



16 th Lomonosov conference on elementary particle  
physics

MSU, August 22-28, 2013

GERDA experiment – results and status.

Leonid Bezrukov (INR)

On behalf GERDA Collaboration



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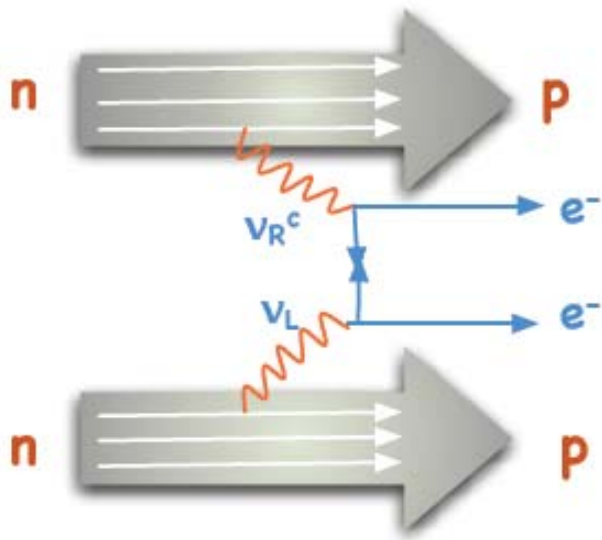
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<p>~ 100 members 19 institutions 6 countries</p>
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## Expected decay rate:

$$(T_{1/2}^{0\nu})^{-1} = G^{0\nu}(Q, Z) |M^{0\nu}|^2 \langle m_{ee} \rangle^2$$

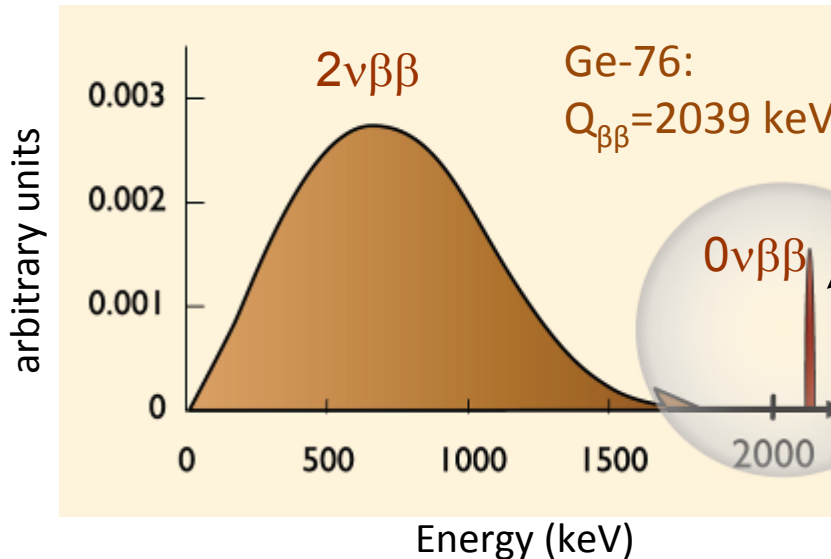
Phase space integral

Nuclear matrix element

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

Effective neutrino mass

$U_{ei}$  Elements of (complex) PMNS mixing matrix

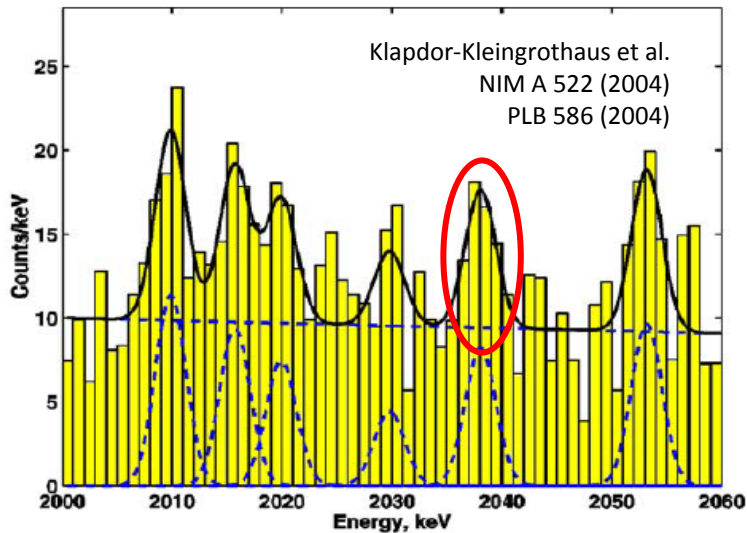


## Experimental signatures:

- peak at  $Q_{\beta\beta} = m(A, Z) - m(A, Z+2) - 2m_e$
- two electrons from vertex

## Discovery would imply:

- lepton number violation  $\Delta L = 2$
- $\nu$ 's have Majorana character
- mass scale & hierarchy
- physics beyond the standard model



Klapdor-Kleingrothaus et al., NIM A 522 (2004), PLB 586 (2004):

- 71.7 kg year - Bgd 0.17 / (kg yr keV)
- $28.75 \pm 6.87$  events (bgd:  $\sim 60$ )
- Claim:  $4.2\sigma$  evidence for  $0\nu\beta\beta$
- reported  $T_{1/2}^{0\nu} = 1.19 \times 10^{25}$  yr

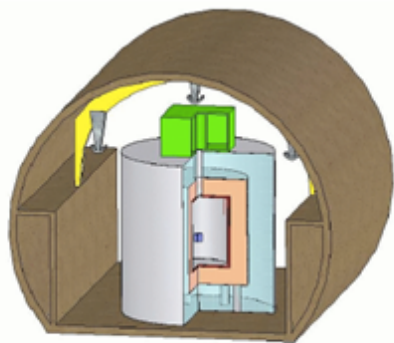


N.B. Half-life  $T_{1/2}^{0\nu} = 2.23 \times 10^{25}$  yr  $T_{1/2}$  after PSD analysis (Mod. Phys. Lett. A 21, 1547 (2006).) is not considered because:

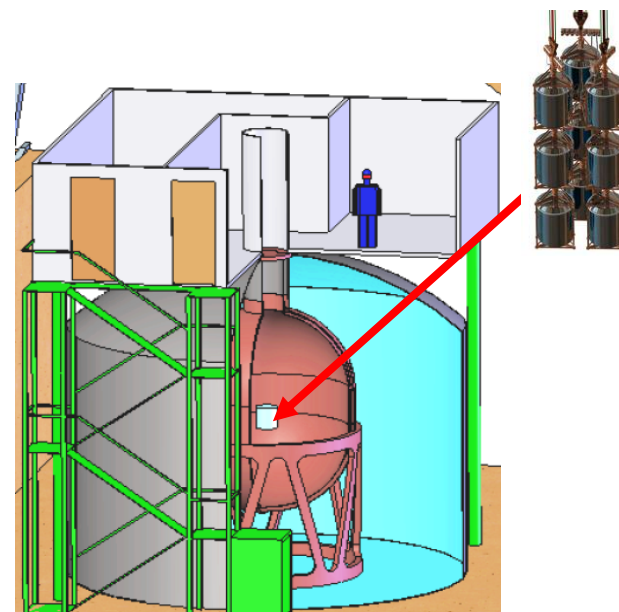
- reported half-life can be reconstructed only (Ref. 1) with  $\epsilon_{\text{psd}} = 1$  (previous similar analysis  $\epsilon_{\text{psd}} \approx 0.6$ )
- $\epsilon_{\text{fep}} = 1$  (also in NIM A 522, PLB 586 (2004) (GERDA value for same detectors:  $\epsilon_{\text{fep}} = 0.9$ ))

(1) B. Schwingenheuer in Ann. Phys. 525, 269 (2013):

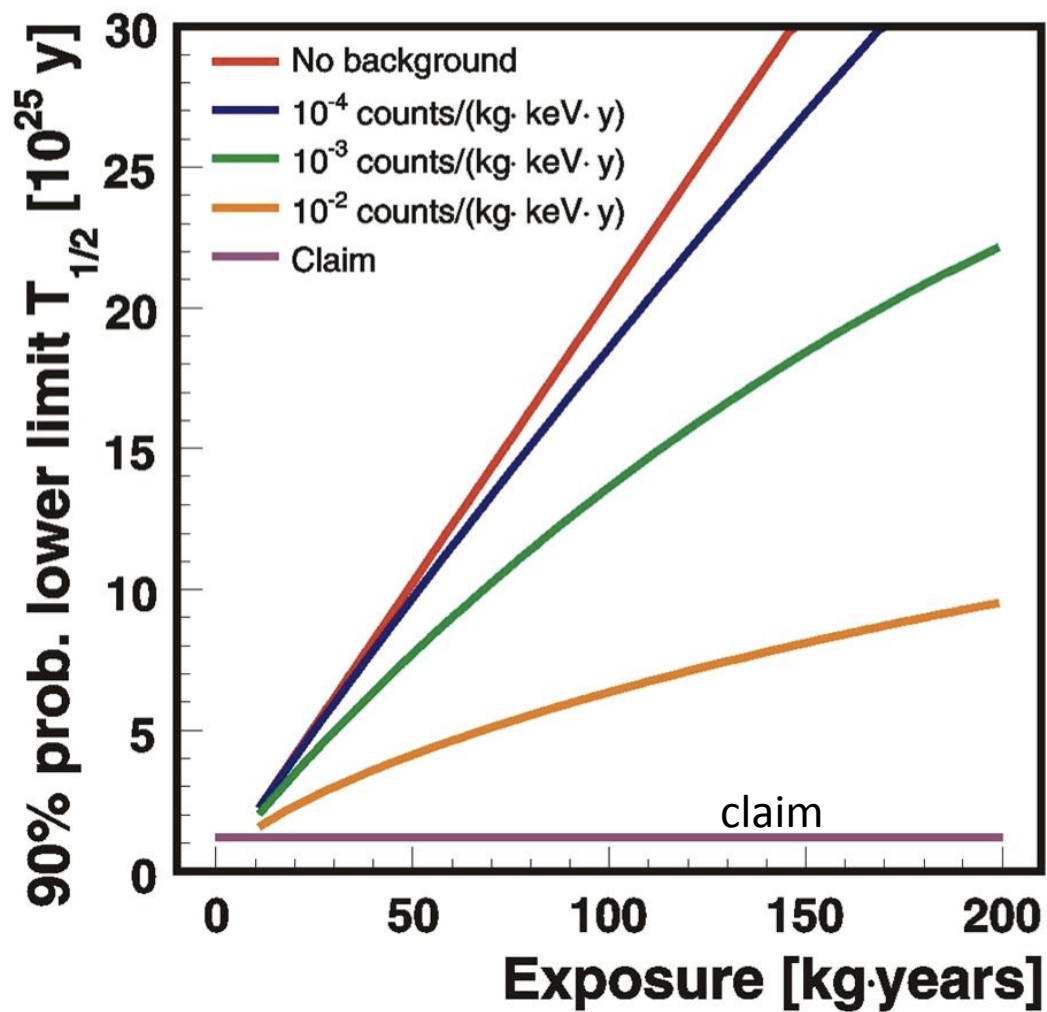
## A New $^{70}\text{Ge}$ Double Beta Decay Experiment at LNGS

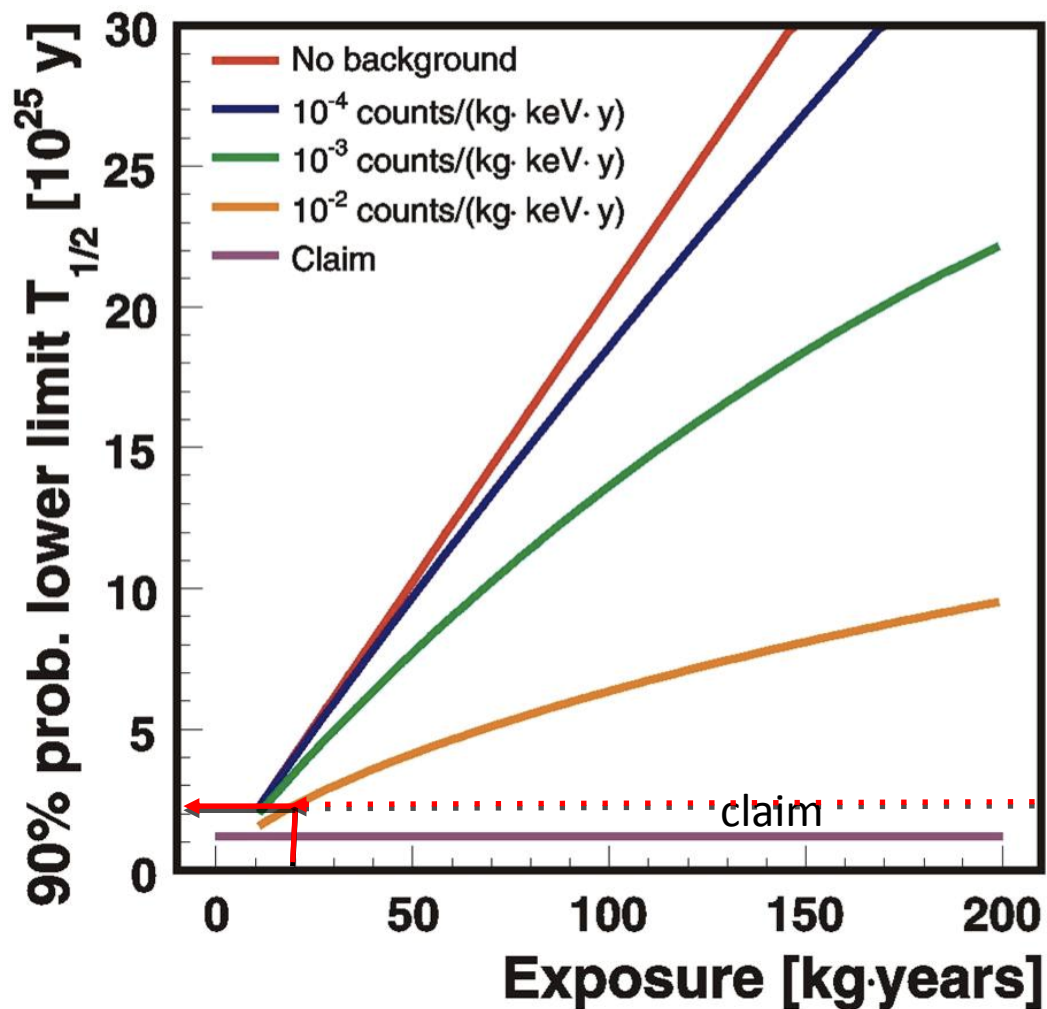


Letter of Intent



- 'Bare'  $^{70}\text{Ge}$  array in liquid argon
- Shield: high-purity liquid Argon /  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$
- Phase I: 18 kg (HdM/IGEX)
- Phase II: add  $\sim 20$  kg new enriched detectors



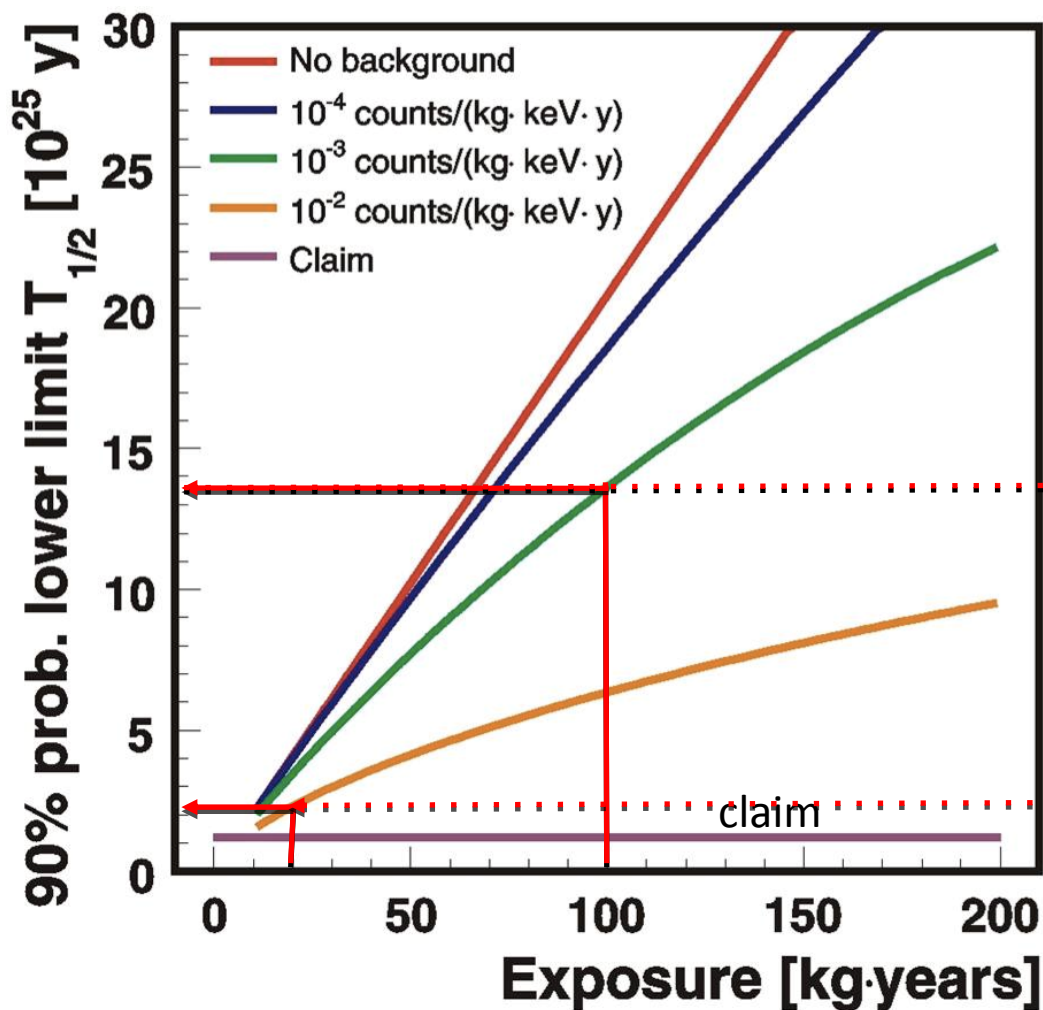


## Phase I:

Use refurbished HdM & IGEX (18 kg)

