

Future Neutinoless Double Beta Decay Search Experiments

Alex Wright

Queen's University & Institute of Particle Physics Neutrino 2016, University College London

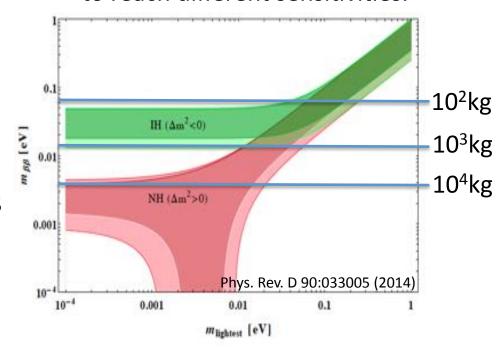
With thanks to all who provided material:

Juan Jose Gomez Cadenas, Michel Sorel & Paola Ferrario; Mark Chen & Steve Biller; Nobuhiru Ishihara; Yeongduk Kim & Hyon-Suk Jo; Tadafumi Kishimoto & Saori Umehara; Stefan Schönert; Xiangdong Xi & Han Ke; Qian Yue; Kai Zuber & Stefan Zatschler

Introduction

- Global neutrinoless double beta decay search program includes many experiments using different isotopes and technologies.
- Key detector parameters
 - Mass
 - Energy Resolution
 - Background Control
- The sensitivity of neutrinoless double beta decay experiments is rapidly improving
 - Currently approaching the top of the inverted hierarchy region
 - Next-generation experiments will explore the inverted hierarchy region
- New developments are needed to probe the normal hierarchy region

Rough isotope mass requirements to reach different sensitivities.



Current experiments and R&D Programs

| Experiment | Isotope | Technique | Location |
|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------------|----------|
| Majorana Demonstrator | ⁷⁶ Ge | Point contact Ge | Sanford |
| GERDA II | ⁷⁶ Ge | Semicoax/BE Ge + veto | LNGS |
| CDEX | ⁷⁶ Ge | Point contact Ge | CJPL |
| NG-Ge76 | ⁷⁶ Ge | Point contact Ge | |
| COBRA | ¹¹⁶ Cd, etc | CdZnTe | LNGS |
| CANDLES | ⁴⁸ Ca | CaF ₂ scintillator + veto | Kamioka |
| AMoRE | ¹⁰⁰ Mo | Low-T MMC | Y2L |
| DCBA/MTD | ¹⁰⁰ Mo | Foils + tracker | KEK |
| MOON | ¹⁰⁰ Mo | Foils + scintillator | |
| EXO200 | ¹³⁶ Xe | LXe TPC | WIPP |
| nEXO | ¹³⁶ Xe | LXe TPC | SNOLAB |
| NEXT | ¹³⁶ Xe | High-P TPC | LSC |
| PandaX III | ¹³⁶ Xe | High-P TPC | CJPL |
| KamLAND-Zen | ¹³⁶ Xe | Liquid scintillator | Kamioka |
| SuperNEMO | ⁸² Se | Foils + tracker | |
| CUPID | ¹³⁰ Te, ⁸² Se, ¹⁰⁰ Mo, ¹¹⁶ Cd | Hybrid bolometers | |
| CUORE/CUORE-0 | ¹³⁰ Te | TeO ₂ bolometers | LNGS |
| SNO+ | ¹³⁰ Te | Liquid scintillator | SNOLAB |

I am to focus on those that have not yet presented:

| Experiment | Isotope | Technique | Location |
|------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------|
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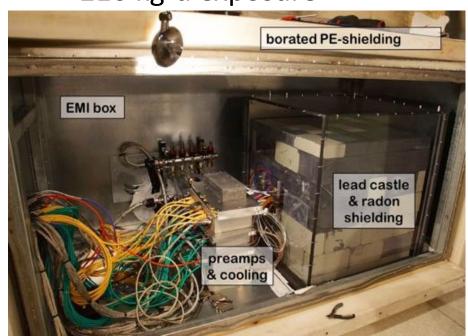
Presentation will be high-level, for details see posters:

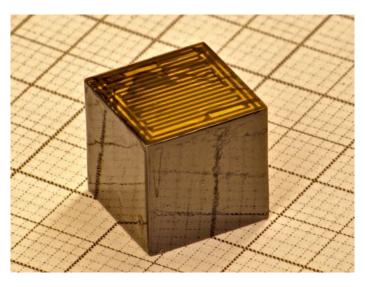
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| AMoRE | P4.049 - Status of the AMoRE experiment |
| NEXT | P4.064 - Topological signature in the NEXT high pressure xenon TPC |
| | P4.065 - Sensitivity of the NEXT100 detector to neutrinoless double beta decay |
| | P4.066 - The NEW detector: construction, commissioning and first results |
| SNO+ | P1.015 - Scattering length monitoring at the SNO+ detector |
| | P1.072 - Commissioning the SNO+ Detector |
| | P1.073 - Pulse shape analysis techniques in liquid scintillator for the identification and suppression of radioactive backgrounds to neutrinoless double beta decay |
| | P1.074 - A new technique to load 130Te in liquid scintillator for neutrinoless double beta decay experiments |
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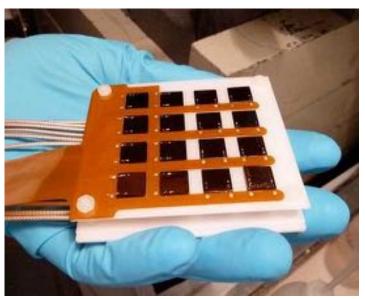
COBRA

(CdZnTe Ov Double Beta Research Apparatus)

