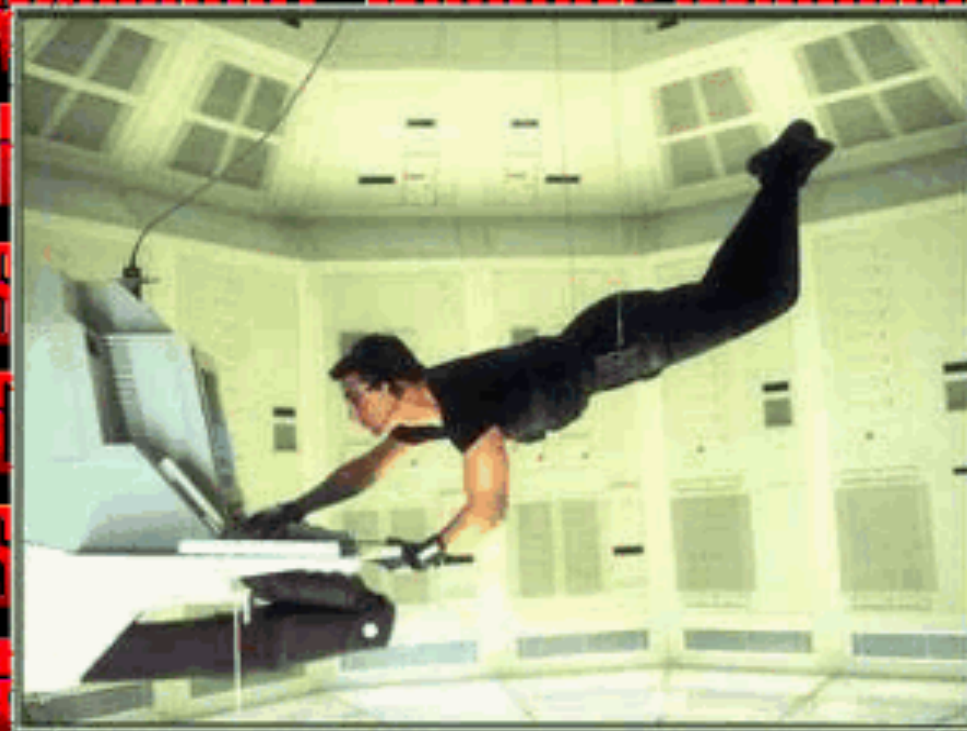
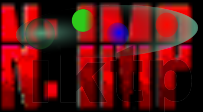
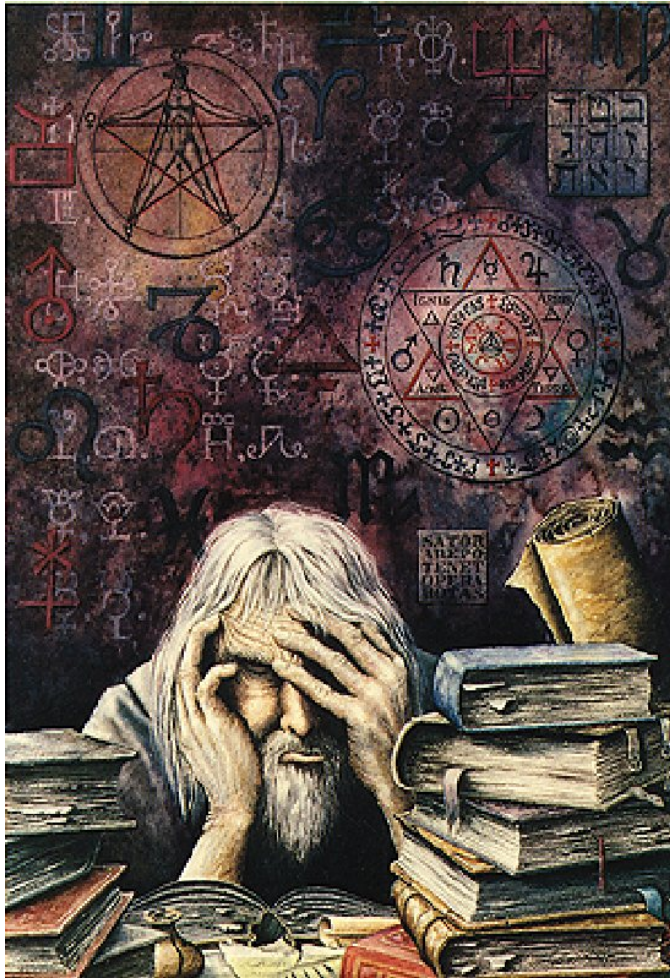


K. Zuber, Techn. Univ. Dresden  
UNAM, 13.1. 2014

In search of double beta decay



**How to explain everything  
about double beta in 45 mins**



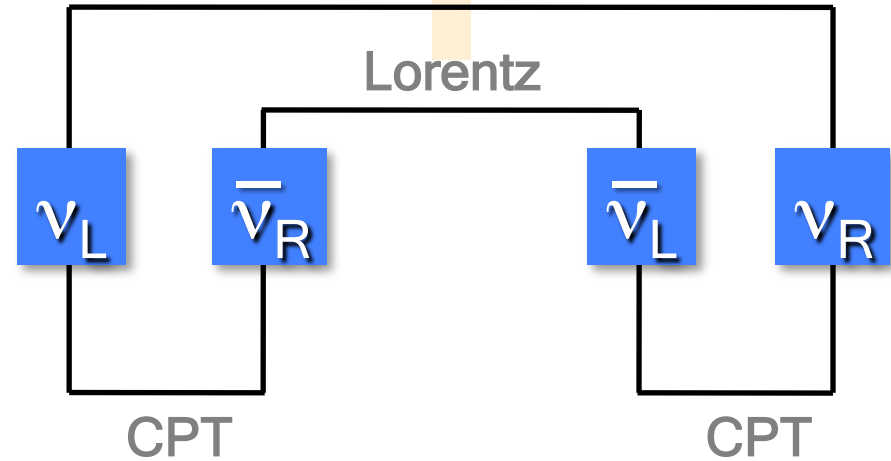
- Why double beta decay?
- The physics
- General issues
- Some experiments (GERDA, Xe)
- New results
- Alternative modes
- Summary

# Are neutrinos (very) special?

intrinsic **particle-antiparticle symmetry** of neutrinos?

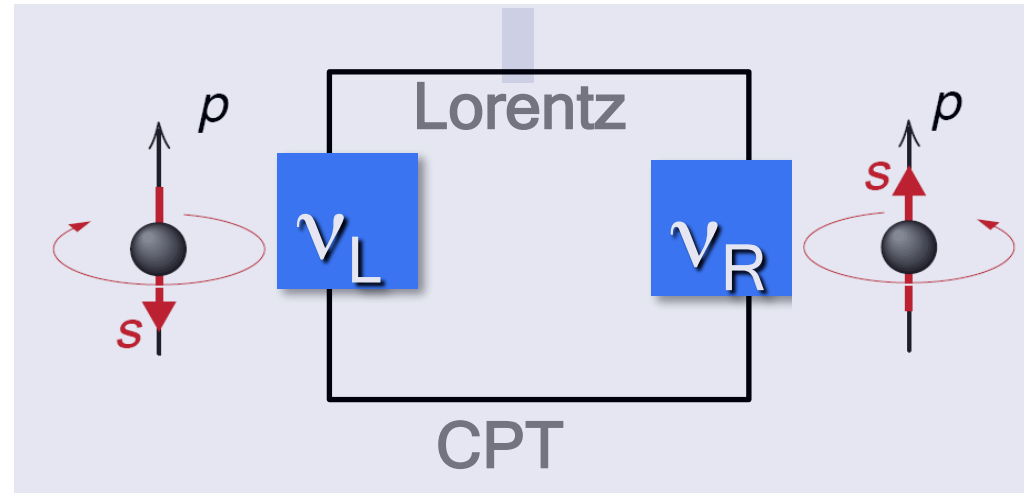
## Dirac neutrino

4  $\nu$  states  
lepton number  
conservation  $\Delta L = 0$   
neutrino  $\neq$  antineutrino



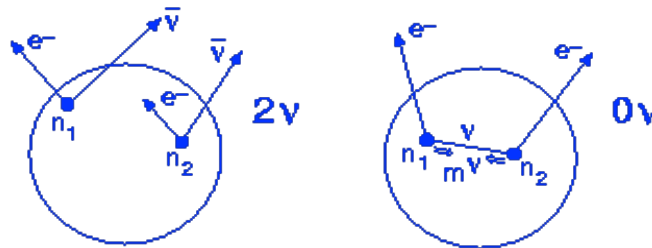
## Majorana neutrino

2  $\nu$  states  
lepton number  
violation  $\Delta L = 2$



$\nu^D$  and  $\nu^M$  only distinguishable  
if  $m_\nu \neq 0$

- $(A,Z) \rightarrow (A,Z+2) + 2 e^- + 2 \bar{\nu}_e$        $2\nu\beta\beta$
- $(A,Z) \rightarrow (A,Z+2) + 2 e^-$        $0\nu\beta\beta$



Unique process to measure character of neutrino

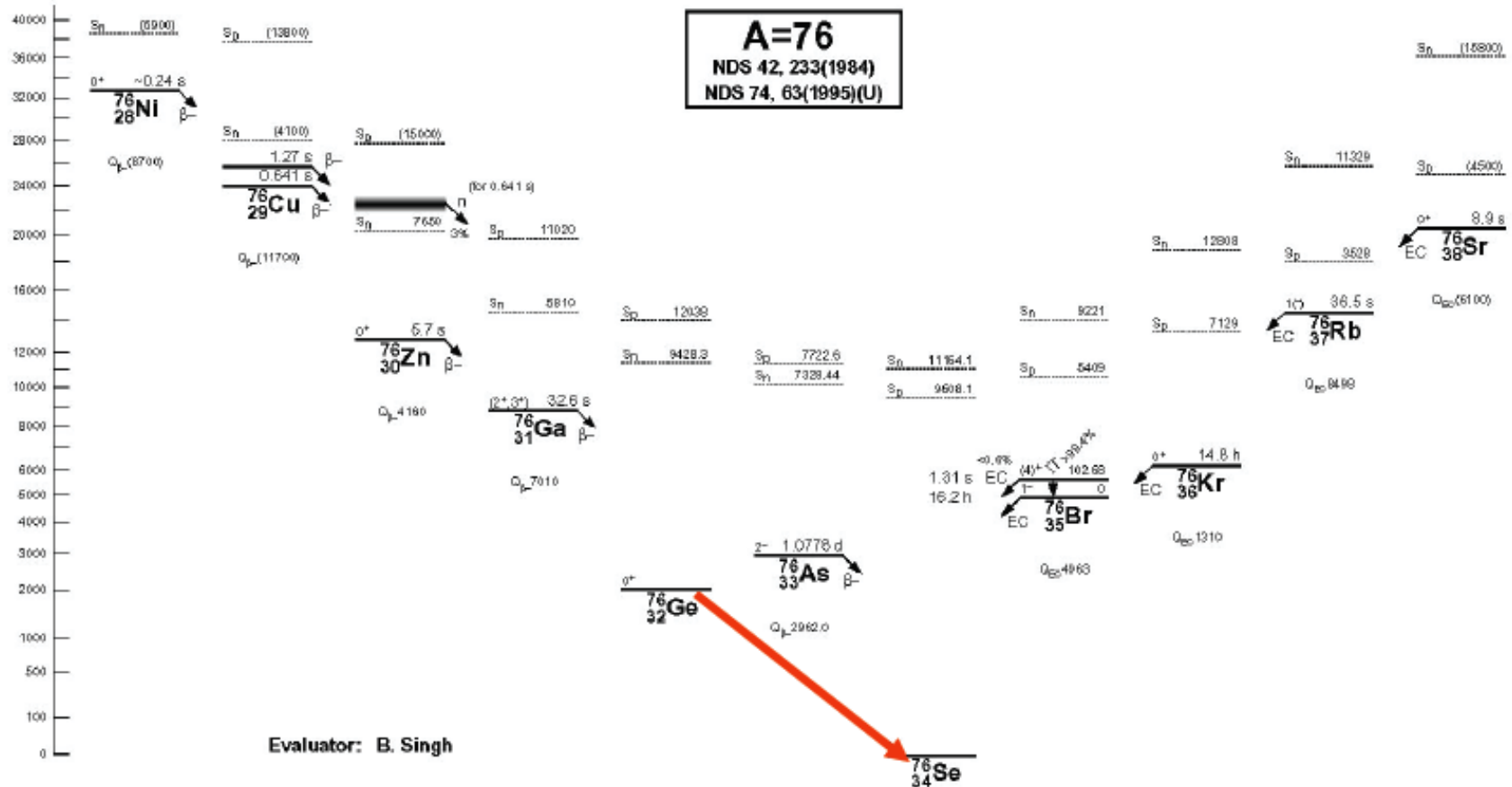


The smaller the neutrino mass the longer the half-life

Neutrino mass measurement via half-life measurement

**Requires half-life measurements well beyond  $10^{20}$  yrs!!!!**

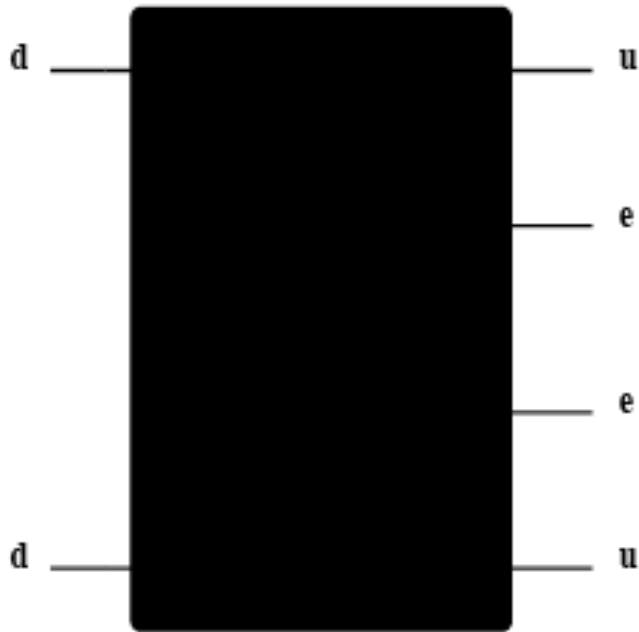
Only 35 isotopes in nature are able to do that!



