

# The Search of Neutrinoless Double-Beta Decay and the LEGEND Experiment

LEGEND



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

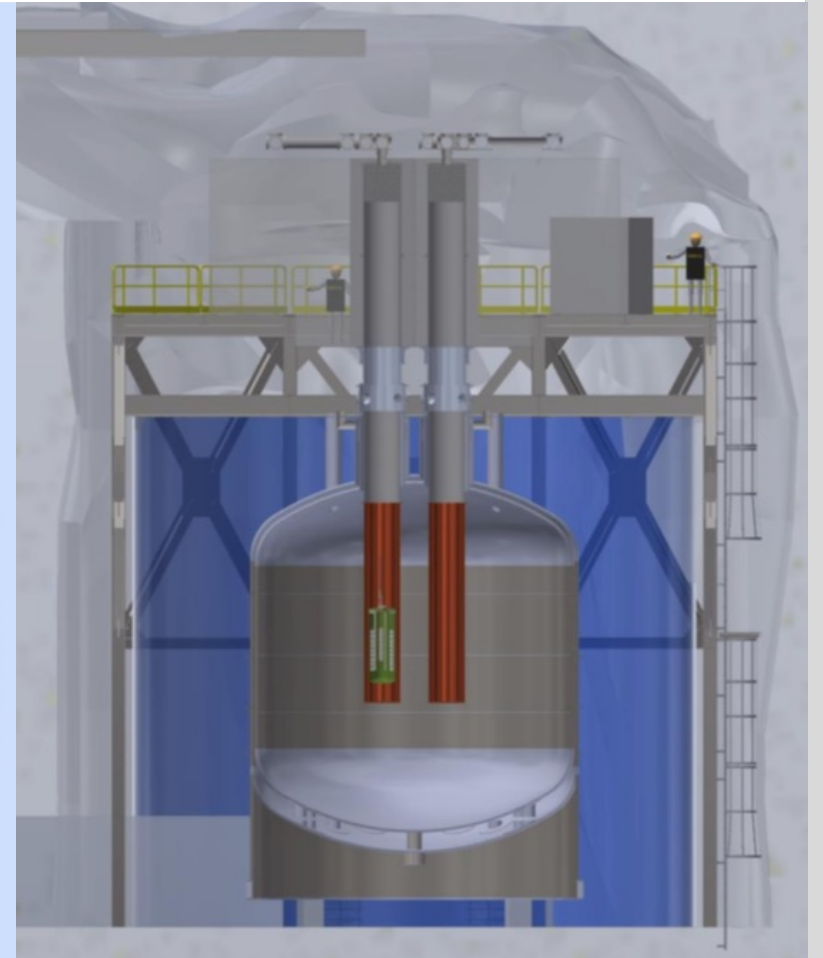
**Wenqin Xu**

**University of South Dakota**

On behalf of the LEGEND Collaboration

September 3<sup>rd</sup> 2022

14<sup>th</sup> Conference on the Intersections of Particle and Nuclear Physics



UNIVERSITY OF  
SOUTH DAKOTA

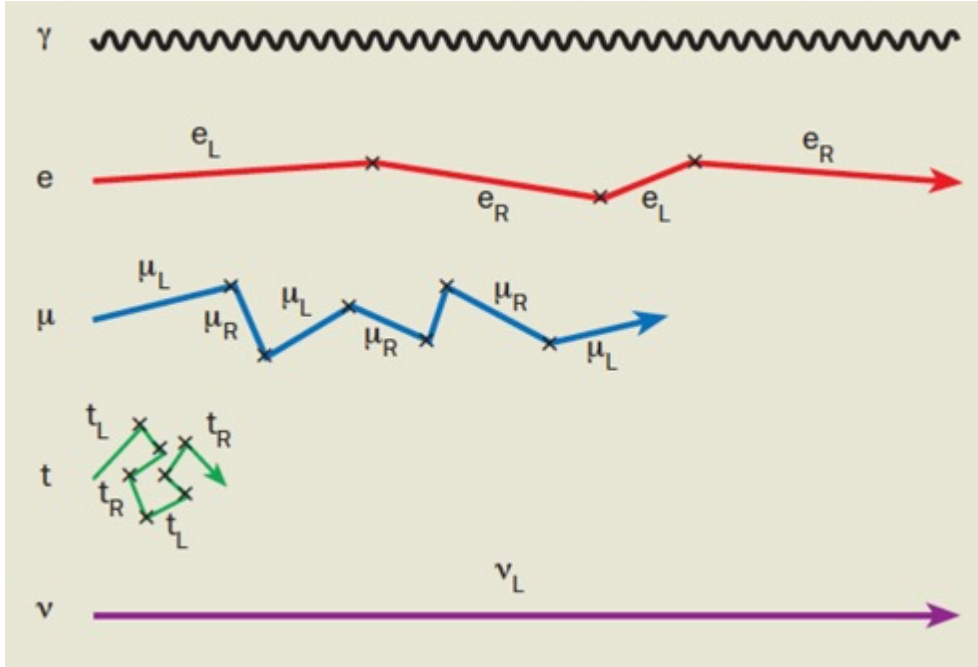
INTERSECTIONS

# Part I

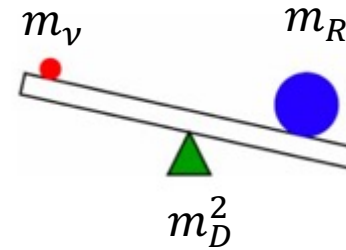
## Motivation for the Discovery of Neutrinoless Double-Beta Decay

# Neutrino Mass is Beyond the Standard Model

H. Murayama, Physics World, May 2002



Heavy right-handed neutrino mass



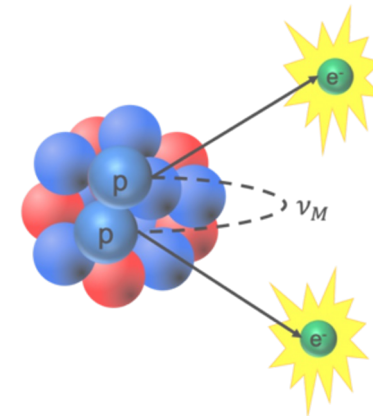
The seesaw model

$$m_\nu = \frac{m_D^2}{m_R}$$

Dirac mass

Dirac masses would allow for Majorana masses neutrinos

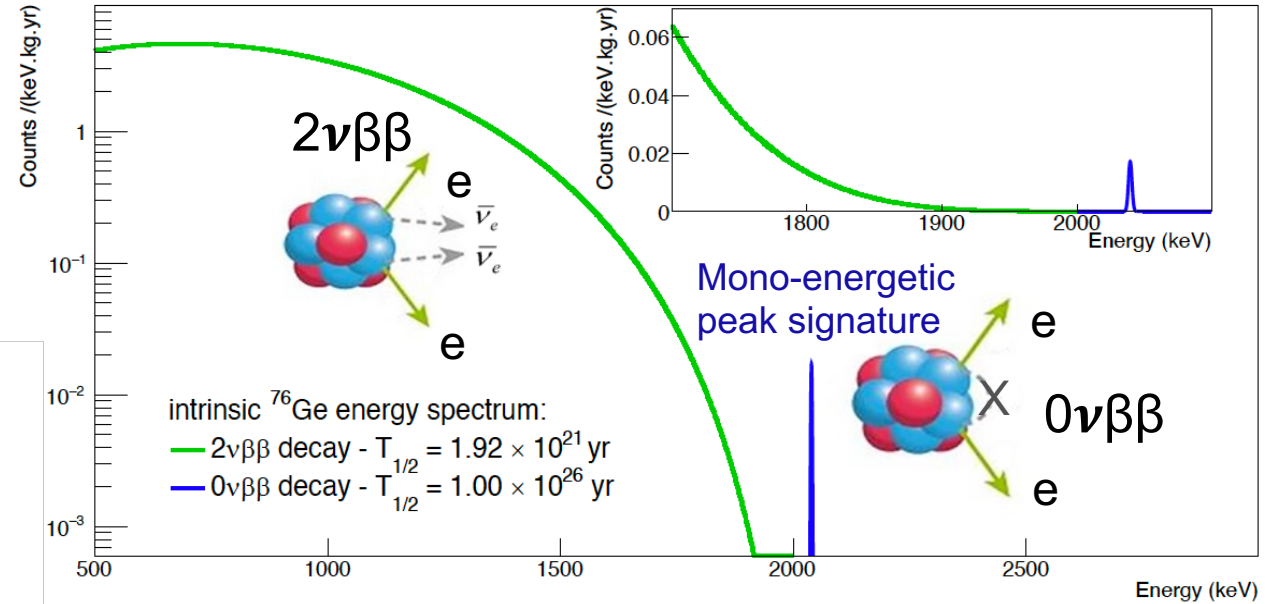
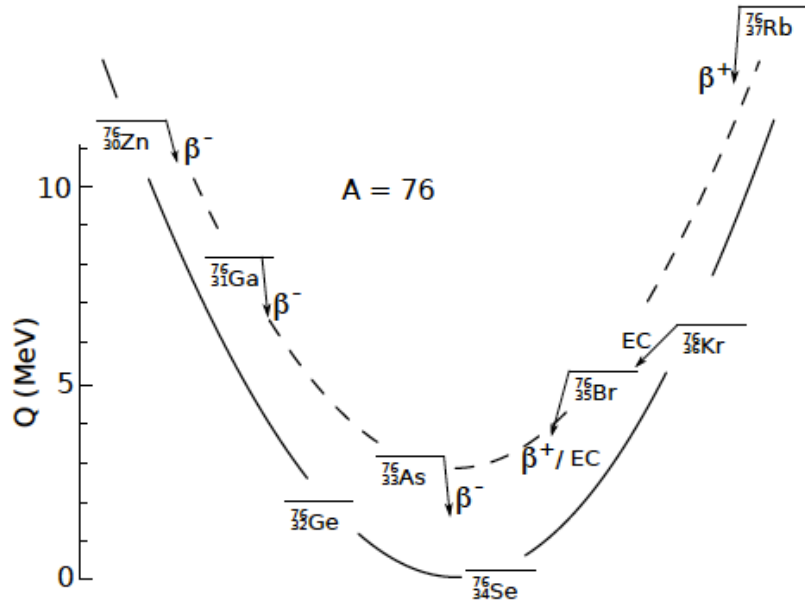
- Seesaw mechanism explains the tininess of  $m_\nu$
- Majorana neutrinos are their own anti-particles
- Neutrinoless double beta decay ( $0\nu\beta\beta$ ) is the only experimentally feasible way to establish neutrinos are Majorana.



Right-handed neutrinos never discovered

- Neutrinos have zero mass in the Standard Model
- Non-zero neutrino mass is **physics beyond-the-Standard Model (BSM)**

# Neutrinoless Double-beta Decay ( $0\nu\beta\beta$ )



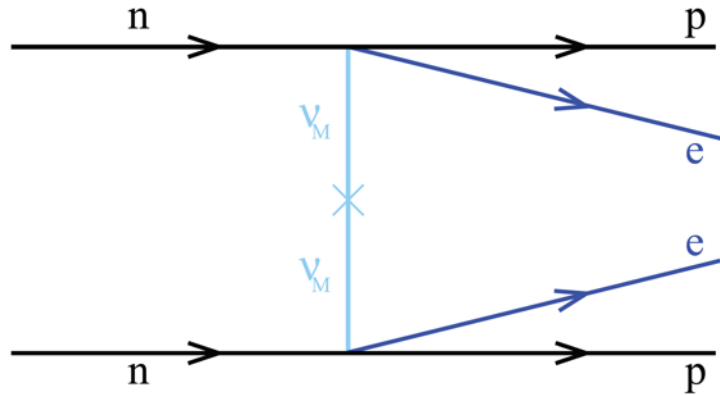
Double-beta decay is possible when energetically favored

Two neutrino double-beta decay ( $2\nu\beta\beta$ ) is an observed Standard Model process

Observation of Neutrinoless double-beta decay ( $0\nu\beta\beta$ ) would

- **prove the total lepton number is violated by 2 units ( $\Delta L = 2$ )**
- imply massive neutrinos are Majorana particles

# $0\nu\beta\beta$ Half Life and Effective Neutrino Mass



For light neutrino exchange model only:

$$(T_{1/2}^{0\nu})^{-1} = G^{0\nu} |M_{0\nu}|^2 \left( \frac{\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle}{m_e} \right)^2$$

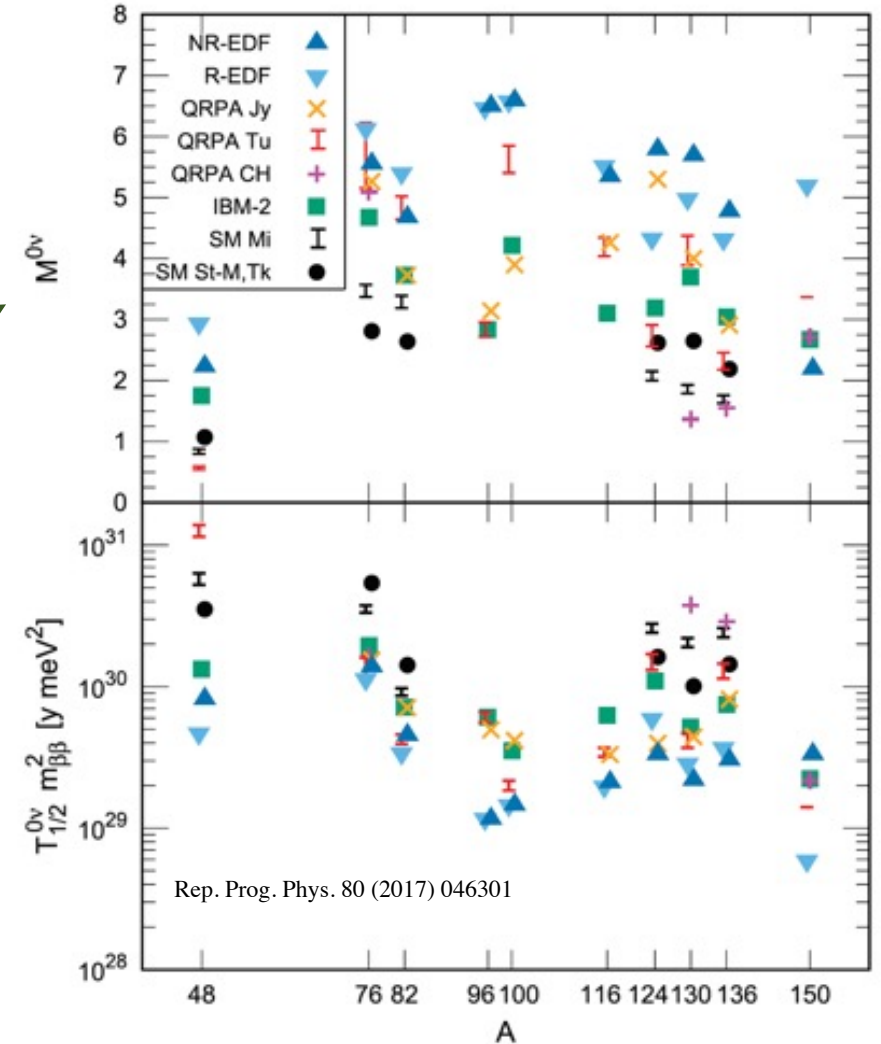
Nuclear Matrix Element

$0\nu\beta\beta$

- Half life relates to the effective neutrino mass

$$\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle = \left| \sum_{i=1}^3 U_{ei}^2 m_i \right|$$

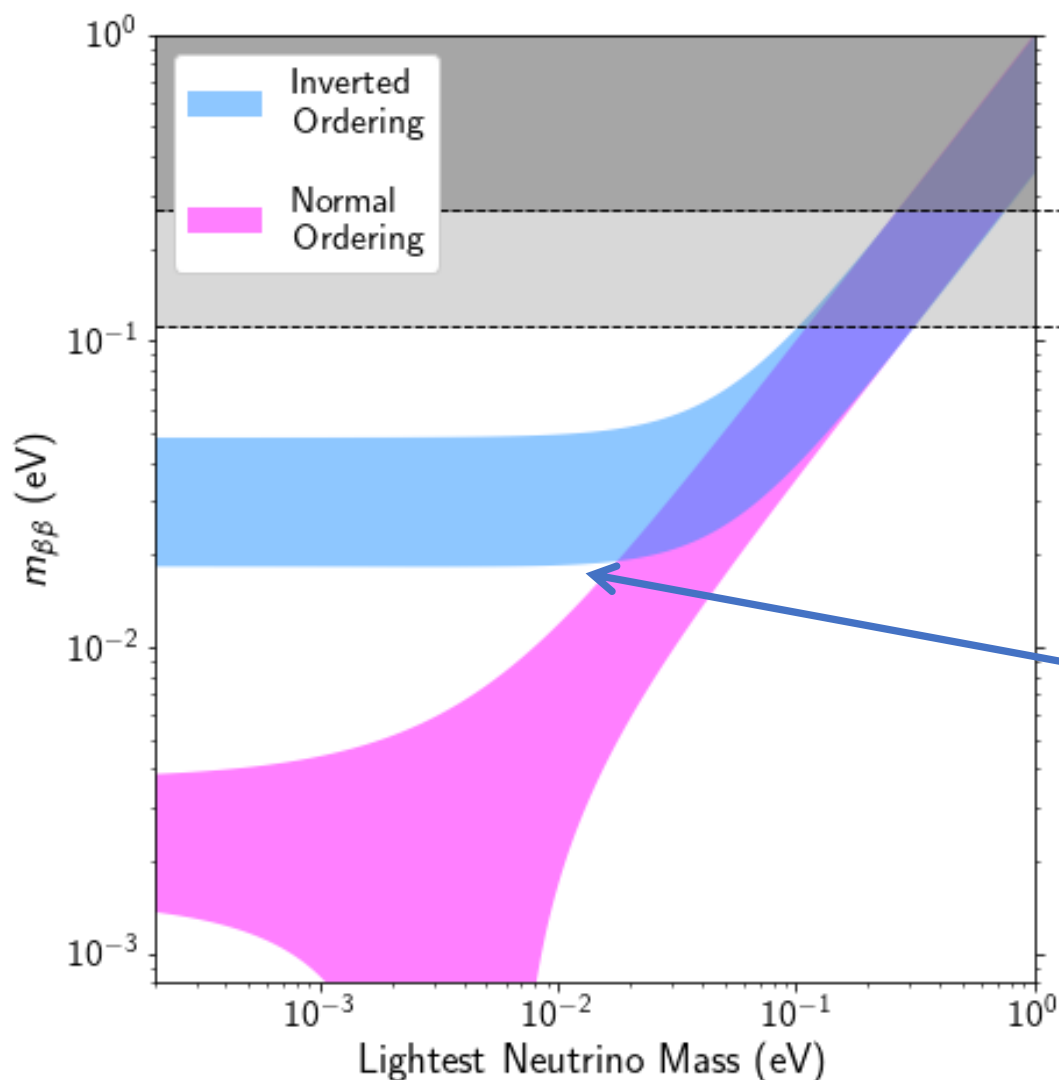
- Theoretical calculations of the nuclear matrix element have uncertainties



Rep. Prog. Phys. 80 (2017) 046301

Also see Emanuele Mereghetti's talk in the Nu session

# Phase Space for Discovery



A variety of isotopes and techniques in use for  $0\nu\beta\beta$  searches

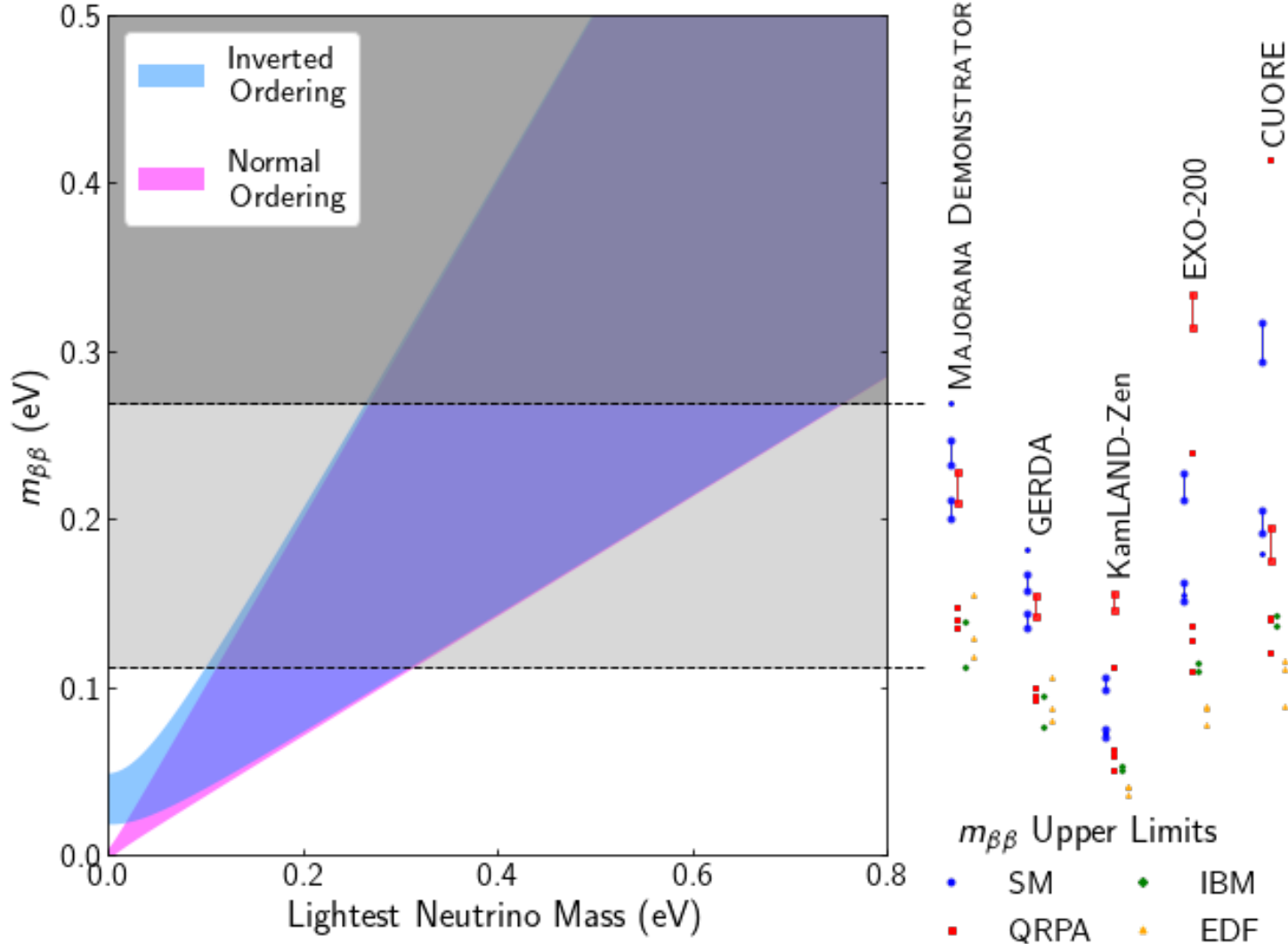
Current generation experiments make steady progress in probing the phase space possible for  $0\nu\beta\beta$  with constant technology developments

Significant discovery potential to be realized by next generation ton-scale experiments

- probing the entire inverted neutrino mass ordering assuming the light neutrino exchange model
- large discovery potential also in the normal mass ordering

# Phase Space for Discovery

Linear Y-axis



A variety of isotopes and techniques in use for  $0\nu\beta\beta$  searches

Current generation experiments make steady progress in probing the phase space possible for  $0\nu\beta\beta$  with constant technology developments

Significant discovery potential to be realized by next generation ton-scale experiments

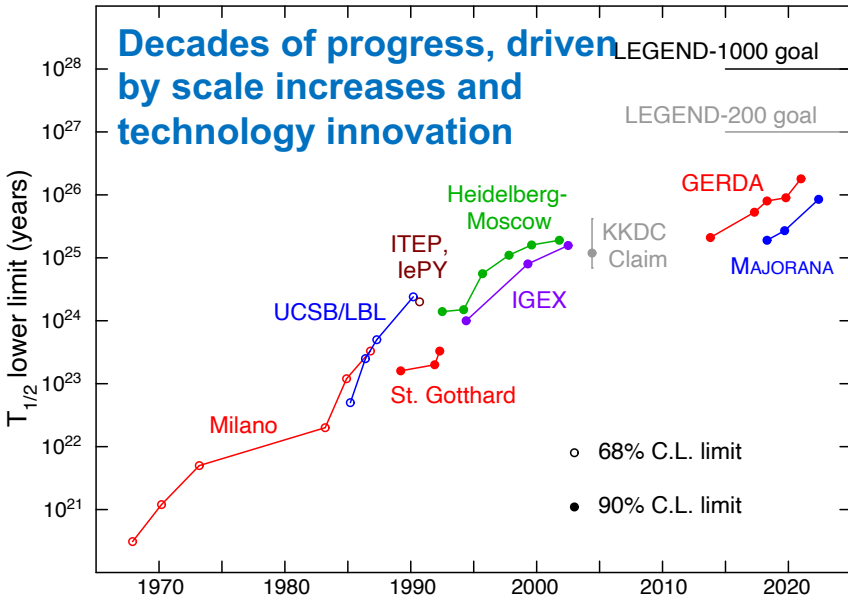
- probing the entire inverted neutrino mass ordering assuming the light neutrino exchange model
- large discovery potential also in the normal mass ordering

