



Exploring exotic nuclei using the plunger technique

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Outline

1. Introduction: recent experiments with the plunger
2. Experiments with the compact plunger at Legnaro (AGATA, PRISMA) and at GANIL (EXOGAM, VAMOS)
3. Plunger device for medium energy radioactive beams: the Köln-NSCL plunger
4. A new plunger for relativistic radioactive beams: the GSI plunger for PRESPEC/HISPEC

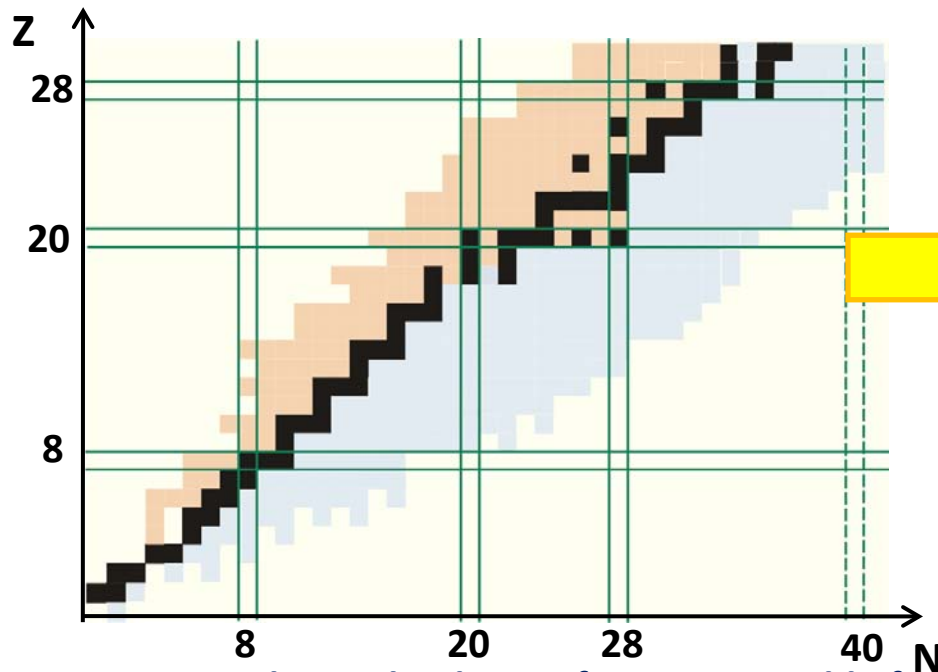
Motivation: structure studies of exotic nuclei

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

Stable nuclei

Shell structure

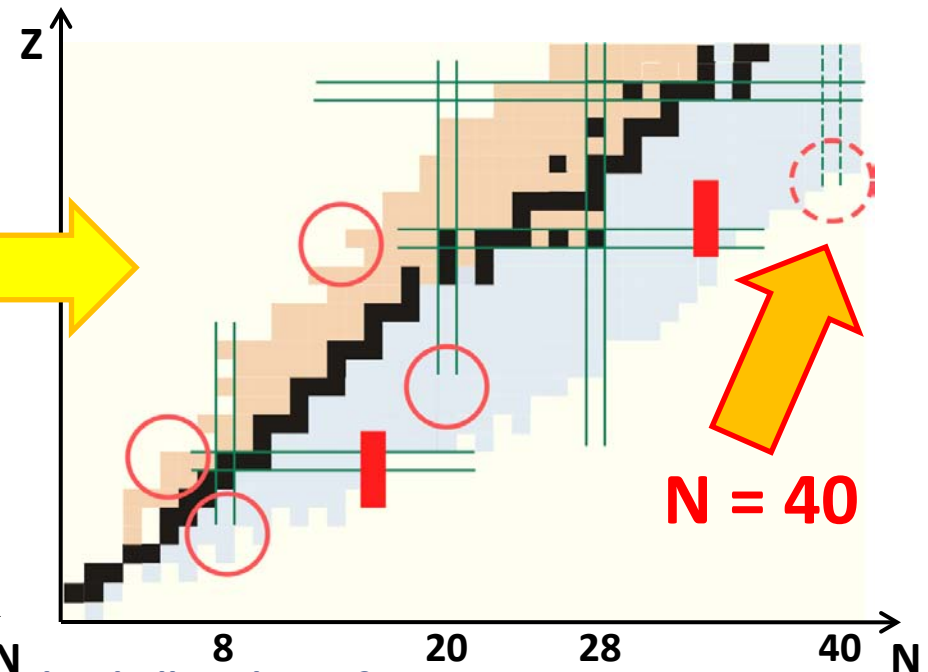
magic number (2,8,20...)



Exotic nuclei

Drastic change of shell structure

disappearance ($N=\cancel{8},\cancel{20},\dots$) and appearance (**16,34**) of magic numbers

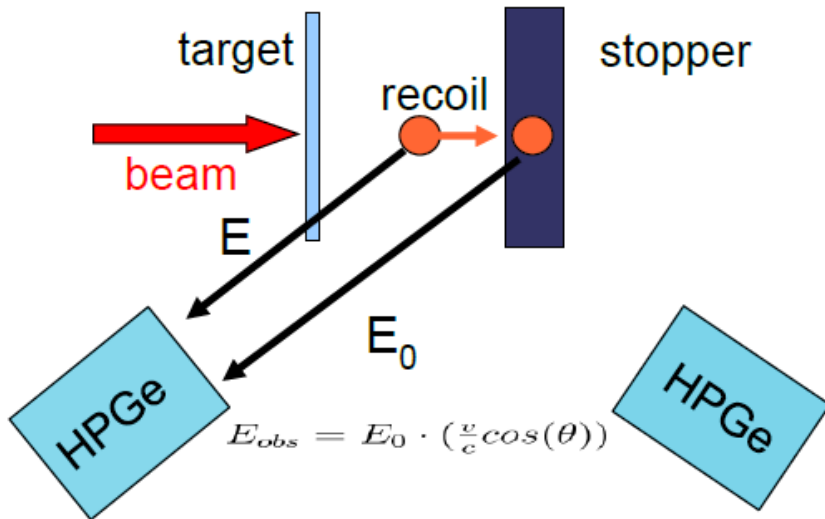


What is the driving force responsible for the shell evolution?

Can we characterize the structure changes in a simple manner?

→ Measure absolute transition strengths

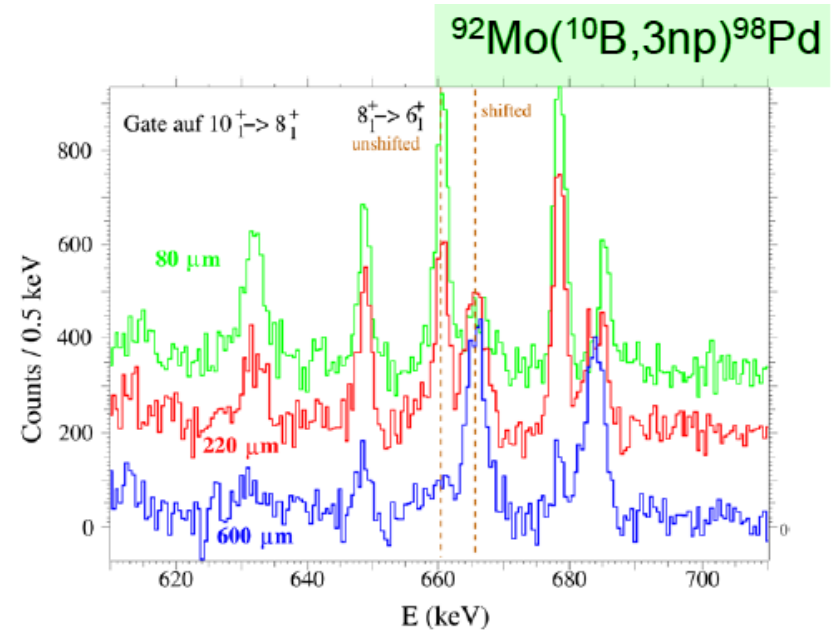
The plunger technique



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

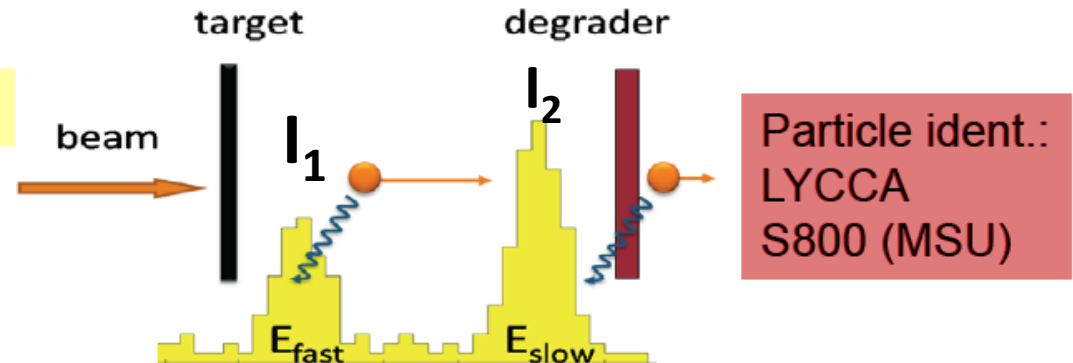
I^{us} = Intensity of the unshifted γ -ray line

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

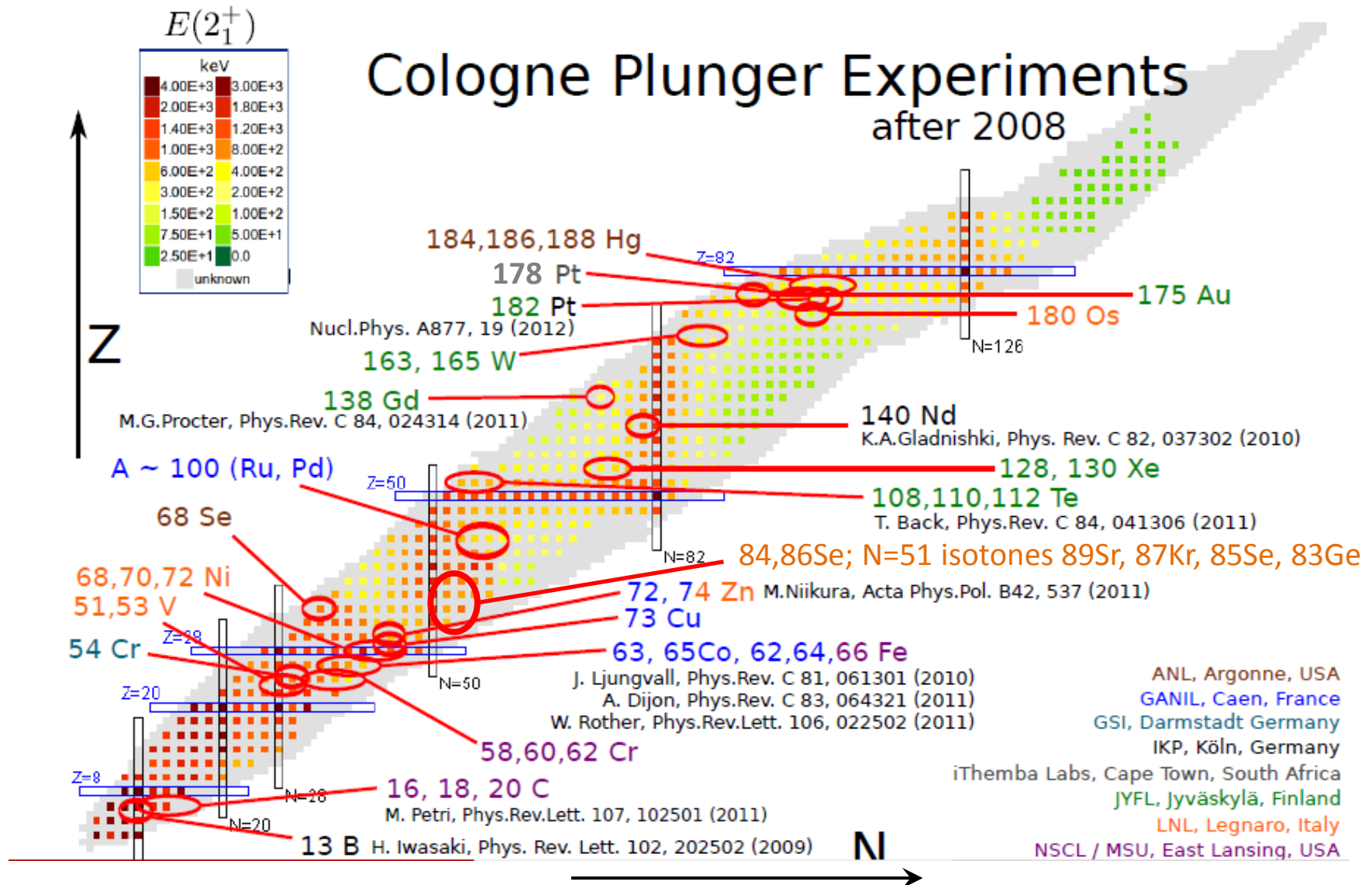


Differential Plunger

Use degrader instead of stopper to allow identification of recoils

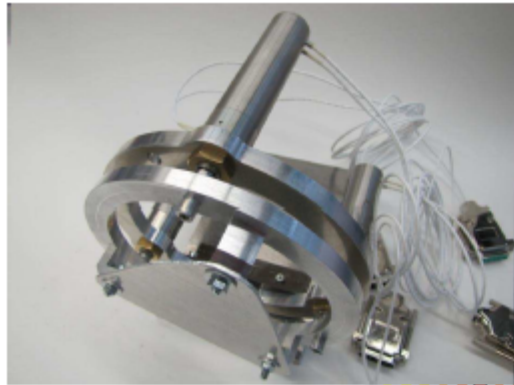


Overview: plunger experiments

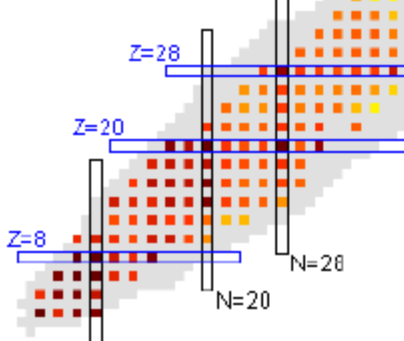


Different plunger devices...

relativistic Coulex
 ~ 200 MeV/u



(54 Cr @ GSI)



Knock-out and relativistic Coulex ~ 100 MeV/u



Fusion-evaporation
 Safe Coulex inverse kinematics



Jyväskylä,
 Finland: Der
 Plunger mit
 Solarzellen in
 JUROGAM



178Pt
 @iThemba

184, 186, 188 Hg @ ANL
 128, 130 Xe @ Jyfl

Deep-inelastic scattering

58, 60, 62 Cr
 @ NSCL



63, 65Co, 62, 64 Fe @ GANIL

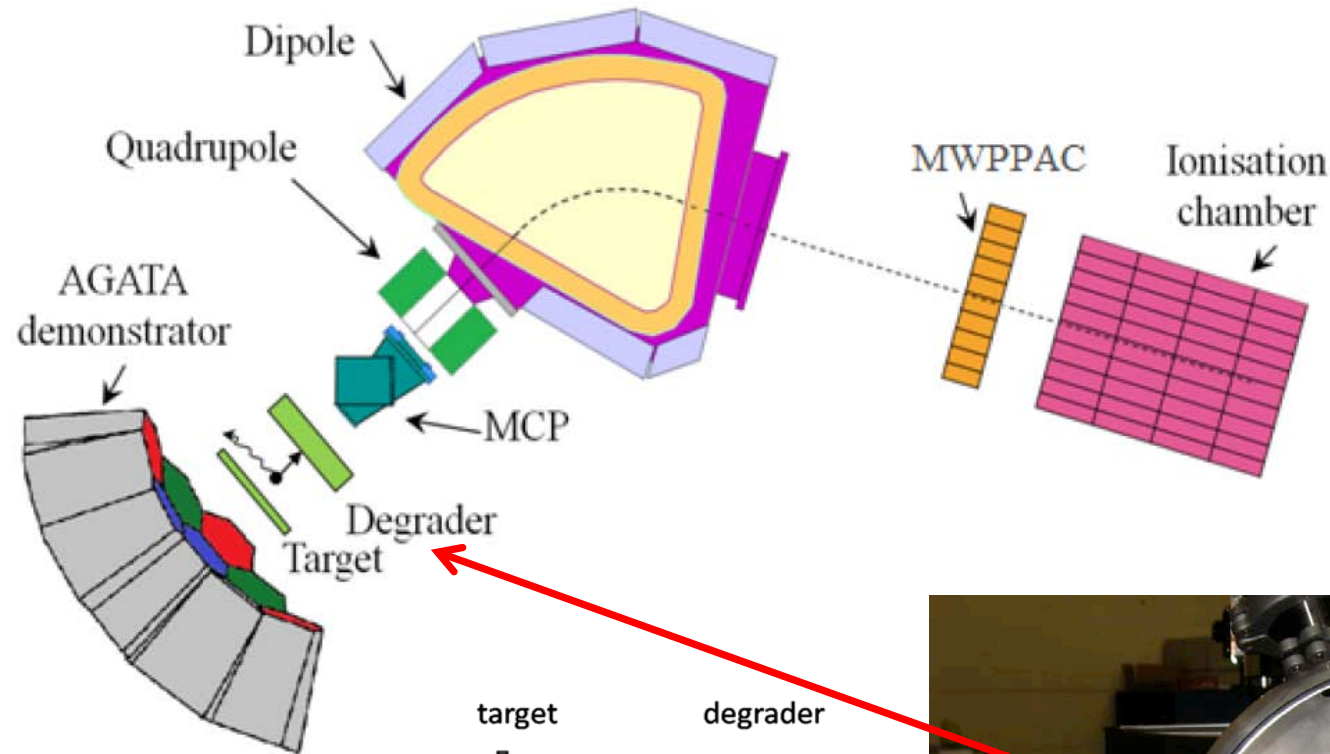
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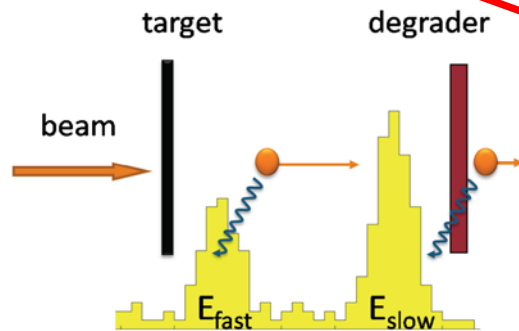
Plunger experiments with AGATA and PRISMA at LNL: examples

