



ISOL-France Workshop V

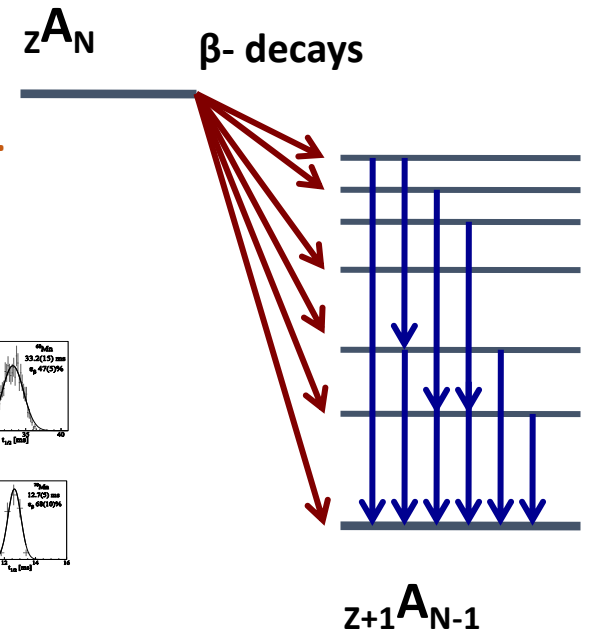
Mar 20 – 22, 2023
ISM

Review talk on β decay

G.Benzoni

INFN, sez. Milano (Italy)

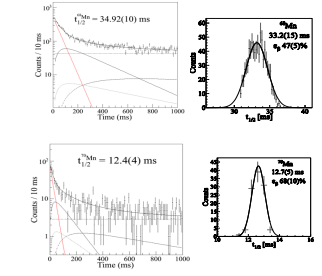
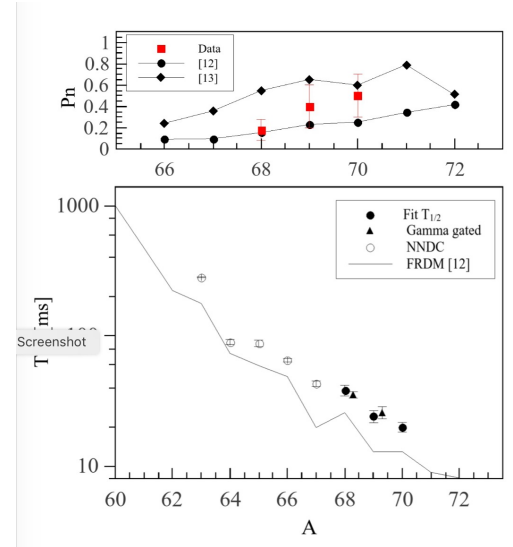
$T_{1/2}$
 $P_{n/p}$
 $\% \beta, \% \alpha \dots$



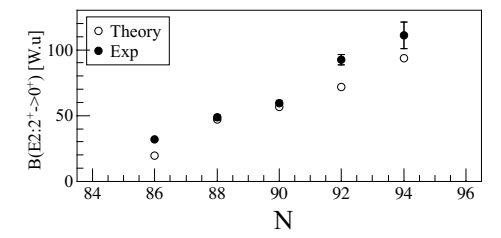
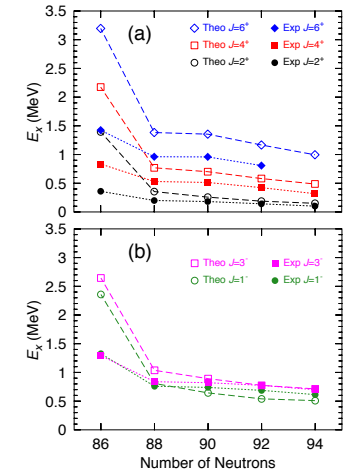
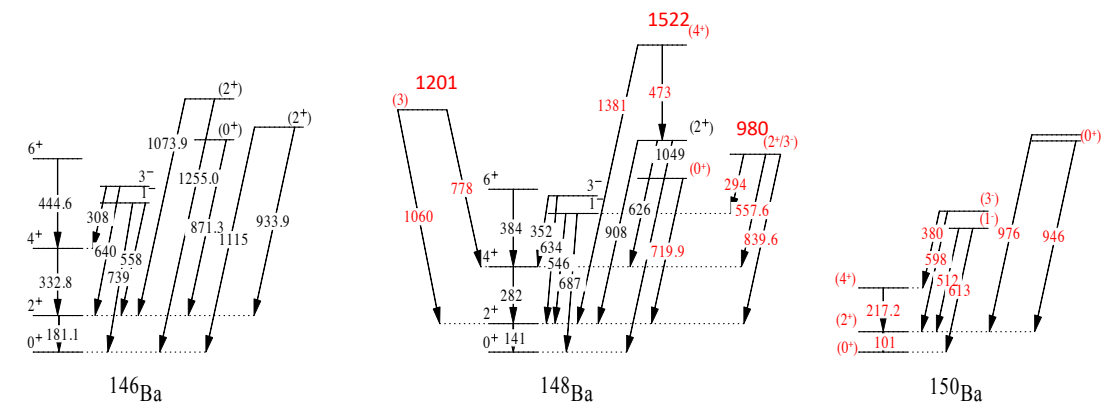
γ transitions

Possible existence of many decaying states

γ - γ coincidences \rightarrow level schemes
 Relative intensities I_β logft

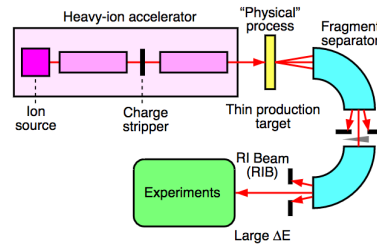


Selection rules allow to suggest/define J^π in both mother and daughter



Producing radioactive beams i.e. exotic nuclei

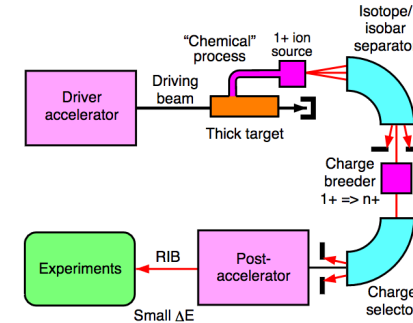
IN-FLIGHT



relativistic fragmentation/fission of heavy nuclei on thin targets

- $> 50 \text{ MeV/u}$ \rightarrow production of cocktail beams of many nuclei
- Use of spectrometers to transport/separate nuclei of interest \rightarrow Relatively long decay paths $\Delta t > 150\text{-}300 \text{ ns}$
- Nuclei are brought to rest in final focal plane and let decay
 - + cocktail beam: many nuclei at once
 - + both short and long-living species
 - + get information already with few ions
 - Low cross sections
 - Limitation on rate to distinguish contribution from each species

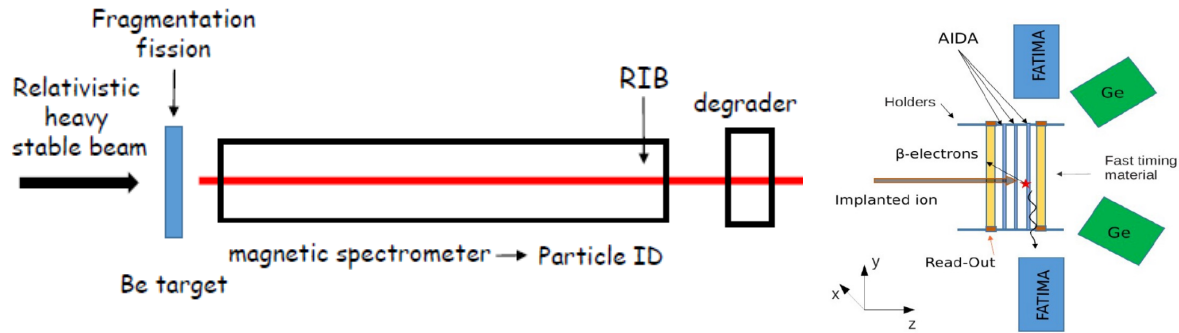
ISOL method



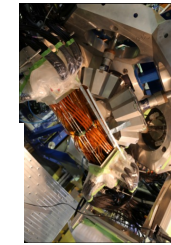
spallation/fission/fragmentation on thick targets, followed by chemical/physical processes to extract desired nuclei

- beams produced at very low energies ($\sim 60 \text{ keV}$)
- Mono-isotopic beams sometimes achieved. Impurities due to few contaminant species \rightarrow usually long-living though
 - + high cross section
 - + no need to re-accelerate beams
 - + high rates accepted
 - short-living species might not be accessed easily
 - Refractory elements
 - Presence of long-living impurities (isobaric contamination)

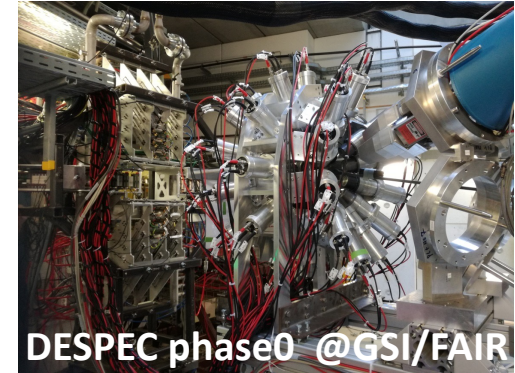
Measuring β decay



IN-Flight facility

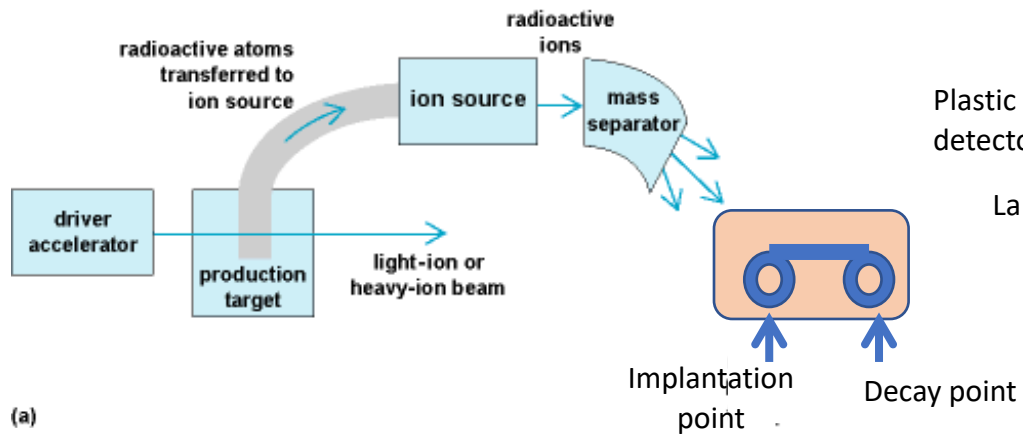


Eurica@RIKEN



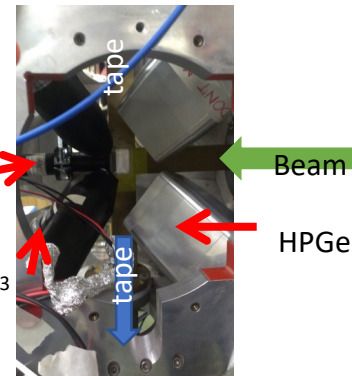
DESPEC phase0 @GSI/FAIR

IDS @ CERN

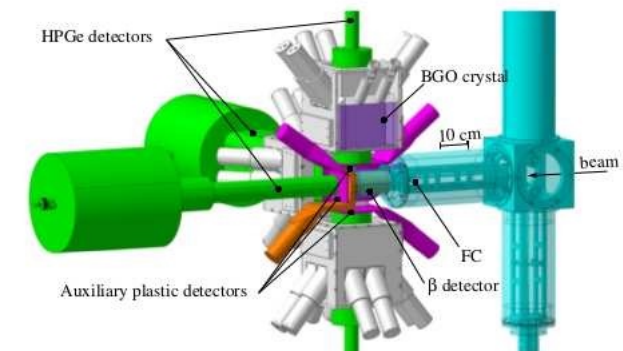


ISOL facility

Tape decay stations



BEDO @ ALTO

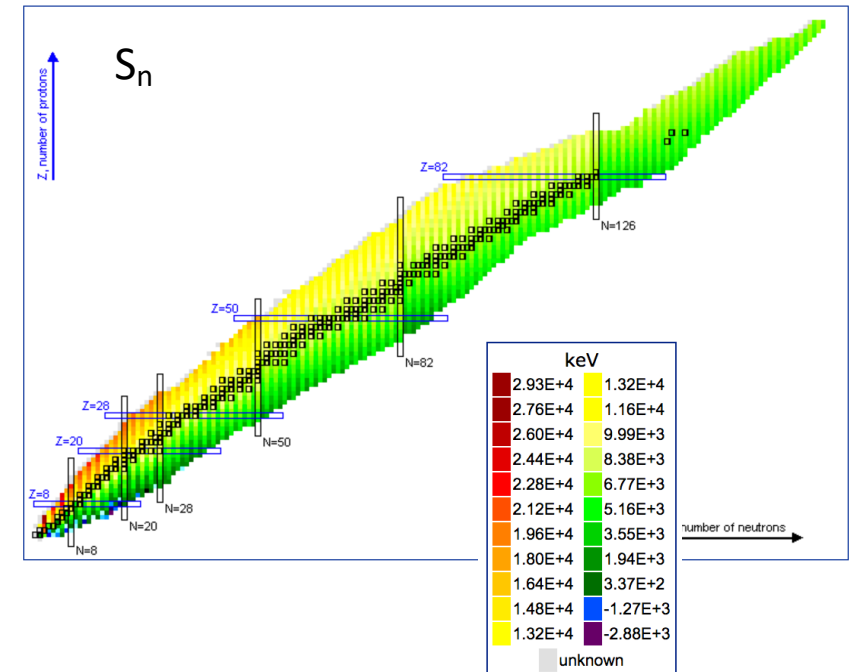
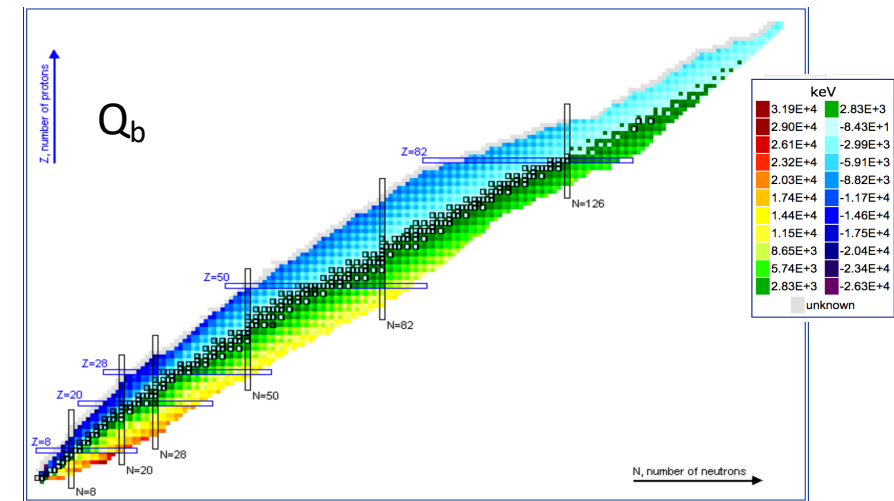


Exotic nuclei: β -decay key features

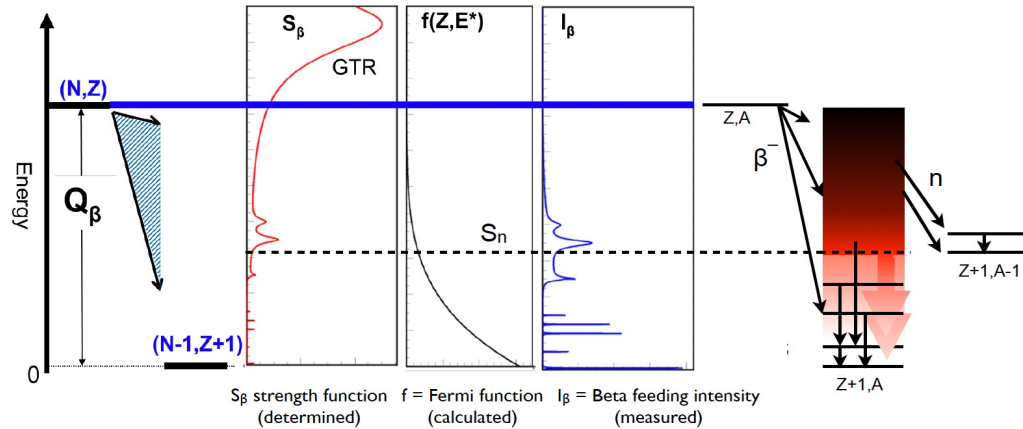
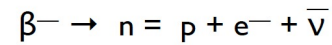
- Region in chart of nuclides difficult to access
- Increasing Q_β values (up to 15 MeV)
- Lowering of S_n
- Large range of half-lives $\sim 10\text{ms} - 100\text{ s}$
- Possible competing modes (α decay, cluster decay, delayed fission)

- New orbitals being occupied
- Occurrence of intruder states
- Highlighting the contribution from high-lying states and regions of increased level density

- ➔ Opening of competing channels
- ➔ Increased competition with forbidden transitions
- ➔ Access to large portion of GT strength



$$\frac{1}{T_{1/2}} = \sum_{E_i \geq 0}^{E_i \leq Q_\beta} S_\beta(E_i) \times f(Z, Q_\beta - E_i)$$



a complete picture of the β -decay process requires **high-resolution, high-efficiency studies** and **exclusive measurements**

- **high-resolution:** aiming at a detailed reconstruction of decay scheme. Exploits combination of HPGe detectors, coupled to ancillaries such as LaBr3(Ce) to enhance the sensitivity to specific observables (levels)
- **high-efficiency:** Total Absorption Spectrometry technique, requires instead the use of highly efficient scintillator detectors aiming at measuring the full decay strength
- **exclusive measurements:** aiming at studying specific quantities, such as delayed neutron emission probability and spectroscopy

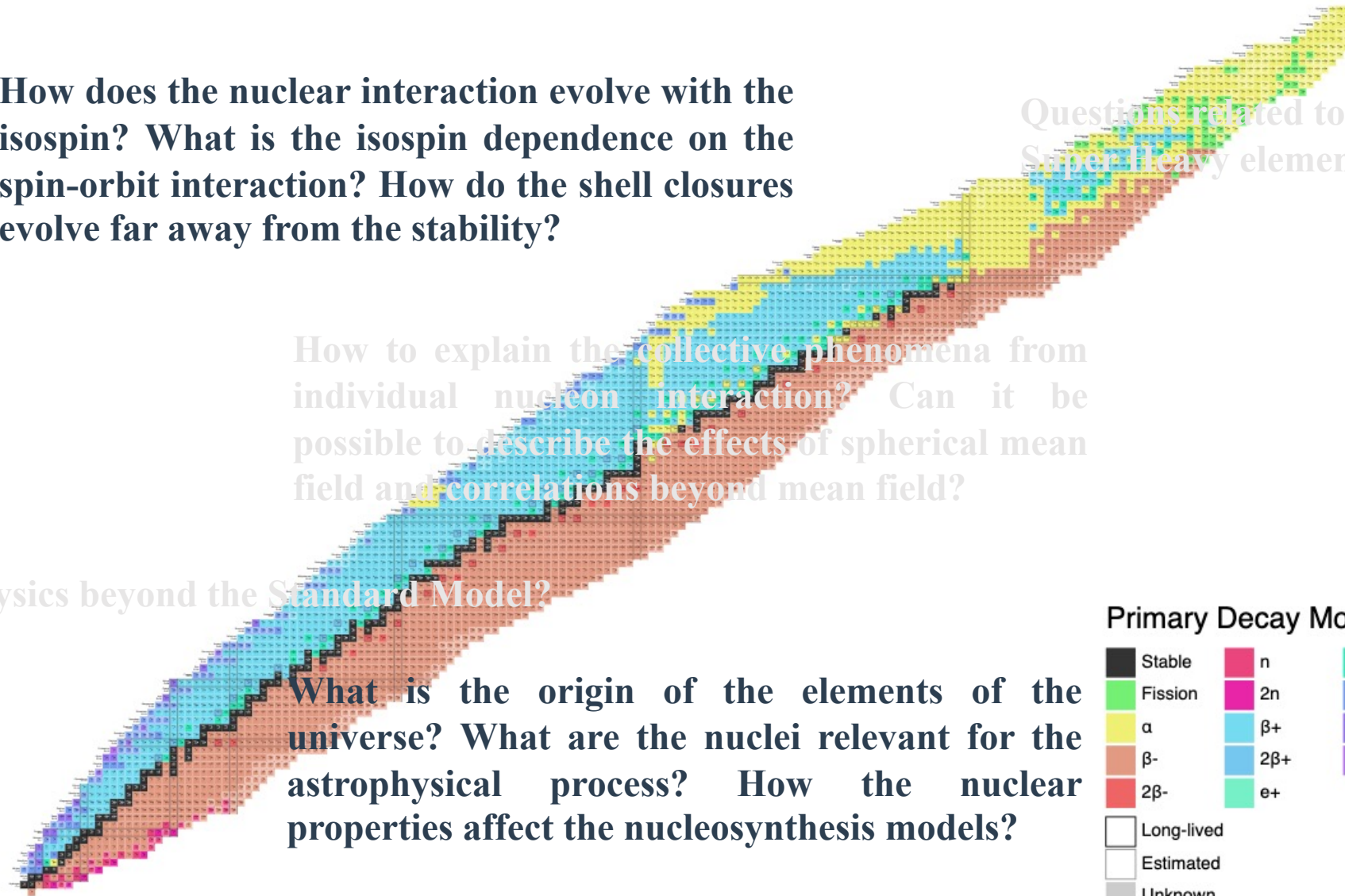
How does the nuclear interaction evolve with the isospin? What is the isospin dependence on the spin-orbit interaction? How do the shell closures evolve far away from the stability?

