

# Results of the NEMO-3 experiment and the SuperNEMO proposal

## Lepton number violation and neutrinoless double beta decay

François Mauger, on behalf of the SuperNEMO Collaboration

Conseil Scientifique IN2P3, Paris, May 5, 2011

- Highlights on  $\beta\beta 0\nu$  physics
- The NEMO-3 experiment (2003-2011)
- The SuperNEMO proposal

## A second order weak interaction nuclear transition

- $\beta\beta 2\nu$  (M. Goeppert-Mayer, 1935) :

$$(Z, A) \rightarrow (Z + 2, A)^{[*]} + 2e^{-} + 2\bar{\nu}_e \quad (\Delta L = 0)$$

- $\beta\beta 0\nu$  (W. Furry, 1939) [or  $\beta\beta 0\nu\chi$ ] :

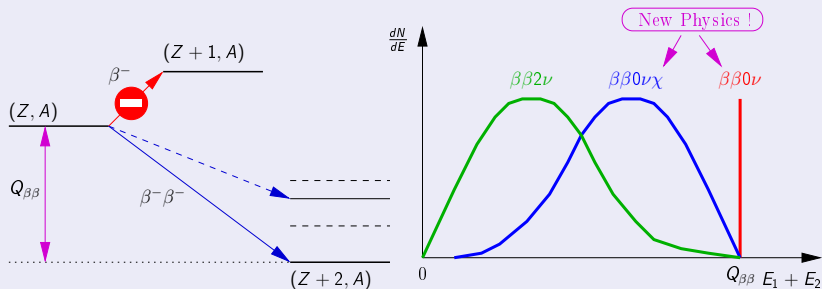
$$(Z, A) \rightarrow (Z + 2, A)^{[*]} + 2e^{-} [+ \chi] \quad (\Delta L = 2)$$

- ▶ Lepton number violation
- ▶ Majorana (massive) neutrino
- ▶ Majoron
- ▶  $\leadsto$  New Physics !

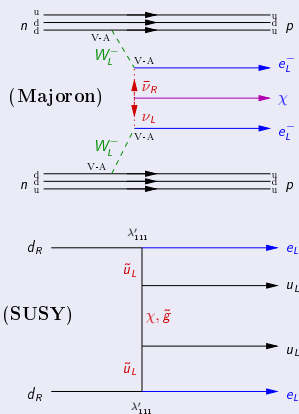
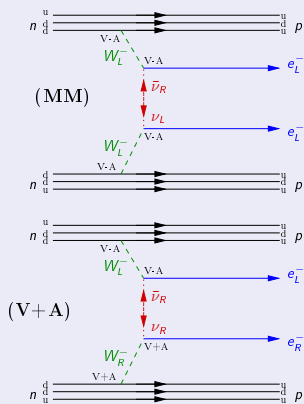
## Experimental considerations (part 1)



Principle : measure the energy sum of the electrons in the final state to discriminate several  $\beta\beta$  processes.



## Underlying mechanisms...



## Whatever underlying physics mechanism...

- Transition rate :

$$(T_{1/2}^{0\nu})^{-1} = G^{0\nu} |M^{0\nu}|^2 \epsilon^2$$

$G^{0\nu}$  : phase space ( $y^{-1}$ )

$M^{0\nu}$  : nuclear matrix element

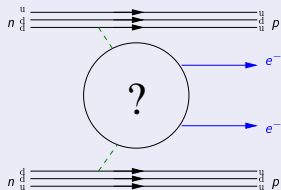
$\epsilon (\neq 0 ?)$  : lepton-number violating factor

★ (MM) :  $\epsilon \equiv \langle m_\nu \rangle$

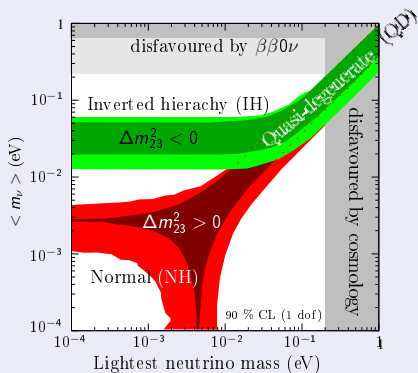
★ (Majoron) :  $\epsilon \equiv g_{ee}$

★ (V+A) :  $\epsilon \equiv \lambda, \eta$

★ (SUSY) :  $\epsilon \equiv \lambda'_{111}$  (R-parity violation, exchange of a virtual gluino)



## Combining experimental approaches



$\beta\beta\nu$  experiments are a probe for the  $\nu$  absolute mass scale and hierarchy, complementary to:

- $\nu$  oscillation experiments
- Direct mass measurements
- Cosmology

## Experimental facts

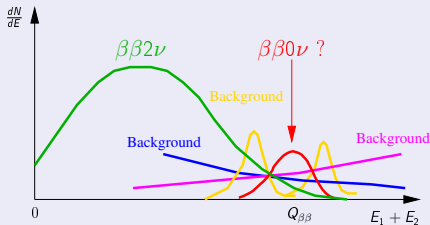
- $\beta\beta 0\nu$  is expected to be very rare :  
best world limit is  $T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 1.9 \cdot 10^{25}$  y for  $^{76}\text{Ge}$  (HM, 1990-2003)
- Long exposure: typically 5-10 years of data taking using 1 – 10 kg of  $\beta\beta$  isotopes
- DBD physics lies within the 100 keV – 10 MeV energy range



## Background, background, background !

There are several processes which can mimic the  $\beta\beta 0\nu$  signal :

- (natural) radioactivity ( $^{238}\text{U}$ ,  $^{232}\text{Th}$  chains)
- Secondary processes induced by cosmic rays (cosmogenics)
- “allowed”  $\beta\beta 2\nu$  decays in the end-point region



# The NEMO 3 experiment

Neutrino Ettore Majorana Observatory



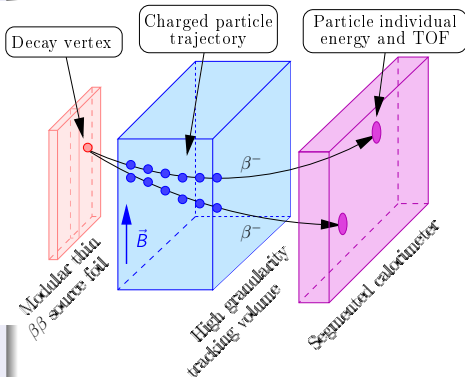
- Successor of NEMO 2 (1992-1998)
- "Tracko-calorimetry" technique
- proposed in 1994
- R&D 1995-1999
- Commissioning (2000-2003)
- Data taking from 2003/02/14 to 2011/01/11
- 50 collaborators (France, Russia, Cz. Rep., Japan, USA, UK)
- IN2P3: CENBG, IPHC, LAL, LPC Caen
- Hosted at LSM (4800 m.w.e.)

## Physics goals

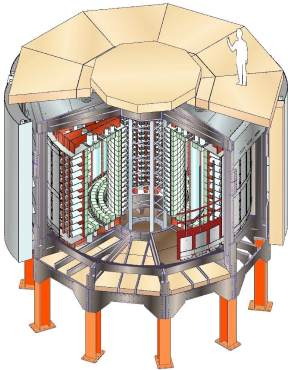
- Search for  $\beta\beta 0\nu$  decay for  $^{100}\text{Mo}$  and  $^{82}\text{Se}$  :  
Target sensitivity :  $T_{1/2}^{0\nu} \simeq 10^{24}$  y ( $^{100}\text{Mo}$ )  
MM :  $\langle m_\nu \rangle \lesssim 0.5 - 1$  eV
- Search for  $\beta\beta 0\nu\chi$  (Majoron) :  
sensitivity  $T_{1/2}^{0\nu\chi} \simeq 10^{22}$  y
- Investigate  $\beta\beta 2\nu$  decay :
  - ▶ Sensitivity :  $T_{1/2}^{2\nu} \simeq 10^{21}$  y
  - ▶  $\neq$  nuclei,
  - ▶  $\beta\beta$  decays to excited states,
  - ▶ SSD vs. HSD mechanisms,
  - ▶ Experimental measurement of n.m.e. ( $M^{2\nu}$ )

# The NEMO-3 technique : Calorimetry + Tracking

- Reconstruction of final state topology:
  - ▶  $e^\pm$  individual energy
  - ▶ charged particle trajectory
  - ▶ time of flight
  - ▶ magnetic field curvature
  - ▶ angular distribution
  - ▶ vertex
- Background rejection through particle identification:  $e^-$ ,  $e^+$ ,  $\gamma$ ,  $\alpha$
- Source is separated from the detector: can measure several  $\beta\beta$  isotopes
- “tracko-calor”  $\neq$  “pure calorimeter” technique (HM, IGEX, Cuoricino...).



