



# Experiments with exotic nuclei II

MICHIGAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY

Advancing Knowledge.  
Transforming Lives.

**Thursday**

**Friday**

Excited states

Experimental considerations: Reactions

Collectivity

Coulomb excitation

Single-particle degrees of freedom

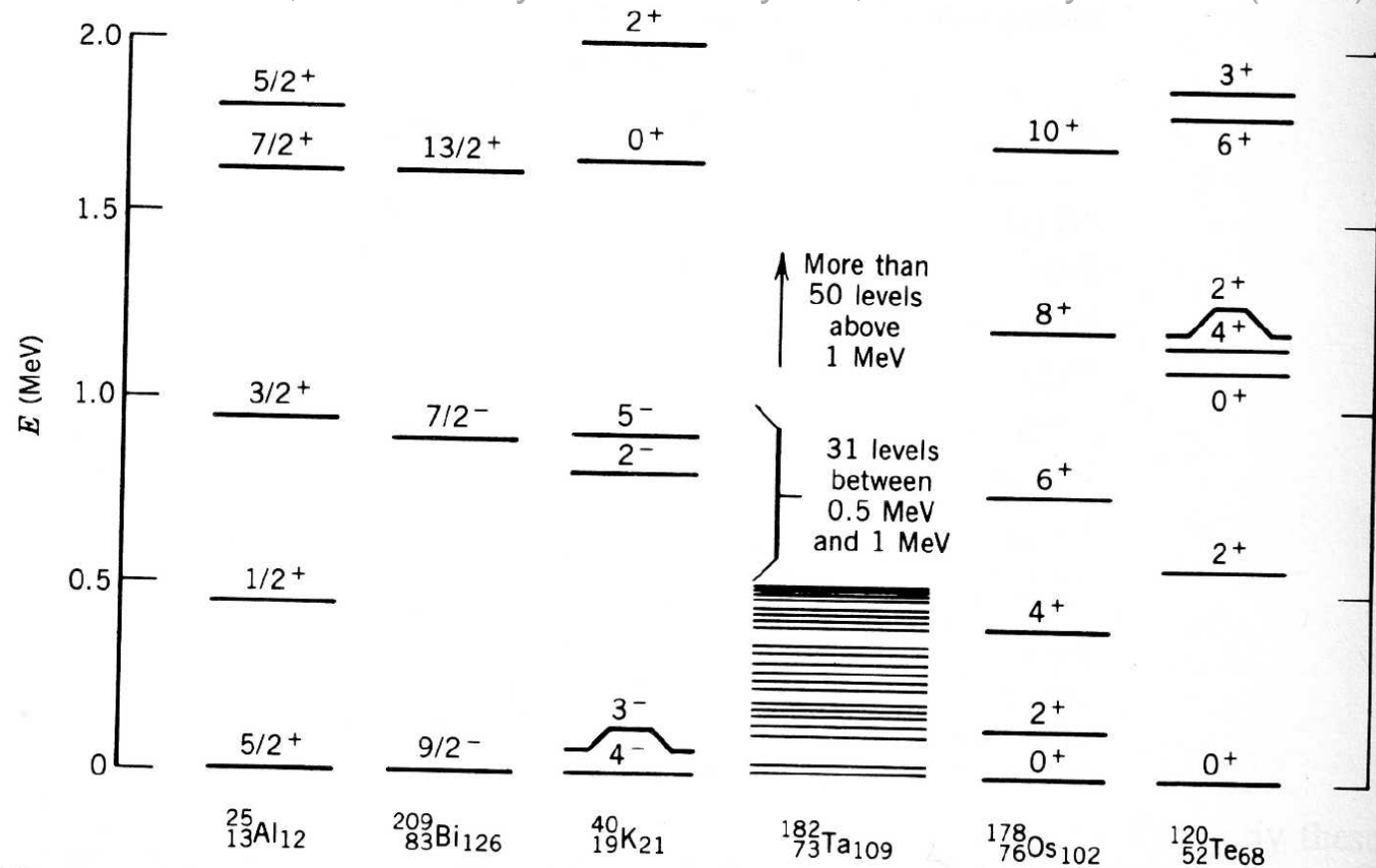
Transfer and knockout

Excited-state lifetimes

K. S. Krane, Introductory Nuclear Physics, John Wiley & Sons (1988)

**Collective excitation:**  
all nucleons outside a closed shell contribute coherently to the excitation (vibration, rotation)

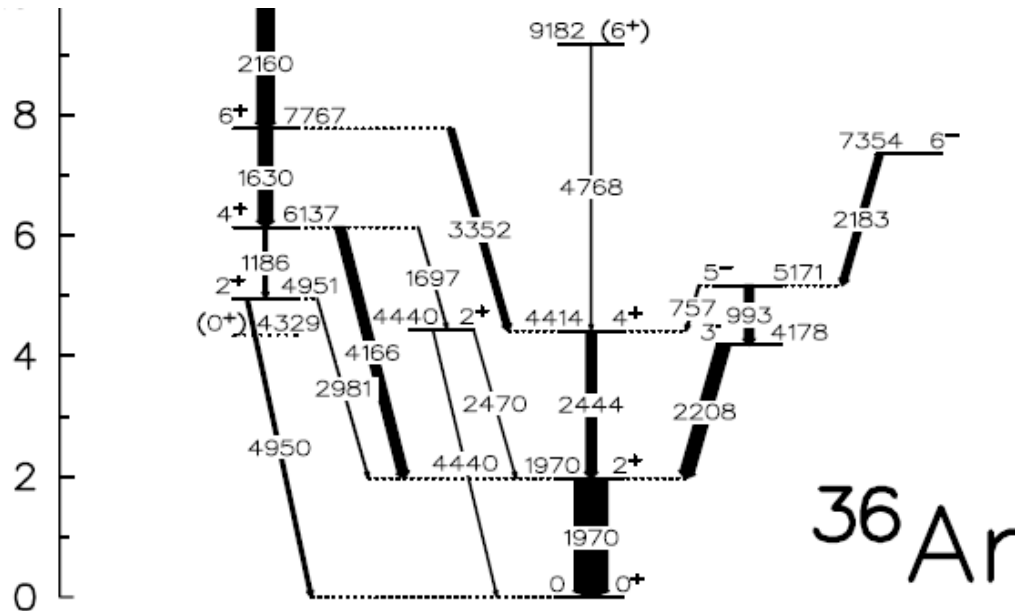
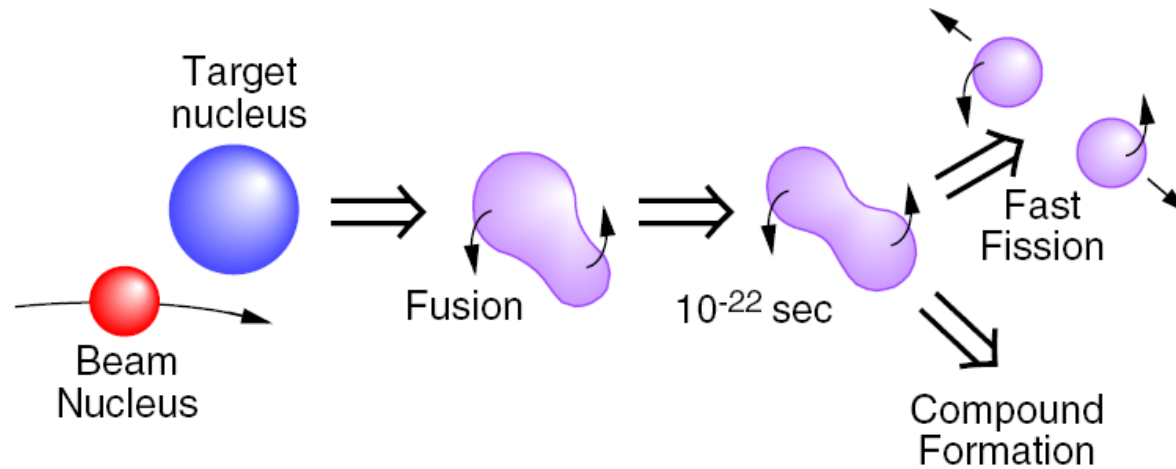
**Single-particle excitation:** Excited states are formed by rearranging one or a few nucleons in their orbits



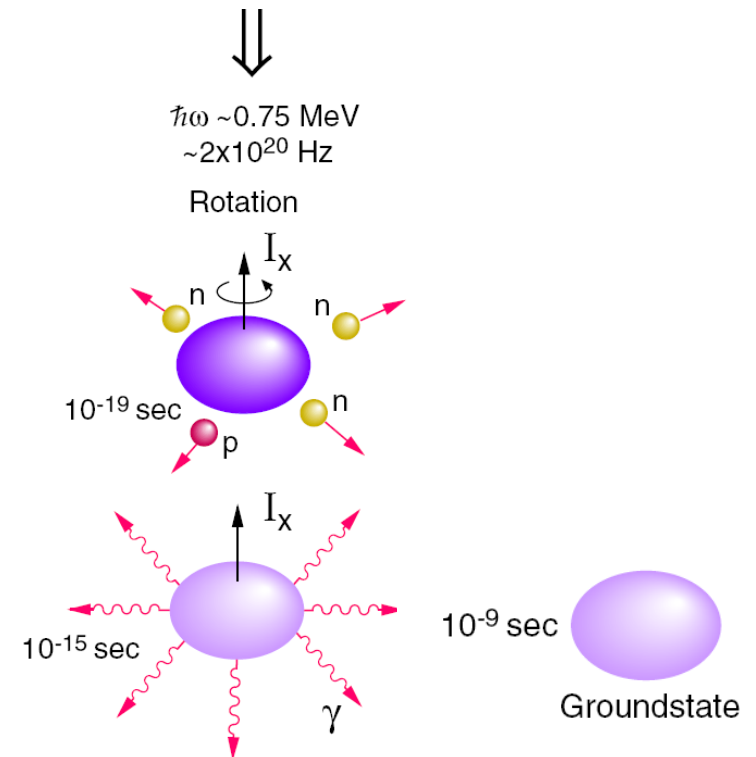
• In nuclei, the energy scales are close:

$$E_{\text{rot}} \sim E_{\text{vib}} \sim E_{\text{sp}} \text{ (MeV)}$$

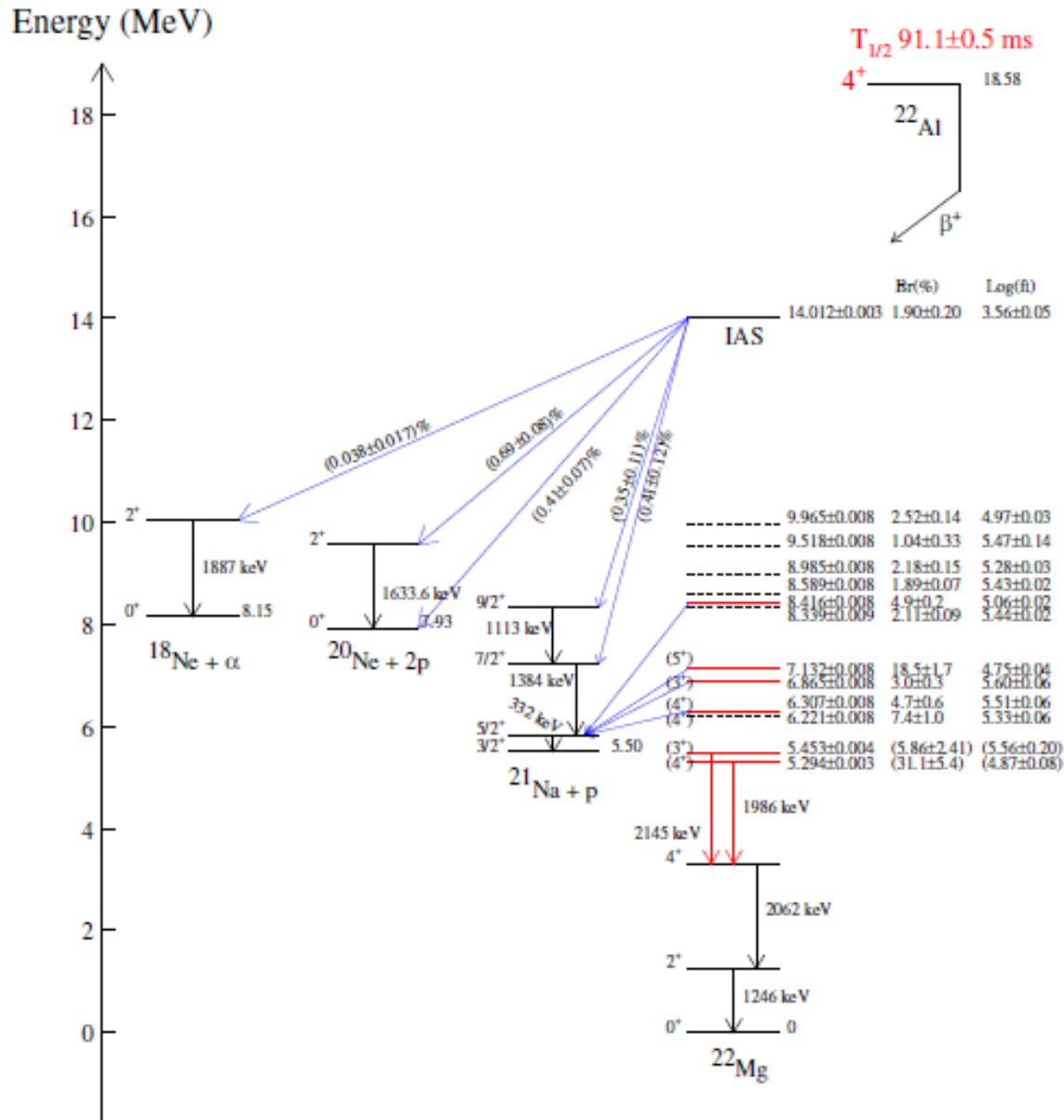
Collective and single-particle excitation can be separated but interact strongly



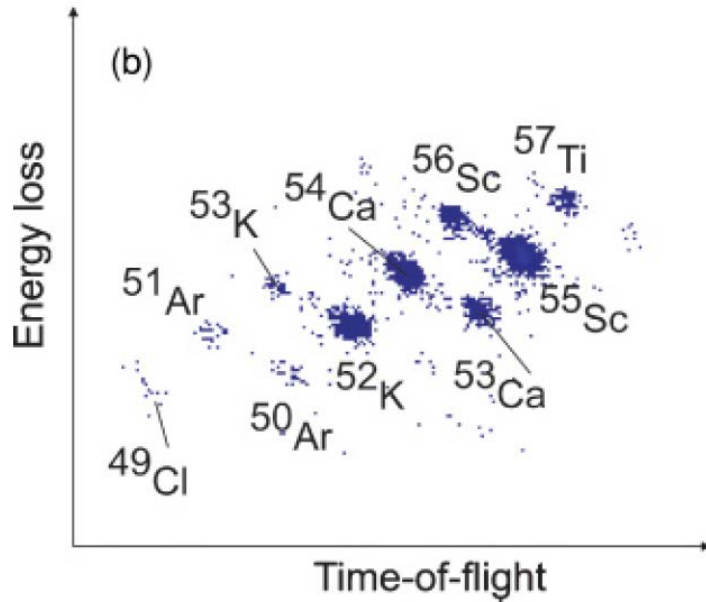
$^{36}\text{Ar}$



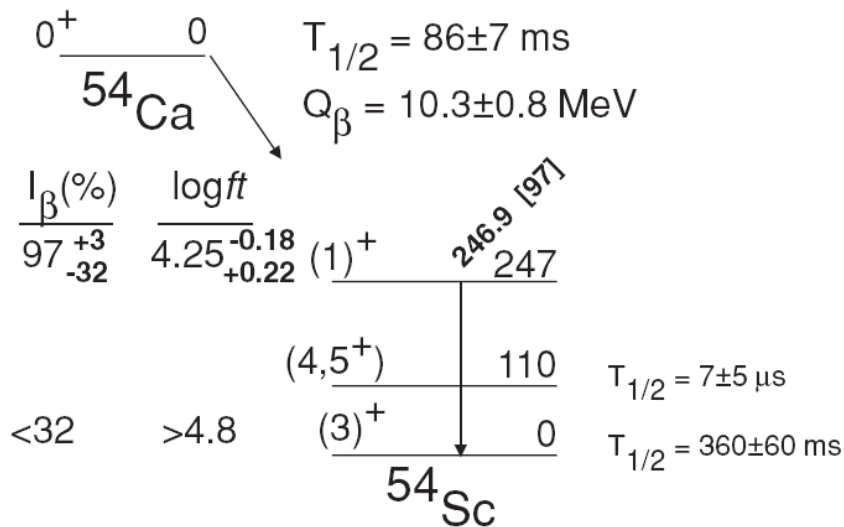
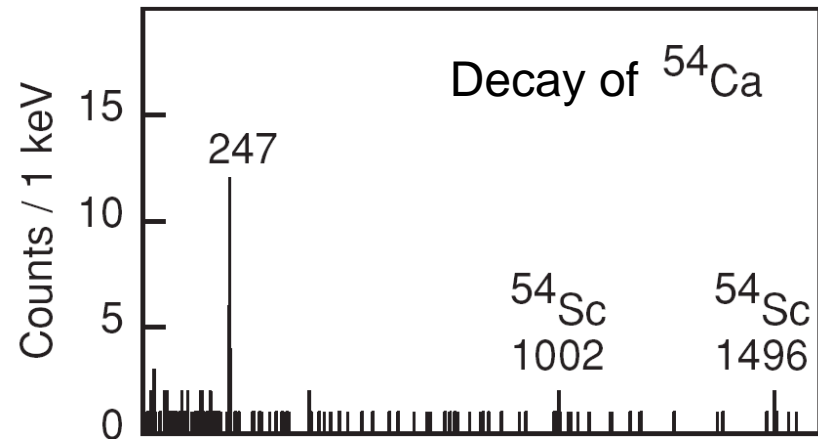
# Population of excited states - Decays



