

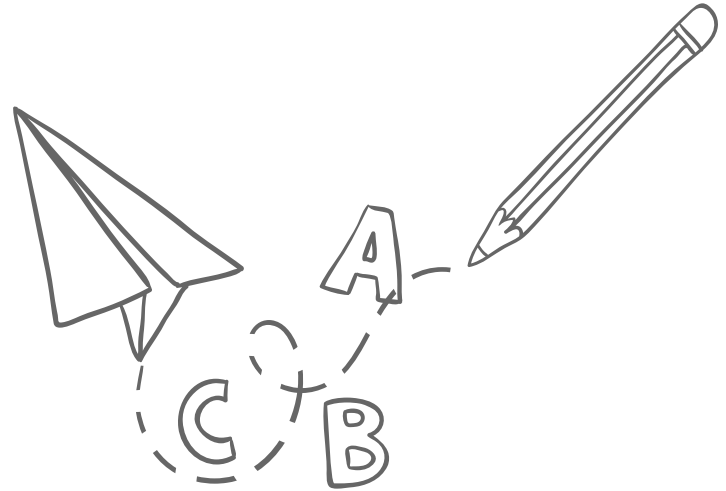
# GERDA e LEGEND: sonde ad alta sensibilità su natura e massa del neutrino



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Università dell'Aquila & LNGS  
22 Giugno 2020

- A. Intro al Decadimento Doppio Beta (F. Salamida)
- B. GERDA (F. Salamida & C.M. Cattadori)
- C. LEGEND (V. D'Andrea)



# The birth of $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay

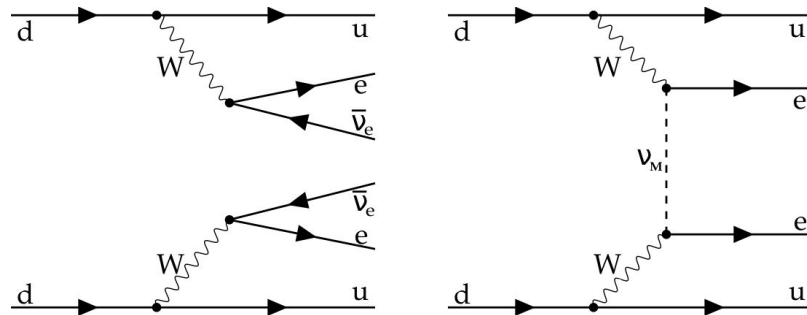
- in 1897 J.J. Thomson discovers the electron, later (1911-1919) E. Rutherford discovers the atom and the proton.
- this model goes into crisis (among mass inconsistencies) with the observation of the continuous spectrum of beta decay;
- in 1930 Pauli to overcome this problem proposes the a new particle the **neutron**, but it is E. Fermi that in 1932 after the discovery of neutron by J. Chadwick calls the Pauli particle neutrino;
- in 1937 E. Majorana propose a description of neutral  $\frac{1}{2}$  spin particles (e.g neutrinos) where particle and anti-particle are identical.
- as a consequence in 1939 H. Furry suggests that  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay can be observed

# Search for $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay

Powerful method to study the unknown neutrino properties

Observation of  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay will imply:

1. neutrino has Majorana nature
2. lepton number violation ( $\Delta L = 2$ )
3. determination of  $\nu$  absolute mass (nuclear model dependent)



The half life of  $0\nu\beta\beta$  in case of light Majorana neutrino exchange:

$$\left(T_{1/2}^{0\nu}\right)^{-1} = G_{0\nu} \times |M_{0\nu}|^2 \times \left(\frac{m_{\beta\beta}}{m_e}\right)^2$$

- **Phase Space Integral:** well known quantity
- **Nuclear Matrix Element:** most critical ingredient, produces uncertainty in the determination of  $m_{\beta\beta}$  (quenching problem)
- **Neutrino Effective Mass:** estimated by measuring  $T_{1/2}^{2\nu}$

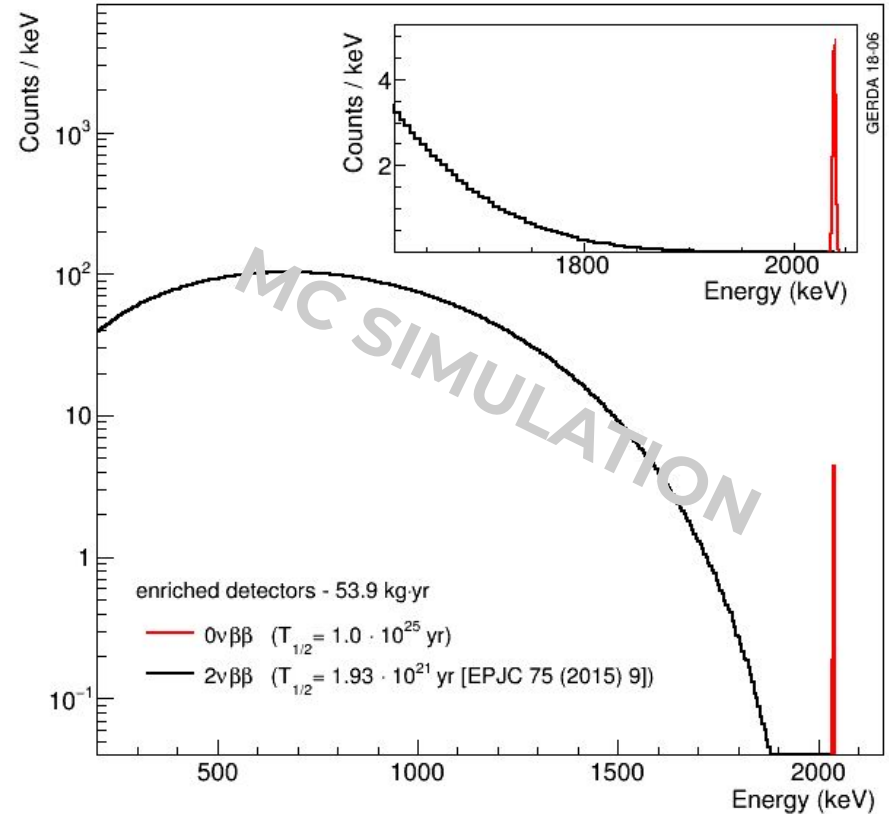
## Experimental sensitivity

$$S \propto a\varepsilon \sqrt{\frac{M \cdot t}{\Delta E \cdot BI}}$$

efficiency  $\varepsilon$  exposure  $M \cdot t$   
abundance  $a$  energy resolution  $\Delta E$  background index  $BI$

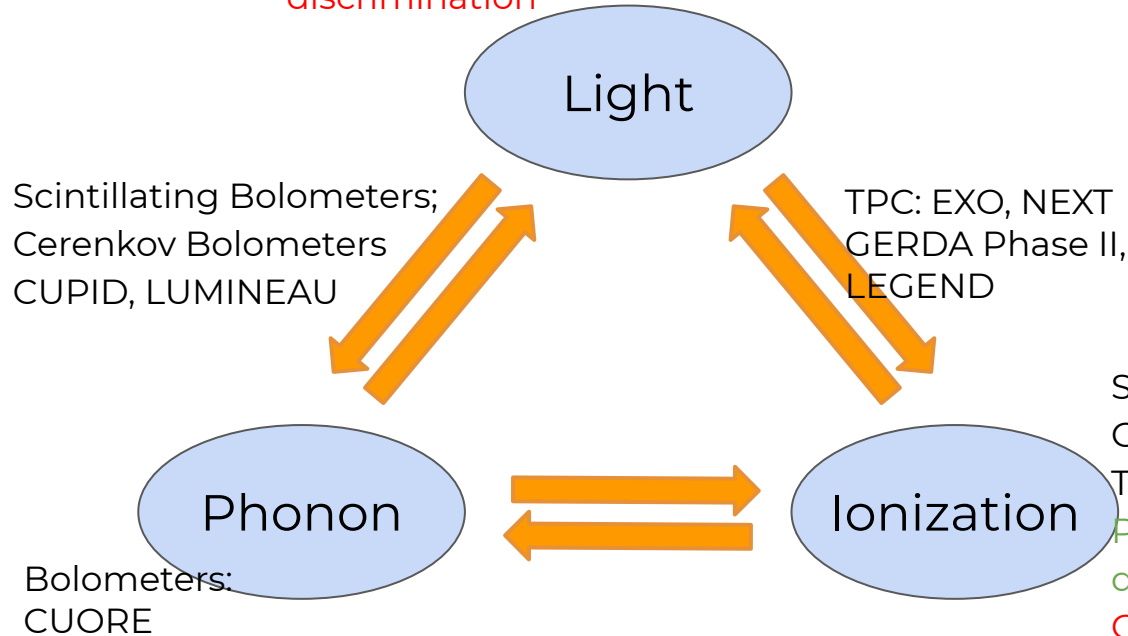
Sensitivity in case of  
“background-free” experiment, i.e  
 $N_{\text{bkg}} < 1$  at full exposure, is reduced to:

$$S \propto a\varepsilon \cdot M \cdot t$$



# $0\nu\beta\beta$ : choosing the technique

Liquid Scintillators: Kamland-Zen, SNO+  
 Scintillating Crystals: Candles  
 PRO: High Masses possible  
 CONS: Limited En. Res. Limited Bkg discrimination



## Energy of $0\nu\beta\beta$ for different isotopes

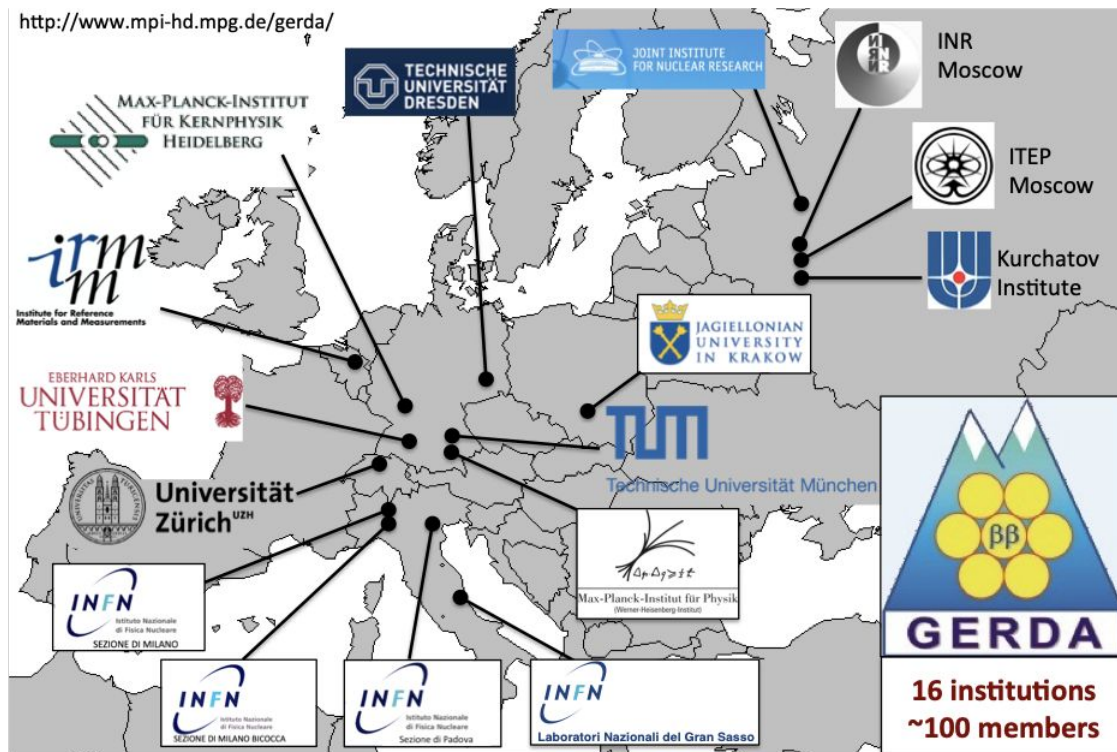
Isotope	Nat ab.	$Q_{\beta\beta}$
$^{48}\text{Ca}$	0.19 %	4262.96(84) keV
$^{76}\text{Ge}$	7.6%	2039.04(16) keV
$^{82}\text{Se}$	8.7%	2997.9(3) keV
$^{96}\text{Zr}$	2.8%	3356.097(86) keV
$^{100}\text{Mo}$	9.6%	3034.40(17) keV
$^{116}\text{Cd}$	7.5%	2813.50(13) keV
$^{130}\text{Te}$	34.5%	2526.97(23) keV
$^{136}\text{Xe}$	8.9%	2457.83(37) keV
$^{150}\text{Nd}$	5.6%	3371.38(20) keV

Semiconductor Calorimeters: GERDA; MAJORANA, LEGEND  
 Tracking Calorimeters: SuperNEMO; DCBA  
 PRO: Good En. Res. Good Bkg discrimination  
 CONS: Difficult/Costly to scale up Masses

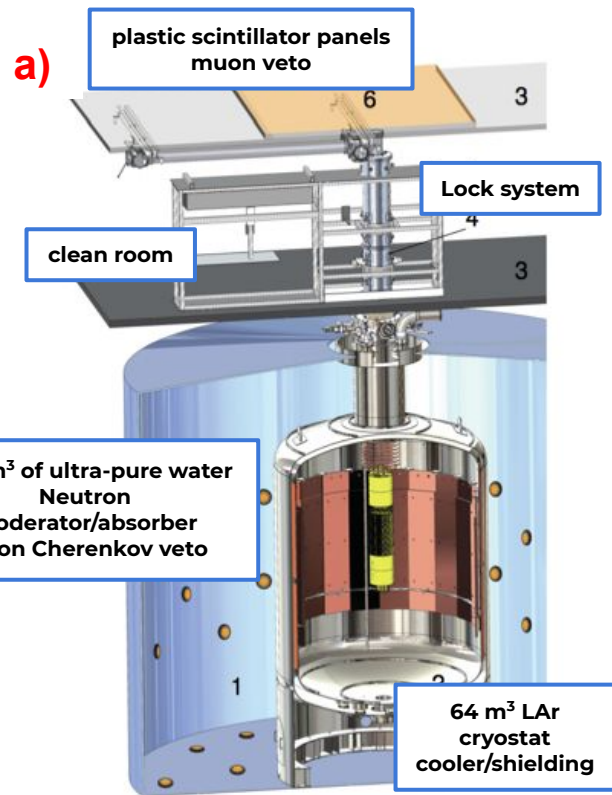


# GERDA Experiment

- In 2004 Heidelberg-Moscow experiment sub-group claims the observation of  $0\nu\beta\beta$  observation ( $T_{1/2}^{0\nu} = 1.19 \cdot 10^{25} \text{ y}$ ) [Phys. Lett. B 586, 3–4, 2004]
- In 2006 GERDA Collaborations borns with the aim to confirm/disprove the claim
- 16 institutions from Italy, Germany, Russia, Switzerland, Poland
- GERDA starts data taking 2010 and stopped in 2020



