$

  
 $^{130}\text{Te}$ : **15-20 \$/g**  
 VS  
 $^{100}\text{Mo}$ : **90 \$/g**

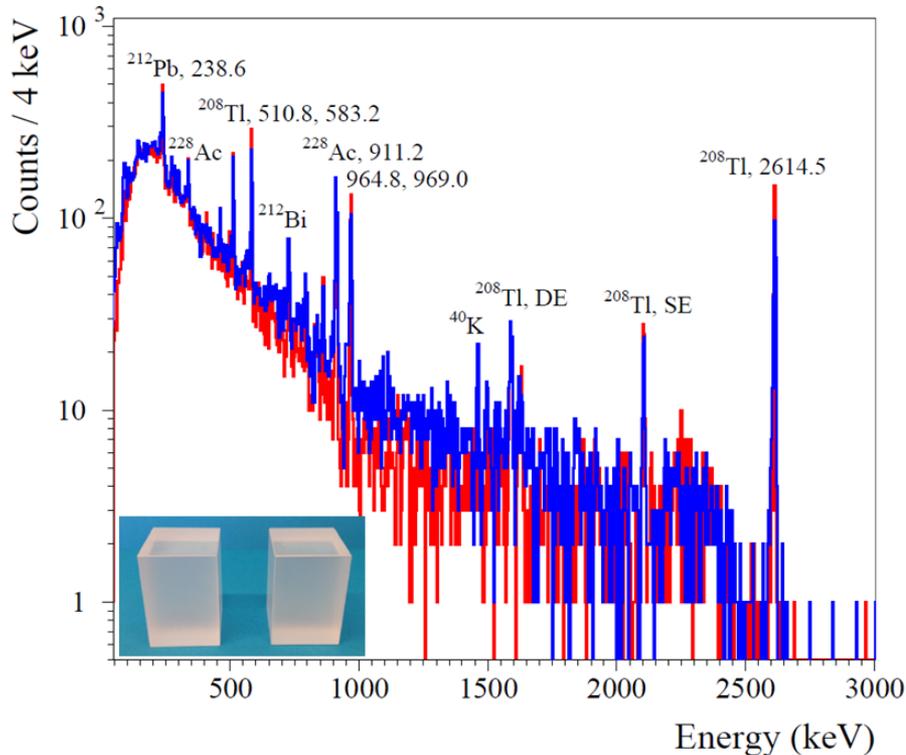
Radiopurity is less good than in natural crystals but compatible with  
 **$b < 10^{-4}$  counts/(keV kg y)**

# Detector performance

Two enriched  $\text{TeO}_2$  modules (LNGS)

$M = 430 \text{ g}$

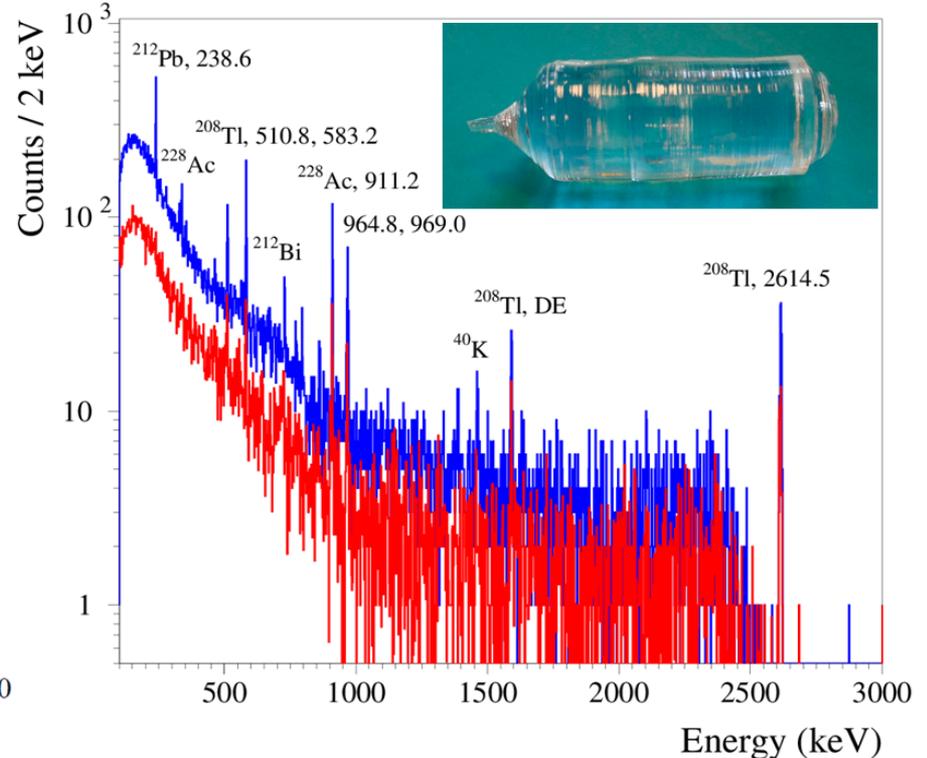
$\Delta E_{\text{FWHM}} \sim 5 \text{ keV at } 2.6 \text{ MeV}$



