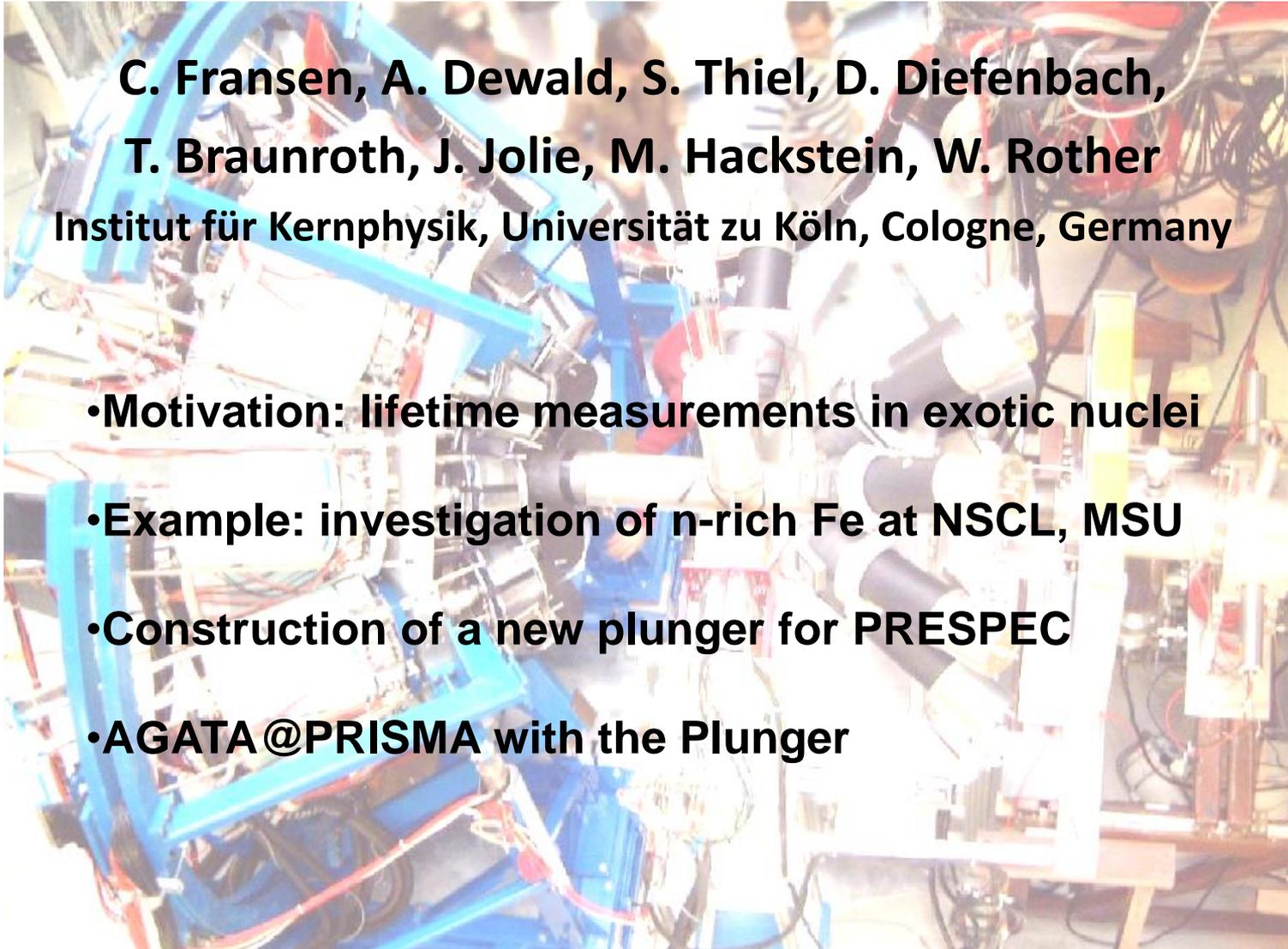


# The Plunger Setup for AGATA at PRESPEC

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T. Braunroth, J. Jolie, M. Hackstein, W. Rother**  
Institut für Kernphysik, Universität zu Köln, Cologne, Germany

- **Motivation: lifetime measurements in exotic nuclei**
- **Example: investigation of n-rich Fe at NSCL, MSU**
- **Construction of a new plunger for PRESPEC**
- **AGATA@PRISMA with the Plunger**

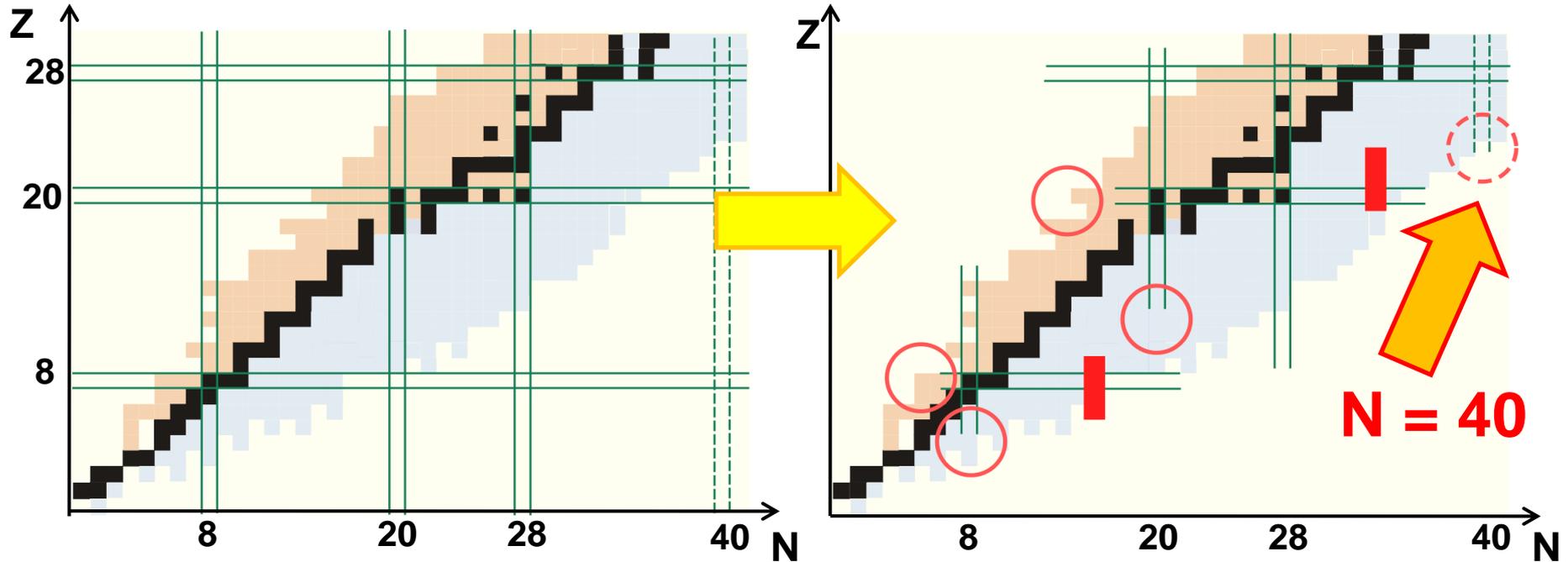


# Studies of Exotic Nuclei

Many-body problems for strongly-interacting system with protons and neutrons

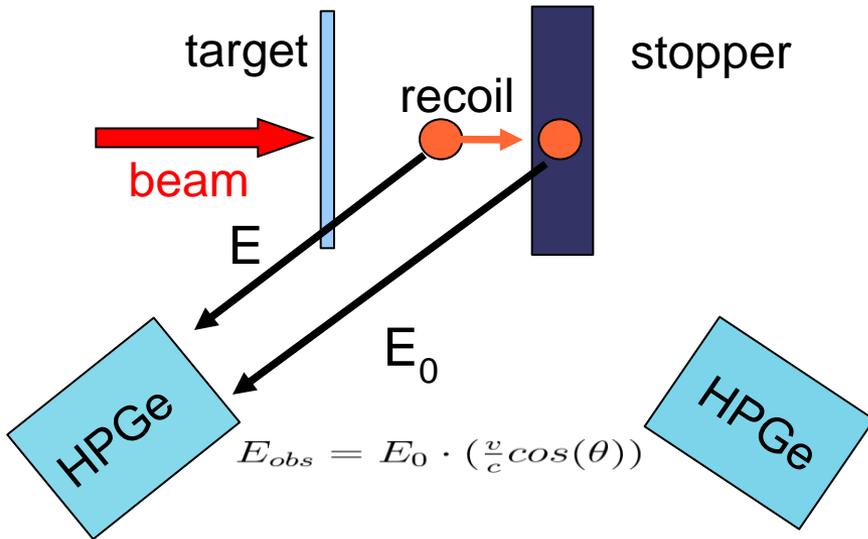
**Stable nuclei**  
Shell structure  
magic number (2,8,20...)