There are only 35 candidates

K. Zuber

Any  $\Delta L=2$  process can contribute to  $0\nu\beta\beta$



$R_p$  violating SUSY

V+A interactions

Extra dimensions (KK- states)

Leptoquarks

Double charged Higgs bosons

Compositeness

Heavy Majorana neutrino exchange

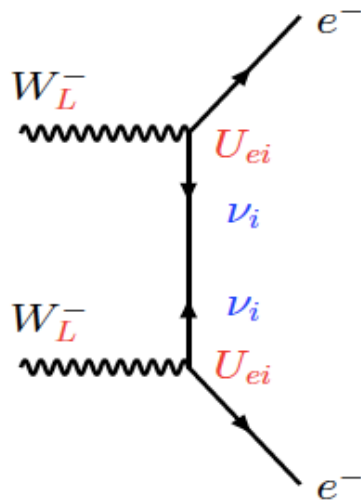
**Light Majorana neutrino exchange**

...

$$1 / T_{1/2} = PS * NME^2 * \epsilon^2$$

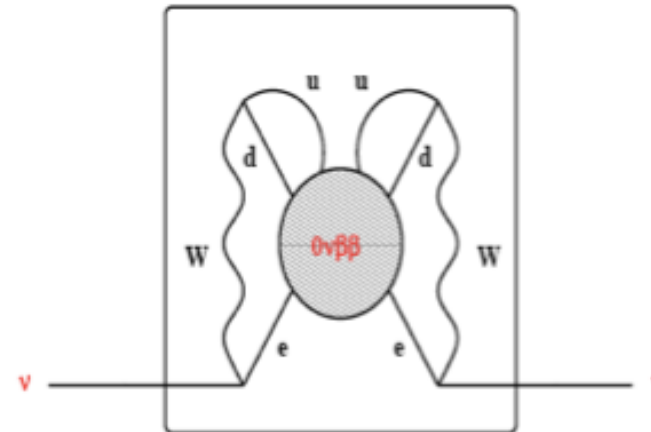


# Light Majorana neutrinos



$$\varepsilon \equiv \langle m_\nu \rangle = \left| \sum_i U_{ei}^2 m_{\nu_i} \right|$$

$$1 / T_{1/2} = PS * NME^2 * (\langle m_\nu \rangle / m_e)^2$$



Schechter and Valle 1982:

Independent of mechanism for neutrinoless DBD  
Majorana neutrino mass will appear in higher order!

Observe  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay

$\equiv$

Neutrinos are Majorana particles

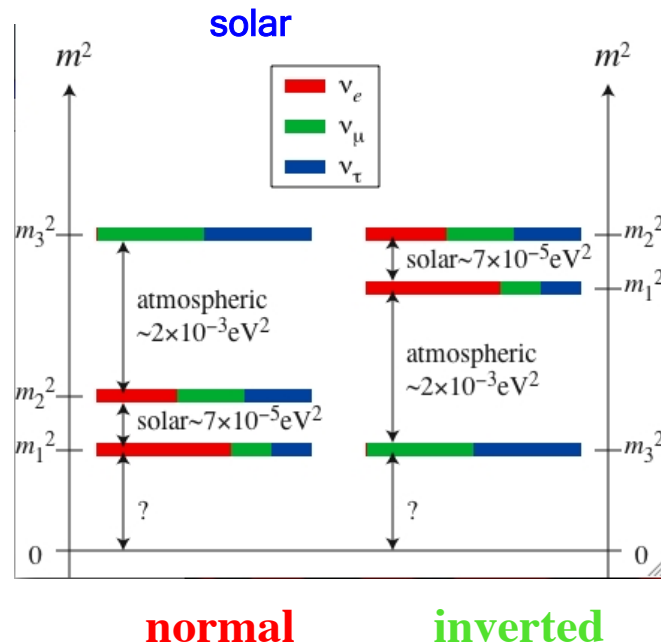


# 3 Flavour mixing (PMNS)

Neutrinos mix as oscillation experiments have shown, hence

Leptonic mixing (PMNS) matrix (including Majorana character)

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta_{12} & \sin\theta_{12} & 0 \\ -\sin\theta_{12} & \cos\theta_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta_{13} & 0 & \sin\theta_{13}e^{-i\delta} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin\theta_{13}e^{i\delta} & 0 & \cos\theta_{13} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos\theta_{23} & \sin\theta_{23} \\ 0 & -\sin\theta_{23} & \cos\theta_{23} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\alpha_1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & e^{i\alpha_2} \end{pmatrix}$$



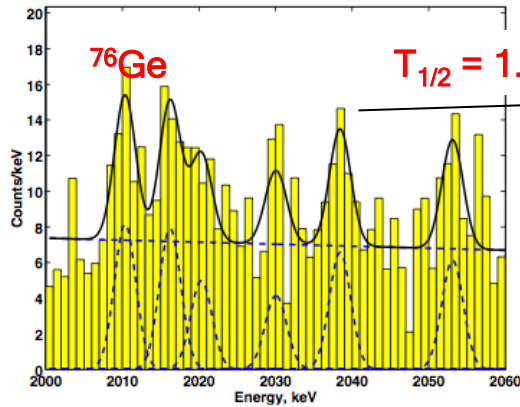
$$\langle m_\nu \rangle = \left| \sum_i U_{ei}^2 m_{\nu_i} \right| = \left| c_{12}^2 c_{13}^2 m_1 + s_{12}^2 c_{13}^2 e^{i\alpha_1} m_2 + s_{13}^2 e^{i\alpha_2} m_3 \right|$$

From oscillation experiments

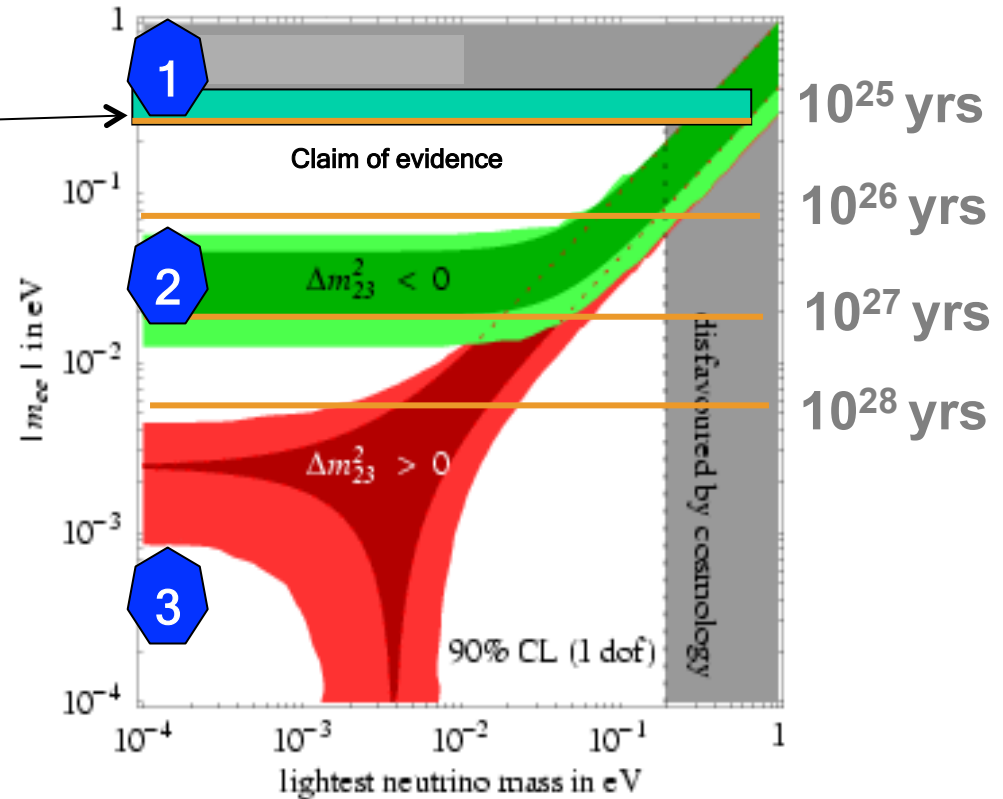
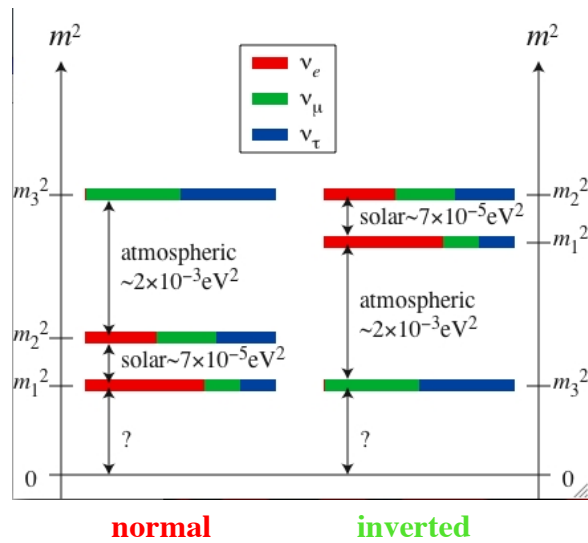
$$\sin^2 2\theta_{23} > 0.9 \text{ (90\%CL)}, \text{ best fit } \theta_{23} = 45^\circ$$

$$\sin^2 2\theta_{13} = 0.09 \text{ (90\%CL)}, \theta_{13} = 9^\circ$$

$$\sin^2 \theta_{12} = 0.32, \theta_{12} = 34.06_{-0.84}^{+1.16}$$



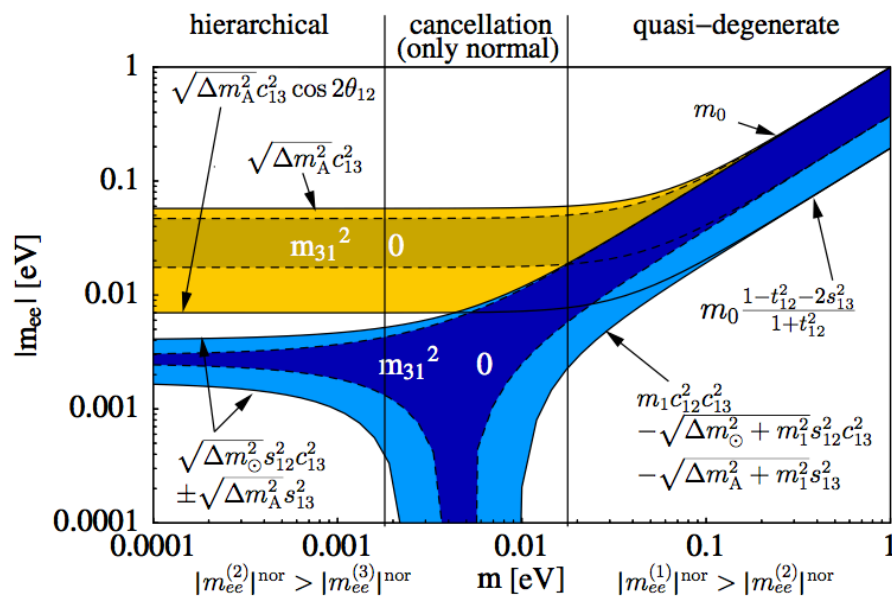
H.V. Klapdor-Kleingrothaus et al. Phys. Lett. B 586, 198 (2004)



- 1.) Is the claimed evidence correct?  
**GERDA phase I**
- 2.) Can we probe the inverted hierarchy?
- 3.) What about the normal hierarchy?

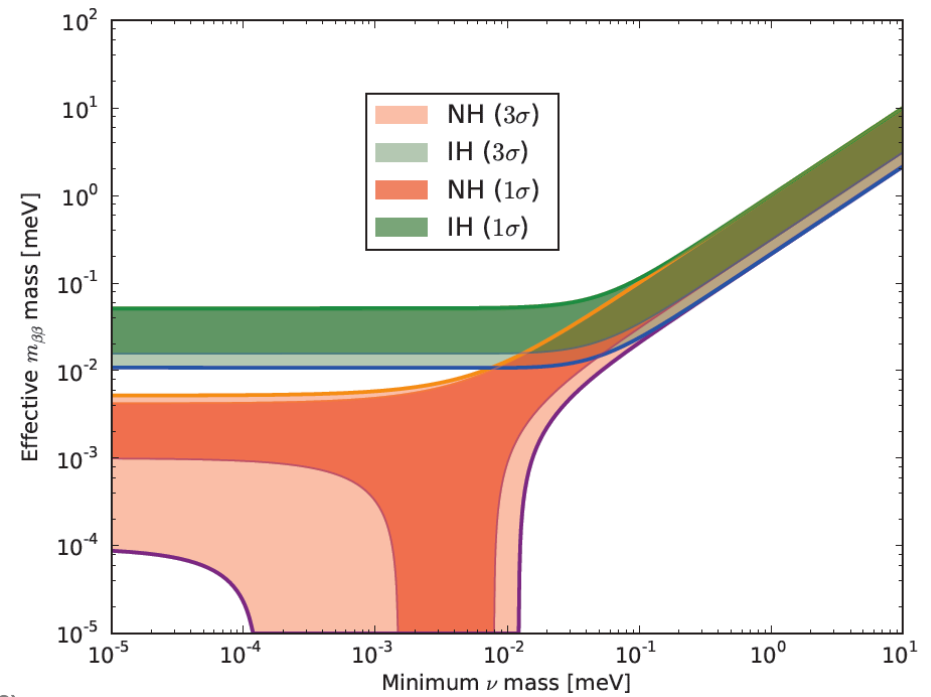
With the known oscillation results everything is fixed

General dependence



M. Lindner, A. Merle, W. Rodejohann, Phys. Rev. D 73, 053005 (2006)

Current data



K. Zuber

# Other mass determinations

**Beta decay:**

$$m_\beta = [c_{13}^2 c_{12}^2 m_1^2 + c_{13}^2 s_{12}^2 m_2^2 + s_{13}^2 m_3^2]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

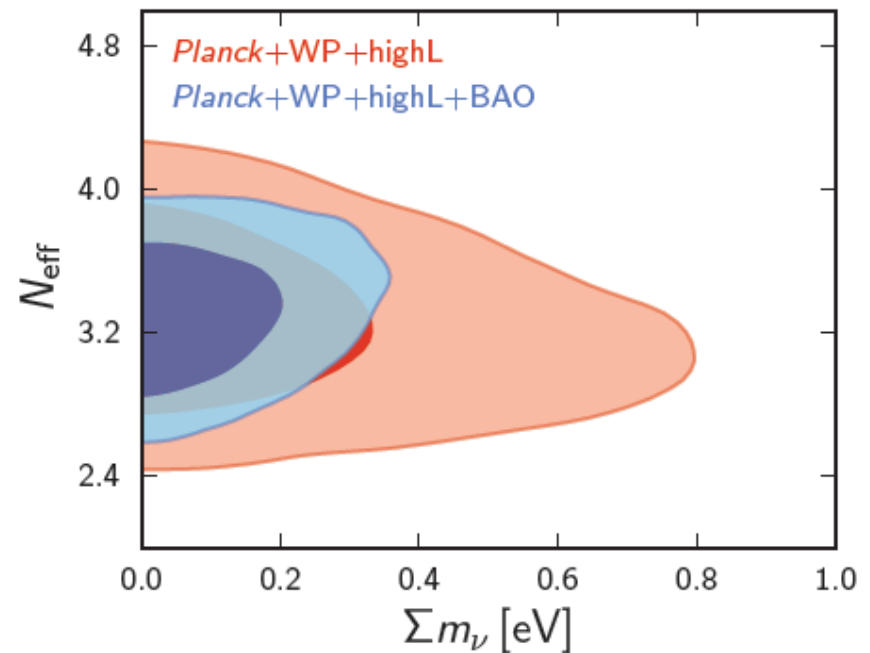
<http://www.katrin.kit.edu>



**KATRIN -Sensitivity about 0.2 eV**

**Cosmology:**

$$\Omega_\nu h^2 \Rightarrow \Sigma = m_1 + m_2 + m_3$$



$$\Sigma m_\nu < 0.23 eV (95\% CL)$$

**+ oscillation parameters**

K. Zuber

# The search for $0\nu\beta\beta$

or



K. Zuber

This is the 50 meV option, just add 0's to moles and kgs if you want smaller neutrino masses

$$T_{1/2} = \ln 2 \cdot a \cdot N_A \cdot M \cdot t / N_{\beta\beta} (\tau_{\gg T}) \quad (\text{Background free})$$

For half-life measurements of  $10^{26-27}$  yrs

1 event/yr you need  $10^{26-27}$  source atoms

This is about 1000 moles of isotope, implying about 100 kg

Now you only can loose: nat. abundance, efficiency, background, ...