# Excited states populated in $\beta$ decay *Selectivity through selection rules*



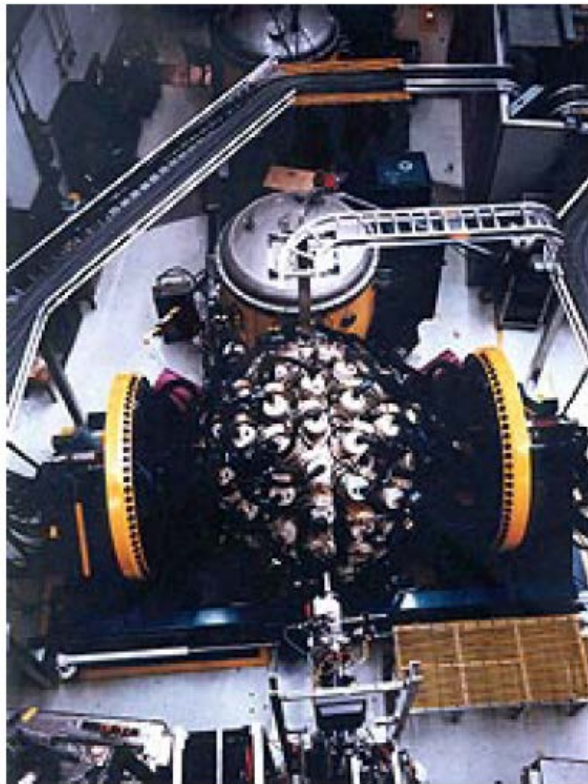
Total number of  $^{54}\text{Ca}$  implants: 654 only



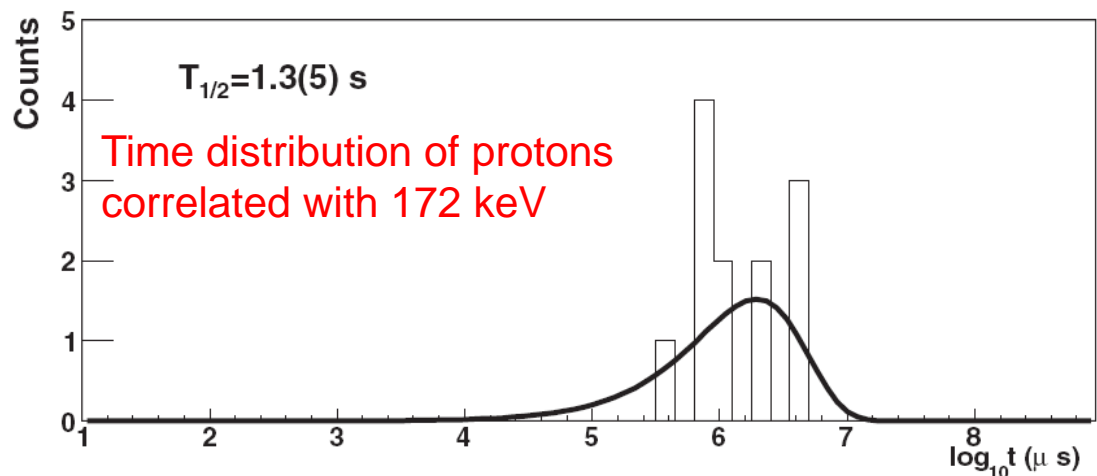
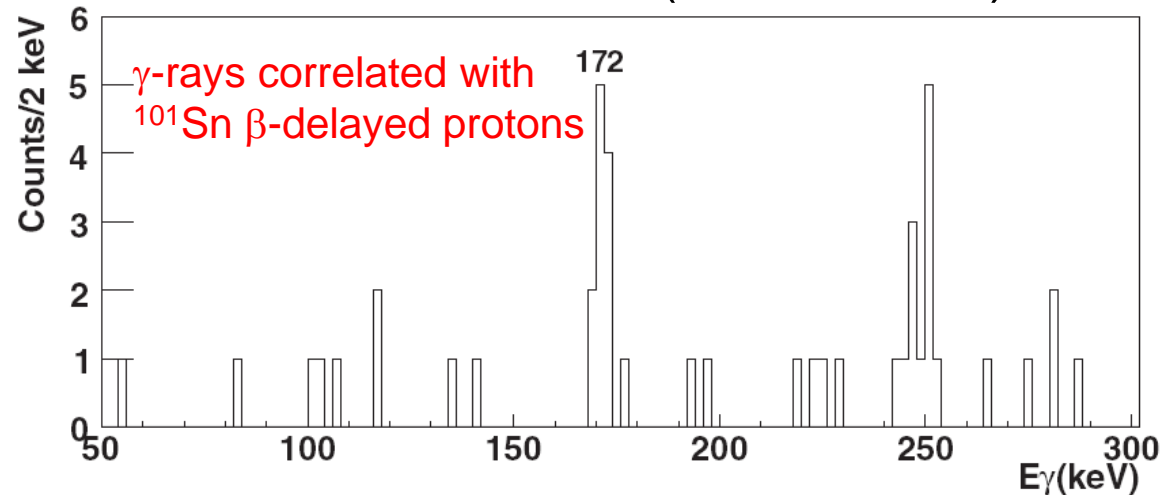
Selection rules in  $\beta$  decay, any textbook

Type	$\Delta J$	$\Delta \pi$
Allowed	0,1	no
First Forbidden	0,1,2	yes
Second Forbidden	1,2,3	no
Third Forbidden	2,3,4	yes
Fifth Forbidden	3,4,5	no

# $\gamma$ -ray spectroscopy tagged with $\beta$ -delayed protons



$^{58}\text{Ni} + ^{46}\text{Ti}$  at 192 MeV (ATLAS/ANL)

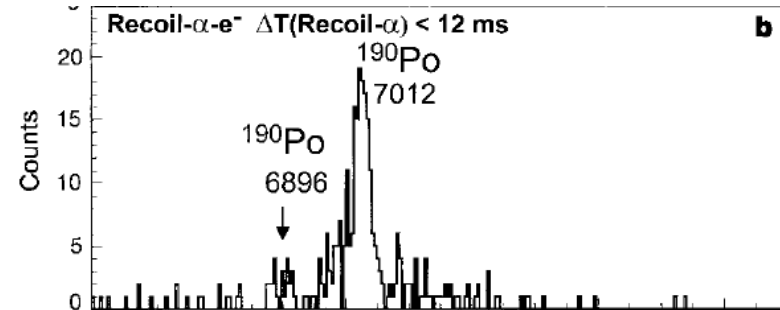
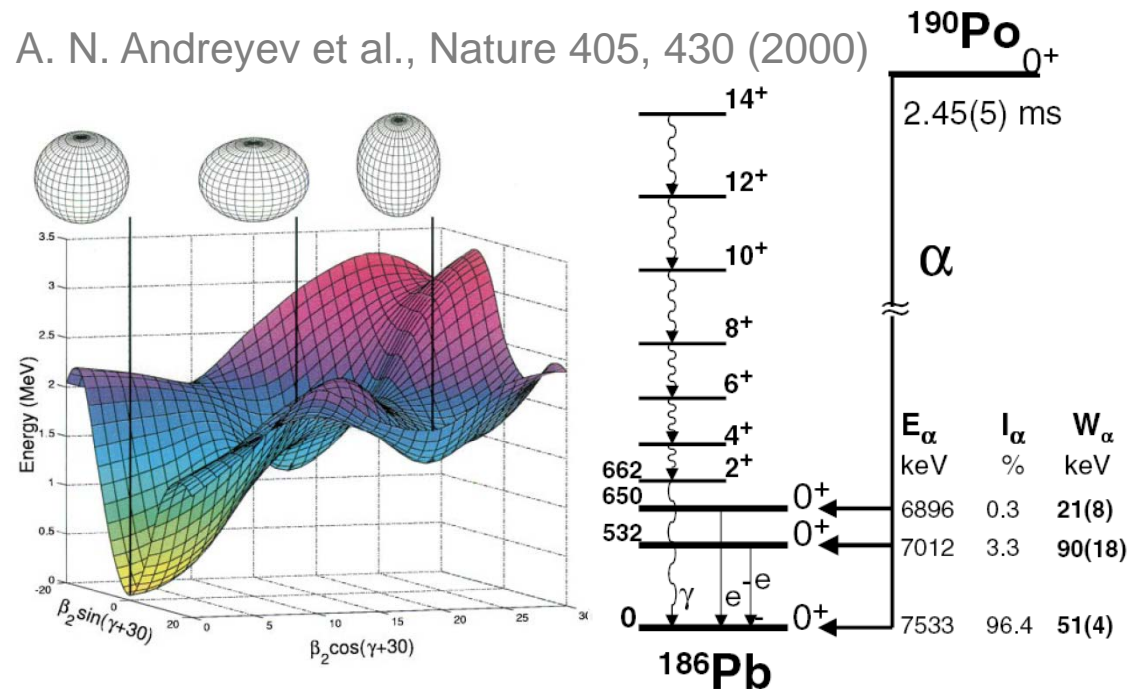


Single-neutron states  
above doubly magic  
 $^{100}\text{Sn}$ :  
 $d_{5/2} - g_{7/2} \sim 172 \text{ keV}$



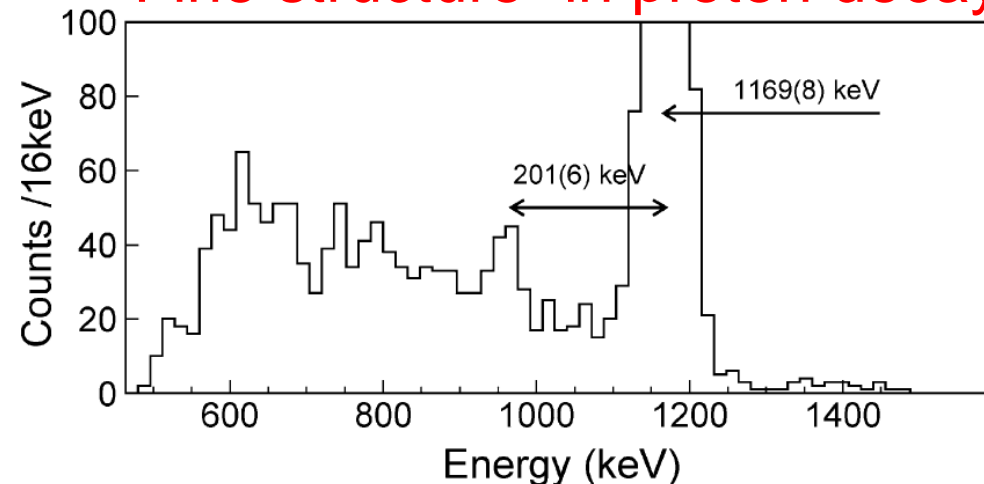
# Excited states populated following $\alpha$ and proton emission

A. N. Andreyev et al., Nature 405, 430 (2000)



Ground state and first excited state (201 keV) of  $^{140}\text{Dy}$  populated in proton decay of  $^{141}\text{Ho}$

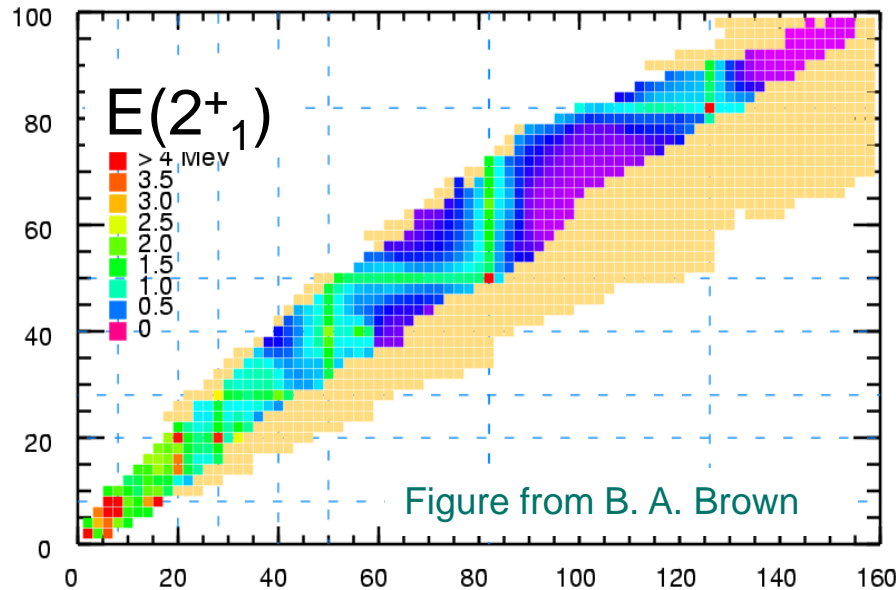
**"Fine structure" in proton decay**



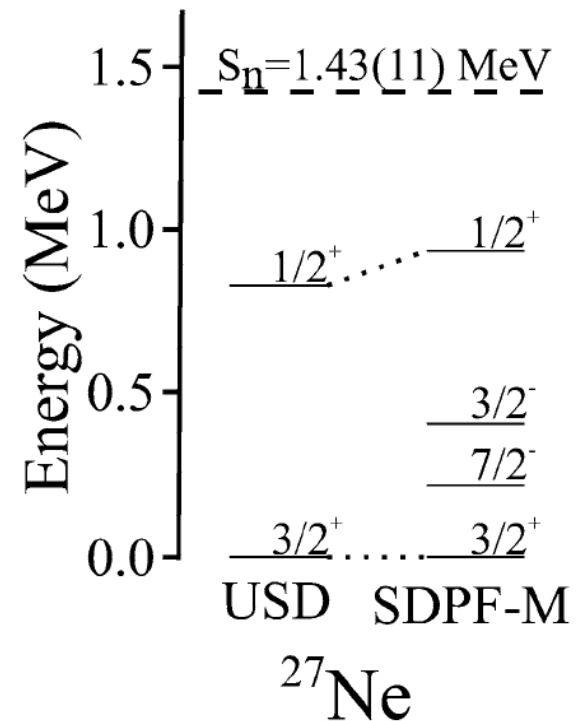
M. Karny et al., PLB 664, 52 (2008)

# Structure information from excited states

As one indicator of shell closures



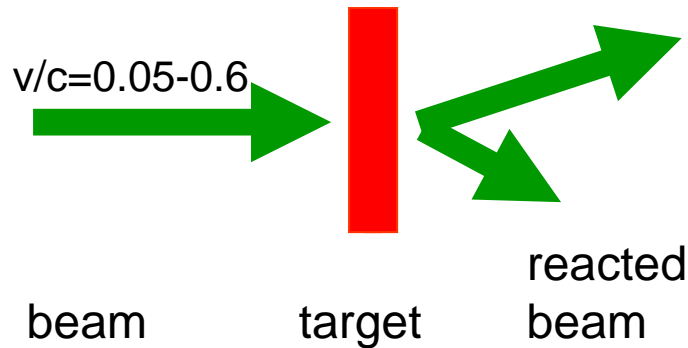
Guide model calculations







# Experimental considerations: *Reactions*

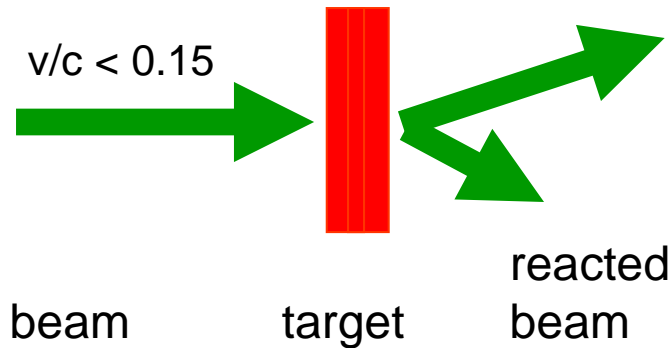


- The choice of the target depends on the reaction that is desired

- $N_R = \sigma \times N_T \times N_B$ 
  - $\sigma$  Cross section
  - $N_T$  Atoms in target
  - $N_B$  Beam rate
  - $N_R$  Reaction rate

- Reactions
  - Inelastic scattering
  - Nucleon transfer
  - Fusion, fusion-evaporation
  - Breakup/fragmentation
- Experimental task
  - Identify and count incoming beam
  - Identify and count reacted beam
  - Tag the final state of the reaction residue
  - Measure scattering angles and momentum distributions

# Nuclear reactions – experimental considerations I



- Fast beams and thick targets

- Increased luminosity
- Use  $\gamma$ -ray spectroscopy to identify final states in thick-target experiments
- Event-by-event identification
- Mainly single-step reactions since the interaction time between target and projectile is small

- Typical reactions

- Relativistic Coulomb excitation (single-step)
- One- and two-nucleon knockout reaction
- Coulomb breakup
- Charge-exchange reactions

