

# Search for $\beta\beta 0\nu$ decay with NEMO 3 and SuperNEMO experiments

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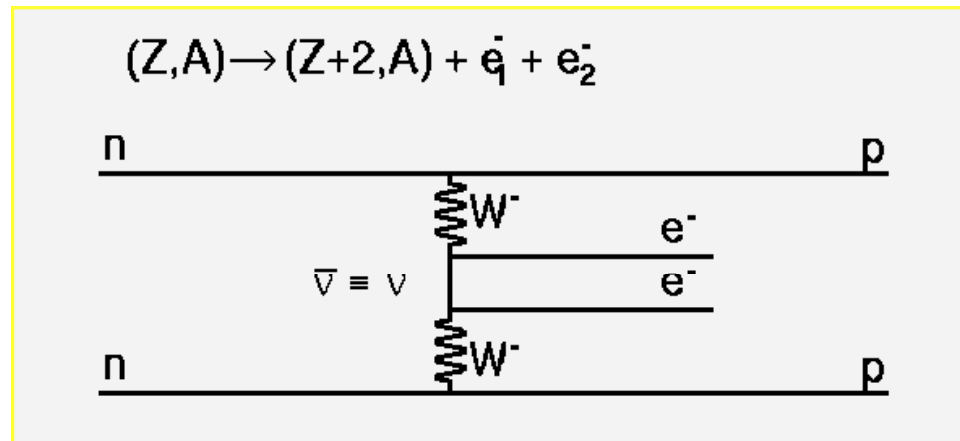
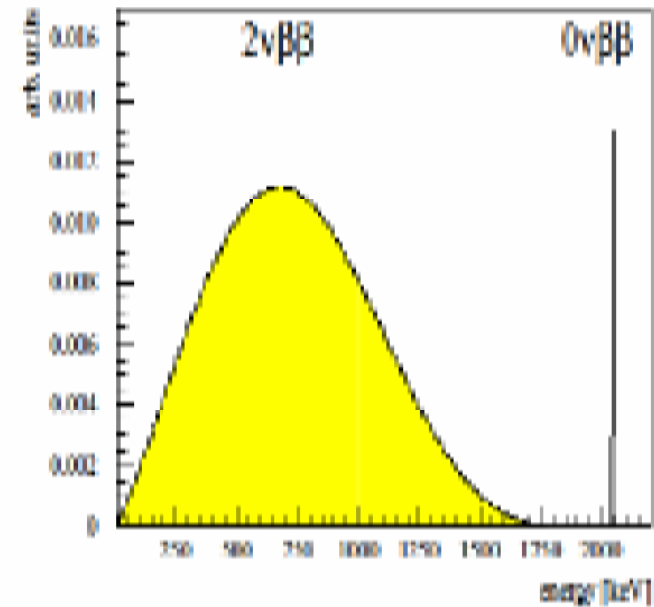
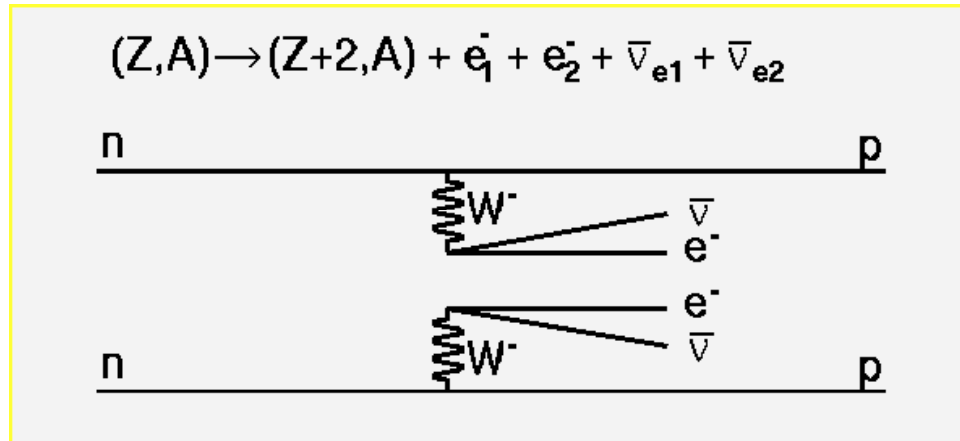
on behalf of the NEMO collaboration



**SUSY 2007**  
Karlsruhe, 28 July 2007

# Outline

- $\beta\beta$  decay and SUSY
- NEMO-3 experiment
  - Overview of the NEMO-3
  - Highlights of the main NEMO-3 results
- SuperNEMO project
  - R&D program
  - Current status



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

only possible for  
Majorana neutrinos with mass  $> 0$

Beyond the SM:  
Lepton Number Violation !

$$L = \lambda_{ijk} LLE + \lambda'_{ijk} LQD + \lambda''_{ijk} UDD$$

lepton number violation

$\beta\beta$  decay amplitude related to  $(\lambda'_{111})^2$

$$d_R + d_R \rightarrow u_L + u_L + e_L + e_L$$

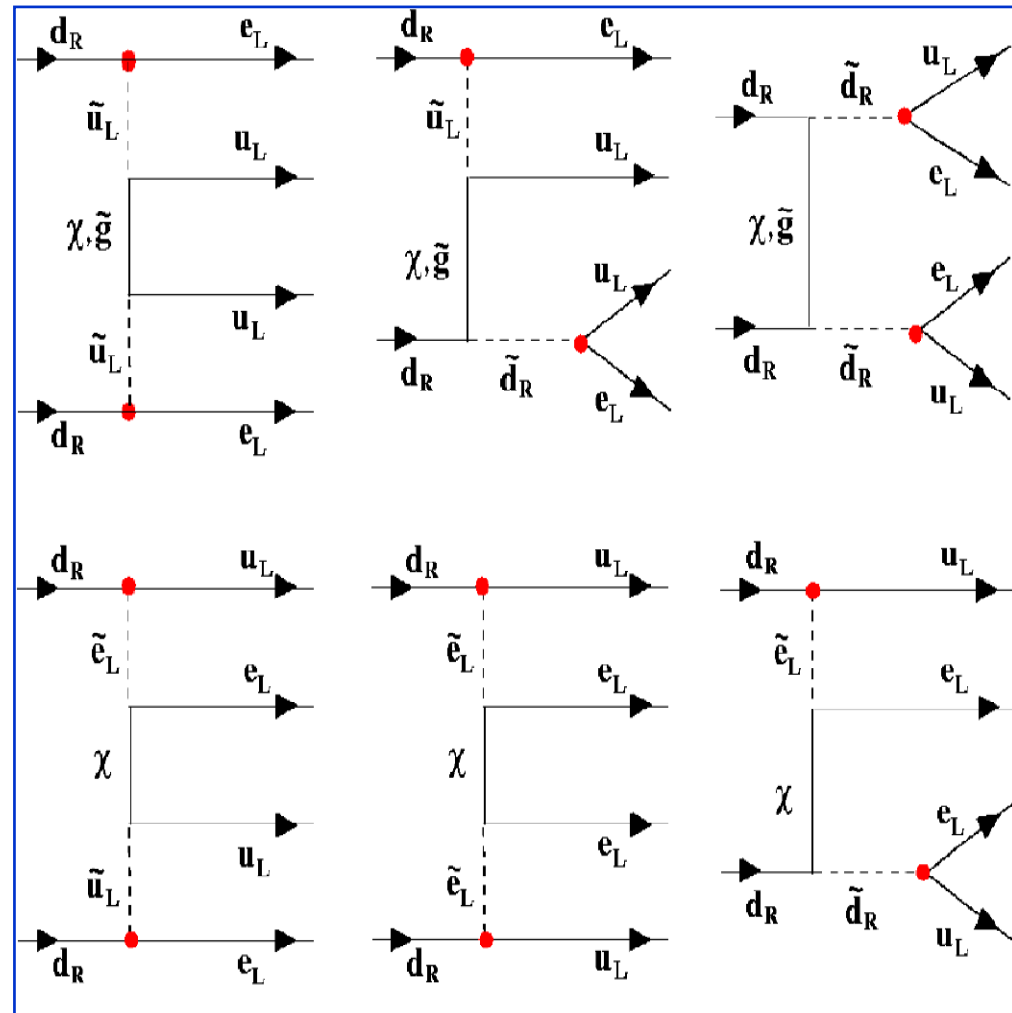
exchange with:

squarks

sleptons

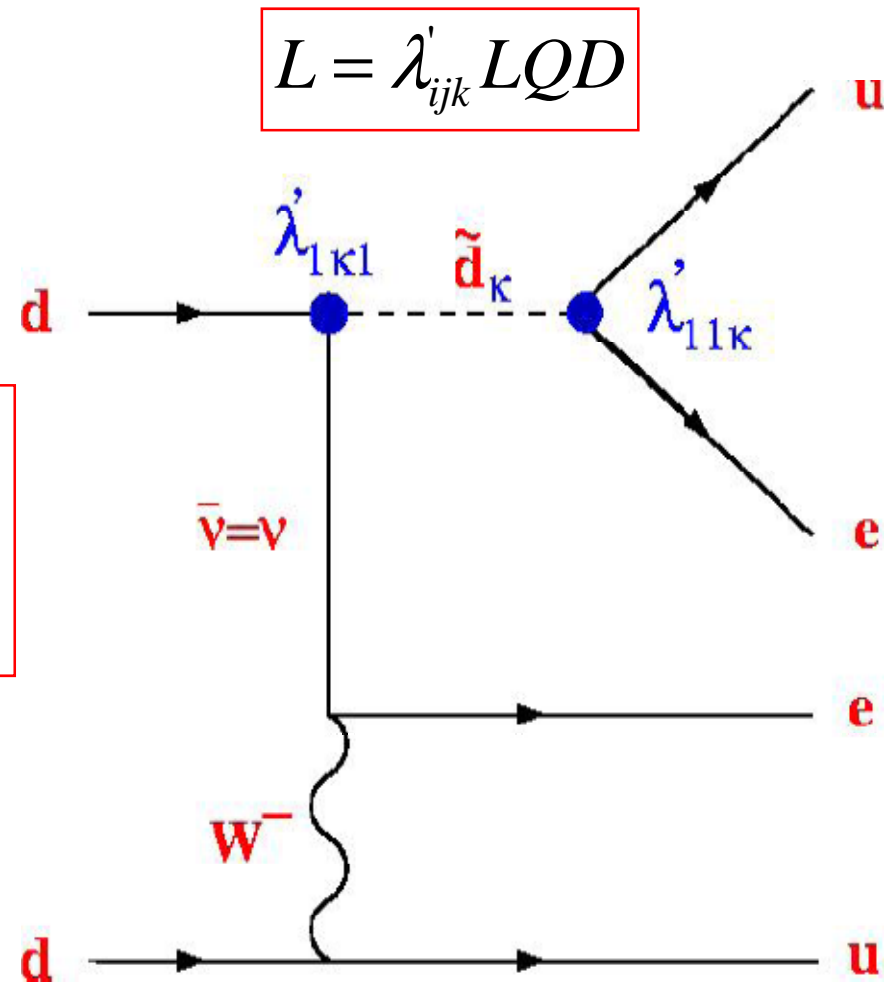
neutralinos

gluinos



$$L = \lambda'_{ijk} L Q D$$

contribution from  $\lambda'_{1jk}$   
possible via left- and  
right- squark mixing

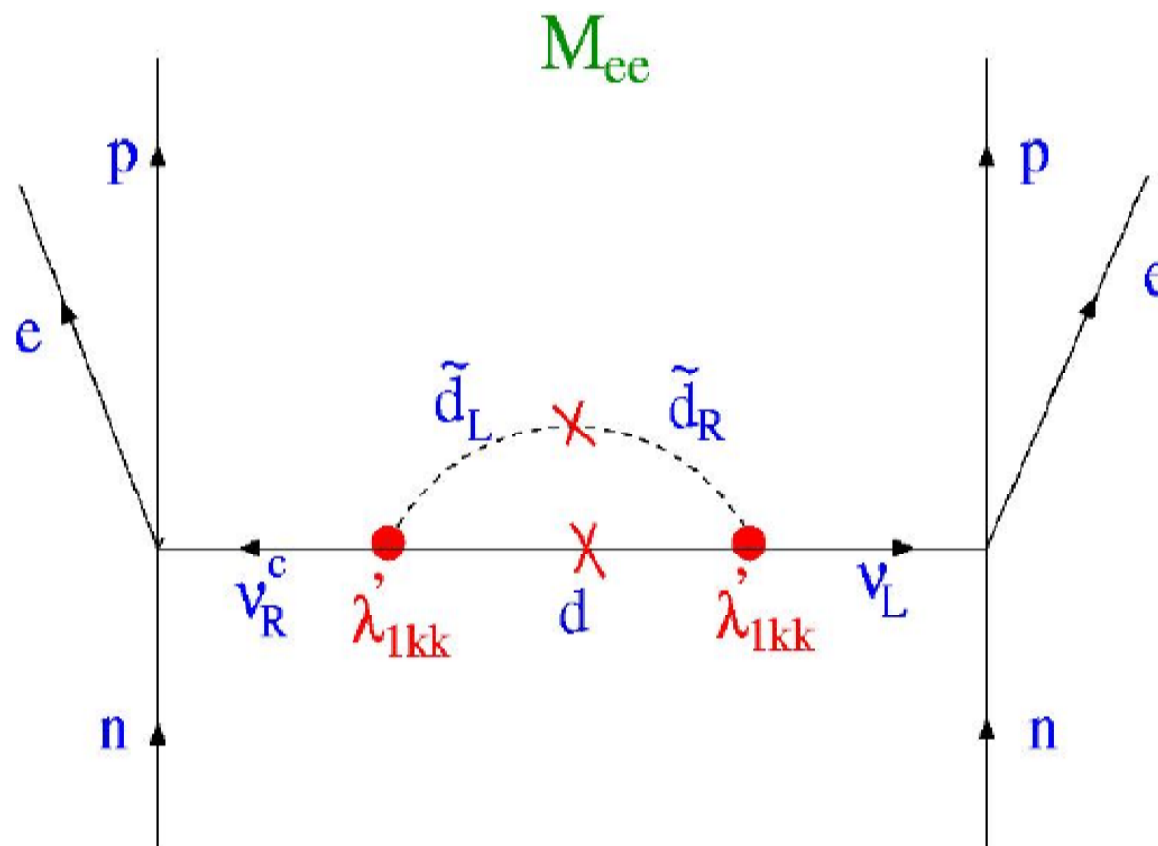


Hirsch, Klapdor-Kleingrothaus, Kovalenko, PLB 372 (1996) 181

Paes, Hirsch, Klapdor-Kleingrothaus, PLB 459 (1999) 450

$$L = \lambda'_{ijk} L Q D$$

neutrino can acquire mass due to SUSY radiative corrections,  $\lambda'_{1kk}$



Gozdz, Kaminski, Šimkovic, PRD 70 (2004) 095005

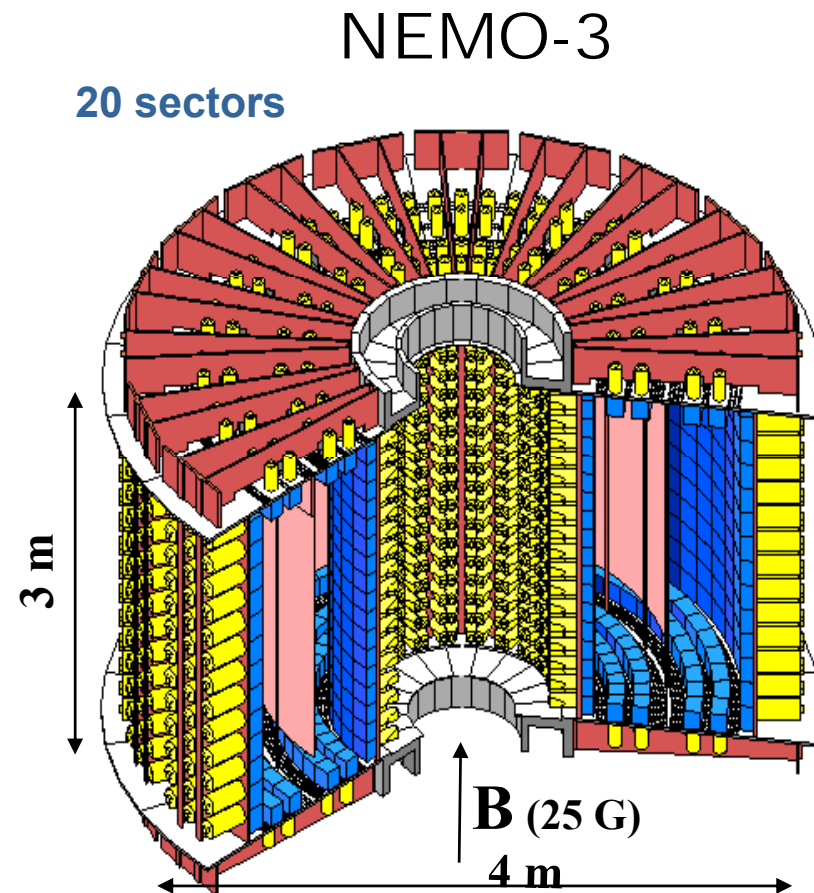
- Czech Republic
- Finland
- France
- Japan
- Russia
- Spain
- UK
- Ukraine
- USA