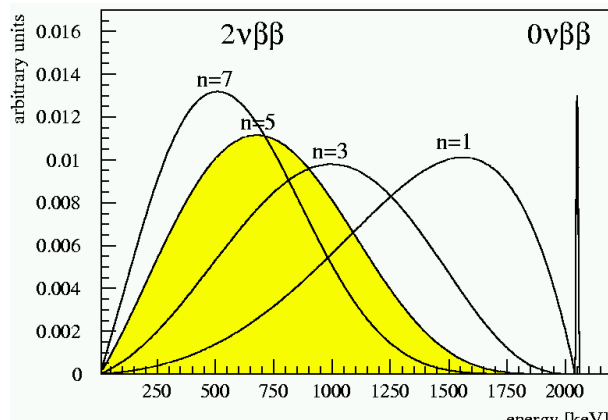
# Going underground



## $0\nu\beta\beta$ : Peak at Q-value of nuclear transition

Sum energy spectrum of both electrons

Measured quantity: Half-life

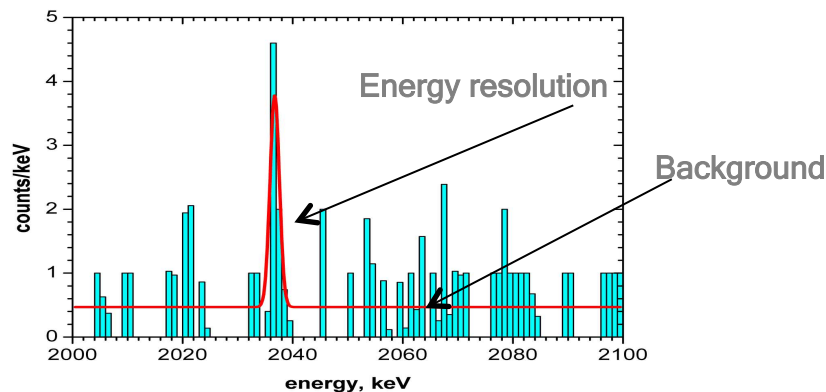


$$1 / T_{1/2} = PS * NME^2 * (\langle m_{\nu} \rangle / m_e)^2$$

Experimental sensitivity depends on

$$T_{1/2}^{-1} \propto a\varepsilon \sqrt{\frac{Mt}{\Delta EB}} \quad (\text{BG limited})$$

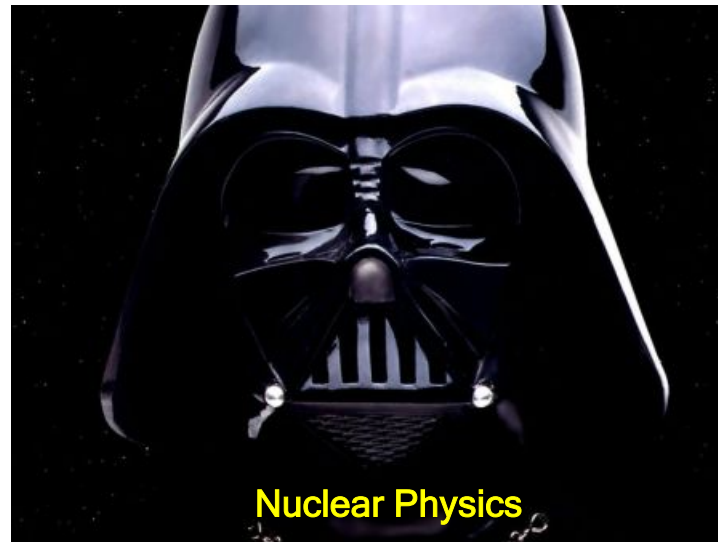
$$T_{1/2}^{-1} \propto a\varepsilon Mt \quad (\text{BG free})$$



If background limited

$$m_{\nu} \propto \sqrt[4]{\frac{\Delta EB}{Mt}}$$

$$1 / T_{1/2} = PS * NME^2 * (\langle m_\nu \rangle / m_e)^2$$



Measurement

Exact  
calculation

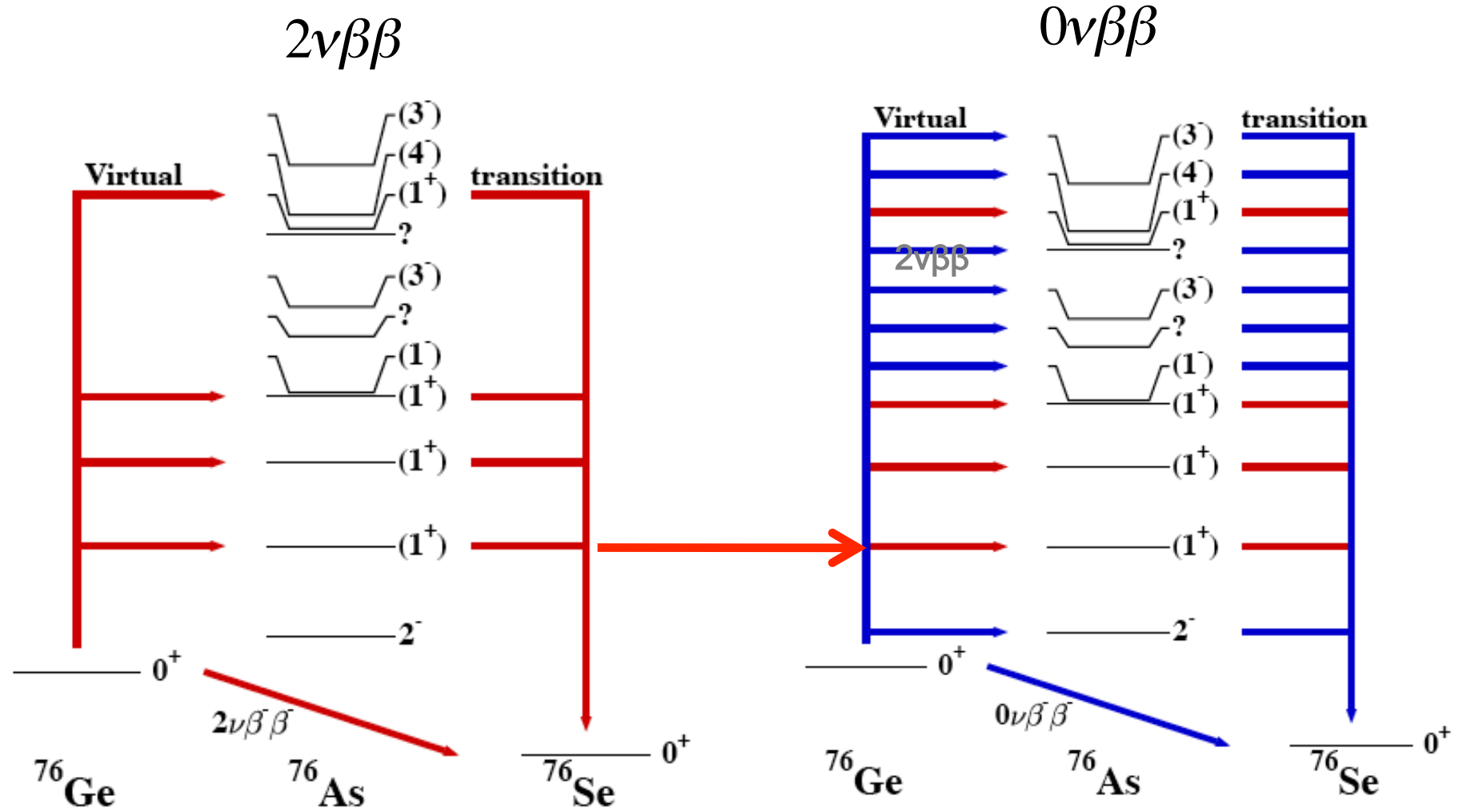
Complex  
calculations

Quantity of  
interest

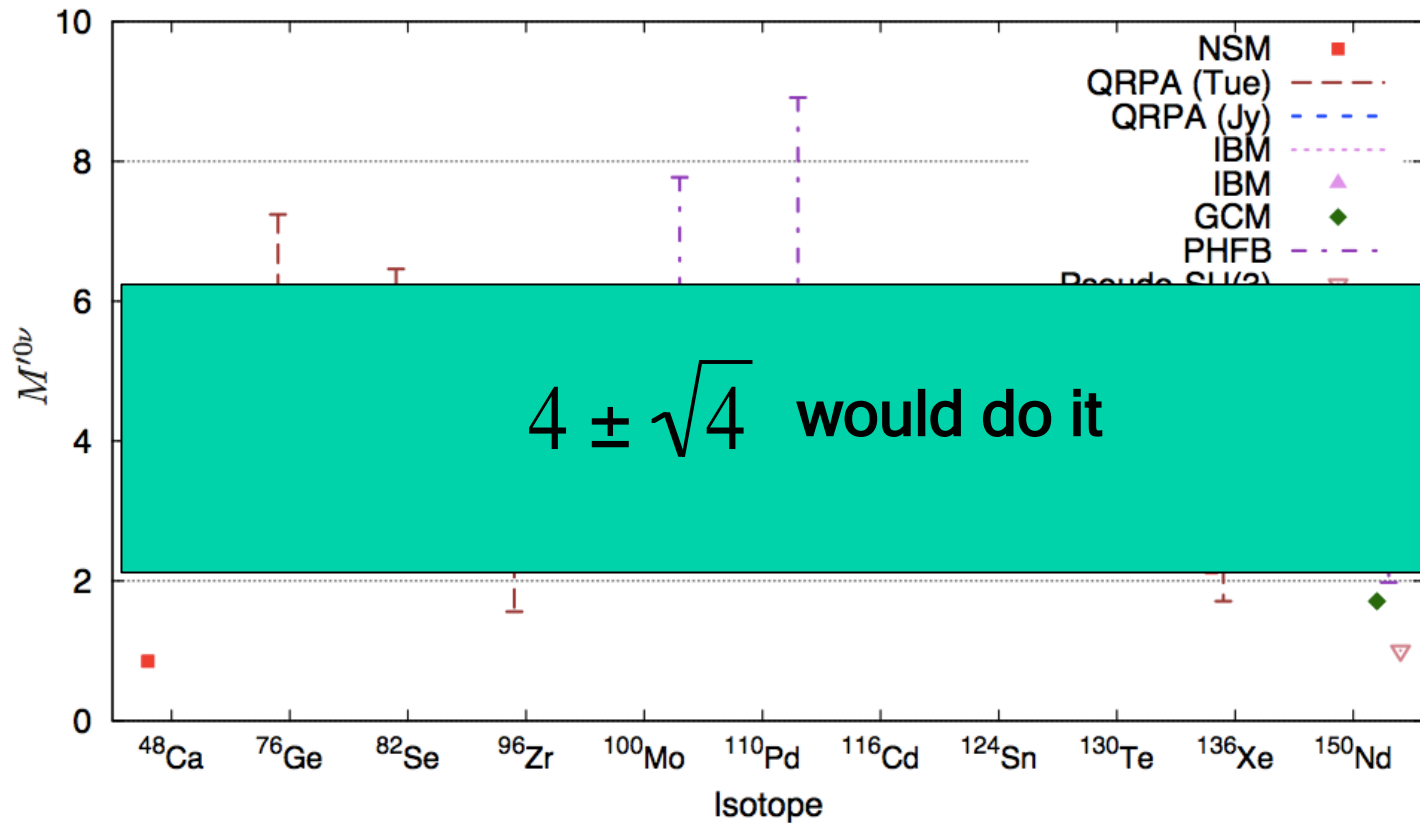
J. Kotila, F. Iachello, PRC 034316 (2012)  
 S. Stoica, M. Mirea, arXiv:1307.0290

**Severe nuclear structure issue**

K. Zuber



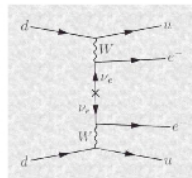
Rescaled as people use different  $g_A$  (1-1.25) and  $R_0$  (1.0-1.3 fm)



A. Dueck, W. Rodejohann, K. Zuber,  
arXiv:1103.4152, PRD 83, 113010 (2011)

K. Zuber

Several new techniques applied in last years



IPPP Workshop on  
**Matrix Elements for Neutrinoless  
Double Beta Decay**

IPPP, Durham, UK  
May 23-24, 2005

Within the Standard Model lepton number is conserved, and so neutrinoless double beta decay (0NU2BD) is forbidden. However, recent neutrino oscillation experiments have shown that neutrinos are massive particles, and imply that the description of neutrinos within the Standard Model is incomplete. To move beyond the Standard Model and formulate a new theoretical framework with which to describe neutrino phenomenology, the mass mechanism must be investigated. 0NU2BD experiments illuminate the nature of the mass term in the neutrino Lagrangian; if 0NU2BD is observed, the neutrino must be a Majorana particle. This represents both theoretical and experimental challenges. In particular, the extraction of precise information on neutrinos is impossible without a detailed understanding of the nuclear matrix elements that enter in the expressions for the decay widths.



The Workshop will focus on the status of and prospects for the nuclear matrix element calculations and measurements that are a key factor in extracting information on the neutrino masses in neutrinoless double beta decay processes.

The Workshop will take place at the Institute for Particle Physics Phenomenology, University of Durham, Durham, UK. Participants will be accommodated nearby. Because accommodation is strictly limited, attendance is by invitation only. If you wish to attend, please email one of the organisers listed below.

The meeting will start at 9.00am on Monday 23rd May and end at lunchtime on Tuesday 24th May 2005. Participants are expected to arrive on Sunday 22nd May. There is no fee and participants' local costs will be paid by the IPPP. There will be a conference dinner on the evening of Monday 23rd May, and buffet lunches will be provided on both days.