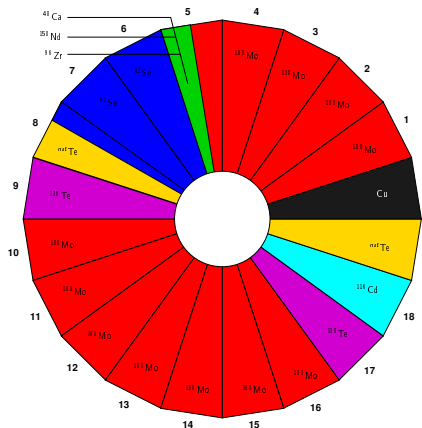
# The NEMO-3 detector : main characteristics



- Rn trapping facility + tent
- Low radioactivity materials
- Fréjus Underground Lab. (4800 m.w.e.)

- Source: 10 kg of  $\beta\beta$  isotopes,  $S=20 \text{ m}^2$ ,  $e \simeq 60 \text{ mg/cm}^2$
- Tracking detector:  $30 \text{ m}^3$  drift wire chamber operating in Geiger mode (6180 cells)  
gas: He+4% ethyl alcohol...
- Calorimeter: 1940 plastic scintillators coupled to low radioactivity PMTs
- Magnetic field: 25 gauss ( $e^+e^-$  discrimination)
- Gamma/neutron shield: pure Iron (18 cm), borated water (30 cm, ext. wall), wood (40 cm, top+bottom)

# The NEMO-3 detector: $\beta\beta$ sources



Isotope	Mass (g)	$Q_{\beta\beta}$ (keV)
---------	----------	------------------------

$\beta\beta 0\nu$  search +  $\beta\beta 2\nu$  meas.

$^{100}\text{Mo}$	6914	3034
$^{82}\text{Se}$	932	2995

$\beta\beta 2\nu$  measurement

$^{116}\text{Cd}$	405	2805
$^{96}\text{Zr}$	9.4	3350
$^{150}\text{Nd}$	37.0	3367
$^{48}\text{Ca}$	7.0	4272
$^{130}\text{Te}$	454	2529

External background measurement

$^{nat}\text{Te}$	491	see $^{130}\text{Te}$
$\text{Cu}$	621	-

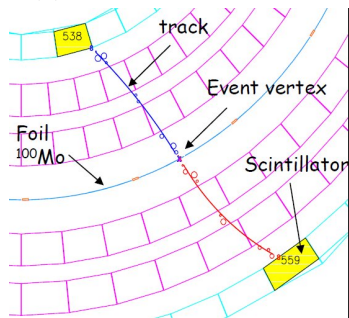
Enriched isotopes produced by centrifugation in Russia

# $\beta\beta$ event selection: the $(2e)_{internal}$ channel

## $(2e)_{internal}$ selection

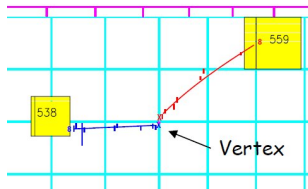
- 2 tracks with  $Q < 0$
- 2 PMTs associated with tracks
- common vertex
- internal event from the foil (TOF cut)
- No unassociated PMT ( $\gamma$  rejection)
- No delayed short tracks ( $\alpha$  rejection from  $^{214}\text{Bi}$ - $^{214}\text{Po}$  cascade)
- $\beta\beta$  rate: 1 event / 2.5 minutes

Typical  $\beta\beta 2\nu$  candidate event @  $\simeq 1$  MeV



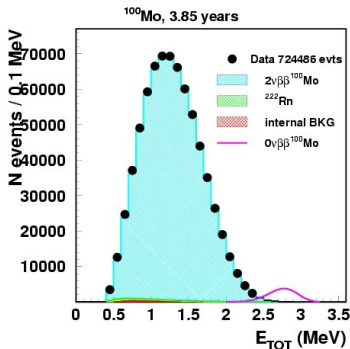
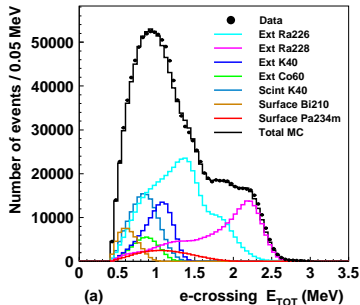
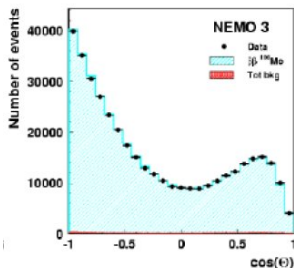
## Other channels

- Able to measure its own backgrounds
- Using independent channels :  $(e\gamma)$ ,  $(e\gamma\gamma)$ ,  $(e\gamma\alpha)$ ...
- Elaboration of background models



# $\beta\beta 2\nu$ results

Isotope	S/B	$T_{1/2}^{2\nu}$ (y)
$^{100}\text{Mo}$	40	$(7.17 \pm 0.01 \pm 0.54) \times 10^{18}$
exc. states	4	$(5.7^{+1.3}_{-0.9} \pm 0.8) \times 10^{20}$
$^{82}\text{Se}$	4	$(9.6 \pm 0.1 \pm 1.0) \times 10^{19}$
$^{116}\text{Cd}$	7.5	$(2.88 \pm 0.04 \pm 0.16) \times 10^{19}$
$^{96}\text{Zr}$	1	$(2.35 \pm 0.14 \pm 0.16) \times 10^{19}$
$^{150}\text{Nd}$	2.8	$(9.11^{+0.25}_{-0.22} \pm 0.63) \times 10^{18}$
$^{48}\text{Ca}$	6.8	$(4.4^{+0.5}_{-0.4} \pm 0.4) \times 10^{19}$
$^{130}\text{Te}$	0.35	$(7.0 \pm 0.9 \pm 1.0) \times 10^{20}$





# $\beta\beta 0\nu$ and $\beta\beta 0\nu\chi$ results

No evidence for new physics.

