



## Neutrinoless double beta decay

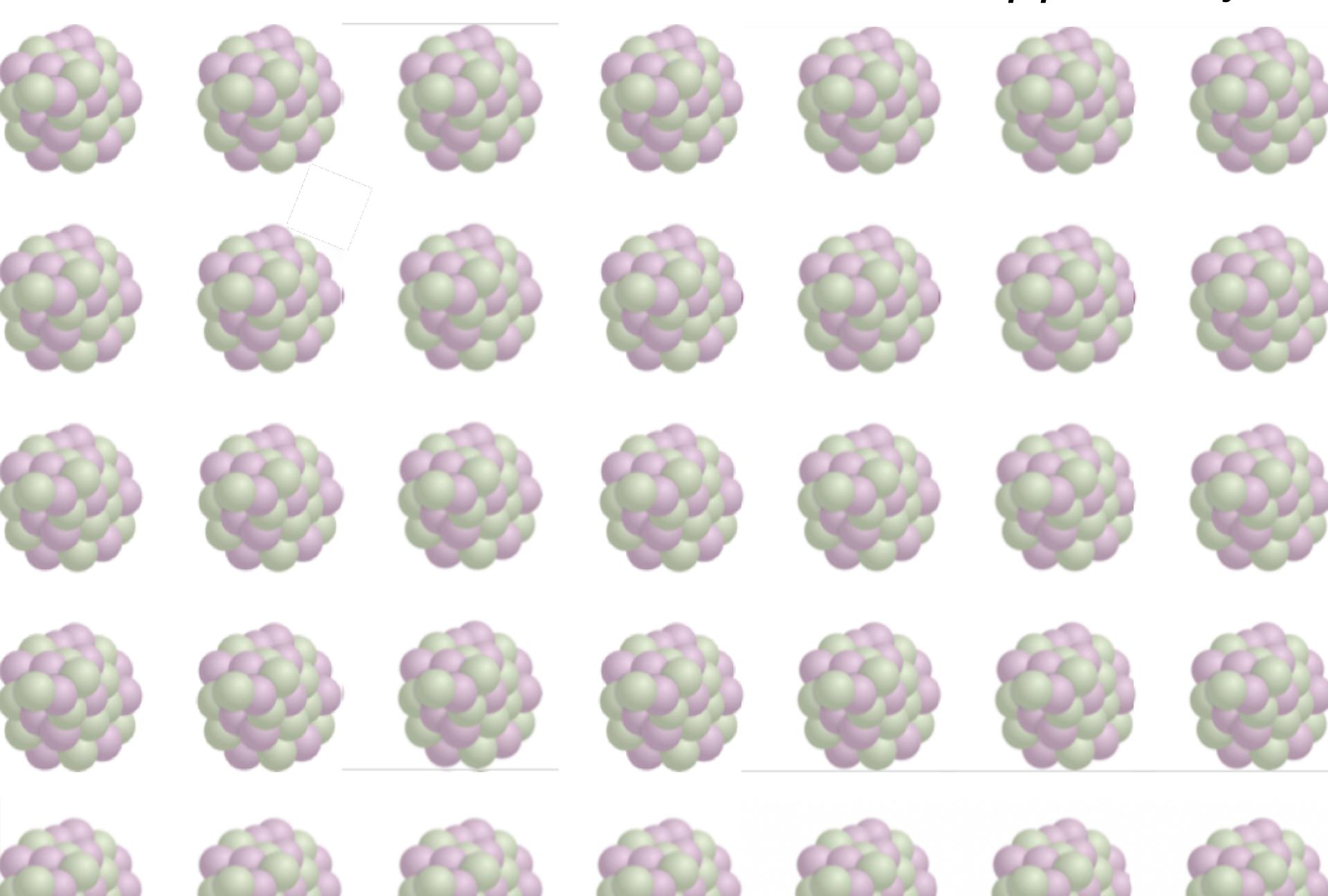
Stefan Schönert | TU München

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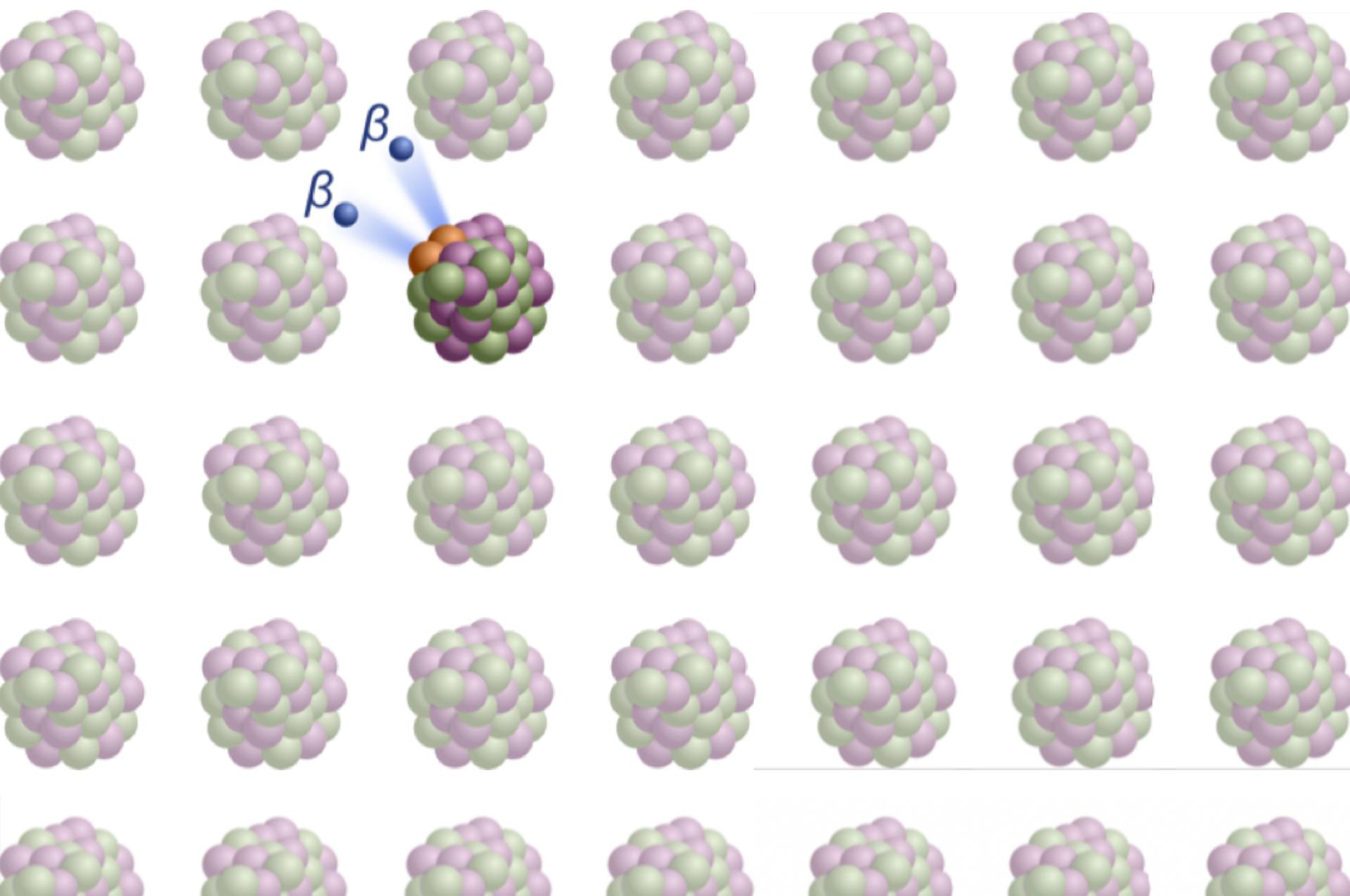
25th Anniversary of the Rencontres du Vietnam  
Windows to the Universe

6-11 August 2018  
ICISE, Quy Nhon, Vietnam

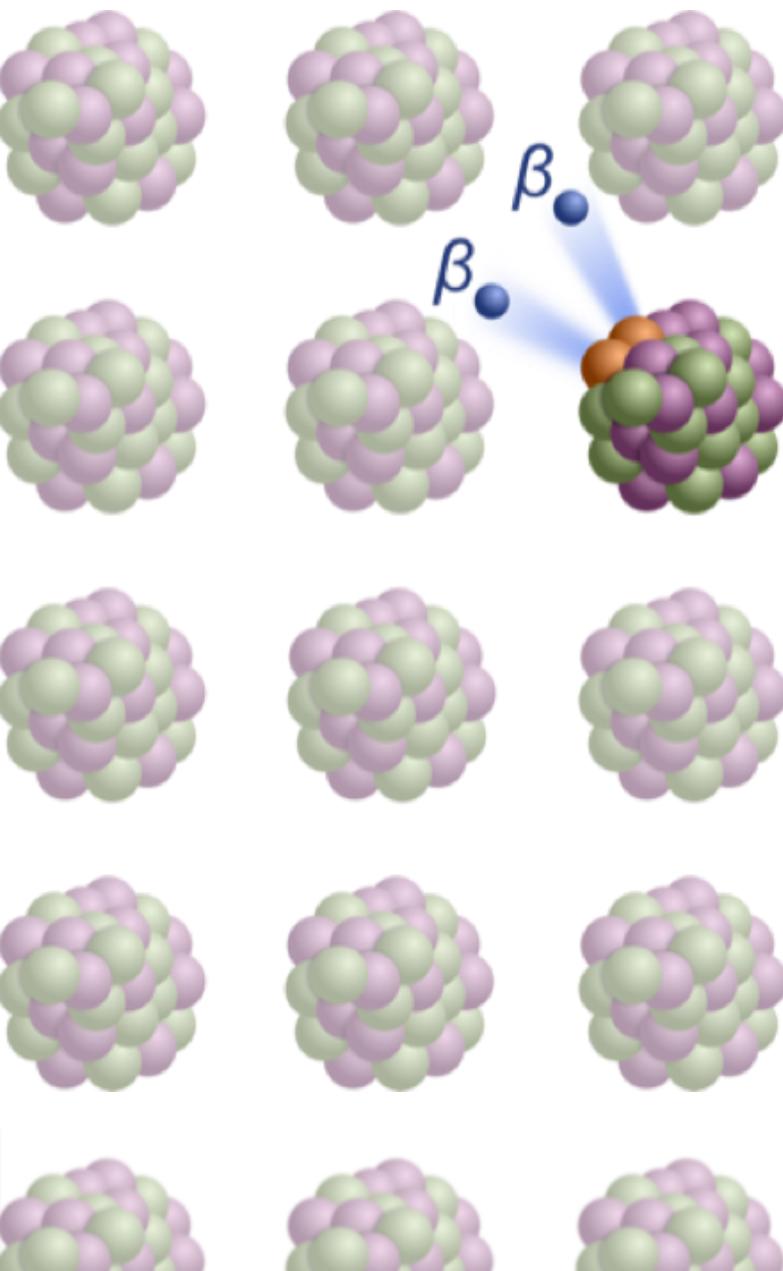
# $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay



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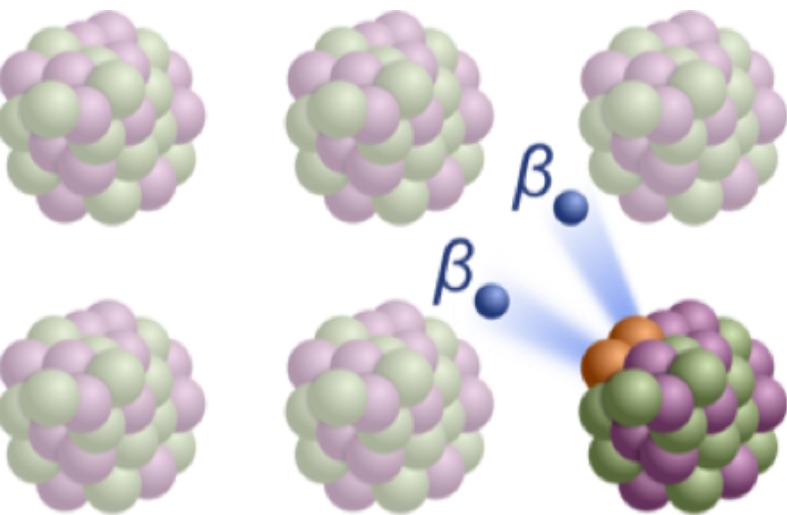


# $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay



- Creation of matter without balancing emission of anti-matter (Vissani)
- $(A,Z) \rightarrow (A,Z+2) + 2e^-$
- Lepton number violating process ( $\Delta L=2$ )
- Majorana neutrinos generate  $0\nu\beta\beta$
- Majorana neutrinos would explain small neutrino masses (See-Saw)
- Key ingredient for explanation of matter-antimatter asymmetry
- In general:  $\Delta L=2$  (BSM) operators can generate  $0\nu\beta\beta$
- Discovery of  $0\nu\beta\beta$  always imply new

# $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay



Current best sensitivity:

$$T_{1/2} \sim 10^{26} \text{ yr}$$

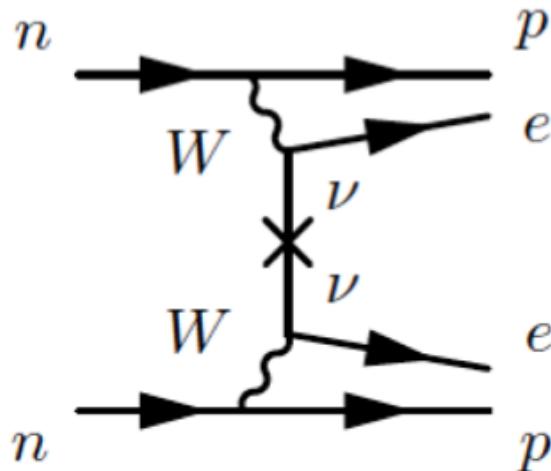
Next generation:

$$T_{1/2} \sim 10^{28} \text{ yr} (\times 100 \text{ increase})$$

Challenge:

$\sim 1$  decay per  $10^4$  Mol and year

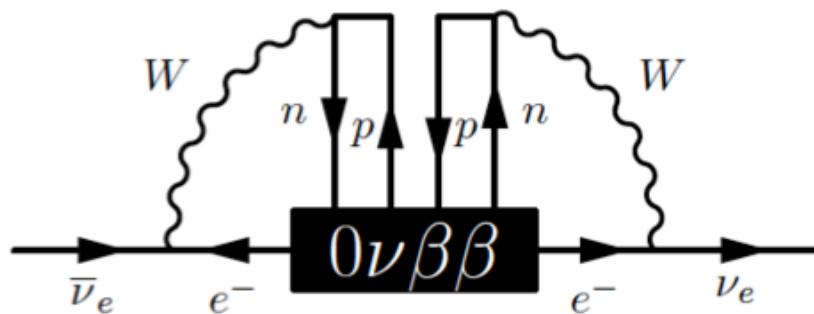
# $0\nu\beta\beta$



Standard paradigm: exchange of light Majorana neutrinos

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

PMNS-matrix       $\nu$ -mass

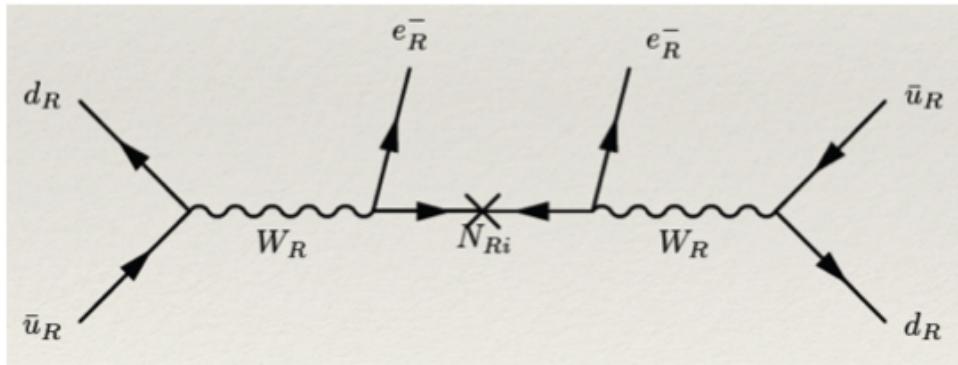


Any  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay process induces a  $\bar{\nu}_e - \nu_e$  transition, ie. an effective Majorana mass term  
*Schechter, Valle Phys. Rev. D25 (1982)*

Numerical values tiny; other leading contributions to neutrino mass must exist  
*Duerr, Merle, Lindner: JHEP 1106 (2011)*

