

# Soft monopoles and bubble excitations in $^{34}\text{Si}$ , $^{36}\text{S}$ and $^{28}\text{Si}$

A bit of history

Soft breathing modes excitations

Bubble structure excitations

# From bubble structure to soft modes in $^{34}\text{Si}$ - a bit of history

Original goal :

Study the density dependence of the SO interaction

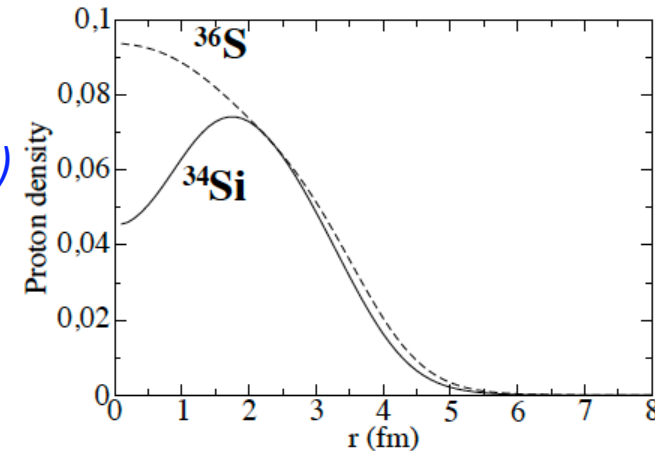
-> Find a nucleus with abnormal density ... most have a constant density with a decrease at the surface

->  $^{34}\text{Si}$  was ideal in 'classical shell model picture'

Central depletion of  $^{34}\text{Si}$  first predicted by [M. Grasso et al. PRC 79 \(2009\)](#)

-> comes from the **lack of proton in  $s_{1/2}$  orbital** (L=0)

E. Khan proposed the name of 'bubble' nucleus



This central density depletion induces a strong reduction of the SO splitting for L=1 orbitals probing the nuclear center [G. Burgunder et al. PRL 112 \(2014\)](#), [T. Duguet et al. PRC 95 \(2017\)](#)

The depletion of the  $s_{1/2}$  orbital  $^{34}\text{Si}$  has been inferred by comparing  $^{36}\text{S}(-1p)$  and  $^{34}\text{Si}(-1p)$  KO reactions cross sections for L=0 states [A. Mutschler et al. Nature Phys. 13 \(2017\)](#)

I was expecting that  $^{34}\text{Si}$  could be more 'easily' be compressed and would have soft a breathing mode.

-> Calculations indeed find soft modes, but their nature is not based on proton excitations!

[D. Gambacurta, M. Grasso, O. Sorlin PRC 100 \(2019\)](#)

The next chapters of this history will hopefully bring other interesting discoveries ...