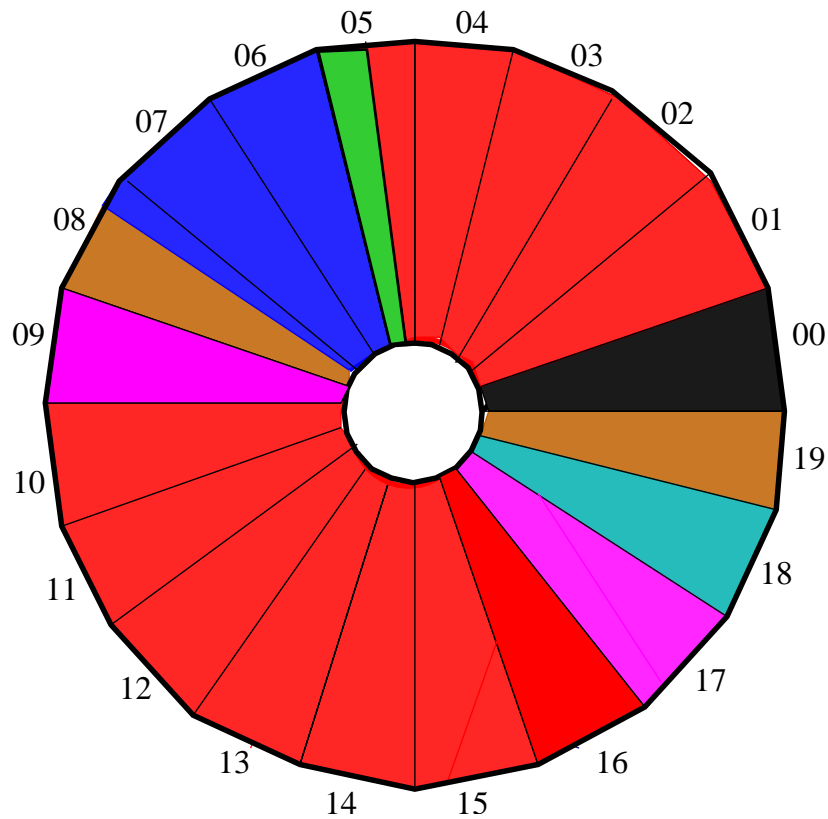
**LS Modane, FR  
Tunnel Frejus**

# key techniques: tracking, calorimetry, timing **UCL**

- ❑ **Goal: reconstruct 2 electrons of the final state**
  - ❑  $E1 + E2 = Q_{bb}$
- ❑ **Particle physics - like approach:**
  - ❑ **Measure several observables of the final state**
    - ❑ Trajectories of 2 electrons
    - ❑ Energies of 2 electrons
    - ❑ Time
    - ❑ Magnetic field curvature ("+" vs "-")
  - ❑ **Reconstruct the final state topology and kinematics**
- ❑ **Several requirements for candidate events**
  - ❑ **Topology (vertex, track-scintillator correlation)**
  - ❑ **Time coincidence**
  - ❑ **2-electron invariant mass**
  - ❑ **Identify  $e^-$ ,  $e^+$ ,  $\gamma$ ,  $\alpha$**
  - ❑ **Able to measure backgrounds**







**$^{100}\text{Mo}$  6.914 kg**  $Q_{\beta\beta} = 3034 \text{ keV}$        **$^{82}\text{Se}$  0.932 kg**  $Q_{\beta\beta} = 2995 \text{ keV}$

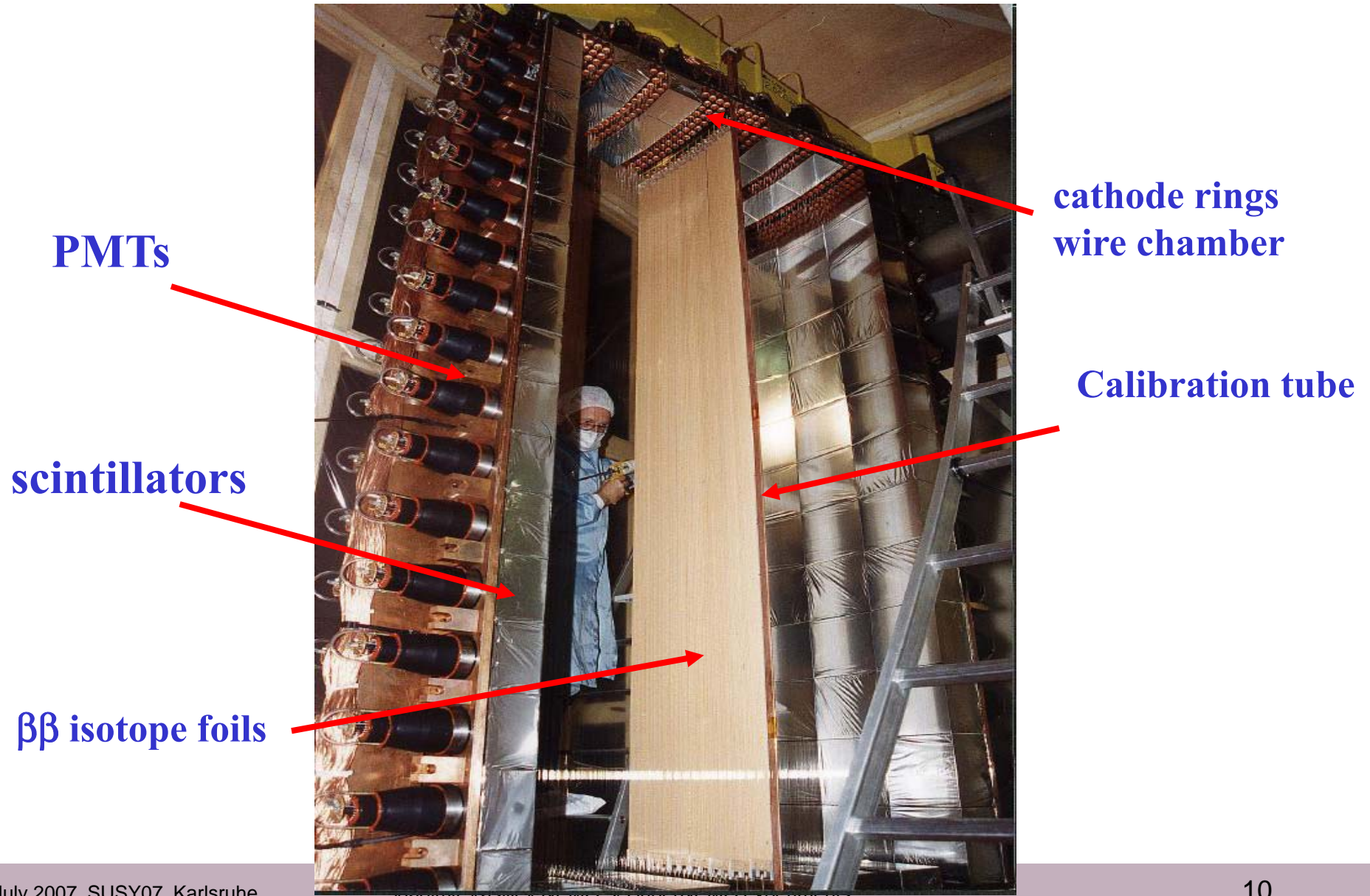
**$\beta\beta 0\nu$  search**

**$\beta\beta 2\nu$  measurement**

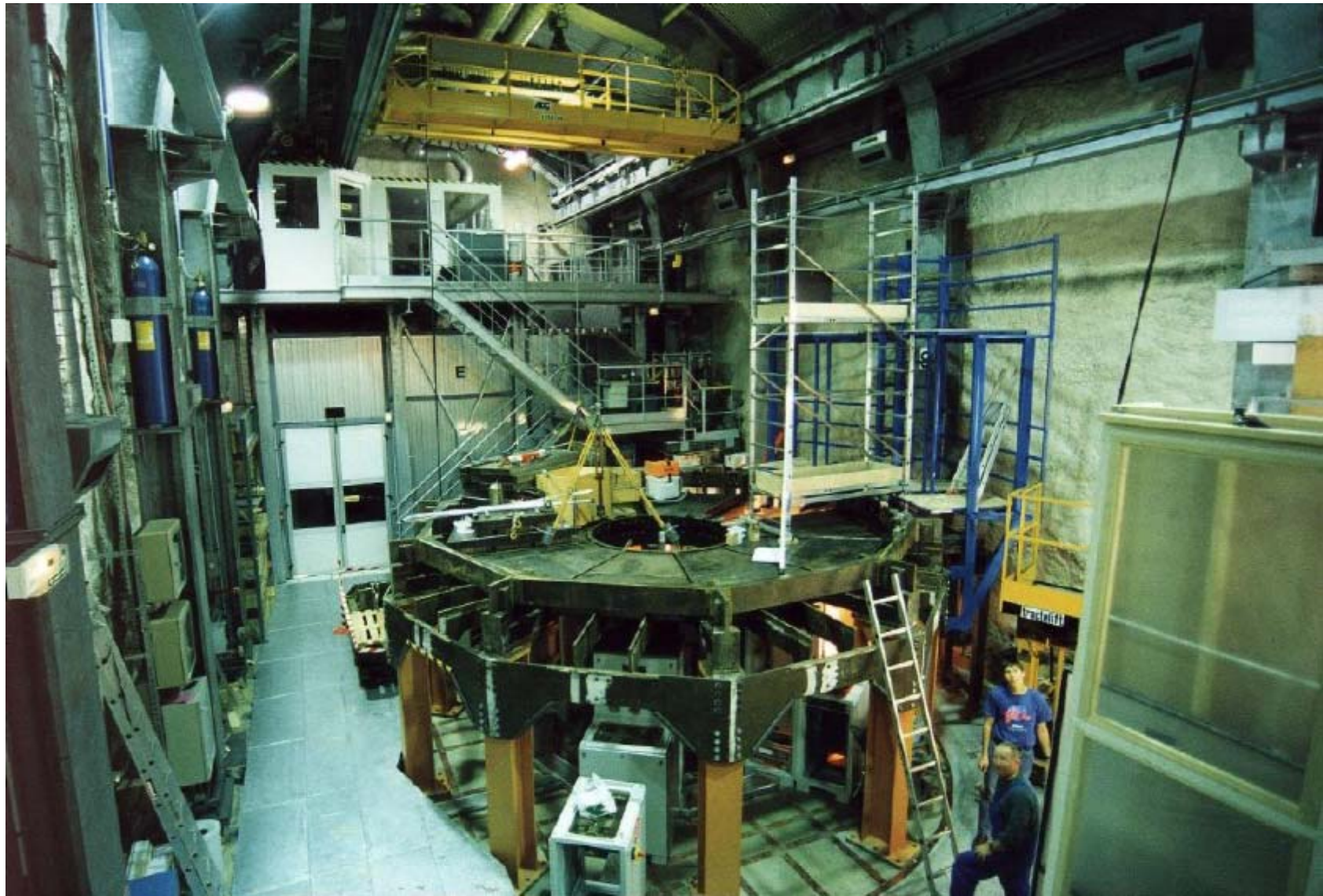
- $^{116}\text{Cd}$  405 g**  $Q_{\beta\beta} = 2805 \text{ keV}$
- $^{96}\text{Zr}$  9.4 g**  $Q_{\beta\beta} = 3350 \text{ keV}$
- $^{150}\text{Nd}$  37.0 g**  $Q_{\beta\beta} = 3367 \text{ keV}$
- $^{48}\text{Ca}$  7.0 g**  $Q_{\beta\beta} = 4272 \text{ keV}$
- $^{130}\text{Te}$  454 g**  $Q_{\beta\beta} = 2529 \text{ keV}$
- $^{\text{nat}}\text{Te}$  893 g**
- Cu 621 g**