- CdZnTe: an intrinsic semiconductor at room temperature
 - Contains 5 double beta isotopes
- COBRA Demonstrator, 4x4x4 array of 1cm³ (6g) detectors operated at LNGS
 - 216 kg-d exposure







NIM A **807**:114 (2016)

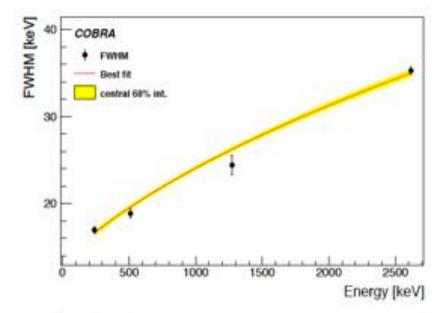
arXiv:1509:04113

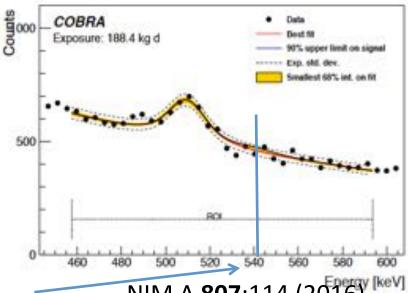
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| Isotope | BI [cts/(keV kg yr)] | 90% Cred. limit |
|-------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 114Cd | 213.9+1.0 | 1.8×10 ²¹ yr |
| 128Te | 65.5 ^{+0.5} | 2.0×10 ²¹ yr |
| ⁷⁰ Zn | 45.1 ^{+0.6} | 7.4×10 ¹⁸ yr |
| ¹³⁰ Te | $3.6^{+0.1}_{-0.3}$ | 6.7×10 ²¹ yr |
| 116Cd | 2.7 ^{+0.1} 0.2 | $1.2 \times 10^{21} yr$ |



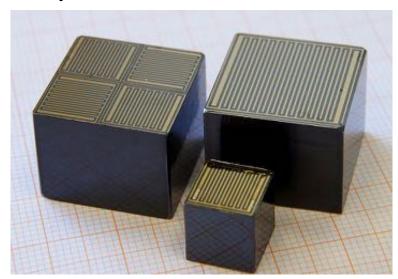


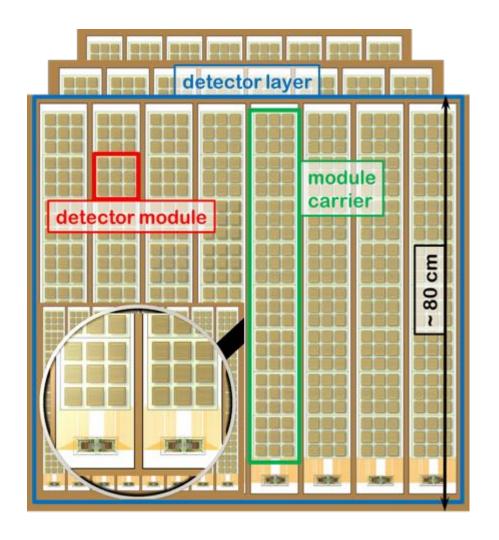
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COBRA

(CdZnTe Ov Double Beta Research Apparatus)

- Moving towards a 415kg array
 - Modular 20 layer design
 - Larger 2x2x1.5cm (36g) crystals with segmented readout
- Funding for a 3x3x3 test array of new crystals with improved readout





NIM A 806:159 (2016)

CANDLES



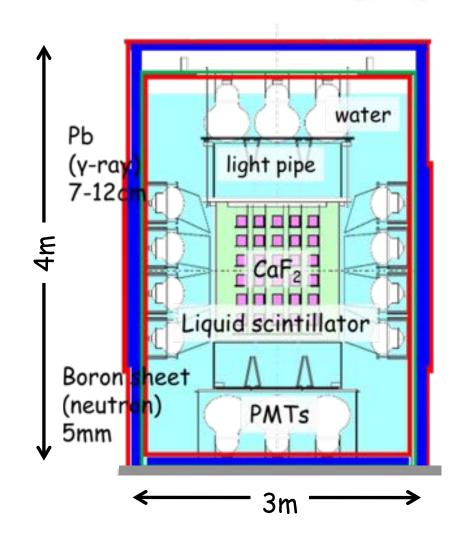
CAlcium fluoride for studies of Neutrino and Dark matters by Low Energy Spectrometer

CANDLES System

- \ref{phi} for 48 Ca(Q_{\beta\beta}4.3MeV, 0.187%)
- CaF₂ detector
- \clubsuit 4π active shield

Candles III

- (305kg,0.187%⁴⁸Ca) + 2T liquid scintillator
- Improvement : Installation of the shielding system (Pb, B)
 - To reduce γ-ray backgrounds from neutron capture
- Expected sensitivity <m_v> = 0.5eV

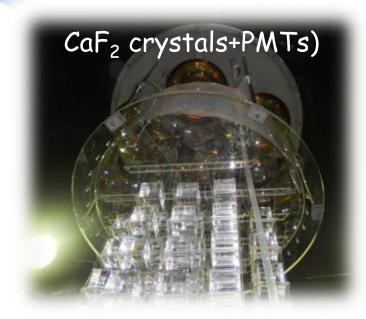




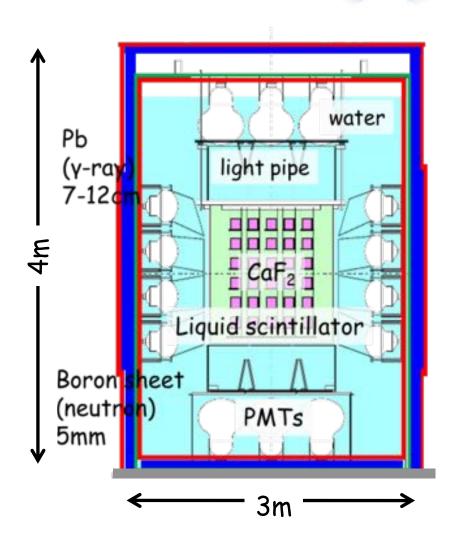
CANDLES



CAlcium fluoride for studies of Neutrino and Dark matters by Low Energy Spectrometer









