

# LEGEND

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

Michele Morella on behalf  
of the **LEGEND** local groups

# LEGEND collaboration

*“LEGEND-1000 emerged as the winner of the portfolio review! We will be funded by the DOE!”*

Collaboration meeting @ GSSI  
October 2022

I'm here



- |                  |                      |                              |                                   |
|------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| SNOLAB           | Univ. Liverpool      | Univ. of North Carolina      | Leibniz Inst. Crystal Growth      |
| Roma Tre         | Tennessee Tech.      | Univ. of South Carolina      | Max Planck Inst., Munich          |
| Duke Univ.       | Univ. of Warwick     | L'Aquila Univ. and INFN      | Czech Tech. Univ. Prague          |
| Univ. Zurich     | Jagiellonian Univ.   | Gran Sasso Science Inst.     | North Carolina State Univ.        |
| Queen's Univ.    | Simon Fraser Univ.   | Lab. Naz. Gran Sasso         | Joint Inst. Nucl. Res. Inst.      |
| Padova Univ.     | Univ. New Mexico     | Univ. College London         | Lab. Exper. Nucl. Phy. MEPhi      |
| INFN Padova      | Univ. Texas, Austin  | Los Alamos Natl. Lab.        | INFN Milano Bicocca               |
| Laurentian Univ. | Univ. Washington     | Tech. Univ. Dresden          | Milano Univ. and INFN             |
| Univ. Tennessee  | Univ. Tuebingen      | Joint Res. Centre, Geel      | Triangle Univ. Nuclear. Lab.      |
| Univ. of Indiana | Tech. Univ. Munich   | Lawrence Berkeley Natl. Lab. | Max Planck Inst., Heidelberg      |
| Comenius Univ.   | Oak Ridge Natl. Lab. | Univ. California, Berkeley   | Inst. Nucl. Res. Russ. Acad. Sci. |
| Lancaster Univ.  | Univ. South Dakota   | Polymer Research Dresden     | Natl. Res. Center Kurchatov Inst. |
| Univ. of Regina  | South Dakota Mines   |                              |                                   |

11 countries  
260 scientists  
2 Collaboration Meeting per year  
between Europe and USA

