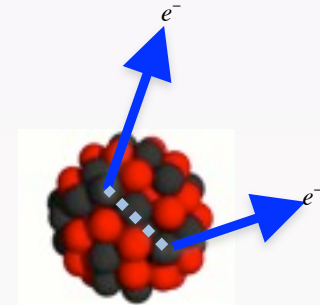


# Topological detection of $\beta\beta$ -decay with NEMO-3 and SuperNEMO

Ruben Saakyan  
 University College London  
 Particle Physics Seminar  
 University of Birmingham  
 25 January 2012

- ☛ **Motivation and Concept**

- ☛  $\beta\beta$ -decay and New Physics
- ☛ Experimental approaches



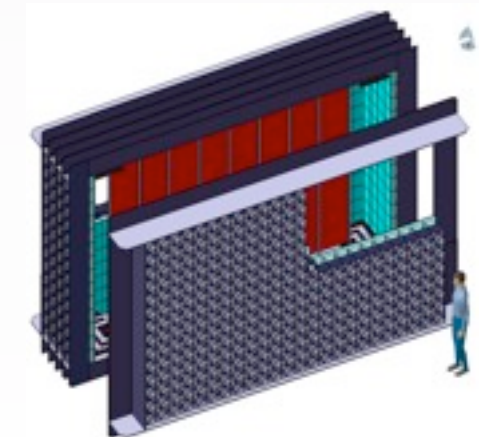
- ☛ **NEMO-3**

- ☛ Detector
- ☛ Results



- ☛ **SuperNEMO**

- ☛ Physics reach
- ☛ R&D results
- ☛ Demonstrator
- ☛ Schedule



# Neutrinos are massive and they mix

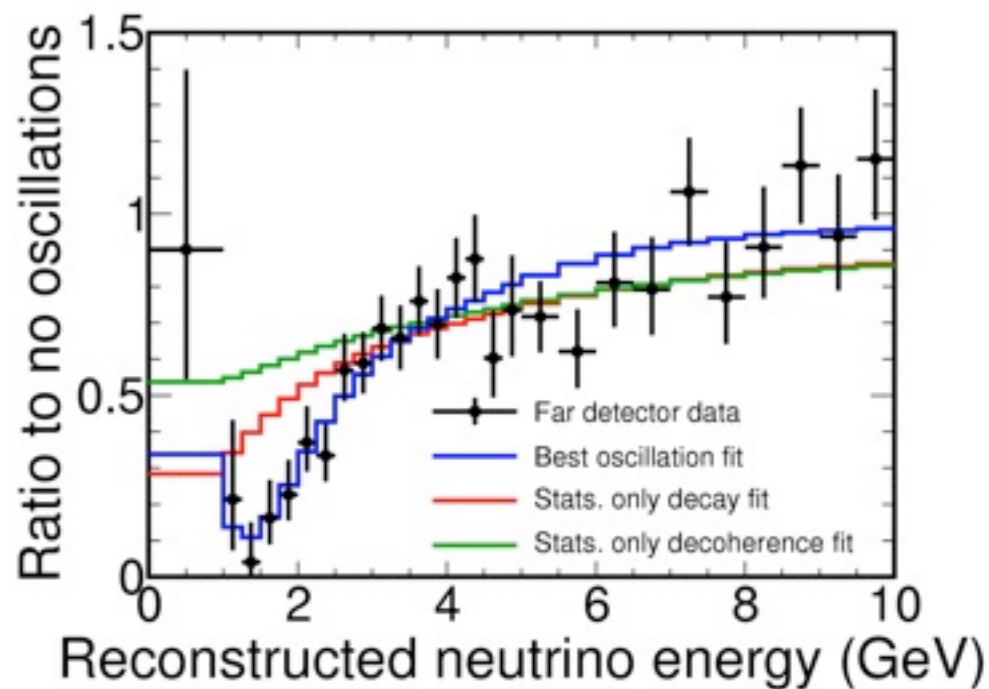
PMNS matrix = 
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos\theta_{23} & \sin\theta_{23} \\ 0 & -\sin\theta_{23} & \cos\theta_{23} \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta_{13} & 0 & e^{-i\delta_{CP}} \sin\theta_{13} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -e^{i\delta_{CP}} \sin\theta_{13} & 0 & \cos\theta_{13} \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta_{12} & \sin\theta_{12} & 0 \\ -\sin\theta_{12} & \cos\theta_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\alpha/2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & e^{i\alpha/2+i\beta} \end{pmatrix}$$

$\Delta m_{23}^2 = \Delta m_{atm}^2 \approx 2.3 \times 10^{-3} eV^2$   
 $\theta_{23} \approx 45^\circ$  (maximal?)

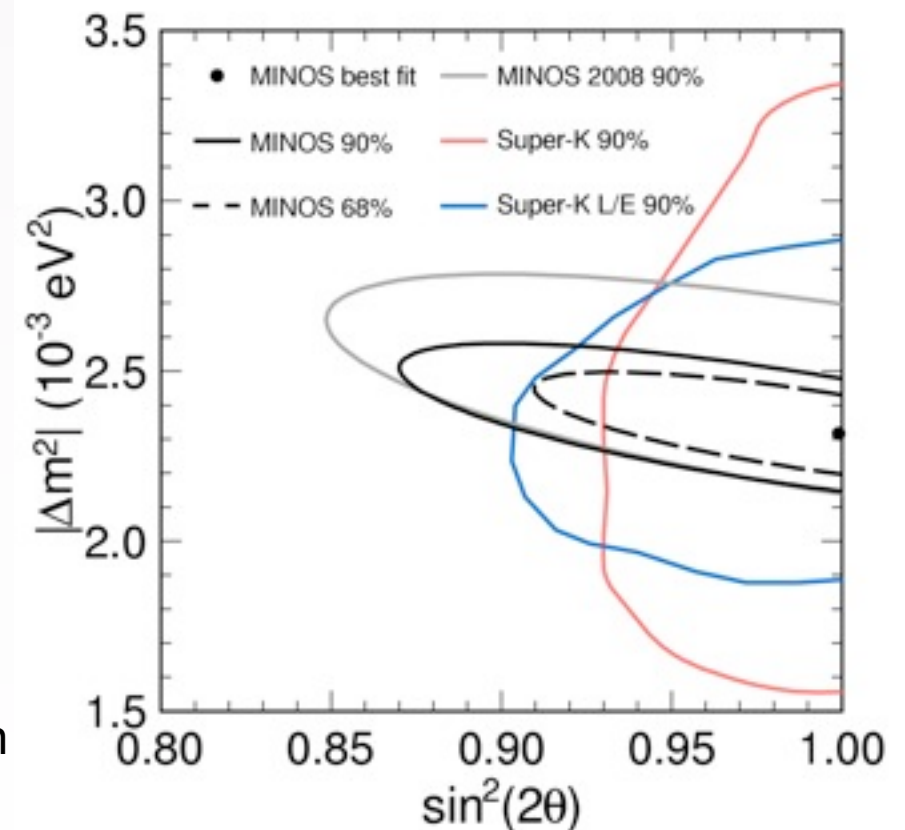
$\theta_{13} < 11^\circ$  (early indications  $5^\circ - 11^\circ$ ?)

$\Delta m_{12}^2 = \Delta m_{sol}^2 \approx 7.7 \times 10^{-5} eV^2$   
 $\theta_{12} \approx 34^\circ$

**Different from quark sector. Can CP-violation in lepton sector address matter-antimatter puzzle?**



Plots: Courtesy of MINOS collaboration



## Key Questions to Answer

- ~ Number of neutrinos: Are there sterile neutrinos?
- ~  $\theta_{13}$  (first hints from T2K and reactors?),  
Precision values of mixing angles and  $\Delta m^2$ 's
- ~ Absolute neutrino mass value. Only limits so far.  
Tritium:  $m_{\bar{\nu}_e} < 2.3 \text{ eV}$  Cosmology:  $\sum m_{\nu_i} < 1 \text{ eV}$
- ~ Neutrino mass spectrum: Normal ( $m_1 < m_2 < m_3$ )  
Inverted ( $m_3 < m_1 < m_2$ ) or Quasi-degenerate ( $m_1 \approx m_2 \approx m_3$ )?
- ~ Origin of matter-antimatter asymmetry.  
CP-violation in lepton sector:  $\delta \neq 0, \pi$  and/or  $\alpha, \beta \neq 0, \pi$  ?
- ~ Nature of Neutrinos: Majorana ( $\nu = \text{anti-}\nu$ ) or Dirac ( $\nu \neq \text{anti-}\nu$ )?  
Full lepton number violation (required in most Grand Unification Theories) .

addressed  
by  
 $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay

# Nature of Neutrinos: Majorana ( $\nu = \text{anti-}\nu$ ) or Dirac ( $\nu \neq \text{anti-}\nu$ )?

$\Delta L \neq 0$

$\Delta L = 0$

Directly related to fundamental symmetries of particle interactions

Provides important information on origin of neutrino mass

## SEE-SAW

$$m_\nu \equiv m_M^L = \frac{m_D^2}{M} \ll m_D$$

To obtain  $m_3 \sim (\Delta m_{\text{atm}}^2)^{1/2}$ ,  $m_D \sim m_t$ ,  $M_3 \sim 10^{15} \text{ GeV}$   
(GUT!)

Lepton number violation is one of the key ingredients of **leptogenesis** as the mechanism to generate the baryon asymmetry of the Universe.

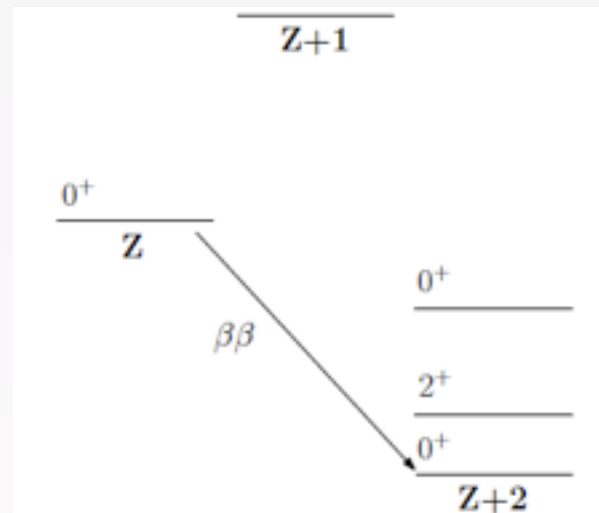
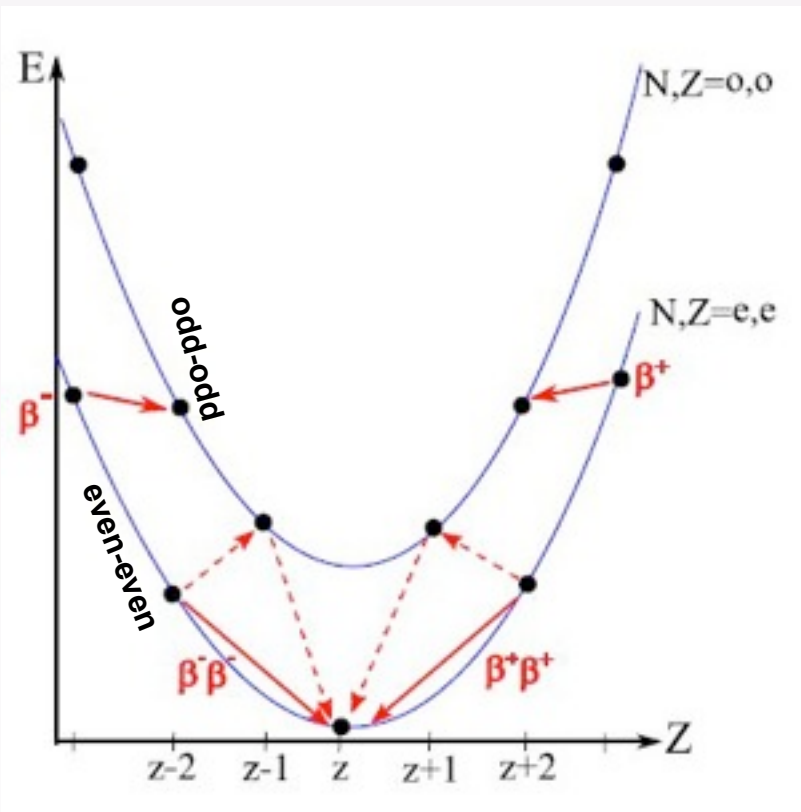
More matter than anti-matter!





# Double Beta Decay in the Standard Model (Goeppert-Mayer, 1935)

Recall pairing term in SEMF



$$M(A, Z) > M(A, Z+2)$$

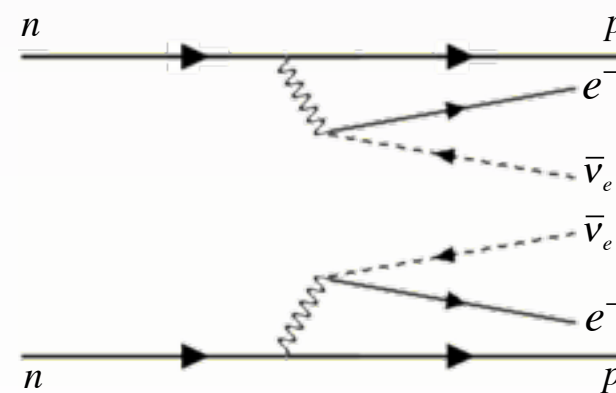
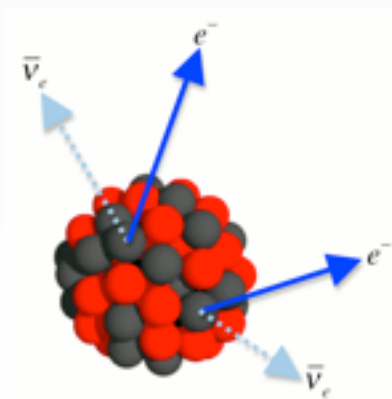
$$Q_{\beta\beta} = M(A, Z) - M(A, Z+2)$$

$$\frac{1}{T_{1/2}^{2\nu}} = G^{2\nu}(Q_{\beta\beta}, Z) |M^{2\nu}|^2$$

phase space

NME:  
Nasty Nuclear  
Matrix  
Element

NME is **measured** in  $2\nu\beta\beta$

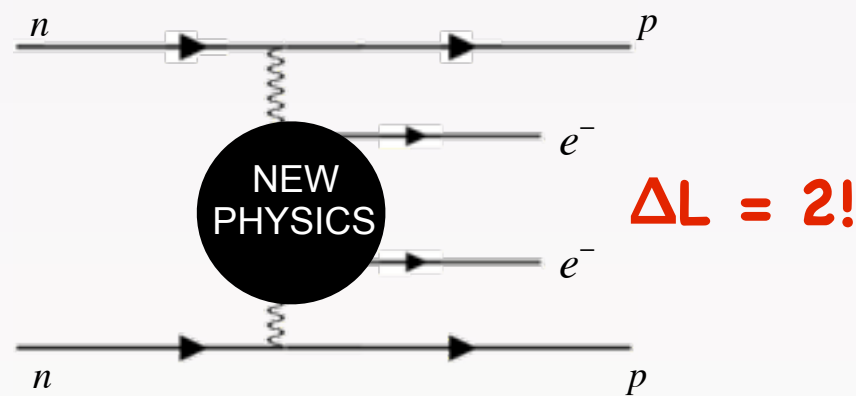
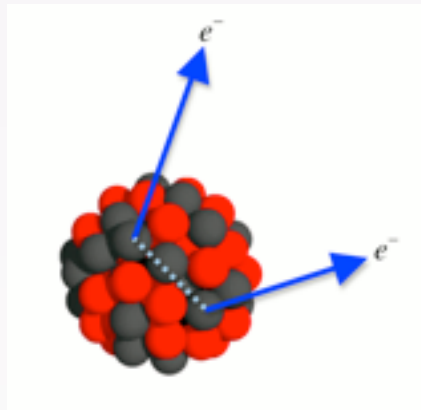


- Second order process  $\Rightarrow$  rare ( $\sim 10^{19}$ - $10^{21}$  yr)
- Nevertheless observed for 11 nuclei
- Experimental input for NME calculation

# Double Beta Decay Beyond the Standard Model



## Neutrinoless Double Beta Decay (Furry, 1939).

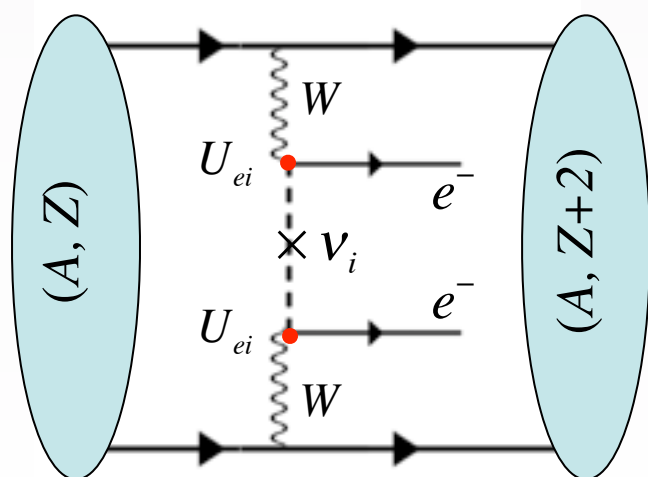


$$\frac{1}{T_{1/2}^{0\nu}} = G^{0\nu}(Q_{\beta\beta}, Z) |M^{0\nu}|^2 \eta^2$$

Lepton number violating parameter

$\eta$  can be due to  $\langle m_\nu \rangle$ , V+A, Majoron, SUSY,  $H^-$  or a combination of them

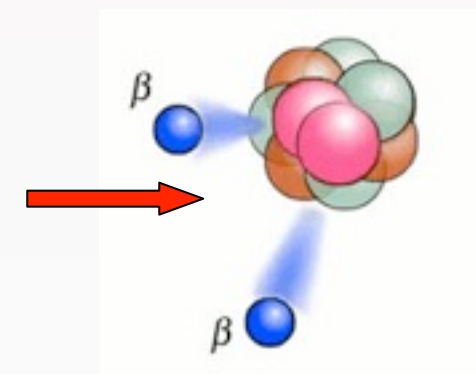
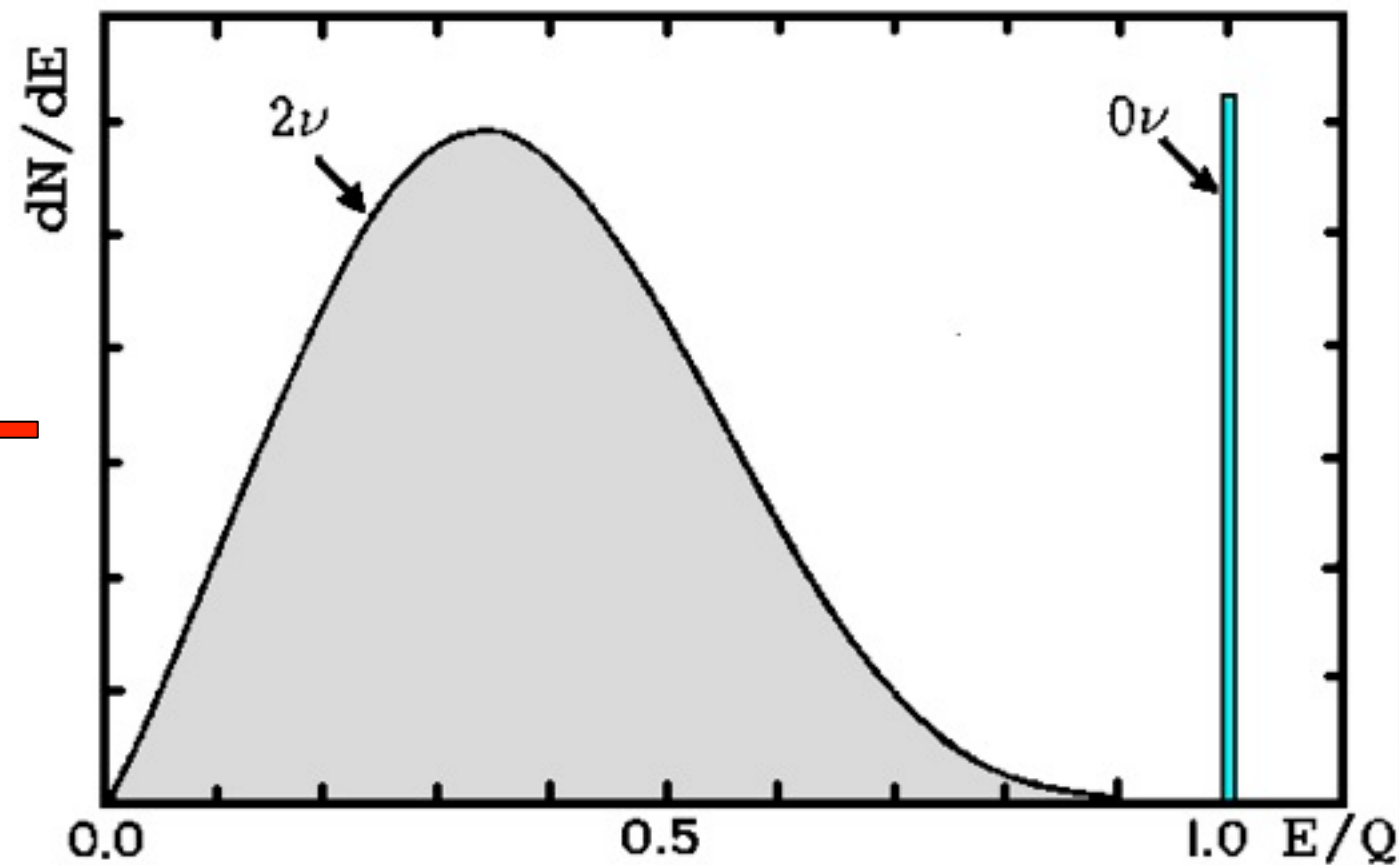
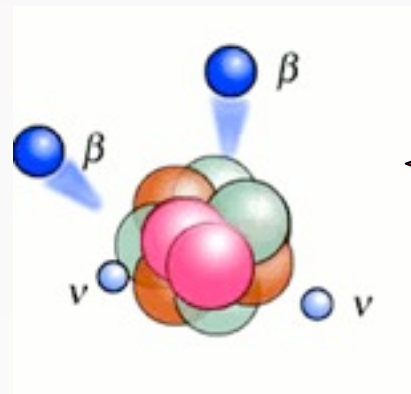
### “Minimal” scenario - light Majorana mass



Coherent sum over neutrino amplitudes

$$\langle m_\nu \rangle = \left| \sum U_{ei}^2 m_i \right| = \left| U_{e1}^2 m_1 + U_{e2}^2 m_2 e^{i\alpha_{21}} + U_{e3}^2 m_3 e^{i\alpha_{31}} \right|$$

# Double Beta Decay. What is measured?



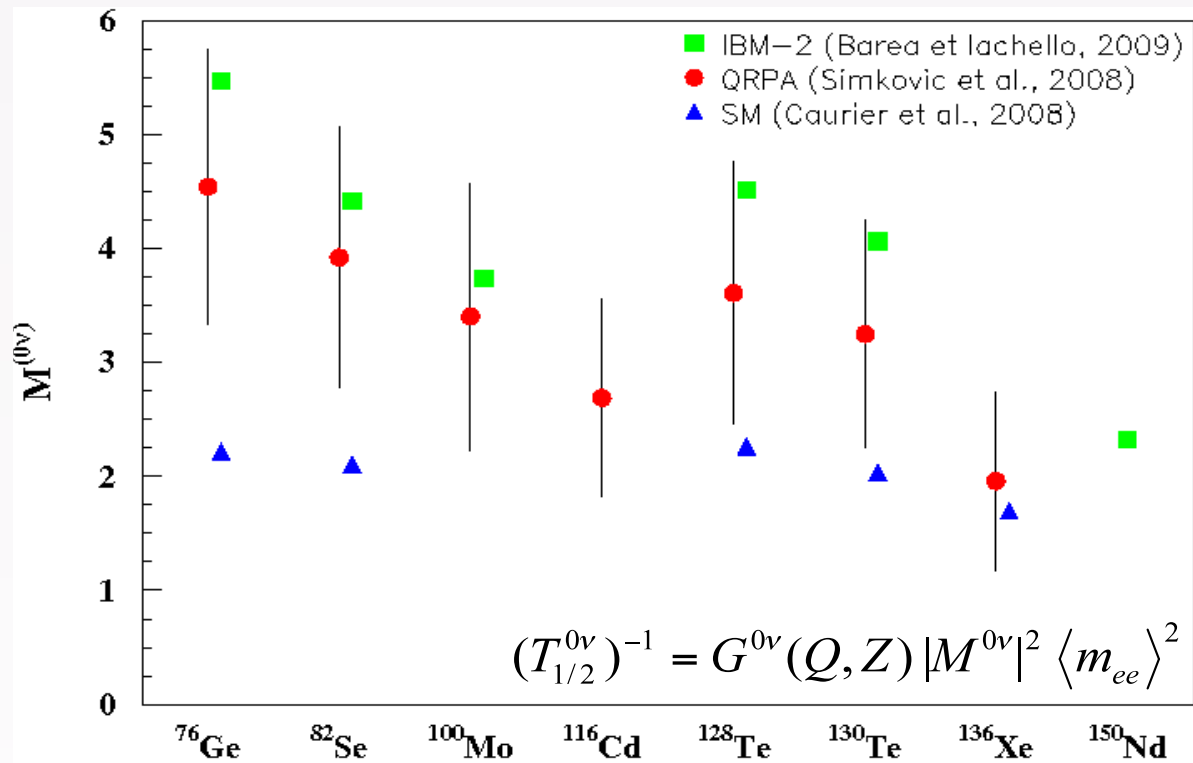
$$(E_1 + E_2) \in [0, Q_{\beta\beta}]$$

$$(E_1 + E_2)/Q_{\beta\beta} \approx 1$$

[⊗ resolution]

# Double Beta Decay. Isotope Candidates.

Over 40 nuclei can undergo  $\beta\beta$ -decay (including  $\beta^+\beta^+$  and 2K-capture)  
 Only ~10 experimentally feasible



## Isotope choice

- $Q_{\beta\beta}$
- $T_{1/2}(2\nu)$  (the longer the better)
- Isotope abundance
- Enrichment opportunities
- NME - Input from  $2\nu$  measurements is useful
- Phase space

\*J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys. 34 667 (2007)

Isotope	Nat. Abundance (%)	Phase Space*, $G^{0\nu} \times 10^{-15} \text{yr}^{-1}$	$Q_{\beta\beta}$ (MeV)
$^{48}\text{Ca}$	0.187	75.8	4.274
$^{76}\text{Ge}$	7.8	7.6	2.039
$^{82}\text{Se}$	9.2	33.5	2.996
$^{96}\text{Zr}$	2.8	69.7	3.348
$^{100}\text{Mo}$	9.6	54.5	3.035
$^{116}\text{Cd}$	7.6	58.9	2.809
$^{130}\text{Te}$	34.5	52.8	2.530
$^{136}\text{Xe}$	8.9	56.3	2.462
$^{150}\text{Nd}$	5.6	249	3.367

