### Results on Neutrinoless Double Beta Decay from GERDA Phase I

**Manfred Lindner** 

(on behalf of the GERDA collaboration)









M. Lindner, MPIK

CERN, Oct. 1, 2013

## Outline

- Introduction
- Experimental requirements
- GERDA design and construction
- Phase I run parameters
- Backgrounds
- Pulse shape discrimination
- Results
- Conclusions & Implications

### **Double Beta Decay Processes**

### **Standard Model:**



### → 2 electrons + 2 neutrinos



### **Double Beta Decay & Mass Parabolas**



### **Double Beta Decay Kinematics**



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## **Experimental Challenges**



- extremely rare process
- →low statistics = few counts/bin
- known (unknown?) nuclear lines
- tail of  $2\nu\beta\beta$  signal
- backgrounds
- signal at known  $Q_{\beta\beta}$ -value ?

To best extract a  $0\nu\beta\beta$  signal at  $Q_{\beta\beta}$  and to avoid any misinterpretations:

• low background index (BI)

→ careful material selection, screening, shielding, PSD (pulse shape disc.), ...

• best possible energy resolution

→ Germanium: source = detector (diode) → few keV resolution

• if there is a signal

→ different nuclei to exclude unknown nuclear physics

### Sensitivity & Background (for a Majorana Mass)



# Which 0vββ Isotope?



- mass  $\leftarrow$   $\rightarrow$  isotopic abundance / enrichment  $\leftarrow$   $\rightarrow$  cost, feasability
- cleanliness (radioputity) of  $0\nu\beta\beta$  source and instrumentation
- high  $Q_{\beta\beta} \leftarrow \rightarrow$  less nuclear backgrounds
- good energy resolution
- uncertainties in nuclear matrix elements (later...)
  - → Germanium is a very good choice

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### **The GERDA Collaboration**



### The GERDA Detector (original idea by G. Heusser, MPIK)



### **GERDA Location: LNGS Hall A**



# **Material γ-Screening Facilities**

- Different screening stations@MPIK underground lab (1mBq/kg)
- 4 GEMPIs
   @LNGS (10µBq/kg)
- New: GIOVE
   @MPIK (50µBq/kg)







### → extensive task for GERDA and other experiments (XENON, ...)

# **Rn Screening Facilities**

- Gas counting systems (a) LNGS and (a) MPIK <sup>222</sup>Rn emanation technique:
- sensitivity = few atoms/probe
- large samples  $\leftarrow \rightarrow$  absolute sens.



- non-trivial; not commonly available; routine @MPIK
- established numbers:
  - Nylon (Borexino) < 1μBq/m<sup>2</sup> Copper (Gerda): 2μBq/m<sup>2</sup> Stainless steel (Borexino): 5μBq/m<sup>2</sup> Titanium (preliminary): (100 ± 30) μBq/m<sup>2</sup>

### **Detector Construction**

- 2004: Letter of Intent
- **R&D:** material selection and screening, tests of bare diodes in LAr
- 2008-2010: construction at LNGS (Gran Sasso, Italy)
  - infrastructure & cryostat
  - water tank & muon veto
  - clean room, lock 6 clean benches
- 2010-2011: comissioning
- Nov. 2011: start of phase I data taking









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## **HP Germanium Detectors**



#### Wanted:

- energy resolution
  - $\leftrightarrow$  Ge diode
- fast det. response
   ←→ small capacity
- pulse shape discr.
- $\leftarrow \rightarrow$  shape
- very high radiopurity
   ←→ crystals
  - $\leftrightarrow$  "naked"



# **GERDA Detector Types**



- 1) re-processed HdM, IGEX and GTF detectors p-type semi-coaxial
- 2) new p-type BEGe (Broad Energy Ge) detectors
- n<sup>+</sup> conductive Li layer, separated by a grove from the boron implanted p<sup>+</sup> contact
- operated as ``diode"
- SSE/MSE (single/multi site event) discrimination