BI  $\approx$  0.01 cts / (keV kg yr)

Sensitivity after 20 kg yr



## Phase II:

Add new enr. BEGe detectors (20 kg)

BI  $\approx$  0.001 cts / (keV kg yr)

Sensitivity after 100 kg yr

## Phase I:

Use refurbished HdM & IGEX (18 kg)

BI  $\approx$  0.01 cts / (keV kg yr)

Sensitivity after 20 kg yr



plastic  $\mu$ -veto

clean room with lock and glove box for detector handling

muon & cryogenic infrastructure

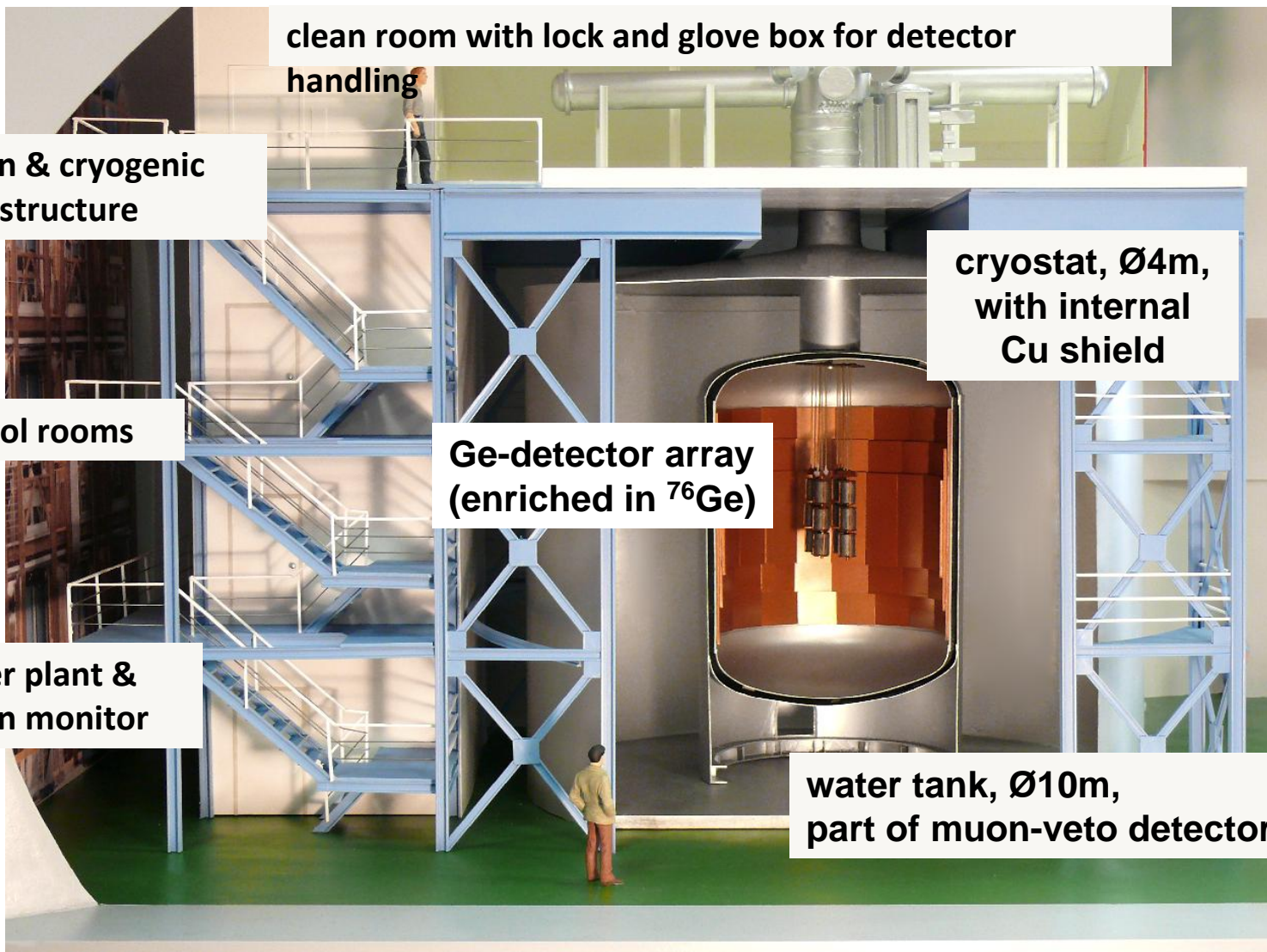
cryostat,  $\varnothing 4\text{m}$ ,  
with internal  
Cu shield

control rooms

Ge-detector array  
(enriched in  $^{76}\text{Ge}$ )

water plant &  
radon monitor

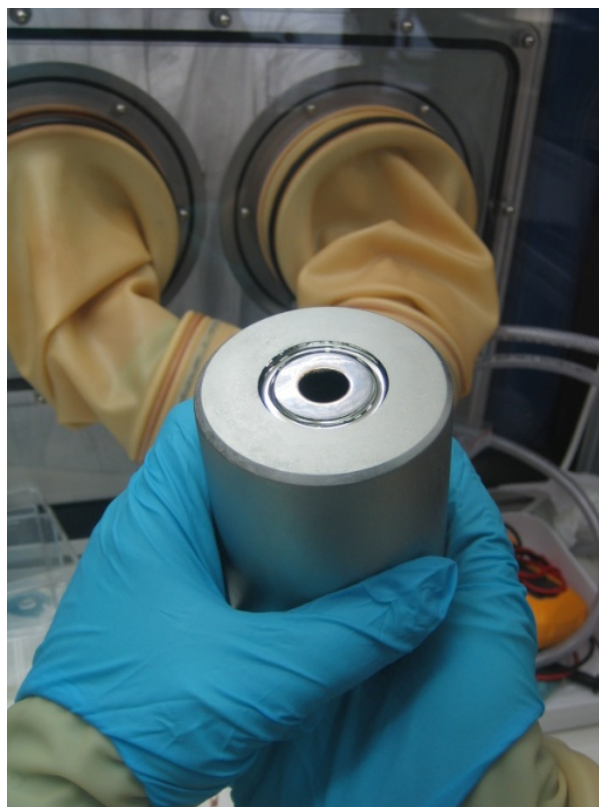
water tank,  $\varnothing 10\text{m}$ ,  
part of muon-veto detector





## 8 diodes (from HdM, IGEX):

- Enriched 86% in  $^{76}\text{Ge}$
- Total mass 17.66 kg



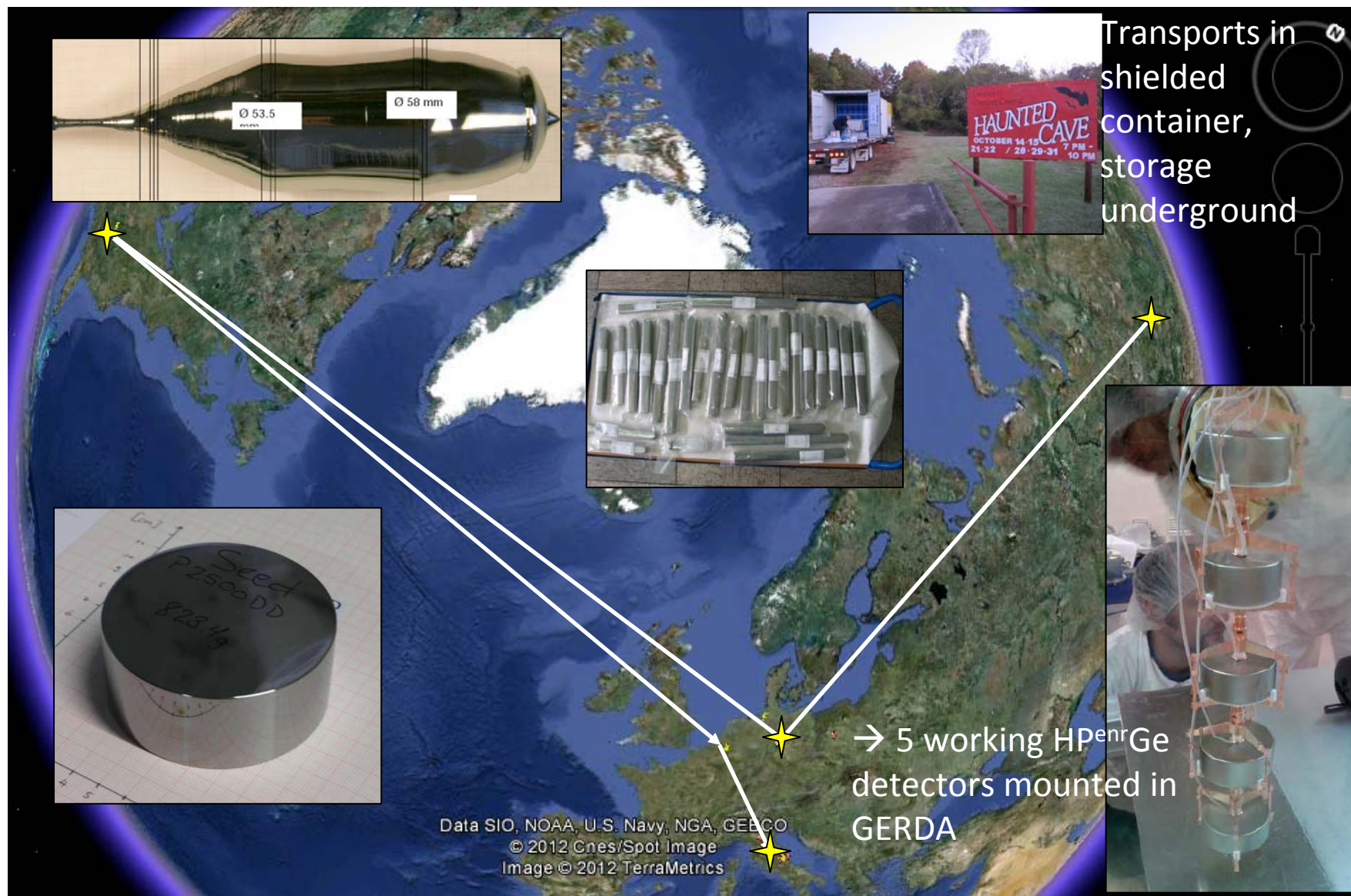
- HdM & IGEX diodes reprocessed at Canberra, Olen
- Long term stability in LAr w/o passivation layer
- Energy resolution in LAr:  $\sim 2.5$  keV (FWHM) @1.3 MeV



## 6 diodes from Genius-TF:

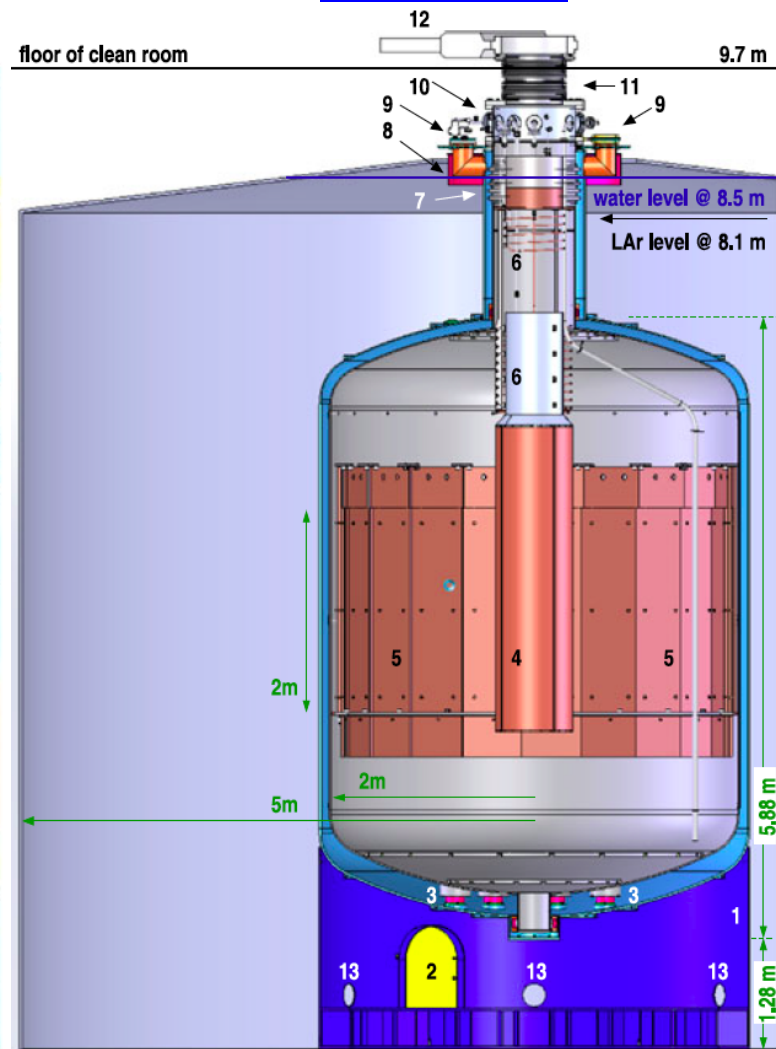
- $\text{natGe}$
- Total mass: 15.60 kg

# Production of $^{enr}Ge$ Phase II detectors



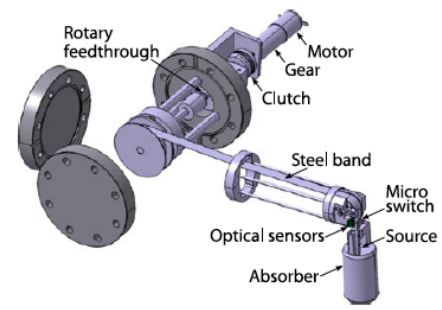
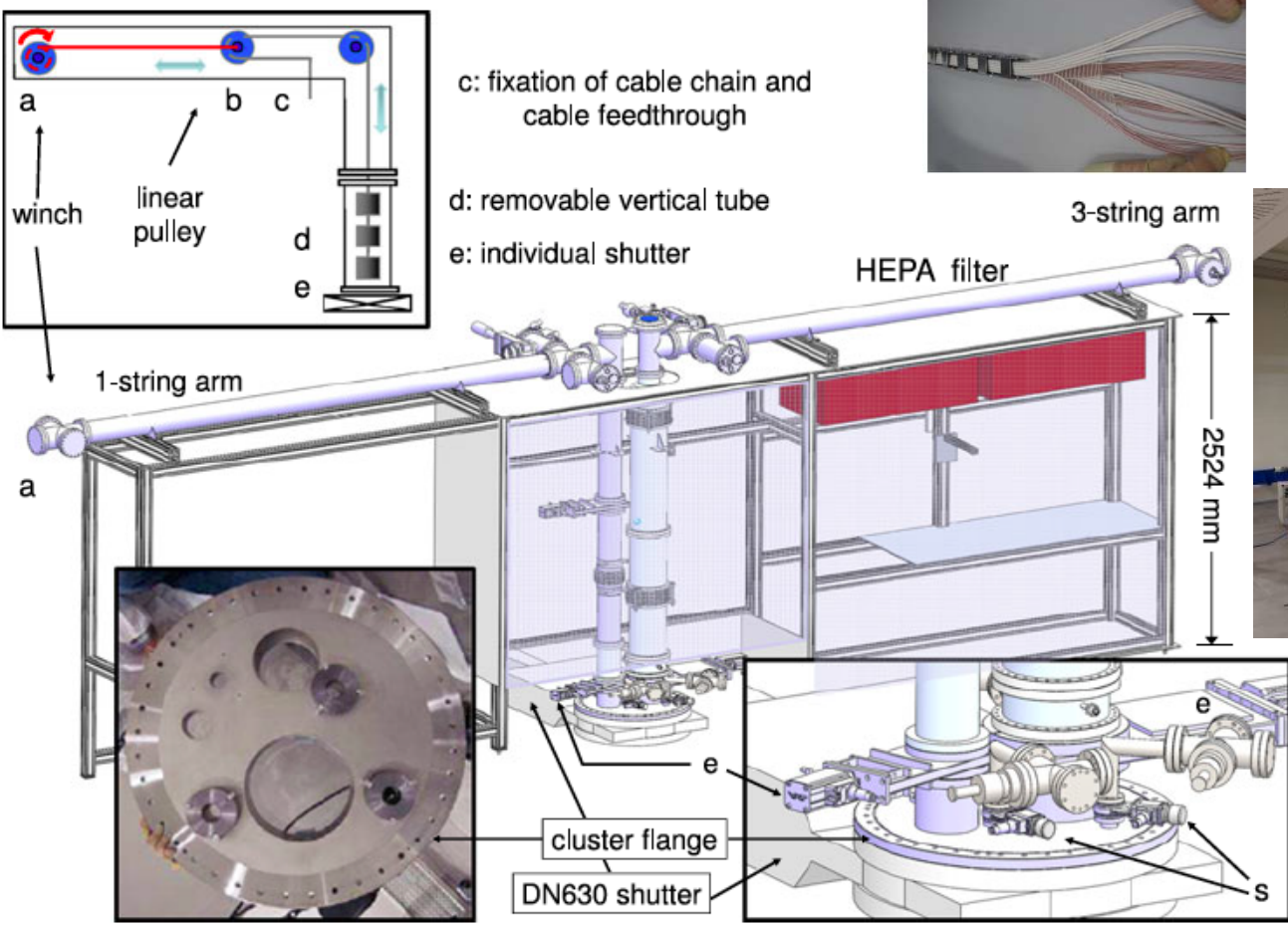
Eur. Phys. J. C (2013) 73:2330