Questions related to Heavy and Super-heavy elements

How to explain the collective phenomena from individual nucleon interaction? Can it be possible to describe the effects of spherical mean field and correlations beyond mean field?

Is there physics beyond the Standard Model?

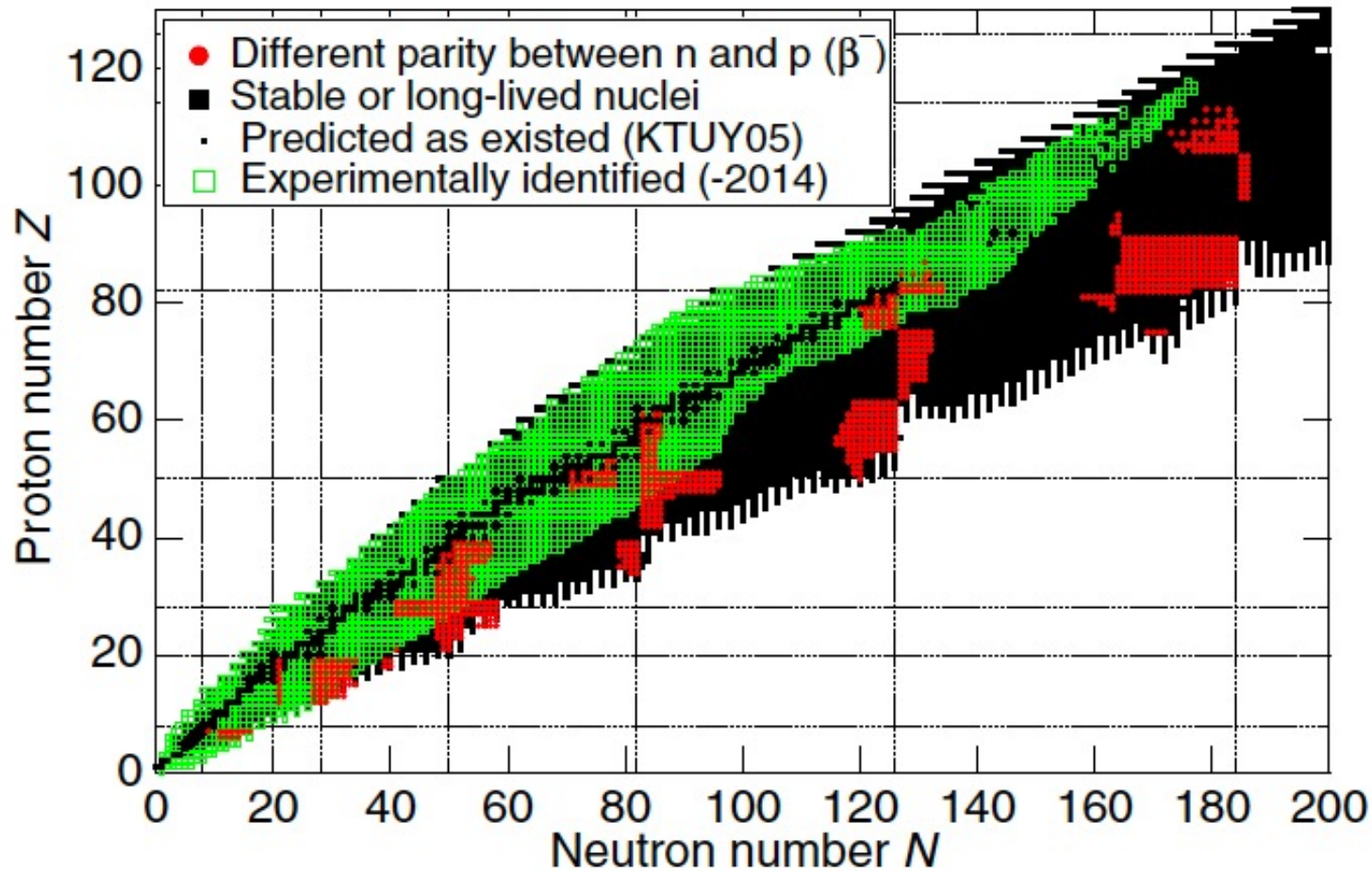
What is the origin of the elements of the universe? What are the nuclei relevant for the astrophysical process? How the nuclear properties affect the nucleosynthesis models?



Primary Decay Mode

Stable	n	e- capture
Fission	2n	p
α	β^+	2p
β^-	$2\beta^+$	3p
$2\beta^-$	e+	
Long-lived		
Estimated		
Unknown		

Mismatching of parity btw ground-state neutron and proton levels



The total β -decay rate can be expressed as

$$\lambda_{\beta} = \lambda_{\text{allowed}} + \lambda_{\text{first-forbidden}}$$

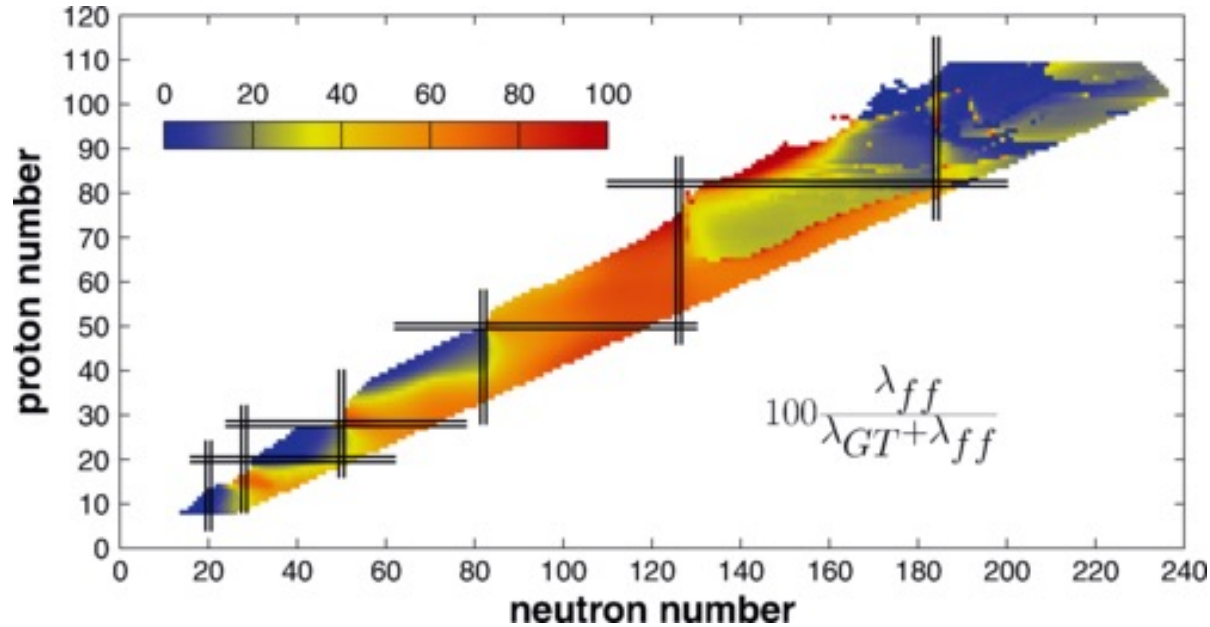
$$= \lambda_{\text{F}} + \lambda_{\text{GT}} + \lambda^{(0)}_1 + \lambda^{(1)}_1 + \lambda^{(2)}_1$$

the Fermi transition

Gamow-Teller transition

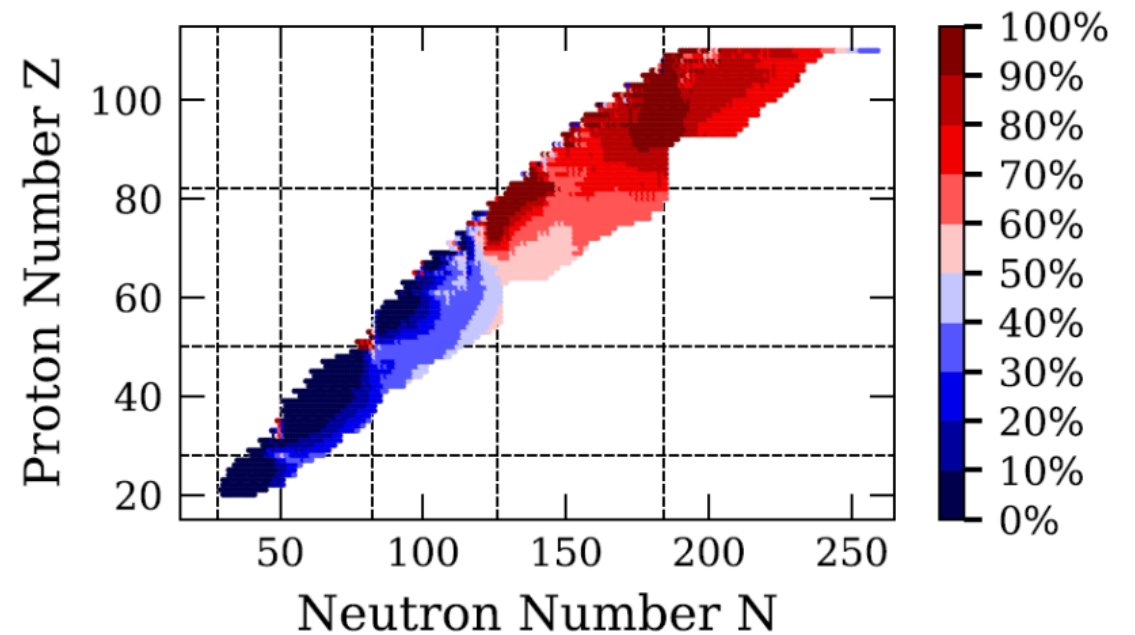
first forbidden transitions $L = 0, 1, \text{ and } 2$

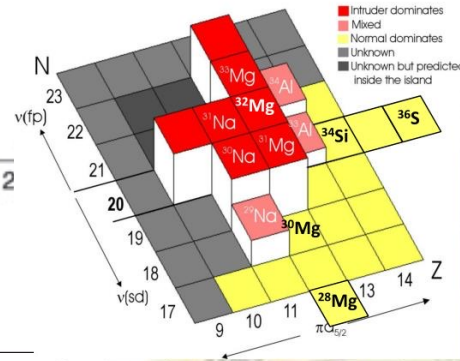
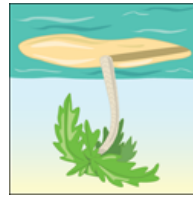
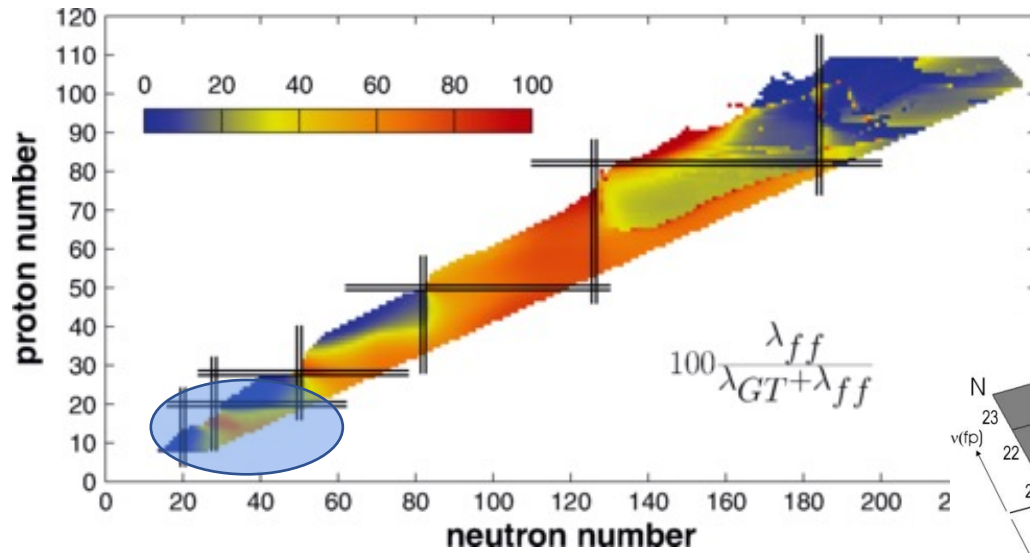
First-forbidden beta decay



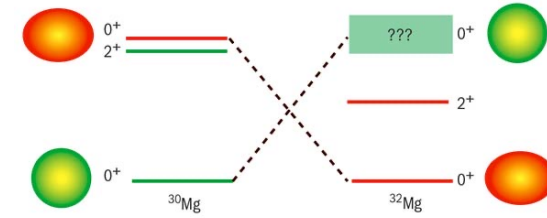
microscopic description based on Skyrme density functional, EFA applied to describe odd-A and odd-odd nuclei

self-consistent microscopic description based on the Relativistic Hartree-Bogoliubov (RHB) model for ground state of open- and closed-shell nuclei with the proton-neutron relativistic quasiparticle random phase approximation (pn-RQRPA)





First-forbidden beta decay



PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS **129**, 212501 (2022)

Editors' Suggestion Featured in Physics

Crossing $N = 28$ Toward the Neutron Drip Line: First Measurement of Half-Lives at FRIB

H. L. Crawford,^{1,*} V. Tripathi,² J. M. Allmond,³ B. P. Crider,⁴ R. Grzywacz,⁵ S. N. Liddick,^{6,7} A. Andalib,^{6,8} E. Argo,^{6,8} C. Benetti,² S. Bhattacharya,² C. M. Campbell,¹ M. P. Carpenter,⁹ J. Chan,⁵ A. Chester,⁶ J. Christie,⁵ B. R. Clark,⁴ I. Cox,⁵ A. A. Doetsch,^{6,8} J. Dopfer,^{6,8} J. G. Duarte,¹⁰ P. Fallon,¹ A. Frotscher,¹ T. Gaballah,⁴ T. J. Gray,³ J. T. Harke,¹⁰ J. Heideman,⁵ H. Heugen,⁵ R. Jain,^{6,8} T. T. King,³ N. Kitamura,⁵ K. Kolos,¹⁰ F. G. Kondev,⁹ A. Laminack,³ B. Longfellow,¹⁰ R. S. Lubna,⁶ S. Luitel,⁴ M. Madurga,⁵ R. Mahajan,⁶ M. J. Mogannam,^{6,7} C. Morse,¹¹ S. Neupane,⁵ A. Nowicki,⁵ T. H. Ogunbeku,^{4,6} W.-J. Ong,¹⁰ C. Porzio,¹ C. J. Prokop,¹² B. C. Rasco,³ E. K. Ronning,^{6,7} E. Rubino,⁶ T. J. Ruland,¹³ K. P. Rykaczewski,³ L. Schaedig,^{6,8} D. Seweryniak,⁹ K. Siegl,⁵ M. Singh,⁵ S. L. Tabor,² T. L. Tang,² T. Wheeler,^{6,8} J. A. Winger,⁴ and Z. Xu⁵

PHYSICAL REVIEW C **106**, 064314 (2022)

β^- decay of exotic P and S isotopes with neutron number near 28

Vandana Tripathi,^{1,*} Soumik Bhattacharya,¹ E. Rubino,¹ C. Benetti,¹ J. F. Perello,¹ S. L. Tabor,¹ S. N. Liddick,^{2,3,4} P. C. Bender,⁵ M. P. Carpenter,⁶ J. J. Carroll,⁷ A. Chester,^{2,3} C. J. Chiara,⁷ K. Childers,^{2,4} B. R. Clark,⁸ B. P. Crider,⁸ J. T. Harke,⁹ B. Longfellow,^{2,10} R. S. Lubna,³ S. Luitel,⁸ T. H. Ogunbeku,⁸ A. L. Richard,^{2,9} S. Saha,⁵ N. Shimizu,¹¹ O. A. Shehu,⁸ Y. Utsuno,^{12,13} R. Unz,⁸ Y. Xiao,⁸ S. Yoshida,¹⁴ and Yiyi Zhu⁵

First-forbidden beta decay

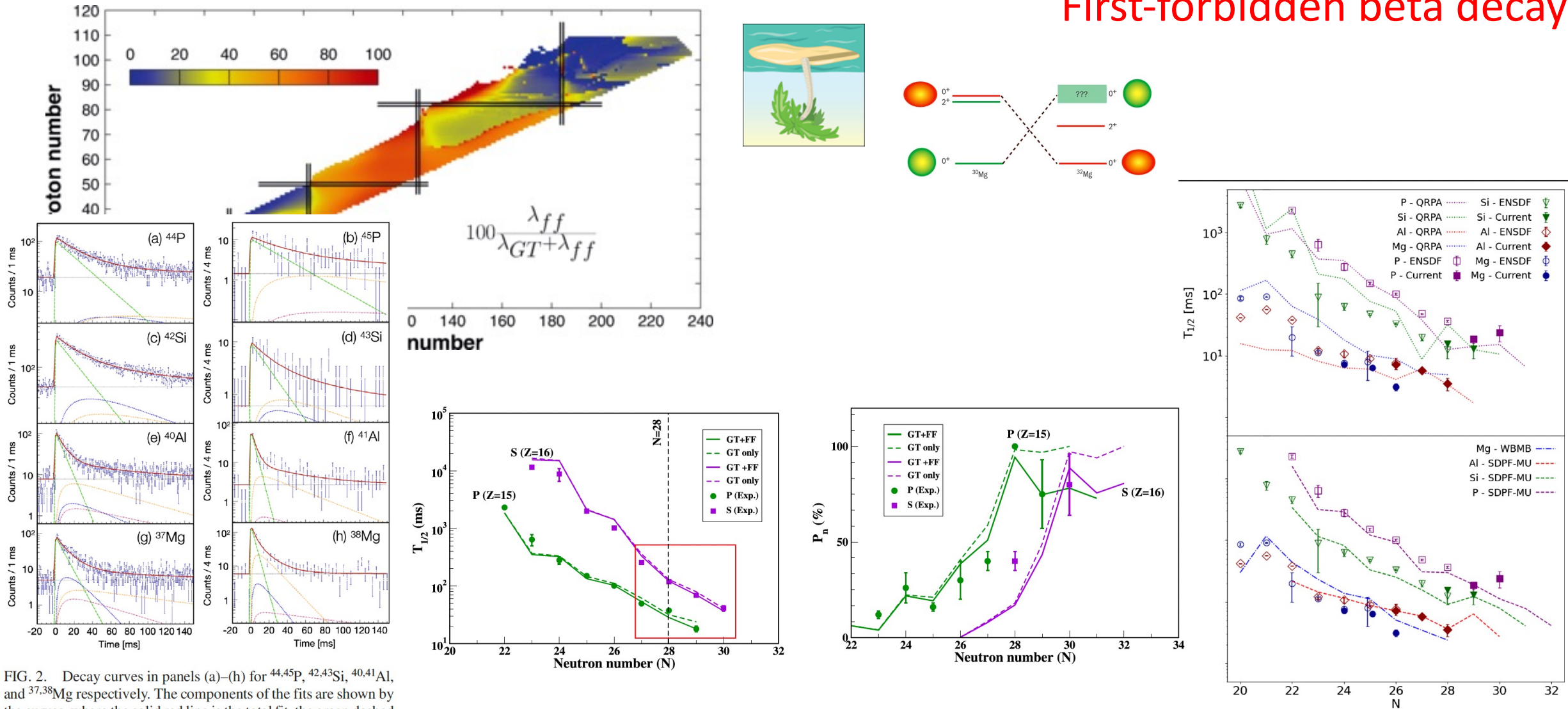
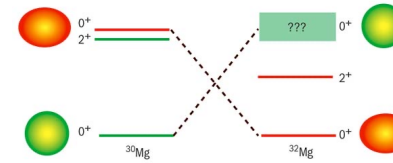


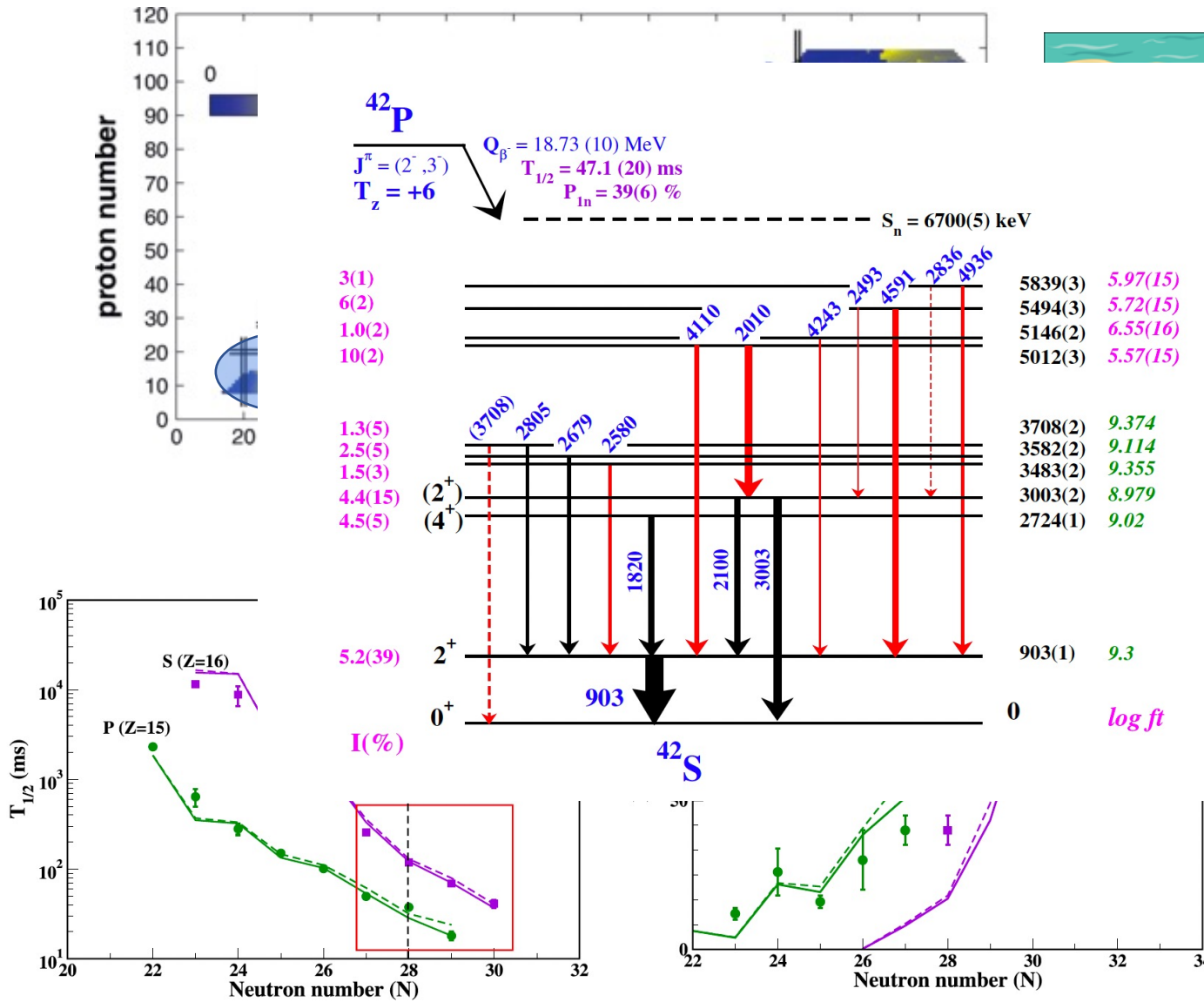
FIG. 2. Decay curves in panels (a)–(h) for $^{44,45}\text{P}$, $^{42,43}\text{Si}$, $^{40,41}\text{Al}$, and $^{37,38}\text{Mg}$ respectively. The components of the fits are shown by the curves, where the solid red line is the total fit, the green dashed curve is the parent decay, the dot-dash blue line is the $\beta 0n$ daughter contribution, the dot-dot-dash orange line is the $\beta 1n$ contribution, the dot-dot-dot-dash magenta line is the $\beta 2n$ contribution, and the dotted gray line is the constant background. The derived half-lives are included in Table I.

