

### Shell Model for Double Beta Decay

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**SEPTEMBER 15, 1935** 

PHYSICAL REVIEW

VOLUME 48

#### **Double Beta-Disintegration**

M. GOEPPERT-MAYER, The Johns Hopkins University (Received May 20, 1935)

From the Fermi theory of  $\beta$ -disintegration the probability of simultaneous emission of two electrons (and two neutrinos) has been calculated. The result is that this process occurs sufficiently rarely to allow a half-life of over  $10^{17}$  years for a nucleus, even if its isobar of atomic number different by 2 were more stable by 20 times the electron mass.



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# First Searches of $\partial v\beta\beta$

#### Phys. Rev 75, 323 (1949) Letter to the Editor

#### A Measurement of the Half-Life of Double Beta-Decay from 50Sn<sup>124</sup> \*

E. L. FIREMAN

Department of Physics, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey November 29, 1948 TABLE II. L(A) gives the coincidences from specimen A between counters L, and R(B) gives the coincidences from B between counters R. Holder 0° and 180° are the two holder positions. Positions 1 and 2 are positions for the specimens in the holder.

Pos. 1	Holder <b>0°</b>	L(A)	R(B)		
	Coin. counts/hr.	16.4 $\pm 0.3$	14.3 ±0.3		
	Holder 180°	L(B)	R(A)		
	Coin. counts/hr.	14.4 $\pm 0.3$	15.9 ±0.3		
Pos. 2	Holder 0°	L(B)	R(A)		
	Coin. counts/hr.	14.6 ±0.3	16.4 ±0.3		
	Holder 180°	L(A)	R(B)		
	Coin. counts/hr.	16.4 $\pm 0.3$	13.9 ±0.3		

A detailed report of this work is being prepared for publication in the Physical Review.

The author is grateful to Professor R. Sherr for accepting the supervision of this research and to Professor E. P. Wigner for many profitable discussions.

\* This work is assisted by the Office of Naval Research.
\*\* These isotopes were obtained from Oak Ridge.
<sup>1</sup>Maria Goeppert-Mayer, Phys. Rev. 48, 512 (1935).
<sup>2</sup>W. H. Furry, Phys. Rev. 56, 1184 (1939).

PHYSICAL REVIEW

#### VOLUME 86, NUMBER 4

MAY 15, 1952

#### A Re-Investigation of the Double Beta-Decay from Sn<sup>124</sup>

E. L. FIREMAN AND D. SCHWARZER Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, New York (Received February 5, 1952)

Radiations from natural tin and tin enriched with the 124 isotope are examined in a magnetic field with a helium filled cloud chamber that is triggered by internal counters. Only three pictures out of more than four thousand photographs are pictures of two electrons coming out of the same point in the tin and entering the counters, and even these may be pictures of multiply scattered electrons passing through the tin. However, one may set a lower limit to the half-life of double beta-decay from  $Sn^{124}$  as  $10^{17}$  years. This is a decay rate less than one-tenth of a value previously reported by one of the authors.

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### Classical Double Beta Decay Problem





# **DBD** Phase Space Factors



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# $2\nu\beta\beta$ Half-Lives and NME

$$\left[T_{1/2}^{2\nu}\right]^{-1} = G_{2\nu} \cdot \left[g_A^2 \left(m_e c^2 \cdot M_{2\nu}\right)\right]^2 \equiv G_{2\nu} \left(M_{2\nu}^{eff}\right)^2$$



A. Barabash, Universe 6, 159 (2020)

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### Quenching factor vs Effective Operator



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### CENTRAL MICHIGAN Ab-initio effective Gamow-Teller Operator Check for updates



Citation: Stroberg, S.R. Beta Decay in Medium-Mass Nuclei with the In-Medium Similarity Renormalization Group. *Particles* 2021, 4, 521–535. https://doi.org/ 10.3390/particles4040038



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### Two-Neutrino NME: Direct Sum?