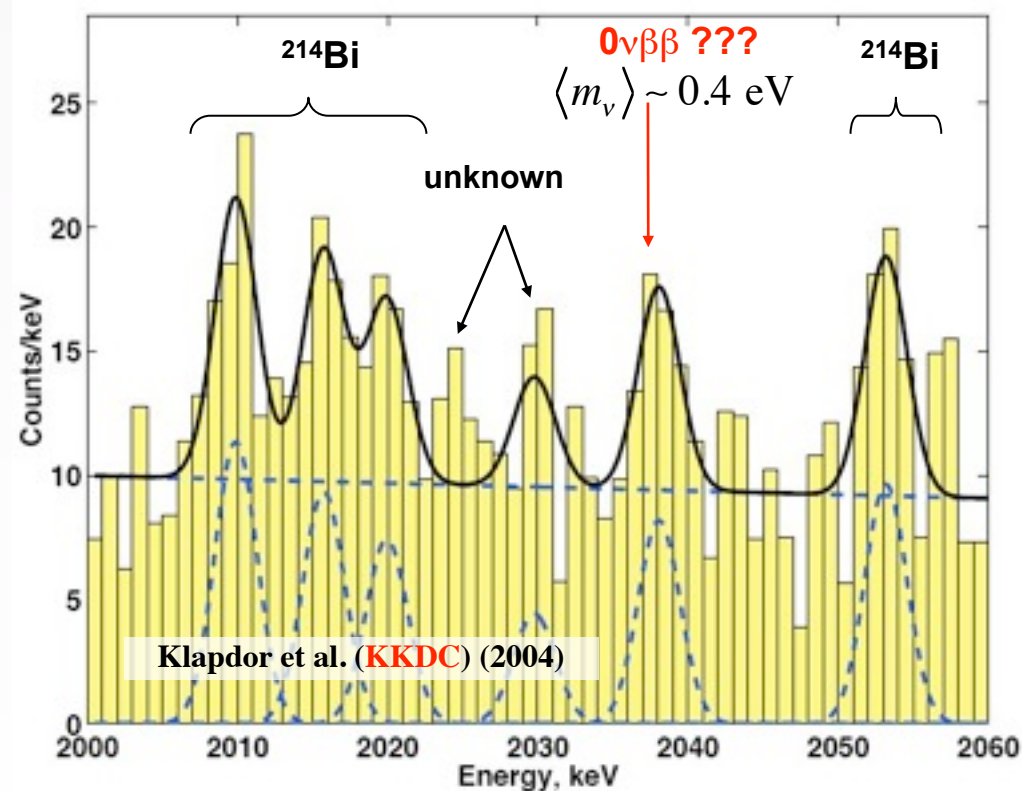
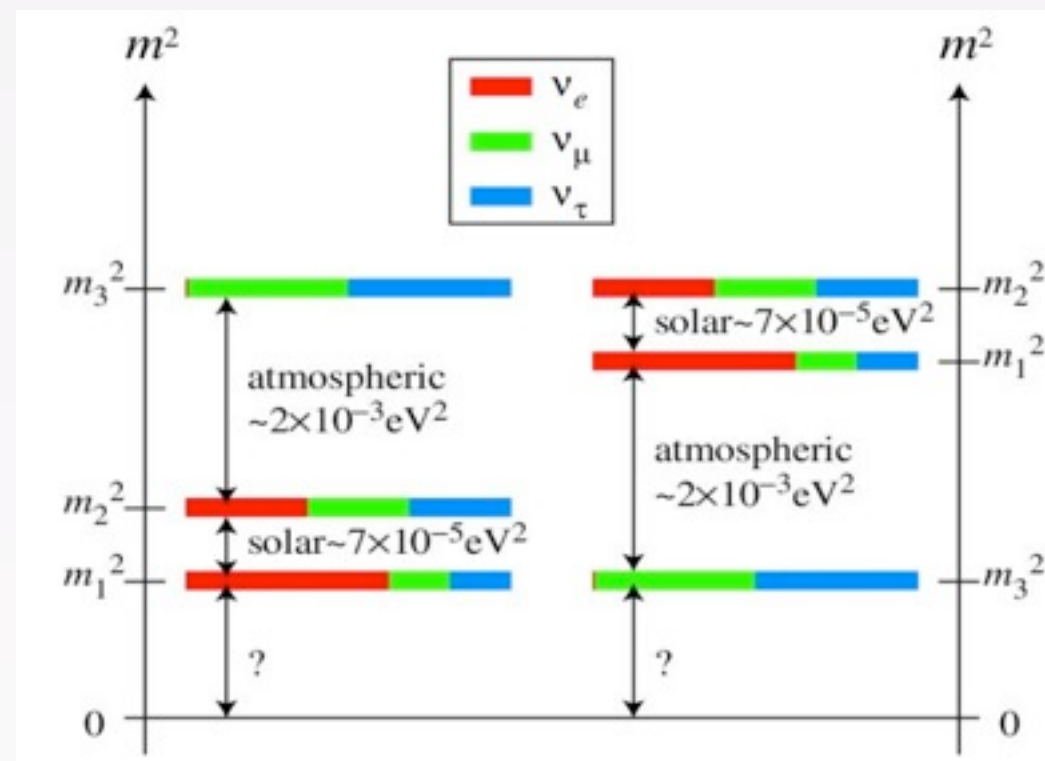
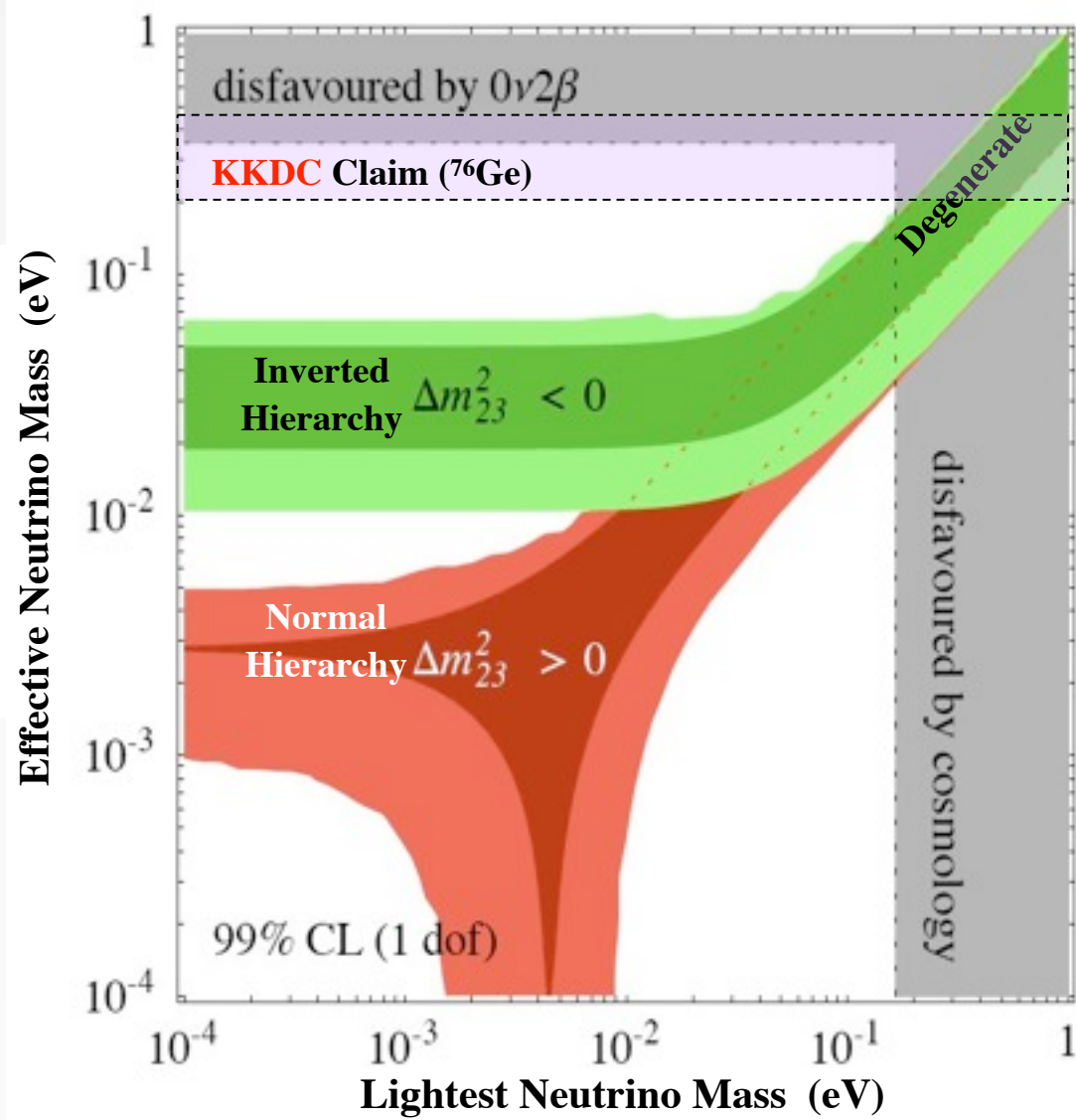


more energetic decay :  
easier to separate from  
background



enrichment often possible,  
always expensive !





## Sensitivity Milestones

“Immediate” Future:  $\sim 0.1 \text{ eV}$  to check K-K claim  $\rightarrow$

Next step  $\langle m_\nu \rangle \sim \sqrt{\Delta m_{atm}^2} \sim 0.05 \text{ eV}$

And then  $\sim 0.01 \text{ eV}$  to cover I.H.

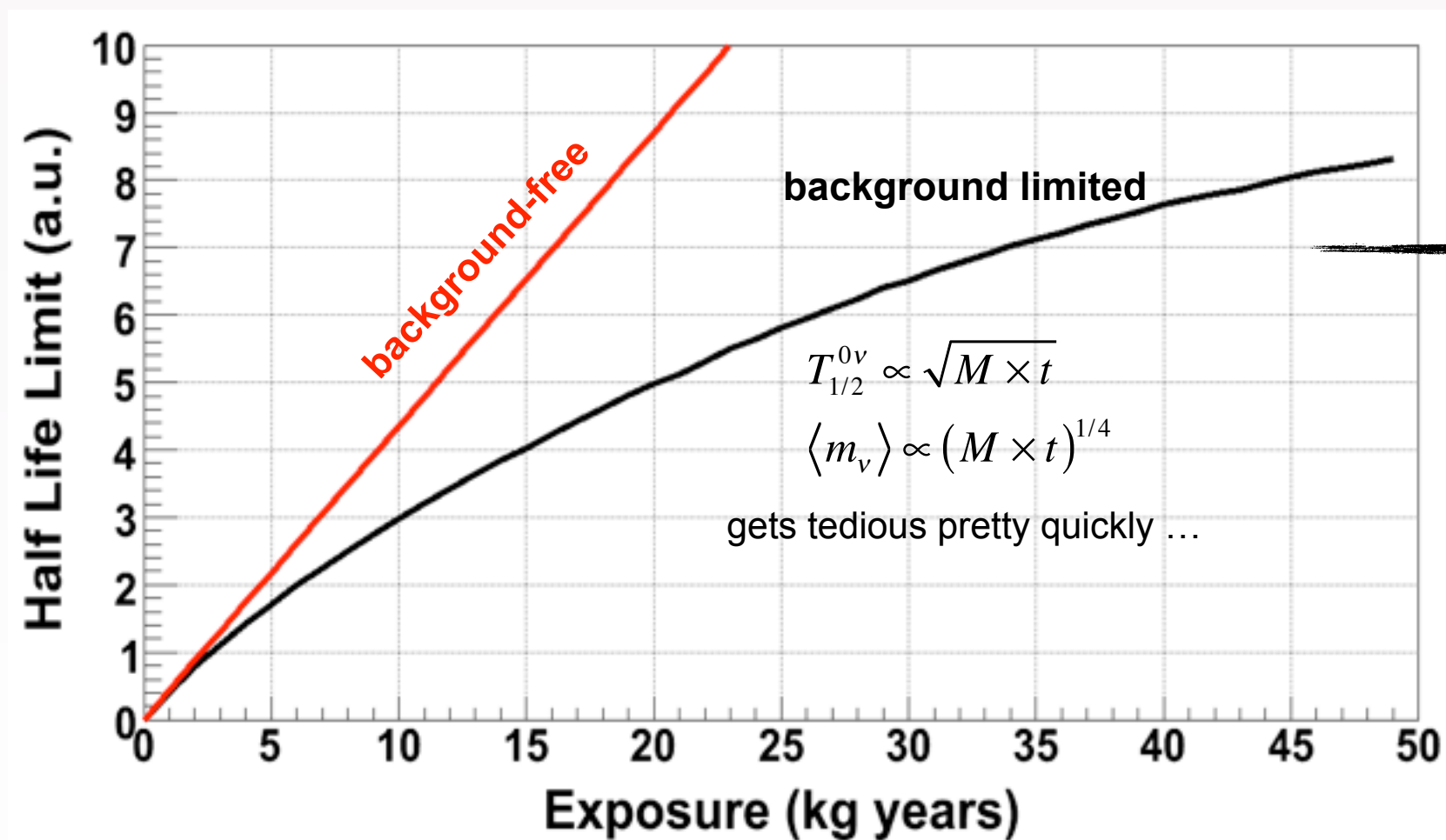
# Experimental Sensitivity

maximise efficiency & isotope abundance

maximise exposure = mass × time

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

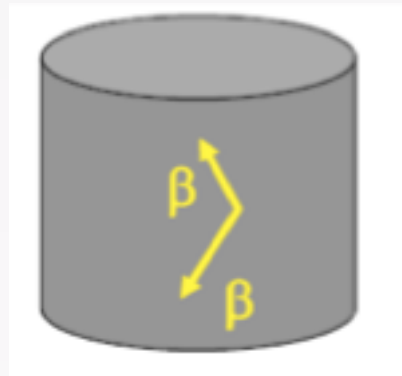
minimise background & energy resolution



$\beta\beta$  is about  
background  
suppression!

# Experimental Approaches

Calorimeter-only. Source = Detector



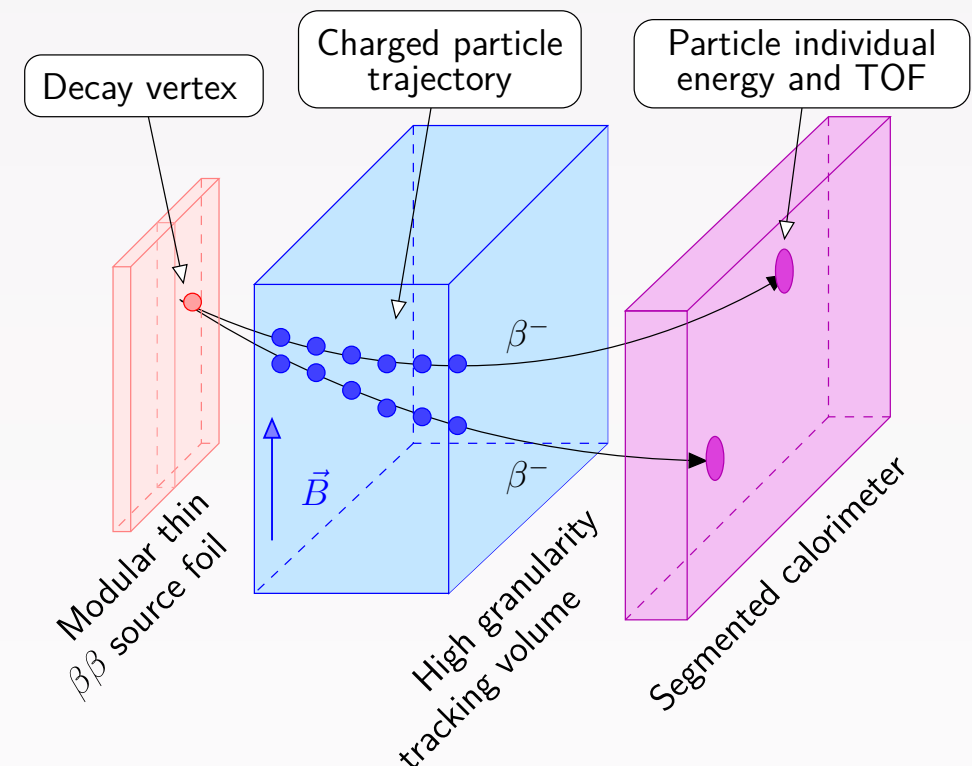
Main observable:  
Deposited energy

- Excellent  $\Delta E/E$
- High efficiency
- Relatively compact
- Some particle ID capability

Main limiting factor: background

HPGe, Bolometers, (Liquid)-Scintillators, LXe.

Tracking + Calorimetry. Source  $\neq$  Detector  
(ala NEMO3 and SuperNEMO)



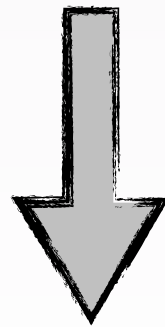
Full Topology Reconstruction

- Strong background suppression and control
- “Smoking gun”  $0\nu\beta\beta$  signature. Any isotope can be studied.
- Sensitivity to different physics mechanisms of  $0\nu\beta\beta$
- Main limiting factor: efficiency

R&D on technologies that include elements of both CdZnTe, HPXe TPC

# A take-away message

- We need to measure different isotopes with different experimental approaches
  - NME uncertainties
  - Tiny signal - Huge Background. Will you ever trust a single positive measurement?
  - Disentangle underlying physics mechanism



**We need Diversity**

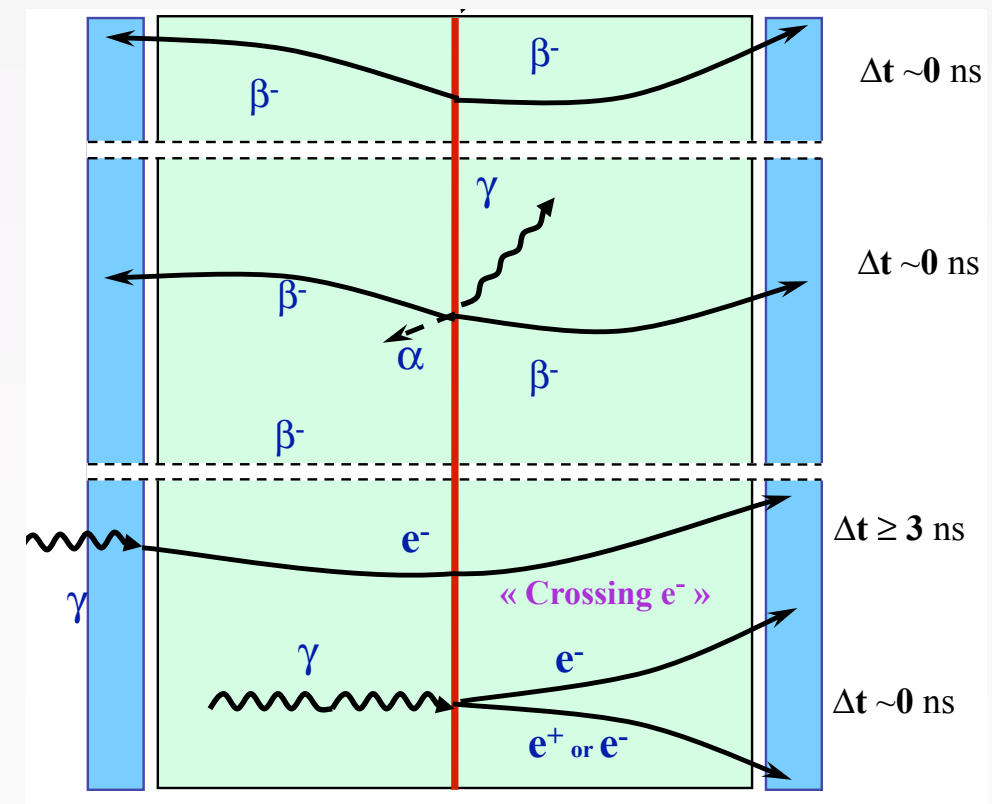
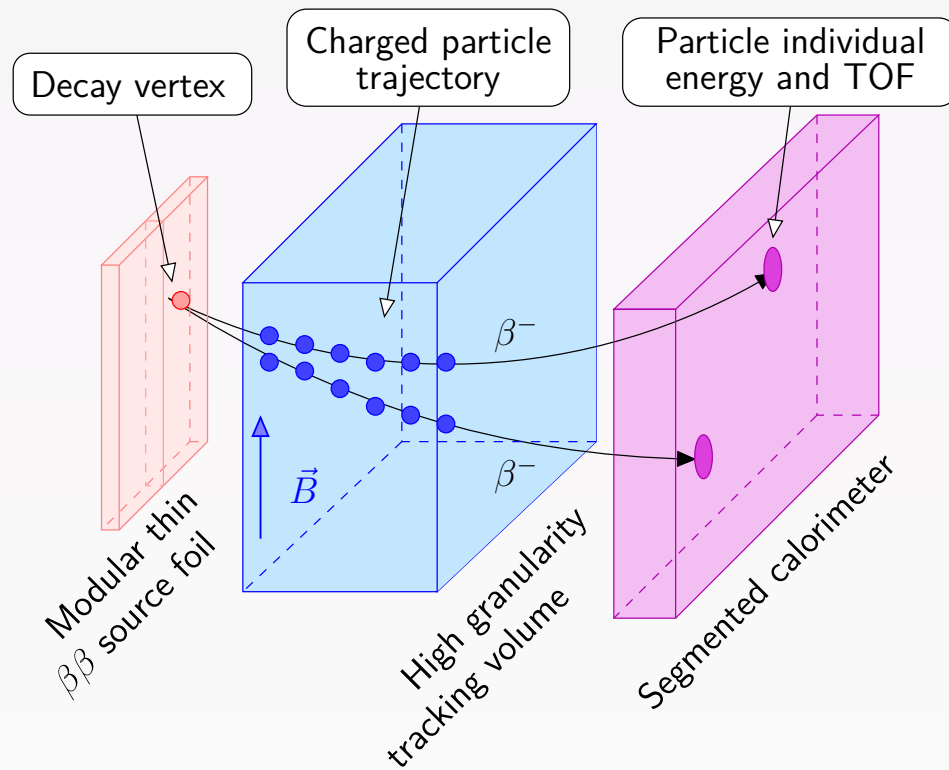


## ...and we have it!

Experiment	Isotope(s)	Technique	Main characteristics
NEMO-3	$^{100}\text{Mo}$ , $^{82}\text{Se}$ , other	Tracking + calorimeter	Bckg rejection, isotope choice, topology
SuperNEMO	$^{82}\text{Se}$ , $^{150}\text{Nd}$ , other	Tracking + calorimeter	Bckg rejection, isotope choice, topology
Cuoricino	$^{130}\text{Te}$	Bolometers	Energy resolution, efficiency
CUORE	$^{130}\text{Te}$	Bolometers	Energy resolution, efficiency
GERDA	$^{76}\text{Ge}$	Ge diodes	Energy resolution, efficiency
Majorana	$^{76}\text{Ge}$	Ge diodes	Energy resolution, efficiency
COBRA	$^{130}\text{Te}$ , $^{116}\text{Cd}$	CdZnTe semi-conductors	Efficiency, particle ID
EXO	$^{136}\text{Xe}$	TPC ionisation + scintillation	Mass, efficiency, particle ID
MOON	$^{100}\text{Mo}$	Tracking + calorimeter	Compactness, Bckg rejection
CANDLES	$^{48}\text{Ca}$	$\text{CaF}_2$ scintillating crystals	Efficiency, Active background vetoing
SNO++	$^{150}\text{Nd}$	Nd loaded liquid scintillator	Mass, efficiency
XMASS	$^{136}\text{Xe}$	Liquid Xe	Mass, efficiency
CARVEL	$^{48}\text{Ca}$	$\text{CaWO}_4$ scintillating crystals	Mass, efficiency
Yangyang	$^{124}\text{Sn}$	Sn loaded liquid scintillator	Mass, efficiency
DCBA	$^{150}\text{Nd}$	Gaseous TPC	Bckg rejection
KamLAND-Zen	$^{136}\text{Xe}$	Xenon balloon	Mass, efficiency
NEXT	$^{136}\text{Xe}$	Gaseous TPC	Bckg rejection, efficiency

# NEMO-3 and SuperNEMO

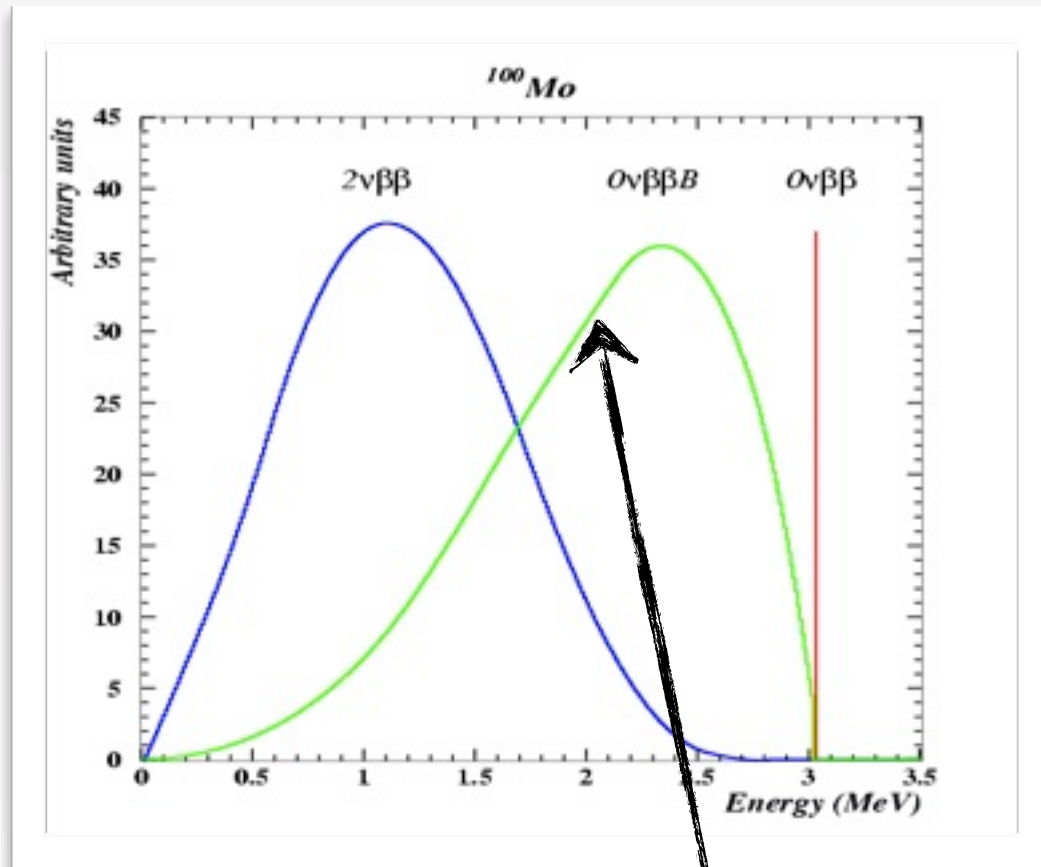
Unique Detection principle: reconstruct topological signature



