



Calorimetric Low Temperature Detectors for Applications in Atomic and Nuclear Physics



Peter Egelhof
GSI Darmstadt, Germany

Annual NUSTAR Meeting 2012
Darmstadt, Germany
February 27- March 2, 2012

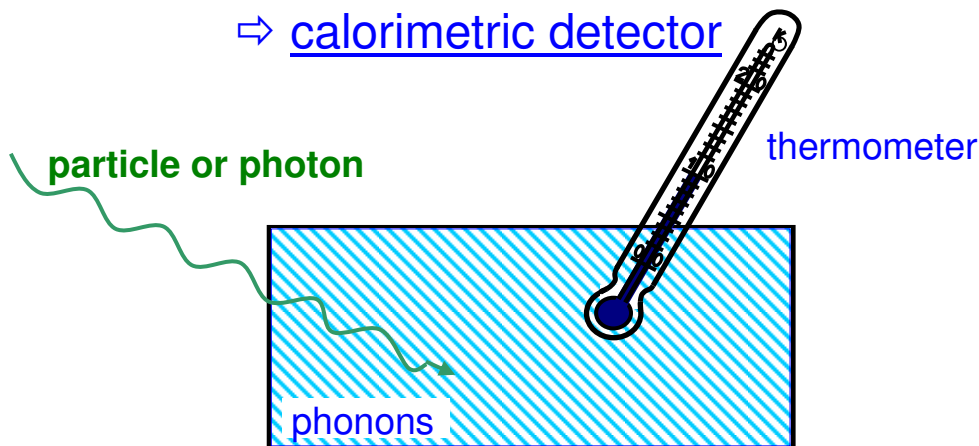
- I. Introduction
- II. Detection Principle and Basic Properties of Calorimetric Low Temperature Detectors (CLTD`s)
- III. CLTD`s for High Resolution Detection of Heavy Ions
- Status and Perspectives
- IV. CLTD`s for High Resolution X-Ray Spectroscopy
- Status and Perspectives
- V. Conclusions

I. Introduction

The success of experimental physics and the quality of the results generally depends on the quality of the available detection systems !

⇒ idea: detection of radiation independent of ionisation processes

⇒ calorimetric detector



interaction of radiation with matter:

primary: ionization, ballistic phonons
(conventional ionisation detectors)

secondary: thermalization:
conversion of energy to heat
⇒ detection of thermal phonons
⇒ calorimetric detectors

potential advantage:

- energy resolution
- energy linearity
- detection threshold
- radiation hardness

⇒ various applications in
many fields of physics

Applications of Low Temperature Detectors - an Overview

Astrophysics:

- dark matter
⇒ low detection threshold
- solar neutrinos
⇒ low detection threshold
- cosmic x-rays
⇒ high energy resolution

Particle physics:

- $\beta\beta 0\nu$ -decay
⇒ absorber = source (^{130}Te)
- neutrino mass from β - endpoint determ.
⇒ absorber = source (^{187}Re)

Atomic and Nuclear physics:

- X-ray detection
⇒ high energy resolution
- Ion detection
⇒ high energy resolution
⇒ good energy linearity

Applied physics:

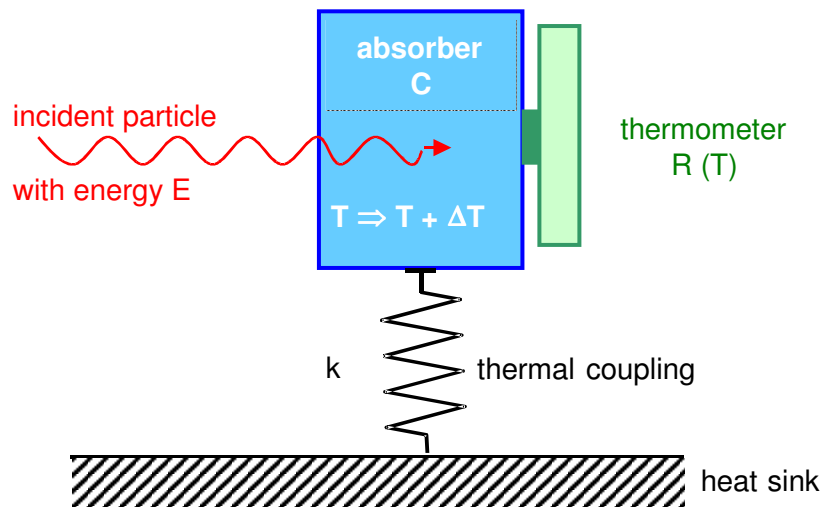
- x-ray material analysis
⇒ high energy resolution
- life sciences (MALDI)
⇒ high energy resolution

for more detailed information see:

- Cryogenic Particle Detection, Topics in Applied Physics 99 (2005)
- Proceedings 14th Int. Workshop on Low Temperature Detectors, JLTP (2012), 320 participants!

II. Detection Principle and Basic Properties of Calorimetric Low Temperature Detectors

detection principle:



after particle absorption and decay of excited electronic states ($\approx 10^{-8}$ sec):

- thermalisation \Rightarrow energy is converted to heat (thermal phonons)
- energy transport to the heat sink

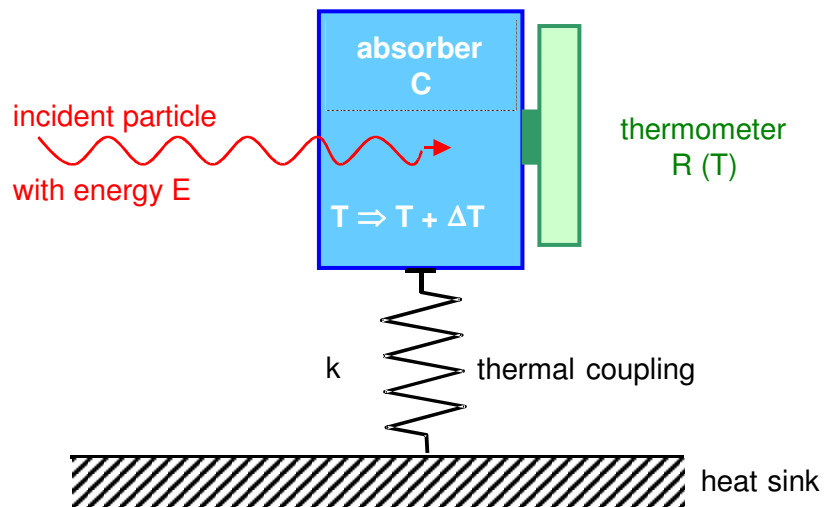
amplitude: $\Delta T = E/C$ ($C = c \cdot m =$ heat capacity)

rise time: $\tau_1 \geq \tau_{\text{therm}}$ ($\approx 1 - 10 \mu\text{sec}$)

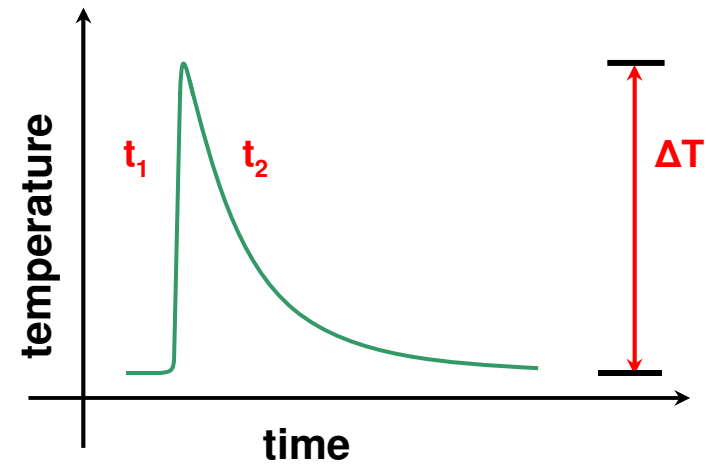
fall time: $\tau_2 = C/k$ ($\approx 100 \mu\text{sec} - 10 \text{msec}$)

II. Detection Principle and Basic Properties of Calorimetric Low Temperature Detectors

detection principle:



thermal signal:



amplitude: $\Delta T = E/C$ ($C = c \cdot m =$ heat capacity)

rise time: $\tau_1 \geq \tau_{\text{therm}}$ ($\approx 1 - 10 \mu\text{sec}$)

fall time: $\tau_2 = C/k$ ($\approx 100 \mu\text{sec} - 10 \text{msec}$)

Optimization of the Sensitivity

a) absorber: maximum sensitivity $\Delta T = E/mc$ for

- small absorber mass m
- small specific heat c

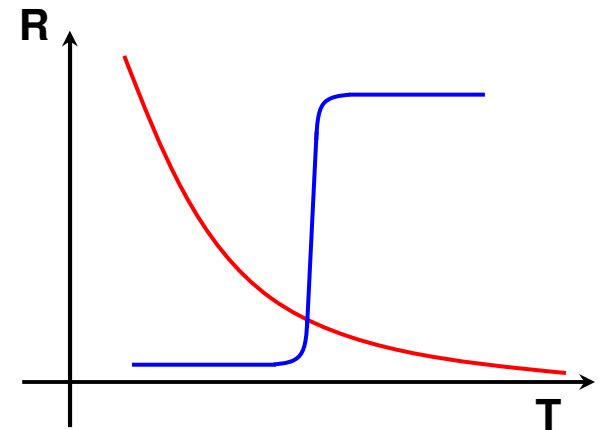
due to: $c = \underbrace{\alpha T}_{\text{electrons}} + \underbrace{\beta (T/\theta_D)^3}_{\text{lattice}}$ ($\theta_D = \text{Debye-temperature}$)