## Part II

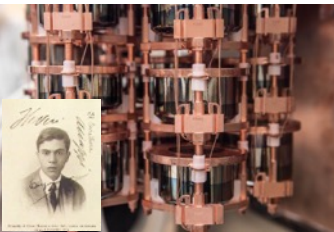
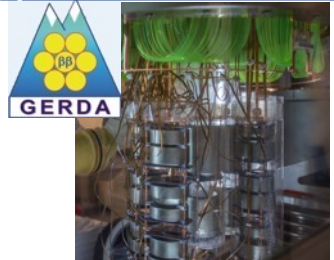
# Proven Ge Technologies for the Discovery of Neutrinoless Double-Beta Decay



# Generations of Ge searches of $0\nu\beta\beta$

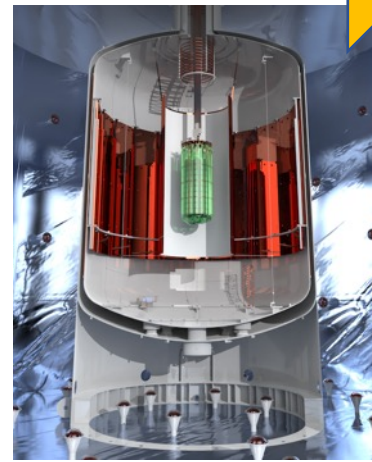


Most recent (~30-40 kg)



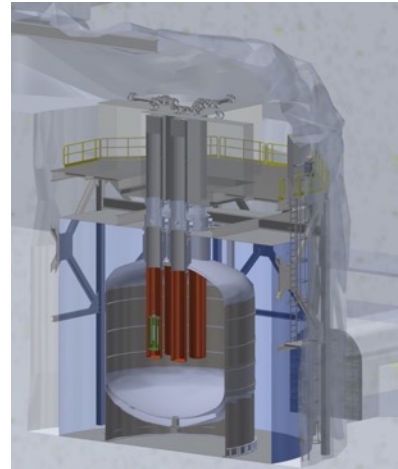
MAJORANA

Ongoing (~200 kg)



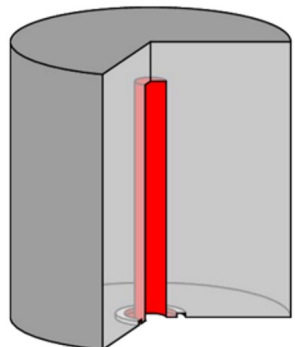
LEGEND-200

proceeding to CD-1 (~1000kg)



LEGEND-1000

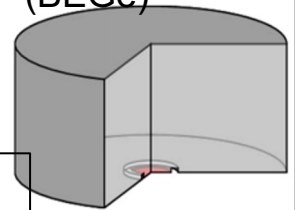
(Semi)-Coaxial



- Large mass (2-3 kg)
- Imperfect background rejection



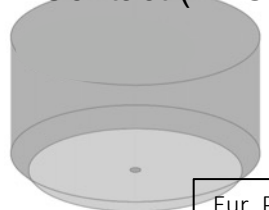
GERDA  
Broad Energy Ge (BEGe)



IEEE Trans. on Nuc. Sci., 36, 1, 926-930 (1989)

- Small mass (< 1 kg)
- Excellent background rejection

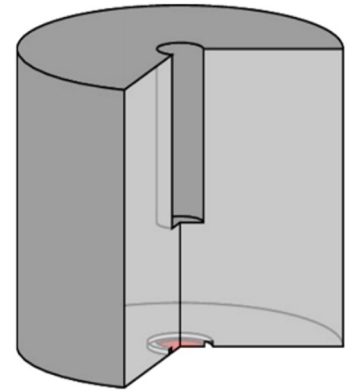
MAJORANA  
P-type Point Contact (PPC)



Eur. Phys. J. C 79, 978 (2019)



Inverted-Coaxial Point Contact (ICPC)



NIMA ,891, 106-110, (2018)

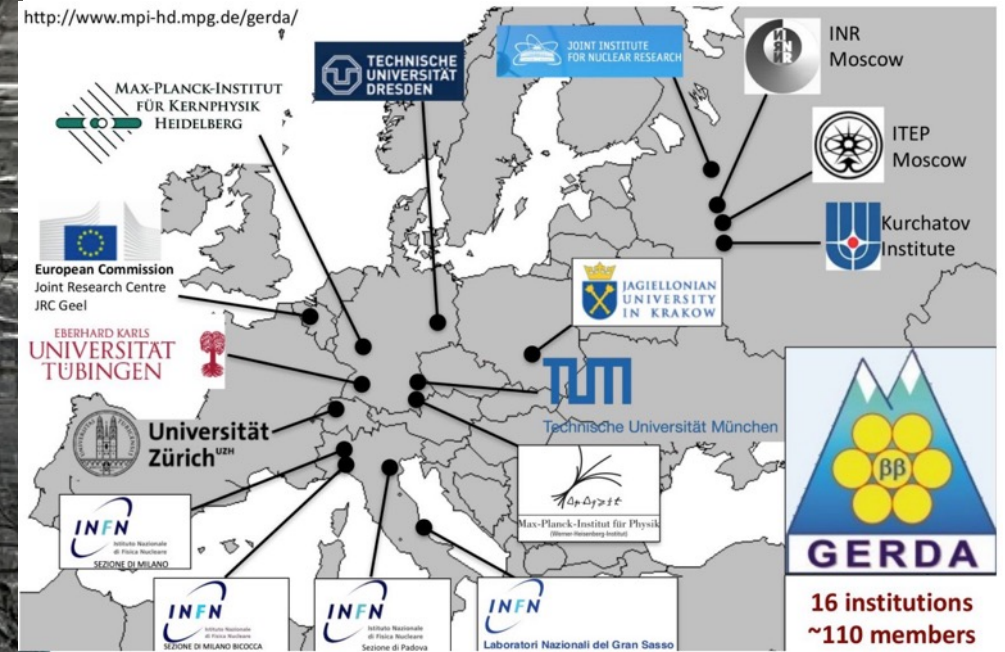
- Newly developed for LEGEND
- Large mass (up to 4 kg)
- Excellent background rejection

# GERmanium Detector Array - GERDA Collaboration



<https://www.aip.org/fyi/2022/doe-nuclear-physics-program-approaches-pivot-point>

the GERDA Collaboration



L Shtembari, ICHEP 2022

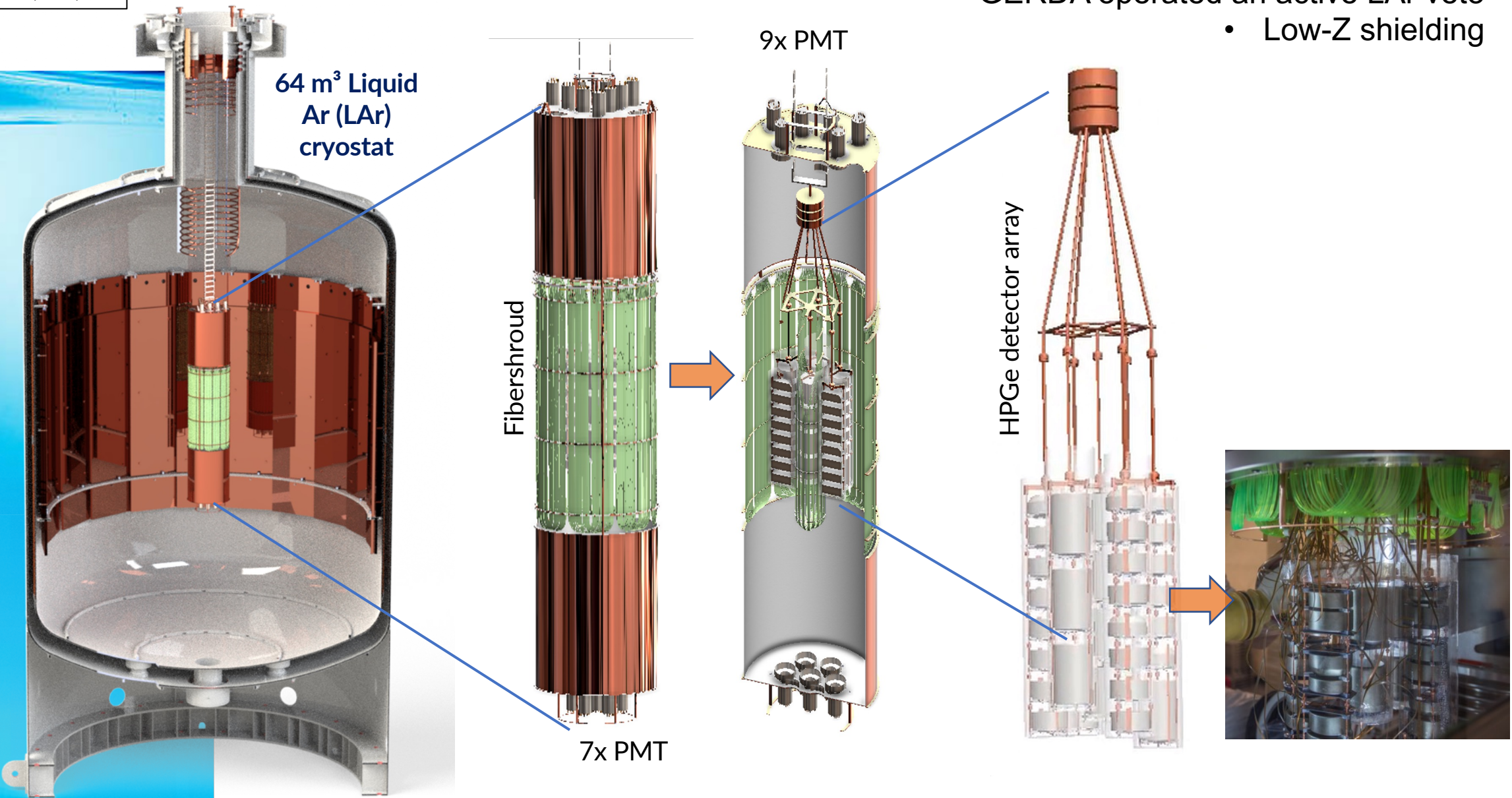
(Image credit – © Kai Freund / LNGS-INFN)

# GERDA at Gran Sasso National Laboratory (LNGS)

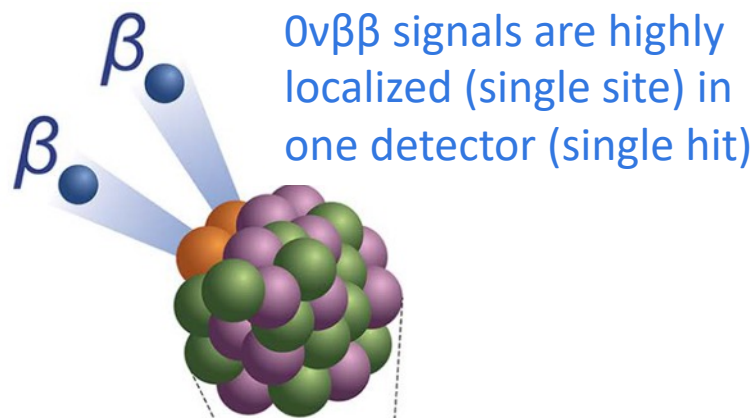
EPJC 78, 388 (2018)

- GERDA operated an active LAr veto
  - Low-Z shielding

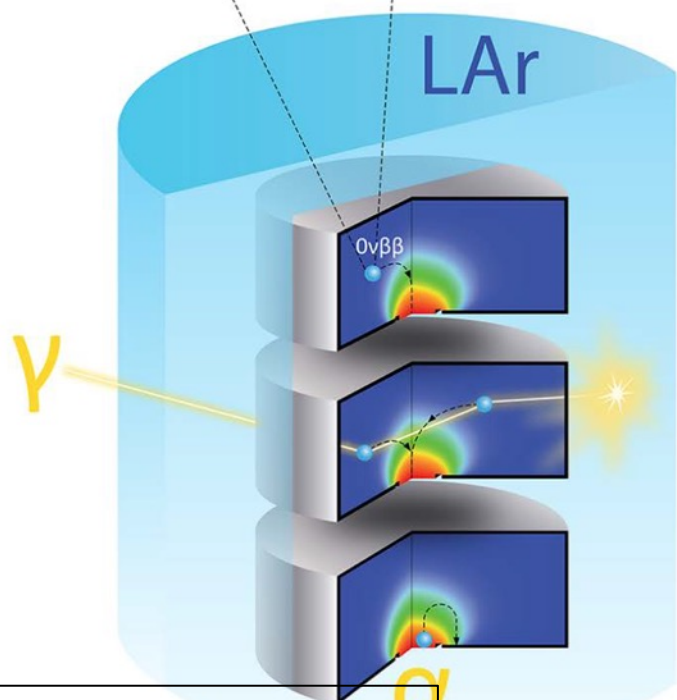
590 m<sup>3</sup> instrumented water tank



# GERDA Background Rejection Strategy



$0\nu\beta\beta$  signals are highly localized (single site) in one detector (single hit)



$0\nu\beta\beta$  signals

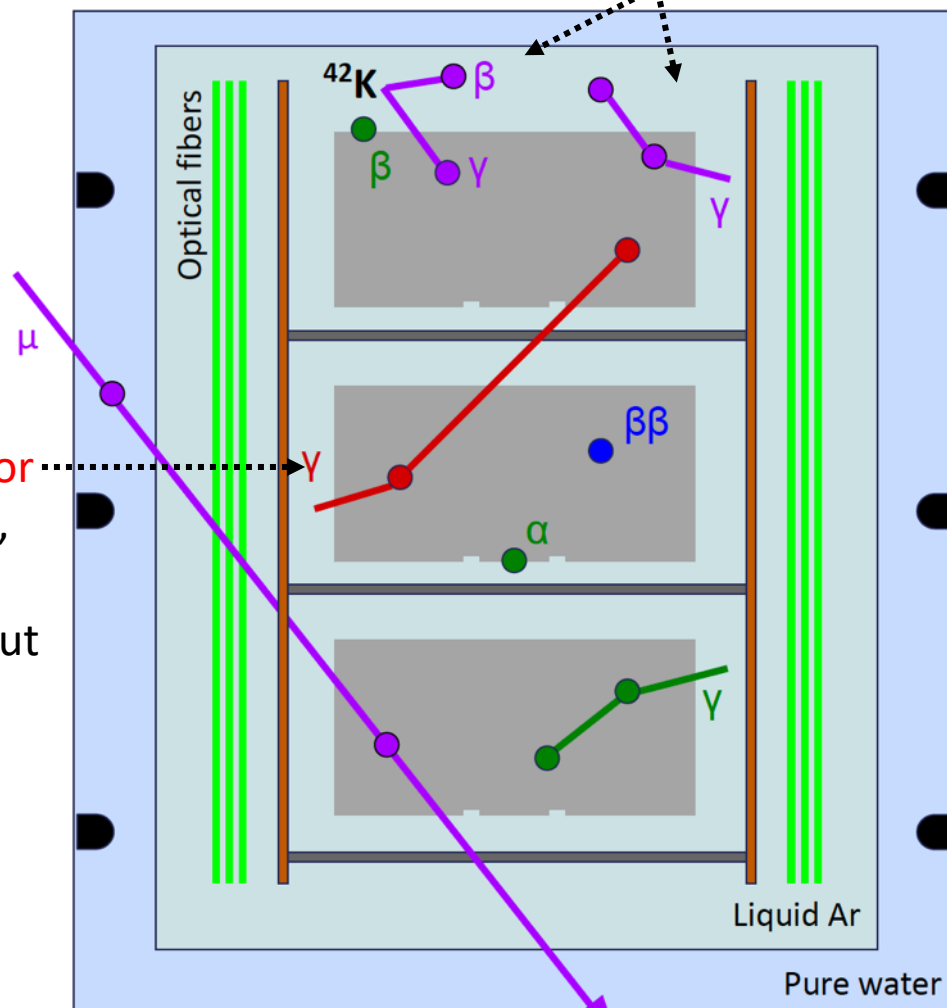
Multi-site backgrounds

Surface backgrounds

Rejected by  
Pulse Shape  
Analysis

Multi-detector  
backgrounds,  
rejected by  
multiplicity cut

Backgrounds with energy depositions  
in LAr, rejected by LAr veto



muon backgrounds, rejected by muon veto

# Pulse Shape Analysis (PSA) for HPGe detectors

Amplitude of current pulse is suppressed for a multi-site event compared to a single-site event of the same event Energy

Comparing **A** against **E** effectively rejects multi-site backgrounds

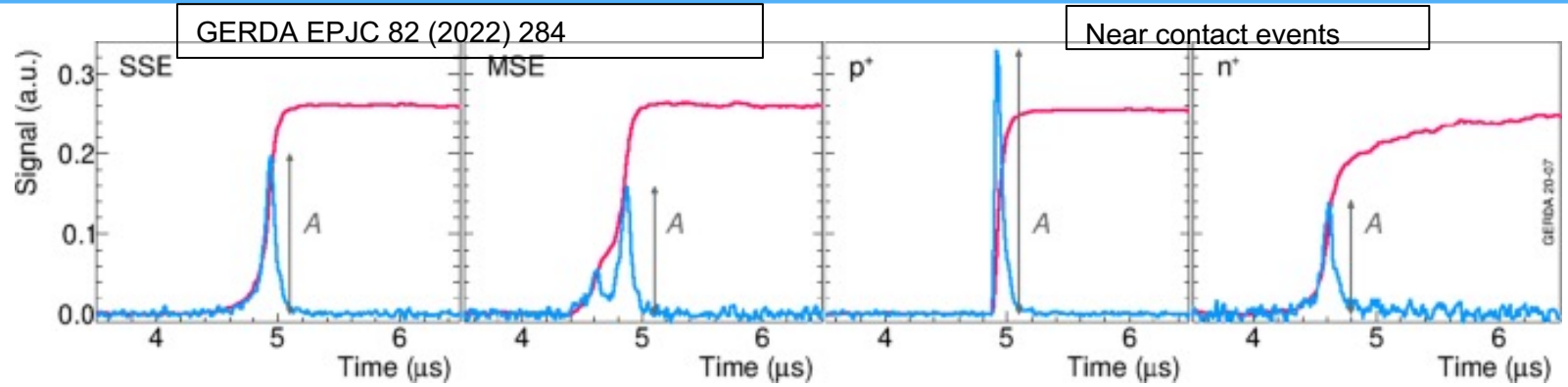
Various powerful PSA event topology tools can be used to reject different backgrounds

Alternative machine learning algorithms are available

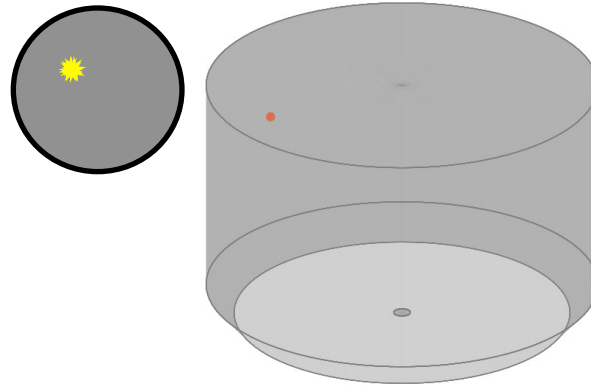
GERDA EPJC 82 (2022) 284

MAJORANA arXiv: 2207.10710

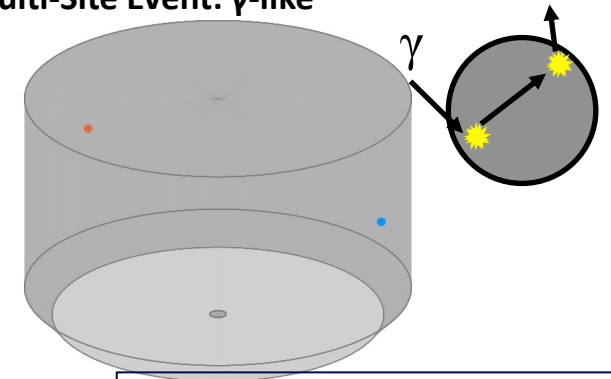
Also see **L. Paudel**  
**[Pulse-Shape-Based Analysis using Machine learning in the MAJORANA DEMONSTRATOR](#)**,  
**Nu session Aug. 30th**



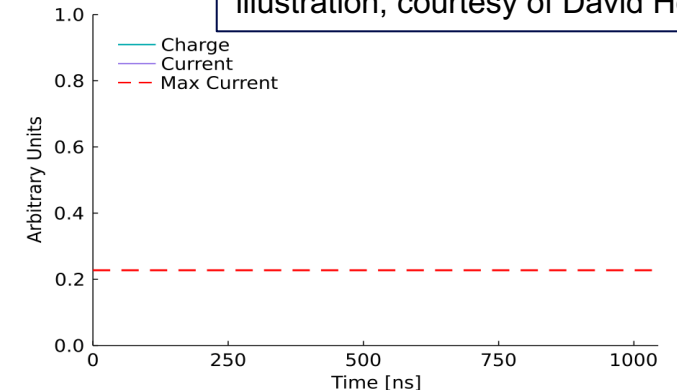
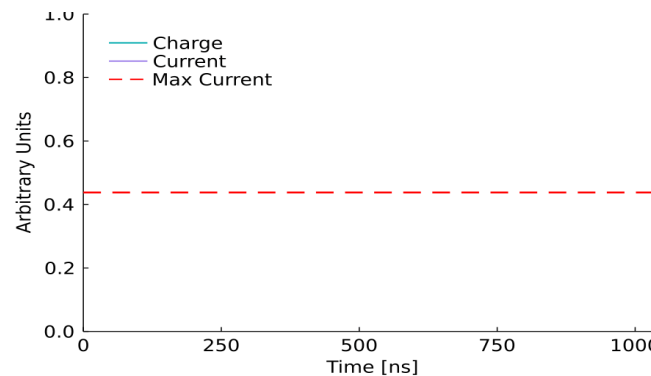
Single-Site Event (SSE):  $0\nu\beta\beta$ -like



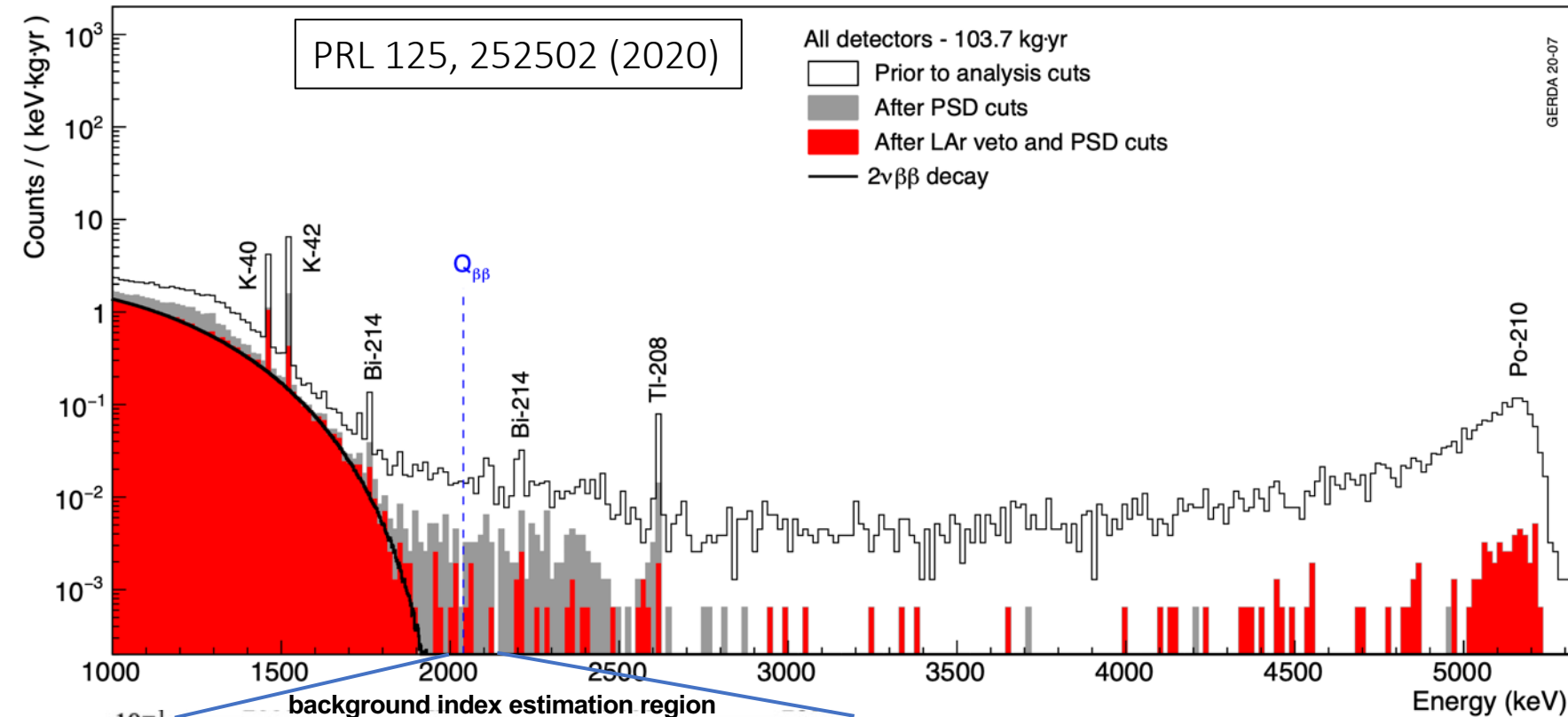
Multi-Site Event:  $\gamma$ -like



Simulations for MAJORANA PPC for illustration, courtesy of David Hervas.



