# Search for $\beta^+EC$ and EC/EC decay of $^{74}Se$



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Medex'19, Prague, May 30st, 2019

## **SEARCH FOR DOUBLE BETA DECAY**

At present 2v2β<sup>-</sup> decay was detected in 11 nuclei:
 <sup>48</sup>Ca, <sup>76</sup>Ge, <sup>82</sup>Se, <sup>96</sup>Zr, <sup>100</sup>Mo, <sup>116</sup>Cd, <sup>128</sup>Te, <sup>130</sup>Te, <sup>136</sup>Xe, <sup>150</sup>Nd, <sup>238</sup>U and 2vEC/EC in <sup>130</sup>Ba was detected in geochemical experiment

Double beta decay to excited states of daughter nuclei are accompanied by emission of  $\gamma$ -quanta in de-excitation of excited states. These  $\gamma$ -quanta may be detected by low background HPGe detectors with high efficiency and good energy resolution.

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2v2\beta^{-} decay to excited states was detected in
<sup>100</sup>Mo - <sup>100</sup>Ru (0+<sub>1</sub>, 1130.3 keV) and <sup>150</sup>Nd - <sup>150</sup>Sm (0+<sub>1</sub>, 740.4 keV).
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<sup>100</sup>Mo - <sup>100</sup>Ru (0+<sub>1</sub>, 1130.3 keV) decay was detected in several experiments, including measurements performed at LSM, Modane with the Obelix HPGe spectrometer

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(R. Arnold et al. Nucl. Phys. A 925 (2014) 25)
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## Investigation of 2vββ decay of <sup>100</sup>Mo-<sup>100</sup>Ru to excited states



<sup>100</sup>Mo  $\rightarrow$  0<sup>+</sup>, 1130 keV <sup>100</sup>Ru<sup>\*</sup> observable  $\gamma$ 590.8+ $\gamma$ 539.5 keV <sup>100</sup>Mo  $\rightarrow$  2<sup>+</sup>, 540 keV <sup>100</sup>Ru observable  $\gamma$ 539.5 keV

 $T_{1/2} (0^{+}_{1}, 1130.3 \text{ keV}) = [7.5 \pm 0.6(\text{stat.}) \pm 0.6(\text{sys.})] \times 10^{20} \text{ yr} (90 \% \text{ CL})$ R. Arnold et al., Nuclear Physics A925 (2014) 25 <sup>3</sup>



## Laboratoire Souterrain de Modane

Fréjus Tunnel at the French-Italian border Depth - 1800 m of rock (4800 mwe)

Muons flux - 4 muons / m<sup>2</sup> x day<sup>-1</sup> (2x10<sup>6</sup> reduction factor) Neutrons flux - 3000 fast neutrons (>1MeV) per m<sup>2</sup> and per day (1000 reduction factor)





### **Detector Obelix\***

P type coaxial HPGe detector Canberra in U-type ultra low background cryostat located at LSM, France (4800 m w.e.) Sensitive volume 600 cm<sup>3</sup> Efficiency ~160% Peak / Compton 83 Energy resolution ~1.2 keV at 122 keV (<sup>57</sup>Co), ~2 keV at 1332 keV (<sup>60</sup>Co) Distance from cap 4 mm Entrance window AI, 1.6 mm



\*JINST 12 (2017) P02004.



Passive Shielding ~12 cm arch. Pb ~20 cm low active Pb, Radon free air





## **Configurations of the Obelix passive shielding**





PbI ~ 12 cm of archeological lead (activity of < 60 mBq/kg) (~7 cm can be removed) PbII ~ 20 cm of low-active lead (activity of 5 - 20 Bq/kg)



#### Efficiencies of the Obelix for some geometries



## **Double beta decay of <sup>74</sup>Se**



In present investigation we used powder of natural Se with a mass of m=1.6 kg, containing ≈0.89% of <sup>74</sup>Se (14.24 g). Natural Se was placed into a Teflon box with a diameter of d=115 mm, a height of h=80 mm, and thickness of walls 3 mm. Sample with natural Se was placed on the end cap of the Obelix detector and measured during 135 days.

