

Neutrinoless Double Beta Decay Experimental status

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Outline of the talk

- Neutrino mass and Double Beta Decay
- Experimental challenge and strategies
- Present situation
- Overview of the future projects
- Some very promising experimental approaches
- Prospects and conclusions

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Neutrino flavor oscillations

Premise

$$\begin{bmatrix} \nu_e \\ \nu_\mu \\ \nu_\tau \end{bmatrix}$$

Flavor eigenstates \neq Mass eigenstates
Weak interaction \downarrow Propagation

$$\begin{bmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \\ \nu_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Neutrino flavor oscillations

what **we presently know** from **neutrino flavor oscillations**

① oscillations **do** occur



neutrinos are **massive**

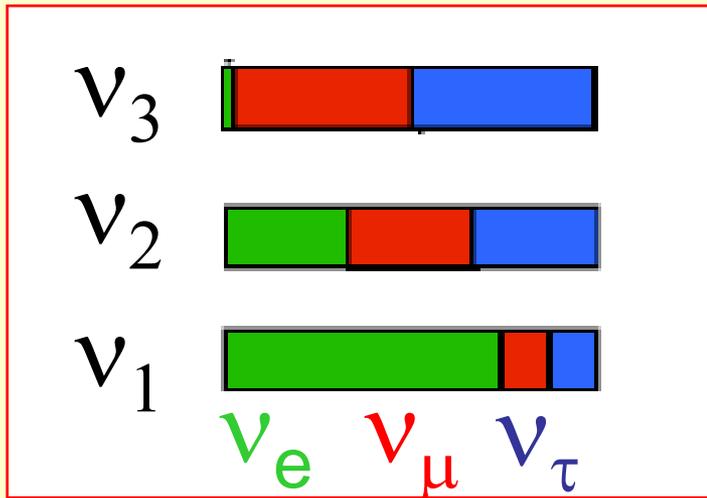
Neutrino mixing and masses

- ② given the three ν mass eigenvalues M_1, M_2, M_3 we have approximate measurements of two ΔM_{ij}^2 ($\Delta M_{ij}^2 \equiv M_i^2 - M_j^2$)

$\Delta M_{12}^2 \sim (9 \text{ meV})^2$ **Solar**

$|\Delta M_{23}^2| \sim (50 \text{ meV})^2$ **Atmospheric**

- ③ approximate measurements and/or constraints on U_{ij} \longrightarrow elements of the ν mixing matrix



$$\begin{bmatrix} \nu_e \\ \nu_\mu \\ \nu_\tau \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} U_{e1} & U_{e2} & U_{e3} \\ U_{\mu1} & U_{\mu2} & U_{\mu3} \\ U_{\tau1} & U_{\tau2} & U_{\tau3} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \\ \nu_3 \end{bmatrix}$$



Neutrino flavor oscillations and mass scale

what **we do not know** from neutrino flavor oscillations:

① neutrino mass **hierarchy**



② **absolute** neutrino **mass scale**



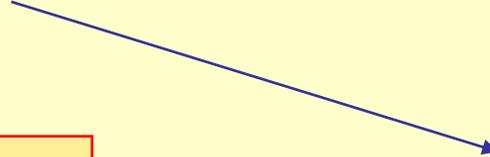
degeneracy ?

$(M_1 \sim M_2 \sim M_3)$

③ **DIRAC** or **MAJORANA** nature of neutrinos



$$\nu \neq \bar{\nu}$$



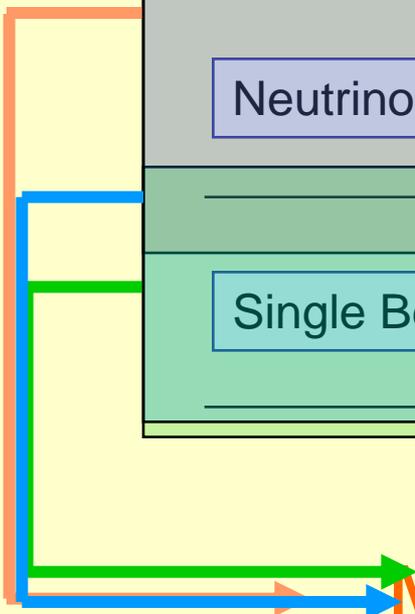
$$\nu \equiv \bar{\nu}$$

Tools for the investigation of the ν mass scale

Tools	Present sensitivity	Future sensitivity (a few year scale)
Cosmology (CMB + LSS)	0.7 - 1 eV	0.1 eV
Neutrinoless Double Beta Decay	0.5 eV	0.05 eV
Single Beta Decay	2.2 eV	0.2 eV

Direct determination

Laboratory measurements



Complementarity of cosmology, single and double β decay

Cosmology, single and double β decay measure different combinations of the neutrino mass eigenvalues, constraining the neutrino mass scale

In a standard three active neutrino scenario:

$$\Sigma \equiv \sum_{i=1}^3 M_i$$

← cosmology
simple sum
pure kinematical effect

$$\langle M_\beta \rangle \equiv \left(\sum_{i=1}^3 M_i^2 |U_{ei}|^2 \right)^{1/2}$$

← beta decay
incoherent sum
real neutrino

$$\langle M_{\beta\beta} \rangle \equiv \left| \sum_{i=1}^3 M_i |U_{ei}|^2 e^{i\alpha_i} \right|$$

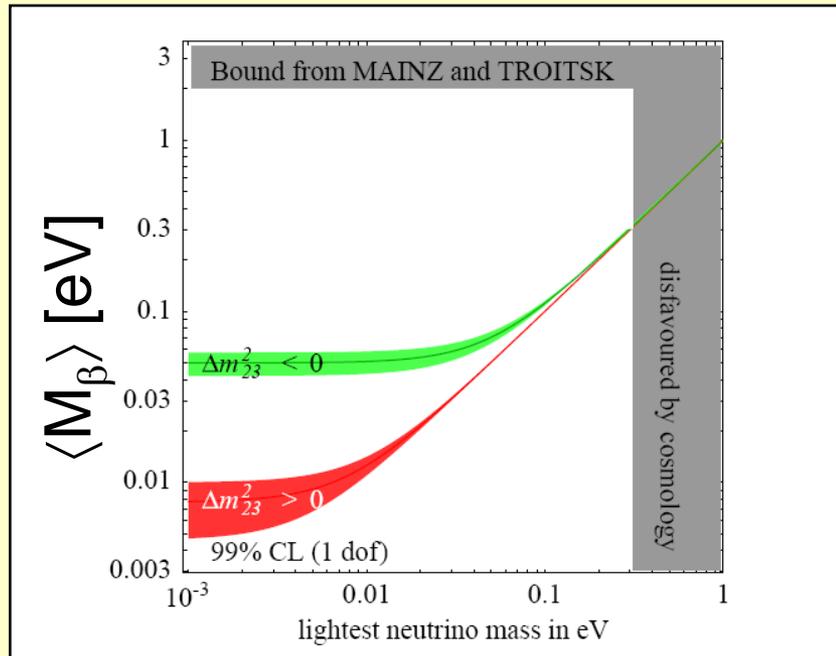
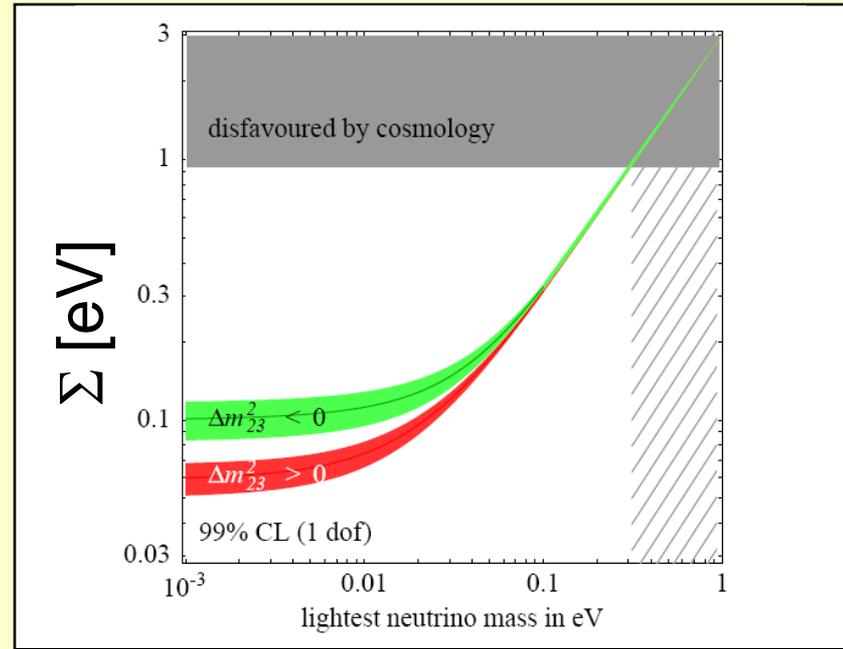
← double beta decay
coherent sum
virtual neutrino
Majorana phases

Present bounds

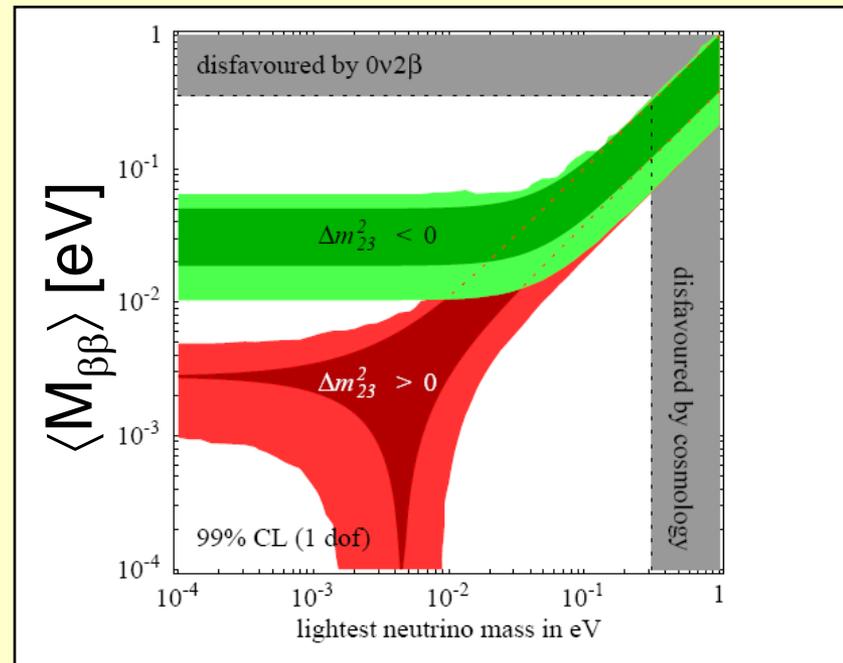
The three constrained parameters can be plotted as a function of the **lightest neutrino mass**

Two bands appear in each plot, corresponding to **inverted** and **direct** hierarchy

The two bands merge in the **degenerate** case (the only one presently probed)



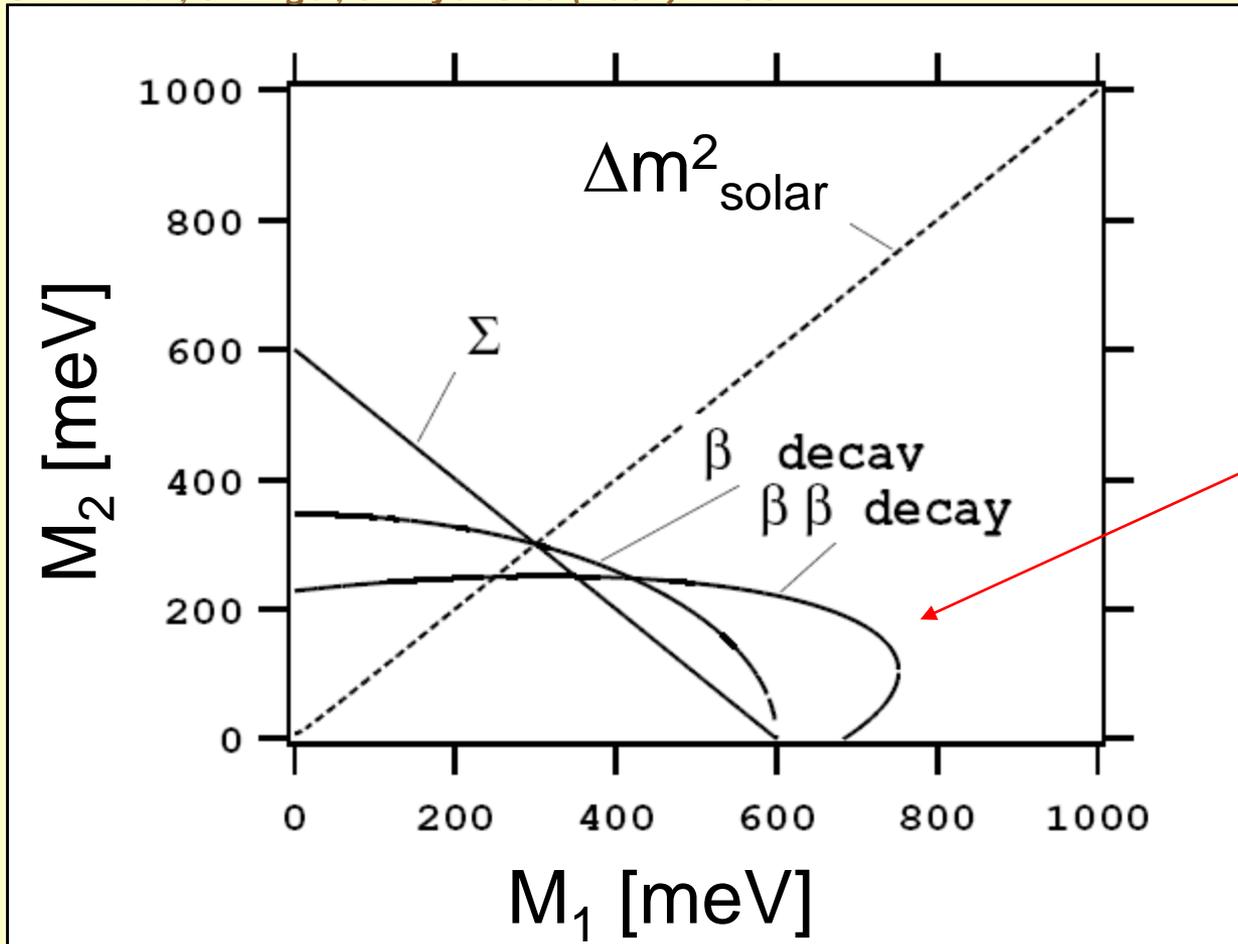
Strumia-Vissani hep-ph/0503246



Combined information

For simplicity, a **two neutrino** scenario with degenerate masses
The two masses are **over-constrained** \Rightarrow **Majorana phases**

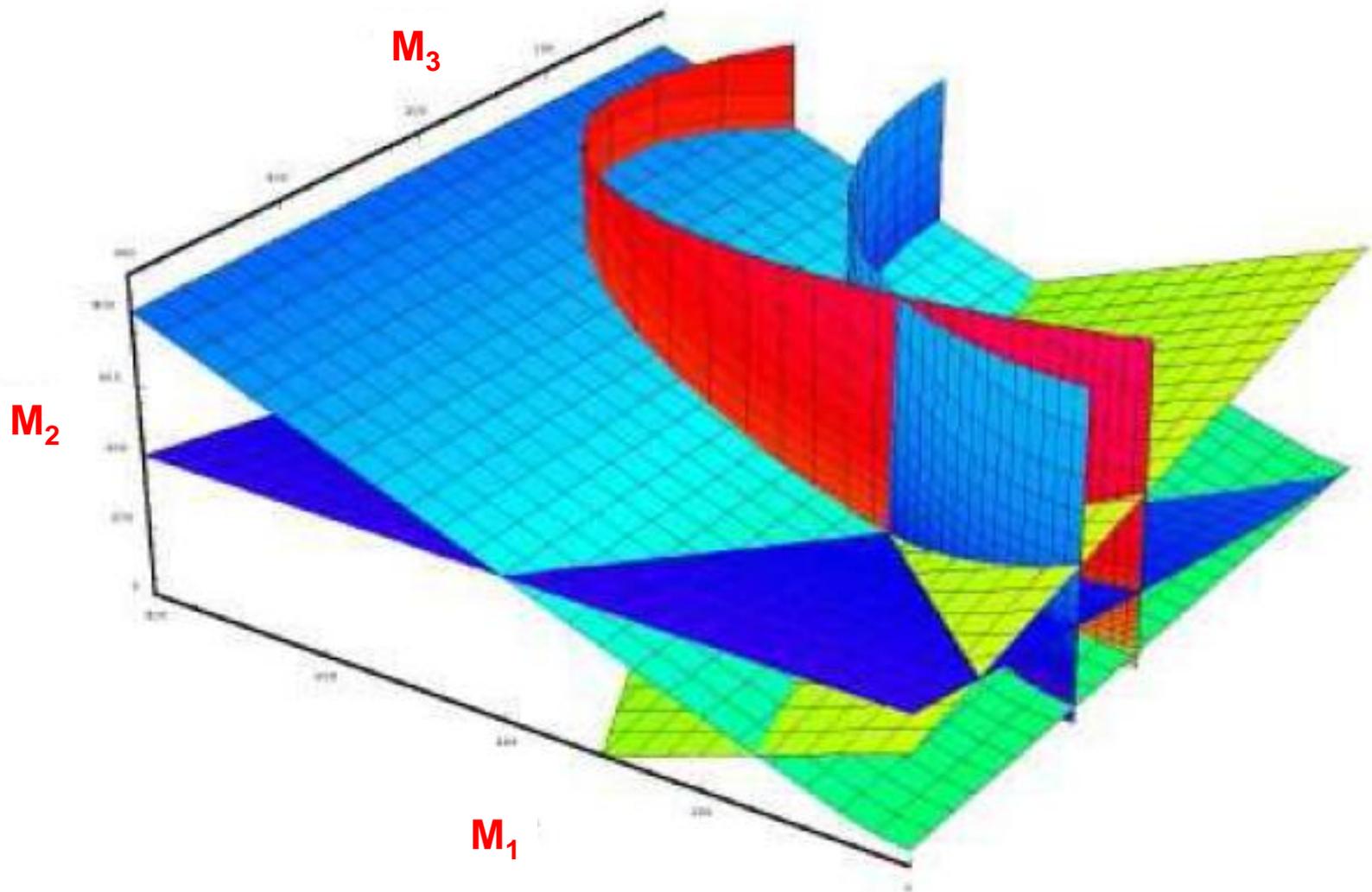
S.R. Elliott, J. Engel, J.Phys. G30 (2004) R183



wrong value
of the Majorana
phase

Combined information: three neutrinos

S.R. Elliott, J. Engel, J.Phys. G30 (2004) R183



Decay modes for Double Beta Decay

Three decay modes are usually discussed:

①



2 ν Double Beta Decay
allowed by the Standard Model
already observed – $\tau \geq 10^{19}$ y

②



neutrinoless Double Beta Decay (0 ν -DBD)
never observed (except a discussed claim)
 $\tau > 10^{25}$ y

③



Double Beta Decay
with Majoron (light neutral boson)
never observed – $\tau > 10^{22}$ y

Processes ② and ③ would imply **new physics** beyond the Standard Model

violation of **lepton number conservation**

They are very **sensitive tests to new physics** since the phase space term is much larger for them than for the standard process (in particular for ②)

interest for 0 ν -DBD lasts for 70 years !