# Soft monopoles and bubble excitations

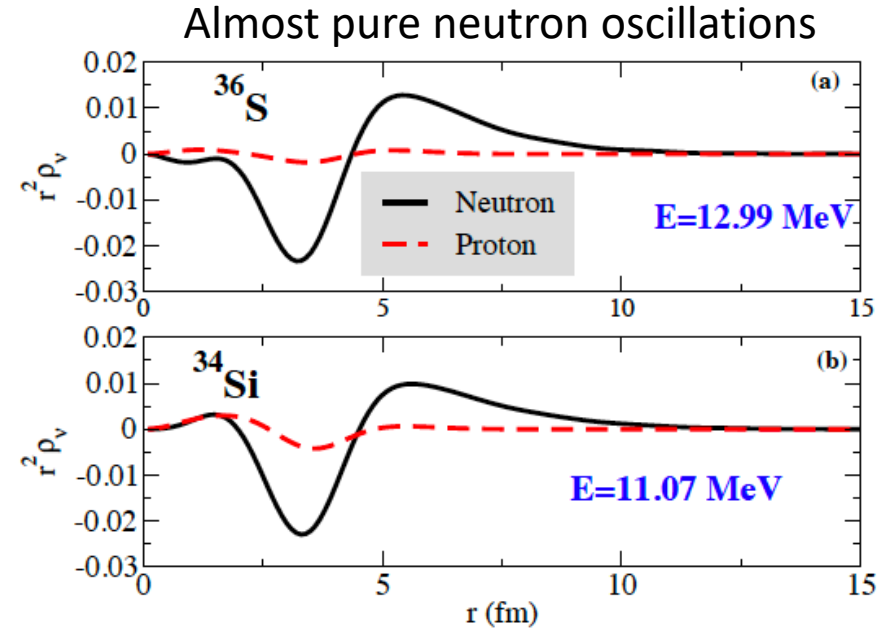
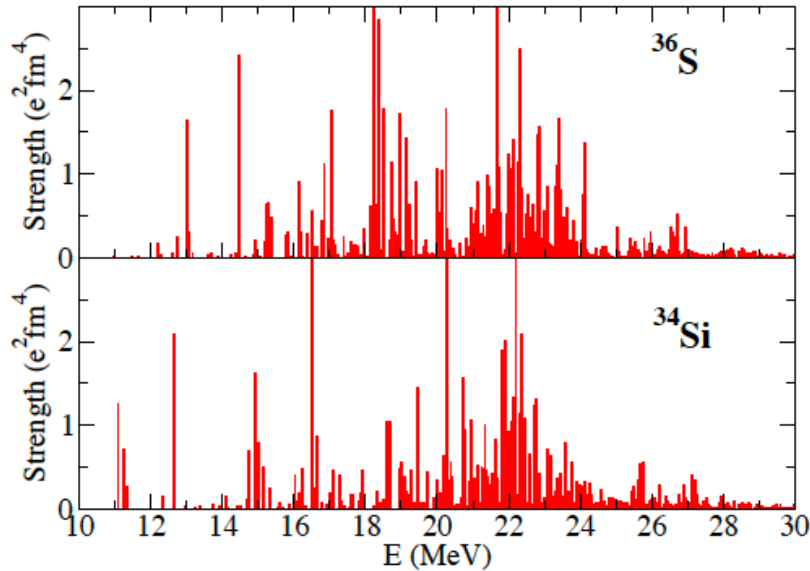
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Soft breathing modes excitations

Bubble structure excitations

# Soft modes in the N=20 nuclei $^{34}\text{Si}$ and $^{36}\text{S}$



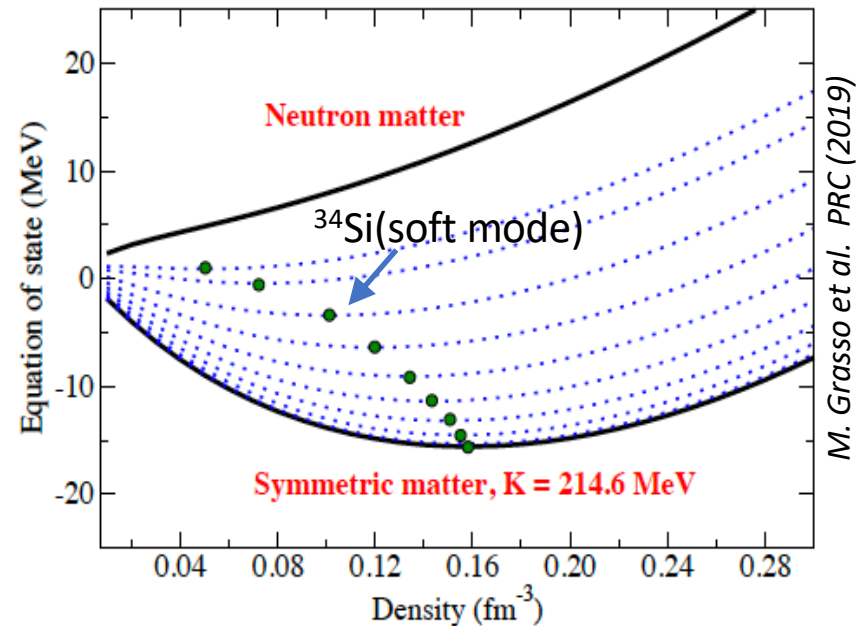
$$X = \frac{X_N - X_P}{X_N + X_P}$$

$$E(X) \sim 5.22A^{-1/3} \sqrt{K_X}$$

$^{34}\text{Si}$ :  $K_X = 45.5$  MeV,  $E(X) = 11$  MeV,  $X=0.73$

$^{36}\text{S}$ :  $K_X = 68$  MeV,  $E(X) = 13$  MeV

-> Such low-energy modes might have some connection with pure neutron matter oscillations



