



JYVÄSKYLÄN YLIOPISTO  
UNIVERSITY OF JYVÄSKYLÄ

# Laser spectroscopy in radioactive ion beam facilities - Recent highlights

ISOL-FRANCE V, 21.3.2023

Mikael Reponen



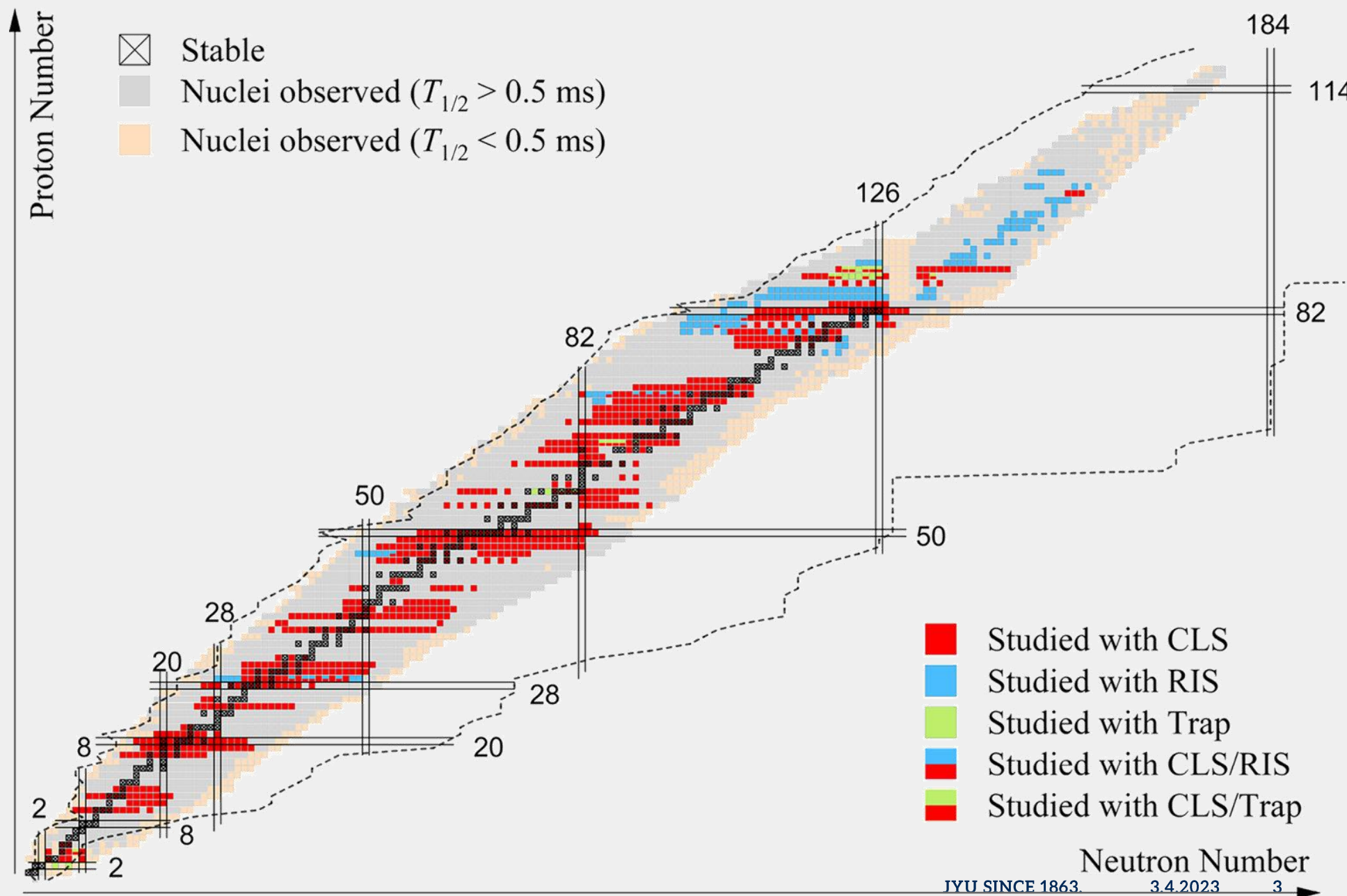
# Outline

- Laser spectroscopy status overview
- RIB Facilities with (planned) laser infrastructure
- Laser spectroscopy
  - Possibilities
  - Approaches, techniques
- Testing nuclear theories with optical measurements
- Near future outlook
  - New frontiers in the heavy region
  - Towards higher-resolution in-source RIS
  - Ultra-high precision frontier and radioactive molecules
- Final remarks



# Status

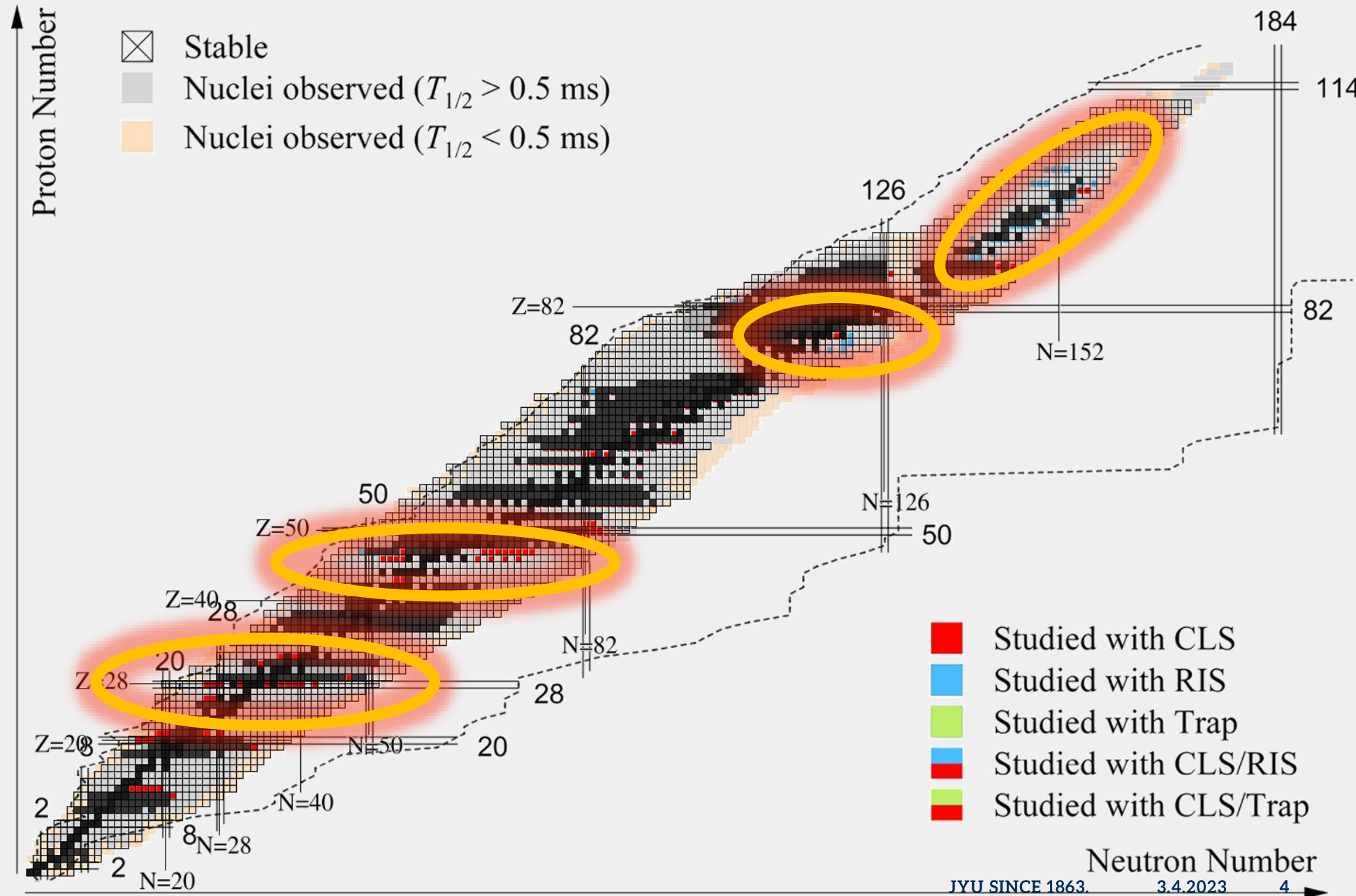
- Much progress since the 2016 review article:
  - Collinear RIS established
  - Laser spectroscopy of heavy elements and actinides
  - Testing nuclear theory with optical results
  - Radioactive molecules
  - Emerging on ultra-high precision and sensitivity techniques.





# Status

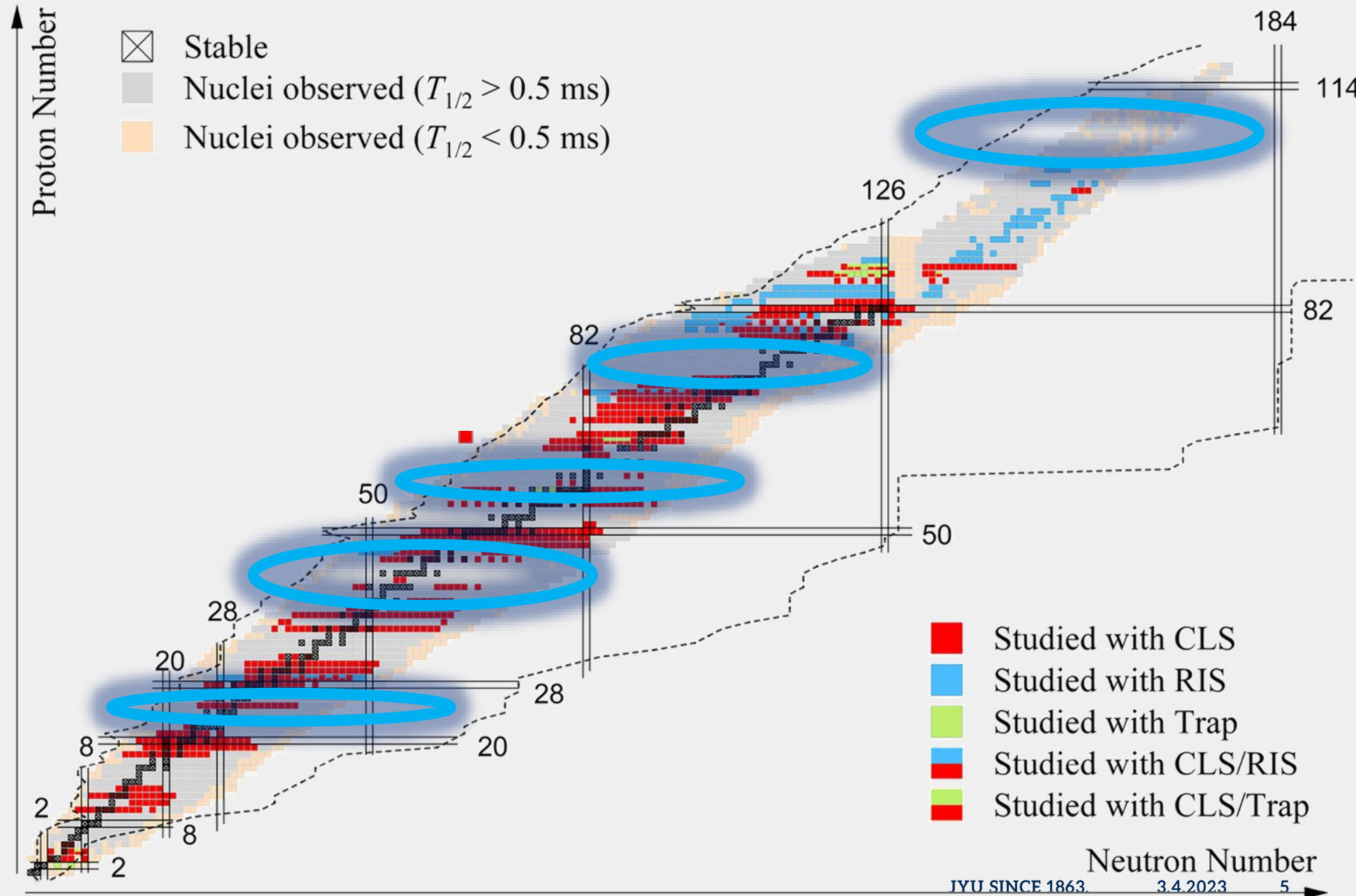
- Much progress since the 2016 review article:
  - Pd-Sn region
    - Access to  $N=50$  and  $N=82$
  - Ca and K chains
  - Work towards  $N=126$
  - Actinides
    - Towards heavy elements





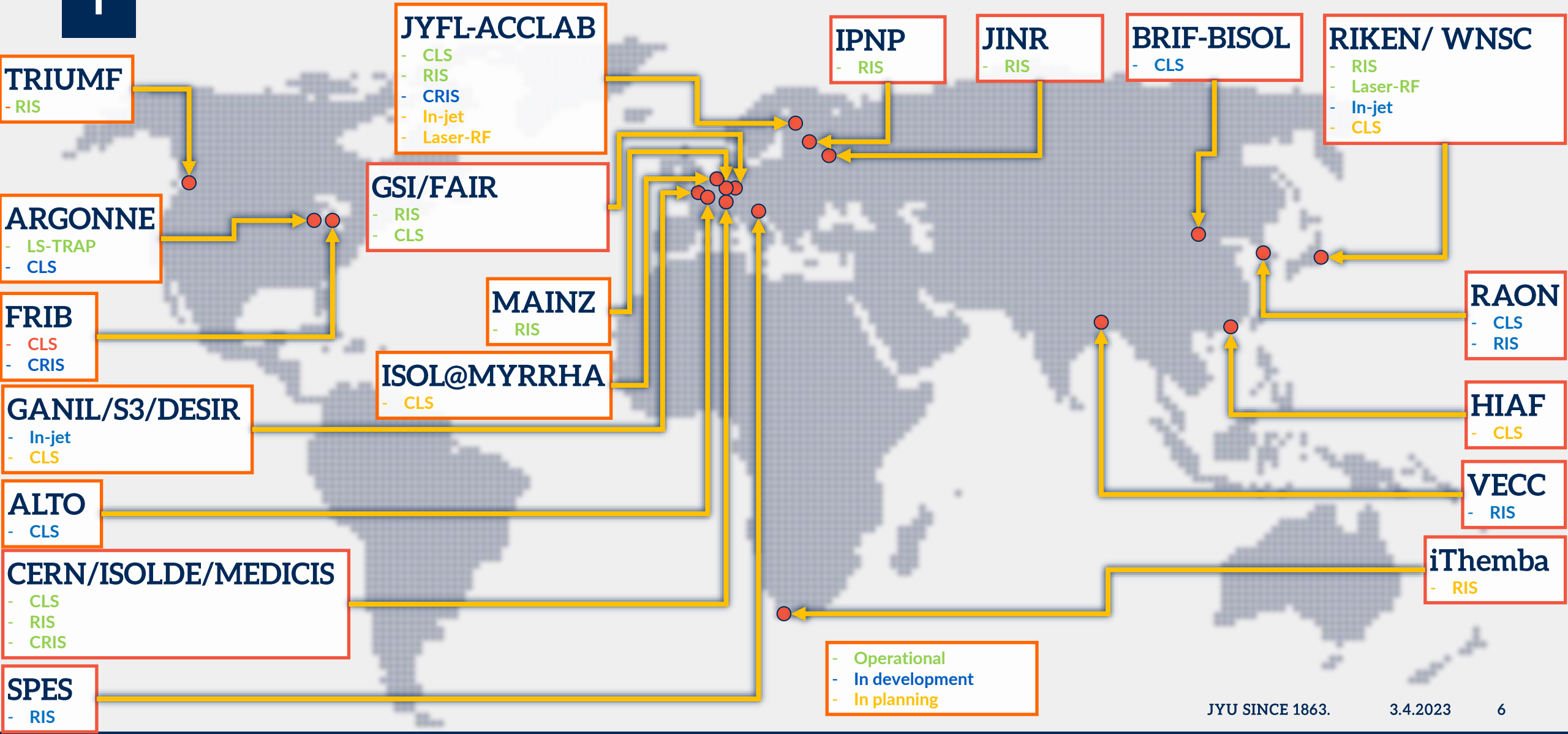
# Status

- Gaps still persist in the nuclear chart
  - Below Ni (Z=28)
  - Tc (Z=43) to Pd (Z=46)
  - Rare -earth elements
  - Ir-Pt region
  - Superheavy elements