# Final Results of GERDA



Background index:

$$5.2^{+1.6}_{-1.3} \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ cts}/(\text{keV kg yr})$$

Energy resolution:

$$\sim 2.6 \text{ keV (FWHM)}$$

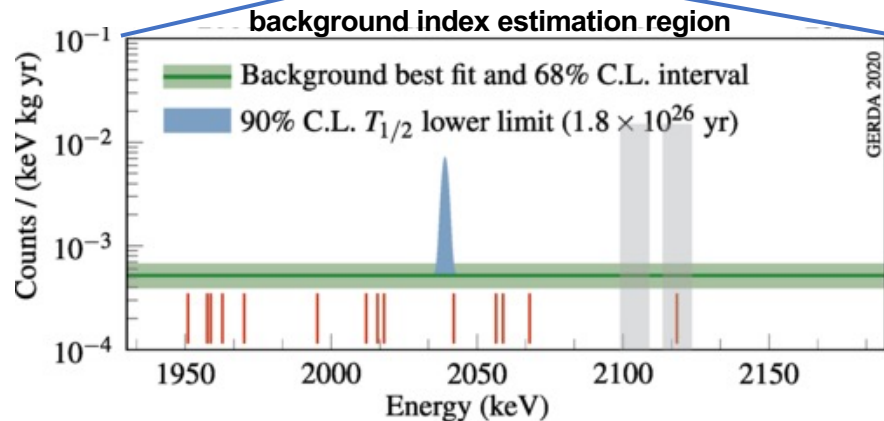
Frequentist limit:

$$T_{1/2} > 1.8 \cdot 10^{26} \text{ yr at 90\% C.L.}$$

Bayesian: flat prior on rate:

$$T_{1/2} > 1.4 \cdot 10^{26} \text{ yr at 90\% C.L.}$$

$$m_{\beta\beta} < 79 - 180 \text{ meV}$$



GERDA finished by surpassing all design goals:

100 kg yr exposure ,  $< 10^{-3}$  cts/(keV kg yr) background,  $> 10^{26}$  yr sensitivity

Lowest background for  $0\nu\beta\beta$  searches  
if normalized by the energy resolution

# The MAJORANA DEMONSTRATOR

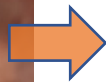
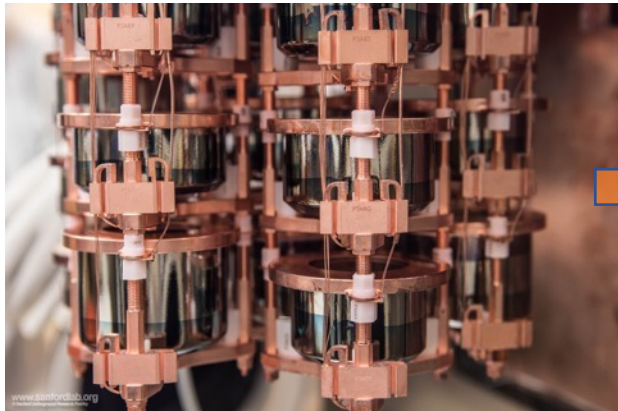
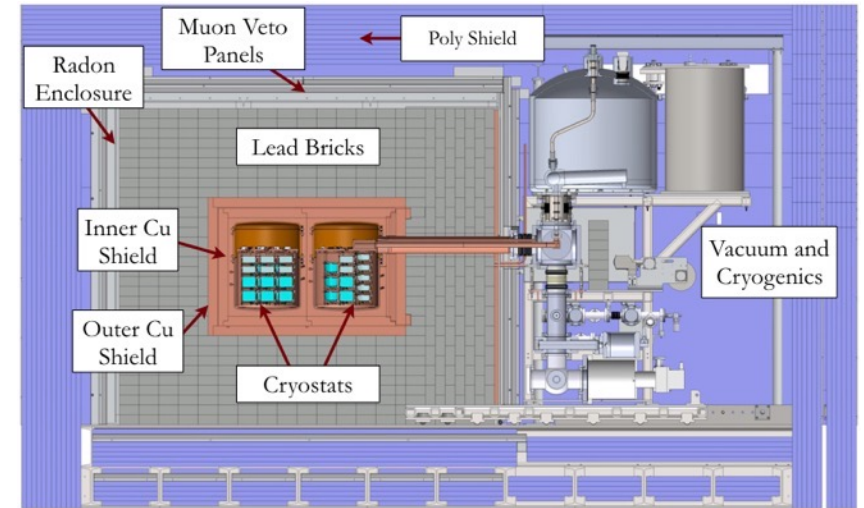
Searching for neutrinoless double-beta decay of  $^{76}\text{Ge}$  in HPGe detectors, probing additional physics beyond the standard model, and informing the design of the next-generation LEGEND experiment

**Source & Detector:** Array of p-type, point contact detectors  
30 kg of 88% enriched  $^{76}\text{Ge}$  crystals - 14 kg of natural Ge crystals  
Included 6.7 kg of  $^{76}\text{Ge}$  inverted coaxial, point contact detectors in final run

**Excellent Energy Resolution:** 2.5 keV FWHM @ 2039 keV  
**and Analysis Threshold:** 1 keV

**Low Background:** 2 modules within a compact graded shield and active muon veto using ultra-clean materials

**Reached an exposure of ~65 kg-yr** before removal of the enriched detectors for the LEGEND-200 experiment at LNGS



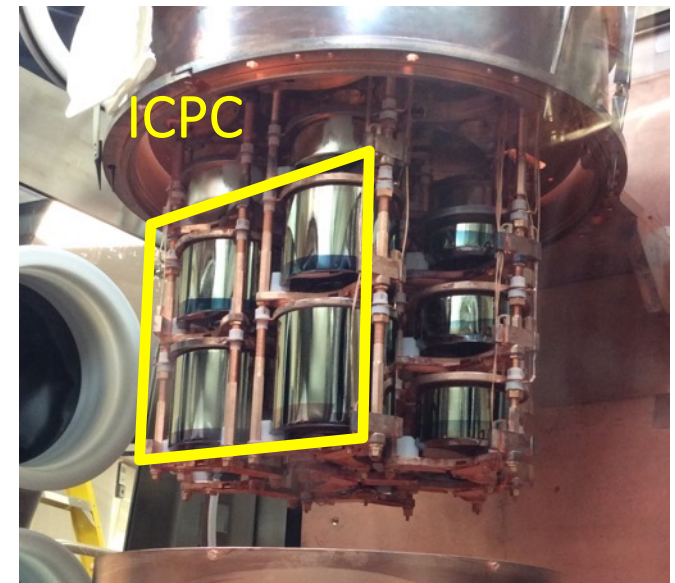
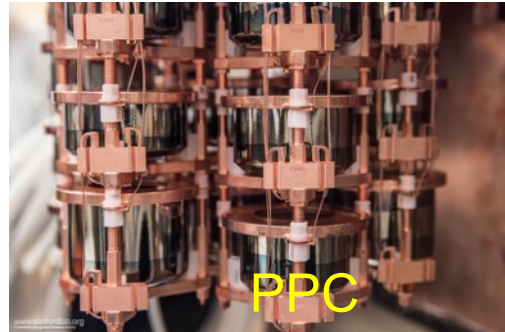
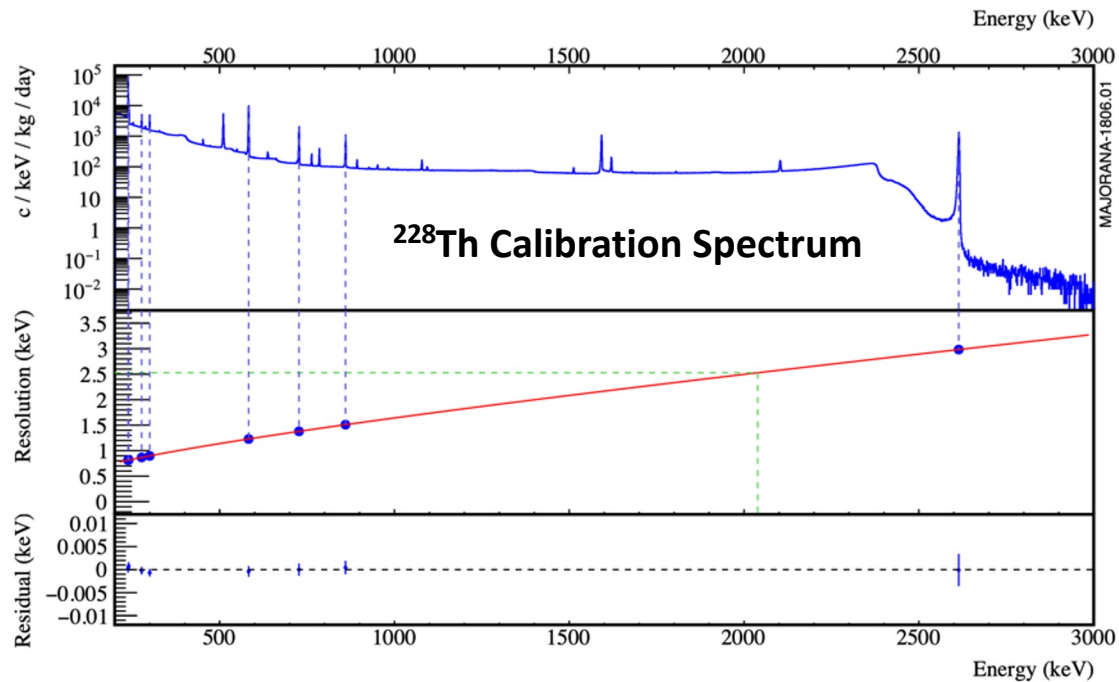
Continuing to operate at the Sanford Underground Research Facility with natural detectors for background studies and other physics

**See W. Pettus,**  
**Final Results from the**  
**MAJORANA DEMONSTRATOR,**  
**Plenary session, Sept. 03**

# Superb Energy Resolution for Unambiguous Discovery



FWHM of 2.5 keV at  $Q_{\beta\beta}$  of 2039 keV (0.12%)  
 Best energy resolution for  $0\nu\beta\beta$  searches



MAJORANA also operated 4 LEGEND ICPC detectors

- Larger range of drift times requires new analysis techniques
- Combined energy resolution of ICPCs is 2.55 keV FWHM at 2039 keV

Less than 0.1 keV energy scale offset  
 at low energy 1 keV~10keV  
 Important for BSM physics

NIMA 872 (2017) 16  
 JINST 17 T05003 (2022)  
 IEEE Trans. Nucl. Sci. 68 (2021) 359

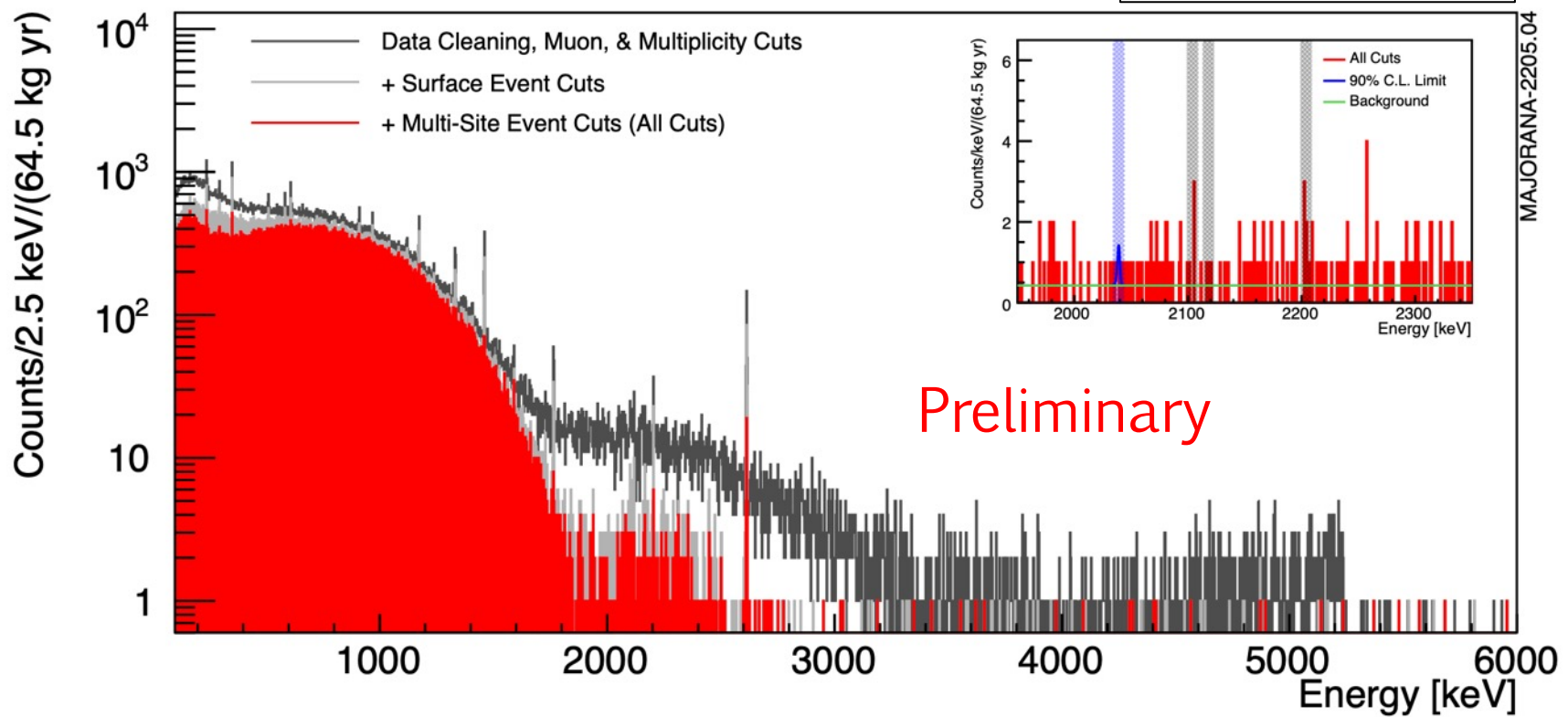


# Final Results of MAJORANA DEMONSTRATOR



Operated in a low background regime, particularly with extreme radiopurity of near-detector parts, benefiting from excellent energy resolution

arXiv: 2207.07638



Full spectrum with a total of 65 kg-yr.

Final enriched detector active exposure:

**$64.5 \pm 0.9$  kg yrs**

Background Index:

**$(6.2 \pm 0.6) \times 10^{-3}$  cts/(keV kg yr)**

Energy resolution:

**2.5 keV FWHM @  $Q_{\beta\beta}$**

Frequentist Limit:

**Limit:  $T_{1/2} > 8.3 \times 10^{25}$  yr (90% C.L.)**

Bayesian Limit: (flat prior on rate)

**Limit:  $T_{1/2} > 7.0 \times 10^{25}$  yr (90% C.I.)**

$m_{\beta\beta} < 113 - 269$  meV

Using  $M_{0\nu} = 2.66 - 6.34$

Continuing to operate at the Sanford Underground Research Facility with natural detectors for background studies and other physics

# Part III

## LEGEND for the Discovery of Neutrinoless Double-Beta Decay

Large **E**nriched **G**ermanium **E**xperiment for **N**eutrinoless  $\beta\beta$  **D**ecay  
(LEGEND)

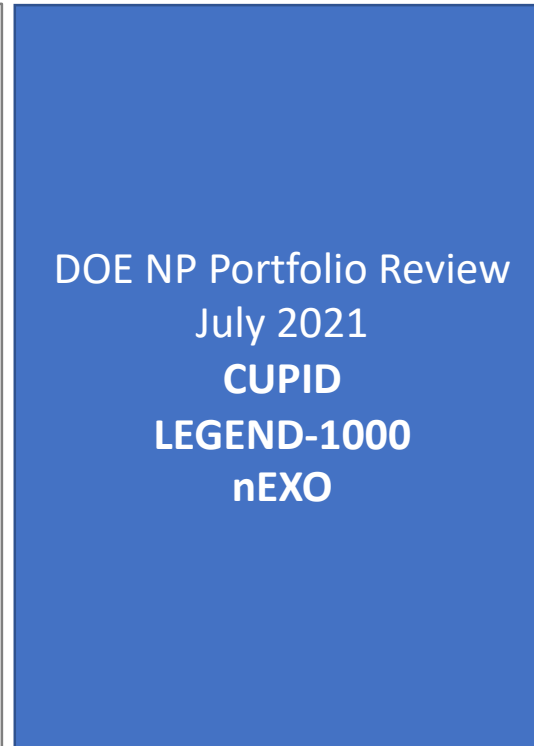
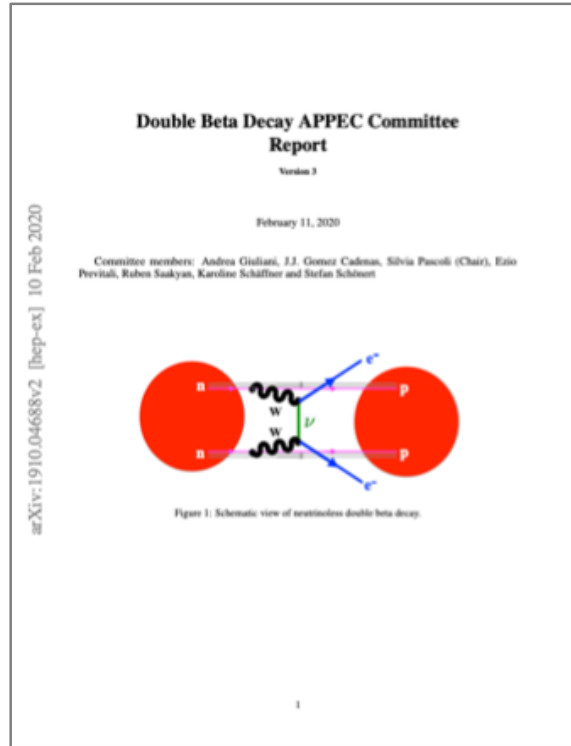
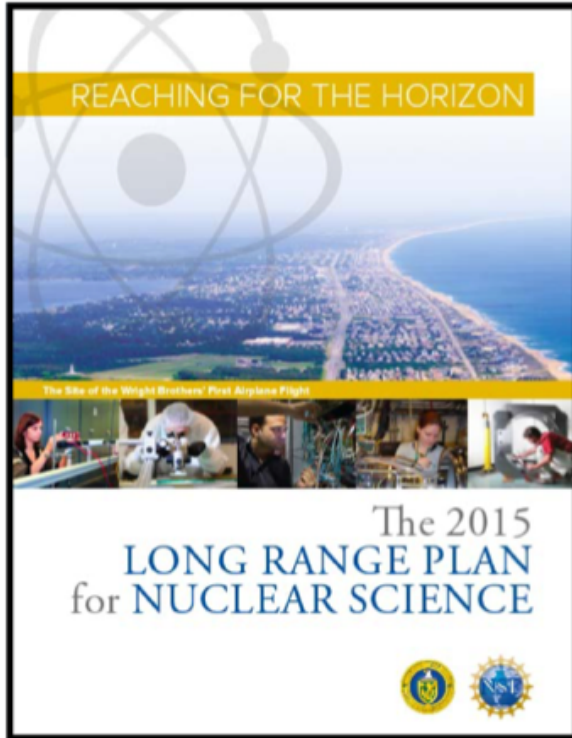
# The European and North-American Process

Compiled by S. Schönert @ Neutrino 2022

<https://science.osti.gov/np/nsac>

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

<https://agenda.infn.it/event/27143/>



“We recommend the timely development and deployment of a U.S.-led ton-scale neutrinoless double beta decay experiment.”

- Oct 2019: Roadmap document for the APPEC SAC on the future  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay experimental programme in Europe
- $0\nu\beta\beta$  town meeting London
- Roadmap update 2022, town meeting in Berlin, June 2022

- Outcome: Realize international portfolio LEGEND-1000, nEXO and CUPID with European partners
- LEGEND-1000 was evaluated extremely positively at the Portfolio review. Now being funded by DOE to move to the next step, CD-1

“The international stakeholders in neutrino-less double beta decay research do agree in principle that the best chance for success is an international campaign with more than one large ton-scale experiment implemented in the next decade, with one ton scale experiment in Europe and the other in North America. “

**Mission:** “The collaboration aims to develop a phased, **Ge-76 based** double-beta decay experimental program with discovery potential at a **half-life beyond  $10^{28}$  years**, using **existing resources as appropriate to expedite physics results.**”

**Build upon best and proven technologies from GERDA and the MAJORANA DEMONSTRATOR**

### MAJORANA

- Radiopurity of nearby parts (FETs, cables, Cu mounts, etc.)
- Low noise electronics improves PSD
- Low energy threshold (helps reject cosmogenic background)

### GERDA

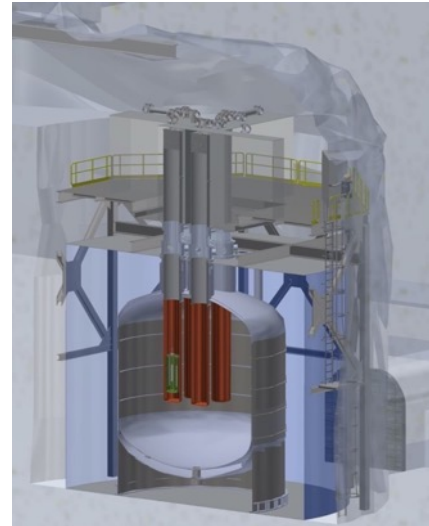
- LAr veto
- Low-A shield, no Pb

### Both

- Clean fabrication techniques
- Control of surface exposure
- Development of large point-contact detectors
- **Lowest background and best resolution  $0\nu\beta\beta$  experiments**

### LEGEND-200

- 200 kg in upgrade of existing infrastructure at LNGS
- Background goal:
  - < 0.6 cts/(FWHM t yr)
  - i.e. <  $2 \times 10^{-4}$  cts/(keV kg yr)
- Discovery sensitivity  $10^{27}$  years
- Currently commissioning
- Physics data starting in 2022

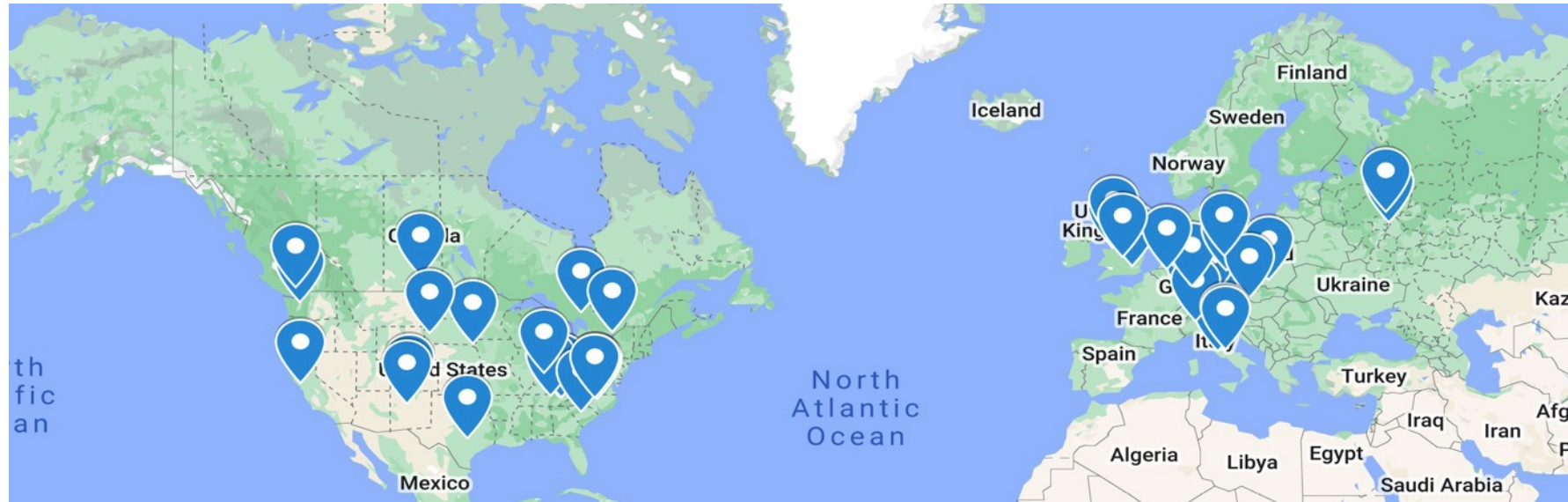


### LEGEND-1000

- 1000 kg, staged via individual payloads
- Timeline connected to review process
- Background goal:
  - < 0.025 cts/(FWHM t yr)
  - i.e. <  $1 \times 10^{-5}$  cts/(keV kg yr)
- Discovery sensitivity beyond  $10^{28}$  years
- Location to be selected

