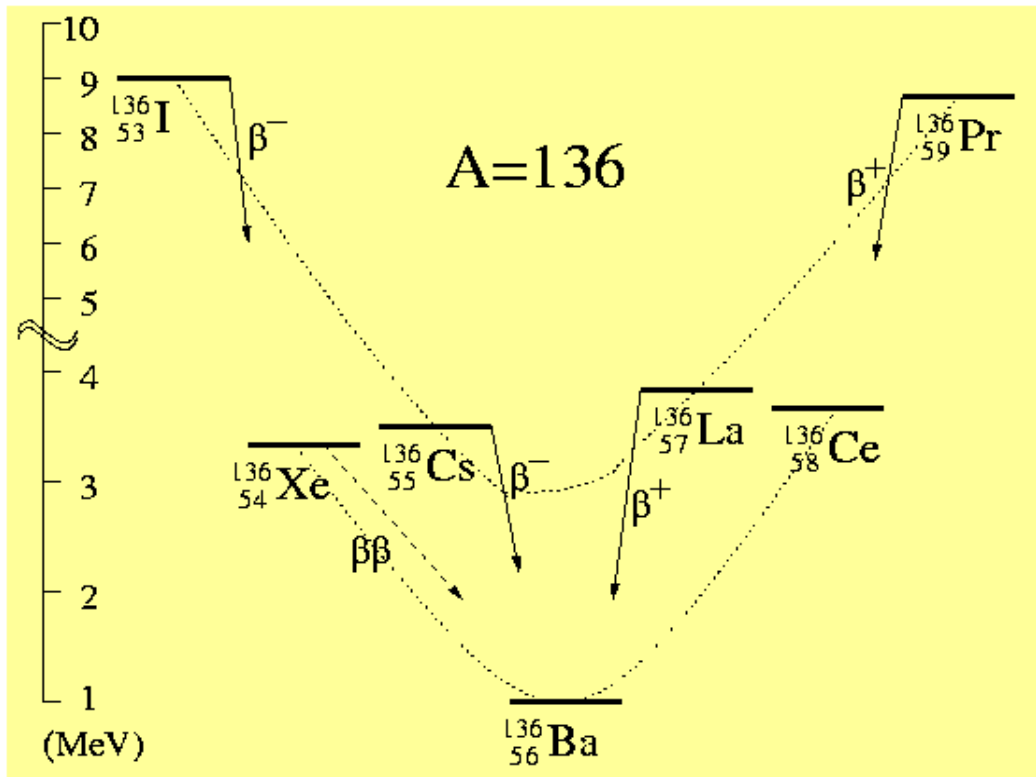

Double beta decay: Xenon Experiments

Andreas Piepke
University of Alabama

Brief introduction

Is a second order weak decay simultaneously converting two neutrons into two protons.

Because of the nucleon pairing energy for some nuclides $\beta\beta$ -decay is the only way to achieve the lowest mass state.

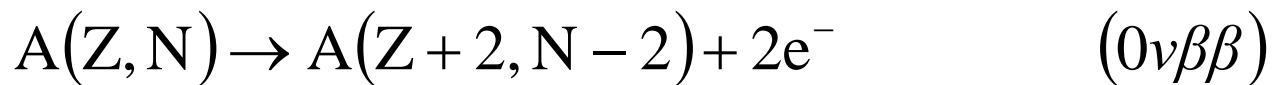
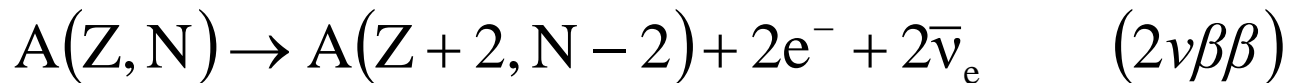


Brief introduction

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There are many ways this can be achieved. The two most popular modes are:

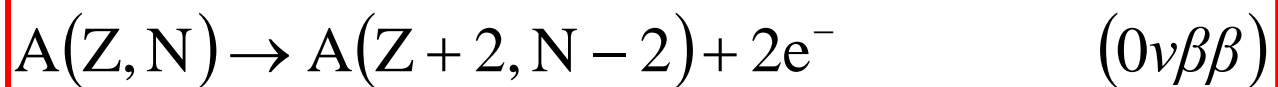
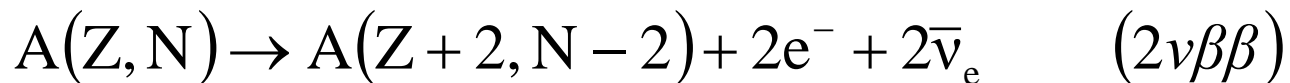


Brief introduction

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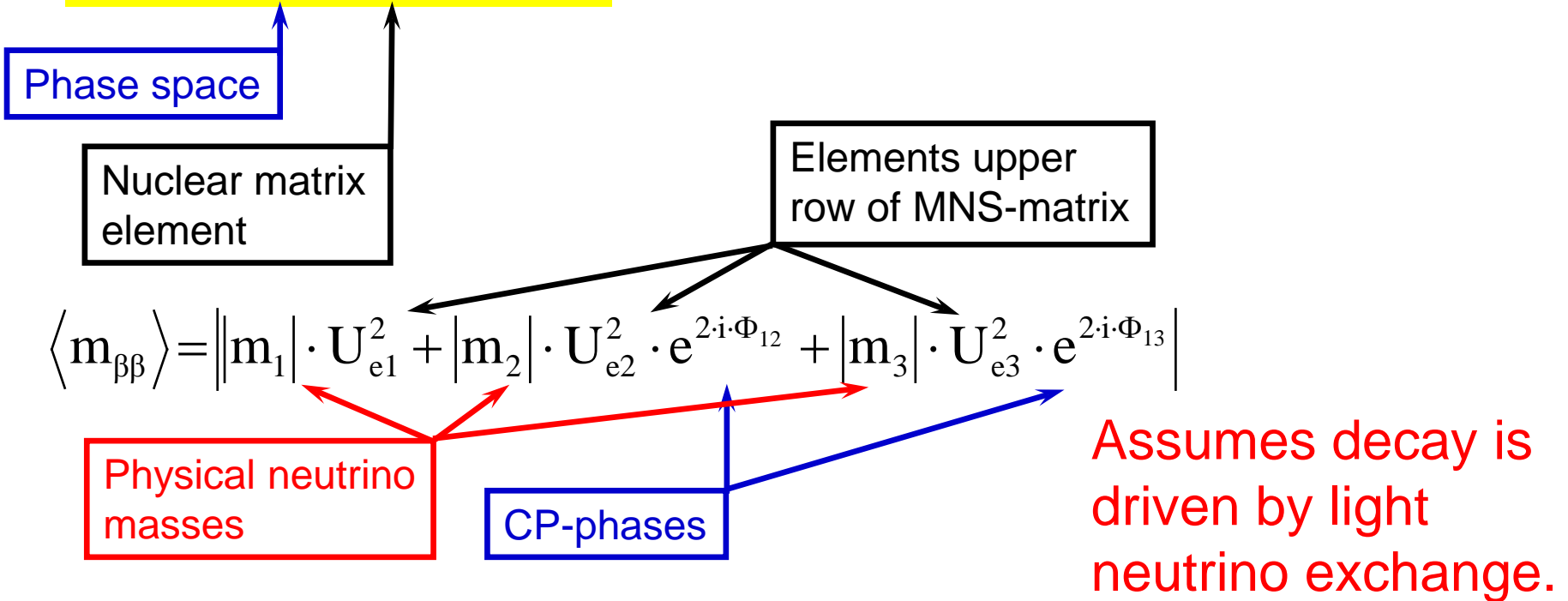


- Violates Lepton number by two units
- Requires neutrino anti-neutrino identity (Majorana character)
- Driven by neutrino exchange: rate determines neutrino mass

Focus on light neutrino exchange mode

Decay rate depends on an effective Majorana mass. Its calculation requires knowledge of nuclear physics quantities.

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



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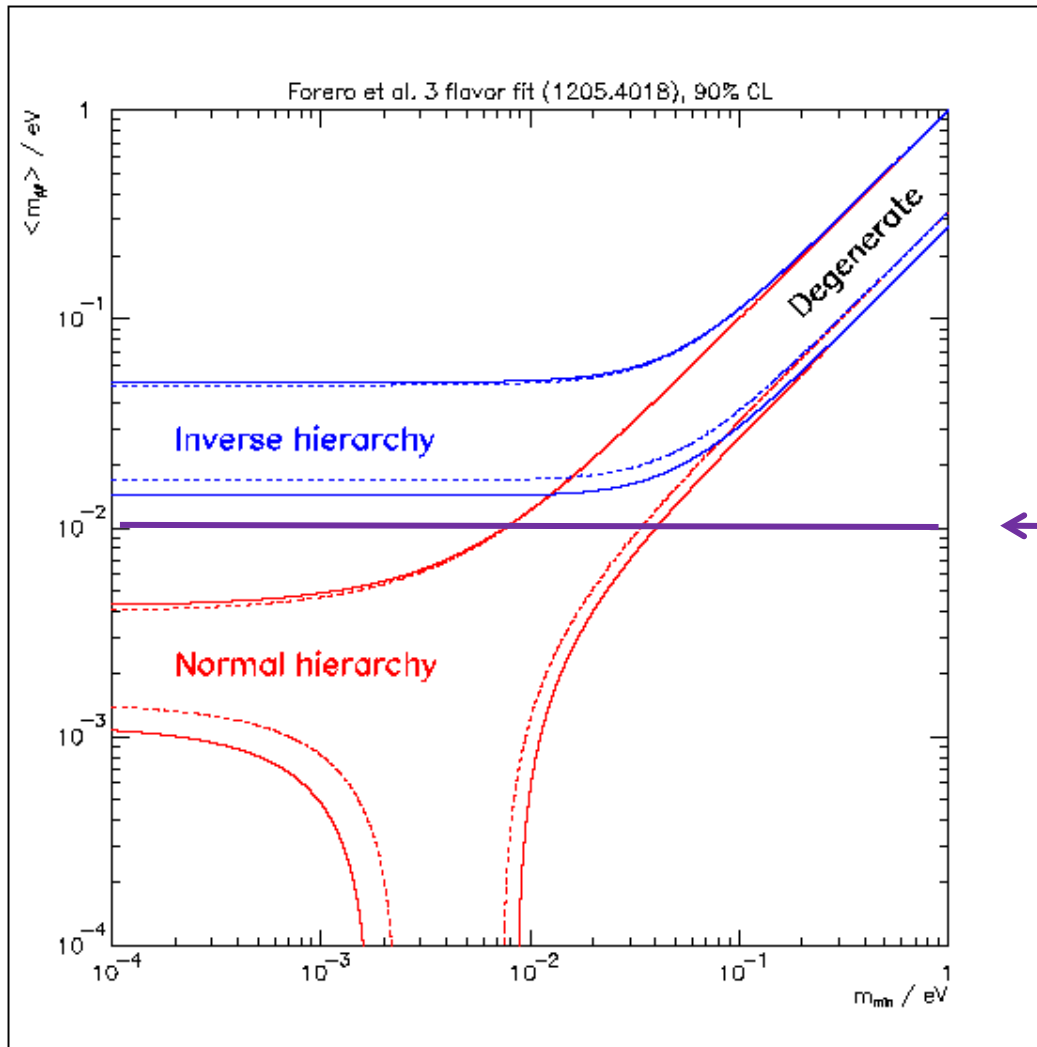
Phase space

Nuclear matrix element

Because of the imaginary phases cancellations may occur.

$$\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle = \left| |m_1| \cdot U_{e1}^2 + |m_2| \cdot U_{e2}^2 \cdot e^{2 \cdot i \cdot \Phi_{12}} + |m_3| \cdot U_{e3}^2 \cdot e^{2 \cdot i \cdot \Phi_{13}} \right|$$

Assumes decay is driven by light neutrino exchange.



Measurement of $\beta\beta 0\nu$ is the only practical way to test the possible particle anti-particle identity. $\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle$ determines the yet unknown mass scale.

← ^{76}Ge : $(1.4-7.7) \cdot 10^{28}$ yr
 ^{130}Te : $(0.22-1.3) \cdot 10^{28}$ yr
 ^{136}Xe : $(0.32-2.2) \cdot 10^{28}$ yr

This neutrino mass goal defines the scale of new experimental searches.

ν -oscillation experiments define a “range of opportunity” for Majorana- ν tests. World wide many projects are taking data, are under construction, or being contemplated. The main contenders (my subjective choice) currently are:

- 1) ^{76}Ge (GERDA, Majorana)
- 2) ^{82}Se (Super NEMO)
- 3) ^{130}Te (CUORE, SNO+)
- 4) ^{136}Xe (EXO, KamLAND-Zen, NEXT)

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KamLAND-Zen (Kamioka 2700 mw.e.)

Dissolve isotopically enriched Xe in KamLAND's ultra low background liquid scintillator.

Calorimetrically measure the $\beta\beta$ -electron sum energy at limited energy resolution.

Contain the Xe-loaded scintillator in a small balloon to fiducialize. Very little funding needed for detector, concentrate all funding on enriched Xe purchase, maximize decaying mass. Highly scalable up to several tons of Xe at "moderate" cost. Limited resolution: discovery potential?

KamLAND-Zen Collaboration



A. Gando,¹ Y. Gando,¹ H. Hanakago,¹ H. Ikeda,¹ K. Inoue,^{1,2} K. Ishidoshiro,¹ R. Kato,¹ M. Koga,^{1,2} S. Matsuda,¹ T. Mitsui,¹ D. Motoki,¹ T. Nakada,¹ K. Nakamura,^{1,2} A. Obata,¹ A. Oki,¹ Y. Ono,¹ M. Otani,¹ I. Shimizu,¹ J. Shirai,¹ A. Suzuki,¹ Y. Takemoto,¹ K. Tamae,¹ K. Ueshima,¹ H. Watanabe,¹ B.D. Xu,¹ S. Yamada,¹ H. Yoshida,¹ A. Kozlov,² S. Yoshida,³ T.I. Banks,⁴ S.J. Freedman,^{2,4} B.K. Fujikawa,^{2,4} K. Han,⁴ T. O'Donnell,⁴ B.E. Berger,⁵ Y. Efremenko,^{2,6} H.J. Karwowski,⁷ D.M. Markoff,⁷ W. Tornow,⁷ J.A. Detwiler,⁸ S. Enomoto,^{2,8} and M.P. Decowski^{2,9}

(The KamLAND-Zen Collaboration)

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²*Kavli Institute for the Physics and Mathematics of the Universe (WPI), University of Tokyo, Kashiwa, 277-8583, Japan*

³*Graduate School of Science, Osaka University, Toyonaka, Osaka 560-0043, Japan*

⁴*Physics Department, University of California, Berkeley, and*

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley, California 94720, USA

⁵*Department of Physics, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado 80523, USA*

⁶*Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee 37996, USA*

⁷*Triangle Universities Nuclear Laboratory, Durham, North Carolina 27708, USA and*