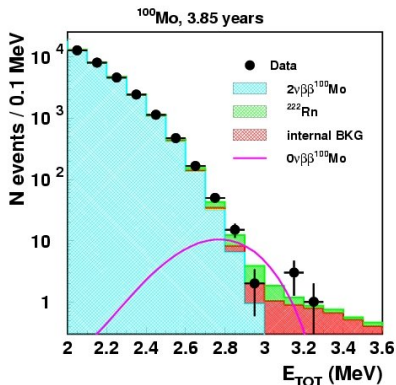
## $\beta\beta 0\nu$

Isotope	$T_{1/2}^{0\nu}$ (y) (90 %CL)	$\langle m_\nu \rangle$ upper limit
$^{100}\text{Mo}$	$> 1.0 \cdot 10^{24}$ y *	0.47-0.96 eV
$^{82}\text{Se}$	$> 3.2 \cdot 10^{23}$ y *	0.94-2.5 eV
$^{130}\text{Te}$	$> 1 \cdot 10^{23}$ y	
$^{150}\text{Nd}$	$> 1.8 \cdot 10^{22}$ y	
$^{116}\text{Cd}$	$> 1.6 \cdot 10^{22}$ y	
$^{48}\text{Ca}$	$> 1.3 \cdot 10^{22}$ y	
$^{96}\text{Zr}$	$> 9.2 \cdot 10^{21}$ y	

## $\beta\beta 0\nu\chi$

	$T_{1/2}^{0\nu\chi}$ (y) (90 %CL)	$\langle g_{ee} \rangle$ upper limit
$^{100}\text{Mo}$	$> 2.7 \cdot 10^{22}$ y *	$(0.4-1.8) 10^{-4}$
$^{82}\text{Se}$	$> 1.5 \cdot 10^{22}$ y *	$(0.66-1.9) 10^{-4}$
$^{150}\text{Nd}$	$> 1.52 \cdot 10^{21}$ y	$(1.7-3.0) 10^{-4}$

\* Best world limits



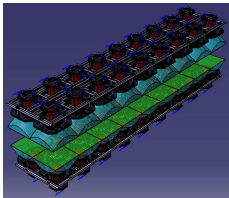
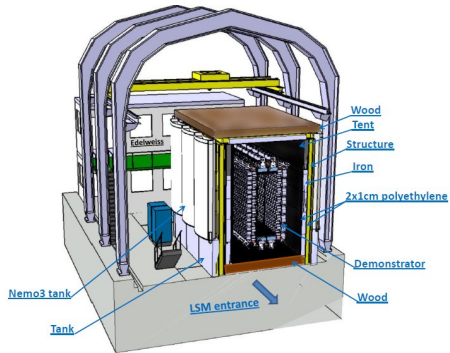
- Exposure  $\simeq 4.9$  y with  $\lesssim 7$  kg  $^{100}\text{Mo}$ ,  $\lesssim 1$  kg  $^{82}\text{Se}$
- $\beta\beta 2\nu$  measurements for :
  - ▶  $^{100}\text{Mo}$ ,  $^{82}\text{Se}$  (large statistics)
  - ▶ Other studies :  $^{116}\text{Cd}$ ,  $^{150}\text{Nd}$ ,  $^{48}\text{Ca}$ ,  $^{130}\text{Te}$ ,  $^{96}\text{Zr}$ ,  $\beta\beta 2\nu$  to excited states ( $^{100}\text{Mo} \rightarrow ^{100}\text{Ru}^*$ ), disentangling SSD/HSD mechanism ( $^{100}\text{Mo}$ ), input for n.m.e. calculation
- $\beta\beta 0\nu$  : no evidence for lepton number violation up to  $T_{1/2}^{0\nu} \simeq 10^{24}$  y ( $^{100}\text{Mo}$ )
- Background is well understood (internal, external, radon)
- First "tracko-calorimeter" experiment @  $10^{24}$  y
- Two more years of data analysis before final results.
- Now dismantling the detector at LSM

- 1990-2010 : two experimental approaches
  - ▶ Calorimeter :  
HM, IGEX ( $^{76}\text{Ge}$ ) :  $T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 1.5\text{--}1.9 \cdot 10^{25} \text{ y}$  ( $\langle m_\nu \rangle < 200\text{--}600 \text{ meV}$ )  
Cuoricino ( $^{130}\text{Te}$ ) :  $T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 3 \cdot 10^{24} \text{ y}$  ( $\langle m_\nu \rangle < 190\text{--}680 \text{ meV}$ )
  - ▶ Tracko-calorimeter :  
NEMO3 ( $^{100}\text{Mo}$ ) :  $T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 1 \cdot 10^{24} \text{ y}$  ( $\langle m_\nu \rangle < 470\text{--}960 \text{ meV}$ )
- 2010-2020 : investigating the  $\langle m_\nu \rangle = 50\text{--}200 \text{ meV}$  region
  - ▶  $T_{1/2}^{0\nu} \gtrsim 10^{24\text{--}25} \text{ y} \rightarrow 10^{26\text{--}27} \text{ y}$
  - ▶ Exposure ( $M \times t$ ) :  $\lesssim 50 \text{ kg.y} \rightarrow \gtrsim 500 \text{ kg.y}$
  - ▶ Background :  
 $b_{ROI} \simeq 10^{-1} \rightarrow 10^{-2}\text{--}10^{-3} \text{ count/y/keV/kg}$  (calorimeter)  
 $b_{ROI} \simeq 10^{-3} \rightarrow 10^{-4} \text{ count/y/keV/kg}$  (tracko-calorimeter)
- Main issue : background reduction by  $\simeq 2$  orders of magnitude
- Most new projects have a step approach to reach their target sensitivity
- The scale of future  $\beta\beta$  experiments increases significantly (100 kg):  $\rightarrow 20\text{--}40 \text{ M€}$

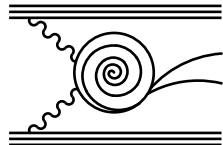
# New projects

Experiment	Isotope	Mass (kg)	Sensitivity		Status	Start of data taking
			$T_{1/2}^{0\nu}$ (y)	$\langle m_\nu \rangle$ (meV)		
Pure calorimeter						
CUORE	$^{130}\text{Te}$	200	$2.1 \cdot 10^{26}$	40-90	in prog.	~ 2013
GERDA-I	$^{76}\text{Ge}$	17.9	$3 \cdot 10^{25}$	180-440	comm.	~ 2012
GERDA-II	$^{76}\text{Ge}$	40	$2 \cdot 10^{26}$	70-170		~ 2012
MAJORANA	$^{76}\text{Ge}$	30-60	$(1 - 2) \cdot 10^{26}$	70-200	in prog.	~ 2013
EXO-200	$^{136}\text{Xe}$	200	$6.4 \cdot 10^{25}$	100-200	comm.	~ 2011
KamLAND-ZEN	$^{136}\text{Xe}$	400	$4 \cdot 10^{26}$	40-80	in prog.	~ 2011
SNO+	$^{150}\text{Nd}$	150	$4.5 \cdot 10^{24}$	160-218	in prog.	~ 2014
Tracko-calorimeter						
SuperNEMO-I	$^{82}\text{Se}$	7	$6.6 \cdot 10^{24}$	160-390	R&D	2014
SuperNEMO	$^{82}\text{Se}$	100	$1 \cdot 10^{26}$	40-100		> 2015
	$^{150}\text{Nd}$	100	$4 \cdot 10^{25}$	54-73		
	$^{48}\text{Ca}$	50	$1.9 \cdot 10^{26}$	30		

# The SuperNEMO proposal



supernemo



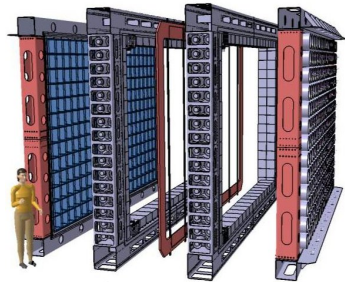
collaboration

# The SuperNEMO project

- Initiated by the NEMO Collaboration in 2003
- R&D started in 2005→2010 :
  - ▶ A shared R&D program : Cz. Rep., [France](#), Japan, S. Korea, Russia, Spain, UK, USA... (100 people)
  - ▶ Improve energy resolution of the calorimeter from 15% to 8% (FWHM @ 1 MeV)
  - ▶ Master source contamination ( $^{214}\text{Bi}$ ,  $^{208}\text{Tl}$ )
  - ▶ Solve radon issues
  - ▶ Optimize the geometry (efficiency, tracker, # channels, scalability, costs...)
  - ▶ Strong support from IN2P3 : CENBG, CPPM, IPHC, LAL, LPC, LSM  
1 M€+ manpower ( $\simeq$  1 M€/y) (+ ANR)
- Two steps:
  - ▶ Phase 1 (2011-2013, 4.1 M€) : demonstrator module (17 kg.y, [this proposal](#))
  - ▶ Phase 2 (2015+, 34.5 M€) : full size experiment (500 kg.y)