- Example

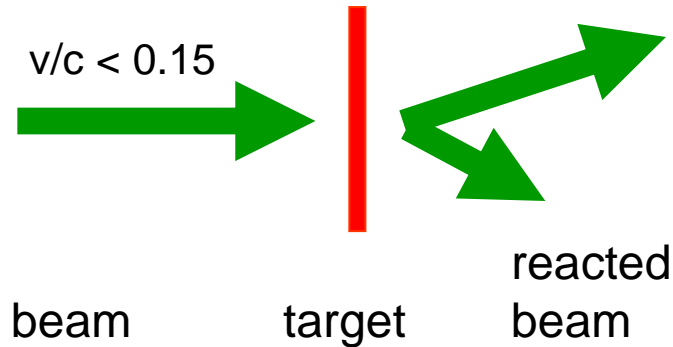
$$\sigma = 100 \text{ mbarn}$$

$$\triangleright N_T = 1.5 \times 10^{21} \text{ (500mg/cm}^2 \text{ Au target)}$$

$$\triangleright N_B = 6.5 \times 10^3 \text{ Hz}$$

$$\triangleright N_R = 1 \text{ Hz}$$

# Nuclear reactions – experimental considerations II



- Typical reactions
  - Fusion and fusion-evaporation reactions
  - Nucleon transfer reactions
  - Multiple Coulomb excitation
  - Deep-inelastic scattering

- Beam energies around the Coulomb barrier
  - Thin targets required
  - Multi-step reactions are possible
  - High angular-momentum transfer typical

- Example

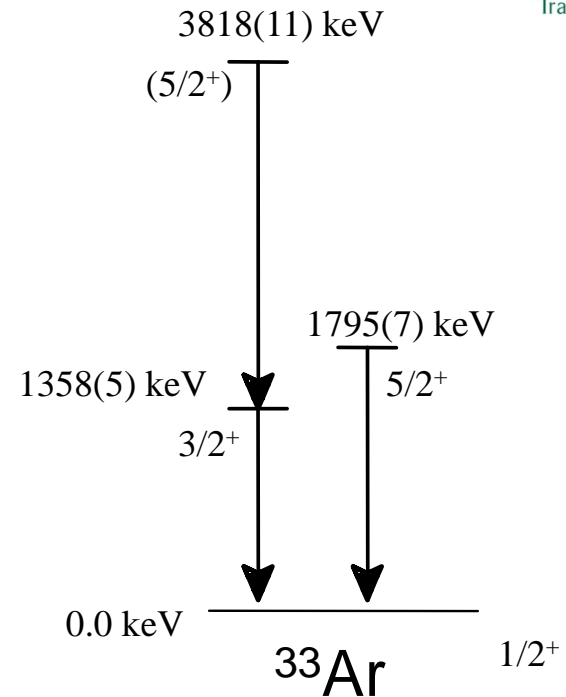
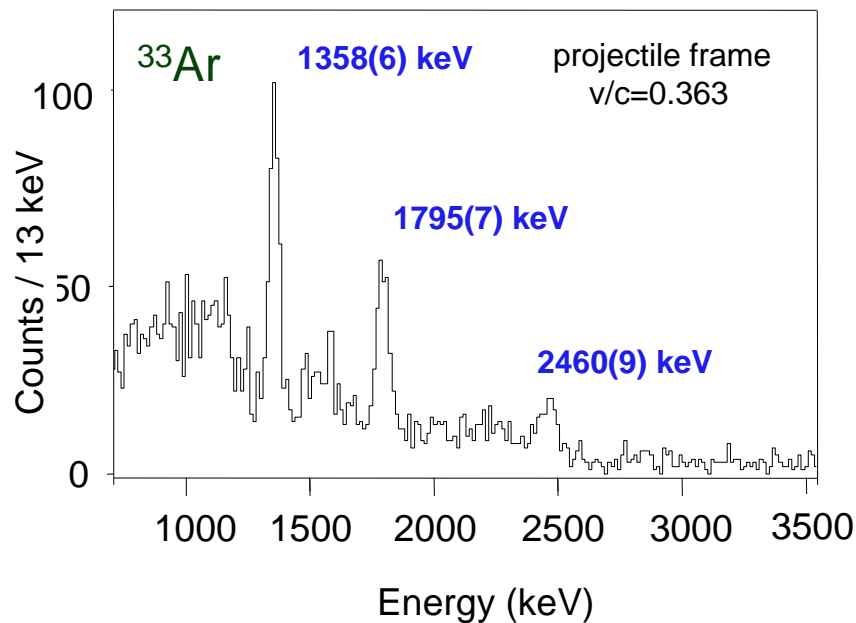
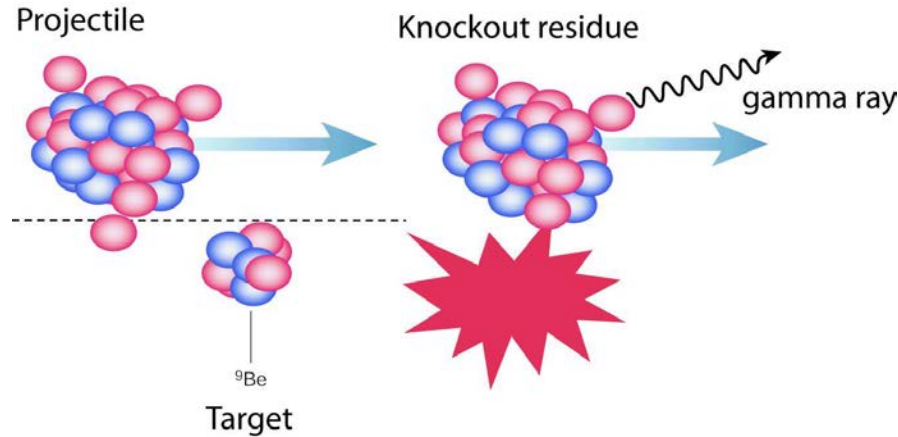
$$\sigma = 100 \text{ mbarn}$$

$$\text{➤ } N_T = 1 \times 10^{19} \text{ (3mg/cm}^2 \text{ Au target)}$$

$$\text{➤ } N_B = 1 \times 10^6 \text{ Hz}$$

$$\text{➤ } N_R = 1 \text{ Hz}$$

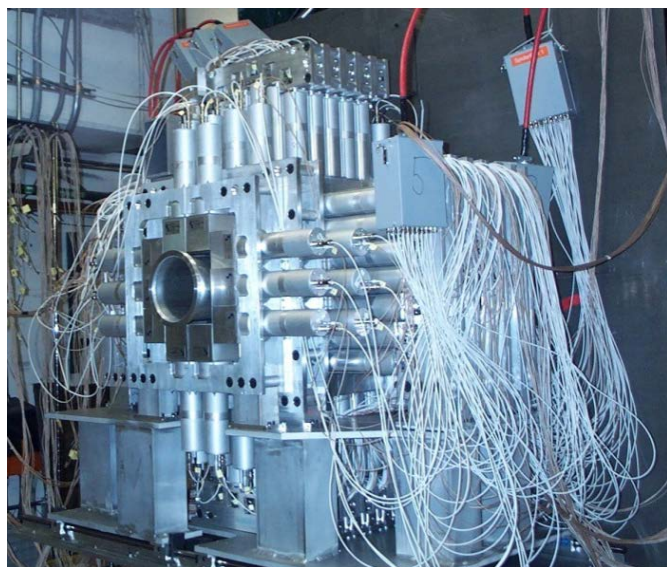
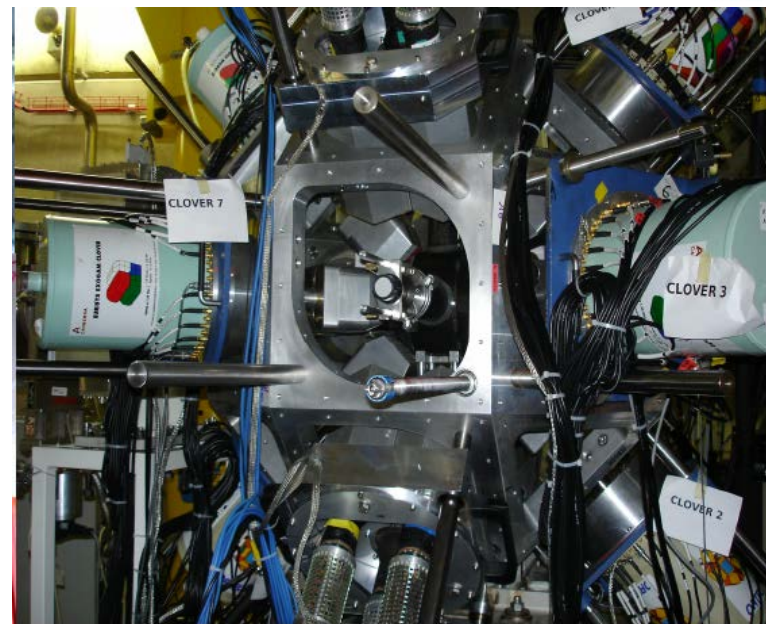
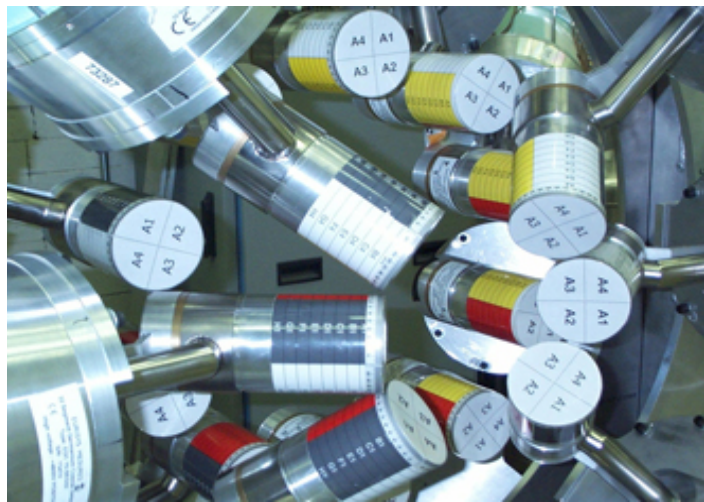
# Excited states



- Tag the population of excited states by measuring the decay  $\gamma$  rays. The  $\gamma$ -ray energy gives the energy difference between two states.

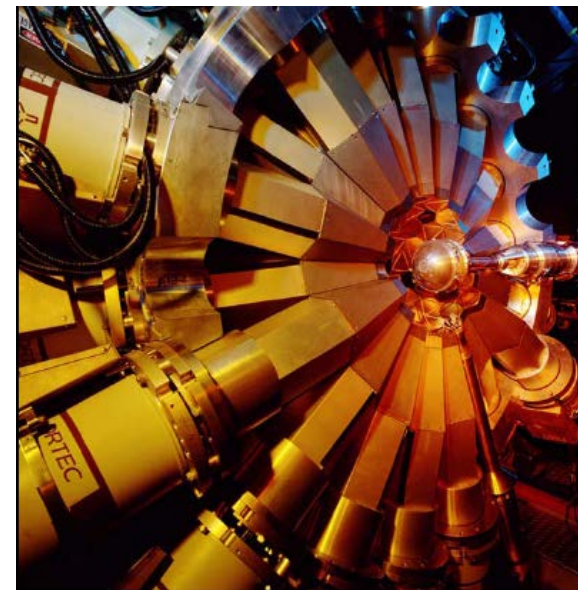


# Gamma-rays to tag the final state



**Germanium detectors:**  
Superior energy  
resolution, but low  
efficiency

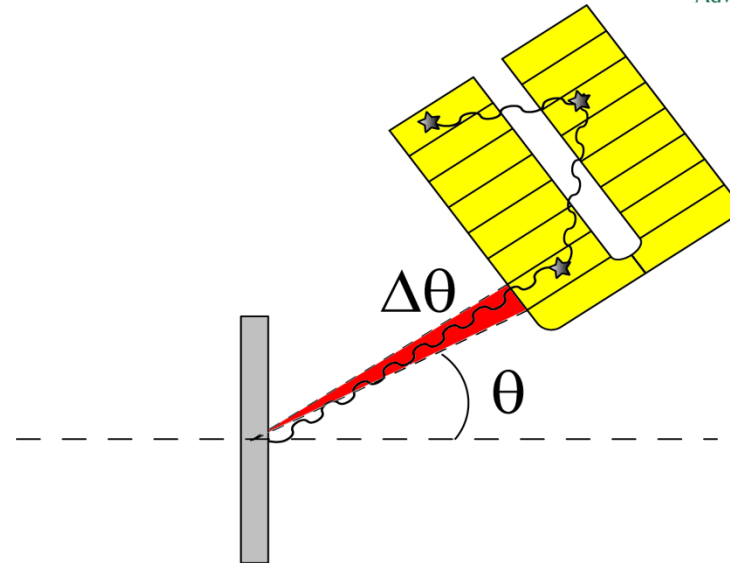
**Scintillator-based:**  
High-efficiency,  
moderate resolution



# Emission in flight: Doppler shift!

$$E = E_0 \frac{\sqrt{1 - \beta_0^2}}{1 - \beta_0 \cdot \mathbf{e}}$$

$$\beta_0 \cdot \mathbf{e} = |\beta_0| \cos \theta_0$$



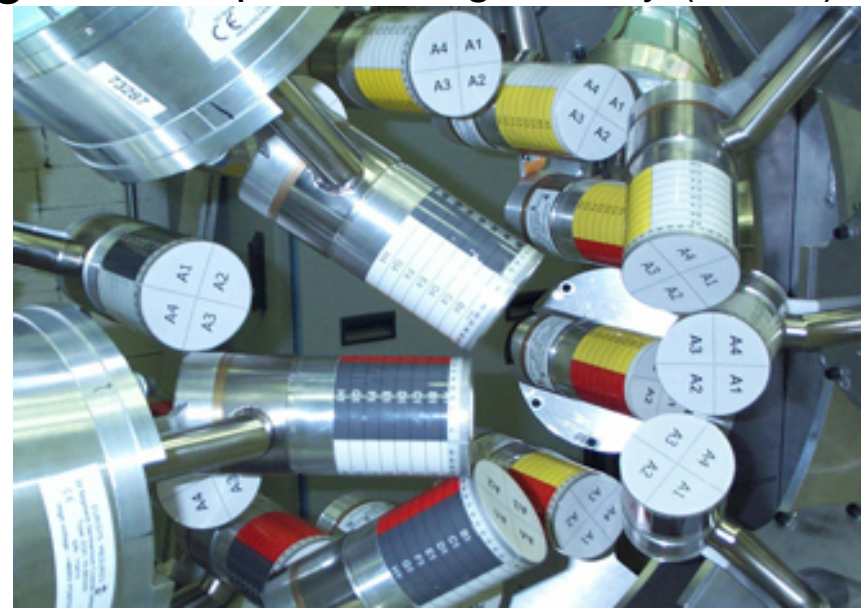
$E_0$   $\gamma$ -ray energy in the source frame

Example: SeGA geometry (NSCL)

$E$   $\gamma$ -ray energy in the lab frame

$\beta_0$  velocity of the source

$\theta_0$   $\gamma$ -ray angle of emission

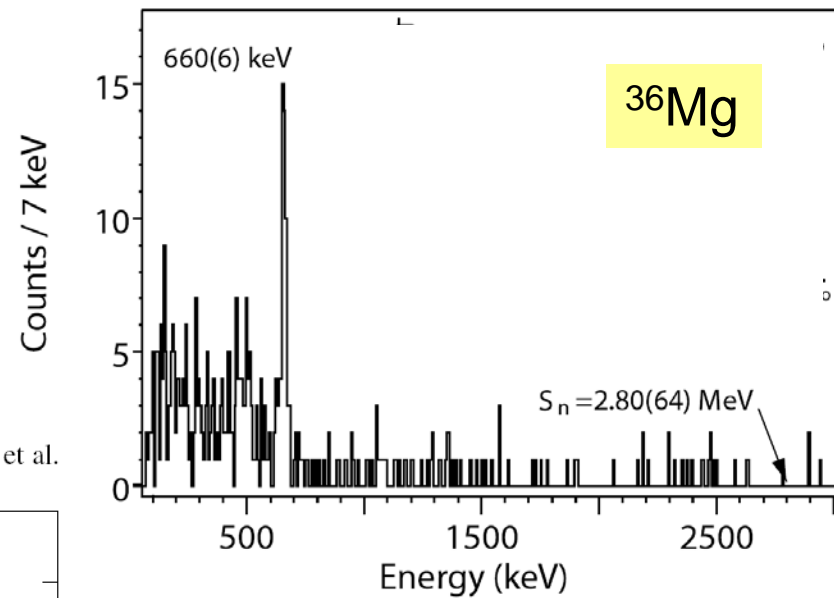
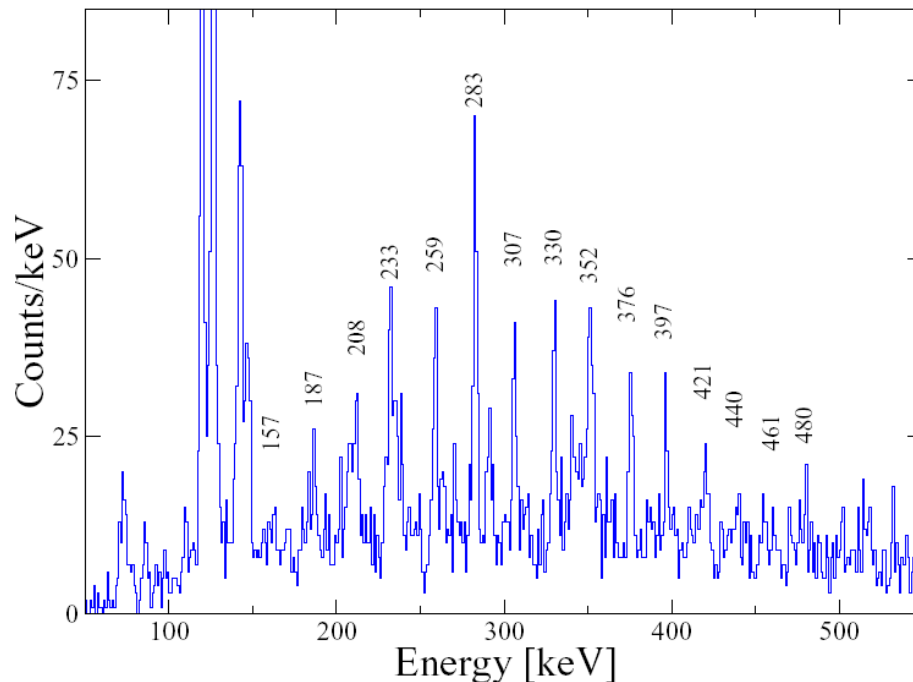




$^{38}\text{Si}$ -2p at 83 MeV/u, SeGA @ NSCL

Two-proton knockout to  $^{36}\text{Mg}$ .  
Only the first excited state  
was observed.