**Detector bkg measurement**

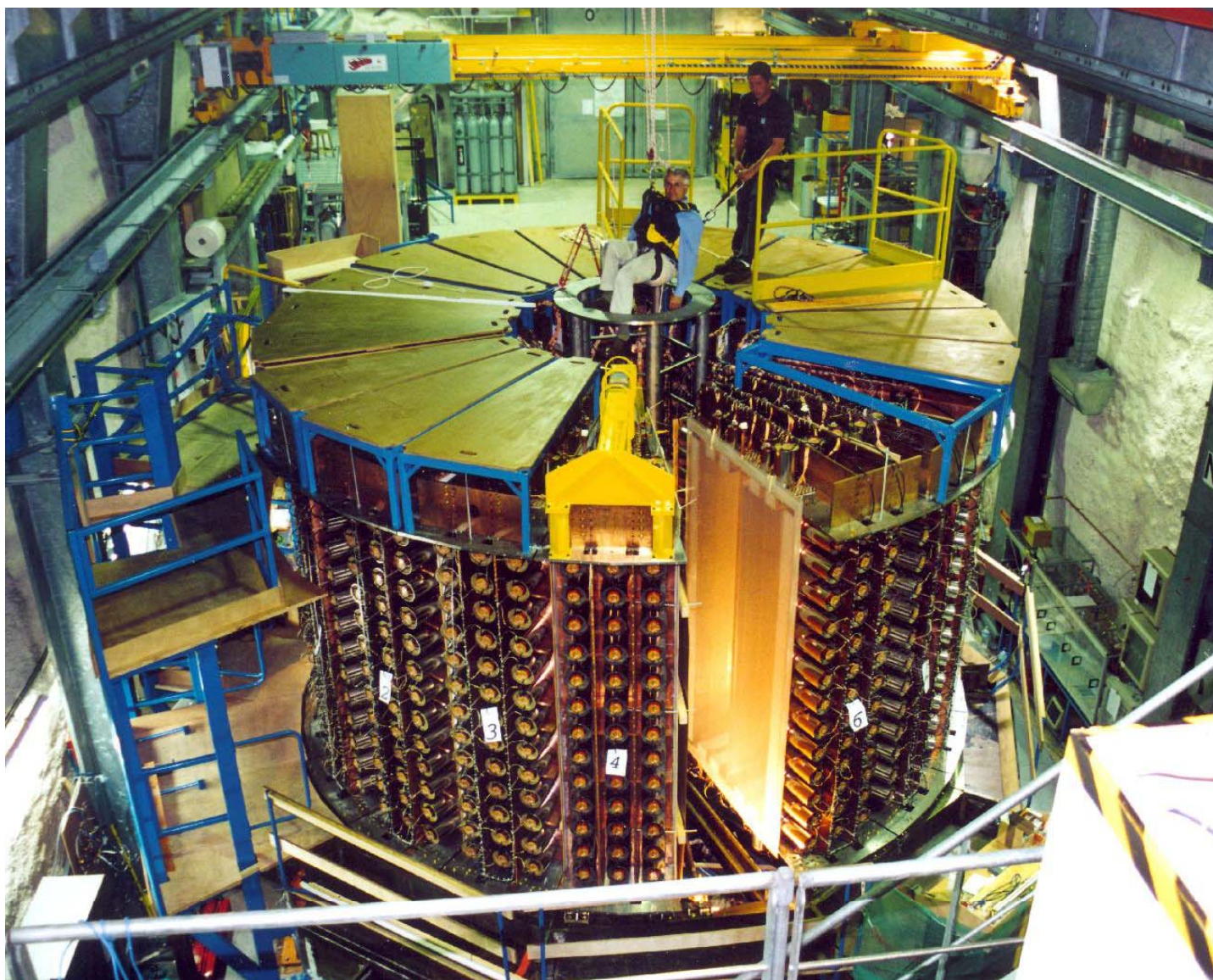
# Sector interior view



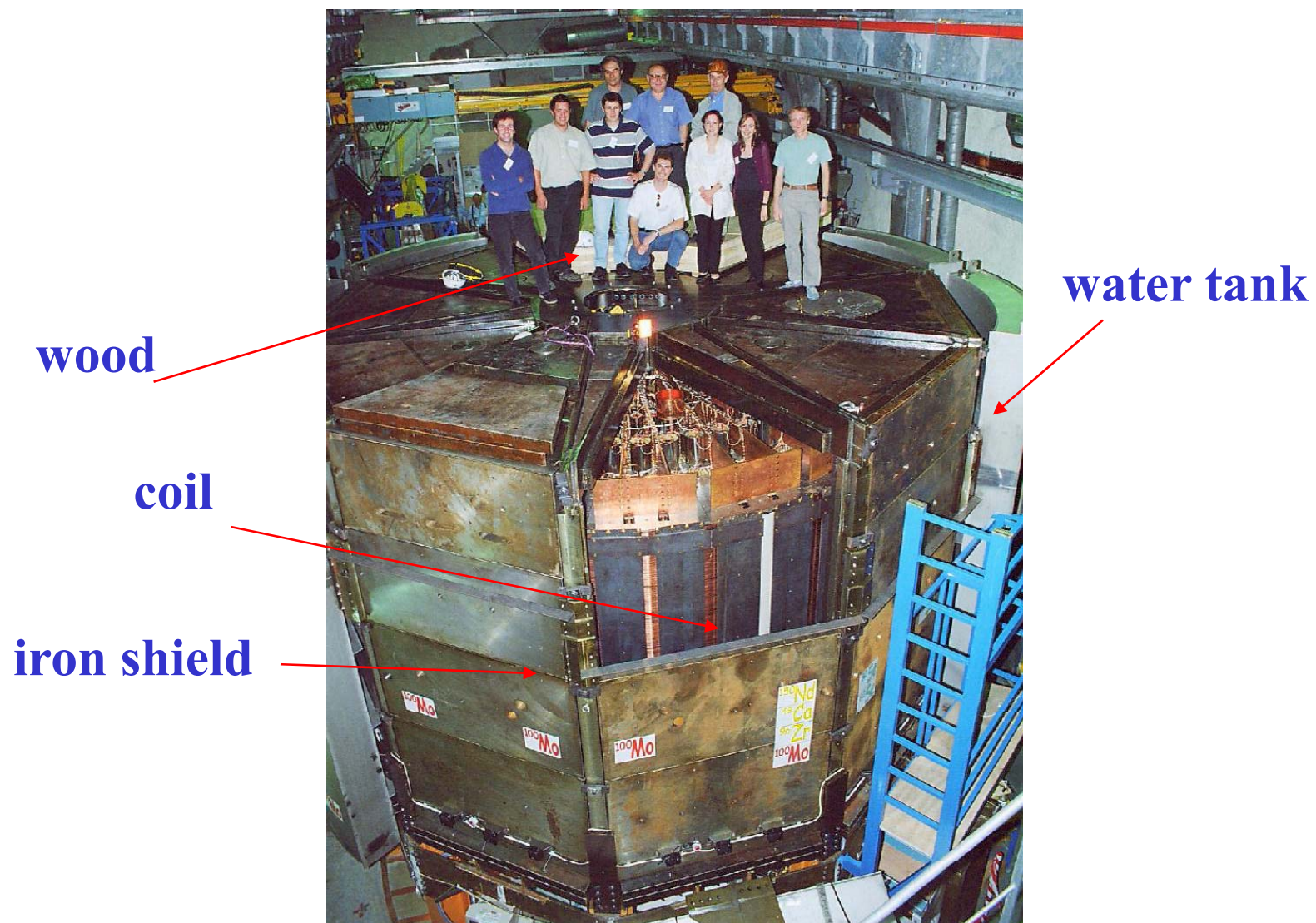
# Installation in Modane



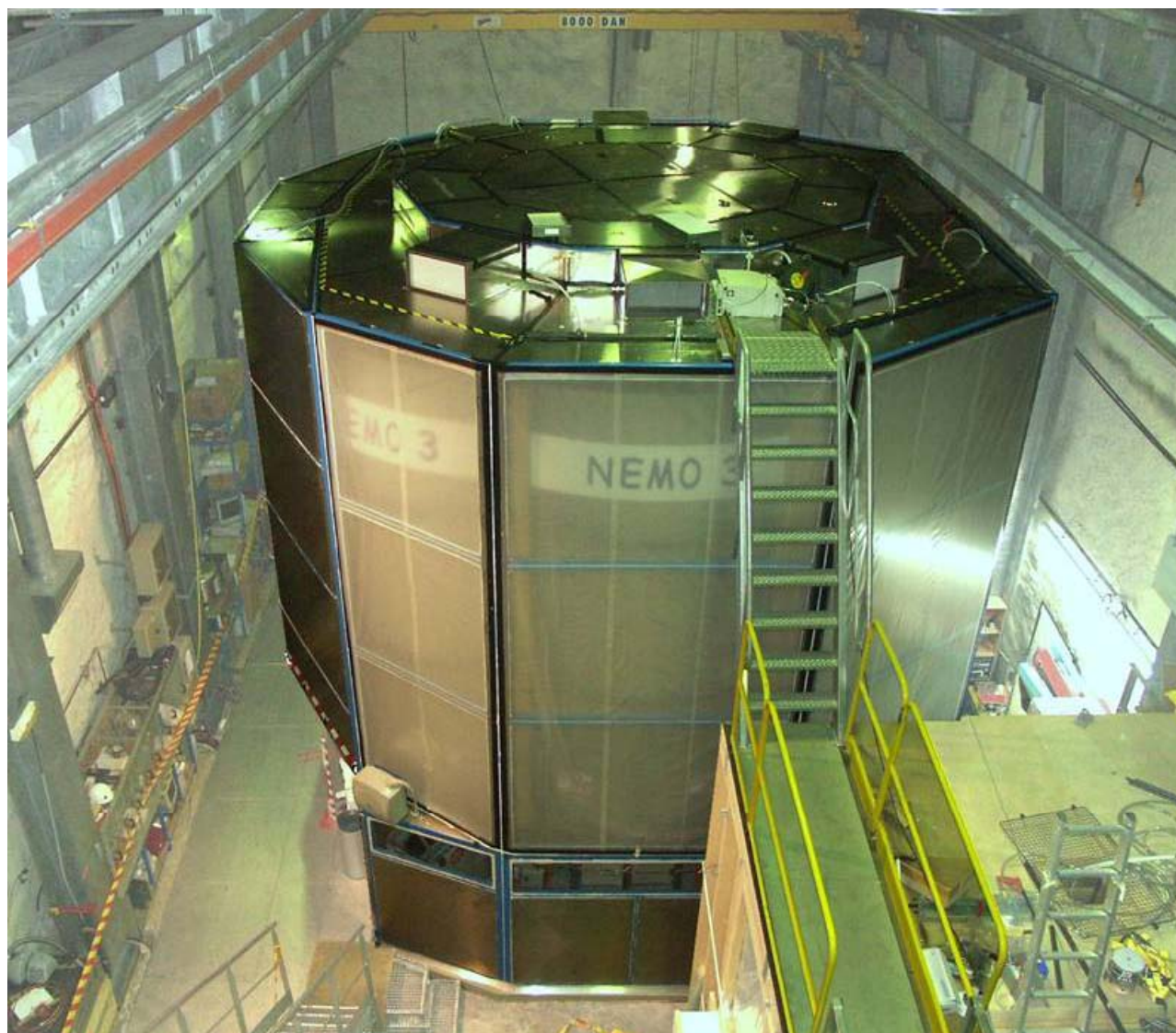
# Installation in Modane



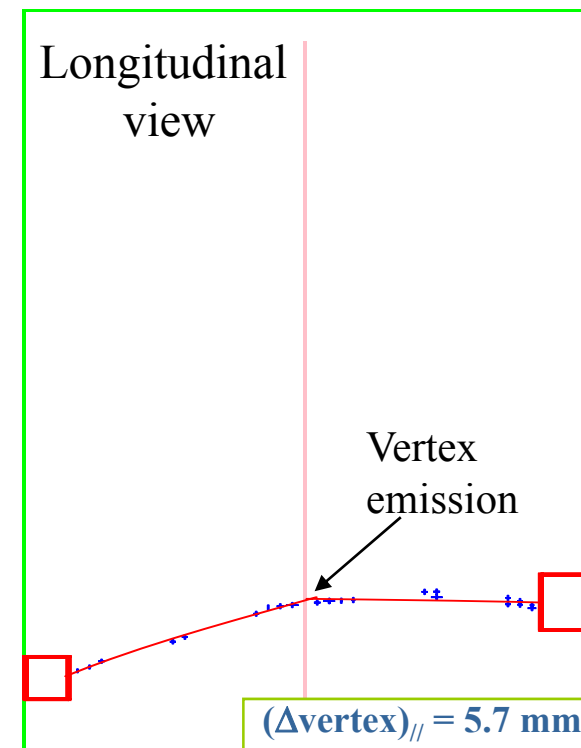
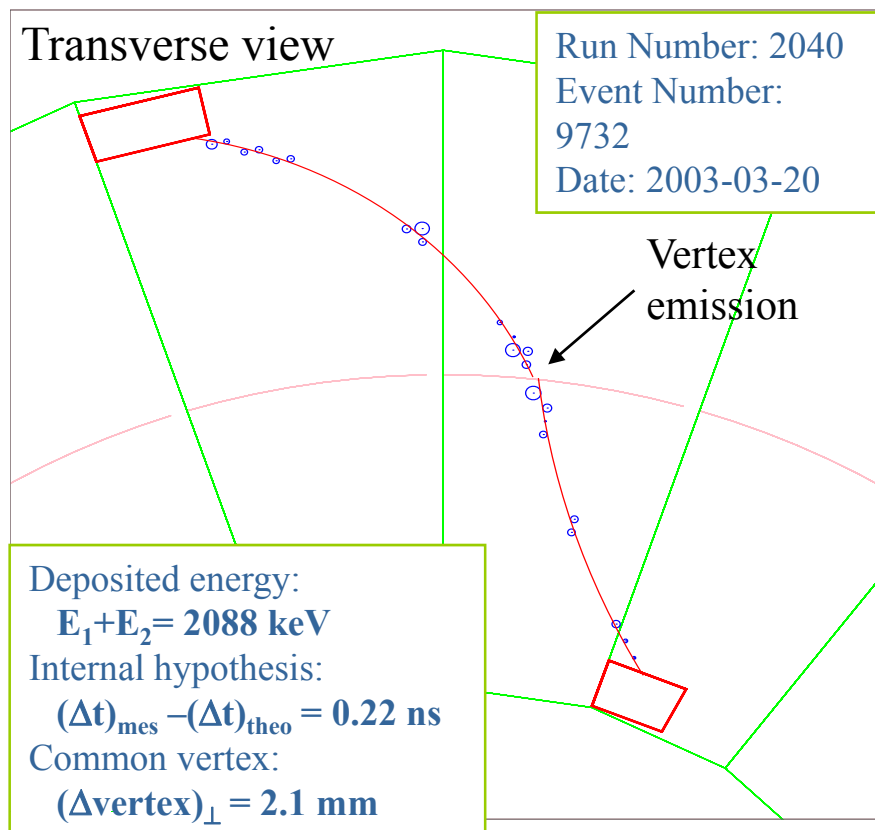
# With shielding



# Full detector now



# Typical $\beta\beta 2\nu$ event observed from $^{100}\text{Mo}$

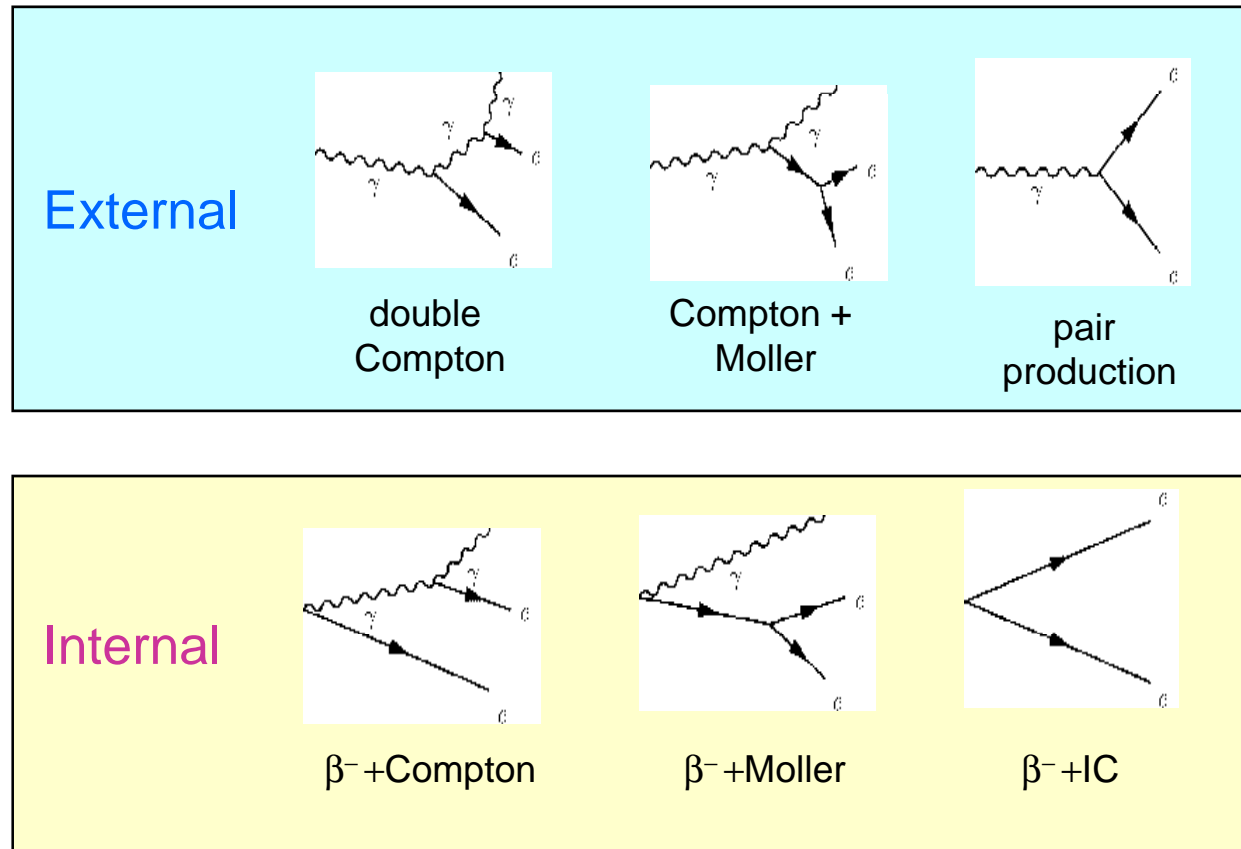


$^{100}\text{Mo}$  6.914 kg  
 $Q_{\beta\beta} = 3034 \text{ keV}$

## Criteria to select $\beta\beta$ events:

- 2 tracks with charge  $< 0$
- 2 PMT, each  $> 200 \text{ keV}$
- PMT-Track association
- Common vertex
- Internal hypothesis TOF (external event rejection)
- No other isolated PMT ( $\gamma$  rejection)
- No delayed  $\alpha$  track ( $^{214}\text{Bi}$  rejection)

- Natural radioactivity:
  - U/Th chain
  - $^{40}\text{K}$
  - Radon
- cosmic  $\mu$
- neutrons

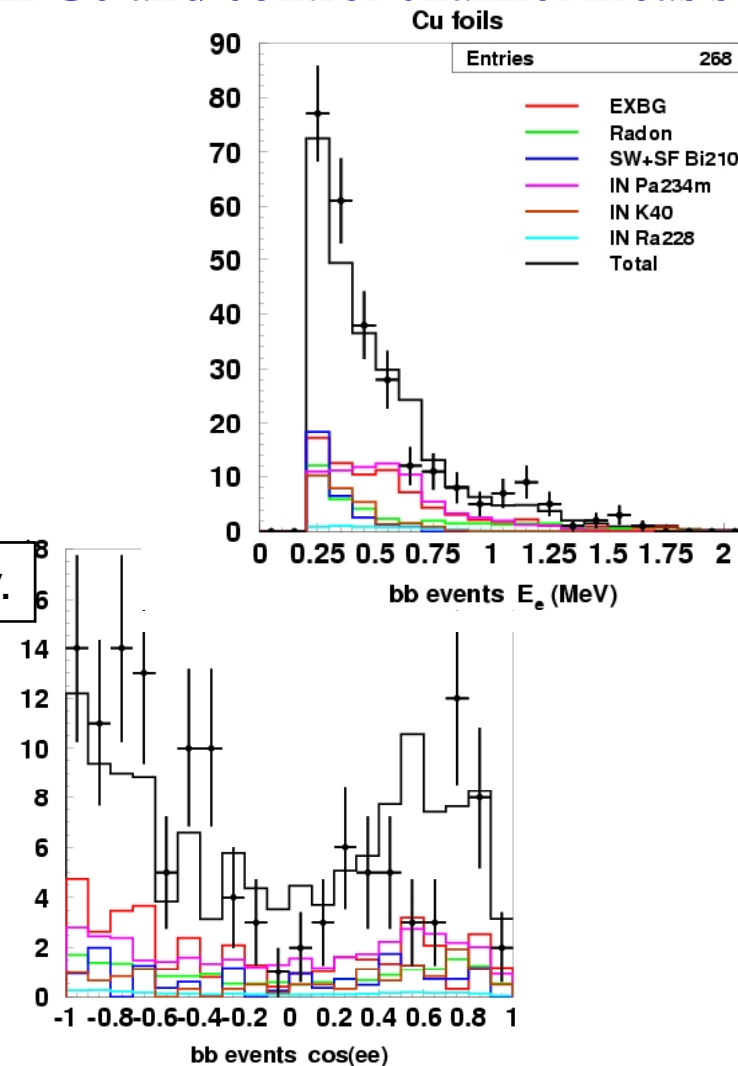
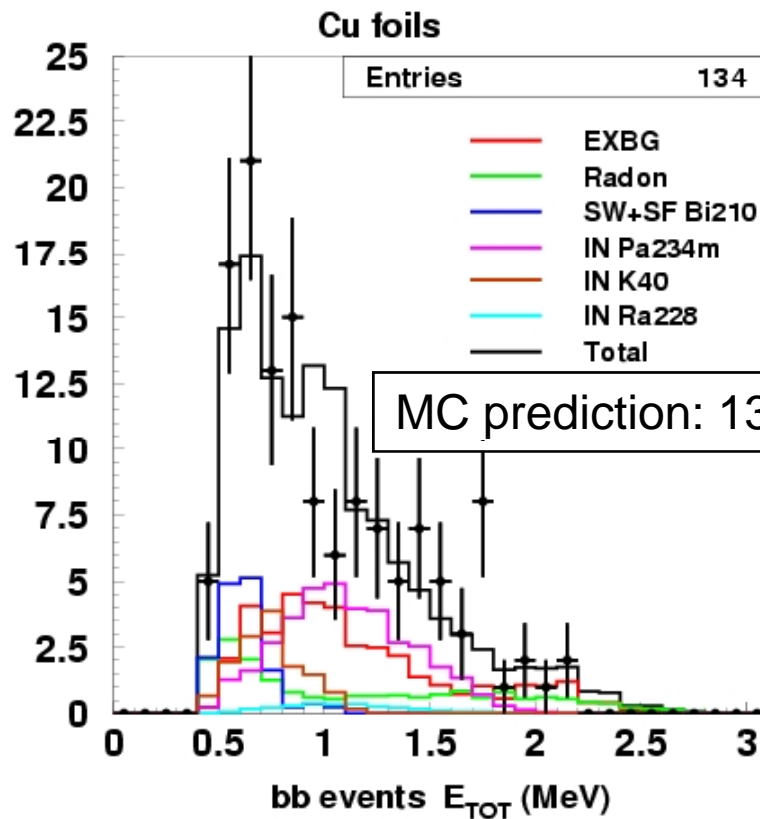