PHYSICAL REVIEW C 109, 024301 (2024)

### Calculation of nuclear matrix elements for $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay of <sup>124</sup>Sn using the nonclosure approach in the nuclear shell model

 $M_{GT}^{2\nu} = \sum_{k, E_k^* \leqslant E_c} \frac{\langle f || \sigma \tau_2^- || k \rangle \langle k || \sigma \tau_1^- || i \rangle}{E_k^* + E_0}$ 

Shahariar Sarkar<sup>1,\*</sup> P. K. Rath,<sup>2</sup> V. Nanal<sup>3</sup>,<sup>3</sup> R. G. Pillay<sup>1</sup>,<sup>1</sup> Pushpendra P. Singh<sup>1</sup>,<sup>1</sup> Y. Iwata,<sup>4</sup> K. Jha<sup>1</sup>,<sup>†</sup> and P. K. Raina<sup>1,†</sup>



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# Strength Function Approach

#### Create doorway states:

$$|\sigma\tau^{-}0_{i}^{+}\rangle = c_{-}|dw_{-}\rangle \equiv c_{-}|L_{1}^{-}\rangle \\ |\sigma\tau^{+}0_{f}^{+}\rangle = c_{+}|dw_{+}\rangle \equiv c_{+}|L_{1}^{+}\rangle$$

Relation to GT sum rules:

$$3|c_{-}|^{2} = B_{sum}(GT; i-)$$
  $3|c_{+}|^{2} = B_{sum}(GT; f+)$ 

Do a small number of Lanczos iterations starting with  $|L_1^->$ :

$$M_{2\nu}(E_k) = \sqrt{B_{sum}(GT; f+)B_{sum}(GT; i-)} \sum_{n=1}^{k<25} \frac{\langle \Psi_f | \tilde{1}_n^+ \rangle \langle \tilde{1}_n^+ \rangle | \Psi_i \rangle}{\tilde{E}(1_n^+) + \frac{Q_{\beta\beta}}{2} - Q_{\beta}}$$

See also M. Horoi, Physics 2022, 4, 1135

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# Strength Function Approach

#### Caurier, Poves, Zuker, Phys. Lett. B 252, 13 (1990)



(iii) The convergence with respect to the numbe N of Lanczos iterations on the  $\beta^-$  doorway is ex tremely fast, as the following numbers show:

$$\begin{split} M_{\rm GT}^{2\nu}(0^+) &= 0.0086, \quad N = 1 , \\ M_{\rm GT}^{2\nu}(0^+) &= 0.0433, \quad N = 4 , \\ M_{\rm GT}^{2\nu}(0^+) &= 0.0403, \quad N = 12 , \\ M_{\rm GT}^{2\nu}(0^+) &= 0.0402, \quad N = 30 , \\ M_{\rm GT}^{2\nu}(0^+) &= 0.0402, \quad N = 60 , \end{split}$$

Engel, Haxton, Vogel, Phys. Rev. C 46, R2153 (1991)

$$M_{\rm GT} = -\frac{1}{2} \left\langle 0_f^+ \left| \sum_{i=1}^A \sqrt{3} \sigma_z(i) \tau_-(i) \frac{1}{E_0 - H} \right. \right. \\ \left. \times \sum_{j=1}^A \sqrt{3} \sigma_z(j) \tau_-(j) \left| 0_i^+ \right\rangle \right. \right.$$

$$\frac{1}{E_0 - H} |v_1\rangle = g_1(E_0) |v_1\rangle + g_2(E_0) |v_2\rangle + \cdots$$



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# Two-Neutrino NME: Direct Sum vs Strength Function Approach

$$M_{2\nu}(E_k) = \sum_{n=1}^{k} \frac{\langle \Psi_f | q \sigma \tau^- | \mathbf{1}_n^+ \rangle \langle \mathbf{1}_n^+ | q \sigma \tau^- | \Psi_i \rangle}{E(\mathbf{1}_n^+) + \frac{Q_{\beta\beta}}{2} - Q_{\beta}}$$

$$M_{2\nu}(E_k) = \sqrt{B_{sum}(GT; f+)B_{sum}(GT; i-)} \sum_{n=1}^{k<25} \frac{\langle \Psi_f | \tilde{1}_n^+ \rangle \langle \tilde{1}_n^+ \rangle | \Psi_i \rangle}{\tilde{E}(1_n^+) + \frac{Q_{\beta\beta}}{2} - Q_{\beta}}$$

