



Majorana Neutrinos and Matter Creation

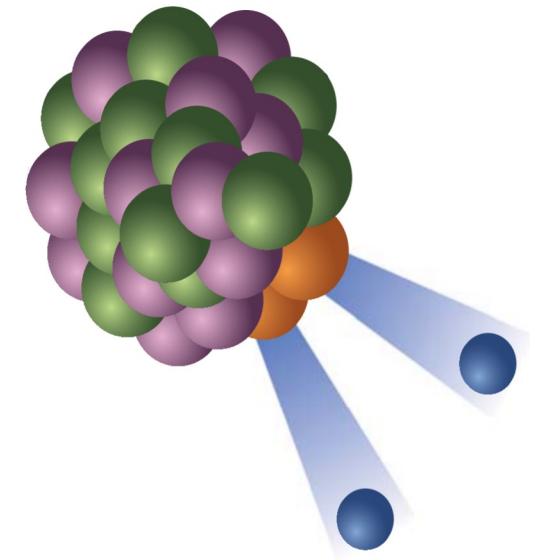
Ruben Saakyan
University College London

Windows on the Universe
30th Anniversary of Rencontres du Vietnam
Quy Nhon
10-Aug-2023



Outline

- Introduction and Motivation
- $0\nu\beta\beta$ and neutrino physics, physics reach
- Experimental approaches
- Outlook and international landscape



Disclaimer:

- Vibrant field: impossible to do justice to all projects
- Focus on giving an overview of most promising techniques and convey excitement about physics reach, with breakthroughs potentially around the corner

Much material from comprehensive recent review

[Agostini, Benato, Detwiler, Menendez, Vissani](#)
[Rev. Mod. Phys. 95 025002](#)

Standard Model

- particles/antiparticles symmetry
- energy \leftrightarrow particle + antiparticle
- But universe is dominated by matter (baryons)

There could(should?/must?) be processes altering

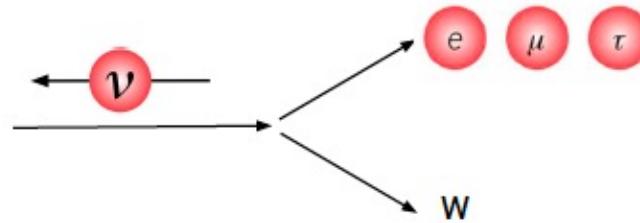
- $B = N_{\text{baryons}} - N_{\text{anti-baryons}}$ (proton decay)
- $L = N_{\text{leptons}} - N_{\text{anti-leptons}}$ ($0\nu\beta\beta$)
- $B-L \rightarrow$ global symmetry of SM ($0\nu\beta\beta$)

Matter	charge	Antimatter
Quarks \rightarrow Baryons		Anti-Quarks \rightarrow Anti-Baryons
u c t	+2/3 -2/3	\bar{u} \bar{c} \bar{t}
d s b	-1/3 +1/3	\bar{d} \bar{s} \bar{b}
Leptons		Anti-Leptons
e μ τ	-1 +1	\bar{e} $\bar{\mu}$ $\bar{\tau}$
ν_e ν_μ ν_τ	0 0	$\bar{\nu}_e$ $\bar{\nu}_\mu$ $\bar{\nu}_\tau$

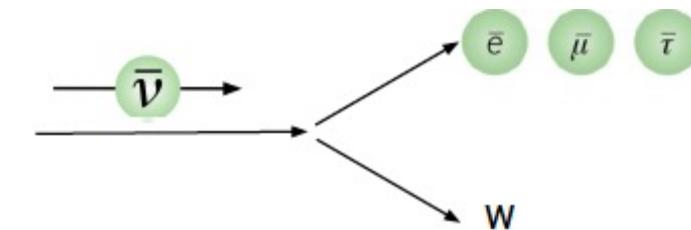
Big Questions: Matter vs Antimatter and neutrino mass

What distinguishes neutrinos from antineutrinos?

Phenomenology:



left-handed chirality -> creating particles

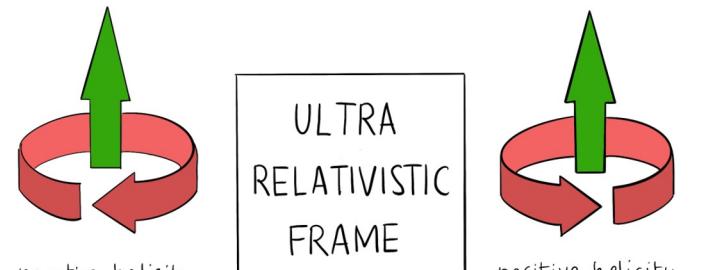


right-handed chirality -> creating antiparticles

BUT $m_\nu \neq 0$ (neutrino oscillations)



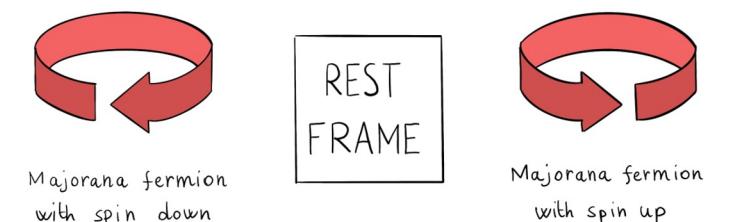
Dirac



Accept there are two non-interacting “sterile” states



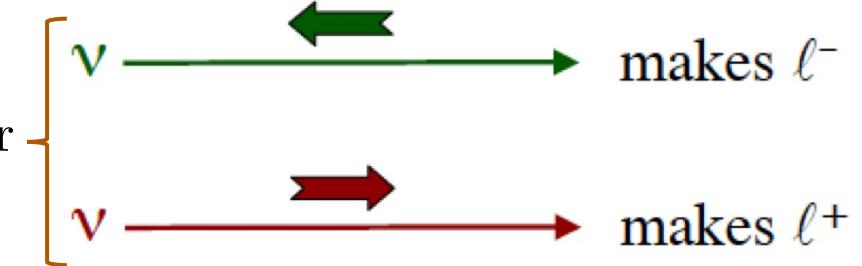
Majorana



Or the same objects that has both chiral state

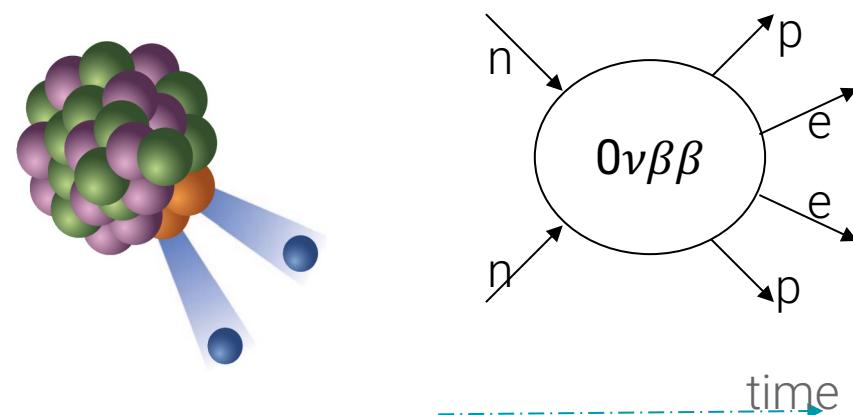
Neutrino \leftrightarrow “anti”-neutrino transformation and $0\nu\beta\beta$ -decay

Majorana neutrinos can create both matter and antimatter



Most sensitive probe: $0\nu\beta\beta$ $(A,Z) \rightarrow (A,Z+2) + 2e$

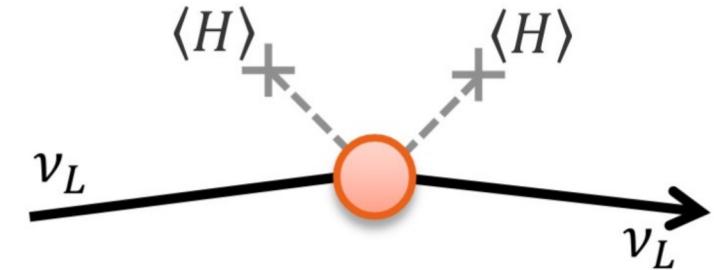
$$\Delta B = 0, \Delta L = 2$$



Direct violation of L and B-L
Direct (leptonic) matter creation

non-zero Majorana mass

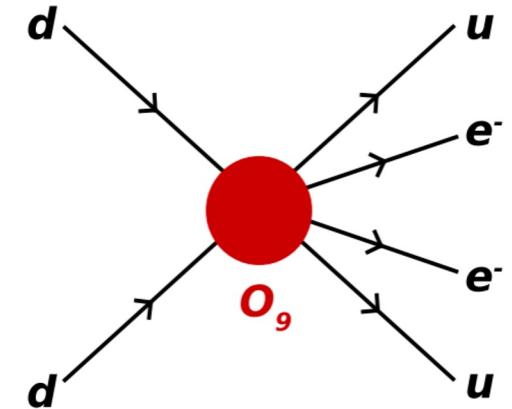
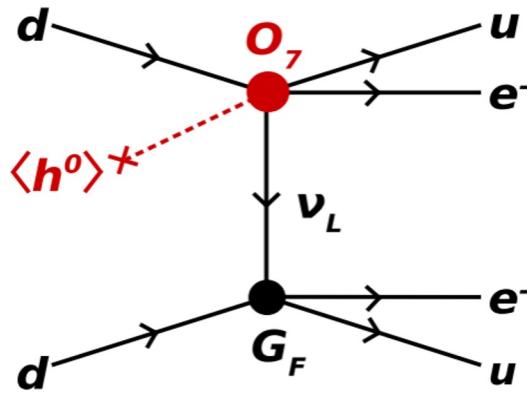
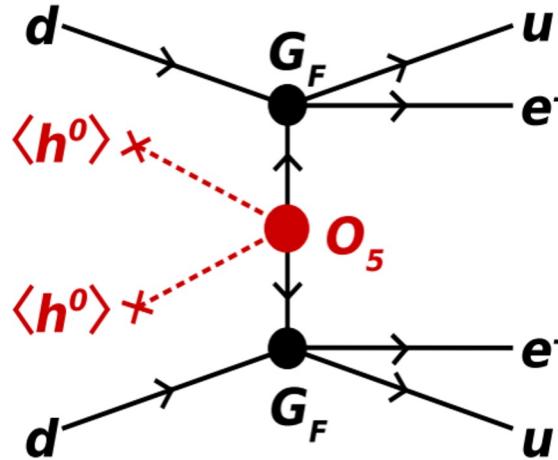
Schechter and Valle
 1982



Neutrino mass generation mechanism

Cirigliano et al., JHEP 12, 097 (2018)

Deppisch, Graf, Iachello and Kotila
Phys. Rev. D 102 (2020) 9, 095016



- Any new L-violating physics can result in $0\nu\beta\beta$ (access to ultra-high energy BSM)
- Schechter-Valle theorem: $0\nu\beta\beta$ observation provides **unambiguous evidence** for **non-zero Majorana mass** (even if it is not dominating mechanism)

Double Beta Decay



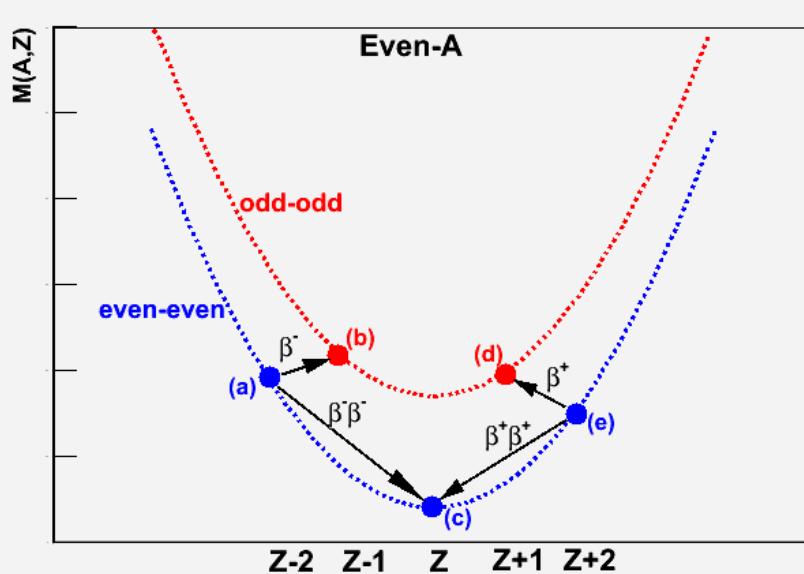
Abstract

From the Fermi theory of β -disintegration the probability of simultaneous emission of two electrons (and two neutrinos) has been calculated. The result is that this process occurs sufficiently rarely to allow a half-life of over 10^{17} years for a nucleus, even if its isobar of atomic number different by 2 were more stable by 20 times the electron mass.