# Experimental /theoretical procedure

## EXPERIMENTAL STRATEGY:

1- **Search if soft E0 modes exist** in the 11-13 MeV region using suitable reaction(s) to produce them

As they are predicted to represent a 4-5 % of the GMR sum rule -> high-intensity /efficiency needed

-> Inverse kinematics ( $^{34}\text{Si}$ ) in an active target (see talk Marine with  $^{68}\text{Ni}$ )

-> or **Direct kinematics ( $^{36}\text{S}$ ) in zero degree spectrometer**

(2- Measure the full E0 strength in  $^{36}\text{S}$ . – can be compared to that of  $^{32}\text{S}$  -> dependence of K with A/Z)

3- Estimate the **fraction of the sum rule** of these low-energy modes.

4- **Quantify their neutron component**

-> Use the comparison between their (p,p') and ( $\alpha,\alpha'$ ) cross sections

Hyp: (p,p') reaction more sensitive to neutron excitations while ( $\alpha,\alpha'$ ) is sensitive to both (IS modes).

## NEEDS FROM THEORY :

-> (p,p') and ( $\alpha,\alpha'$ ) inelastic scattering calculations and angular distributions using the calculated w.f. of the soft breathing modes

-> Determine the sensitivity of the different probes, from their relative cross sections

-> What is the best suited beam energy ?

-> Is there any information to extract from the pattern of their angular distribution ?

