


# Sources of background and their suppression illustrated by experiments on neutrino properties at LNGS

Gerd Heusser

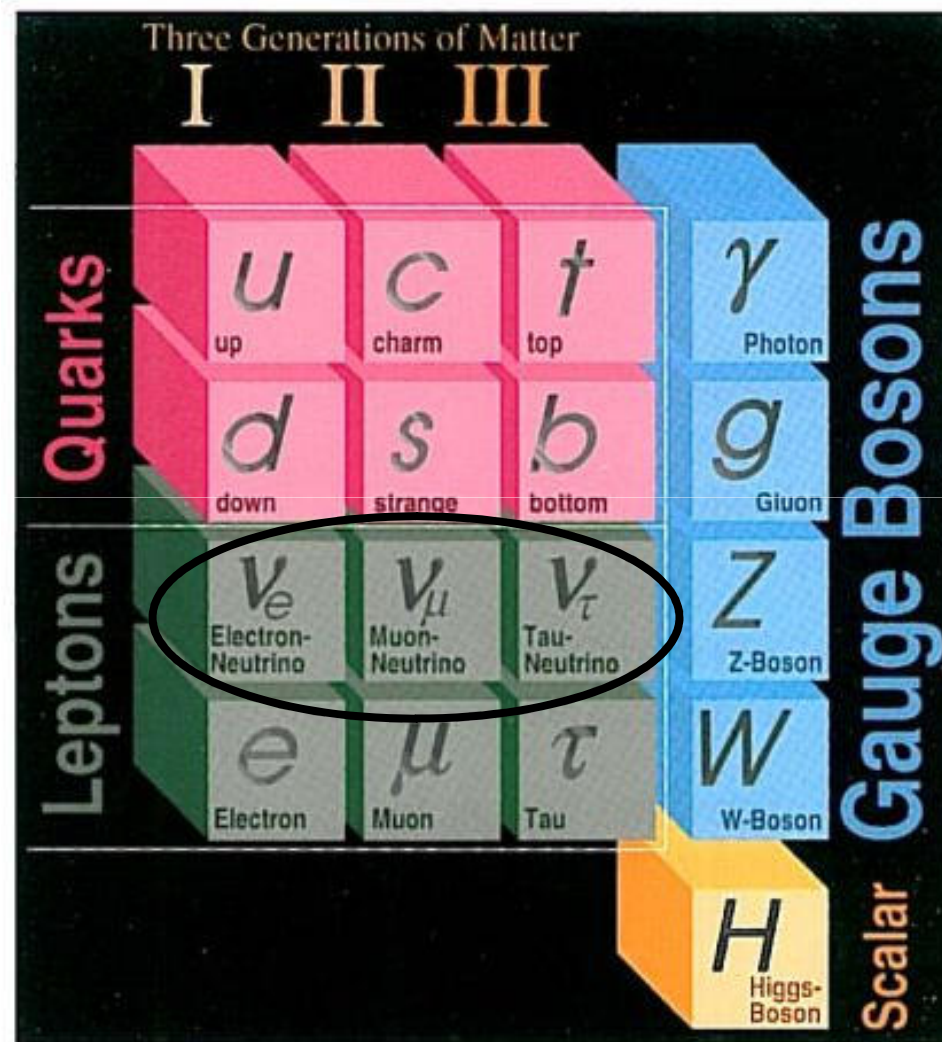


**Max-Planck-Institut für Kernphysik**  
Heidelberg

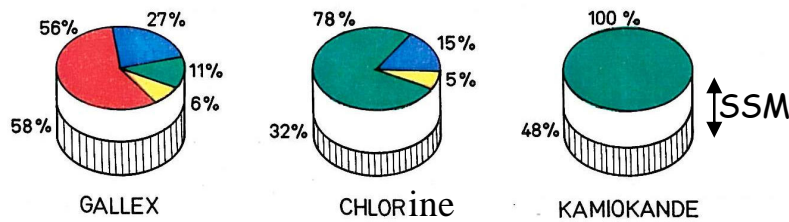
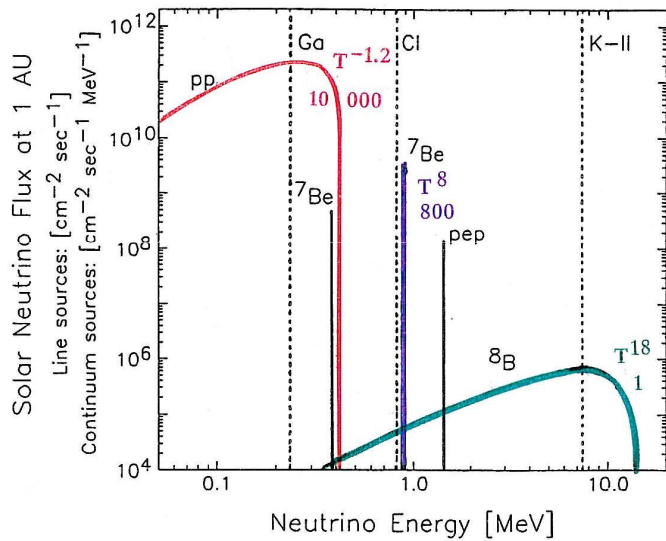
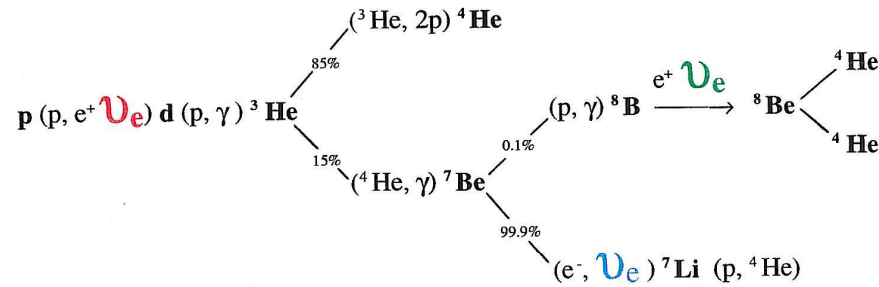
- o neutrino properties via   $\nu$ 's and  $\beta\beta$  experiments
- o sources of background
- o germanium spectroscopy
- o proportional counter of Davis type
- o radioactive rare gases in BOREXINO
- o from Heidelberg-Moscow to GERDA
- o conclusion and future development

thanks to the colleagues of the Collaborations:  
**GALLEX/GNO, HEIDELBERG MOSCOW, BOREXINO, GERDA**  
special thanks to Matthias Laubenstein, LNGS

the elementary particles of the Standard Model of particle physics



# solar neutrino pp-cycle



EXPERIMENT <i>type</i>	TARGET <i>fid.mass</i>	REACTION	SIGNAL
SUPERKAMIOKANDE <i>Cerenkov</i>	$\text{H}_2\text{O}$ <i>22kt</i>	$\nu_e + e^- \rightarrow \nu_e + e^-$	43 directional
		$\nu_x + e^- \rightarrow \nu_x + e^-$	6 "
SNO <i>Cerenkov</i>	$\text{D}_2\text{O}$ <i>1kt</i>	$\nu_e + e^- \rightarrow \nu_e + e^-$	2 directional
		$\nu_x + e^- \rightarrow \nu_x + e^-$	0.3 directional
		CC $\nu_e + d \rightarrow e^- + p + p$	18
		NC $\nu_x + d \rightarrow \nu_x + p + n$ $n + \text{Cl} \rightarrow \text{Cl} + \gamma$	8

BOREXINO <i>liq. scintillator</i>	TMB/PC/p-XYLENE <i>0.1kt</i>	$\nu_e + e^- \rightarrow \nu_e + e^-$	50 (0.25-0.8MeV)
		$\nu_x + e^- \rightarrow \nu_x + e^-$	10 "
		CC $\nu_e + {}^{11}\text{B} \rightarrow e^- + {}^{11}\text{C}$ ${}^{11}\text{C} \rightarrow e^- + {}^{11}\text{B}$	0.65

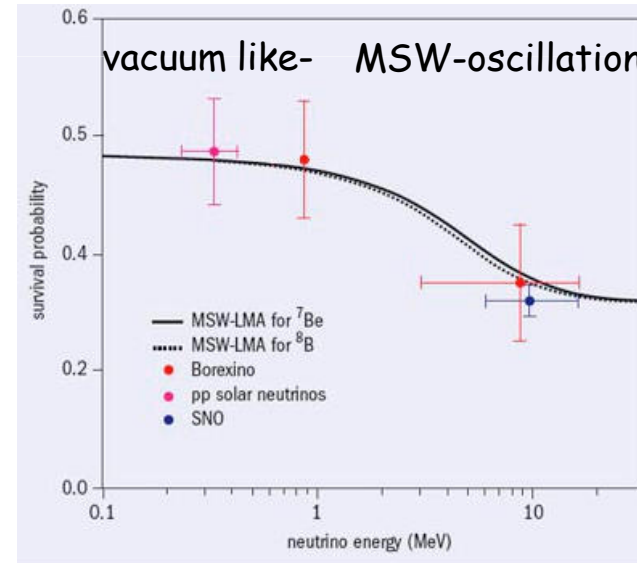
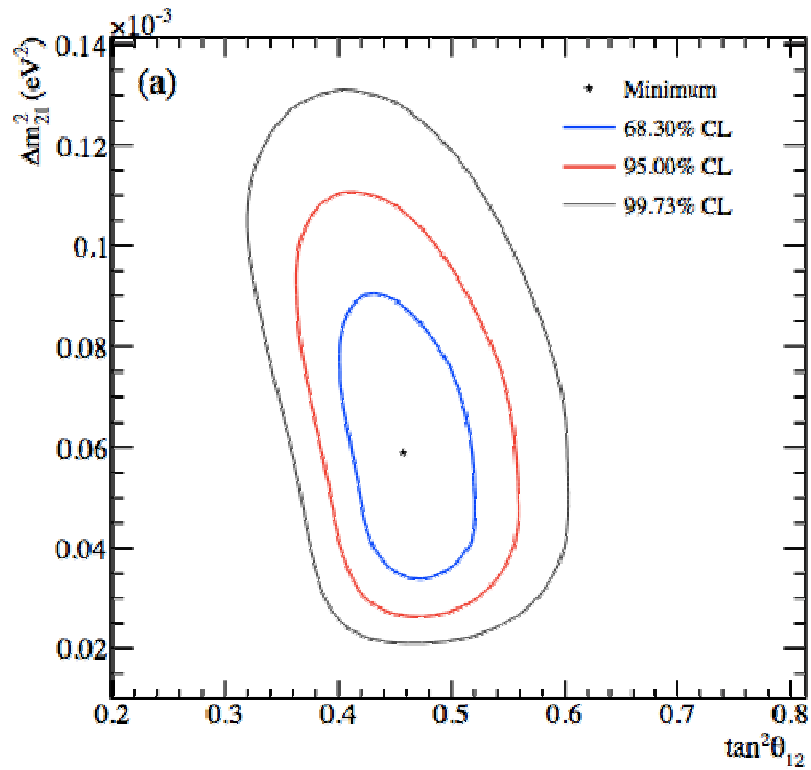


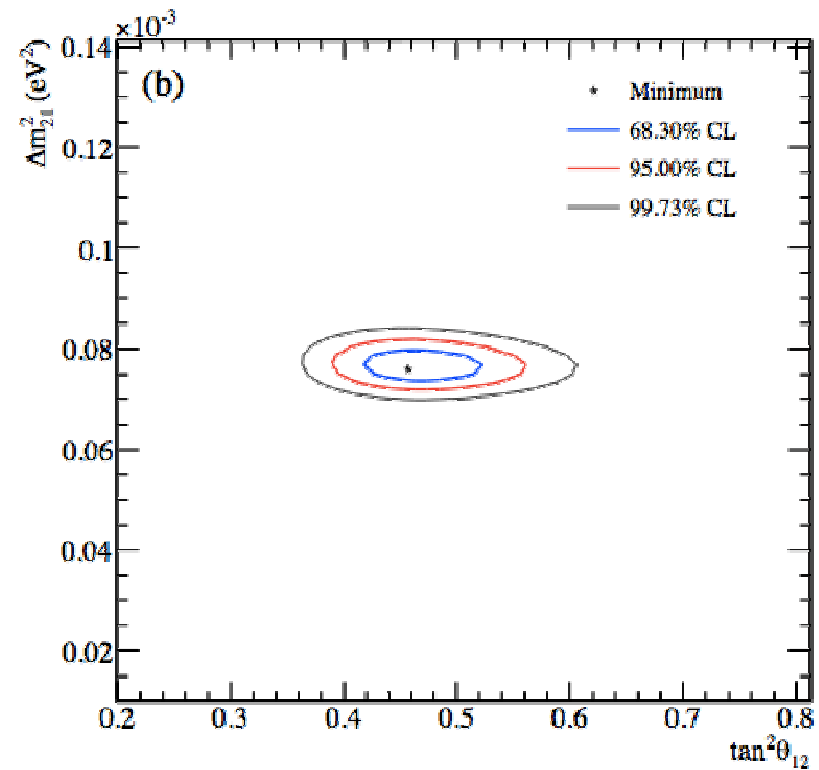
Fig. 3. Survival probability at Earth for electron solar neutrinos as a function of energy. The two Borexino measurements are shown together with the SNO result and the value predicted for pp neutrinos.

# 2 flavor

All solar



Solar + KamLAND



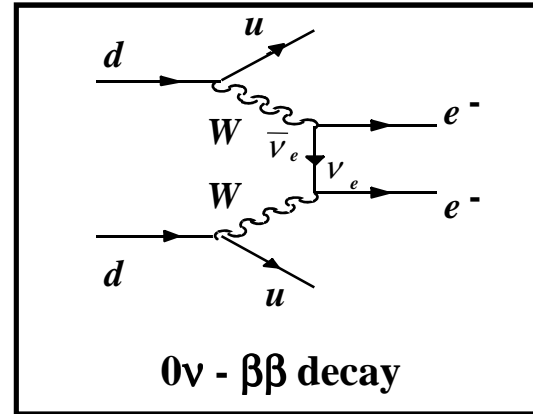
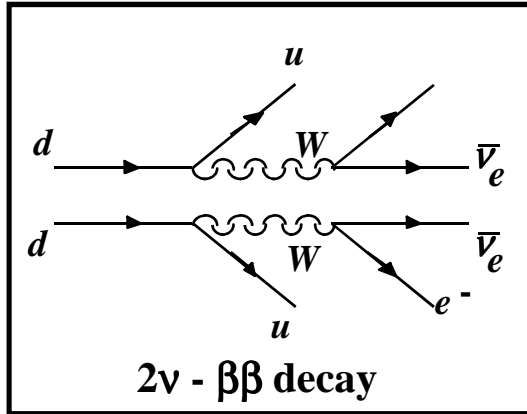
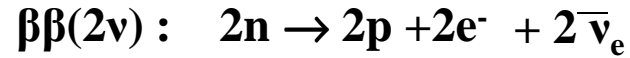
$$\theta_{12} = 34.06^{+1.16}_{-0.84}$$

$$\Delta m_{21}^2 = 7.59^{+0.20}_{-0.21} \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2$$

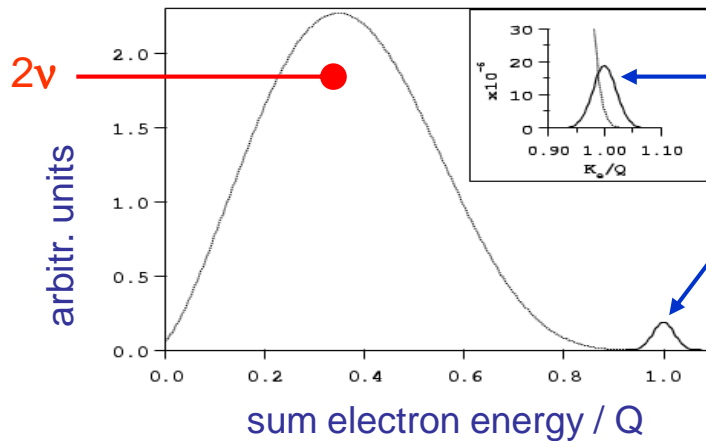
$\nu$  = Majorana or Dirac particle ?

absolute mass scale, hierarchy?