# The SuperNEMO project

- Re-use NEMO 3 technique and know-how (*tracko-calor*)
- 20 modules with 5 kg enriched  $\beta\beta$  source  $\equiv$  100 kg
- A SuperNEMO module ( $\simeq$  1/2 NEMO 3)
  - ▶ Source: 5 kg (50 mg/cm<sup>2</sup>)
  - ▶ Tracking chamber : 2000 drift cells (Geiger regime)
  - ▶ Calorimeter : 500–700 scintillator blocks/8" PMTs, 8% FWHM resolution @ 1 MeV (NEMO 3:  $\simeq$ 15%)
  - ▶ Coil ( $B=25$  gauss), shielding (300 t)...
  - ▶  $\simeq$  6500 electronics channels
- Baseline:  $^{82}\text{Se}$   
 $Q_{\beta\beta} = 2995$  keV ( $> E_{\gamma}(^{208}\text{Tl})$ )  
 $T_{1/2}^{2\nu} \simeq 10^{20}$  y ( $> 10 \times T_{1/2}^{2\nu}(^{100}\text{Mo})$ )



- Target sensitivity with 500 kg.y ( $^{82}\text{Se}$ ):  
 $T_{1/2}^{0\nu} \gtrsim 10^{26}$  y  $\rightarrow \langle m_{\nu} \rangle < 40 - 100$  meV
- Alternatives:  $^{150}\text{Nd}$ ,  $^{48}\text{Ca}$   
 $Q_{\beta\beta} = 3367, 4271$  keV  
( $> E_{\gamma}(^{208}\text{Tl})$ ,  $Q_{\beta}(^{214}\text{Bi}, \text{radon})$ )

# French tasks for the construction of a SuperNEMO demonstrator module

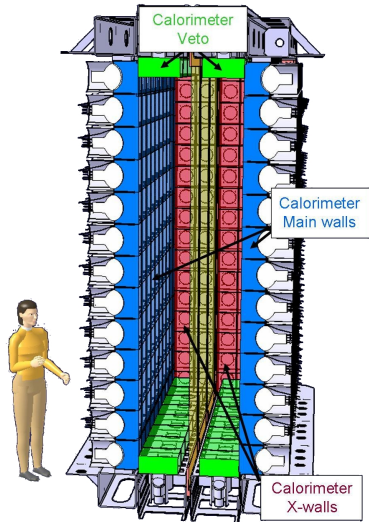
## Workpackage organization

- WP1: calorimeter (CENBG, LAL, CPPM, LPC)
- WP2: electronics (LAL, LPC)
- WP3: BiPo detectors (CENBG, LAL, LPC)
- WP4: radiopurity measurements (CENBG, CPPM, LAL)
- WP5: software (LAL, LPC)
- WP6: sources (CENBG, LSM)
- WP7: surroundings (LAL, CPPM)
- WP8: integration (LAL, CPPM, CENBG, LPC...)
- WP9: technical coordination (LAL, CPPM)

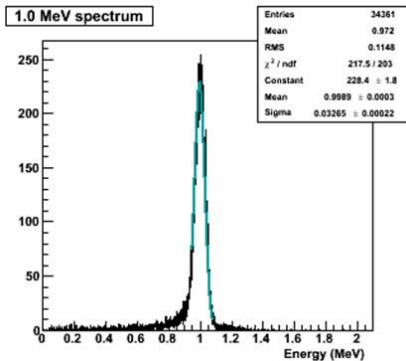


## A crucial part of the project

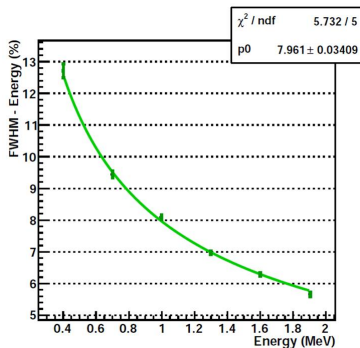
- A fruitful collaboration between IN2P3 labs (CENBG, LAL) and private companies to reach the objectives
- a lot of R&D for testing many different materials and geometries
- development of specific test benches and systematic experimental protocols



Parameter	Requirement	Results
Optical Modules		
Granularity	$30 \times 30 \text{ cm}^2$	$256.8^2 \text{ mm}^2$ $308^2 \text{ mm}^2$
Energy resolution	$\leq 8\%$	<b>7.3 %</b>
Energy homogeneity	$\delta E/E_{central} < 2 \%$	$\delta E/E_{central} < 2 \%$
Time Resolution	250 ps (sigma)	in prog.



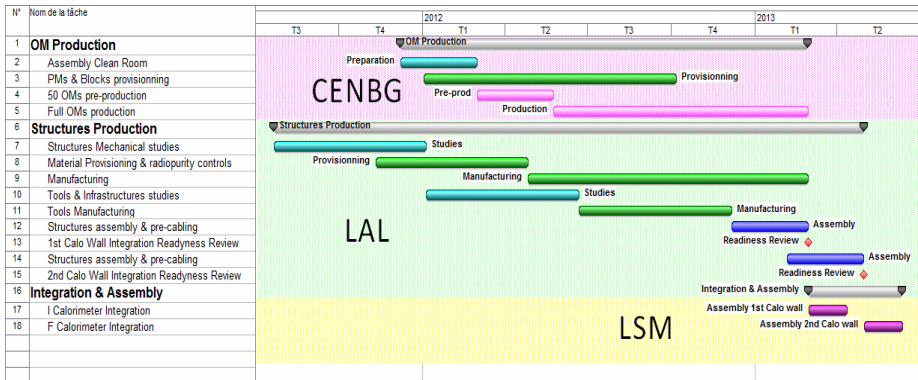
Single electron resolution @ 1 MeV



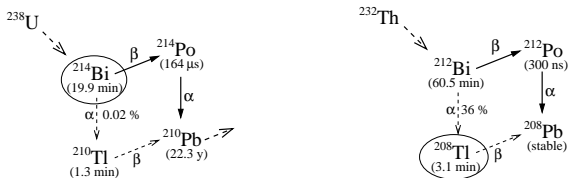
$$FWHM/E \propto 1/\sqrt{E}$$

# WP1: main achievements (2)

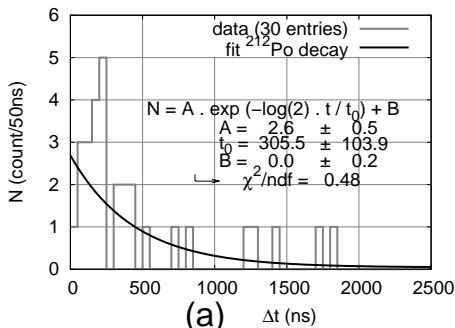
PMts		
Photocathode size	$\geq 8$ inches	8"
QE	$\geq 25\%$ @ 420 nm	35%
Linearity	Deviation $< 1\%$ up to 3 MeV	$< 1\%$
Cathode homogeneity	Deviation $< 20\%$	$< 10\%$
Radiopurity		
$^{226}\text{Ra}$	40 mBq/kg	100 mBq/kg
$^{228}\text{Th}$	10 mBq/kg	56 mBq/kg
Scintillators		
Thickness	$\geq 10$ cm	19 cm (mean value)
Electron Backscattering	$\leq 5\%$ @ 1 MeV	5% @ 1 MeV
Light Yield	$> 6000$ photons / MeV	10400 ph./MeV
Decay Time	$< 5$ ns	1.8 ns
Radiopurity		
$^{226}\text{Ra}$	$< 2.5$ mBq/kg	$< 0.1$ mBq/kg
$^{228}\text{Th}$	$< 0.6$ mBq/kg	$< 0.1$ mBq/kg
Calibration		
Light injection system	Accuracy of 1% on the gain	$< 1\%$
Alpha sources	Accuracy of 1% on the gain	$< 1\%$



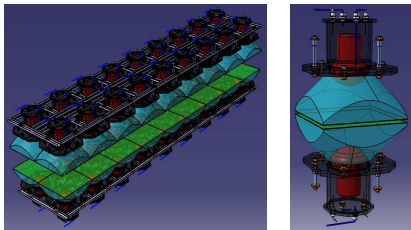
# WP3: Why a BiPo detector ?