\Rightarrow low operating temperature \Rightarrow „low-temperature detector“

(αT dominating for $T \leq 10\text{K} \Rightarrow$ insulators ($\alpha = 0$) or superconductors)

b) thermometer: for thermistor (bolometer): $\Delta T \rightarrow \Delta R \rightarrow \Delta U$
 \Rightarrow maximum sensitivity for large dR/dT

- semiconductor thermistor
due to appropriate doping \Rightarrow exponential behavior of $R(T)$
- superconducting phase transition thermometer



Potential Advantage over Conventional Detectors

- small energy gap ω

⇒ better statistics of the detected phonons

semiconductor detector: $\omega \approx 1 \text{ eV}$

calorimetric detector: $\omega \leq 10^{-3} \text{ eV}$

$$\frac{\Delta E_{\text{calorimeter}}}{\Delta E_{\text{semicond.det.}}} = \sqrt{\frac{N_{\text{electr.}}}{N_{\text{phon.}}}} = \sqrt{\frac{\omega_{\text{phon}}}{\omega_{\text{electr.}}}} \leq \frac{1}{30}$$

- more complete energy detection ⇒ better linearity and resolution
energy deposited in phonons and ionisation contributes to the signal
(for ionisation detectors: losses up to 60-80% due to: - recombination
- direct phonon production)
- small noise power at low temperatures
- method independent on absorber material
⇒ optimize radiation hardness, absorption efficiency, etc.

Theoretical Limit for the Energy Resolution

for ideal calorimetric detector:

- thermodynamic fluctuations (quantum statistics)
- Johnson noise
- amplifier noise

$$\Rightarrow \langle \Delta E \rangle = \xi \cdot \sqrt{k_B T^5 c m} \quad 1 < \xi < 3$$

noise thermodynamic fluctuations

example: 1 MeV particle in a 1 mm³ sapphire absorber

T	C	ΔT	ΔE_{theor}
300 K	$3 \cdot 10^{-3}$ J/K	$5 \cdot 10^{-11}$ K	1.8 GeV
10 K	$4 \cdot 10^{-7}$ J/K	$4 \cdot 10^{-7}$ K	700 keV
<u>1 K</u>	$4 \cdot 10^{-10}$ J/K	<u>0.4 mK</u>	<u>2.2 keV</u>
100 mK	$4 \cdot 10^{-13}$ J/K	400 mK	7 eV

\Rightarrow for low temperature: microscopic particle affects the properties of a macroscopic absorber

Theoretical Limit for the Energy Resolution

for ideal calorimetric detector:

- thermodynamic fluctuations (quantum statistics)
- Johnson noise
- amplifier noise

$$\Rightarrow \langle \Delta E \rangle = \xi \cdot \sqrt{k_B T^5 c m} \quad 1 < \xi < 3$$

noise thermodynamic fluctuations

example: 50 keV X-ray, 1 mm² tin absorber with a thickness of 50 μm

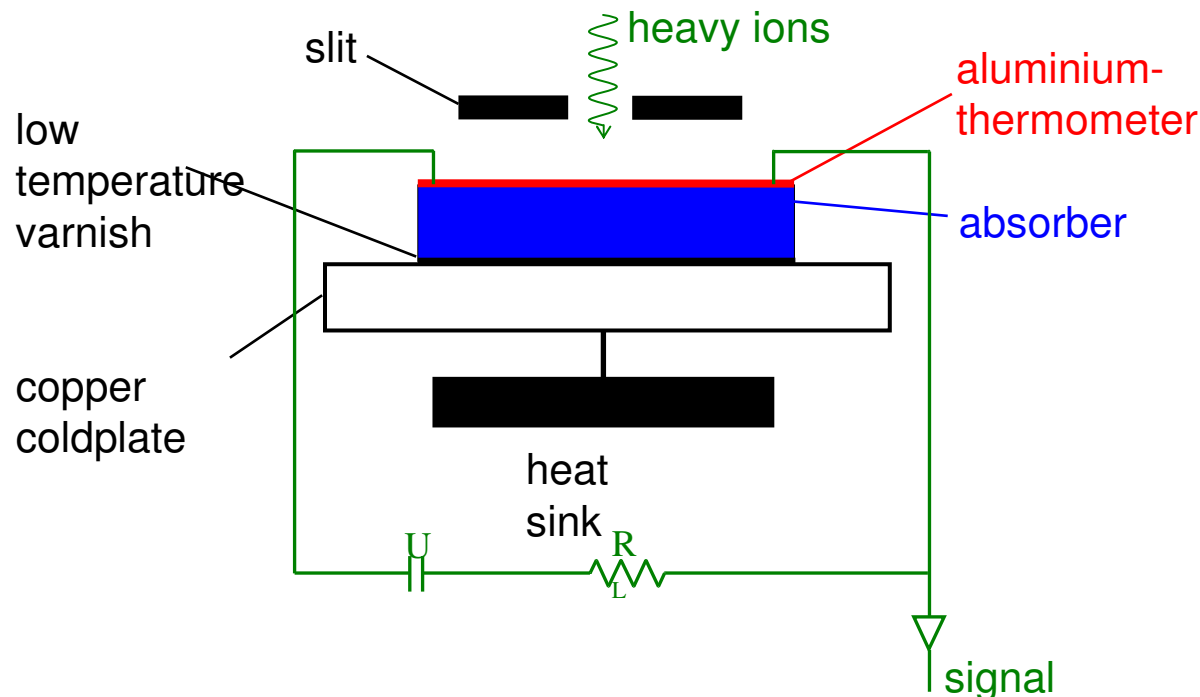
T	C	ΔT	ΔE _{theor.}
300 K	8 · 10 ⁻⁵ J/K	1 · 10 ⁻¹⁰ K	295 MeV
1 K	1,2 · 10 ⁻⁹ J/K	6,7 · 10 ⁻⁶ K	3,8 keV
<u>0,1 K</u>	1,2 · 10 ⁻¹² J/K	<u>6,7 · 10⁻³ K</u>	<u>12 eV</u>
0,05 K	1,5 · 10 ⁻¹³ J/K	5,3 · 10 ⁻² K	2 eV

(theoretical limit for a conventional semiconductor detector: ΔE_{theor} = 350 eV)

⇒ for low temperature: microscopic photon affects the properties of a macroscopic absorber

III. CLTD`s for High Resolution Detection of Heavy Ions - Status and Perspectives

Detector Design and Performance:



absorber: sapphire-crystal: $V = 3 \times 3 \text{ mm}^2 \times 300 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$

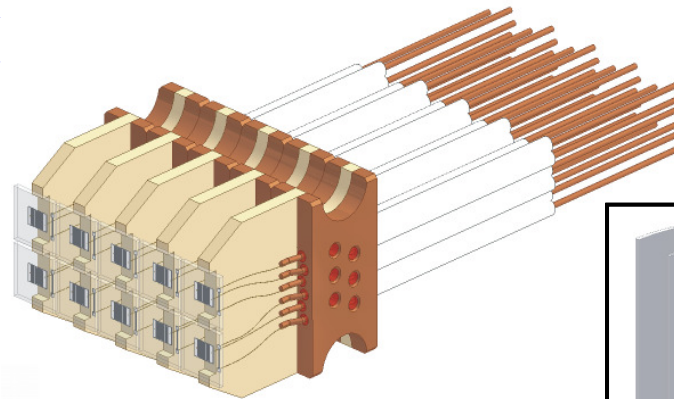
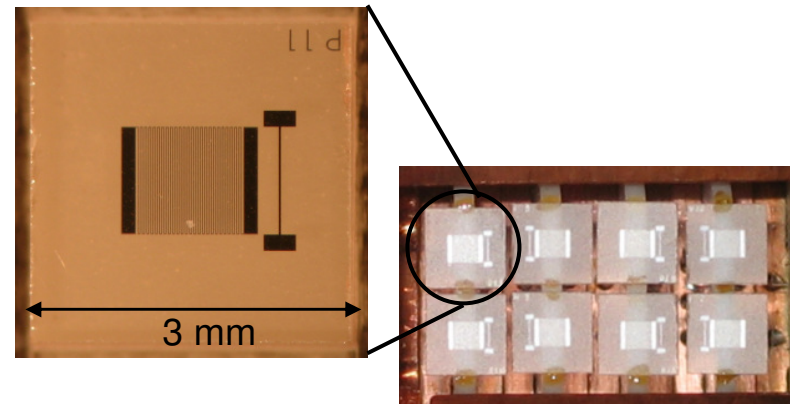
thermometer: aluminium-film ($d = 10 \text{ nm}$), $T_C \approx 1.5^\circ\text{K}$ (in the range of a ^4He -cryostat) (for impedance matching to the amplifier: \Rightarrow meander structure)

readout: conventional pulse electronics +Flash-ADC`s +Digital Filtering

CLTD`s for High Resolution Detection of Heavy Ions - Status and Perspectives

detector design:

- sapphire absorber
- pixel size: $3 \times 3 \text{ mm}^2$
- operated at $T_c = 1.4 - 1.6 \text{ K}$
- superconducting Al thermistor
10 nm Meander structure
⇒ photolithography (high purity!)