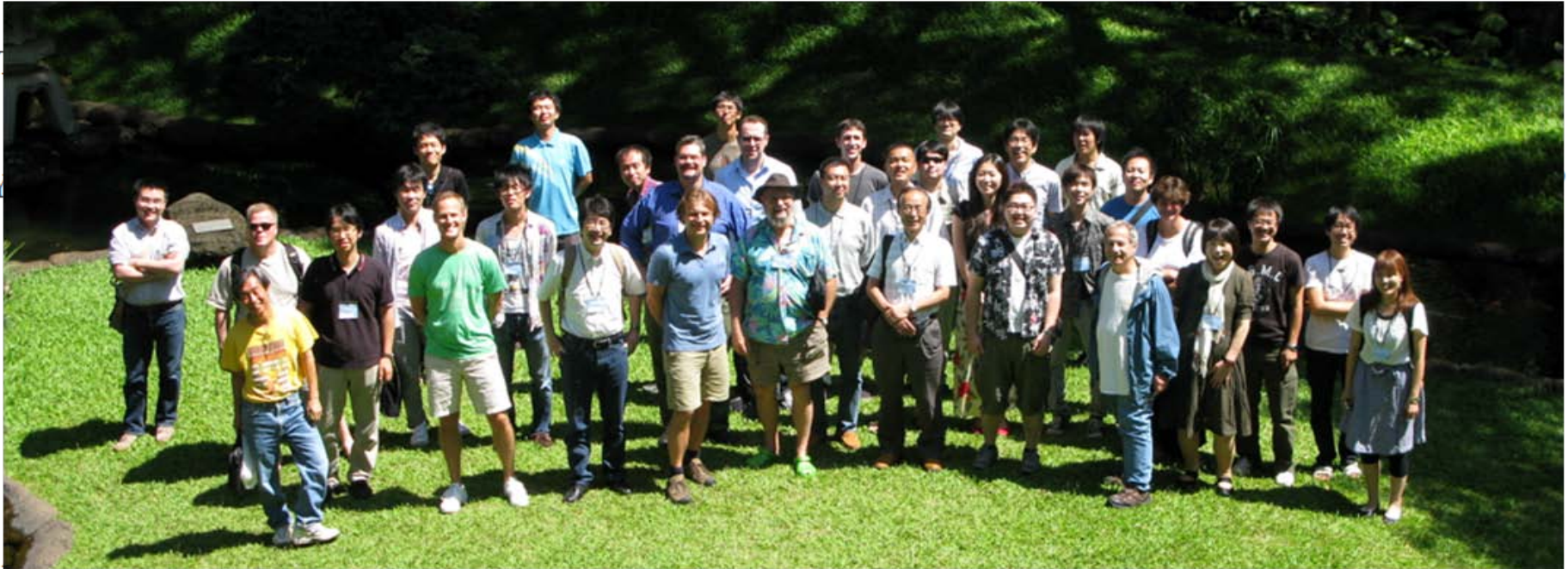
Physics Departments at Duke University, North Carolina Central University, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

⁸*Center for Experimental Nuclear Physics and Astrophysics, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington 98195, USA*

⁹*Nikhef and the University of Amsterdam, Science Park, Amsterdam, the Netherlands*

42 members (subset of KamLAND collaboration) and still growing

KamLAND-Zen Collaboration



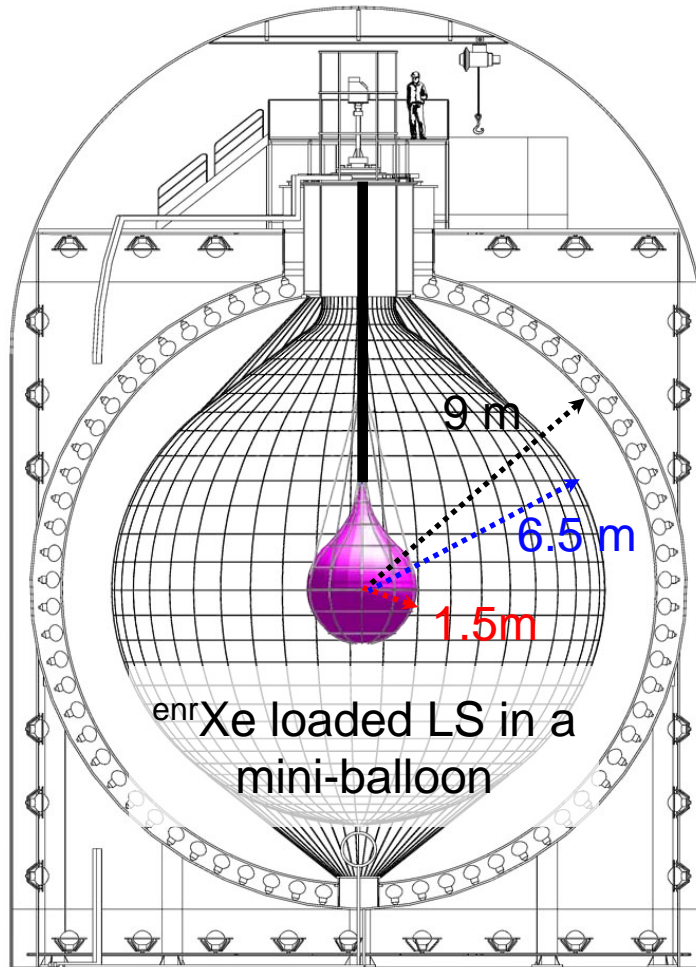
⁸Center for Experimental Nuclear Physics and Astrophysics, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington 98195, USA

⁹Nikhef and the University of Amsterdam, Science Park, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

42 members (subset of KamLAND collaboration) and still growing

KamLAND-Zen

Zero Neutrino
double beta decay search




~320 kg 90% enriched ^{136}Xe installed
615 kg in hand

Because of large detector size no escape
or invisible energy from β , γ
→ helps in BG identification

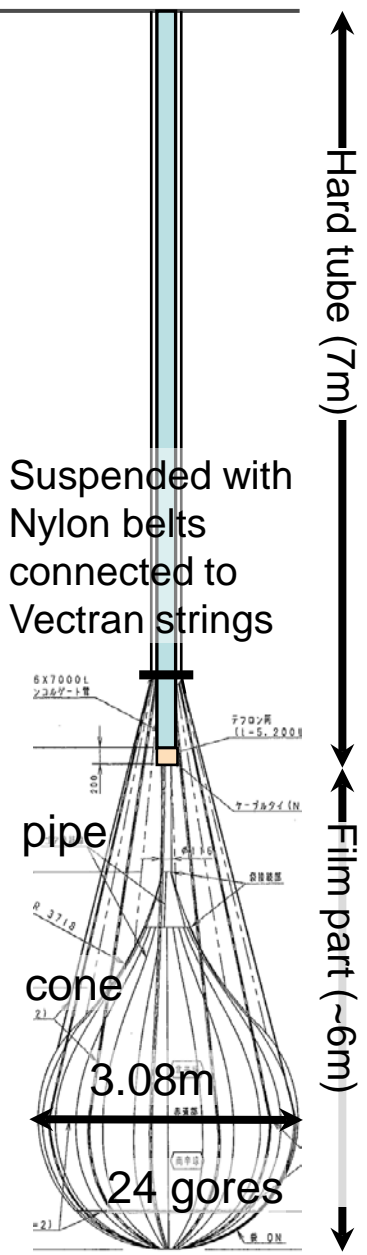
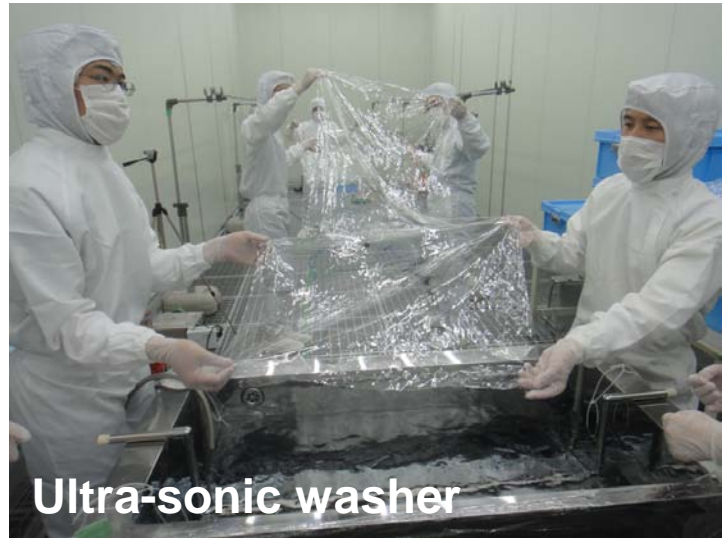
anti-neutrino observation continues
→ geo-neutrino, Japanese reactors


Production of real Mini-balloon

 fabrication in Class 1 super-clean-room
 (class 1 = less than one 0.5 micron particle in 1 cube feet)

minimum material → **25 μm Nylon 6**
 transparency 99.4% @400nm
 strength 19.4 N/cm
 Xe permeability < 220 g/year
 low radioactive impurity
 → specially made no filler film

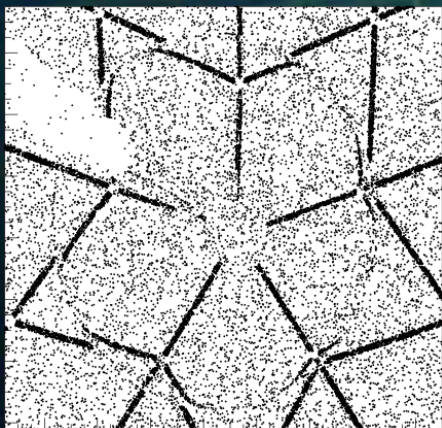
U	:	150	→	2×10^{-12} g/g
Th	:	59	→	3×10^{-12} g/g
^{40}K	:	140	→	2×10^{-12} g/g



 All tools and parts washed here

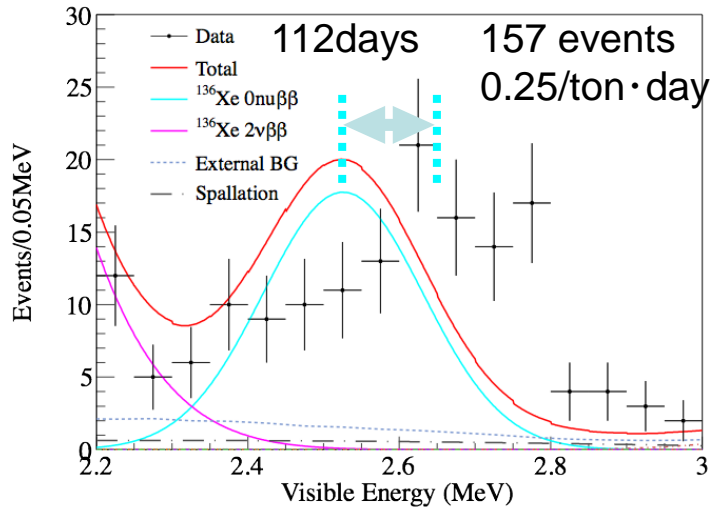
DAQ started on September 24, 2011
(only 2 years from the project start)

Observed $2\nu\beta\beta$ -decay January 2012:
 $T_{1/2} = (2.30 \pm 0.02^{\text{stat}} \pm 0.12^{\text{syst}}) 10^{21}$ yr
measured half life was found to be
consistent with the EXO-200 value.



Background situation

Peak fit with 0v signal



Peak position is different from that of expected 0v.
0v only is rejected at more than 8σ level.

Background 2 possibilities :

- Long-lived radio-impurity
- Muon spallation which should have time/space correlation with muon

<http://ie.lbl.gov/databases/ensdfserve.html>

Thorough survey of all decay path of all nuclei in **ENSDF**

<100 sec timing correlation <0.007 /ton·day (90% CL). → small

100 sec - 30 days timing correlation :

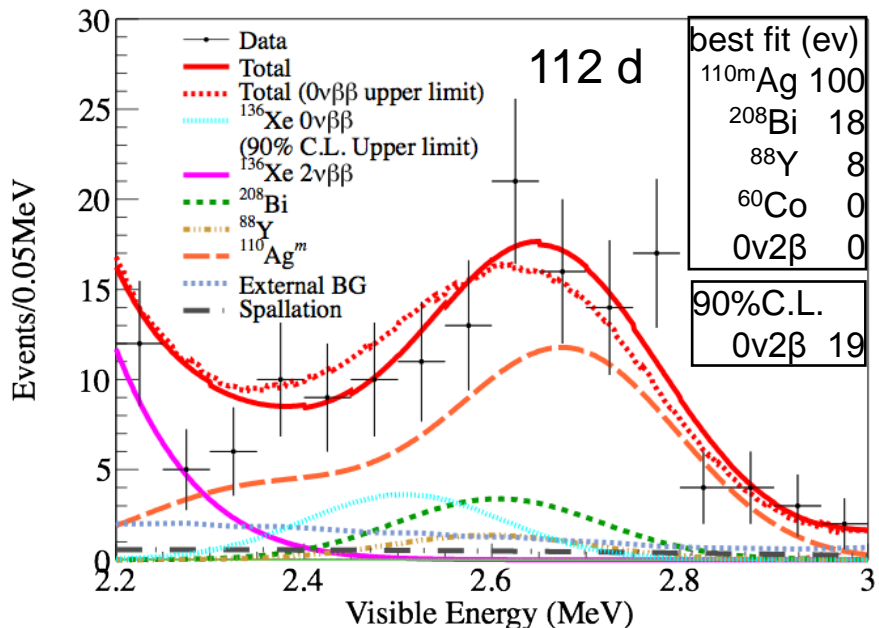
limit from energy spectra of close A,Z nuclei → negligible

Small cross section of all (α , γ), (α , $\alpha\gamma$), (n , γ) → negligible

Only 4 candidates peak at 0v region with more than 30 days half-lives

$^{110\text{m}}\text{Ag}$ ($T_{1/2}=250$ d), ^{208}Bi (3.68×10^5 y), ^{88}Y (107 d), ^{60}Co (5.27 y)

Limit on the $0\nu 2\beta$ half life

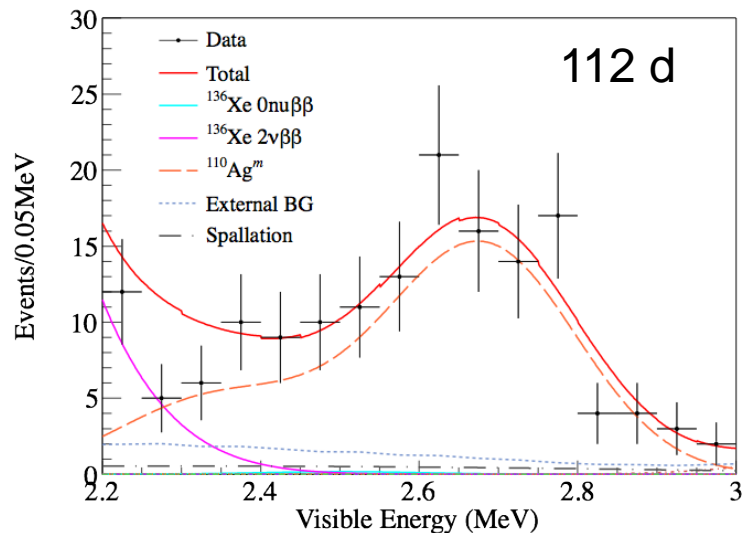


(χ^2 at 2.2~3.0MeV)

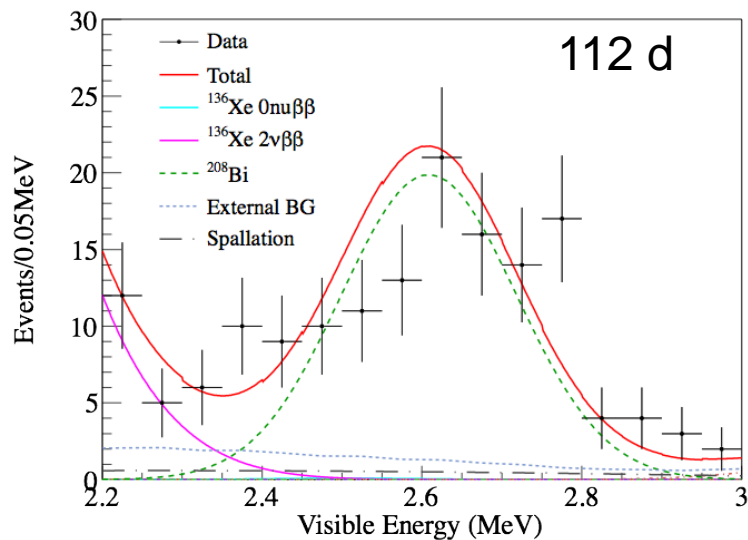
	χ^2	
simul. fit	11.6	
$0\nu + ^{110m}\text{Ag}$	13.1	
$0\nu + ^{208}\text{Bi}$	22.7	△
$0\nu + ^{88}\text{Y}$	22.2	△
$0\nu + ^{60}\text{Co}$	82.9	×
0ν only	85.0	×

Candidates from ENSDF survey

BG is likely ^{110m}Ag .