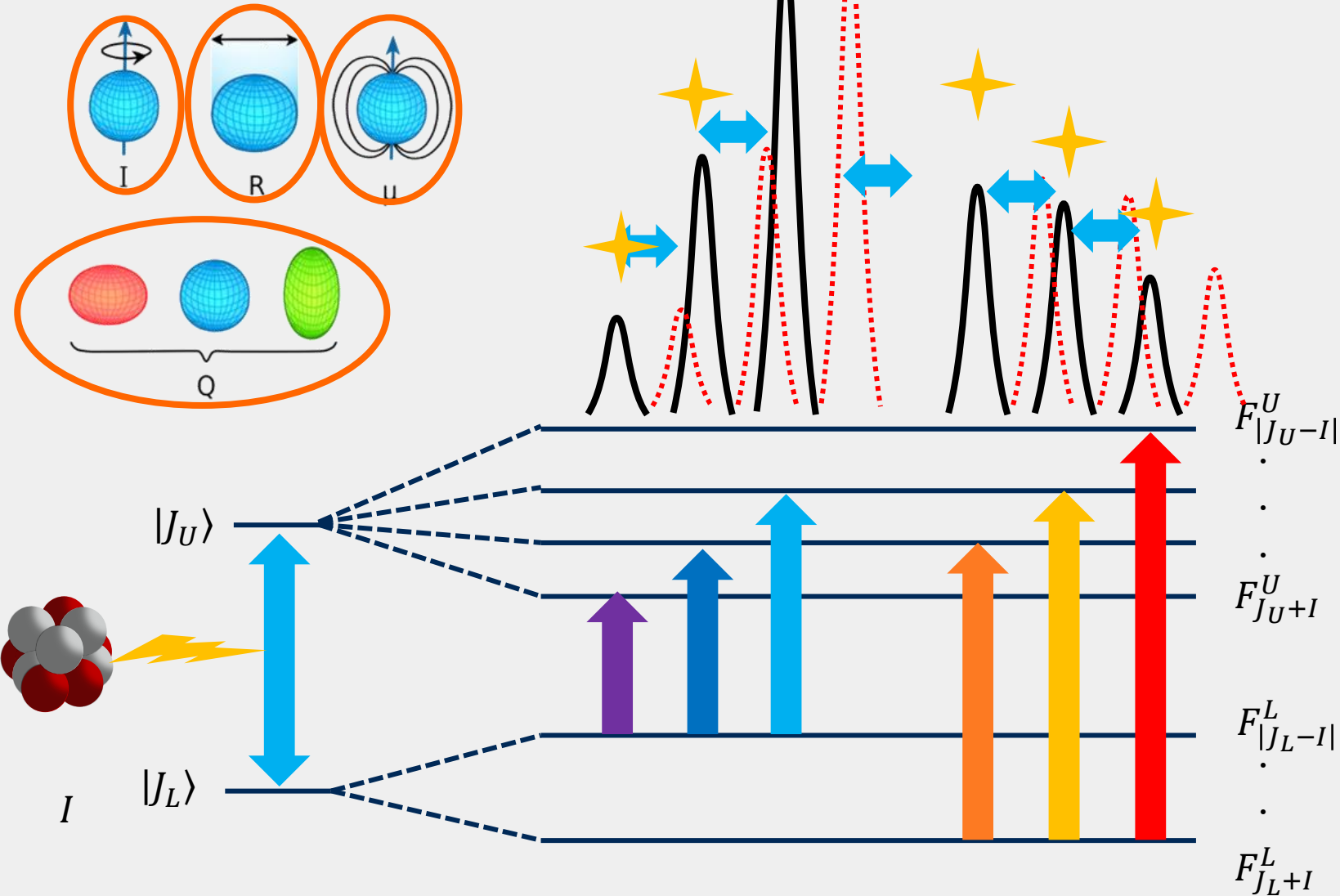
# RIB Facilities with (planned) laser infrastructure





# Laser spectroscopy

- Nuclear properties are mapped to the atomic structure.
  - Isotopes have a finite size leading to isotope shifts  $\rightarrow$  nuclear size
  - Orbiting charges and intrinsic nucleon moments lead to nuclear magnetic moments  $\rightarrow$  valence configuration, wf purity
  - Charge can assume non-spherical charge distribution, and thus electric moments  $\rightarrow$  deformation, shape, collectivity
- Spin, radii, moments be extracted without assuming a nuclear model!





# Laser spectroscopy

## Atomic physics

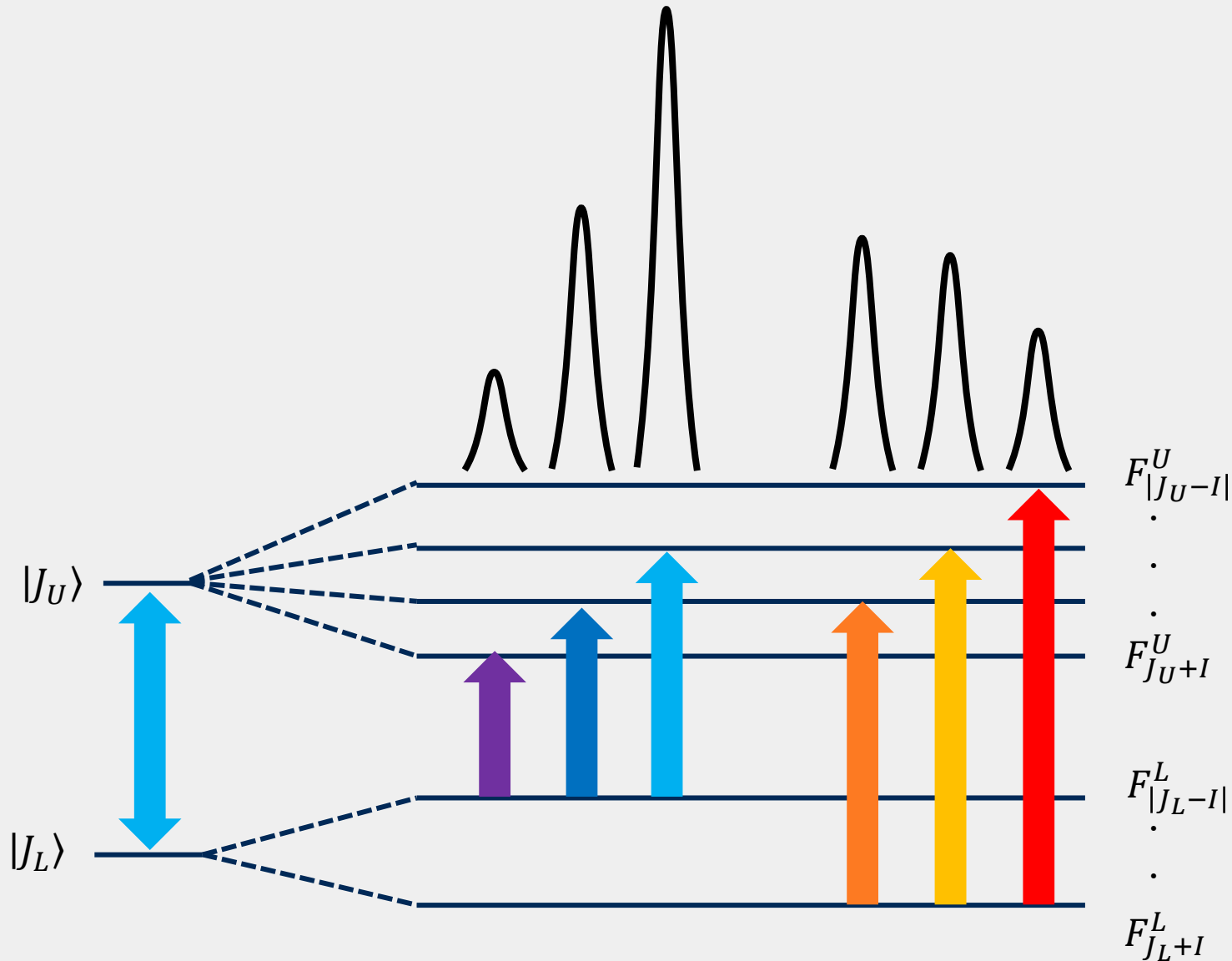
$$W_{F,J}^{(1)} \simeq W_{F,J}^{M1} + W_{F,J}^{E2},$$

$$W_{F,J}^{M1} = A_{hf} \mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{J},$$

$$W_{F,J}^{E2} = B_{hf} \frac{3(\mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{J})^2 + \frac{3}{2}(\mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{J}) - I(I+1)J(J+1)}{2I(2I-1)J(2J-1)}$$

$$A_{hf} = g_I \mu_N \frac{\langle J || T_e^{(1)} || J \rangle}{\sqrt{J(J+1)(2J+1)}},$$

$$B_{hf} = 2Q \left[ \frac{J(2J-1)}{(J+1)(2J+1)(2J+3)} \right]^{1/2} \langle J || T_e^{(2)} || J \rangle$$