Two enriched  $\text{Li}_2\text{MoO}_4$  modules (LNGS+LSM)

$M = 210 \text{ g}$

$\Delta E_{\text{FWHM}} \sim 5 \text{ keV at } 2.6 \text{ MeV}$



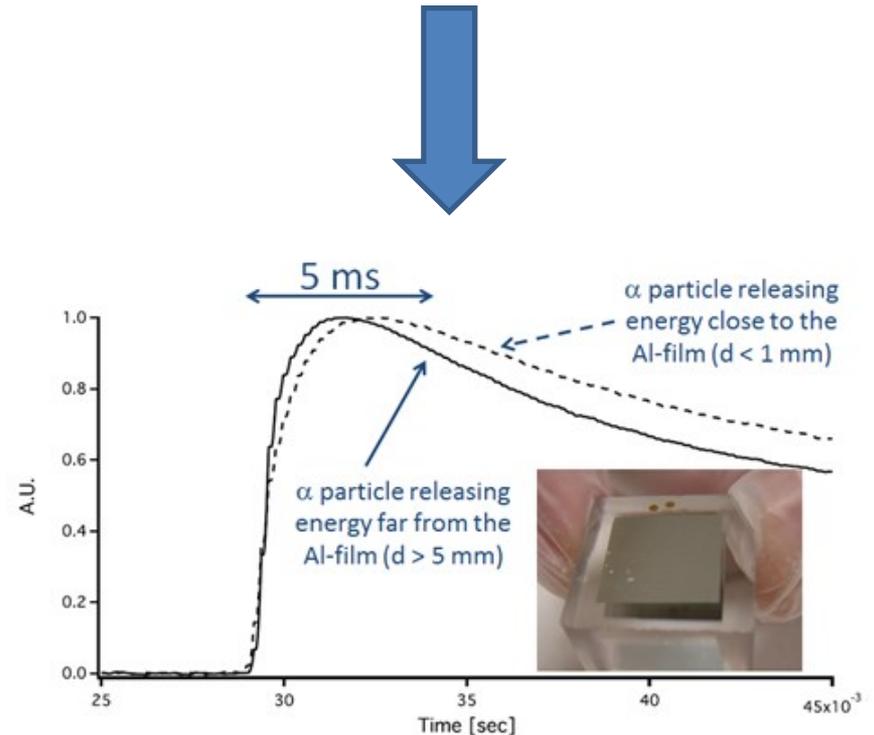
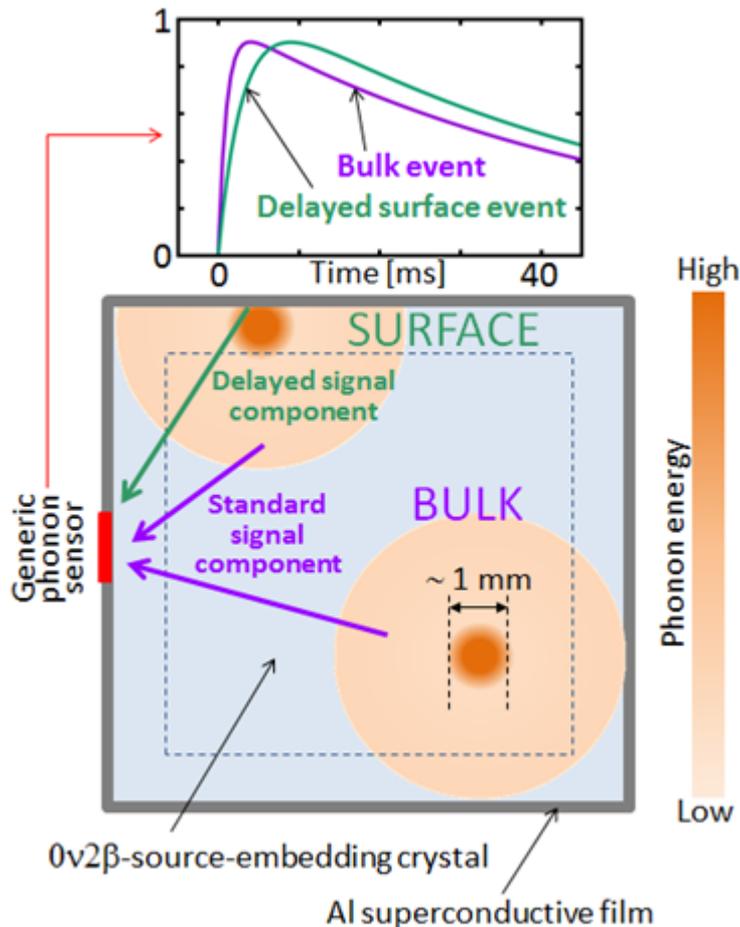
Th calibration