1. $^{84,86}\text{Se}$: J. Litzinger, C. Fransen (Cologne)
2. Structure of n-rich $N=51$ nuclei in the vicinity of ^{78}Ni :
D. Verney (Orsay), G. Duchene (Strasbourg)
→ presentation by G. Duchene, Wednesday, 3 30 pm
3. Lifetimes in $N=20$ isotones of Si, P, S: A. Goasduff (Strasbourg)
4. Collectivity in Zn region: C. Louchart (Saclay)

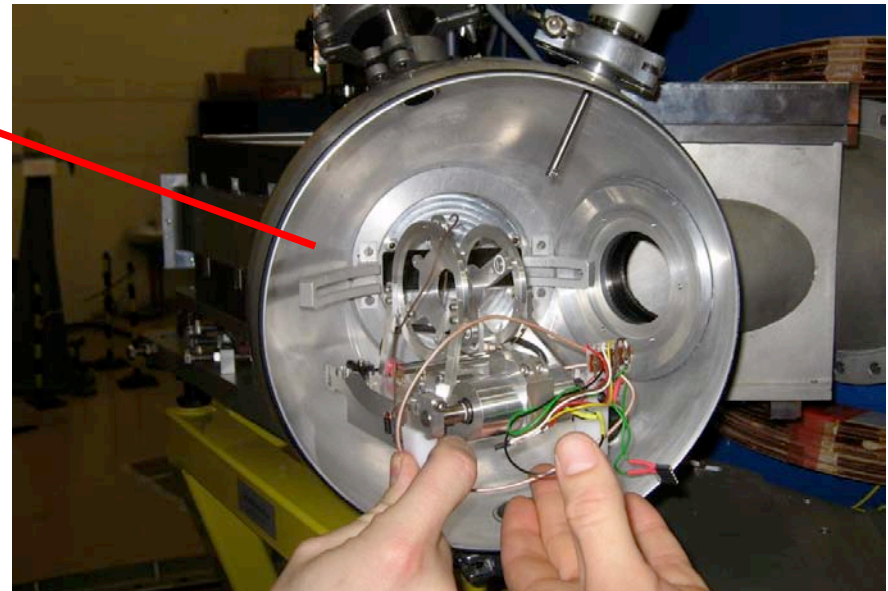
The Cologne compact plunger @ PRISMA



Compact plunger successfully used at LNL and GANIL for grazing angles up to 60 degrees

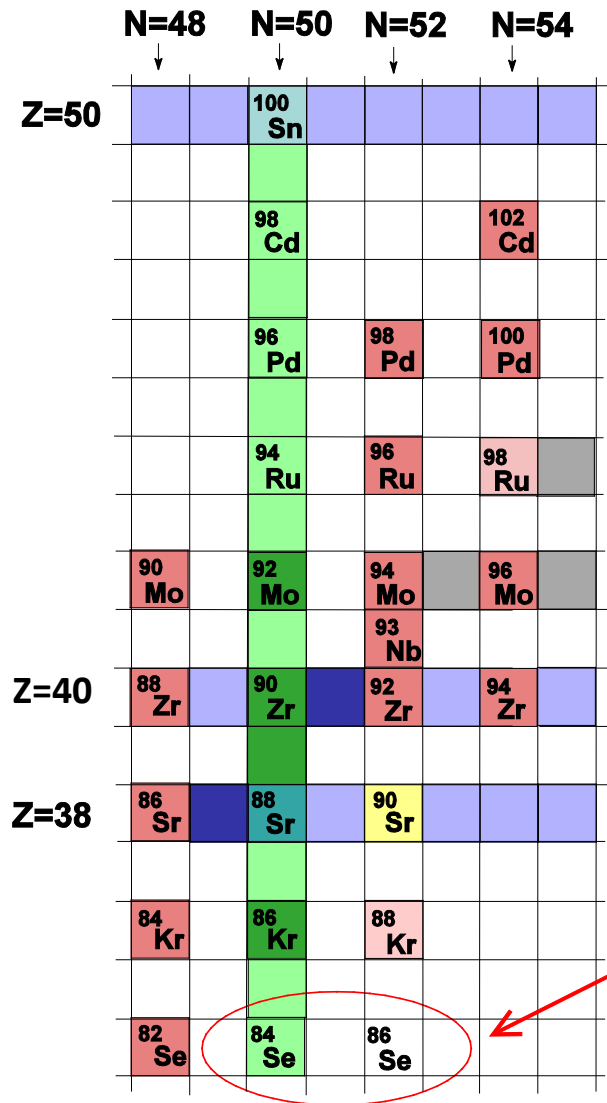


Proof of principle with fixed Plunger @ PRISMA/CLARA (J.J. Valiente-Dobon et al., PRL 102, 242502 (2009))
2010/2011: AGATA demonstrator @ PRISMA



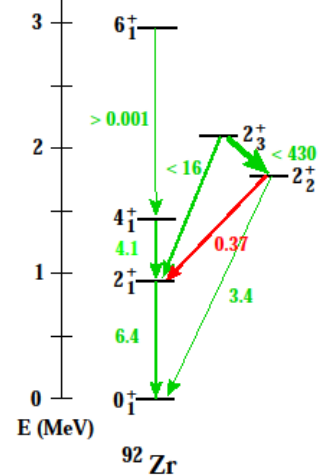
Plunger experiment on $^{84,86}\text{Se}$ with AGATA/PRISMA:

1. Motivation ^{86}Se

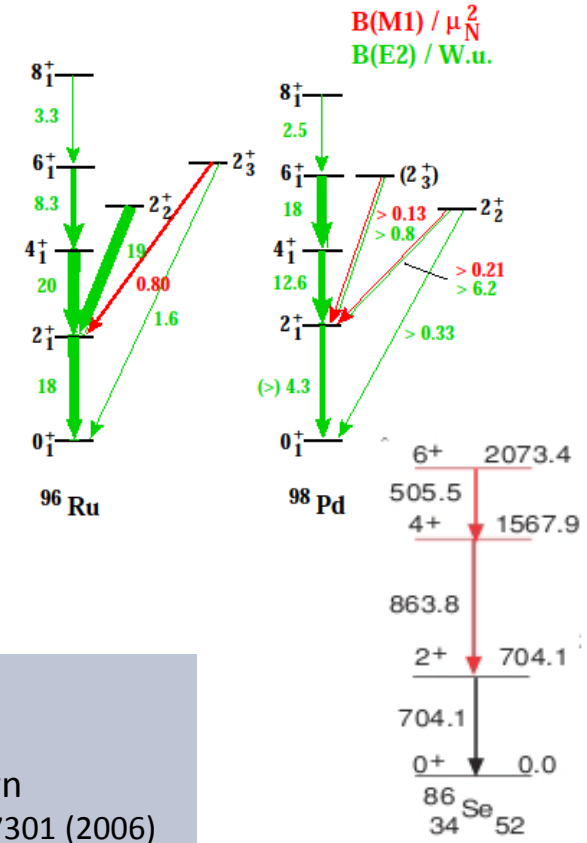


Systematics of yrast and non-yrast states of heavier N=52 isotones

detailed data on low-lying (collective) excitations



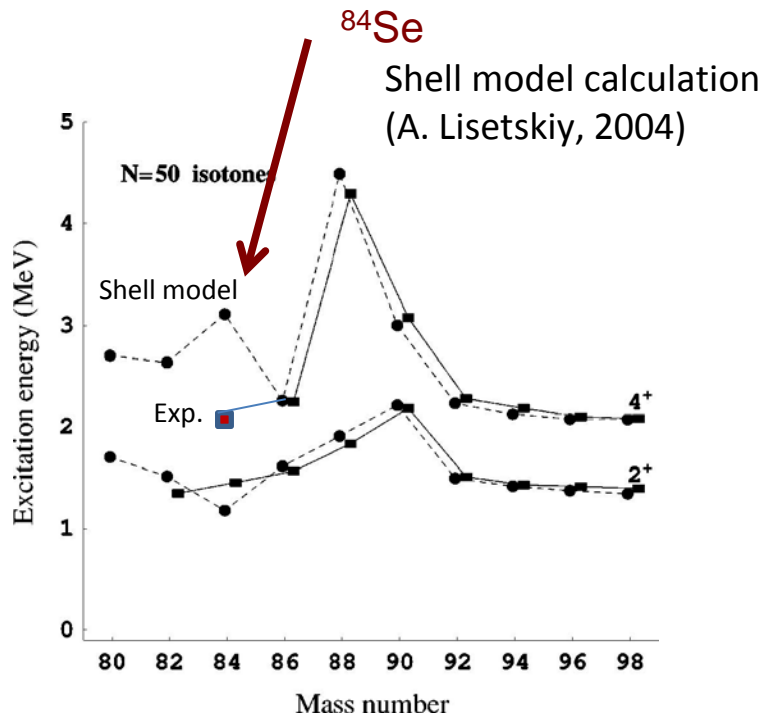
Mo-Pd: Filling of proton $g_{9/2}$ shell



^{86}Se :
no transition strengths,
lowest yrast levels known
E.F. Jones et al., PRC 73, 017301 (2006)

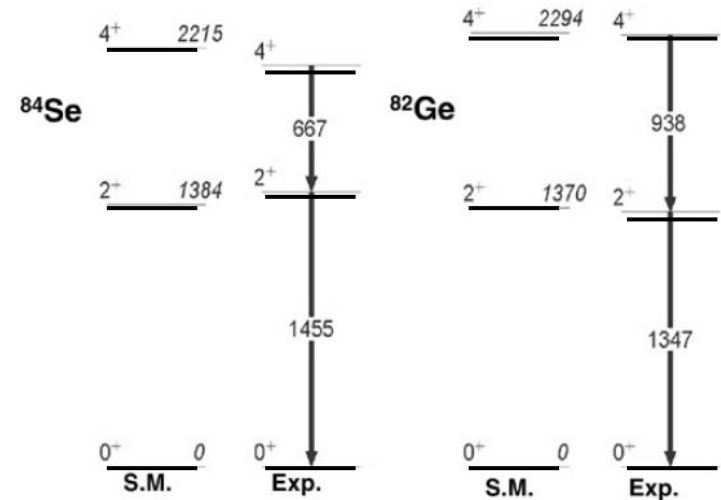
Plunger experiment on $^{84,86}\text{Se}$ with AGATA/PRISMA:

2. Motivation ^{84}Se



A. Lisetskiy et al., PRC 70, 044314 (2004)

Program OXBASH
 Neutrons: lowest orbital p3/2 followed by f5/2, p1/2, g9/2
 Protons: lowest orbital f5/2
 But: for ^{84}Se disagreement for 4_1^+ (not known at that time)



G. de Angelis, Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 59, 409 (2007)

Shell model calc.: B.A. Brown et al., MSU-NSCL Report 524 (1985):
 Same interaction as in calculation by Lisetskiy,
 but better agreement for 4_1^+

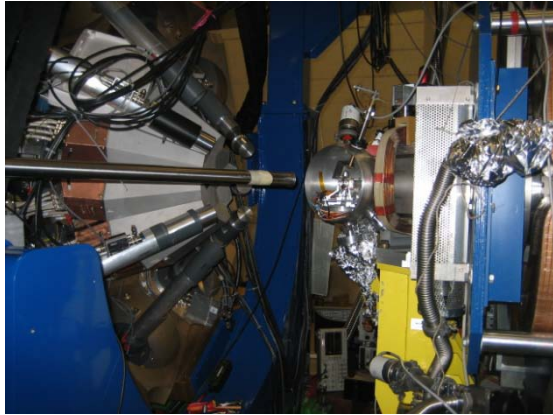
Real test and tuning of interaction can only be done by measuring transition strengths

In addition: Collectivity of 2p-2h band in ^{114}Sn (Z=50) proven from E2 transition strengths (J. Gableske et al., Nucl. Phys. A 691 551 (2001))

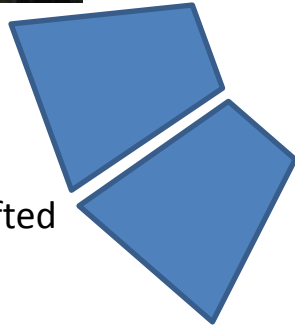
^{84}Se : N=50

Existence of similar collective structures possible

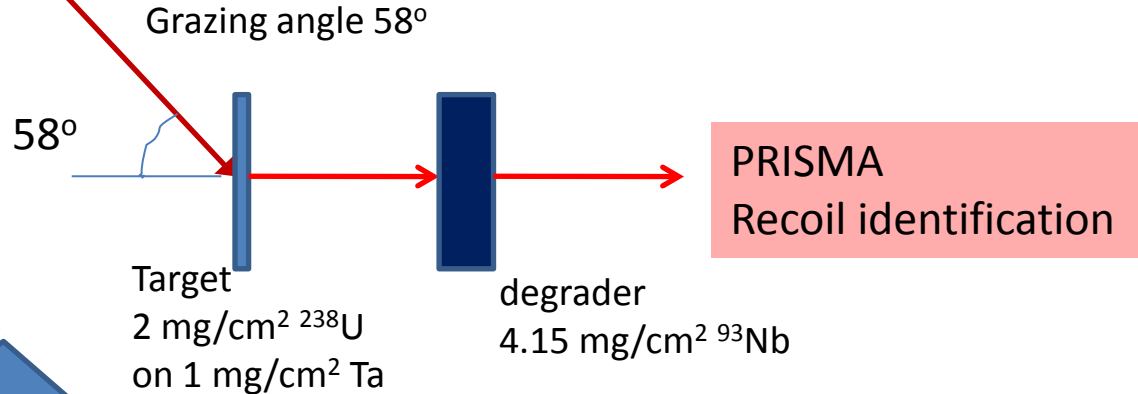
Plunger experiment on ^{84}Se and ^{86}Se



AGATA demonstrator
5 AGATA triples
Observation of Doppler-shifted
Gamma-rays



$E(^{82}\text{Se}) = 558 \text{ MeV}$ (on ^{238}U)
from XTU Tandem + ALPI



3 target-degrader distances:
 $20.7 \mu\text{m}$, $207 \mu\text{m}$, $414 \mu\text{m}$

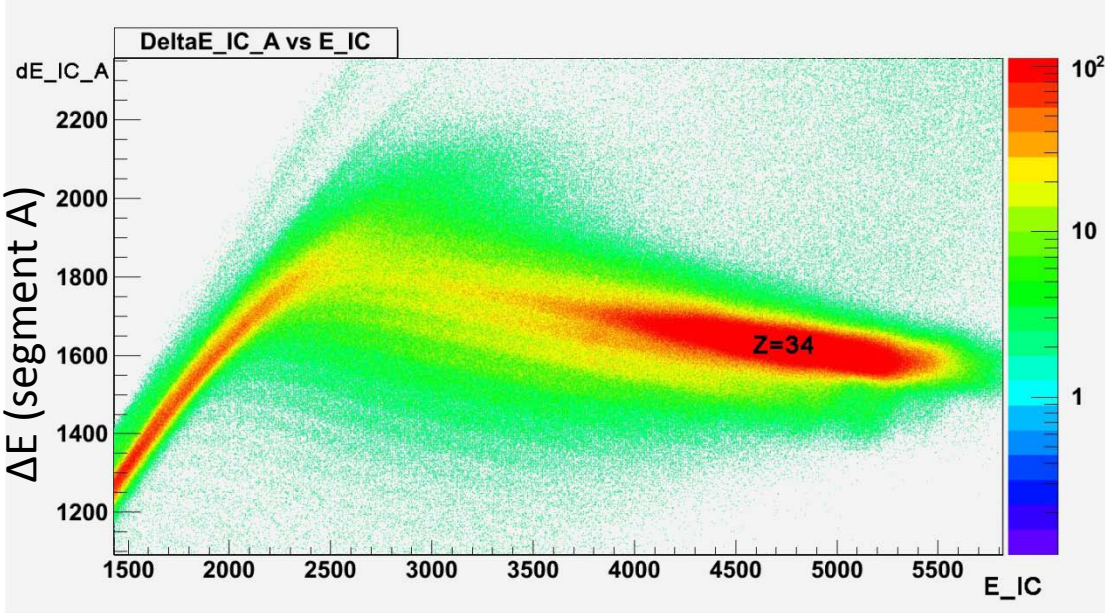
Reaction: $^{82}\text{Se} + ^{238}\text{U} \rightarrow ^{84}\text{Se}, ^{86}\text{Se}$ (2n and 4n transfer reactions)

Reaction cross sections (GRAZING):

	$^{82}\text{Se} + ^{208}\text{Pb}$	$^{82}\text{Se} + ^{238}\text{U}$	$^{82}\text{Se} + ^{238}\text{U}$
$E(^{82}\text{Se})$	480 MeV	490 MeV	510 MeV
Nucleus	σ (mbarn)	σ (mbarn)	σ (mbarn)
^{84}Se	58.6	68.9	62.9
^{86}Se	3.33	3.02	4.07
^{82}Ge	0.47	1.48	1.31

Experiment performed in
combination with measurements on
N=51 isotones ^{89}Sr , ^{87}Kr , ^{85}Se , ^{83}Ge
(D. Verney, G. Duchene)

Recoil identification with PRISMA: Z, q



E (segments ABCD)

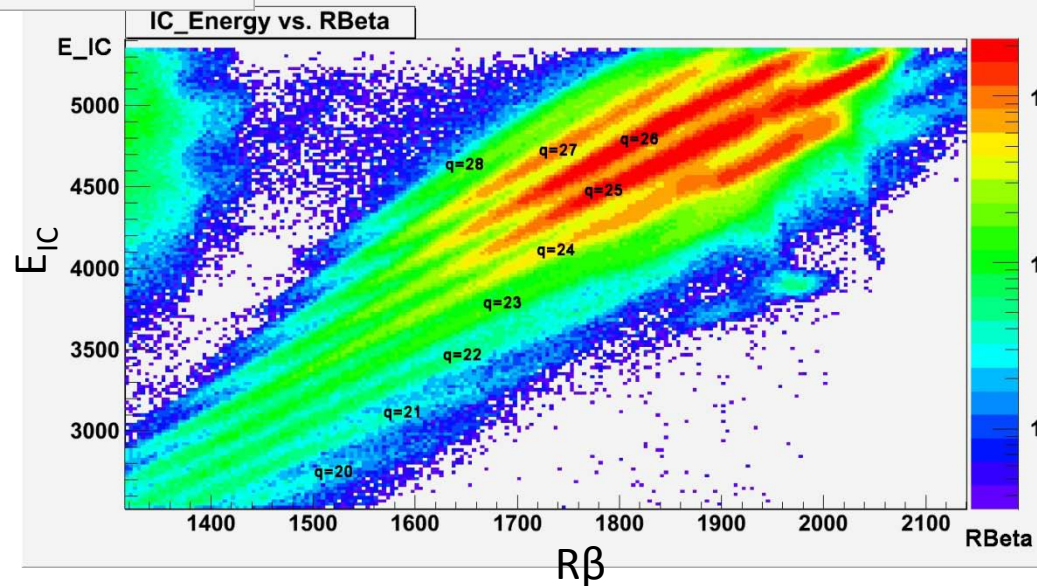
ΔE -E plot: Z identification with IC
 $\Delta E/E \propto Z^2$

