

# Searching for Neutrinoless Double Beta Decay with the LEGEND Experiment

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On behalf of the LEGEND Collaboration  
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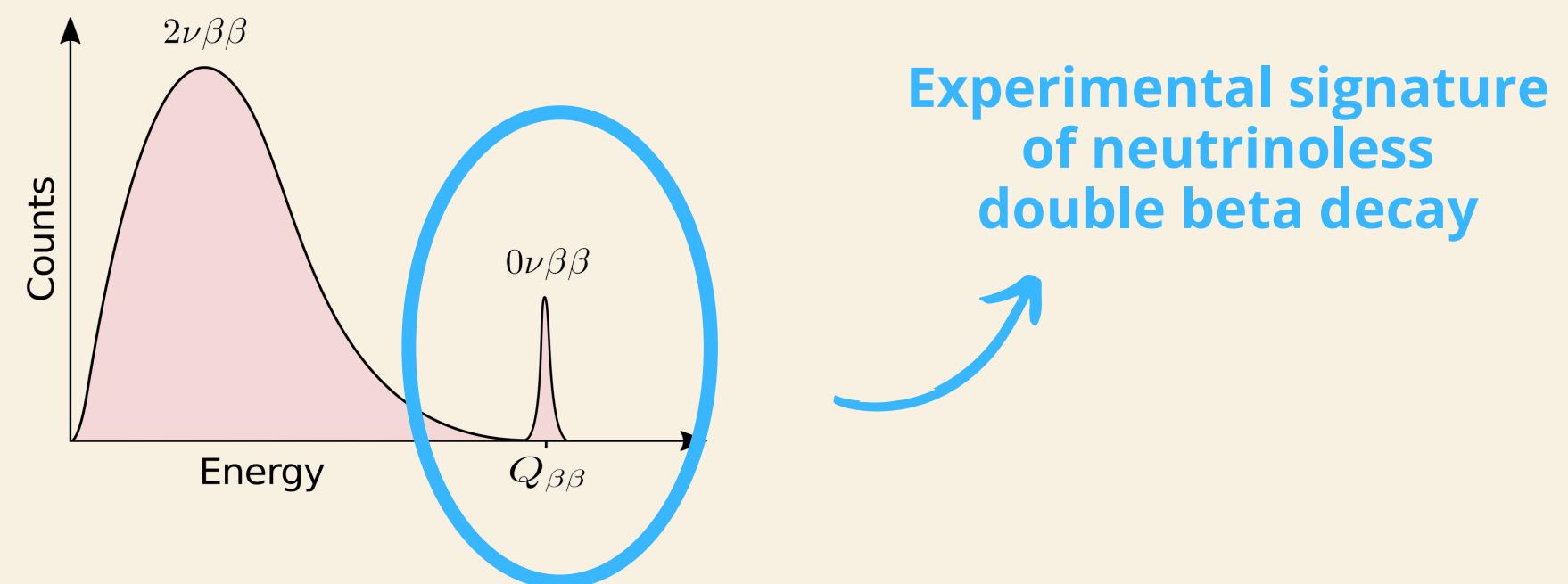
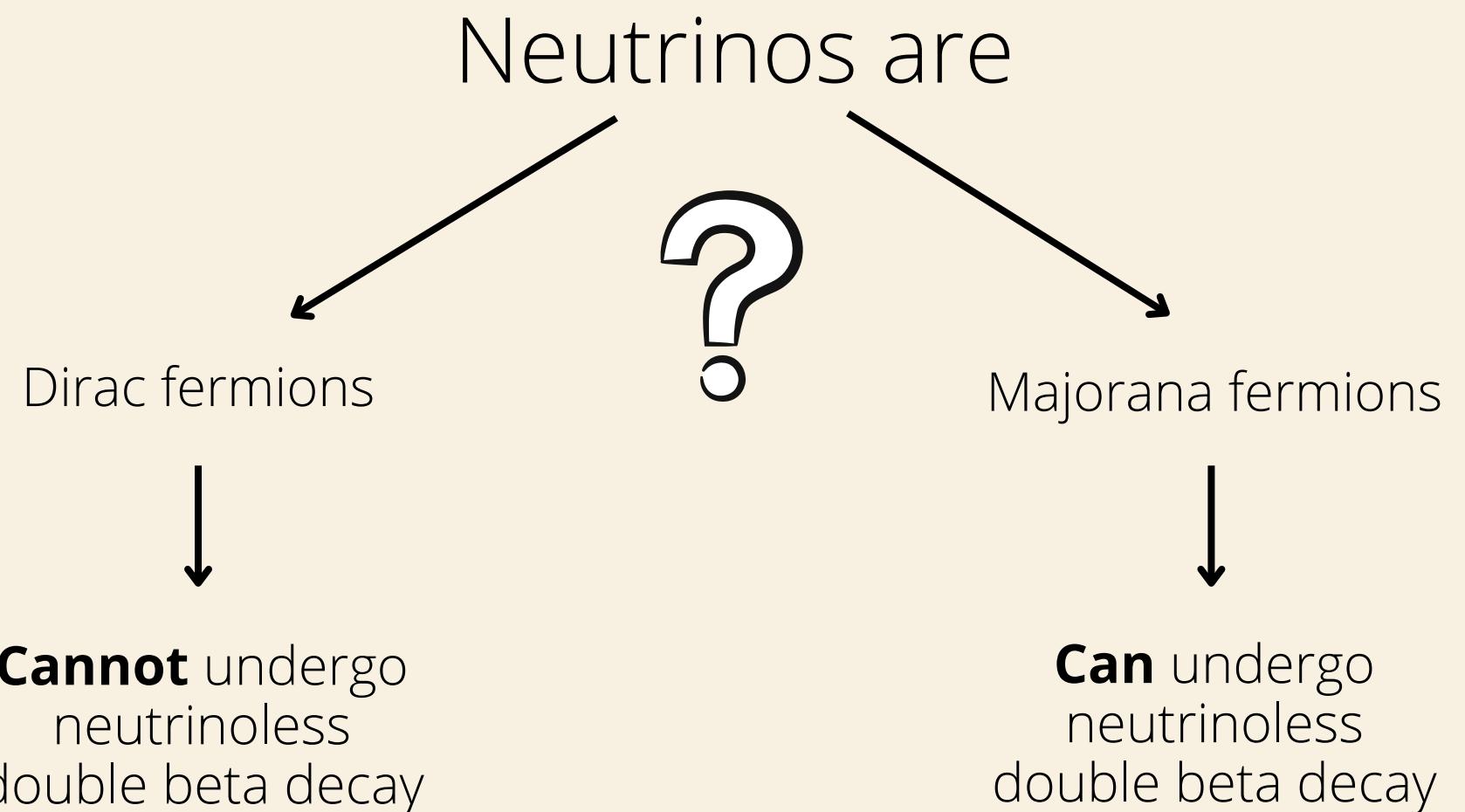
