GERmanium **D**etector **A**rray – search for 0v2β decay



GERDA @ Erio



 2β -decay - ⁷⁶Ge





Known knowns and known unknowns



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 $\mathbf{v} \stackrel{?}{=} \mathbf{\nabla}$

knowns

neutrino-oscillations nonzero neutrino mass large mixing angles

unknowns:

. . .

absolute mass scale? mass hierarchy? Majorana- or Dirac?









experiment:

$$\mathsf{T}_{1/2}(\mathsf{0}\mathsf{v}) > 4.2 \cdot 10^{26} \mathsf{y} \cdot \varepsilon \cdot (\mathsf{a}/\mathsf{A}) \cdot \sqrt{\mathsf{Mt} / \mathsf{B} \Delta \mathsf{E}}$$

$$m_{\beta\beta} < \sqrt{\frac{\sqrt{B \Delta E / Mt}}{\epsilon a}}$$
$$\sim 1 / \sqrt{T_{1/2} (0v)}$$

- ϵ detection efficiency at Q_{BB}
- a $-\beta\beta$ isotope fraction
- M mass of detector in kg
 - measurement time in years
- B background in cts/(keV kg y)
- ΔE FWHM energy resolution at $Q_{\beta\beta}$ in keV
- A mass number



Germanium => Detector = Source high ε - detection efficiency at $Q_{\beta\beta}$

as large as possible number of target atoms enrichment of ⁷⁶Ge to 86% => high a $-\beta\beta$ isotope fraction large array (up to 100 kg) => large M - mass of detector in kg

Germanium Detectors => very good ΔE - FWHM energy resolution

Long measurement time t

REDUCE BACKGROUND B !!!!!

done

can be done just needs money

done

can be done just needs time

tricky needs GERDA

Sensitivity of $0v2\beta$ -decay search $m_{\beta\beta} < \sqrt{\frac{\sqrt{B \Delta E / Mt}}{\epsilon a}}$

state of the art for Ge before GERDA *IGEX, Heidelberg-Moscow experiments*





 $\begin{array}{ll} \text{Mt} &= 71.7 \ \text{kg y} \\ \text{B} &= 0.11 \ \text{/} \ (\text{keV kg y}) \\ \text{a} &= 86\%, \ \epsilon \sim 1, \ \Delta\text{E} \sim 3 \text{keV} \end{array}$

Sensitivity $T_{1/2} \sim 2 \times 10^{25} y$ $m_{\beta\beta} < 350 \text{ meV}$ Claim of Evidence !

to test and to improve

- increase Mt

- reduce background B

 \Rightarrow 1 ton of isotopes and B <10⁻³/ (kg y) for 10 meV scale

GERDA - Idea



Hd-Moscow background given by:

- detectors surroundings
- cosmogenic activation of Ge

GERDA - Phase 1: bare detectors in purified liquid Argon and low Z shield



GERDA - Idea



Hd-Moscow background given by:

- detectors surroundings
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GERDA - Phase 2: reduce cosmogenic background by event recognition: segmented detectors and/or pulse shape

> $\partial v 2\beta$ – events are single site

Co background are multiple site

GERDA - set up at Gran Sasso





from outside to inside

Water tank:

- Gamma shield
- Neutron shield
- Muon Veto

Cryostat:

- contains liquid Ar
- additional Cu shield inside

Liquid Argon provides:

- pure 'inner' shielding
- operating T for detectors

Bare Ge detectors

support structure as light as possible detectors hold by strings

64 m³ of liquid Ar, 650 m³ of water, 4m Ø steel cryostat, 10 m Ø water tank

low Z materials, liquids can be purified, ...