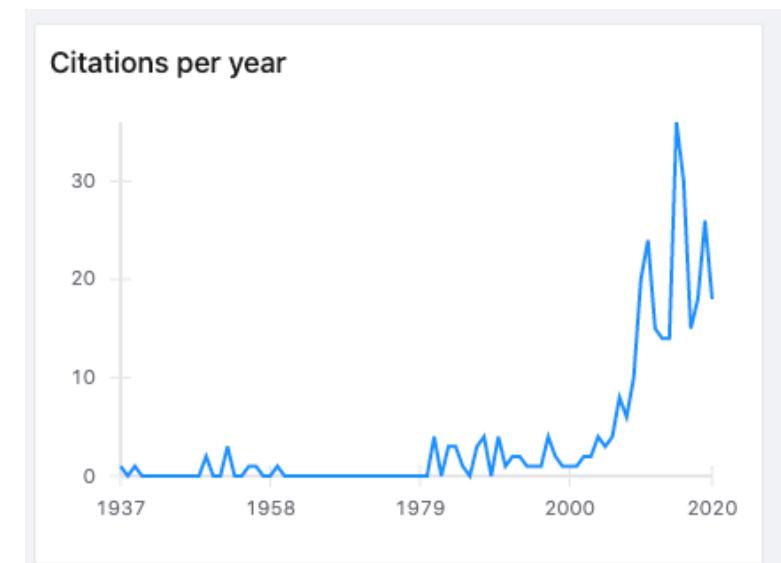
M. Goepert-Mayer

$2\nu\beta\beta \longrightarrow \text{Double beta-Disintegration, Phys.Rev. 48:512-16 (1935)}$

1939: Furry $\longrightarrow 0\nu\beta\beta$

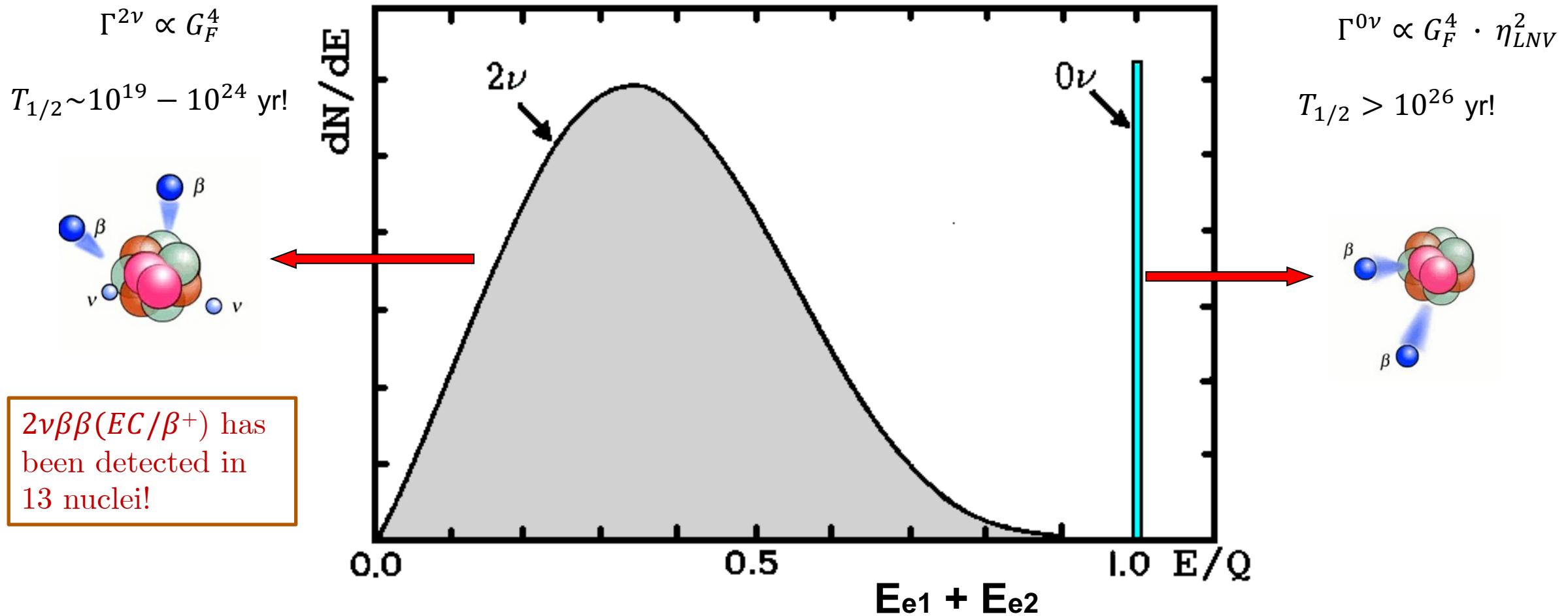


Over 40 nuclei can undergo $\beta\beta$ -decay (including $\beta^+\beta^+$ and 2K-capture)
Only ~9 experimentally feasible for $0\nu\beta\beta$

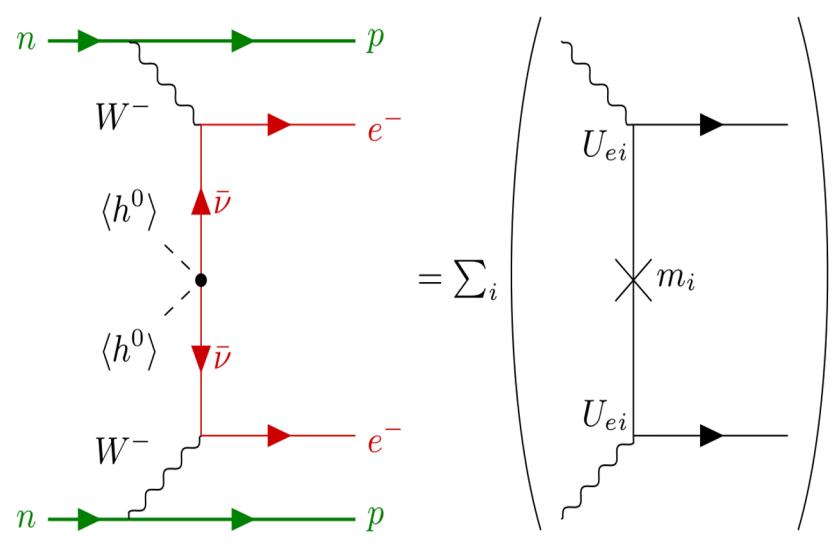


Isotope	Daughter	$Q_{\beta\beta}^{\text{a}}$ [keV]	$f_{\text{nat}}^{\text{b}}$ [%]	$f_{\text{enr}}^{\text{c}}$ [%]
^{48}Ca	^{48}Ti	4 267.98(32)	0.187(21)	16
^{76}Ge	^{76}Se	2 039.061(7)	7.75(12)	92
^{82}Se	^{82}Kr	2 997.9(3)	8.82(15)	96.3
^{96}Zr	^{96}Mo	3 356.097(86)	2.80(2)	86
^{100}Mo	^{100}Ru	3 034.40(17)	9.744(65)	99.5
^{116}Cd	^{116}Sn	2 813.50(13)	7.512(54)	82
^{130}Te	^{130}Xe	2 527.518(13)	34.08(62)	92
^{136}Xe	^{136}Ba	2 457.83(37)	8.857(72)	90
^{150}Nd	^{150}Sm	3 371.38(20)	5.638(28)	91

Experimental Observables



If possible: individual electron energies, E_{e1} , E_{e2} , and angle θ between them

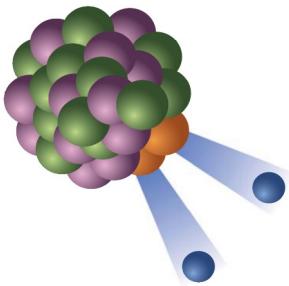


$$P \propto \frac{1}{T_{1/2}} \propto G g^4 M^2 \left(\frac{m_{\beta\beta}}{m_e} \right)^2$$

$$m_{\beta\beta} = \left| \sum_i U_{ei}^2 m_i \right| = \left| c_{12}^2 c_{13}^2 m_1 + s_{12}^2 c_{13}^2 m_2 e^{i2\alpha} + s_{13}^2 m_3 e^{i2\beta} \right|$$

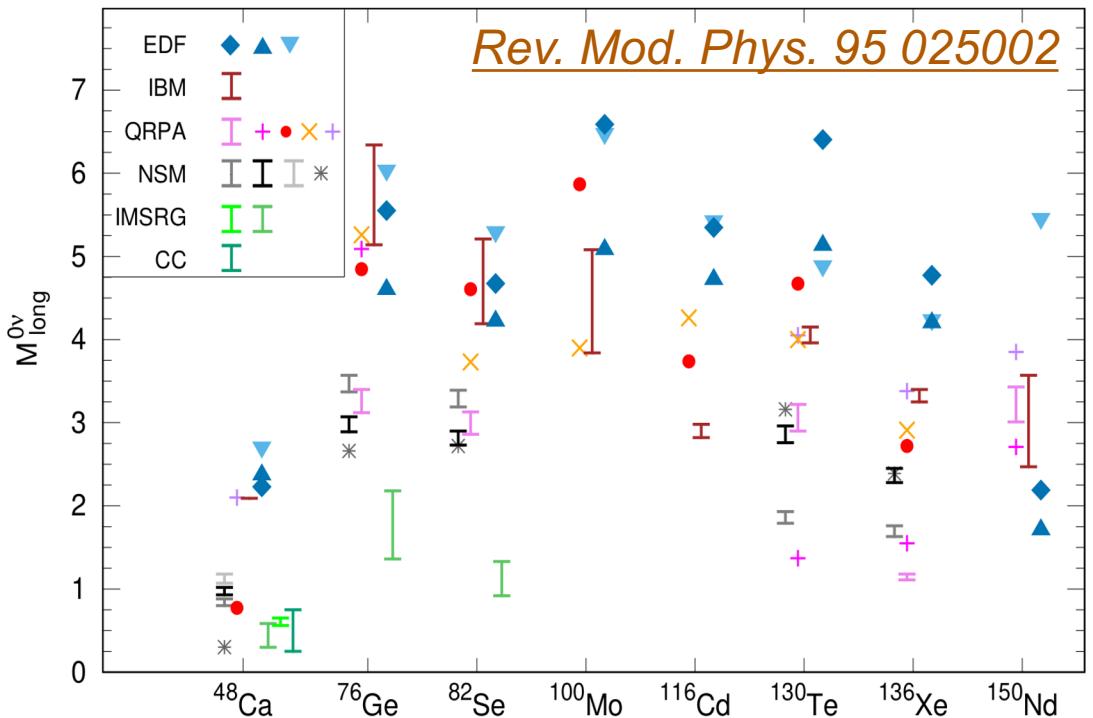
$$c_{12} = \cos\theta_{12}, c_{13} = \cos\theta_{13}, s_{12} = \sin\theta_{12}, s_{13} = \sin\theta_{13}$$

$m_{1,2,3} \rightarrow$ mass eigenstates $\alpha, \beta \rightarrow$ Majorana CP-phases

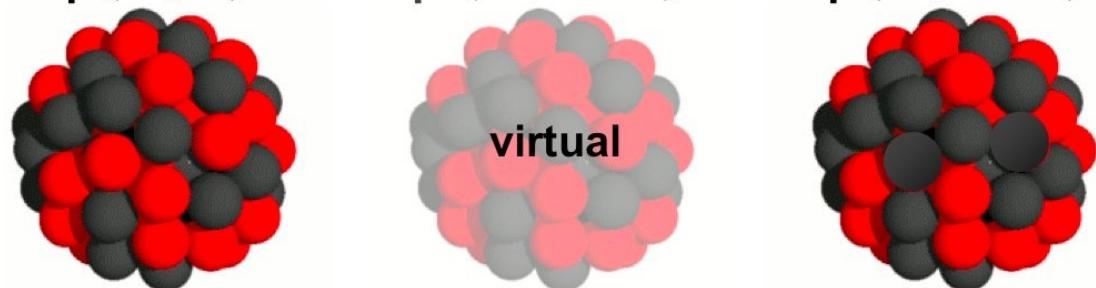


- Minimal extension of SM
- Access to absolute neutrino mass and Majorana CP-phases
- Reach interplay with neutrino oscillations, kinematic measurements (m_β), cosmology (Σ)