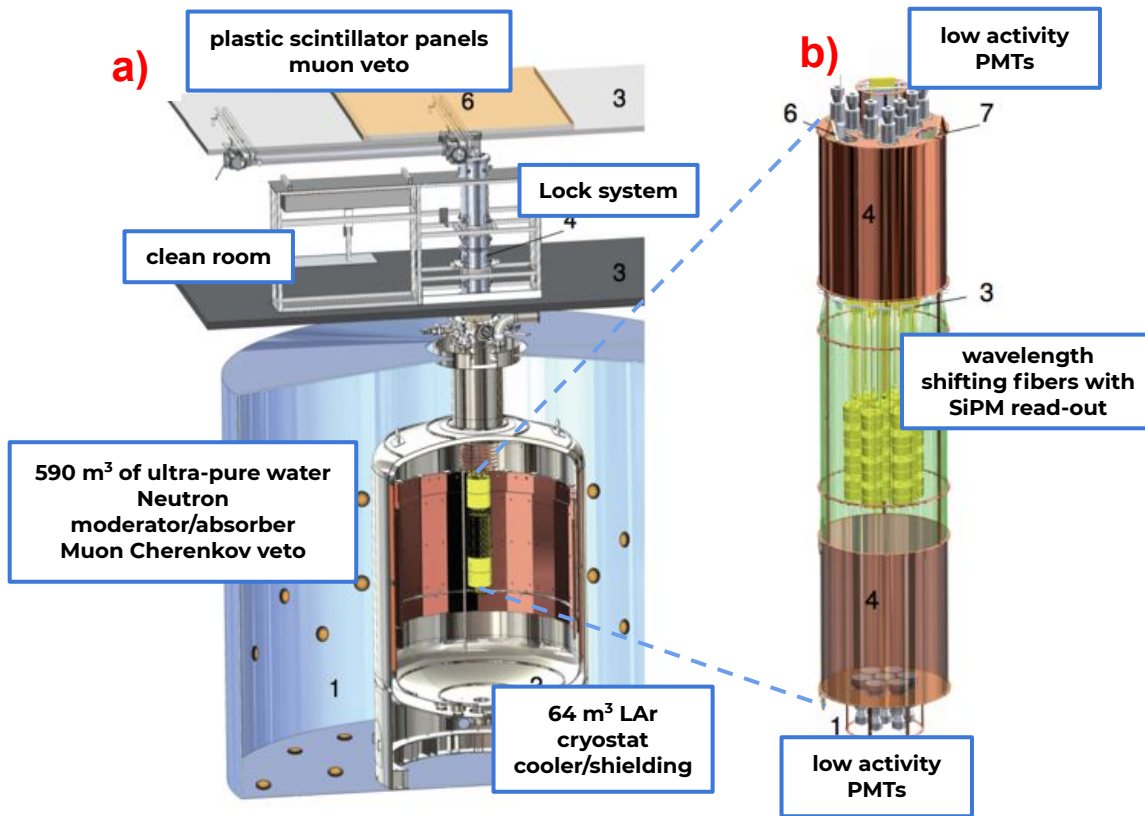
# GERDA Setup



a) overview

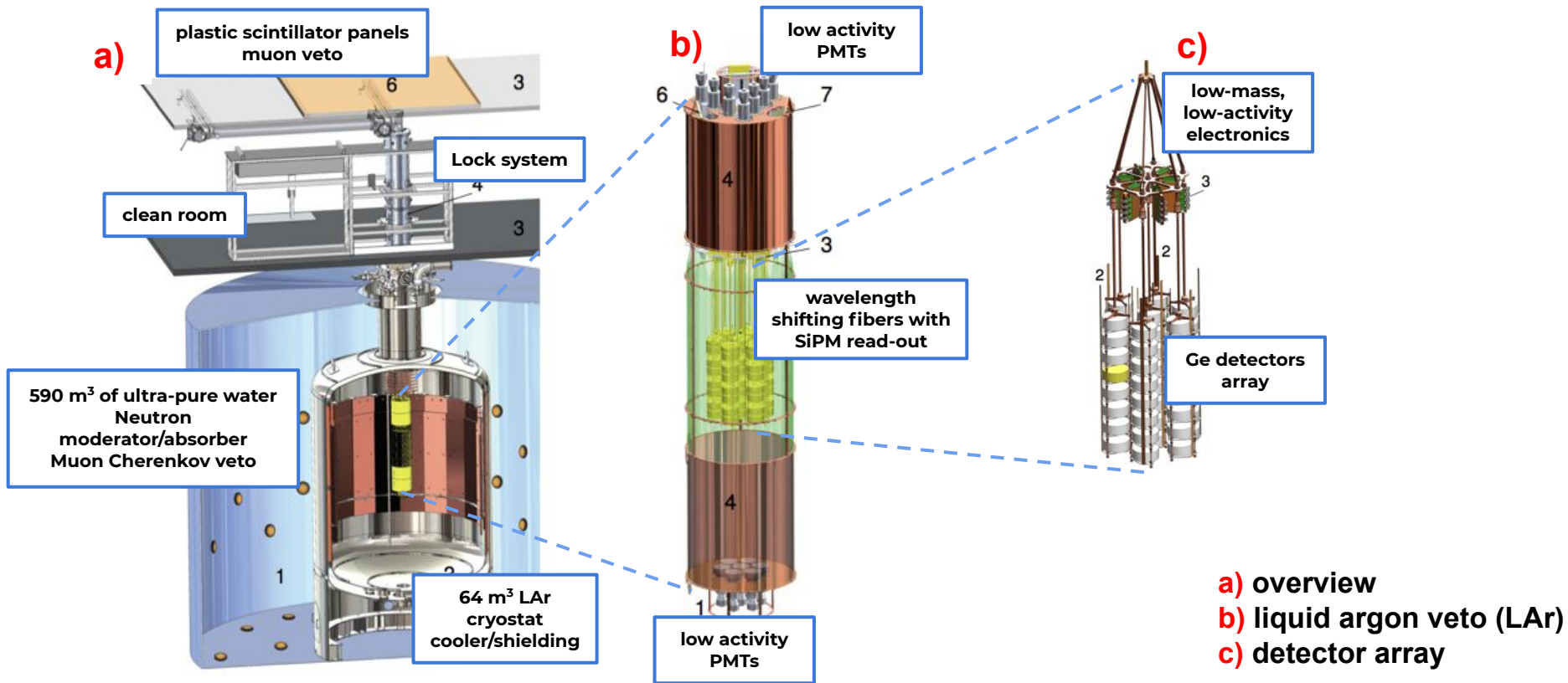


# GERDA Setup

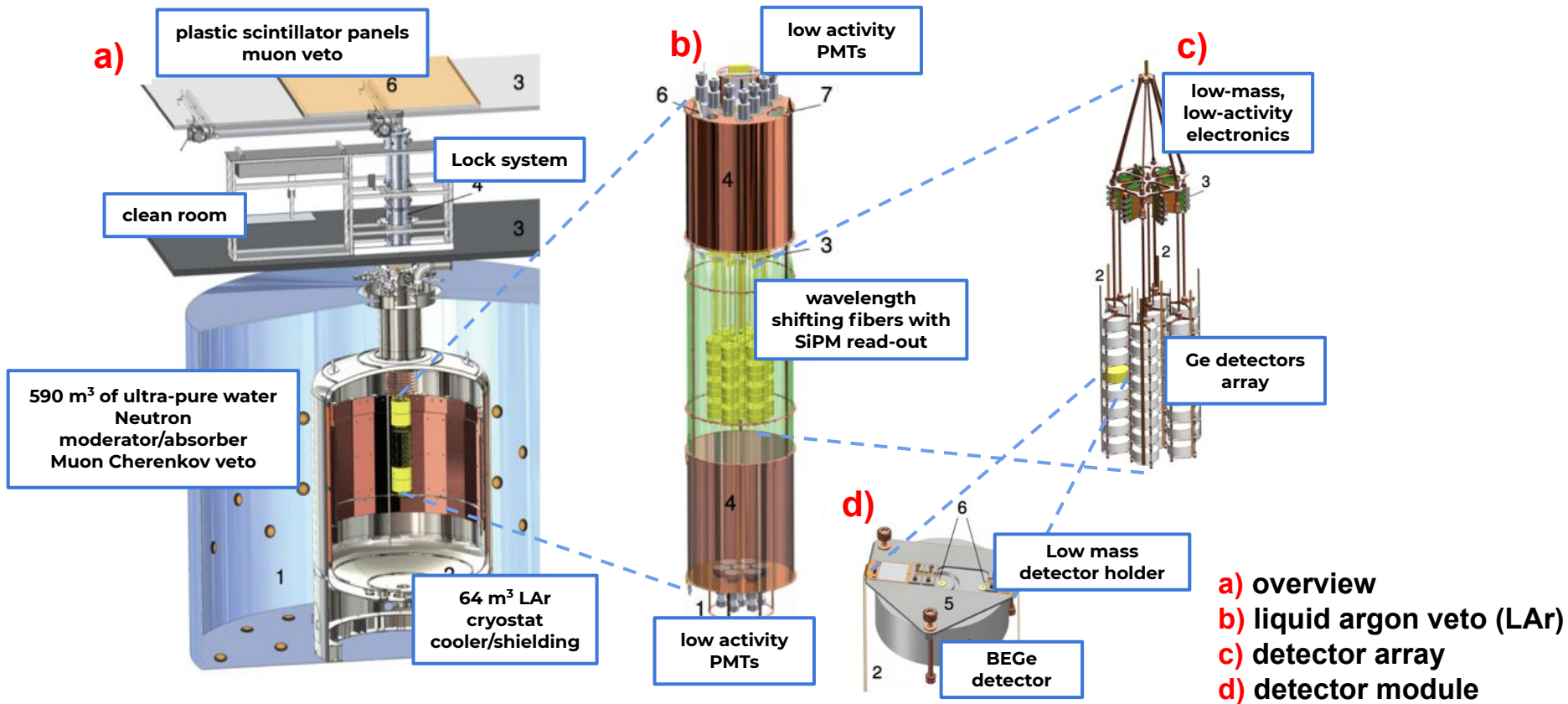


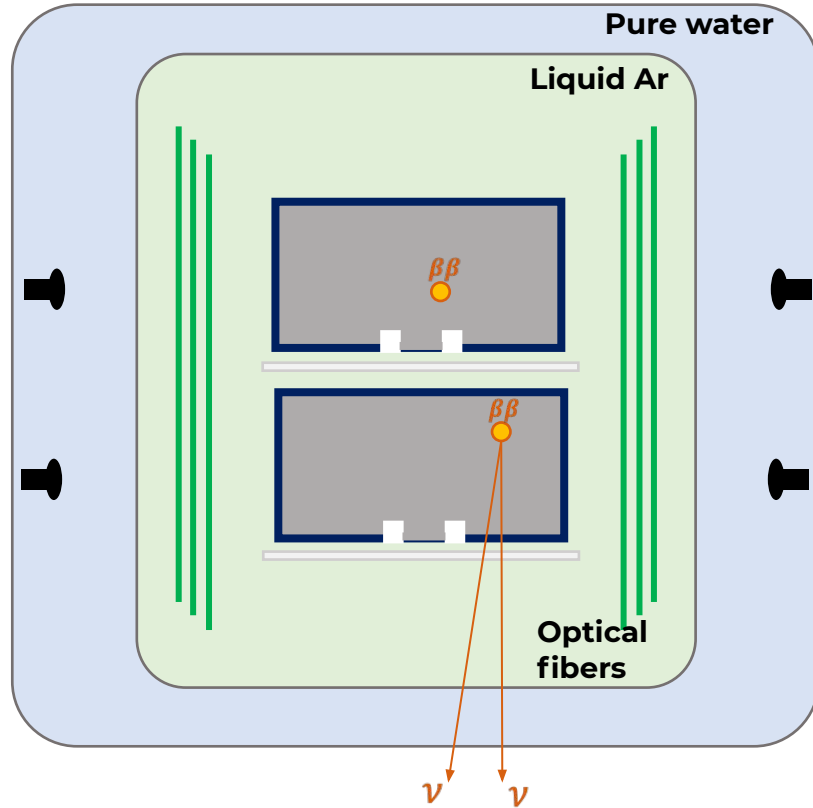
- a)** overview
- b)** liquid argon veto (LAR)

# GERDA Setup

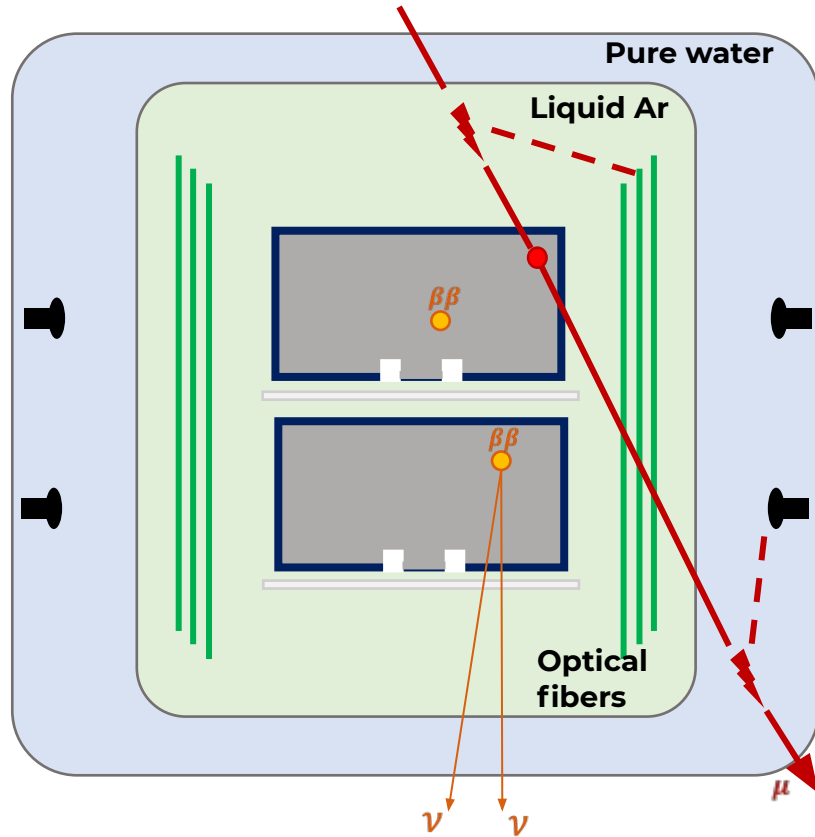


# GERDA Setup

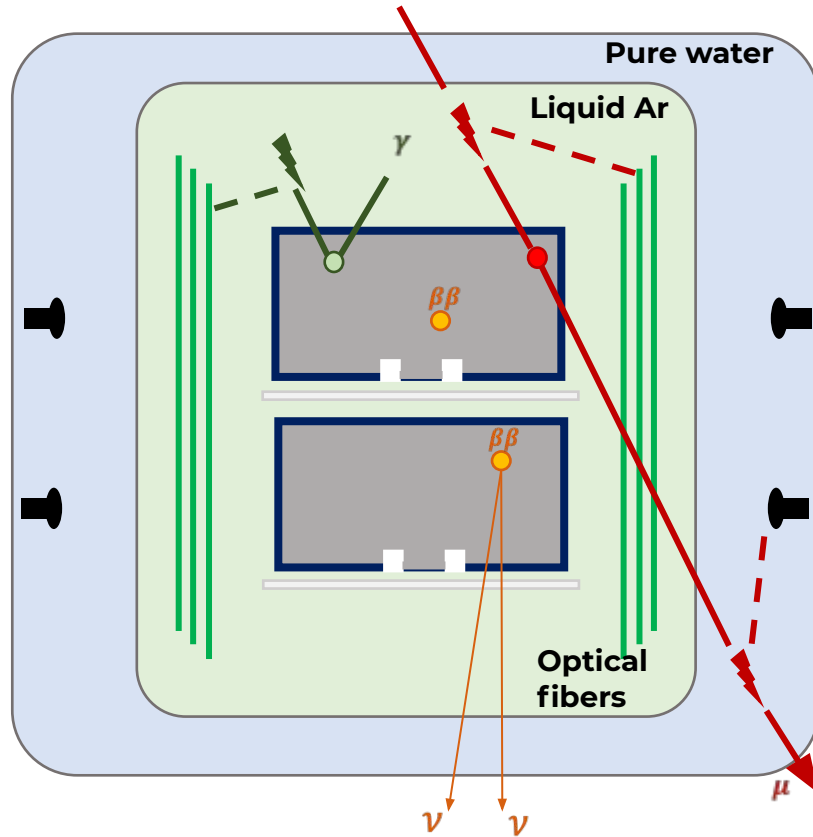




- $\beta\beta$  decay signal: single energy deposition in a  $1 \text{ mm}^3$  volume