double beta decay



$\Delta L = 2$  process

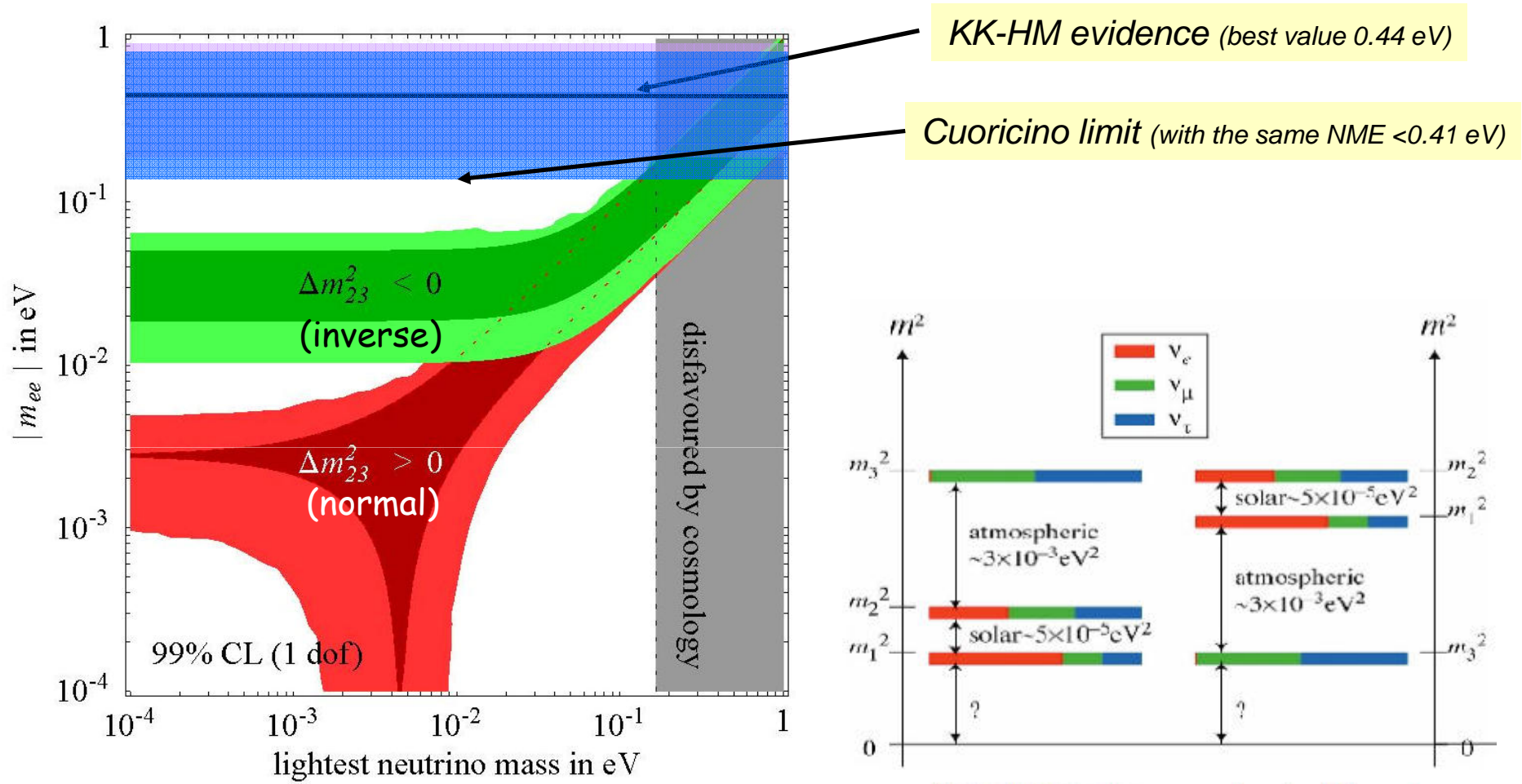


$$\Rightarrow T_{1/2}^{0\nu} \propto \langle m_{\nu} \rangle^{-2}$$

$$\langle m_{\nu} \rangle \propto (a)^{-1/2} (b\Delta E/Mt)^{1/4}$$

$$Q_{\beta} = \begin{matrix} 2.039 \text{ MeV for } ^{76}\text{Ge} \\ 2.529 \text{ MeV for } ^{130}\text{Te} \end{matrix}$$

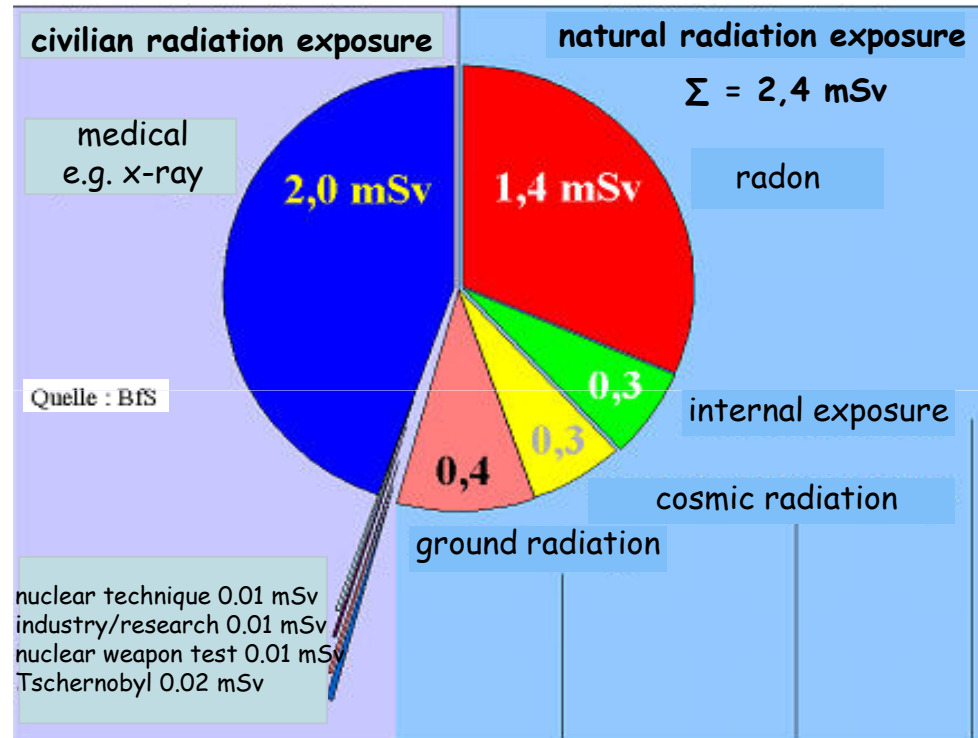
# m<sub>ee</sub> dependance on absolute mass scale and $\Theta_{13}$



F. Feruglio, A. Strumia, F. Vissani, NPB 659

# background sources

average annual radiation exposure in Germany  
(total: 4.5 mSv)



Quelle : BfS

nuclear technique 0.01 mSv  
industry/research 0.01 mSv  
nuclear weapon test 0.01 mSv  
Tschernobyl 0.02 mSv

## Borexino scintillator

concentration {  $\approx 4 \times 10^{-13}$  fraction ←  
 $\approx 6 \times 10^{-13}$  fraction ←  
28 pBq/kg

e.g. in 300 t ca 100 bis 200 µg soil

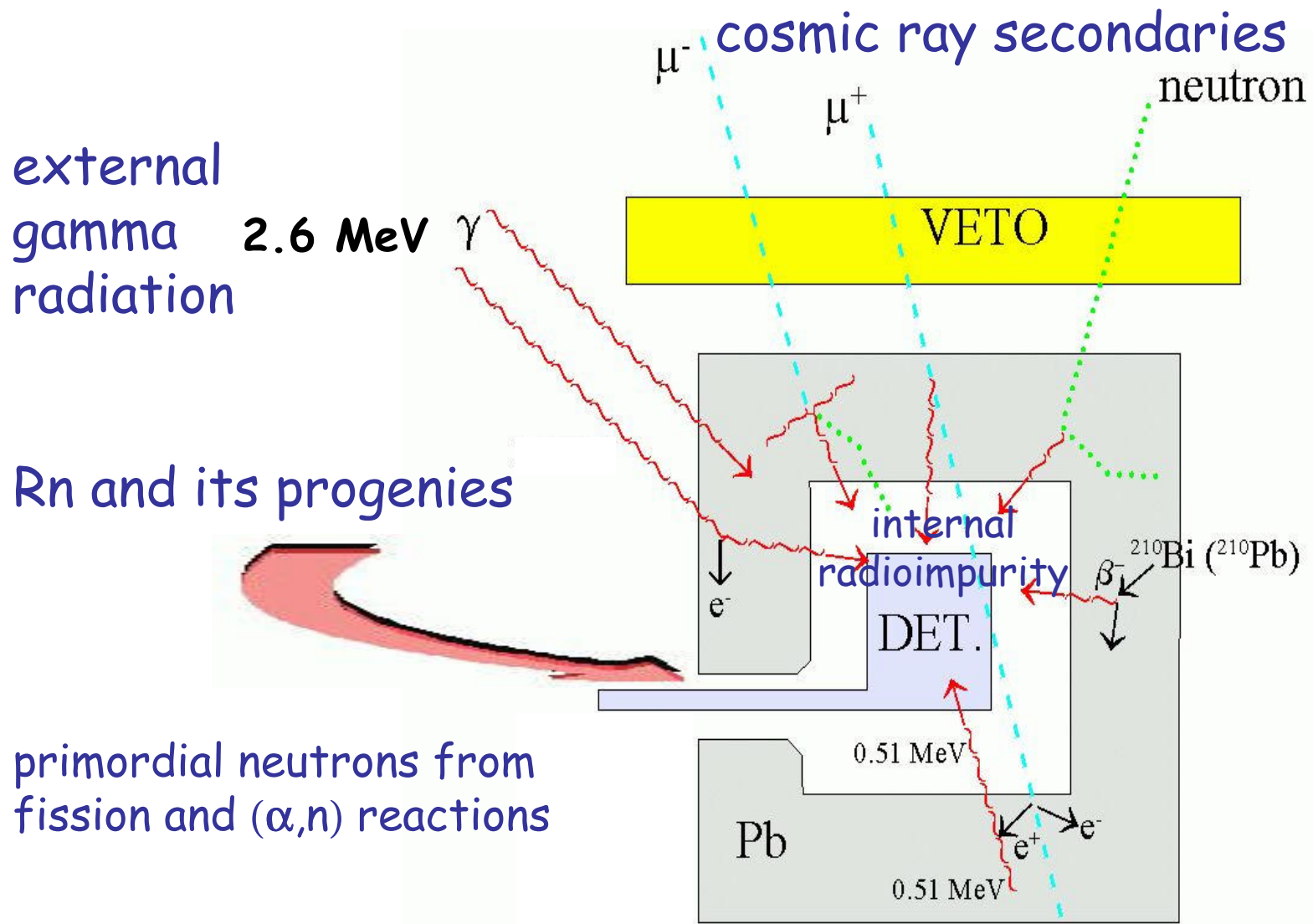
e.g. 1 kg soil  
850 Bq  $^{40}\text{K}$   
44 Bq  $^{232}\text{Th}$   
36 Bq  $^{238}\text{U}$

at flight altitude  
ca x150

e.g. about  
60 Bq/kg  $^{40}\text{K}$

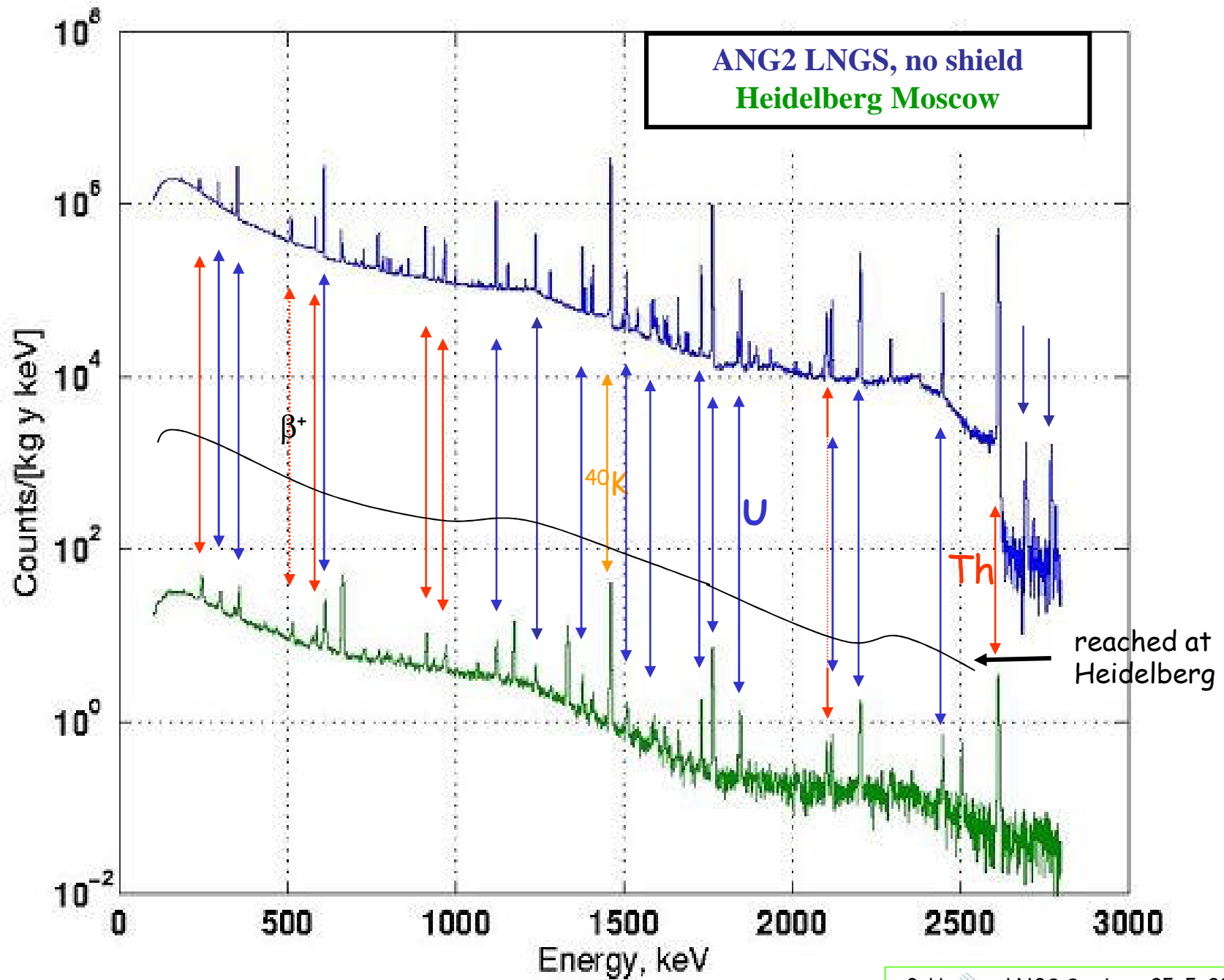


# background components in Ge spectrometry



most important: material screening



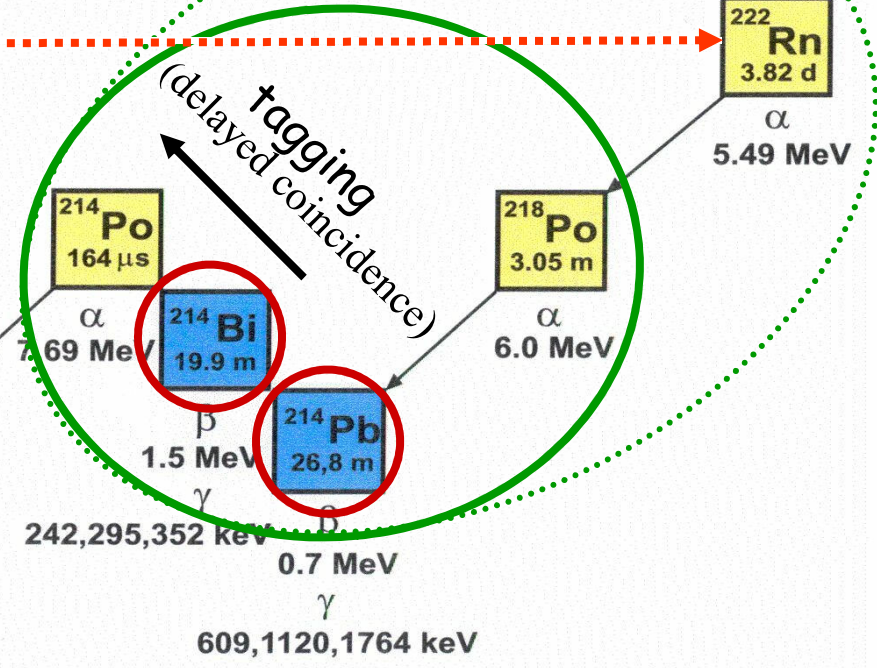
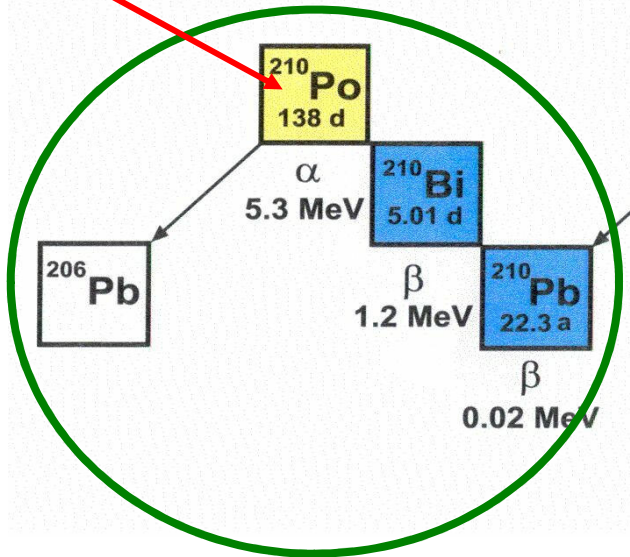