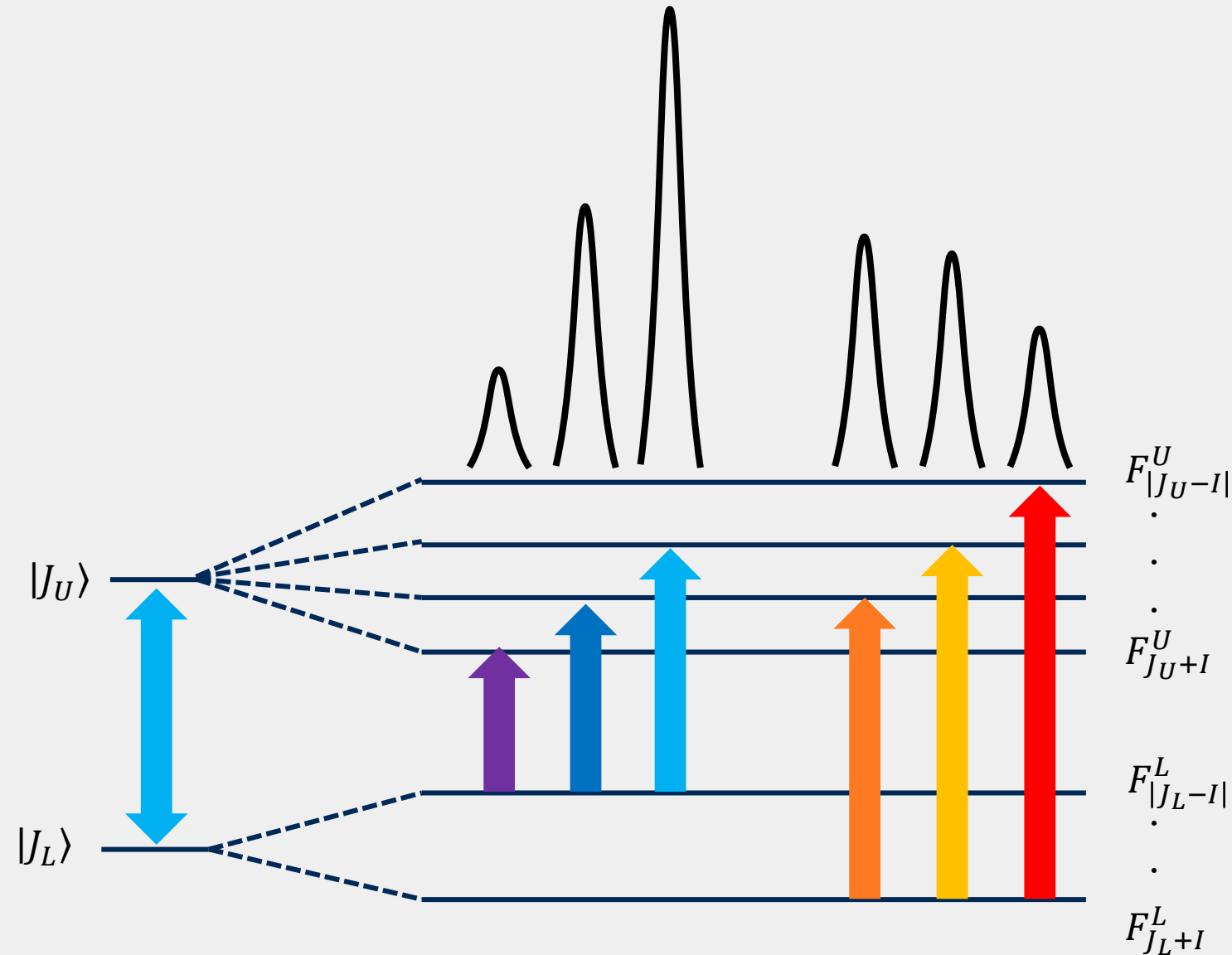






# Laser spectroscopy technical

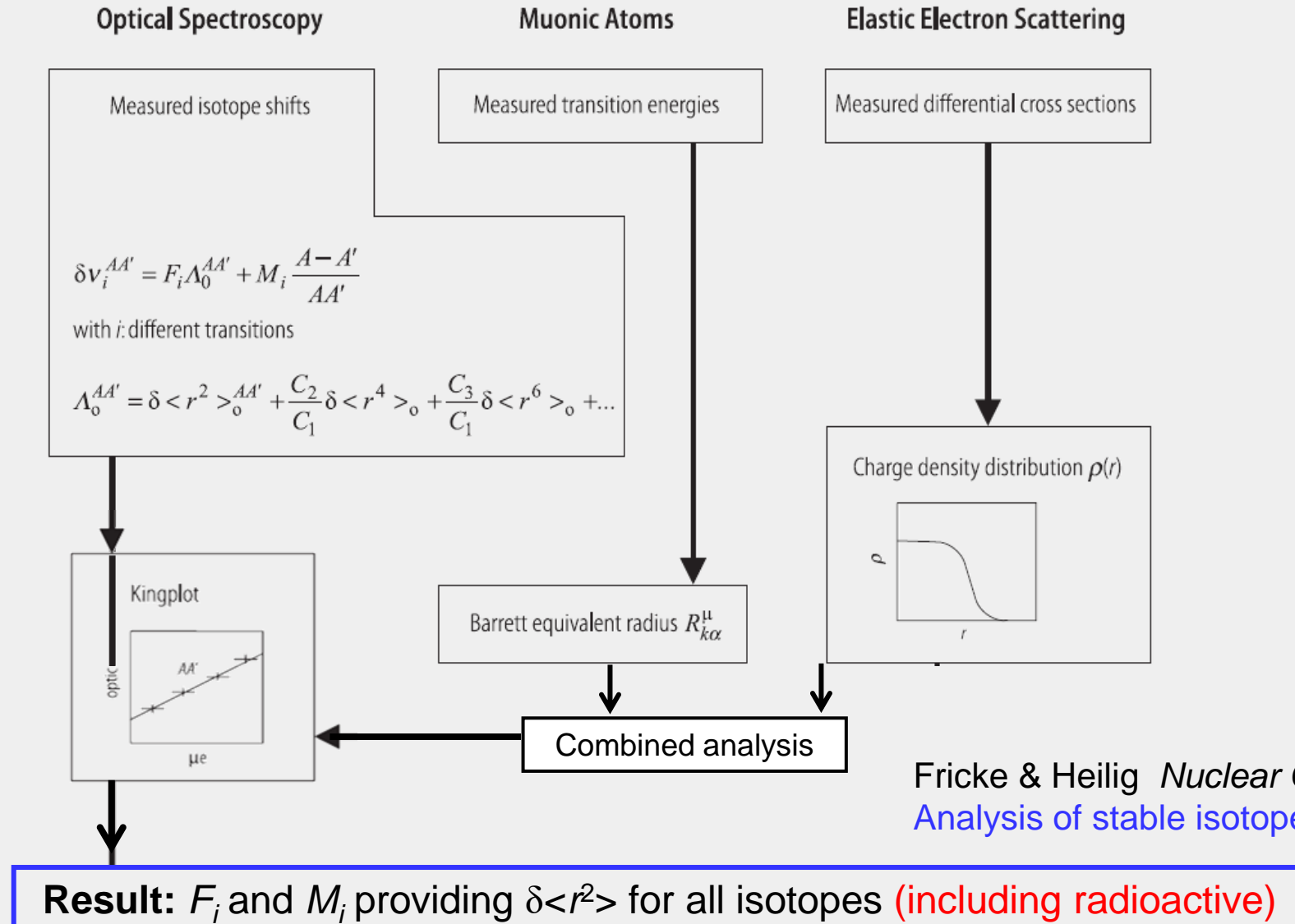
- Laser spectroscopy: Drive a transition and monitor a fluorescence/ion signal/etc. as a function of laser frequency
- Transition wavelengths: 10-2000 nm
  - Practically range: 200-1000 nm
- Isotope shifts, hyperfine splitting :
  - MHz to many GHz
- Transition @400 nm = 750 THz
- Laser spectroscopy inherits the richness of atomic structure.
  - Efficiency, applicability, etc. are element-specific.





# Charge radii from isotope shift measurements

## General approach



Fricke & Heilig *Nuclear Charge Radii* (Springer 2004)  
Analysis of stable isotopes



# Laser Spectroscopy possibilities

## Exotic nuclei at the limits of stability

Expected yields  $\ll 1$  atom/second  
Lifetimes  $< 1s$   
Relatively large isobar contamination

### Resolution:

Very little known  $\Rightarrow$  low resolution ok  
As low as 10 MHz / precision  $\sim 100$  kHz possible.

### Technique :

Fast due to short half-lives  
Highly selective due to isobars  
Low yield requires a high sensitivity  
Lower resolution can be acceptable

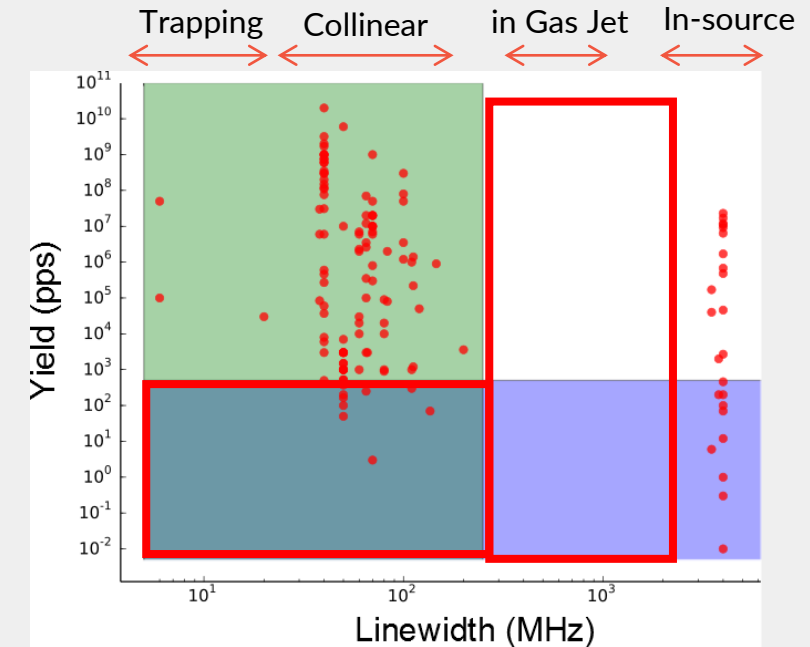
## Near Stability Nuclei

Expected yields  $> 10^8$  atom/second  
Lifetimes  $\gg 1s$   
High purity

Resolution/precision frontier:  
kHz/mHz

### Technique :

New physics requires high resolution  
sensitivity is not critical  
The method can be slow





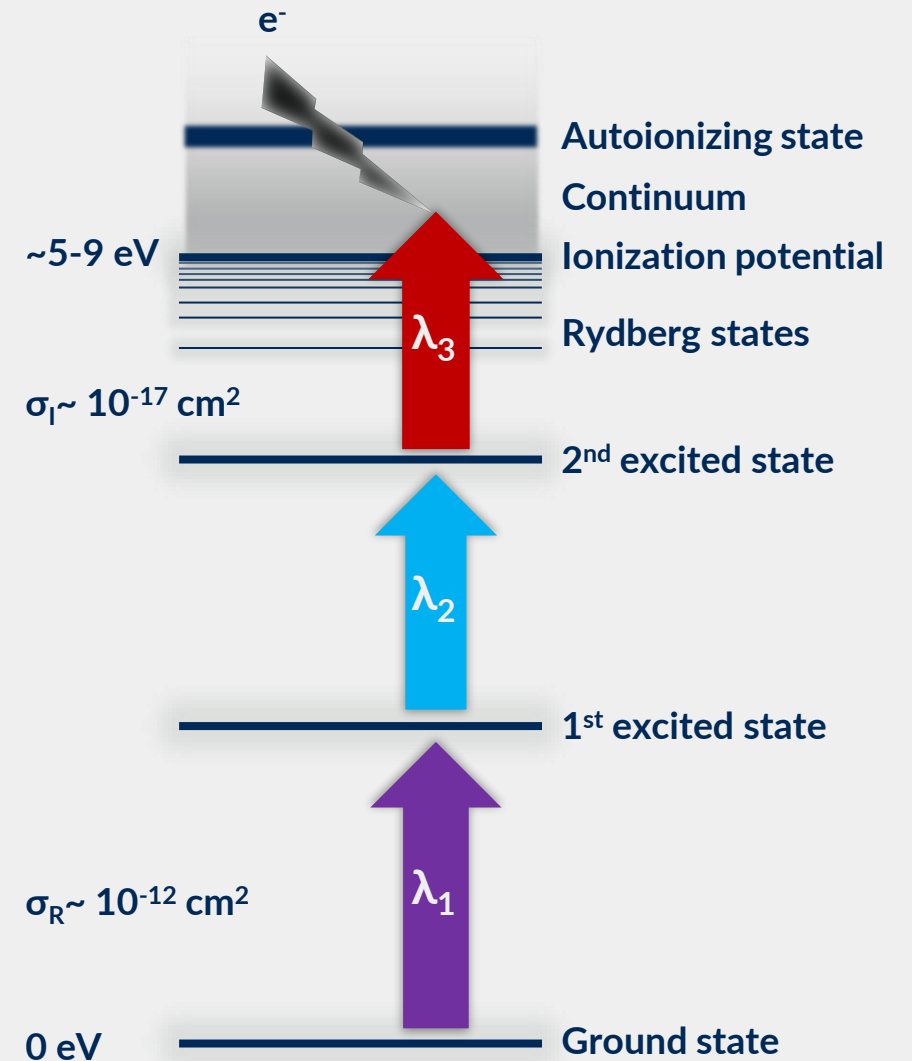
# (Typical) Laser spectroscopy approaches

- In-source laser spectroscopy
    - Hot cavity
    - Gas cell
  - Collinear laser spectroscopy
    - Fluorescence detection
    - Resonance ionization
    - Beta-NMR/collisional ionization/state-selective CEC
  - Methods tailed to specific cases
    - Spectroscopy on trapped ion/atom
    - Techniques superseded by more modern ones...
- Very efficient, low production rates  
Low resolution, limited element choice  
(New techniques to improve resolution)
- A bit less efficient  
High resolution, wide element choice
- More niche, specific cases/applications  
Search for new physics



# Method: Laser resonance ionization

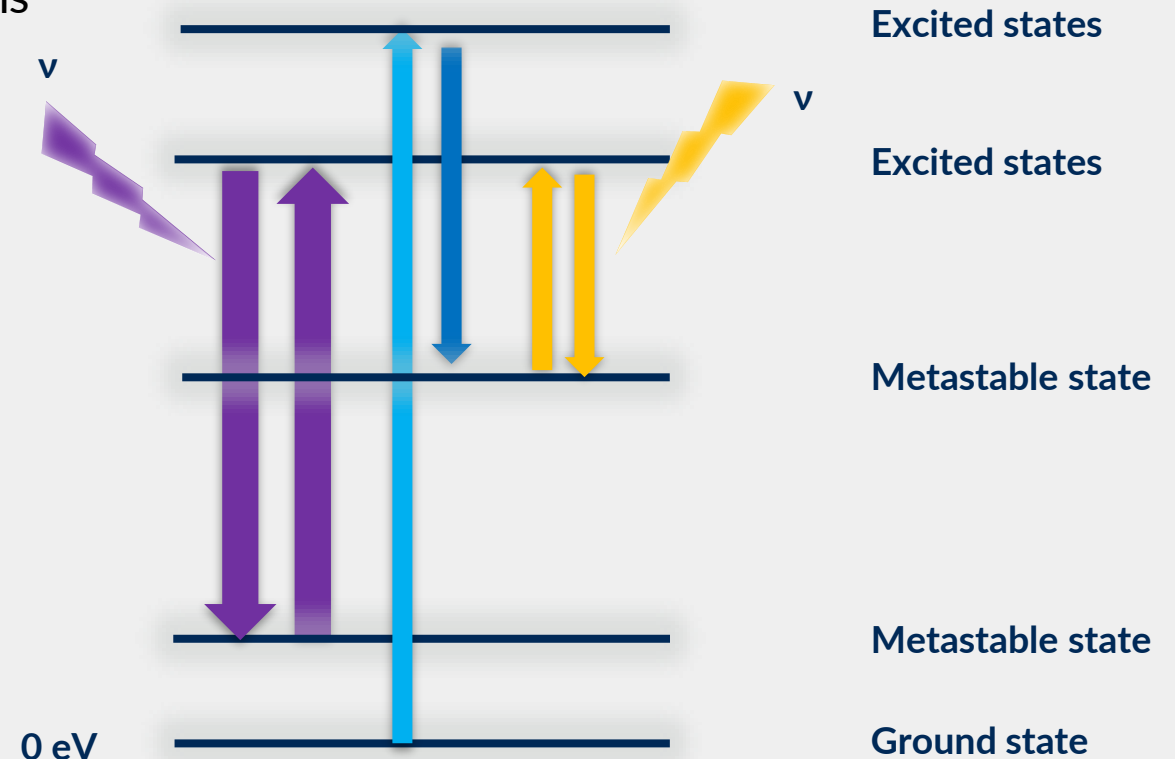
- Each element have their unique atomic structure - “fingerprint”.
- Multiple laser beams overlapped with atoms to stepwise excite and ionize
  - Efficient! As high as >50%, typically a few %
- A great method for sensitive laser spectroscopy
  - Resolution depends highly environment dependent.





# Method: Collinear laser spectroscopy

- In-flight laser spectroscopy with fast atomic or ionic beams
  - Typically,  $\sim 20\text{-}40\text{ keV} \Rightarrow$  Doppler compression!
  - CLS of confined ions
    - MR-ToF
    - Relativistic CLS in storage rings.
- Resolution down to the natural linewidth
- Typically, fluorescence detection
  - Either from a ground state or metastable state
    - Optical pumping to prepare a suitable state!
- Collinear RIS + ion detection a recent breakthrough.