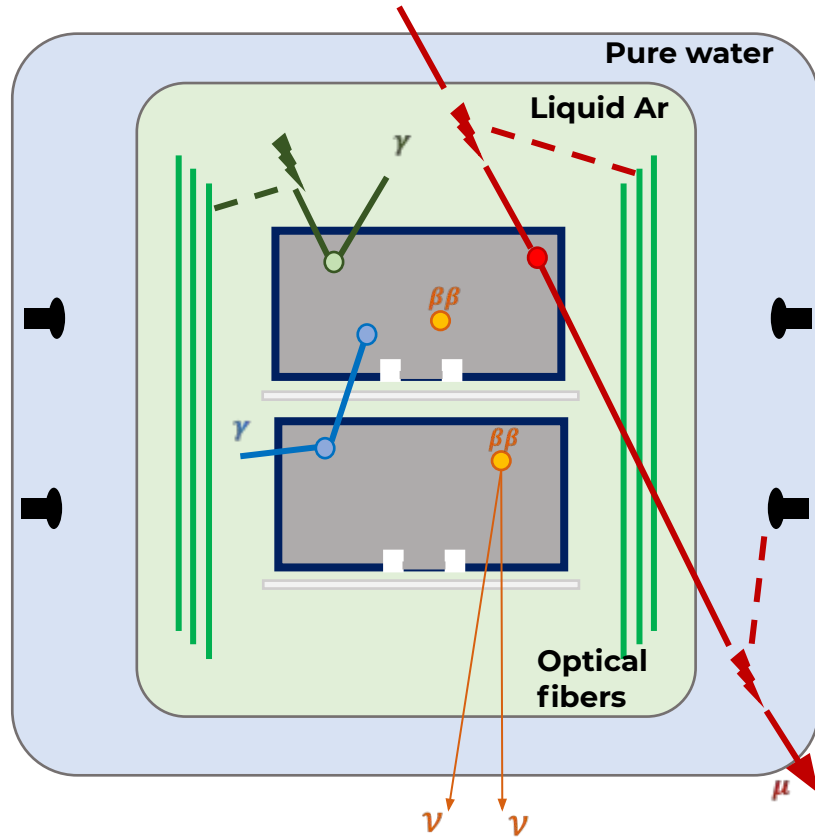


- $\beta\beta$  decay signal: single energy deposition in a  $1 \text{ mm}^3$  volume
- Muon veto based on Cherenkov light and plastic scintillator

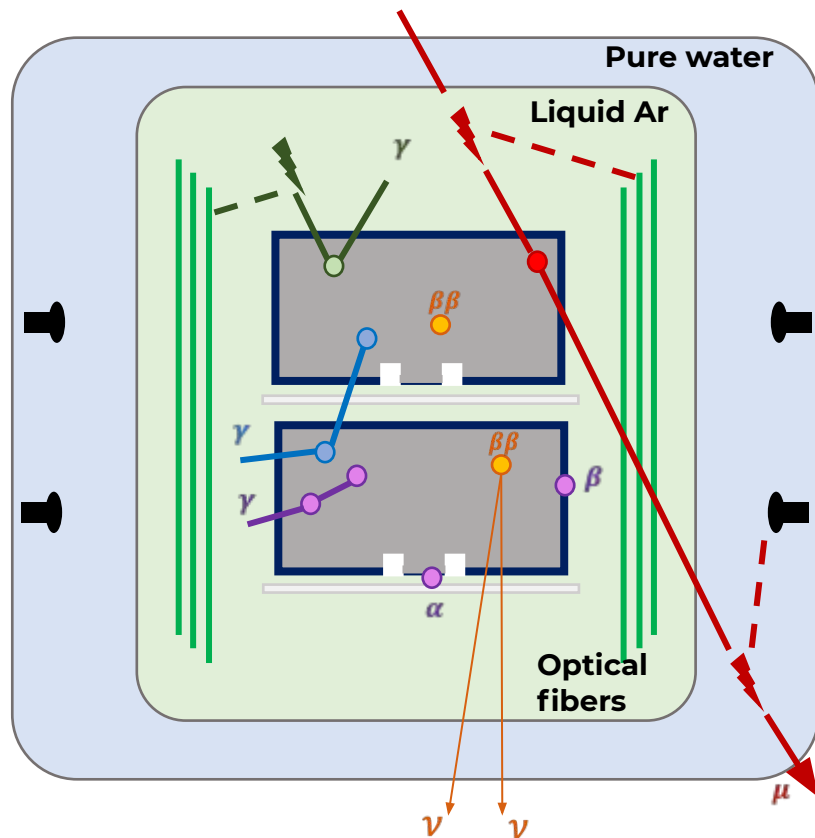


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- Ge detector anti-coincidence



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- LAr veto based on Ar scintillation light read by fibers and PMT
- Ge detector anti-coincidence
- Pulse shape discrimination (PSD) for multi-site and surface  $\alpha$  events

# GERDA final setup

## Semi-Coaxial detectors: 15.6 kg

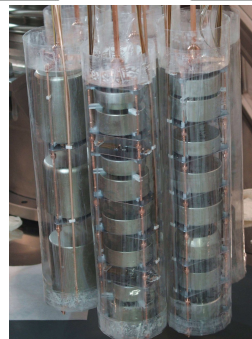
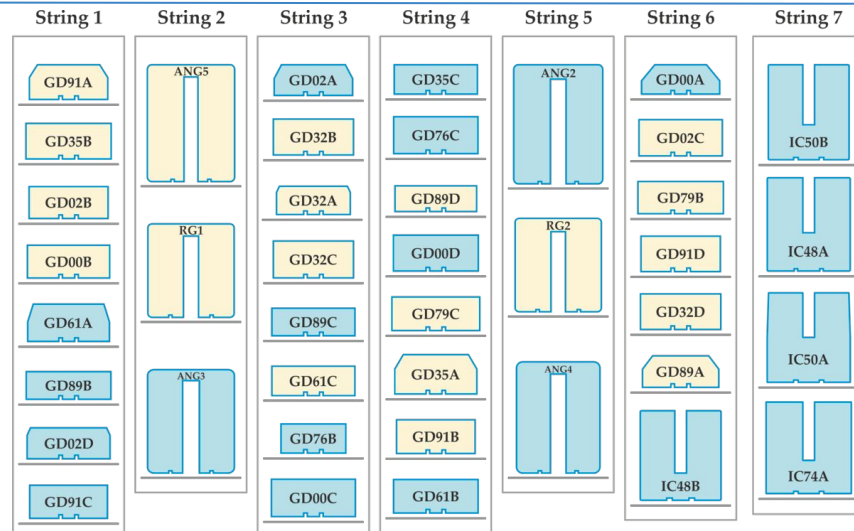
- from previous experiments (HdM, IGEX)
- energy resolution: 3.6 keV (FWHM)  $Q\beta\beta$

## BEGe detectors: 20 kg

- produced for Phase II
- energy resolution: 3.0 keV (FWHM)  $Q\beta\beta$
- improved Pulse Shape Discrimination with A/E (current-amplitude/energy)

## Inverted-Coaxial detectors: 9.5 kg

- In production for LEGEND-200
- Excellent resolution and pulse shape discrimination performance  
[A. Domula et al., NIM A891, 106 (2018)]
- Lower surface to volume ratio



# Outcome of a $\beta\beta$ -decay experiment

- Sensitivity (S): it is a computed value
- Half-life ( $T_{1/2}^{0\nu}$ ) of the  $0\nu\beta\beta \rightarrow m_{\beta\beta}$  is derived
- Half-life ( $T_{1/2}^{2\nu}$ ) of the  $2\nu\beta\beta$
- Beyond SM/exotic physics

$$(T_{1/2}^{0\nu})^{-1} = \underbrace{G_{0\nu}}_{\text{phase space integral}} | \underbrace{M_{0\nu}}_{\text{nuclear matrix element}} |^2 \left( \frac{\underbrace{m_{\beta\beta}}_{\text{effective neutrino mass}}}{m_e} \right)^2$$

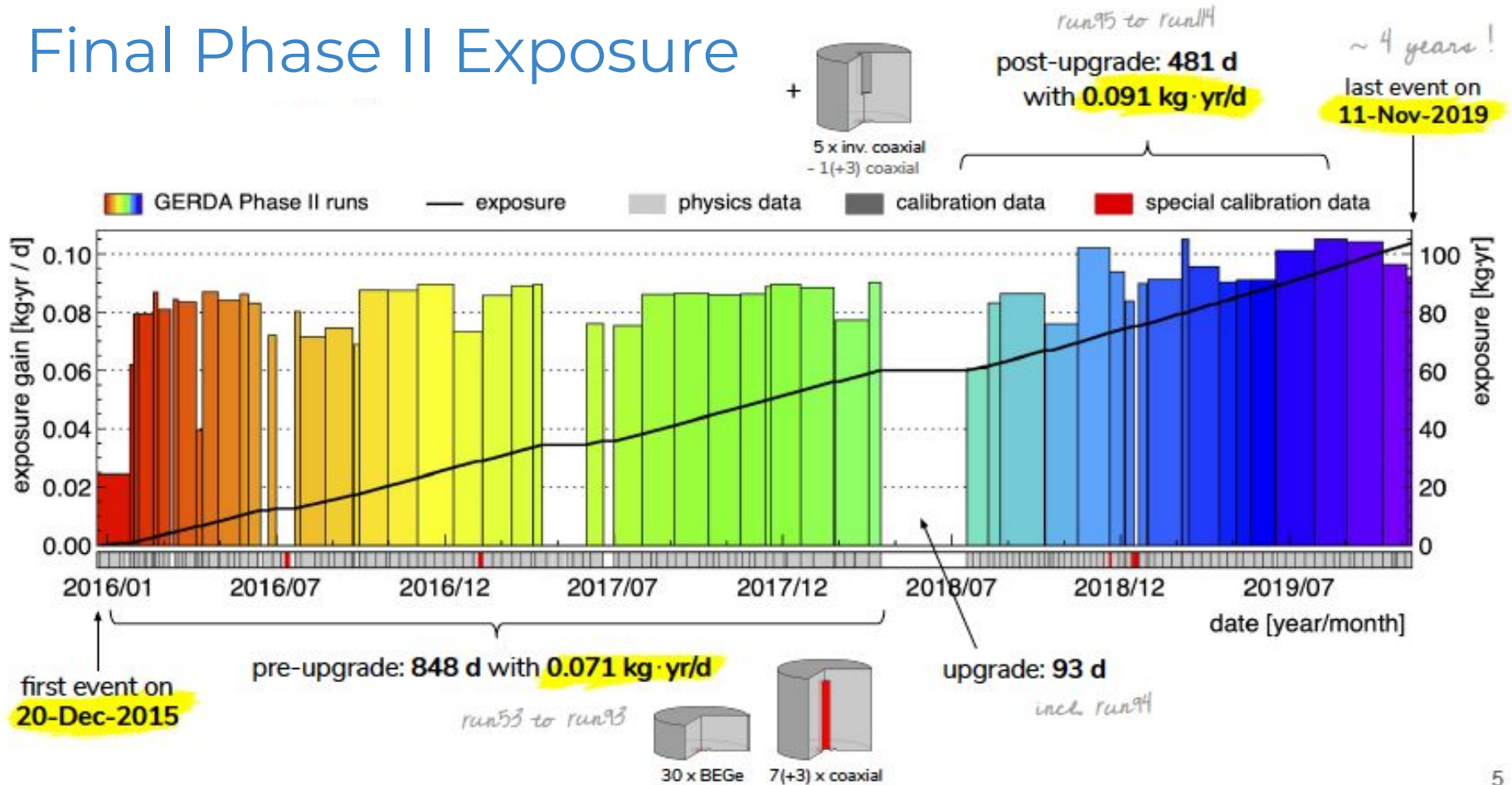
Results depend on achieved performances:

- **Exposure (M · T)** units [kg · yr]: it expresses the amount of isotope you “observed” · the “observation time”
- **Background Index (B or BI)** in units of [cts/(keV · kg · y)] i.e. how much is the residual background in the ROI
- **Energy resolution ( $\Delta E$ )** [keV]: how well your system is able to resolve peaks in the energy spectra over the exposure time

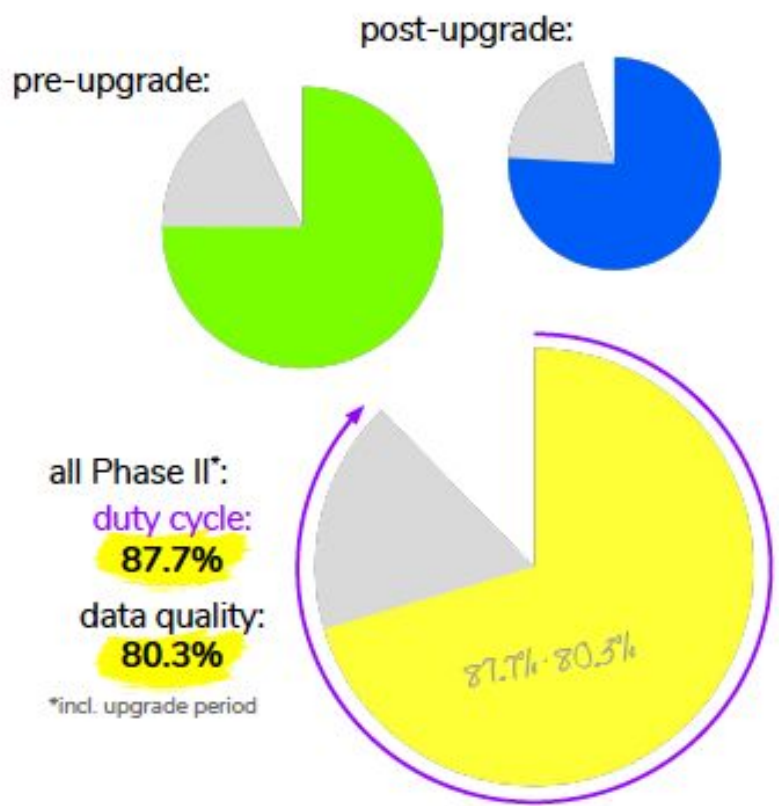
$$S \propto a\varepsilon \sqrt{\frac{M \cdot t}{\Delta E \cdot BI}}$$

efficiency ↓ exposure ↓  
 abundance ↑ energy resolution ↑ background index ↓

# Final Phase II Exposure



# Exposure of Phase II



+49.8 kg yr exposure since last release

	enr. BEGE	enr. coaxial	enr. inv. coaxial	[kg · yr]
pre-upgrade:	31.5	28.6		60.1*
post-upgrade:	21.9	13.2	8.5	43.6
	53.3	41.8	8.5	103.7

\*incl. 58.9 kg · yr unblinded in 2018

... + Phase I = 127.2 kg · yr



- 1) Data are blinded in the region  $\pm 25$  keV (ROI) around  $Q_{bb}$  (thanks to a coarse calibration).
- 2) Apply Quality cuts (to discard trigger on noise, microdischarges, etc.)
- 3) Calibrate energy of raw spectra (thanks to calibration runs)
- 4) Select events with multiplicity 1 (only 1 Ge has a signal)--> discard  $\gamma$  scattering in detectors
- 5) Apply Muon veto anticoincidence.
- 6) Apply LAr anticoincidence
- 7) Apply Pulse Shape Discrimination Cuts tailored to select single site events (SSE) i.e. discard multisites (MSE).
  - a) Cuts are tailored for each detector (category and individual) on the basis of calibrations
  - b) Cuts efficiencies for MSE are evaluated by  $\gamma$  lines Suppression Factors (SF)
  - c) Cuts efficiencies for acceptance of  $0\nu\beta\beta$  events are evaluated on  $0\nu\beta\beta$  proxies structures ( $2\nu\beta\beta$ , Compton Edges)
- 8) Apply cut to reject  $\alpha$  events
- 9) Measure the Background, in a  $\pm 120$  keV range around  $Q_{bb}$  (excluded the blinded 50 keV)
- 10) Unblind the data in the ROI and apply the (frozen) cuts (1. to 8.)
- 11) Perform Statistical analysis: from the fit of the unblinded ROI extract the free parameter:  
 $0\nu\beta\beta$  Signal Intensity  $\rightarrow T_{1/2}^{0\nu} \rightarrow m_{\beta\beta}$