# LEGEND local groups



**Natalia Di Marco**  
Physics professor



+1 **new** Post Doc



**Michele Morella**  
3<sup>rd</sup> year Ph.D.



+ **anyone of you!!**



**Marco Balata**  
INFN Researcher

**Chiara Vignoli**  
INFN Researcher



**Nicola Rossi**  
INFN Researcher



**Matthias Laubenstein**  
INFN Researcher



**Aldo Ianni**  
INFN Researcher



**Francesco Ferella**  
INFN Researcher



**Iza Kochanek**  
INFN Researcher



**Alessandro Razeto**  
INFN Researcher



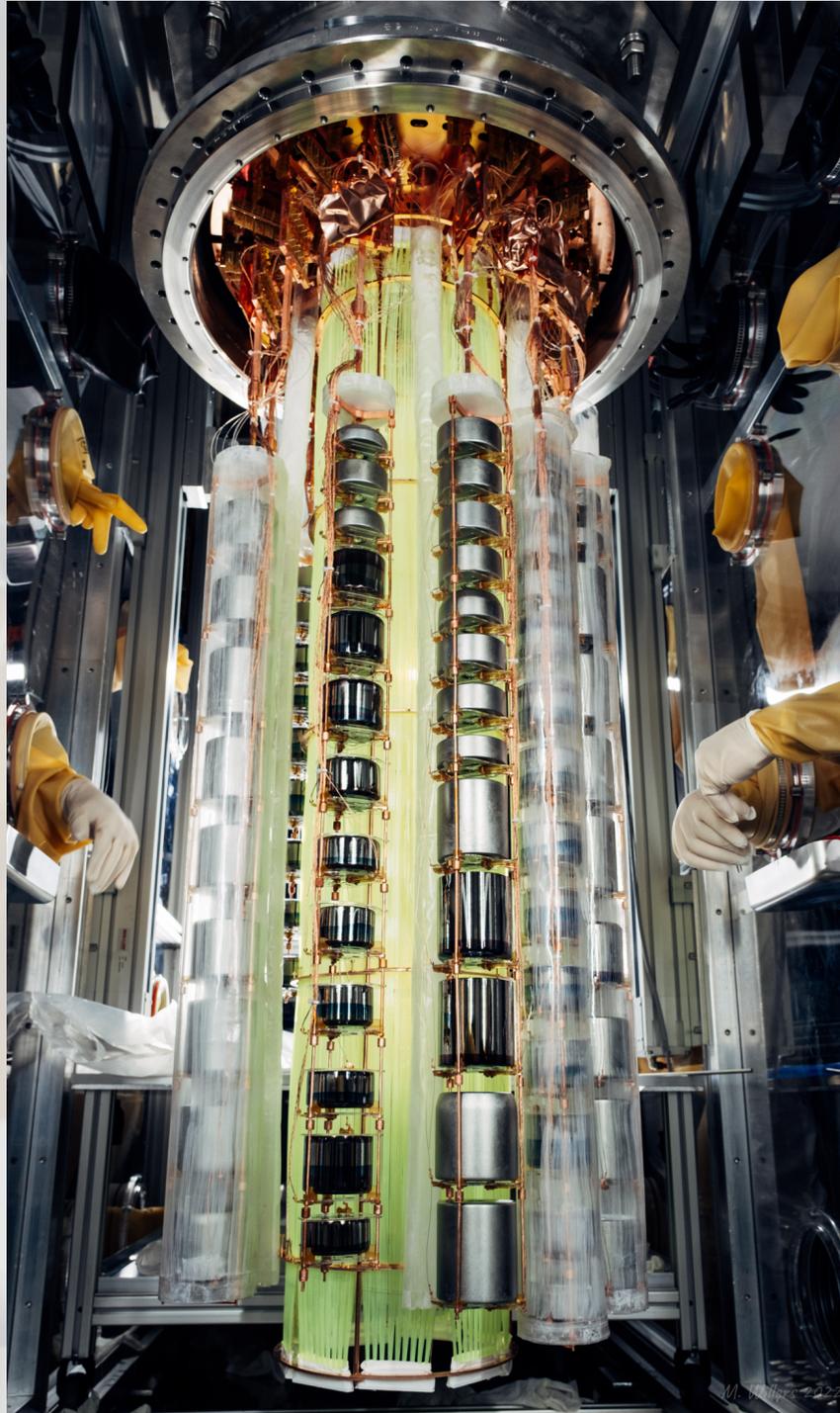
**Francesco Salamida**  
Physics Professor