# Experiments + theory

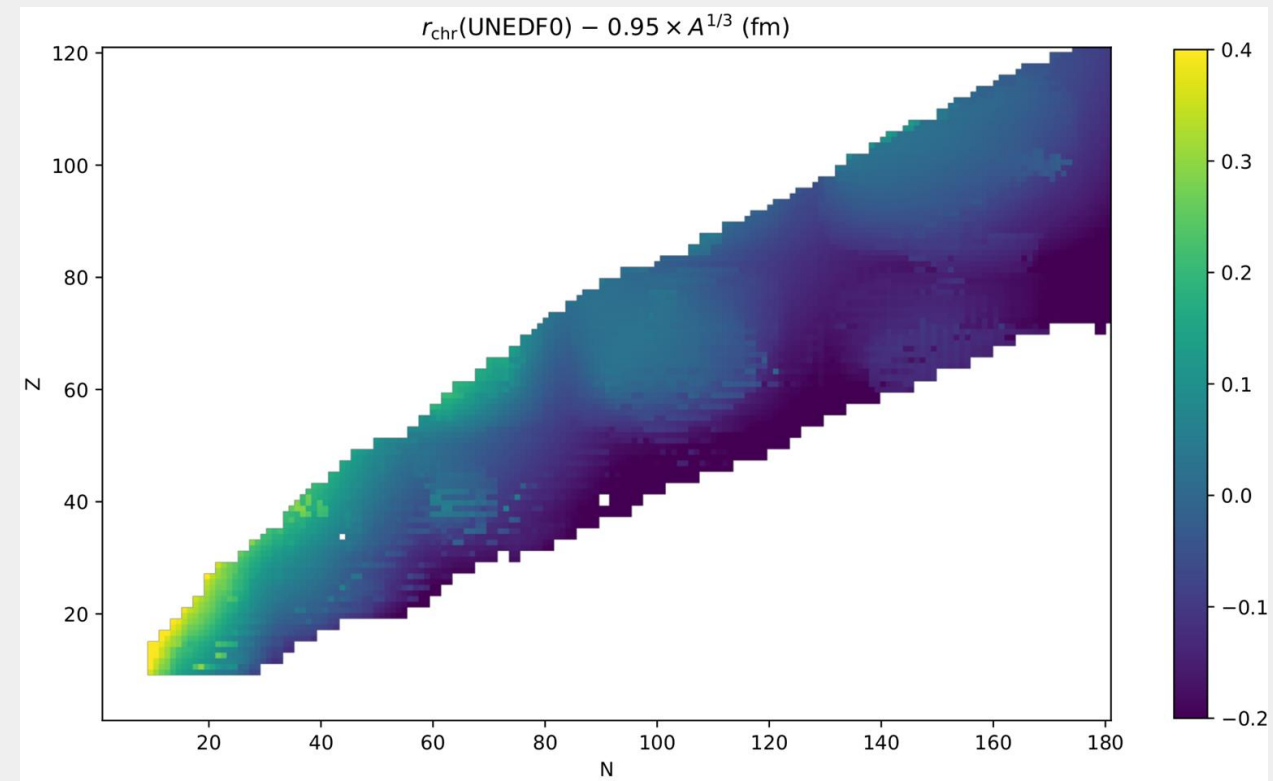
## Benchmarking models with optical measurements



# Testing and developing nuclear theory

## Nuclear charge radius from isotope shift measurements

- Local variation in charge radii requires precise nuclear structure calculations
- Microscopical effects impact the radius:
  - shell structure
  - deformation
  - pairing
  - proximity to continuum, etc.
- For example: A sudden change in the systematics of the radius can signal a transition between, e.g., deformed and spherical systems.



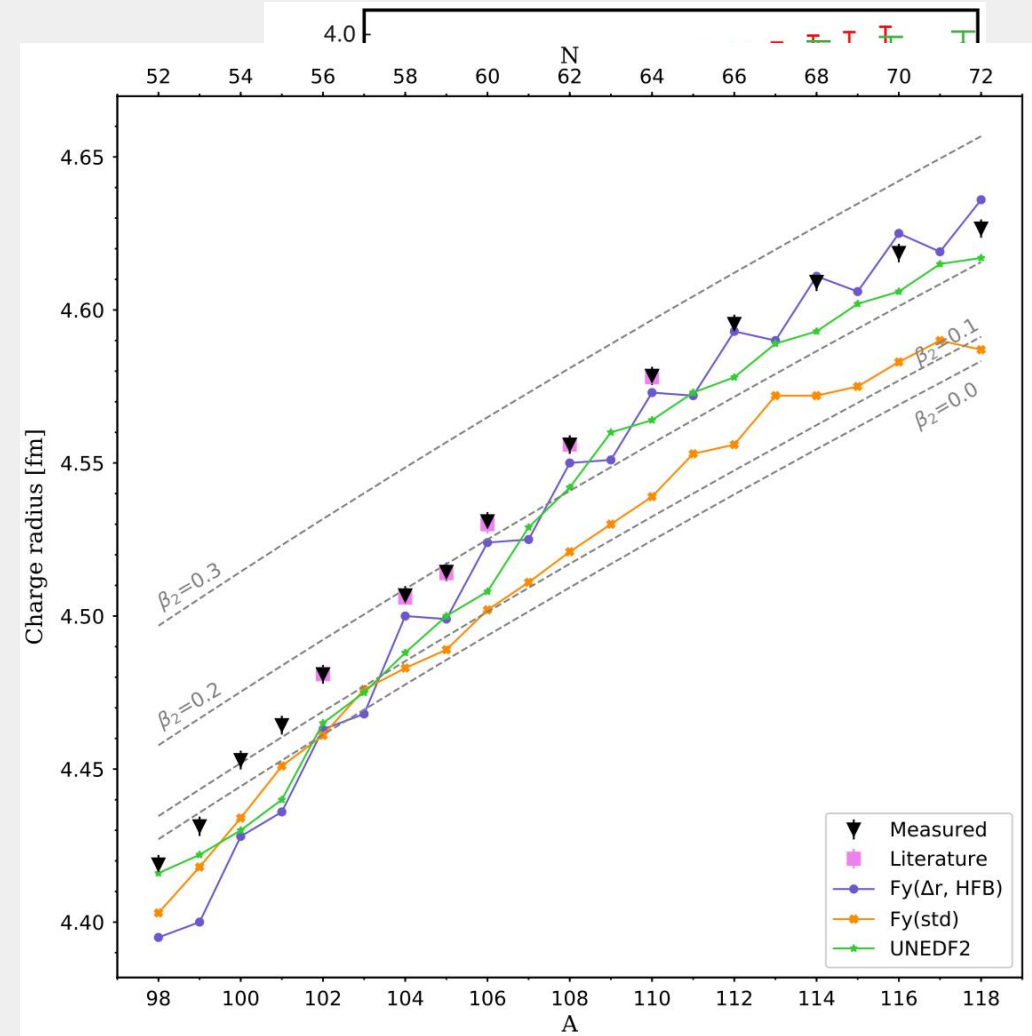




# Recent DFT test cases

## DFT: Nuclear charge radius

- Compared to Skyrme EDF, Fayans EDF has a more complicated structure.
  - Includes density dependence and gradient term.
- Recent Fayans functionals add gradient term on pairing energy density.
  - To reproduce Ca chain radii OES
- Recently applied for example in
  - Ni
  - Pd
- Few more charge-radii cases to follow...



S. Geldhof, et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. 128, 022501 (2022)

S. Malbrunot-Ettenauer et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. 128, 022502 (2022)

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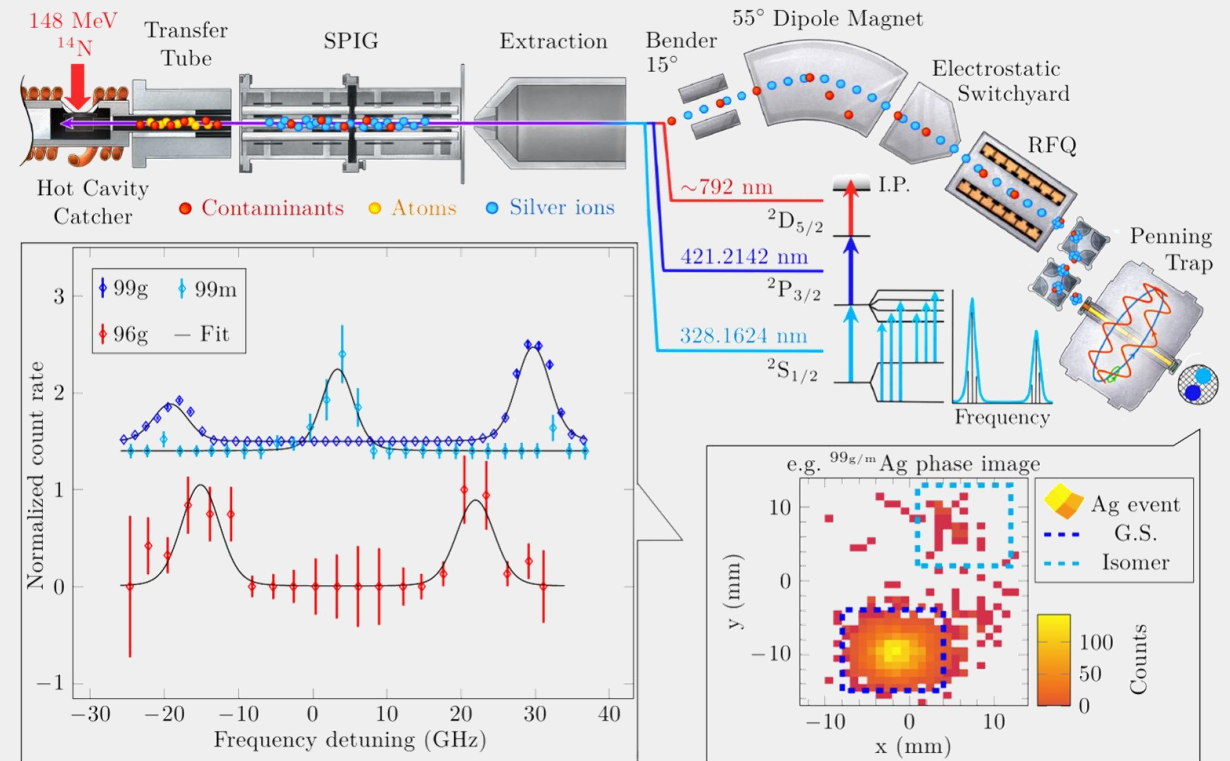


# Challenging nuclear theory

## Little explored regions of the nuclear chart

- In-source RIS in the immediate vicinity of  $^{100}\text{Sn}$ 
  - Crossing the  $N=50$  in the
  - Approaching  $N=Z$  line
- Signal rates of 1 per 5 minutes

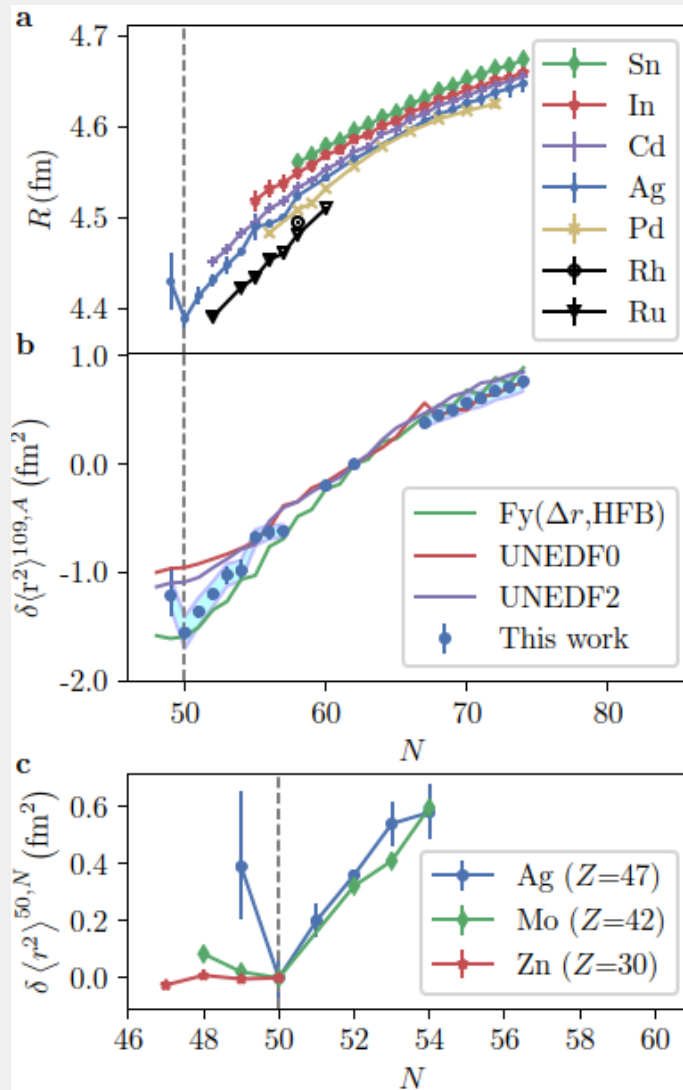
Lit. Optical Data		$Z=50$											
Low-res.	High-res.	In 96	In 97	In 98	In 99	In 100	In 101	In 102	In 103	In 104	In 105		
				Sn 99	Sn 100 1.16 s	Sn 101 1.97 s	Sn 102 3.8 s	Sn 103 7.0 s	Sn 104 20.8 s	Sn 105 34 s			
				Cd 94	Cd 95	Cd 96 880 ms	Cd 97 1.10 s	Cd 98 9.2 s	Cd 99 16 s	Cd 100 49.1 s	Cd 101 1.36 m	Cd 102 5.5 m	Cd 103 7.3 m
		Ag 92	Ag 93	Ag 94 37 ms	Ag 95 1.76 s	Ag 96 4.44 s	Ag 97 25.5 s	Ag 98 47.5 s	Ag 99 2.07 m	Ag 100 2.01 m	Ag 101 11.1 m	Ag 102 12.9 m	
		Pd 91	Pd 92 1.1 s	Pd 93 1.15 s	Pd 94 9.0 s	Pd 95 7.5 s	Pd 96 122 s	Pd 97 3.10 m	Pd 98 17.7 m	Pd 99 21.4 m	Pd 100 3.63 d	Pd 101 8.47 h	
		$N=50$											





# Challenging nuclear theory

## Little explored regions of the nuclear chart



- Spectra for  $^{104-96}\text{Ag}$  obtained using  $^{14}\text{N}(^{92}\text{Mo}, 2\text{pxn})\text{Ag}$ 
  - Data  $^{96,95}\text{Ag}$  using  $^{40}\text{Ca}(^{58/60}\text{Ni}, \text{pxn})\text{Ag}$
- *Virtually* a background-free measurements
- Very sharp kink observed at  $N=50$  – beyond current DFT models. More data needed to refine error bar.
  - Points towards a need for symmetry-restored multi-reference EDF
- Magnetic moments near  $N=Z$  an important test for theory

