



Hadron-China 2019: The 11th Workshop on Hadron Physics in China  
and Opportunities Worldwide

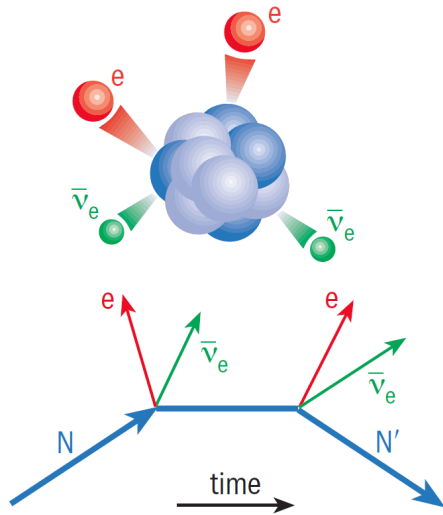
Neutrinoless Double Beta Decay  
Searches: Status and Prospects

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Shanghai Jiao Tong University  
08/25, 2019

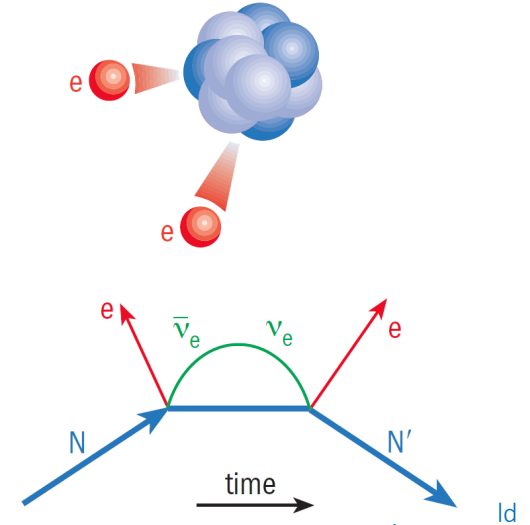
# Outline

- General considerations for NLDBD experiments
- Current status and plans for NLDBD searches worldwide
- Opportunities at CJPL-II
  - NLDBD proposals in China
  - PandaX series experiments for NLDBD of  $^{136}\text{Xe}$

# Majorana neutrino and NLDBD



$$\bar{\nu} = \nu$$



1935, Goeppert-Mayer  
Two-Neutrino double beta decay

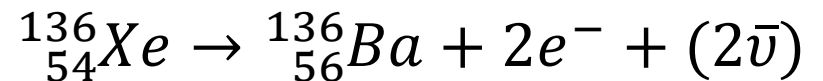
1937, Majorana  
Majorana Neutrino

1939, Furry  
Neutrinoless double beta decay **NLDBD**



1930, Pauli  
Idea of neutrino

1933, Fermi  
Beta decay theory



# NLDBD probes the nature of neutrinos

- Majorana or Dirac
- Lepton number violation
- Measures effective Majorana mass: relate  $0\nu\beta\beta$  to the neutrino oscillation physics

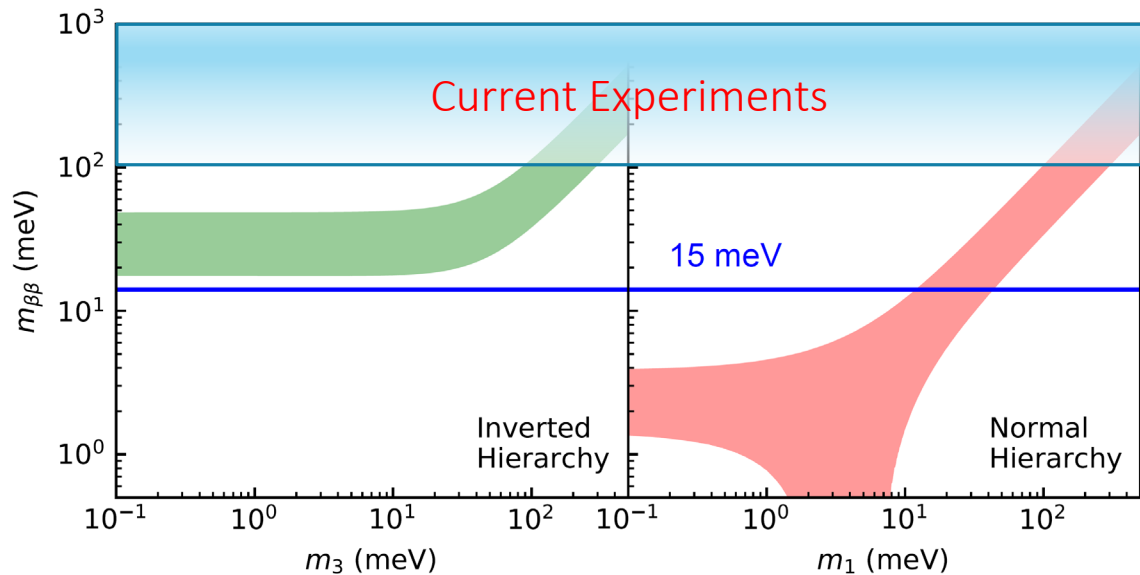
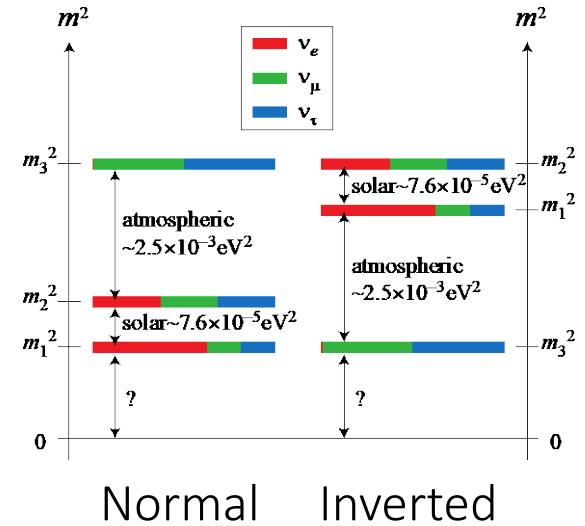
$$(T_{1/2}^{0\nu})^{-1} = G^{0\nu}(Q, Z) |M^{0\nu}|^2 \frac{|\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle|^2}{m_e^2}$$

Phase space factor

Nuclear matrix element

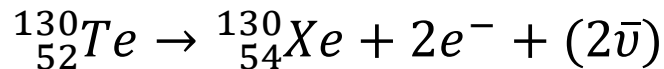
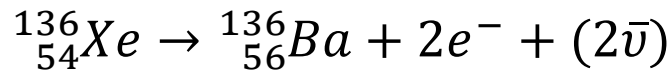
Effective Majorana neutrino mass:

$$|\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle| = \left| \sum_{i=1}^3 U_{ei}^2 m_i \right|$$

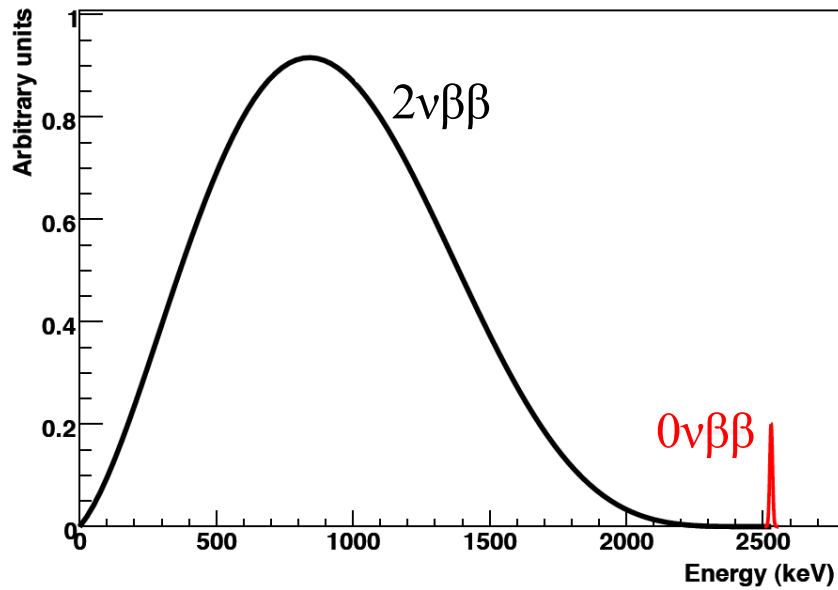


# Detection of double beta decay

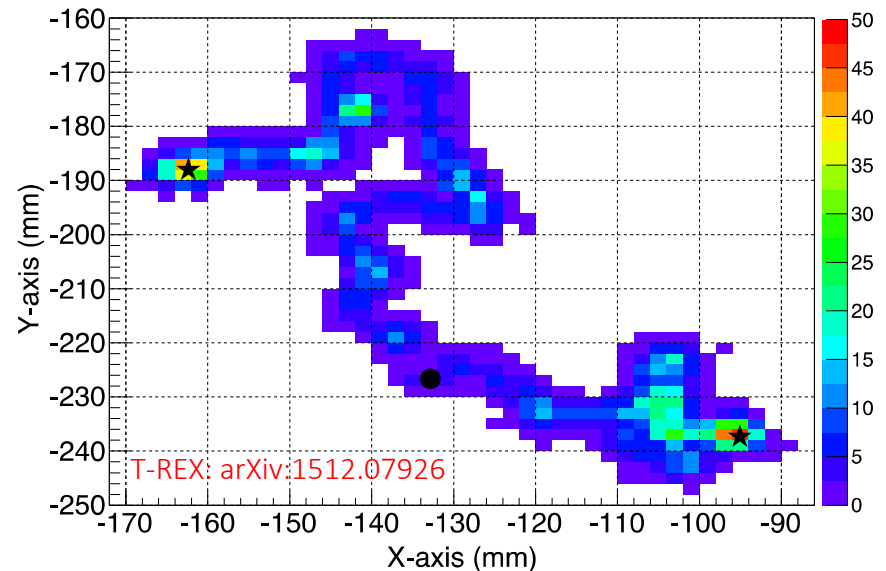
- Examples:



- Measure energies of emitted electrons
- Electron tracks are a huge plus
- Daughter nuclei identification

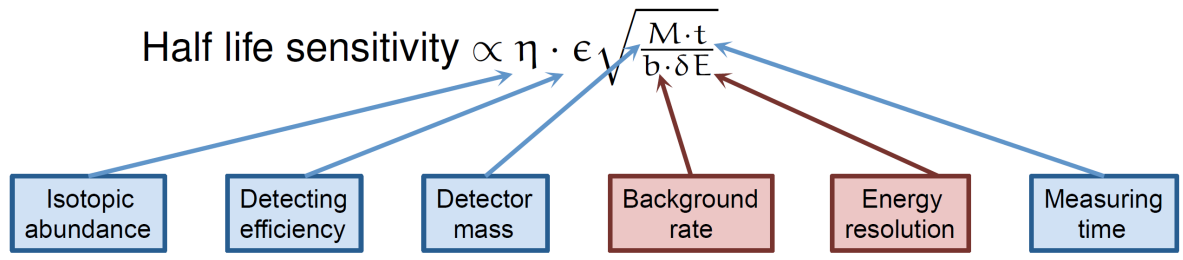


Sum of two electrons energy

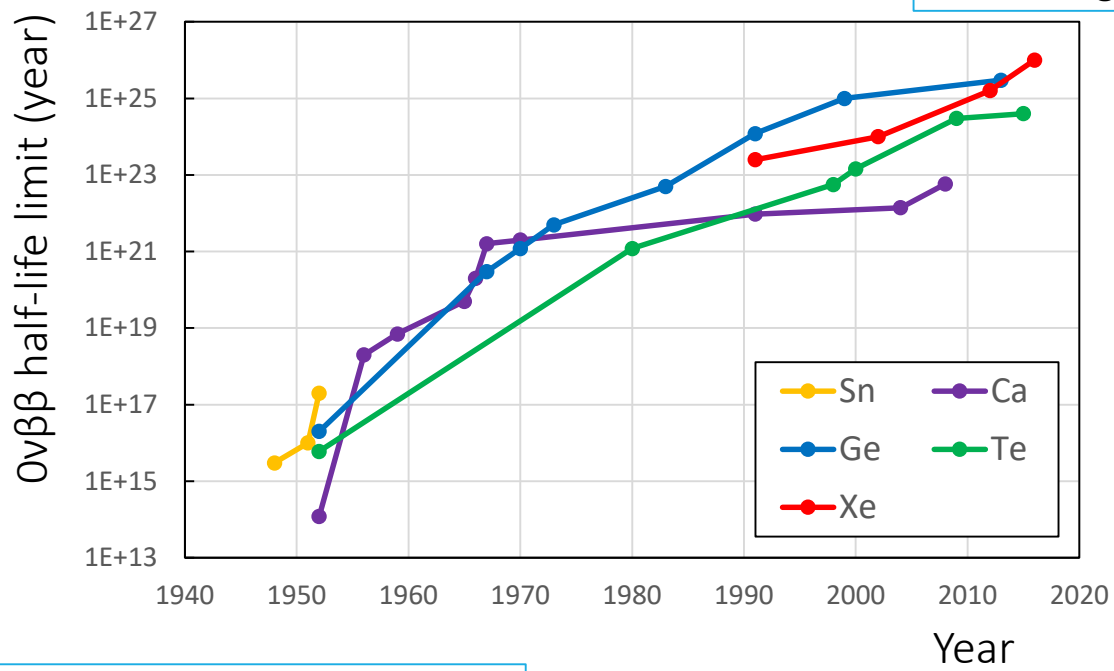


Simulated track of  $0\nu\beta\beta$  in high pressure Xe

# Impressive experimental progress



- ~100 kg of isotopes
- ~100-person collaborations
- Deep underground
- Shielding + clean detector

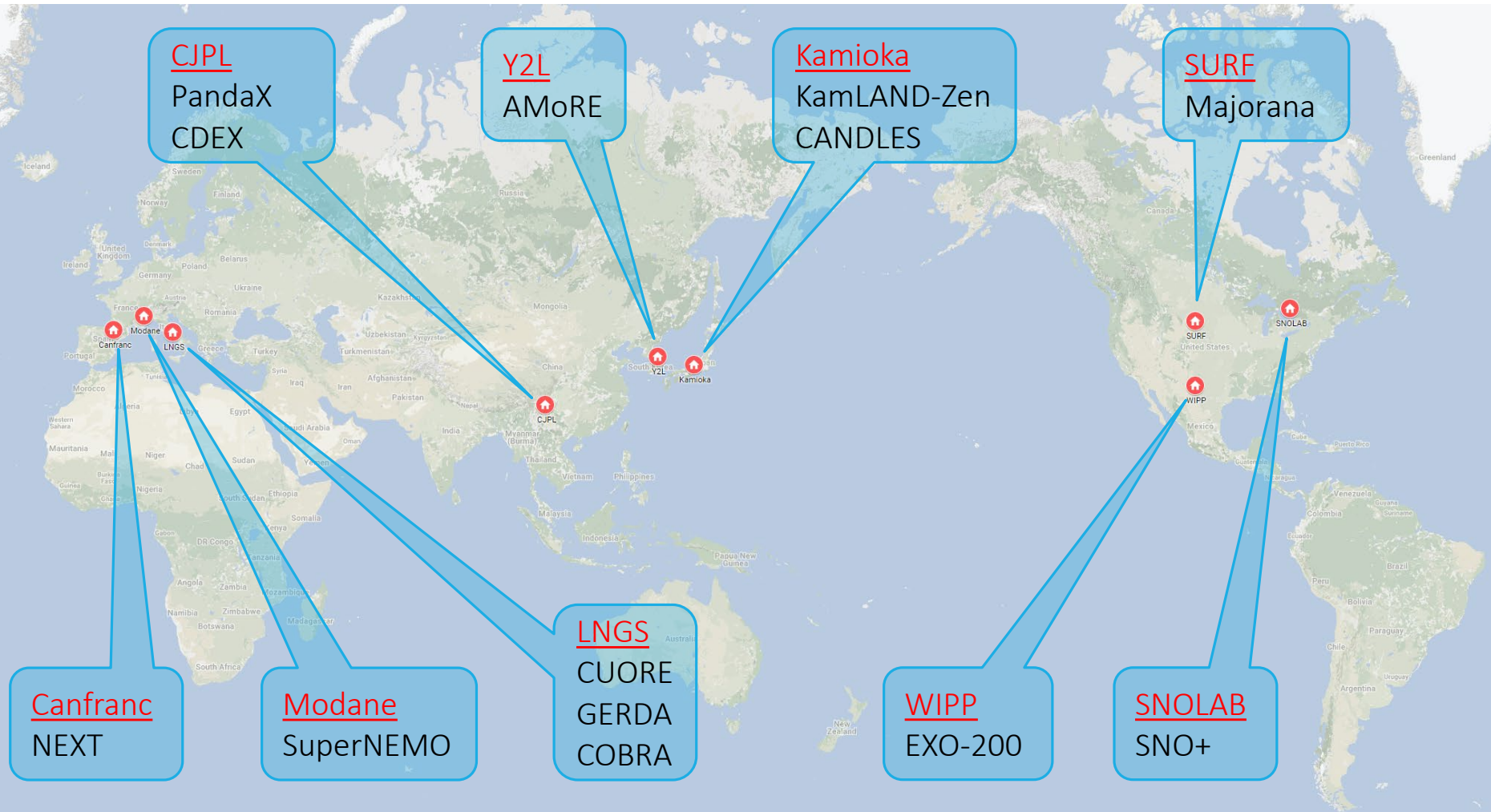


- Grams of isotopes
- Above-ground
- Table-top experiment
- Little shielding

Partial list of selected isotopes; Pre-1984 data points from review article by Haxton and Stephenson, Jr.