First-forbidden beta decay

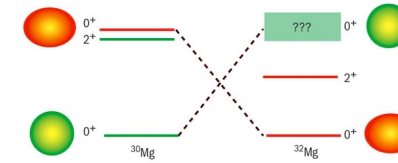
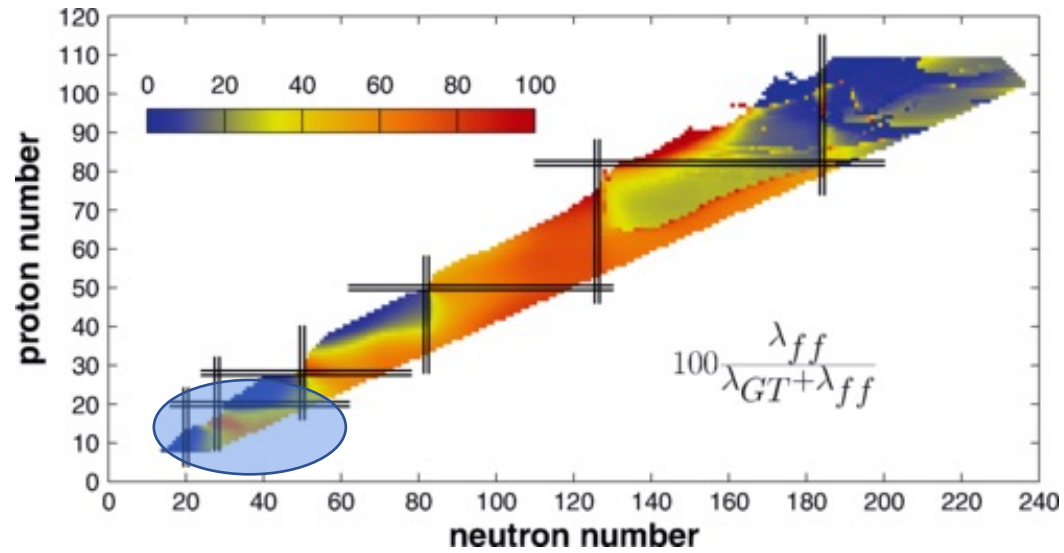


The impact of FF transitions which can be important for neutron-rich nuclei in this region with neutrons filling the 1p3/2 orbital by comparing the measured T1/2 and Pn values with SM calculations with and without FF transitions included.

- P isotopes with N = 27, 28, 29 displayed a larger contribution from FF transitions in their β decay. For the case of ^{42}P decay there are clear indicators of states which could be populated in FF decay with $\log ft$ values consistent with the predictions of the SM calculations.
- Both the half-life and Pn value of ^{44}P also indicate influence of FF transitions. Comparison with SM calculations of states populated in ^{42}S in the decay of ^{42}P both via allowed GT and FF decays suggests a J^π of 2- or 3- for the ground state of ^{42}P contrary to earlier suggestion of 0-.
- The Gamow-Teller (GT) strength distribution depends on the deformation and affects the half-life (T1/2) and β -delayed neutron emission probability (Pn).

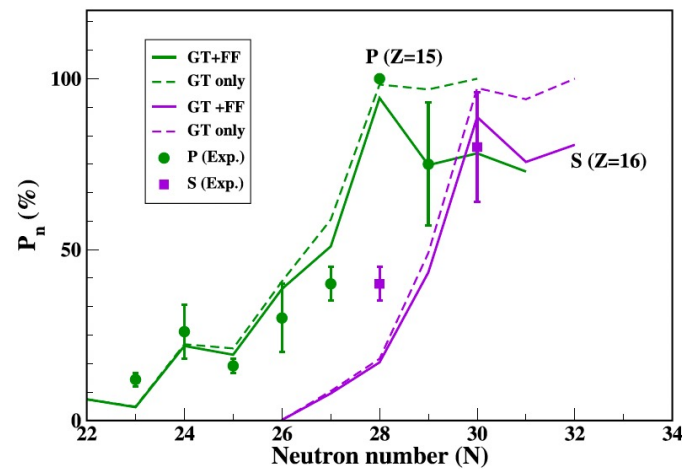
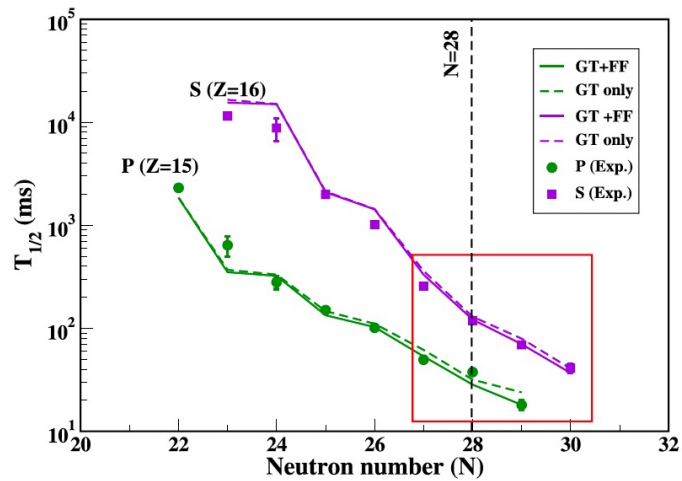


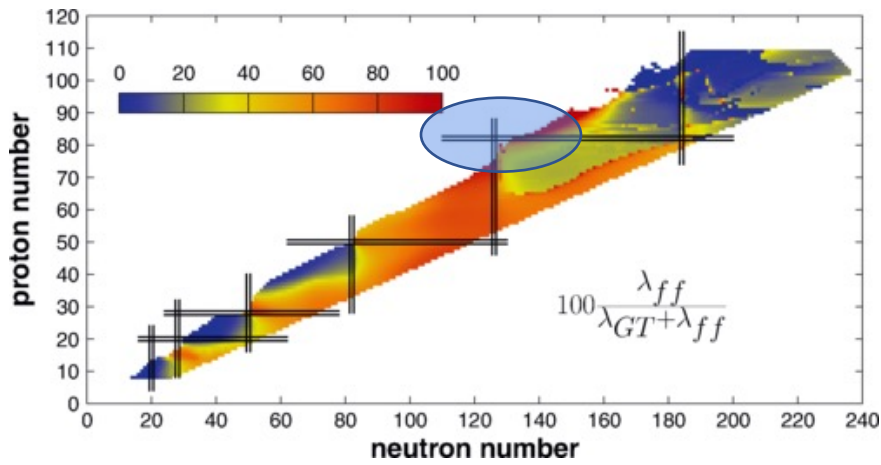
First-forbidden beta decay



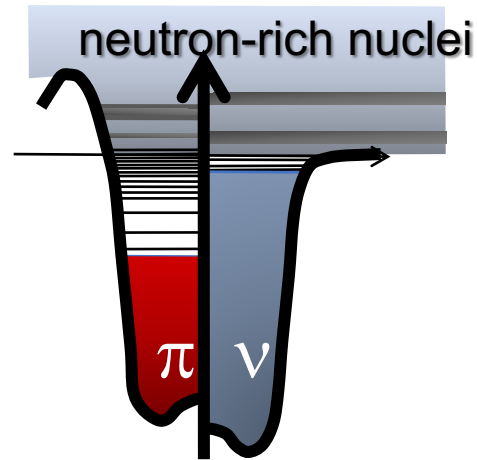
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Exotic nuclei with excess of neutrons have different Fermi energies for n and p
 Allowed decays might not be possible owing to large mismatch in wave functions



First-forbidden beta decay

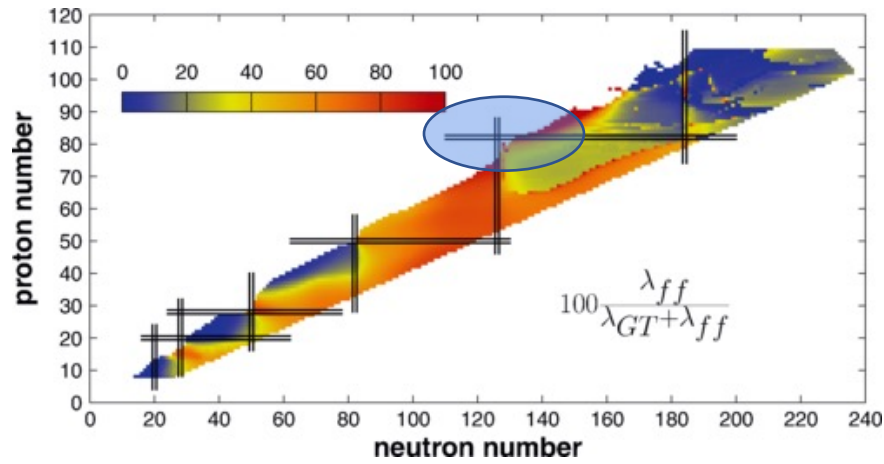
^{208}Pb

- | | | | |
|---------|--------|--|----------------|
| $\pi=-$ | 3p1/2 | | 3d3/2 |
| $\pi=-$ | 3p3/2 | | 2g7/2 $\pi=+$ |
| $\pi=-$ | 2f5/2 | | 4s1/2 $\pi=+$ |
| $\pi=+$ | 1i13/2 | | 3d5/2 $\pi=+$ |
| $\pi=-$ | 2f7/2 | | 1j15/2 $\pi=-$ |
| $\pi=-$ | 1h9/2 | | 1i11/2 $\pi=+$ |
| | | | 2g9/2 $\pi=+$ |

- | | |
|---------|-------|
| $\pi=+$ | 3s1/2 |
| $\pi=+$ | 2d3/2 |

	82	126	
π		ν	

3d3/2



First-forbidden beta decay

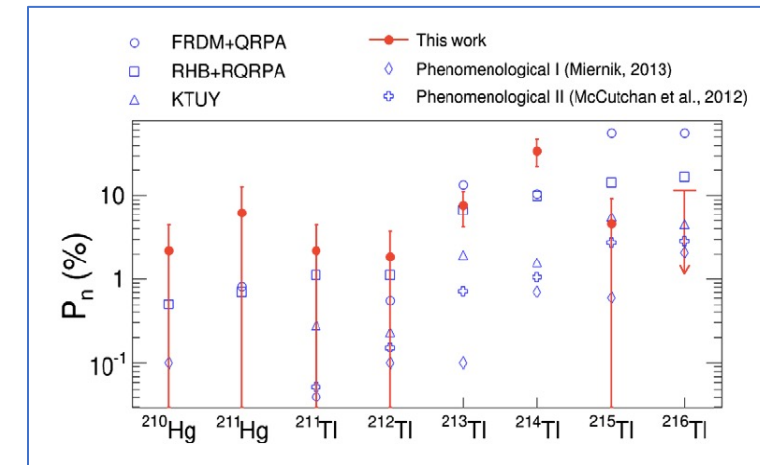
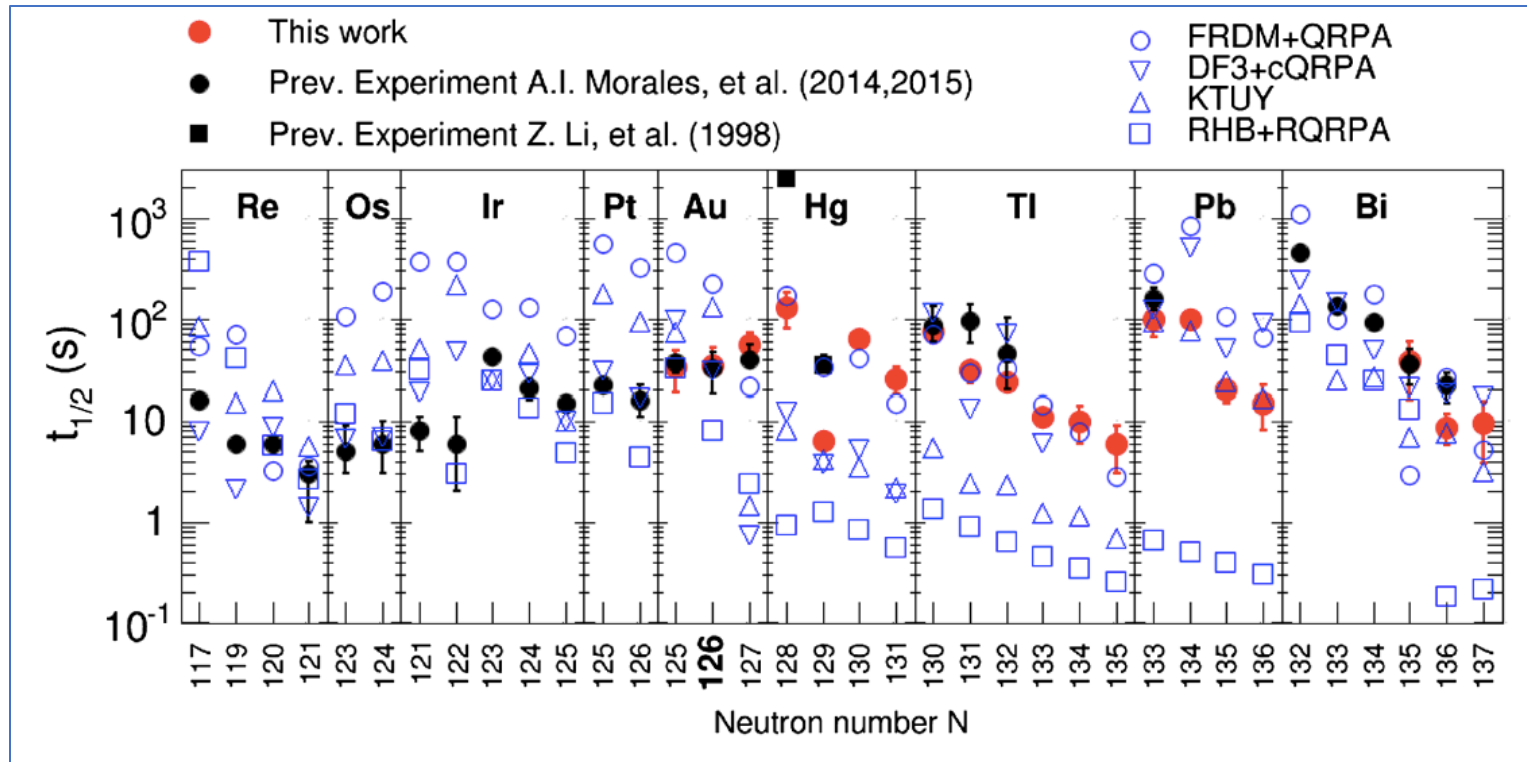
PRL 117, 012501 (2016)

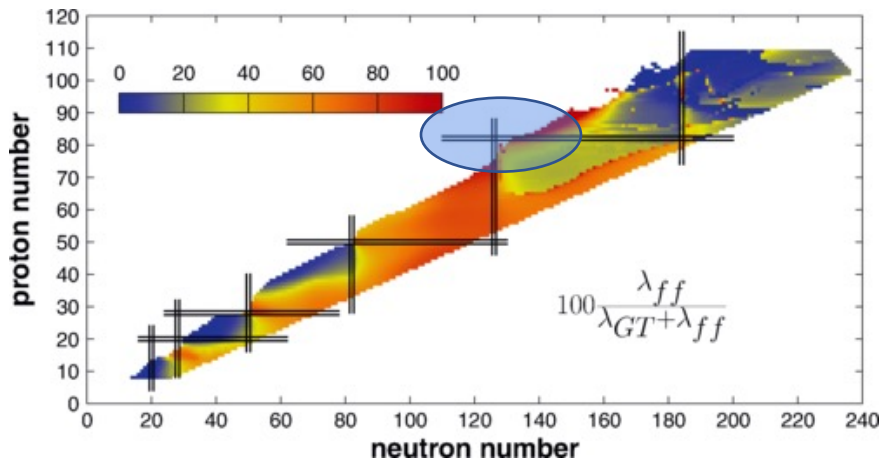
PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending
1 JULY 2016

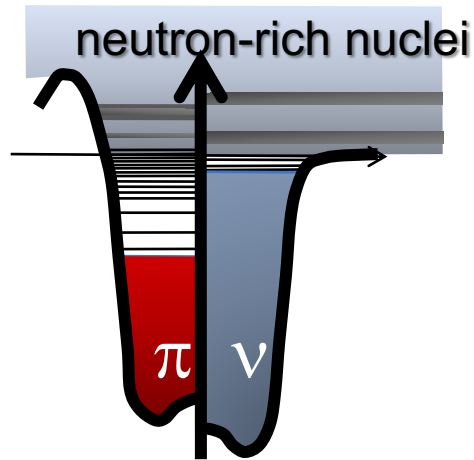
First Measurement of Several β -Delayed Neutron Emitting Isotopes Beyond $N=126$

R. Caballero-Folch,^{1,2} C. Domingo-Pardo,^{3,*} J. Agramunt,³ A. Algora,^{3,4} F. Ameil,⁵ A. Arcones,⁵ Y. Ayyad,⁶ J. Benlliure,⁶ I. N. Borzov,^{7,8} M. Bowry,⁹ F. Calviño,¹ D. Cano-Ott,¹⁰ G. Cortés,¹ T. Davinson,¹¹ I. Dillmann,^{2,5,12} A. Estrade,^{5,13} A. Evdokimov,^{5,12} T. Faestermann,¹⁴ F. Farinon,⁵ D. Galaviz,¹⁵ A. R. García,¹⁰ H. Geissel,^{5,12} W. Gelletly,⁹ R. Gernhäuser,¹⁴ M. B. Gómez-Homillos,¹ C. Guerrero,^{16,17} M. Heil,⁵ C. Hinke,¹⁴ R. Knöbel,⁵ I. Kojouharov,⁵ J. Kurcewicz,⁵ N. Kurz,⁵





Exotic nuclei with excess of neutrons have different Fermi energies for n and p
 Allowed decays might not be possible owing to large mismatch in wave functions