GERDA - set up at Gran Sasso



Stainless steel cryostat25t, U/Th < 5mBq/kg</th>Internal Cu shield20t, U/Th < 16mBq/kg</td>Radon Shroud inside Cryostate
to avoid Rn convection to Ge detectors

Ge detector array

- made up of detector strings
- in the center of the LAr-cryostat



GERDA - Phases



GERDA - Phase I:

- 18 kg ⁷⁶Ge (existing from Hd-M and IGEX)
- 15 kg NatGe
- background 10⁻² /(keV kg y)
- test claim within 1 year (6cts with 0.5 cts bckgrd)

GERDA - Phase II:

- new segmented or BeGe detectors
- \Rightarrow adds > 20kg ⁷⁶Ge
- \Rightarrow distinguish multi site / single site
- several detectors depleted in ⁷⁶Ge
- background 10⁻³ /(keV kg y)
- (= 1 count / (keV ton year) !!!)

GERDA - Phase III:

- ~1 ton ^{76}Ge
- world wide GERDA-MAJORANA collaboration
- background 0.1 / (keV ton y)
- test inverted neutrino mass hierarchy
- $m_{\beta\beta} \sim (some) \ 10meV$



GERDA – Status – Phase I detectors

Long term stability test of HPGe detectors in LAr **OK**

- ∆E ~ 2.5 keV, leakage current stable
 - problems reported by GENIUS TF
 overcome by GERDA (different detector types)

IGEX and HdM crystals

- removed from vacuum cryostats
- refurbished by Canberra
- less than 1 week above ground
- new low mass holders
- now stored at LNGS in vacuum containers









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GERDA – Status – Phase II detectors



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Preparation of 18 fold segmented detectors

- novel 'snap' contact

http://wwwgerda.mppmu.mpg.de/

- only small amount of extra material (a few 10g / detector)
- successfully tested







Contact by mechanical pressure

GERDA – Status – Phase II detectors



Detector in vacuum exposed to Th228 source Щ^{0.006} Ир Ир 0.005 Al events Single segment events Single segment events + PSA 0.004 0.003 0.002 0.001 0 1620 1580 1640 1560 1600 E [keV] E [keV] Double-escape peak (single-site dominant) 1620keV Bi212 (multi-site dominant) 28





segment reduction factor in i

sample	data	MC
Co60	14.2 ± 2.1	12.5 ± 2.1
Th228	1.68 ± 0.02	1.66 ± 0.05
	(depend o	n source position)

GERDA – Status – Phase II detectors



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Phase-II detector candidate: point-contact detector

•enhanced efficiency for low-energy gammas (BeGe)

low capacitance (⇒ low noise)
position dependent pulse shape



Canberra thick window broad energy detector (BEGe, 878g)





- Successful R&D
- Observed complete charge collection from full detector volume.
- No position dependence of pulse heigh and resolution.
 Similar reduction factor achieved.
- BEGe production yield under investigation.

GERDA – Set up at Gran Sasso – Cryostat 03/08



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GERDA – Set up at Gran Sasso – Water Tank 06/08



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GERDA – Set up at Gran Sasso – Clean Room 05/09









GERDA – Set up at Gran Sasso – Muon Veto 06/09











GERDA – Outlook



Commissioning of GERDA set up at Gran Sasso will start in 2009 After 1 year data taking (~ 15 kg y) with background 10⁻² / (keV kg y) GERDA can confirm or refute claim of 0v2β observation Limit: half live $T_{1/2}(0v) > 3 \times 10^{25} \text{ y}$, $m_{\beta\beta} < (0.2 - 0.5) \text{ eV}$

Phase II (starting 2011):

Phase I (2009-2011):

 \Rightarrow

-Total ⁷⁶Ge mass of 40kg

-Background reduction by segmented detectors and/or PSA -After exposure of 100 kg y with background 10^{-3} / (keV kg y) test degenerate neutrino mass regime \Rightarrow

Limit: half live $T_{1/2}(0v) > 1.5 \times 10^{26} \text{ y}$, $m_{\beta\beta} < (0.1 - 0.2) \text{ eV}$

Phase III (proposed to start 2014):

- GERDA MAJORANA collaboration
- mass of ⁷⁶Ge at 1 ton scale
- background reduction to 10⁻⁴ / (keV kg y)
- test inverted neutrino mass regime \Rightarrow



GERDA – Collaboration



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~97 scientists.