# Study of monopole excitation in direct kinematics @ Ithemba-Labs

A 99.6% pure  $^{36}\text{S}$  has been produced and already used during a week



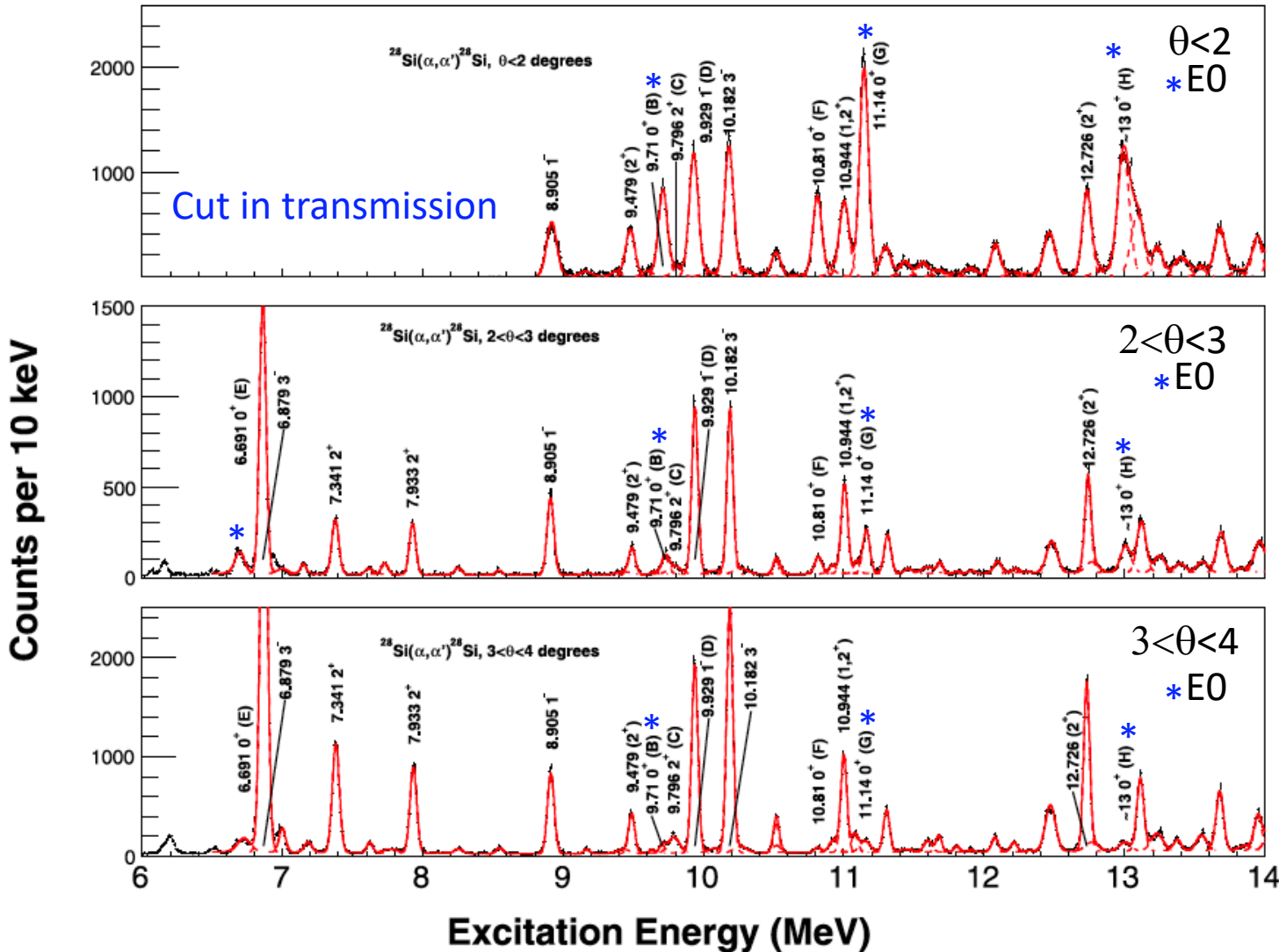
beam →

K600 @ Ithemba-Labs

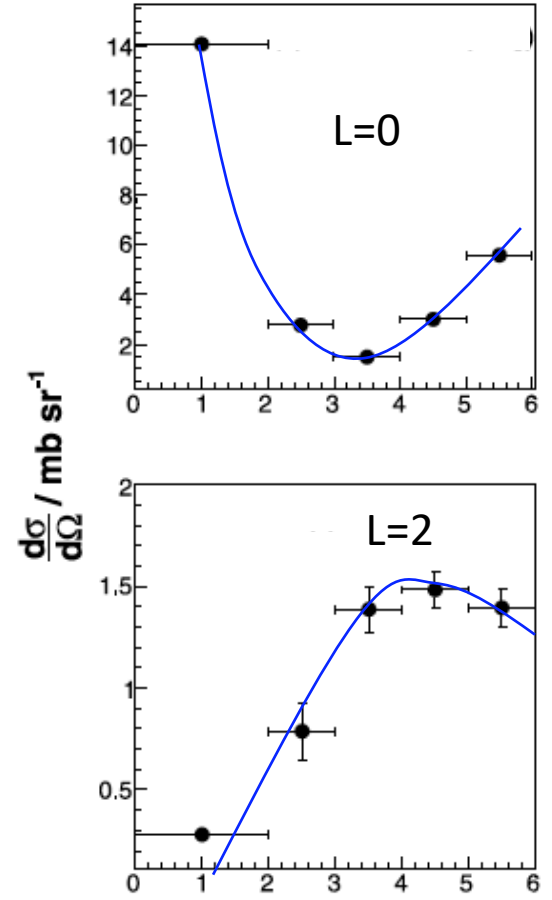
≈ 30 keV resolution for 200 MeV (p,p') reaction, angular resolution about 0.4 degrees

# Typical results $^{28}\text{Si}(\alpha,\alpha')^{28}\text{Si}$ @ 200 MeV (Ithemba-Labs)

Two  $0^+$  states identified in the 11 – 14 MeV region, N=Z nucleus



Typical distributions



In general no need to make detailed Multiple Decomposition Analysis in this energy range