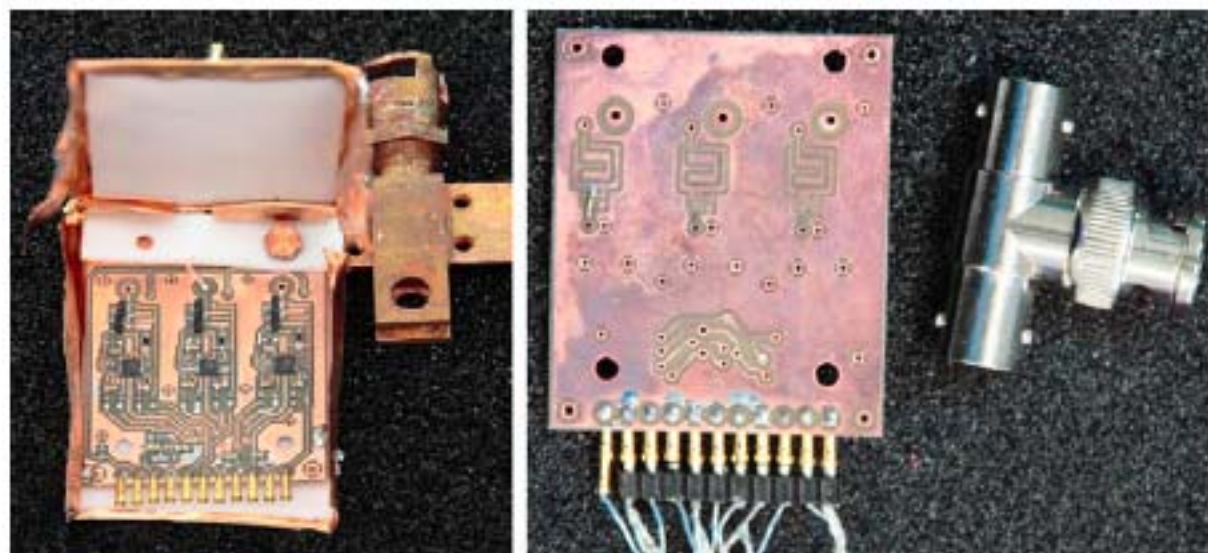
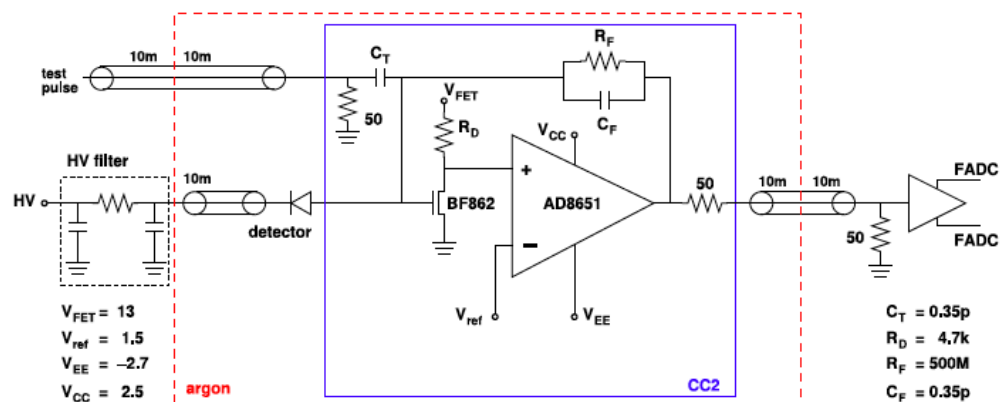
[arXiv:1212.4067](https://arxiv.org/abs/1212.4067)



# Clean room with Lock system, glove box and calibration devices

Eur. Phys. J. C (2013) 73:2330  
[arXiv:1212.4067](https://arxiv.org/abs/1212.4067)

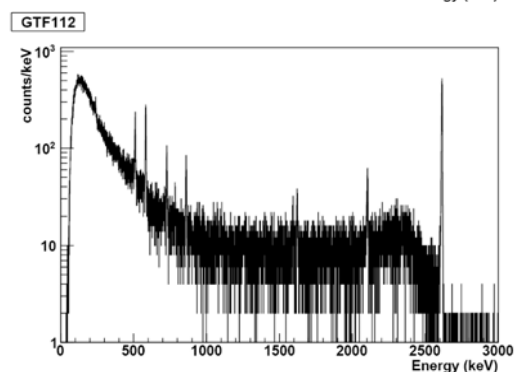
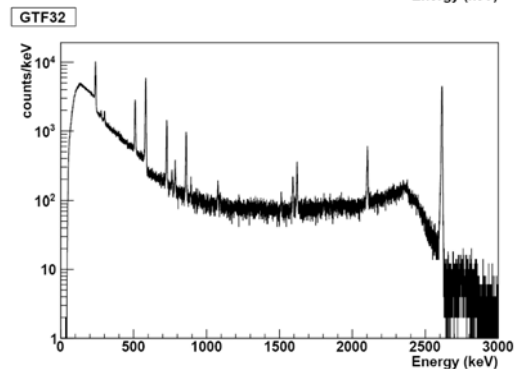
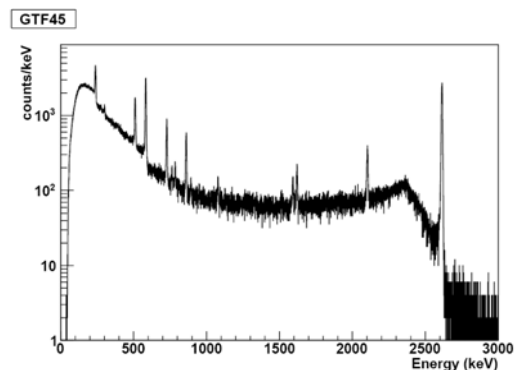






65 $\mu$ m Cu cylinder ('mini-shroud') to shield E-field

## Calibration with $^{228}\text{Th}$ :

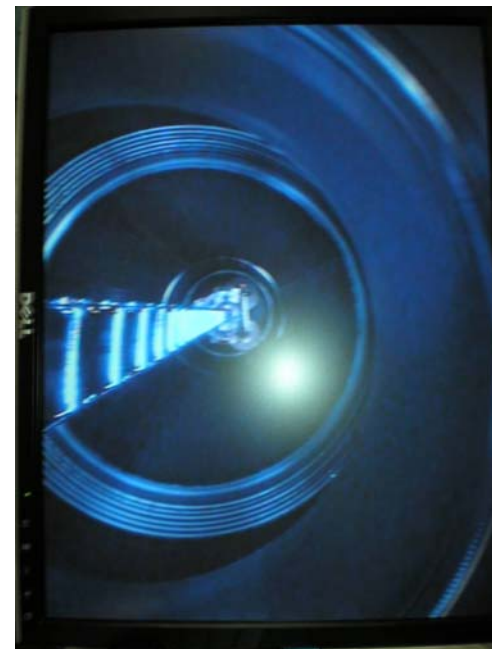


Commissioning runs with **non-enriched low-background detectors** to study performance and backgrounds  
(June 2010 – Mai 2011)



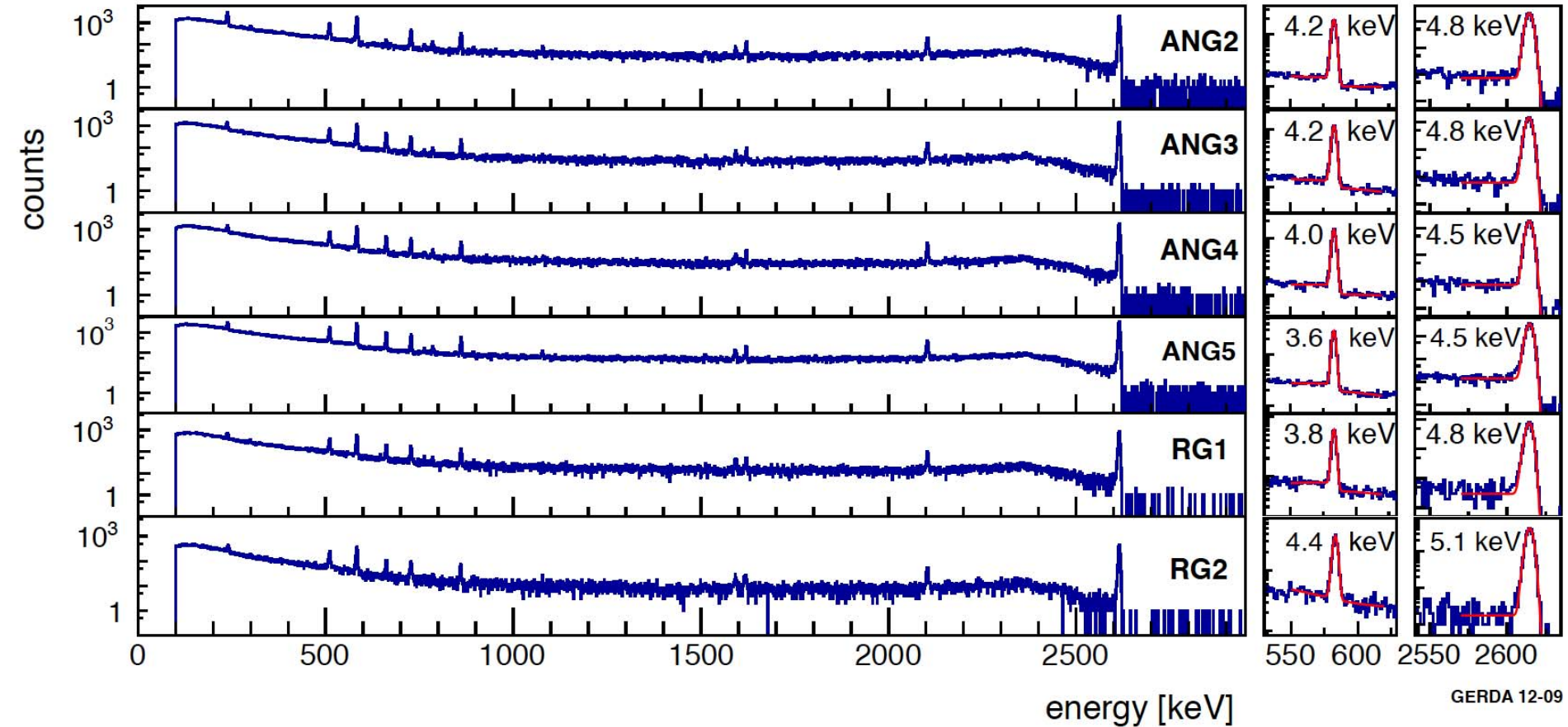
**Energy resolutions during commissioning:**  
dependent on chosen detector configuration:

- Coaxial (Phase I): 4.5-5.keV (*FWHM*) @ 2.6 MeV
- BEGe (Phase II): 2.8 keV (*FWHM*) @ 2.6 MeV



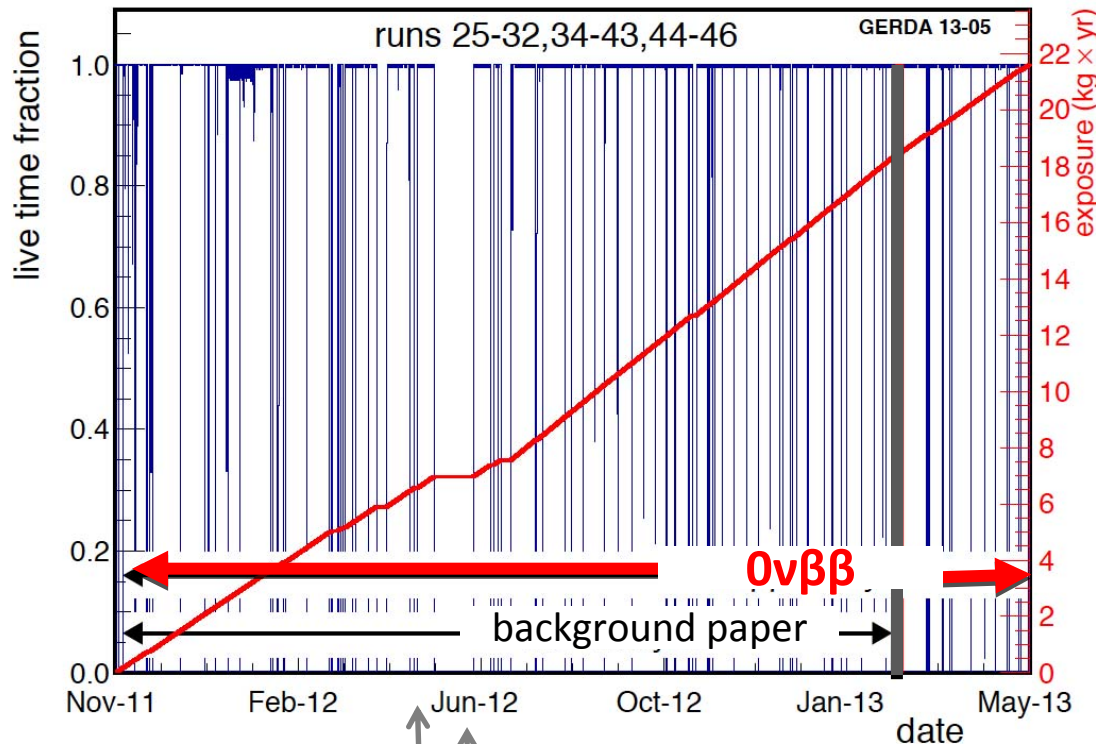
- 8 refurbished enriched diodes from HdM & IGEX
  - 86% isotopically enriched in Ge-76
  - 17.66 kg total mass
  - plus 1 natural Ge diode from GTF
- 2 diodes shut off because leakage current high:
- total enriched enriched detector mass 14.6 kg





$^{228}\text{Th}$  calibration once every one to two weeks; stability continuously monitored with pulser

Total exposure for  $0\nu\beta\beta$  analysis: **21.6 kg yr**  
 (bi-)weekly calibration runs ('spikes')

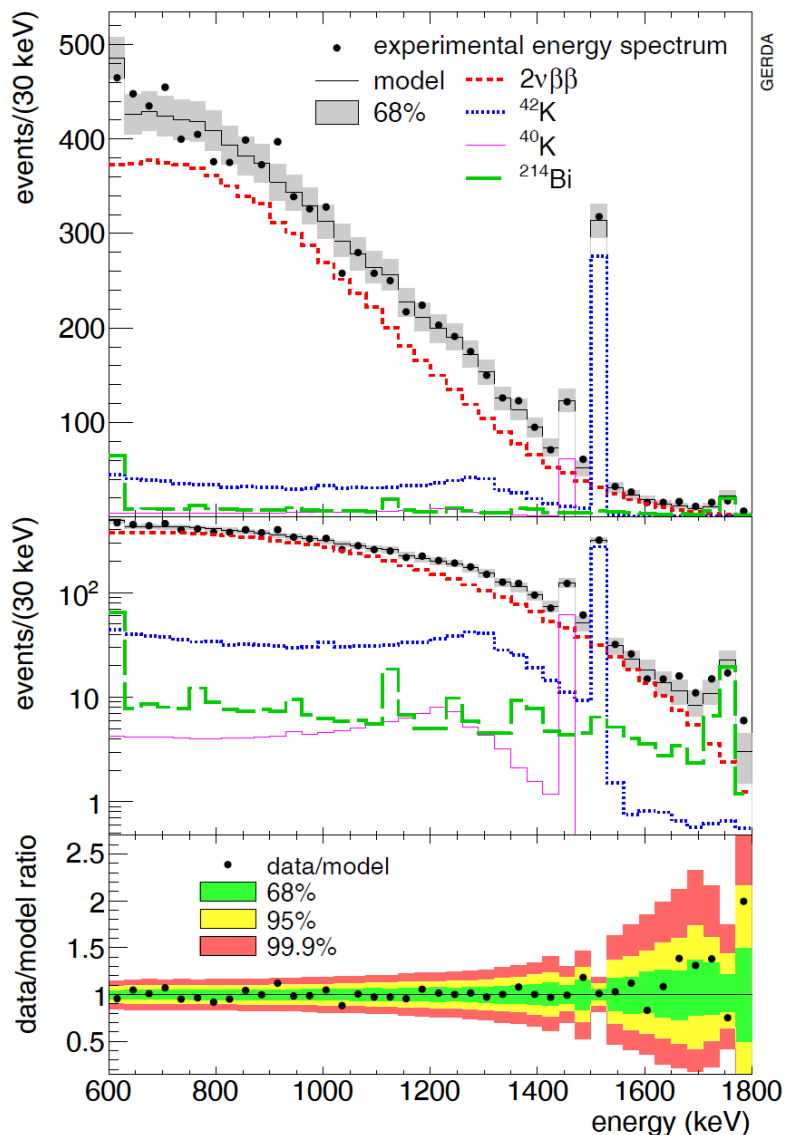


### Data blinding:

- All events in  $Q_{\beta\beta} \pm 20$  keV removed in Tier 1
- 2 copies of raw data kept for processing after unblinding

Insertion of 5 Phase II  $^{enr}\text{BEGe}$

1<sup>st</sup> physics:  $2\nu\beta\beta$  analysis (5.04 kg yr)