Preconceptual Design Report arXiv: 2107.11462

# The LEGEND Collaboration



Approximately  
250 members,  
49 institutions,  
11 countries  
<https://legend-exp.org/>

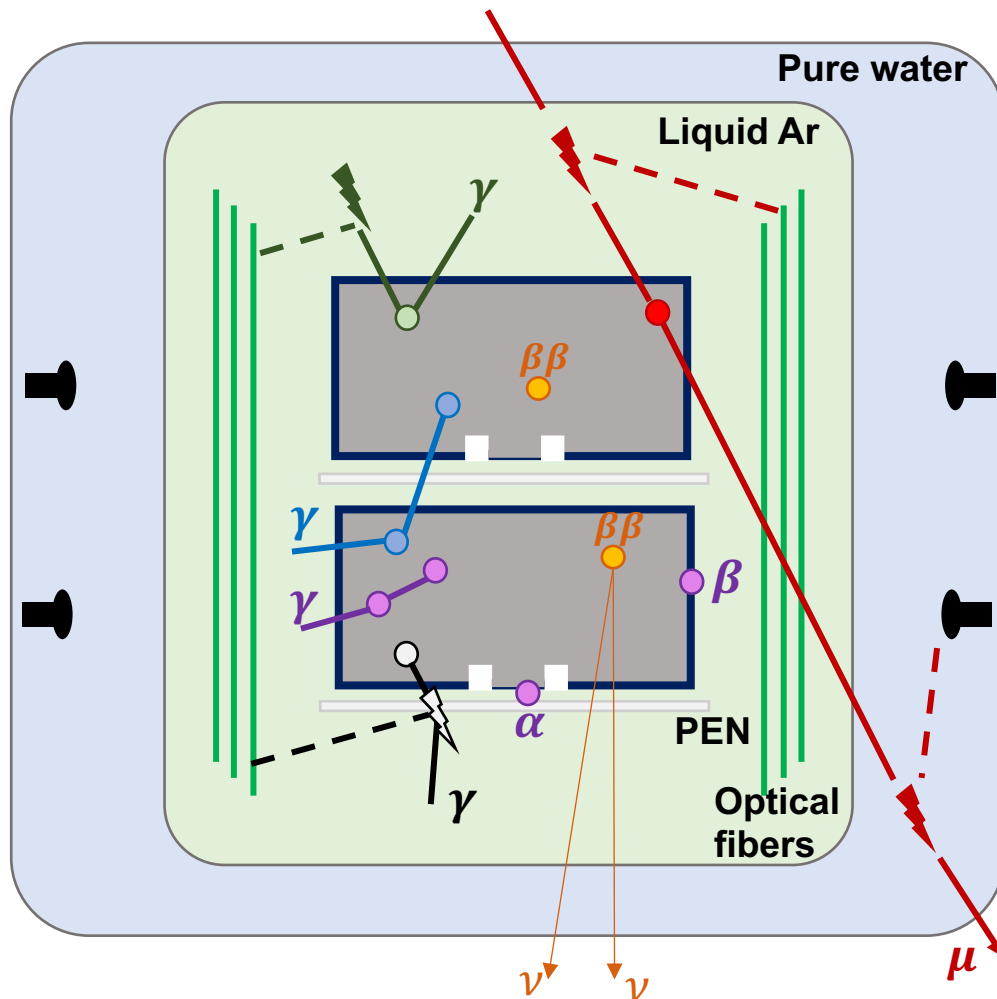


# LEGEND Background Rejection

$\beta\beta$  decay signal:  
single energy  
deposition in  
a 1 mm<sup>3</sup> volume



Ge detector with  
PEN plate holders



Pulse shape  
discrimination (PSD)  
for multi-site and  
surface  $\alpha$  events

Ge detector  
anti-coincidence

Scintillating PEN plate  
holder under test

LAr veto based on Ar  
scintillation light read  
by fibers and SiPM

Muon veto

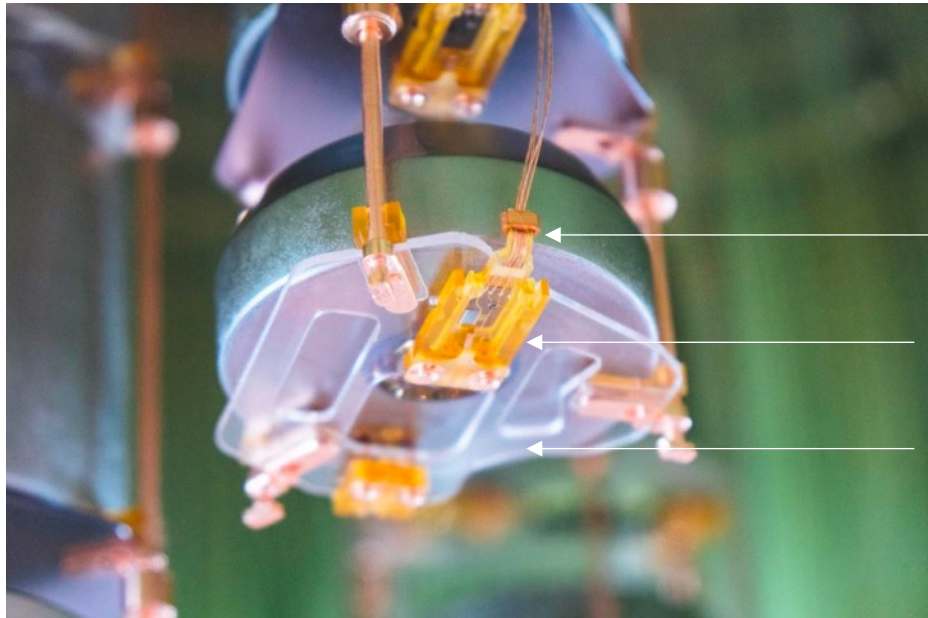
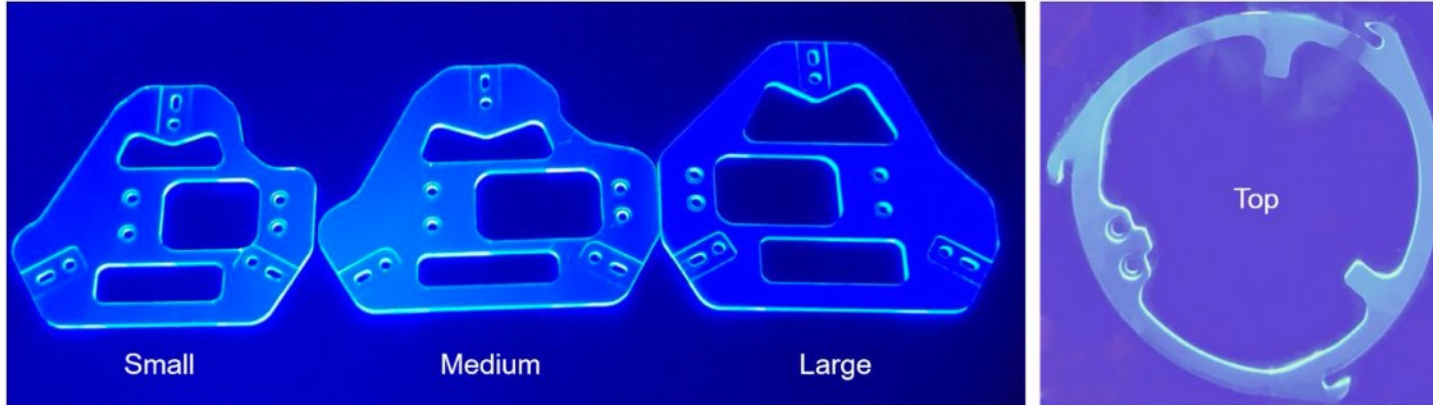
**LEGEND-200 background goal is x2.5 reduction from GERDA**  
**LEGEND-1000 background goal is x20 reduction from LEGEND-200**



# Background Reduction: PEN Holding Structures

Polyethylene naphthalate (PEN). Scintillating plastic/active material

JINST 17, P01010 (2022)



Testing Ge detector

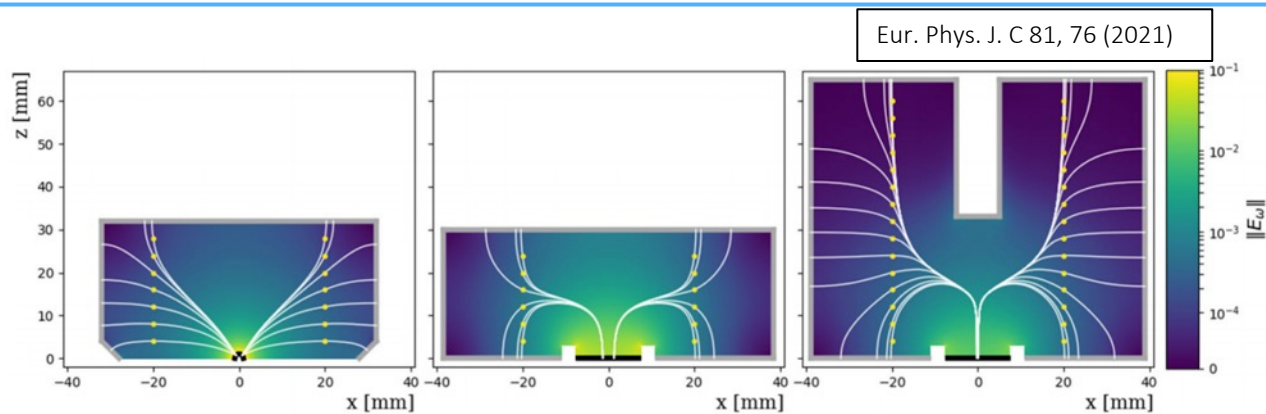
Low-mass front-end electronics

PEN plate



Adapted from F. Hagemann, 18th Rencontres du Vietnam on Neutrino Physics 2022

# Background Reduction: LEGEND-1000



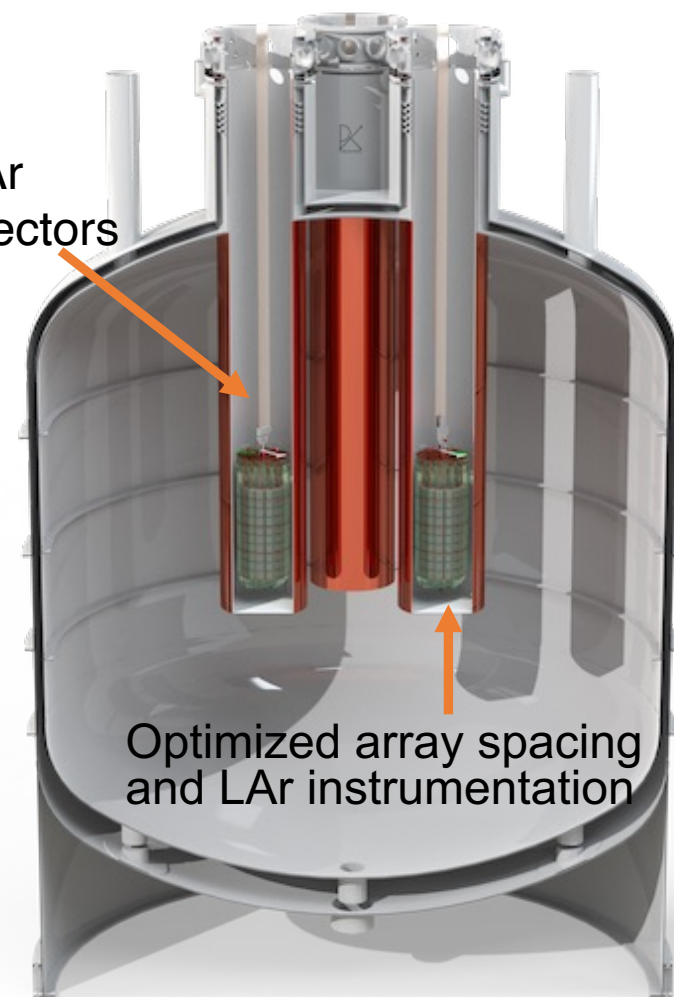
MAJORANA PPC

Used by LEGEND-200 as well

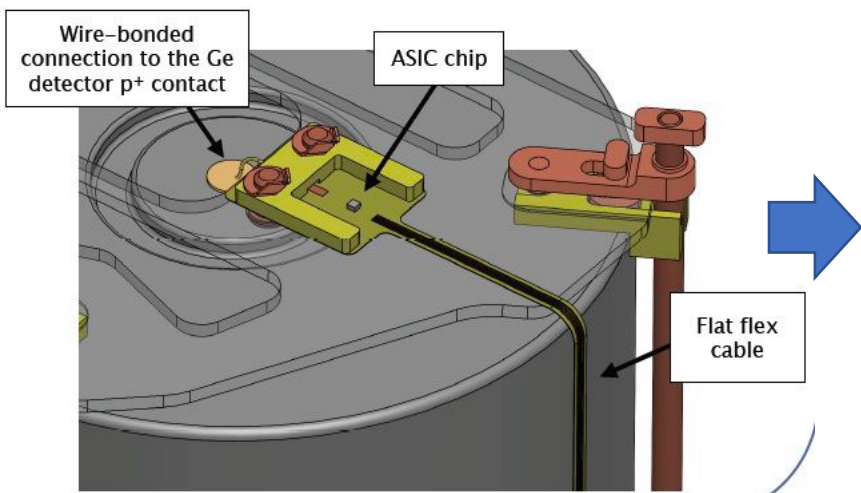
GERDA BEGe

LEGEND-1000 uses only larger ICPC detectors, average 2.6 kg

Underground LAr surrounding detectors



Optimized array spacing and LAr instrumentation



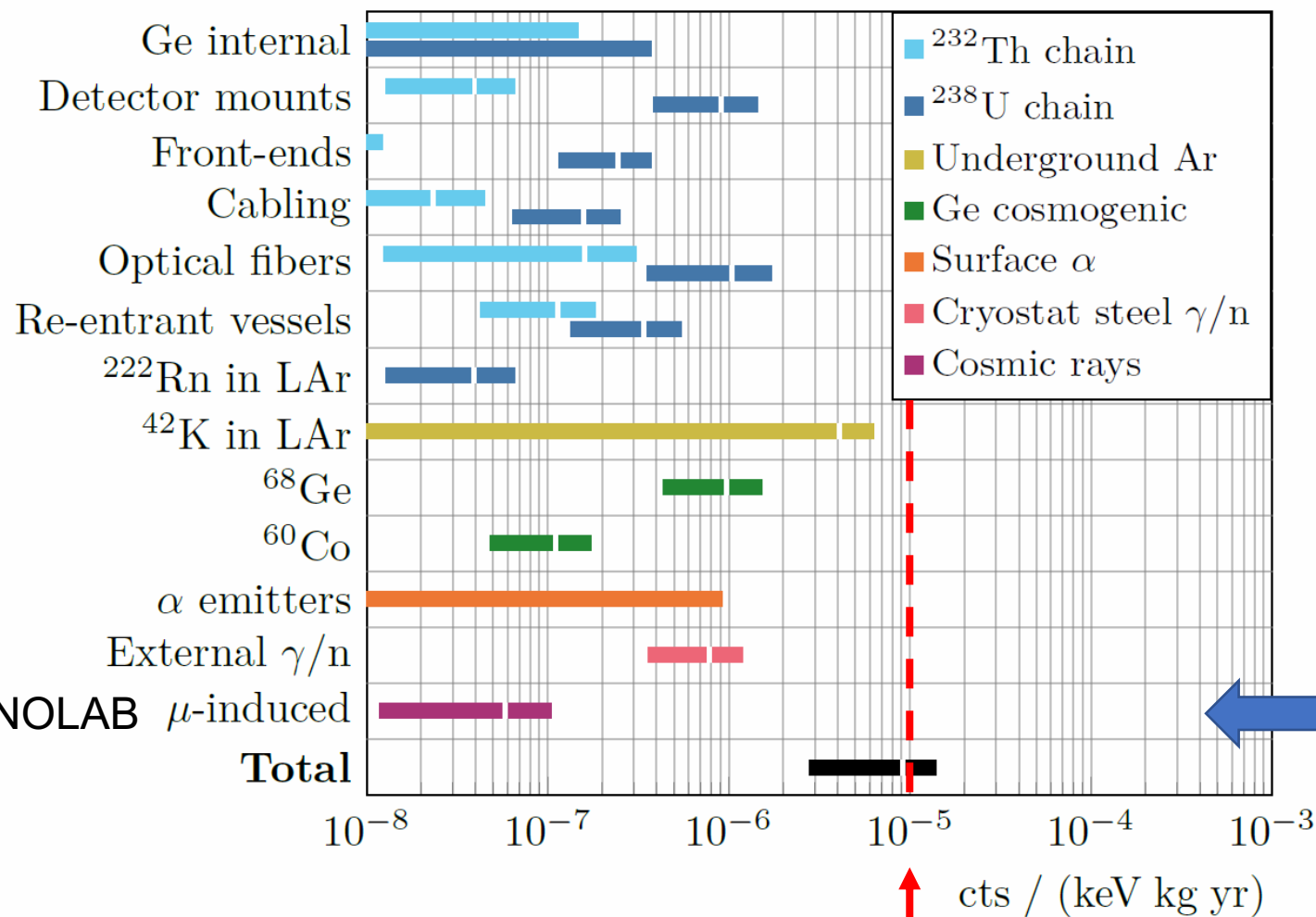
Significant reduction of number of channels and hence total radioactivity to near-detector materials

New and less-radioactive cables and new application-specific integrated circuit (ASIC) read-out for LEGEND-1000

Deeper underground site or additional neutron shielding & tagging: SNOLAB and LNGS options



## Background index at $Q_{\beta\beta}$ after all cuts



Projected background index after all cuts:

$$9.1^{+4.9}_{-6.3} \times 10^{-6} \text{ counts}/(\text{keV kg yr})$$

See C. Barton

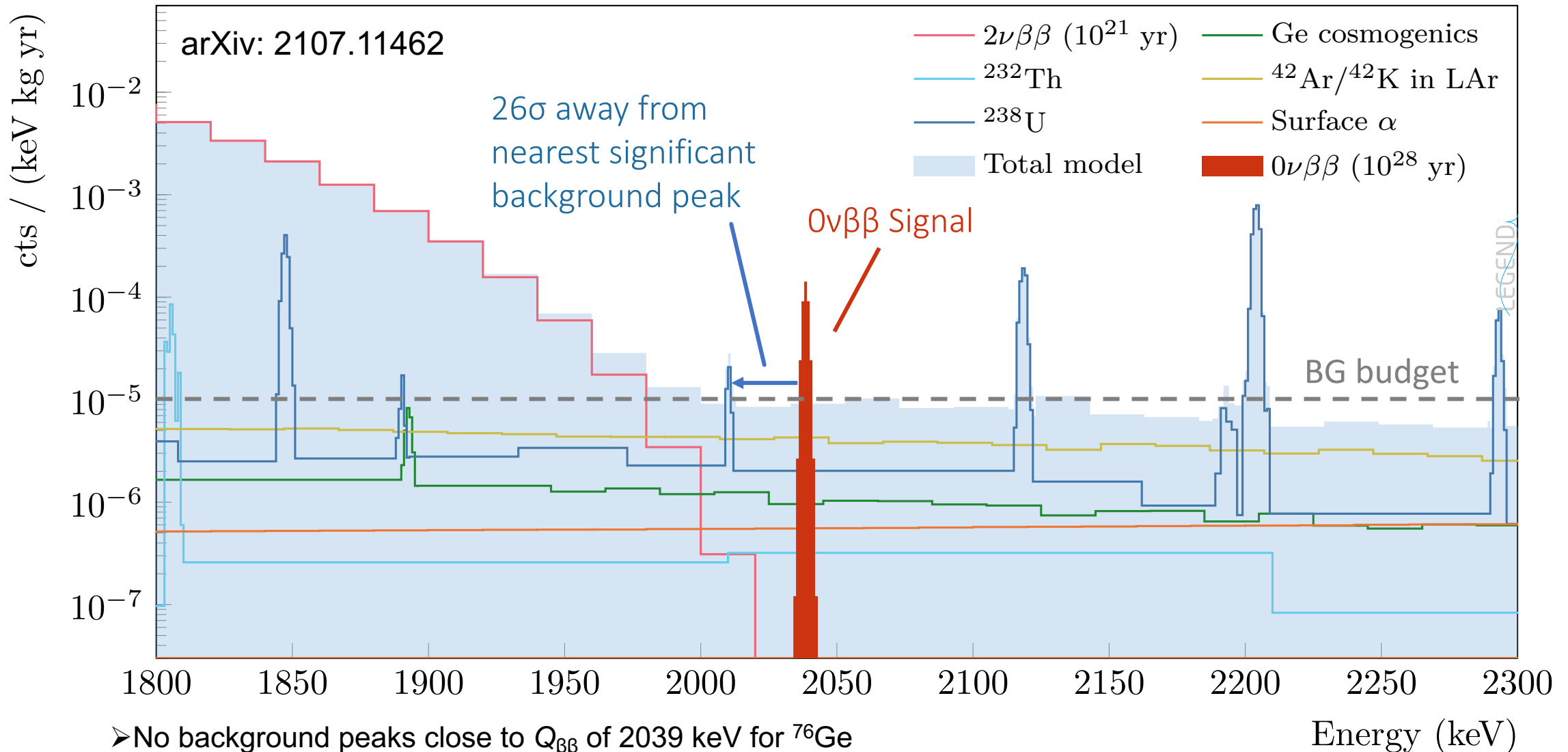
[An update on muon-induced backgrounds in LEGEND-1000](#)

Nu session Aug. 30th

for details on muon-induced backgrounds and additional neutron shielding for LNGS option.

