

# GERDA commissioning results and summary of double beta decay projects

Fabiana Cossavella for the GERDA collaboration

Max-Planck Institut für Physik, München

19 March 2011

## OUTLINE:

- motivation
- current status: the GERDA experiment and overview of other  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay experiments

# Neutrino Properties

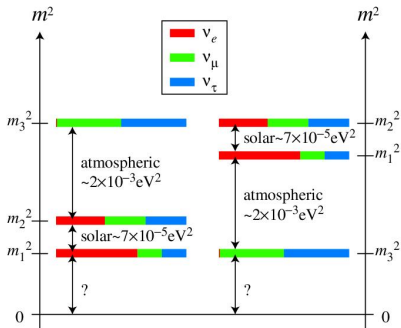
Neutrino mass  $\neq 0 \rightarrow$  oscillation experiments

- $m_2^2 - m_1^2 = \Delta m_{\odot}^2$
  - $|m_2^2 - m_3^2| = \Delta m_{atm}^2$
  - $\theta_{12} = \theta_{\odot}$  and  $\theta_{23} = \theta_{atm}$
- and an upper limit on  $\theta_{13}$

## Still Missing

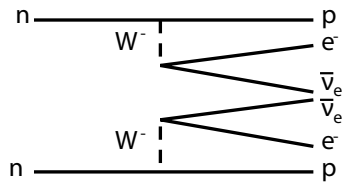
- Nature of the neutrino (Majorana or Dirac)
- Absolute mass scale
- Mass hierarchy
- Value of the third mixing angle
- CP violating phases

**Normal hierarchy**  $\Delta m_{32} > 0 \text{ eV}$       **Inverted hierarchy**  $\Delta m_{32} < 0 \text{ eV}$

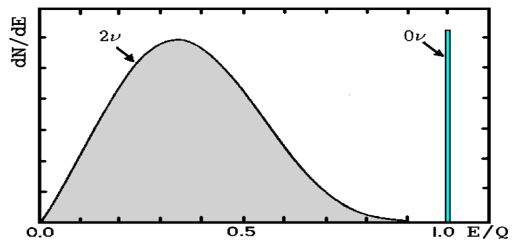
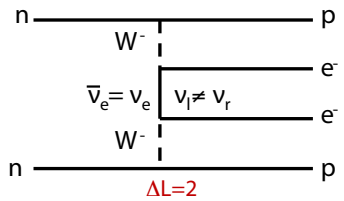


# Search for $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay

Neutrino accompanied Double-Beta Decay:



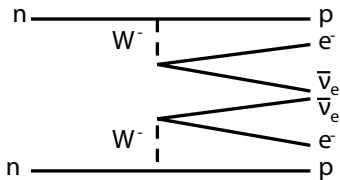
Neutrinoless Double-Beta Decay:



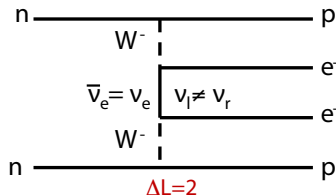
Signature: Sharp peak at Q-value of the decay (2039 keV for  $^{76}\text{Ge}$ )

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

Neutrino accompanied Double-Beta Decay:



Neutrinoless Double-Beta Decay:



If neutrinoless double beta-decay is observed:

- neutrino is a Majorana particle
- information on absolute mass scale

$$1/\tau = G(Q,Z) |M_{\text{nucl}}|^2 \langle m_{ee} \rangle^2$$

$0\nu\beta\beta$  Decay  
rate

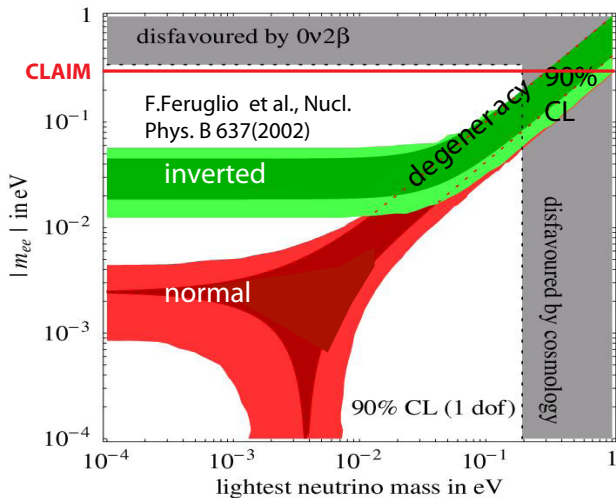
Phase space  
factor

Matrix  
element

Effective Majorana  
Neutrino mass

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

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



## Previous $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay experiments

Experiment	Underground Laboratory	Isotope	Technology	$T_{1/2}$ [ $10^{24}$ y]	$\langle m_{ee} \rangle$ [eV]
Heidelberg-Moscow	LNGS (Italy)	$^{76}\text{Ge}$	HPGe	$> 19$ claim: $22.3^{+4.4}_{-3.1}$	$< 0.35 - 1.2$ $0.32^{+0.03}_{-0.03}$
IGEX	LSC (Spain)	$^{76}\text{Ge}$	HPGe	$> 16$	$< 0.3 - 1.35$
NEMO-III	LSM (France)	$^{82}\text{Se}$	Foils btw.	$> 0.36$	$< 0.89 - 2.43$
NEMO-III		$^{100}\text{Mo}$	tracker	$> 1.1$	$< 0.45 - 0.93$
$\text{CdWO}_4$	Solotvina (Ukraine)	$^{116}\text{Cd}$	Scintillator	$> 0.17$	$< 1.5 - 1.7$
Cuoricino	Gran Sasso	$^{130}\text{Te}$	Bolometry	$> 3.0$	$< 0.19 - 0.68$

Different isotopes choice...

(Only few past experiment presented, list is incomplete!)

## The experimental challenge

... about 30 isotopes available, but:

$$\text{sensitivity on } T_{1/2} \propto \epsilon \cdot A \cdot \sqrt{\frac{M \cdot T}{b \cdot \Delta E}}$$

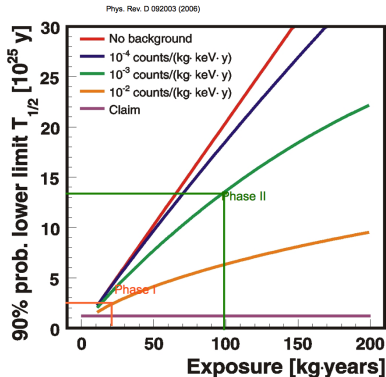
$\epsilon$	detection efficiency	$\sim 85\%$ if detector=source
A	isotopic abundance	high natural i.a. or enrichment!
M	active target mass	increase mass
T	measuring time	
b	background rate (cts/(keV kg y))	minimize & select radiopure material
$\Delta E$	energy resolution	use high resolution spectroscopy

Experimental approach: improve exposure (M·T) and reduce background.

# The GERmanium Detector Array

## Phase I:

- operate existing  $\text{HP}^{76}\text{Ge}$  detectors from HdM and IGEX +  $^{\text{nat}}\text{Ge}$  diodes
- reach background of  $10^{-2}$  cts/(keV kg y)
- exposure of  $\sim 15$  kg y  $\rightarrow$  **check claim within 1 y data taking**

