

# Exploring unbound states of $^{18}\text{C}$ in inverse kinematics with the $\text{R}^3\text{B}$ setup

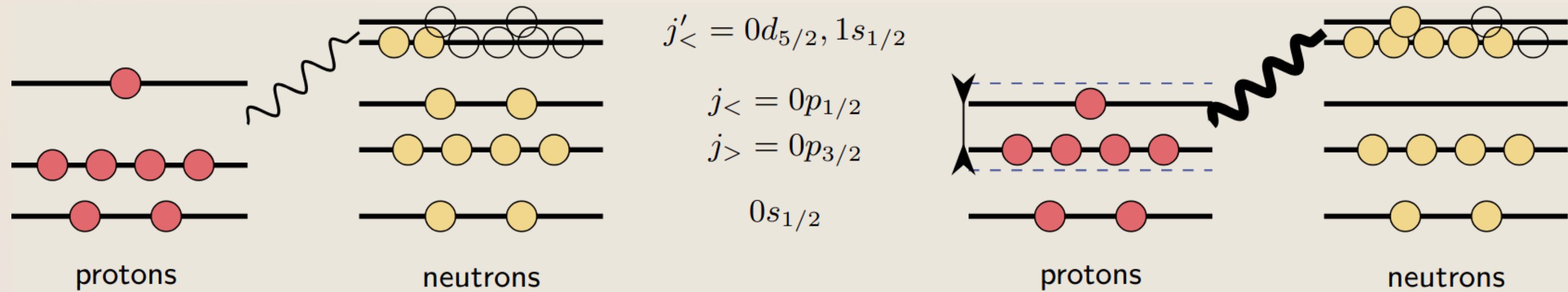
Martina Feijoo Fontán

European Nuclear Physics Conference  
Caen, September 2025



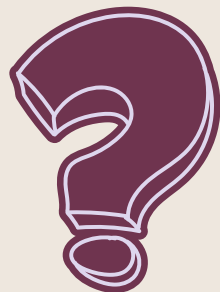


# Evolution of the $p$ -splitting ( $Z=6$ ) towards the neutron dripline



## Carbon isotopes

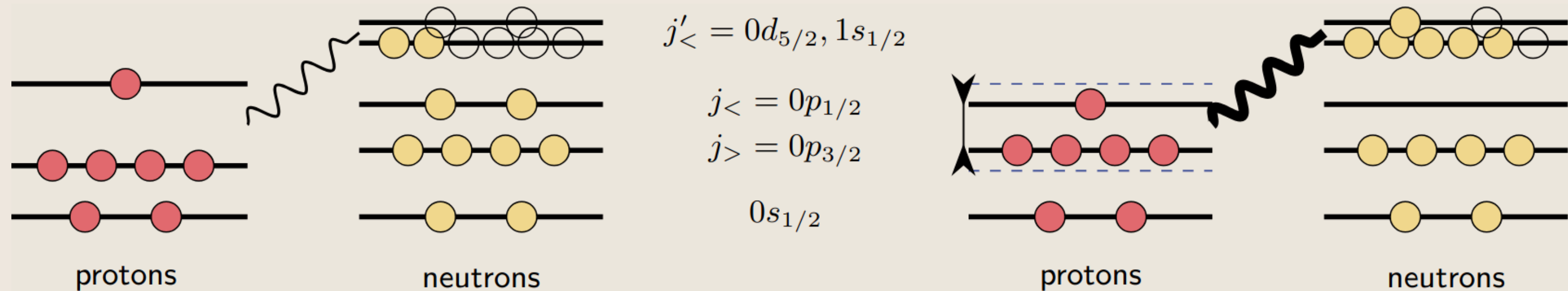
constant  
*D.T. Tran et al,*  
*Nat Comm 9 1594*



quenched  
*I. Syndikus et al,*  
*PLB 809 135748*



# Evolution of the $p$ -splitting ( $Z=6$ ) towards the neutron dripline



$^X\text{N}(p,2p)^{X-1}\text{C} \rightarrow p$  removed from  $p_{1/2}$  and  $p_{3/2}$  orbitals  
leading to  $1^+$  and  $2^+$  states in even-even C nuclei