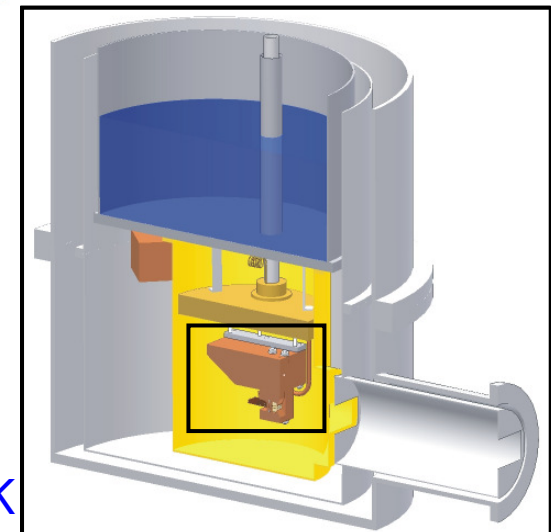


detector array:

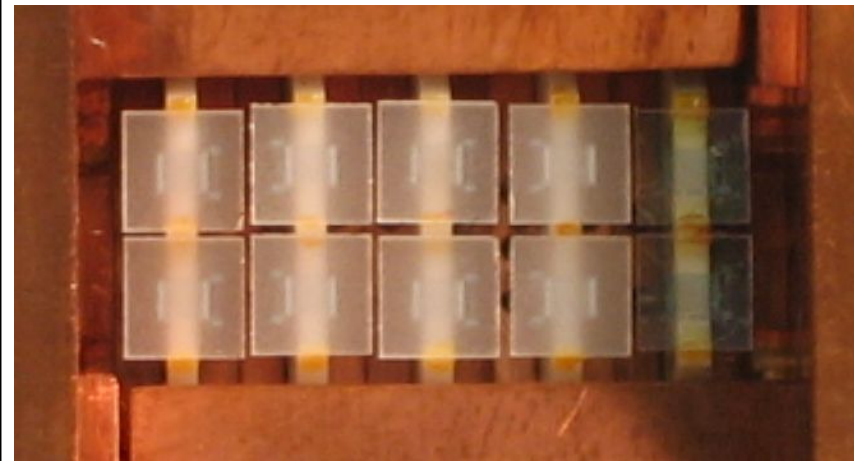
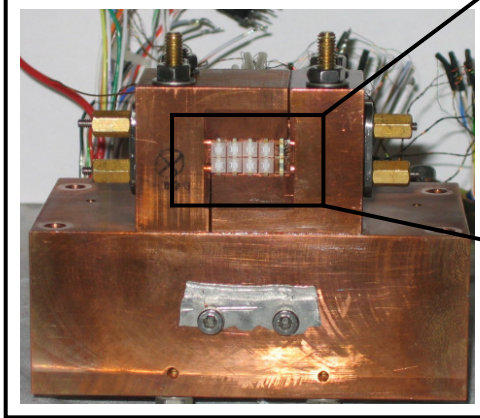
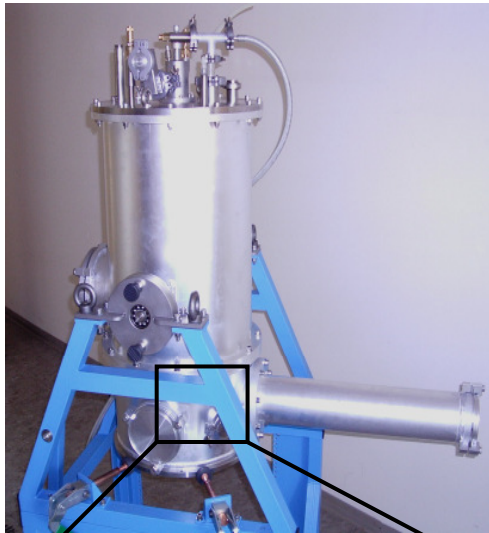
- 8 pixels with individual temperature stabilization in operation
- active area: $12 \times 6 \text{ mm}^2$

cryostat:

- windowless
- ^4He bath cryostat
- operated at 1.4 - 1,6 K



Implementation in the Cryostat



detector array:

➤ 8 pixels

➤ 12 x 6 mm² active area

CLTD`s for High Resolution Detection of Heavy Ions - Status and Perspectives

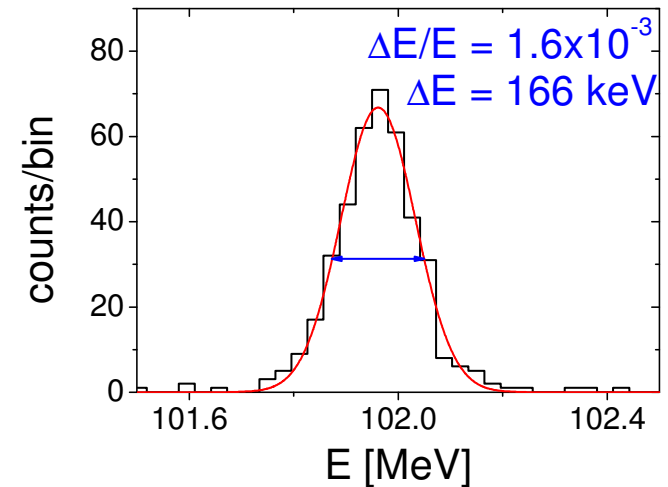
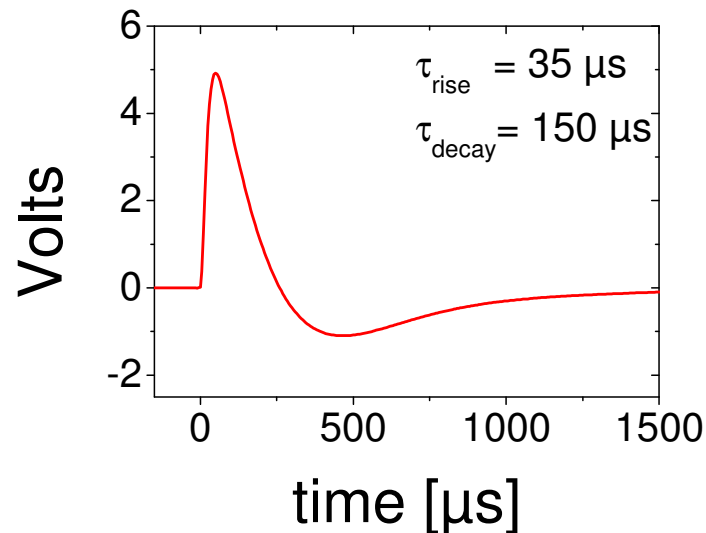
detector performance: response to ^{32}S ions @ 100 MeV

rate capability:

$$\geq 200 \text{ sec}^{-1}$$

resolution:

$$\Delta E/E = 1.6 \times 10^{-3}$$



systematical investigation of energy resolution:

with UNILAC-beam:

for ^{209}Bi , $E = 11.6 \text{ MeV/u} \Rightarrow \underline{\Delta E/E = 1.8 \times 10^{-3}}$

with ESR-beam:

for ^{238}U , $E = 360 \text{ MeV/u} \Rightarrow \underline{\Delta E/E = 1.1 \times 10^{-3}}$

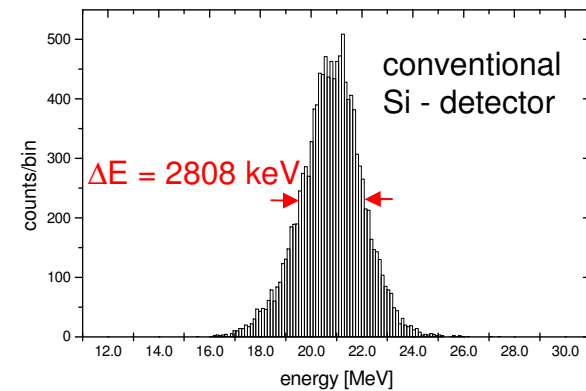
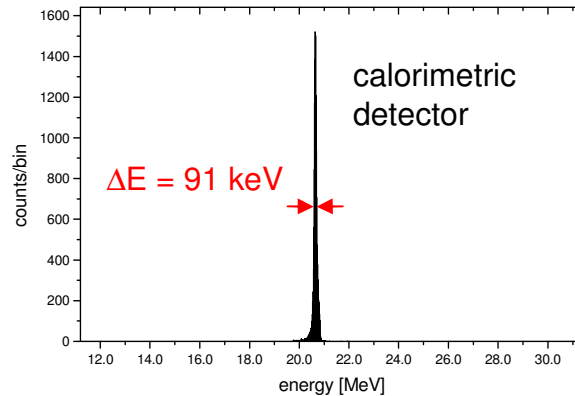
with Tandem-beam:

for ^{152}Sm , $E = 3.6 \text{ MeV/u} \Rightarrow \underline{\Delta E/E = 1.6 \times 10^{-3}}$

