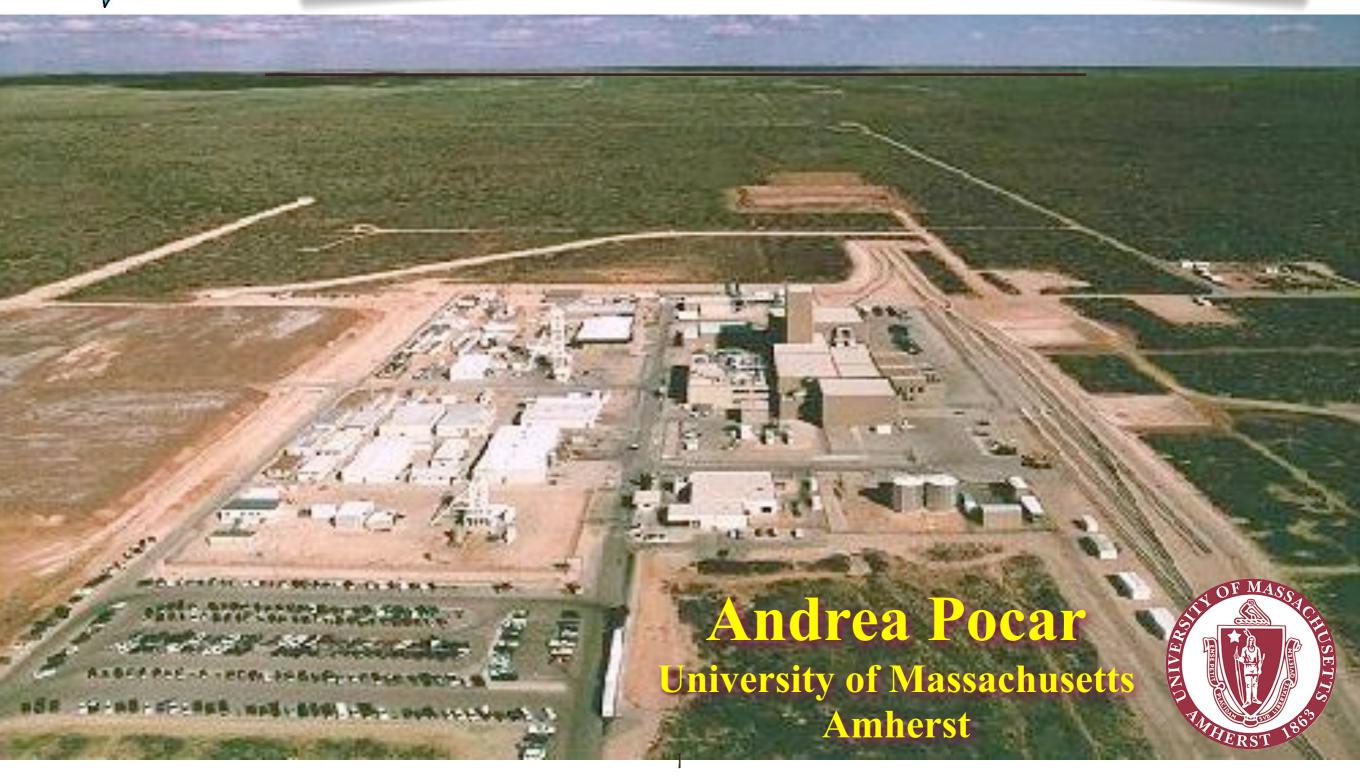


First data from the EXO-200 double beta decay experiment



1. what & why

- $\beta\beta$ decay: 2ν and 0ν modes
- link to new physics

2. **how**

- the EXO-200 detector
- operations, calibrations, data analysis

3. results

- $-2\nu \beta\beta$ measured by EXO-200
- comparison with other measurements

4. what next?

- the EXO-200 program
- (EXO plans beyond EXO-200)

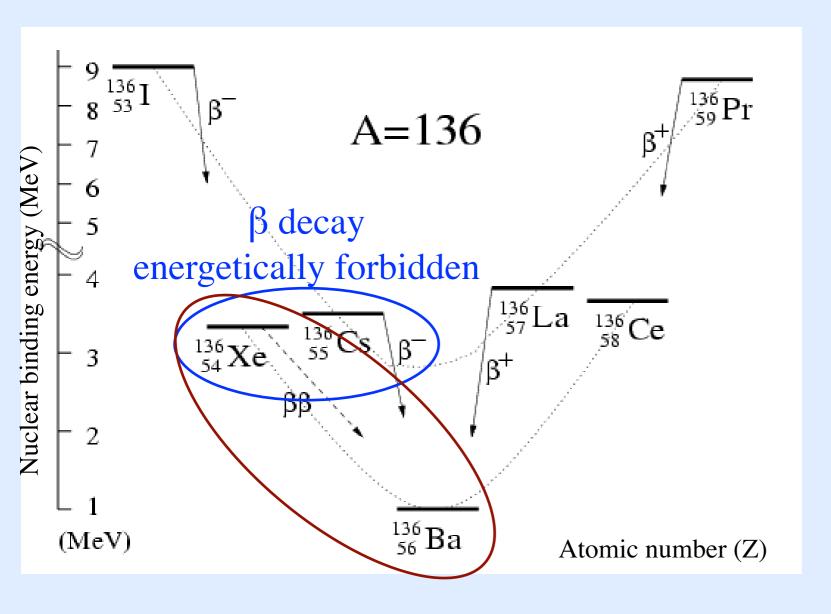
the back cover

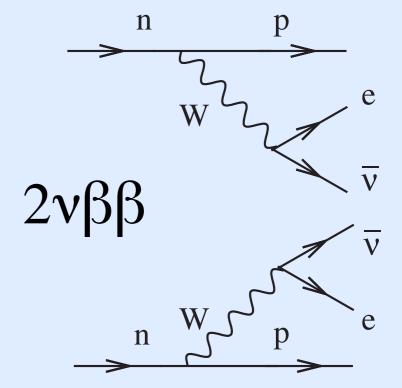
"two nu's is good news but no nu's would be even better!"

- Roger Blandford (Stanford University) -

double beta decay

- second order weak process (even-even nuclei)
- predicted in 1935 by Göppert-Meyer after Wigner's suggestion (~10¹⁷ years!)





possibility of non-standard 0νββ process

why study 0vbb decay?

its observation is associated with the discovery of:

- lepton number violation
- Majorana particles (neutrinos)

[Schechter and Valle, Phys. Rev. D 25 (1982) 2951]

and enables us to:

- measure the absolute mass scale of neutrinos
- define the mass ordering of neutrinos
- shed light on the matter/antimatter asymmetry (leptogenesis,)
- maybe

neutrino masses

from oscillation experiments:

- solar neutrinos

+ KamLAND $\Delta m^2_{12} \sim 8 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2$

(LMA-MSW):

 $tan^2\theta_{12} \sim 0.4$

- atmospheric neutrinos

 $\Delta m^2_{23} \sim 3 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$

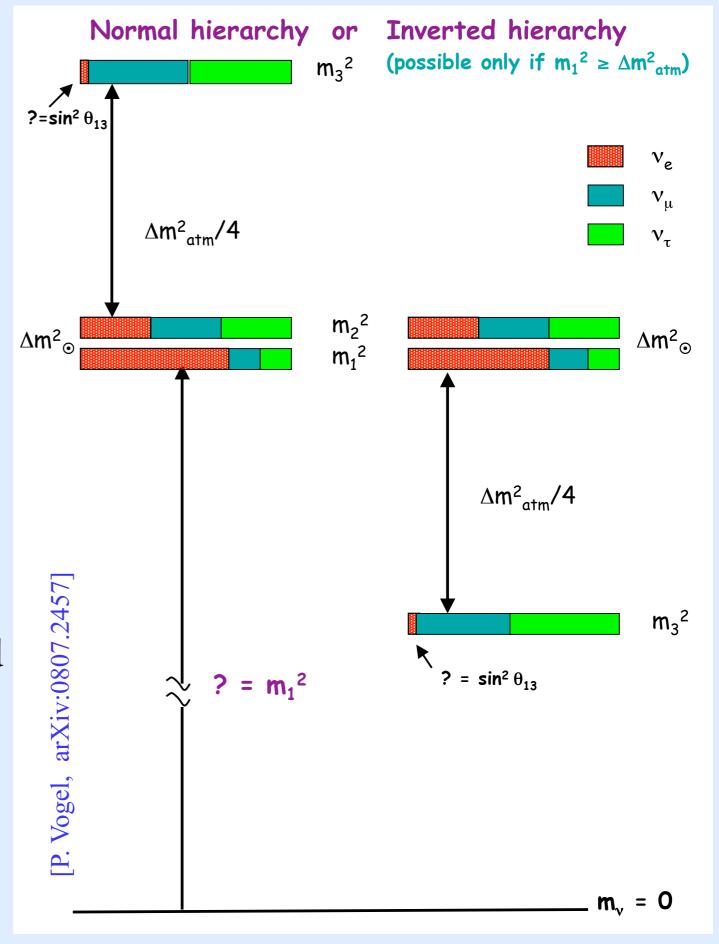
+ K2K/MINOS:

 $\sin^2 2\theta_{23} > 0.9$

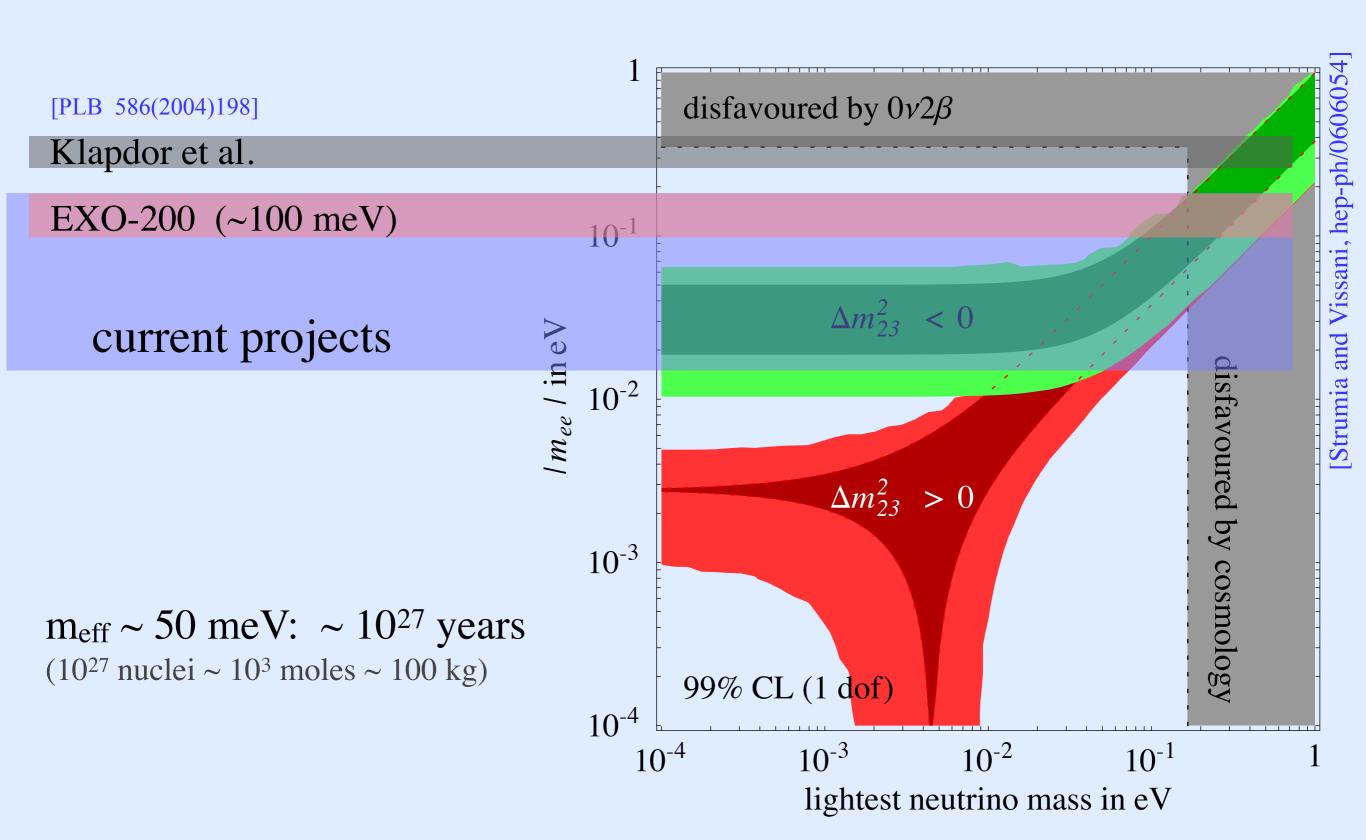
- Chooz / Palo Verde:

 $\sin^2 2\theta_{13} < 0.2$

- only mass differences are measured
- at least one neutrino has a mass of ~50 meV



Ovbb and neutrino masses



measured quantity: half life (rate)

$$\begin{bmatrix} T_{1/2}^{2\nu} \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = G_{2\nu}(Q_{\beta\beta},Z) \left| \begin{array}{c} M_{2\nu}^{\rm GT} - \frac{g_V^2}{g_A^2} M_{2\nu}^F \\ \end{array} \right|^2$$
 directly measured quantity calculable phase space factors (calculated within particular nuclear models)
$$\frac{1}{T_{1/2}^{0\nu}} = G_{0\nu}(Q,Z) |M_{0\nu}|^2 \langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle^2$$

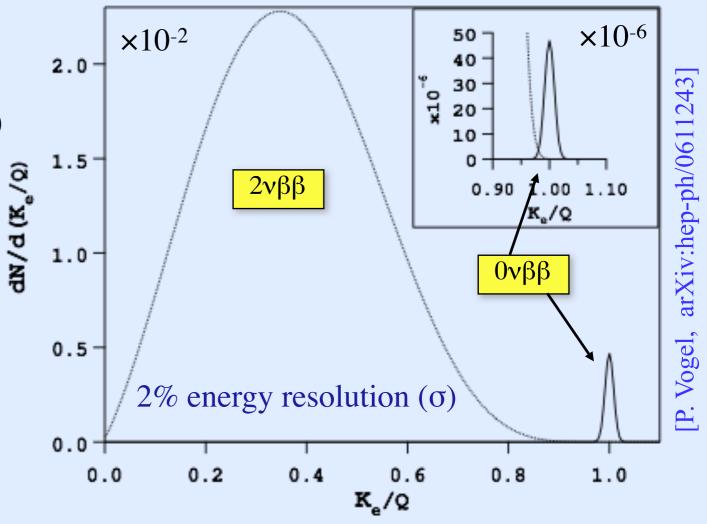
Majorana neutrino mass (can be zero !!)

$$\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle^2 = \left| \sum_{i}^{N} |U_{ei}|^2 e^{i\alpha_i} m_i \right|^2 \text{ (all } m_i \geqslant 0)$$

Nuclear physics is needed to connect different isotopes

how is 0vbb measured in the laboratory?

- very rare events: need to suppress non- $\beta\beta$ background with low radioactivity detectors (γ 's in particular)
- large mass: large source, isotope enrichment
- energy resolution: separate $0\nu\beta\beta$ mono-energetic peak in the 2-electron energy spectrum and fewer non- $\beta\beta$ background events in the peak



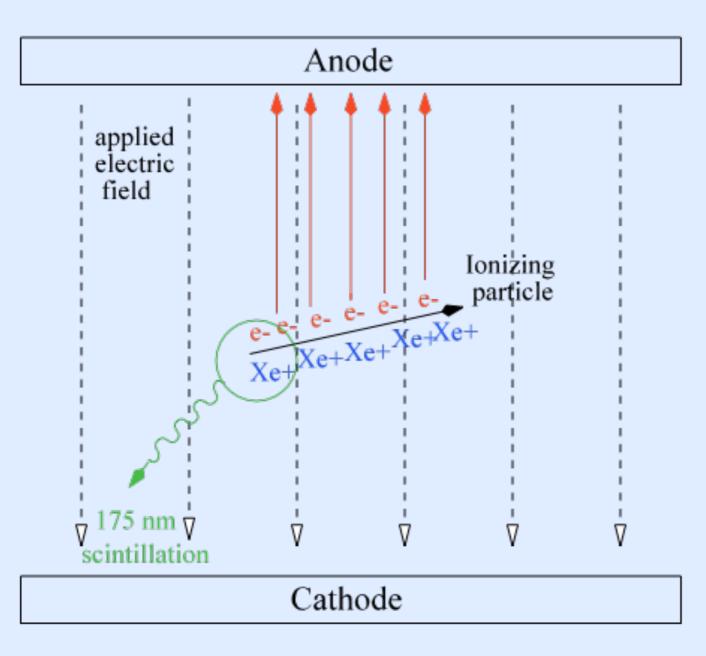
- tracking: identify individual electron tracks to discriminate between single- and 2-electron events (discrimination of β and γ background radiation)
- multi-isotope: measure different isotopes with the same detector to cross-check results and reduce systematic and theoretical uncertainties
- decay product identification: unambiguously from $\beta\beta$ events

why xenon for EXO?

