

Neutrinoless Double Beta Decay and new Physics

Manfred Lindner



**Beyond the Standard model
with Neutrinos
and Nuclear Physics**

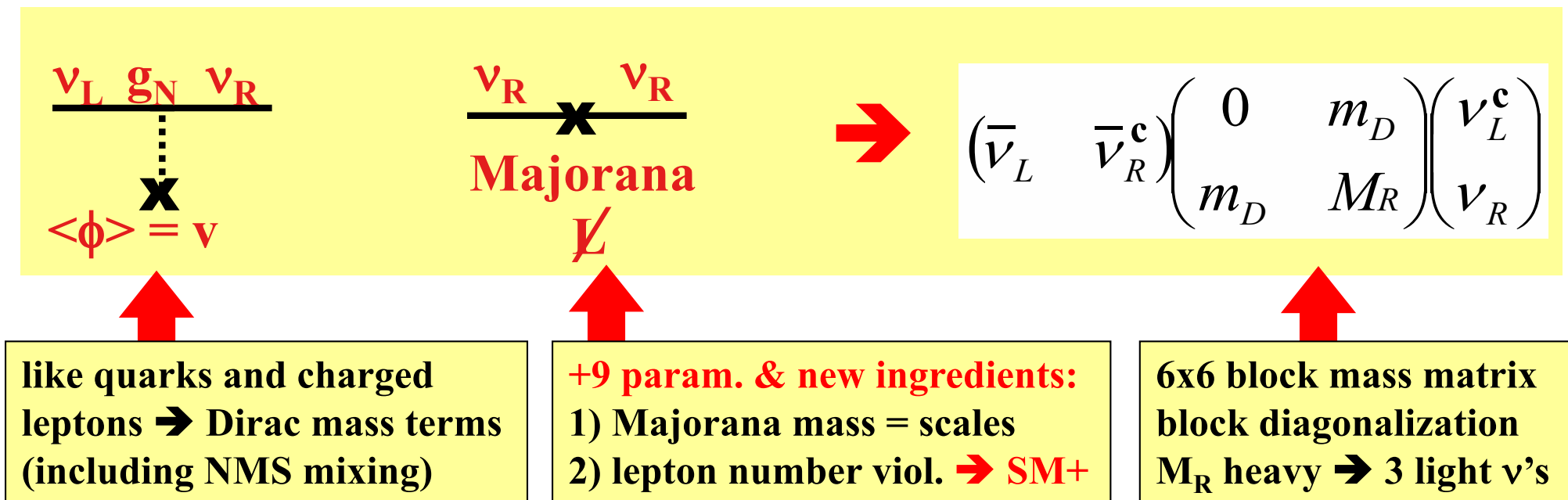
A Solvay workshop in Brussels, November 29th - December 1st 2017

ULB, Campus Plaine - Solvay Room

Adding Neutrino Masses to the SM

	Left				Right			
Particle	ν_e	e_L^-	u_L	d_L		e_R^-	u_R	d_R
	ν_μ	μ_L^-	c_L	s_L		μ_R^-	c_R	s_R
	ν_τ	τ_L^-	t_L	b_L		τ_R^-	t_R	b_R

Simplest and suggestive possibility: add 3 right handed singlets (1_L)



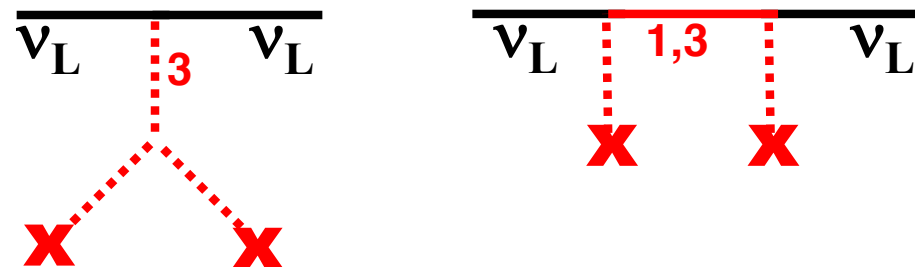
Other Possibilities

Add scalar triplets (3_L) or add fermionic (1_L) or (3_L)

→ left-handed Majorana

mass term:

$$M_L L L^c$$

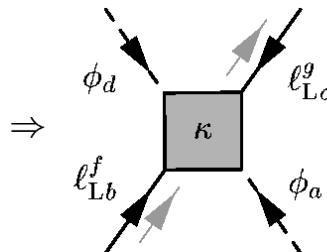
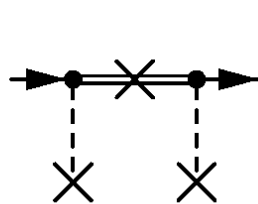


Both ν_R and new singlets / triplets:

→ see-saw type II, III

$$m_\nu = M_L - m_D M_R^{-1} m_D^T$$

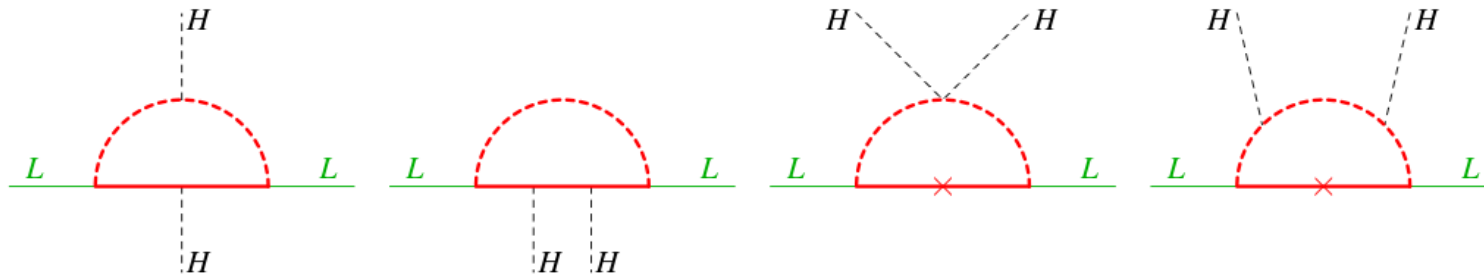
Higher dimensional operators: $d=5, \dots$



$$\Leftrightarrow \mathcal{L}_{mass} = \kappa \cdot \bar{\nu}_L^C \nu_L \Phi^T \Phi$$

$$\Rightarrow M_L L L^c$$

Radiative neutrino mass generation



Add: more neutrinos, SUSY, extra dimensions, ...

- huge number of papers on neutrino masses...
... but we know only two Δm^2 ... (plus mass & unitarity bounds)
- neutrino masses can/may solve two of the SM problems:
 - leptogenesis as **explanation of BAU (both Majorana and Dirac)**
 - keV sterile neutrinos as **excellent warm dark matter candidate**

even for ν_R only → BSM physics

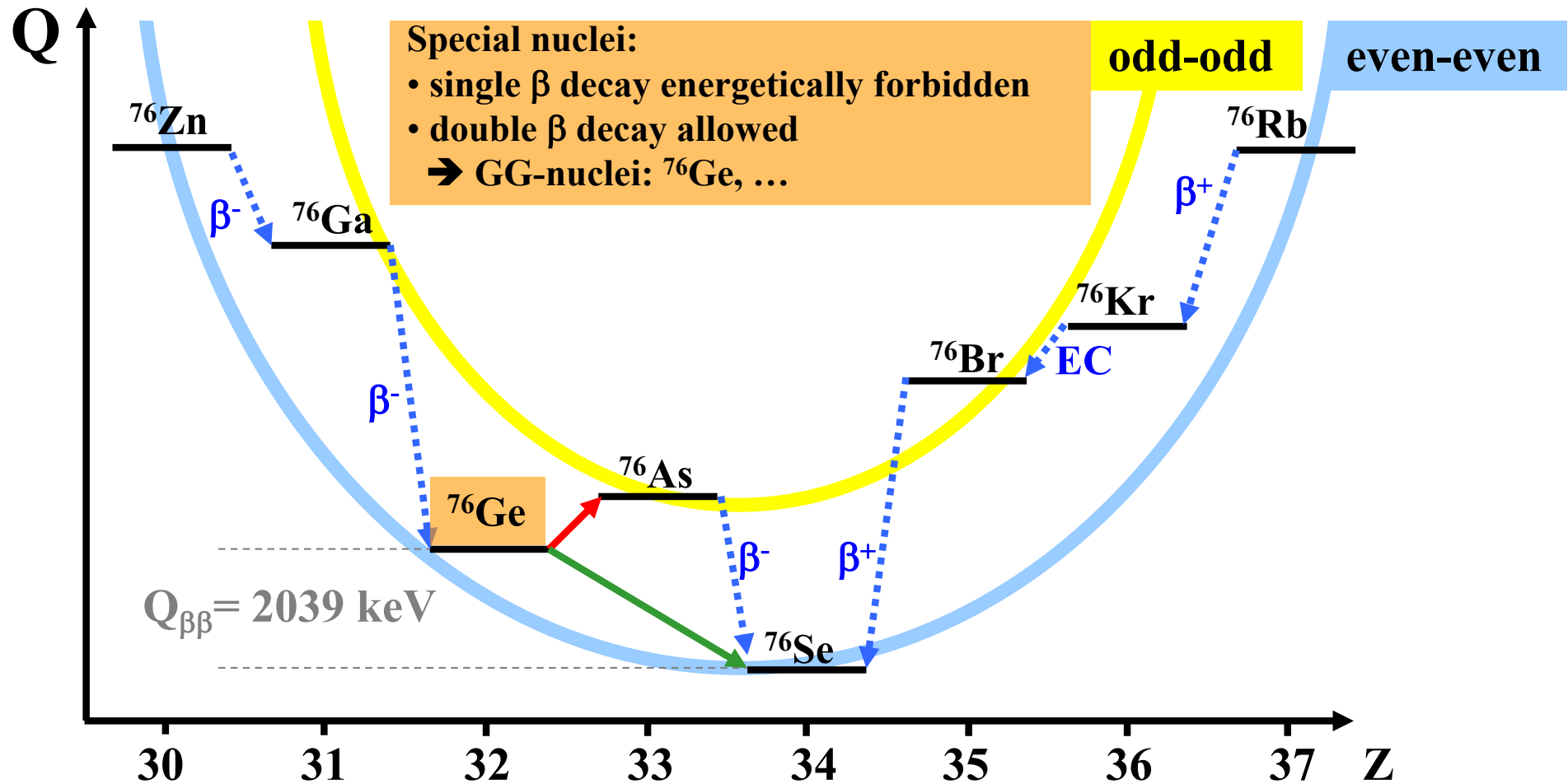
in many cases connections to LFV, LHC, DM

Double Beta Decay

If neutrinos have Majorana masses
→ Lepton Number Violation
→ Neutrinoless Double Beta Decay

BUT: Be careful about the inverted reasoning!

Double β -Decay & Mass Parabolas



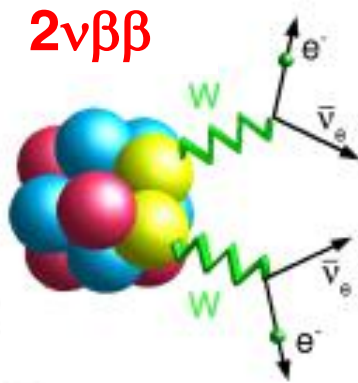
^{76}Ge : Only double β decay → SM: $2\nu+2e^-$ *OR* BSM: $0\nu+2e^-$

Further $0\nu\beta\beta$ isotopes...

In addition: isotopic composition, backgrounds, costs, NMEs, ...

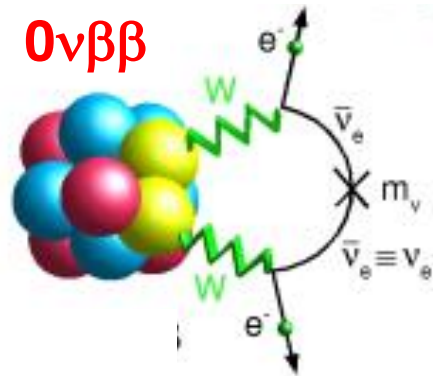
The Standard Picture of Double Beta Decay

SM



$2\nu\beta\beta$ decay seen for diff. isotopes (Kirsten,...)
 $T^{1/2} = O(10^{18} - 10^{21} \text{ years}) \rightarrow \text{up to } 10^{11} \otimes T_{\text{Universe}}$

Majorana mass

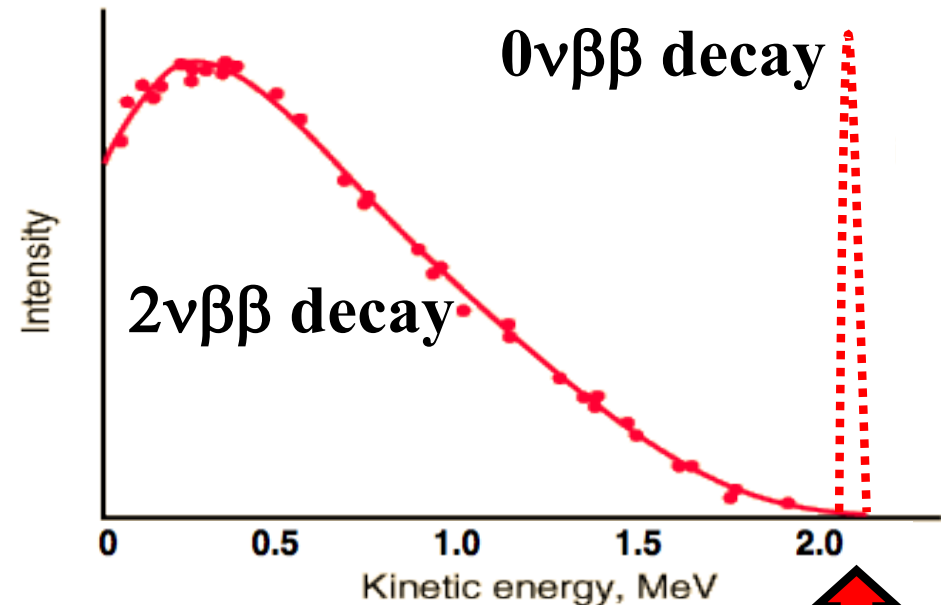


$T^{1/2} > O(10^{25} \text{ y})$

$$1/\tau = G(Q,Z) |M_{\text{nucl}}|^2 \langle m_{ee} \rangle^2$$



important: NMEs and their uncertainties...