- Reconstruct two electrons in the final state ( $E_1 + E_2 = Q_{\beta\beta}$ )
- Measure several final state observables
  - Individual electron energies
  - Electron trajectories and vertices
  - time of flight
  - Angular distribution between electrons
- **Powerful** Background rejection through particle ID:  $e^-$ ,  $e^+$ ,  $\alpha$ ,  $\gamma$

- ➔ **“Smoking gun”** evidence for  $0\nu\beta\beta$
- ➔ **Open-minded** search for **any** lepton violating process
- ➔ Possibility to **disentangle** underlying **physics mechanism**

# Topology reconstruction: Open-minded search for **any** $0\nu\beta\beta$ mechanism



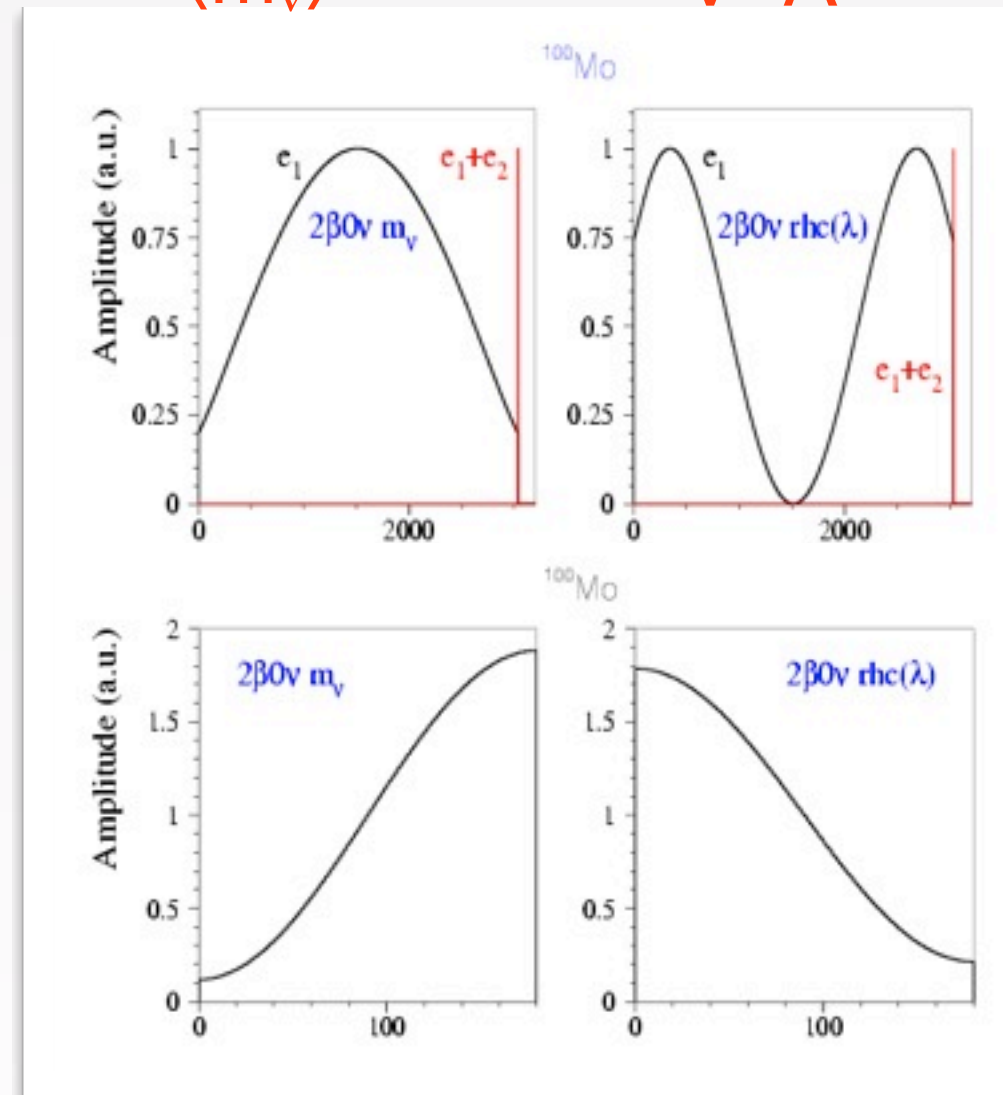
Majoron emission

$$\Gamma^{0\nu} = \frac{1}{T_{1/2}^{0\nu}} = G^{0\nu} |M^{0\nu}|^2 \chi^2$$

Topology detection is a more sensitive method for phenomena with continuous spectra, e.g.  $2\nu\beta\beta$ ,  $0\nu\beta\beta\chi$  (Majoron)

$\langle m_\nu \rangle$

V+A



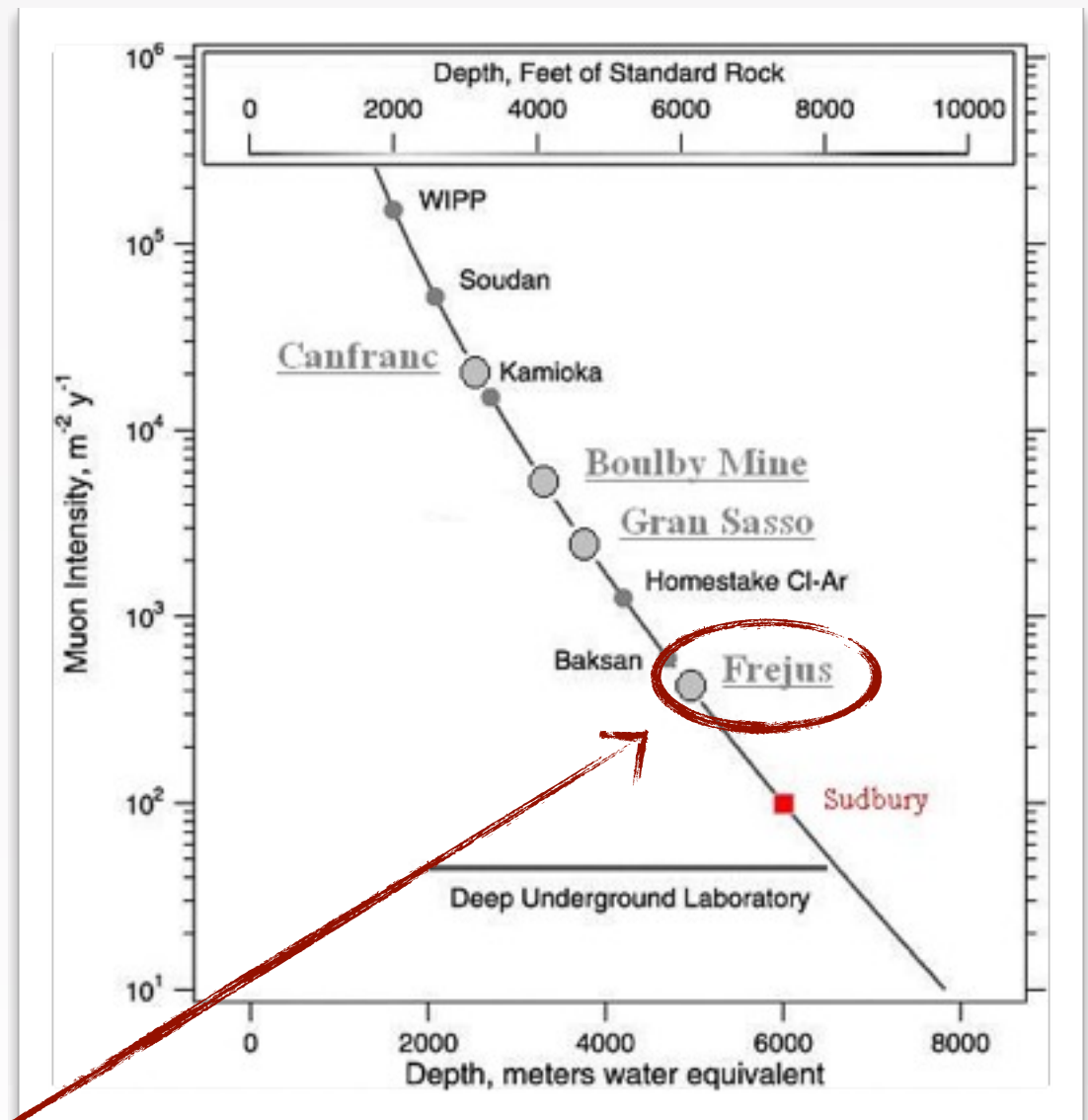
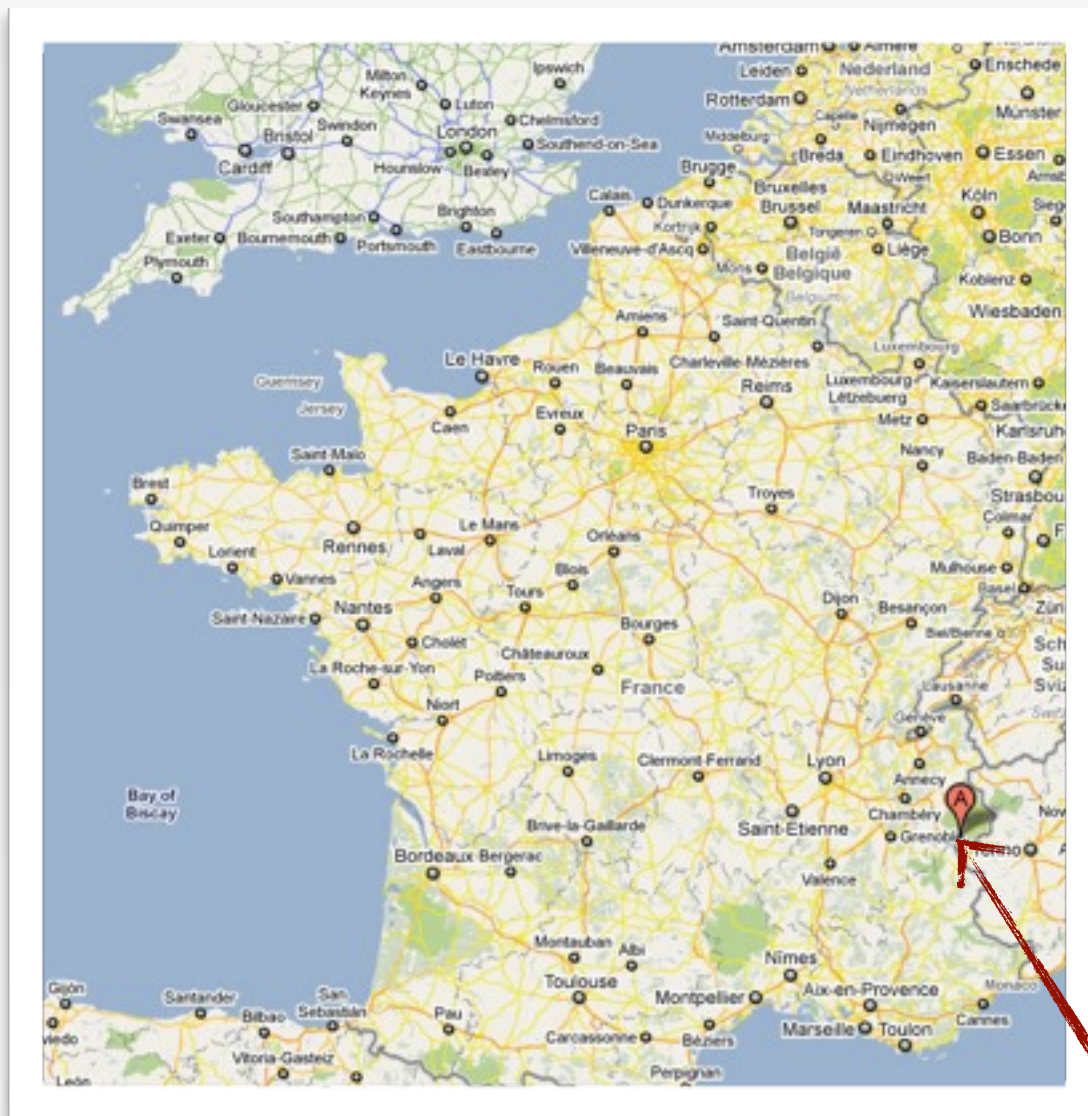
$$\Gamma^{0\nu} = \frac{1}{T_{1/2}^{0\nu}} = G^{0\nu} |M^{0\nu}|^2 \lambda_{V+A}^2$$

Topology can be used to disentangle underlying physics mechanism



# Neutrino Ettore Majorana Observatory 3

Data taking: Feb'03 - Jan'11



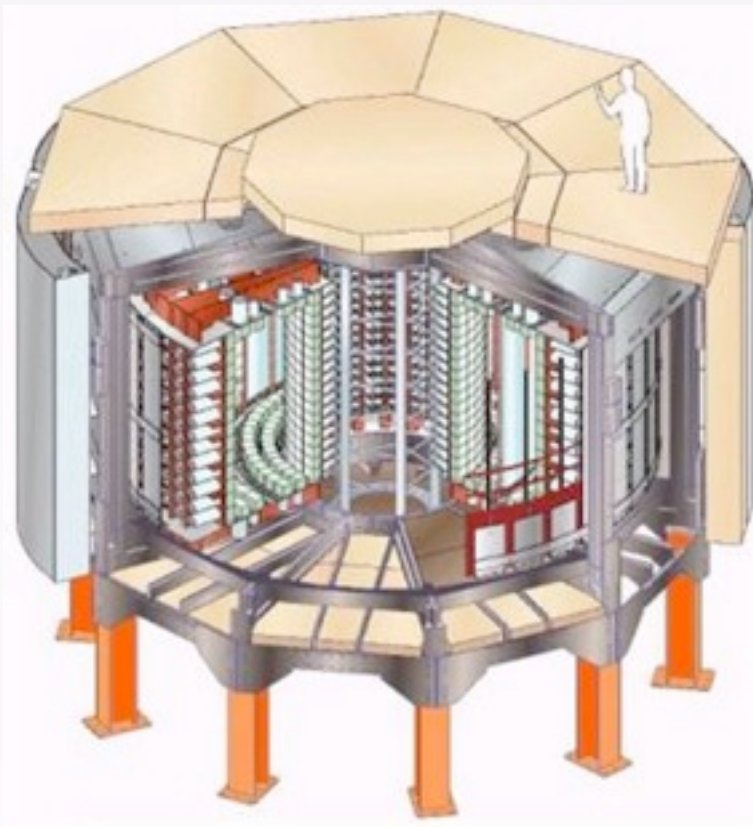
Laboratoire Souterrain de Modane (LSM)  
 Modane, France  
 (Tunnel Frejus, depth of ~4,800 mwe )

> 10<sup>6</sup> suppression factor for cosmic muons!

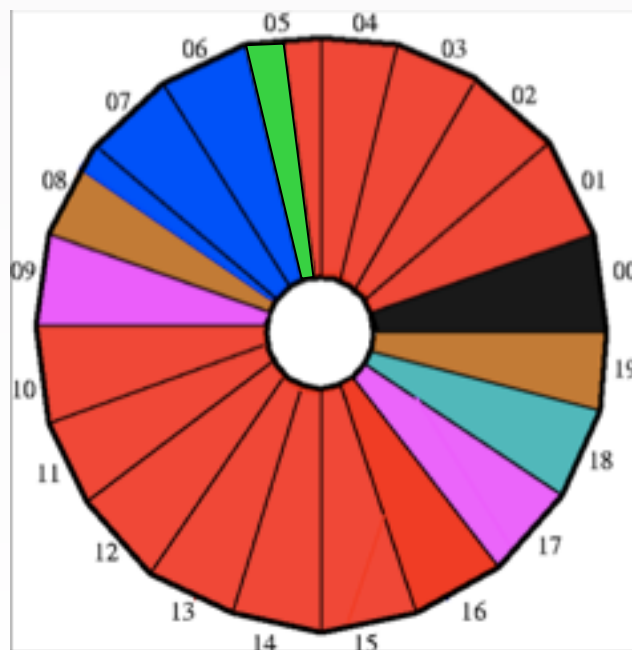




# NEMO-3 - 20 sectors with ~10 kg of isotopes



- Magnetic field: 25 Gauss
- Gamma shield: 18 cm of pure iron
- Neutron shield:
  - 30cm borated water (external wall)
  - 40cm wood (top and bottom)
- Anti-Radon “factory” and “tent”



$^{100}\text{Mo}$  6.914 kg  
 $Q_{\beta\beta} = 3034 \text{ keV}$

$^{82}\text{Se}$  0.932 kg  
 $Q_{\beta\beta} = 2995 \text{ keV}$

$^{116}\text{Cd}$  405 g  
 $Q_{\beta\beta} = 2805 \text{ keV}$

$^{48}\text{Ca}$  7.0 g  
 $Q_{\beta\beta} = 4272 \text{ keV}$

$^{96}\text{Zr}$  9.4 g  
 $Q_{\beta\beta} = 3350 \text{ keV}$

$^{130}\text{Te}$  454 g  
 $Q_{\beta\beta} = 2529 \text{ keV}$

$^{150}\text{Nd}$  37.0 g  
 $Q_{\beta\beta} = 3367 \text{ keV}$

$\text{natTe}$  491 g

$\text{Cu}$  621 g

# NEMO-3 design

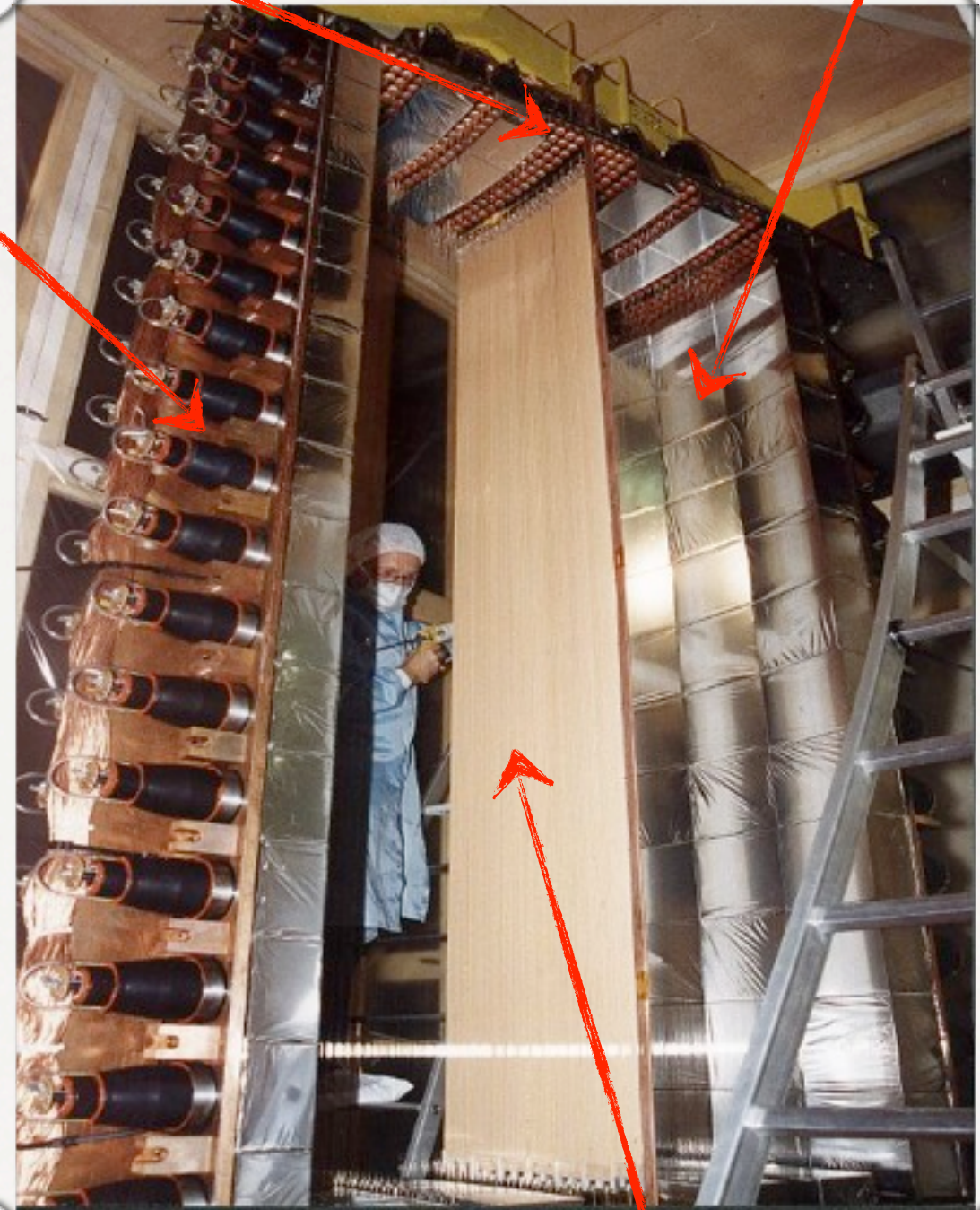
- Tracker for full event reconstruction
  - 6180 drift cells in Geiger mode:  
Helium + 4% ethyl alcohol + 1% Ar + 0.1% H<sub>2</sub>O
- Calorimeter for energy and time measurement
  - 1940 scintillator blocks coupled to low radioactivity PMTs
- Identify  $e^-$ ,  $e^+$ ,  $\gamma$ ,  $\alpha$
- Identify external and internal events