IOP PUBLISHING

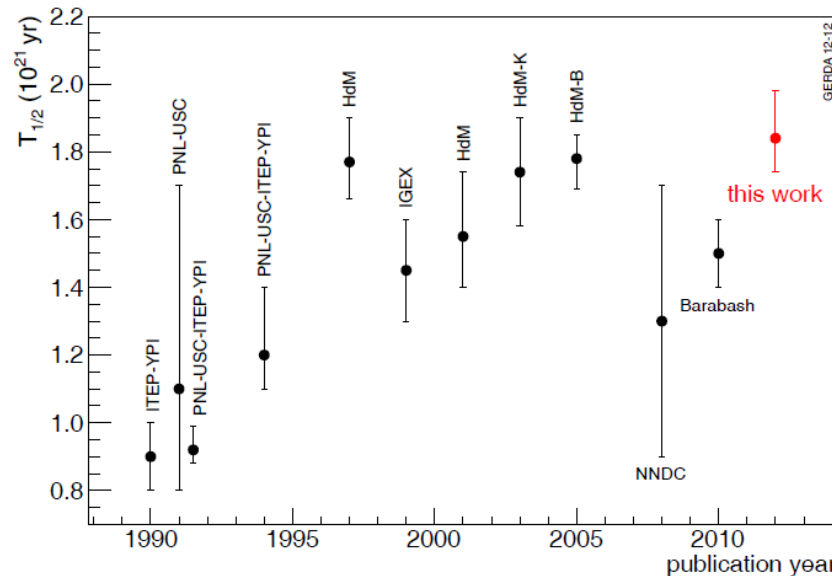
JOURNAL OF PHYSICS G: NUCLEAR AND PARTICLE PHYSICS

J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys. **40** (2013) 035110 (13pp)

doi:10.1088/0954-3899/40/3/035110

## Measurement of the half-life of the two-neutrino double beta decay of $^{76}\text{Ge}$ with the GERDA experiment (with 5.04 kg yr exposure)

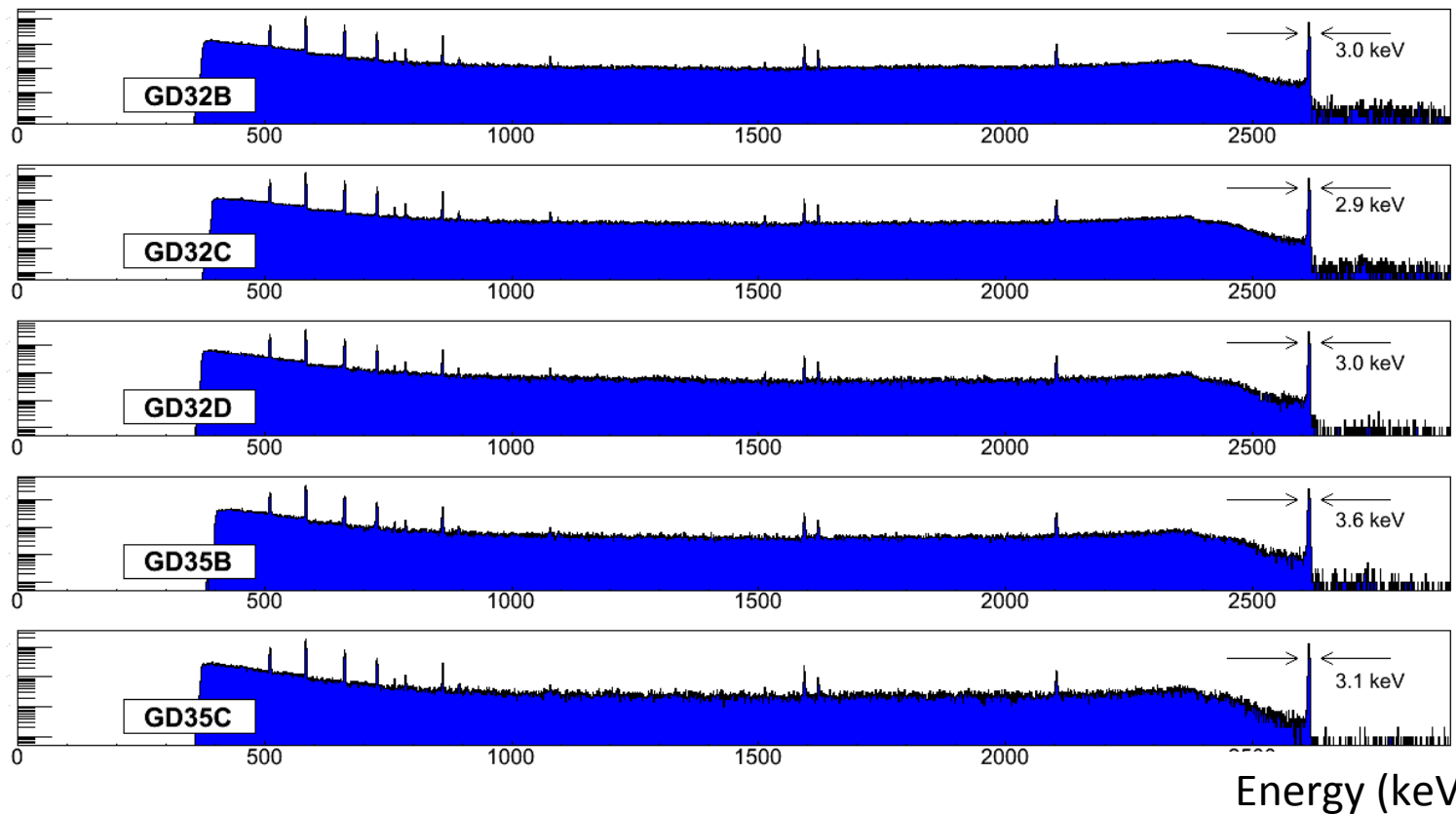
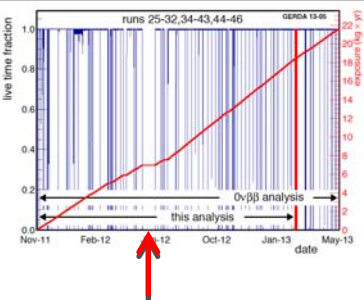
$$T_{1/2}^{2\nu}({}^{76}\text{Ge}) = (1.84^{+0.14}_{-0.10}) \cdot 10^{21} \text{ yr}$$



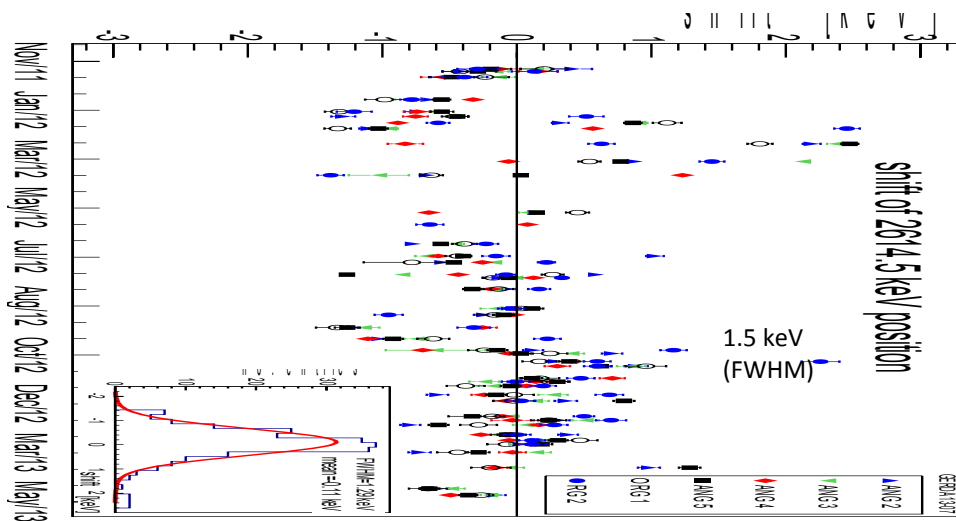
LAB Talk of J. Phys. G Feb. 2013 issue:  
<http://iopscience.iop.org/0954-3899/labtalk-article/52398>



# June 2012: 5 <sup>enr</sup>BEGe Phase II detectors deployed in GERDA

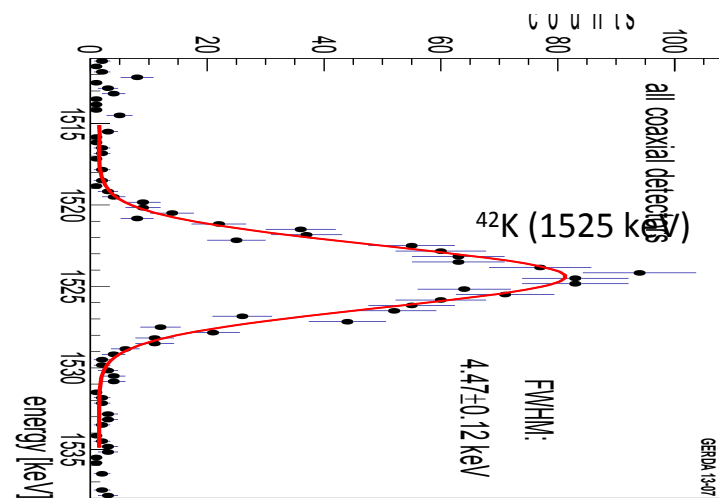


Peak position stability of 2614.5 keV calibration line:  
coax: 1.5 keV / BEGe: 1.0 keV (FWHM)



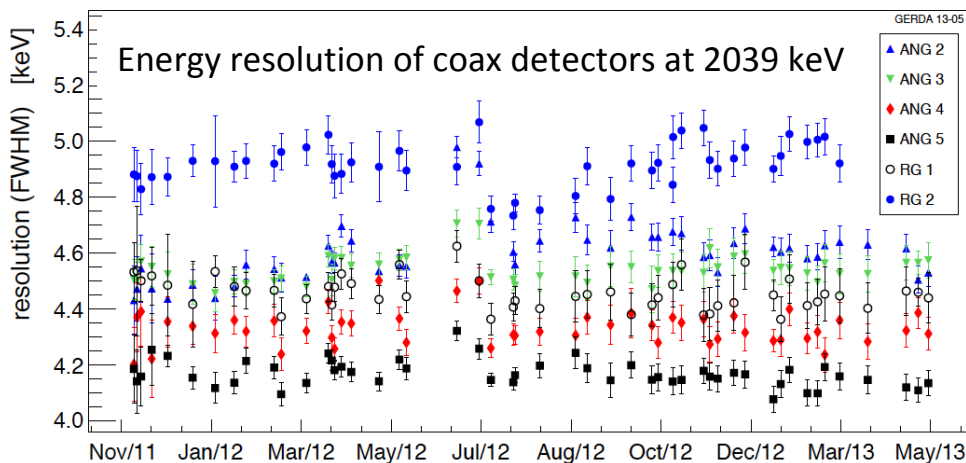
Summing all runs:

[arXiv:1306.5084](https://arxiv.org/abs/1306.5084)

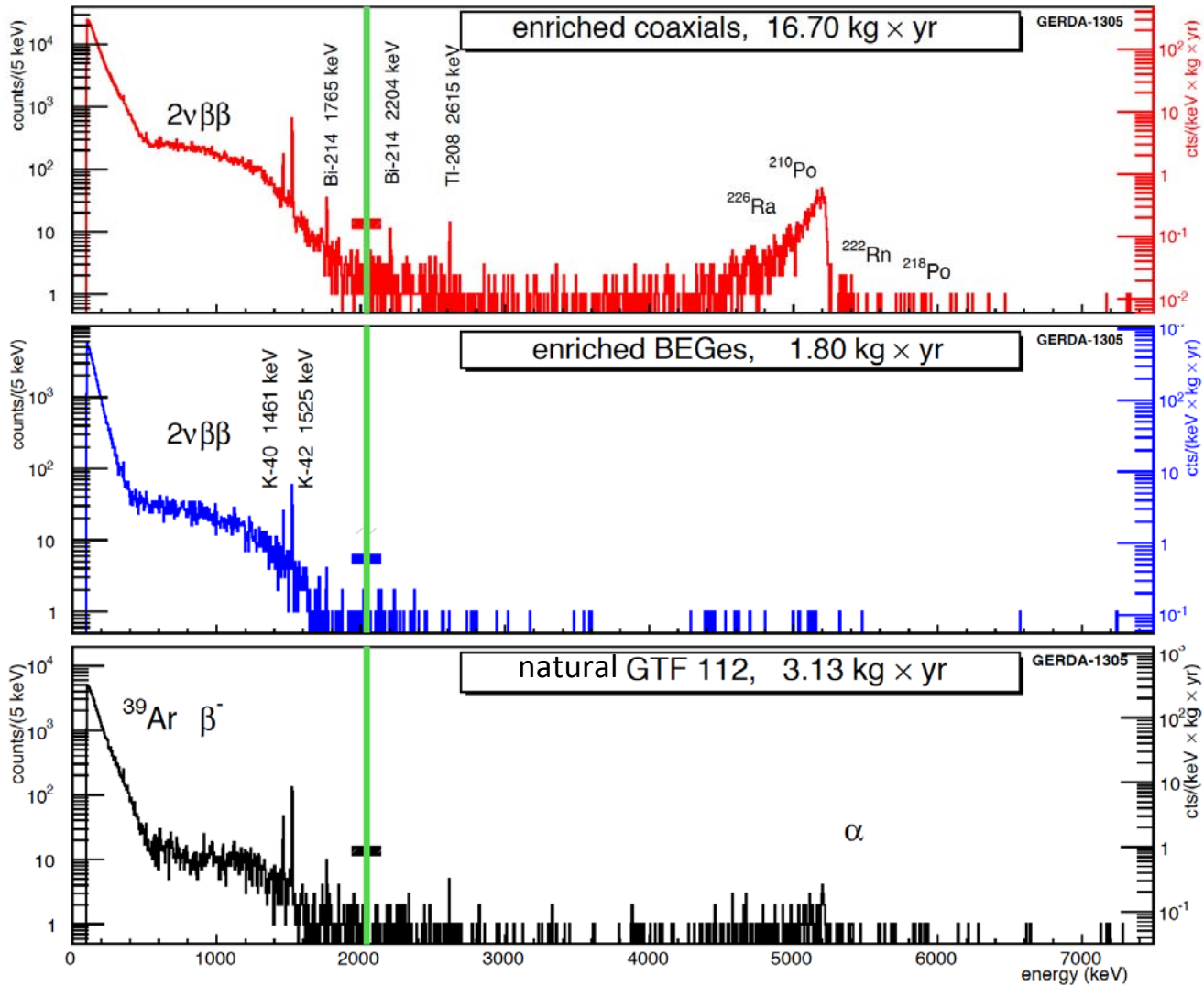


Mean energy resolution at  $Q_{\beta\beta} = 2039$  keV:

- Coax: 4.8 keV (FWHM)
- BEGe: 3.2 keV (FWHM)



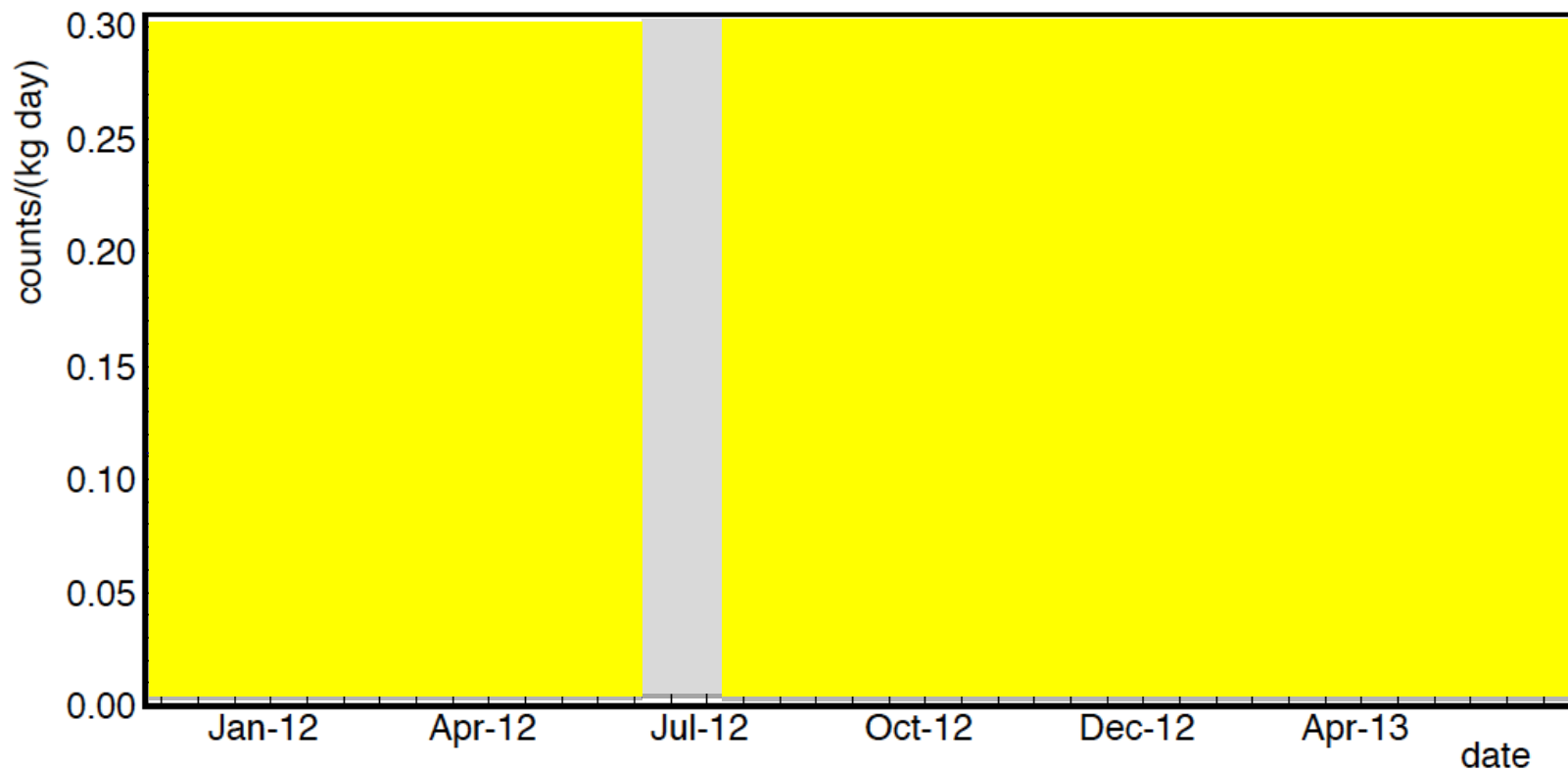
detector	FWHM [keV]	detector	FWHM [keV]
<i>SUM-coax</i>		<i>SUM-bege</i>	
ANG 2	5.8 (3)	GD32B	2.6 (1)
ANG 3	4.5 (1)	GD32C	2.6 (1)
ANG 4	4.9 (3)	GD32D	3.7 (5)
ANG 5	4.2 (1)	GD35B	4.0 (1)
RG 1	4.5 (3)		
RG 2	4.9 (3)		
mean coax	4.8 (2)	mean BEGe	3.2 (2)