- observe $2\nu\beta\beta$
- look for $0\nu\beta\beta$ signal at $Q_{\beta\beta}$
 \rightarrow big amount of $0\nu\beta\beta$ nuclei
- extreme low backgrounds!
 \rightarrow signal = Majorana mass

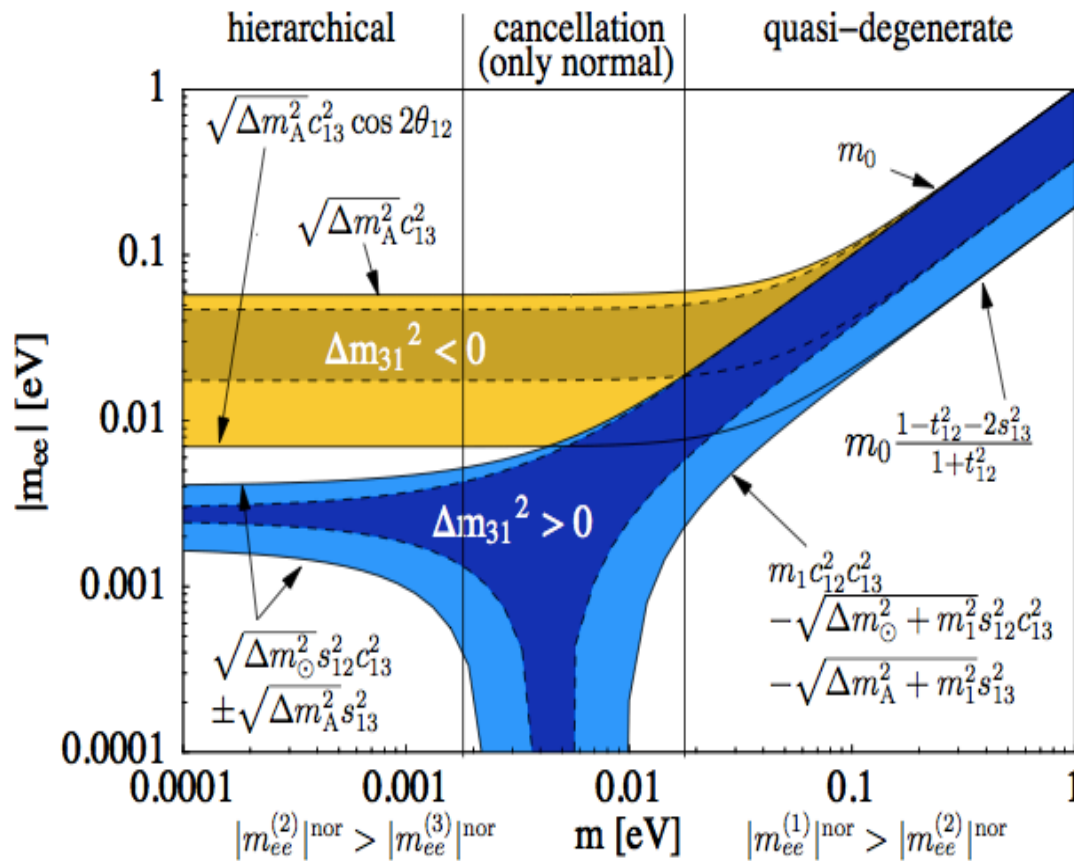
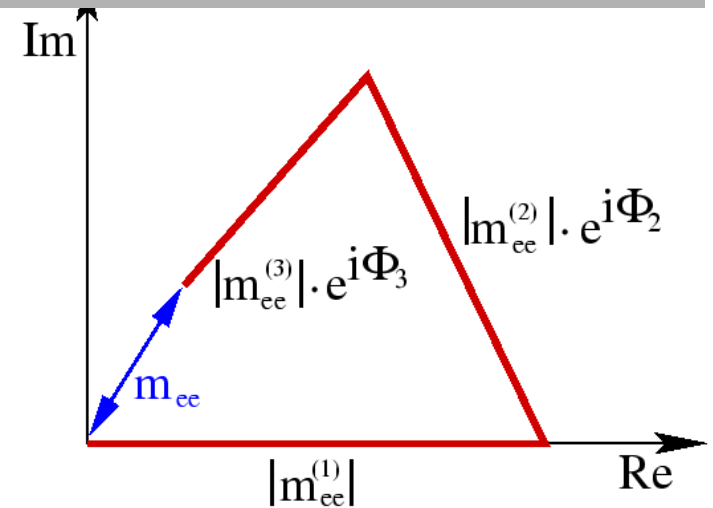
m_{ee} : The Effective Neutrino Mass

$$m_{ee} = |m_{ee}^{(1)}| + |m_{ee}^{(2)}| \cdot e^{i\Phi_2} + |m_{ee}^{(3)}| \cdot e^{i\Phi_3}$$

$$|m_{ee}^{(1)}| = |U_{e1}|^2 m_1$$

$$|m_{ee}^{(2)}| = |U_{e2}|^2 \sqrt{m_1^2 + \Delta m_{21}^2}$$

$$|m_{ee}^{(3)}| = |U_{e3}|^2 \sqrt{m_1^2 + \Delta m_{31}^2}$$

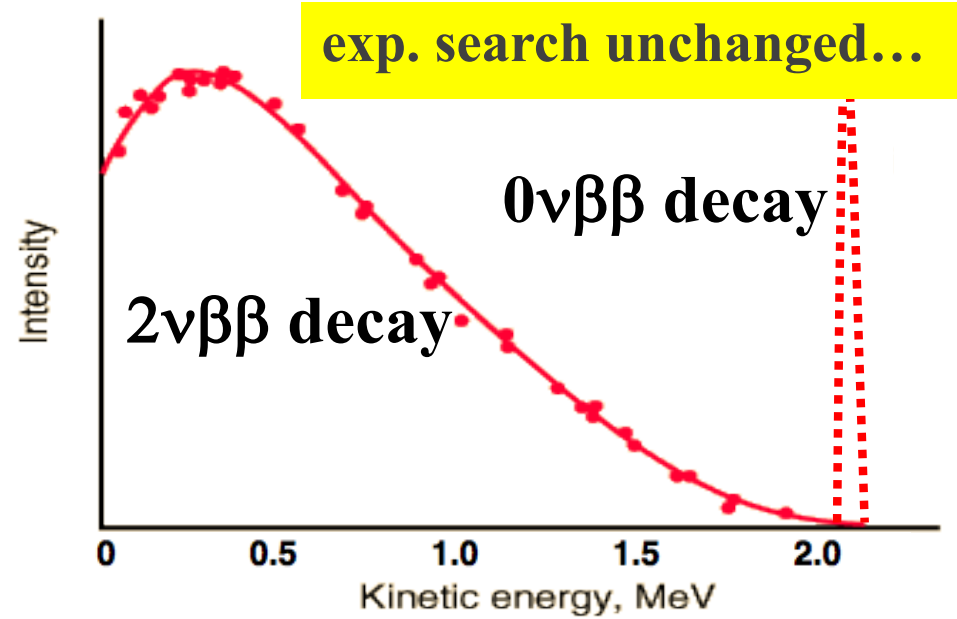
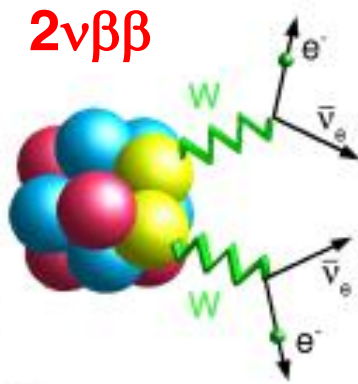


Comments:

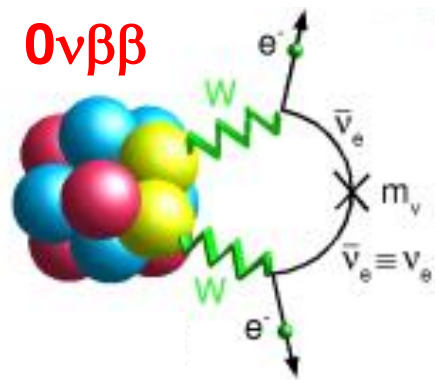
- cosmology: $m < 0.2-0.3$ eV
- $0\nu\beta\beta$: $m_{ee} < 0.1-0.3$ eV
- NMEs \rightarrow unavoidable **theory** errors
- known Δm^2 from oscillations
 - \rightarrow yellow/blue areas
 - \rightarrow **improved sensitivity is very promising!**
- **warnings:**
 - assumes no *other* $\Delta L=2$ physics
 - assumes no sterile neutrinos, ...

More general: L Violating Processes

SM

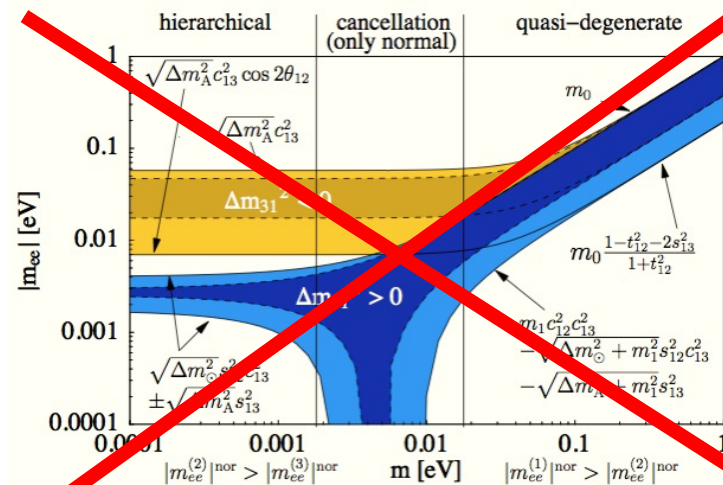
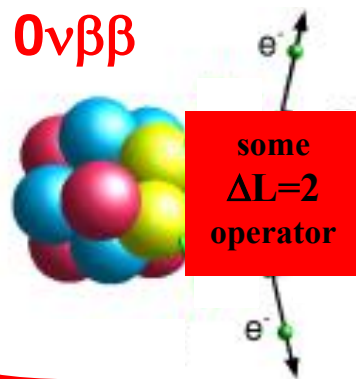


BSM



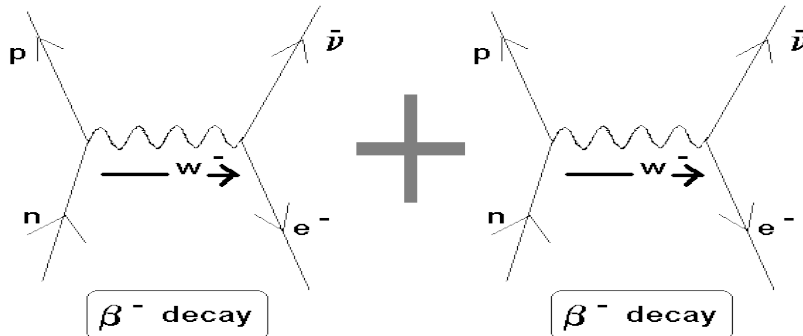
...interpretation changes:

$T^{1/2} >$
 $O(10^{25} \text{y})$



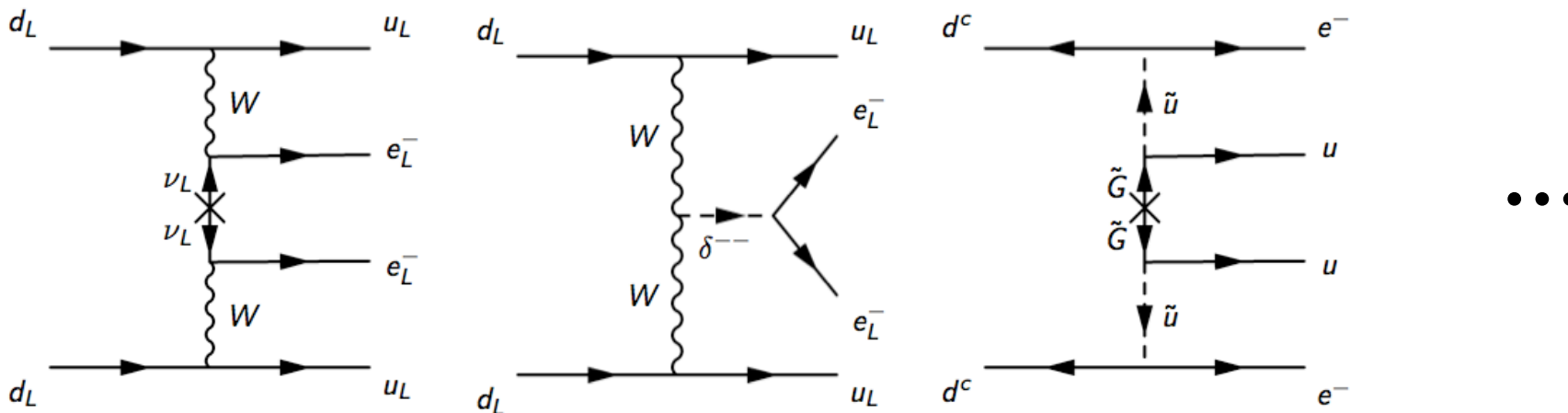
Other Double Beta Decay Processes

Standard Model:



→ 2 electrons + 2 neutrinos
 $2\nu\beta\beta$

Majorana ν -masses or other $\Delta L=2$ physics: → 2 electrons



$0\nu\beta\beta$

Majorana
 neutrino masses
 \leftrightarrow Dirac?

SM + Higgs triplet

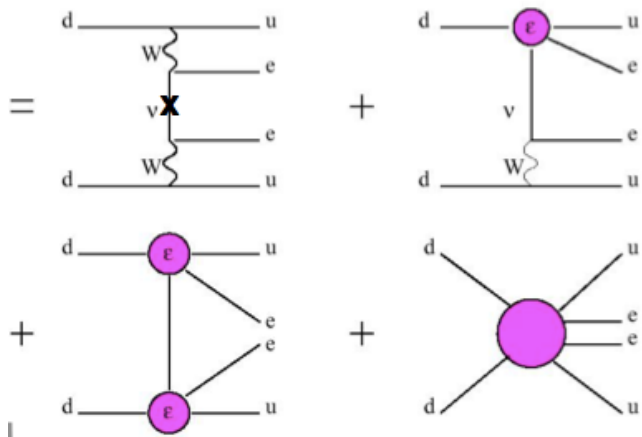
SUSY

important connections to LHC and LFV ...
 sub eV Majorana mass \leftrightarrow TeV scale physics

Interference of $\Delta L=2$ Operators

Usually
$$\left(T_{1/2}^{0\nu}\right)^{-1} = \left(\frac{|m_{0\nu\beta\beta}|}{m_e}\right)^2 |\mathcal{M}^{0\nu}|^2 G^{0\nu}.$$

with interferences



$$\begin{aligned} \left(T_{1/2}^{0\nu}\right)^{-1} &= |m_{0\nu\beta\beta}\mathcal{M}^{0\nu} + \epsilon m_e \mathcal{M}^\epsilon|^2 \frac{G^{\text{int}}}{m_e^2} \\ &= |(m_{0\nu\beta\beta} + \epsilon m_e \mathcal{M}^\epsilon (\mathcal{M}^{0\nu})^{-1}) \mathcal{M}^{0\nu}|^2 \frac{G^{\text{int}}}{m_e^2} \\ &= |m_{0\nu\beta\beta}^{\text{int}}|^2 |\mathcal{M}^{0\nu}|^2 \frac{G^{\text{int}}}{m_e^2}, \end{aligned}$$

G^{int}

= overall phase space factor

$\epsilon m_e \mathcal{M}^\epsilon$

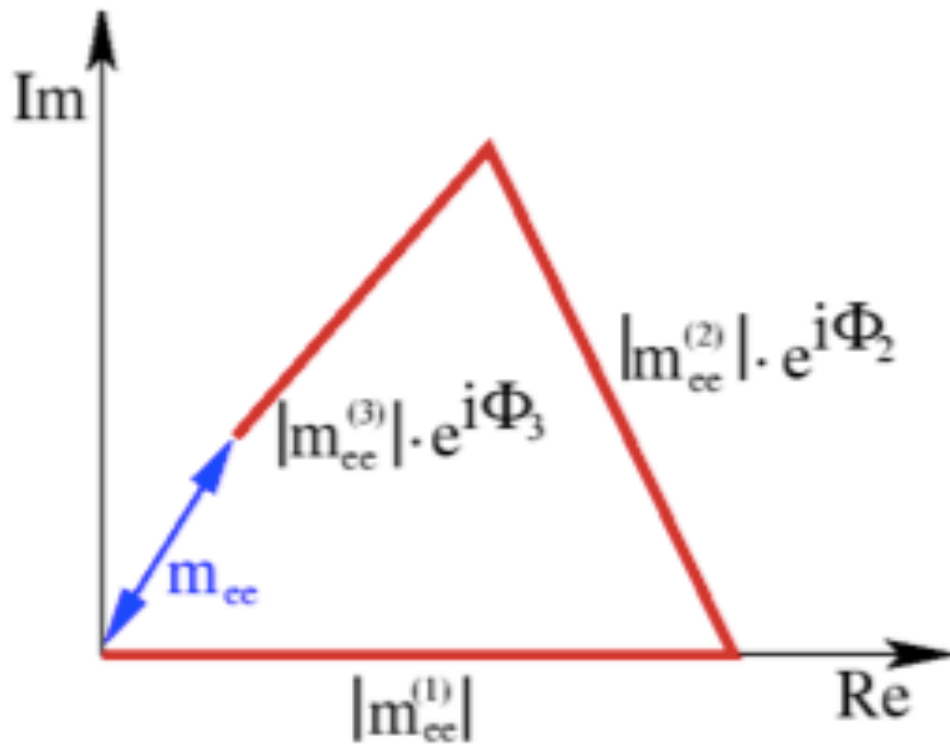
\leftrightarrow determined by parameters of new physics

$$m_{0\nu\beta\beta}^{\text{int}} \equiv m_{0\nu\beta\beta} + \epsilon m_e \mathcal{M}^\epsilon (\mathcal{M}^{0\nu})^{-1} \equiv m_{0\nu\beta\beta} + m_\epsilon.$$

