Mapping shape transitions in neutron-rich A~190 nuclei from isomeric fragments of ^{198}Pt

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University of Massachusetts Lowell

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and the National Science Foundation

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

UMASS LOWELL

Collaboration

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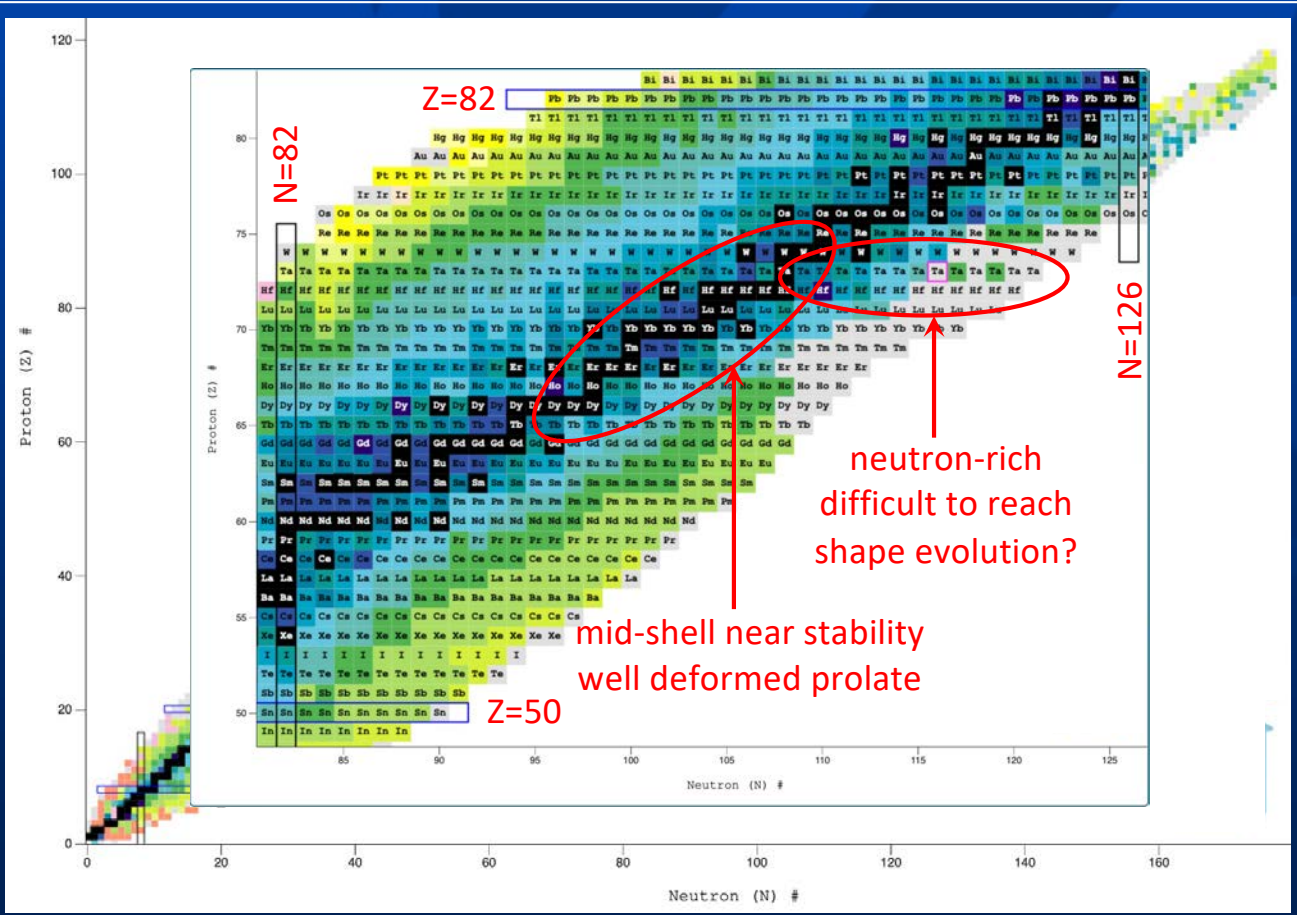
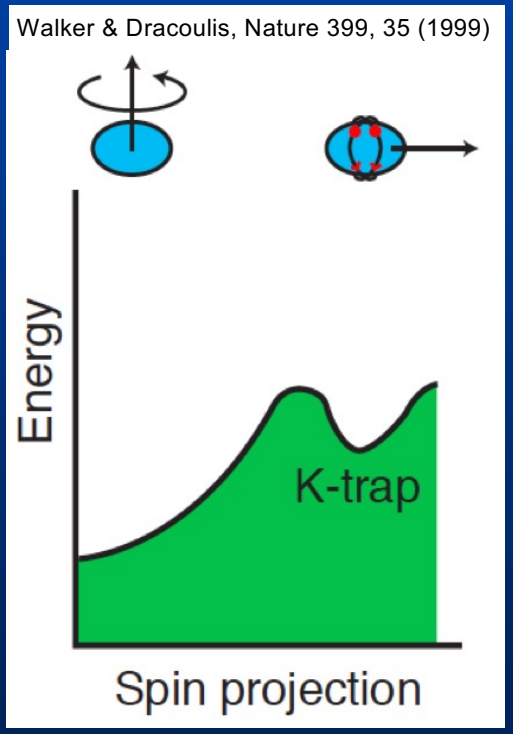
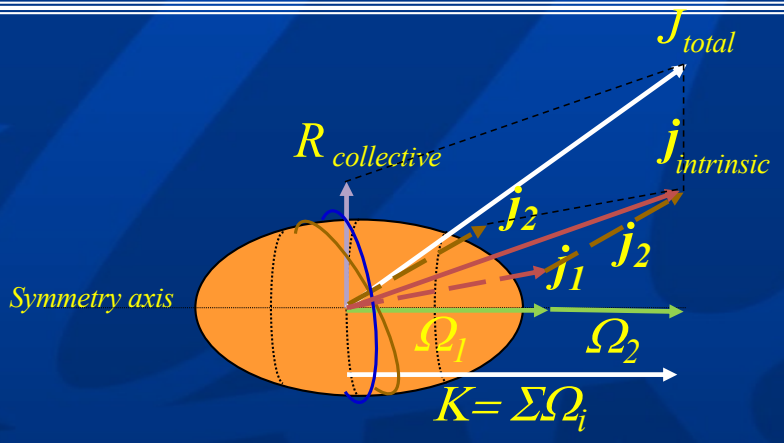
- Motivation
  - Nuclear Structure
  - Isotope Discovery
  - Reaction Dynamics
- Experiment
- Results
  - Overviews (Hf-Ta-W)
  - ^{189}Ta
- Summary and Outlook

Motivation: Shapes and Symmetries



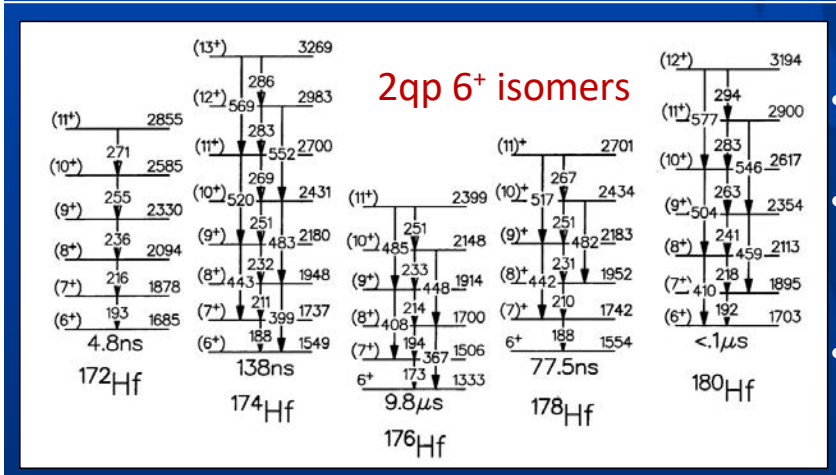
Axial Symmetry: K quantum number and K-Isomers