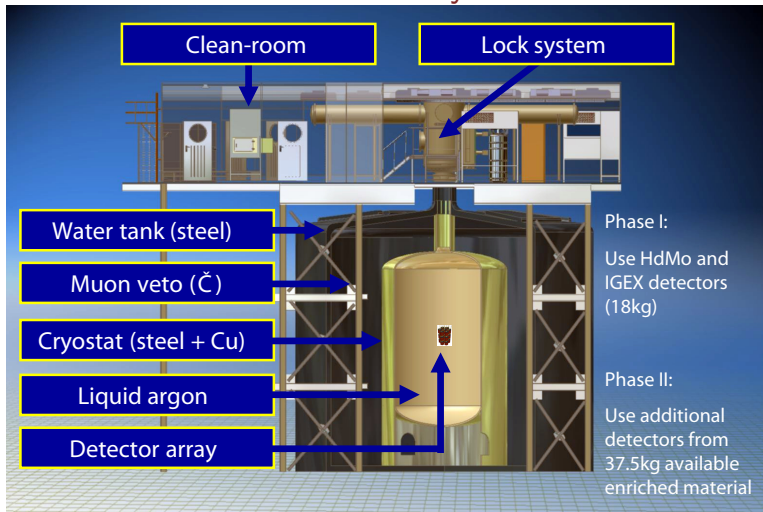


## Phase II:

- operate additional new  $^{76}\text{Ge}$  detectors for a total of 40 kg
- reach background of  $10^{-3}$  cts/(keV kg y)
- exposure of  $\sim 100$  kg y  $\rightarrow T_{1/2}^{0\nu} \geq 1.35 \cdot 10^{26}$  y

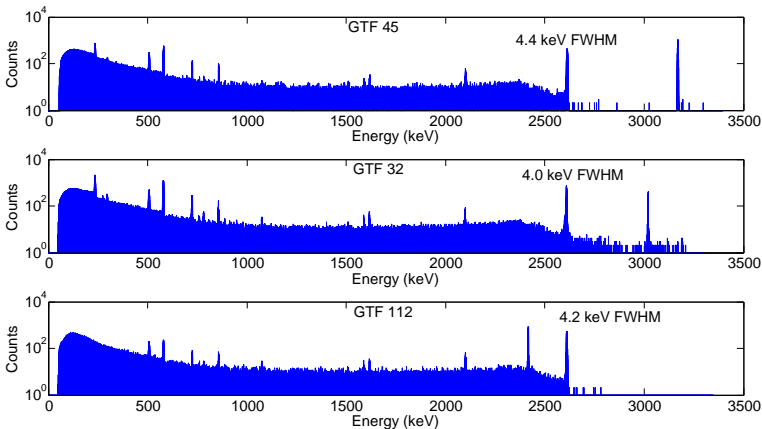


# The GERmanium Detector Array



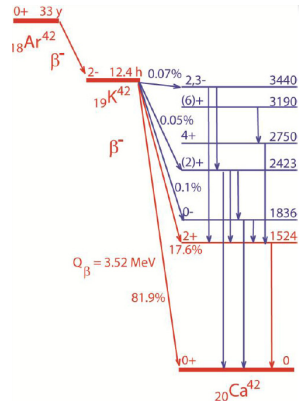
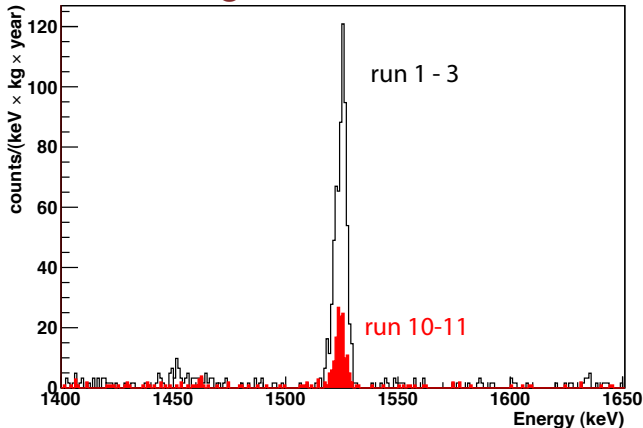
Infrastructure completed in May 2010