## Carbon isotopes

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quenched  
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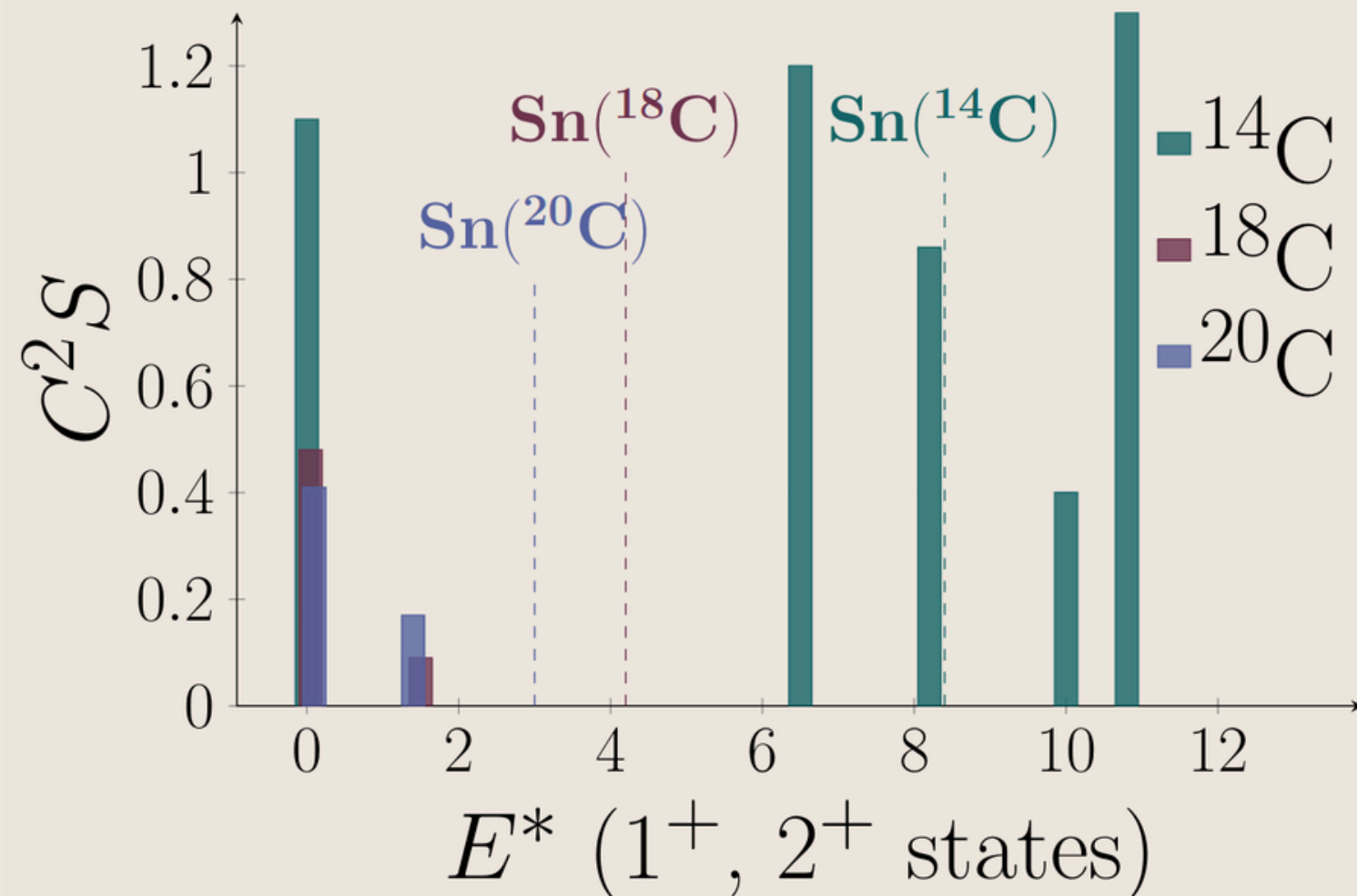
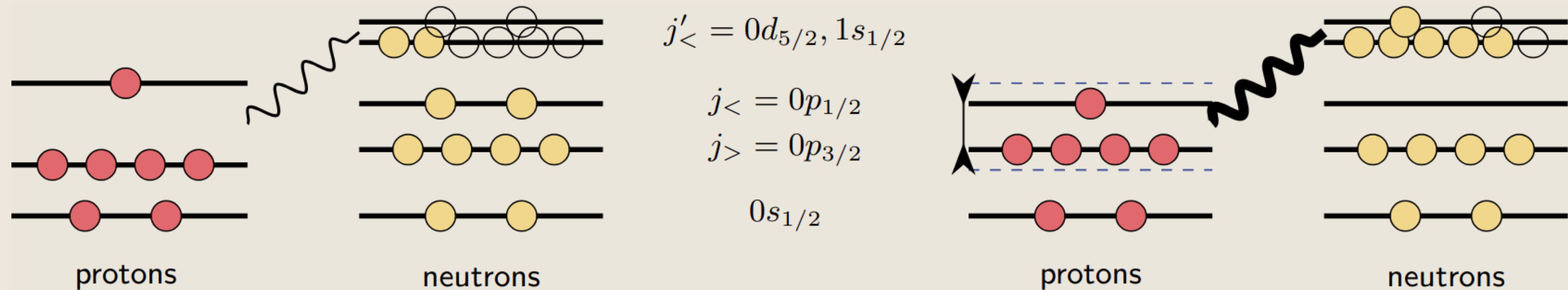
First excited  $2^+$  already studied  
looking at  $\text{C}^2\text{S}(2^+)/\text{C}^2\text{S}(0^+)$

most of the interesting strength is unbound

extend the work for  $1n$  decay



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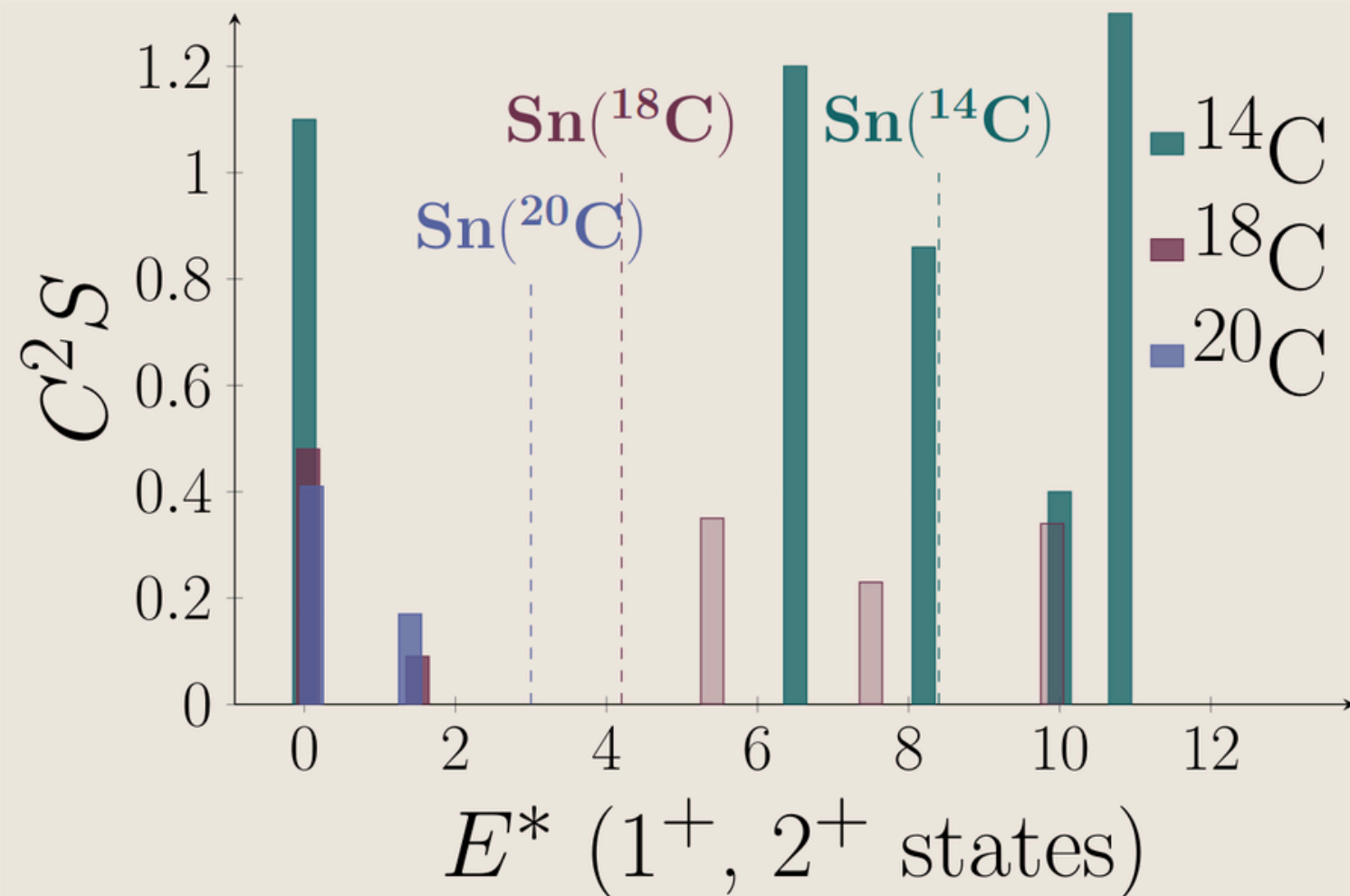
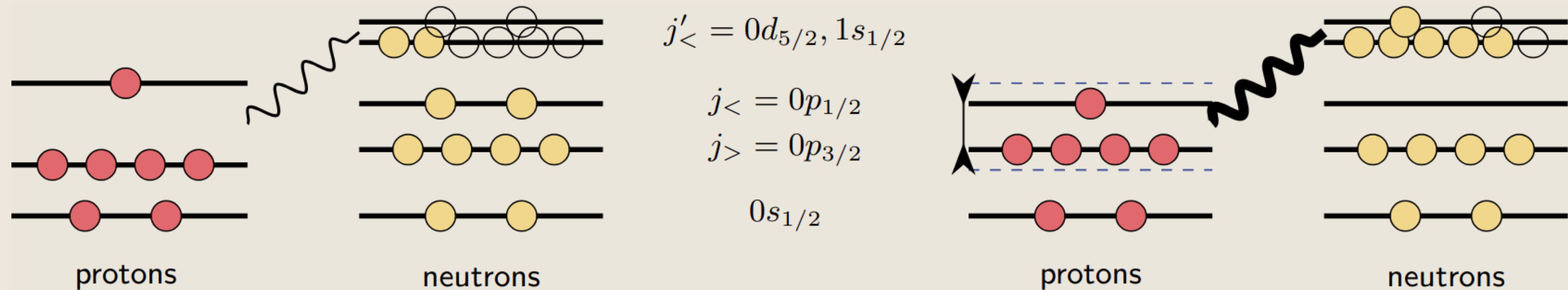
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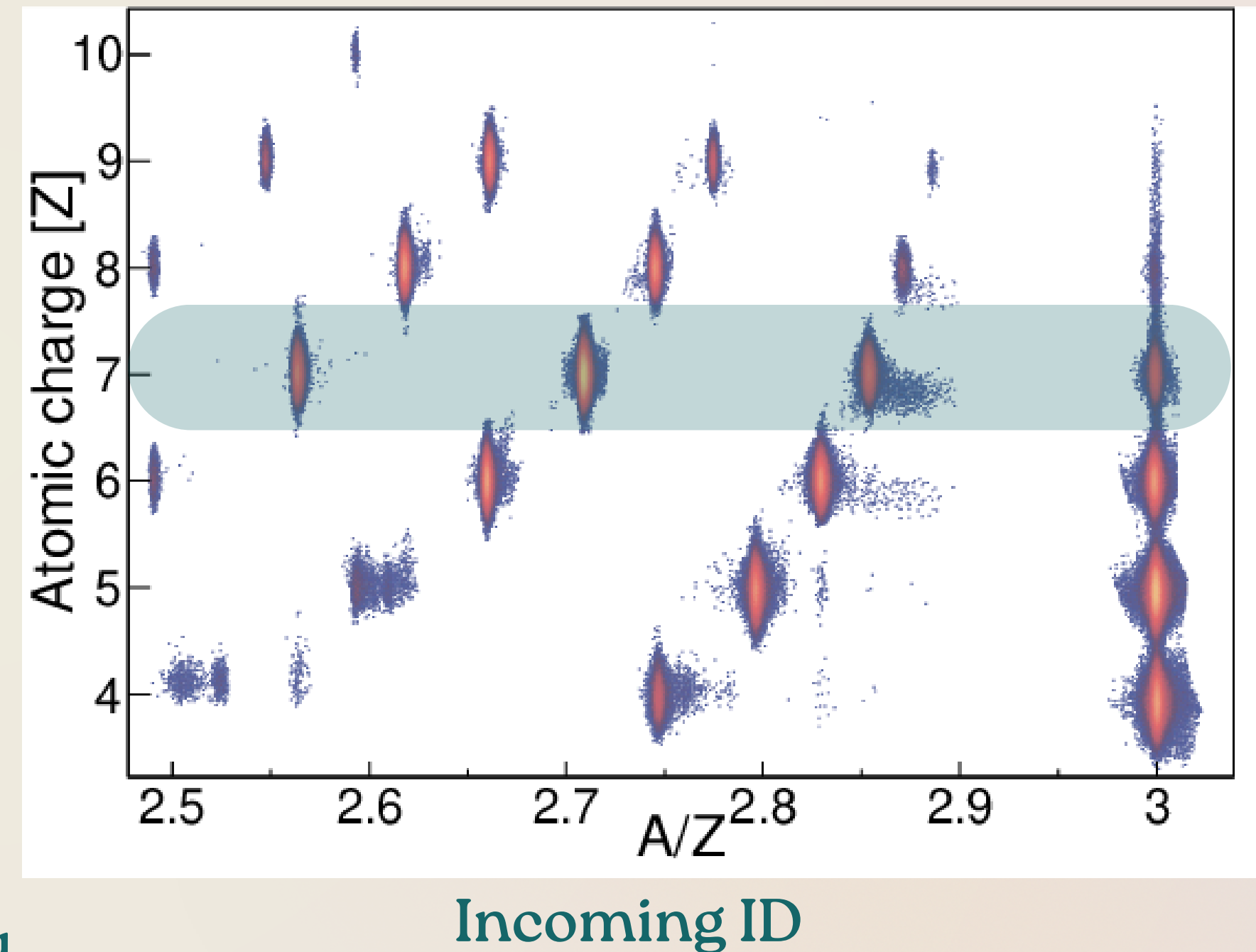
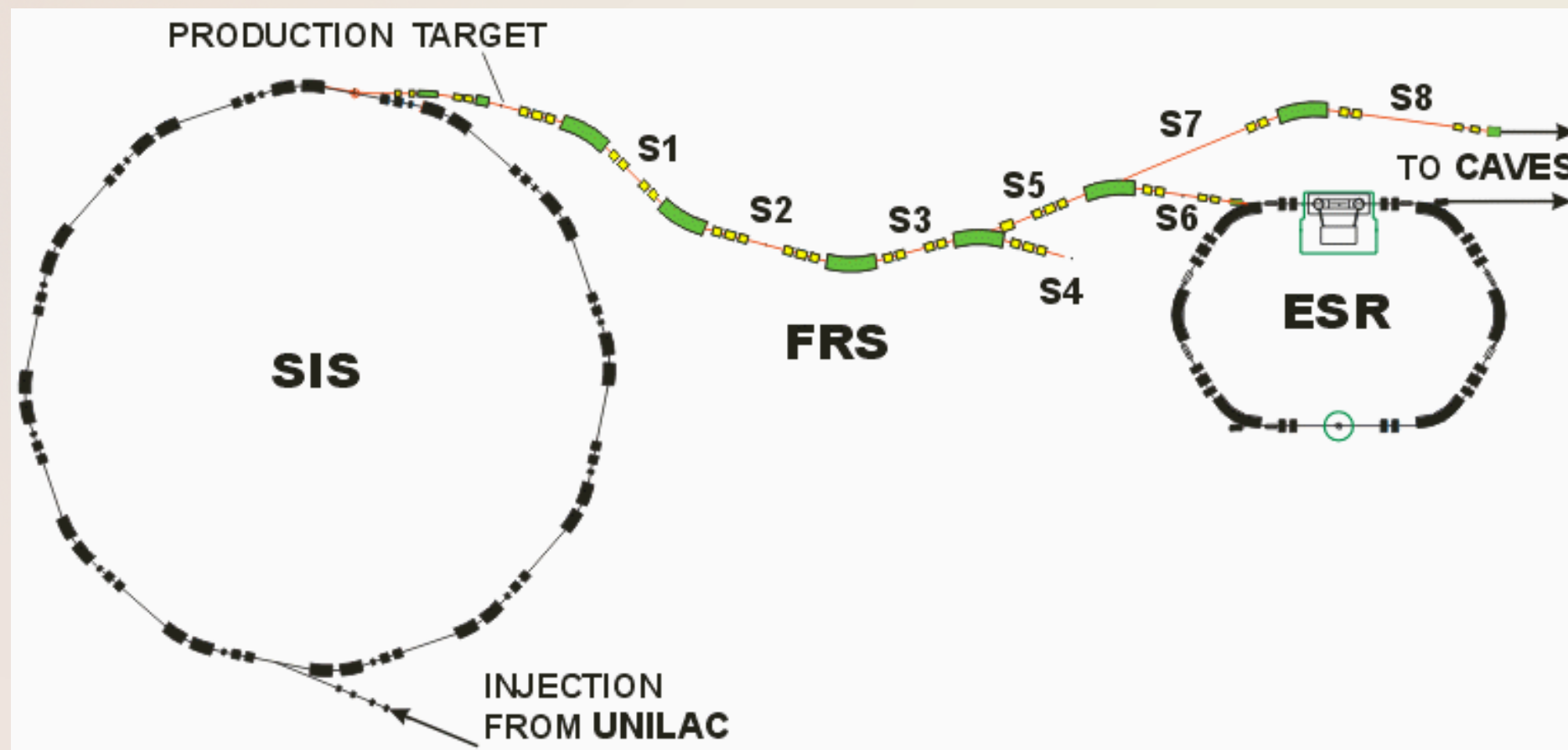
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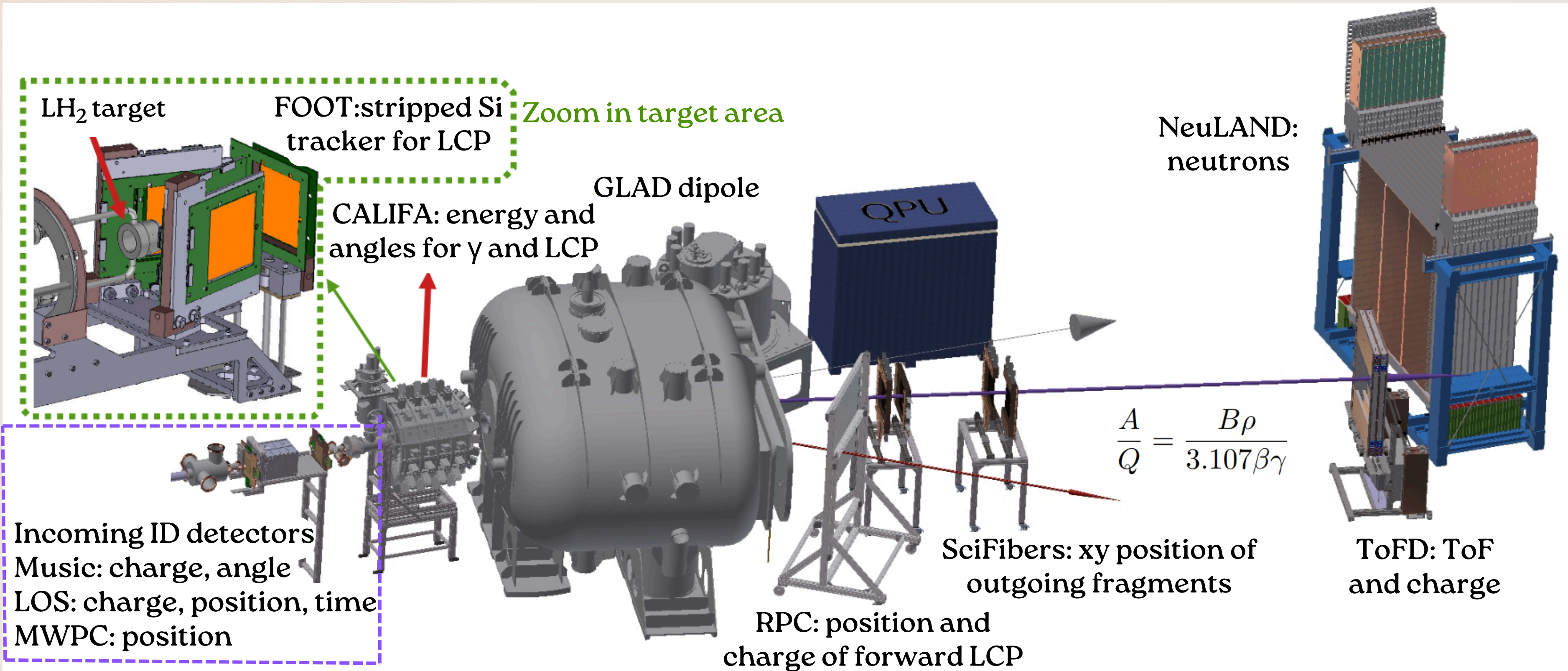
# s509 experiment, $R^3B$ at GSI