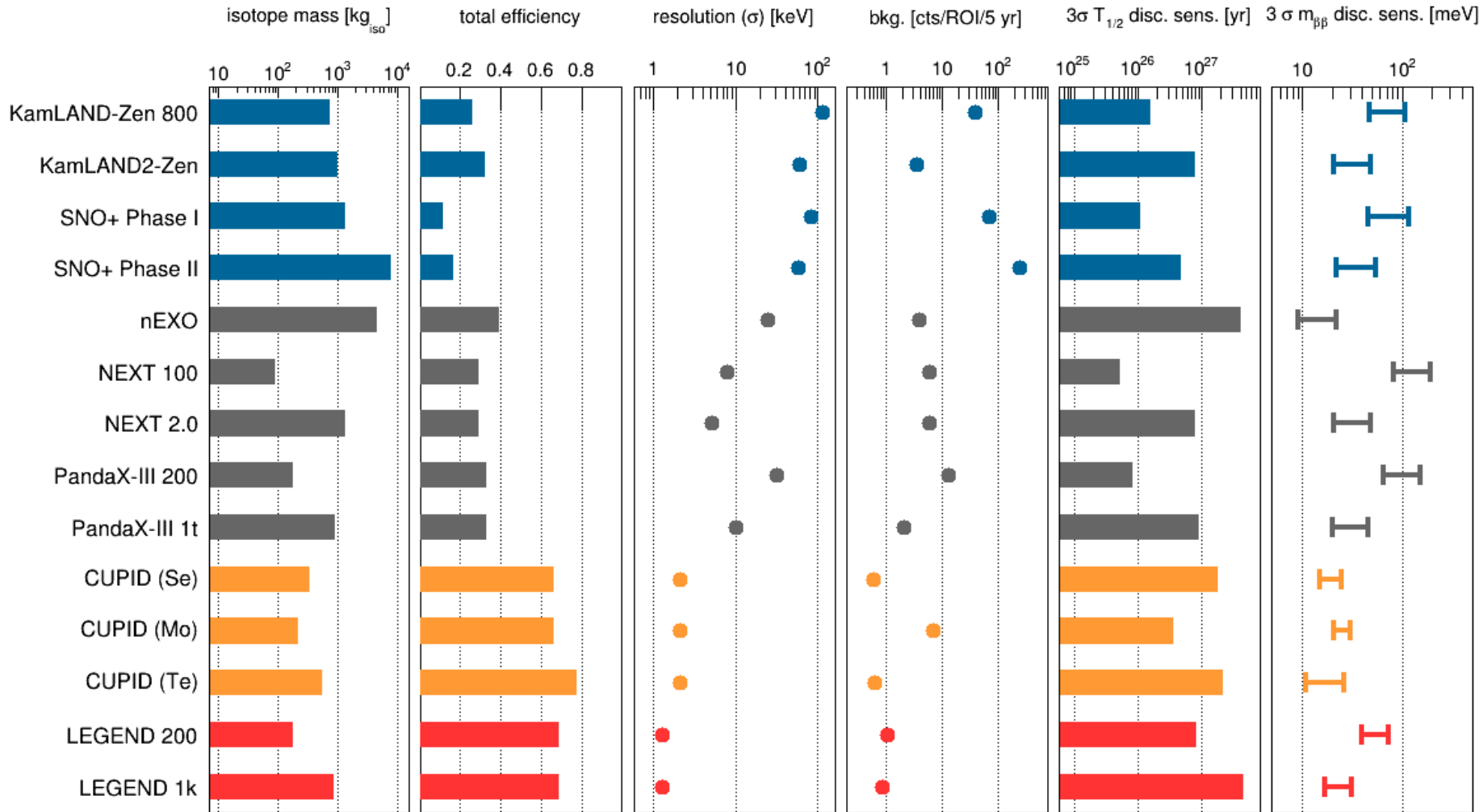


# Major $0\nu\beta\beta$ experiments around the world



Running or under construction

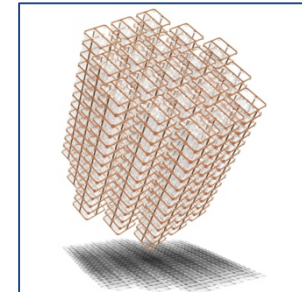
# Future experiments





# Detection channels

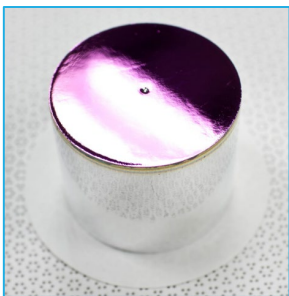
Phonons



CUORE

AMoRE  
CUPID

Electrons  
holes

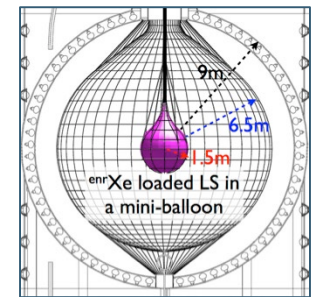


GERDA  
Majorana  
COBRA  
PandaX-III

EXO/nEXO  
NEXT  
SuperNEMO

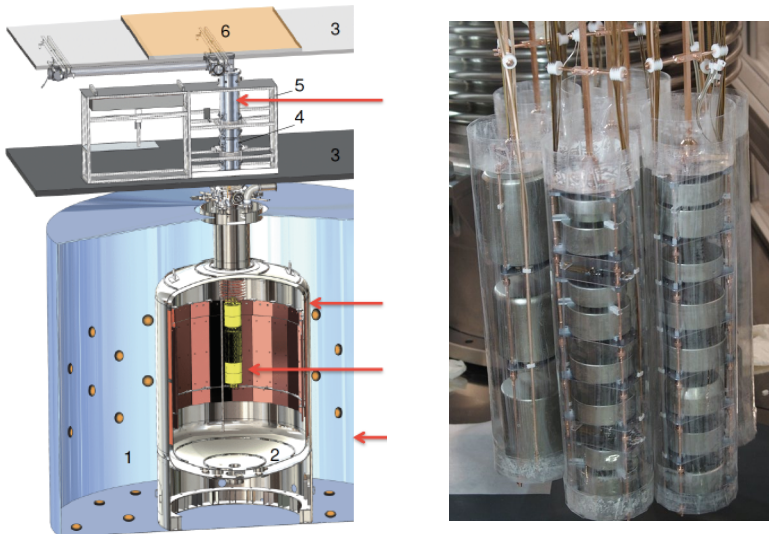
KamLAND-Zen  
SNO+  
CANDLES

Photons



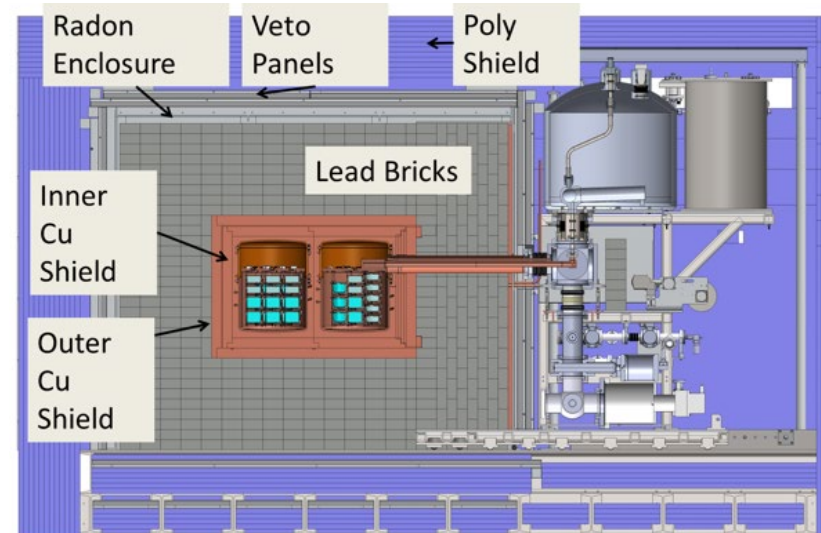
# HPGe detectors ( $^{76}\text{Ge}$ )

GERDA at LNGS, Italy



Half-life limit:  $0.9 \times 10^{26}$  yr  
Bkg:  $5.7 \times 10^{-4}$  c/kev/kg/yr (DBD18)

Majorana Demonstrator at Sanford, US



Half-life limit:  $2.7 \times 10^{25}$  yr  
Bkg:  $\sim 5 \times 10^{-3}$  c/kev/kg/yr  
(ArXiv:1902.02299)

## Future:

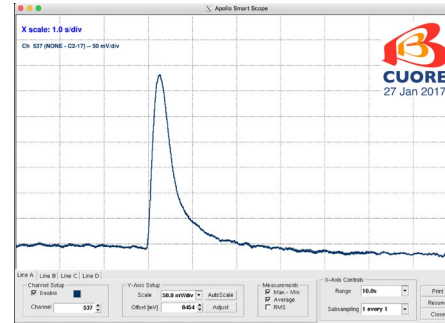
- **LEGEND** (Large Enriched Ge Experiment for  $\beta\beta$  Decay)
- First phase: 200 kg @ LNGS

# CUORE ( $^{130}\text{Te}$ )

- Bolometric technique
- Excellent energy resolution by measuring temperature rise at mK level.
- CUORE data taking started early 2017
- Current limit:  $1.5 \times 10^{25}$  yr

## Future

- CUPID (CUORE with particle ID)
  - LiMoO<sub>4</sub> scintillating bolometer array
  - Phonon + photon dual readout



World-largest  
Dilution  
Refrigerator  
<10mK

# KamLAND-Zen ( $^{136}\text{Xe}$ )

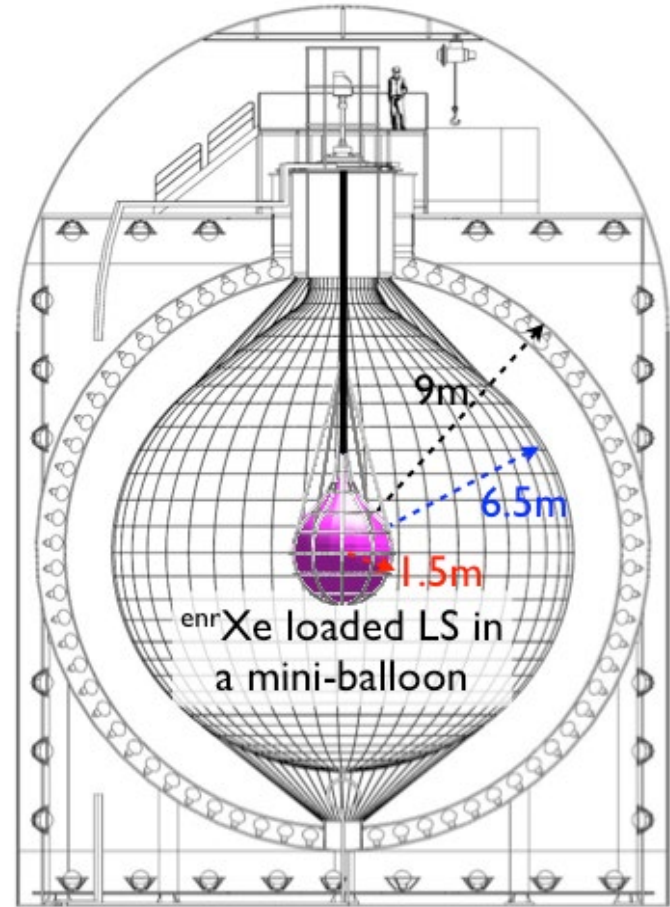
- KamLAND-Zen is leading the field of  $0\nu\beta\beta$  experiment
- $^{136}\text{Xe}$  half-life limit of  $1.07 \times 10^{26}$  yr (90%CL)
- New phase with twice the  $^{136}\text{Xe}$  is under construction.