CANDLES

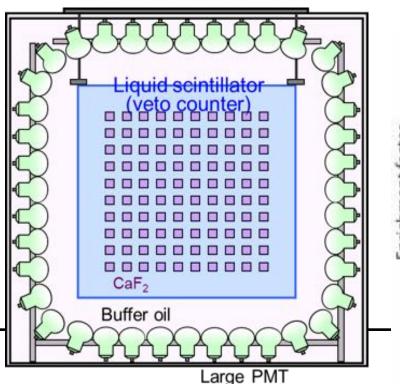


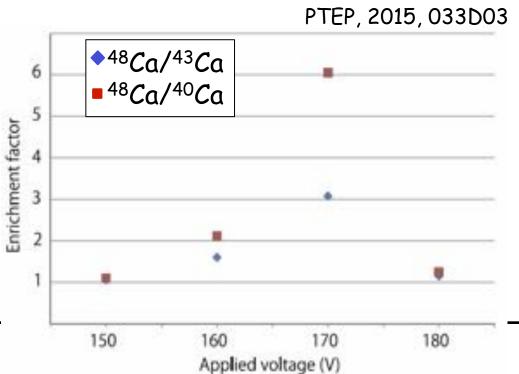
- Enrichment of 48Ca by electrophoresis demonstrated
- Scintillating 48CaF₂ bolometers under investigation

Sensitivity by next CANDLES system

 $\langle m_v \rangle \sim 0.1 \text{ eV}$: CaF_2 scintillator system

*<m_v> ~ 0.01eV : 48CaF₂ bolometer system

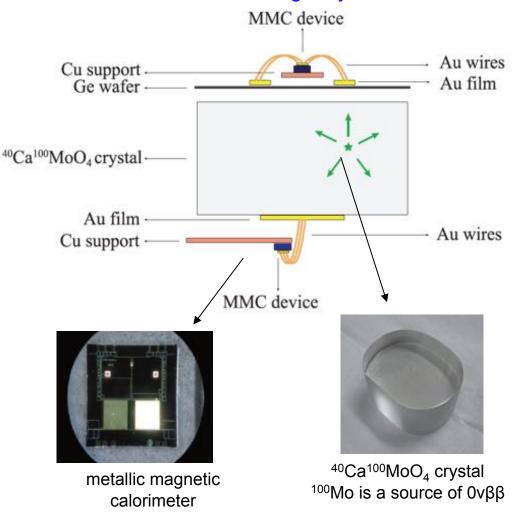




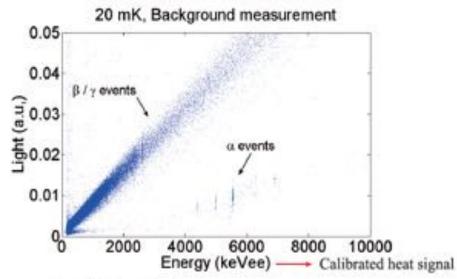
AMoRE

AMoRE (Advanced Mo-based Rare process Experiment) is a project searching for neutrinoless double beta decay (0v $\beta\beta$) of 100 Mo using Mo-based crystals and metallic magnetic calorimeters (MMCs) at low temperatures

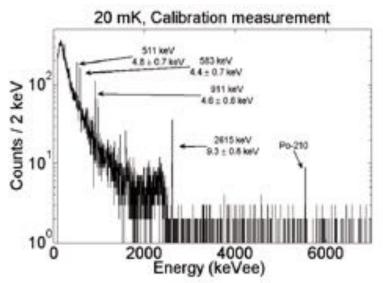
Simultaneous measurement of heat and light by MMCs



Above-ground measurements



Heat/light simultaneous measurement : separation of α and β/γ



Energy spectrum obtained with a 232 Th external source $\Delta E_{\text{FWHM}} \approx 9 \text{ keV} \ @ 2.6 \text{ MeV}$

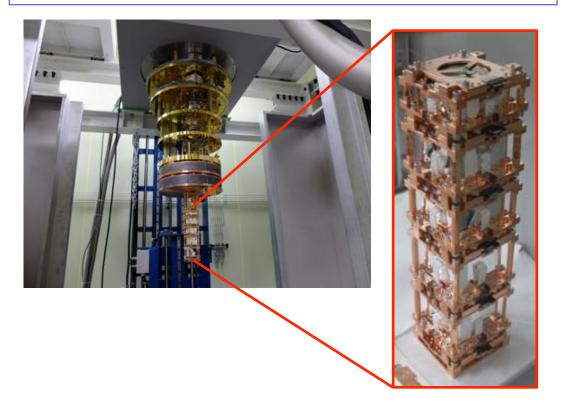
AMoRE-pilot experiment at Yangyang underground laboratory (Y2L)