$0\nu\beta\beta$: Connection with Nuclear Physics



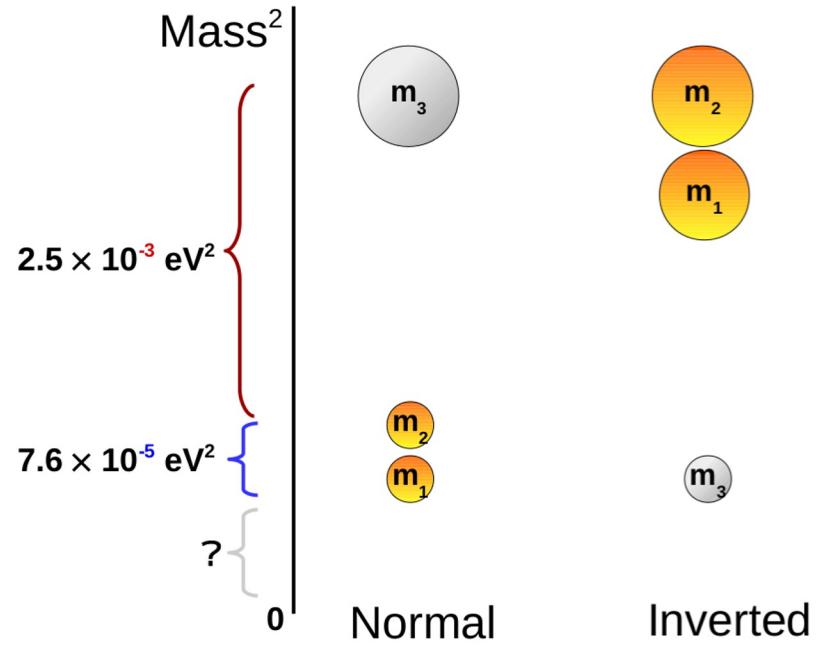
$$\psi(A,Z) \rightarrow \psi(A,Z+1) \rightarrow \psi(A,Z+2)$$



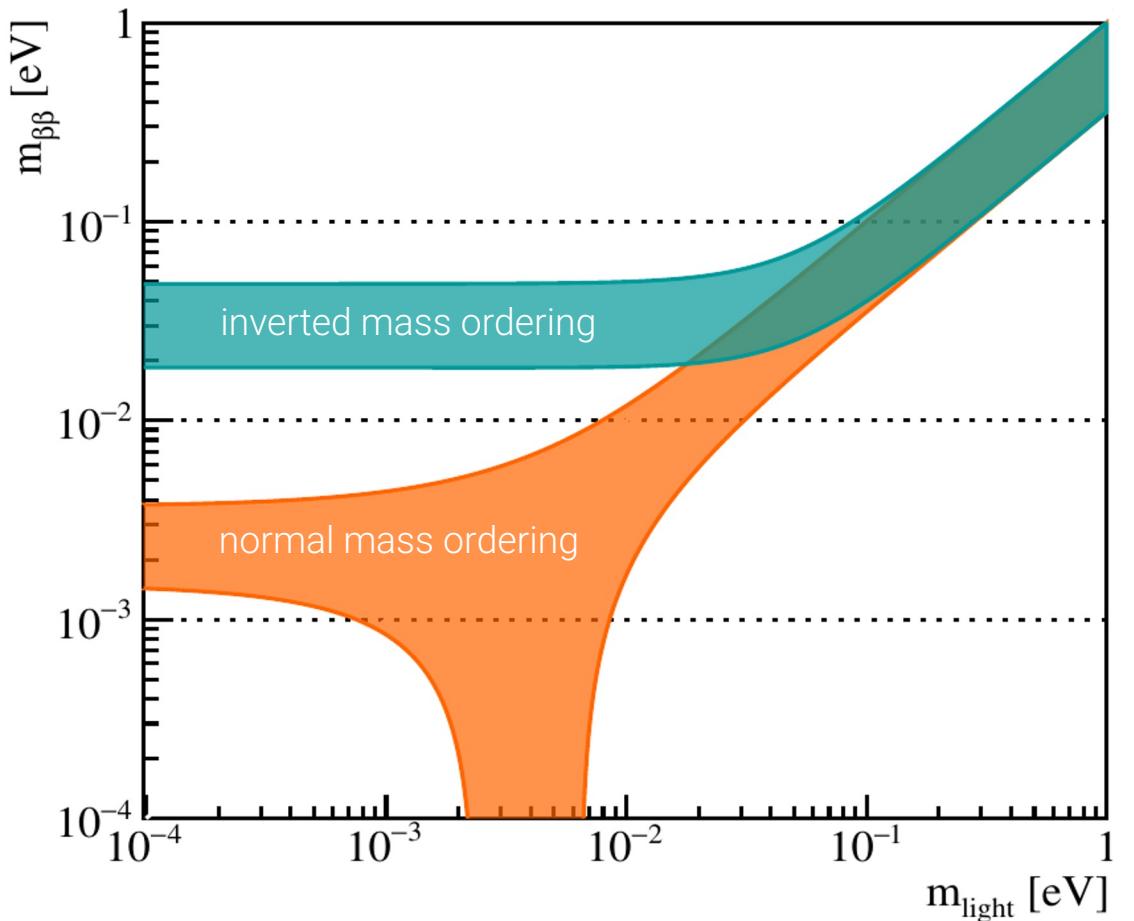
$$P \propto \frac{1}{T_{1/2}} \propto G g^4 M^2 \left(\frac{m_{\beta\beta}}{m_e} \right)^2$$

nuclear matrix element (NME)

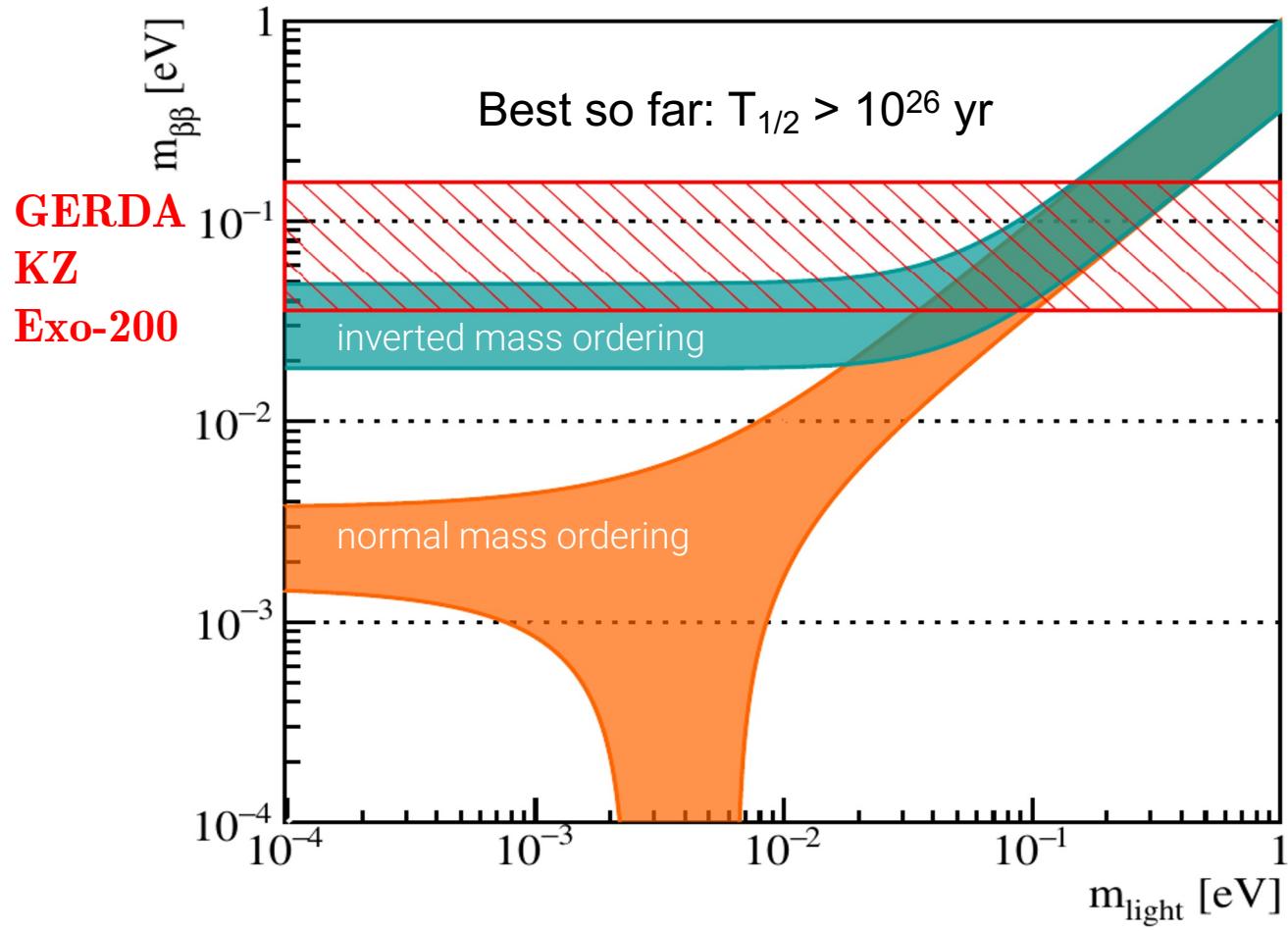
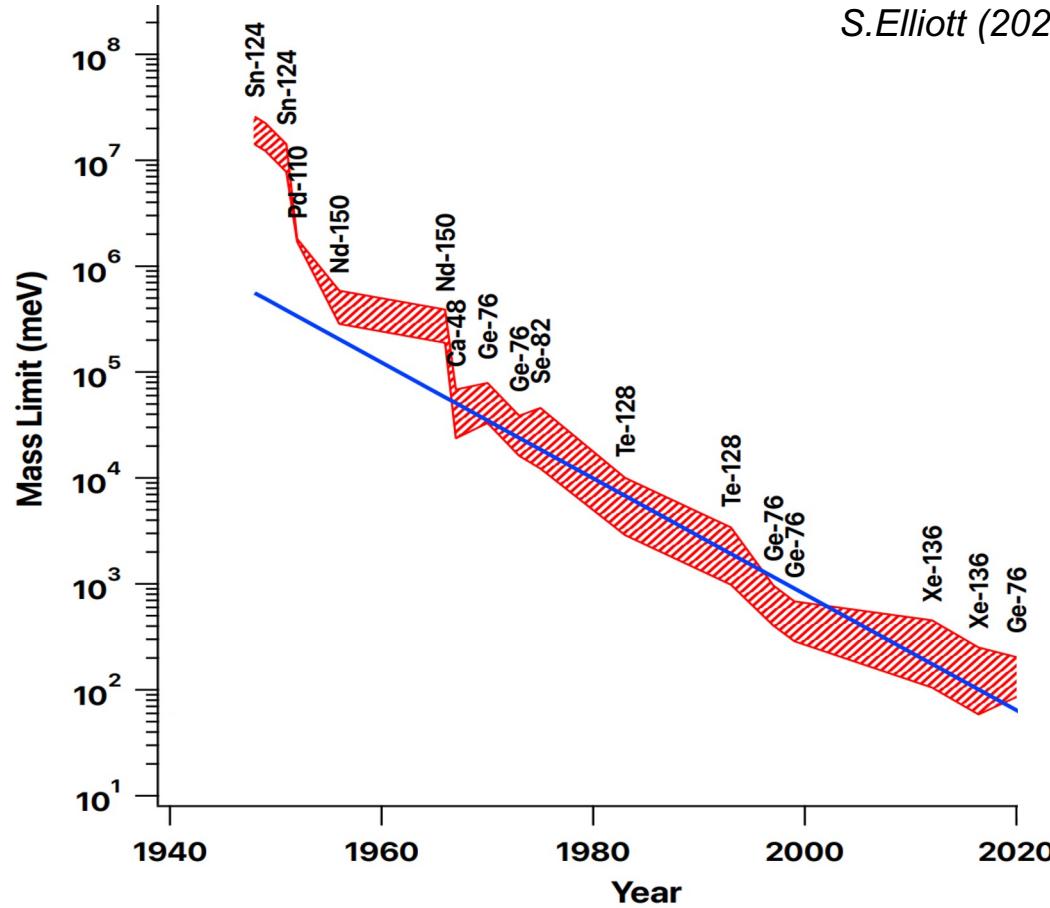
- Significant effort from different groups and different nuclear models
- *Question of ga quenching under study*
- No isotope has clear preference. Choice driven by experimental considerations.
- **Multiple isotope confirmation crucial**
- **Experimental input important**
 - » **$2\nu\beta\beta$ decay**
 - » charge exchange reactions
 - » muon capture