# First Deployment of the first string: June 2010



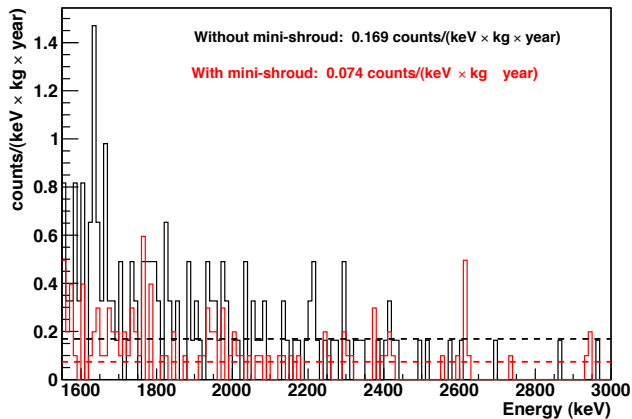
$3 \text{ } ^{\text{nat}}\text{Ge}$  detector,  $^{228}\text{Th}$  calibration spectrum

# GERDA background



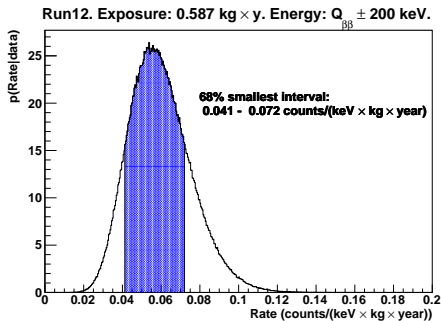
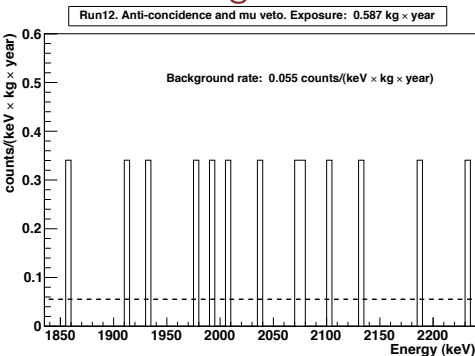
- $^{42}\text{K}^+$  drift in the electric field
- Changing field configuration changes intensities

# GERDA background



- background index from 0.169 cts/(keV kg y) to 0.074 cts/(keV kg y)

# GERDA background



- 12 runs with different detectors, E-field configurations and read-out schemes
- current background index (E-field free):  $0.055 \text{ cts}/(\text{keV kg y})$
- 68% smallest interval:  $0.041 - 0.072 \text{ cts}/(\text{keV kg y})$

## Other $0\nu\beta\beta$ experiments: small selection

Experiment	Isotope	Target Mass	Technology	FWHM	BI [cts/(keV kg y)]	Exp. Sens.[meV]	Start
GERDA I GERDA II	$^{76}\text{Ge}$	18 kg 40 kg	HPGe	0.2%	<b>0.055</b> (0.01) 0.001	230 - 390 90 - 150	2011 2012
Majorana	$^{76}\text{Ge}$	~20 kg 40 kg	HPGe	0.2%	0.01	<140	2013 2014
CUORE0 CUORE	$^{130}\text{Te}$	10 kg 200kg	$^{130}\text{TeO}_2$ bolometer	0.25%	0.12 <0.01	168 - 391 41 - 96	2011 2013
EXO-200	$^{136}\text{Xe}$	200kg	LXe TPC	3.7%	~0.002	109 - 135	2011

### Majorana (Sanford lab)

- HPGe detectors in low background cryostat
- detector with very good PSA capabilities
- 2012: commissioning of prototype cryostat
- 2013: 3 strings  $^{enr}\text{Ge}$  detectors + 4 strings  $^{nat}\text{Ge}$  detector
- 2014: +7 strings  $^{enr}\text{Ge}$  detectors

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### CUORE (LNGS)

- Low Temperature bolometers:  $\text{TeO}_2$  crystals
- $^{130}\text{Te}$ : i.a. 33.4%, good energy resolution, slow  $\tau \sim 1 - 10^3\text{ms}$
- CUORE-0: Cuoricino cryostat + CUORE-like tower
- CUORE: 200 kg  $^{130}\text{T}$ , new cryostat with improved radiopurity

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### EXO (WIPP, New Mexico)