To achieve high R in spectra integrated over years of the 40 detectors it is required

- High  $\Delta E$  (order of 0.1%) of the individual detectors
- Stable system and/or capability to track/compensate instability -> calibrations

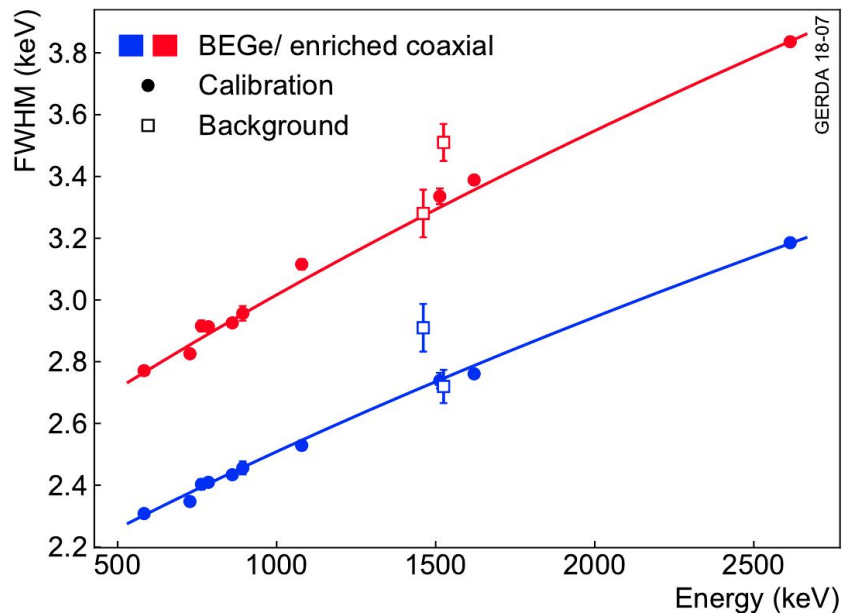
Energy Calibration Strategy in GERDA

- ~ bi-weekly  $^{228}\text{Th}$  calibrations
- pulser injected into FE every 20 s to monitor stability
- Digital Filter applied: Customized Cusp Filter [EPJC 75 (2015) 255]

To Check quality of calibration:

- calibrate and sum-up physics data:  $\delta(E_{\text{true}} - E_{\text{cal}})$  and FWHM of known lines in integrated phy-data reflects the quality of the calibration procedure

# Energy Scale and Resolution

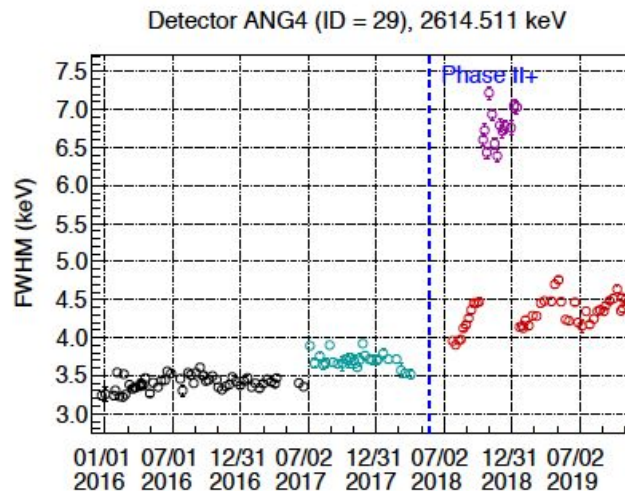


- In forthcoming data release, calibration strategy has been revised:
- Data are partitioned: FWHM and Energy scale, and uncertainties are evaluated on individual detectors, and for validity period, to reflect variations

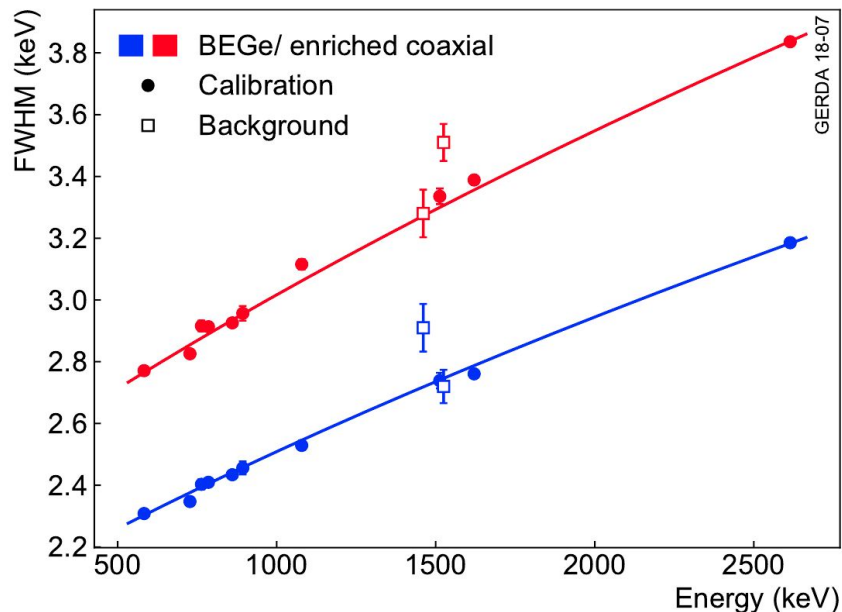
Average FWHM values (until 2018)

$^{enr}BEGE$ : FWHM @  $Q_{\beta\beta} = 3.0$  keV

$^{enr}Coax$ : FWHM @  $Q_{\beta\beta} = 3.6$  keV



# Energy Scale and Resolution

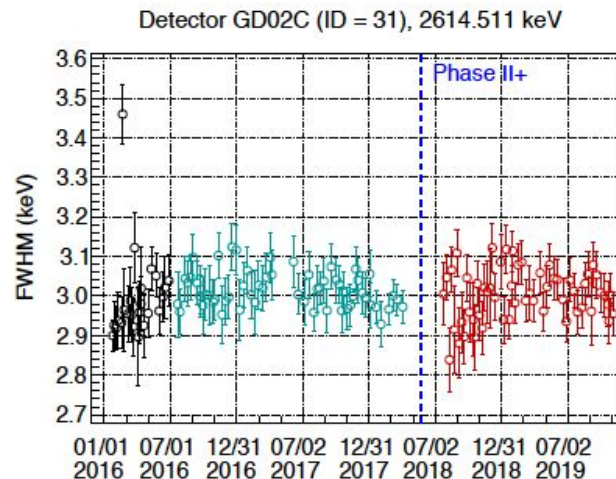


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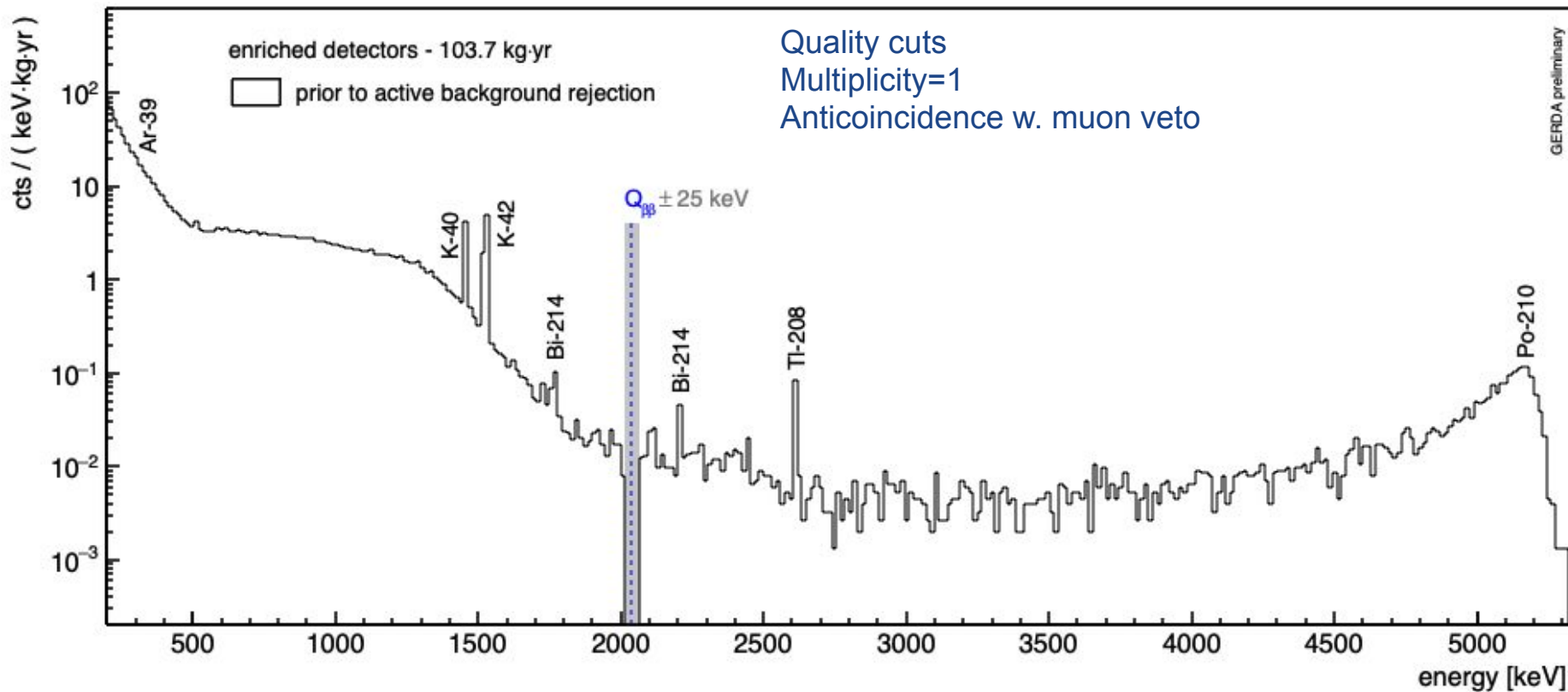
Average FWHM values (until 2018)

$^{enr}$ BEGE: FWHM @  $Q_{\beta\beta} = 3.0$  keV

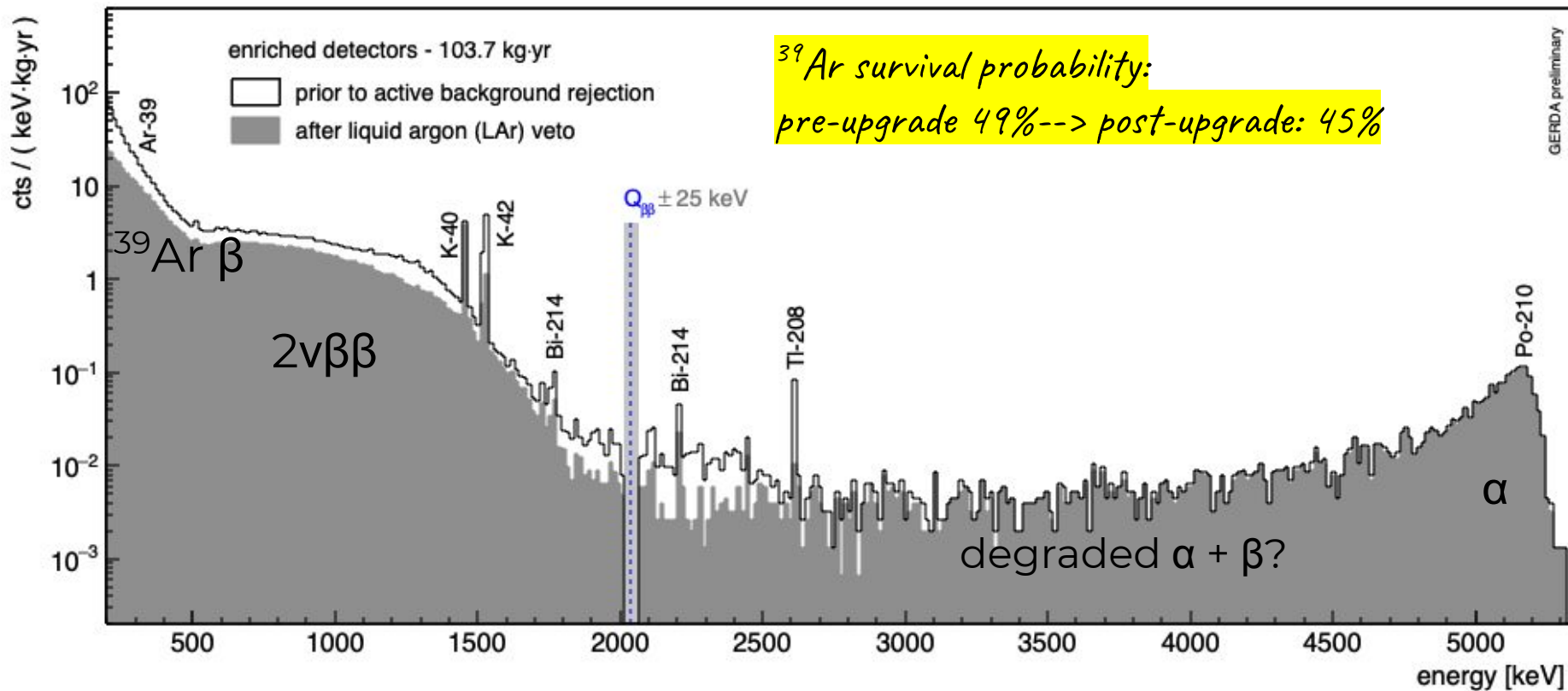
$^{enr}$ Coax: FWHM @  $Q_{\beta\beta} = 3.6$  keV