[Programme](#)

[Participants](#)

[Travelling to Durham](#)

Organisers:

[Kai Zuber \(Sussex\)](#), [James Stirling \(Durham\)](#), [Linda Wilkinson \(Durham\)](#)

**Second Workshop on Matrix Elements for  
Neutrinoless Double Beta Decay**

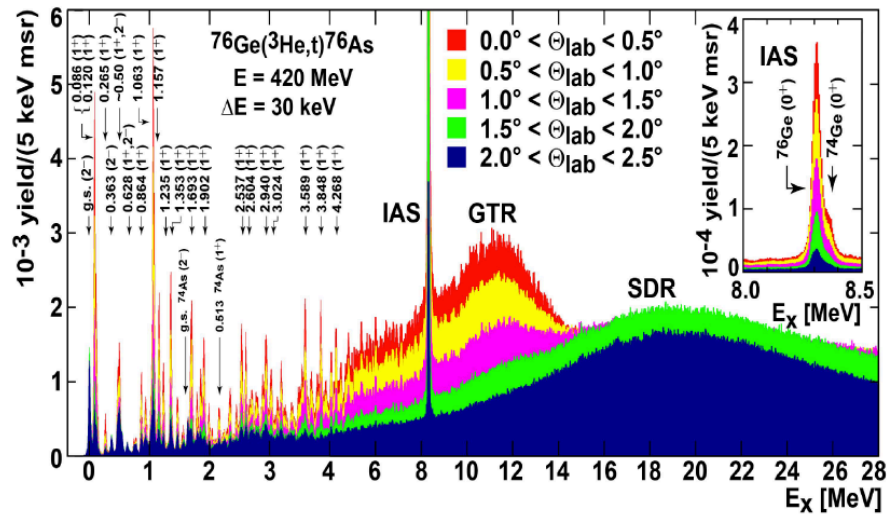
Dresden, July 29-30, 2010



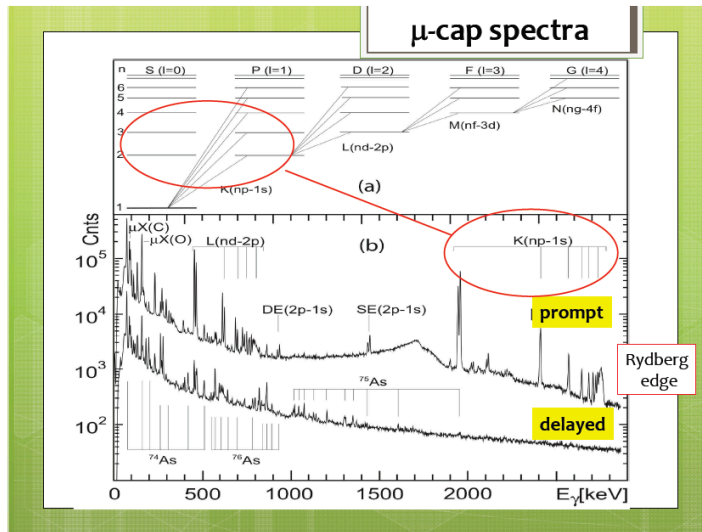
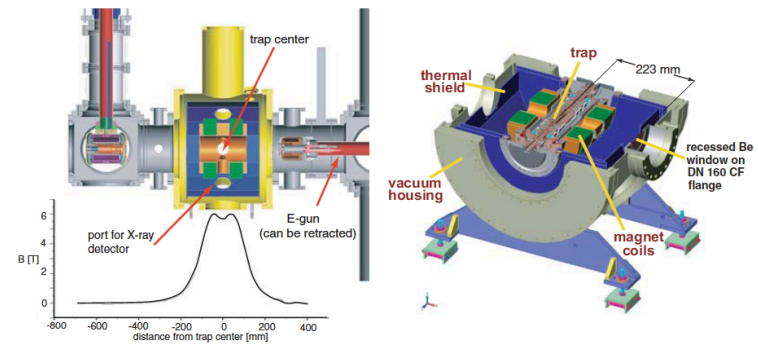
K. Zuber

Focus section in JPG 39 (2012)

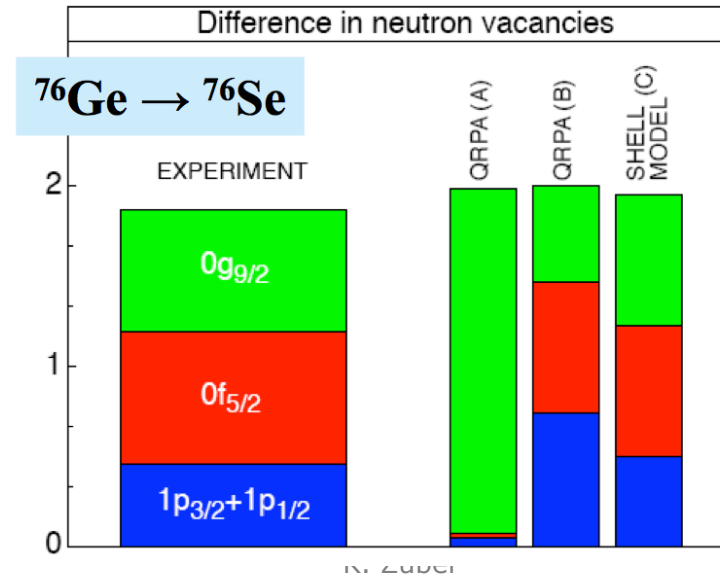
D. Frekers, H. Ejiri et al., RCNP Osaka



TITAN-EC at TRIUMF



D. Zinatulina, MEDEX 2013



J. Schiffer et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 100, 112501 (2008)

$0\nu\beta\beta$  decay rate scales with  $Q^5 \rightarrow$  only those with  $Q > 2000$  keV

## 11 isotopes of interest

| Isotope | AME 2003             | Q-values 2012        |
|---------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Ca-48   | $4272 \pm 4$         | $4262.96 \pm 0.84$   |
| Ge-76   | $2039.006 \pm 0.050$ | $2039.006 \pm 0.050$ |
| Se-82   | $2995.5 \pm 1.9$     | $2997.9 \pm 0.3$     |
| Zr-96   | $3347.7 \pm 2.2$     | $3347.7 \pm 2.2$     |
| Mo-100  | $3035 \pm 6$         | $3034.40 \pm 0.17$   |
| Pd-110  | $2004 \pm 11$        | $2017.85 \pm 0.64$   |
| Cd-116  | $2809 \pm 4$         | $2813.50 \pm 0.13$   |
| Sn-124  | $2287.8 \pm 1.5$     | $2292.64 \pm 0.39$   |
| Te-130  | $2530.3 \pm 2.0$     | $2527.518 \pm 0.013$ |
| Xe-136  | $2462 \pm 7$         | $2457.83 \pm 0.37$   |
| Nd-150  | $3367.7 \pm 2.2$     | $3371.38 \pm 0.20$   |

Candles

GERDA, Majorana

SuperNEMO, LUCIFER

MOON, AMore

COBRA

India

CUORE, SNO+

EXO, KamLAND-Zen, NEXT, XMASS

MCT, SuperNEMO(?)

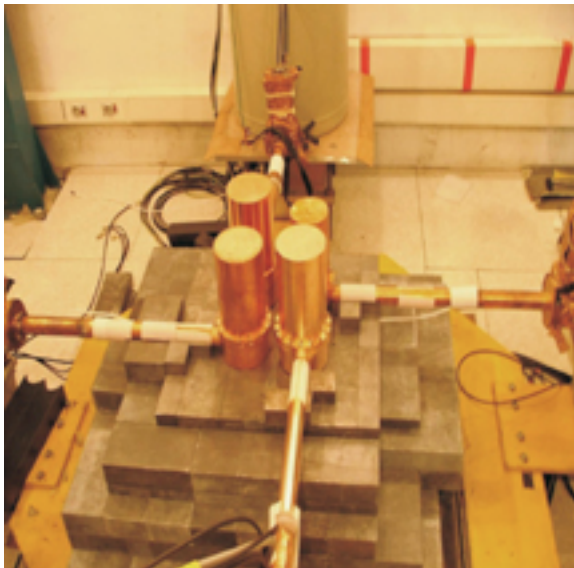


Isotope of interest:  $^{76}\text{Ge}$

- **The detectors are decaying!!**
- **5 isotopical enriched Ge-detectors**
- **Sum energy -> Peak at 2039 keV**

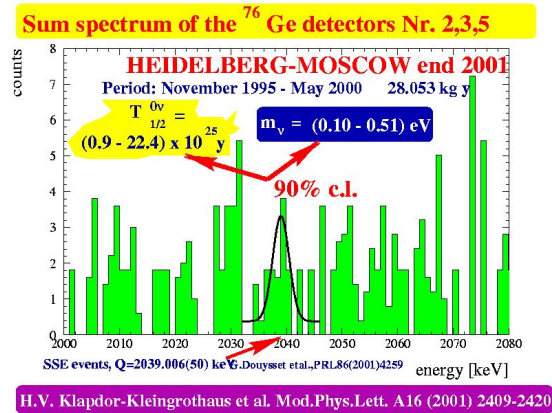
Still only 1 decay per year per 10 kg Ge

Background obtained 0.1 count/keV/kg/y

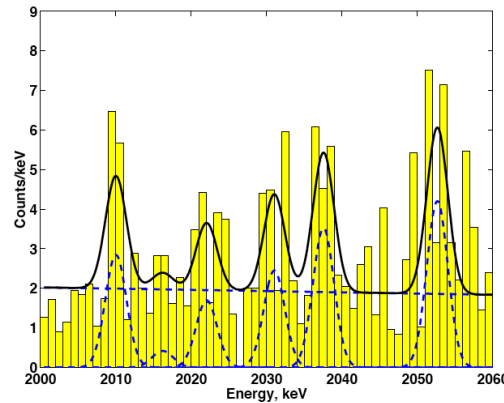


K. Zuber

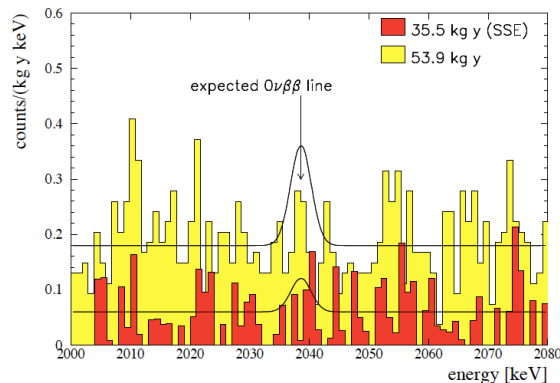
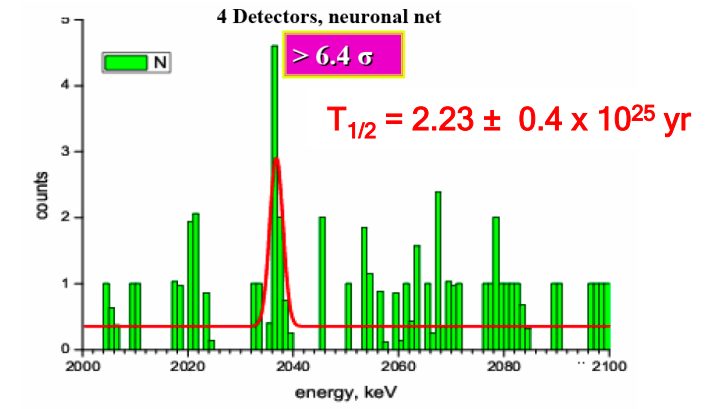
2001



2004



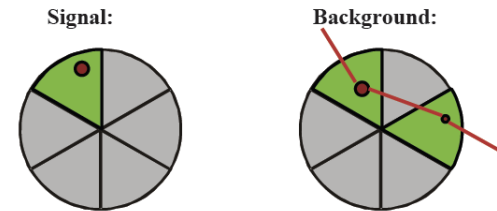
2006



H.V. Klapdor-Kleingrothaus et al., Phys. Lett. B 586, 198 (2004)

Mod.Phys.Lett.A21:1547-1566 (2006)

Background reduction by pulse shape analysis



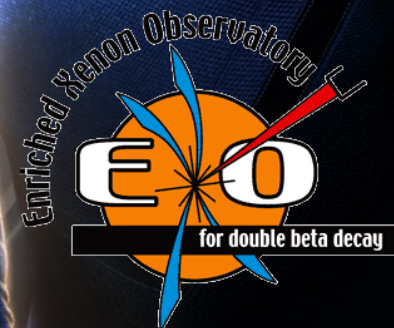
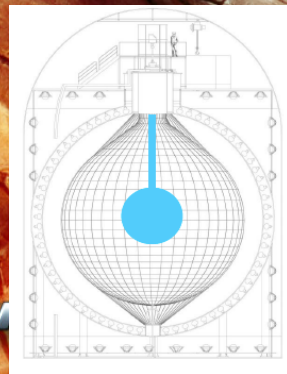
Very controversial discussion in the community

H.V. Klapdor-Kleingrothaus et al., Eur.Phys.J. A12 (2001) 147-154

If right, neutrino mass is around 0.3 eV and masses are almost degenerate

# The fantastic 4

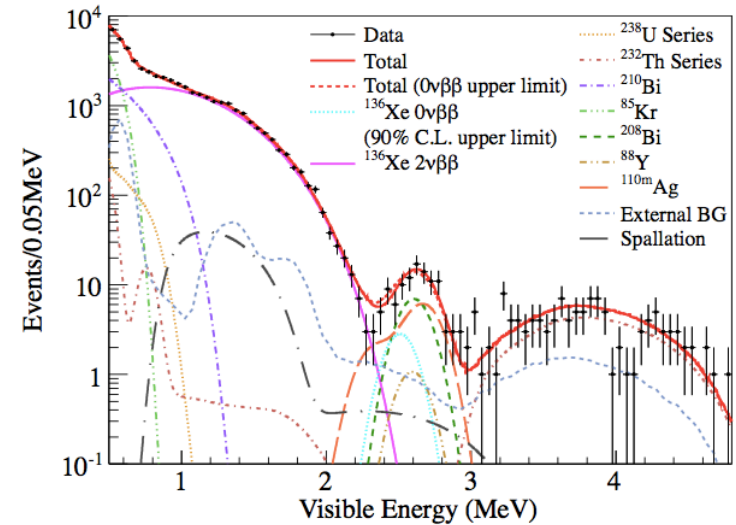
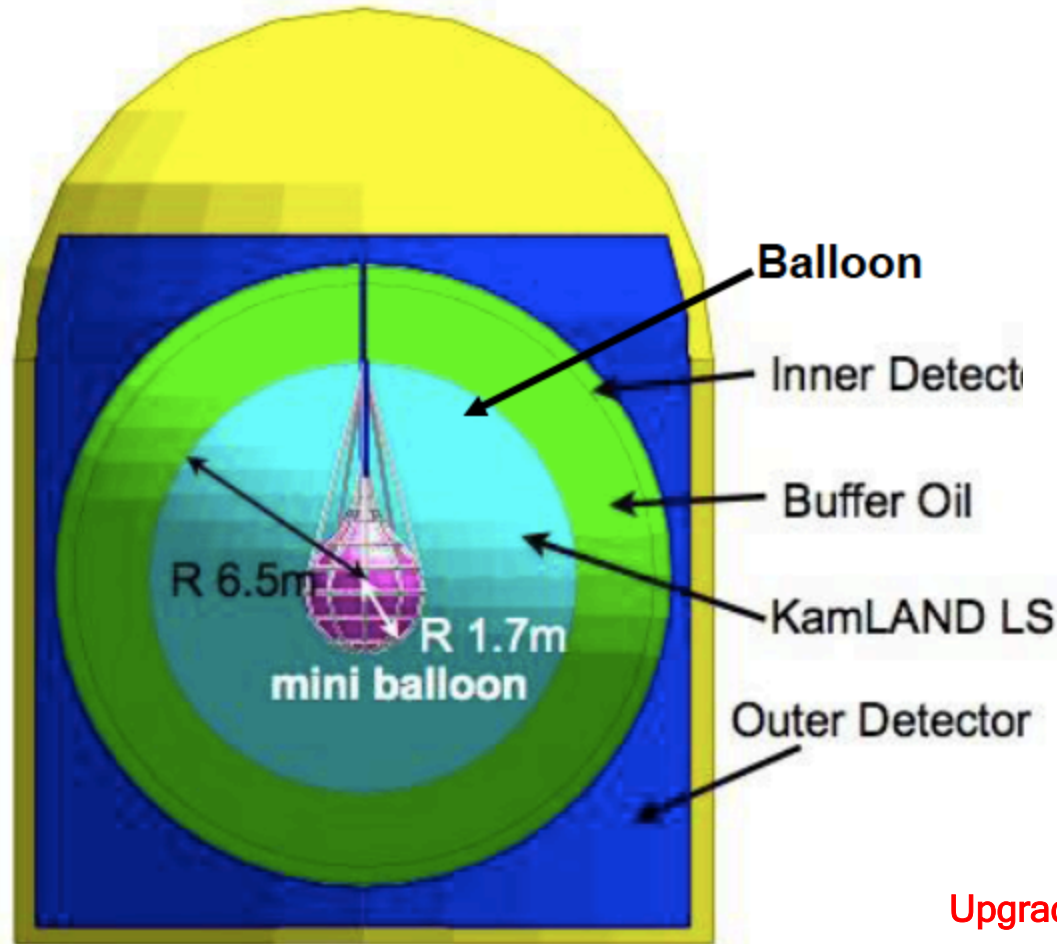
Because they've started