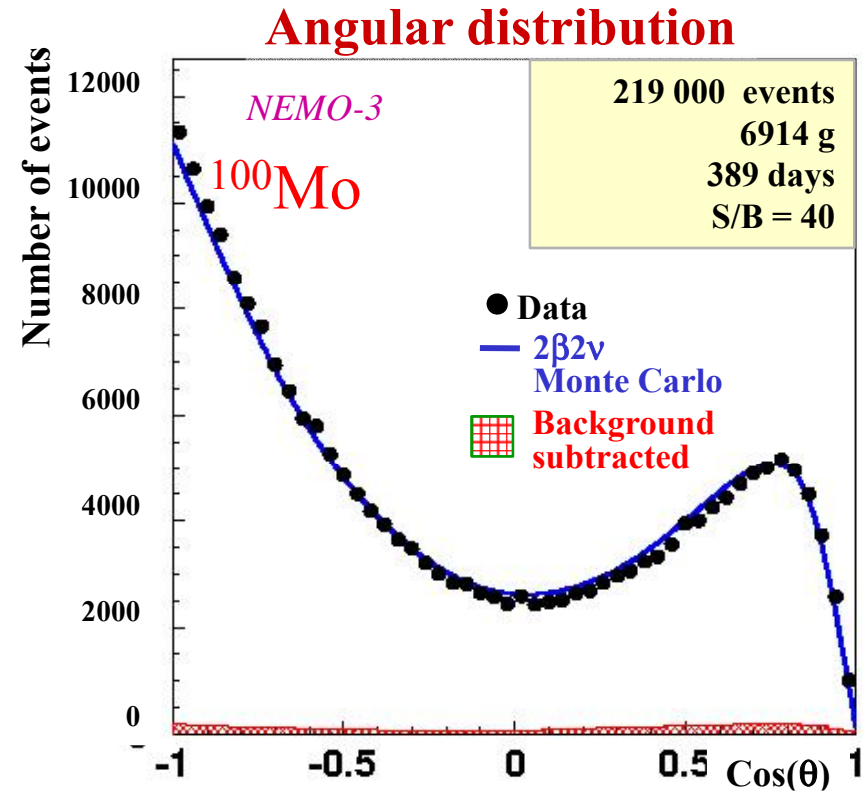
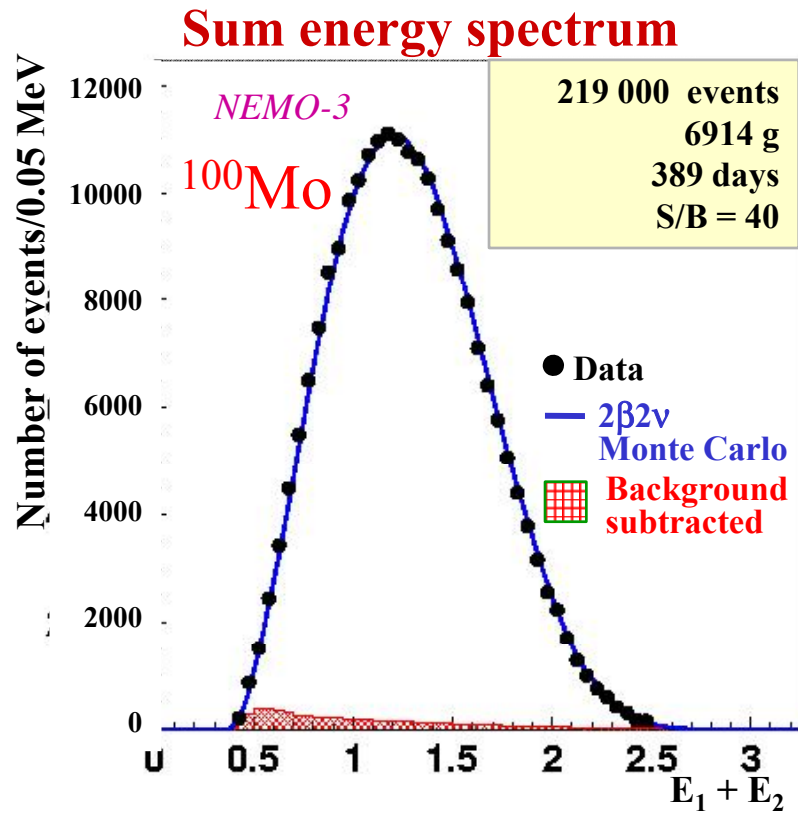


# Backgrounds: $\beta\beta$ -like events from Cu

- background sources simulated using Monte Carlo
- radioactivity rates from material tests in HPGe and control channel meas's

Phase II data; 1.5 y x 0.6 kg ~ 1 kg y.



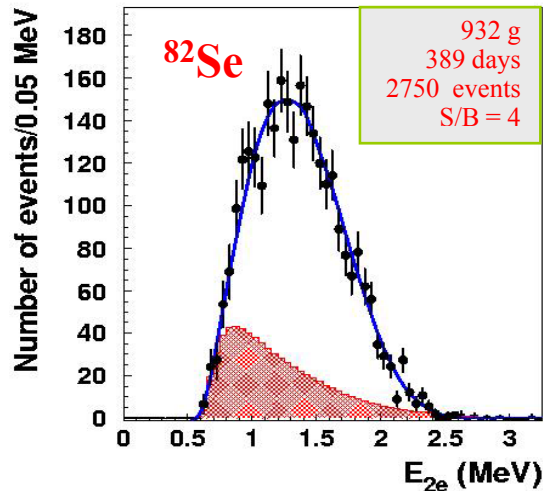


$$T_{1/2}(\beta\beta 2\nu) = 7.11 \pm 0.02 \text{ (stat)} \pm 0.54 \text{ (syst)} \times 10^{18} \text{ years}$$

*Phys. Rev. Lett.* 95 182302 (2005)

« $\beta\beta$  factory» → tool for precision test

# NEMO 3 highlights: $2\beta 2\nu$ preliminary



Preliminary results for ~360 d Phase I data. Additional statistics is being analysed and to be published soon.

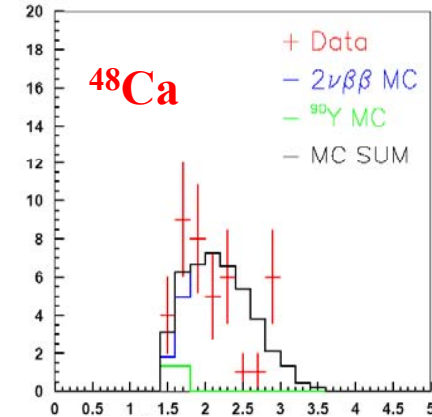
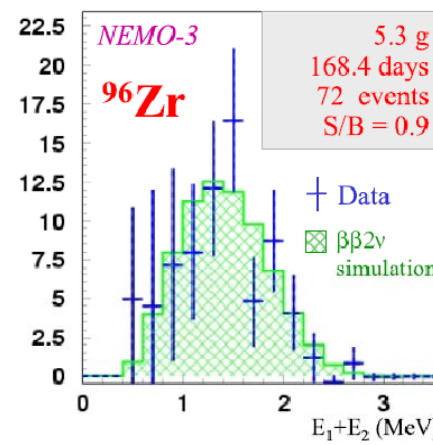
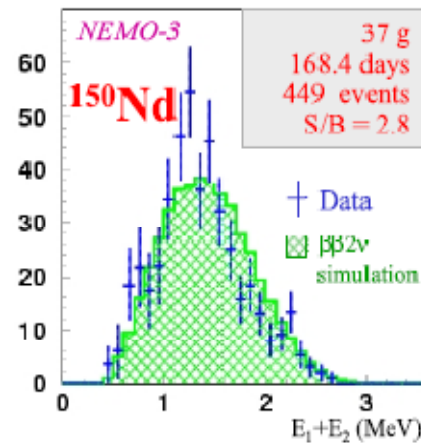
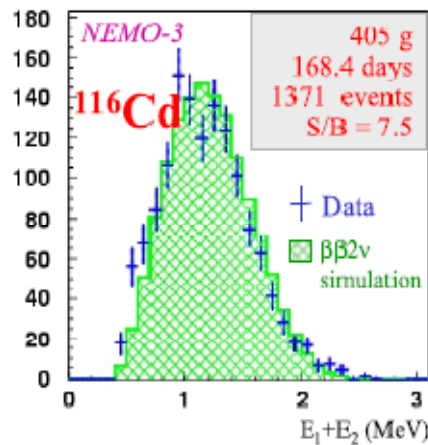
$^{82}\text{Se}$   $T_{1/2} = 9.6 \pm 0.3$  (stat)  $\pm 1.0$  (syst)  $\times 10^{19}$  y

$^{116}\text{Cd}$   $T_{1/2} = 2.8 \pm 0.1$  (stat)  $\pm 0.3$  (syst)  $\times 10^{19}$  y

$^{150}\text{Nd}$   $T_{1/2} = 9.7 \pm 0.7$  (stat)  $\pm 1.0$  (syst)  $\times 10^{18}$  y

$^{96}\text{Zr}$   $T_{1/2} = 2.0 \pm 0.3$  (stat)  $\pm 0.2$  (syst)  $\times 10^{19}$  y

$^{48}\text{Ca}$   $T_{1/2} = 3.9 \pm 0.7$  (stat)  $\pm 0.6$  (syst)  $\times 10^{19}$  y



Important ingredient for  $M_{0\nu}$  calculation in QRPA

The  $\beta\beta 2\nu$  half-life of  $^{130}\text{Te}$  has been a long-standing mystery::

Geochemical:

- $(25 \pm 2) \times 10^{20}$  years (Kirsten 83)
- $(27 \pm 2) \times 10^{20}$  years (Bernatowicz 93)
- $(7.9 \pm 1) \times 10^{20}$  years (Takaoka 96)
- $\sim 8 \times 10^{20}$  years (Manuel 91)

Difference between ‘old’ and ‘young’ ores due to time dependence of constants..?

Ratio of  $^{82}\text{Se}/^{130}\text{Te}$  (less systematic):

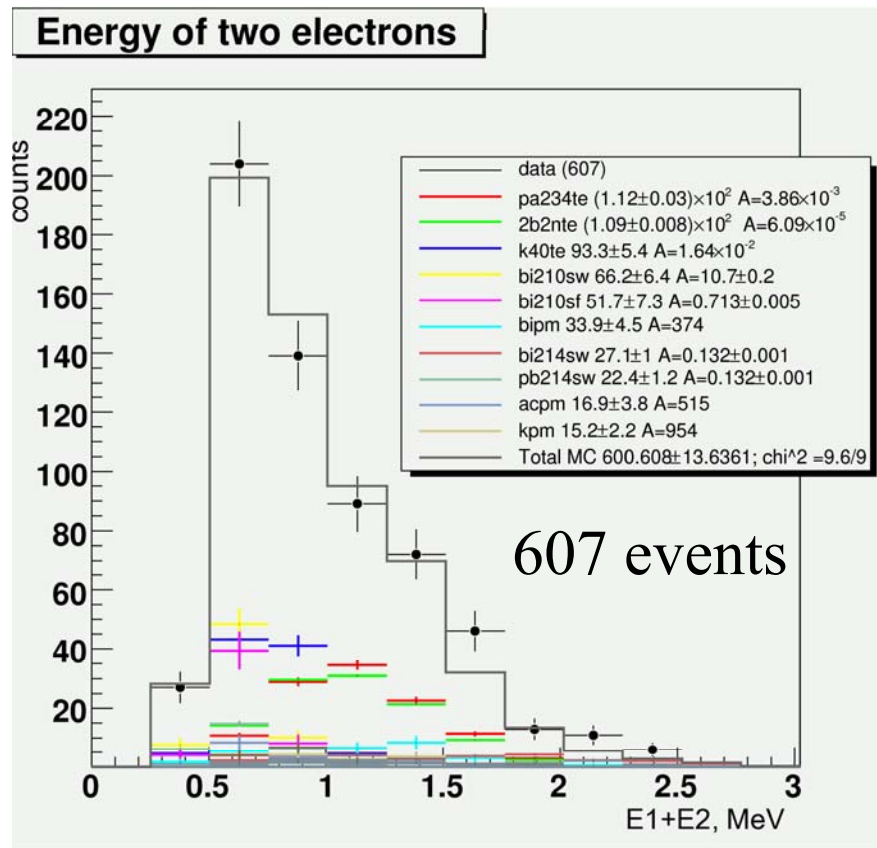
- $(9 \pm 1) \times 10^{20}$  years (average by A. Barabash)

Direct measurement:

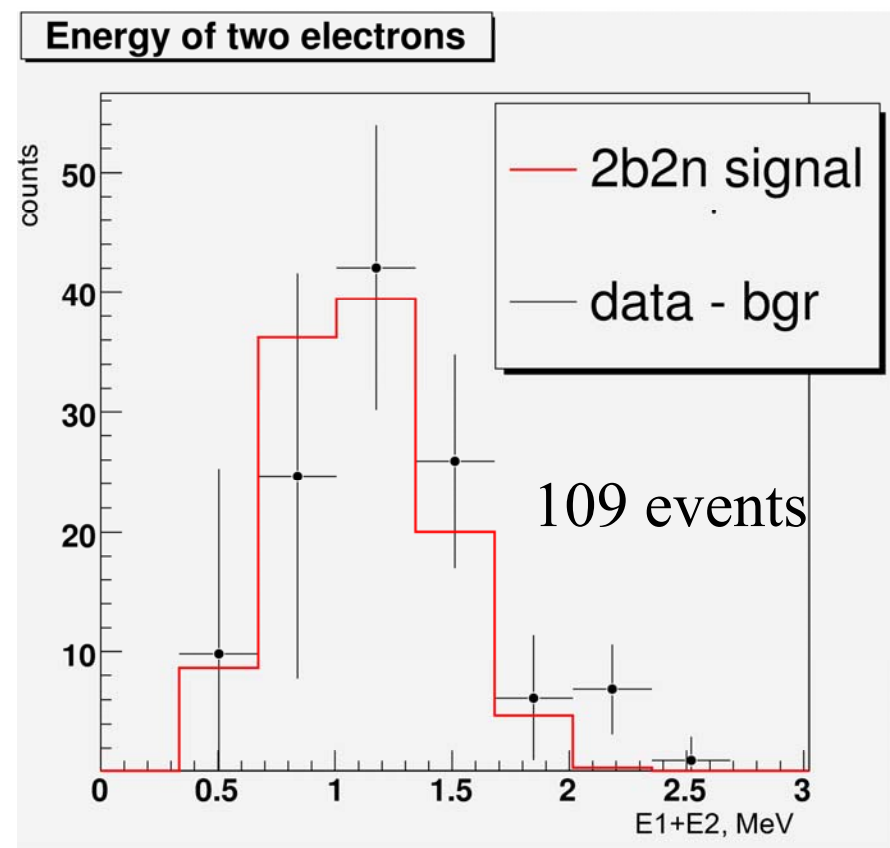
- $(6.1 \pm 1.4 \text{ (syst)} \pm {}^{2.9}_{3.4} \text{ (stat)}) \times 10^{20}$  years (Arnaboldi 2003)

# NEW in 2007: direct meas. of $^{130}\text{Te}$ $2\beta 2\nu$

$$T_{1/2}^{2\nu\beta\beta} = (7.6 \pm 1.5(\text{stat}) \pm 0.8(\text{syst})) \cdot 10^{20} \text{ years}$$



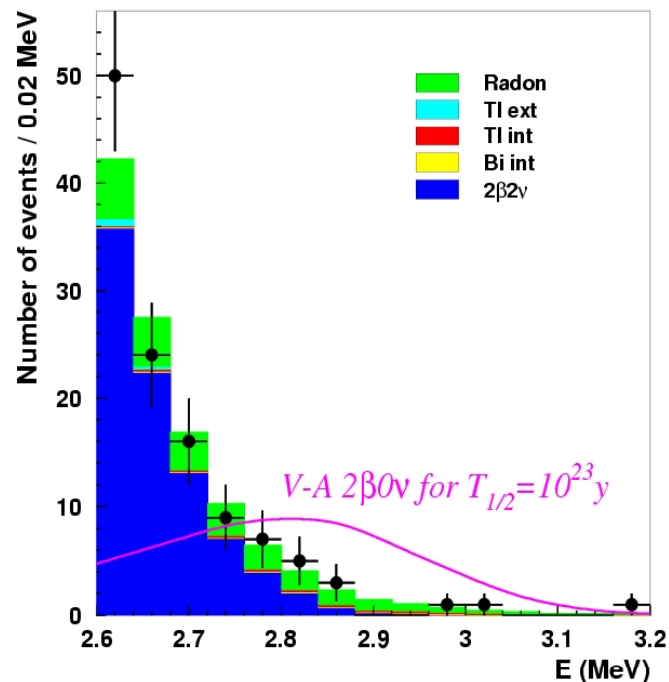
534 days, 454 g of  $^{130}\text{Te}$



background subtracted

# NEMO 3 highlights: $2\beta 0\nu$ $^{100}\text{Mo}$ & $^{82}\text{Se}$

$^{100}\text{Mo}$ , Phase I + II, 693 days



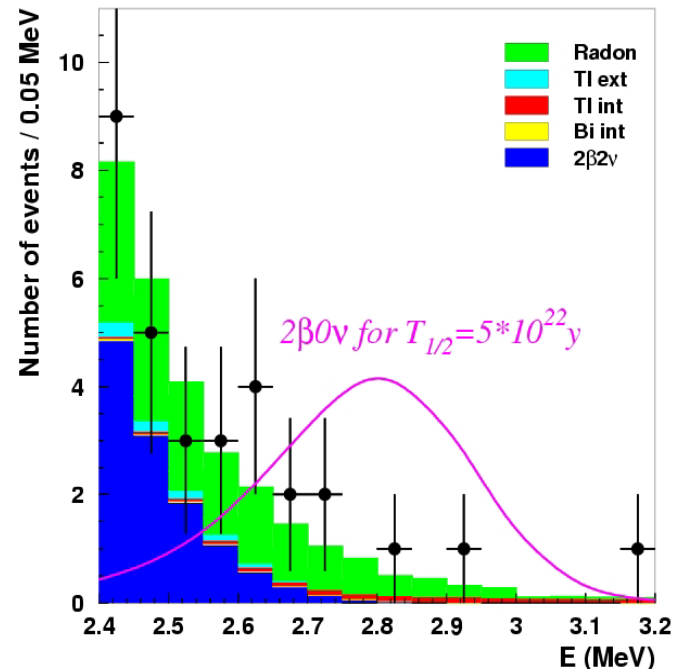
$$T_{1/2}^{\beta\beta 0\nu} > 5.8 \times 10^{23} \text{ (90 \% CL)}$$

$$\langle m_\nu \rangle^* < 0.8 - 1.3 \text{ eV}$$

$$\lambda'_{111} < 1.5 \cdot 10^{-4}$$

expected in 2009:  $T_{1/2}^{\beta\beta 0\nu} > 2 \times 10^{24}$  (90 % CL)  
 $\langle m_\nu \rangle^* < 0.4 - 0.7 \text{ eV}$