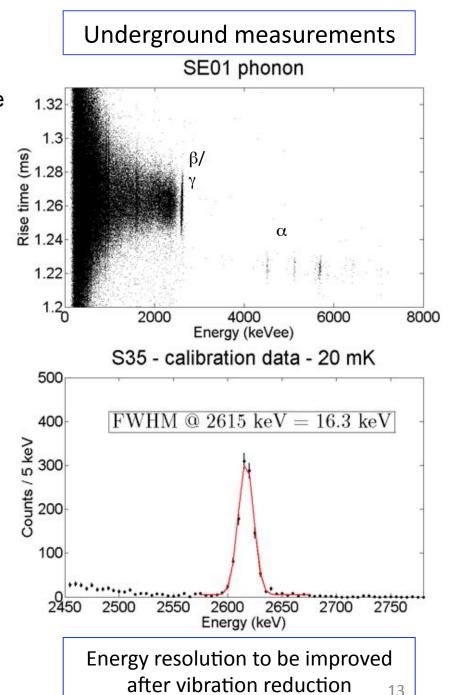


YangYang Underground Laboratory (Y2L, South Korea):

- Located in a tunnel of the Yangyang pumped storage power plant
- Minimum vertical depth :700 m

AMoRE-pilot: five ⁴⁰Ca¹⁰⁰MoO₄ crystals (1.5 kg) 5 phonon detectors + 6 photon detectors





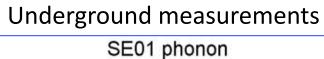
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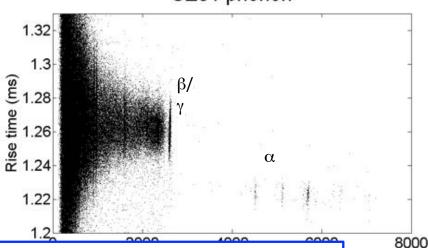


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Future AMoRE Program

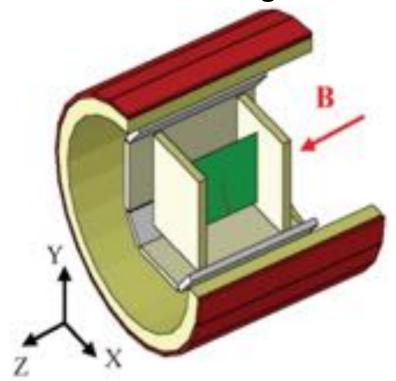
| | ⁴⁰ Ca ¹⁰⁰ MoO ₄ Mass (kg) | Projected $< m_{\beta\beta} >$ Sensitivity (meV) |
|-----------------------|---|--|
| Amore Pilot (Current) | 1.5 | 210 - 400 |
| Amore I (~2016) | 5.0 | 70 - 140 |
| Amore II (2018+) | 200 | 12 - 22 |

arXiv:1512.05957

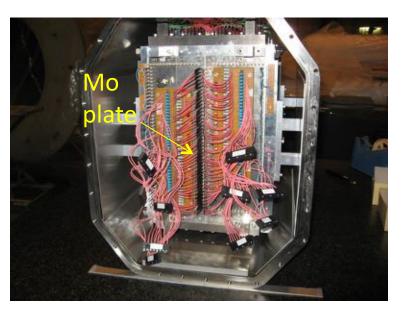
Present & future of DCBA and MTD

(Drift Chamber Beta-ray Analyzer and Magnetic Tracking Detector)

A tracking detector with source foils in the tracking volume.



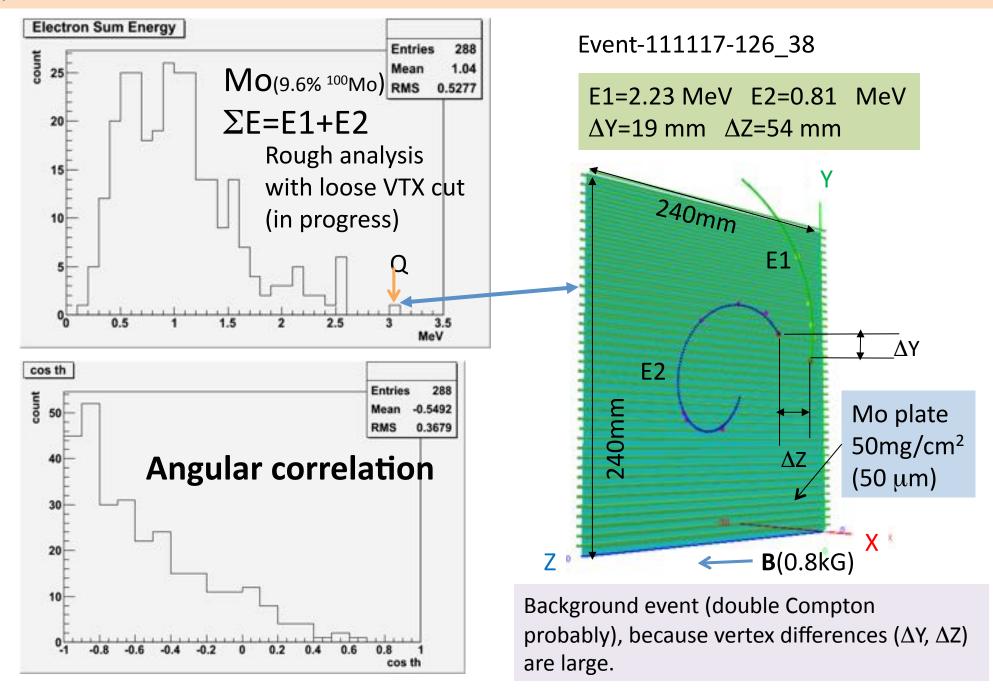
DCBA-T2.5 (30g ^{nat}Mo, 0.8kG) has been running at KEK surface exp. room





Two electron events taken by DCBA-T2.5 (T2 chamber + T3 magnet)

(after eliminating cosmic-rays with track shape separation, but still including backgrounds)