Data analysis:
 J. Litzinger, Cologne (under progress)

Rv-E_{IC} plot: q identification

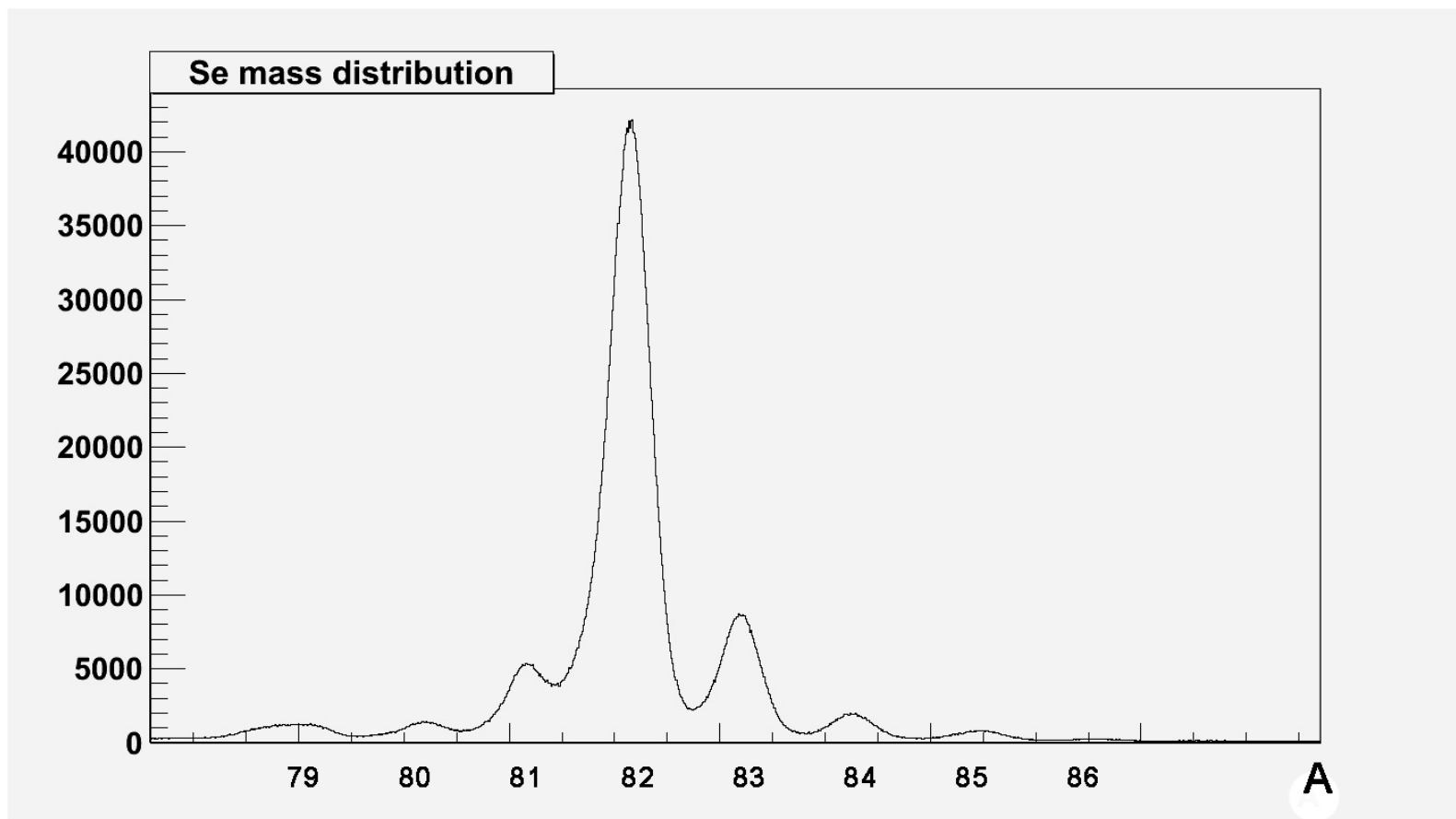
$$E_{IC} = \frac{1}{2}mv^2, \frac{mv^2}{R} = qvB$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{E_{IC}}{Rv} \propto q$$



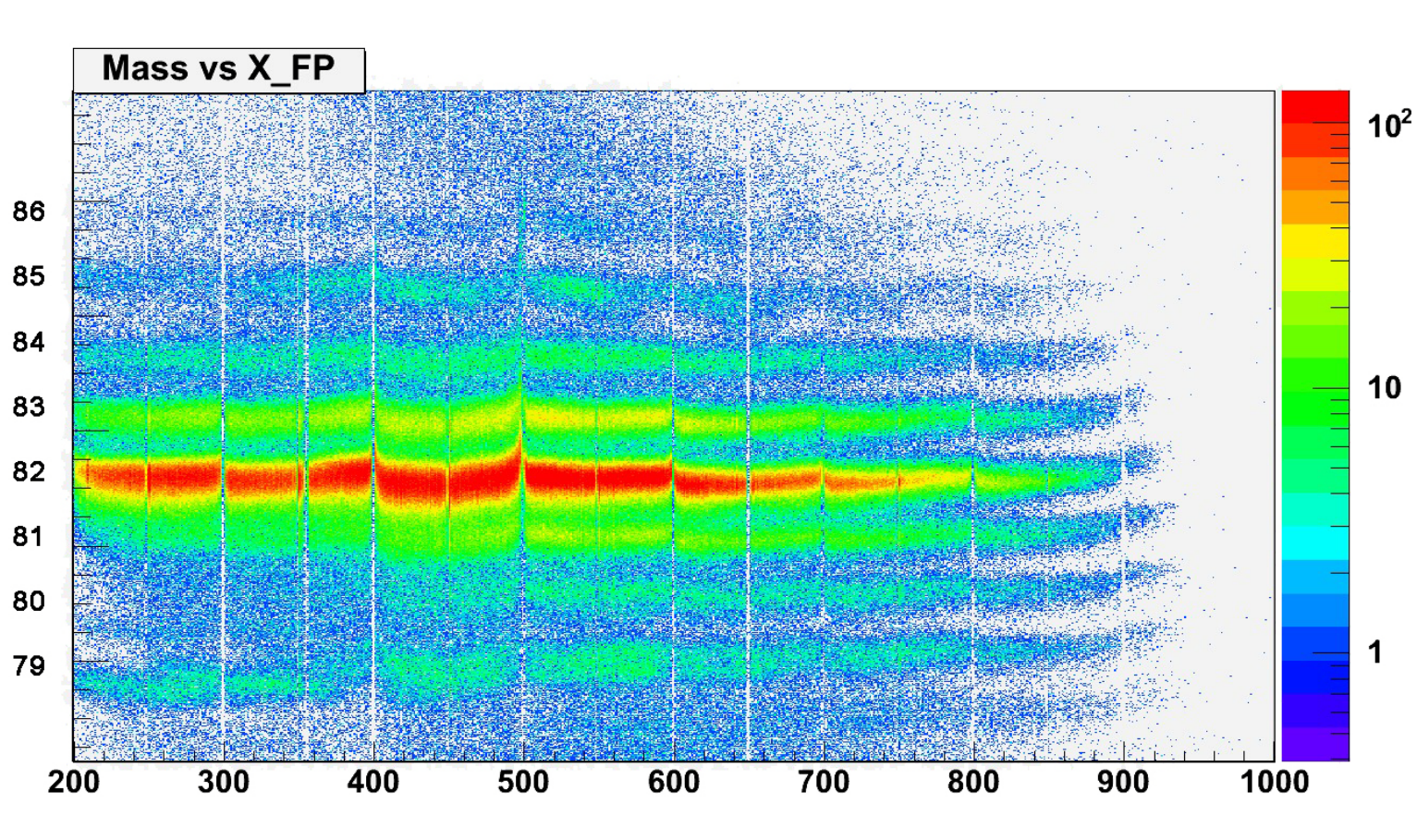
Rβ

Recoil identification with PRISMA: Se mass distribution



Data analysis:
J. Litzinger, Cologne (under progress)

Recoil identification with PRISMA: Se mass distribution

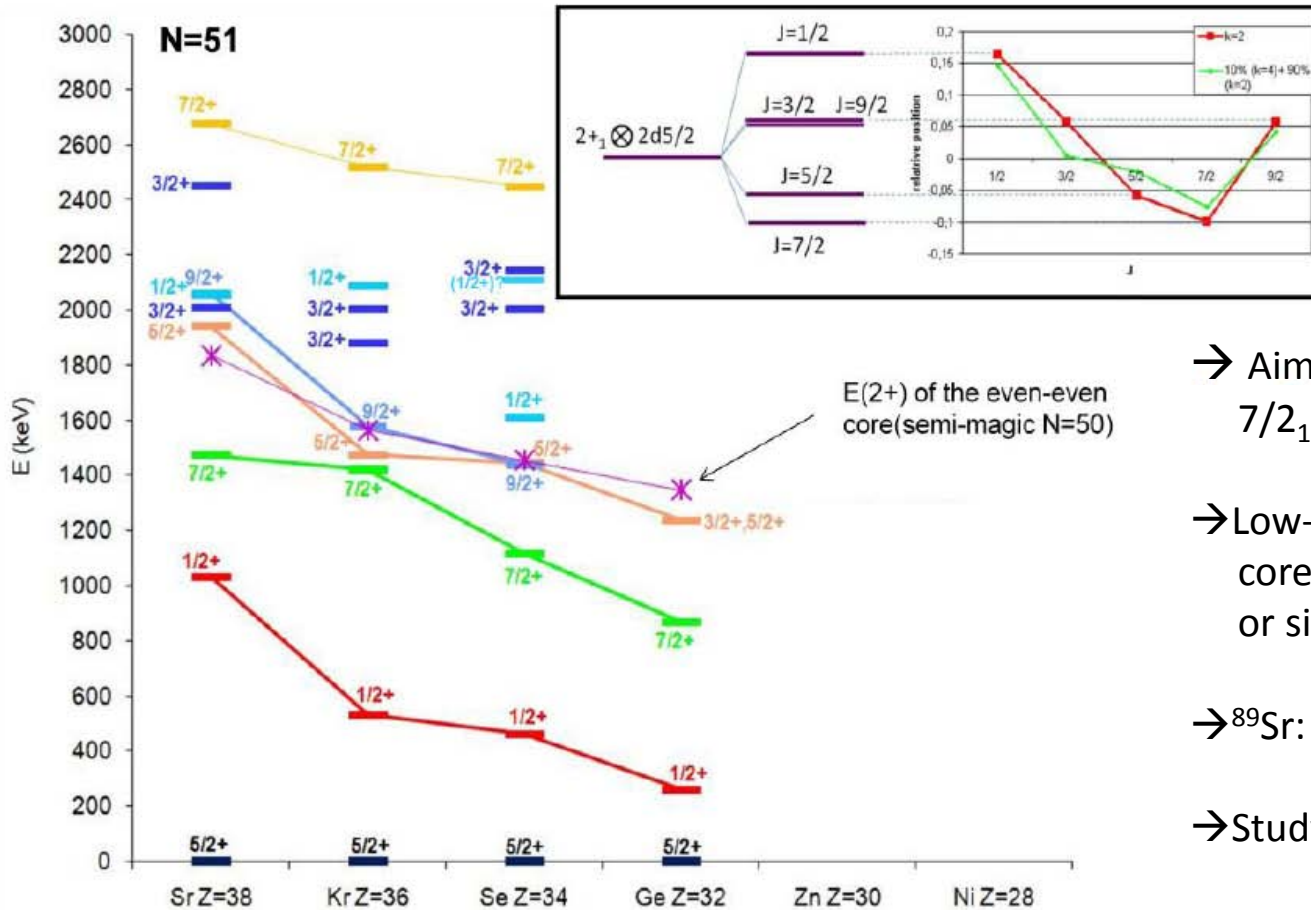


Data analysis:
J. Litzinger, Cologne (under progress)

Observe ^{84}Se and ^{86}Se
→ To do: set particle gates to get γ ray spectra

Structure of neutron rich N=51 nuclei in the vicinity of ^{78}Ni

D. Verney, G. Duchene



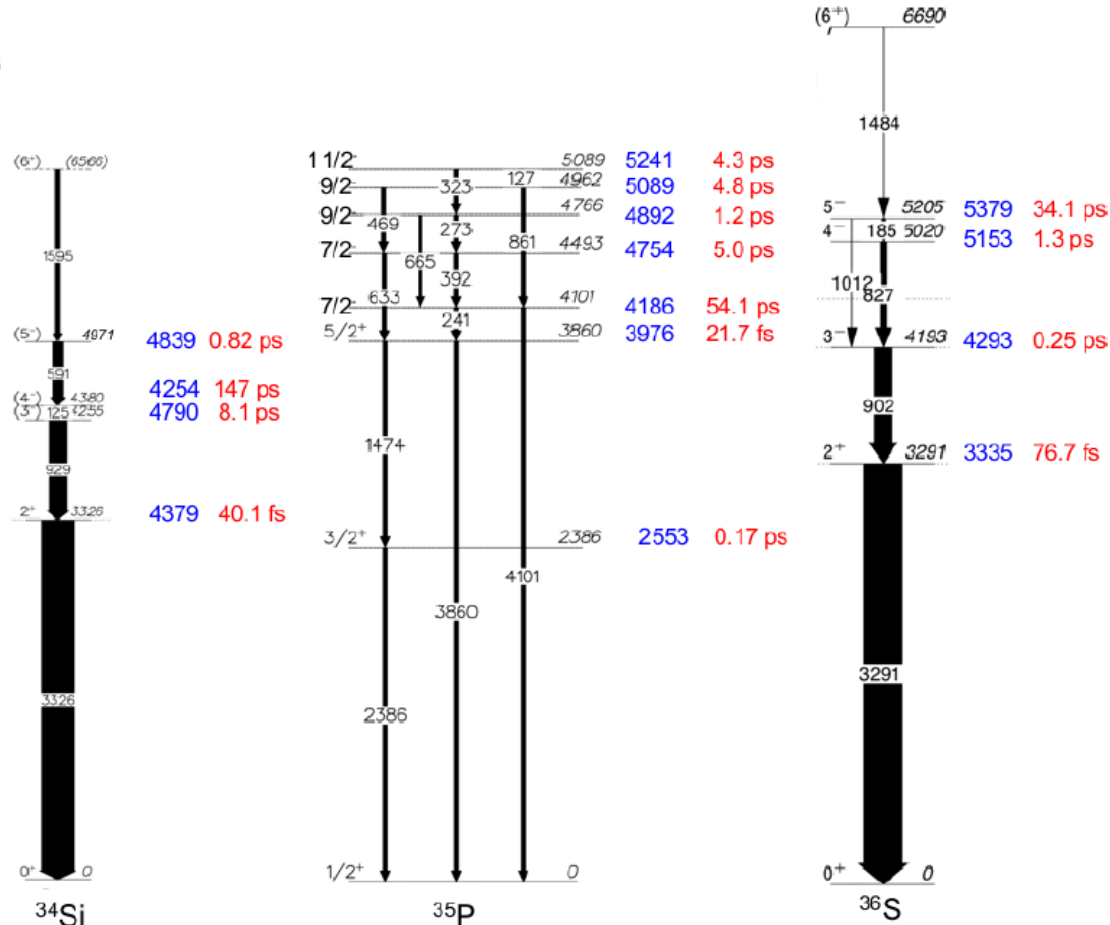
- Aim: determine nature of the $7/2_1^+$ state in ^{83}Ge , ^{85}Se , ^{87}Kr (N=51)
- Low-lying states in N=51 isotones: core coupled configuration or single particle conf.
- ^{89}Sr : $7/2_1^+$ state: core coupled conf.
- Study: constrain theoretical models

Nucleus	Relative production rate	$E(7/2_1^+)$ Exp	$E(7/2_1^+)$ Th	$\tau_{1/2}(7/2_1^+)$ $2^+ \otimes v2d_{5/2}$	$\tau_{1/2}(7/2_1^+)$ $0^+ \otimes v1g_{7/2}$
^{89}Sr	4.5	1473 keV	1559 keV	0.11 ps	10.3 ps
^{87}Kr	27	1578 keV	1598 keV	0.13 ps	16.1 ps
^{85}Se	36	1115 keV	1226 keV	0.29 ps	55.1 ps
^{83}Ge	1	867 keV	1035 keV	0.70 ps	214 ps

Talk by G. Duchene,
Wednesday, 3 30 pm

Lifetimes in N=20 isotones of Si, P, S: Motivation, experiment

Alain Goasduff, IPHC Strasbourg



Experiment:
AGATA-PRISMA-Plunger

→ beam: $^{36}\text{S}^{9+}$, 6.3 AMeV (Tandem+ALPI)