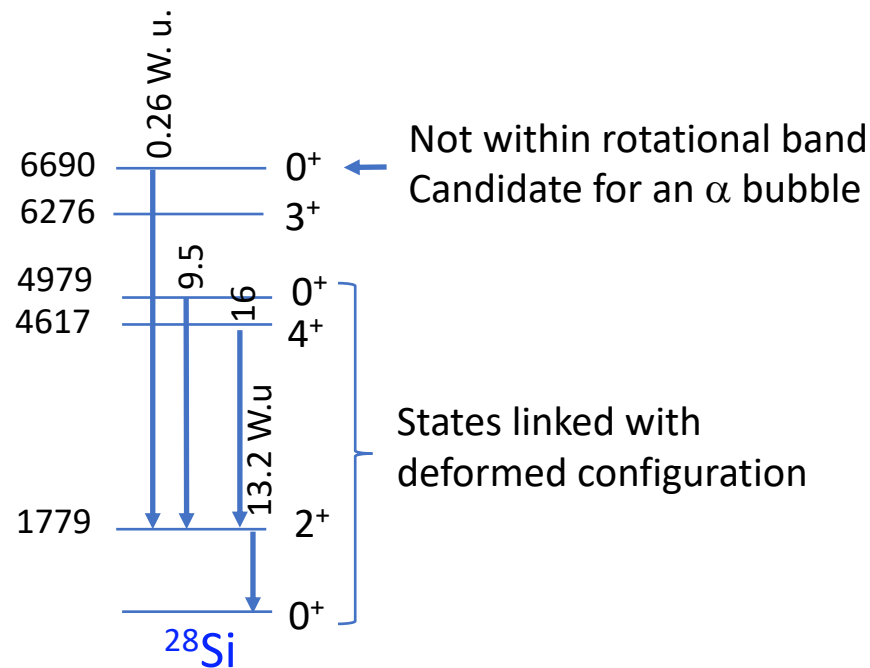
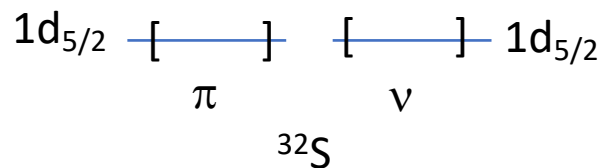
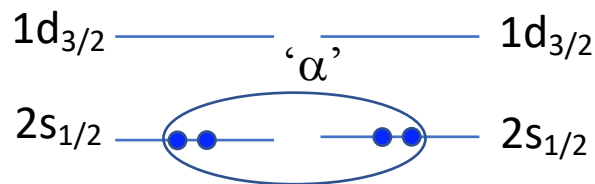
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**Bubble structure excitations**



# Search of an 'α'-bubble in $^{28}\text{Si}$ (relative to $^{32}\text{S}$ )



Why is the oblate shape energetically preferred to a spherical 'α' bubble structure in  $^{28}\text{Si}$  ?

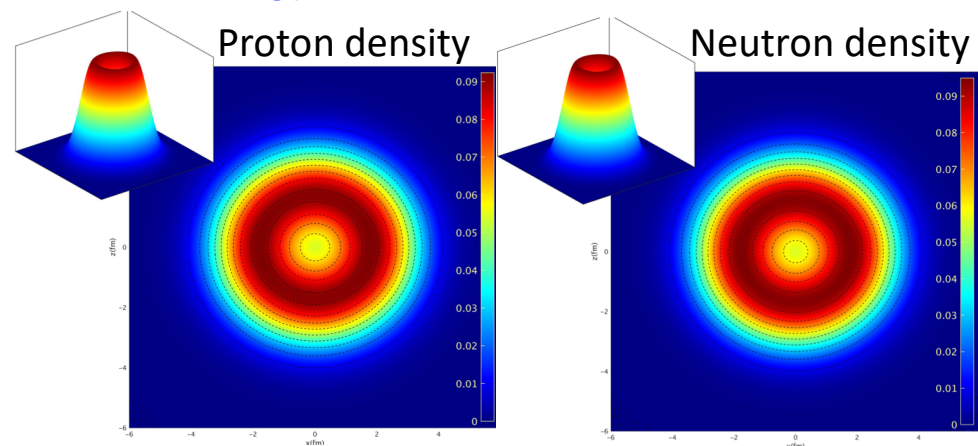
Does it exist or is it mixed with other  $0^+$  states ?  
If yes, at which energy ?

Predictions J.P Ebran

$0^+_1$ ,  $E = 0$ ,  $\beta_2 = -0.14$  oblate

$0^+_2$ ,  $E = 4.11$  MeV,  $\beta_2 = +0.22$  (prolate)

$0^+_3$ ,  $E = 5.05$  MeV,  $\beta_2 = 0.036$  (-> spherical)