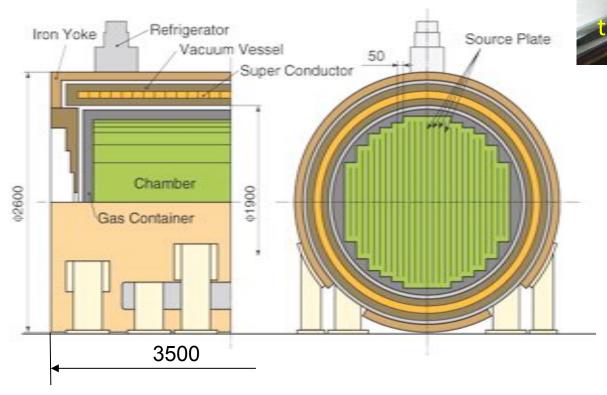
MTD

Chamber cell: the same as DCBA-T3,

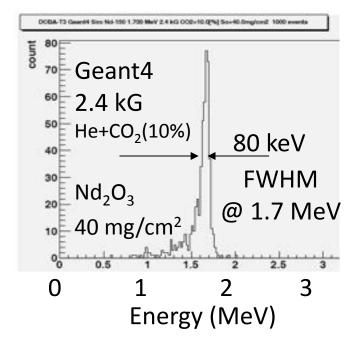
Source plate: 80 m²/module

Thickness: 40 mg/cm²,

Source weight: 32kg/module







Expected Energy Resolution

$$\frac{\text{FWHM}(E_{sum}) = \sqrt{2} \times 80 \text{keV}}{Q_{\text{Nd-150}}(3370 \text{keV})} \approx 3.4\%$$

NEXT Experiment

(Neutrino Experiment with a Xenon TPC)





Search for the neutrinoless double beta decay of ¹³⁶Xe at the Laboratorio
 Subterraneo de Canfranc with a TPC filled with 100 kg of high-pressure xenon gas













(2010-2014) Demonstration of detector concept



(2015-2018)
Underground and radio-pure operations, background, ββ2ν



(2018-2021) Neutrinoless double beta decay search

NEW (NEXT-WHITE) at glance

Time Projection Chamber:

10 kg active region(@10bar), 50 cm drift length

Tracking plane:

1,800 SiPMs, 1 cm pitch

Pressure vessel:

316-Ti steel, 30 bar max pressure

Energy plane:

12 PMTs,operating at vacuum.30% coverage

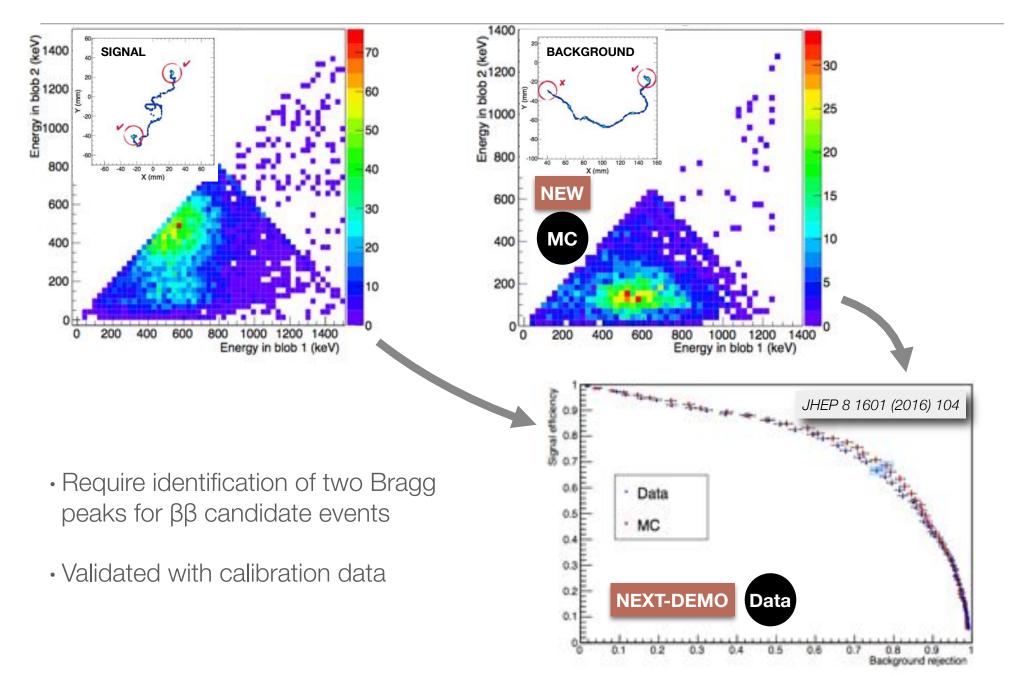


Inner shield: copper, 6 cm thick

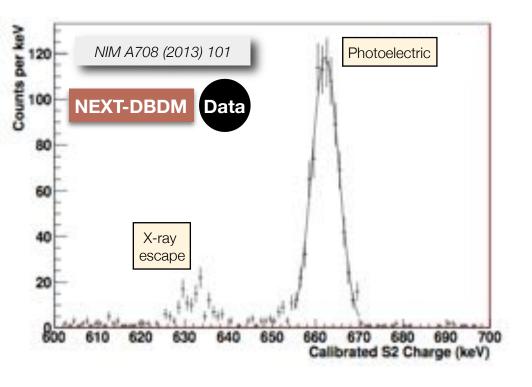
Mother can:

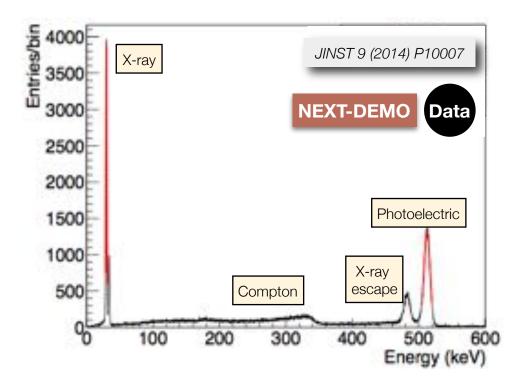
12 cm copper plate that separates pressure from vacuum and adds shielding.