→ plunger target: 1 mg/cm² ^{208}Pb
+ 1 mg/cm² ^{93}Nb backing

→ degrader: 3 mg/cm² ^{93}Nb

→ 5 distances 7, 20, 35, 65, 120 μm

→ AGATA demonstrator with 5 triples

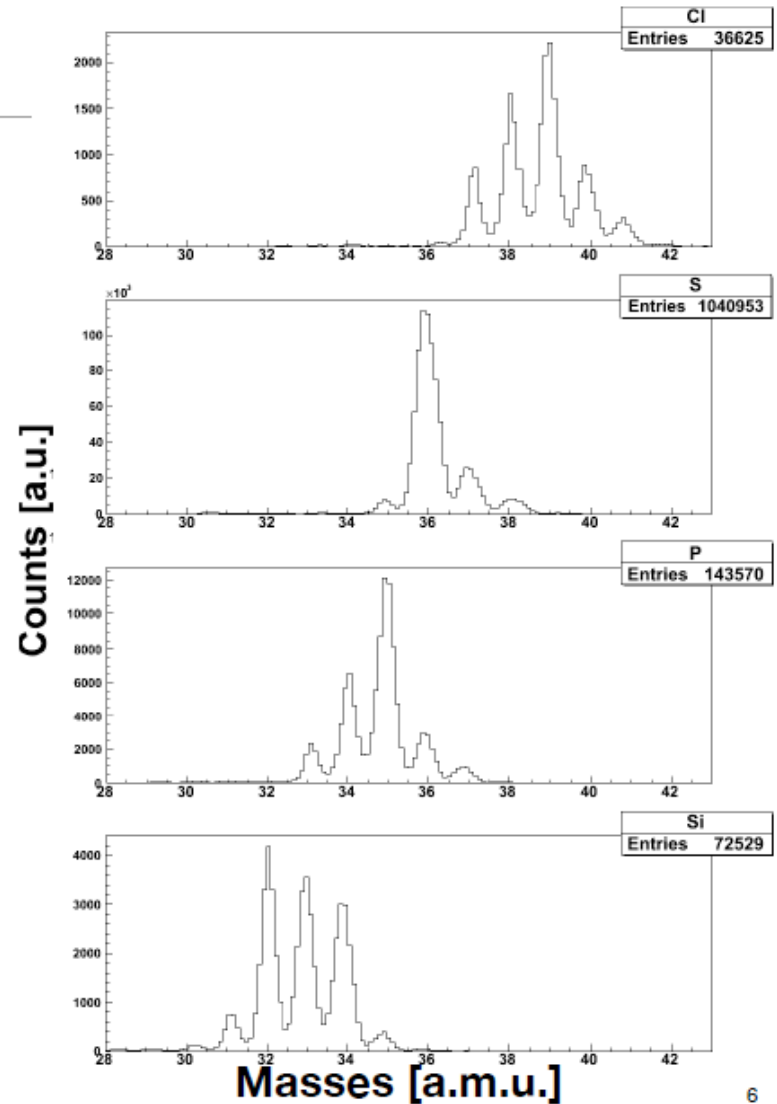
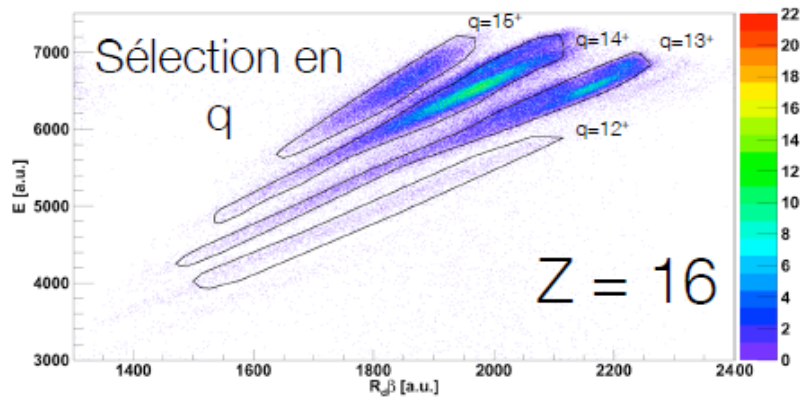
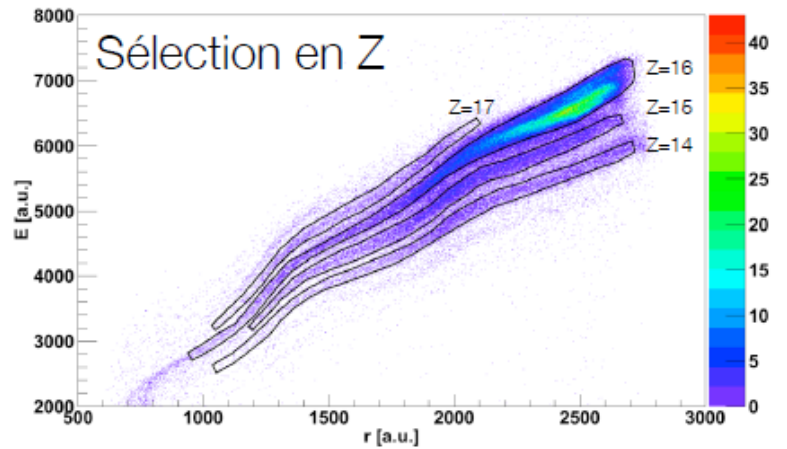
→ distance to target: 18 cm

→ PRISMA under 59 degrees

Shell model predictions (Antoine, PSDPF)
and experiments with CLARA/PRISMA

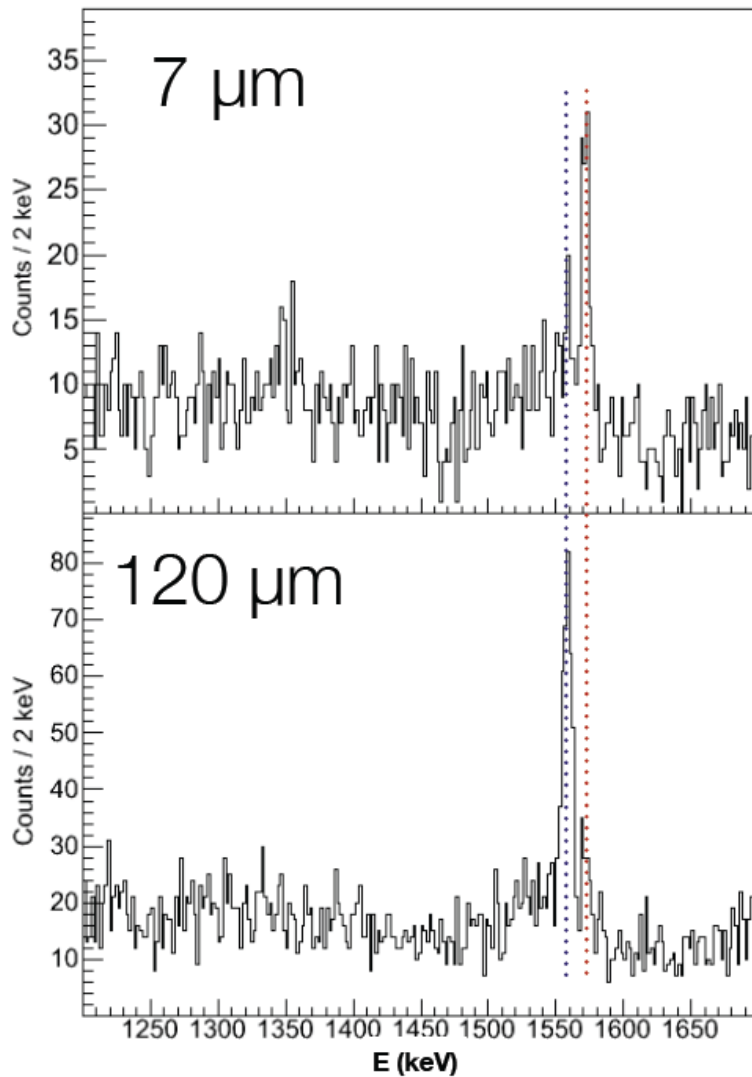
Lifetimes in N=20 isotones of Si, P, S: Recoil identification

Identification des reculs



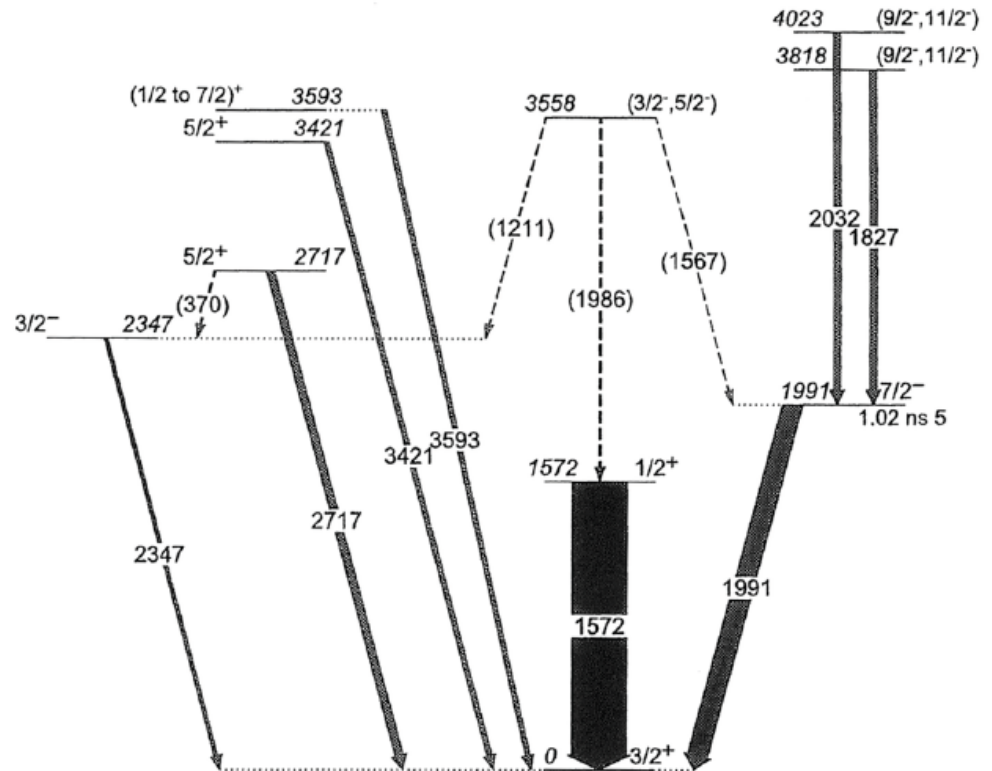
Alain Goasduff, IPHC Strasbourg

Lifetimes in N=20 isotones of Si, P, S: First results for $^{35}\text{S}_{19}$



Alain Goasduff, IPHC Strasbourg

- Example of ^{35}S first excited state $1/2^+$:



$T_{\text{lit}} = 3.3$ (5) ps (Warburton et al., PRC 7, 1120 (73))

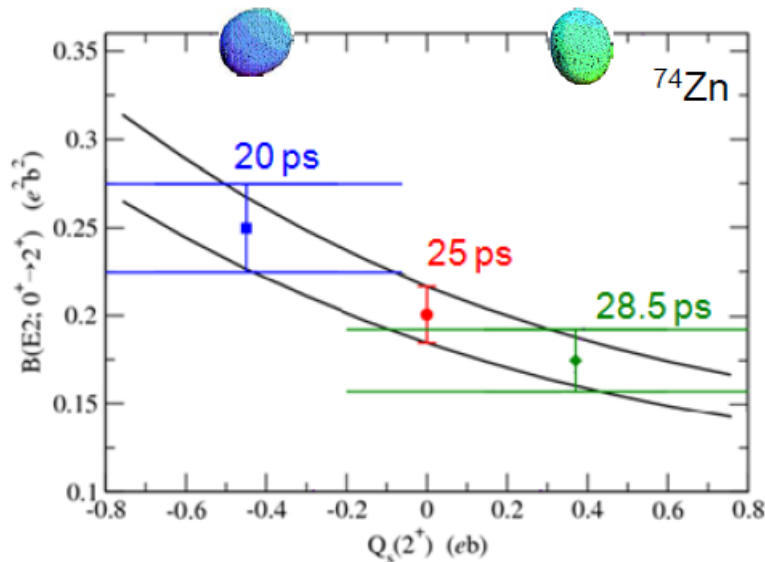
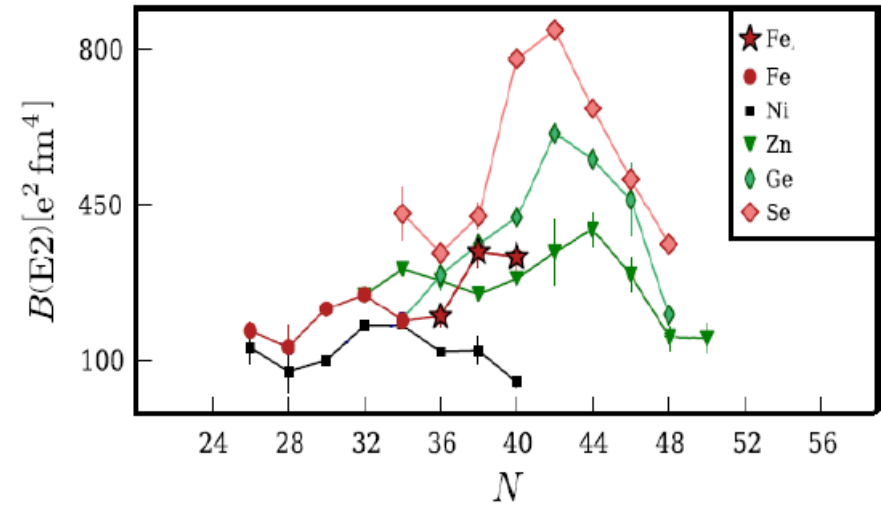
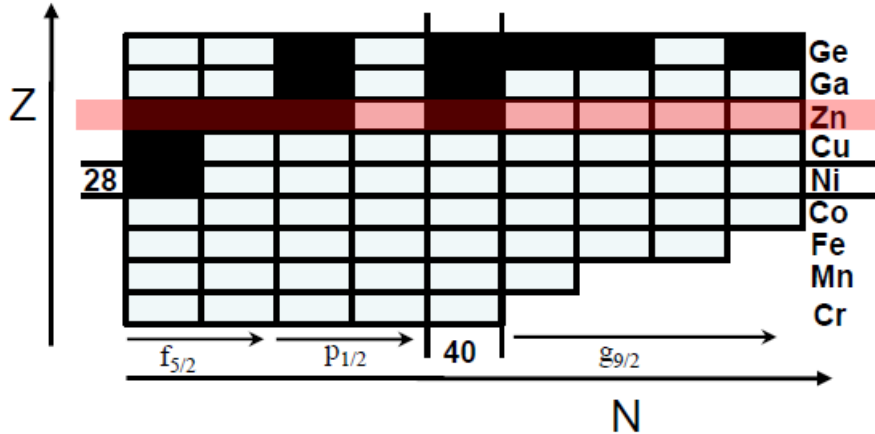
Shell model pred.: $\tau = 2.0$ ps

Prelim. this work: $\tau = 2.26(12)$ ps

Lifetimes of excited states in n-rich Zn isotopes using the AGATA demonstrator

C. Louchart, Saclay

Onset of collectivity near N=40: investigate $^{70}\text{Zn}_{40}$, $^{72}\text{Zn}_{42}$, $^{74}\text{Zn}_{44}$



Ref. J. Van de Walle thesis

- Lifetime measurement to determine accurate $B(E2)$ value for $2^+/4^+$ states
- Comparison with theory

Important role of $\nu g_{9/2}$ and $d_{5/2}$ intruder orbitals

Lifetimes of excited states in n-rich Zn isotopes using the AGATA demonstrator: Experiment

→ multi-nucleon transfer:

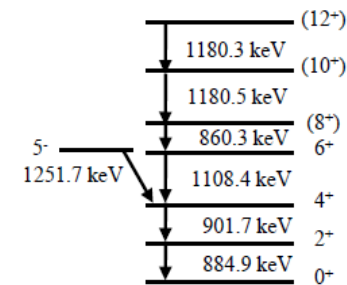
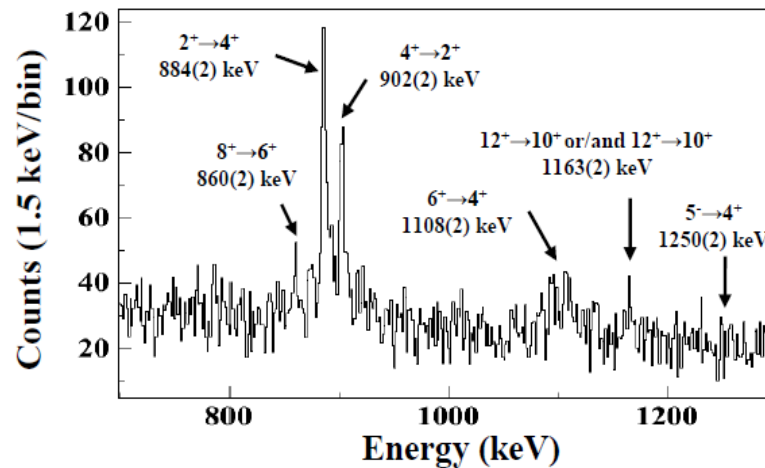
^{76}Ge on $1.4 \text{ mg/cm}^2 \text{ }^{238}\text{U}$ @ 577 MeV, 0.3 p nA

→ 5 distances 100, 200, 500, 1000, 1900 μm

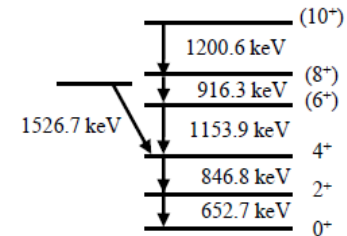
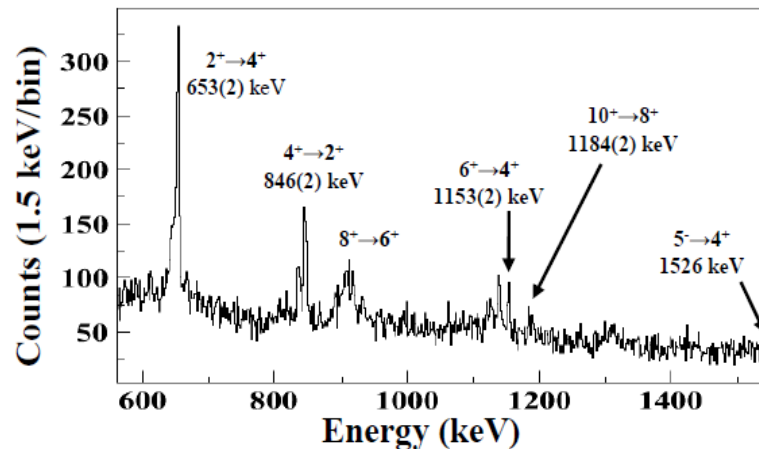
→ AGATA demonstrator with 4 triples