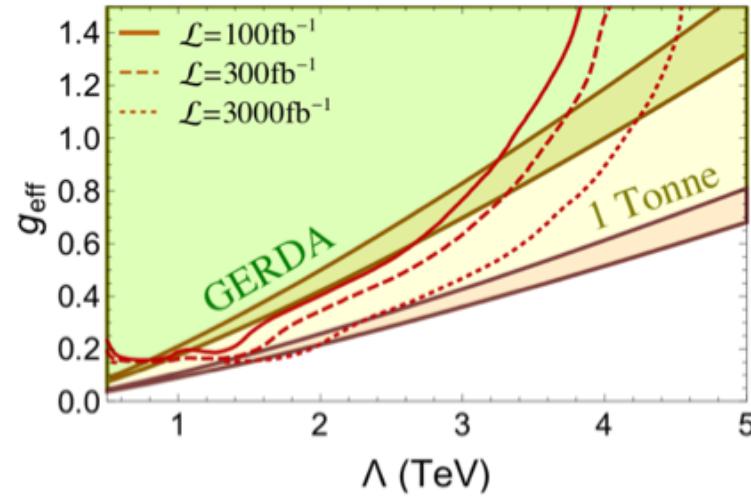
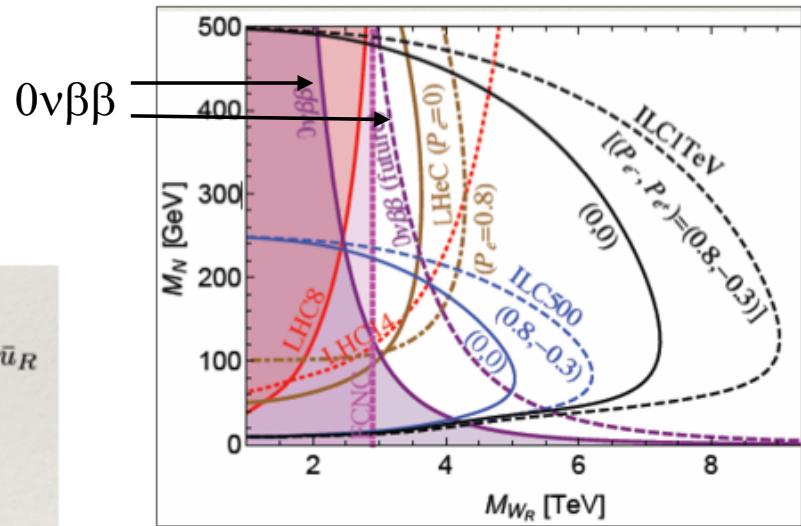
# Complementarity of LHC and $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay

Probing the TeV scale with same-sign di-leptons in  $0\nu\beta\beta$  and LHC:



$$G_F^2 \frac{|m_{ee}|^2}{q^2} = \frac{1}{\Lambda^5} \text{ for } |m_{ee}| \sim \text{eV} \text{ and } \Lambda \sim \text{TeV}$$

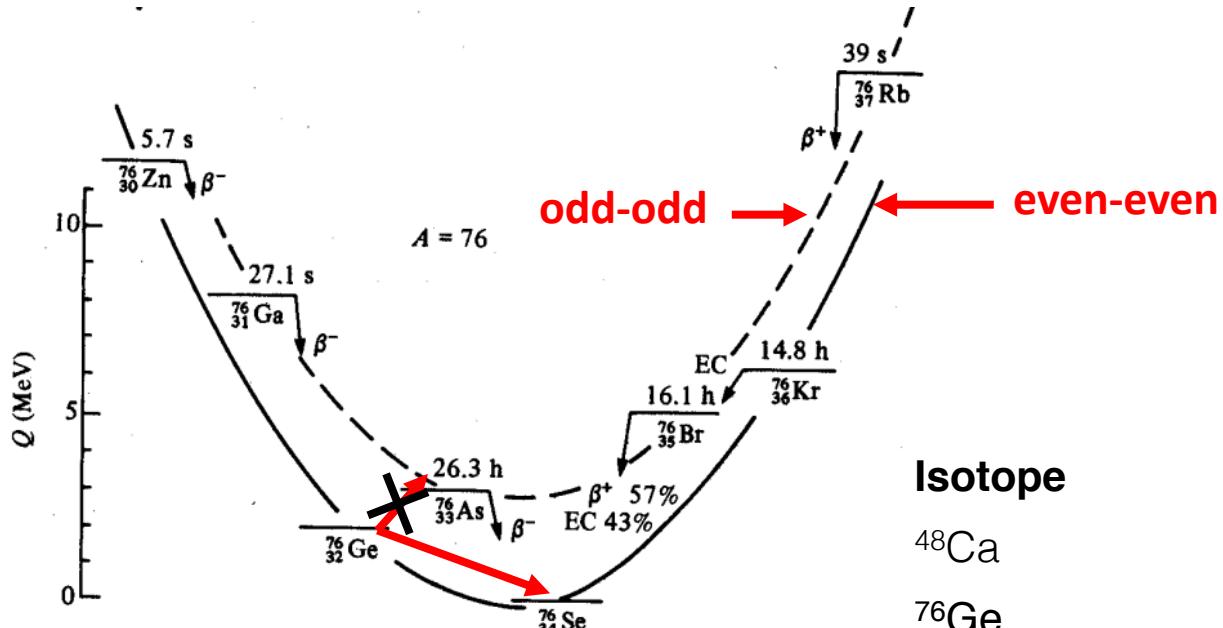
“eV = TeV”



See also: Hirsch et al., 1511.03945



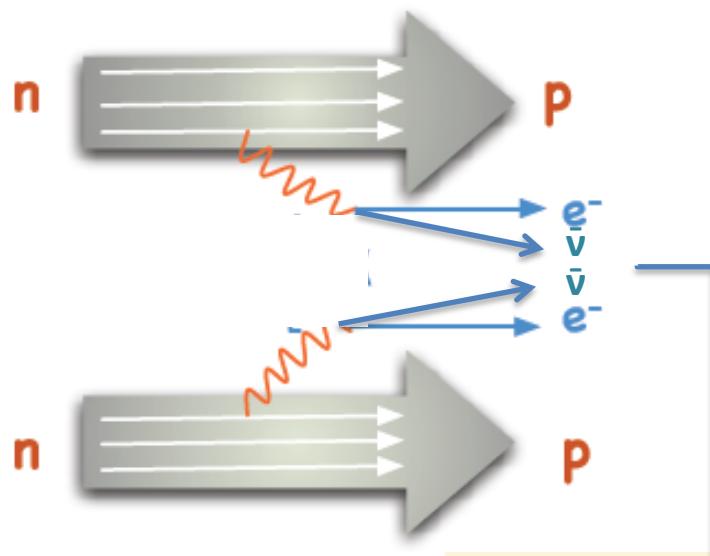
# Double beta decay isotopes



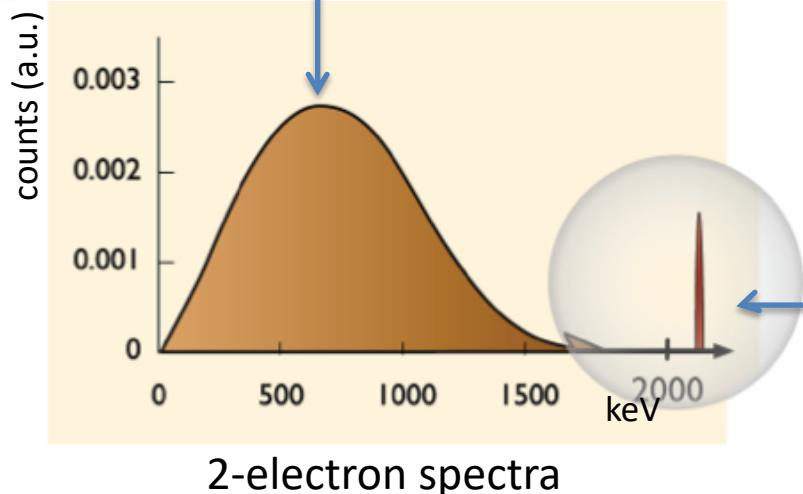
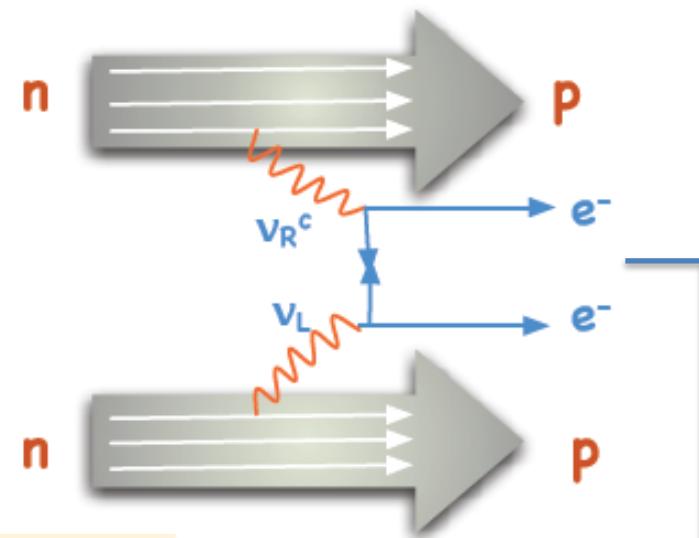
Isotope	Nat ab.	$Q_{\beta\beta}$
$^{48}\text{Ca}$	0.19 %	4262.96(84) keV
$^{76}\text{Ge}$	7.6%	2039.04(16) keV
$^{82}\text{Se}$	8.7%	2997.9(3) keV
$^{96}\text{Zr}$	2.8%	3356.097(86) keV
$^{100}\text{Mo}$	9.6%	3034.40(17) keV
$^{116}\text{Cd}$	7.5%	2813.50(13) keV
$^{130}\text{Te}$	34.5%	2526.97(23) keV
$^{136}\text{Xe}$	8.9%	2457.83(37) keV
$^{150}\text{Nd}$	5.6%	3371.38(20) keV

# $2\nu\beta\beta$ and $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay

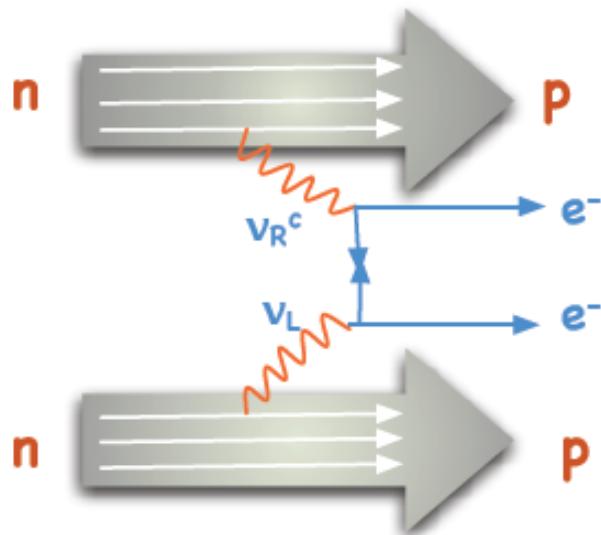
2-neutrino DBD



0-neutrino DBD



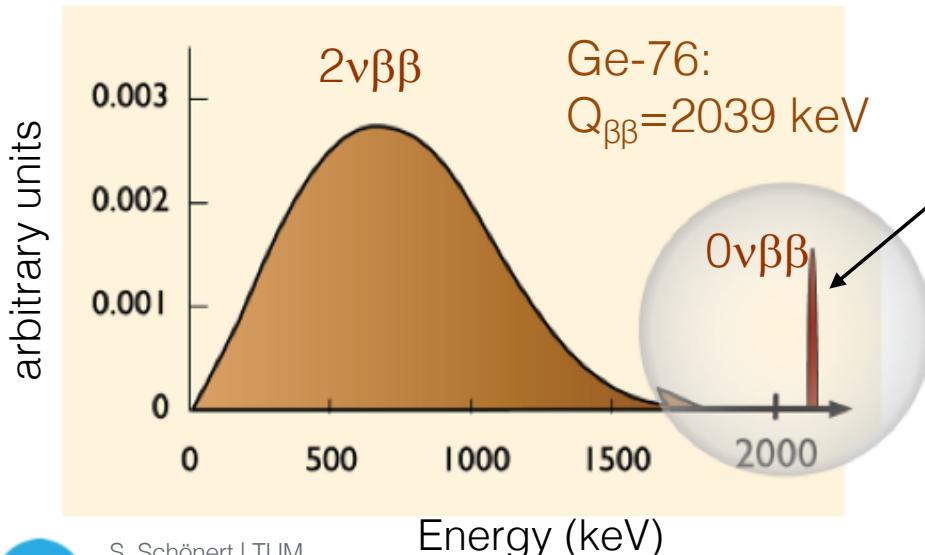
# $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay and neutrino mass



Expected decay rate:

$$(T_{1/2}^{0\nu})^{-1} = G^{0\nu}(Q, Z) |M^{0\nu}|^2 \langle m_{ee} \rangle^2$$

Phase space integral      Nuclear matrix element  
 $\langle m_{ee} \rangle = \left| \sum_i U_{ei}^2 m_i \right|$       Effective neutrino mass  
 $U_{ei}$  Elements of (complex) PMNS mixing matrix



Experimental signatures:

- peak at  $Q_{\beta\beta}$
- two electrons from vertex

Discovery would imply:

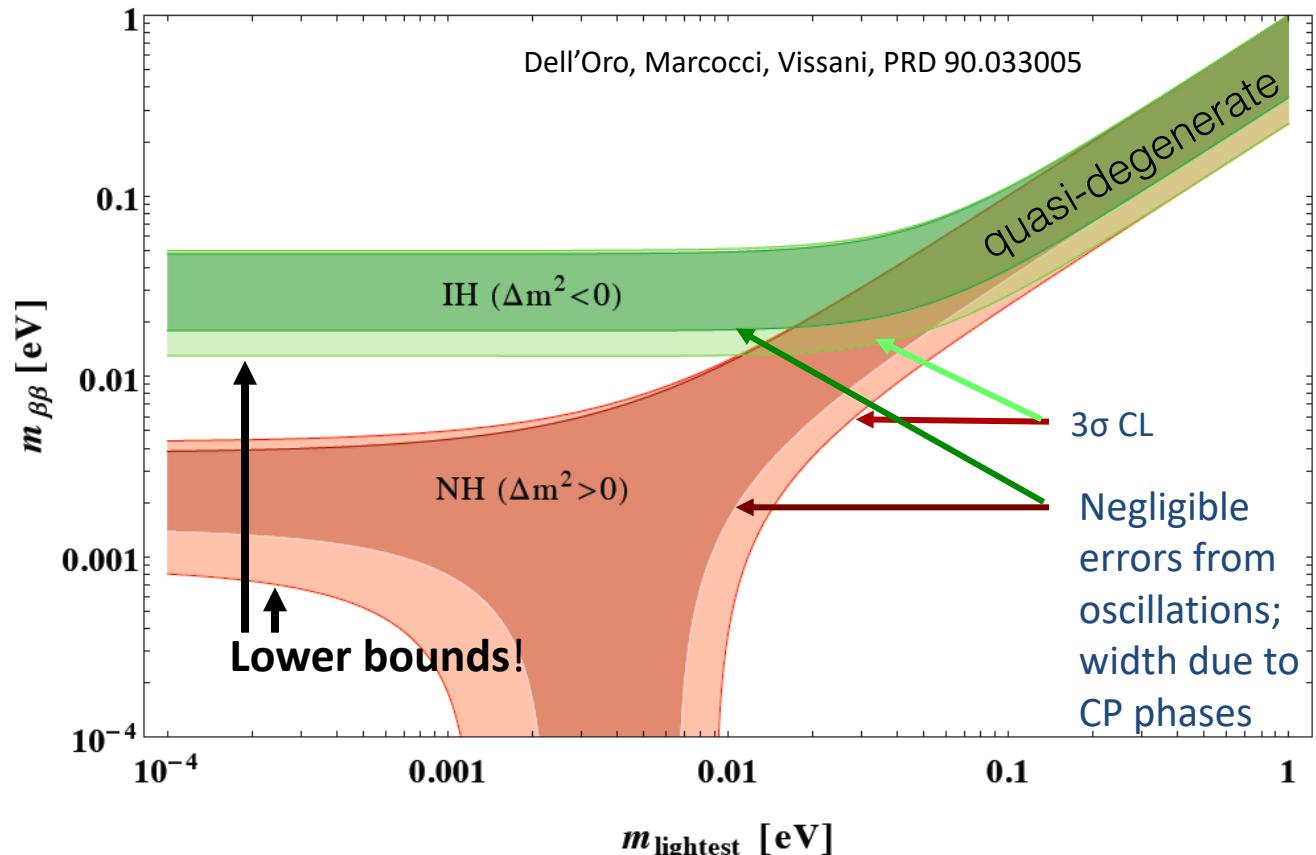
- lepton number violation  $\Delta L = 2$
- $\nu$ 's have Majorana character
- mass scale
- physics beyond the standard model