**Exotic nuclei**  
Drastic change of shell structure  
disappearance ( $N=8,20,\dots$ ) and  
appearance of magic numbers  $N=16,34$



What is the driving force responsible for the shell evolution ?  
Can we characterize the structure changes in a simple manner ?

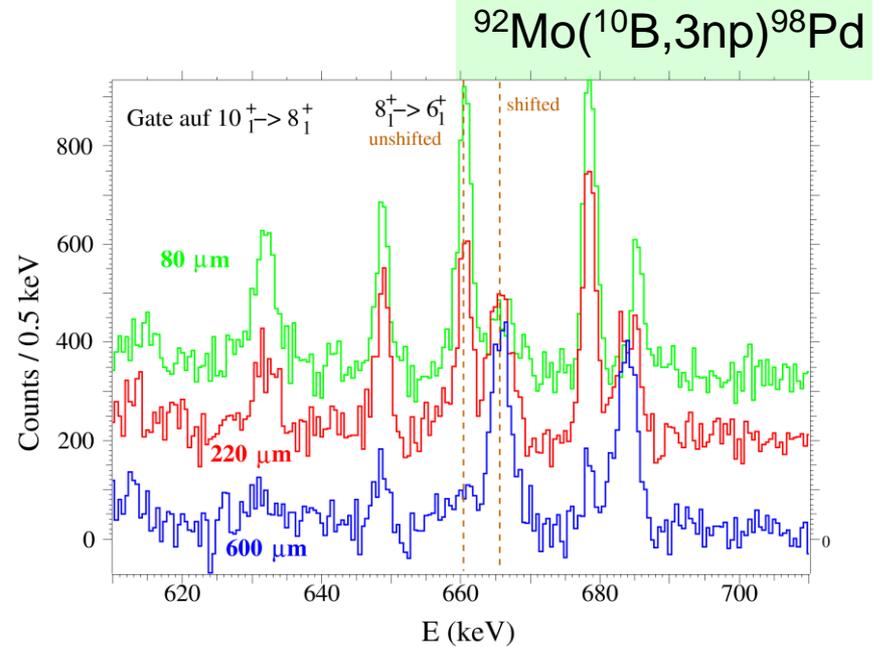
# The recoil distance Doppler-shift method (RDDS): lifetimes, absolute transition strengths



$$\tau(t_k) = \frac{I^{us}(t_k)}{\frac{d}{dt} I^{sh}(t_k)}$$

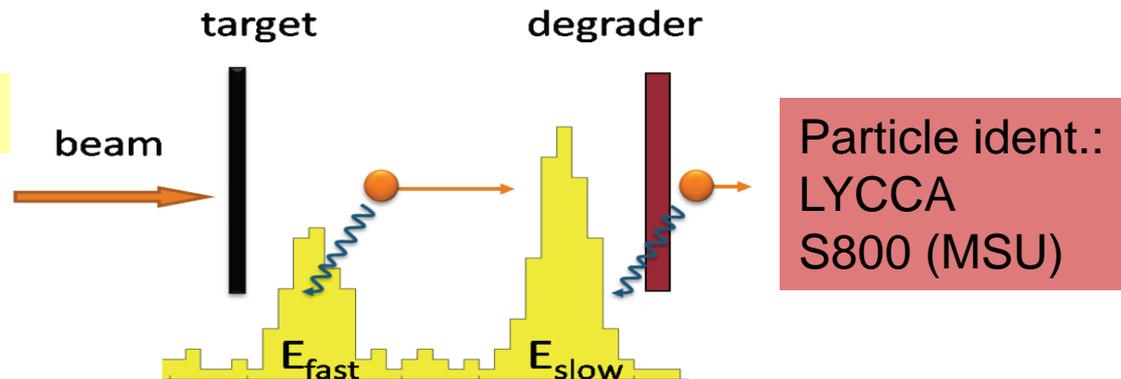
$I^{us}$  = Intensity of the unshifted  $\gamma$ -ray line

$I^{sh}$  = Intensity of the Doppler-shifted component



## Differential Plunger

Use degrader instead of stopper to allow identification of recoils



# Example (NSCL, MSU): Neutron-rich Fe isotopes

In the vicinity of  $N=40$ , only Ni isotopes show a typical signature of magicity with high  $E(2^+)$  and small  $B(E2)$ .

Low  $E(2^+)$  for other isotopes indicate a fragility of the  $N=40$  (sub) shell closure.

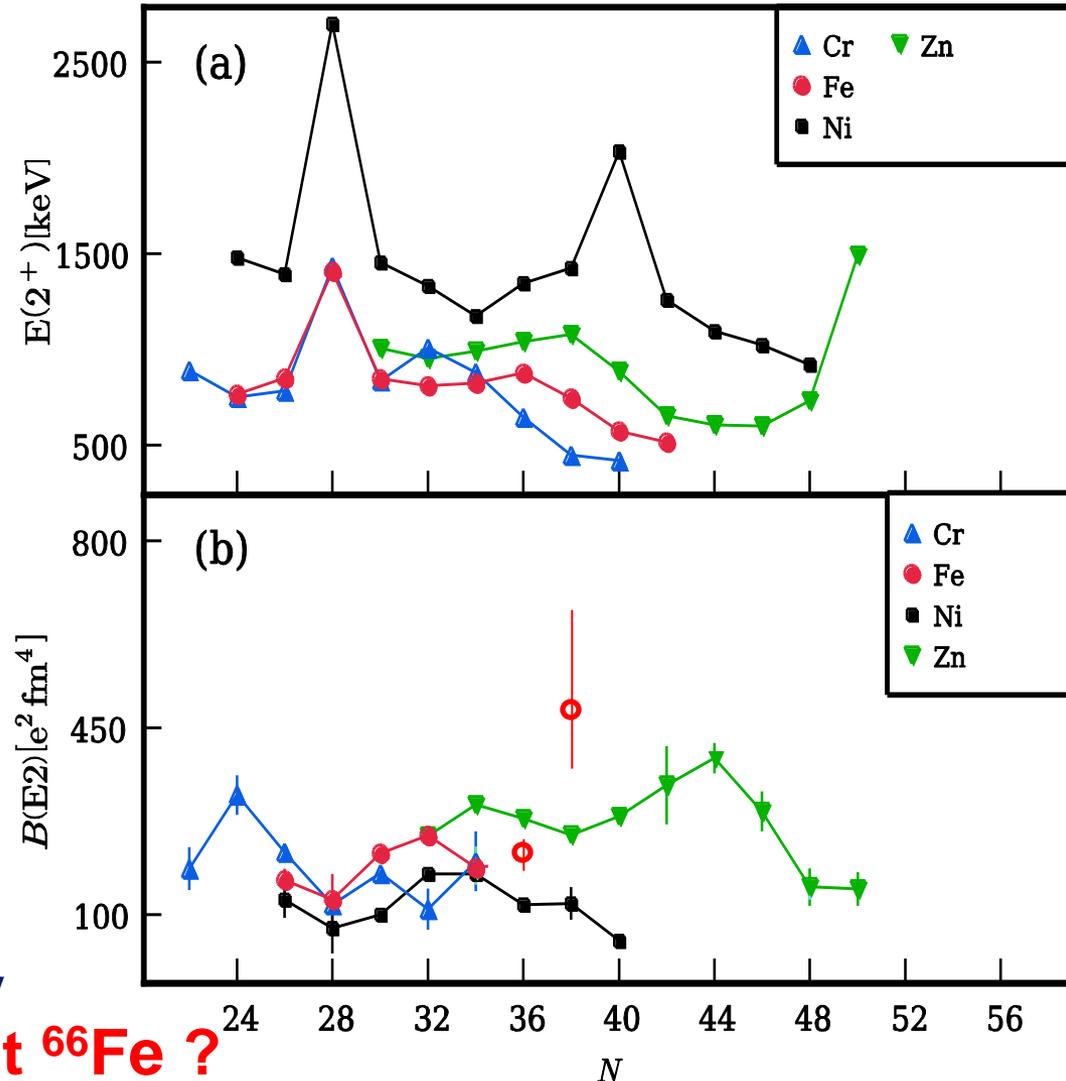
Collectivity at  $N=40$  seems to be increased toward lighter isotopes ( $Ni \rightarrow Fe \rightarrow Cr$ ).