→ PRISMA at 55°

AGATA-PRISMA-Plunger



^{70}Zn
100 μm

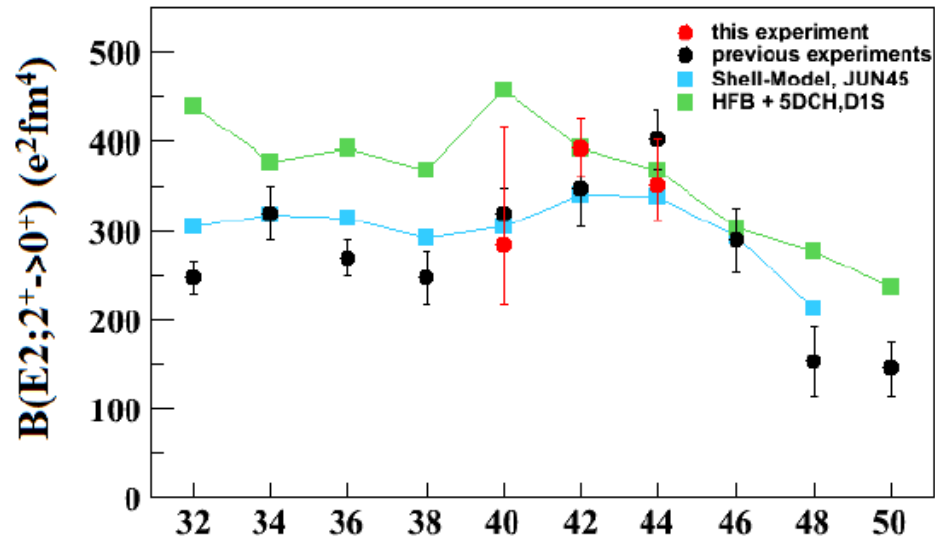


^{72}Zn
100 μm

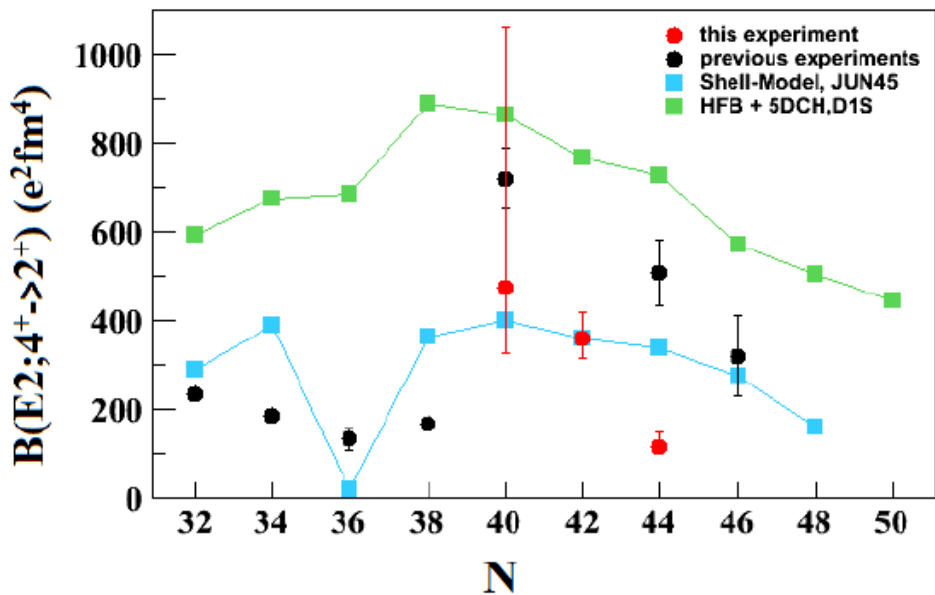
From NNDC data base

C. Louchart, Saclay

Lifetimes of excited states in n-rich Zn isotopes using the AGATA demonstrator: Results for $^{70,72,74}\text{Zn}$



➤ $B(E2; 2^+ \rightarrow 0^+)$ values are in agreement with shell model calculations



➤ Beyond mean field calculation over estimate the collectivity

➤ Shell model predictions don't reproduce the trend of the systematics

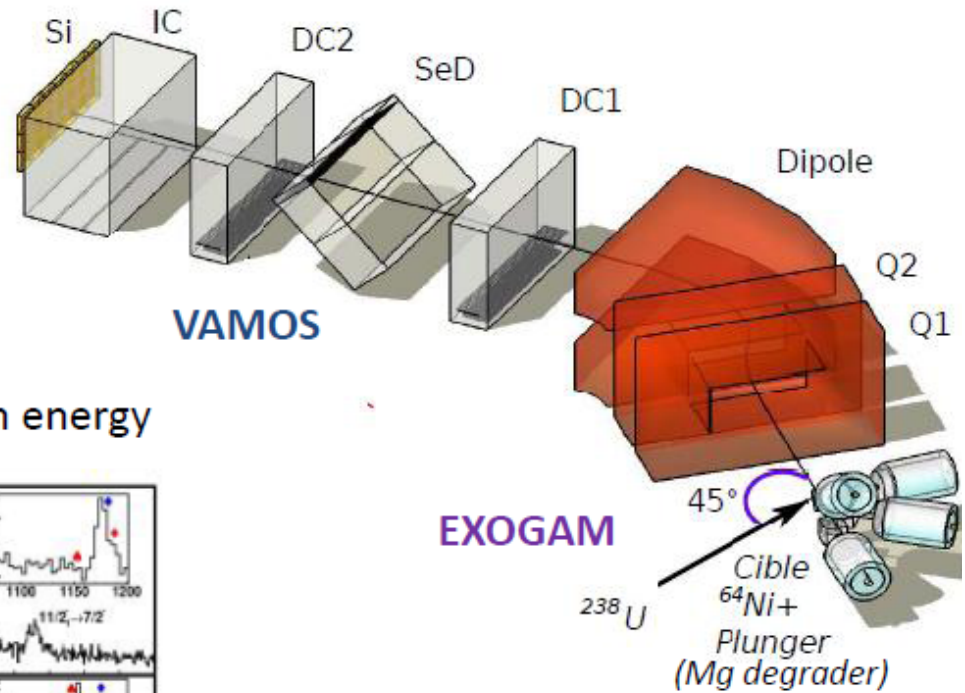
C. Louchart, Saclay

Lifetime measurements in odd-mass $^{63,65}\text{Co}$ at GANIL

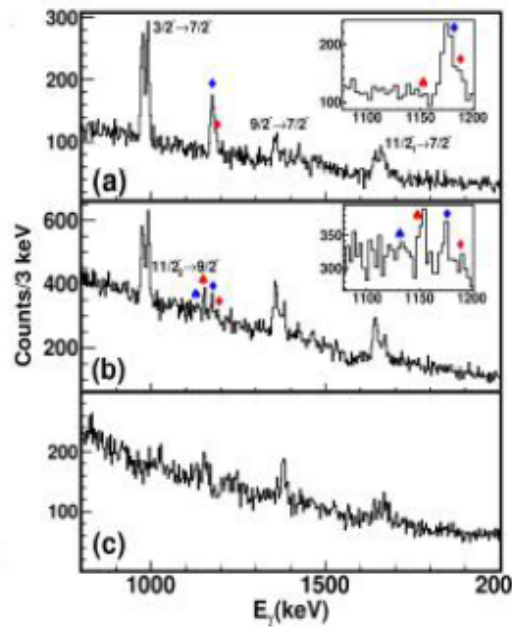
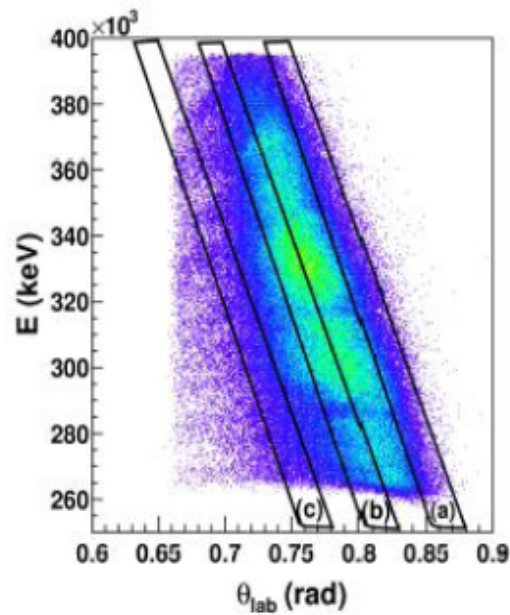
A. Dijon et al., PRC 83, 064321 (2011)

Objectifs :

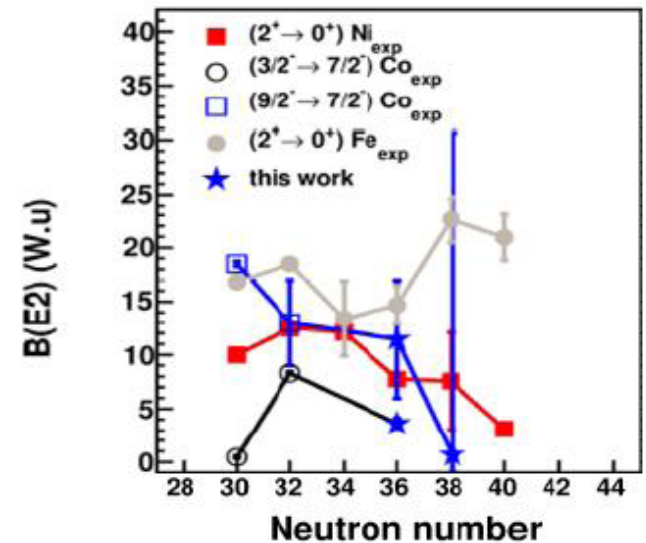
- B(E2) measurement of $3/2^-$, $9/2^-$ states
- Core coupled state with even-even Ni isotone ?



→ lifetime extracted by selection in excitation energy



→ Ni-like and Fe-like core coupled states
in odd mass Co isotopes



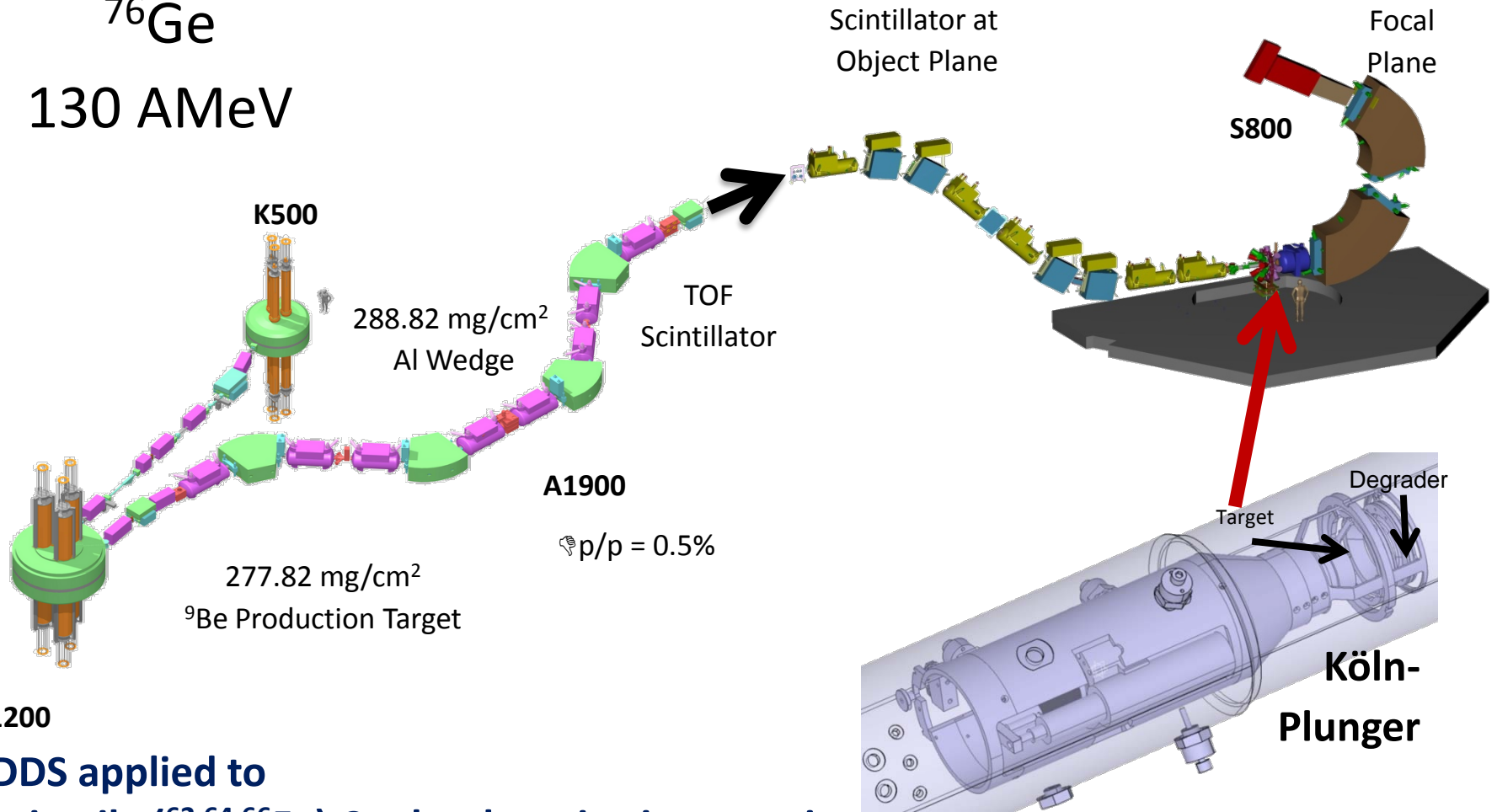
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Example: $^{62,64,66}\text{Fe}$ lifetime measurement at NSCL, MSU

NSCL coupled cyclotron facility + A1900; MSU

^{76}Ge
130 AMeV



K1200

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

Köln/NSCL plunger at SeGA @ S800

Köln/NSCL plunger



target/ degrader diameter: 4 cm
target/ degrader separations: 0-2,5 cm
precision : $\sim 1 \mu\text{m}$
target/ degrader thickness: $\sim 1 \mu\text{m}$ -1mm

SeGA @ S800

7 detectors

at forward angles (30 deg.)

8 detectors

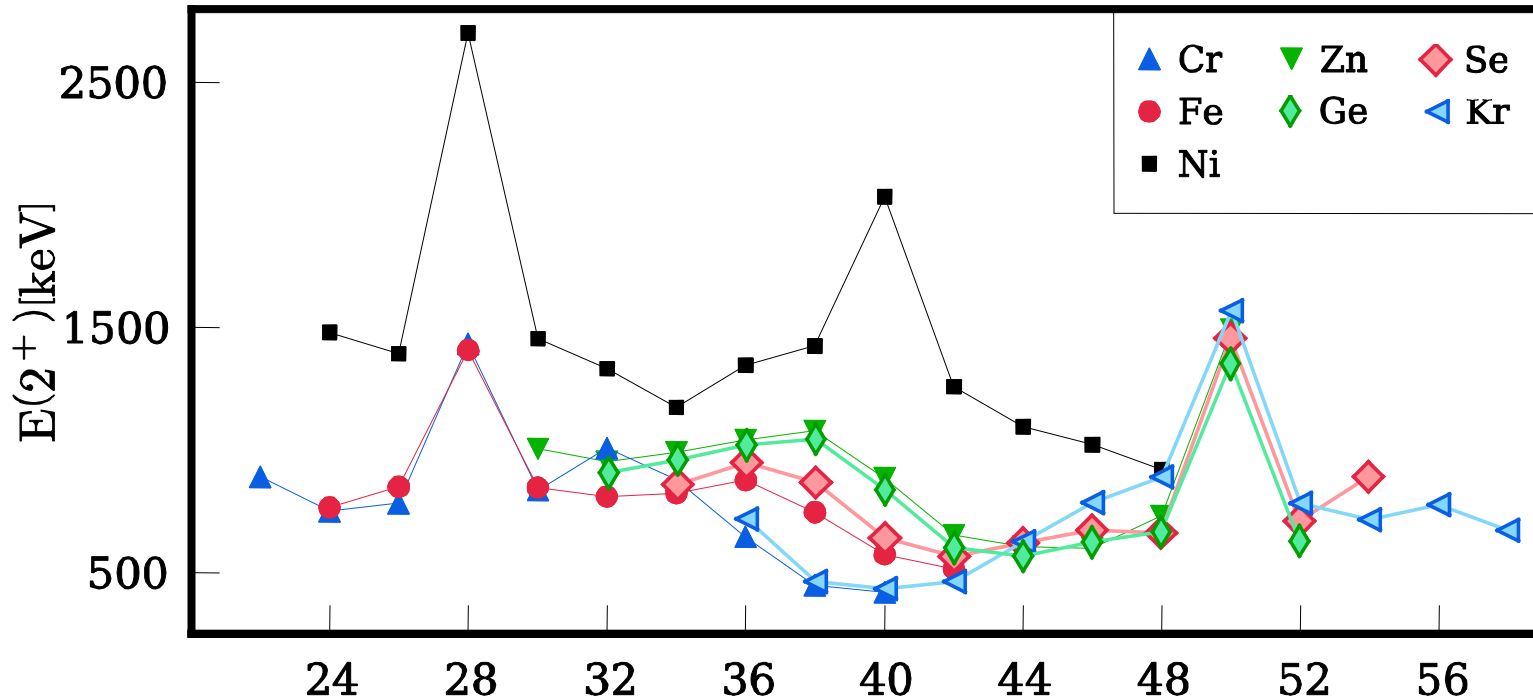
at backward angles (140deg.)