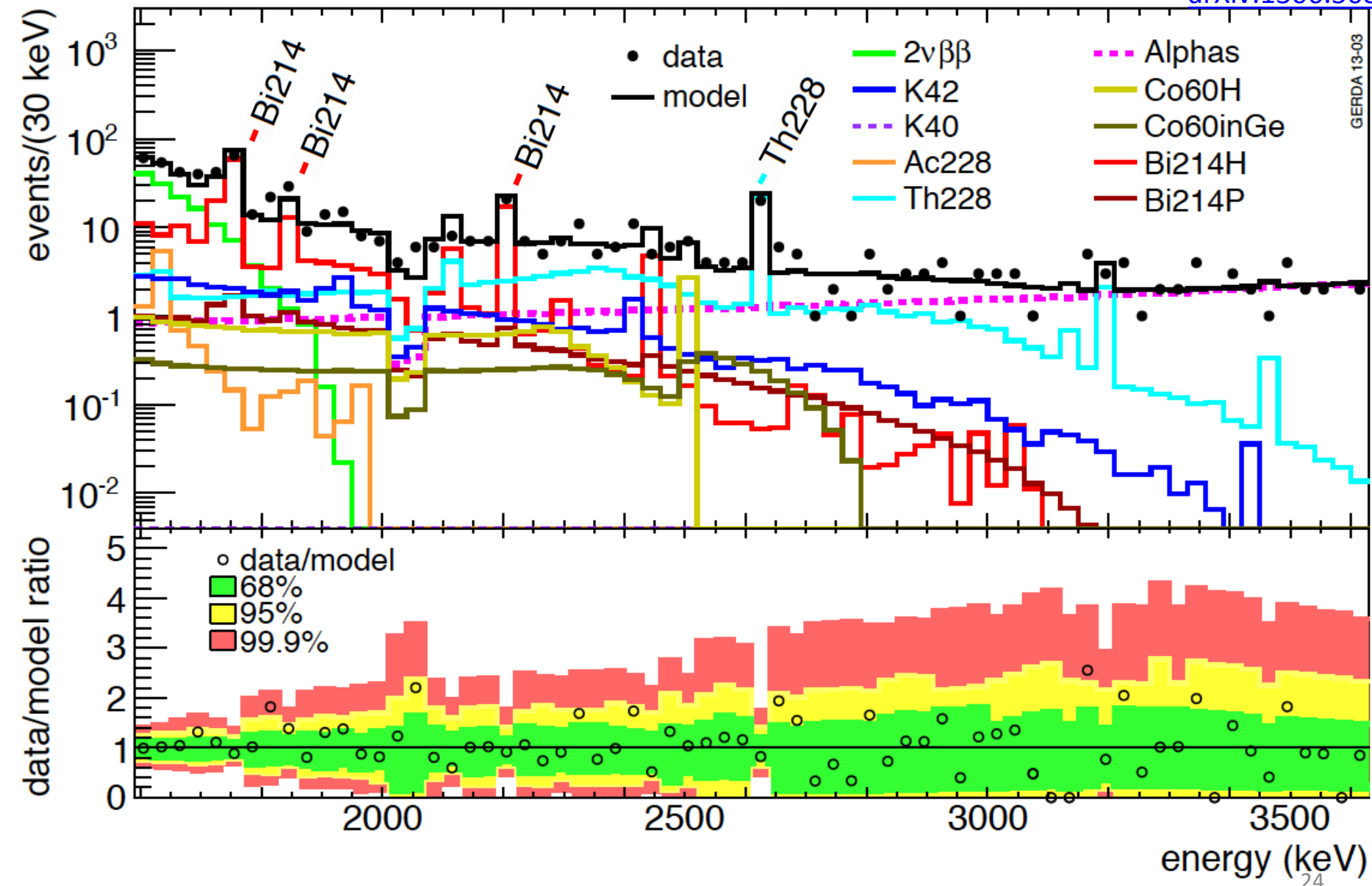


# Physics run: background rate as function of time

[arXiv:1306.5084](https://arxiv.org/abs/1306.5084)

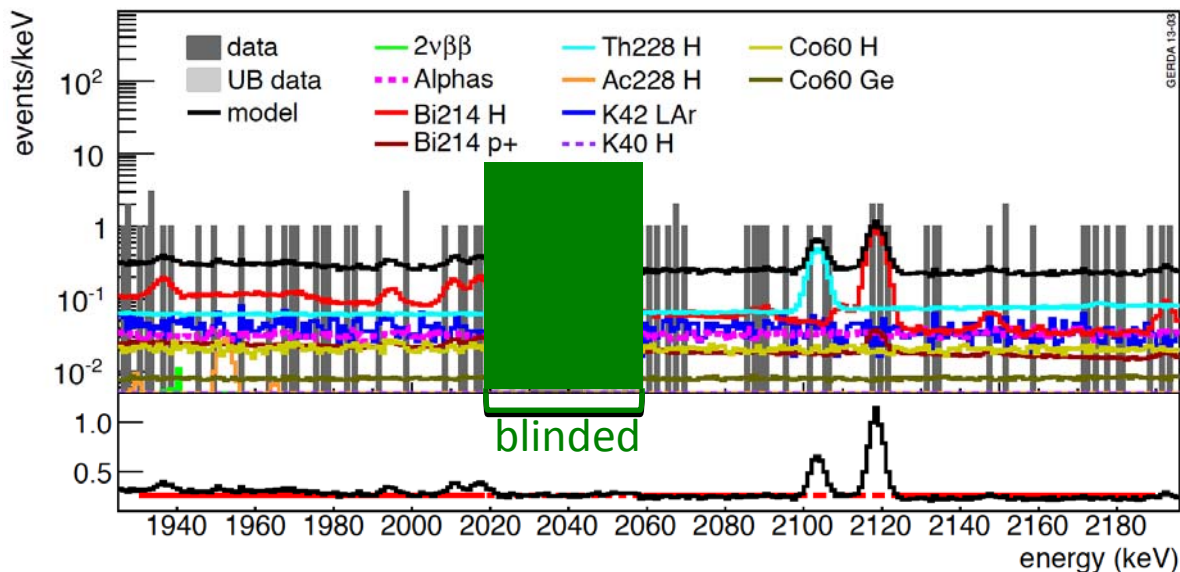


Coax-detector data set split in  and 

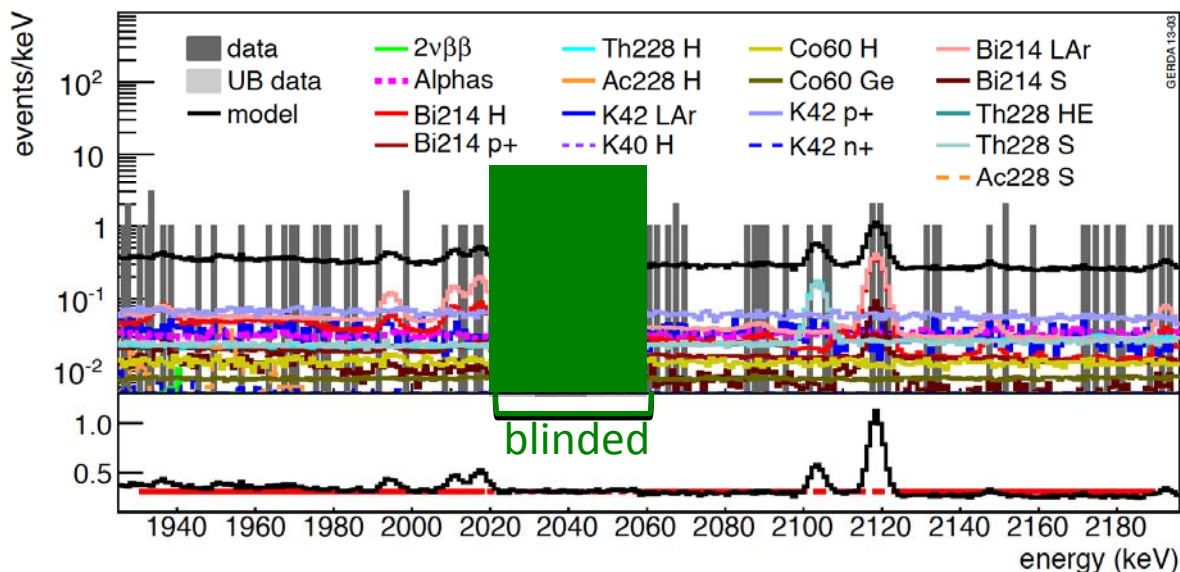




Minimal model



Maximum model

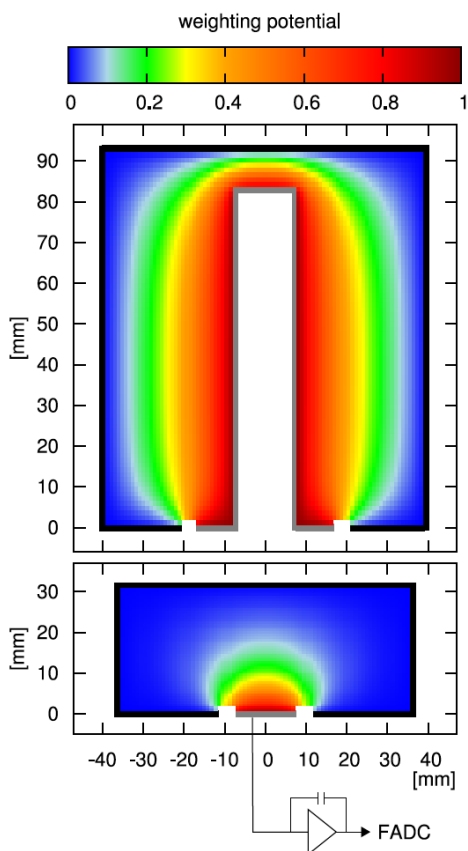


**Background model:**

- No background peak expected around  $Q_{\beta\beta}$
- Spectrum can be modeled with flat background (red line) in 1930-2190 keV excluding known peaks at 2104 and 2119 keV
- Background index (BI) at  $Q_{\beta\beta}$  (17.6-23.8)  $10^{-3}$  cts/(keV kg yr) depending on assumptions for location of sources
- Statistical uncertainty of BI from interpolation coincides numerically with systematic uncertainty from model
- Prediction for 30 keV BW:  
 Min./Max Mod: 8.2-9.1 / 9.7-11.1  
 observed.: 13
- ➔ linear fit with flat background 1930-2190 keV excluding peaks

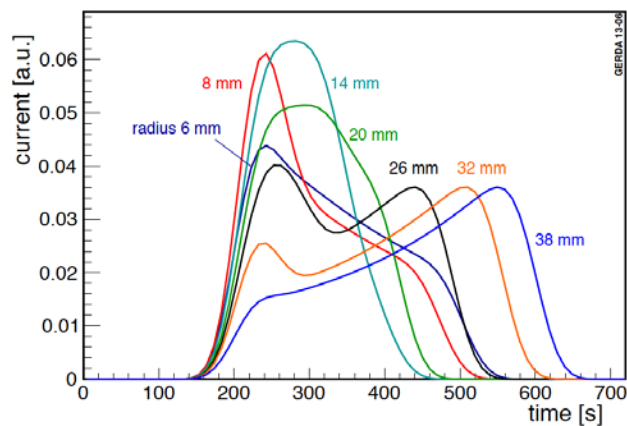
## Classification of $(0\nu\beta\beta)$ signal-like (SSE) or background-like (MSE, $p+$ ) events

Weighting potential for coax and BEGe detectors are different

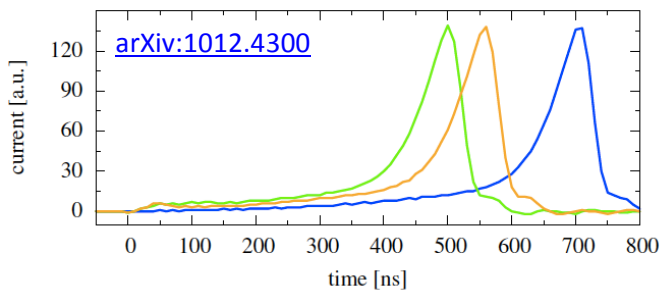


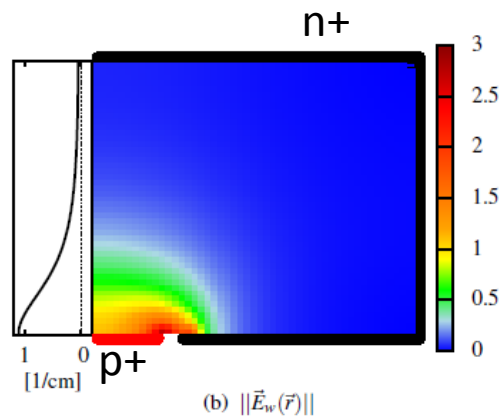
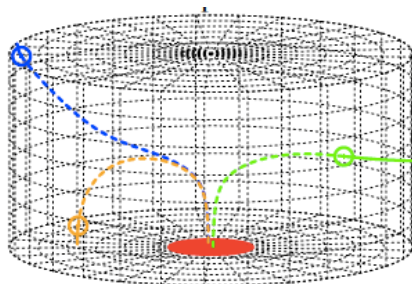
Coax

Current pulses of simulated SSE signals

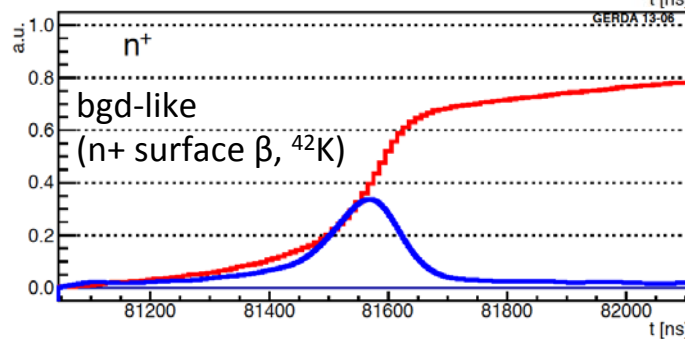
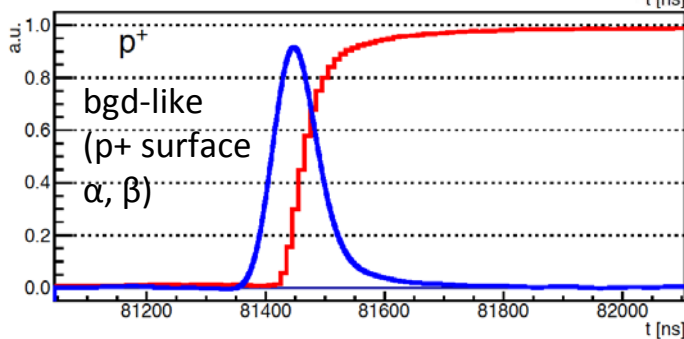
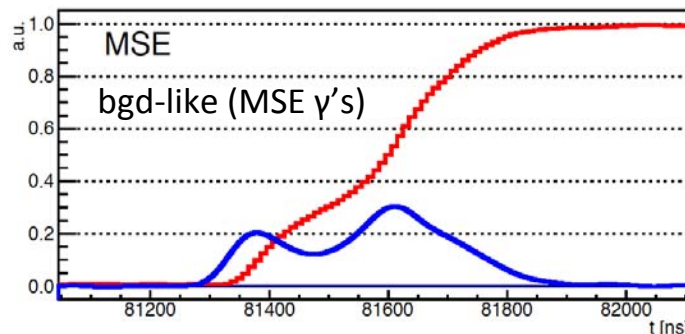
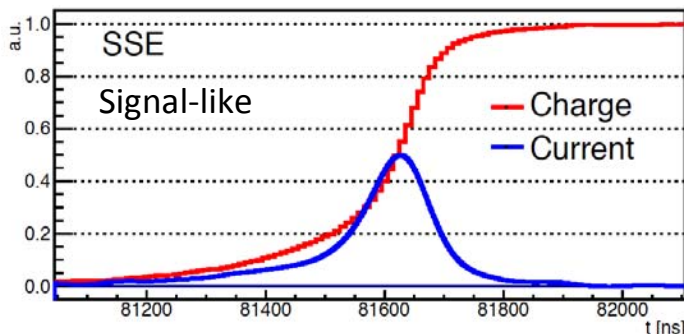