**Carla Macolino**  
Researcher

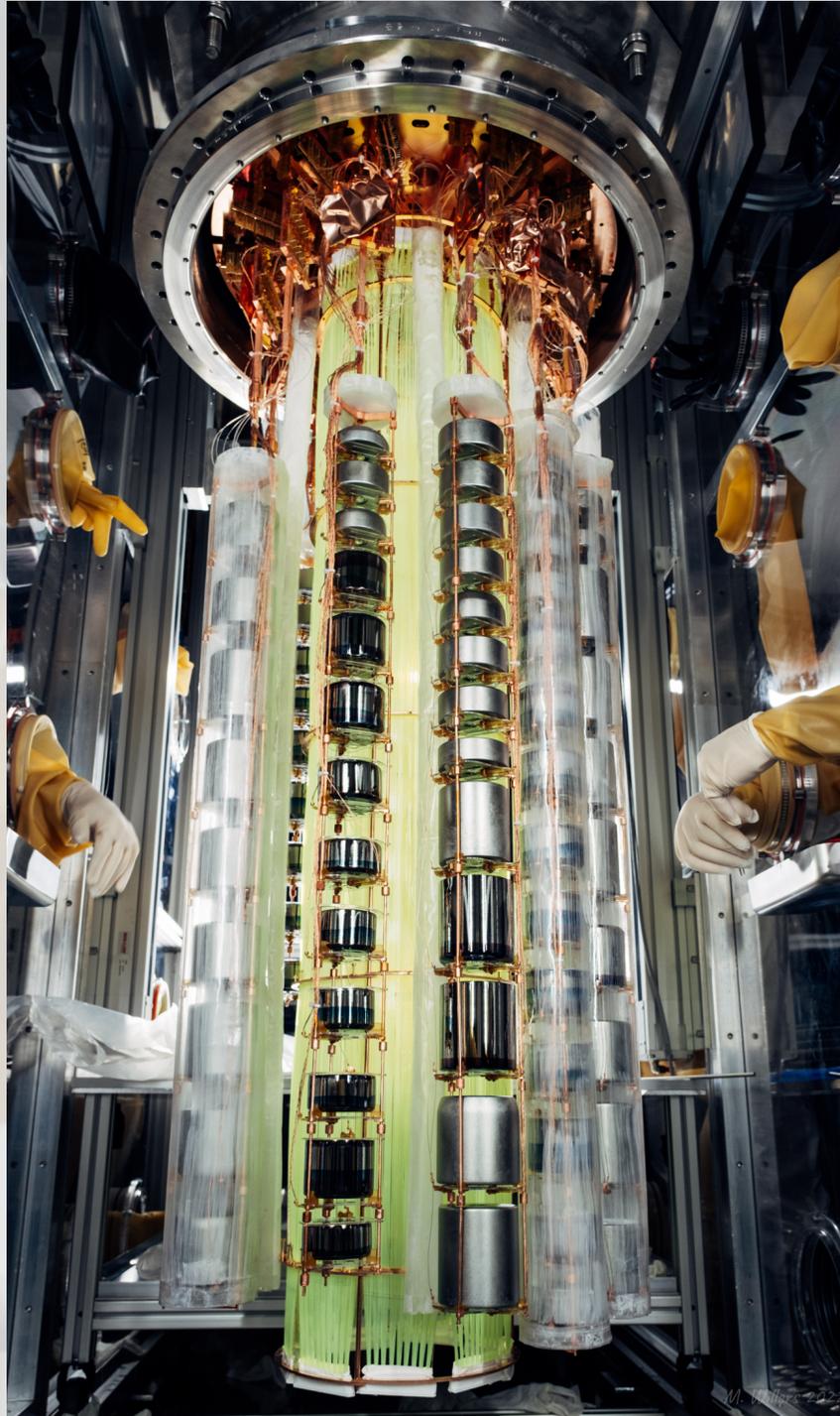
**Sincler Meireles**  
Post Doc

# LEGEND-200 Activities



- 140 kg of HPGe already installed
- Switching to **Physics data** taking during next weeks
- **First results (exposure = O(100kg yr))** expected at the beginning of 2024
- The remaining 60kg of HPGe will then be mounted and data taking resumed
- Official L200 analysis code written in python
- Many publications to be released over coming years

# LEGEND-200 Activities



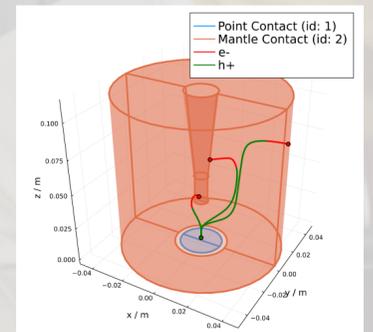
- 140 kg of HPGe already installed
- Switching to **Physics data** taking during next weeks
- **First results (exposure = O(100kg yr))** expected at the beginning of 2024
- The remaining 60kg of HPGe will then be mounted and data taking resumed
- Official L200 analysis code written in python
- Many publications to be released over coming years

## Analysis

- Analysis of detector stability and energy resolution
- Pulser Shape Discrimination (PSD) for new Inverted Coaxial detectors
- Beyond Standard Model Physics Searches (dark matter, majoron emission, BSM using Liquid Argon)
- Analyse  $\mu$ -induced background in **L200** data in view of **L1000 @LNGS**