 $^{48}Ca - KB3G$ 

 $^{48}Ca - GXPF1A$ 



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![](_page_14_Picture_9.jpeg)

![](_page_15_Picture_0.jpeg)

# Two-Neutrino NME: Direct Sum vs Strength Function Approach

$$M_{2\nu}(E_k) = \sum_{n=1}^k \frac{\langle \Psi_f | q \sigma \tau^- | \mathbf{1}_n^+ \rangle \langle \mathbf{1}_n^+ | q \sigma \tau^- | \Psi_i \rangle}{E(\mathbf{1}_n^+) + \frac{Q_{\beta\beta}}{2} - Q_{\beta}}$$

$$M_{2\nu}(E_k) = \sqrt{B_{sum}(GT; f+)B_{sum}(GT; i-)} \sum_{n=1}^{k<25} \frac{\langle \Psi_f | \tilde{1}_n^+ \rangle \langle \tilde{1}_n^+ \rangle | \Psi_i \rangle}{\tilde{E}(1_n^+) + \frac{Q_{\beta\beta}}{2} - Q_{\beta}}$$

 $^{136}$ Xe - GCN5082

 $^{136}$ Xe - SVD

![](_page_15_Figure_5.jpeg)

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![](_page_15_Picture_8.jpeg)

![](_page_16_Figure_0.jpeg)

$$M_{2\nu}(E_k) = \sum_{n=1}^k \frac{\langle \Psi_f | q \sigma \tau^- | 1_n^+ \rangle \langle 1_n^+ | q \sigma \tau^- | \Psi_i \rangle}{E(1_n^+) + \frac{Q_{\beta\beta}}{2} - Q_\beta}$$

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#### $^{136}$ Xe – SVD

![](_page_16_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_16_Figure_4.jpeg)

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![](_page_16_Picture_7.jpeg)

![](_page_17_Picture_0.jpeg)

# The Late Drop in <sup>48</sup>Ca

$$M_{2\nu}(E_k) = \sum_{n=1}^k \frac{\langle \Psi_f | q \sigma \tau^- | \mathbf{1}_n^+ \rangle \langle \mathbf{1}_n^+ | q \sigma \tau^- | \Psi_i \rangle}{E(\mathbf{1}_n^+) + \frac{Q_{\beta\beta}}{2} - Q_\beta}$$

![](_page_17_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_17_Figure_4.jpeg)

#### <sup>48</sup>Ca – GXPF1A

![](_page_17_Figure_6.jpeg)

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![](_page_17_Picture_9.jpeg)

### Strength Function: large dimensions

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![](_page_18_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_19_Picture_0.jpeg)

### The 2vECEC decay of $^{124}Xe$ : Experimental data

#### 532 | NATURE | VOL 568 | 25 APRIL 2019

https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-019-1124-4

#### F.I.I.F.B

PHYSICAL REVIEW C 106, 024328 (2022)

Editors' Suggestion

Double-weak decays of <sup>124</sup>Xe and <sup>136</sup>Xe in the XENON1T and XENONnT experiments