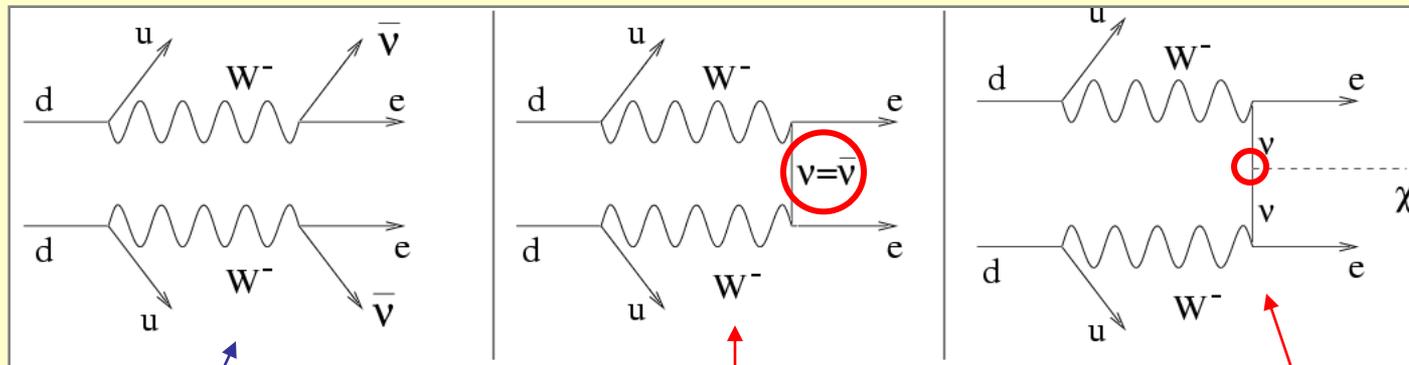
Goeppert-Meyer proposed the standard process in 1935

Racah proposed the neutrinoless process in 1937

Double Beta Decay and neutrino physics

DBD is a **second order** weak transition ← very low rates

Diagrams for the three processes discussed above:

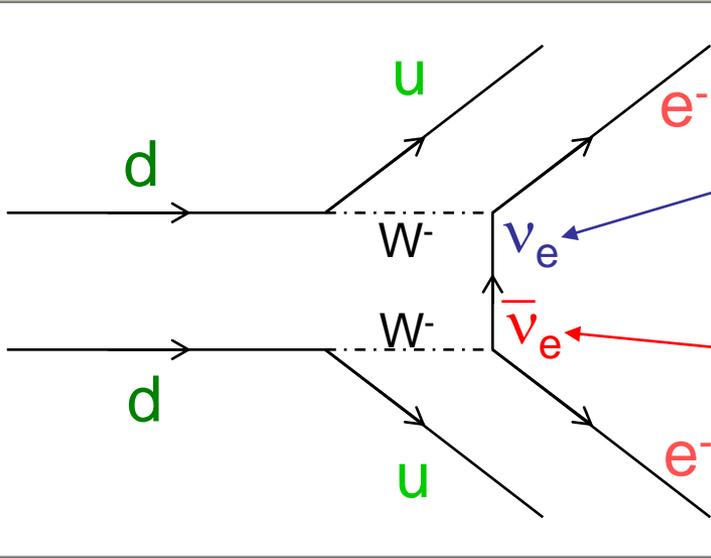


Standard process
two “simultaneous” beta decays

0ν -DBD
a virtual neutrino is exchanged
between the two electroweak lepton vertices

DBD with Majoron emission
A Majoron couples to the
exchanged virtual neutrino

Neutrino properties and 0ν -DBD



a LH neutrino ($L=-1$) is absorbed at this vertex

a RH antineutrino ($L=1$) is emitted at this vertex

in pre-oscillations standard particle physics (massless neutrinos), the process is forbidden because neutrino has not the correct **helicity / lepton number** to be absorbed at the second vertex

- IF neutrinos are massive **DIRAC** particles:

Helicities can be accommodated thanks to the **finite mass**, **BUT** Lepton number is rigorously conserved

0ν -DBD is forbidden

- IF neutrinos are massive **MAJORANA** particles:

Helicities can be accommodated thanks to the **finite mass**, **AND** Lepton number is not relevant

0ν -DBD is allowed

Observation of **0ν -DBD**



$$m_\nu \neq 0$$

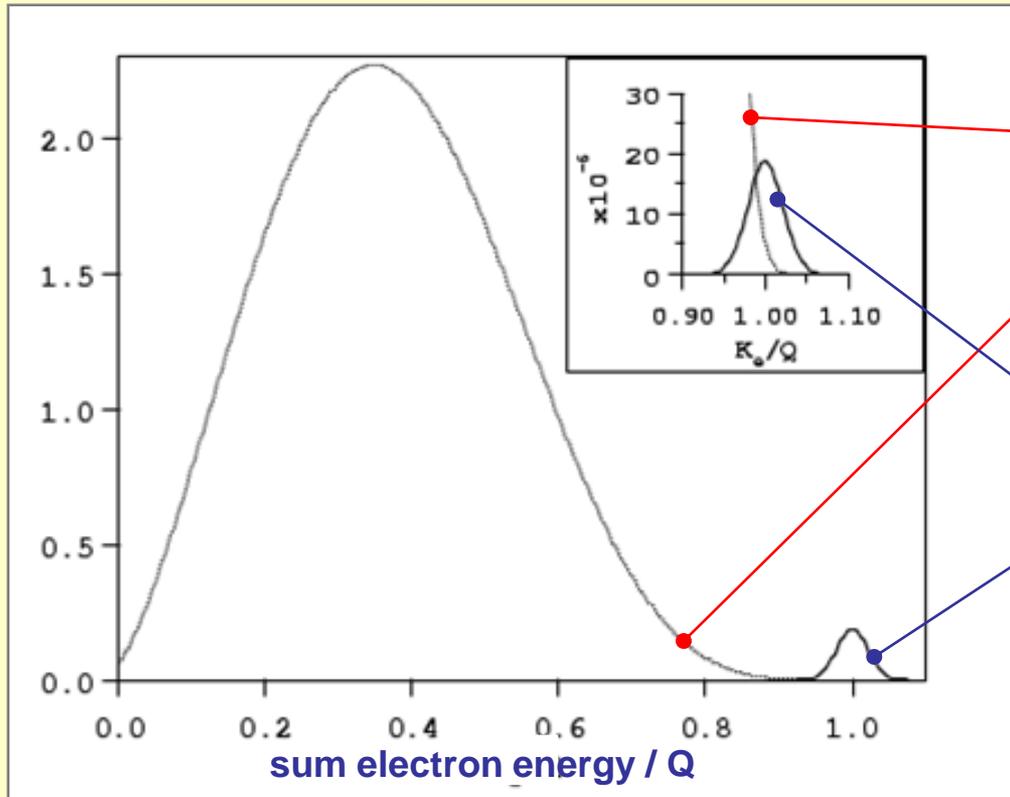
$$\bar{\nu} \equiv \nu$$

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Electron sum energy spectra in DBD

The **shape** of the **two electron sum energy spectrum** enables to distinguish among the three different discussed decay modes



two neutrino DBD
continuum with maximum at $\sim 1/3 Q$

neutrinoless DBD
peak enlarged only by
the detector energy resolution

The **Majoron spectrum** is a continuum with maximum close to Q
(phase space for a particle decaying to three light objects)

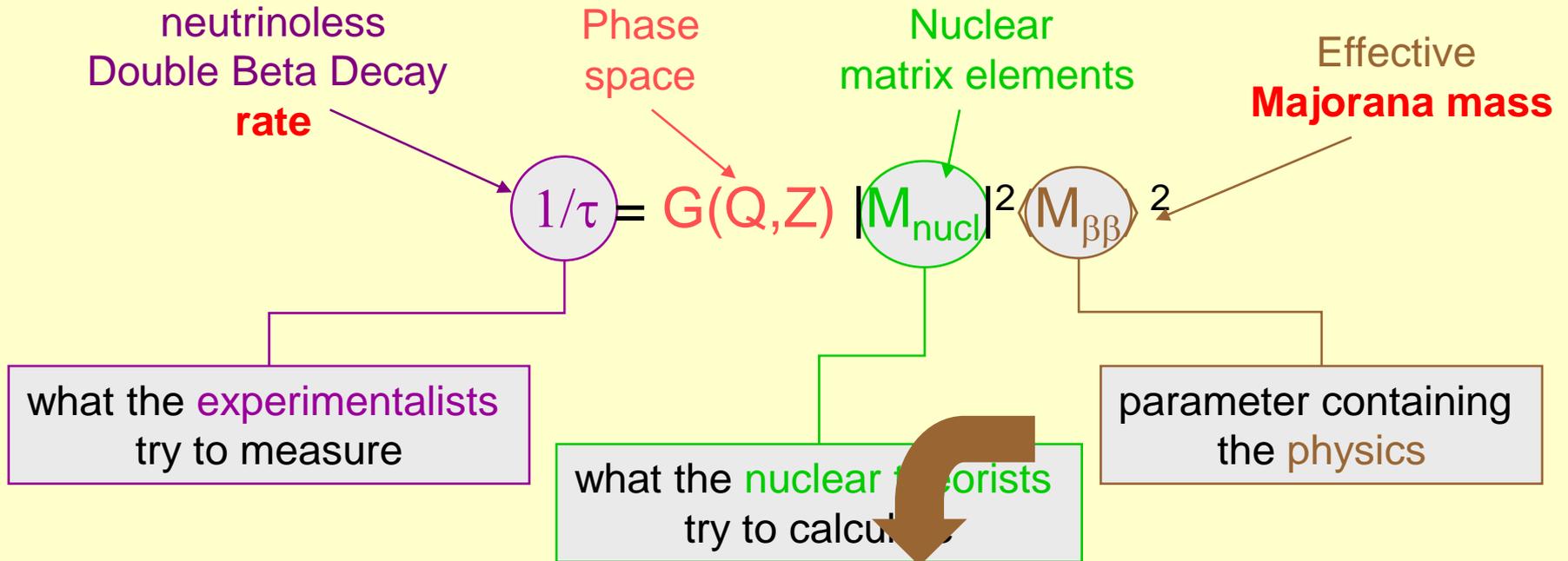
$Q \sim 2-3 \text{ MeV}$ for the most promising nuclides

additional signatures:

- single electron energy distribution
- angular distribution

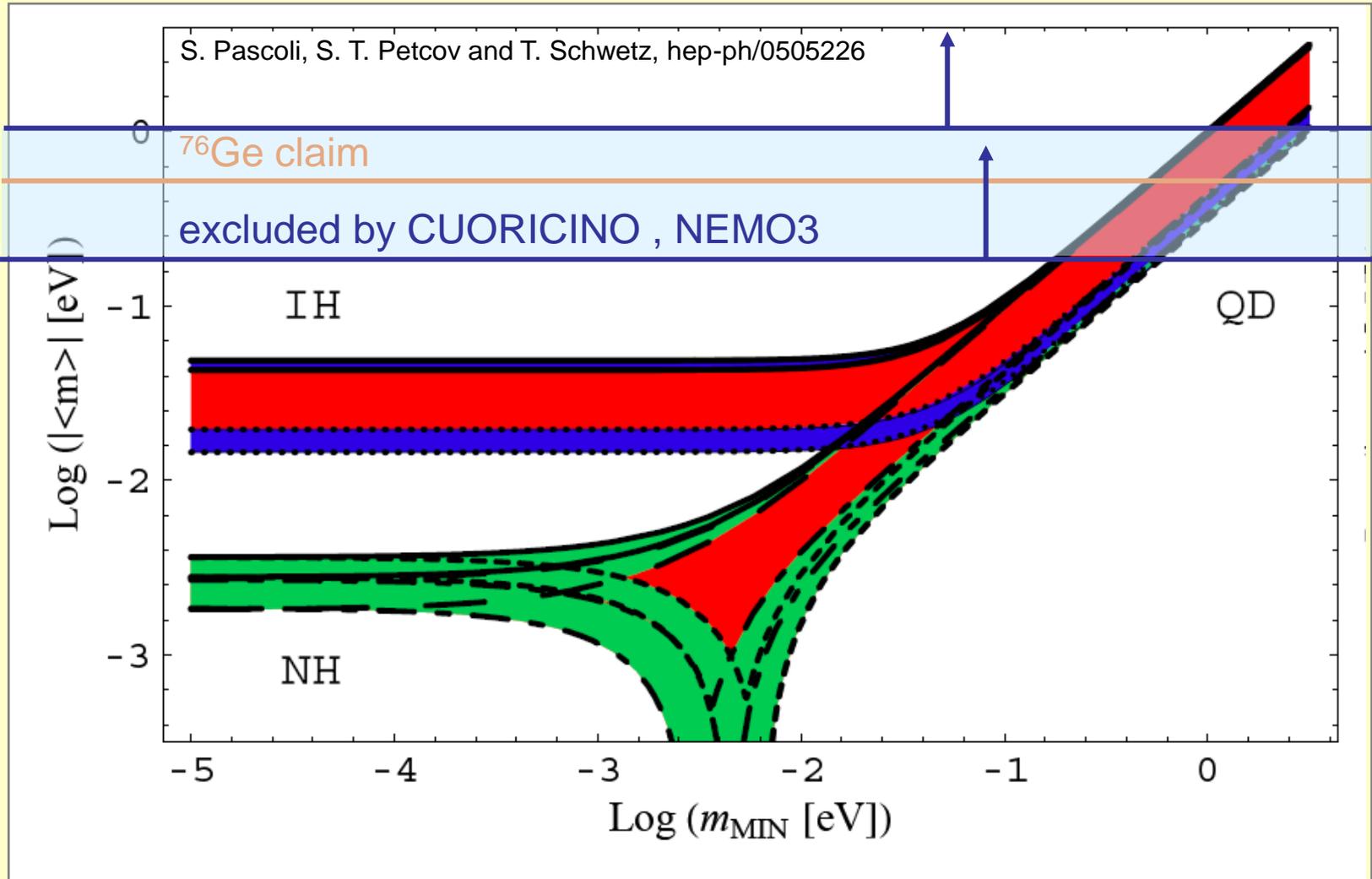
0ν -DBD: parameters determining the rate

how 0ν -DBD is connected to neutrino mixing matrix and masses in case of process induced by mass mechanism

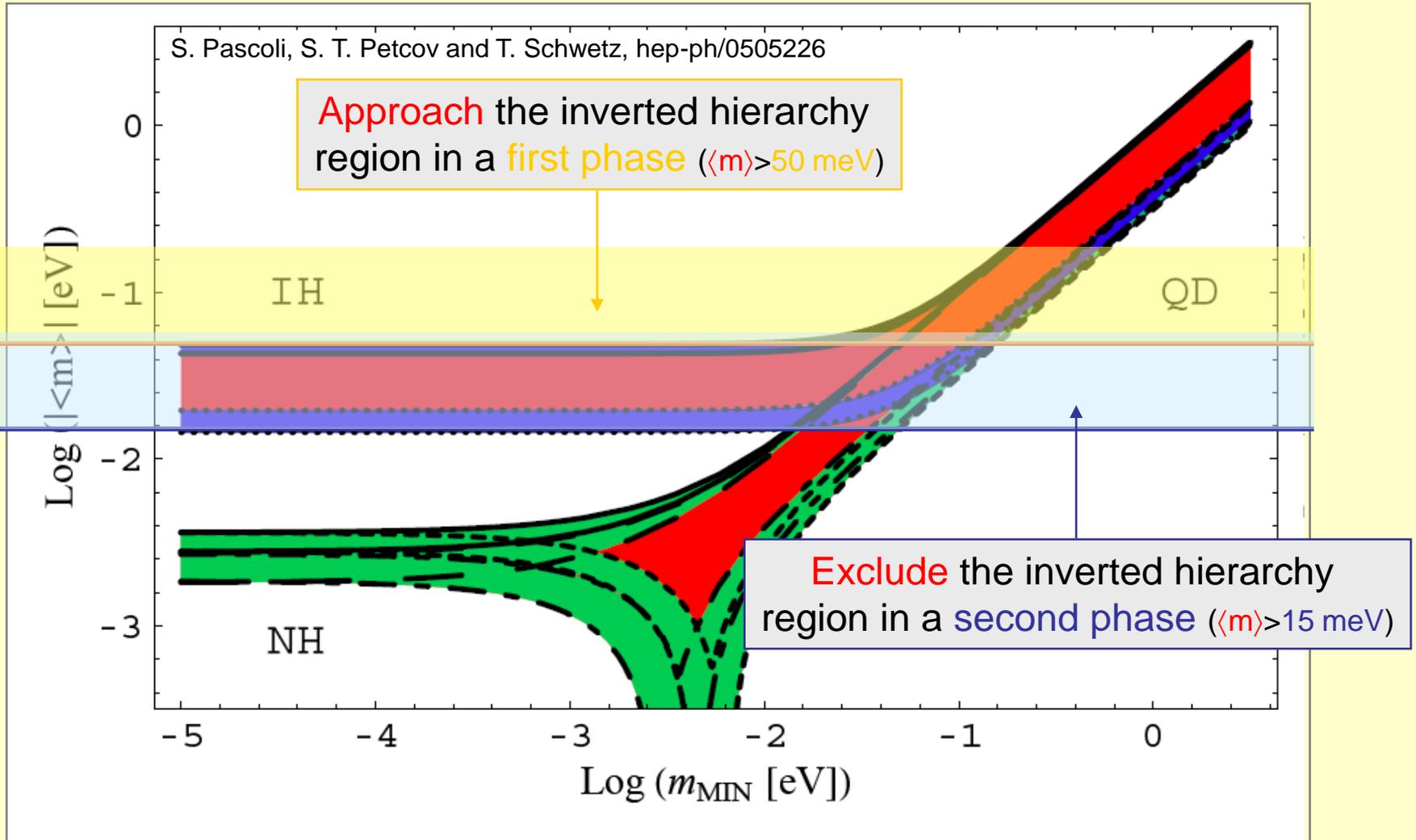


$$\langle M_{\beta\beta} \rangle = \left| |U_{e1}|^2 M_1 + e^{i\alpha_1} |U_{e2}|^2 M_2 + e^{i\alpha_2} |U_{e3}|^2 M_3 \right|$$

From where we start...