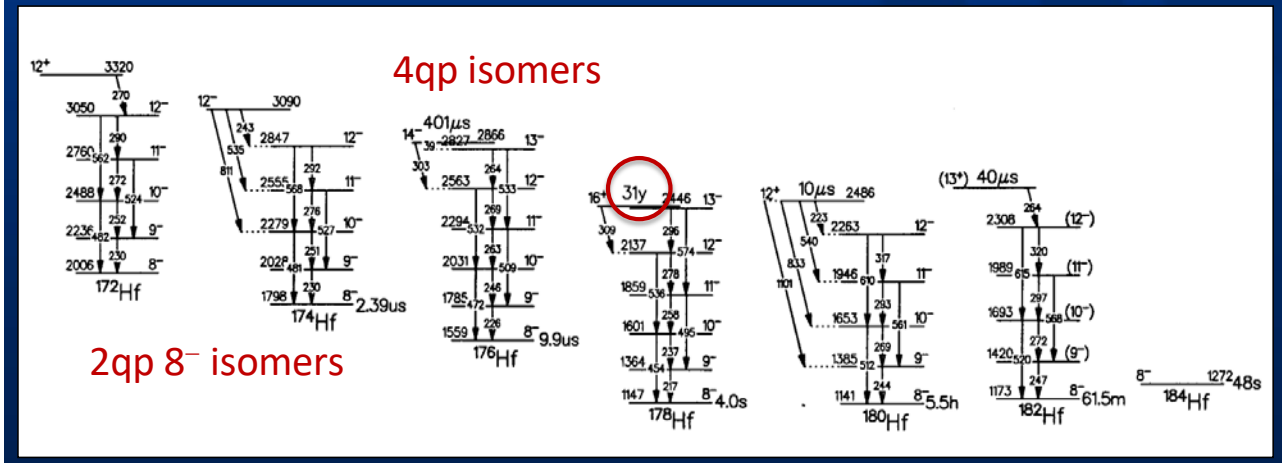


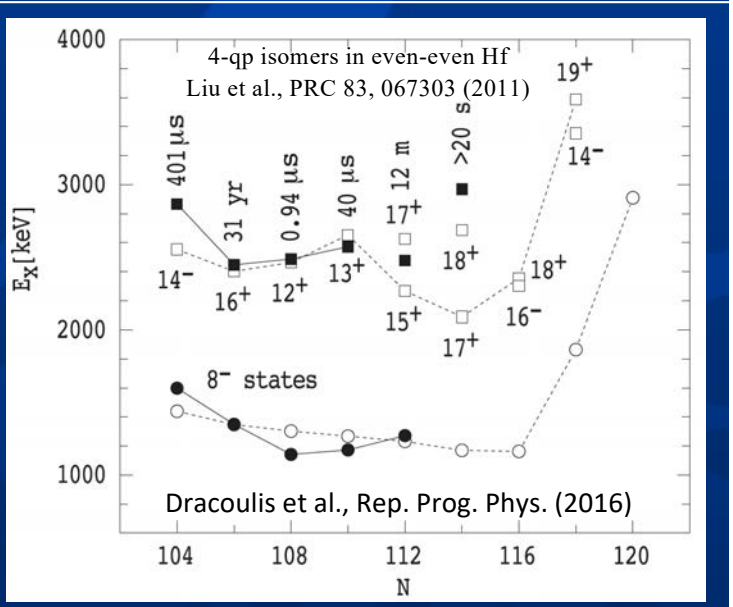
- deformation and axial symmetry
- high-Ω orbitals near Fermi surface
- interplay of intrinsic and collective excitations
- *K*-selection rule $\Delta K \leqslant \lambda$ (transition multipolarity)
- transitions hindered if selection rule violated (*K*-isomers)
- spectroscopic tool
- sensitive probe of nuclear structure

High-K Isomers: Hf isotopes



- Rigid axial quadrupole deformation
- Multiple high-Ω *n* and *p* orbitals near Fermi surface
- Yrast traps predicted in neutron-rich Hf

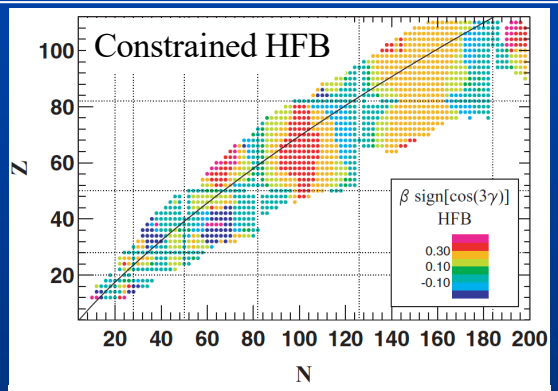




Questions and challenges:

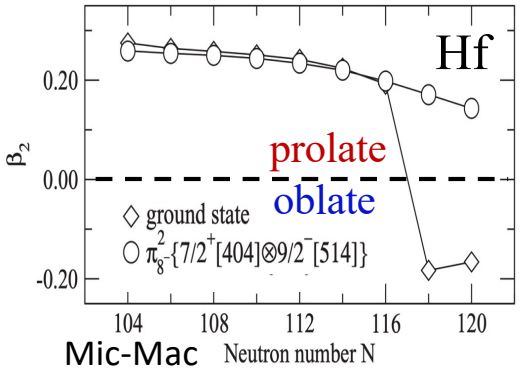
- Nature of shape evolution
- Impact on approximate symmetries
- Accessing the neutron-rich region at moderate angular momenta

Model Predictions: Shape Evolution



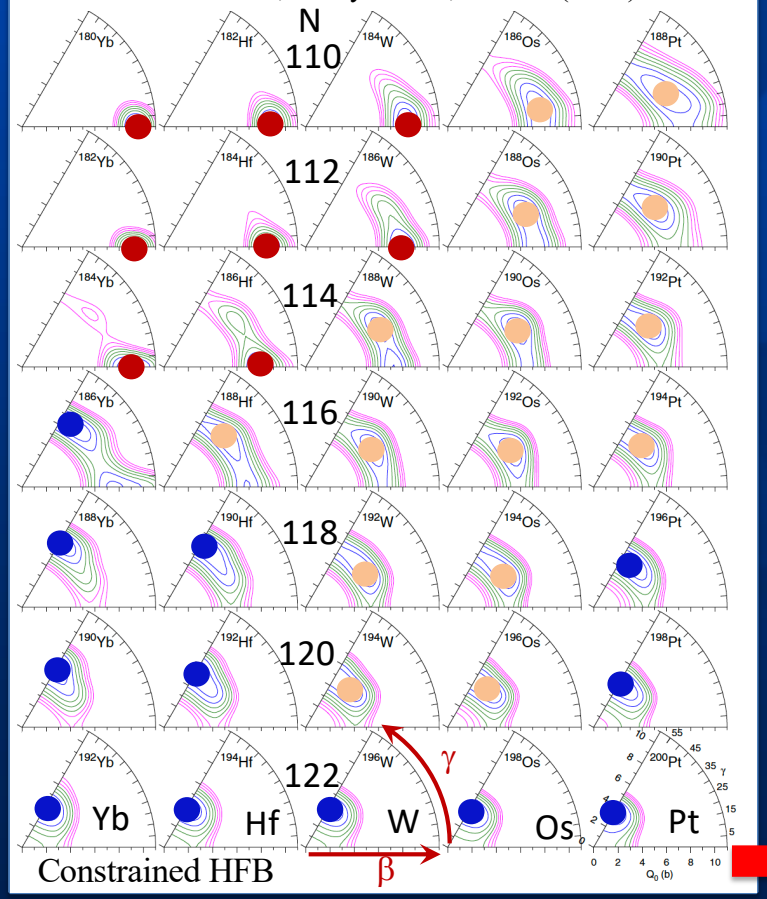
Delaroche et al., *PRC 81, 014303 (2010)*

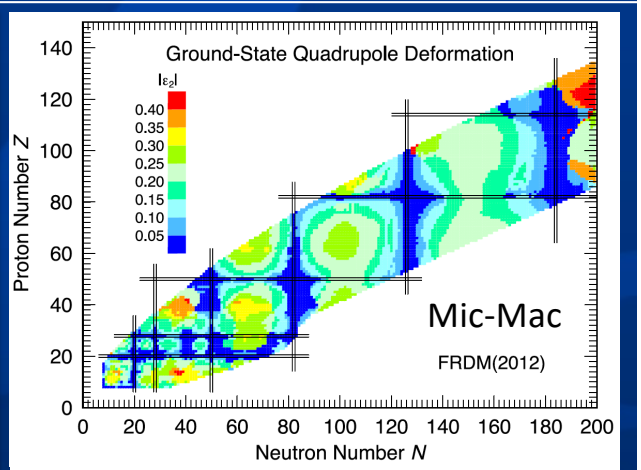
Configuration constrained WS + pairing



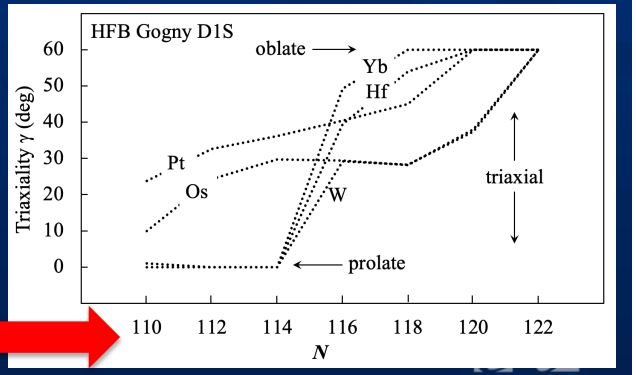
Liu, Xu et al., *PRC 83, 067303 (2011)*

Robledo et al., J. Phys. G 36, 115104 (2009)

