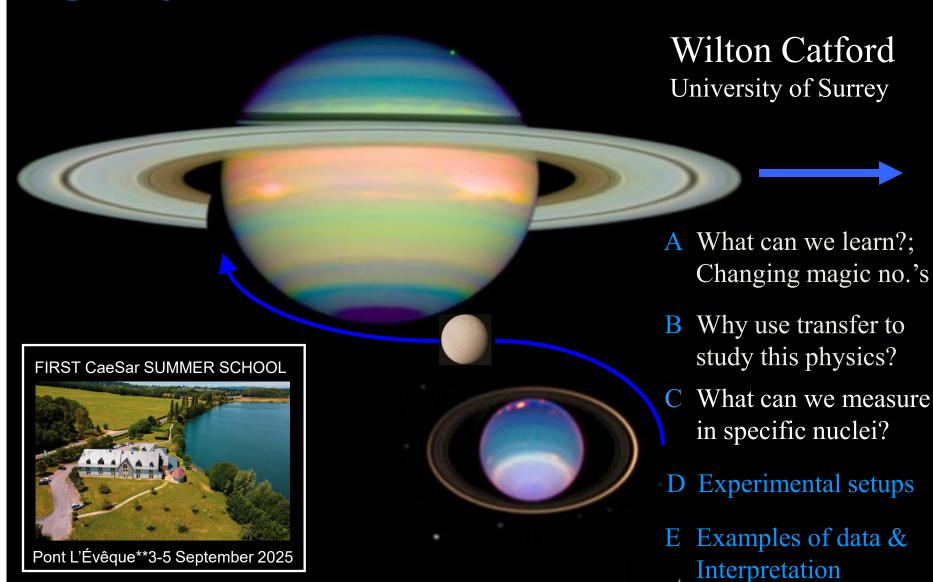
Exploring Unusual Nuclei with Nucleon Transfer Reactions



SATURN HST/ IR 1998, TETHYS VOYAGER2 1981, URANUS HST/ IR 1986

A PLAN for how to study nuclear STRUCTURE:

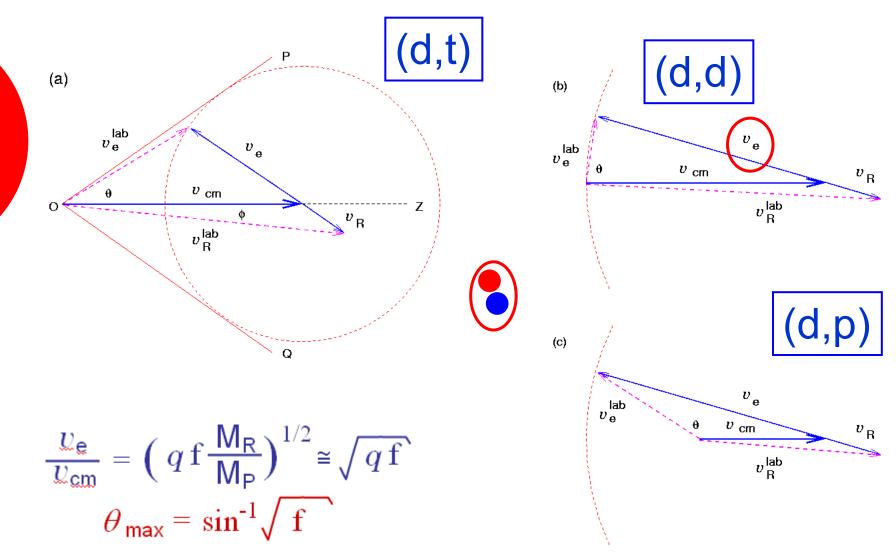
- Use **transfer reactions** to identify strong single-particle states, measuring their spins and strengths
- Use the energies of these states to compare with theory
- Refine the structure (e.g. shell model, ab initio) theory
- Improve the extrapolation to very exotic nuclei
- Hence learn the structure of very exotic nuclei
- N.B. The **shell model** is arguably the best theoretical approach for us to confront with our results, but it's **not the only one**.

 The experiments are needed, no matter which theory we use.
- N.B. Transfer (as opposed to knockout) allows us to study orbitals that are empty, so we don't need quite such exotic beams.

- Motivation: nuclear structure reasons for transfer
- What quantities we actually measure
- · What reactions/energies can we choose to use?
- Inverse Kinematics
- Implications for Experimental approaches
- Why do people make the choices that they do?
- Example experiments and results

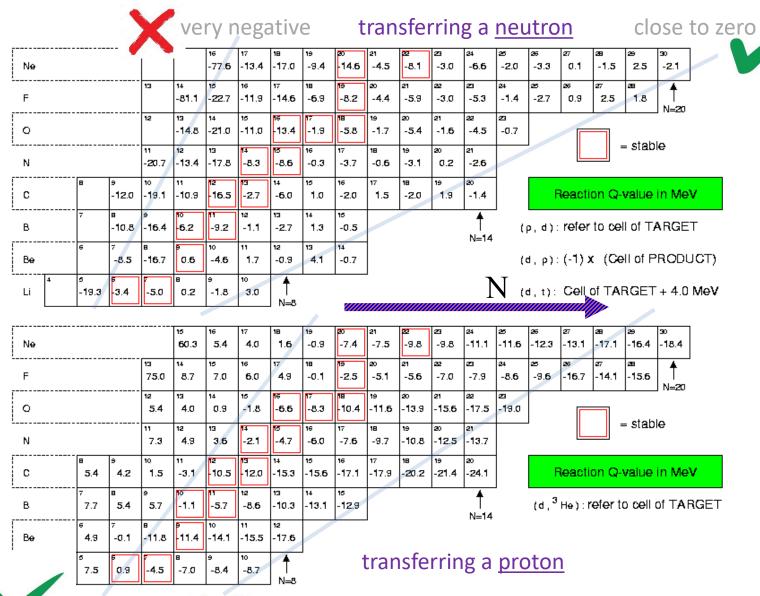


Using Radioactive Beams in Inverse Kinematics (heavy incident on light)



f = 1/2 for (p,d), 2/3 for (d,t) $q \approx 1 + Q_{tot} / (E/A)_{beam}$

The reaction Q-value does have an effect (mainly on the cross section)



very negative

close to zero

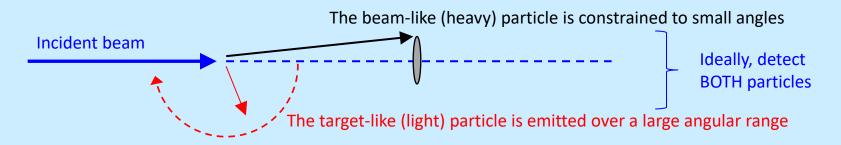
Possible experimental approaches to measuring transfer reactions...

1) Rely on detecting the beam-like ejectile in a spectrometer

- Kinematically favourable unless beam mass (and focussing) too great
 - ent 😾
- Spread in beam energy (several MeV) translates to E_x measurement
- Hence, need energy tagging, or a dispersion matching spectrometer
- Spectrometer is subject to broadening from gamma-decay in flight

2) Rely on detecting the target-like ejectile in a Si detector

- Kinematically less favourable for angular coverage
- Spread in beam energy generally gives little effect on E_x measurement
- Resolution limited by difference [dE/dx(beam) dE/dx(ejectile)]
- Target thickness limited to 0.5-1.0 mg/cm² to maintain resolution



J.S. Winfield, W.N. Catford and N.A. Orr, NIM A396 (1997) 147

Calculations of E_x resolution arising from particle detection...

152

J.S. Winfield et al. | Nucl. Instr. and Meth. in Phys. Res. A 396 (1997) 147-164

beamlike particle detected

Table 2
Major contributions in keV to the resolution of the excitation energy spectra of single neutron stripping and pickup reactions in inverse kinematics, where the heavy ion is detected in a spectrometer. The detection angle corresponds to 10°_{cm}. The last column is an approximate estimate as a sum in quadrature of the net effect of five non-Gaussian contributions. Other symbols are explained in the text

| Reaction | $E_{\rm i}/A$ (MeV) | $\theta_{ m lab}$ | Origin of contribution | | | | | |
|----------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------------|------------|-----------------|----------------|-------|------|
| | | | $\Delta \theta$ | Δp | $E_{ m stragg}$ | $\Theta_{1/2}$ | dE/dx | |
| p(12Be, 11Be)d | 30 | 1.07° | 172 | 147 | 101 | 74 | 23 | 259 |
| p(12Be, 11Be)d | 15 | 1.06° | 84 | 71 | 99 | 74 | 37 | 169 |
| p(77Kr, 76Kr)d | 30 | 0.16° | 1404 | 811 | 808 | 723 | 56 | 1952 |
| p(77Kr, 76Kr)d | 10 | 0.10° | 334 | 143 | 502 | 570 | 268 | 883 |
| d(76Kr, 77Kr)p | 10 | 0.21° | 1140 | 614 | 2177 | 1859 | 1321 | 3408 |

dominant contribution from ANGLE measurement

light particle detected Table 3
Major contributions in keV to the resolution of the excitation energy spectra of single neutron pickup and stripping reactions in inverse kinematics, where the light particle is detected in a silicon detector. Symbols as described in text and Table 2

| Reaction | $E_{\rm i}/A$ (MeV) | $	heta_{lab}$ | Origin of contribution | | | | / \ | $\Sigma_{ m quad}$ |
|------------------------|---------------------|---------------|------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------------------|-------|----------------------------|
| | | | $\Delta \theta$ | ΔE_f | ΔE_i | $\boldsymbol{\varTheta}_{1/2}$ | dE/dx | energy loss leaving target |
| p(12Be, d)11Be | 30 | 19.0° | 136 | 74 | 114 | 96 | 649 | 685 |
| p(12Be, d)11Be | 15 | 17.8° | 66 | 72 | 55 | 89 | 984 | 995 |
| $p(^{77}Kr, d)^{76}Kr$ | 30 | 15.0° | 124 | 55 | 64 | 63 | 186 | 249 |
| $p(^{77}Kr, d)^{76}Kr$ | 10 | 6.0° | 26 | 24 | 23 | 19 | 775 | 777 |
| $d(^{76}Kr, p)^{77}Kr$ | 10 | 155.3° | 52 | 93 | 37 | 60 | 1309 | 1316 |
| | | | | | | | \ / | |

Lighter projectiles

Heavier projectiles

Some minor advantages to detect

beam-like particle

(angular resolution difficult at higher energies)