Motivation: $^{62,64,66}\text{Fe}$ lifetime measurement at NSCL, MSU

Symmetry with respect to $Z \approx 30$

N.Hoteling et al.,
PRC 74 (2006) 064313



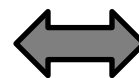
Cr (Z = 24)

N

Kr (Z = 36)

pairs

Fe (Z = 26)



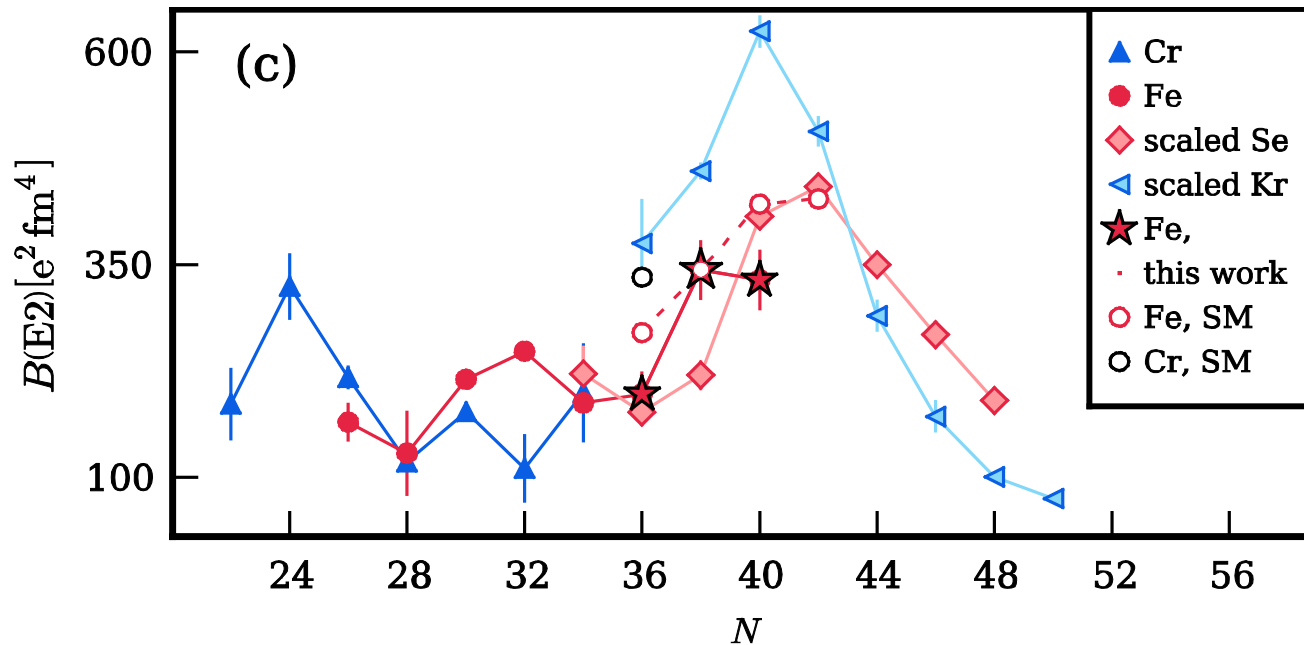
Se (Z = 34)

Zn (Z = 30)

Ge (Z = 32)

Results

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



W. Rother et al.,
Phys. Rev. Lett. 106,
022502 (2011)

Recent shell model calculations

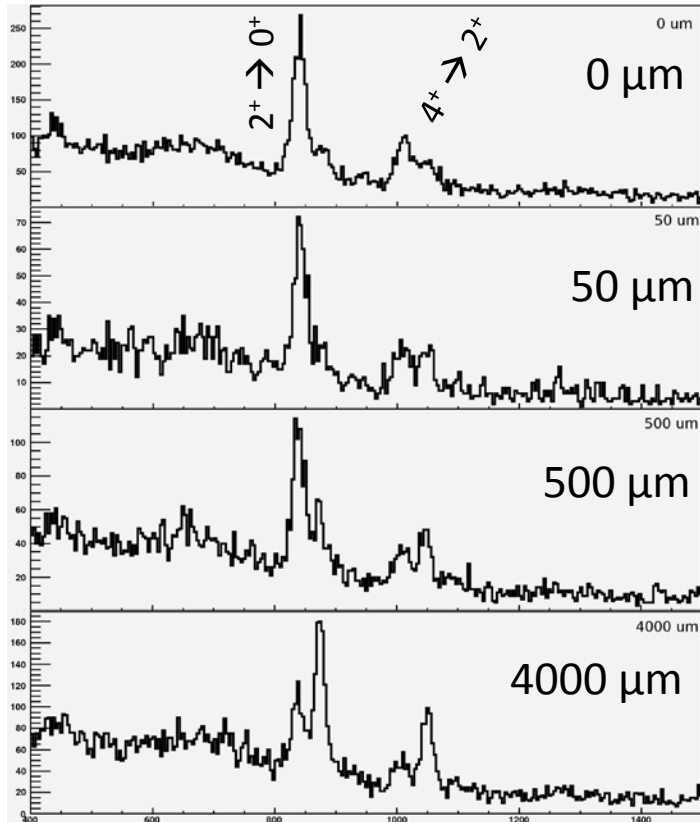
with new effective LNPS interaction (by S.M.Lenzi, F.Nowacki, A.Poves, K.Sieja)
well explain the trends of $B(E2)$ for $^{62,64,66}\text{Fe}$ at $N=40$

→ Motivation of measurement of $B(E2)$ values in $^{58,60,62}\text{Cr}$

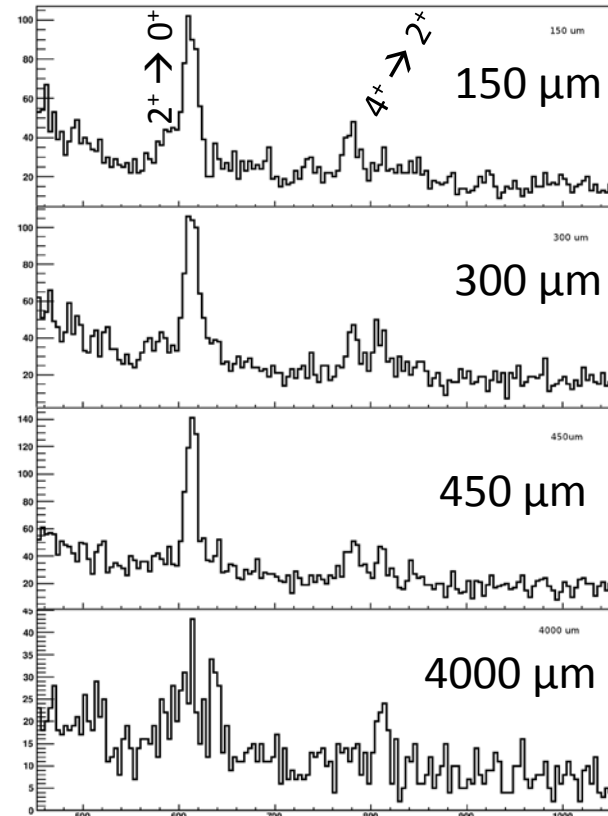
→ Performed at NSCL in Dec. 2011 with 1p knockout, data analyzed at the moment

Spectra of $^{58,60,62}\text{Cr}$

- measurement of $B(E2)$ values in $^{58,60,62}\text{Cr}$
- Performed at NSCL in Dec. 2011 with 1p knockout, secondary beam $^{59,61,63}\text{Mn}$ @ ~ 95 MeV/u
- data analyzed at the moment (T. Braunroth, Cologne)



^{58}Cr

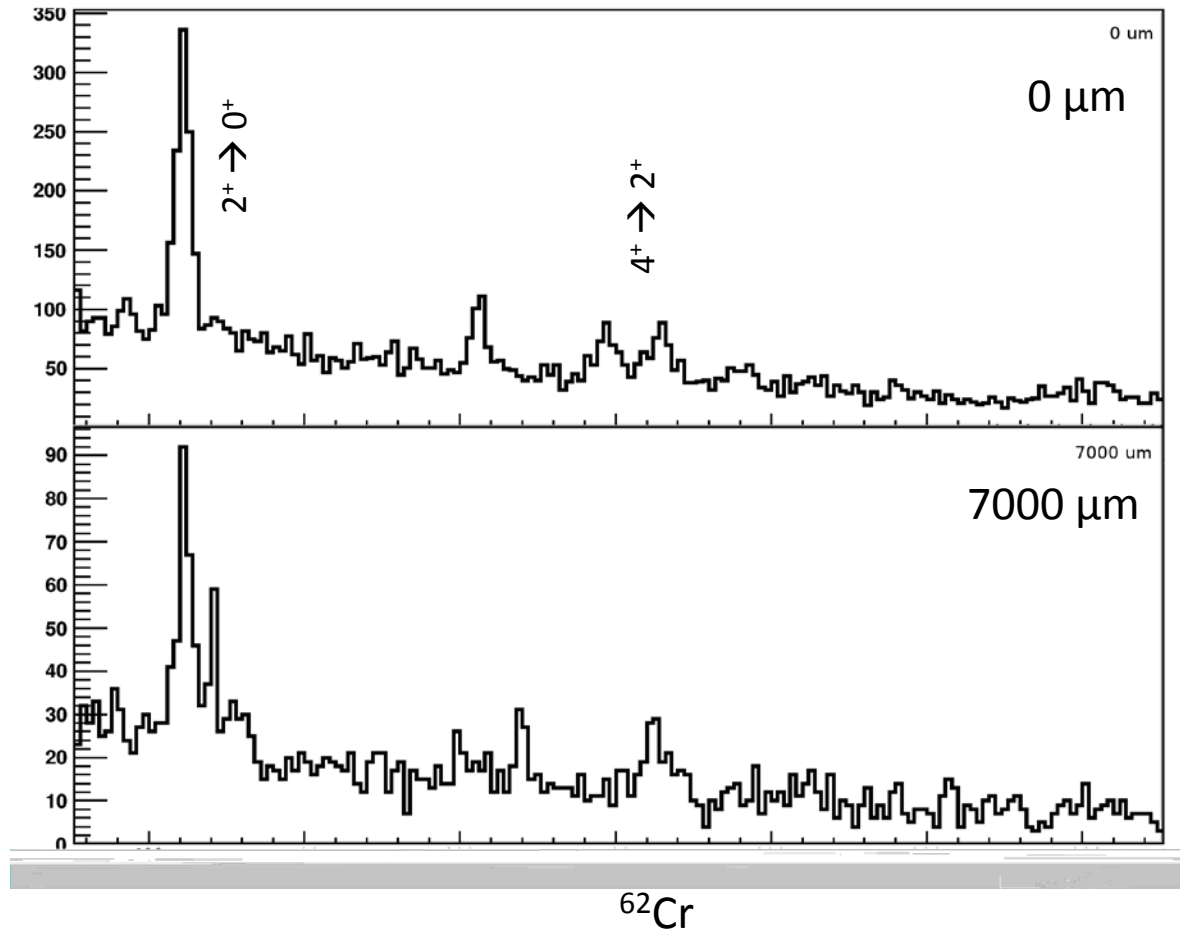


^{60}Cr

Spectra from online sorting

Spectra of $^{58,60,62}\text{Cr}$

- measurement of $B(E2)$ values in $^{58,60,62}\text{Cr}$
- Performed at NSCL in Dec. 2011 with 1p knockout, secondary beam $^{59,61,63}\text{Mn}$ @ ~ 95 MeV/u
- data analyzed at the moment (T. Braunroth, Cologne)



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Plunger experiments at PRESPEC/HISPEC, GSI

Motivation

- Measure lifetimes of excited states of very exotic nuclei with radioactive ion beams at GSI
- At GSI: Access to neutron-rich and other exotic nuclei

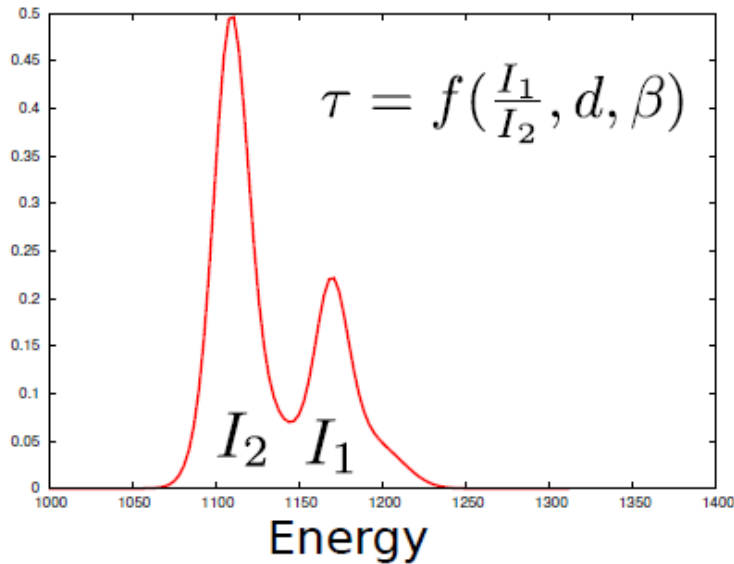
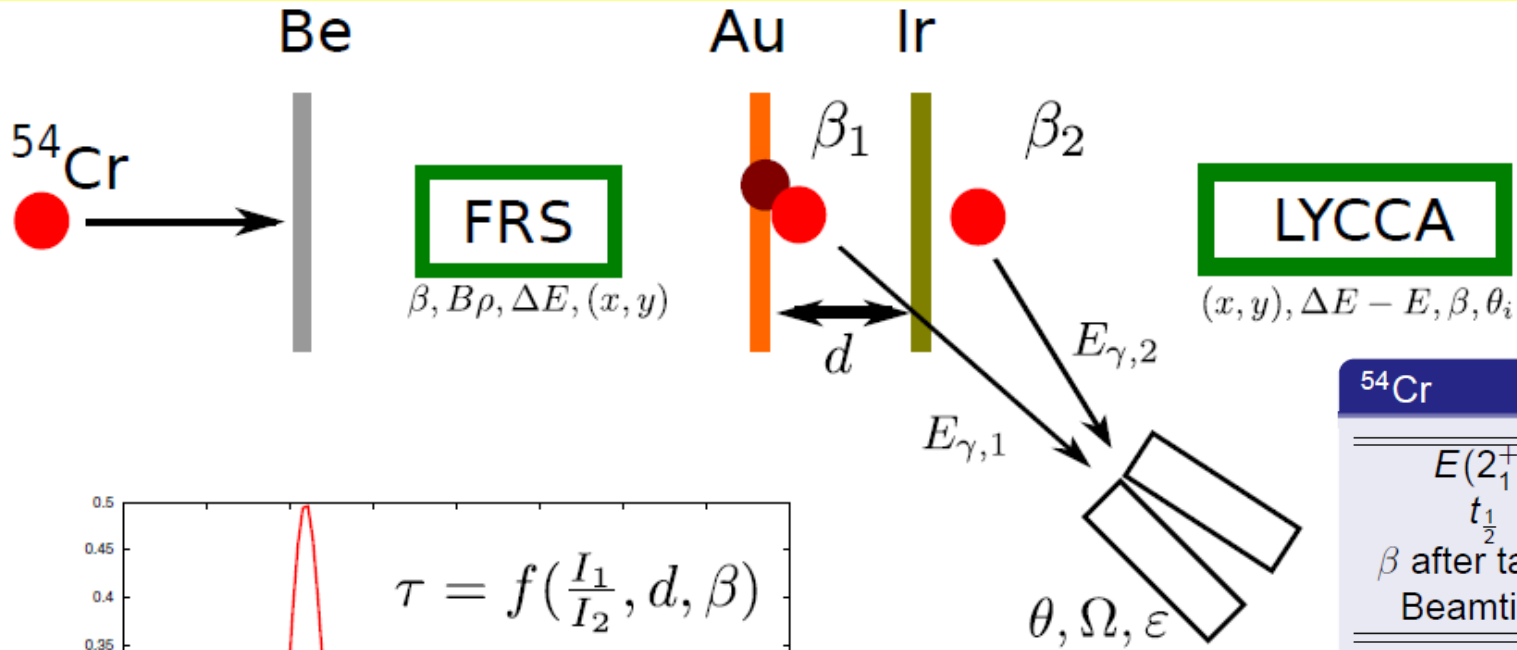
Challenges

- Large beam - diameter (2 - 5 cm)
- Large recoil velocity ($v \approx .4c$)
- Thick foils (500 μm)
- Peak to background ratio
- Particle tracking

Experimental Means

- Coulomb excitation
- Knock-out reactions

Commissioning run with stable ^{54}Cr



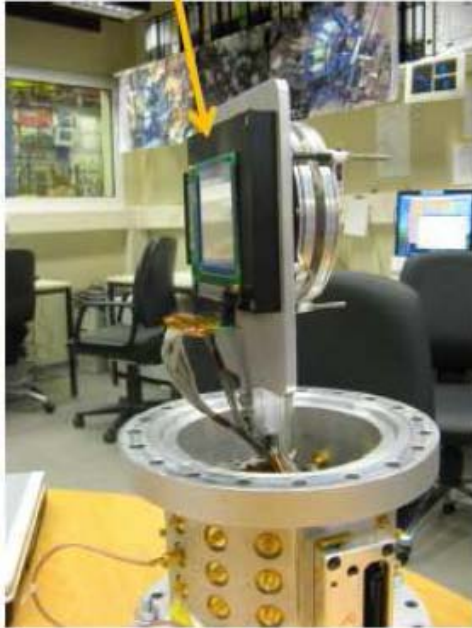
^{54}Cr	
$E(2_1^+)$	835 keV
$t_{1/2}$	7.9(3) ps
β after target	0.45
Beamtime	10 h

Test with stable beam

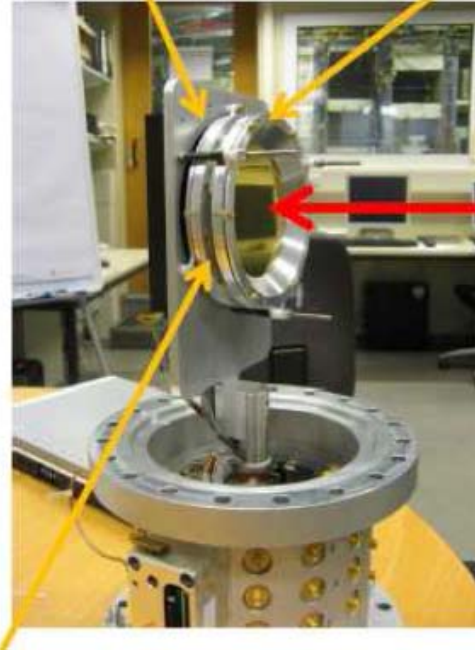
- ^{54}Cr
- 183 MeV/u at target position
- 1 mm Au, 0.5 mm Ir (lots of material)
- realistic conditions: primary Be-target for large distribution in p and x .