#### Observation of two-neutrino double electron capture in <sup>124</sup>Xe with XENON1T

XENON Collaboration\*

We present results on the search for two-neutrino double-electron capture (2 $\nu$ ECEC) of <sup>124</sup>Xe and neutrinoless double- $\beta$  decay ( $0\nu\beta\beta$ ) of <sup>136</sup>Xe in XENON1T. We consider captures from the K shell up to the N shell in the 2vECEC signal model and measure a total half-life of  $T_{1/2}^{2vECEC} = (1.1 \pm 0.2_{\text{stat}} \pm 0.1_{\text{sys}}) \times 10^{22}$  yr with a 0.87 kg yr isotope exposure. The statistical significance of the signal is  $7.0\sigma$ . We use XENON1T data with 36.16 kg yr of <sup>136</sup>Xe exposure to search for  $0\nu\beta\beta$ . We find no evidence of a signal and set a lower limit on the half-life of  $T_{1/2}^{0\nu\beta\beta} > 1.2 \times 10^{24}$  yr at 90% CL. This is the best result from a dark matter detector without

$$T_{1\ 2}^{2\nu\text{ECEC}} > 2.1 \times 10^{22} \text{ yr}$$

absolute neutrino mass<sup>15–17</sup>. Here we report the direct observation of  $2\nu$ ECEC in <sup>124</sup>Xe with the XENON1T dark-matter detector. The significan corresponding  $0.5 \times 10^{22}$  year

The significance of the signal is 4.4 standard deviations and the	Nucleus	Ν	$T_{1/2}(2 u)$ , yr	S/B	Ref., Year
corresponding naif-life of 1.8 $\times$ 10 <sup>-2</sup> years (statistical uncertainty, -0.5 $\times$ 10 <sup>22</sup> years; systematic uncertainty, 0.1 $\times$ 10 <sup>22</sup> years) is the	<sup>130</sup> Ba		$2.1^{+3.0}_{-0.8} \cdot 10^{21}$ (geochem.)		[87], 1996
$0.5 \times 10^{\circ}$ years, systematic uncertainty, $0.1 \times 10^{\circ}$ years) is the	$ECEC(2\nu)$		$(2.2 \pm 0.5) \cdot 10^{21}$ (geochem.)		[11], 2001
			$(0.60 \pm 0.11) \cdot 10^{21}$ (geochem.)		[88], 2009
			Recommended value: $(2.2\pm0.5)\cdot10^{21}$		
arViv:2000 14451 [adf. atbox] aucl. av	<sup>78</sup> Kr	15	$[1.9^{+1.3}_{-0.7}(stat) \pm 0.3(syst)] \cdot 10^{22}$	15	[13], 2017
<u>arxiv.2009.14451</u> [pu], <u>other</u> ] <mark>nucl-ex</mark>	$2K(2\nu)$				
Precise Half-Life Values for Two-Neutrino Double-β Decay: 2020 review			Recommended value: $(1.9^{+1.3}_{-0.8}) \cdot 10^{22}$ (?) $^{(a)}$		
Authors: Alexander Barabash		126	$[1.8 \pm 0.5(stat) \pm 0.1(syst)] \cdot 10^{22}$	0.2	[12], 2019
	$2K(2\nu)$				
			Recommended value: $(1.8\pm0.5)\cdot10^{22}$		
-				and the second	LOI VEST STORE

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![](_page_19_Picture_15.jpeg)

![](_page_20_Picture_0.jpeg)

# Double Beta /ECEC in A=124

![](_page_20_Figure_2.jpeg)

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![](_page_20_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Picture_0.jpeg)

### The 2vECEC decay of <sup>124</sup>Xe

 $Q_{ECEC}(^{124}Xe) = 2.857 MeV$ 

![](_page_21_Figure_3.jpeg)

PHYSICAL REVIEW C 93, 024308 (2016)

#### Shell model predictions for $^{124}$ Sn double- $\beta$ decay

Mihai Horoi<sup>\*</sup> and Andrei Neacsu<sup>†</sup>

Theoretical analysis and predictions for the double electron capture of <sup>124</sup>Xe

O. Niţescu<sup>a,b,c</sup>, S. Ghinescu<sup>d,b,c</sup>, V. A. Sevestrean<sup>d,b,c</sup>, M. Horoi<sup>e,b</sup>, F. Šimkovic<sup>a,f</sup>, S. Stoica<sup>b</sup>

#### arXiv:2402.13784v1

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![](_page_21_Picture_12.jpeg)

![](_page_22_Picture_0.jpeg)