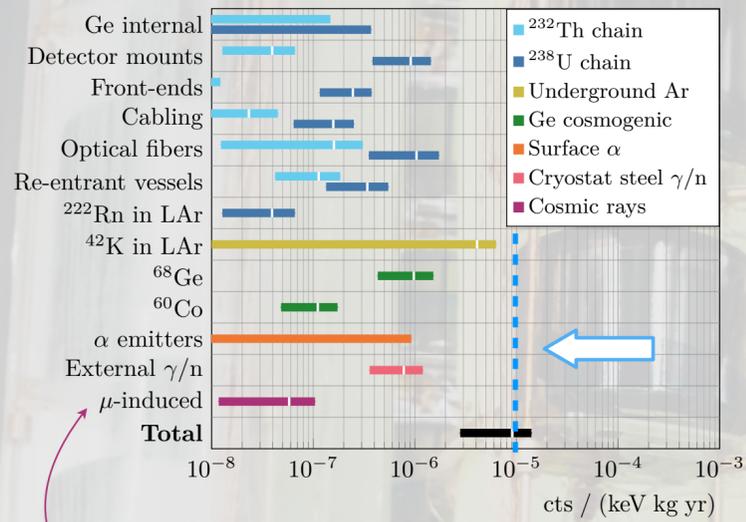
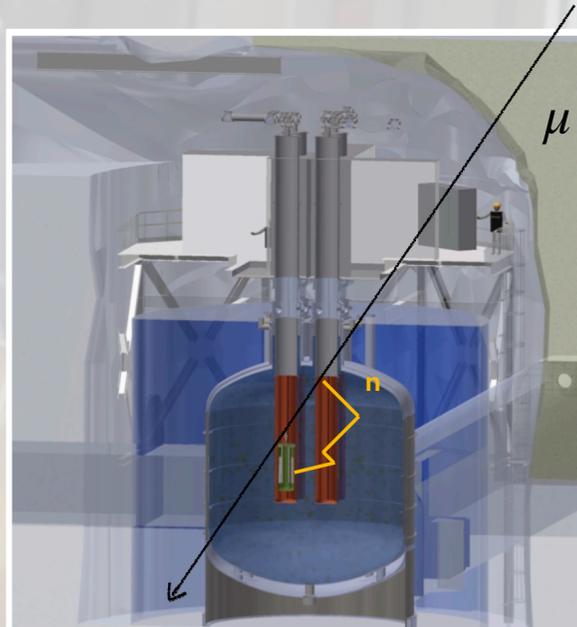
L200 will be taking data during the entire period of your Ph.D.

You can publish the results of your analysis in a collaboration paper



# LEGEND-1000 @LNGS

## LEGEND-1000: SNOLAB vs LNGS



**LEGEND-1000 Background Goal:**  $< 10^{-5}$  counts/(keV·kg·yr)

μ-induced background @SNOLAB:  $\sim 10^{-7}$  counts/(keV·kg·yr) (~ 6000 m.w.e.)

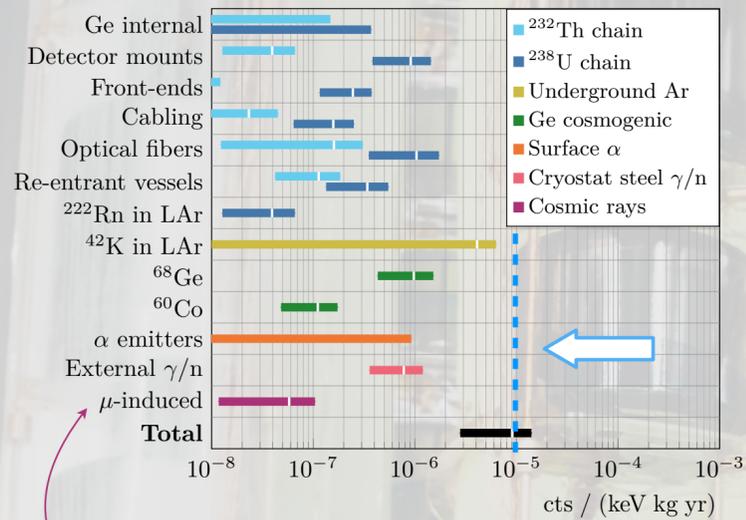
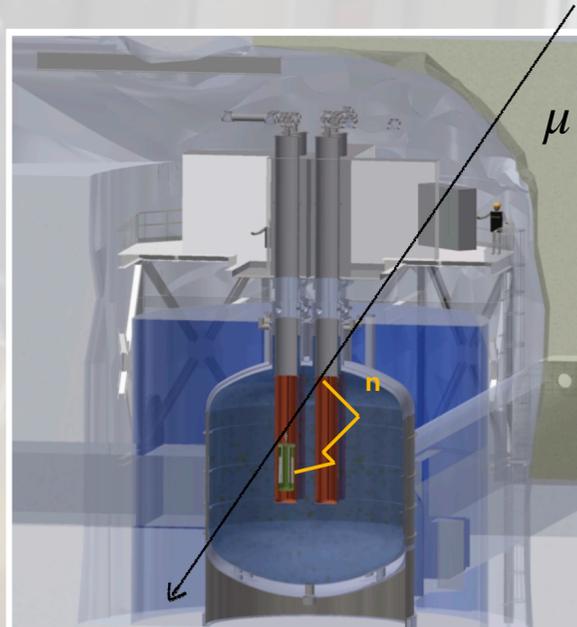
μ-induced background @LNGS:  $> 10^{-5}$  counts/(keV·kg·yr) (~ 3400 m.w.e.)