First-forbidden beta decay

^{208}Pb

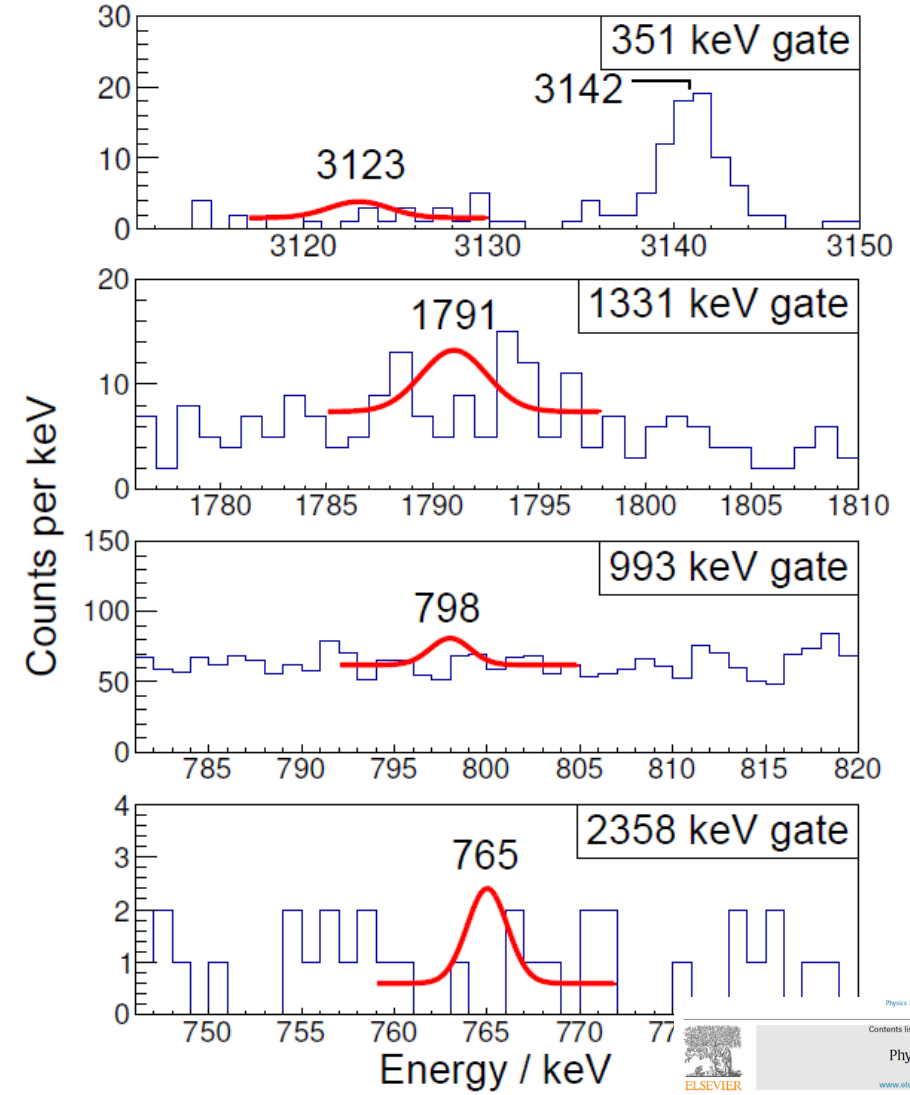
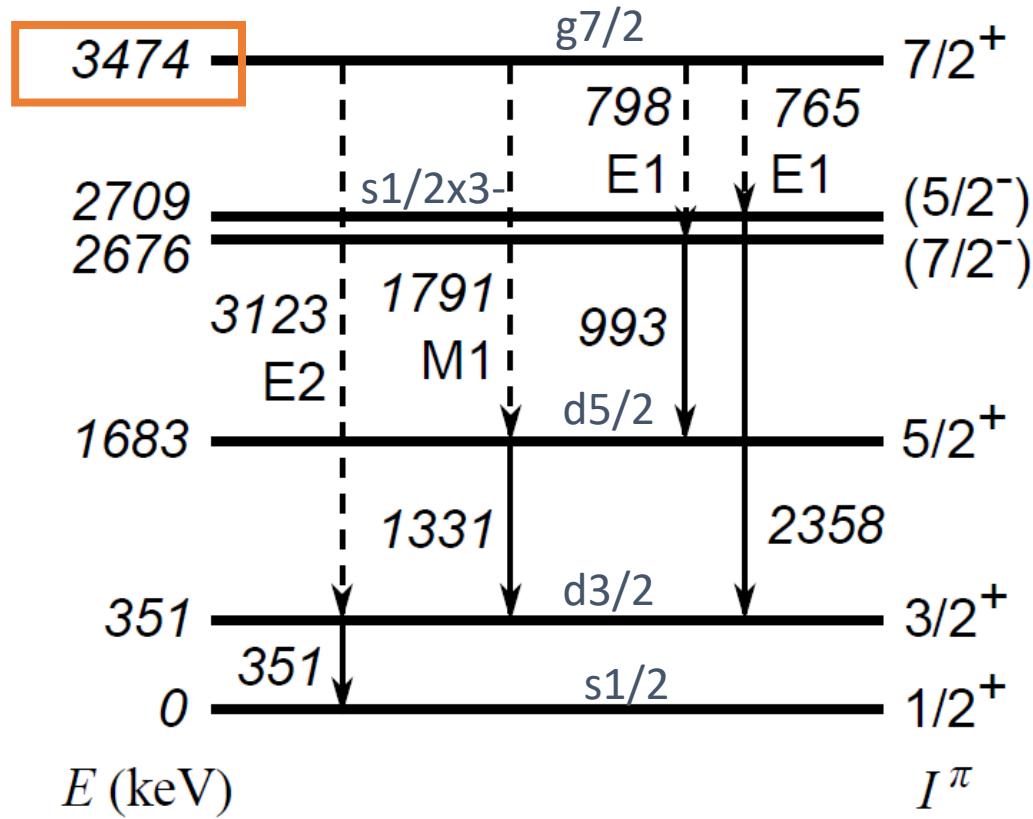
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| $\pi=+$ | 1i13/2 | | 3d5/2 $\pi=+$ |
| $\pi=-$ | 2f7/2 | | 1j15/2 $\pi=-$ |
| $\pi=-$ | 1h9/2 | | 1i11/2 $\pi=+$ |
| | | | 2g9/2 $\pi=+$ |

- | | |
|---------|-------|
| $\pi=+$ | 3s1/2 |
| $\pi=+$ | 2d3/2 |

82	126
π	ν

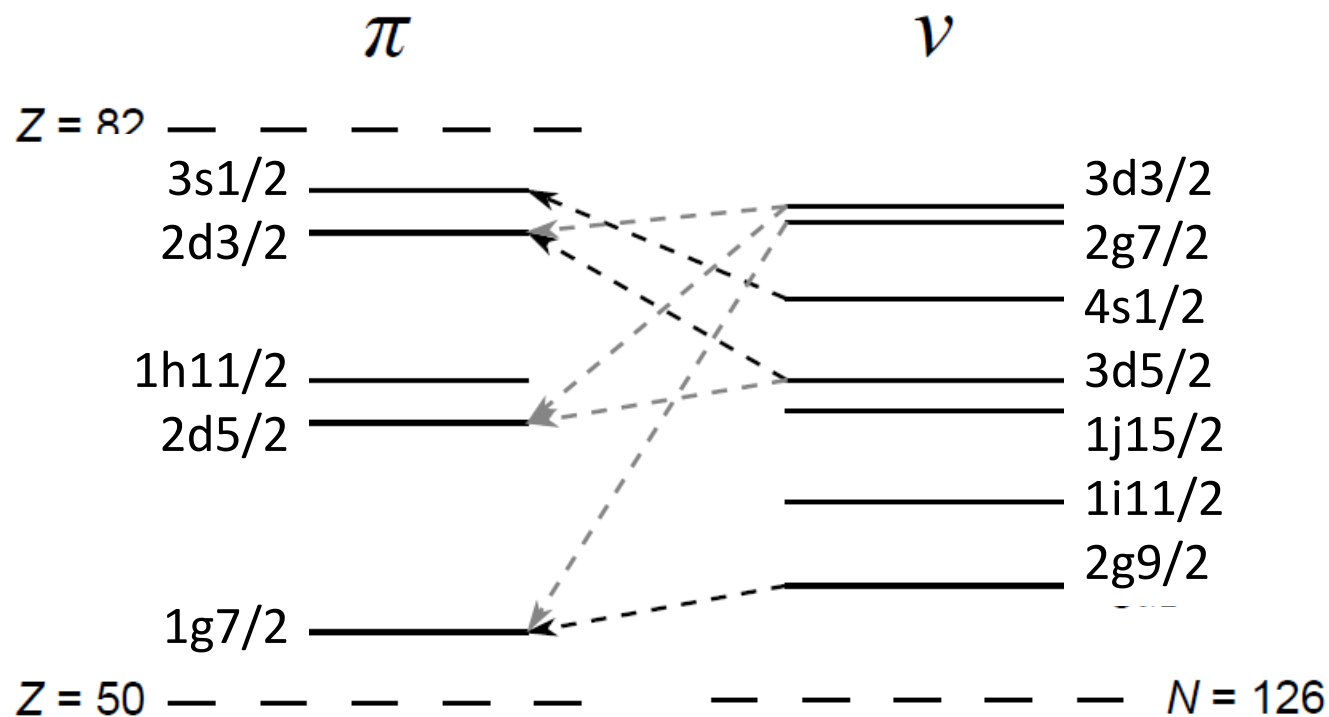
3d3/2

The $2g_{9/2} \rightarrow 1g_{7/2}$ beta decay ($^{207}\text{Hg} \rightarrow ^{207}\text{Tl}$)



(Non-)population of the $g_{7/2}$ state $< 3.9 \times 10^{-3}\%$

$\log ft > 8.8$ (95% confidence limit)

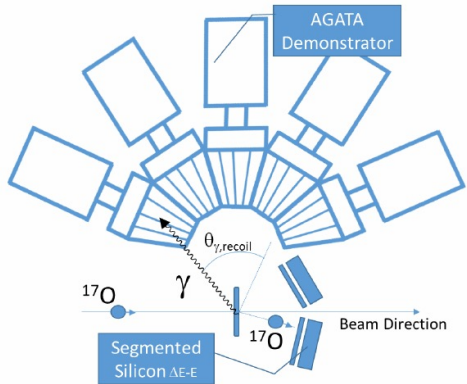
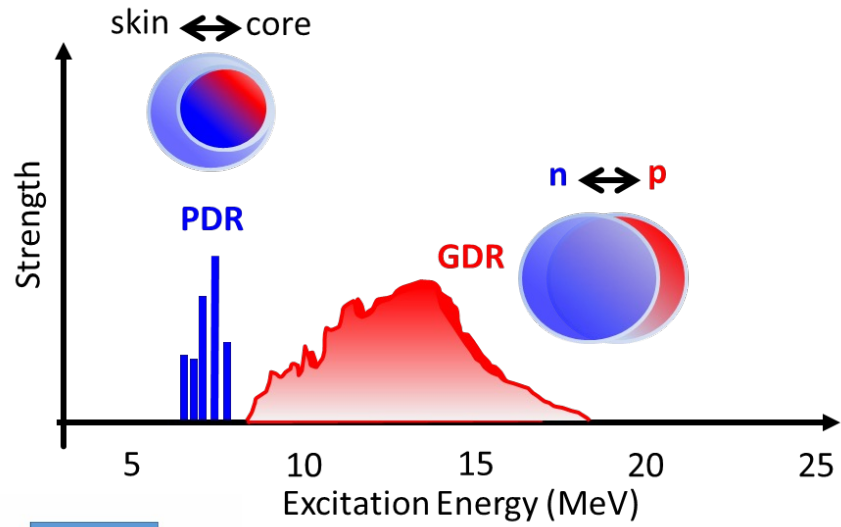


These increase dramatically for extremely neutron-rich nuclei, when either exploring deeper into the proton shell below $Z=82$ or extending further into $N>126$

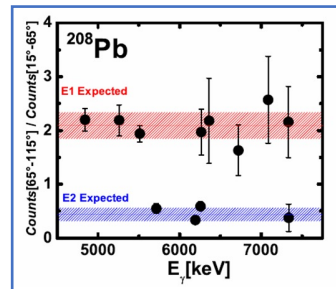
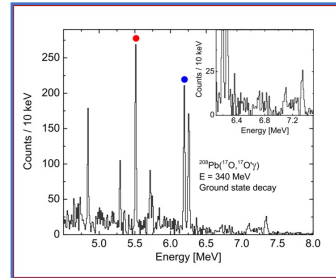
lifetime of heavy neutron-rich ($Z<82, N>126$) nuclei strongly affected

The same selection rule also affects nuclei ‘south-east’ of ^{132}Sn due to the existence of $n=1, l=0$ neutron-proton orbital pairs in the region of $N>82$ and $Z<50$. Experimental investigation of the forbiddenness in this mass region is an interesting possibility but remains challenging due to the large Q_β values

Nuclear Structure information from the E1 response in Nuclei

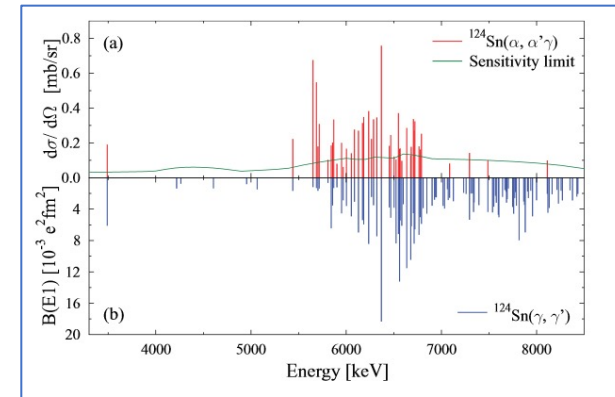


A. Bracco, F.C.L. Crespi and E.G. Lanza, EPJA (2015) 51: 39
 F.C.L. Crespi, et al., PRL113 (2014) 012501



Commonly studied via:
 (γ, γ') , (α, α') , Inelastic scattering of $^{17}\text{O}, ^{12}\text{C}$,
 virtual phonon scattering

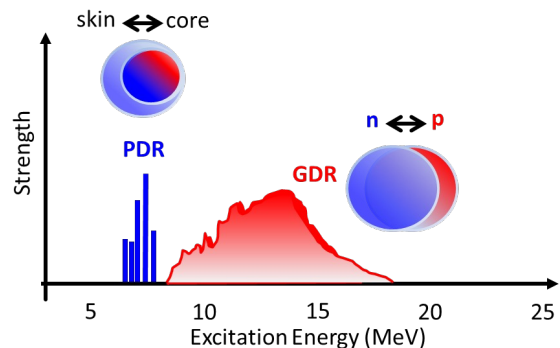
(*) figure from J. Endres et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 105, 212503 (2010)



- ❑ low energy part \rightarrow **isoscalar character**
(neutron-skin oscillations)
- ❑ high-energy states \rightarrow **isovector nature**
(transition towards the GDR)

Resonances populated via β decay in n-rich nuclei

- The large Q_β -value window (> 12 MeV) allows populating at least the PDR
- The β decay could populate states which are the PDR on the IAS(R) of the mother nucleus

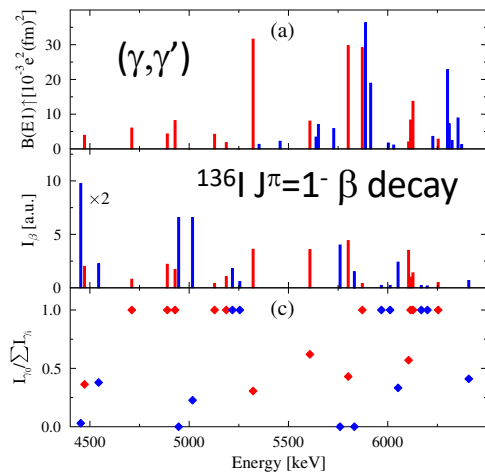


Proof of principle in a recently published paper

PRL **116**, 132501 (2016) PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS week ending 1 APRIL 2016

Investigating the Pygmy Dipole Resonance Using β Decay

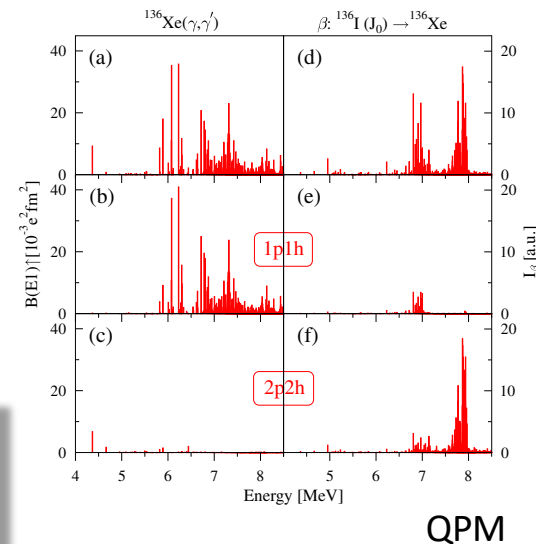
M. Scheck,^{1,2,*} S. Mishev,^{3,4} V. Yu. Ponomarev,⁵ R. Chapman,^{1,2} L. P. Gaffney,^{1,2} E. T. Gregor,^{1,2} N. Pietralla,⁵
P. Spagnoletti,^{1,2} D. Savran,⁶ and G. S. Simpson,^{1,2}



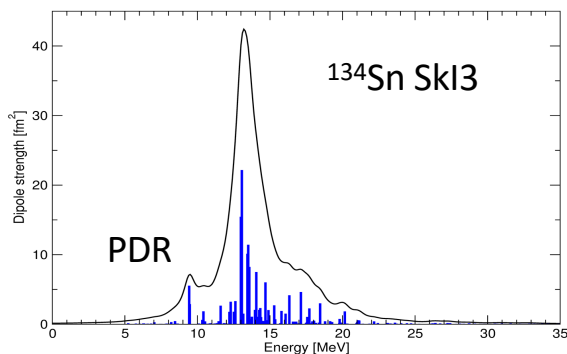
States seen in NRF are seen in β decay
 β decays shows greater number of states \rightarrow access to 2p2h excitations



Useful tool to complement the studies
BUT relies heavily on theory for the interpretation of nature of states



Resonances populated via β decay:

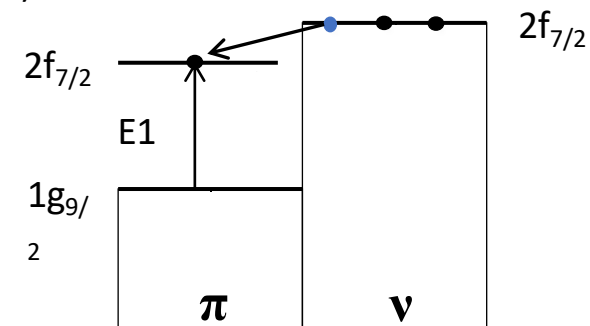


Example: $^{134}\text{In} \rightarrow ^{134}\text{Sn}$ ($Q_\beta = 14.7$ MeV)

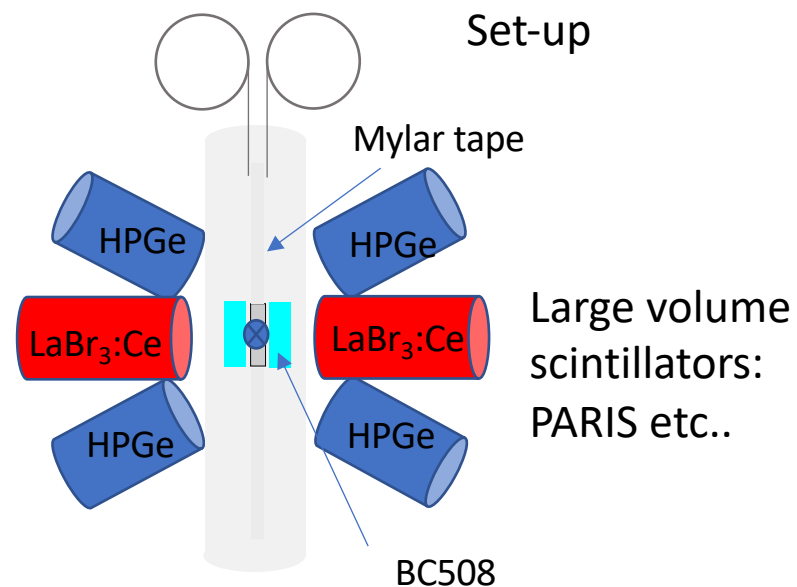
$\nu f_{7/2} \rightarrow \pi g_{9/2}$

β decay: $\nu 2f_{7/2} \rightarrow \pi 2f_{7/2}, \pi 2f_{5/2};$

QRPA calculations with the SkI3 interaction: PDR at 10 MeV



Mother	J^π	Daughter	S_n [keV]	Q_β [keV]	I [pps] @5 μA	I [pps] @200 μA
^{84}Ga	(0 ⁻)	^{84}Ge	5243	12900	1.01×10^3	4.02×10^4
^{86}Br	(1 ⁻)	^{86}Kr	9857	7626	1.93×10^7	7.73×10^8
^{96}Y	0 ⁻	^{96}Zr	7856	7096	1.12×10^7	4.47×10^8
^{98}Y	(0 ⁻)	^{98}Zr	6415	8824	5.30×10^5	2.12×10^7
^{130}In	1 ⁽⁻⁾	^{136}Sn	7596	10249	1.93×10^4	7.72×10^5
^{136}I	(1 ⁻)	^{136}Xe	8084	6930	2.6×10^8	1.04×10^{10}
^{140}Cs	1 ⁻	^{140}Ba	6428	6220	8.53×10^8	3.4×10^{10}
^{142}Cs	0 ⁻	^{142}Ba	6181	7325	3.35×10^7	1.34×10^9
^{144}Cs	1 ⁽⁻⁾	^{144}Ba	5901	8500	4.35×10^6	1.74×10^8
^{146}Cs	1 ⁻	^{146}Ba	5495	9370	1.12×10^5	4.46×10^6



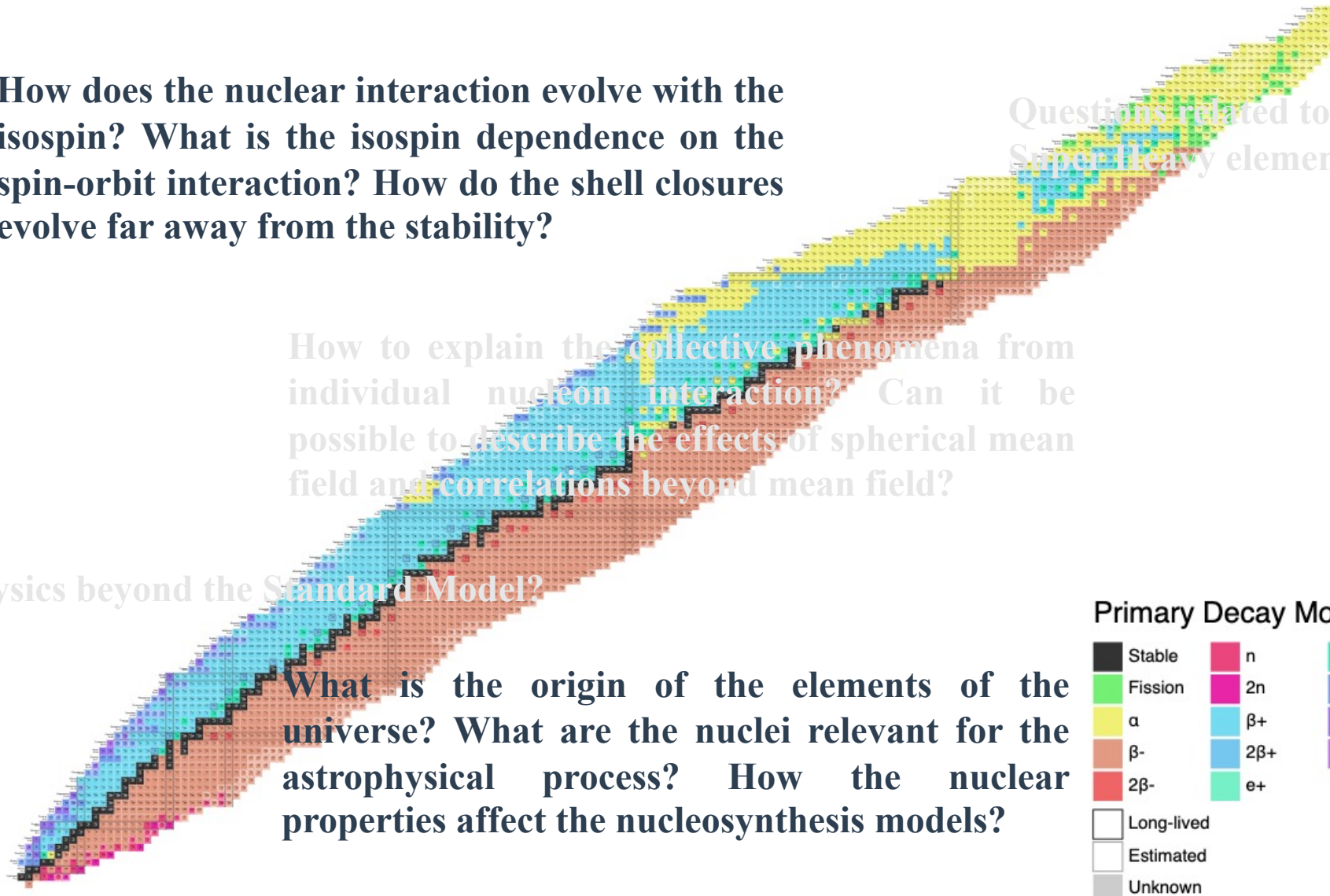
How does the nuclear interaction evolve with the isospin? What is the isospin dependence on the spin-orbit interaction? How do the shell closures evolve far away from the stability?