Future:

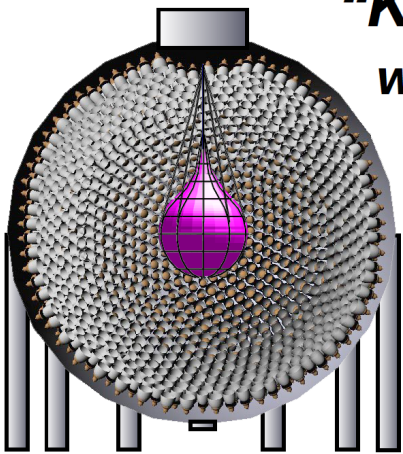
**“KamLAND2-Zen”**  
**with 1000kg enriched Xe**  
**Many R&Ds are ongoing !**

**More photons for better  $\sigma_E$**

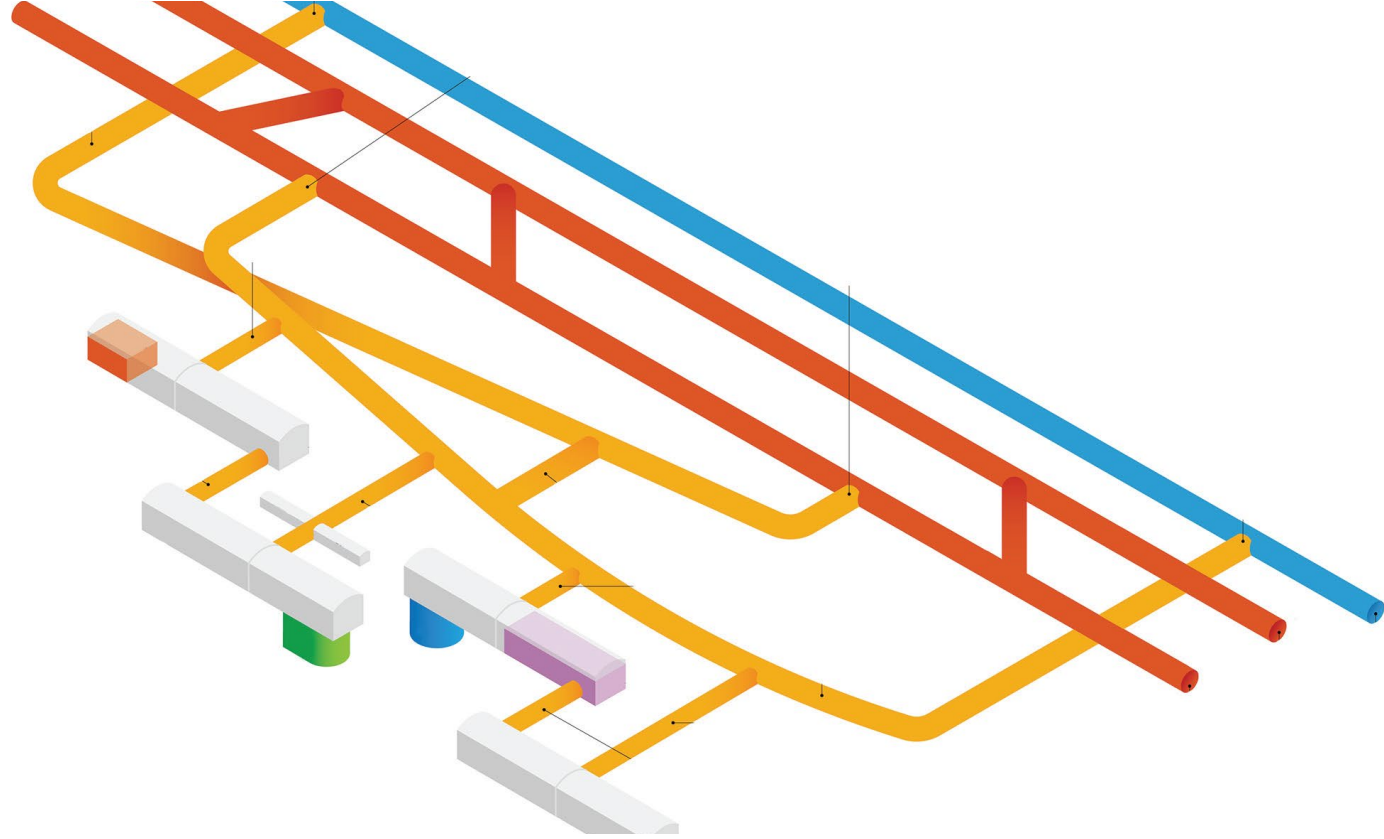
- New LAB-based LS (L.Y. $\times$ 1.4),
- New High Q.E. PMT ( $\times$ 1.9),
- Light collector of PMT( $\times$ 1.8)



KamLAND-ZEN





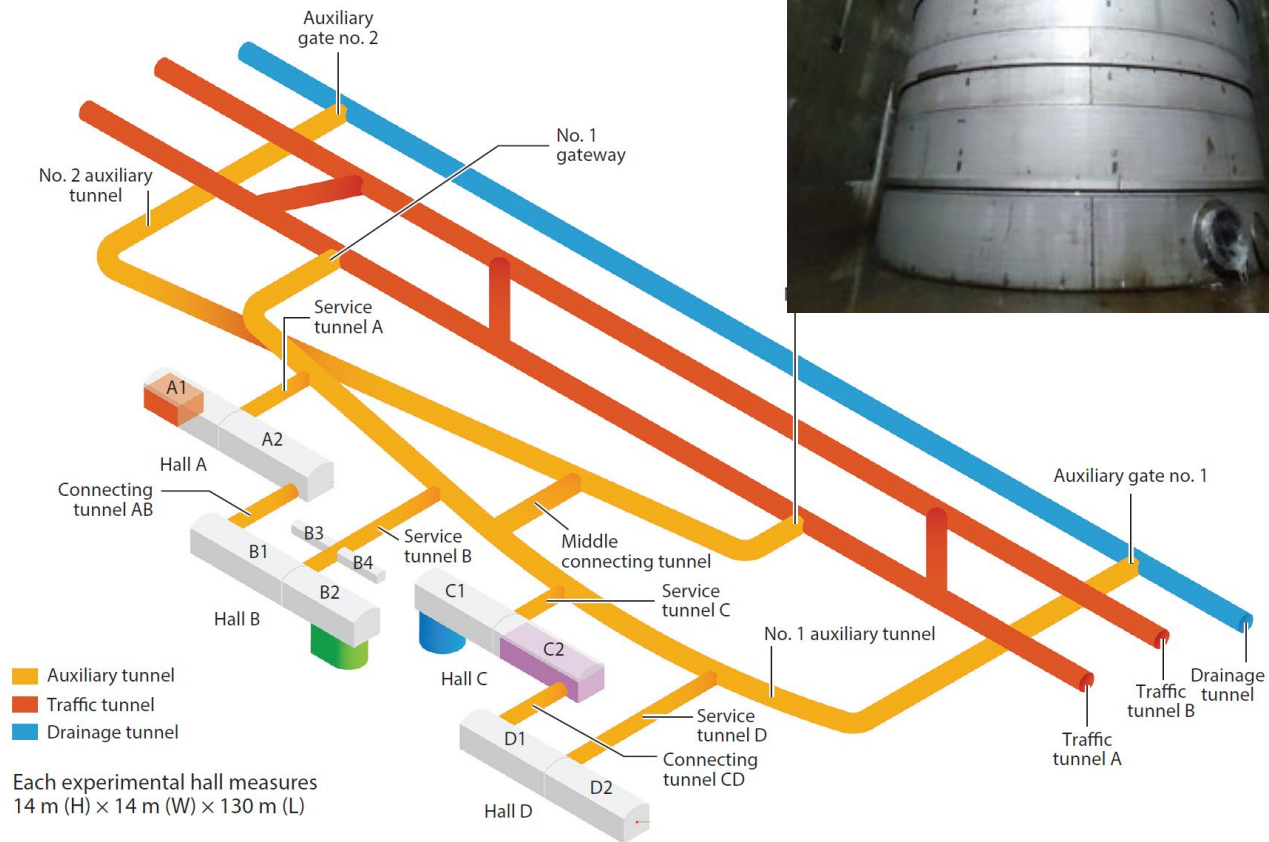


## NLDBD searches at CJPL-II

- PandaX: TPCs for  $^{136}\text{Xe}$
- CDEX: HPGe for  $^{76}\text{Ge}$
- CUPID-China: bolometers for  $^{100}\text{Mo}$
- NvDeX: gainless TPC for  $^{82}\text{Se}$

# CJPL-II: deepest underground lab

From: The China Jinping Underground Laboratory and Its Early Science;  
**Ann.Rev.Nucl.Part.Sci. 67 (2017) 231-251**



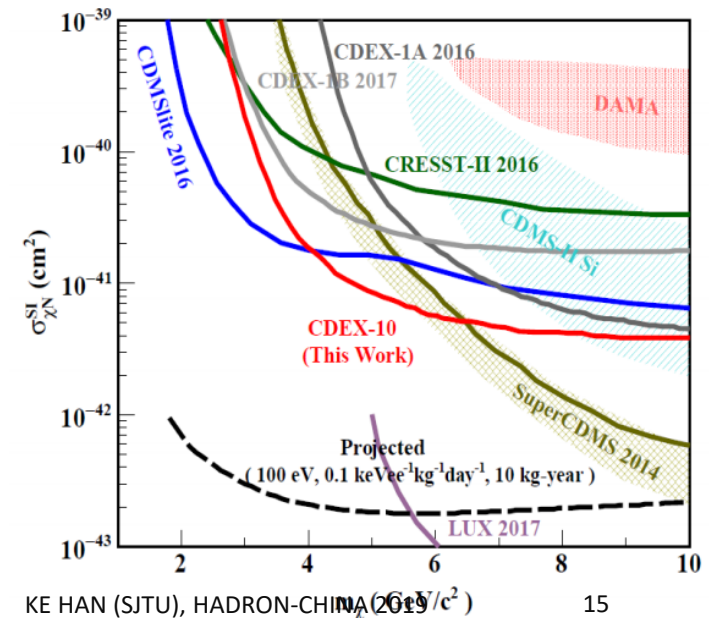
# CDEX: Pursuing DM and NLDBD

CDEX-10:

- Array detectors: 3 strings with 3 detector each, ~10kg total;
- Direct immersion in LN<sub>2</sub> ;
- Prototype system for future hundred-kg to ton scale experiment
- Light/radio-purer LN2 replacing heavy shield i.e. Pb/Cu;
- Arraying technology to scalable capability;