$^{40}\text{Ar}$  primary beam 600 MeV/u  
Be target ( $4\text{g/cm}^2$ ) for secondary beam 540 MeV/u



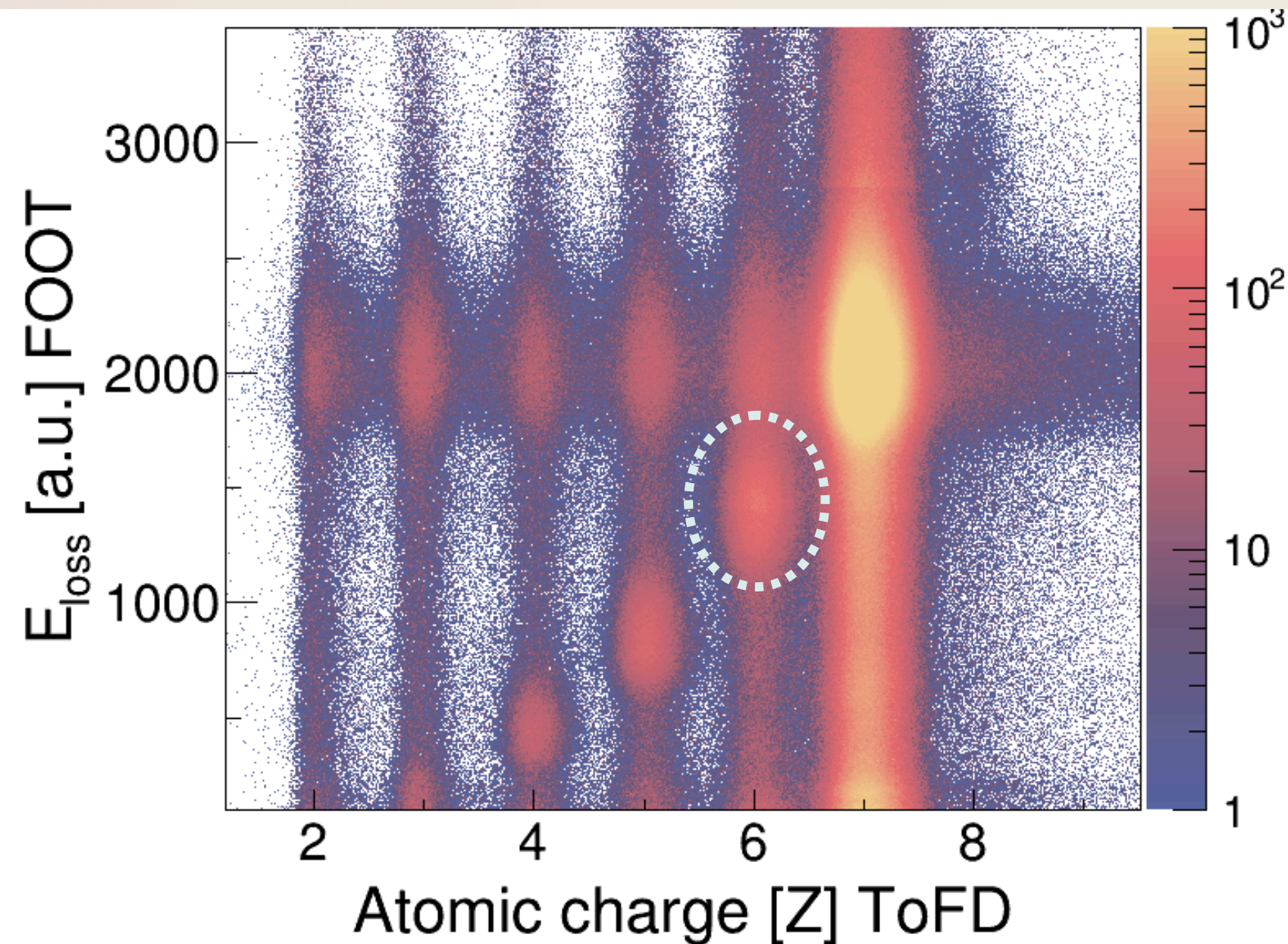
# The R<sup>3</sup>B setup



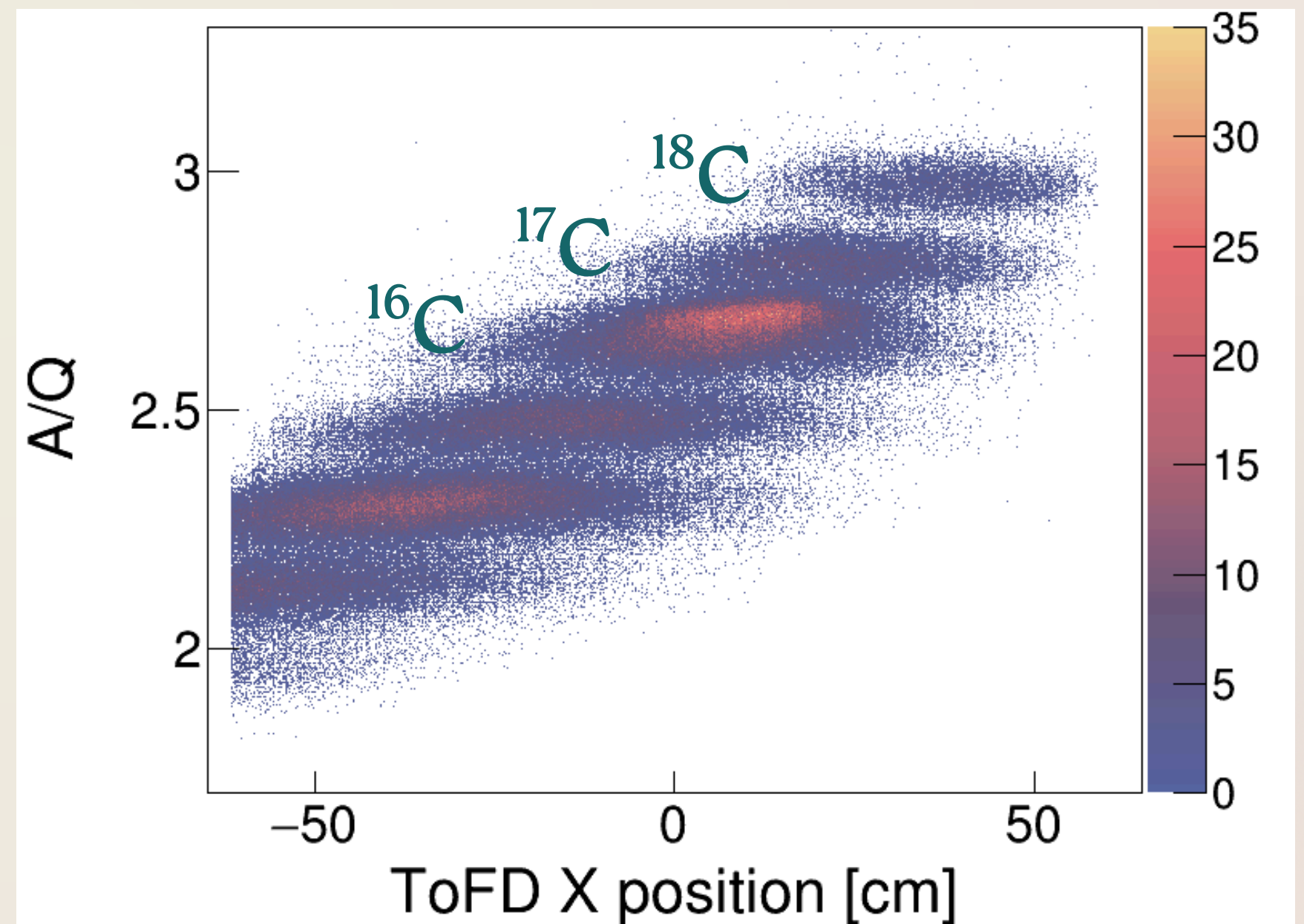


# Fragment identification

Charge correlation  $^{19}\text{N}$  incoming

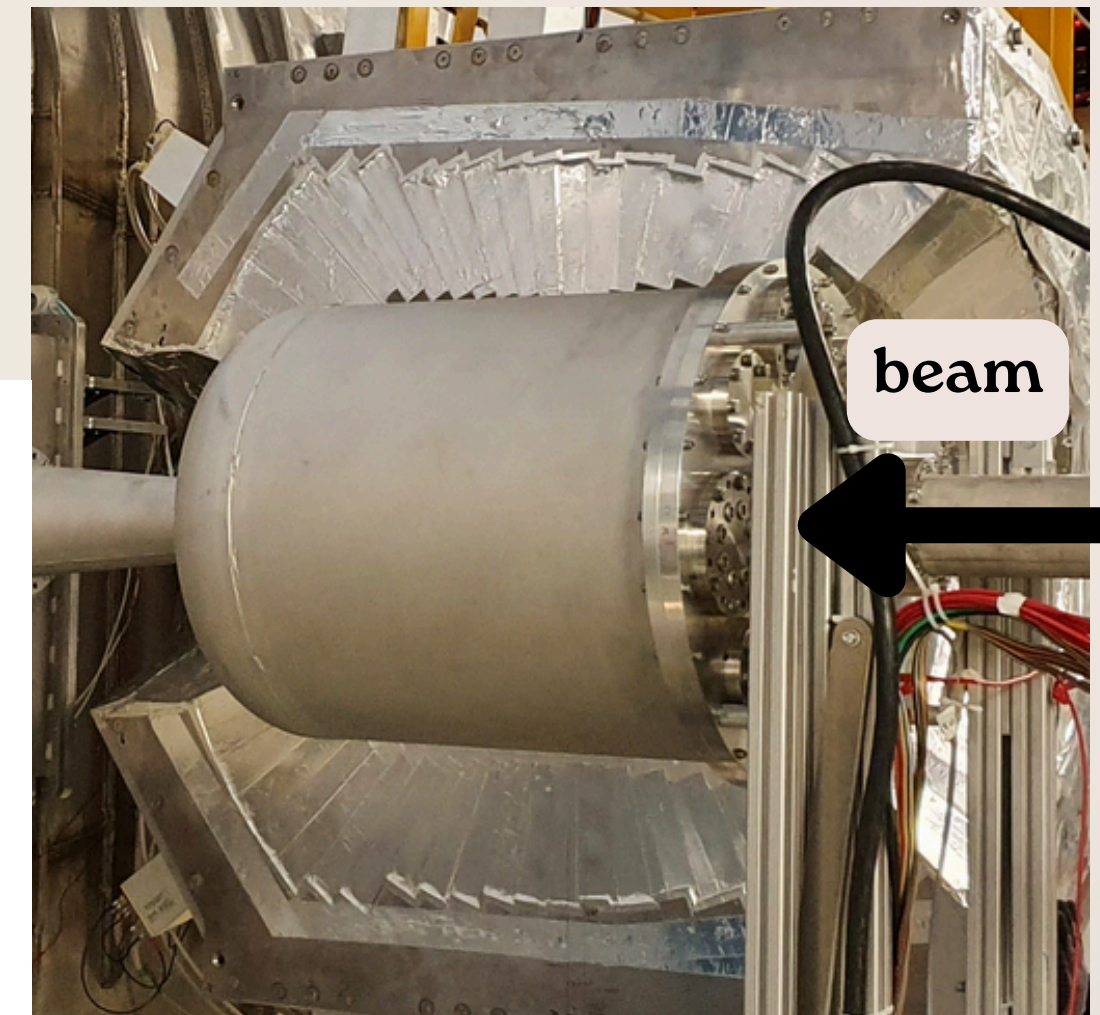
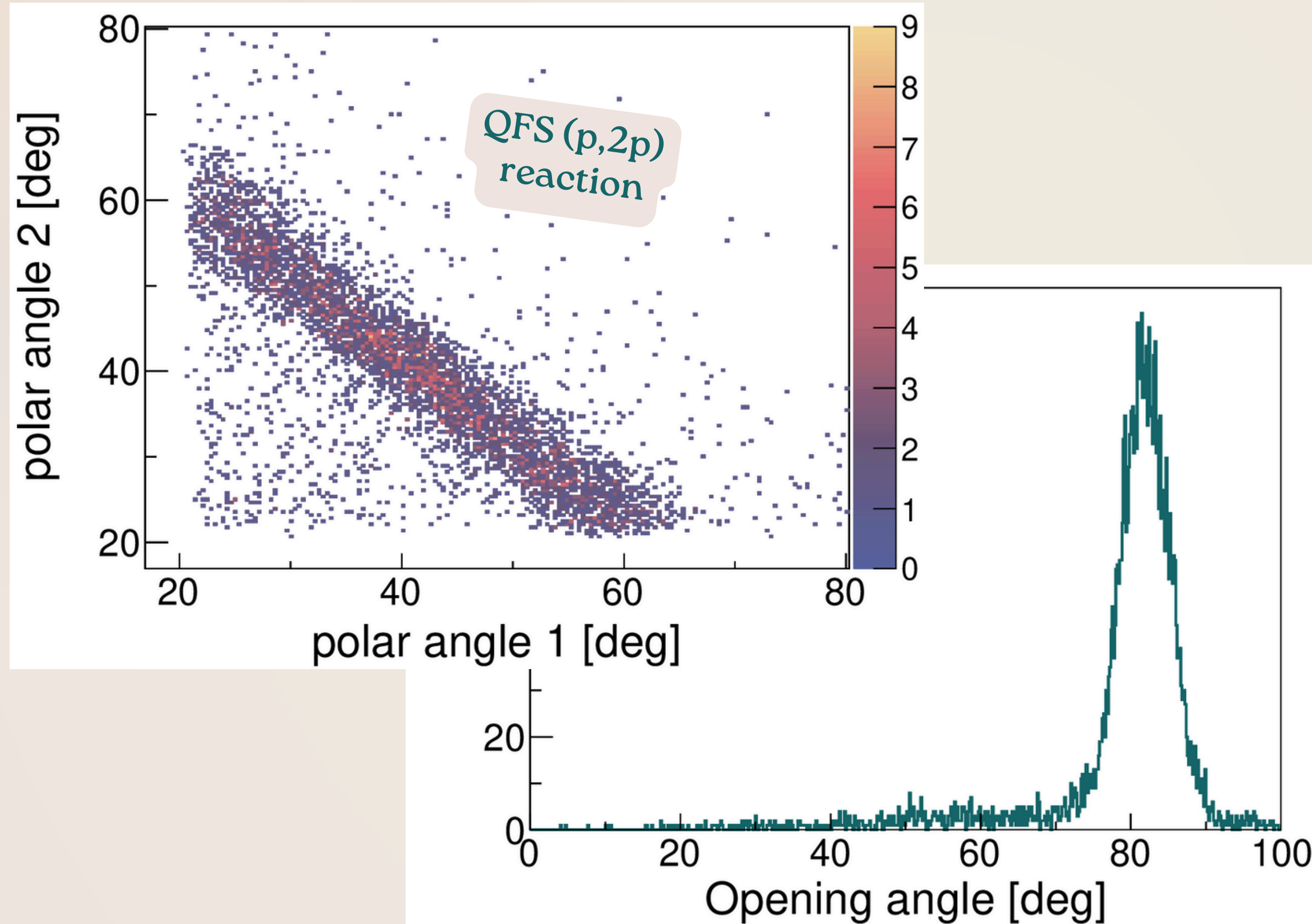


Outgoing fragments  
 $^{19}\text{N}$  incoming + Z=6 cut





# Califa detector

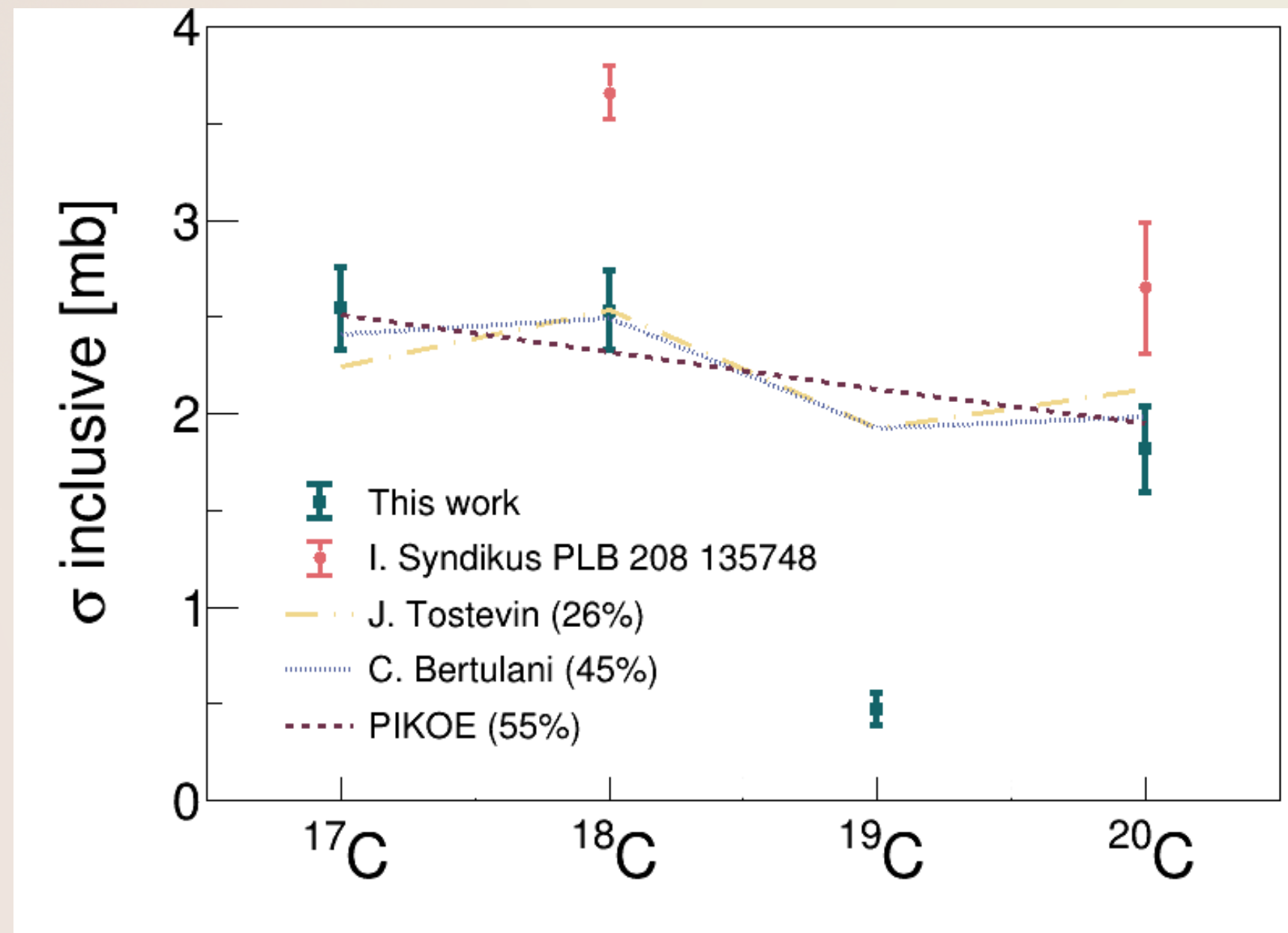


1504 CsI(Tl) crystals  
 $\theta$  22°- 88°



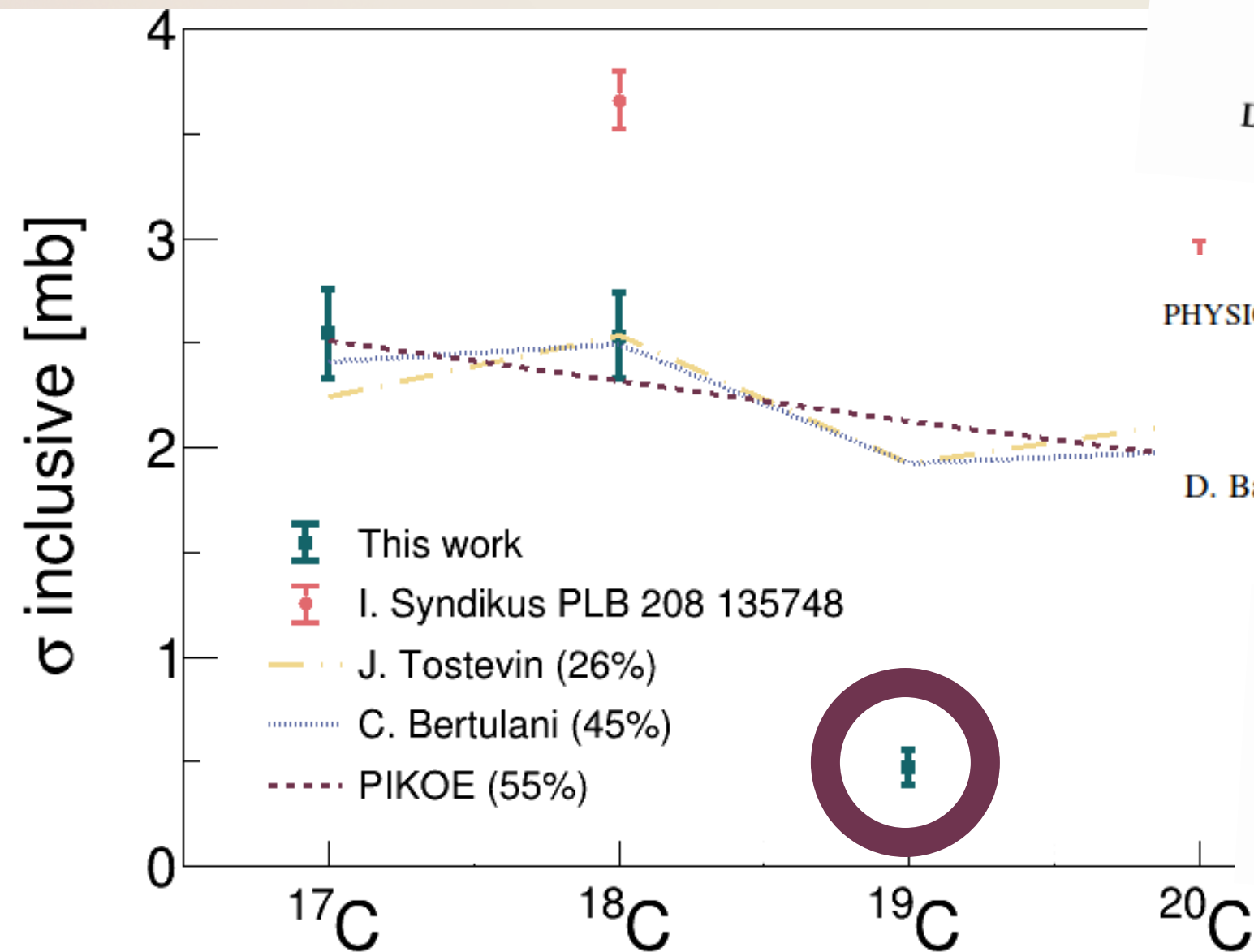
# Inclusive cross sections N chain

$$\sigma_{incl} = \frac{N_{frag}^{p2p}}{N_{proj}} \cdot \frac{M_t}{N_A z \rho} \frac{1}{\varepsilon_{p2p} \cdot \varepsilon_{frag}}$$



# Inclusive cross sections N chain

$^{19}\text{C}$  halo nucleus



VOLUME 74, NUMBER 18  
PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS  
1 MAY 1995

**One-Neutron Halo of  $^{19}\text{C}$**

D. Bazin, B. A. Brown, J. Brown, M. Fauerbach, M. Hellström, S. E. Hirzebruch, J. H. Kelley, R. A. Kryger, D. J. Morrissey, R. Pfaff, C. F. Powell, B. M. Sherrill, and M. Thoennessen

PHYSICAL REVIEW C  
VOLUME 57, NUMBER 5  
MAY 1998

**Probing the halo structure of  $^{19,17,15}\text{C}$  and  $^{14}\text{B}$**

D. Bazin, W. Benenson, B. A. Brown, J. Brown,\* B. Davids, M. Fauerbach,<sup>†</sup> P. G. Hansen, P. Mantica, D. J. Morrissey, C. F. Powell, B. M. Sherrill, and M. Steiner

National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48824

VOLUME 83, NUMBER 6  
PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS  
9 AUGUST 1999