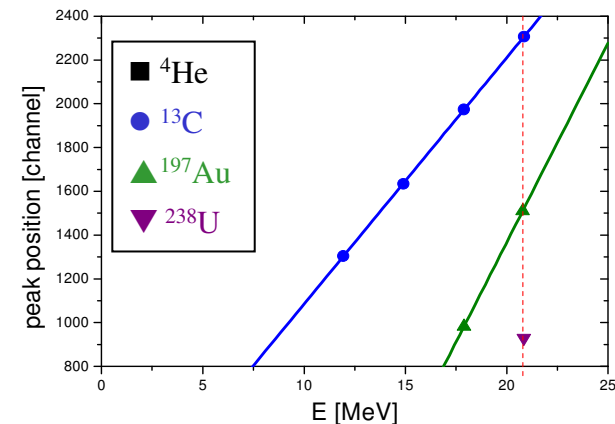
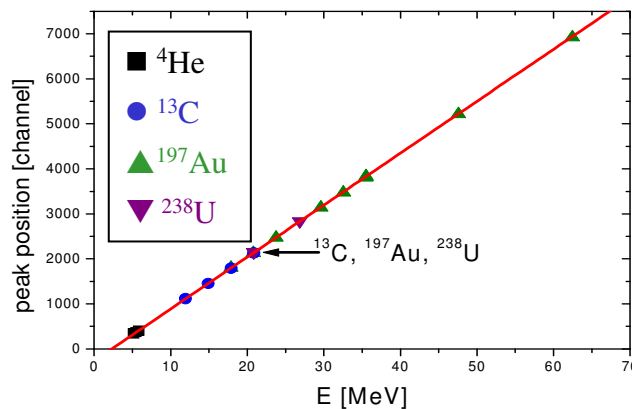
\Rightarrow for heavy ions: ≥ 10 x improvement over conventional Si detectors

Comparison of Detector Performance: CLTD – Conventional Si Detector

energy resolution:
example:
 ^{238}U @ 20.7 MeV)



energy linearity:
example:
 ^{13}C , ^{197}Au , ^{238}U



for conventional ionization detector:

high ionization density leads to charge recombination

- ⇒ pronounced pulse height defects
- ⇒ fluctuation of energy loss processes
- ⇒ nonlinear energy response
- ⇒ limited energy resolution

Perspectives for Applications in Heavy Ion Physics

nuclear spectroscopy:

- elastic and inelastic scattering \Rightarrow separation of inelastic channels
- nuclear reactions \Rightarrow identification of reaction channels

Example:

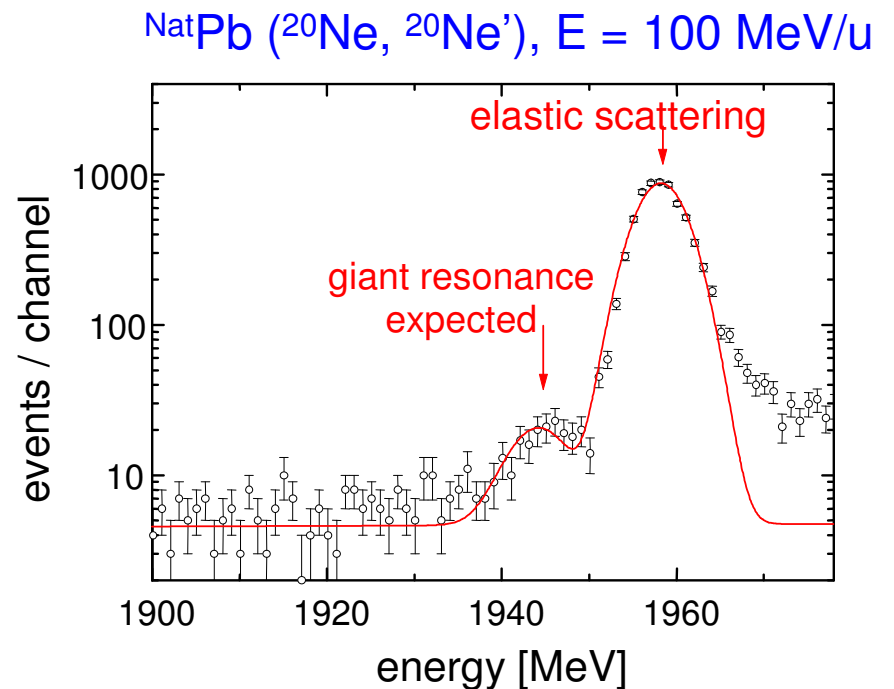
investigation of giant resonances
(collective excitation of nuclear matter)

J. Meier et al.

Nucl. Phys. A 626 (1997) 451c

of high interest:

- \Rightarrow new excitation modes
- \Rightarrow higher order modes: multi phonon giant resonances



High Resolution Mass Identification

important for many applications: isotope mass identification

standard method:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} B \cdot \rho \Rightarrow p \\ \text{TOF} \Rightarrow v \end{array} \right\} m = \frac{p}{v}$$

disadvantage:

- needs big magnet spectrometer
- small solid angle
- charge state ambiguity because of $B \cdot \rho = p/Q$ (especially for slow heavy ions!)

alternative method:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{energy} \Rightarrow E \\ \text{TOF} \Rightarrow v \end{array} \right\} m = \frac{2E}{v^2}$$

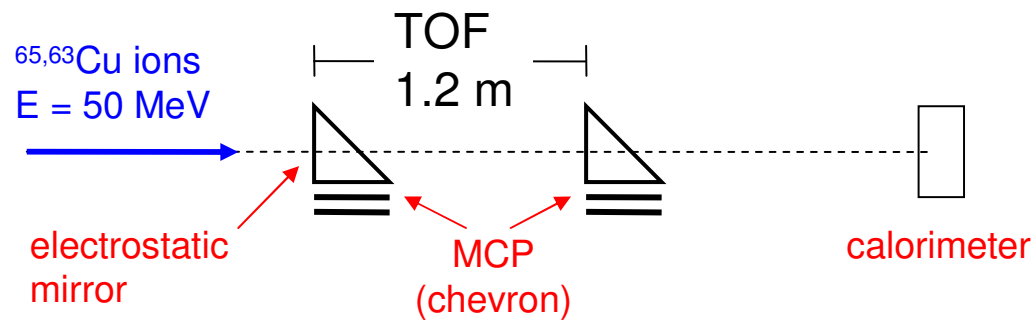


$$\left(\frac{\Delta m}{m}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{\Delta E}{E}\right)^2 + \left(2\frac{\Delta t}{t}\right)^2$$

mass resolution is limited by energy resolution! \Rightarrow calorimetric detectors

High Resolution Mass Identification

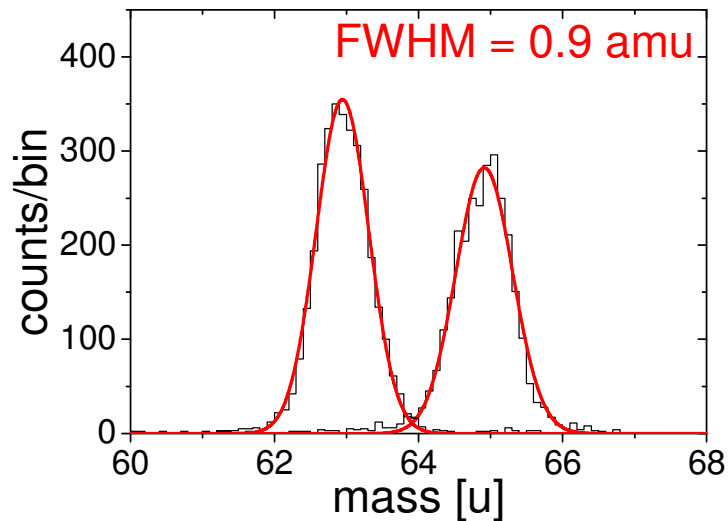
measured at Tandem accelerator at MPI in Heidelberg



$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{energy} \Rightarrow E \\ \text{TOF} \Rightarrow v \end{array} \right\} m = \frac{2E}{v^2}$$

$$\left(\frac{\Delta m}{m}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{\Delta E}{E}\right)^2 + \left(2\frac{\Delta t}{t}\right)^2$$

$^{63,65}\text{Cu}$ ions @ 50 MeV



$$\Delta t = 680 \text{ ps}$$

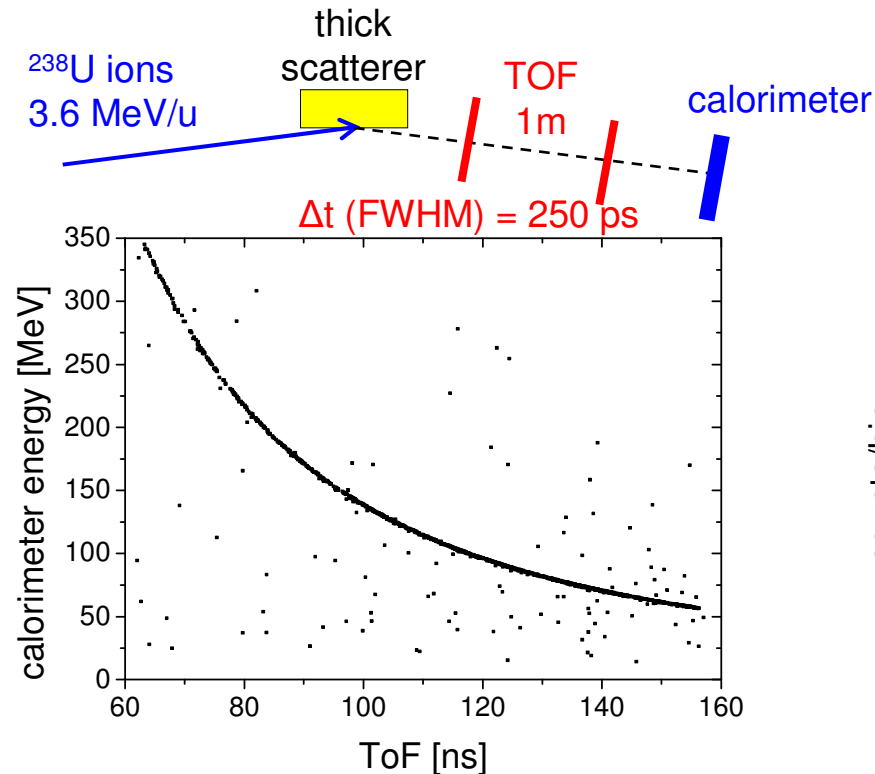
$$\Delta E = 330 \text{ keV}$$

limitation: TOF measurement !