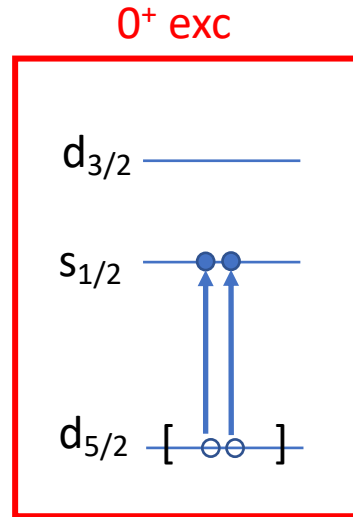
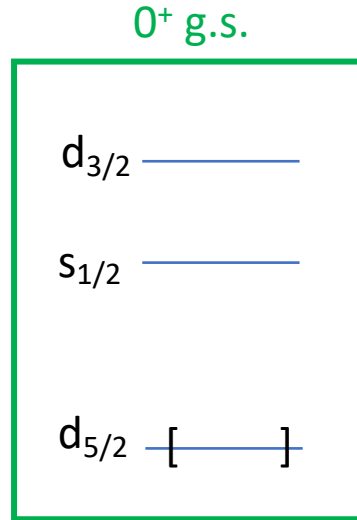
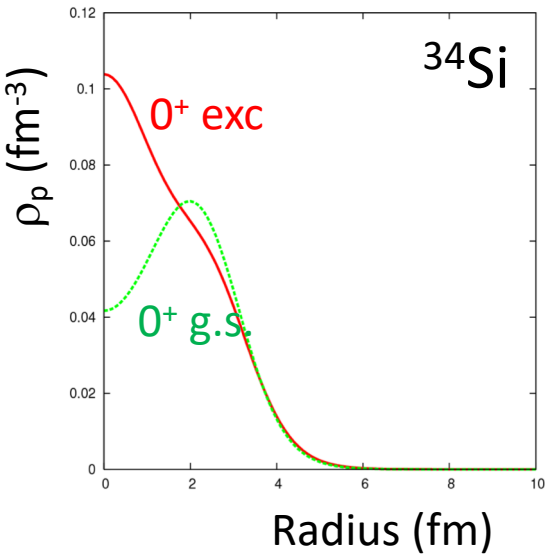


## Strategies to reveal an ' $\alpha$ ' bubble state in $^{28}\text{Si}$ with hadronic probes

Are inelastic scattering studies sensitive enough to prove the existence of such an ' $\alpha$ ' bubble structure ?

Does the  $^{32}\text{S}(d, ^6\text{Li})^{28}\text{Si}$  reaction favors the  $0^+_3$  feeding as compared to other  $0^+$  states ?

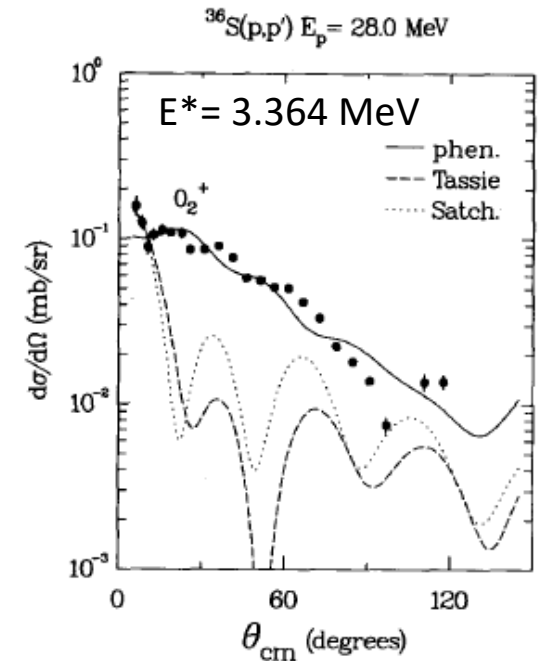
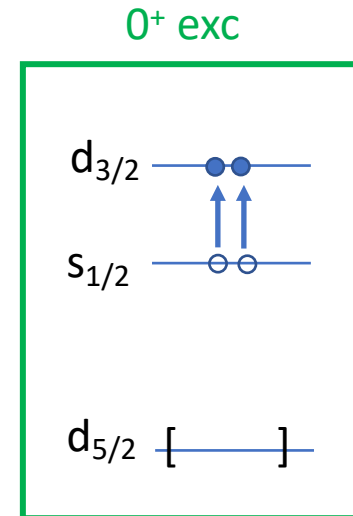
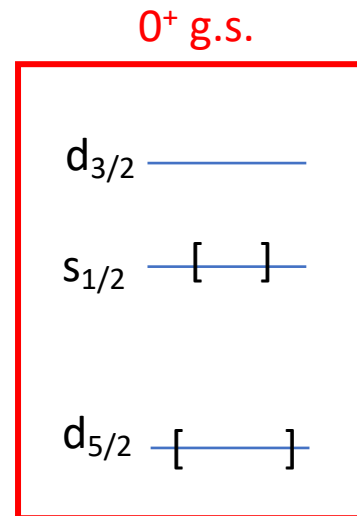
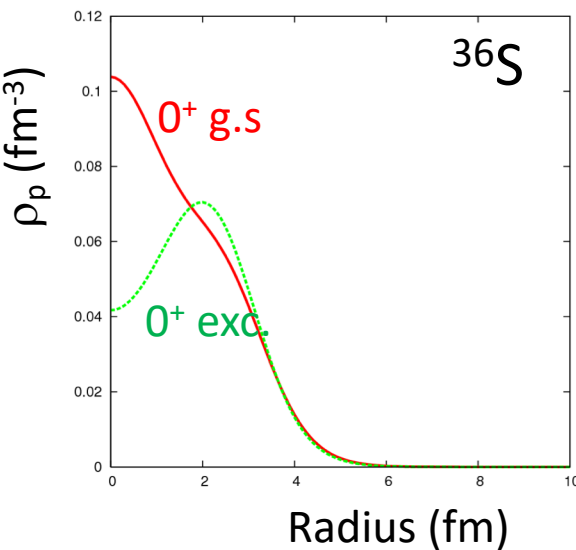
# Study of 'bubble' structure through inelastic scattering (hadronic probe)?