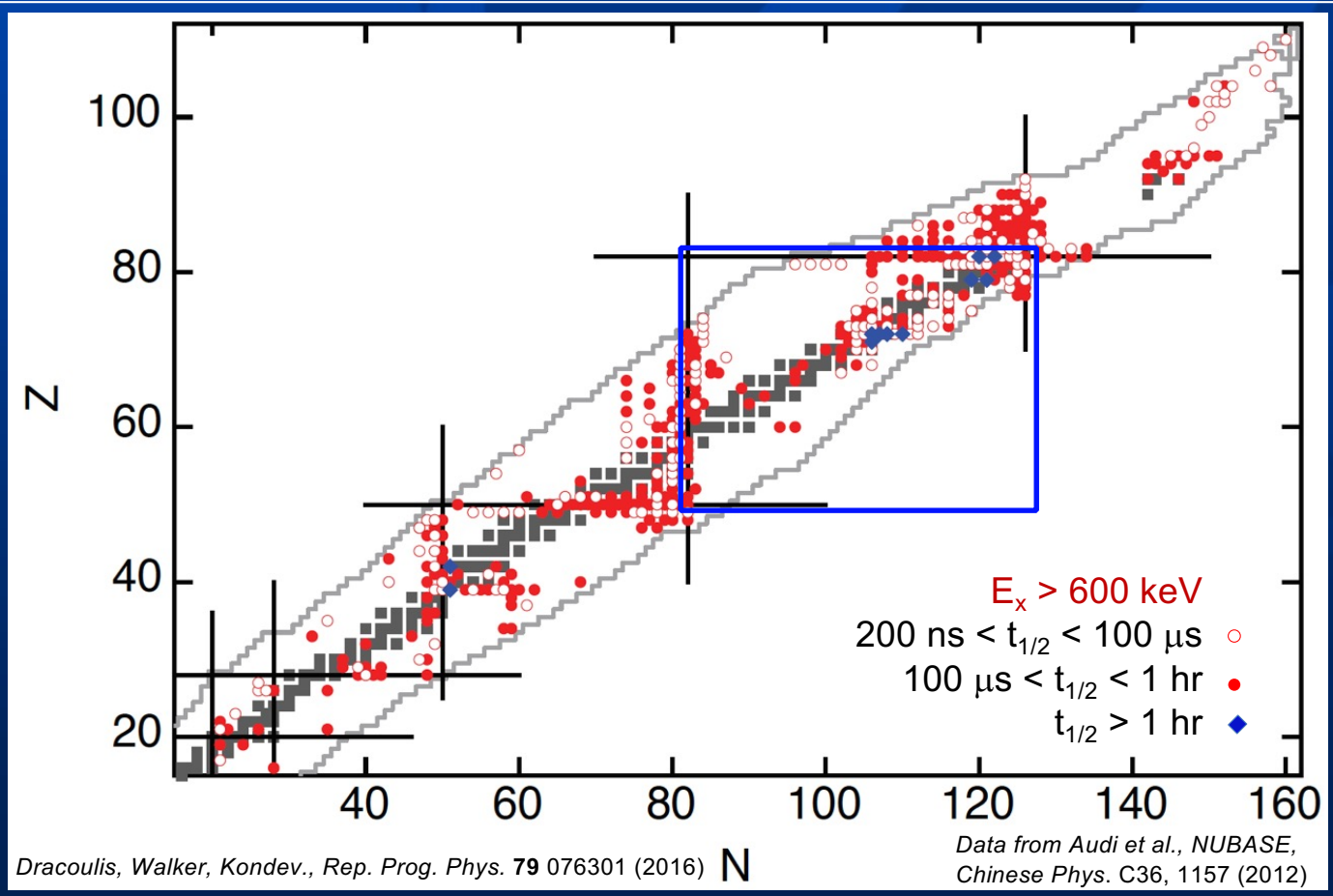




Moller et al., *At. Data. Nucl. Data Tables, 109-110, 1 (2016)*



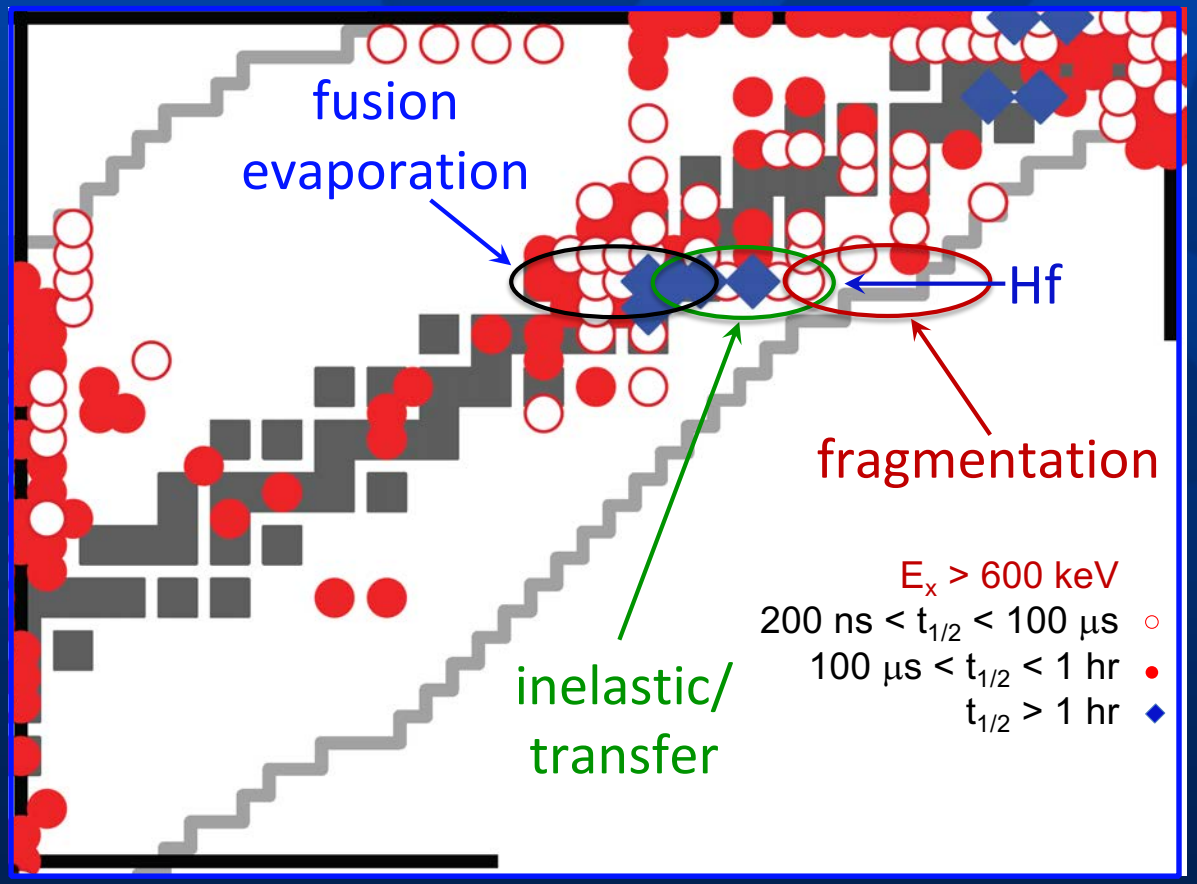
Isomers for Structure Studies



Dracoulis, Walker, Kondev., Rep. Prog. Phys. **79** 076301 (2016)

Data from Audi et al., NUBASE, Chinese Phys. C36, 1157 (2012)

Population Mechanisms



^{198}Pt Fragmentation at NSCL: Overview

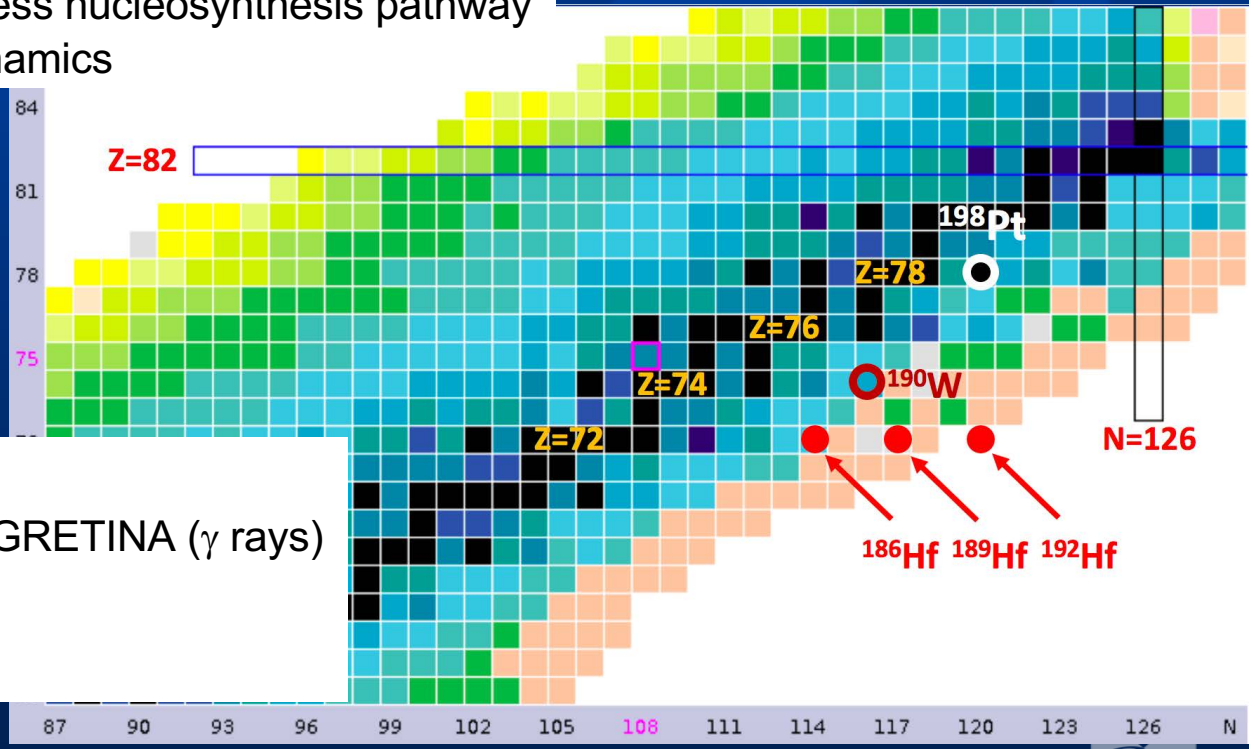
- Nuclear structure: K-isomers in neutron-rich Hf-W region
- Astrophysics: A=190 region r-process nucleosynthesis pathway
- Isotope discovery and reaction dynamics

First experiment with newly developed ^{198}Pt beam at NSCL

Stopped beam experiment:

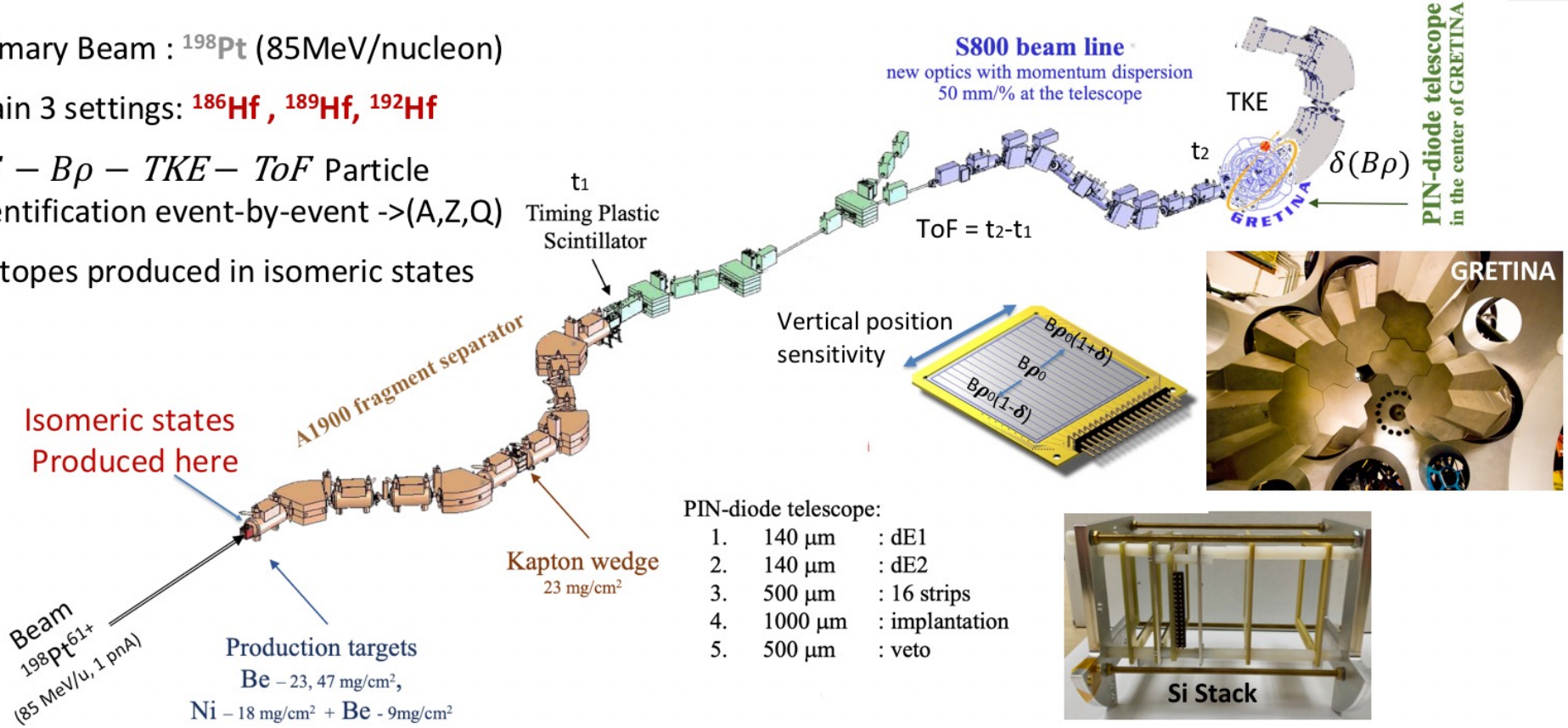
- Si stack (implants) surrounded by GRETINA (γ rays)
- Implant-γ coincidences
- Half-lives and level schemes

Isomers in 180<A<190 region



A1900@NSCL: e15130 Experimental Setup

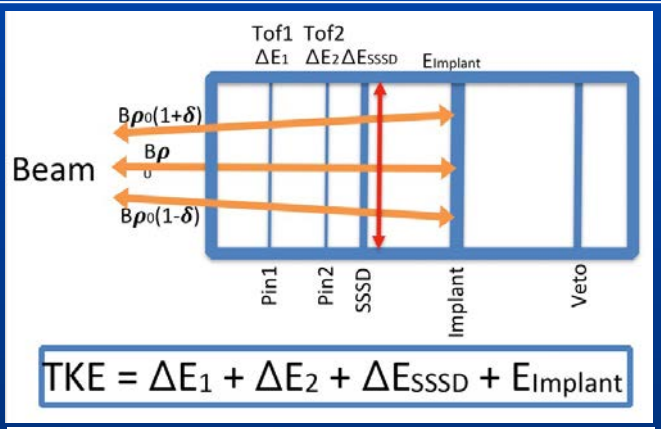
- Primary Beam : ^{198}Pt (85MeV/nucleon)
- Main 3 settings: ^{186}Hf , ^{189}Hf, ^{192}Hf
- $\Delta E - B\rho - TKE - ToF$ Particle Identification event-by-event ->(A,Z,Q)
- Isotopes produced in isomeric states

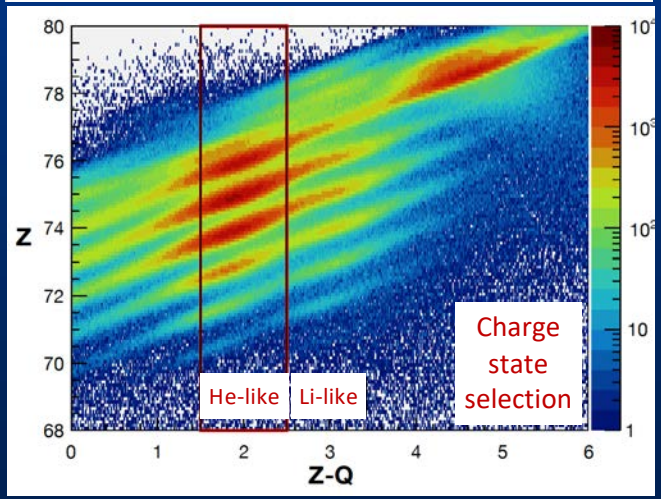


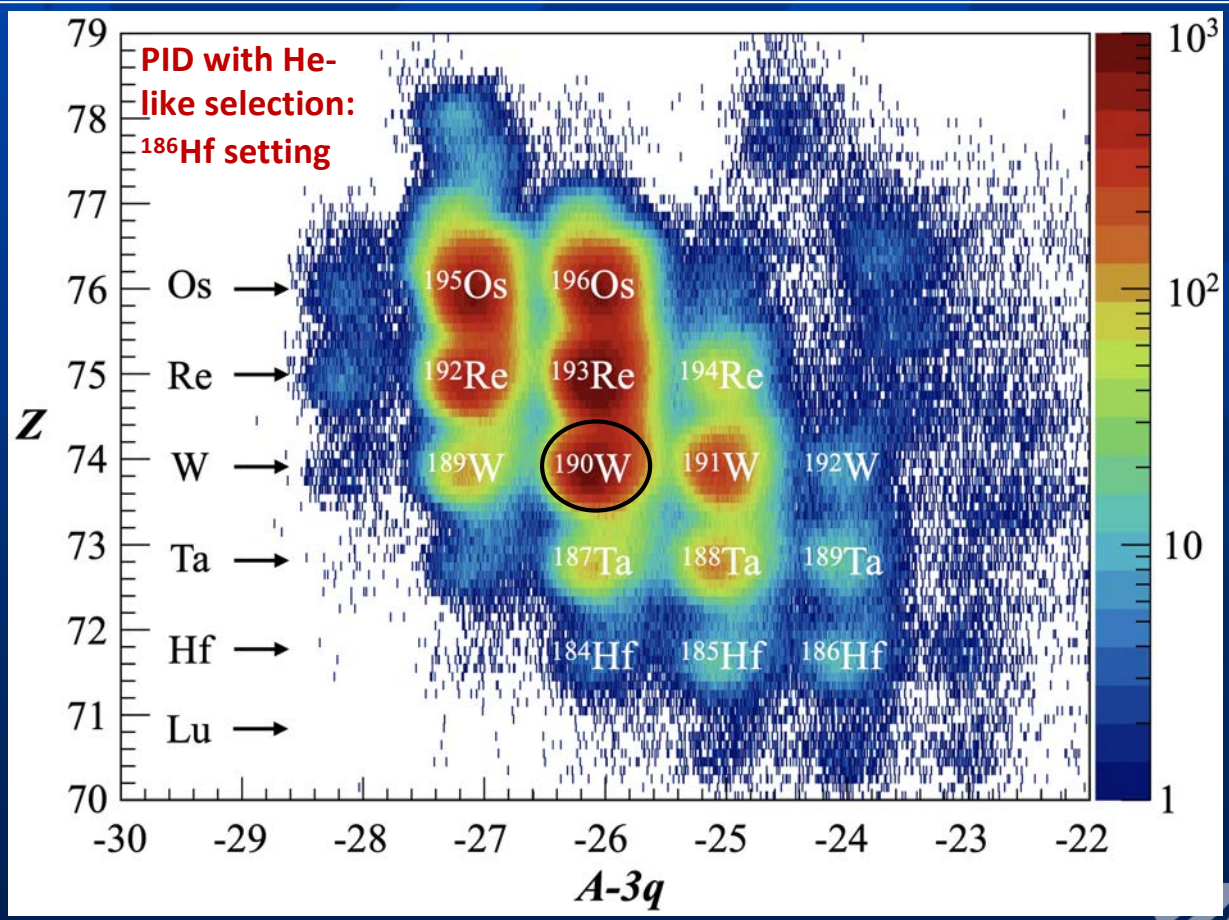
PIN-diode telescope:

1.	140 μm	: dE1
2.	140 μm	: dE2
3.	500 μm	: 16 strips
4.	1000 μm	: implantation
5.	500 μm	: veto