NEXT Topological Rejection



NEXT Energy Resolution





 1.1% FWHM resolution for 662 keV electrons

1.6% FWHM resolution for 511 keV electrons

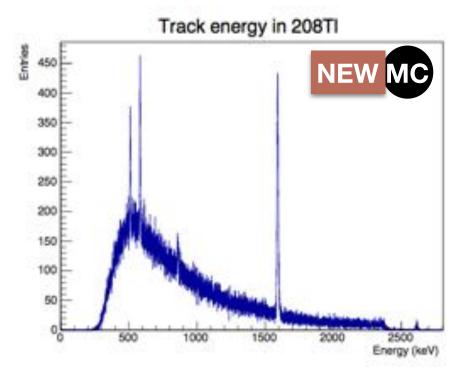


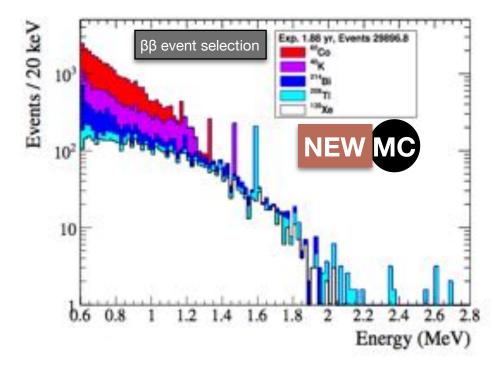
NEXT measurements extrapolate to 0.5-0.7% FWHM energy resolution at Q_{ββ}



NEXT-White (NEW) Science Goals

| Period | Configuration | Goals |
|-----------------|---------------|---|
| 2016 (2nd half) | Depleted Xe | Calibration, energy resolution, topological rejection |
| 2017 (1st half) | Depleted Xe | Background rate and energy spectrum |
| 2017 (2nd half) | Enriched Xe | ββ2v rate |





0.58% FWHM resolution at Q_{ββ} expected

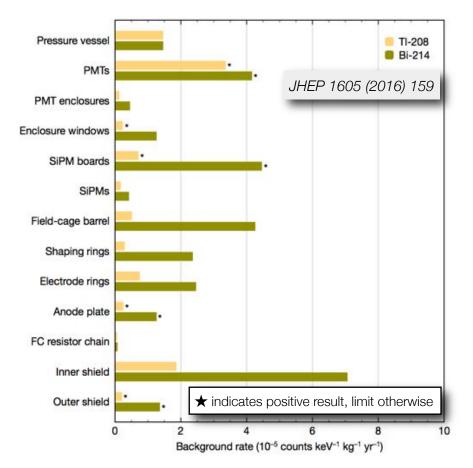
10% (stat.) accuracy after 200 days for ββ2ν



NEXT-100 Sensitivity to ββ0ν

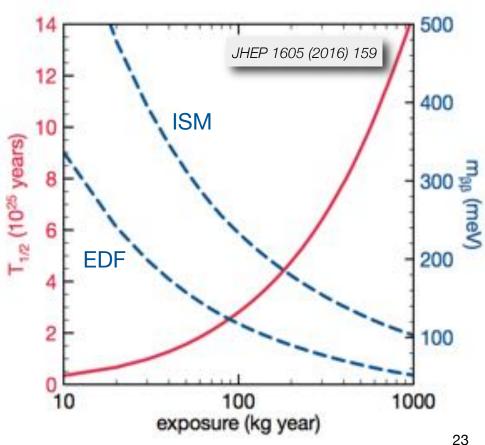


 \cdot < 4×10⁻⁴ counts keV⁻¹ kg⁻¹ yr⁻¹ overall background rate in ROI expected



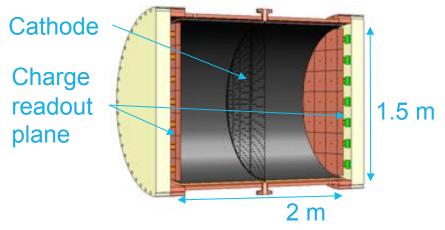


 \cdot T_{1/2} = 6×10²⁵ yr sensitivity expected in 3 yr (90% CL)

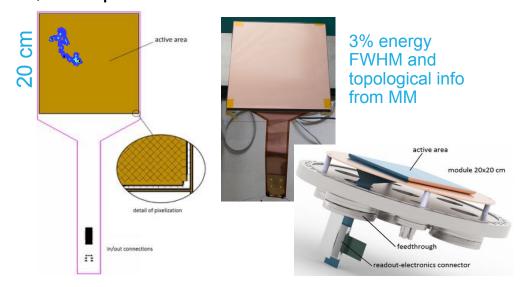


PandaX-III: high pressure gas TPC for neutrinoless double beta decay of ¹³⁶Xe

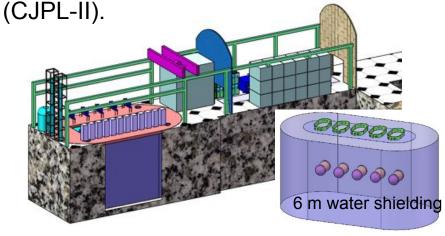
TPC: 200 kg scale, symmetric, doubleended charge readout with cathode in the middle