What would be the best probe/energy to identify a change from bubble structure to normal density?

Does the transition density look like that of a breathing mode?

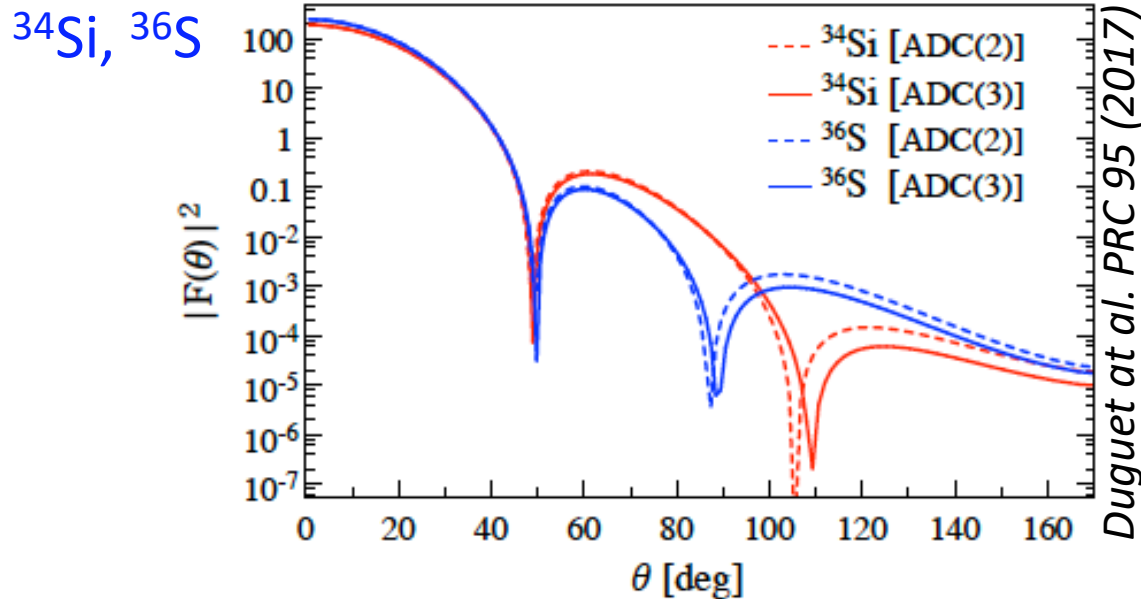
How collective is it?



# Bubble structure studies with electrons

Future experimental projects using electron beam colliders  
Electrons can better probe the interior of a nucleus

Elastic form factor



A high luminosity is needed to observe the second minimum....

$^{28}\text{Si}$

What is the inelastic charge form factor to the 'α' bubble state in  $^{28}\text{Si}$  ?  
Is its shape of the inelastic form factor reflecting its specific structure ?

Thank you

Anyone is welcome to discuss / help / participate in one of these projects