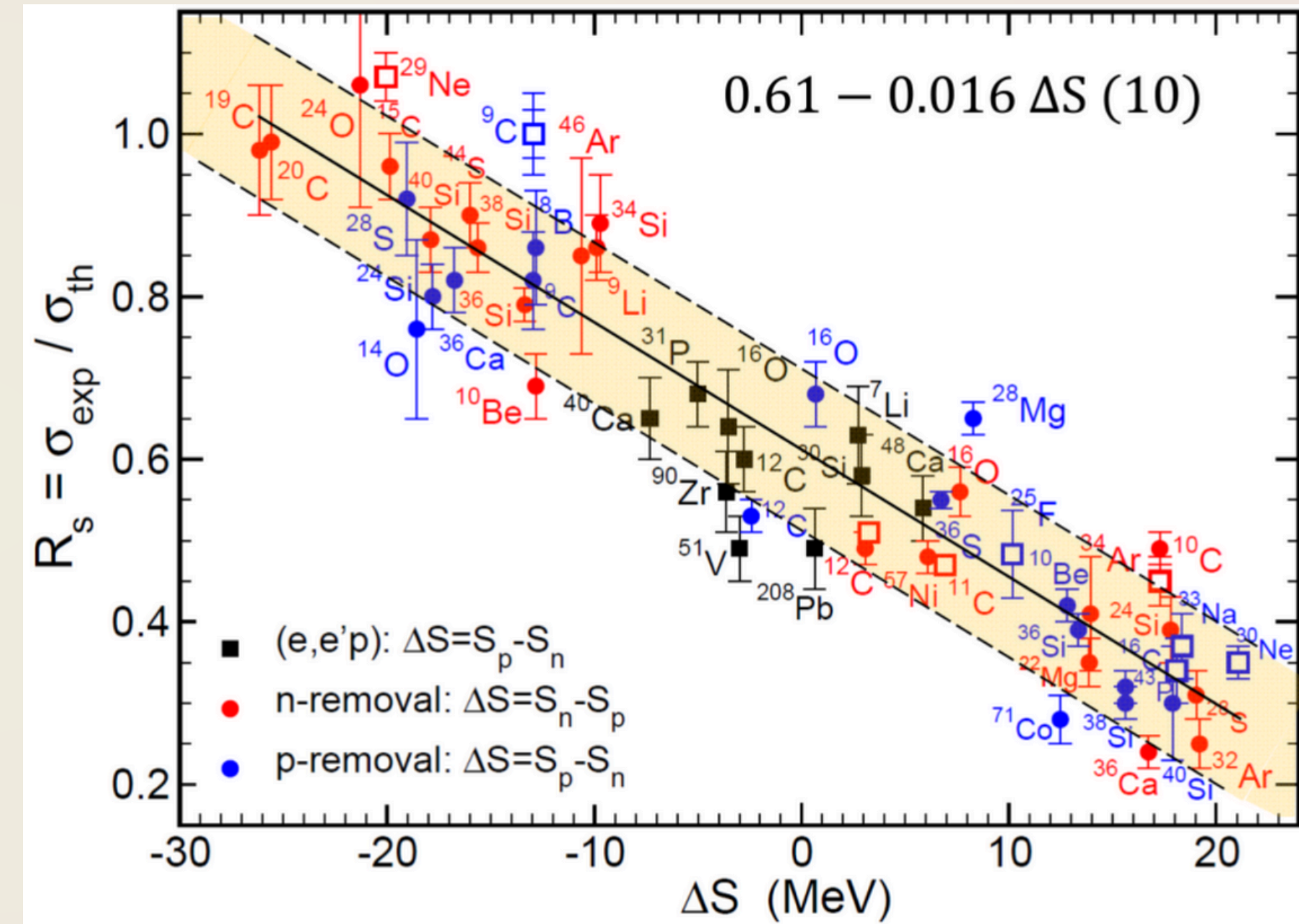
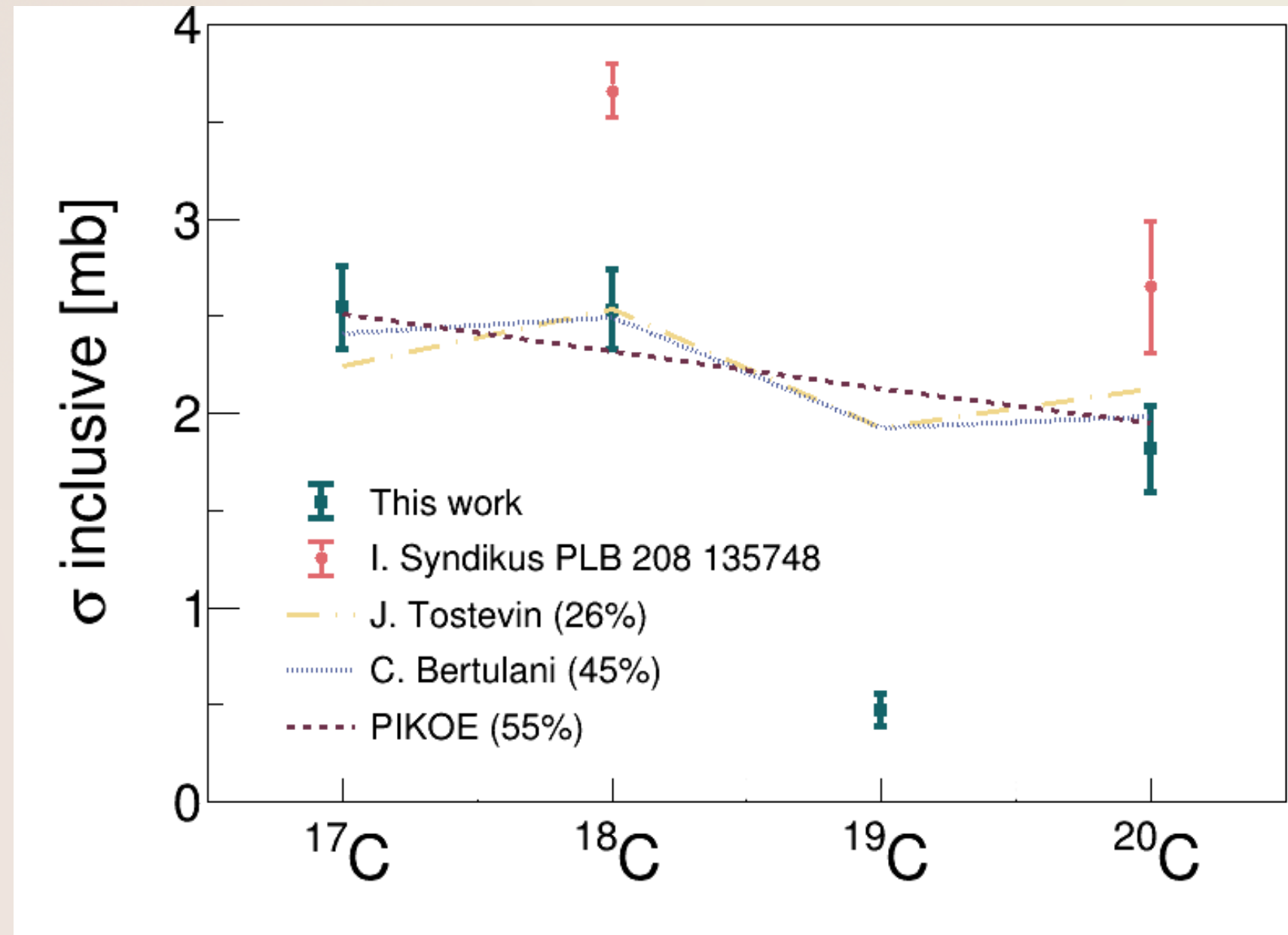
**Coulomb Dissociation of  $^{19}\text{C}$  and its Halo Structure**

T. Nakamura,<sup>1,\*</sup> N. Fukuda,<sup>1</sup> T. Kobayashi,<sup>2</sup> N. Aoi,<sup>1</sup> H. Iwasaki,<sup>1</sup> T. Kubo,<sup>3</sup> A. Mengoni,<sup>3,†</sup> M. Notani,<sup>3</sup> H. Otsu,<sup>2</sup> H. Sakurai,<sup>3</sup> S. Shimoura,<sup>4</sup> T. Teranishi,<sup>3</sup> Y. X. Watanabe,<sup>1</sup> K. Yoneda,<sup>1</sup> and M. Ishihara<sup>1,3</sup>



# Inclusive cross sections N chain

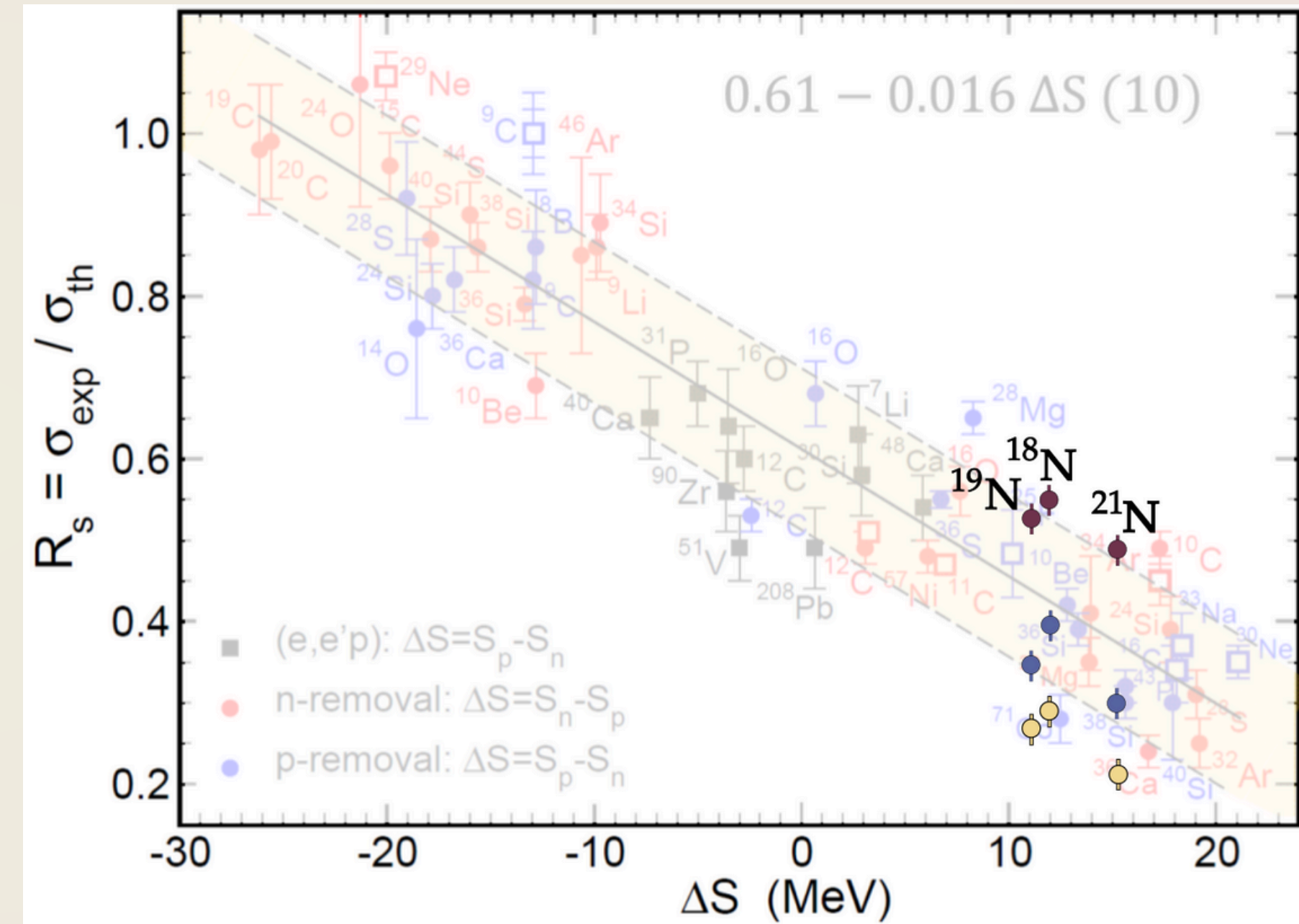
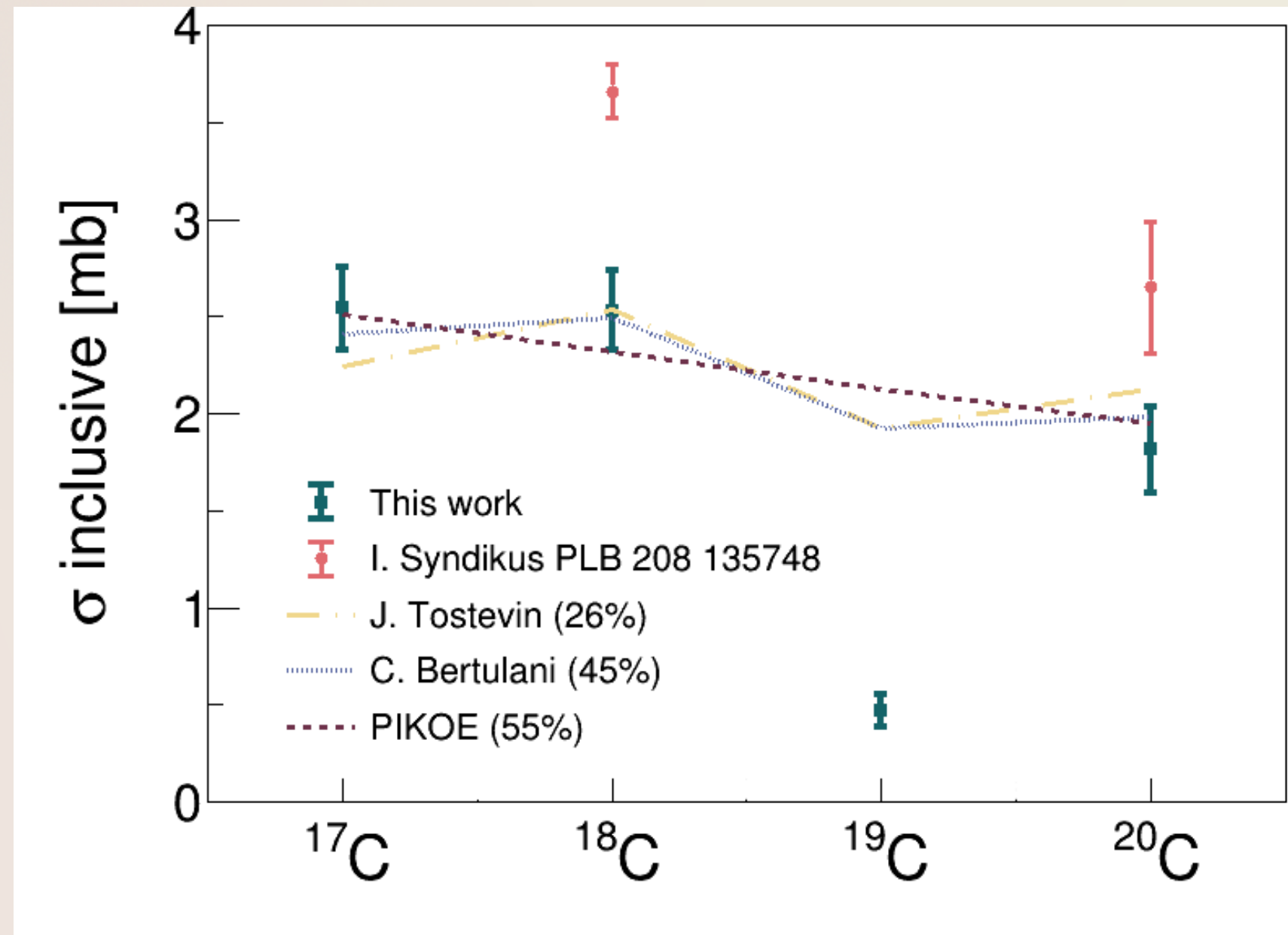
Expected quenching