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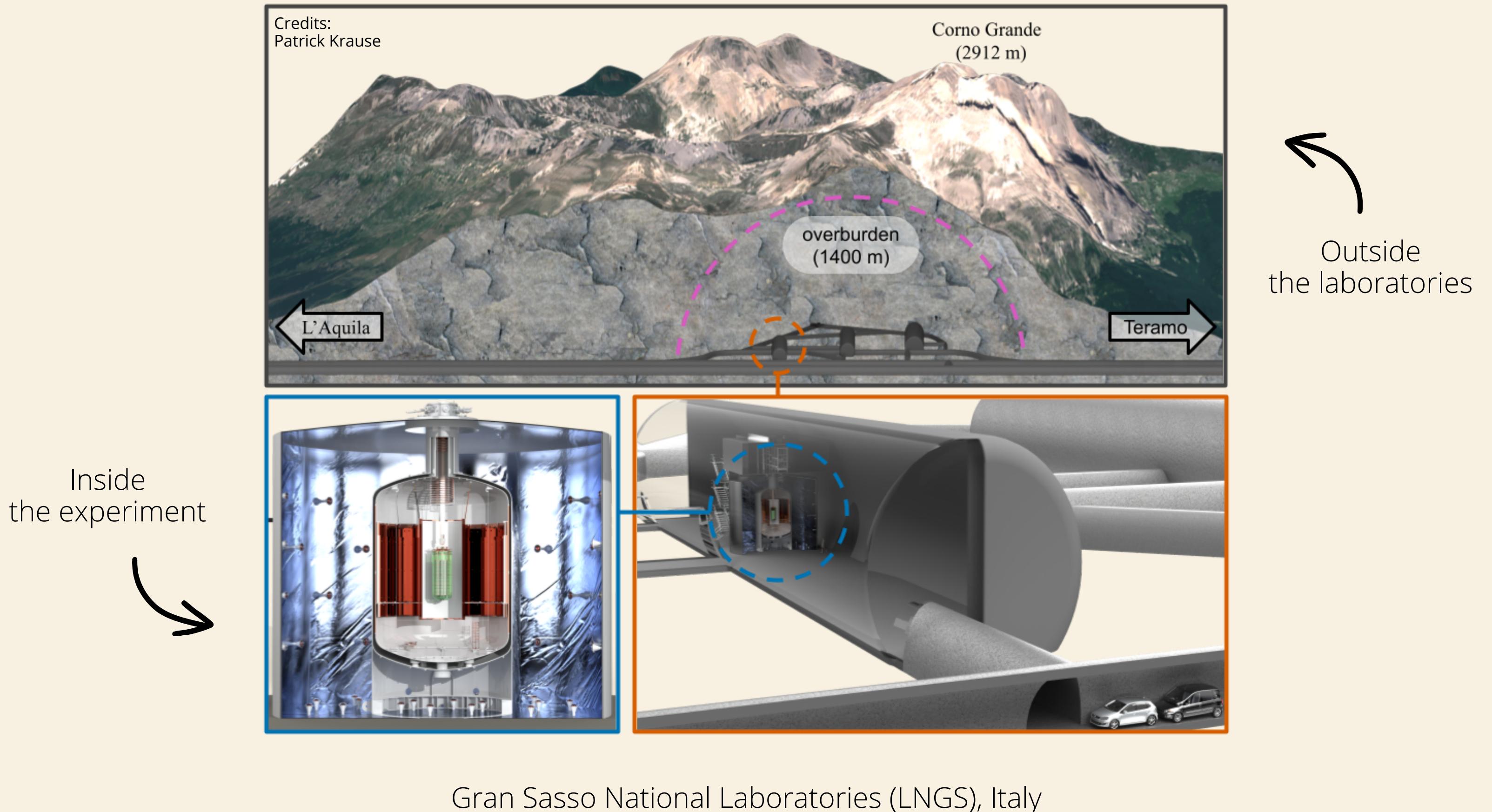
NuPhys2023 - King's College London  
18 - 20th December 2023