$^{82}\text{Se}$ , Phase I + II, 693 days



$$T_{1/2}^{\beta\beta 0\nu} > 2.1 \times 10^{23} \text{ (90 \% CL)}$$

$$\langle m_\nu \rangle^* < 1.4 - 2.2 \text{ eV}$$

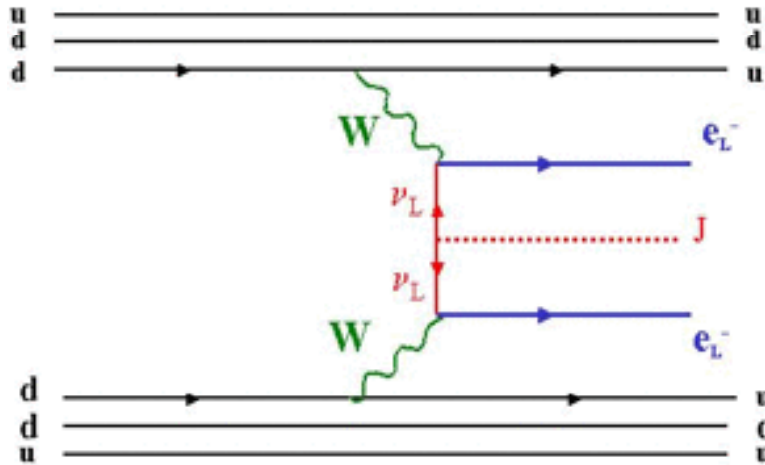
$$\lambda'_{111} < 2.5 \cdot 10^{-4}$$

$T_{1/2}^{\beta\beta 0\nu} > 8 \times 10^{23}$  (90 % CL)  
 $\langle m_\nu \rangle^* < 0.7 - 1.1 \text{ eV}$

- Collaboration decided to perform blind analysis with mock data
- Plan to open the box and update the results ~ summer 2008 and again ~ early 2010.

\* Recent QRPA NME calculation as in MEDEX'07

# 'Majoron' search

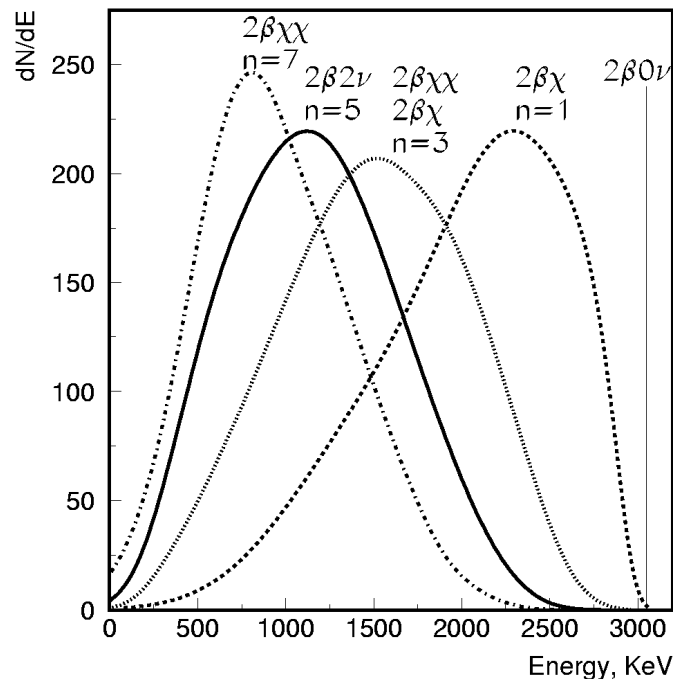


Lepton number violation due to local symmetry breaking

Axions  $\chi$  ('Majorons') with coupling to neutrinos

$$(A, Z) \rightarrow (A, Z + 2) + 2e^- + \chi^0(\chi^0)$$

best limits



|    | n=1 **  | n=2 **               | n=3 **               | n=7 **             |
|----|---|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Mo | $>2.7 \cdot 10^{22}$<br>$g < (0.4-1.8) \cdot 10^{-4}$ | $>1.7 \cdot 10^{22}$ | $>1.0 \cdot 10^{22}$ | $>7 \cdot 10^{19}$ |
| Se | $>1.5 \cdot 10^{22}$<br>$g < (0.7-1.9) \cdot 10^{-4}$ | $>6.0 \cdot 10^{21}$ | $>3.1 \cdot 10^{21}$ | $>5.0 \cdot 10^2$  |

n: spectral index, limits on half-life in years

\*\* PI data, *R. Arnold et al. Nucl. Phys. A765 (2006) 483*

# SuperNEMO project



# From NEMO-3 to SuperNEMO

$$T_{1/2}(\beta\beta 0\nu) > \ln 2 \times \frac{N_A}{A} \times \frac{M \times \epsilon \times T_{\text{obs}}}{N_{90\% \text{ CL}}}$$

| NEMO-3  | isotope   | SuperNEMO   |
|---|---|---|
| $^{100}\text{Mo}$   | isotope   | $^{150}\text{Nd}$ or $^{82}\text{Se}$   |
| 7 kg  | isotope mass $M$  | 100-200 kg  |
| 8 %   | efficiency $\epsilon$   | ~ 30 %  |
| $^{208}\text{Tl}$ : < 20 $\mu\text{Bq/kg}$<br>$^{214}\text{Bi}$ : < 300 $\mu\text{Bq/kg}$ | internal contaminations<br>$^{208}\text{Tl}$ and $^{214}\text{Bi}$ in the $\beta\beta$ foil | $^{208}\text{Tl}$ < 2 $\mu\text{Bq/kg}$<br>if $^{82}\text{Se}$ : $^{214}\text{Bi}$ < 10 $\mu\text{Bq/kg}$ |
| 8% @ 3MeV   | energy resolution (FWHM)  | 4% @ 3 MeV  |
| $T_{1/2}(\beta\beta 0\nu) > 2 \times 10^{24}$ y<br>< $m_\nu$ > < 0.4 – 0.7 eV             |   | $T_{1/2}(\beta\beta 0\nu) > 2 \times 10^{26}$ y<br>< $m_\nu$ > < 40 – 70 meV                              |

# Very preliminary SuperNEMO design

**Planar and modular design:  $\sim 100$  kg of isotope ( $\sim 20$  modules  $\times$  5-7 kg)**

**1 module:**

**Source ( $\sim 40$  mg/cm<sup>2</sup>) 4 (length)  $\times$  3 (height) m<sup>2</sup>**

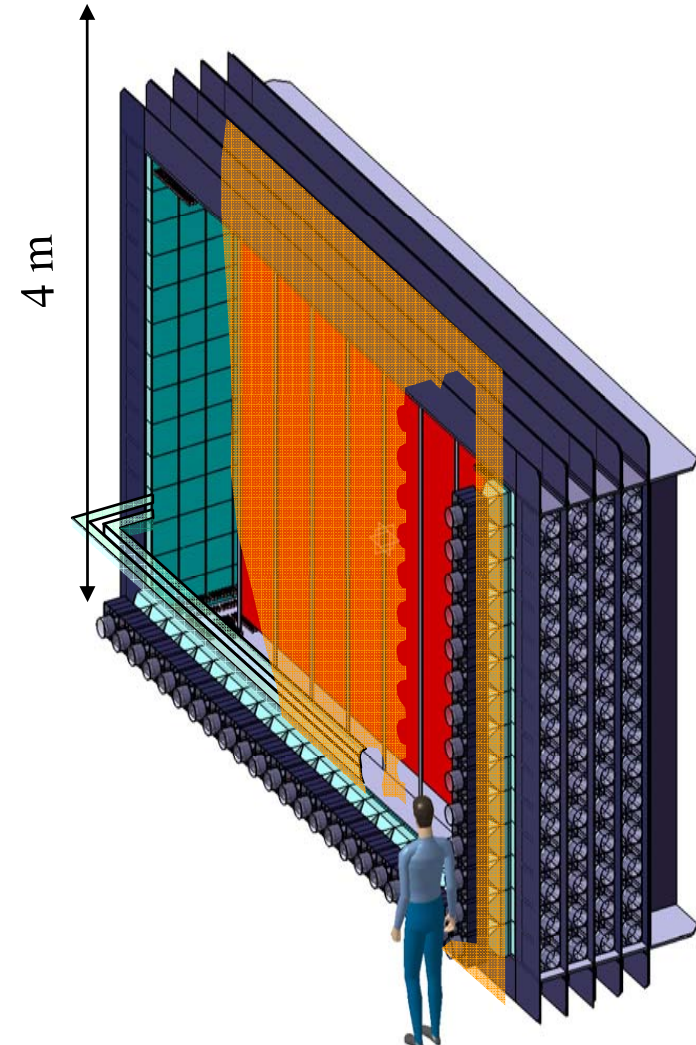
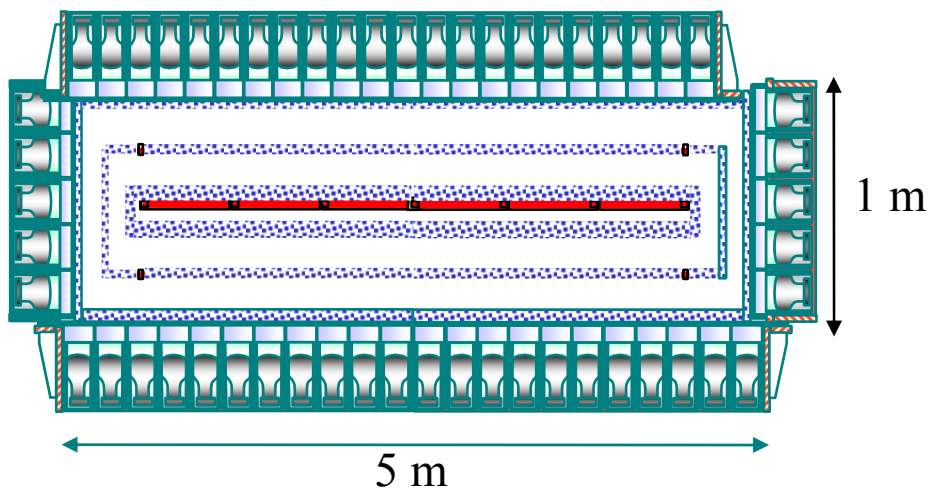
**Tracking : drift chamber  $\sim 3000$  cells in Geiger mode**

**Calorimeter: scintillators + PM**

**$\sim 1\,000$  PM if scint. blocks**

**$\sim 100$  PM if scint. bars**

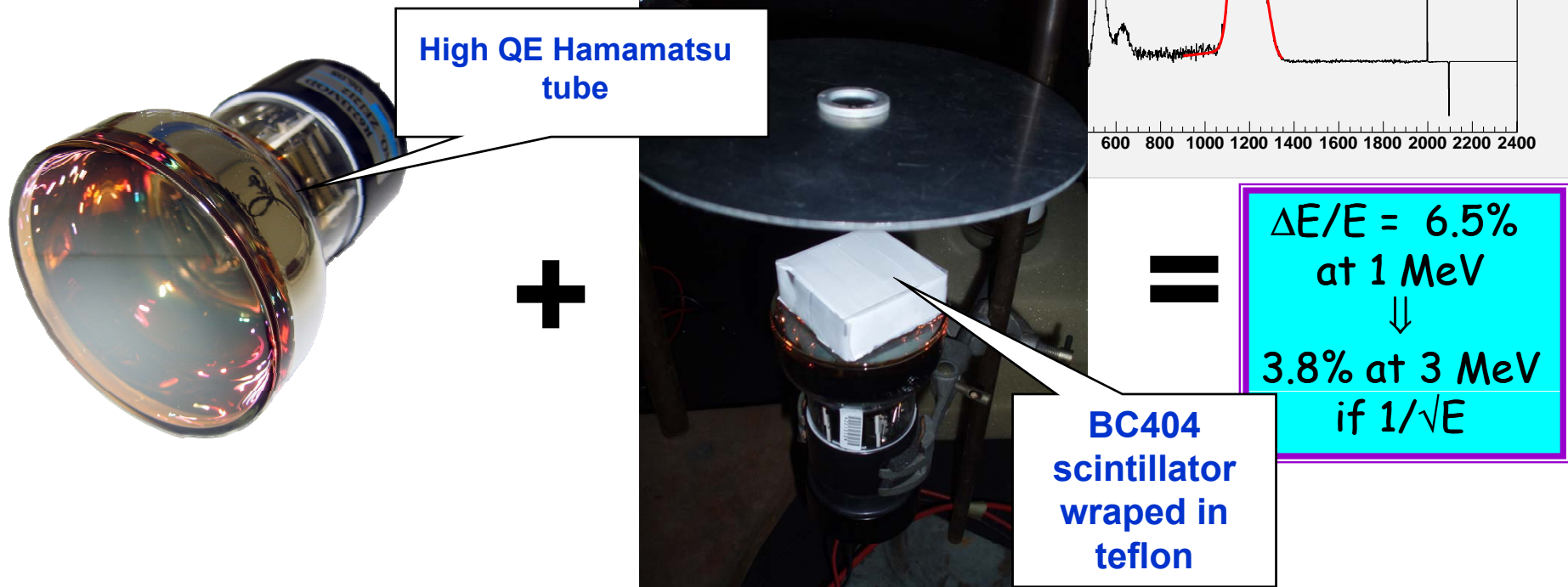
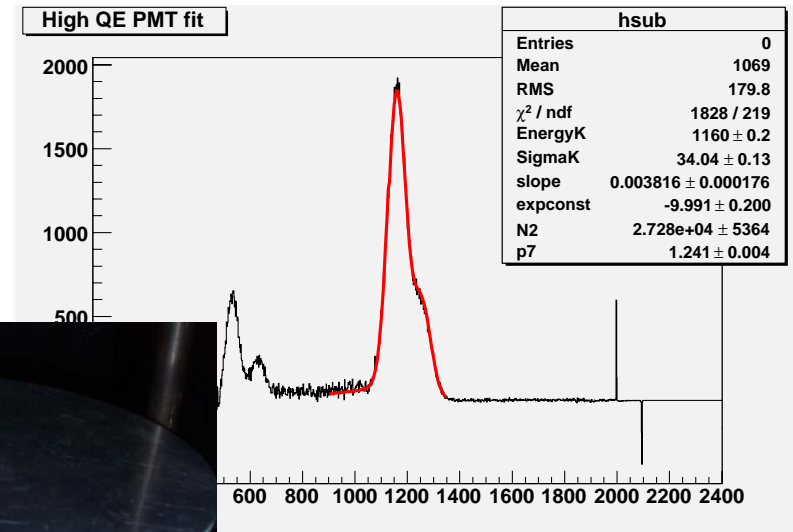
Top view



# R&D: SuperNEMO calorimeter

- Goal:  $\text{FWHM} \approx 7\%/\sqrt{E} \Rightarrow 4\%$  at 3 MeV (Currently 14-16% $\sqrt{E}$  in NEMO3)
- A combination of energy losses in the foil and calorimeter  $\text{DE}/E$
- Studies

- Organic (plastic or liquid),
- Shape, size, coating
- PMTs (Photonis, Hamamatsu, ETL)
- Light guides, optical contact
- Chemistry