cathode rings  
wire chamber

1 Sector

Plastic  
scintillator

PMT

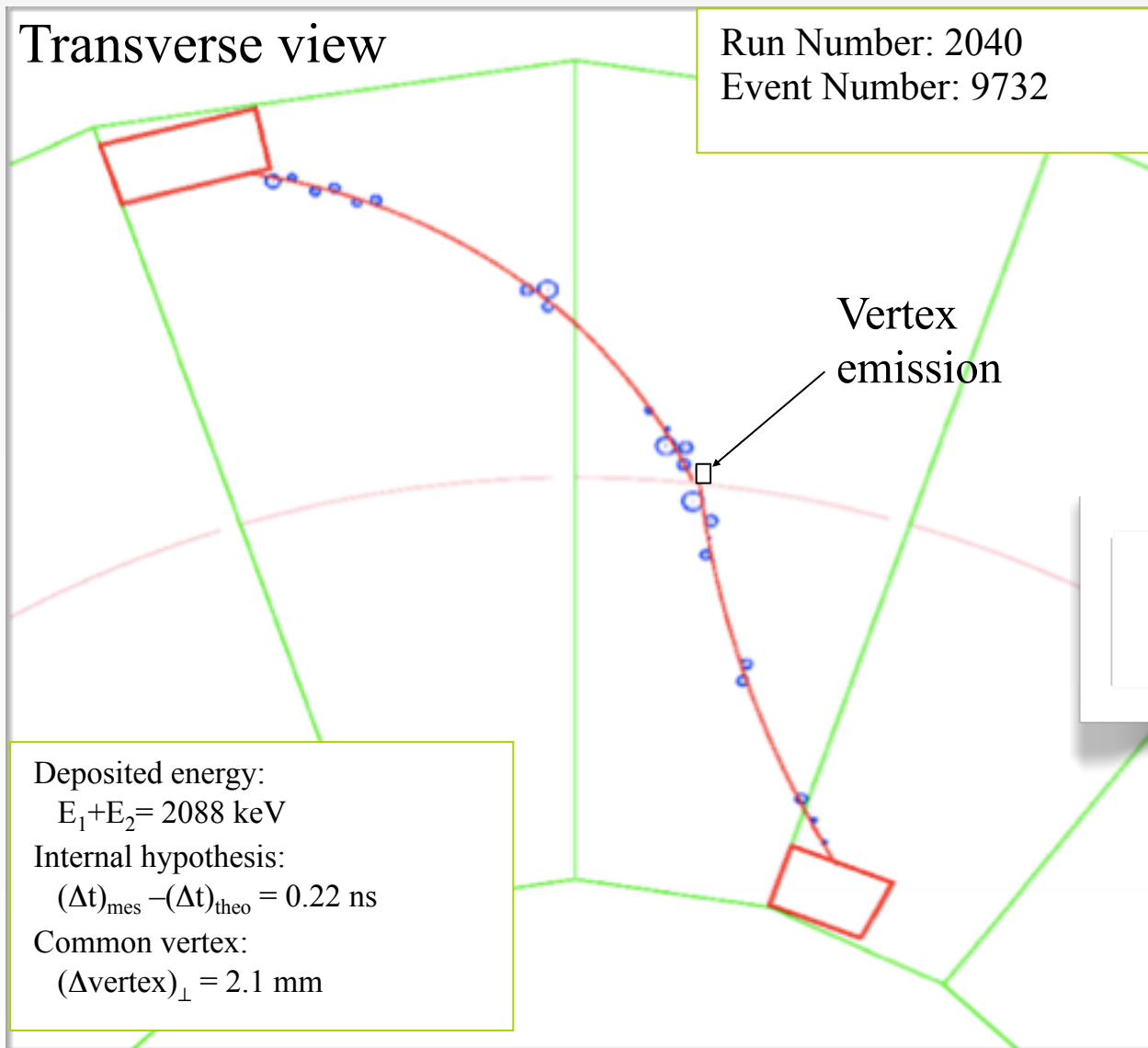


$\beta\beta$  isotope foils

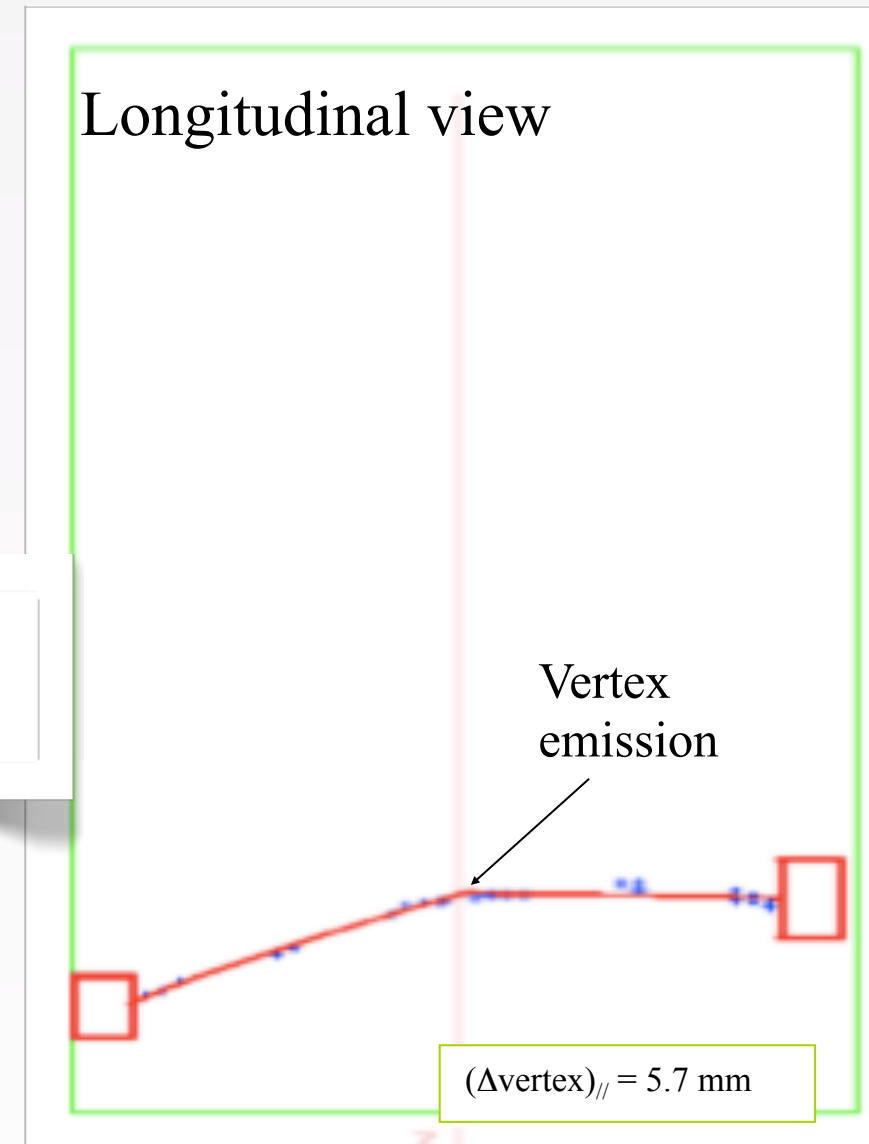


# NEMO-3 $\beta\beta$ event selection

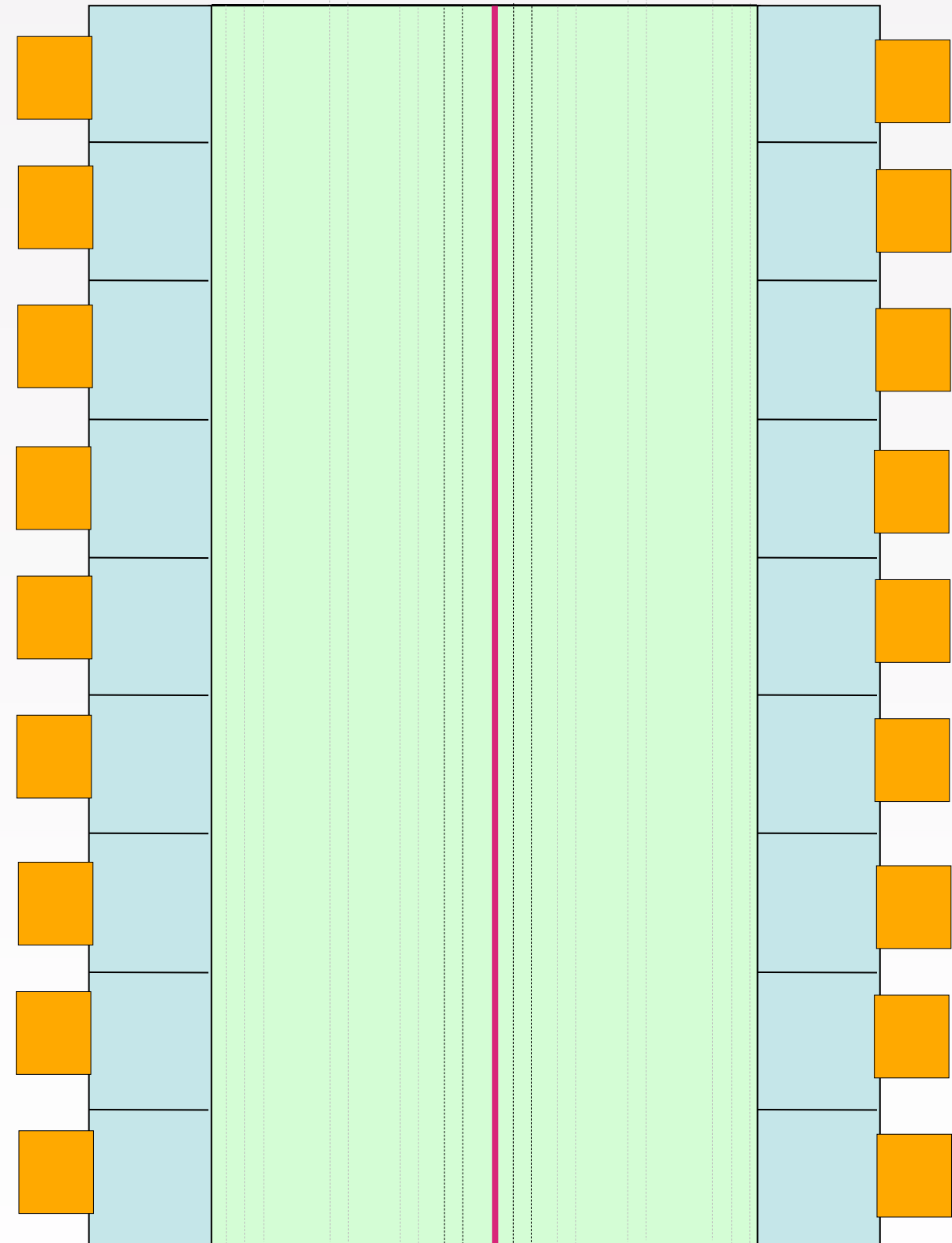
Transverse view



Longitudinal view



- 2 tracks with charge  $< 0$
- 2 PMT, each  $> 200$  keV
- PMT-Track association
- Common vertex
- Internal hypothesis (external event rejection)
- No other isolated PMT ( $\gamma$  rejection)
- No delayed track ( $^{214}\text{Bi}$  rejection)





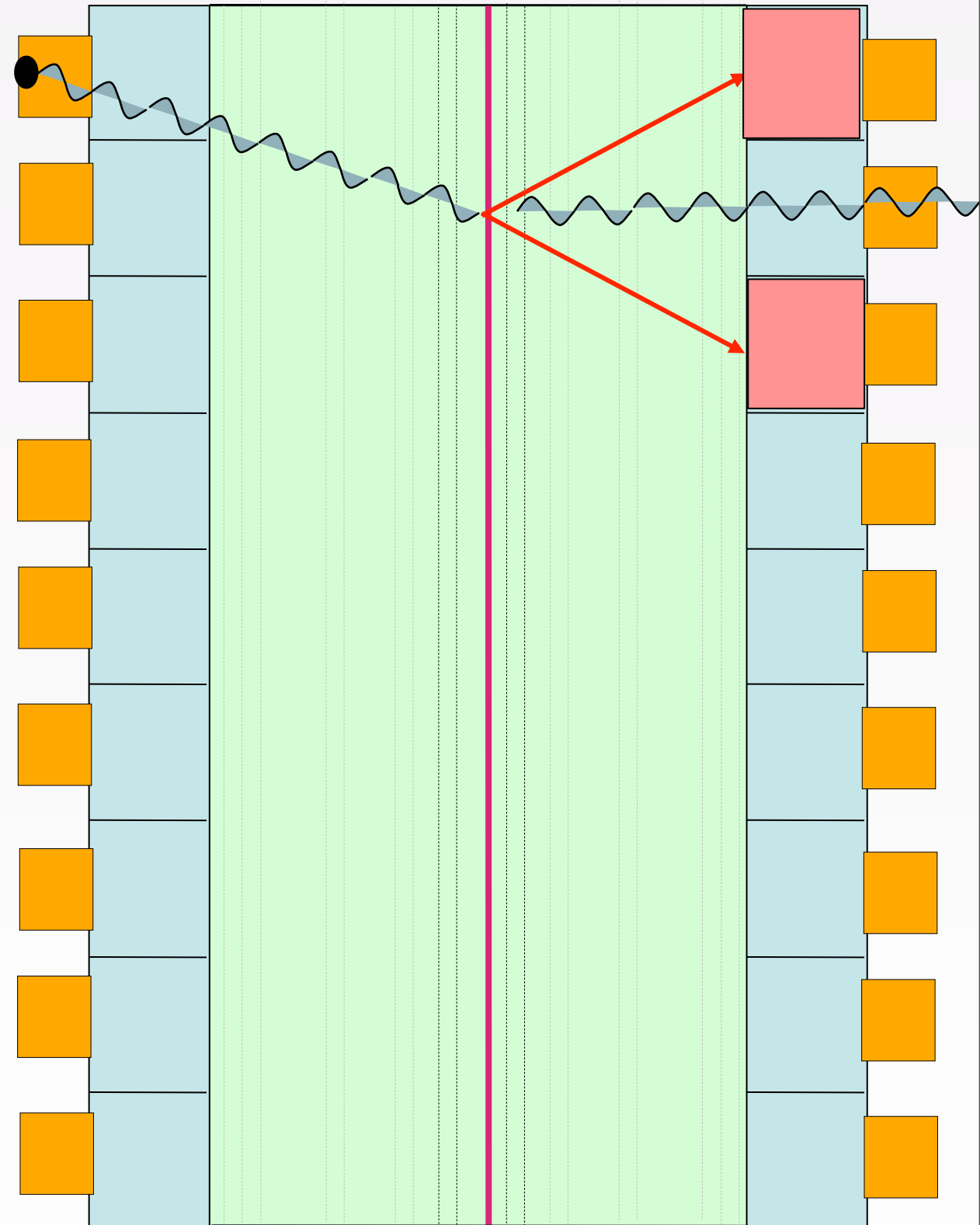
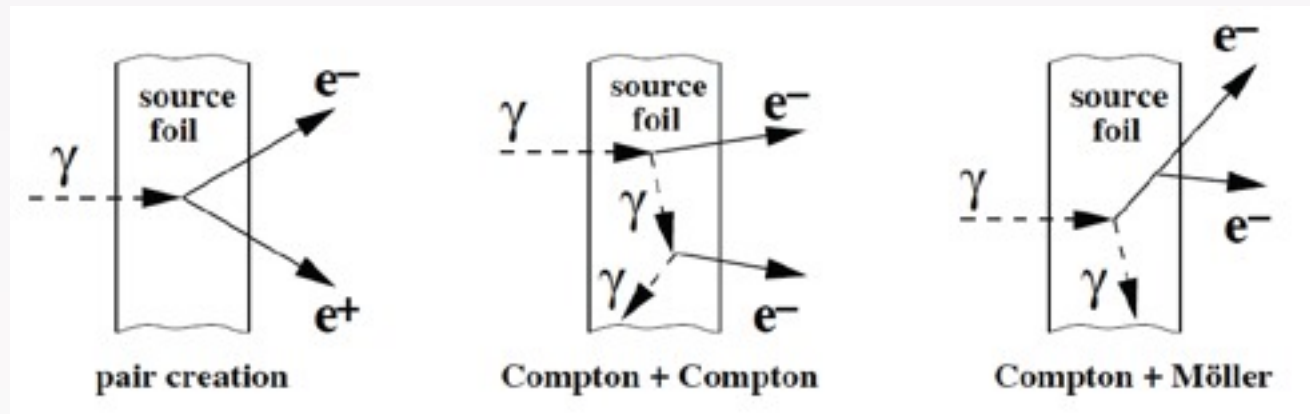


## ➤ External $\gamma$ (if the $\gamma$ is not detected in the scintillators)

Origin: natural radioactivity of the detector or neutrons

Major bkg for  $2\nu\beta\beta$  but small for  $0\nu\beta\beta$

( $^{100}\text{Mo}$  and  $^{82}\text{Se}$   $Q_{\beta\beta} \sim 3 \text{ MeV} > E_{\gamma}(^{208}\text{Tl}) \sim 2.6 \text{ MeV}$ )



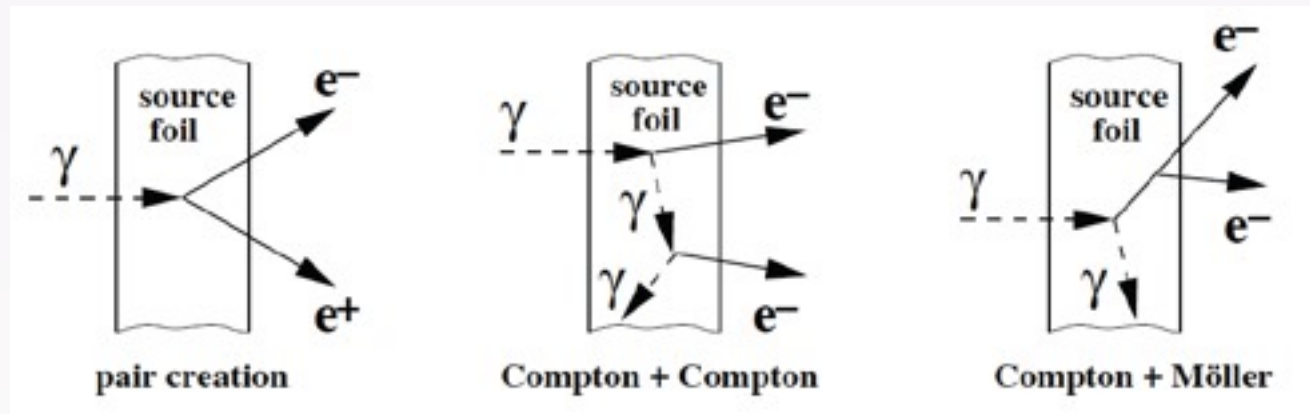


## ➤ External $\gamma$ (if the $\gamma$ is not detected in the scintillators)

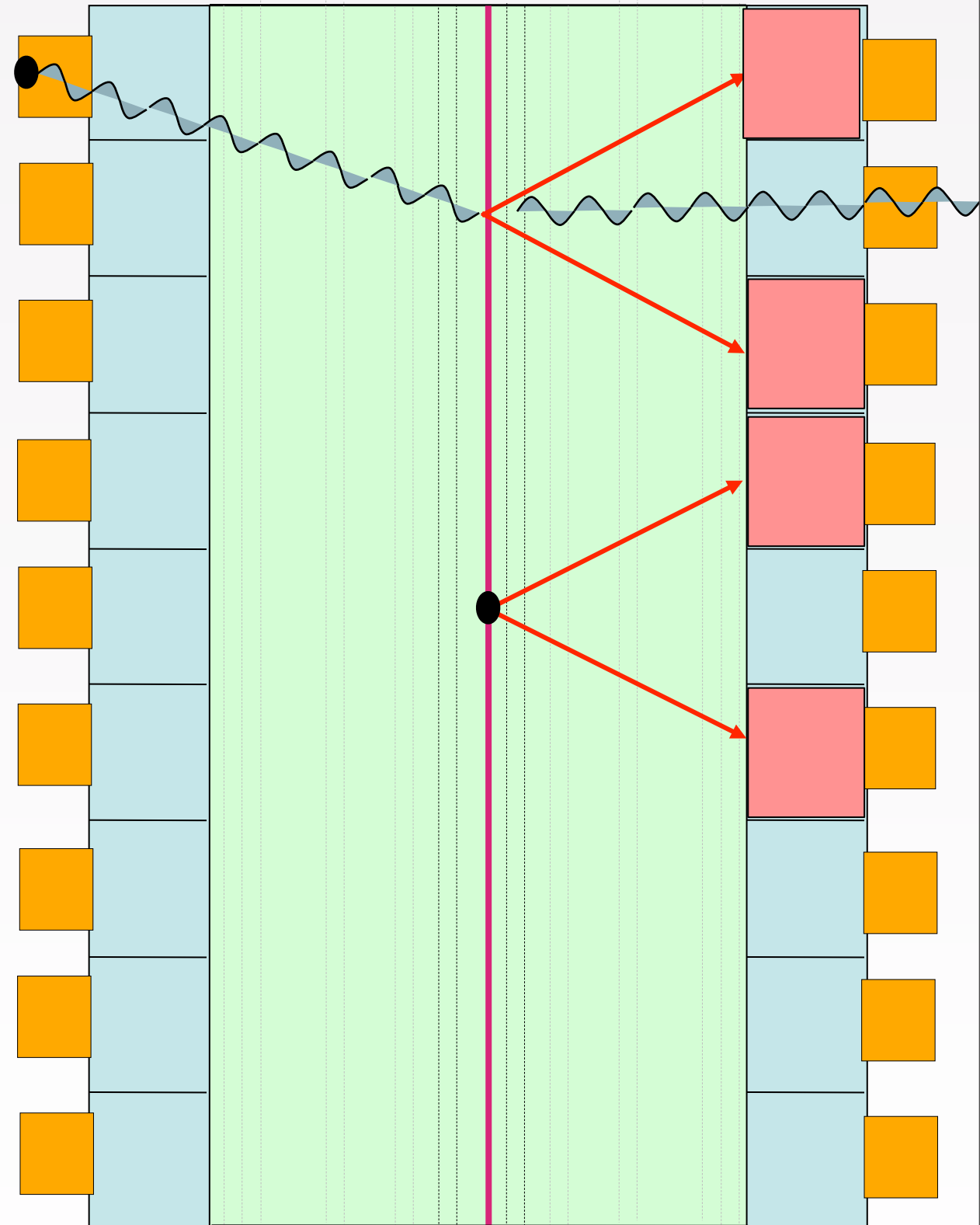
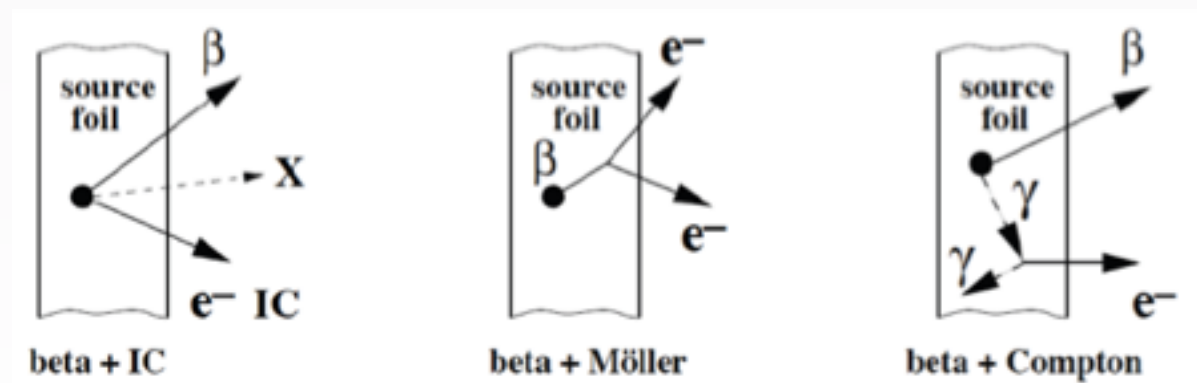
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( $^{100}\text{Mo}$  and  $^{82}\text{Se}$   $Q_{\beta\beta} \sim 3 \text{ MeV} > E_{\gamma}(^{208}\text{Tl}) \sim 2.6 \text{ MeV}$ )



## ➤ $^{232}\text{Th}$ ( $^{208}\text{Tl}$ ) and $^{238}\text{U}$ ( $^{214}\text{Bi}$ ) contamination inside the $\beta\beta$ source foil



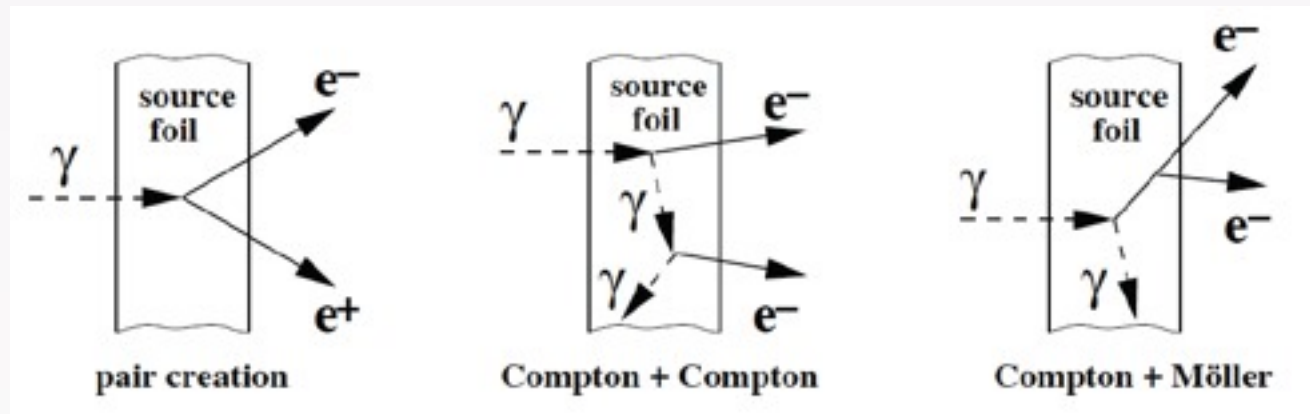


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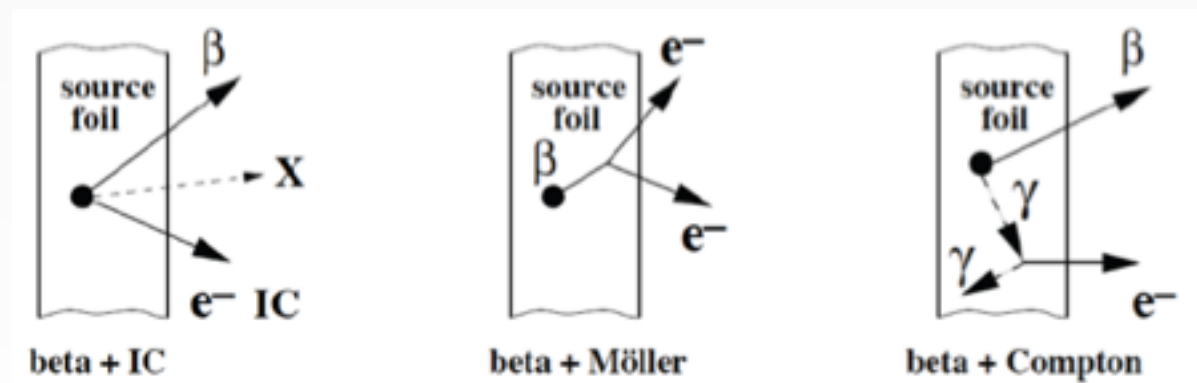
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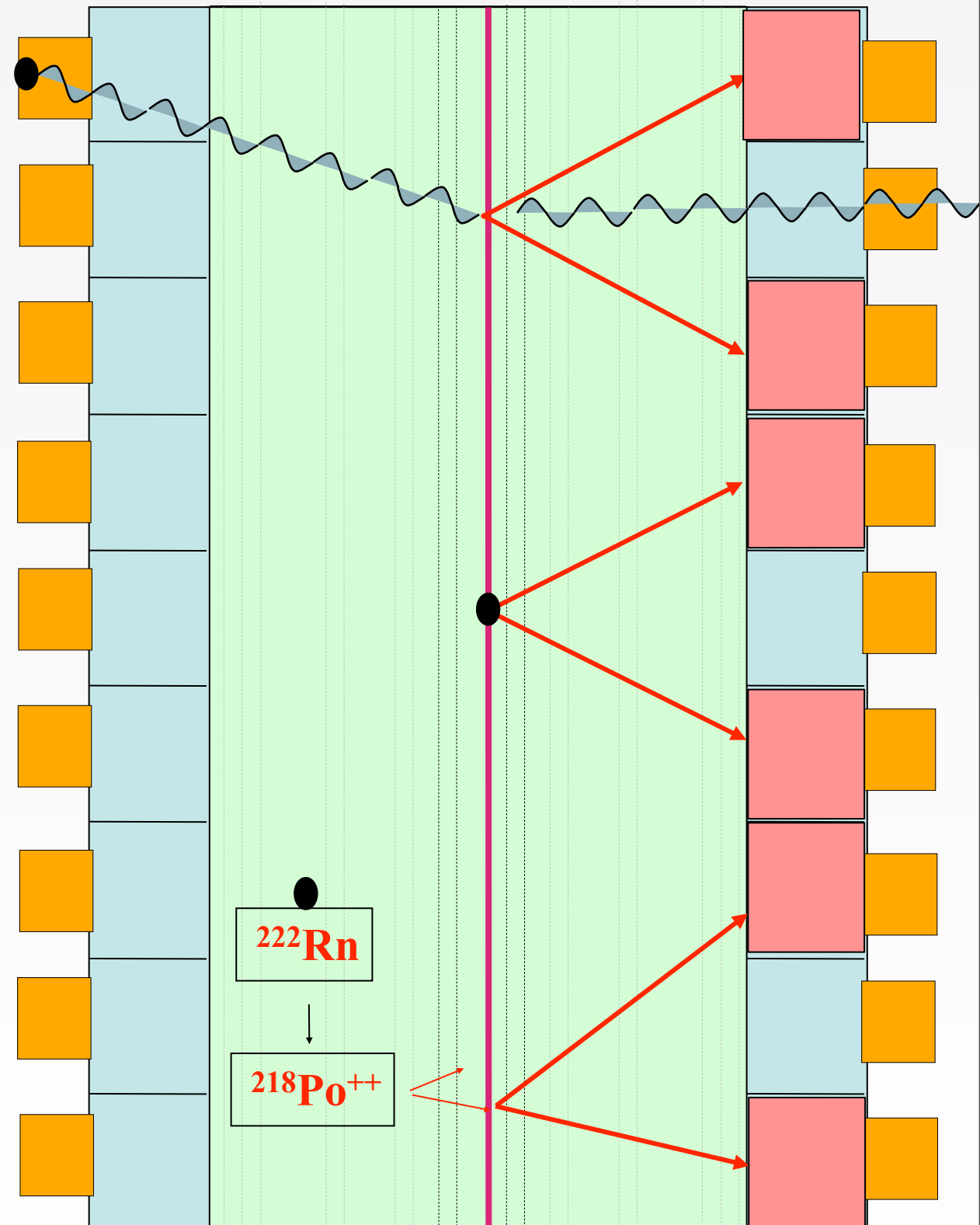


## ➤ $^{232}\text{Th}$ ( $^{208}\text{Tl}$ ) and $^{238}\text{U}$ ( $^{214}\text{Bi}$ ) contamination inside the $\beta\beta$ source foil



## ➤ Radon ( $^{214}\text{Bi}$ ) inside the tracking detector

- deposits on the wire near the  $\beta\beta$  foil
- deposits on the surface of the  $\beta\beta$  foil