# Al films as pulse shape modifiers

Coating of all crystal surfaces with **SC Al films**

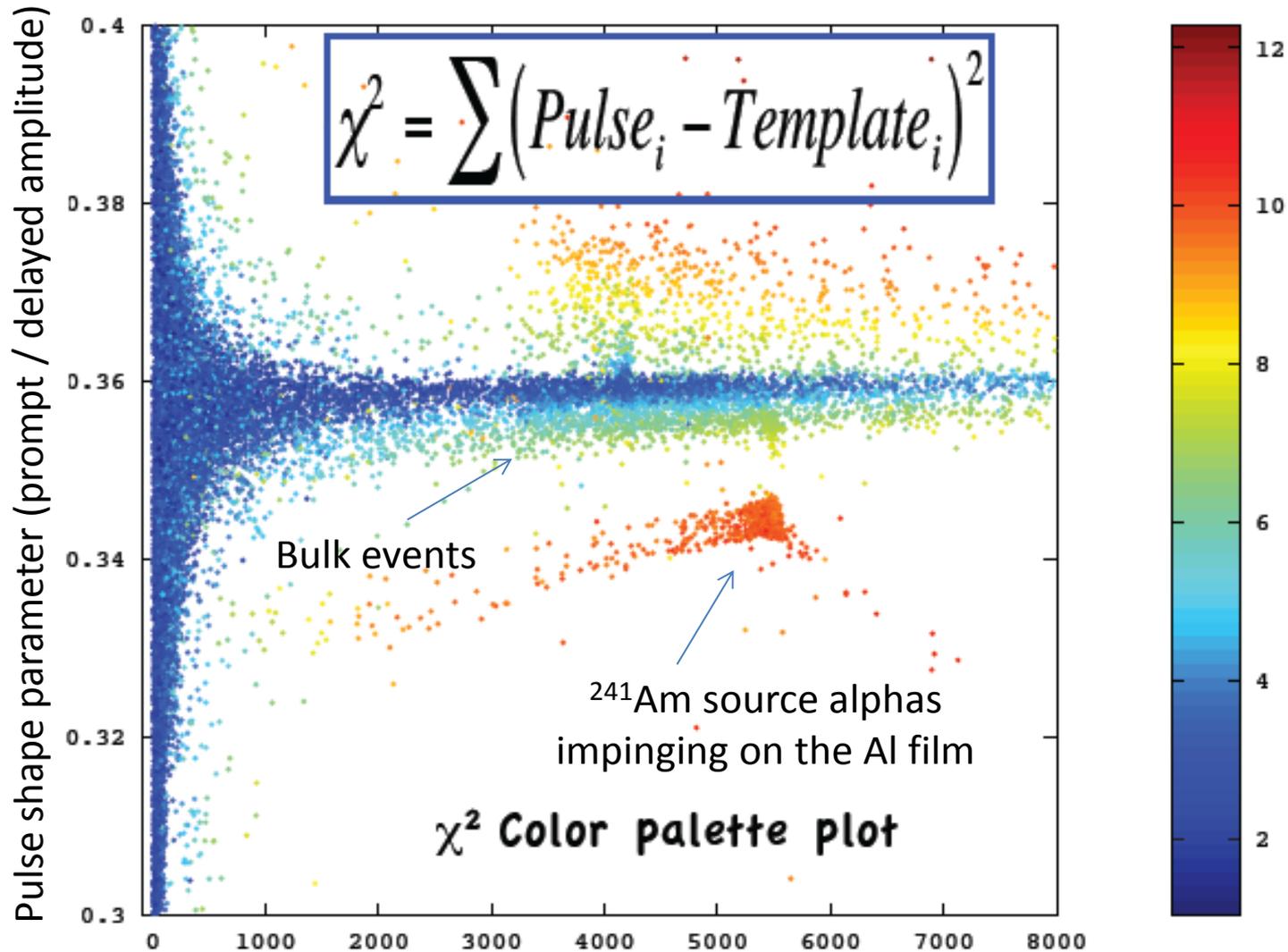
Discriminate surface events by **pulse shape (PSD)**