Questions related to Heavy and Super-heavy elements

How to explain the collective phenomena from individual nucleon interaction? Can it be possible to describe the effects of spherical mean field and correlations beyond mean field?

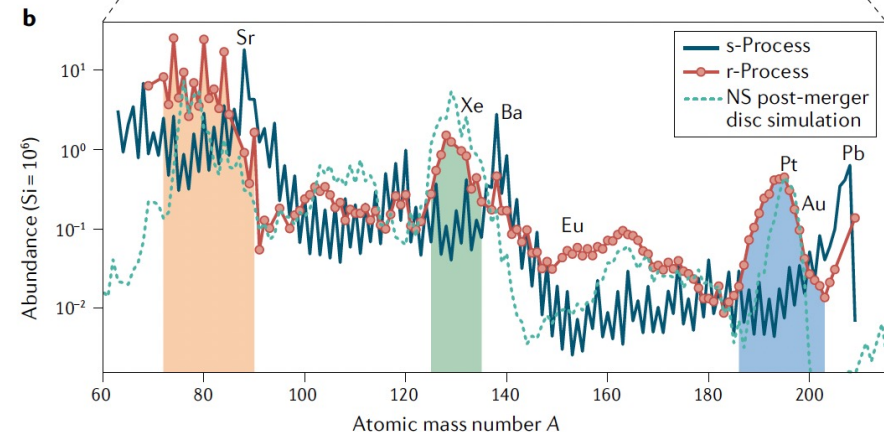
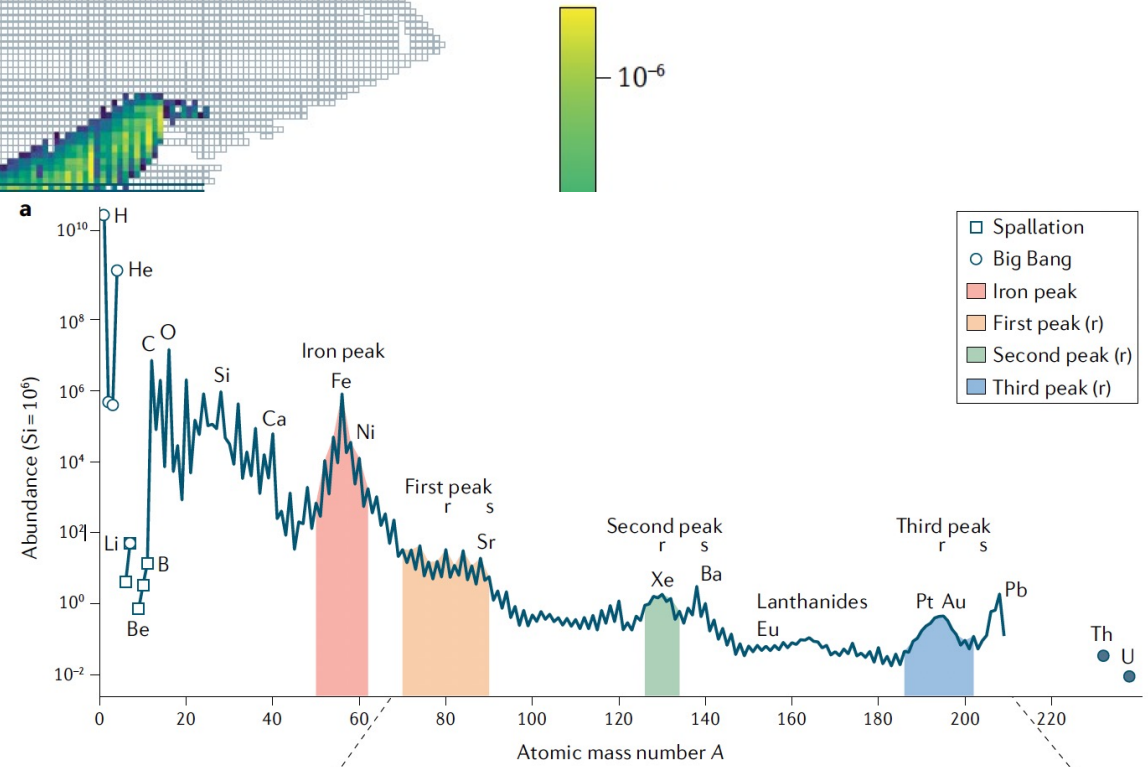
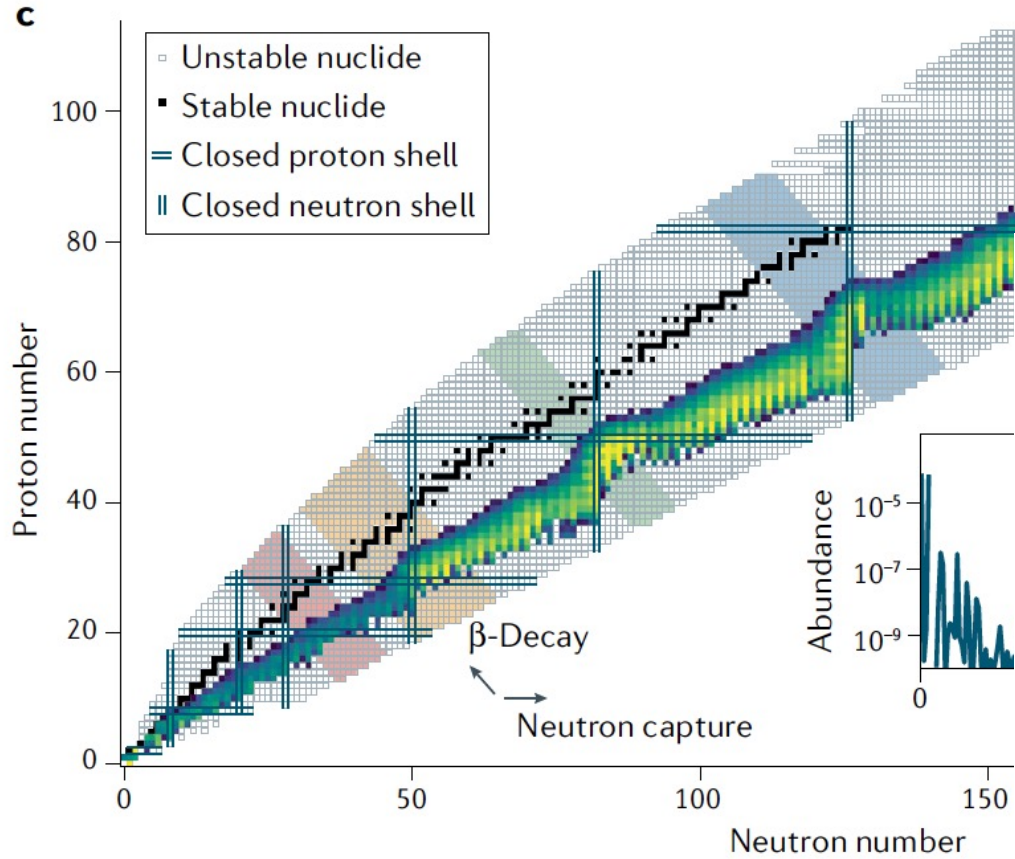
Is there physics beyond the Standard Model?

What is the origin of the elements of the universe? What are the nuclei relevant for the astrophysical process? How the nuclear properties affect the nucleosynthesis models?



Primary Decay Mode

Stable	n	e- capture
Fission	2n	p
α	β^+	2p
β^-	$2\beta^+$	3p
$2\beta^-$	e+	
Long-lived		
Estimated		
Unknown		



r-Process nucleosynthesis in gravitational-wave and other explosive astrophysical events

Daniel M. Siegel

NaTuRe ReleWS volume 4 | May 2022 |

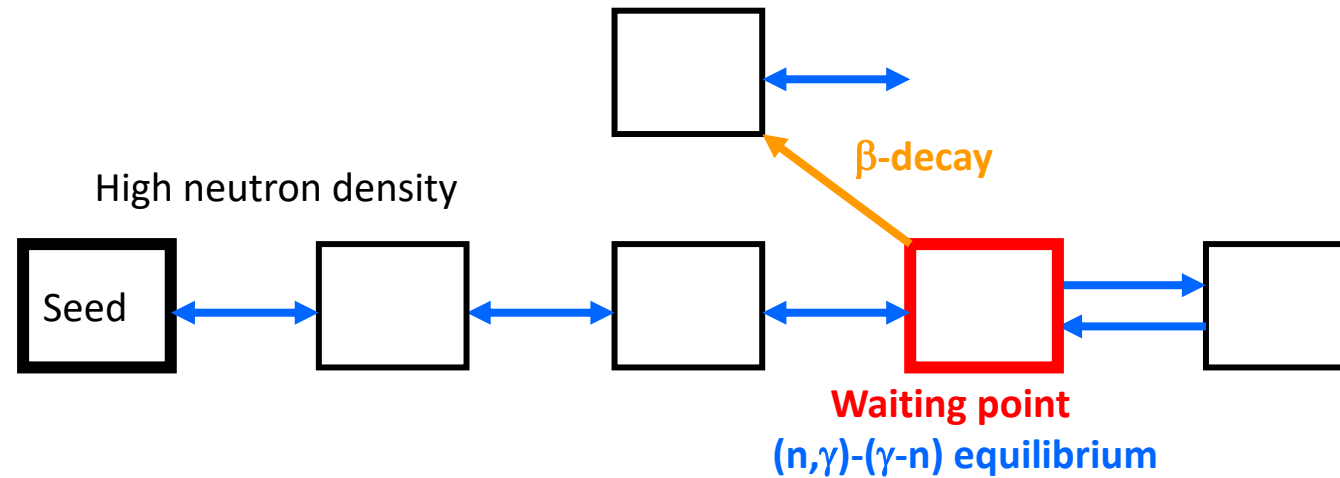


ISOL-France Workshop V

Mar 20 – 22, 2023
ISM

β decay and nucleosynthesis

r-process basics: Element formation beyond iron involving rapid neutron capture and radioactive decay

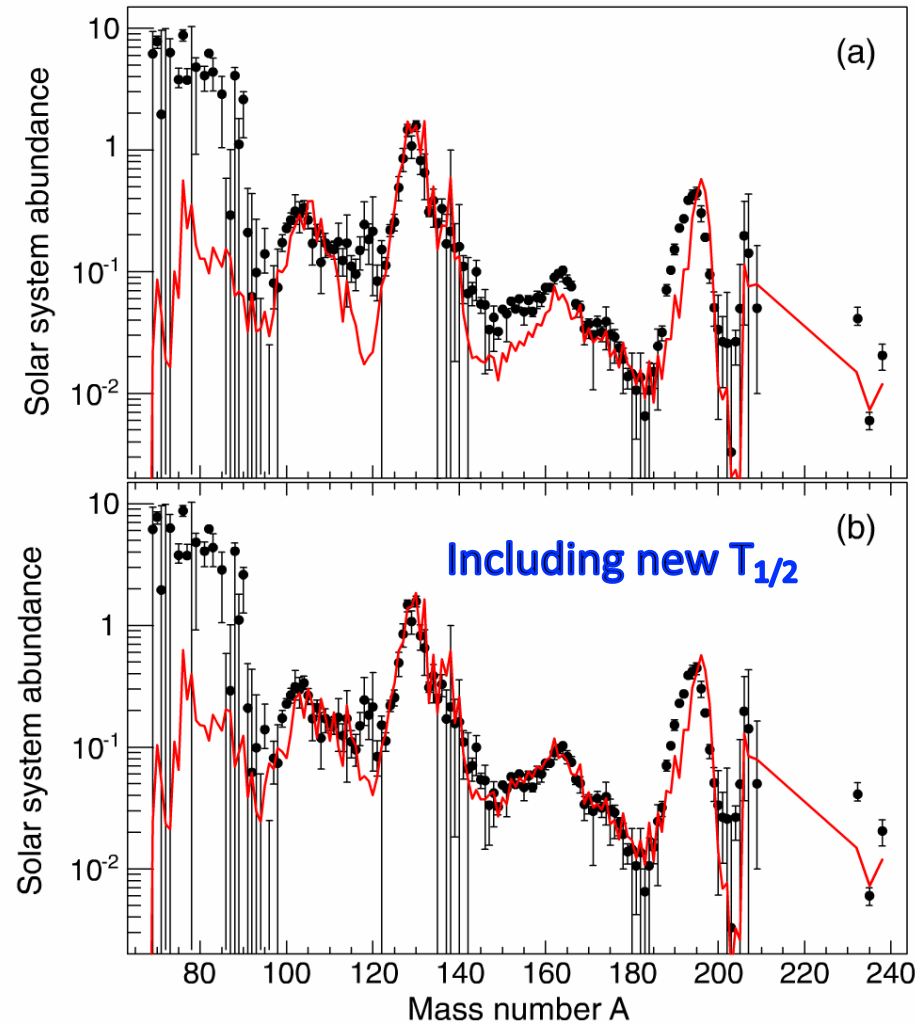
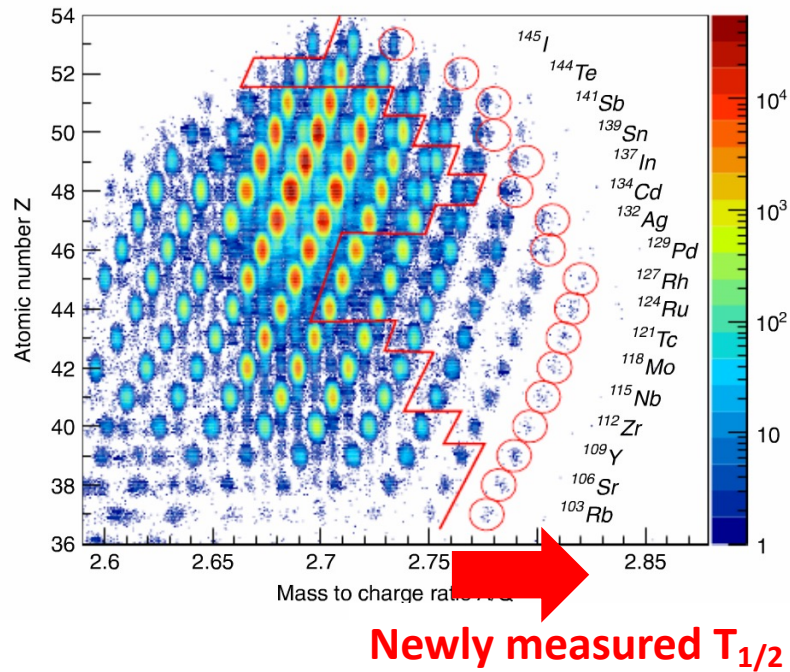


- Classical picture based on $(n,\gamma) \leftrightarrow (\gamma,n)$ equilibration interrupted at waiting points
- New approach sees r-process arising from an interplay between many processes such as $(n,\gamma) \leftrightarrow (\gamma,n) \leftrightarrow \beta \text{ decay} \leftrightarrow \beta - n \text{ decay}$

Crucial inputs from experimental nuclear physics are

- Masses
- β -decay rates
- Branching Ratios
- n-capture cross sections

Measuring half-lives for r-process



PRL 114, 192501 (2015) PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS week ending 15 MAY 2015

β -Decay Half-Lives of 110 Neutron-Rich Nuclei across the $N = 82$ Shell Gap: Implications for the Mechanism and Universality of the Astrophysical r Process

G. Lorusso,^{1,2,3} S. Nishimura,^{1,4} Z. Y. Xu,^{1,5,6} A. Jungclaus,⁷ Y. Shimizu,¹ G. S. Simpson,⁸ P.-A. Söderström,¹ H. Watanabe,^{1,9} F. Browne,^{1,10} P. Doornbal,¹ G. Gey,^{1,8} H. S. Jung,¹¹ B. Meyer,¹² T. Sumikama,¹³ J. Taprogge,^{1,7,14} Zs. Vajta,^{1,15} J. Wu,^{1,16} H. Baba,¹ G. Benzoni,¹⁷ K. Y. Chae,¹⁸ F. C. L. Crespi,^{17,19} N. Fukuda,¹ R. Gernhäuser,²⁰ N. Inabe,¹ T. Isobe,¹ T. Kajino,^{4,21} D. Kameda,¹ G. D. Kim,²² Y.-K. Kim,^{22,23} I. Kojouharov,²⁴ F. G. Kondev,²⁵ T. Kubo,¹ N. Kurz,²⁴ Y. K. Kwon,²² G. J. Lane,²⁶ Z. Li,¹⁶ A. Montaner-Pizá,²⁷ K. Moschner,²⁸ F. Naqvi,²⁹ M. Niikura,⁵ H. Nishibata,³⁰ A. Odahara,³⁰ R. Orlandi,³¹ Z. Patel,³ Zs. Podolyák,³ H. Sakurai,^{1,5} H. Schaffner,²⁴ P. Schury,¹ S. Shibagaki,^{4,21} K. Steiger,²⁰ H. Suzuki,¹ H. Takeda,¹ A. Wendt,²⁸ A. Yagi,³⁰ and K. Yoshinaga³²