# GERDA Global Blinded Spectra



# Effect of LAr veto on data collected





# Effect of LAr veto on gamma lines

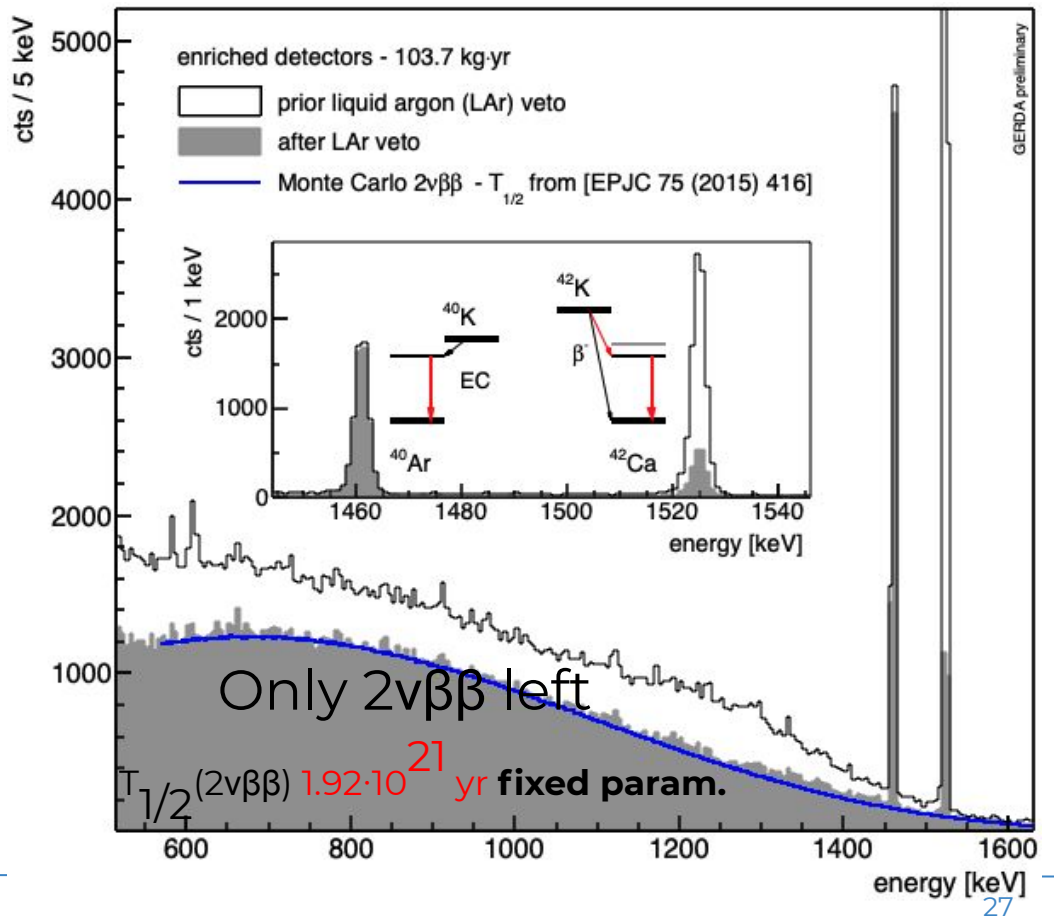
$\gamma$ -rays Survival Fractions (SF):

–  $^{40}\text{K}$  (EC: pure  $\gamma$ ) :  $\sim 97.7 \pm$

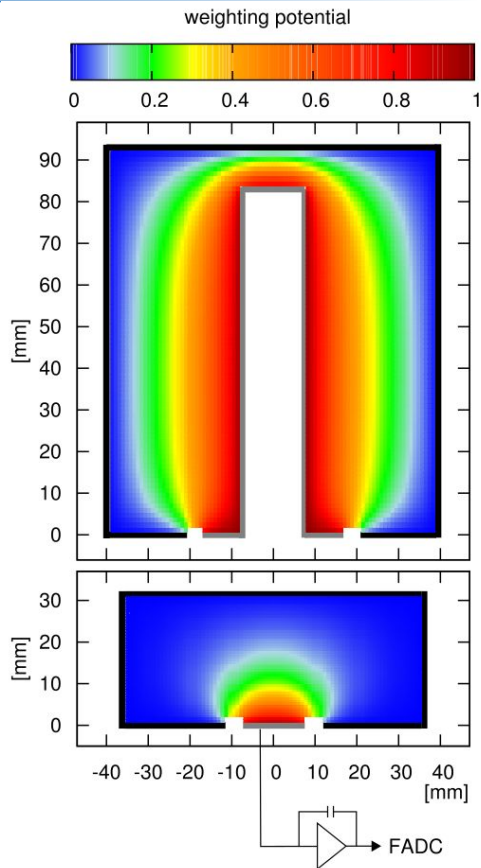
0.4%

–  $^{42}\text{K}$  ( $\beta^- + \gamma$ ):  $\sim 20\%$

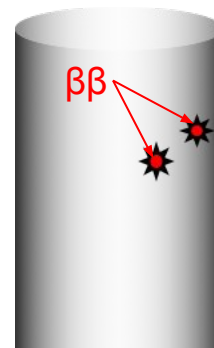
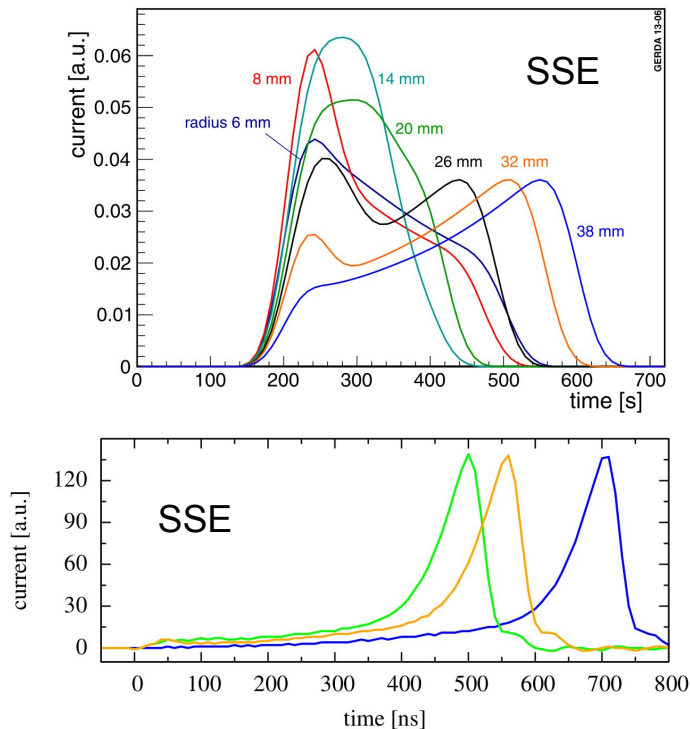
$^{42}\text{K}$  from the  $\beta^-$  decay (33 yr) of cosmogenic  $^{42}\text{Ar}$  which is  $\sim 6 \cdot 10^{-21}$  [ $^{40}\text{Ar}$ ]



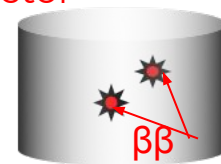
# Pulse Shape Discrimination (PSD)



COAX: Artificial Neural Network (ANN) estimator used as PSD parameter



Pulses have different shapes based on location and number of interactions in the detector



BEGe: Amplitude of Current/Amplitude of Charge Pulse (A/E) is the PSD parameter

# Events selection based on pulse shape (PSD)

- *Event-per-event* selection
  - **Above band:** events on **p+** electrode (e.g.  $\alpha$ 's from  $^{210}\text{Po}$ )
  - **Below band:** events on **n+** electrode, multiple scattering

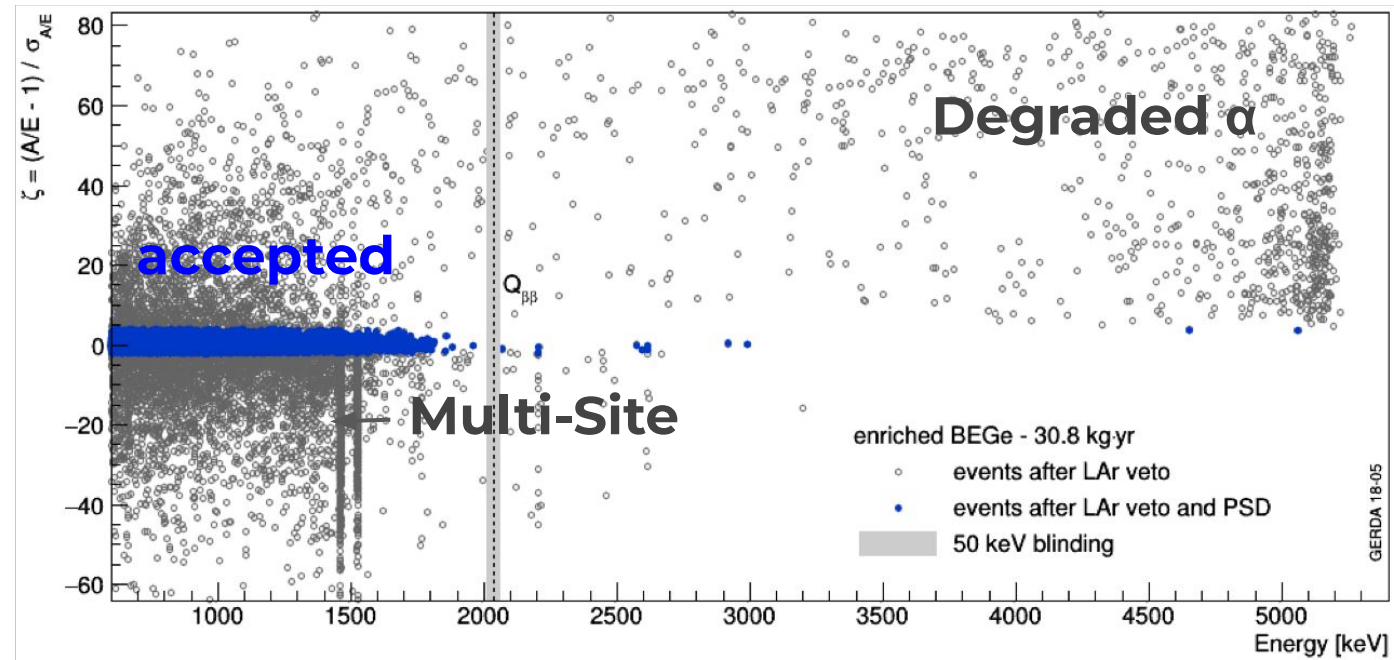
Acceptance for  $0\nu 2\beta$  events:

**$(87.6 \pm 2.5)\%$**

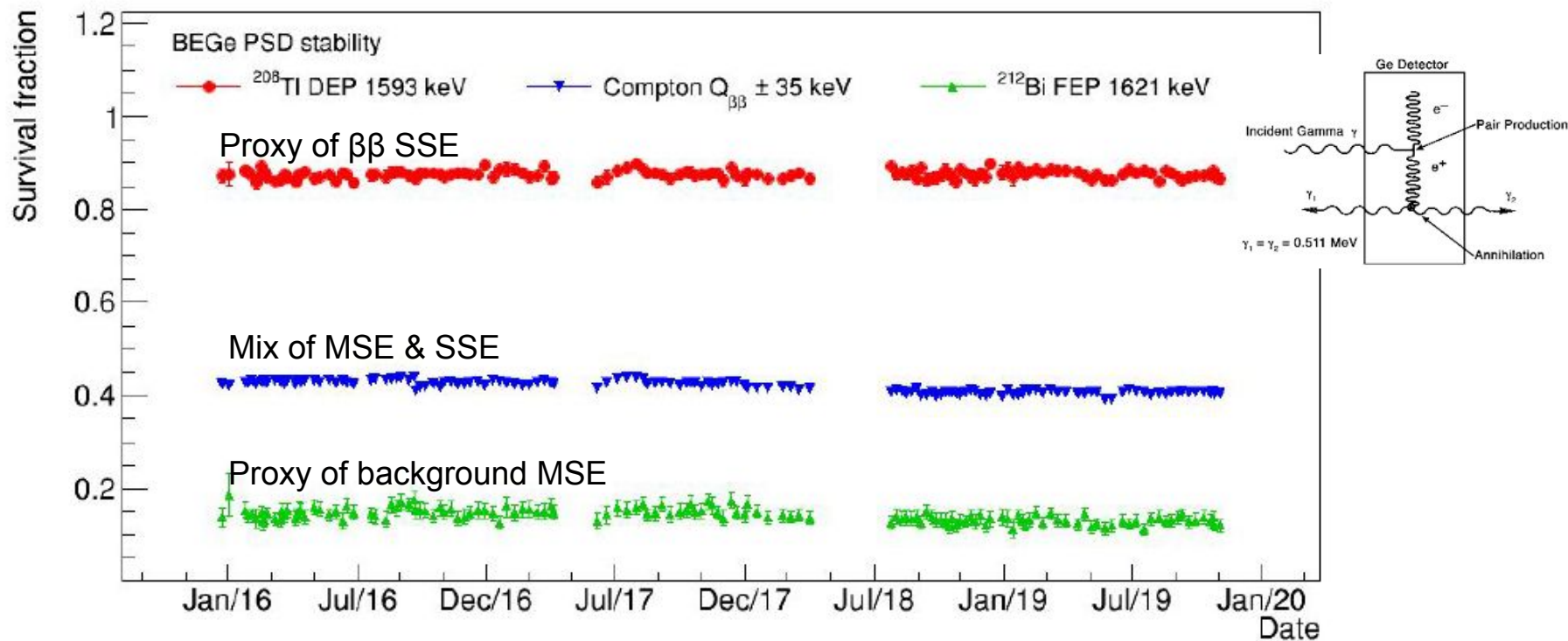
- Estimated from  $^{208}\text{Tl}$  DEP