$^{48}\text{Ca} + ^{207}\text{Pb} \Rightarrow ^{253}\text{No} + 2n$ , JUROGAM+RITU+GREAT, R.-D. Herzberg et al.



Low-energy fusion-evaporation reaction to produce  $^{253}\text{No}$ . Many excited states are populated.

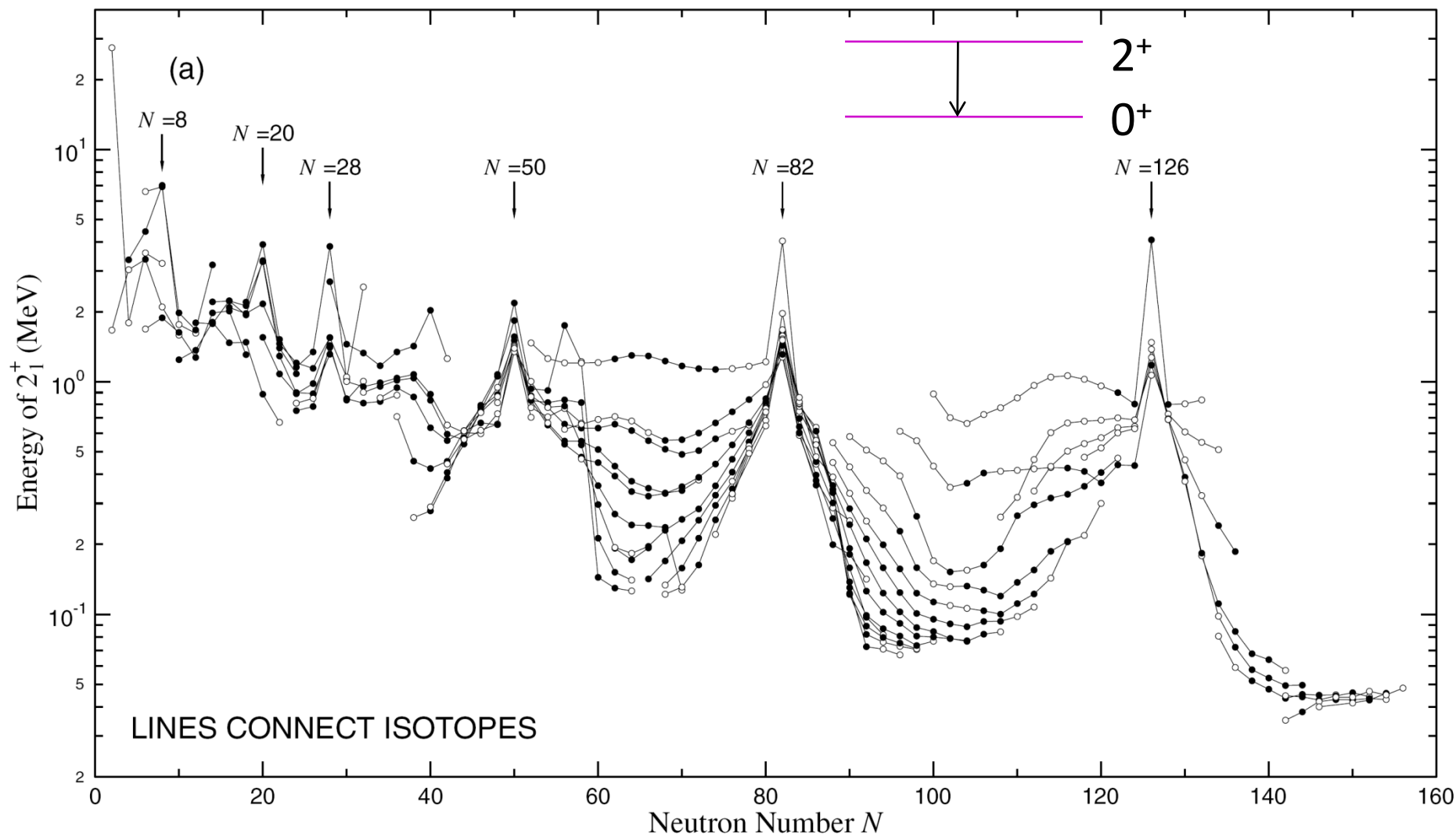
A. Gade et al., PRL 99, 072502 (2007)



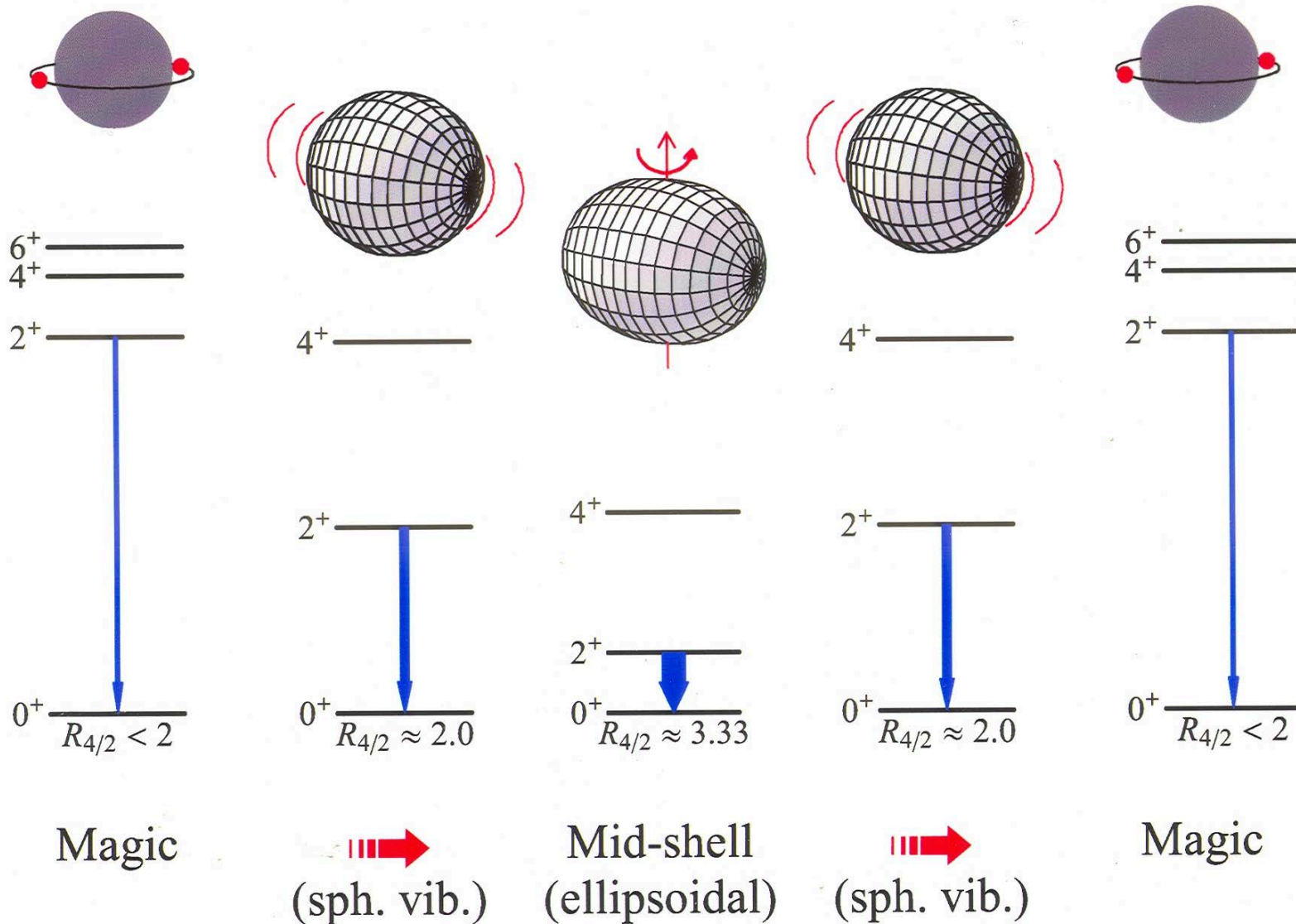
# Collective excitations

# Even-even nuclei: $2^+_1$ state energy as an indicator of shell structure

S. Raman et al., Atomic Data & Nuclear Data Tables 78, 1

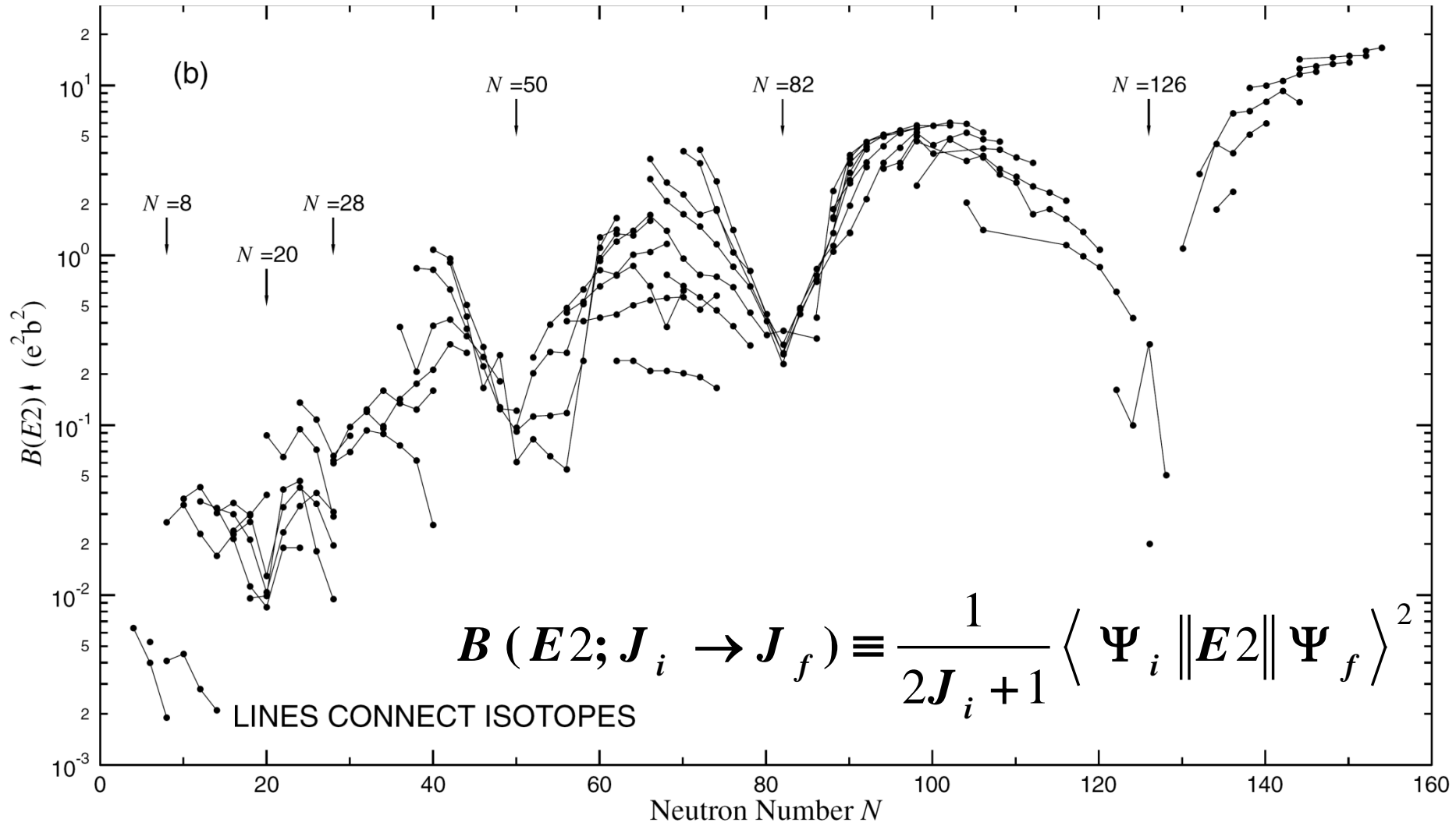


# Even-even nuclei: $2^+$ states are typically the first excited state on top of $0^+$ ground states



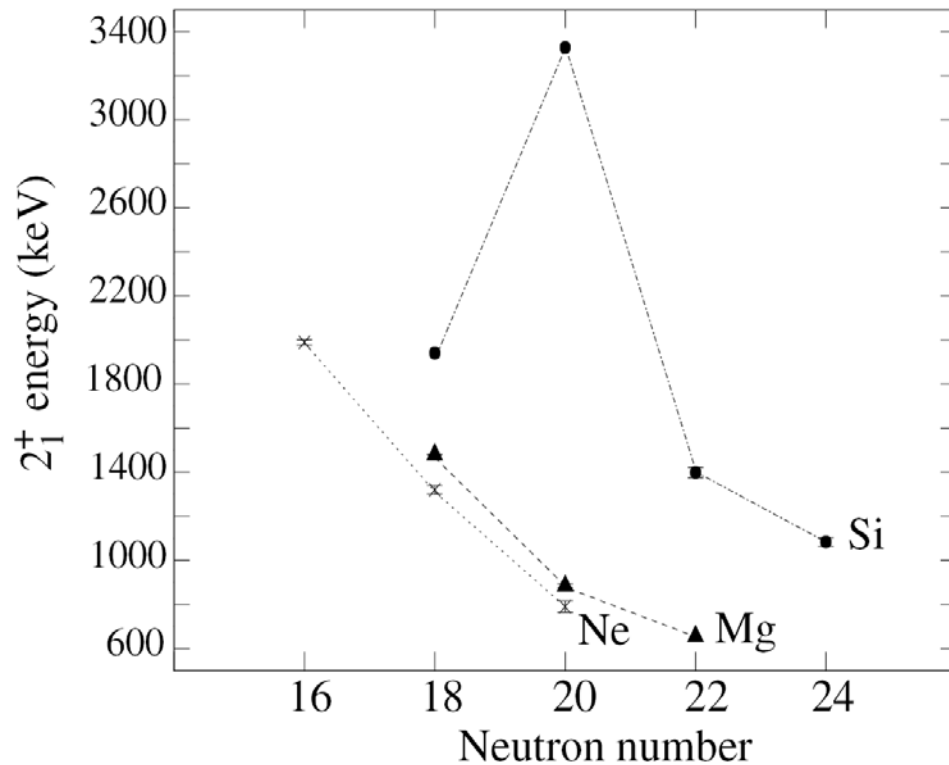
# Even-even nuclei: $2^+_1$ excitation strength as an indicator of shell structure

S. Raman et al., Atomic Data & Nuclear Data Tables 78, 1



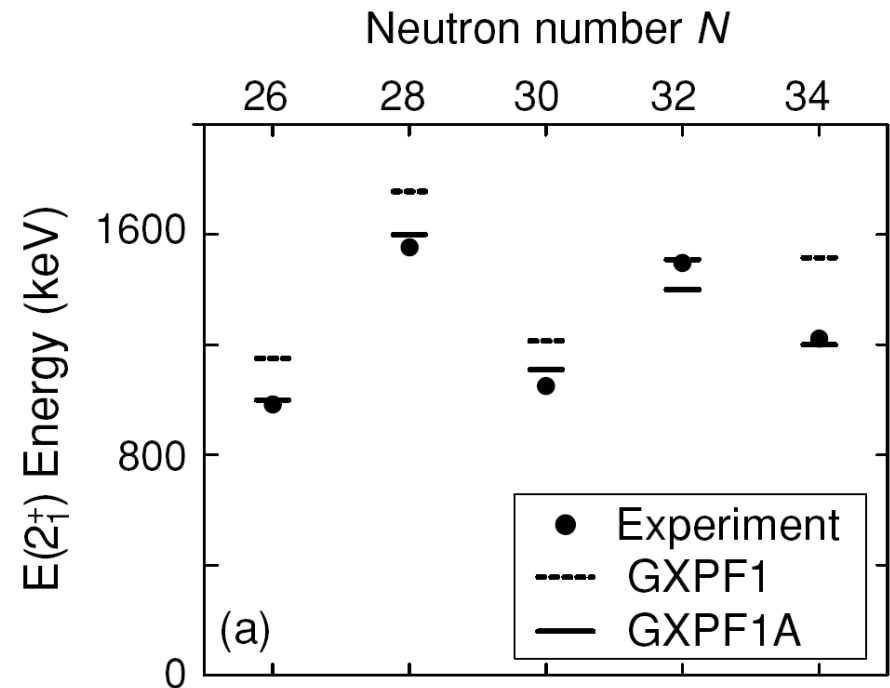
# Examples of changes in shell structure