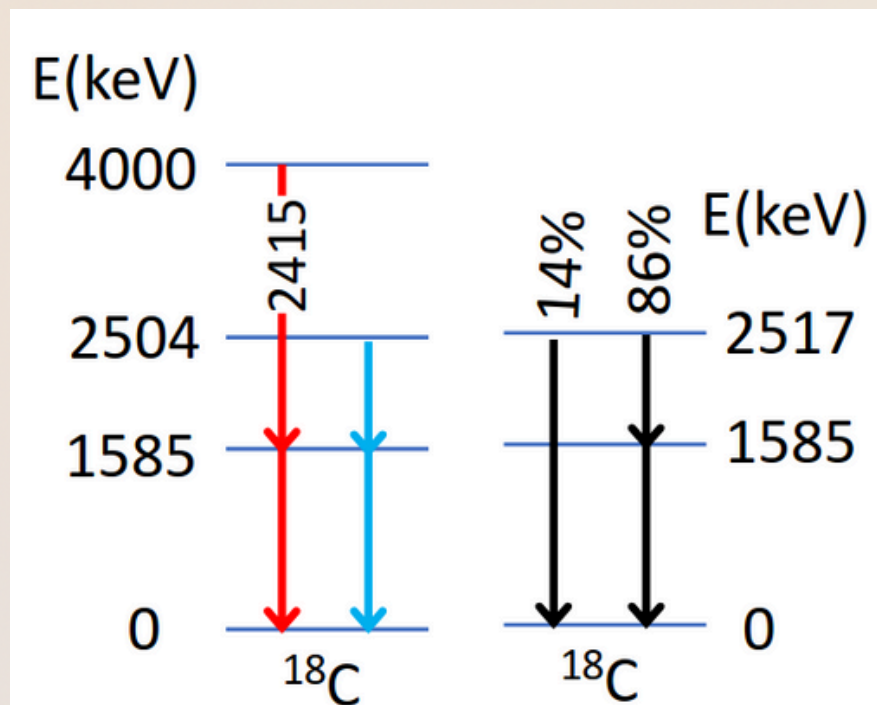
# Inclusive cross sections N chain

## Expected quenching

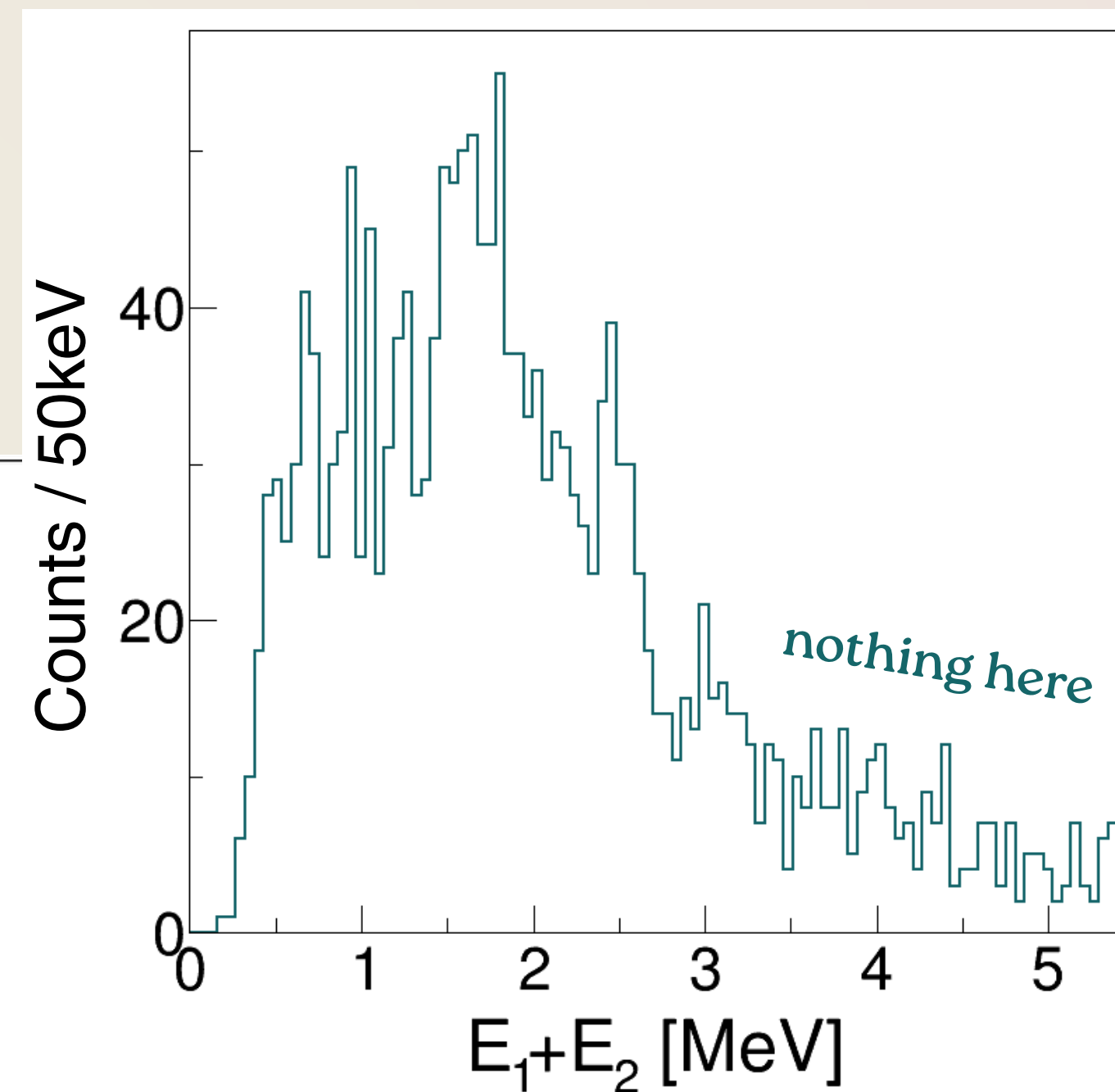
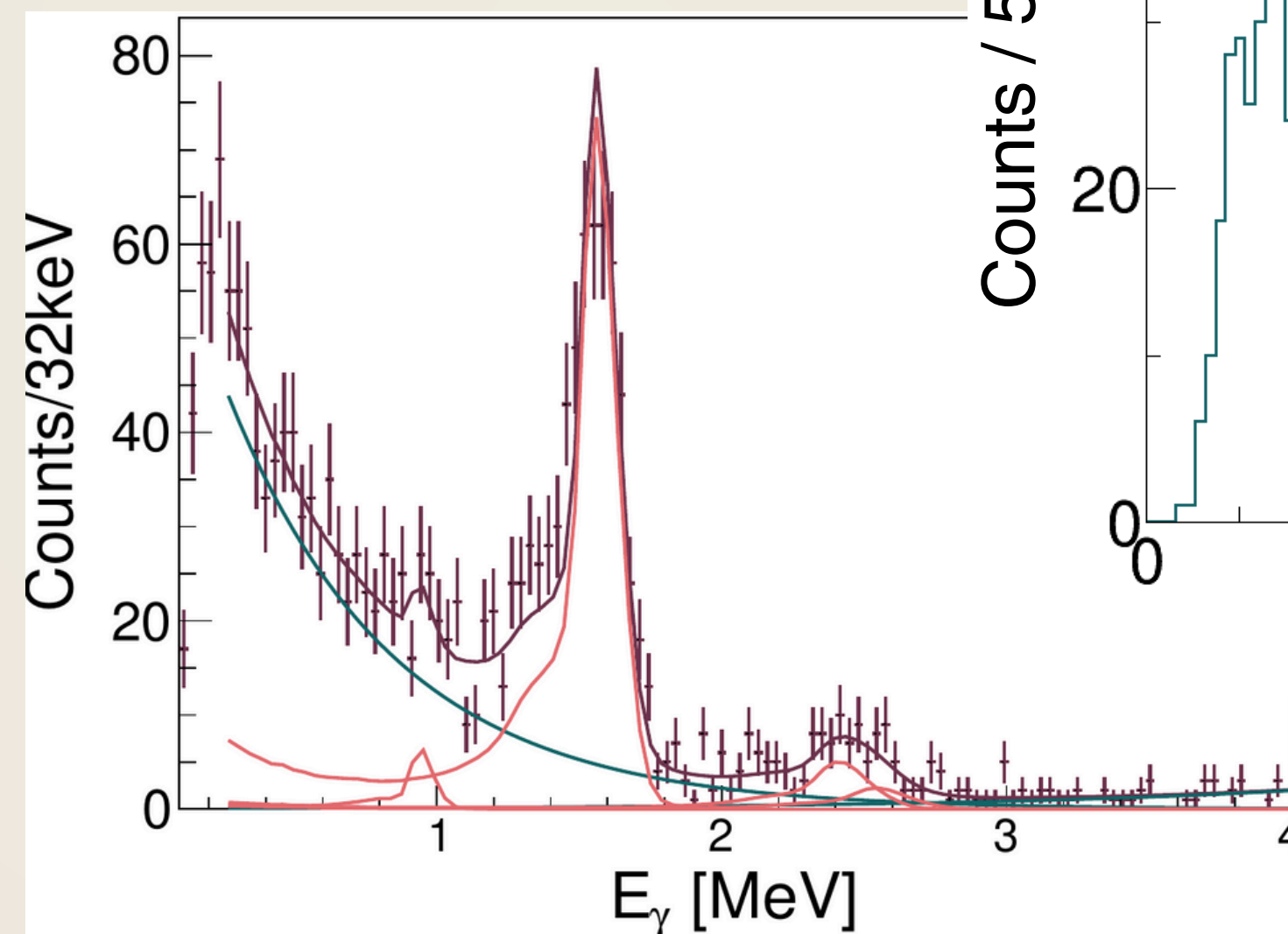
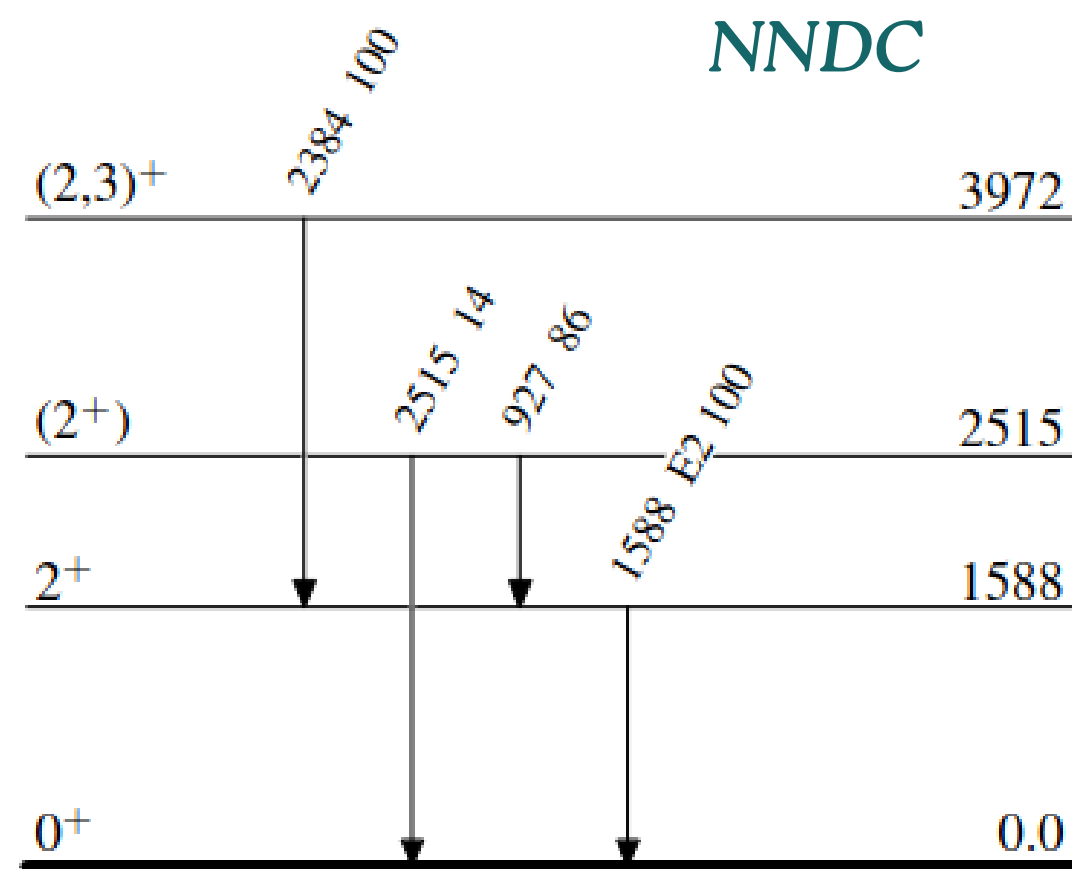




# $^{19}\text{N}(p,2p)^{18}\text{C}$ bound



populated levels?





# $^{19}\text{N}(\text{p},2\text{p})^{18}\text{C}$ bound

exclusive cross sections results, including  $\gamma$ -ray efficiency

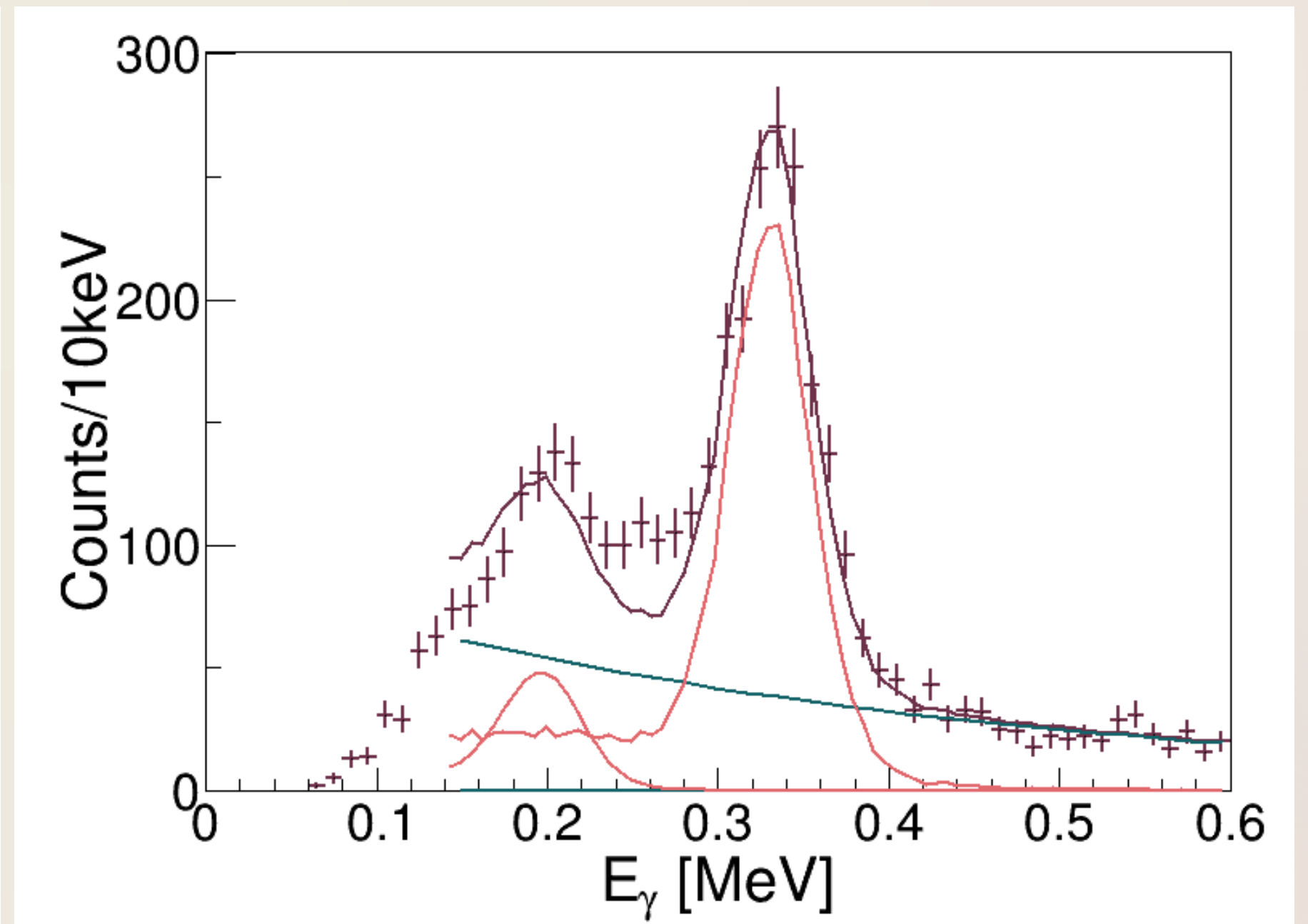
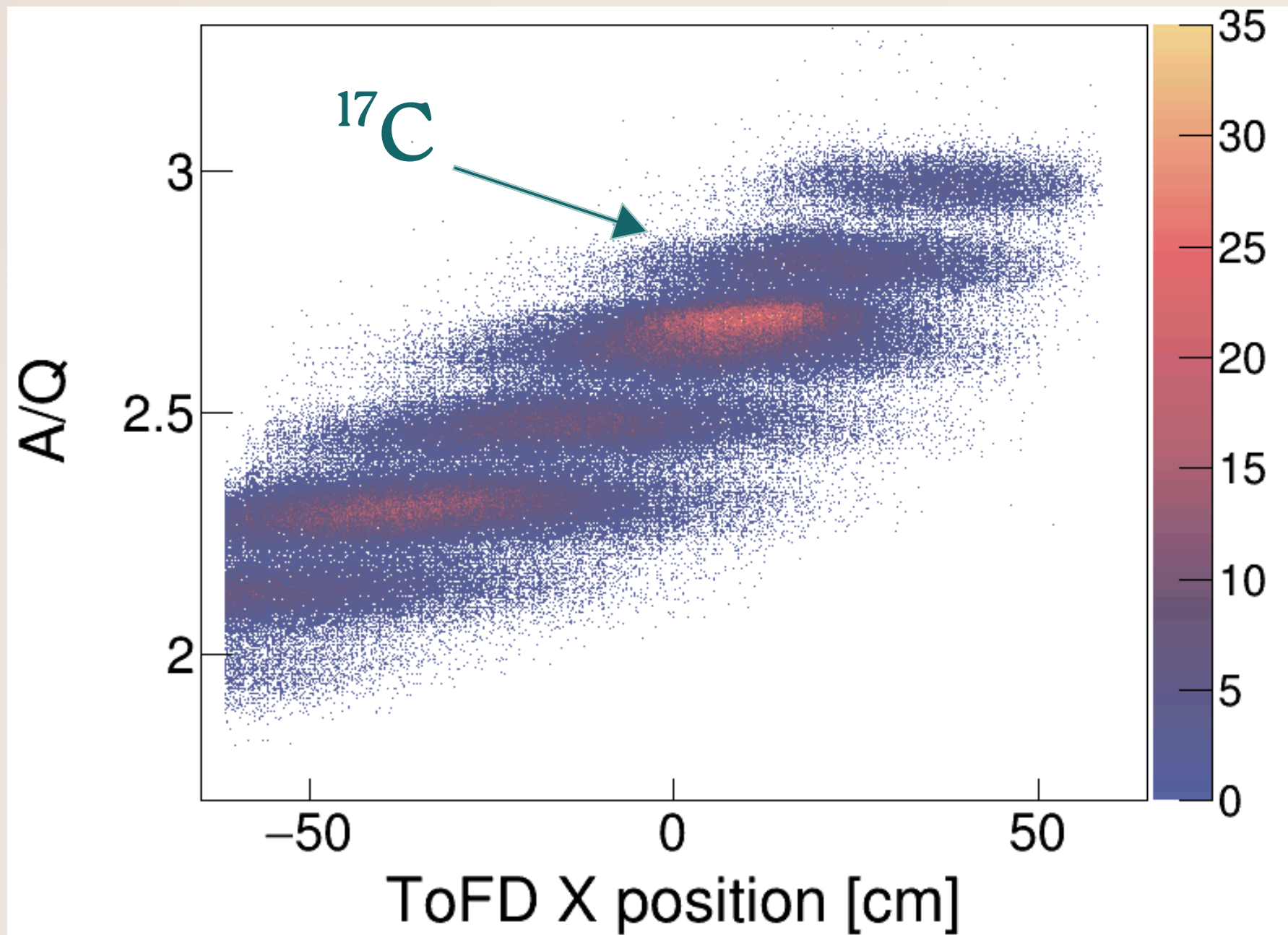
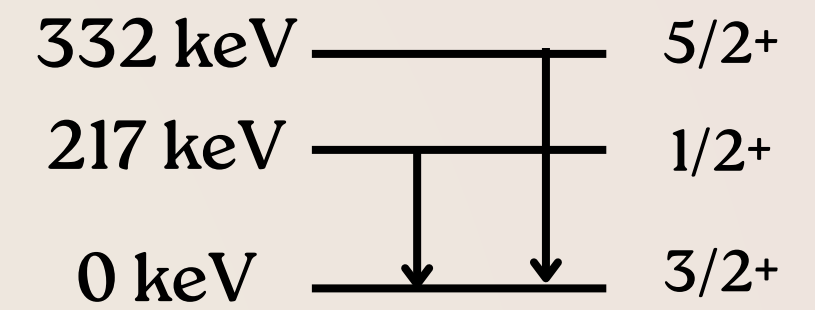
| state       |         | $\sigma_{p2p}^{exl}$ [mb] |             |                        |                        |
|-------------|---------|---------------------------|-------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| $E^*$ [MeV] | $J^\pi$ | This work                 | I. Syndikus | $\sigma_{s.p.}^{theo}$ | $\sigma_{excl}^{theo}$ |
| 0           | $0^+$   | 2.04(21)                  | 2.53(15)    | 5.267                  | 4.086                  |
| 1.59        | $2^+$   | 0.388(36)                 | 0.450(70)   | 5.193                  | 0.800                  |
| 2.51        | $2^+$   | 0.099(17)                 | -           | 5.018                  | 0.816                  |

$\text{C}^2\text{S}$  from WBT int.  
A. Brown courtesy

$$\text{C}^2\text{S}(2_1+)/\text{C}^2\text{S}(0^+) = 19.1 (22) \% \quad 18.75 \% \text{ (I. Syndikus)}$$