### The 2vECEC decay of <sup>124</sup>Xe: Shell Model Nuclear Matrix Elements

$$\begin{bmatrix} T_{1/2}^{2\nu\text{ECEC}} \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \left(g_A^{\text{eff}}\right)^4 |M_{GT-1}^{2\nu\text{ECEC}}|^2 \left\{G_0^{2\nu\text{ECEC}} + \frac{1}{3}\left(\xi_{31}^{2\nu\text{ECEC}}\right)^2 G_{22}^{2\nu\text{ECEC}} + \frac{1}{3}\left(\xi_{31}^{2\nu\text{ECEC}}\right)^2 G_{22}^{2\nu\text{ECEC}} + \left[\frac{1}{3}\left(\xi_{31}^{2\nu\text{ECEC}}\right)^2 + \xi_{51}^{2\nu\text{ECEC}}\right] G_4^{2\nu\text{ECEC}}\right\}, + \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{3}\left(\xi_{31}^{2\nu\text{ECEC}}\right)^2 + \xi_{51}^{2\nu\text{ECEC}}\right] G_4^{2\nu\text{ECEC}} \\ g_A^{eff} \rightarrow g_A = 1.276 \\ \xi_{31}^{2\nu\text{ECEC}} = \frac{M_{GT-3}^{2\nu\text{ECEC}}}{M_{GT-1}^{2\nu\text{ECEC}}}, \qquad \xi_{51}^{2\nu\text{ECEC}} = \frac{M_{GT-5}^{2\nu\text{ECEC}}}{M_{GT-1}^{2\nu\text{ECEC}}} \\ M_{GT-1}^{2\nu\text{ECEC}} = \sum_n M_{GT}^{2\nu}(n) \frac{m_e}{E_n(1^+) - (E_i + E_f)/2}, \\ M_{GT-3}^{2\nu\text{ECEC}} = \sum_n M_{GT}^{2\nu}(n) \frac{4 m_e^3}{(E_n(1^+) - (E_i + E_f)/2)^3}, \\ M_{GT-5}^{2\nu\text{ECEC}} = \sum_n M_{GT}^{2\nu}(n) \frac{16 m_e^5}{(E_n(1^+) - (E_i + E_f)/2)^5}. \end{bmatrix}$$

$$M_{GT}^{2\nu}(n) = \langle 0_f^+ \| \sum_m \tau_m^- \sigma_m \| 1_n^+ \rangle \langle 1_n^+ \| \sum_m \tau_m^- \sigma_m \| 0_i^+ \rangle$$

$$(\sigma\tau^{-})^{eff} \rightarrow q_H \sigma\tau^{-}$$

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![](_page_22_Figure_6.jpeg)

Table 5: The predicted 2vECEC half-lives for <sup>124</sup>Xe (in units of 10<sup>22</sup> yr) from Eqs. (1-2). To be compared with experimental data for the total half-life,  $(1.1 \pm 0.2_{stat} \pm 0.1_{sys}) \times 10^{22}$  yr and the inferred data for the KK half-life,  $(1.5 \pm 0.3_{stat} \pm 0.1_{sys}) \times 10^{22}$  yr (see section III.F of Ref. [15]).

![](_page_22_Picture_9.jpeg)

# CENTRAL MICHIGAN Taylor Expansion NMEs: <sup>136</sup>Xe

$$M_{2\nu-3}(E_k) = \sum_{n=1}^k \frac{\langle \Psi_f | q \sigma \tau^- | 1_n^+ \rangle \langle 1_n^+ | q \sigma \tau^- | \Psi_i \rangle}{\left( E(1_n^+) + \frac{Q_{\beta\beta}}{2} - Q_\beta \right)^3}$$

$$M_{2\nu-5}(E_k) = \sum_{n=1}^k \frac{\langle \Psi_f | q \sigma \tau^- | 1_n^+ \rangle \langle 1_n^+ | q \sigma \tau^- | \Psi_i \rangle}{\left( E(1_n^+) + \frac{Q_{\beta\beta}}{2} - Q_\beta \right)^5}$$