# 238U decay chain

mass spectro-  
metry

- ▶ gamma active nuclides
- ▶ sub chains
- ⋯ ▶ equilibr. breaking

highly  
volatile



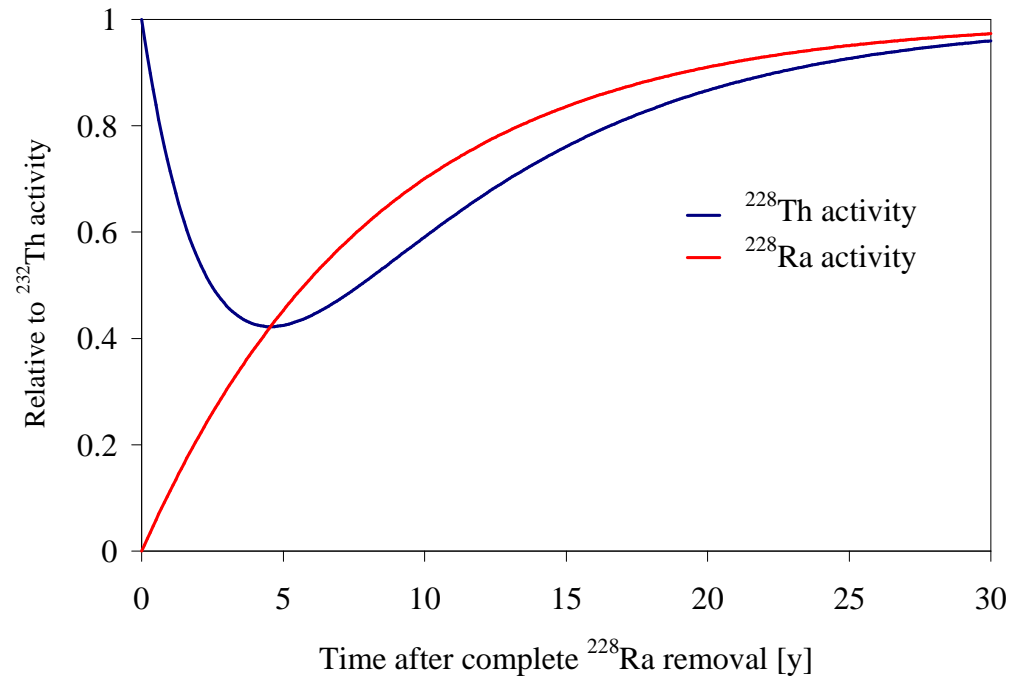
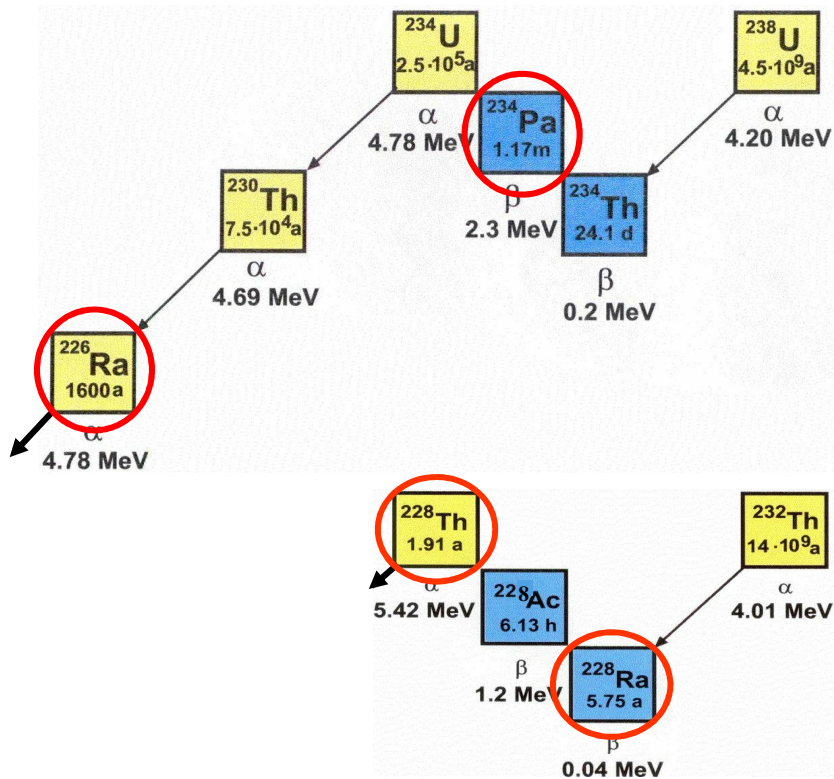




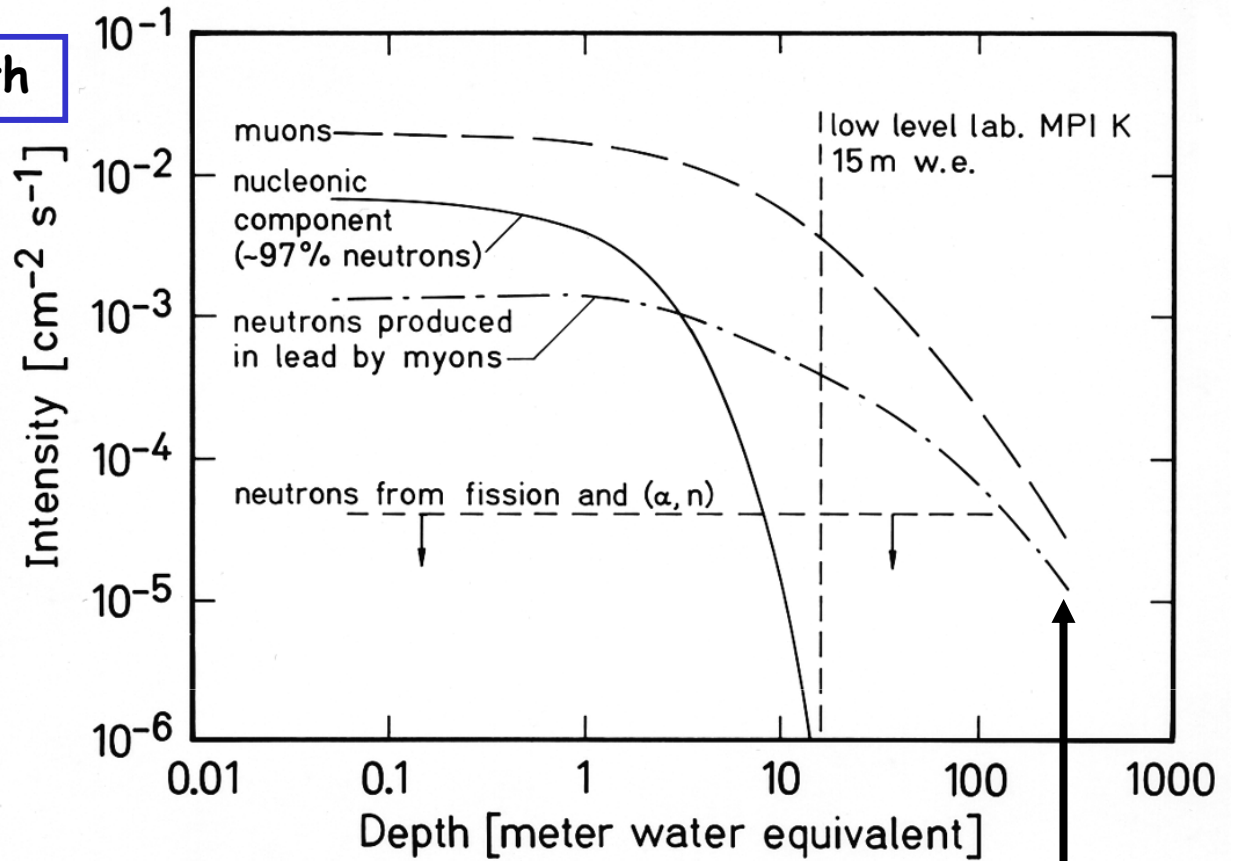
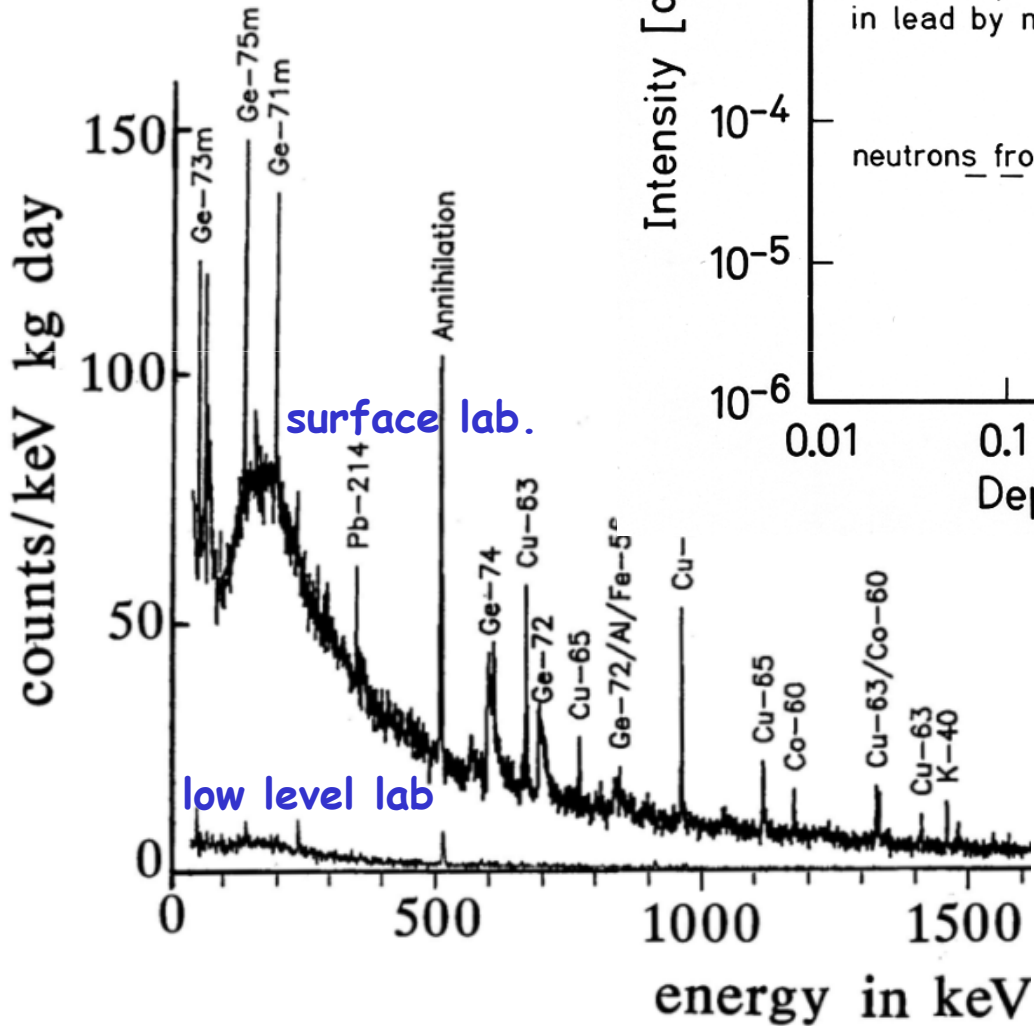
# disequilibrium in natural decay chains

sample	primordial radionuclides [mBq/kg] and ratios					
	$^{234m}\text{Pa}$	$^{226}\text{Ra}$	$^{234m}\text{Pa}/^{226}\text{Ra}$	$^{228}\text{Th}$	$^{228}\text{Ra}$	$^{228}\text{Th}/^{228}\text{Ra}$
old ship steel	$5.7^{+1.4}$	$0.15 \pm 0.02$	$38 \pm 11$	$0.46 \pm 0.07$	$0.47 \pm 0.05$	$0.98 \pm 0.18$
G5	$54^{+16}$	$1.0 \pm 0.6$	$54 \pm 36$	$1.5 \pm 0.2$	$1.0 \pm 0.5$	$1.5 \pm 0.77$
GALLEX steel	$16 \pm 4$	$0.19 \pm 0.05$	$84 \pm 31$	$\leq 0.50, \leq 0.021^*$	$\leq 0.15$	