- Required radiopurities of the SuperNEMO double beta decay foils are  $\mathcal{A}(^{208}\text{Tl}) < 2 \mu\text{Bq/kg}$  and  $\mathcal{A}(^{214}\text{Bi}) < 10 \mu\text{Bq/kg}$ .
- The best detection limit with HPGe (High Purity Germanium) for  $^{208}\text{Tl}$  is around  $50 \mu\text{Bq/kg}$ ,
- Development of a dedicated BiPo planar detector,
- Proof of validity and first prototype (BiPo-1) installed in LSM,
- SuperNEMO source foils measurement in Canfranc.



- 27% efficiency to detect the BiPo cascade from a  $^{212}\text{Bi}$  pollution on the surface of the scintillators
- Corresponds to a surface background of the BiPo-1 prototype of  $\mathcal{A}(^{208}\text{Tl}) = 1.5 \pm 0.3(\text{stat}) \pm 0.3(\text{syst}) \mu\text{Bq}/\text{m}^2$  in  $^{208}\text{Tl}$ .
- Level of background low enough to reach the required sensitivity of  $2 \mu\text{Bq}/\text{kg}$  in  $^{208}\text{Tl}$  with a larger detector.



- Construction of 40 optical sub-modules to start in April 2011 in the LAL Orsay clean room.
- Installation with the shield and clean tent in the Canfranc Underground Laboratory in November 2011.
- 6 months background measurement to start in December 2011
- 6 months measurement of the first SuperNEMO double beta source foils to start in May 2012. Validation of the radiopurity of the SuperNEMO foils available at the end of 2012.



Radiopurity measurements is a crucial task for the study of double beta decay process:

- for the selection of all the materials entering in the construction of the SuperNEMO demonstrator by low-background gamma spectrometry measurements,
- to find a way to decrease and control the level of radon inside the tracker chamber down to  $0.2 \text{ mBq/m}^3$

Tools at the disposal of the Collaboration for such tasks:

- at LSM, two  $400 \text{ cm}^3$  coaxial-type HPGe detectors, a planar Broad Energy Germanium (BEGe) and a  $600 \text{ cm}^3$  coaxial-type spectrometer with typical sensitivities of  $0.13 \text{ mBq/kg}$  for  $^{214}\text{Bi}$  and  $0.05 \text{ mBq/kg}$  for  $^{208}\text{Tl}$
- the PRISNA platform (CENBG) with two HPGe detectors with a typical sensitivity around  $50 \text{ mBq/kg}$ . This is well-adapted for cables, shielding components located outside the tracker and calorimeter part and for a pre-screening of the samples for the SuperNEMO demonstrator.

Sources of Radon by descending order of expected importance:

- Radon emanation from the materials inside the tracker (wires of the tracker, cathodic rings, support of the sources. . .),
- Radon emanation from the materials (PMT, shielding. . .) surrounding the tracker,
- Radon emanation from the laboratory and diffusion inside the tracker,
- Radon introduced in the tracker by the incoming gas

Solutions:

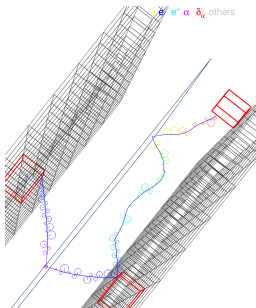
- tracker is isolated from the rest of the detector
- materials inside the tracker have to be very radiopure
- Radon-free air should be flushed around the PMT glass
- tracker and calorimeter are placed in an “anti-Radon tent”
- the incoming gas must be as radiopure as possible. Helium is purified by well-mastered techniques. The remaining 4% made of alcohol needs adapted charcoal or organic zeolith (CPPM).
- the Radon contamination of the gas must be measured. An electrostatic detector (such as in NEMO-3) has a sensitivity around  $1 \text{ mBq/m}^3$ .
- to reach  $0.2 \text{ mBq/m}^3$  : coupling  $\lesssim 1 \text{ mBq/m}^3$  sensitive detectors with a radon concentration device.

- Electronics :

- ▶ Design and construction : calorimeter front-end, trigger, part of tracker front-end
- ▶ Based on new generation ASICs (signal digitization, multi-channel) : LAL, LPC
- ▶ Main responsibility : LAL

- Software :

- ▶ Online software : BiPo DAQ
- ▶ Offline software : SuperNEMO, BiPo
- ▶ Simulation, visualization, data analysis
- ▶ Key contributions : LPC, LAL



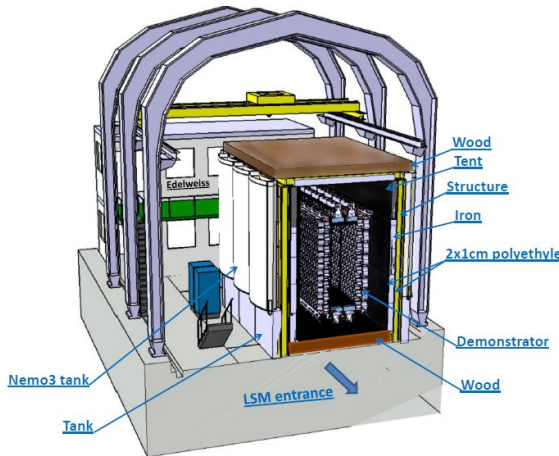
## Choice of the isotope(s):

- Large phase space factor ( $Q_{bb}^5$  dependance) and removal of some background contributions call for large  $Q_{bb}$  values
- Best compromise for SuperNEMO is  $^{82}\text{Se}$ , transition energy is large: 2.995 MeV,  $\beta\beta 2\nu$  half-life is  $9.6 \pm 0.3(\text{stat}) \pm 1.0(\text{syst})10^{19}$  y (measured by NEMO-3) leading to a reduction by a factor  $>10$  of the background from the  $\beta\beta 2\nu$  decay as compared to  $^{100}\text{Mo}$ .
- $^{96}\text{Zr}$ ,  $^{150}\text{Nd}$  or  $^{48}\text{Ca}$  are also very good candidates
- Possibility of enrichment by centrifugation of large amount of  $^{82}\text{Se}$ ,  $^{100}\text{Mo}$  and  $^{116}\text{Cd}$  and maybe  $^{150}\text{Nd}$
- With AVLIS (Atomic Vapor Laser Isotopic Separation), possibility for  $^{150}\text{Nd}$  or  $^{48}\text{Ca}$

## Source foil production:

- 5 kg  $^{82}\text{Se}$  are already available
- $^{82}\text{Se}$  purification at a level of 2 and 10  $\mu\text{Bq/kg}$  for  $^{208}\text{Tl}$  and  $^{214}\text{Bi}$  is a challenge : chemical purification similar to Molybdenum purification for NEMO-3 can be used and carried out in a class 100 clean room.
- production of foils based on laser techniques is under study (CCPM).

- Mechanics design mainly in France (LAL, CENBG)
- Hosting site : LSM
- Key responsibilities for french labs.