- ✓ known purification technology
- ✓ can be re-purified and transferred between detectors
- ✓ simplest enrichment (proven at the 100's kg scale)
- ✓ scalable technology (dark matter experiments help!)
- ✓ source = detector, high detection efficiency
- ✓ allows for particle ID (α/β , single/multiple cluster)
- ✓ standard 2vββ (just observed!) is very slow ($T^{0v}_{1/2} = 2.11 \times 10^{21}$ y) [Ackerman et al., PRL 107, 212501 (2011); arXiv:1108.4193]
- * energy resolution: GXe > LXe > scintillator

LXe TPC design

dual readout of ionization and scintillation for position and energy measurement



Ionizing radiation interacting with liquid (or gaseous) xenon locally separates charge along it's path

Electric field drifts some of it away The rest recombines producing scintillation (175 nm), via Xe₂ dimer de-excitation

Event energy: ionization and scintillation light (used as t=0 for z)

Position of the event: crossed wires at the anode (x-y) and drift time (z)

✓ excellent technology for rare, low energy events!

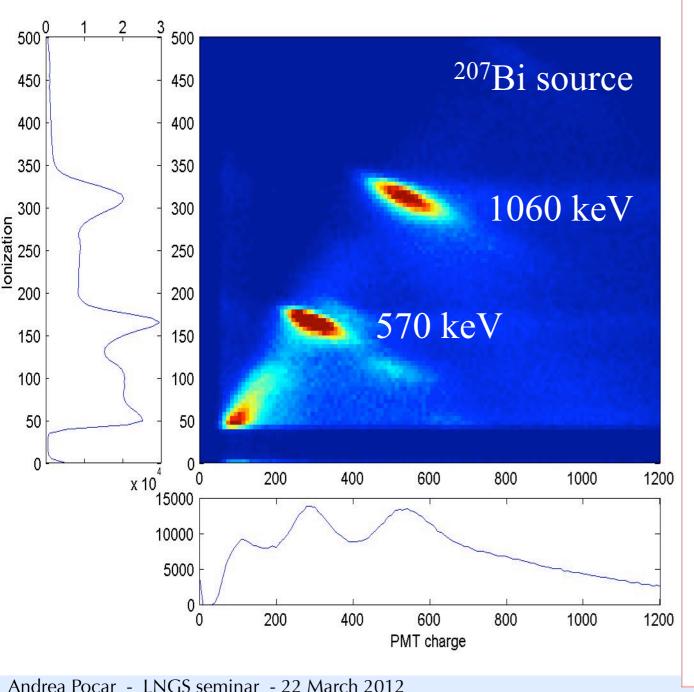
Anti-correlated ionization and scintillation improves the energy resolution in LXe

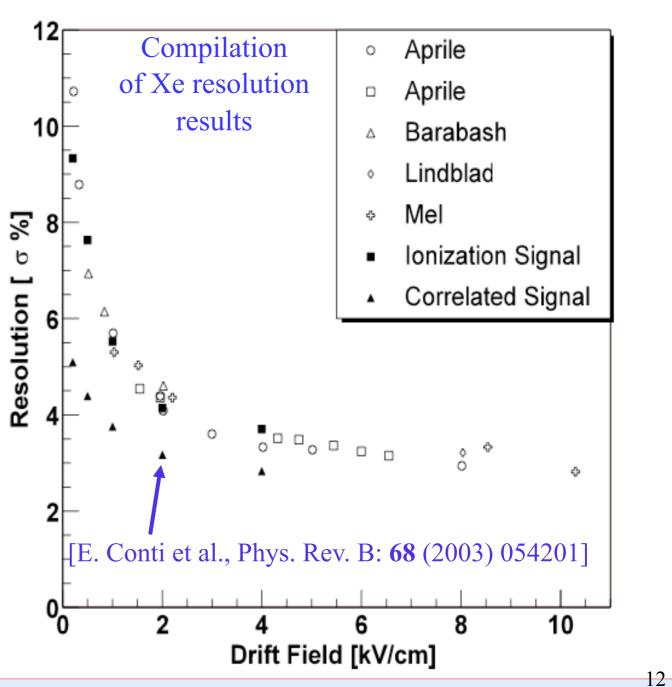
Ionization alone:

$$\sigma(E)/E = 3.8\% @ 570 \text{ keV}$$

or $1.8\% @ Q_{\beta\beta}$

Ionization + Scintillation: $\sigma(E)/E = 3.0\% \ \text{@} 570 \ \text{keV}$ or 1.4% @ Q_{ββ}





the EXO program

"EXO is a program aimed at building a xenon double beta decay experiment with a one or more ton ¹³⁶Xe source, with



the particular ability to detect the two electrons emitted in the decay in coincidence with the positive identification of the ¹³⁶Ba daughter via optical spectroscopy for unprecedentedly low background"

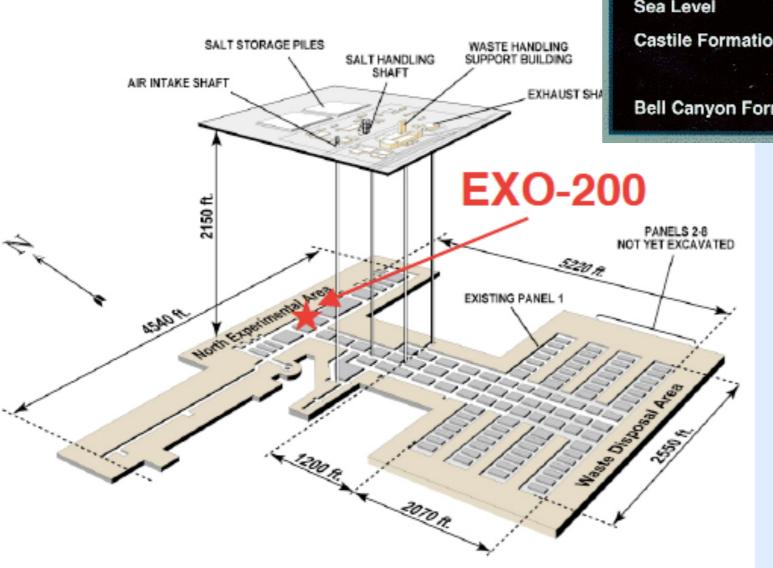
EXO-200

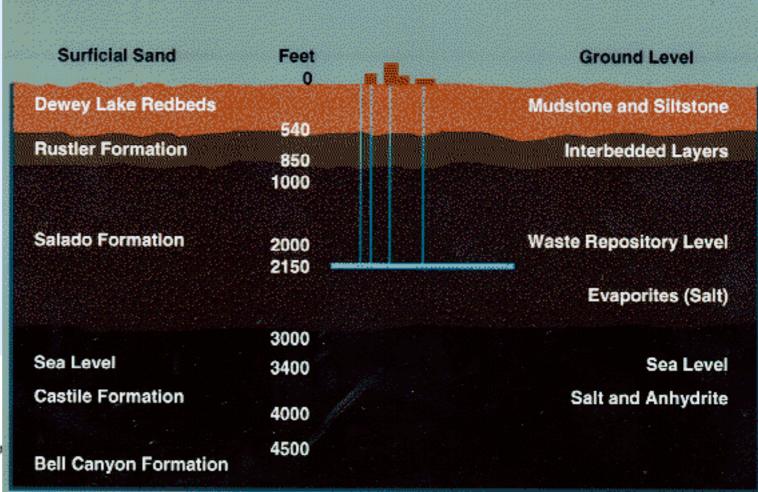
EXO-200 is a large single phase LXe TPC with scintillation light readout. It uses a source of 200 kg of enriched xenon (80% ¹³⁶Xe)

- measure the standard $2\nu\beta\beta$ decay of ^{136}Xe (done!) [Ackerman et al.., PRL 107, 212501 (2011); arXiv:1108.4193]
- look for $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay of 136 Xe with competitive sensitivity (current limit: $T^{0\nu}_{1/2} > 1.2 \times 10^{24}$ y) [R. Bernabei et al., Phys. Lett. B 546 (2002) 23]
- test backgrounds of large LXe detector at ~2000 m.w.e. depth
- test LXe technology and enrichment on a large scale
- test TPC components, light readout (~500 LAAPDs), and radioactivity of materials, xenon handling and purification, energy resolution



EXO-200 at WIPP



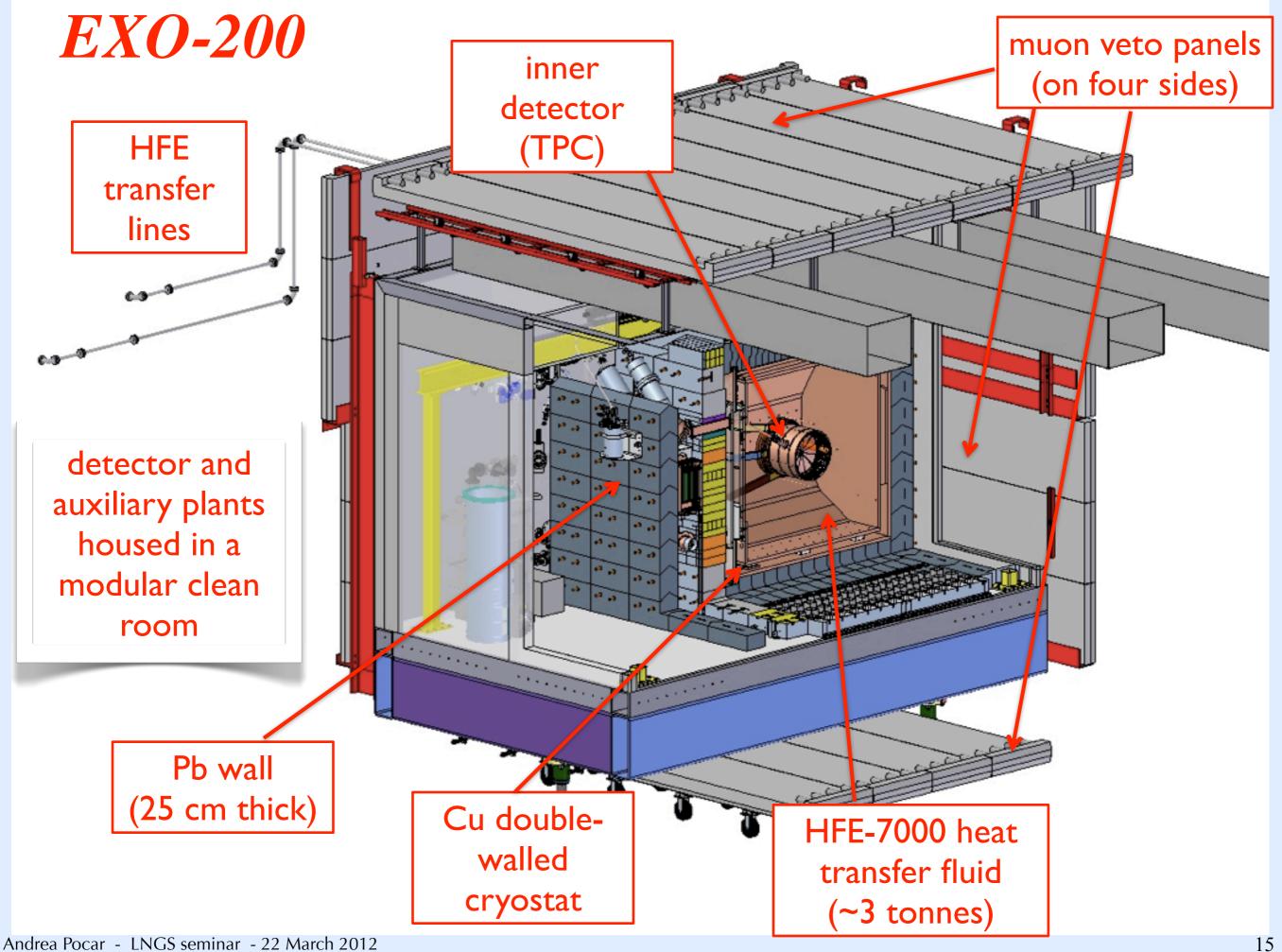


GEOLOGIC PROFILE

∼1600 m.w.e. overburden(650 meters or rock + salt)

[Esch et al., NIM A 538, 516 (2005)]