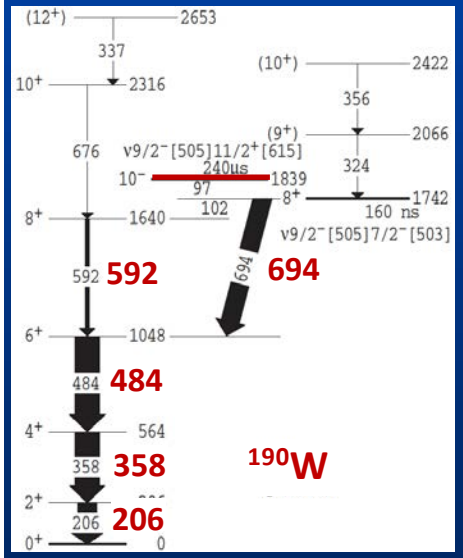
^{198}Pt Fragmentation at NSCL: Particle Identification





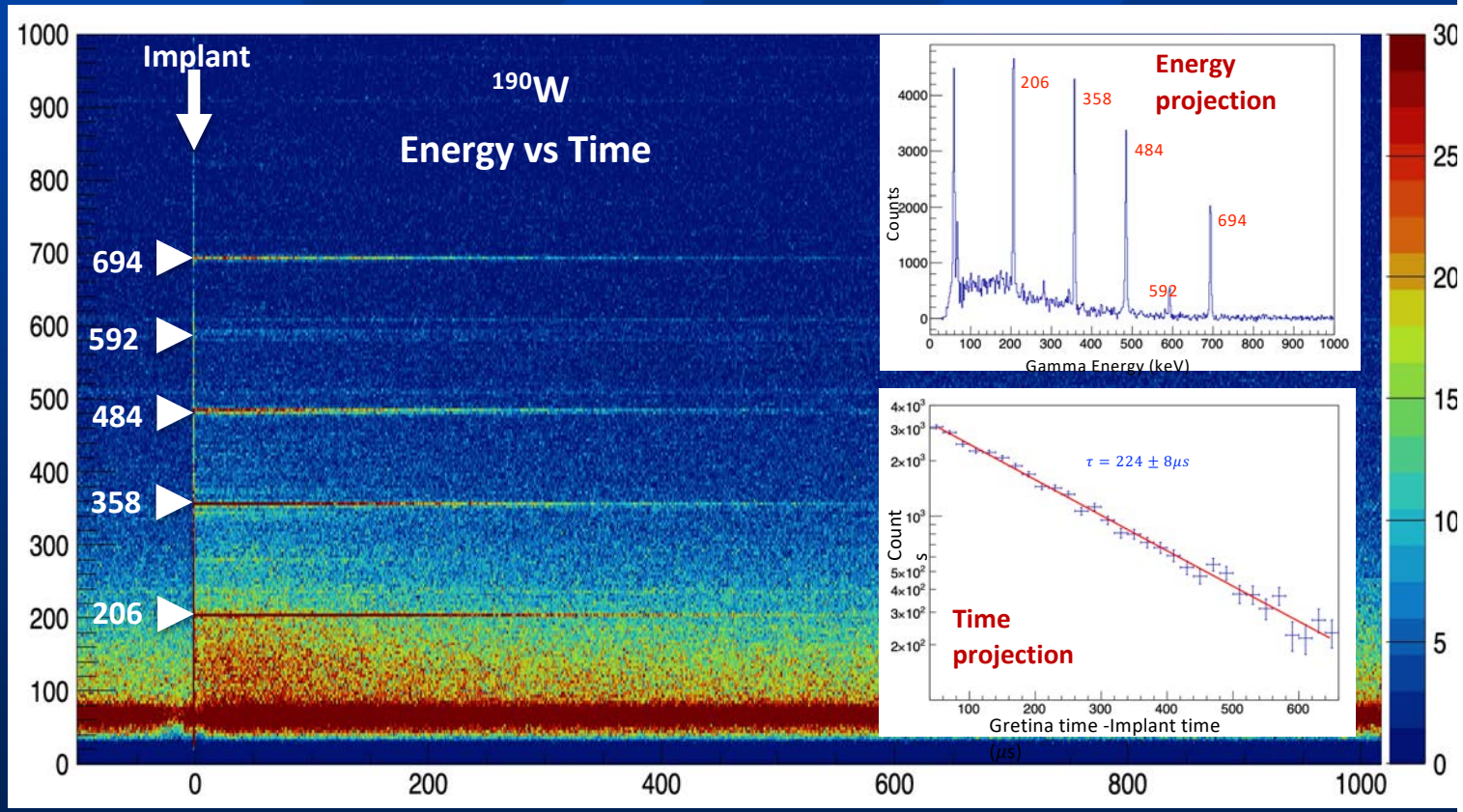


^{190}W: Implant-Decay Correlation

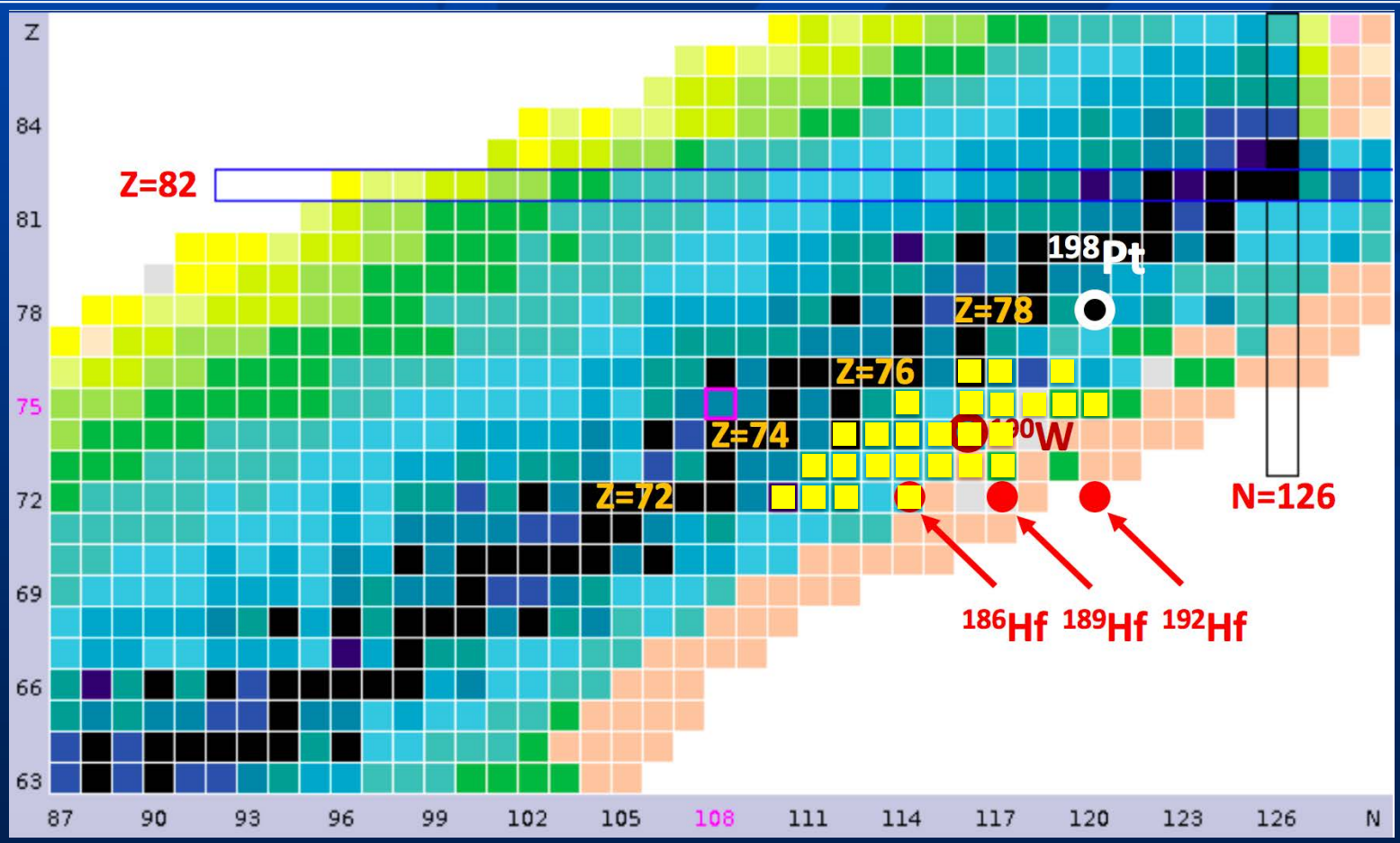


G. Lane et al., PRC 82, 051304 (R), 2010

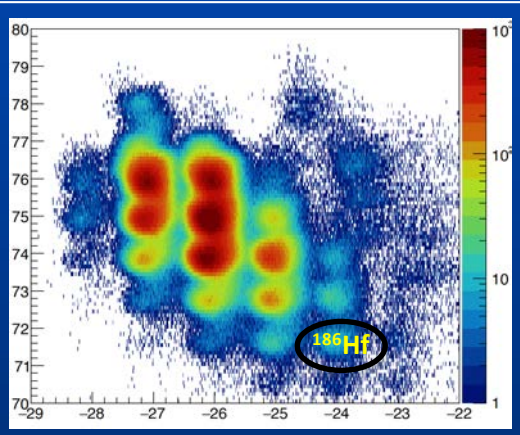
via multi-nucleon transfer

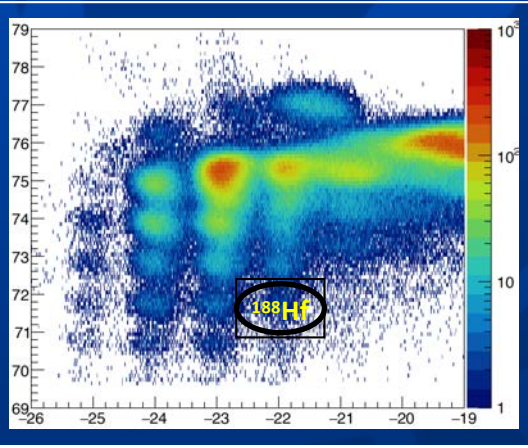


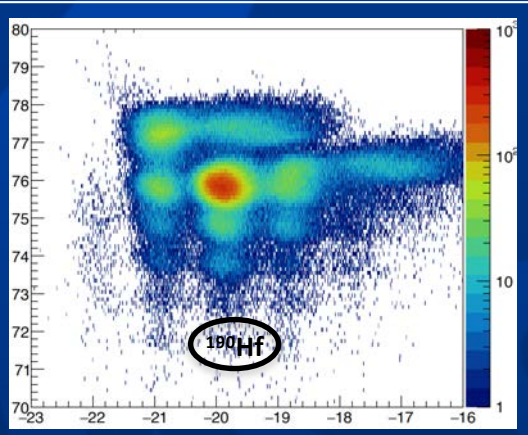
Isomer Landscape

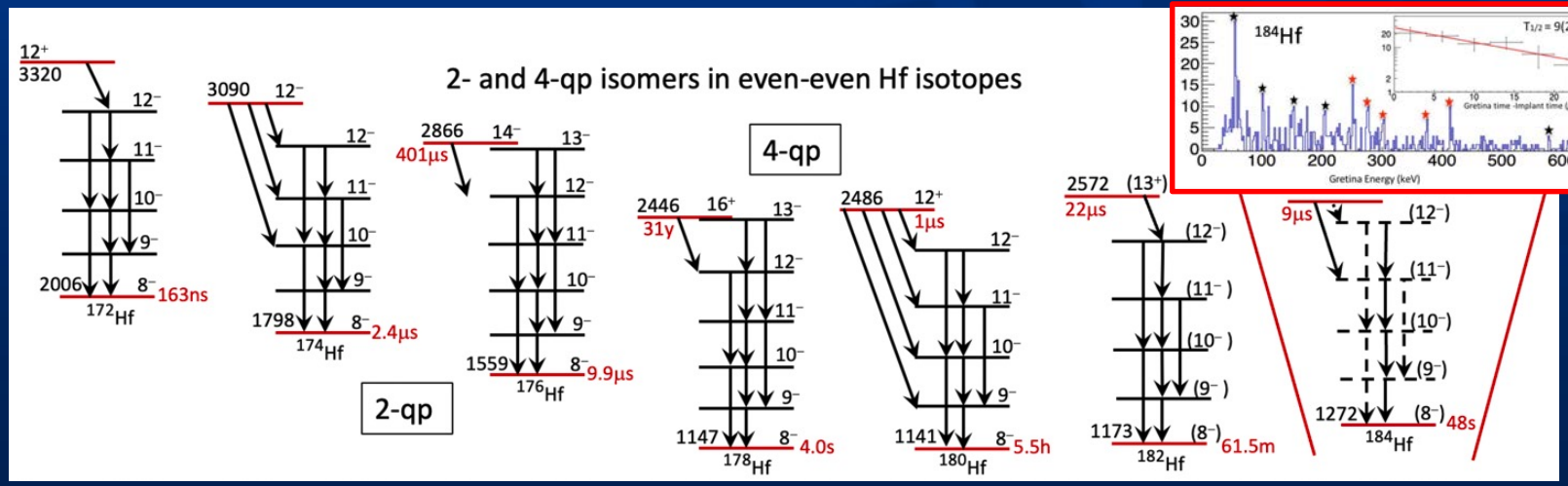


Neutron-rich terra incognita - Even-Even Hf