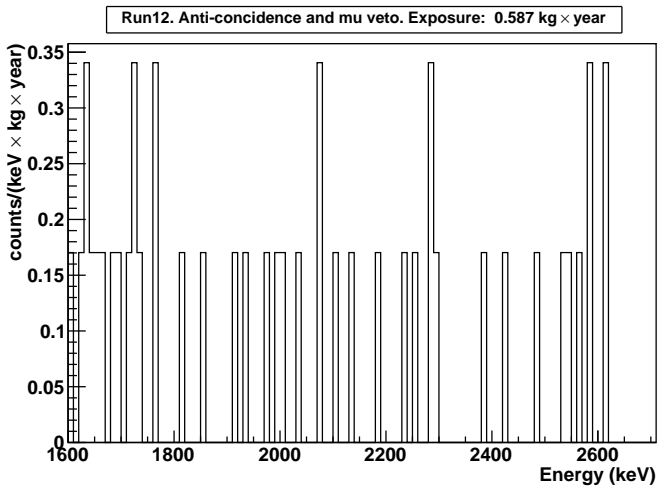
- liquid Xe TPC: measures scintillation light AND ionization
- EXO-200 filled with 200 kg  $^{nat}\text{Xe}$  in fall 2010 + engineering runs: analysis ongoing
- early 2011: refilling after lead shield and radon enclosure mounting + begin of low-background data taking



## Conclusions

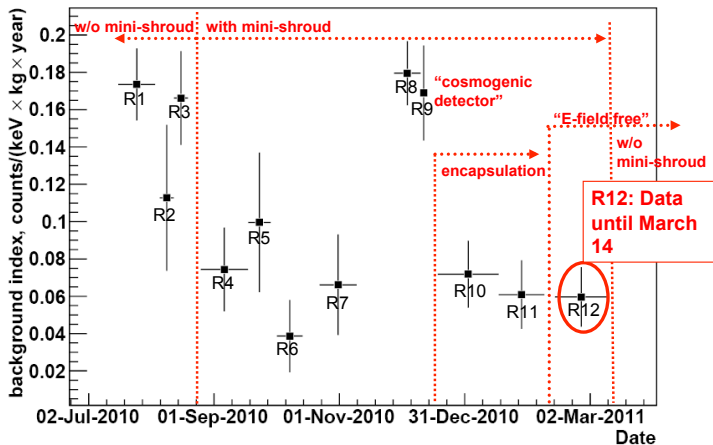
- $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay is the only practical way to test the neutrino nature
- claim of evidence for observation in only 1 of the past experiments...need independent confirmation
- GERDA infrastructure finished in spring 2010
- GERDA background runs nearing completion, current background index:  $0.055 \text{ cts}/(\text{keV kg y})$
- GERDA Phase I to be started soon
- other experiment with different isotopes are also commissioning...