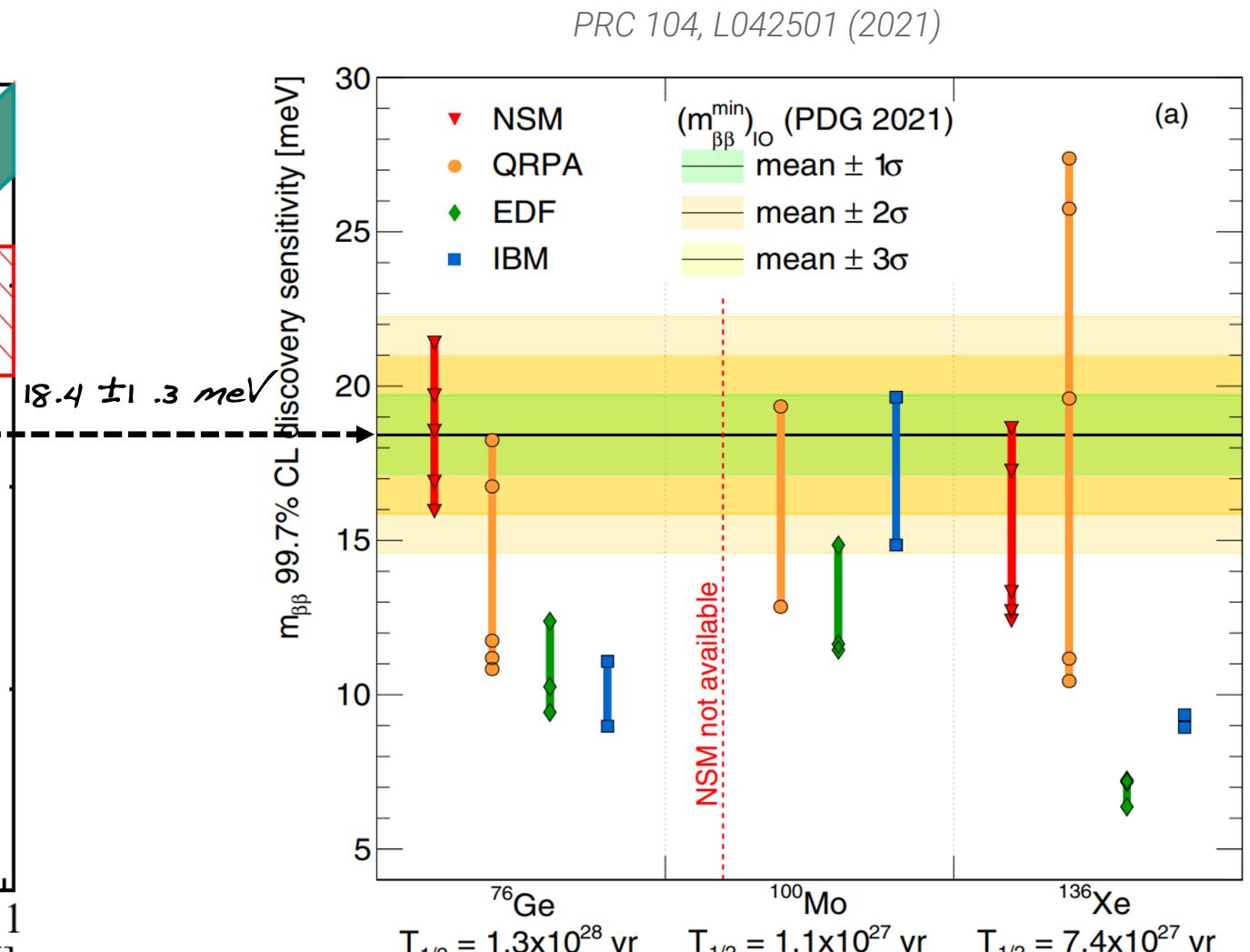
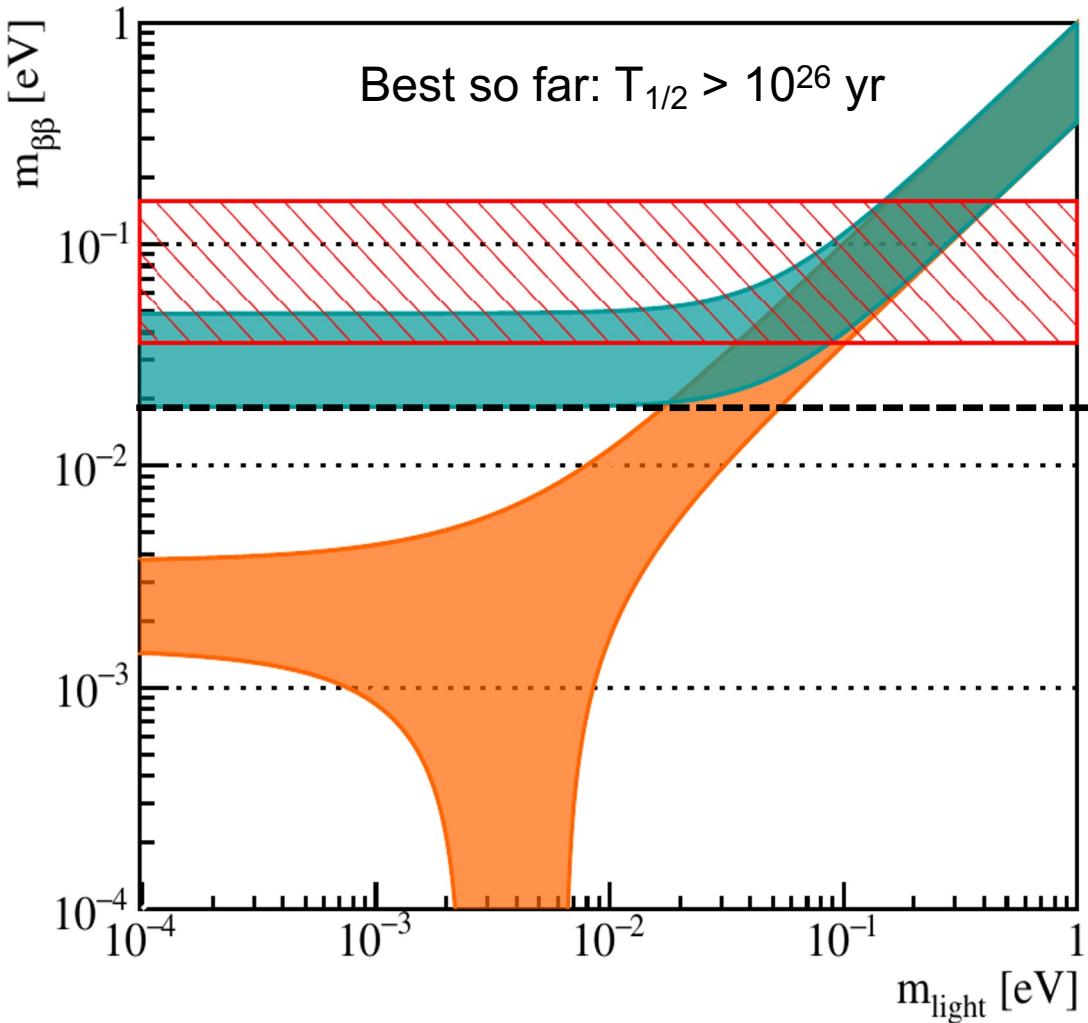
$$m_{\beta\beta} = \left| \sum_i U_{ei}^2 m_i \right|$$



$0\nu\beta\beta$ with $m_{\beta\beta}$ Where are we so far



$0\nu\beta\beta$ with $m_{\beta\beta}$ Where are we heading



LEGEND

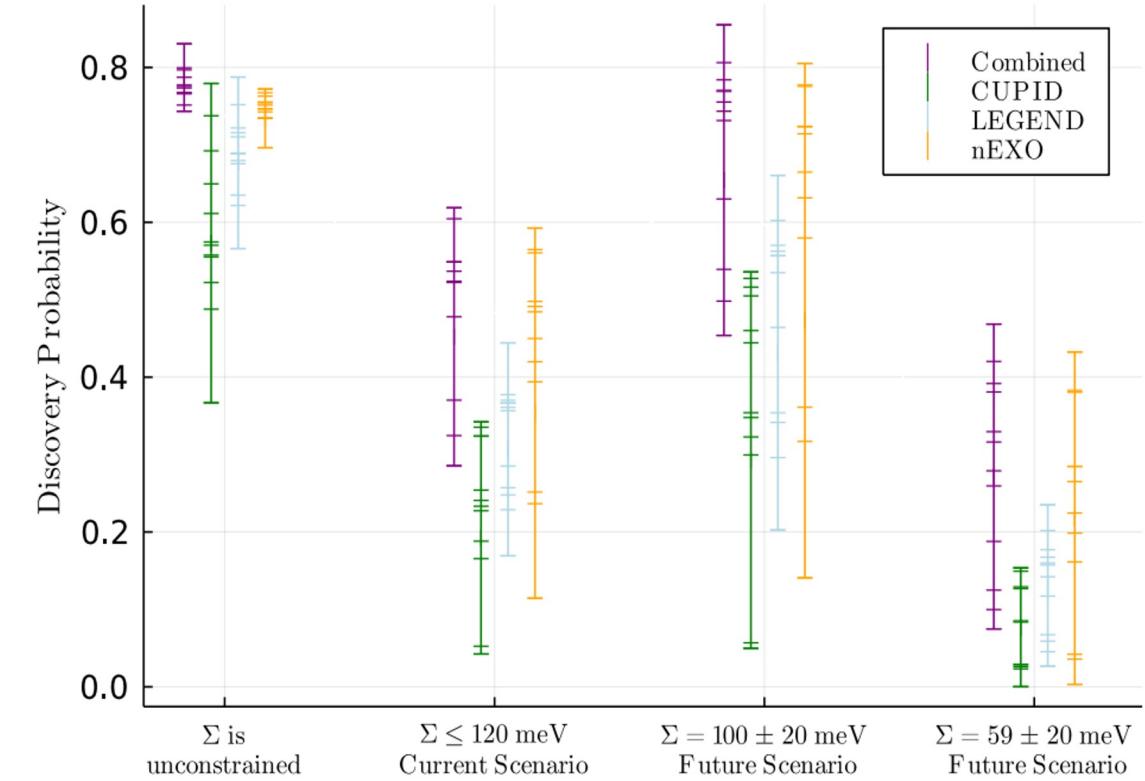
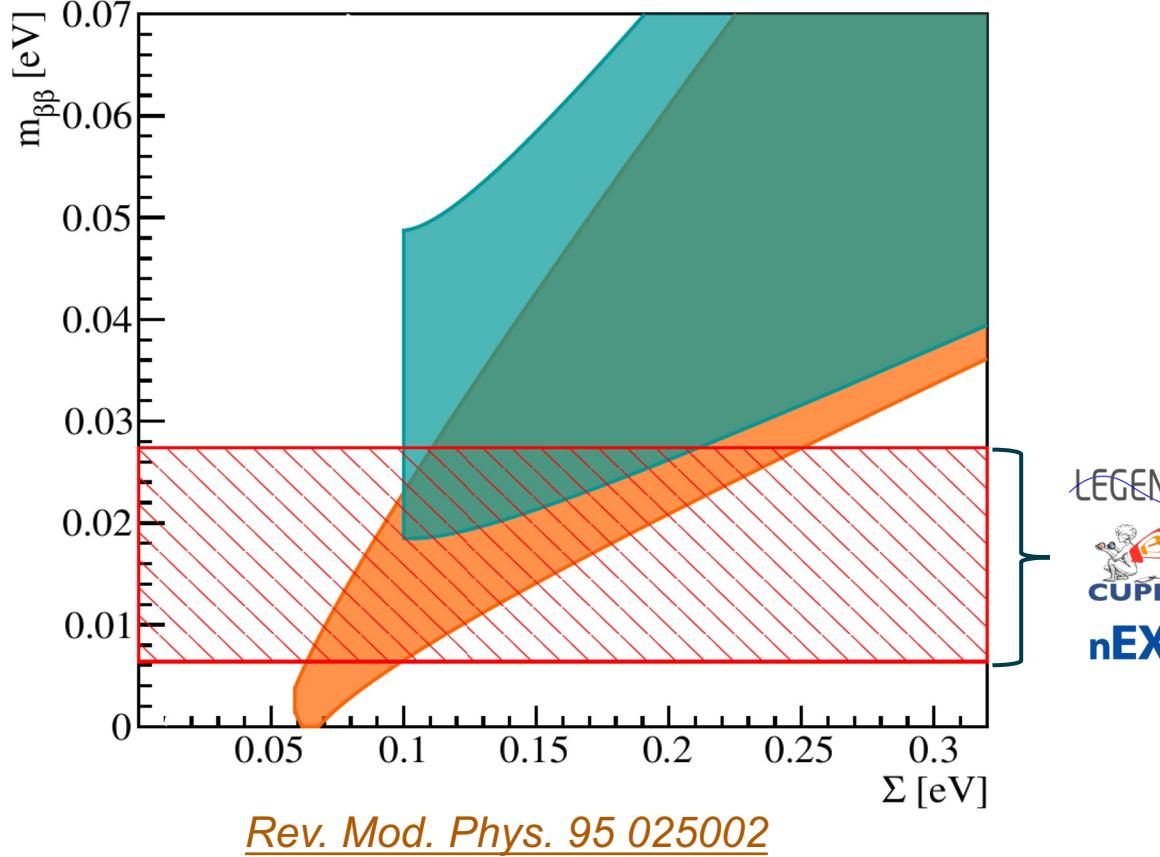


nEXO

$0\nu\beta\beta$ with $m_{\beta\beta}$. Interplay with Cosmology.