**A. Echler et al.
(2012) to be published**

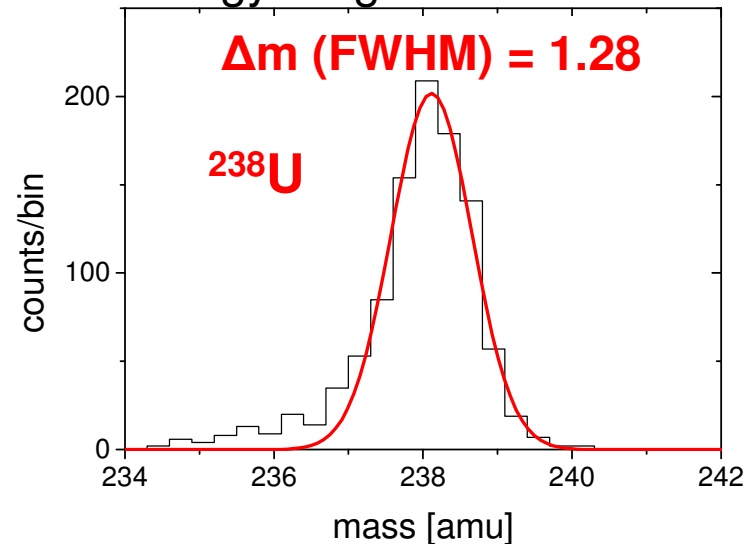
High Resolution Mass Identification

experimental setup: low energetic ^{238}U ions @ UNILAC accelerator at GSI



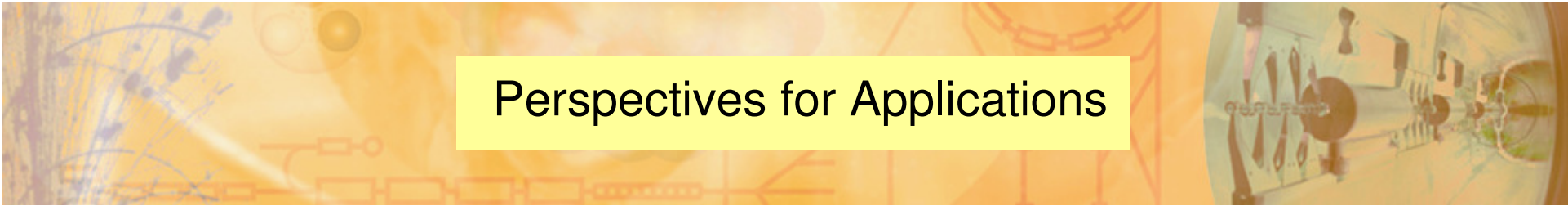
→ broad energy distribution (0 - 3.6 MeV/u)

energy range: 65 - 150 MeV



- not reachable with conventional E-ToF system
- advantage to Bp-ToF method:
 - high dynamic range
 - not affected by charge state ambiguities

most recent result from measurements at Jyväskylä: Δm (FWHM) = 0.83 for ^{131}Xe ions



Perspectives for Applications

High Resolution Mass Identification for:

- identification of reaction products from reactions with radioactive beams
(for slow heavy ions: no charge state ambiguities, high dynamic range)
⇒ potential application at NUSTAR LEB, VAMOS, etc.
- identification of isotopes after in-flight gamma spectroscopy
⇒ potential application at NUSTAR HISPEC (LYCCA)
- identification of superheavy elements (for $Z \geq 113$: decay chain does not feed a known α chain): $\Delta m \leq 1$ for $m = 300$ reachable
- identification of rare isotopes in accelerator mass spectrometry
⇒ high sensitivity
- identification of fission fragments
(replace the COSI FAN TUTTE spectrometer)
⇒ investigate structures in the mass distribution

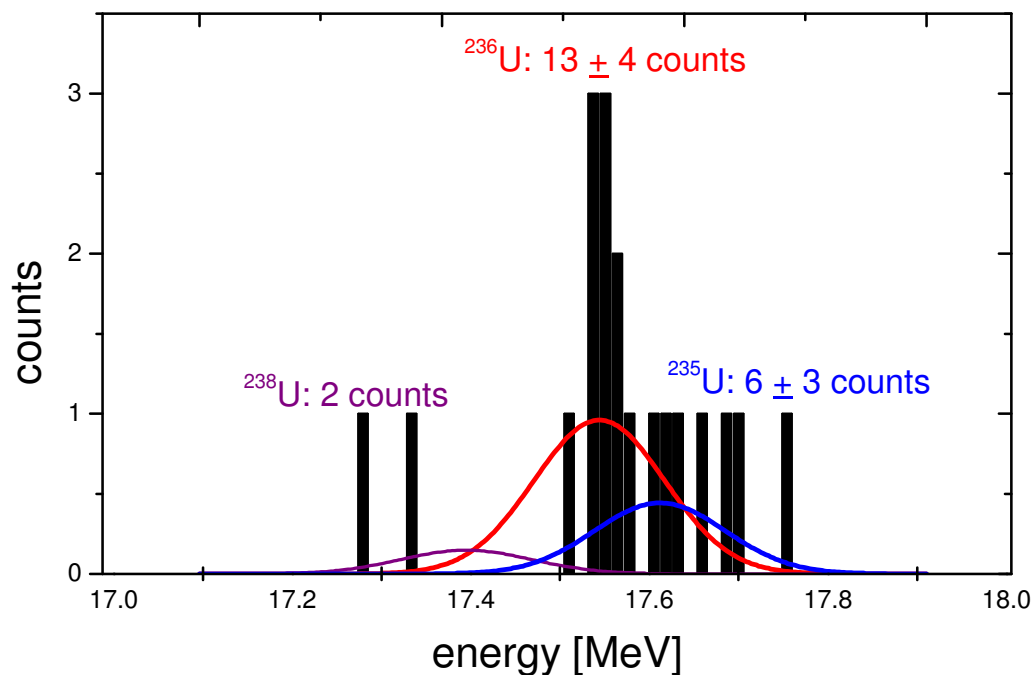
Applications of CLTD`s

application for Accelerator Mass Spectrometry:

(in collaboration with: R. Golser, W. Kutschera et al., VERA facility, Vienna)

aim: determination of small isotope ratios $^{236}\text{U}/^{238}\text{U}$ in natural uranium samples

⇒ ^{236}U known as monitor for flux of thermal neutrons



results:

substantial improvement in background discrimination and detection efficiency

⇒ level of sensitivity improved by one order of magnitude:

$$^{236}\text{U}/^{238}\text{U} = 7 \times 10^{-12}$$

S. Kraft-Bermuth et al.

Rev. Sci. Instr. 80 (2009) 103304

Design of a Next Generation Array

detector-layout:

96 pixels with $F = 5 \times 5 \text{ mm}^2$ each

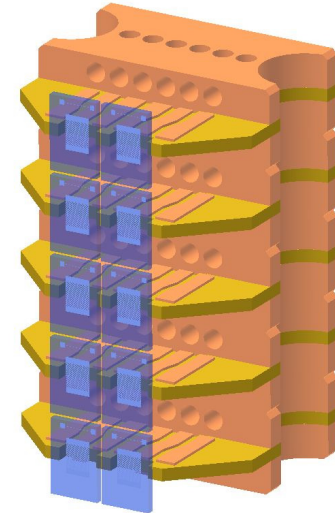
active area: $3 \times 8 \text{ cm}^2$

position resolution: 5 mm

α -resolution: $\Delta E \leq 30 \text{ keV}$

mass resolution: $\Delta E/E \leq 3 \times 10^{-3} \Rightarrow \Delta m \leq 1 \text{ amu}$

rate capability: $\geq 300 \text{ sec}^{-1}/\text{pixel}$



Applications: Investigation of Stopping Powers of Heavy Ions in Matter

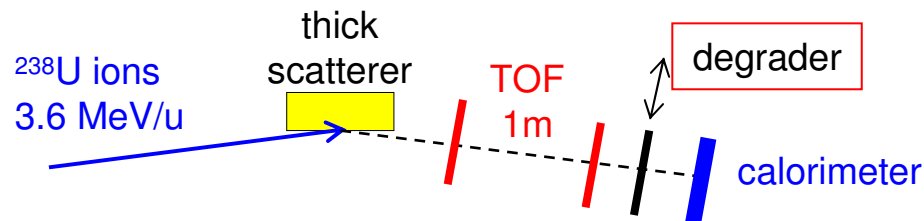
motivation:

- precise data needed for improving semi-empirical predictions (SRIM, etc.)
- data for very slow heavy ions are still scarce