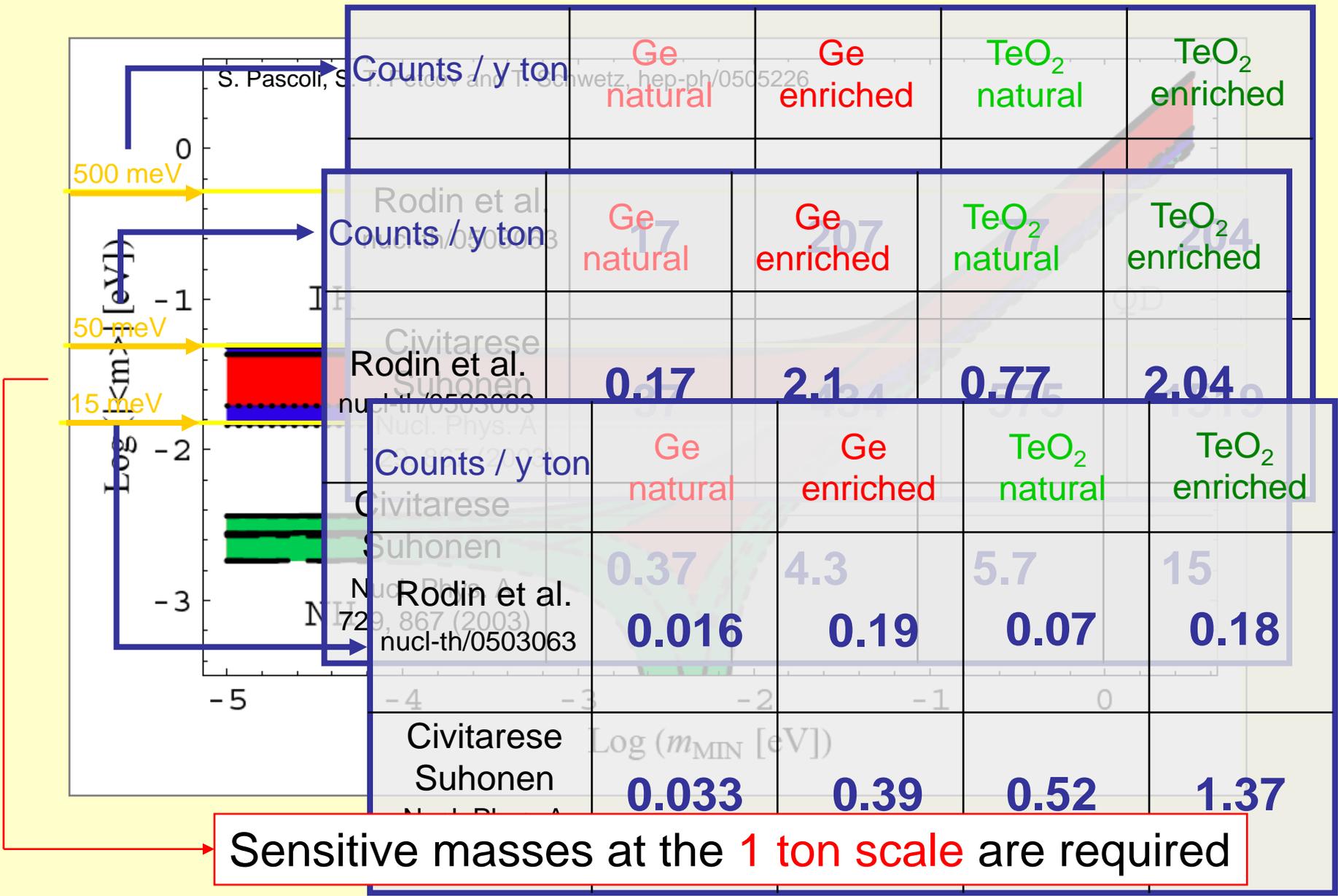


...and where we want to go



There are **techniques** and **experiments in preparation** which have the potential to reach these sensitivities

The size of the challenge



Sensitive masses at the **1 ton scale** are required

Background requirements

To start to explore the inverted hierarchy region

Sensitivity at the level of 1-10 counts / y ton

To cover the inverted hierarchy region

Sensitivity at the level of 0.1 -1 counts / y ton



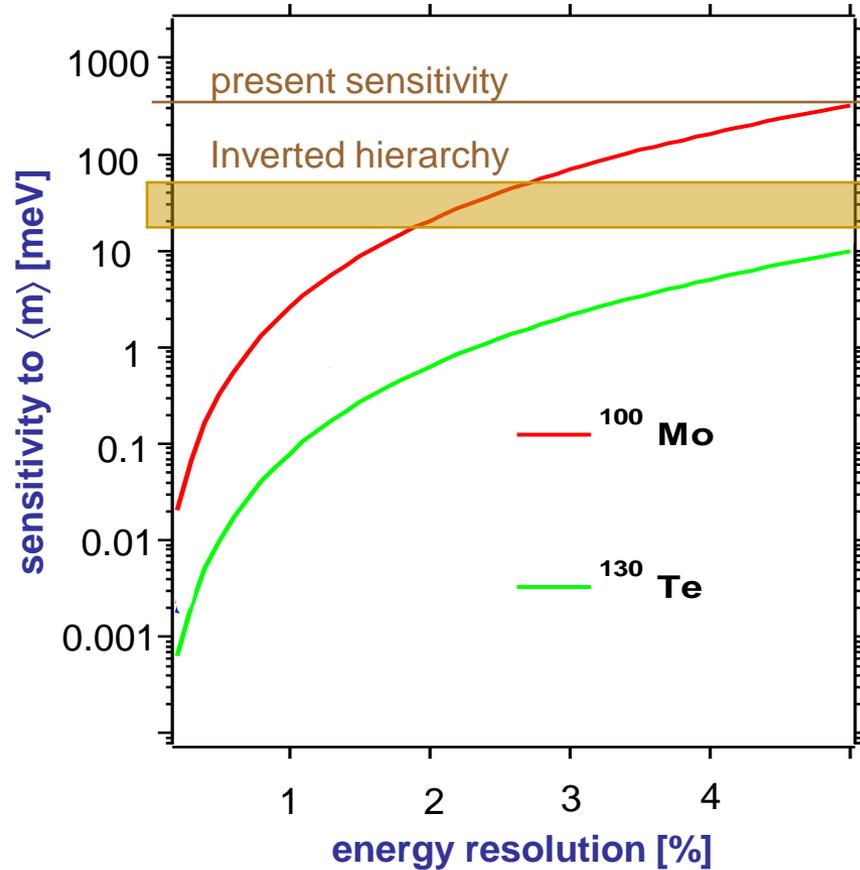
The order of magnitude of the target background is
~ 1 counts / y ton

A challenge for the space-resolving techniques, which normally have **low energy resolution** (~ 10 %)

- **Natural radioactivity**
(source itself)

- **Neutrons**

- **Cosmogenic**



- **2ν Double Beta Decay**

Experimental strategies

① Detect and identify the daughter nuclei (**indirect search**)

geochemical experiments
radiochemical experiments

it is not possible to distinguish the decay channel
important in the 70s-80s – no more pursued now

② Detect the two electrons with a proper **nuclear detector** (**direct search**)

desirable features

- high energy resolution
- low background
- large source (many nuclides under control)
- event reconstruction method

a **peak** must be revealed over background (0ν-DBD)

shield cosmic rays (direct interactions and activations)

underground

very **radio-pure materials**
 $^{238}\text{U} - ^{232}\text{Th} \Rightarrow \tau \sim 10^{10} \text{ y}$
signal rate $\Rightarrow \tau > 10^{25} \text{ y}$

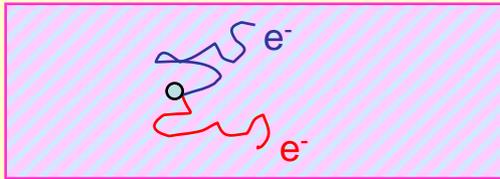
present more sensitive experiments: **10 - 100 kg**
future goals: **$\sim 1000 \text{ kg} \Rightarrow 10^{27} - 10^{28}$ nuclides**

- reject background
- study electron energy and angular distributions

Experimental approaches to direct searches

Two approaches:

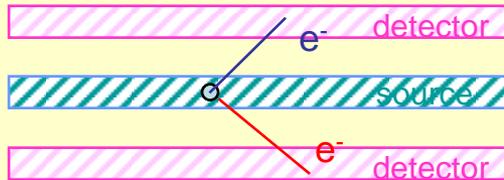
①



Source \equiv Detector
(calorimetric technique)

- scintillation
- phonon-mediated detection
- solid-state devices
- gaseous detectors

②



Source \neq Detector

- scintillation
- gaseous TPC
- gaseous drift chamber
- magnetic field and TOF

☹ constraints on detector materials

😊 very large masses are possible
demonstrated: up to ~ 50 kg
proposed: up to ~ 1000 kg

😊 with proper choice of the detector,
very high energy resolution

Ge-diodes
bolometers

😊 in gaseous/liquid xenon detector,
indication of event topology

☹ in contradiction

😊 neat reconstruction of event topology

☹ it is difficult to get large source mass

😊 several candidates can be studied
with the same detector

Experimental sensitivity to 0ν -DBD

sensitivity F: lifetime corresponding to the minimum detectable number of events over background at a given confidence level

$b \neq 0$

b: specific background coefficient
[counts/(keV kg y)]

$b = 0$

source mass live time energy resolution

$$F \propto (MT / b\Delta E)^{1/2}$$

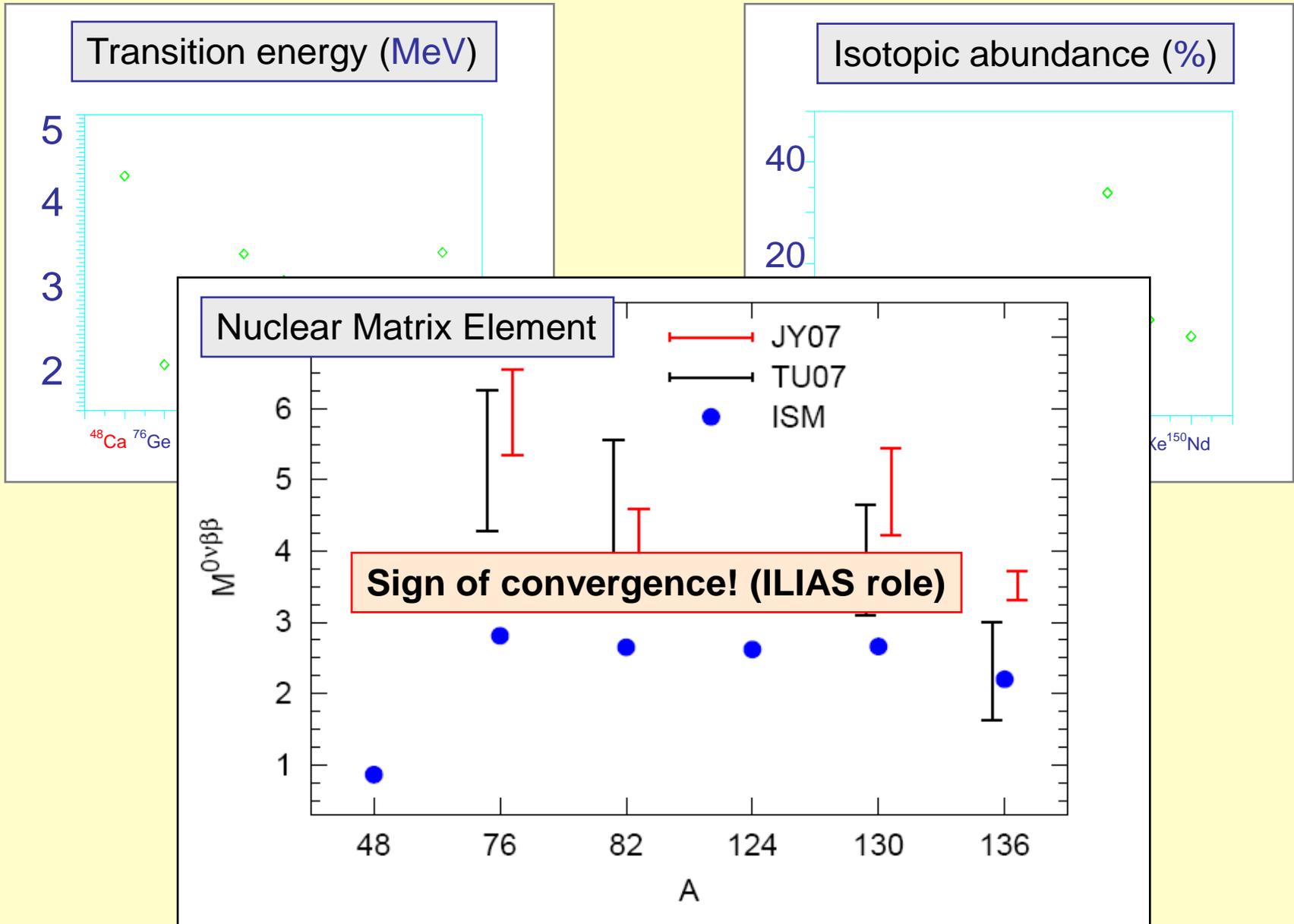
$$F \propto MT$$

background level

importance of the **nuclide choice**
(but **large uncertainty** due to nuclear physics)

$$\text{sensitivity to } \langle M \rangle \propto (F/Q |M_{\text{nucl}}|^2)^{1/2} \propto \frac{1}{Q^{1/2} |M_{\text{nucl}}|} \left(\frac{b\Delta E}{MT} \right)^{1/4}$$

Choice of the nuclide



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Present experimental situation in the search for 0ν -DBD

I will give some details about **three** crucial experiments:

- Heidelberg – Moscow (HM) (closed)

dominated DBD scenario over a decade (stopped in May 03)

- NEMO3 (running)

it is an intermediate generation experiment capable to study different candidate nuclides

- CUORICINO (running)

it is an intermediate generation experiment with the potential to improve the HM result

it is also a prelude to a new generation experiment, **CUORE** (**C**ryogenic **U**nderground **O**bservatory for **R**are **E**vents),

The Heidelberg Moscow experiment

Source = detector
Well established technology of Ge diodes

This technique has been dominating the field for decades and is still one of the most promising for the future

E. Fiorini – 60s

- Five Ge diodes for an overall mass of **10.9 kg isotopically enriched (86%) in ^{76}Ge**
- **Underground** operation in the Gran Sasso laboratory (Italy)
- **Lead box** and nitrogen flushing of the detectors
- **Digital Pulse Shape Analysis (PSA)** (factor 5 reduction)

7.6×10^{25} ^{76}Ge nuclei

identification of Multi-site events
(gamma background)

Background in the region of DBD:

$b = 0.17$ counts/(keV kg y)

$\langle M_{\beta\beta} \rangle < 0.3 - 2.5$ eV

similar results obtained by IGEX experiment

HM: claim of evidence of 0ν -DBD

Suddenly, in December 2001, 4 authors (KDHK) of the HM collaboration announce the **discovery of neutrinoless DBD**

most probable value of events:
14.8 in 46 kg y exposure

KDHK claim: $m_{ee} = 0.11 - 0.56$ eV (0.39 eV b.v.)

$\tau_{1/2}^{0\nu}$ (y) = $(0.8 - 18.3) \times 10^{25}$ y (1×10^{25} y b.v.)
(95 % c.l.)