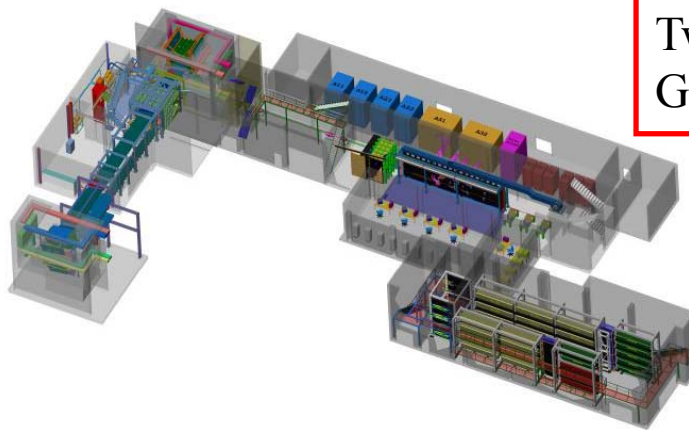


# R&D: isotope enrichment/ purification

- 4 kg of  $^{82}\text{Se}$  funded by ILIAS have been delivered from Russia.
- purification at ILN (US) underway
- enrichment of Nd possible in France (MENPHIS, currently mothballed)

Choice of nucleus depends on:

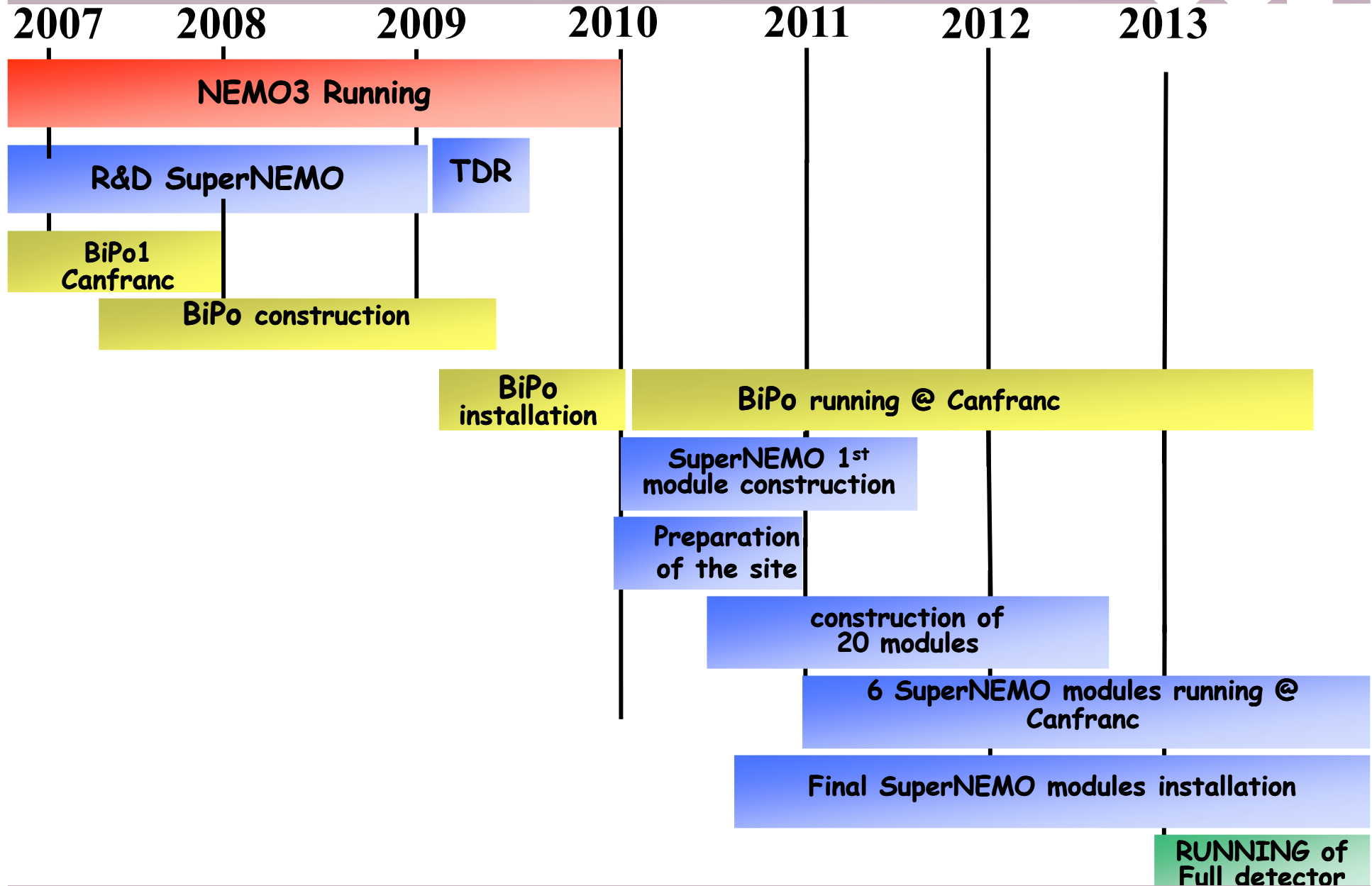
- enrichment possibilities
- high  $Q_{\beta\beta}$  value
  - larger phase space
  - lower non- $\beta\beta$  background
- small  $\beta\beta 2\nu$  contribution



Two main options:  
 $G_{0\nu}(^{150}\text{Nd}) / G_{0\nu}(^{82}\text{Se}) = 8$

|   | $Q_{\beta\beta}$<br>(MeV) | Isotopic<br>Abundance |
|---|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| $^{48}\text{Ca} \rightarrow ^{48}\text{Ti}$   | 4.271                     | 0.187                 |
| $^{76}\text{Ge} \rightarrow ^{76}\text{Se}$   | 2.040                     | 7.8                   |
| $^{82}\text{Se} \rightarrow ^{82}\text{Kr}$   | 2.995                     | 9.2                   |
| $^{96}\text{Zr} \rightarrow ^{96}\text{Mo}$   | 3.350                     | 2.8                   |
| $^{100}\text{Mo} \rightarrow ^{100}\text{Ru}$ | 3.034                     | 9.6                   |
| $^{110}\text{Pd} \rightarrow ^{110}\text{Cd}$ | 2.013                     | 11.8                  |
| $^{116}\text{Cd} \rightarrow ^{116}\text{Sn}$ | 2.802                     | 7.5                   |
| $^{124}\text{Sn} \rightarrow ^{124}\text{Te}$ | 2.228                     | 5.64                  |
| $^{130}\text{Te} \rightarrow ^{130}\text{Xe}$ | 2.533                     | 34.5                  |
| $^{136}\text{Xe} \rightarrow ^{136}\text{Ba}$ | 2.479                     | 8.9                   |
| $^{150}\text{Nd} \rightarrow ^{150}\text{Sm}$ | 3.367                     | 5.6                   |

# SuperNEMO schedule summary



NEMO's Tracking+Calorimetry approach is unique:

- high background rejection
- choice of isotopes
- reconstruction of kinematics

NEMO 3 is taking data:

- $\beta\beta 2\nu$  factory, important for understanding of backgrounds and NME
- limits on  $\beta\beta 0\nu$  using different isotopes:
  - $T_{1/2}(0\nu) > 5.8 \times 10^{23}$  y @ 90% CL for  $^{100}\text{Mo} \rightarrow \langle m_\nu \rangle < 0.8\text{-}1.3$  eV (693 days);  $\lambda'_{111} < 1.5 \times 10^{-4}$
- limits on Majoron's coupling
- $T_{1/2}(2\nu) = (7.6 \pm 1.5 \text{ (stat)} \pm 0.8 \text{ (syst)}) \times 10^{20}$  y for  $^{130}\text{Te}$

SuperNEMO R&D approved in France, the UK and Spain; TDR expected in 2008; full 20 modules in 2012-2013

- choice of isotopes:  $^{82}\text{Se}$  or  $^{150}\text{Nd}$



If observed, **how to determine mechanism**:  $\nu$  mass, SUSY, V+A ... ???

- measure kinematical parameters: angular correlation, individual electron energy!
- measure several isotopes!
- measure  $\beta\beta 0\nu$  decay to excited state of final nuclei!

## Calorimetry plus tracking approach:

Detection of both electrons, three kinematic observables: individual electron energies; angular correlation; energy sum

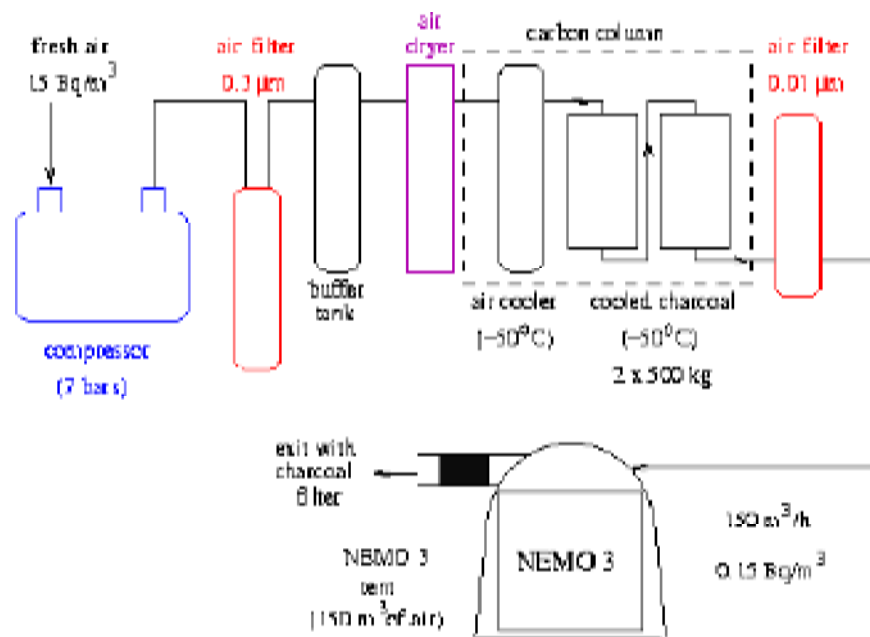
Sources separated from the detector: measure  $T_{1/2}$  for several isotopes

Particle identification:  $e^-$ ,  $\gamma$ ; good signature for decay to excited states

## Unique and complementary



# Backgrounds: Radon purification facility



Running since Oct. 4th, 2004 in Fréjus Underground Lab.

1 ton charcoal @  $-50^\circ\text{C}$ , 7 bars

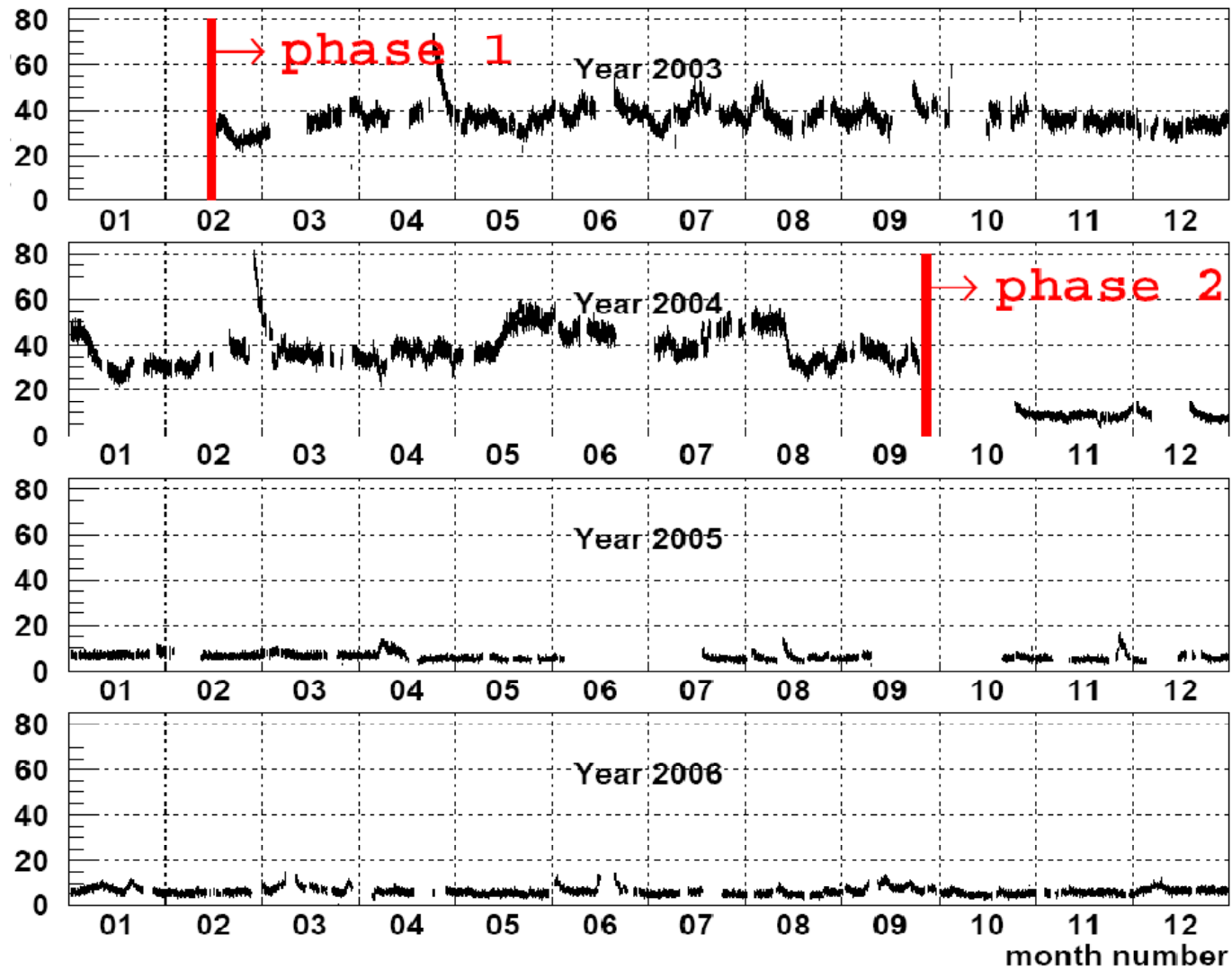
**Flux:  $150 \text{ m}^3/\text{h}$**

**Activity of  $^{222}\text{Rn}$  :**

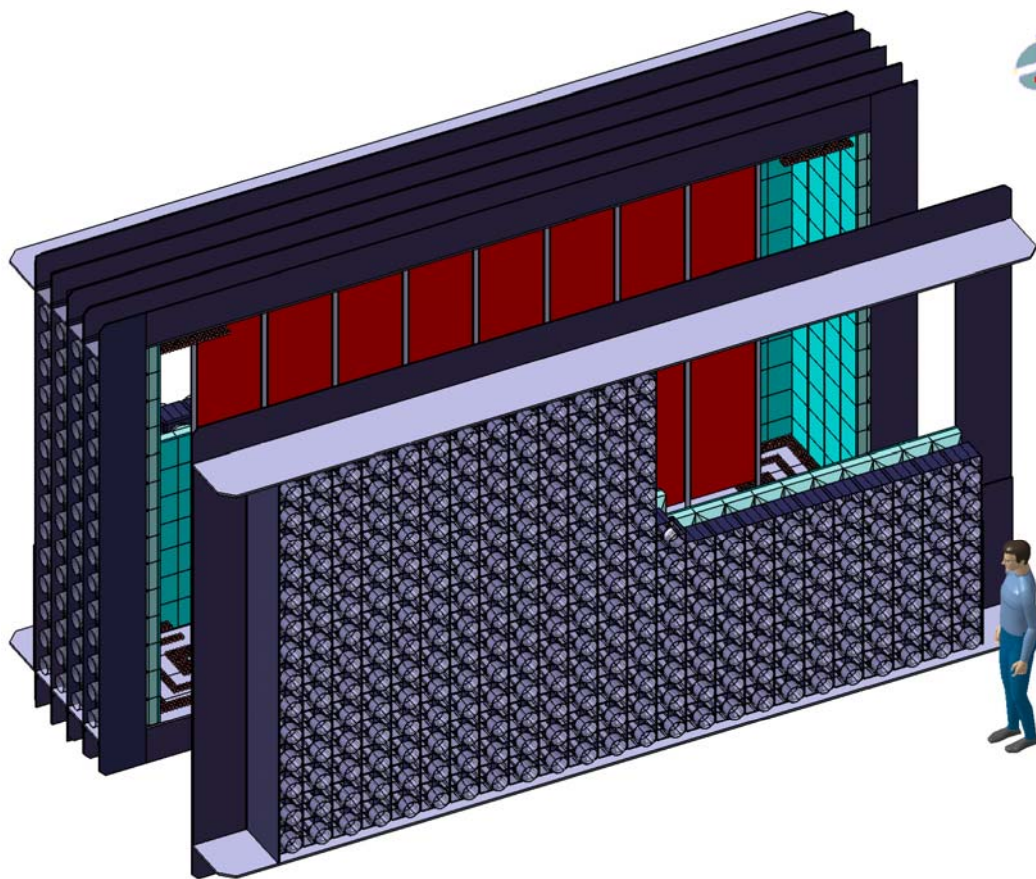
**Before Facility =  $15 \text{ Bq/m}^3$**