Better to detect light particle

(target thickness limits E_x resolution)

Possible Experimental Approaches to Nucleon Transfer

1) Rely on detecting the beam-like ejectile in a spectrometer

- Kinematically favourable unless beam mass (and focussing) *too* great
- Spread in beam energy (several MeV) translates to E_X measurement
- Hence, need energy tagging, or a dispersion matching spectrometer
- Spectrometer is subject to broadening from gamma-decay in flight

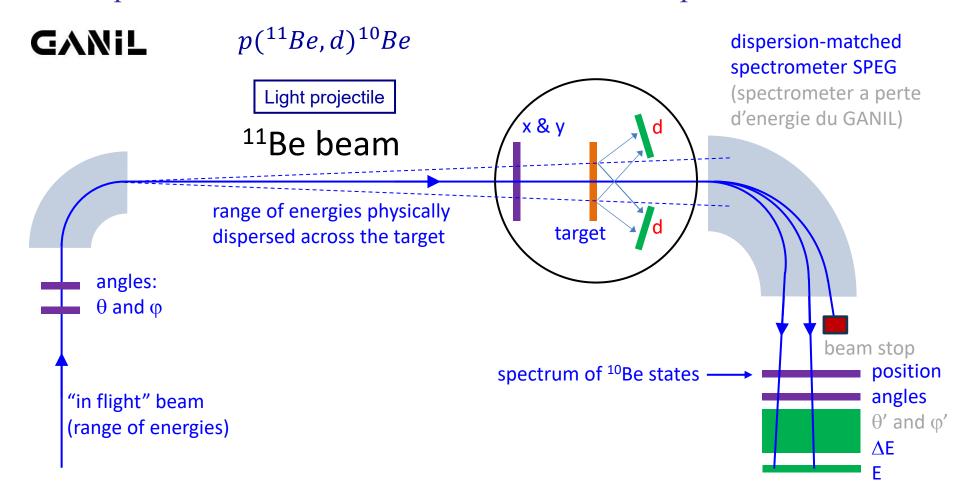
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- Target thickness limited to 0.5-1.0 mg/cm² to maintain resolution

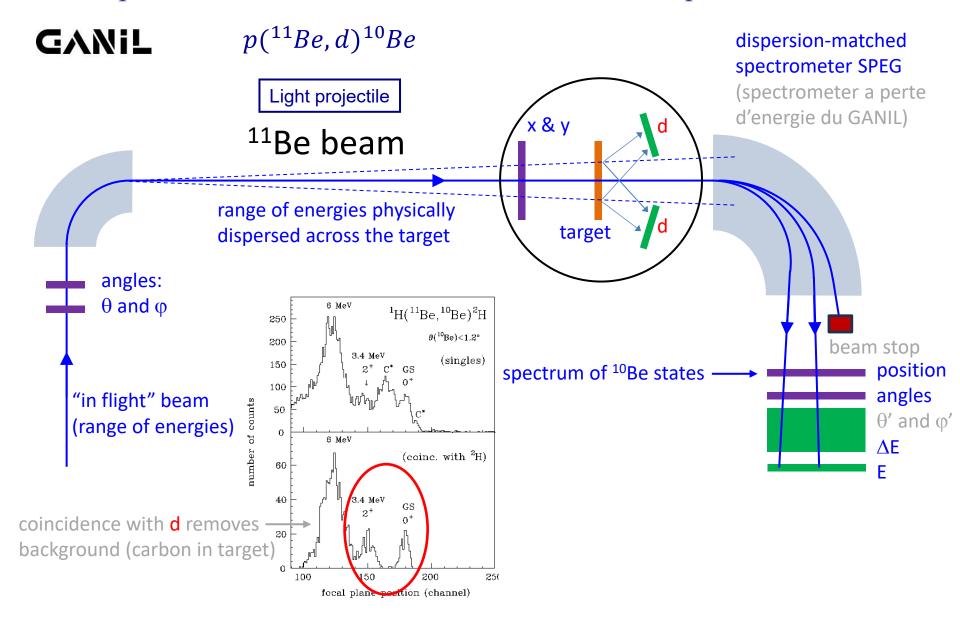
3) Detect decay gamma-rays in addition to particles

- Need exceptionally high efficiency, of order > 25%
- Resolution limited by Doppler shift and/or broadening
- Target thickness increased up to factor 10 (detection cutoff, mult scatt'g)

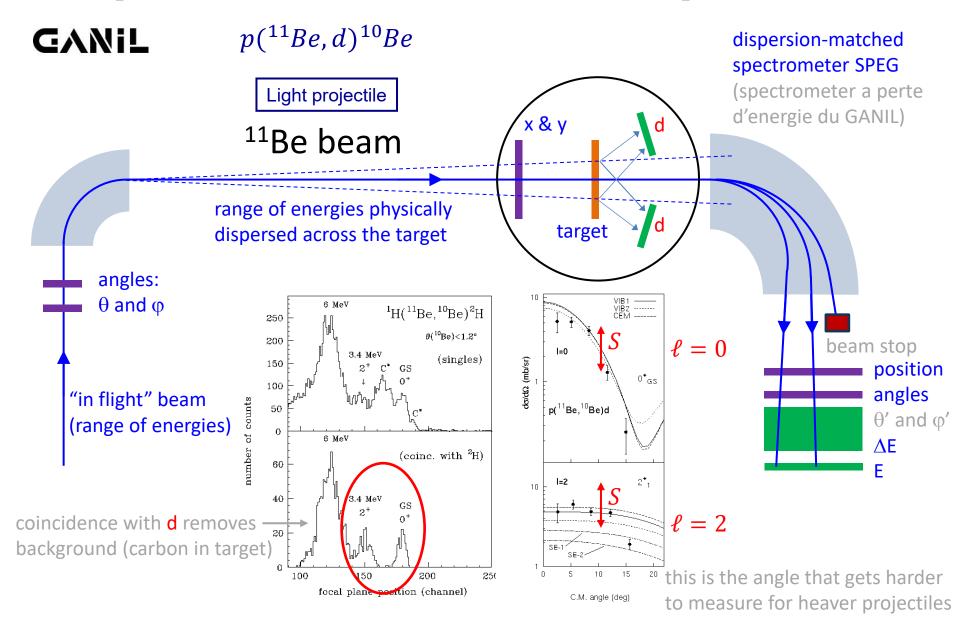
An experiment where we measured the beam-like particle...



An experiment where we measured the beam-like particle...



An experiment where we measured the beam-like particle...



Physics Letters B 461 (1999) 22-27 S. Fortier a, S. Pita a, J.S. Winfield a,b, W.N. Catford b, N.A. Orr c, et al. #1!!

Possible experimental approaches to measuring transfer reactions...

1) Rely on detecting the beam-like ejectile in a spectrometer

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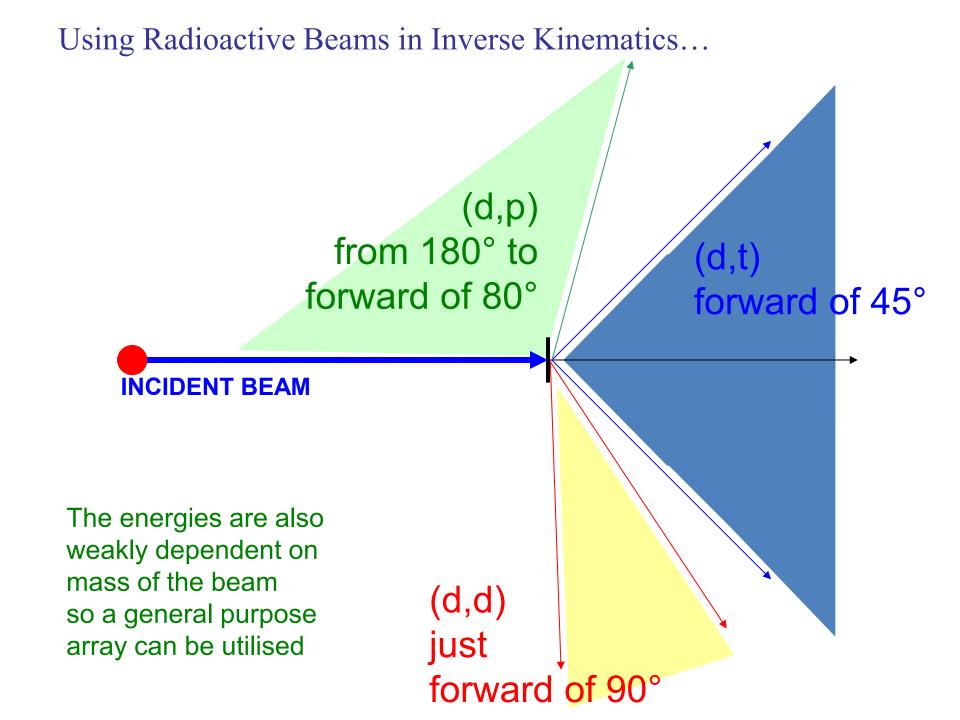
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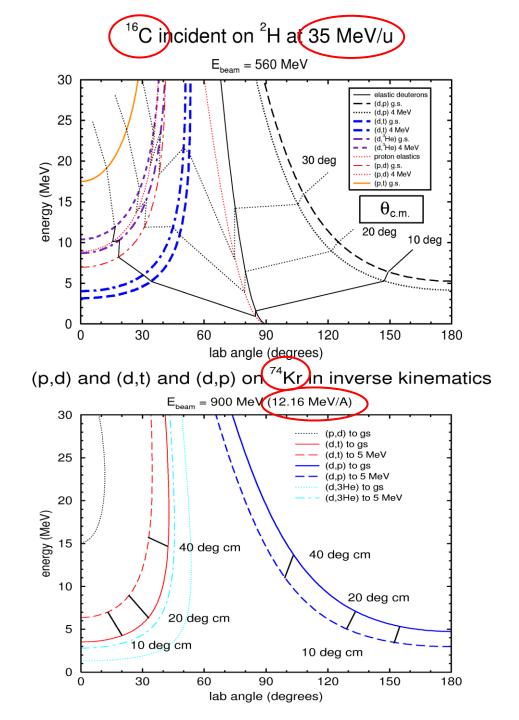
3) Detect decay gamma-rays in addition to particles

- Need exceptionally high efficiency, of order > 25%
- Resolution limited by only by Doppler shift and/or broadening
- Gamma-ray decay scheme gives valuable structure information