H.V. Klapdor-Kleingrothaus et al. Mod. Phys. Lett. A 16 (2001) 2409

later, the authors widen the allowed range for m_{ee} to account for nuclear matrix element uncertainty:

$$\langle M_{\beta\beta} \rangle = 0.05 - 0.84 \text{ eV (95\% c.l.)}$$

immediate skepticism in DBD community

Aalseth CE et al. , Mod. Phys. Lett. A 17 (2002) 1475

Feruglio F et al. , Nucl. Phys. B 637 (2002) 345

Zdezenko Yu G et al., Phys. Lett. B546(2002)206

} Comments and reanalysis of HD-M data

Klapdor-Kleingrothaus HV hep-ph/0205228

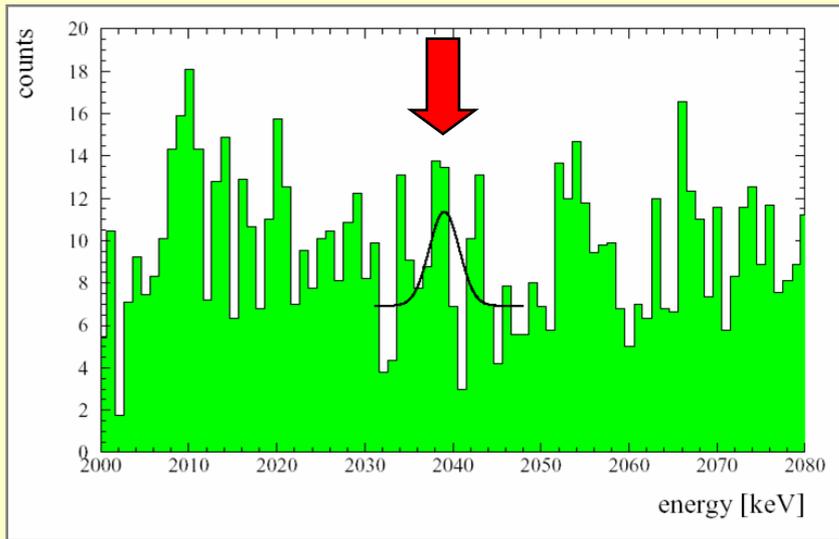
H.L. Harney, hep-ph/0205293

} Independent replies to the Comments

Subsequent papers (2004) about claim of evidence

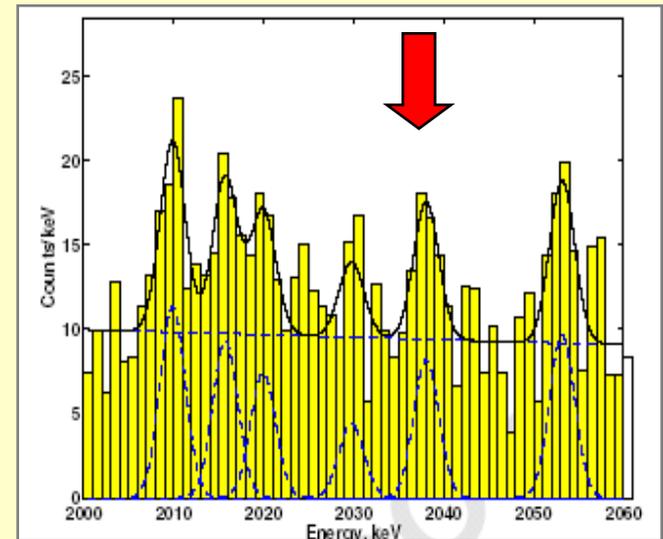
With respect to the 2001 results, now data with **higher statistics** and with **better quality** show an increase of the statistical significance of the “peak”:

2001



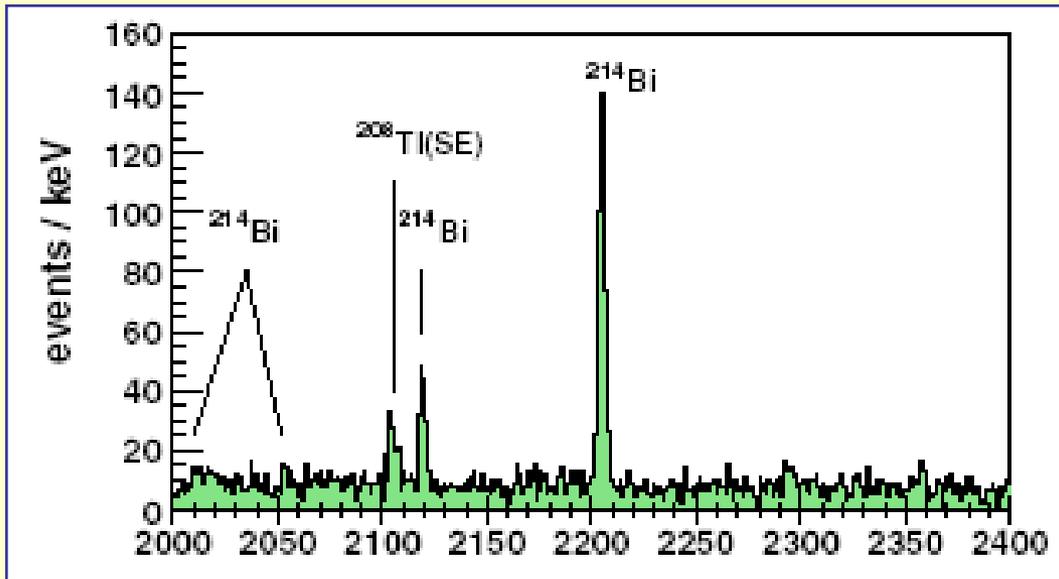
54.98 kg·y 2.2 σ

2004



71.7 kg·y 4 σ

Subsequent papers (2004) about claim of evidence

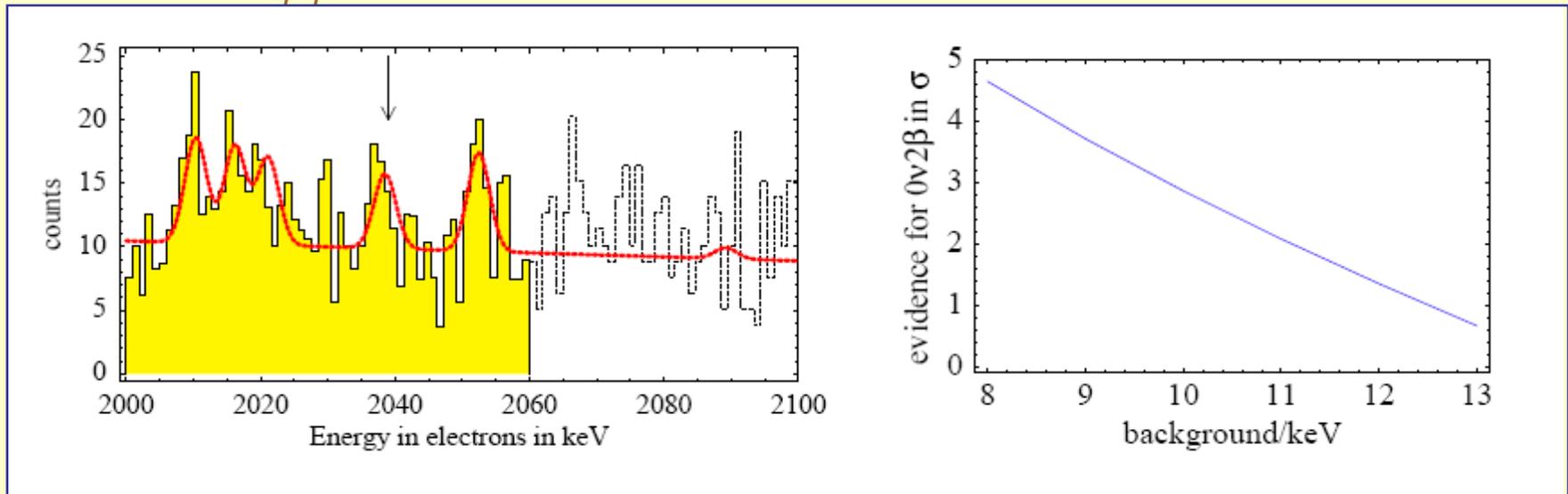


Many background features are still to explain

Looking at a **larger range**, many structures resemble the DBD “peak” and need to be explained

← The statistical significance depends on the flat component of the background

Strumia-Vissani hep-ph/0503246



NEMO3: the structure

Source \neq detector

Well established technologies in particle detection:
 tracking volume with Geiger cells
 plastic scintillators
 magnetic field

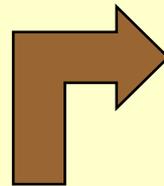
The most sophisticated DBD detector with external source

- Different sources in form of foil can be used simultaneously
- Underground operation in the Frejus laboratory (France)
- Water and iron shields

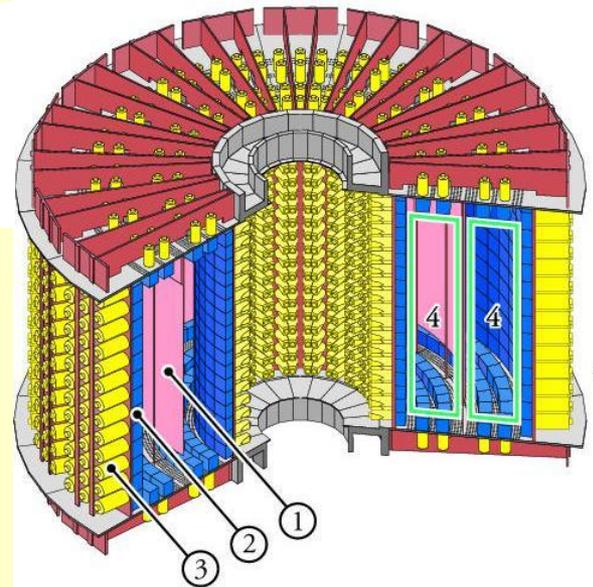
4.1×10^{25} ^{100}Mo nuclei

other sources		
Isotope	Study	Mass(g)
^{100}Mo	$\beta\beta 0\nu, \beta\beta 2\nu$	6914
^{82}Se	$\beta\beta 0\nu, \beta\beta 2\nu$	932
^{116}Cd	$\beta\beta 0\nu, \beta\beta 2\nu$	405
^{130}Te	$\beta\beta 0\nu, \beta\beta 2\nu$	454
^{150}Nd	$\beta\beta 2\nu$	36.6
^{96}Zr	$\beta\beta 2\nu$	9.4
^{48}Ca	$\beta\beta 2\nu$	7.0

- 1 SOURCE
- 2 TRACKING VOLUME
- 3 CALORIMETER

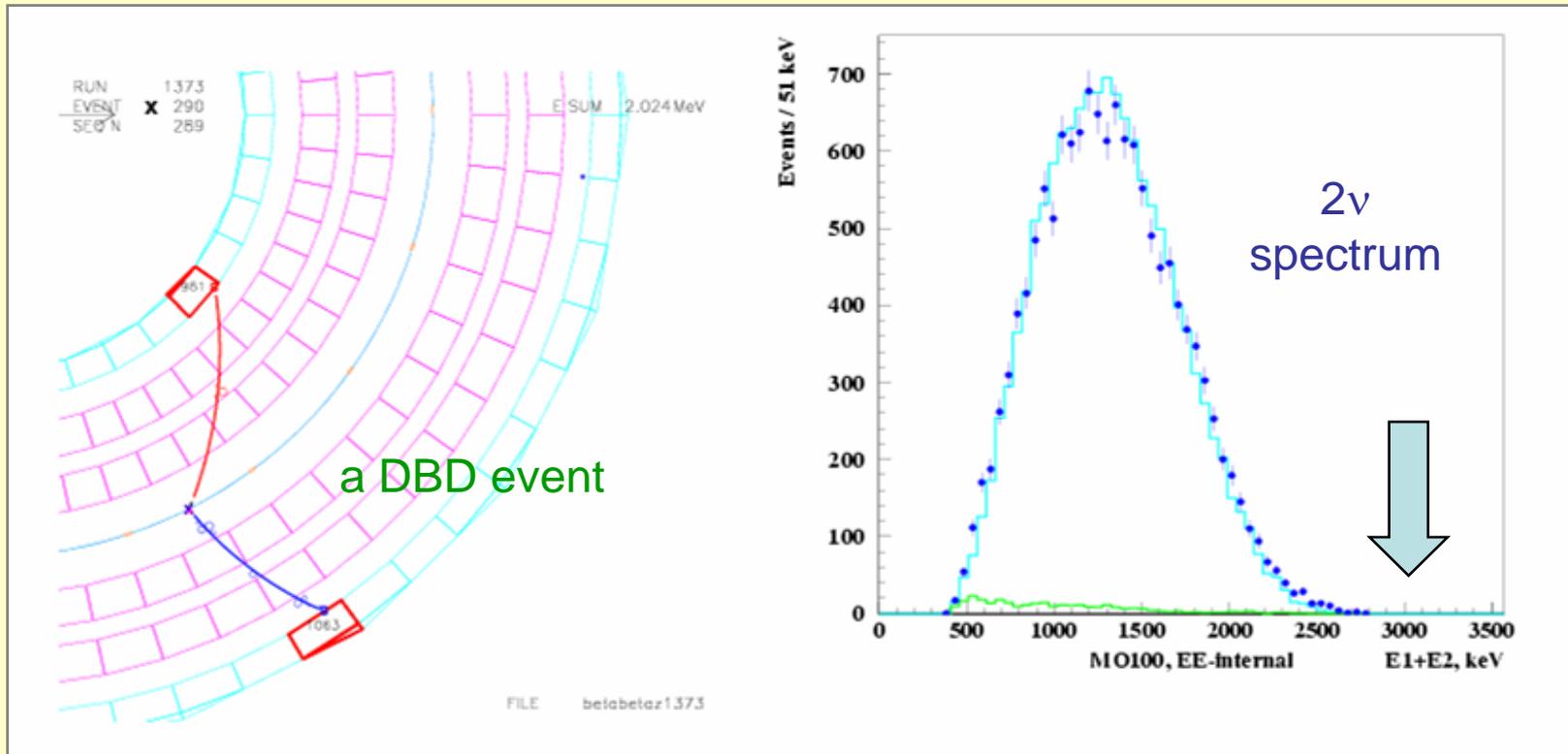


detector scheme



NEMO3: the results and the sensitivity

Beautiful results on ^{100}Mo and on other nuclides



$$\tau_{1/2}^{2\nu} (\text{y}) = 7.8 \pm 0.09_{\text{stat}} \pm 0.8_{\text{syst}} \times 10^{18} \text{ y}$$

$$\tau_{1/2}^{0\nu} (\text{y}) > 5.8 \times 10^{23} \text{ y}$$

$$\langle M_{\beta\beta} \rangle < 0.6 - 1.3 \text{ eV}$$

final sensitivity: 0.2 – 0.35 eV

intrinsic limits:

- source strength
- low energy resolution \Rightarrow 2ν background

NEMO3: 2ν mode, superb nuclear physics

Nuclei	Enriched Source in NEMO 3	T _{1/2} , y (NEMO 3) (partially preliminary)
⁴⁸ Ca (4.271 MeV) (0.187%)	7.0 g	3.9(+/-0.7+/-0.6).10 ¹⁹
⁸² Se (2.995 MeV) (9.2%)	932 g	9.6(+/-0.3+/-1.0).10 ¹⁹
⁹⁶ Zr (3.350 MeV) (2.8%)	9.4 g	2.0(+/-0.3+/-0.2).10 ¹⁹
¹⁰⁰ Mo (3.034 MeV) (9.6%)	6914 g	7.11(+/-0.02+/-0.54).10 ¹⁸
¹¹⁶ Cd (2.802 MeV) (7.5%)	405 g	2.8(+/-0.1+/-0.3).10 ¹⁹
¹³⁰ Te (2.528 MeV) (33.8%)	454 g	7.6(+/-1.5+/-0.8).10 ²⁰
¹⁵⁰ Nd (3.367 MeV) (5.6%)	37 g	9.7(+/-0.7+/-1.0).10 ¹⁸

CUORICINO

Source = detector

Bolometric technique:
young (born in ~ 1985) but now firmly established

The bolometric technique for the study of DBD was proposed by **E. Fiorini** and **T.O. Niinikoski** in **1983**

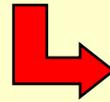
Nuclide under study: ^{130}Te

CUORICINO source



6.4×10^{25} ^{130}Te nuclei

- 0ν DBD is a factor 5-10 faster than in ^{76}Ge
- A.I.: 34% \Rightarrow enrichment not necessary



experiments can be expanded at low cost

Bolometric technique: the nuclear energy is measured as a temperature increase of a single crystal

$$\Delta T = E/C$$

thanks to a proper thermometer,

$$\Delta T \Rightarrow \Delta V$$

In order to get low specific heat, the temperature must be very low (5 – 10 mK)

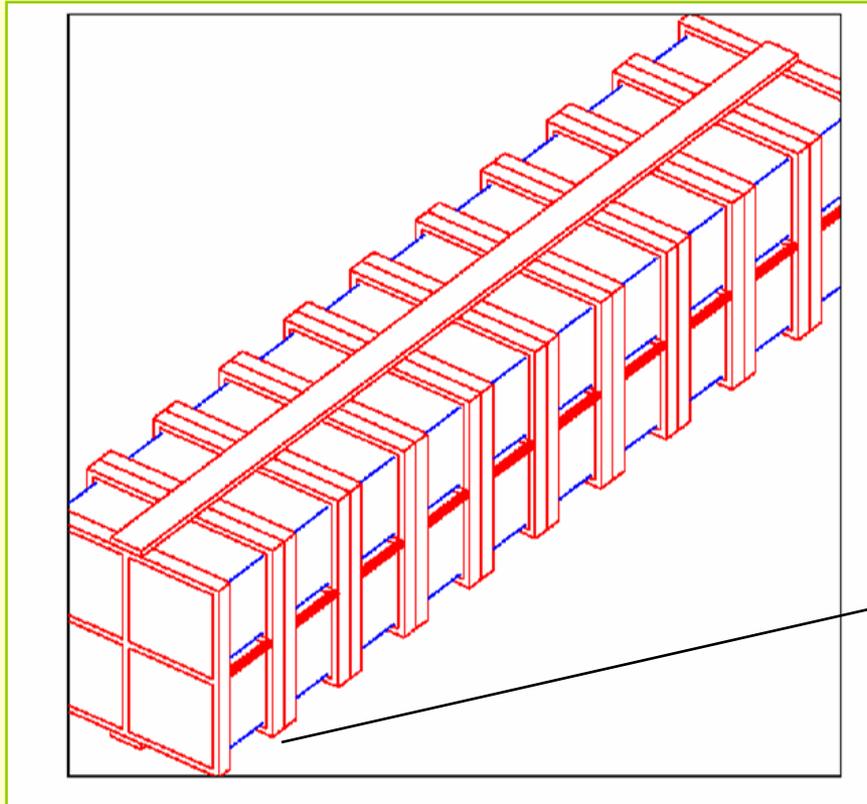
Typical signal sizes: 0.1 mK / MeV, converted to about 1 mV / MeV

The CUORICINO set-up

CUORICINO = tower of 13 modules,
11 modules x 4 detector (790 g) each
2 modules x 9 detector (340 g) each

M = ~ 41 kg

Underground operation in the Gran Sasso laboratory (Italy)