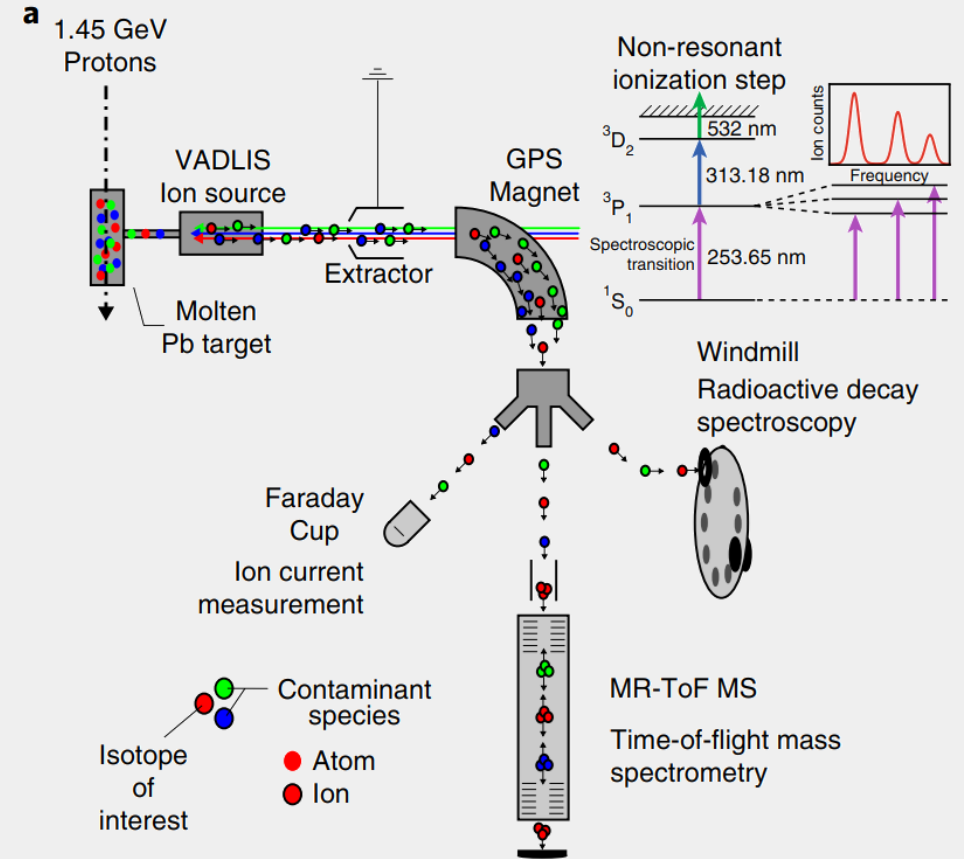


# Challenging nuclear theory

## Exotic isotopes with minute yields

### RILIS:

- Linewidth: order of GHz
  - Source of broadening: Doppler effect due to high temperature
  - Spectral properties of the laser are matched to this linewidth
- Ions transported to one of several possible detection stations
  - Decay spectroscopy: tag on characteristic radiation
  - Mass spectrometry: single out one isotope from other isobars using its mass
- **FLEXIBILITY!** Tailor the detection to the isotope and beam at hand

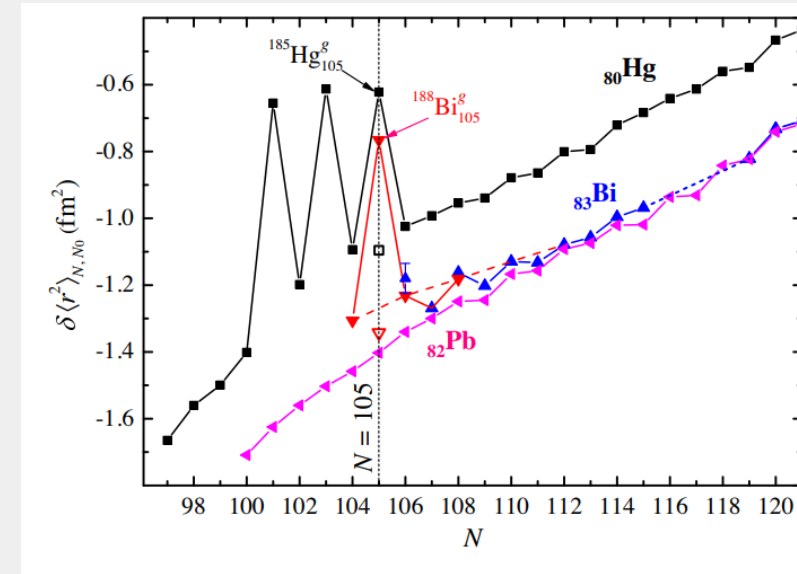
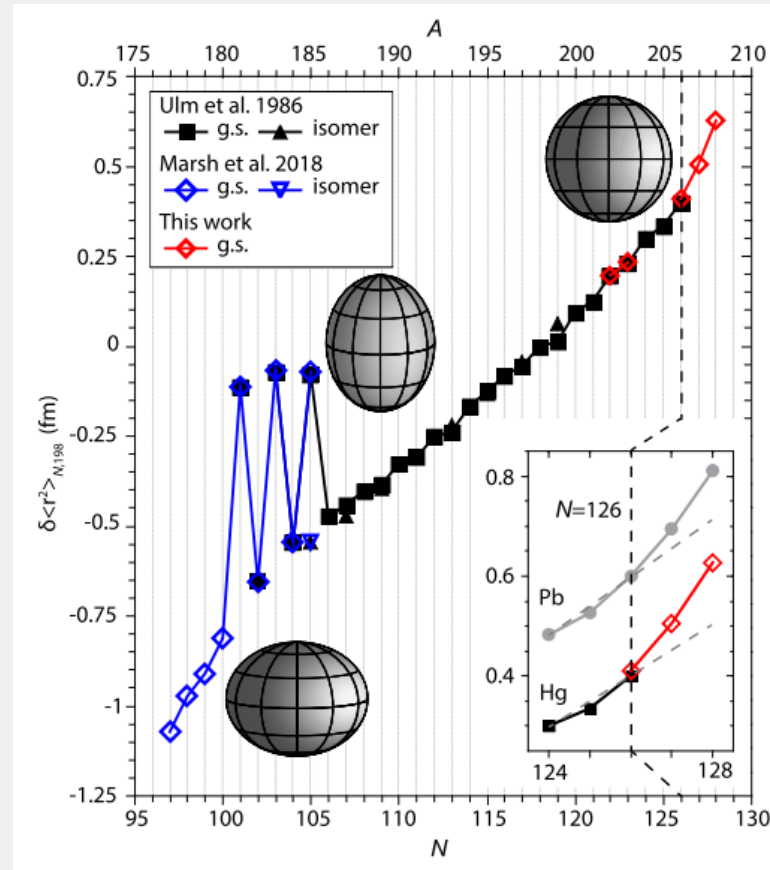
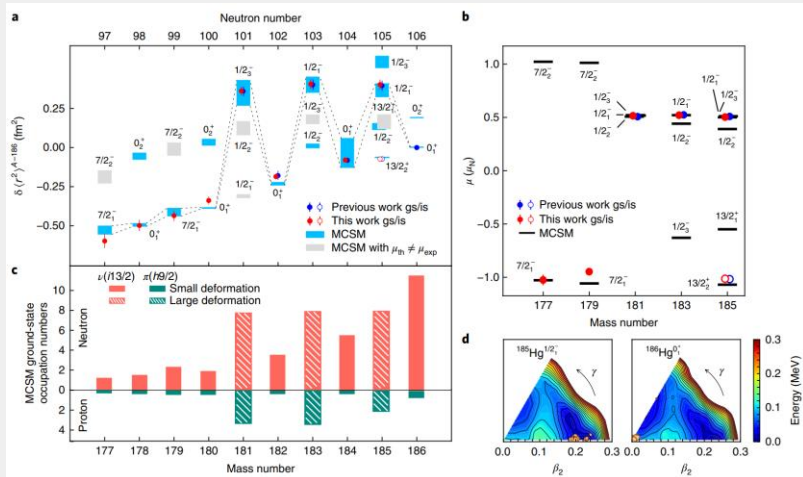




# Challenging nuclear theory

## Exotic isotopes with minute yields

- Shape staggering in **Hg** and **Bi**
  - Significant challenge for nuclear theory
  - Magnetic moments are key to pin down nuclear configuration to aid the interpretation!



Marsh, B.A., Day Goodacre, T., Sels, S. *et al.* Characterization of the shape-staggering effect in mercury nuclei. *Nat. Phys* **14**, 1163–1167 (2018)

T. Day Goodacre, *PRL* **126**, 032502 (2021)

Barzakh, A., *et al.* Large Shape Staggering in Neutron-Deficient Bi isotopes, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **127**, 192501 (2021)

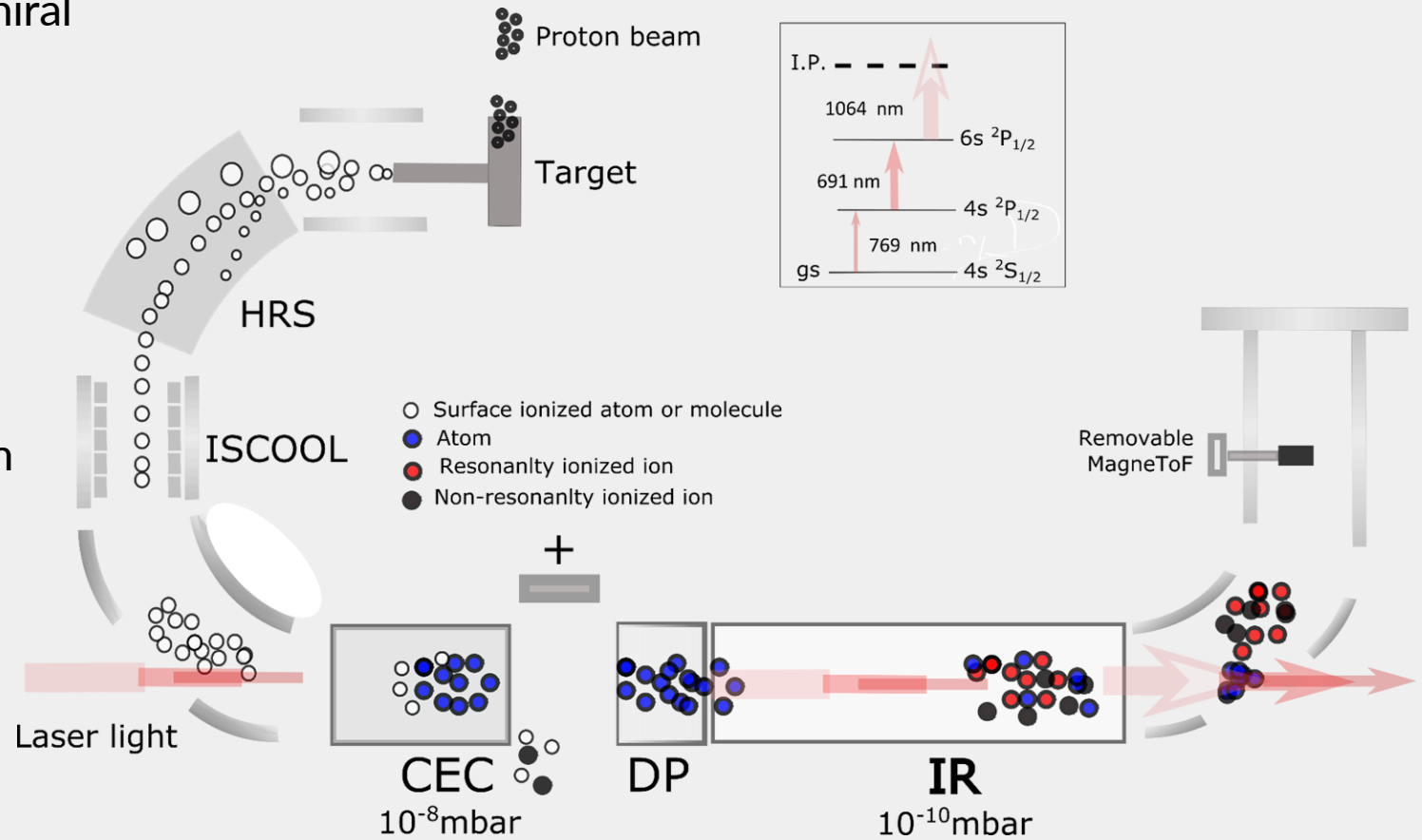
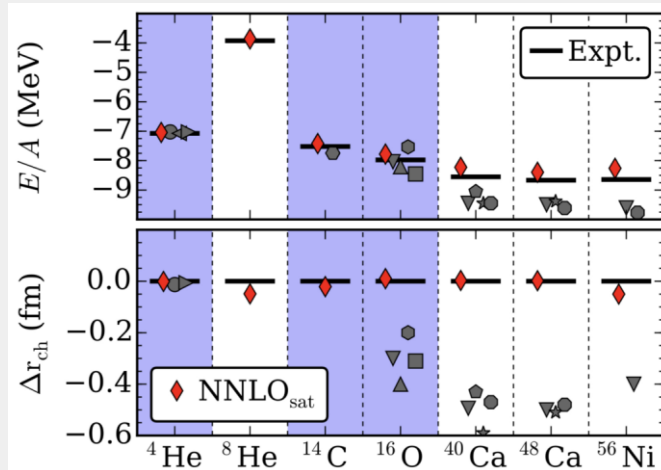


# Development of nuclear interactions

## Pushing methods to short lifetimes and low yields with collinear methods

Study of K as a test to DFT and NNLO<sub>sat/go</sub> Chiral Effective Field Theory

- CRIS at ISOLDE:
  - Collinear = doppler-free
  - RIS = versatile, efficient
- Challenges:
  - Low yields, Large isobaric contamination