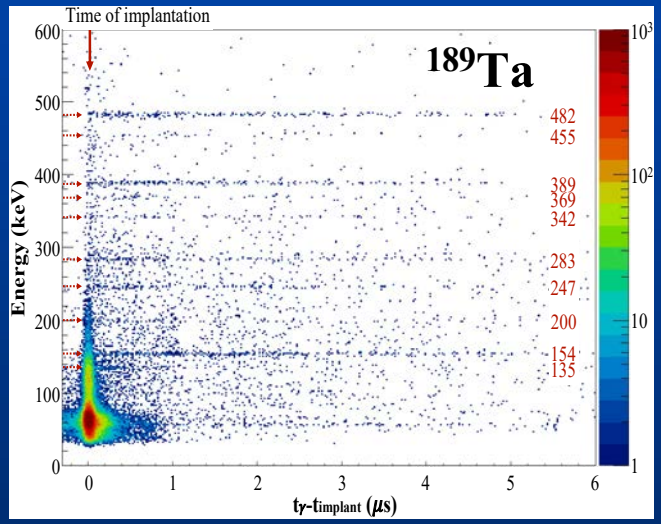


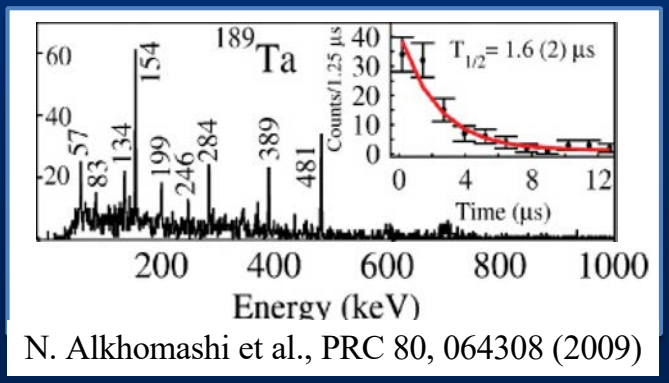




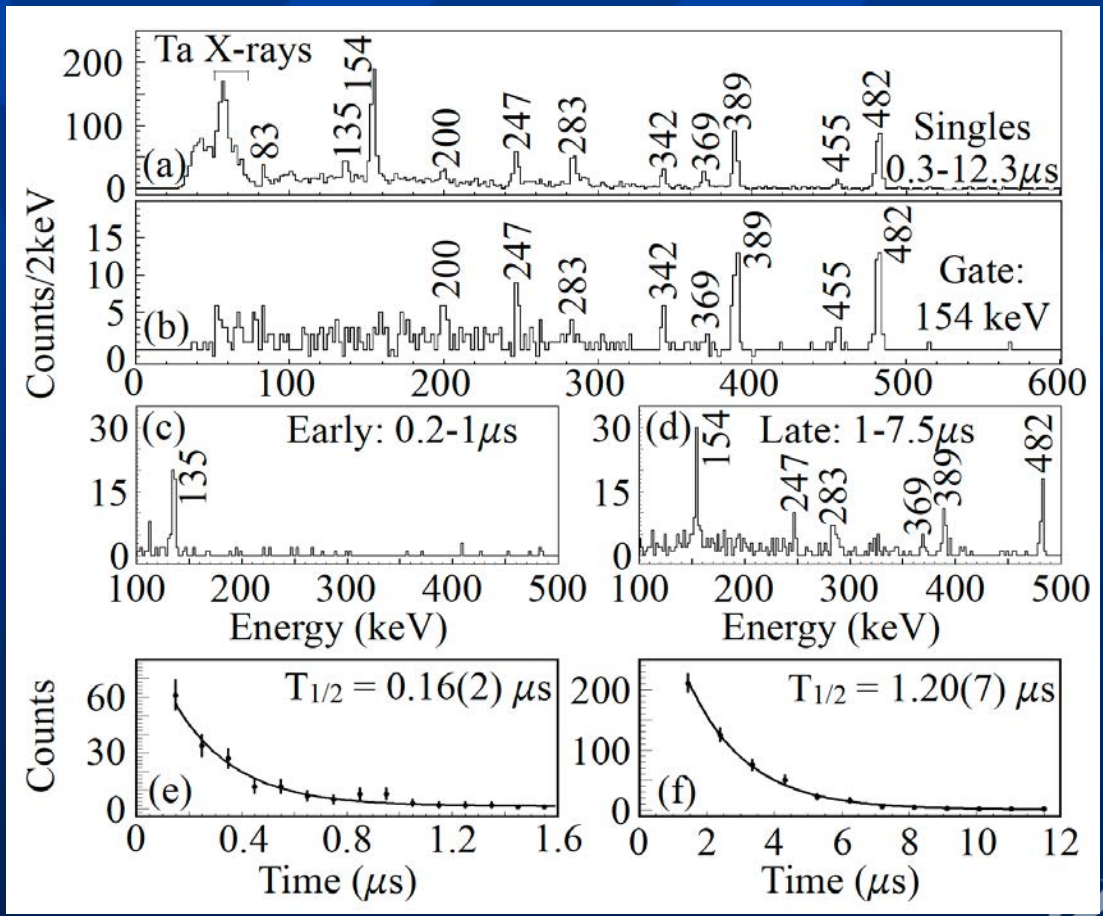


^{189}Ta Spectroscopy: Fragmentation + GRETINA

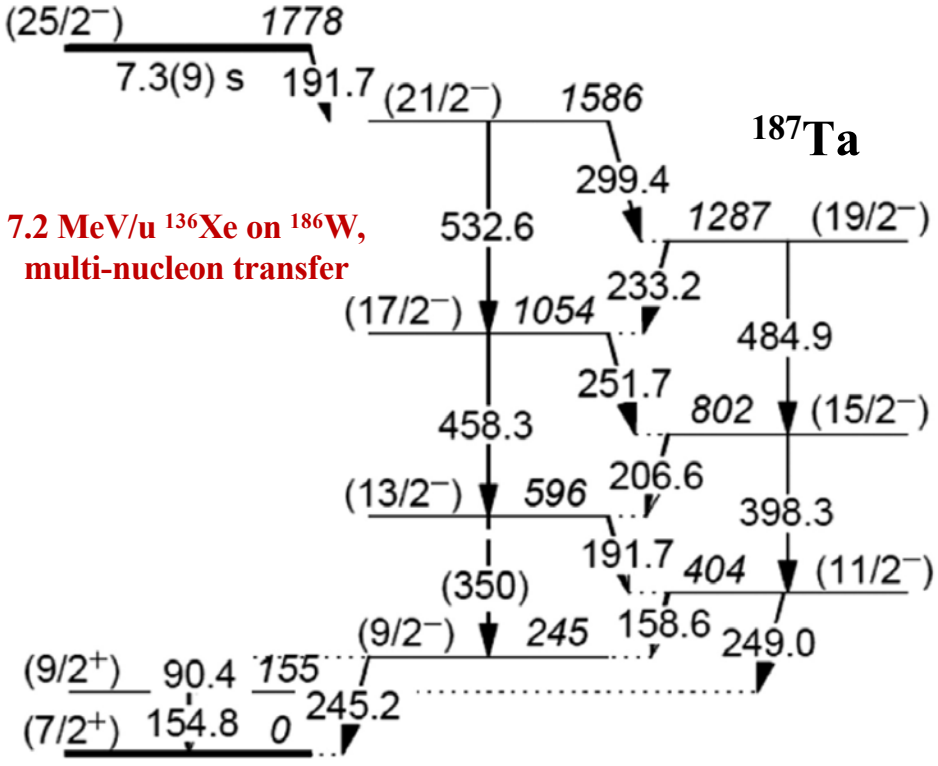




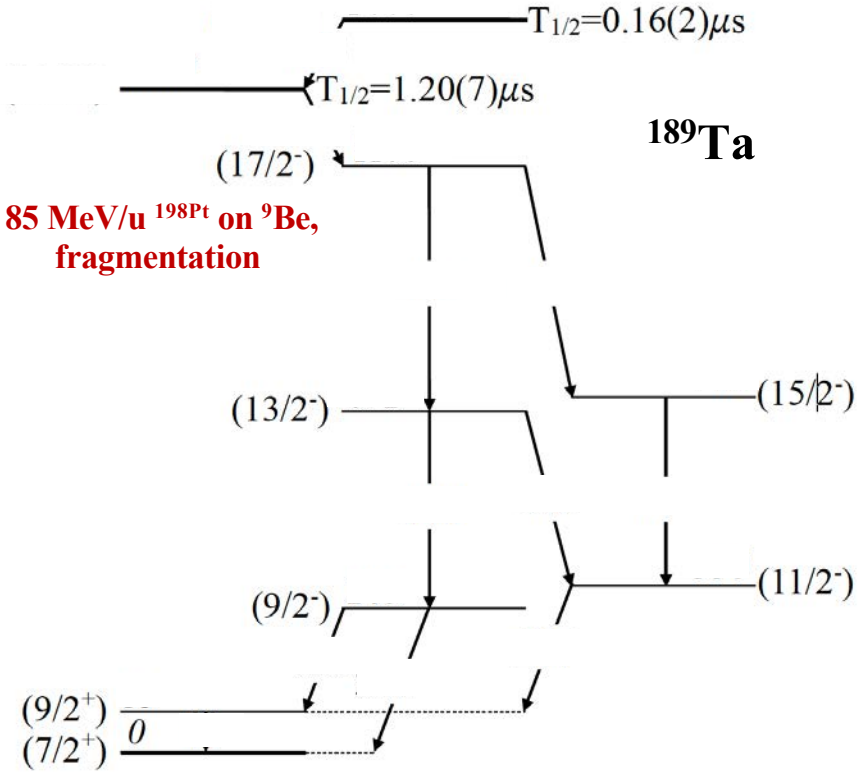
N. Alkhomashi et al., PRC 80, 064308 (2009)



First Level Scheme of ^{189}Ta : 8 neutrons beyond stability

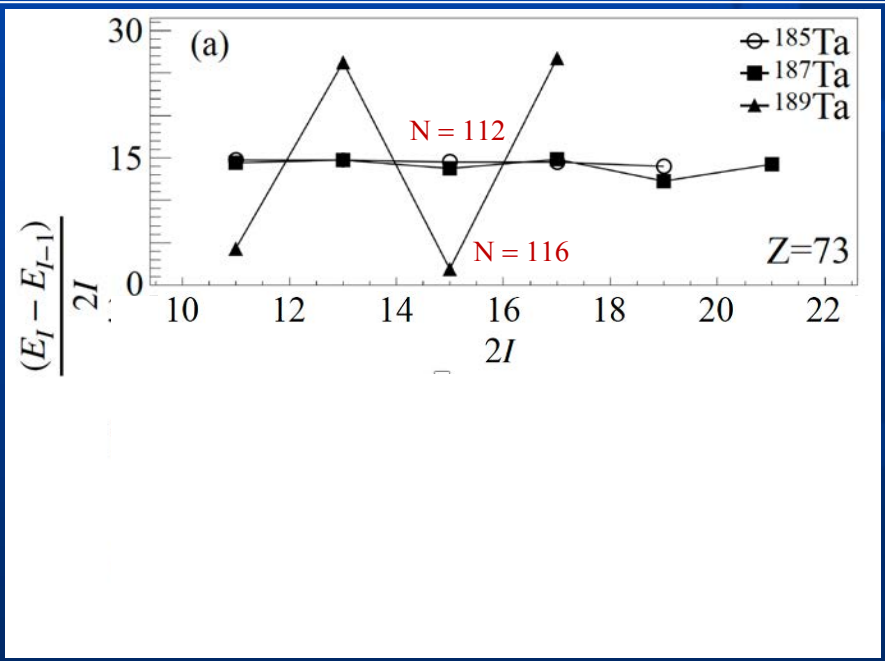


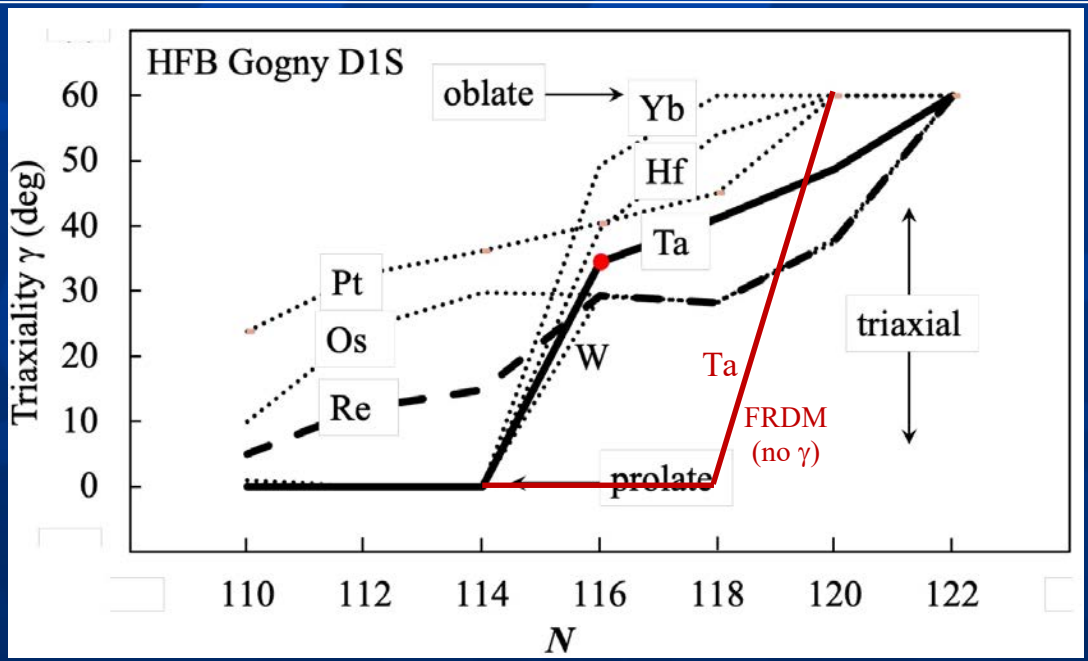
P.M. Walker et al., PRL 125, 192505 (2020)