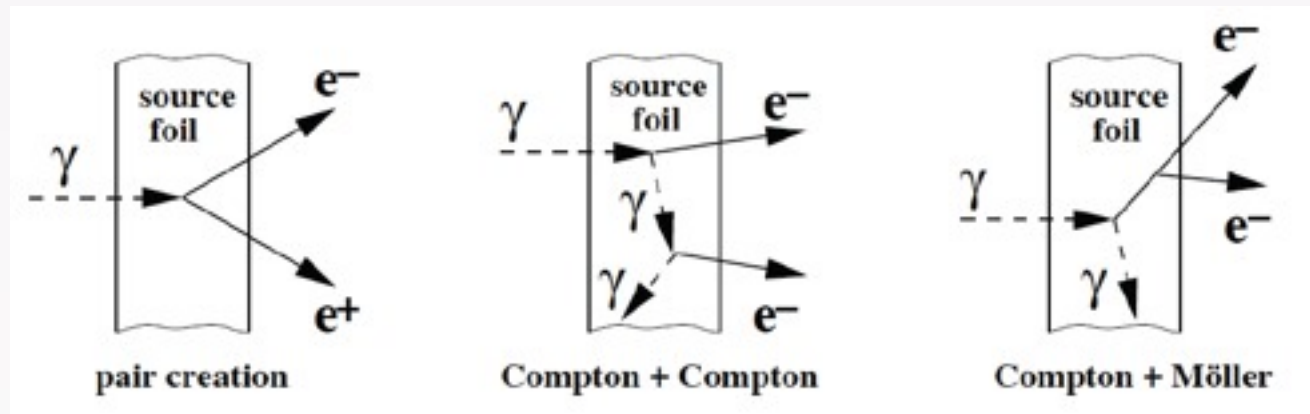


## ➤ External $\gamma$ (if the $\gamma$ is not detected in the scintillators)

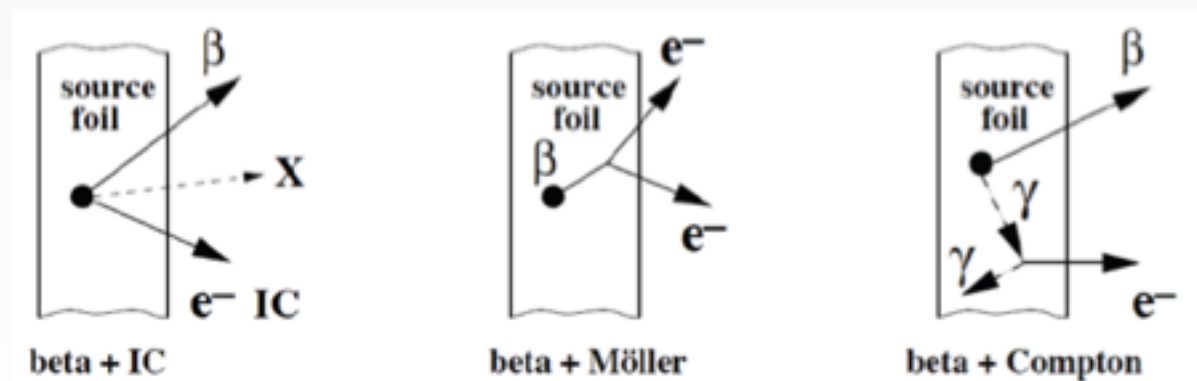
Origin: natural radioactivity of the detector or neutrons

Major bkg for  $2\nu\beta\beta$  but small for  $0\nu\beta\beta$

$$(^{100}\text{Mo} \text{ and } ^{82}\text{Se } Q_{\beta\beta} \sim 3 \text{ MeV} > E_{\gamma}(^{208}\text{Tl}) \sim 2.6 \text{ MeV})$$

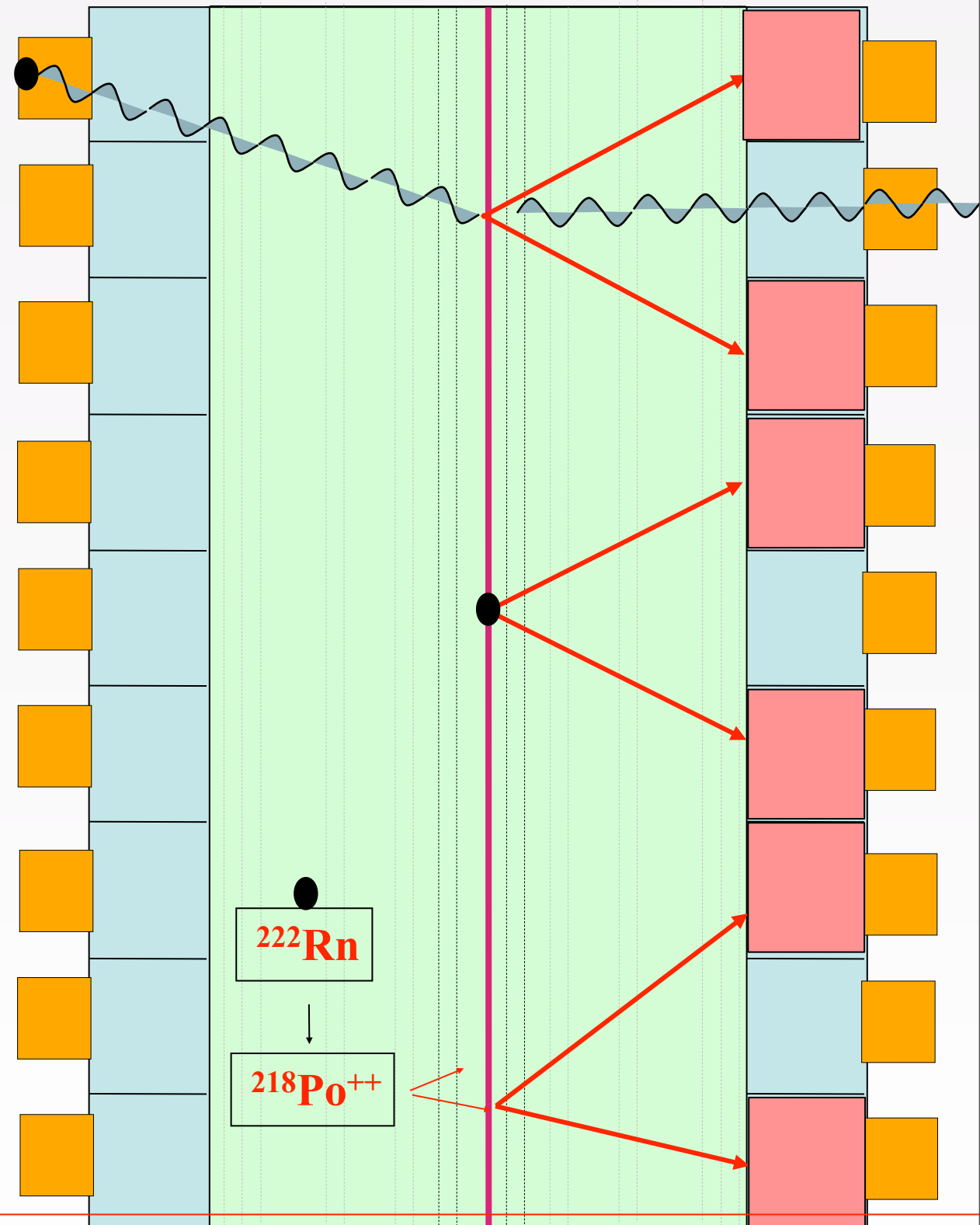


## ➤ $^{232}\text{Th}$ ( $^{208}\text{Tl}$ ) and $^{238}\text{U}$ ( $^{214}\text{Bi}$ ) contamination inside the $\beta\beta$ source foil



## ➤ Radon ( $^{214}\text{Bi}$ ) inside the tracking detector

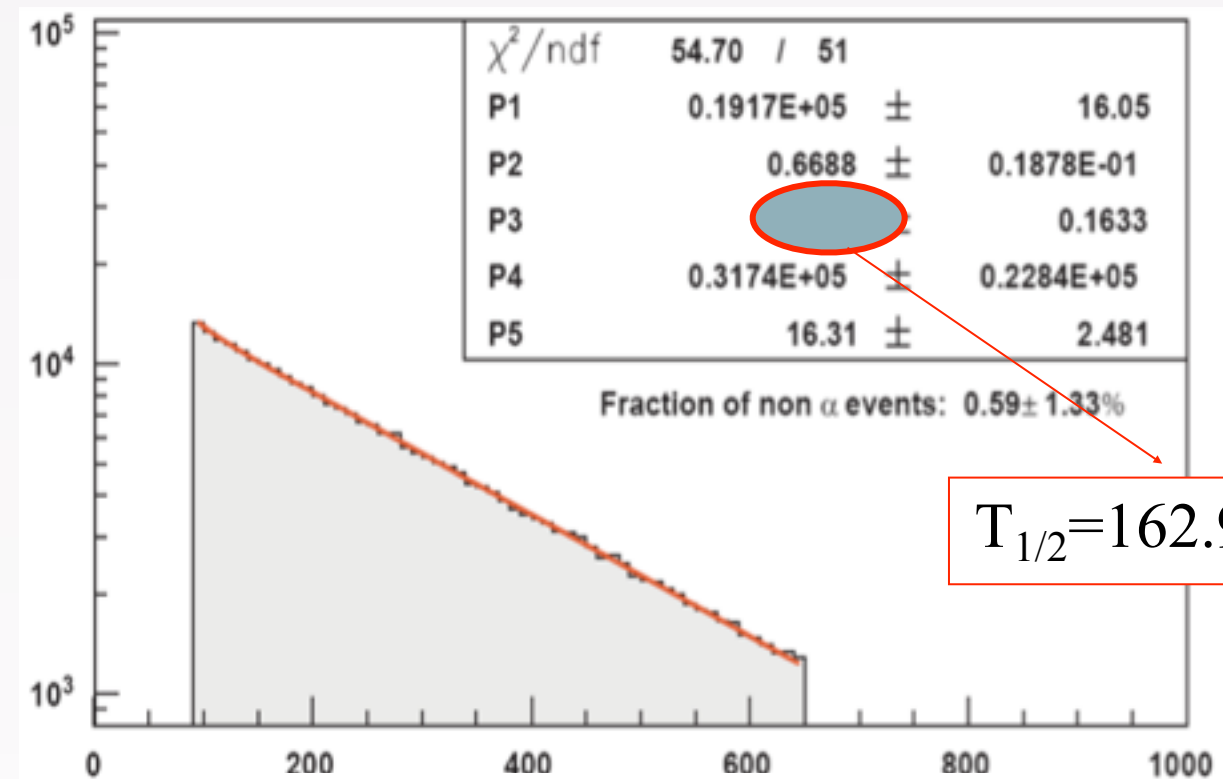
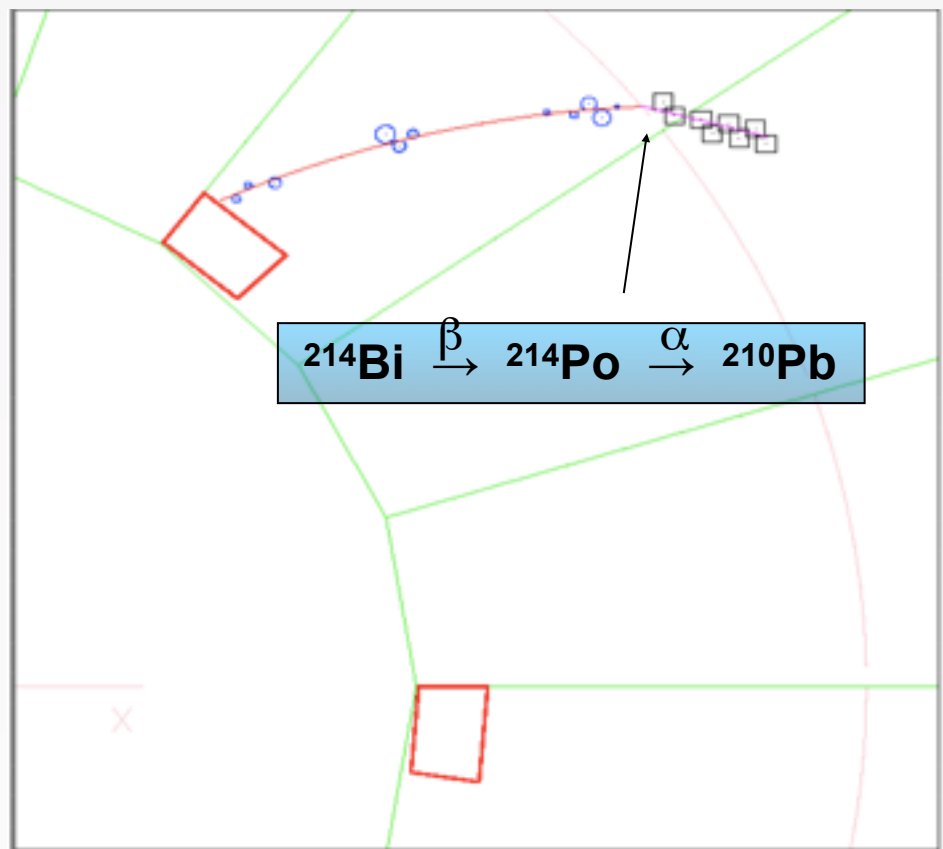
- deposits on the wire near the  $\beta\beta$  foil
- deposits on the surface of the  $\beta\beta$  foil



**Each bkg is measured using the NEMO-3 data**



## Pure sample of $^{214}\text{Bi}$ – $^{214}\text{Po}$ events



$T_{1/2} = 162.9 \mu\text{s}$

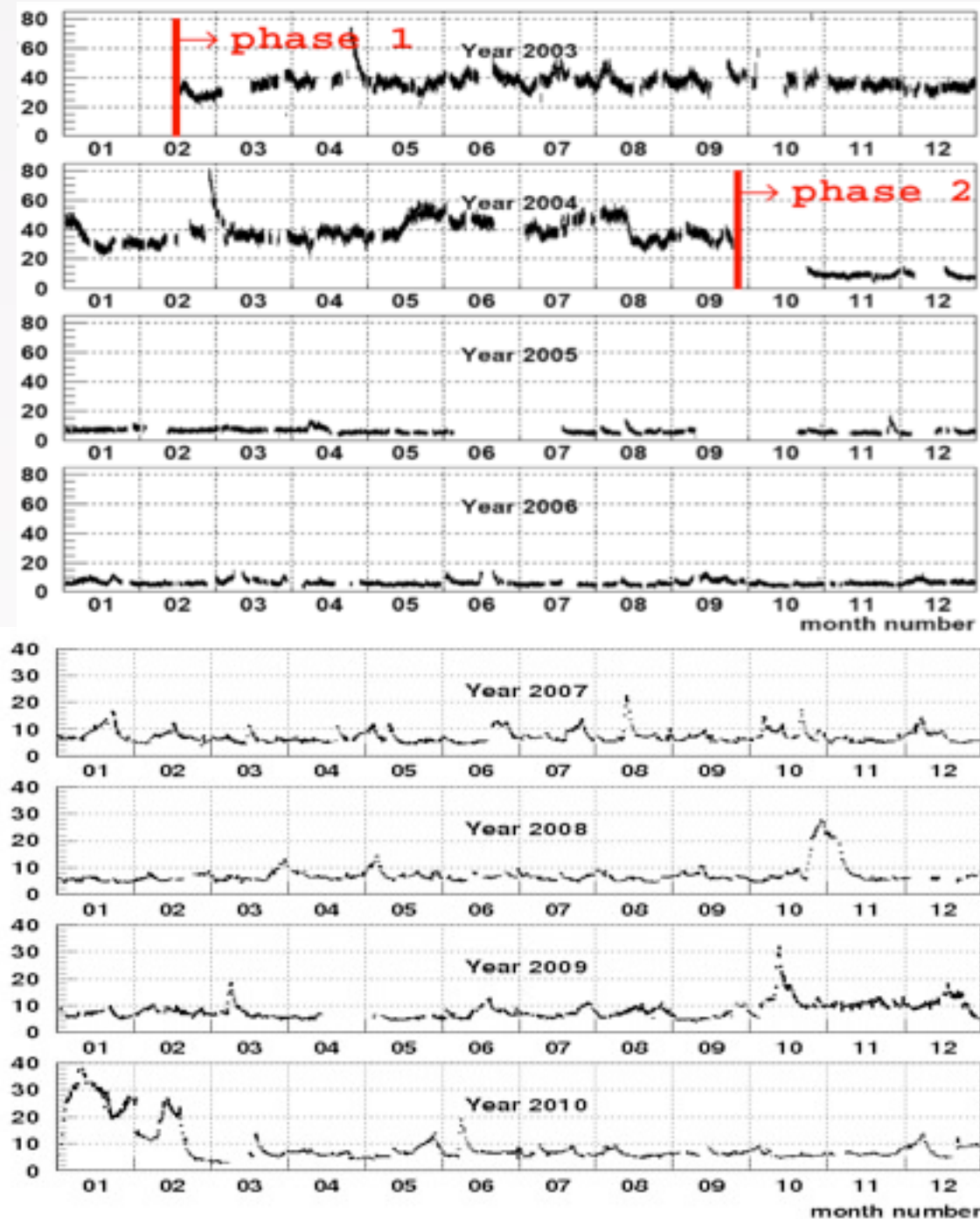
Delay time of the  $\alpha$  track ( $\mu\text{s}$ )



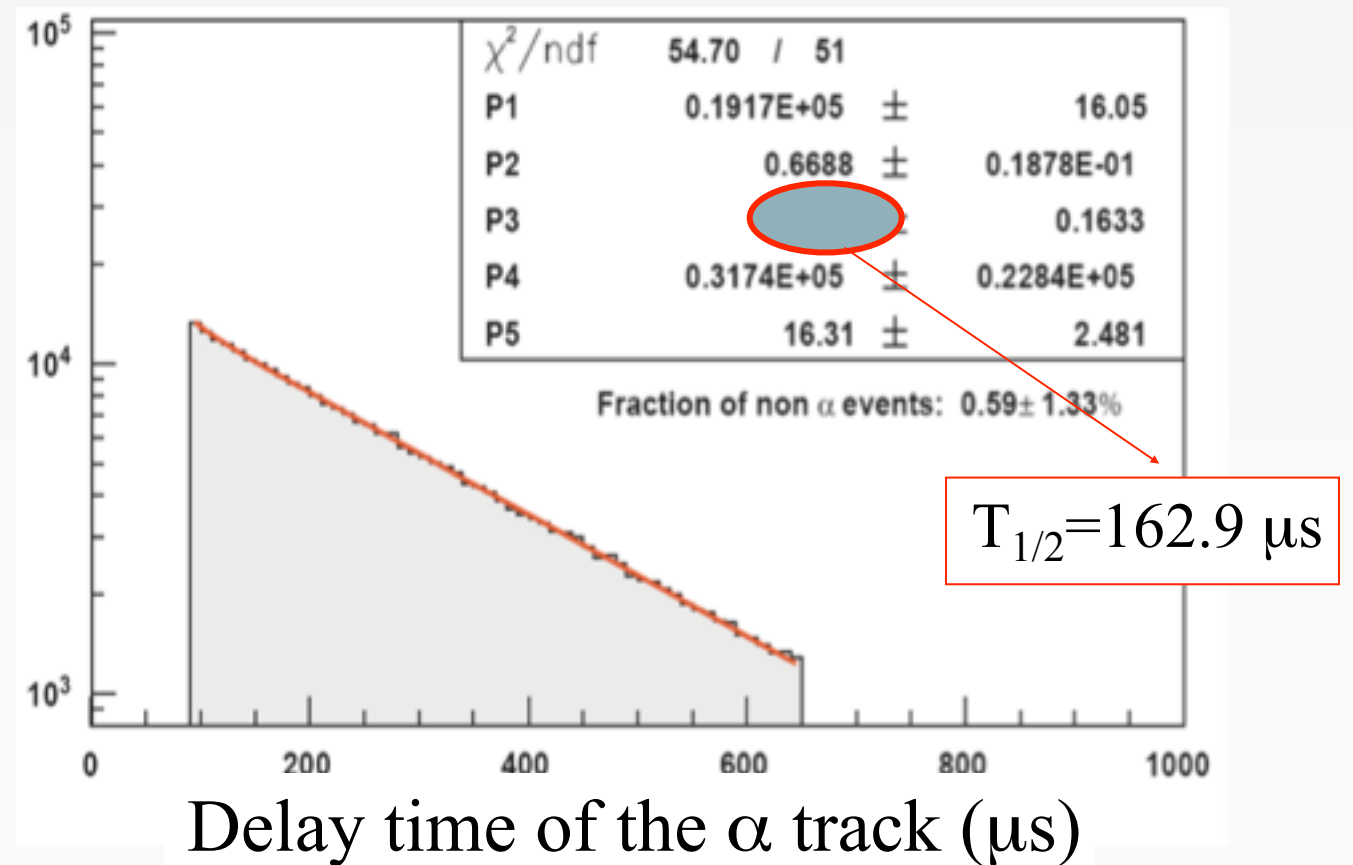


## Anti-radon “factory” - trapping Rn in cooled charcoal. A must for a low-background lab.

Measurements of  $^{222}\text{Rn}$  activity in the gas of tracker ( $\text{mBq}/\text{m}^3$ )



## Pure sample of $^{214}\text{Bi} - ^{214}\text{Po}$ events



Anti-Rn factory: Input= $15\text{Bq}/\text{m}^3 \rightarrow$  Output  $15\text{mBq}/\text{m}^3$

Inside the detector:

- Phase 1: Feb'03  $\rightarrow$  Sep'04  
A(Radon)  $\approx 40 \text{ mBq}/\text{m}^3$

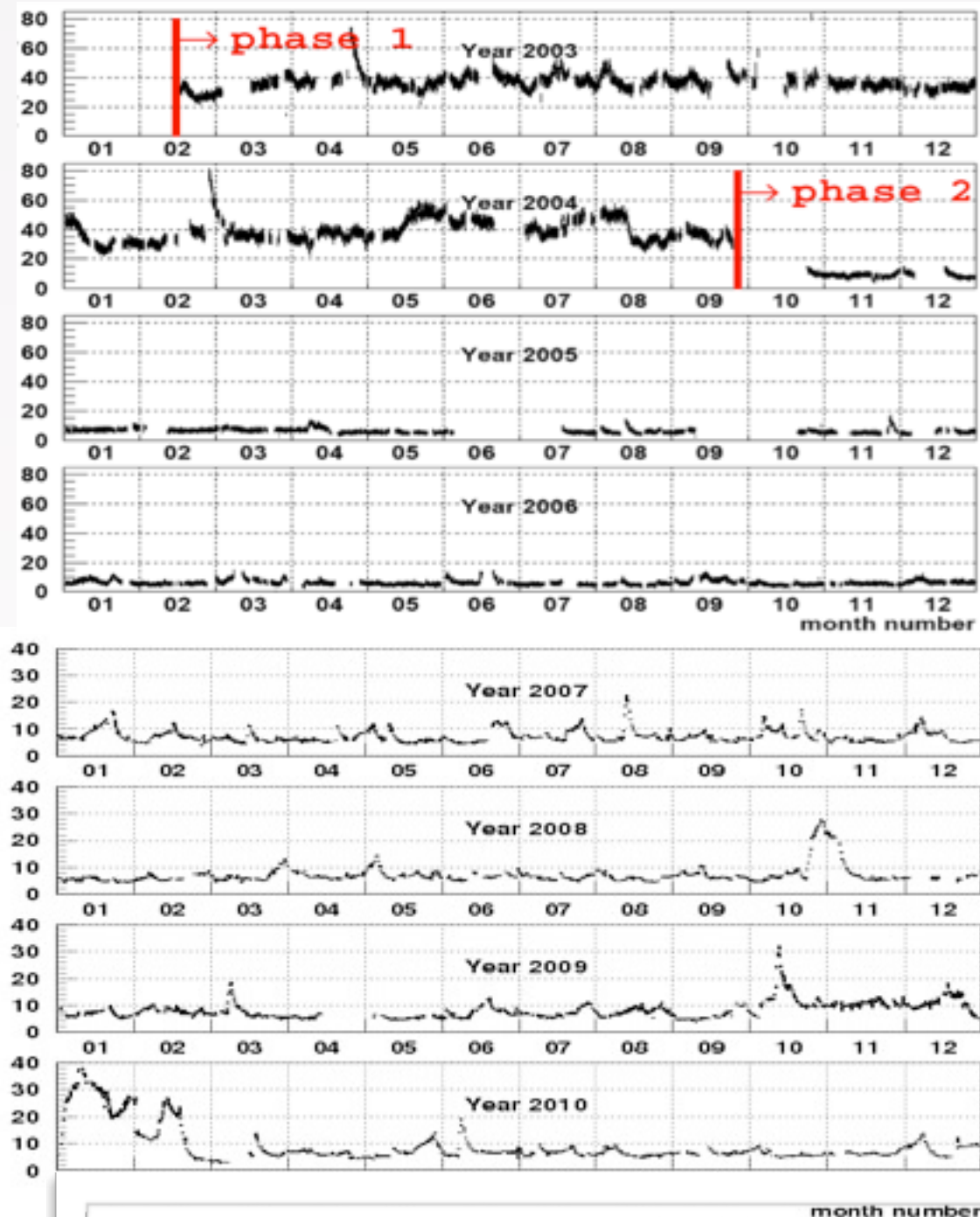
- Phase 2: Dec. 2004  $\rightarrow$  Jan'11  
**A (Radon)  $\approx 5 \text{ mBq}/\text{m}^3$**





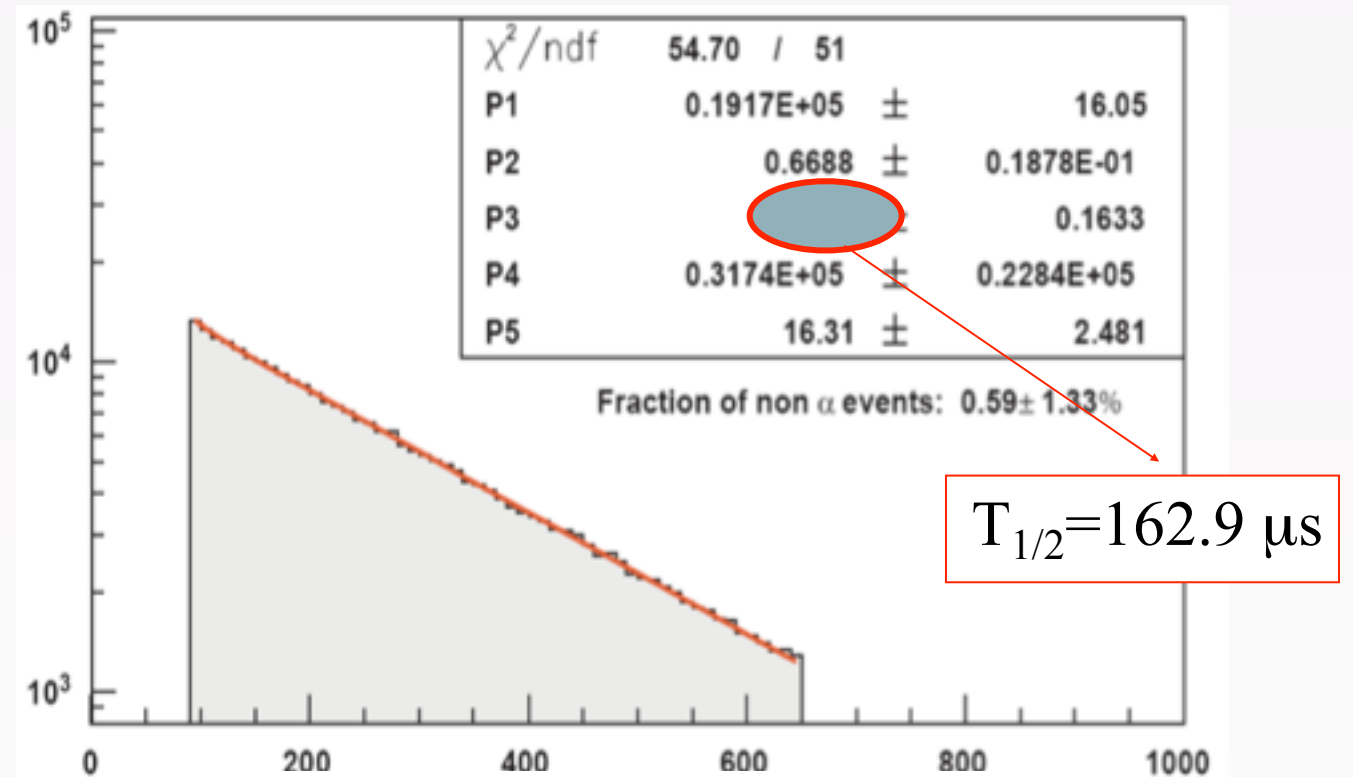
## Anti-radon “factory” - trapping Rn in cooled charcoal. A must for a low-background lab.