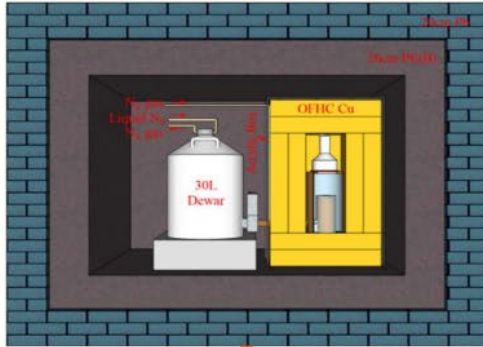
**CDEX-10: ~10kg PPC Ge array**





# CDEX Roadmap

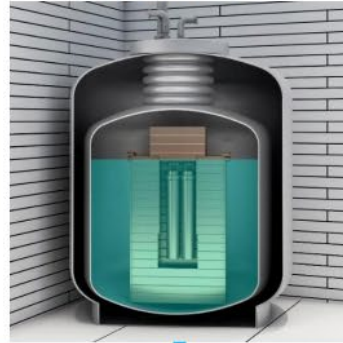
CDEX-1A/B



CJPL-I

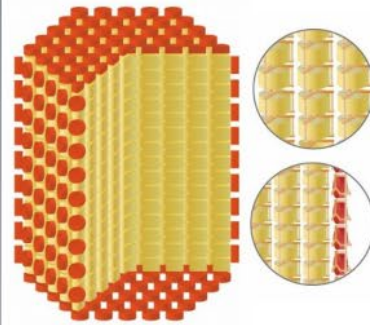
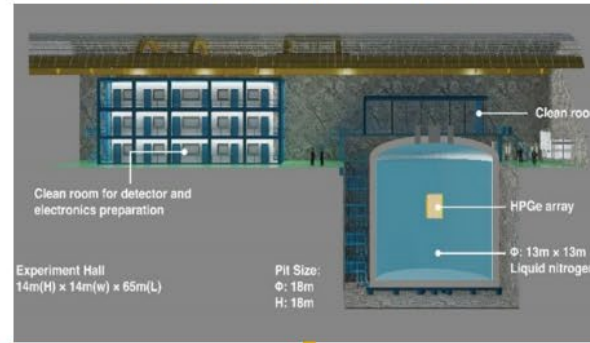
2011

CDEX-10



2016

CDEX-100 / CDEX-1T



CJPL-II

202X

☐ PPC Ge detector with a mass of up to ~1 kg

- ✓ PRD88, 052004, 2013
- ✓ PRD90, 032003, 2014
- ✓ PRD90, 091701, 2014
- ✓ PRD93, 092003, 2016
- ✓ PRD95, 052006, 2017 (Axion)
- ✓ Sci. China (2017) ( $0\nu\beta\beta$ )
- ✓ CPC42, 023002, 2018

☐ 10 kg PPC Ge detector array immersed into LN<sub>2</sub>

- ✓ PRL120, 241301, 2018

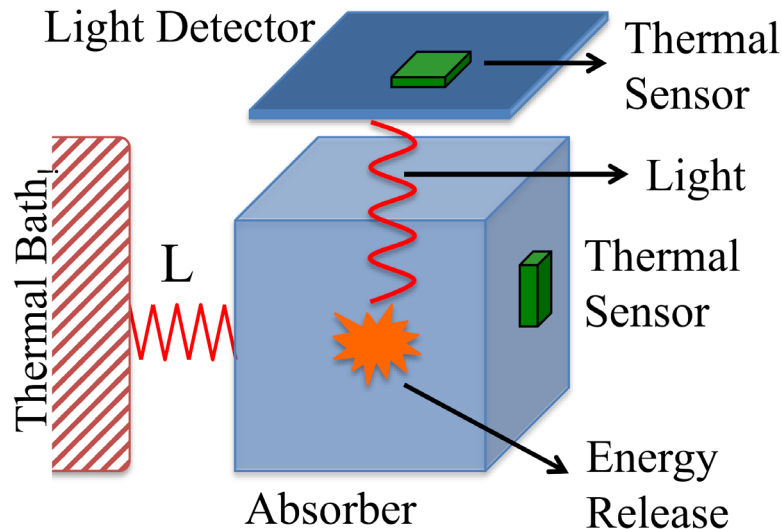
☐ Ge array in large-volume LN<sub>2</sub>  
☐ multi-purpose: DM and  $0\nu\beta\beta$

Key technologies:

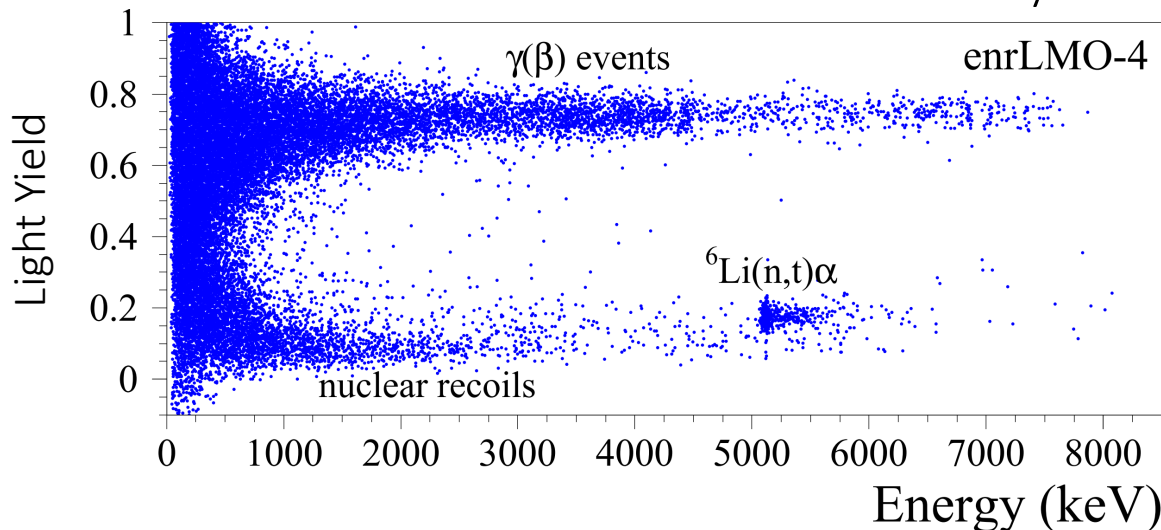
- ✓ Ge crystal growth and <sup>76</sup>Ge enrichment
- ✓ Ge detector fabrication
- ✓ Ultra-low background VFE
- ✓ Ultra-pure copper for structure and cables
- ✓ Natural Ge detectors as veto
- ✓ .....

From  
LT Yang

# CUPID-China

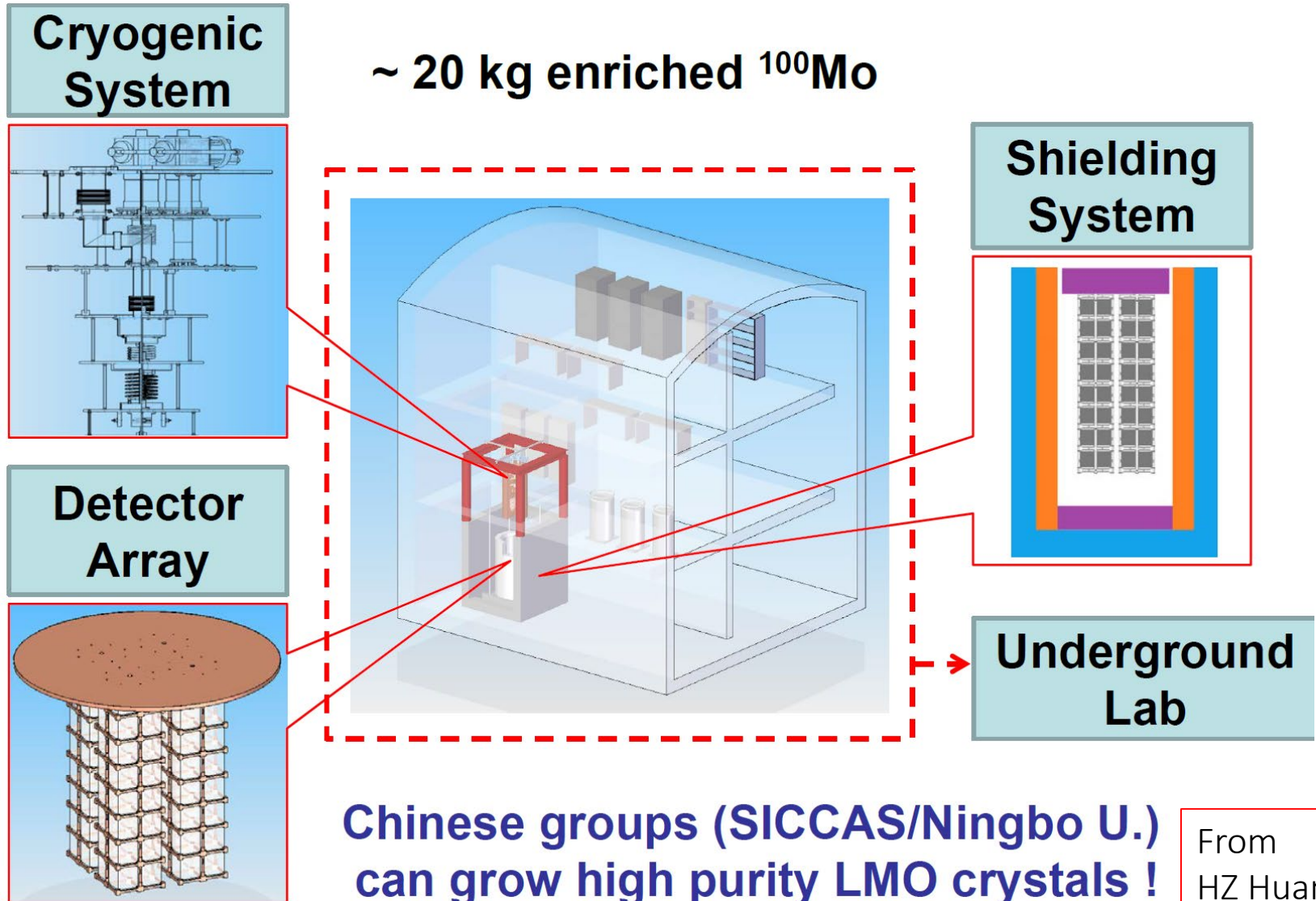


- Light and heat readout with two bolometer setups for one crystal
- $\text{LiMoO}_4$  scintillating bolometer arrays
- Particle ID to reject alpha background
- High Q-value (3.0 MeV) for low gamma background
- Technical development in the next 3-5 years



