

# The search for neutrino-less double beta decay ( $0\nu\beta\beta$ )

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# Outline

- $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay and predictions from oscillation experiments
- Comparison of DBD isotopes
- Challenges & experimental approaches
- Overview experimental projects
- Outlook

## 2νββ Decay





Ground states of even-even nuclei: 0+

## 0vββ Decay



S. Schö

## Phenomenology of 0v- and 2v $\beta\beta$ decay



**2**νββ: (A,Z) → (A,Z+2) + 2e<sup>-</sup> + 2 
$$\overline{\nu}_{e}$$
 ΔL=0  
 $T_{1/2}^{2\nu} = (10^{18} - 10^{21})$ y

**0** $\nu\beta\beta$ : (A,Z)  $\rightarrow$  (A,Z+2) + 2e<sup>-</sup>  $\Delta$ L=2



## Decay rate and effective neutrino mass



Assume leading term is exchange of light Majorana neutrinos

#### **Expected decay rate:**

$$(T_{1/2}^{0\nu})^{-1} = G^{0\nu}(Q,Z) |M^{0\nu}|^2 \langle m_{ee} \rangle^2$$
  
Phase space integral
$$HK 9.7 P.Grabmayr$$

Nuclear matrix element

$$Q = E_{e1} + E_{e2} - 2m_e$$

 $\left\langle m_{ee} \right\rangle = \left| \sum_{i} U_{ei}^2 m_i \right|$ 

Q-value of decay

Effective neutrino mass

 $U_{ei}$  (complex) neutrino mixing matrix

# $0\nu\beta\beta$ : physics implications

#### T.Schwetz-Mangold

1) Dirac vs. Majorana particle: (i.e. its own anti-particle)?

•  $0\nu\beta\beta \Rightarrow$  Majorana nature

• Majorana  $\Rightarrow$  See-Saw mechanism

$$m_{\nu} = \frac{m_D^2}{M_R} << m_D$$



$$m_3 \sim \left(\Delta m_{atm}^2\right)^{1/2}, \ m_D \sim m_t \Longrightarrow M_R \sim 10^{15} GeV$$

• Majorana  $\Rightarrow$  CP violation in  $M_{\mathbb{R}} \rightarrow$  higgs + lepton  $\Rightarrow$  Leptogenesis  $\Rightarrow$  B asymmetry

#### 2) Absolute mass scale:

- Hierarchy: degenerate, inverted or normal
- (effective) neutrino mass



#### Predictions from oscillation experiments



### Predictions from oscillation experiments







But shell model and QRPA calculations still disagree up to a factor 2 for lighter nuclei



New IBM-2 calculations agree (coincide?) with QRPA values! Score 2:1 ? IBM-2 includes deformations for <sup>150</sup>Nd



Is M decreasing with A<sup>-2/3</sup> (IBM-2, QRPA) or constant with A (SM)?

#### Comparison of isotopes: Is there a *super-DBD-isotope* ?



Expected  $0\nu\beta\beta$  rates per mass vary within a factor ~ 4 !



jahrstagung HK, Bonn 16.3.2010

## Experimental sensitivity

Without bkgd:
$$\langle m \rangle \leq \frac{const}{(M T)^{1/2}}$$
 $M T$  : exposure [kg y]With bkgd: $\langle m \rangle \leq const \left( \frac{b \Delta E}{M T} \right)^{1/4}$  $at Q_{\beta\beta}$  [cts/kg/keV/year] $\Delta E$  : energy resolution

⇒ Maximize number of nuclei under observation ⇒ Minimize background (radioactivity, cosmics) in energy window at  $Q_{\beta\beta}$  ("background free")

 $\Rightarrow$  1 ton of isotopes **AND** b· $\Delta$ E <10<sup>-3</sup> / kg y for 10 meV scale

# Two ways to measure $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay Source = Detector Source $\neq$ Detector



## State-of-the-art: limits & claim



- •71.7 kg year Bgd 0.11 / (kg y keV)
- 28.75 ± 6.87 events (bgd:~60)
- Claim:4.2  $\sigma$  evidence for  $0\nu\beta\beta$
- (0.69–4.18) x10<sup>25</sup> y (3σ)
- Best fit: 1.19 x10<sup>25</sup> y (NIMA 522/PLB 586)
- PSA analysis (Mod. Phys. Lett. A21): (2.23 + 0.44 – 0.31)x10<sup>25</sup> y (6σ)
- Tuebingen/Bari group (PRD79): m<sub>ee</sub> /eV = 0.28 [0.17-0.45] 90%CL