^{110m}Ag fits well.



^{208}Bi doesn't fit well.

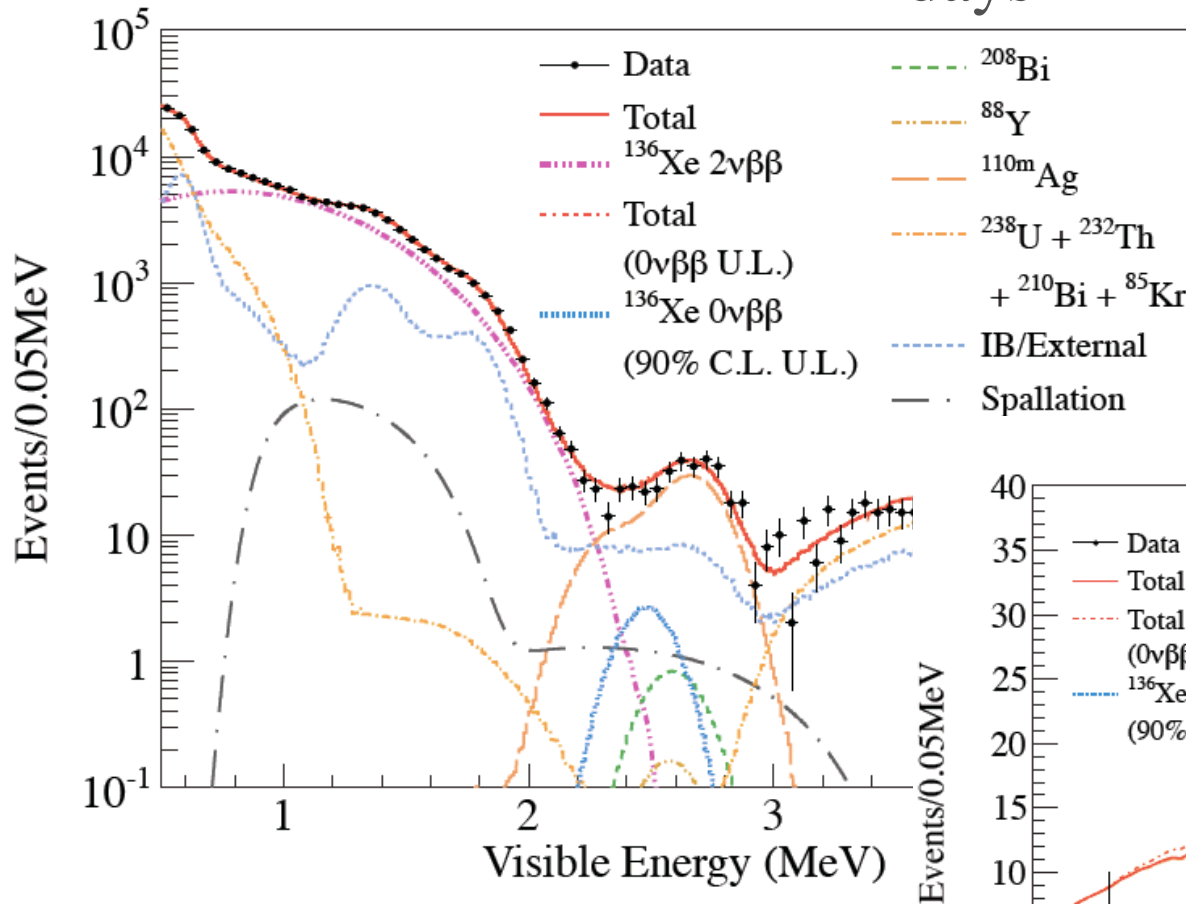
KamLAND-Zen phase I

DS-1 + DS-2 : 213.4 days

Half life limit (90% CL)
derived using this
background
subtraction:

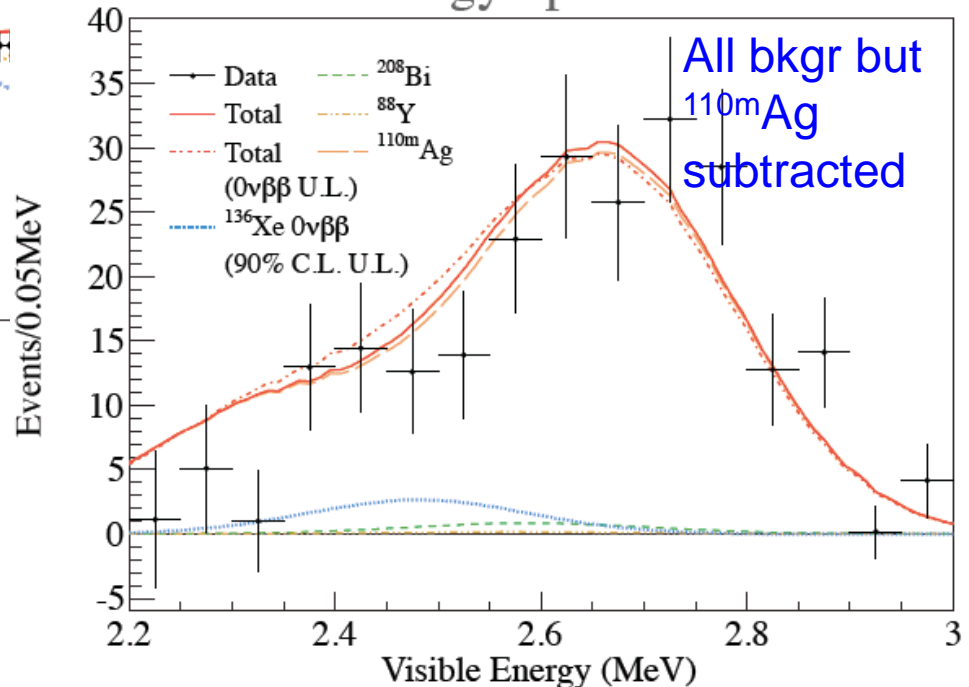
$$T_{1/2} > 1.9 \cdot 10^{25} \text{ yr}$$

$$\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle < 129\text{-}341 \text{ meV}$$



Exposure: 89.5 kg·yr

Energy Spectrum



Prospects

KamLAND-Zen is a top runner and being improved.

Target sensitivity
1000 kg enriched
Xe: 20 meV in 5 yr.

NME uncertainty

after purification

2014~

Future plan

dream?

KamLAND-Zen 89.5 kg-yr
 $\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle < 160 \sim 330 \text{ meV}$ @90% C.L.
the world best

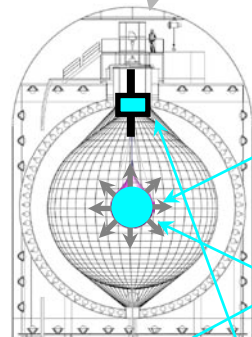
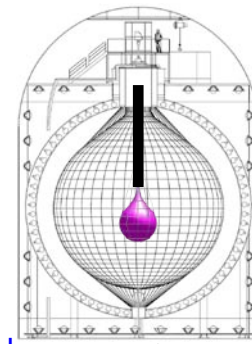
KamLAND-Zen 2nd phase (2013 fall -)
100 times ^{110m}Ag reduction expected

KamLAND-Zen 600 kg
with clean mini-balloon

KamLAND2-Zen : high QE PMT, high yield

LS, light concentrator
 $\sigma_E(2.6\text{MeV}) = 4\% \rightarrow < 2.5\%$

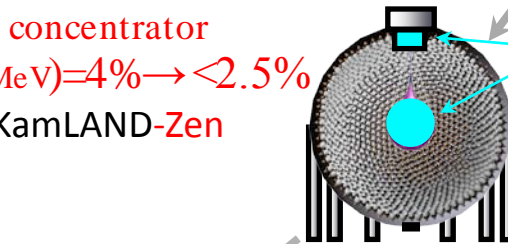
Super-KamLAND-Zen



R&D for pressurized Xe

R&D for scintillation film

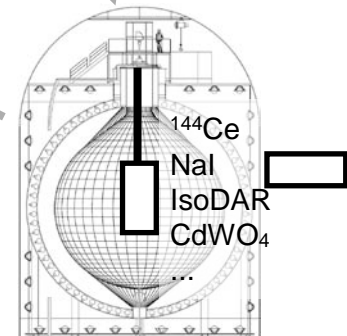
R&D for β / γ discrimination (high sensitivity imaging)



water or LS

Xenon-LS

normal LS



^{144}Ce
NaI
IsoDAR
 CdWO_4
...

Various low BG measurement can be accommodated.

precision anti-neutrino physics
 $\rho \rightarrow \nu K^+$ is also possible.

NEXT (Canfranc 2450 mw.e.)

Use enriched Xe in a gas TPC, read out ionization and scintillation to obtain good energy resolution.

Use tracking for active background suppression by discriminating e from γ . Use low medium density to distinguish 1 from 2 electron events for further background suppression.

100 kg enriched Xe at hand, detector under construction.

NEXT Collaboration



UAM (Madrid) • U. Girona • IFIC (Valencia) • U. Santiago • U.P. Valencia • U. Zaragoza



LBNL • Texas A&M • Iowa State



U. Coimbra • U. Aveiro

<http://next.ific.uv.es/>



JINR (Dubna)

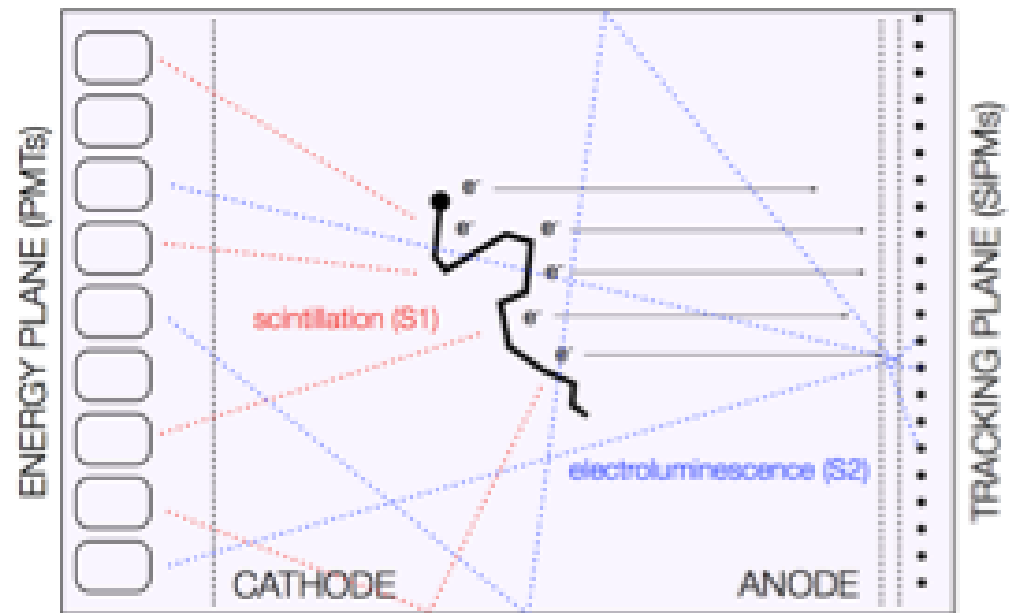


UAN (Bogotá)

NEXT CONCEPTUAL IDEA, light production

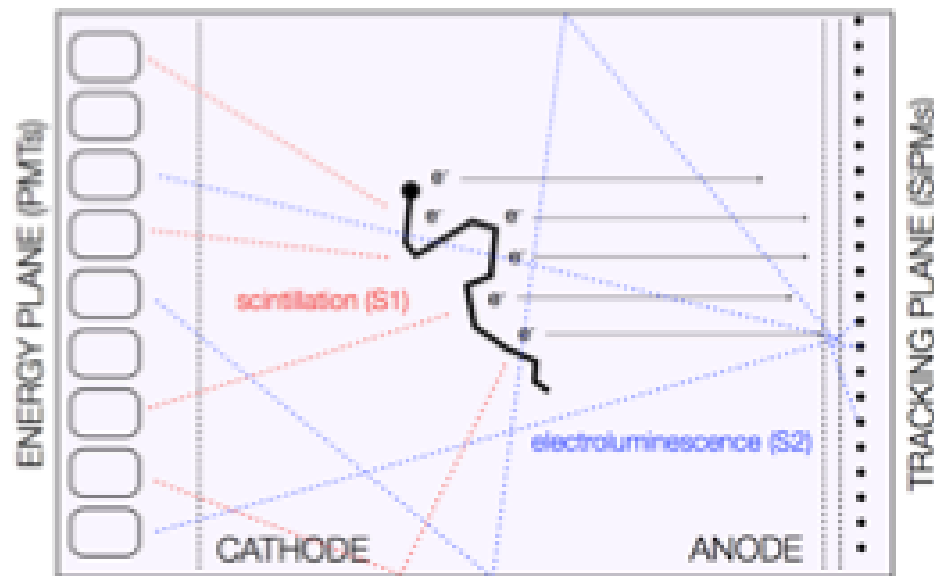
LIGHT PRODUCTION PROCESS

- Electrons excite and ionize Xe
- Excited Xenon emits **scintillation light** (172nm) that is detected by the PMTs at Energy Plane (**SIGNAL 1**)
- Electrons from ionization are **drifted** by a weak electric field to the **Electro-Luminescence (EL)** region
- There, a larger E field accelerate electrons such to **excite the Xe, but not enough to ionize it**. This process produce a large amount of 172nm photons that will be detected in both photo-sensors planes (**SIGNAL 2**)
- The **PMTs** in the energy plane will accurately measure the energy
- The **SiPMs** in the tracking plane will allow to reconstruct the track followed by the original particle.