# $0\nu\beta\beta$ : Range of $m_{ee}$ from oscillation experiments

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

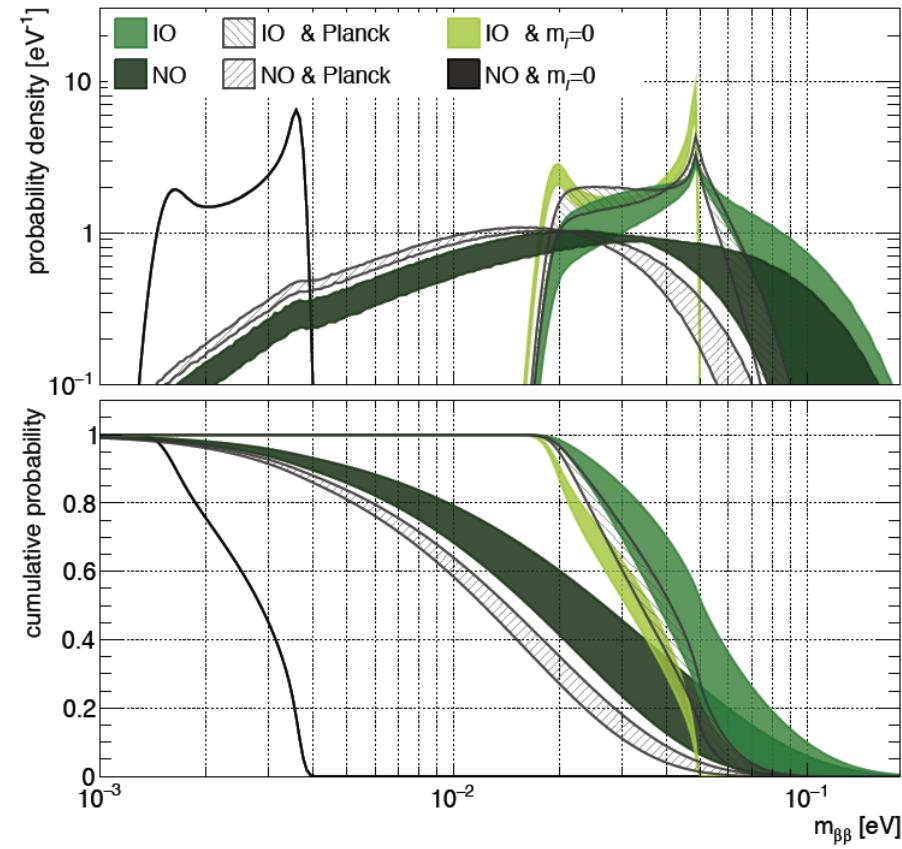
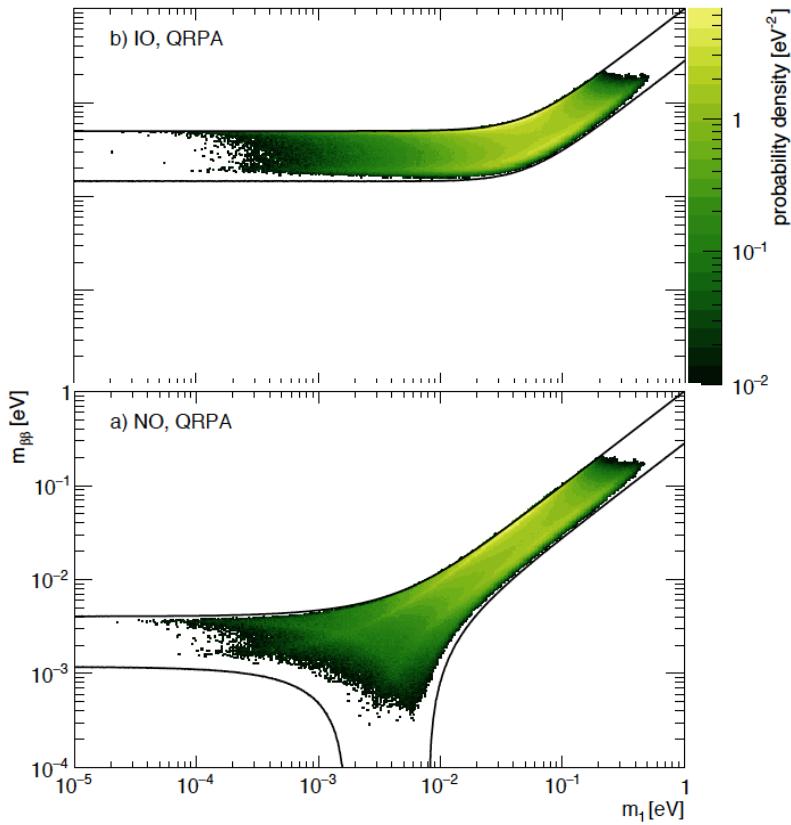
from oscillation experiments

Goal of next generation experiments:

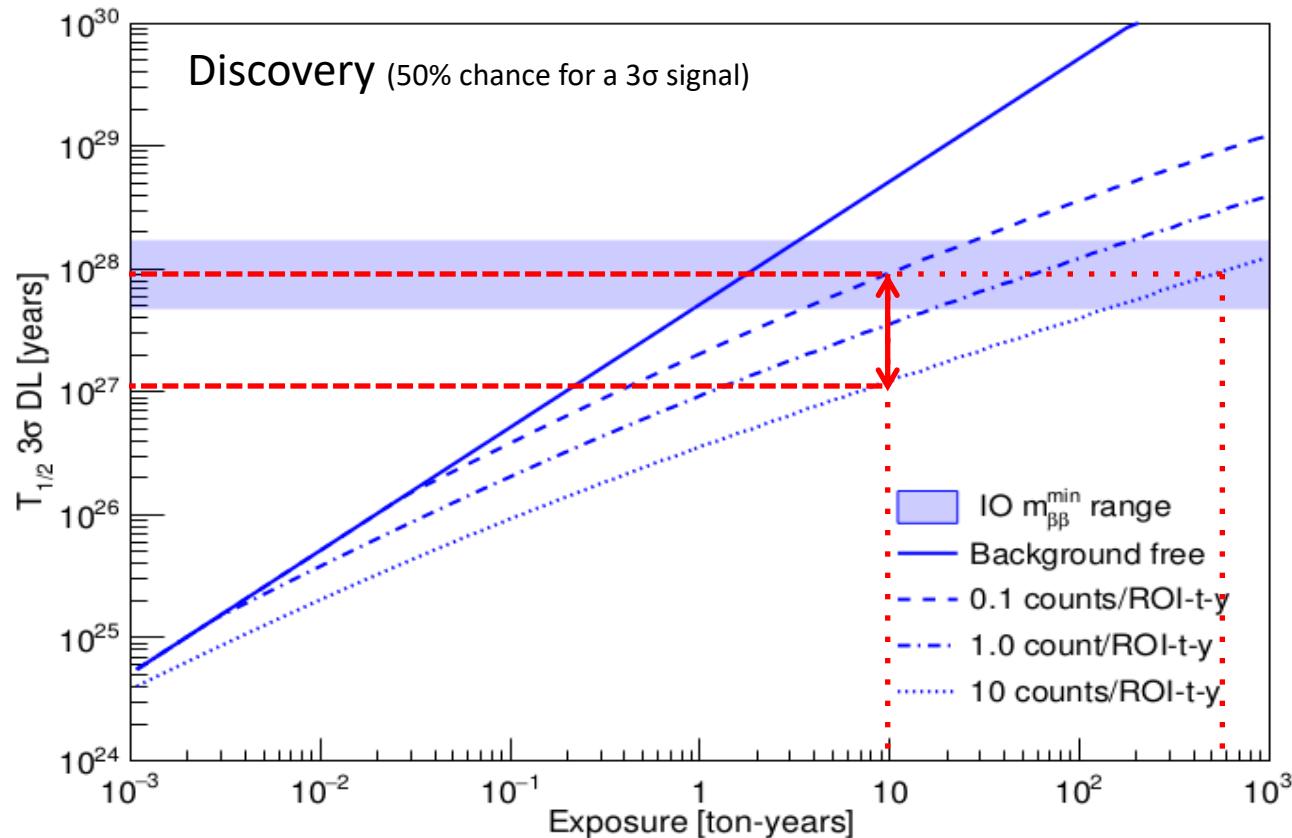


# Discovery probabilities

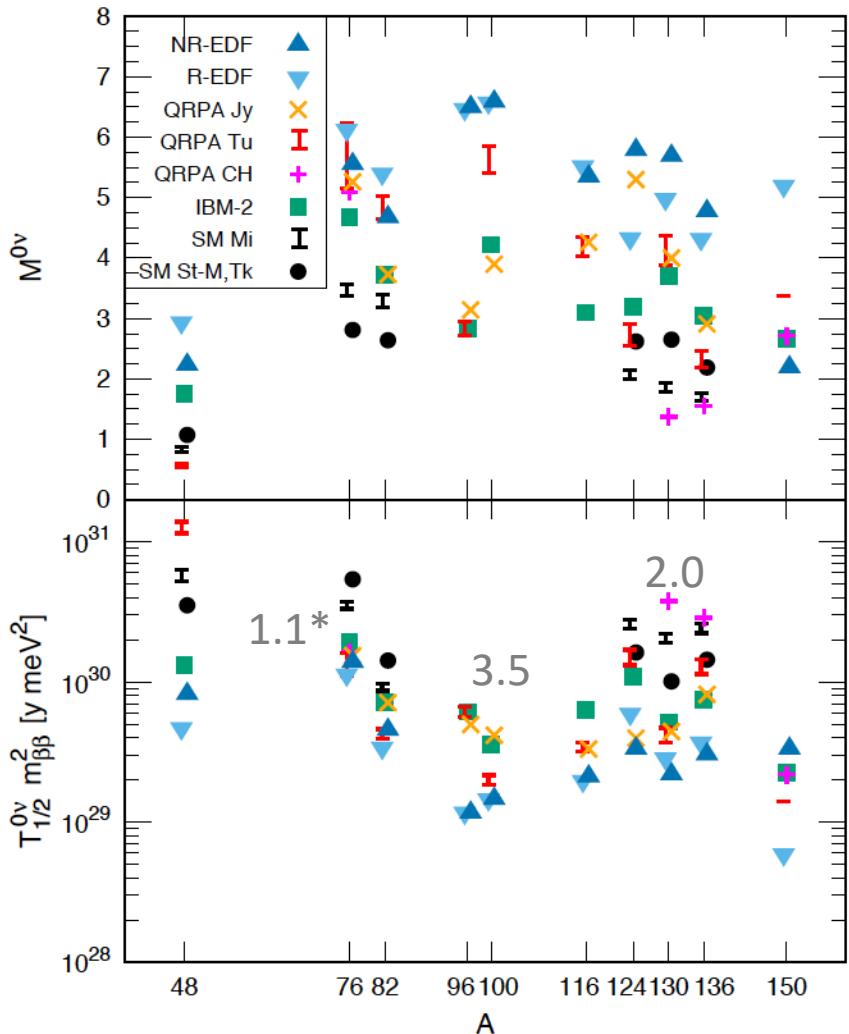
- Global Bayesian analysis including  $\nu$ -oscillation,  $m_\beta$   $m_{\beta\beta}$ ,  $\Sigma$
- Priors:
  - Majorana phases (flat)
  - $m_1$  (scale invariant)



# Discovery sensitivity vs. background



# Nuclear matrix elements



Spread about x2

No isotope significantly preferred when comparing decay rate per mass

Choice mainly driven by experimental considerations

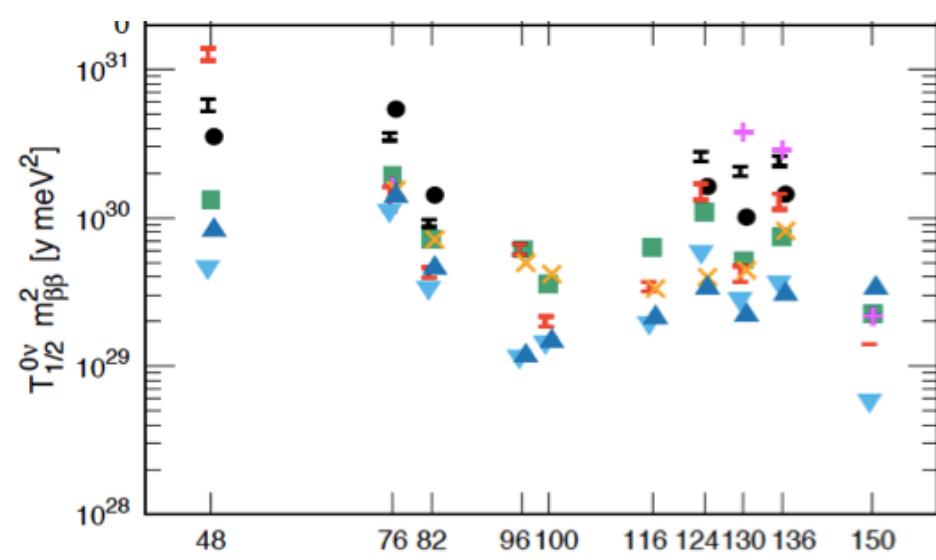
\*number = signal rate per 1000 kg yr exposure &  
for middle of NME values for  $\langle m_{ee} \rangle = 17.5$   
meV ('bottom of IH' for  $g_A=1.25$ ,  $\sin^2\theta_{12} = 0.318$ )

Engel & Menédez

arXiv:1610.06548v2



# Experiments

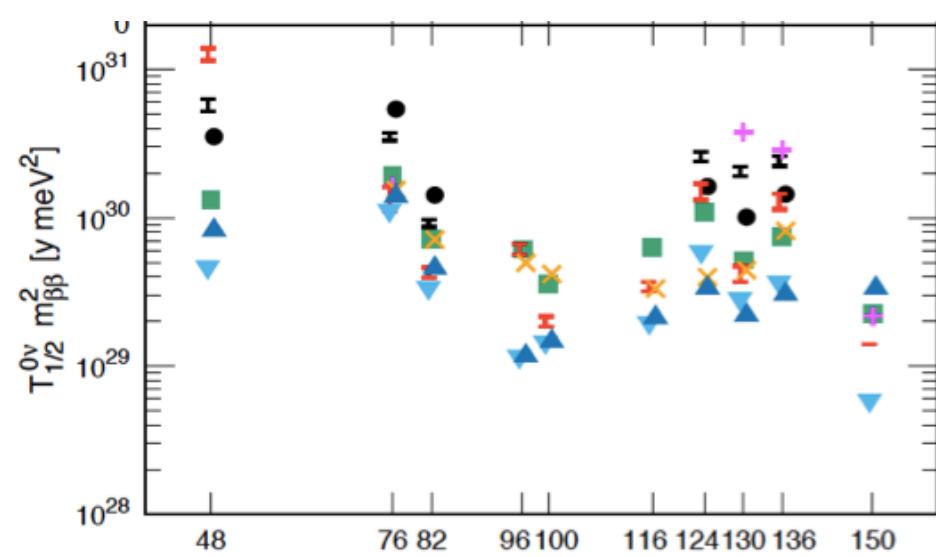


- LXe TPC: EXO-200 / nEXO
- gas-Xe TPC: NEXT, PandaX-III
- Xe-loaded LS: KamLAND-Zen
- Te-loaded LS: SNO+
- Te-bolometers: CUORE / CUPID-Te
- Mo-bolometers: CUPID-Mo (ex Lumineu)  
AMoRE
- Se-bolometers: CUPID-0 (ex Lucifer)  
SuperNEMO
- Ge-semiconductor: GERDA, MJD, LEGEND

& other interesting, but less advanced R&D;  
 $^{48}\text{Ca}$ ,  $^{150}\text{Nd}$  not available in large quantities



# Experiments



LXe TPC:  
gas-Xe TPC:  
Xe-loaded LS:

EXO-200 / nEXO  
NEXT, PandaX-III  
KamLAND-Zen

Te-loaded LS:  
Te-bolometers:

SNO+  
CUORE / CUPID-Te

Mo-bolometers:

CUPID-Mo (ex Lumineu)  
AMoRE

Se-bolometers:  
Se-calorimeters:

CUPID-0 (ex Lucifer)  
SuperNEMO

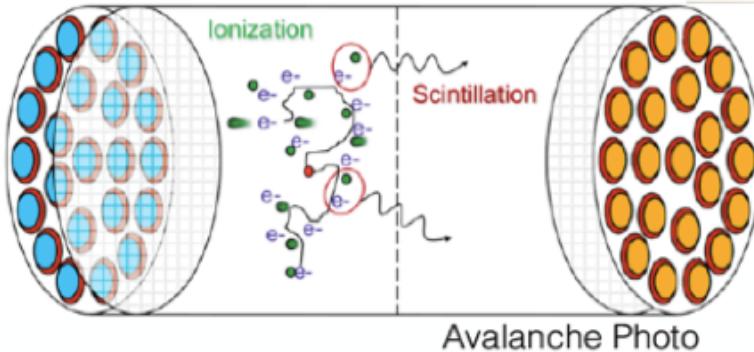
Ge-semiconductor:

GERDA, MJD, LEGEND

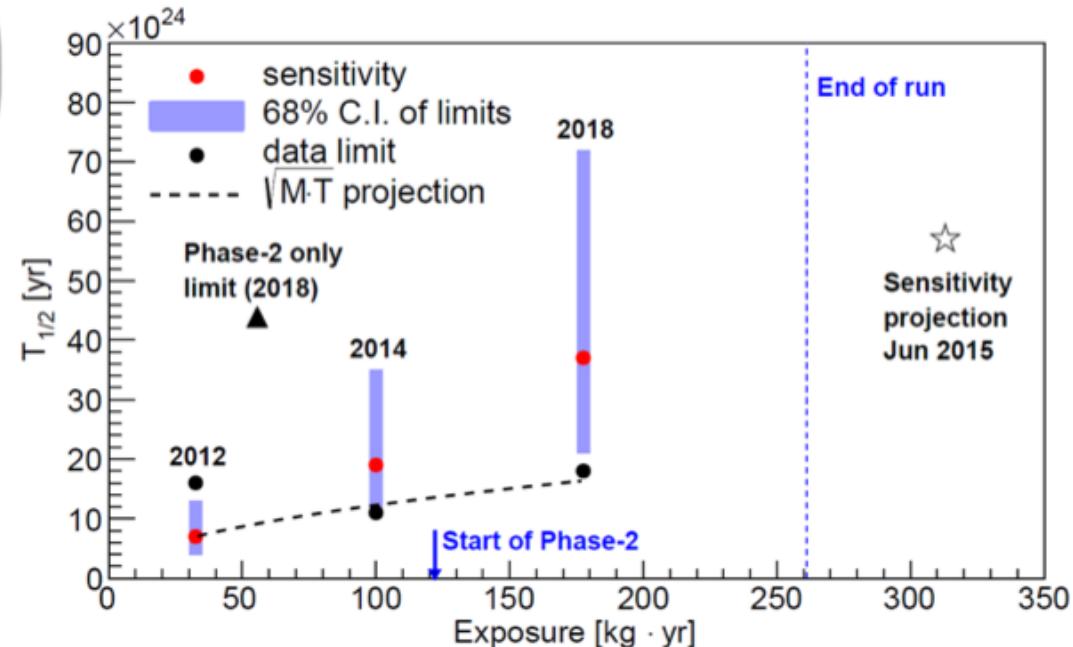
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# Xenon Experiments: EXO-200