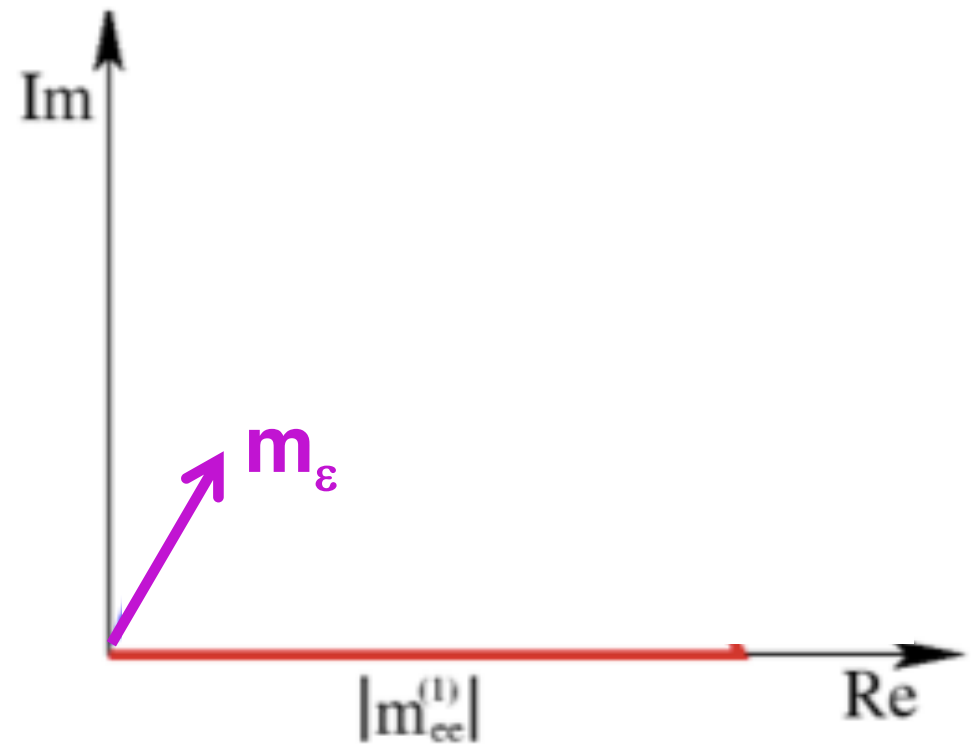
$$m_\epsilon \simeq (\Lambda_{\text{new}})^{-5}$$

$$m_{0\nu\beta\beta} = 1 \text{ eV} \leftrightarrow \Lambda_{\text{new}} \simeq \text{TeV}$$

Extreme Cases

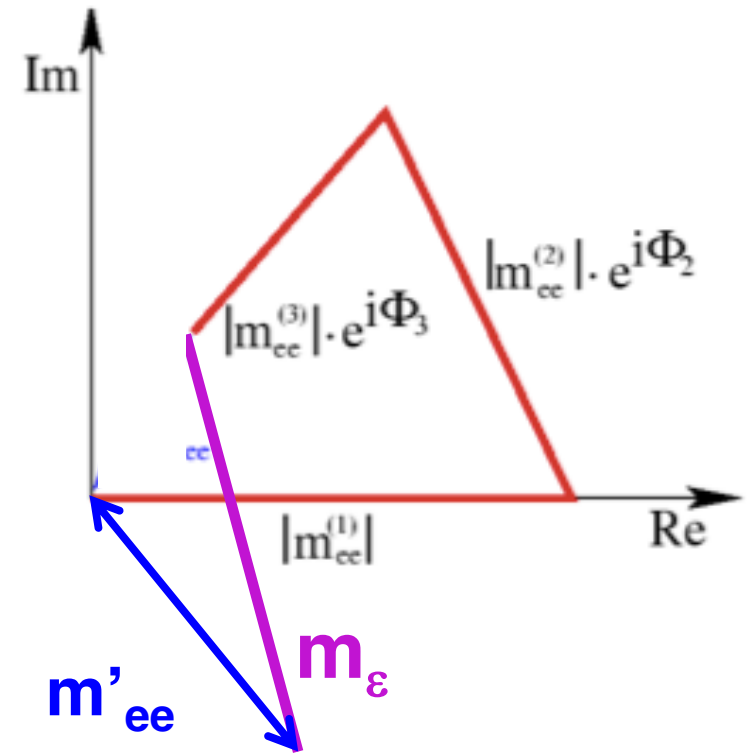
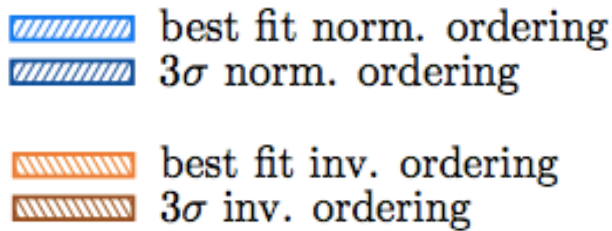
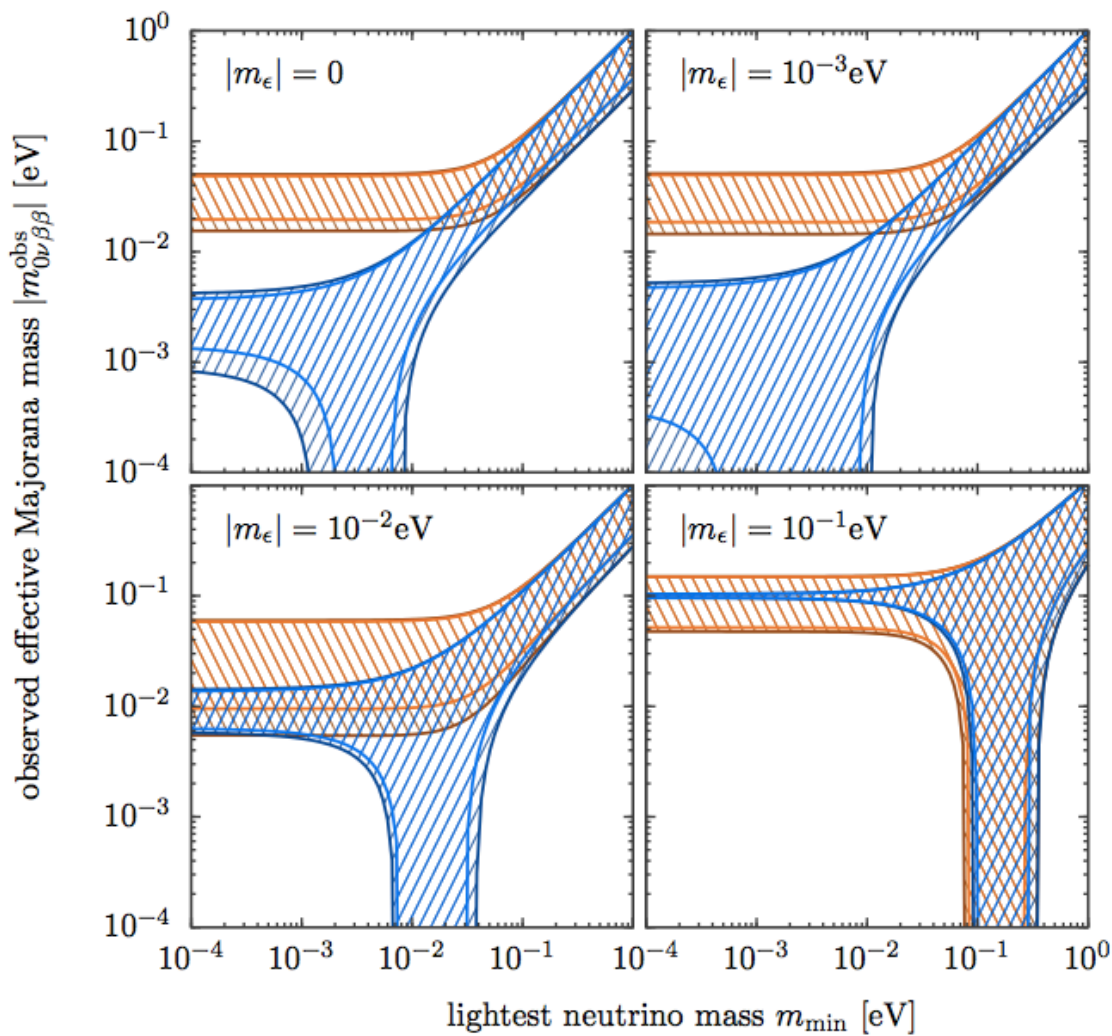


m_{ee} from Majorana neutrinos only
and no other $\Delta L=2$ physics



m_ε from other $\Delta L=2$ physics
with Dirac neutrino masses

and anything in-between



interferences

growing m_ϵ for fixed $0\nu\beta\beta$

→ shifts of masses,
 mixings and CP phases

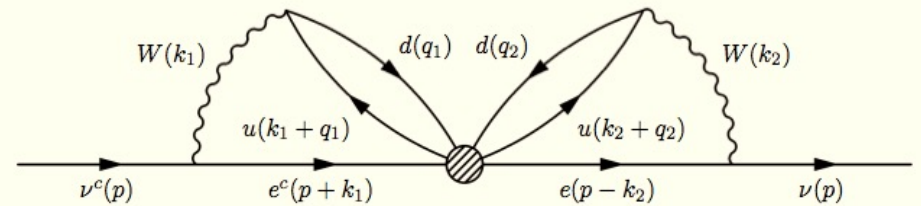
→ destroys ability to
 extract Majorana phases

→ sensitivity to TeV

Does $0\nu\beta\beta$ Decay imply Majorana Masses?

- Schechter-Valle Theorem \rightarrow **is misleading**
Any $\Delta L=2$ operator which mediates the decay induces via loops Majorana mass terms \rightarrow unavoidable: Majorana neutrinos...!?

$0\nu\beta\beta \rightarrow$ some $\Delta L=2$ operator



Dürr, ML, Merle

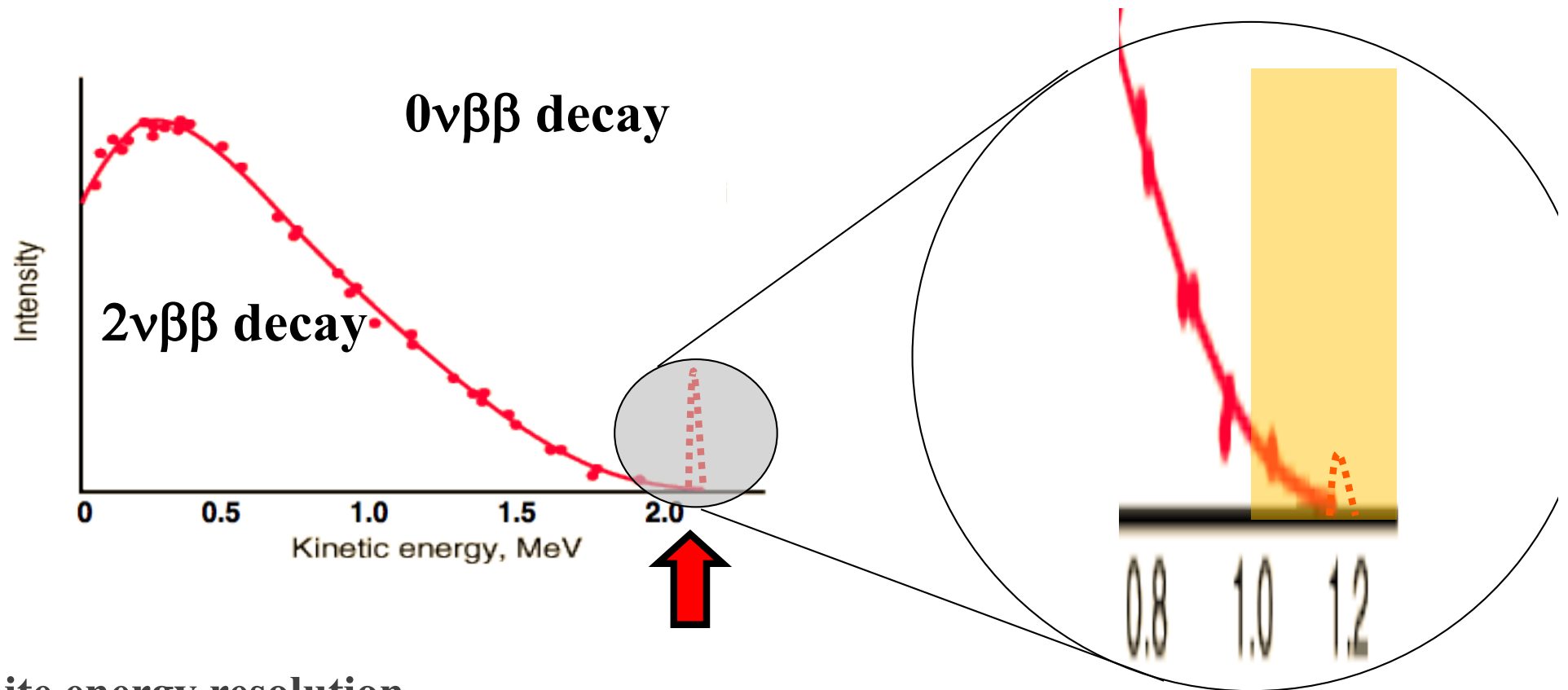
4 loops \rightarrow enforce $\delta m_\nu = 10^{-25}$ eV \rightarrow **very tiny** (academic interest)

\rightarrow cannot explain observed ν masses and splitting's

Extreme possibility:

- $0\nu\beta\beta = L$ violation = other BSM physics
- neutrino masses = Dirac (plus very tiny Majorana corrections)
- + Dirac leptogenesis, + ...