Cosmology surveys (DESI/EUCLID) closing in
on positive measurement for Σ

$$\Sigma = \sum_i m_i$$



arXiv: 2208.09954

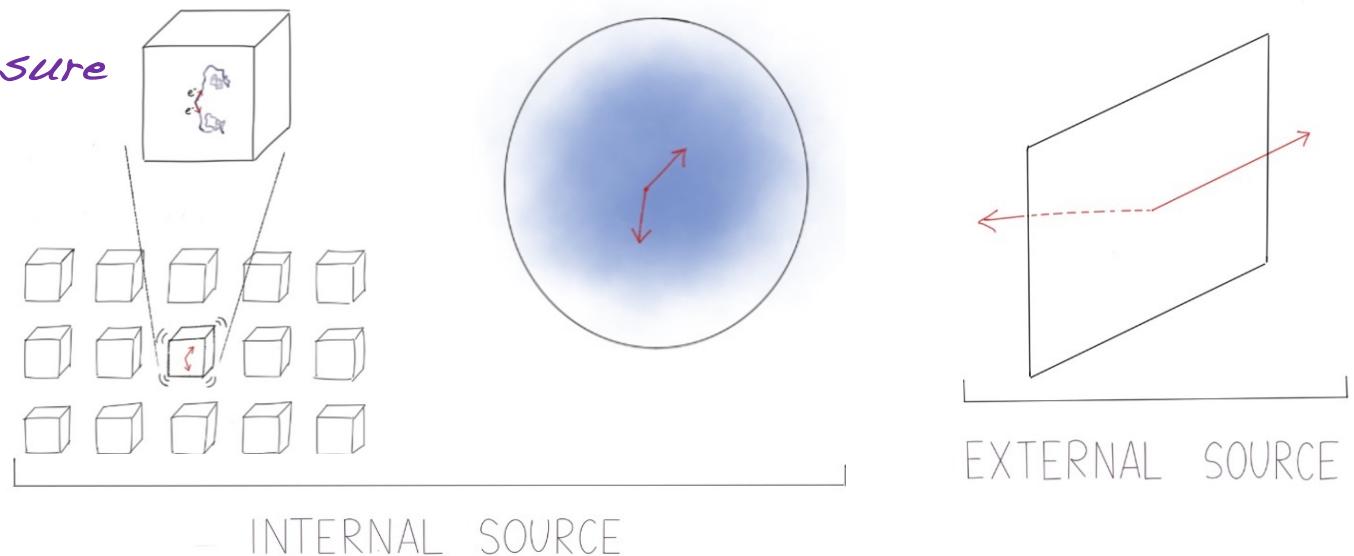
Experimental Approaches

Detection Principles

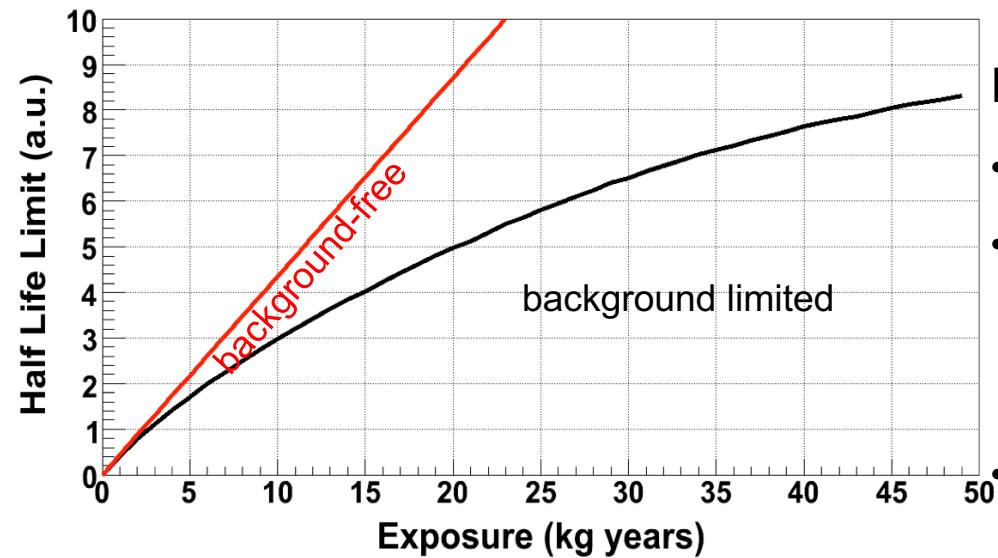
maximise detection efficiency and $\beta\beta$ isotope abundance

$$T_{1/2}^{0\nu}(90\% \text{ C.L.}) = 2.54 \times 10^{26} \text{ y} \left(\frac{\epsilon \times a}{W} \right) \sqrt{\frac{M \times t}{b \times \Delta E}}$$

minimise background

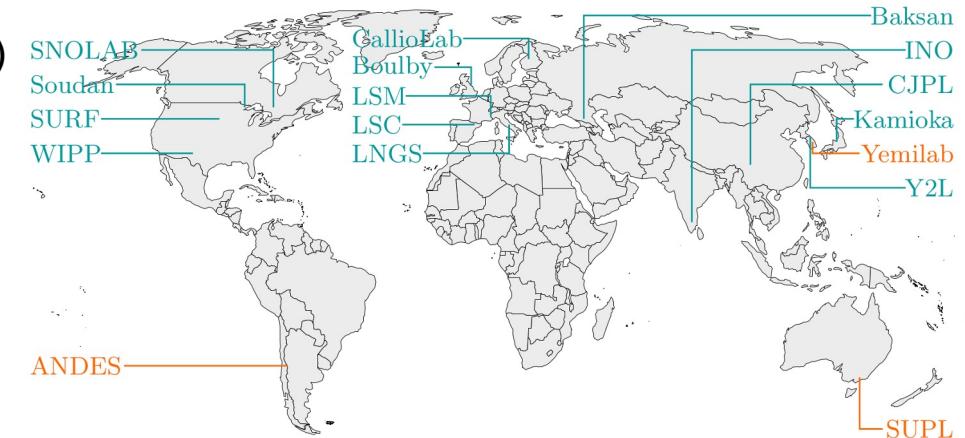


- Drawings courtesy of Laura Manenti

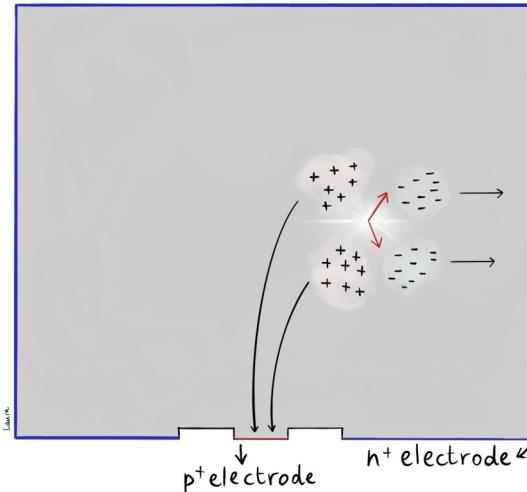


It's all about backgrounds

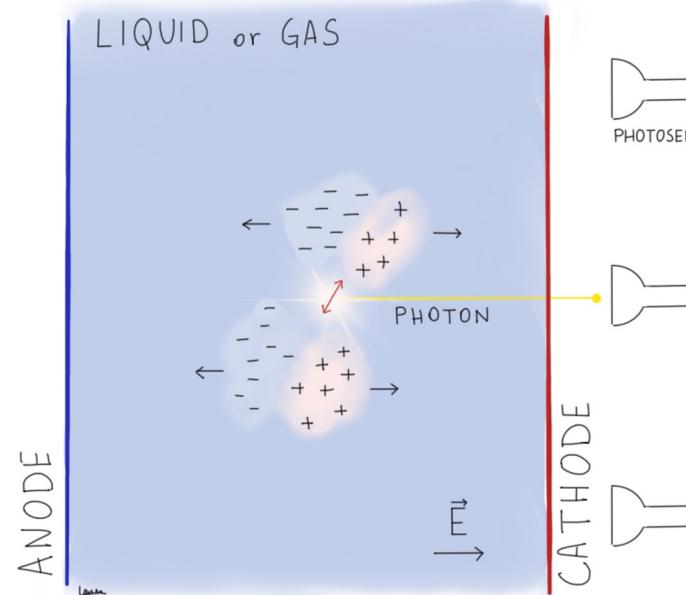
- Cosmic rays (**underground**)
- Natural radioactivity (**clean materials, particle id and tagging**)
- Standard Model $2\nu\beta\beta$ (**energy resolution**)