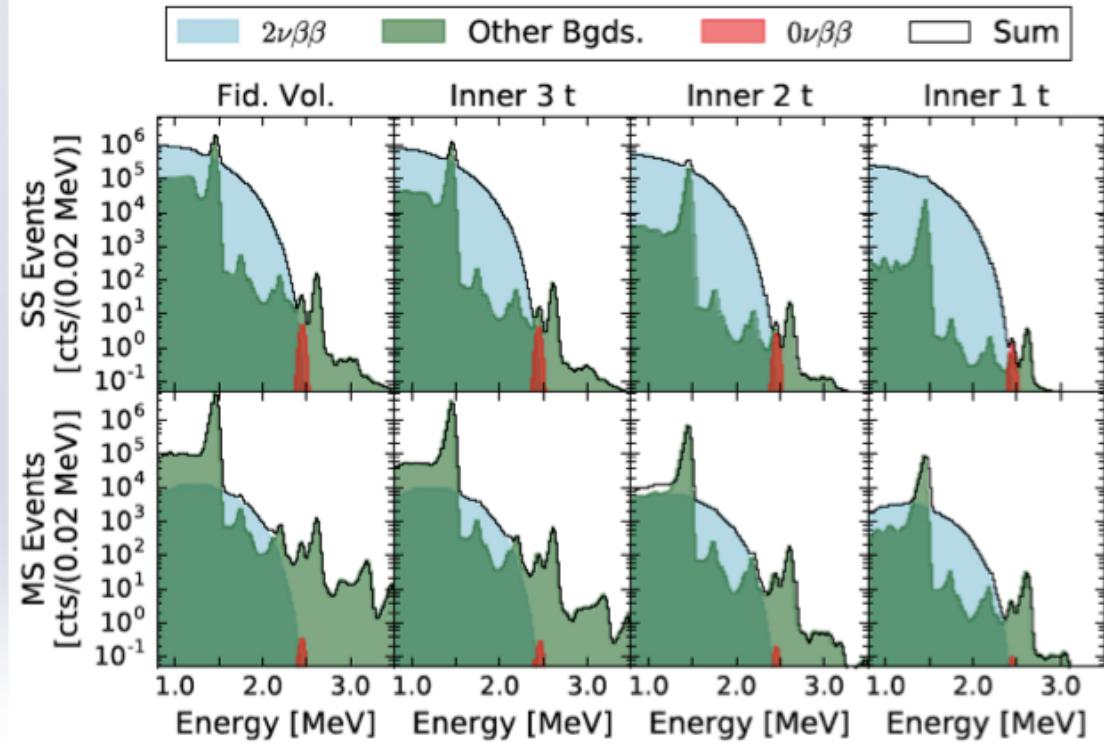
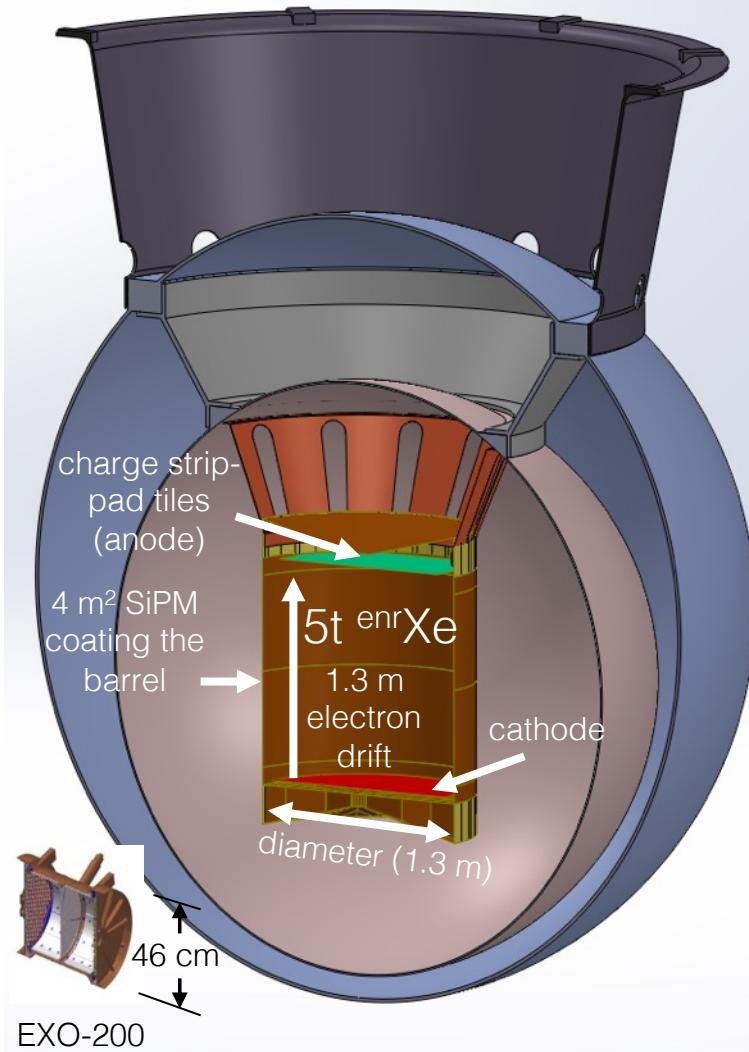


- $^{136}\text{Xe}$ :  $Q_{\beta\beta} = 2458 \text{ keV}$
- Liquid Xe TPC (80.6%  $^{136}\text{Xe}$ )
- 75 kg  $^{136}\text{Xe}$  in FV



	Sensitivity (yr)	90% CL Limit (yr)	$\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle (\text{meV})$
PRL 109, 032505 (2012)	$0.7 \times 10^{25}$	$1.6 \times 10^{25}$	
Nature 510, 229 (2014)	$1.9 \times 10^{25}$	$1.1 \times 10^{25}$	
PRL 120 072701 (2018)	$3.8 \times 10^{25}$	$1.8 \times 10^{25}$	147-398

# Xenon Experiments: nEXO

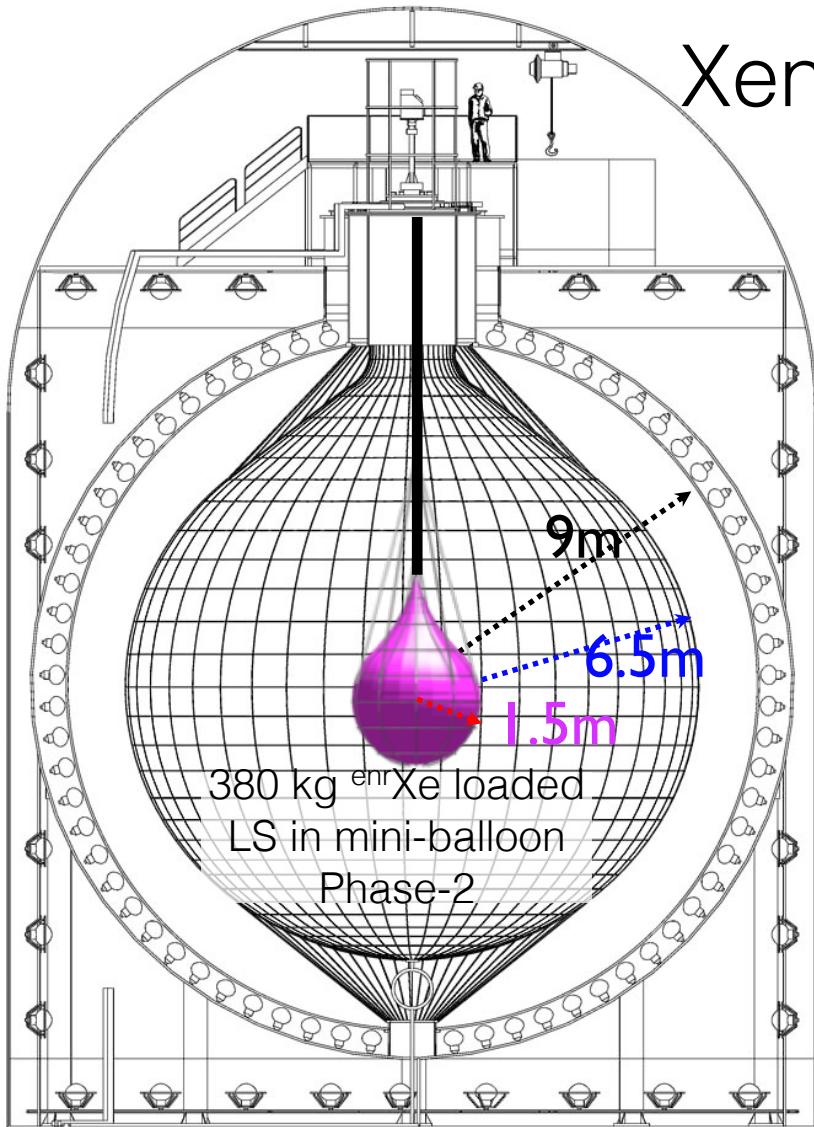


Discovery sensitivity ( $3\sigma$ , 50%) after 10 yr  
 $T_{1/2}^{0\nu\beta\beta} = 5.5 \times 10^{27}$  yr

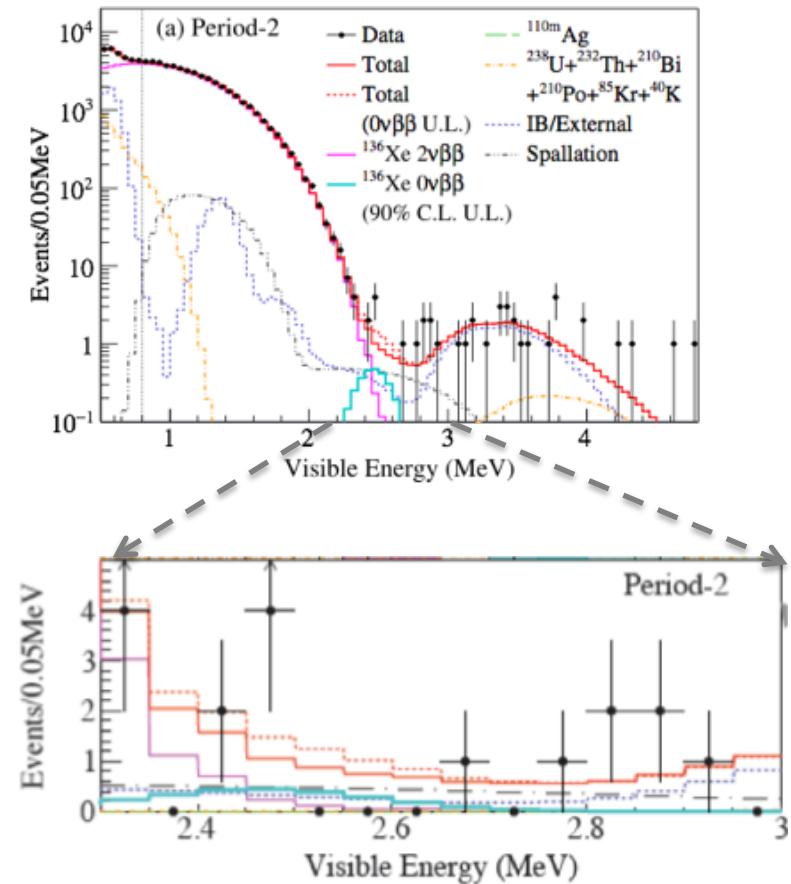
If  $^{136}\text{Ba}$ -tagging can be implemented:  
 $T_{1/2}^{0\nu\beta\beta} = 1.6 \times 10^{28}$  yr



# Xenon Exp's: KamLAND-Zen



Phase-2: 2013/12/11 - 2015/10/27  
534.5 days (504 kg-yr)



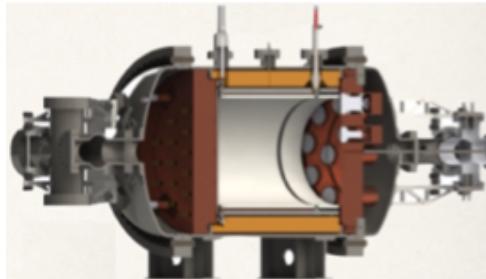
- Sensitivity:  $> 5.6 \cdot 10^{25} \text{ yr}$  (90% C.L.)
- Unconstraint fit:  $> 9.2 \cdot 10^{25} \text{ yr}$  (90% C.L.)
- Phase I + II:  $> 1.07 \cdot 10^{26} \text{ yr}$  (90% C.L.)
- 2017: data taking with 750 kg  $^{enr}\text{Xe}$  (new balloon)
- KamLAND2-Zen with 1000kg+ proposed



# Xenon Experiments:

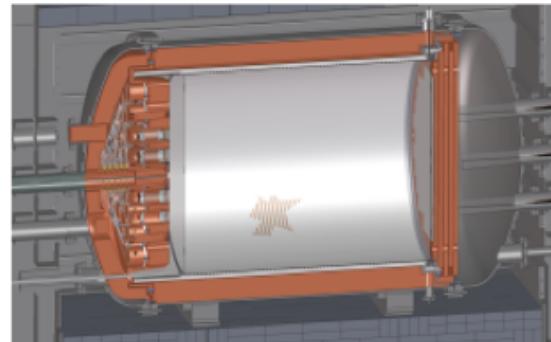
$^{136}\text{Xe}$  high-pressure (10-15 bar) TPC

NEXT-NEW (5 kg) 2015-2018



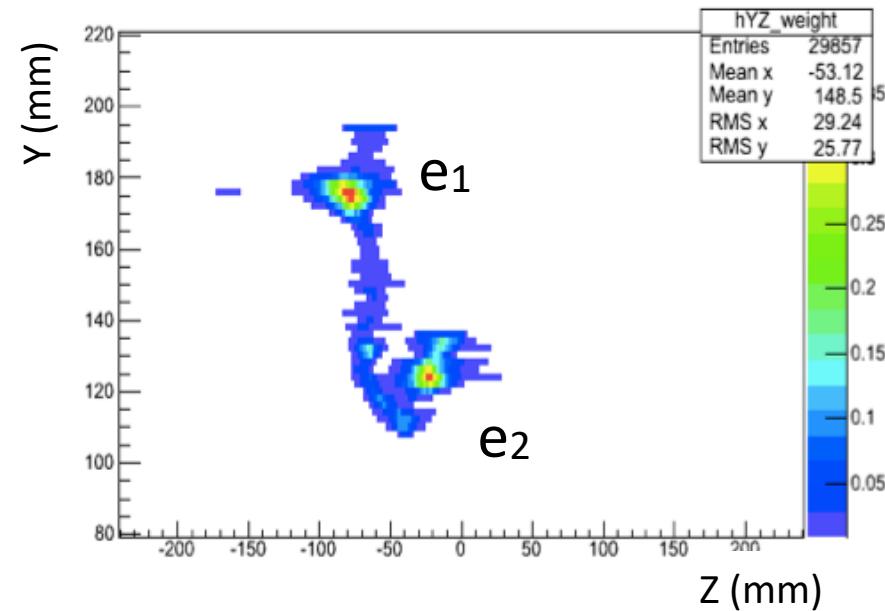
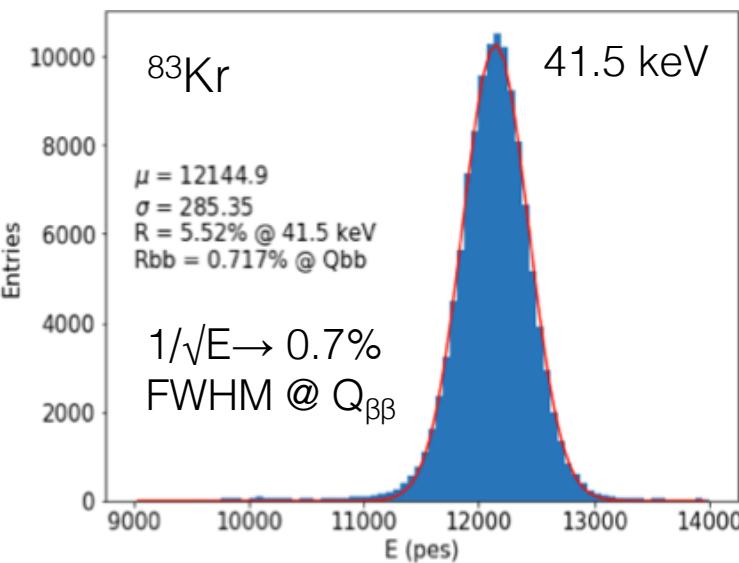
Underground & radio-pure operations, background,  $2\nu\beta\beta$