$(E(2^+))^{66}Fe$  : M.Hannawald et al., PRL82(99)1391  
 $^{64}Cr$  : A.Gade et al., PRC81(10)051304R )

But,  $B(E2)$  data are still scarce.

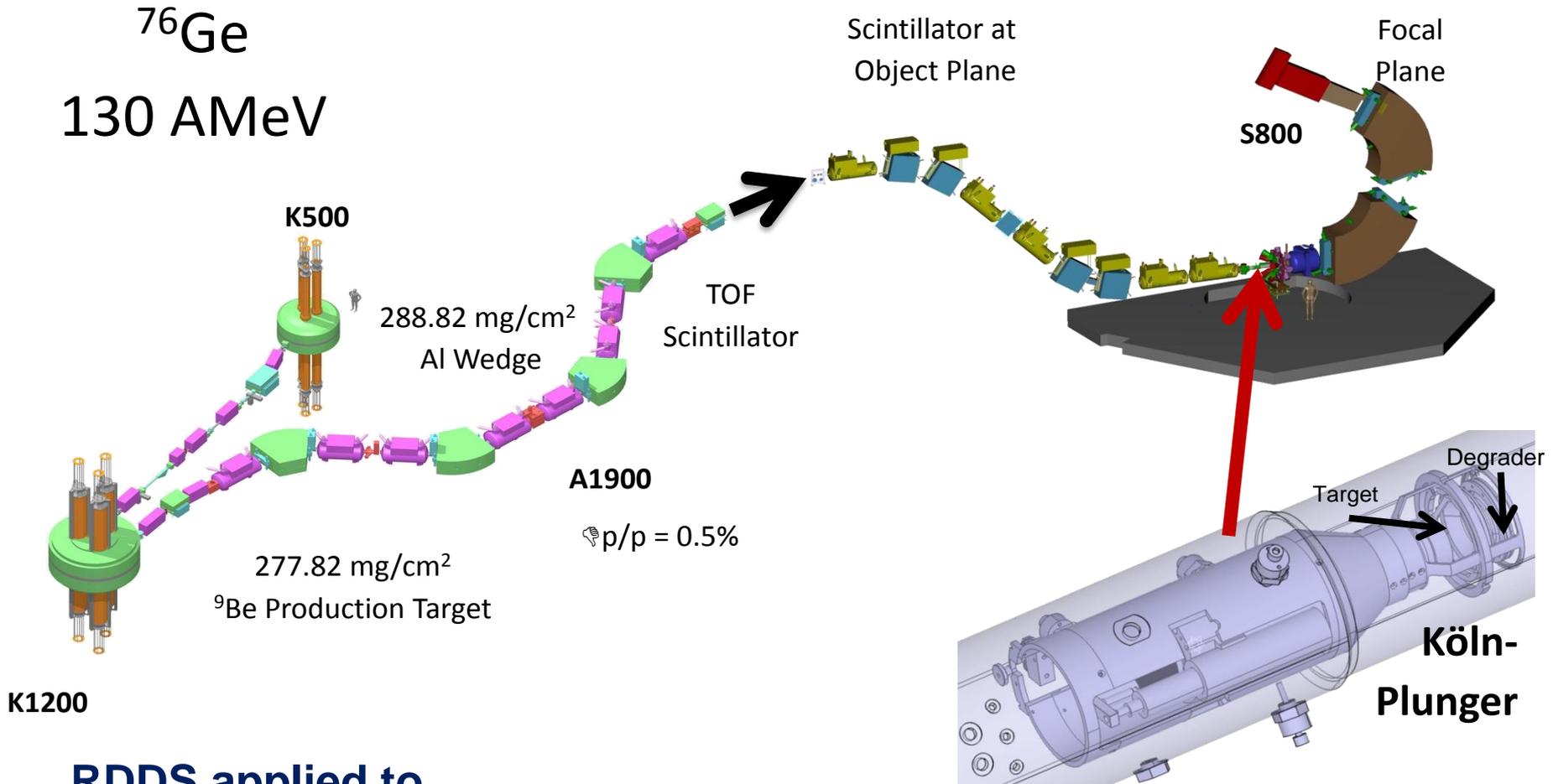
Recent  $B(E2)$  data on  $^{62,64}Fe$  (J.Ljungvall et al., PRC81(10)061301R) suggest an increase of collectivity towards  $N=40$ . **How about  $^{66}Fe$  ?**

## Systematics $E(2^+)$ and $B(E2)$



# $^{62,64,66}\text{Fe}: 2_1^+$ lifetime measurement at NSCL

NSCL coupled cyclotron facility + A1900; MSU

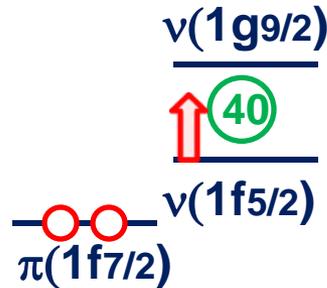


**RDDS applied to  
projectile ( $^{62,64,66}\text{Fe}$ ) Coulomb excitation reactions  
at intermediate energies ( 88-98 AMeV )**

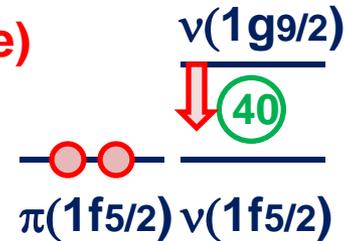
# Comparison with shell model in the *fpgd* space

Symmetry with respect to  $Z \approx 30$ , and shell evolution at  $N=40$

$Z \leq 26$  (Fe)



$34 \leq Z$  (Se)

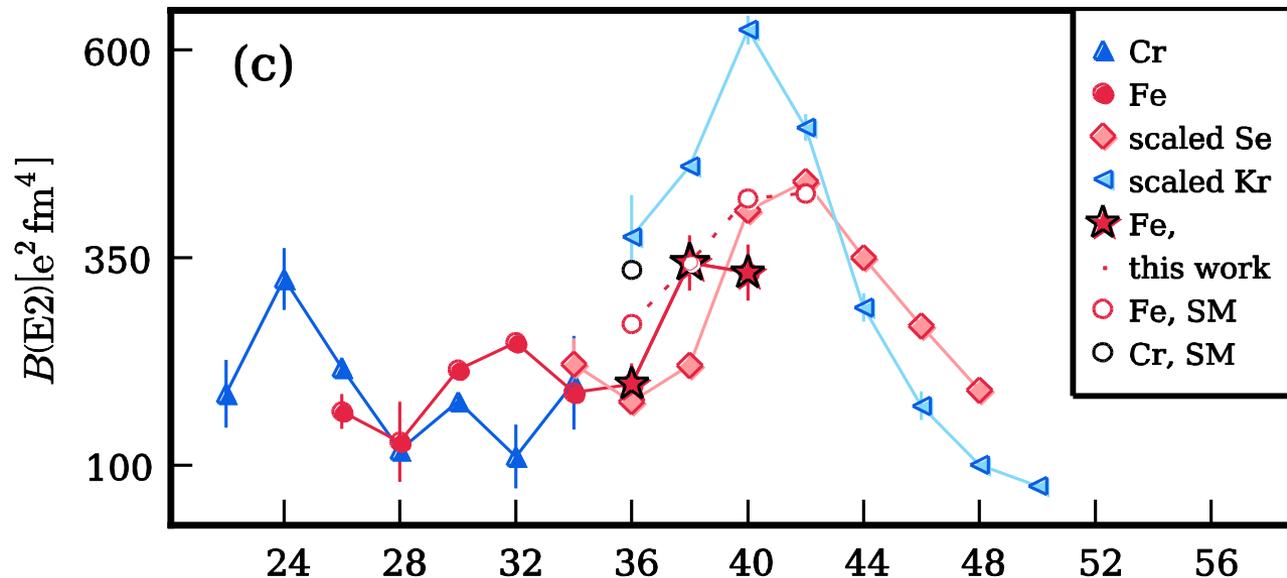


proton-neutron monopole tensor int.