Double-check at low energy with

**$2\nu\beta\beta$  events (LAr cut)  $(85.4 \pm 1.9)\%$**

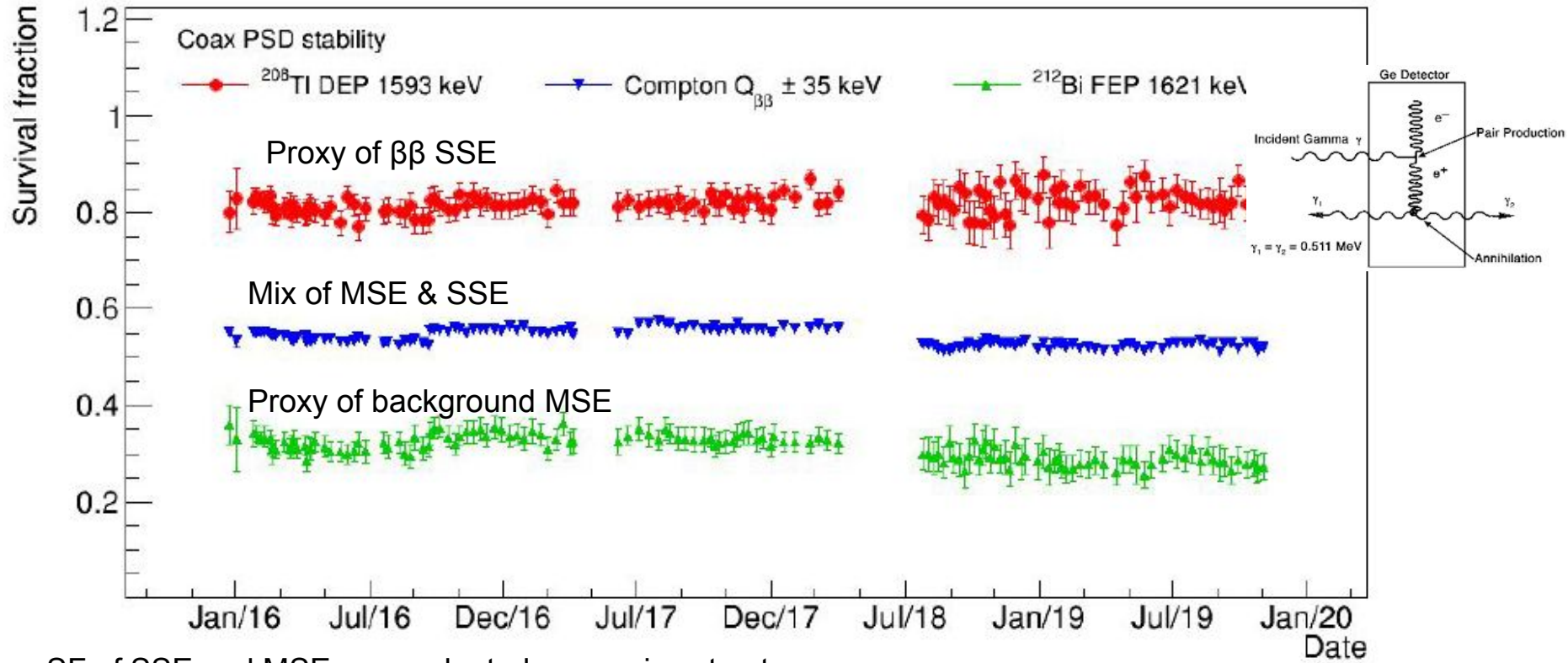


# Pulse shape cuts BEGe: Survival Fractions



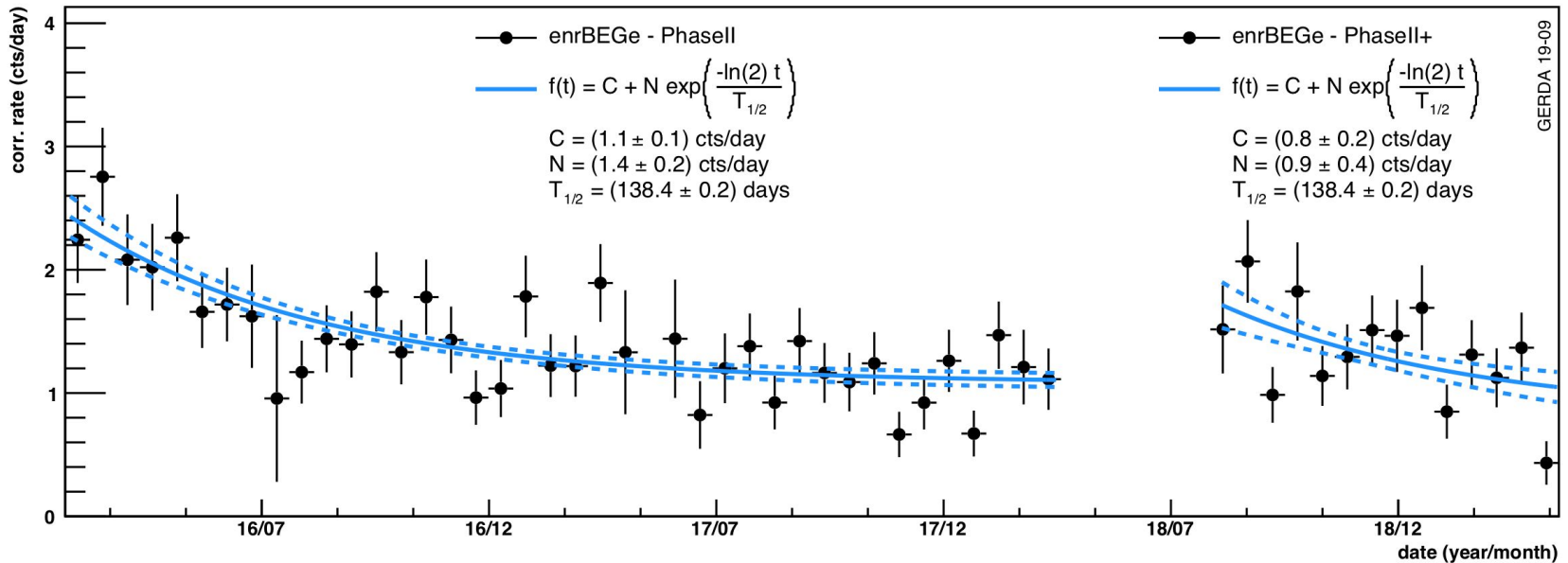
SF of SSE and MSE are evaluated on proxies structures

# Pulse shape cuts COAX: Survival Fractions



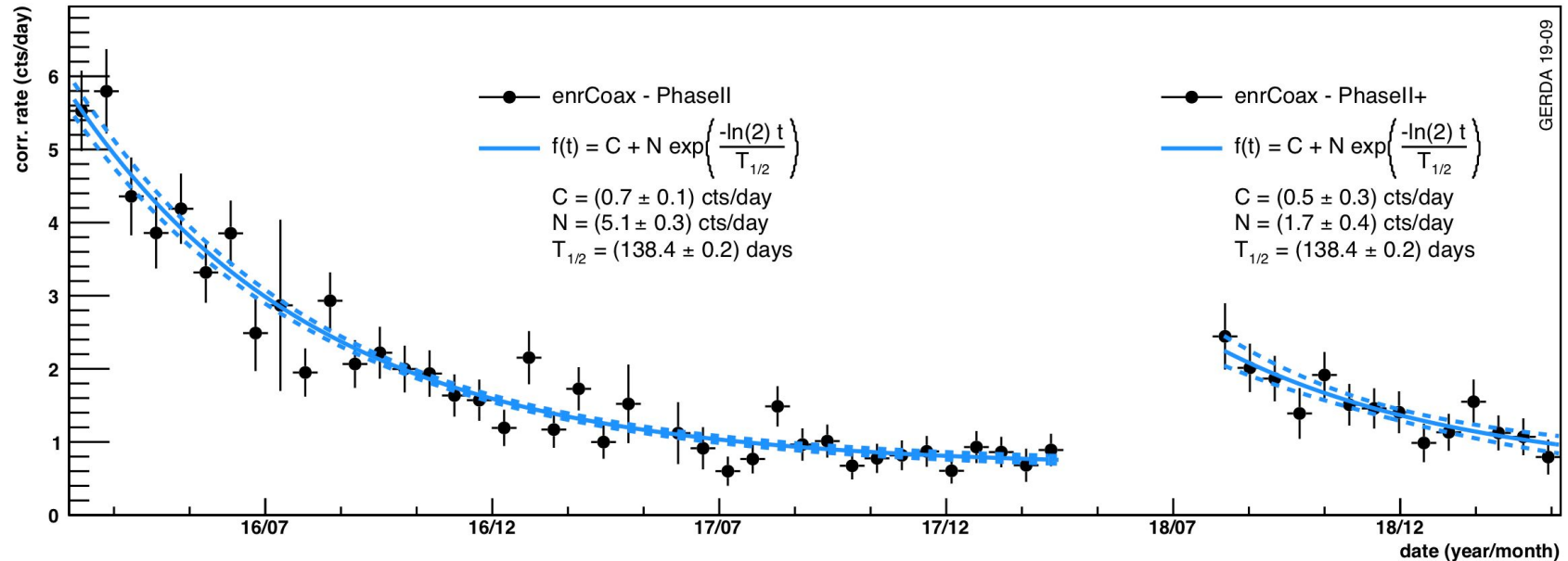
SF of SSE and MSE are evaluated on proxies structures

$\alpha$  from  $^{210}\text{Po}$  decayed: we are left with a residual rate of  $\sim 1$  cts/day






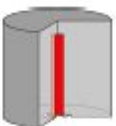
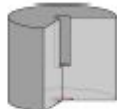
$\alpha$  from  $^{210}\text{Po}$  decayed: we are left with a residual rate of  $<1$  cts/day





# Background Indexes of the whole GERDA

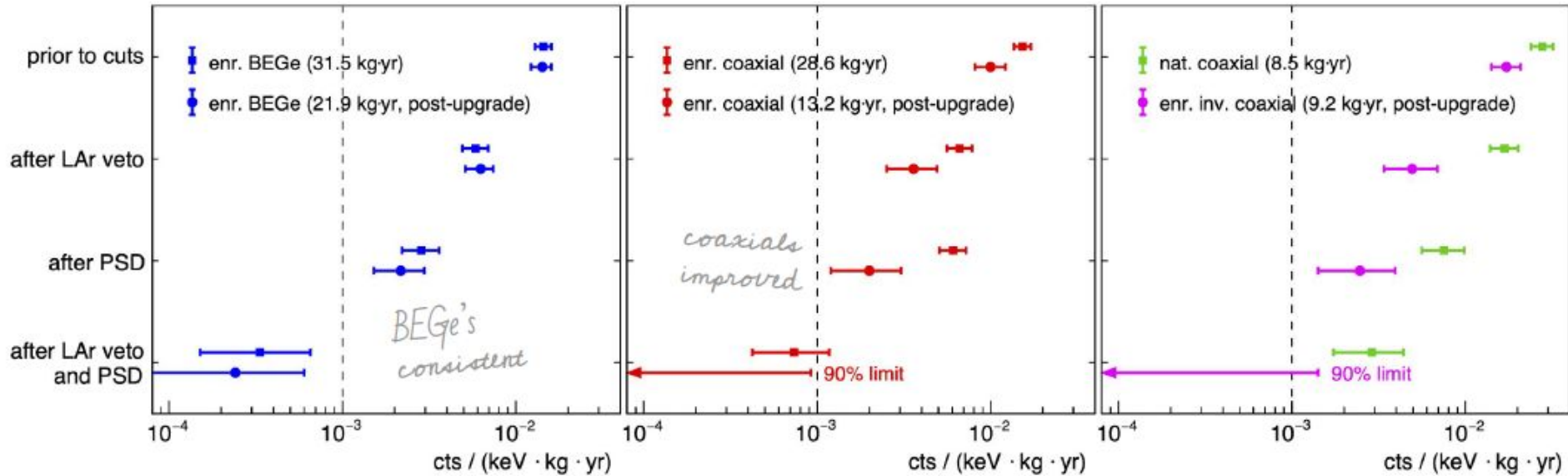
## data-set

	 enr. BEGe	 enr. coaxial	8.5 kg yr  enr. inv. coaxial	[10 <sup>-4</sup> cts/(keV · kg · yr)]
pre-upgrade	3.3 <sup>+3.2</sup> <sub>-1.8</sub>	7.4 <sup>+4.4</sup> <sub>-3.1</sub>		5.3 <sup>+2.5</sup> <sub>-1.9</sub>
post-upgrade	2.4 <sup>+3.6</sup> <sub>-1.7</sub>	< 9.2	< 14.2	1.2 <sup>+1.8</sup> <sub>-0.8</sub>
	3.0 <sup>+2.2</sup> <sub>-1.4</sub>	5.0 <sup>+3.0</sup> <sub>-2.1</sub>	< 14.2 <i>-&gt; 90% limit</i>	<b>3.6<sup>+1.6</sup><sub>-1.2</sub></b>

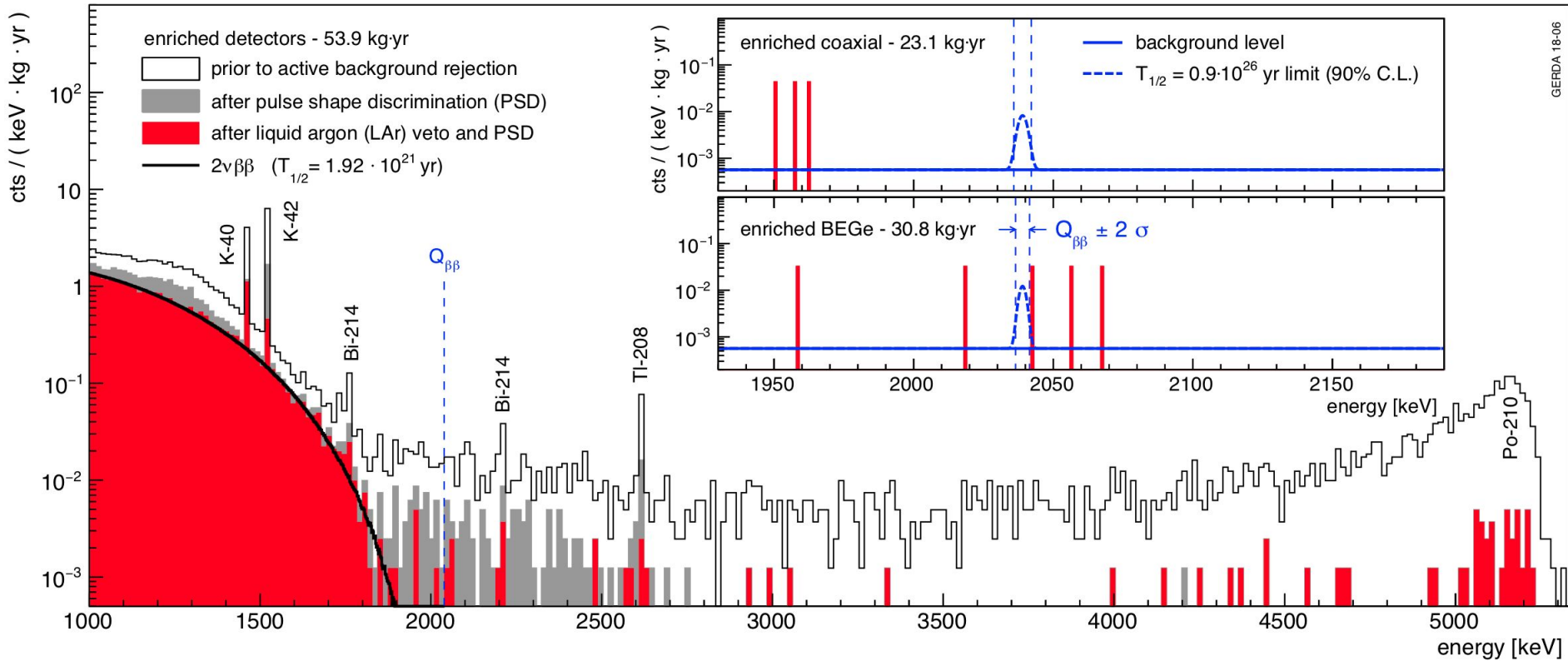
\*differs from [Science 365, 1445 (2019)] due to larger exposure, different dataset definition and blinding

