The SuperNEMO tracker construction and commissioning

M. Cascella UCL





collaboration



A SuperNEMO module

- 2β0v decay search
 - are v Mayorana or Dirac? m_v? Mass hierarchy?
- 5-7kg (15m²) source foil (Se/ Nd/Ca)
- calorimeter 4% FWHM@ $Q_{\beta\beta}$
- Tracker ~2000 tracker cells
- Full event reconstruction for bg rejection + high radiopurity -> Bg < 10⁻⁴ counts/keV/ kg/y
- goal for demonstrator $\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle \sim 0.20$ 0.40 eV



The SuperNEMO tracker

- octagonal cells operated in Geiger mode
 - (t_{anode} -> transverse coordinate; t_{cathode} -> longitudinal coordinate)
- High radiopurity extremely challenging
 - Only Duracon, copper and stainless steel allowed
 - automated construction + clean environment







Rn emanation tests in MSSL

- Every detector component is tested first with HPGe then for Rn emanation (Rn concentration line)
- SuperNEMO goal: Rn emanation < 0.15 mBq/m3
- Rn trap to filter tracker gas
 - expected 10¹⁰ suppression with He





Gas	Source	Radon Level (µBq/m³)
Не	Cylinder	70 – 100
N ₂	Cylinder	400 – 1000
N ₂	Boil-off	90 – 140
N ₂	Rn-Trap	20 ± 12
He	Rn-Trap	< 5

First Tracker section



- First of four sections completed and under commissioning (first tracks measured), second section 50% assembled
- First section will be shipped to France later this year
- On schedule to commission Demonstrator Module in 2016