Recent shell model calculations

with new effective LNPS interaction ( by S.M.Lenzi, F.Nowacki, A.Poves, K.Sieja )

well explain the trends of  $B(E2)$  for  $^{62,64,66}\text{Fe}$  at  $N=40$



# Construction of a new plunger for PRESPEC

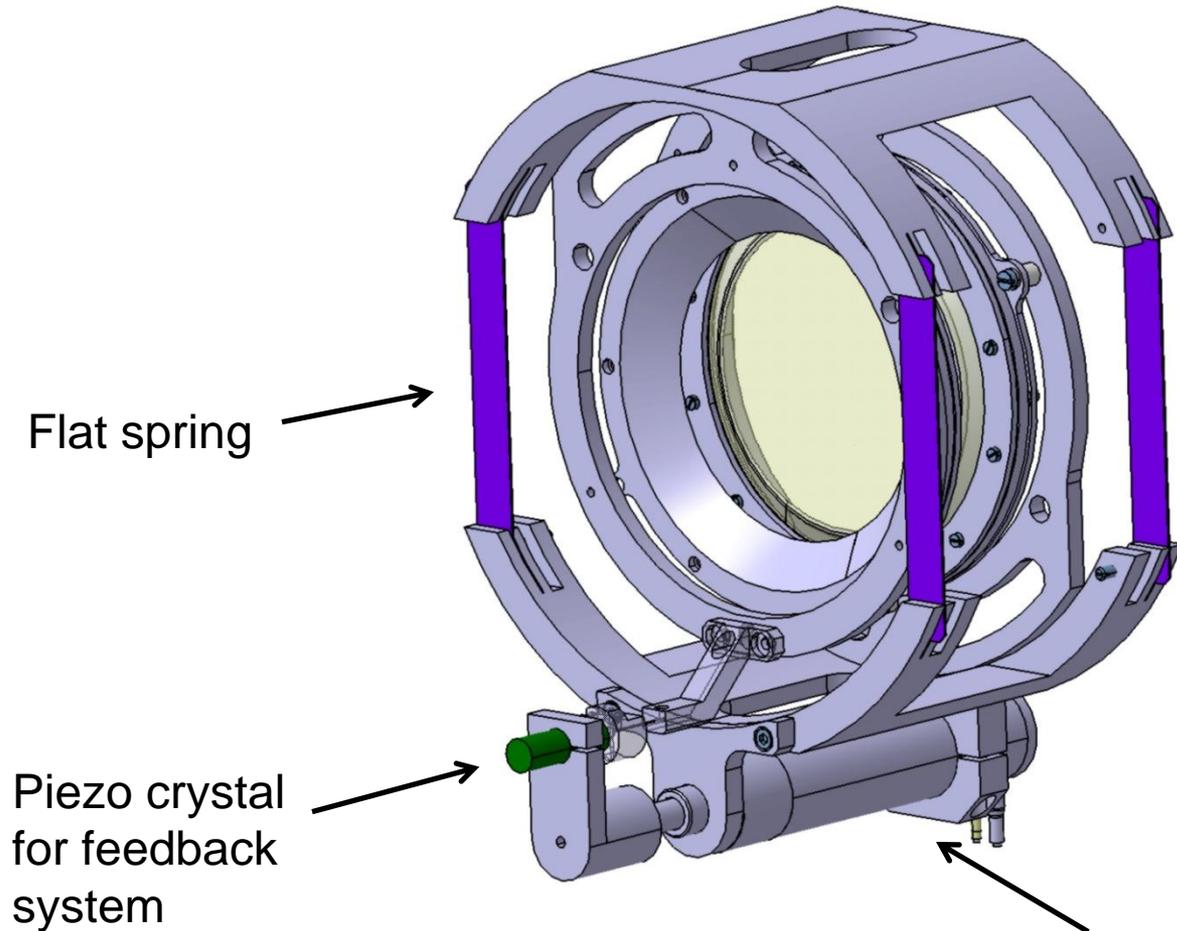
## Requirements:

- No material in front of plunger target due to beam halo: avoid scattering on plunger structure
- Inner target/degrader diameter: 80 mm
- Thick, massive targets and degraders: thickness in mm range, weight up to 50-100 g: need stable construction
- Recoil velocities: typically around 100 MeV/u  
corresponding to  $v/c = 0.5$  or  $v = 1.5 \text{ mm/ns} = 1.5 \text{ }\mu\text{m/ps}$   
Need precision of a few 10  $\mu\text{m}$  for short lifetimes in ps range  
for long lifetimes up to few 100 ps: large distances up to cm range
- Mount DSSD detector close to plunger

# New plunger for PRESPEC



Construction:  
S. Thiel, IKP, Cologne



Flat spring

Piezo crystal  
for feedback  
system

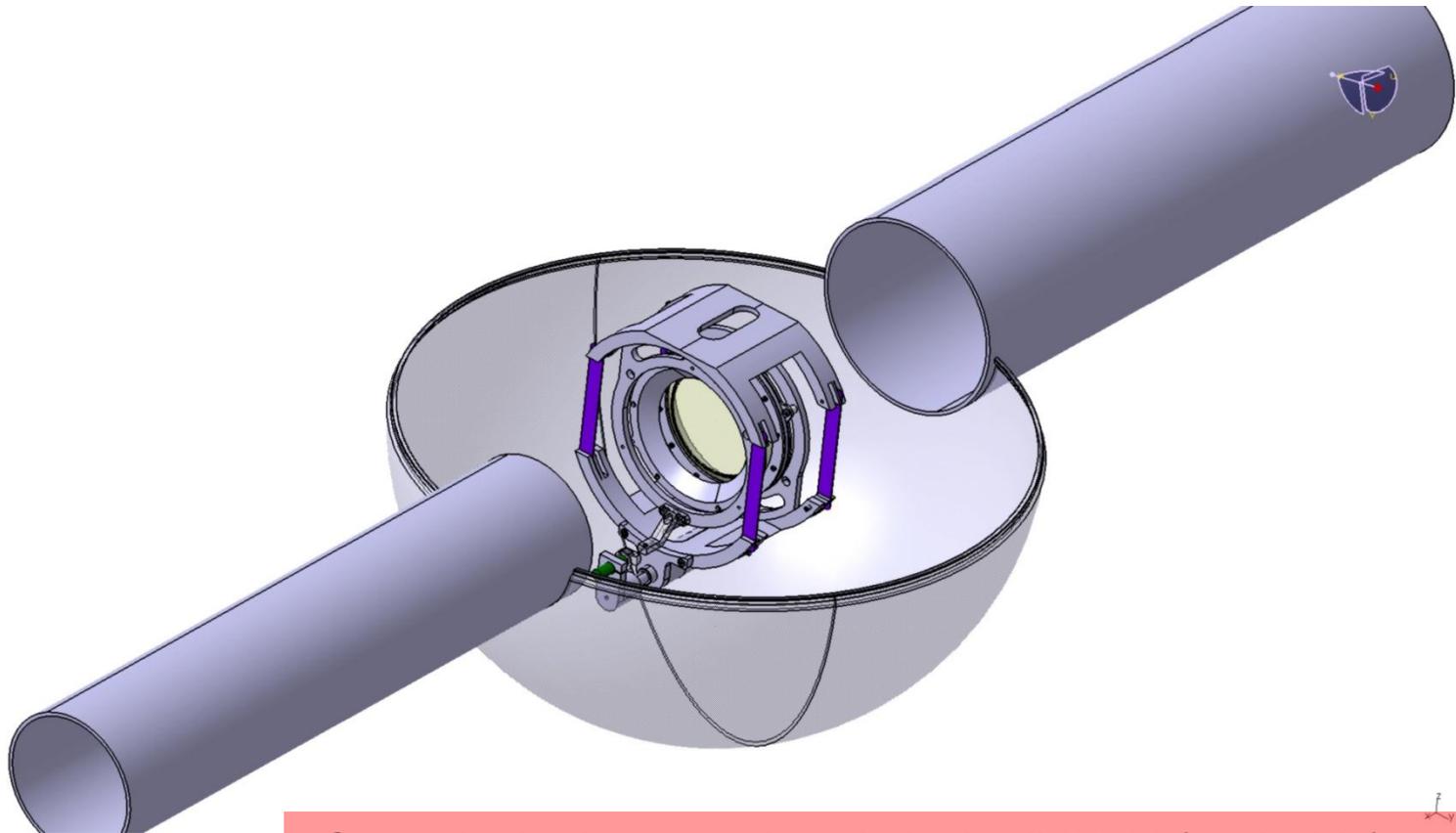
Inchworm motor  
(Piezo Instruments)