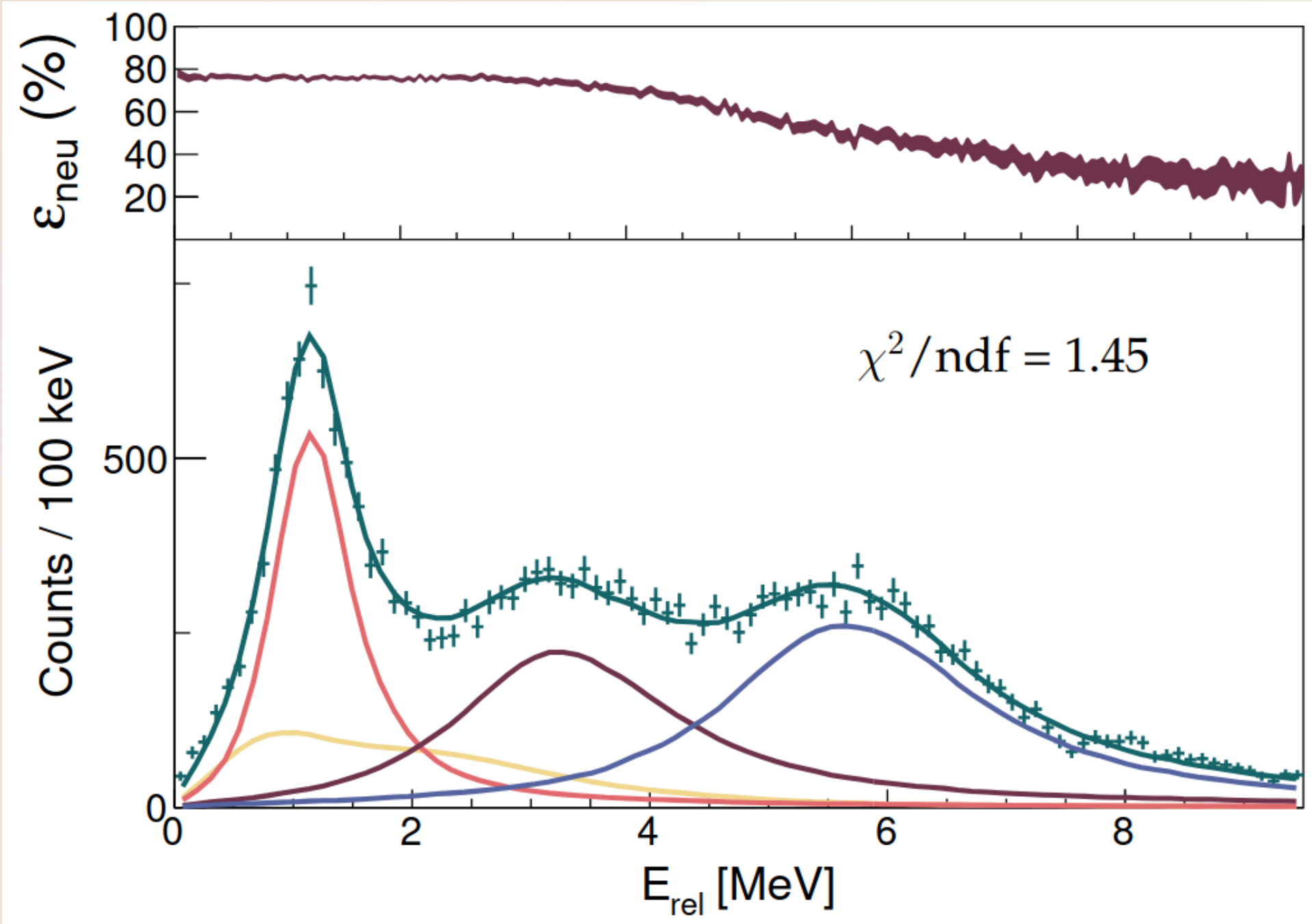
*PLB 809 135748*



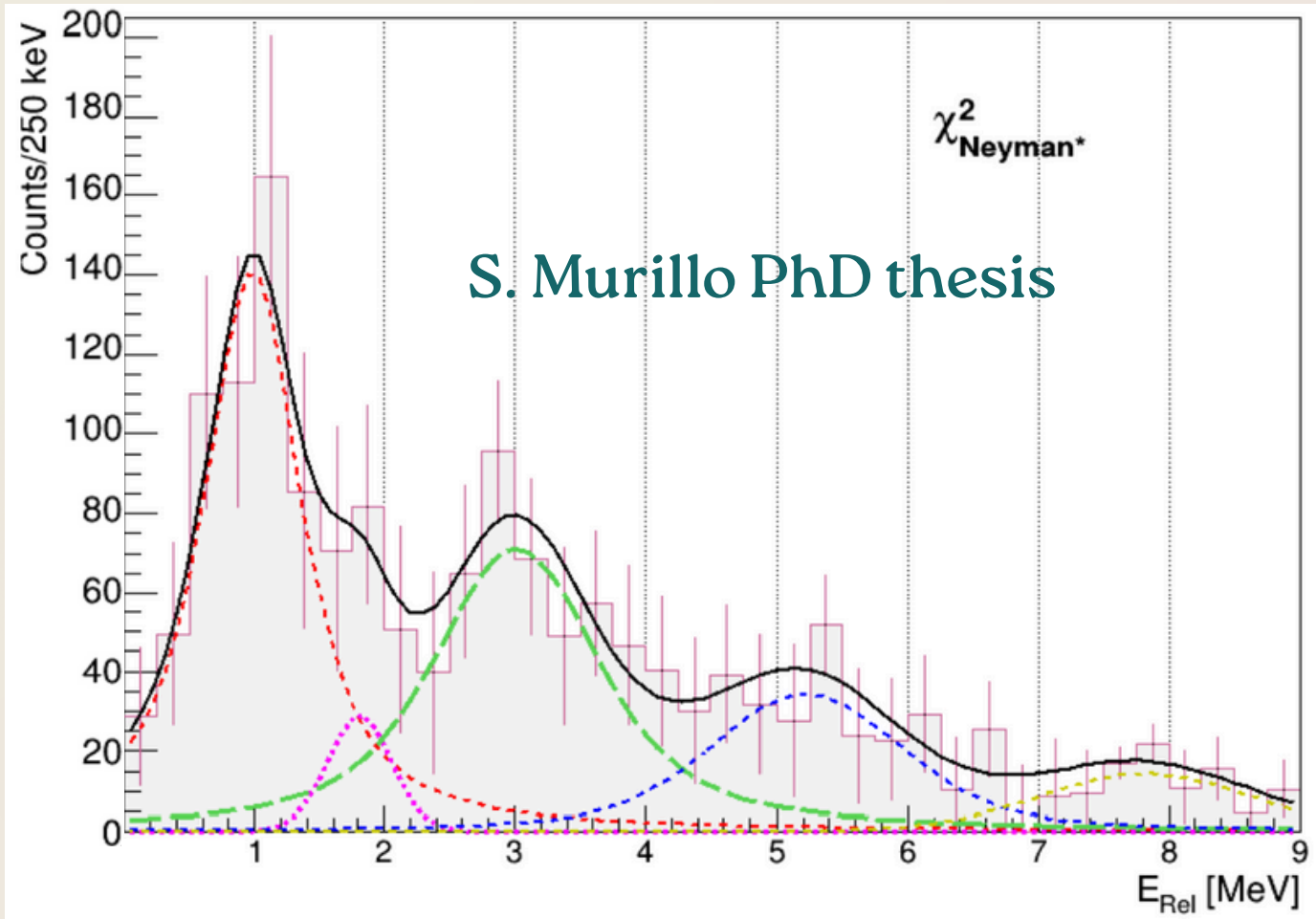




# $^{19}\text{N}(p,2p)^{18}\text{C}^* \rightarrow ^{17}\text{C} + 1n$

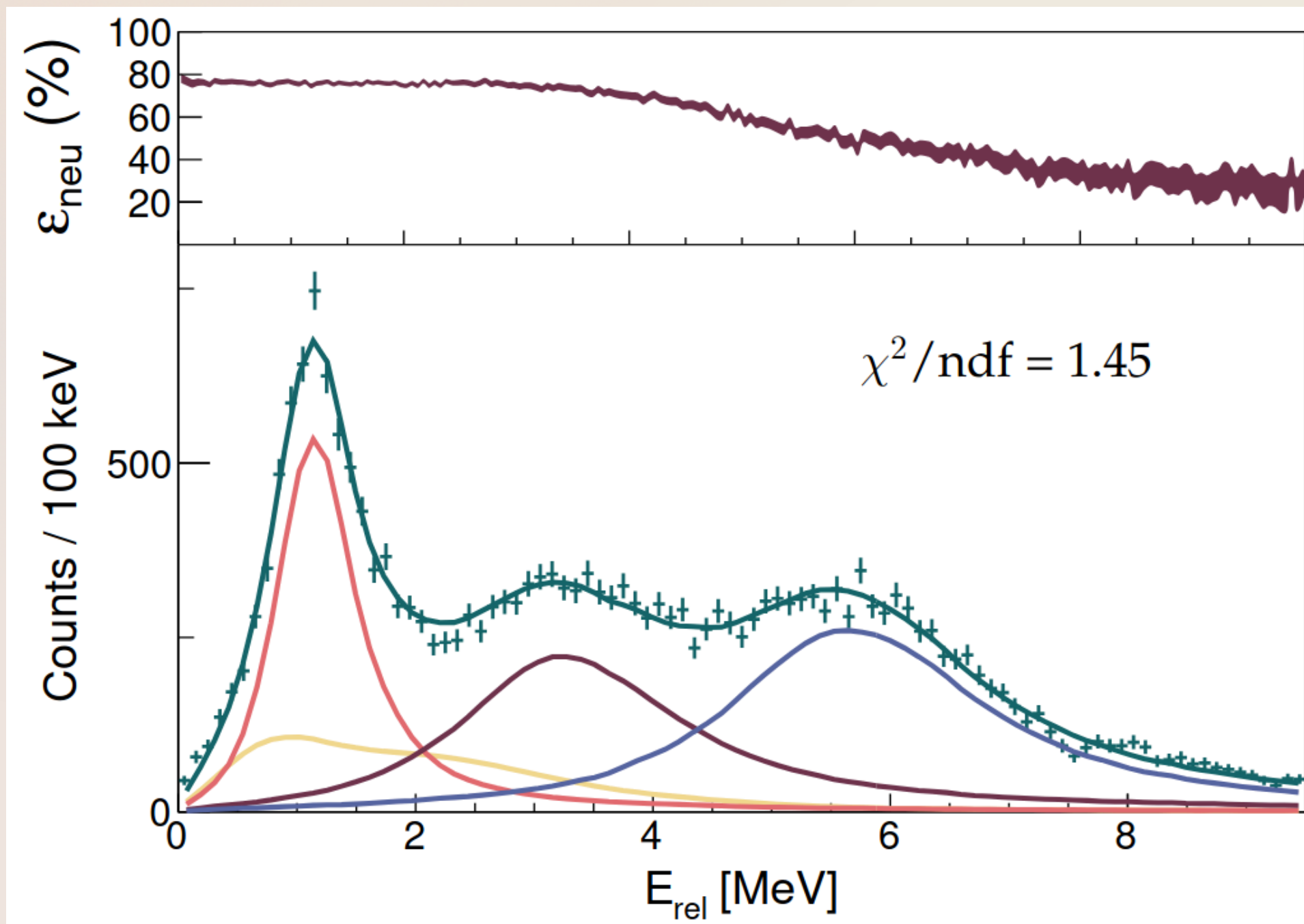


|       | $E^*$ [MeV] | $E_{\text{rel}}$ [MeV] | $\Gamma$ [MeV] | $\sigma_{p2p+1n}^{\text{exl}}$ [mb] |
|-------|-------------|------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Res 1 | 5.305(15)   | 1.125(15)              | 0.356(63)      | 0.80(11)                            |
| Res 2 | 7.47(36)    | 3.324(36)              | 1.63(33)       | 1.01(18)                            |
| Res 3 | 9.90(29)    | 5.721(29)              | 1.78(40)       | 1.75(29)                            |

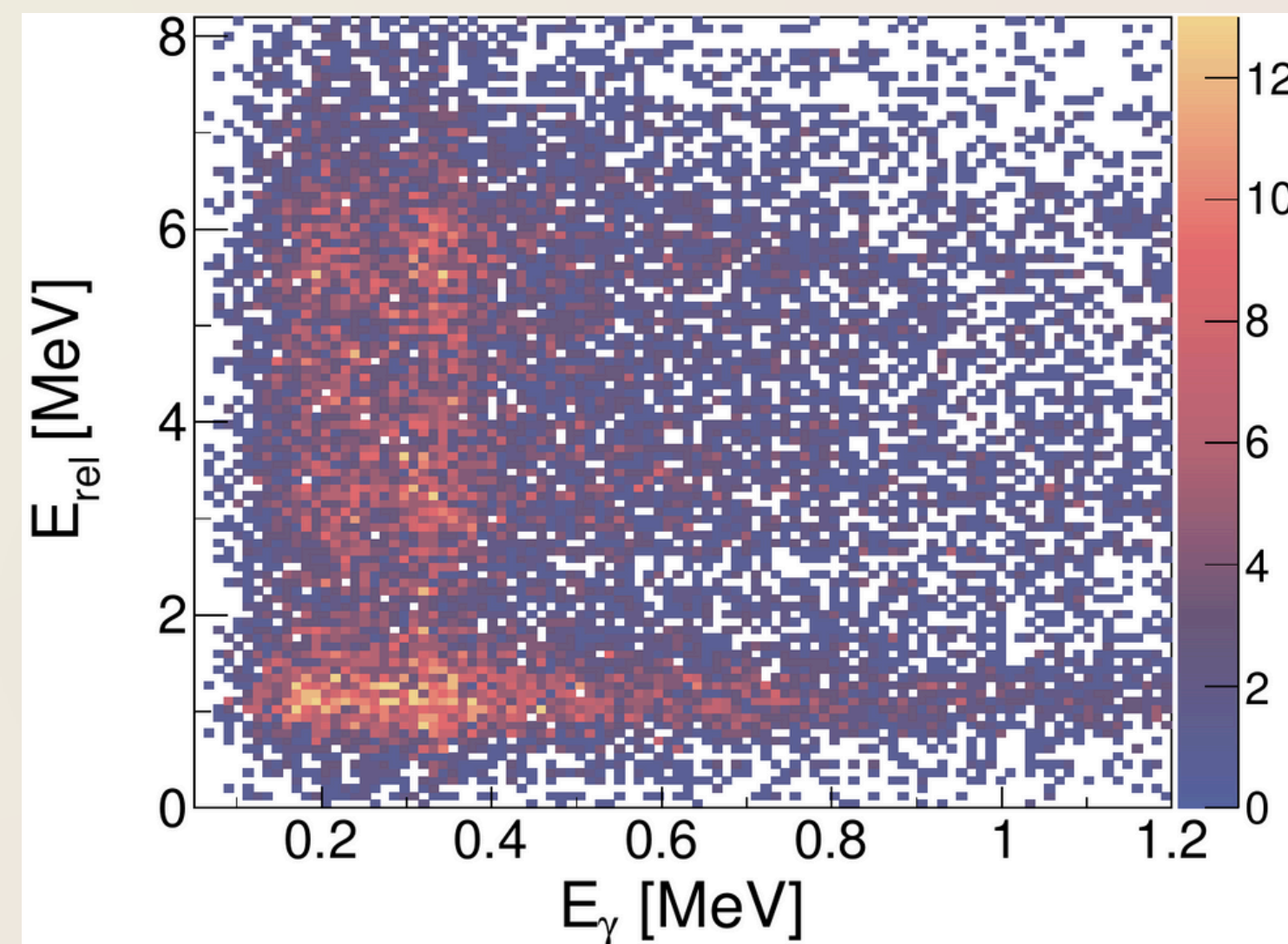




# $^{19}\text{N}(p,2p)^{18}\text{C}^* \rightarrow ^{17}\text{C} + 1n$

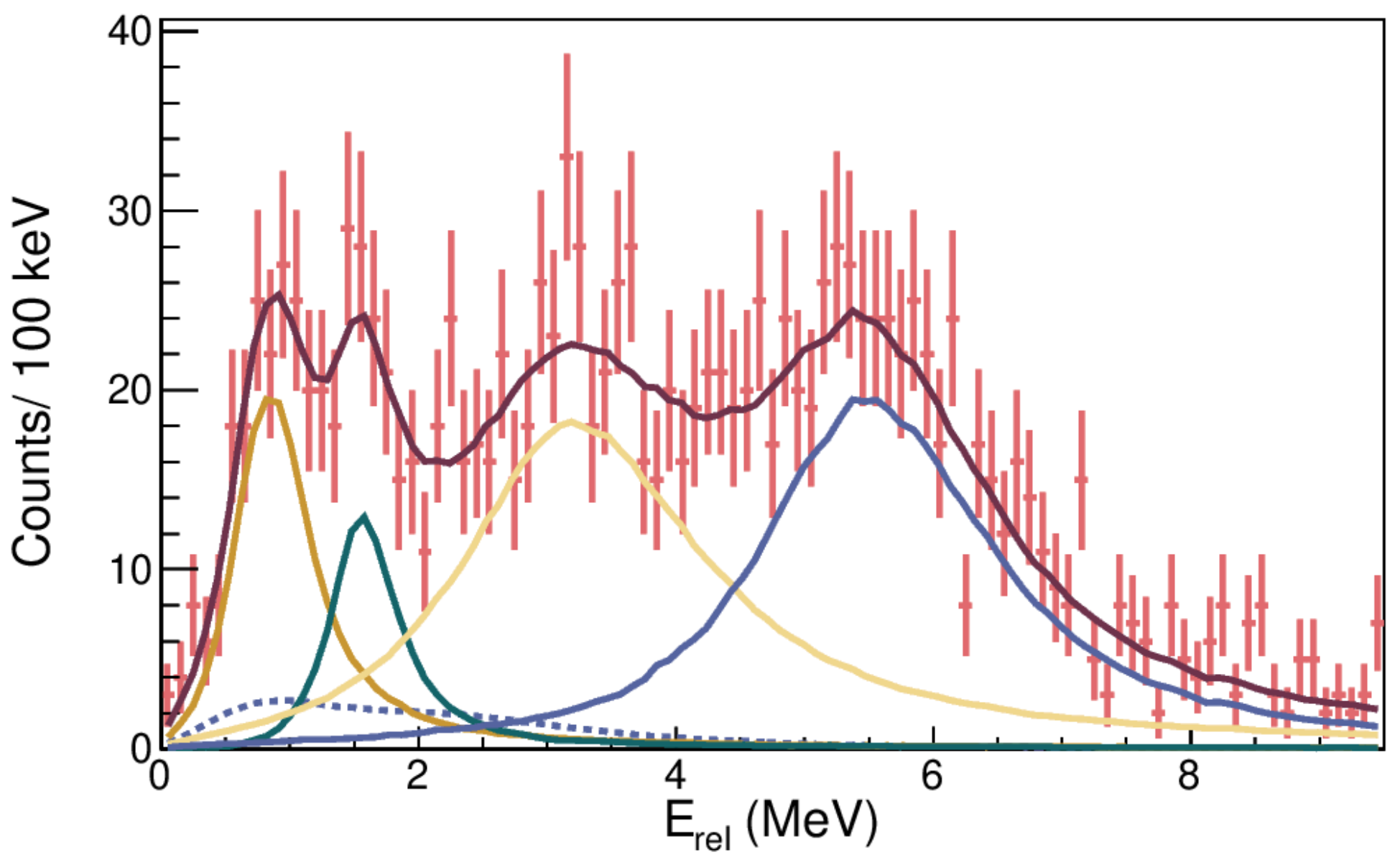


|       | $E^* [\text{MeV}]$ | $E_{\text{rel}} [\text{MeV}]$ | $\Gamma [\text{MeV}]$ | $\sigma_{p2p+1n}^{\text{exl}} [\text{mb}]$ |
|-------|--------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Res 1 | 5.305(15)          | 1.125(15)                     | 0.356(63)             | 0.80(11)                                   |
| Res 2 | 7.47(36)           | 3.324(36)                     | 1.63(33)              | 1.01(18)                                   |
| Res 3 | 9.90(29)           | 5.721(29)                     | 1.78(40)              | 1.75(29)                                   |