A. Gade and T. Glasmacher, Prog. In Part. and Nucl. Phys. 60, 161 (2008)

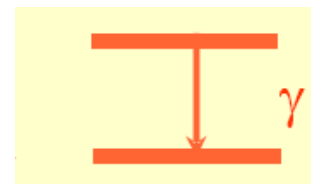
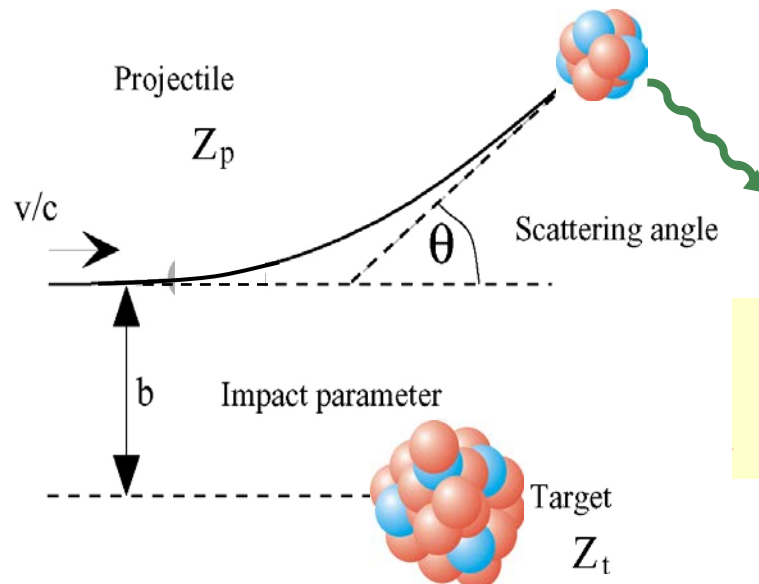
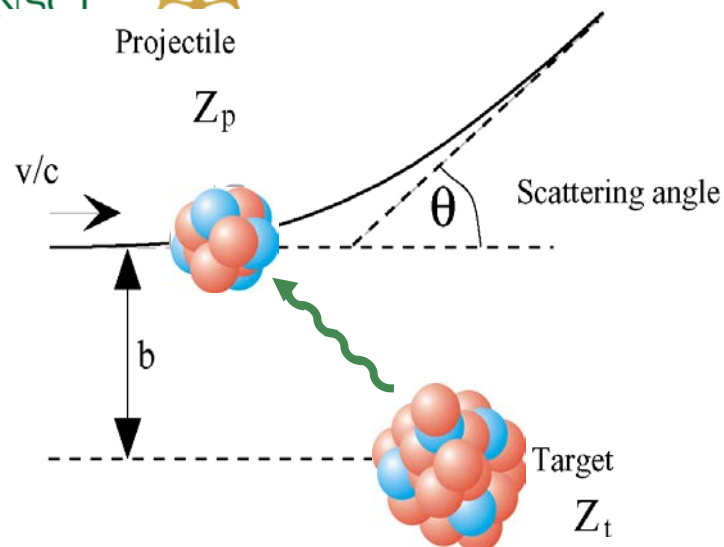


N=20 is not a good shell closure anymore in Mg and Ne isotopes

N=32 is a new magic number in the Ti isotopes



D.-C. Dinca et al., PRC 71, 041302 (2005)



Exchange of virtual photons mediates excitation

Measure de-excitation  $\gamma$ -rays

Beam energies at the Coulomb barrier  
(SPIRAL, ISAC-II, CARIBU, Hie-ISOLDE):

$E_x$ ,  $B(\sigma\lambda)$  excitation strength, band structures  
( $0^+ \rightarrow 2^+ \rightarrow 4^+ \rightarrow 6^+$ )

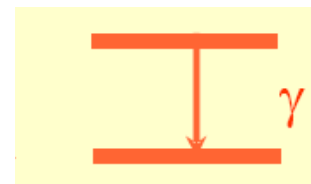
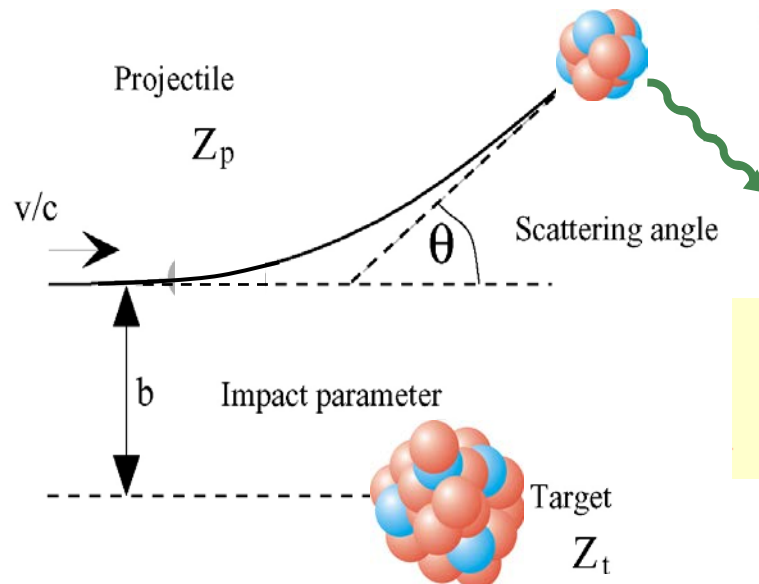
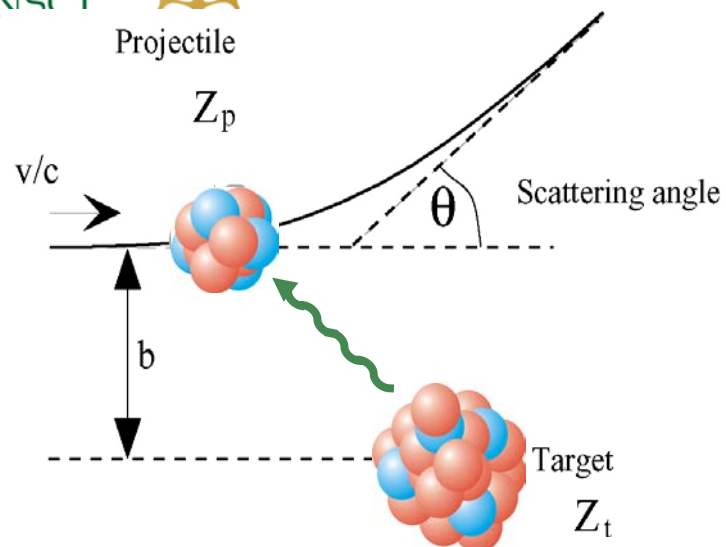
Beam energies well below the Coulomb barrier  
(ISOLDE, HRIBF):

Usually only the first  $2^+$  state accessible

$$V_c(\text{MeV}) = \frac{1.44 \times Z_1 \times Z_2}{r(\text{fm})}$$

$$r(\text{fm}) \sim 1.2(A_1^{1/3} + A_2^{1/3})$$





Exchange of virtual photons mediates excitation

Measure de-excitation  $\gamma$ -rays

Intermediate and relativistic energies (NSCL, RIKEN, GANIL, GSI):  $E(2^+_1)$ ,  $B(E2, 0^+ \rightarrow 2^+_1)$  excitation strength, two-step to  $4^+$  heavily suppressed (short interaction time at high beam energies)

**BUT:** the collision between target and projectile happens above the Coulomb barrier for every target-projectile combination

How can this still be Coulomb excitation?

# How can it be Coulomb excitation at energies above the Coulomb barrier ?!

At NSCL, RIKEN, GSI ... the collision between target and projectile happens above the Coulomb barrier for every target-projectile combination

**But:** electromagnetic interaction dominates for  $b > R_{\text{int}}$

For given  $v/c$ :

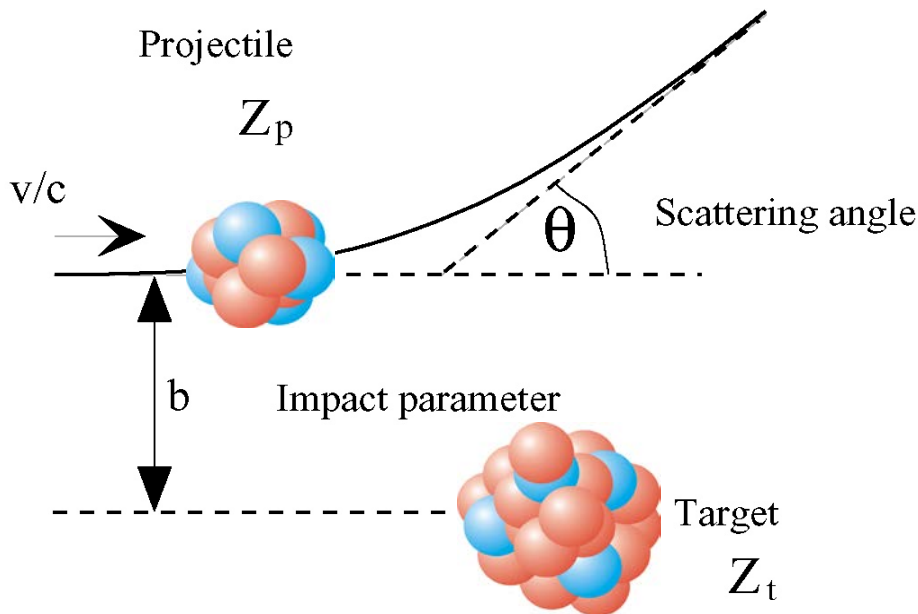
impact parameter  $b=b(\theta)$

$$b_{\text{min}} = \frac{a}{\gamma} \cot(\theta_{\text{max}}^{\text{cm}}/2)$$

$$a = \frac{Z_p Z_t e^2}{\mu v^2}$$

**Experiment:**

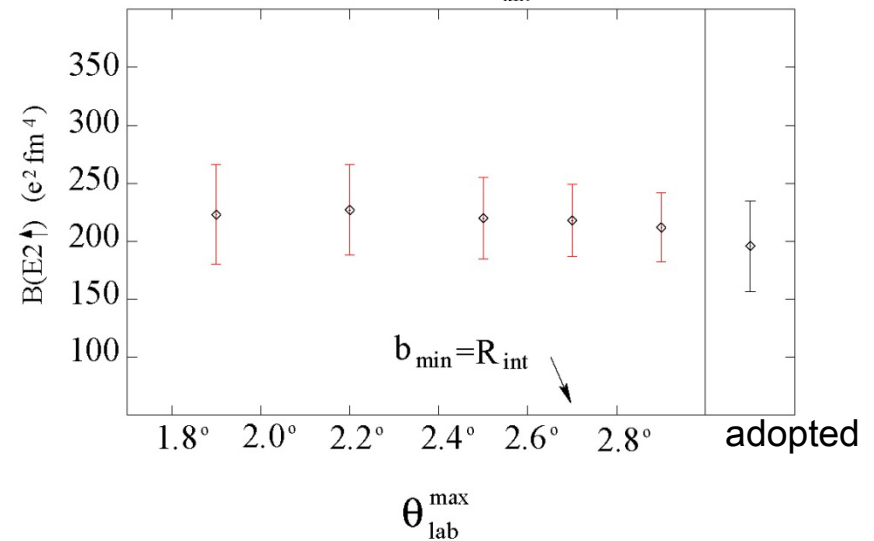
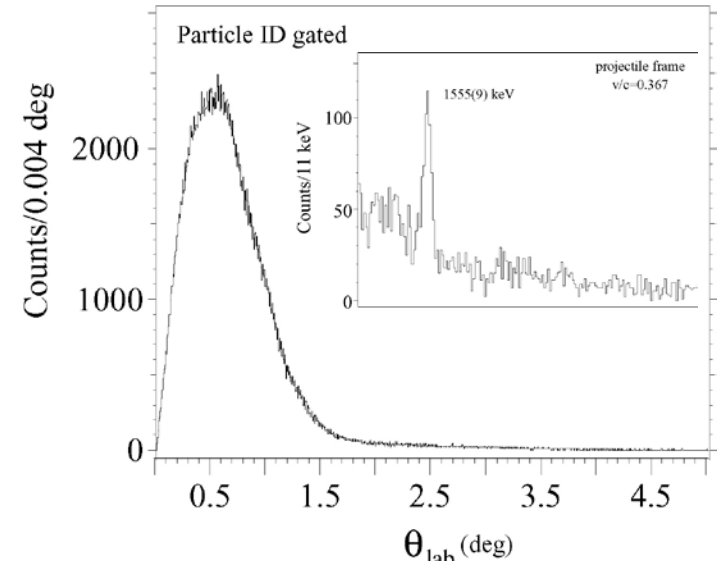
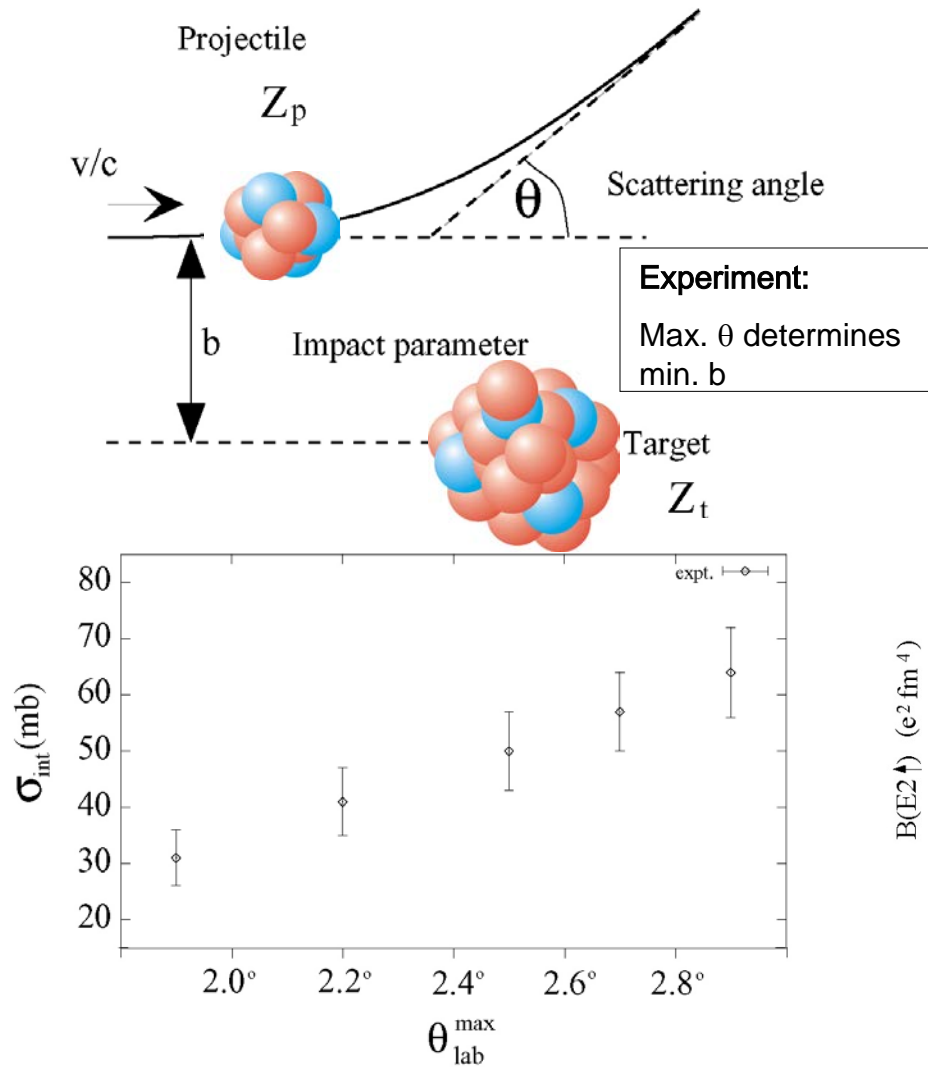
Maximum scattering angle determines minimum  $b$ .  
Restrict analysis to events at the most forward scattering angles so that  $b(\theta) > R_{\text{int}}$