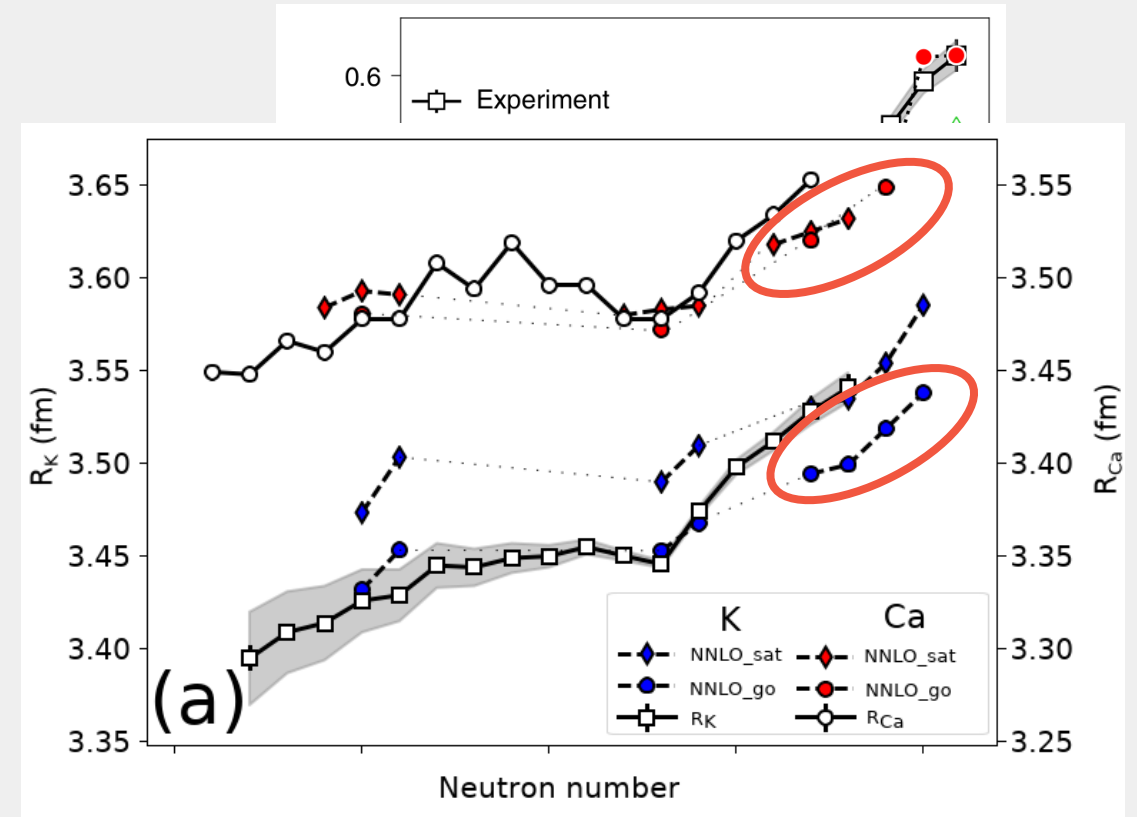
A. Ekström, PRC **91**, 051301(R) 2015



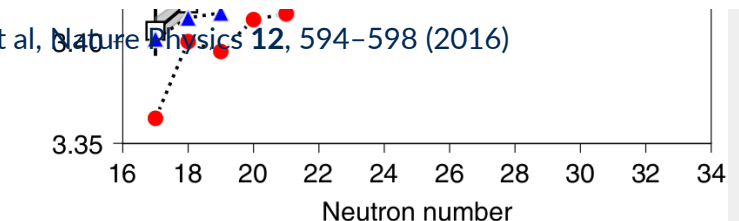
# Development of nuclear interactions

Pushing methods to short lifetimes and low yields with collinear methods

- Theoretical calculations
  - DFT framework (Fy( $\Delta r$ ,HFB) EDF),
  - ab-initio coupled-cluster calculations with NNLO<sub>sat</sub> and  $\Delta$ NNLO<sub>GO</sub>
- Fy( $\Delta r$ ,HFB) reproduces the kink and trend after N = 28
  - However, too strong odd-even effect.
- Ab-initio results show more realistic odd-even effect, but the trend after N = 28 is not so well reproduced
  - No signature of a magic shell gap at N = 32
- NNLO<sub>sat</sub> and newer NNLO<sub>GO</sub> may work better close to stability
  - Also observed in Ca (CLS measurement)



R. F. Garcia Ruiz et al, Nature Physics 12, 594–598 (2016)



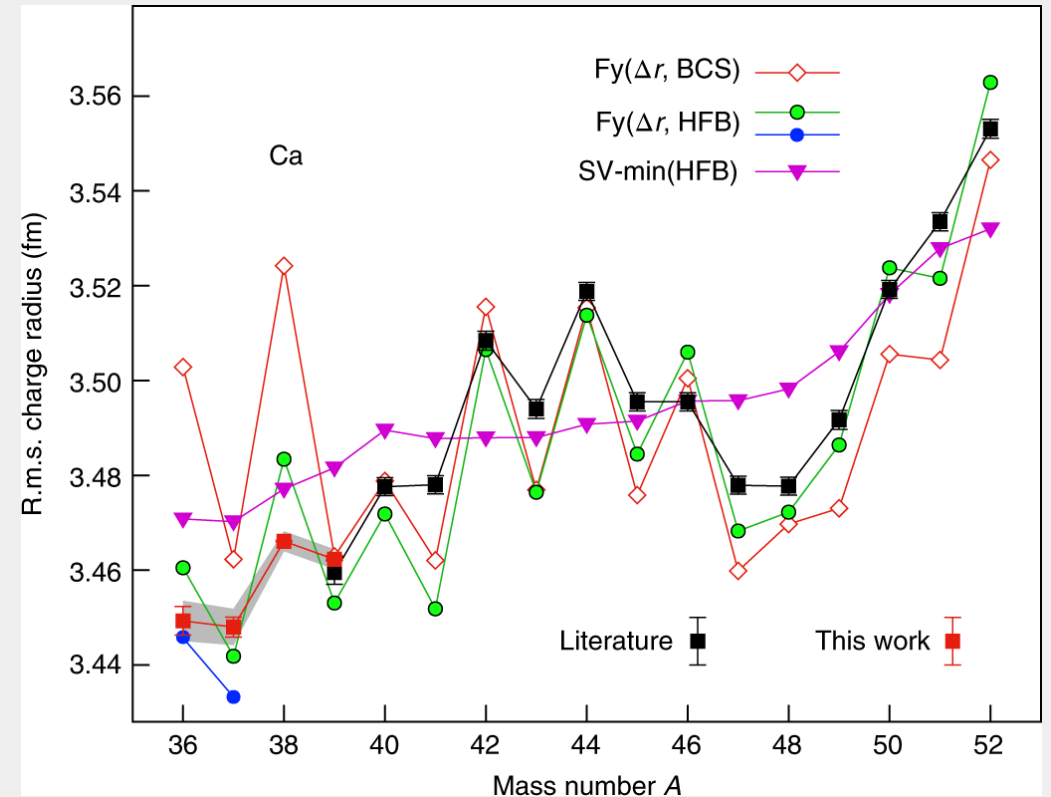
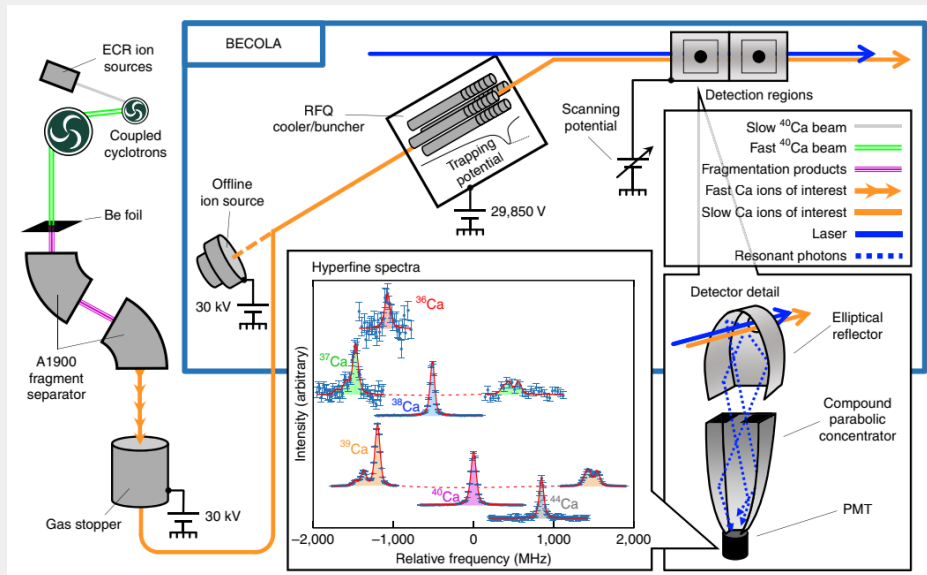
Á. Koszorús et al, Nature Phys. 17, 439 (2021)



# Nuclei at the limits of existence

## Continuum effects

- Proton-rich Ca:
  - Treatment of proton superfluid correlations in the presence of low-lying continuum states is vital.
  - Charge radii of very proton-rich nuclei
    - Important for pinning down pairing interactions



A. J. Miller et al, Nature Physics 15, 432–436 (2019)

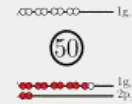
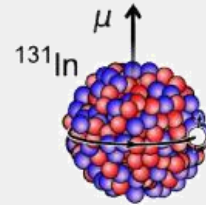




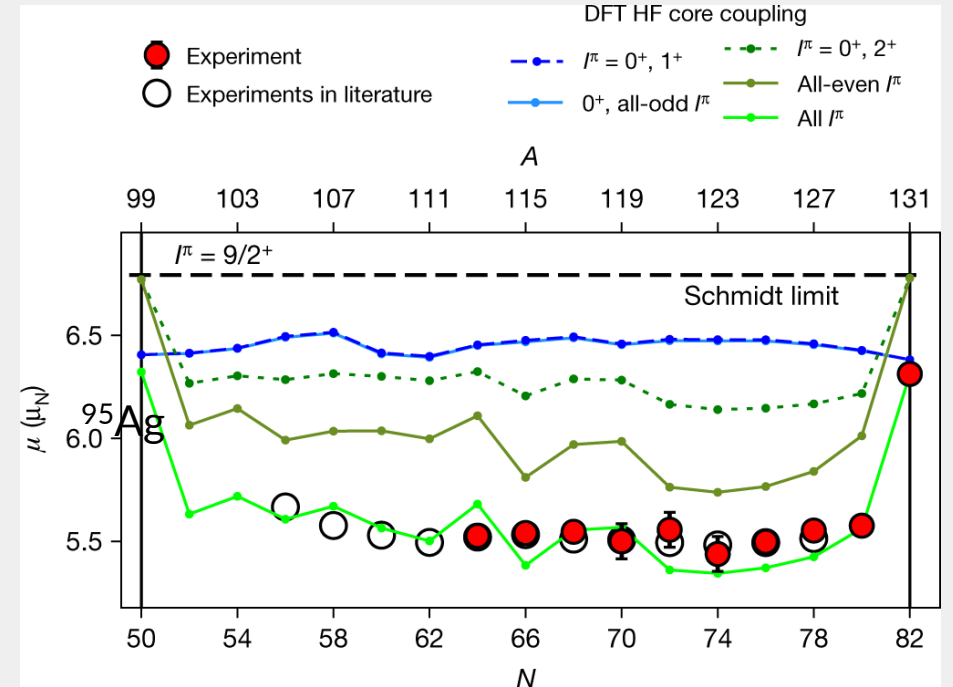
# Testing nuclear theory

## Magnetic moments

- Magnetic moments are a very sensitive probe to nuclear structure
- Indium isotopes were a textbook case on single particle behavior.
- An abrupt change observed at  $N=48$ ,
  - Time-symmetry-breaking mean fields is essential in DFT
  - No need for effective
- More data required near the indium chain
  - Data on silver isotopes under analysis past the  $N=50$  shell closure



### Odd-N Ag



A. Vernon, Nature 607, 260–265 (2022)



# Near future outlook: New frontiers in the heavy region

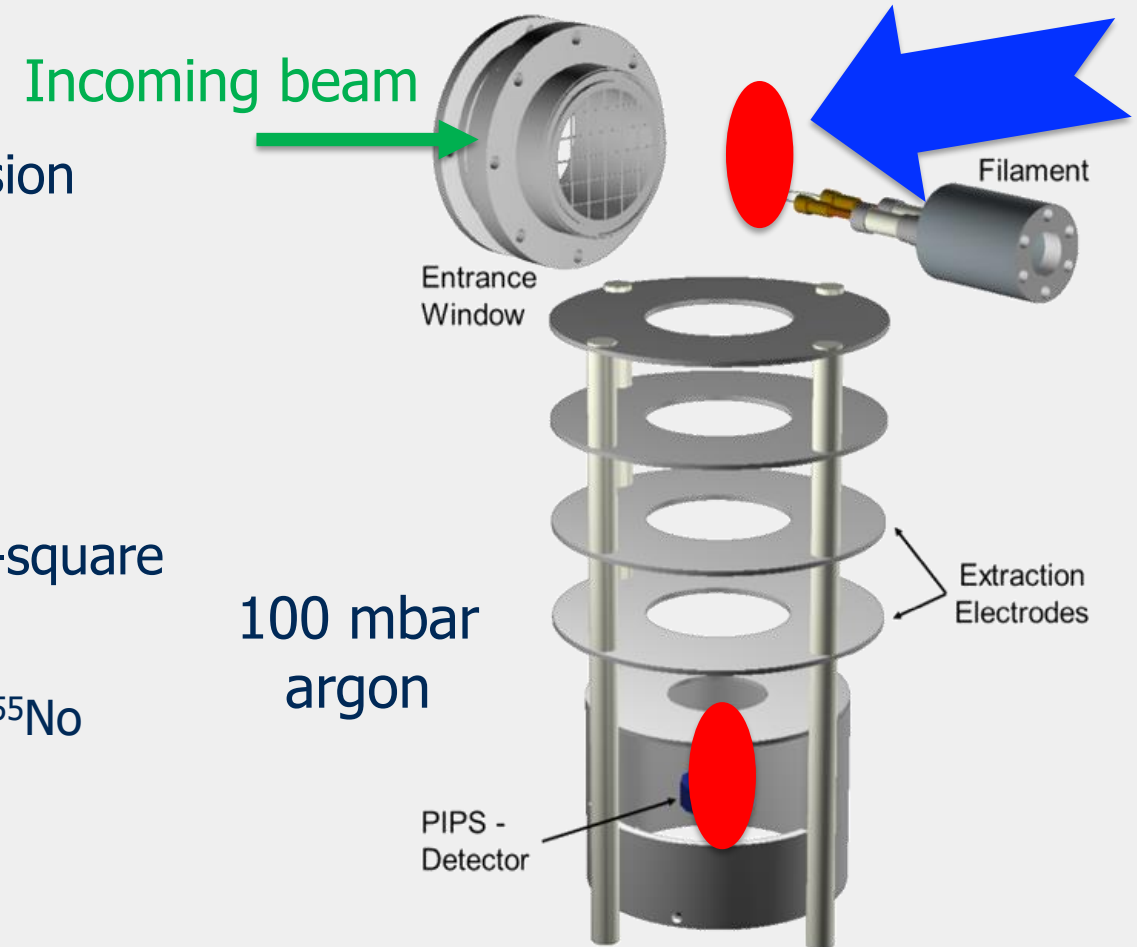


# Reaching new frontiers

## Laser Spectroscopy in heavy elements

RADRIS method tailored to actinides produced by fusion with lowest rates:

- Nobelium first laser spectroscopy beyond  $Z=100$ 
  - yield as low as 0.05 atoms / second
- Isotope shift allowed determining changes in mean-square charge radii around  $N = 152$
- Magnetic dipole and electric quadrupole moment of  $^{253,255}\text{No}$  obtained from hyperfine splitting