NEXT-100 (100 kg) 2018-2020's

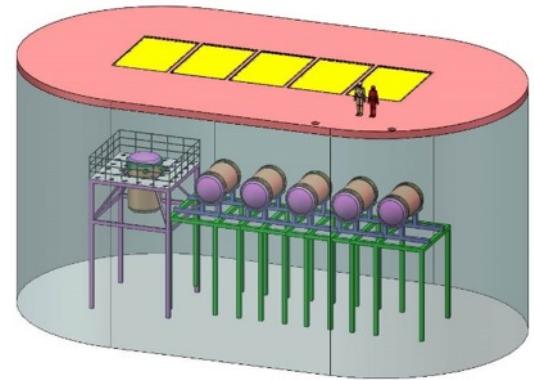
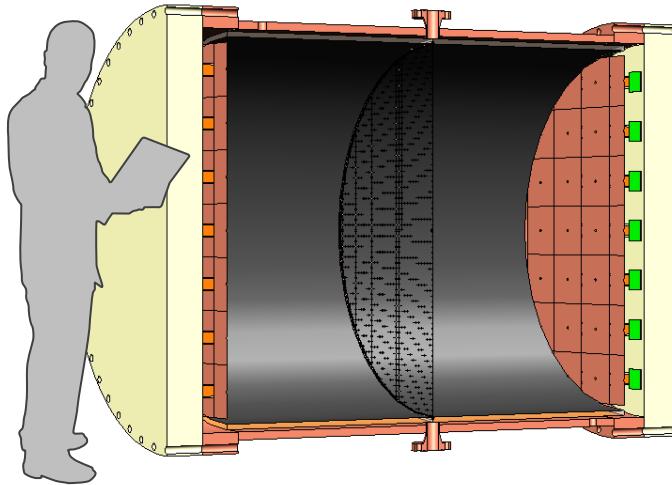


NEXT-ton

$0\nu\beta\beta$  search

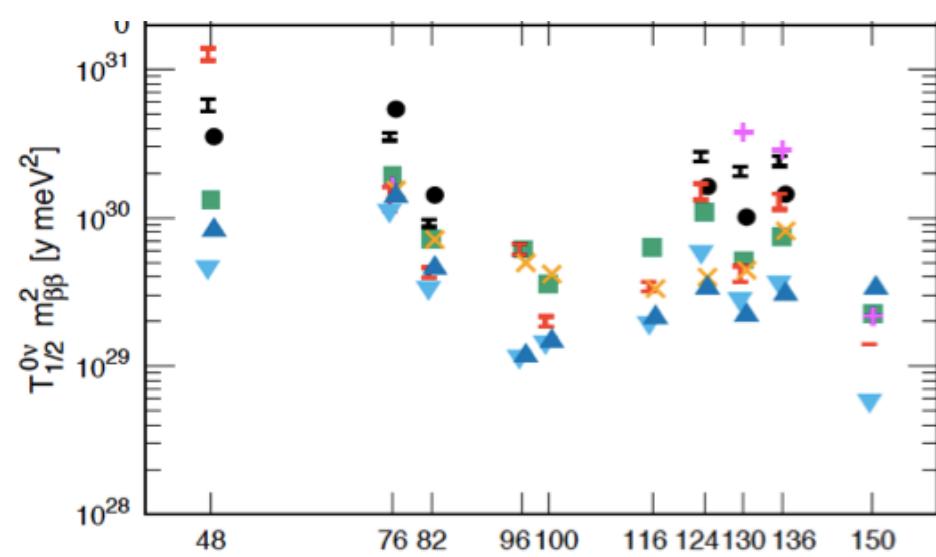


# Xenon Experiments: PandaX-III



- First 200-kg module:
  - Microbulk Micromegas for charge readout
  - 3% FWHM,  $1 \times 10^{-4}$  c/keV/kg/y in the ROI
- Ton-scale:
  - Four more modules with upgraded charge readout and better low-background material screening.
  - 1% FWHM,  $1 \times 10^{-5}$  c/keV/kg/y in the ROI

# Experiments

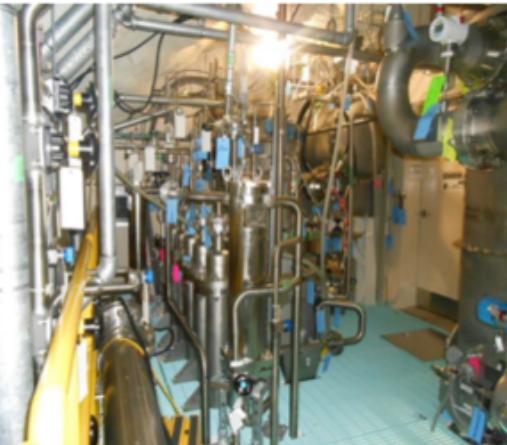
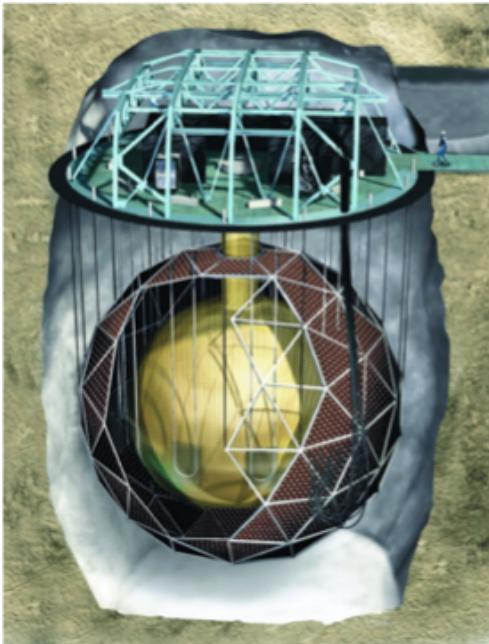


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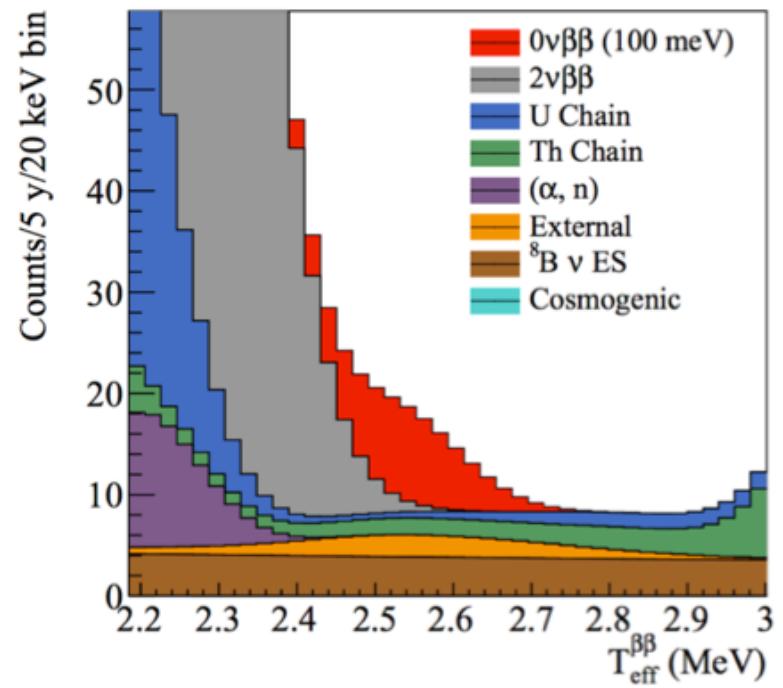


# SNO+



Filling with unloaded liquid scintillator 2018

- 3.9 t Te
- 780 t LAB(+PPO+Te-ButaneDiol)
- 0.5% loading → 1300 kg  $^{130}\text{Te}$

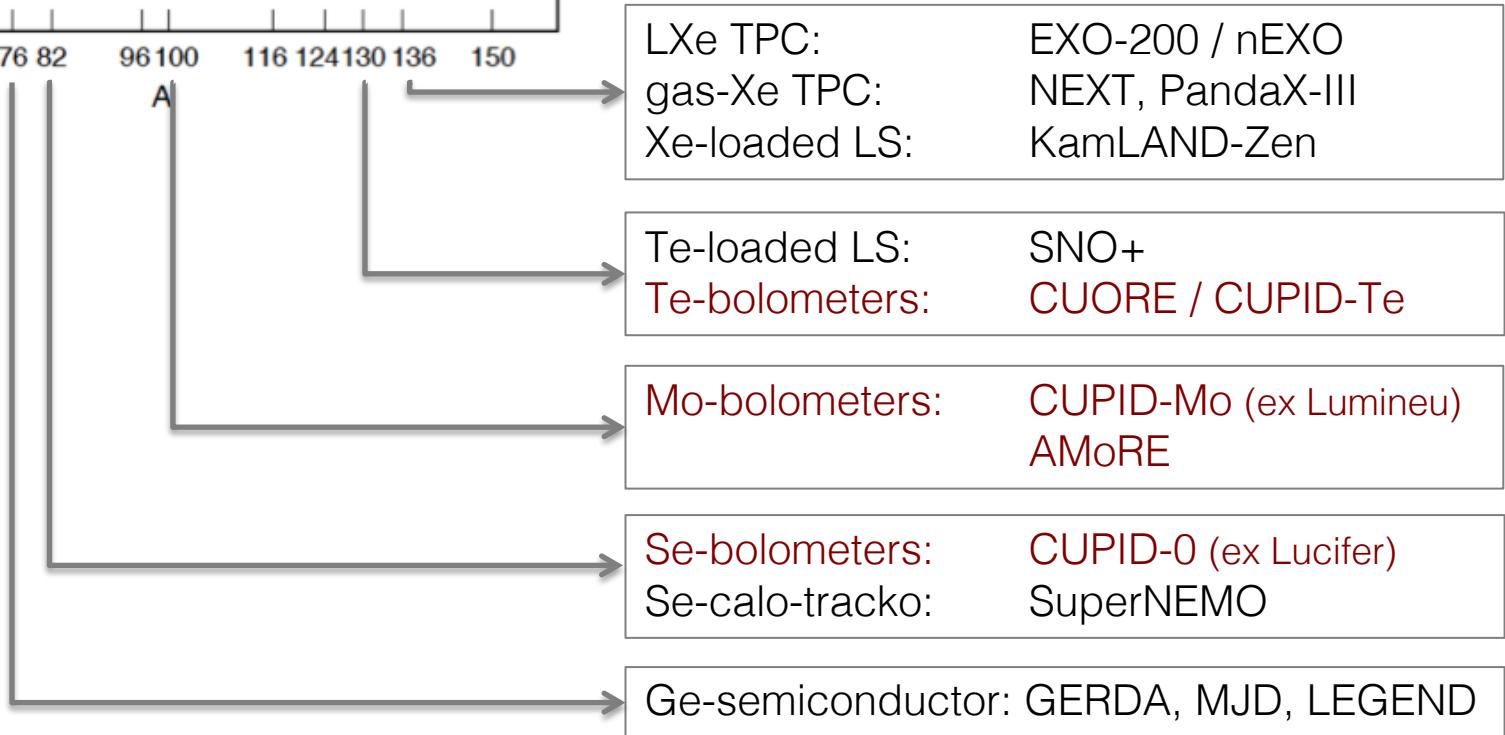
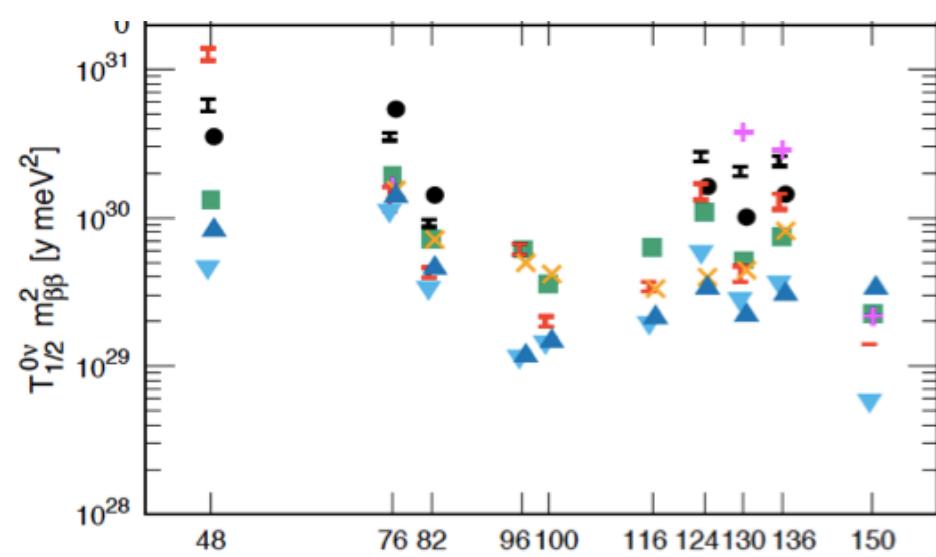


Sensitivity:

5 yr  $T_{1/2} > 2 \times 10^{26}$  yr (90% CL)



# Experiments



& other interesting, but less advanced R&D;  
 $^{48}\text{Ca}$ ,  $^{150}\text{Nd}$  not available in large quantities



# Cryogenic Detectors: CUORE

Heatsink

Thermometer

Crystal made  
from  
 $\beta\beta$ -isotopes

$$C \propto T^3$$

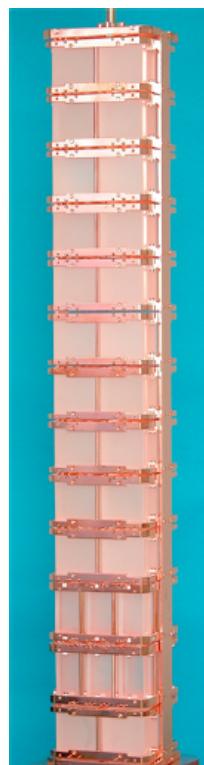
$$\Delta T \propto \Delta E / C$$

$TeO_2$ :