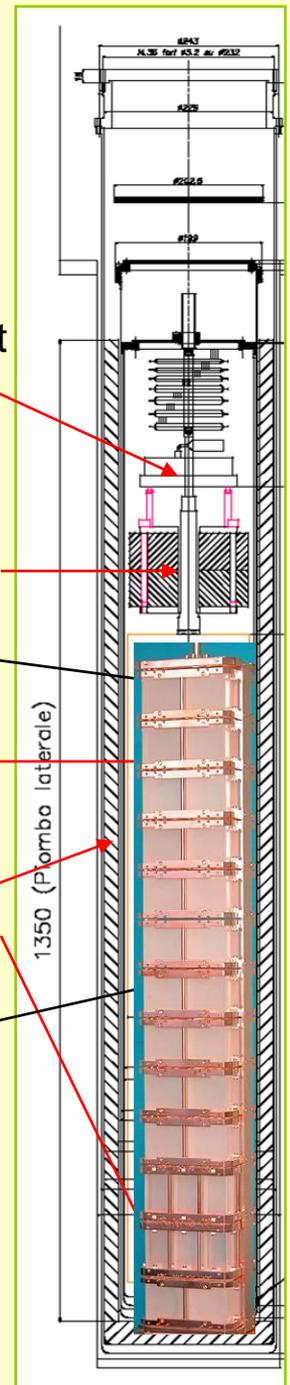
Coldest point

Cold finger

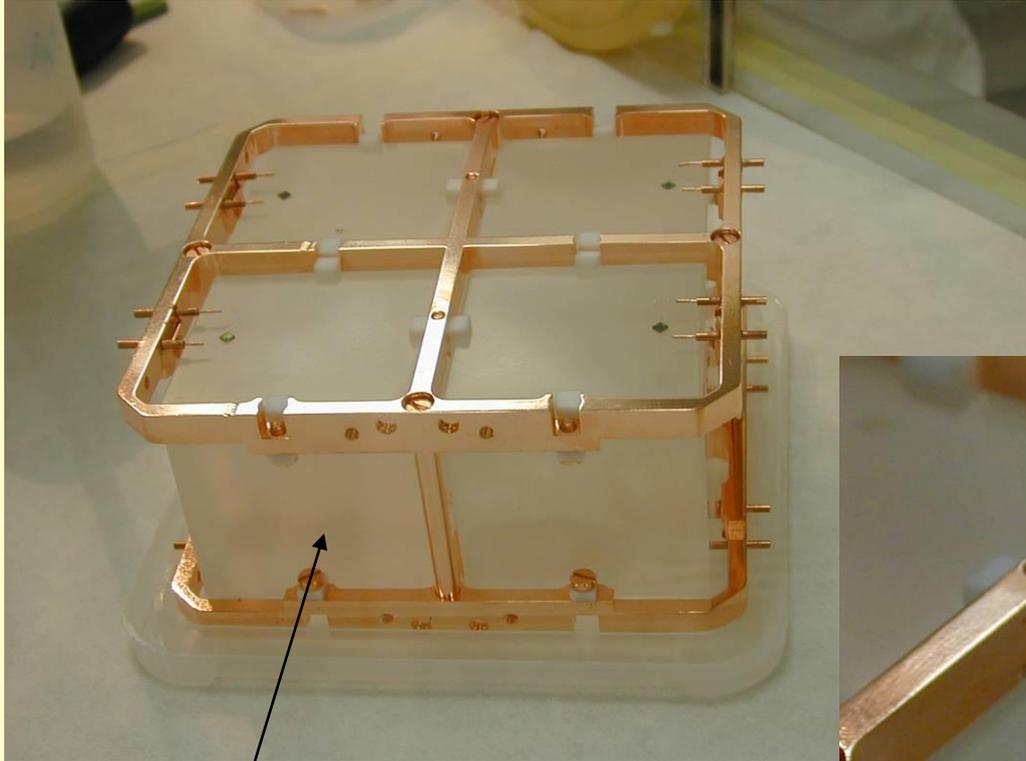
Tower

Lead shield

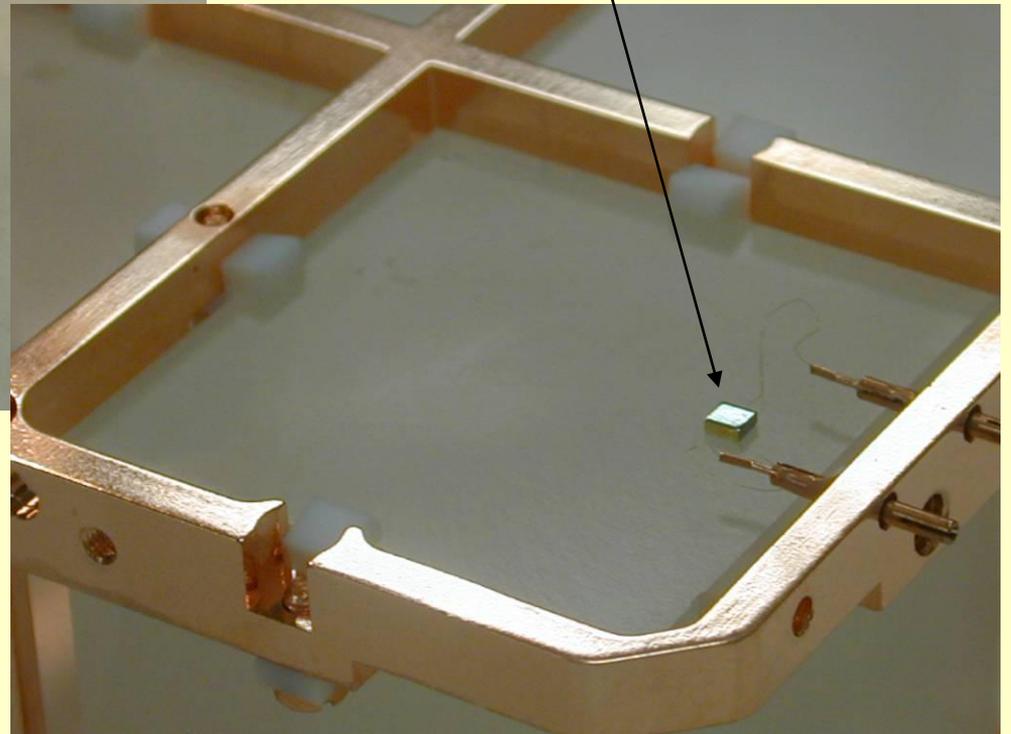
Same cryostat and similar structure as previous pilot experiment



CUORICINO modules



thermometer
(doped Ge chip)



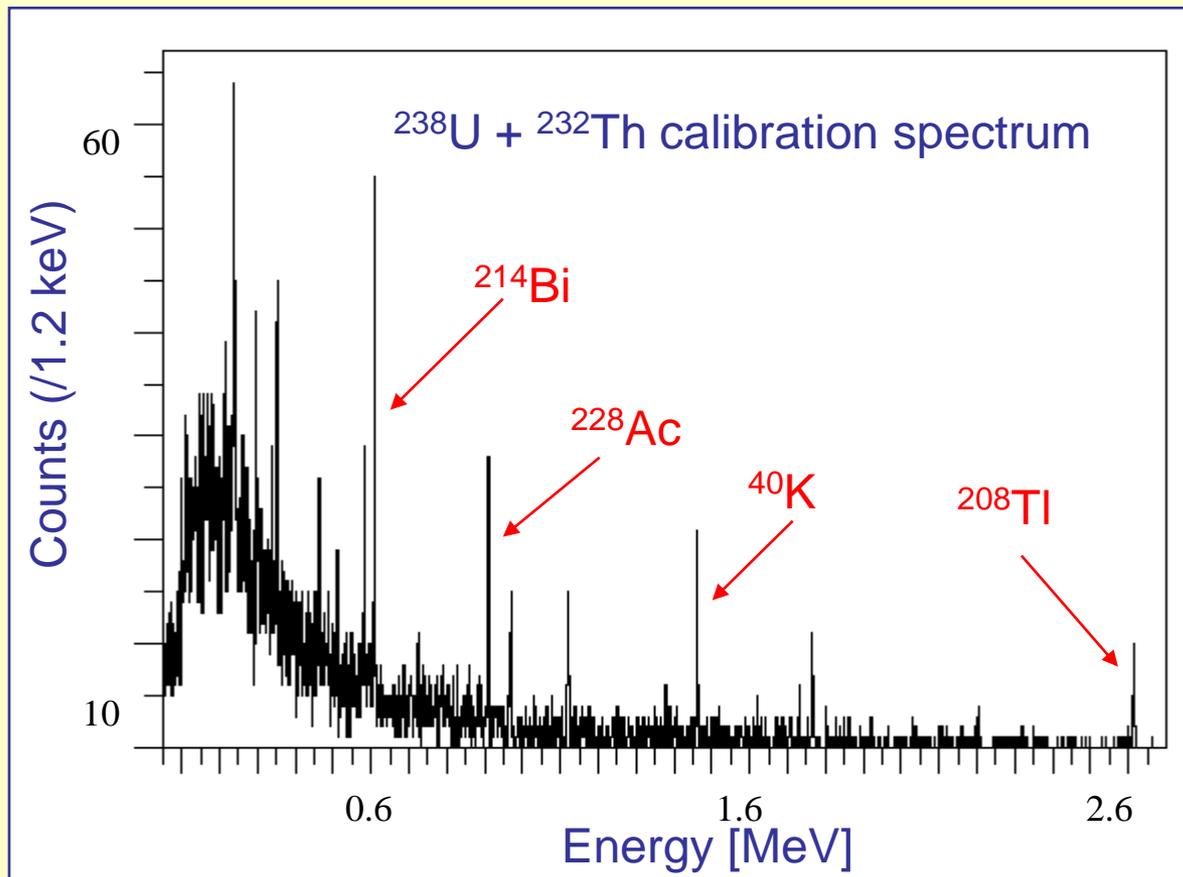
single TeO_2 crystal

- 790 g
- 5 x 5 x 5 cm

Technical results on detector performances

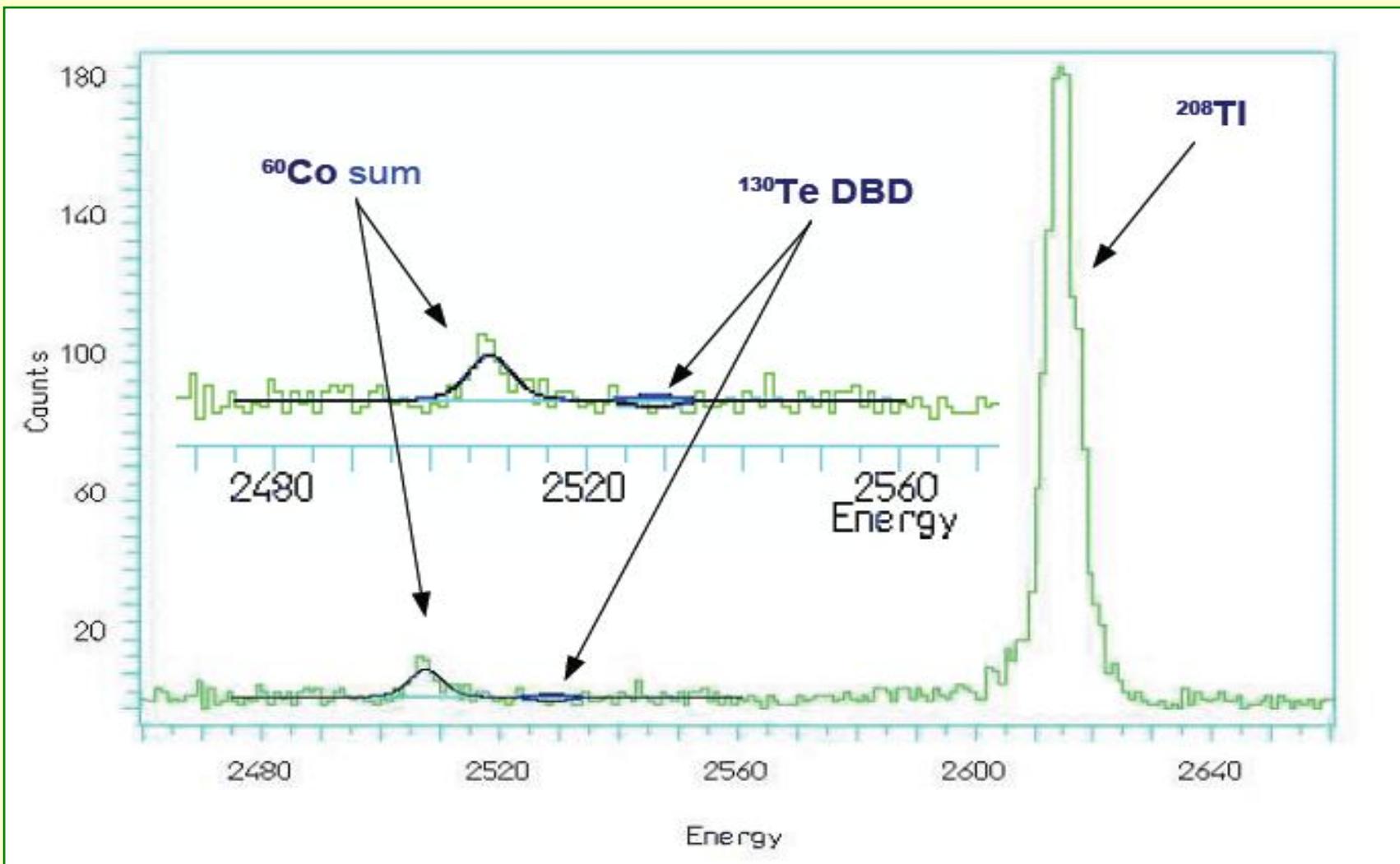
Performance of CUORICINO-type detectors ($5 \times 5 \times 5 \text{ cm}^3$ - 760 g):

- Detector base temperature: $\sim 7 \text{ mK}$
- Detector operation temperature: $\sim 9 \text{ mK}$
- Detector response: $\sim 250 \mu\text{V/ MeV}$
- FWHM resolution: $\sim 3.9 \text{ keV @ } 2.6 \text{ MeV}$

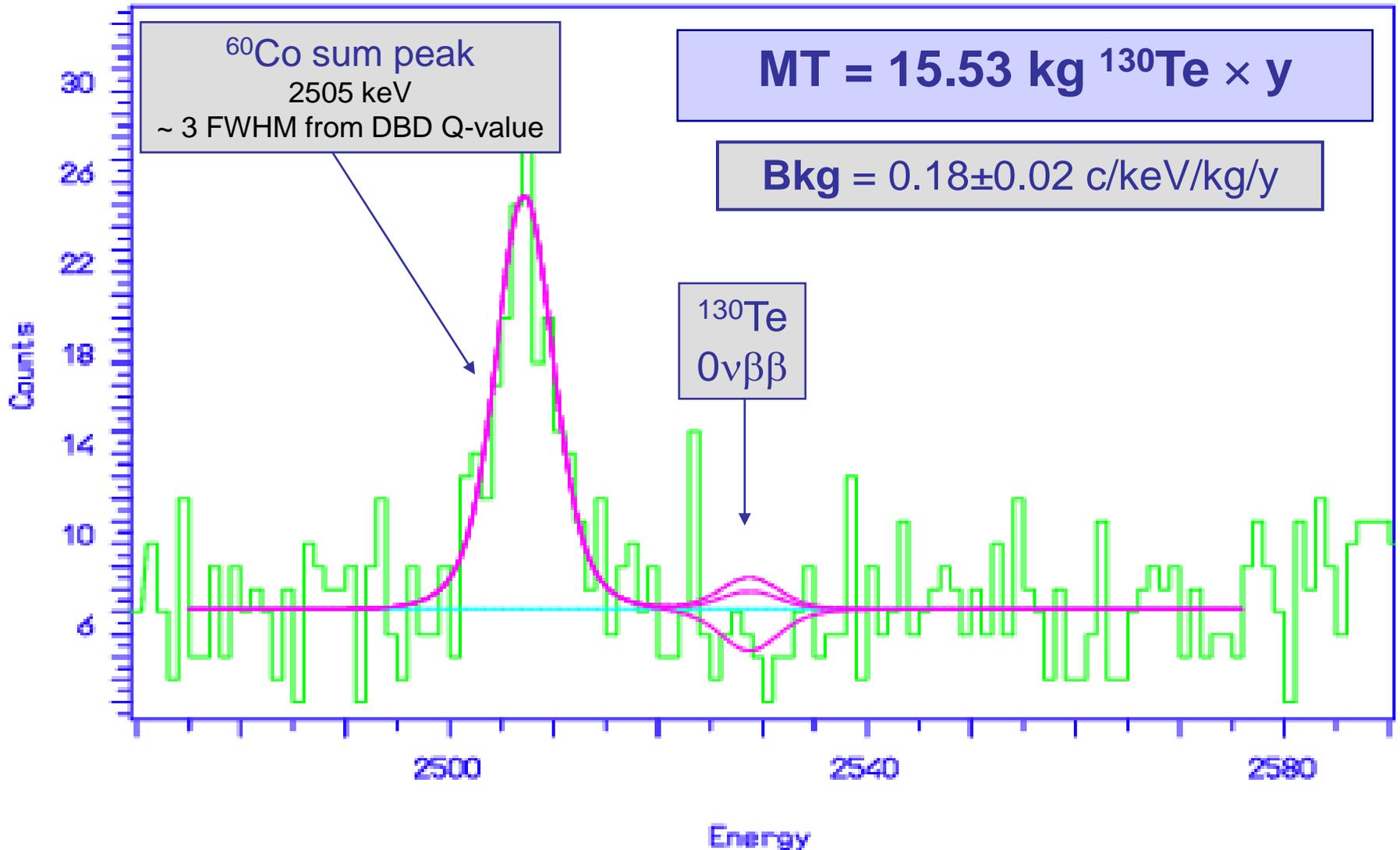


CUORICINO results and sensitivity

How the spectrum looks like in the DBD region



CUORICINO results



$$\tau_{1/2}^{0\nu} (y) > 3.1 \times 10^{24} y \quad (90\% \text{ c.l.})$$

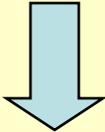
$$\langle M_{\beta\beta} \rangle < 0.20 - 0.98 \text{ eV}$$

Is Cuoricino able now to scrutinize the HM claim of evidence?