- ► <100 ppb U,Th
- → ~20 Bq/m³ radon







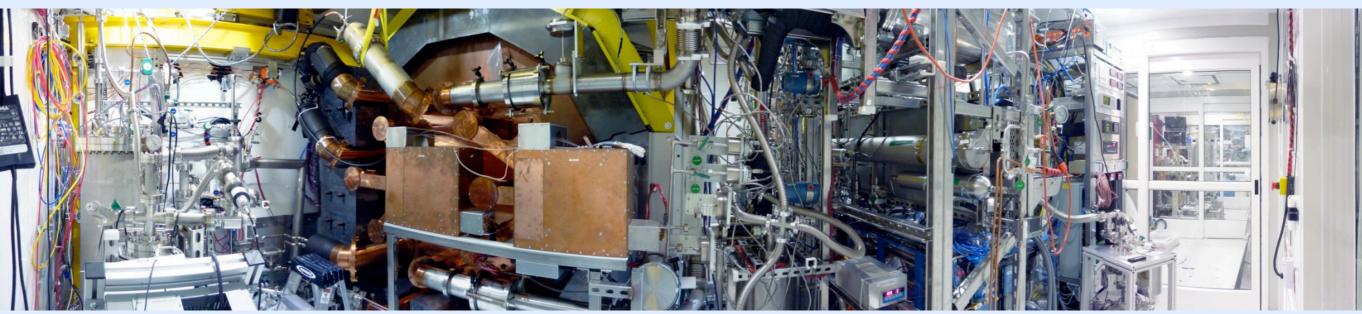
EXO-200 (a) WIPP



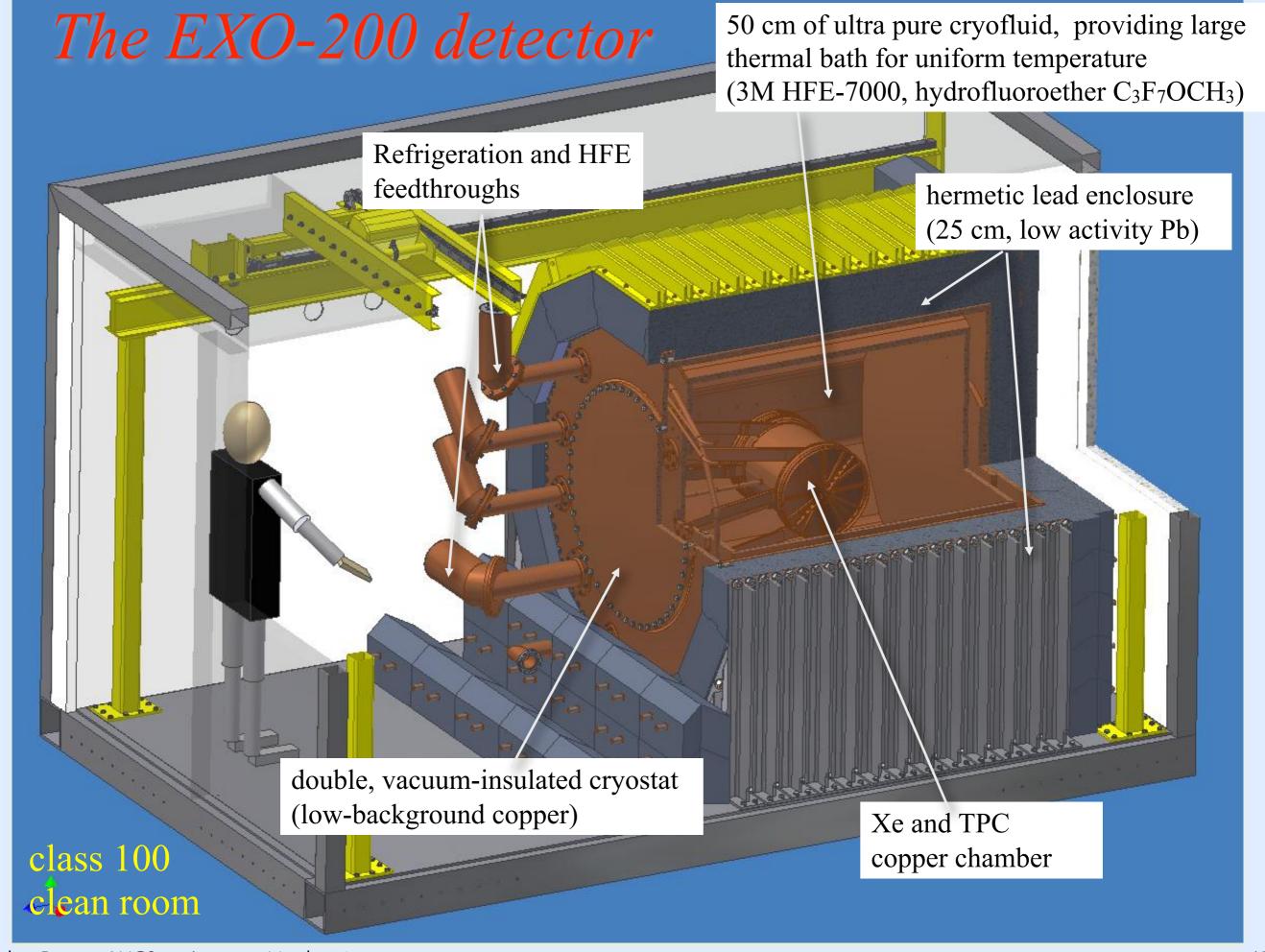




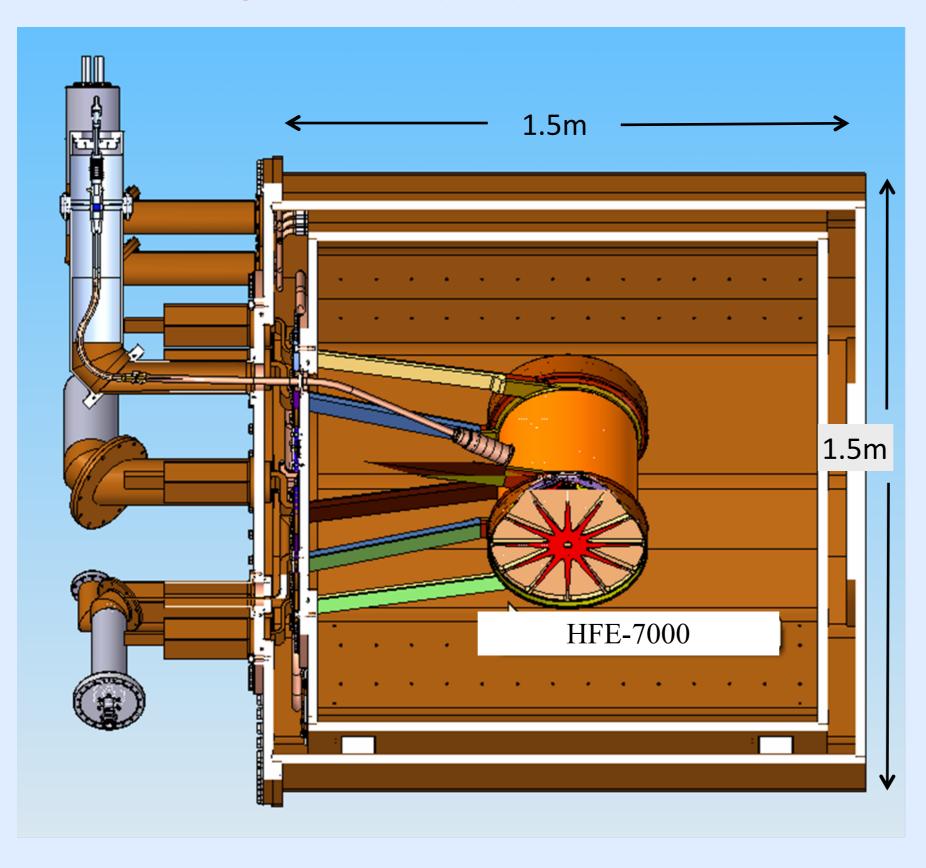




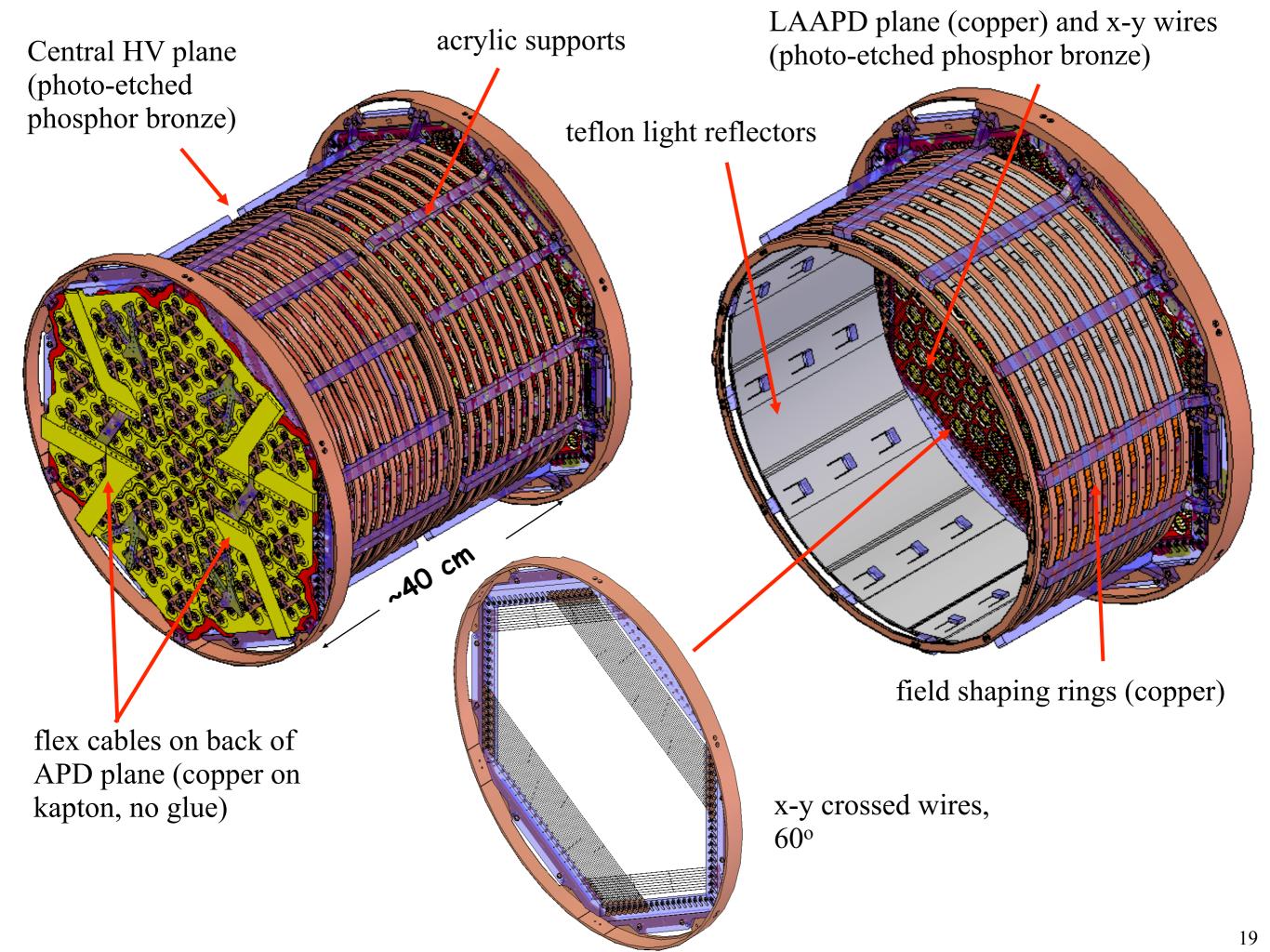




The EXO-200 detector



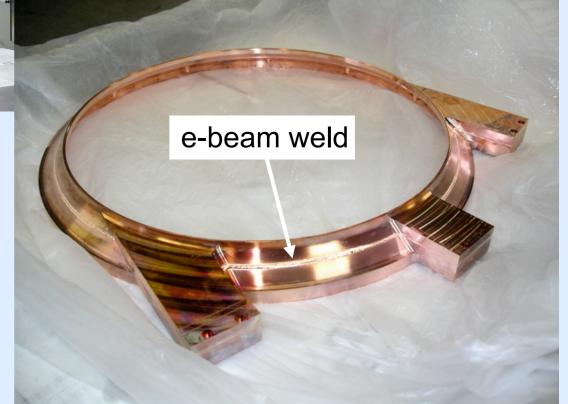
HFE-loaded cryostat is cooled via closed-loop refrigerant chilled by external refrigerators and circulating in heat exchangers



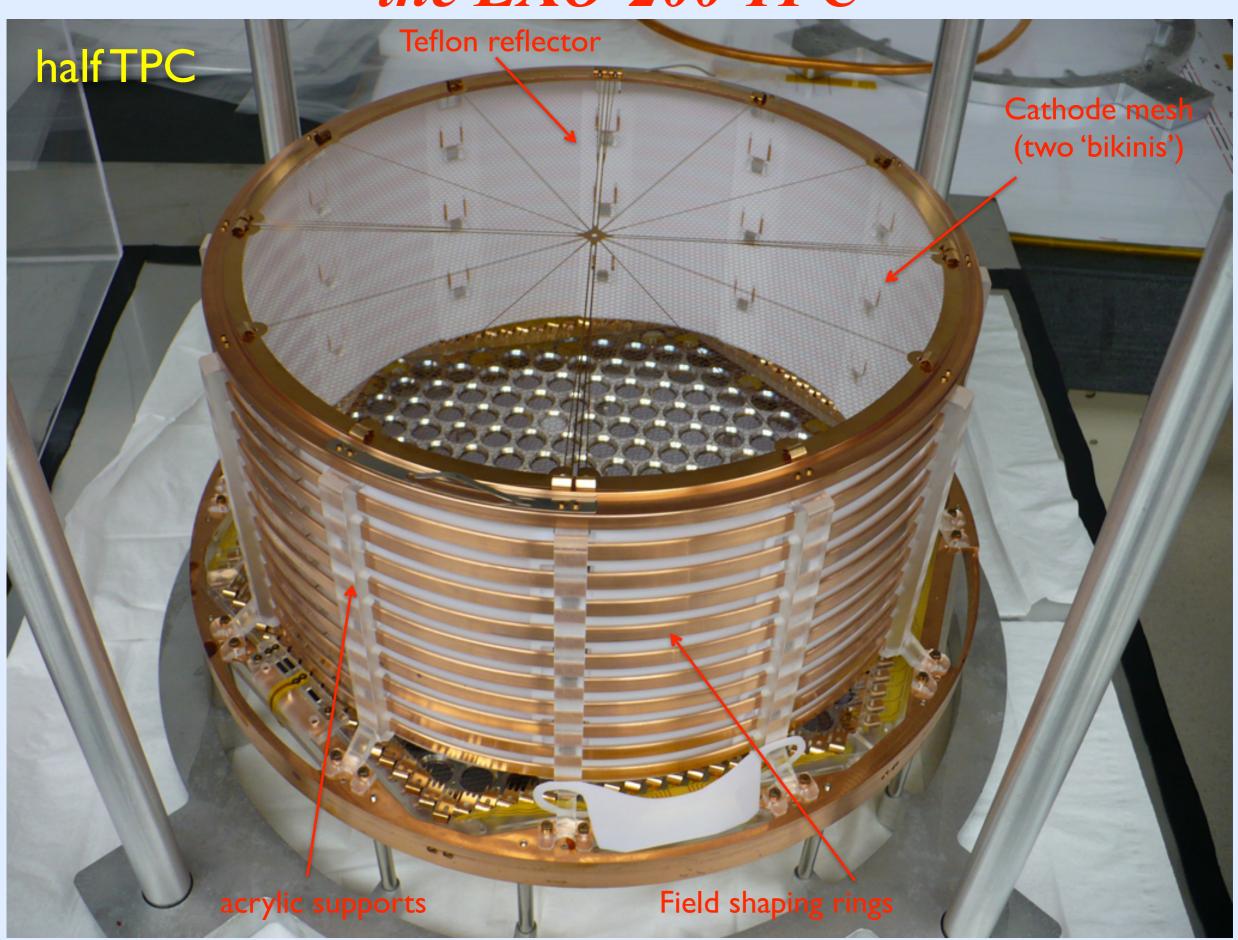
EXO-200 xenon vessel

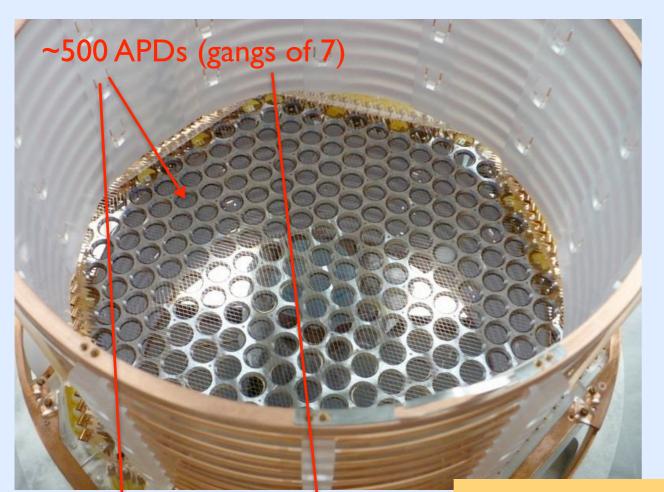


- ultra-pure copper
- 1.5 mm thick
- mostly e-beam welded
- machined and stored shallow underground(2 m of concrete)



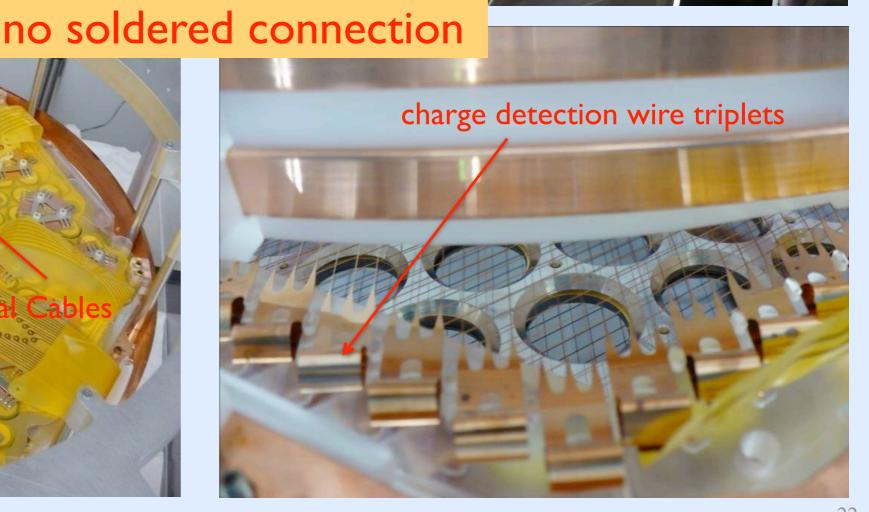
the EXO-200 TPC



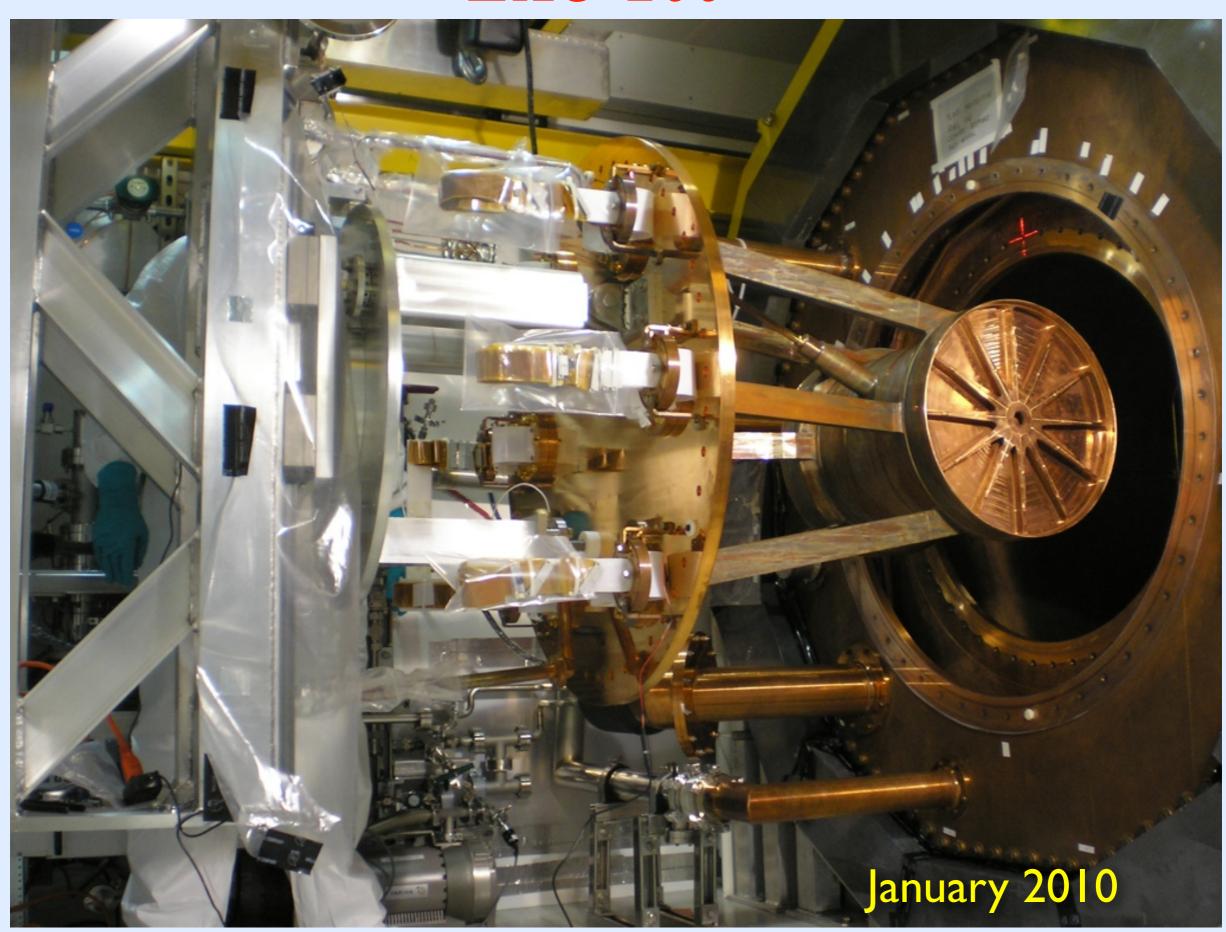








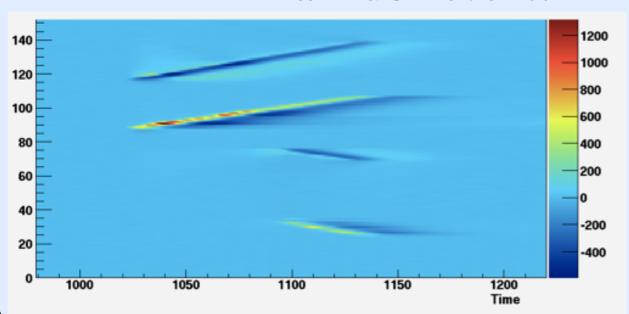
EXO-200

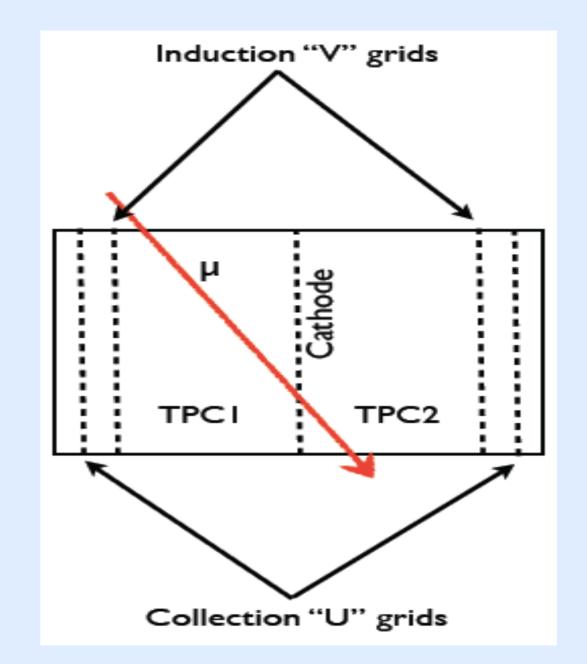


EXO-200 engineering run (Dec 2010)

- ✓ natural xenon
- ✓ test stability of LXe/GXe systems
- √ measure Xe purity
- √ generally test detector performance
- ✓ test source calibration system
- √ test Xe emergency recovery
- * no front Pb shield
- * no Rn-suppressed enclosure
- * no Rn trap in Xe system
- * no muon veto

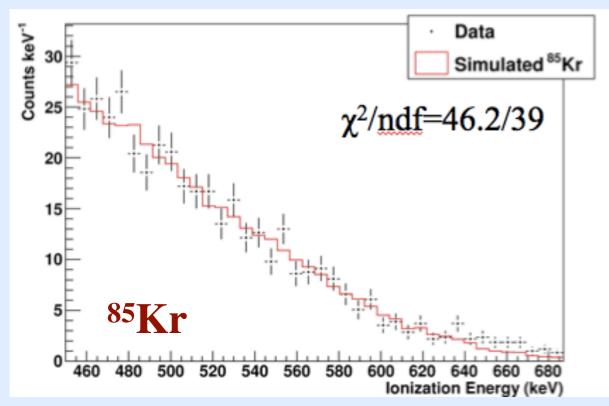
a muon event:







some known offenders (in natXe)

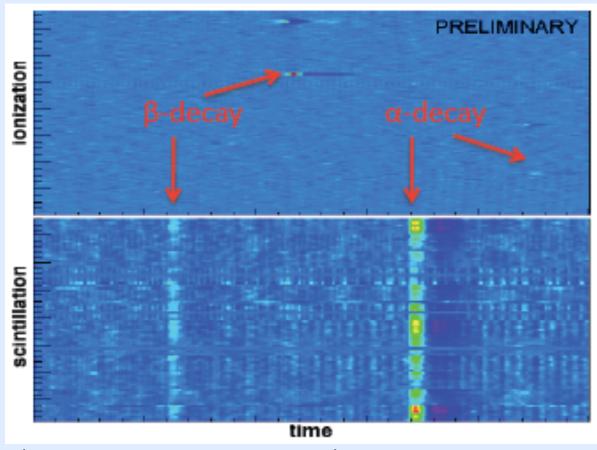


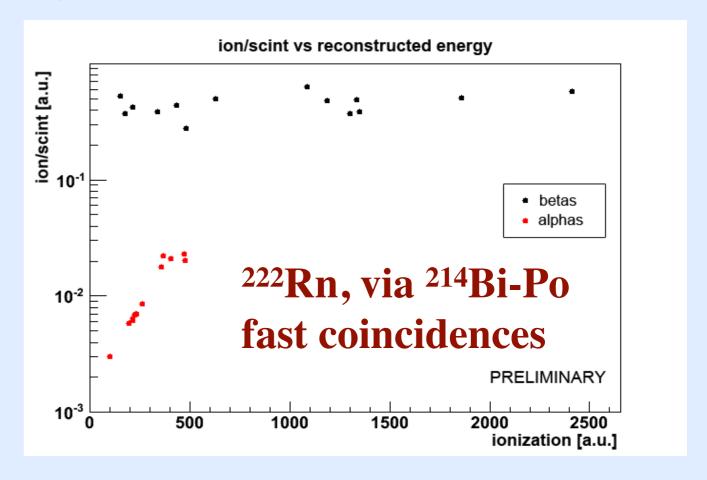
the total Kr concentration in the ^{nat}Xe was measured to be, using a special technique involving mass-spectroscopic analysis in the gas phase,

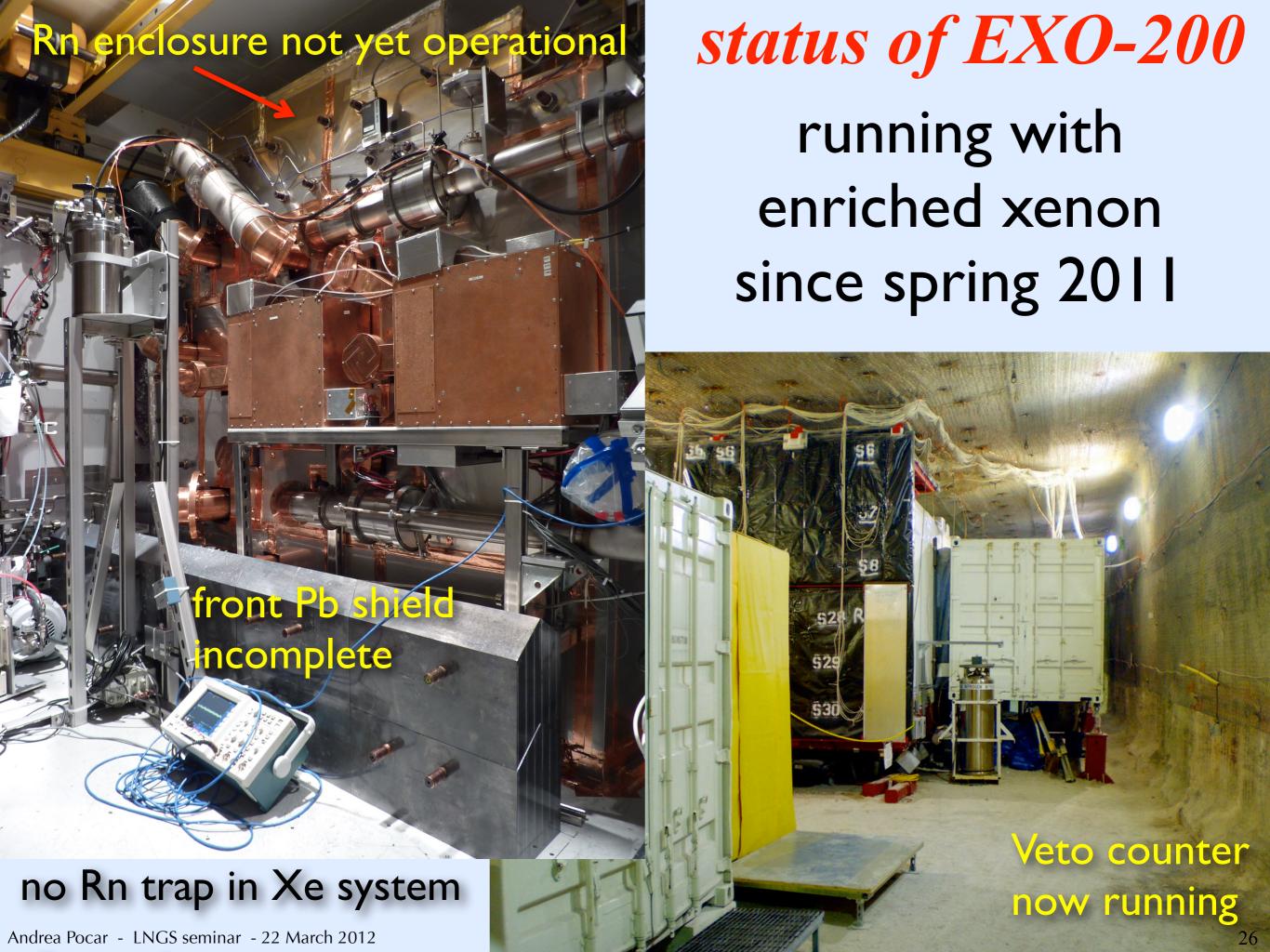
$$(42.6\pm5.7)\cdot10^{-9} \text{ g/g}$$

[A. Dobi et al., arXiv:1103.2714v1]

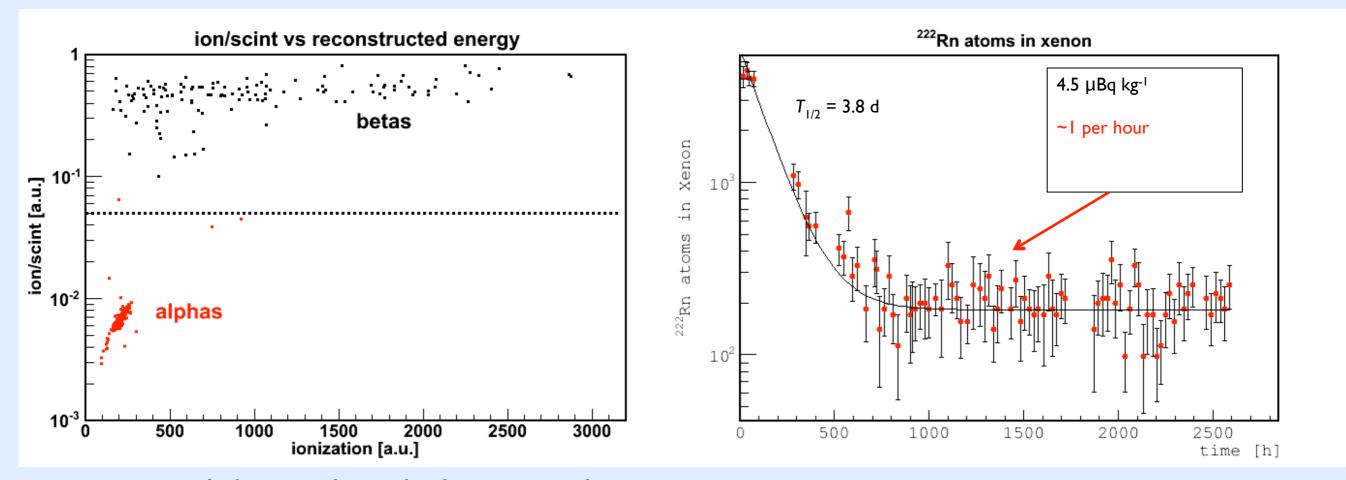
→ consistent with Mass Spec result assuming standard 85Kr/Kr concentration of ~10⁻¹¹







Rn content and alpha discrimination

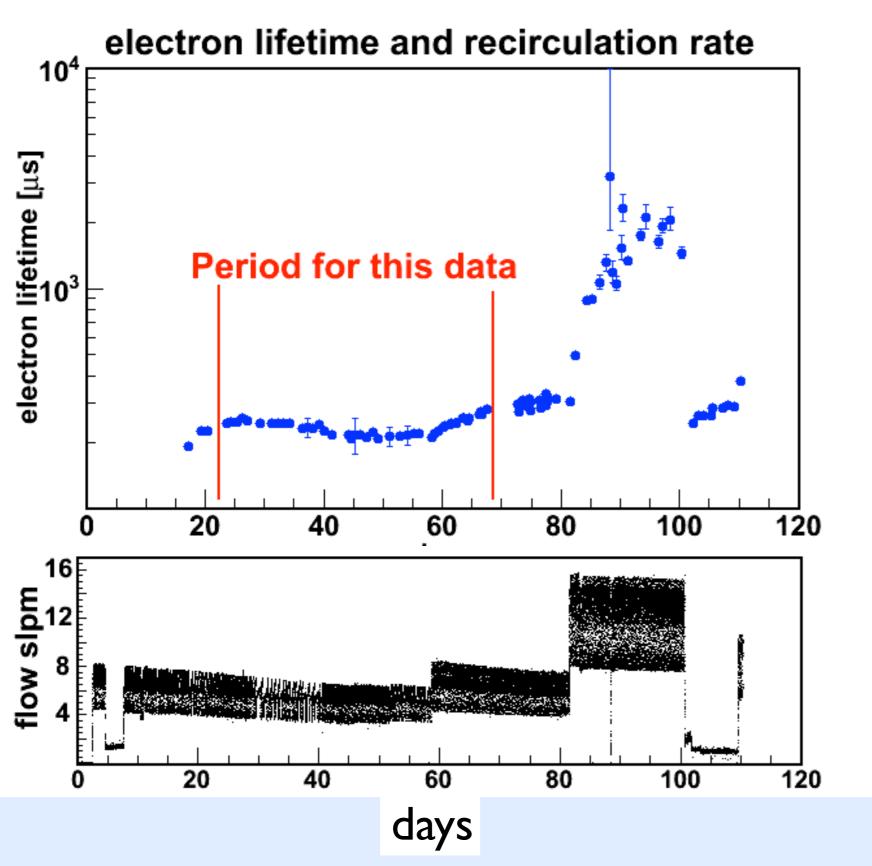


α: strong light signal, weak charge signal β: weak light signal, strong charge signal

²¹⁴Bi^{–214}Po correlations in the EXO-200 detector

Using the Bi-Po (Rn daughter) coincidence technique, we can estimate the Rn content in our detector. The ²¹⁴Bi decay rate is consistent with measurements from alpha-spectroscopy and the expectation before the Rn trap is commissioned.

xenon purity

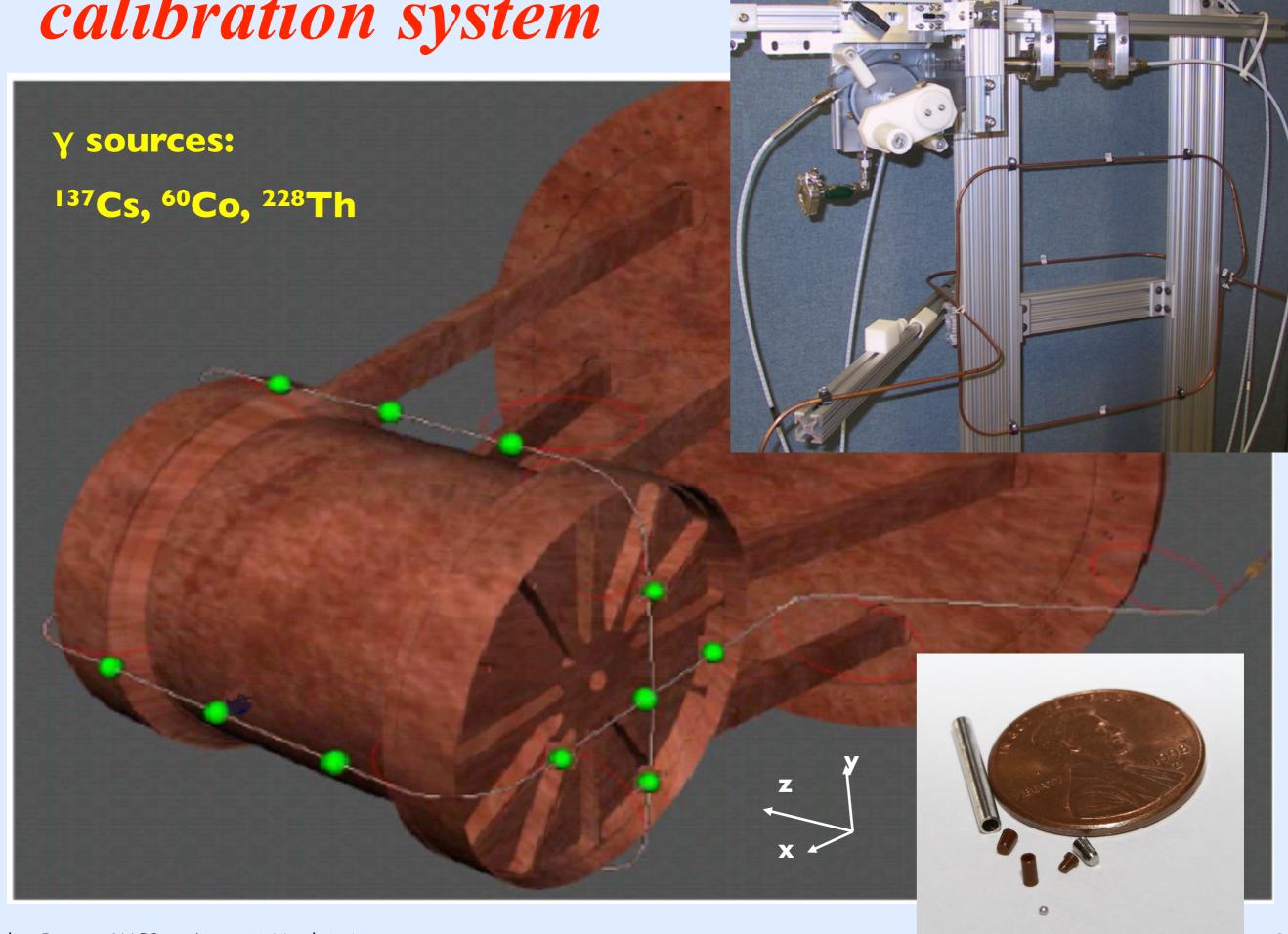


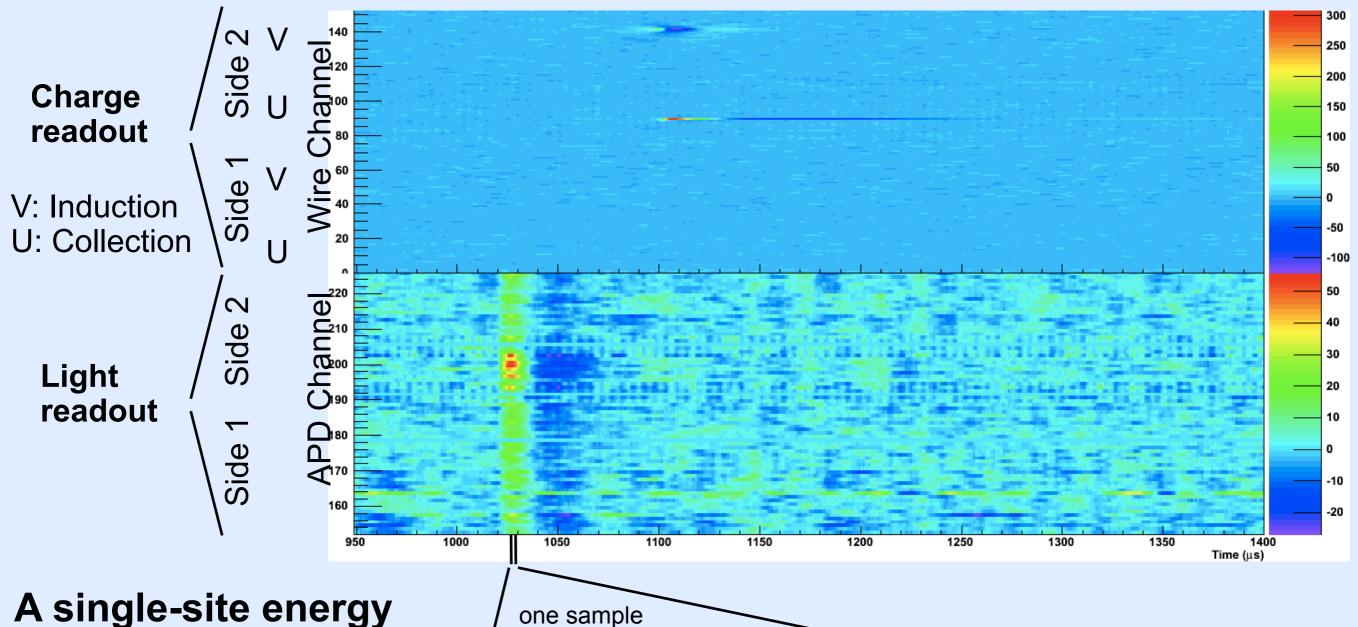
- deployed γ sources around the TPC
- measured the purity of LXe during continuous recirculation with a piston pump

[R. Neilson et al., arXiv:1104.5041v1]

- purity measured by 3 methods
- determined the energy scale in the relevant range of interest
 - shown rapid achievement of ms electron lifetime

calibration system

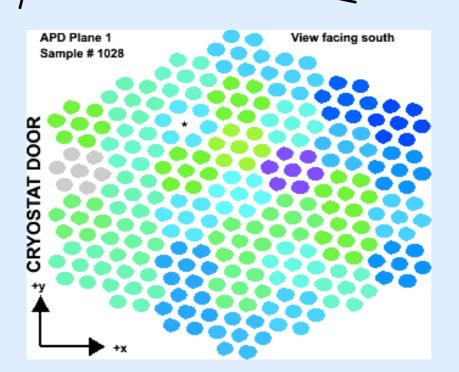


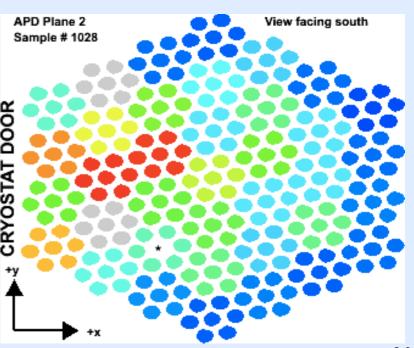


A single-site energy deposition in EXO-200

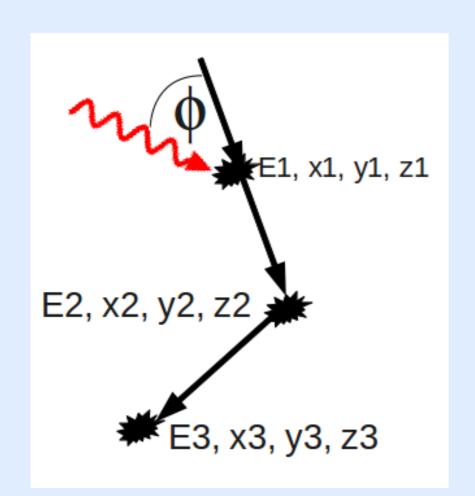
Scintillation light is seen at both sides. The light is more diffuse on side 1 and more localized on side 2, where the event occurred.

The light signal always precedes both charge signals. The induction (V) signal precedes the collection (U) signal.



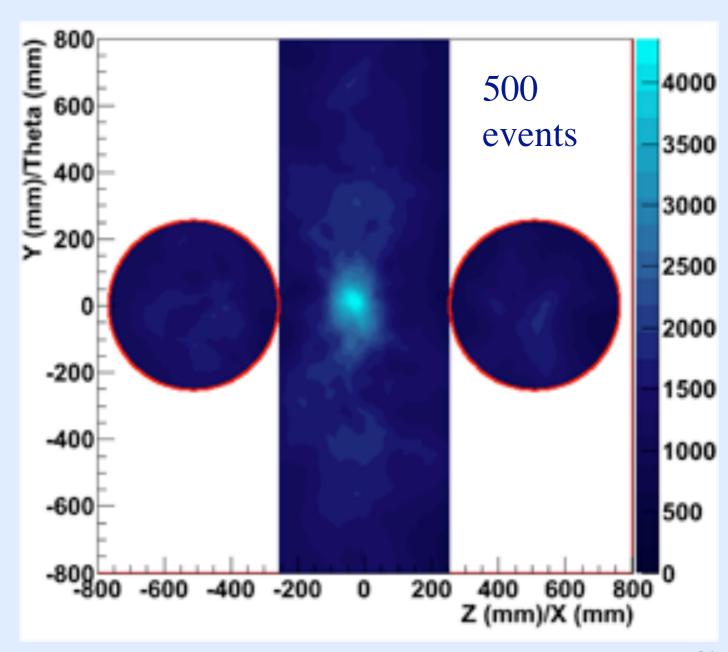


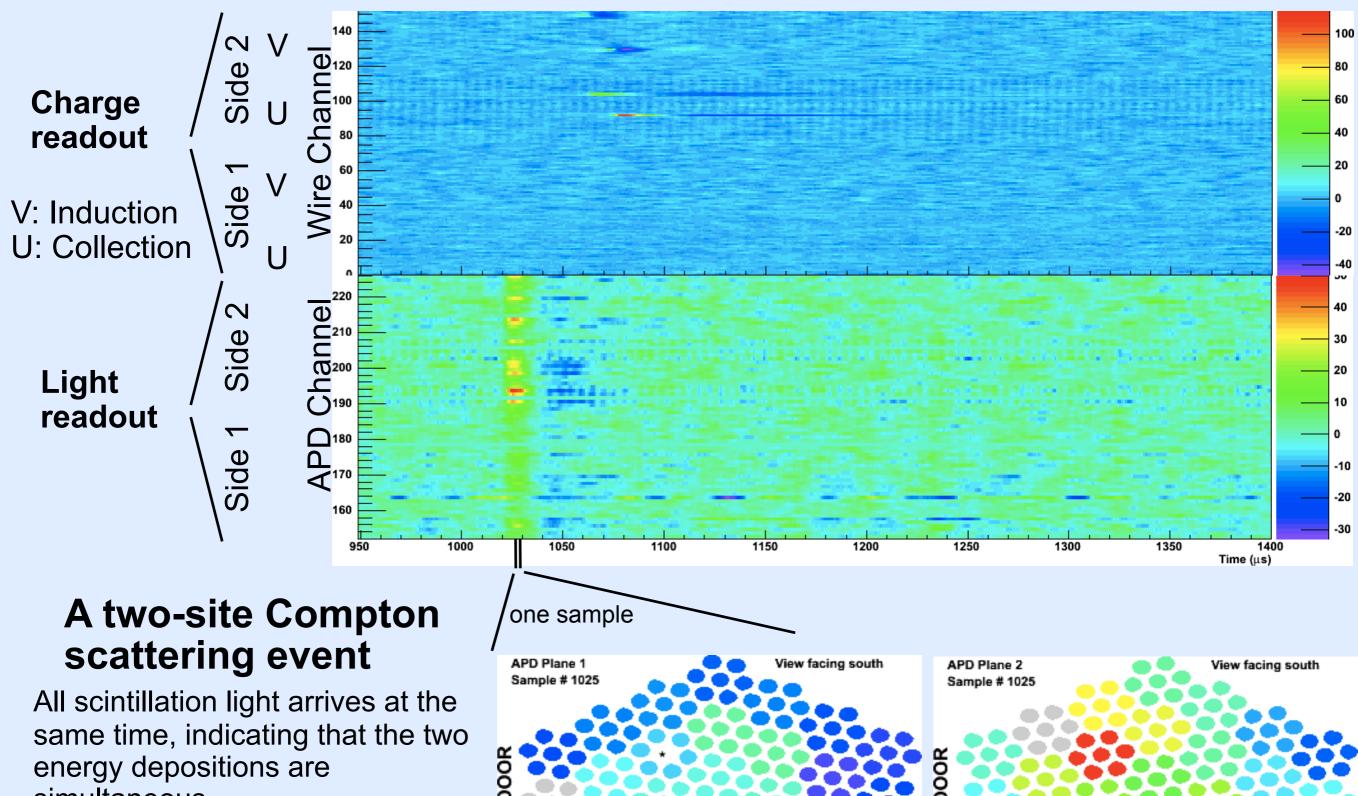
source position: Compton telescope



$$\phi = \arccos\left[1 - m_e c^2 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{E_{\gamma} - E_1} - \frac{1}{E_1}\right)\right]$$

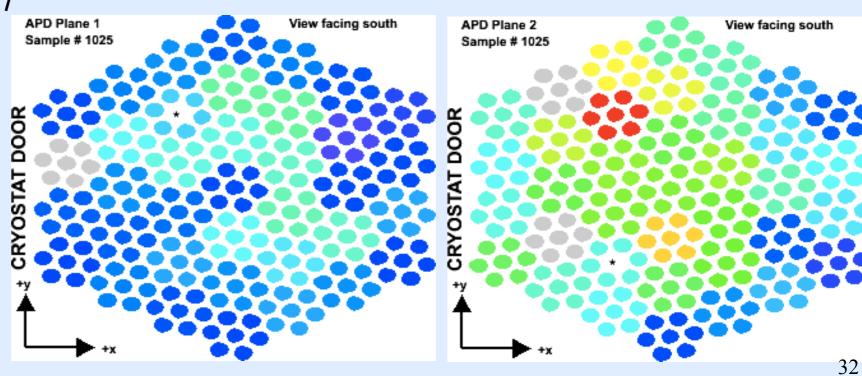
- measure energy and position of each event
- from each site a cone is drawn and the sum of all the cones produces the image to the right





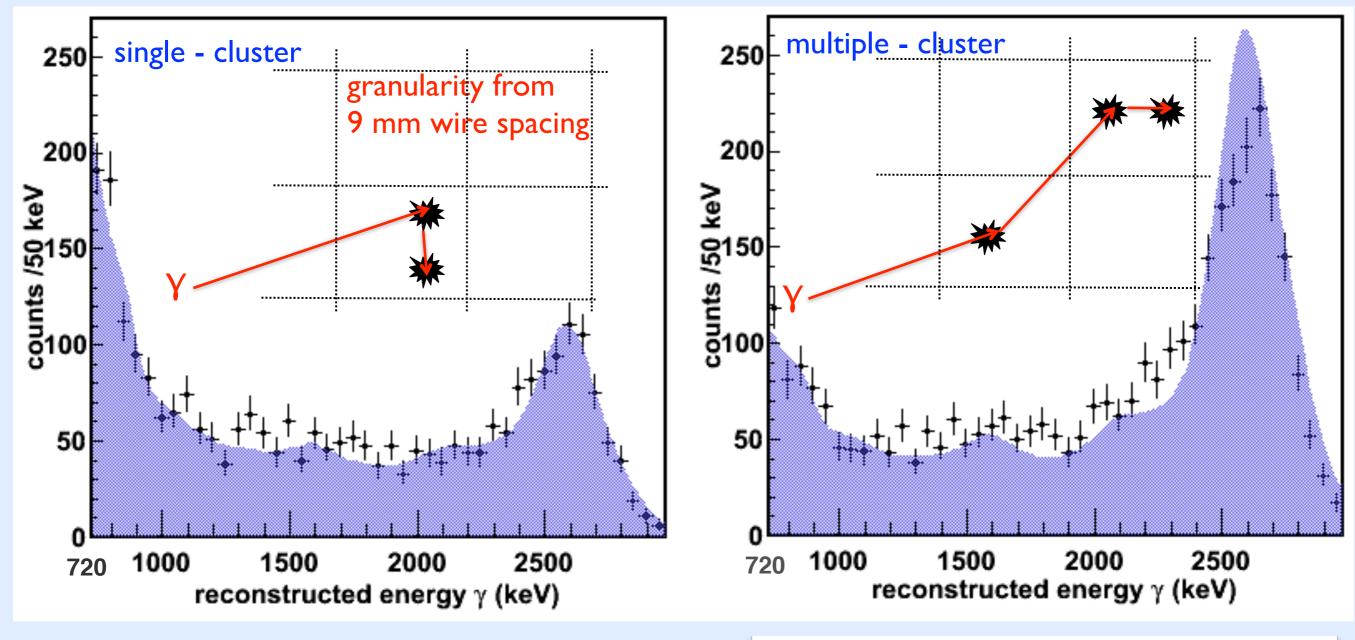
simultaneous.

In this case, the gamma ray occurred on side 2. The light hitting side 2 is more localized, while the light hitting side 1 is more diffuse across the plane.



Andrea Pocar - LNGS seminar - 22 March 2012

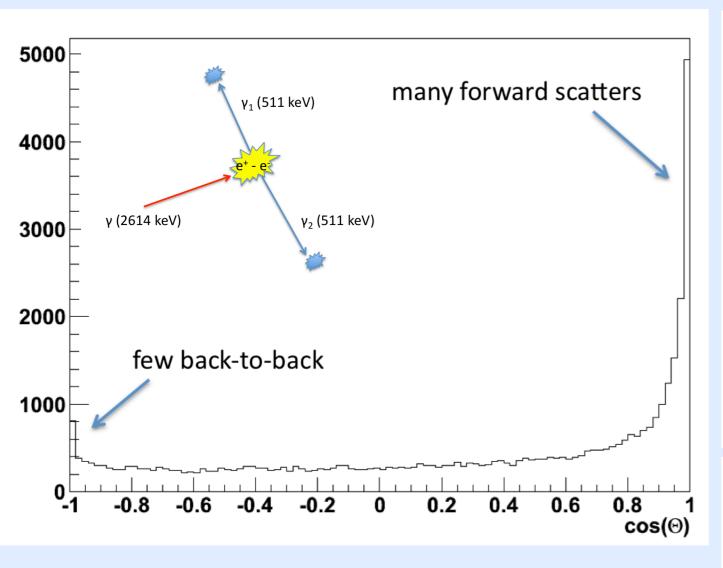
²²⁸Th source calibrations



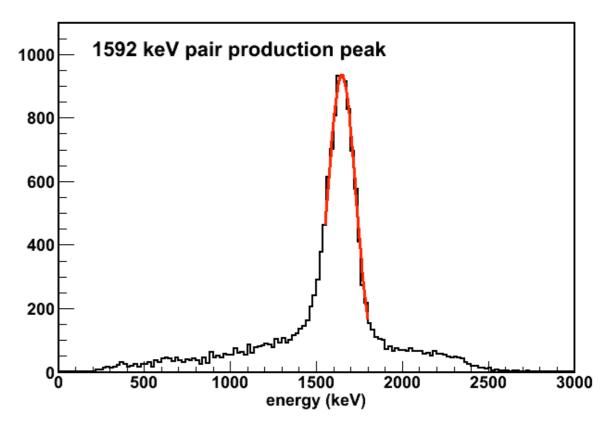
- Calibration runs compared to simulation
 - GEANT4 based simulation
 - charge propagation
 - scintillation propagation
 - signal generation
 - energy resolution parameterization is added in after the fact
- There are no free parameters for these comparisons (worst agreement is +8%)

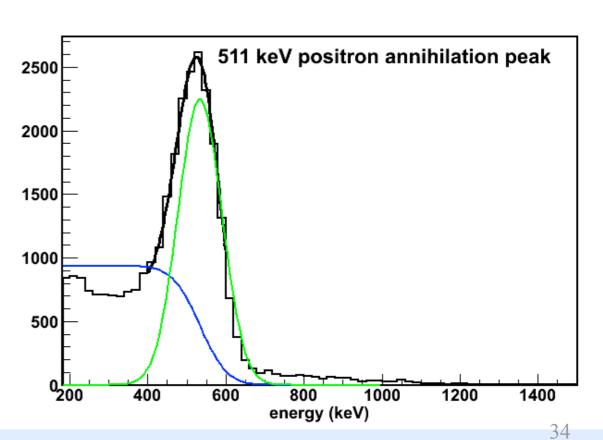
charge-only analysis

energy calibration: pair production

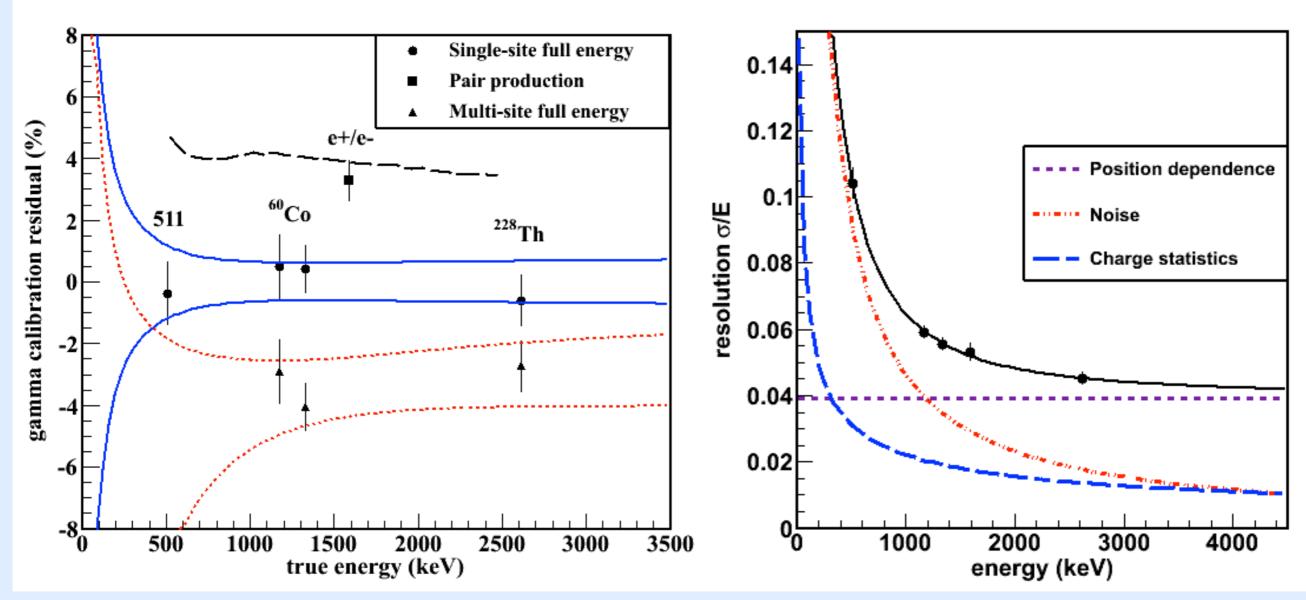


- identify 3-site events (pair-production + 2 annihilation γ 's)
- ▶ 511 keV are our lowest energy calibration point
- 1592 keV pair production mimics ββ event





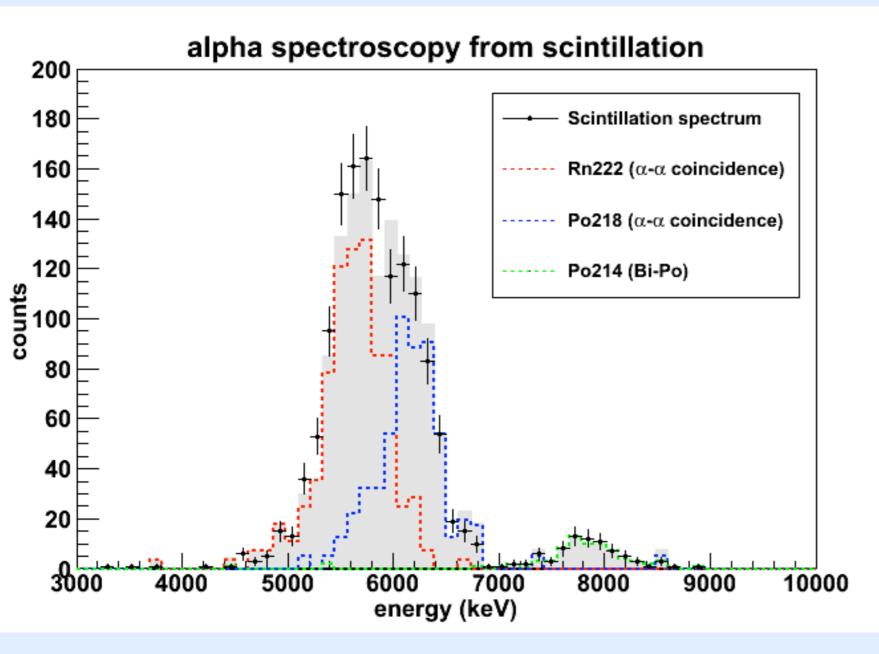
energy calibration



- After purity correction, calibrated single and multiple cluster peaks across energy region of interest (511 to 2615 keV)
 - -uncertainty bands are systematic
- Point-like depositions have large reconstructed energies due to induction effects
 - observed for pair-production site (similar to β and $\beta\beta$ decays)
 - reproduced in simulation
- Peak widths also recorded and their dependence on energy is parameterized.

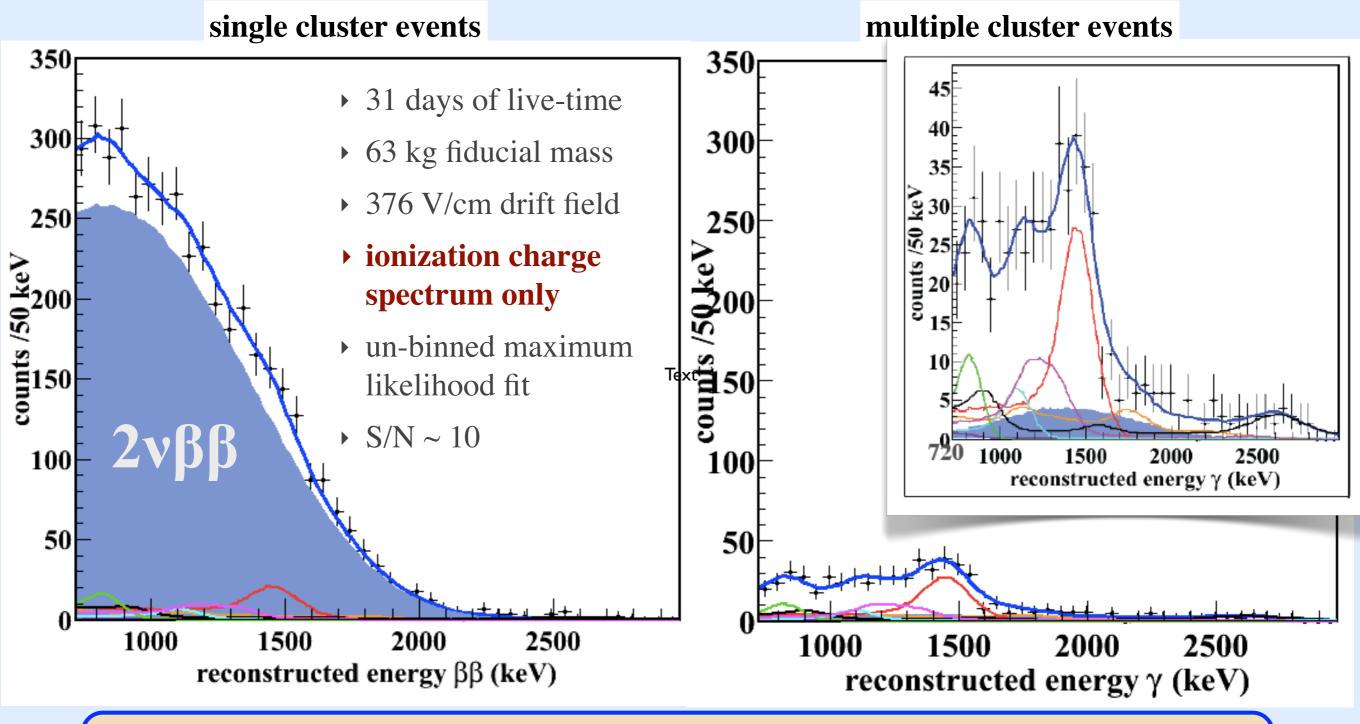
constraints from alpha spectroscopy

use well-identifiable α decays to constrain plausible backgrounds



- look for α decays in the ²³⁸U chain, above ²²²Rn
- use Rn alphas to calibrate
- can constrain ²³⁸U contamination by setting a limit on 4.5 MeV α's (<0.3 counts/day in fiducial volume)
 - same limit applies to its daughter 234m Pa, which with its Q=2195 keV β 's could be a background (but isn't)

first observation of $2v\beta\beta$ of ^{136}Xe



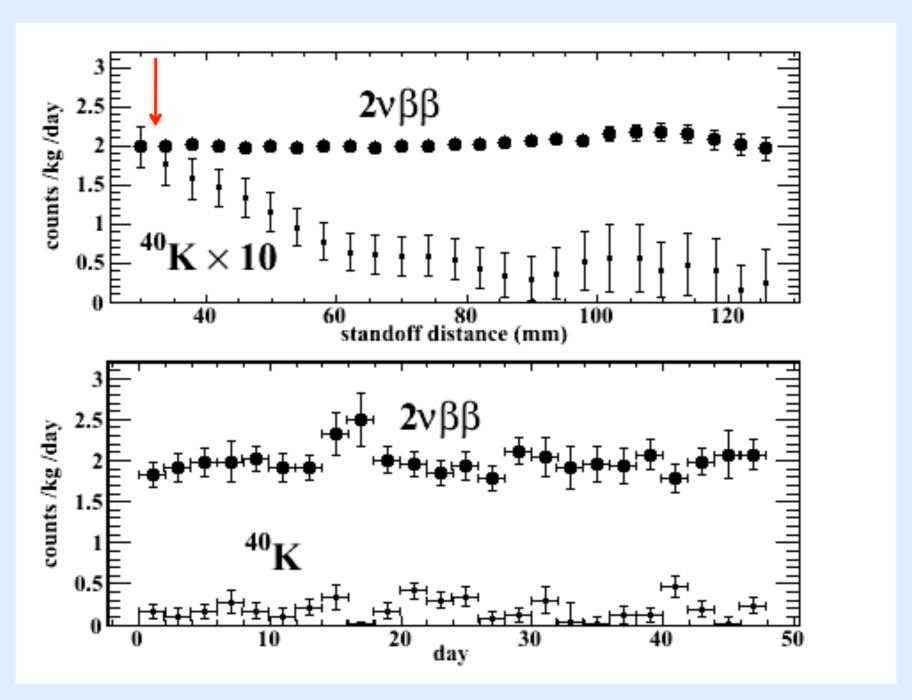
$$\mathbf{T_{1/2}^{2v}} = (\mathbf{2.11} \pm \mathbf{0.04}(\mathbf{stat}) \pm \mathbf{0.21}(\mathbf{syst})) \times \mathbf{10^{21}} \text{ years}$$

2vββ decay matrix elements

Table of 2v halflives and matrix elements with references

⁴⁸ C a	T _{1/2} (y) (4.3 +2.4 _{-1.1} ±1.4)E19	M ² v(MeV ⁻¹) 0.05±0.02	Balysh, PRL 77 ,5186(1996)				
⁷⁶ Ge	(1.74 ± 0.01+0.18 ₋₀₁₆)E21	0.13±0.01	Doerr,NIMA 513 ,596(2003)				
⁸² Se	(9.6 ± 0.3 ± 1.0)E19	0.10±0.01	Arnold,PRL 95 ,182302(2005)				
⁹⁶ Zr	(2.35 ± 0.14 ± 0.16)E19	0.12±0.01	Argyriades,NPA 847 ,168(2010)				
¹⁰⁰ Mo	(7.11 ±0.02 ± 0.54)E18	0.23±0.01	Arnold,PRL95,182302(2005)				
¹¹⁶ Cd	(2.9 ^{+0.4} _{-0.3})E19	0.13±0.01	Danevich,PRC68,035501(2003)				
¹²⁸ Te*	$(1.9 \pm 0.1 \pm 0.3)$ E24	0.05±0.005	Lin,NPA481,477(1988)				
¹³⁰ Te	(7.0 ± 0.9 ±1.1)E20	0.033±0.003	Arnold, PRL107, 062504 (2011) this	work			
¹³⁶ Xe	(2.1 ± 0.04 ± 0.21)E21	0.019±0.001	Ackerman,arxiv:1108.4193(2011)				
¹⁵⁰ Nd	(9.11 ^{+0.25} _{-0.22} ±0.63)E18	0.06±0.003	Argyriades,PRC80,032501R(2009)				
²³⁸ U**	(2.2 ± 0.6)E21	0.05±0.01	Turkevich, PRL67, 3211(1991)				
*from geochemical ratio 128Te/130Te; **radiochemical result							

low background spectra



- signal constant in time
 - signal is uniform throughout the LXe bulk
 - gamma backgrounds are suppressed towards the center of the detector

Systematic error budget for spring 2011 2νββ analysis

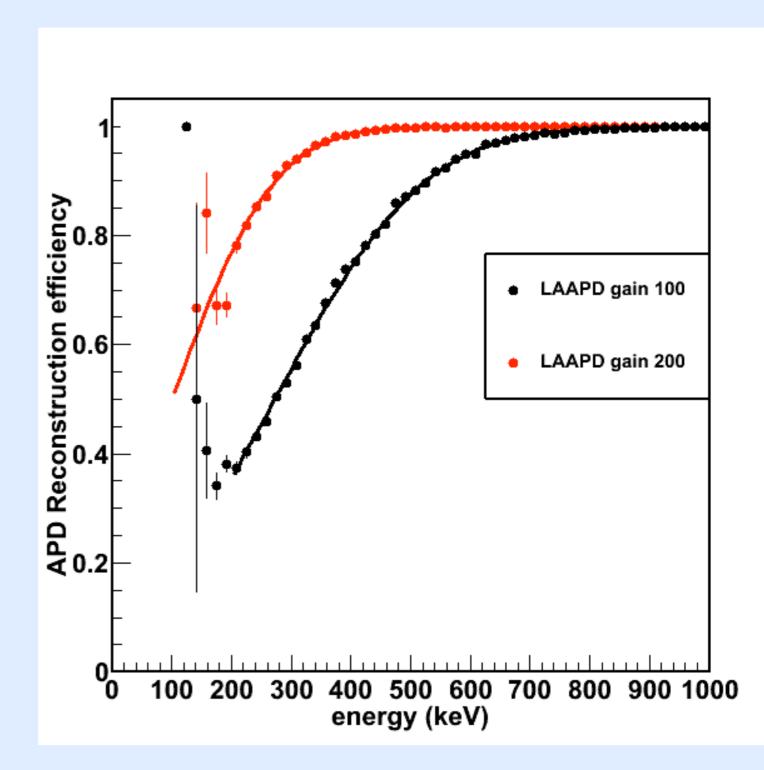
$$T_{1/2}^{2\nu\beta\beta} = 2.11 \times 10^{21} \text{ yr (\pm 0.04 stat) (\pm 0.21 sys)}$$

- Fiducial volume 9.3%
- Multiplicity assignment 3.0 %
- Energy calibration 1.8%
- Background models 0.6%

Working hard to reduce these for upcoming analyses

3D reconstruction, energy threshold

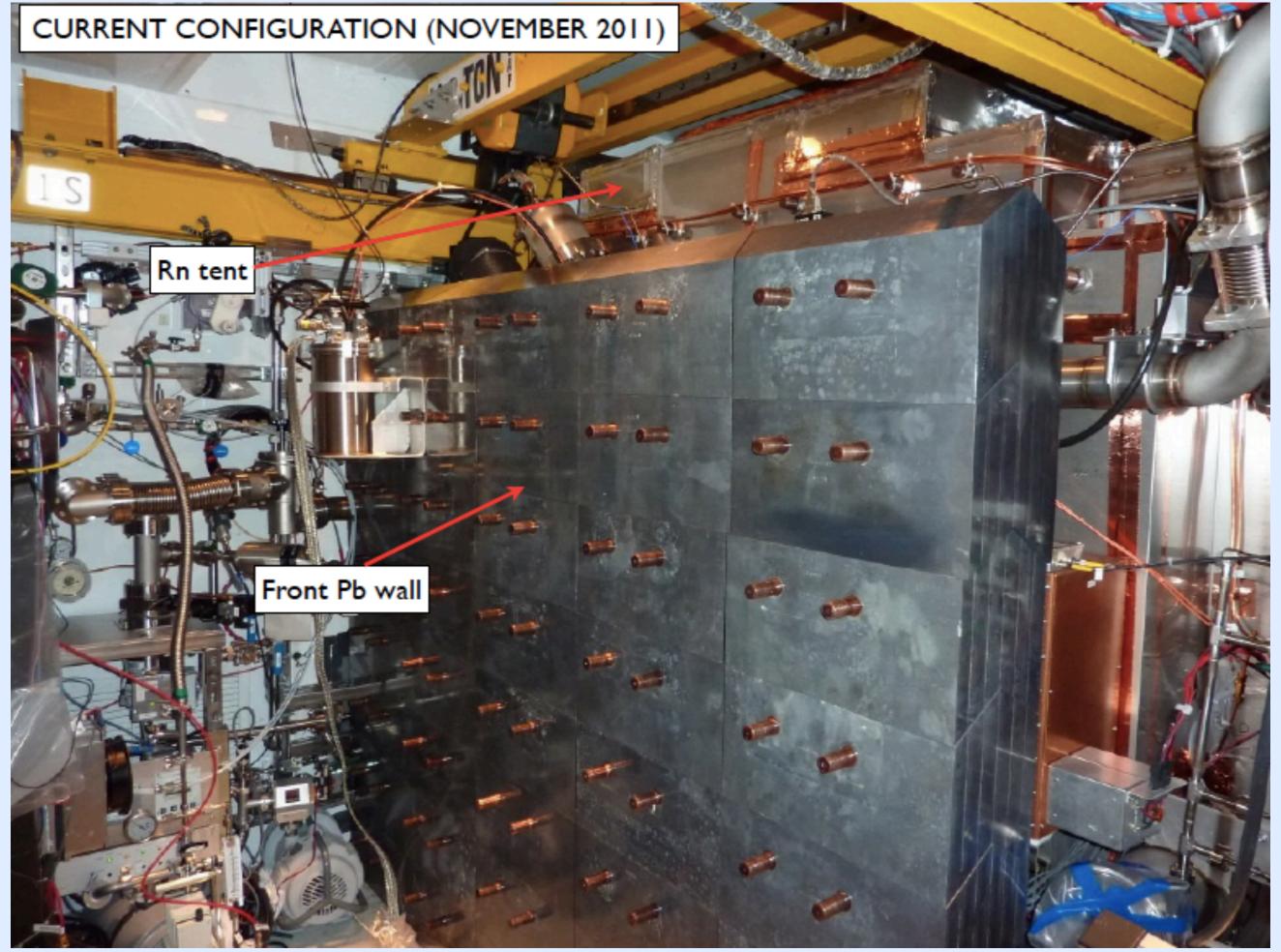
- events above 100 keV are well above the charge trigger and reconstruction threshold
- ▶ 3D reconstruction requires the drift time from the scintillation trigger
- measure reconstruction efficiency
 by comparing the ratio of fully
 reconstructed to triggered events
- ▶ 700 keV software threshold (for the paper, LAAPD gain = 100)
- currently obtaining much lower threshold (~350 keV) with higher LAAPD gain of 200



what's ahead

our background at $Q_{\beta\beta}$ = 2458 keV for this analysis was ~0.004 counts/(kg keV y)

- complete front Pb wall (done)
- flush radon-suppression tent around cryostat
- install radon trap on xenon input
- upgrade electronics, improve clustering
- increase LAAPD gain, reduce energy threshold
- ▶ 3D multiple site discrimination
- ionization + scintillation anticorrelation



EXO-200 sensitivity

Case	Mass (ton)	Eff. (%)	Run Time (yr)	σ _E /E @ 2.5MeV (%)	Radioactive Background (events)	T _{1/2} ^{0v} (yr, 90%CL)	-	na mass eV) NSM ²
EXO-200	0.2	70	2	1.6*	40	6.4×10 ²⁵	109	135

^{*} $\sigma(E)/E = 1.4\%$ obtained in EXO R&D, Conti et al., Phys. Rev. B 68 (2003) 054201

improves sensitivity for 136 Xe $0\nu\beta\beta$ by one order of magnitude detected $2\nu\beta\beta$ of 136 Xe ($|M^{2\nu}|$ =0.019 MeV⁻¹)

(reference: 10^{25} years lifetime => 440 events/year/ton of 136 Xe)

discovery claim in ⁷⁶Ge: $T_{1/2} = 2.23^{+0.44}_{-0.31} \times 10^{25}$ y

46/170 (QRPA/NSM) events above 40 bg: confirm or rule out at 5/11.7 σ

¹ Simkovic et al. Phys. Rev. C79, 055501(2009) [use RQRPA and g_A = 1.25]

² Menendez et al., Nucl. Phys. A818, 139(2009), use UCOM results

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

Stanford University, Stanford CA, USA - P.S. Barbeau, T. Brunner, J. Davis, R. DeVoe, M.J. Dolinski, G. Gratta, M. Montero-Díez, A.R. Müller, R. Neilson, I. Ostrovskiy, K. O'Sullivan, A. Rivas, A. Sabourov, D. Tosi, K. Twelker

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

disagreement with previous results

two experiments have published experimental limits for 2vββ of
 136 Xe which are incompatible with EXO-200

▶ DAMA-LXe @ Gran Sasso (6.5 kg, enriched LXe, 3 PMTs):

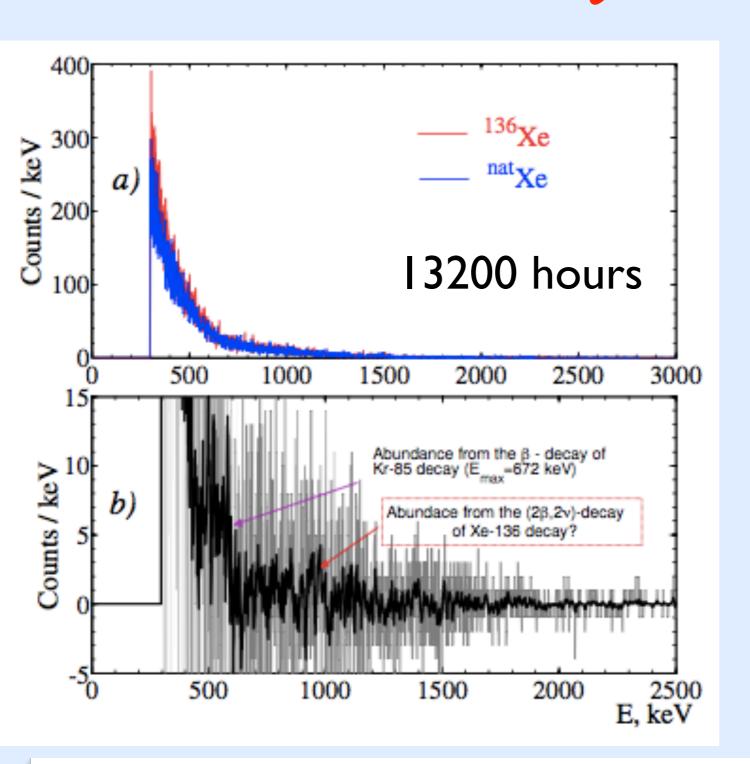
$$\mathbf{T_{1/2}^{2\nu}} > 1.0 \cdot 10^{22} \text{ years } (90\% \text{ C.L.})$$
[R. Bernabei et al., Phys. Lett. B: 546, 23 (2002)]

▶ Baksan (800g, enriched GXe, 15 bar, 2 proportional counters)

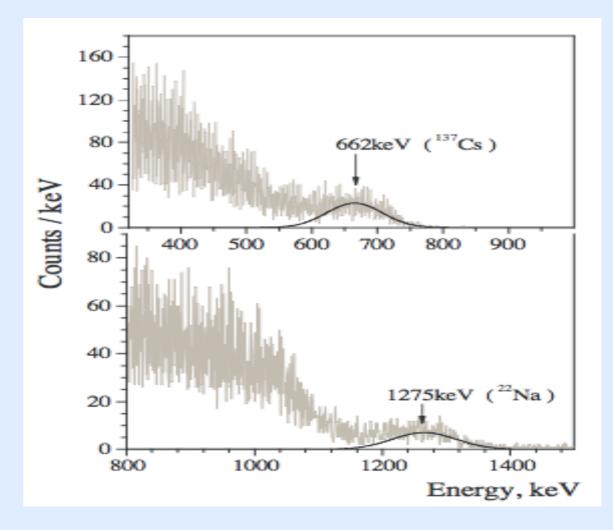
$$T_{1/2}^{2\nu} > 8.5 \cdot 10^{21} \text{ y} \quad (90\% \text{ C.L.})$$

[Yu.M. Gavriljuk et al., Phys. Atom. Nucl: **69**, 2129 (2006) - arXiv:nucl-ex/0510071]