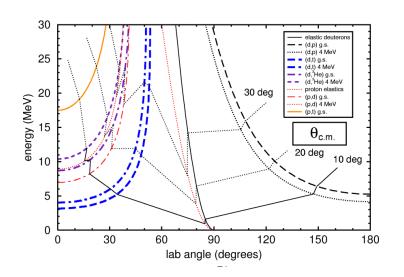
Energy resolution improved by a factor up to TEN



The general form of the kinematic diagrams is determined by the light particle masses, and has little dependence on the beam mass or beam velocity

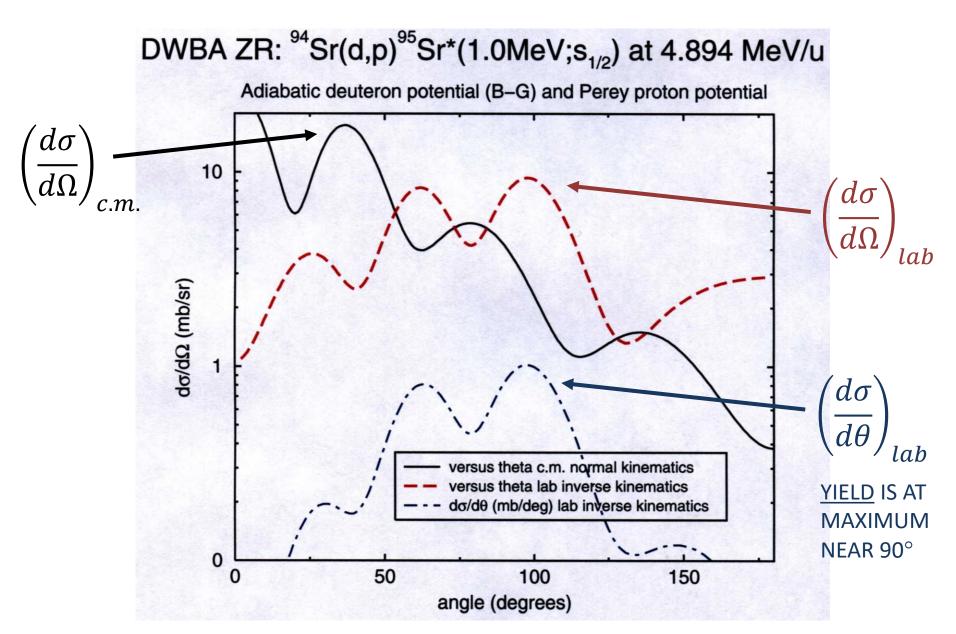


The general form of the kinematic diagrams is determined by the light particle masses, and has little dependence on the beam mass or beam velocity



THIS IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE

it means that we can design a fixed experimental setup that will work for all experiments with all beams By the way: remember the difference between $\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}$ and $\frac{d\sigma}{d\theta}$!!





- We need to measure:
 - o Energies
 - o Angles
 - o Particle identification
- We know the <u>kinematics</u>
- We know the <u>angular distributions</u>
- Nobody will give us more than 10 days



- Motivation: nuclear structure reasons for transfer
- What quantities we actually measure
- What reactions/energies can we choose to use?
- Inverse Kinematics
- Implications for Experimental approaches
- Why do people make the choices that they do?

Example experiments and results



Which is the best way to implement the "light particle" option?

It turns out that the target thickness is a real limitation on the energy resolution...

Several hundred keV is implicit, when tens would be required, So the targets should be as thin as possible...

But RIBs, as well as being heavy compared to the deuteron target, are:

- (a) Radioactive
- (b) Weak

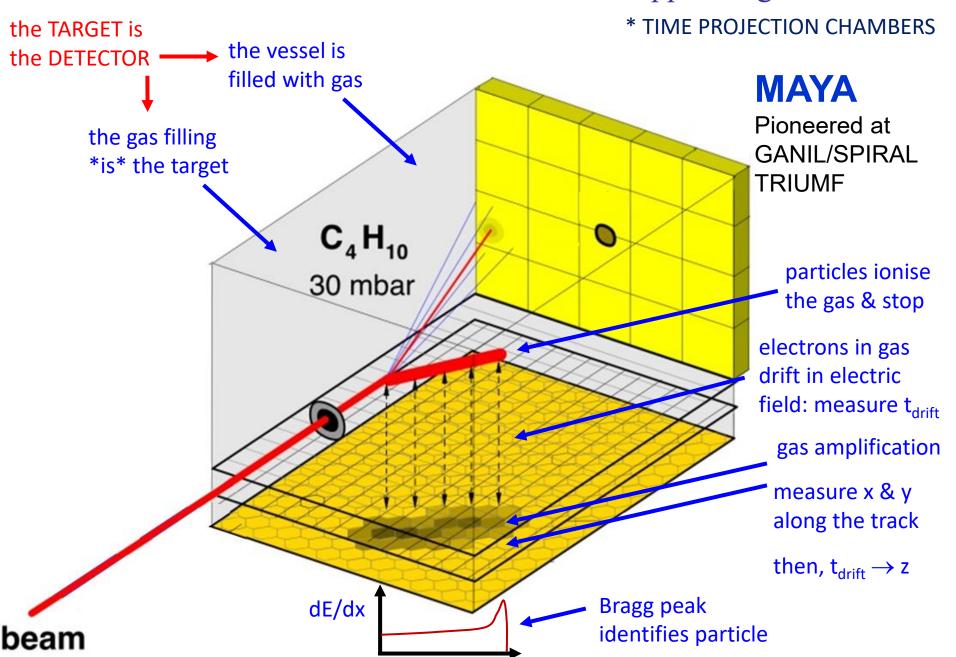
Issues arising:

- (a) Gamma detection useful for improving resolution
- (b) Active target (TPC) to minimize loss of resolution
- (c) Need MAXIMUM efficiency for detection

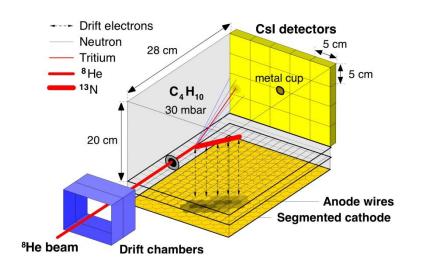
Experimental solutions can be classed roughly as:

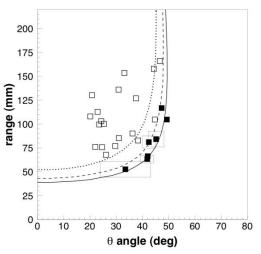
- (a) For beams < 10³ pps ACTIVE TARGET
- (b) 10^3 < beam < 10^6 pps Si BOX in a γ -ARRAY
- (c) For beams > 10⁶ pps MANAGE RADIOACTIVITY

Solutions for beam intensities from 10² to 10⁴ pps using TPCs*



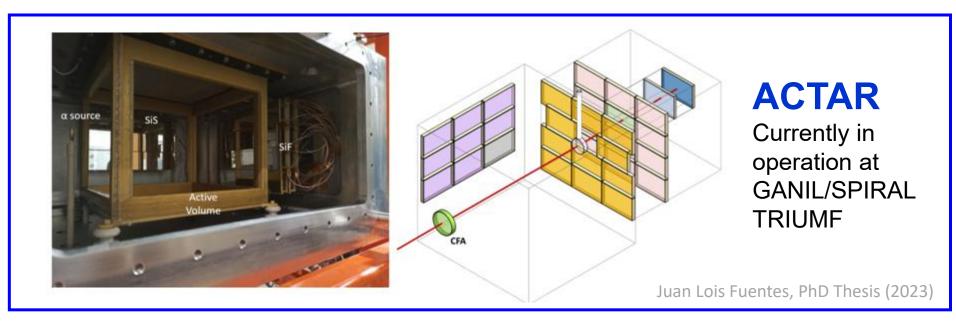
Solutions for beam intensities from 10² to 10⁴ pps using TPCs*

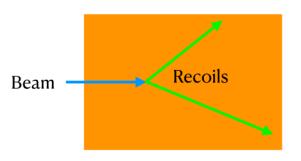




MAYA

Pioneered at GANIL/SPIRAL TRIUMF





AT-TPC @ SOLARIS

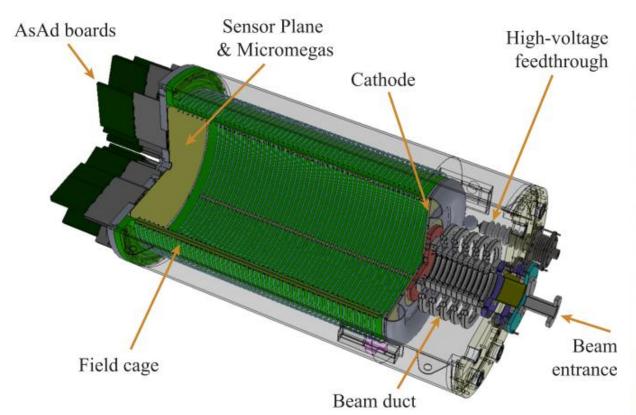
D. Bazin, DREB 2024, June 24-28, 2024, Wiesbaden, Germany