HM experimental results:

$$T_{1/2}^{0\nu} (y) = (0.69-4.18) \times 10^{25} \text{ (3}\sigma \text{ range)}$$

$$\text{Best value: } 1.19 \times 10^{25} \text{ y}$$



REF. Klapdor et al., Physics Letters B 586 (2004) 198-212

$$m_{\beta\beta} = 0.24 - 0.58 \text{ eV (3}\sigma \text{ range)}$$

Nuclear matrix element of Muto-Bender-Klapdor

What is done here:

$$T_{1/2}^{0\nu} \text{ (Klapdor)}$$



Choose a nuclear model



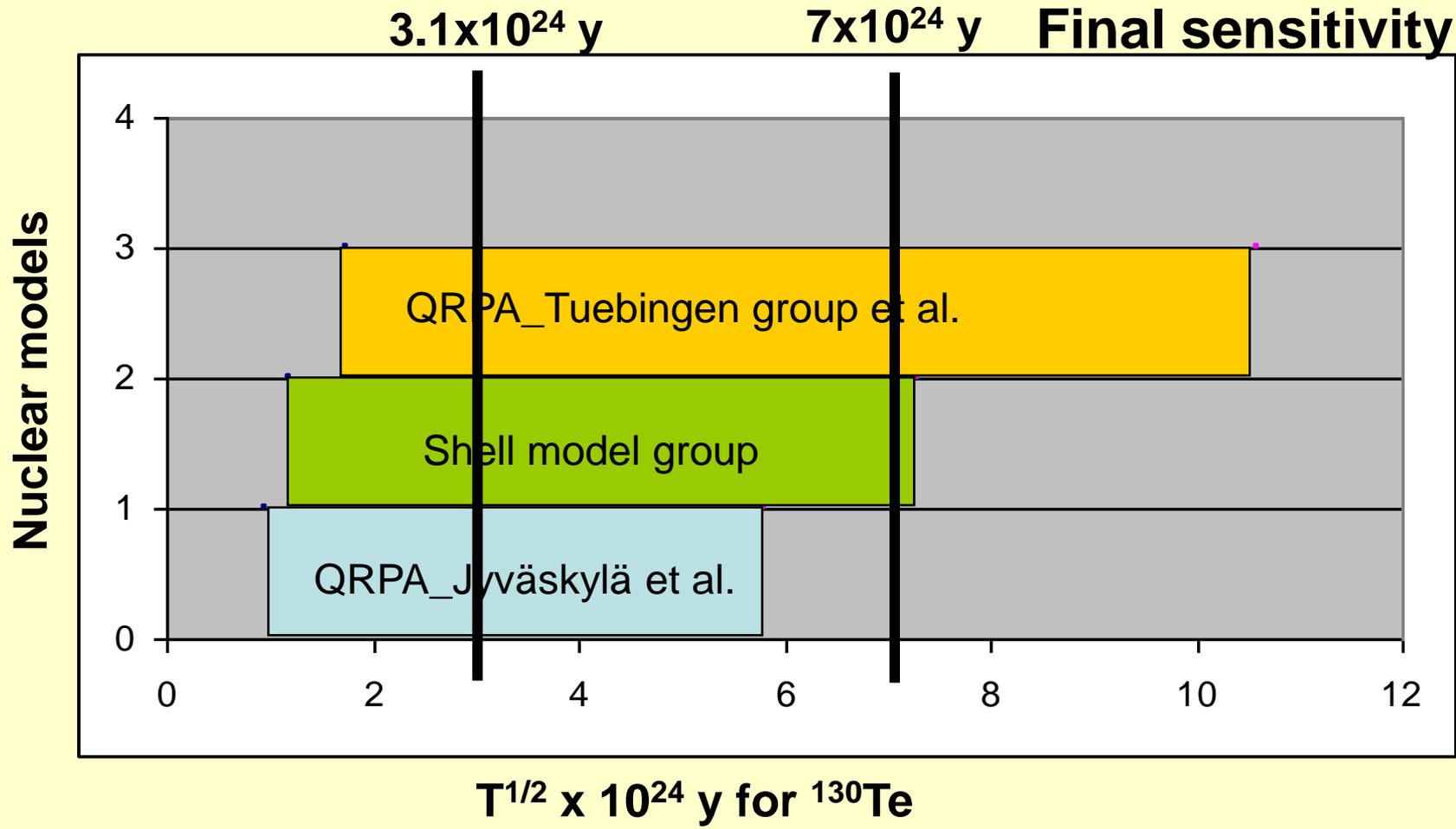
$$T_{1/2}^{0\nu} (^{130}\text{Te})$$

$$T_{1/2}^{0\nu} (^{130}\text{Te}) = \frac{T_{1/2}^{0\nu} (\text{Klapdor})}{\frac{G_{^{130}\text{Te}}^{0\nu}}{G_{^{76}\text{Ge}}^{0\nu}} \cdot \left| \frac{M_{\text{refA}(^{130}\text{Te})}^{0\nu}}{M_{\text{refA}(^{76}\text{Ge})}^{0\nu}} \right|^2}$$

References

- Tuebingen's group: erratum of nucl-th/0503063
- Suhonen's group: nucl-th/0208005
- Shell Model: Poves' talk @ 4th ILIAS Annual Meeting Chambery

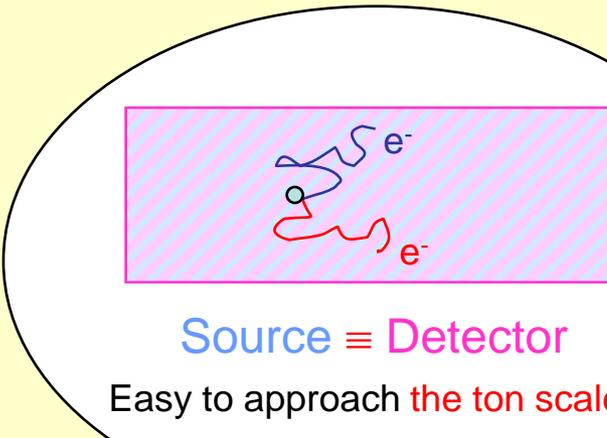
Is Cuoricino able now to scrutinize the HM claim of evidence?



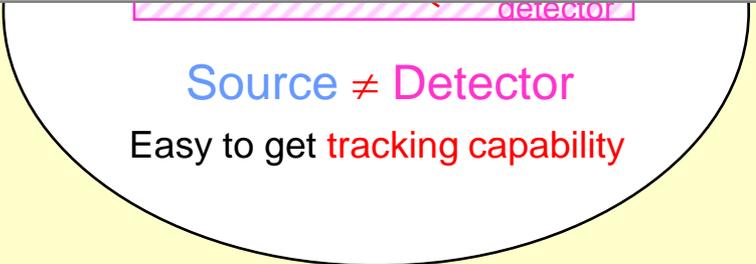
Outline of the talk

- Neutrino mass and Double Beta Decay
- Experimental challenge and strategies
- Present situation
- **Overview of the future projects**
- Some very promising experimental approaches
- Prospects and conclusions

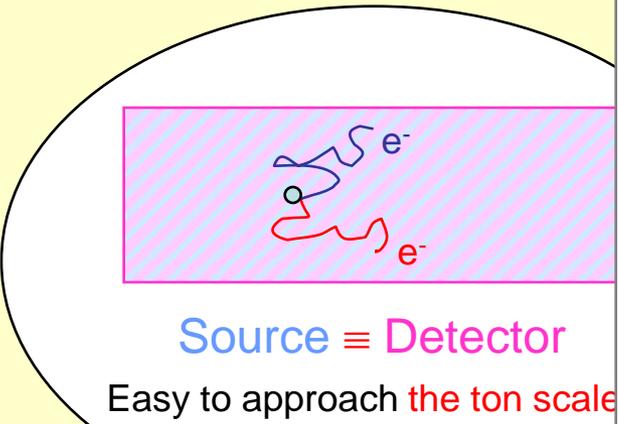
Experiments and techniques



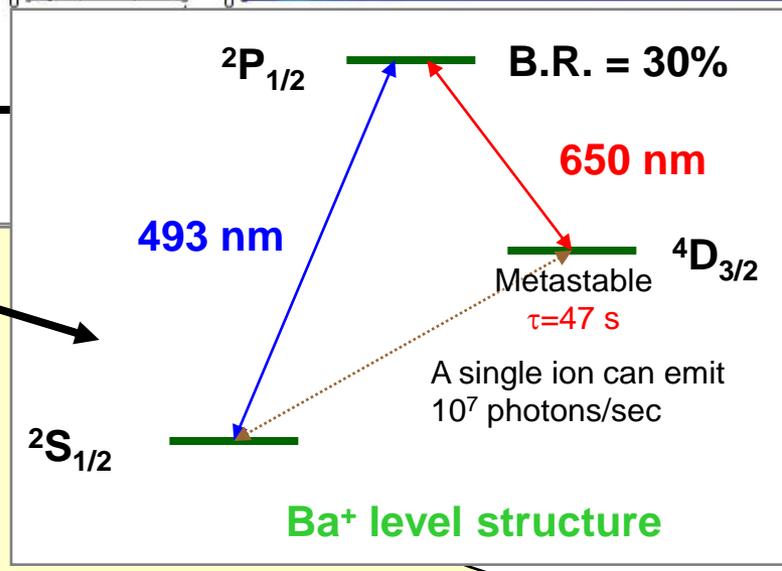
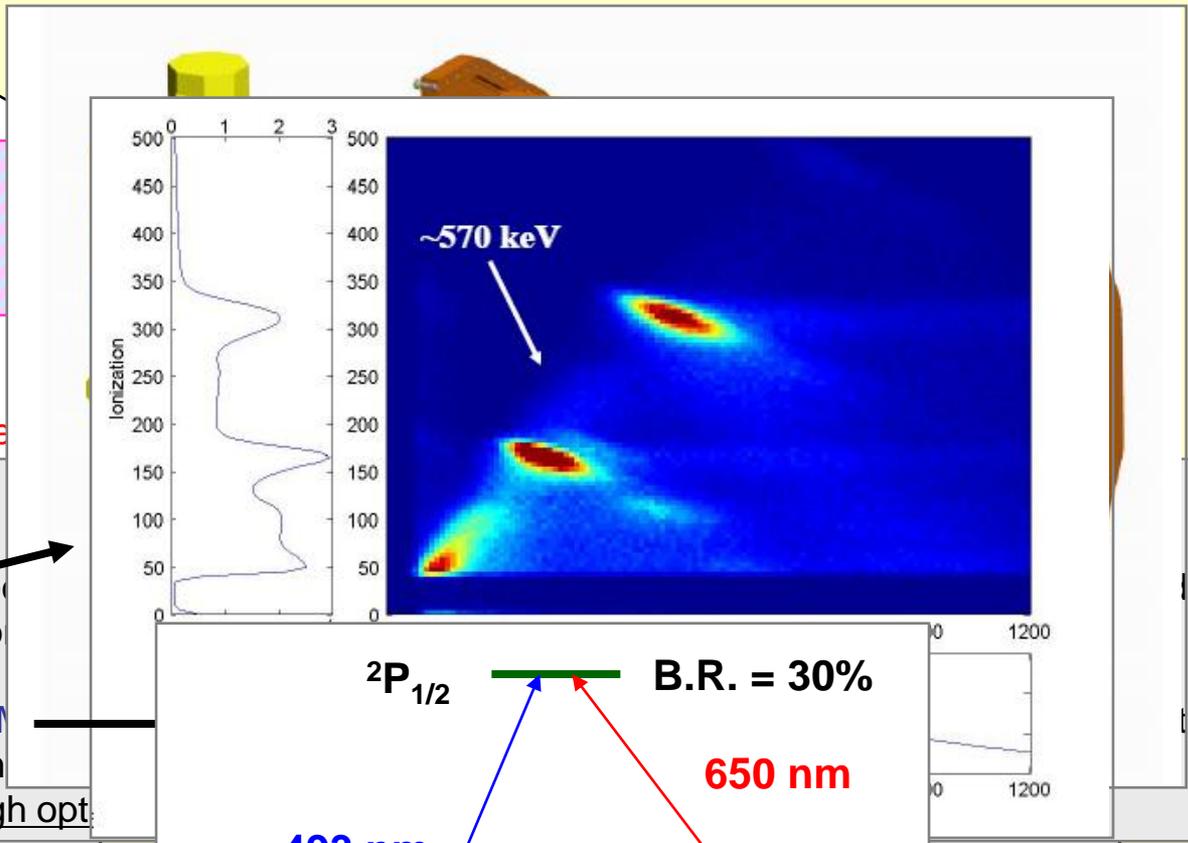
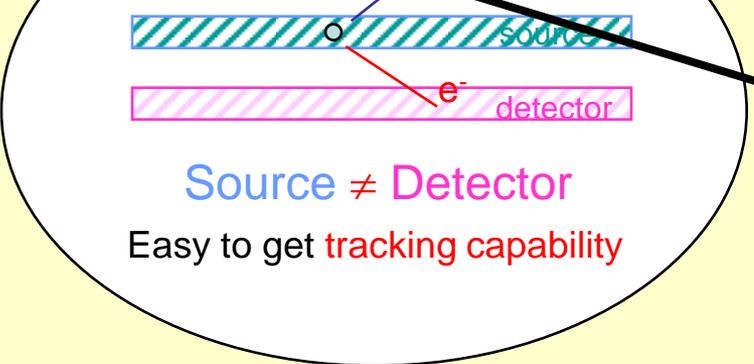
CANDLES – ^{48}Ca
 Array of natural pure (not Eu doped)
 Prove of principle completed (CANDLES II)
 Next step (CANDLES III): 191 kg div
 Further step (CANDLES IV: requires 100 kg)
 Final goal (CANDLES V): 100 ton (S)
 Proved energy resolution: 3.4 % FW
 The good point of this search is the h
 \Rightarrow out of γ (2.6 MeV end point), β (3.3 MeV end point) and α (max 2.5 MeV with quench) natural radioactivity
 Other background cuts come from PSD (α/β different timing) and space-time correlation for Bi-Po and Bi-Tl



Experiments and techniques

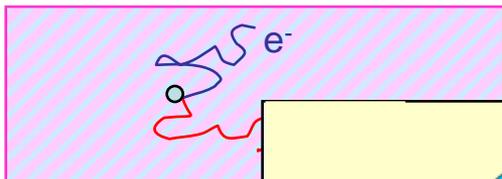


EXO - ^{136}Xe
 TPC of enriched liquid Xenon
 Event position and topology; in prospect
 Next step (EXO-200: funded, under construction)
 Further steps: 1-10 ton
 Proved energy resolution: **3.3 % FWHM**
 In parallel with the EXO-200 development
 $\text{Ba}^{++} e^- e^-$ final state is identified through optical



on (>2%)
 capability
 ackround
 of
 nt)

Experiments and techniques



Source ≡

Easy to approach

XMASS - ^{136}Xe

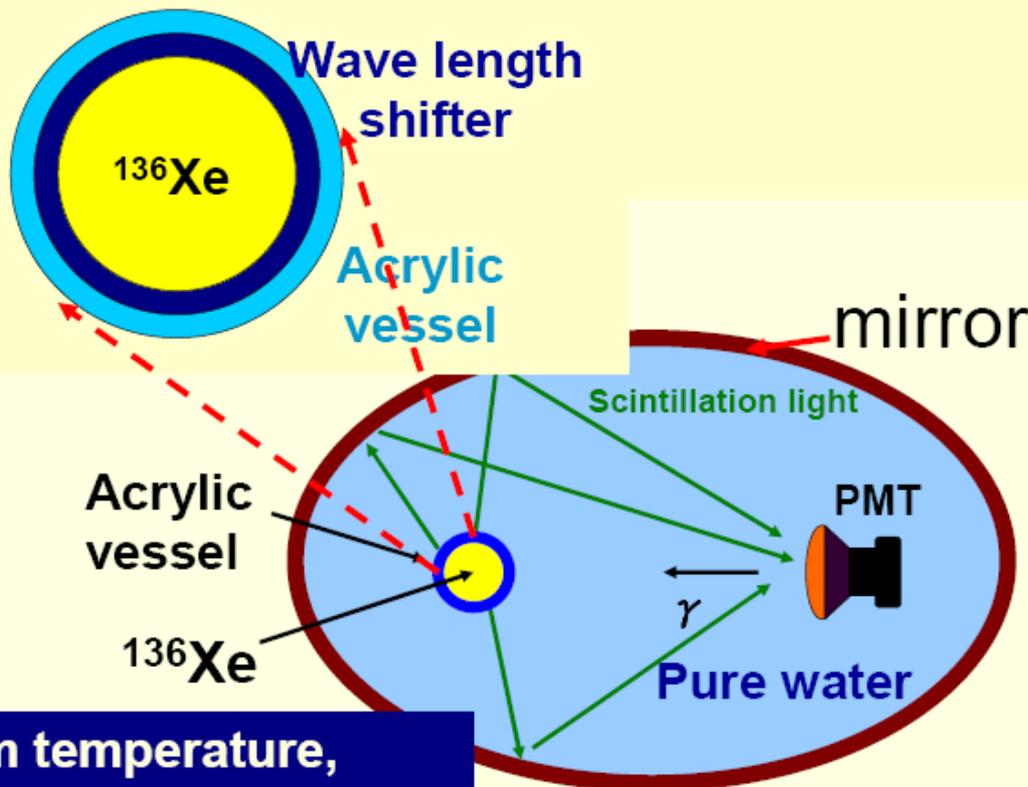
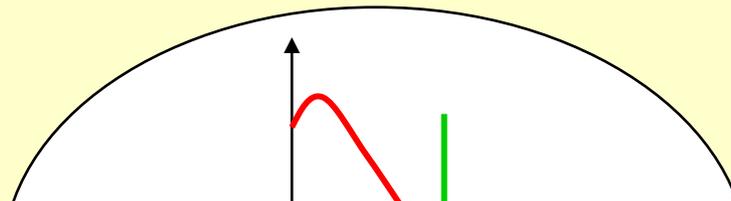
Multipurpose scintillating
 Three development stages
 DBD option: low background
 ⇒ Special development v
 High light yield and collection
 Target: to cover inverted

SNO+ - ^{150}Nd

SNO detector filled with
 Very interesting and original

Source ≠

Easy to get track



Room temperature,
 high pressure liquid Xe.