Significance and  $T_{1/2}$  depend on bgd discription: •Strumia & Vissani Nucl.Phys. B726 (2005) •Chkvorets, PhD dissertation Univ. HD, (2008): using realistic background model  $\Rightarrow$  peak significance: 1.3 $\sigma$ ,  $\Rightarrow T_{1/2} = 2.2 \times 10^{25} \text{ y}$ 



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 $\Rightarrow T_{1/2} = 2.2 \times 10^{25} \text{ y}$ 



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	Running 8	recently con	npleted experim	ents				
CUORICINO	Te-130	11 kg	bolometric	LNGS	2003-2008			
NEMO-3	Mo-100/Se-82	6.9/0.9 kg	tracko-calo	LSM	until 2010			
		Constructior	n funding					
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EXO-200	Xe-136	160 kg	liquid TPC	WIPP	2010 (commis.)			
GERDA I/II	Ge-76	35 kg	ionization	LNGS	2009 (commis.)			
LUCIFER	Se-82 (Mo-100)	18 (11) kg	bolom./scint.	LNGS	2013 (commis.)			
SNO+	Nd-150	Nd-150 56 kg scintillation S		SNOlab	2011			
Substantial R&D funding / prototyping								
CANDLES	Ca-48	0.35 kg	scintillation	Kamioka	2009			
Majorana	Ge-76	26 kg	ionization	SUSL	2012			
NEXT	Xe-136	80 kg	gas TPC	Canfranc	2013			
SuperNEMO	Se-82 or Nd-150	100 kg	tracko-calo	LSM	2012 (first mod.)			
	R&L	) and/or conc	eptual design					
CARVEL	Ca-48		scintillation	Solotvina				
COBRA	Cd-116, Te-130		ionization	LNGS				
DCBA	Nd-150		drift chamber	Kamioka				
EXO gas	Xe-136		gas TPC	SNOlab				
MOON	Mo-100		tracking	Oto				
		Other decay	/ modes					
TGV	Cd-106		ionization	LSM	operational			

\*: mass of DBD-isotopes; detector & analysis inefficiencies NOT included! Range: 18% to ~90% 10

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Cryogenic detector Heat sink Thermal coupling Thermometer Incident particle Crystal absorber

Measurement of  $\Delta T = E/C$ 

- 41 kg TeO<sub>2</sub>
- nat. abundance of
   <sup>130</sup>Te: 34%
- active mass: 11 kg of <sup>130</sup>Te
- New  $Q_{\beta\beta}$ : 2527.518 ± 0.013 keV (F. Avignone et al 2008) 2527.01± 0.32 keV (R. Norman et al 2008)  $\Delta$ E: -3 keV



## Cuoricino data taking completed,....



 Cuoricino data taking successfully completed in 2008

- Full statistics statistics: 18 kg x year of <sup>130</sup>Te
- Background at 0vββ: 0.18 ± 0.02 cts/(keV kg y) degraded α's (60%) ext. <sup>208</sup>Tl γ's (40%)
- Limit on <sup>130</sup>Te  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay: T<sub>1/2</sub> > 2.94x10<sup>24</sup> y (90% C.L.) m<sub>ee</sub>< 0.2 - 0.98 eV

(M. Sisti, Taup 09)

## ...CUORE construction started..



## and LUCIFER is funded!



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COBRA	Cd-116, Te-130		ionization	LNGS				
DCBA	Nd-150		drift chamber	Kamioka				
EXO gas	Xe-136		gas TPC	SNOlab				
MOON	Mo-100		tracking	Oto				
		Other decay	/ modes					
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## NEMO 3 @ LSM: The ' $2\nu\beta\beta$ factory'...