Open questions:

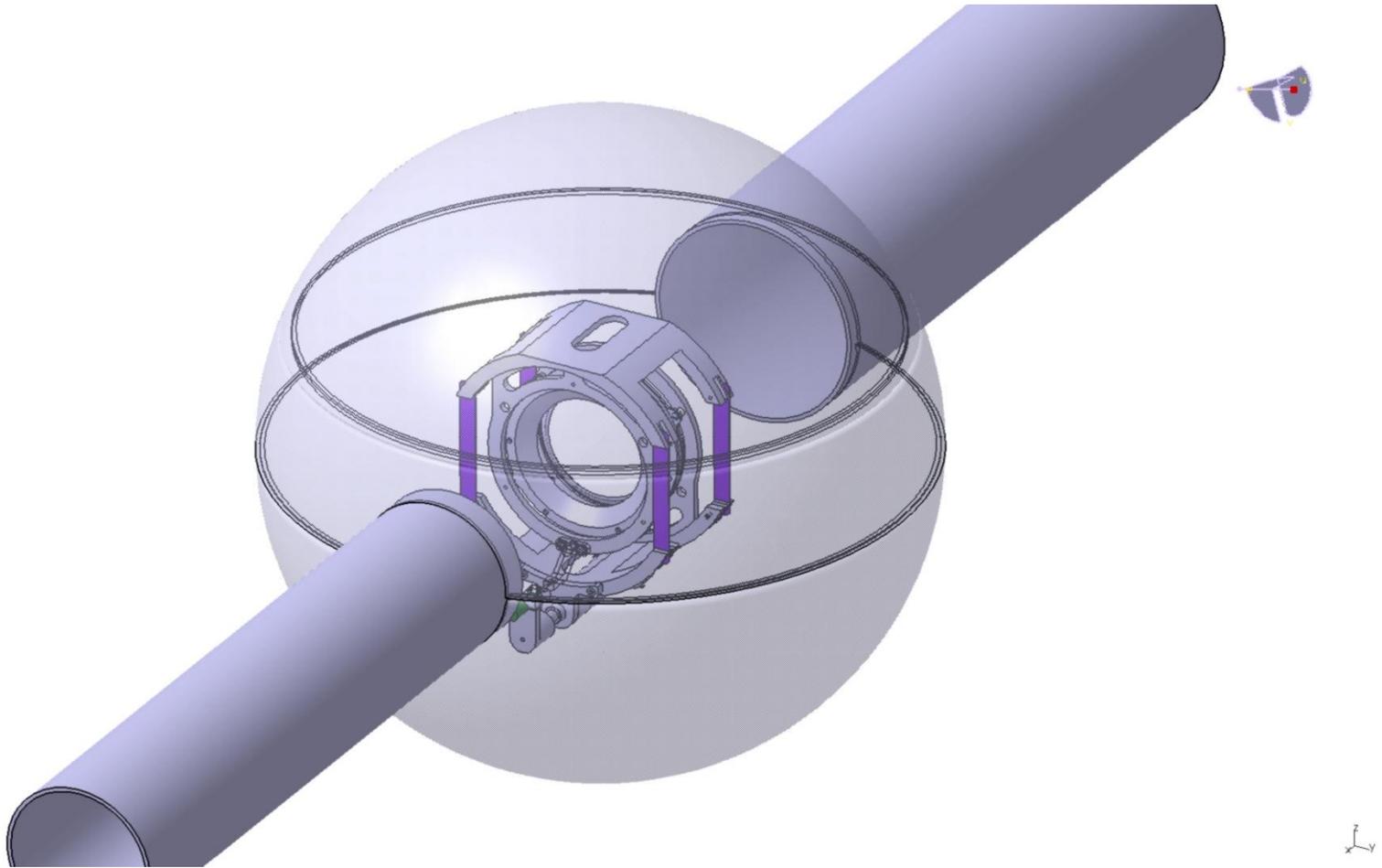
- Construction warp resistant?
- If not: further inchworm needed to make construction precise enough?
- In that case: need to run inchworm motors in parallel: teststand under development



# New PRESPEC plunger mounted in chamber

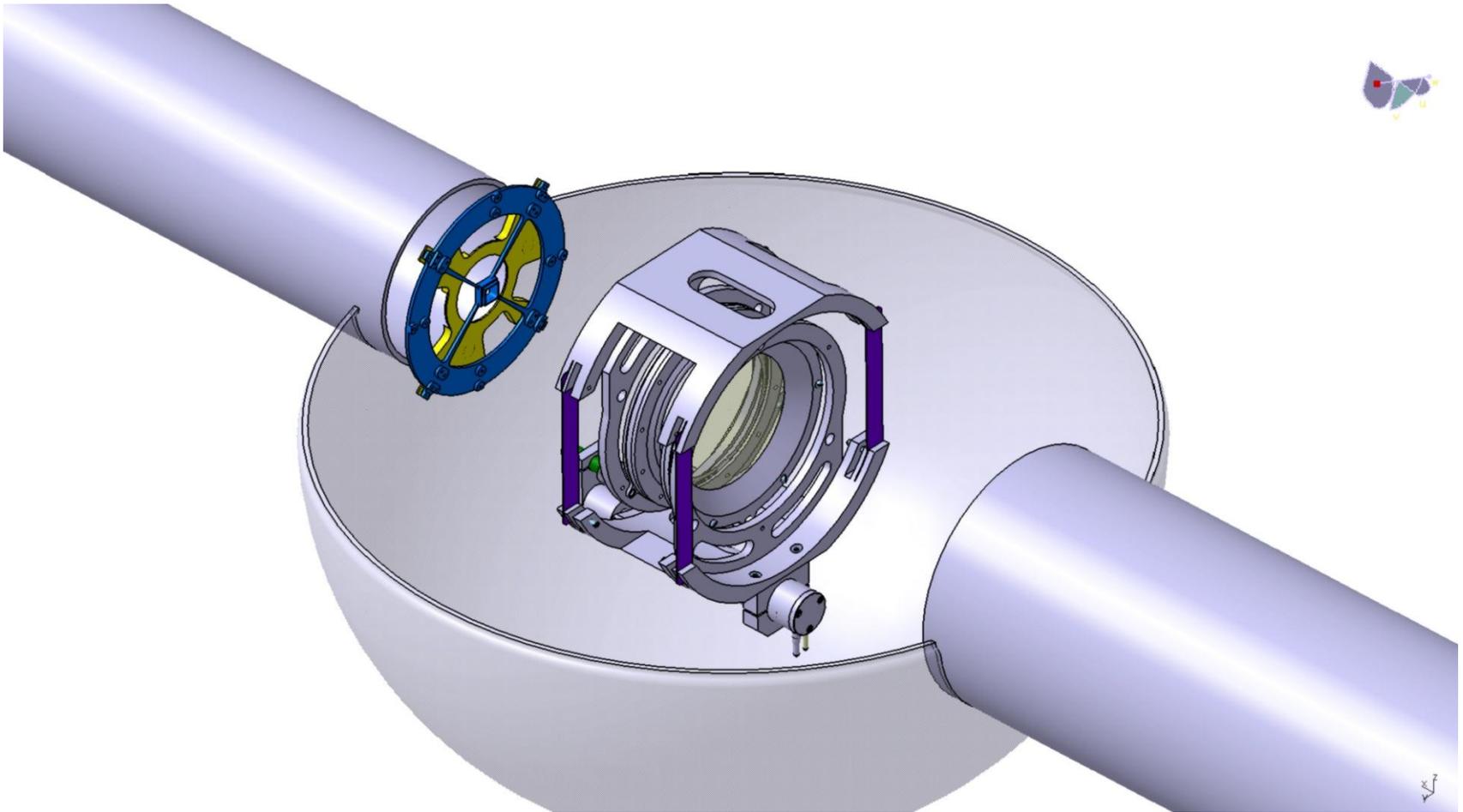


- Commissioning run already in April 2011 (probably)
- New PRESPEC chamber will not be finished till this run
- Construct own chamber for plunger for existing setup:  
with smaller diameter of 30 cm.
- Thus can be made in Cologne