Measuring half-lives for r-process

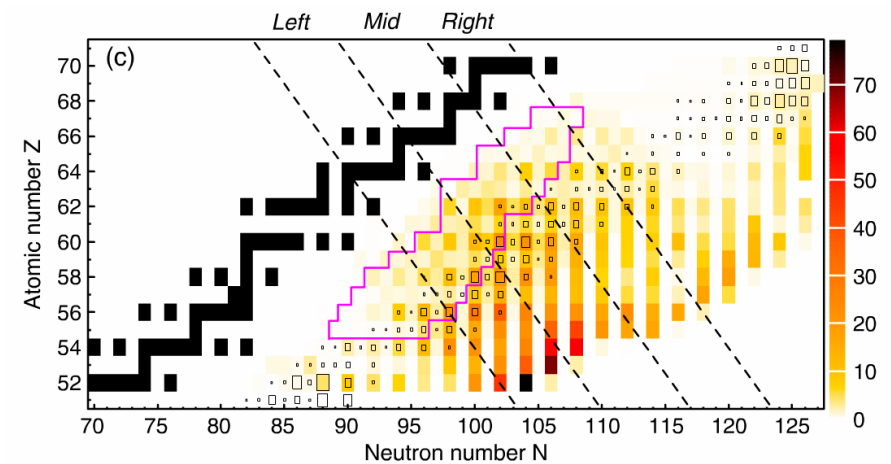
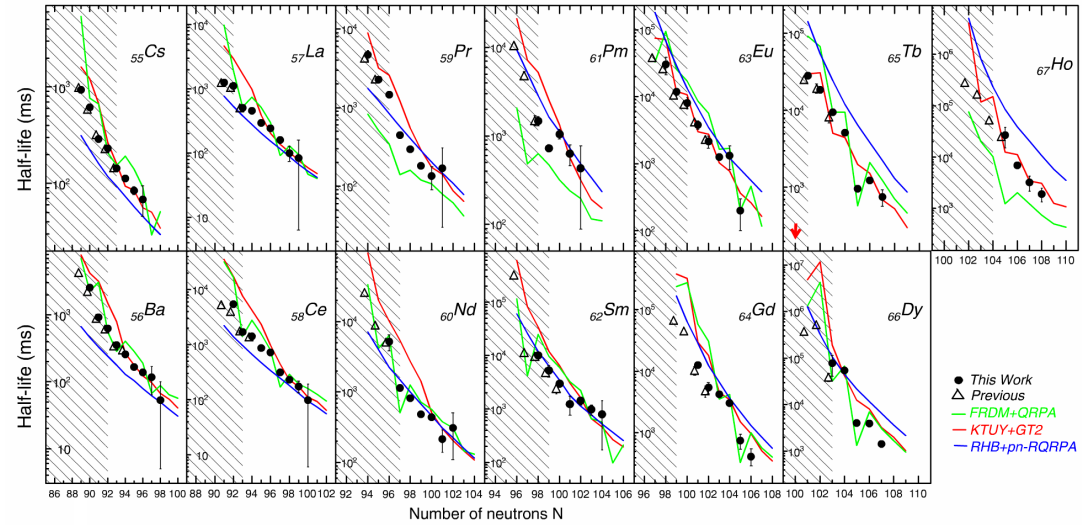
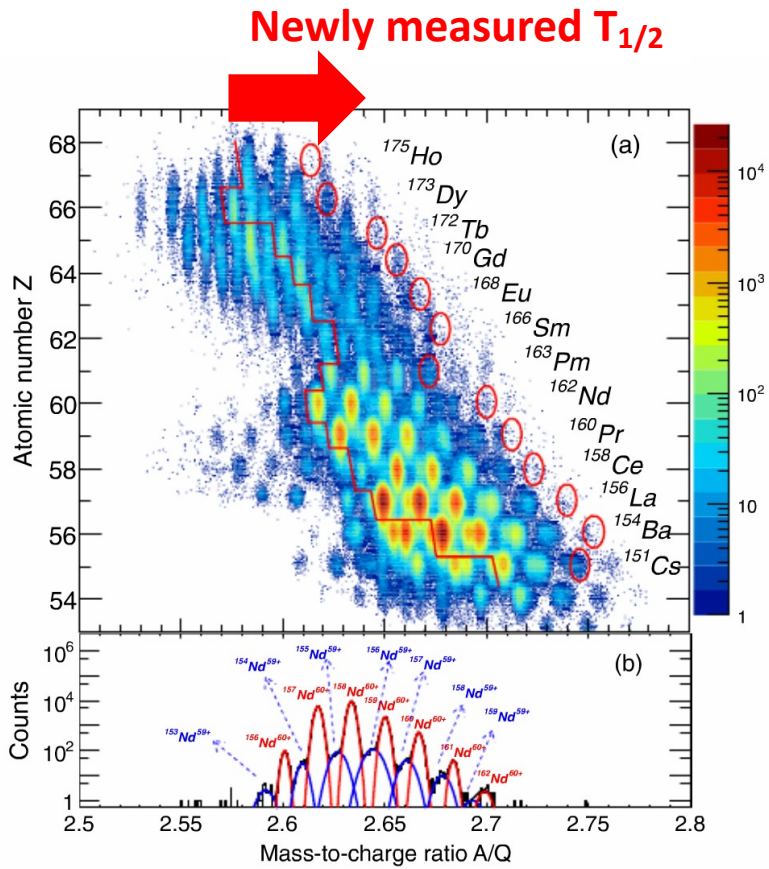


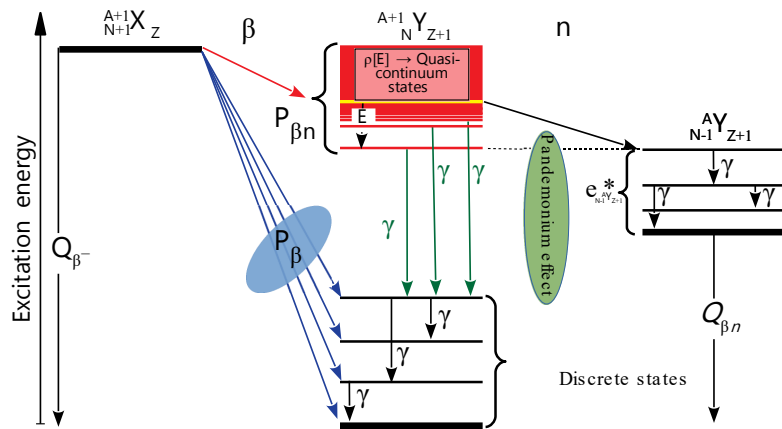
PRL 118, 072701 (2017)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending
17 FEBRUARY 2017

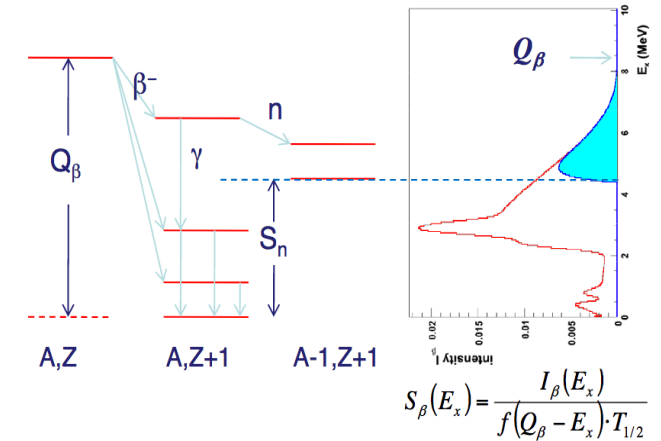
94β -Decay Half-Lives of Neutron-Rich $_{55}\text{Cs}$ to $_{67}\text{Ho}$: Experimental Feedback and Evaluation of the r -Process Rare-Earth Peak Formation





$$\frac{1}{T_{1/2}} = \sum_0^{Q_\beta} S_\beta(E_x) \cdot f(Q_\beta - E_x)$$

$$P_n = \frac{\sum_{S_n}^{Q_\beta} S_\beta(E_x) \cdot f(Q_\beta - E_x)}{\sum_0^{Q_\beta} S_\beta(E_x) \cdot f(Q_\beta - E_x)}$$



Experimental data are needed for :

- **astrophysics :**
r process nucleosynthesis of elements heavier than Fe
- **nuclear structure :**
 - properties of neutron rich nuclei
 - nuclei at the drip line
 - nuclei at the closed shell
 - ...
- **nuclear energy :**
reactor design, performance and safety
 - delayed neutron fraction
→ Pn needed accuracy 1-5 %
 - average energy !! → energy spectra

β -delayed neutron emission occurs when $Q_\beta > S_n$ in the daughter nucleus

$T_{1/2}$ and P_n convey information related to β feeding

$T_{1/2}$ yields information on the average β feeding

P_n yields information on β feeding above S_n

P_n are difficult to predict theoretically since they reflect the “shape” of the β strength function and fine structure on the nucleus

Relation to the Pandemonium effect

How to evaluate $P_n = \frac{N_{n-decays}}{N_{decays}}$

1- n/ β : coincidences btw n- β $P_n = \frac{1}{\epsilon_n} \frac{N_{\beta n}}{N_\beta}$

- best method. Only one absolute efficiency is needed, for the neutron detector
- the true signal has to be separated from contaminants using the decay curves, for which the proper knowledge of the different half-lives (T1/2) is needed.

2- n/ β separate but simultaneous $P_n = \frac{\epsilon_\beta}{\epsilon_n} \frac{N_{\beta n}}{N_\beta}$

- needs two efficiencies
- this method could be advantageous in cases were the detectors cover a solid angle close to 4pi

3- Ion counting $P_n = \frac{N_{n-decays}}{N_{ions}}$

- The “ion” method relies on direct ion-counting. Difficult at low-energy ISOL facilities

4- γ - γ : Total counting of all γ -rays emitted by daughter and/or β n-daughter, but no counting of neutrons is carried out.

$$P_n = \frac{\epsilon_{\gamma,daughter} * I_{abs,daughter,\gamma}}{N_{daughter,\gamma}} \bigg/ \frac{\epsilon_{\gamma,final} * I_{abs,final,\gamma}}{N_{final,\gamma}}$$

- Absolute γ -intensities are required, that means a complete knowledge the decay scheme including β 's going to the ground state or eventually competing γ -decays from levels above the neutron separation energy.

Existing arrays

- ^3He counters

- B-Riken (Japan)
- Tetra (Dubna-Orsay)
- ^3He n (Oak Ridge)
- BELEN (GSI-FAIR)

✓ High angular coverage

✓ High efficiency ($\sim 65\%$)

~ Flat efficiency in large range of energies

X No energy information

X Difficult to disentangle $1n, 2n$

- TOF counters

- VANDLE (Oak Ridge)
- MONSTER (GSI-FAIR)
- TONNERE (GANIL)
- DESCANT (TRIUMF)

✓ High angular coverage

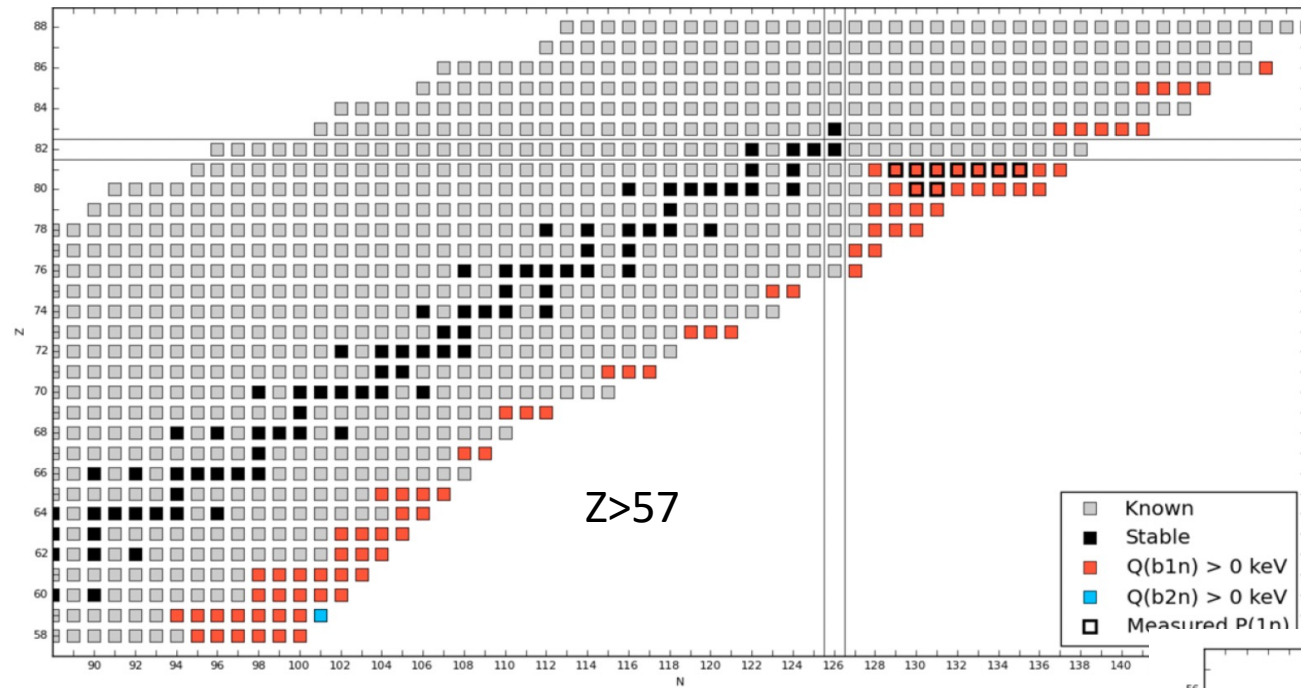
✓ $1n - 2n$ discrimination

~ Good Resolution

~ Position independent eff.

X low detection threshold

X high background



Available online at www.sciencedirect.com

ScienceDirect

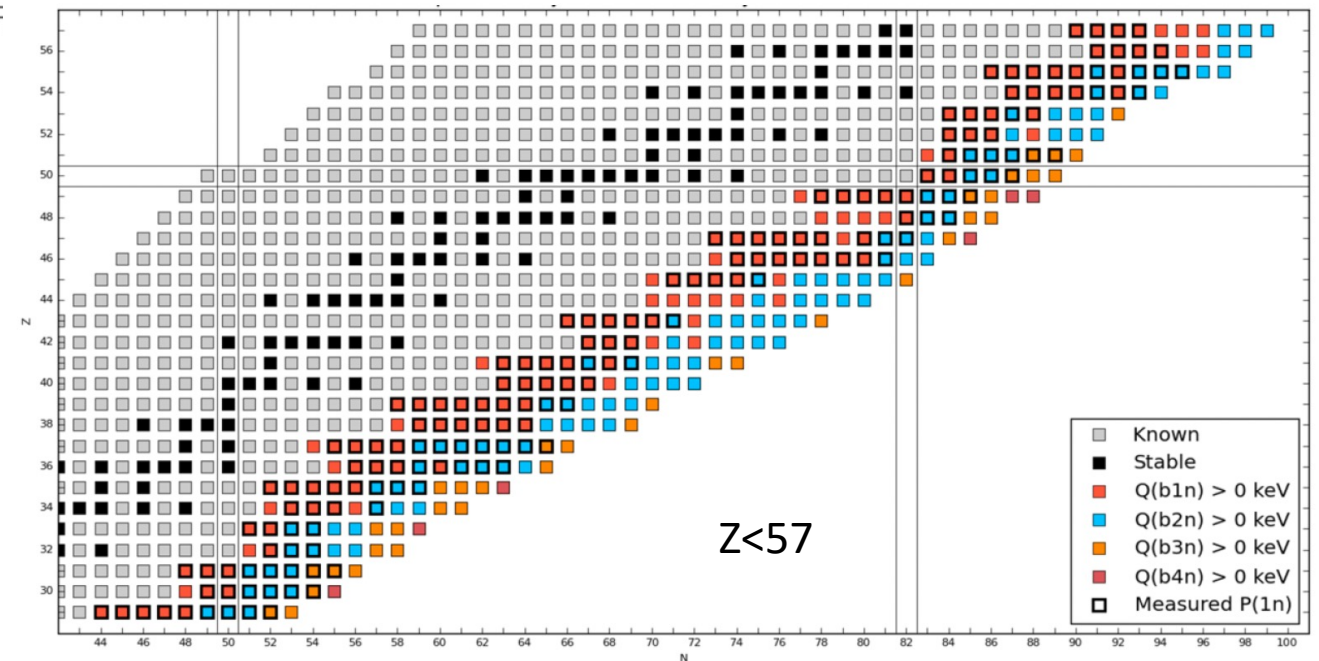
Nuclear Data Sheets 168 (2020) 1–116

Nuclear Data Sheets

www.elsevier.com/locate/nds

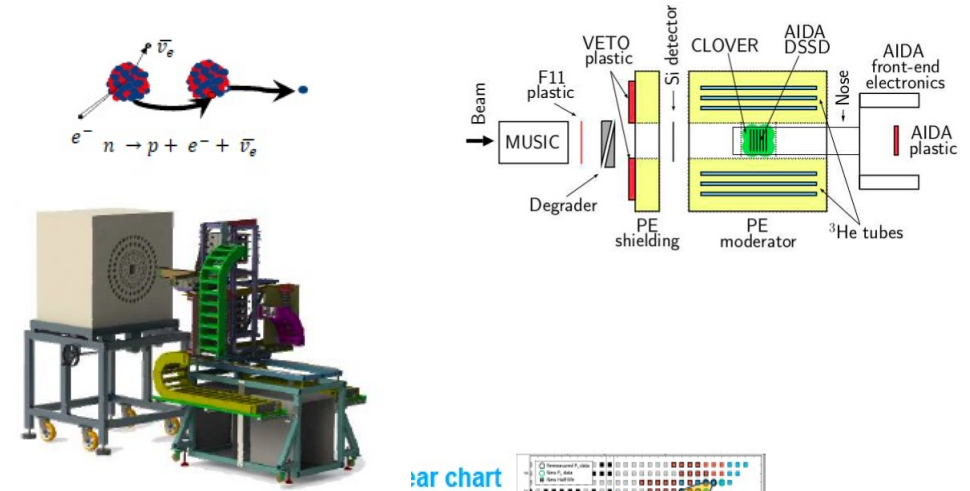
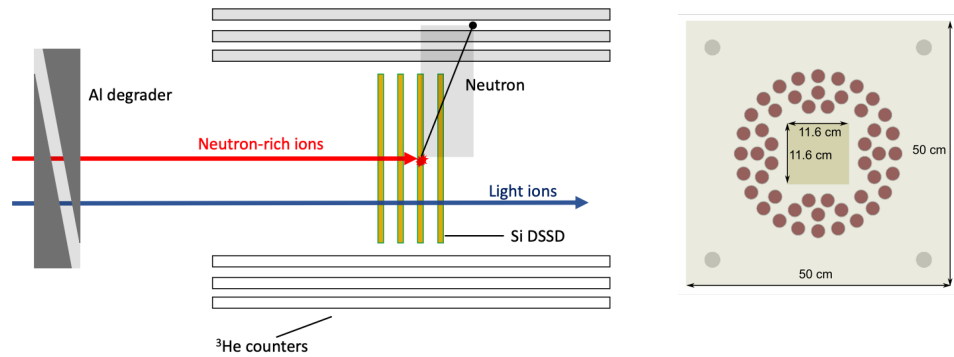
Compilation and Evaluation of Beta-Delayed Neutron Emission Probabilities and Half-Lives for $Z > 28$ Precursors

J. Liang,¹ B. Singh,^{1,*} E.A. McCutchan,² I. Dillmann,^{3,4} M. Birch,¹ A.A. Sonzogni,² X. Huang,⁵ M. Kang,⁵ J. Wang,⁵ G. Mukherjee,⁶ K. Banerjee,⁶ D. Abriola,⁷ A. Algora,^{8,9} A.A. Chen,¹ T.D. Johnson,² and K. Miernik¹⁰



Completing the suite of detectors: n-detection arrays

BEta-deLayEd Neutron detector (BELEN):
48 ^3He cylindrical counters in Polyethylene moderator

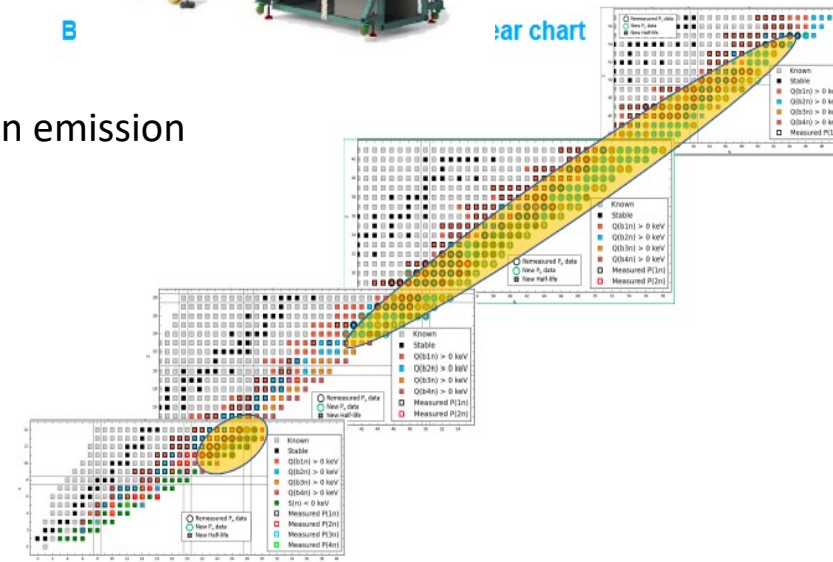


- Successful 5-years BRIKEN campaign to measure β_1n and β_2n emission

Commissioning of the BRIKEN detector for the measurement of very exotic β -delayed neutron emitters

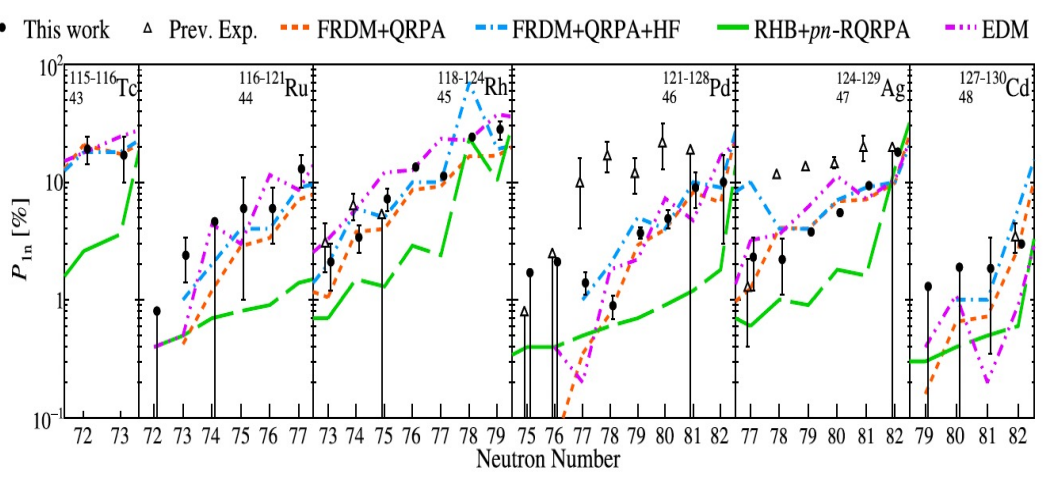
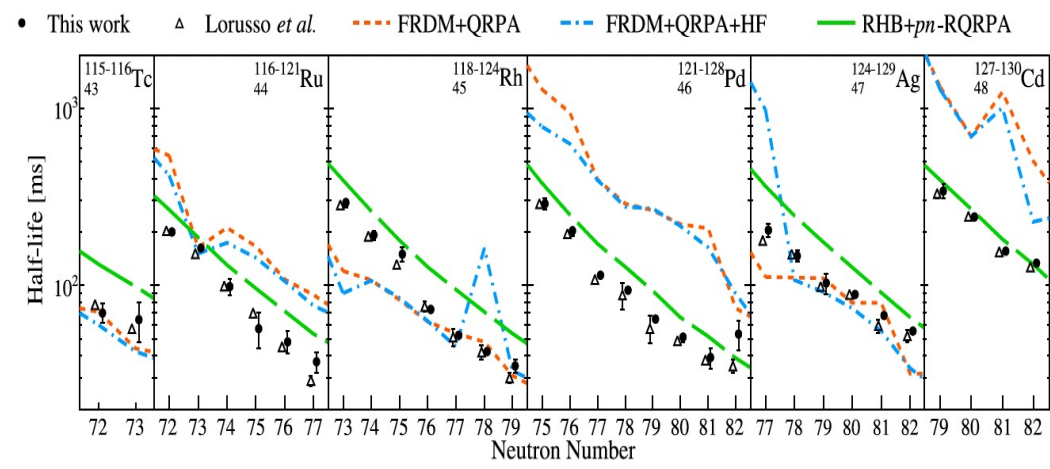
A. Tolosa-Delgado^a, J. Agramunt^a, J. L. Tain^{a,*}, A. Algora^{a,q}, C. Domingo-Pardo^a, A. I. Morales^a, B. Rubio^a, A.

Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research Section A: Accelerators, Spectrometers, Detectors and Associated Equipment
Volume 925, 1 May 2019, Pages 133-147



β-delayed neutron emission of *r*-process nuclei at the *N* = 82 shell closure

O. Hall^{a,*}, T. Davinson^a, A. Estrade^b, J. Liu^{c,d}, G. Lorusso^{e,f}, F. Montes^g, S. Nishimura^h, V.H. Phong^h, P.J. Woods^a, J. Agramuntⁱ, D.S. Ahn^h, A. Algora^l, J.M. Allmond^k, H. Baba^c, S. Bae^m, N.T. Brewer^{k,l}, C.G. Bruno^a, R. Caballero-Folch^h, F. Calviño^h, P.J. Coleman-Smith^p, G. Cortes^q, I. Dillmann^{h,q}, C. Domingo-Pardo^a, A. Fijalkowska^r, N. Fukuda^s, S. Go^c, C.J. Griffin^a, R. Grzywacz^j, J. Ha^{h,m}, L.J. Harkness-Brennan^t, T. Isobe^u, D. Kahl^v, L.H. Khiem^{h,w}, G.G. Kiss^{x,y}, A. Korgul^z, S. Kubono^c, M. Labiche^h, I. Lazarus^h, J. Liang^w, Z. Liu^{x,y}, K. Matsui^{h,z}, K. Miernik^l, B. Moon^{aa}, A.I. Morales^l, P. Morrall^p, M.R. Mumpower^{ab}, N. Nepal^h, R.D. Page^h, M. Piersa^l, V.F.E. Pucknell^p, B.C. Rasco^k, B. Rubio^l, K.P. Rykaczewski^k, H. Sakurai^{h,z}, Y. Shimizu^c, D.W. Stracener^k, T. Sumikama^c, H. Suzuki^c, J.L. Tain^l, H. Takeda^c, A. Tarifeño-Saldivia^h, A. Tolosa-Delgado^l, M. Wolińska-Cichońska^{ac}, R. Yokoyama^l

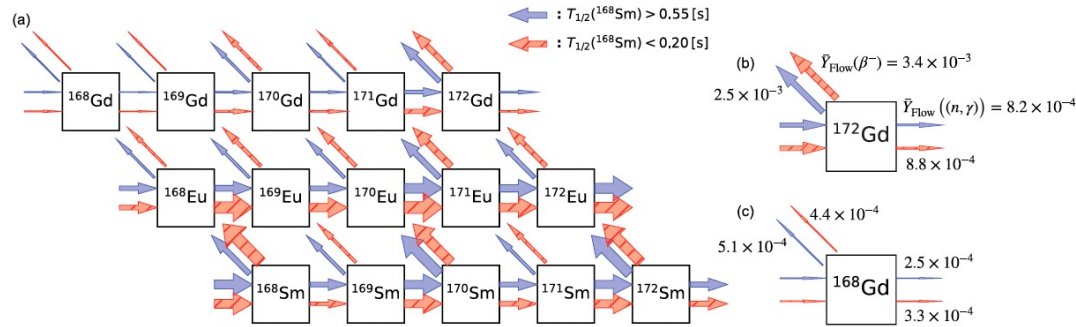


The P_{1n} values reported in this work show a regular trend for most elements, of increasing neutron emission probability as neutron number increases. Some odd-even staggering in the P_{1n} values is observed for the lighter elements, such as Tc, Ru and Rh, though this is seen to diminish for nuclei close to $Z=50$ where a smoother increase is observed.

The predictions of the FRDM+QRPA and FRDM+QRPA+HF calculations reproduce this trend well across all isotopic chains, matching much of the staggering that is observed in the experimental values

BUT models who work for $T_{1/2}$ do not reproduce P_{1n}

FRDM+QRPA = cut-off approach: above S_n a neutron is emitted
 FRDM+QRPA+HF = statistical decay and γ -ray emission explicitly at every stage
 EDM = semiempirical effective density model

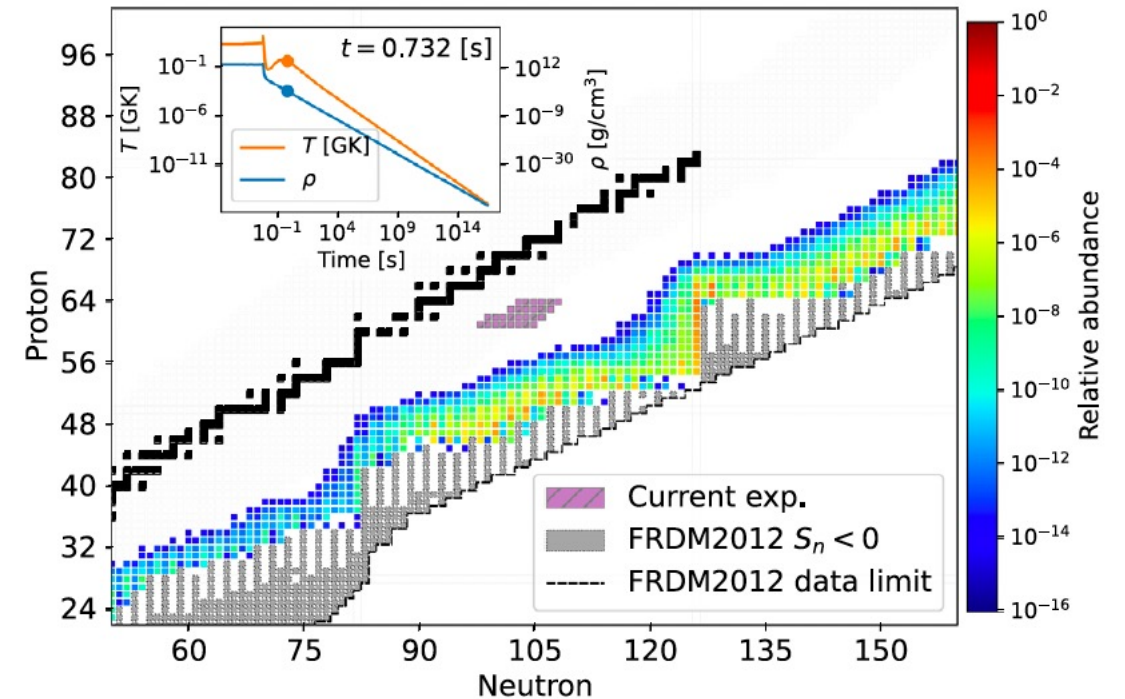


β -decay Properties of Neutron-rich Exotic Pm, Sm, Eu, and Gd Isotopes Constrain the Nucleosynthesis Yields in the Rare-earth Region

itéz-Sveiczler^{1,2}, Y. Saito^{3,4}, A. Tarifeño-Saldivia^{5,6}, M. Pallas⁵, J. L. Tain⁶, I. Dillmann^{3,7}, J. Agramunt⁶, mingo-Pardo⁶, A. Estrade⁸, C. Appleton⁹, J. M. Allmond¹⁰, P. Aguilera^{11,12}, H. Baba¹³, N. T. Brewer^{10,14}, ero-Folch³, F. Calvino⁵, P. J. Coleman-Smith¹⁵, G. Cortes⁵, T. Davinson⁹, N. Fukuda¹³, Z. Ge¹³, S. Go^{13,16}, irzywacz^{10,14}, O. Hall⁹, A. Horváth¹⁷, J. Ha^{13,18}, L. J. Harkness-Brennan¹⁹, T. Isobe¹³, D. Kahl⁹, T. T. King¹⁴, cs², R. Krücken^{3,4}, S. Kubono¹³, M. Labiche¹⁵, J. Liu²¹, J. Liang³, M. Madurga¹⁴, K. Miernik²⁰, F. Molina¹¹, Mumpower^{22,23}, E. Nacher⁶, A. Navarro⁵, N. Nepal⁸, S. Nishimura¹³, M. Piersa-Silkowska²⁰, V. Phong¹³, Rubio⁶, K. P. Rykaczewski¹⁰, J. Romero-Barrientos¹¹, H. Sakurai¹³, L. Sexton^{3,9}, Y. Shimizu¹³, M. Singh¹⁴, T. Sumikama¹³, R. Surman²⁴, H. Suzuki¹³, T. N. Szegedi¹, H. Takeda¹³, A. Tolosa⁶, K. Wang⁸, M. Wolinska-Cichocka²⁵, P. Woods⁹, R. Yokoyama²⁶, and Z. Xu¹⁴

Figure 12. The arrows show the total abundance flow (same quantity as in panels (g)–(i) in Figure 11), averaged over the generated samples in the neutron-star merger scenario. Red corresponds to the case where the half-life of ¹⁶⁸Sm is shorter than 0.20 [s], and blue shows a half-live longer than 0.55 [s]. Panels (b) and (c) focus on the flows from ¹⁷²Gd and ¹⁶⁸Gd, respectively. The propagated influence of the half-life of ¹⁶⁸Sm is visible, which results in affecting the final abundances.

The new data not only constrain the theoretical predictions of half-lives and β -delayed neutron-emission probabilities, but also allow for probing the mechanisms of formation of the high-mass wing of the rare-earth peak located at $A \approx 160$ in the r-process abundance distribution through astrophysical reaction network calculations



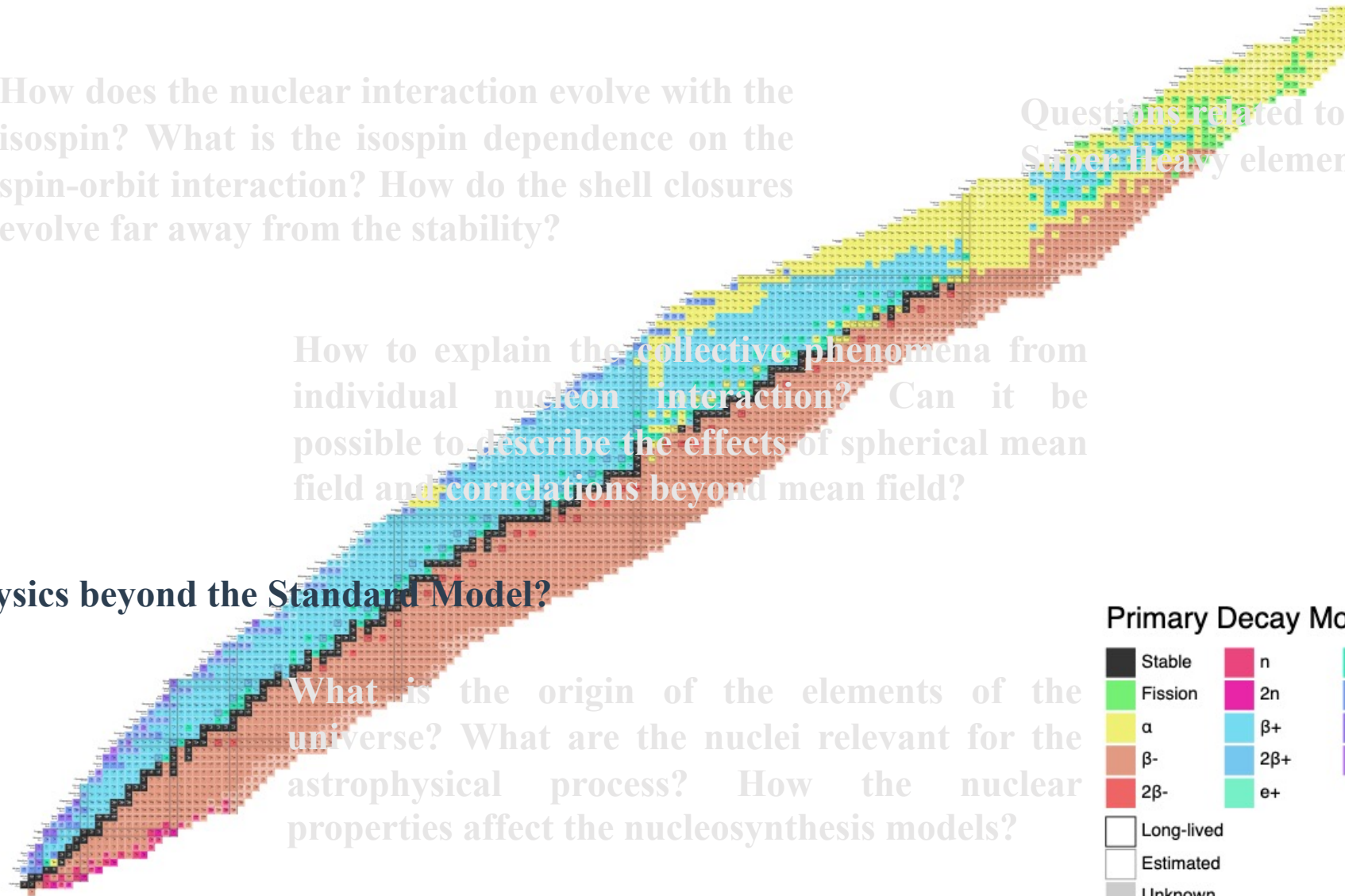
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What is the origin of the elements of the universe? What are the nuclei relevant for the astrophysical process? How the nuclear properties affect the nucleosynthesis models?



Primary Decay Mode

■ Stable	■ n	■ e- capture
■ Fission	■ 2n	■ p
■ α	■ β+	■ 2p
■ β-	■ 2β+	■ 3p
■ 2β-	■ e+	
□ Long-lived		
□ Estimated		
■ Unknown		

Standard model description of the mixing btw quark flavours:
CKM (Cabibbo Kobayashi Maskawa) mixing matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} d' \\ s' \\ b' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} V_{ud} & V_{us} & V_{ub} \\ V_{cd} & V_{cs} & V_{cb} \\ V_{td} & V_{ts} & V_{tb} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} d \\ s \\ b \end{pmatrix}$$

Quark
Weak
states

Quark
Mass
states

CKM is a unitary matrix. If not there is physics beyond SM
To test this we concentrate to the first line, which is known with greater precision

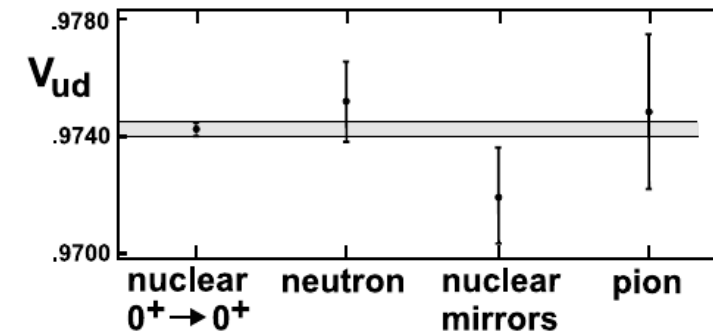
$$\sum_i V_{ui}^2 = V_{ud}^2 + V_{us}^2 + V_{ub}^2 = 1$$

V_{ud} from β decay
Known with highest
precision
Leading term

V_{us} from K meson
decay:
 $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^0 e^+ \nu$

V_{ub} B meson decay
small contributions

Type of study	V_{ud}
$0^+ \rightarrow 0^+$ transitions	0.97425(22)
Pion decay	0.9728(30)
Neutron decay	0.9746(19)
$T = 1/2$ mirror transitions	0.9717(17)

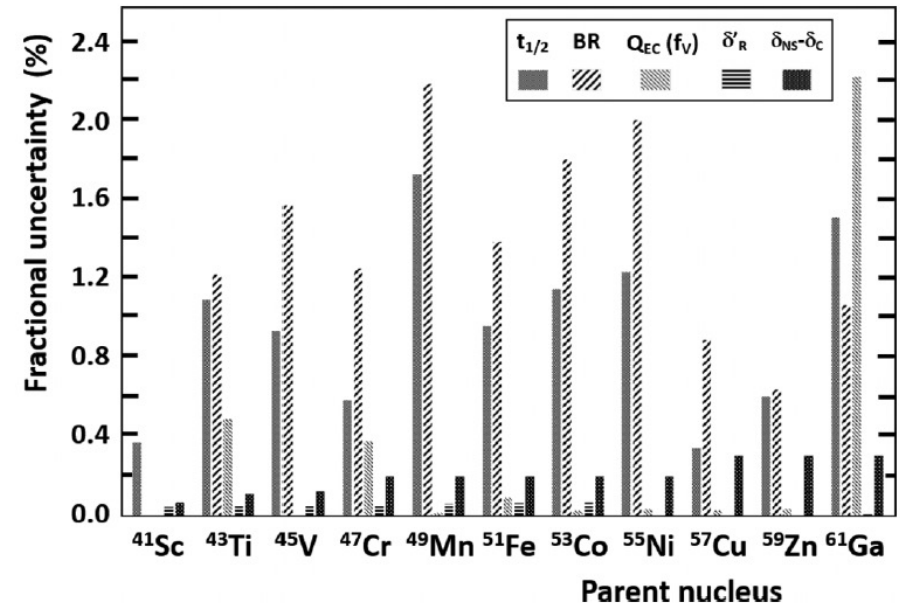
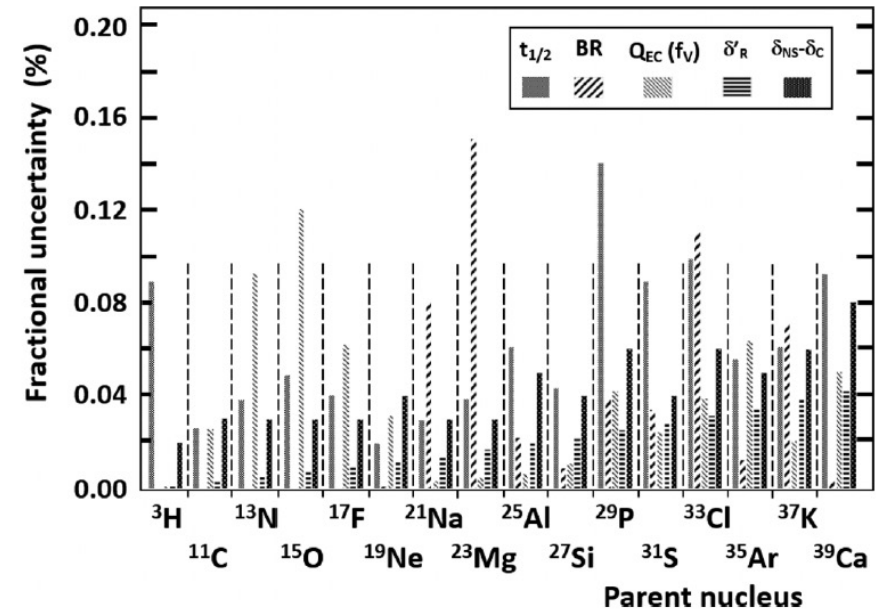
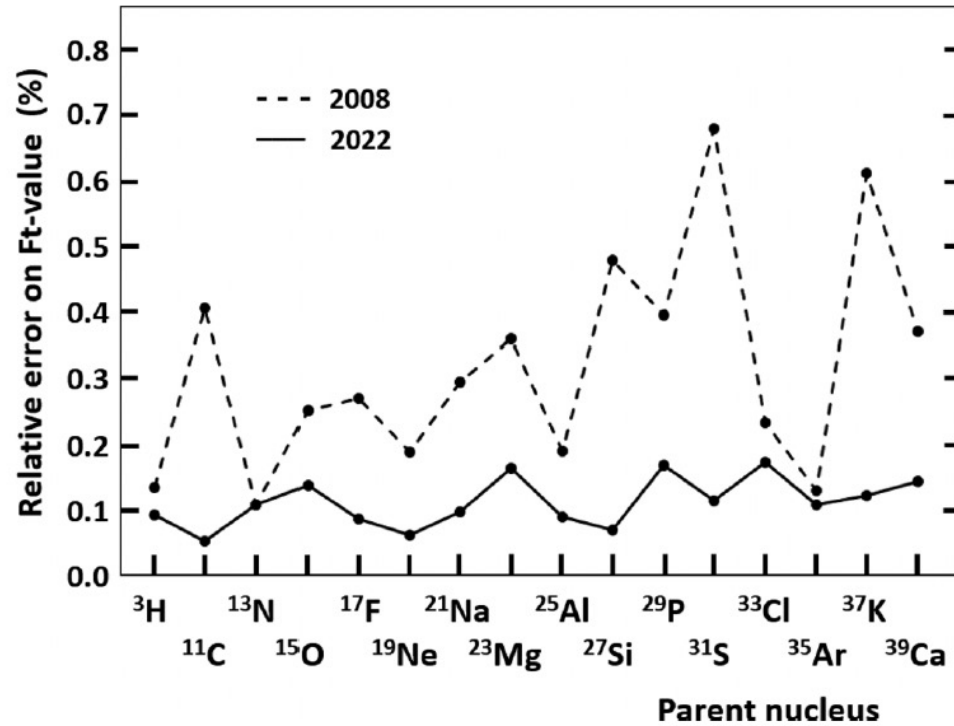


Is there physics beyond the Standard Model? Superaligned decays

Ft values of the mirror β transitions and the weak-magnetism-induced current in allowed nuclear β decay, N. Severijns et al., PHYSICAL REVIEW C 107, 015502 (2023)

$$Ft = ft \left(1 + \delta'_R \right) (1 + \delta_{NS} - \delta_C) = \frac{K}{2G^2(1 + \Delta_R)}$$

δ'_R , δ_{NS} and Δ_R are radiative corrections,
 δ_C is an isospin-symmetry breaking term



Is there physics beyond the Standard Model? Superaligned decays

Ft values of the mirror β transitions and the weak-magnetism-induced current in allowed nuclear β decay, N. Severijns et al., PHYSICAL REVIEW C 107, 015502 (2023)

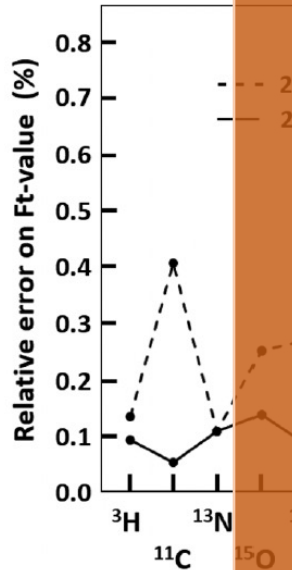


FIG. 1. Progress in the relative uncertainties of the $\mathcal{F}t^{\text{mirror}}$ values for the mirror β transitions up to $A = 39$ from 2008 [89] (dashed) till now (solid).