# Background Indexes of the whole GERDA

## data-set



# Last Published Statistics and results

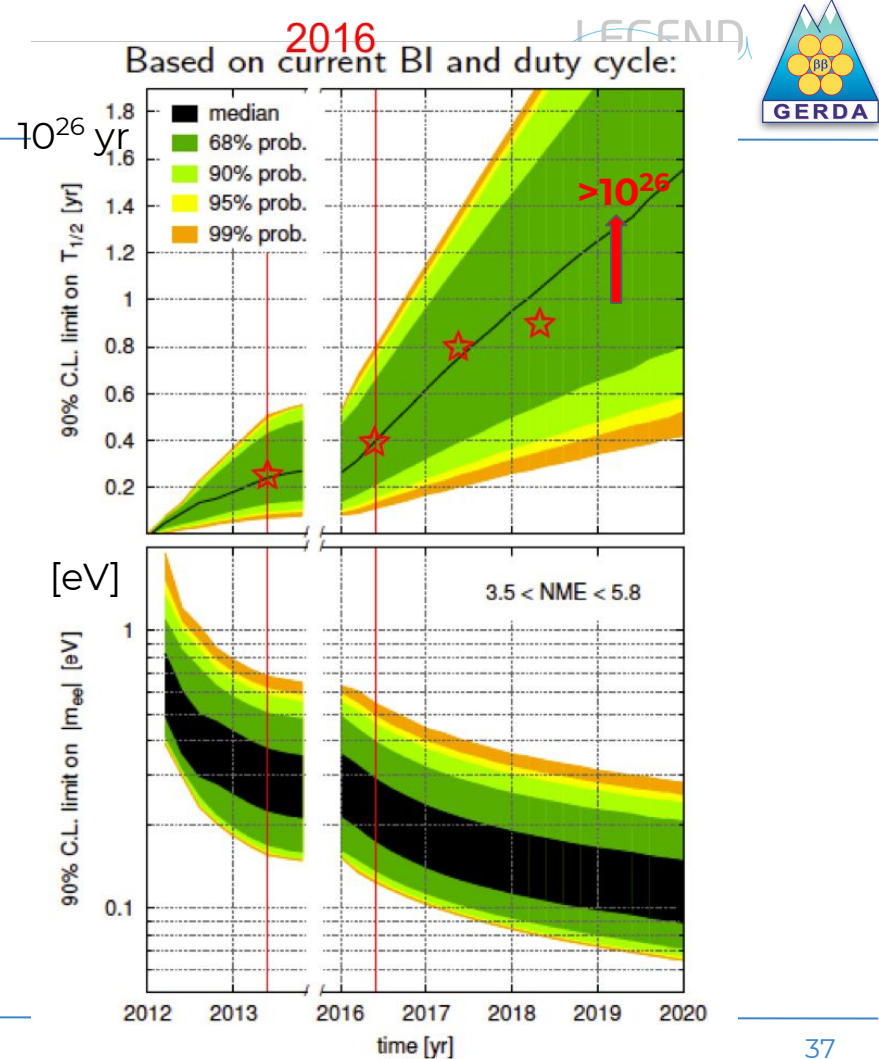


# Measured vs expected

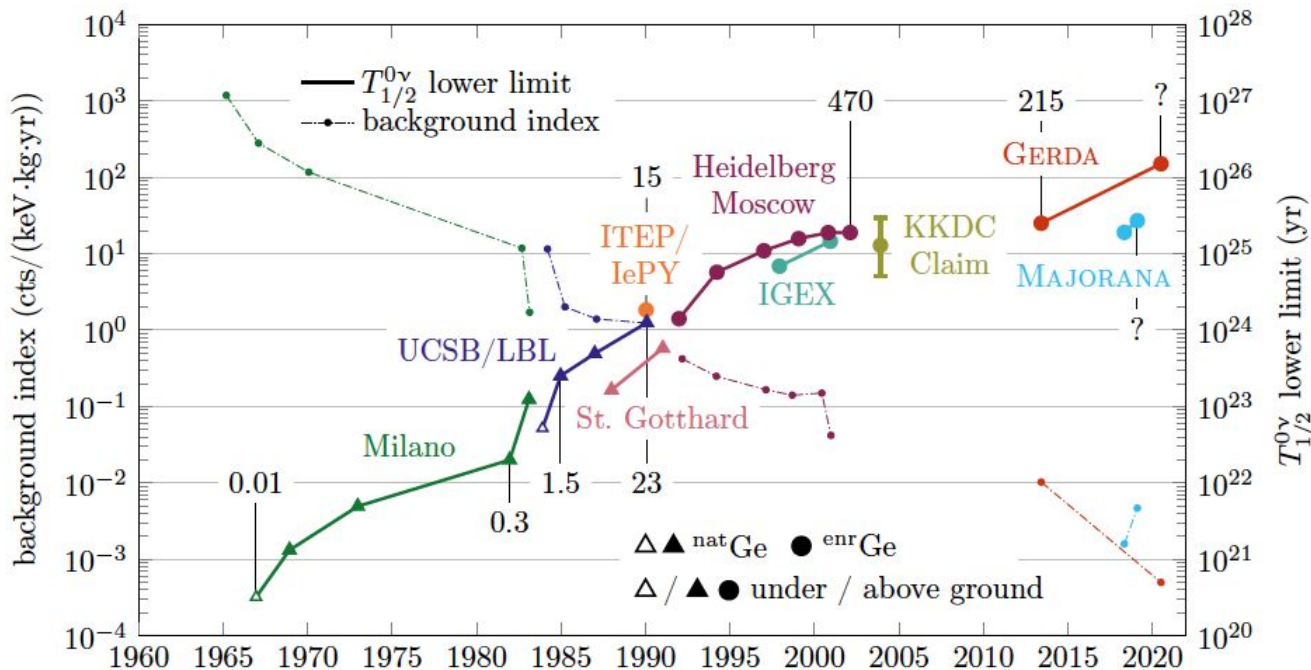
GERDA published results overlapped to expected evolution of sensitivity based on 2016 BI and expectation of duty cycle

## Gerda Data Releases

1. PRL 111 (2013) 122503
2. Nature 544, 47 (2017) 10.8 kg · yr
3. PRL 120, 132503 (2018) 23.2 kg · yr
4. Science 365, 1445 (2019) 82.4 kg · yr
5. **New Release at Neutrino 2020** 103.7 kg · yr



# History of $^{76}\text{Ge}$ experiments: lessons learned



## Lessons learned

- Increase the mass
- Increase radiopurity
- Decrease Z of shielding materials surrounding the Ge detectors (GERDA technology)
- Improve PSD
- .....

# Comparison of Experimental Results

		Tot. M Isot. [kg]	Design Achi.vd BI [cts/kevkgy]	Design Achi.vd FWHM [keV]	Exposure [kg·y]	$T_{1/2}$ Sensitivity (90%CL) [y]	$T_{1/2}$ Achieved Limit (90%CL) [y]	$m_{ee}$ Limit (90%CL) [meV]
Gerda II - Gerda II	$^{76}\text{Ge}$	31.0 31.0	$10^{-3}$ $0.36 \cdot 10^{-3}$	< 4 3.0-3.7	~100 103.7	$> 10^{26}$ † $1.1 \cdot 10^{26}$	Preliminar $> 10^{26}$	90-150 120-250#
Majorana Demonstrator	$^{76}\text{Ge}$	27.1	$< 10^{-3}$ $4.7 \cdot 10^{-3}$	< 4 2.5	26	$> 10^{26}$ $4.8 \cdot 10^{25}$	$2.7 \cdot 10^{25}$	200-433
n-EXO EXO 200 ult. EXO 200	$^{136}\text{Xe}$	5000 200	$1.7 \cdot 10^{-3}$	73 112	100	$1.9 \cdot 10^{25}$	$1.1 \cdot 10^{25}$	10 50 170-490
KZ comb. Kam-Zen II Kam-Zen II	$^{136}\text{Xe}$	348 348	$3.0 \cdot 10^{-4}$ $6.0 \cdot 10^{-4}$	265 265 285	138 126 29.6	$5.6 \cdot 10^{25}$	$1.07 \cdot 10^{26}$ $9.6 \cdot 10^{25}$ $1.3 \cdot 10^{25}$	50 -160
Cuore Cuore	$^{130}\text{Te}$	206	$10^{-2}$ $1.38 \cdot 10^{-2}$	5 7.0	1000 372.5	$9.5 \cdot 10^{25}$ † † $1.7 \cdot 10^{25}$	$3.2 \cdot 10^{25}$	50-190 75-350
CUPID CUPID-0	$^{100}\text{Mo}$ $^{76}\text{Se}$		$3.5 \cdot 10^{-3}$	20	5.29	$5.0 \cdot 10^{24}$	$3.5 \cdot 10^{24}$	311-638

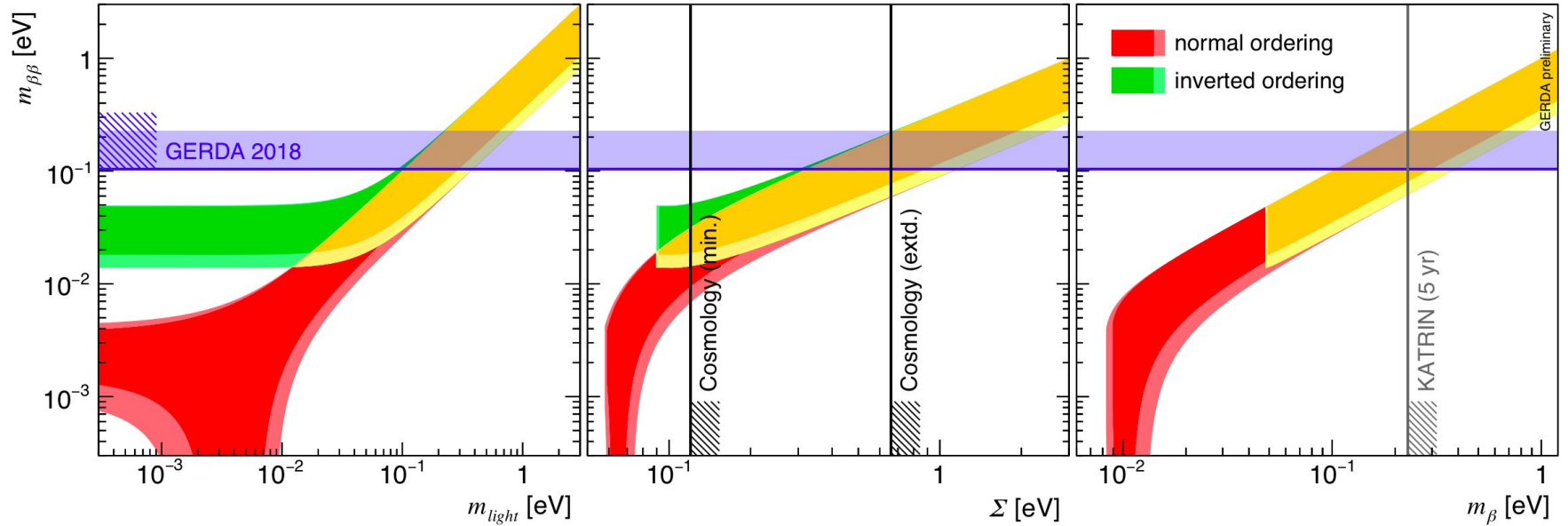
This mass range corresponds to  $0.9 \cdot 10^{26}$  yr

If 2004 claim of  $0\nu\beta\beta$  evidence ( $1.19 \cdot 10^{25}$  y) were true GERDA would observe ~30 events

RED:  $\sim 10^{26}/100$  meV range; Blue: Achieved ; # (2018 Release) ; ■ Design Sensitivity; ■■ 5 yr projected



# Neutrino Mass Observable





# $^{76}\text{Ge}$ based $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay experiments



**MAJORANA**  
M ~ 40 kg  
T ~  $10^{26}$  yr  
**2016 - running**

**GERDA Phase I**  
M ~ 10 kg  
T ~  $10^{25}$  yr  
**2011 - 2013**



**GERDA Phase II**  
M ~ 40 kg  
T ~  $10^{26}$  yr  
**2015 - 2019**

**LEGEND 200**  
M ~ 200 kg  
T  $\geq 10^{27}$  yr  
**2021 - 2026 ?**

**LEGEND 1000**  
M ~ 1000 kg  
T  $\geq 10^{28}$  yr  
**2027 ??**

**PAST**

**FUTURE**

# The LEGEND Experiment

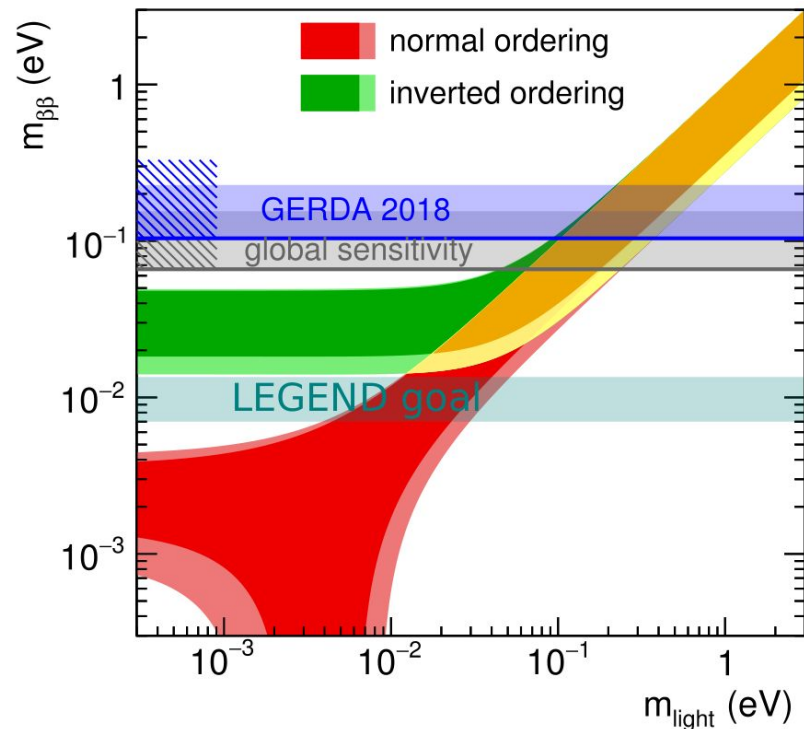
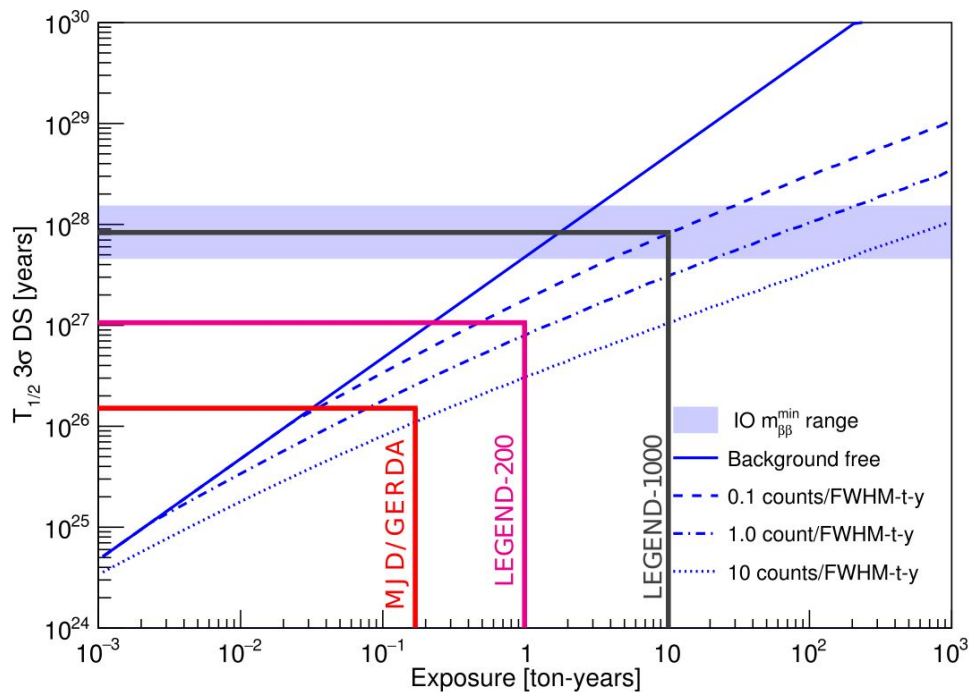
LEGEND

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

- $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay experimental program with discovery potential at half-life of  $10^{28}$  years,
- more than 50 institutions, ~250 members
  - based on GERDA & MAJORANA techniques



# The LEGEND goal



**LEGEND aims to cover the inverted ordering region**

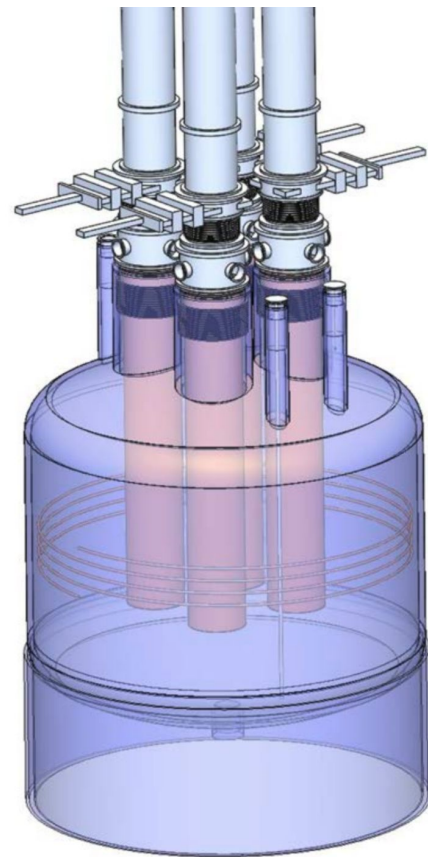
[arXiv:1905.06572](https://arxiv.org/abs/1905.06572)

- 200 kg of  $^{76}\text{Ge}$  detectors
- modification of existing GERDA infrastructure at Gran Sasso Laboratory
- reduced background
- discovery sensitivity at  $10^{27}$  yr
- **preparation started in 2019**  
**data taking planned in 2021**



[arXiv:1905.06572](https://arxiv.org/abs/1905.06572)