BEGe

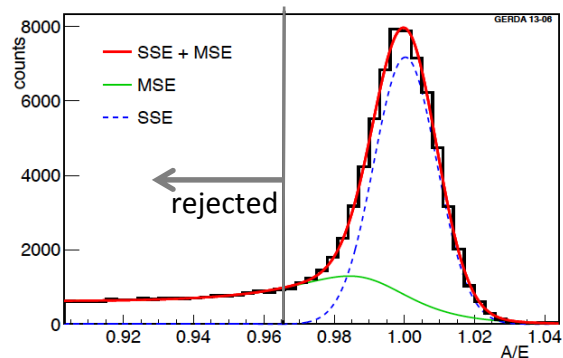




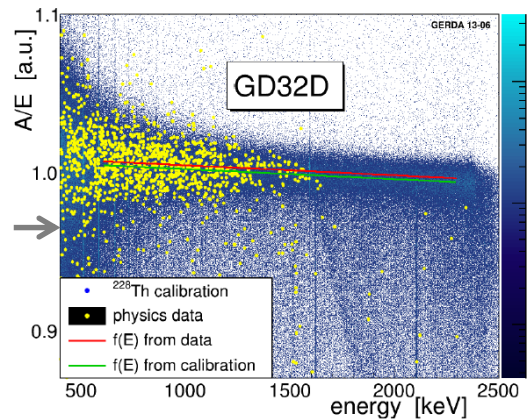
PSD discrimination parameter:  $A/E$



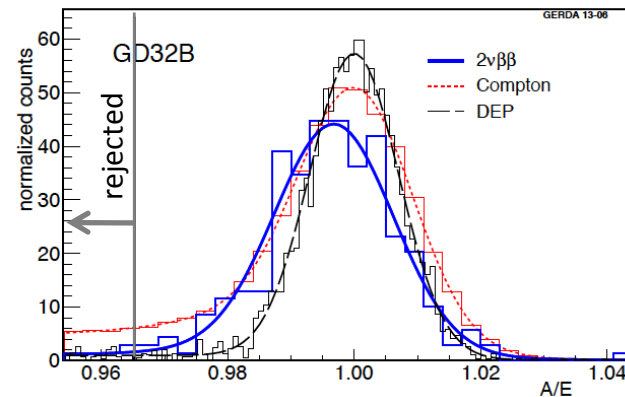
A/E of Compton continuum from calibration



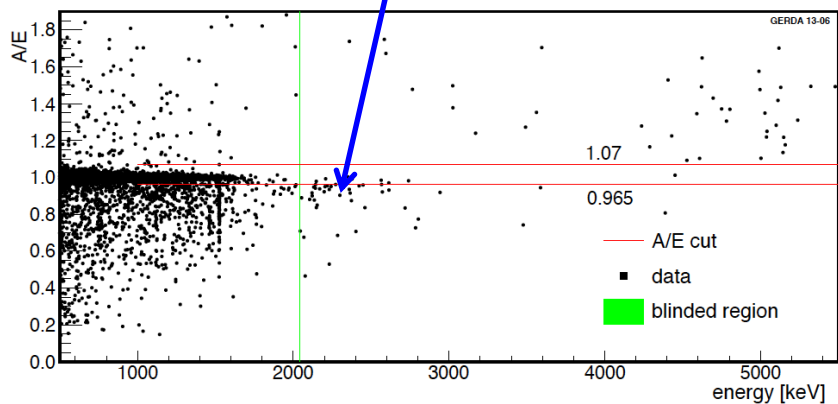
Energy dependence of A/E



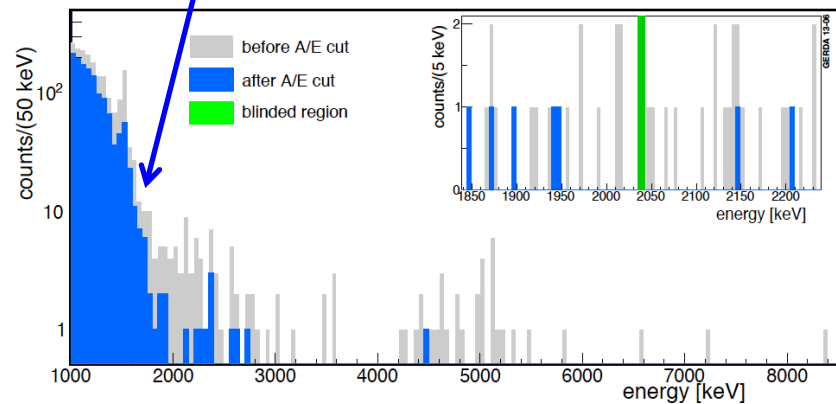
A/E for  $2\nu\beta\beta$ , Compton (1-1.4 MeV), DEP (1592 keV)



$^{42}\text{K-}\beta$  n+ surface dominated



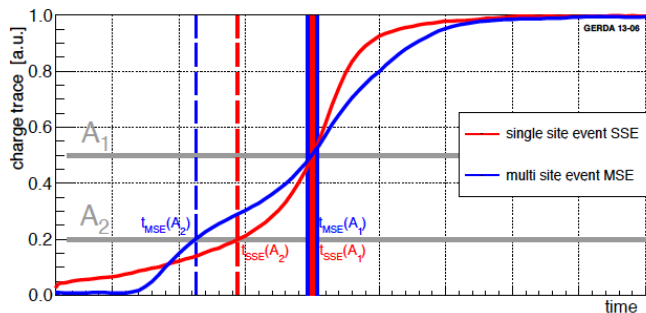
$2\nu\beta\beta$  acceptance:  $0.91 \pm 0.05$



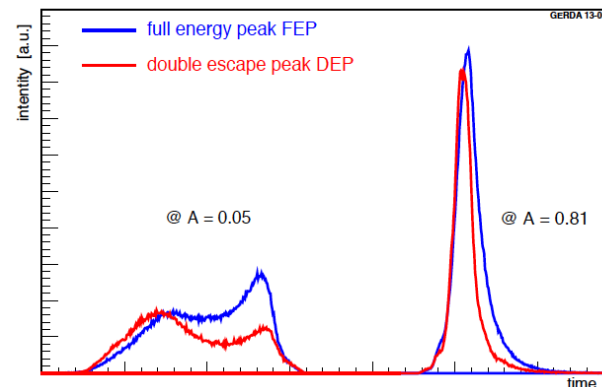
**$0\nu\beta\beta$  acceptance:  $0.92 \pm 0.02$**

ANN analysis of 50 rise time info (1,3,5,...99%) with TMVA / TMLpANN

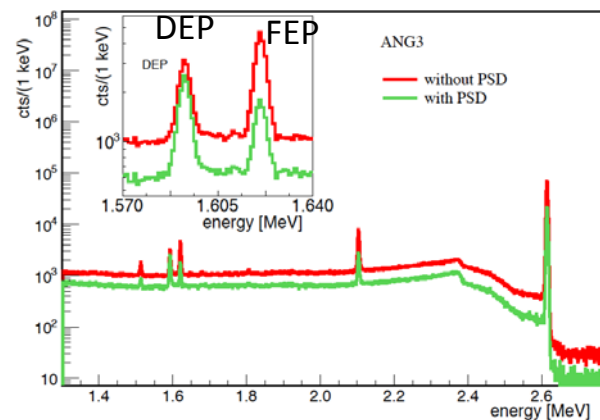
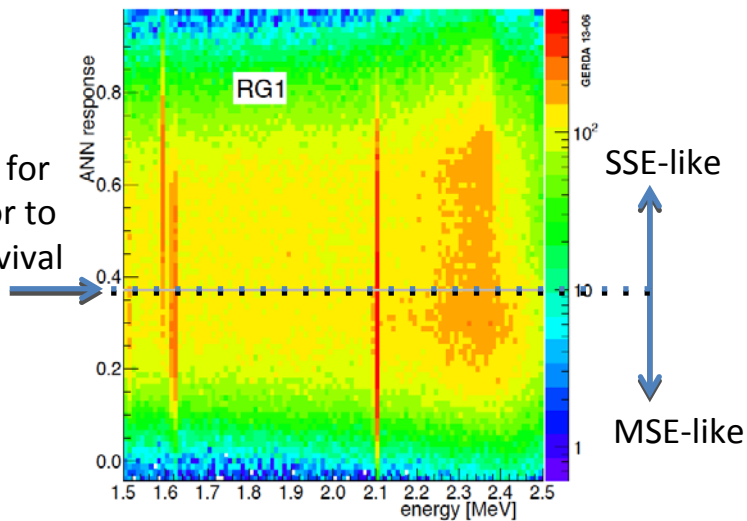
- SSE training with signal-like  $^{208}\text{Tl}$  DEP events (1592 keV)
- MSE training with background-like  $^{212}\text{Bi}$  FEP (1621 keV)



Distribution for 5 and 81% rise time

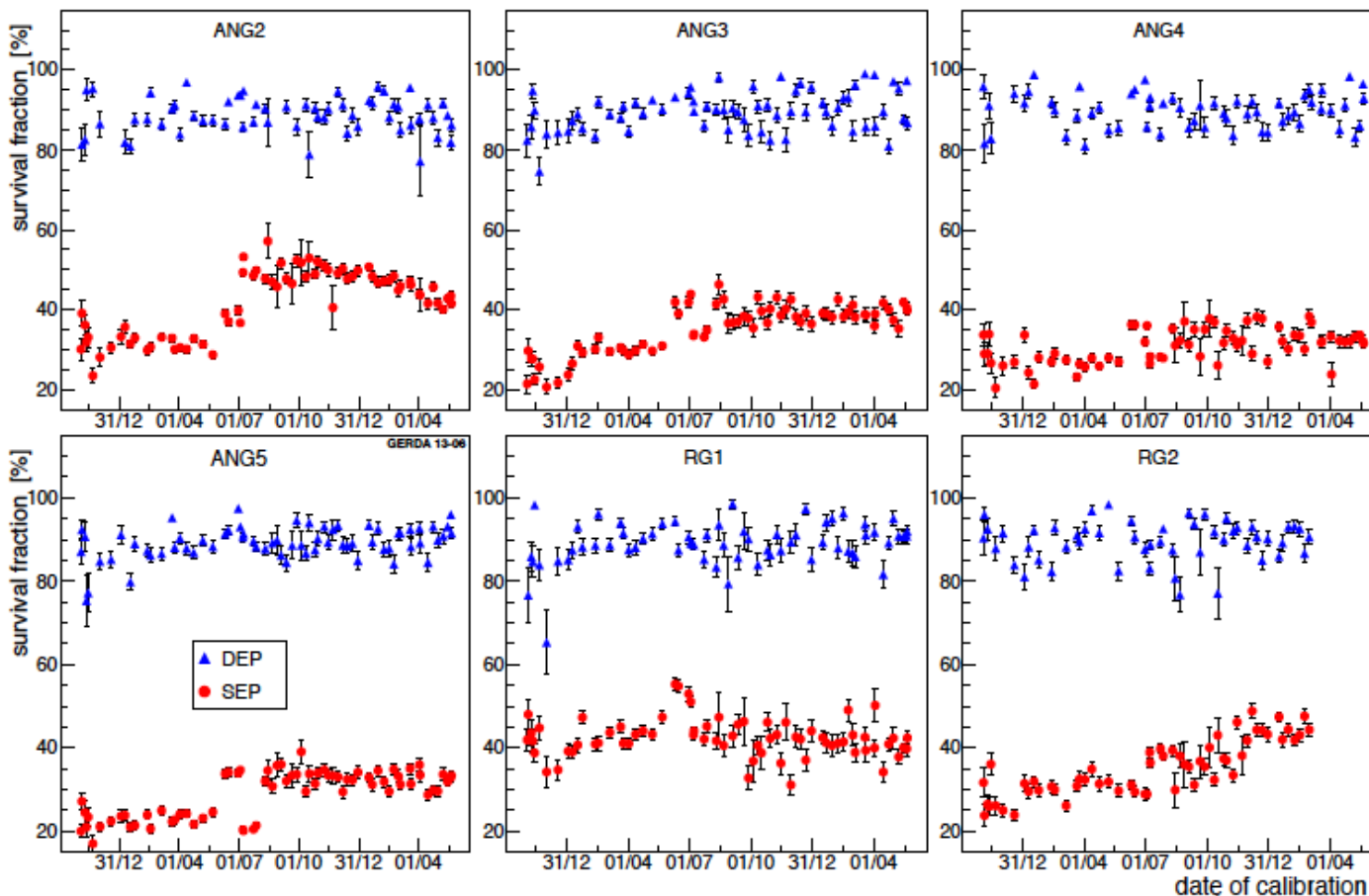


Cut adjusted for each detector to 90% DEP survival



## Stability of survival fraction from calibration data

Y-axis suppressed:



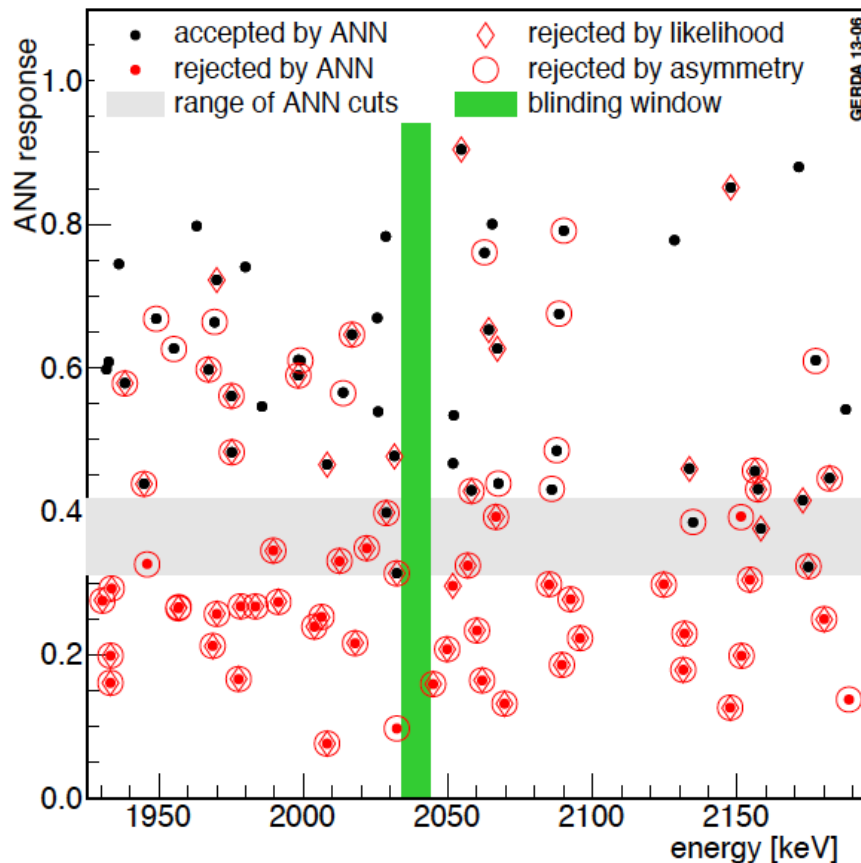
DEP

SEP

DEP

SEP

Data split in 3 periods: p1: Nov 11 – July 12, p2: July/Aug 12, p3: Aug 12-May 13



- 90% of ANN signal-like events are also classified by both alternative methods
- 3% are only classified by ANN as background in the 1.5-2.5 MeV range

Alternative methods use different training/optimization event classes and aim at stronger bgd suppression than ANN

### PSD method based on likelihood method

Training:

- Signal-like:  $^{208}\text{Tl}$  Compton-edge 2350-2370 keV
- Bgd-like:  $^{208}\text{Tl}$  above Compton-edge 2450-2570 keV
- DEP survival: 0.8
- Bgd survival (230 keV): 0.45

### PSD based on pulse asymmetry

$$q_{AS} = A/E (c + A_s)$$

Optimization of DEP and bgd (1700-2200 keV) for each detector separately

- DEP survival: 0.7-0.9
- Bgd survival: 0.25

ANN selected for  $0\nu\beta\beta$  analysis and cuts fixed prior to unblinding

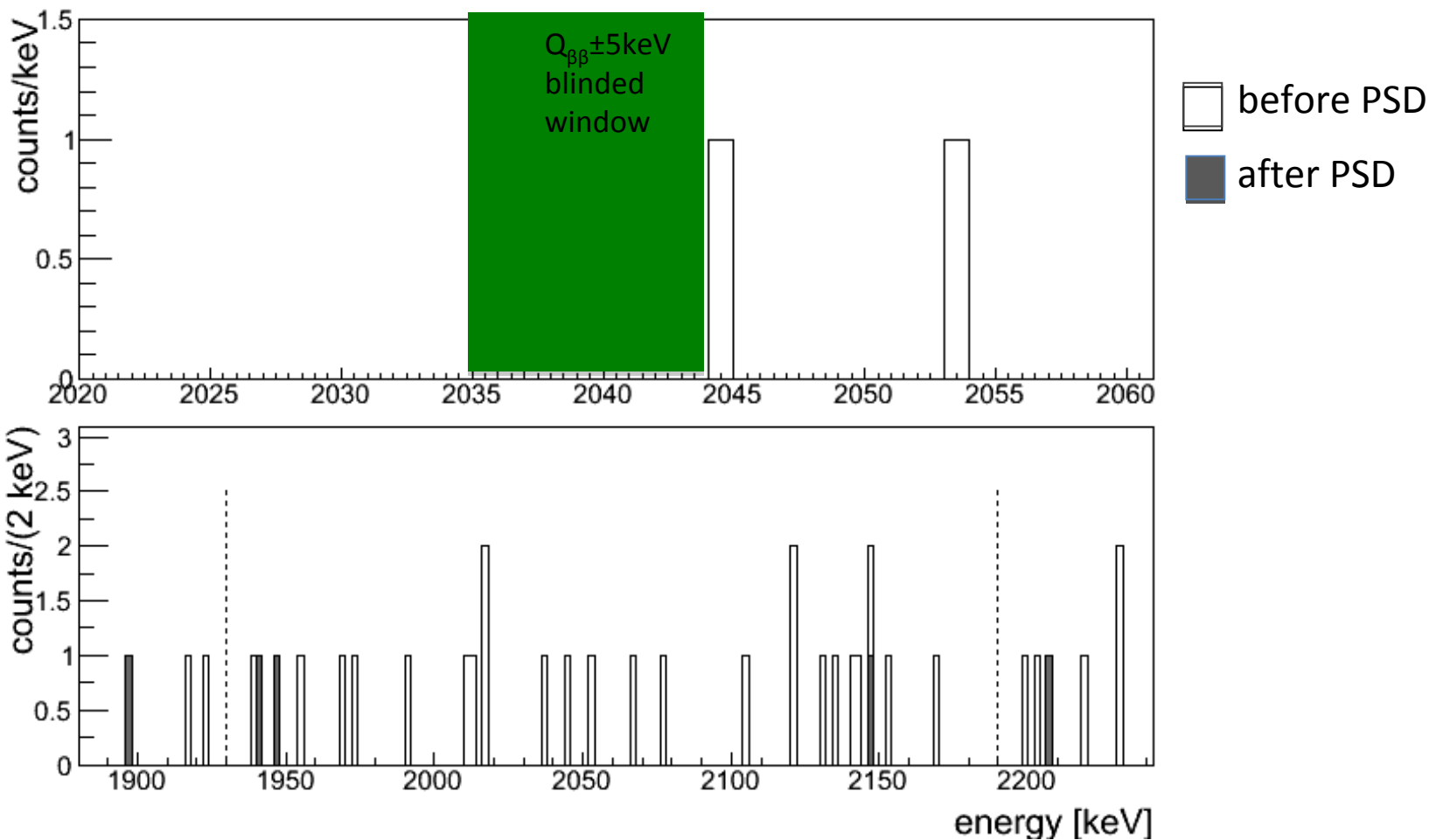
# Unblinding at GERDA collaboration meeting in Dubna, June 12-14