## The main goals of the demonstrator module are

- demonstration of the feasibility of a full scale detector with the requested performances (e.g. calorimeter energy and time resolution, tracker efficiency and radio-purity).
- measurement of the radon background contribution especially from internal materials outgasing.
- measurement of the background contribution from the detector components.
- finalize/optimize the design of the full scale detector.
- production of a competitive measurement with  $^{82}\text{Se}$  (2.5 years of data taking with a 7 kg source). After 17 kg.yr exposure with  $^{82}\text{Se}$ , the sensitivity of the demonstrator will be  $6.6 \cdot 10^{24}$  y (90% CL) which is equivalent to  $3 \cdot 10^{25}$  y obtained with  $^{76}\text{Ge}$ . This will lead to a neutrino mass sensitivity similar to GERDA Phase-I :  $\langle m_\nu \rangle \simeq 200\text{-}400$  meV.
- Expected start of data taking: 2014/T2 for 3 years

## Phase-I : this proposal

Component	Cost (k€)	Status
Calorimeter	1500	
Tracker	1500	funded (UK)
Source	500	350 k€ funded
Shielding	150	
Others	50	
BiPo	400	≈350 k€ funded
$^{150}\text{Nd}$	150	
<b>Total</b>	<b>4250</b>	<b>2200 k€ funded</b> 52 %
France	1400	33%
$^{150}\text{Nd}$	+150	3%

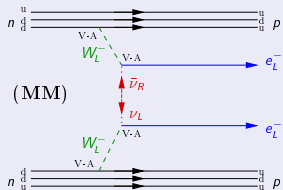
## Summary

- SuperNEMO : "tracko-calorimeter" DBD experiment
- SuperNEMO – Phase 1 (demonstrator) : 7 kg  $^{82}\text{Se}$   $\times$  2.5 y (2014-2017)
  - ▶  $T_{1/2}^{0\nu} = 6.6 \cdot 10^{24}$  y  $\leadsto \langle N_{obs}^{0\nu} \rangle = 3.5$
  - ▶ Background :  $< 1$ 
    - ★  $\langle N_{obs}^{2\nu} \rangle \lesssim 0.5$
    - ★  $b_{ROI} = 1.10^{-4}$  /keV/y/kg  $\leadsto \langle N_{obs}^{bkgd} \rangle \lesssim 0.5$
  - ▶  $\langle m_\nu \rangle < 200\text{--}400$  meV
- Only experiment to investigate:
  - ▶  $\beta\beta 0\nu\chi$  for  $g_{ee} < 10^{-4}$
  - ▶  $\beta\beta 0\nu$  to excited states
- 20-years know-how (NEMO 2, NEMO3)
- Funding:  $\simeq 1.5$  M€ / 4.3 (NEMO 3 :  $\simeq 2.5$  M€)
- Timescale for physics : 2014-2017
- Step to 500 kg.y DBD experiment (baseline :  $^{82}\text{Se}$ ) : 2016+



Back slides

## The mass mechanism (MM)



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

where  $\langle m_\nu \rangle$  is the effective Majorana neutrino mass:

$$\langle m_\nu \rangle \equiv \left| \cos^2 \theta_{13} \left( |m_1| \cos^2 \theta_{12} + |m_2| e^{2i\phi_1} \sin^2 \theta_{12} \right) + |m_3| e^{2i(\phi_2 - \delta)} \sin^2 \theta_{13} \right|$$

$\theta_{ij}$  : mixing angles ( $\nu$  oscillation exp.)

$\phi_k$  : Majorana phase;  $\delta$  : CP-violating phase

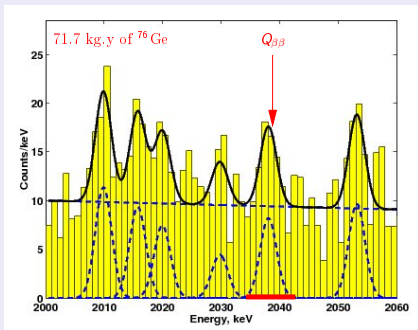
## Isotopes of experimental interest

Isotope	%	$Q_{\beta\beta}$ (keV)	$G^{0\nu}$ ( $y^{-1}$ )	$G^{2\nu}$ ( $y^{-1}$ )
$^{48}\text{Ca}^*$	0.187	4271	$2.439 \cdot 10^{-25}$	$3.968 \cdot 10^{-17}$
$^{76}\text{Ge}$	7.4	2039	$2.445 \cdot 10^{-26}$	$1.305 \cdot 10^{-19}$
$^{82}\text{Se}^*$	8.73	2995	$1.079 \cdot 10^{-25}$	$4.348 \cdot 10^{-18}$
$^{96}\text{Zr}^*$	2.8	3350	$2.242 \cdot 10^{-25}$	$1.927 \cdot 10^{-17}$
$^{100}\text{Mo}^*$	9.6	3034	$1.754 \cdot 10^{-25}$	$9.434 \cdot 10^{-18}$
$^{116}\text{Cd}^*$	7.49	2802	$1.894 \cdot 10^{-25}$	$8.000 \cdot 10^{-18}$
$^{130}\text{Te}^*$	33.8	2533	$1.698 \cdot 10^{-25}$	$4.808 \cdot 10^{-18}$
$^{136}\text{Xe}$	8.9	2480	$1.812 \cdot 10^{-25}$	$4.831 \cdot 10^{-18}$
$^{150}\text{Nd}^*$	5.6	3367	$8.000 \cdot 10^{-25}$	$1.189 \cdot 10^{-16}$

$$\beta\beta 2\nu : (T_{1/2}^{2\nu})^{-1} = G^{2\nu} | M^{2\nu} |^2$$

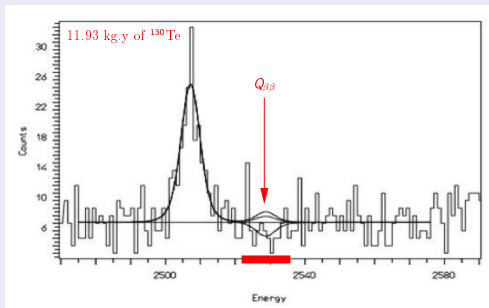
## The Heidelberg-Moscow experiment (1990-2003)

- 5 ultrapure HPGe detectors (11 kg  $^{76}\text{Ge}$ )
  - Exposure :  
 $\simeq 72 \text{ kg.y of } ^{76}\text{Ge}$
  - Background (ROI) :  
 $\simeq 80 \text{ counts}$
  - Limit :  $T_{1/2}^{0\nu} \gtrsim 2 \cdot 10^{25} \text{ y}$
- $\langle m_\nu \rangle < 0.2 - 0.6 \text{ eV}$



## The Cuoricino experiment (2003-2006)

- 62 TeO<sub>2</sub> bolometers  
(11 kg <sup>130</sup>Te)
  - Exposure :  
≈ 12 kg.y of <sup>130</sup>Te
  - Background (ROI) :  
≈ 70 counts
  - Limit :  $T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 3 \cdot 10^{24}$  y
- $\langle m_\nu \rangle < 0.19 - 0.68$  eV



## A very powerful approach

- Large mass of  $\beta\beta$  source isotopes
- High efficiency
- Very good energy resolution
- Compacity of the experimental setup and shielding

## Counterpart

- Only one observable (energy sum)
- No direct identification of the final state particles
- Only one  $\beta\beta$  isotope (detector $\equiv$ source)

# Expected backgrounds in the ( $2e$ ) channel

- "External" background :  $\gamma$  flux from PMT glass...
- "Internal" background : source foil contaminants, gas, wires...