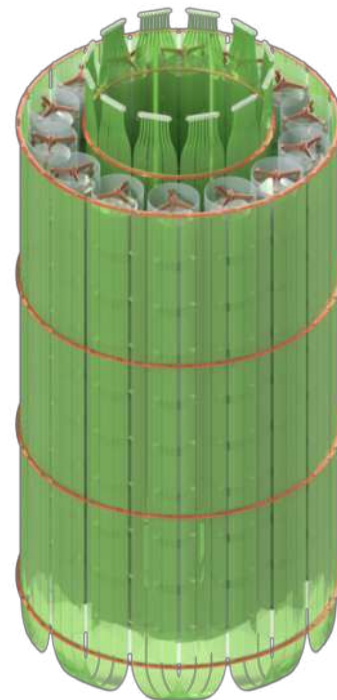
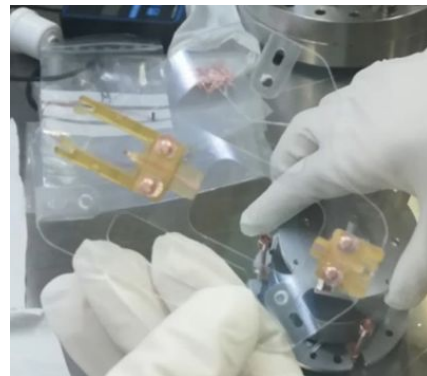
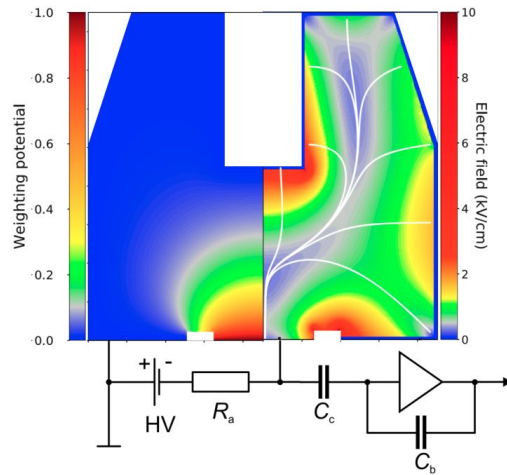
- 1000 kg of  $^{76}\text{Ge}$
- location to be selected, required depth under investigation
- timeline connected to review process





[arXiv:1905.06572](https://arxiv.org/abs/1905.06572)

- **New Inverted Coaxial Point-Contact Ge detectors**, large active mass up to 3 kg
- **Improved LAr veto system**, optimization of light collection
- **PEN based** detector unit parts
- **Low Mass electronics** with underground electroformed Cu





- GERDA infrastructure now operated by LEGEND from **February 2020 with installation of the first setup**
- **Electronics chain:** demonstrated with 20 channels in the first setup
- **New Detectors:** production of 155 kg of Inverted Coaxial HPGe in progress
- **New Active LAr veto:** production of fiber shroud and SiPMs in progress
- **Monte Carlo Simulations and Analysis Software** in preparation

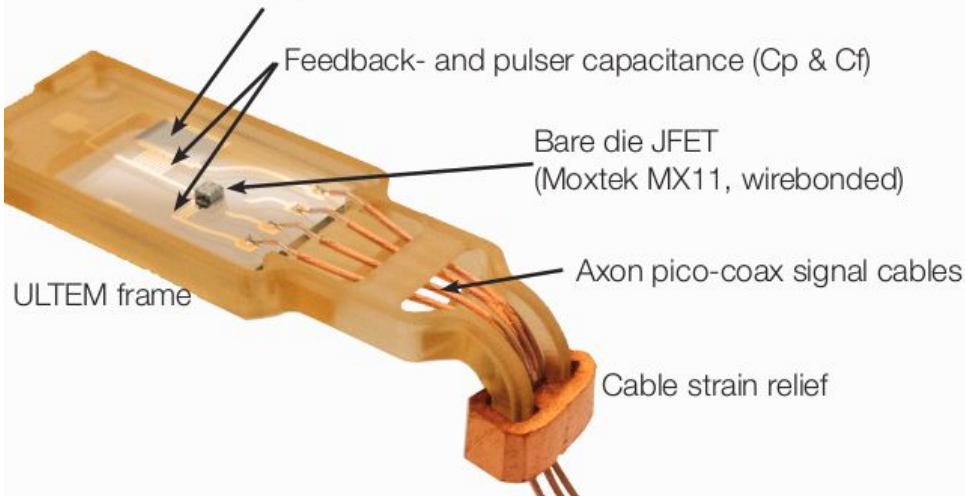


# Our activity in LEGEND: read-out electronics

## 1st stage: Low-Mass Front End

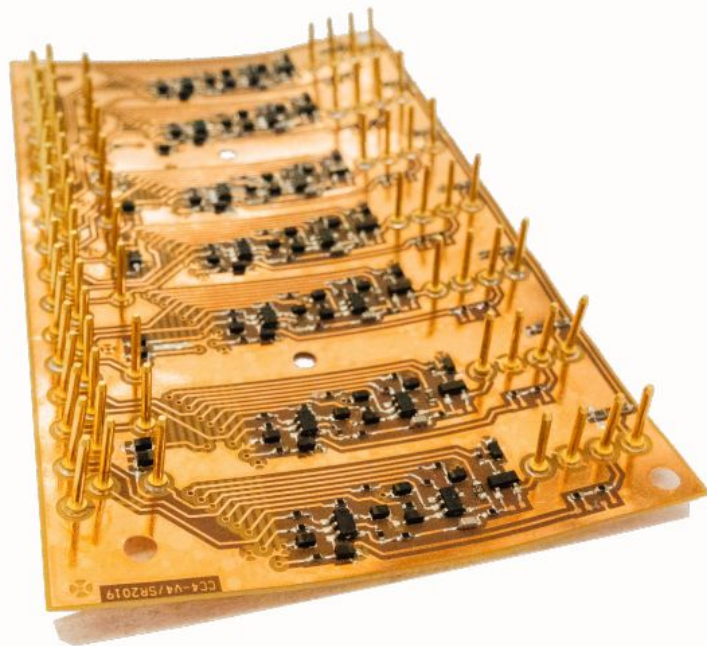
in close proximity of detectors,  
stringent radiopurity constraints

Feedback resistor ( $R_f$ )  $\sim 1 \text{ G}\Omega$  @ 87 K



## 2nd stage: Preamplifier

based on the GERDA electronics,  
about 30 cm above the detectors

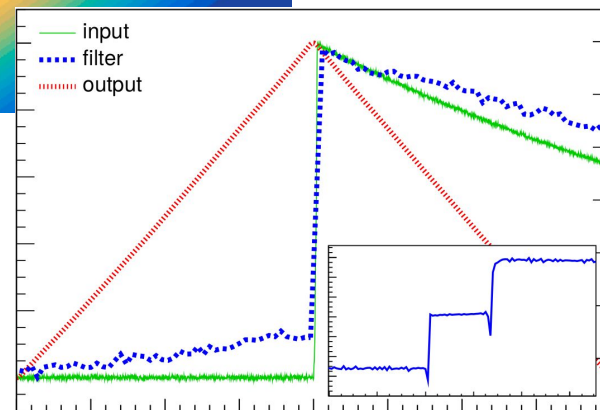
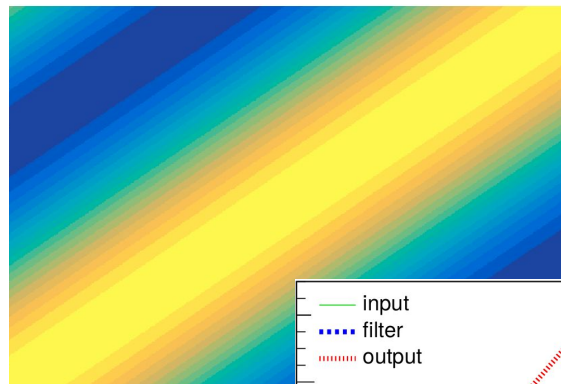


[EPJ Web Conf 225 \(2020\) 01006](#)

# Our activity in LEGEND: digital signal processing

## We are working on the implementation of a digital filter that maximize the signal-to-noise ratio

- based on the DPLMS method, taking into account the real environmental noise
- minimization of the deviations between the experimental samples and a reference curve
- **first application on GERDA & LEGEND data shows an improved energy resolution**



[EPJ Web Conf 225 \(2020\) 01006](#)

GERDA reached important milestones in the  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay search:

- energy resolution  $\sim 0.15\%$  at  $Q_{\beta\beta}$  i.e.  $\leq 3$  keV BEGe ( $\sim 4$  keV COAX)
- lowest background ever achieved:  **$0.36 \cdot 10^{-3}$  cts/(keV·kg·yr)**
- probe of the  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay **beyond  $10^{26}$  yr**

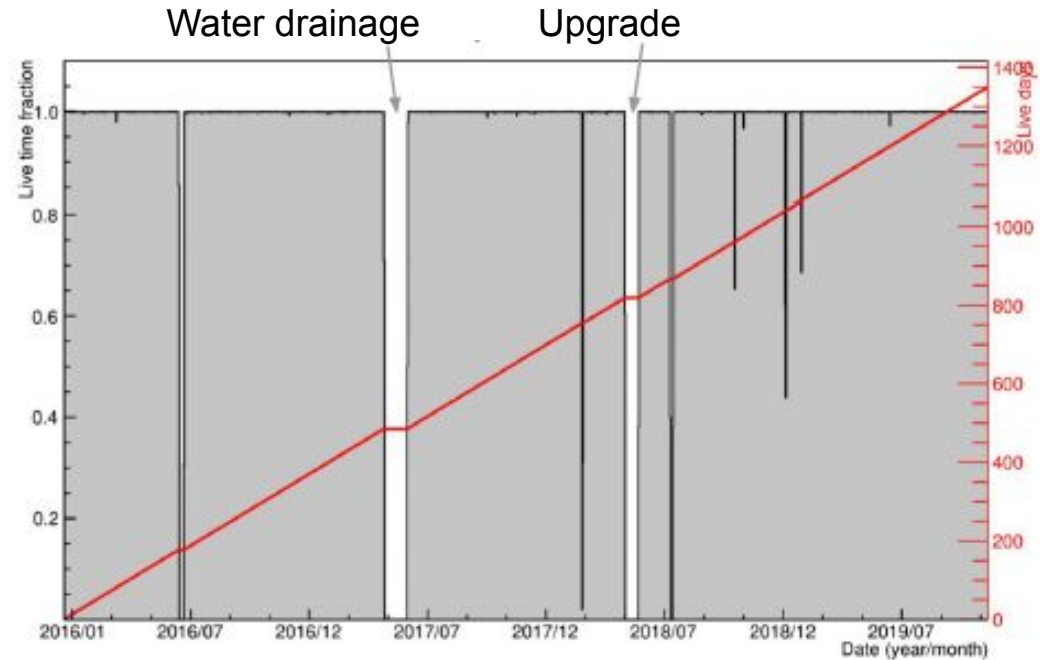
the search for  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay in  $^{76}\text{Ge}$  will be continued by  
LEGEND-200 to reach a sensitivity of  $10^{27}$  yr

**LEGEND-200 is in preparation, ongoing efforts to start in 2021**

## Thesis Opportunities

- Test and integration of the new electronics for LEGEND-200
- Digital Signal Processing on GERDA/LEGEND data
- Data analysis of new LEGEND-200 data from 2021

- Fully operational along the whole analysis data taking
- $\pm 10\mu\text{s}$  anti-coincidence window around HPGe signal
- Muon rate crossing GERDA:  $(3182 \pm 2)$  muons/d
- **Random Coincidence Probability with a Ge event  $< 10^{-6}$**
- Muon contribution in the background window  **$O(10^{-3})$  cts/(keV · kg · yr)**
- Detection efficiency  $(99.935 \pm 0.015)$  %  
[EPJC 76(2016)298]



# Liquid Argon Veto: Ge event acceptance Veto & LAr Triplet half-life

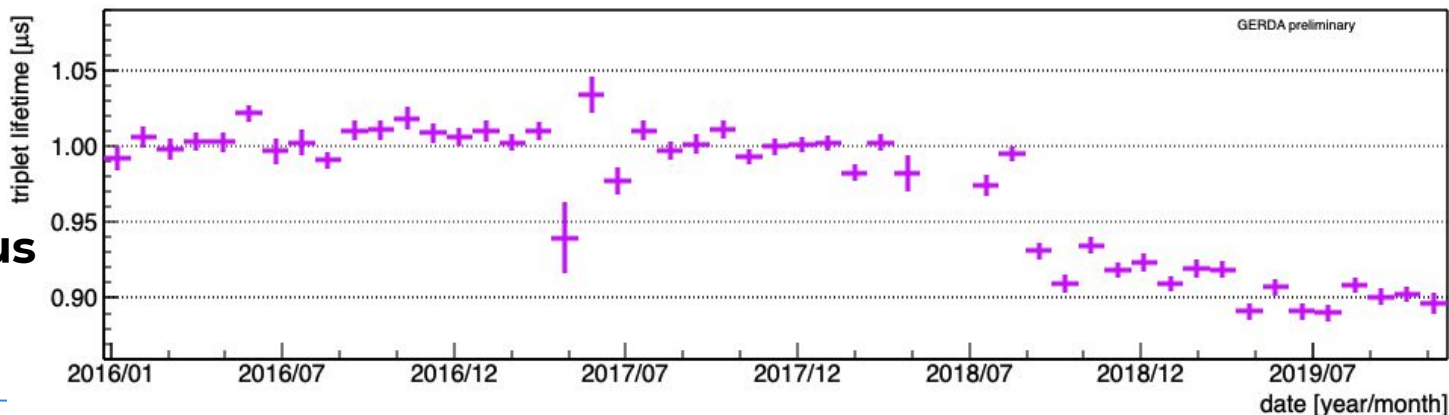
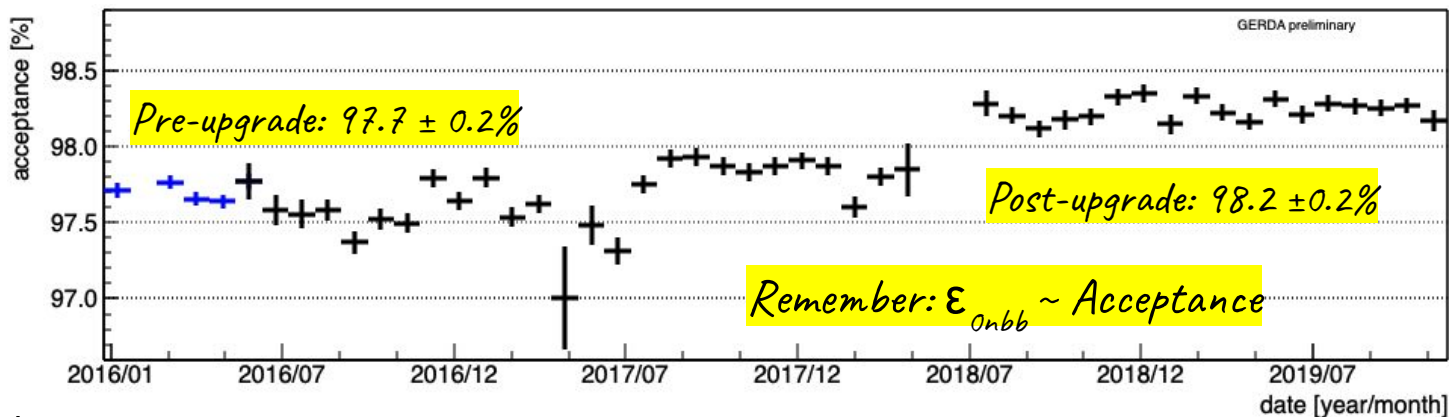
for Neutrinoless pp Decay

GERDA

**LAr Veto:**  
**16 PMTs + 15 (+2)**  
**SiPMs**

Acceptance determined on randomly triggered events (pulser/BL)

**Anticoincidence condition:**  
 **$\geq 0.5$  PE in  $[-1, +5]$   $\mu\text{s}$  around HPGe trigger**



# Background interpretation