IN THEATERS JUNE 15 2007

[WWW.RISEOFTHESILVERSURFER.COM](http://WWW.RISEOFTHESILVERSURFER.COM)

Using 400 kg of Xe (91.7% enriched in Xe-136)



$$T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 5.7 \times 10^{24} \text{ yr (90\% C.L.)}$$

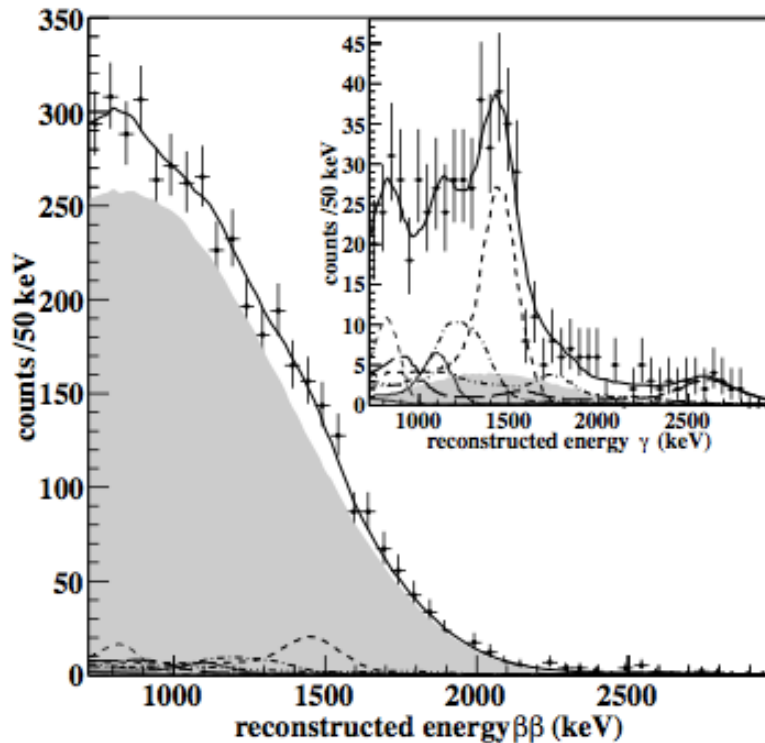
A Gando et al., PRC 85,045504 (2012)

$$T_{1/2} > 1.9 \times 10^{25} \text{ years (90\%CL)}$$

A. Gando, arXiv:1211.3863

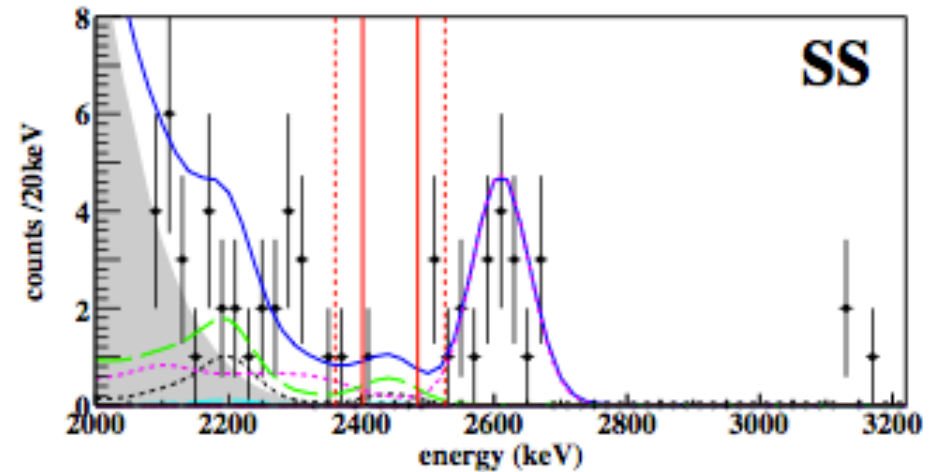
Upgrade to 1 ton enriched Xe planned in 2014

200 kg of enriched (80%) Xe-136 at hand



First observation of  $2\nu$  decay of Xe-136,  
N. Ackerman et al., PRL 107, 212501 (2011)

First half-life limit on  $0\nu$  decay :  
 $T_{1/2} > 1.6 \times 10^{25}$  years (90%CL)  
M. Auger et al., PRL 109,032505 (2012)



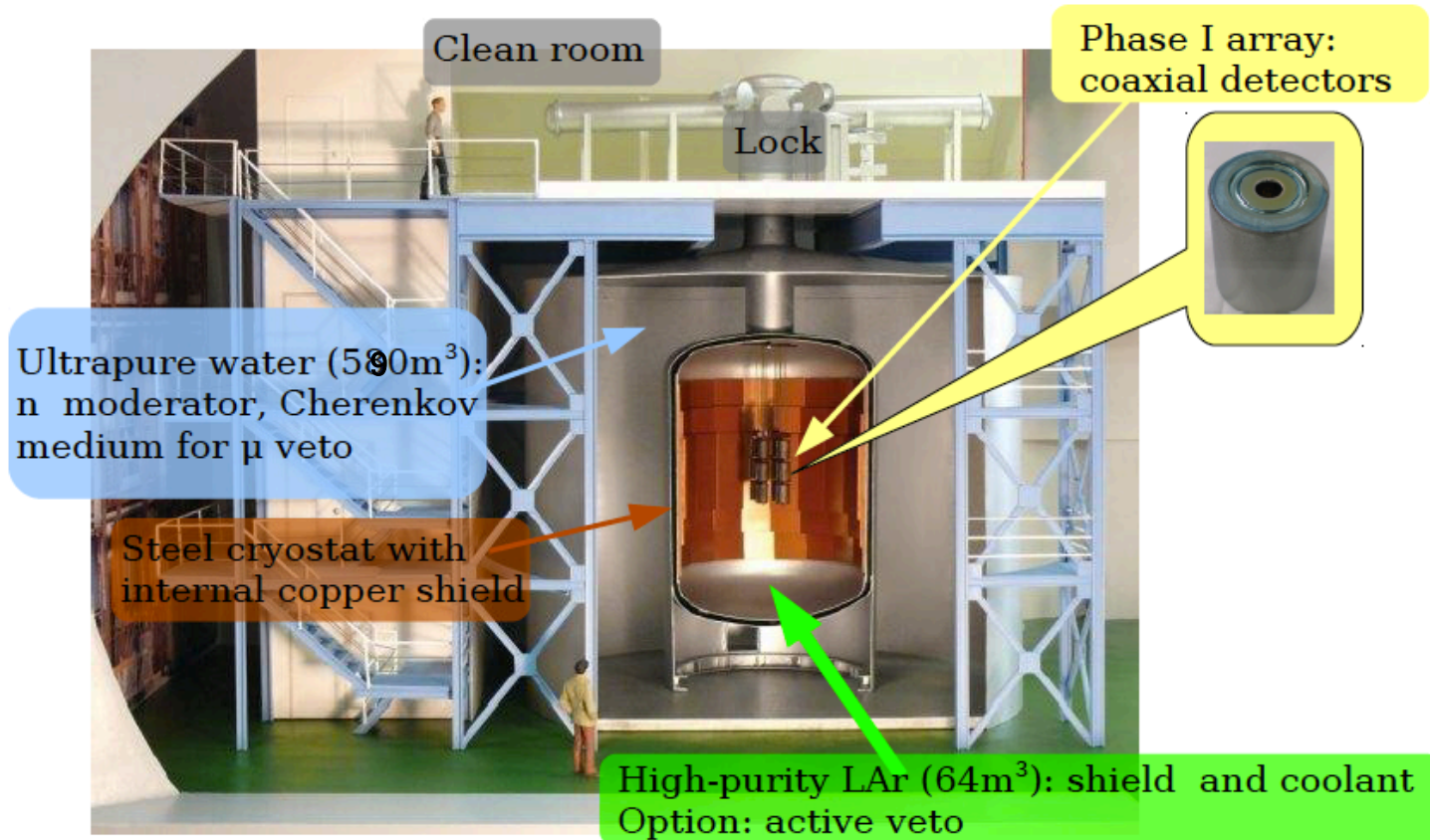
In conflict with positive claim for almost all  
matrix element calculations