**LEGEND**  
Large Enriched  
Germanium Experiment  
for Neutrinoless  $\beta\beta$  Decay

# The Physics

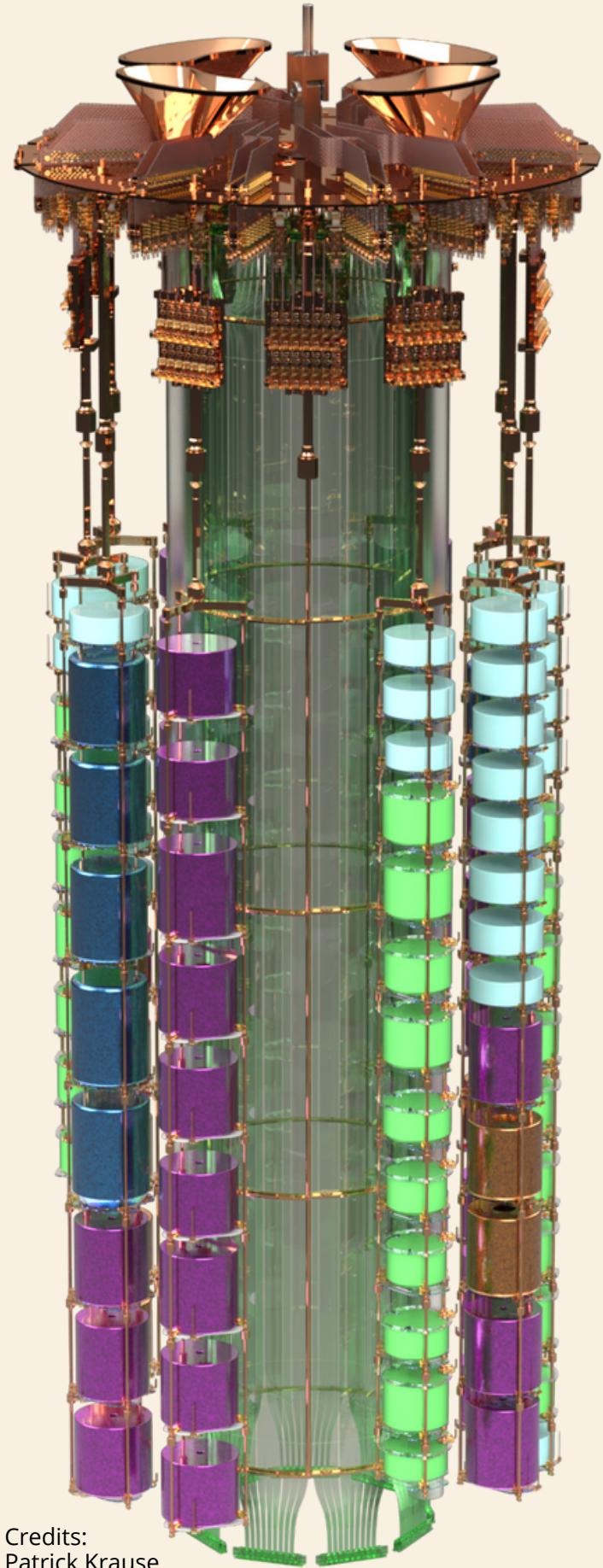


# The Experimental Site

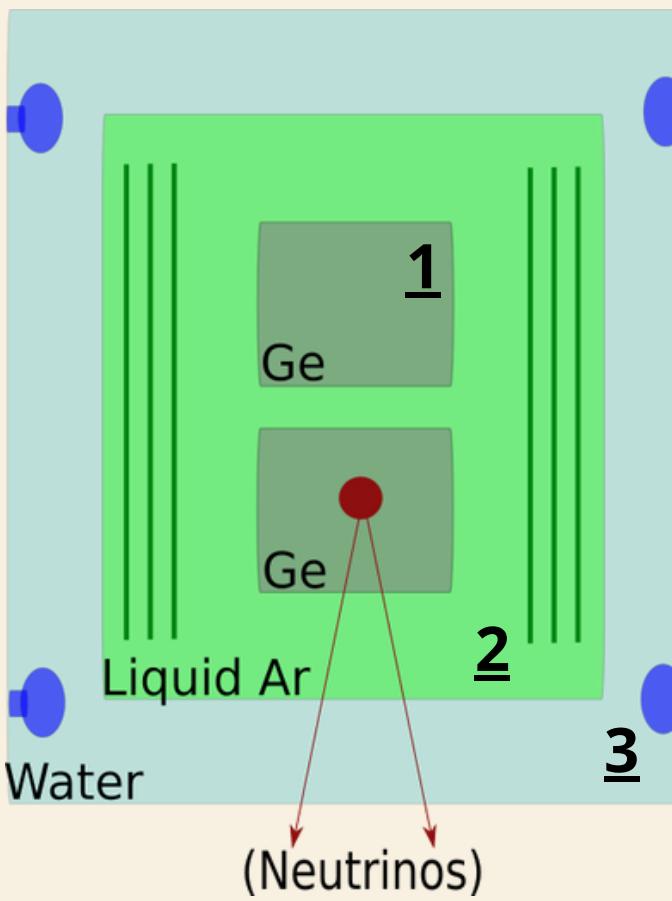


# The Experiment

LEGEND



Credits:  
Patrick Krause



- 1: Ge detectors strings**
- 2: Liquid Argon (LAr) cryostat:**  
cooler and active veto (SiPMs)
- 3: Water tank:**  
shielding and active veto (PMTs)