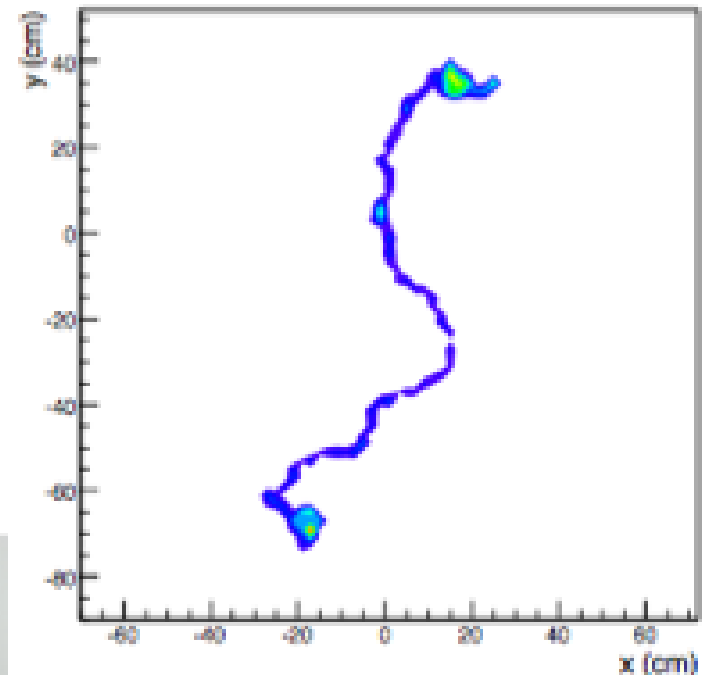


Tetra Phenyl Butadiene (TPB) Wave-Length-Shifter is used to convert the light from UV to 430 nm to make it visible to the SiPMs & increase the number of photons for improving energy resolution

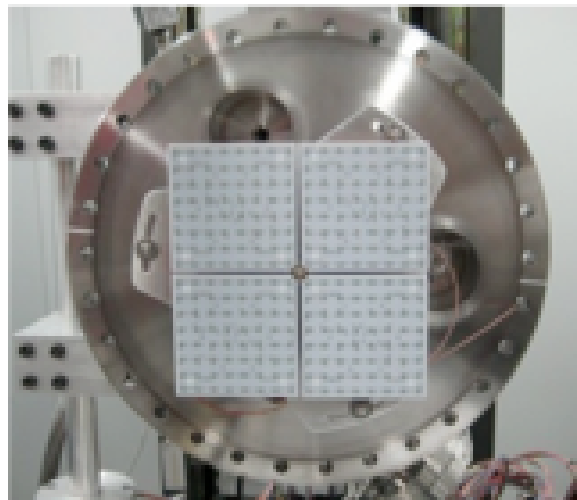
NEXT CONCEPTUAL IDEA, tracking



*reconstructed tracks from
a MC simulated $\beta\beta 0\nu$ event*



Tracking Plane
of NEXT-DEMO,
with 256 SiPMs
for tracking



The signature of the
electron is a twisted track
with a strong energy
deposition at its end

Hot Getter

Gas System

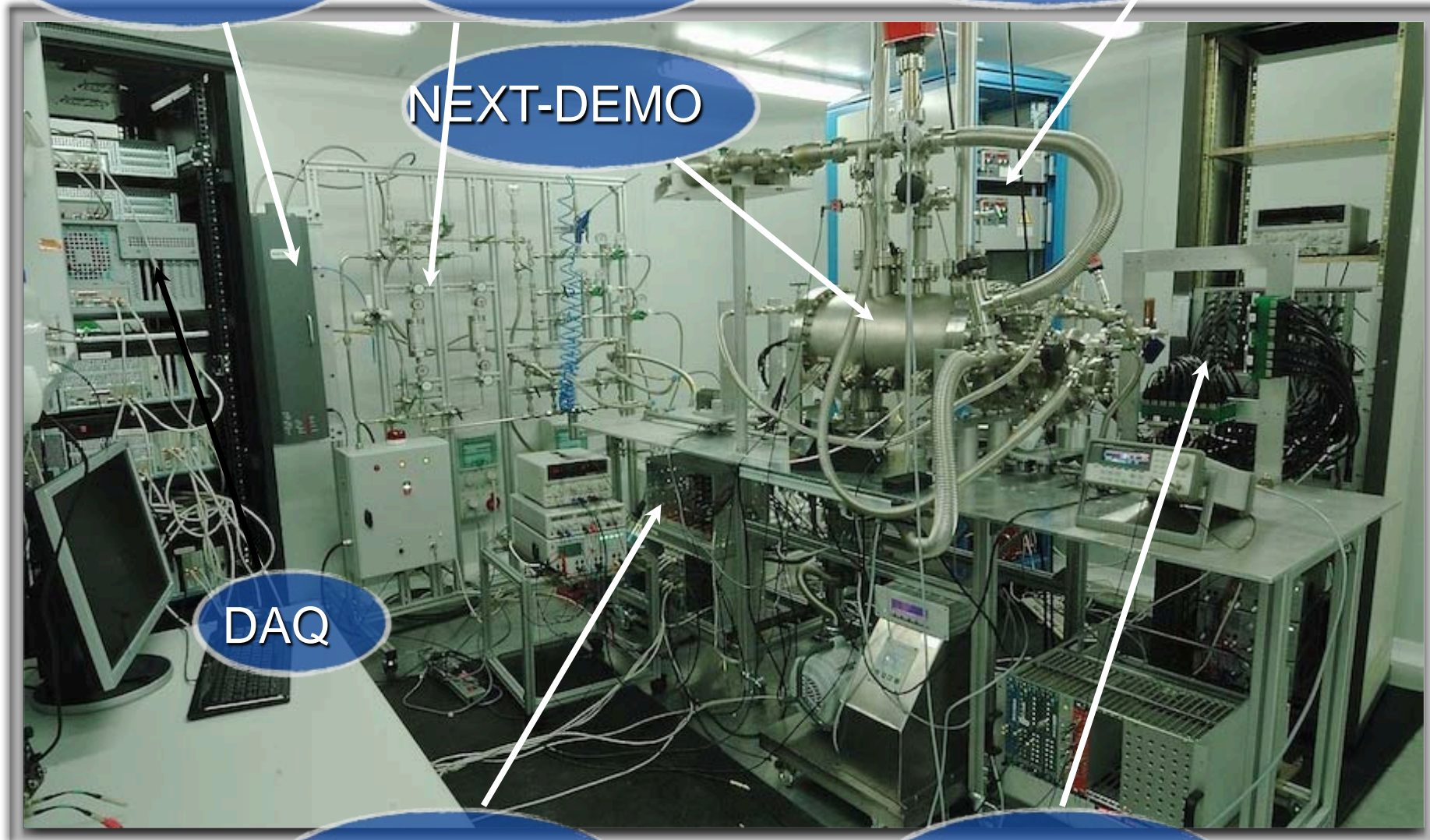
HHV modules

NEXT-DEMO

DAQ

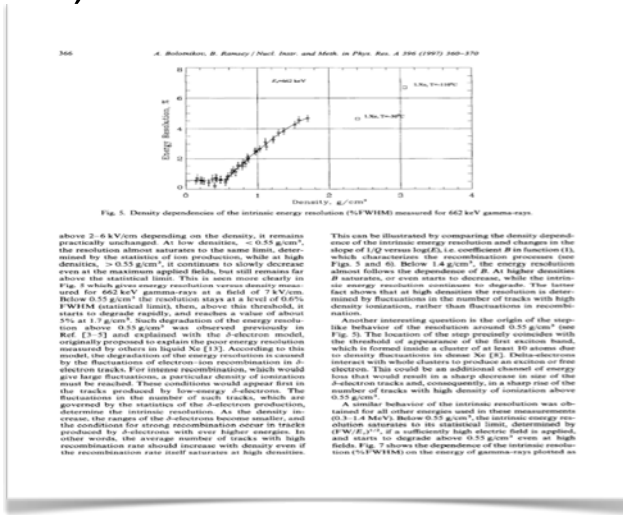
PMTs FEE

SiPMs FEE



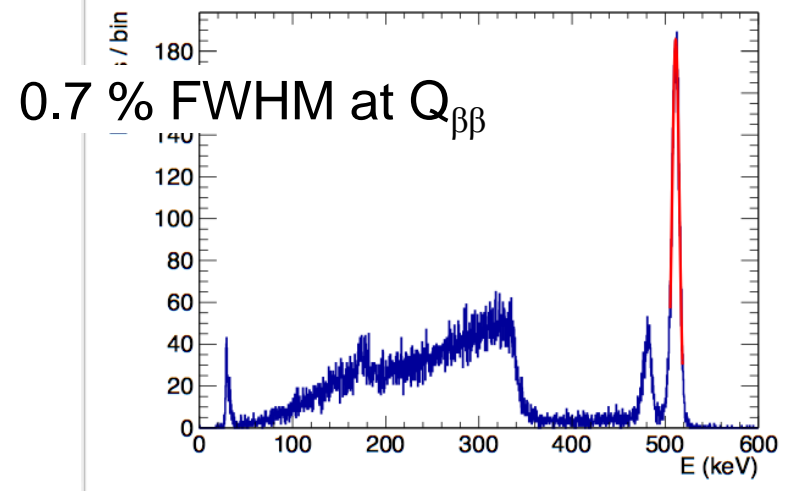
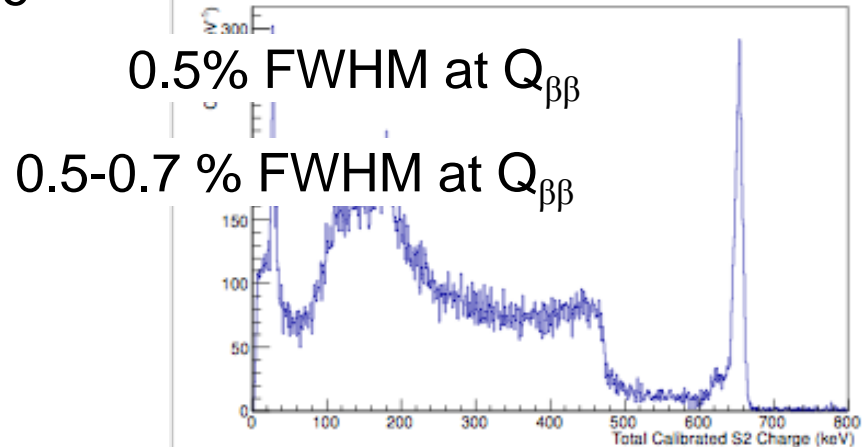
NEXT ENERGY RESOLUTION IS VERY GOOD

Bolotnikov and Ramsey, NIM A 396 (1997)

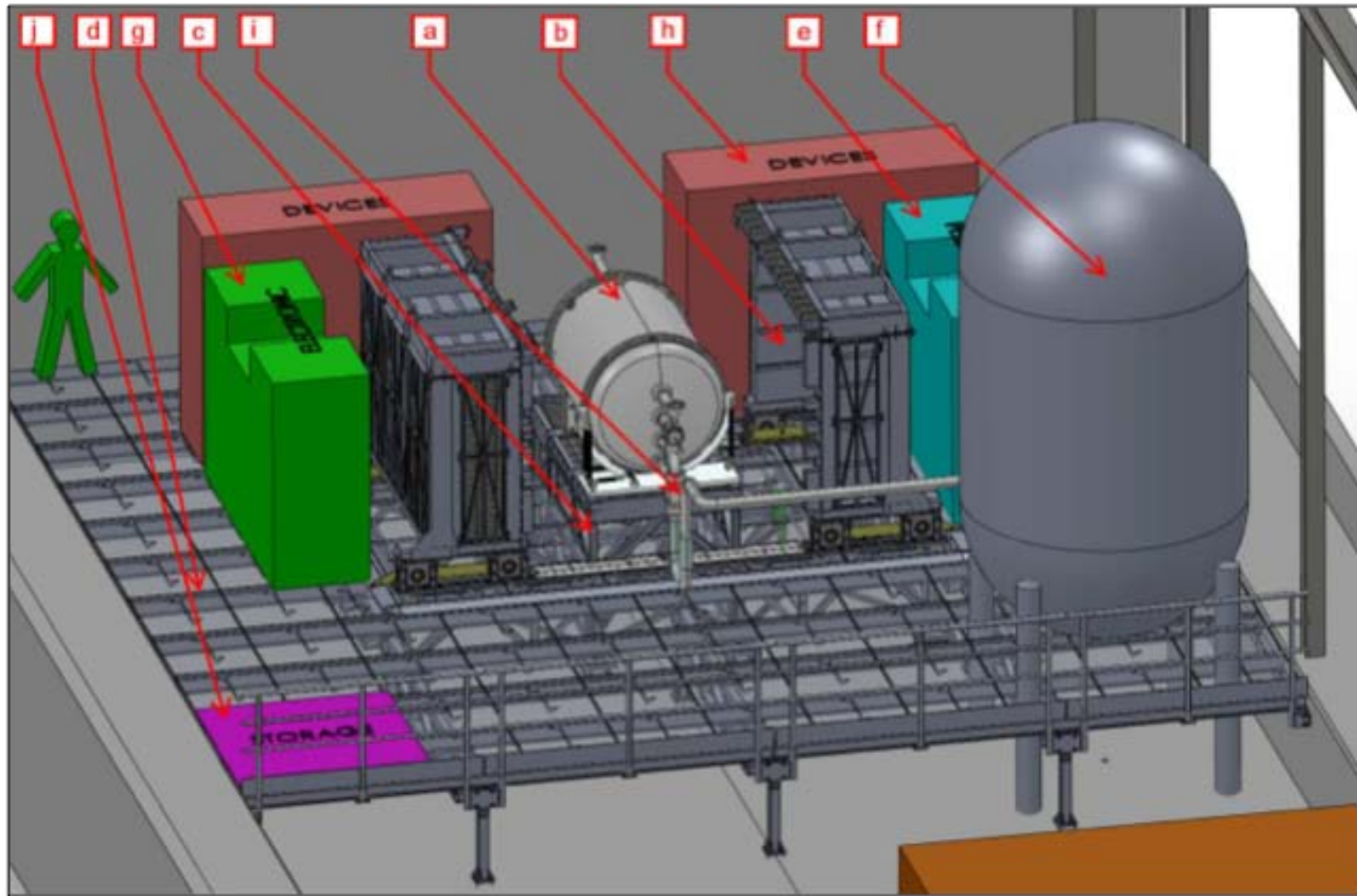


V.~Alvarez *et al.* [NEXT Collaboration], "Initial results of NEXT-DEMO, a large-scale prototype of the NEXT-100 experiment," arXiv:1211.4838 [physics.ins-det].

V.~Alvarez, *et al.* [NEXT Collaboration], "Near-Intrinsic Energy Resolution for 30 to 662 keV Gamma Rays in a High Pressure Xenon Electroluminescent TPC," arXiv:1211.4474 [physics.ins-det].



I-Infrastructures at Canfranc Laboratory.



NEXT-100 stage-I: operation in 2014 with 10 kg Xe.
100 kg enriched Xe at hand

Plans

- Start taking data in 2014 with 10 kg enriched Xe and 20% of instrumentation.
- Resolution and background goal: $\sigma/Q_{\beta\beta} = 0.21\%$,
 $b = 5 \cdot 10^{-4}$ cnts/(keV·yr·kg)
- Estimated sensitivity in 5 yr running: $T_{1/2} > 5 \cdot 10^{26}$ yr or
 $\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle < 25-67$ meV.

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These are certainly very ambitious goals!

EXO-200 (WIPP 1585 mw.e.) nEXO

Large liquid (enriched) liquid Xe tracking calorimeter (TPC) with simultaneous read-out of ionization and scintillation.

Use tracking to discriminate electron (*single site*) from α (*light to charge ratio*) and γ (*multi site*) events \rightarrow active background tagging. Achieve reasonable energy resolution ($2\nu\beta\beta$ not an important bkgr).

Build a detector from low activity materials. Explore possibility to extract decay product Ba to eliminate virtually all random backgrounds.

Is taking data since May 2011.

Run 1 (5/2011-7/2011, 31.36 d, 63 kg (of 110 kg active) Xe, *charge read-out only*): first observation of $2\nu\beta\beta$ -decay of ^{136}Xe

Run 2a (9/2011-4/2012, 120.69 d, 82.1 and 98.5 kg Xe): most accurate measurement of any $2\nu\beta\beta$ -decay rate, one of most stringent limits on $0\nu\beta\beta$ -decay and Majorana neutrino mass, challenge of ^{76}Ge evidence.

Run 2 (9/2011-6/2013, 439.6 d, 97.7 kg Xe): 3.6 times exposure compared to 2012 data set. $0\nu\beta\beta$ -analysis not finalized yet.