# Backup Gerda

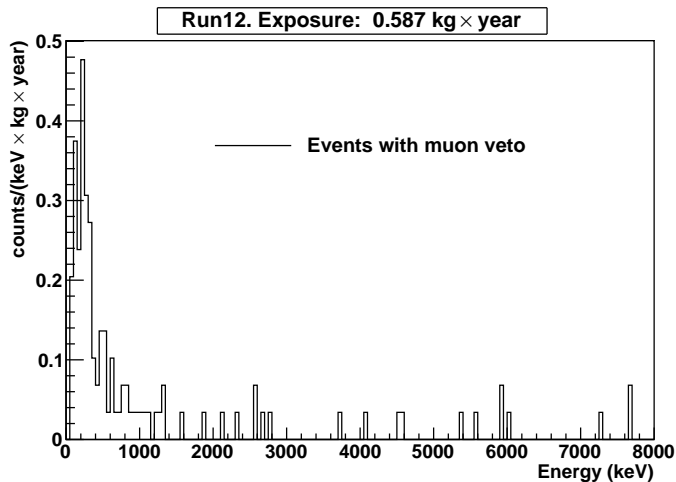


# Backup Gerda

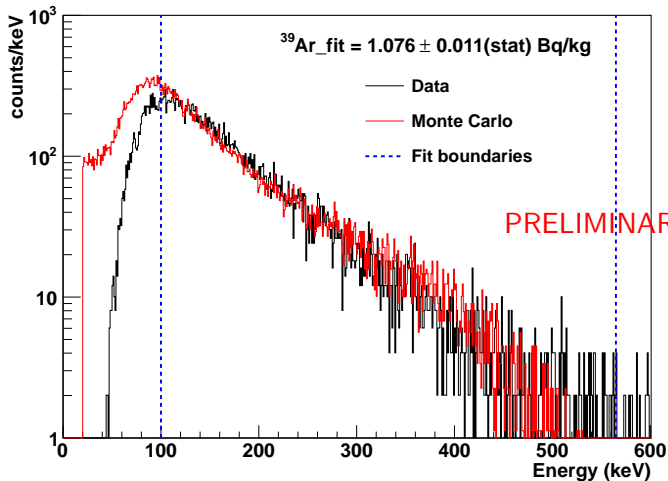
Run History



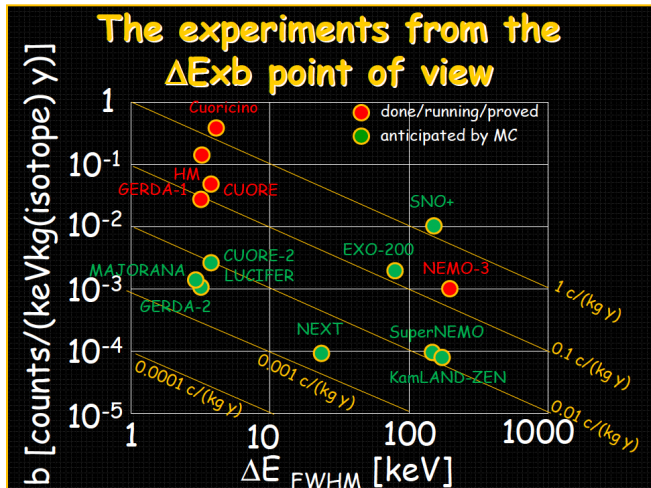
# Backup Gerda



# Backup Gerda



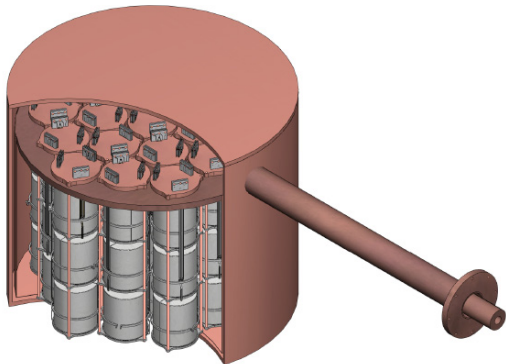
# Backup Gerda



A.Giuliani, International Student Workshop on Neutrinoless Double Beta Decay, LNGS, Nov 2010

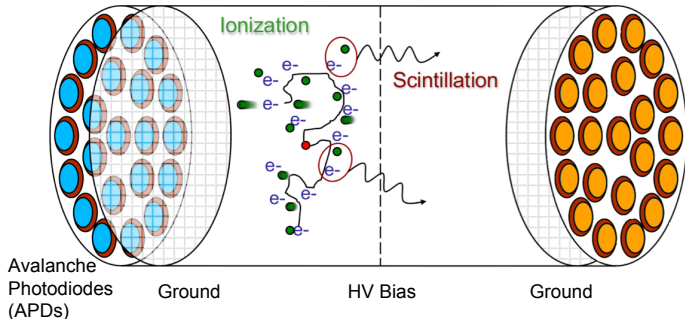
# Backup others

Majorana:



## Backup others

# EXO Detector Schematic



APDs and wires collect light and charge, respectively, and are installed on each side of the detector cylinder.



## Backup others

CUORE:

