

Neutrinoless Double-Beta Decay and Lepton Number Violation

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International Neutrino Summer School
Bologna
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First thing I saw
walking through
Bologna's "portici"





Outline

- Matter, Anti-matter, neutrinos and Lepton Number (and B-L !)
- The Standard Model and neutrino mass
- Majorana neutrino masses as bridge between matter and anti-matter
- Neutrinoless double beta decay: a matter creating process
- Experimental approaches
- Where we are and where we are heading
 - and why it is special time for $0\nu\beta\beta$!

Recent comprehensive review

Rev. Mod. Phys. 95 025002

Standard Model of Elementary Particles

| | | three generations of matter (elementary fermions) | | | three generations of antimatter (elementary antifermions) | | | interactions / force carriers (elementary bosons) | |
|---------|---|--|--------------------------------------|--|--|---|--|--|----------------------------------|
| | | I | II | III | I | II | III | | |
| QUARKS | mass | $\approx 2.2 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ | $\approx 1.28 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ | $\approx 173.1 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ | $\approx 2.2 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ | $\approx 1.28 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ | $\approx 173.1 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ | 0 | $\approx 124.97 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ |
| | charge | $\frac{2}{3}$ | $\frac{2}{3}$ | $\frac{2}{3}$ | $-\frac{2}{3}$ | $-\frac{2}{3}$ | $-\frac{2}{3}$ | 0 | 0 |
| | spin | $\frac{1}{2}$ | $\frac{1}{2}$ | $\frac{1}{2}$ | $\frac{1}{2}$ | $\frac{1}{2}$ | $\frac{1}{2}$ | 1 | 0 |
| | | u up | c charm | t top | ū antiup | c̄ anticharm | t̄ antitop | g gluon | H higgs |
| | | d down | s strange | b bottom | d̄ antidown | s̄ antistrange | b̄ antibottom | γ photon | |
| LEPTONS | mass | $\approx 0.511 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ | $\approx 105.66 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ | $\approx 1.7768 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ | $\approx 0.511 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ | $\approx 105.66 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ | $\approx 1.7768 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ | $\approx 91.19 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ | |
| | charge | -1 | -1 | -1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | |
| | spin | $\frac{1}{2}$ | $\frac{1}{2}$ | $\frac{1}{2}$ | $\frac{1}{2}$ | $\frac{1}{2}$ | $\frac{1}{2}$ | 1 | |
| | | e electron | μ muon | τ tau | e⁺ positron | μ⁻ antimuon | τ⁻ antitau | Z Z ⁰ boson | |
| | ν_e electron neutrino | ν_μ muon neutrino | ν_τ tau neutrino | ν̄_e electron antineutrino | ν̄_μ muon antineutrino | ν̄_τ tau antineutrino | W⁺ W ⁺ boson | W⁻ W ⁻ boson | |

GAUGE BOSONS
VECTOR BOSONS

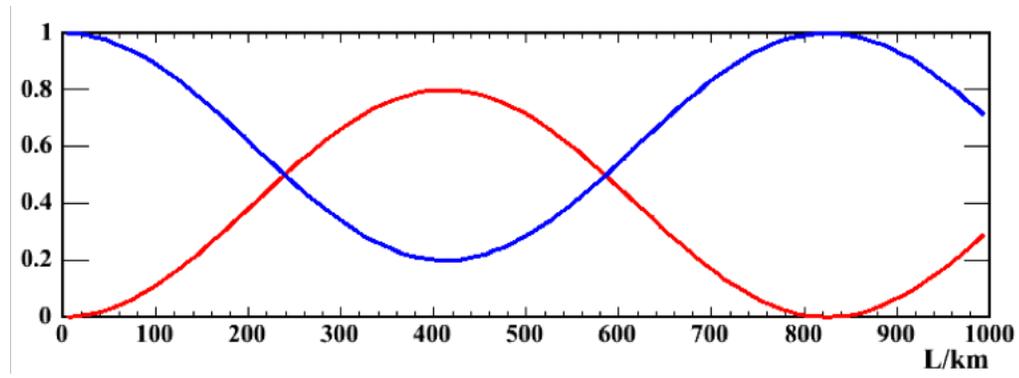
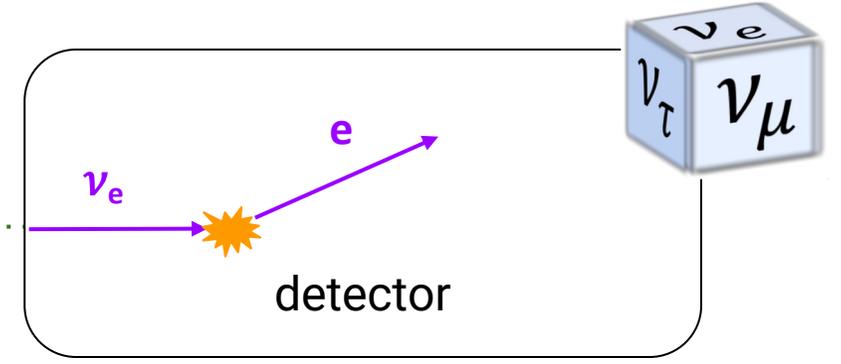
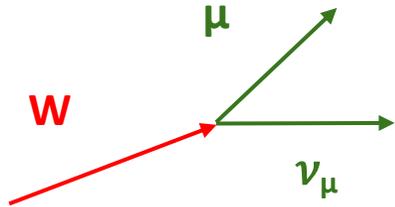
SCALAR BOSONS

Neutrino Oscillations

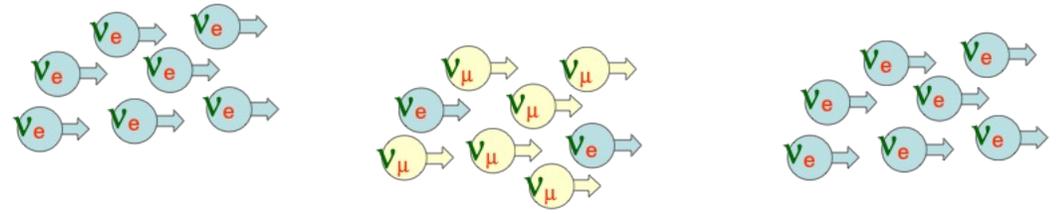
“Two-flavour” case

$$|\nu_\mu\rangle = U_{\mu 1}|\nu_1\rangle + U_{\mu 2}|\nu_2\rangle$$

$$|\nu_e\rangle = U_{e 1}|\nu_1\rangle + U_{e 2}|\nu_2\rangle$$



$$P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e) = \sin^2(2\theta_{21}) \sin^2\left(k \Delta m_{21}^2 \frac{L}{E}\right)$$



25 years of Neutrino Oscillations

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c_{23} & s_{23} \\ 0 & -s_{23} & c_{23} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{13} & 0 & s_{13}e^{-i\delta} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -s_{13}e^{+i\delta} & 0 & c_{13} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{12} & s_{12} & 0 \\ -s_{12} & c_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\alpha} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & e^{i\beta} \end{pmatrix}$$

$s_{ij} = \sin \theta_{ij}$, $c_{ij} = \cos \theta_{ij}$
 θ_{ij} : the mixing angles

δ : CP-violating phase
 α, β : Majorana phases

Atmospheric

$\theta_{23} \sim 45^\circ$

$\Delta m_{32}^2 \sim \pm 2.5 \times 10^{-3} eV^2$

"Reactor/LBL"?

$\theta_{13} \sim 8.5^\circ$

$\delta_{CP} ???$

Solar

$\theta_{12} \sim 33^\circ$

$\Delta m_{12}^2 \sim 7.5 \times 10^{-5} eV^2$

Neutrinos have mass

Oscillations show **violation** of **global symmetries**

- $L_e - L_\mu$
- $L_\mu - L_\tau$
- and linear combinations (e.g. $L_e - L_\tau$)

The only **global symmetry** remaining is

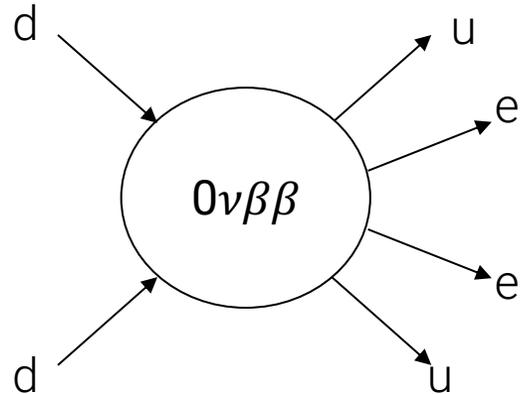
$$\mathbf{B - L}$$

But oscillations cannot measure its absolute value

Neutrinoless Double Beta Decay $0\nu\beta\beta$

Nuclear decay: $(A,Z) \rightarrow (A,Z+2) + 2e$

- 2 neutrons \rightarrow 2 protons ($\Delta B = 0$)
- 2 electrons are emitted ($\Delta L = 2$)



Would constitute a discovery of first matter-creating process

- production of leptons w/o antileptons in the lab
- direct violation of **L** and **B-L**

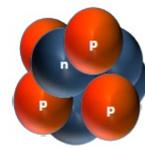
- Essential for matter-antimatter asymmetry generation
- Arguably, more fundamental than proton decay (violates only B)



Proton Decay:
“Disappearance” of nucleons

$$B = N_{\text{baryons}} - N_{\text{anti-baryons}}$$

L and B-L non-conservation



Neutrinoless Double Beta Decay ($0\nu\beta\beta$)
“Creation” of electrons

$$L = N_{\text{leptons}} - N_{\text{anti-leptons}}$$

Known knowns and Known Unknowns

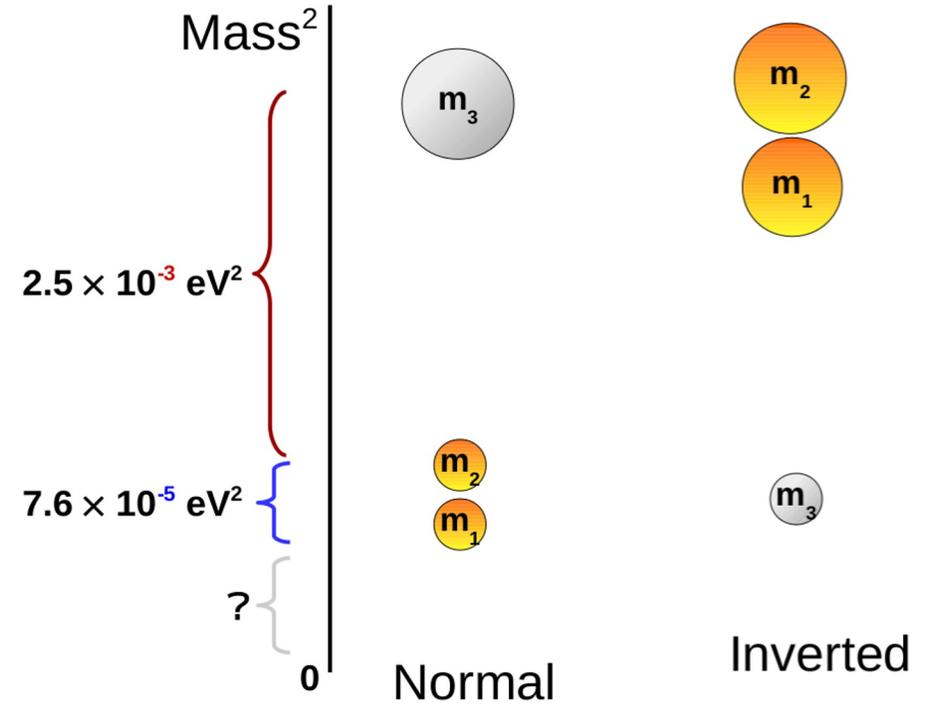
Knowns

- At least 2 of 3 neutrinos have non-zero mass
- neutrinos mixing probabilities
- some hints on CP-violating phase

Unknowns

- what's the absolute mass scale?
- what's the mass ordering?
- is delta CP violated?
- **what's the origin of neutrino masses?**
- **what are the fundamental symmetries?**
- **what's the origin of the matter-antimatter asymmetry in our Universe?**

And, most likely, there are unknown unknowns

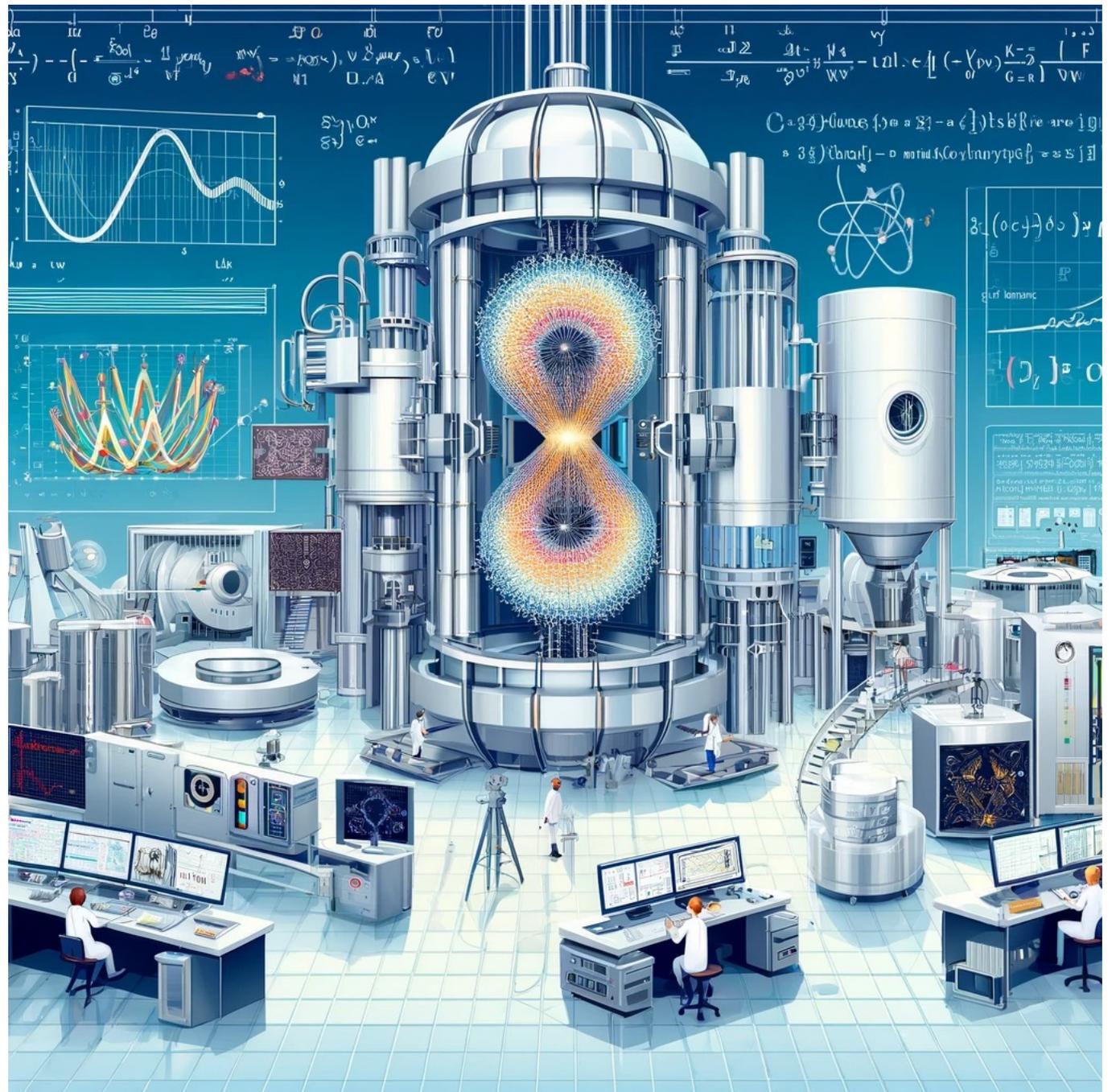


Absolute mass (eigenstates)

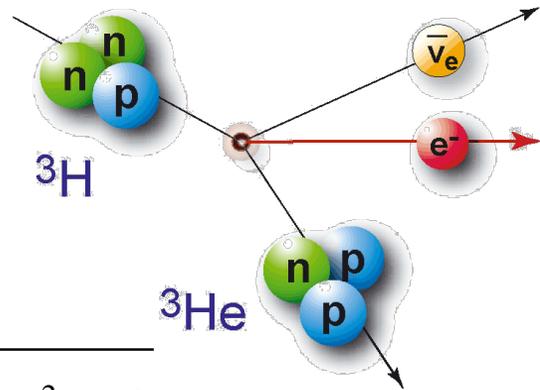
$$\geq \sqrt{2.5 \times 10^{-3}} = 0.05 \text{ eV}$$

How to measure absolute neutrino mass?

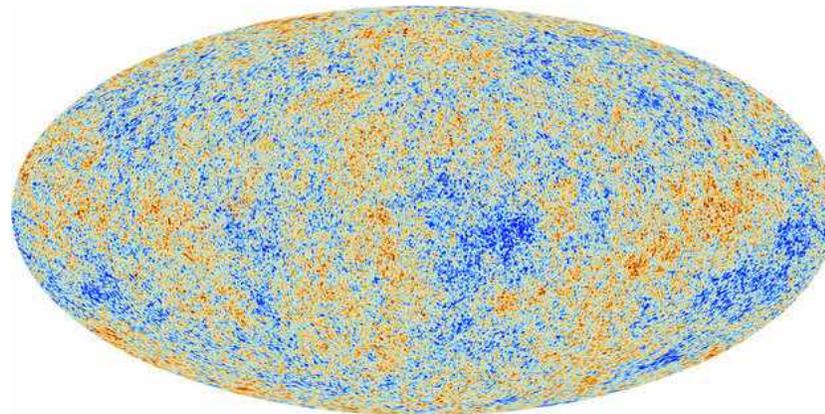
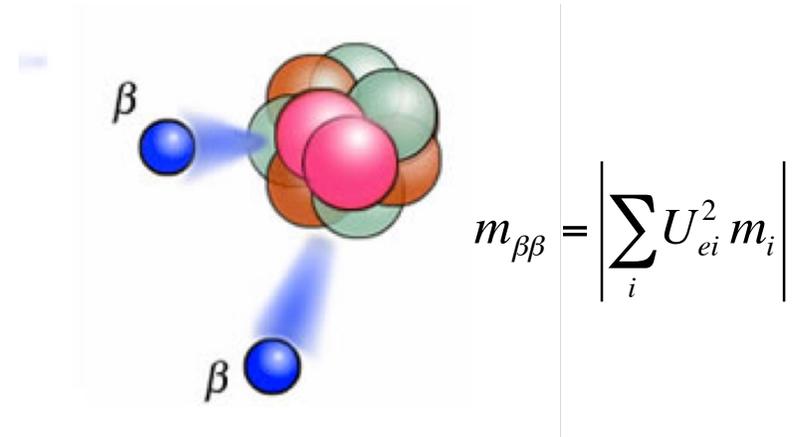
ChatGPT version



How to measure neutrino absolute mass



$$m_\beta = \sqrt{\sum_i |U_{ei}|^2 \cdot m_i^2}$$

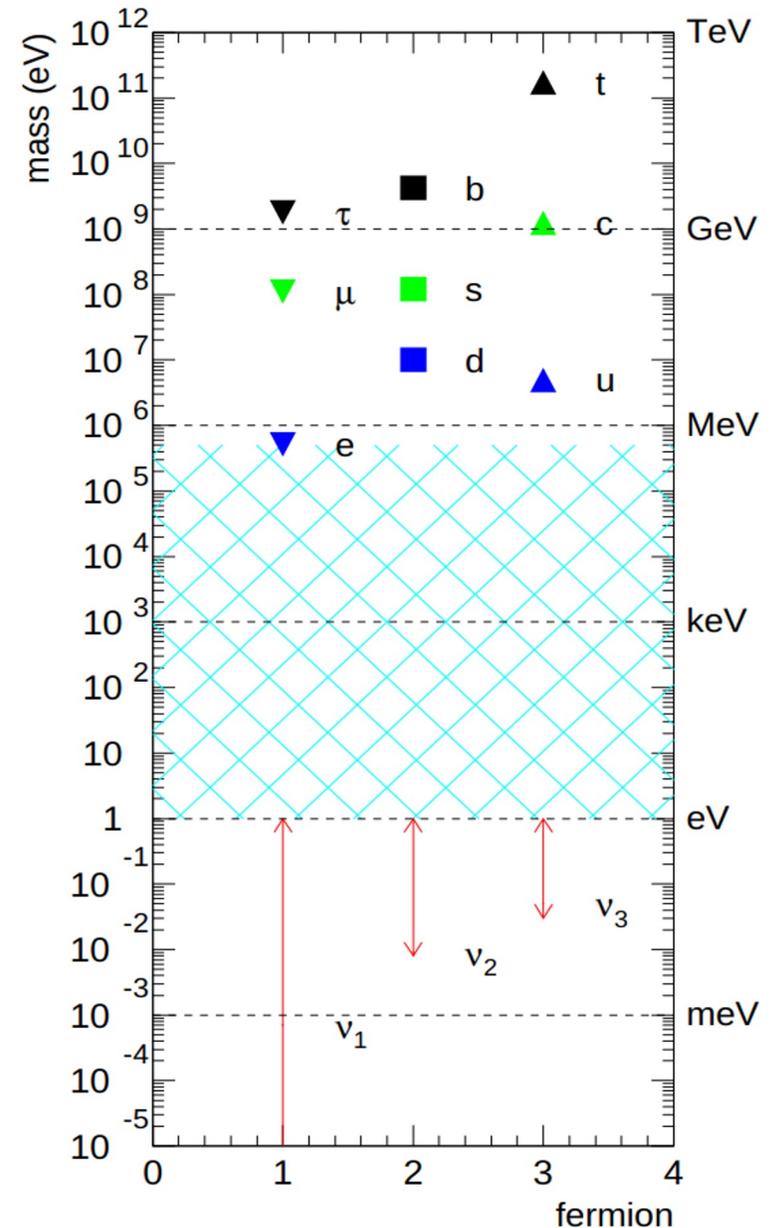


$$\sum_i m_i$$

Existing constraints

| Method | ν mass parameter | Constraint | Comment |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| Tritium(and other) β -decay | $m_{\nu_e} = \sqrt{U_{e1}^2 m_1^2 + U_{e2}^2 m_2^2 + U_{e3}^2 m_3^2}$ | < 0.8 eV 90% CL | expected soon: < 0.2 eV, Challenges to go further but there are ideas, Low bound > 9meV! |
| $0\nu\beta\beta$ | $\langle m_{\beta\beta}(\nu_e) \rangle = U_{e1}^2 m_1 + U_{e2}^2 m_2 e^{i\alpha_{21}} + U_{e3}^2 m_3 e^{i\alpha_{31}}$ | $< 0.04-0.1$ eV 90%CL | aim to reach 0.01 eV with next phase Only for Majorana particles |
| Cosmology | $\Sigma = m_1 + m_2 + m_3$ | < 0.3 eV (i.e. < 0.1 eV “per mass”) 90%CL | Should start “seeing” neutrinos soon Strong model dependence |

The smallness of neutrino masses points at new physics at high energy scale



Neutrino Mass in Standard Model

Dirac Lagrangian for neutrinos:

$$L = \bar{\nu}(i\gamma^\mu \partial_\mu - m_D)\nu \quad \Rightarrow \quad m_D \bar{\nu}\nu \quad \text{Dirac mass term}$$

In terms of left and right chiral fields:

$$L_{mass} = m_D \bar{\nu}\nu = m_D (\bar{\nu}_L \nu_R + \bar{\nu}_R \nu_L) \quad \text{mass couples left and right chiral fields}$$

In SM $m_\nu = 0$ because we do not see right-handed neutrino (or left-handed anti-neutrino)

However, if $m_\nu \neq 0$ (as we know now) the Dirac fermion interpretation is:

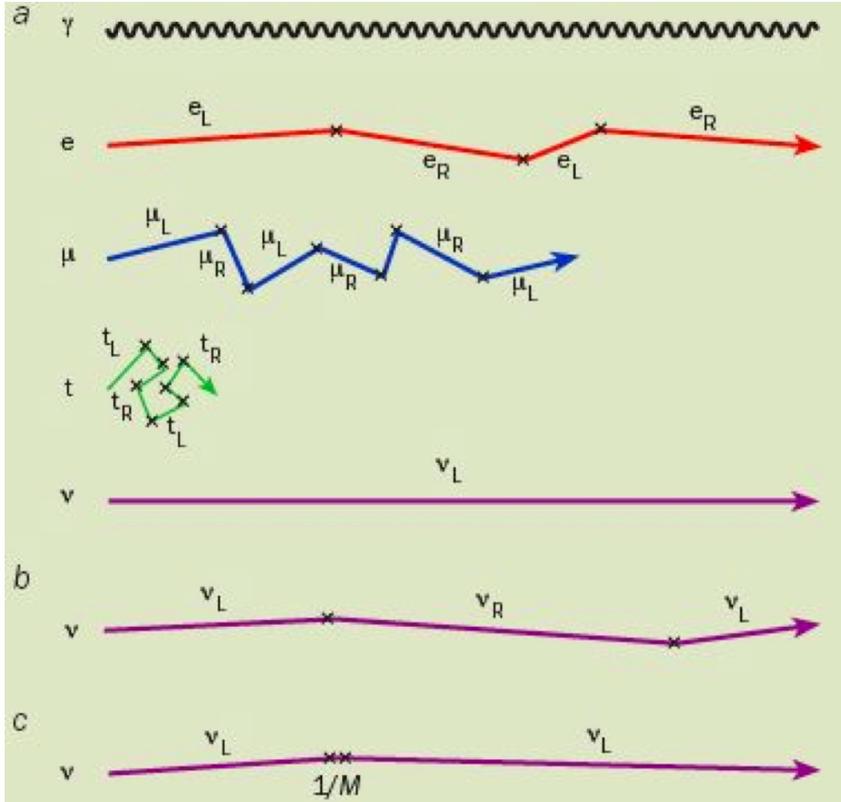
There 4 neutrinos:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_L \\ \nu_R \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} \bar{\nu}_L \\ \bar{\nu}_R \end{pmatrix}$$

two of them are “sterile”

- Gauge invariance requires introduction of Higgs field
- Dirac mass terms conserves lepton number

Neutrino Mass in Standard Model



Higgs Mechanism

$$m_D = g_v \frac{\langle \phi \rangle}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$\langle \phi \rangle \sim 246 \text{ GeV}$ —
V.E.V.

$g_v \sim$ Yukawa coupling

$m_D \sim$ Dirac fermion mass

From current constraints on m_ν ($\sim 0.1 \text{ eV}$ scale):

- $g_v < 10^{-13}$
- Sterile ν_R needs to be added to SM

Requires fine tuning of neutrino Yukawa coupling down to unnaturally tiny values



- In 1937 Ettore Majorana suggested an alternative with only two active neutrinos
- Massive neutrino could be described using a single left-handed field.

Recall Charge Conjugation operator $C = i\gamma^2\gamma^0$ The right-handed field can be constructed with $\nu_L^C = C\bar{\nu}_L^T$

You can check it is right-handed by applying $P_L(C\bar{\nu}_L^T) = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \gamma^5)(C\bar{\nu}_L^T) = 0$

The Majorana field becomes $\nu = \nu_L + \nu_R = \nu_L + \nu_L^C$

and $\nu^C = (\nu_L + \nu_L^C)^C = \nu_L^C + \nu_L = \nu$ **i.e. particle=antiparticle**

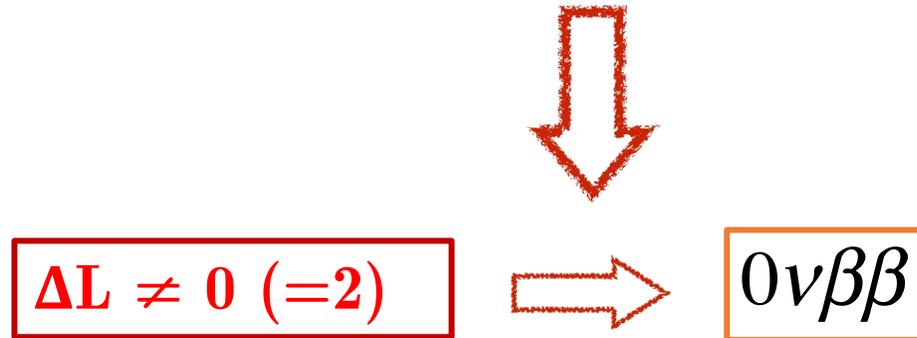
- **The only fundamental fermion for which this is possible is the neutrino**
Other particles have non-zero electric charge



Majorana Mass Term

$$L_M = \frac{1}{2} m_L (\bar{\nu}_L^c \nu_L + \bar{\nu}_L \nu_L^c)$$

The Majorana mass term **couple neutrino and anti-neutrinos.**

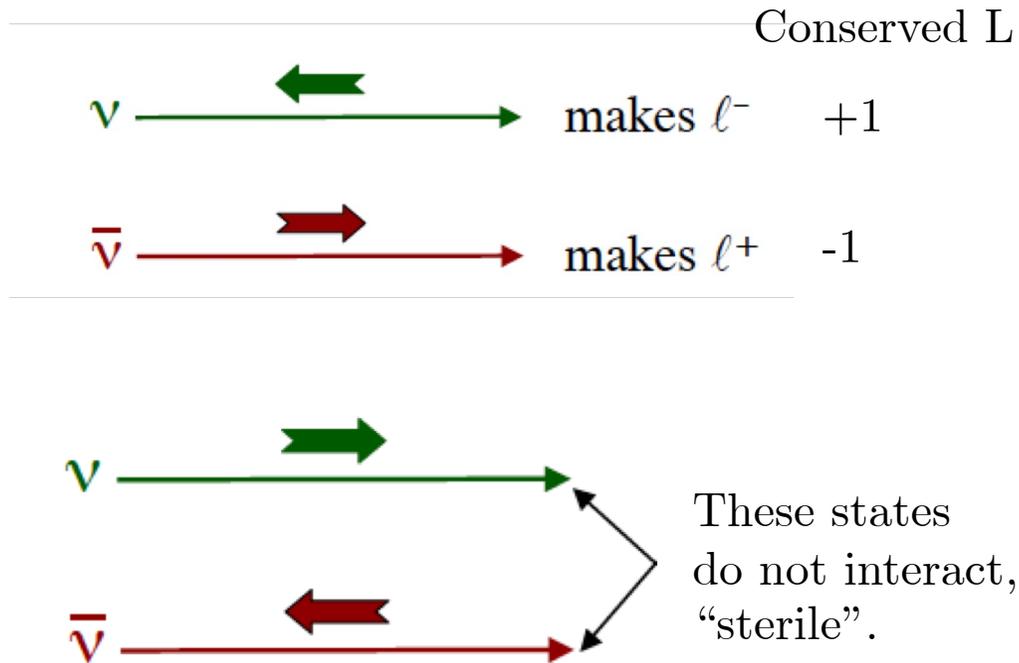


- “Price” to pay: Lepton Number Violation
- Turns out to be a good thing:
 - Accidental symmetry
 - Requires by (almost all) Grand Unification Theories)

What distinguishes neutrino and “anti”-neutrino?

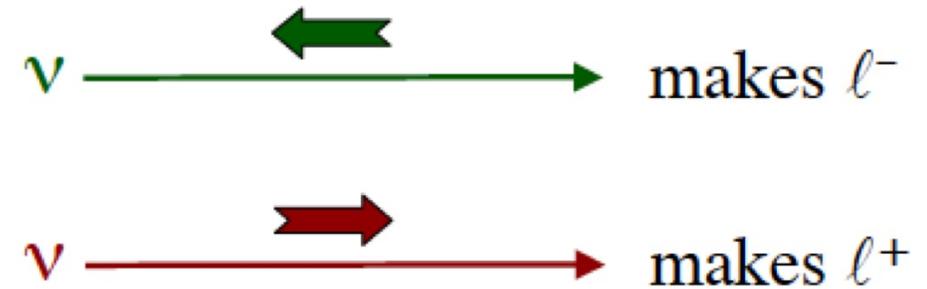
Standard Model Interactions of Dirac Neutrinos

4 mass-degenerate states



Standard Model Interactions of Majorana Neutrinos

There is only one neutrino, 2 mass-degenerate states



Left-handed Majorana neutrino makes ℓ^-
 Right-handed Majorana neutrino makes ℓ^+

- The problem is that $m_L \bar{\nu}_L^c \nu_L$ is not gauge invariant
- One could make it gauge invariant by introducing a Higgs triplet
- An alternative is to introduce heavy right-handed neutrino that only interacts with Higgs field and gravity – the **SEESAW Mechanism**
- Either way the non-zero neutrino mass implies **BSM Physics**.
 - (I) Right-handed state exists with a standard mass mechanism
 - (II) Higgs triplet
 - (III) **Different mass mechanism, e.g. SEESAW**

The See-Saw Mechanism

(there are more than one type shown below)

Assume two Majorana neutrinos, one very light and one very heavy

$$L_{mass} \sim L_L^D + L_R^D + L_L^M + L_R^M + h.c. = m_D \bar{N}_R \nu_L + m_D \bar{\nu}_L^C N_R^C + m_L \bar{\nu}_L^C \nu_L + m_R \bar{N}_R^C N_R + h.c.$$

which can be written in a matrix form

$$L_{mass} \sim \left(\begin{array}{c} \bar{\nu}_L^C \\ \bar{N}_R \end{array} \right) \left(\begin{array}{cc} m_L & m_D \\ m_D & m_R \end{array} \right) \left(\begin{array}{c} \nu_L \\ N_R^C \end{array} \right) + h.c.$$

Due to non-zero off-diagonal m_D
the fields ν_L, N_R do not have
definite masses

Right-handed
fields

Non-diagonal

Left-handed fields

ν_L, N_R are superposition of state with definite mass ν, N

$$\left(\begin{array}{c} \nu_L \\ N_R \end{array} \right) = \left(\begin{array}{cc} \cos\theta & \sin\theta \\ -\sin\theta & \cos\theta \end{array} \right) \left(\begin{array}{c} \nu \\ N \end{array} \right) \quad \nu \text{ is mostly } \nu_L, N \text{ is mostly } N_R$$

The See-Saw Mechanism

Diagonalise matrix to rewrite Lagrangian in terms of mass eigenstates

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} m_L & m_D \\ m_D & m_R \end{pmatrix} \quad \longrightarrow \quad M' = \begin{pmatrix} m_1 & 0 \\ 0 & m_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$m_{1,2} = \frac{1}{2} \left[(m_L + m_R) \pm \sqrt{(m_L - m_R)^2 + 4m_D^2} \right]$$

From gauge invariance $m_L = 0$ and we choose $m_R \gg m_D$ Therefore

$$m_1 = \frac{m_D^2}{m_R}$$

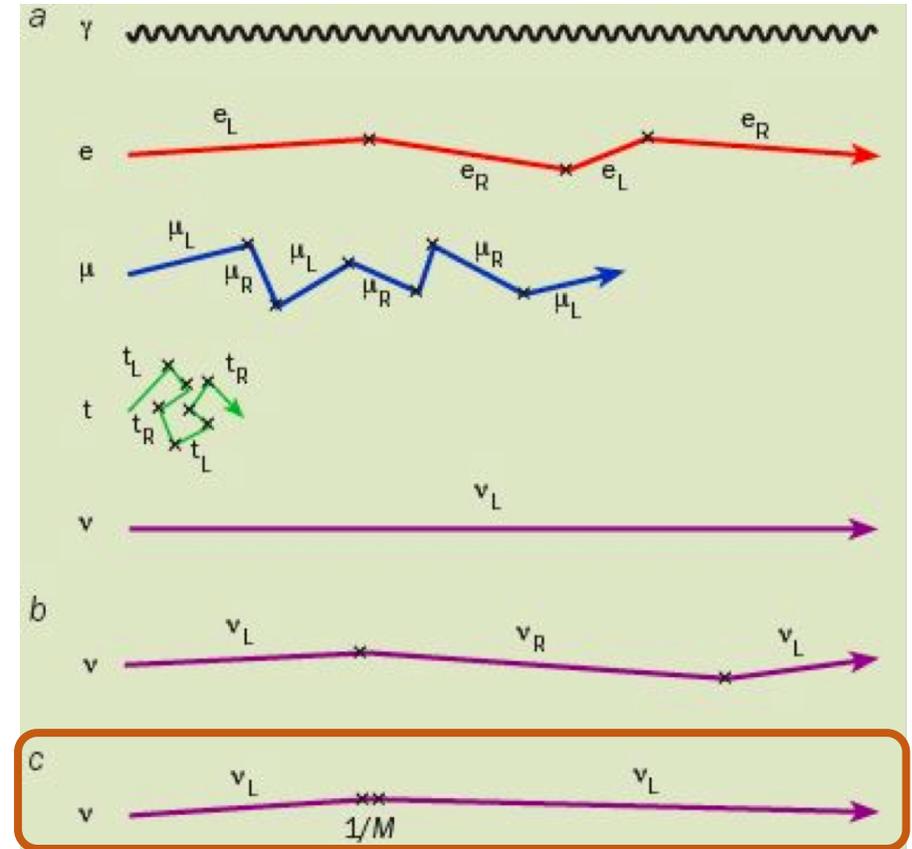
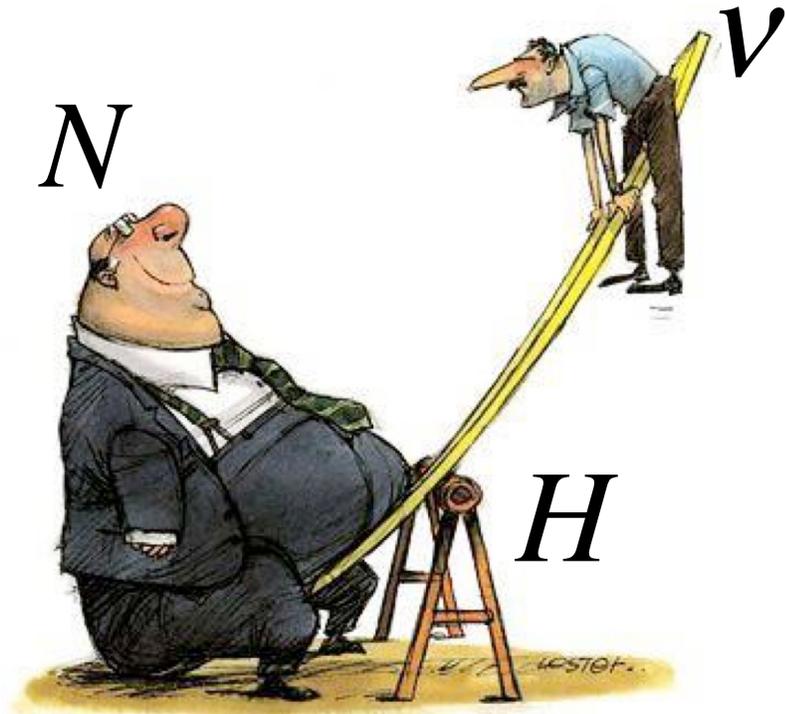
$$m_2 = m_R \left(1 + \frac{m_D^2}{m_R^2} \right) \approx m_R$$

light neutrino mass
we see in experiments

Heavy sterile neutrino

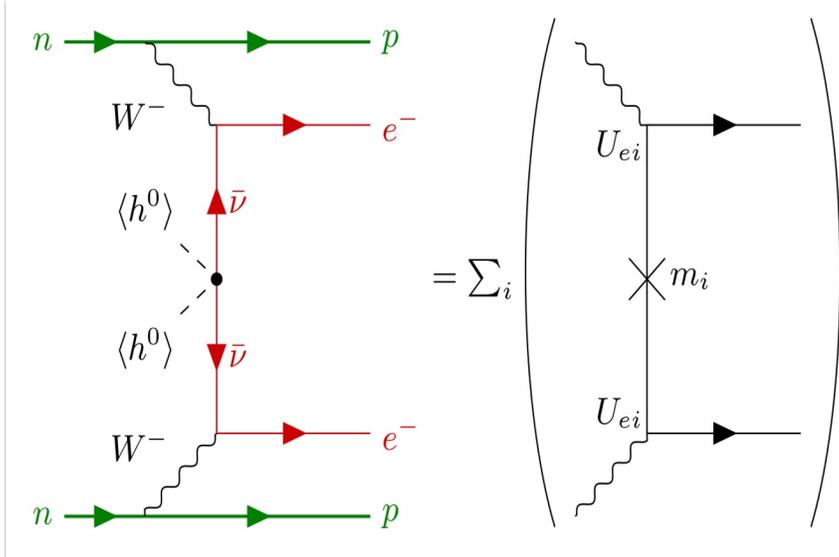
Recall: $\nu(m_1)$ is mostly ν_L , $N(m_2)$ is mostly N_R

The See-Saw Mechanism



If $m_D \sim 1 \text{ GeV}$ and $m_\nu \sim 0.1 \text{ eV}$, $m_R \equiv M = \frac{m_D^2}{m_\nu} \sim 10^{19} \text{ eV}$ \implies **Link to GUT, natural smallness of neutrino mass**

$0\nu\beta\beta$. Light Majorana neutrino mass, $m_{\beta\beta}$



$$P \propto \frac{1}{T_{1/2}} \propto G g^4 M^2 \left(\frac{m_{\beta\beta}}{m_e} \right)^2$$

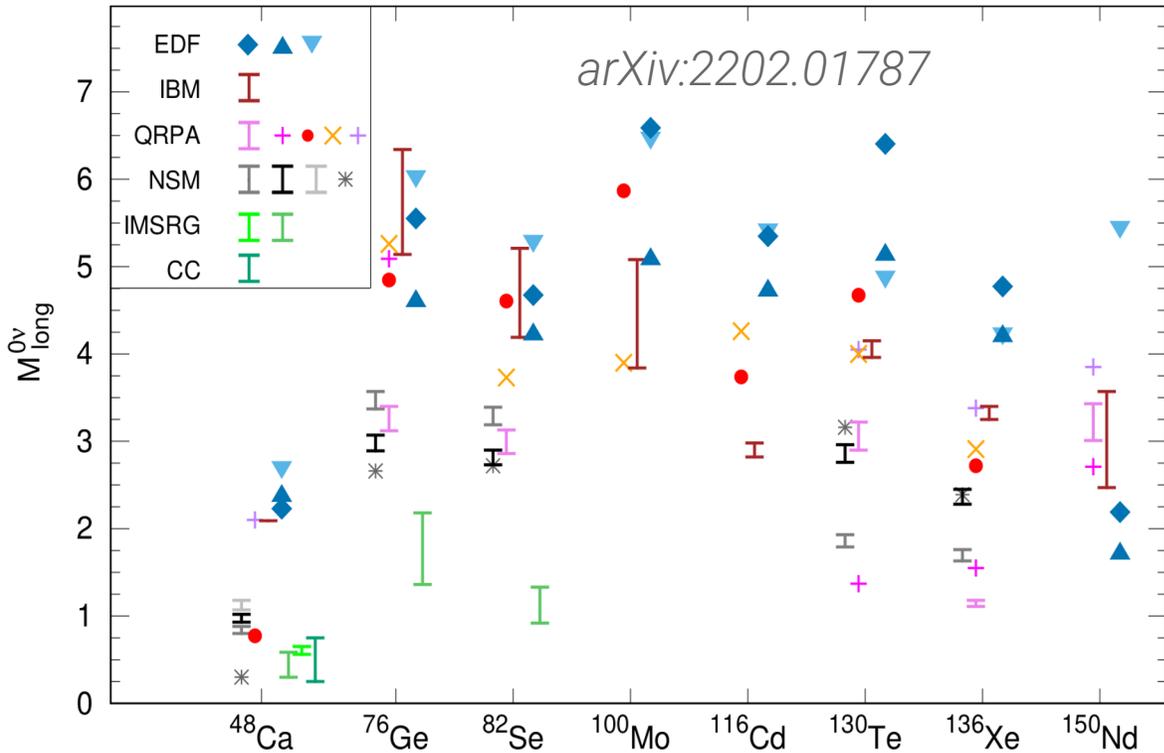
$$m_{\beta\beta} = \left| \sum_i U_{ei}^2 m_i \right| = \left| c_{12}^2 c_{13}^2 m_1 + s_{12}^2 c_{13}^2 m_2 e^{i2\alpha} + s_{13}^2 m_3 e^{i2\beta} \right|$$

$$c_{12} = \cos\theta_{12}, c_{13} = \cos\theta_{13}, s_{12} = \sin\theta_{12}, s_{13} = \sin\theta_{13}$$

$m_{1,2,3} \rightarrow$ mass eigenstates $\alpha, \beta \rightarrow$ Majorana CP-phases

- Minimal extension of SM
- Access to absolute neutrino mass
- Reach interplay with neutrino oscillations, kinematic measurements (m_β), cosmology (Σ)

$0\nu\beta\beta$. Connection with Nuclear Physics.

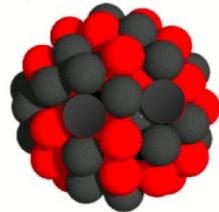


$$P \propto \frac{1}{T_{1/2}} \propto G g^4 M^2 \left(\frac{m_{\beta\beta}}{m_e} \right)^2$$

nuclear matrix element (NME)

- Significant effort from different groups and different nuclear models
- *Ab-initio* methods look promising
- No isotope has clear preference. Choice driven by experimental considerations.
- **Multiple isotope confirmation crucial**
- **Experimental input important**
 - » **$2\nu\beta\beta$ decay**
 - » charge exchange reactions
 - » muon capture

$$\psi(A,Z) \Rightarrow \psi(A,Z+1) \Rightarrow \psi(A,Z+2)$$



$0\nu\beta\beta$. A portal to new physics beyond SM

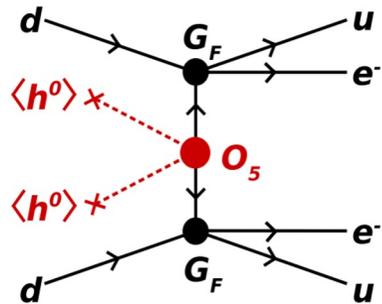
$$\frac{1}{T_{1/2}} \propto G g^4 M^2 \left(\frac{\nu}{\Lambda} \right)^n$$

Higgs vacuum expectation
 energy scale of BSM

Dim 5: Weinberg Operator

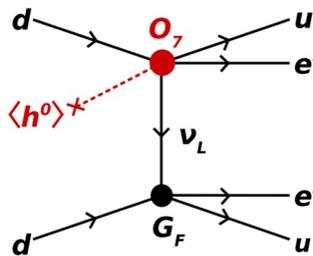
Dim 7

$$\frac{1}{T_{1/2}} \propto \left(\frac{\nu}{\lambda} \right)^2 \quad \text{with} \quad \frac{\nu}{\Lambda} \propto \frac{m_{\beta\beta}}{m_e}$$

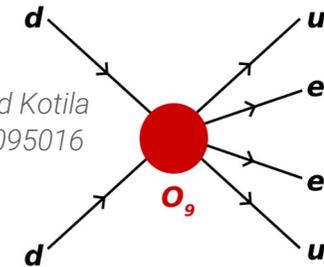


Cirigliano et al., JHEP 12, 097 (2018)

$$\frac{1}{T_{1/2}} \propto \left(\frac{\nu}{\Lambda} \right)^6$$



Dim 9 $\frac{1}{T_{1/2}} \propto \left(\frac{\nu}{\Lambda} \right)^{10}$



*Deppisch, Graf, Iachello and Kotila
Phys.Rev.D 102 (2020) 9, 095016*

- Any new L-violating physics can result in $0\nu\beta\beta$ (access to ultra-high energy BSM)
- That includes Heavy Neutral Leptons and many other

Schechter and Valle, PRD 25, 2951 (1982)

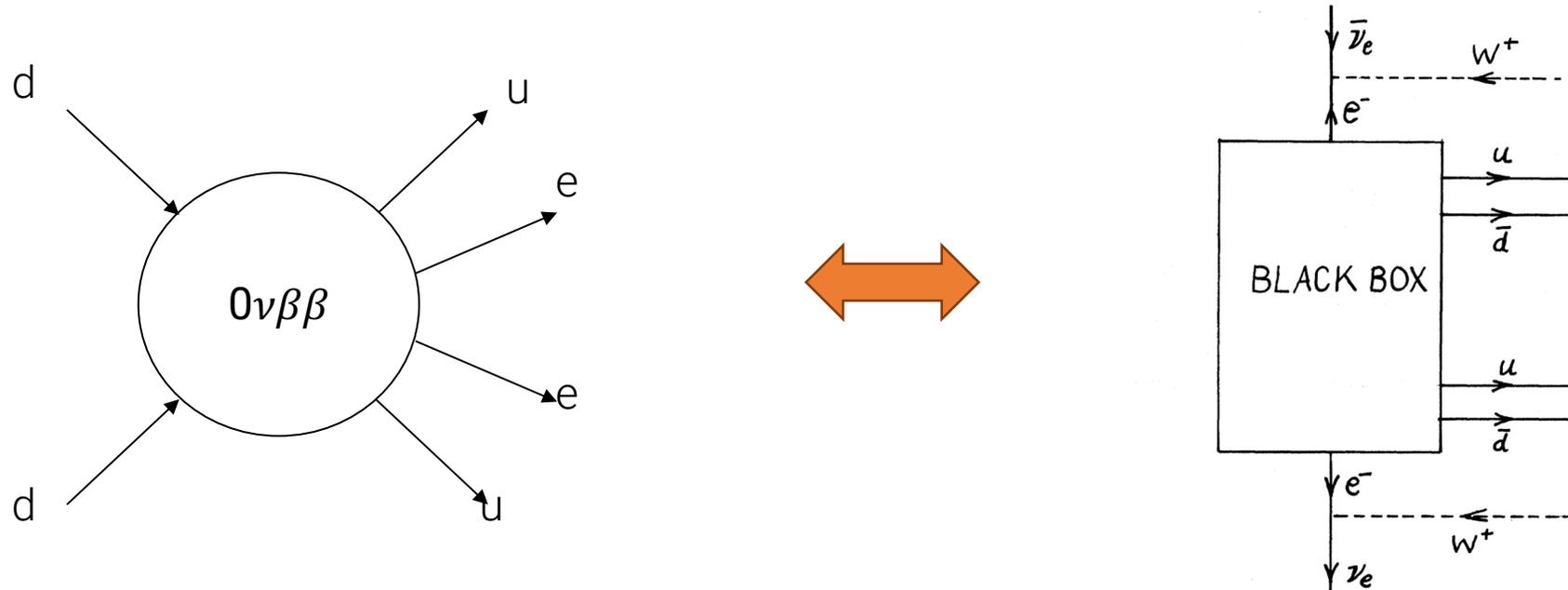
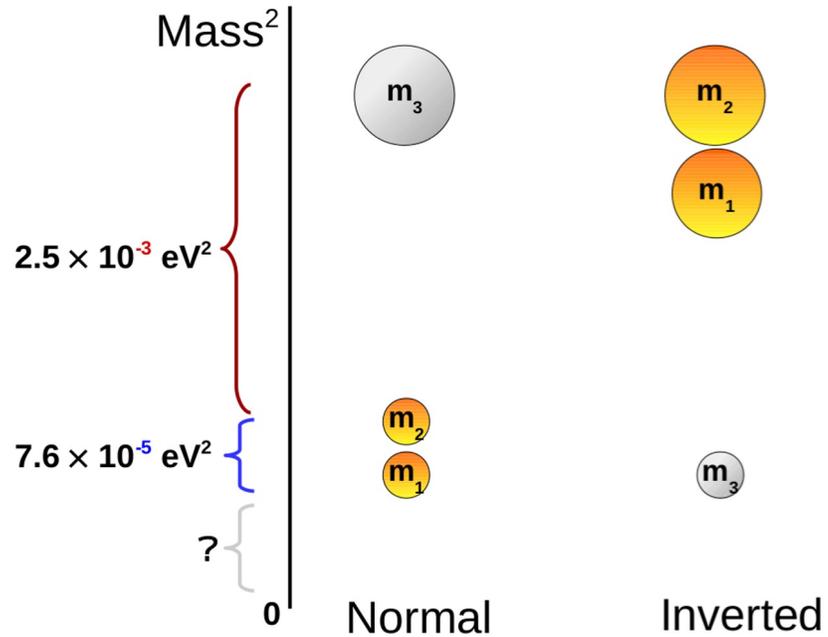


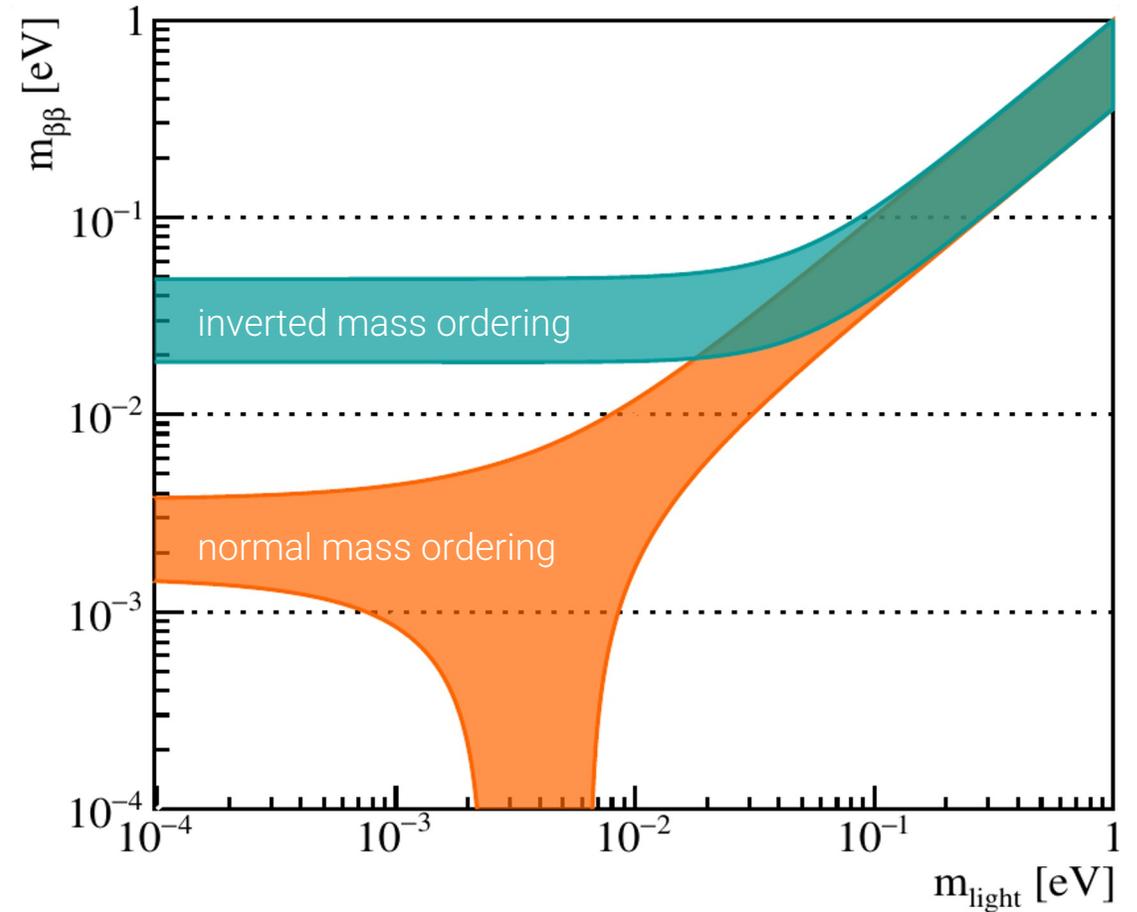
FIG. 2. Diagram showing how any neutrinoless double- β decay process induces a $\bar{\nu}_e$ -to- ν_e transition, that is, an effective Majorana mass term.

Observation is unambiguous evidence for non-zero Majorana mass (even if it is not dominating mechanism)

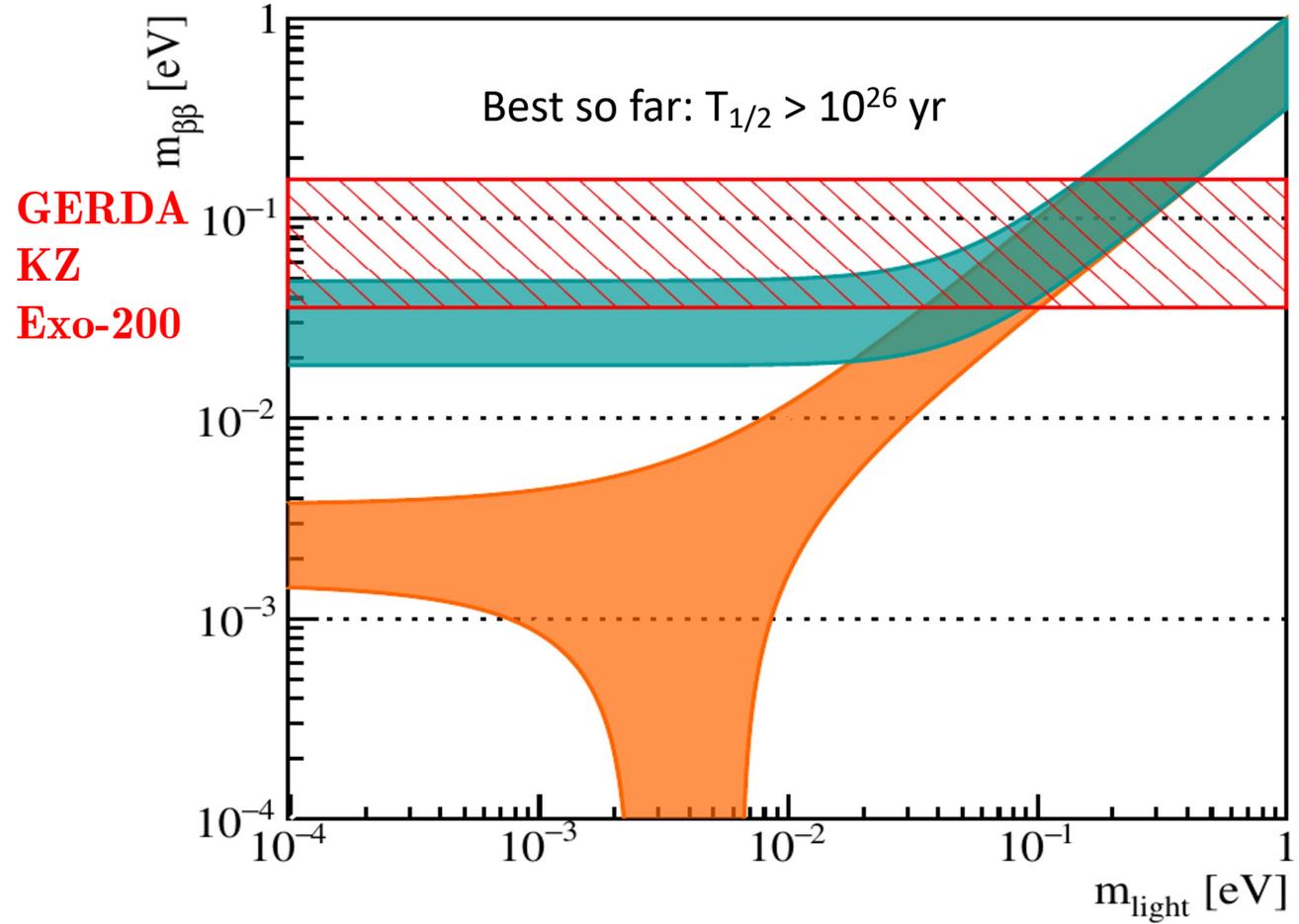
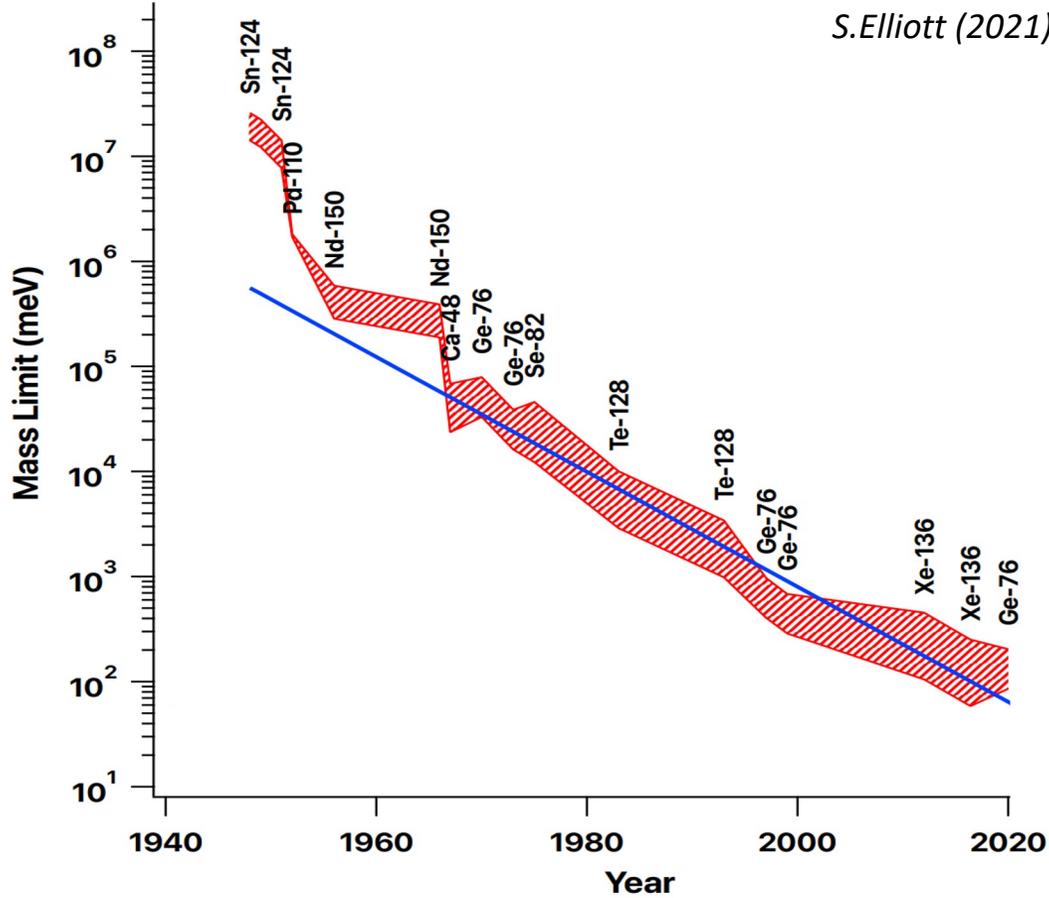
$m_{\beta\beta}$, neutrino oscillations and mass ordering



$$m_{\beta\beta} = \left| \sum_i U_{ei}^2 m_i \right|$$



$0\nu\beta\beta$ with $m_{\beta\beta}$. Where are we so far?



Experimental Approaches



Abstract

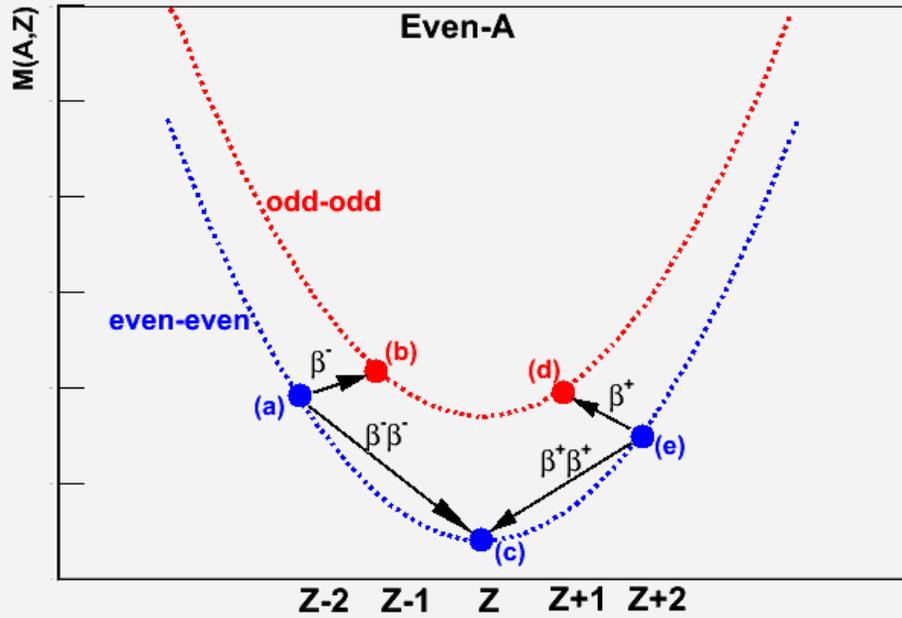
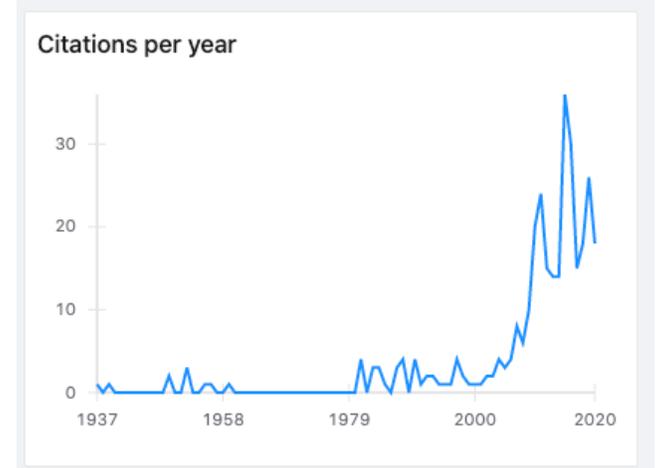
From the Fermi theory of β -disintegration the probability of simultaneous emission of two electrons (and two neutrinos) has been calculated. The result is that this process occurs sufficiently rarely to allow a half-life of over 10^{17} years for a nucleus, even if its isobar of atomic number different by 2 were more stable by 20 times the electron mass.

M. Goeppert-Mayer

$2\nu\beta\beta$ Double beta-Disintegration, Phys.Rev. 48:512-16 (1935)

1939: Furry $0\nu\beta\beta$

Nobel Prize (1963) for Nuclear Shell Model



Over 40 nuclei can undergo $\beta\beta$ -decay (including $\beta^+\beta^+$ and $2K$ -capture)
Only ~9 experimentally feasible for $0\nu\beta\beta$

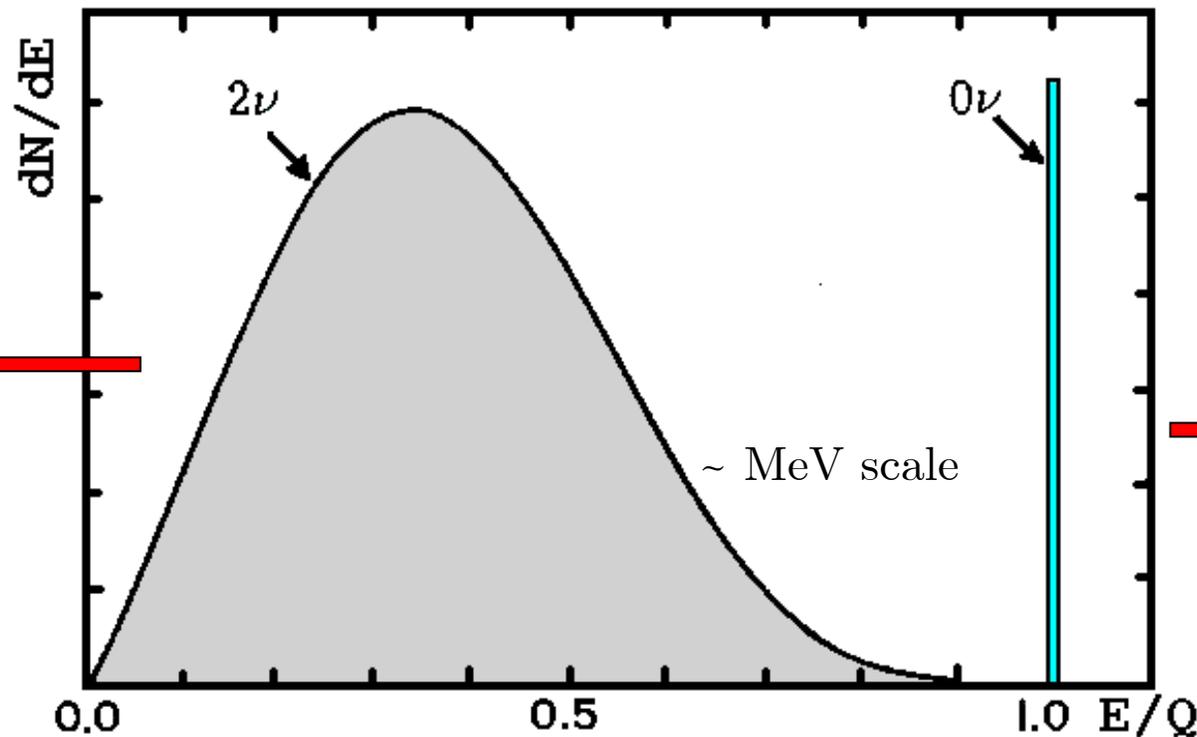
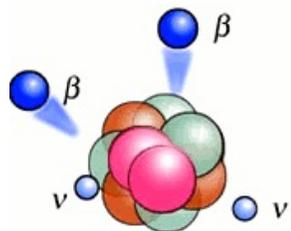
| Isotope | Daughter | $Q_{\beta\beta}^a$ [keV] | f_{nat}^b [%] | f_{enr}^c [%] |
|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| ^{48}Ca | ^{48}Ti | 4 267.98(32) | 0.187(21) | 16 |
| ^{76}Ge | ^{76}Se | 2 039.061(7) | 7.75(12) | 92 |
| ^{82}Se | ^{82}Kr | 2 997.9(3) | 8.82(15) | 96.3 |
| ^{96}Zr | ^{96}Mo | 3 356.097(86) | 2.80(2) | 86 |
| ^{100}Mo | ^{100}Ru | 3 034.40(17) | 9.744(65) | 99.5 |
| ^{116}Cd | ^{116}Sn | 2 813.50(13) | 7.512(54) | 82 |
| ^{130}Te | ^{130}Xe | 2 527.518(13) | 34.08(62) | 92 |
| ^{136}Xe | ^{136}Ba | 2 457.83(37) | 8.857(72) | 90 |
| ^{150}Nd | ^{150}Sm | 3 371.38(20) | 5.638(28) | 91 |

Experimental Observables

$2\nu\beta\beta(EC/\beta^+)$ has been detected in 13 nuclei!

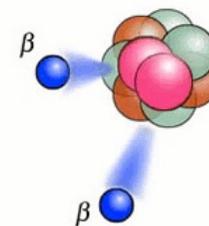
$$\Gamma^{2\nu} \propto G_F^4$$

$$T_{1/2} \sim 10^{19} - 10^{24} \text{ yr!}$$



$$\Gamma^{0\nu} \propto G_F^4 \cdot \eta_{LNV}^2$$

$$T_{1/2} > 10^{26} \text{ yr!}$$



$$\Gamma^{2\nu} = \frac{1}{T_{1/2}^{2\nu}} = G^{2\nu} g_A^4 |M^{2\nu}|^2$$

Want to maximise Q_{bb} to boost phase space, and minimise backgrounds from natural radioactivity

$$\frac{1}{T_{1/2}^{0\nu}} = G^{0\nu}(Q_{\beta\beta}, Z) |M^{0\nu}|^2 \eta^2$$

If possible: individual electron energies, E_{e1} , E_{e2} , and angle θ between them

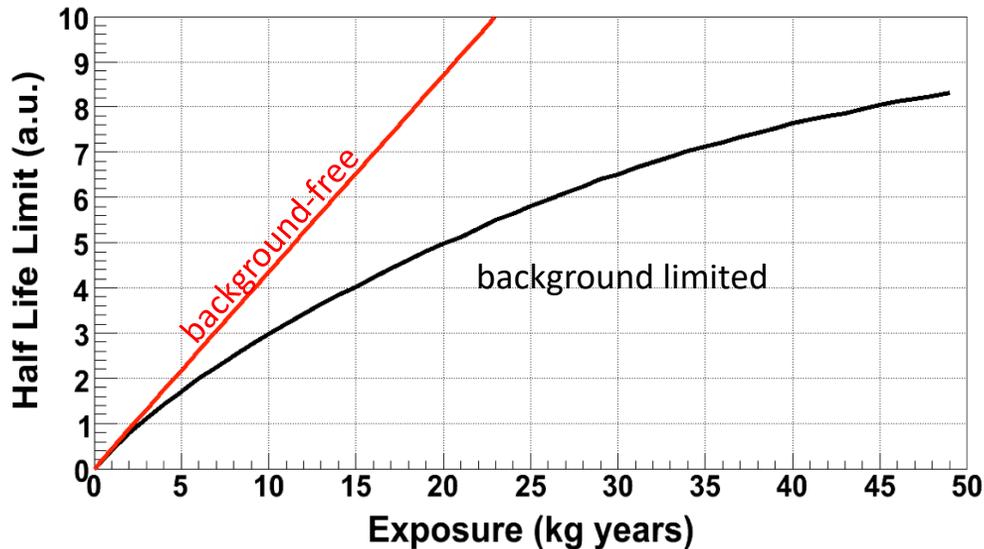
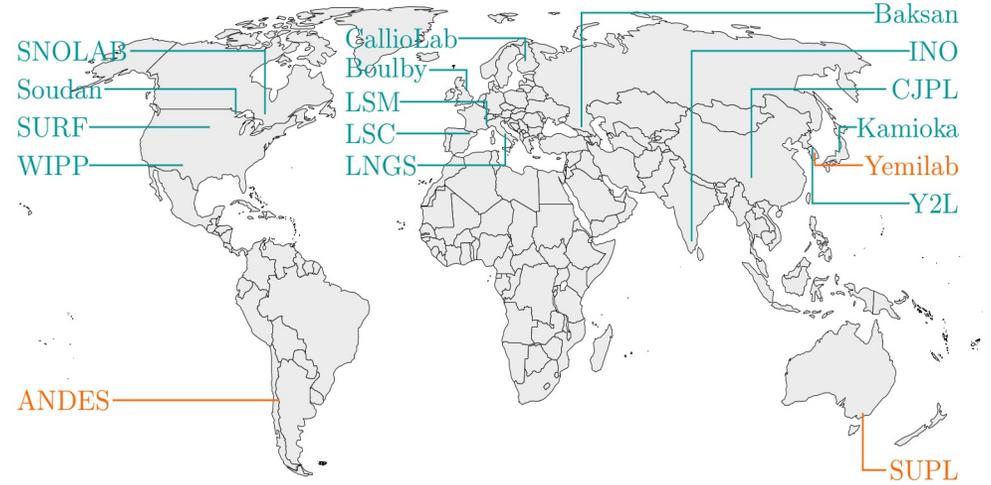
Sensitivity and requirements

maximise **detection efficiency** and $\beta\beta$ **isotope abundance**

maximise **exposure**

minimise **background**

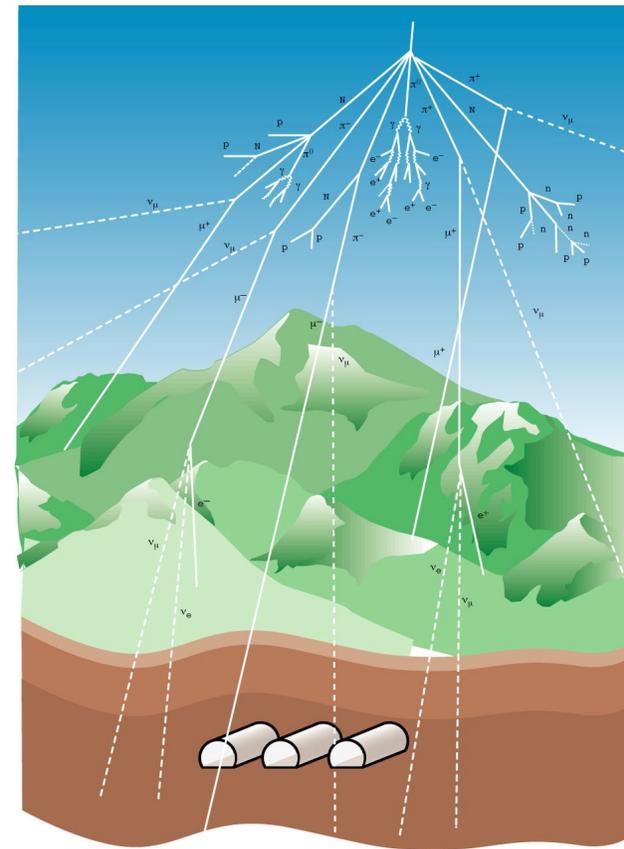
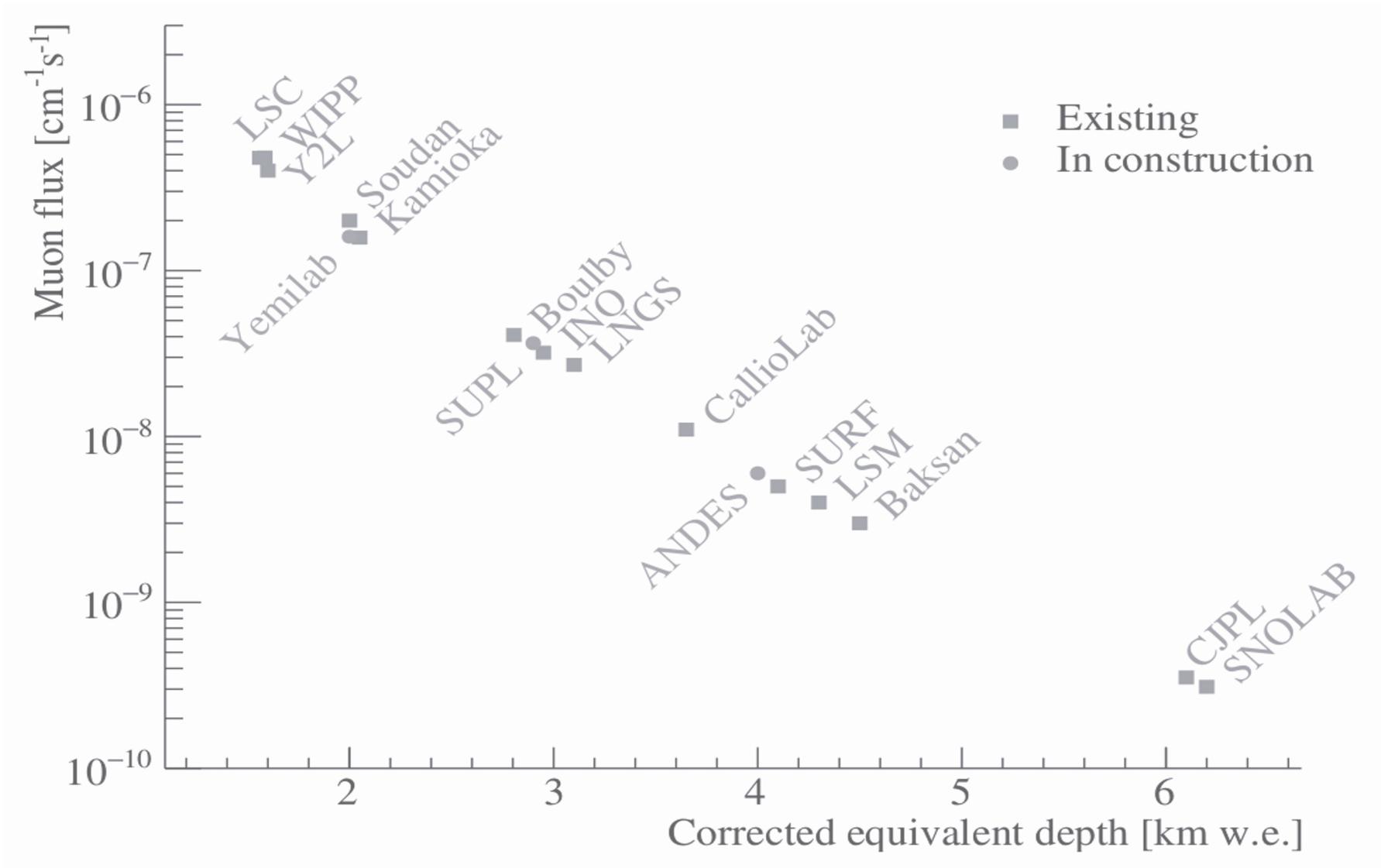
$$T_{1/2}^{0\nu} (90\% \text{ C.L.}) = 2.54 \times 10^{26} \text{ y} \left(\frac{\epsilon \times a}{W} \right) \sqrt{\frac{M \times t}{b \times \Delta E}}$$



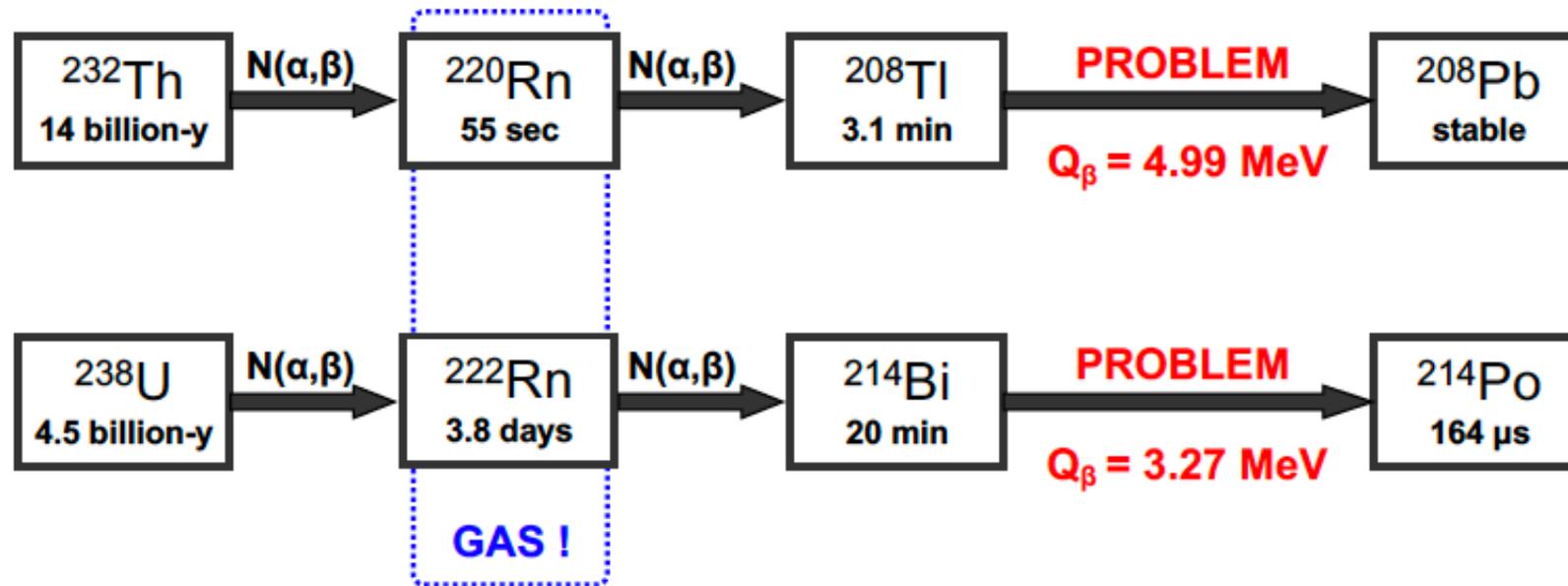
It's all about backgrounds

- Cosmic rays (underground)
- Natural radioactivity (clean materials, particle id and tagging)
- Standard Model $2\nu\beta\beta$ (energy resolution)

Underground Laboratories



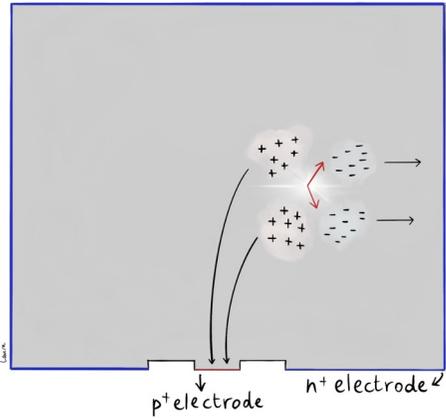
Natural Radioactivity



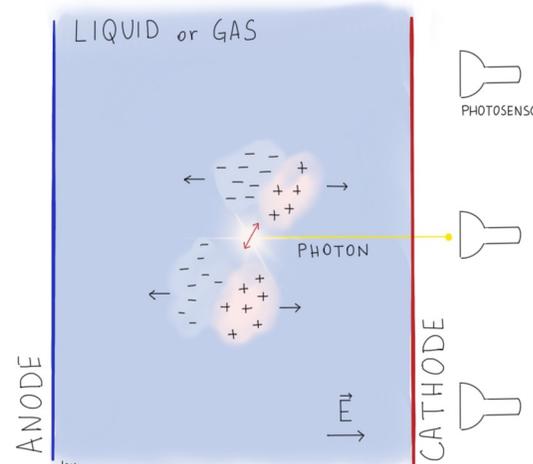
- Many other potential sources including cosmogenics, “degraded” alphas etc.
- Natural radioactivity falls very rapidly above ~ 3 MeV.
- What can be done ?
 - ▶ Extremely careful material selection.
 - ▶ Purification techniques.
 - ▶ Barriers against radon penetration.
 - ▶ Vetos & active shielding.
 - ▶ Background tagging/identification techniques - e.g. single-site ($0\nu\beta\beta$) versus multiple-site (γ)

Experimental Techniques

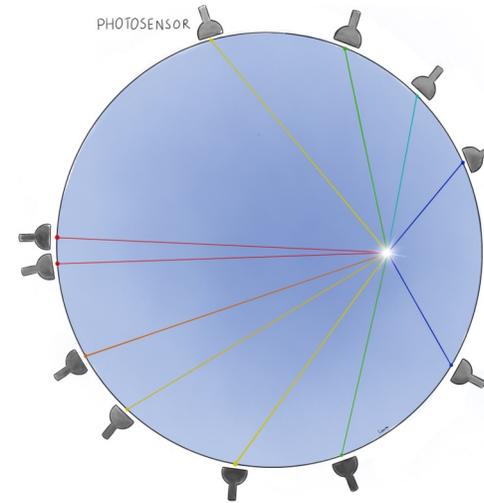
Ge Semiconductor detectors (^{76}Ge)



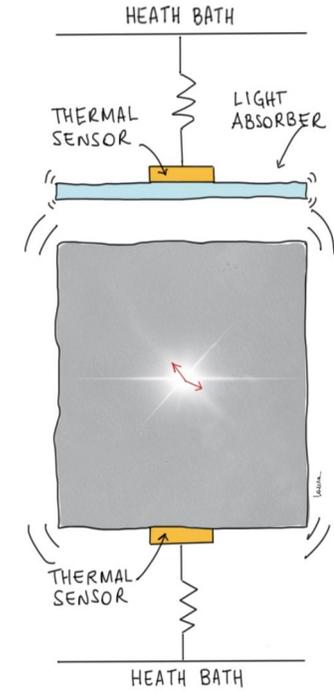
Xe Time Projection Chambers (^{136}Xe)



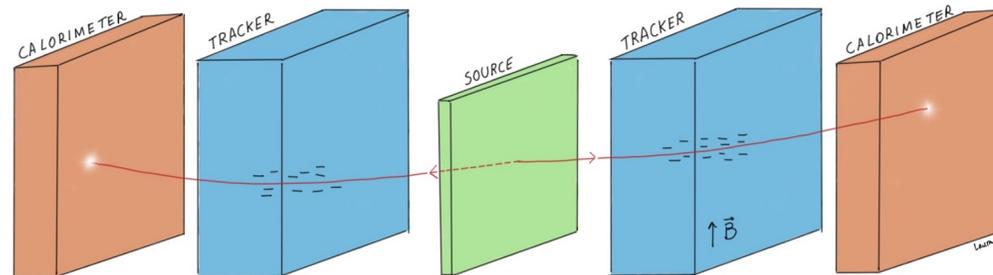
Large Liquid scintillator detectors ($^{130}\text{Te}, ^{136}\text{Xe}$)



Cryogenic Calorimeters ($^{100}\text{Mo}, ^{30}\text{Te}$)

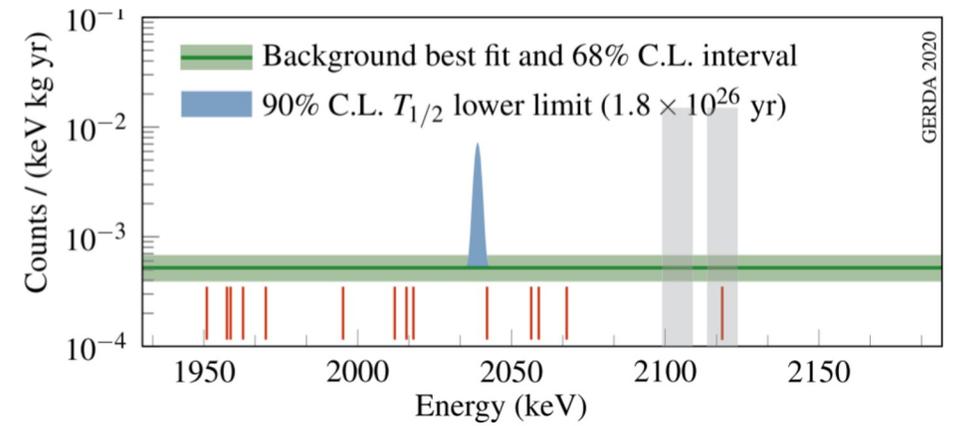
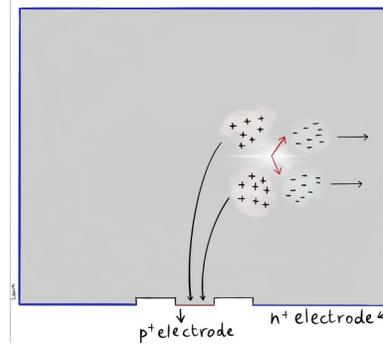


Passive source surrounded by detectors ($^{100}\text{Mo}, ^{82}\text{Se}, ^{150}\text{Nd}$, other)



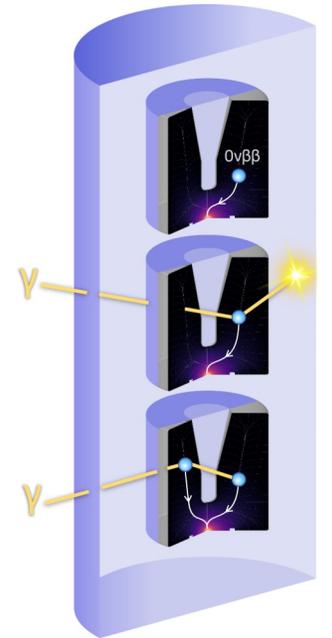
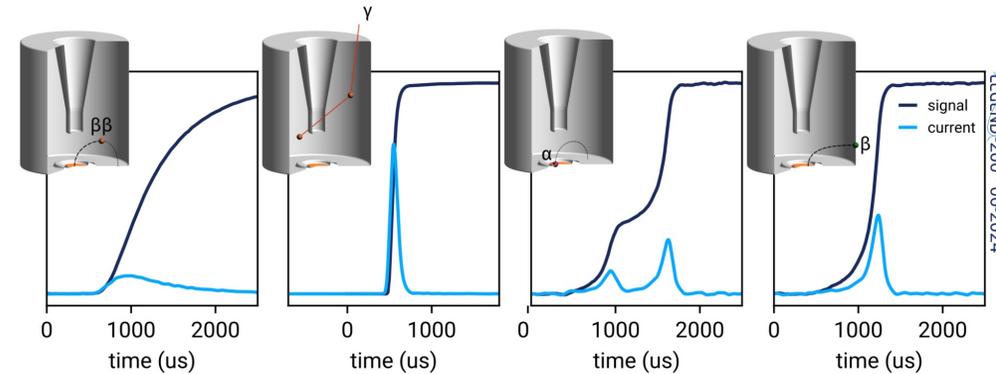
Drawings courtesy of Laura Manenti

- ionization and charge drift
- $< 0.1\%$ energy resolution
- Ar shield and scintillation light
- advanced event topology



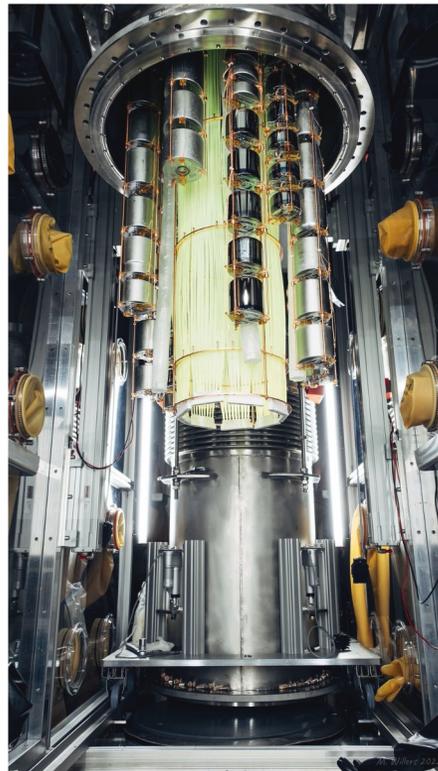
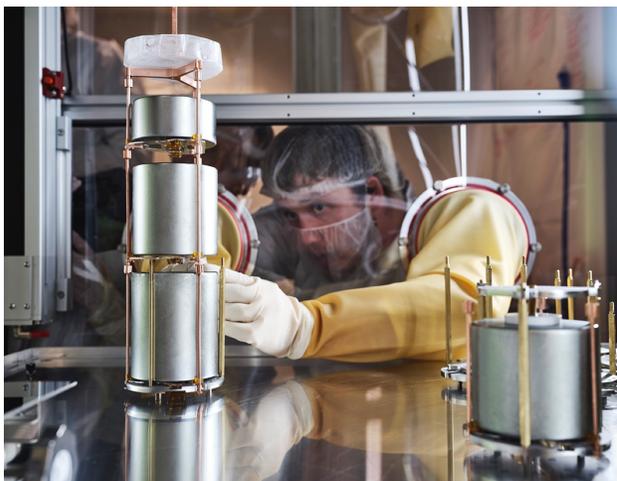
GERDA PRL 125 (2020)

- **GERDA/MAJORANA** (40 kg), lowest background
- **LEGEND-200** (200 kg) in data taking since 2023, good performance and background released at TAUP, first physics unblinding at *Neutrino'24 next week!*
- **LEGEND-1000** (1 t) designed to be reviewed next year, baseline design at LNGS, data taking by 2030



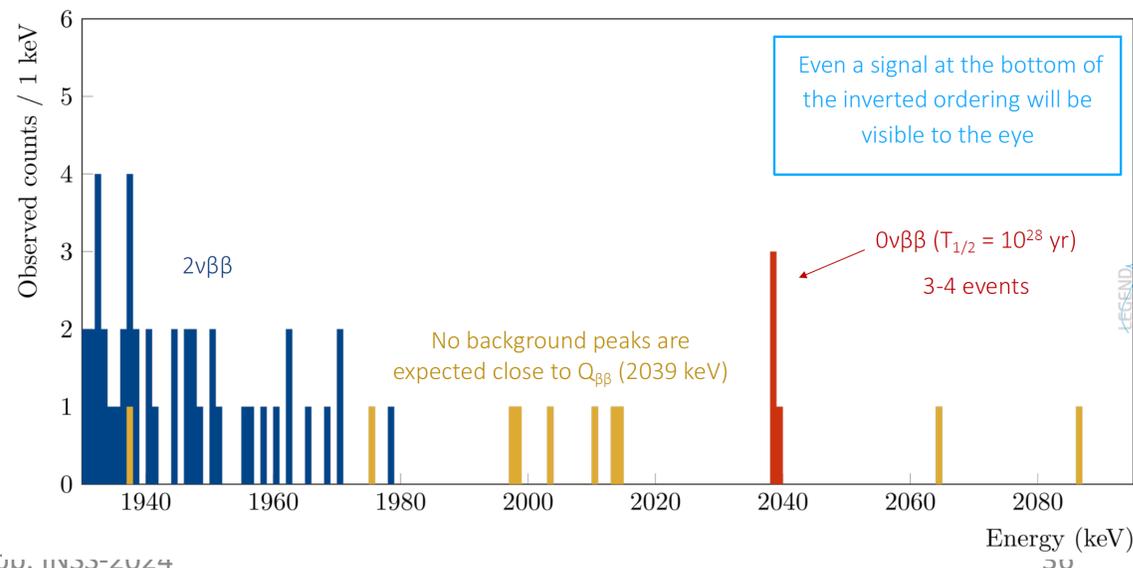
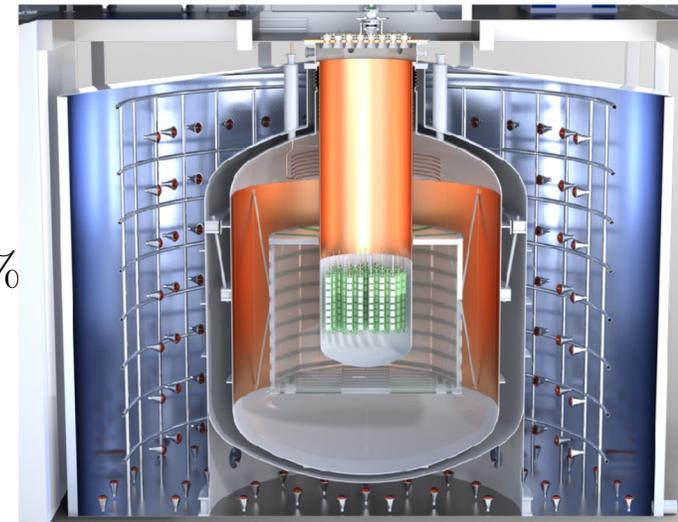
LEGEND-200

- 200kg ^{76}Ge enriched $> 88\%$
- BG goal: < 0.5 cts/FWHM t yr)
- Physics run with 10 strings (142kg) since Mar-2023 at LNGS

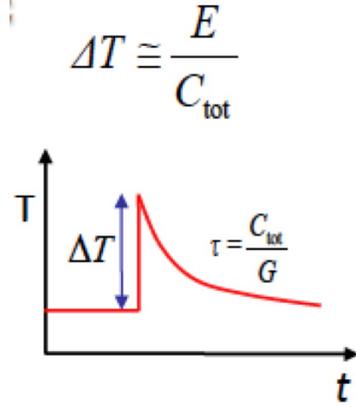
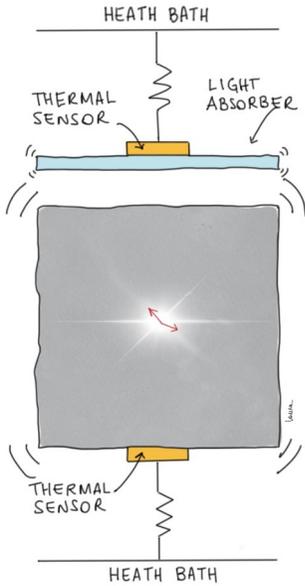


LEGEND-1000

- 1000kg ^{76}Ge enriched $> 90\%$
- BG goal: < 0.025 cts/FWHM t yr)
- Location LNGS



Cryogenic Calorimeters



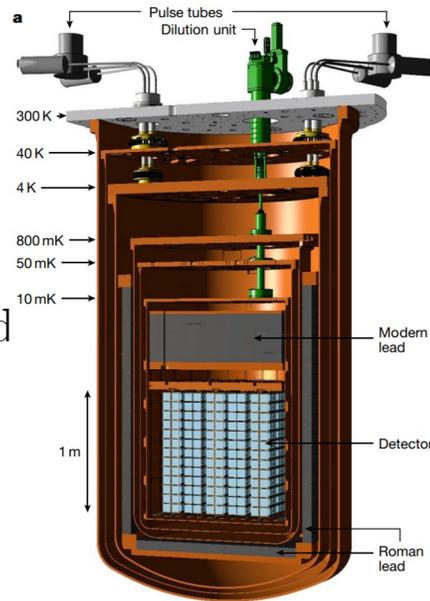
CUORE

- 742 kg TeO₂ (206 kg ¹³⁰Te), 988 crystals
- 2 tonne years of exposure, still running at LNGS

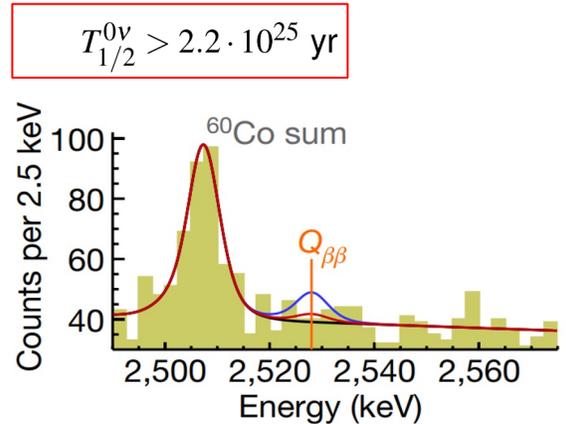
CUPID

- reusing CUORE existing infrastructure
- scintillating bolometer Li₂MoO₄ technology demonstrated by CUPID-Mo
- particle identification

- temperature variation and scintillation light
- particle identification and good resolution
- array of enriched crystals operated at ~10 mK

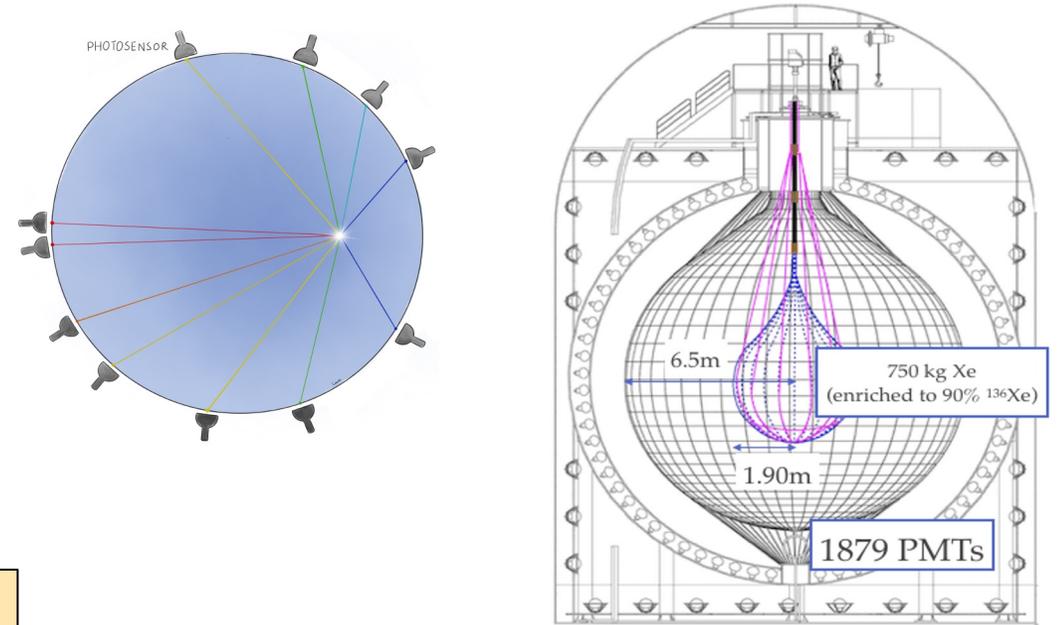


CUORE, Nature 604 (2022)



Large loaded liquid scintillators

- scintillation photons detected by PMTs
- photon number and arrival time gives event energy and position
- self-shielding and fiducialization



KamLAND-Zen-800@Kamioka

- 750 kg of ^{136}Xe in nylon balloon
- backgrounds: $2\nu\beta\beta$, cosmogenic, solar neutrinos, ^{214}Bi on balloon

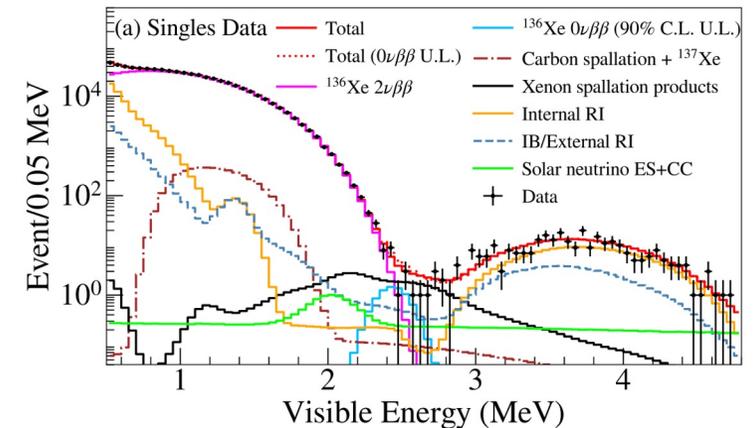
KamLAND2-Zen@Kamioka

- new light concentrators and PMTs with higher quantum efficiency
- purer scintillator

SNO+@SNOLab

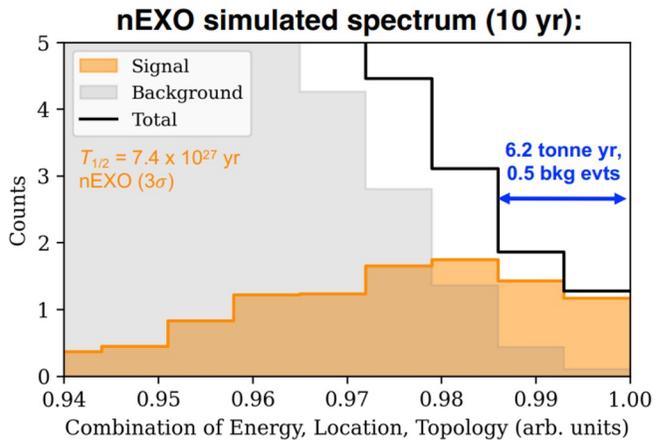
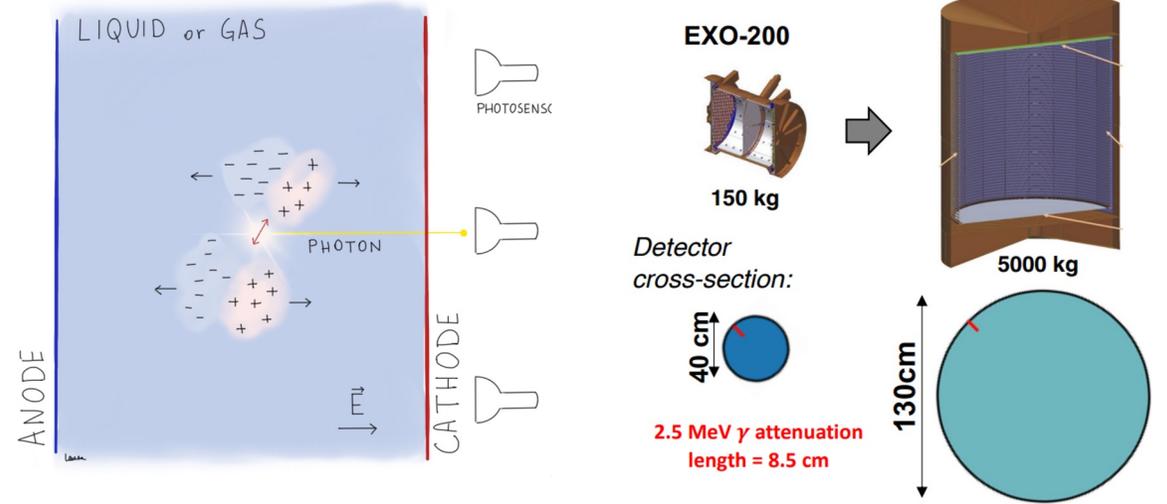
- Te loaded scintillator up to 2.5-3%

$$T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 2.3 \times 10^{26} \text{ yr at 90\% C.L.}$$



LXe time projection chambers

- ^{136}Xe VUV scintillation light and ionization electron drift \rightarrow 3D reconstruction
- background decreasing with distance from surface, ^{214}Bi and ^{222}Rn remain problematic
- R&D to tag $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay daughter isotope

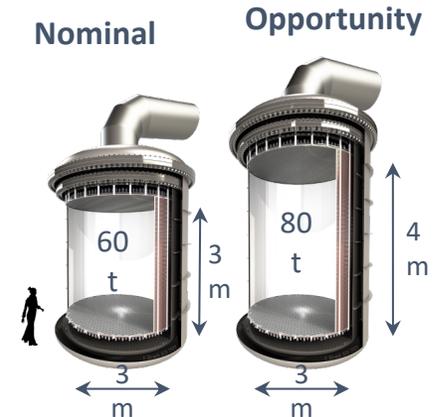


nEXO@SNOLAB

- builds on the EXO-200 experiment (completed in 2019)
- homogeneous, liquid enrXe time projection chamber scaled to **5 tonne total mass**
- dominant external backgrounds exponentially attenuated in central region
- preparing for DOE review next year

Also, natural LXe detectors for dark matter: XLZD

80t natural \rightarrow 7t ^{136}Xe



High-Pressure Gas ^{136}Xe time projection chamber

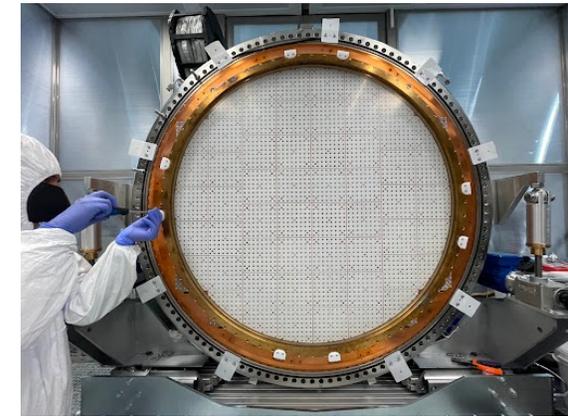
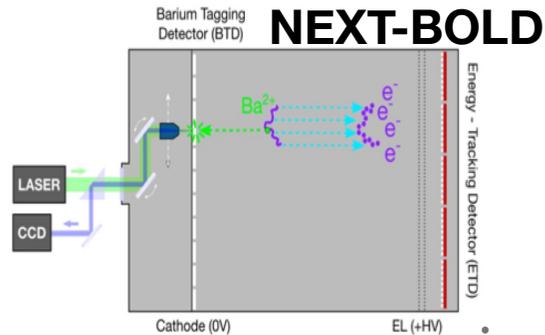
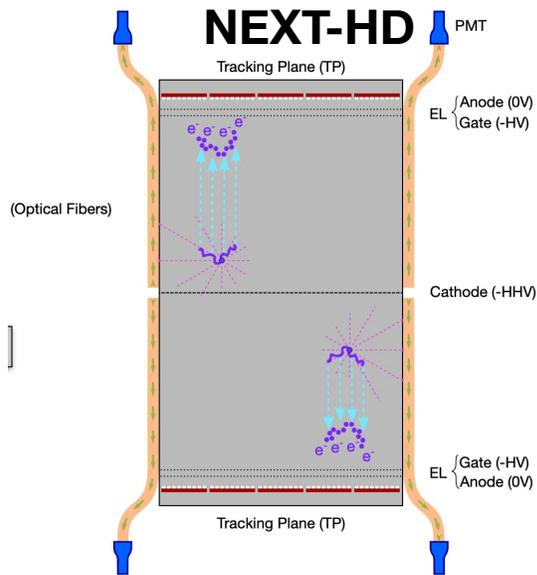
- Next-White demonstrated the technology:

- ✓ Continuous $^{83\text{m}}\text{Kr}$ calibration
- ✓ Sub-percent energy resolution FWHM
- ✓ Powerful topology separation



- NEXT-100 under commissioning (data taking in summer 2024)

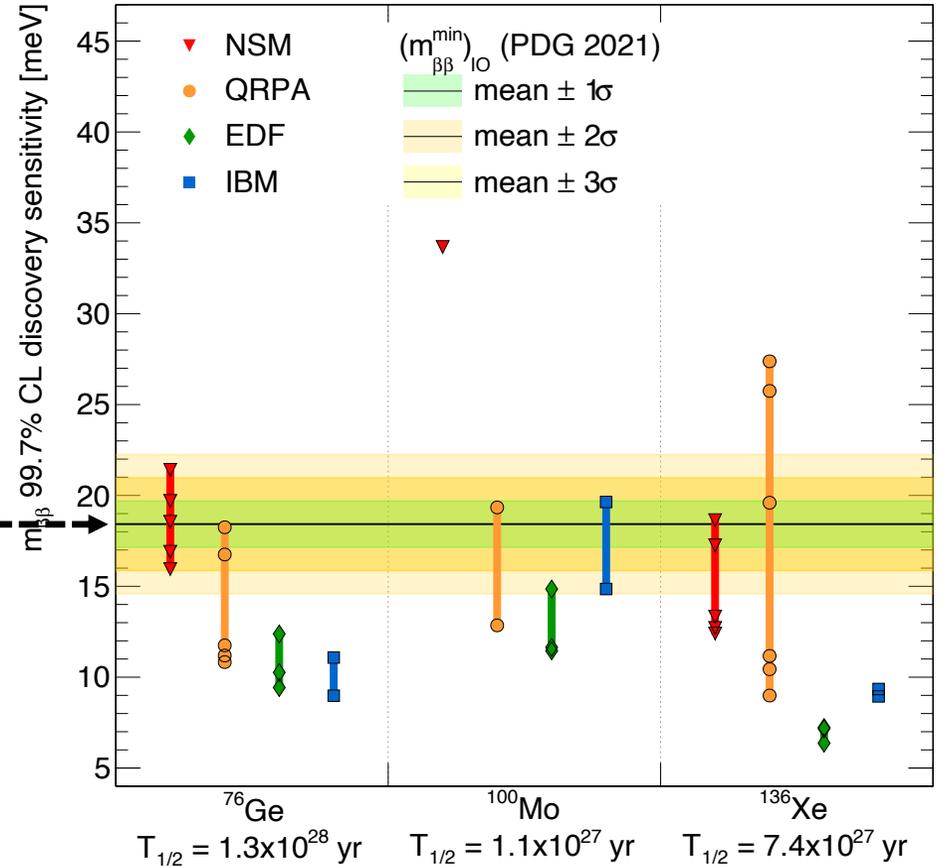
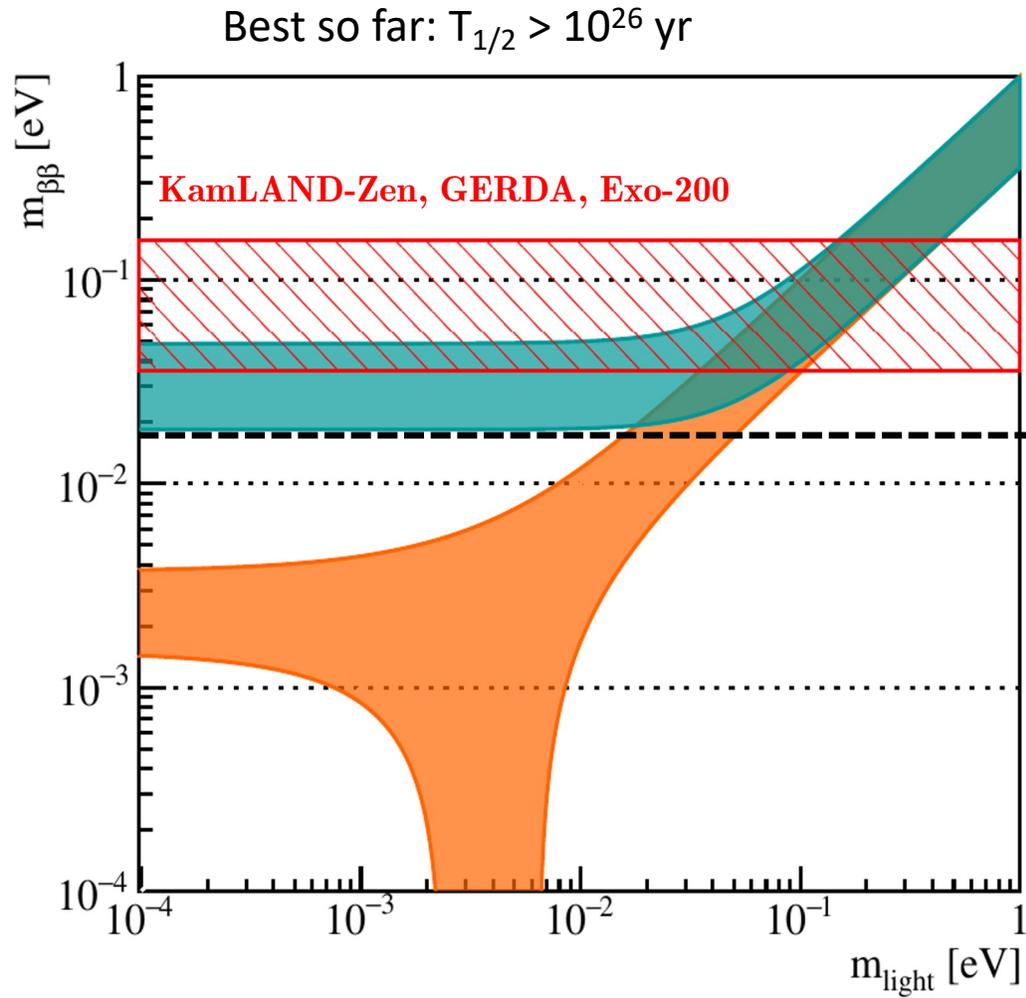
- ✓ Will demonstrate scalability



- Ton-scale plans:

- ✓ NEXT-HD: Symmetric detector with reach of 10^{27} y
- ✓ NEXT-BOLD: Add Ba tagging (bkg free!) for exploring beyond 10^{28} y

$0\nu\beta\beta$ with $m_{\beta\beta}$. Where are we heading?



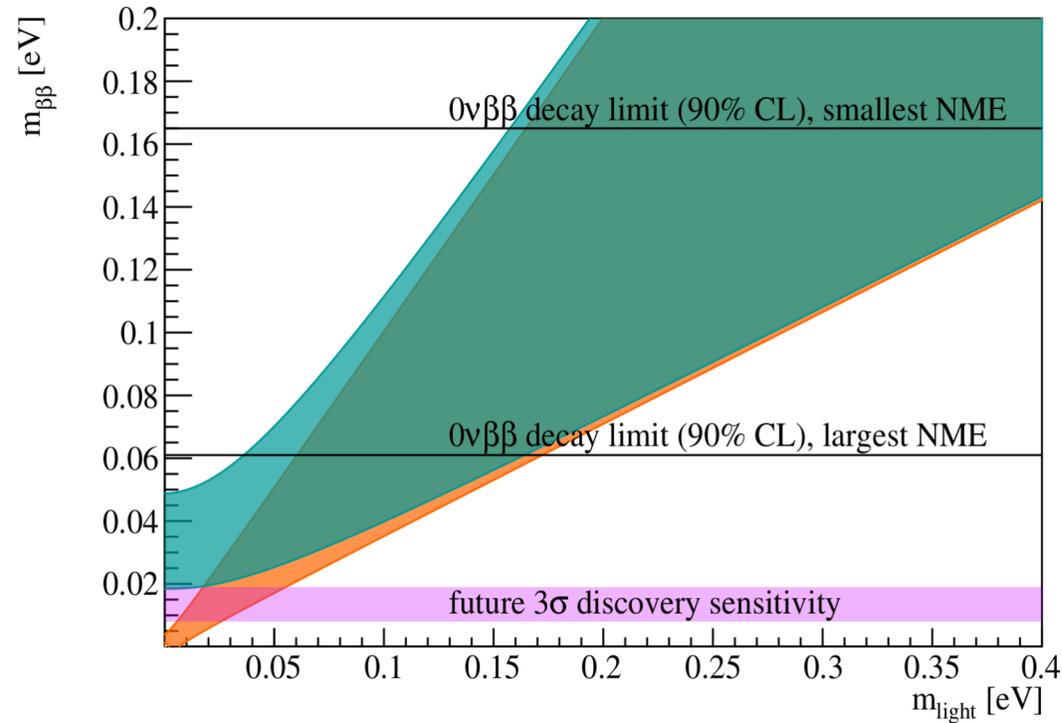
LEGEND



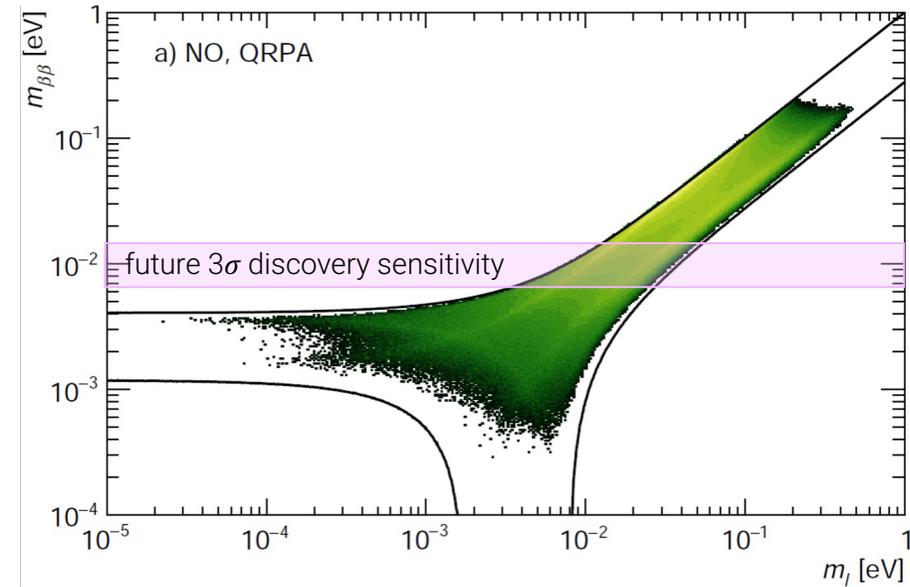
nEXO

$0\nu\beta\beta$ with $m_{\beta\beta}$. Where are we heading?

- Significant part of Normal Ordering will be covered with next wave of experiments (“1 tonne”)
- Beware of log-plots!

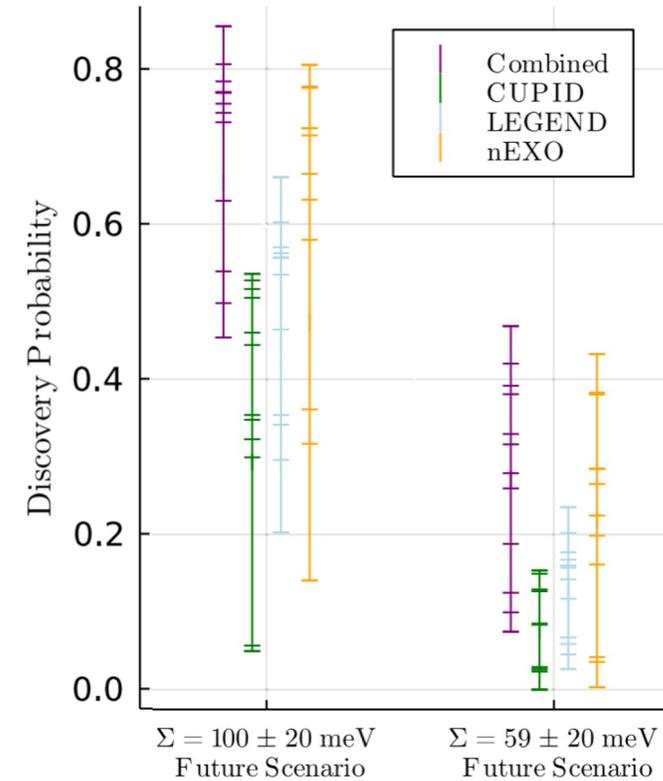
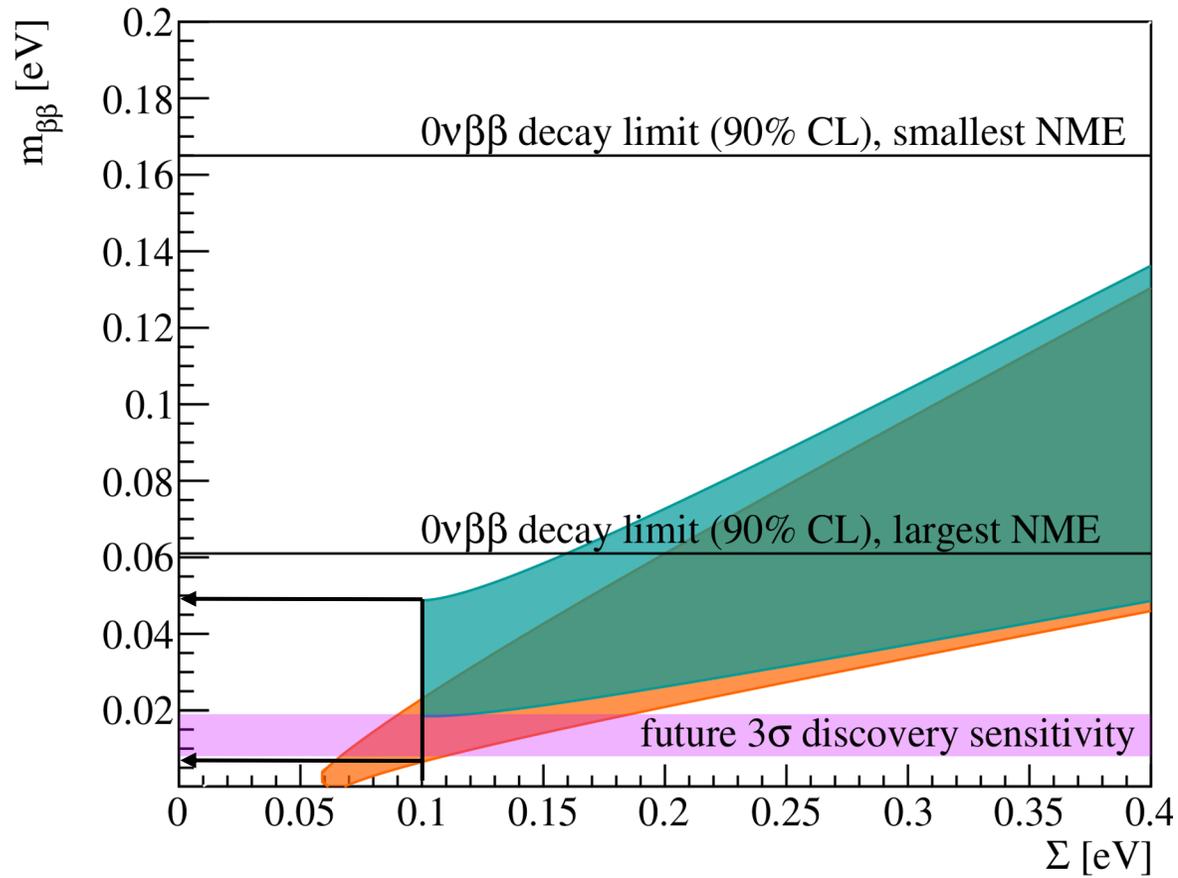


Potentially non equiprobable parameter space
(random phases would naturally favor large $m_{\beta\beta}$ values)



Agostini, Benato and Detwiler, PRD 96, 053001 (2017)

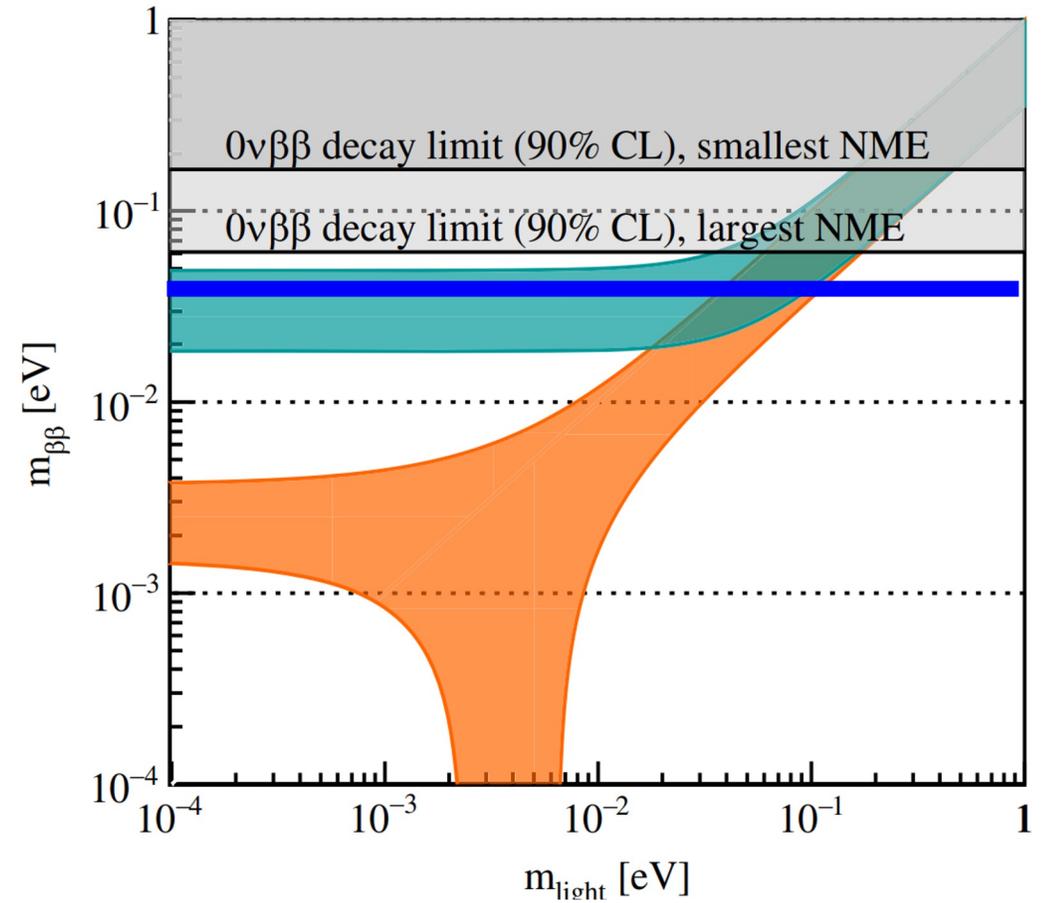
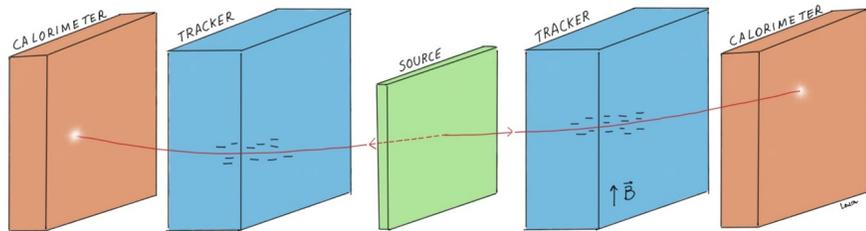
$0\nu\beta\beta$ and Cosmology



Scenario 1

$T_{1/2} < 10^{28}$ years: 100s events in ton-scale experiments

- $O(10\%)$ statistical uncertainty \ll NME uncertainties
- can probe decay mechanism by looking at individual electron energy distributions and angular correlations



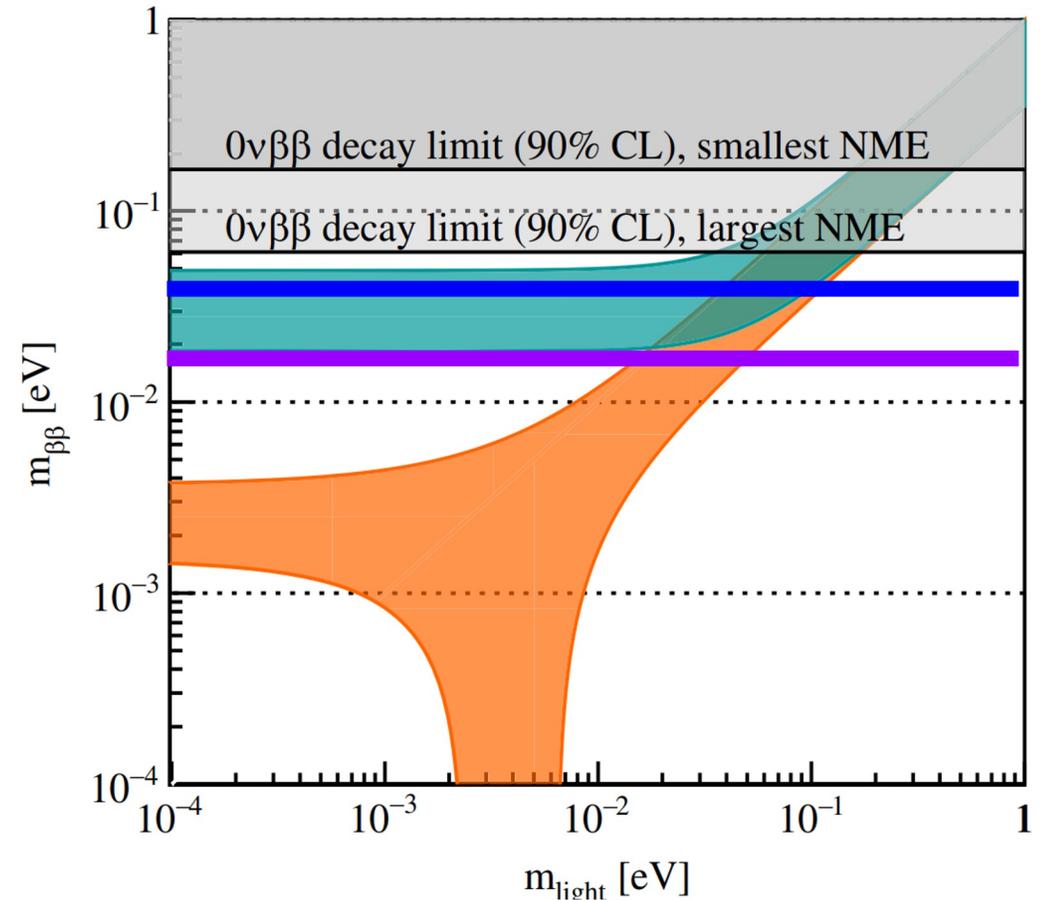
Scenario 2

$T_{1/2} < 10^{28}$ years: 100s events in ton-scale experiments

- $O(10\%)$ statistical uncertainty \ll NME uncertainties
- can probe decay mechanism

$T_{1/2} \sim 10^{28}$ years: ~ 10 events in ton-scale experiments

- statistical uncertainty \sim NME uncertainties
- multiple ton-scale experiments needed to confirm signal



Scenario 3

$T_{1/2} < 10^{28}$ years: 100s events in ton-scale experiments

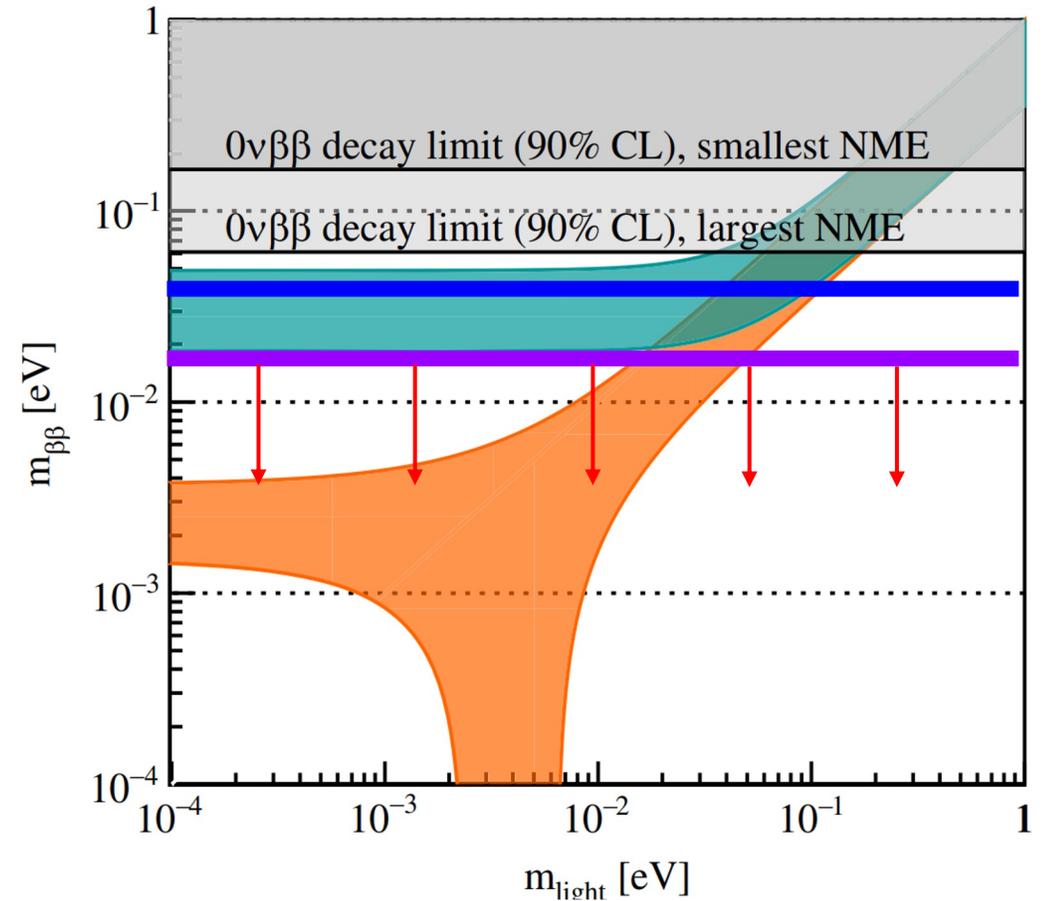
- $O(10\%)$ statistical uncertainty \ll NME uncertainties
- can probe decay mechanism

$T_{1/2} \sim 10^{28}$ years: ~ 10 events in ton-scale experiments

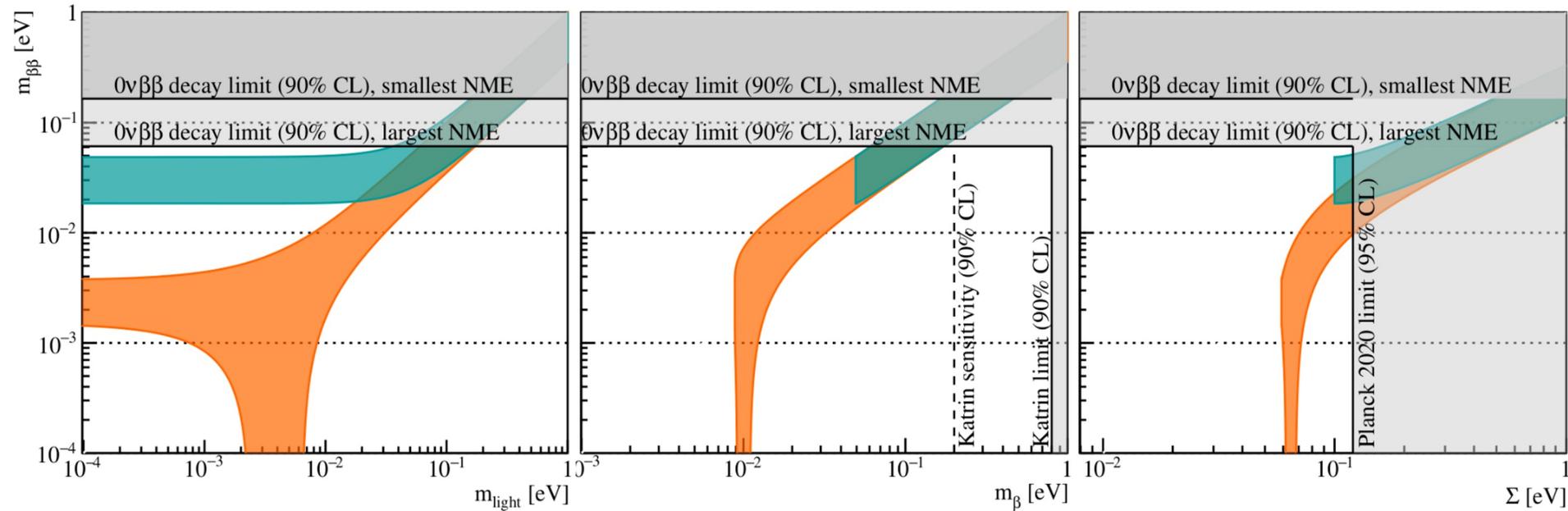
- statistical uncertainty \sim NME uncertainties
- multiple ton-scale experiments needed to confirm signal

$T_{1/2} > 10^{28}$ years: $<$ a few events in ton-scale experiments

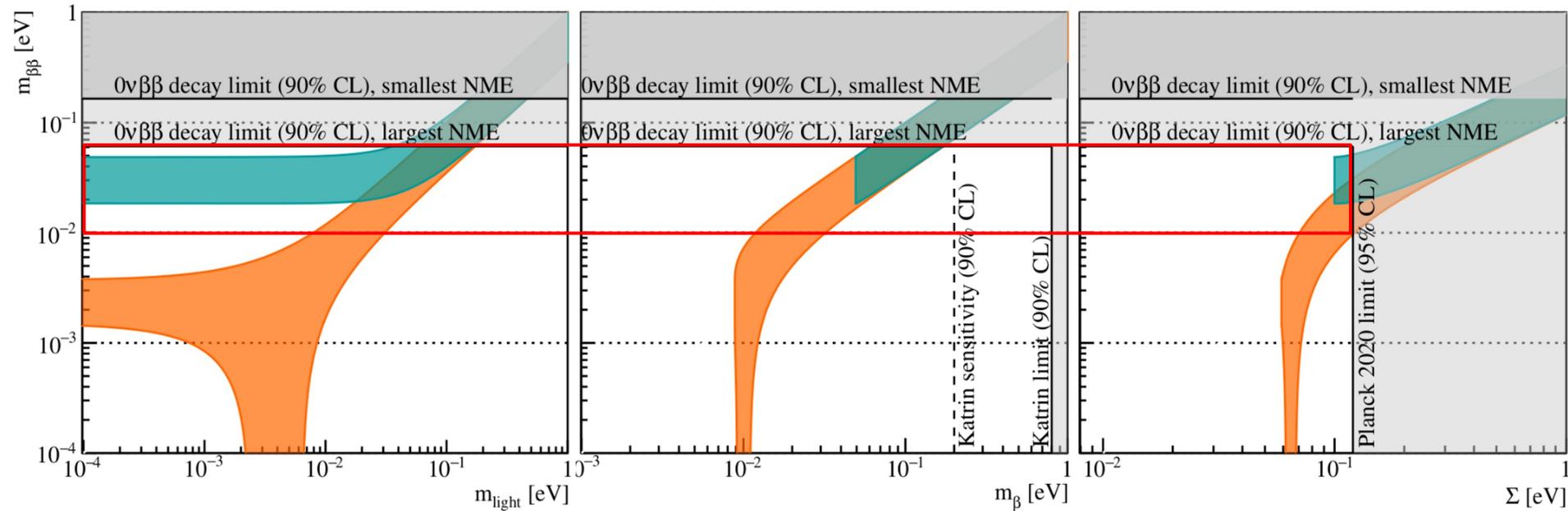
- R&D required to push further into NO, reduce cost
- technology diversity is a strength



Interplay between absolute neutrino mass experiments

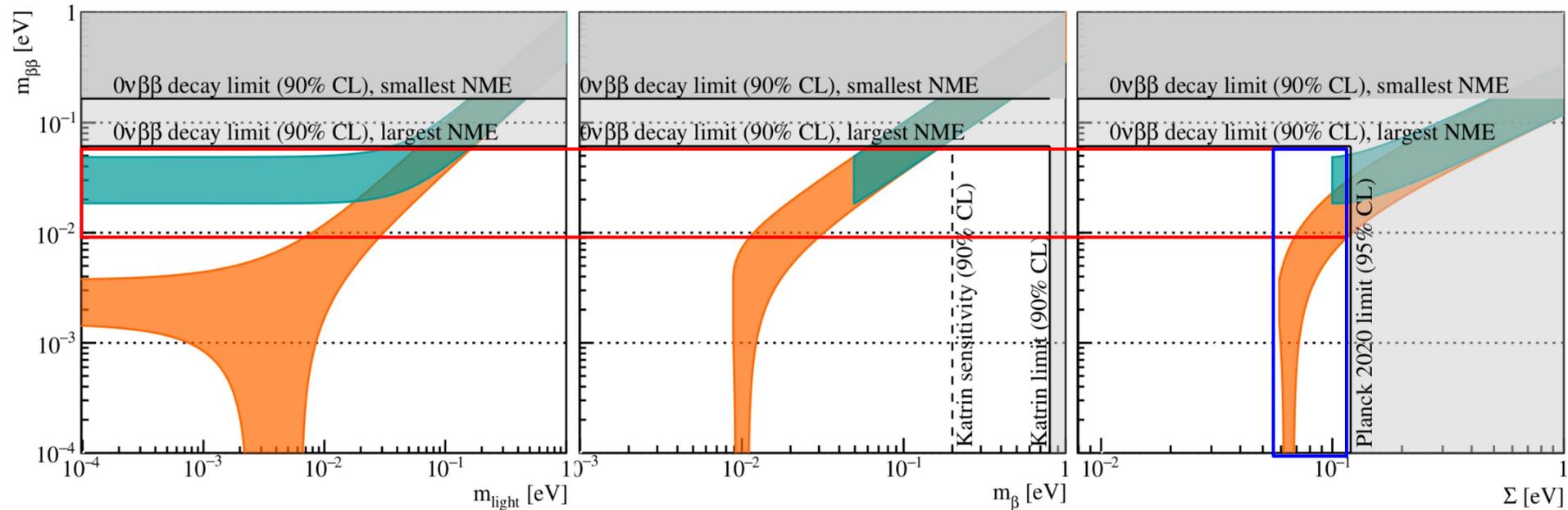


Interplay between absolute neutrino mass experiments



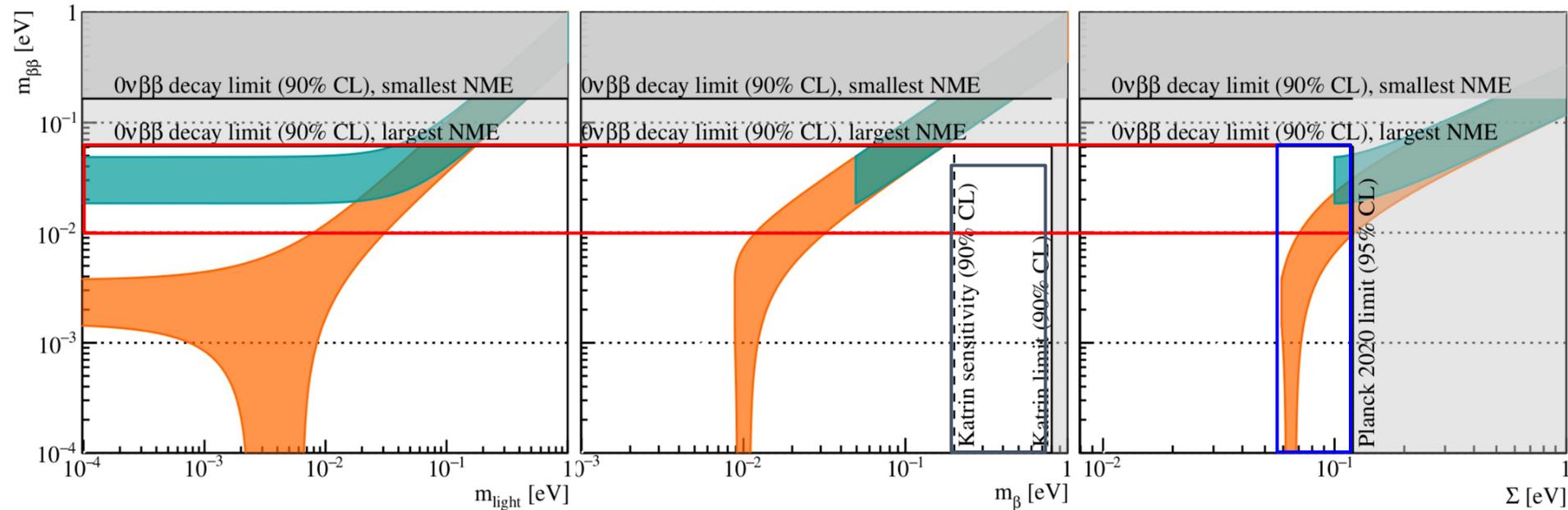
CUPID, LEGEND, nEXO, +... will explore $m_{\beta\beta}$ values till the bottom of the inverted ordering and beyond, with a good chance to discover matter-creation

Interplay between absolute neutrino mass experiments



DESI and EUCLID promise to measure Σ . This will define a target for $0\nu\beta\beta$ experiments, with a no observation potentially hinting at Dirac masses or non-standard cosmology

Interplay between absolute neutrino mass experiments



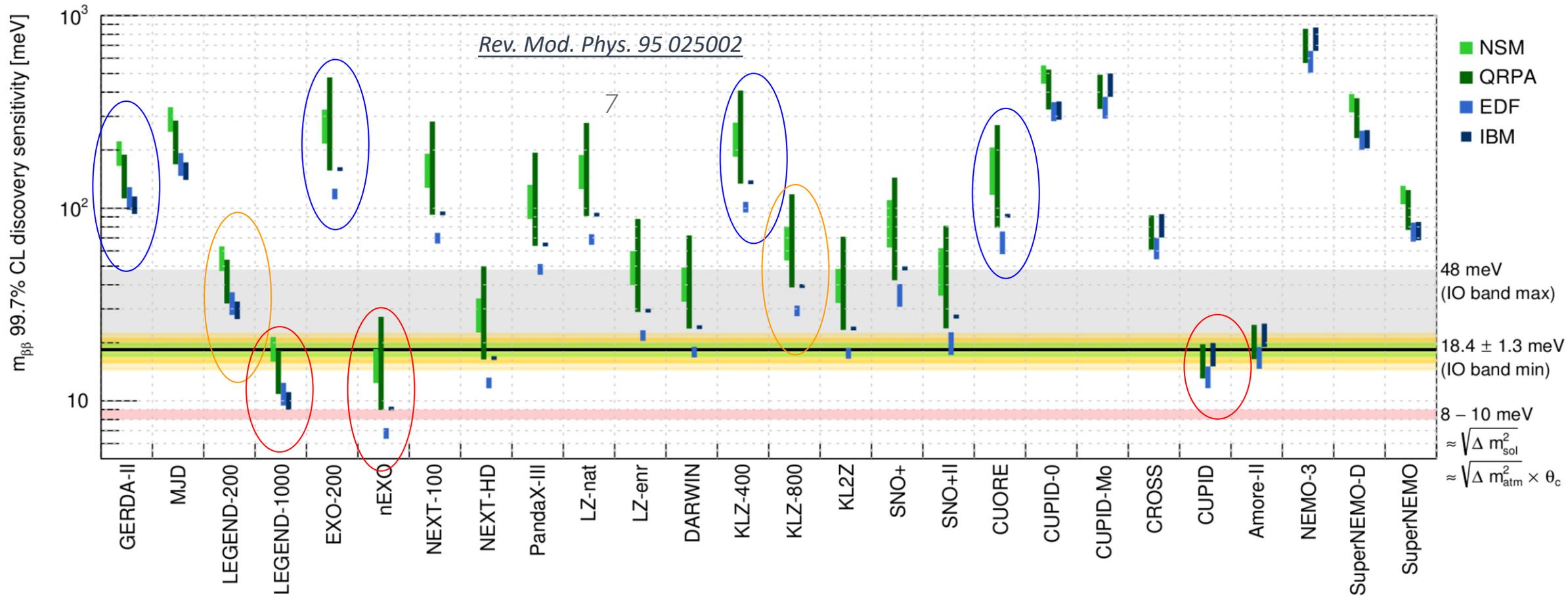
- KATRIN's parameter space is already excluded by both $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay and cosmology.
- A signal would force to drastically rethink our phenomenology theory framework
- Measuring m_{β} below 0.1 eV (Project-8, QTNM, PTOLEMY, ECHO...) and $m_{\beta\beta}$ and will allow Majorana CP-phases to be determined!

Outlook

Last decade: **GERDA, EXO-200, KamLAND-Zen-400, CUORE**

The two to watch: **LEGEND-200, KamLAND-Zen-800**

Coming up (10-15 yrs): **LEGEND-1000, CUPID, nEXO, +...**



Concluding Remarks

- $0\nu\beta\beta$ is the best way to probe **Lepton Number Violation, B-L** and its connection to preponderance of **matter** and **neutrino mass** generation mechanism
- Upcoming experiments are very well motivated scientifically – clear sensitivity targets
- Interplay with oscillations, cosmology and β -decay results yields a significant likelihood of **discovery** in next 2-15 years !
- $0\nu\beta\beta$ could be driven by any **LNV** mechanism – open minded, **discovery-oriented** search.