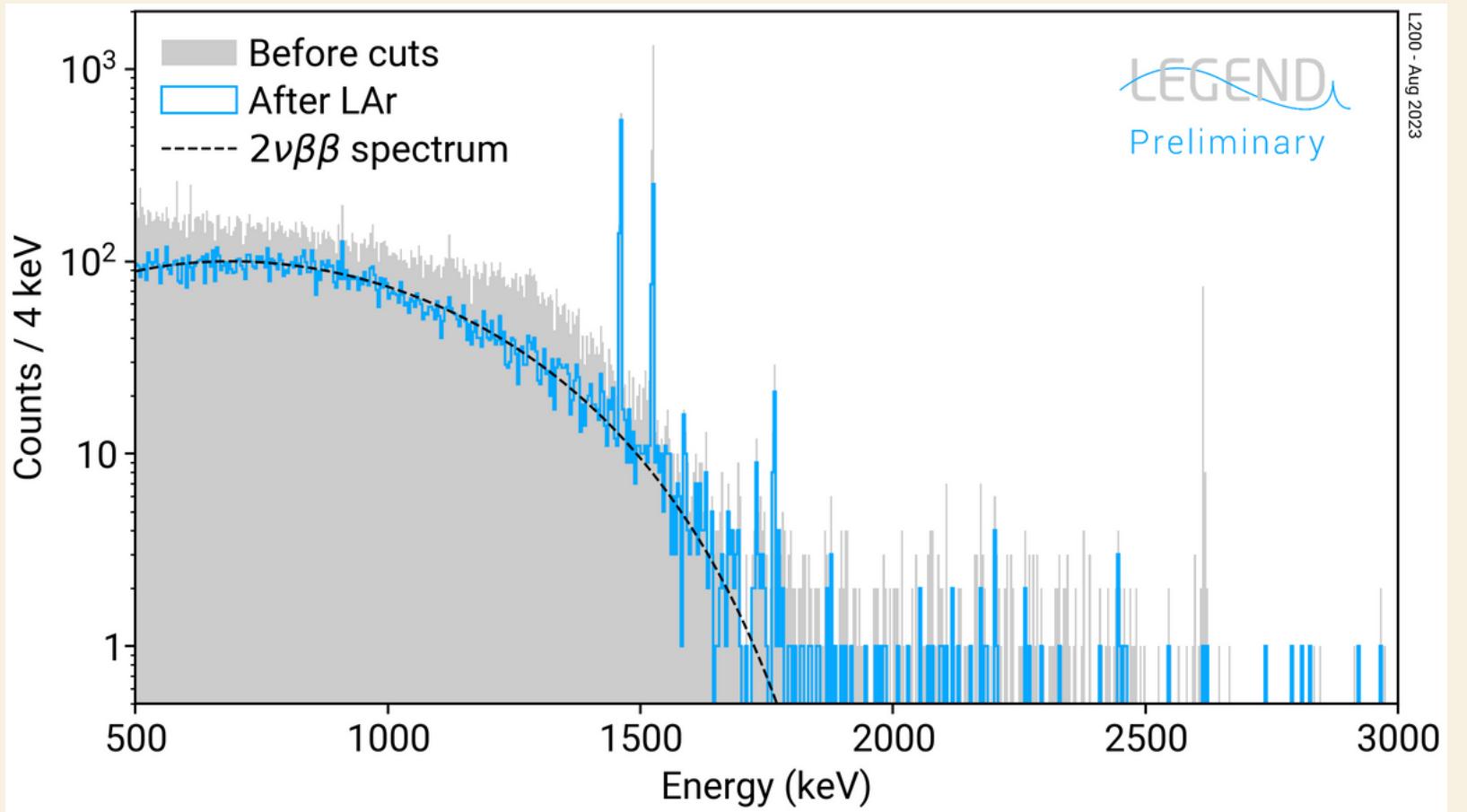
Isotope:  $^{76}\text{Ge}$

Reaction:  $^{76}\text{Ge} \rightarrow ^{76}\text{Se} + 2\text{e}^-$