$$\Delta E \cong 5 \text{ keV} (\text{FWHM})$$

$$\text{at } Q_{\beta\beta} = 2527 \text{ keV}$$

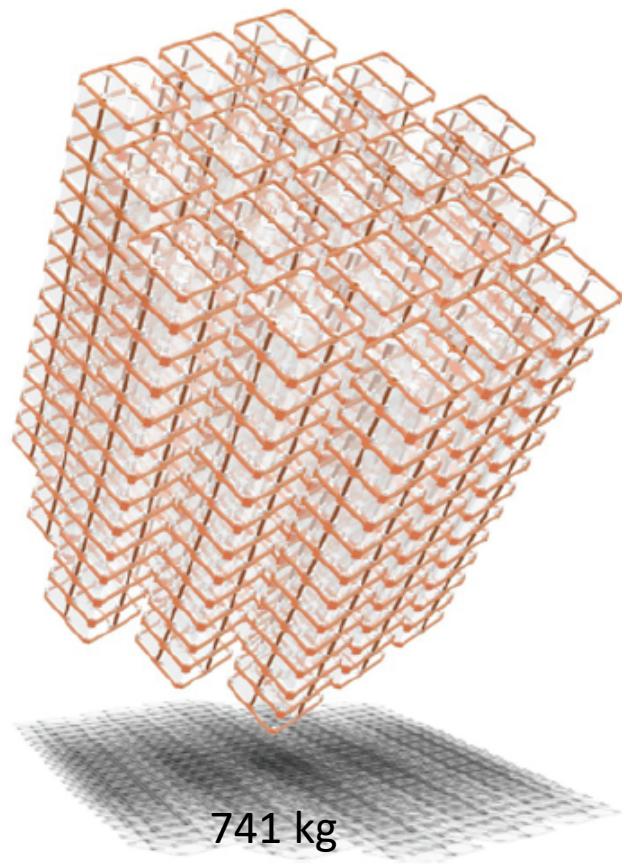
Cuoricino  
2003



Cuore-0  
2012



CUORE  
2016

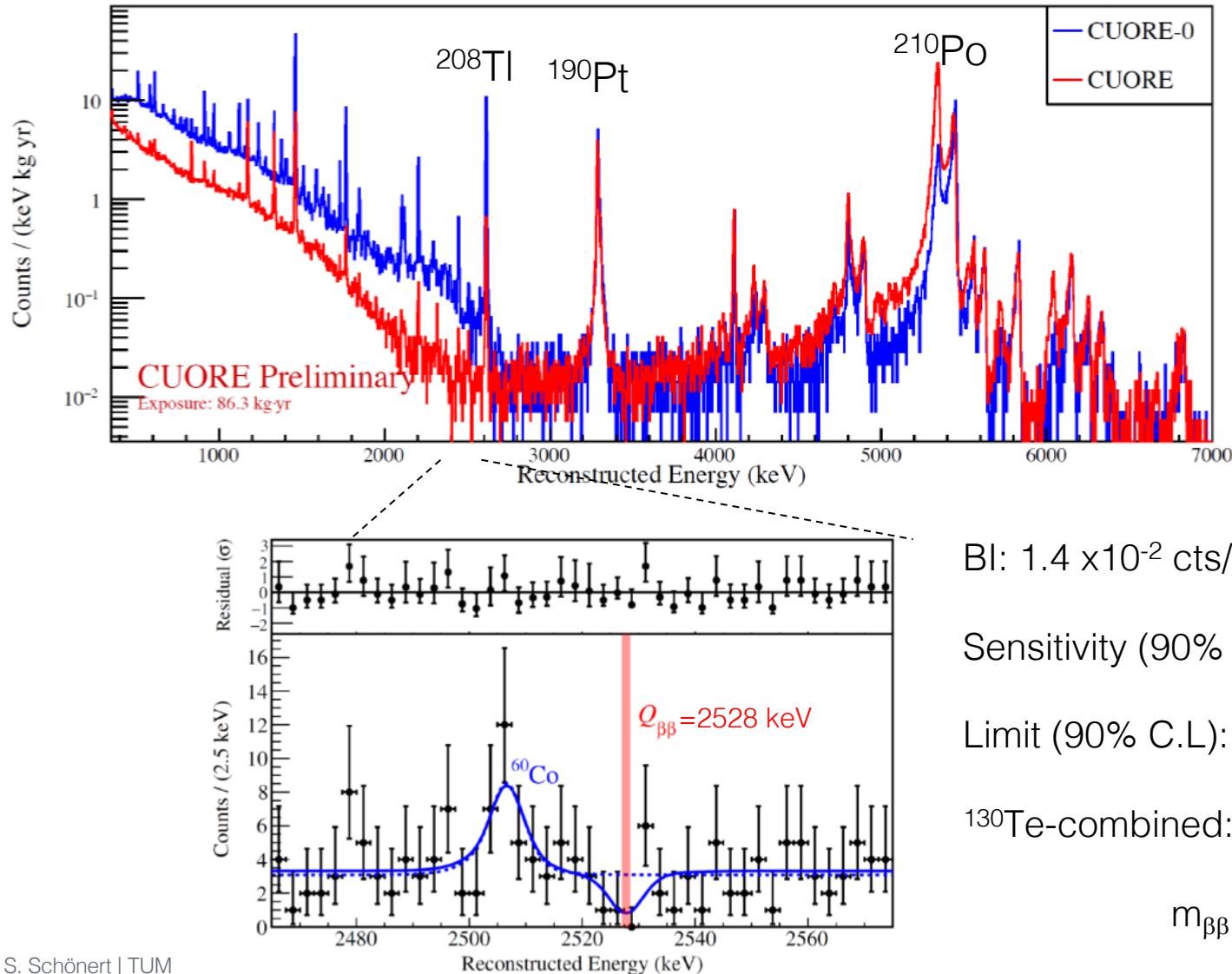


39 kg  
(11 kg  $^{130}\text{Te}$ )

741 kg  
(206 kg  $^{130}\text{Te}$ )



# Cryogenic Detectors: CUORE



BL:  $1.4 \times 10^{-2} \text{ cts/(keV kg y)}$

Sensitivity (90% C.L.):  $7.0 \times 10^{24} \text{ yr}$

Limit (90% C.L.):  $1.3 \times 10^{25} \text{ yr}$

$^{130}\text{Te}$ -combined:  $1.5 \times 10^{25} \text{ yr}$

$m_{\beta\beta} < 110 - 520 \text{ meV}$

# Cryogenic Detectors: CUPID

H  
e  
a  
t  
s  
i  
n  
k

Thermometer

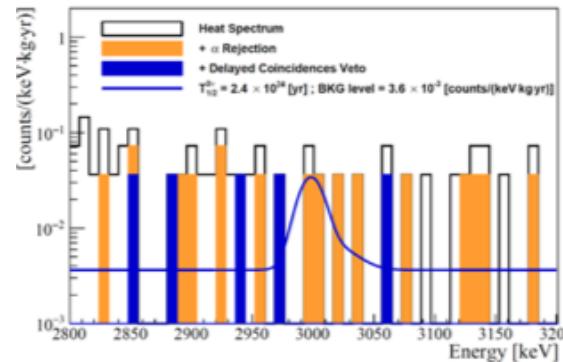
Crystal made  
from  
 $\beta\beta$ -isotopes



Light detector



CUPID-0: ZnSe  
@ LNGS  
5.2 kg  $^{82}\text{Se}$

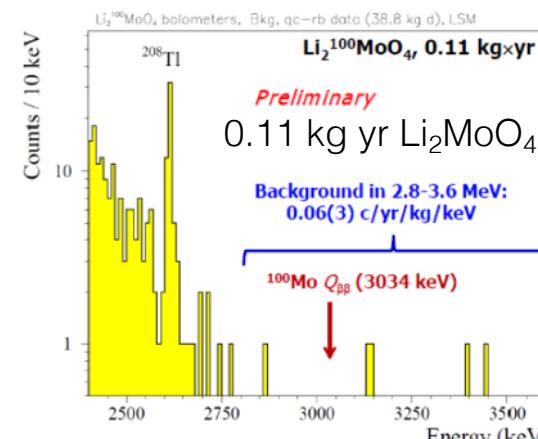


$T_{1/2} > 2.4 \times 10^{24} \text{ y}$   
(90% C.I.)

$\text{BI} = 3.6 \times 10^{-3}$   
cts/(keV kg y)

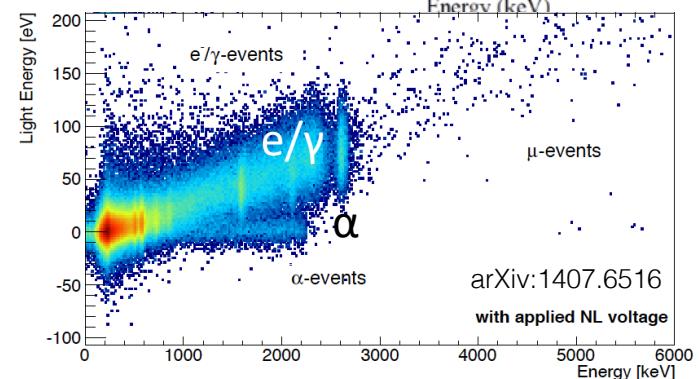
S. Pirro, NDM2018

CUPID-Mo:  $\text{Li}_2\text{MoO}_4$   
(ex Lumineu)  
Demonstrator @ LSM  
2.34 kg  $^{100}\text{Mo}$ , 2018



Courtesy  
A. Giuliani

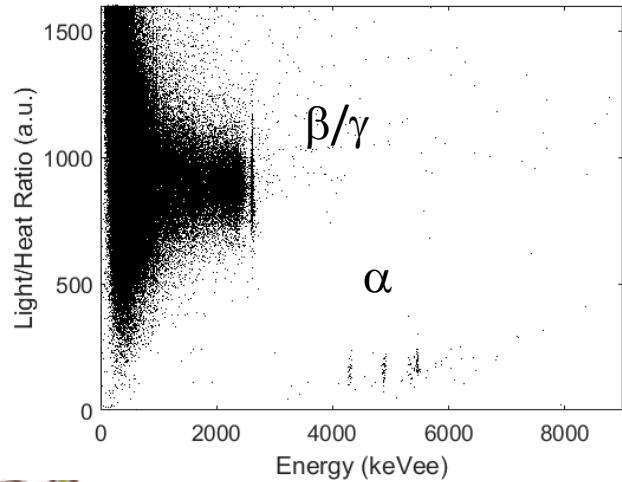
CUPID-Te:TeO<sub>2</sub>  
(with Cherenkov)  
Demonstrator @ LNGS



# Cryogenic Detectors: AMoRE

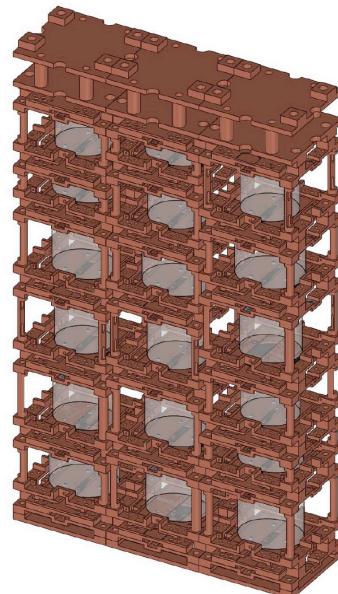


AMoRe-pilot  
project @  
YangYang  
6 crystals  
(1.8 kg)  
 $^{40}\text{Ca}^{100}\text{MoO}_4$



$^{100}\text{Mo}$  procurement  
ongoing (100 kg)

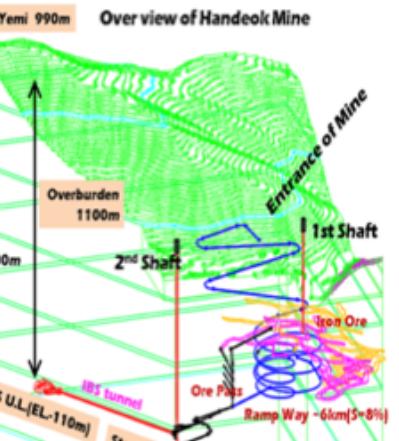
AMoRE-1  
5 kg  
2018



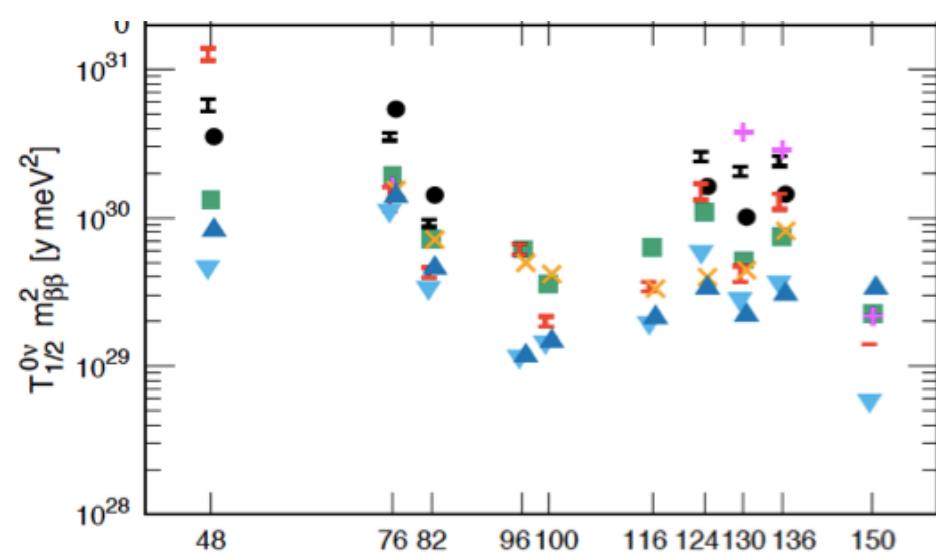
AMoRE-II  
200 kg  
2020



AMoRE @ Handeok ARF



# Experiments



LXe TPC:  
gas-Xe TPC:  
Xe-loaded LS:

EXO-200 / nEXO  
NEXT, PandaX-III  
KamLAND-Zen

Te-loaded LS:  
Te-bolometers:

SNO+  
CUORE / CUPID-Te

Mo-bolometers:

CUPID-Mo (ex Lumineu)  
AMoRE

Se-bolometers:  
Se-calorimeter:

CUPID-0 (ex Lucifer)  
SuperNEMO

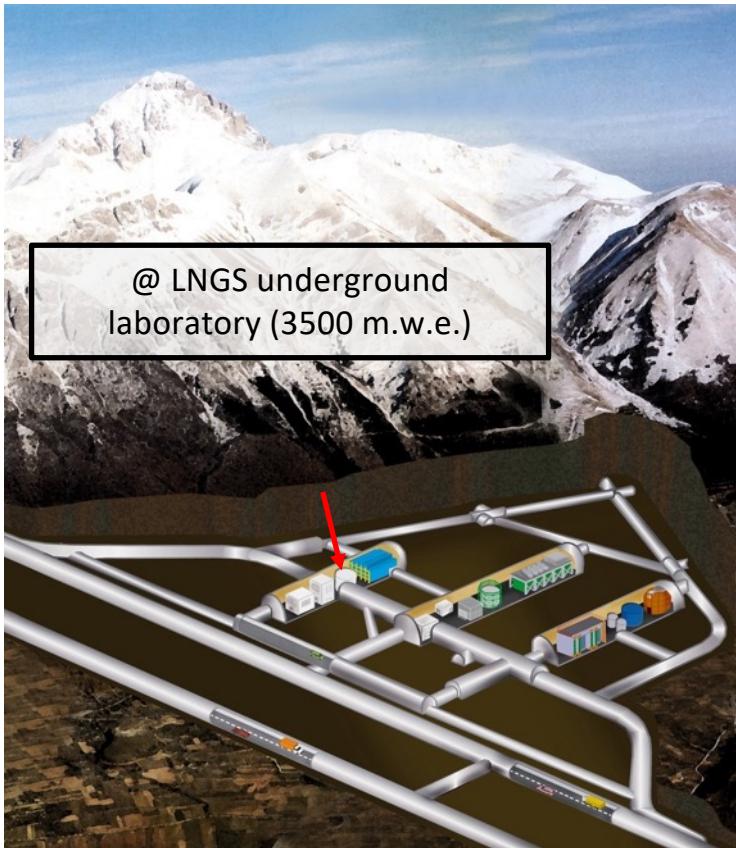
Ge-semiconductor: GERDA, MJD, LEGEND

& other interesting, but less advanced R&D;  
 $^{48}\text{Ca}$ ,  $^{150}\text{Nd}$  not available in large quantities





# GERDA experimental setup at LNGS





plastic scintillator panels  
muon veto

6

3

lock system

clean room

4

3

590 m<sup>3</sup> ultra-pure water  
neutron moderator/absorber  
muon Cherenkov veto

