

# Search for $^{76}\text{Ge}$ $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay and beyond with the GERDA experiment

Thursday 8 September 2022 14:20 (20 minutes)

Observing the neutrino-less double-beta ( $0\nu\beta\beta$ ) decay would imply that neutrinos have a Majorana mass component and provide evidence of lepton number violation. The Germanium Detector Array (GERDA) experiment searched for  $0\nu\beta\beta$  of  $^{76}\text{Ge}$  operating enriched high purity germanium detectors in an instrumented Liquid Argon volume at Laboratori Nazionali del Gran Sasso (LNGS) in Italy. At the end of Phase II, with a total exposure of 127.2 kg·yr, no  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay signal was found, and the most stringent lower limit on the  $^{76}\text{Ge}$   $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay half-life was set at  $1.8 \cdot 10^{26}$  yr at 90% C.L., coinciding with the median sensitivity for the null hypothesis.

The ultra-low background and excellent understanding of the experiment's response achieved in GERDA Phase II also allowed a measurement of the Standard Model  $2\nu\beta\beta$  decay half-life of  $^{76}\text{Ge}$  with unprecedented precision. It provides essential inputs for nuclear structure calculations that benefit the interpretation of  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay results. Furthermore, the search for distortions of the  $2\nu\beta\beta$  decay spectrum allows exploring new physics, like  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay with Majoron emission, Lorentz invariance, or search for sterile neutrinos.

This talk will cover the final result of GERDA on the search for  $^{76}\text{Ge}$   $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay, as well as new results on the  $^{76}\text{Ge}$   $2\nu\beta\beta$  decay half-life and limits on exotic decay modes.

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**Session Classification:** Lepton Flavour Physics

**Track Classification:** Lepton Flavour Physics