<u>Source</u>: 10 kg of  $\beta\beta$  isotopes cylindrical, S = 20 m<sup>2</sup>, 60 mg/cm<sup>2</sup>

#### Tracking detector:

drift wire chamber operating in Geiger mode (6180 cells)

Calorimeter:

1940 plastic scintillators coupled to low radioactivity PMTs

Magnetic field: 25 Gauss Gamma shield: Pure Iron (18 cm) Neutron shield: borated water + Wood

#### ....and its sources



### Results from NEMO3's strongest source: <sup>100</sup>Mo



V. Tretyak (Medex'09), also F. Mauger (Taup09)

# From NEMO3 to SuperNEMO

NEMO3		SuperNEMO	
T <sub>1/2</sub> > 1.4 x 10 <sup>24</sup> y <m> &lt; 390 – 810 meV</m>	EXPECTED SENSITIVITY	T <sub>1/2</sub> > 1 – 1.5 x 10 <sup>26</sup> y <m> &lt; 43 – 145 meV *</m>	
7 kg	Mass of Isotopes	100 – 200 kg	
8 % FWHM @ 3 MeV	Calorimeter Resolution	4 % FWHM @ 3 MeV	
18 %	Efficiency	30 %	
<sup>208</sup> TI < 20 μBq / kg <sup>214</sup> Bi < 300 μBq / kg	Foils Radiopurity	<sup>208</sup> TI < 2 μBq / kg <sup>214</sup> Bi < 10 μBq / kg	
NME : E. Caurier et. al., Phys. Re Tübingen Simkovic et al., F Jvvaskvla Suhonen et al. In	v. Lett. 100 (2008) 052503 Phys. Rev. C 77 (2008) 045503 nt. J. Mod. Phys. E 17 (2008) 1	* : for <sup>82</sup> Se Baseline: <sup>82</sup> Se Alternatives: <sup>150</sup> Nd <sup>48</sup> Ca	

# SuperNEMO at the new LSM



- 5 7 kg of  $\beta\beta$  isotope per module
- 20 22 modules for the full detector

for 100 – 150 kg of isotope in total • modules surrounded by water shielding

- Location: LSM (France)
- demonstrator
   operational 2011



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DCBA	Nd-150		drift chamber	Kamioka					
EXO gas	Xe-136		gas TPC	SNOlab					
MOON	Mo-100		tracking	Oto					
		Other decay	/ modes						
TGV	Cd-106		ionization	LSM	operational				

HK 9.2 A.Vauth HK 9.3 G. Meierhofer HK 9.6 D. Budjáš HK 9.7 P.Grabmayr HK 9.9 M. Agostini HK 69.8 M. Tarka T 109.5 K. Freund T 109.6 H.Khozani T 110.5 M.Barnabé Heider T 110.6 S.Hemmer T 110.7 F.Froborg T 113.8 M.Heisel

\*: mass of DBD-isotopes; detector & analysis inefficiencies NOT included! Range: 18% to ~90% 2010



•'Bare' enrGe array in liquid argon •Shield: high-purity liquid Argon / H<sub>2</sub>O •Phase I: 18 kg (HdM/IGEX) / 15 kg nat. •Phase II: add ~20 kg new enr. Detectors; total ~40 kg

•Array(s) of <sup>enr</sup>Ge housed in high-purity

electroformed copper cryostat Shield: electroformed copper / lead Initial phase: R&D demonstrator module: Total ~60 kg (30 kg enr.)

Physics goals: degenerate mass range **Technology:** study of bgds. and exp. techniques

 open exchange of knowledge & technologies (e.g. MaGe MC) **O** intention to merge for O(1 ton) exp. (inv. Hierarchy) selecting the best technologies tested in GERDA and Majorana

# Novel Ge-detectors with advanced $0\nu\beta\beta$ -signal recognition & background suppression



n-type detectors with 18-fold segmented electrodes

HK 9.2 A.Vauth T 110.6 S.Hemmer

- $\mathbf{0}_{\nu\beta\beta}$ : point-like events
- **Bgd:** multi-site or partial energy deposition outside crystal





p-type with small signal electrode (thick-window BEGe detector)

HK 9.6 D.Budjáš HK 9.9 M.Agostini

R&D: LAr scintillation read out

T 109.6 H.A.Khozani

T 113.8 M.Heisel,



#### Unloading of vacuum cryostat (6 March 08)

Produced from selected low-background austenitic steel



Designed for external  $\gamma$ ,n, $\mu$ background ~10<sup>-4</sup> cts/(keV kg y)