Measurements of  $^{222}\text{Rn}$  activity in the gas of tracker ( $\text{mBq/m}^3$ )



“Handbook” on backgrounds for  $\beta\beta$  experiments:  
Background measurement in NEMO3:  
**NIM A 606 (2009) pp. 449-465.**

## Pure sample of $^{214}\text{Bi} - ^{214}\text{Po}$ events



Delay time of the  $\alpha$  track ( $\mu\text{s}$ )

Anti-Rn factory: Input= $15\text{Bq/m}^3 \rightarrow$  Output  $15\text{mBq/m}^3$

Inside the detector:

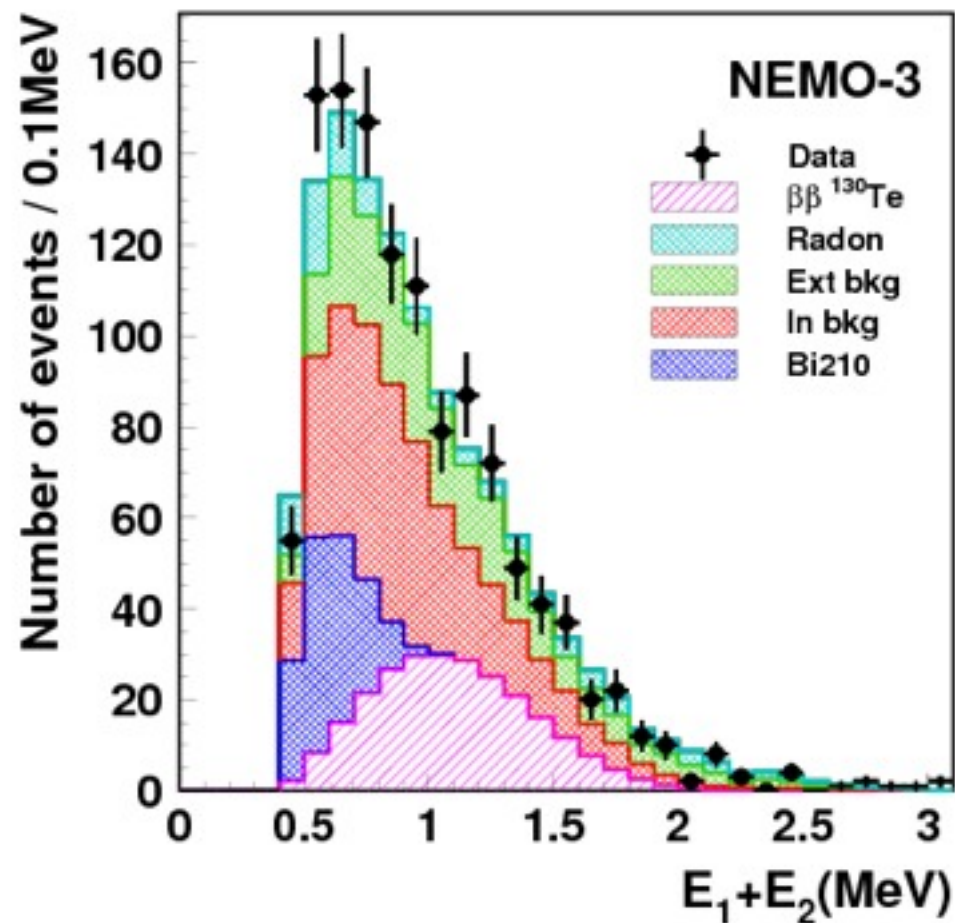
- Phase 1: Feb'03  $\rightarrow$  Sep'04  
 $A(\text{Radon}) \approx 40 \text{ mBq/m}^3$

- Phase 2: Dec. 2004  $\rightarrow$  Jan'11  
 **$A(\text{Radon}) \approx 5 \text{ mBq/m}^3$**



# NEMO-3 latest results (2011)

661 g of  $^{130}\text{Te}$



1275 days

$N(2\nu\beta\beta) = 178 \pm 23$

$$T_{1/2}^{2\nu} = [7.0 \pm 0.9(\text{stat}) \pm 1.1(\text{syst})] \times 10^{20} \text{ yr}$$

*Phys. Rev. Lett.* 107, 062504 (2011)

c.f.

Indirect observations (geochemistry):

-  $\sim 2.7 \times 10^{21}$  yrs in  $10^9$  yr old rocks

-  $\sim 8 \times 10^{20}$  yrs in  $10^7$ - $10^8$  yr old rocks

Indication from MIBETA

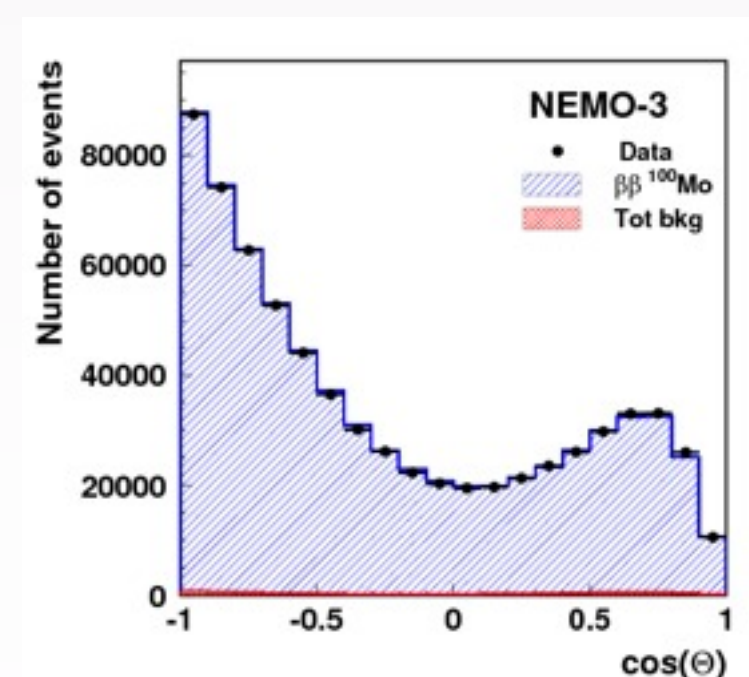
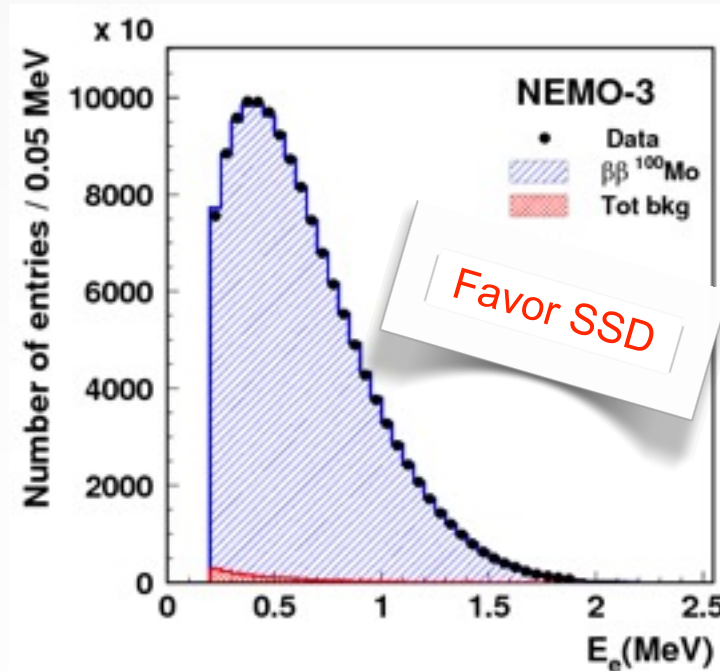
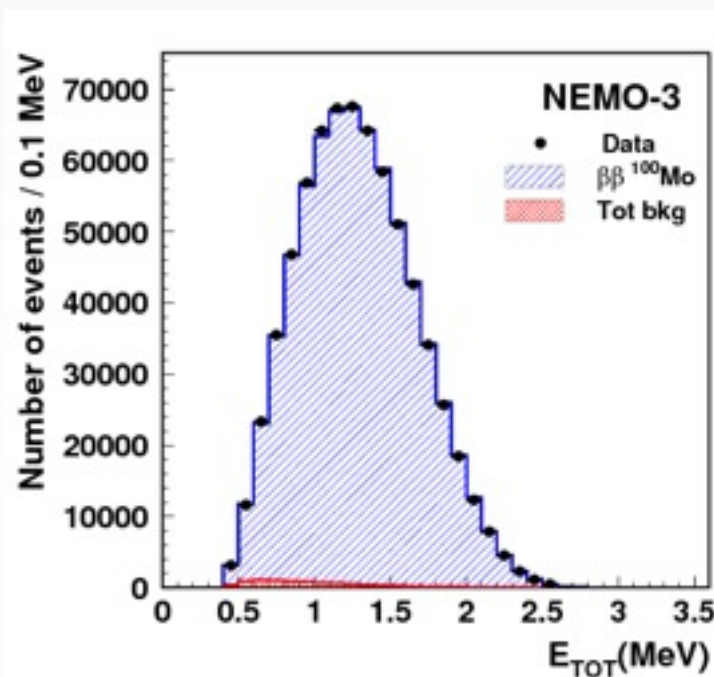
$$T_{1/2}^{2\nu} = [6.1 \pm 1.4(\text{stat})_{-3.5}^{+2.9}(\text{syst})] \times 10^{20} \text{ yr}$$



# 2νββ Results

Isotope	Mass (g)	Q <sub>ββ</sub> (keV)	T <sub>1/2</sub> (2ν) (10 <sup>19</sup> yrs)	S/B	Comment	Reference
<sup>82</sup> Se	932	2996	9.6 ± 1.0	4	World's best	Phys.Rev.Lett. 95(2005) 483
<sup>116</sup> Cd	405	2809	2.8 ± 0.3	10	World's best	
<sup>150</sup> Nd	37	3367	0.9 ± 0.07	2.7	World's best	Phys. Rev. C 80, 032501 (2009)
<sup>96</sup> Zr	9.4	3350	2.35 ± 0.21	1	World's best	Nucl.Phys.A 847(2010) 168
<sup>48</sup> Ca	7	4271	4.4 ± 0.6	6.8 (h.e.)	World's best	
<sup>100</sup> Mo	6914	3034	0.71 ± 0.05	80	World's best	Phys.Rev.Lett. 95(2005) 483
<sup>130</sup> Te	454	2533	70 ± 14	0.5	First direct detection	Phys. Rev. Lett. 107, 062504 (2011)

## Unprecedented accuracy with <sup>100</sup>Mo



Crucial experimental input for 1) NME calculations

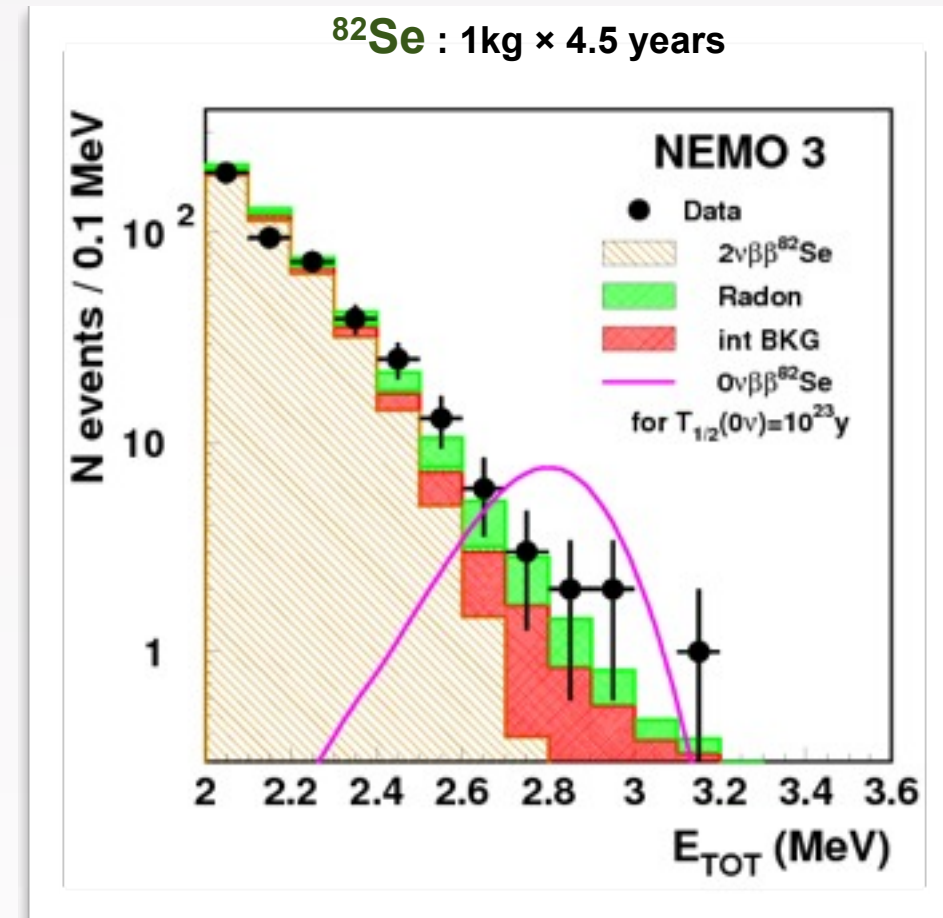
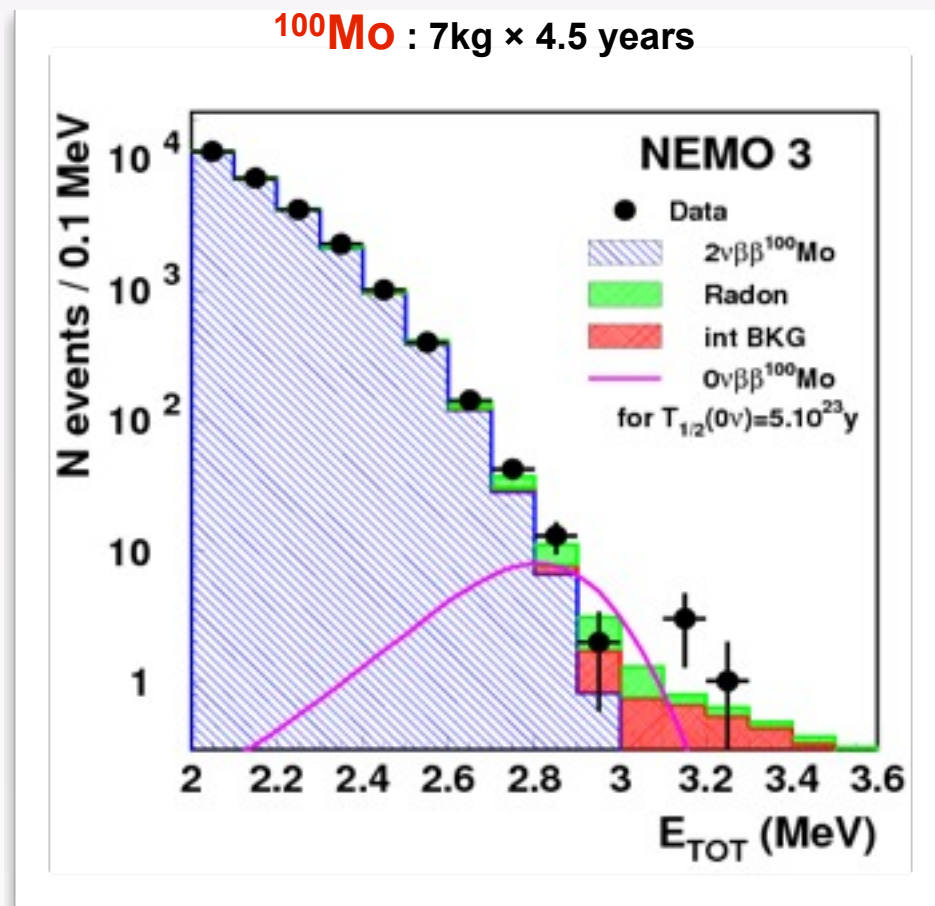
2) Ultimate background characterisation for 0ν





# Search for $0\nu\beta\beta$

Data period: Feb'03 - Dec'09



[2.8-3.2] MeV: DATA = 18; MC =  $16.4 \pm 1.4$

**$T_{1/2}(0\nu) > 1.0 \times 10^{24}$  yr at 90%CL**

**$\langle m_\nu \rangle < (0.31 - 0.96)$  eV**

[2.6-3.2] MeV: DATA = 14; MC =  $10.9 \pm 1.3$

**$T_{1/2}(0\nu) > 3.2 \times 10^{23}$  yr at 90%CL**

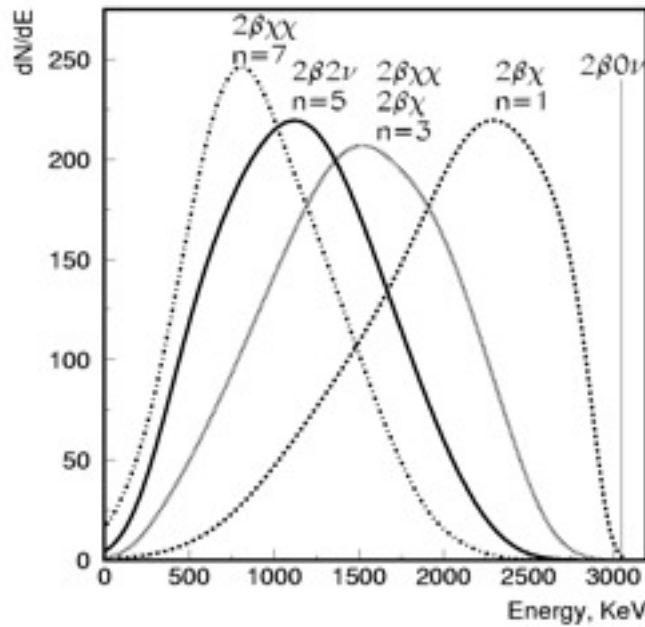
**$\langle m_\nu \rangle < (0.94 - 2.6)$  eV**

**c.f. CUORICINO:  $\langle m_\nu \rangle < (0.3 - 0.7)$  eV; Combined H-M/IGEX  $\langle m_\nu \rangle < (0.22 - 0.41)$  eV**



# Other $0\nu\beta\beta$ modes

Majoron emission would distort the shape of the energy sum spectrum



	V+A*	n=1**	n=2**	n=3**	n=7**
Mo	$>5.7 \cdot 10^{23}$ $\lambda < 1.4 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$>2.7 \cdot 10^{22}$ $G_{ee} < (0.4 - 1.8) \cdot 10^{-4}$	$>1.7 \cdot 10^{22}$	$>1.0 \cdot 10^{22}$	$>7 \cdot 10^{19}$
Se	$>2.4 \cdot 10^{23}$ $\lambda < 2.0 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$>1.5 \cdot 10^{22}$ $G_{ee} < (0.7 - 1.9) \cdot 10^{-4}$	$>6 \cdot 10^{21}$	$>3.1 \cdot 10^{21}$	$>5 \cdot 10^{20}$

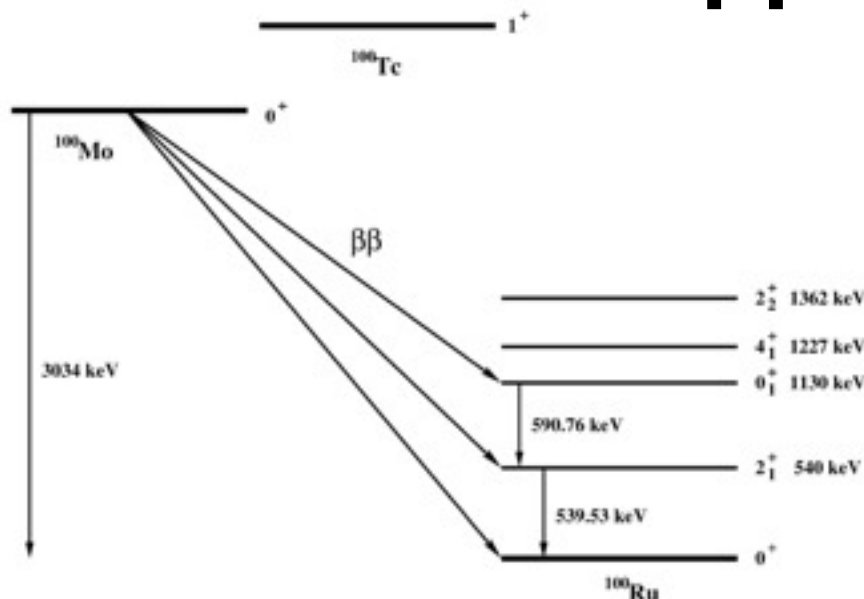
n: spectral index, limits on half-life in years

\* Phase I+Phase II data (including 2008)

\*\* Phase I data, *R. Arnold et al. Nucl. Phys. A765 (2006) 483*

**World's best**

## $\beta\beta$ decays to excited states



$$T_{1/2}^{2\nu}(0^+ \rightarrow 0^+_1) = 5.7^{+1.3}_{-0.9} (\text{stat}) \pm 0.8 (\text{syst}) \times 10^{20} \text{ y}$$

$$T_{1/2}^{0\nu}(0^+ \rightarrow 0^+_1) > 8.9 \times 10^{22} \text{ y @ 90\% C.L.}$$

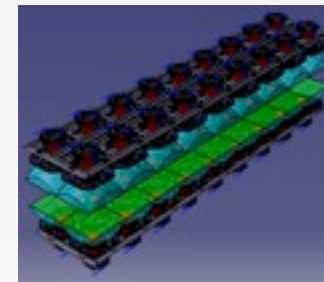
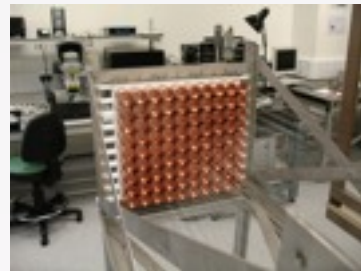
$$T_{1/2}^{2\nu}(0^+ \rightarrow 2^+_1) > 1.1 \times 10^{21} \text{ y @ 90\% C.L.}$$

$$T_{1/2}^{0\nu}(0^+ \rightarrow 2^+_1) > 1.6 \times 10^{23} \text{ y @ 90\% C.L.}$$

***Nuclear Physics A781 (2006) 209-226.***



# From NEMO-3 to SuperNEMO



R&D since 2006

## NEMO-3

$^{100}\text{Mo}$

7 kg

$^{208}\text{Tl}$ :  $\sim 100 \mu\text{Bq/kg}$

$^{214}\text{Bi}$ :  $< 300 \mu\text{Bq/kg}$

Rn:  $5 \text{ mBq/m}^3$

8% @ 3MeV

$T_{1/2}(\beta\beta 0\nu) > 1 \div 2 \times 10^{24} \text{ y}$

$\langle m_\nu \rangle < 0.3 - 0.9 \text{ eV}$

Isotope

Isotope mass M

Contaminations in the  $\beta\beta$  foil

Rn in the tracker

Calorimeter energy resolution (FWHM)

Sensitivity

## SuperNEMO

$^{82}\text{Se}$  (or  $^{150}\text{Nd}$  or  $^{48}\text{Ca}$ )

100+ kg

$^{208}\text{Tl} \leq 2 \mu\text{Bq/kg}$

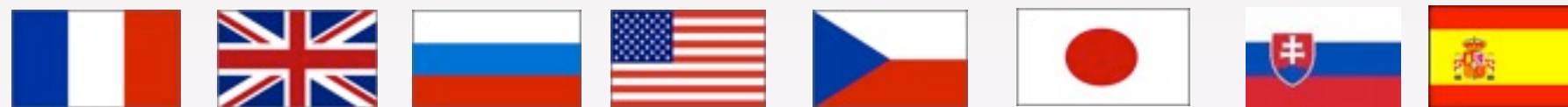
$^{214}\text{Bi} \leq 10 \mu\text{Bq/kg}$