**LEGEND-1000 background goal**  $\uparrow$  arXiv: 2107.11462

# The LEGEND-1000 Background Model

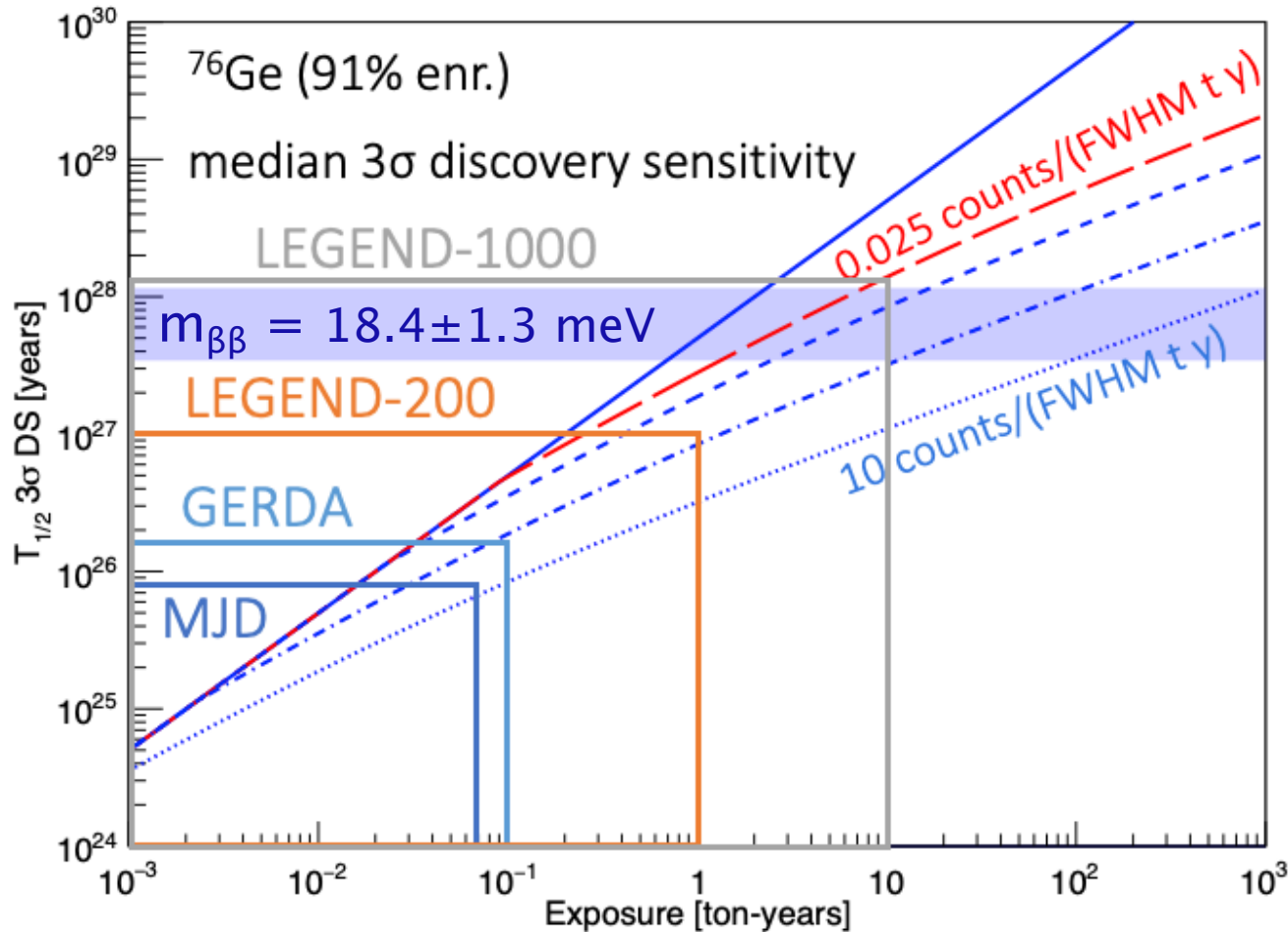


- No background peaks close to  $Q_{\beta\beta}$  of 2039 keV for  $^{76}\text{Ge}$
- Background is flat and well understood. No reliance on background modeling
- No  $2\nu\beta\beta$  background

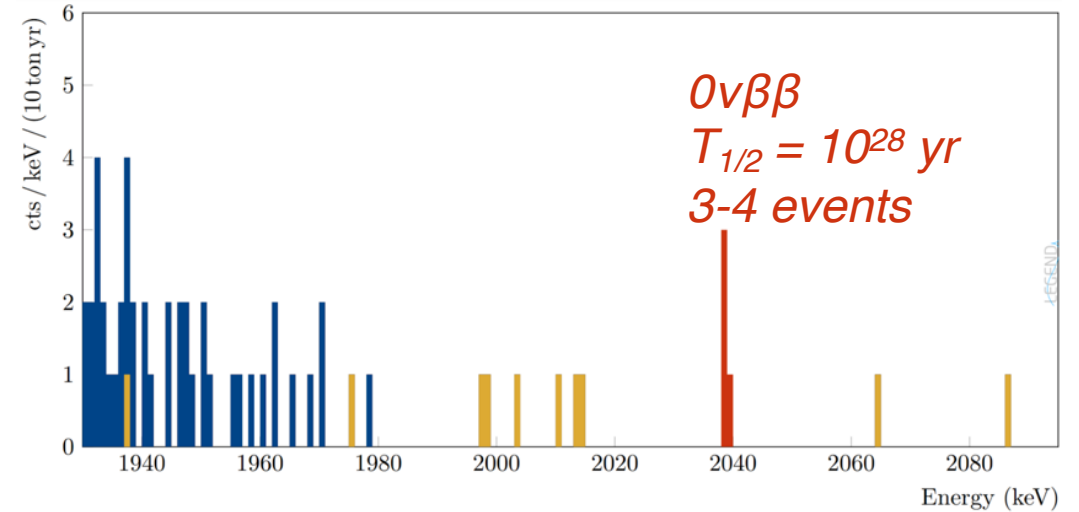
# Discovering Sensitivity Enabled

The LEGEND program builds on successes of current generation experiments to probe half-lives beyond  $10^{28}$  yrs

- Unambiguous discovery enabled by best energy resolution and lowest background



Simulated LEGEND-1000 example spectrum for  $T_{1/2} = 10^{28}$  yrs,  $BI < 10^{-5}$  cts/keV kg yr, after cuts, from 10 years of data

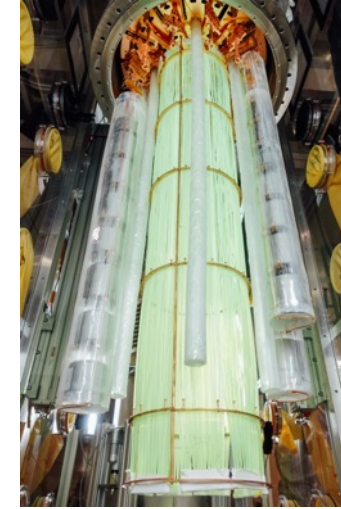
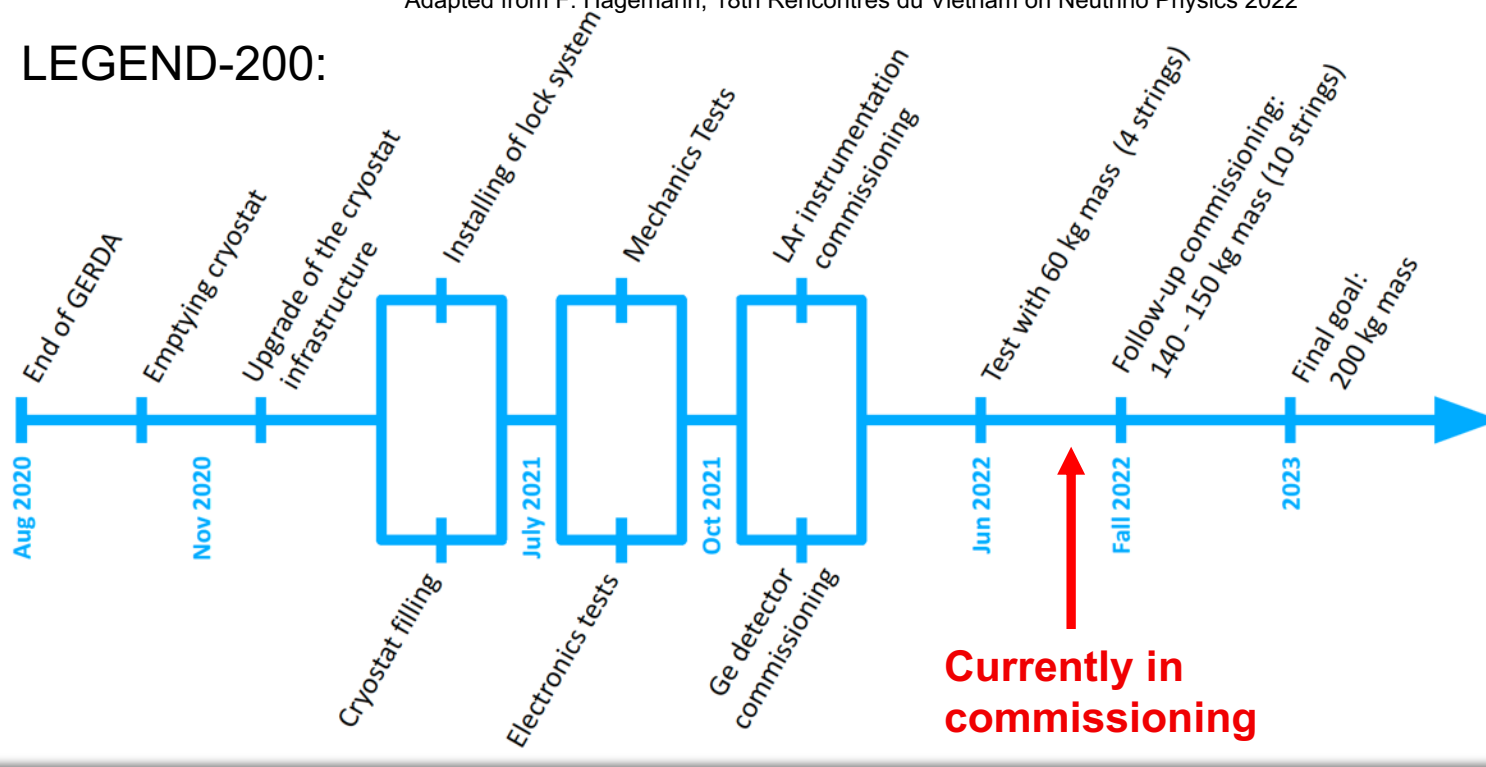


Quasi-background free operation up to 10 ton-year exposure, for unambiguous convincing discovery beyond  $10^{28}$  years

# LEGEND Timelines

Adapted from F. Hagemann, 18th Rencontres du Vietnam on Neutrino Physics 2022

## LEGEND-200:



4 string installed with optical fibers



WaveLength-Shifting Reflector (WSLR) installed



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

LEGEND-1000 Preconceptual Design Report

## LEGEND-1000:

- Pre-Conceptual Design Report released:  
arXiv: 2107.11462
- Developing a conceptual design with a refined technical design and background model, proceeding to CD-1
- R&D activities are ongoing

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Part IV  
LEGEND Physics Beyond  
Neutrinoless Double-Beta Decay

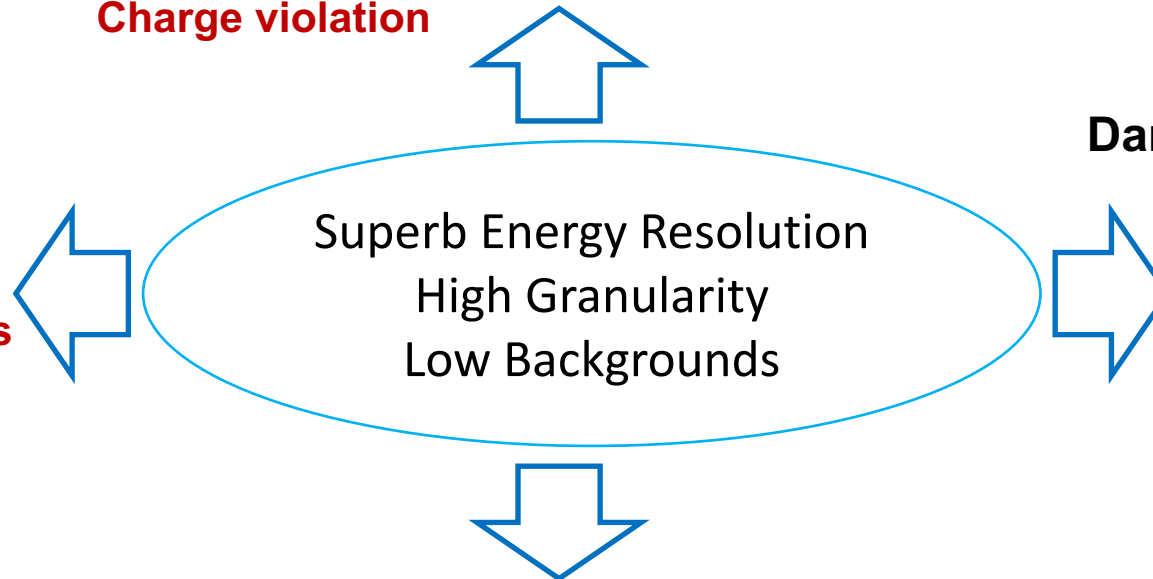
## Fundamental Symmetries

- L violation in  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decays
- B violation in Baryon decays
- Pauli Exclusion Principle violation
- Lorentz violation and Majorons in  $2\nu\beta\beta$
- BSM Physics in Ar
- Charge violation

*$^{39}\text{Ar}$  reduction due to the use of underground-sourced argon enables a suite of BSM physics searches*

## Standard Model Nuclear Physics

- $2\nu\beta\beta$  decays
- In-situ cosmogenics
- neutron physics



## Dark Matter Signatures

- Pseudoscalar dark matter
- Vector dark matter
- Fermionic dark matter
- Sterile neutrino
- Solar Axions

## Exotic Physics

- Lightly ionizing particles
- Quantum Wavefunction collapse

+ Prompt Supernova Neutrinos, SuperWIMPS, Solar Neutrinos, ...

Superb Energy Resolution, High Granularity, and Low Backgrounds make HPGe detectors excellent in a range of BSM physics searches using analyses looking at peaks, spectral distortion, time correlation, and more

Non-inclusive list of examples

Mechanism	Signature	Energy range
Bosonic Dark Matter	Peak at $m_b$	5 — 100keV
Baryon Decay	Time Correlation, High Energy	0-10 MeV
Fractionally Charged Cosmic rays	High Multiplicity-coincidence events	Few keV
WIMP searches	Exponential Excess + Annual Modulation. Migdal Effect	< 10 keV
Solar axions	Peaked Spectra + daily modulation	< 10 keV
Majoron Emission	$2\nu\beta\beta$ spectral distortion	$Q_{\beta\beta}$
Lorentz Violation	$2\nu\beta\beta$ spectral distortion	$Q_{\beta\beta}$
Electron Decay	Peak at 11.8 keV	~10 keV
Pauli Exclusion Principle Violation	Peak at 10.6 keV	~ 10 keV

These BSM Physics are parts of the rich and broad physics programs of LEGEND-1000

# Rich and Broad Physics with HPGe detectors: Examples

## BSM Physics

[Temporal-Energy solar axion analysis at low energy region ~ keV](#)

On the Cover

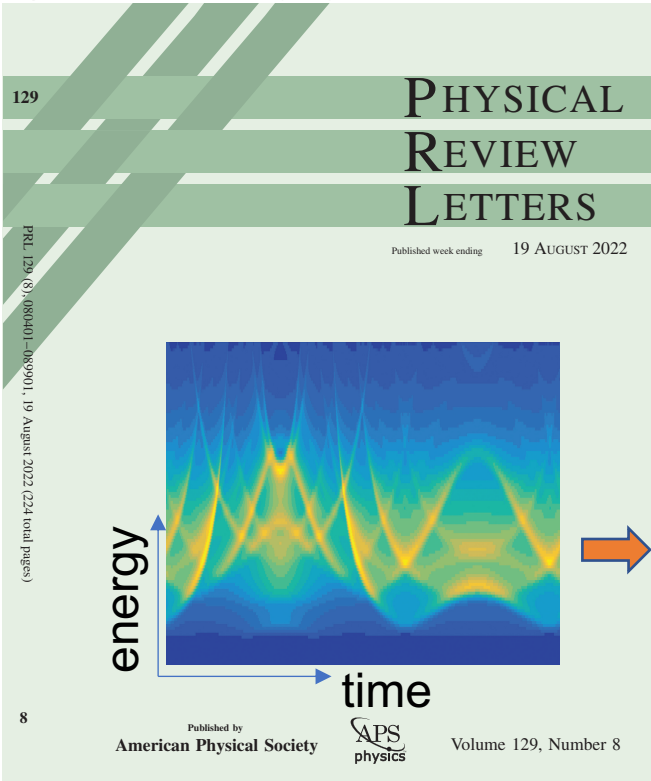
Axion signatures from coherent Primakoff-Bragg scattering over a 24-hour period.

From the article:

[Search for Solar Axions via Axion-Photon Coupling with the MAJORANA DEMONSTRATOR](#)

I. J. Arnquist *et al.* (MAJORANA Collaboration)

Phys. Rev. Lett. **129**, 081803 (2022)



<https://journals.aps.org/prl/issues/129/8>

## Standard Model Nuclear Physics

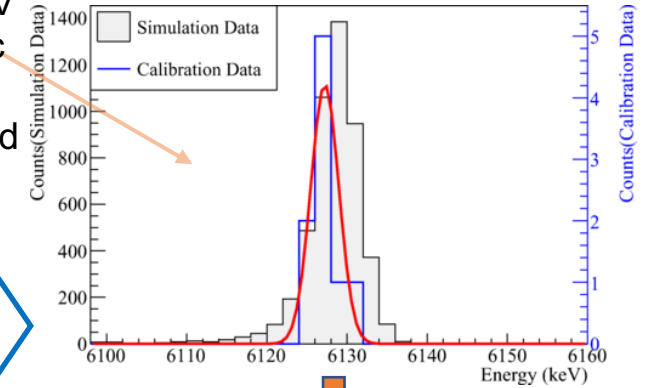
[Peak analysis at high energy region ~ MeV. Calibration data](#)

Experimental study of  $^{13}\text{C}(\alpha, n)^{16}\text{O}$  reactions in the MAJORANA DEMONSTRATOR calibration data

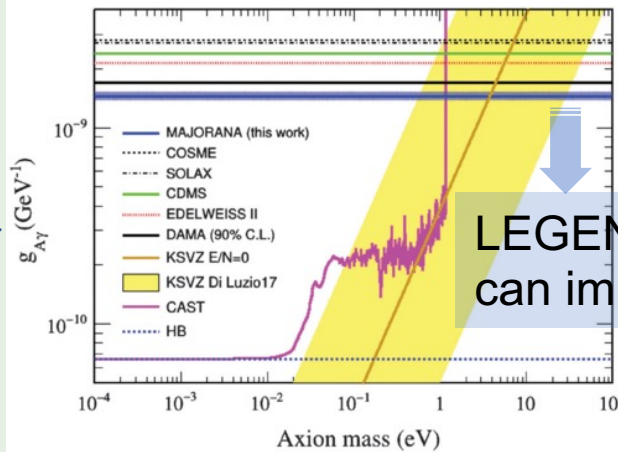
I. J. Arnquist *et al.* (MAJORANA Collaboration)

Phys. Rev. C **105**, 064610 – Published 21 June 2022

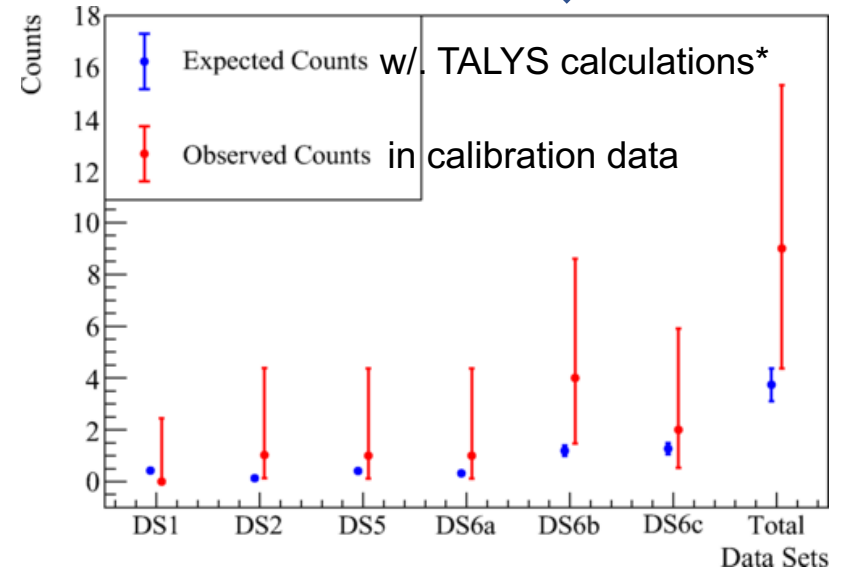
6.13MeV isomeric photons observed



Superb Energy Resolution  
Low Backgrounds



LEGEND-1000 can improve



\* via NeuCBOT, NIM A (2017) 09 007



# Rich and Broad Physics with HPGe detectors: Delivered



References from  
MAJORANA  
DEMONSTRATOR  
and GERDA

## Fundamental Symmetries

**L violation in  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decays**  
**B violation in Baryon decays**  
**Pauli Exclusion Principle violation**  
**Lorentz violation and Majorons in  $2\nu\beta\beta$**   
**BSM Physics in Ar**  
**Charge violation**

PRC **100** 025501 (2019)  
Several  $0\nu\beta\beta$  papers

PRD **99** 072004 (2019)

arXiv:2203.02033

Eur. Phys.J. C75 (2015) 416

## Standard Model Nuclear Physics

**$2\nu\beta\beta$  decays**  
**In-situ cosmogenics**  
**neutron physics**

PRC **105** 014617 (2022)

PRC **105** 064610 (2022)

Astroparticle Physics 84 (2016) 29

## Dark Matter Signatures

**Pseudoscalar dark matter**  
**Vector dark matter**  
**Fermionic dark matter**  
**Sterile neutrino**  
**Solar Axions**

PRL **118** 161801 (2017)

PRL **125** 011801 (2020)

PRL **129** 081803 (2022)

arXiv:2206.10638

## Exotic Physics

**Lightly ionizing particles**  
**Quantum Wavefunction collapse**

PRL **120** 211804 (2018)

PRL **129** 080411 (2022)

Superb Energy Resolution  
High Granularity  
Low Backgrounds

See **C. Wisemen**

[Exotic dark matter searches with  
the Majorana Demonstrator](#)  
DM session Aug. 30th

Non-zero neutrino mass is physics beyond the Standard Model and a compelling mystery

$0\nu\beta\beta$  searches determine the status of total lepton number conservation and probe the Majorana or Dirac nature of massive neutrinos

Ge-based technology captures significant  $0\nu\beta\beta$  discovery potential

Current-generation  $^{76}\text{Ge}$  experiments have achieved great successes

- MAJORANA DEMONSTRATOR achieved  $T_{1/2} > 8.3 \times 10^{25}$  yr and the **best energy resolution**
- GERDA achieved  $T_{1/2} > 1.8 \times 10^{26}$  yr and the **lowest background** if normalized to energy resolution

Combining the best technologies, the phased **LEGEND** project is designed for an **unambiguous discovery of  $0\nu\beta\beta$**

- LEGEND-200 is in commissioning at LNGS with data-taking beginning later this year
  - Goal : Discovery sensitivity of  $10^{27}$  years with modest background reduction relative to GERDA
- LEGEND-1000 is proceeding to CD-1 with, R&D and conceptual design development ongoing
  - Goal : Discovery potential at a half-life beyond  $10^{28}$  years

Ge-based experiments including **LEGEND** have rich and broad physics other than  $0\nu\beta\beta$

- Physics results can be extracted in wide energy range with various analysis techniques

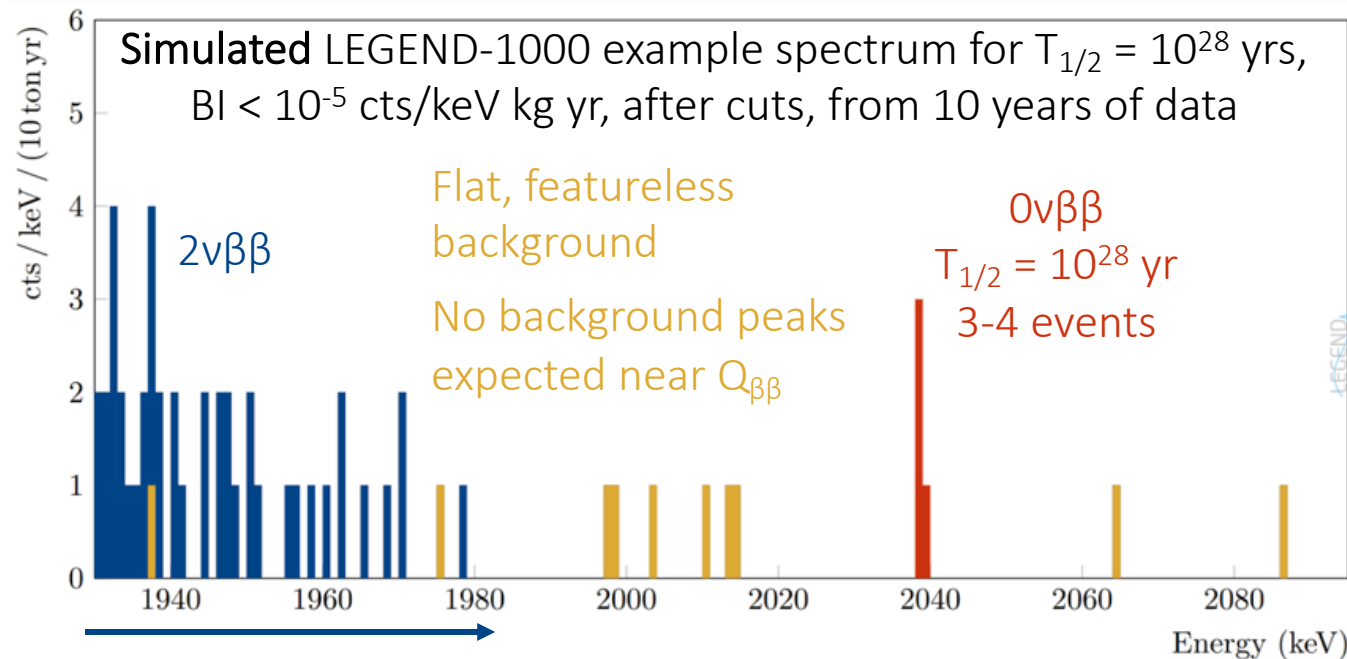
This material is based upon work supported by the National Science Foundation under Grant No. 1812356 and No. 2111140. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.