Run 3 (6/2013...): taking data

The EXO Collaboration



University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa AL, USA - D. Auty, T. Didberidze, M. Hughes, A. Piepke

University of Bern, Switzerland - M. Auger, S. Delaquis, D. Franco, G. Giroux, R. Gornea, T. Tolba, J-L. Vuilleumier, M. Weber

California Institute of Technology, Pasadena CA, USA - P. Vogel

Carleton University, Ottawa ON, Canada - M. Dunford, K. Graham, C. Hargrove, R. Killick, T. Koffas, F. Leonard, C. Licciardi, M.P. Roza, D. Sinclair

Colorado State University, Fort Collins CO, USA - C. Benitez-Medina, C. Chambers, A. Craycraft, W. Fairbank, Jr., N. Kaufhold, T. Walton

Drexel University, Philadelphia PA, USA - M.J. Dolinski, M.J. Jewell, Y.H. Lin, E. Smith

Duke University, Raleigh NC, USA - P.S. Barbeau

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign IL, USA - D. Beck, J. Walton, M. Tarka, L. Yang

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Laurentian University, Sudbury ON, Canada - E. Beauchamp, D. Chauhan, B. Cleveland, J. Farine, B. Mong, U. Wichoski

University of Maryland, College Park MD, USA - C. Davis, A. Dobi, C. Hall, S. Slutsky, Y-R. Yen

University of Massachusetts, Amherst MA, USA - T. Daniels, S. Johnston, K. Kumar, M. Lodato, C. Mackeen, K. Malone, A. Pocar, D. Shy, J.D. Wright

University of Seoul, South Korea - D. Leonard

SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory, Menlo Park CA, USA - M. Breidenbach, R. Conley, K. Fouts, R. Herbst, S. Herrin, A. Johnson, R. MacLellan, K. Nishimura, A. Odian, C.Y. Prescott, P.C. Rowson, J.J. Russell, K. Skarpaas, M. Swift, A. Waite, M. Wittgen

Stanford University, Stanford CA, USA - J. Bonatt, T. Brunner, J. Chaves, J. Davis, R. DeVoe, D. Fudenberg, G. Gratta, S. Kravitz, D. Moore, I. Ostrovskiy, A. Rivas, A. Schubert, D. Tosi, K. Twelker, L. Wen

Technical University of Munich, Garching, Germany - W. Feldmeier, P. Fierlinger, M. Marino

TRIUMF, Vancouver BC, Canada - P.A. Amandruz, D. Bishop, J. Dilling, P. Gumplinger, R. Kruecken, C. Lim, F. Retiere, V. Strickland

The EXO Collaboration



115 collaborators (90% scientists and students, 10% engineers)

20 institutions

7 countries



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University of California, Irvine, Irvine CA, USA - M. Moe

ITEP Moscow, Russia - D. Akimov, I. Alexandrov, V. Belov, A. Burenkov, M. Danilov, A. Dolgolenko, A. Karelin, A. Kovalenko, A. Kuchenkov, V. Stekhanov, O. Zeldovich

Laurentian University, Sudbury ON, Canada - E. Beauchamp, D. Chauhan, B. Cleveland, J. Farine, B. Mong, U. Wichoski

University of Maryland, College Park MD, USA - C. Davis, A. Dobi, C. Hall, S. Slutsky, Y-R. Yen

University of Massachusetts, Amherst MA, USA - T. Daniels, S. Johnston, K. Kumar, M. Lodato, C. Mackeen, K. Malone, A. Pocar, D. Shy, J.D. Wright

University of Seoul, South Korea - D. Leonard

SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory, Menlo Park CA, USA - M. Breidenbach, R. Conley, K. Fouts, R. Herbst, S. Herrin, A. Johnson, R. MacLellan, K. Nishimura, A. Odian, C.Y. Prescott, P.C. Rowson, J.J. Russell, K. Skarpaas, M. Swift, A. Waite, M. Wittgen

Stanford University, Stanford CA, USA - J. Bonatt, T. Brunner, J. Chaves, J. Davis, R. DeVoe, D. Fudenberg, G. Gratta, S. Kravitz, D. Moore, I. Ostrovskiy, A. Rivas, A. Schubert, D. Tosi, K. Twelker, L. Wen

Technical University of Munich, Garching, Germany - W. Feldmeier, P. Fierlinger, M. Marino

TRIUMF, Vancouver BC, Canada - P.A. Amandruz, D. Bishop, J. Dilling, P. Gumplinger, R. Kruecken, C. Lim, F. Retiere, V. Strickland

HV FILTER AND FEEDTHROUGH

VETO PANELS

DOUBLE-WALLED CRYOSTAT

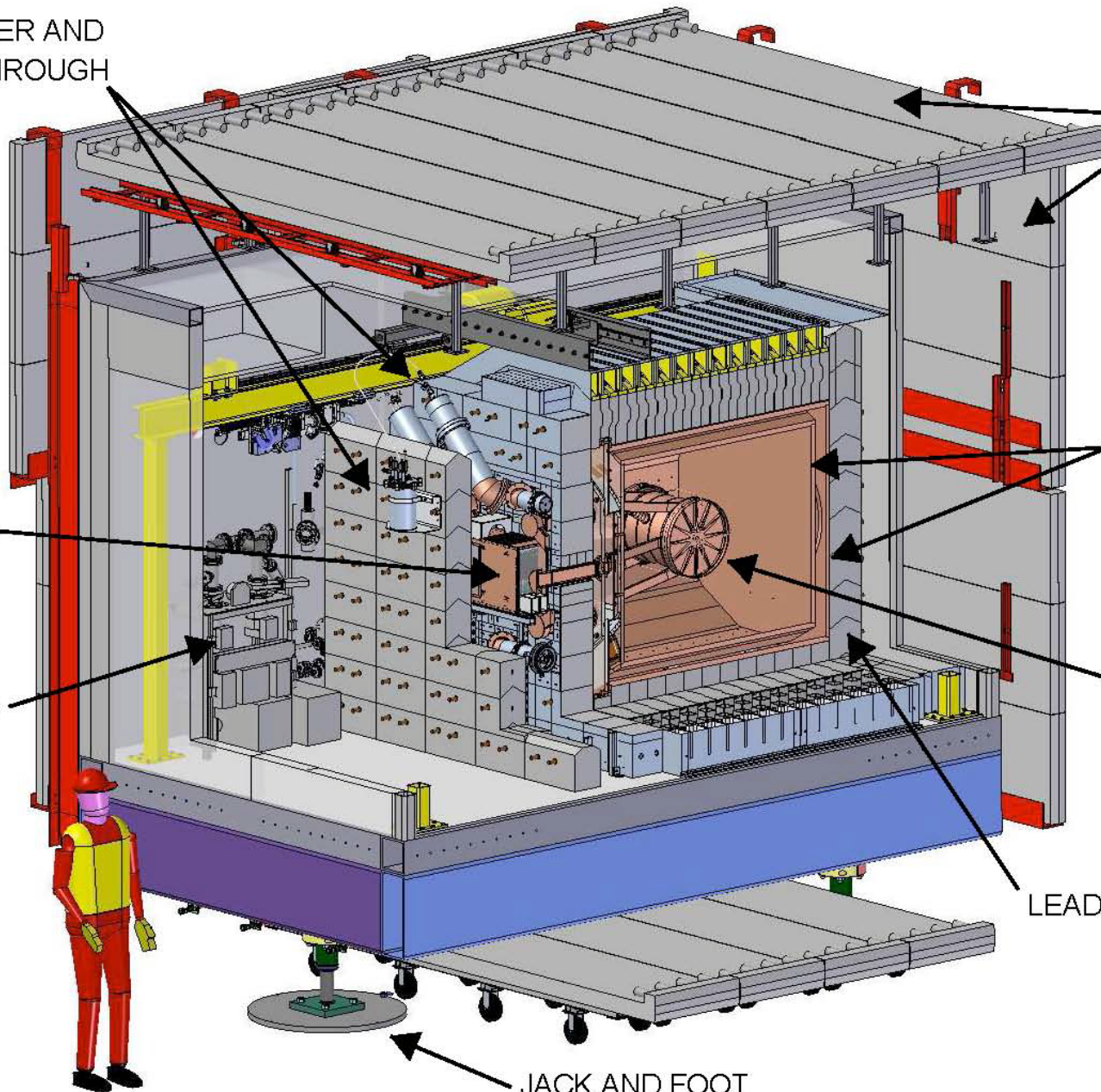
LXe VESSEL

LEAD SHIELDING

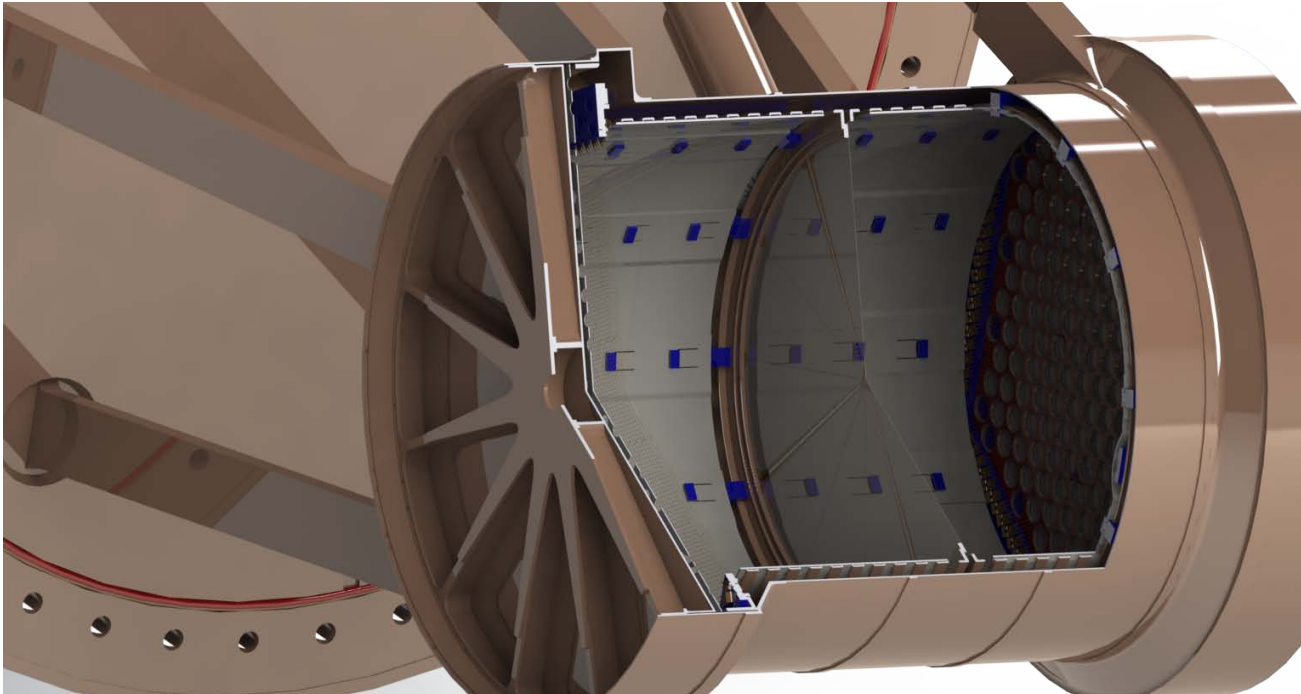
JACK AND FOOT

FRONT END ELECTRONICS

VACUUM PUMPS



Charge and light read-out on either end, HV cathode in the middle.



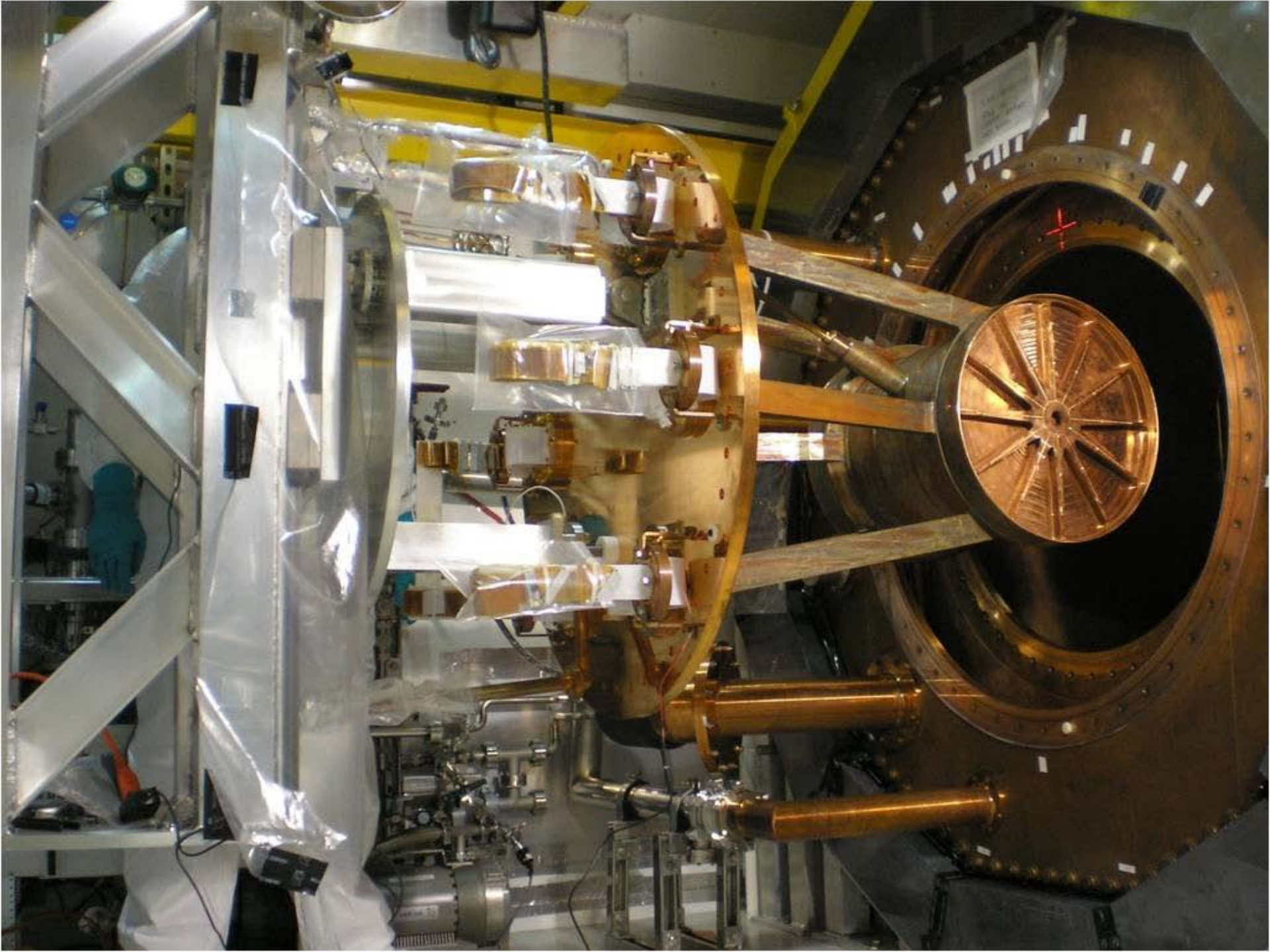
Charge collection and x-y position reconstruction by crossed wires.

Scintillation light readout via 468 Avalanche Photo Diodes.

Time difference of the two signal gives the 3rd spatial coordinate.