Charge readout plane: tiles of square microbulk Micromegas (MM) modules with X, Y strips



PandaX-III will be located at Hall #B4 at China Jin Ping underground Laboratory

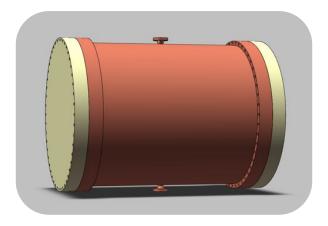


- 200 kg enriched ¹³⁶Xe purchased
- Prototype TPC commissioned at SJTU
- First module will be installed in 2017
- Four more upgraded modules for a ton scale experiment (projected in 2022)
- Expected half-life sensitivity at 10²⁶ year (3yr, 90% CL) with background rate of 10⁻⁴ c/keV/kg/yr in the ROI

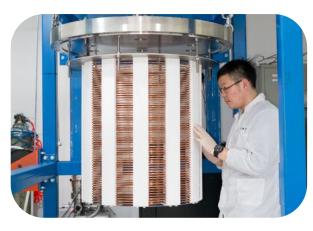
Status



150 kg of 90% enriched ¹³⁶Xe purchased



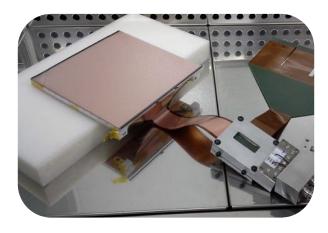
High pressure vessel made of OFHC copper designed



20 kg scale prototype TPC made and taking data with MicroMegas



Front end electronics are being designed and tested



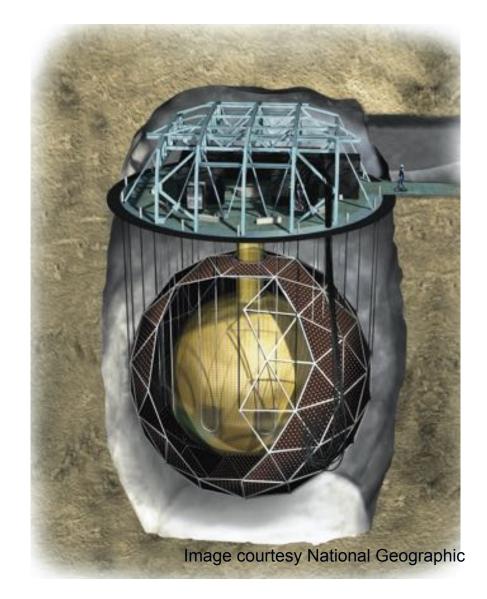
First batch of 20 cm square MicroMegas modules made and commissioned



Excavation of water pit finished. Finalizing the layout of Hall B4 at CJPL-II

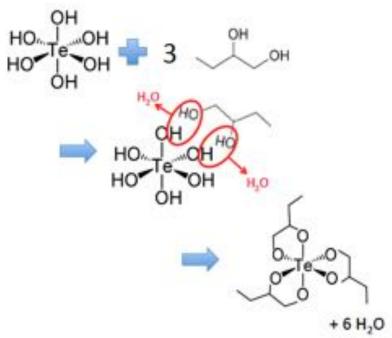


- Refill the SNO detector with 780 tonnes of linear alkylbenzene liquid scintillator
- Broad physics program:
 - Solar neutrinos
 - Reactor neutrinos
 - Geo-neutrinos
 - Supernova neutrinos
 - Neutrinoless double beta decay



Load Tellurium into the SNO+ Scintillator

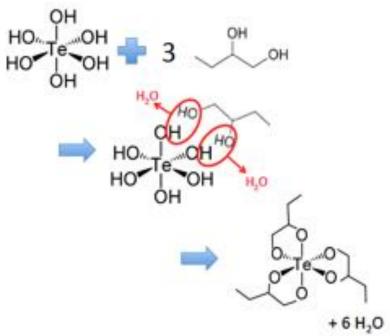
- 780 tonne detector and high ¹³⁰Te isotopic abundance gives large isotope mass
 - 0.5% (w/w) Te in SNO+ Phase I is 3.9 tonnes of Te or 1333 kg of ¹³⁰Te (260kg fiducial)
 - Could increase to percent-level loading in future phases
- Tellurium can be dissolved into LAB scintillator as an organometallic complex
 - Tellurium-butanediol complex is very transparent, shows some quenching





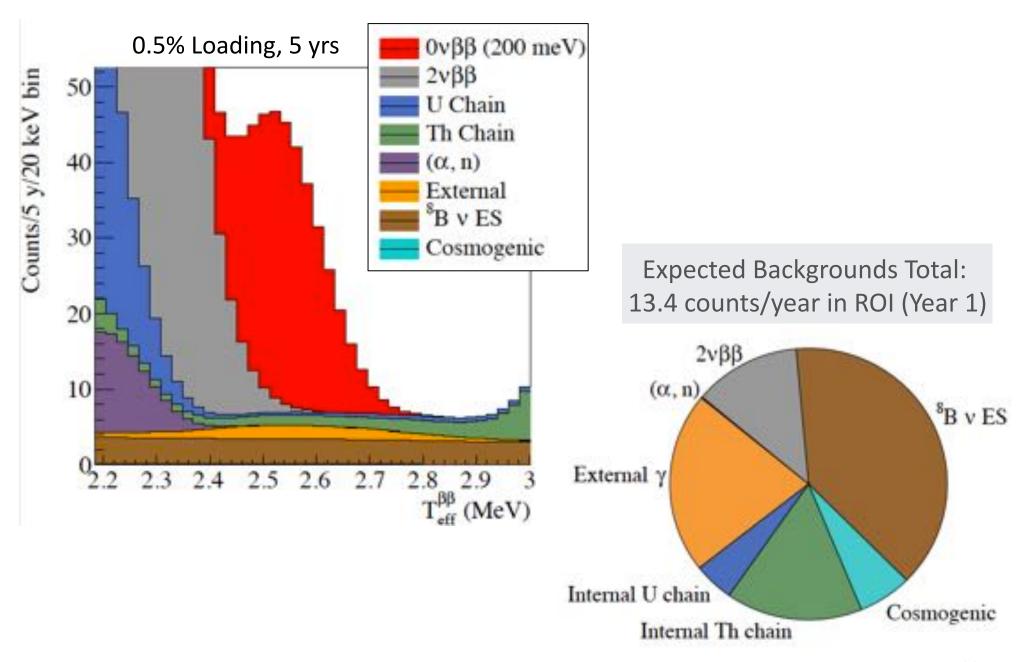
Load Tellurium into the SNO+ Scintillator