Simulation was performed using ROOT-VMC-GEANT4 DPGE package in the energy region of 0.05- 5 MeV.

To test the detector efficiency for low background measurements we used low-active samples prepared from La<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> with known mass and activity. (JINST 12 (2017) P02004)

# Simulated geometry of measurements





## Background measurement with Obelix in 2017



Counting rate [30 – 2900 keV] 95 counts/day•kg

#### **Background of Obelix in 2019, T<sub>meas</sub>=1278h**

HPGE spectrum



## Measurement of Se sample



#### **ROI of the spectrum of Se-nat**



#### Fit of some ROI of the spectrum of Se-nat

10 E 10<sub>⊏</sub> Events / ( 0.177336 ) Events / ( 0.177336 ) 9 Gaussian fit results (CL=90%): Gaussian fit results (CL=90%) 9 Intensity: -0.4 +/- 7.2 cnt Intensity: 9.0 +/- 9.5 cnt Position: 1187.00 +/- 0.00 keV Position: 1204.00 +/- 0.00 ke 8 8 Sigma: 0.99 +/- 0.00 keV Sigma: 0.99 +/- 0.00 keV 7 7F 6 6 5 5⊢ 4 зЩ зF 2₩ 2 **\*\*\*** n. 1194 1196 Energy, keV 1196 1178 1180 1182 1186 1188 1192 1198 1200 1202 1204 1206 1208 1184 1190

#### 1196.7 keV



#### 1206.4 keV

1212 121 Energy, keV

1210

1214







### **Preliminary results for double beta decay of** <sup>74</sup>**Se**

Decay transition	γ-rays, keV	Efficien- cy, %	N <sub>excl</sub>	T <sub>1/2</sub> , 10 <sup>19</sup> y CL=90%, this work	T <sub>1/2</sub> , 10 <sup>19</sup> y CL=90% [1]	T <sub>1/2</sub> , 10 <sup>19</sup> y CL=90% [2]
$0vLL \rightarrow 2^+_2, 1204.2$	595.9 + 1204.2	1.23 0.57	31.3 18.5	1.10	0.55	0.70
$0vLL \rightarrow 2^+_{1},595.9$	595.9	1.82	31.3	1.58	1.30	0.82
$0vLL \rightarrow g.s.$	1206.4	1.67	7.0	6.47	0.41	0.58
0vKL → 2 <sup>+</sup> <sub>1</sub> ,595.9	600.9 595.9	1.81 1.81	11.3 31.3	<mark>4.37</mark> 1.57	1.12	0.82
$0vKL \rightarrow g.s.$	1196.7	1.67	13.1	3.48	0.64	0.96
0vKK → 2 <sup>+</sup> <sub>1</sub> ,595.9	591.2 595.9	1.81 1.81	11.2 31.3	<mark>4.39</mark> 1.57	1.57	1.43
$0vKK \rightarrow g.s.^*$	1187.0	1.67	9.4	4.83	0.62	-
$2vECEC \rightarrow 2^{+}_{2}, 1204.2$	595.9 + 1204.2	1.23 0.57	31.3 18.5	1.10	0.55	0.70
$2vECEC \rightarrow 2_{1}^{+},595.9$	595.9	2.11	31.3	1.83	0.77	0.92
$(0v+2v)\beta^+EC \rightarrow g.s.$	511	4.32	511.8	0.23	0.19	-

[1] A.S.Barabash et al., Nuclear Physics A 785(2007)371

[2] B.Lehnert et al.. J.Phys.G. Nucl. Part. Phys. 43 (2016) 085201

### **Future plans of measurements**

The investigation of double beta decay of <sup>96</sup>Zr and <sup>150</sup>Nd to excited states of daughter nuclei will be performed with detectors Obelix and Idefix (new P type coaxial ultra low-background HPGe detector similar to Obelix). Idefix was produced by company of Mirion (Canberra) and instaled in LSM in 2017.



# Thank you for your attention