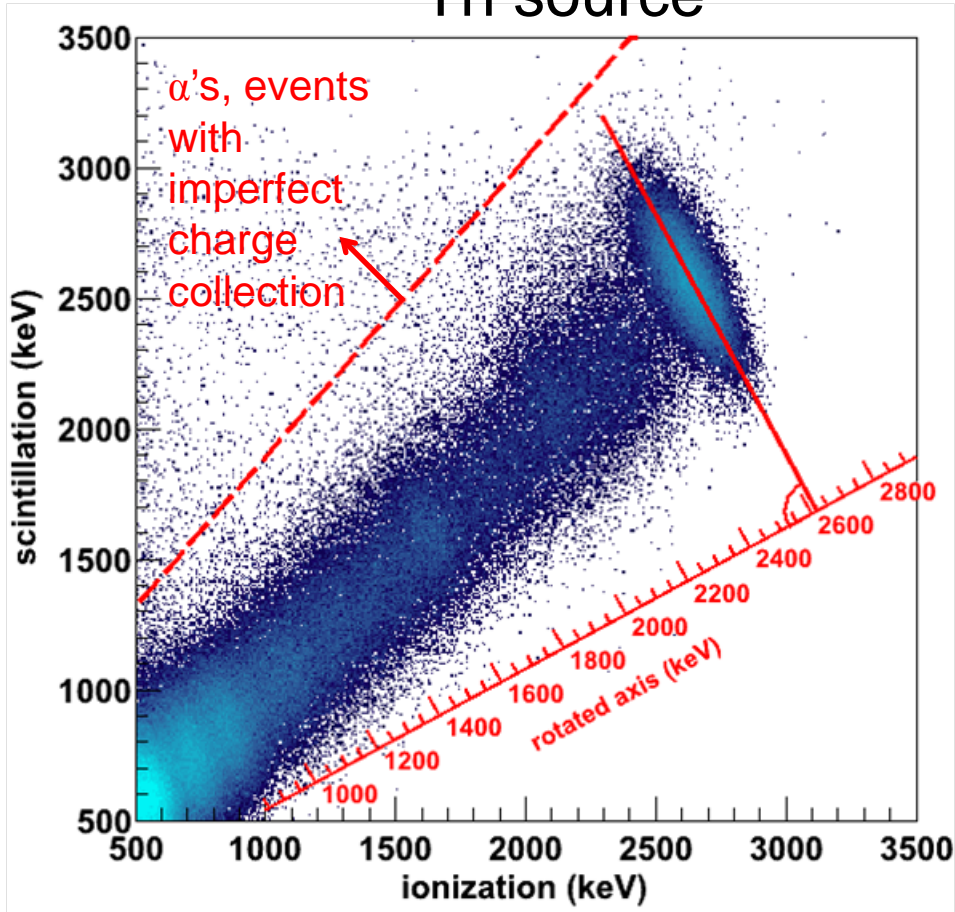
γ s: multiple Compton scattering (MS) \rightarrow background

β s: point-like interaction (SS) \rightarrow signal

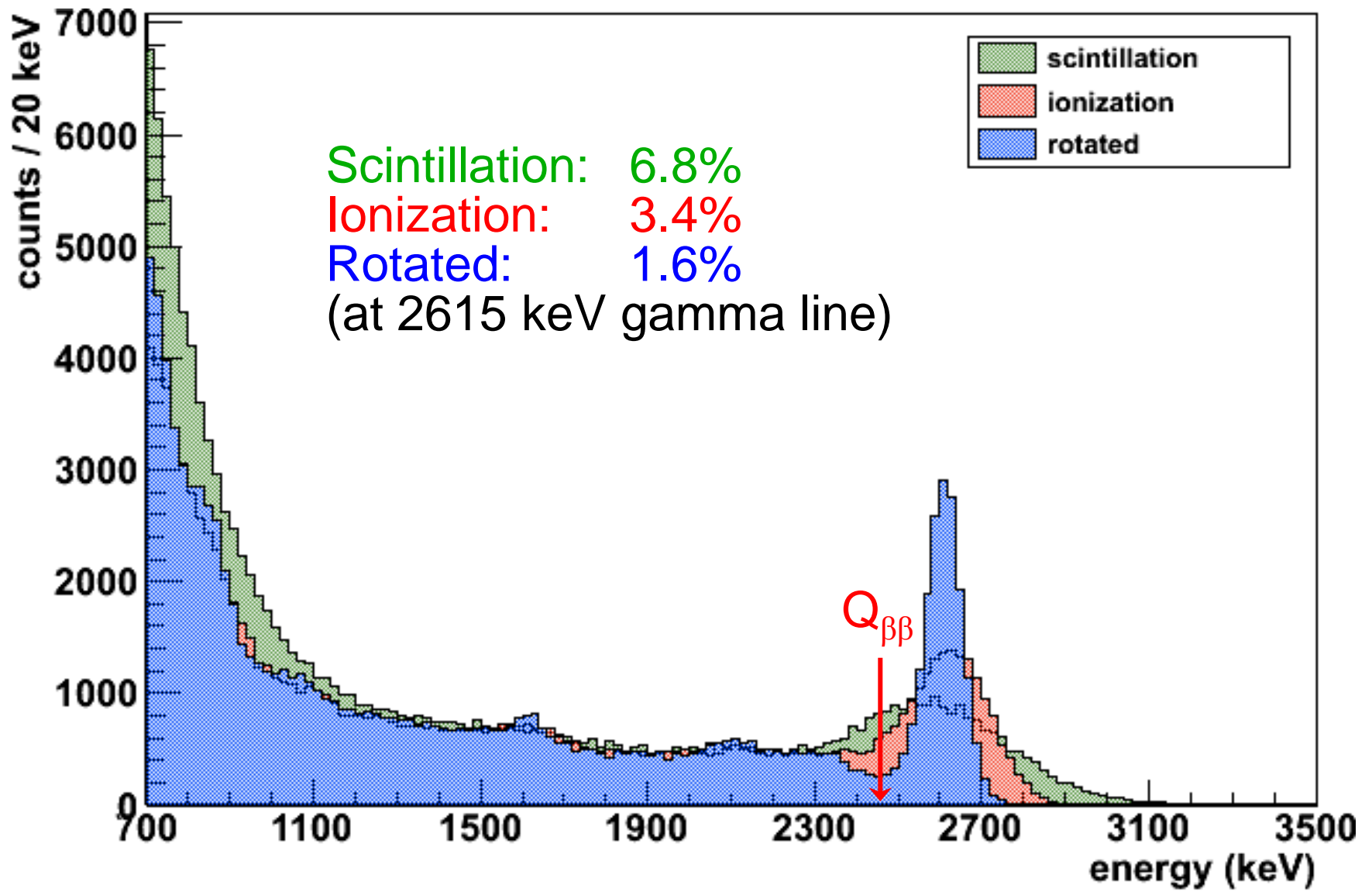


Combine ionization & scintillation

^{228}Th source



- Ionization and scintillation energies are anti-correlated.
- Energy measured along a rotated axis offers improved energy resolution.
- Rotation angle chosen to optimize resolution at 2615 keV.



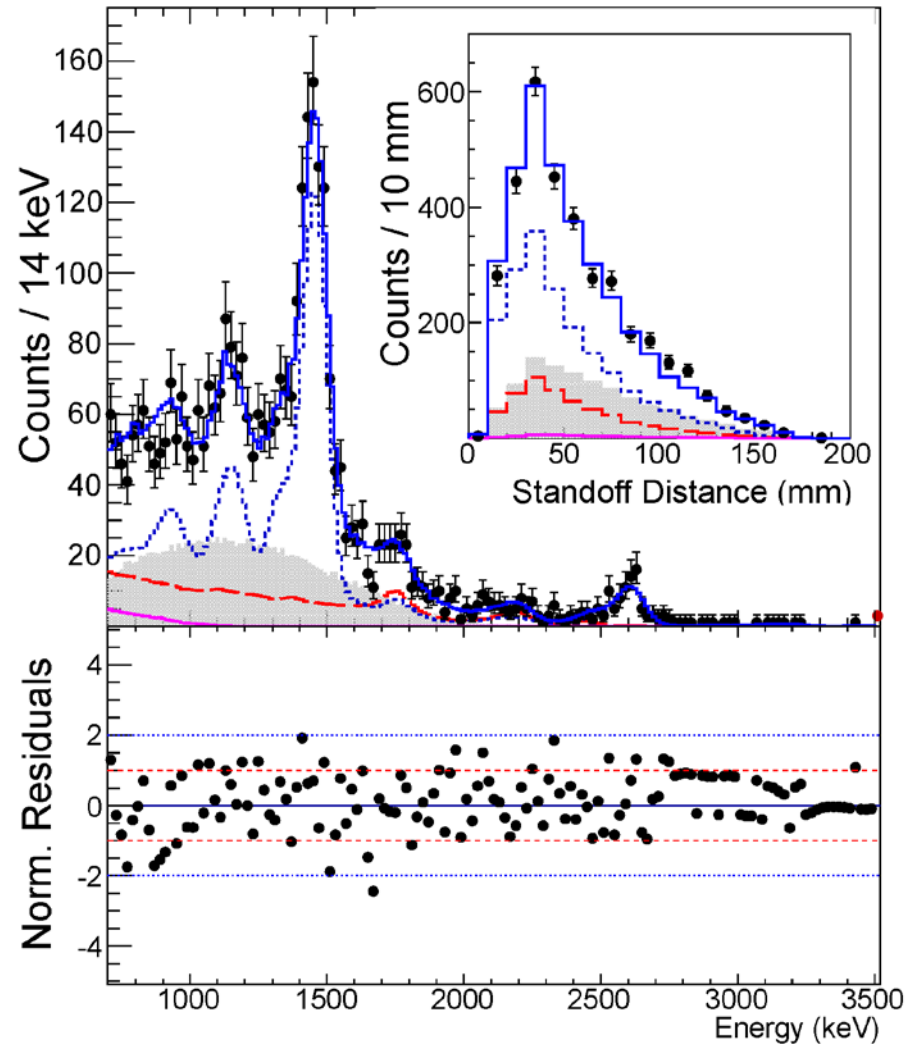
$2\nu\beta\beta$ -decay

EXO-200 $2\nu\beta\beta$ -data (82.1 kg Xe, 127.6 d, 28.69 kg·yr)

Utilize tracking capability: MS data contains mostly γ events, has good diagnostic power for identifying the background components.

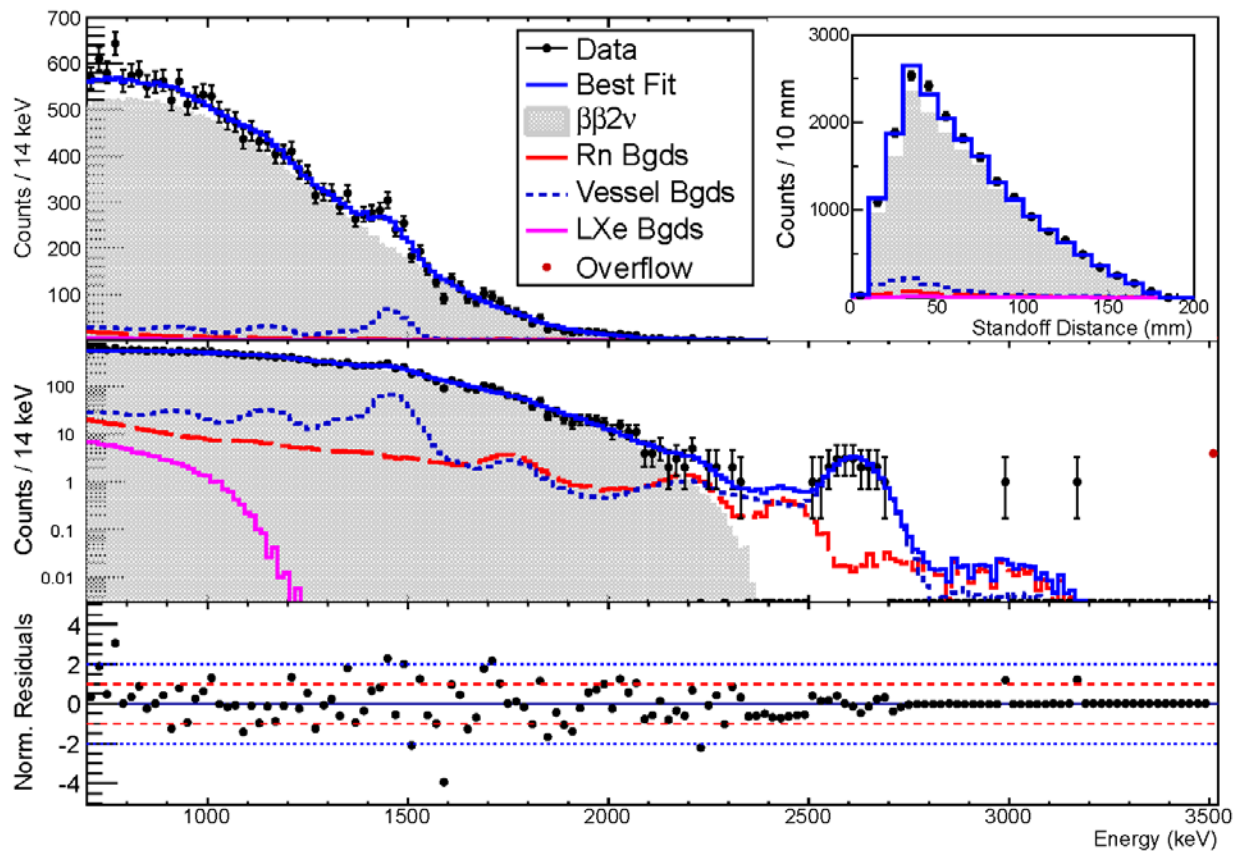
- Purple: ^{135}Xe and Rn in Xe
- Red: Rn in Pb shield
- Blue: ^{40}K , ^{54}Mn , ^{60}Co , ^{65}Zn , ^{232}Th , ^{238}U in TPC materials.

$$\chi^2 / \text{ndf} = 104.5 / 77.0$$



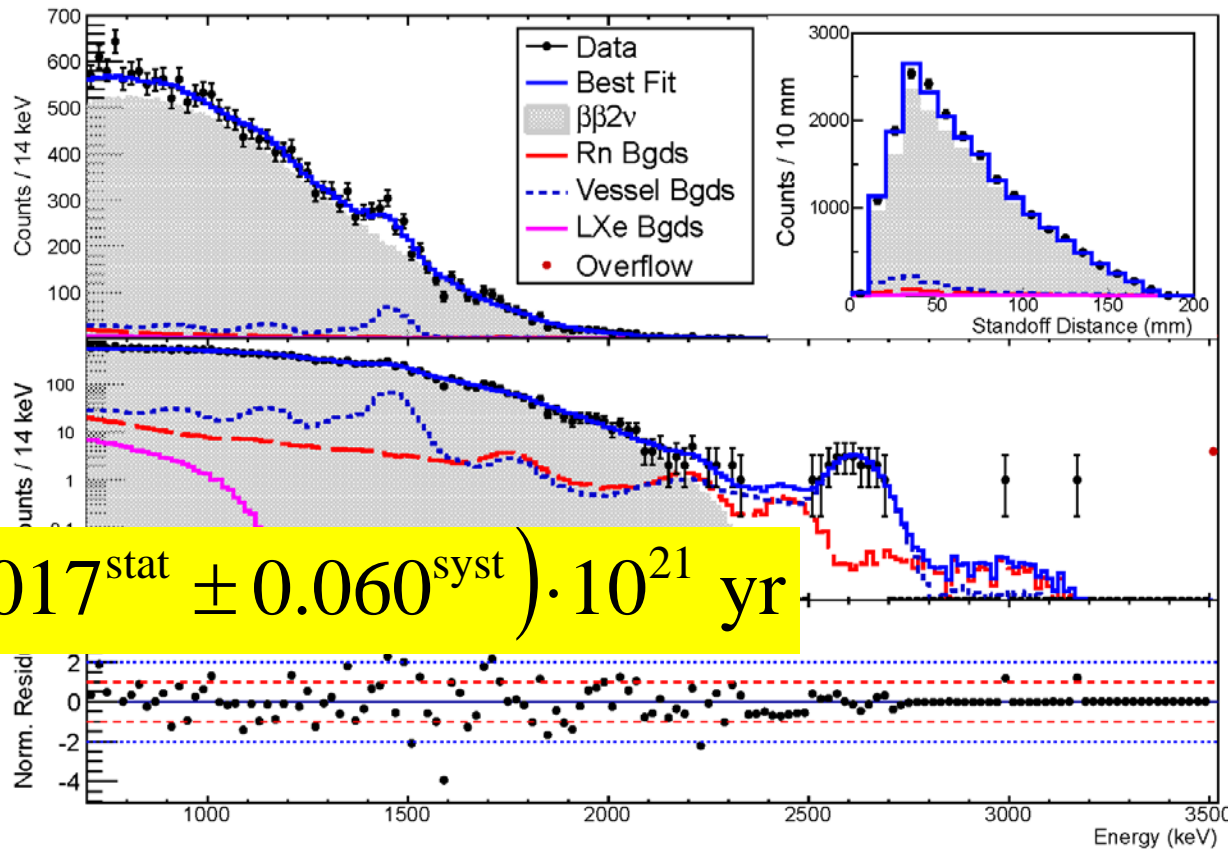
$$\chi^2 / \text{ndf} = 82.5 / 74.5$$

SS event set dominated by point-like β -events. Perform coupled MS and SS data fit to obtain:



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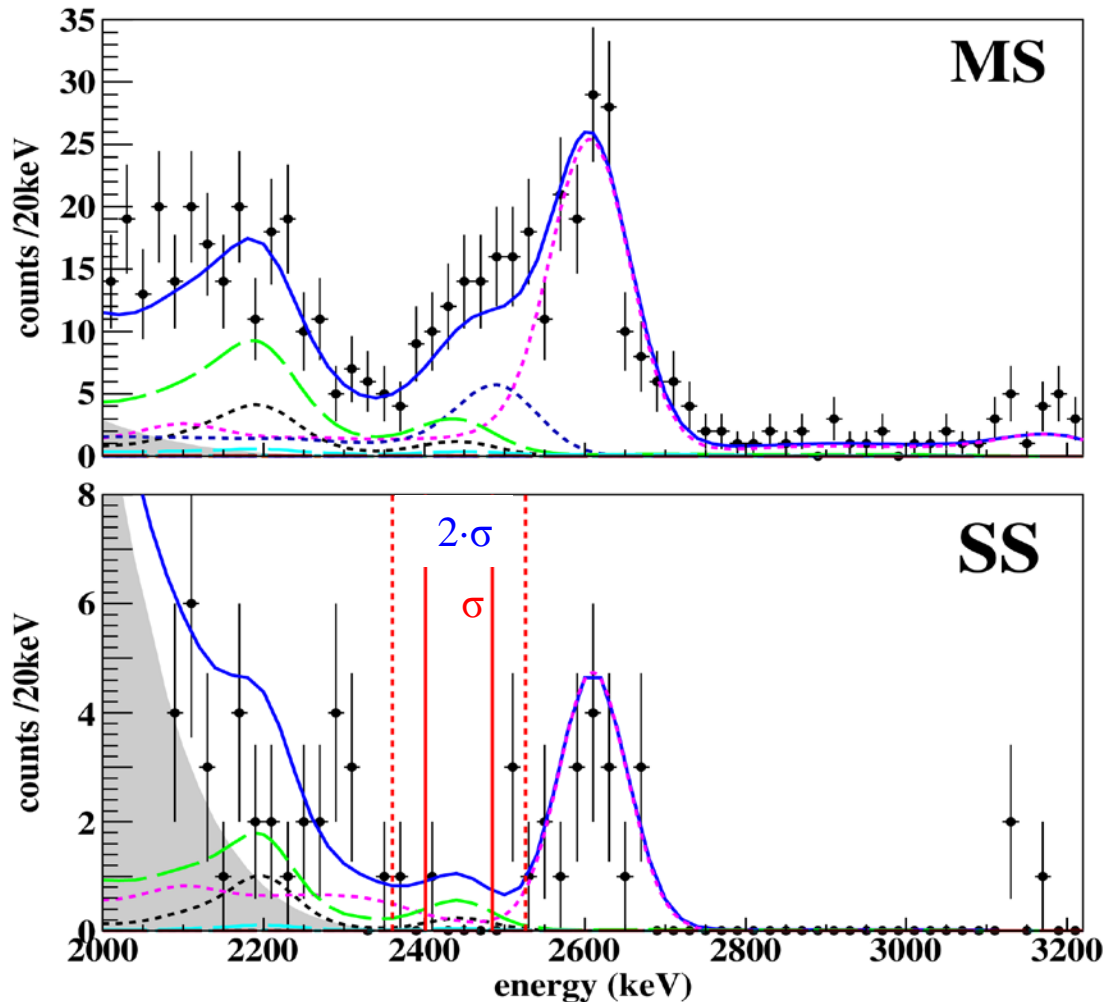
$$T_{1/2}^{2\nu\beta\beta} = \left(2.171 \pm 0.017^{\text{stat}} \pm 0.060^{\text{syst}} \right) \cdot 10^{21} \text{ yr}$$

The longest and most precisely measured $2\nu\beta\beta$ -decay half life.

Smallest and best known $2\nu\beta\beta$ -matrix element: $0.0217 \pm 0.0003 \text{ MeV}^{-1}$.

$0\nu\beta\beta$ -decay

EXO-200 $0\nu\beta\beta$ -data (32.6 kg·yr). By now we have more than three times the data.



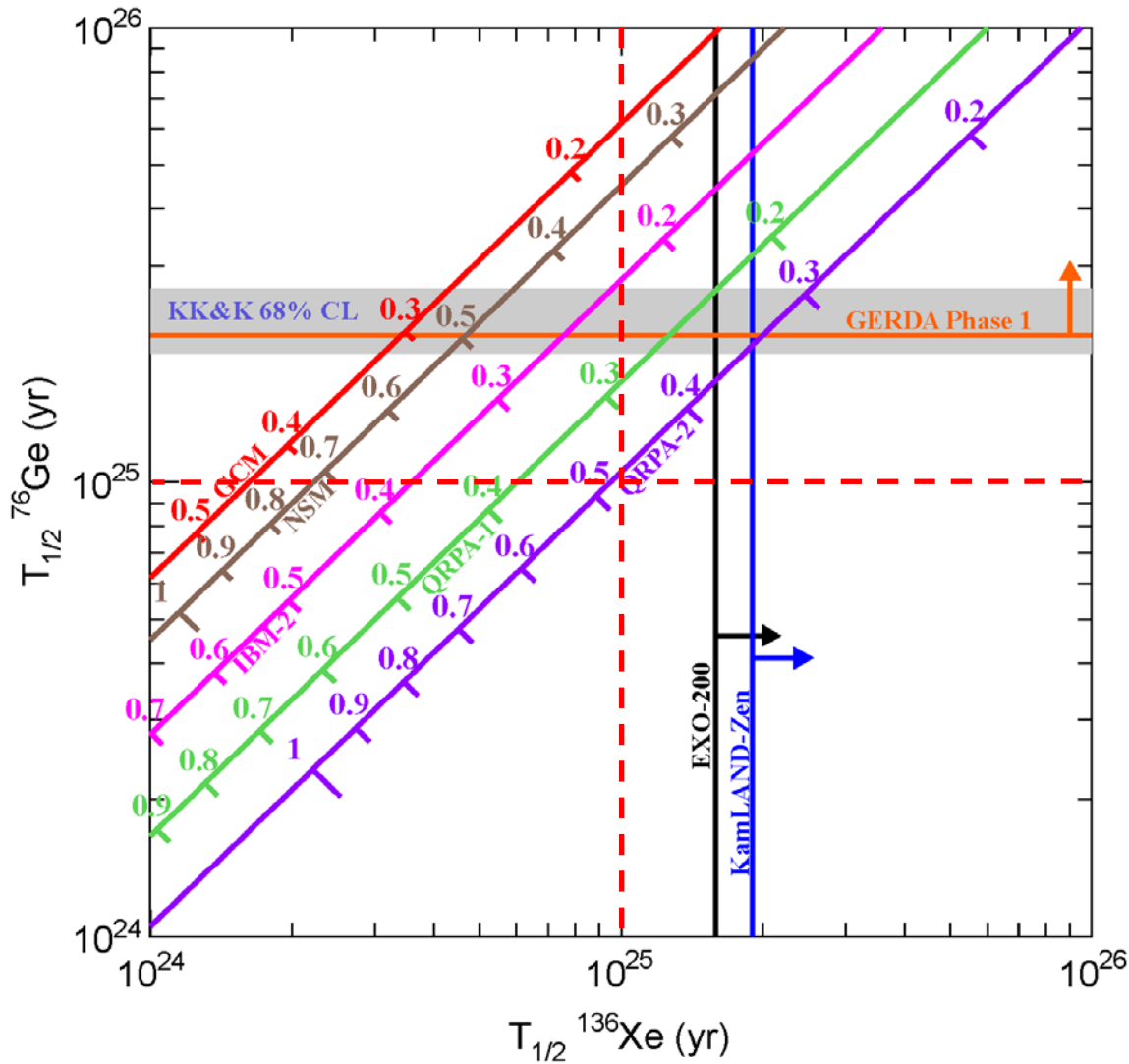
No peak observed at $Q_{\beta\beta}$.

MC background model:
 $1.5 \cdot 10^{-3}$ cnts/(keV·yr·kg)

Measured background:
 153 ± 69 cnts/($2 \cdot \sigma$ ·ton·yr)
 31 ± 31 cnts/(σ ·ton·yr)

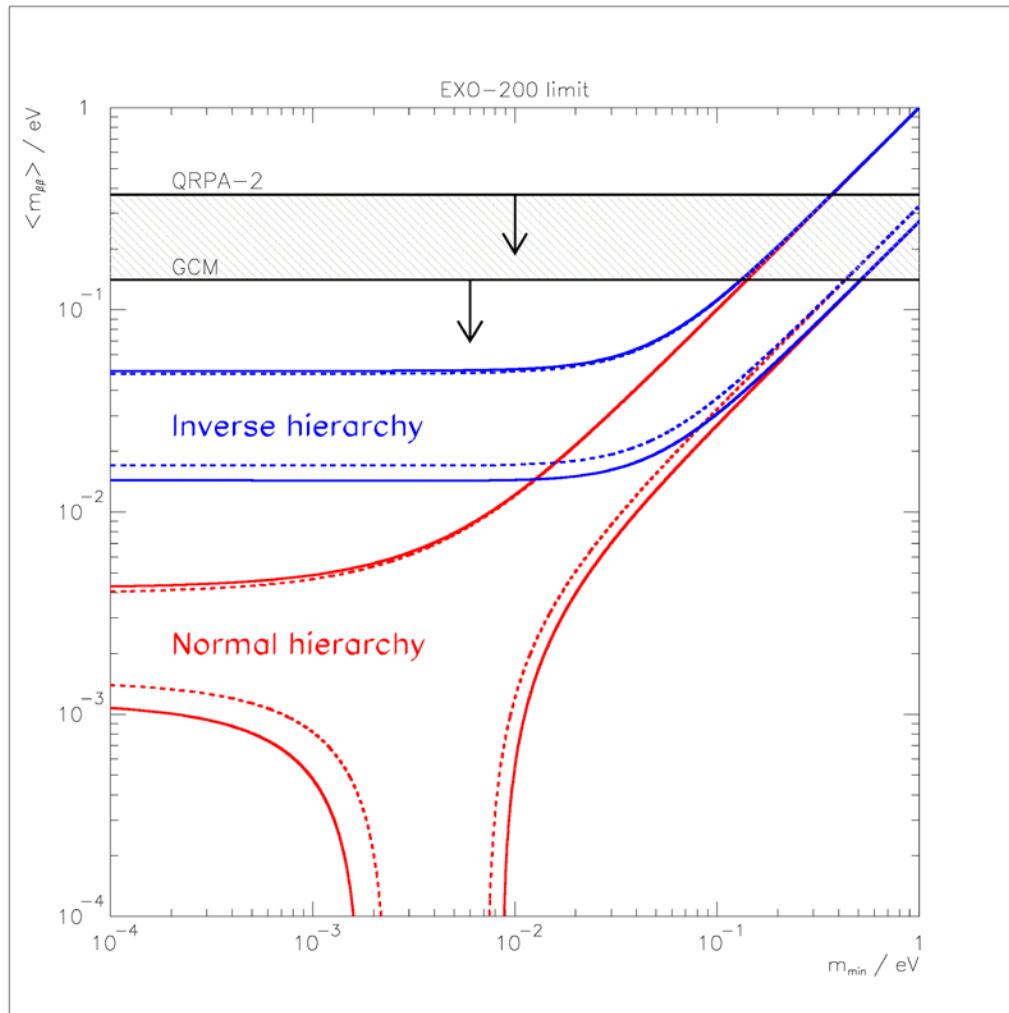
$$T_{1/2}^{0\nu\beta\beta} > 1.6 \cdot 10^{25} \text{ yr (90\% CL)}$$

$$\langle m \rangle_{\beta\beta} < 140 - 380 \text{ meV}$$



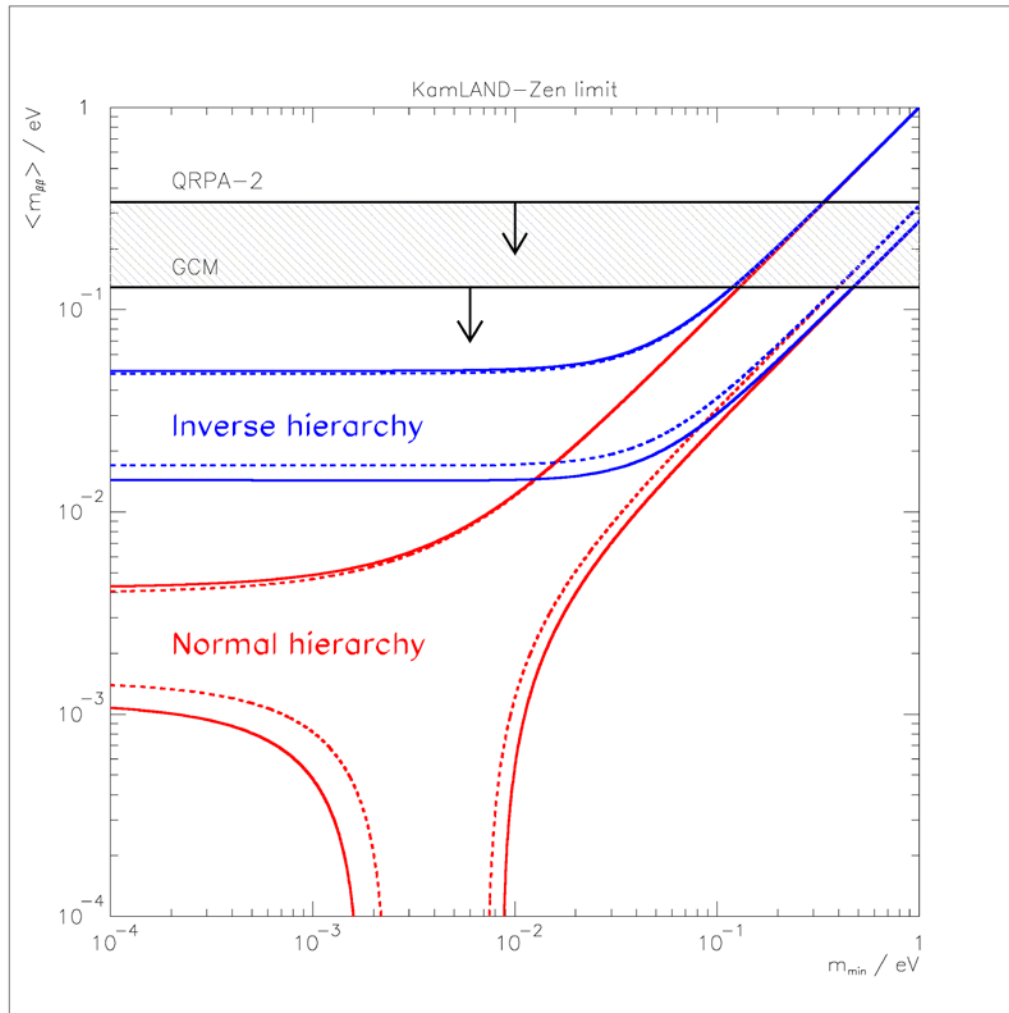
Using different nuclear matrix elements the absence of a $0\nu\beta\beta$ -peak in EXO-200 is compared to the evidence published for ^{76}Ge .