Target = Detector



FRIB + ReA6

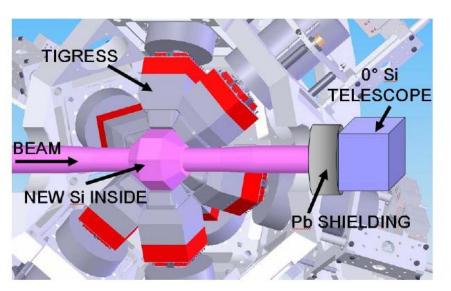
Active Target Time Projection Chamber

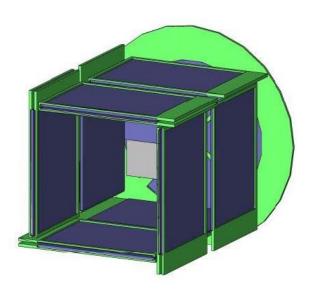


SOLARIS @ FRIB



Solutions for more-intense beams of 10⁴ to 10⁶ pps, using gammas

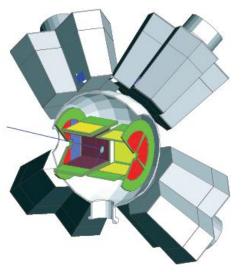


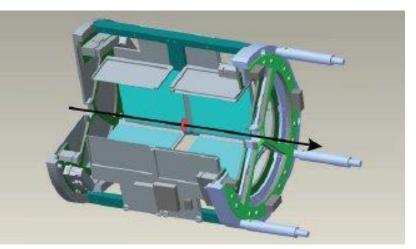


SHARC

TIGRESS TRIUMF

TIGRESS
COLLABORATION
York
Surrey





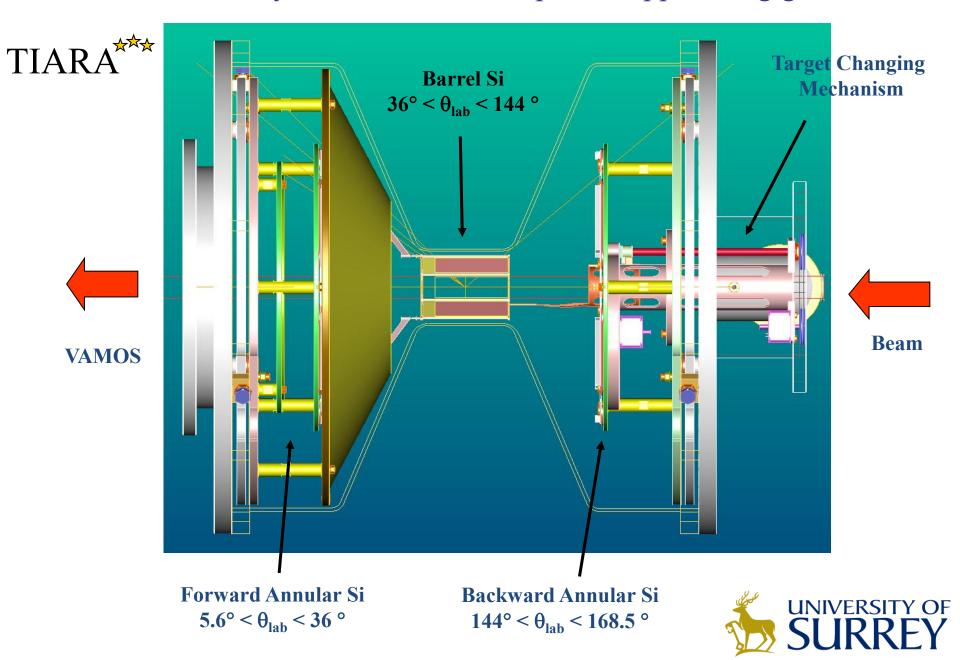
T-REX

MINIBALL REX-ISOLDE

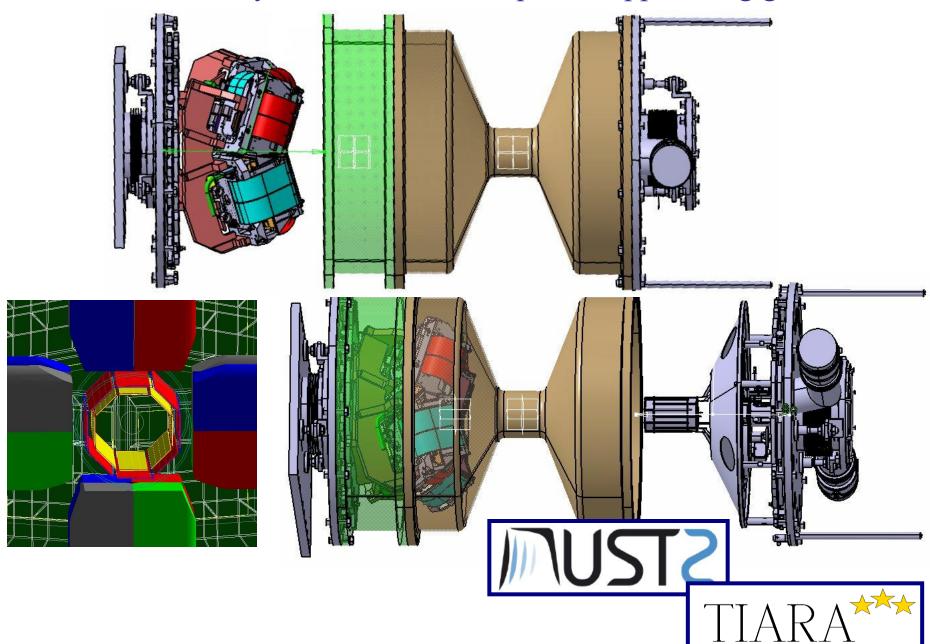
MINIBALL COLLABORATION Munich Leuven

ORRUBA & GODDESS OAK RIDGE

Solutions for very intense beams of up to 10⁹ pps, using gammas



Solutions for very intense beams of up to 10⁹ pps, using gammas

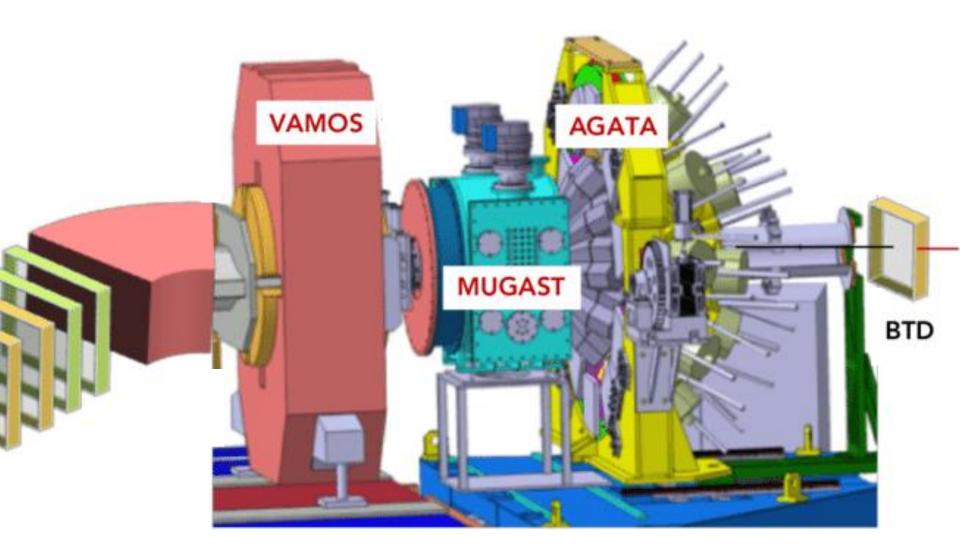




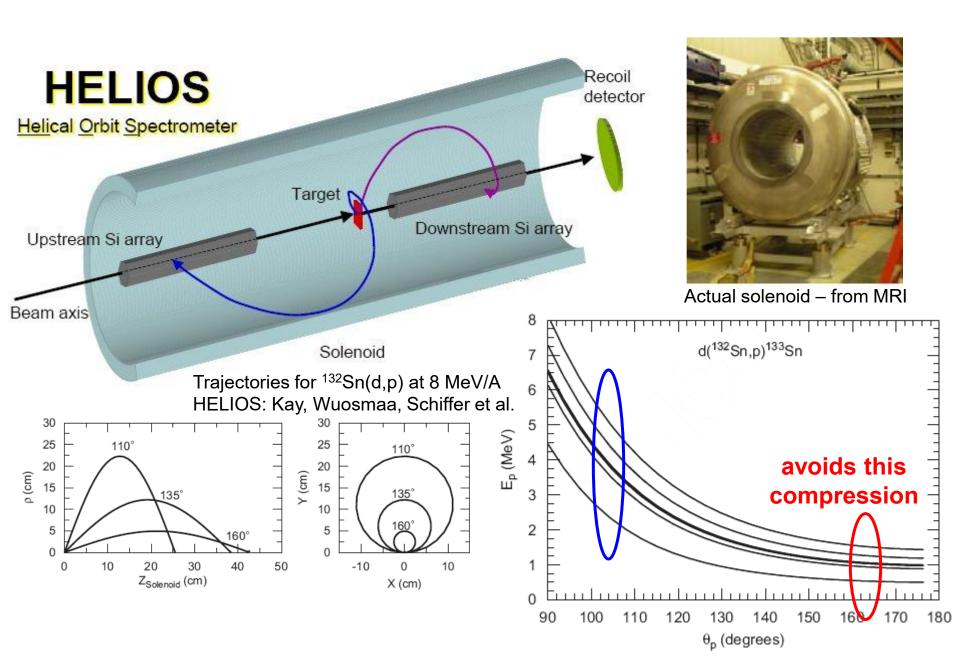
⁴⁷K at 7.7 MeV/u (SPIRAL1) Beam:

 $5 \times 10^5 \text{ pps}$ Intensity:

Purity: ~ 100%



Solenoidal detector for 4π detection & to de-compress the kinematics



Superconducting solenoid = second-hand MRI magnet (2.5 - 4.0 T)

"J'ai passé une IRM"



Superconducting solenoid = second-hand MRI magnet

"J'ai passé une IRM"

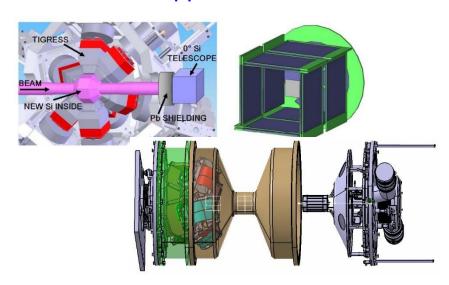


The experimental choice is strongly driven by the beam intensity:

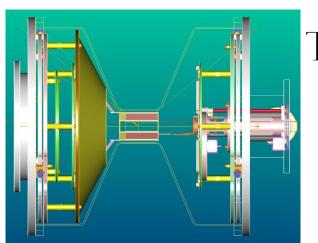
Below 10⁴ pps MAYA, ACTAR...

- Drift electrons **Csl** detectors Neutron Tritium 5 cm C_4H_{10} 30 mbar 20 cm Anode wires Segmented cathode 8He beam **Drift chambers**

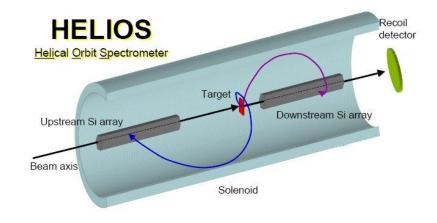
Below 10⁶ pps SHARC, MUGAST...