Q-value:  $Q\beta\beta = 2039 \text{ keV}$

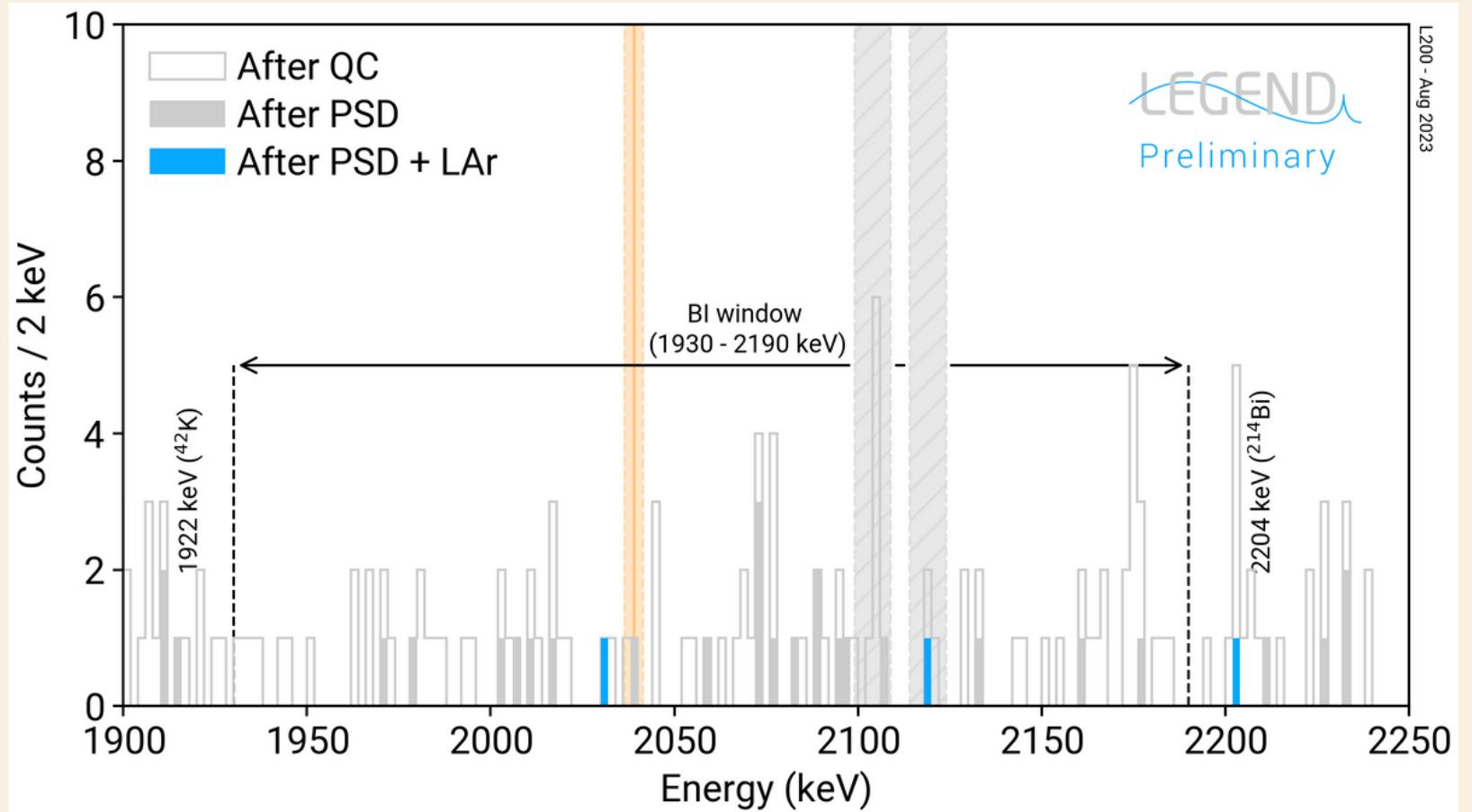
Resolution:  $\text{FWHM}(Q\beta\beta) \approx 3 \text{ keV}$