\* including the 2.615 MeV line

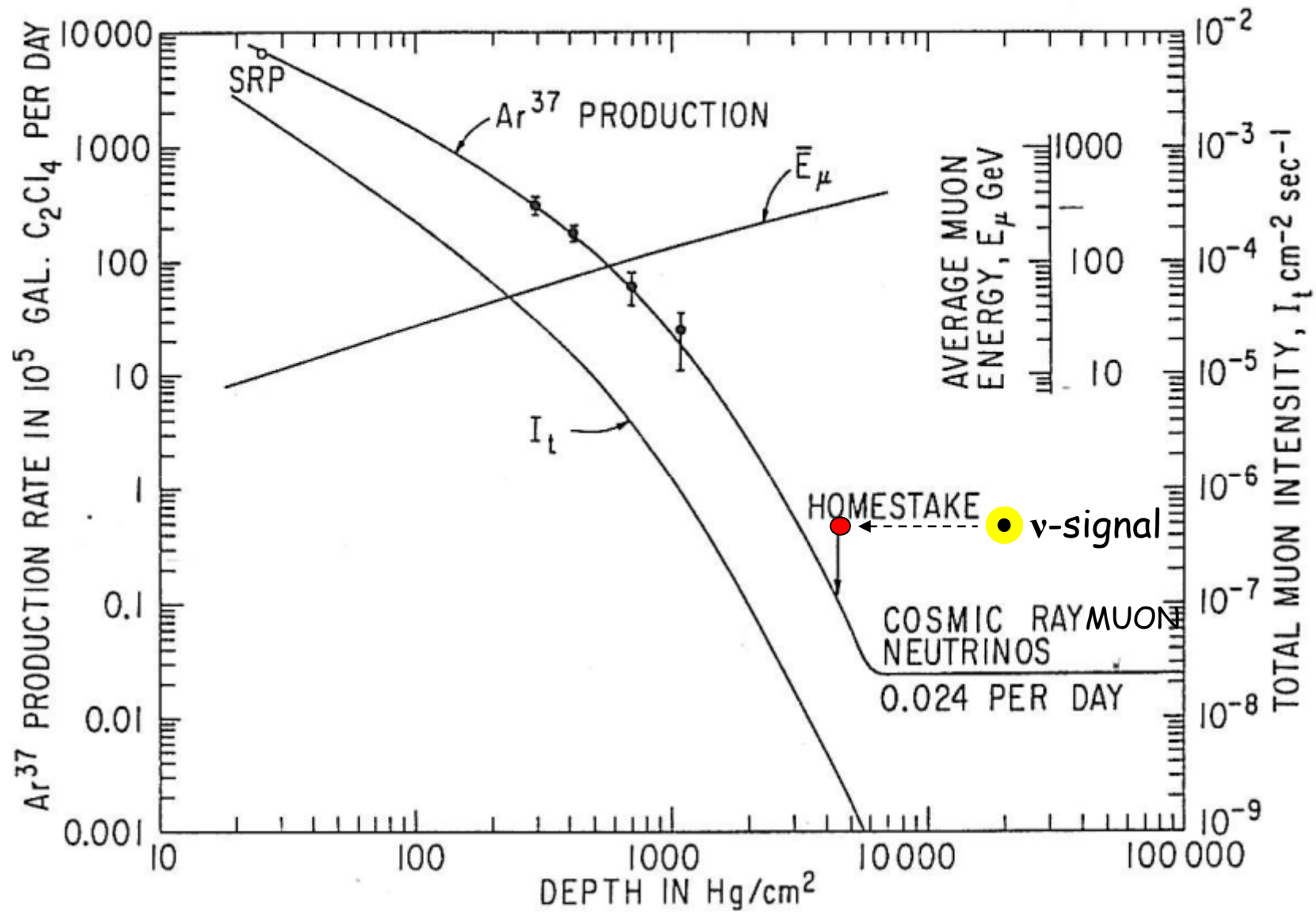


surface versus shallow depth



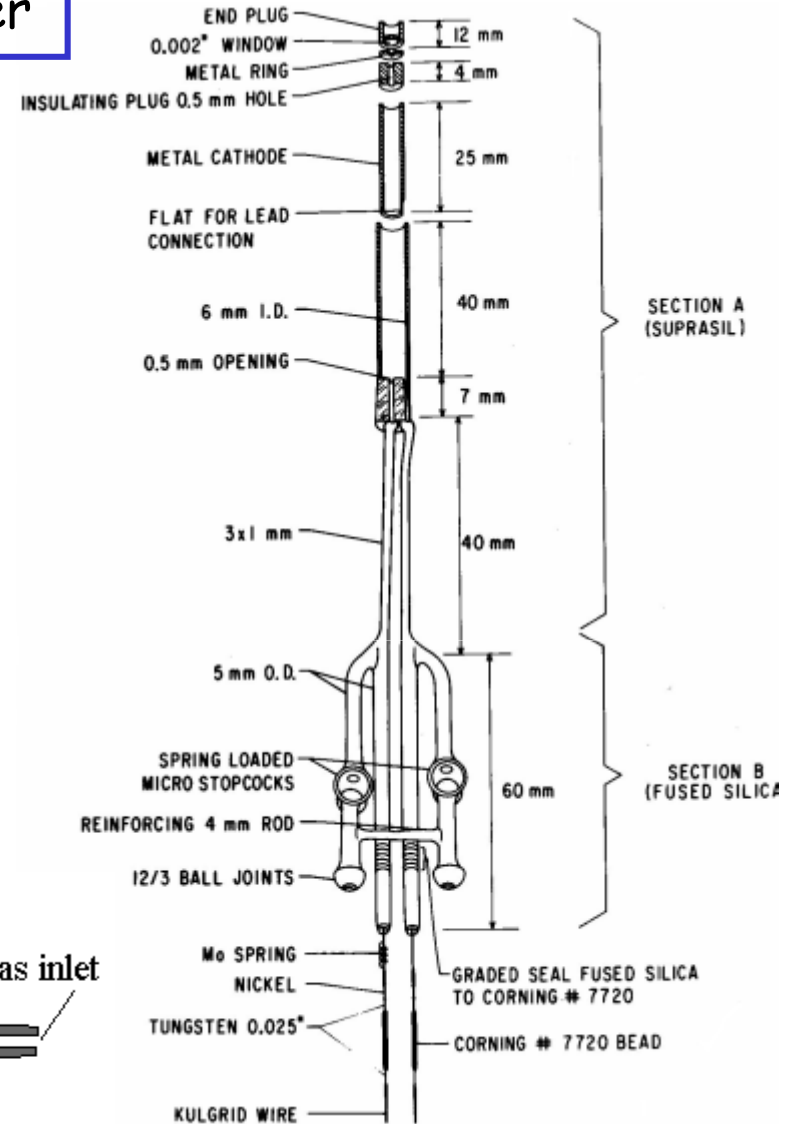
shield configuration to reduce neutrons under study at Heidelberg

# cosmic ray muon background reaction rate

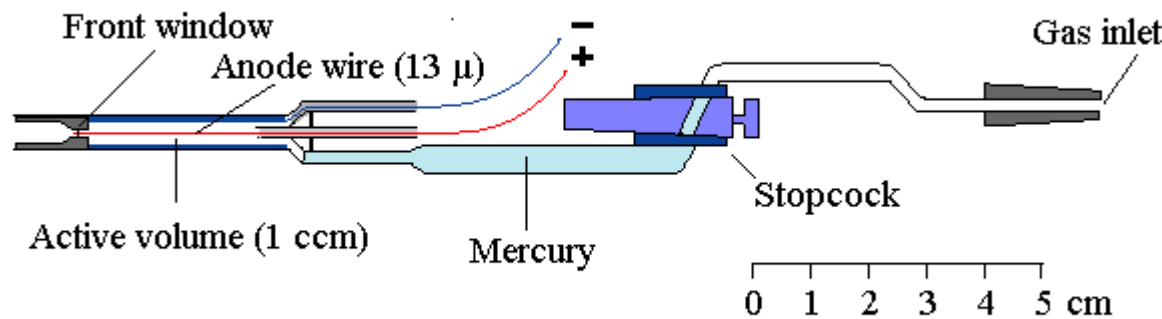


R. Davis Jr., Proc. Informal Conf. on Status of Solar Neutrino Research BNL 50879 (1978)1-54

# Raymond Davis type proportional counter



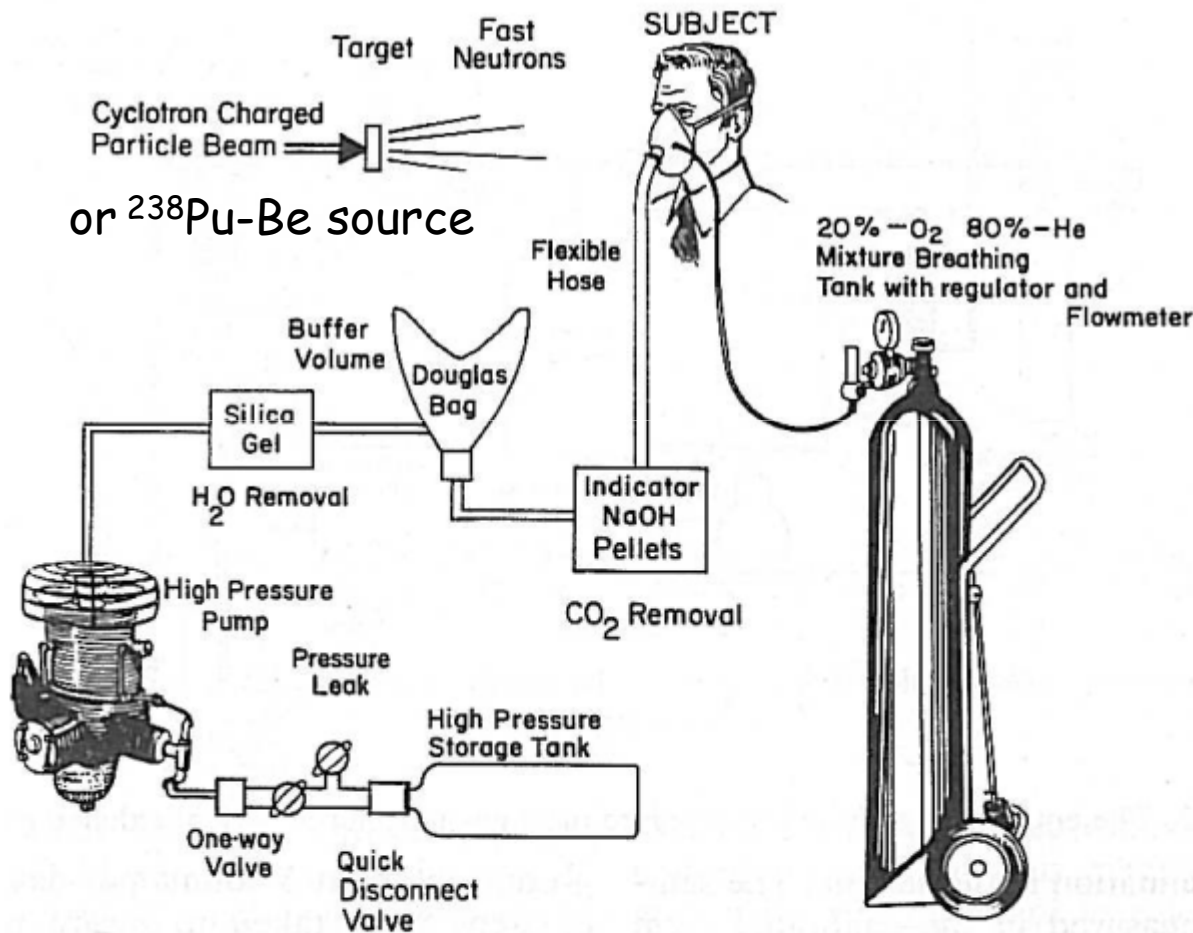
HD-II proportional counter



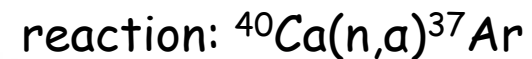


...Raymond Davis Jr. ...I.J.Nucl.Med. Biol. 3 (1976), fast neutron dose requirement for...

*Estimation of skeletal calcium in humans by exhaled  $^{37}\text{Ar}$  measurement*



to investigate patients with metabolic bone disease



$\frac{1}{2}$  h irradiation, 3 h collection

result : 10 mrad ( $\approx 0.1$  mSv)  
sufficient for 1% counting error

FIG. 1. The apparatus for collection and storage of respiratory exhaled gases.

# GALLEX/GNO-Sonnenneutrino-Detektor

(Extraktionen: 65 von 1991-1997/58 von 1998-2003)



## Detektor:

30.3 t Ga als  $\text{GaCl}_3 - \text{HCl}$  - Lösung  
(Gesamtgewicht 105 t)

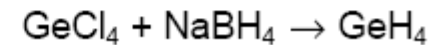
## Exponierung:

für 3 bis 4 Wochen

## Extraktion:

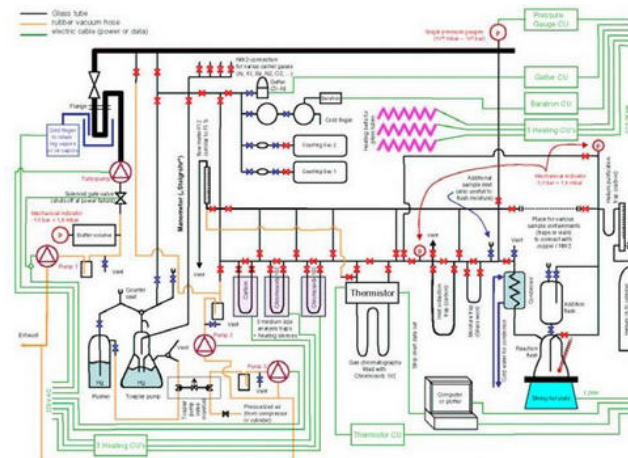
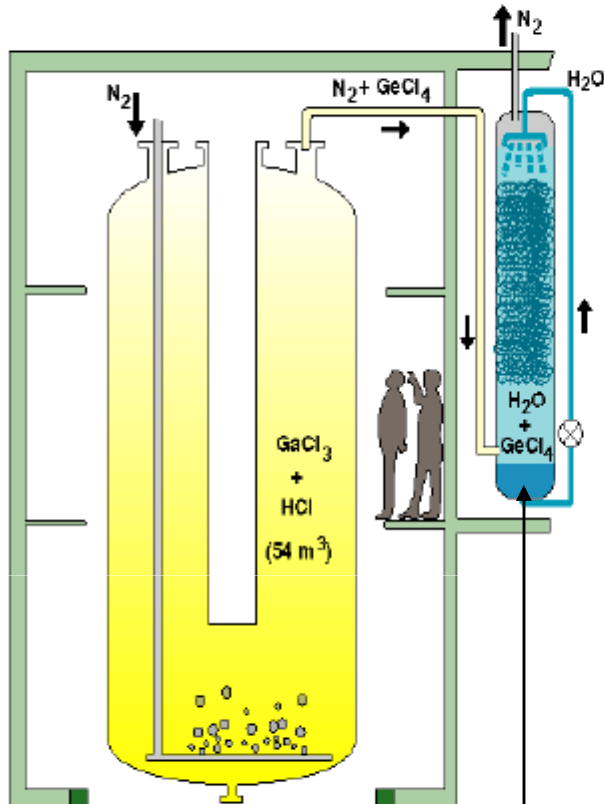
Zugabe von 1 mg normalem Ge,  
wegen HCl-Überschuss  $\rightarrow \text{GeCl}_4$ ,  
spülen mit  $2000 \text{ m}^3 \text{ N}_2$

## Umwandlung:



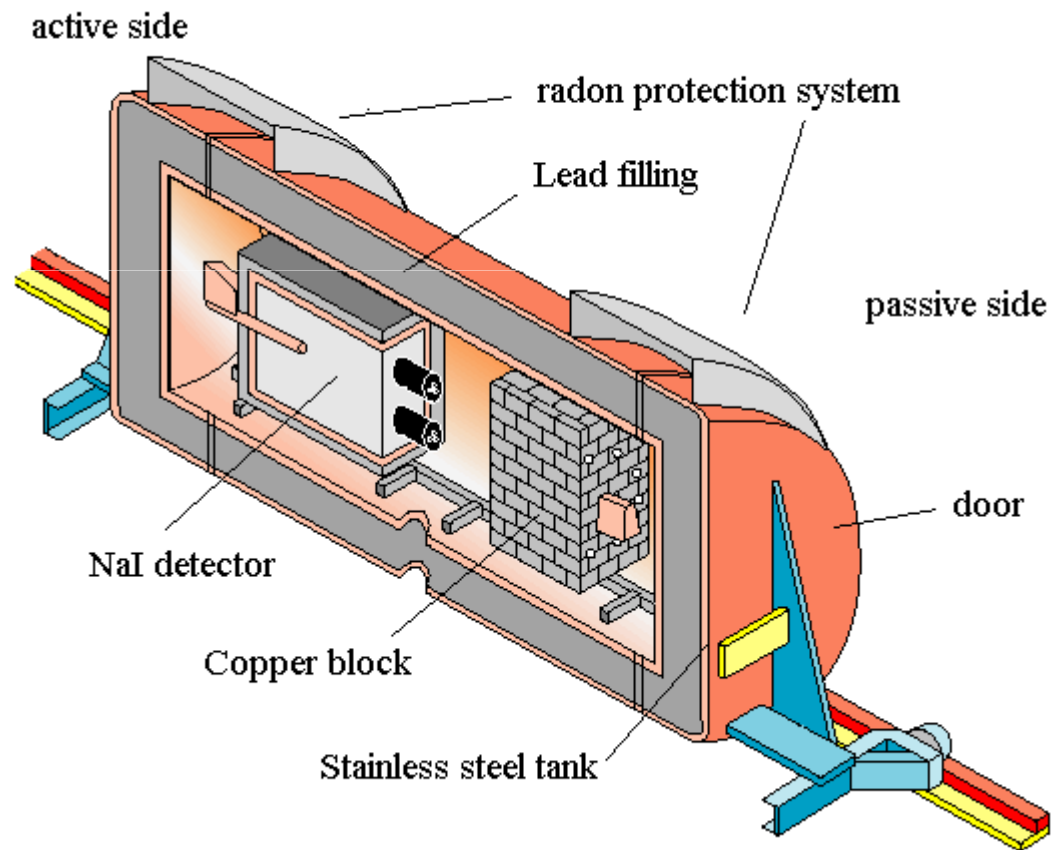
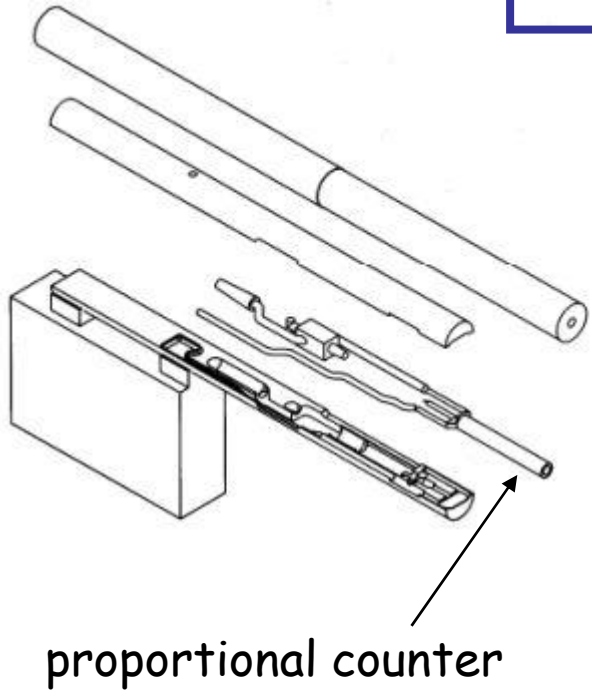
## Nachweis:

$\text{GeH}_4$  mit Xe in ein Proportional-  
Zählrohr ( $\sim 1 \text{ cm}^3$ ) füllen, Messen  
der Elektronen und Röntgenstrahlen  
vom  ${}^{71}\text{Ge}$ -Zerfall



counter  
filling line

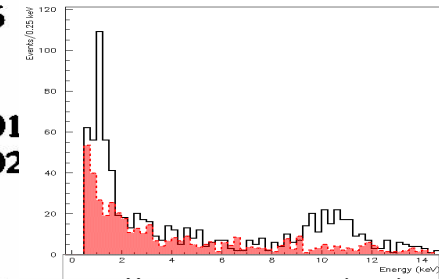
# GALLEX/GNO shielding tank



## composition of background for Fe cathode counters in Pb/Cu shield at LNGS

Source	Activity or flux at the position of the proportional counter	Count rate > 0.5 keV [cpd]
<b>External sources</b>		
Muons	$3 \times 10^{-8} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$	0.005
Neutrons	$< 10^{-6} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$	< 0.001
Gamma rays	$< 10^{-6} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$	< 0.02
Rn + progenies	$< 0.5 \text{ Bq m}^{-3}$	< 0.006
K, Th, U in copper of the shielding material	< 2, 1, 1 mBq/kg	< 0.02
<b>Internal sources</b>		
K in quartz	0.04 mBq/kg	0.0001
Th in quartz	< 0.01 mBq/kg	< 0.0002
U in quartz	< 1.2 mBq/kg	< 0.03
$^{60}\text{Co}$ in iron cathode	< 7 mBq/kg	< 0.02
K in iron cathode	0.06 mBq/kg	0.001
$^{226}\text{Ra}$ in iron cathode	< 3 mBq/kg	< 0.2
Th in iron cathode	< 0.3 mBq/kg	< 0.017
U in iron cathode	< 0.4 mBq/kg	< 0.03
Tritium in counting gas	6 TU	0.023
$^{85}\text{Kr}$ in counting gas	$< 0.12 \text{ Bq m}^{-3}$	< 0.01
<b>Sum</b>		<b>&lt; 0.39</b>

} Fe powder  
screened



All GNO runs (58)  
recorded during  
the first 50 days

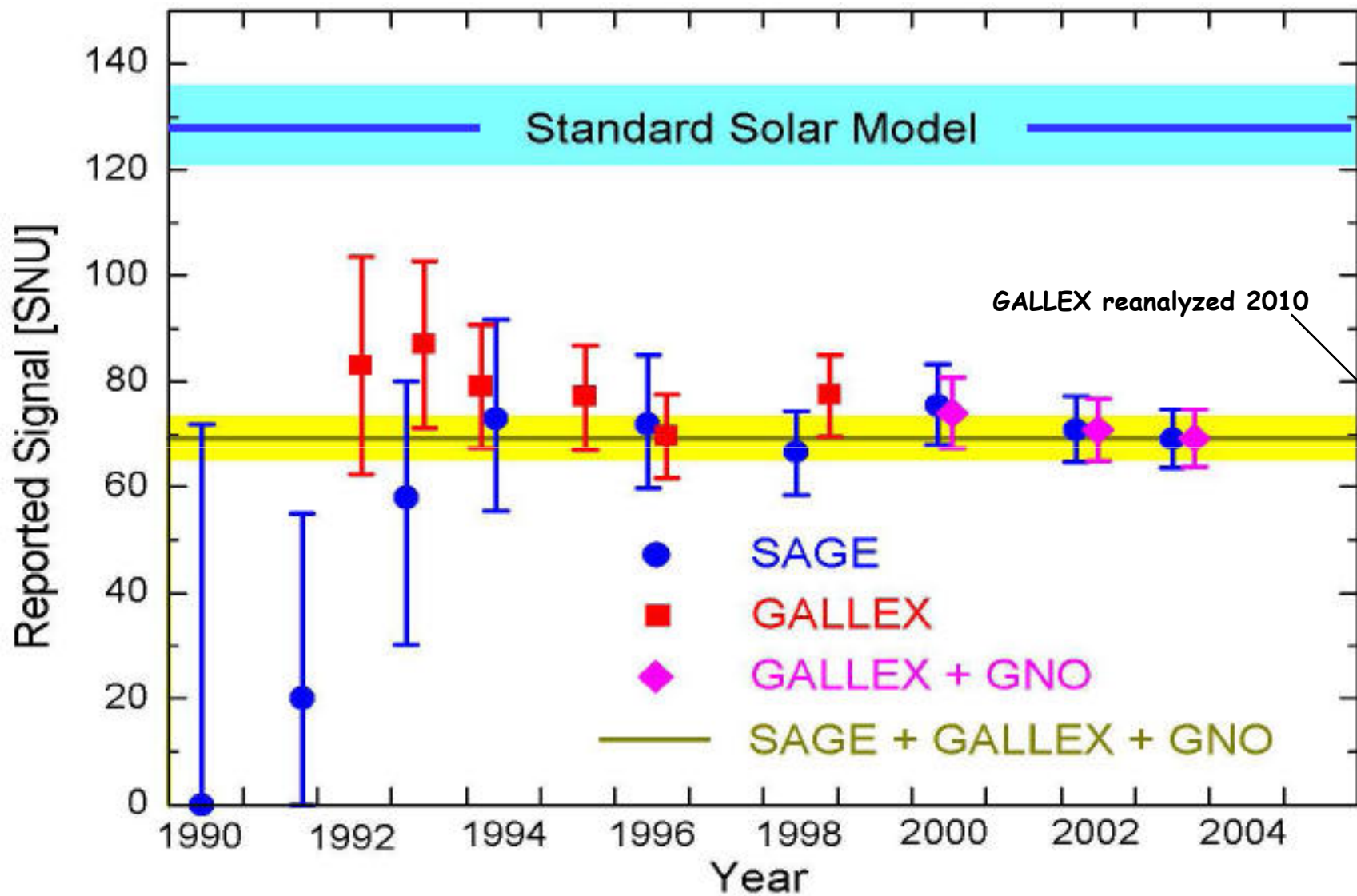
Background rates for counters used in GNO ( $0.5 \text{ keV} \leq E \leq 15 \text{ keV}$ ) : **0.45**  
(8 with Fe cathode and 12 with Si cathode)



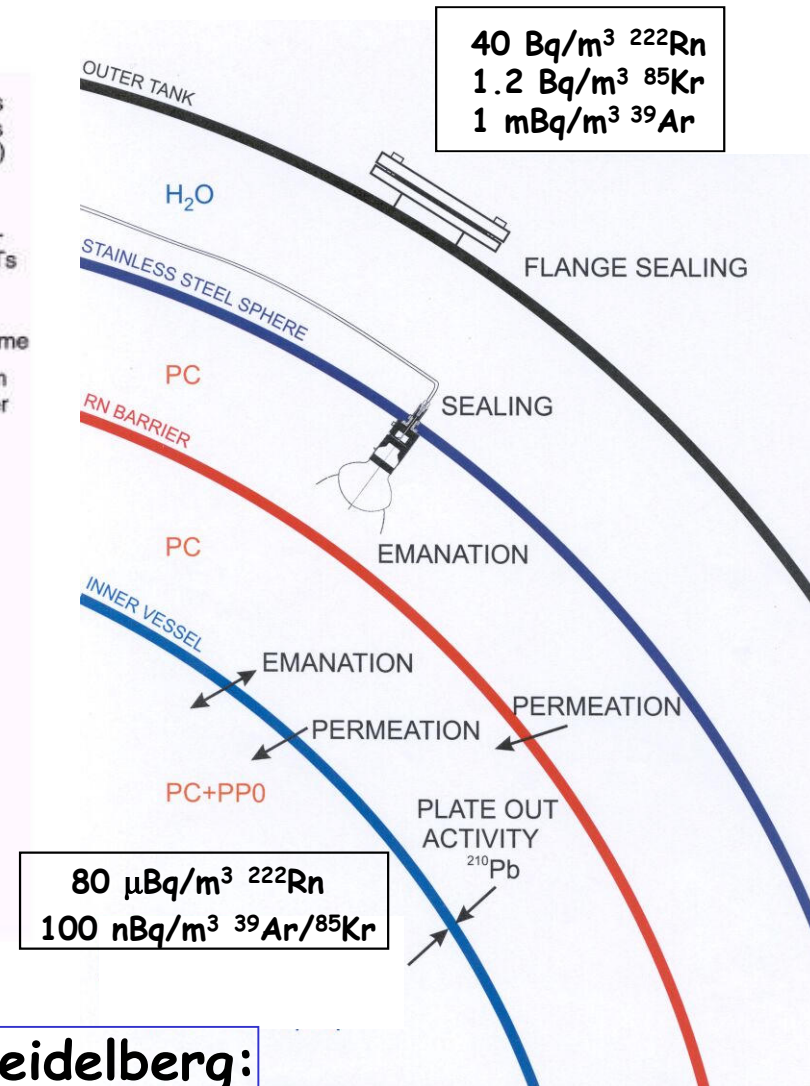
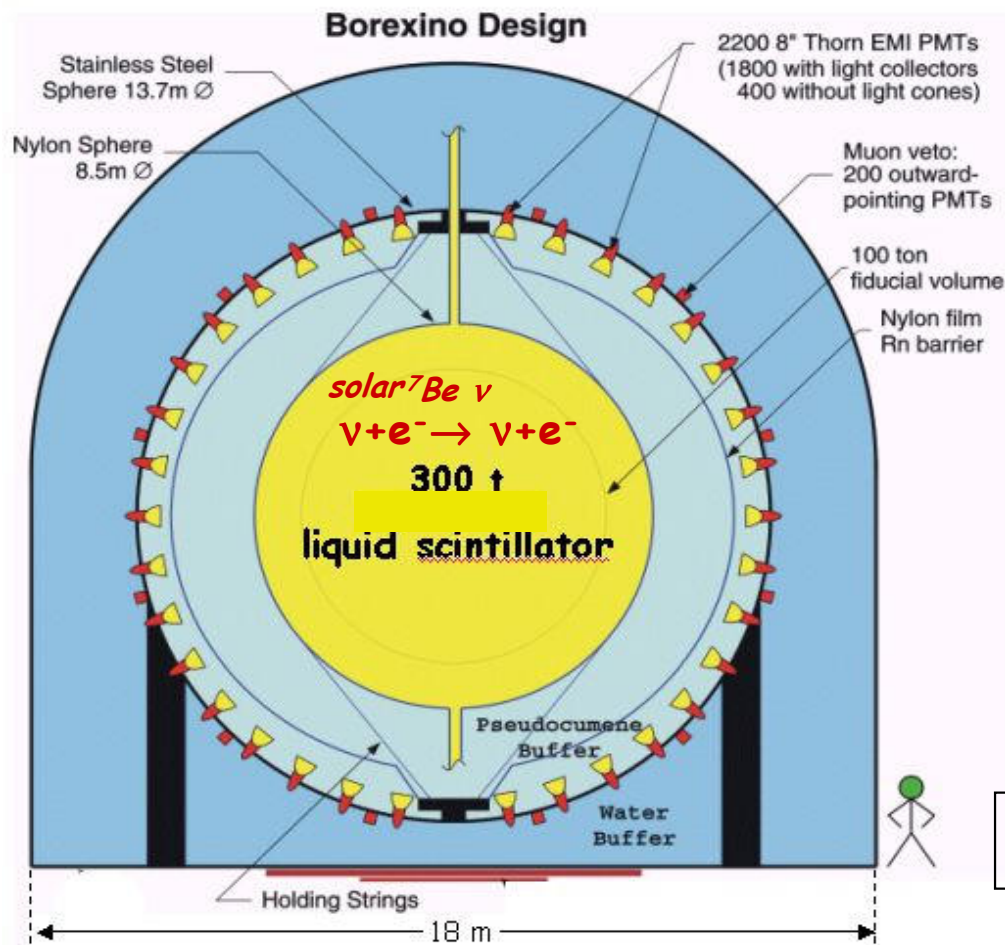
With pulse shape discrimination [counts/d]	
L-window fast	K-window fast
<b>0.040</b>	<b>0.025</b>

some contamination  
introduced during  
assembly (glassblowing)

# Result of GALLEX/GNO and SAGE gallium solar neutrino experiments



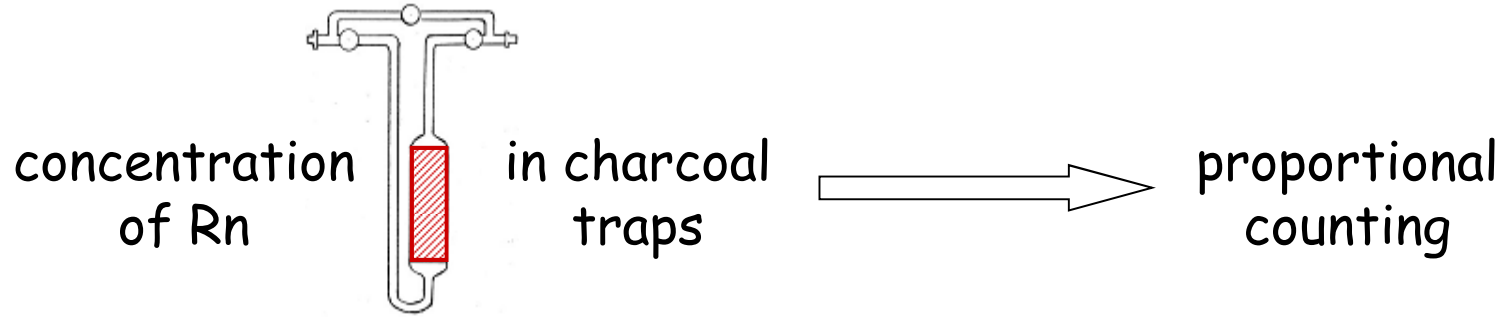




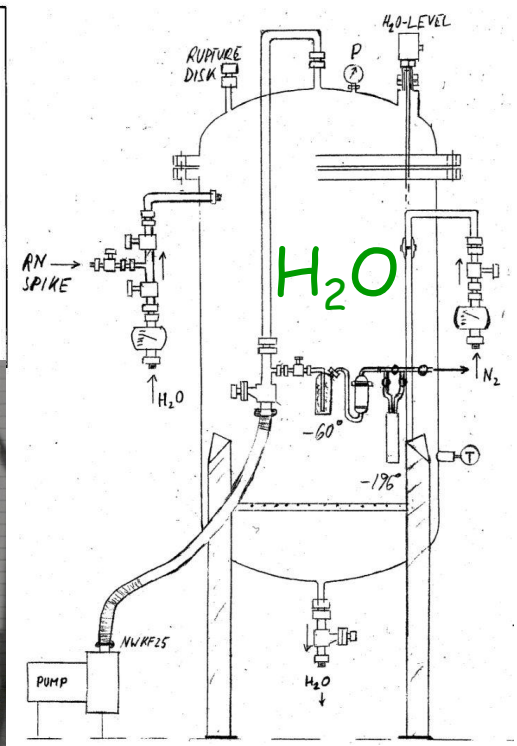
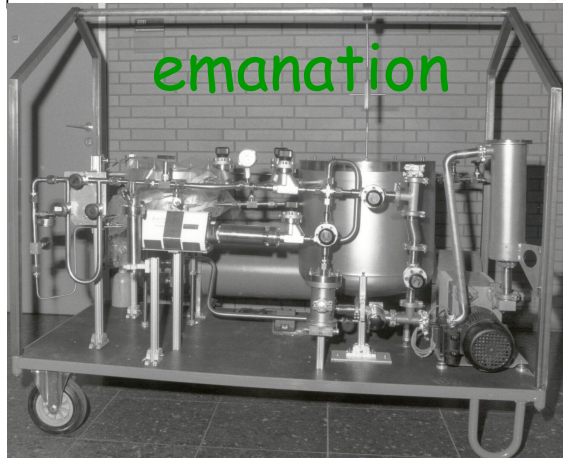
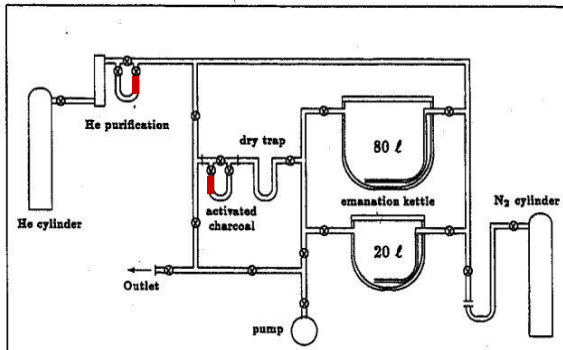
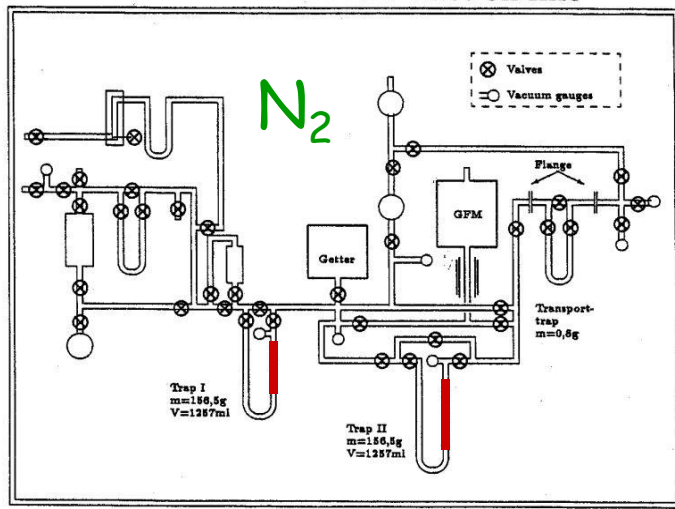
### Commitment of Heidelberg:

- develop methods to detect noble gas radionuclides and  $^{226}\text{Ra}$  (via  $^{222}\text{Rn}$ ) at the  $\mu\text{Bq}$  level
- screen (also  $\gamma$  counting) relevant materials and subsystems at that level
- provide nitrogen for scintillator purification at the required level

# $^{222}\text{Rn}$ screening at the $\mu\text{Bq}$ level

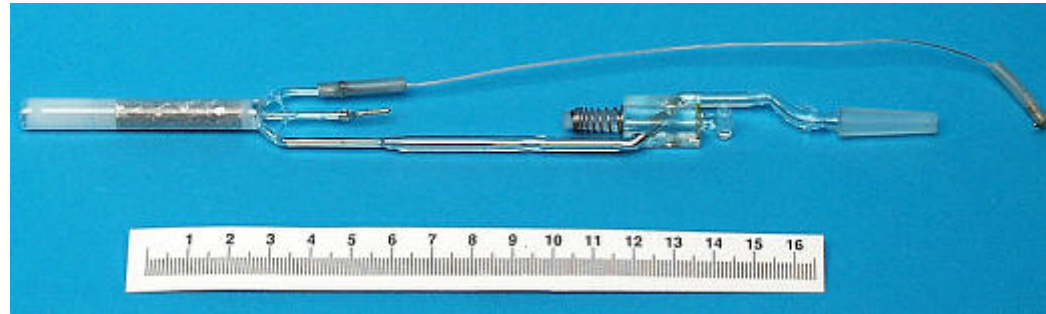


**MOREX**  
MOvabel Radon EXtraction line





## $^{222}\text{Rn}$ ( $^{226}\text{Ra}$ ) assay with proportional counting



Ray Davis Jr.  
type  
miniature  
counter

efficiency for internal counting ( $> 15$  keV): 148 %

background: 0.2 - 2 counts per day

$\Rightarrow$  about 30  $\mu\text{Bq}$   $^{222}\text{Rn}$  easily detectable (monitoring)

Extract Rn from large quantities of water, nitrogen and  
as an emanation signal of subsystems of BOREXINO

### *Reached sensitivities:*

$\text{H}_2\text{O}$ : 1 mBq Ra/ $\text{m}^3$   
0.1 mBq/Rn/ $\text{m}^3$

nitrogen: 0.5  $\mu\text{Bq}/\text{m}^3$

surface 0.5  $\mu\text{Bq}/\text{m}^2$   
emanation

## Emanation measurements under dry and wet conditions

<sup>226</sup>Ra contamination of steel and nylon foil measured by <sup>222</sup>Rn emanation

<i>sample</i>	<i>surface concentration</i> ( $\mu\text{Bq/m}^2$ )	<i>bulk concentration</i> ( $\mu\text{Bq/kg}$ )
steel foil (untreated) (71 m <sup>2</sup> )	10 ± 1	640 ± 210 <sup>a</sup>
after rinsing with H <sub>2</sub> O	5 ± 1	
N <sub>2</sub> sparging column (280 m <sup>2</sup> )	8 ± 1	
Sniamid/Capron foil (0.1 mm, 208 m <sup>2</sup> )	3 ± 1	100 ± 20 <sup>b</sup> •
Sniamid nylon (0.125 mm, 130 m <sup>2</sup> )	≤ 0.8	≤ 21 <sup>b</sup>

Grzegorz  
Zusel

<sup>a</sup> measured by Ge  $\gamma$  spectroscopy (expected emanation rate by  $\alpha$ -recoil: 0.2  $\mu\text{Bq/m}^2$ )

<sup>b</sup> measured via <sup>222</sup>Rn emanation under wet condition (enhanced permeability)

• corresponds to ~ 8 ppt U-equivalent - but ~ 2.5 ppt U measured with ICP-MS  $\Rightarrow$

**secular disequilibrium between U and Ra**



# Acknowledgements for Ra/Rn, Ar and Kr measurements:

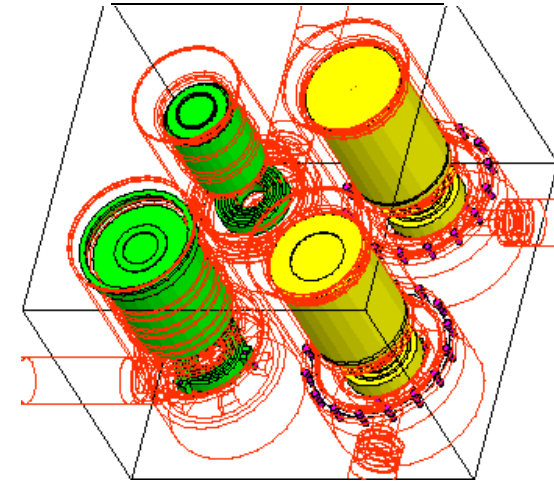
**LNGS:** M. Balata, L. Ioanucci, M. Laubenstein, C. Salvo

**Heidelberg:** C. Buck, B. Freudiger, H. Simgen, W. Rau, Y. Zakharov

**Krakow:** G. Zuzel, M. Wojcik



# Heidelberg-Moscow double beta decay experiment



5 enriched Germanium diodes (86% in  $^{76}\text{Ge}$ , normal 7.44%)

Shield made of:

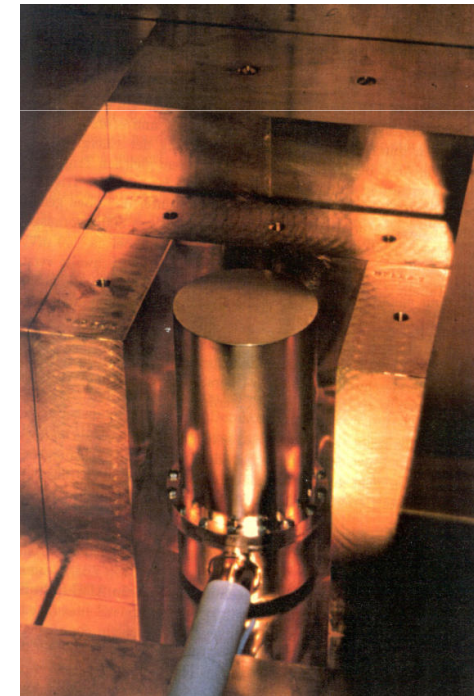
20 cm regular Pb

20 cm Pb with  $0.2 \text{ }^{210}\text{Pb}$  Bq/kg Pb

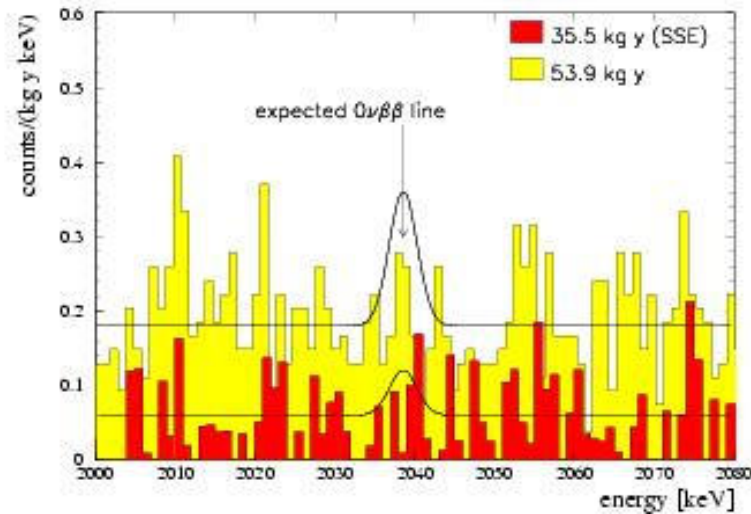
10 cm borated PE

Rn protection casing

cosmic veto



# Result of Heidelberg-Moscow experiment



1990-2000 Gran Sasso Underground Laboratory

**total mass = 10,9 kg**

**FWHM = 3,85 keV**

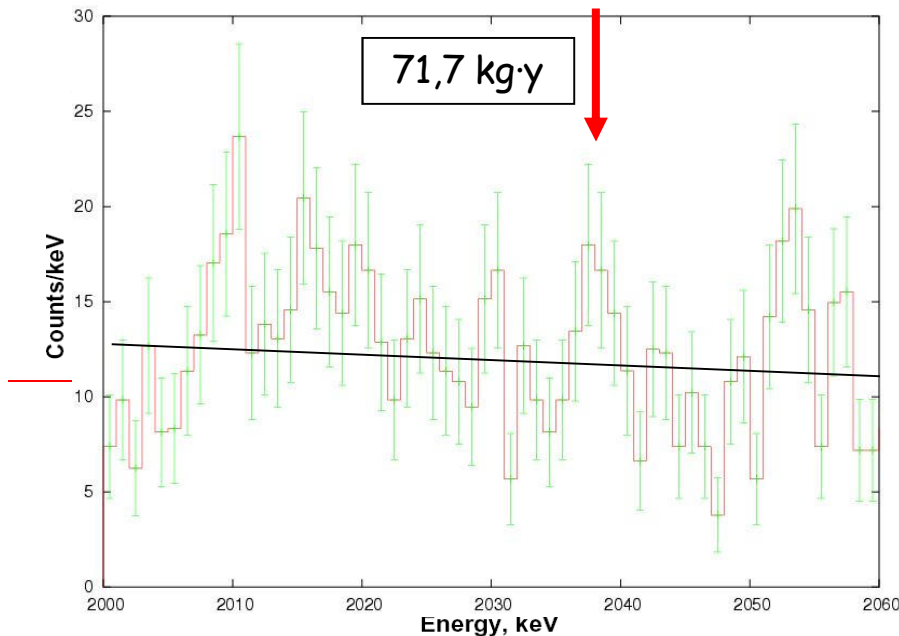
$N_{\text{Bkg}} \begin{cases} 0,19 \text{ counts y}^{-1} \text{ kg}^{-1} \text{ keV}^{-1} \\ 0,06 \text{ counts y}^{-1} \text{ kg}^{-1} \text{ keV}^{-1} \text{ (SSE)} \end{cases}$

$T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 1.9 \cdot 10^{25} \text{ y (90\% C.L.)}$

$\langle m_\nu \rangle < 0.3 - 1.0 \text{ eV}$

*Klapdor-Kleingrothaus et al. Eur Phys. J. 12 (2001) 147*

$Q_{bb} = 2039 \text{ keV}$



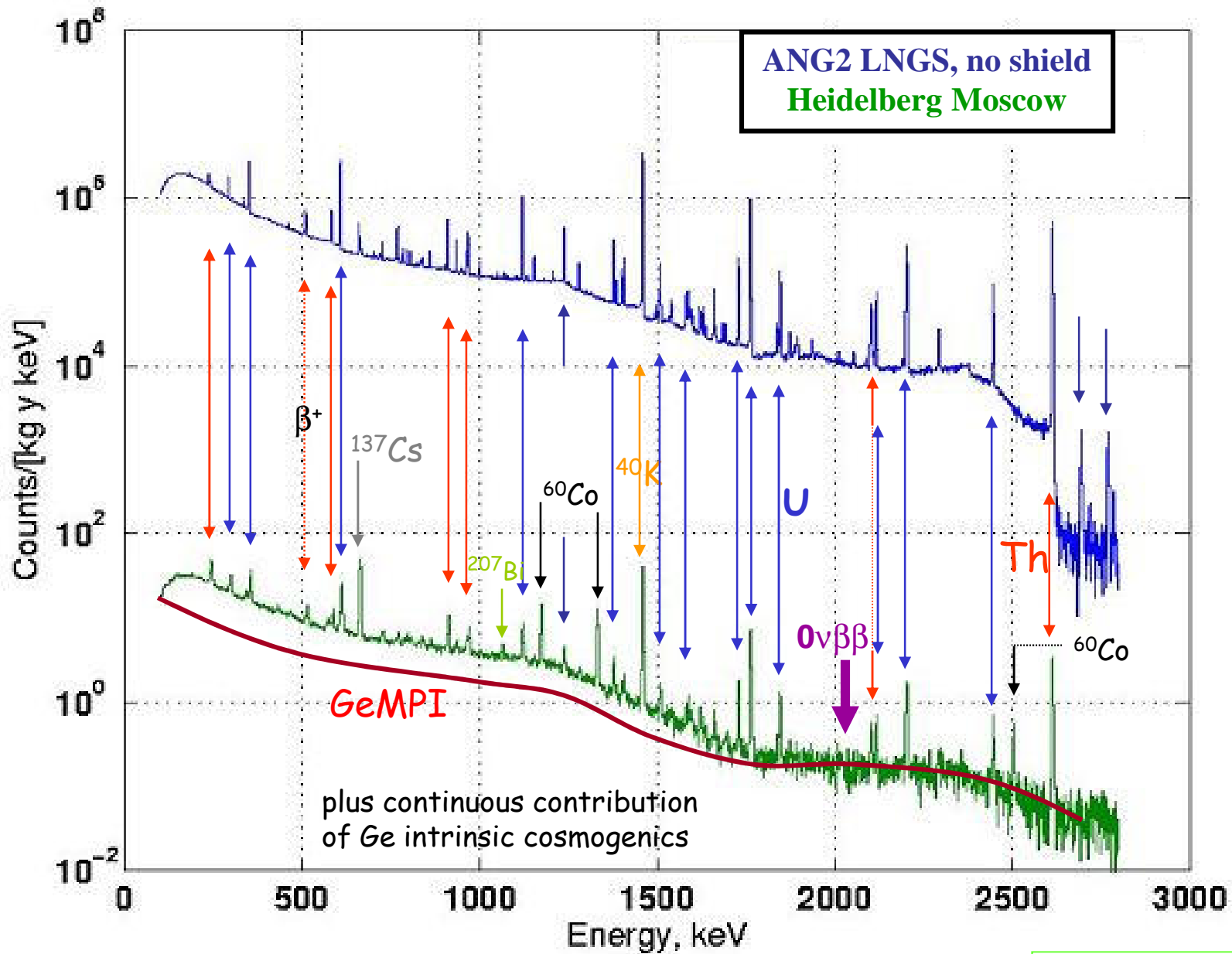
**Evidence!??**

H. V. Klapdohr Kleingrothaus and I. V. Krivosheina Modern Physics Letter A 21 (2006) 1547-1566

by application of two independent background suppression methods:

**6  $\sigma$  effect**

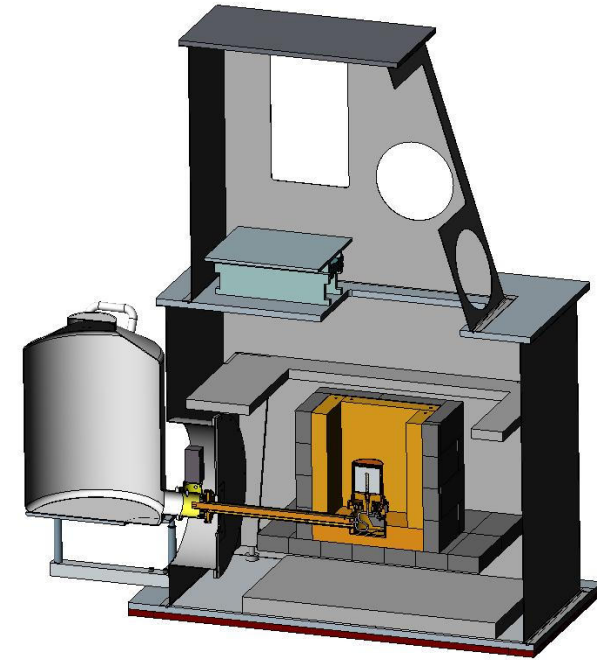
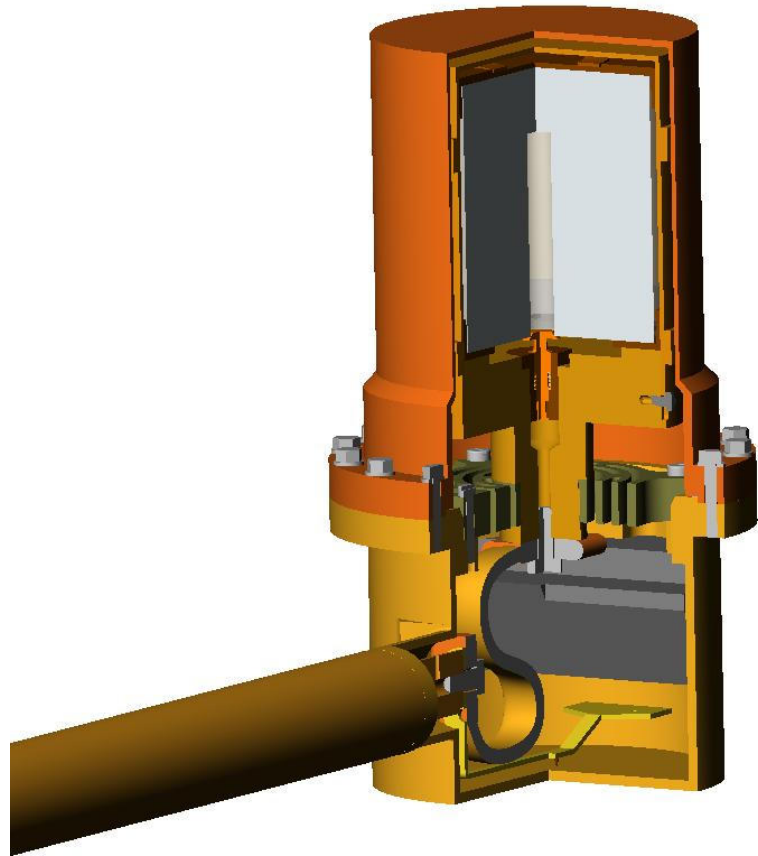
$T_{1/2} = 2.23^{+0.44}_{-0.31} \times 10^{25} \text{ y}$



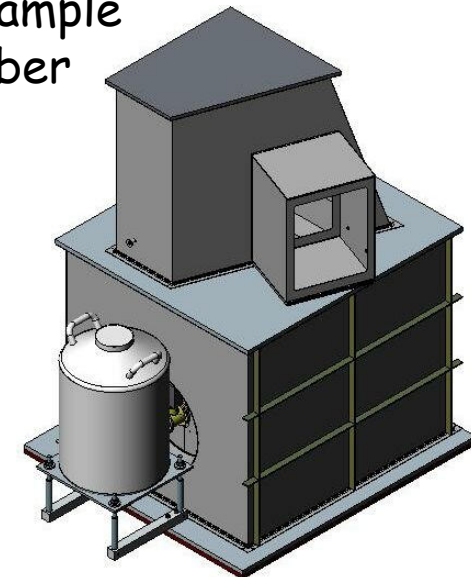
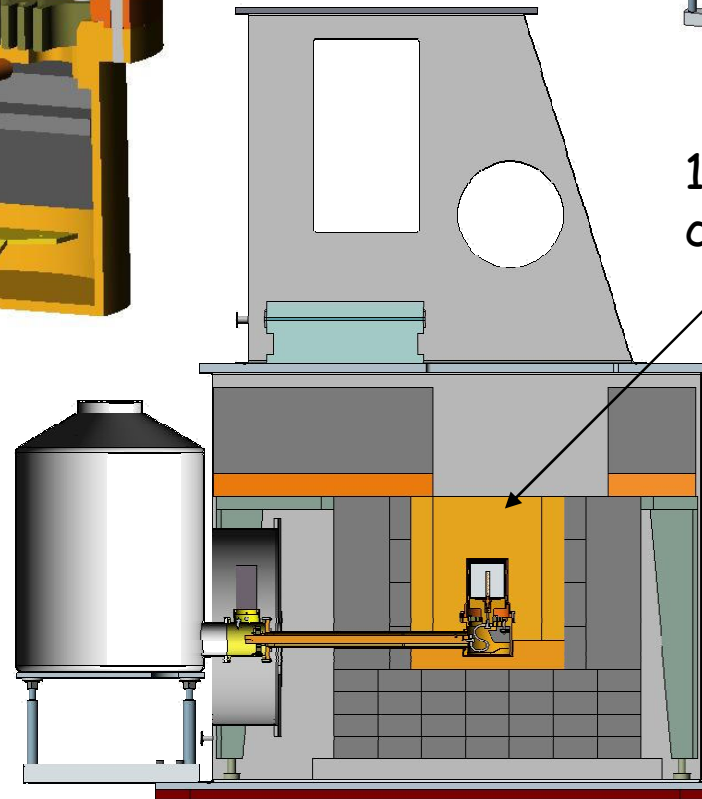


# GeMPI

Ge spectrometer  
of MPI at LNGS  
since 1997



15 l sample  
chamber



## Cu (NOSV) measurement with GeMPI

<b>Cosmogenic* and primordial concentrations in Cu</b>			
radionuclide	halflife	activity [ $\mu\text{Bq/kg}$ ]	
		exposed	unexposed
cosmogenic			
$^{56}\text{Co}$	77.31 d	$230 \pm 30$	
$^{57}\text{Co}$	271.83 d	$1800 \pm 400$	
$^{58}\text{Co}$	70.86 d	$1650 \pm 90$	
$^{60}\text{Co}$	5.27 y	$2100 \pm 190$	<span style="border: 1px solid red; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px;"><math>&lt; 10</math></span> <span style="color: red; font-size: 2em;">→</span>
$^{54}\text{Mn}$	312.15 d	$215 \pm 21$	
$^{59}\text{Fe}$	44.5 d	$455 \pm 120$	
$^{46}\text{Sc}$	83.79 y	$53 \pm 18$	
$^{48}\text{V}$	15.97 d	$110 \pm 37$	
primordial			
$^{226}\text{Ra}$ (U)	1600 y	$< 35$	$< 16$
$^{228}\text{Th}$ (Th)	1.91 y	$< 20$	$< 19$
$^{40}\text{K}$	$1.277 \times 10^9$ y	$< 120$	$< 88$

activity =  $\text{PR}/2.1 \times (1 - e^{-\lambda t})$   
 $\Rightarrow \leq 37$  days of exposure

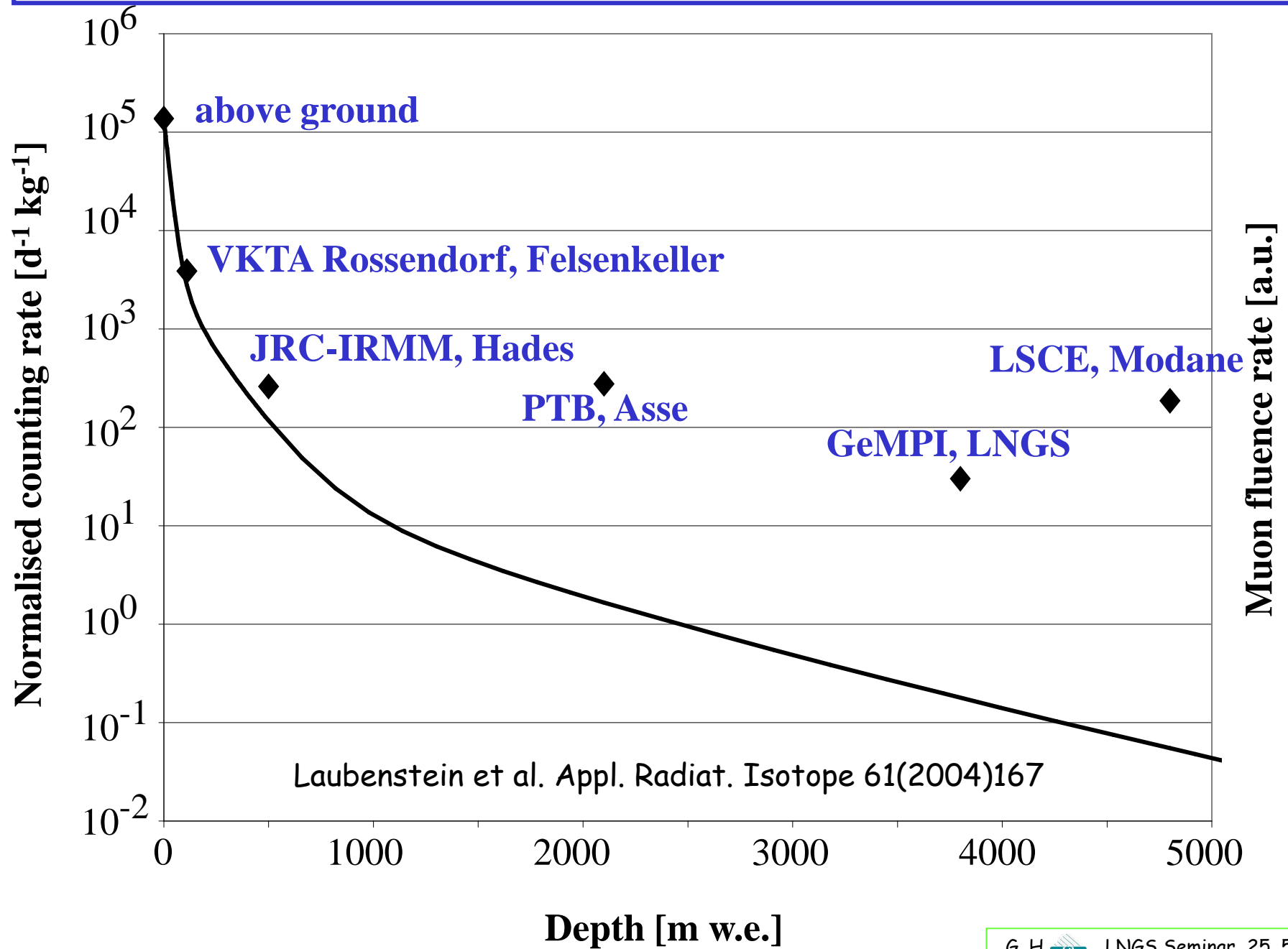
\* saturation activity scaled after exposure at LNGS surface for 270 d

## Measurement of lead with GeMPI

lead sample	weight [kg]	time [d]	specific activity [ $\mu\text{Bq/kg}$ ]				
			$^{226}\text{Ra}$	$^{228}\text{Th}$	$^{40}\text{K}$	$^{207}\text{Bi}$	$^{210}\text{Pb}$
<b>DowRun</b>	144.6	101.7	< 29	< 22	$440 \pm 140$	$98 \pm 24$	$(2.7 \pm 0.4) \times 10^7$
<b>Boliden</b>	144.3	75.0	< 46	< 31	$460 \pm 170$	< 13	$(2.3 \pm 0.4) \times 10^7$
<b>roman</b>	22.1	37.2	< 45	< 72	< 270	< 19	< $1.3 \times 10^6$
	bolometric measurement: Allesandrello et al. NIM B142 (1998) 163						< $4 \times 10^3$



integral background rate of Ge spectrometer (Cellar-labs) as a function of muon flux



contamination of Cu [ $\mu\text{Bq/kg}$ ]  
 simulated for HDM detectors and measured

	$^{226}\text{Ra}$ (U)	$^{228}\text{Th}$ (Th)	$^{40}\text{K}$
Cryostat of ANG1	$168 \pm 8$	$84 \pm 7$	$236 \pm 61$
Cryostat of ANG2	$91 \pm 4$	$10 \pm 3$	$78 \pm 22$
Cryostat of ANG3	$105 \pm 5$	$84 \pm 5$	$927 \pm 46$
Cryostat of ANG4	$115 \pm 3$	$87 \pm 4$	$199 \pm 4$
Cryostat of ANG5	$100 \pm 4$	$26 \pm 4$	$1632 \pm 49$
measured by <b>GeMPI*</b>	$\leq 16$	$\leq 12$	$\leq 110$

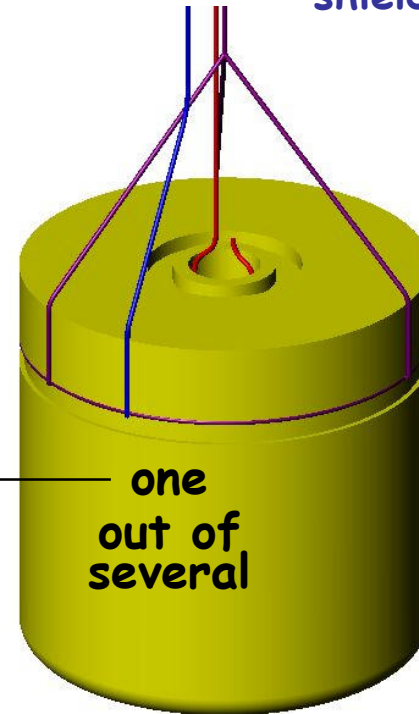
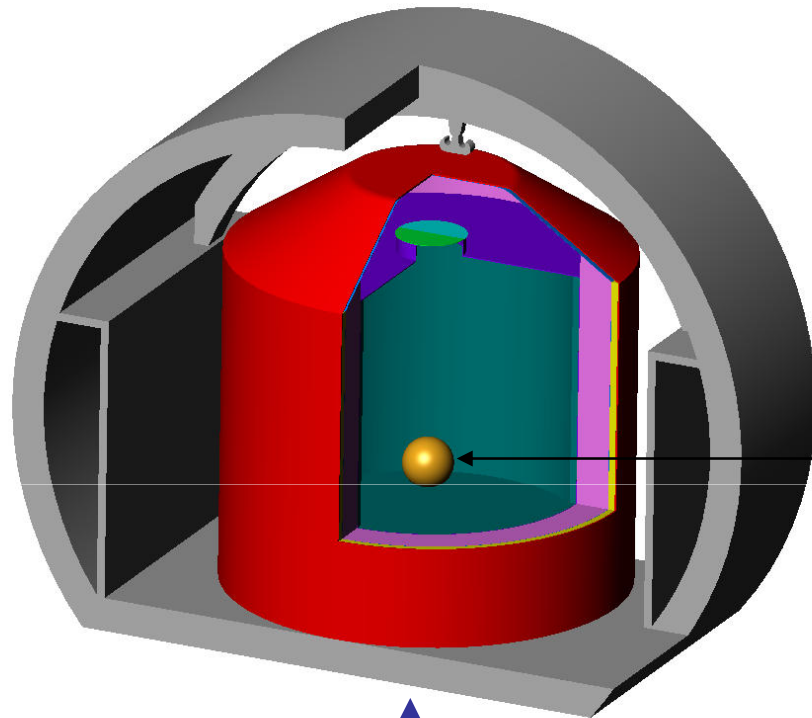
M C simulation  
 Ch.Doerr, Uni HD  
 2002