Different depths imply different μ-induced background!



# LEGEND-1000 @LNCS

## LEGEND-1000: SNOLAB vs LNCS



**LEGEND-1000 Background Goal:**  $< 10^{-5}$  counts/(keV·kg·yr)

$\mu$ -induced background @SNOLAB:  $\sim 10^{-7}$  counts/(keV·kg·yr) (~ 6000 m.w.e.)

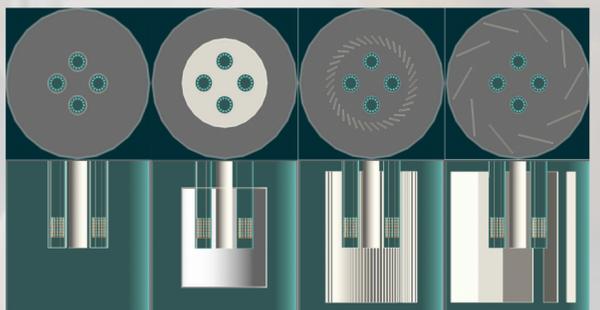
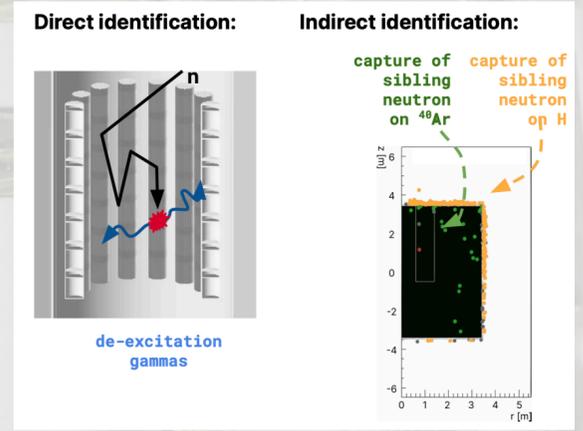
$\mu$ -induced background @LNCS:  $> 10^{-5}$  counts/(keV·kg·yr) (~ 3400 m.w.e.)

**Different depths imply different  $\mu$ -induced background!**

How to **virtually** increase LNCS depth and reduce cosmogenic background?