2v DBD component)

Experiments and techniques

SUPERNEMO - ^{82}Se or ^{150}Nd

Modules with source foils, tracking (drift
Magnetic field for charge sign

Possible configuration: 20 modules with
Energy resolution: 4 % FWHM

Li can take advantage of NEMO3 experi

MOON - ^{100}Mo or ^{82}Se or ^{150}Nd

Multilayer plastic scintillators interleaved
MOON-1 prototype without tracking sec

MOON-2 prototype with tracking section

Proved energy resolution: 6.8 % FWHM

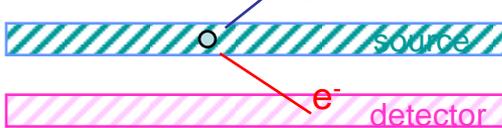
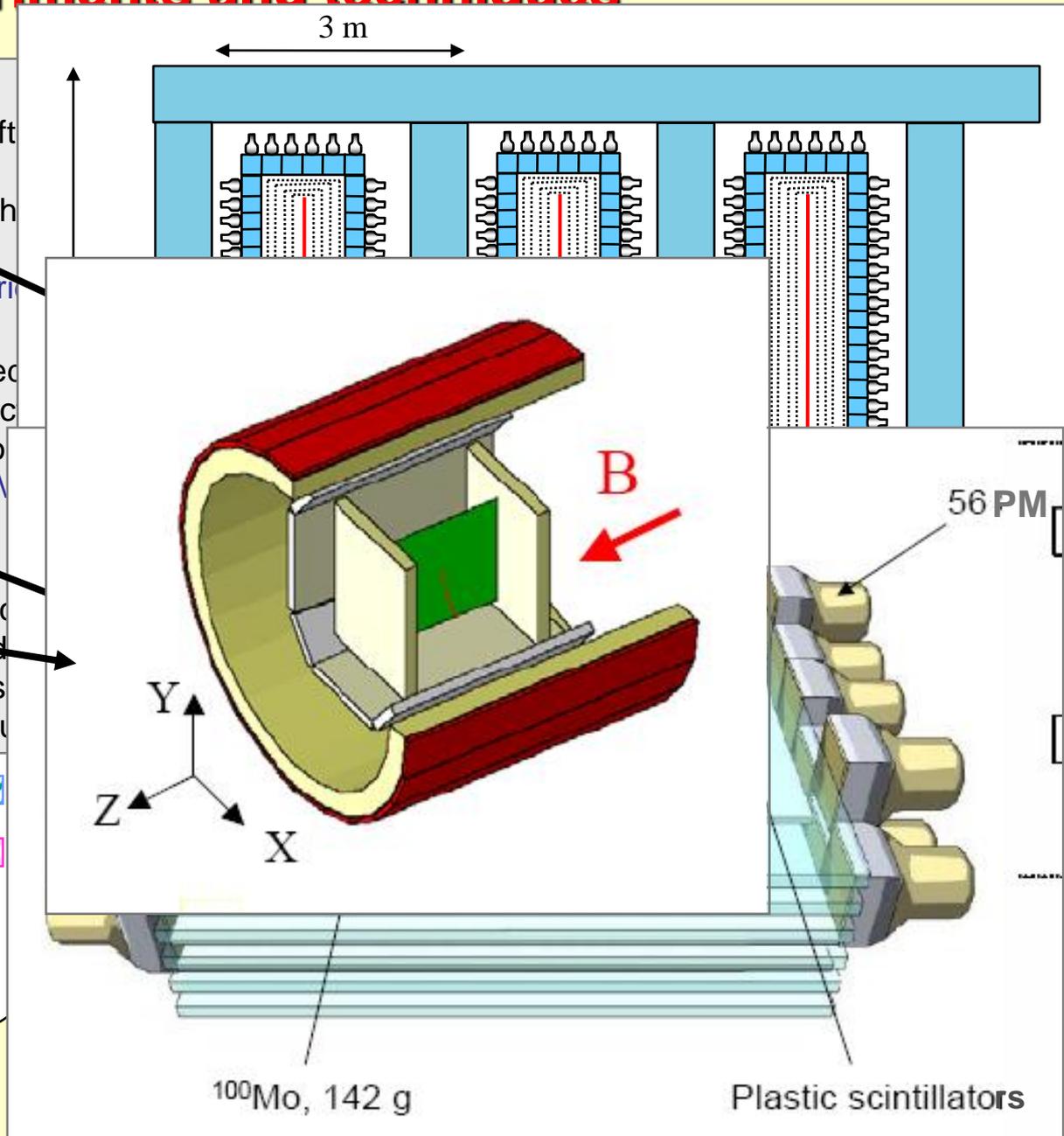
Final target: collect 5 y x ton

DCBA - ^{82}Se or ^{150}Nd

Momentum analyzer for beta particles of
Prototype: Nd_2O_3 foils \Rightarrow 1.2 g or ^{150}Nd

Space resolution \sim 0.5 mm; energy res

Final target: 10 modules with 84 m² sou



Source \neq Detector

Easy to get tracking capability

Outline of the talk

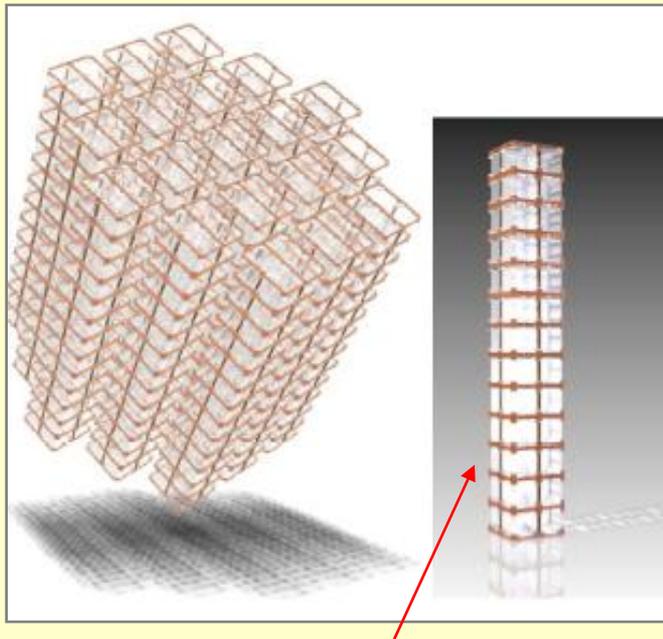
- Neutrino mass and Double Beta Decay
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From CUORICINO to CUORE

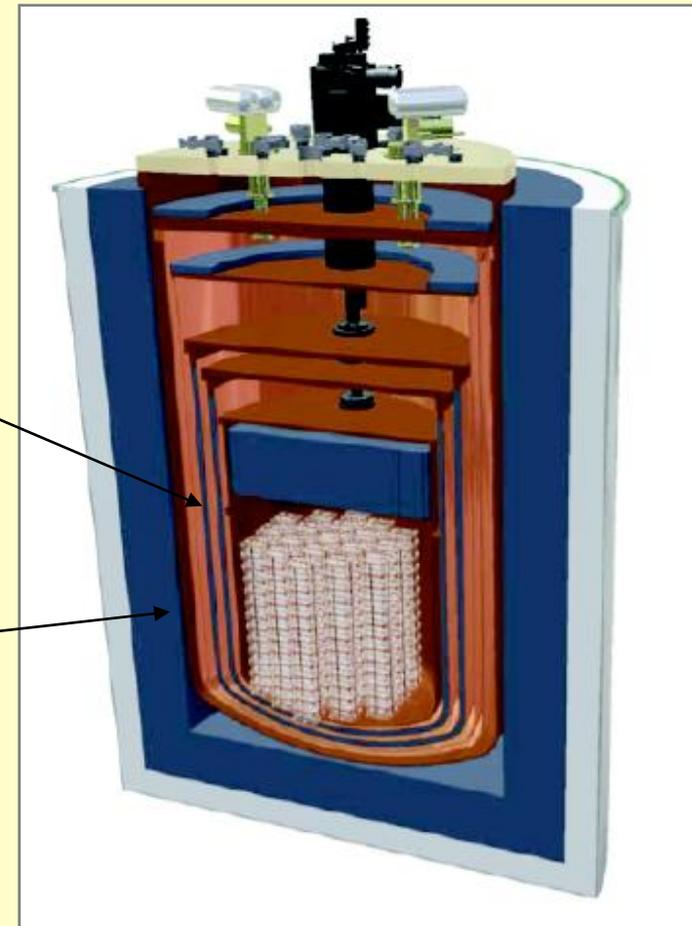
(Cryogenic Underground Observatory for Rare Events)

CUORE = closely packed array of 988 detectors
19 towers - 13 modules/tower - 4 detectors/module
M = 741 kg

↳ Compact structure, ideal for active shielding

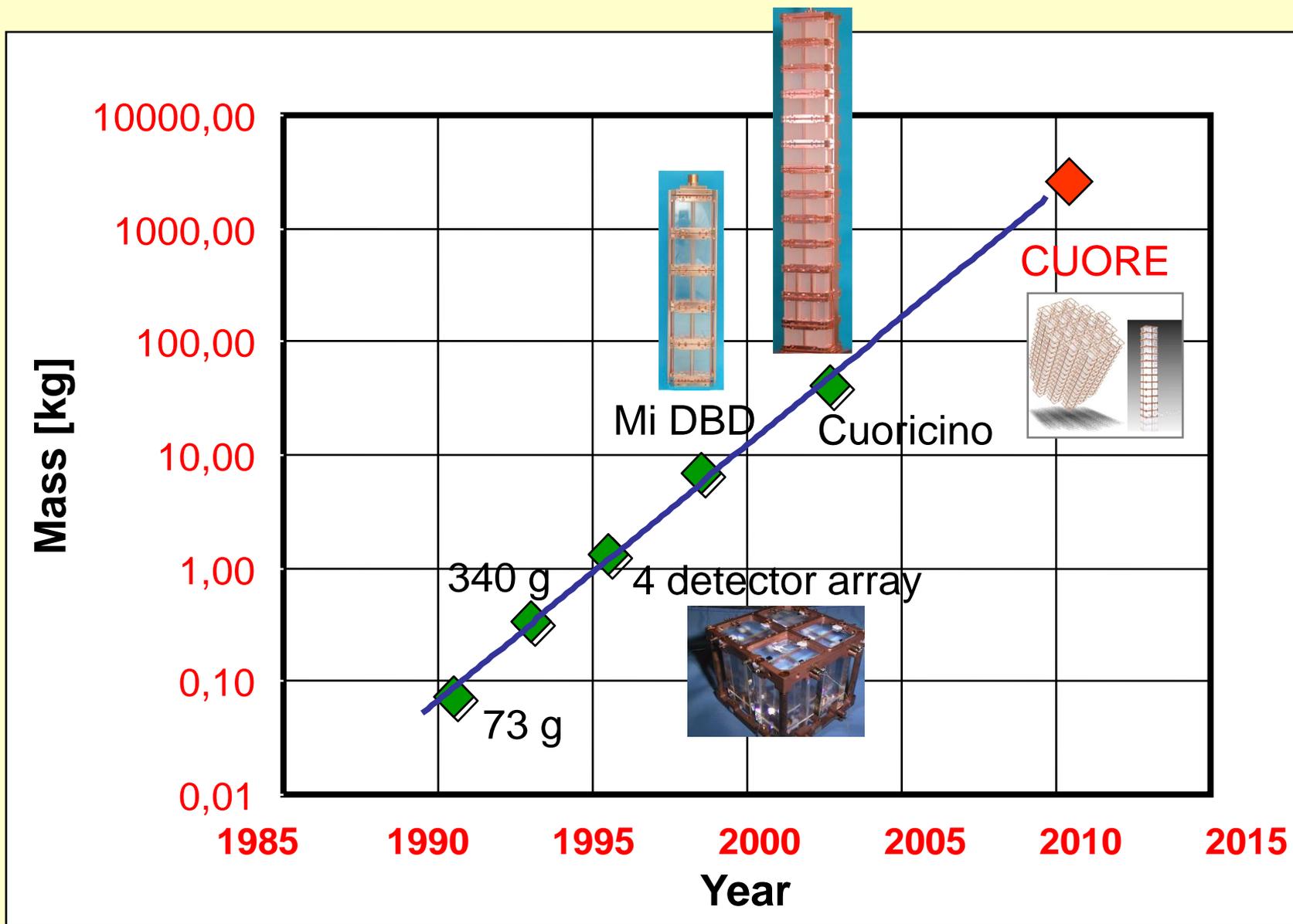


Each tower is a CUORICINO-like detector



Special dilution refrigerator

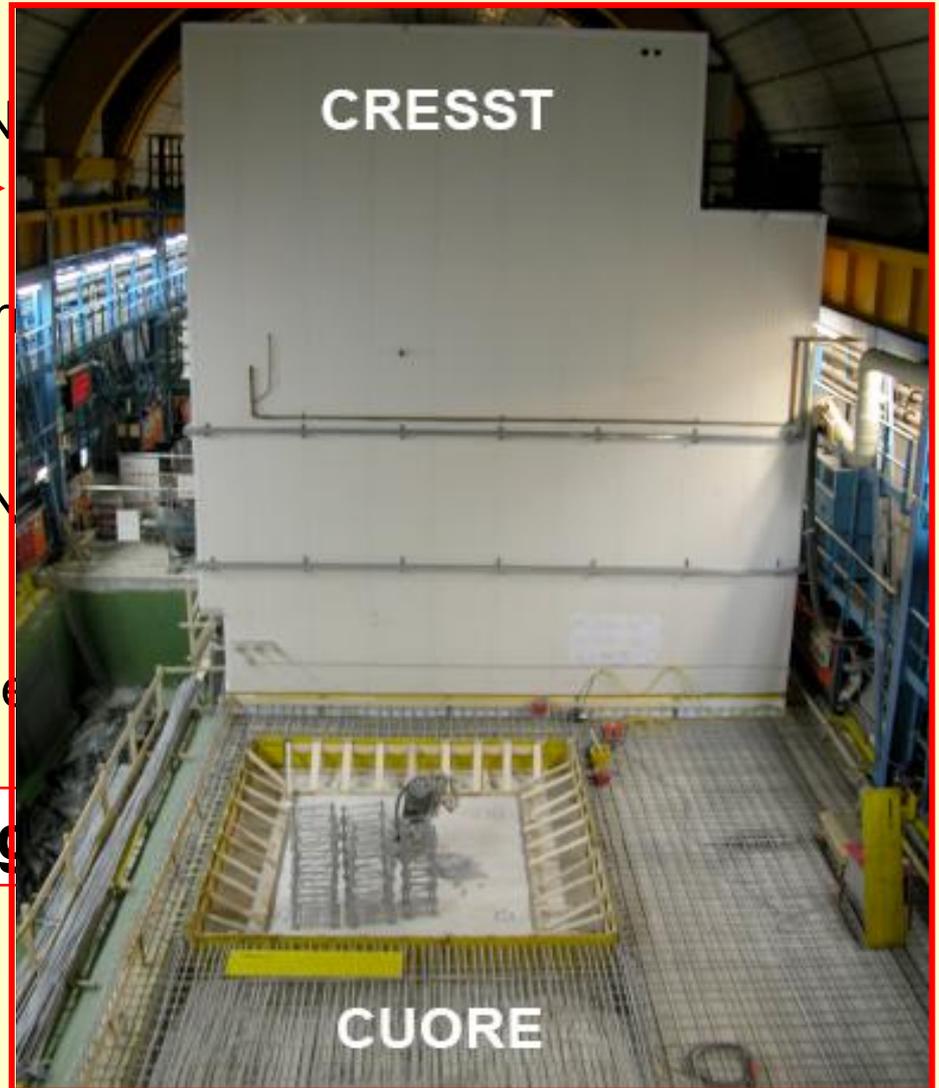
Moore's law for mass increase of TeO₂ detectors



CUORE funding and schedule

- CUORE has a **dedicated site** in LNM
- The CUORE **refrigerator** is fully funded
- **1000 crystals** are fully funded by INFN
- The **first CUORE tower** will be assembled

CUORE data taking



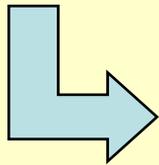
CUORE sensitivity

Montecarlo simulations of the background show that

$$b = 0.001 \text{ counts / (keV kg y)}$$

is possible with the present bulk contamination of detector materials

The problem is the **surface background** (alpha, beta energy-degraded)



it must be reduced by a factor 10 – 100 with respect to Cuoricino work in progress! (only a factor 2 from the **conservative** assumption)

5 y sensitivity (1σ) with **conservative**
Assumption: $b = 0.01$ counts/(keV kg y)

$$F^{0\nu} = 9.2 \times 10^{25} \times (T [y])^{1/2}$$

$$\langle M \rangle < 20 - 100 \text{ meV}$$

5 y sensitivity (1σ) with **aggressive**
assumption: $b = 0.001$ counts/(keV kg y)

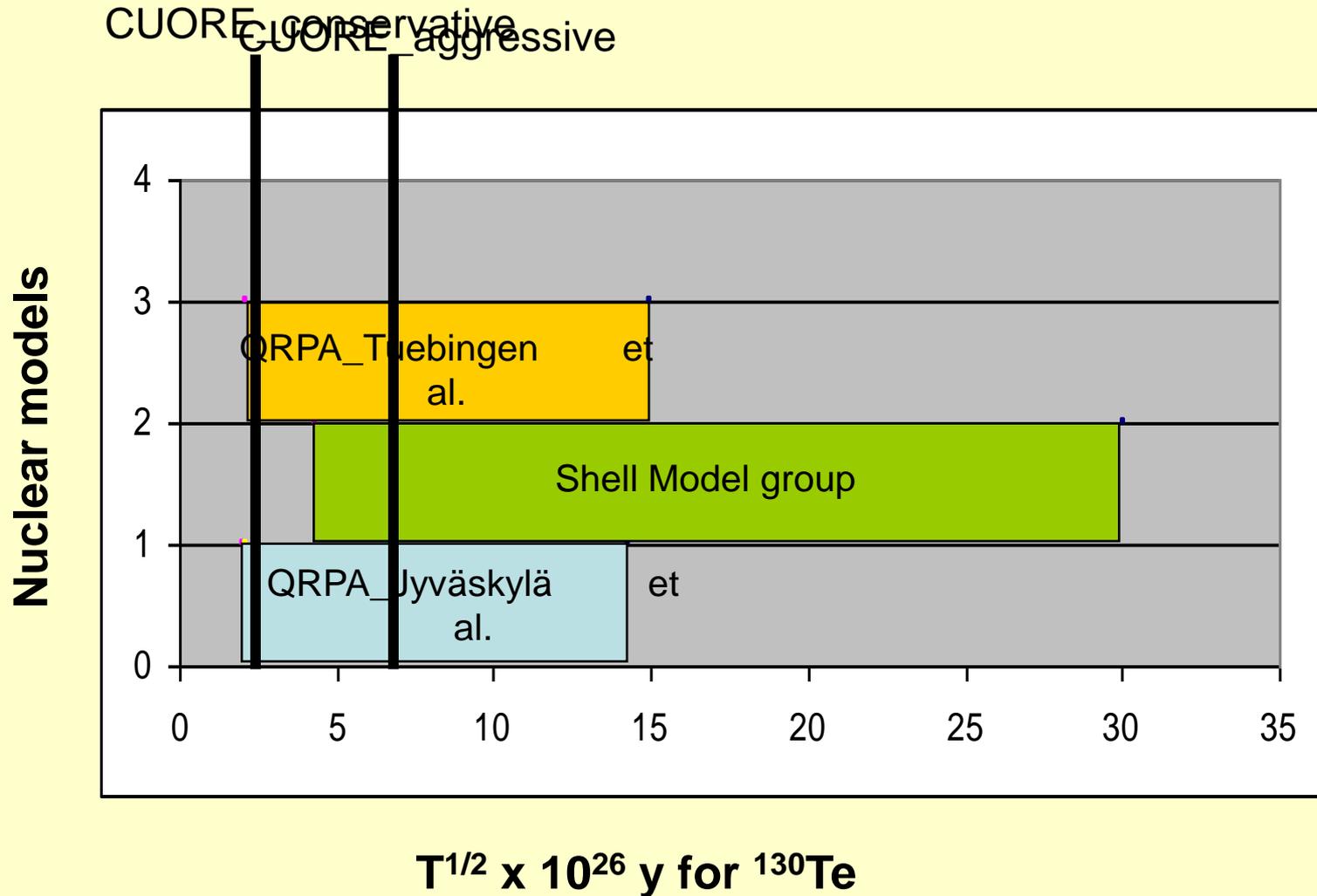
$$F^{0\nu} = 2.9 \times 10^{26} \times (T [y])^{1/2}$$

$$\langle M \rangle < 11 - 60 \text{ meV}$$

$$\langle M \rangle < 7 - 38 \text{ meV}$$

enriched CUORE 

CUORE and the inverted hierarchy region



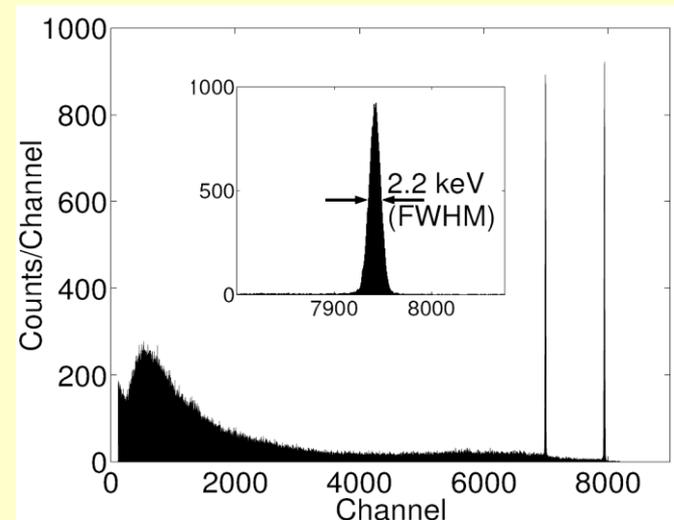
From HM / IGEX to GERDA (The GERmanium Detector Array)