# Backup Slides

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# Ge is Ideal for Unambiguous Discovery of $0\nu\beta\beta$

- High Purity Ge (HPGe) detectors have superb energy resolution:  $\sigma/Q_{\beta\beta} = 0.05\%$ 
  - No background peaks close to  $Q_{\beta\beta}$  of 2039 keV for  $^{76}\text{Ge}$
  - Background is flat and well understood. No reliance on background modeling
  - No  $2\nu\beta\beta$  background



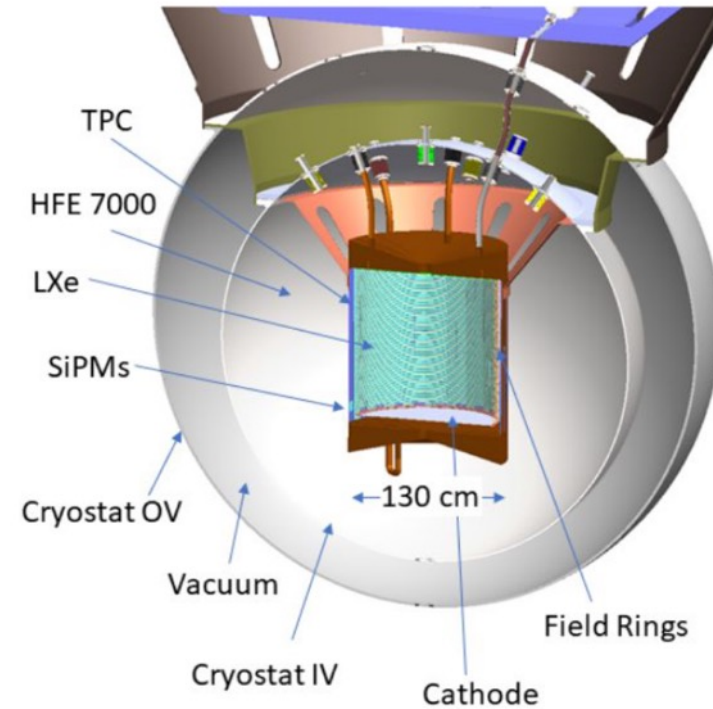
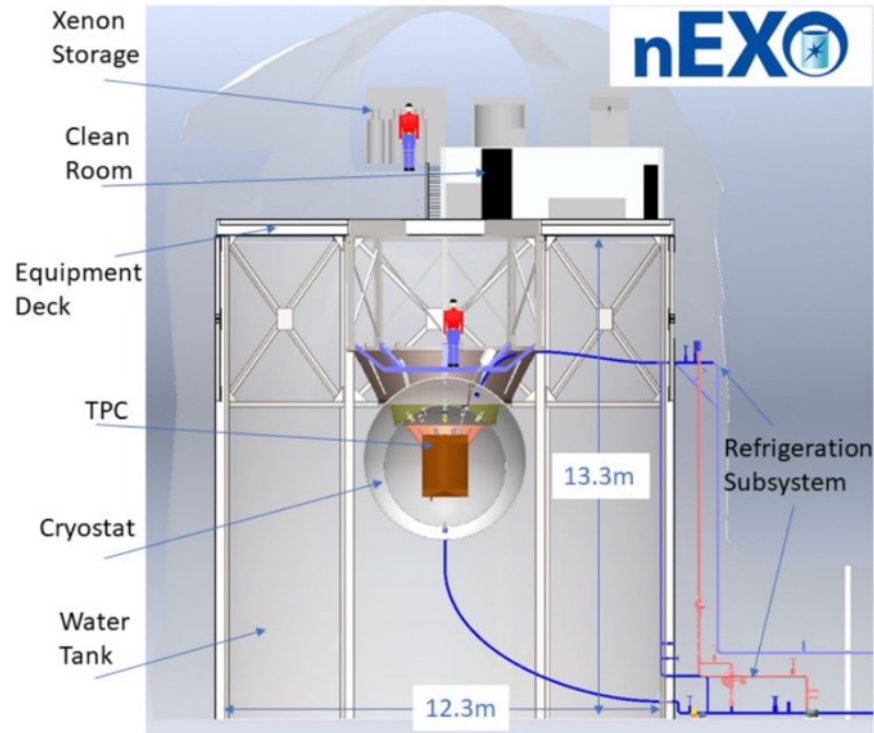
Tail of  $2\nu\beta\beta$  events leak into in  $Q_{\beta\beta} \pm 2\sigma$

An observed signal in Ge will be convincing as an unambiguous discovery

# nEXO by P.A. Breur NDM2022

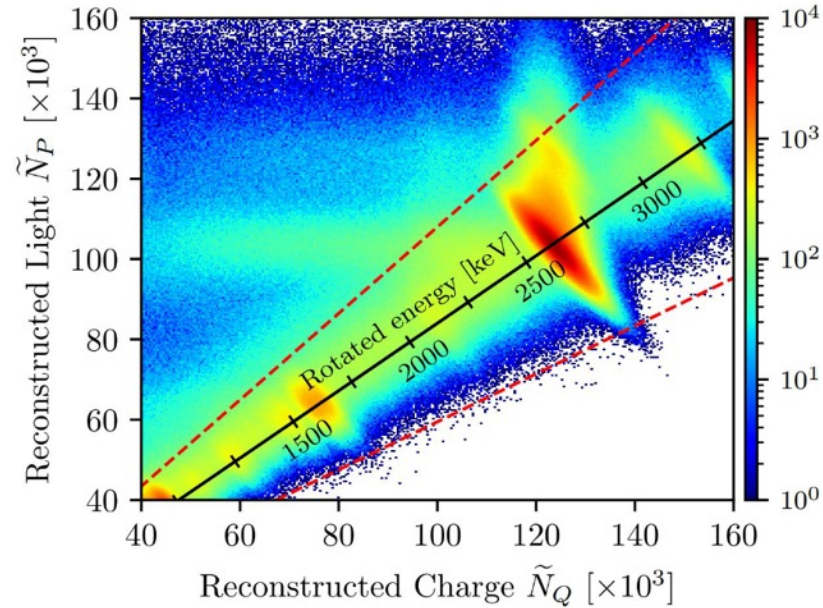
P.A. Breur NDM2022

## nEXO Design

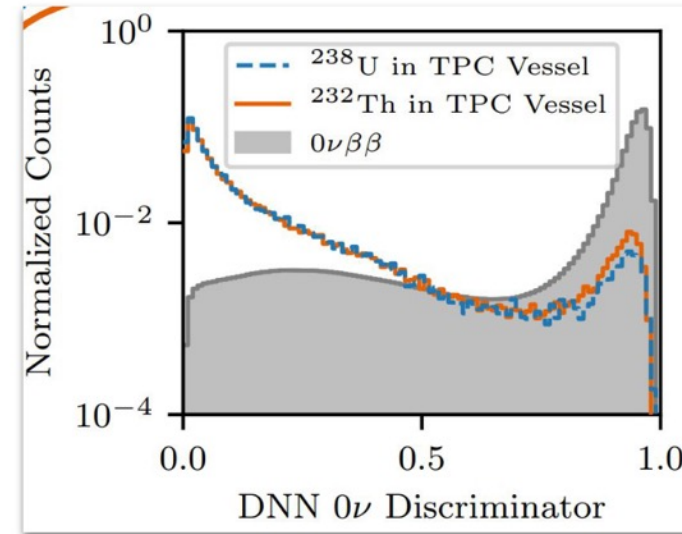


Credit: Ako Jamil

## Energy reconstruction & single vs multisite discrimination



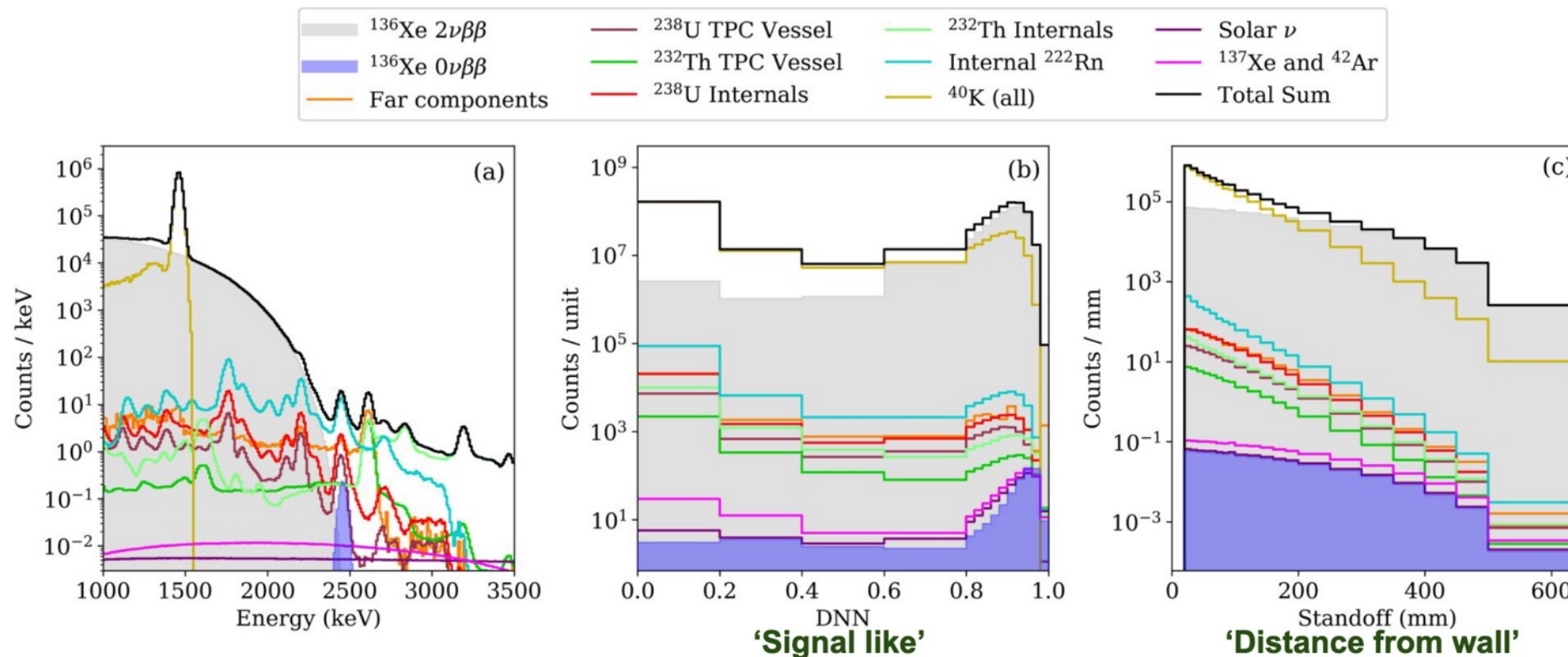
Simulated  $^{232}\text{Th}$  in fiducial volume in TPC



'Single scatter' or 'Signal' like

Signal:  $0.7 \times 10^{28} \text{ y}$

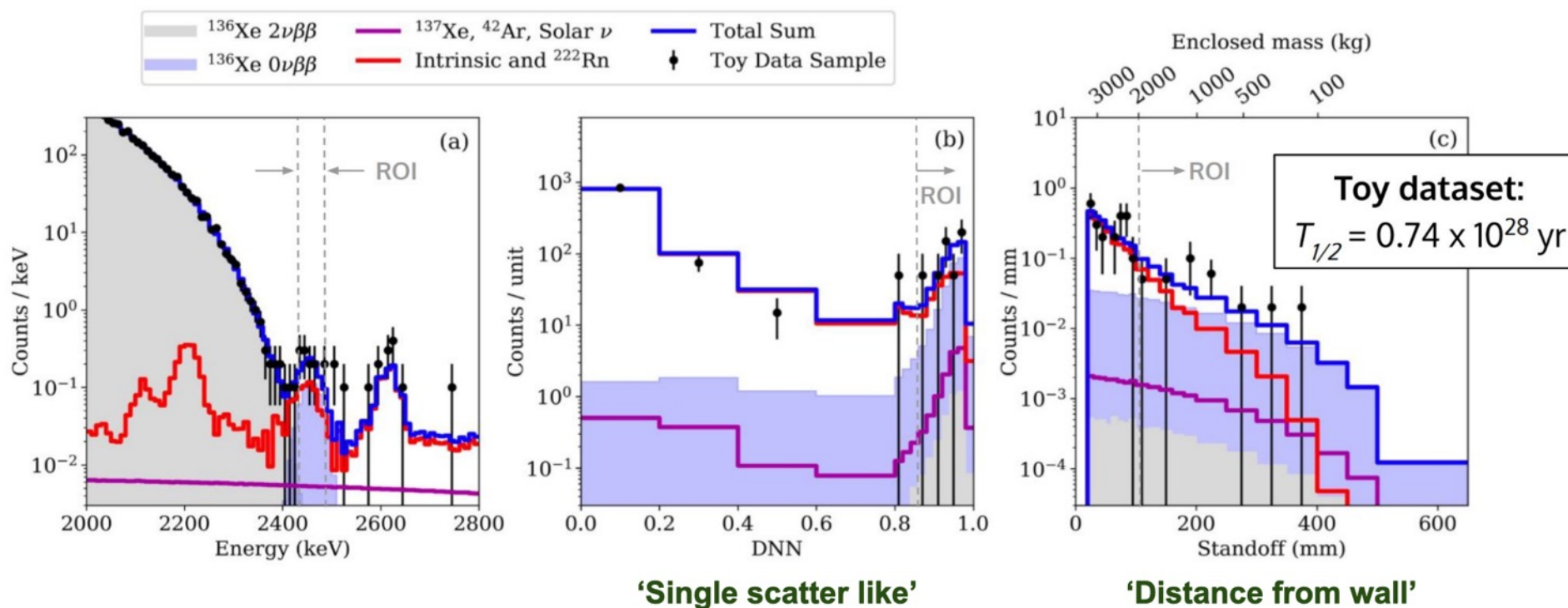
## Expected full event distributions





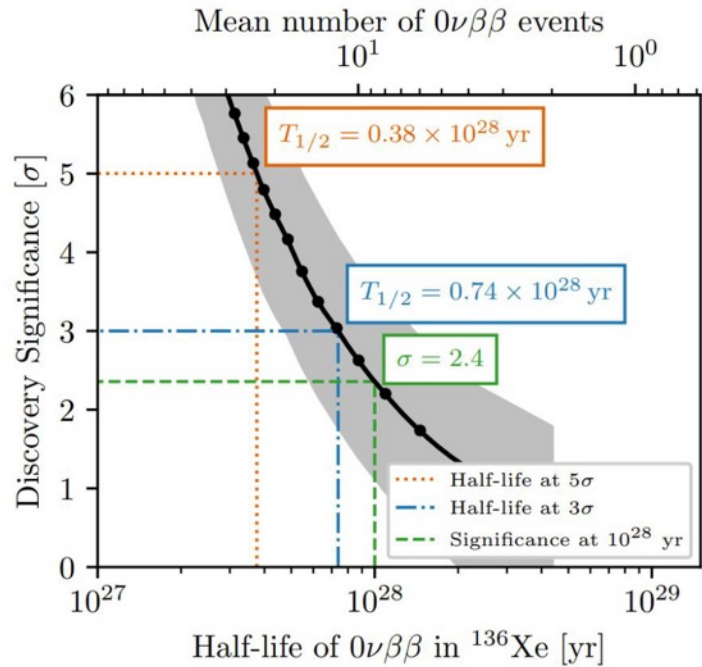
Signal:  $0.7 \times 10^{28}$  y

## Event distributions in the region of interest (ROI)



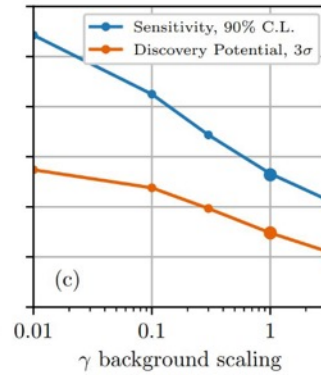
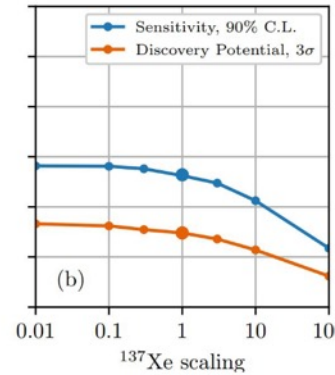
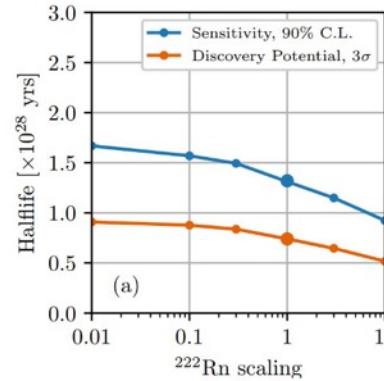
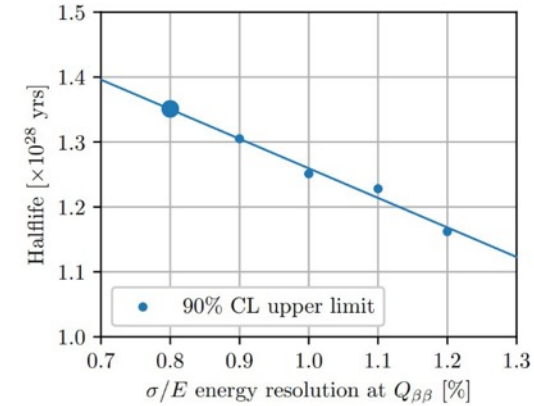
P.A. Breur NDM2022

## Discovery potential and scaling



### Baseline Numbers:

- 10 years science data
- energy resolution: 0.8%
- Radon concentration: 600 atoms in steady-state
- $^{137}\text{Xe}$ :  $0.85 \times 10^{-3}$  atoms/kg\* year

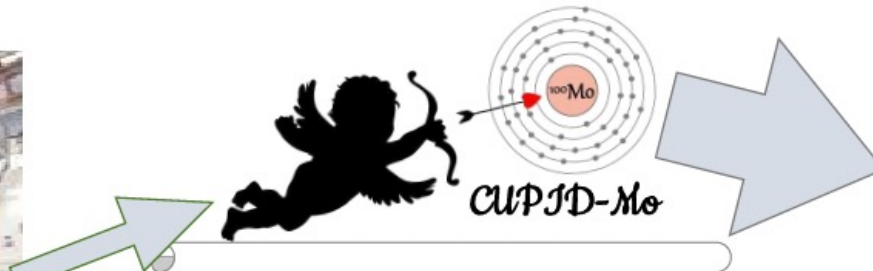
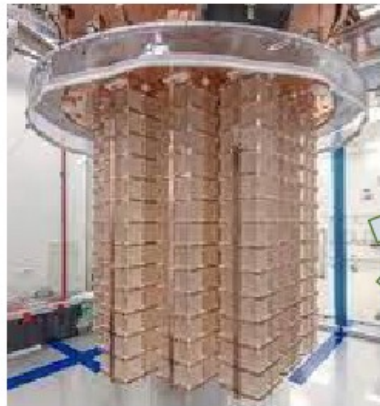


# CUPID by Anastasiia ZOLOTAROVA Neutrino 2022

<https://indico.kps.or.kr/event/30/contributions/863/>

Anastasiia ZOLOTAROVA  
Neutrino 2022

## CUPID: past and future

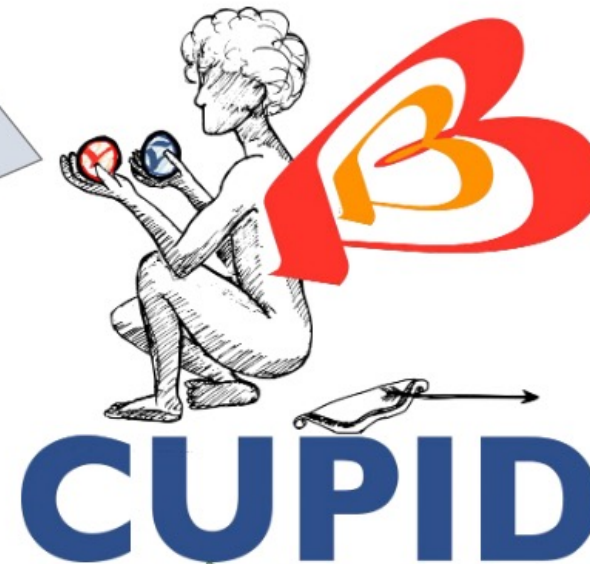


CUPID demonstrators:  
a rejection with light  
Best limits on  
 $^{100}\text{Mo}$  and  $^{82}\text{Se}$   $0\nu 2\beta$



CUORE: first ton-scale  
DBD experiment at 10 mK  
No particle ID

New demonstrators for  
deeper investigations of  
normal mass ordering  
(CUPID-1T)



**B** **I** **N** **G** **O**  
Poster 186

**DEMETER**  
Poster 291

**CROSS**  
Neutrinoless double beta decay  
Suppressed double beta decay

9

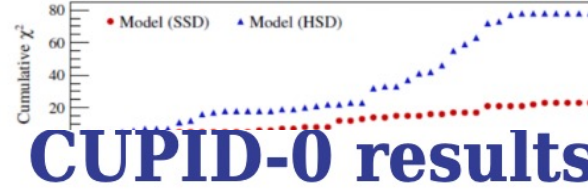
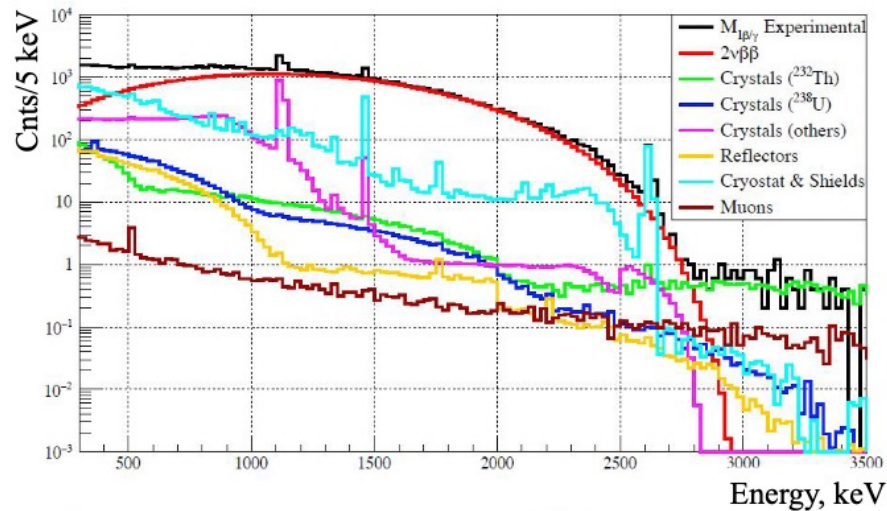
# CUPID by Anastasiia ZOLOTAROVA Neutrino 2022

## CUPID-0 results

$FWHM @ Q_{\beta\beta} = (20.05 \pm 0.34) \text{ keV}$

Anastasiia ZOLOTAROVA  
Neutrino 2022

- Successful demonstration of advantages of **dual-readout technique**
- High scientific potential: best limit on  $0\nu 2\beta$ , most precise measurement of  $^{82}\text{Se } 2\nu 2\beta$ , CPT violation search, SSD vs HSD, excited states



$FWHM @ Q_{\beta\beta} = 20.05 \pm 0.34 \text{ keV}$

$$T_{1/2}^{2\nu} = [8.60 \pm 0.03(\text{stat})_{-0.13}^{+0.19}(\text{syst})] \times 10^{19} \text{ yr}$$

$$T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 4.7 \times 10^{24} \text{ yr (90\% C. I. limit)}$$

$$m_{\beta\beta} < 276\text{-}570 \text{ meV}$$

[PRD 100, 092002 \(2019\)](#)

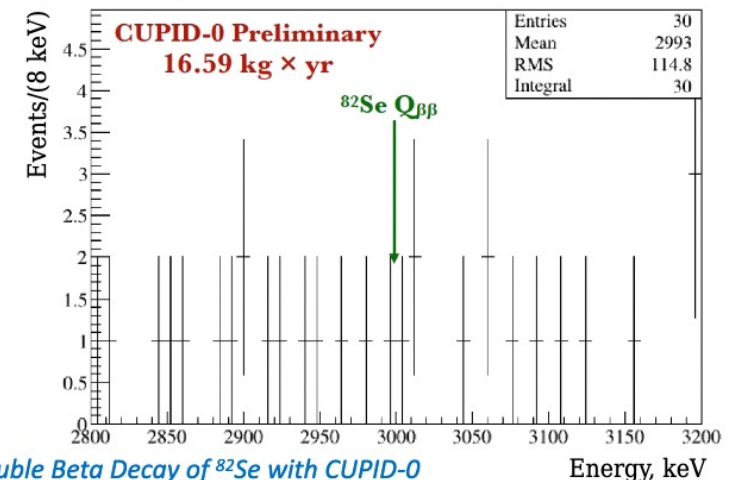
[PRL 123, 262501 \(2019\)](#)

[EPJC 79, 583 \(2019\)](#)

[EPJC 81, 722 \(2021\)](#)

See also posters:

- [492, Pagnanini, Lorenzo: Final Result on the Neutrinoless Double Beta Decay of  \$^{82}\text{Se}\$  with CUPID-0](#)



## CUPID: baseline

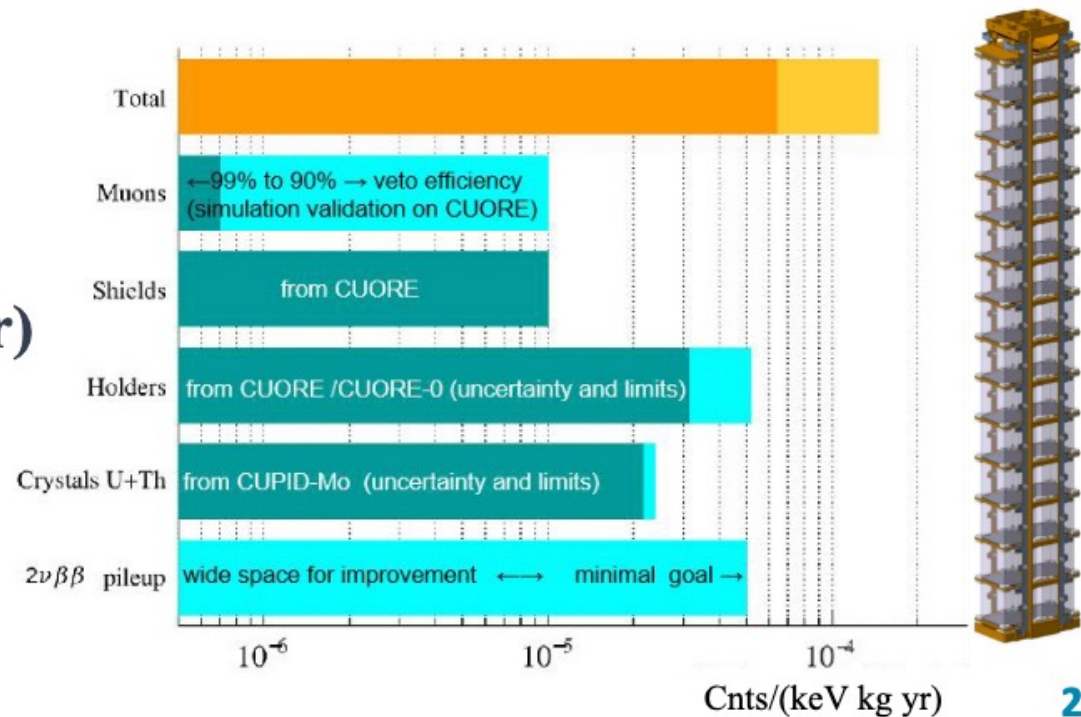
- $\text{Li}_2^{100}\text{MoO}_4$  scintillating bolometers
- $\alpha$  rejection using light signal
- Enrichment  $> 95\%$
- 1596 crystals and 240 kg of  $^{100}\text{Mo}$
- FWHM  $< 10$  keV at  $Q_{\beta\beta}$  (3034 keV)