For most matrix element calculations there is tension between these new experiments and the $0\nu\beta\beta$ -evidence.



Current Majorana ν -mass limits published by EXO-200 and KamLAND-Zen.

The degenerate mass space is being covered.



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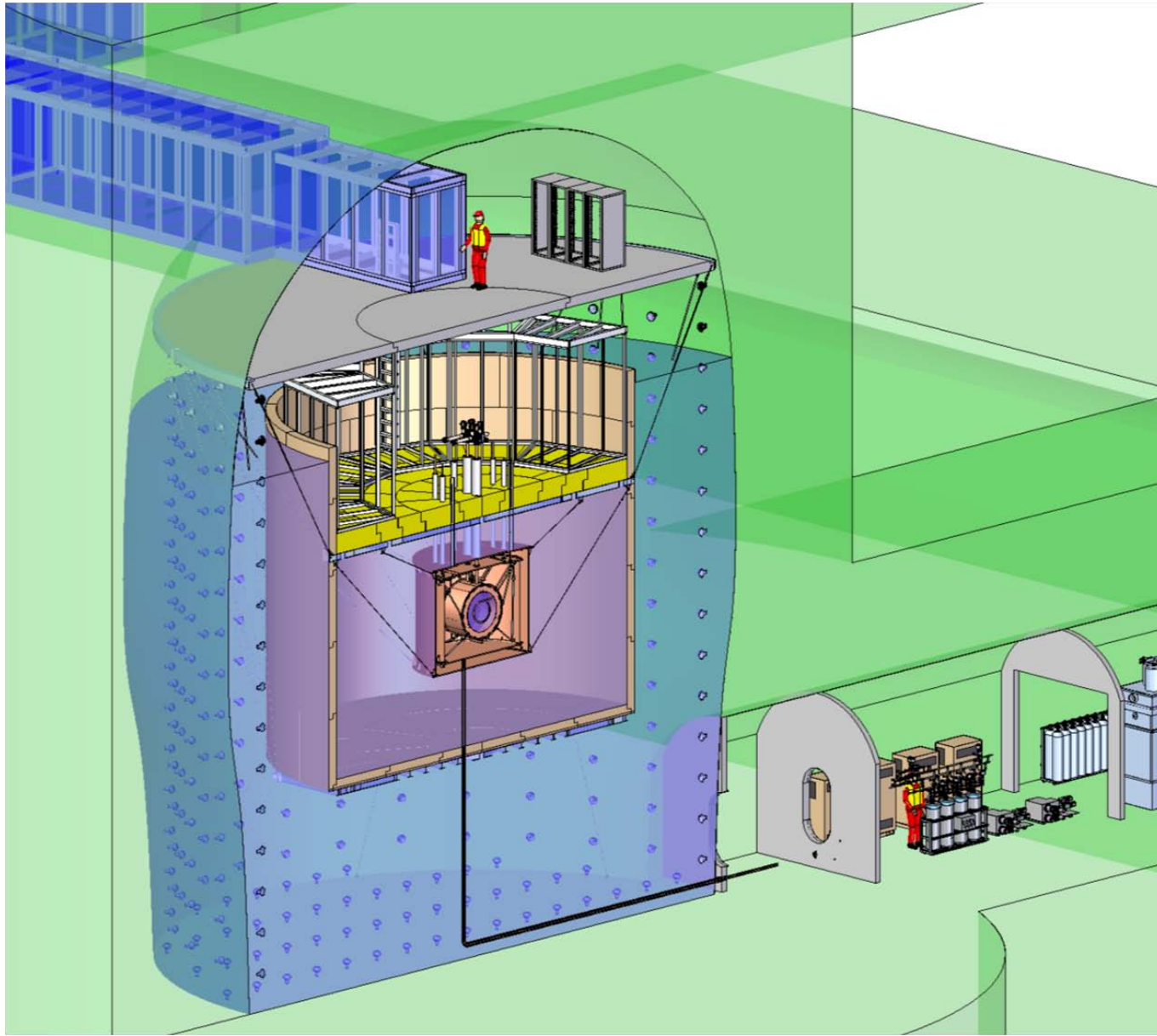
The future

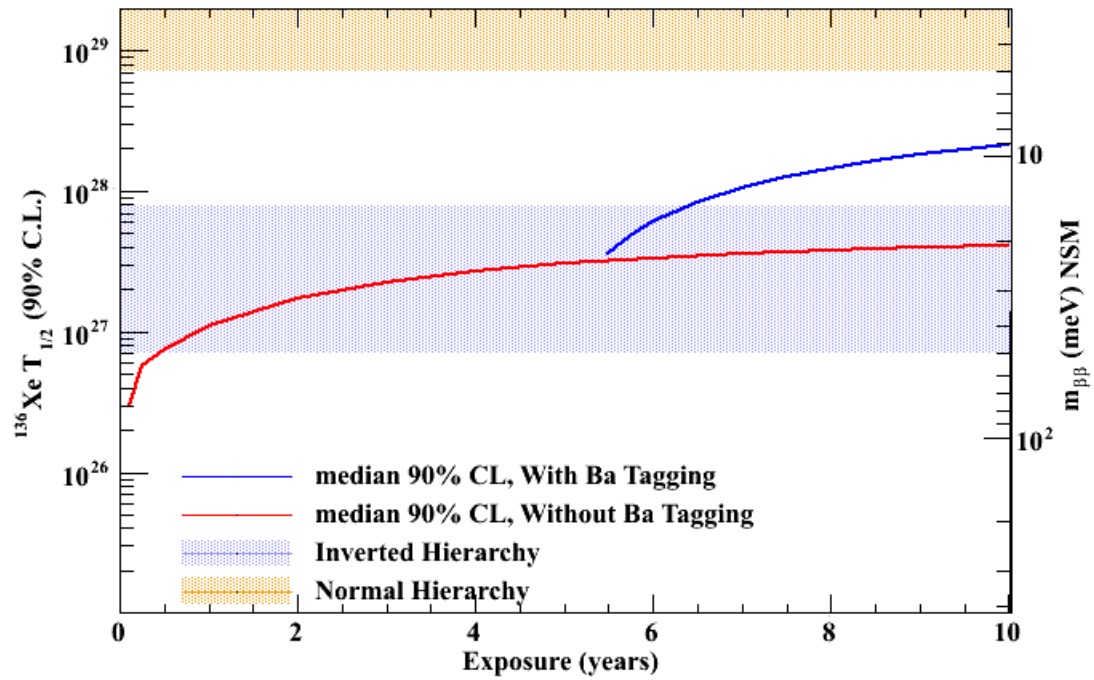
- Funded to run until the end of 2014.
- Considering an electronic upgrade to improve the energy resolution and to install a Rn removal device to reduce the background by perhaps a factor 2. Run till end of 2016.
- Improve (90% CL) $0\nu\beta\beta$ -half life sensitivity to $(3-5.5) \cdot 10^{25}$ yr. Discover the decay should it be there.
- Corresponding Majorana neutrino mass range: $\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle < 75-270$ meV, cover degenerate neutrino mass range.
- Demonstrate the technology for a next generation experiment. → nEXO

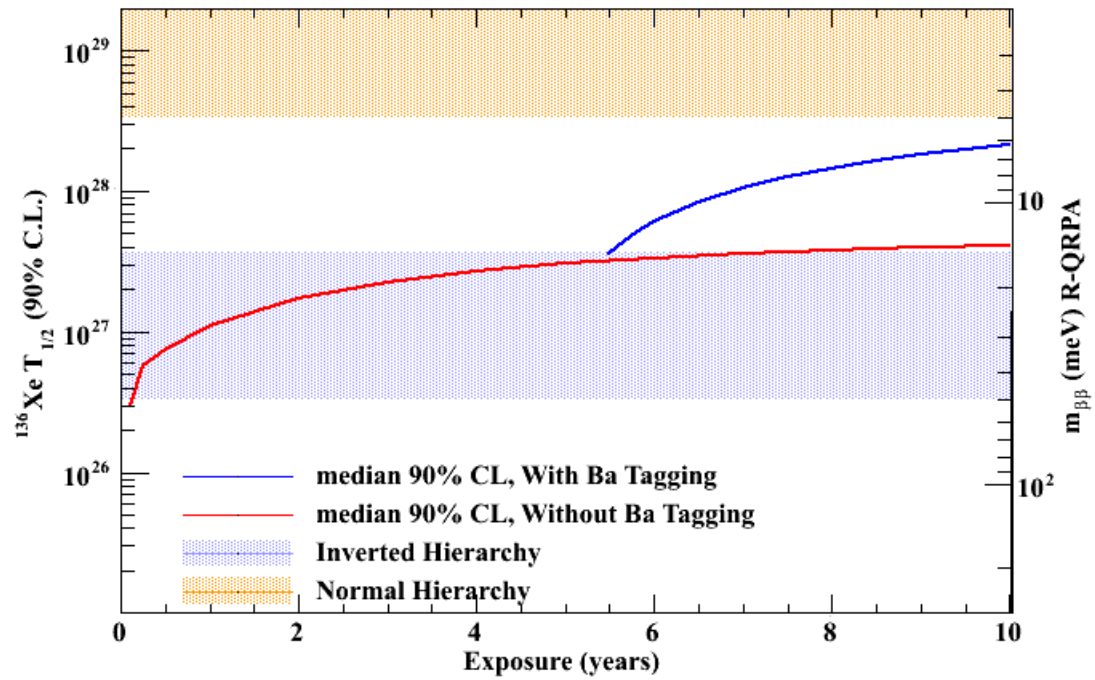
- EXO-200 the collaboration started to study the case for a 5 ton (~4.5 ton fiducial) Xe experiment, *initially* without Ba- tagging. Tagging should remain an option, you could consider it a (background) risk mitigation tool.
- Assume:
 - 4.5 tons of active $^{\text{enr}}\text{Xe}$ (80% or higher).
 - 1.5% (σ) energy resolution.
 - Background from Monte Carlo using normalizations derived from EXO-200 data and materials assay.
 - 3 times finer wire pitch than EXO-200, lower energy threshold \rightarrow 2 times better e- γ discrimination than EXO-200.

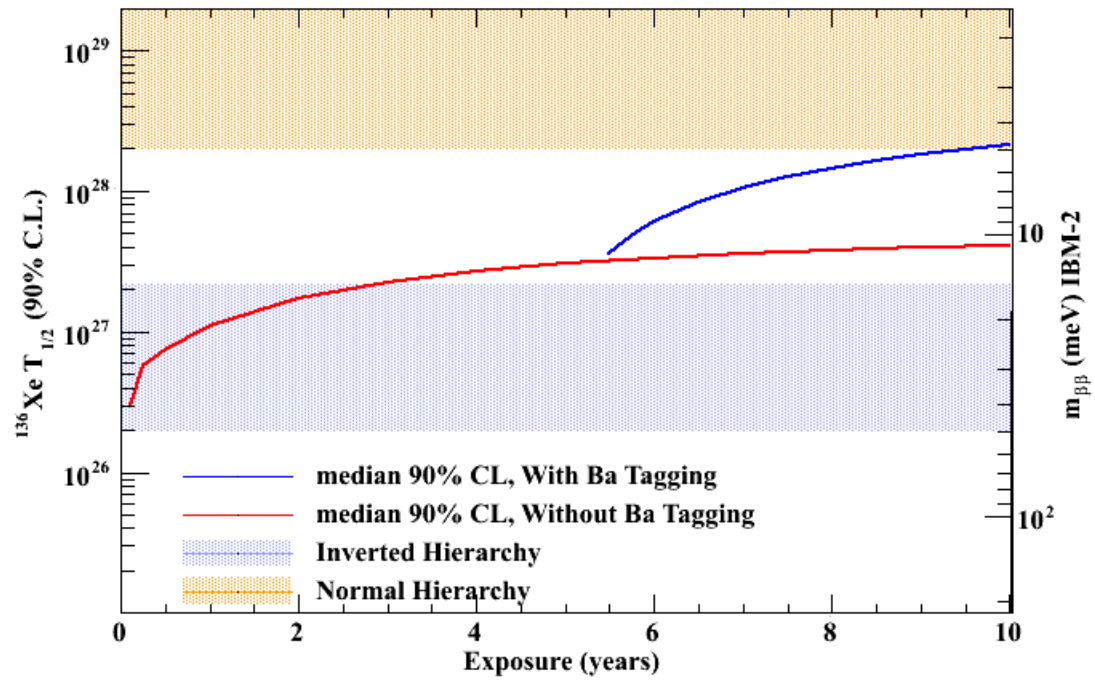
We call this nEXO.

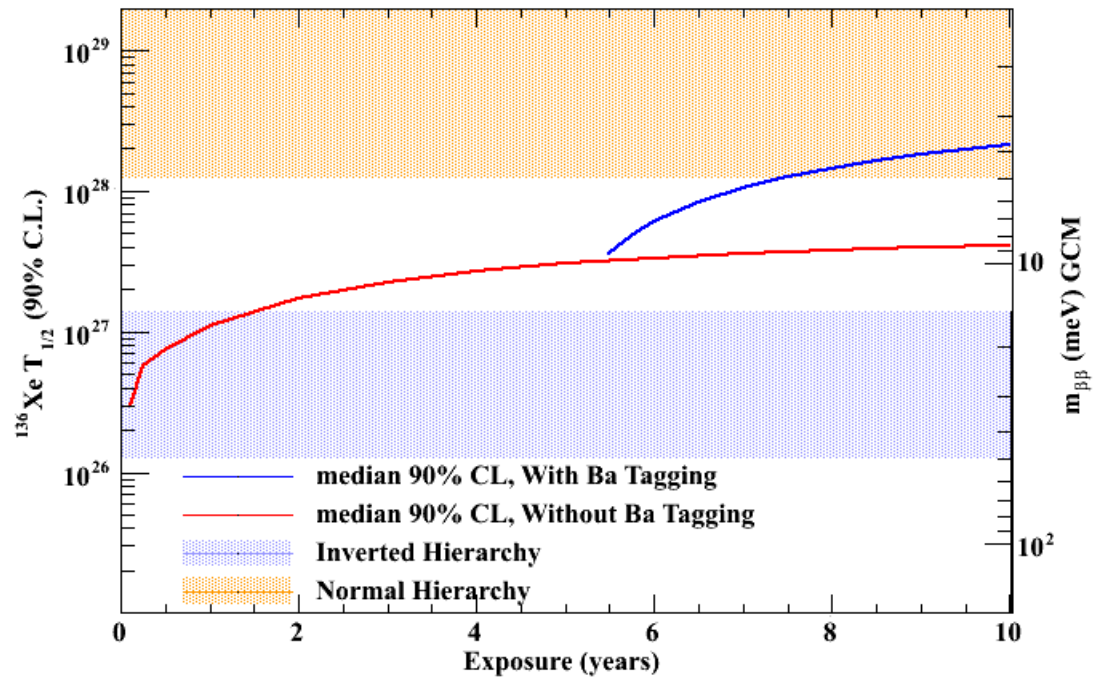
At the end: how such a detector, installed in SNOlab's cryopit may look like.











Conclusion

Many thanks to all colleagues who supplied the material for this talk! All mistakes or misrepresentations are entirely my fault.

Xe experiments are at the fore front of Majorana neutrino mass tests: *Ge no longer rules supreme.*

The techniques being explored are scalable and could form the basis for a next generation of experiments using enriched isotopes on the ton scale to test the inverted neutrino mass hierarchy. Current experiments validate this, far beyond the Monte Carlo only approach.

The End!