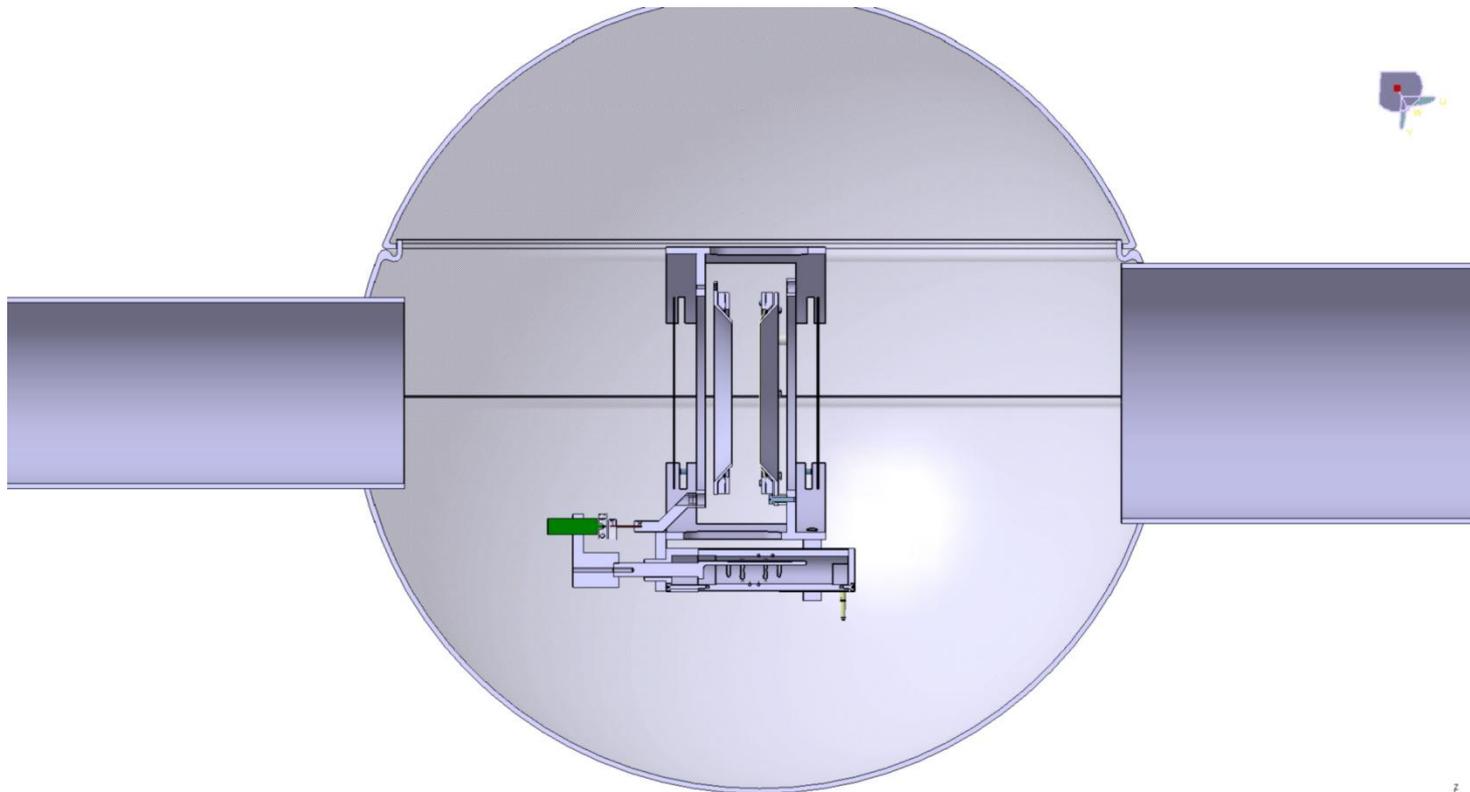
New chamber will have lid that can be removed for aligning and adjusting plunger

# Possibility to mount Si-detector up- or downstream from plunger: where?



Propose: construct holding structure to support Si detector from beam pipe

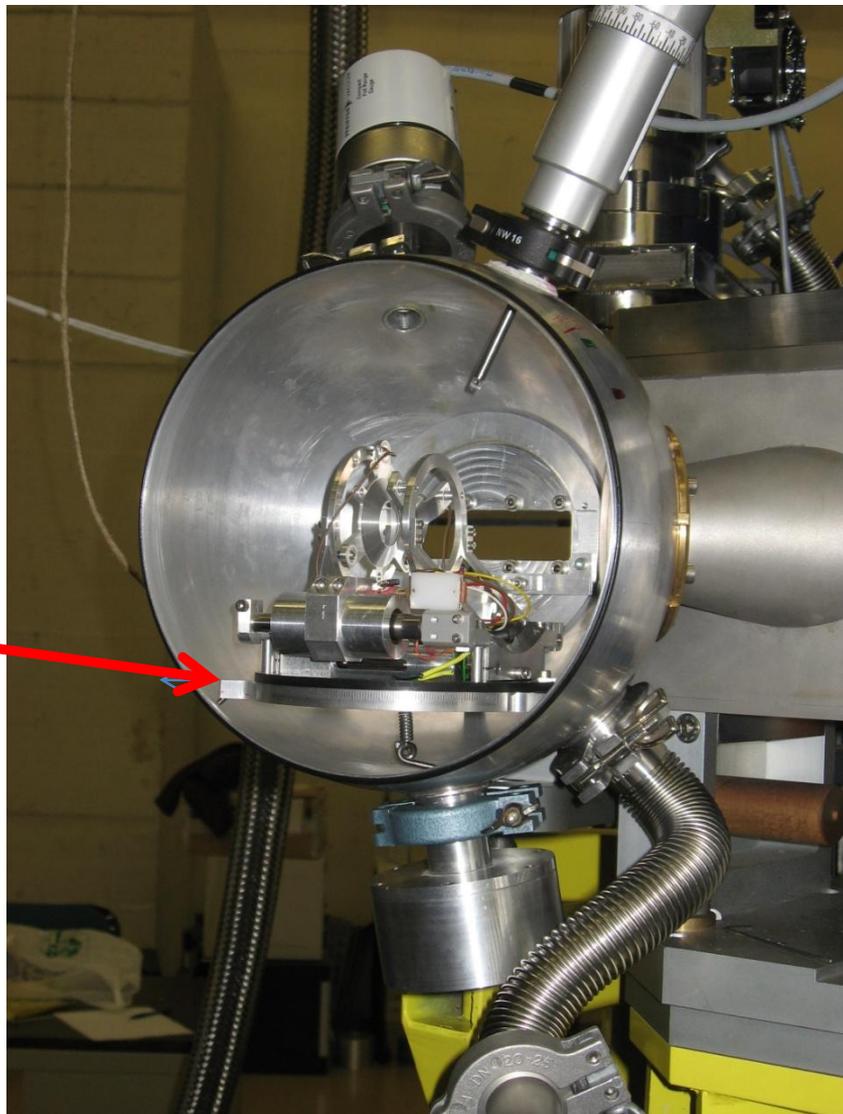
# Side view



Missing so far: support structure for plunger.  
will be done similar to LNL/GANIL plunger.  
Modification: possibility to move plunger upstream  
to increase angular resolution