H. Backe et al. Eur. Phys. J. D, 45 (1) (2007), 99  
F. Lautenschläger et al. Nucl. Instrum. Meth. B, 383 (2016), 115

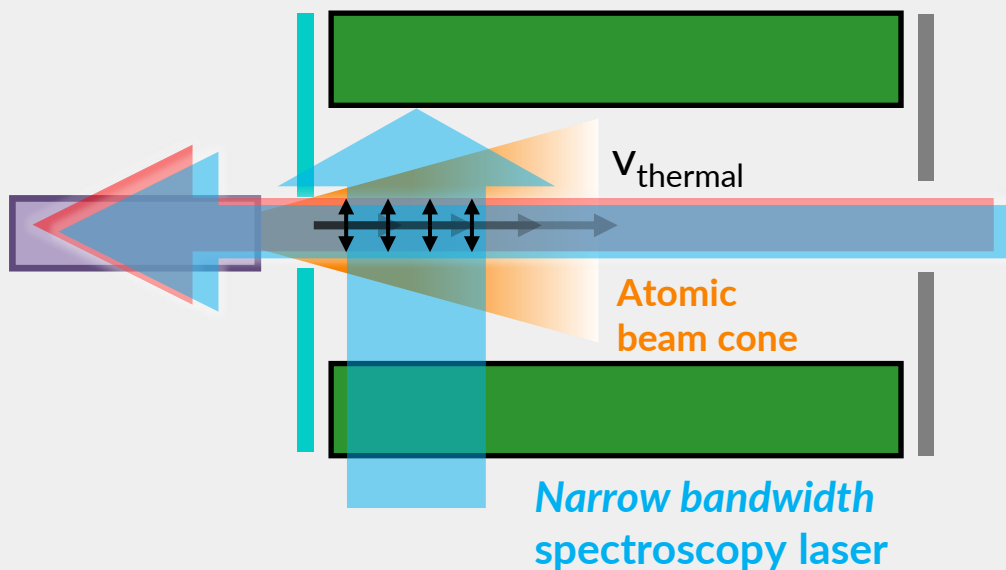


# **Near future outlook: Towards higher-resolution in-source RIS**



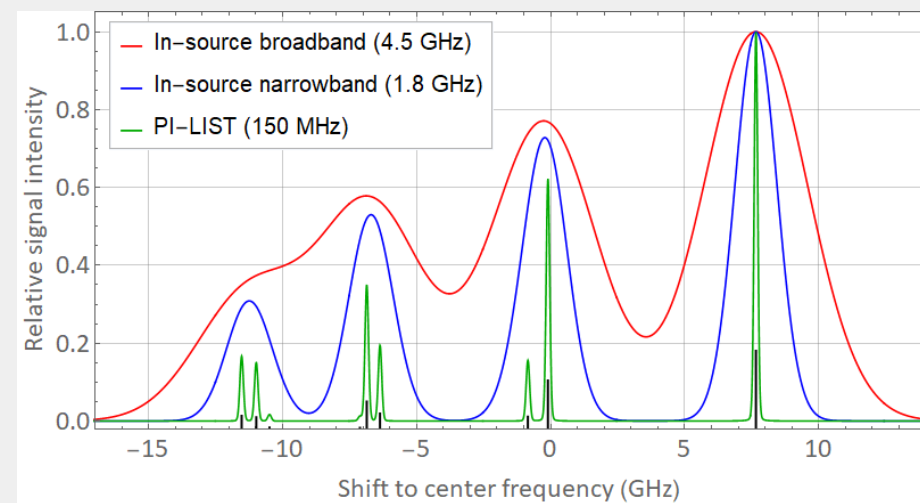
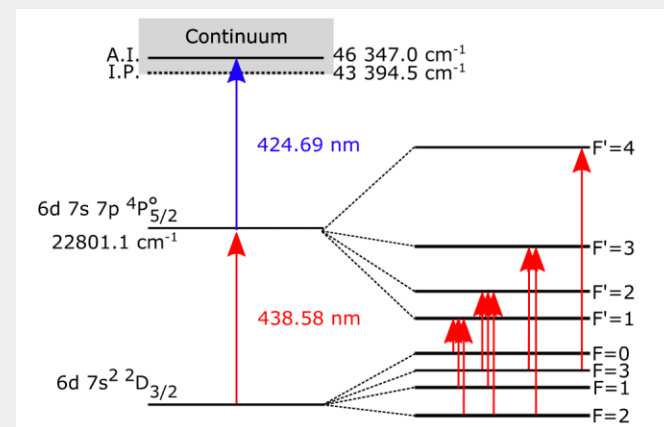
# PI-LIST

## Perpendicularly Illuminated Laser Ion Source and Trap



“Sub-Doppler” hot cavity in-source spectroscopy

- Crossed atom beam / laser geometry in LIST structure
- Selection of reduced Doppler ensemble in laser intersection volume
- Suitable narrow-band laser
- Resolution improvement by >1 order of magnitude

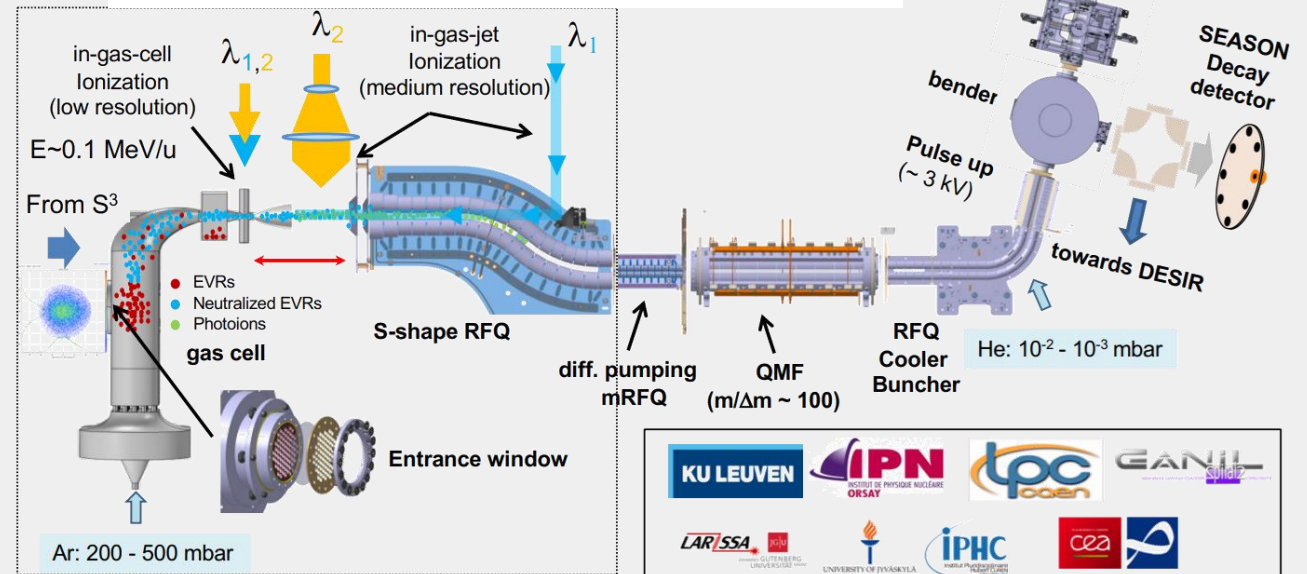
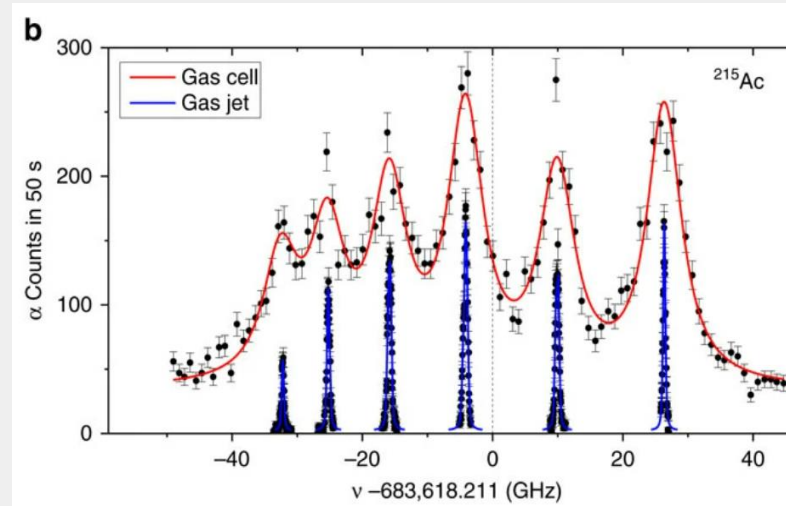




# In-jet RIS

## High resolution with in-source efficiency

- In-source laser spectroscopy provides the ultimate sensitivity, at the cost of resolution
  - Exception: in-gas jet laser spectroscopy promises high resolution with in-source efficiency
  - Take ions out of the high-pressure environment, cool through supersonic expansion
- Combination with ultra-selective and efficient detection techniques provides access to the most exotic isotopes



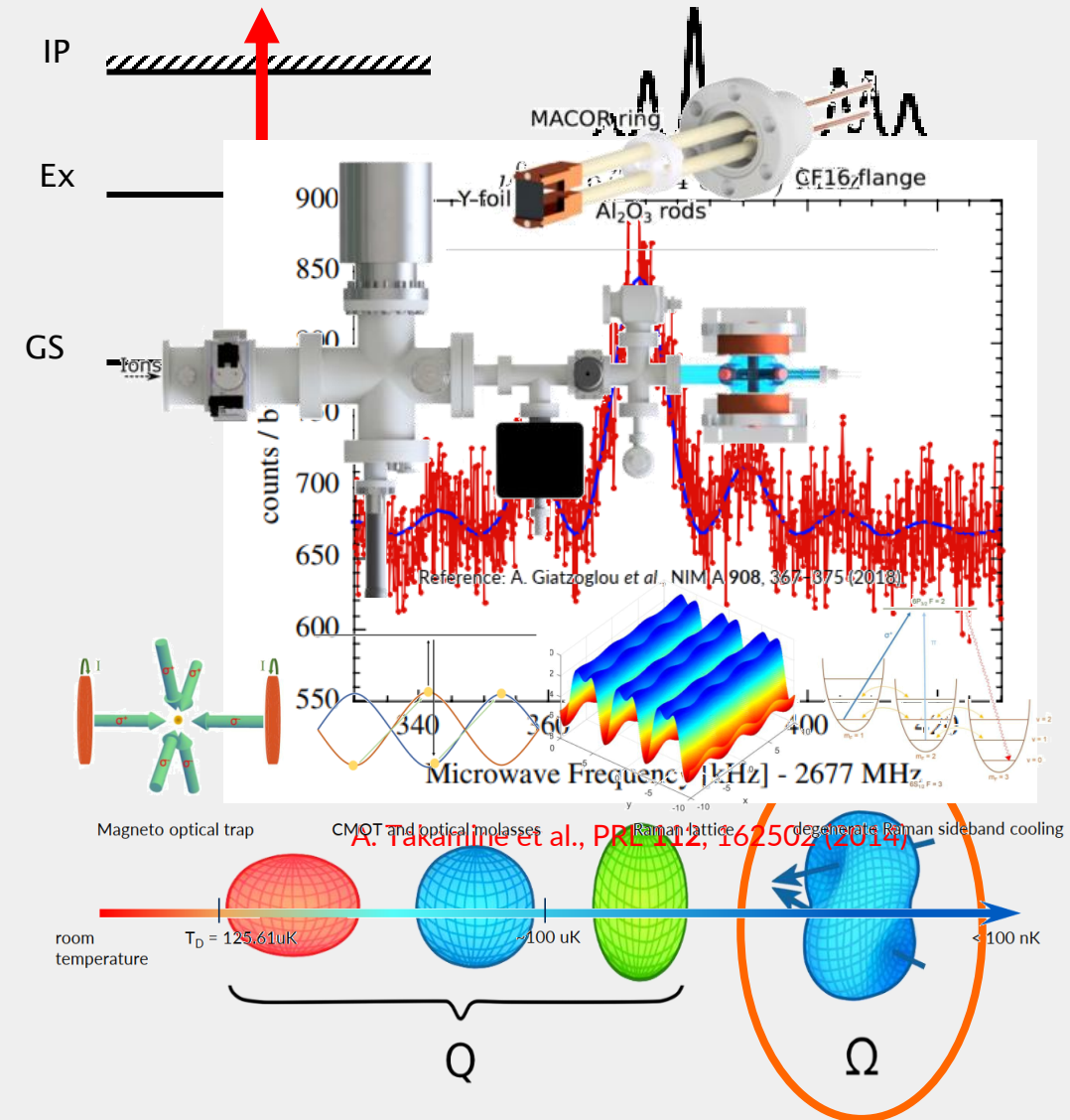


# **Near future outlook: Ultra-high precision frontier and radioactive molecules**



# Research cases

- Overview of hyperfine structure was a simplification.
  - Hyperfine anomaly: ratio of atomic  $A$  and the nuclear moment is *not* a
  - Higher-order nuclear moments: there is physics *beyond* the quadrupole
- Measuring these effects typically requires new precision techniques
  - Laser-RF double resonance is a competitive option
    - Radiofrequency excitation within ground-state hyperfine manifold
  - Other is spectroscopy of ultra-cold atoms in a MOT

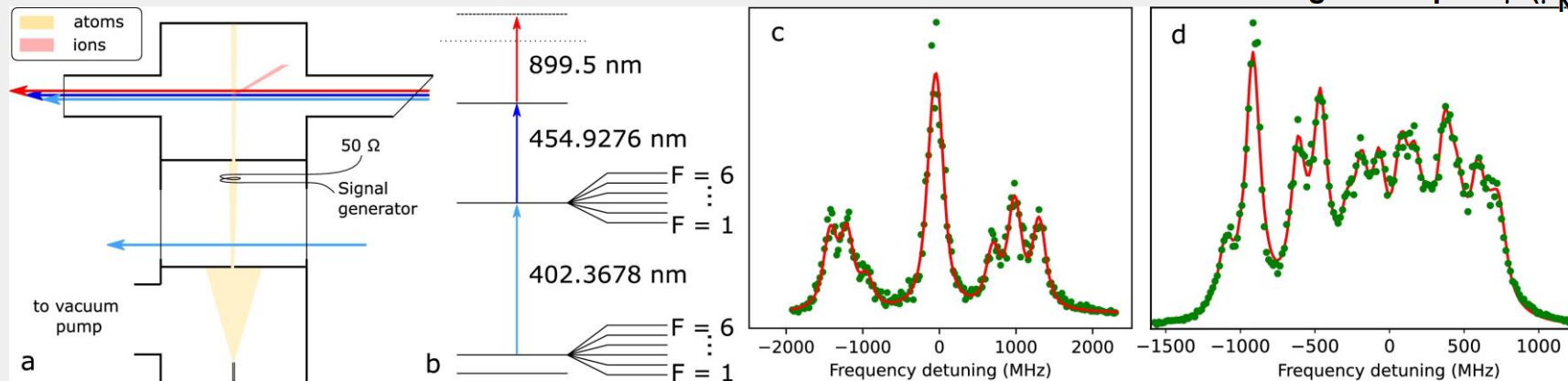
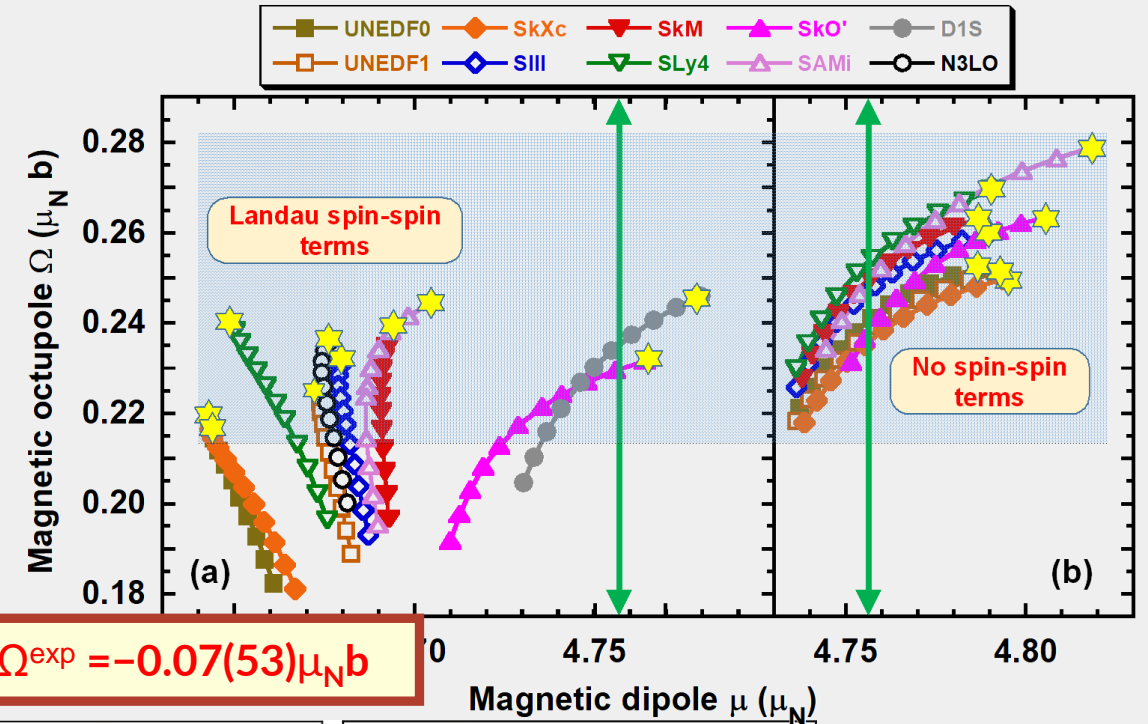