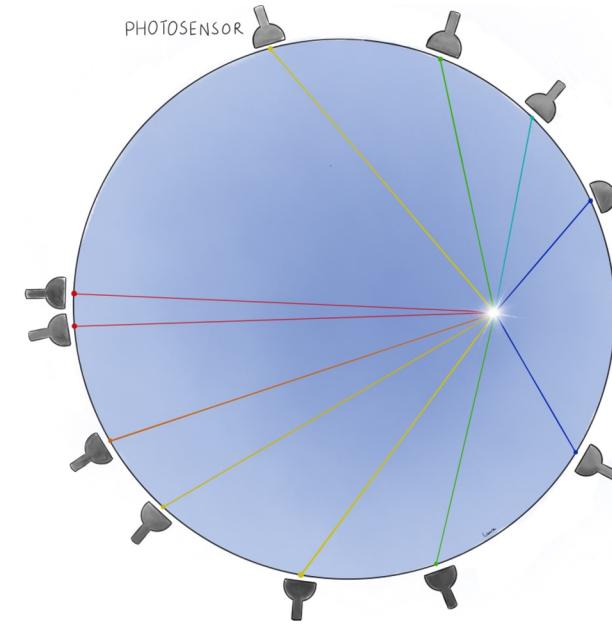
Leading Experimental Techniques



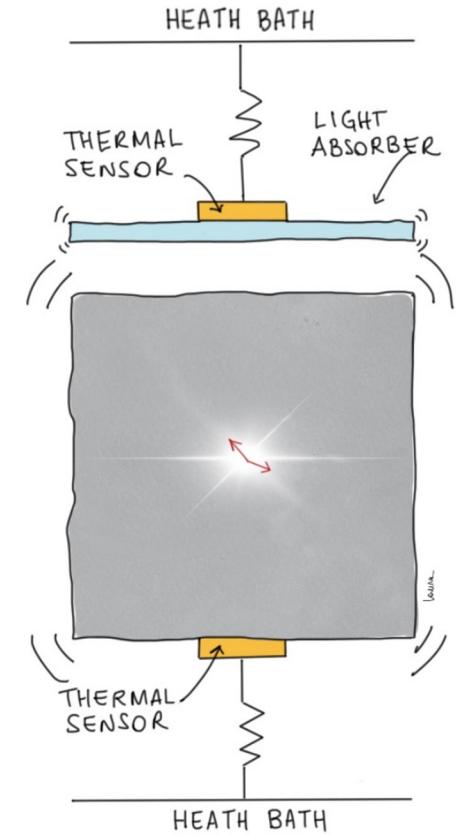
*Ge Semiconductor
detectors (⁷⁶Ge)*



*Xe Time Projection
Chambers (¹³⁶Xe)*



*Large Liquid scintillator
detectors (¹³⁰Te, ¹³⁶Xe)*



*Cryogenic
Calorimeters (¹⁰⁰Mo, ³⁰Te)*

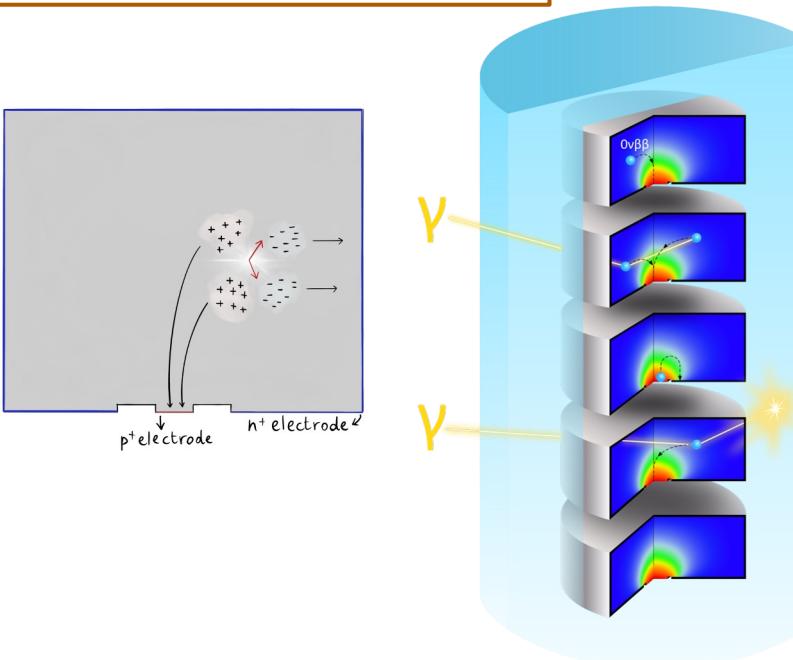
Drawings courtesy of Laura Manenti

Enriched Ge semiconductor detectors

See talk by Valentina Biancacci on Tuesday, HEP T3

high-purity ^{76}Ge detectors

- ionization and charge drift
- < 0.1% energy resolution
- event topology

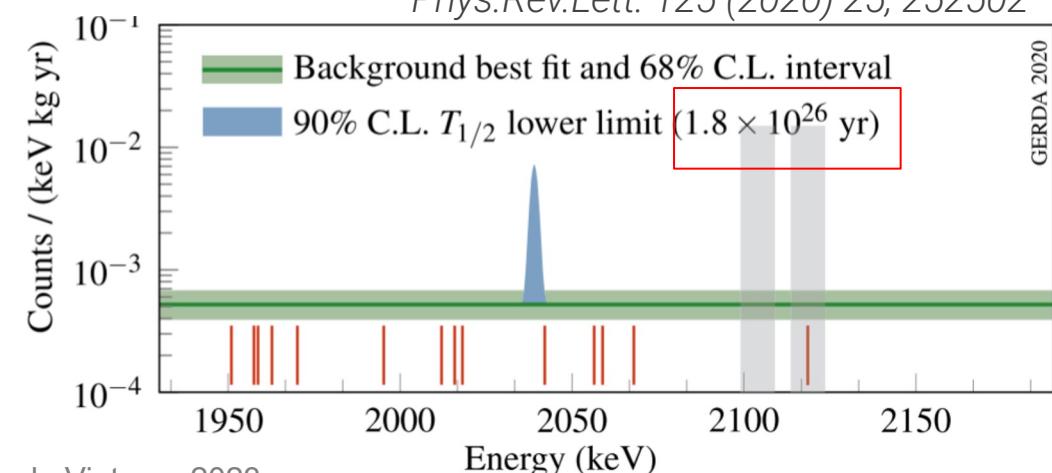


liquid Ar detector

- shield and scintillation light

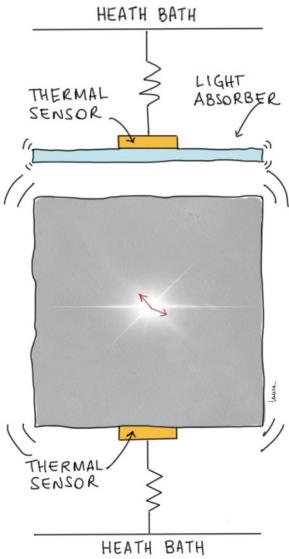
Staged approach:

- **GERDA/MAJORANA Demonstrator** (40 kg)
- **LEGEND-200** (200 kg) taking data at LNGS
- **LEGEND-1000** conceptual design in preparation (1 t)

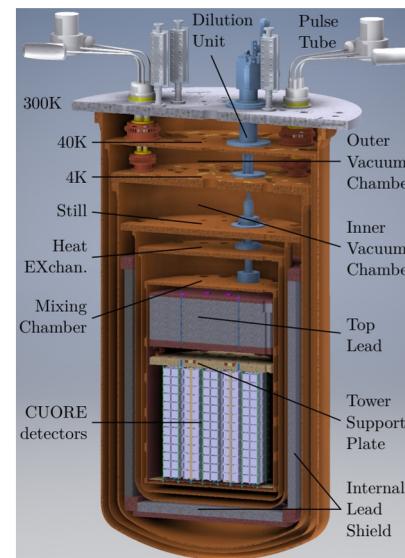


Cryogenic Calorimeters

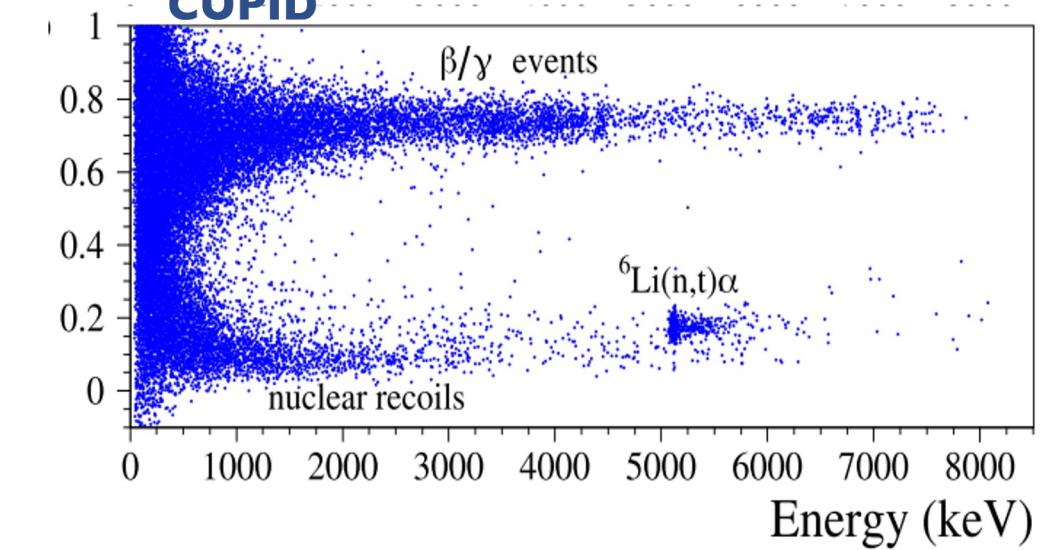
See talk by Stefano Ghislandi on Tuesday, HEP T3



- array of isotopically enriched crystals operated at ~ 10 mK
- thermal and scintillation signal
- particle ID and good energy resolution
- Leading results for ^{130}Te and ^{82}Se , future focus on ^{100}Mo

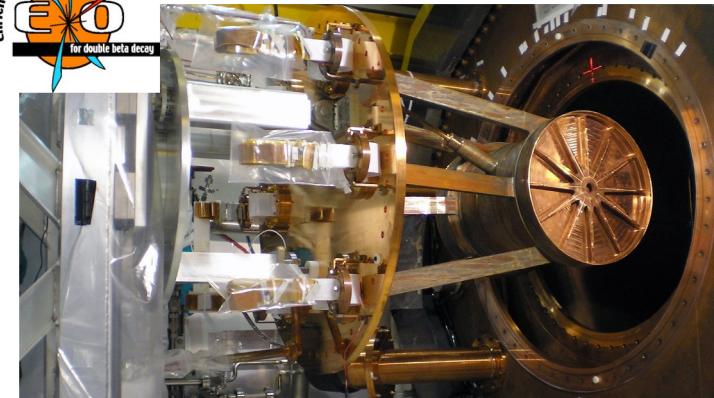
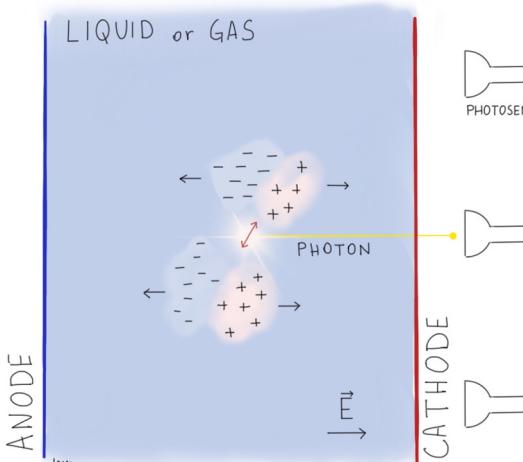


Experiment	Crystal	m_{tot}	f_{enr}
		[kg]	[%]
CUORE	$^{\text{nat}}\text{TeO}_2$	742	34 ^a
CUPID-0	$\text{Zn}^{\text{enr}}\text{Se}$	9.65	96
CUPID-Mo	$\text{Li}_2^{\text{enr}}\text{MoO}_4$	4.16	97
CROSS	$\text{Li}_2^{\text{enr}}\text{MoO}_4$	8.96	98
CUPID	$\text{Li}_2^{\text{enr}}\text{MoO}_4$	472	≥ 95
AMoRE	$\text{Li}_2^{\text{enr}}\text{MoO}_4$	200	96



Enriched Xe TPCs

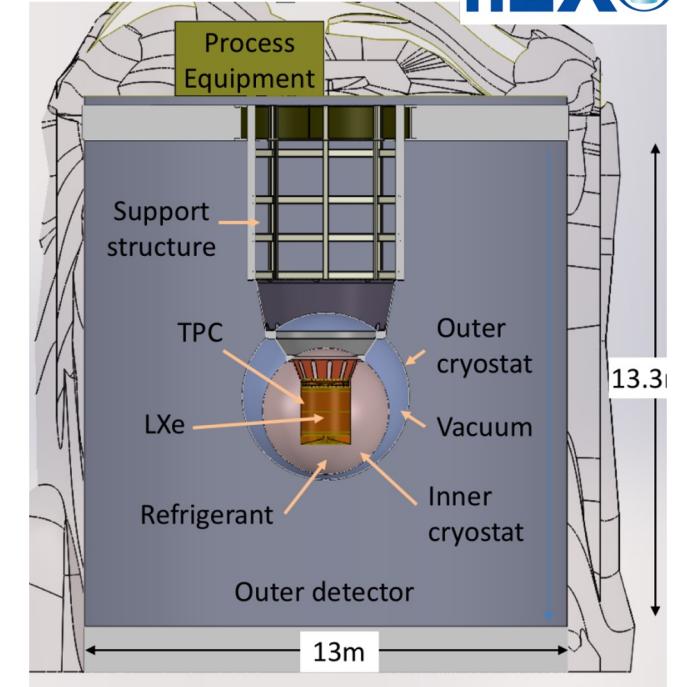
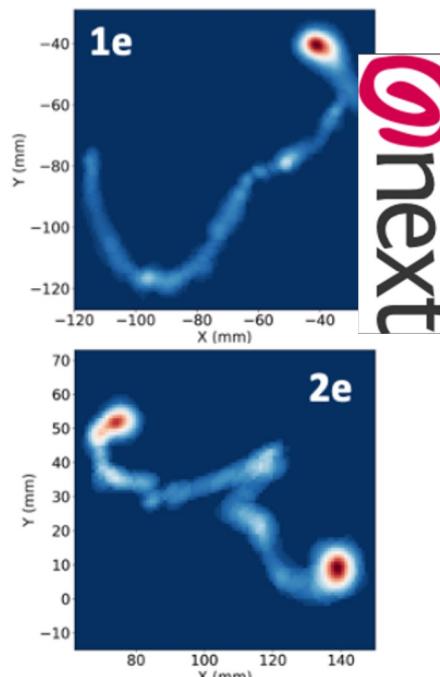
- ^{136}Xe VUV scintillation light and ionization electron drift \rightarrow 3D reconstruction
- background decreasing with distance from surface, ^{214}Bi and ^{222}Rn remain problematic
- R&D to tag $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay daughter isotope



Experiment	m_{tot}	$f_{enr.}$	Phase	Readout
	[kg]	[%]		
EXO-200	161	81	liquid	LAPPDs + wires
nEXO	5109	90	liquid	electrode tiles + SiPMs
NEXT-100	97	90	gas	SiPMs + PMTs
NEXT-HD	1100	90	gas	SiPMs + PMTs
PandaX-III-200	200	90	gas	Micromegas
PandaX-III-1K	1000	90	gas	Micromegas
LZ-nat	7 000	9	dual-phase	PMTs
LZ-enr	7 000	90	dual-phase	PMTs
DARWIN	39 300	9	dual-phase	PMTs