Proof of concepts  
achieved in 2010 in  
CSNSM



*J. Low Temp. Phys.* 167 (2012) 1029

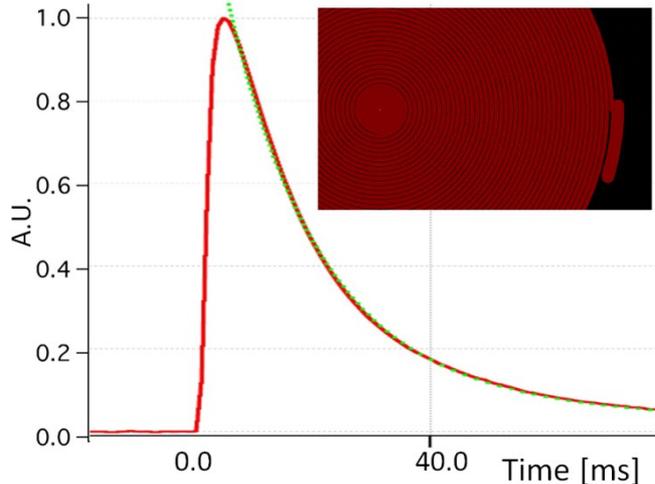
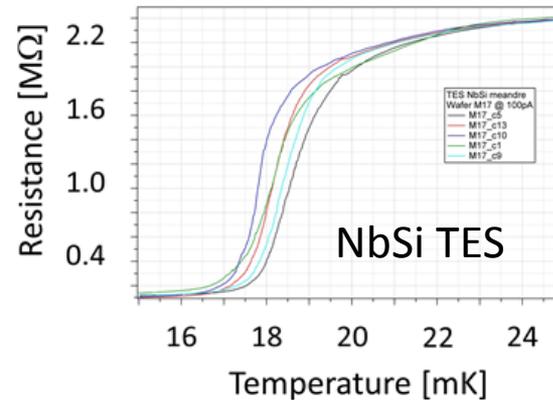
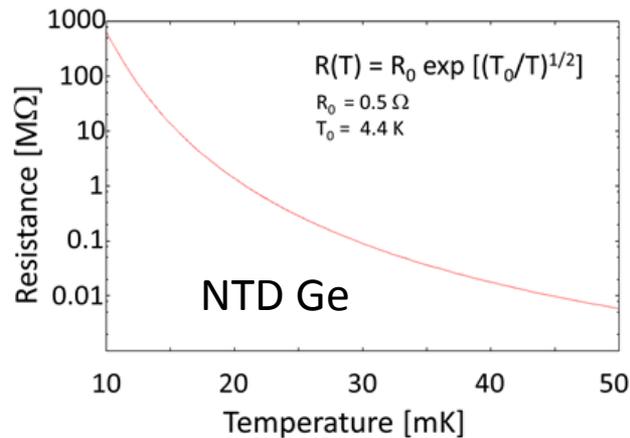
# Al films as pulse shape modifiers



# Fast NbSi sensors

Replace standard NTD Ge with **high impedance transition edge NbSi sensor**

Higher sensitivity (x 10) – **Faster response**  $\Rightarrow$  it may be necessary for PSD