### **GERDA Phase I Detectors**

### Since Nov. 2011: 6 enriched (86% of <sup>76</sup>Ge)

ANG2, ANG3, ANG4, ANG5, RG1, RG2  $\rightarrow$  14.63 kg

### 1 natural (7,83% of <sup>76</sup>Ge) GTF112 → 2.96 kg

Since July 2012: 4 BEGe (87% of <sup>76</sup>Ge) GD32B-GD32D, GD35B → 3.00 kg

In addition: 2 coaxial and 1 BEGe unused due to high leakage currents



### **Detector Parameter Details**

detector	enrichment	mass	active mass	active mass	$d_{dl}$			
	factor	[g]	[g]	fraction	$\mathbf{m}\mathbf{m}$			
enriched coaxial detectors								
ANG 1 <sup>†</sup> )	0.859(29)	958	795(50)	0.830(52)	1.8(5)			
ANG 2	0.866(25)	2833	2468(145)	0.871(51)	2.3(7)			
ANG 3	0.883(26)	2391	2070(136)	0.866(57)	1.9(7)			
ANG 4	0.863(13)	2372	2136(135)	0.901(57)	1.4(7)			
ANG 5	0.856(13)	2746	2281(132)	0.831(48)	2.6(6)			
RG 1	0.855(15)	2110	1908(125)	0.904(59)	1.5(7)			
RG 2	0.855(15)	2166	1800(115)	0.831(53)	2.3(7)			
<del>-RG 3 <sup>†</sup>) -</del>	0.855(15)	2087	1868(113)	0.895(54)	1.4(7)			
enriched BEGe detectors								
GD32B	0.877(13)	717	638(19)	0.890(27)	1.0(2)			
GD32C	0.877(13)	743	677(22)	0.911(30)	0.8(3)			
GD32D	0.877(13)	723	667(19)	0.923(26)	0.7(2)			
GD35B	0.877(13)	812	742(24)	0.914(29)	0.8(3)			
-GD35C <sup>†</sup> )	0.877(13)	635	575(20)	0.906(32)	0.8(3)			
natural coaxial detectors								
GTF 32 <sup>†</sup> )	0.078(1)	2321	2251(116)	0.97(5)	0.4(8)			
GTF 45 <sup>†</sup> )	0.078(1)	2312	Ì, Î					
GTF $112$	0.078( ĺ)	2965						

### **Data Taking**



Stable data taking during most of the time (556 d, duty cycle 88%) → 20 kg\*y in April 2013 → final exposure 21.6 kg \* yr

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# **The Blinding Procedure**



# **Backgrounds**

The outer dead layer of the detectors is not active

### **Background sources:**

- $\alpha$  decays on the p+ surface
- $\beta$  decay of <sup>42</sup>K on the surface or close to the detector from <sup>42</sup>Ar (10x more than expected)
- $\beta$  decay of  $^{60}\text{Co}$  inside detectors
- γ from <sup>208</sup>TI, <sup>214</sup>Bi and from various setup components

### Generic phase I background reduction

- use cleanest possible material
- cut detector coincidences
- prevent <sup>42</sup>K ions from drifting to detectors using minishrouds



### **Detector Performance**



Calibration spectra of all detectors

#### **Energy resolution:**

coaxial at  $Q_{\beta\beta}$ : (4.8 ± 0.2) keV BEGe (3.2 + 0.2) keV at 2614.5 keV (4.2 - 5.8) keV (2.6 - 4.0) keV

- stable energy resolution -
- no energy drift between consecutive calibrations (<0.05%) -
- leakage currents stable (except RG2) -

## **Good Energy Resolution and Gain Stability**





FWHM of long term data at <sup>42</sup>K 1525 keV y-neak

#### FWHM (resolution) of $0\nu\beta\beta$ data at $Q_{\beta\beta}$

100	- all coavial detectors	GERDA 13-07	detector	FWHM $[keV]$	detector	$FWHM \ [keV]$
ounts 80		SUM- $coax$		SUM-bege		
0		FWHM: - 4.47±0.12 keV	ANG 2	5.8 (3)	GD32B	2.6 (1)
00			ANG 3 ANG 4	4.5(1) 4.9(3)	GD32C GD32D	2.6(1) 3.7(5)
40			ANG 5	4.2(1)	GD35B	4.0 (1)
20	¥	, H <u>i</u>	RG 1	4.5(3)		
0	1515 1520 1525	, <sup>™</sup> ,	RG 2	4.9 (3)	DEC	
		571 7	mean coax	4.8 (2)	mean BEGe	3.2(2)

### **The Background Spectrum**



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# **The Background Model**

Background decomposition with all simulated components; fit window 570-7500 keV Minimum model: minimum set of background components



#### Larger energy range...



For BEGEs...