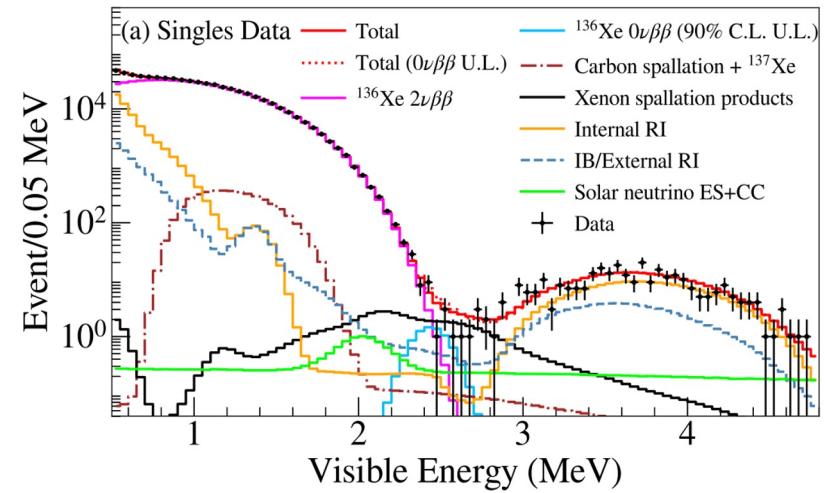
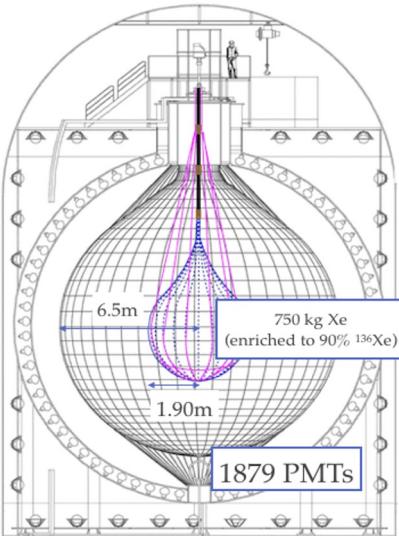
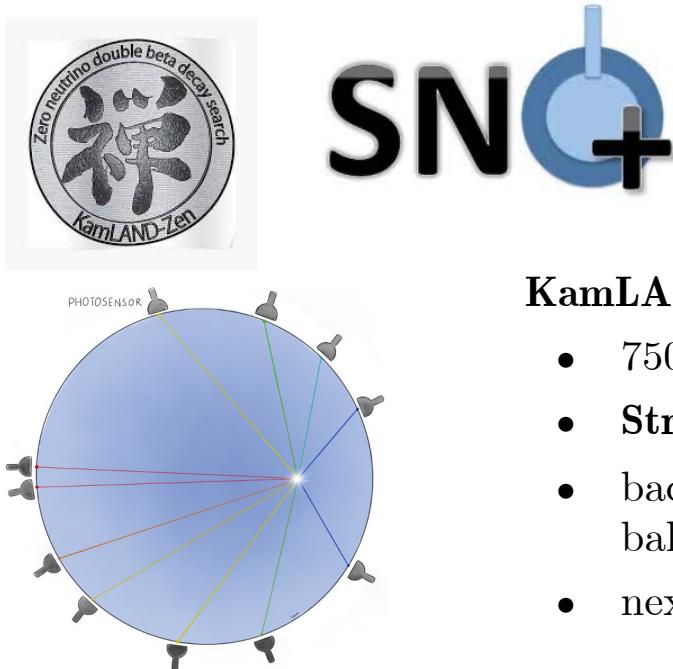
XLZD

70,000



Large loaded liquid scintillators

- scintillator loaded with target isotope
- scintillation photons detected by PMTs
- photon number and arrival time gives event energy and position
- self-shielding and fiducialization
- Broad physics program (e.g. solar, reactor, geo-neutrinos)

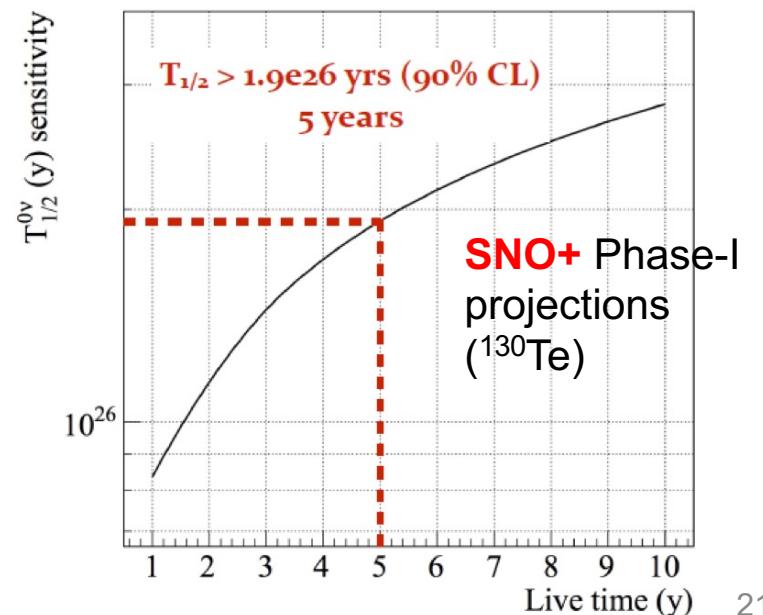


KZ collaboration, [2203.02139](#)

$$T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 2.3 \times 10^{26} \text{ yr at 90\% C.L.}$$

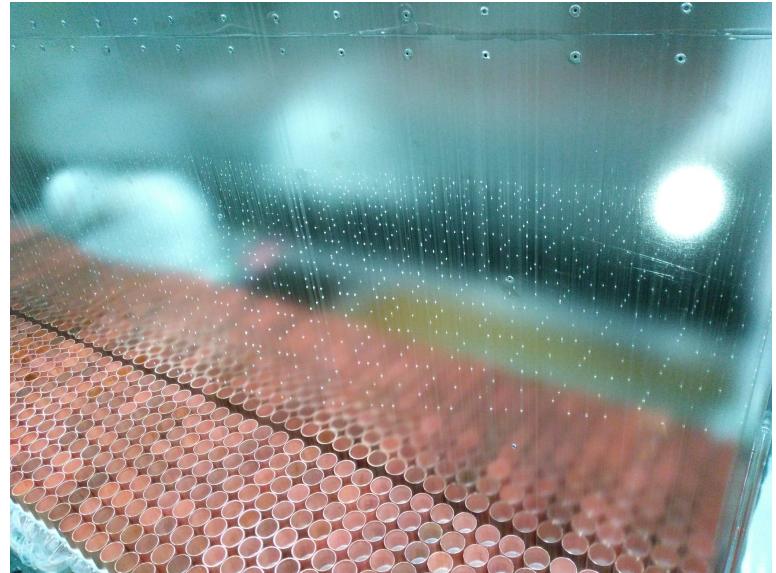
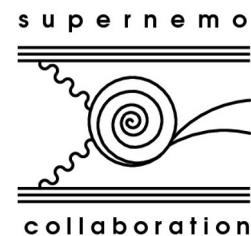
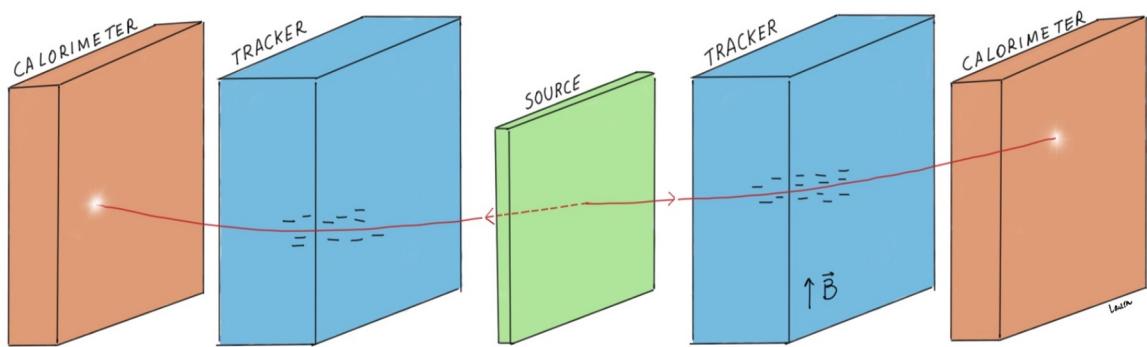
KamLAND-Zen-800 @Kamioka (^{136}Xe)

- 750 kg of enriched Xe in nylon balloon
- **Strongest constraints so far:** $m_{\beta\beta} < 36-156 \text{ meV}$
- backgrounds:, cosmogenic, solar neutrinos, ^{214}Bi on balloon
- next phase: improved resolution and purer scintillator



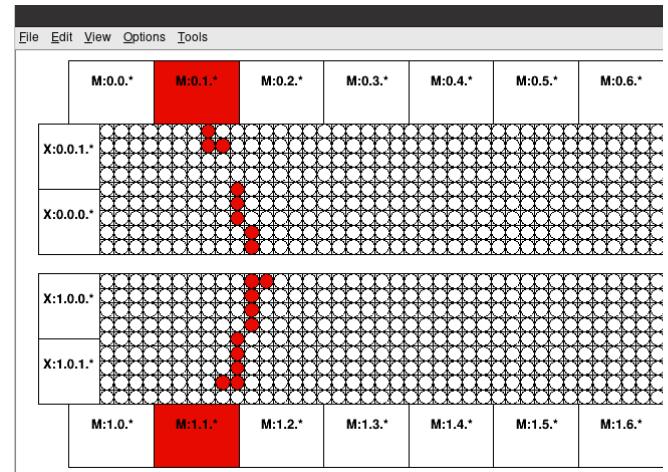
Planning for success ($m_{\beta\beta} \gtrsim 50$ meV)

NEMO-technique: full topology reconstruction of final states



- Multi-isotope confirmation
- Exploring underlying physics mechanism
 - Angular distributions
 - Single electron energies
- Constraining nuclear physics → NME and g_A through precision $2\nu\beta\beta$ studies
- BSM physics with $2\nu\beta\beta$ (*Phys.Rev.Lett.125 (2020) 17, 171801*)