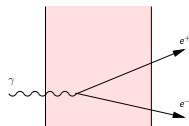
## External ( $^{208}\text{Tl}$ , $n$ capture):



double  
Compton

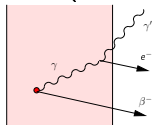


Compton+  
Möller

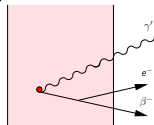


pair  
production

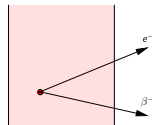
## Internal ( $^{214}\text{Bi}$ , $^{208}\text{Tl}$ ):



$\beta^-$  +  
Compton



$\beta^-$  +  
Möller



$\beta^-$  +  
IC

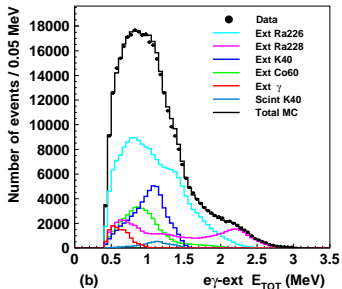
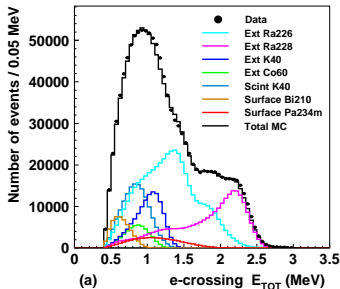
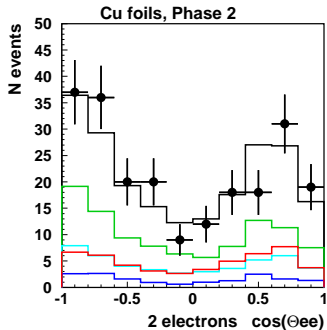
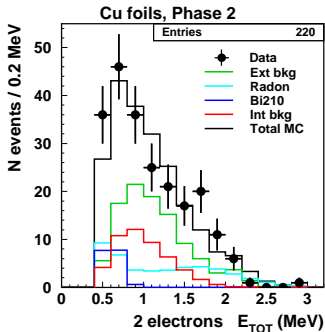
## NEMO-3 is able to measure each components of its background

- using **independant channels** to identify and measure different sources of background:

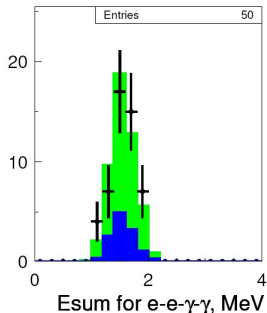
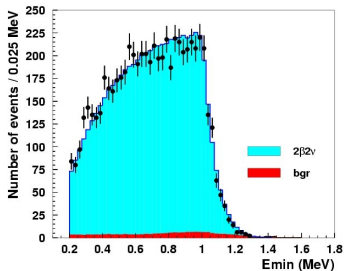
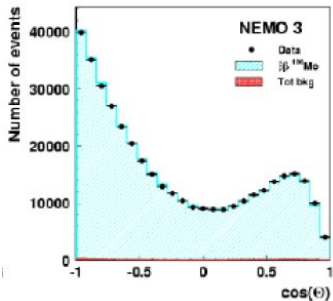
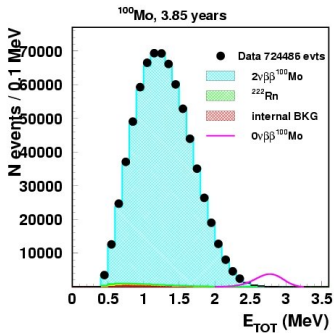
Channel(s)	Background category	Radio-contaminants
$e\gamma_{\text{external}}, e_{\text{crossing}}$	external background	$^{40}\text{K}, ^{60}\text{Co}, ^{226}\text{Ra} \dots$
$e\gamma, e\gamma\gamma, e\gamma\gamma\gamma$	internal background from $\gamma$ -emitters	$^{208}\text{Tl}, ^{207}\text{Bi} \dots$
$1e$	internal background from pure $\beta$ -emitters	$^{234m}\text{Pa}, ^{40}\text{K}, ^{90}\text{Y} \dots$
$e\alpha(\gamma)$	radon daughters deposited on wires and source foils	$^{214}\text{Bi}, ^{214}\text{Po}$ $^{212}\text{Bi}, ^{212}\text{Po}$

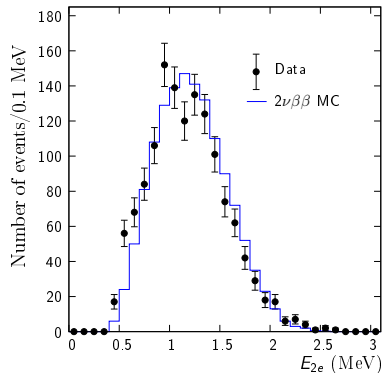
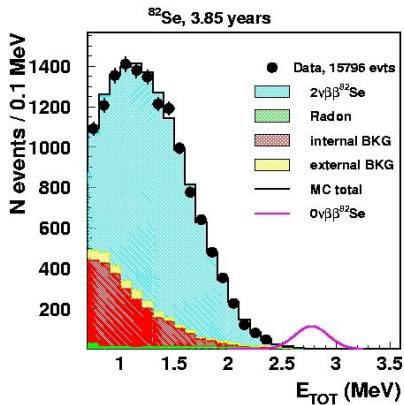
- elaborating a **background model** for each  $\beta\beta$  isotope
- $\leadsto$  predicting background contamination in 2e channel, particularly at the  **$Q_{\beta\beta}$  end point** for  $\beta\beta 0\nu$  search



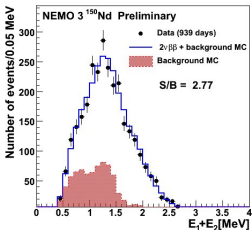


Isotope	Measurement time, days	Number of $2\nu$ events	$S/B$	$T_{1/2}(2\nu)$ , y
$^{100}\text{Mo}$	389	219000	40	$(7.17 \pm 0.01 \pm 0.54) \times 10^{18}$
$^{100}\text{Mo}-^{100}\text{Ru}(0_1^+)$	334.3	37.5	4	$(5.7_{-0.9}^{+1.3} \pm 0.8) \times 10^{20}$
$^{82}\text{Se}$	389	2750	4	$(9.6 \pm 0.1 \pm 1.0) \times 10^{19}$
$^{116}\text{Cd}$	168.4	1371	7.5	$(2.88 \pm 0.04 \pm 0.16) \times 10^{19}$
$^{96}\text{Zr}$	1221	428	1	$(2.35 \pm 0.14 \pm 0.16) \times 10^{19}$
$^{150}\text{Nd}$	939	2018	2.8	$(9.11_{-0.22}^{+0.25} \pm 0.63) \times 10^{18}$
$^{48}\text{Ca}$	943.16	116	6.8	$(4.4_{-0.4}^{+0.5} \pm 0.4) \times 10^{19}$
$^{130}\text{Te}$	1152	236	0.35	$(7.0_{-0.8}^{+1.0} \pm 0.9 \pm 1.0) \times 10^{20}$

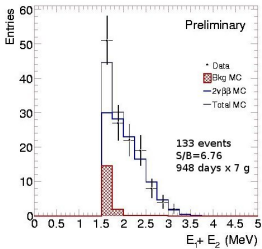




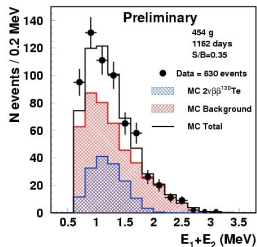
$^{150}\text{Nd}$



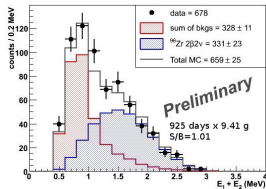
$^{48}\text{Ca}$



$^{130}\text{Te}$



$^{96}\text{Zr}$



# $\beta\beta 0\nu$ and $\beta\beta 0\nu\chi$ results

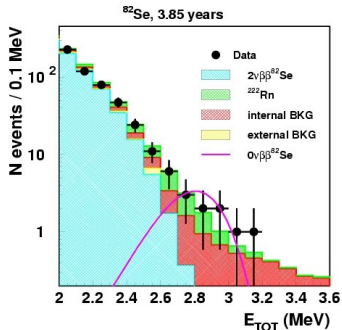
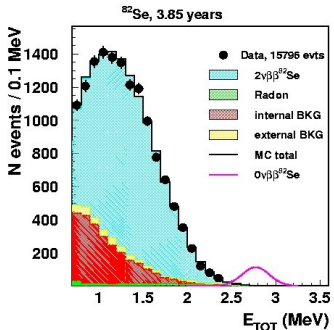
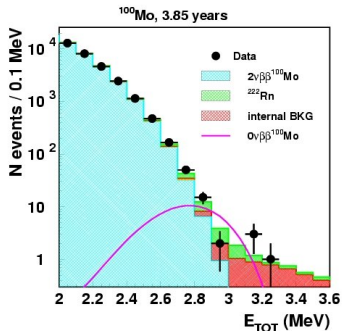
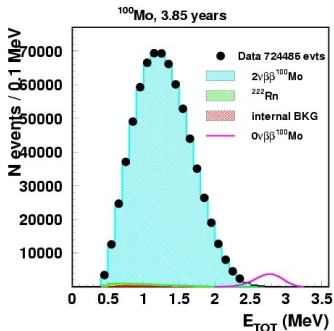
$\beta\beta 0\nu$