# Intermediate-energy Coulomb excitation

## Example: $^{46}\text{Ar} + ^{197}\text{Au}$

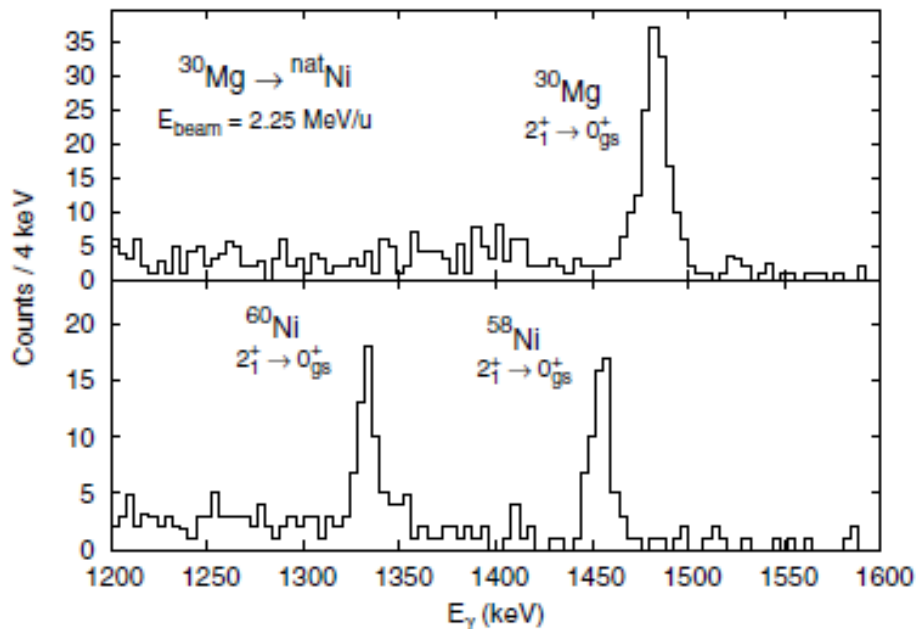
A. Gade *et al.*, PRC 68, 014302 (2003)



# Low-energy Coulomb excitation

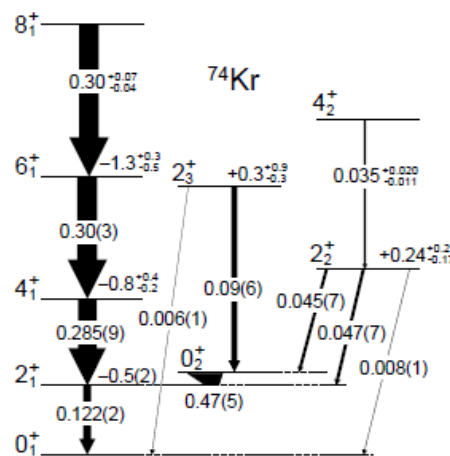
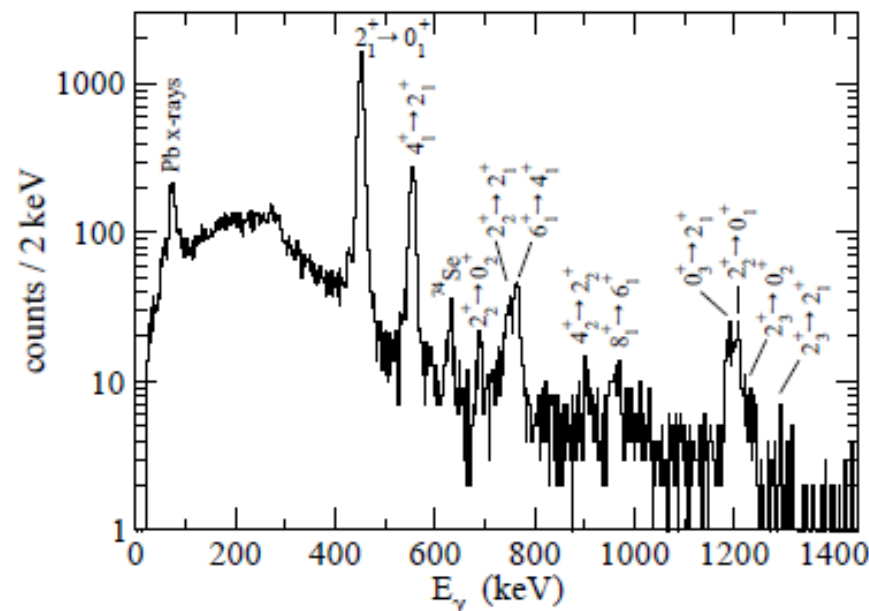
## Example: $^{30}\text{Mg} + ^{58,60}\text{Ni}$ and $^{78}\text{Kr} + ^{208}\text{Pb}$

O. Niedermaier *et al.*, PRL 94, 172501 (2005)



$^{30}\text{Mg}$  at **2.25 MeV/nucleon** on natural Ni target  
(1.0 mg/cm<sup>2</sup>)  
From REX-ISOLDE at CERN  
 $\gamma$ -ray detection with MINIBALL.  
Particle detection with CD-shaped double-sided Si strip detector

$$\frac{\sigma_{\text{CE}}(^{30}\text{Mg})}{\sigma_{\text{CE}}(^{58,60}\text{Ni})} = \frac{\epsilon_{\gamma}(^{58,60}\text{Ni})}{\epsilon_{\gamma}(^{30}\text{Mg})} \frac{W_{\gamma}(^{58,60}\text{Ni})}{W_{\gamma}(^{30}\text{Mg})} \frac{N_{\gamma}(^{30}\text{Mg})}{N_{\gamma}(^{58,60}\text{Ni})},$$



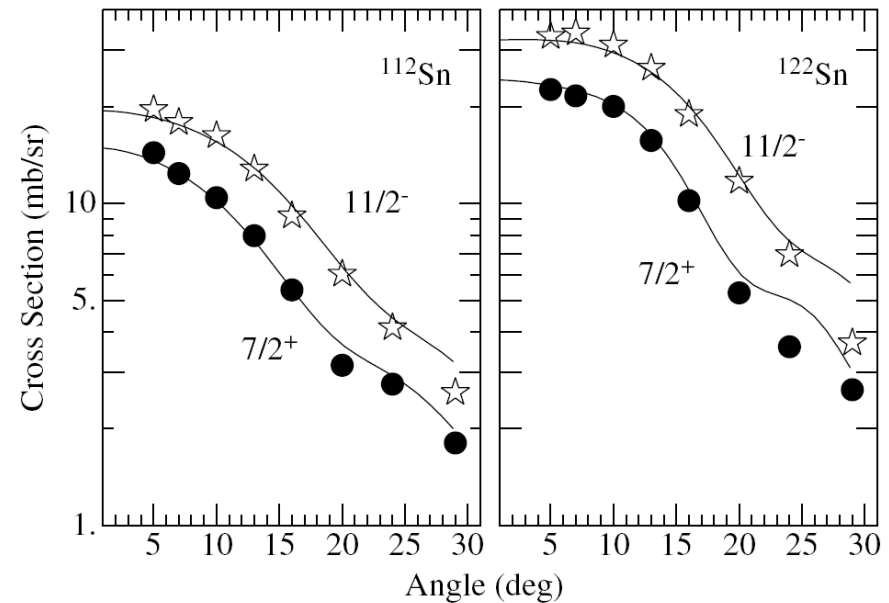
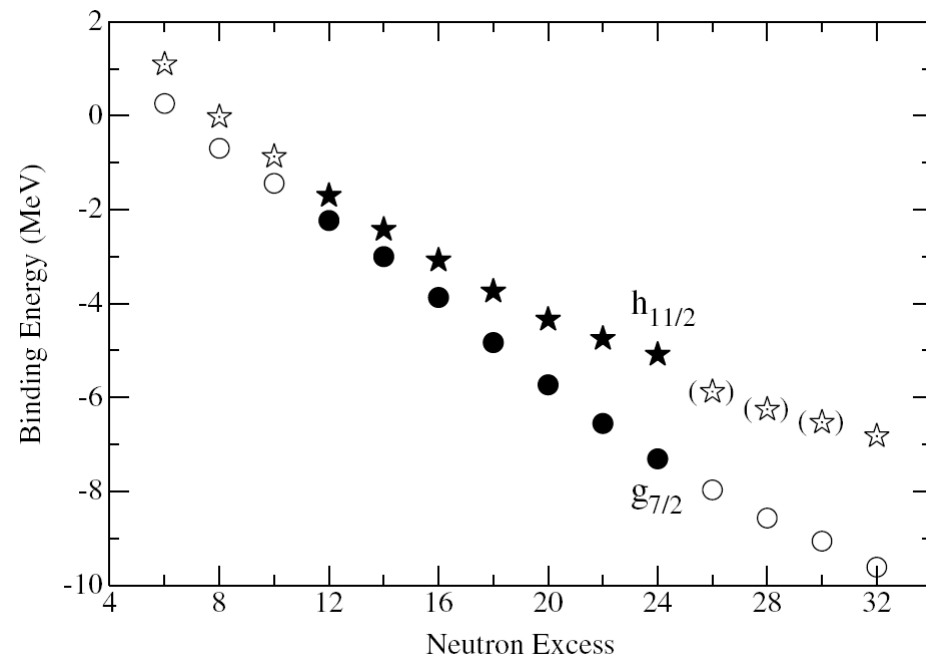
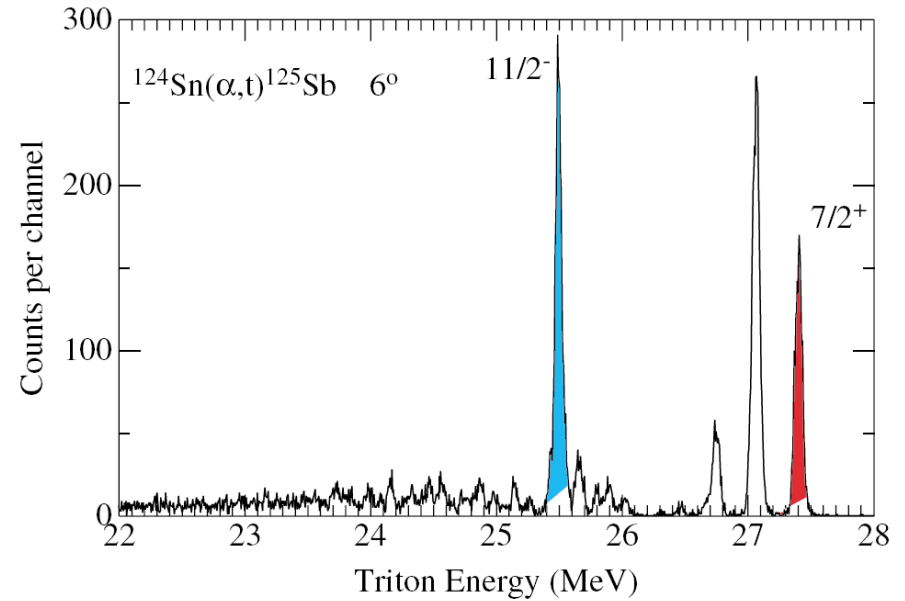
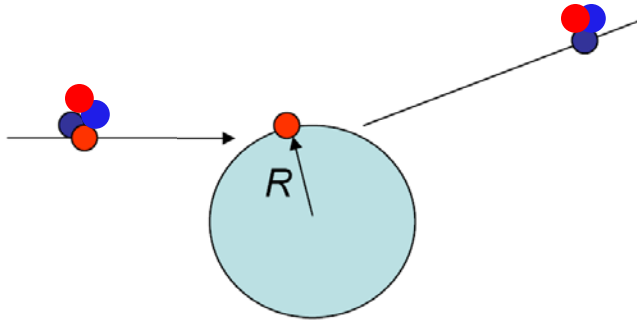
$^{74}\text{Kr}$  multistep  
Coulomb excitation at **4.7 MeV/u** on 1 mg/cm<sup>2</sup>  
 $^{208}\text{Pb}$  target at GANIL.  
Data analysis done in a  $\chi^2$  minimization  
with a coupled channels code (GOSIA)

E. Clement *et al.*, PRC 75, 054314 (2005)

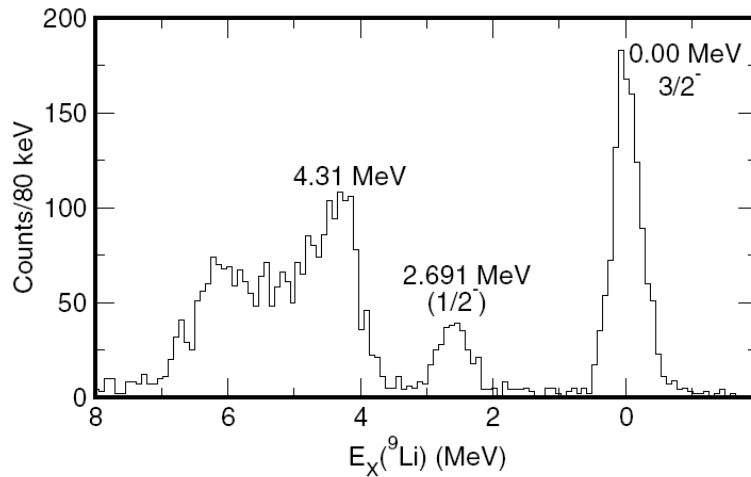


# Single-particle states

# Low-energy transfer reactions

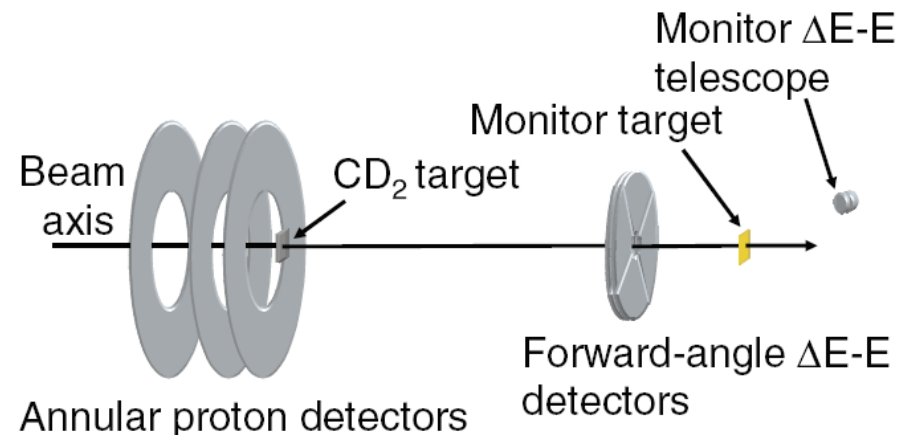
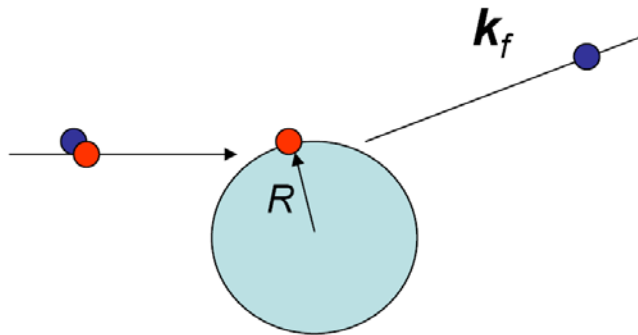


A. H. Wuosmaa et al., PRL 94, 082502 (2005)



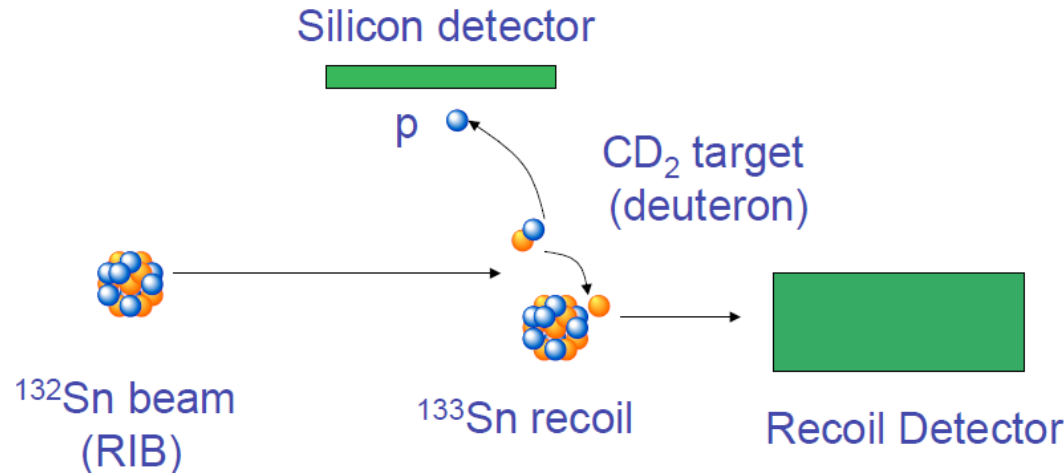
## Low-energy inverse-kinematics transfer experiment

- $^2\text{H}(^8\text{Li},p)^9\text{Li}$  at ANL
- Proton angular distribution measured
- Quantitative spectroscopic information obtained



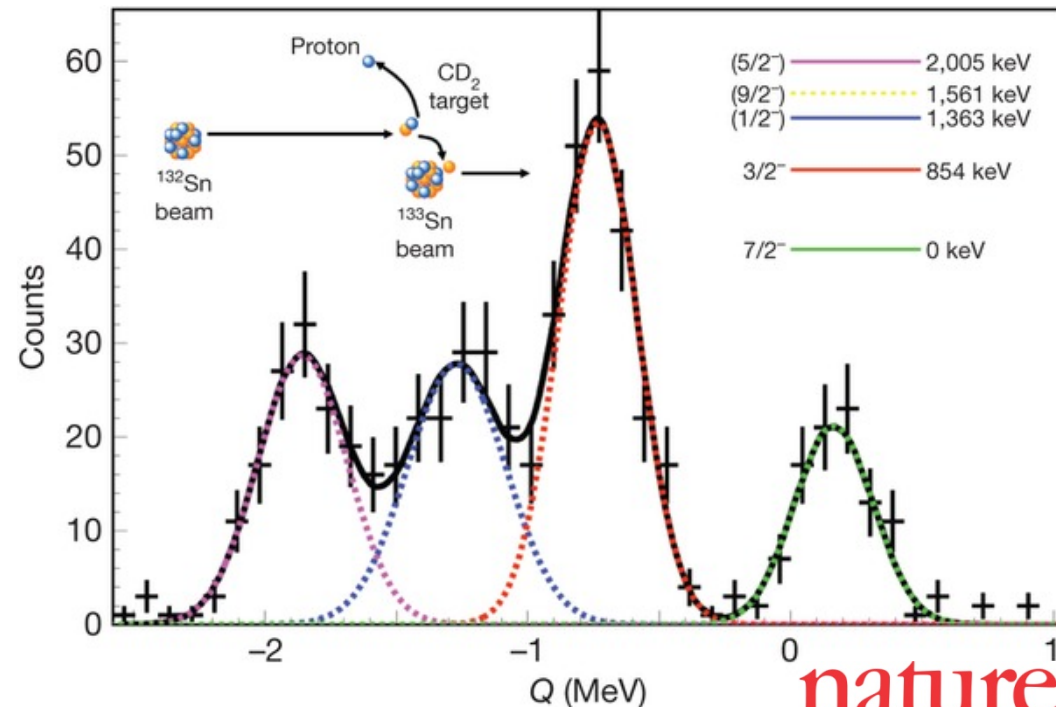


# Low-energy transfer reactions – $^{132}\text{Sn}(d,p)^{133}\text{Sn}$ at HRIBF



Q-value spectrum for the  
 $^{132}\text{Sn}(d,p)^{133}\text{Sn}$   
reaction at  $54^\circ$  in the centre of  
mass.