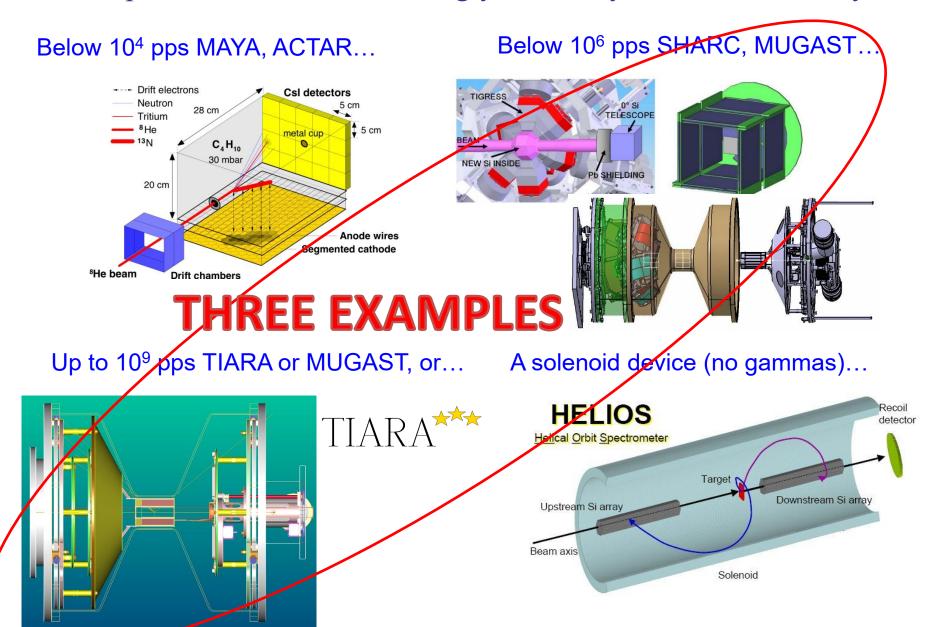
Up to 10⁹ pps TIARA or MUGAST, or... A solenoid device (no gammas)...



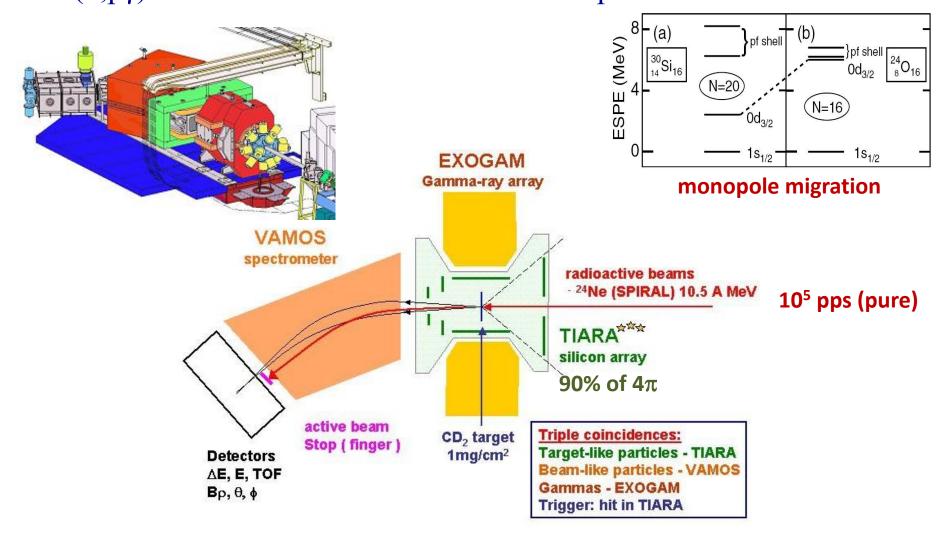




The experimental choice is strongly driven by the beam intensity:



24 Ne(d,py) 25 Ne – we discovered that N=16 replaces the broken N=20





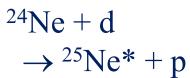
W.N. Catford *et al.*, Eur. Phys. J. **A25**, Suppl. 1, 245 (2005) W.N. Catford *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **104**, 192501 (2010)



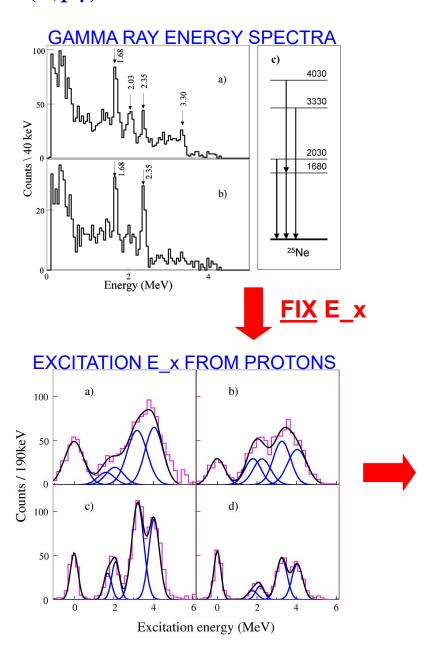
SPIRAL CSS1 CSS2 C01 SISSI C02VAMOS SME SIRA **EXOGAM** ORION LISE 3 SPEG **INDRA** G4