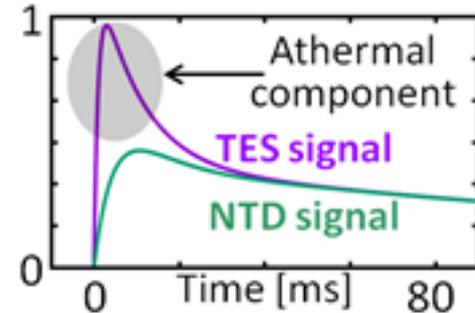
**Proof of concept achieved with a NbSi meander on a 32 g Ge absorber**

Rise time: 2.5 ms vs. 20 ms for NTDs

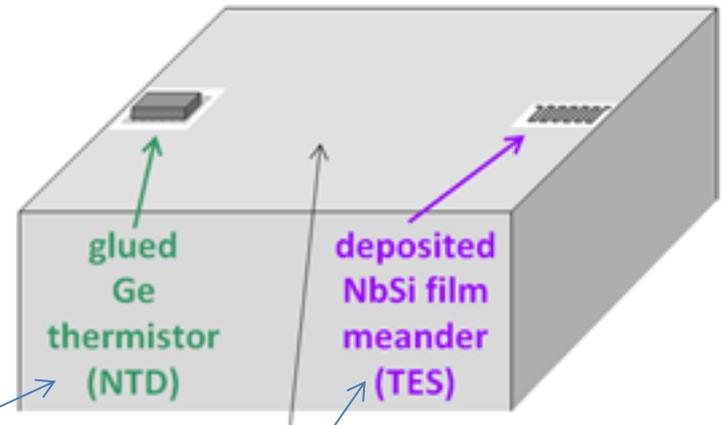
The meander has 6 mm diameter, a spiral shape, a line width of 45  $\mu\text{m}$  and a pitch of 60  $\mu\text{m}$ .  
The length/width aspect ratio is 9700.

# Double readout

If the NbSi signal contains an important component of **athermal phonons**, signal-amplitude position dependence is possible with consequent **loss of energy resolution**



CROSS foresees in its baseline solution to keep NTD Ge readout (slow response, thermal signal)



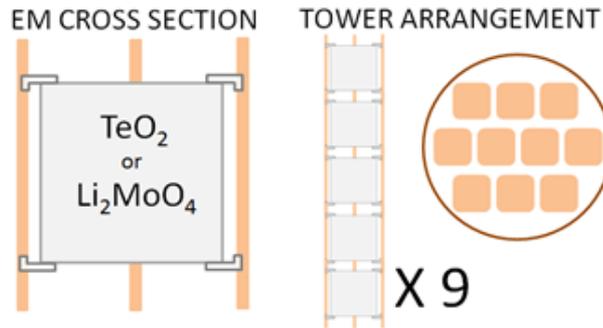
Energy readout

Time readout

# CROSS demonstrator (CROSS-DEM)

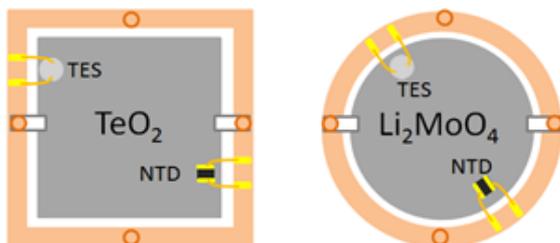
- Complete crystallization of available  $^{100}\text{Mo}$  (10 kg)
- Purchase / crystallize  $^{130}\text{Te}$  (up to 17 kg)
- Fabricate demonstrator with 90 crystals in dedicated refrigerator

Section of CROSS-DEM	Number of crystals	Total detector mass [kg]	Isotopic abundance	Total isotope mass [kg]	Number of candidate nuclides
CROSS-DEM-Te	30	22.8	93% ( $^{130}\text{Te}$ )	17.0	$7.9 \times 10^{25}$ ( $^{130}\text{Te}$ )
CROSS-DEM-Mo	60	16.2	99% ( $^{100}\text{Mo}$ )	9.14	$5.4 \times 10^{25}$ ( $^{100}\text{Mo}$ )