**After Facility <  $15 \text{ mBq/m}^3$**

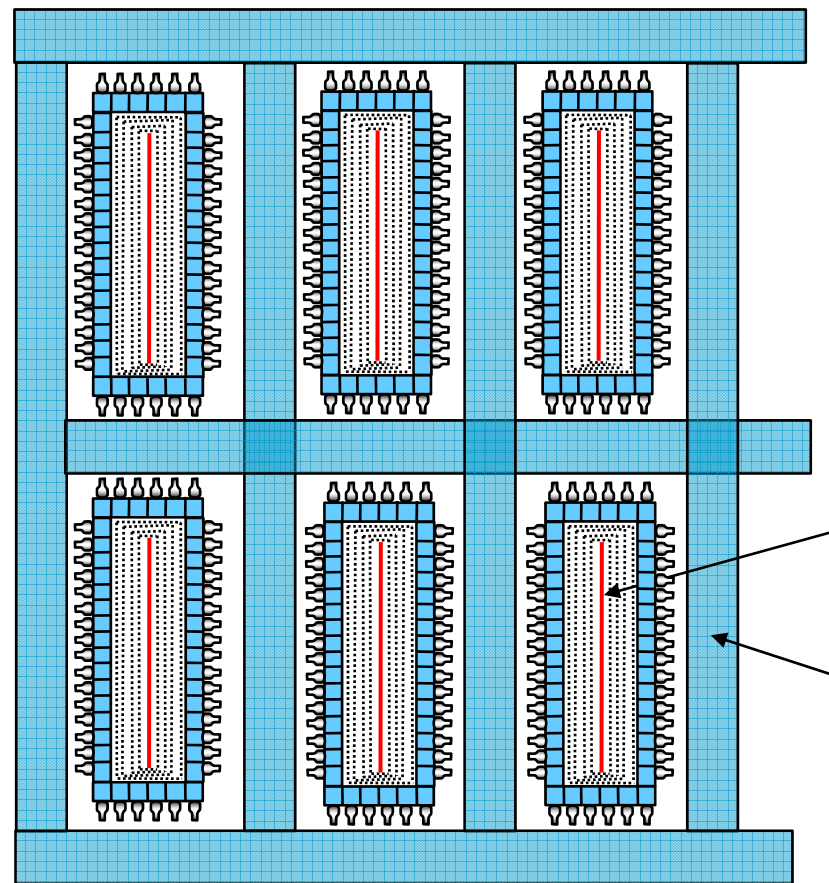
# Radon purification facility, effect inside NEMO3



# Very preliminary SuperNEMO design

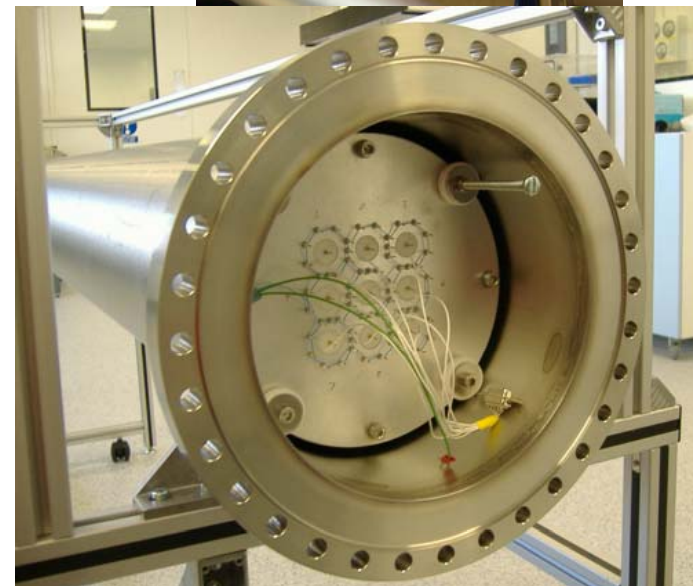


Single sub-module  
with  $\sim 7$  kg of isotope



$\sim 20$  sub-modules for 100+ kg of isotope  
surrounded by shielding

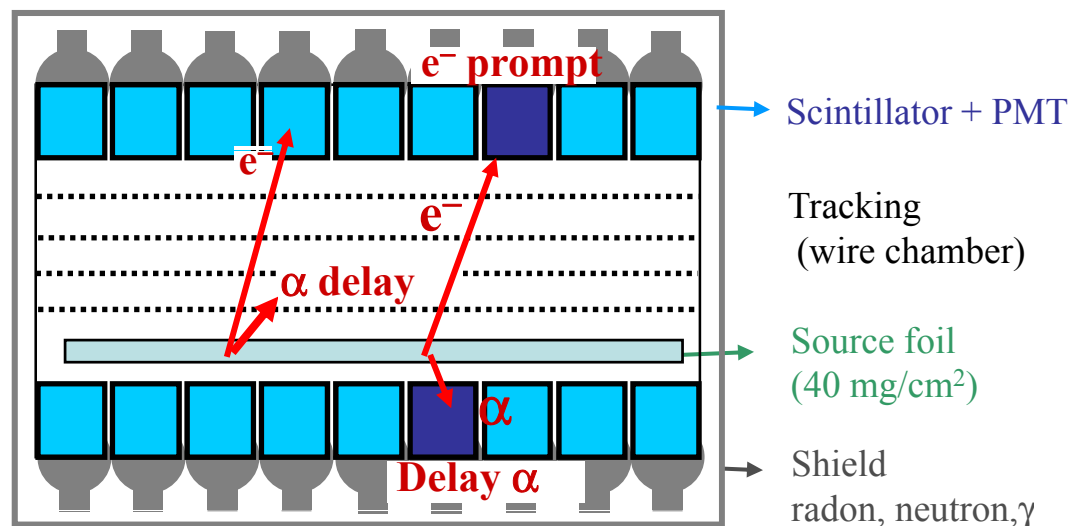
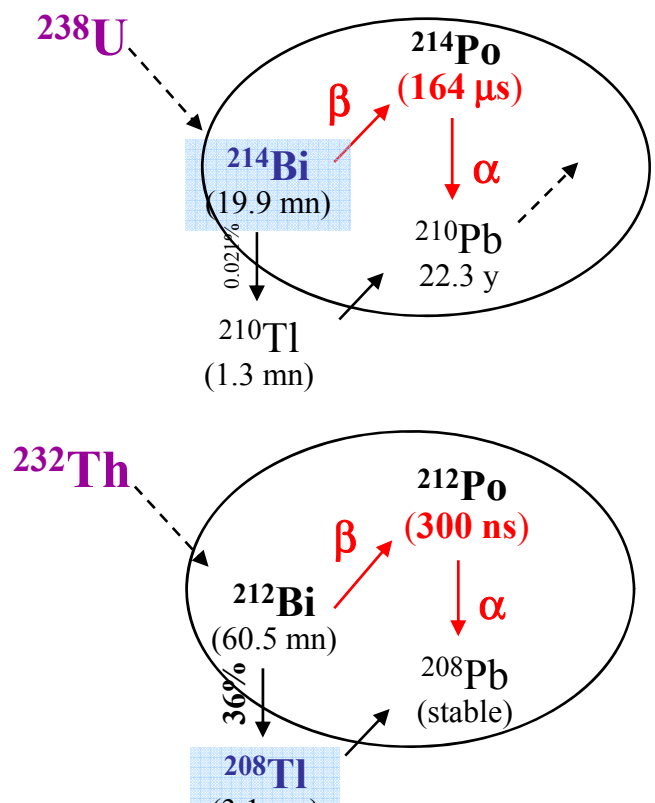
- ❑ optimize:
  - wire length and diameter
  - wire material and diameter,
  - read-out, gas mixture etc
- ❑ 9-cell prototype built
- ❑ 90 cell prototype + 300 cell prototype to be built by Spring 2008
- ❑ About 500k wires to be strung, crimped, terminated => wire robot under development

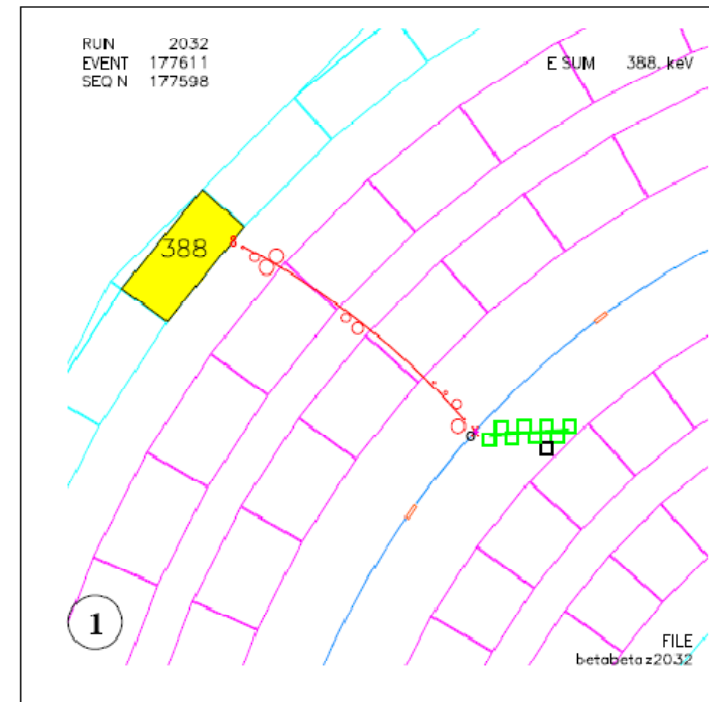
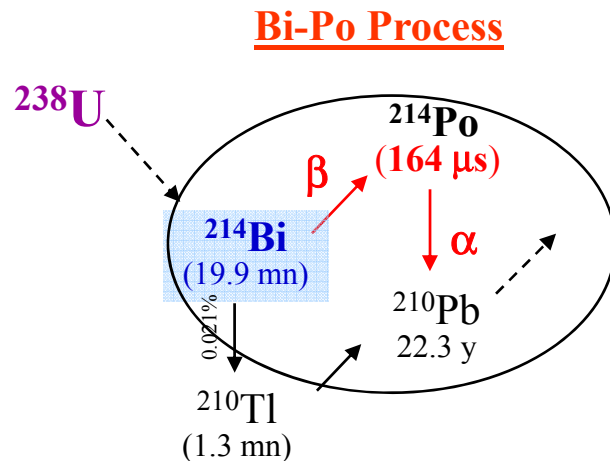


# R&D : radio purity and BiPo device

- ❑ Need to measure radio purity at a few  $\mu\text{Bq/kg}$  level
  - ❑ Beyond sensitivity of conventional Ge detectors
  - ❑ Build new tool, BiPo detector.

## Bi-Po Process

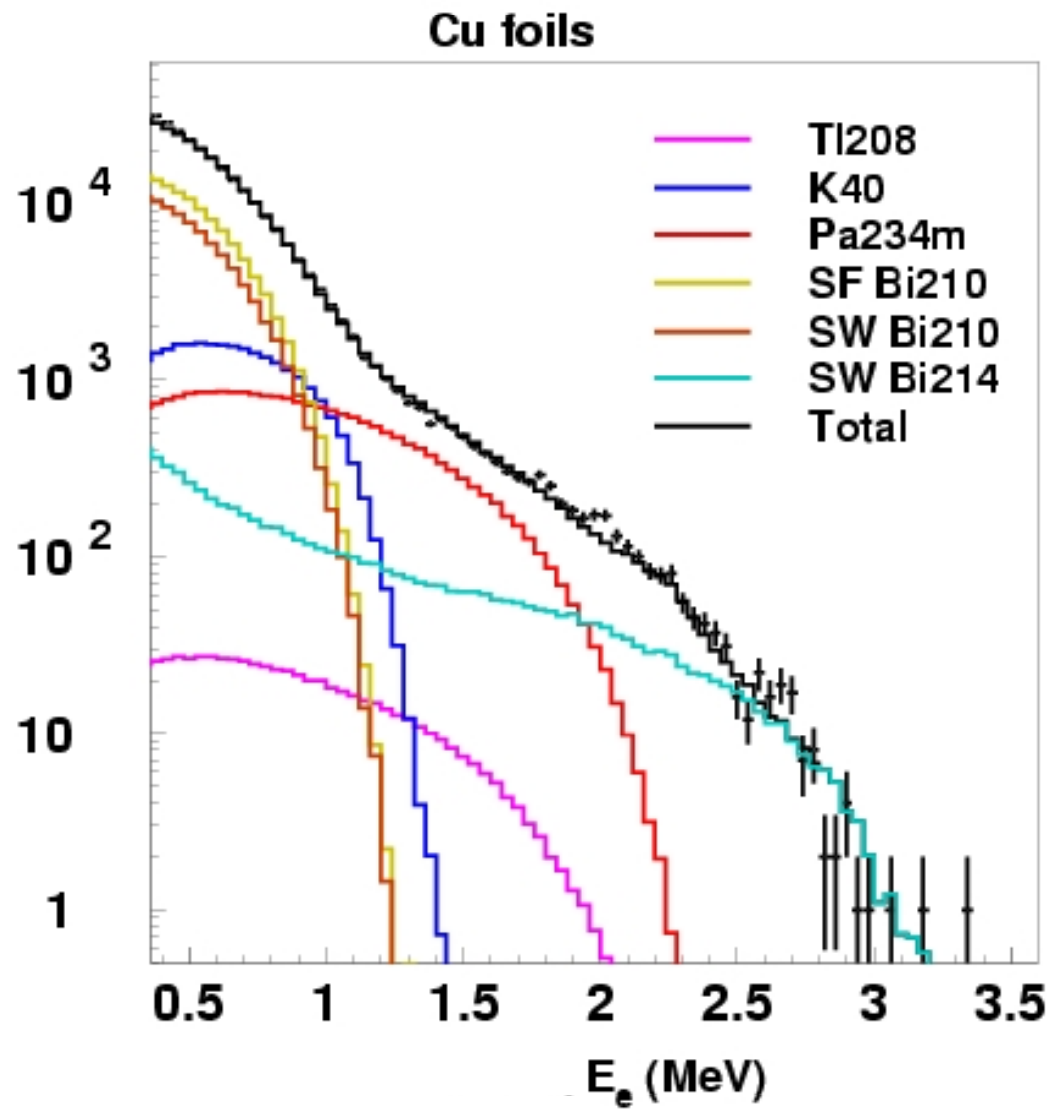




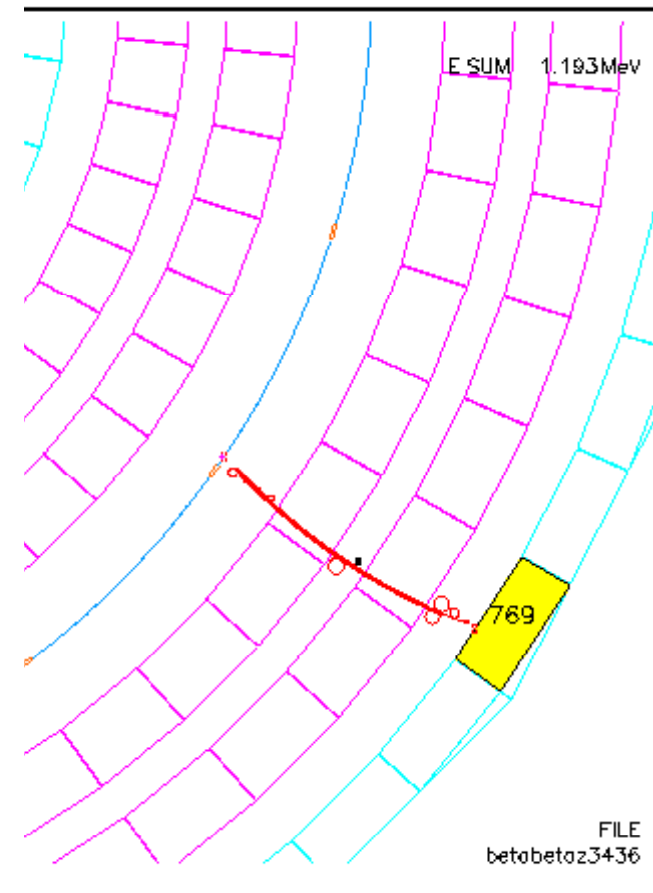
$\alpha$  track length & event topology allows to separate  $^{214}\text{Bi}$  on

- surface of GG wires
- tracking gas
- surface of the foil
- inside the source foil