# Preliminary results



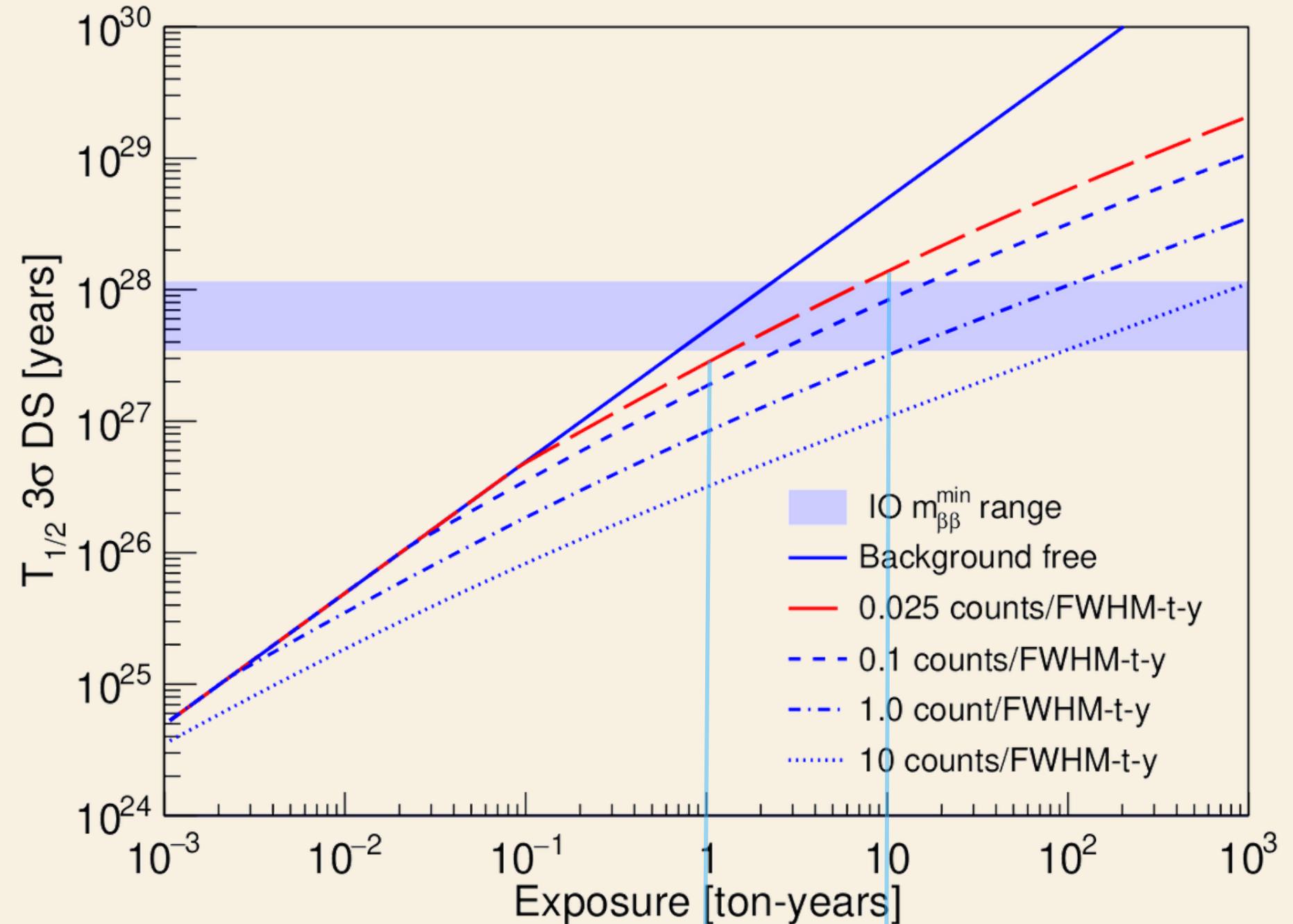
First data release in August 2023:  
10.1 kg yr of exposure

Energy spectrum compatible with  $2\nu\beta\beta$   
after LAr veto (anti-coincidences with LAr  
instrumentation)



Background Index achieved in a  
260 keV analysis window around  $\text{Q}\beta\beta$ :  
 $B. I. = 4.1 [1.5, 11.4] \times 10^{-4} \text{ cts/(keV kg yr)}$ , at 68% CL