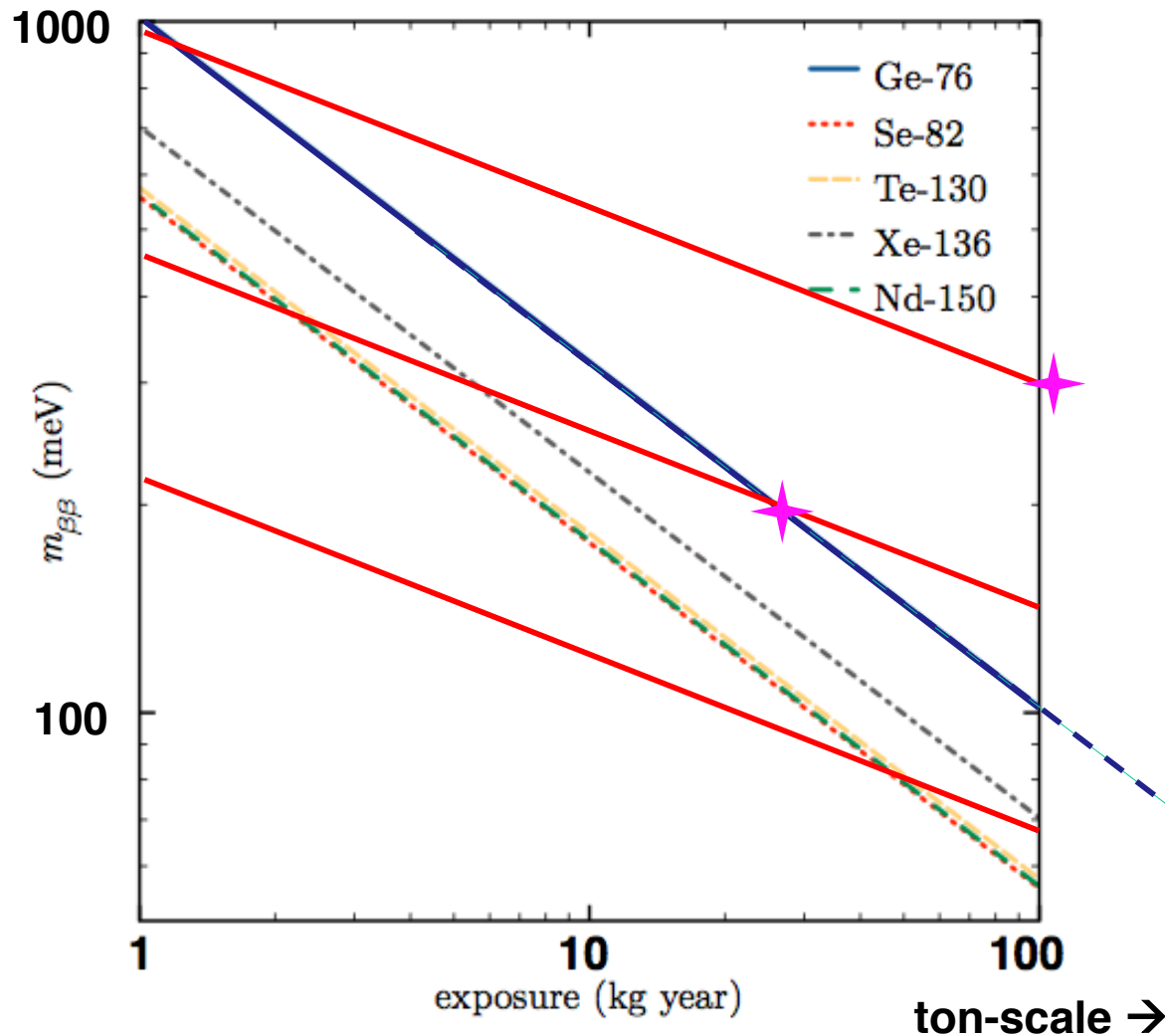
The experimental Task



- finite energy resolution
 - ➔ background from the tail of 2νββ
- extreme low background ➔ does not mean no background ➔ lines...
 - ➔ need a method to ensure that it is 0νββ and not some background
 - 1) two different isotopes
 - 2) isotopic fingerprint

Sensitivity & Background (for a Majorana Mass)

$$(T_{1/2}^{0\nu})^{-1} = G_{0\nu}(Q_{\beta\beta}, Z) |M_{0\nu}|^2 m_{\beta\beta}^2$$



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

without background

$$N = \log 2 \cdot \frac{N_A}{W} \cdot \varepsilon \cdot \frac{M \cdot t}{T_{1/2}^{0\nu}}$$

N_A = Avogadro's number

W = atomic weight of isotope

ε = signal detection efficiency

M = isotope mass

t = data taking time



$$m_{\beta\beta} = K_1 \sqrt{\frac{N}{\varepsilon M t}}$$

with background

$$N' = N + N_{\text{background}}$$

→

$$m_{\beta\beta} = K_2 \sqrt{1/\varepsilon} \left(\frac{c \Delta E}{M t} \right)^{1/4}$$

$c = \text{cts/keV/kg/yr}$; $\Delta E = \text{ROI}$

Which Isotope?

- Large detector mass

- ↔ natural abundance or enrichment (cost, time)
- ↔ detection technology
- ↔ costs, feasibility, ...

- Radio-purity

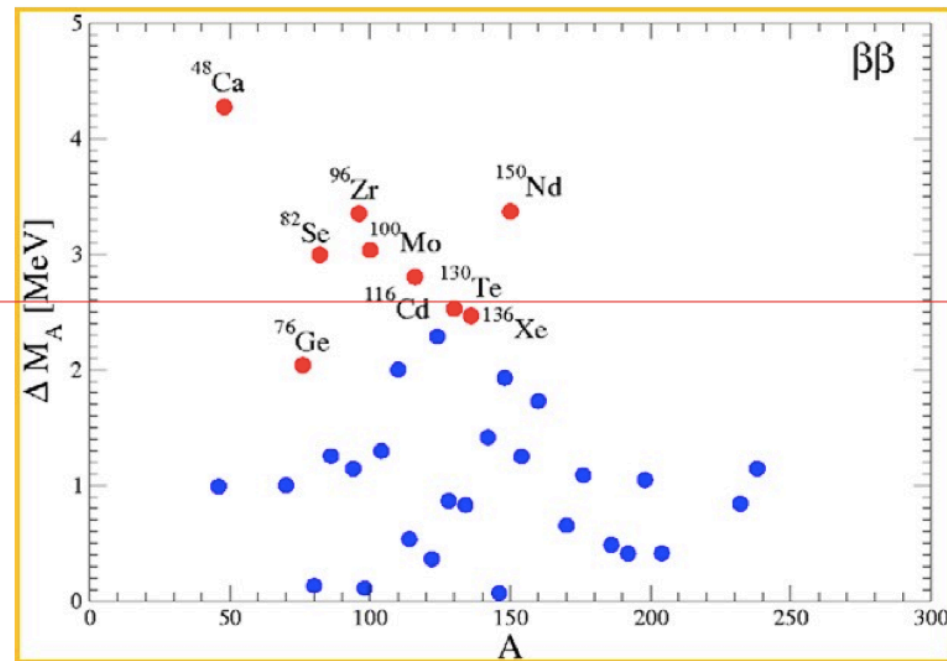
- ↔ ultra clean $0\nu\beta\beta$ source and instrumentation
- ↔ high $Q_{\beta\beta}$ ↔ less bgd.

- Good energy resolution

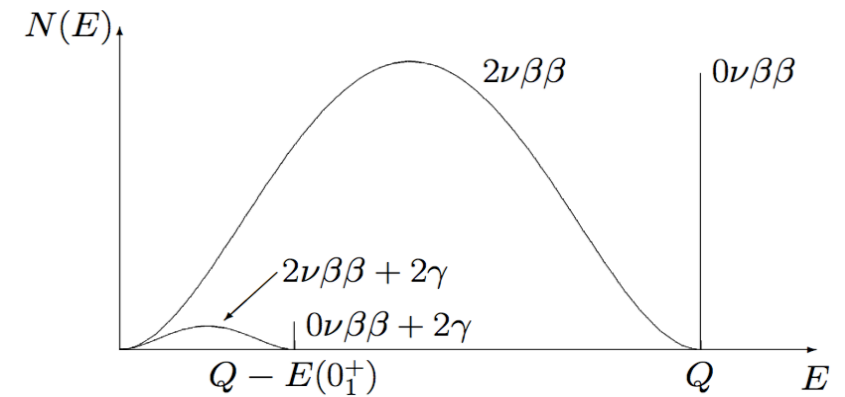
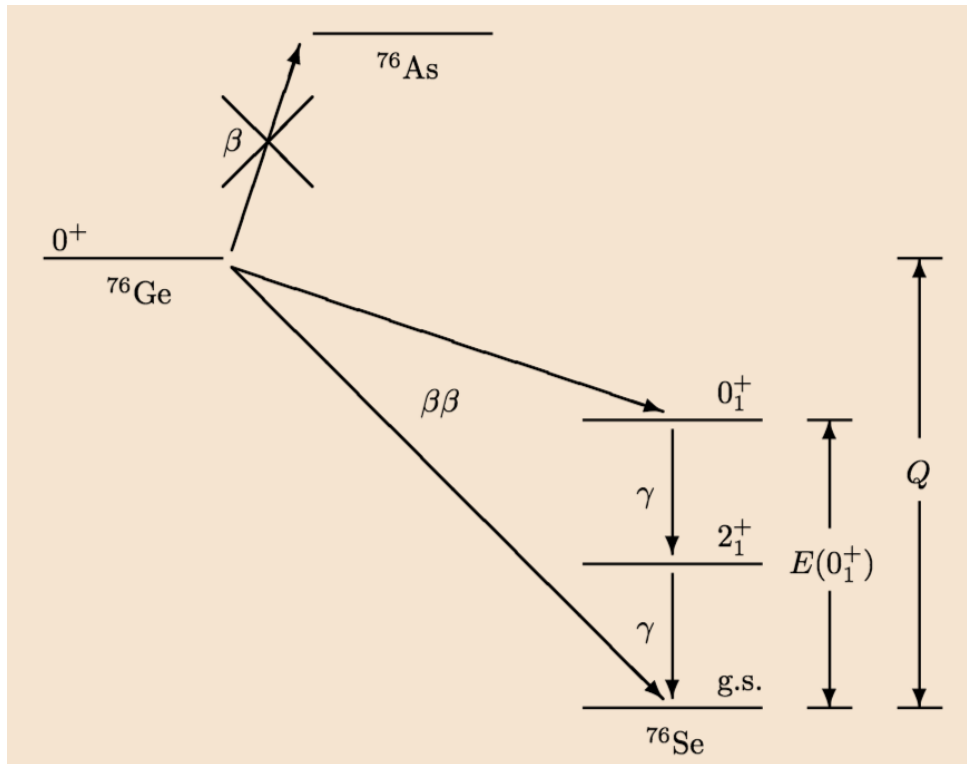
- ↔ avoid known and unknown backgrounds in ROI: $Q_{\beta\beta} \pm \Delta E$

- Uncertainties in nuclear matrix elements + energy resolution

- ➔ Germanium is a very good choice
- ➔ use two different isotopes to confirm a signal ...



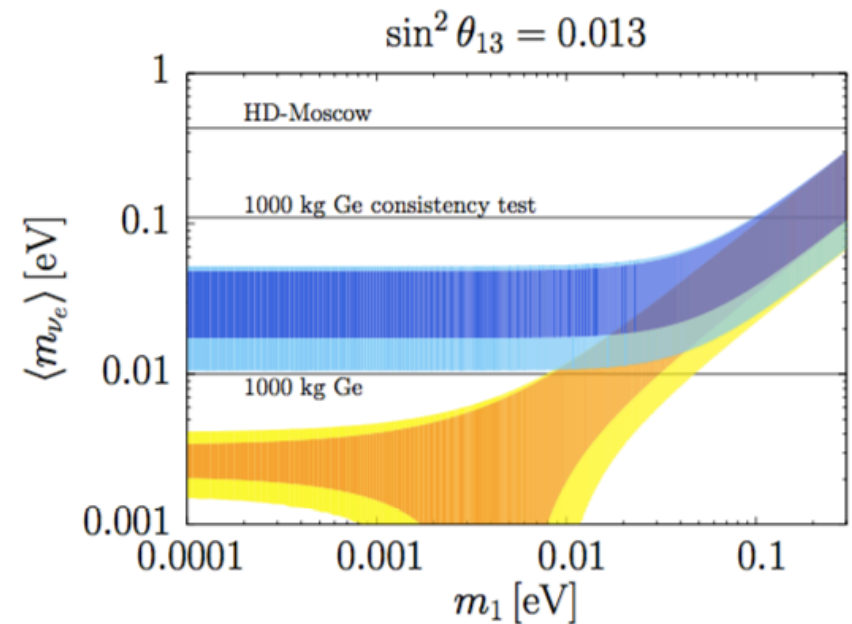
Consistency Test with one Isotope



$$\frac{\Gamma_{0_1^+}}{\Gamma_{\text{g.s.}}} = \frac{(Q - E(0_1^+))^n}{Q^n} \times \left(\frac{\mathcal{M}^{0_1^+}}{\mathcal{M}^{\text{g.s.}}} \right)^2$$

**ratio is set by nuclear spectra
- independent of backgrounds!**

Duerr, ML, Zuber



The Fight against Background

Extreme rare reaction ($T > 10^{25}$ years \gg age of Universe)

Magnitude 1 decay/kg/year

Environment $\simeq 30\text{Bq/kg} = 10^9 / \text{kg/year} \rightarrow 3000/\text{person/second}$

\rightarrow avoid single β decay \leftrightarrow **suitable isotopes**

\rightarrow avoiding / suppression of environmental radioactivity

- in the $0\nu\beta\beta$ detector material

\rightarrow **ultra clean (production, handling)**

\rightarrow **puls form analysis (identify & reject background)**

- in the detector parts (e.g. holders, signal amplifiers)

\rightarrow **lowest amount of material**

\rightarrow **ultra pure materials (selection; environment = $O(100\text{Bq/kg}) \leftrightarrow \mu\text{Bq/kg}$)**

\rightarrow **extremely helpful: ^{76}Ge source = detector (a big Ge diode)**

- in the environment

\rightarrow **ultra clean room (clean room, ...)**

\rightarrow **avoid Radon (decay of U, Th in the environment \rightarrow ^{222}Rn -gas)**

\rightarrow **avoid cosmogenic activation (new isotopes \rightarrow go underground)**

\rightarrow **avoid cosmogenic myons, neutrons \rightarrow go underground**

Experimental Realizations

$0\nu\beta\beta$ decay is important!

→ low background expertise!

→ long history and diverse plans for the future

Important mile stone:
Heidelberg-Moskau-Experiment

(H.V. Klador-Kleingrothaus MPIK)

- for many years best limits

- signal?