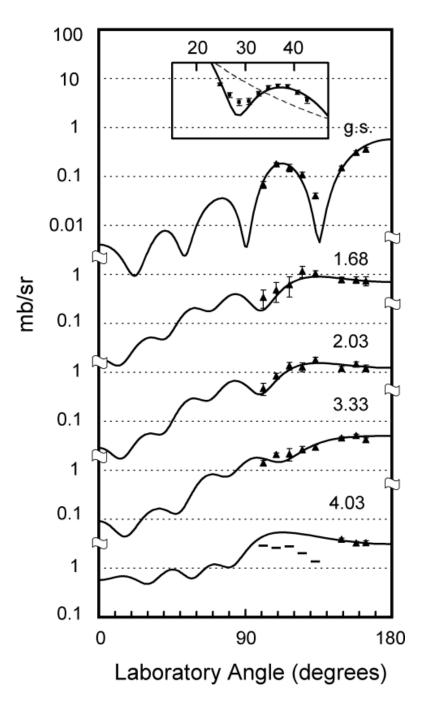
 τ = 3.38 min 100,000 pps SPIRAL 1

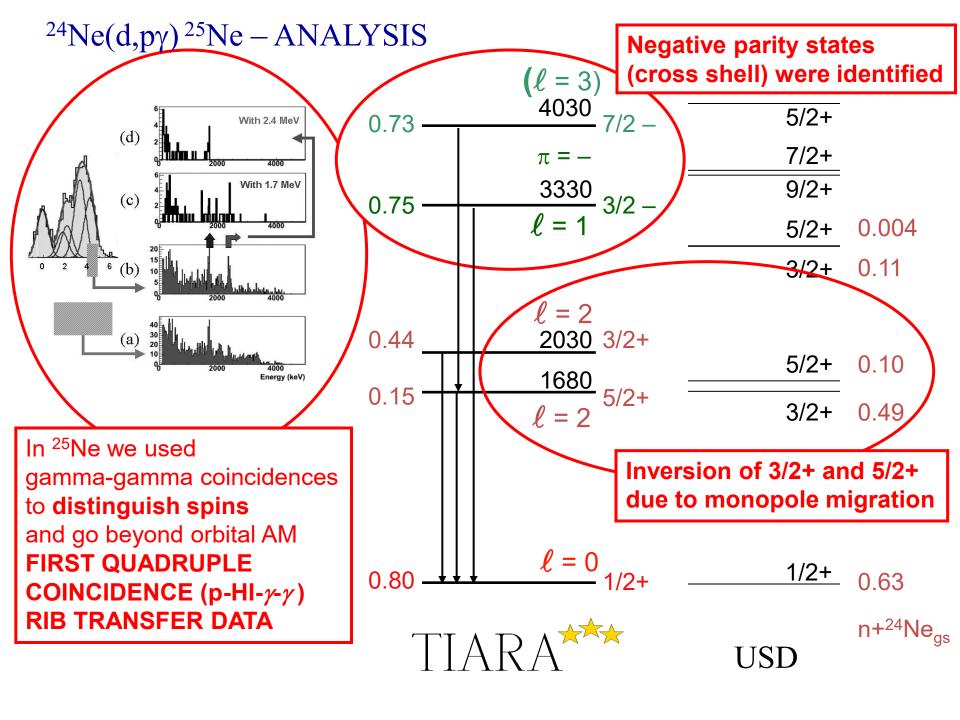




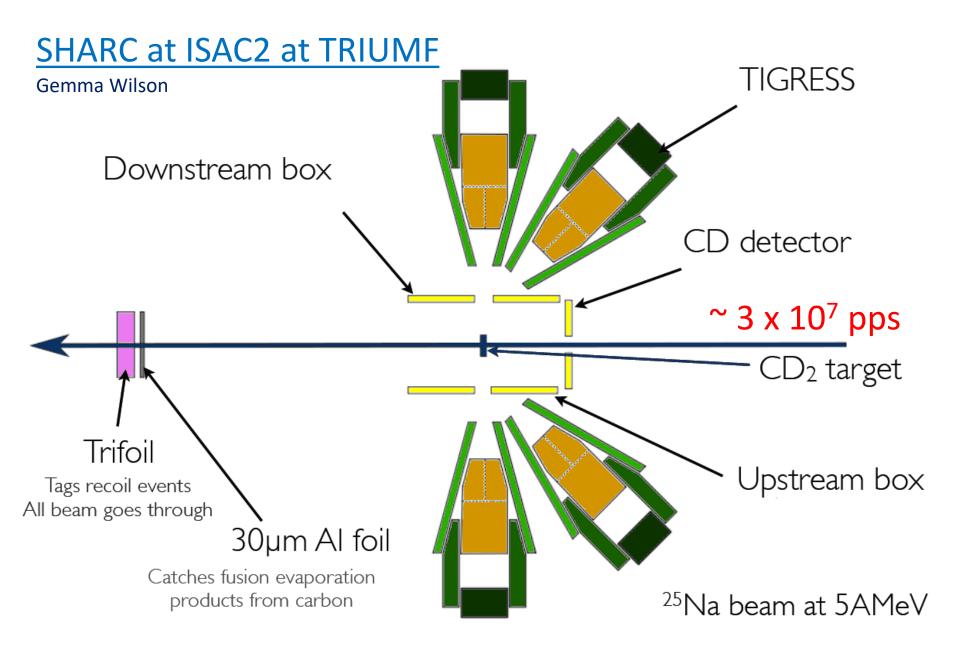
24 Ne(d,p γ) 25 Ne – ANALYSIS

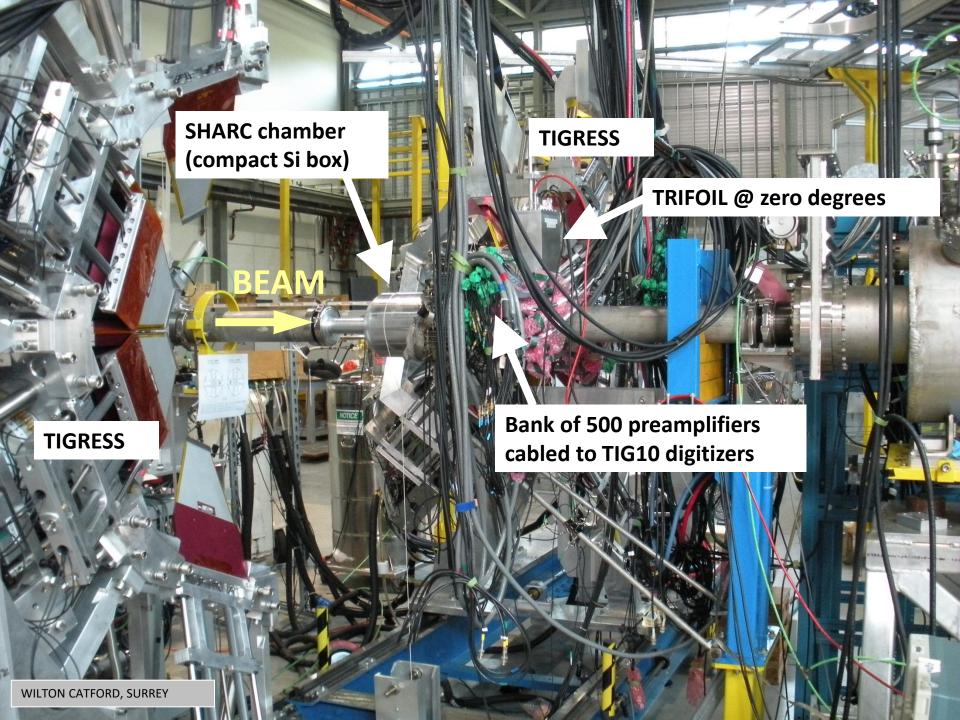




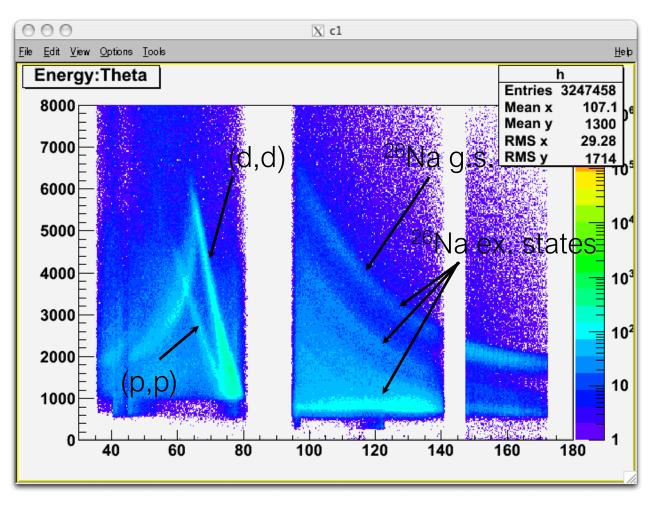


 25 Na(d,p γ) 26 Na – we saw how one extra d_{5/2} proton interacts near N=16



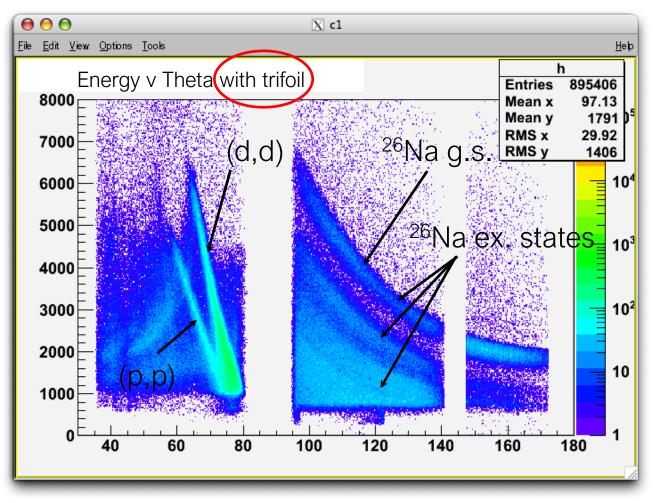


Kinematical Analysis: E vs θ



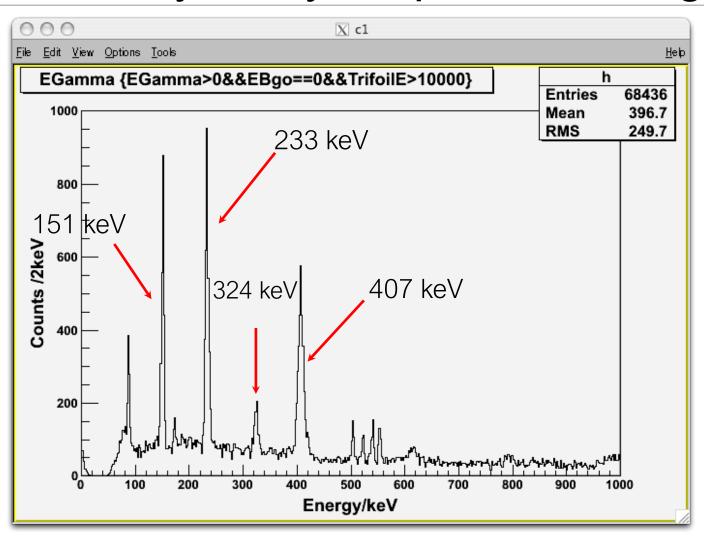
G.L. Wilson, W.N. Catford et al., Phys. Lett. B759, 417 (2016)

Kinematical Analysis: E vs θ

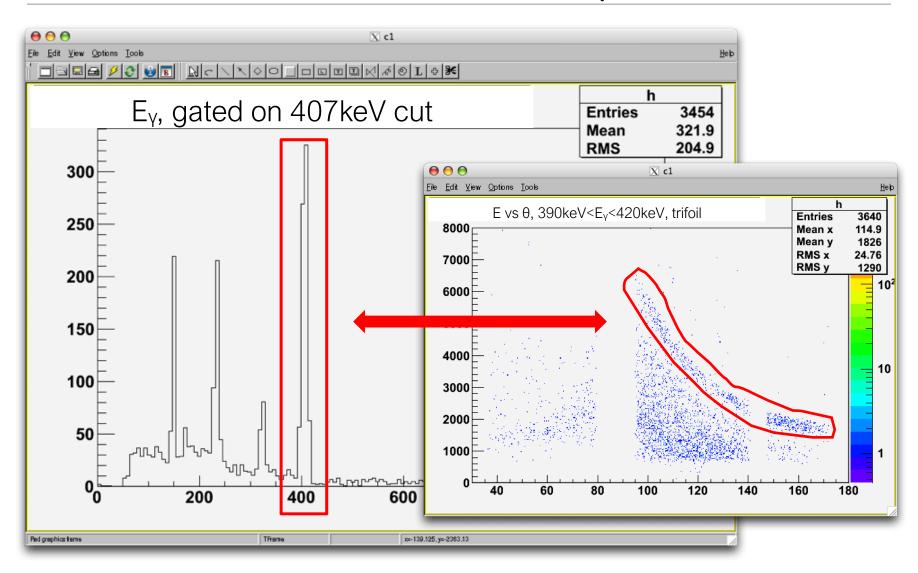


G.L. Wilson, W.N. Catford et al., Phys. Lett. B759, 417 (2016)

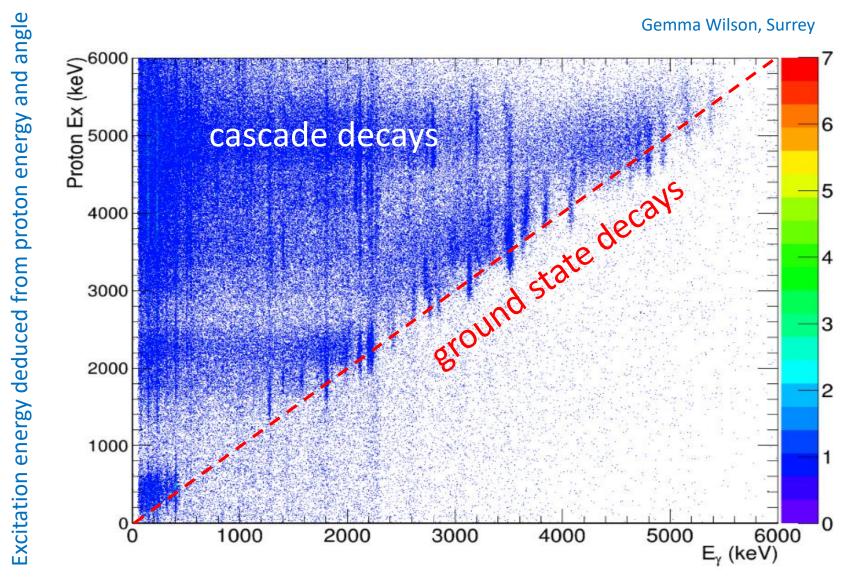
Gamma-ray Analysis: precise energies



Combining the particle and γ -ray Analyses



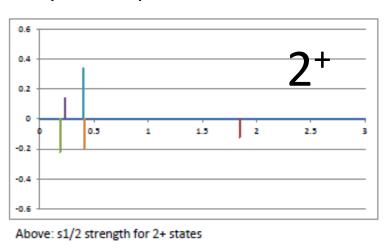
Data from d(25Na,p)26Na at 5 MeV/A using SHARC/ISAC2/TRIUMF

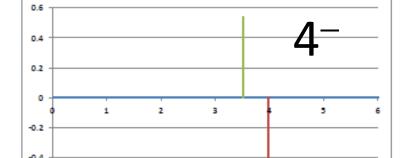


Doppler corrected (β =0.10) gamma ray energy measured in TIGRESS

Shell Model Predictions (and new candidates) for ²⁶Na states expected in (d,p)...