Rn  $\leq 0.15 \text{ mBq/m}^3$

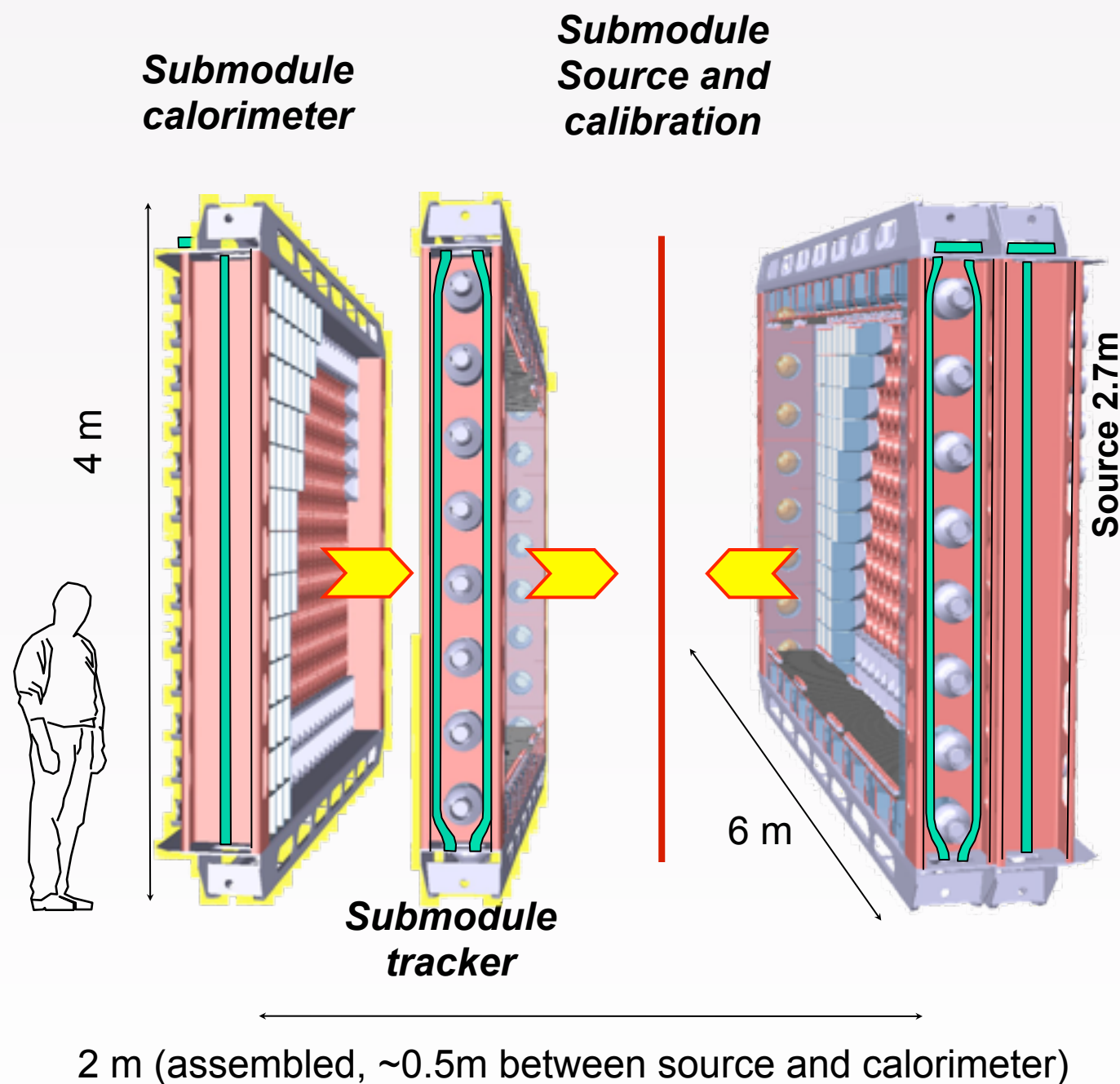
4% @ 3 MeV

$T_{1/2}(\beta\beta 0\nu) > 1 \times 10^{26} \text{ y}$

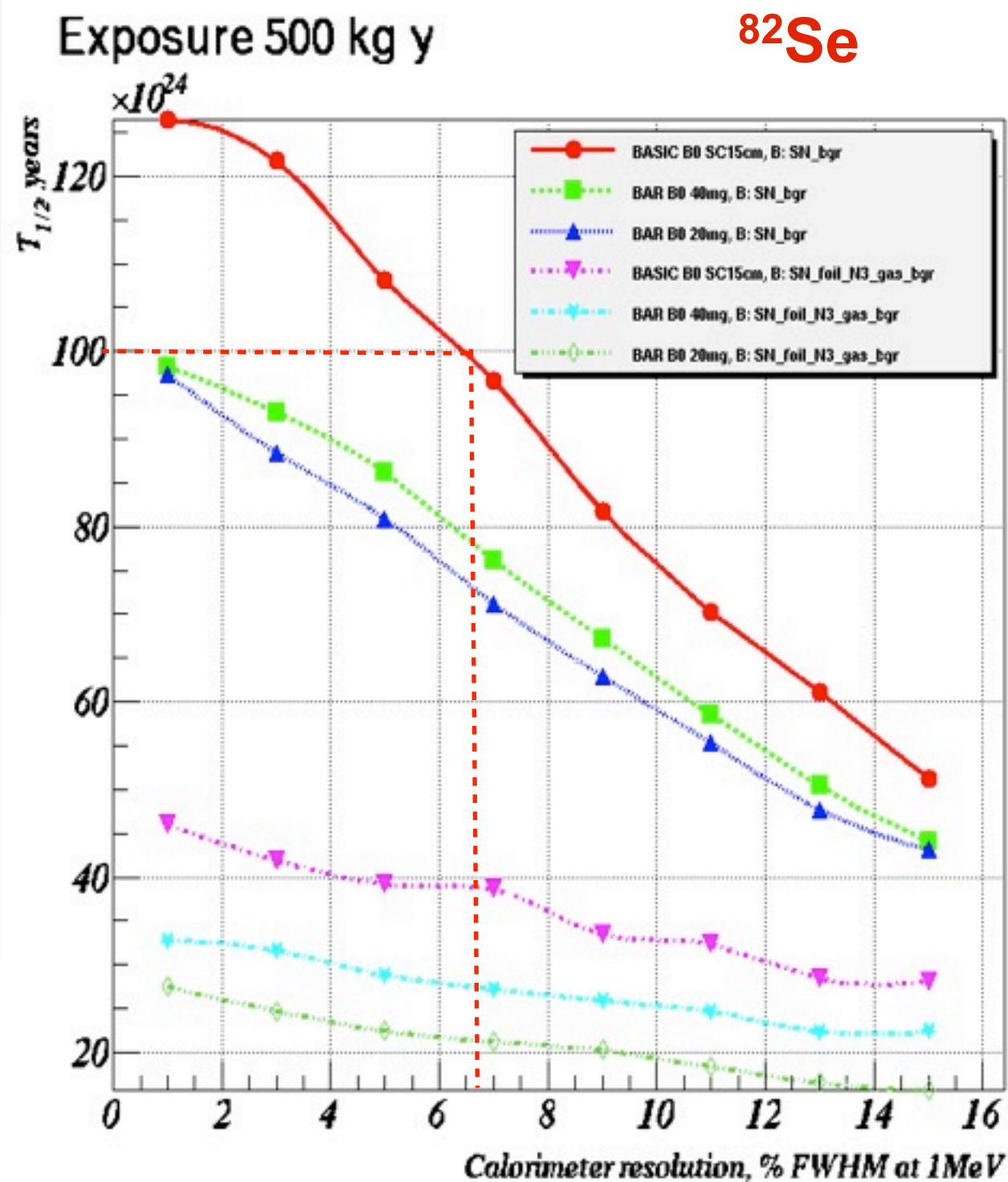
$\langle m_\nu \rangle < 0.04 - 0.1 \text{ eV}$



- Modular design
  - 20 modules, each with 5kg of isotope
- Each Module:
  - Source: (40mg/cm<sup>2</sup>) 4x2.7m<sup>2</sup>
    - <sup>82</sup>Se (High Q<sub>ββ</sub>, long T<sub>1/2</sub>(2ν), proven enrichment technology)
    - <sup>150</sup>Nd, <sup>48</sup>Ca being looked at
  - Tracking
    - drift chamber ~2000 cells in Geiger mode
  - Calorimeter:
    - 550 PMTs + scintillators
  - Module surrounded by passive shielding (water)



# SuperNEMO Physics Studies



Full chain of GEANT-4 based software  
+ detector effects + backgrounds +  
**NEMO3 experience**

5 yr with 100kg of  $^{82}\text{Se}$ :

$T_{1/2} > 10^{26}$  yr,  $\langle m_\nu \rangle < 50-100$  meV at 90%CL  
with target detector parameters

**Much more than 1 result!**

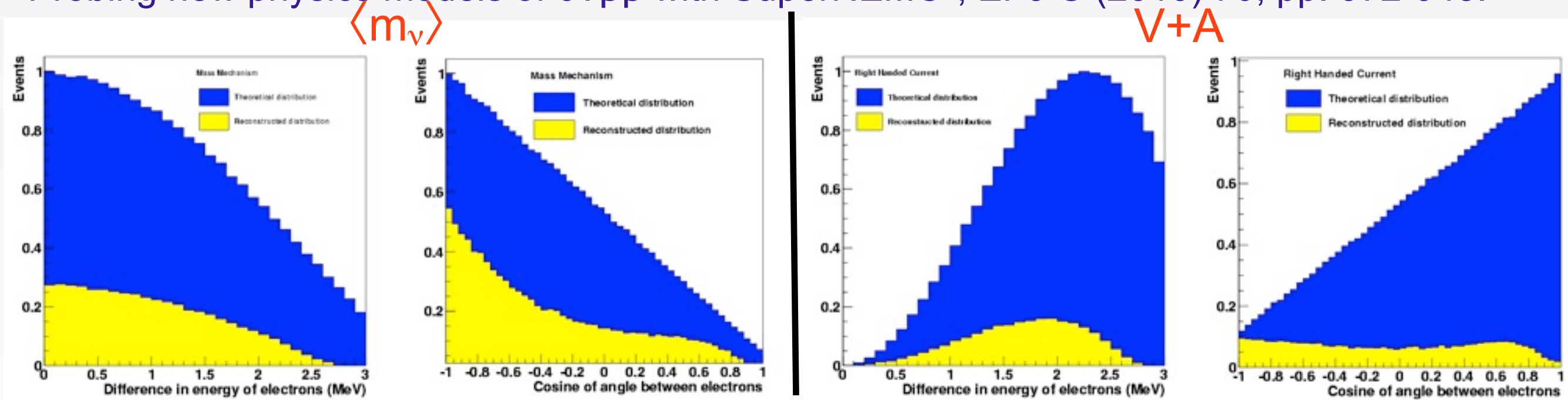
- Other mechanisms: V+A, Majoron, etc
- Disentangling  $\langle m_\nu \rangle$  and V+A

“Probing new physics models of  $0\nu\beta\beta$  with SuperNEMO”, EPJ C (2010) 70, 972-943. (next slide)

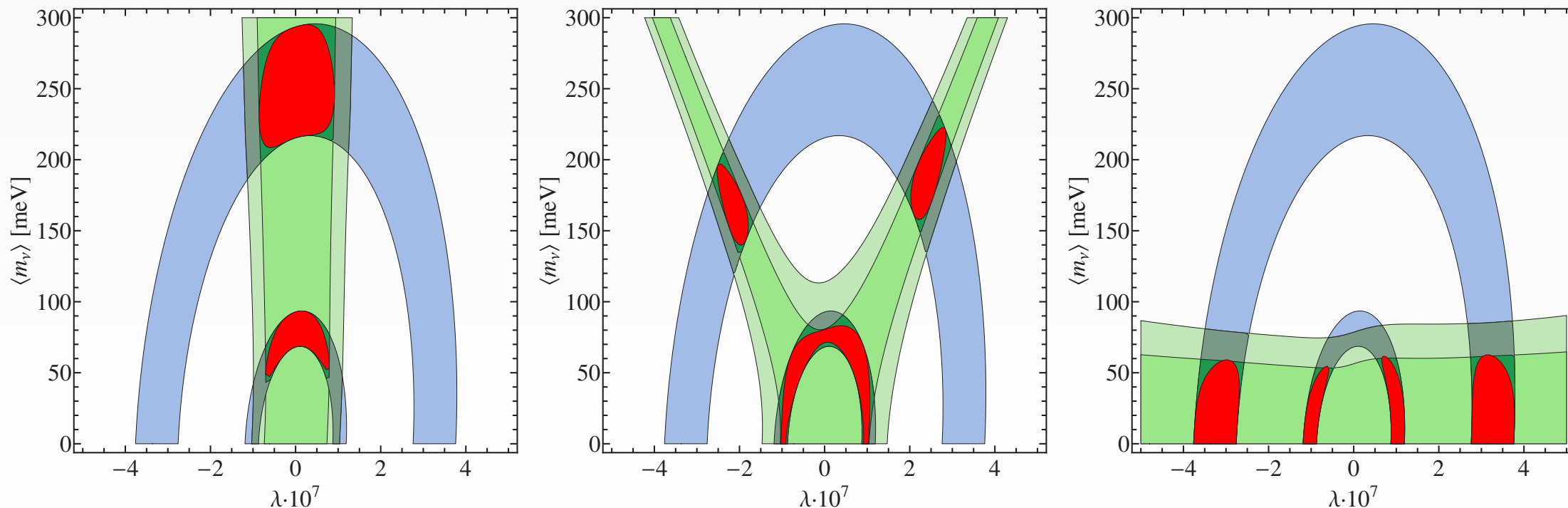
- $\beta\beta 0\nu$ (and  $2\nu$ ) to excited states
- Other isotopes



“Probing new physics models of  $0\nu\beta\beta$  with SuperNEMO”, EPJ C (2010) 70, pp. 972-943.

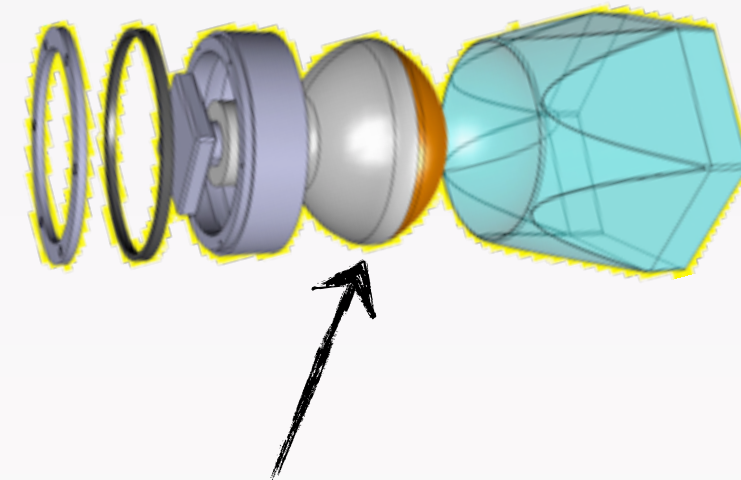
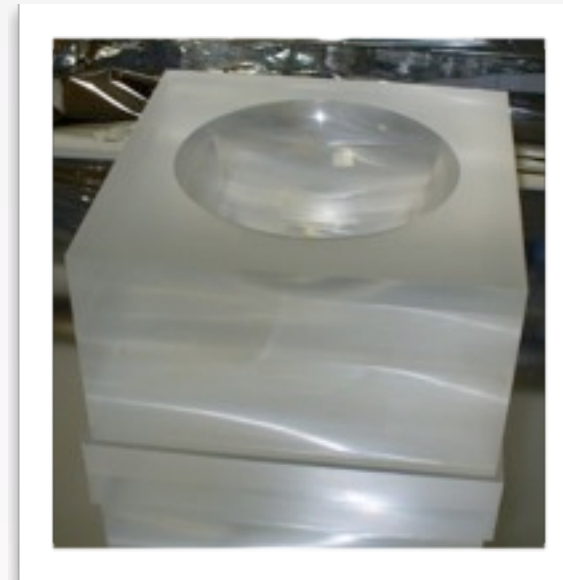
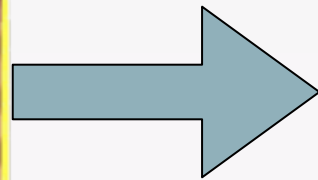
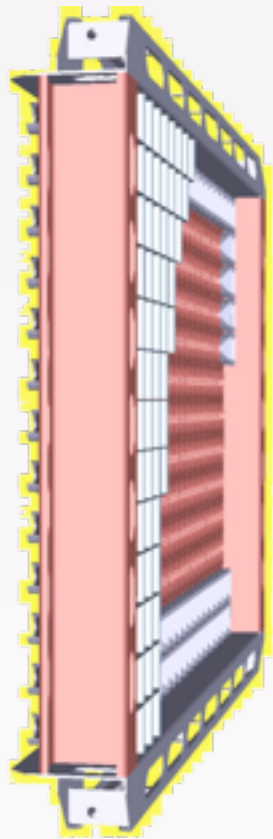


Exploit topological reconstruction available in SuperNEMO (angular distributions and individual electron energies) to disentangle/constrain new physics

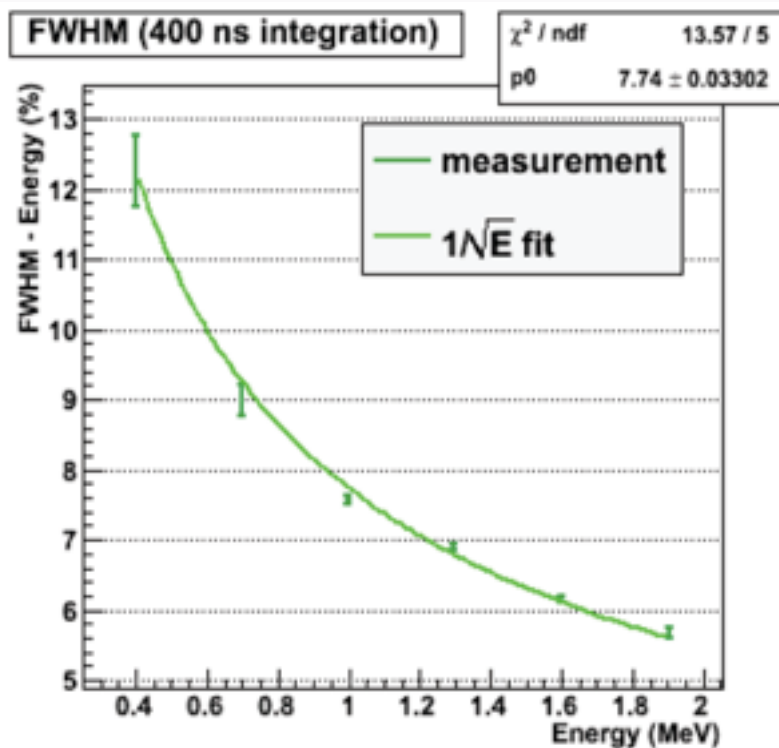


If K-K claim is correct,  $O(100)$  events with virtually no background (2-3 expected BG events)

# Main Calorimeter Wall



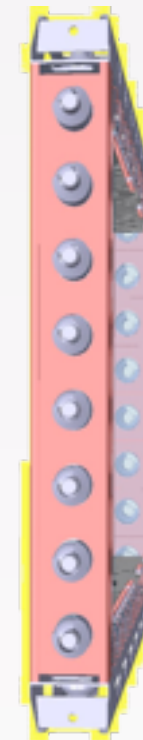
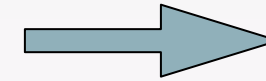
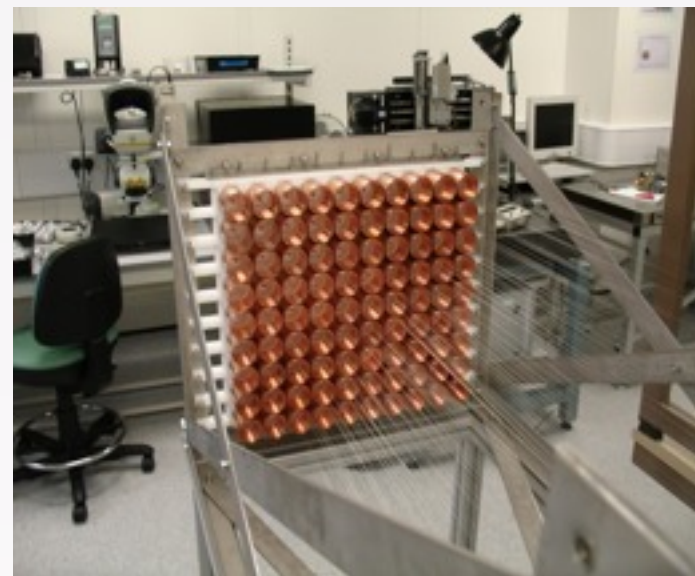
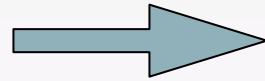
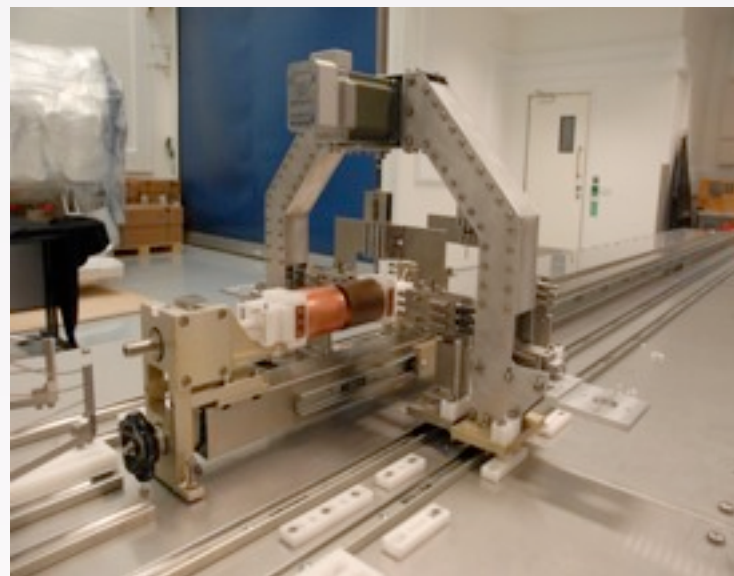
8" High-QE PMT:  
Hamamatsu R5912MOD



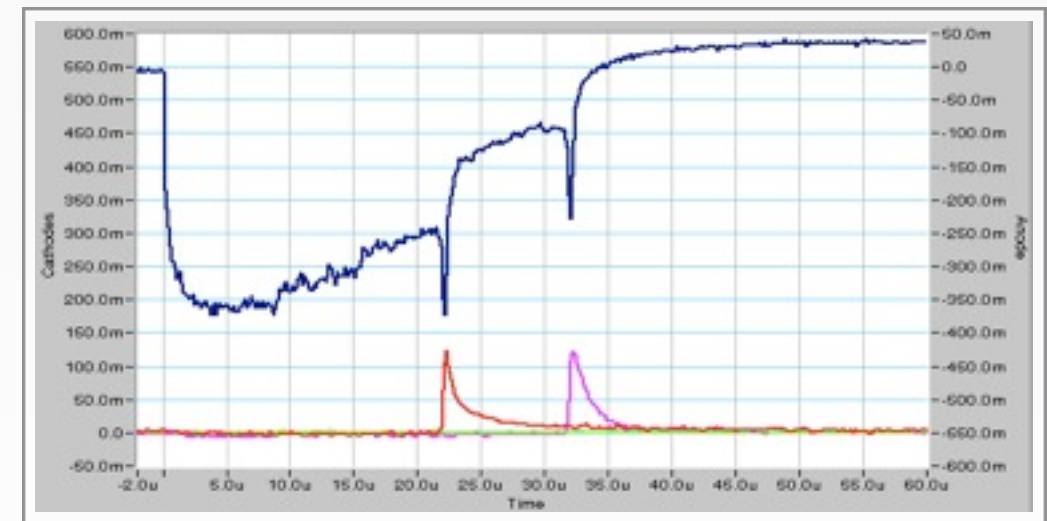
$\Delta E/E \sim 7.2\%$  (FWHM) at 1 MeV equiv. to 4% @  $Q_{\beta\beta} = 3$  MeV  
Target resolution has been reached with hexagonal and cubic blocks



# SuperNEMO Tracker



- Automated wiring robot design to mass produce under ultra low background conditions
  - 500,000 wires to be strung, crimped and terminated
- Basic design developed and verified with several prototypes
  - Resolution: 0.7mm transverse, 1cm longitudinal
  - Cell efficiency > 98%
- Readout electronic being developed:
  - Allow for single and double-cathode readout
  - Differentiate anode signal



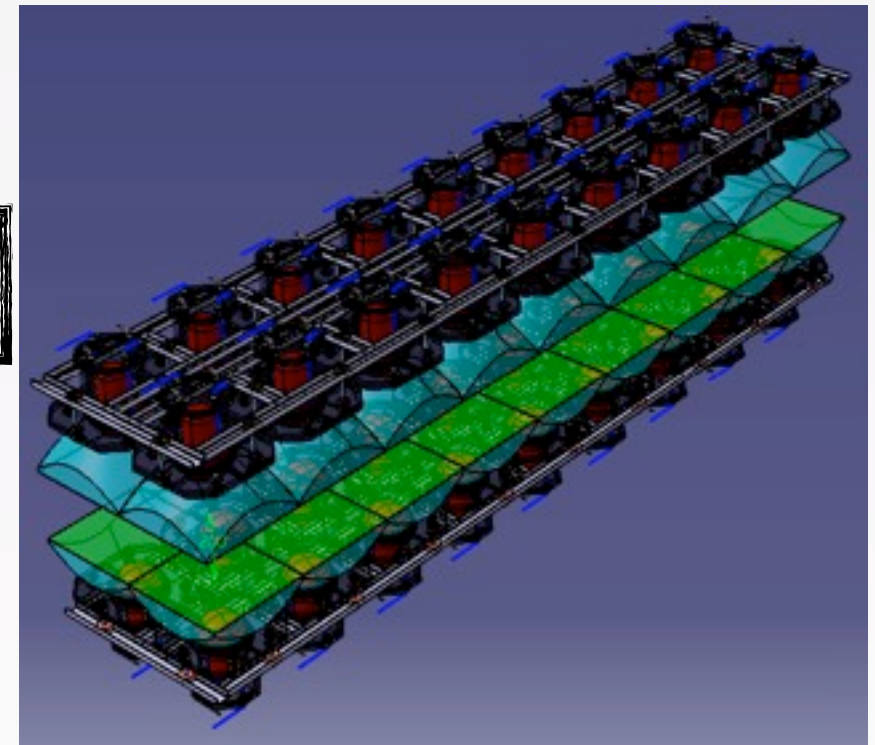
# Source Radiopurity

- ~2.7m “composite” foil strips of 40-50 mg/cm<sup>2</sup> (~80 μm)

- Radiopurity (<sup>82</sup>Se)

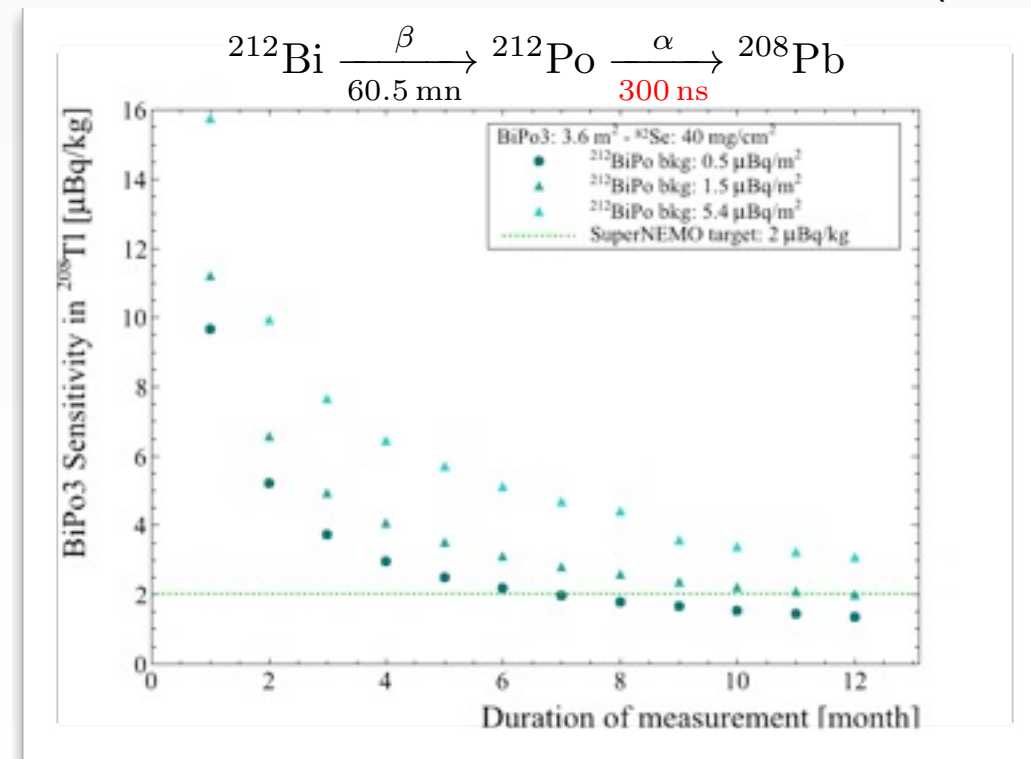
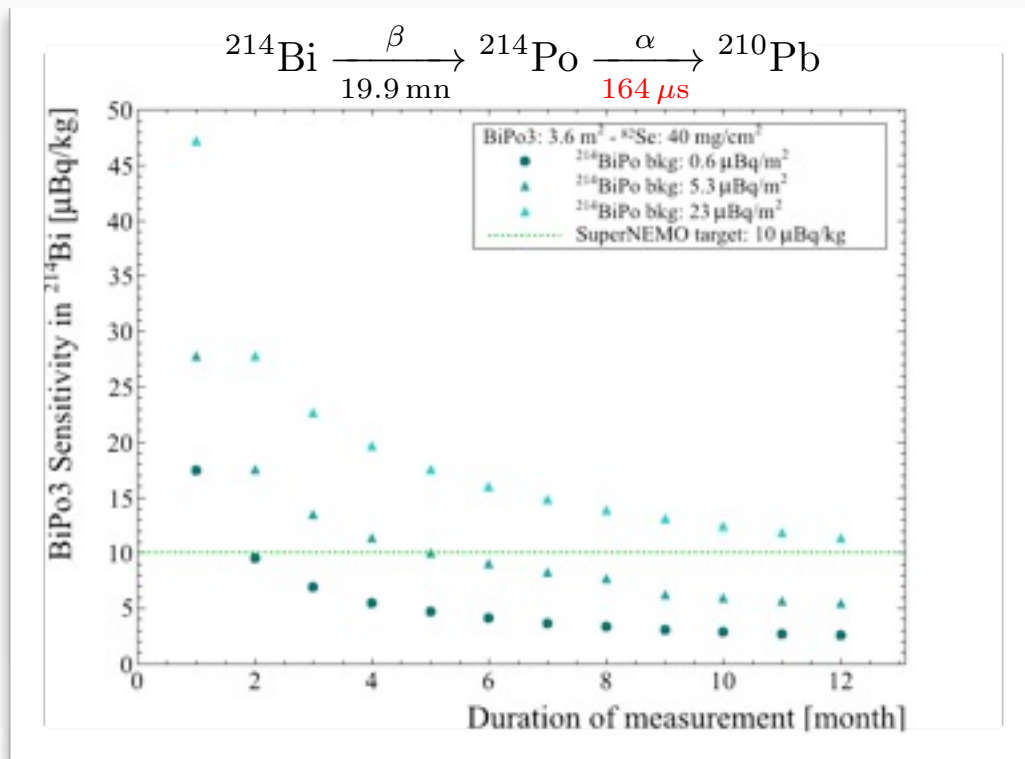
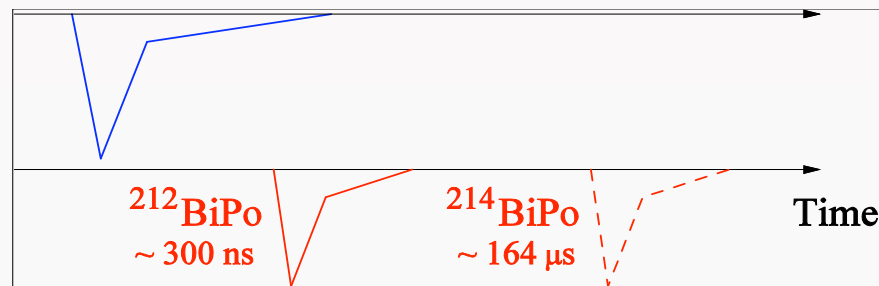
- <sup>208</sup>Tl < 2 μBq/kg
- <sup>214</sup>Bi < 10 μBq/kg