Ø 10 m H = 9.5 m V = 650 m<sup>3</sup>



clean room, active cooling device getting prepared for installation



Glove-box for Ge-detector handling and mounting into commissioning lock under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere installed in clean room



LEDO



- Liquid argon filled in Dec.'09
- Successful commissioning of cryogenic system
- Water tank partially filled
- Installation c-lock in March
- Ready for commissioning run with <sup>nat</sup>Ge detector string in April '10
- Subsequently, start Phase I physics data taking

![](_page_43_Figure_0.jpeg)

#### **Background requirement for GERDA/Majorana:**

⇒Background reduction by factor  $10^2 - 10^3$  required w.r. to precursor exps. ⇒Degenerate mass scale  $O(10^2 \text{ kg·y}) \Rightarrow$  Inverted mass scale  $O(10^3 \text{ kg·y})$ 

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TGV	Cd-106		ionization	LSM	operational		

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## EXO-200: a liquid <sup>136</sup>Xe TPC

(without <sup>136</sup>Ba grand-daughter tagging)

Case	Mass (ton)	Eff. (%)	Run Time (yr)	σ <sub>ε</sub> /E @ 2.5MeV (%)	Radioactive Background (events)	T <sub>1/2</sub> <sup>0v</sup> (yr, 90%CL)	Majoran (e\ QRPA	a mass /) NSM
EXO-200	0.2	70	2	1.6	40	6.4 x 10 <sup>25</sup>	0.133 <sup>1</sup>	0.186 <sup>2</sup>

~110 kg <sup>136</sup>Xe active mass

46 -170 events on top of bgd for KK claim

![](_page_45_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_45_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_45_Figure_7.jpeg)

Ionization & Scintillation:  $\sigma(E)/E = 3.0\% @ 570 \text{ keV or } 1.4\% @ Q(\beta\beta)$ 

L. Kaufmann, Taup09

## EXO-200 goes underground...

...and commissioning will start early 2010

![](_page_46_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_46_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_46_Picture_4.jpeg)

## Gaseous <sup>136</sup>Xe TPC R&D

![](_page_47_Figure_1.jpeg)

EXO-gas with Ba-tagging

![](_page_47_Figure_3.jpeg)

Initial concept: in-situ tagging New concept: Ba++ extraction

(D. Sinclair, Taup 2009)

<u>Advantage:</u> Gas Xe has the potential of providing event topology information along with very good energy resolution

<u>Challenge:</u> low density provides limited self shielding

NEXT high pressure TPCT 110.4 M. Ball(without Ba-tagging) in Canfranc

![](_page_47_Picture_9.jpeg)

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\*: mass of DBD-isotopes; detector & analysis inefficiencies NOT included! Range: 18% to ~90%

# SNO+

- \$300M of heavy water removed and returned to Atomic Energy of Canada Limited (every last drop)
- SNO detector to be filled with liquid scintillator
  - 50-100 times more light than Cherenkov
- linear alkylbenzene (LAB)
  - compatible with acrylic, undiluted
  - high light yield, long attenuation length
  - safe: high flash point, low toxicity
  - cheaper than other scintillators
- physics goals: *pep* and *CNO* solar neutrinos, geo neutrinos, reactor neutrino oscillations, supernova neutrinos, double beta decay with Nd (C. Krauss, Taup 09)

![](_page_49_Picture_10.jpeg)

![](_page_49_Picture_11.jpeg)

![](_page_49_Figure_12.jpeg)

## $0\nu\beta\beta$ Signal for $< m_{\nu} > = 0.150 \text{ eV}$

![](_page_50_Figure_1.jpeg)

• 0.1% natural Nd-loaded liquid scintillator in SNO+  $\Rightarrow$  56 kg of <sup>150</sup>Nd

• Future: use of enriched <sup>150</sup>Nd ?