# Technique Laser-RF double resonance

- Optical resonance is not scanned
  - Radiofrequency excitation within ground-state hyperfine manifold
  - Optical ‘amplifier’ of RF resonance
- Magnetic moments in  $^{45}\text{Sc}$



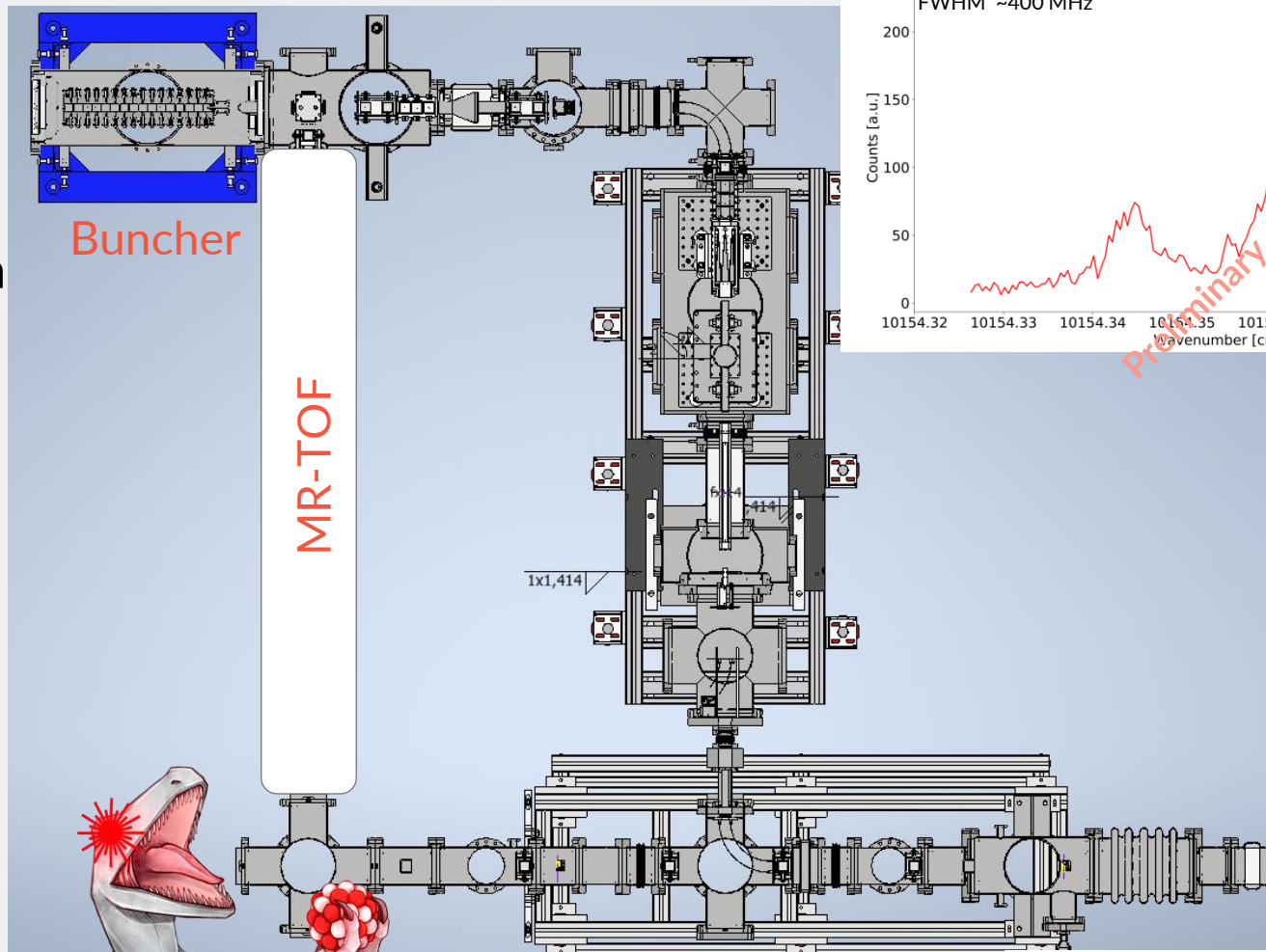


# RAPTOR

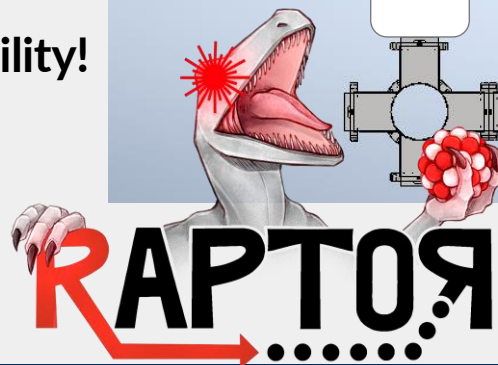
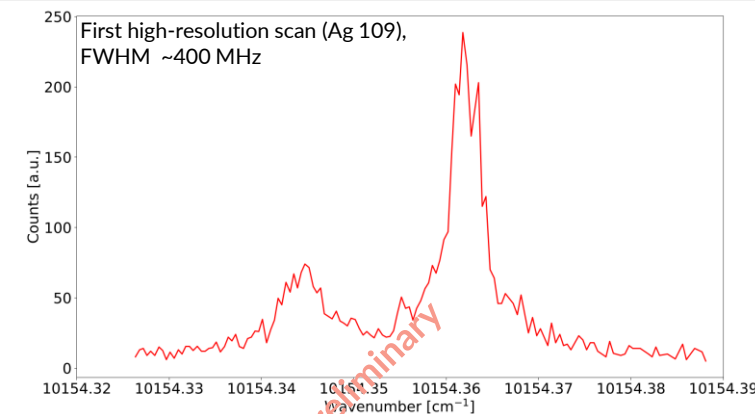
## “RIS And Purification Traps for Optimised spectroscopy”

- “RIS And Purification Traps for Optimised spectroscopy”
- Collinear laser resonance ionization spectroscopy
  - Collinear geometry at a few kV beam energy yields  $\sim 300$  MHz linewidth
  - Laser resonance ionization provides high efficiency
  - Using Penning trap as ultimate background-removal device

**Laser-RF double resonance capability!**  
**Bi or In possible cases.**



First High-resolution resonances!!

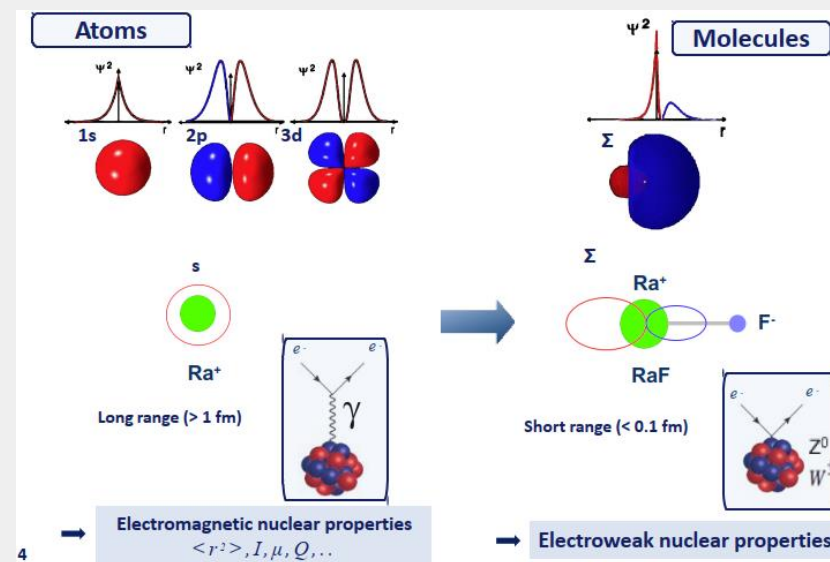
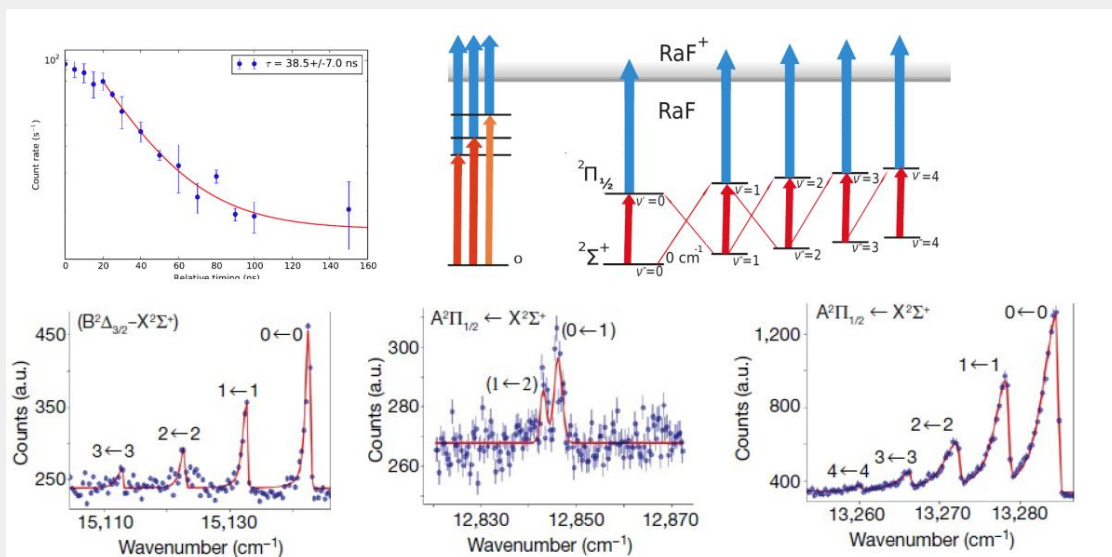
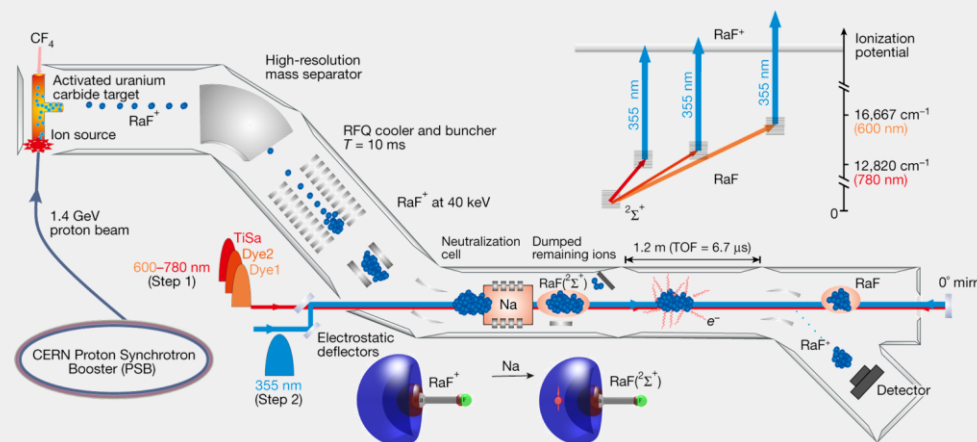




# Radioactive Molecules

## New Era of Precision (Atomic, Molecular, Nuclear) Physics

- A promise of sensitivity not only to nuclear structure, but also to fundamental symmetries
- Heavy radioactive molecules are potential probes for physics beyond the standard model
- Parity and time reversal violating effects are significantly enhanced in molecules compared to atomic systems





# Final remarks

- Nuclear chart has been explored extensively with optical techniques, but **Challenges remain**:
  - the most exotic, most short-lived, challenging chemistry, complex or unknown atomic structure, ...
- Combination of RIS with ultra-selective and efficient detection techniques provides **access to the most exotic isotopes**
- Collinear RIS has been established as vital tool for probing nuclear structure at the **limits of existence**
  - And it has fostered new avenues such as **radioactive molecules** and **precisions techniques**
- Collaboration between experimentalists and theorists has been extremely fruitful - It is *vital* to expand this collaboration
- Sharing technical expertise is very productive
  - Collinear-RIS, gas cell and gas jet techniques, Laser techniques such as injection-locking .
- Exploration of different facilities opens new frontiers
  - e.g. IGISOL@JYFL and KISS@RIKEN: access refractory isotopes, MNT reactions
  - e.g. NSCL/FRIB: fragmentation reactions
  - e.g. GANIL/ S3LEB: High yields near  $^{100}\text{Sn}$
- Embracing new frontiers, with precision comes additional information!
  - Measurement schemes and setups tailored to specific goals are very worthwhile
  - Information extracted via Radioactive molecules can perhaps compete with collider data?



# Acknowledgements

- R.P de Groote
  - K. Flanagan
  - M. Kortelainen
  - J. Dobaczewski
  - R. F Garcia Ruiz
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