K. Sharma et al., submitted to PRL (2024)

Reaching the Prolate-Oblate Boundary





Large staggering (signature splitting) in ^{189}Ta rotational band

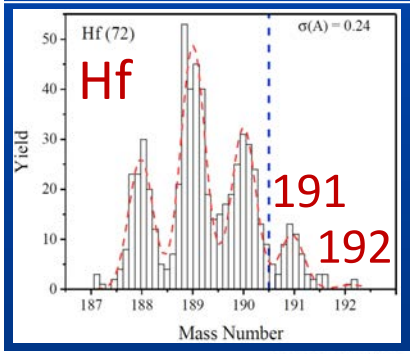
Sharp transition to strong triaxial shapes in ^{189}Ta (N=116) at the prolate-oblate boundary

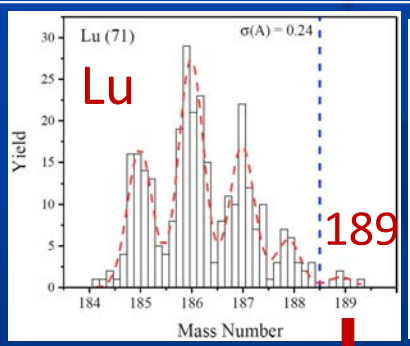
Agrees with HFB predictions but not with FRDM

Decrease in *K*-hindrance consistent with loss of axial symmetry

K. Sharma et al., submitted to PRL

Isotope Discovery





PHYSICAL REVIEW C **108**, 034608 (2023)