**Background goal:  $10^{-4}$  cnts/(keV kg yr)**

**Discovery sensitivity at  $3\sigma$ :**

$$T_{1/2}(^{100}\text{Mo}) = 10^{27} \text{ yr}$$

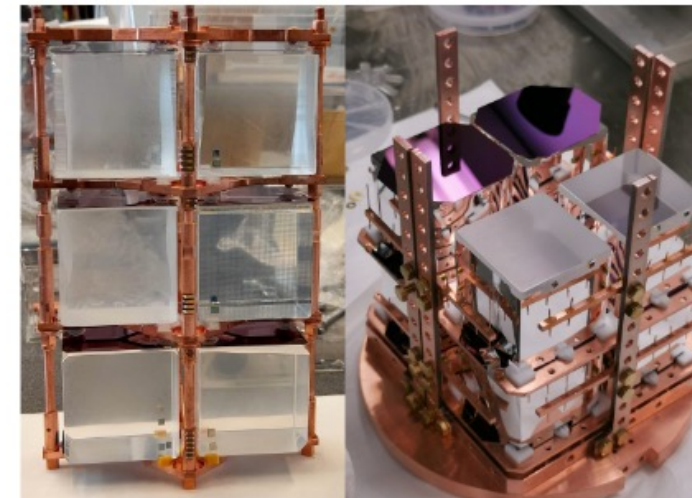
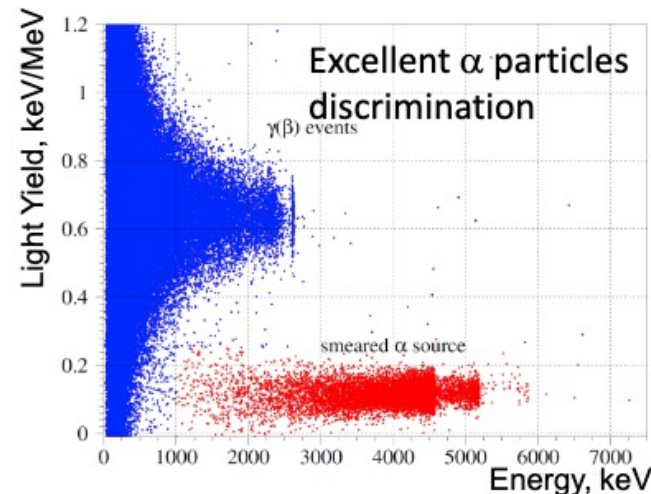
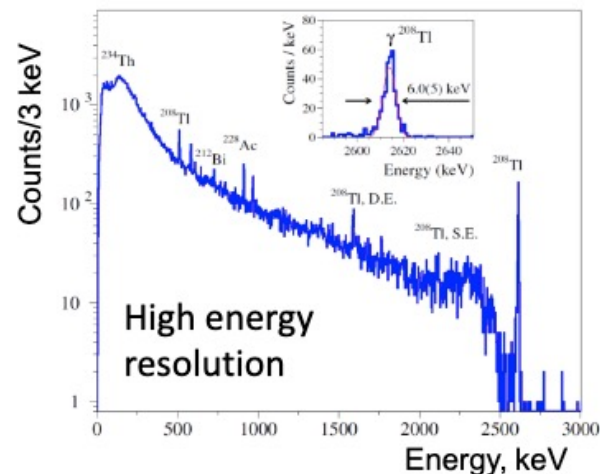
$$m_{\beta\beta} \sim 12\text{-}20 \text{ meV}$$



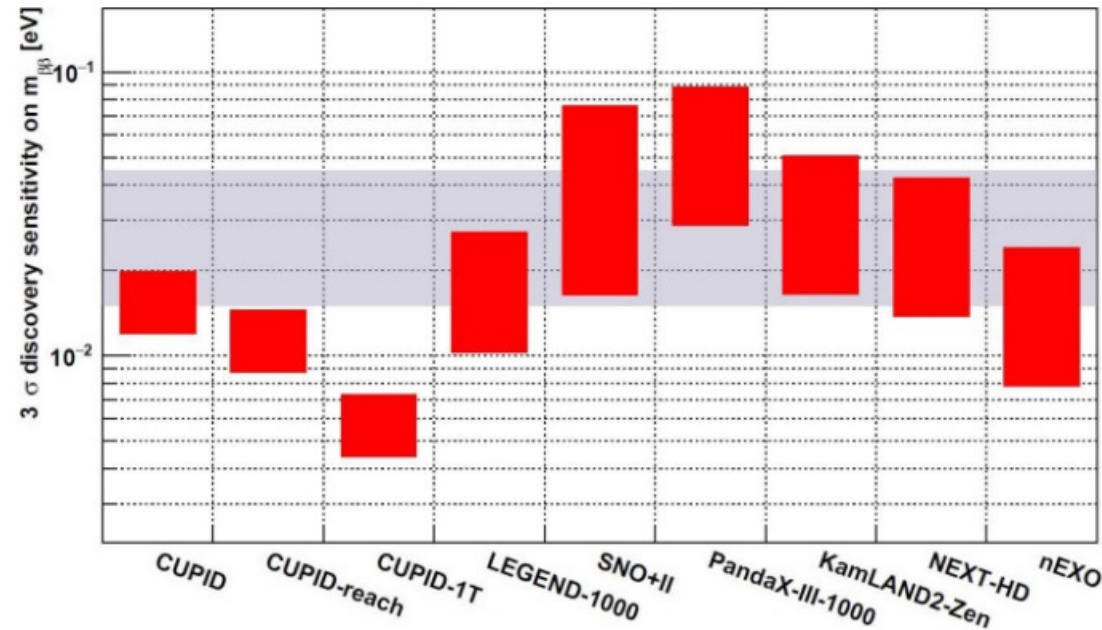
## CUPID: R&D

- Series of cryogenic tests at LNGS and LSC performed to define the final **structure of CUPID**
- Maximally effective use of experimental space
- Studies of pile-up rejection: both synthetic and induced pulses used for analysis

[Eur. Phys. J. C \(2021\) 81: 104](#)  
[JINST 16 \(2021\) P02037](#)  
[arXiv:2011.11726](#)  
[arXiv:2202.06279](#)



## CUPID sensitivity



- CUPID: Exactly what we start building:  $10^{-4}$  cts/keV/kg/yr
- CUPID-reach: improvements before construction:  $2 \times 10^{-5}$  cts/keV/kg/yr
- CUPID-1T: 1 ton  $^{100}\text{Mo}$  in new cryostat:  $5 \times 10^{-6}$  cts/keV/kg/yr

# MAJORANA Background Reduction



$\beta\beta$  signals are localized in energy and space, enabling background rejection techniques

Internal alpha particle background:

- different energies
- never observed

External alpha particle background:

- reduced by radio purity
- stopped by ~1mm dead layer everywhere except on the passivated surface
- rejected by pulse shape discrimination

Main backgrounds requiring analysis cuts

Photon background:

- reduced by radio purity + shielding + radon purge
- rejected by single detector requirement and pulse shape discrimination

Cosmic ray backgrounds:

- reduced by being 4850' underground
- rejected by high efficient muon veto

Neutron backgrounds:

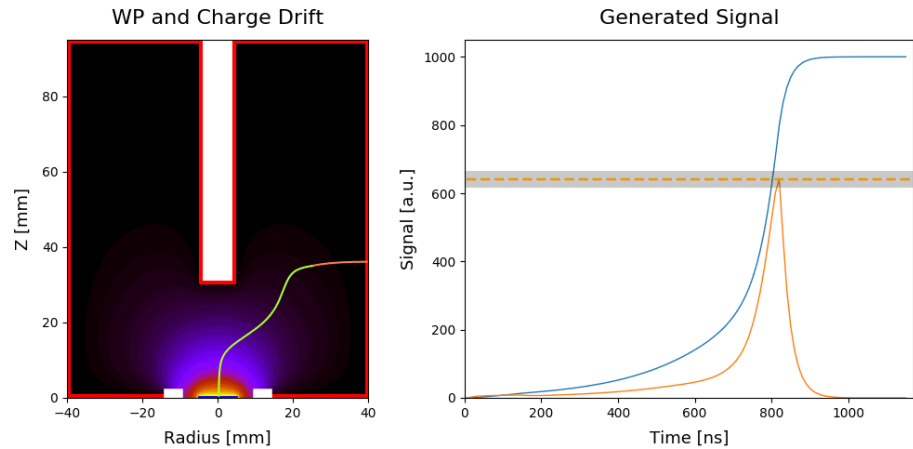
- reduced by (borated)-plastic neutron shield layers

Adapted from W. Xu, APS April meeting 2022

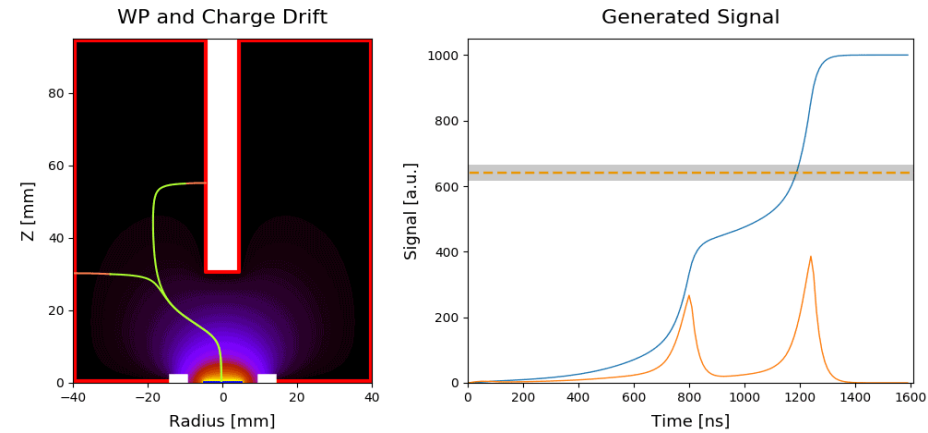


# From the Current Generation to the Ton Scale

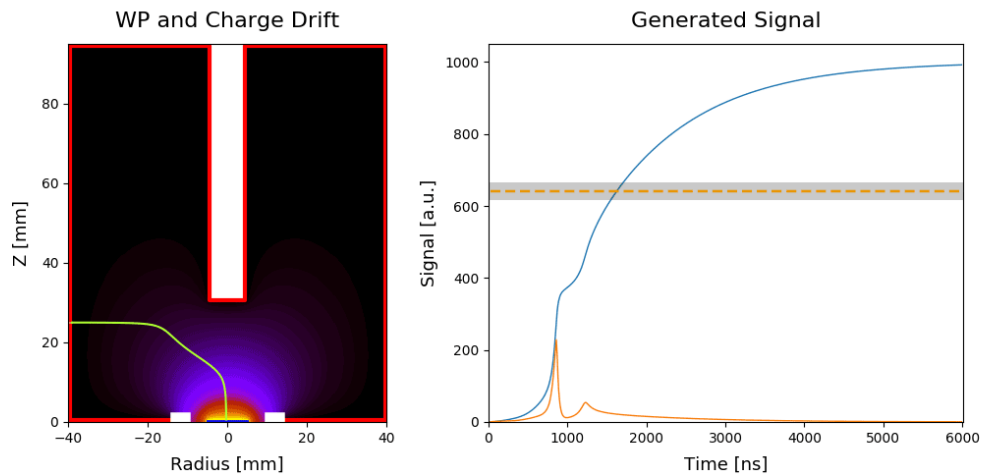
## $0\nu\beta\beta$ signal candidate (single-site)



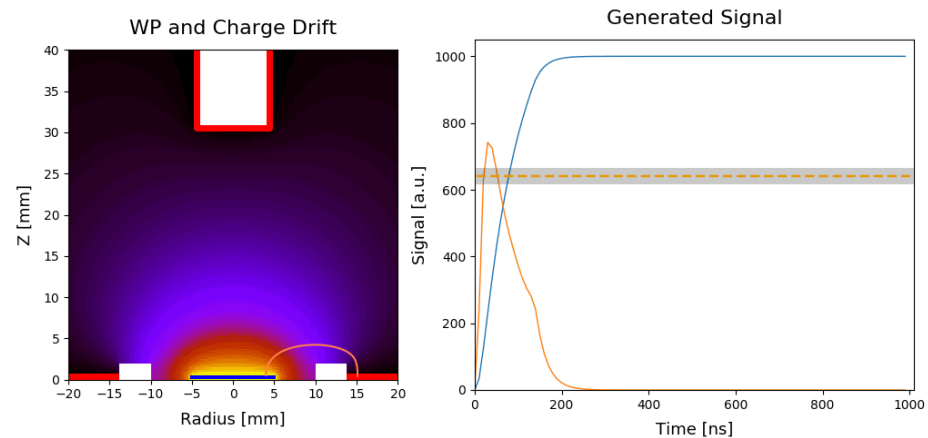
## $\gamma$ -background (multi-site)



## Surface background on n+ contact



## Surface background on p+ contact



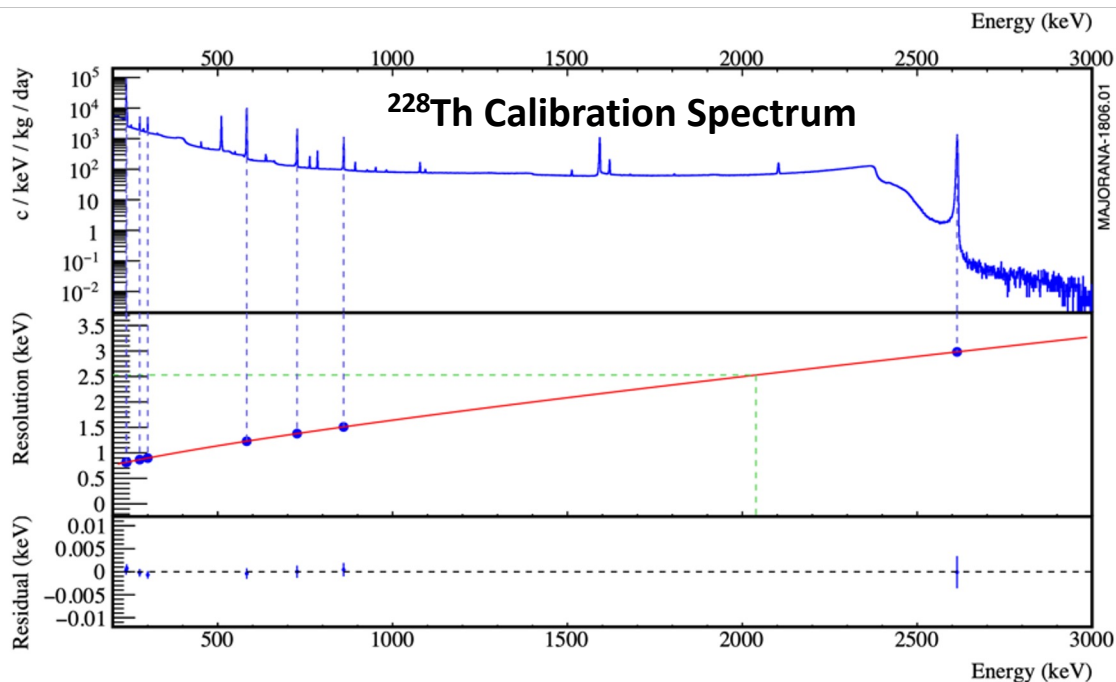
External  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ , and  $\gamma$  backgrounds all create distinctive pulse shapes, allowing for highly efficient  $\beta\beta$  decay event selection

# Energy Reconstruction and ICPC Detectors

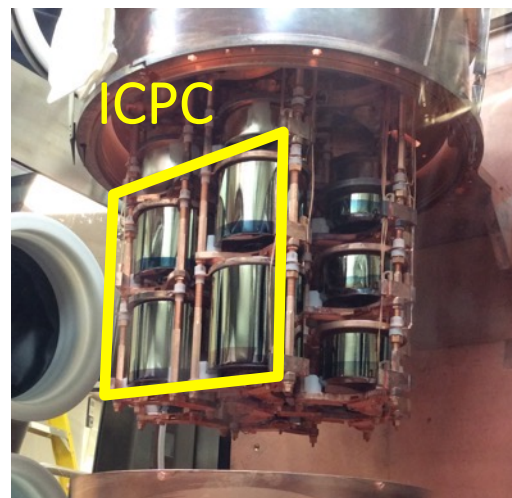


Energy estimated via optimized trapezoidal filter of ADC-nonlinearity-corrected\* traces with charge-trapping correction

FWHM of 2.5 keV at  $Q_{\beta\beta}$  of 2039 keV (0.12%) is a record for  $0\nu\beta\beta$  searches

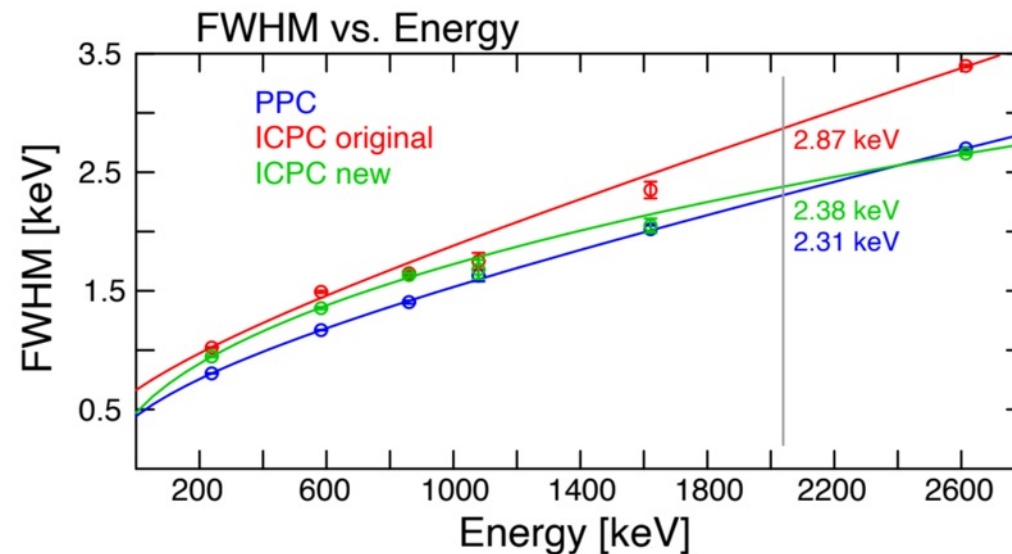


FWHM of combined enriched detectors in the MAJORANA DEMONSTRATOR, measured using  $^{228}\text{Th}$  calibration data



MAJORANA operated 4 Inverted-Coaxial Point Contact Detectors from Aug. 2020 to Mar. 2021

- Larger range of drift times requires new analysis techniques
- Best energy resolution for ICPCs to date!



Combined energy resolution of ICPCs improved from 2.9 keV to 2.4 keV FWHM at 2039 keV with new technique

Improvements from GERDA/MJD:

- Larger detectors
- Improved LAr light collection: higher purity Ar and improved readout
- Cleaner, lower mass cables
- Lower noise electronics
- UGEFCu and self-vetoing PEN plated for detector mounts

→ Factor of 3 reduction in backgrounds relative to GERDA

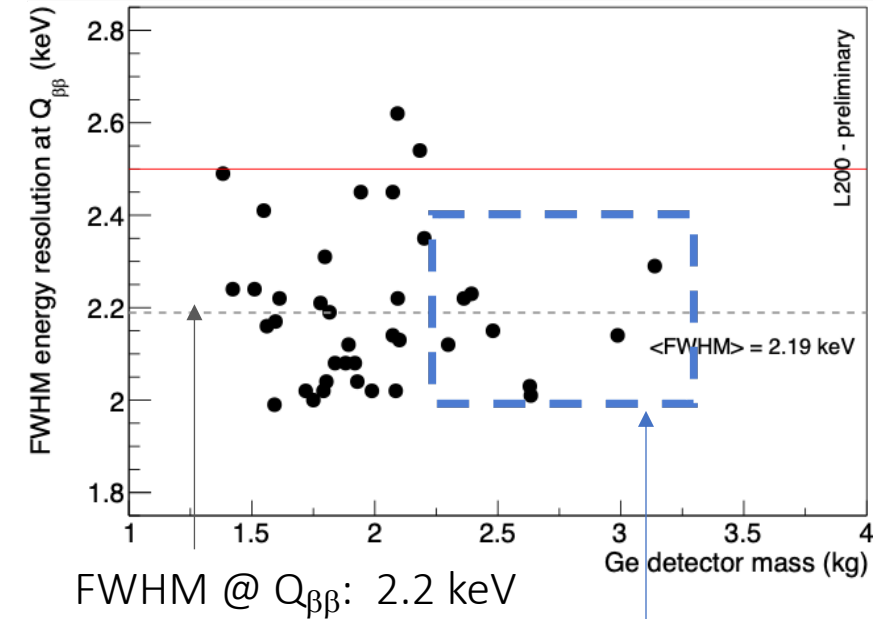


Photo: Enrico Sacchetti

First integrated commissioning run now underway:  
4 strings of HPGe detectors, operating with full LAr system

Quasi-background free operation up to 1 ton-year exposure, for **unambiguous discovery up to  $10^{27}$  yrs**

Detector Characterization:  
ICPC Energy Resolution



Large-mass detectors show excellent energy resolution

## LEGEND-200



## LEGEND-1000



90 x 76 mm  
2.68 kg

92 x 112 mm  
4.11 kg

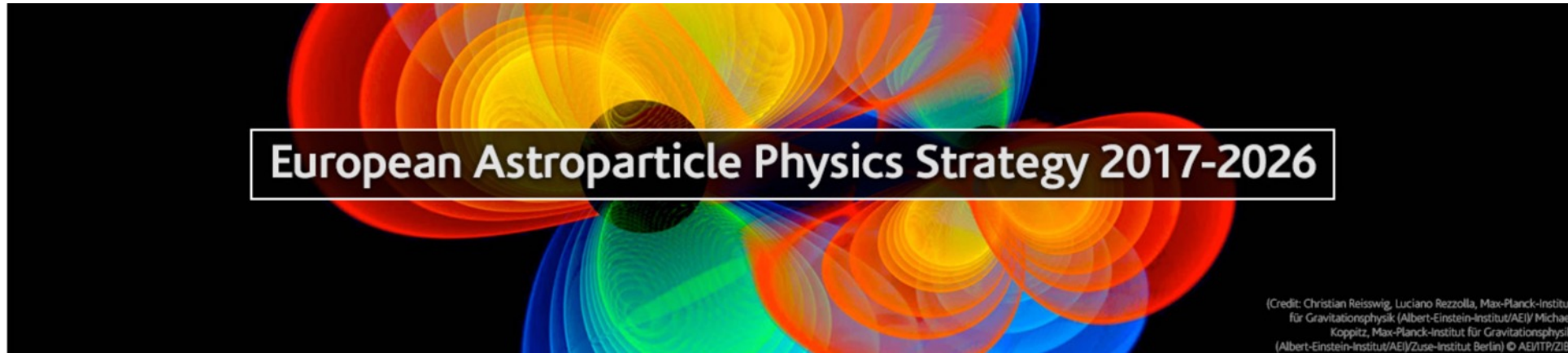
90 x 76 mm  
2.68 kg

LEGEND-1000 uses only larger ICPC detectors, average 2.6 kg

- 15% MAJORANA PPC detectors
- 23% GERDA BEGe detectors
- 62% LEGEND larger ICPCs

- **LEGEND-200 background goal is x2.5 reduction from GERDA**
- **LEGEND-1000 background goal is x20 reduction from LEGEND-200**

# Next Generation Experiments



## Report on the North America-Europe workshop on Double Beta Decay (Sep. 29th - Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> 2022)

*“After three days of fruitful and deep discussion, the representatives of **several European and North American funding agencies, Ministerial representatives and Laboratory Directors** have met in a closed session. They unanimously agreed that the strong scientific motivation and the need to cross-check any potential signal with different isotopes justifies the effort to support three experiments, **CUPID at Gran Sasso, and LEGEND and nEXO, where one should be located in North America and one in Europe.**”*

<https://www.appec.org/news/report-on-the-north-america-europe-workshop-on-double-beta-decay>

*If I introduce new fields, I have to write down all possible interactions allowed by the gauge symmetries given the (new) field content* Adapted from Walter Winter, WIN 2017

Because neutrinos are electrically neutral,  $\nu_R$  would allow a Majorana mass term  $\sim m_R(\bar{\nu}_L\nu_R^c + \bar{\nu}_R^c\nu_L)$

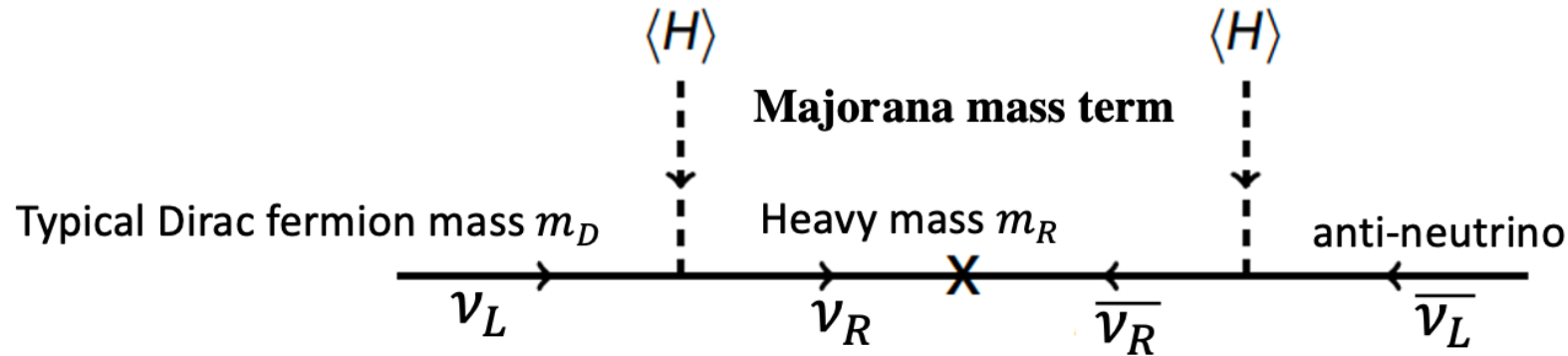


Figure adapted from Jon Engel

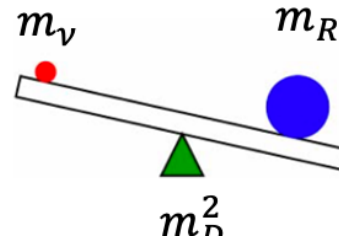
$\nu_R$  is assumed to be very heavy in the seesaw model. It can only participate as a virtual particle in the process above. It cannot be easily produced and detected.