- Expect ~400 p.e./MeV in SNO+ at 0.5% Te loading
 - 2% loading workable with current quenching & upgraded PMTs & reflectors; work to reduce quenching ongoing
- Very low backgrounds are achievable
 - Scintillator backgrounds low
 - Te can be purified underground via recrystallization (NIM A 795:132 (2015))
 - Butanediol can be distilled
 - Fiducialization, delayed co-incidence rejection, and PSD further reduce backgrounds

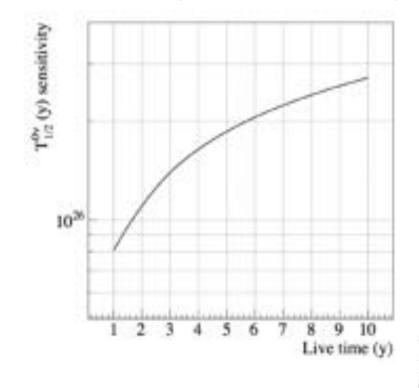




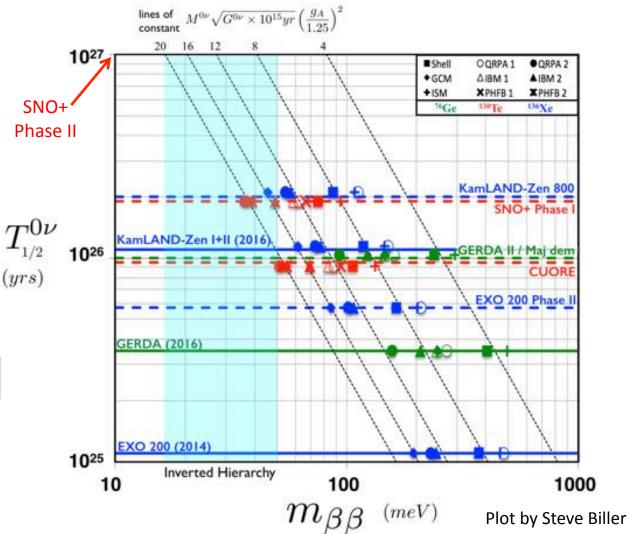
Expected Backgrounds & Spectrum



SNO+ Expected Sensitivity



Comparison with Other Experiments



 $T_{1/2} \ge 1.96 \times 10^{26} \text{ yr (90\% CL, 5 yr)}$

SNO+ Status

- Scintillator purification plant installed, commissioning under way
 - First LAB on site in a few months
 - Scintillator fill beginning spring 2017
- In the process of re-filling the detector with ultra-pure water
 - A few leaks in the cavity liner identified and repaired
 - New hold-down system for the acrylic vessel installed and fully tested
 - Making PMT repairs along the way
- Tellurium purification, installation underground beginning later this year
 - Loading system to follow in 2017
 - 1.8 T telluric acid (=1 T Te) stored underground for ~1 year now, 2.0 T telluric acid currently being shipped from supplier
- Tellurium loading early in 2018



Conclusion

- There is a rich program of upcoming double beta decay experiments and R&D projects
- Experiments currently in construction/ commissioning should reach the top of the inverted hierarchy region
- Next generation experiments should substantially probe the inverted hierarchy

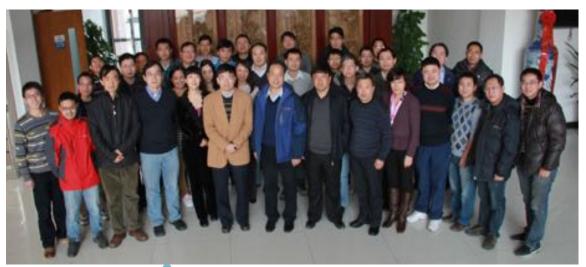
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| | P4.069 - Calibration of the SNO+ experiment |

CDEX

(China Dark Matter Experiment)

- Developing low background Ge detector capabilities through a staged detector program
 - Ge enrichment
 - Crystal growth
 - PCGe fabrication
 - Electroformed copper
- 10kg PC^{nat}Ge currently operating in LAr veto
- Envision a 1T double beta decay & dark matter experiment at CJPL





- Large Pit (Φ18m×18m) in CJPL now available
- LN₂ tank (Φ13m×13m) for cooling and shielding
- Tens of Kg HPGE array will begin to be deployed in several years



NG-Ge76

(Next Generation Ge76)

- New collaboration forming to move towards a single tonne-scale Ge project
 - Select best technologies from existing experiments
 - Envision a phased implementation
 - Perhaps 200→500→1000 kg
 - Target >6×10²⁷yr sensitivity (5 yr 90% CL), with background ~0.1 c/ROI-T-yr