Comparison of spectroscopic strength in theory and experiment

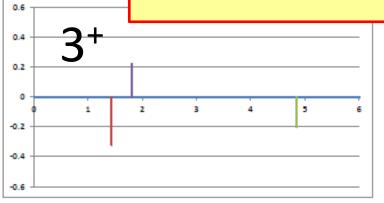




Below: p3/2 to 4- states

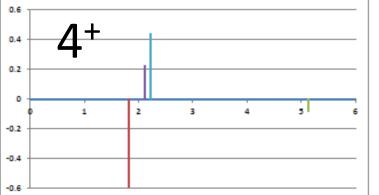
-0.6

excitation energy
shell model SF magnitude



Above: d3/2 to 3+ states

Below: d3/2 to 4+ states

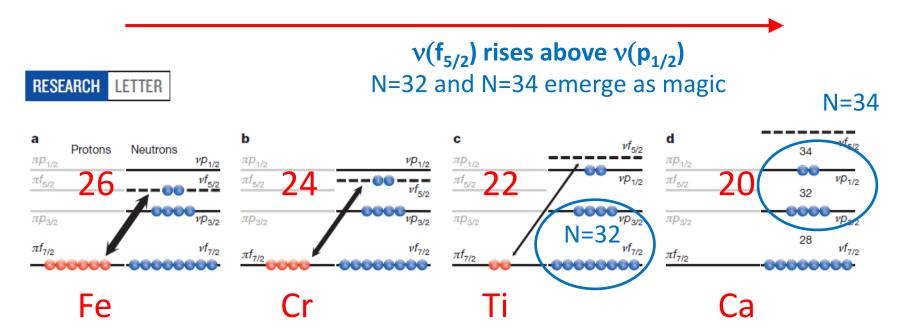


G.L. Wilson, W.N. Catford *et al.*, Phys. Lett. B759, 417 (2016)

Study of d(47K,p)48K at 7.7 MeV/A using MUGAST/AGATA/SPIRAL1

We measured how proton filling affects neutron energies; example –

Removing $\pi(f_{7/2})$



nature

doi:10.1038/nature12522

Evidence for a new nuclear 'magic number' from the level structure of $^{54}\mathrm{Ca}$

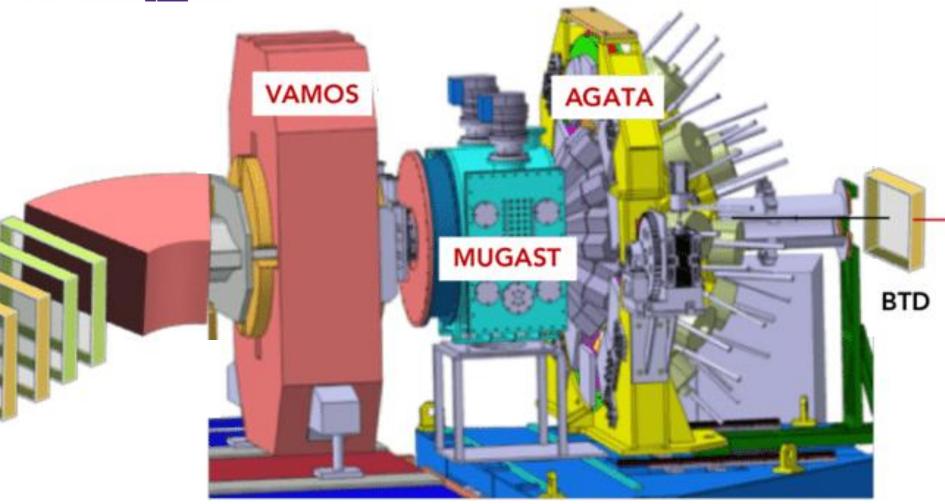
Study of $d(^{47}K,p)^{48}K$

Beam: ⁴⁷K at 7.7 MeV/u (SPIRAL1)

Intensity: 5×10^5 pps

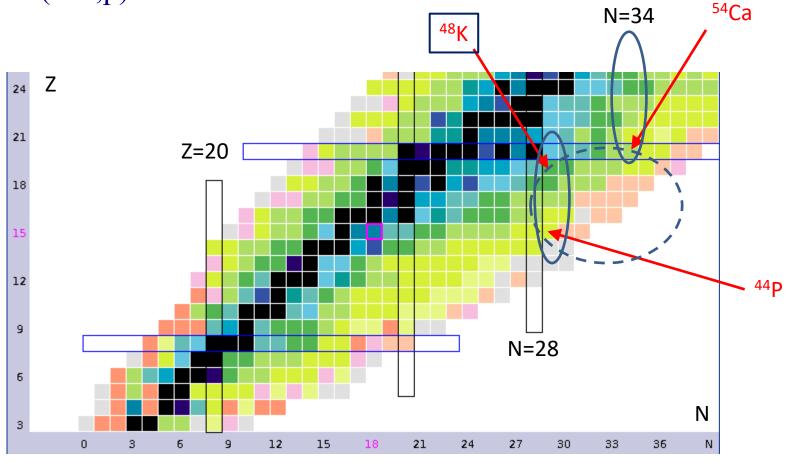
Purity: ~ 100%





C.J. Paxman, A. Matta, W.N. Catford et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 134, 162504 (2025)

Study of $d(^{47}K,p)^{48}K$

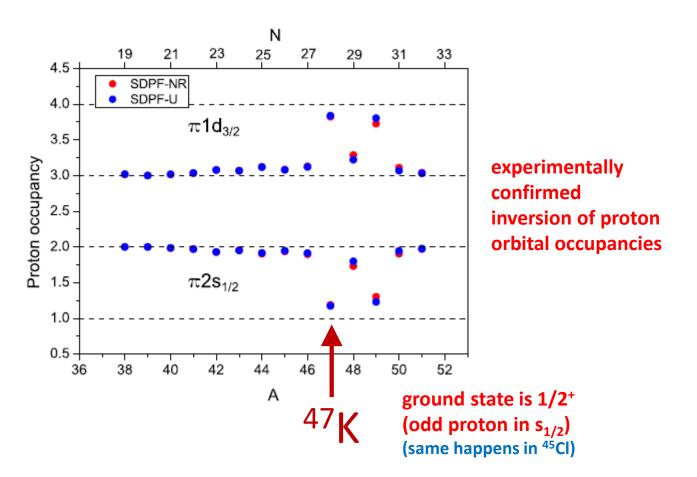


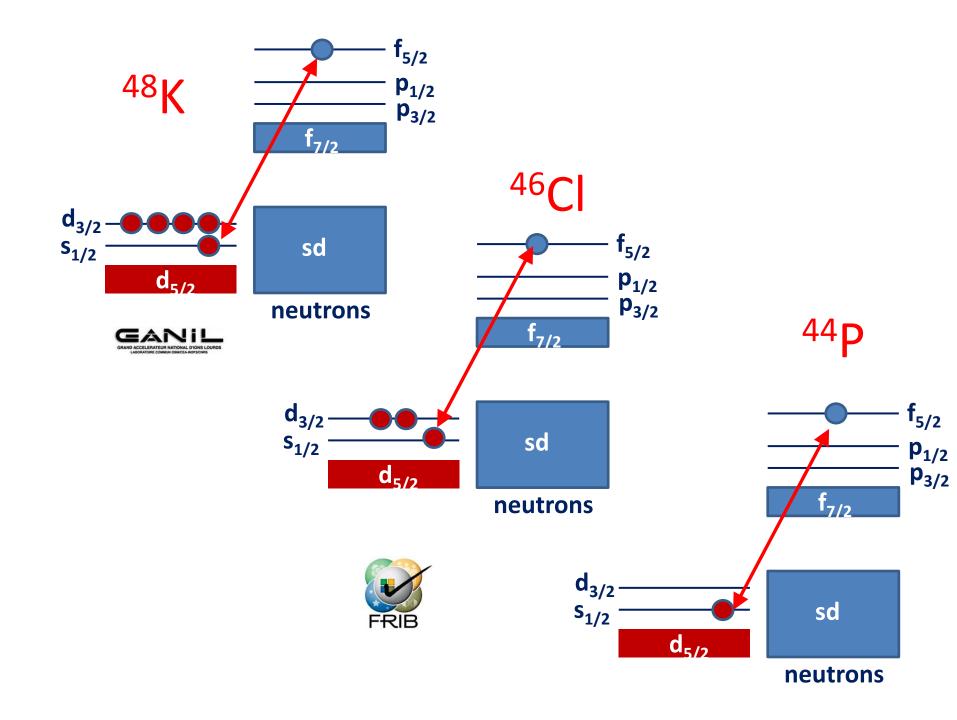
PLAN: use the reaction (d,p) to add a neutron to $p_{3/2}$, $p_{1/2}$ and $f_{5/2}$

... study the interaction with the odd proton way down in $s_{1/2}$

Shell structure of potassium isotopes deduced from their magnetic moments

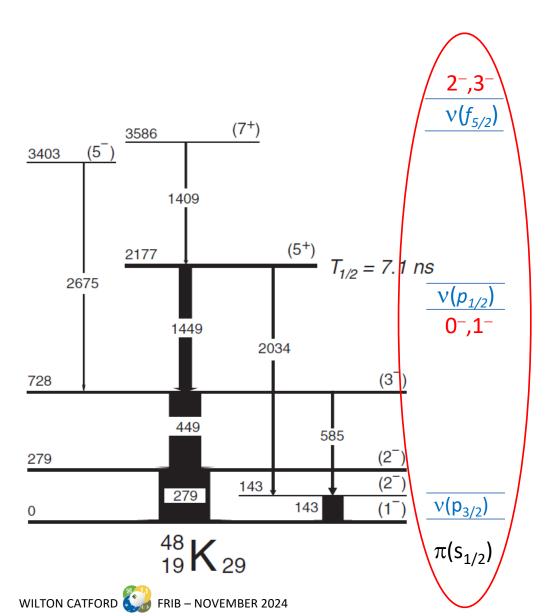
J. Papuga,^{1,*} M. L. Bissell,¹ K. Kreim,² C. Barbieri,³ K. Blaum,² M. De Rydt,¹ T. Duguet,^{4,5} R. F. Garcia Ruiz,¹ H. Heylen,¹ M. Kowalska,⁶ R. Neugart,⁷ G. Neyens,¹ W. Nörtershäuser,^{7,8} M. M. Rajabali,¹ R. Sánchez,^{9,10} N. Smirnova,¹¹ V. Somà,⁴ and D. T. Yordanov^{2,12}