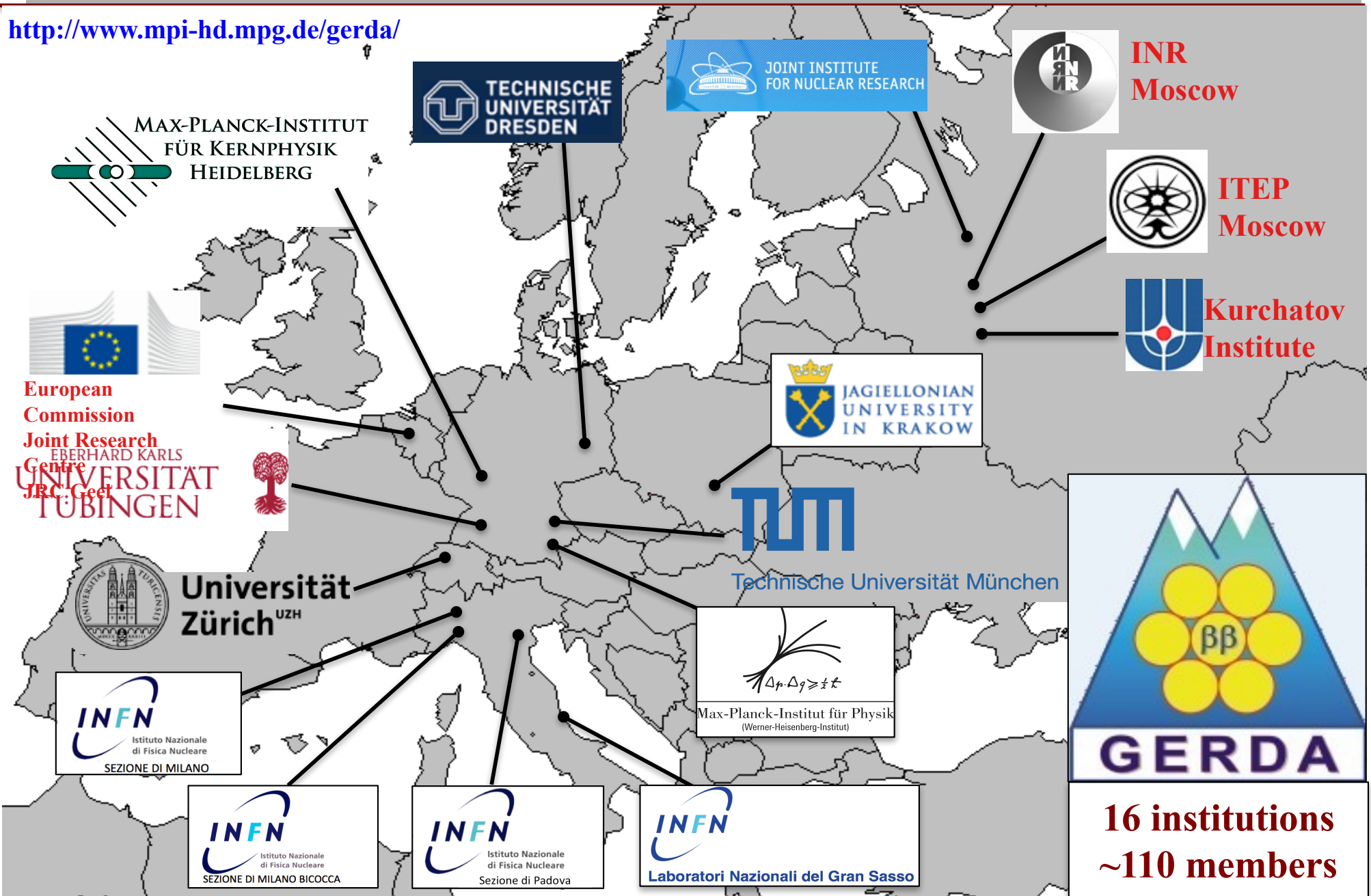
→ GERDA

→ important result

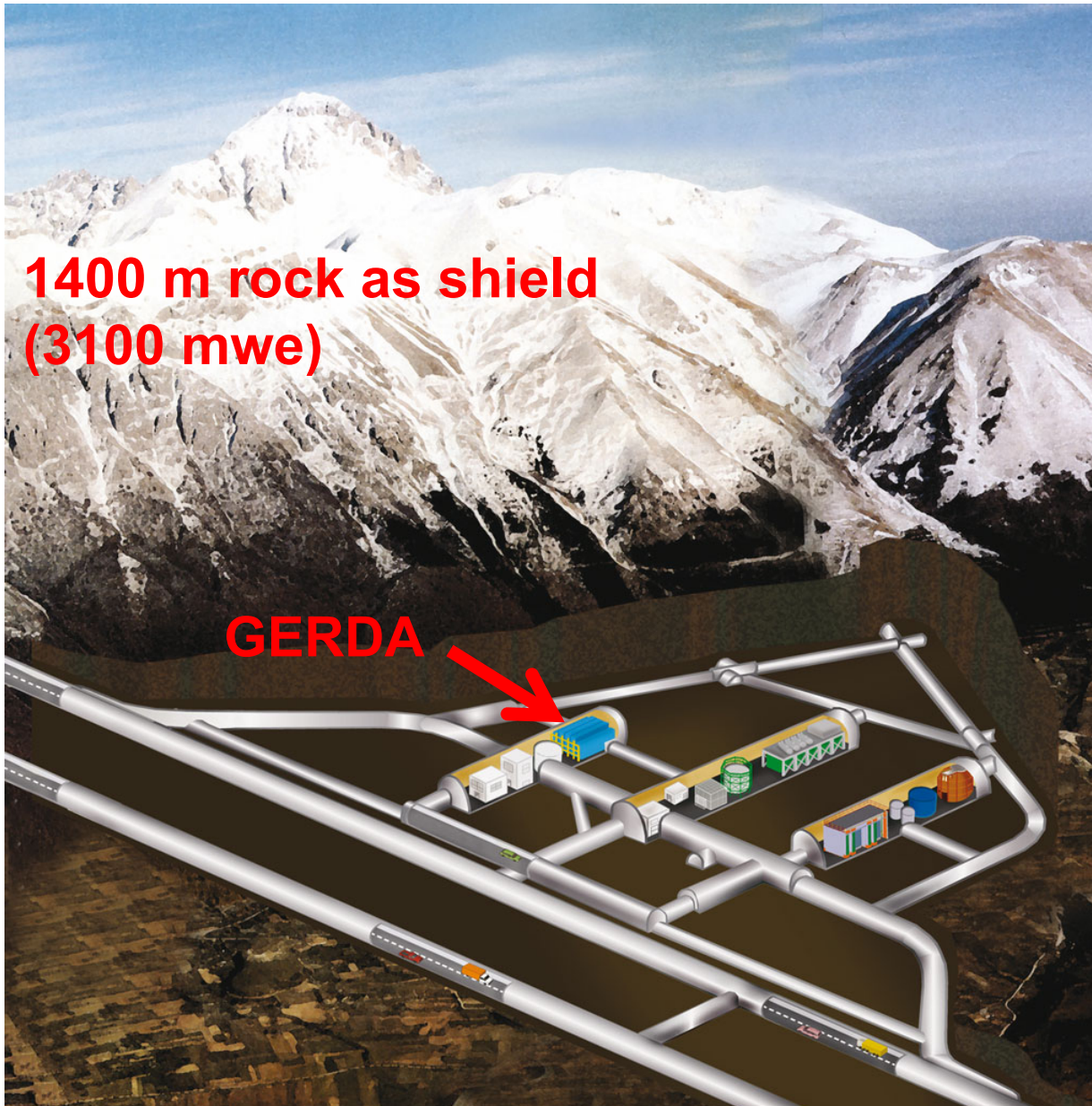


The GERDA Collaboration

<http://www.mpi-hd.mpg.de/gerda/>



Protection against Cosmogenic Radiation

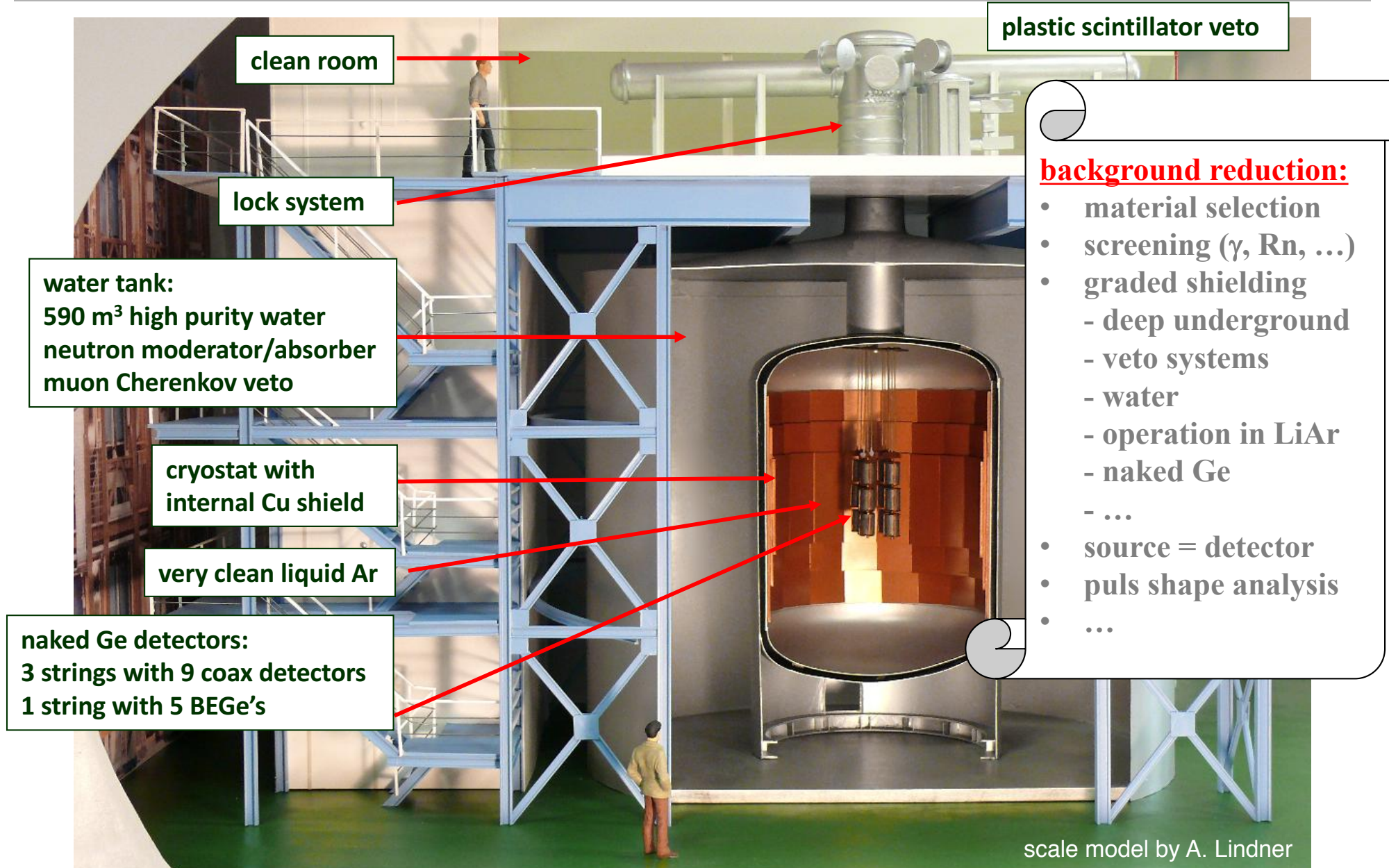


**Underground laboratory
→ Gran Sasso (Italy)**



**A very special place
to work...**

The GERDA Detector (original idea by G. Heusser, MPIK)

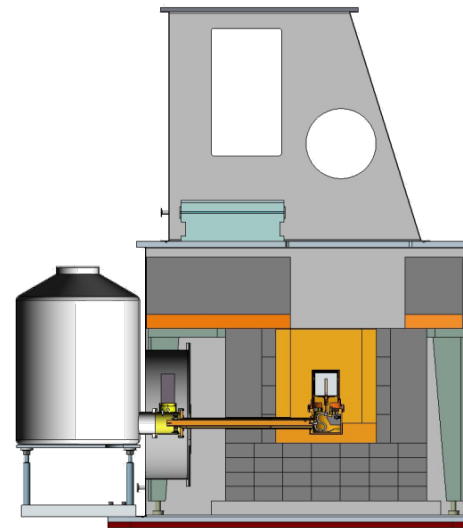


background reduction:

- material selection
- screening (γ , Rn, ...)
- graded shielding
 - deep underground
 - veto systems
 - water
 - operation in LiAr
 - naked Ge
 - ...
- source = detector
- puls shape analysis
- ...

MPIK Material γ -Screening Facilities

- Different screening stations @MPIK underground lab: BRUNO, CORRADO, ... (1mBq/kg)
- 4 GEMPIs @LNGS (10 μ Bq/kg)
- New: GIOVE @MPIK (50 μ Bq/kg)



➔ extensive task for GERDA and other experiments (XENON, ...)

Rn Screening Facilities

Gas counting systems
@LNGS and @MPIK

^{222}Rn emanation technique

- sensitivity = few atoms/probe
- large samples \leftrightarrow absolute sensitivity
- non-trivial; not commonly available; routine @MPIK
- established numbers:

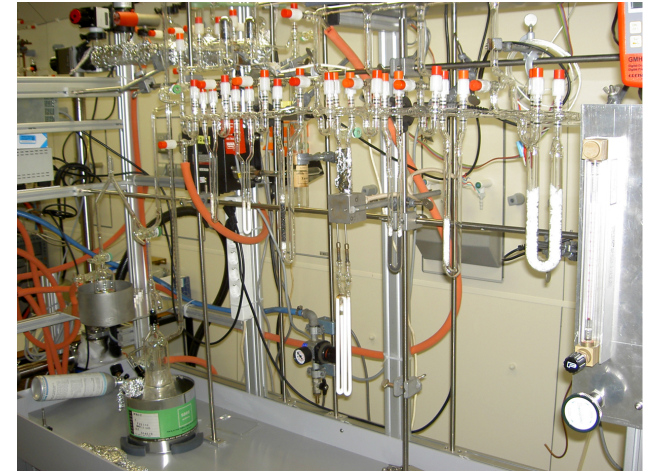
Nylon (Borexino) $< 1\mu\text{Bq}/\text{m}^2$

Copper (Gerda): $2\mu\text{Bq}/\text{m}^2$

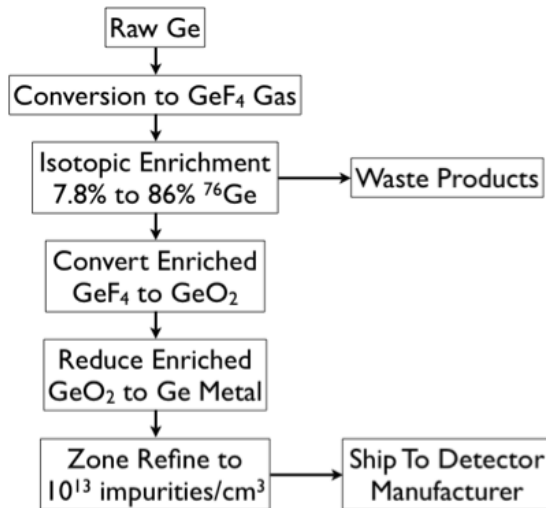
Stainless steel (Borexino): $5\mu\text{Bq}/\text{m}^2$

Titanium: $(100 \pm 30)\mu\text{Bq}/\text{m}^2$

New: Auto-Ema - automatized Rn screening facility @MPIK \rightarrow many samples



BEGe Detector production



3) Crystal pulling at Oak Ridge (USA)

4) Detector production at Olen (Be)

2) Reduction and zone refinement at Goettingen (Germany)

1) Isotope enrichment at ECP, Svetlana (Ru)

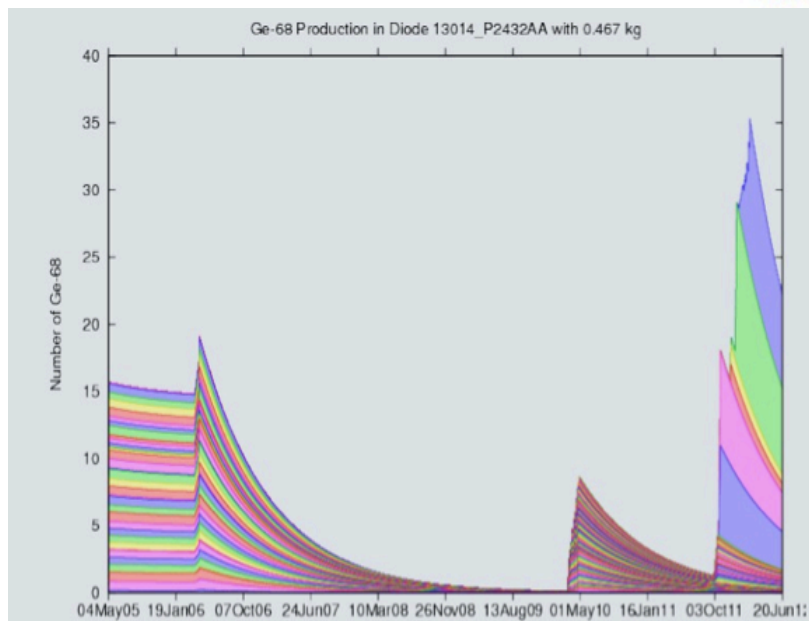


To minimize activation by cosmic ray:

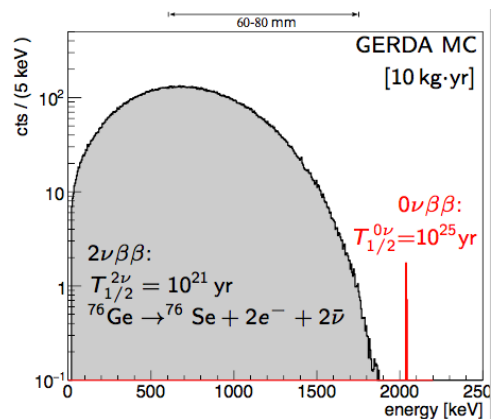
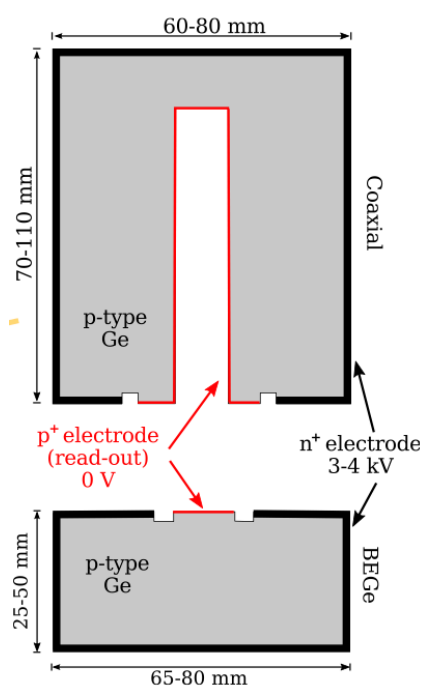
- Transportation by truck or ship in shielded containers
- deep underground storage



← accumulated activity and its decay
beware of long-lived isotopes...!