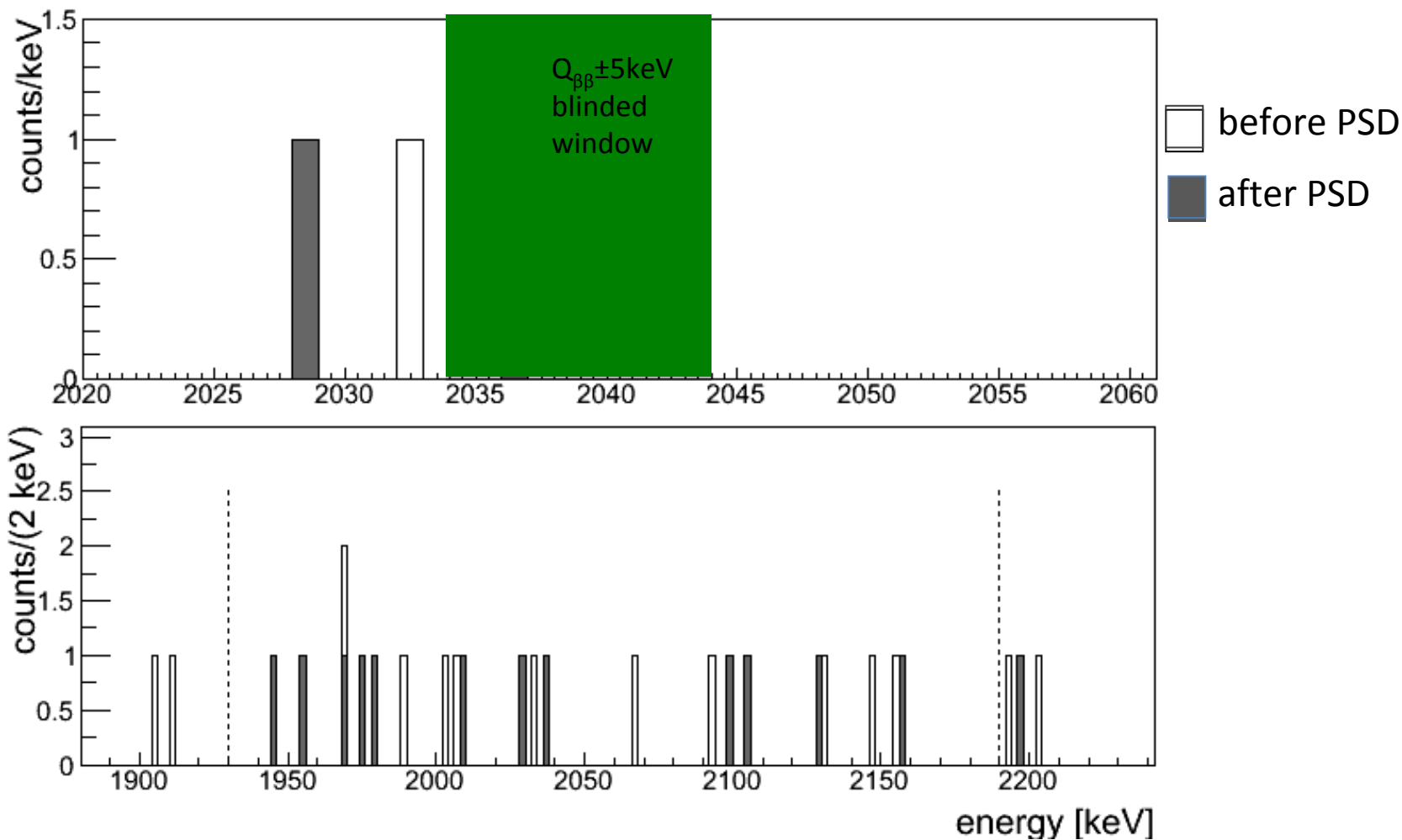
Discussion and freezing of all parameters and methods prior to un-blinding:

- 3 Data sets: golden, silver, BEGe
- Energy calibration method and parameters
- Unblind traces for PSD
- PSD method and cuts
- Statistical treatment of results:
- Likelihood fit of 3 indep. data sets ('global fit')
- Frequentist (constraint profile likelihood)
- Bayesian
- .....



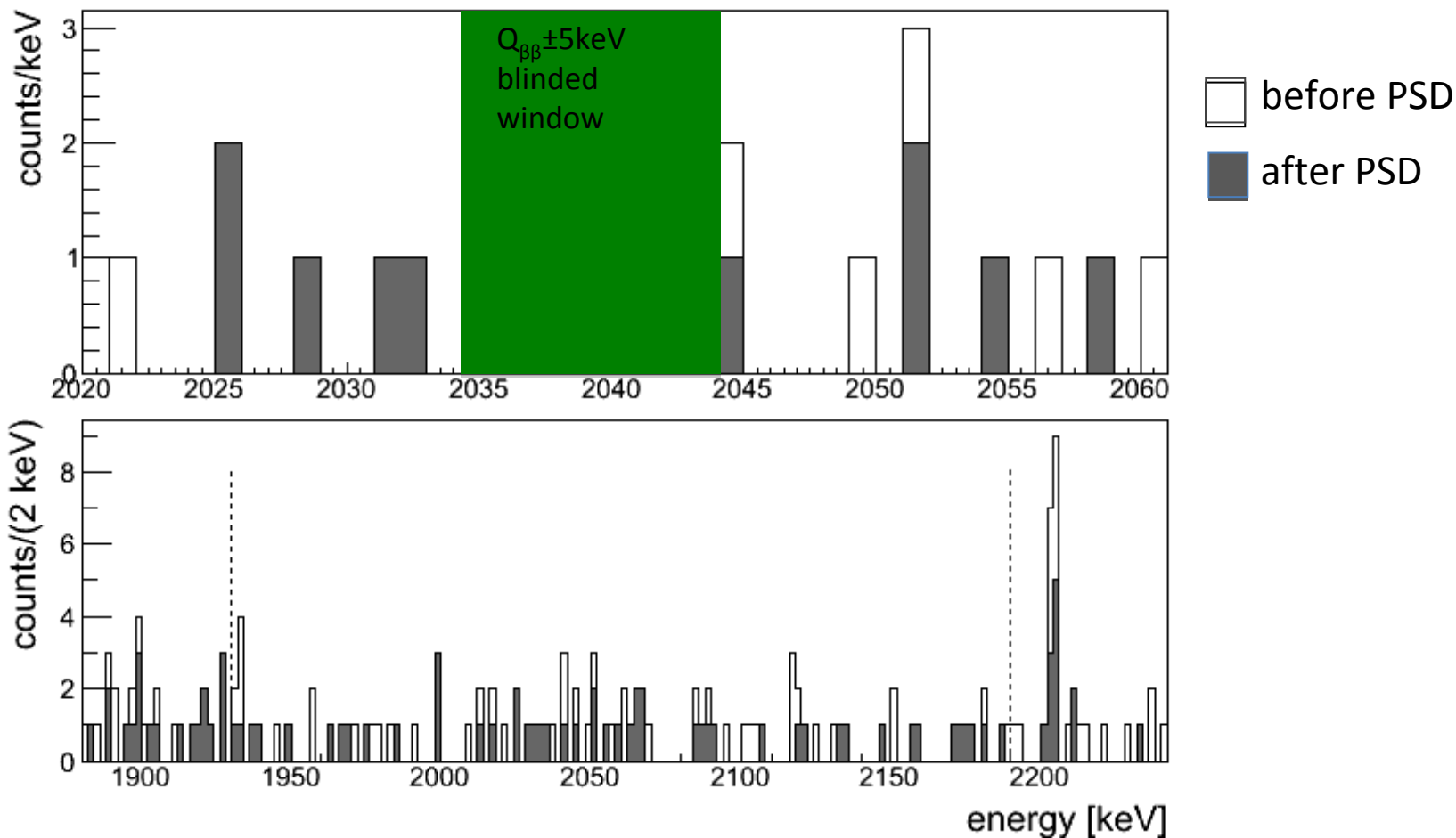


BEGe data set:      1 event in blinded window  
                             0 event survive PSD cut



Silver data set: 1 event in blinded window  
1 event survives PSD cut

# Unblinding: golden-coax data set (17.9 kg yr)



Golden data set: 5 event in blinded window  
2 event survive PSD cut



# Parameters of 3 data sets and counts in blinded window

data set	$\mathcal{E}$ [kg·yr]	$\langle \epsilon \rangle$	bkg	BI <sup>†</sup>	cts
<b>without PSD</b>			(in 230 keV)		
<i>golden</i>	17.9	$0.688 \pm 0.031$	76	$18 \pm 2$	5
<i>silver</i>	1.3	$0.688 \pm 0.031$	19	$63_{-14}^{+16}$	1
<i>BEGe</i>	2.4	$0.720 \pm 0.018$	23	$42_{-8}^{+10}$	1
<b>with PSD</b>					
<i>golden</i>	17.9	$0.619_{-0.070}^{+0.044}$	45	$11 \pm 2$	2
<i>silver</i>	1.3	$0.619_{-0.070}^{+0.044}$	9	$30_{-9}^{+11}$	1
<i>BEGe</i>	2.4	$0.663 \pm 0.022$	3	$5_{-3}^{+4}$	0

Counts  
in blinded  
window  
(BW)

<sup>†</sup>) in units of  $10^{-3}$  cts/(keV·kg·yr).

Total counts in BW	Expected (bkg only)	Observed
without PSD	5.1	7
with PSD	2.5	3

$$T_{1/2}^{0\nu} = \frac{\ln 2 \cdot N_A}{m_{enr} \cdot N^{0\nu}} \cdot \mathcal{E} \cdot \epsilon$$

$$\epsilon = f_{76} \cdot f_{av} \cdot \epsilon_{fep} \cdot \epsilon_{psd}$$

$N_A$ : Avogadro number

$E$ : exposure

$\epsilon$ : exposure averaged efficiency

$m_{enr}$ : molar mass of enriched Ge

$N^{0\nu}$ : signal counts / limit

$f_{76}$ : enrichment fraction

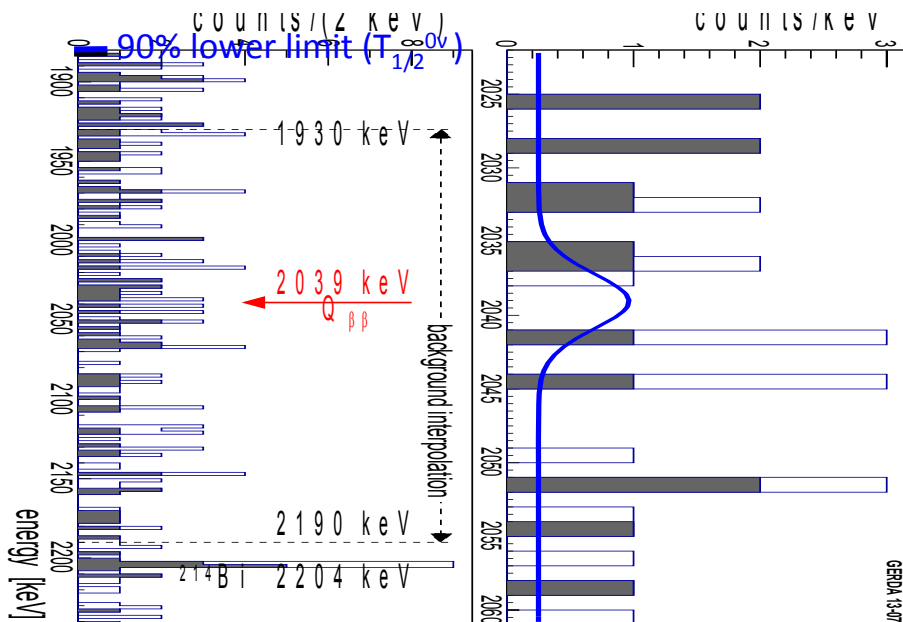
$f_{av}$ : fraction of active detector volume

$\epsilon_{fep}$ : full energy peak efficiency for  $0\nu\beta\beta$

$\epsilon_{psd}$ : signal acceptance

Data set	Exposure (kg yr)
Golden-coax	17.9
Silver-coax	1.3
BEGe	2.4

	$\langle f_{76} \rangle$	$\langle f_{av} \rangle$	$\langle \epsilon_{fep} \rangle$	$\langle \epsilon_{psd} \rangle$	$\langle \epsilon \rangle$
<b>Coax</b>	0.86	0.87	0.92	0.90 +0.05/ -0.09	0.619 +0.044/-0.070
<b>BEGe</b>	0.88	0.92	0.90	0.92 ±0.02	0.663 ±0.022



## Systematics:

Parameter	Det./Set	Value	Uncertainty
$\langle \epsilon \rangle$ w/o PSD	Coax	0.688	0.031
	BEGe	0.720	0.018
Energy res.	Golden	4.83 keV	0.19 keV
	Silver	4.63 keV	0.14 keV
	BEGe	3.24 keV	0.14 keV
Energy scale (keV)		N.A.	0.2 keV
$\epsilon_{\text{PSD}}$	Coax	0.90	0.10
	BEGe	0.92	0.02

## Frequentist limit:

- 90% lower limit derived from profile likelihood fit to 3 data sets (constraint to physical  $1/T$  range; excluding known  $\gamma$ -lines from bgd model at  $2104 \pm 5$  and  $2119 \pm 5$  keV)
- Best fit:  $N^{0\nu} = 0$
- **No excess** of signal counts above the background
- 90% C.L. lower limit:

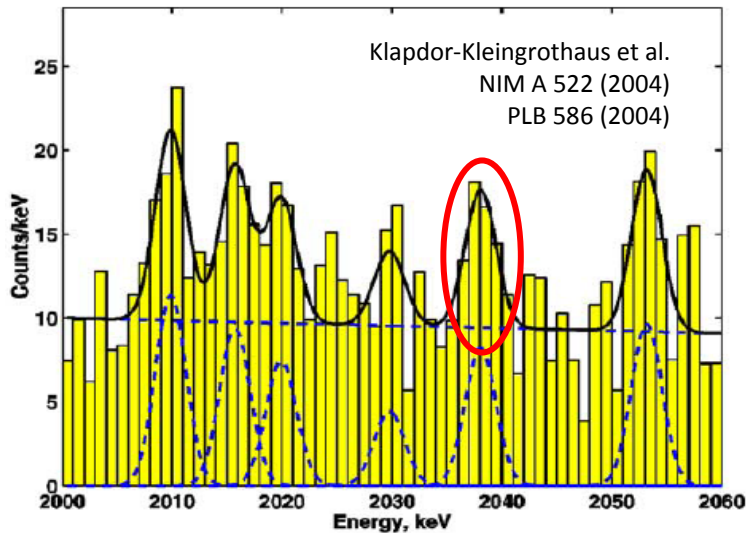
$$T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 2.1 \cdot 10^{25} \text{ yr}$$

- Limit on half-life of  $^{76}\text{Ge}$
- Median sensitivity (90% C.L.):  $> 2.4 \times 10^{25} \text{ yr}$

## Bayesian:

- Flat prior for  $1/T$
- Posterior distribution for  $T_{1/2}^{0\nu}$
- Best fit:  $N^{0\nu} = 0$
- 90% credible interval:
- Median sensitivity: (90% C.L.)  $T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 1.9 \cdot 10^{25} \text{ yr}$

Systematics folded: limit weakened by 1.5%



Klapdor-Kleingrothaus et al., NIM A 522 (2004), PLB 586 (2004):

- 71.7 kg year - Bgd 0.17 / (kg yr keV)
- $28.75 \pm 6.87$  events (bgd:  $\sim 60$ )
- Claim:  $4.2\sigma$  evidence for  $0\nu\beta\beta$
- reported  $T_{1/2}^{0\nu} = 1.19 \times 10^{25}$  yr