- In 2006 3 IGEX diodes and 5 HM diodes were removed from their cryostats
- Dimensions were measured
- Construction of dedicated low-mass holder for each diode



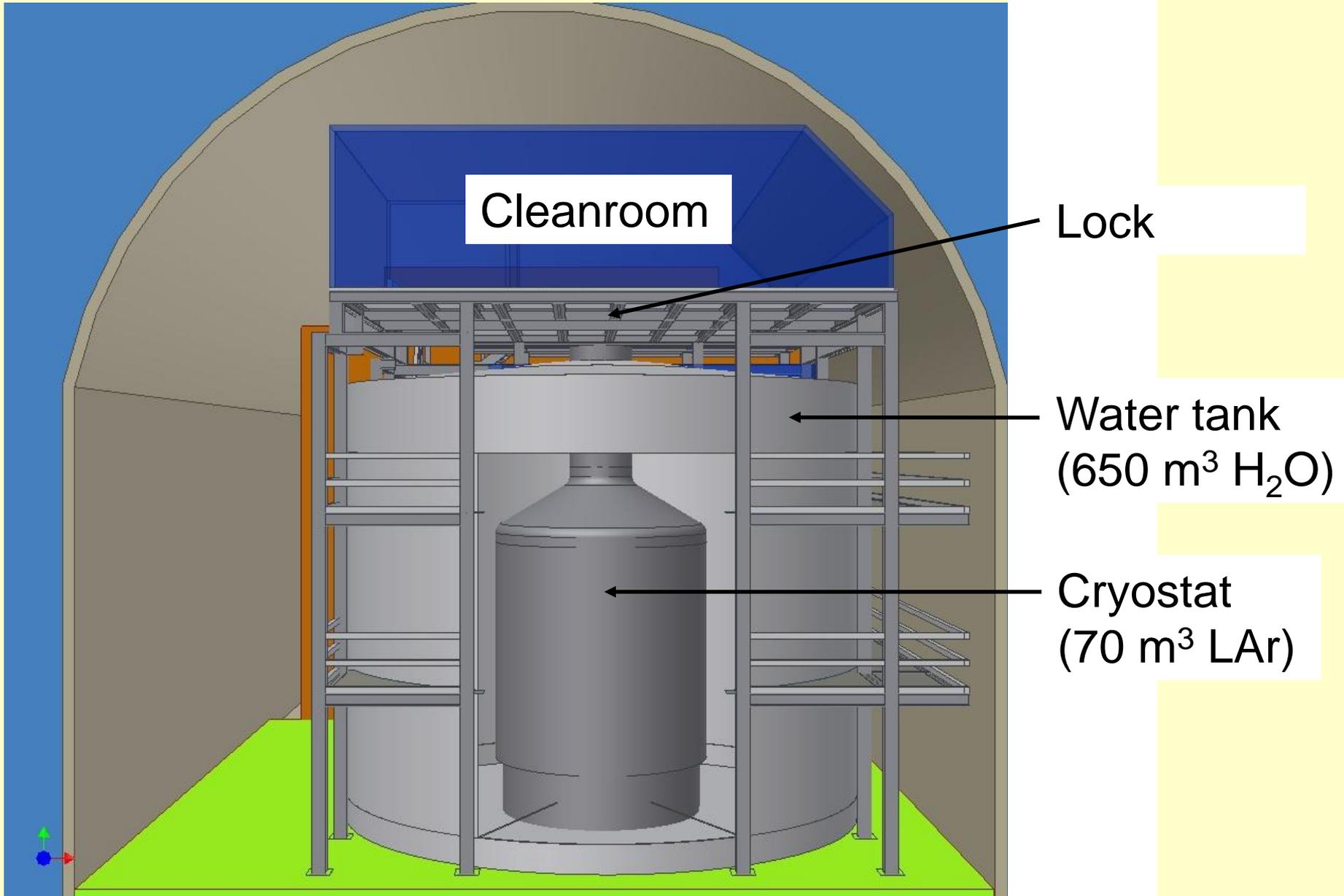
Phase I prototype testing

- Low mass detector holder developed and tested
- Definition of detector handling protocol
- Optimization of thermal cyclings
>40 warming and cooling cycles carried out



Same performance in LN₂/LAr

GERDA design



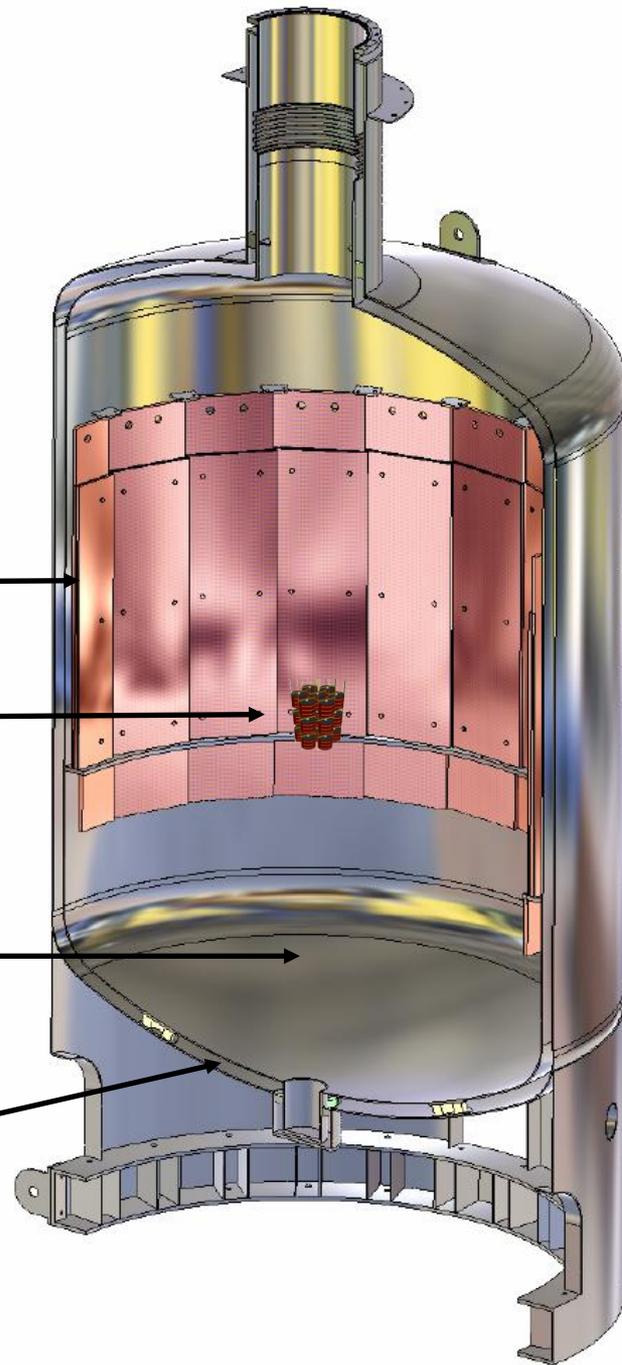
GERDA design

Additional inner
copper shield

Germanium-
detector array

Liquid argon

Vacuum-insulated double
wall stainless steel cryostat



GERDA sensitivity

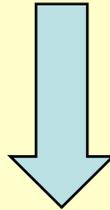
- Phase I: operate refurbished HM & IGEX enriched detectors (~20 kg)
 - Under commissioning
 - Background: 0.01 counts/ keV kg y
 - Scrutinize ^{76}Ge claim with the same nuclide (exclude 99% c.l. or confirm 5σ)
 - Half life sensitivity: 3×10^{25} y
 - Start data taking: 2009
- Phase II: additional ~20 kg ^{76}Ge diodes (segmented detectors)
 - Background: 0.001 counts / keV kg y
 - Sensitivity after 100 kg y (~3 years): 2×10^{26} y
- Phase III (depending on physics results of Phase I/II)
 - \Rightarrow ~ 1 ton experiment in world wide collaboration with MAJORANA

$\langle M \rangle < 90 - 290$ meV

$\langle M \rangle < 20 - 50$ meV

SNO++: a very powerful newcomer

- DBD option in SNO+ is sometimes referred to as **SNO++**
- it is possible to **add $\beta\beta$ isotopes** to liquid scintillator, for example
 - dissolve Xe gas
 - organometallic chemistry (Nd, Se, Te)
 - dispersion of nanoparticles (Nd_2O_3 , TeO_2)



SNO+ collaboration researched these options and decided that the best isotope and technique is to make a **Nd-loaded liquid scintillator**

SNO++: concepts

- a liquid scintillator detector has poor energy resolution; but enormous quantities of isotope (high statistics) and low backgrounds help

at 1% loading (natural Nd), there is too much light absorption by Nd

⇒ 47 ± 6 pe/MeV (from Monte Carlo)

at 0.1% loading (isotopically enriched to 56%)

⇒ 400 ± 21 pe/MeV (from Monte Carlo)

good enough to do the experiment

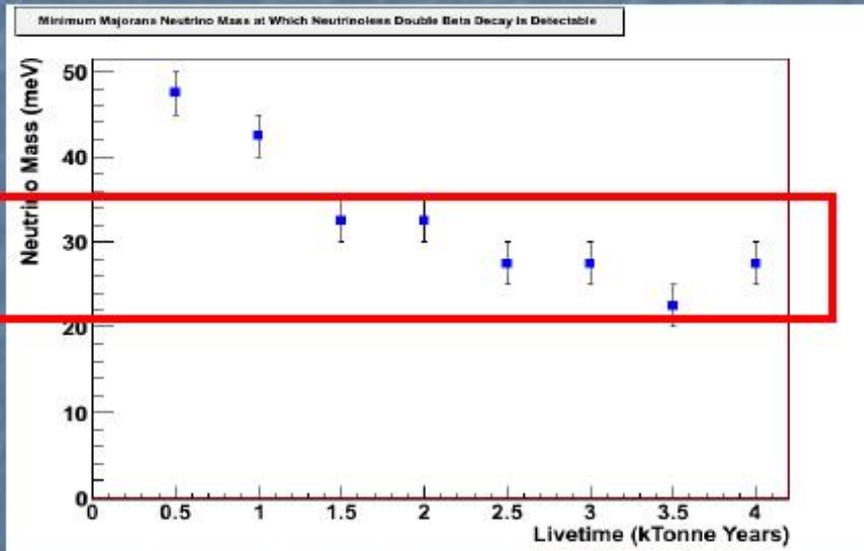
beta decay sensitivity is predicted, but...

SNO++: sensitivities

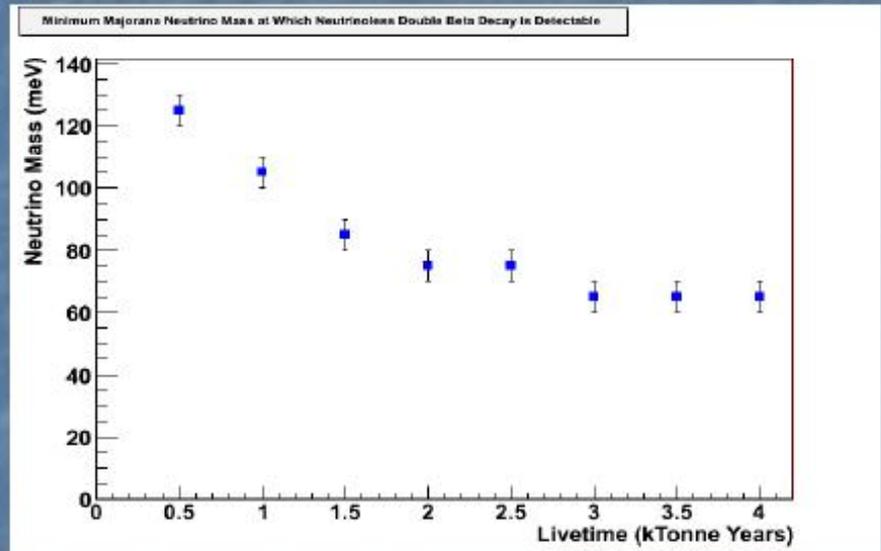
enriched

natural

500 kg isotope



56 kg isotope



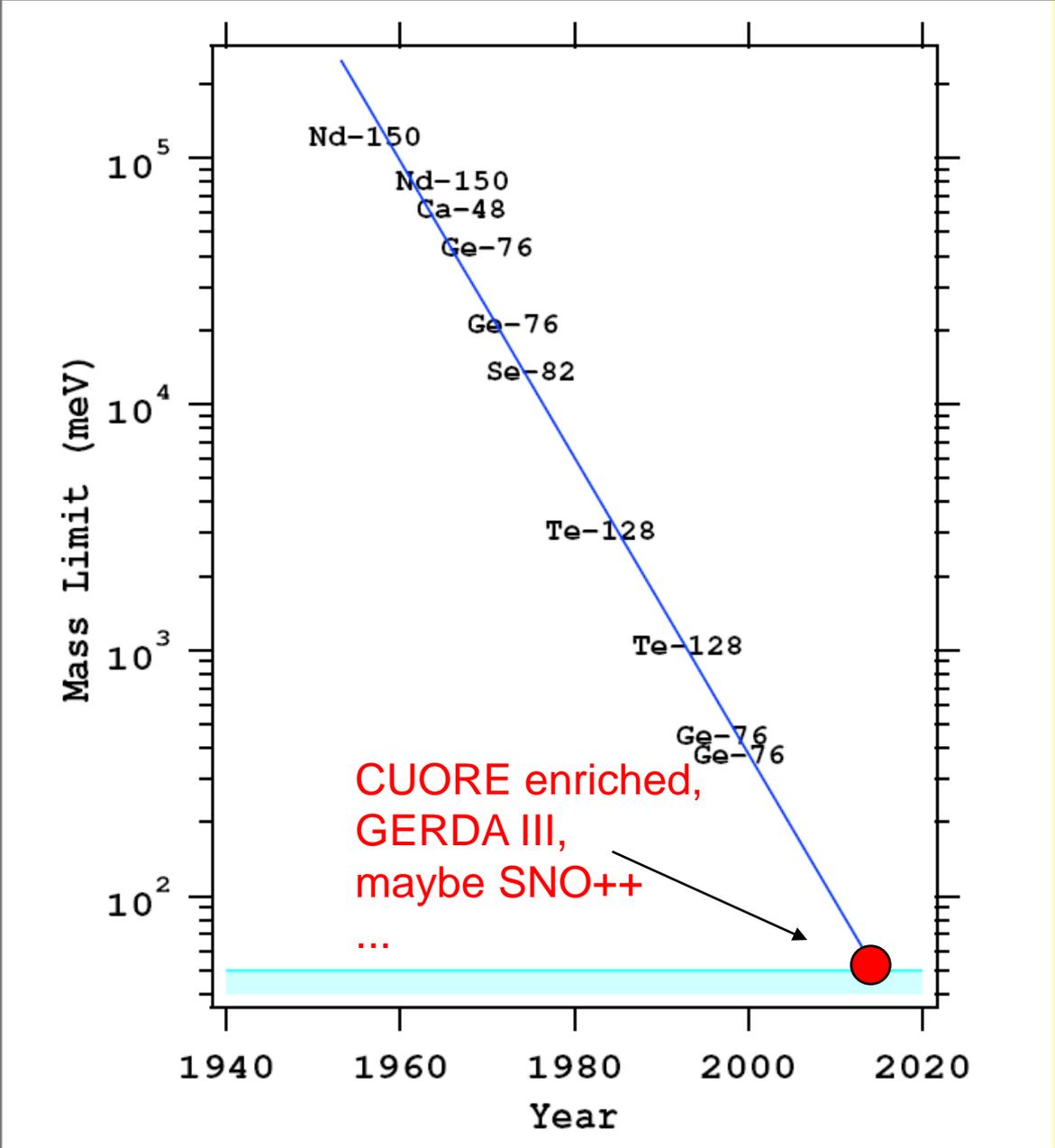
Open questions

- Large scale enrichment: **laser isotope separation possible** in France using a dismissed facility for U \Rightarrow the facility must be re-operated and tuned to ^{150}Nd
- ^{150}Nd **nuclear matrix elements**

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Prediction of the Moore's law for the sensitivity



Future scenarios and branching points in terms of discovery

sensitivity to

100 - 500

15 - 50 n

2 - 5 me

if this range holds:

- SUPERNEMO could marginally see it in ^{82}Se or ^{150}Nd
- SNO++, if done, could see it in ^{150}Nd
- GERDA phase III could see it in ^{76}Ge
- CUORE could see it in a **couple of isotopes** in sequence (after ^{130}Te , ^{116}Cd ?)

if this range holds:

- **new strategies** have to be developed
- it is worthwhile to start to elaborate them now
- next generation experiments are precious for the selection of the future approaches
- a **large investment in enrichment** is mandatory

- CUORE will see it in ^{130}Te and may do **multi-isotope searches** simultaneously (^{130}Te - ^{116}Cd - ^{100}Mo)

large scale enrichment required
reduction of uncertainties in NME

precision measurement era for $0\nu\text{-DBD}$!

possible...)
estimate

(^{82}Se or ^{150}Nd)

EMO

A forum to start to think of a ~5 meV experiment.

$\langle M_{\beta\beta} \rangle$	“average” NME for an “average” nucleus	$T^{0\nu}$
50 meV	➔	5×10^{26} y
5 meV	➔	5×10^{28} y

if we require 10 counts in 5 years with 0 background

experiment with 10^{29} nuclei and 0 background

for example

➔ **30 ton of TeO₂ enriched**
100 ton of TeO₂ natural

- selection of the most promising technique
- design of the experiment

only “one bit” information \Rightarrow direct hierarchy - Majorana nature of neutrino

Conclusions

Exciting times for neutrino masses:

- **degeneracy** will be deeply probed
- discovery potential in case of **inverted hierarchy**