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B. Janutta F. Lück C. Oldorf T. Koettig O. Schulz N. Heidrich Τ. rmann

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## COBRA: CdZnTe Semiconductor Detectors

#### Focus on <sup>116</sup>Cd, Q-value: 2809 keV

Energy measurement only

![](_page_52_Picture_3.jpeg)

Energy measurement and tracking

![](_page_52_Picture_5.jpeg)

Underground setup at LNGS

![](_page_52_Picture_7.jpeg)

(K. Zuber, Taup 2009)

### COBRA as solid-state TPC:

Pixelisation can be used for background reduction by particle identification

Monte Carlo: 200  $\mu$  m pixel size

Real data: 55  $\mu$  m pixel size

![](_page_53_Figure_4.jpeg)

## Summary & Outlook

 $0\nu\beta\beta$  experimental strategy during the next decade

![](_page_54_Figure_2.jpeg)

# Outlook

#### ASPERA European strategy

![](_page_55_Picture_2.jpeg)

**ASPERA** recommendation for Neutrino Mass:

Depending on the outcome of the present generation of double beta decay experiments being prepared, we recommend the eventual construction and operation of **one or two double beta decay experiments** on the **ton-scale**, capable of exploring the inverted-mass region, with a **European lead role or shared equally with non-European partners**. A decision on the construction could be taken around 2013.

![](_page_55_Picture_5.jpeg)

LRP 2010

Similar financial efforts from North America & Japan required to realize ton scale experiments !

## Extra slides

# Many thanks to all colleagues & friends for providing up to date material!

Apologies to those whose projects could not be covered in this talk!

Name	Nucleus	Mass*	Method	Location	Time line				
	Operational	& recently co	ompleted experi	ments					
CUORICINO	Te-130	11 kg	bolometric	LNGS	2003-2008				
NEMO-3	Mo-100/Se-82	6.9/0.9 kg	tracko-calo	LSM	until 2010				
Construction funding									
CUORE	Te-130	200 kg	bolometric	LNGS	2012				
EXO-200	Xe-136	160 kg	liquid TPC	WIPP	2009 (comiss.)				
GERDA I/II	Ge-76	35 kg	ionization	LNGS	2009 (comiss.)				
SNO+	Nd-150	56 kg	scintillation	SNOlab	2011				
	Substantial R&D funding / prototyping								
CANDLES	Ca-48	0.35 kg	scintillation	Kamioka	2009				
Majorana	Ge-76	26 kg	ionization	SUSL	2012				
NEXT	Xe-136	80 kg	gas TPC	Canfranc	2013				
SuperNEMO	Se-82 or Nd-150	100 kg	tracko-calo	LSM	2012 (first mod.)				
	R&L	D and/or conc	eptual design						
CARVEL	Ca-48		scintillation	Solotvina					
COBRA	Cd-116, Te-130		ionization	LNGS					
DCBA	Nd-150		drift chamber	Kamioka					
EXO gas	Xe-136		gas TPC	SNOlab					
MOON	Mo-100		tracking	Oto					
		Other decay	/ modes						
TGV	Cd-106		ionization	LSM	operational				

\*: mass of DBD-isotopes; detector & analysis inefficiencies NOT included! Range: 18% to ~90%

# <sup>48</sup>Ca CANDLES.....

<u>CA</u>lcium fluoride for studies of <u>N</u>eutrino and <u>D</u>ark matters by <u>Low Energy Spectrometer</u>

![](_page_59_Picture_2.jpeg)

- undoped CaF<sub>2</sub> (CaF<sub>2</sub>(pure))
  - ${}^{48}\text{Ca} (Q_{\beta\beta} = 4.27 \text{ MeV})$
  - Attenuation length > 10 m
  - Low radioactive impurities
- Low background detector
  - $4\pi$  active shield (LS)
  - Passive shield (Water, LS)
  - Pulse shape information
- Good energy resolution
  - large photo-coverage
  - Two phase LS system

## ....will illuminate Kamioka

![](_page_60_Figure_1.jpeg)

305 kg (96 x  $10^3$  cm<sup>3</sup> crystals) of natural-CaF<sub>2</sub>  $\Rightarrow$ 350 g of Ca-48

![](_page_60_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_60_Picture_4.jpeg)

First PMT was installed at 24 June, 2009.

![](_page_61_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_61_Picture_1.jpeg)

### GERDA @ LNGS Commissioning started in autumn 2009

![](_page_61_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_61_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_61_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_61_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_61_Picture_7.jpeg)

![](_page_61_Picture_8.jpeg)