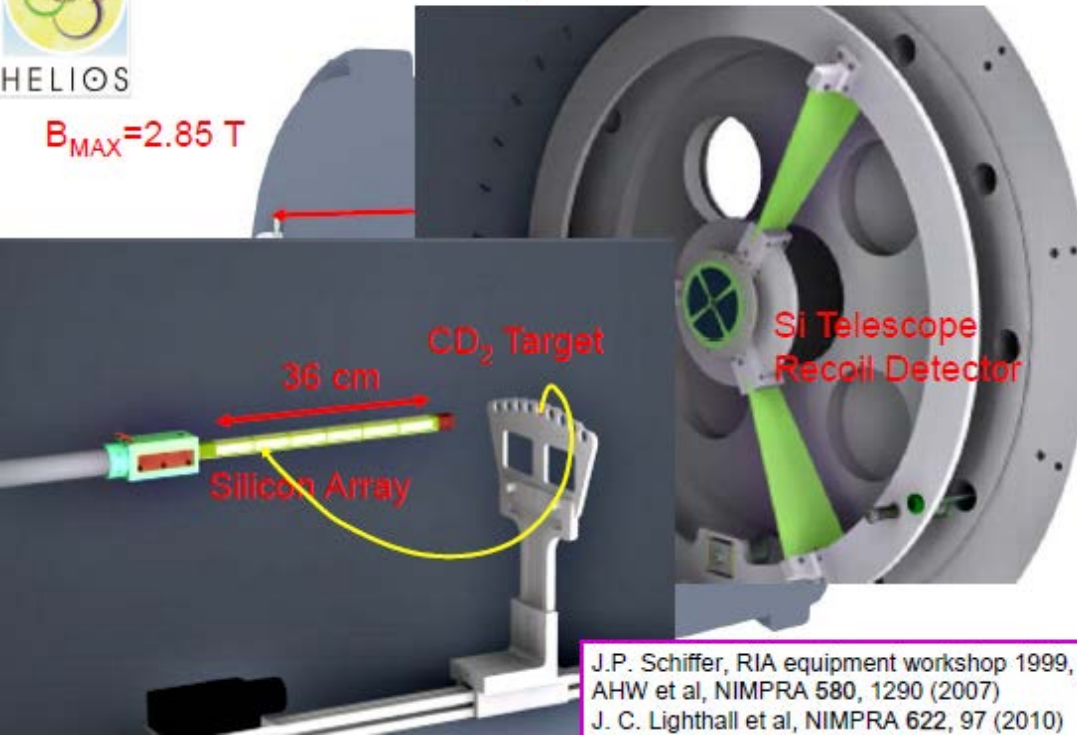
- 4.77 MeV/u  $^{132}\text{Sn}$  produced and accelerated at HRIBF bombarded a  $160\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$   $\text{CD}_2$  target. Exit-channel proton detection with ORRUBA Si strip detectors under  $69\text{-}107^\circ$  polar angles



# New kids on the block I HELIOS

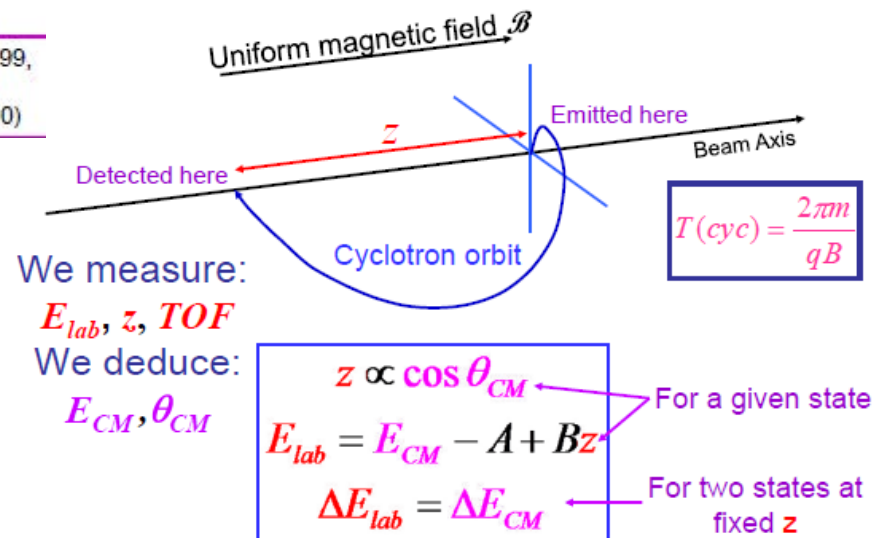


## HELICAL Orbit Spectrometer -HELIOS



J.P. Schiffer, RIA equipment workshop 1999,  
AHW et al, NIMPRA 580, 1290 (2007)  
J. C. Lighthall et al, NIMPRA 622, 97 (2010)

## In a magnetic field with HELIOS



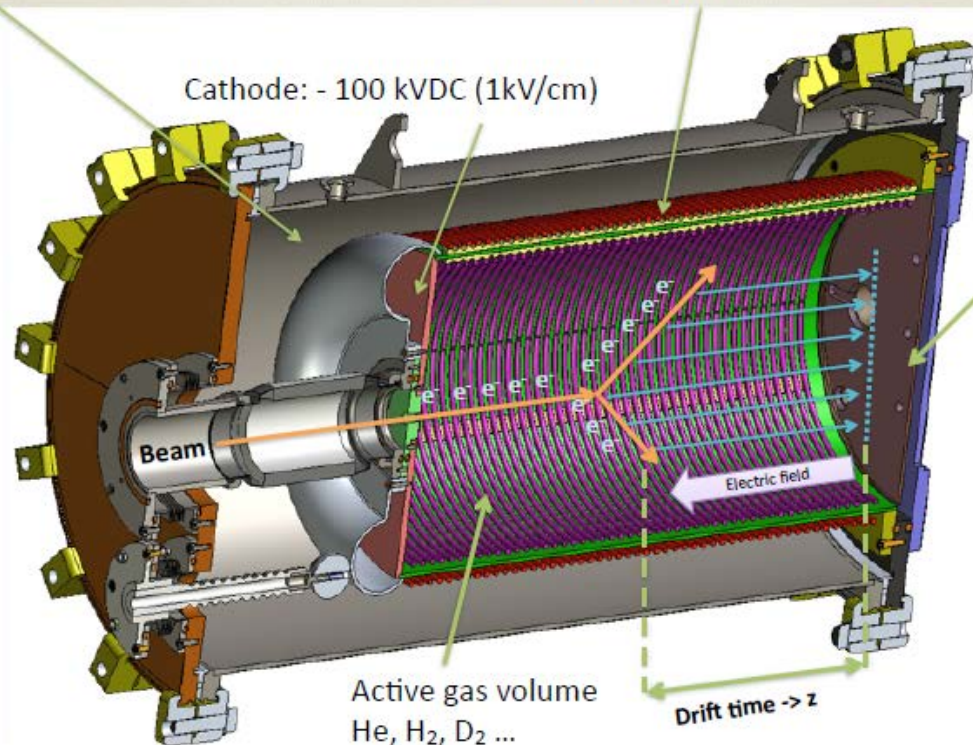
# New kids on the block II

## Time projection chambers

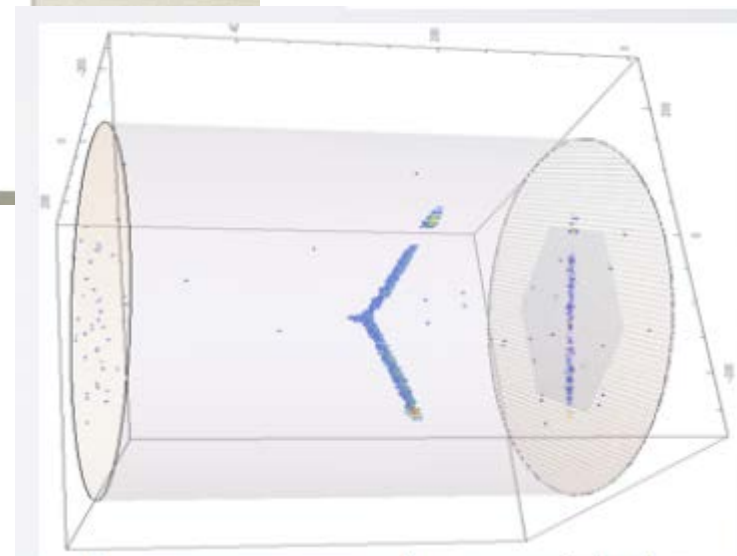
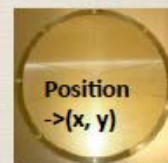
Insulator gas volume ( $N_2$ )

Field shaping rings

Cathode: - 100 kVDC (1kV/cm)



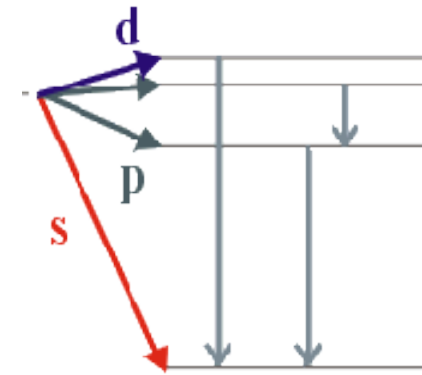
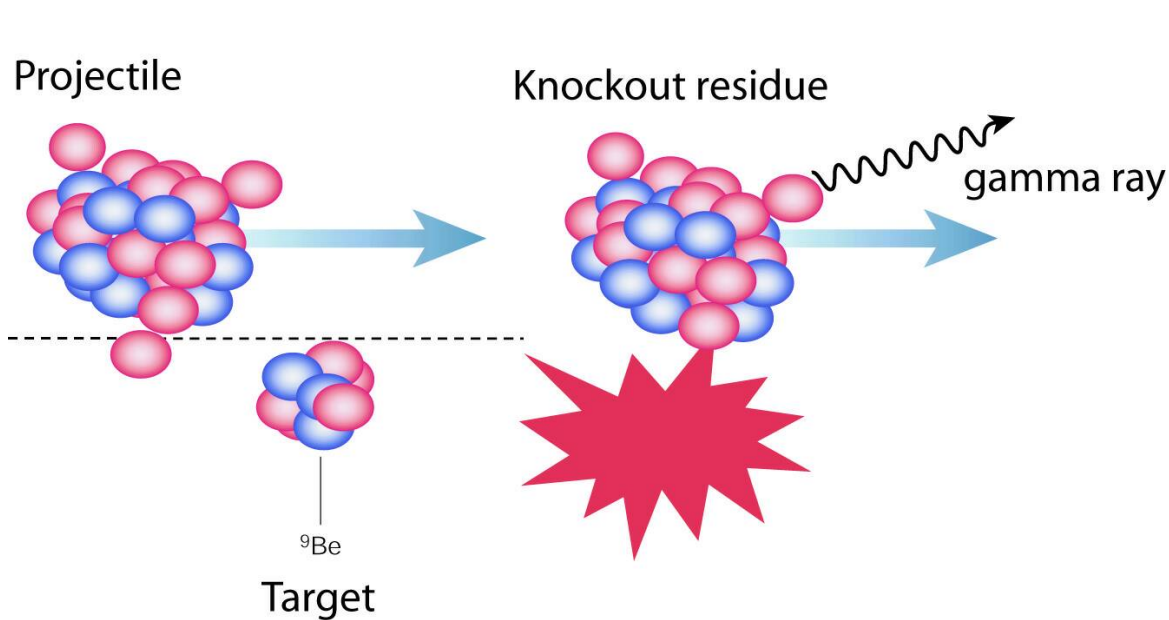
Pad plane and  
electron  
amplification  
device  
(Micromegas)



# One-nucleon knockout *A direct reaction*

- **more than 50 MeV/nucleon:**

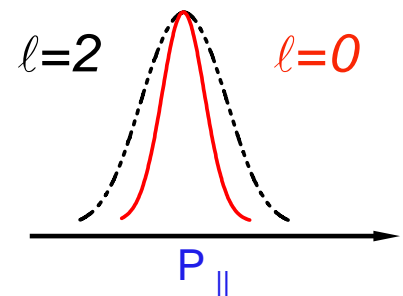
Straight-line trajectories



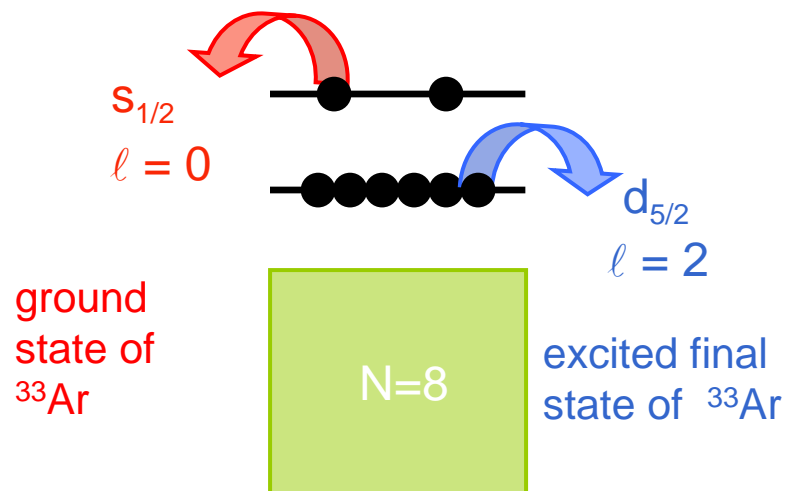
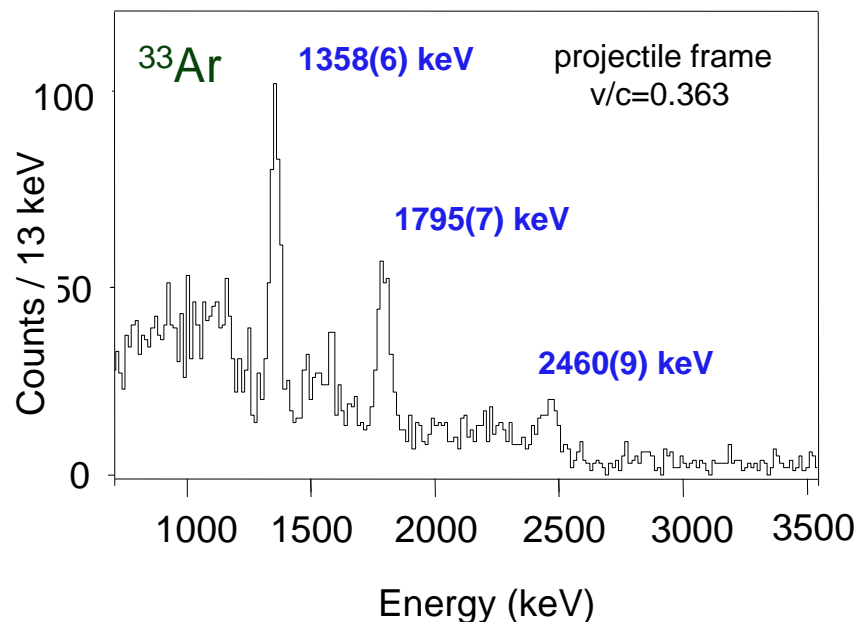
residue moment distribution  
→  $\ell$ -value of knocked-out  $n$

P.G. Hansen, PRL 77, 1016 (1996)