Isotope	Measurement time, days	$T_{1/2}^{0\nu}, y$ (90 %CL)	$\langle m_\nu \rangle$ upper limit
$^{100}\text{Mo}$	1409	$> 1.0 \cdot 10^{24} y *$	0.47-0.96 eV
$^{82}\text{Se}$	1409	$> 3.2 \cdot 10^{23} y *$	0.94-2.5 eV
$^{130}\text{Te}$	1221	$> 1 \cdot 10^{23} y$	
$^{150}\text{Nd}$	939	$> 1.8 \cdot 10^{22} y$	
$^{116}\text{Cd}$	77	$> 1.6 \cdot 10^{22} y$	
$^{48}\text{Ca}$	943	$> 1.3 \cdot 10^{22} y$	
$^{96}\text{Zr}$	1221	$> 9.2 \cdot 10^{21} y$	

$\beta\beta 0\nu\chi$

		$T_{1/2}^{0\nu\chi}, y$ (90 %CL)	$\langle g_{ee} \rangle$ upper limit
$^{100}\text{Mo}$		$> 2.7 \cdot 10^{22} y *$	$(0.4-1.8) 10^{-4}$
$^{82}\text{Se}$		$> 1.5 \cdot 10^{22} y *$	$(0.66-1.9) 10^{-4}$
$^{150}\text{Nd}$		$> 1.52 \cdot 10^{21} y$	$(1.7-3.0) 10^{-4}$

\* Best world limits



# Figure of merit of $\beta\beta$ isotopes

- Parameters of experimental interest :

$$\begin{aligned} N_{obs}^{0\nu} &\equiv \frac{M}{m_A} N_A t \varepsilon \frac{\log(2)}{T_{1/2}^{0\nu}} \\ &\equiv \frac{M}{m_A} N_A t \varepsilon \log(2) G^{0\nu} | M^{0\nu} |^2 < m_\nu >^2 \end{aligned}$$

- Experimental factor of merit for  $t=\text{constant}$  (5 y) and  $M^{0\nu} \simeq 3$  (no background experiment):

$$FOM \equiv \left( \frac{M}{m_A} \varepsilon G^{0\nu} \right)^{1/2}$$

- Comparison with 100 kg of  $^{76}\text{Ge}$  :

$$FOM(^{76}\text{Ge}, 100\text{kg}) \simeq 16(\text{A.U.})$$

Isotope	$G^{0\nu}$ (A.U.)	$\varepsilon$	Mass (kg)
$^{76}\text{Ge}$	0.24	0.8 (calo)	100
$^{130}\text{Te}$	1.7	0.8 (calo)	25
$^{82}\text{Se}$	1.08	0.25 (tracko-calor)	75
$^{150}\text{Nd}$	8.0	0.25 (tracko-calor)	20

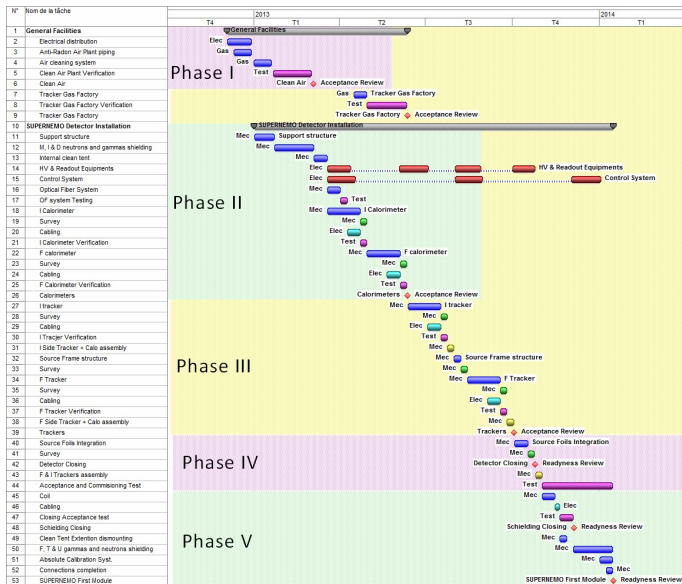


# From NEMO-3 to SuperNEMO:

Parameter	NEMO-3	SuperNEMO
Isotope	$^{100}\text{Mo}$	$^{82}\text{Se}$ or other
Mass (kg)	7	100
Exposure (kg.yr)	31.5	500
Efficiency $\beta\beta 0\nu$ (%)	18	$\simeq 30$
Energy resolution at 1 MeV $e^-$	$\sim 15$	$\sim 8$
$^{208}\text{Tl}$ in foil ( $\mu\text{Bq/kg}$ )	$< 20$	$< 2$
$^{214}\text{Bi}$ in foil ( $\mu\text{Bq/kg}$ )	$< 300$	$< 10$ (only for $^{82}\text{Se}$ )
$^{222}\text{Rn}$ in gas ( $\text{mBq/m}^3$ )	$\simeq 5$	$< 0.2$ (only for $^{82}\text{Se}$ )
$^{220}\text{Rn}$ in gas ( $\text{mBq/m}^3$ )	$\simeq 0.15$	$< 0.03$ (only for $^{82}\text{Se}$ )
Internal background, cts/mass/year	0.5	0.5
$T_{1/2}^{0\nu\beta\beta}$ sensitivity ( $10^{26}$ years)	$> 0.02$	$> 1$
$\langle m_\nu \rangle$ sensitivity (meV)	470–960	40–110

Comparison of the main NEMO-3 and SuperNEMO parameters.

# The SuperNEMO demonstrator module: milestones



## SuperNEMO

- 200 kg  $^{150}\text{Nd} \times 5 \text{ y}$  ( $Q_{\beta\beta} = 3.3 \text{ MeV}$ ):
  - ▶  $T_{1/2}^{0\nu} = 2 \cdot 10^{26} \text{ y} \rightsquigarrow \langle N_{obs}^{0\nu} \rangle = 3$
  - ▶  $\langle N_{obs}^{2\nu} \rangle \lesssim 1.0$
  - ▶ No  $E_{\gamma}=2.6 \text{ MeV}$  ( $^{208}\text{Tl}$ ), no  $^{214}\text{Bi}$ , no radon
  - ▶  $\langle m_{\nu} \rangle < 20\text{--}50 \text{ meV}$
  - ▶  $\simeq ^{76}\text{Ge}$  1-ton experiment
- 50 kg  $^{48}\text{Ca} \times 5 \text{ y}$  ( $Q_{\beta\beta} = 4.2 \text{ MeV}$ ):
  - ▶  $T_{1/2}^{0\nu} = 1.9 \cdot 10^{26} \text{ y} \rightsquigarrow \langle N_{obs}^{0\nu} \rangle \simeq 1$
  - ▶  $\langle N_{obs}^{2\nu} \rangle \lesssim 1.0$
  - ▶ No  $^{208}\text{Tl}$ ,  $^{214}\text{Bi}$ , no radon
  - ▶  $\langle m_{\nu} \rangle < 30\text{--}50 \text{ meV}$
- R&D for enrichment. . .