# LNL/GANIL plunger

Adjustable  
ring for plunger



# New inchworm motor: performance

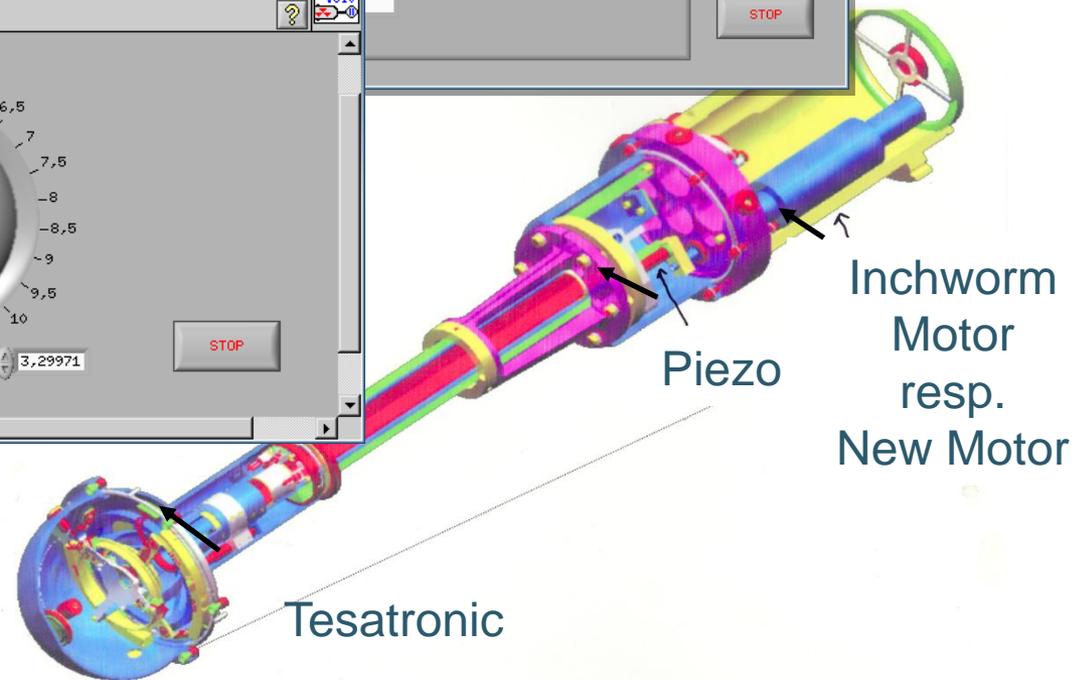
New type of inchworm motor was tested  
manufactured by PI Piezo Instruments, type N381 K001

- Accuracy:  $\leq 0.5\mu\text{m}$  (reproducible)
- Accordance between motor and micrometer distance measurement:  $\leq 0.5\mu\text{m}$
- Maximum driving distance: 30mm
- Dimensions:  
diameter: 25 mm  
length: 119 mm (only motor)



# Tools for Hardware Control and Measurement

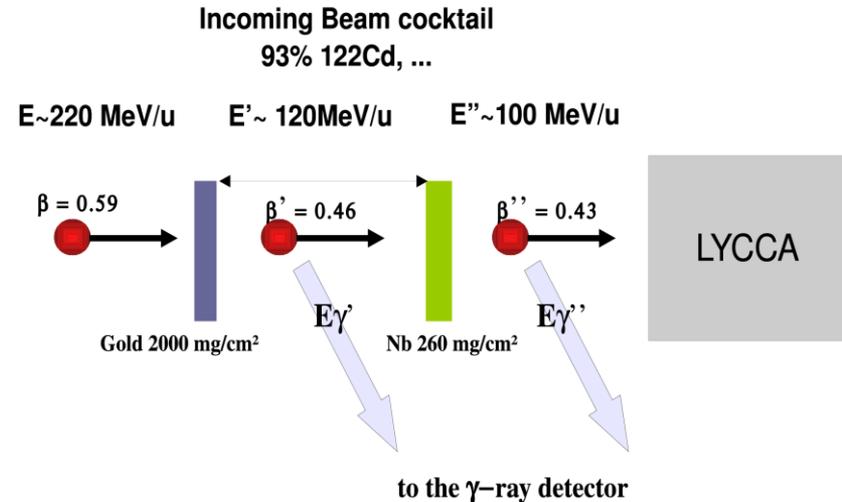
Software written by T. Pissulla  
was used already in different experiments  
Performance: running stable and reliable



# Approved commissioning experiment: Investigation of $^{122}\text{Cd}$ with the RDDS method and new Cologne differential plunger at PRESPEC

Aim: application of Cologne differential plunger for lifetime measurements at HISPEC/PRESPEC with Coulex in inverse kinematics

**Measure  $B(E2, 0_1^+ \rightarrow 2_1^+)$  in  $^{122}\text{Cd}$ :**  
**Determine from lifetimes measured with plunger**  
**Compare to  $B(E2, 2_1^+ \rightarrow 0_1^+)$  from Coulex**



Lifetime $\tau$ [ps]	14.4
Doppler-shifted $\gamma$ -ray energy after plunger-target at $15^\circ$ [keV]	914.2
PRESPEC $\gamma$ -ray energy resolution [%]	4
Averaged cross section for Coulex in target [mb]	300
Cross section for Coulex in degrader [mb]	140
Number of detected good PRESPEC-LYCCA coincidences/h	172
Shifts per single target-degrader data point	1
Estimated number of shifts	3

Approved parasitic experiment  
21 parasitic shifts (Spring 2011)

# A new plunger at PRESPEC: conclusion

- New plunger for PRESPEC under development
- PRESPEC plunger will allow precise lifetimes measurements of excited  $2+$  state in very exotic nuclei:  
knockout reactions, Coulex(?)
- New inchworm motors will be used: testing finished
- Software for operating plunger existing and performing well.
- Some questions still to be solved:  
construction with flat springs stable enough?  
Alternatively: need construction with 2 inchworm motors.  
In parallel: construction of test stand to run 2 inchworms.

# The new Cologne differential compact plunger @ PRISMA

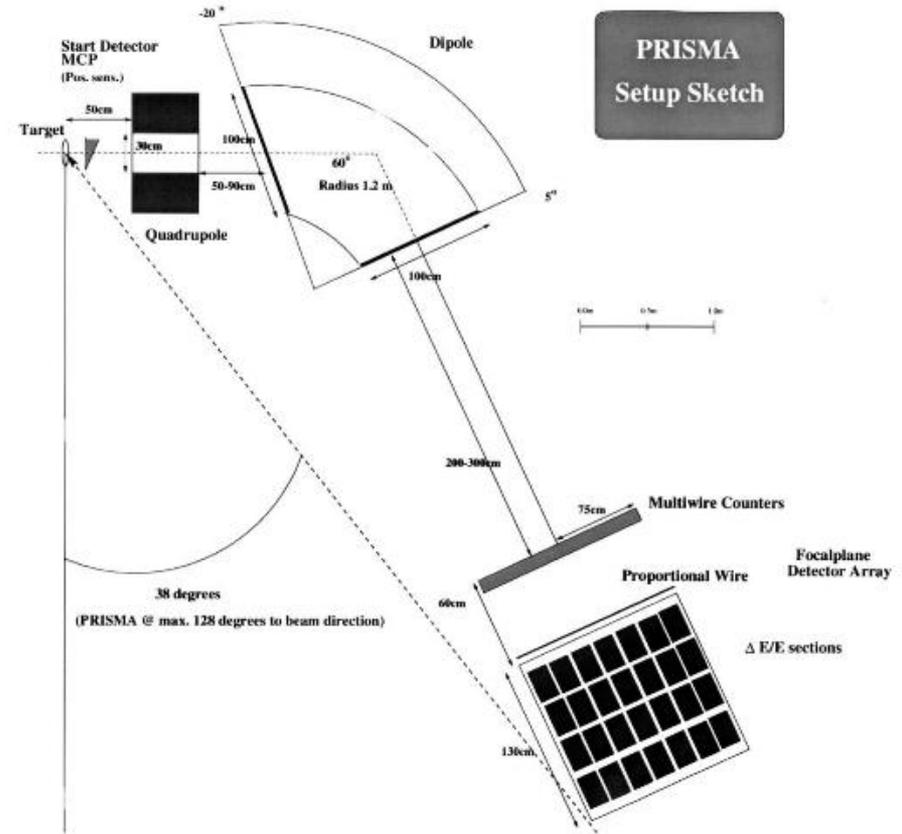
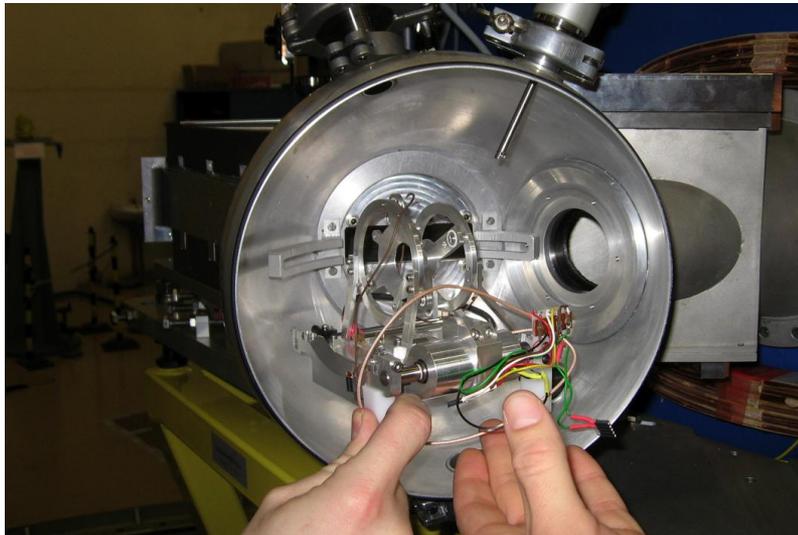
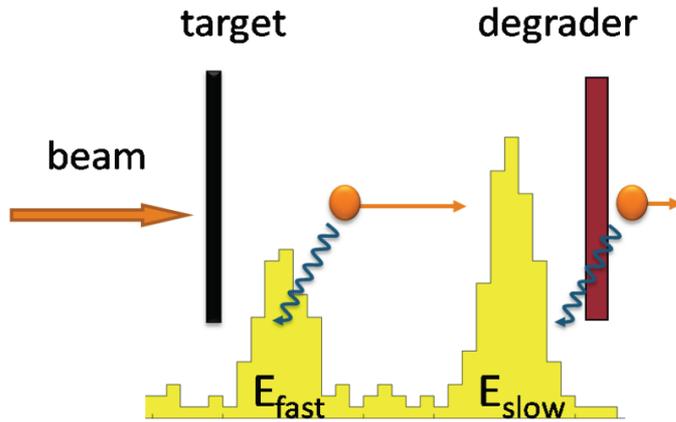