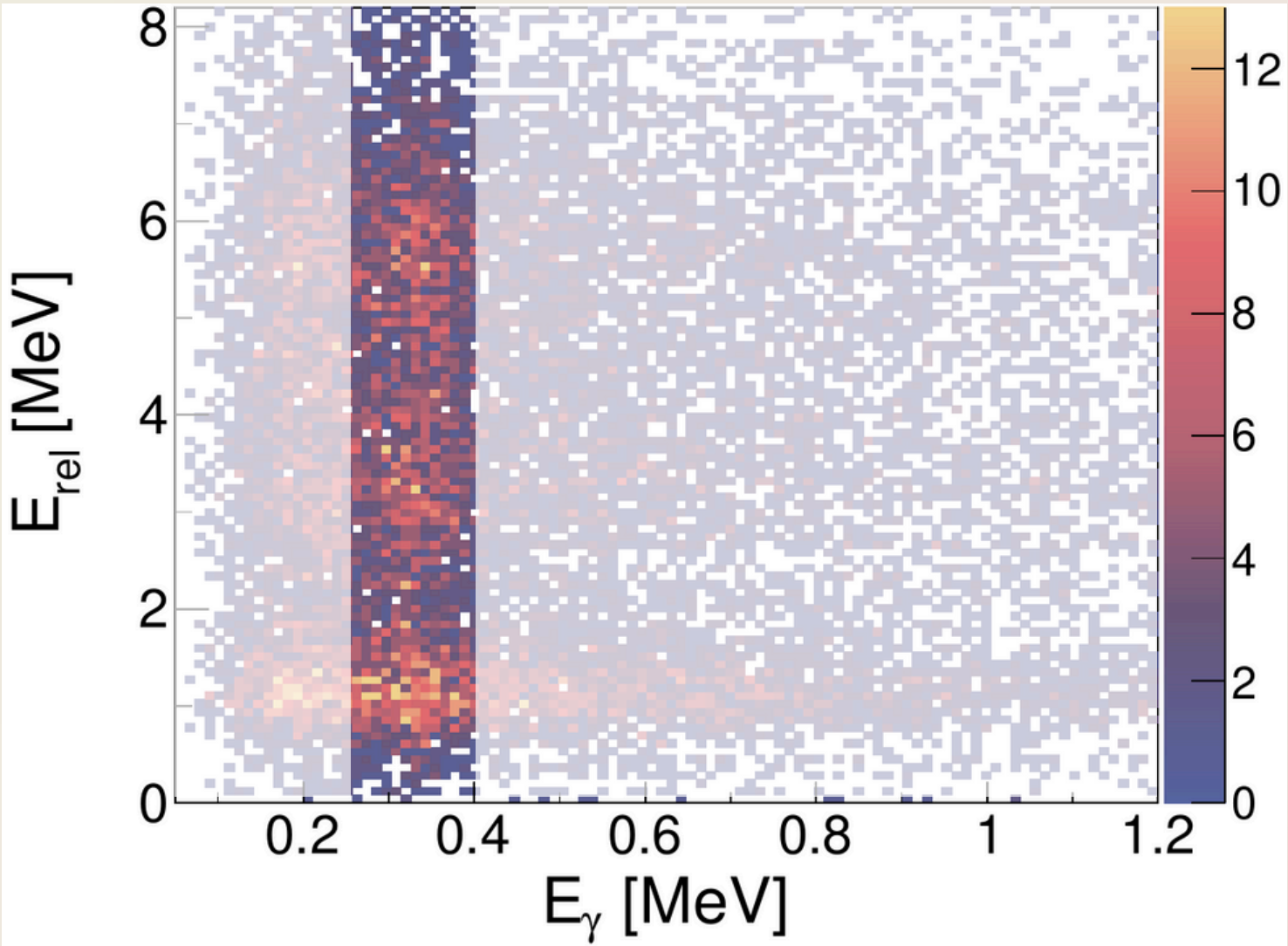


$^{19}\text{N}(p,2p)^{18}\text{C}^* \rightarrow ^{17}\text{C} + 1n$



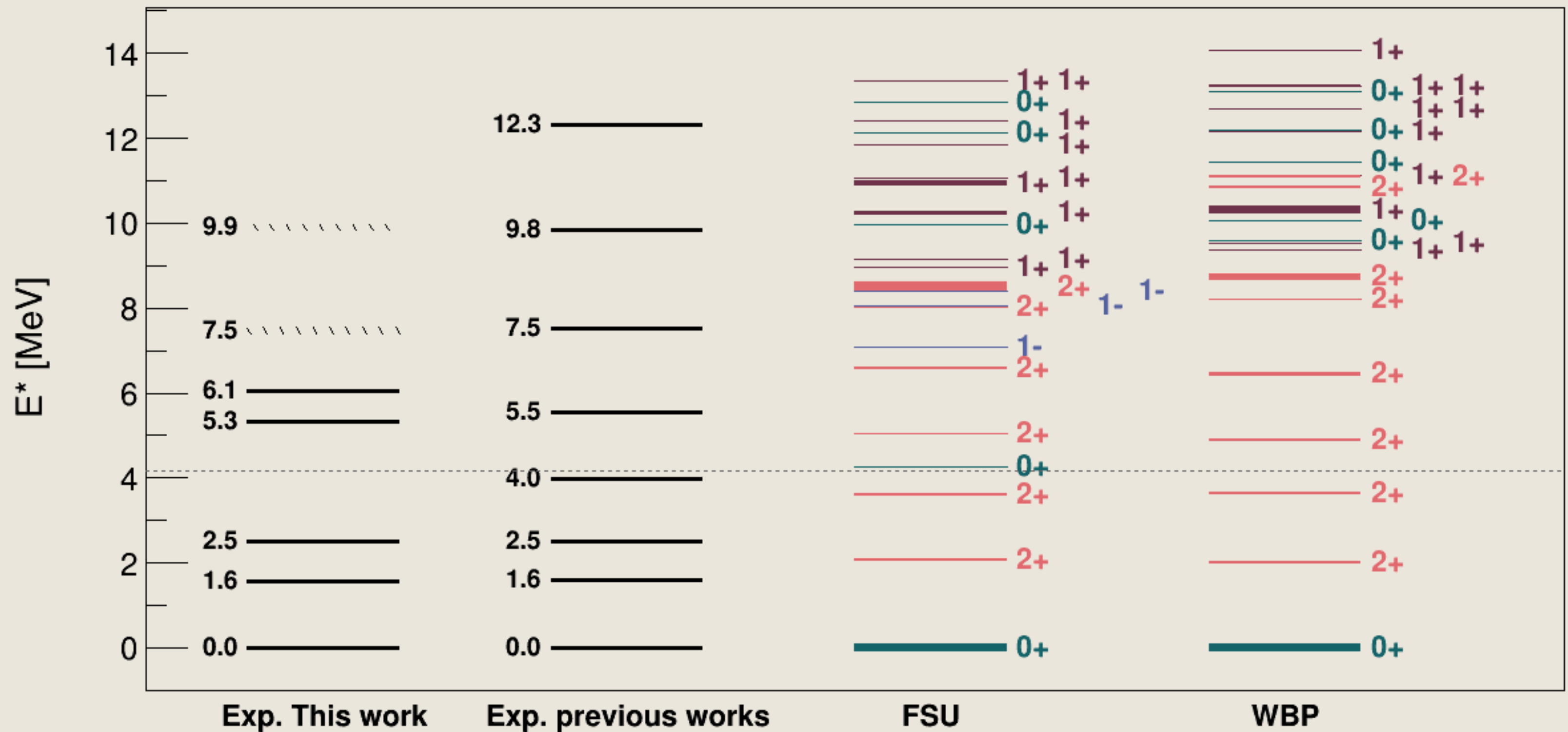
Gate on the 317 keV transition  
+  $\gamma$ -multiplicity < 3

|       | $E^*$ [MeV] | $E_{rel}$ [MeV] | $\Gamma$ [MeV] | $\sigma_{p2p+1n}^{exl}$ [mb] |
|-------|-------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------------------|
| Res 1 | 5.305(15)   | 1.125(15)       | 0.356(63)      | 0.80(11)                     |
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# $^{19}\text{N}(\text{p}, 2\text{p})^{18}\text{C}$ bound + unbound



### A. Brown courtesy



# $^{19}\text{N}(\text{p}, 2\text{p})^{18}\text{C}$ bound + unbound

A. Brown courtesy

| $J^\pi$ | $E^*$ [MeV] | $\sigma_{p2p}^{excl}$ [mb] | $E_{rel}$ [MeV] | $\Gamma$ [MeV] | $\sigma_{s.p.}^{th}$ [mb] | $C^2 S^{exp}$ | $C^2 S_{SM}^{th}$ |
|---------|-------------|----------------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| $0^+$   | 0           | 2.04(21)                   | -               | -              | 5.267                     | 0.387(40)     | 0.775             |
| $2^+$   | 1.59        | 0.388(36)                  | -               | -              | 5.193                     | 0.0747(70)    | 0.154             |
| $2^+$   | 2.51        | 0.099(17)                  | -               | -              | 5.018                     | 0.00197(33)   | 0.162             |
| $(2^+)$ | 5.305(15)   | 0.80(11)                   | 1.125(15)       | 0.356(63)      | 4.737                     | 0.169(23)     | 0.106             |
| $(2^+)$ | 6.068(42)   | 0.0256()                   | 1.552(42)       | 0.193(84)      | -                         | -             | 0.190             |
| $(2^+)$ | 7.47(36)    | 1.01(18)                   | 3.324(36)       | 1.63(33)       | 4.529                     | 0.223(39)     | 1.198             |
| $(2^+)$ | 9.90(29)    | 1.75(29)                   | 5.721(29)       | 1.78(40)       | 4.229                     | 0.414(68)     | 0.800             |

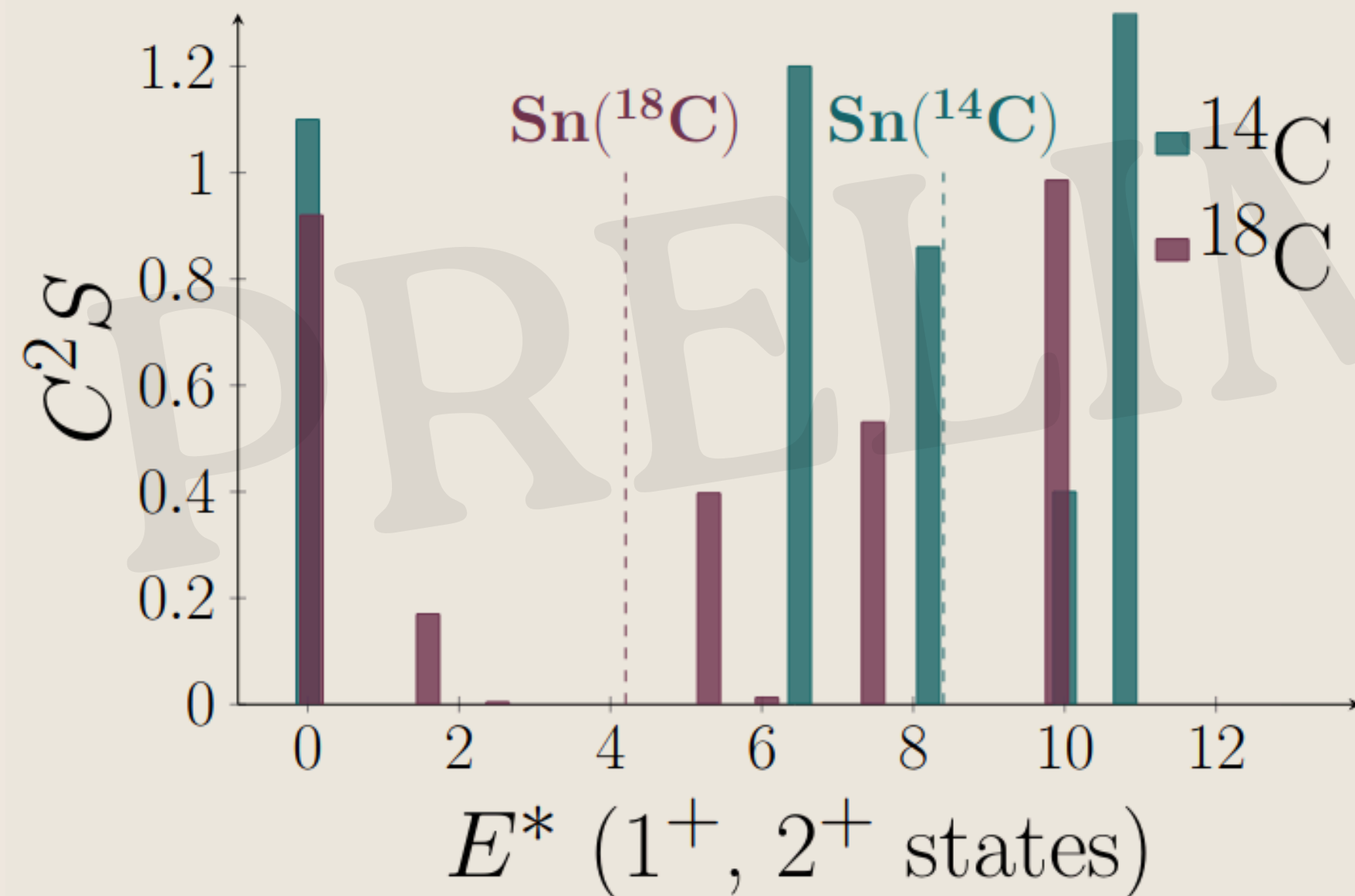
Energy centroid of the  $1^+$  and  $2^+$  states

$$\langle E(J^\pi) \rangle = \frac{\sum_k (2J+1) C^2 S_k^+(J^\pi) \cdot (E_k^+(J^\pi) - E_0) + \sum_{k'} C^2 S_{k'}^-(J^\pi) \cdot (E_0 - E_{k'}^-(J^\pi))}{\sum_k (2J+1) C^2 S_k^+(J^\pi) + \sum_{k'} C^2 S_{k'}^-(J^\pi)}$$



# $^{19}\text{N}(\text{p}, 2\text{p})^{18}\text{C}$ bound + unbound

$$\langle E(J^\pi) \rangle = \frac{\sum_k (2J+1) C^2 S_k^+(J^\pi) \cdot (E_k^+(J^\pi) - E_0) + \sum_{k'} C^2 S_{k'}^-(J^\pi) \cdot (E_0 - E_{k'}^-(J^\pi))}{\sum_k (2J+1) C^2 S_k^+(J^\pi) + \sum_{k'} C^2 S_{k'}^-(J^\pi)}$$