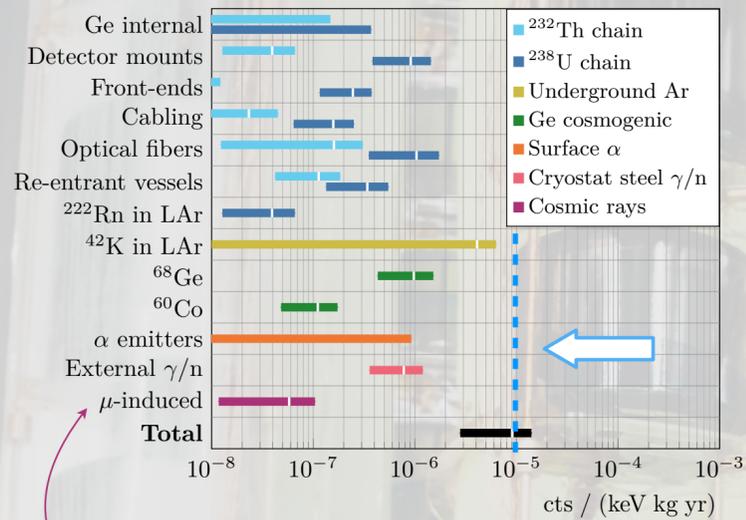
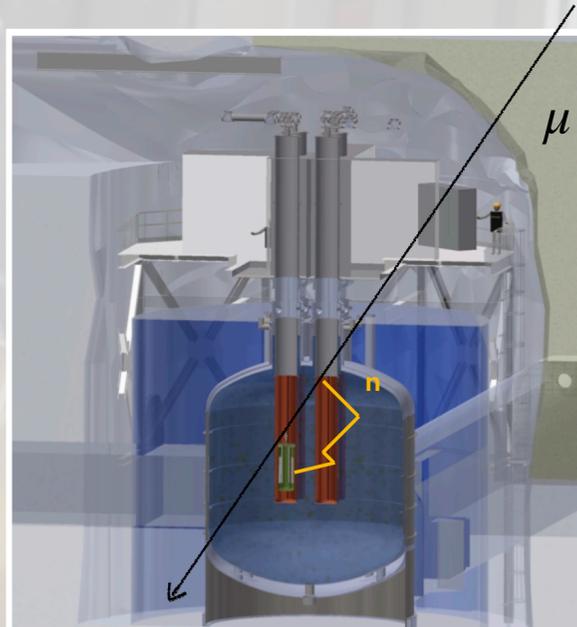
New dedicated tagging analysis

Neutron Moderator (passive shield)



# LEGEND-1000 @LNCS

## LEGEND-1000: SNOLAB vs LNCS



**LEGEND-1000 Background Goal:**  $< 10^{-5}$  counts/(keV·kg·yr)

$\mu$ -induced background @SNOLAB:  $\sim 10^{-7}$  counts/(keV·kg·yr) (~ 6000 m.w.e.)

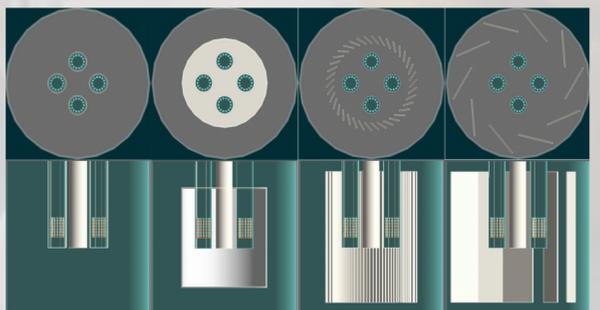
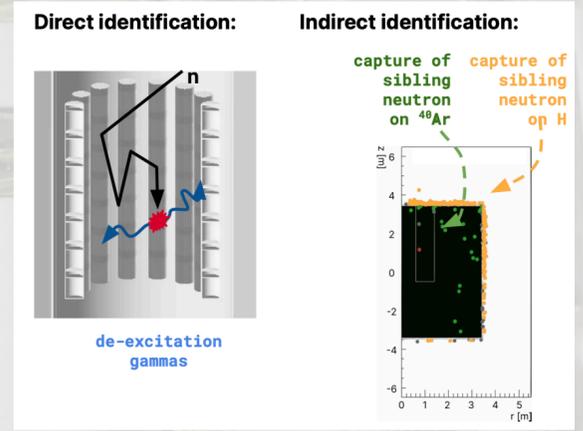
$\mu$ -induced background @LNCS:  $> 10^{-5}$  counts/(keV·kg·yr) (~ 3400 m.w.e.)

**Different depths imply different  $\mu$ -induced background!**

How to **virtually** increase LNCS depth and reduce cosmogenic background?