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#### Larger energy range for BEGE's



## **Derived Background Composition**

source	location		GOLD-coax		GOLD- $nat$
		units	minimum	maximum	minimum
$^{40}$ K <sup>c</sup> )	det. assembly	$\mu Bq/det.$	152[136, 174]	151[136, 174]	218[188,259]
$^{42}K^{c}$	LAr	$\mu Bq/kg$	106[103,111]	91[72,99]	98.3[92,108]
$^{42}K^{c}$	p <sup>+</sup> surface	μBq		11.6[3.1,18,3]	
$^{42}K^{c}$	n <sup>+</sup> surface	μBq		4.1[1,2,8.5]	
<sup>60</sup> Co <sup>c</sup> )	det. assembly	$\mu Bq/det.$	4.9[3.1, 7.3]	3.2[1.6, 5.6]	2.6[0, 6.0]
$^{60}$ Co $^{c}$ )	germanium	μBq	>0.4 †)	$>0.2^{+})$	6[3.0, 8.4]
<sup>214</sup> Bi <sup>c</sup> )	det. assembly	$\mu Bq/det.$	35[31, 39]	15[3.7, 21.1]	34.1[27.3,42.1]
<sup>214</sup> Bi <sup>c</sup> )	LAr close to p <sup>+</sup>	µBq/kg		<299.5	
$^{214}\text{Bi}^{m}$	radon shroud	mBq		$<\!49.9$	
<sup>214</sup> Bi <sup>c</sup> )	p <sup>+</sup> surface	μBq	2.9[2.3, 3.9] <sup>†</sup> )	$3.0[2.1,4.0]^{\dagger})$	$1.6[1.2,2.1]^{\dagger})$
<sup>228</sup> Th <sup>c</sup> )	det. assembly	$\mu Bq/det.$	15.1[12.7, 18.3]	5.5[1.8, 8.8]	15.7[10.0,25.0]
$^{228}Ac^{-c}$	det. assembly	$\mu Bq/det.$	17.8[10.0, 26.8]	<15.7	25.9[16.7, 36.7]
$^{228}$ Th $^{m}$ )	radon shroud	mBq		<10.1	
$^{228}$ Ac $^{m}$ )	radon shroud	mBq		91.5[27, 97]	
$^{228}$ Th $^{f}$ )	heat exchanger	Bq		<4.1	

good agreement between model and activities of <sup>40</sup>K, <sup>42</sup>K, <sup>60</sup>Co

the position of some components can not be resolved (<sup>214</sup>Bi, <sup>228</sup>Th, ...)

# More on Backgrounds...

Intensity of gamma peak outside background analysis energy window



Very good agreement between peak intensities vs. background model
 further cross checks... (BiPo coincidences, PSA)

### **Background Composition: Minimum Model**

#### minimum set of background components **→**



### **Background Composition: Maximum Model**

#### total set of known background components leading to distinguishable spectra **→**



### **Pulse Shape Discrimination**



# **Pulse Shape Discrimination: Coaxial**

- 3 independent PSD methods:
- likelihood classification
- PSD selection based on pulse asymmetry
- neural network analysis (ANN)
   Training with calibration data



### **Neural Network Training with Calibration Data**

- DEP events in the interval  $1592 \, \text{keV} \pm 1$ *FWHM* serve as proxy for SSE
- Full energy line of <sup>212</sup>Bi in the equivalent interval around 1620 keV are dominantly MSE, taken as background events



### **Pulse Shape Discrimination: BEGe A/E Cuts**



→ Cutting in A/E → rejects background like MSEs
 → ε<sub>PSD</sub> = 0.92 ± 0.02 → ca. 85% of background events at Q<sub>ββ</sub> rejected

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## **Application of PSD to Phase I Data**



- all events removed by ANN are removed by at least one other method
- events discarded by ANN are in 90% of the cases discarded by all 3 methods
- in a larger energy window about 3% are only rejected by ANN

⇒ About 45% of events are rejected

**Efficiency**:  $\epsilon_{0\nu\beta\beta} = 0.90^{+0.05}_{-0.09}$ 

# **The Region of Interest**



expected bg from interpolation:

5.1 events w/o PSD 2.5 events with PSD

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# **The Region of Interest**