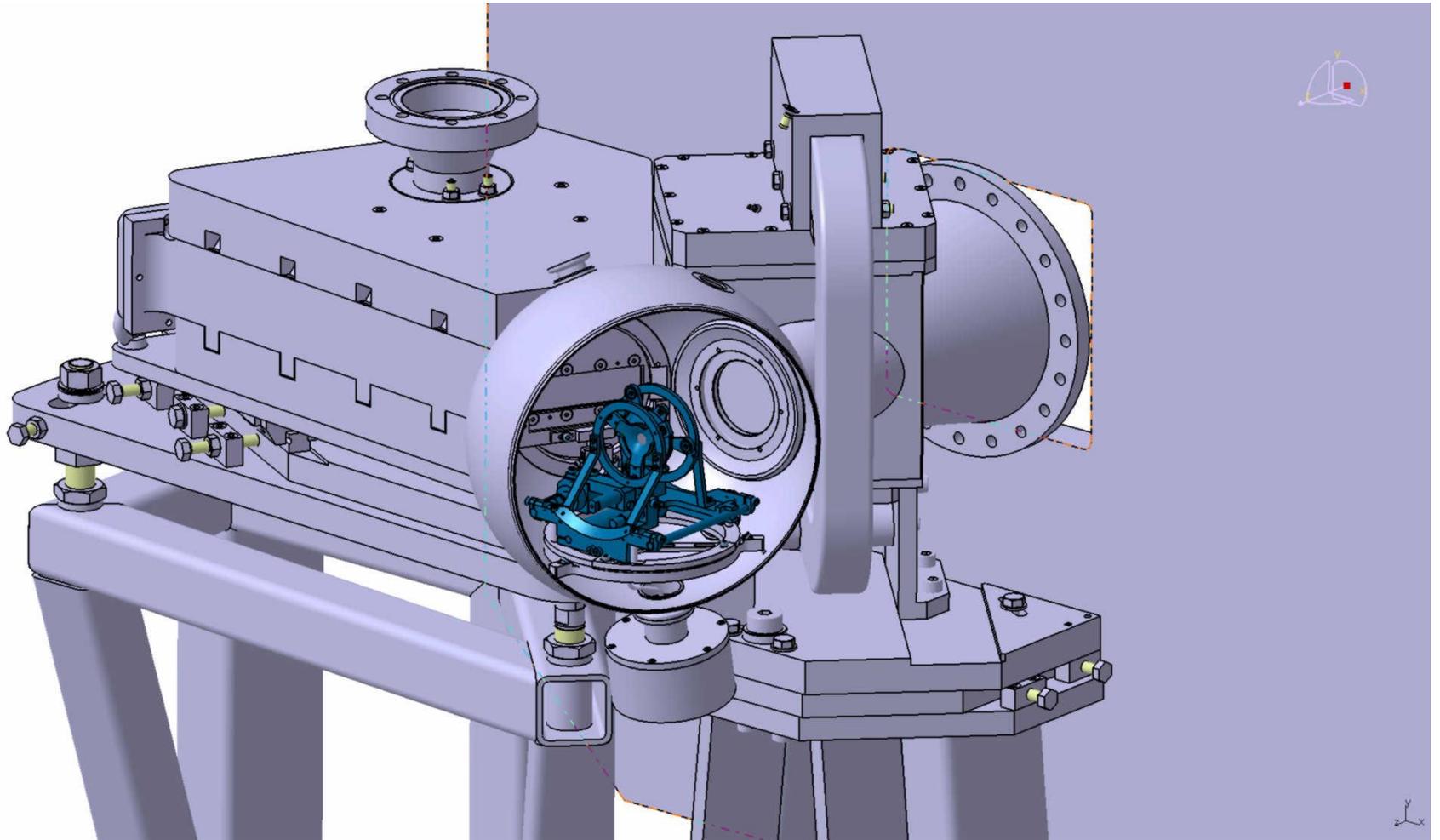
Fig. 2. Layout of the spectrometer PRISMA.

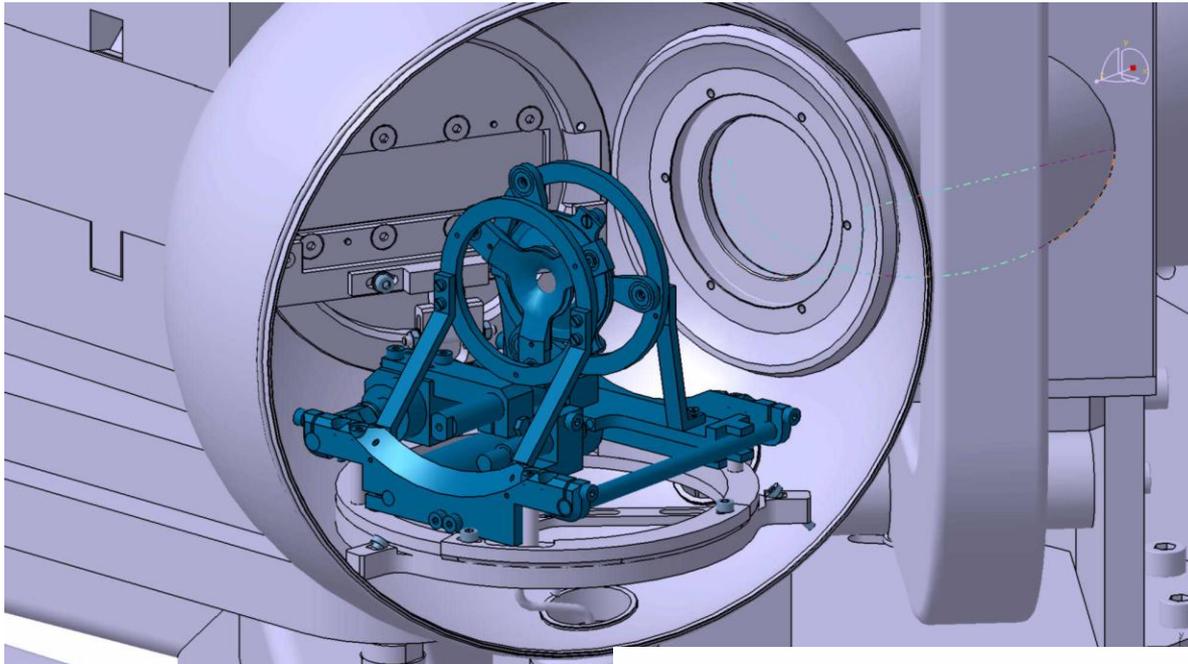
(from A. Stefanini et al., Nucl. Phys. A 701, 217c (2002))

Proof of principle with fixed Plunger with PRISMA/CLARA  
(J.J. Valiente-Dobon et al., PRL 102, 242502 (2009))

Compact plunger for proposed experiments already successfully used at GANIL and at LNL in last campaign in June 2010 (E. Sahin, J.J. Valiente-Dobon).  
Modifications for large grazing angles up to 60 deg.

# Compact plunger at PRISMA





Plunger at PRISMA:  
More drawings...

Several experiments performed  
with this new plunger at LNL  
(see, e.g., talk by E. Farnea)

A. Gadea, et al., to be submitted to NIM  
(will contain section on plunger by  
A. Dewald, T. Pissulla)