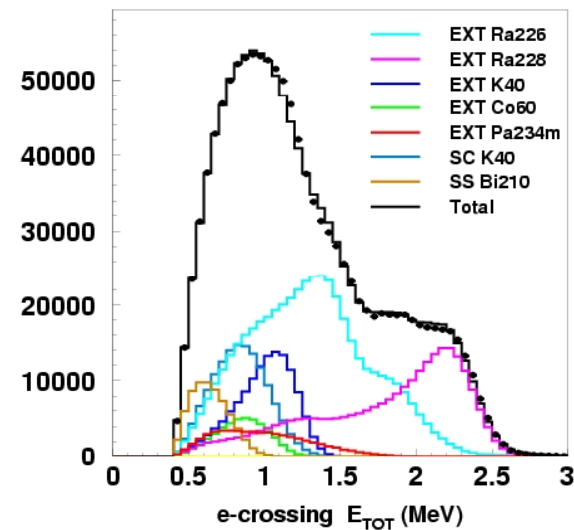
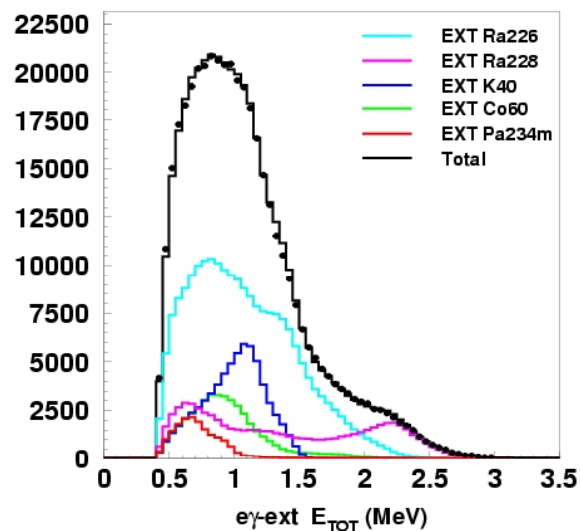
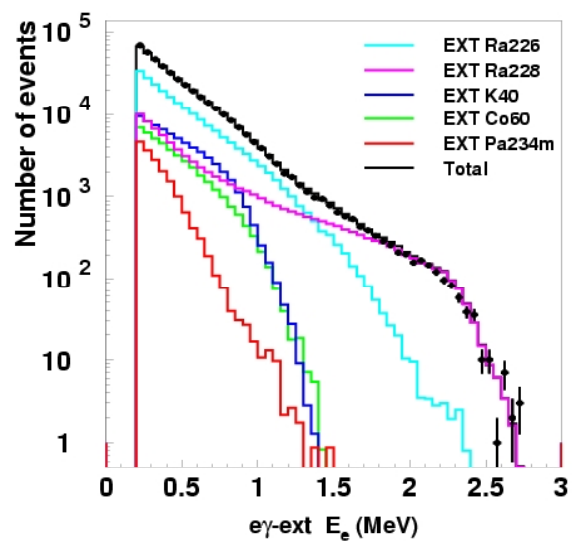
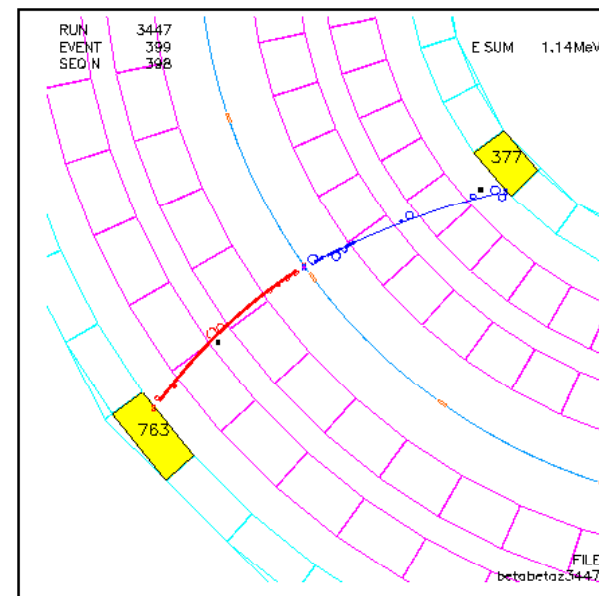
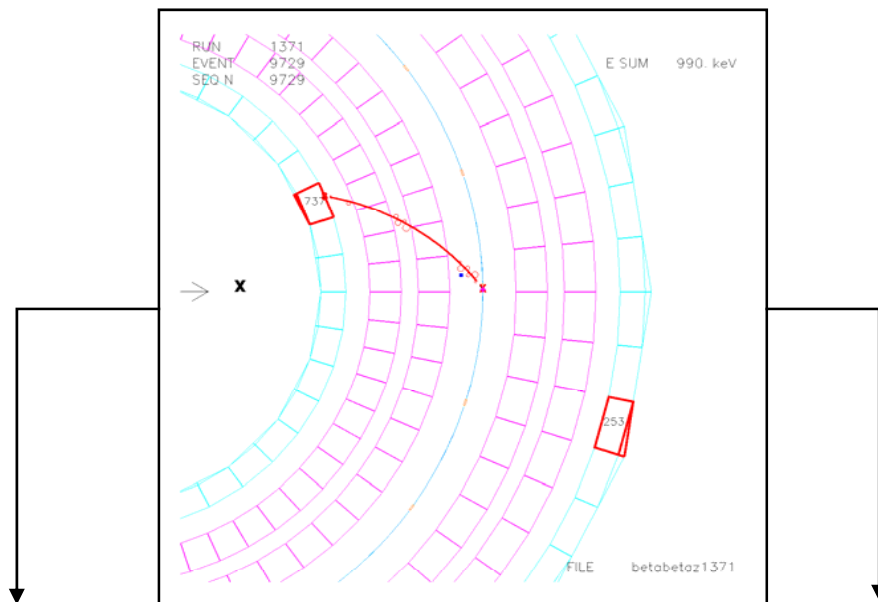
# Backgrounds : internal from $\beta^-$ decay



single electron events



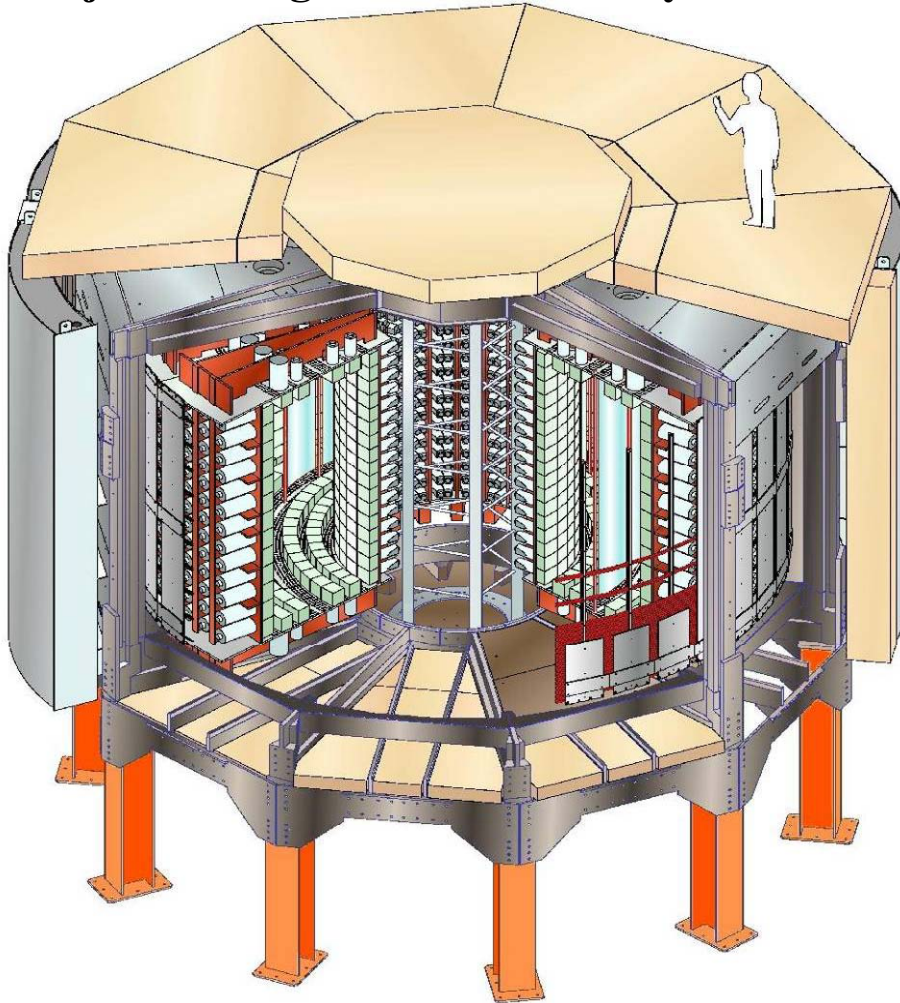
# Backgrounds: external $\gamma$





# NEMO 3: details

Fréjus Underground Laboratory : 4800 m.w.e.



**Source:** 10 kg of  $\beta\beta$  isotopes  
cylindrical,  $S = 20 \text{ m}^2$ ,  $60 \text{ mg/cm}^2$

**Tracking detector:** drift wire chamber operating in Geiger mode (6180 cells)

$\sigma_{\perp} = 5 \text{ mm}$ ,  $\sigma_z = 1 \text{ cm}$  (vertex)

**Calorimeter:** 1940 plastic scintillators coupled to low radioactivity PMTs

- Energy Resolution FWHM=14% (1 MeV)
- Time resolution = 0.25 ns @ 1MeV
- $\gamma$  veto efficiency  $\approx 50 \%$

**Magnetic field:** 25 Gauss

**Gamma shield:** Pure Iron (18 cm)

**Neutron shield:** borated water  
+ Wood

**Background:** natural radioactivity, mainly  $^{214}\text{Bi}$  and  $^{208}\text{Tl}$  ( $\gamma$  2.6 MeV)  
Radon, neutrons (n, $\gamma$ ), muons,  $\beta\beta(2\nu)$

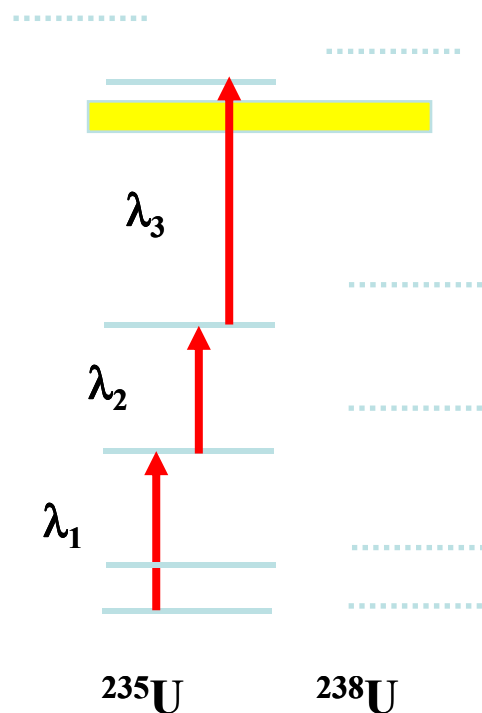
**No gaseous compound! need alternative technology.**

## Laser-vapor interaction SILVA / AVLIS

(Atomic Vapor Laser Ionization S)

2 Isotopes  $^{235}\text{U}$  and  $^{238}\text{U}$

5 energy levels (3 transitions)



## Photoionization

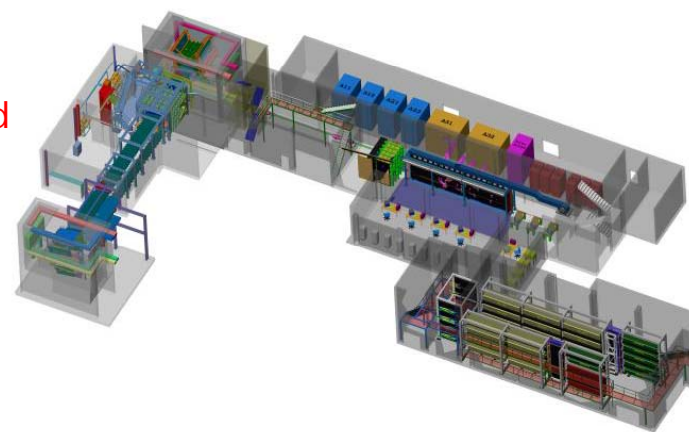
1973 : Atomic isotope separation by laser : initial patent  
 1980 : Basic research at CEA (spectroscopy, evaporation)  
 1985 : SILVA/AVLIS selected as advanced process :  
 USA, France, Japan  
 1994 : Tens of grams produced at the industrial assay  
 1994-1998 : Technological demonstrations (by parts)  
 Mid 1999 : AVLIS shut down in US ; early 2003 in Japan

2000 : Decision for a **conclusive 4 years program**  
 2000 - 2003 : MENPHIS construction and preliminary R&D.

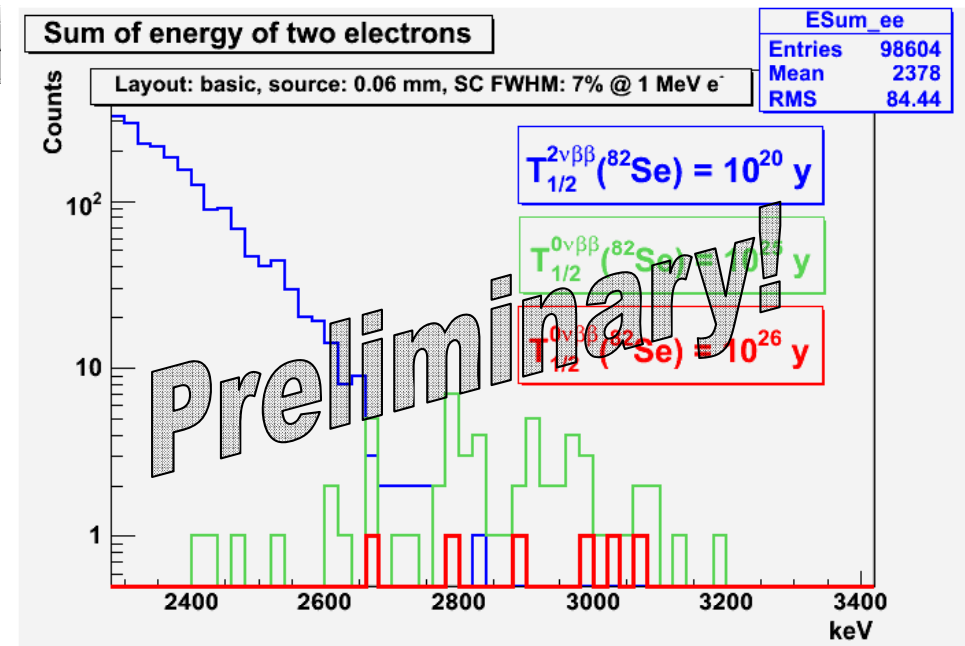
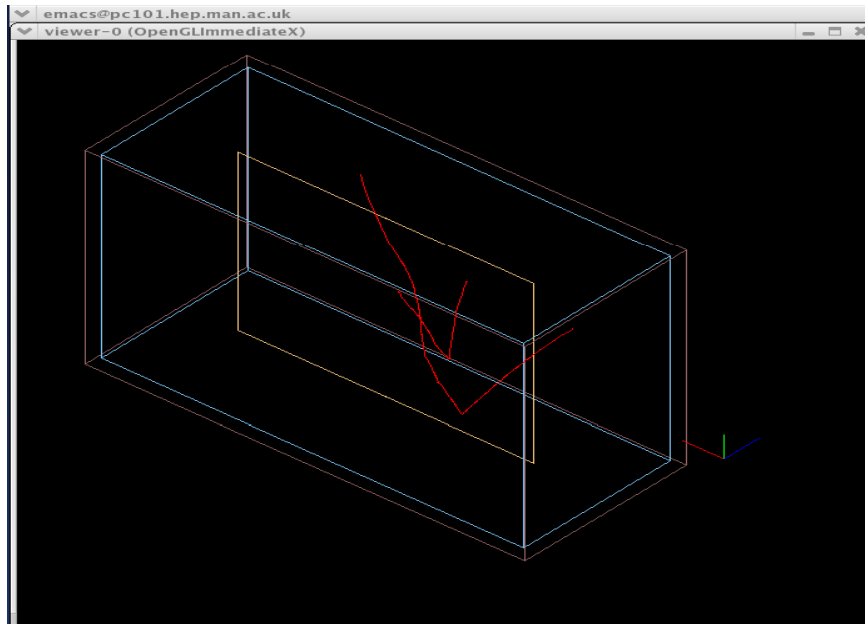
2003 : Demonstrations on MENPHIS  
**204 kg @ 2.5%  $^{235}\text{U}$**

Current status: **mothballed**  
 $^{150}\text{Nd}$  is possible, but:

- Cost?
- Enrichement?
- Purity?



- Full MC simulation under development
  - GEANT4 for low energy physics simulation
  - Use NEMO-3 & prototype data for accurate tracking chamber simulation
  - Simulate light transmission for accurate calorimeter simulation
  - DECAY-4 library for decay kinematics ( $\beta\beta$  and all radioactive backgrounds)
  - Cellular automate + Kalman filter for track fit
- Will be used to provide input for TDR



# neutrino mass limits comparison

| Experiment | Isotope | $T_{1/2}$                          | QRPA        |                  |                  | Shell model | SU(3)     |
|------------|---------|------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|------------------|-------------|-----------|
|            |         |                                    | [1], eV     | [2], eV          | [3], eV          | [4], eV     | [5], eV   |
| NEMO 3     | Mo-100  | $>5.8 \cdot 10^{23} \text{ y}$     | $<1.06$     | $<0.58-0.92$     | $<1.01-1.20$     |             |           |
| NEMO 3     | Se-82   | $>2.1 \cdot 10^{23} \text{ y}$     | $<1.96$     | $<1.20-2.56$     | $<1.70-2.04$     | $<3.38$     |           |
| COURICINO  | Te-130  | $>2.2 \cdot 10^{24} \text{ y}$     | $<0.42$     | $<0.31-0.60$     | $<0.42-0.53$     | $<1.38$     |           |
| KDHK claim | Ge-76   | $\sim 1.2 \cdot 10^{25} \text{ y}$ | $\sim 0.56$ | $\sim 0.41-1.06$ | $\sim 0.42-0.48$ | $\sim 1.21$ |           |
| SuperNEMO  | Se-82   | $2.0 \cdot 10^{26} \text{ y}$      | 63 meV      | 39-82 meV        | 55-66 meV        | 110 meV     |           |
| SuperNEMO  | Nd-150  | $2.0 \cdot 10^{26} \text{ y}$      |             |                  | 16-21 meV*       |             | 44-52 meV |

\* Deformation of  $^{150}\text{Nd}$  nucleus is not taken into account

NME calculations from the following works:

[1] O. Civitarese and J. Suhonen, Nucl. Phys. A 729 (2003) 867 (Table 4)

[2] S. Stoica and H. Klapdor-Kleingrothaus, Nucl. Phys. A 694 (2001) 269

[3] V.A. Rodin et al., Nucl. Phys. A 766 (2006) 107 (nucl-th/0503063) + **erratum (Table 1)**

[4] E. Caurier, F. Nowacki, A. Poves and J. Retamosa, Nucl. Phys. A654 (1999) 973c (Shell model calculation)

[5] H.G. Hirsch, O. Castanos, P.O. Hess, Nucl. Phys A582 (1995) 124