→ surface contamination

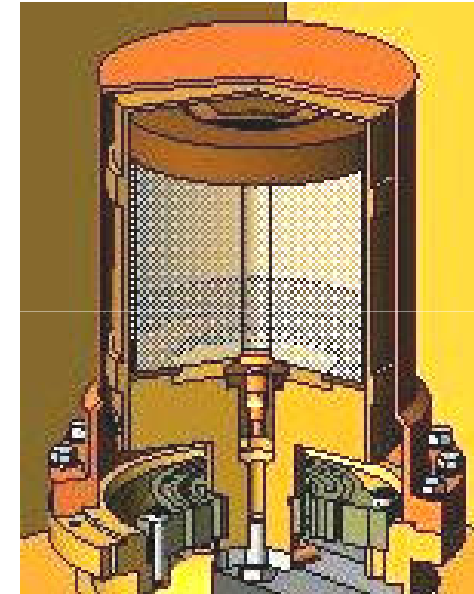
\* 127 kg

# naked Ge-crystals deployed in liquid nitrogen or argon

(cooling medium, insulator and shield against external radiation)



conventional detector crystal gladding



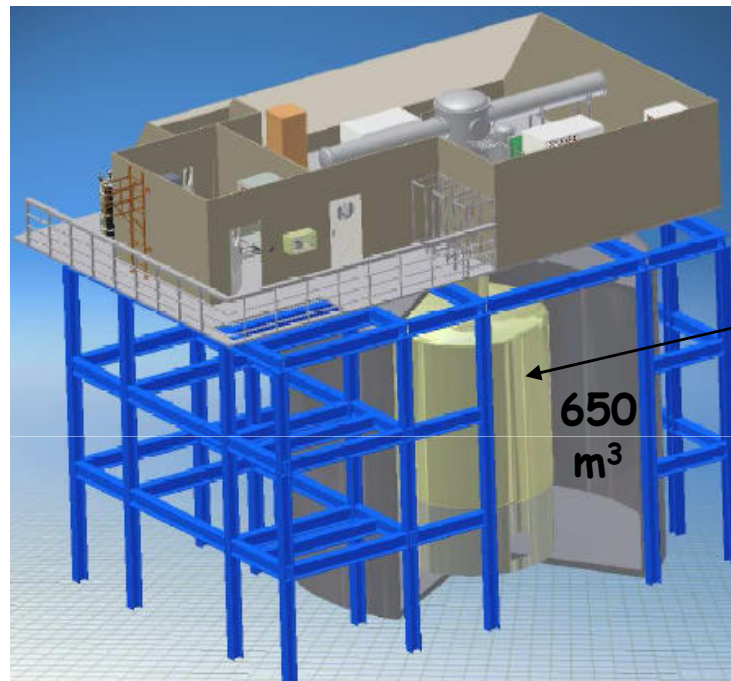
reduction of contact and gladding material:  
about factor **7000** in mass, **200** in surface

not enough space at LNGS for full shielding by liquid N<sub>2</sub>/Ar



# GERDA

GERmanium Detector Array for the search of neutrinoless double beta decay of  $^{76}\text{Ge}$



## Collaboration:

INFN LNGS, Assergi, Italy  
JINR Dubna, Russia  
IKTP Univ, Dresden, Germany  
MPIK, Heidelberg, Germany  
Univ. Köln, Germany  
Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland  
Univ. di Milano Bicocca e INFN, Milano, Italy

INR, Moscow, Russia  
TEP Physics, Moscow, Russia  
Kurchatov Institute, Moscow, Russia  
MPI Physik, München, Germany  
Univ. di Padova e INFN, Padova, Italy  
Univ. Tübingen, Germany  
Univ. Zürich, Switzerland

low radioactivity stainless steel  
( $^{228}\text{Th} \leq 5 \text{ mBq/kg}$ )

Spokesperson: Stefan Schönert, MPIK Heidelberg



## Stainless steel measured for GERDA cryo tank

Steel 457.1			Activity [mBq/kg]							
			primordial radionuclides				man made			
heat kg	plate #	hours	<sup>226</sup> Ra	<sup>234m</sup> Pa	<sup>235</sup> U	<sup>228</sup> Th	<sup>228</sup> Ra	<sup>40</sup> K	<sup>137</sup> Cs	<sup>60</sup> Co
495243 54.75	362891-1 G1	76.6	≤ 1.3	≤ 94	≤ 2.6	≤ 0.2	≤ 2.6	≤ 2.8	0.77 ± 0.43	45.0 ± 2.1
494257 54.74	347128-2 G2	470	≤ 0.24	≤ 12	≤ 0.63	≤ 0.11	≤ 0.86	≤ 0.93	≤ 0.16	14.0 ± 0.1
494257 61.33	347106-2 G6	115.1	≤ 0.35	≤ 38	≤ 1.5	≤ 0.27	≤ 1.1	≤ 1.1	≤ 0.39	13.0 ± 0.6
T506095 57.6	50609522 G3	74.5	≤ 0.74	≤ 45	≤ 1.5	≤ 0.41	≤ 1.0	≤ 1.1	≤ 0.26	13.8 ± 0.7
255455 52.86	68558 G4	88.7	≤ 13	≤ 41	≤ 1.9	5.1 ± 0.5	≤ 3.0	≤ 1.7	≤ 0.36	20 ± 1
254533 53.15	56754 G5	230.4	1.0 ± 0.6	54 ± 16	2.5 ± 1.5	1.5 ± 0.2	1.0 ± 0.5	≤ 0.81	≤ 0.1	18.3 ± 0.7
255772 55.0	71459 G7	144.5	3.9 ± 1.6	≤ 56	≤ 3.9	5.2 ± 0.5	1.9 ± 1.0	≤ 1.7	≤ 0.6	42.1 ± 1.9



# Cosmic ray induced isotopes in stainless steel (FeCrNiMo) measured for GERDA

Steel 457.1	activity [mBq/kg]					
sample	cosmogenic radionuclide					
$T_{1/2} \rightarrow$	${}^7\text{Be}$ 53.3 d	${}^{54}\text{Mn}$ 312.2 d	${}^{58}\text{Co}$ 70.9 d	${}^{56}\text{Co}$ 77.3 d	${}^{46}\text{Sc}$ 83.8 d	${}^{48}\text{V}$ 16.0 d
Production $\rightarrow$ channels	spallation	${}^{56}\text{Fe}(n,p2n)$ ( $\mu^-, \nu 2n$ )	${}^{60}\text{Ni}(n,p2n)$ ( $\mu^-, \nu 2n$ ) ${}^{58}\text{Ni}(n,p)$	${}^{58}\text{Ni}(n,p2n)$ ( $\mu^-, \nu 2n$ )	${}^{48}\text{Ti}(n,p2n)$ ( $\mu^-, \nu 2n$ ) spallation on Fe	${}^{50}\text{Cr}(n,p2n)$ ( $\mu^-, \nu 2n$ ) spallation on Fe
<b>G1</b>	$\leq 3.9$	$1.3 \pm 0.4$	$0.67 \pm 0.34$	$\leq 0.32$	$\leq 0.35$	$0.30 \pm 0.11$
<b>G2</b>	$\leq 3.0$	$1.5 \pm 0.1$	$0.99 \pm 0.12$	$0.17 \pm 0.06$	$0.24 \pm 0.06$	$0.36 \pm 0.07$
<b>G3</b>	$\leq 5.7$	$0.92 \pm 0.24$	$0.56 \pm 0.23$	$\leq 0.62$	$\leq 0.54$	$0.27 \pm 0.11$
<b>G4</b>	$9.6 \pm 2.9$	$2.0 \pm 0.3$	$0.71 \pm 0.26$	$\leq 0.71$	$\leq 0.67$	$0.31 \pm 0.13$
<b>G5</b>	$4.8 \pm 1.7$	$1.7 \pm 0.2$	$0.69 \pm 0.16$	$0.28 \pm 0.10$	$0.47 \pm 0.14$	$0.22 \pm 0.09$
<b>G6</b>	$13.6 \pm 2.5$	$1.4 \pm 0.2$	$0.59 \pm 0.20$	$\leq 0.42$	$\leq 0.31$	$0.40 \pm 0.12$
<b>G7</b>	$\leq 5.9$	$1.6 \pm 0.3$	$0.54 \pm 0.27$	$\leq 0.6$	$0.61 \pm 0.26$	$0.39 \pm 0.13$
<b>P.Rate sea level</b> [( $10^3 \text{ sec}$ ) $^{-1} \text{ kg}^{-1}$ ]	$4.5 \pm 0.7$	$2.7 \pm 0.3$	$0.6 \pm 0.09$	$0.24 \pm 0.04$	$0.22 \pm 0.04$	$0.4 \pm 0.04$

${}^{51}\text{Cr}$ :  $2.0 \pm 0.7$   ${}^{52}\text{Mn}$ :  $0.35 \pm 0.25$   ${}^{56}\text{Ni}$ :  $0.17 \pm 0.05$  [mBq/kg]  
 ${}^{60}\text{Co}$  before:  $11.1 \pm 0.5$  after:  $11.5 \pm 0.6$  [Bq/kg]

irradiation time  
 ← at sea level underground than exposed for 314 d at LNGS surface ( $\approx 907 \text{ g/cm}^2$ )  
 $\approx 200 \text{ d}$   
 $\approx 600 \text{ d}$   
 all others are compatible with  
 $\rightarrow$   ${}^{7}\text{Be}$  and  ${}^{50}\text{Cr}$  produced in situ, but contamination from filtration dust (up to 40 kBq/kg, Wershofen PTB)  
 ← Normalized to sea level

## GERDA phase I and II

**Phase I:** use 5 Heidelberg-Moscow and 3 IGEX detectors

estimated background: 0.01 Counts/(kg keV y) @ 2040 keV

exposure: 15 kg years

aim: is to confirm/refute claim

**Phase II:** plus 20 kg enriched material

envisioned Background: 0.001 Counts/(kg keV y) @ 2040 keV

exposure: 100 kg y

discovery potential to  $T_{1/2} \approx 5 \cdot 10^{25}$  yrs,

limit setting to  $1.5 \cdot 10^{26}$  yrs.

requires better suppression of cosmogenic  $^{60}\text{Co}$  and  $^{68}\text{Ge}$  in Ge crystals

discrimination of Multi Site Events (MSE) (e.g. Compton bgd.) from Single Site Events (SSE) (e.g.  $0\nu\beta\beta$ ) by:

- a) segmentation of germanium detectors
- b) pulse shape analysis with BEGe-like (point contact) germanium detectors
- c) detection of scintillation light of liquid argon surrounding the crystal  
(being studied with LARGE)

## Conclusion and future developments

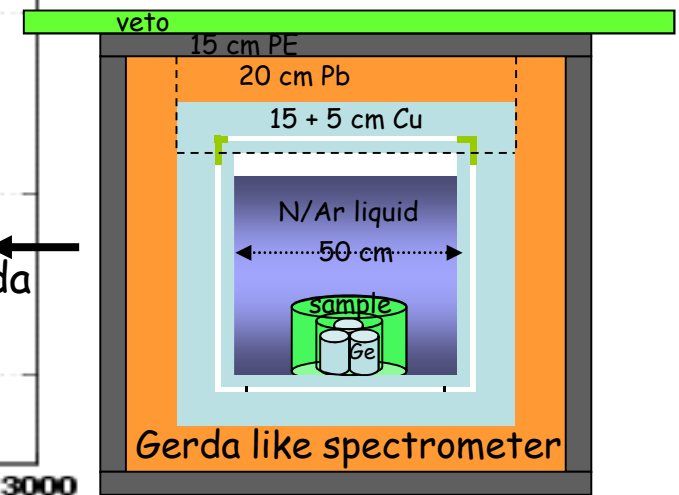
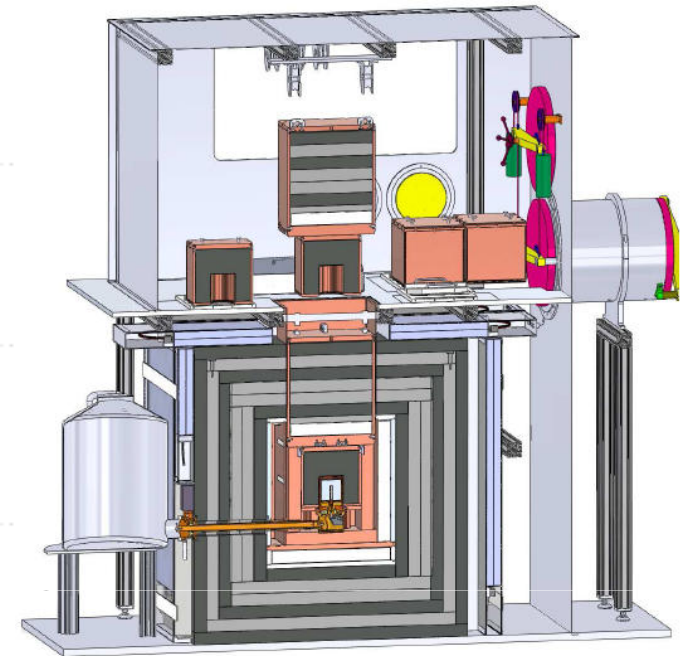
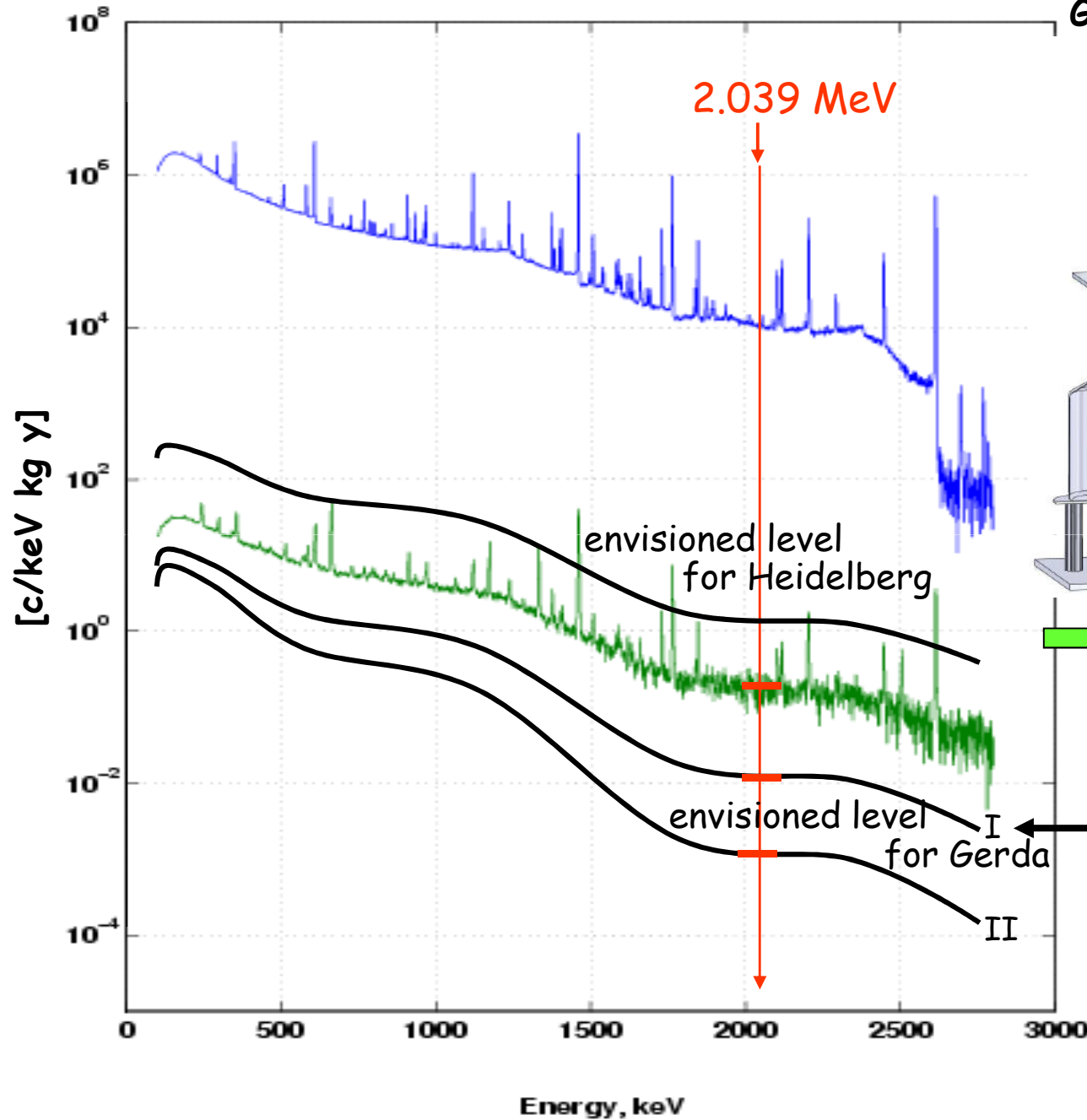
- highly sensitive Ra/Rn assay by Rn counting with miniature proportional counters
- well suited for surface contamination studies ( $^{226}\text{Ra}$  typical contamination indicator)
- applicable for assay of radioactive noble gases in liquid rare gas experiments
- Ge spectroscopy very powerful screening tool, also to control secular equilibrium
- hopeful development in 'clean' stainless steel production by electric arc melting

future needs:

- study behavior of  $^{210}\text{Po}$ , develop screening methods (liquid scintillation ?)
- systematic study of surface contamination
- upgrade Ge spectroscopy

# GIOVE

## Germanium Inner Outer VETO



assume  $^{228}Th$  in Cu  $\leq 5 \mu Bq/kg$