Energy centroid of the  $1^+$  and  $2^+$  states

$$\langle E(1^+, 2^+) \rangle(^{18}\text{C}) = 7.77 \text{ MeV}$$

$$\langle E(1^+, 2^+) \rangle(^{14}\text{C}) = 9.15 \text{ MeV}$$

$$\Delta \langle E(1^+, 2^+) \rangle = -1.38 \text{ MeV}$$



# $^{19}\text{N}(\text{p}, 2\text{p})^{18}\text{C}$ bound + unbound

Estimation from TBME

$$\Delta V^{pn} = n_{d_{5/2}} (V^{pn}(p_{1/2}, d_{5/2}) - V^{pn}(p_{3/2}, d_{5/2})) + n_{s_{1/2}} (V^{pn}(p_{1/2}, s_{1/2}) - V^{pn}(p_{3/2}, s_{1/2}))$$

from momentum distributions

Energy centroid of the  $1^+$  and  $2^+$  states

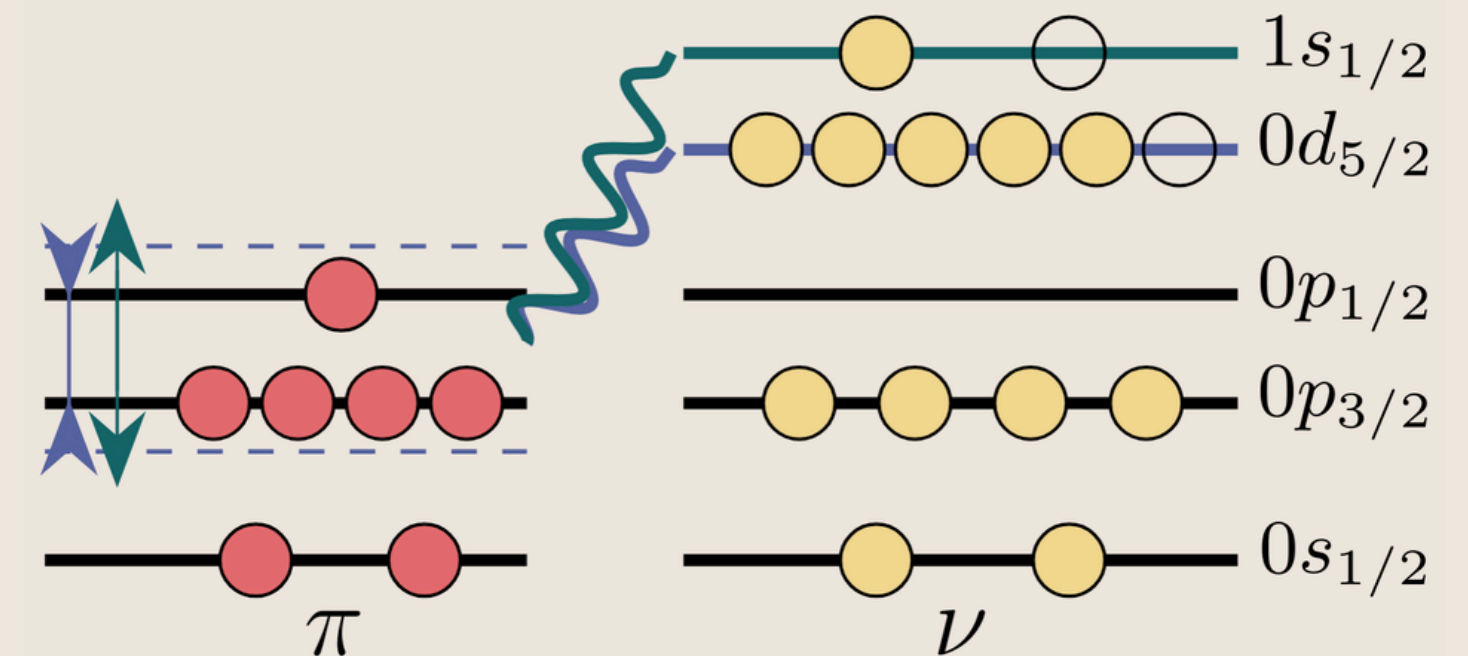
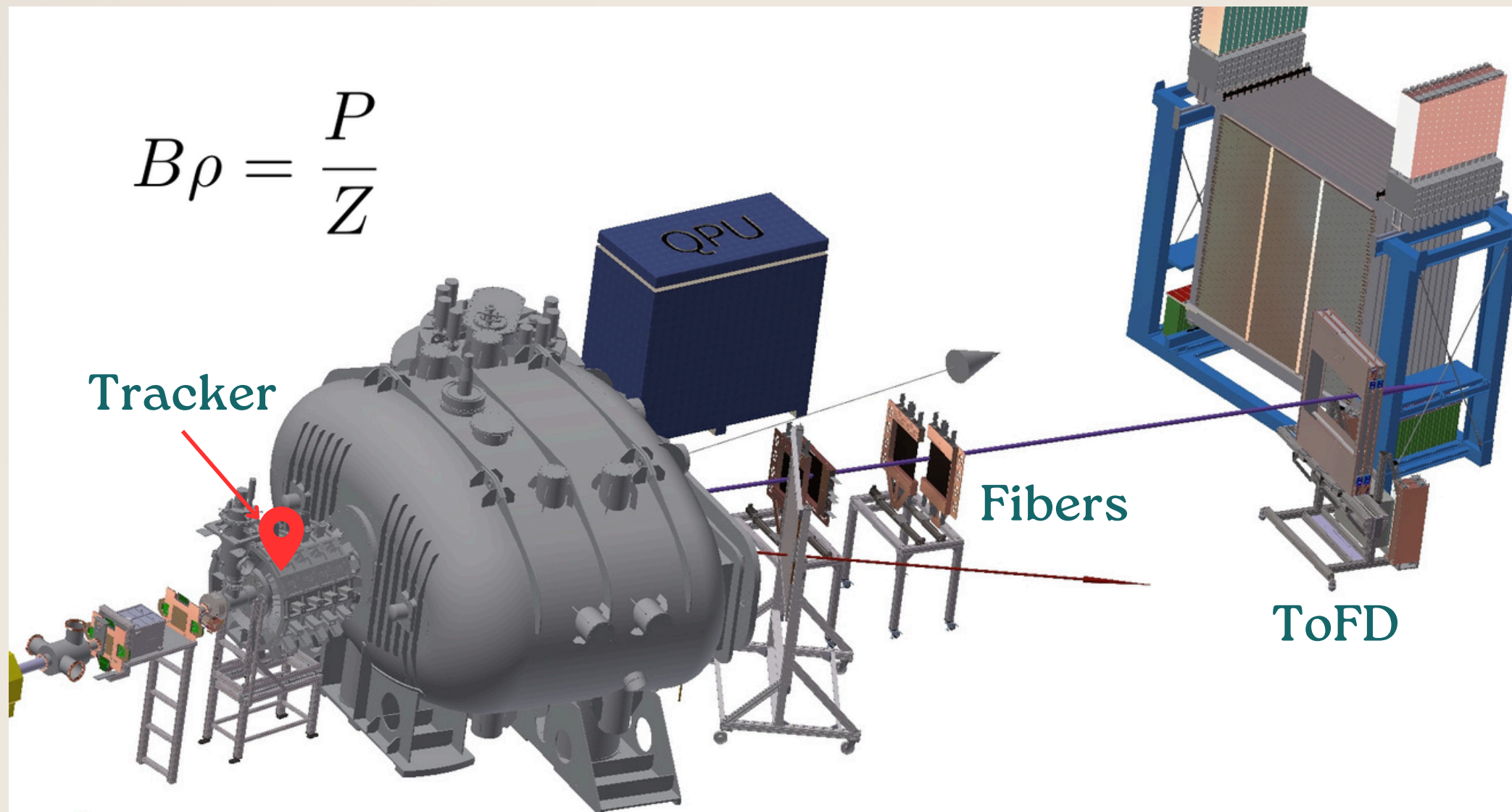
$$\langle E(1^+, 2^+) \rangle(^{18}\text{C}) = 7.77 \text{ MeV}$$

$$\langle E(1^+, 2^+) \rangle(^{14}\text{C}) = 9.15 \text{ MeV}$$

$$\Delta \langle E(1^+, 2^+) \rangle = -1.38 \text{ MeV}$$

# Momentum reconstruction

orbital dependant .....→ Study the filling of the neutron  $1d_{5/2}$  and  $2s_{1/2}$  orbitals

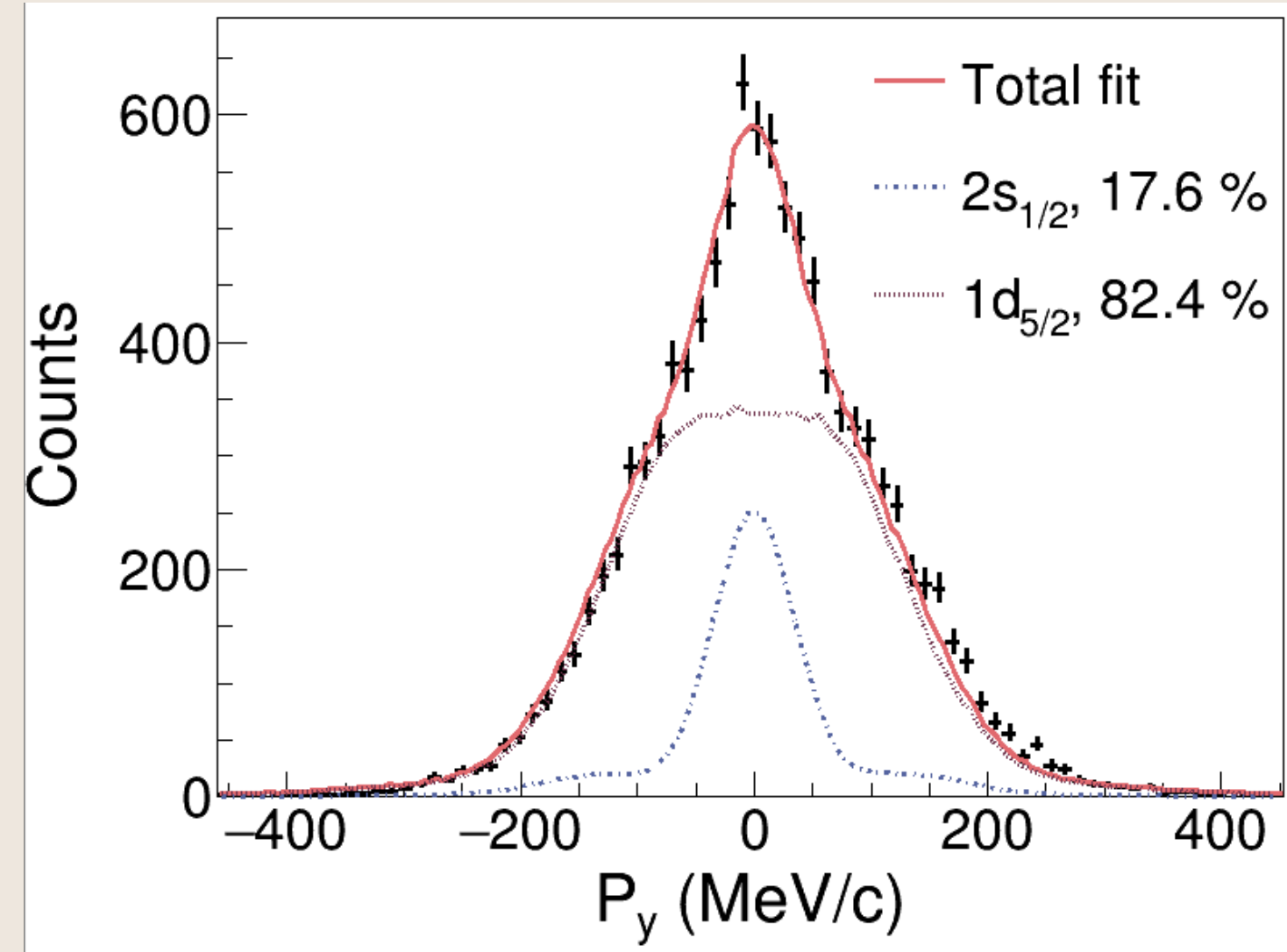
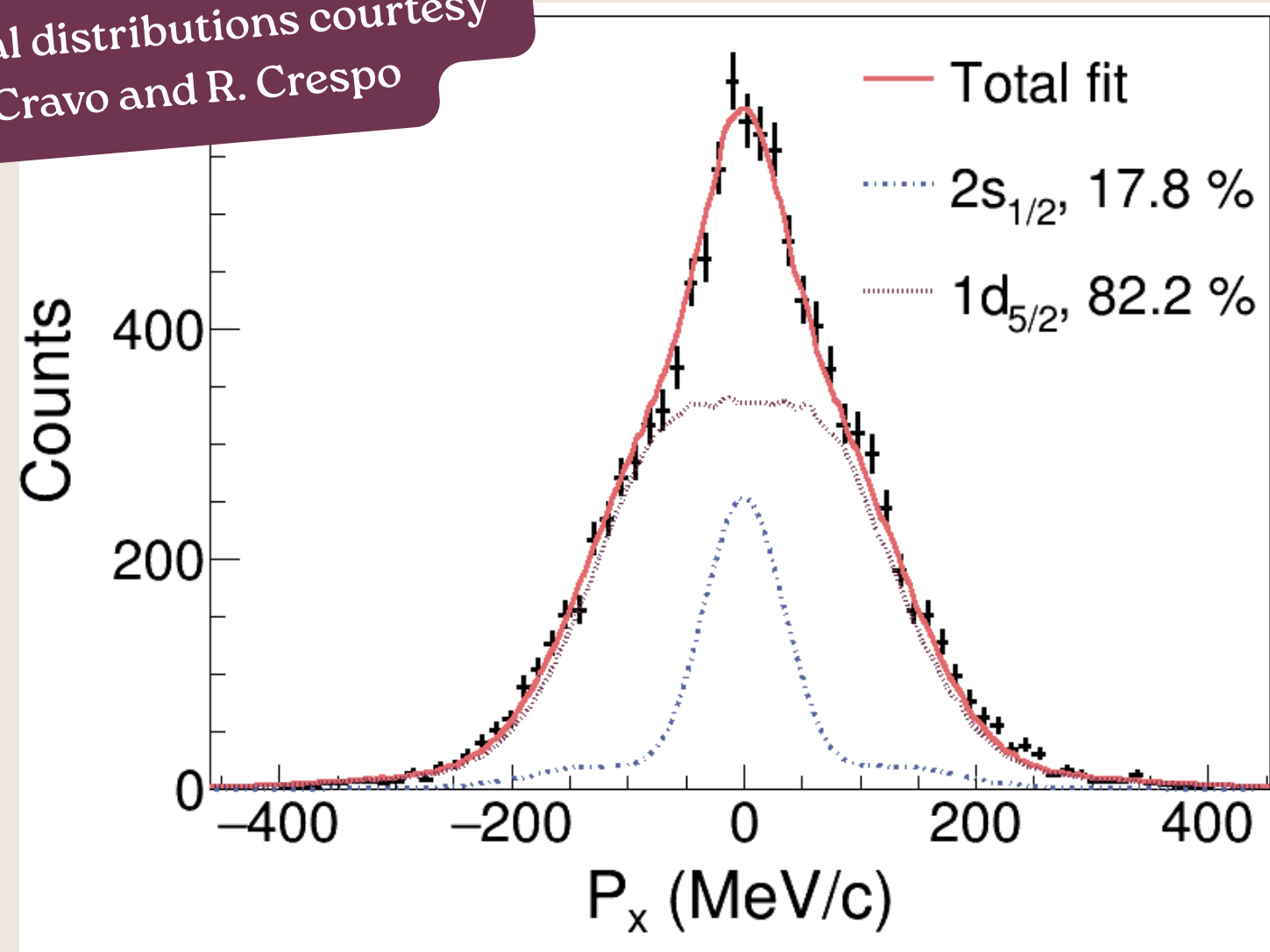




# Momentum reconstruction



Theoretical distributions courtesy  
of E. Cravo and R. Crespo



neutron  
occupancies

s-wave 0.707(44)  
d-wave 3.292(88)

compatible with  
estimations from  $C^2S$   
Y. Kondo et al PRC 97 (2009) 014602

s-wave 0.604(90)  
d-wave 3.66(55)

# $^{19}\text{N}(\text{p}, 2\text{p})^{18}\text{C}$ bound + unbound

Estimation from TBME

$$\Delta V^{pn} = \underbrace{n_{d_{5/2}} \left( V^{pn}(p_{1/2}, d_{5/2}) - V^{pn}(p_{3/2}, d_{5/2}) \right) + n_{s_{1/2}} \left( V^{pn}(p_{1/2}, s_{1/2}) - V^{pn}(p_{3/2}, s_{1/2}) \right)}_{\text{from momentum distributions}}$$

from momentum distributions

$$V_{pn}^m(0p_{1/2}, 0d_{5/2}) = -2.072$$

$$V_{pn}^m(0p_{1/2}, 1s_{1/2}) = -1.079$$

$$V_{pn}^m(0p_{3/2}, 0d_{5/2}) = -1.647$$

$$V_{pn}^m(0p_{3/2}, 1s_{1/2}) = -1.384$$

C. Yuan et al.,  
PRC 85  
(2012) 064324

Energy centroid of the  $1^+$  and  $2^+$  states

$$\langle E(1^+, 2^+) \rangle(^{18}\text{C}) = 7.77 \text{ MeV}$$

$$\langle E(1^+, 2^+) \rangle(^{14}\text{C}) = 9.15 \text{ MeV}$$

$$\Delta \langle E(1^+, 2^+) \rangle = -1.38 \text{ MeV}$$

$$\Delta V^{pn} = \Delta \langle E(1^+, 2^+) \rangle = -1.347 \text{ MeV} \quad \text{Y. Kondo}$$

$$\Delta V^{pn} = \Delta \langle E(1^+, 2^+) \rangle = -1.193 \text{ MeV} \quad \text{This work}$$



# Summary

QFS reactions on the neutron-rich N region are being successfully studied

- Momentum distributions are good observables to determine neutron  $0d_{5/2}$  and  $1s_{1/2}$  fillings
- Systematic inclusive  $\sigma$  along the N chain
  - confirms the  $1n$  halo structure in  $^{19}\text{C}$
  - quenching is compatible with previously observed trend at high proton-neutron asymmetry
- Exclusive  $^{19}\text{N}(p,2p)^{18}\text{C}$  study observe unbound states compatible with previous works and hints a quenching of the  $Z=6$  gap towards the neutron dripline

# Outlook

- $2n$  decay
- $^{20}\text{C}$ ?

Special thanks to:

A. Barrière, N. Mozumdar, J. L. Rodríguez-Sánchez, O. Sorlin

**R<sup>3</sup>B** Collaboration