HPGe detectors are used for screening but not sufficient to reach required levels



Dedicated **BiPo** detector developed and installed in Canfranc (running in 2012)

## BiPo signature





# Radon activity measurement

Requirement: Rn activity inside tracker < 150  $\mu\text{Bq}/\text{m}^3$

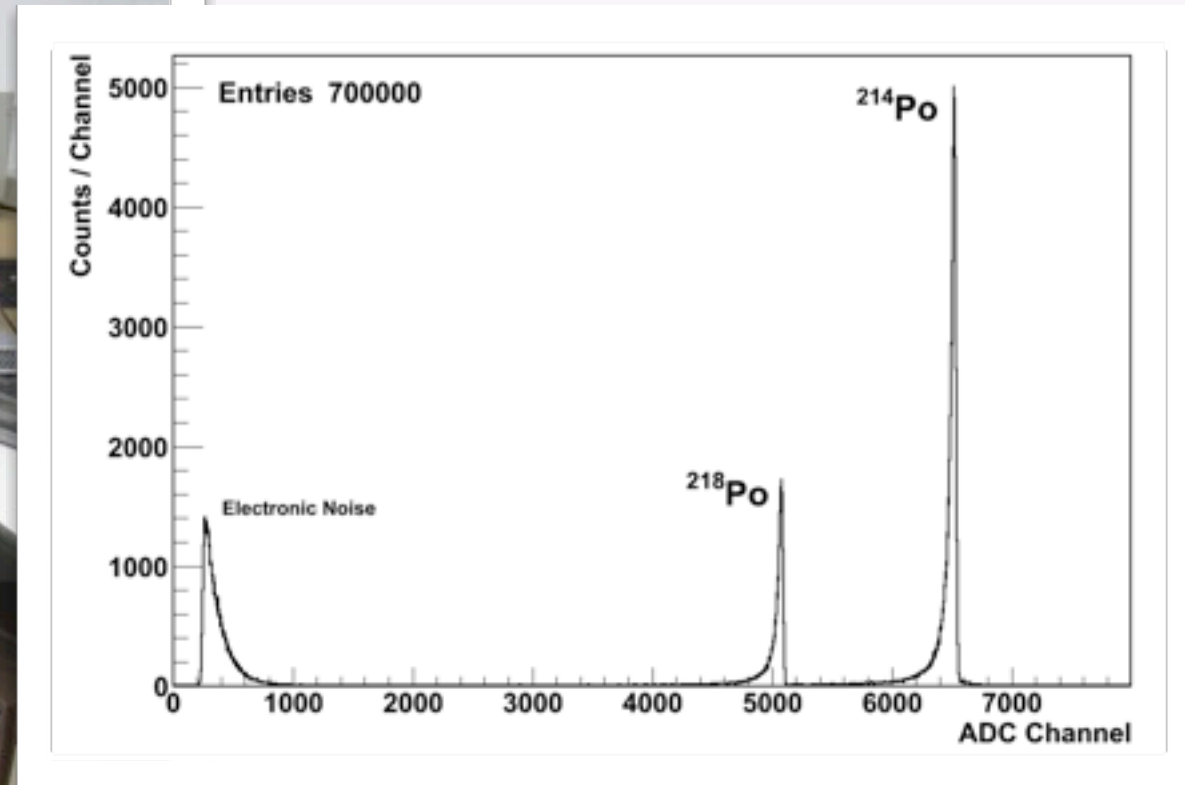
Radon Concentration Line sensitivity < 50  $\mu\text{Bq}/\text{m}^3$  (90%CL)



Vacuum Pump

Carbon Trap

Radon Detector  
(Electrostatic & Pin Diode)



- Measurements of Rn emanation from materials
- Rn permeability measurements through membranes/seals

# SuperNEMO Demonstrator

## Technology

Ultimate proof of BG levels

## Physics

Sensitive to K-K claim

7kg of  $^{82}\text{Se}$  (5 kg in hand)

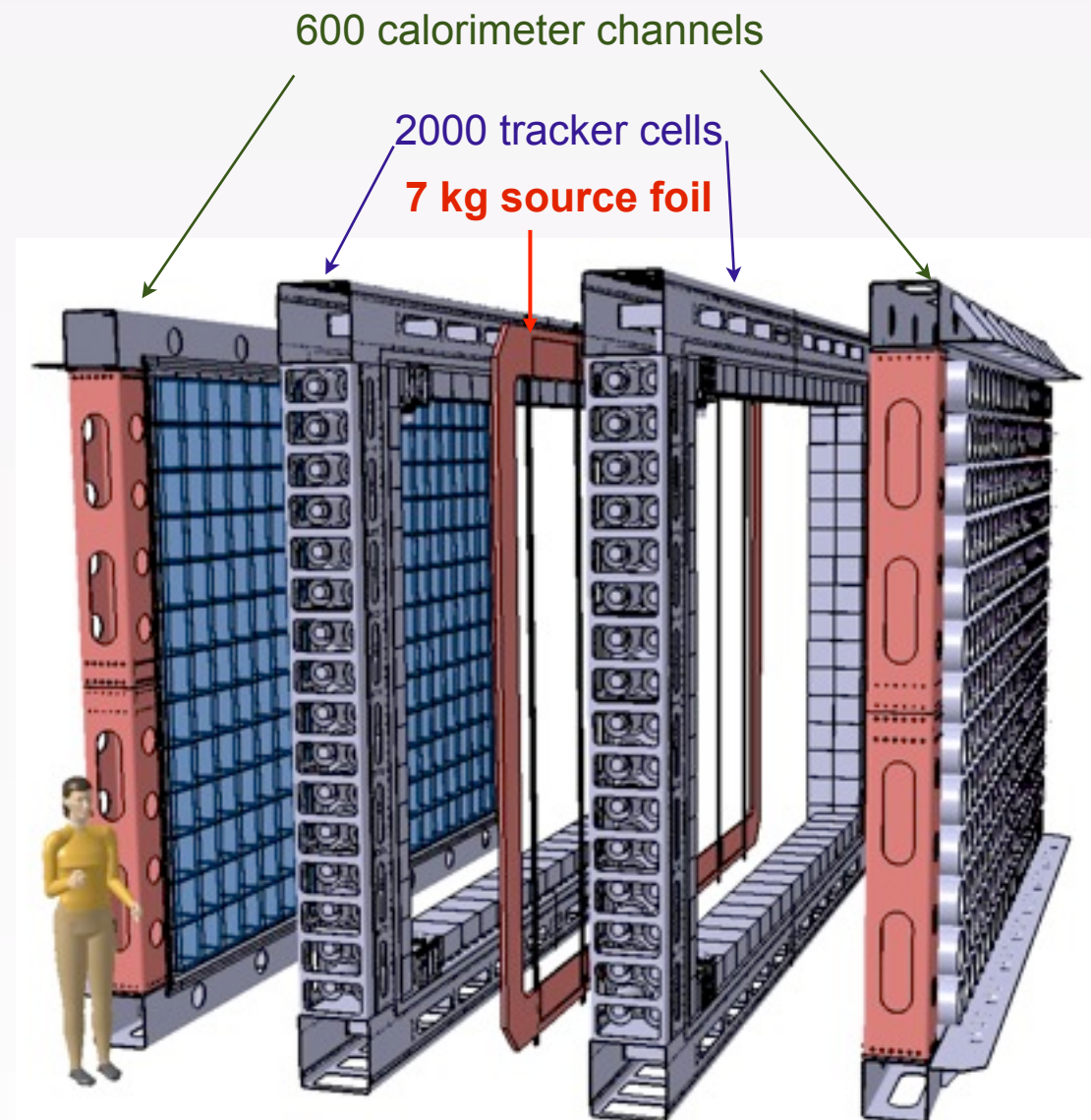
Bgrd  $\leq 0.06$  events/yr in the RoI

## A Zero-Background Experiment

$$T_{1/2}^{0\nu} (90\%CL) = 2.56 \times 10^{24} \times t \text{ yrs}$$

Gerda-I sensitivity in 2.5 years -

$6.5 \times 10^{24}$  yr (equivalent to  $3 \times 10^{25}$  yr with  $^{76}\text{Ge}$ )





# SuperNEMO Demonstrator Construction has started

Construction of optical modules for tracker frame

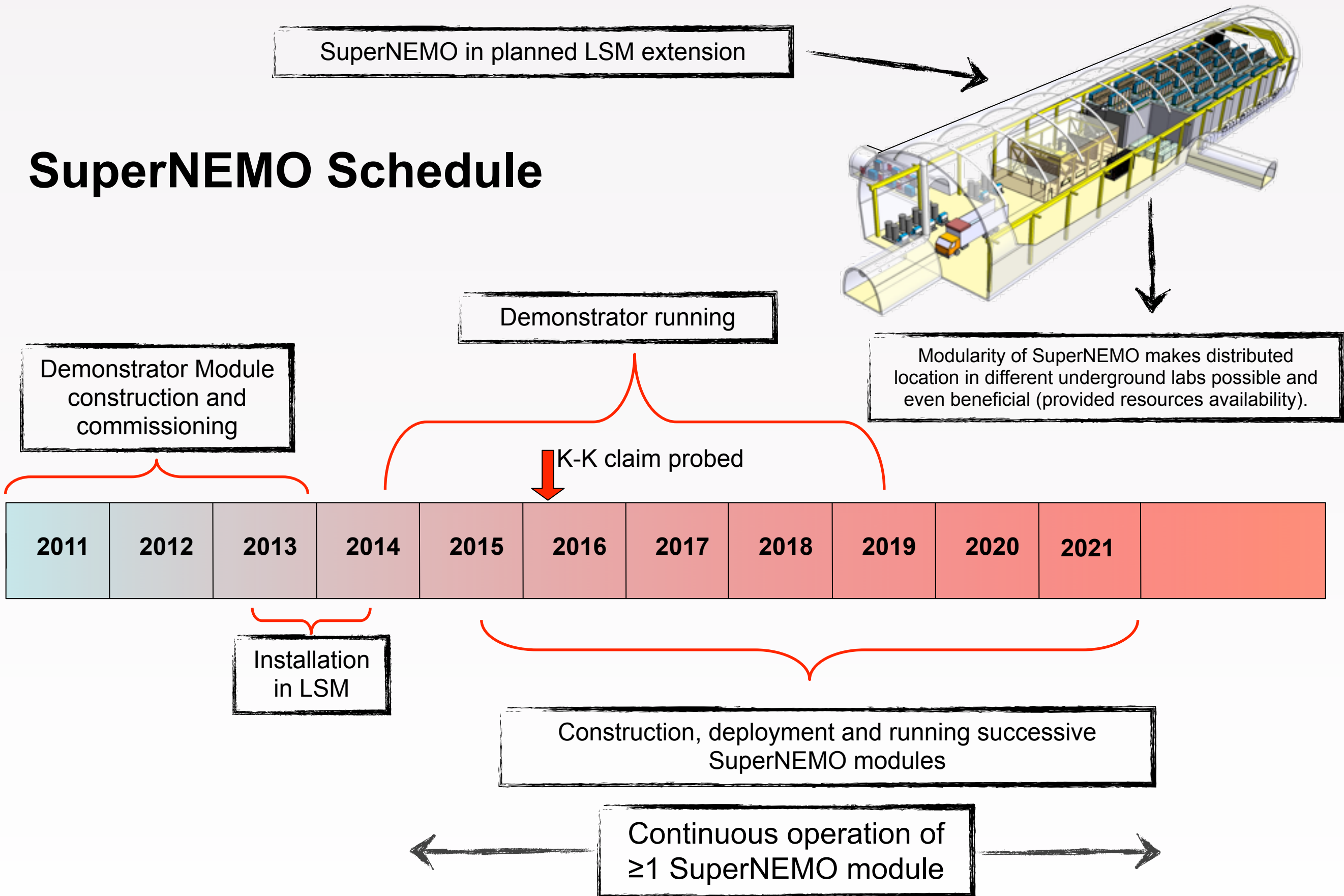


Assembly hall prepared for tracker integration and commissioning



NEMO3 dismantled and removed to free underground space at LSM for Demonstrator

# SuperNEMO Schedule



# Figure of Merit

$$T_{1/2}^{0\nu}(90\%CL) = 2.54 \times 10^{26} \text{ y} \left( \frac{\epsilon}{W} \right) \sqrt{\frac{M \times t}{b \times \Delta E}} \quad FOM = T_{1/2}^{0\nu}(90\%CL) \times \frac{G^{0\nu}}{G_{76\text{Ge}}^{0\nu}} \quad \leftarrow \text{Phase-space factor normalised to } ^{76}\text{Ge}$$

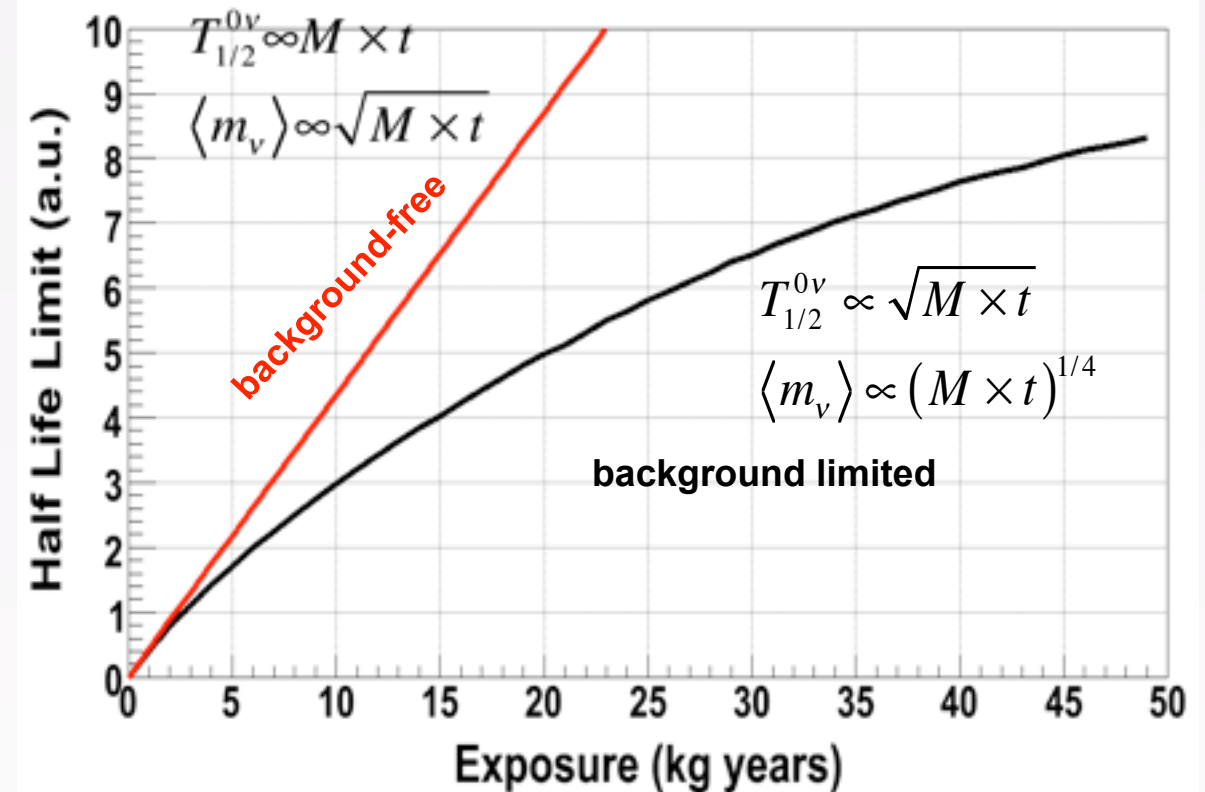
Normalised to exposure **500 kg yr** and assuming the **same NMEs**

Project	Isotope	$\epsilon$ in $Q_{\beta\beta}$ window	$b$ [cnts $\text{kg}^{-1}\text{keV}^{-1}\text{yr}^{-1}$ ]	FWHM keV	Total B, counts	$T_{1/2}$ (90%CL) yr	$\frac{G^{0\nu}}{G_{76\text{Ge}}^{0\nu}}$	F.O.M yr
GERDA	$^{76}\text{Ge}$	80%	0.01	4	40	$2.1 \times 10^{26}$	1	$2.1 \times 10^{26}$
Super-NEMO	$^{82}\text{Se}$	17%	$6 \times 10^{-5}$	120	7	$1 \times 10^{26}$	4.4	$4.4 \times 10^{26}$
CUORE	$^{130}\text{Te}$	80%	0.01	5	185	$5.7 \times 10^{25}$	6.9	$4 \times 10^{26}$
EXO200	$^{136}\text{Xe}$	70%	$6.3 \times 10^{-4}$	94	73	$7.6 \times 10^{25}$	7.4	$5.6 \times 10^{26}$
SNO+	$^{150}\text{Nd}$	70%	$7.5 \times 10^{-4}$	300	3996	$9.4 \times 10^{24}$	32.8	$3.1 \times 10^{26}$

Reliability of expected performance numbers is **not** taken into account



- O(100kg) generation will reach FOM  $\sim 4 \times 10^{26}$  yr by **2018-2020**.  $\langle m_\nu \rangle = 50-100$  meV
- To **exclude IH**, i.e. to get **10-20 meV**, we need FOM =  $\sim 10^{28}$  yr.
- Example: A  $^{76}\text{Ge}$  experiment even with ambitious  $b = 0.001$  cnts/(kg keV yr) would need **30 tons** (!) of enriched (!! )  $^{76}\text{Ge}$  measured over 5yr! Similar for other projects.
- Thus for **10 meV** stage we have to find a **“background-free” solution**



- Example: **150kg** x 5 yrs of  $^{48}\text{Ca}$ , if **no background** and  $\epsilon \sim 40\%$ , gives required FOM =  $10^{28}$  yr.
  - NEMO-3 had virtually no background in this region after 8 years of running!
  - But we need to learn how to enrich  $^{48}\text{Ca}$  (0.19% nat. abundance)

## Future “Ton” experiments

$^{222}\text{Rn}$  poses serious challenge (How to control  $\sim 1$  atom/N $\times$ m<sup>3</sup> contamination?)

Future may belong to **“Big Three”**

$^{48}\text{Ca}$	$^{96}\text{Zr}$	$^{150}\text{Nd}$
4.27 MeV	3.4 MeV	3.4 MeV

to break away from  $^{222}\text{Rn}$  progeny

$^{214}\text{Bi}$   
3.27 MeV



- $0\nu\beta\beta$  is the **only way** to answer questions on Full **Lepton Number violation** and nature and **mechanism** behind **neutrino mass**
- Reach **interplay** with **other areas**
  - Neutrino mass from end-point  $\beta$ -decay, cosmology, neutrino oscillations
- Several next generation experiments **starting** in the **next few years**
  - K-K “claim” tested
  - Benchmark sensitivity of 50 meV
- **NEMO-3** demonstrated feasibility of **topological** detection of  $\beta\beta$ 
  - Competitive  $0\nu\beta\beta$  result with open-minded approach to **mechanism of LNV**
  - $2\nu\beta\beta$  measurements with **unprecedented accuracy**. Many more results.
- **SuperNEMO** will probe **50 meV** region with a **unique topological detection** approach
  - **Different isotopes** can be probed. Possibility to **disentangle** underlying **physics** if  $\langle m_\nu \rangle \geq 100$  meV.
  - Excited states, precision SM  $\beta\beta$ -studies
- Need a **common strategy** to get down to **10 meV** (and lower?).
- **Topological  $\beta\beta$  detection** could provide an **alternative to (multi)ton-scale detectors** if enrichment of **high- $Q_{\beta\beta}$**  isotopes proves feasible

# BACKUP

## Scenario 1 $\langle m_\nu \rangle \sim 0.1 \text{ eV}$

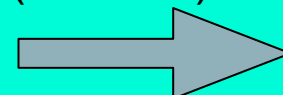
2012 ————— 2015 ————— 2020

Measurements with several isotopes. Possibility to disentangle LNV physics mechanism (almost background free with e.g SuperNEMO). Possibility to access Majorana CP phases.

## Scenario 2 $\langle m_\nu \rangle \ll 0.1 \text{ eV}$

2012 ————— 2015 ————— 2020

Understanding backgrounds and limiting factors (Radon?) with  $O(100\text{kg})$  experiments  
Isotope enrichment technology.



“Background-free” detector technology and isotope(s) choice.



“Ton” detector construction

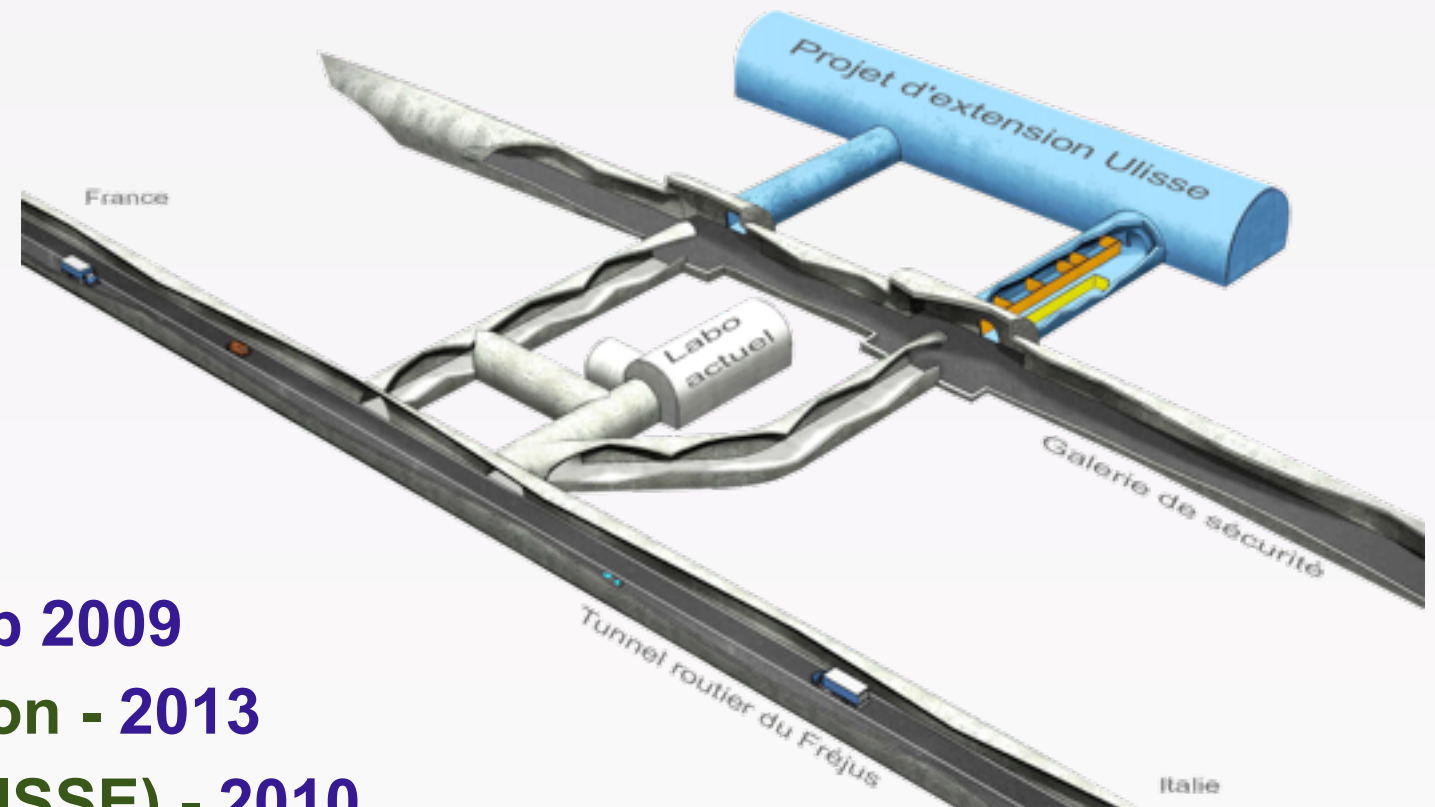


“Ton” Experiment must have the sensitivity to establish or exclude the IH

# LSM Extension

## Provisional Schedule

- Safety tunnel construction start - **Sep 2009**
- Safety tunnel, end of civil construction - **2013**
- Detailed study of LSM extension (ULISSE) - **2010**
- Deadline for final decision/money commitment - **2012**
- Excavation of new Lab completed - **2014**
- Outfitting completed, Lab ready to host experiments - **2015**



45,000m<sup>3</sup> (100m long), 10M€ excavation + 3M€ outfitting

2<sup>d</sup> ULISSE workshop in October'09. 11 LOIs received.