Uncertainties due to conversion

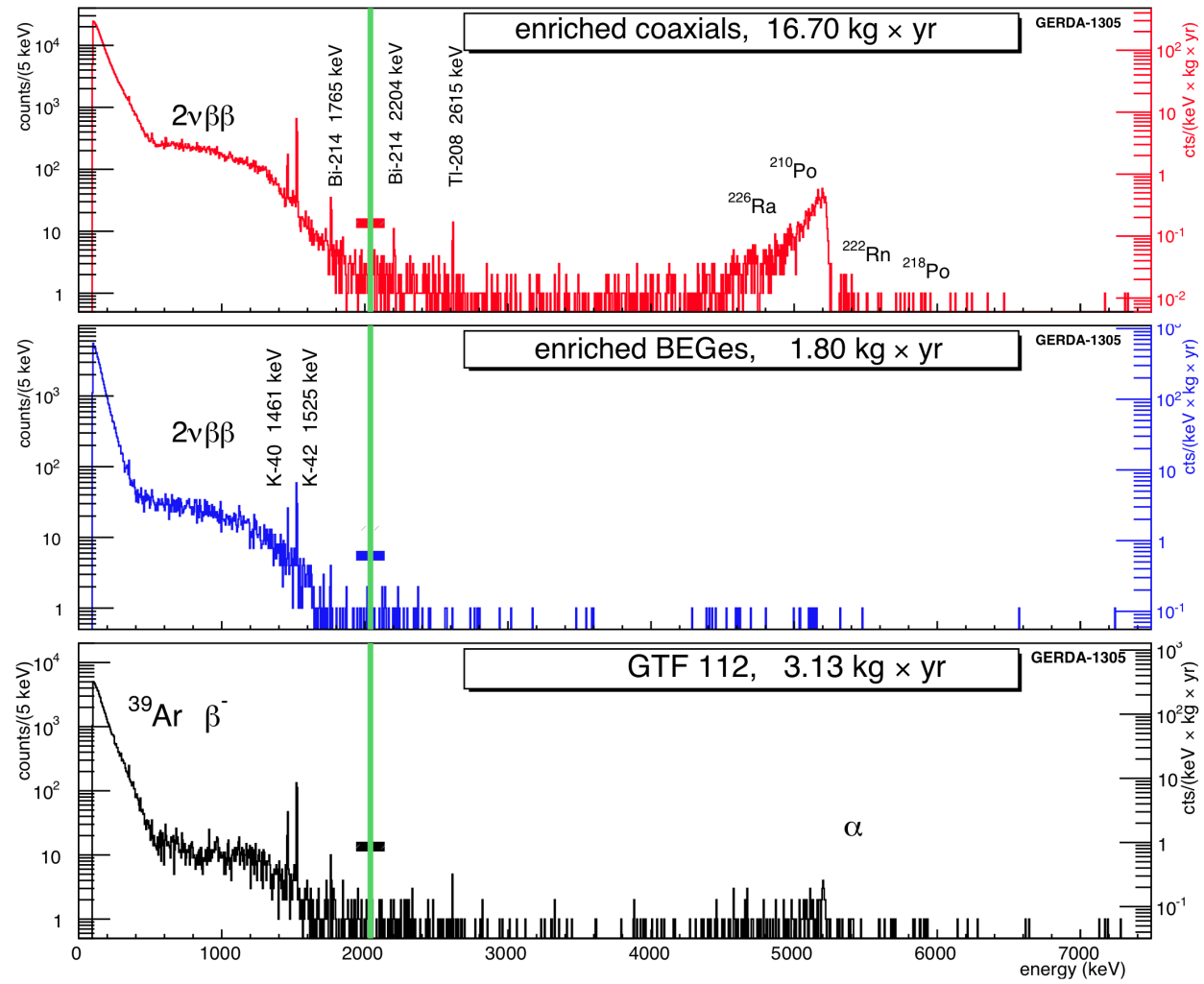
Future option: Barium tagging

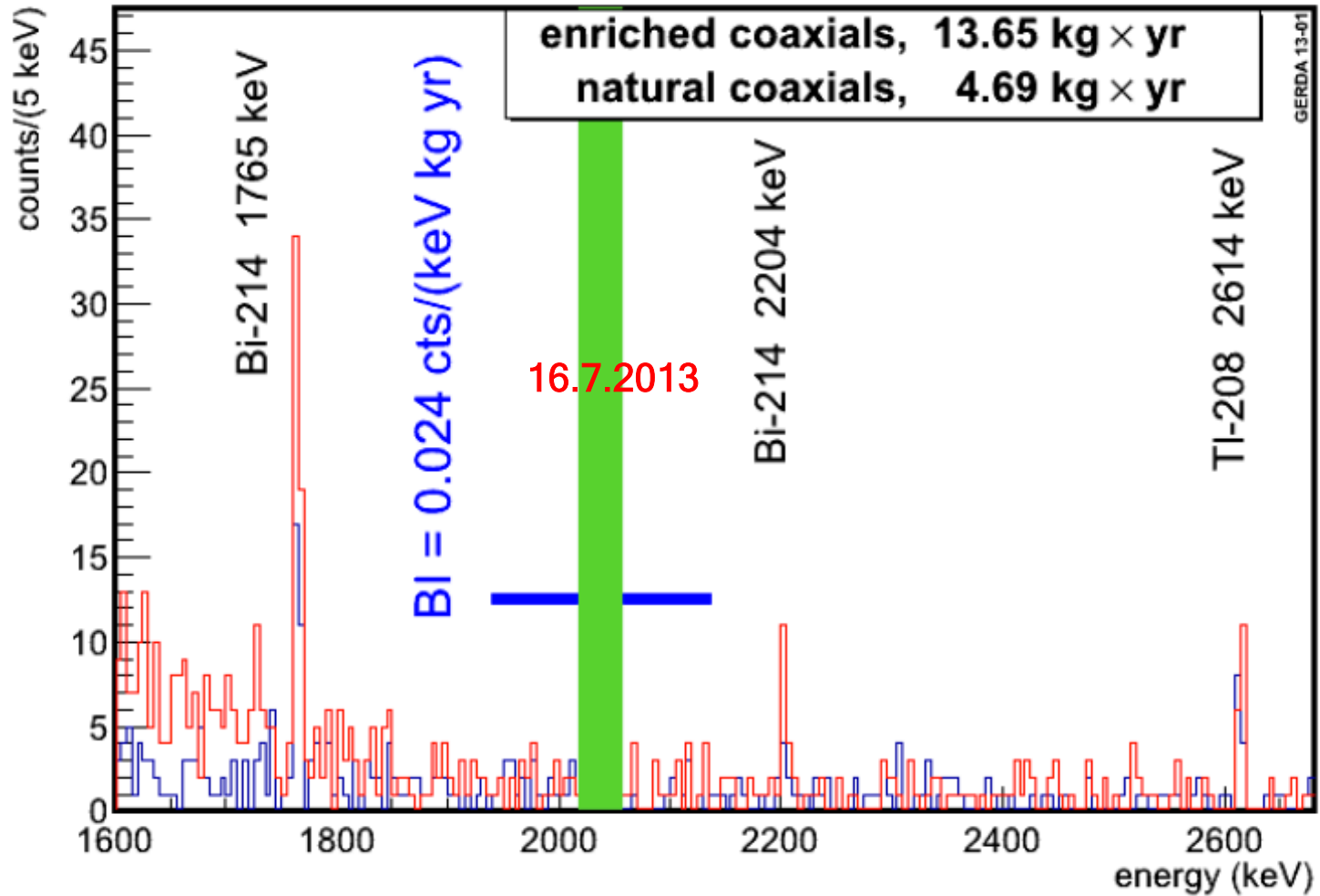
K. Zuber

## Idea : Running bare Ge crystals in LAr



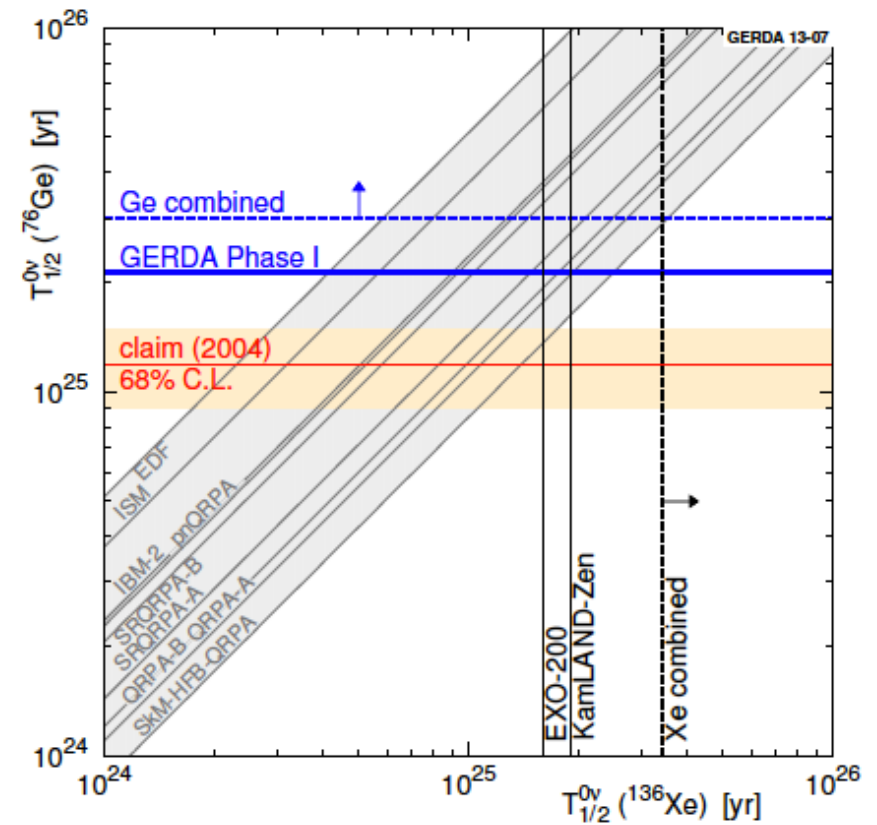
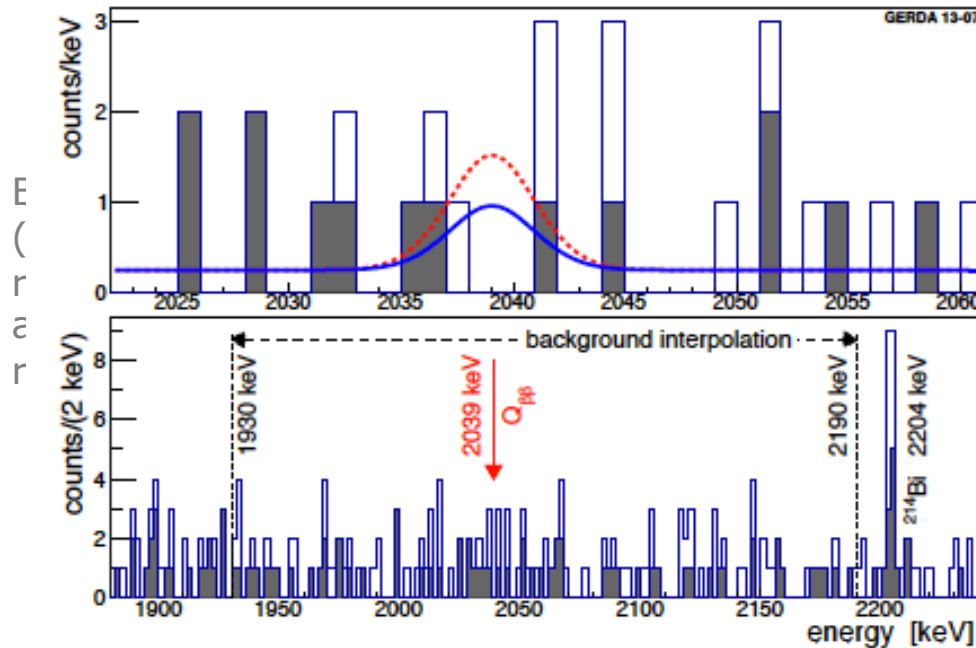
**The Gerda experiment for the search of  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay in  $^{76}\text{Ge}$**   
Eur. Phys. J. C (2013) 73:2330

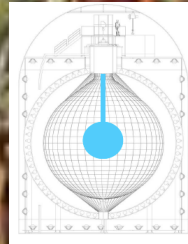
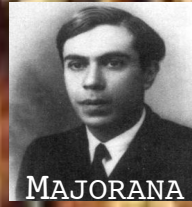




Pulse shape discrimination: M. Agostini et al. Eur. Phys. J. C 71,2583 (2013)

Result Phase 1: M. Agostini et al., PRL 111, 122503 (2013)





MOON



NEXT



LUCIFER



COBRA



SuperNEMO

K. Zuber



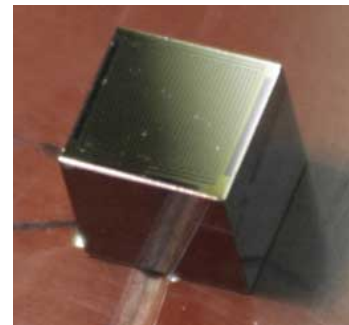
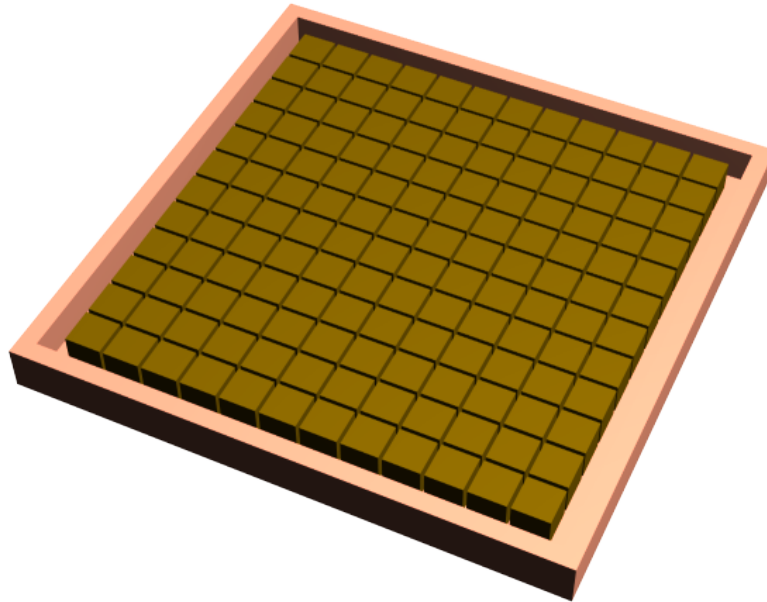
DCBA

007



# Use large amount of CdZnTe Semiconductor Detectors

K. Zuber, Phys. Lett. B 519,1 (2001)

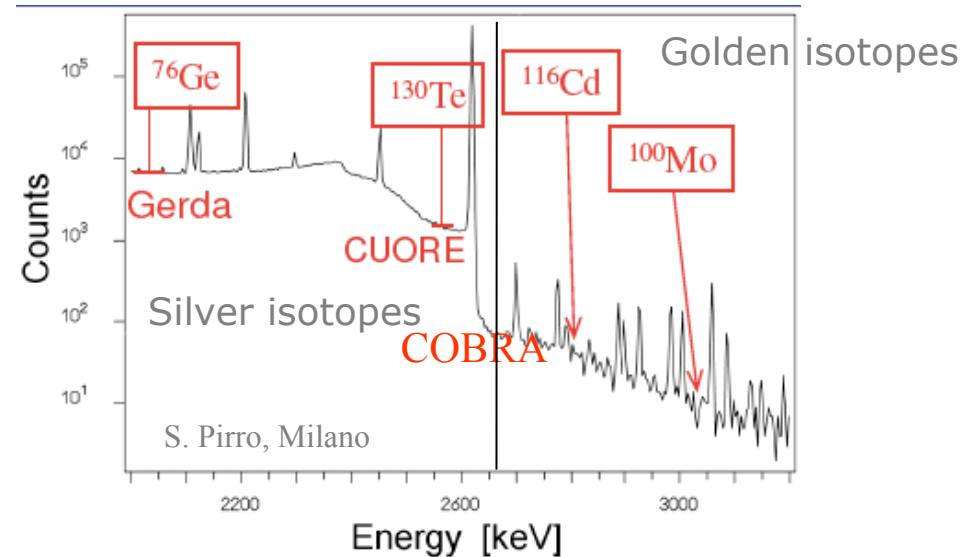
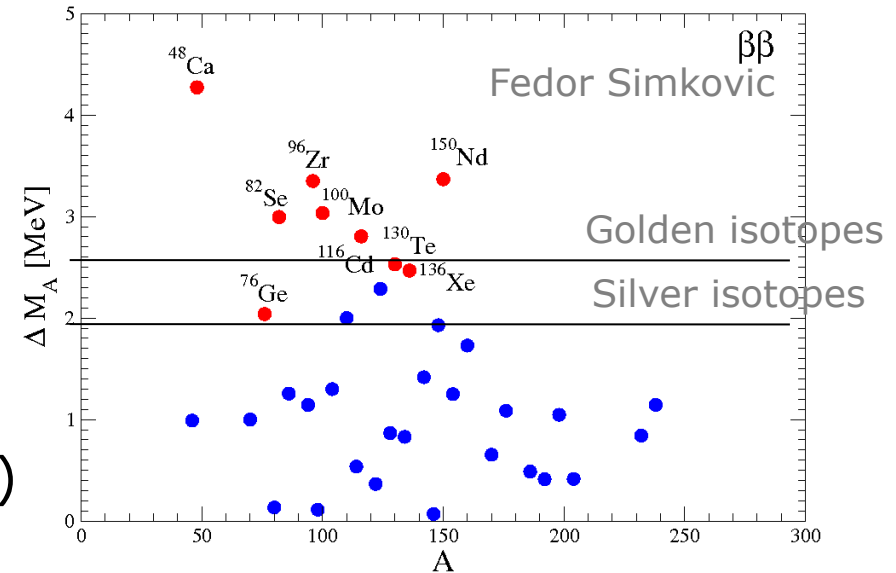


Focus on  $^{116}\text{Cd}$

64 detectors running at LNGS

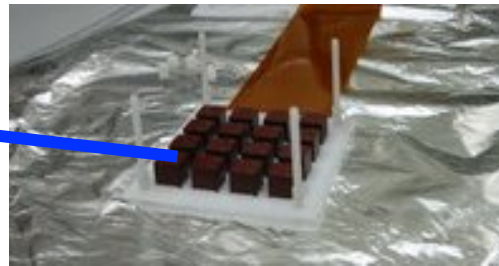
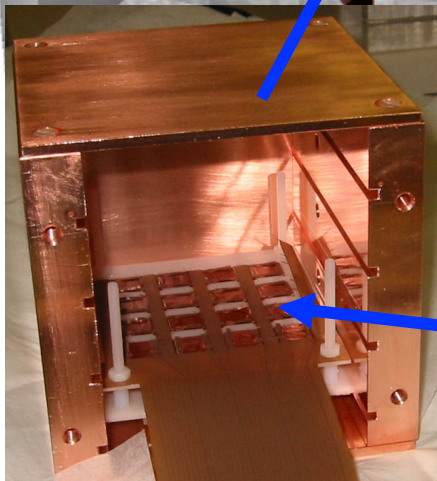
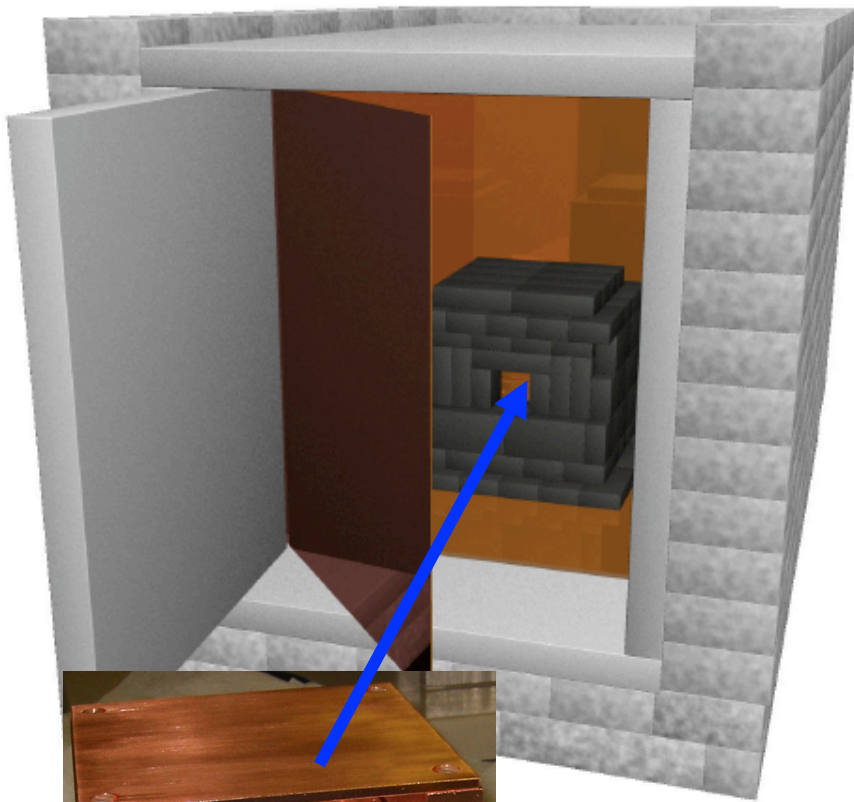
K. Zuber

- Source = detector
- Semiconductor (Good energy resolution, clean)
- Room temperature
- Modular design (Coincidences)
- Industrial development of CdTe detectors
- $^{116}\text{Cd}$  above 2.614 MeV
- Tracking („Solid state TPC“)

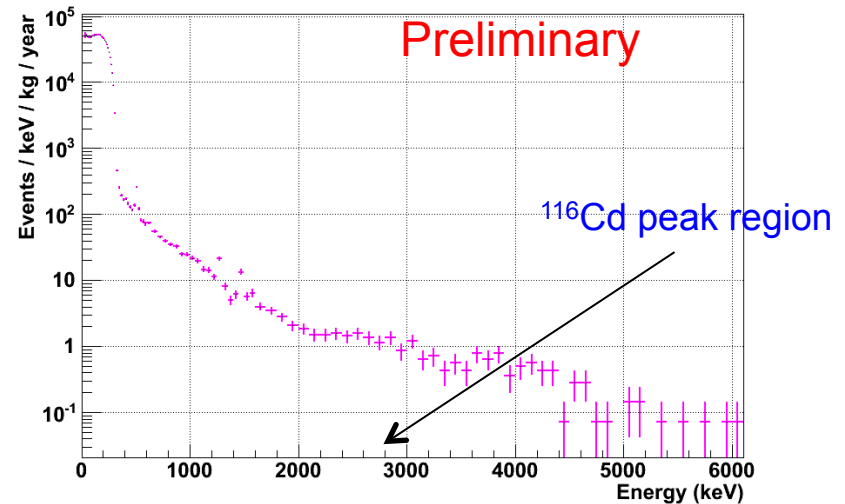


# Setup at Gran Sasso Lab

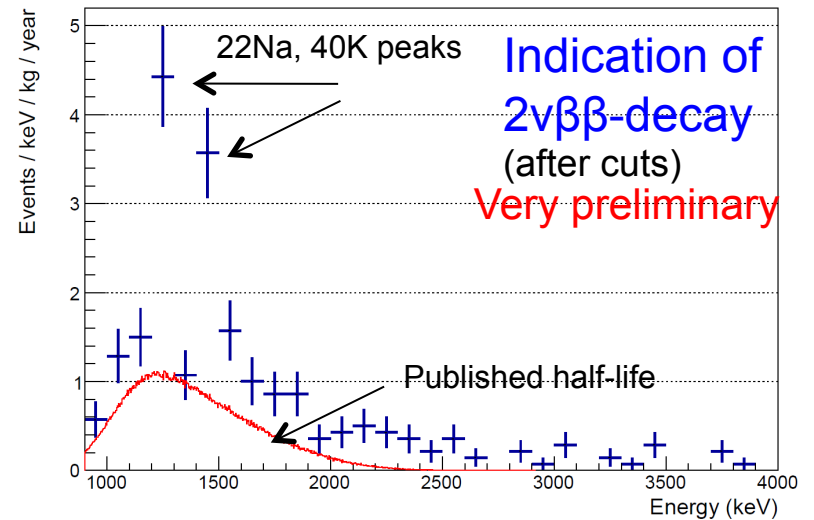
64 CZT detectors



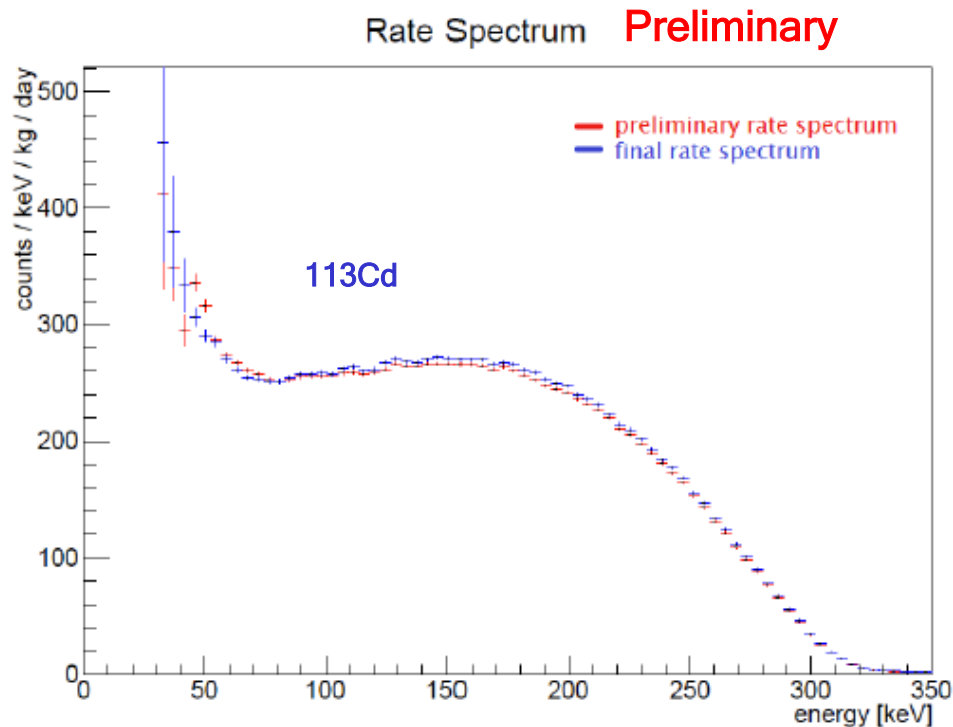
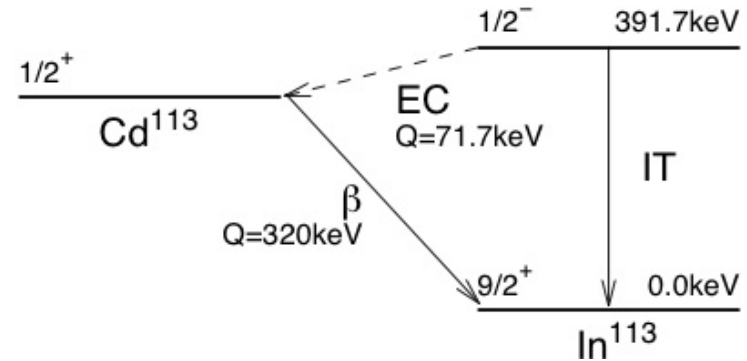
spectrum (32 detectors), 51.1 kg\*days  
Background at 2813 keV about 1 ct/keV/kg/yr



LNGS CPG array, 51.1 kg\*days



4-fold non-unique beta decay ( $1/2^+ \rightarrow 9/2^+$ )



Q-value:

$$322 \pm 0.3(stat.) \pm 0.9(sys.) \text{ keV}$$

J. V. Dawson et al., Nucl. Phys. A 818,264 (2009)

Fits extremely well to AME 2012

Next: Spectral shape

Microscopic calculation:

M. T. Mustonen, M. Aunola, J. Suhonen, PRC 73,054301 (2006)

M. T. Mustonen, J. Suhonen, PLB 657,38 (2007)

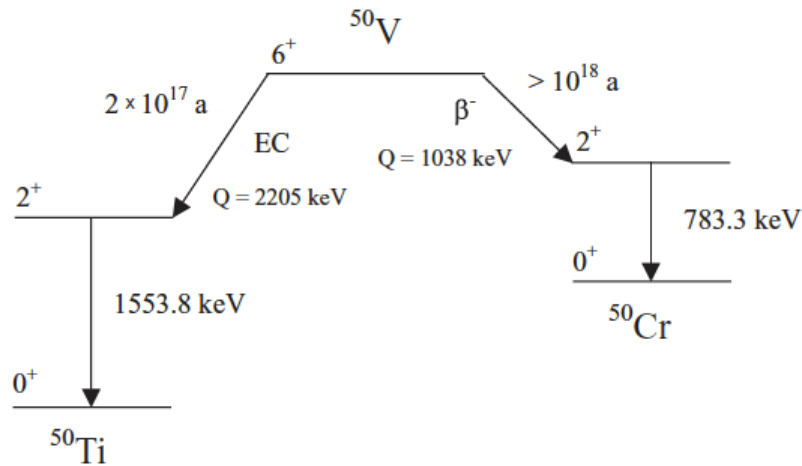
Half-life:

$$T_{1/2} = 8.00 \pm 0.11(stat.) \pm 0.24(sys.) \times 10^{15} \text{ years}$$

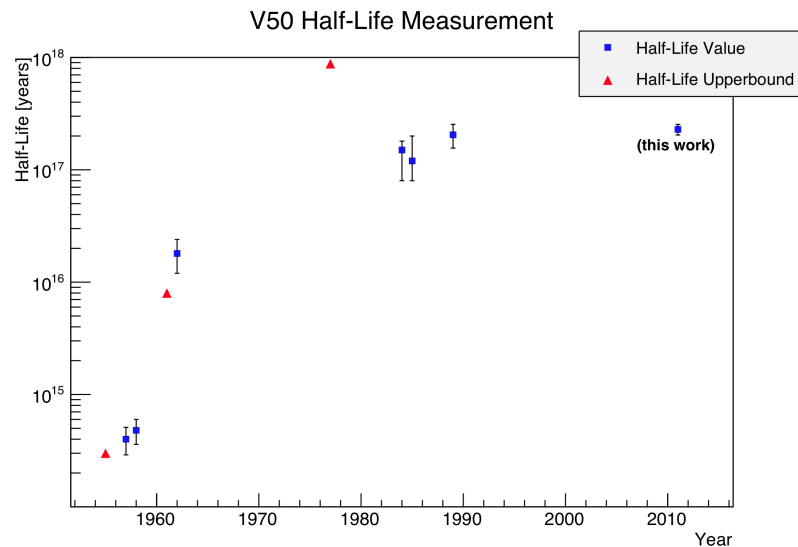
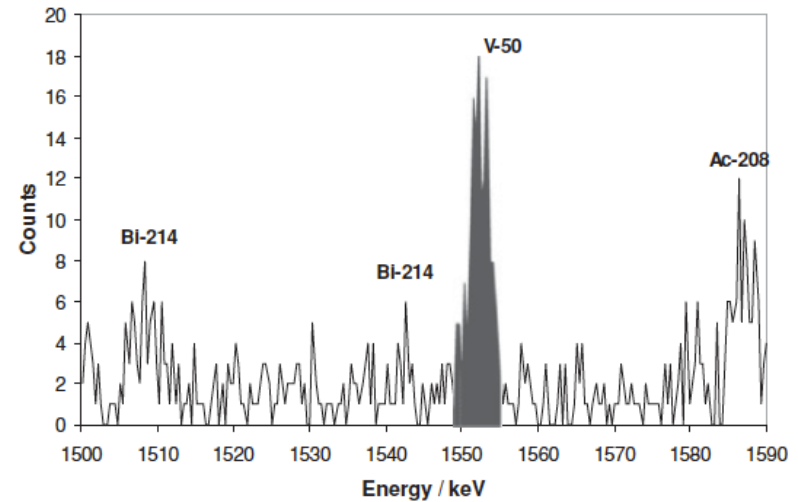
**48 independent measurements of the half-life!**

# 4-fold forbidden beta decays – $^{50}\text{V}$

Two more:  $^{115}\text{In}$  (well measured),  $^{50}\text{V}$



H. Dombrowski, S. Neumaier, K. Zuber, PRC 83, 054322 (2011)

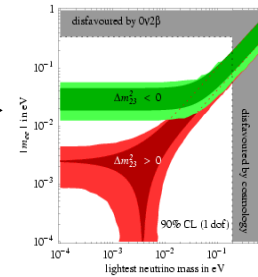


Only limit on beta branch

Higher forbidden beta decays ( $^{48}\text{Ca}$ ,  $^{96}\text{Zr}$ )  
-> DBD is more likely!