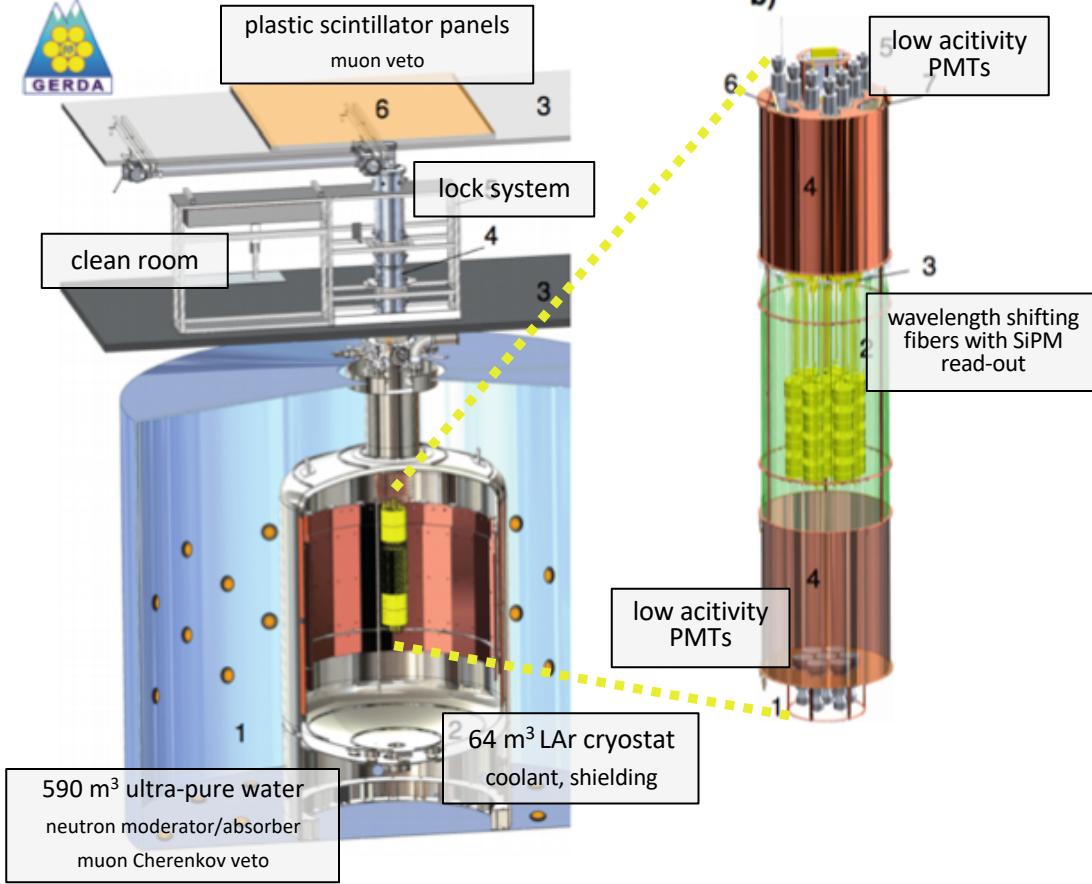
1

2  
64 m<sup>3</sup> LAr cryostat  
coolant, shielding

# GERDA experimental setup at LNGS

## a) overview

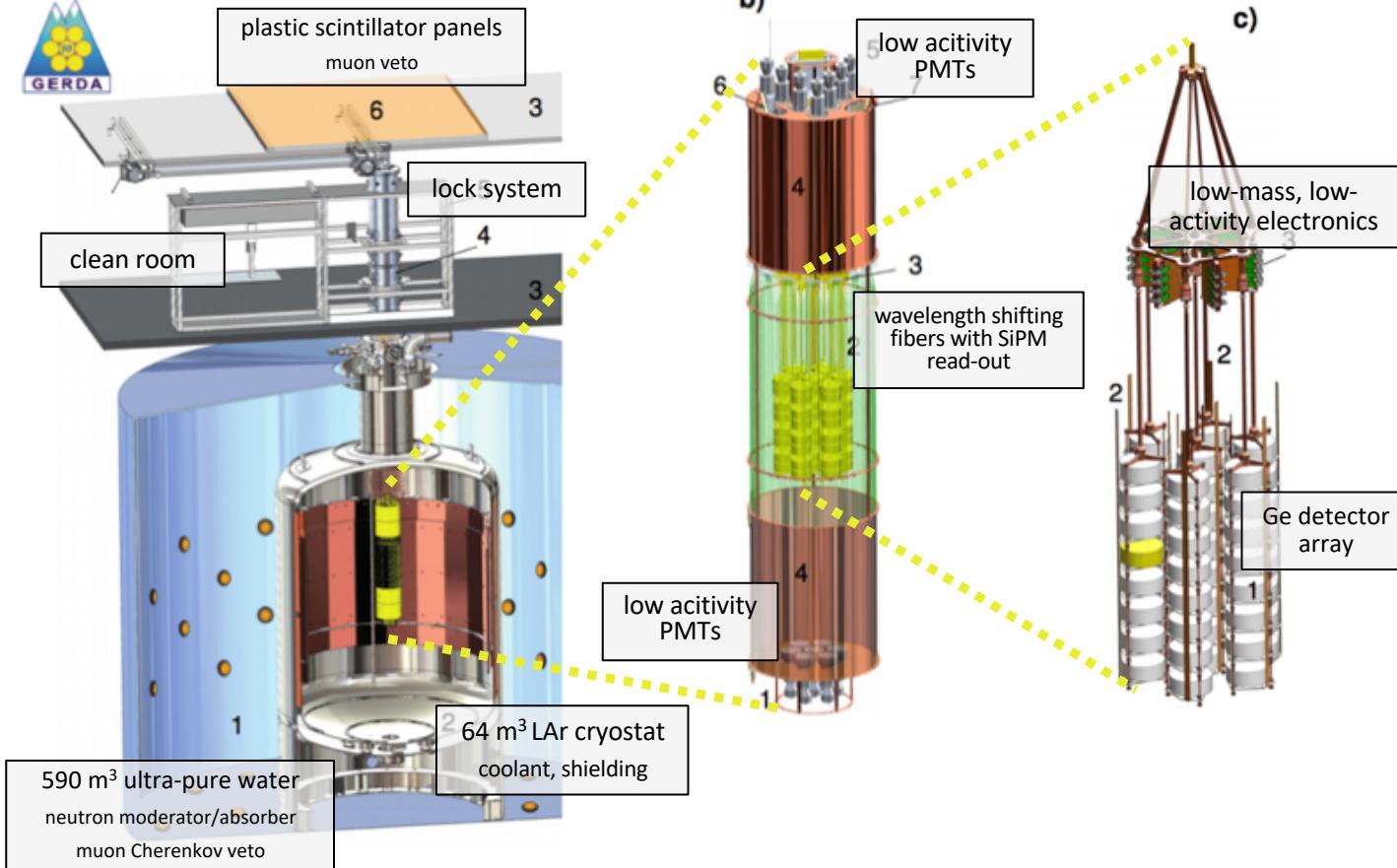




a) overview  
b) liquid argon (LAr)