### **Details of the unblinded Spectrum**



data set	detector	energy	date	PSD	data set $\mathcal{E}[kg \cdot yr] \langle \epsilon \rangle$	bkg	BI <sup>†</sup> )	cts
		[keV]		passed	without PSD			
golden	ANG 5	2041.8	18-Nov-2011 22:52	no	golden 17.9 0.688 ±	0.031 76	$18.4^{+2.2}_{-2.1}$	5
silver	ANG 5	2036.9	23-Jun-2012 23:02	yes	<i>silver</i> $1.3  0.688 \pm 1.3$	0.031 19	$63^{+16}_{-14}$	1
golden	RG 2	2041.3	16-Dec-2012 00:09	yes	$BEGe = 2.4 = 0.720 \pm 0.720$	0.018 23	$42^{+10}_{-8}$	1
BEGe	GD32B	2036.6	28-Dec-2012 09:50	no	with PSD			
golden	RG 1	2035.5	29-Jan-2013 03:35	yes	$golden$ 17.9 $0.619^{+0.}_{-0.}$	044 070 45	$10.9^{+1.7}_{-1.6}$	2
golden	ANG 3	2037.4	02-Mar-2013 08:08	no	silver $1.3  0.619^{+0.0}_{-0.0}$	044 9 070 9	$30^{+11}_{-9}$	1
golden	RG 1	2041.7	27-Apr-2013 22:21	no	$BEGe = 2.4 = 0.663 \pm$	0.022 3	$0.5^{+0.4}_{-0.3}$	0
					<sup>†</sup> ) in units of 10 <sup>-3</sup> cts/(keV-kg	yr).		

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## **Profile Likelihood Fit to PSD Spectrum**



profile likelihood (PL) fit:

signal = a\*flat background + b\*line

→ best fit: N<sup>0</sup><sup>∨</sup> = 0 ; upper limit: N<sup>0</sup><sup>∨</sup> < 3.5 (90%CL) → half life limit T<sub>1/2</sub>(0∨ββ) > 2.1 \* 10<sup>25</sup> yr (90% C.L.)

# **Comparison with the KK Claim (2004)**



claim: T<sub>1/2</sub>( $0\nu\beta\beta$ ) = 1.19 \*10<sup>25</sup> yr Phys. Lett. B 586 (2004) 198

Stronger 2006 claim: 100% PSD efficiency assumed → incorrect → realistic efficiency = no improvement

**GERDA:** 

- much lower BI
- no unknown nuclear lines
- remaining flat background in ROI

GERDA upper limit from PL fit: < 3.5 events (90%CL)

for the KK claim GERDA is expected to see  $(2\sigma)$ : 5.9  $\pm$  1.4 signal counts 2.0  $\pm$  0.3 background counts

 $\checkmark$  **>** probability for a fluctuation 1%

## **Combination of Ge Results**



## **Comparison with Xenon Results**



### NME's: Relating Lifetimes & Neutrino Masses





### m<sub>ee</sub>: The Effective Neutrino Mass





- cosmology: further improvements  $\leftarrow \rightarrow$  systematical errors
- NMEs → unavoidable theory error in m<sub>ee</sub>
- assumptions: no \*other\*  $\Delta L=2$  physics, no sterile neutrinos, ...

### **Interferences in 0vββ Decays**

Usually

$$\left(T_{1/2}^{0\nu}\right)^{-1} = \left(\frac{|m_{0\nu\beta\beta}|}{m_e}\right)^2 |\mathcal{M}^{0\nu}|^2 G^{0\nu}$$



 $G^{\text{int}} = \text{overall phase space factor} \\ \epsilon m_e \mathcal{M}^{\epsilon} \quad \leftarrow \rightarrow \text{determined by parameters of new physics}$ 

$$m_{0
u\beta\beta}^{
m int} \equiv m_{0
u\beta\beta} + \epsilon m_e \mathcal{M}^{\epsilon} (\mathcal{M}^{0
u})^{-1} \equiv m_{0
u\beta\beta} + m_{\epsilon}$$

Dürr, ML, Neuenfeld



# **GERDA Outlook**

**Transition to phase II:** 

- ✓ drainage, inspection & refilling of WT
- Installation of more new BEGe detectors
   → ~factor 2 in <sup>76</sup>Ge mass
- Installation of light instrumentation
   fibers and PMTs = anti-Compton veto
   further reduction of background index
- Continue data taking with more mass, less BI, longer time, ...







# **Summary**





- GERDA has finished phase I data taking with unprecedented BI in ROI
- The background in the GERDA experiment can be explained well & and is flat arounf ROI!
- 3 independent pulse shape discrimination techniques efficiently reduces background
- Half life limit for 0vββ-decay of <sup>76</sup>Ge:
   2.1·10<sup>25</sup> yr (90% C.L.)



- Combined with HdM and IGEX: 3.0·10<sup>25</sup> yr (90% C.L.)
   HdM claim strongly disfavored!
- Transition to phase II is on-going

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