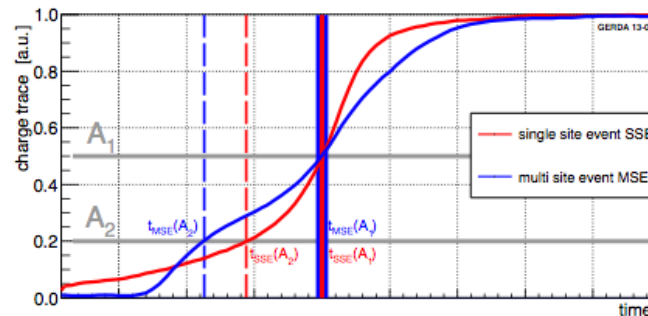
GERDA Detector Types



$0\nu\beta\beta$ signature:

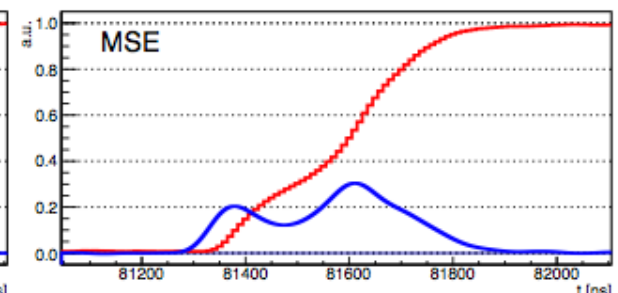
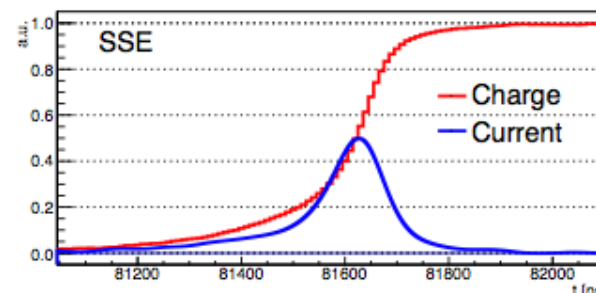
- point-like energy deposition in detector bulk volume
- sharp energy peak at 2039 keV (FWHM = 3-4 keV)

- 1) Big Ge-diodes \rightarrow HV \rightarrow electrical signal
- 2) re-processed HdM, IGEX and GTF detectors
p-type semi-coaxial
- 3) new p-type BEGe (Broad Energy Ge) detectors
 - n^+ conductive Li layer, separated by a groove from the boron implanted p^+ contact
 - operated as "diode": events \rightarrow pulses
 - SSE/MSE (single/multi site event) discrimination



\leftarrow coaxial

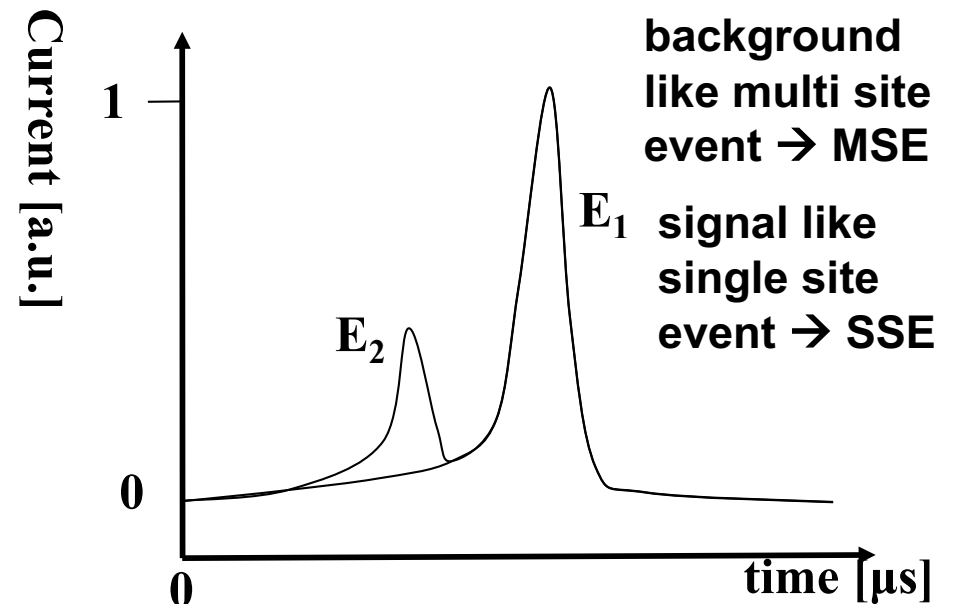
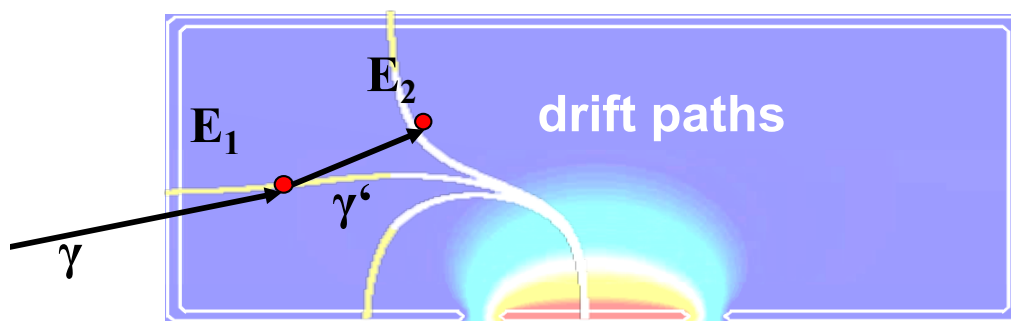
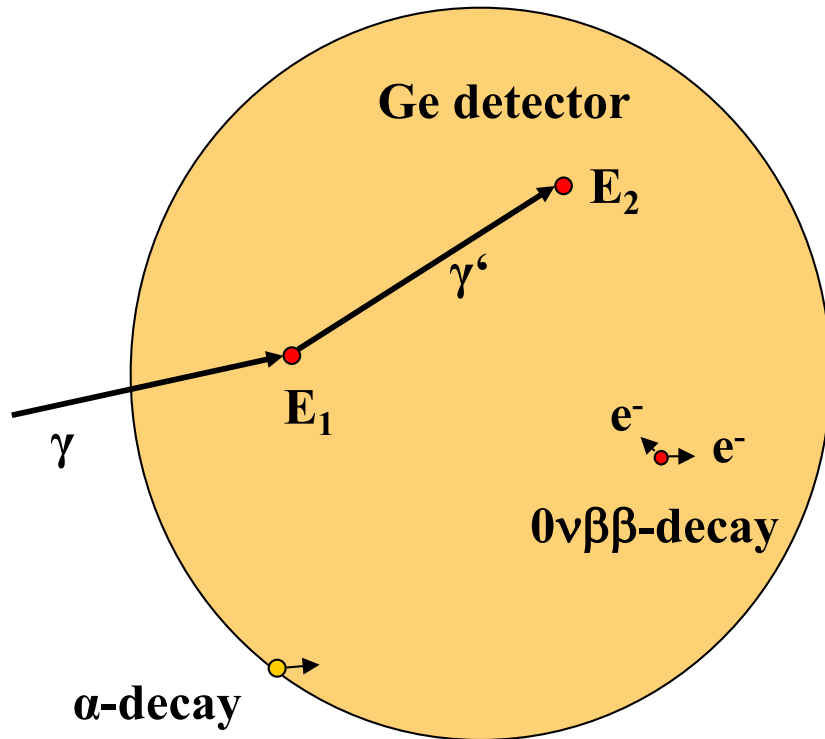
BEGe \downarrow



Pulse Shape Discrimination

- **Single Site Events (SSE)**
- **Multi Site Events (MSE)**

- $0\nu\beta\beta$ -decays \rightarrow localized energy deposition \rightarrow SSE
- Compton scattering evt. \rightarrow background like MSE
- surface events \rightarrow SSE @ surface
- SSE by γ 's look like events (cannot be rejected)
- β particles enter via n^+ surface \rightarrow slow pulses
- α 's @ p^+ contact \rightarrow comparatively high signal



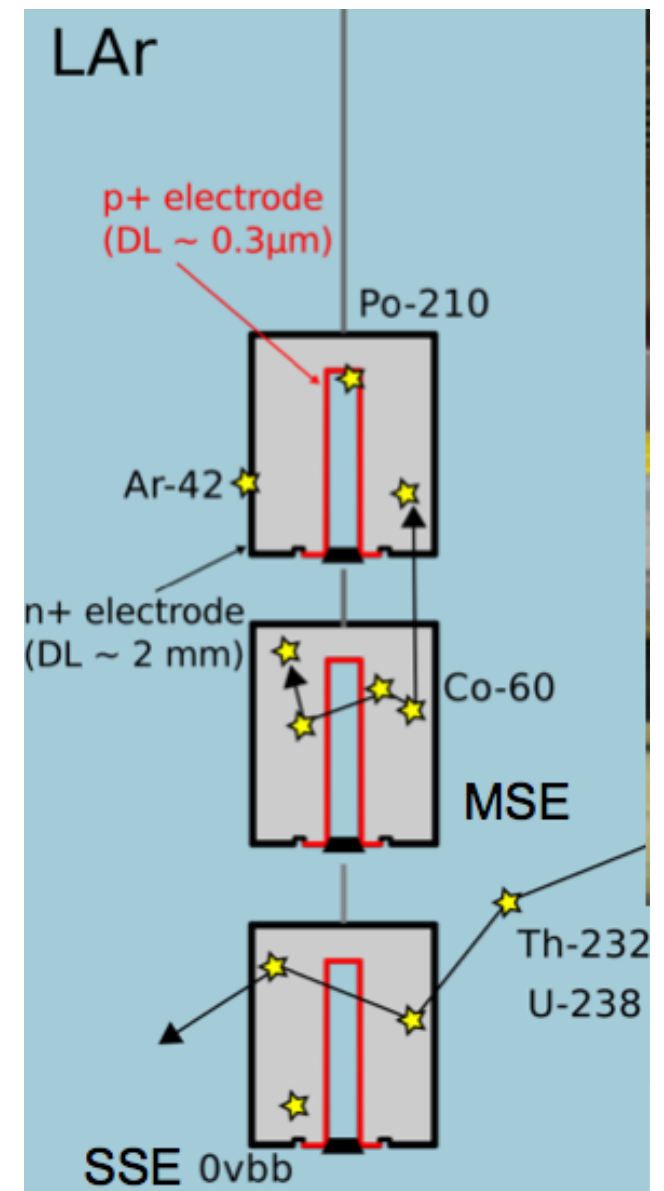
Backgrounds

Background sources:

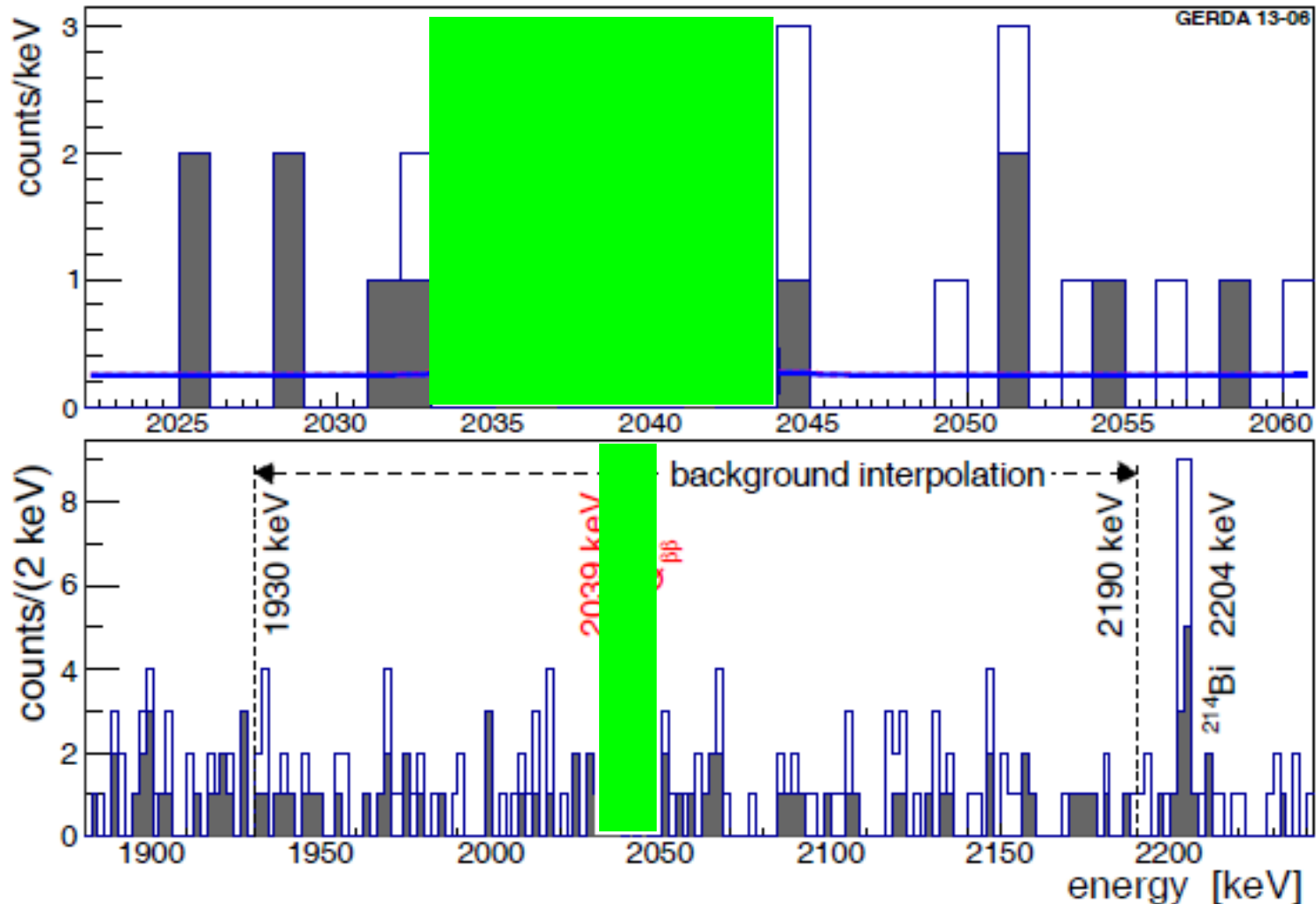
- α decays on the p^+ surface
- β decay of ^{42}K on the surface or close to the detector from ^{42}Ar (10x more than expected)
- β decay of ^{60}Co inside detectors
- γ from ^{208}Tl , ^{214}Bi and from various set-up components

Generic phase I background reduction

- use cleanest possible material
 - prevent ^{42}K ions from drifting to detectors using minishrouds
 - cut detector coincidences
 - pulse shape analysis
- Background model \leftrightarrow from screening
- Measured background away from $Q_{\beta\beta}$ consistent with expectation from measurement → **flat**



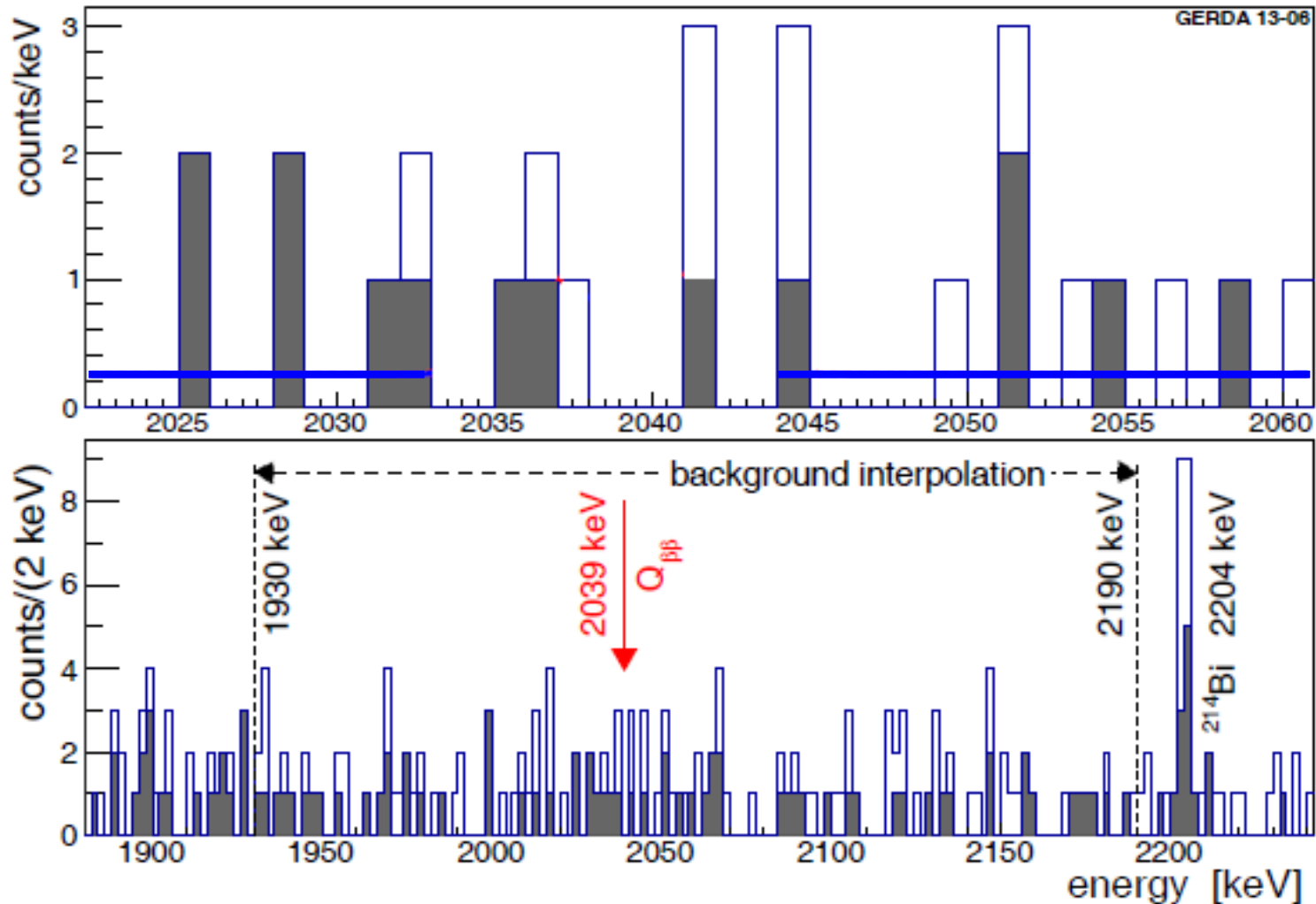
Phase I: The Region of Interest



expected bg from
interpolation:

5.1 events w/o PSD
2.5 events with PSD

Phase I: The Region of Interest

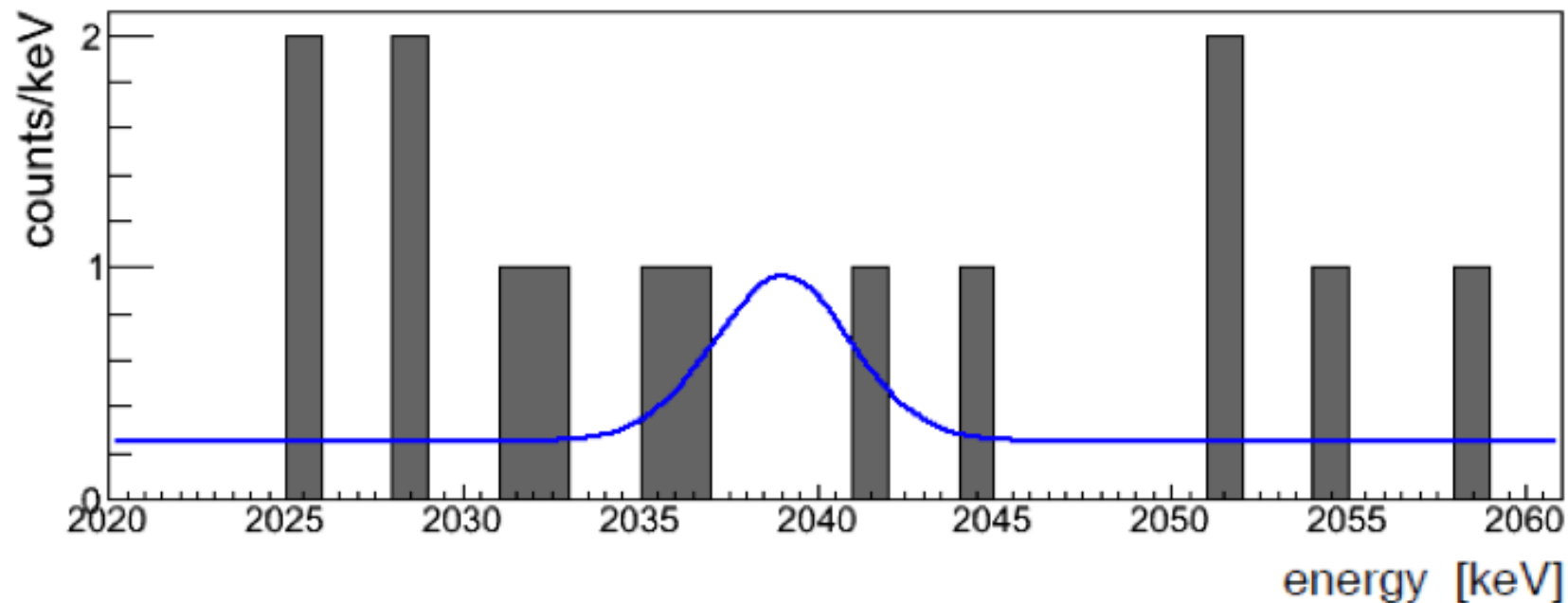


expected bg from
interpolation:

5.1 events w/o PSD
2.5 events with PSD

observed → 7 events w/o PSD
→ 3 events with PSD

Profile Likelihood Fit to PSD Spectrum



profile likelihood fit = hypothesis test: is there a line at $Q\beta\beta$

signal = a *flat background + b *line → extract coefficients

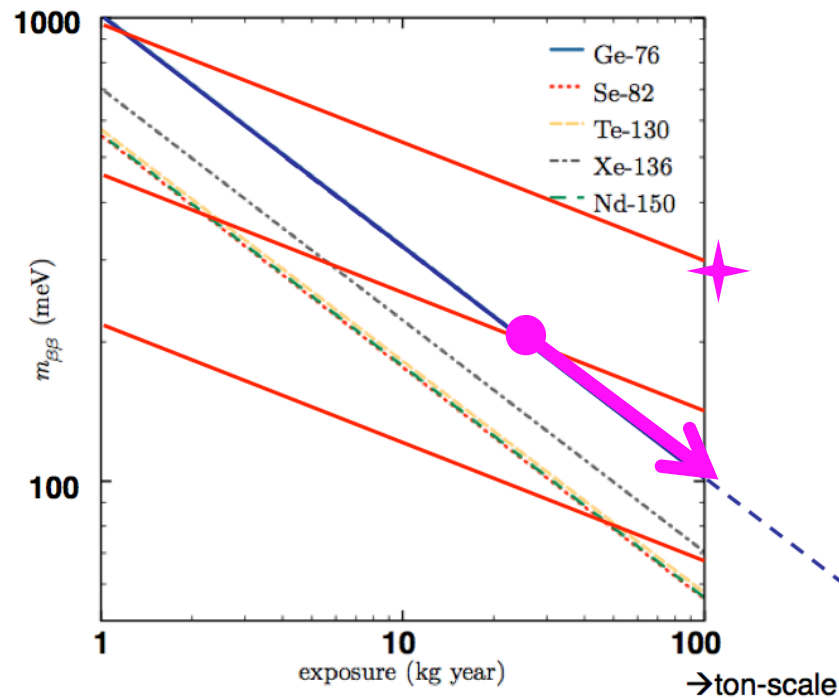
→ best fit: $N^{0\nu} = 0$; upper limit: $N^{0\nu} < 3.5$ (90%CL)

→ half life limit $T_{1/2}(0\nu\beta\beta) > 2.1 * 10^{25}$ yr (90% C.L.)

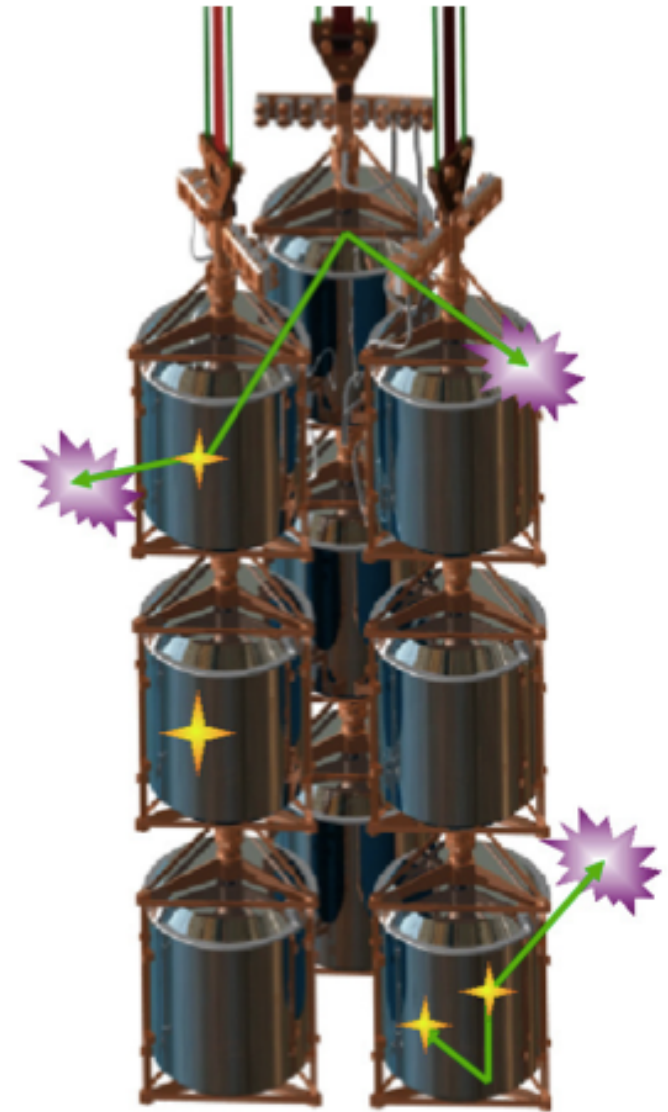
GERDA Phase II

Improvement for Phase II:

- more new BEGe detectors
→ ~factor 2 in ^{76}Ge mass
- active veto (light instrumentation)
→ even more background suppression



upgrade → data taking



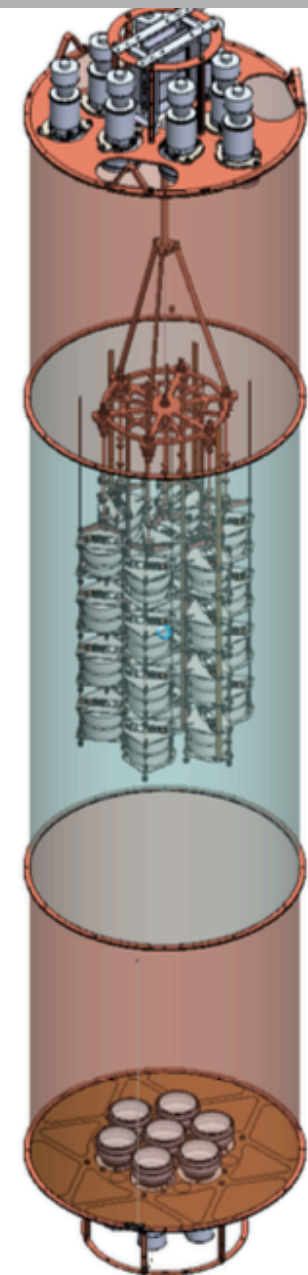
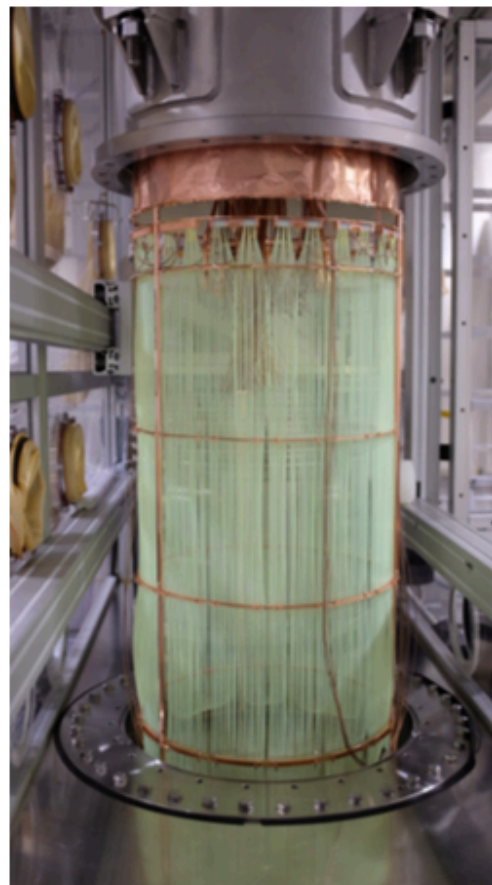
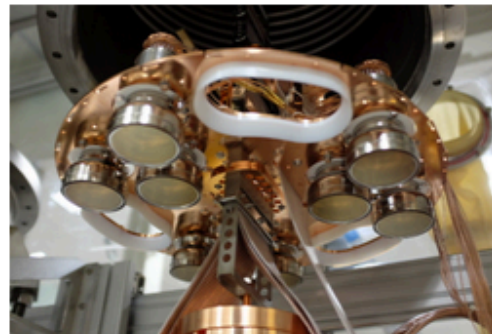
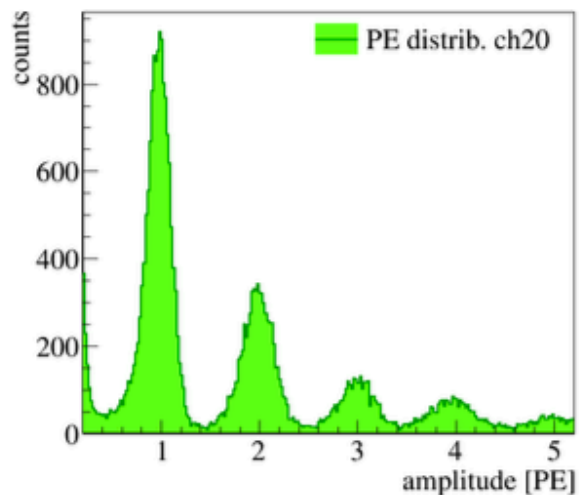
LAr Scintillation light Veto

Hybrid veto instrumentation:

- 16 PMTs (9 top / 7 btm)
- 800 m fibers coated with WLS + 90 SiPMs
- nylon mini-shroud around each string coated with WLS

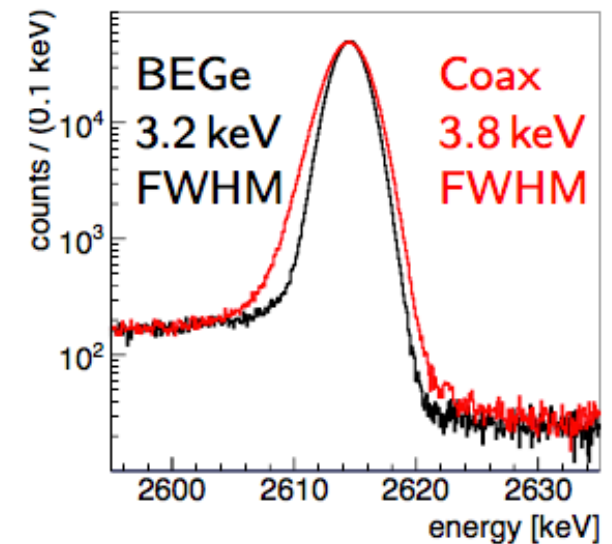
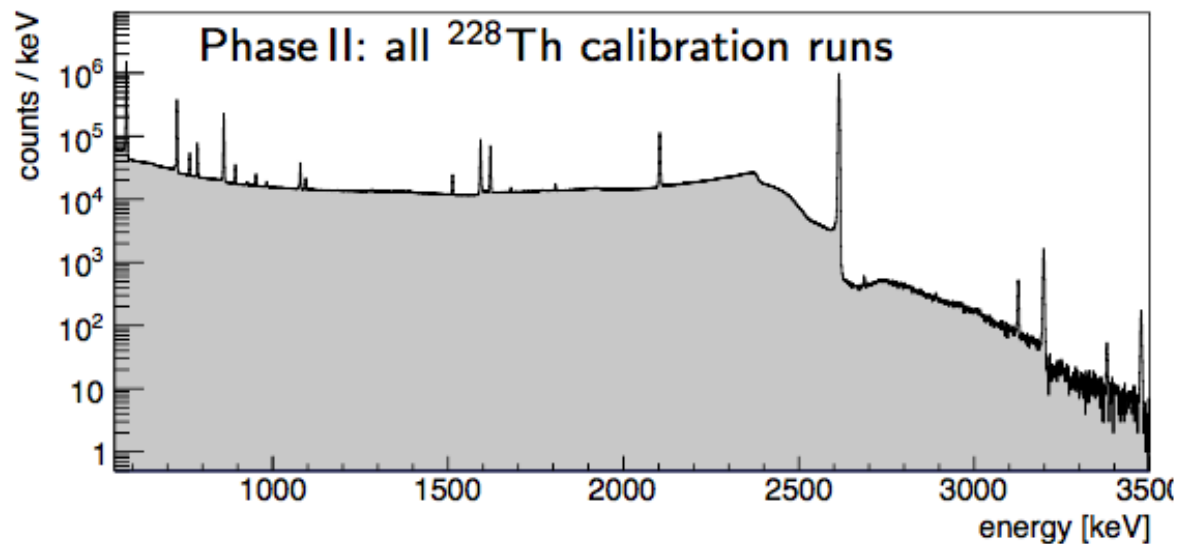
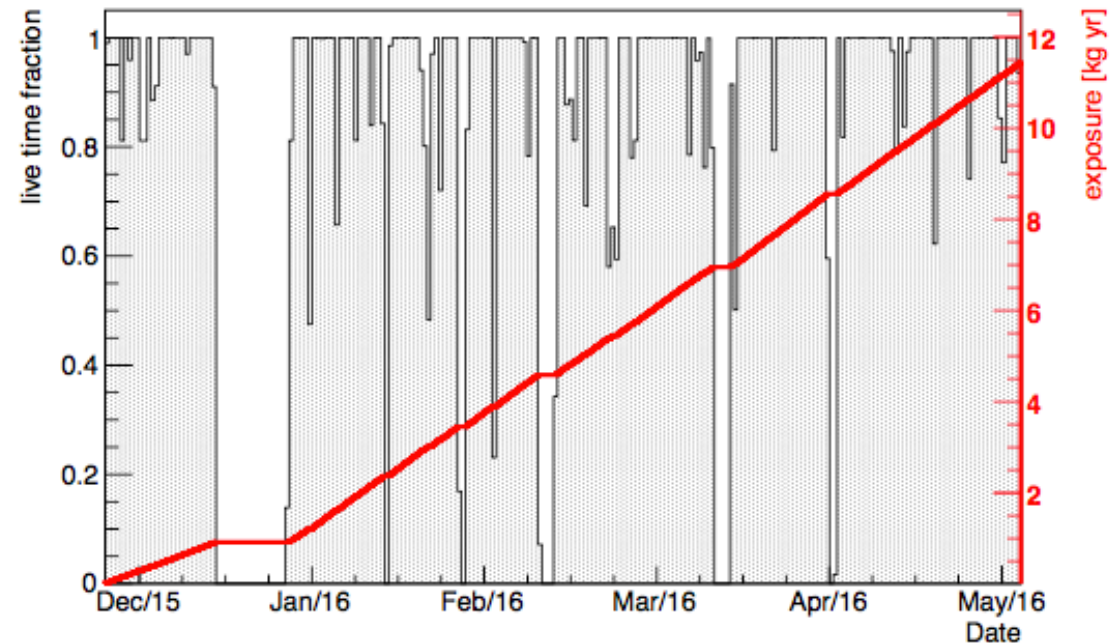
Parameters optimized for each channel:

- ~ 0.5 PE threshold
- $\sim 5 - 6 \mu\text{s}$ anticoincidence window

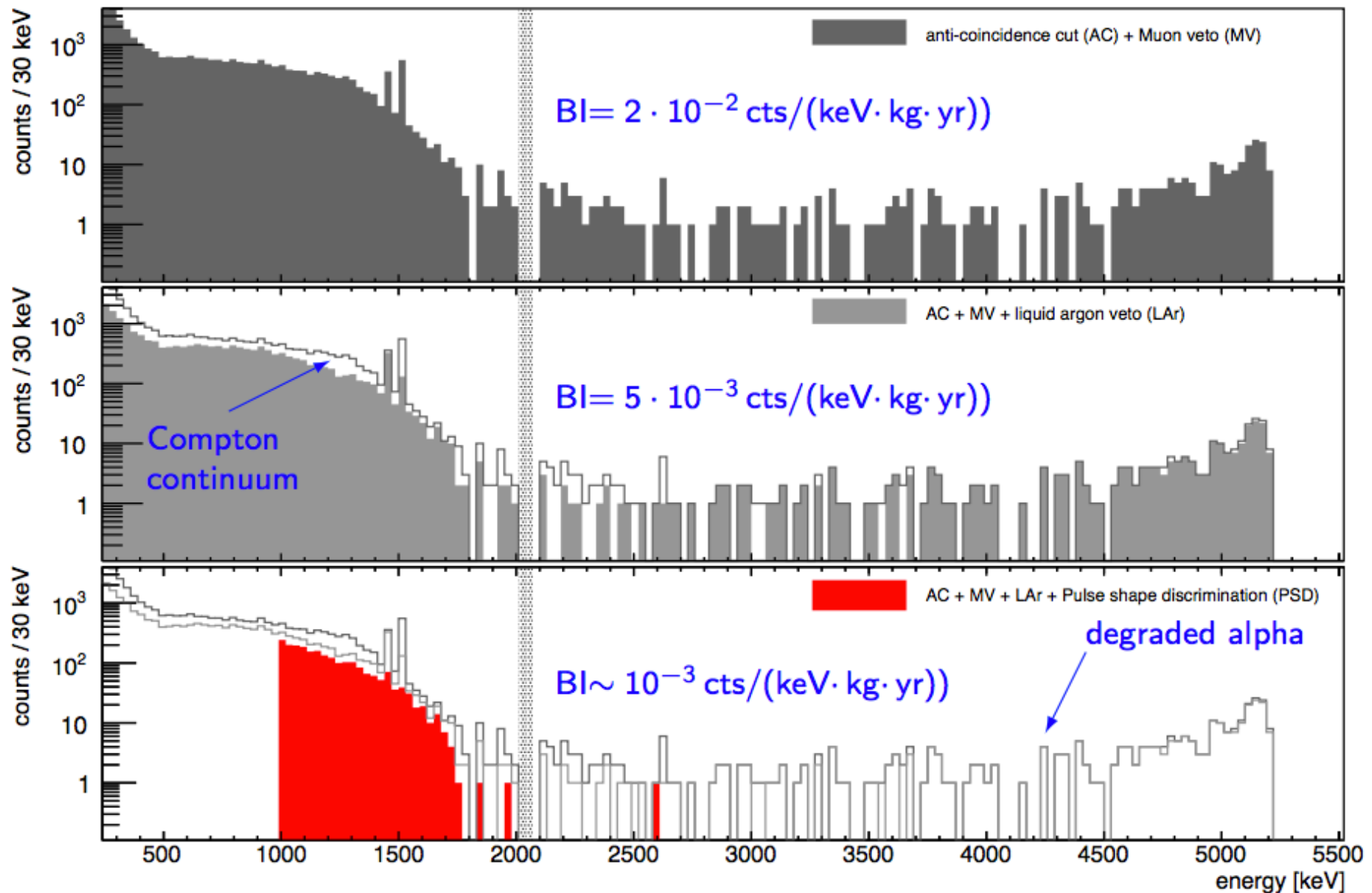


Data Taking 2015-2016

- Dec 2015 - May 2016
- 82% average duty cycle
- exposure used for analysis:
 - 5.8 kg·yr for enriched BEGe:
 - 5.0 kg·yr for enriched coax:
- weekly calibration runs with ^{228}Th
- blinding window $Q_{\beta\beta} \pm 25 \text{ keV}$



Background Suppression @ BEGe



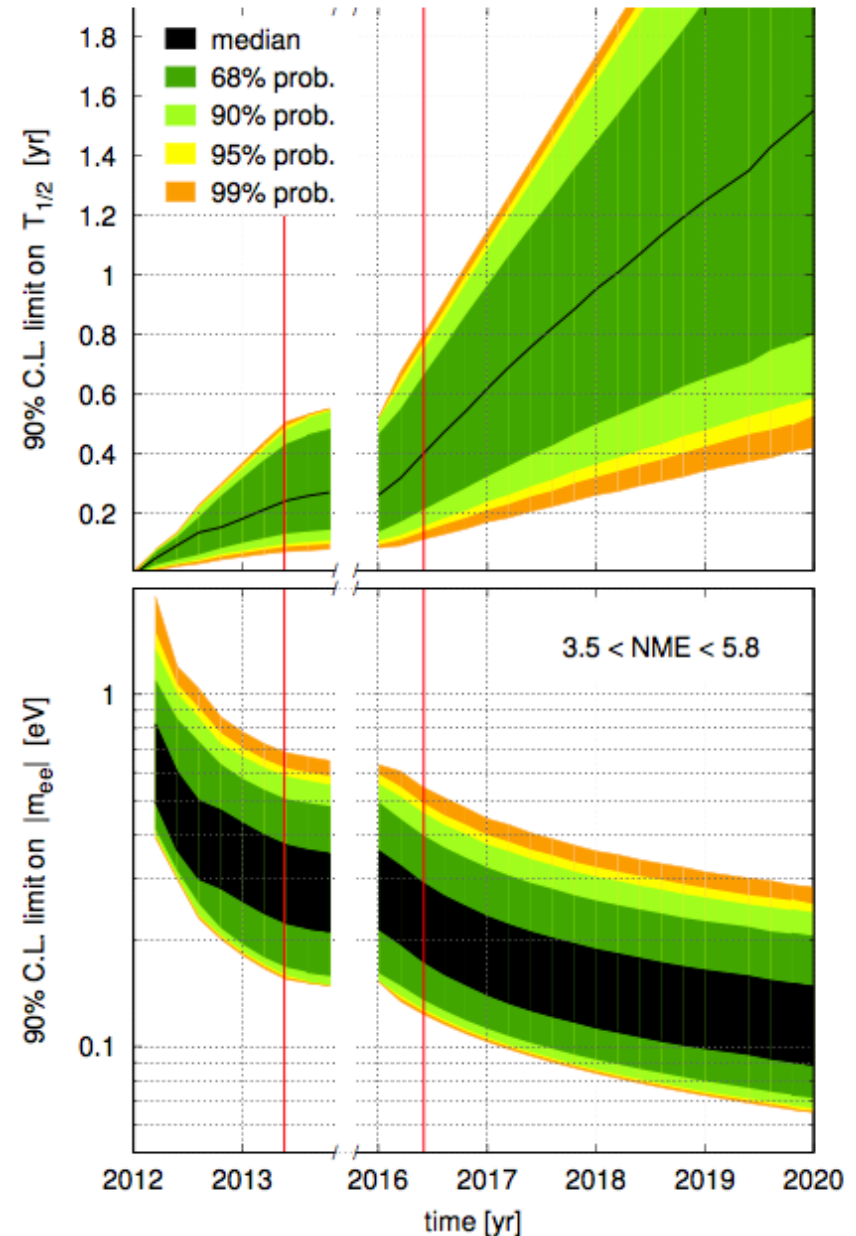
Results

- ▶ GERDA Phase II is running stable
- ▶ 3-4 keV energy resolution at $Q_{\beta\beta}$
- ▶ lowest background in ROI ever achieved:
 $35^{+21}_{-15} \cdot 10^{-4}$ cts/(keV·kg·yr) for Coax
 $7^{+11}_{-5} \cdot 10^{-4}$ cts/(keV·kg·yr) for BEGe
- ▶ combined Phase I+II sensitivity:
 $T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 4.0 \cdot 10^{25}$ yr (90% C.L.)*
- ▶ blind analysis, no $0\nu\beta\beta$ signal:
 $T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 5.2 \cdot 10^{25}$ yr (90% C.L.)*
 $|m_{ee}| < [160,260]$ meV (90% C.L.)*
 (* preliminary, ϵ_{COAX}^{PSD} to be finalized)

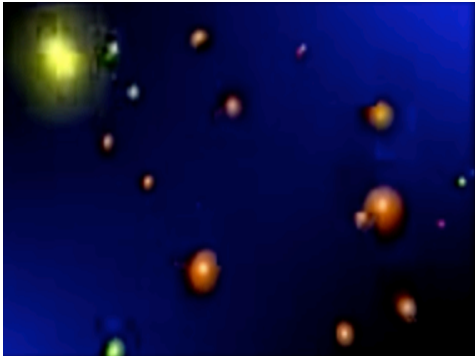
GERDA Phase II is the high-resolution
and background-free experiment!

[see poster on next gen ^{76}Ge exp: P4.057]

Based on current BI and duty cycle:



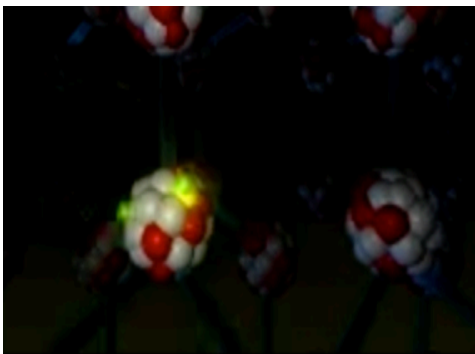
Conclusion / Outlook / Discussion



- The Majorana nature of neutrinos is a very important question
- Now: GERDA, EXO, KamLAND-Zen, CUORE
- Other projects ...



- Upscaling:
 - 200kg in GERDA → LEGEND200
 - LEGEND → 1t
 - nEXO → 5t enriched Xe136
 - DARWIN → 50t natural Xe (DM+ $0\nu\beta\beta$ search)



- Expectations:
 - global fits tend towards NH
 - cosmology tends towards NH
 - we need new ideas to reach the NH