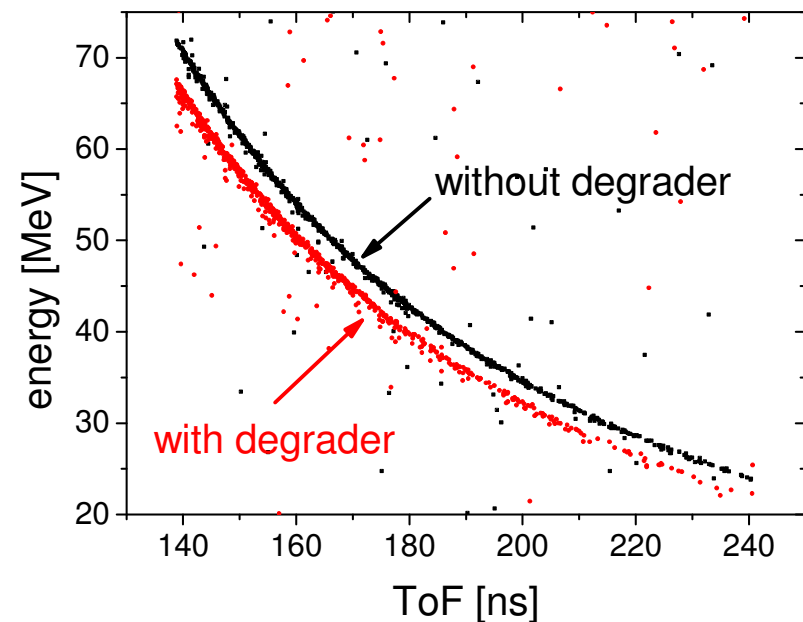
A. Echler et al.

PHD thesis 2012

low energetic ^{238}U ions @ UNILAC accelerator at GSI



→ stopping power values over a wide range of energies in a single measurement



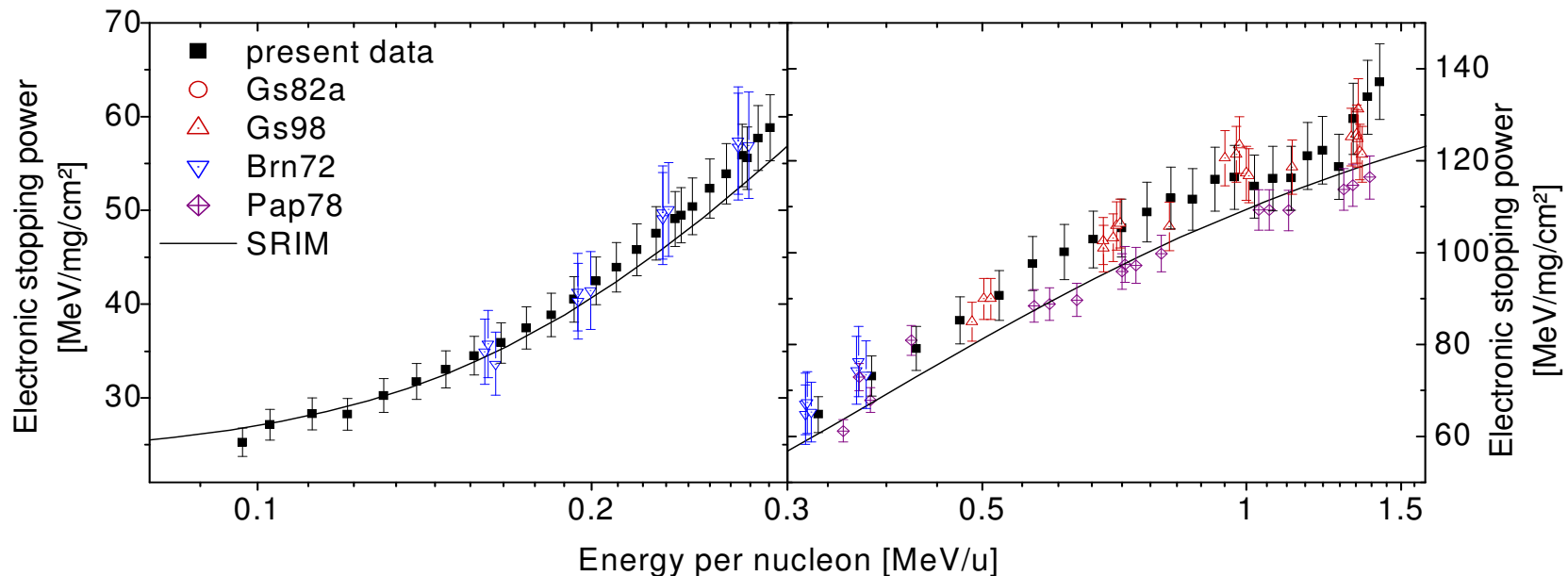
as compared to conventional setups:

- higher sensitivity (energy resolution)
- better energy determination (no pulse height defect)

Results on Stopping Powers of Heavy Ions in Matter

- uncertainties presently still dominated by foil thickness (~6%, to be improved)
- statistical error < 2%

^{238}U on carbon



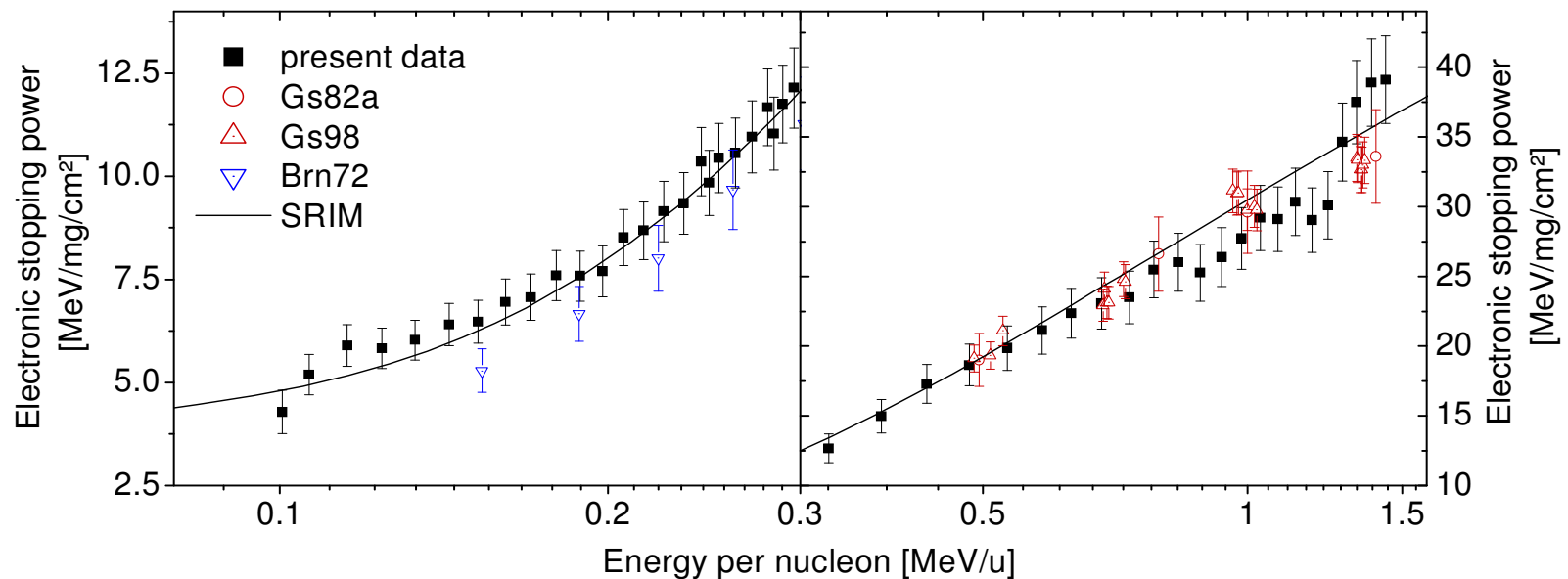
- data extended to $E = 0.1$ MeV/u
- discrepancies to E- dependence of theoretical prediction (SRIM)
- deviations to data of Pape et al. (Pap78)
- agreement with data of Geissel et al. and Brown et al. (Gs82a,Gs98,Brn72)

literature references: H. Paul, <http://www.exphys.uni-linz.ac.at/stopping/>

Results on Stopping Powers of Heavy Ions in Matter

- uncertainties presently still dominated by foil thickness ($\sim 8\%$, to be improved)
- statistical error $< 3.5\%$