**CUPID-France**  
**Andrea Giuliani**  
**@CSNSM Orsay**

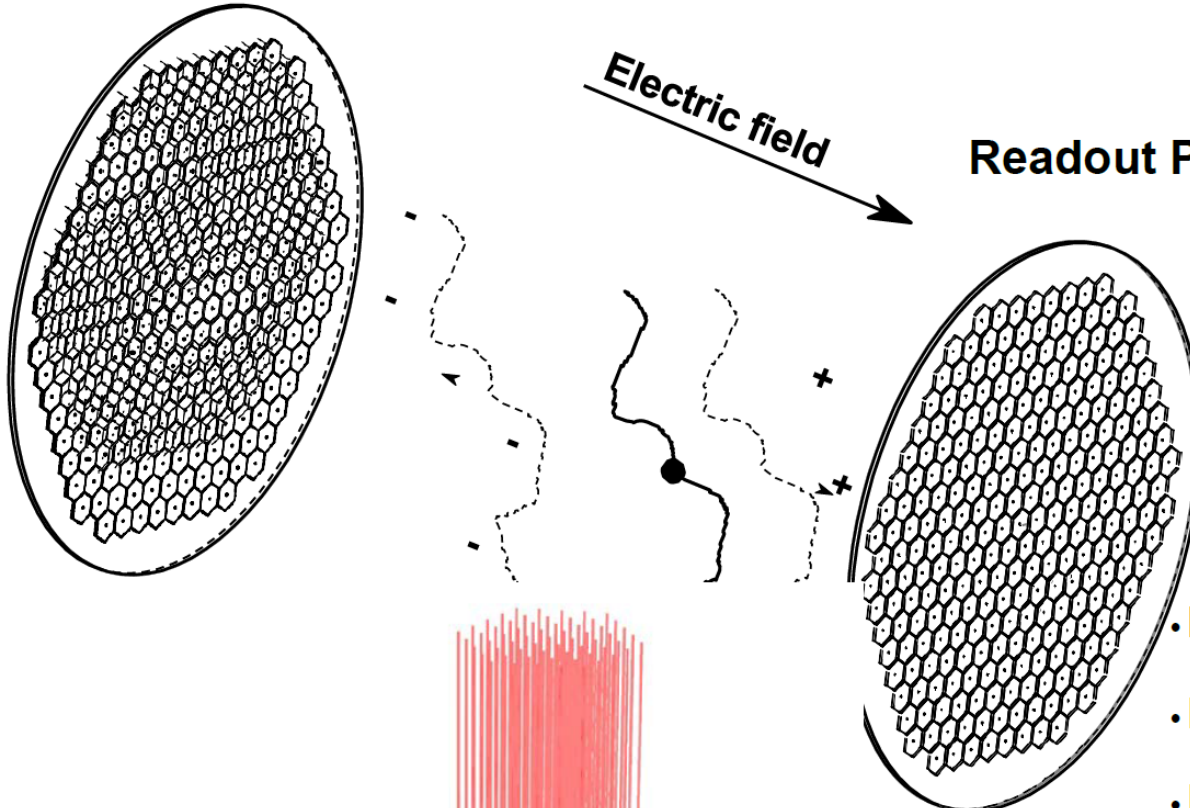
# CUPID-China concept



From  
HZ Huang

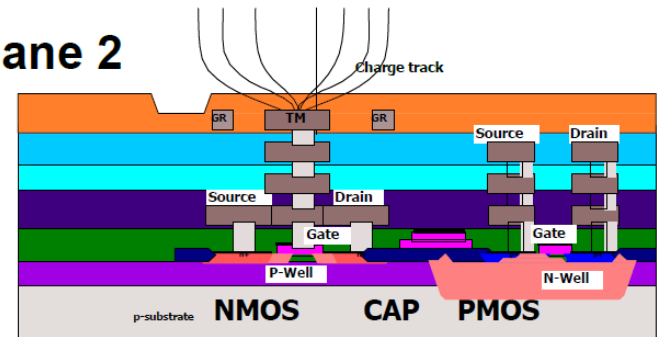
# NvDeX: gain-less charge readout with TopMetal in $^{82}\text{SeF6}$

Readout Plane 1



Concept paper:  
[arXiv:1801.04513](https://arxiv.org/abs/1801.04513) [physics.ins-det]

Readout Plane 2



Focusing Electrode

PCB

CMOS Sensor

08/25/19

- Ion drifting
- No charge amplification
- Direct charge collection in X-Y
- Z is determined by the +/- charge arrival time difference

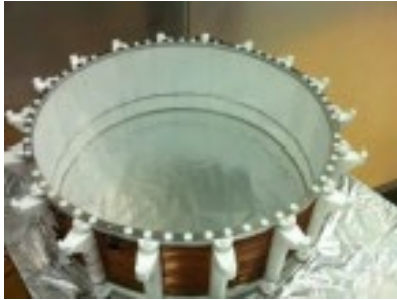
arrival time difference

**LBNL and CCNU et al** 15

Thanks to Xiangming Sun from CCNU



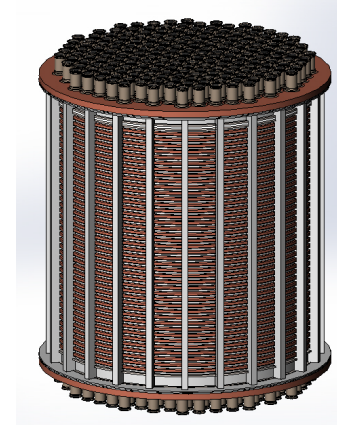
# PandaX Projects



PandaX-I: 120kg LXe  
(2009 – 2014)



PandaX-II: 500kg LXe  
(2014 – 2018)

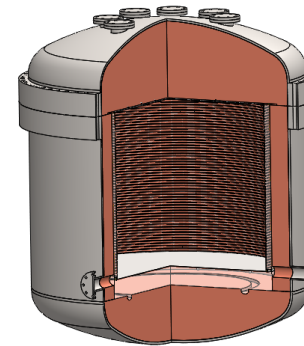


PandaX-xT LXe  
(future)

Dark matter WIMP searches



PRL 117, 121303  
(2016)

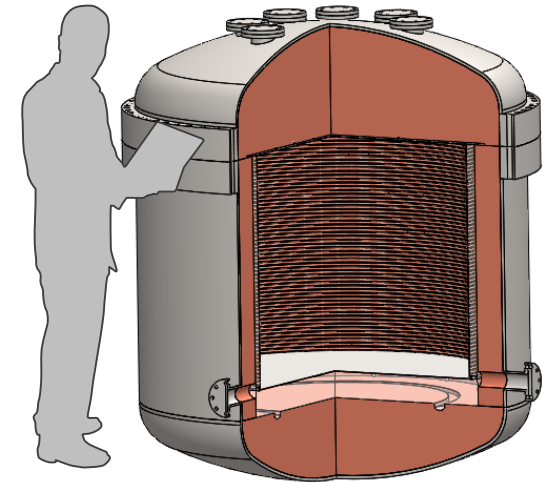


PandaX-III:  
200kg - 1 ton HPXe (future)

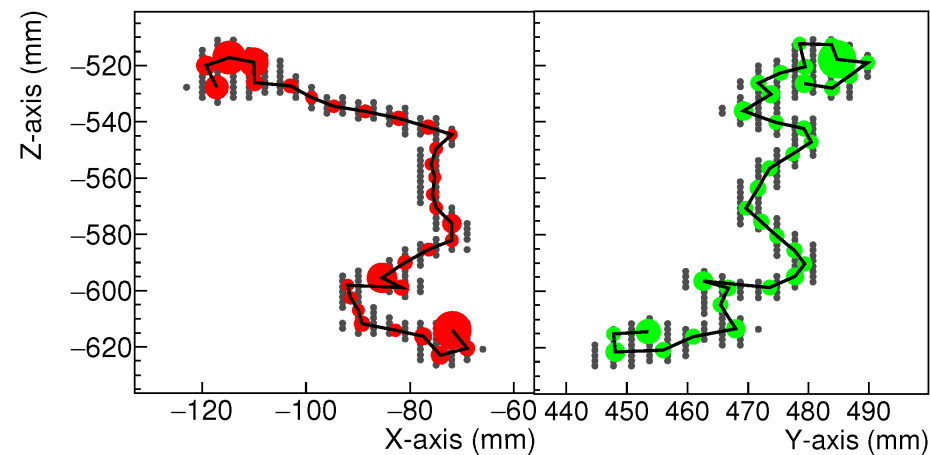
$0\nu\beta\beta$  searches

# PandaX-III: high pressure gas TPC for $0\nu\beta\beta$ of $^{136}\text{Xe}$

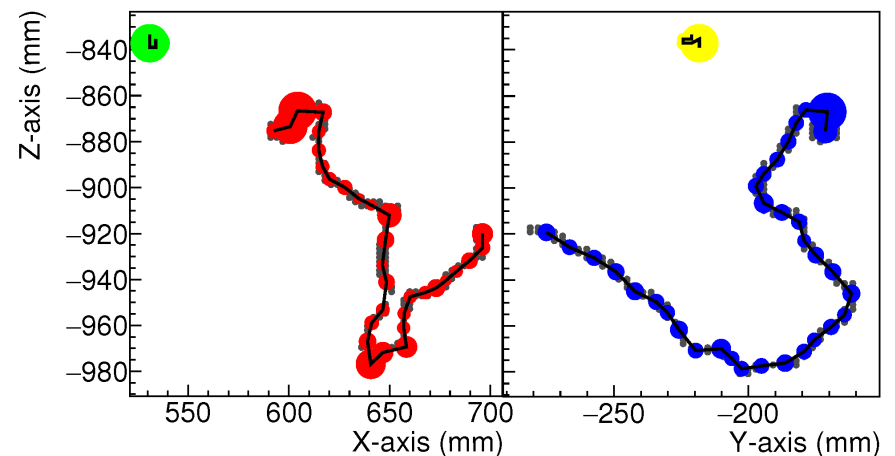
- TPC: 100 kg scale high pressure TPC with charge readout
- Main design features: good energy resolution and **tracking capability**
- Traditional cuts and neural network topological studies (arXiv:1903.03979 ;1802.03489).