# Perspectives



**Background** goal



200 kg of Germanium  
 $\text{B.I.} \leq 2 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cts/(keV kg yr)}$

**Half life discovery sensitivity** goal



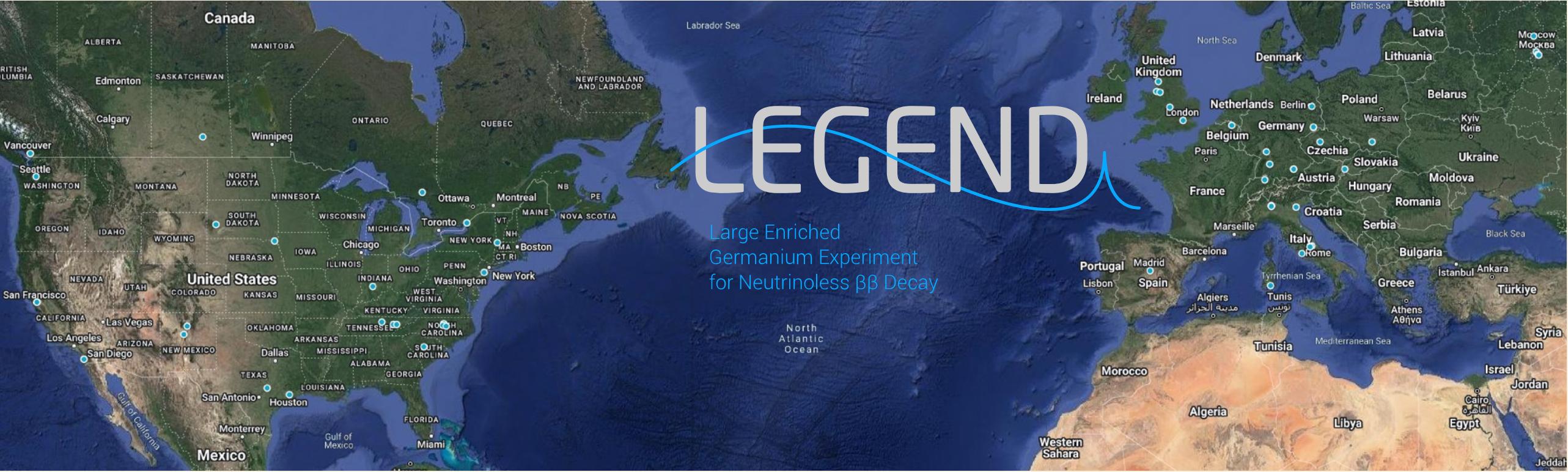
$T_{1/2}(0\nu) = 1.5 \times 10^{27} \text{ yr (3}\sigma)$

**LEGEND-200**

**LEGEND-1000**

1000 kg of Germanium  
 $\text{B.I.} \leq 1 \times 10^{-5} \text{ cts/(keV kg yr)}$   
 $T_{1/2}(0\nu) = 1.3 \times 10^{28} \text{ yr (3}\sigma)$

# The LEGEND Collaboration



CIEMAT  
Comenius Univ.  
Czech Tech. Univ. Prague and  
IEAP Daresbury Lab.  
Duke Univ. and TUNL  
Gran Sasso Science Inst.  
Indiana Univ. Bloomington  
Inst. Nucl. Res. Rus. Acad. Sci.  
Jagiellonian Univ.  
Joint Inst. for Nucl. Res.  
Joint Res. Centre Geel  
Lab. Naz. Gran Sasso  
Lancaster Univ.  
Leibniz Inst. for Crystal Growth

Leibniz Inst. for Polymer  
Research Los Alamos Natl. Lab.  
Max Planck Inst. for Nucl. Phy.  
Max Planck Inst. for Physics  
Natl. Res. Center Kurchatov Inst.  
Natl. Res. Nucl. Univ. MEPhI  
North Carolina State Univ.  
Oak Ridge Natl. Lab.  
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Univ. of New Mexico

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Univ. of Padova and INFN  
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Univ. of South Dakota  
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