^{238}U on gold



➤ good agreement with literature data and theoretical calculations

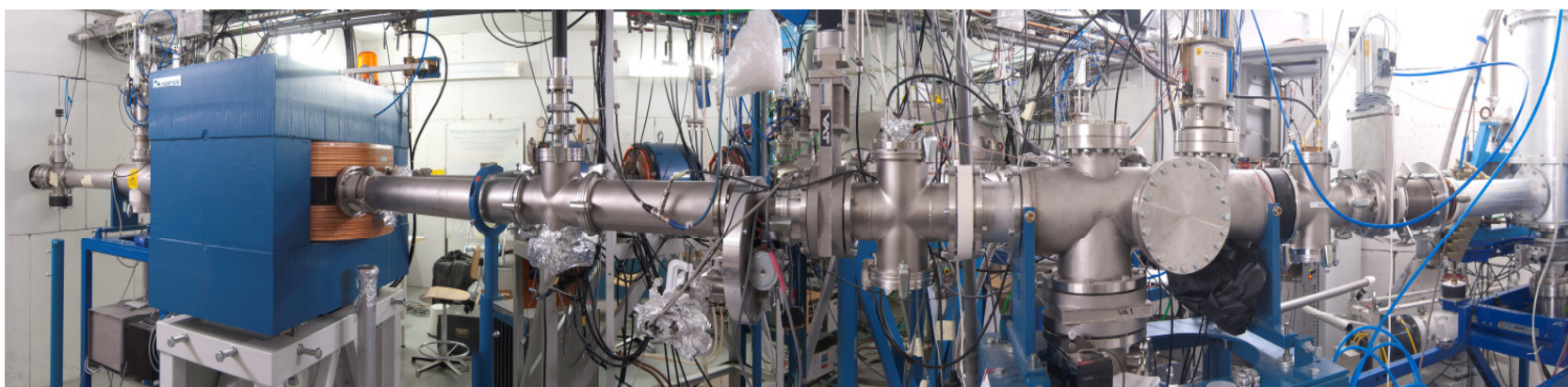
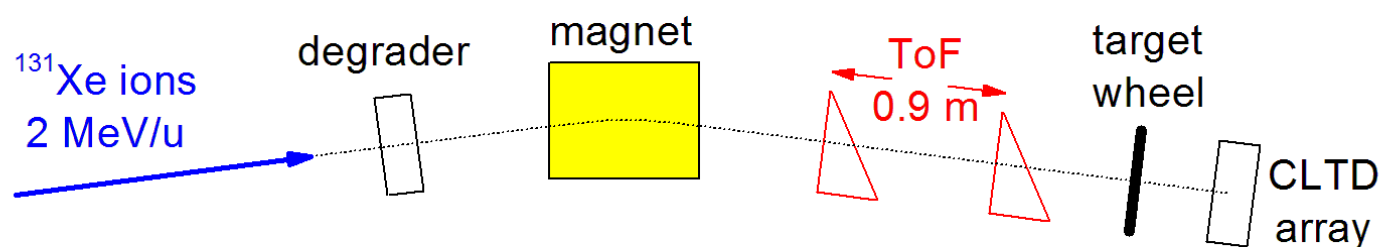
literature references: H. Paul, <http://www.exphys.uni-linz.ac.at/stopping/>

Results on Stopping Powers of Heavy Ions in Matter

most recent experiment:

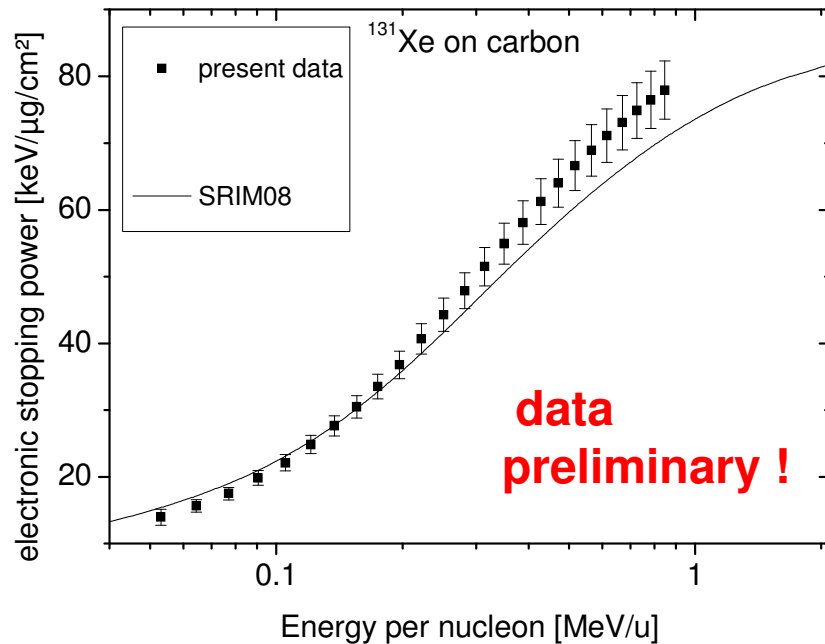
joint experiment with the Jyväskylä group at the Jyväskylä facility

experimental setup:

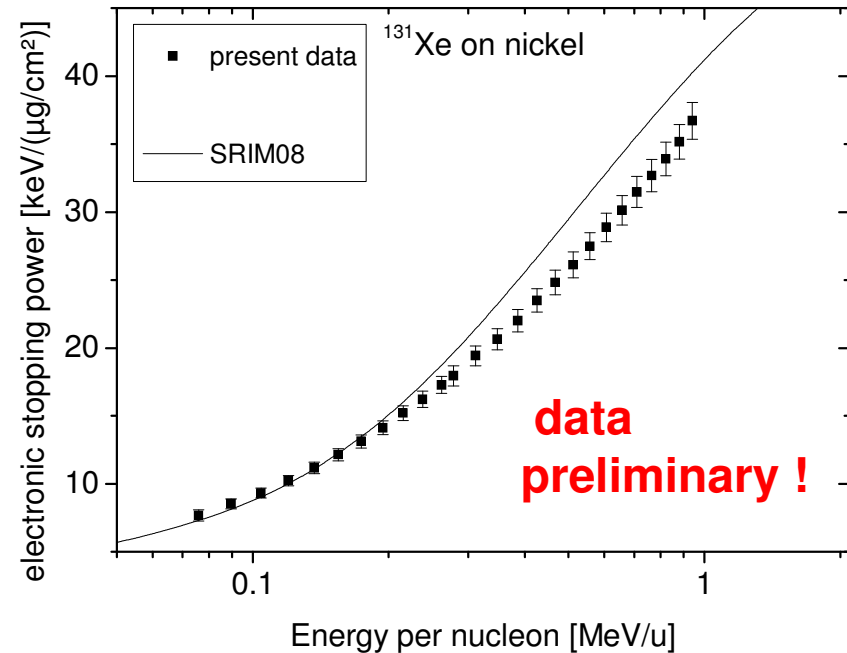


Results on Stopping Powers of Heavy Ions in Matter

^{131}Xe on carbon



^{131}Xe on nickel



**A. Echler et al.
PHD thesis 2012**

- systematic deviations in the energy dependence from the SRIM predictions

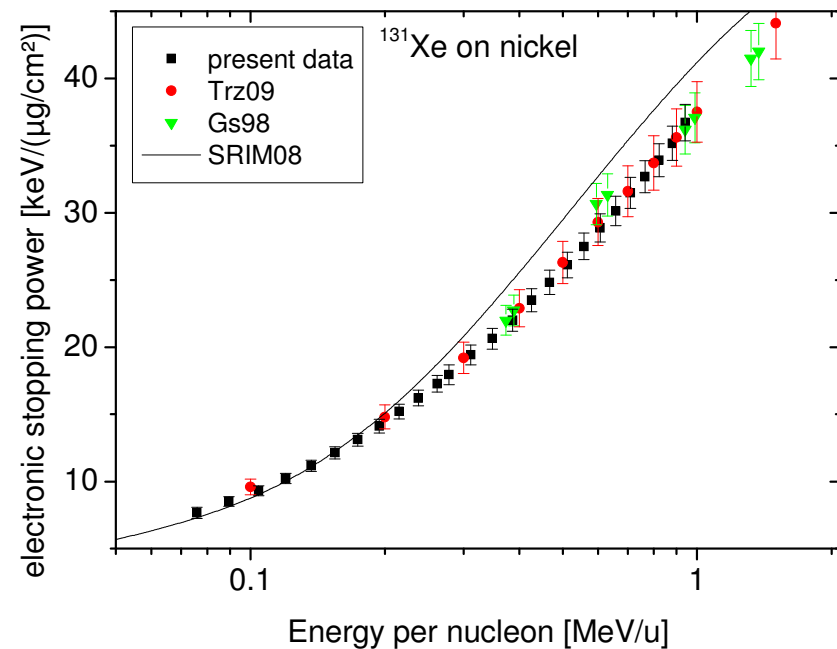
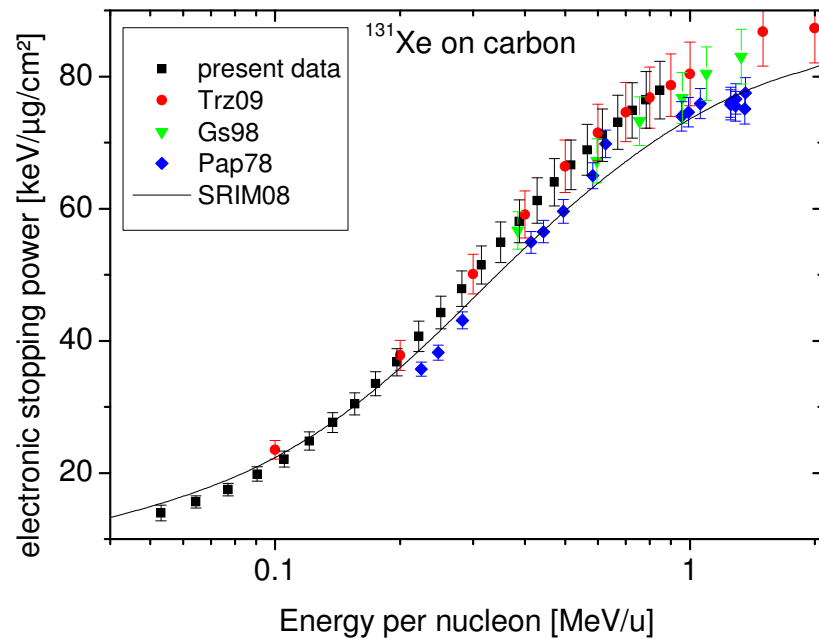
Results on Stopping Powers of Heavy Ions in Matter