NLDBD Event

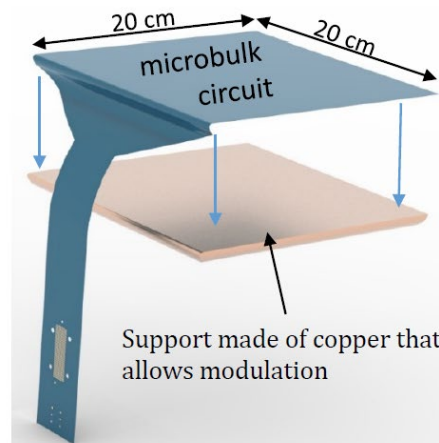
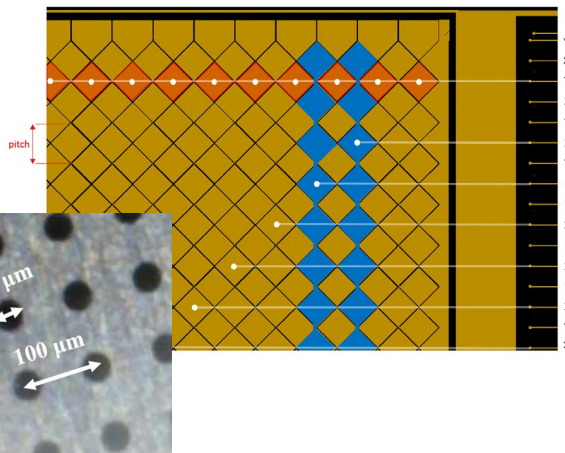
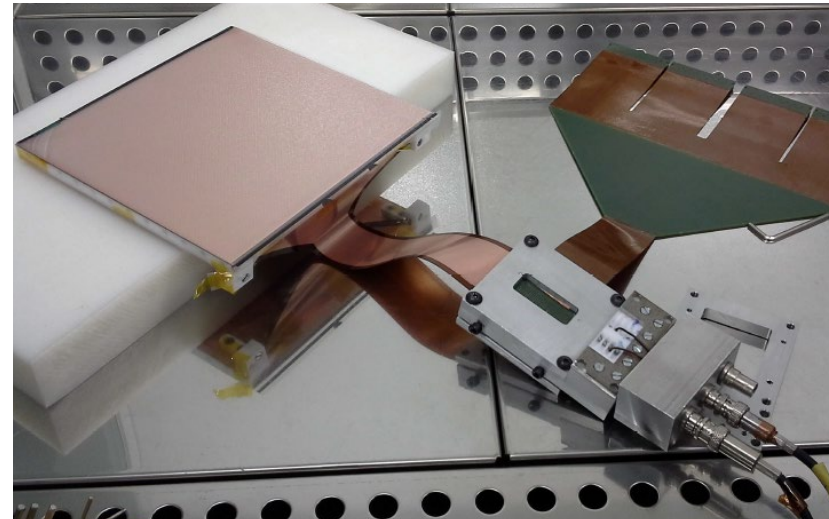


$^{214}\text{Bi}$  Event

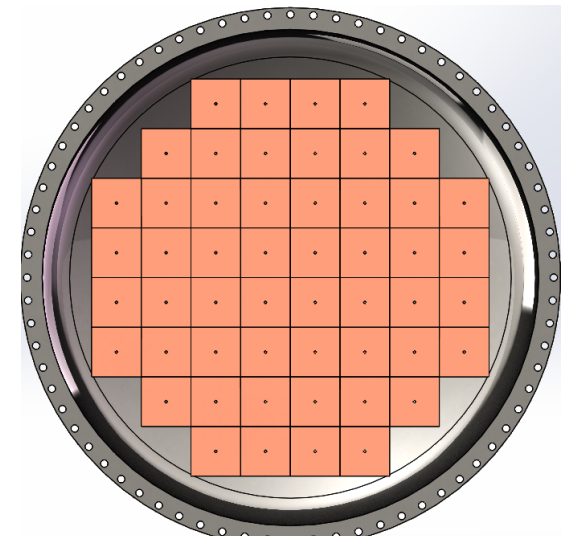


# Readout plane

- Microbulk MicroMegas films made of Copper and Kapton only
  - Perfect for radio-purity purpose
  - 20 by 20 cm
  - 3 mm pitch size, 128 strip readouts
- Mosaic layout to cover readout planes



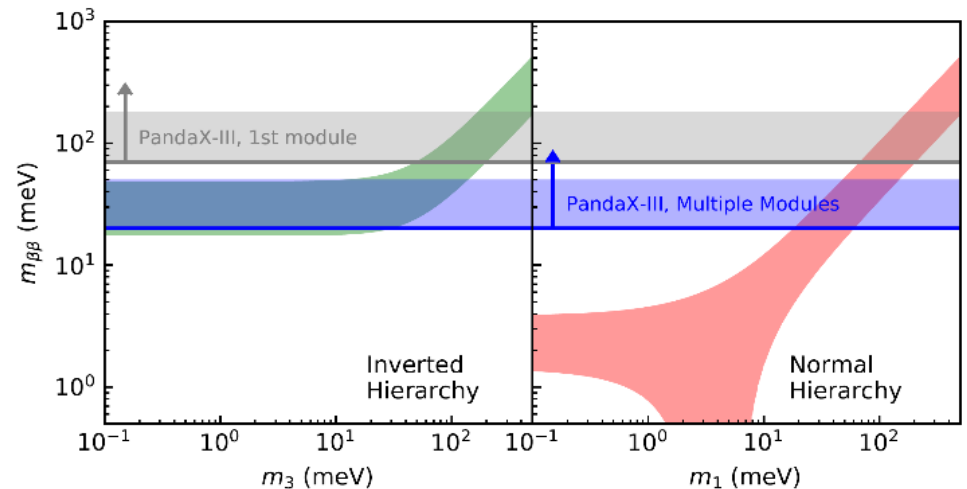
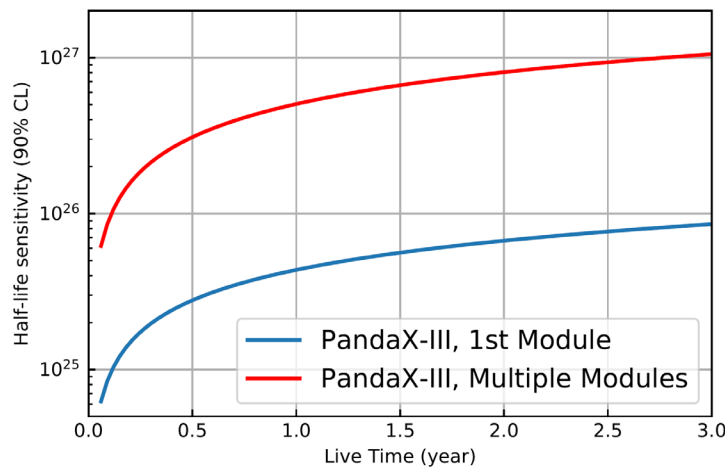
× 52





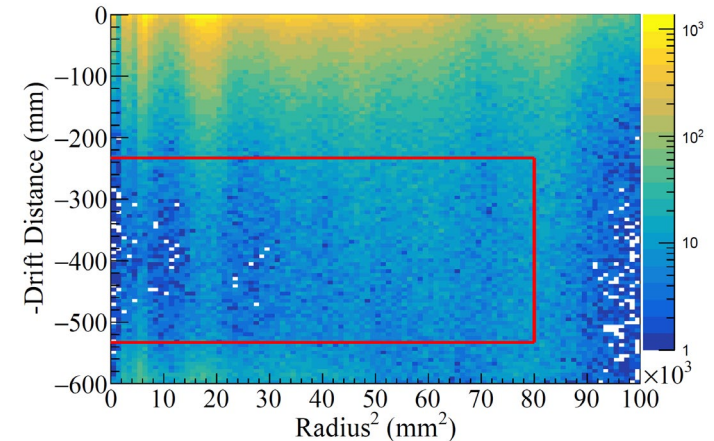
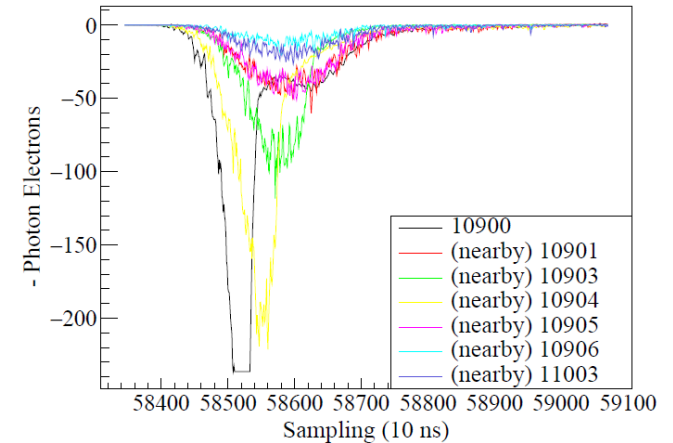
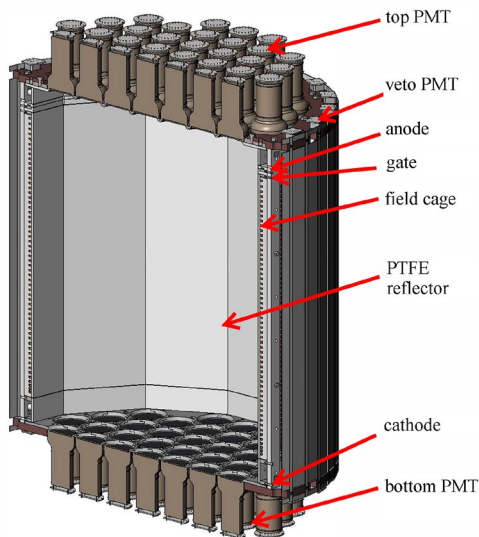
# Status and Sensitivity