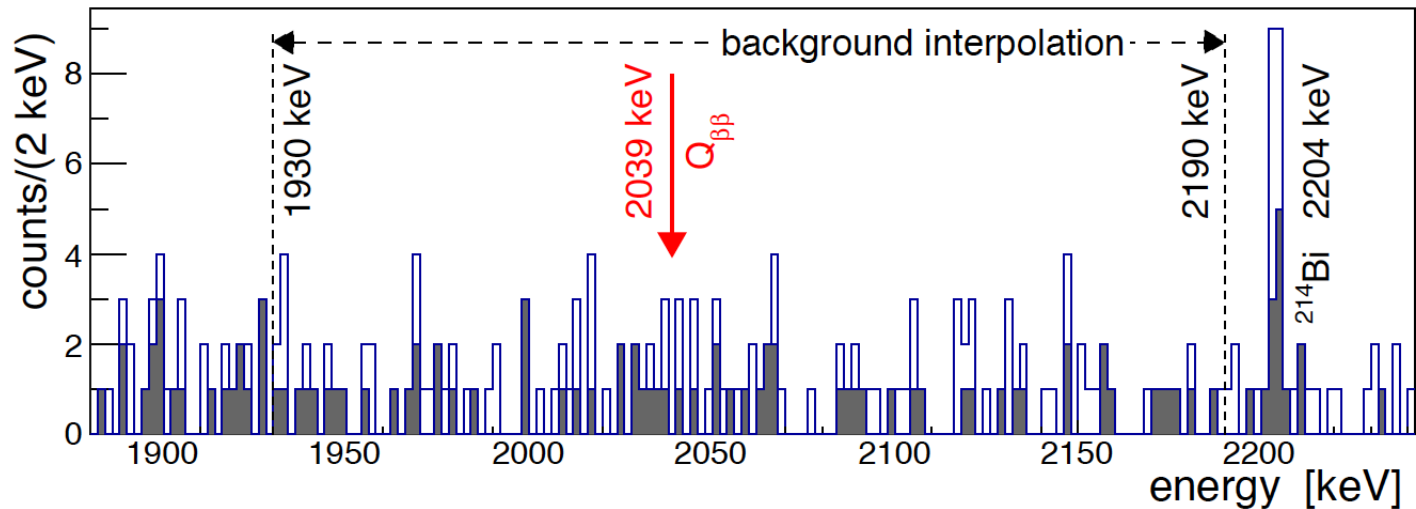
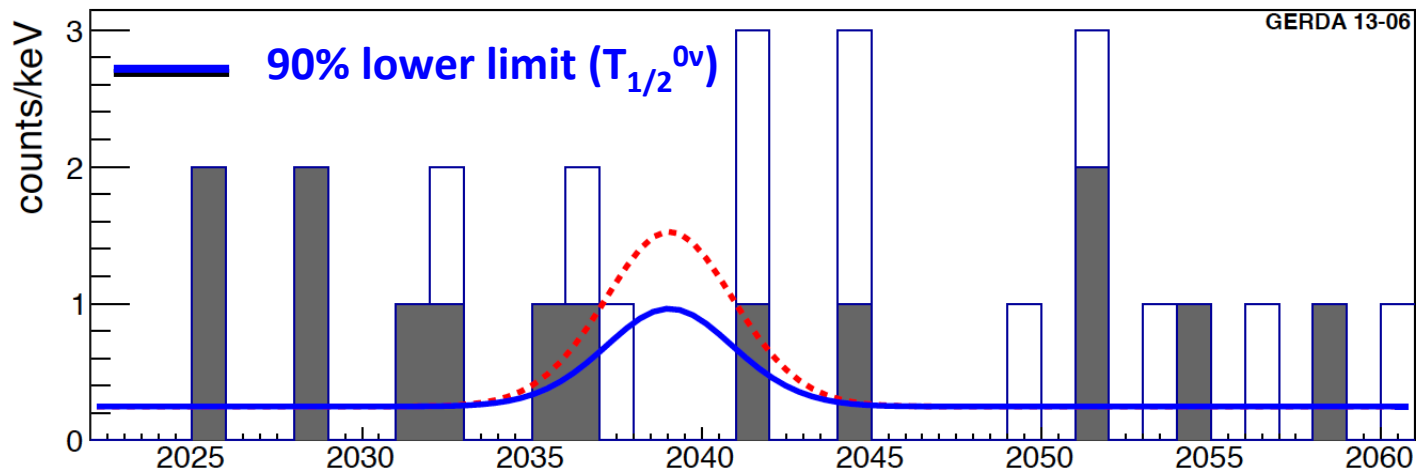
N.B. Half-life  $T_{1/2}^{0\nu} = 2.23 \times 10^{25}$  yr  $T_{1/2}$  after PSD analysis (Mod. Phys. Lett. A 21, 1547 (2006).) is not considered because:

- reported half-life can be reconstructed only (Ref. 1) with  $\epsilon_{\text{psd}} = 1$  (previous similar analysis  $\epsilon_{\text{psd}} \approx 0.6$ )
- $\epsilon_{\text{fep}} = 1$  (also in NIM A 522, PLB 586 (2004) (GERDA value for same detectors:  $\epsilon_{\text{fep}} = 0.9$ )

(1) B. Schwingenheuer in Ann. Phys. 525, 269 (2013):

# Comparison with Phys. Lett. B 586 198 (2004) claim

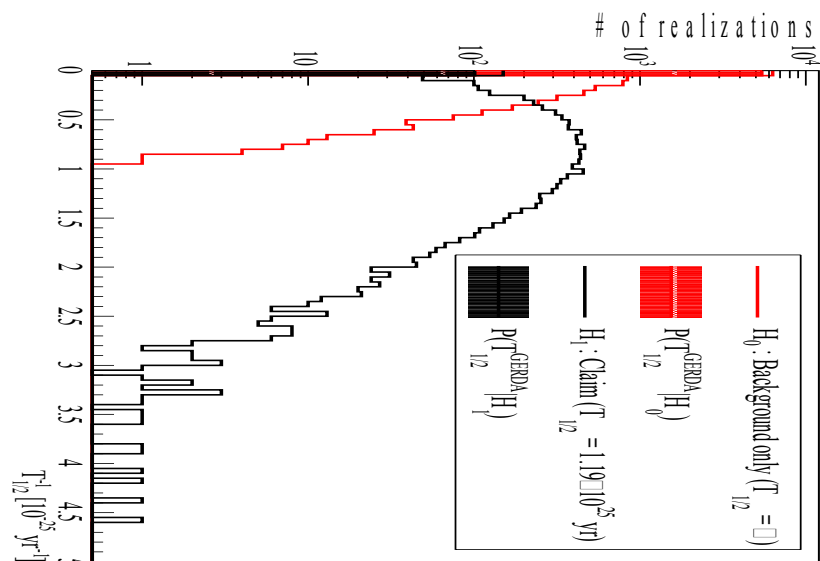
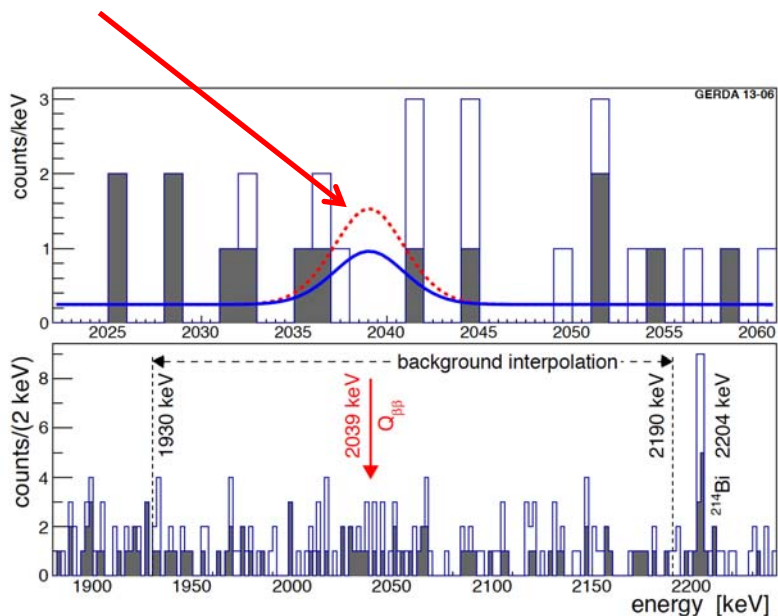
--- Claim:  $T_{1/2}^{0\nu} = 1.19 \times 10^{25}$  (Phys. Lett. B 586 198 (2004))





Expectation for claimed  $T_{1/2}^{0\nu} = 1.19 \times 10^{25}$  yr (Phys. Lett. B 586 198 (2004)):

$5.9 \pm 1.4$  signal over  $2.0 \pm 0.3$  bgd in  $\pm 2\sigma$  energy window to be compared with 3 cts (0 in  $\pm 1\sigma$ )



**H1:** claimed signal:  $5.9 \pm 1.4$

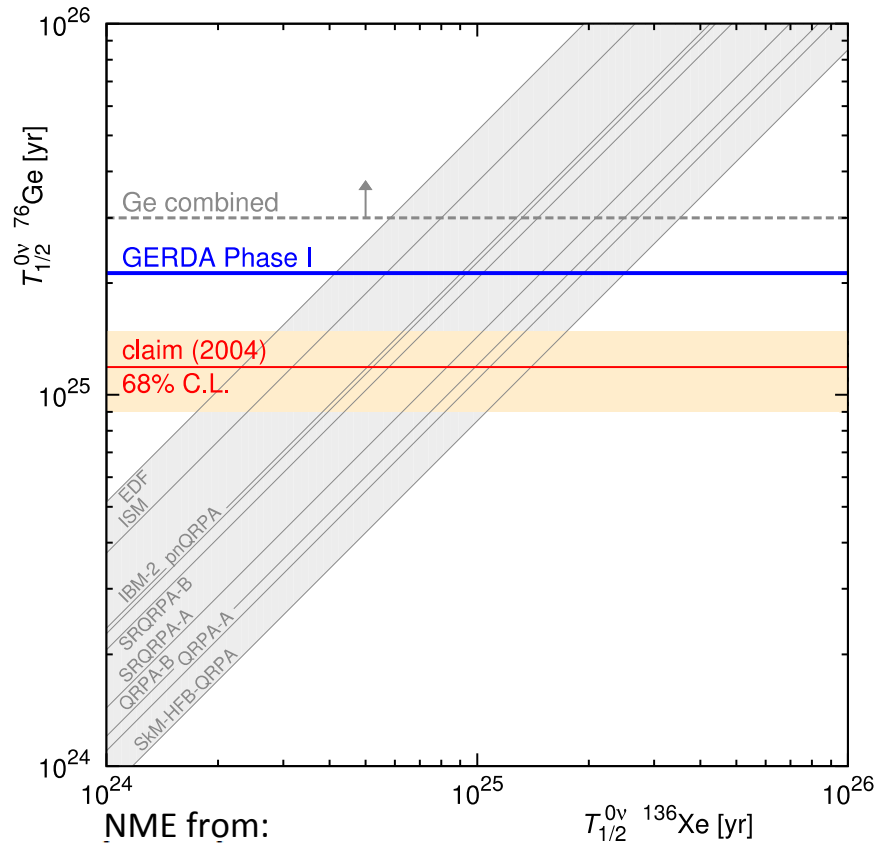
**H0:** background only

**Bayes factor:**  $P(H1)/P(H0) = 0.024$

**p-value** from profile likelihood

$P(N=0 = 0 | H1) = 0.01$  (0.006 if  $1/T$  unconstrained)

➔ Claim refuted with high probability



NME from:

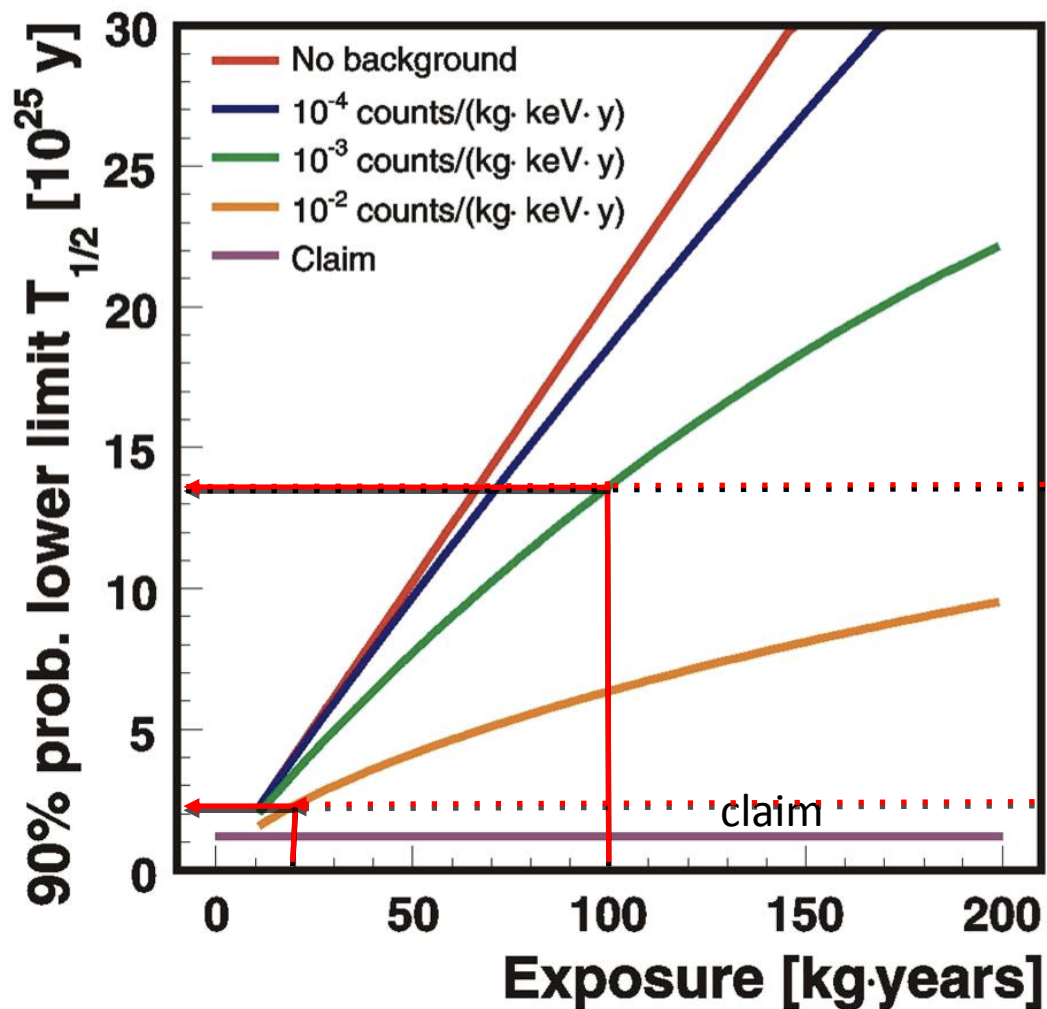
P. S. Bhupal Dev *et al.*, (2013), arXiv:1305.0056

Ge combined:  $\langle m_{ee} \rangle < 0.2-0.4$  eV

**H1:** signal with  $T_{1/2}^{0\nu} = 1.19 \times 10^{25}$  yr

**H0:** background only

	Isotope	$P(H_1)/P(H_0)$	Comment
<b>GERDA</b>	$^{76}\text{Ge}$	0.024	Model independent
<b>GERDA+Hd M+IGEX</b>	$^{76}\text{Ge}$	0.0002	Model independent



## Phase II:

Add new enr. BEGe detectors (20 kg)

BI  $\approx$  0.001 cts / (keV kg yr)

Sensitivity after 100 kg yr

## Phase I:

Use refurbished HdM & IGEX (18 kg)

BI  $\approx$  0.01 cts / (keV kg yr)

Sensitivity after 20 kg yr

- **GERDA Phase I design goals reached:**

- Background index after PSD: 0.01 cts / (keV kg yr)
- Exposure 21.6 kg yr

- **No  $0\nu\beta\beta$ -signal observed at  $Q_{\beta\beta} = 2039$  keV; best fit:  $N^{0\nu}=0$**

- Background-only hypothesis  $H_0$  strongly favored
- Claim strongly disfavored (independent of NME and of leading term)

- **Bayes Factor / p-value:**

GERDA:  $2.4 \times 10^{-2} / 1.0 \times 10^{-2}$   
GERDA+IGEX+HdM:  $2 \times 10^{-4} / -$

- **Limit on half-life:**

GERDA:  $T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 2.1 \times 10^{25}$  yr (90% C.L.)  
GERDA+IGEX+HdM:  $T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 3.0 \times 10^{25}$  yr (90% C.L.) ( $\langle m_{ee} \rangle < 0.2-0.4$  eV)

- Results reached after only 21.6 kg yr exposure because of **unprecedented low background**: bgd counts in  $\pm 2\sigma$  after analysis cuts:

0.01 cts / (mol yr) (cf. EXO: 0.07, KL: 0.67)

- **Getting ready for Phase II.....**



the [draft pdf submitted on July 16, 2013](#)

the [presentation at LNGS by S. Schönert](#)

GERDA publications before unblinding:

*pulse shape analysis*: **Pulse shape discrimination for GERDA Phase I data** submitted to EPJC; on [arXiv:1307.2610 \[physics.ins-det\]](#) [the plot release](#)

*the background*: **The background in the neutrinoless double beta decay experiment GERDA** submitted to EPJC; on [arXiv:1306.5084 \[physics.ins-det\]](#) [the plot release](#)

*2νββ decay*: Measurement of the half-life of the two-neutrino double beta decay of  $^{76}\text{Ge}$  with the GERDA experiment [J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys. 40 \(2013\) 035110](#)

[DOI: 10.1088/0954-3899/40/3/035110](#) [the plot release](#)

*the experiment*: **The GERDA experiment for the search of  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay in  $^{76}\text{Ge}$**

[Eur. Phys. J. C 73 \(2013\) 2330](#) [DOI: 10.1140/epjc/s10052-013-2330-0](#) [the plot release](#)