SuperNEMO-Demonstrator *running at LSM*

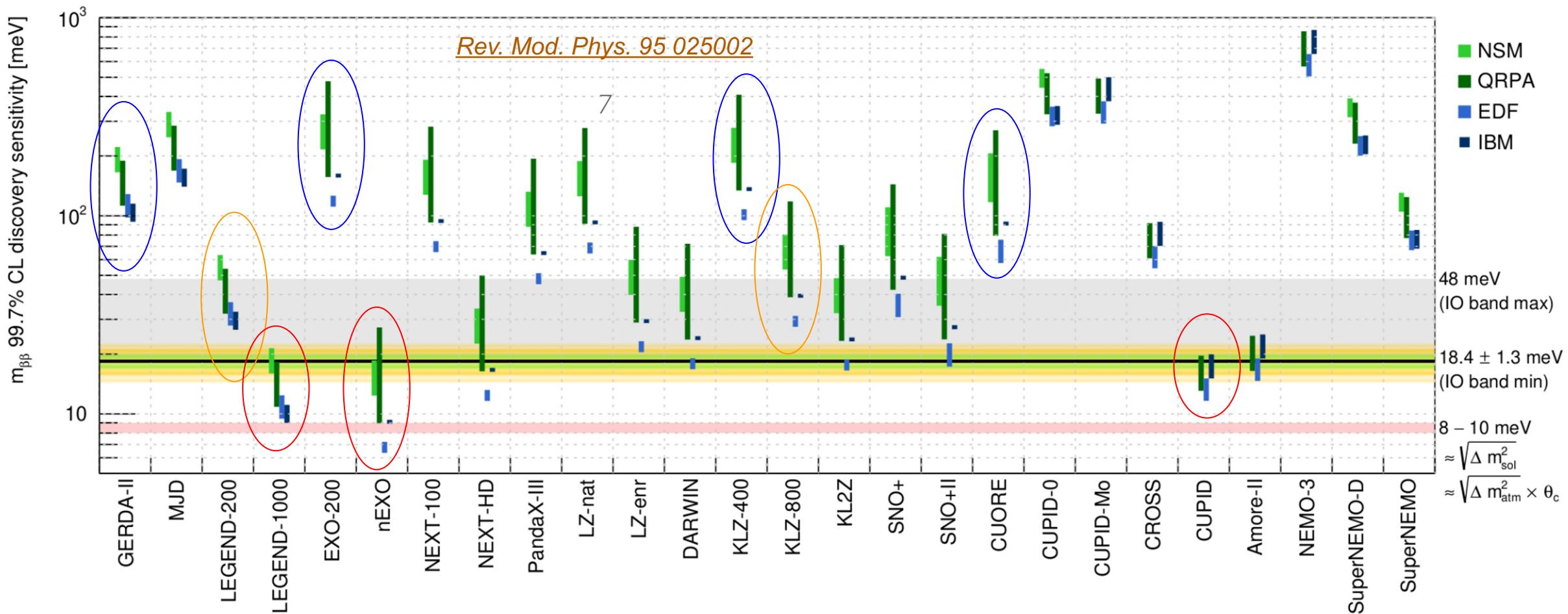


Outlook

The Big 4 of last decade: **GERDA, EXO-200, KamLAND-Zen-400, CUORE**

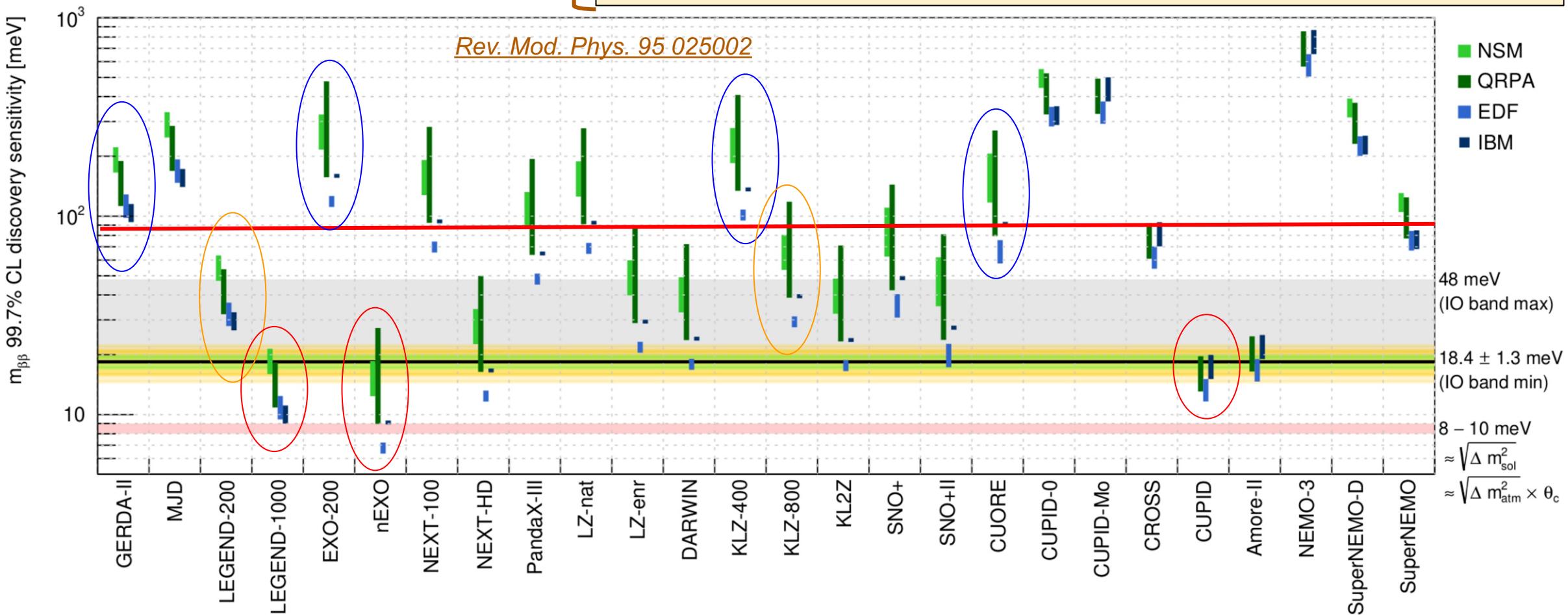
The two to watch: **LEGEND-200, KamLAND-Zen-800**

The ultimate I.O. experiments: **LEGEND-1000, CUPID, nEXO**



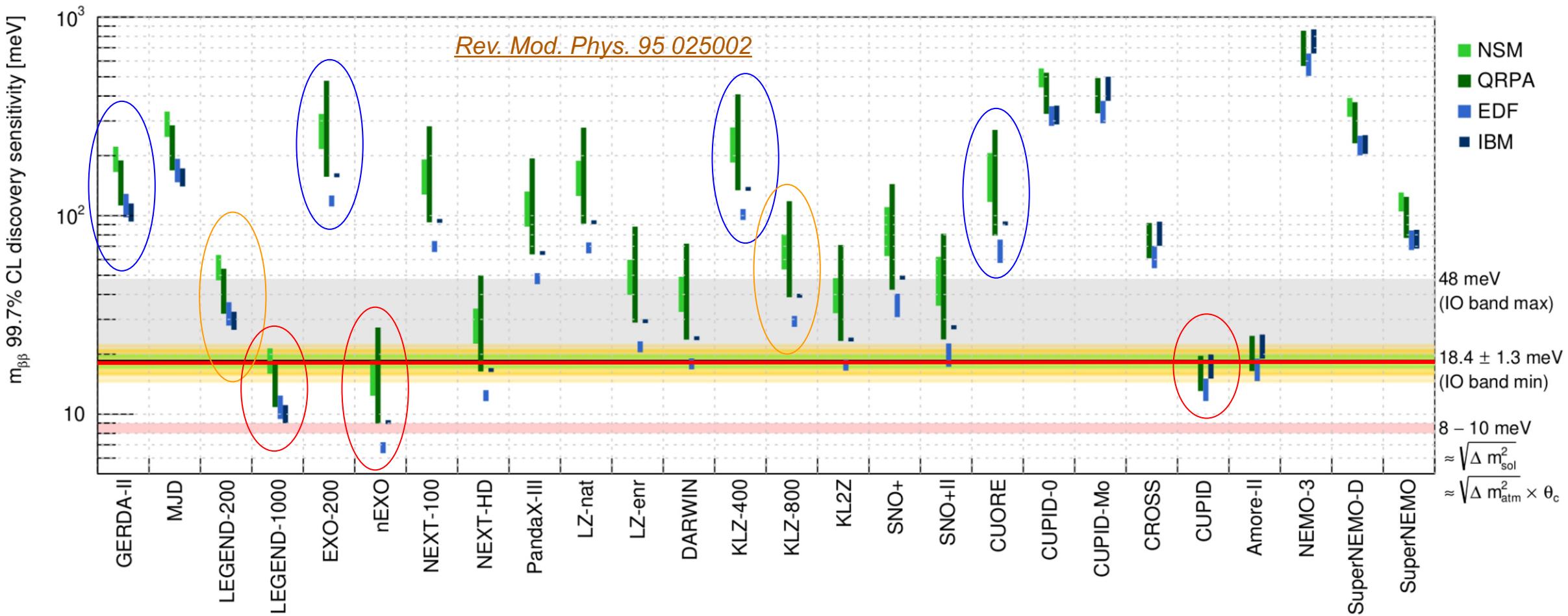
Scenario 1: signal just beyond current limits

- discovery within few years
- precise rate measurement with next-gen experiments
- Access to underlying mechanism with SNEMO-like technique



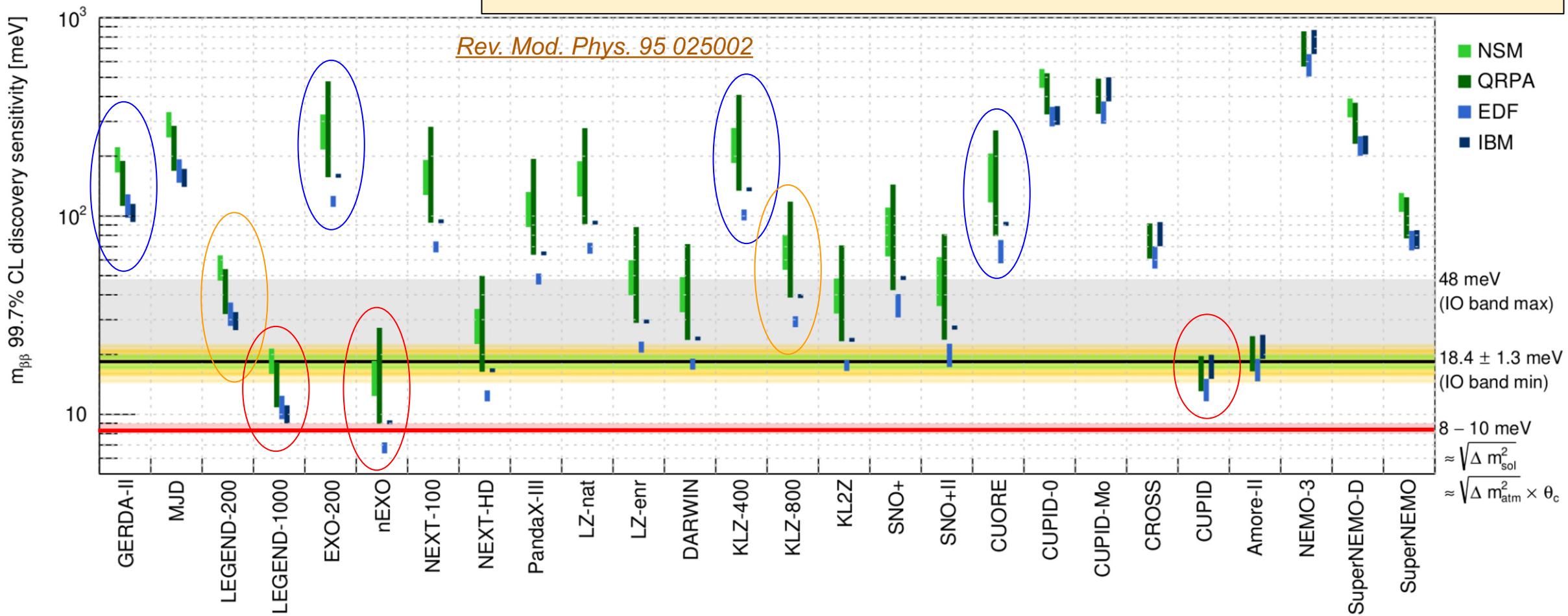
Scenario 2: signal at bottom of I.O.

- need to wait next-gen experiments for a discovery
- need R&D to measure decay features



Scenario 3: signal < 10meV

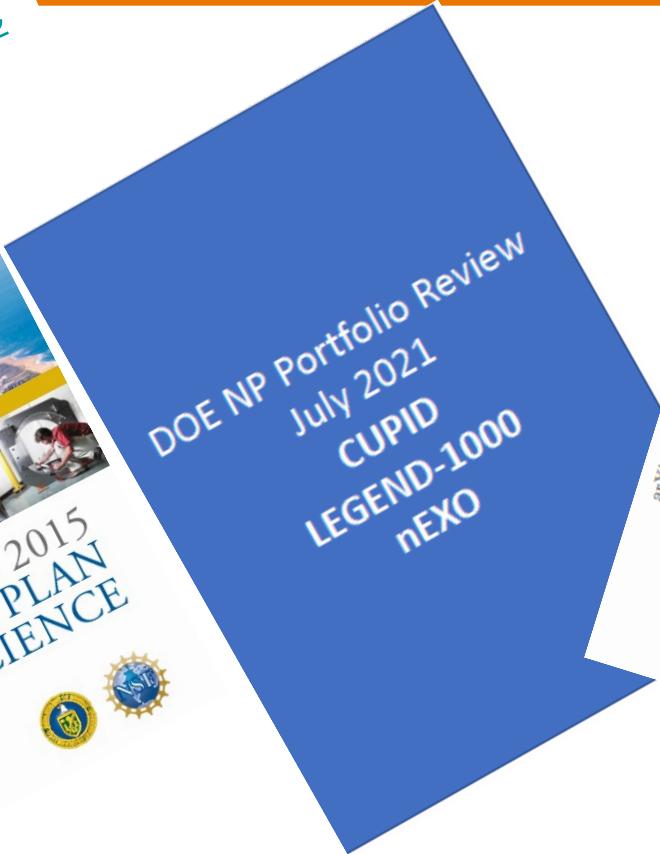
- R&D and new ideas for convincing discovery
- interplay with oscillation experiments and cosmology can lead to breakthroughs even in absence of signal



International Landscape



New LRP process started
(2023-2032)



arXiv:1910.04688v2 [hep-ex] 10 Feb 2020

Double Beta Decay APPEC Committee Report

Version 3

February 11, 2020

Committee members: Andrea Giuliani, J.J. Gomez Cadena, Silvia Pascoli (Chair), Ezio Previtali, Ruben Saakyan, Karoline Schaffner and Stefan Schönert

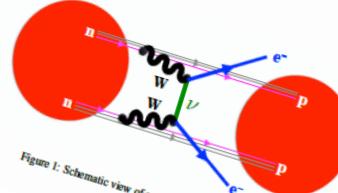


Figure 1: Schematic view of neutrinoless double beta decay.

<https://arxiv.org/abs/1910.04688>



IUPAP Neutrino Panel White Paper



- $0\nu\beta\beta$ is the best way to probe **Lepton Number Violation** and its connection to preponderance of **matter** and **neutrino mass** generation mechanism
- Huge progress over past decade has led to a **coordinated international effort**
 - Phased approach, convergence on experiments fully covering I.O. sensitivity
 - Continuing R&D to tackle N.O. and detailed exploration of signal
 - Strong effort in NME modelling, ab initio calculations, experimental input
- Interplay with oscillations, cosmology and β -decay results yields a significant likelihood of **discovery in next 2-15 years!**
- $0\nu\beta\beta$ could be driven by a different LNV mechanism – open minded, **discovery oriented** search