veto  
instrumentation



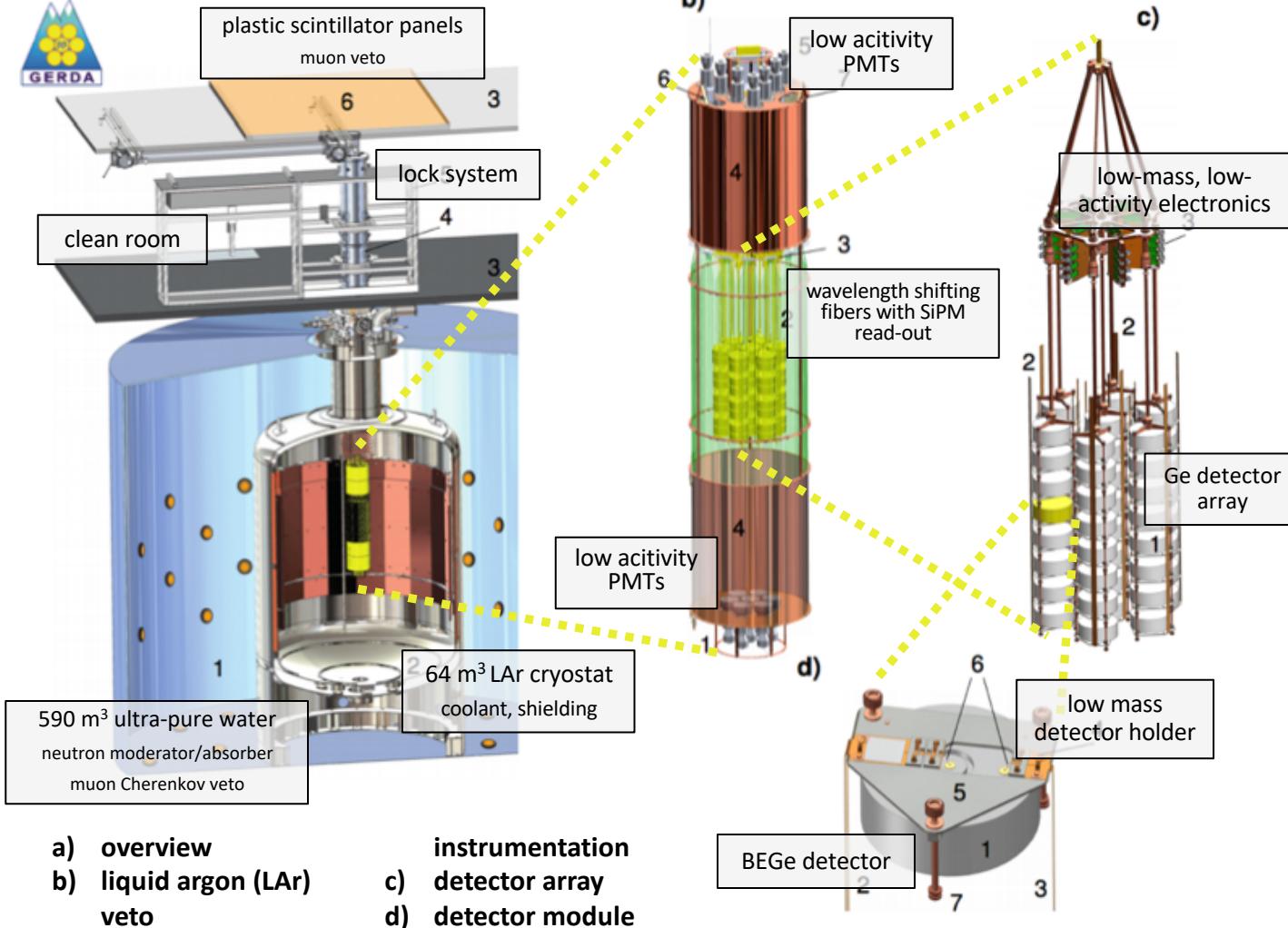


a) overview

b) liquid argon (LAr)  
veto

c) instrumentation  
detector array

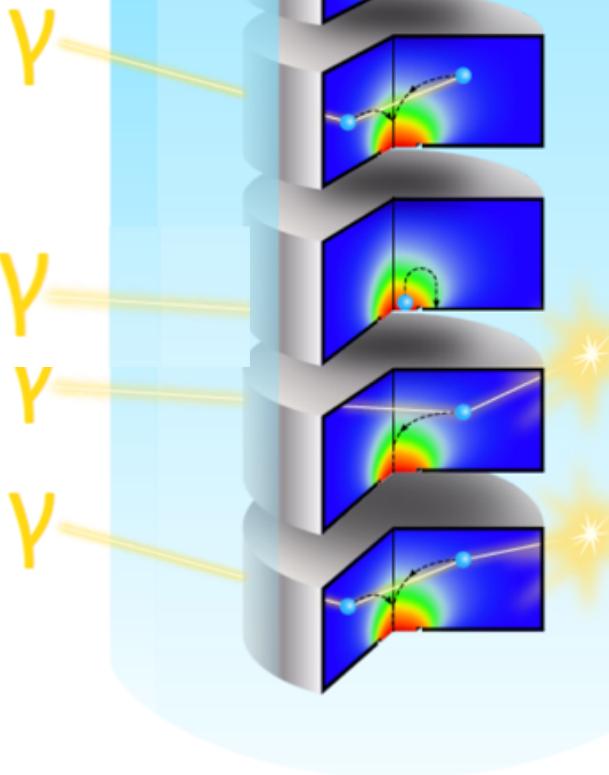




a) overview

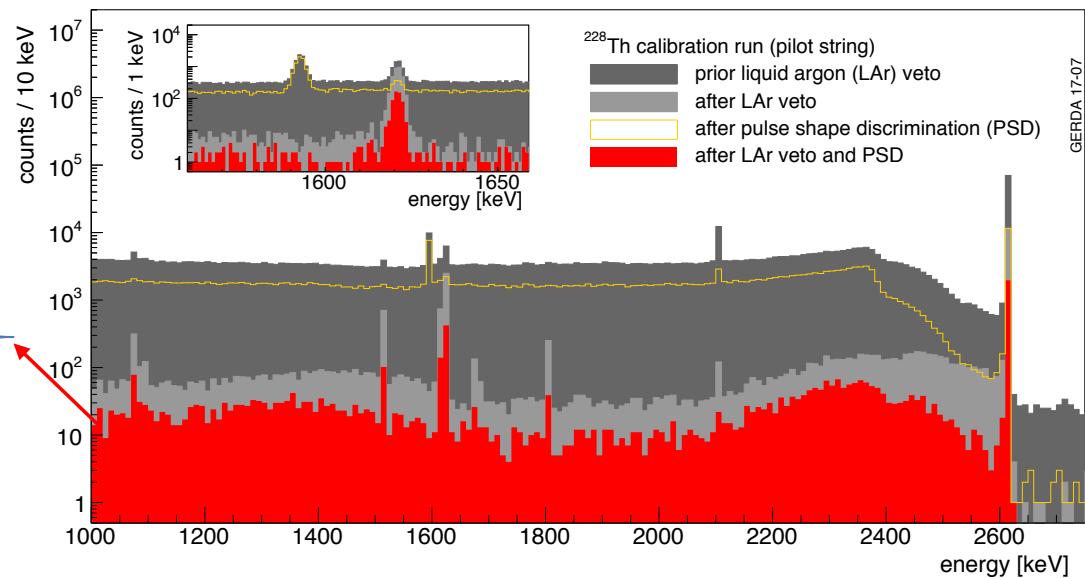
b) liquid argon (LAr)  
veto

c) instrumentation  
detector array  
d) detector module

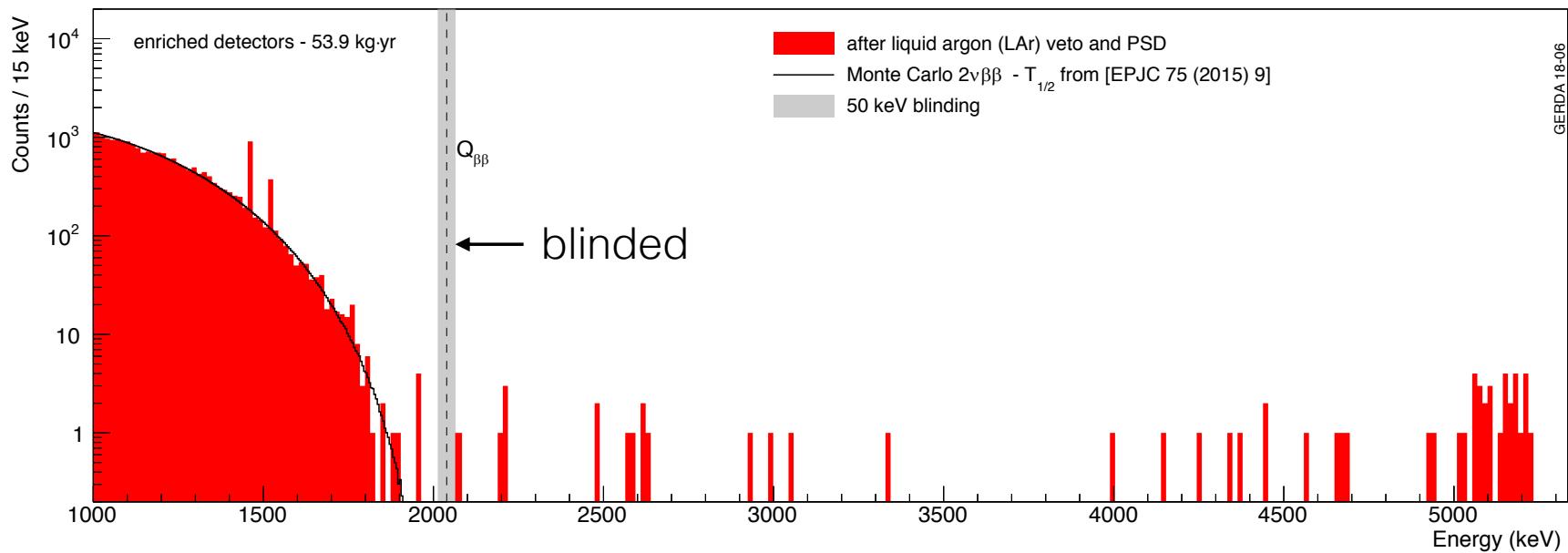


# Interplay between PSD and LAr Veto

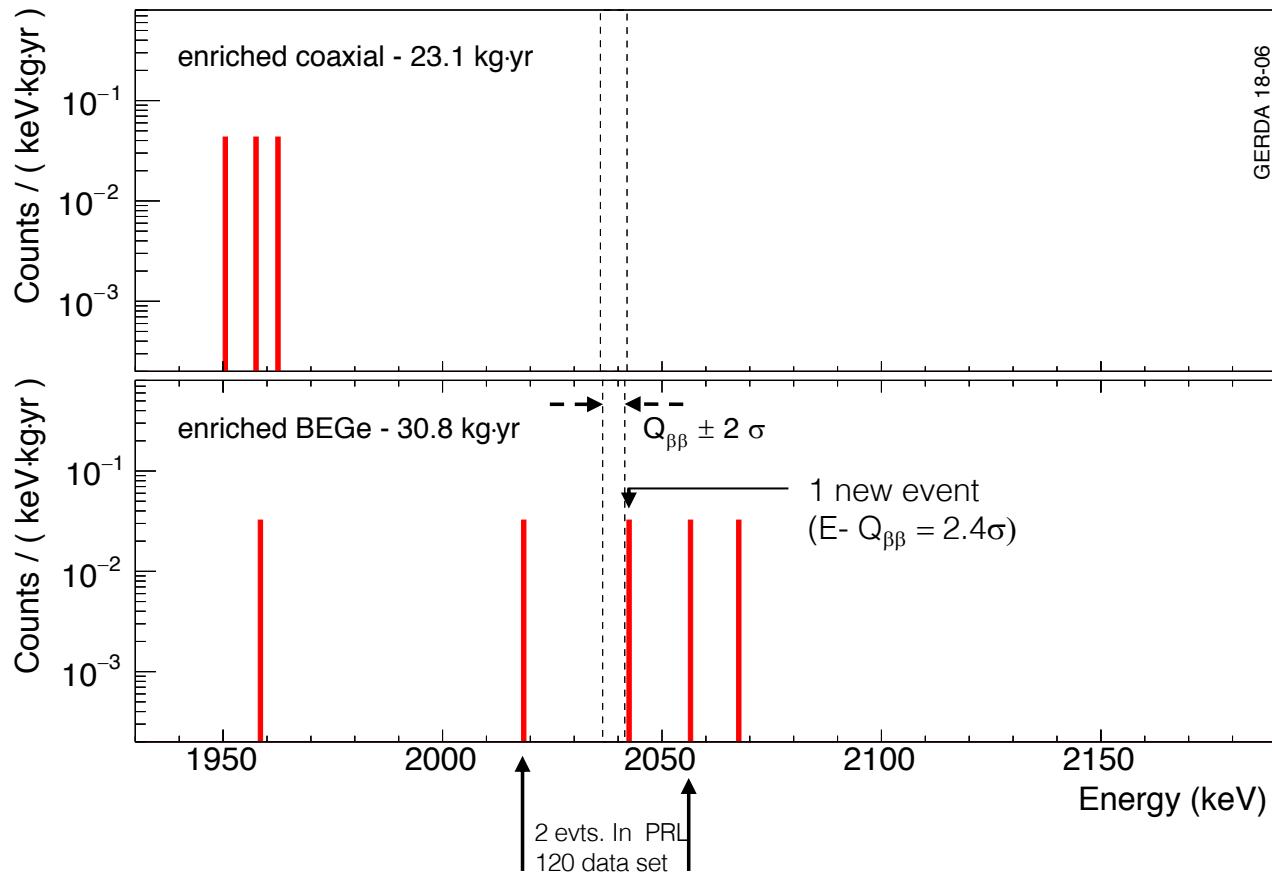
$^{228}\text{Th}$  calibration source



# The full energy range – after PSD and LAr



# Unblinded data



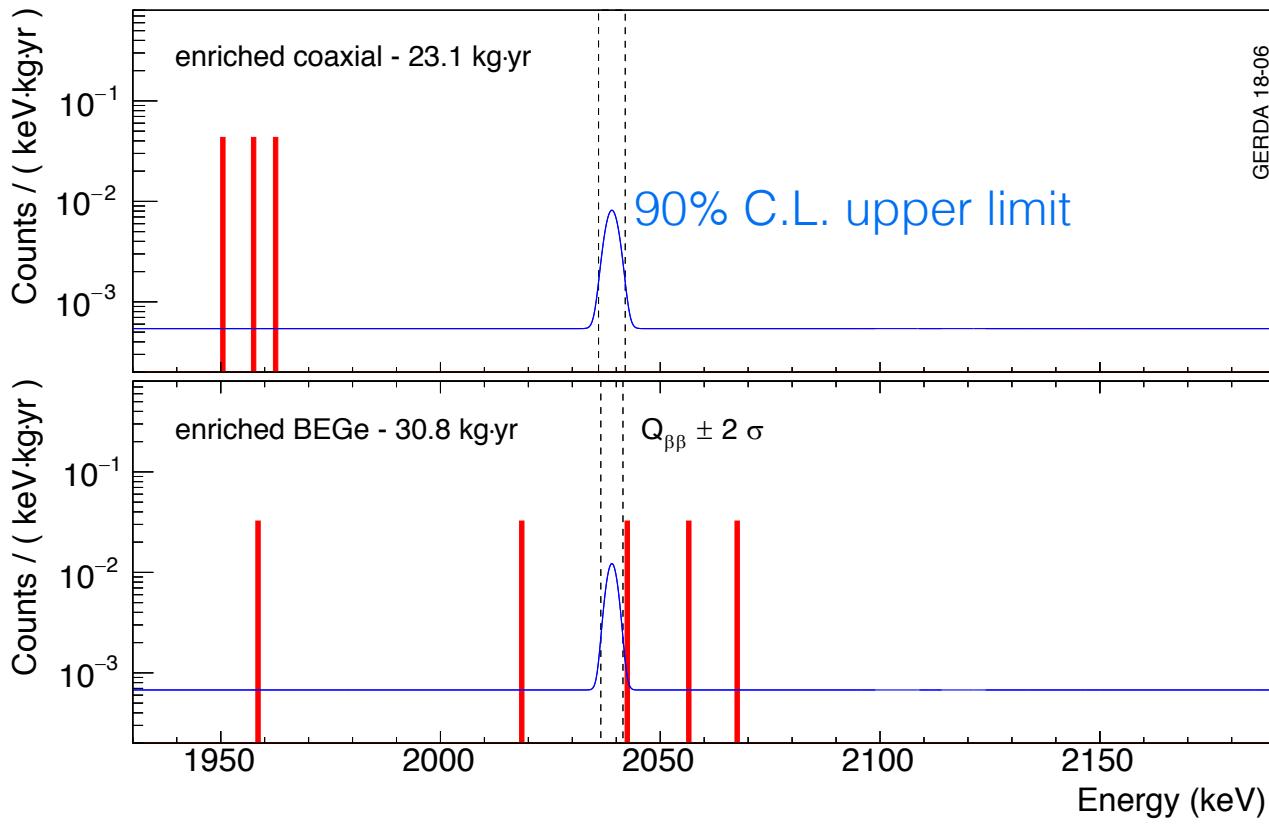
Background index\*:  
 $(5.7^{+4.1}_{-2.6} \cdot 10^{-4})$  counts/(keV·kg·yr)

$(5.6^{+3.4}_{-2.4} \cdot 10^{-4})$  counts/(keV·kg·yr)

\*: in 1930-2190 keV excluding  $\pm 5$  keV at  $Q_{\beta\beta}$  and lines at 2104 keV and 2119 keV.



# Fit to full GERDA data sets



## Frequentist:

Best fit  $N^{0\nu} = 0$   
 $T^{0\nu}_{1/2} > 0.9 \cdot 10^{26}$  yr (90% C.L.)  
Median sensitivity (NO Signal)  
 $T^{0\nu}_{1/2} > 1.1 \cdot 10^{26}$  yr (90% C.L.)  
63% of MC realizations yield limit stronger than data

$m_{\beta\beta} < 0.11 - 0.25$  eV,  
with NME: 2.8–6.1,  $g_A = 1.27$

## Bayesian:

$T^{0\nu}_{1/2} > 0.8 \cdot 10^{26}$  yr (90% C.I.)  
Median sensitivity:  
 $T^{0\nu}_{1/2} > 0.8 \cdot 10^{26}$  yr (90% C.I.)  
59% of MC realizations yield limit stronger than data

Bayes factor:  $P(H1)/P(H0) = 0.054$   
where:  
H1: signal+background hypothesis  
H0: background only hypothesis

# LEGEND: the collaboration

Univ. New Mexico  
L'Aquila Univ. and INFN  
Gran Sasso Science Inst.  
Lab. Naz. Gran Sasso  
Univ. Texas  
Tsinghua Univ.  
Lawrence Berkeley Natl. Lab.  
Leibniz Inst. Crystal Growth  
Comenius Univ.  
Lab. Naz. Sud  
Univ. of North Carolina  
Sichuan Univ.  
Univ. of South Carolina  
Jagiellonian Univ.  
Banaras Hindu Univ.  
Univ. of Dortmund  
Tech. Univ. – Dresden  
Joint Inst. Nucl. Res. Inst.  
Nucl. Res. Russian Acad. Sci.  
Joint Res. Centre, Geel



Chalmers Univ. Tech.  
Max Planck Inst., Heidelberg  
Dokuz Eylul Univ  
Queens Univ.

Univ. Tennessee  
Argonne Natl. lab.  
Univ. Liverpool  
Univ. College London

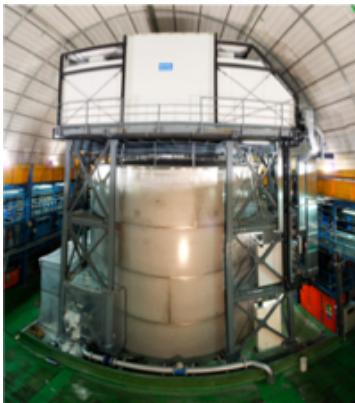
Los Alamos Natl. Lab.  
Lund Univ.  
INFN Milano Bicocca  
Milano Univ. and Milano INFN  
Natl. Res. Center Kurchatov Inst.  
Lab. for Exper. Nucl. Phy. MEPhI  
Max Planck Inst., Munich  
Technical Univ. Munich  
Oak Ridge Natl. Lab.  
Padova Univ. and Padova INFN  
Czech Tech. Univ. Prague  
Princeton Univ.  
North Carolina State Univ.  
South Dakota School Mines Tech.  
Univ. Washington  
Academia Sinica  
Univ. Tuebingen  
Univ. South Dakota  
Univ. Zurich



LEGEND



Large Enriched  
Germanium Experiment  
for Neutrinoless  $\beta\beta$  Decay



## Foundations: GERDA & MAJORANA

### GERDA

Bare  $^{enr}\text{Ge}$  detectors  
immersed in  
instrumented LAr shield

### MAJORANA DEMONSTRATOR

$^{enr}\text{Ge}$  detectors operated  
in vacuum cryostats in a  
passive graded shield  
with ultra-clean copper



# The LEGEND program

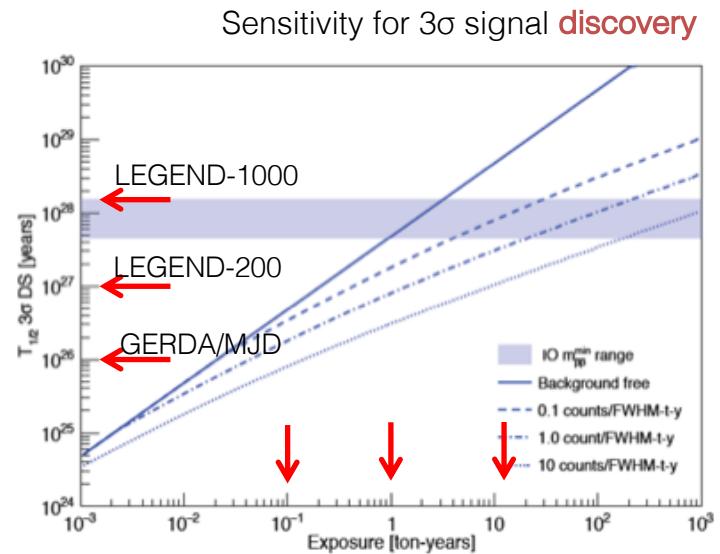


## LEGEND-200 (first phase):

- up to 200 kg of detectors
- BI  $\sim 0.6$  cts/(FWHM t yr)
- use existing GERDA infrastructure at LNGS
- design exposure: 1 t yr
- Sensitivity  $10^{27}$  yr
- Isotope procurement ongoing
- Start in 2021

## LEGEND-1000 (second phase):

- 1000 kg of detectors (deployed in stages)
- BI  $< 0.1$  cts/(FWHM t yr)
- Location tbd
- Design exposure 12 t yr
- $1.2 \times 10^{28}$  yr

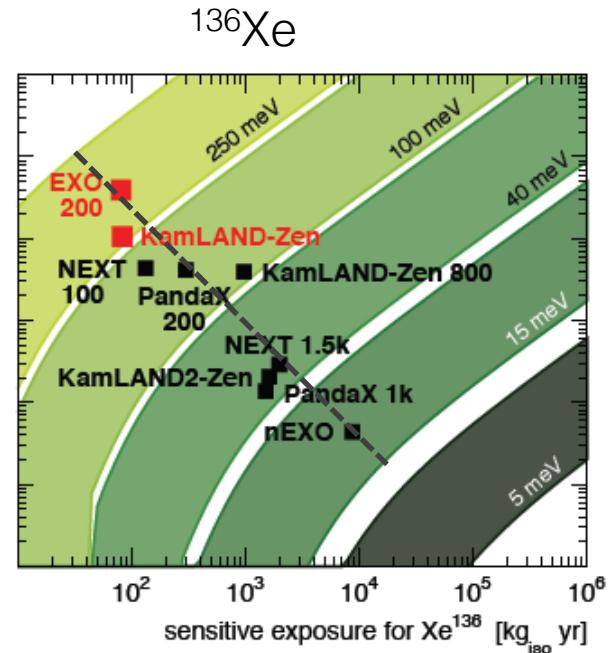
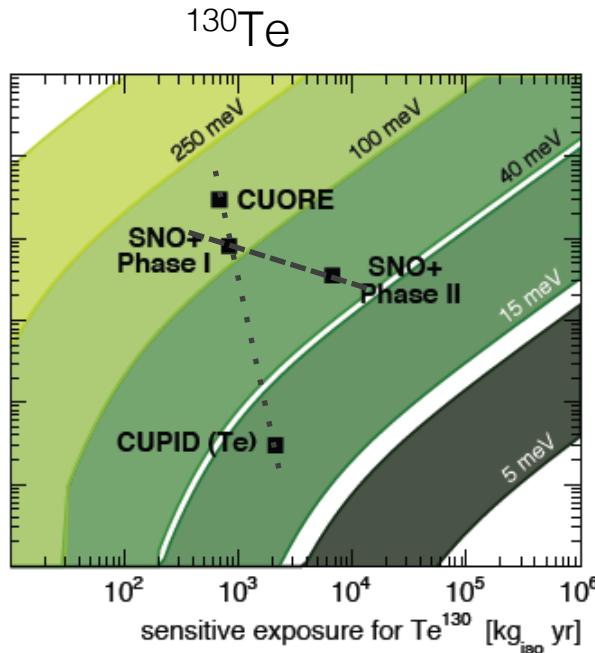
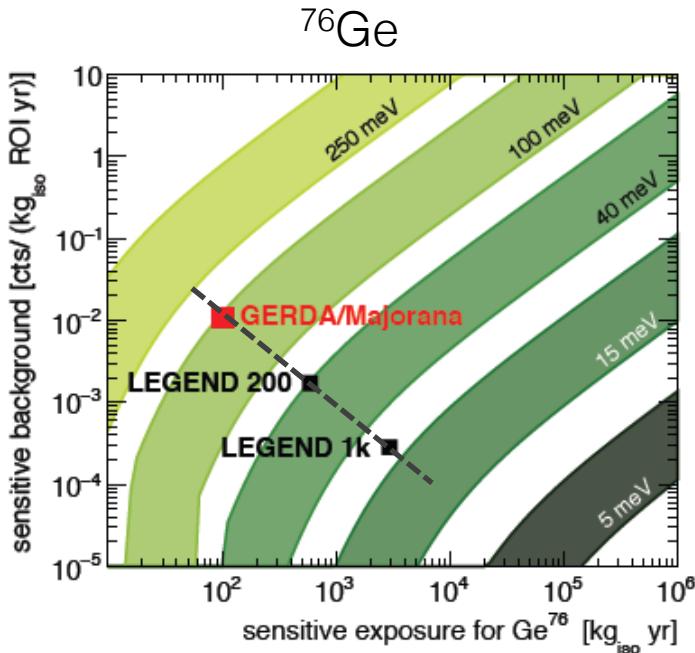


LEGEND

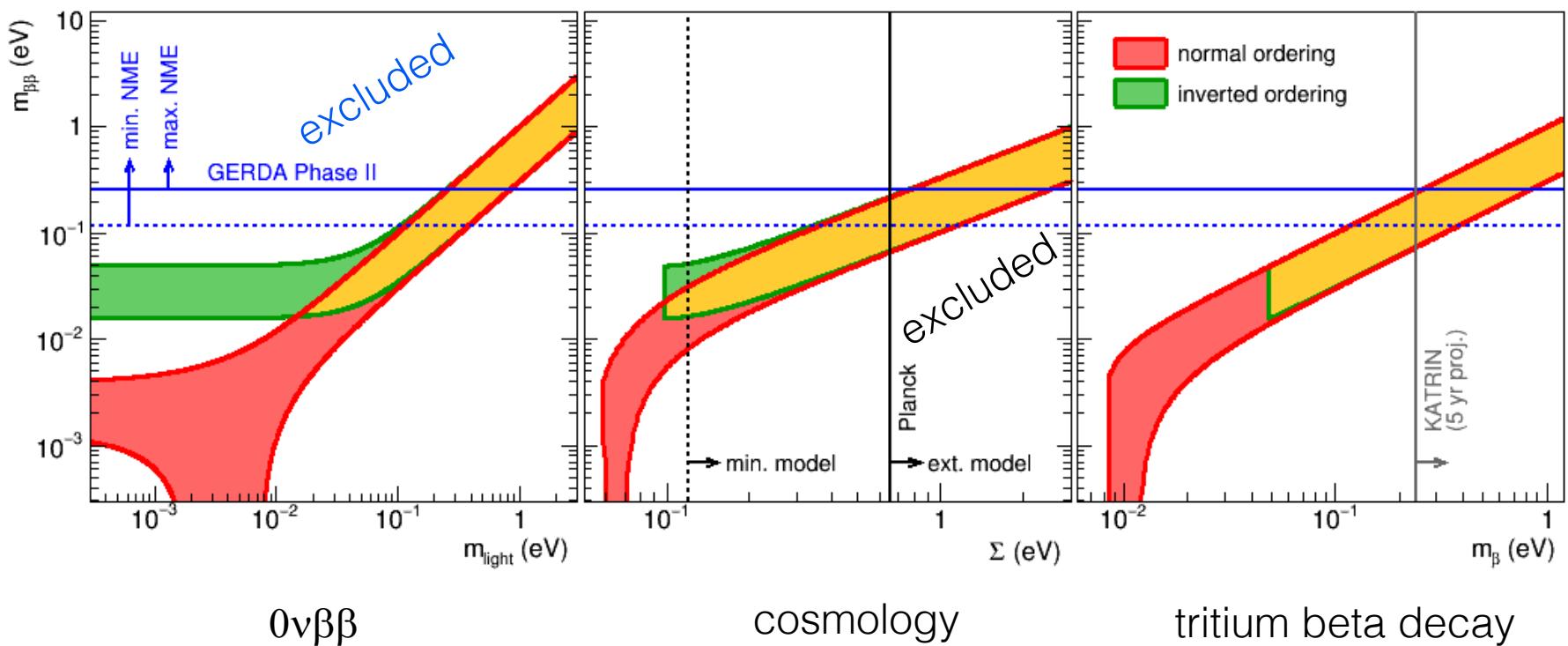


# Discovery sensitivities

(5 yr live time)



# Probing quasi-degenerate Majorana masses



# Summary & Outlook

- Strong activities world-wide for preparation of **ton-scale** experiments
- **Very high discovery** potential for IO
- **Reasonable high discovery** potential also for NO (assuming absence of mechanism driving  $m_{\beta\beta}$  or  $m_l$  to zero)
- **Several DBD isotopes** and techniques required, given NME uncertainties and low signal rates
- Formidable **experimental challenges** to acquire ton yr exposure quasi **background free**
- Community now ready to move to **ton-scale experiments** with most **reasonable extrapolations** w.r. to detector performance and background reduction
- **Staging** largely adopted to produce physics results & minimize (project) risks
- Experimental design for **discovery** (not limit setting!)