TABLE IX. Values for $|V_{ud}|^2$ and the unitarity test, i.e., unitarity sum $\equiv |V_{ud}|^2 + |V_{us}|^2 + |V_{ub}|^2$ for the outermost values of the radiative correction Δ_R^V , when using the average value $\mathcal{F}t_0 = 6142.8(32)$ s from all nuclear decays [Eq. (18)] and $|V_{us}| = 0.2245(8)$ and $|V_{ub}| = 0.00382(24)$ from Ref. [118].

Quantity	$\Delta_R^V = 0.02361(38)$ 2006 [350]	$\Delta_R^V = 0.02477(24)$ 2020/2021 [88,126,349]
$ V_{ud} ^2$	0.94927(61)	0.94820(54)
Unitarity sum	0.99968(71)	0.99861(65)
Deviation	0.5σ	2.1σ

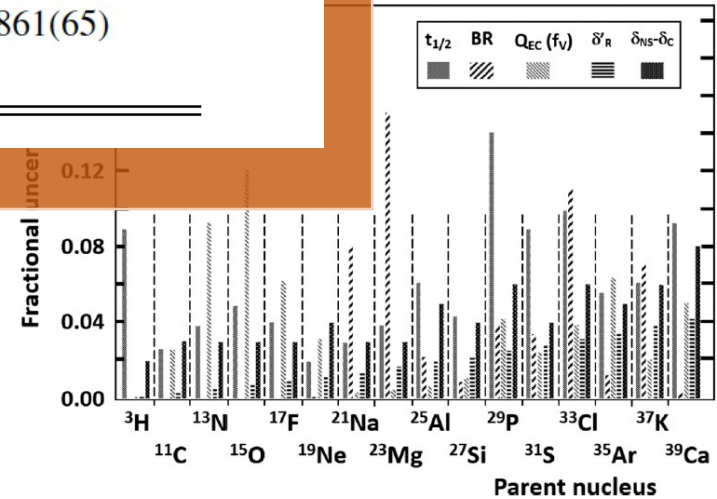
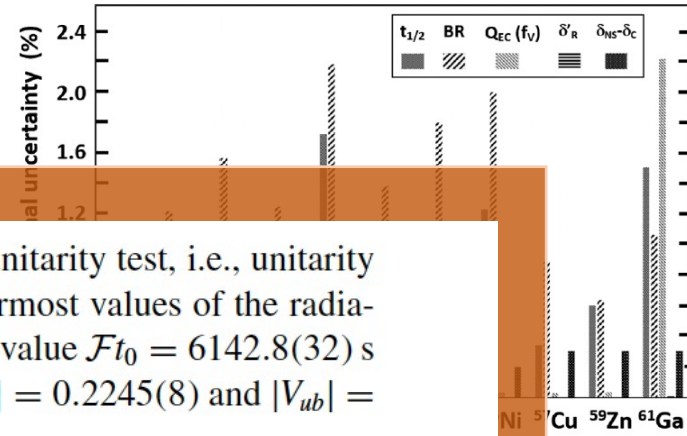
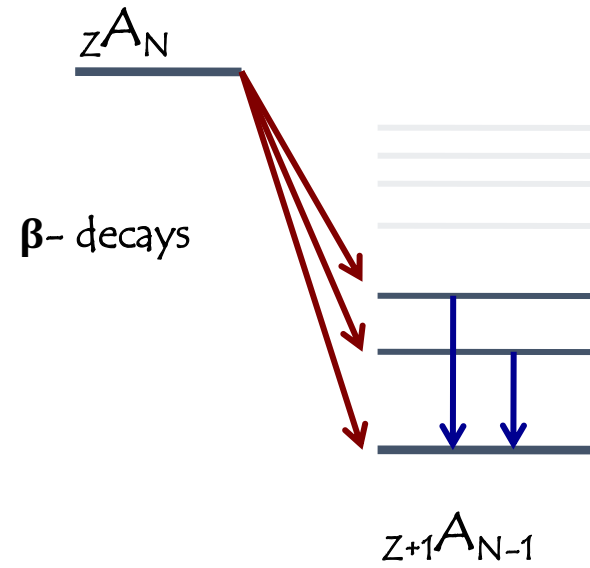
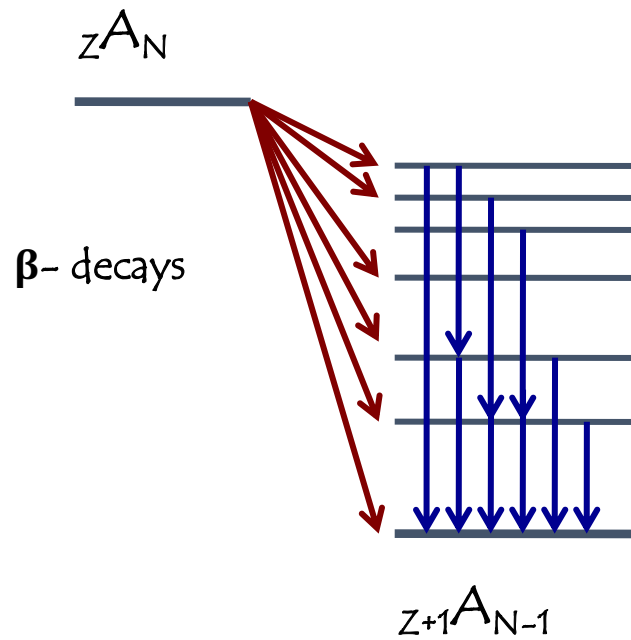


FIG. 2. Fractional contribution of the experimental and theoretical input factors to the $\mathcal{F}t^{\text{mirror}}$ values for the mirror β transitions up to $A = 39$.

General Properties of β decay



- HPGe detectors are conventionally used to construct the level scheme populated in the decay

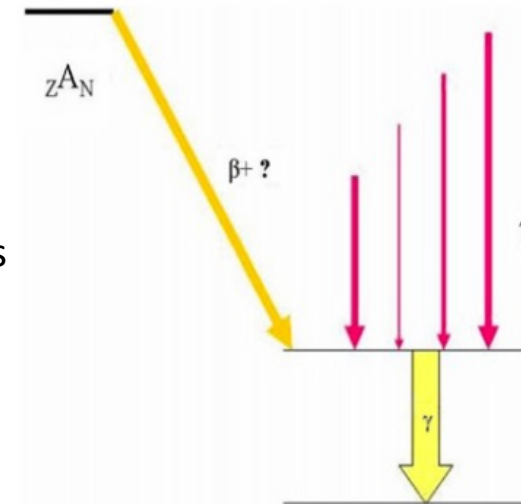
→ Higher Qvalue higher possibility of missing feeding

- From the γ intensity balance we deduce the β -feeding

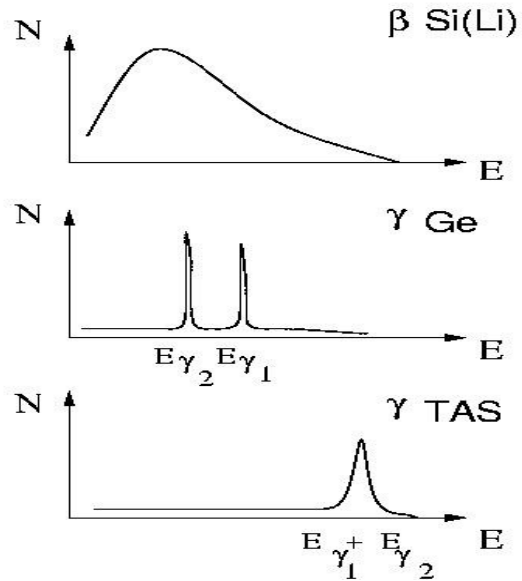
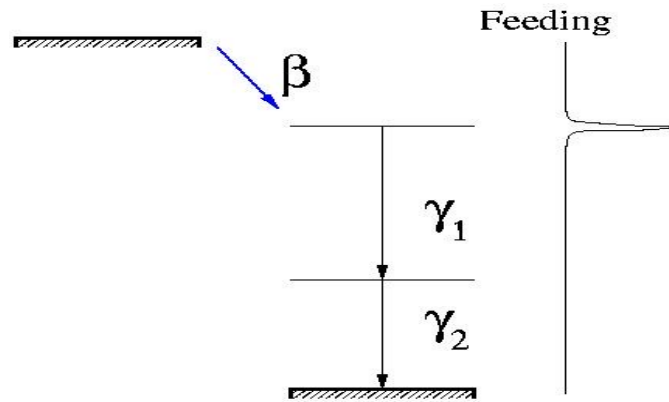
Pandemonium effect implies

→ Wrong definition of gamma feeding and branching ratios

I_b and $\log ft$



TAGS measurements



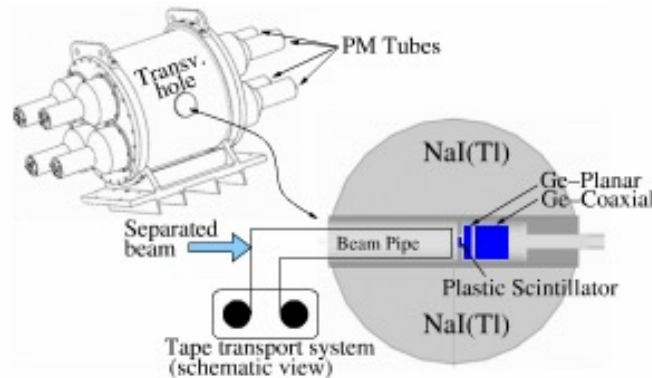
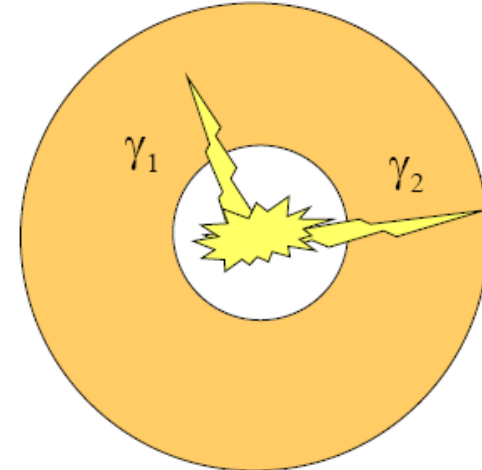
Since the gamma detection is the only reasonable way to solve the problem, we need a highly efficient device:

A TOTAL ABSORTION SPECTROMETER

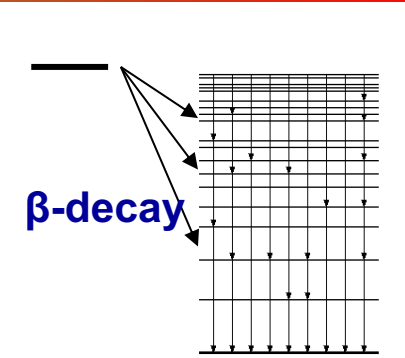
But there is a change in philosophy. Instead of detecting the individual gamma rays we sum the energy deposited by the gamma cascades in the detector.

A TAS is like a calorimeter!

Big crystal, 4π (BaF₂/NaI/HPGe)



TAGS analysis



$$d_i = \sum_{j=1}^{j_{max}} R_{ij} I(E_j)$$

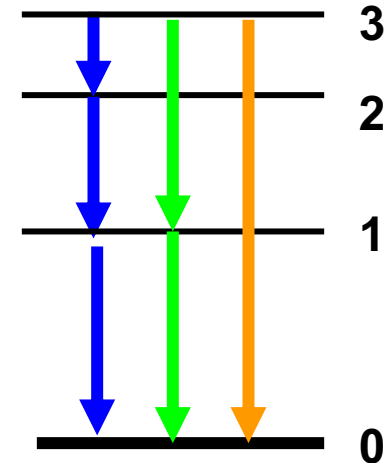
d_j = exp. data in channel i
 $I(E_j)$ = beta feeding of j state

R is the response function of the spectrometer, **R_{ij}** means the probability that feeding at a level j gives counts in data channel i of the spectrum

The response matrix **R** can be constructed by recursive convolution:

$$\mathbf{R}_j = \sum_{k=0}^{j-1} b_{jk} \mathbf{g}_{jk} \otimes \mathbf{R}_k$$

\mathbf{g}_{jk} : γ -response for $j \leftarrow k$ transition
 \mathbf{R}_k : response for level k
 b_{jk} : branching ratio for $j \leftarrow k$ transition

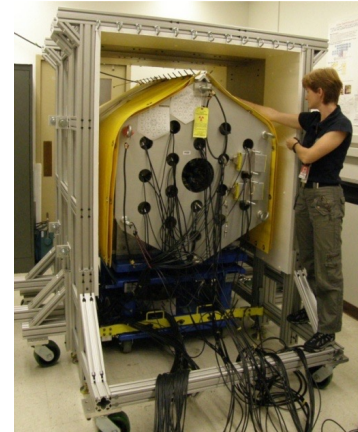
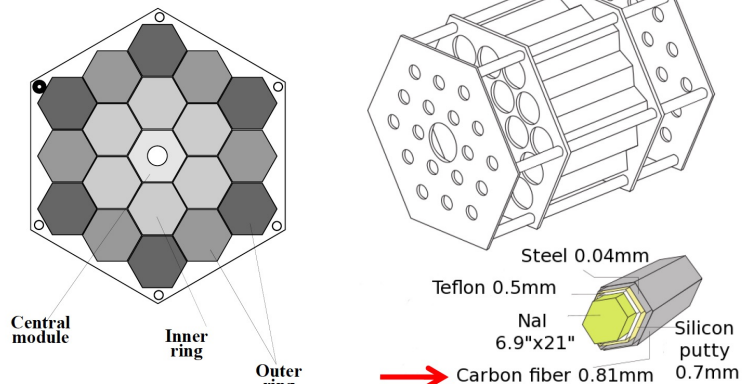
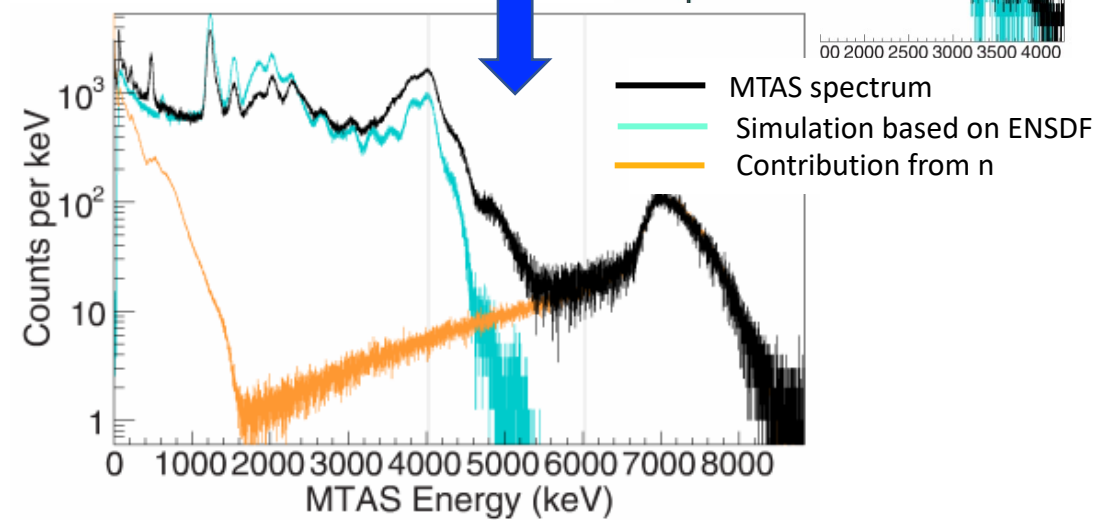
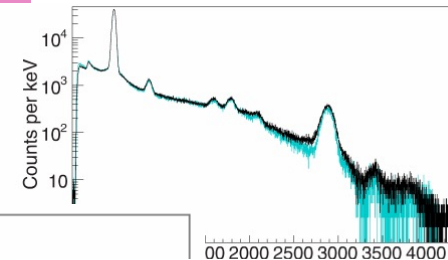


TAS measurement for decay heat evaluation

¹³⁷Ba STABLE 11.232%	¹³⁸Ba STABLE 71.698%	¹³⁹ Ba 83.06 M β-: 100.00%	¹⁴⁰ Ba 12.7527 D β-: 100.00%	¹⁴¹ Ba 2.292 Y β-: 100.00%
¹³⁶ Cs 13.04 D β-: 100.00%	¹³⁷ Cs 30.08 Y β-: 100.00%	¹³⁸ Cs 33.41 M β-: 100.00%	¹³⁹ Cs 9.27 M β-: 100.00%	¹⁴⁰ Cs 14.38 M β-: 100.00%
¹³⁵ Xe 9.14 H β-: 100.00%	¹³⁶ Xe >2.4E+21 Y 8.8573% 2β-	¹³⁷Xe 3.818 M β-: 100.00%	¹³⁸ Xe 17.38 Y β-: 100.00%	¹³⁹ Xe 17.04 H β-: 100.00%
¹³⁴ I 20.47 M β-: 100.00%	¹³⁵ I 6.58 H β-: 100.00%	¹³⁶ I 83.74 D β-: 100.00%	¹³⁷I 24.5 S β-: 100.00% β-n: 7.14%	¹³⁸ I 10.66 M β-: 100.00%

$Q_{\beta} = 4162(3)$ keV

$Q_{\beta} = 6027(8)$ keV



2200 pounds of NaI(Tl) - **Modular** Total Absorption Spectrometer (MTAS) and its 12,000 pound shielding

Compared to the ENSDF β -feeding data there are many more γ rays measured by MTAS in the continuously binned region above Sn energy than previously reported

The average γ energy for ¹³⁷I decay measured with MTAS increases by 19% compared to the ENSDF data

G.s. feeding increases from $45.2 \pm 0.7\%$ to $49 \pm 1\%$.

Conclusions

➤ Broad field of application:

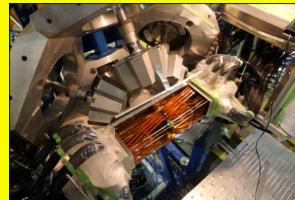
- Inputs for stellar nucleosynthesis
- Nuclear structure studies
- Inputs for Nuclear Energy



➤ Simple equipment

➤ Versatile flexible and modular:

- Minimal setup to extract $T_{1/2}$, P_n , β - γ coincidences
- γ detectors to construct level schemes
- Fast-timing setup: lifetimes \sim ns range
- E0 measurements and long-living activity
- Complete spectroscopy using TAS



➤ Strong complementarity with in-beam spectroscopy

➤ Access to structure information already with few pps beams

➤ No need for post-acceleration

➤ Need for purified beams, even though known contribution from strong contaminants can be removed by off-line analysis

➔ **HRMS & RILIS & TRAPS**

$$\frac{1}{T_{1/2}} = \sum_{E_i \leq Q_\beta} S_\beta(E_i) \times f(Z, Q_\beta - E_i) \quad \beta^- \rightarrow n = p + e^- + \bar{\nu}$$