Commissioning run with fixed plunger

Target - DSSD



Ir Degradator (0.5 mm)

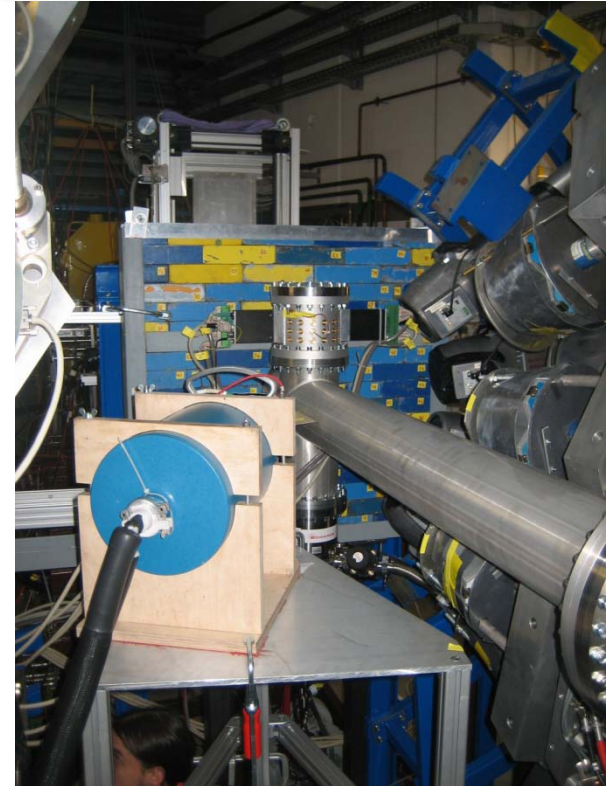


Au Target (1 mm)

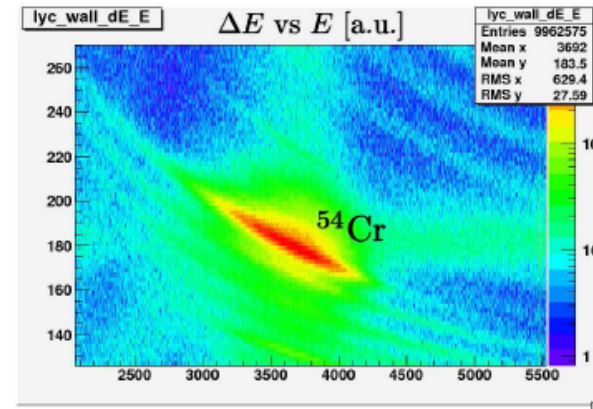
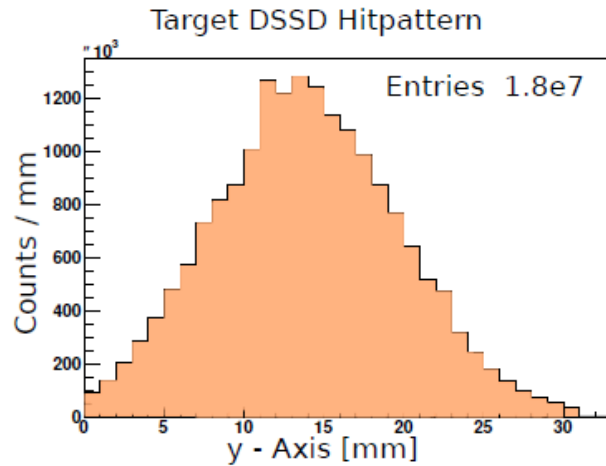
^{54}Cr , 182 MeV / u

Distance: 700 μm

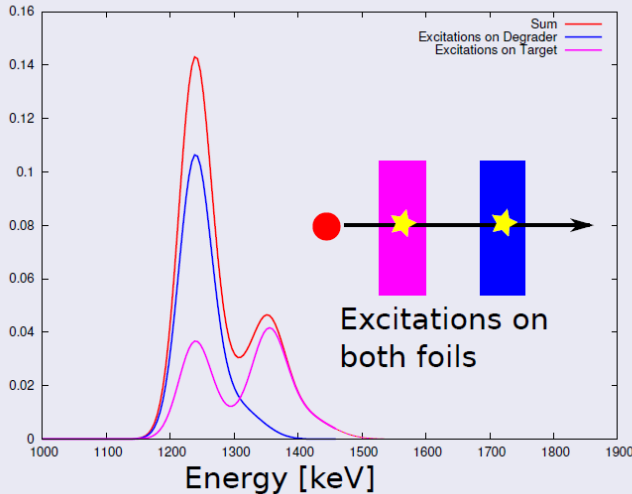
Fixed plunger mounted in
RISING target chamber



Commissioning run with fixed plunger at GSI: results

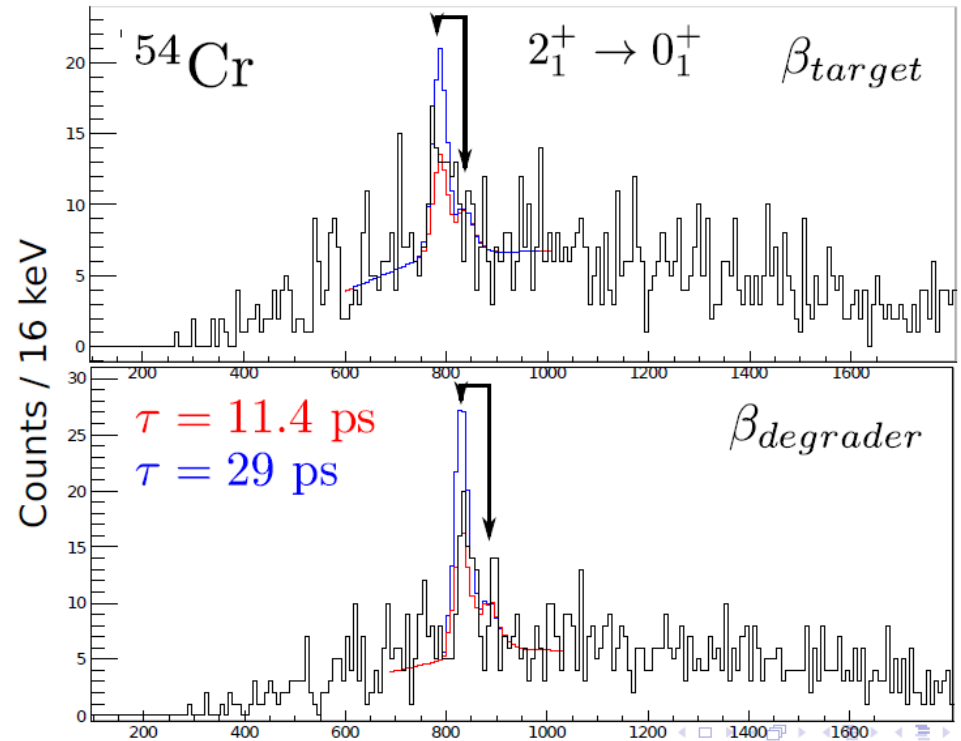


Lineshape simulation

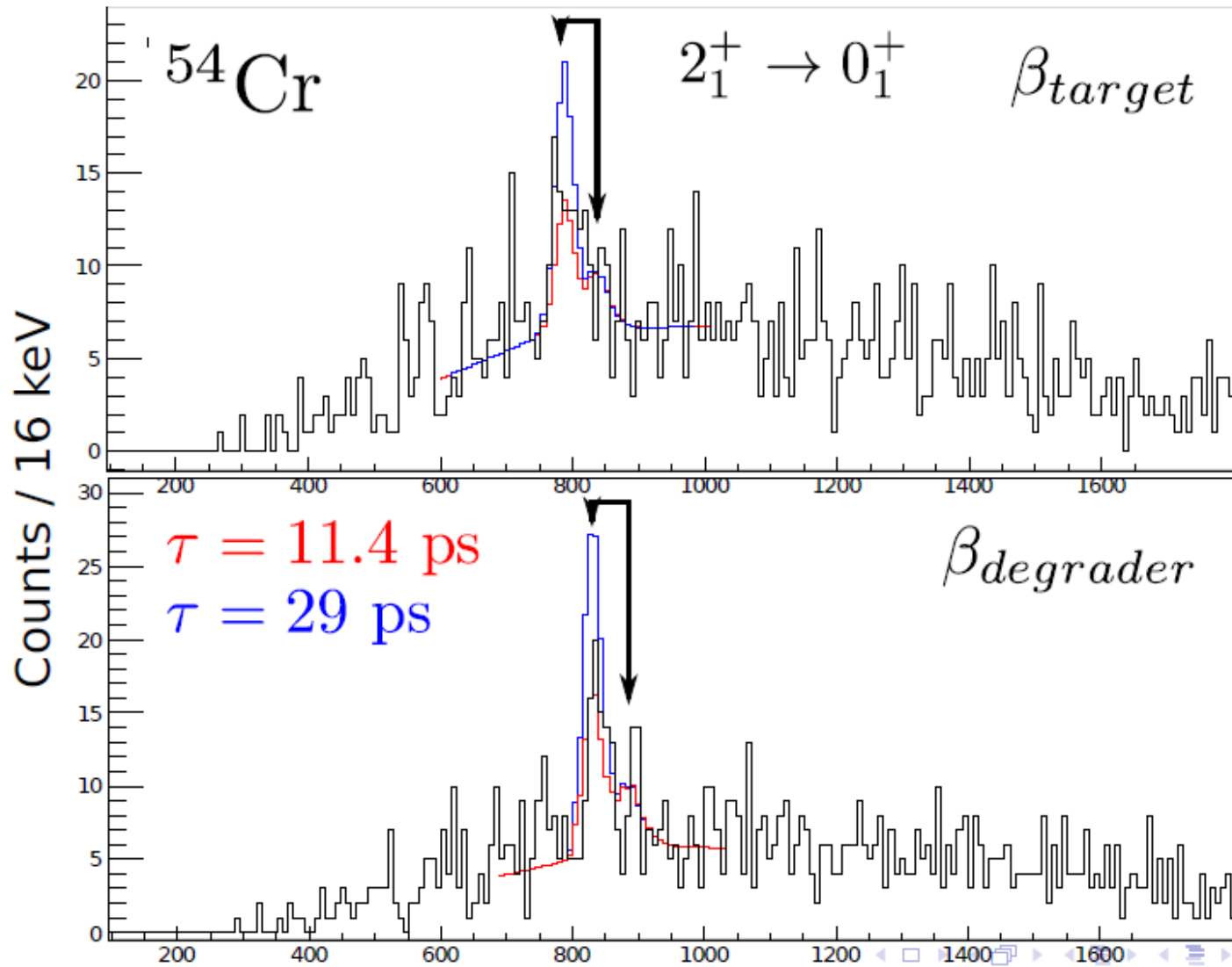


Modified code from A. Dewald, W. Rother

Analysis: M. Hackstein, IKP Cologne



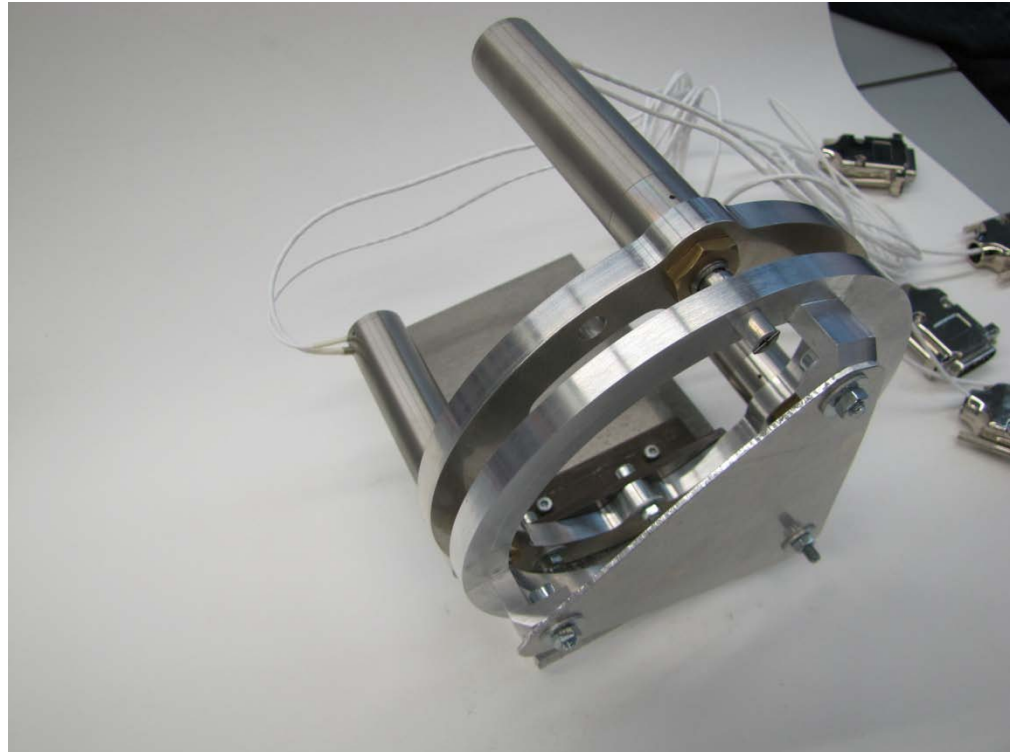
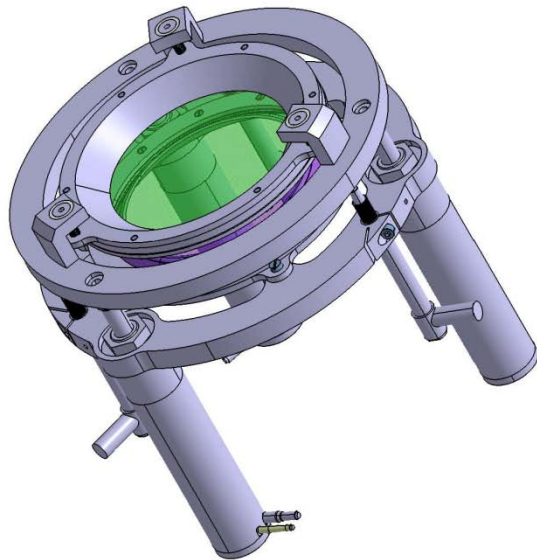
Commissioning run with fixed plunger at GSI: results



Analysis: M. Hackstein, IKP Cologne

New plunger device for PRESPEC/HISPEC

Target/degrader diameter: 75 mm



- Test device already built with 3 PI motors (type N381 vacuum proof)
- Software for parallel operation of 3 PI motors first version developed by T. Braunroth, IKP Cologne

Conclusion

- Several experiments with the plunger method successfully performed on exotic nuclei in different regions, e.g.,
GANIL: VAMOS + EXOGAM
LNL: AGATA + PRISMA
NSCL: A1900 fragment separator + S800 magnetic spectrometer + SeGA
GSI: commissioning run at FRS + RISING/PRESPEC
- Plunger devices existing for different experimental conditions:
low-energy beams (few MeV/u) up to relativistic beams with 100 MeV/u.
- Development ongoing to access even more exotic nuclei, e.g.,
at GSI with PRESPEC/HISPEC

Collaboration

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TU Darmstadt, Germany: G. Guastalla, E. Merchan, O. Möller, N. Pietralla, M. Reese, D. Ralet

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INP, N.C.S.R. Demokritos, Athens, Greece: S. Harissopulos, T. Konstaninopoulos, A. Lagoyannis

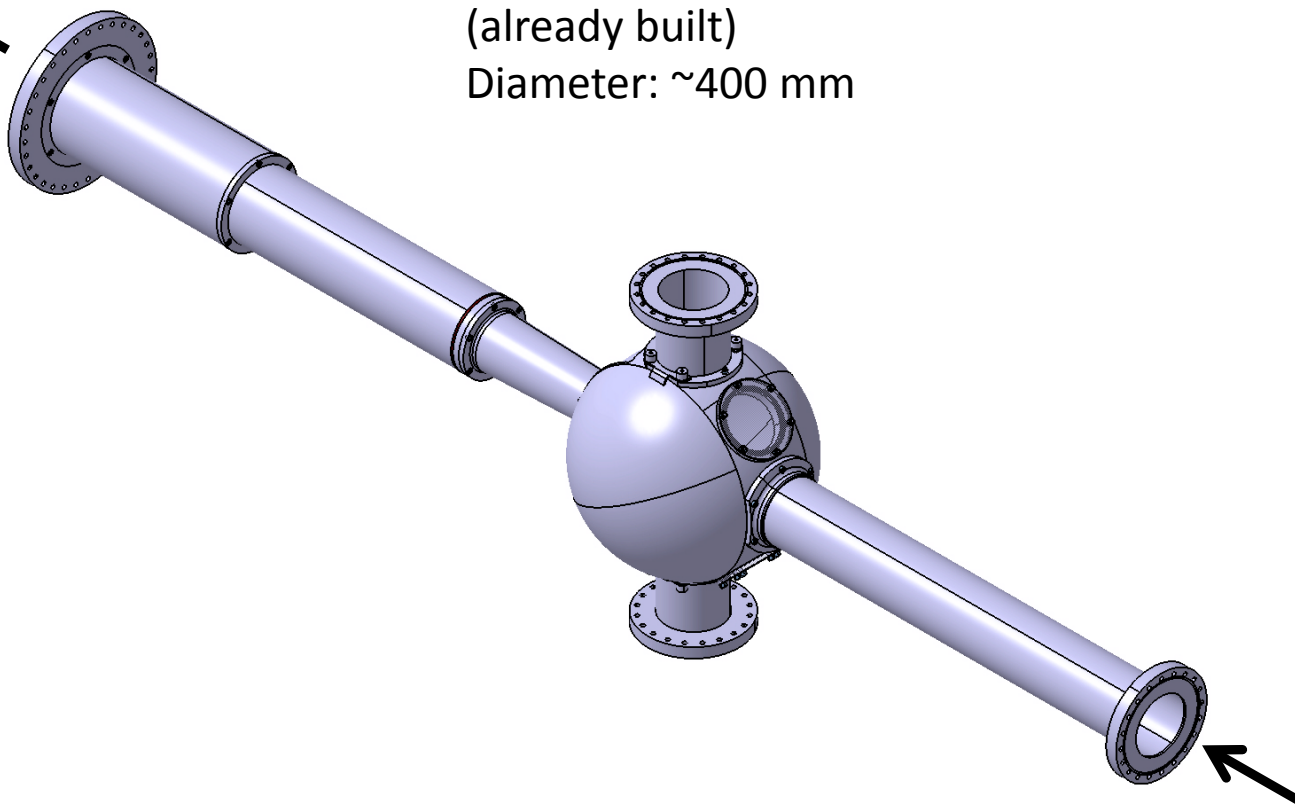
Additional transparencies


New developments for experiments at PRESPEC/HISPEC, GSI

To LYCCA

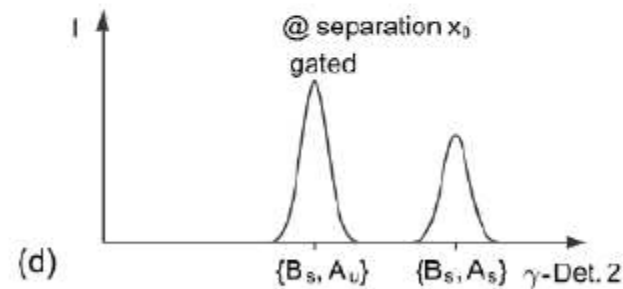
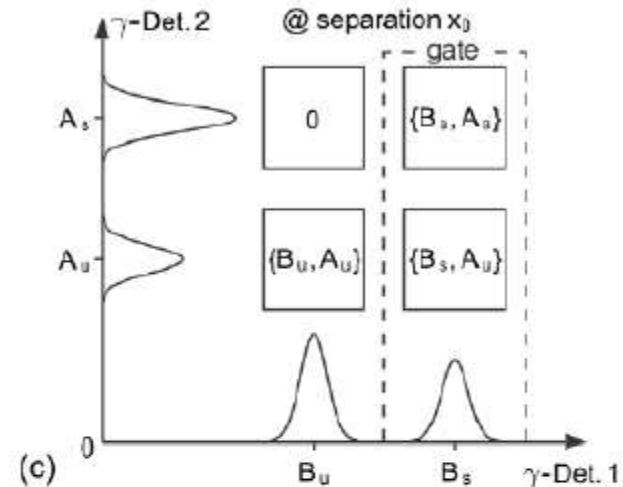
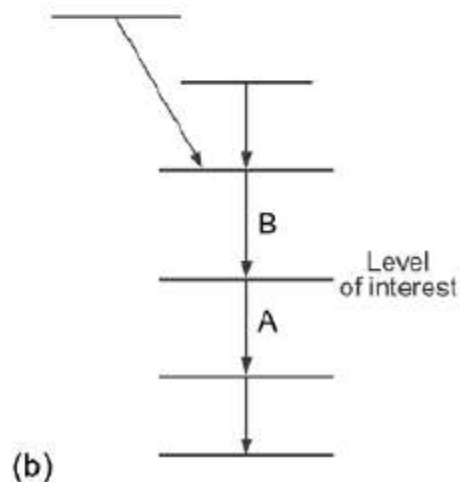
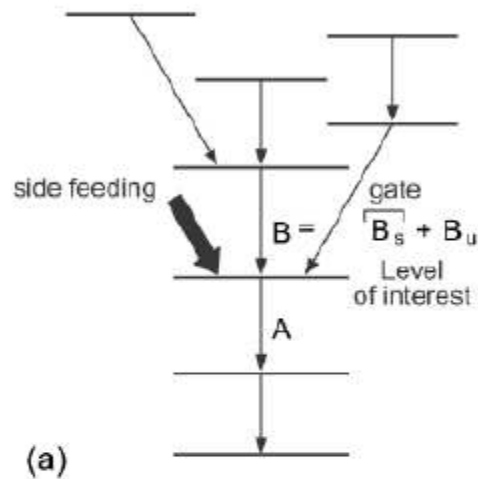