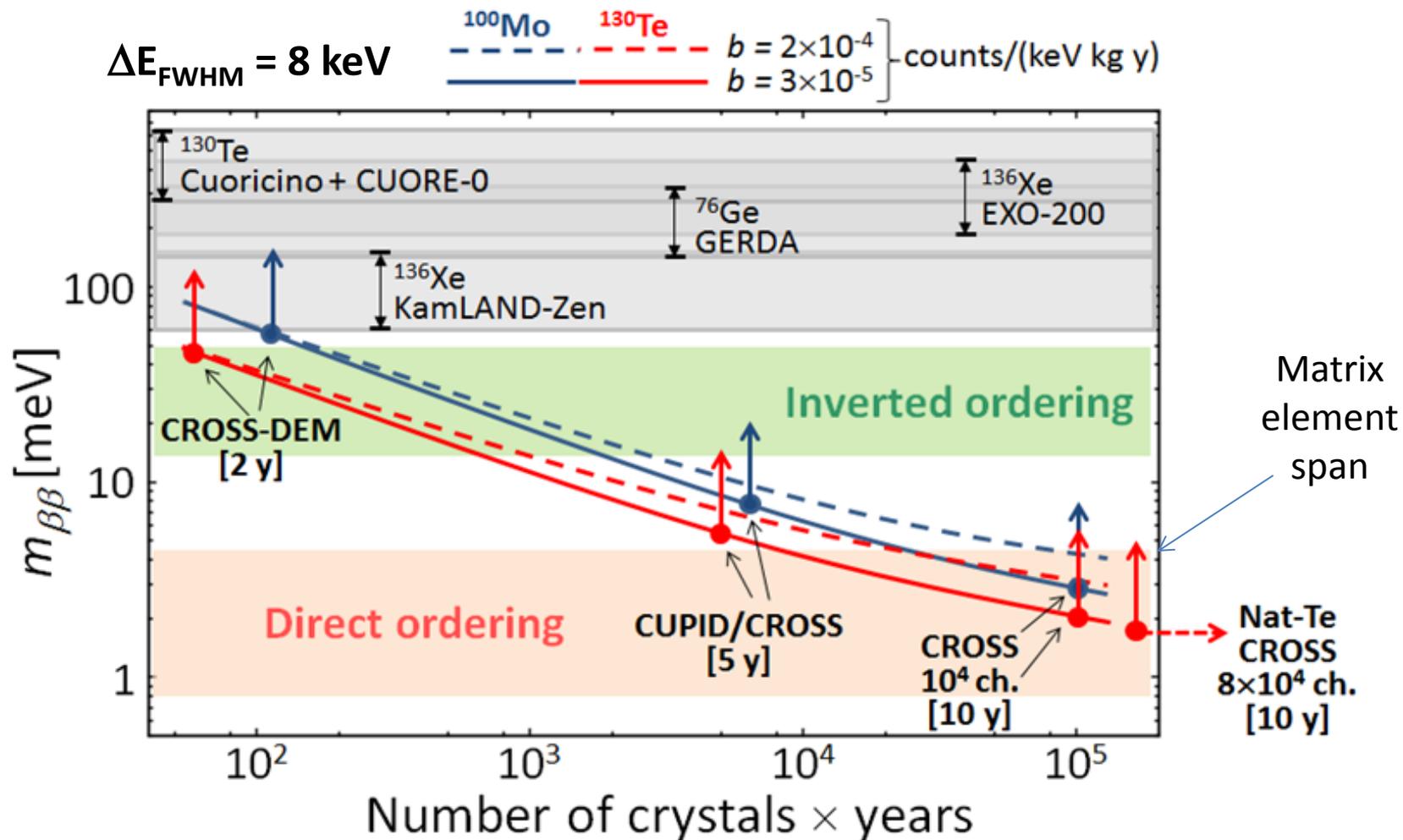
Low radioactivity refrigerator, based on a pulse tube, with experimental space  $\varnothing 30 \times 60$  cm – muon veto

EM TOP VIEW



To be installed in LSC (former ROSEBUD hut)

# CROSS sensitivity



CUPID/CROSS Te  $\Rightarrow$  543 kg of  $^{130}\text{Te}$

CUPID/CROSS Mo  $\Rightarrow$  212 kg of  $^{100}\text{Mo}$