**New dedicated tagging analysis**

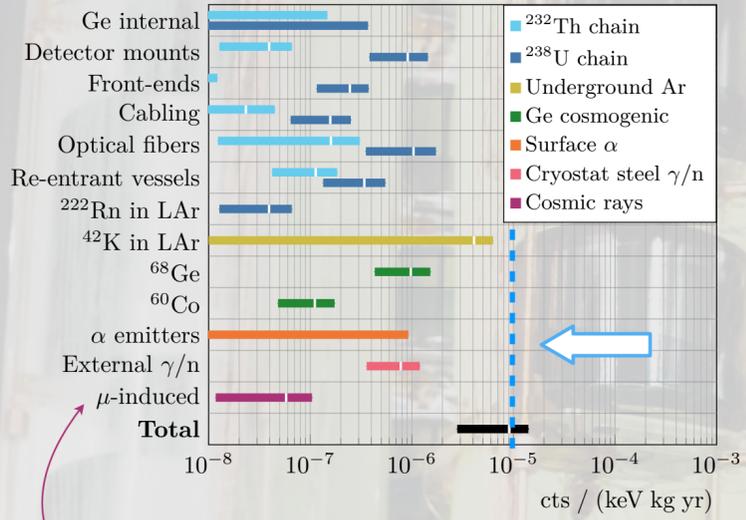
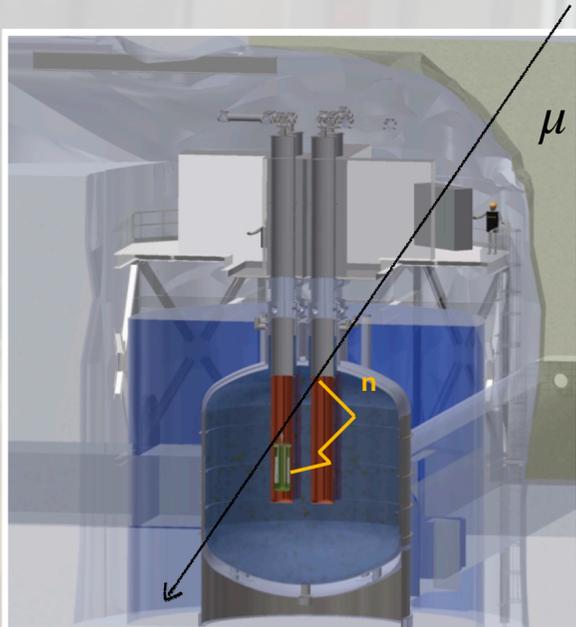
**Neutron Moderator (passive shield)**



**Same sensitivity between LNCS & SNOLAB!!!!**

# LEGEND-1000 @LNGS

## LEGEND-1000: SNOLAB vs LNGS



**LEGEND-1000 Background Goal:**  $< 10^{-5}$  counts/(keV·kg·yr)

μ-induced background @SNOLAB:  $\sim 10^{-7}$  counts/(keV·kg·yr) (~ 6000 m.w.e.)

μ-induced background @LNGS:  $> 10^{-5}$  counts/(keV·kg·yr) (~ 3400 m.w.e.)

Different depths imply different μ-induced background!

How to **virtually** increase LNGS depth and reduce cosmogenic background?

New dedicated tagging (neutron veto)

**+ The neutron veto we are designing! (see my poster)**

de-excitation gammas



Same sensitivity between LNGS & SNOLAB!!!!

# LEGEND-1000 Activities

## Analysis

- can we reject  $\mu$ -induced background using topology of the event?
  - standard cuts?
  - Machine Learning?
- study  $^{77(m)}\text{Ge}$  production and search for new channels to tag it
  - e.g. tagging production of other isotopes like  $^{41}\text{Ar}$
- benchmark **L1000** simulations @LNGS using **L200** data

## Simulations

- optical simulations of energy depositions in LAr
- readout optimization

## Hardware R&D

- active lab @LNGS with LAr setups
  - test readout options in LAr
  - test and characterization of WLS
  - direct 3D printing of scintillating supports
- innovative polymer for moderator material (in collaboration with UniPG)
  - radiopurity
  - Gd/B loading
  - evaluate moderation efficiency of different solutions