The physical neutrino is a mixture

$$\nu = c_1\nu_R^c + c_2\nu_L$$

with a mass highly suppressed by  $m_R$

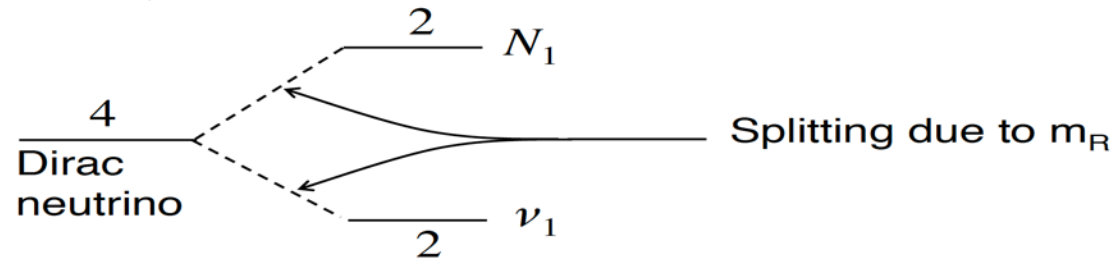
$$m_\nu = \frac{m_D^2}{m_R}$$



The seesaw model

The Majorana mass term split a **Dirac neutrino** into **two Majorana neutrinos**.

Boris Kayser 2018 INSS lecture



$$4 = 2 + 2$$

Say MeV - TeV

Say  $10^{16}$  GeV

$$\mathcal{L}_{m_\nu} = -m_D \overline{\nu_R^0} \nu_L^0 - \frac{m_R}{2} \overline{(\nu_R^0)^c} \nu_R^0 + \text{h. c.}$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} \left[ \overline{(\nu_L^0)^c}, \overline{\nu_R^0} \right] \begin{bmatrix} 0 & m_D \\ m_D & m_R \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \nu_L^0 \\ (\nu_R^0)^c \end{bmatrix} + \text{h. c.}$$

Entirely following Boris arXiv:hep-ph/0211134

$m_D$  (Dirac mass) and  $m_R$  (Right-handed Majorana mass term).  
 $V_L^0$  and  $V_R^0$  are bases of theory, not yet physical (underlying fields out of which a model is constructed).  
 $V_R^0$  and  $m_R$  not constrained by SM. *i.e.* if Dirac term exists,  $\rightarrow V_R^0$  exists,  
 $\rightarrow$  no reason for Majorana term does not exist

Emmy Noether



Noether's Theorem: continuous symmetry leads to conservation laws

Not fundamental

but accidental

## Baryon- and Lepton-Nonconserving Processes

Also F. Wilczek and A. Zee  
Phys. Rev. Lett. 43. 1571(1979)

Steven Weinberg Phys. Rev. Lett.43.1566 (1979)

Lyman Laboratory of Physics, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138, and  
Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138  
(Received 13 August 1979)

A number of properties of possible baryon- and lepton-nonconserving processes are shown to follow under very general assumptions. Attention is drawn to the importance of measuring  $\mu^+$  polarizations and  $\bar{\nu}_e/e^+$  ratios in nucleon decay as a means of discriminating among specific models.

Of the supposedly exact conservation laws of physics, two are especially questionable: the conservation of baryon number and lepton number. As far as we know, there is no necessity for an *a priori* principle of baryon and lepton conservation. As we shall see, even without such a principle, the fact that the weak, electromagnetic, and strong interactions of ordinary quarks and leptons conserve baryon and lepton number can be understood as simply a consequence of the  $SU(2) \otimes U(1)$  and  $SU(3)$  gauge symmetries. Also, in contrast with the conservation of charge, col-

conservation are likely to occur in grand unified theories that combine the gauge theory of weak and electromagnetic interactions with that of strong interactions and have leptons and quarks in the same gauge multiplets, and such violations have been found in various of these models.<sup>3</sup>

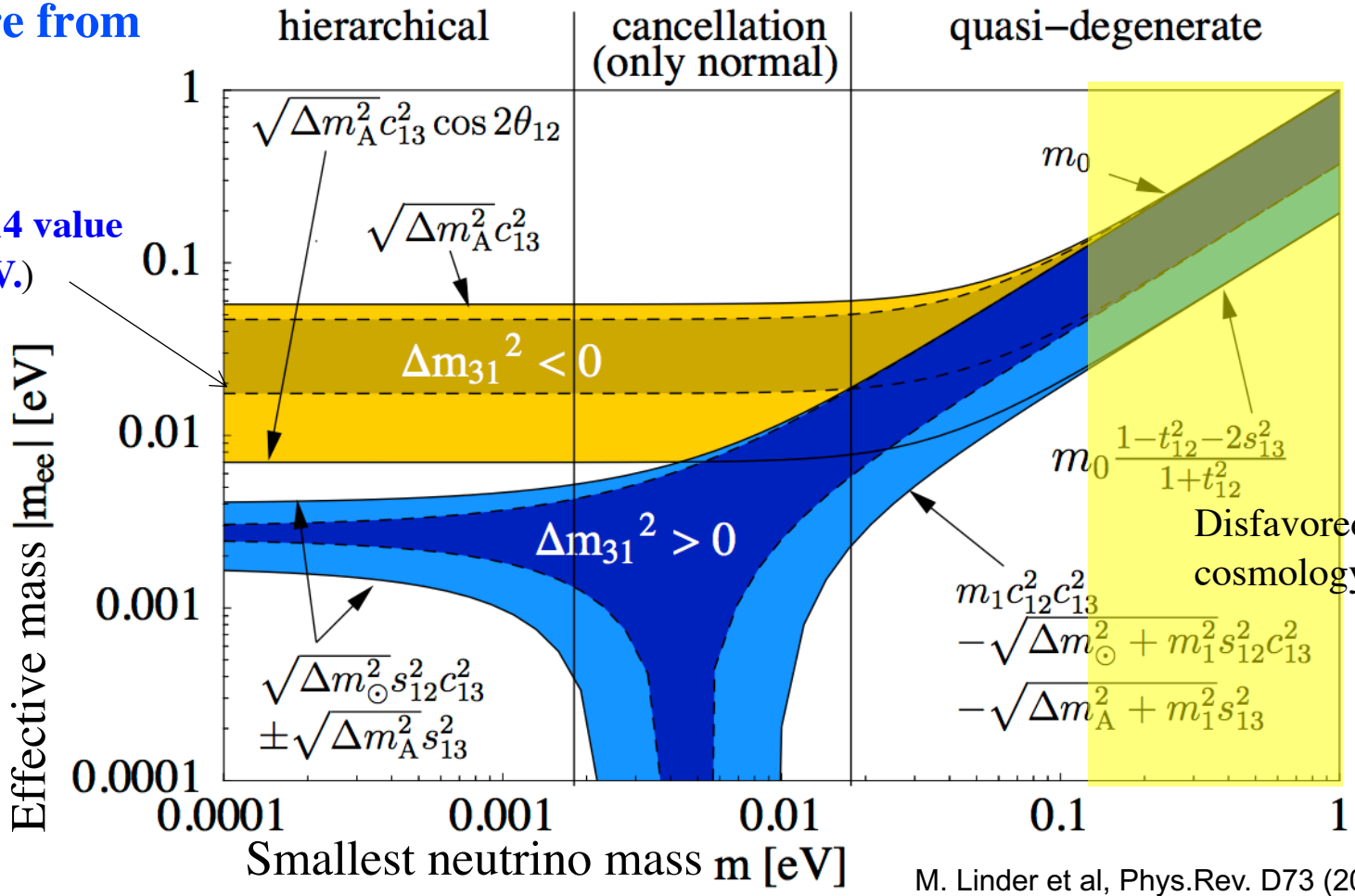
The purpose of this paper is to point out those features of baryon- or lepton-nonconserving processes that are to be expected on very general grounds. Other features will be indicated that may be used to discriminate among specific models.

Such as the Majorana mass term



Figure from 2006

(PDG 14 value ~15meV)

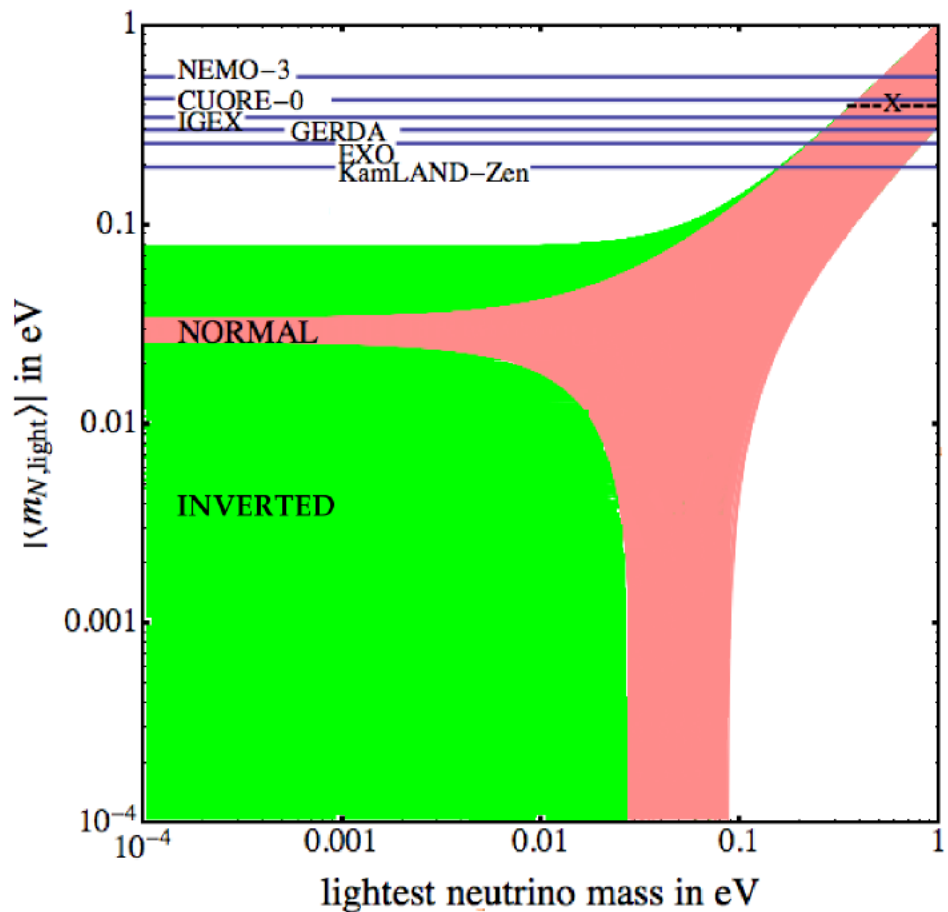


$$U = \begin{bmatrix} c_{12}c_{13} & s_{12}c_{13} & s_{13}e^{-i\delta} \\ -s_{12}c_{23} - c_{12}s_{23}s_{13}e^{i\delta} & c_{12}c_{23} - s_{12}s_{23}s_{13}e^{i\delta} & s_{23}c_{13} \\ s_{12}s_{23} - c_{12}c_{23}s_{13}e^{i\delta} & -c_{12}s_{23} - s_{12}c_{23}s_{13}e^{i\delta} & c_{23}c_{13} \end{bmatrix}$$

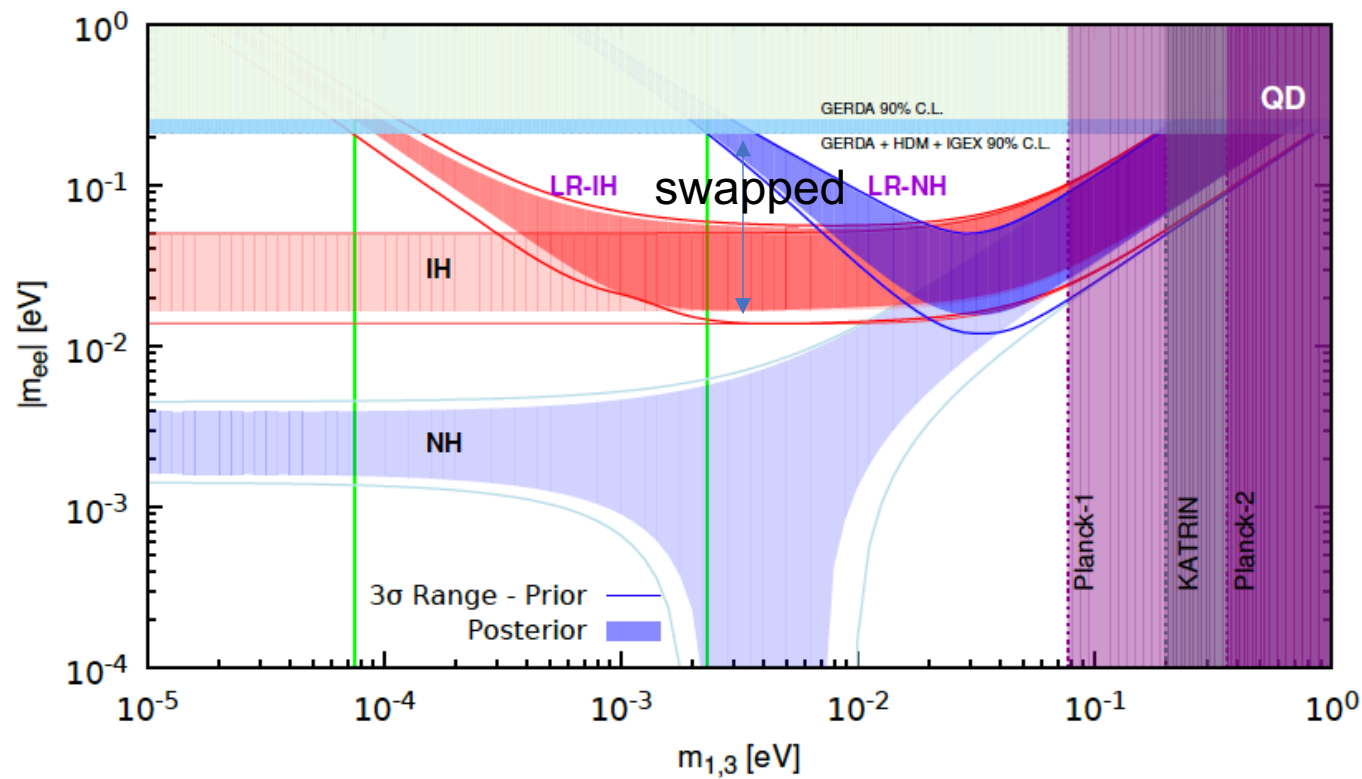
CP-violating Dirac phase as  $\delta$ . Majorana phases, which do not appear in the probabilities measured by the oscillation experiments, are not shown.

$$|m_{ee}| = f(\theta_{12}, \theta_{13}, \alpha, \beta, m_1, m_2, m_3).$$

M. Linder et al, Phys.Rev. D73 (2006) 053005



Light sterile neutrino contribution  
 An example: PRD92, 093001 (2015)



Left-Right symm., Type II contributions  
 From J. 3 neutrino paradigm HEP 10, 077 (2015)

arxiv:2203.12169

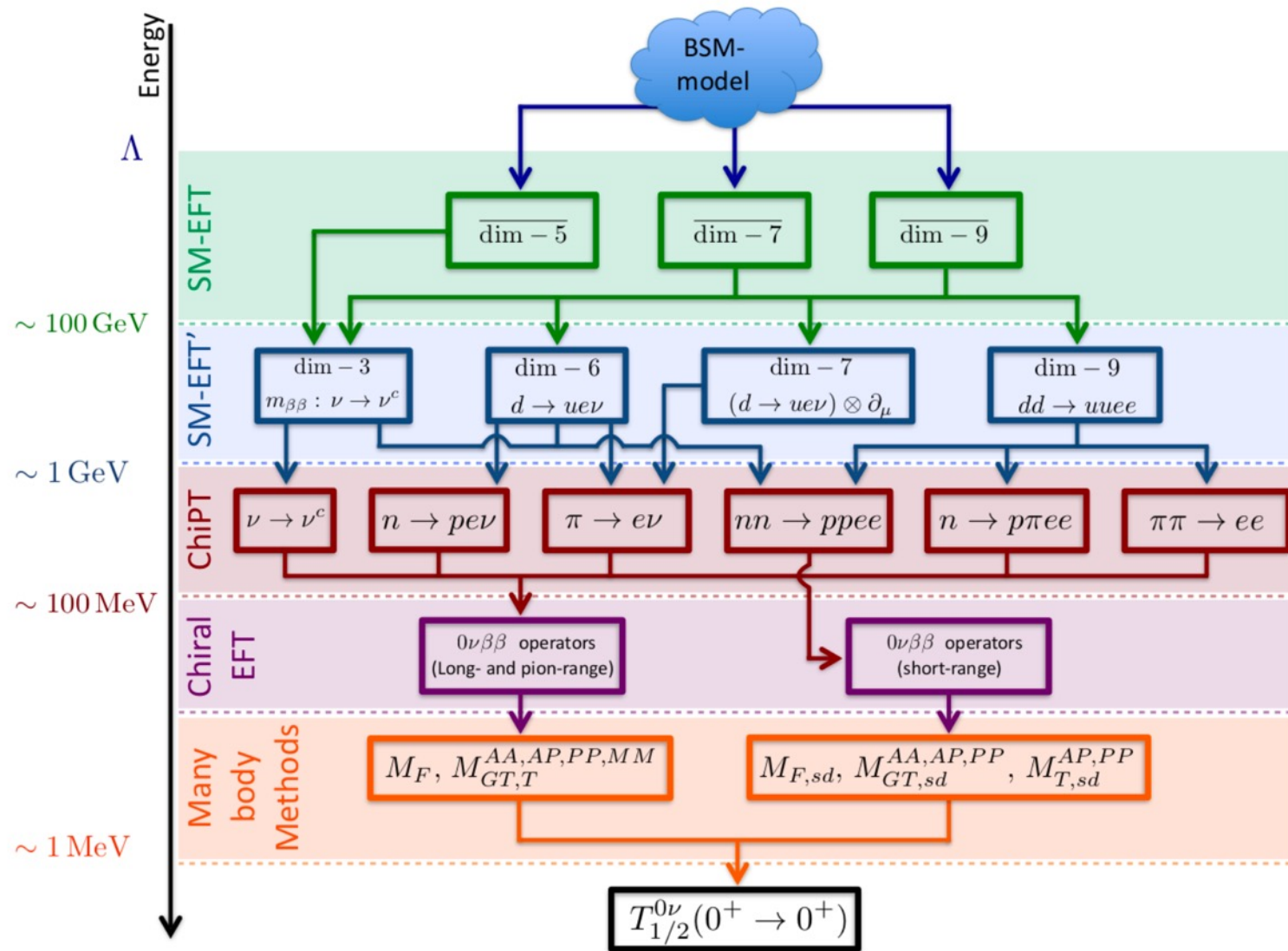
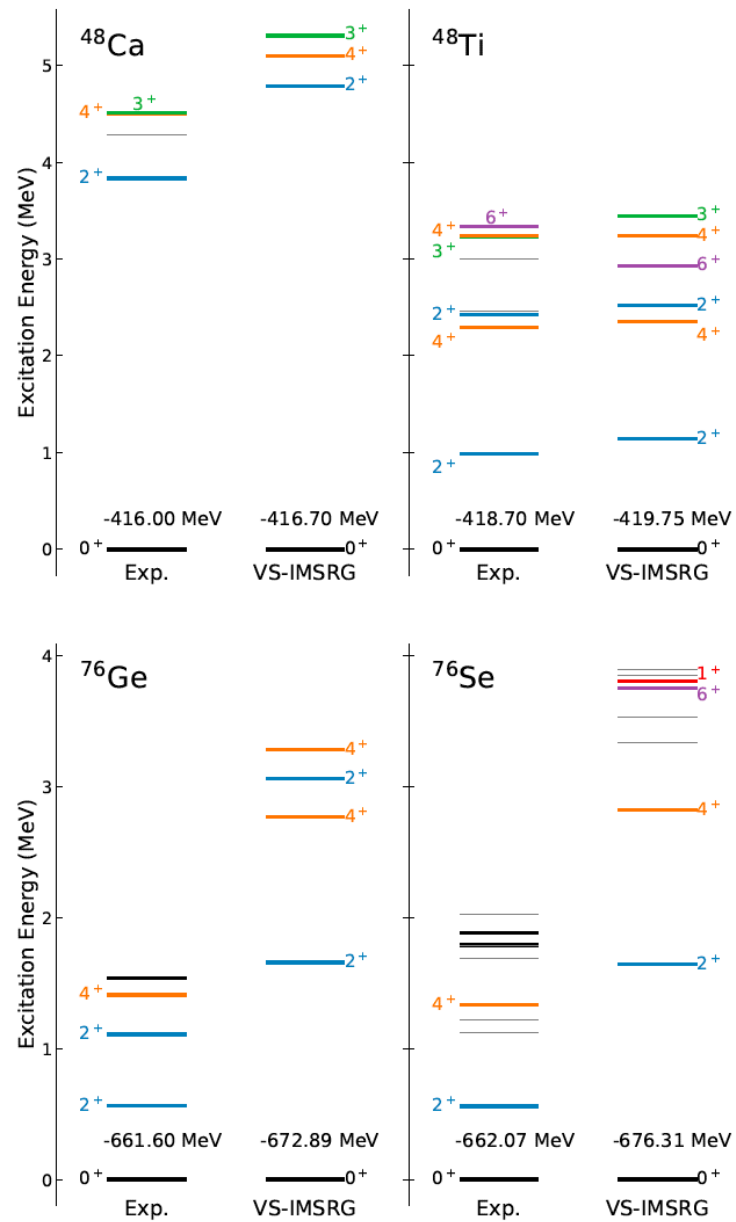


FIG. 10. The tower of EFTs for  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay. At the electroweak scale, LNV operators are described by operators of odd dimension in the SMEFT. Heavy SM degrees of freedom can be integrated out by matching SMEFT onto LEFT (denoted as SMEFT' in the figure). Quark-level operators are then matched onto hadronic operators. The construction of hadronic operators is performed in  $\chi$ PT and chiral EFT, while the determination of the low-energy couplings requires non-perturbative techniques, such as lattice QCD. The  $0\nu\beta\beta$  transition operators constructed in chiral EFT are then evaluated with nuclear many-body



Phys. Rev. Lett. 126, 042502

FIG. 2. Excitation spectra of  $^{48}\text{Ca}/\text{Ti}$  and  $^{76}\text{Ge}/\text{Se}$  from the VS-IMSRG compared to experimental values [53, 54]. Certain states have been highlighted to help guide the comparison.