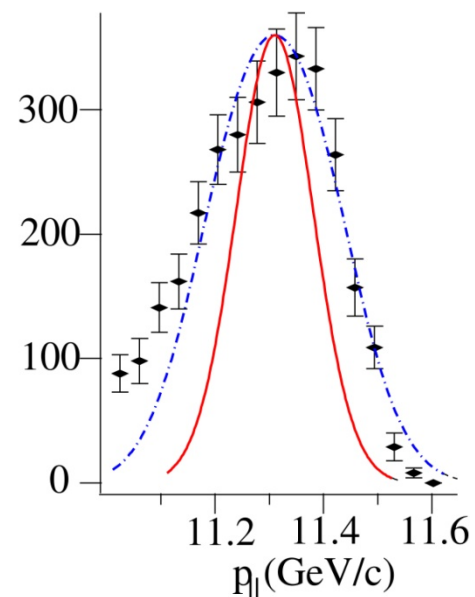
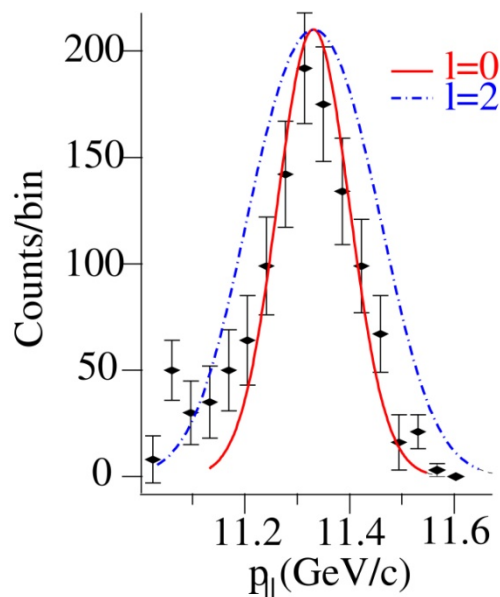
$$\sigma(nl^\pi) = \underbrace{C^2 S(j, nl^\pi)}_{\text{\# nucleons in orbit}} \underbrace{\sigma_{sp}(j, S_n)}_{\text{reaction cross section}}$$







	BR (%)	$\sigma_{\text{exp}}$ (mb)	$C^2S_{\text{exp}}$
$1/2^+$	30.2(46)	4.7(9)	0.38(6)
$3/2^+$	20.2(44)	3.2(8)	0.36(9)
$5/2^+$	31.7(31)	4.9(7)	0.56(8)
$(5/2^+)$	17.9(30)	2.8(6)	$>0.34(7)$



# Lifetimes of excited states

*Can provide information on  
collective and single-particle  
degrees of freedom*

Lifetimes of excited  $2^+$  states in  
even-even nuclei: picosecond range

$$\tau_{\gamma} = 40.81 \times 10^{13} E^{-5} [B(E2)_{\uparrow}/e^2 b^2]^{-1}$$

Some excited states live much longer: Isomers

**Table I: Examples of extreme isomers**

Nuclide	Half-life	Spin ( $\hbar$ )	Energy	Attribute
$^{12}\text{Be}$	~500 ns	0	2.2 MeV	low mass
$^{94}\text{Ag}$	300 ms	21	6 MeV	proton decay
$^{152}\text{Er}$	11 ns	~36	13 MeV	high spin and energy
$^{180}\text{Ta}$	$>10^{16}$ y	9	75 keV	long half-life
$^{229}\text{Th}$	~5 h	3/2	~7.6 eV	low energy
$^{270}\text{Ds}$	~6 ms	~10	~1 MeV	high mass

From P.M. Walker and J. J.  
Carroll, Nuclear Physics News  
17, 11-15 (2007)

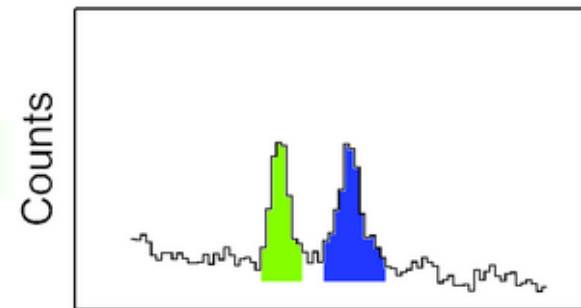
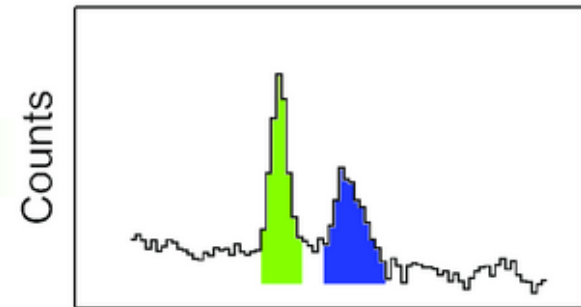
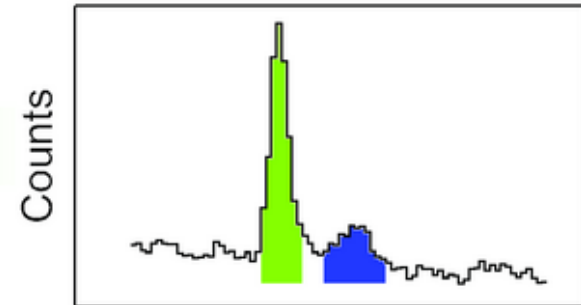
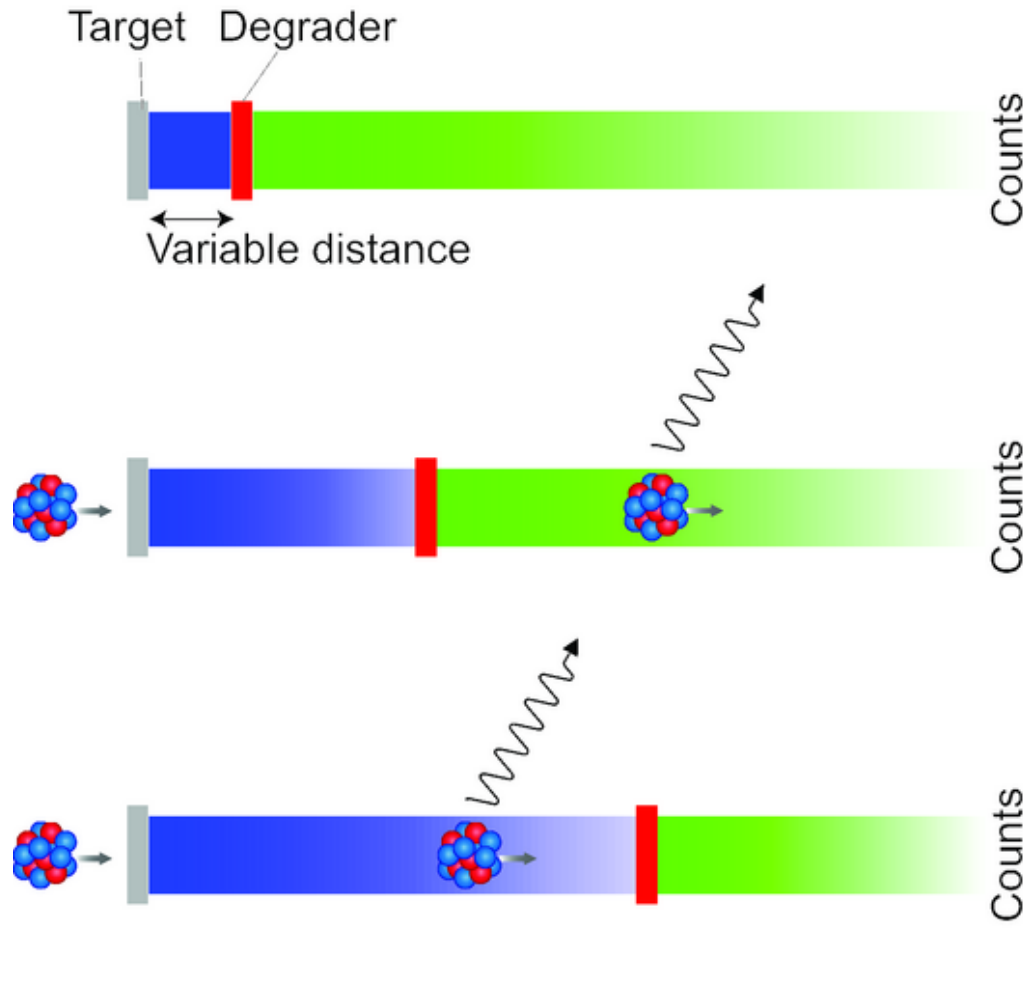


# Plunger lifetime measurements

$c = 300 \text{ } \mu\text{m/ps}$

$\beta \sim 0.3c$

$10 \text{ ps} \sim 1 \text{ mm}$

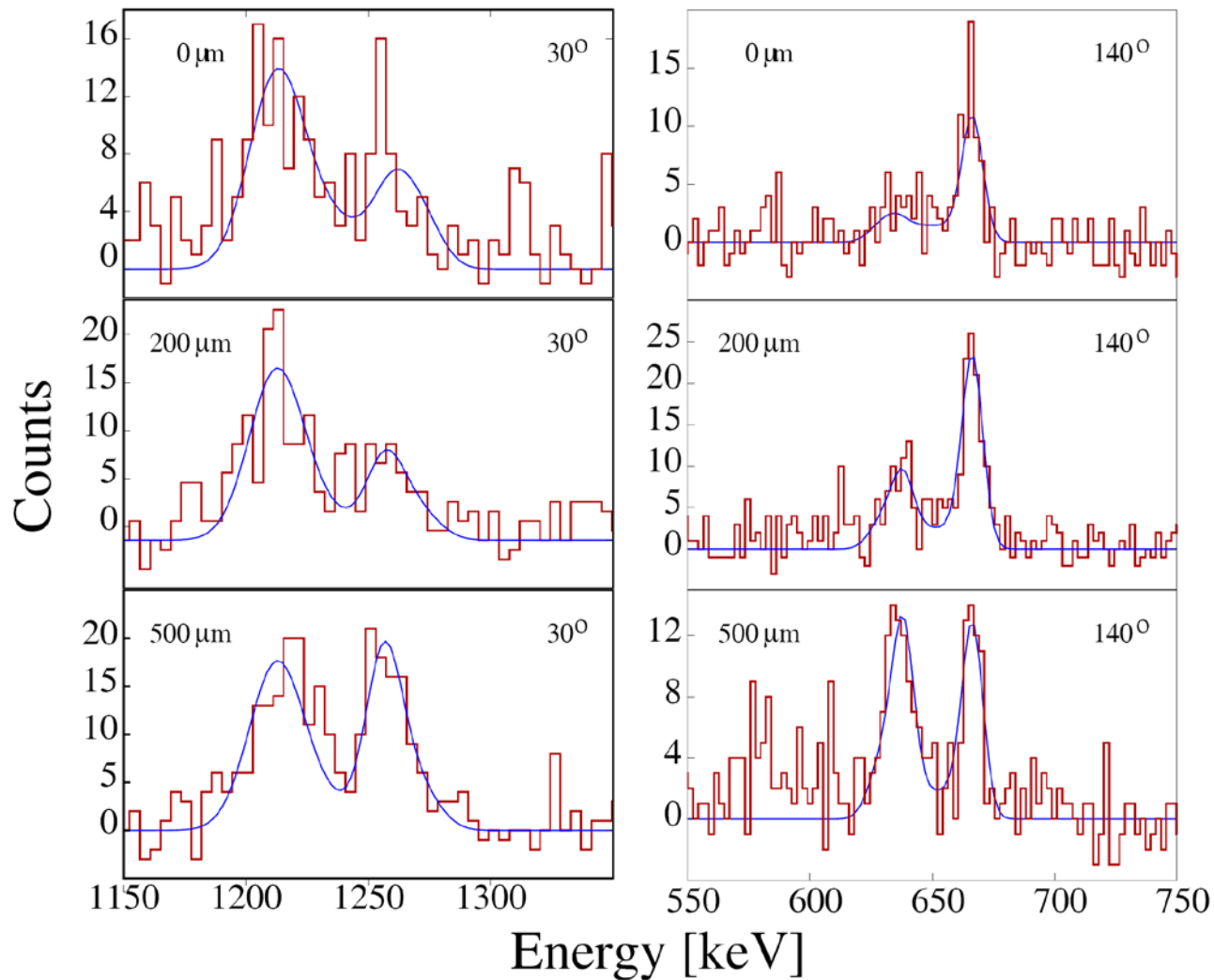


Energy

# Line shapes and lifetimes

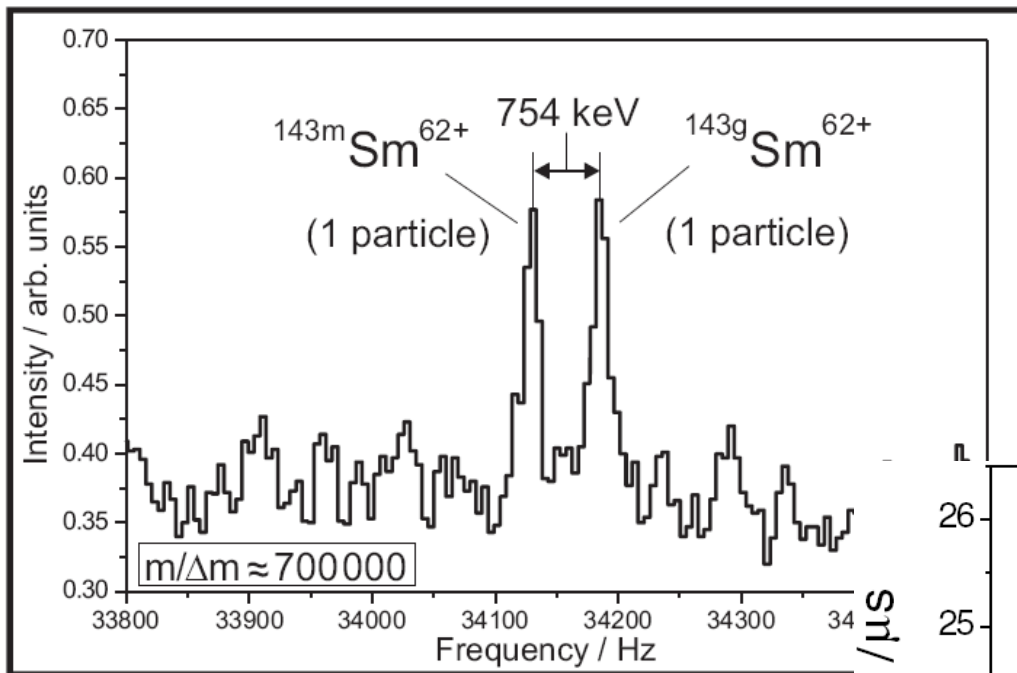
*Example:*  $^{64}\text{Ge } 2^+_1 \rightarrow 0^+_1$

$$\tau = 3.2(5) \text{ [ps]}$$



# Long-lived excited states – isomers

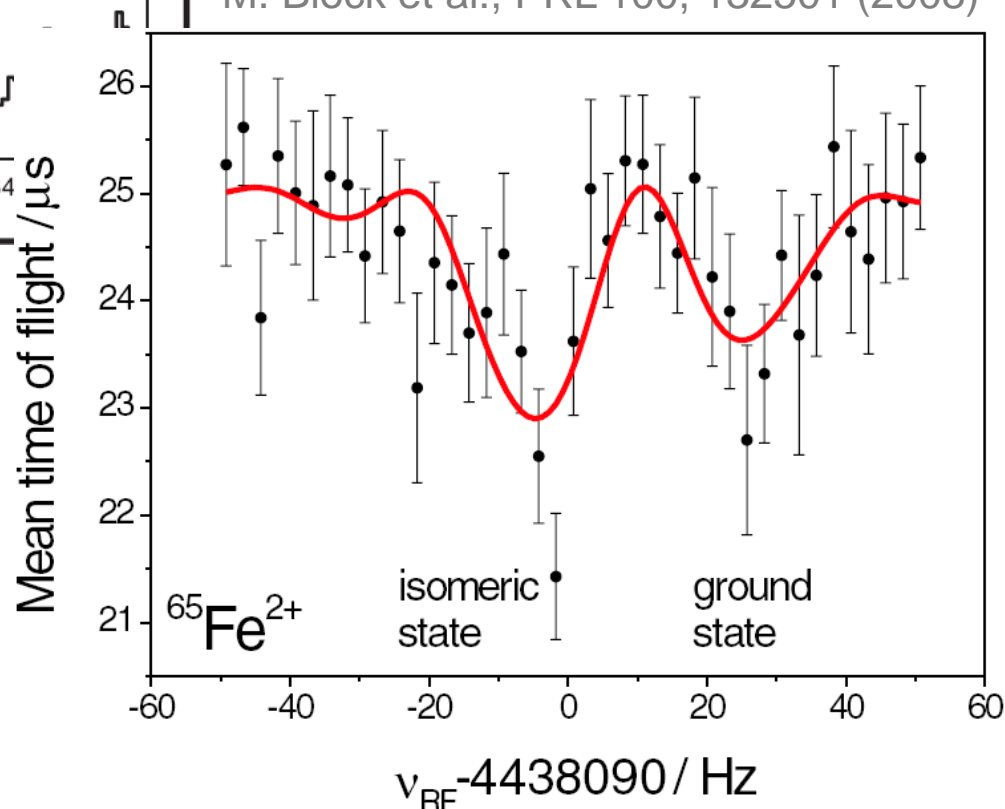
## *Back to storage rings and penning traps*



F. Bosch, Lect. Notes Phys. 651, 137(2004)

Isomers: decay  
hindered by nuclear  
structure (selection  
rules, energy, ...) →  
long lifetime

M. Block et al., PRL 100, 132501 (2008)





# Take away

- Excited states provide valuable information on the evolution of nuclear structure
  - Population of excited states in various schemes
- Reactions – powerful tools
  - Observables related to the collective degree of freedom
  - Single-particle structure from direct reactions
- Life-times of excited states
  - Different experimental approaches