Baksan re-analysis



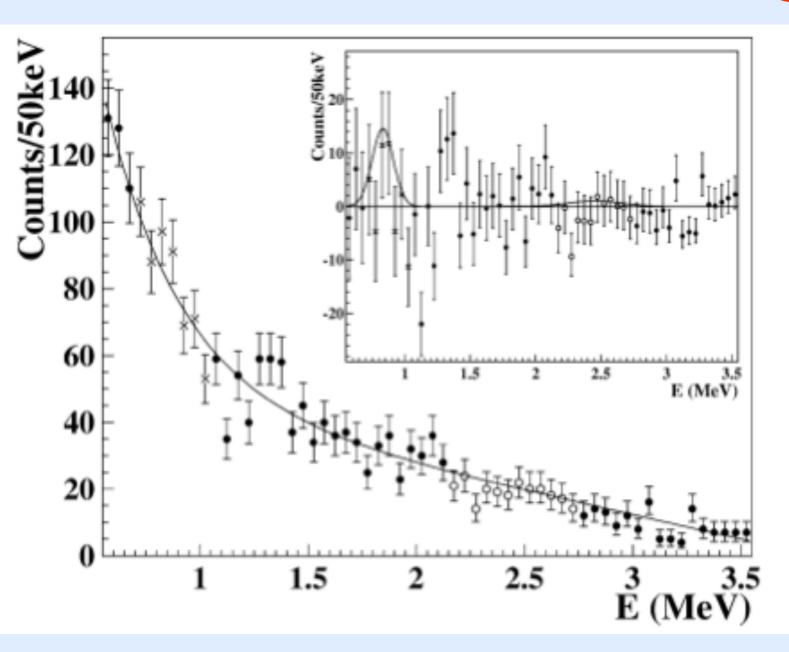
$$\mathbf{T_{1/2}^{2\nu}} = \mathbf{5.5_{-1.7}^{+4.5}} \times \mathbf{10^{21}} \ (67\% \text{ C.L.})$$



- ▶ 800g GXe, 15 bar
- ▶ 2 proportional counters
- analysis based on the subtraction between enriched and natural xenon runs

[Ju.M. Gavriljuk et al., arXiv:1112.0859]

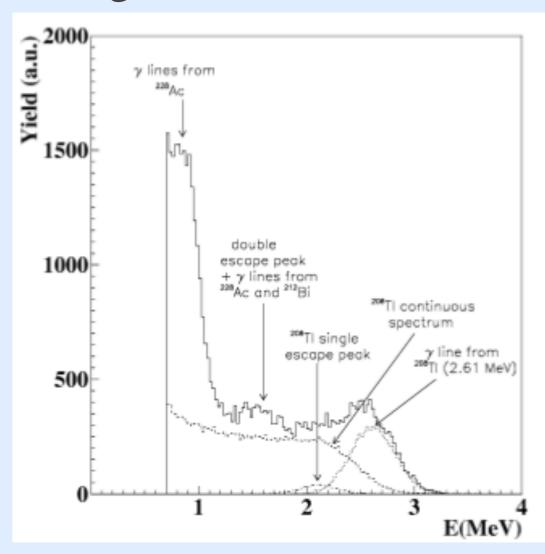
DAMA - LXe @ LNGS



$$T_{1/2}^{2\nu} > 1.0 \cdot 10^{22} \text{ years} (90\% \text{ C.L.})$$

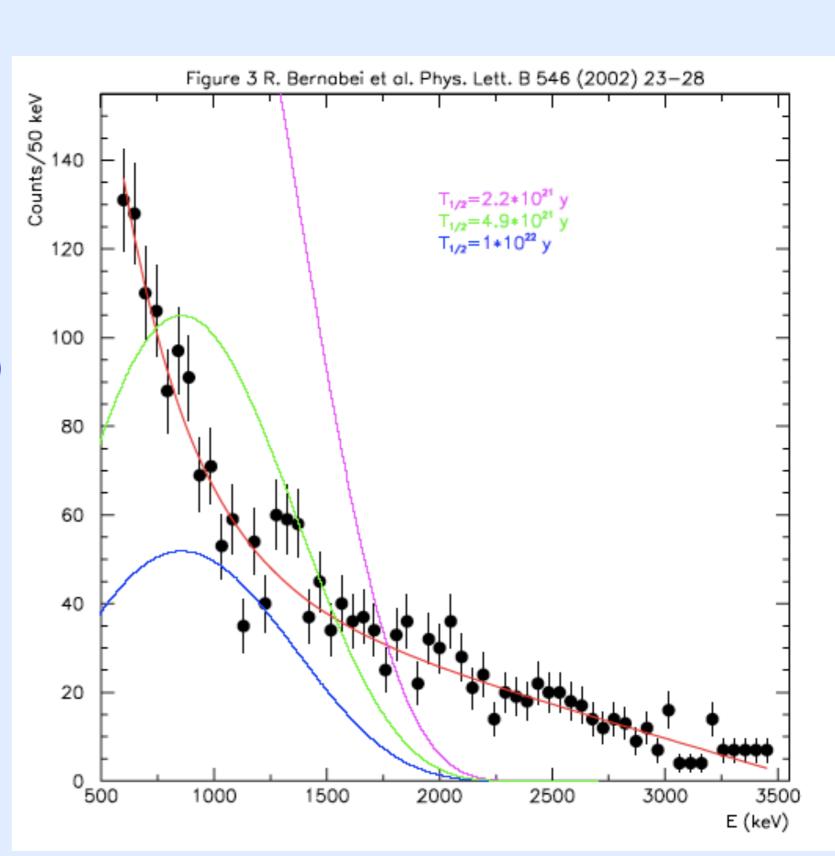
[R. Bernabei et al., Phys. Lett. B: 546, 23 (2002)]

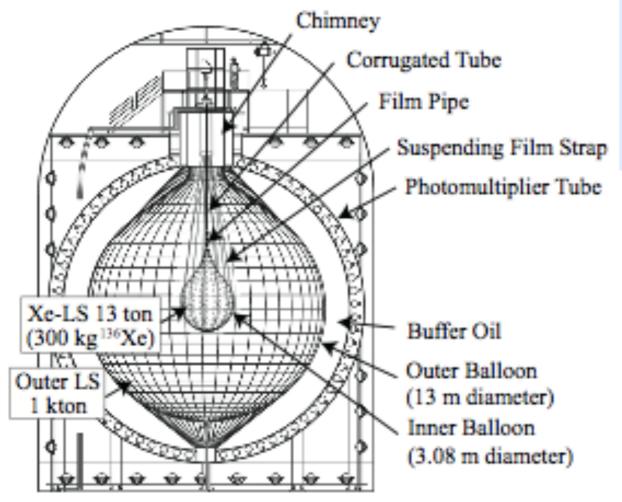
- ▶ 6.5 kg, enriched LXe
- OFHC copper chamber
- ▶ 3 PMTs
- MgF₂ windows



comparison with DAMA-LXe

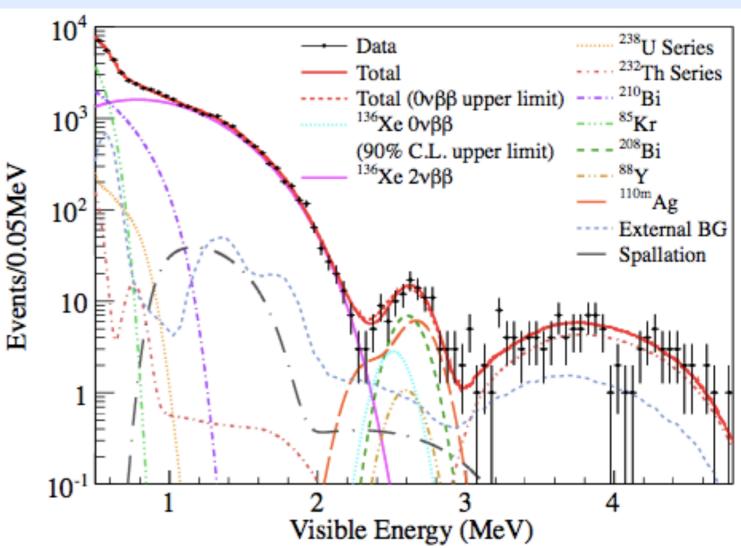
- energy scale was calibrated with source(s)
- ► DAMA-LXe's limit: $T_{1/2}^{2\nu} > 1.0 \cdot 10^{22} \text{ y} \quad (90\% \text{ C.L.})$
- real vs live time?
- ▶ ln2 factor from numerator to denominator?
- wrong enrichement factor?





▶ 300 kg of 90%-enrXe dissolved in 13 tons of liquid scintillator (2.5% concentration)

KamLAND-Zen



$$T_{1/2}^{2\nu} = 2.38 \pm 0.02 \text{ (stat)} \pm 0.14 \text{ (syst)} \times 10^{22} \text{ y}$$

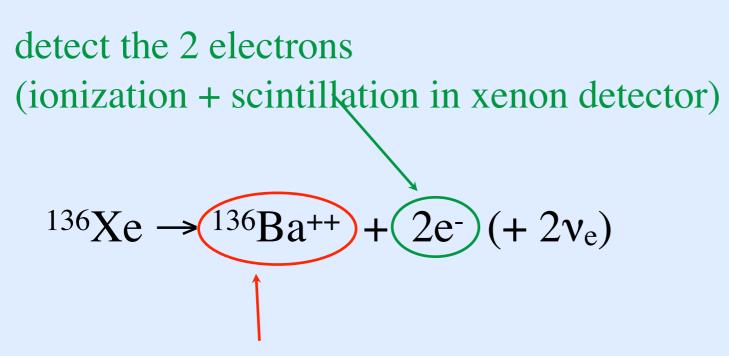
$$T_{1/2}^{2\nu} > 5.7 \times 10^{24} \text{ y } (90\% \text{ C.L.})$$

A. Gando et al., arXiv:1201.4664

a ton-scale EXO

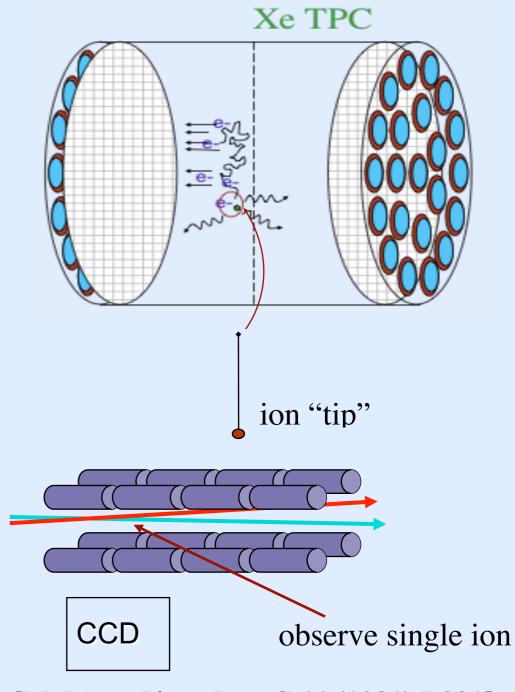
xenon admits a novel coincidence technique:

drastic background reduction by Ba daughter tagging!



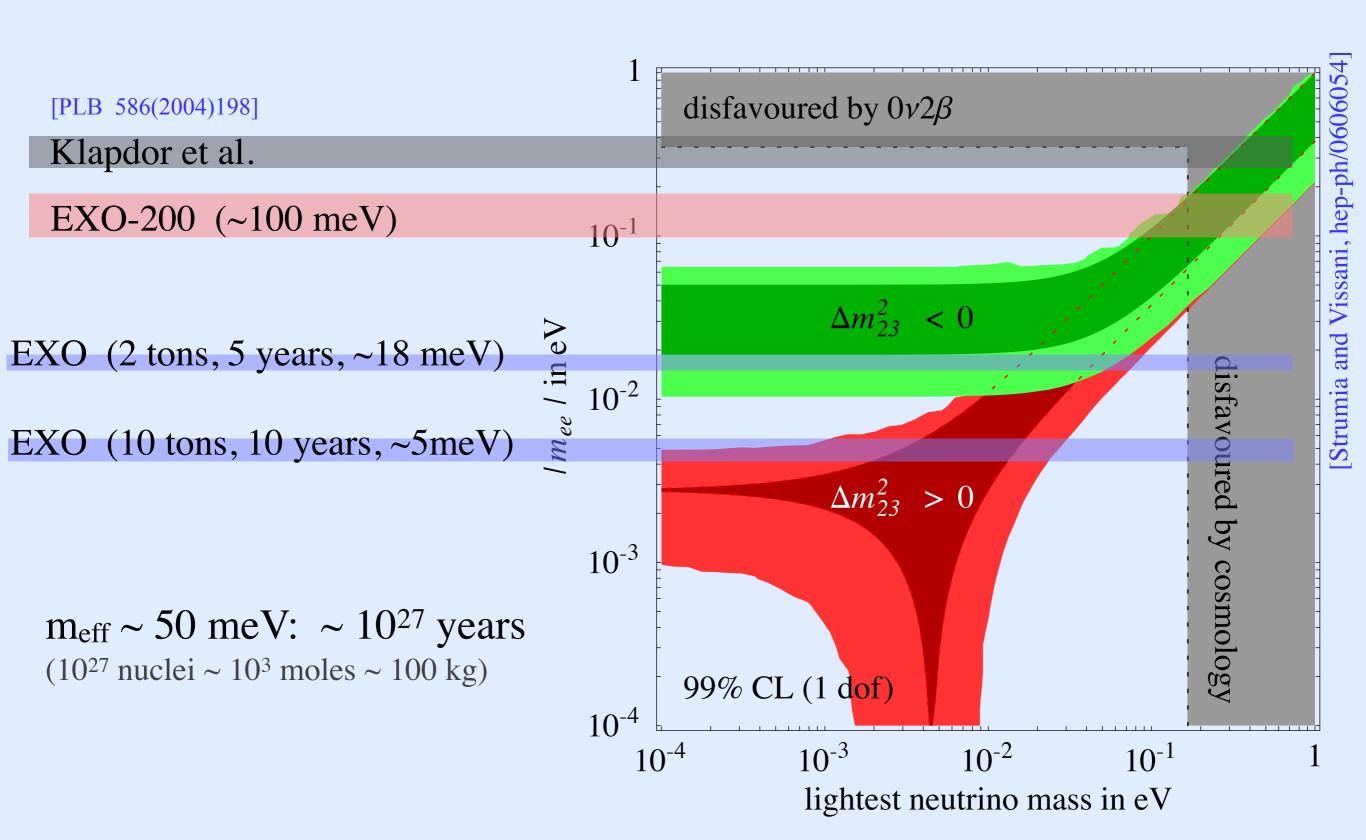
positively identify daughter via optical spectroscopy of Ba⁺

other Ba⁺ identification strategies are being investigated within the EXO collaboration



[M. Moe, Phys. Rev. C 44 (1991) R931] ₅₁

Ovbb and neutrino masses



sensitivity of ton-scale EXO with barium tagging

Assumptions:

- 1. 80% enrichment in Xe-136
- 2. 68% overall efficiency: 95% energy cut * 80% tracking effic * 90% lifetime fraction from EXO-200 analysis
- 3. Intrinsic low background + Ba tagging eliminate all radioactive background
- 4. Energy resolution only used to separate the 0v from 2v modes: select 0v events in a $\pm 2\sigma$ interval centered around the 2.458 MeV endpoint
- 5. Use for $2\nu\beta\beta$ T_{1/2}=2.11×10²²yr (Ackerman et al., arXiv:1108.4193, 21 August 2011)

Case	Mass	Eff.	Run Time	$\sigma_{\rm E}$ /E @	2νββ	T _{1/2} 0 ν	Majorana mass (meV) QRPA ¹ NSM ²	
	(ton)	(%)	(y)	2.5MeV (%)	Background (events)	(y) (90% <i>C</i> L)		
large	2	68	5	1.6*	5	2.4*10 ²⁷	16	20
very large	10	68	10	1 [†]	3.4	3.5*10 ²⁸	4.7	5.8

^{*} $\sigma(E)/E = 1.6\%$ obtained in EXO R&D, Conti et al Phys Rev B68 (2003) 054201

 $^{^{\}dagger}$ σ (E)/E = 1.0% considered as an aggressive but realistic guess with large light collection area

¹ Simkovic et al., Phys. Rev. C79 055501 (2009) [use RQRPA with $g_A=1.25$]

² Menendez et al., Nucl. Phys. A818 139 (2009) [use UCOM results]

summary

- EXO-200 (200 kg of enriched xenon) has recently measured 2νββ decay of ¹³⁶Xe and is performing very well
- a good start, improved purity and lower energy threshold define a promising path ahead
- full understanding of the energy resolution to come
- hopefully a 0νββ decay result for ¹³⁶Xe will arrive soon
- (and ... we are working on a future, larger detector too)