85 MeV/u, thin target, ~1 pnA

Production and discovery of neutron-rich isotopes by fragmentation of ^{198}Pt

K. Haak,[1,2,*] O. B. Tarasov,[1] P. Chowdhury,[3] A. M. Rogers,[3] K. Sharma,[3] T. Baumann,[1] D. Bazin,[1,2] P. C. Bender,[3] J. Chen,[1] A. Estrade,[4] M. A. Famiano,[5] D. C. Foulds-Holt,[3,†] N. Fukuda,[6] A. Gade,[1,2] T. N. Ginter,[1] R. W. Gohier,[5] M. Hausmann,[1] A. M. Hill,[1,2] D. E. M. Hoff,[3,‡] L. Klankowski,[5] E. Kwan,[1] J. Li,[1] S. N. Liddick,[1,7] B. Longfellow,[1,2,‡] S. Lyons,[1,§] C. Morse,[8] M. Portillo,[1] D. Rhodes,[1,2,‖] A. L. Richard,[1,‡] S. Samaranayake,[4] B. M. Sherrill,[1,2] M. K. Smith,[1] M. Spieker,[1,¶] C. S. Sumithrarachchi,[1] H. Suzuki,[6] K. Wang,[4] S. Waniganeththi,[3] D. Weisshaar,[1] and S. Zhu[9,**]

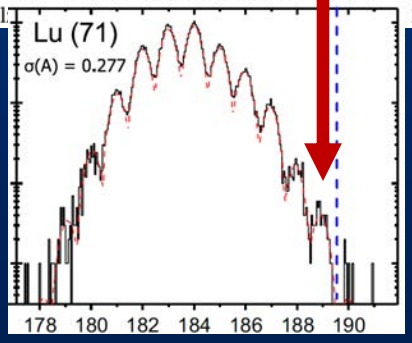
PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS **132**, 072501 (2024)

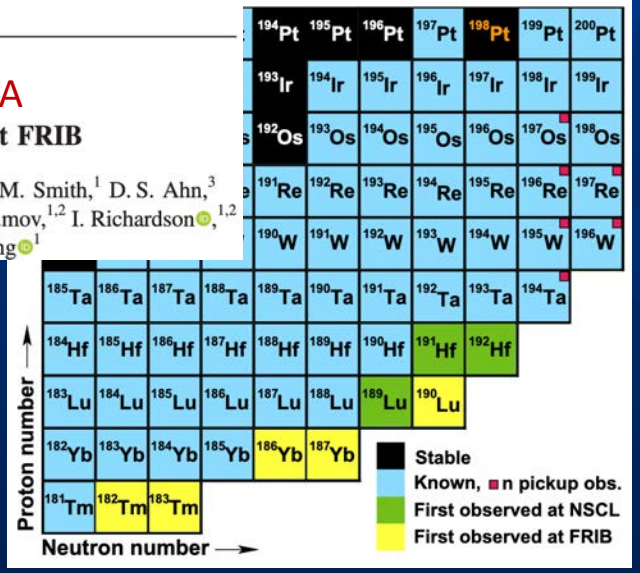
Editors' Suggestion | Featured in Physics

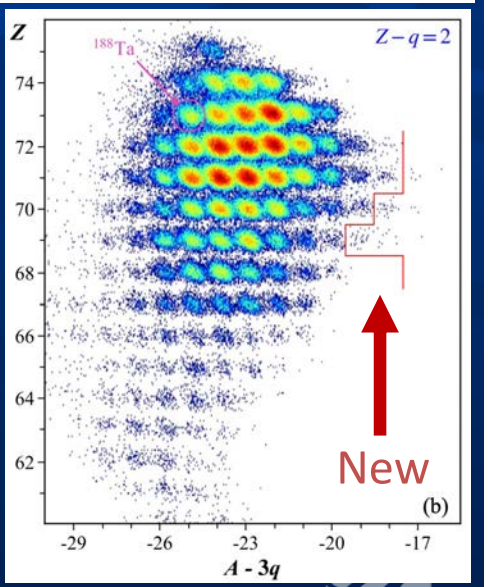
186 MeV/u, thick target, ~15 pnA

Observation of New Isotopes in the Fragmentation of ^{198}Pt at FRIB

O. B. Tarasov,[1,*] A. Gade,[1,2] K. Fukushima,[1] M. Hausmann,[1] E. Kwan,[1] M. Portillo,[1] M. Smith,[1] D. S. Ahn,[3] D. Bazin,[1,2] R. Chyzh,[1] S. Giraud,[1] K. Haak,[1,2] T. Kubo,[4] D. J. Morrissey,[5] P. N. Ostroumov,[1,2] I. Richardson,[1,2] B. M. Sherrill,[1,2] A. Stol[illegible] Zhang[1]







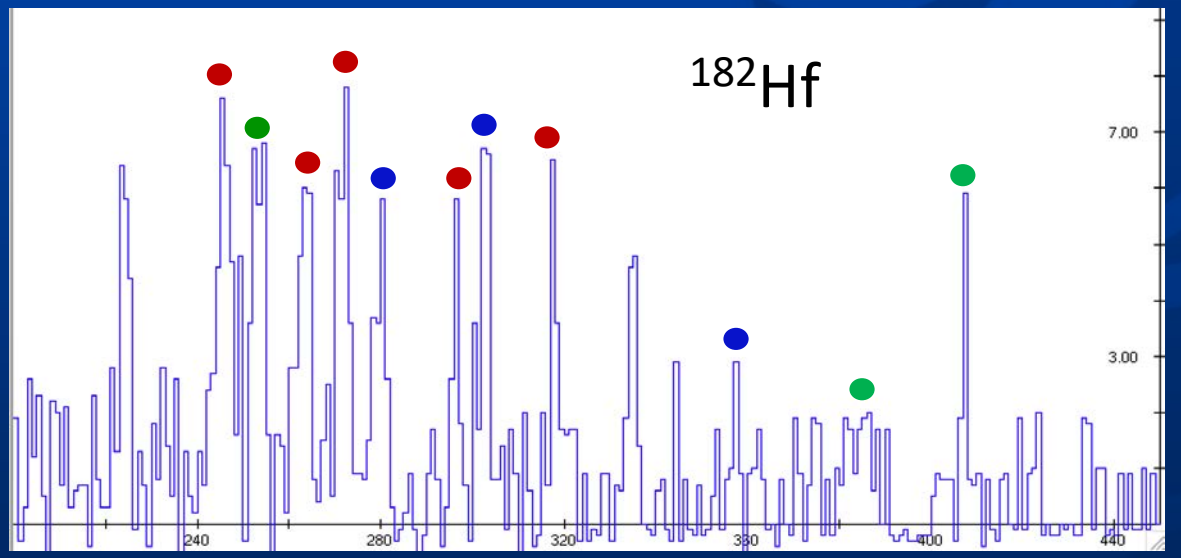
FRIB PAC3

UML, FRIB, Surrey, JYFL, ORNL, ANL +

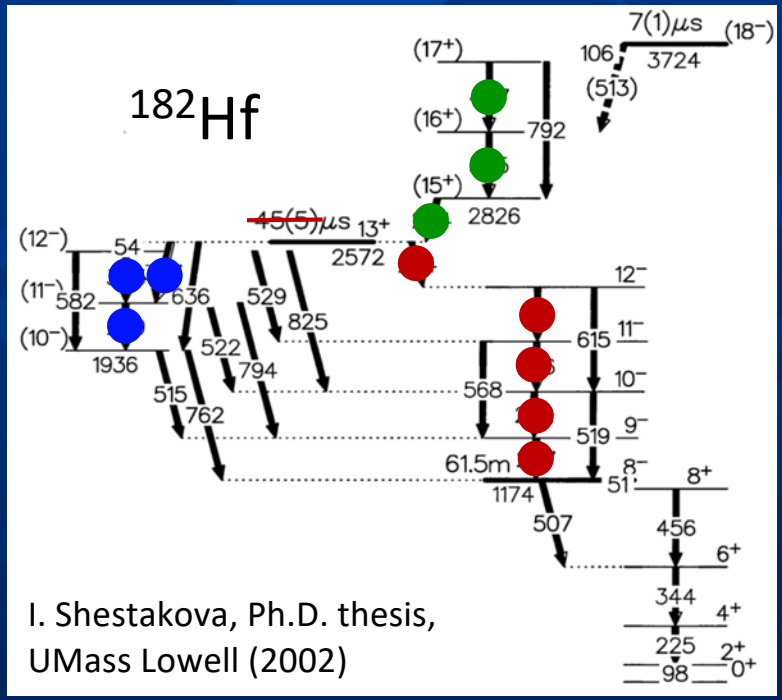
Z=68-75

Proposal under review

Reaction Dynamics: Angular Momentum in Fragments



Populating isomeric states up to I ~ 18$\hbar$



I. Shestakova, Ph.D. thesis, UMass Lowell (2002)

Summary and Outlook

- First fragmentation of ^{198}Pt beams
- ΔE – Bρ – TKE – TOF → PID Si SSSD → Δ(Bρ) GRETINA → γ–γ coincidence power
- Isotopes implanted in (~10%) isomeric high spin states
- Half-life sensitivity between ~400 ns (flight path) and ~10 ms (implant rate)
- Many isomers identified in neutron-rich landscape (more results in queue)
- Half-life of 2-qp Hf isomers out of range, μs 4-qp isomers identified in ^{184,186}Hf
- First level scheme of ^{189}Ta (N=116) from K-isomer decay - Sharp transition to strong triaxial shapes: Reaching the Prolate-Oblate boundary (submitted to PRL)
- FRIB PAC3 proposal under review, wider scope, larger team, FDSi, 128x128 Si DSSD, increased sensitivity to longer $t_{1/2}$

THANK YOU!