- A 20-kg scale prototype TPC is running (arXiv:1804.02863)
- 1<sup>st</sup> 100-kg scale module to commission in 2020
- Half-life sensitivity with 3 years of data:  $9 \times 10^{25}$  yr (90% CL)



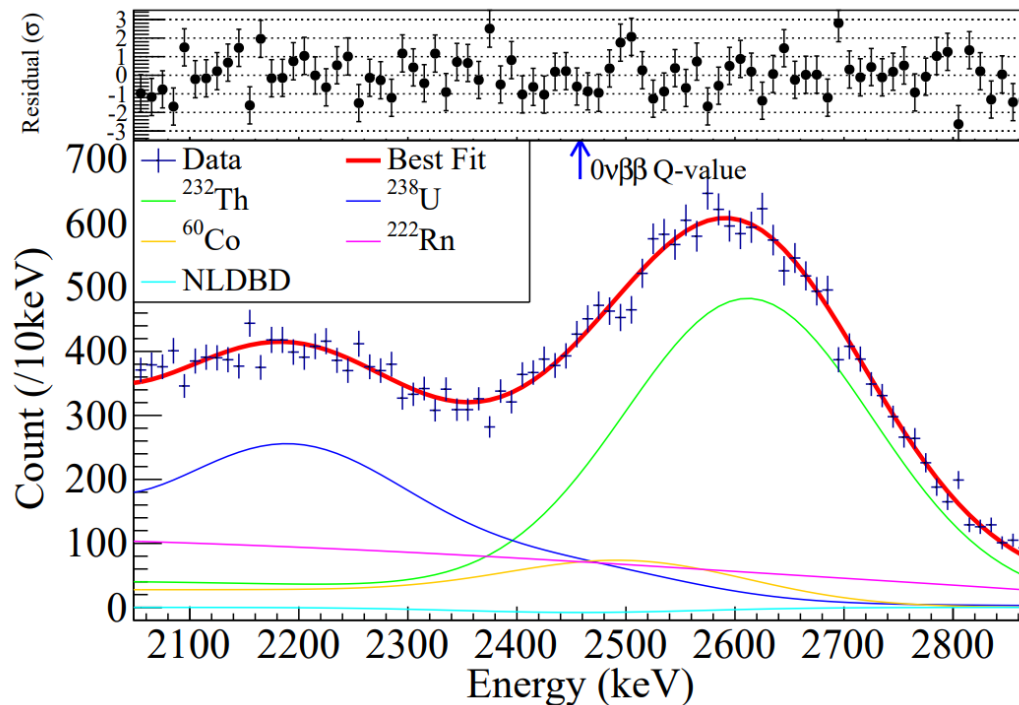
# NLDBD in PandaX LXe TPC

- PandaX-II: 580 kg of  $^{nat}\text{Xe}$  in the active volume
- A total of 403.1 days of data.
- MeV scale NLDBD signal vs. keV DM signal
- S2 Energy reconstruction with bottom PMT
- Optimize all cuts for event selections



Data set	Begin	End	Live days
Run 9	Mar. 9, 2016	Jun. 30, 2016	79.6 d
Run 10	Apr. 22, 2017	Jul. 16, 2017	77.1 d
Run 11	Jul. 17, 2017	Aug. 16, 2018	246.4 d

# Final spectrum fit for PandaX-II data

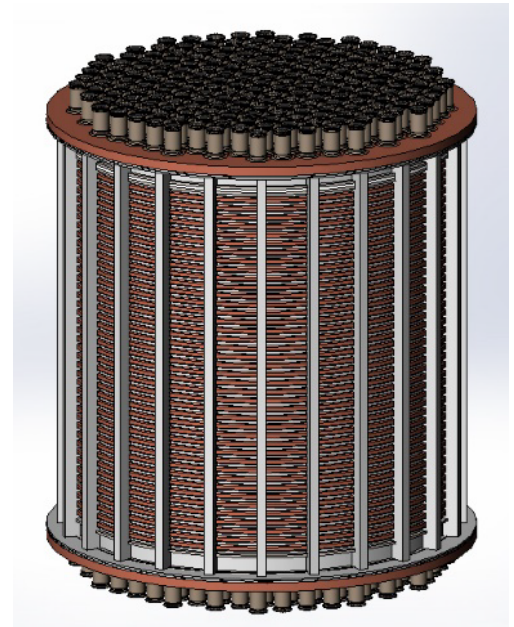
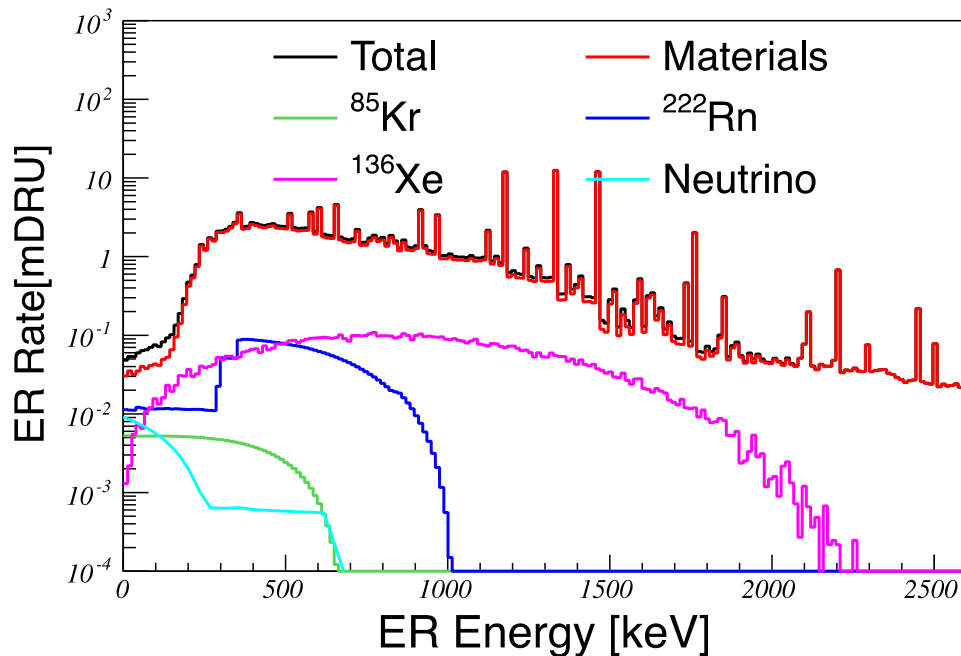


- Energy resolution: 4.2%
- Null results. Lower limit for decay half-life of  $2.4 \times 10^{23}$  yr at the 90% confidence level
- Effective Majorana mass upper limit: 1.3-3.5 eV.
- First NLDBD result reported from a dual-phase xenon experiment

arXiv:1906.11457; submitted to Chinese Physics C

# PandaX-4T for NLDBD

- Dual-readout PMT base in initial R&D
  - MeV and keV signals are readout from a middle dynode and the last dynode.
- Optimize sensitivity with more aggressive fiducial cuts
- Expected half-life sensitivity is at EXO-200 level ( $3 \times 10^{25}$ yr)



# Self-shielding with future generations

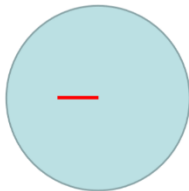
**Moving forward, monolithic is key**

LXe mass (kg)	Diameter or length (cm)
5000	130
150	40
5	13

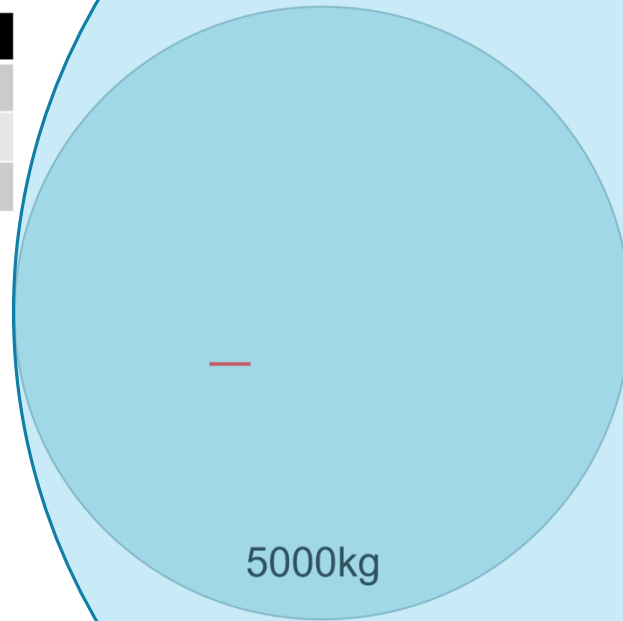
**2.5MeV  $\gamma$   
attenuation length  
8.5cm = —**



5kg



150kg



5000kg

40 Ton

**The current estimate of the nEXO sensitivity  
relies only on materials already tested for radioactivity  
and on hand (although not necessarily in sufficient amount)**

# Summary: Next-generation experiments

- Worldwide consensus about importance of “ton-scale” NLDBD experiments
  - US: 2015 Long Range Plan; DOE CD-0 for NLDBD (2018)
  - Europe: APPEC prioritization
  - Initiatives in Asia (China, Korea)
- Stated sensitivity goals: inverted hierarchy region
  - $T_{1/2} > 10^{27}$  years,  $m_{\beta\beta} < 15$  meV
- Readiness for construction: early 2020s

From Yury Kolomensky

# Summary: Chinese efforts

- CJPL-II, a State Major Research Infrastructure, provides tremendous opportunities for NLDBD
  - CDEX; CUPID-China; NuDEX
- PandaX searches for  $0\nu\beta\beta$  of  $^{136}\text{Xe}$  with gas and liquid TPCs
  - First result from dual-phase xenon TPC
  - High pressure TPC for tracking reconstruction