Coupling of the proton-hole and neutron-particle states in the neutron-rich ⁴⁸K isotope

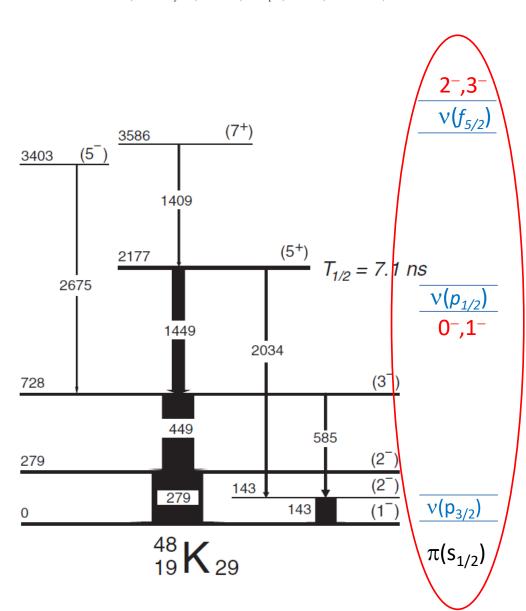
W. Królas, ¹ R. Broda, ¹ B. Fornal, ¹ R. V. F. Janssens, ² A. Gadea, ^{3,4} S. Lunardi, ⁵ J. J. Valiente-Dobon, ³ D. Mengoni, ⁵ N. Mărginean, ^{3,6} L. Corradi, ³ A. M. Stefanini, ³ D. Bazzacco, ⁵ M. P. Carpenter, ² G. De Angelis, ³ E. Farnea, ⁵ E. Fioretto, ³ F. Galtarossa, ⁵ T. Lauritsen, ² G. Montagnoli, ⁵ D. R. Napoli, ³ R. Orlandi, ³ T. Pawłat, ¹ I. Pokrovskiy, ³ G. Pollarolo, ⁷ E. Sahin, ³ F. Scarlassara, ⁵ D. Seweryniak, ² S. Szilner, ⁸ B. Szpak, ¹ C. A. Ur, ⁵ J. Wrzesiński, ¹ and S. Zhu²



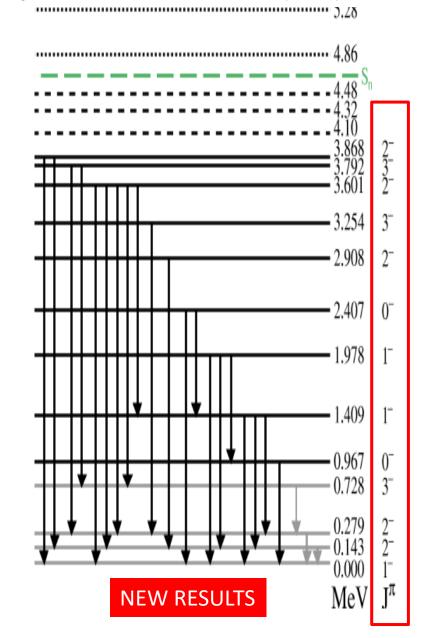
Doublet for each neutron orbital (coupling to odd proton in $s_{1/2}$)

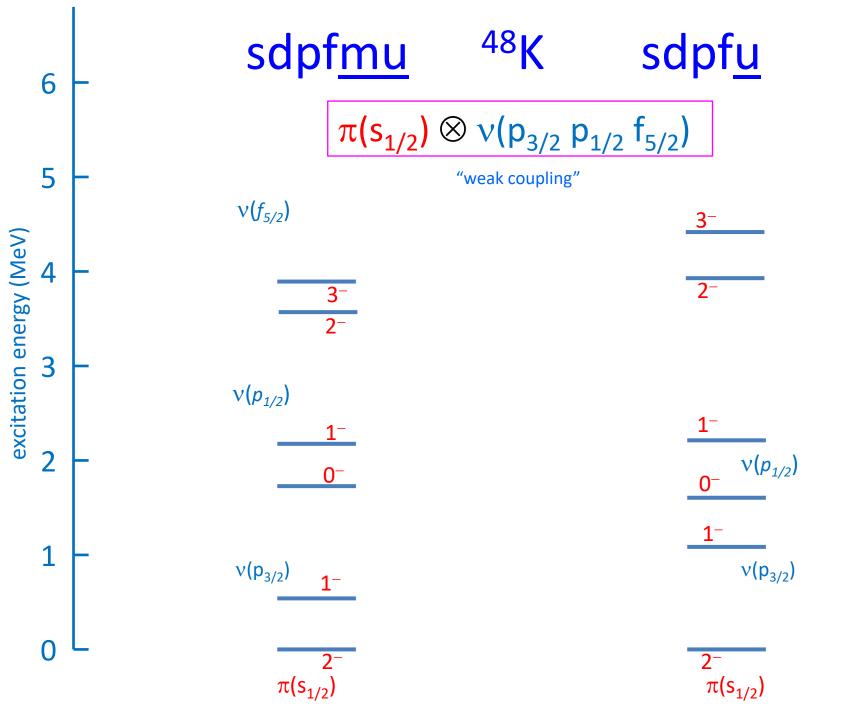
Coupling of the proton-hole and neutron-particle states in the neutron-rich ⁴⁸K isotope

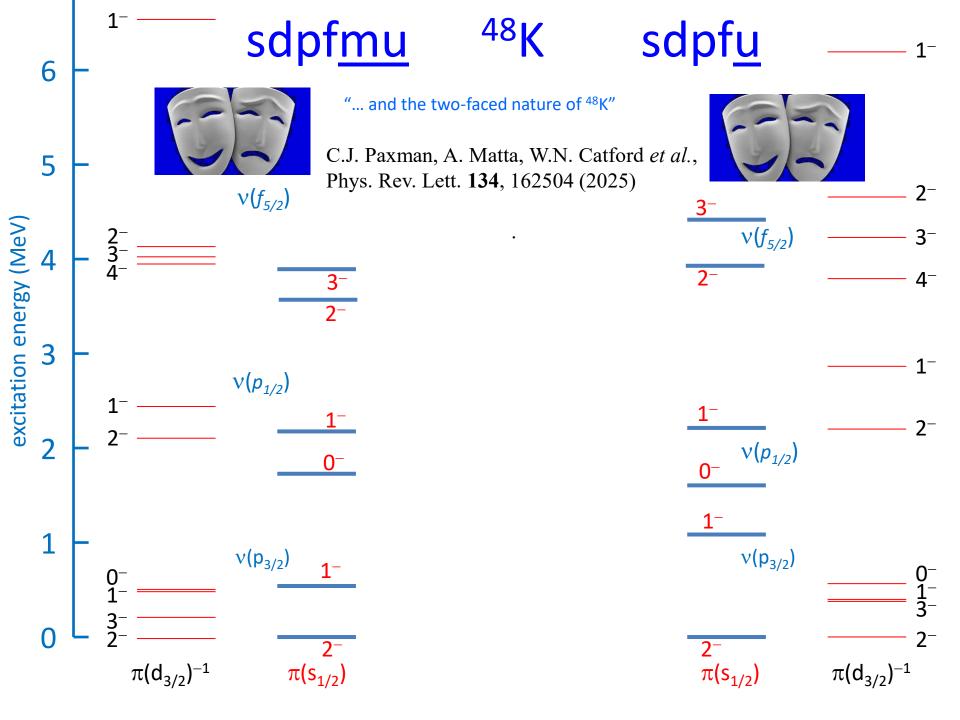
W. Królas, ¹ R. Broda, ¹ B. Fornal, ¹ R. V. F. Janssens, ² A. Gadea, ^{3,4} S. Lunardi, ⁵ J. J. Valiente-Dobon, ³ D. Mengoni, ⁵ N. Märginean, ^{3,6} L. Corradi, ³ A. M. Stefanini, ³ D. Bazzacco, ⁵ M. P. Carpenter, ² G. De Angelis, ³ E. Farnea, ⁵ E. Fioretto, ³ F. Galtarossa, ⁵ T. Lauritsen, ² G. Montagnoli, ⁵ D. R. Napoli, ³ R. Orlandi, ³ T. Pawłat, ¹ I. Pokrovskiy, ³ G. Pollarolo, ⁷ E. Sahin, ³ F. Scarlassara, ⁵ D. Seweryniak, ² S. Szilner, ⁸ B. Szpak, ¹ C. A. Ur, ⁵ J. Wrzesiński, ¹ and S. Zhu²



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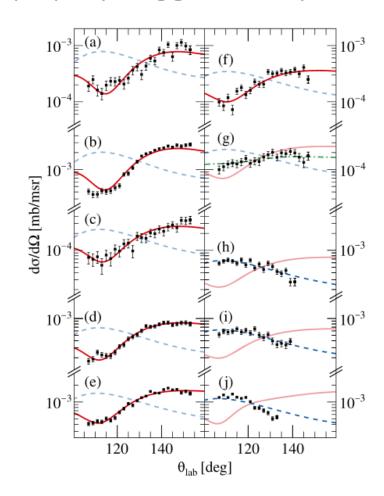


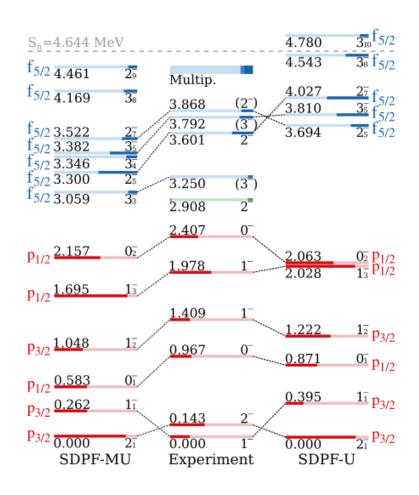


Study of d(47K,p)48K at 7.7 MeV/A using MUGAST/AGATA/SPIRAL1

Angular momentum transfer from $d\sigma/d\Omega$, Spin/parity using gamma-decay branching

Use measured spectroscopic factors to link to shell model states and choose best model





C.J. Paxman, A. Matta, W.N. Catford et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 134, 162504 (2025)

Some future perspectives...

Remember, for very low beam intensities we have ACTAR, AT-TPC There are also solenoidal detectors (HELIOS, ISS, SOLARIS)

Whenever possible, we benefit from also measuring gamma-rays...



Exploring Unusual Nuclei with Nucleon Transfer Reactions