New target chamber for AGATA at PRESPEC
(already built)
Diameter: ~400 mm



Radioactive beam from FRS 

Differential Decay Curve Method - Coincidences



$$\Rightarrow \tau = -\frac{\{B_s, A_u\}(x_0)}{\Delta\{B_s, A_s\}(x_0)} \cdot \frac{\Delta x}{v},$$

$$\text{where } \Delta\{B_s, A_s\}(x_0) = \{B_s, A_s\}(x_0) - \{B_s, A_s\}(x_0 + \Delta x).$$

Neutron-rich Fe isotopes at N = 40

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).

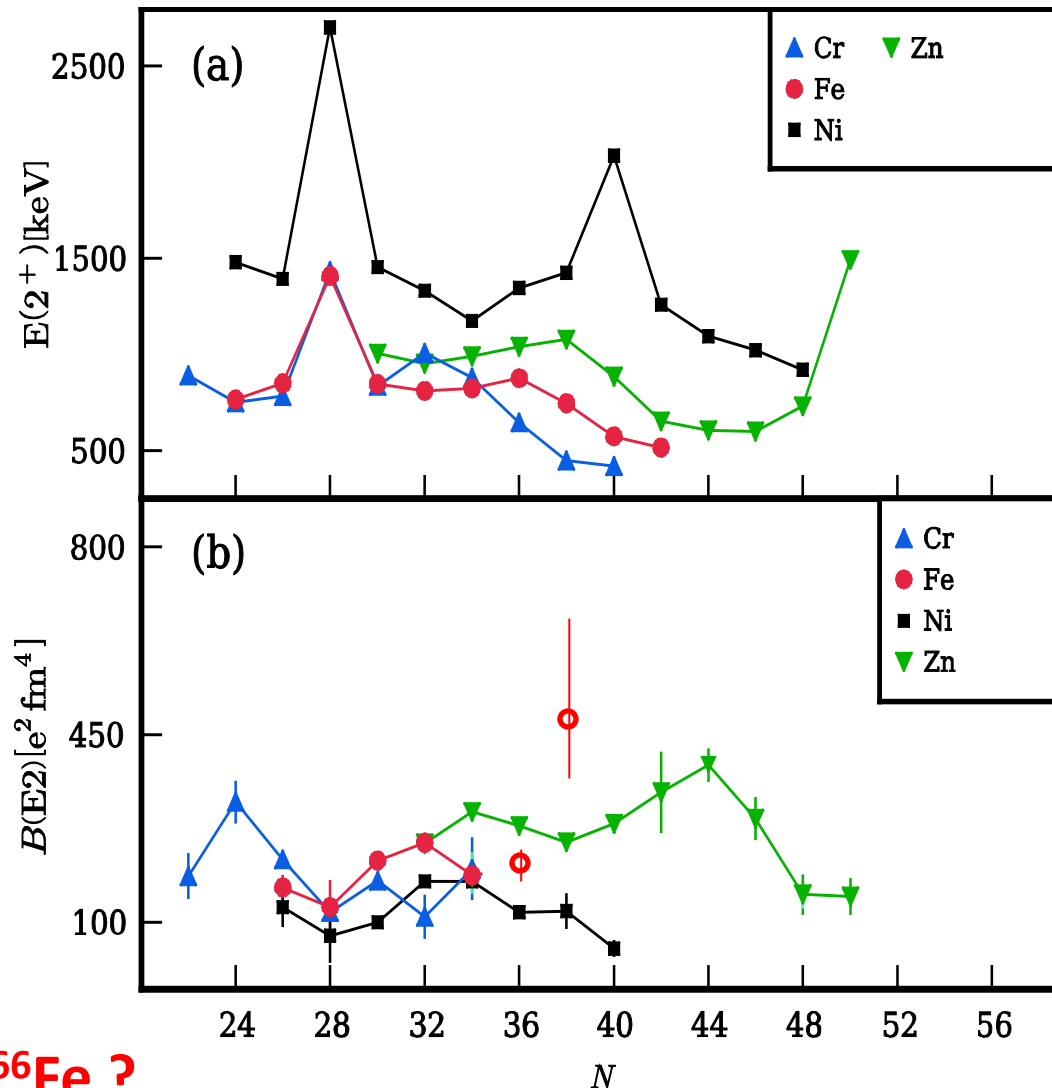
$(E(2^+))^{66}\text{Fe}$: M.Hannawald et al., PRL82(99)1391
 ^{64}Cr : A.Gade et al., PRC81(10)051304R)

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

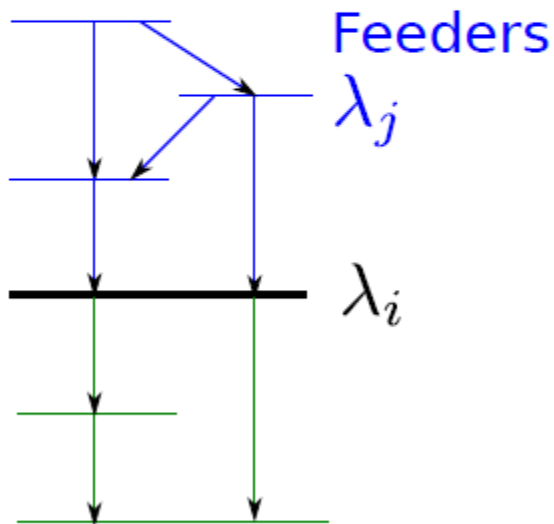
A recent $B(E2)$ data on $^{62,64}\text{Fe}$ (J.Ljungvall et al., PRC81(10)061301R)

suggest an increase of collectivity towards N=40. **How about ^{66}Fe ?**

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



Differential Decay Curve Method



DDCM

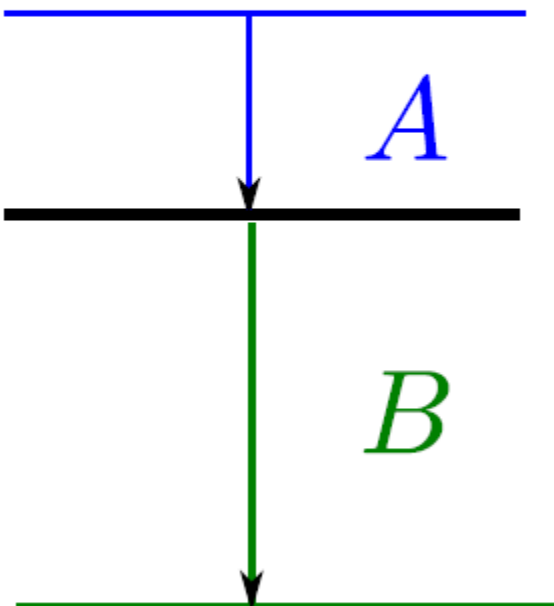
$$\dot{n}_i(t) = -\lambda_i n_i(t) + \sum_h \lambda_h b_{hi} n_h(t)$$

Solutions: Bateman equations. Or: Differential Decay Curve Method (DDCM)¹

$$\tau_i = \frac{1}{\lambda_i} = \frac{-n_i(t) + \sum_k b_{ki} n_k(t)}{\frac{d}{dt} n_i(t)}$$

¹ A. Dewald et al, Z. Phys. A AtomicN uclei 334, 163-175 (1989)

Differential Decay Curve Method - Coincidences



DDCM - coincidences

Direct Feeder:

$$\tau_i = \frac{I_{(u,s)}^{BA}(t)}{\frac{dI_{(s,s)}^{BA}(t)}{dt}} \quad (1)$$

$I_{(u/s,s)}^{BA}$: Coincidences of unshifted / shifted A + shifted B (=Flight of B).

- No sidefeeding
- No problem with unknown feeding
- Model independently (no assumptions)

Structure of neutron rich N=51 nuclei in the vicinity of ^{89}Ni

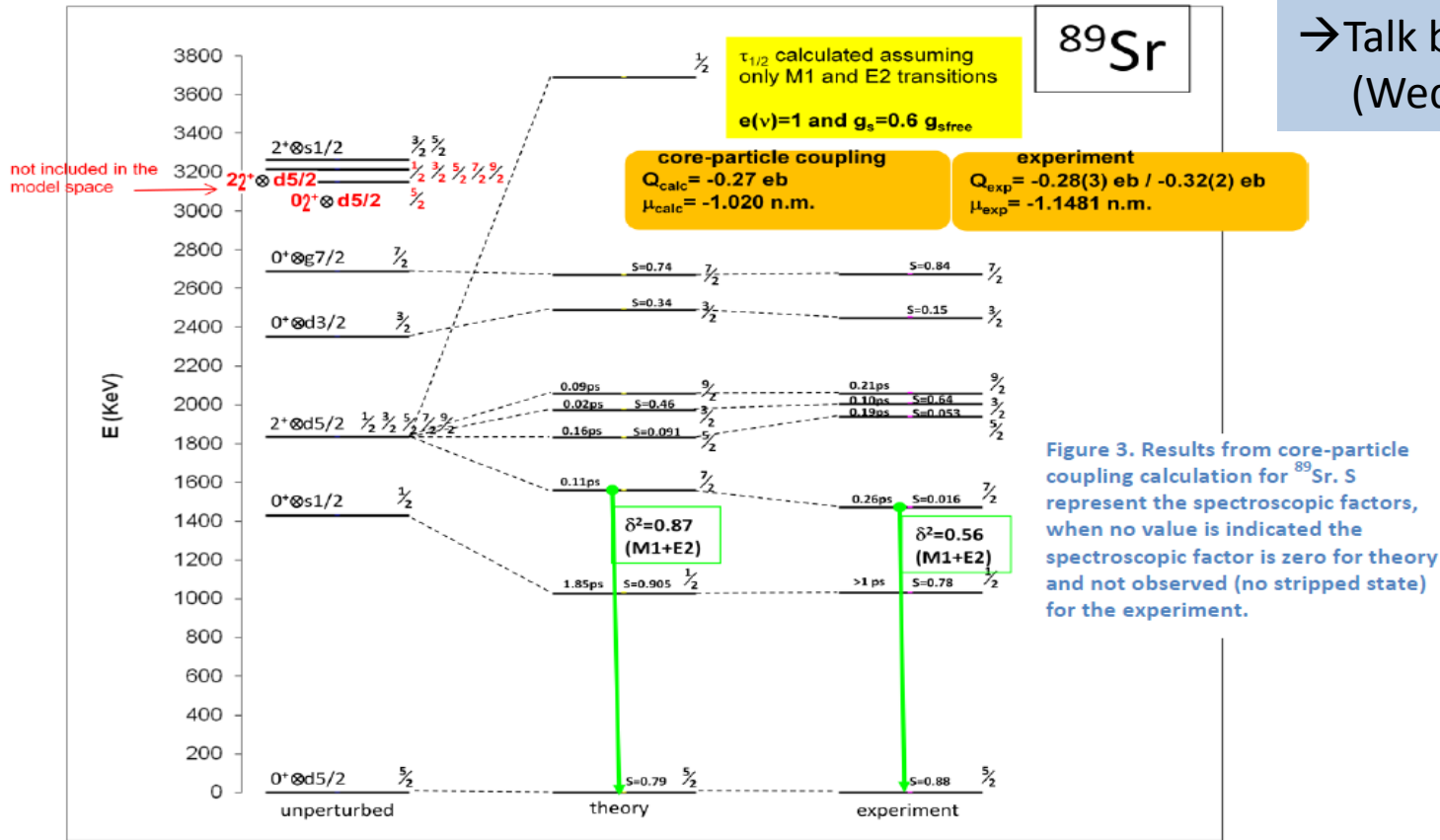


Table 1 Calculated $7/2^+_1$ half-lives using the core-particle coupling model. Column 5 contains the values obtained for a $7/2^+_1$ calculated as originating from $2^+d5/2$ and column 6 from $0^+g7/2$ ("forced" single-particle state situation).

Nucleus	Relative production rate	$E(7/2^+_1)$ Exp	$E(7/2^+_1)$ Th	$\tau_{1/2}(7/2^+_1)$ $2^+ \otimes v2d5/2$	$\tau_{1/2}(7/2^+_1)$ $0^+ \otimes v1g7/2$
^{89}Sr	4.5	1473 keV	1559 keV	0.11 ps	10.3 ps
^{87}Kr	27	1578 keV	1598 keV	0.13 ps	16.1 ps
^{85}Se	36	1115 keV	1226 keV	0.29 ps	55.1 ps
^{83}Ge	1	867 keV	1035 keV	0.70 ps	214 ps

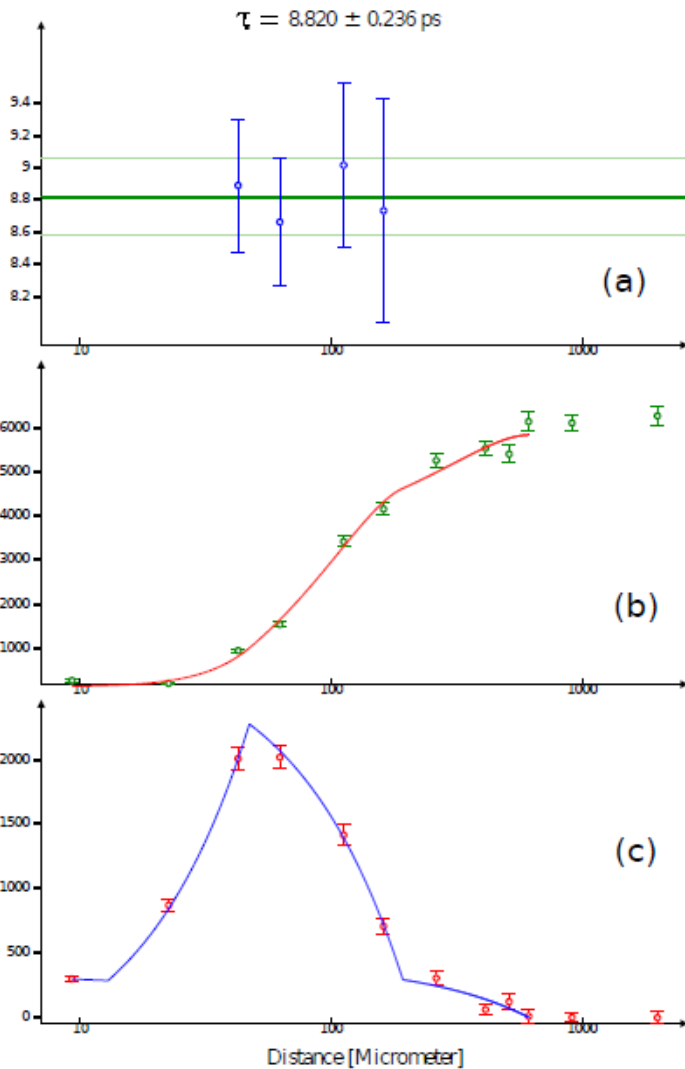
D. Verney,
 G. Duchene,
 G. de Angelis et al.

→ Talk by Gilbert Duchene
 (Wednesday, 3 30 pm)

Outline

1. Introduction: recent experiments with the plunger
2. Plunger technique: a short overview
3. Experiments with the compact plunger at Legnaro (AGATA, PRISMA) and at GANIL (EXOGAM, VAMOS)
4. Plunger device for medium energy radioactive beams: the Köln-NSCL plunger
5. A new plunger for relativistic radioactive beams: the GSI plunger for PRESPEC/HISPEC

The plunger technique



- Plot ratio $I_1/I_1 + I_2$ vs distance
- Every distance d_i gives $\tau_{d_i} = f_{d_i} \left(\frac{I_1}{I_1 + I_2} \right)$
- More reliable*:
Differential Decay Curve Method
- Differential:
$$\frac{d}{dt} = \frac{d}{dx} \frac{dx}{dt} = v \frac{d}{dx}$$

* Depending on statistics and distances measured.