 $^{136}$ Xe - SVD

![](_page_23_Figure_4.jpeg)

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![](_page_23_Picture_7.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Picture_0.jpeg)

### The 2*v*ECEC decay of <sup>124</sup>Xe: Predictions for Capture Fractions

Decay Chanel	$R_{\rm xy}$ (keV)	ISM CF (%)
KK	64.62	74.13-74.15
$KL_1$	37.05	18.76-18.83
$KM_1$	32.98	3.83-3.84
$KN_1$	32.11	0.83-0.85
$KO_1$	31.93	0.13
$L_1L_1$	10.04	1.22
$L_1M_1$	6.01	0.49
Other	< 6	0.52-0.55

Table 6: The atomic relaxation energies (Eq. 10) obtained within the DHFS model (second column) and the capture fractions (CF) predicted by ISM (third column). The captures with atomic relaxation energies below 6 keV are subsumed under the label "other". The ranges presented for the KK and KL<sub>1</sub> channels correspond to the minimum and maximum values of the  $\xi_{31}^{2vECEC}$  parameter predicted from ISM.

![](_page_24_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Picture_5.jpeg)

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![](_page_25_Picture_0.jpeg)

### Conclusions

- Shell model calculations of the  $2\nu\beta\beta$  nuclear matrix elements can be obtained very efficiently using a strength function approach
- The direct sum is likely to miss convergence in most cases
- The strength function approach is the only option for cases that have very large shell model dimension, such as <sup>128</sup>Te
- The proper evaluation of the 2νββ nuclear matrix elements is important while they correlate strongly with the 0νββ nuclear matrix elements (PRC 106, 05432 (2022), PRC 107, 045501 (2023), Universe 10, 252 (2024) )

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![](_page_25_Picture_8.jpeg)

![](_page_26_Picture_0.jpeg)

# 2vpp Halt-Lives and optimal quenching factors

Isotope	$Q_{bb}$	$Q_b$	$E_0$	$E_1(1^+)$	$M_{2\nu}^{eff}$	$M_{2\nu}$	$q_{opt}$	Hamiltonian
48Ca	4.268	0.280	1.855	2.517	0.0350	0.0421	0.68	GXPF1A
$76 \mathrm{Ge}$	2.039	-0.922	1.941	0.044	0.1060	0.1274	0.63	GCN2850
							0.62	JUN45
82Se	2.998	-0.095	1.594	0.075	0.0850	0.1022	0.55	GCN2850
							0.62	JUN45
96Zr	3.356	0.164	1.514	?	0.0800	0.0962		
100Mo	3.034	-0.172	1.689	0.000	0.1850	0.2224		
116Cd	2.813	-0.463	1.869	0.000	0.1080	0.1298		
128Te	0.867	-1.256	1.689	0.000	0.0430	0.0517	0.84	SVD
130Te	2.528	-0.417	1.681	0.255	0.0293	0.0352	0.50	GCN5082
							0.88	SVD
136Xe	2.458	-0.090	1.319	0.590	0.0181	0.0218	0.42	GCN5082
							0.69	SVD
$150 \mathrm{Nd}$	3.371	-0.083	1.769	?	0.0550	0.0661		
238U	1.114	-0.147	0.704	0.244	0.1300	0.1563		

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![](_page_26_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_27_Picture_0.jpeg)

# $2\nu\beta\beta$ Half-Lives and NME

$$\left[T_{1/2}^{2\nu}\right]^{-1} = G_{2\nu} \cdot \left[g_A^2 \left(m_e c^2 \cdot M_{2\nu}\right)\right]^2 \equiv G_{2\nu} \left(M_{2\nu}^{eff}\right)^2$$

![](_page_27_Figure_3.jpeg)

A. Barabash, Universe 6, 159 (2020)

B. Pritychenko, Nucl. Phys. A 1033, 122628 (2023)

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![](_page_27_Picture_8.jpeg)