Inverse hierarchy:

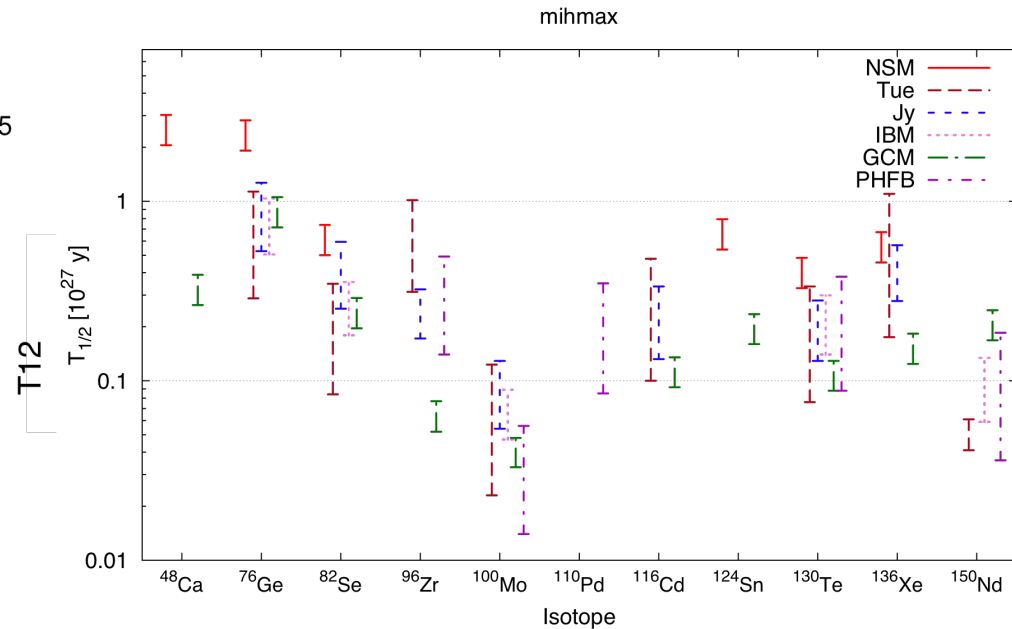
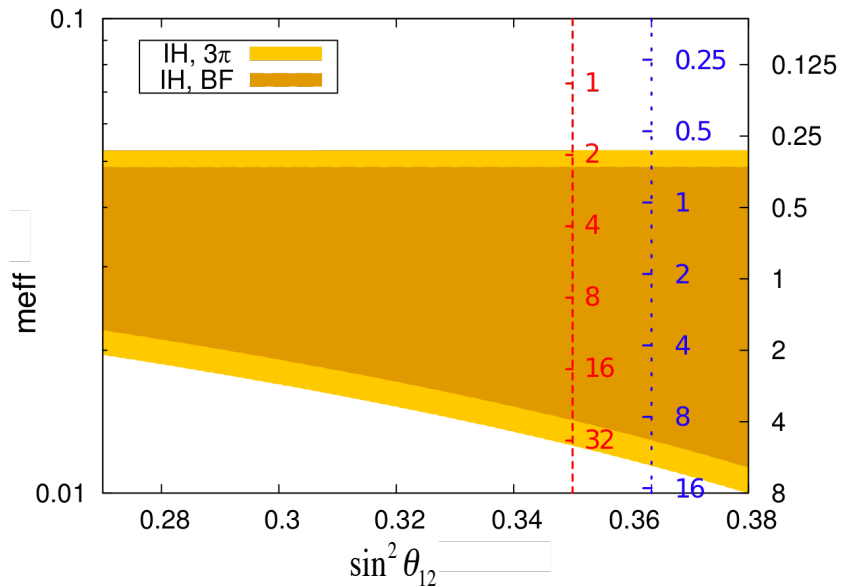
$$\begin{aligned} \langle m_\nu \rangle &= \sum_j U_{ej}^2 m_j \\ &\simeq c_{12}^2 c_{13}^2 m_1 + s_{12}^2 c_{13}^2 e^{i\alpha} m_2 \\ &\sim (c_{\odot}^2 - s_{\odot}^2) \sqrt{\Delta m_{Atm}^2} \\ &\simeq 0.4 \cdot \sqrt{2.2 \cdot 10^{-3}} \text{ eV} \simeq 19 \text{ meV} \end{aligned}$$



Just to touch the IH  
<sup>100</sup>Mo and <sup>150</sup>Nd seems most promising

Dependence on solar mixing angle

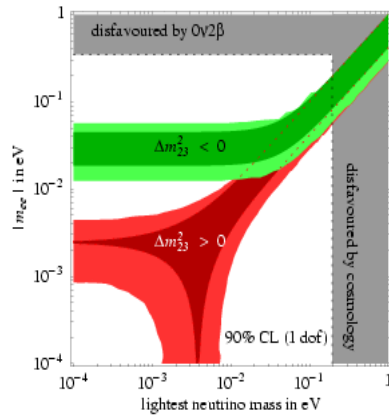
m<sub>3</sub> = 0.001 eV



A. Dueck, W. Rodejohann, K. Zuber, PRD 83, 113010 (2011)

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Reminder: Factor 2 in mass implies factor 16 in experimental parameters → better solar measurement → SNO+??? Reactors (JUNO, RENO-50)???



### No real proposal yet

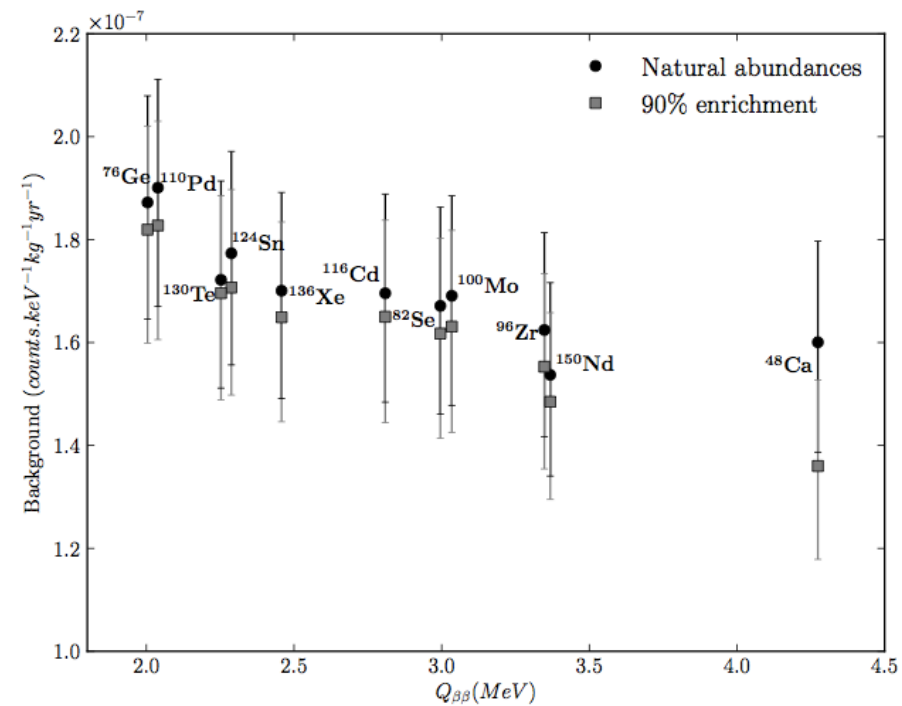
- Will be tough and expensive
  - > tonne scale detectors
- Needs more precise data from oscillations

- New background components (f.e. solar neutrino-electron elastic scattering)

N. deBarros, K. Zuber, arXiv:1103.5757, JPG 38, 105201 (2011)

- More accurate matrix elements  
**HOW???**

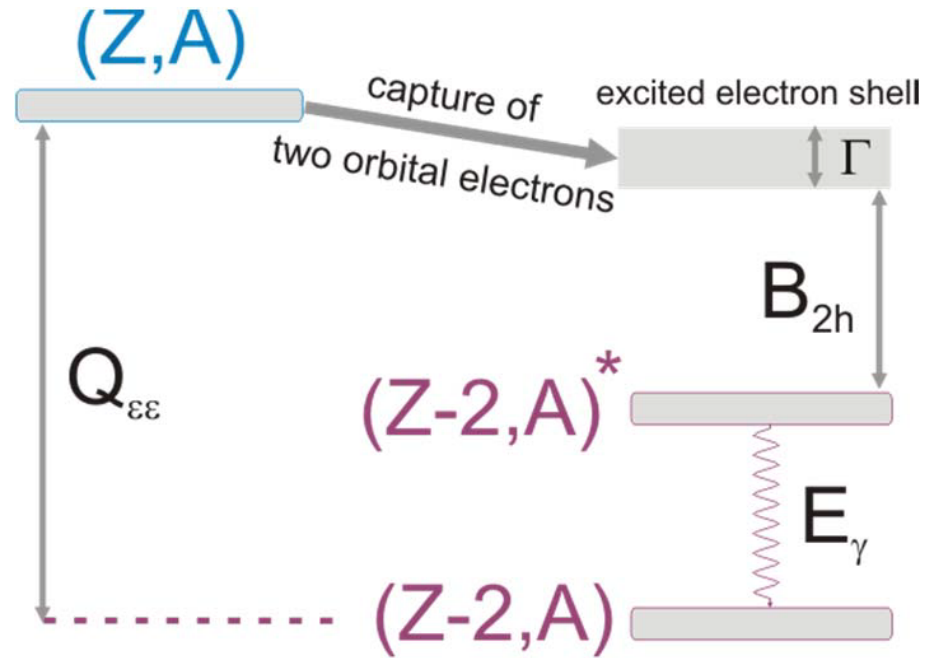
**Experiments which work for IH and claim might not work for NH**



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# Resonant double EC

$$\frac{1}{T_{1/2}} = C \times m_\nu^2 \times |M|^2 \times |\Psi_{1e}|^2 \times |\Psi_{2e}|^2 \times \frac{\Gamma}{(Q - B_{2h} - E_\gamma)^2 + \frac{1}{4}\Gamma^2}$$



- $(A,Z) \rightarrow (A,Z-2) + 2 e^+ (+2\nu_e)$   $\beta+\beta+$
- $e^- + (A,Z) \rightarrow (A,Z-2) + e^+ (+2\nu_e)$   $\beta+/\text{EC}$
- $2 e^- + (A,Z) \rightarrow (A,Z-2) (+2\nu_e)$   $\text{EC}/\text{EC}$

$$Q - 4m_e c^2$$

$$Q - 2m_e c^2$$

$$Q$$

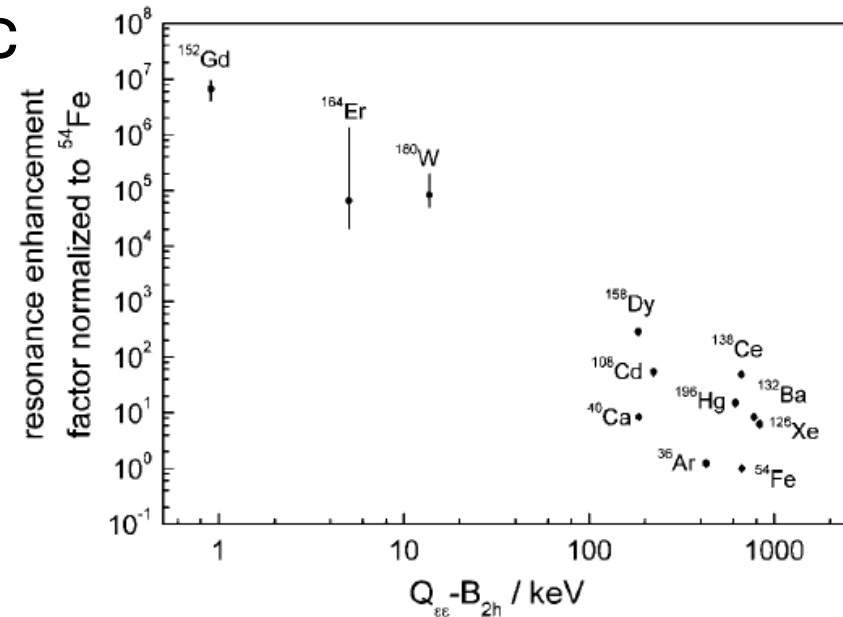
Enhanced if V+A is at work

M. Hirsch et al, Z. Phys. A 347,151 (1994)

Resonant enhancement ( $\cdot 10^6$ ) of  $0\nu$  ECEC if excited state in daughter is degenerate (within 200 eV) with initial ground state (-> **Q-values**)

J. Bernabeu, A. deRujula, C. Jarlskog, Nucl. Phys. B 221,15 (1983)  
S. Zujkoswski, S. Wycech, PRC 70, 052501 (2004)

**Best candidate :  $^{152}\text{Gd}$   
measured with SHIPTRAP at GSI**



S. Eliseev et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 106,052504 (2011)

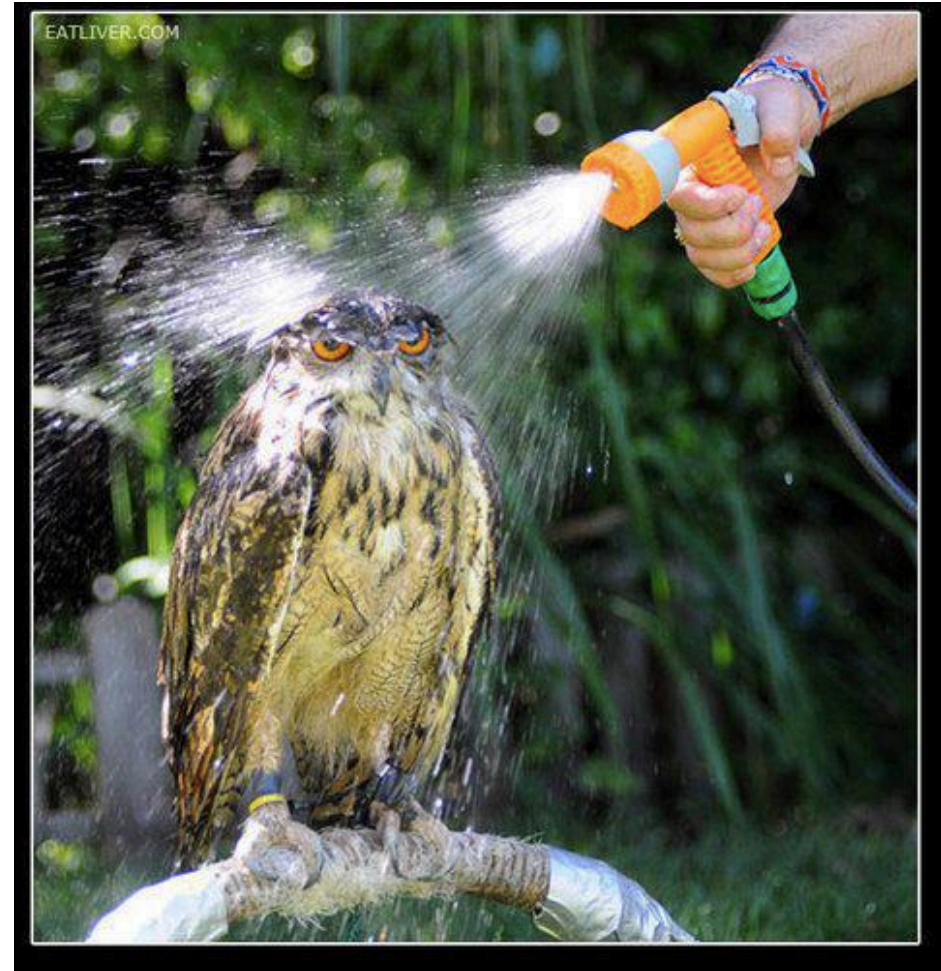
**"I hope you leave here and walk out and say, 'What did he say?'"  
—George W. Bush**

- **Double beta decay is of central importance for neutrino physics. Gold plated channel to probe fundamental character of neutrinos**
- **Interesting times as both LHC and double beta probe TeV scale**
- **Several next generation experiments started last (Candles, GERDA, KamLAND-Zen, EXO)  
First exciting results from Xe-experiments and GERDA**
- **Further experiments are in the building up phase, several interesting experimental ideas are investigated**
- **To go below 50 meV requires hundreds of kilograms of enriched material, lot of ideas...to cover uncertainties at least 3-4 isotopes should be measured**
- **To support matrix element calculations as much experimental input as possible on nuclear structure is desired! We are only talking about 11 isotope pairs!!!**

# The future...



or



K. Zuber