A. Echler et al.

^{131}Xe on carbon

^{131}Xe on nickel

PHD thesis 2012



[Trz09] W.H. Trzaska et al., Nucl. Instrum. Methods Phys. Res. B **267** (2009), 3403

[Gs98] H. Geissel et al., Various datasets summarized in electronic library of H. Paul

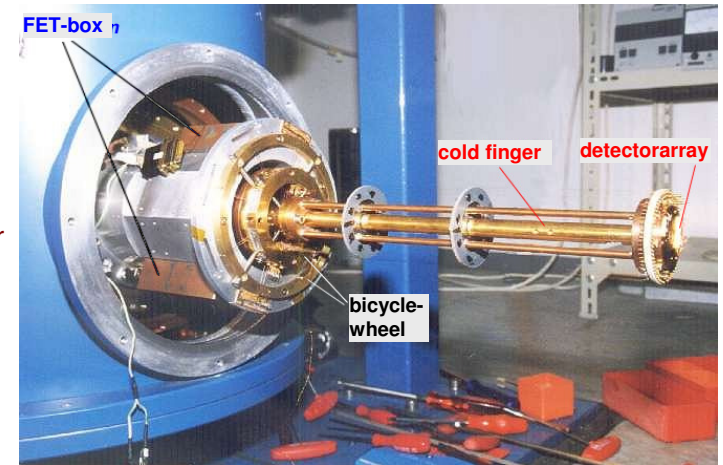
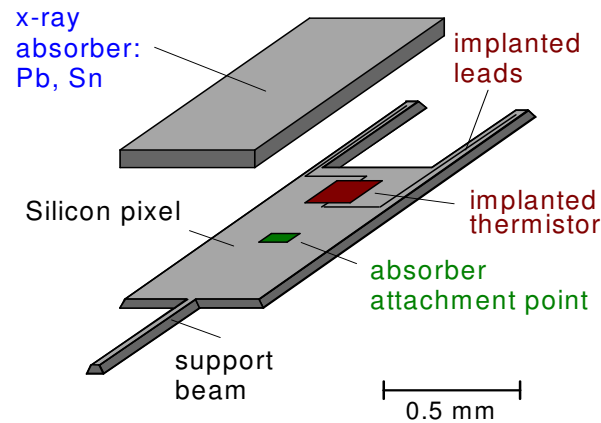
[Pap78] H. Pape, H.G. Clerc, K.H.Schmidt. Z. Phys. A **286** (1978), 159

- data extended to lower energies < 0.1 MeV/u
- good agreement with literature values except those from Pape et al.

IV. CLTD`s for High Resolution X-Ray Spectroscopy - Status and Perspectives

detection scheme:

- 36 pixel Si thermistors (from NASA/Goddard)
- Sn, Pb absorbers
- each pixel:
 - $\approx 0.5 \text{ mm}^2 \times 85 \mu\text{m}$
 - operated at 50 mK

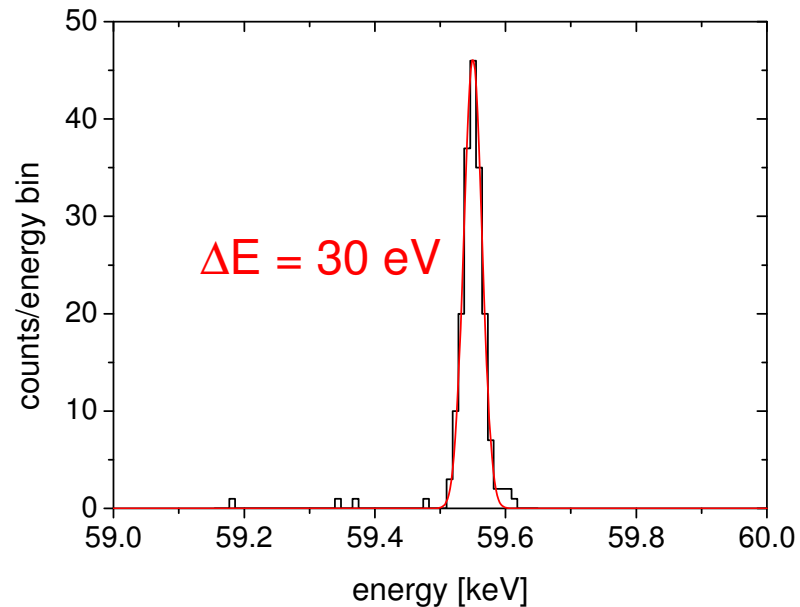


detector performance:

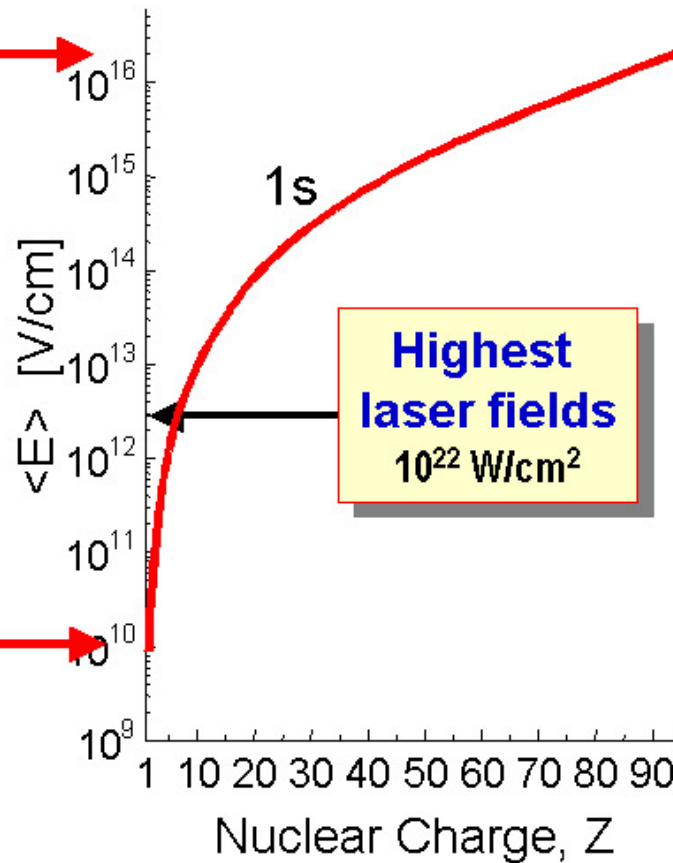
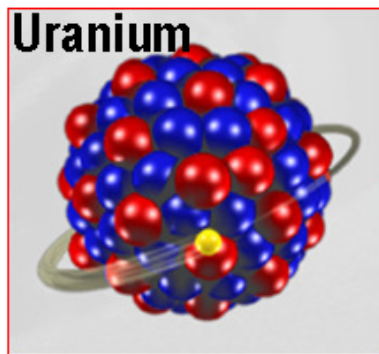
- $\Delta E = 30 - 40 \text{ eV @ } 60 \text{ keV}$
(theoretical limit of conventional Si detector: $\geq 350 \text{ eV}$)

present status:

- detector with 24 pixels tested
- active area: 10 mm^2



Perspectives: Test of QED in Extreme Static Electromagnetic Fields



**Highest
laser fields**
 10^{22} W/cm²

H-like Uranium

$$\begin{aligned}\langle E \rangle &= 1.8 \times 10^{16} \text{ V/cm} \\ E_K &= -132 \times 10^3 \text{ eV} \\ \Delta E_{\text{Lamb}} &\approx 500 \text{ eV} \\ Z \alpha &\approx 1\end{aligned}$$

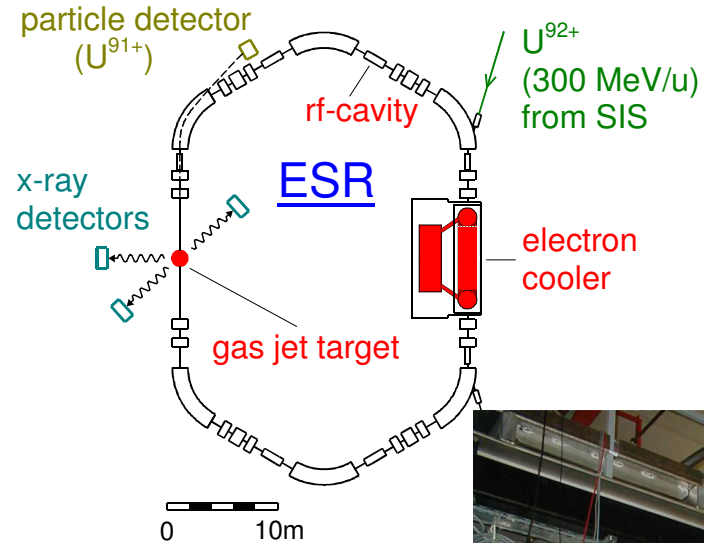
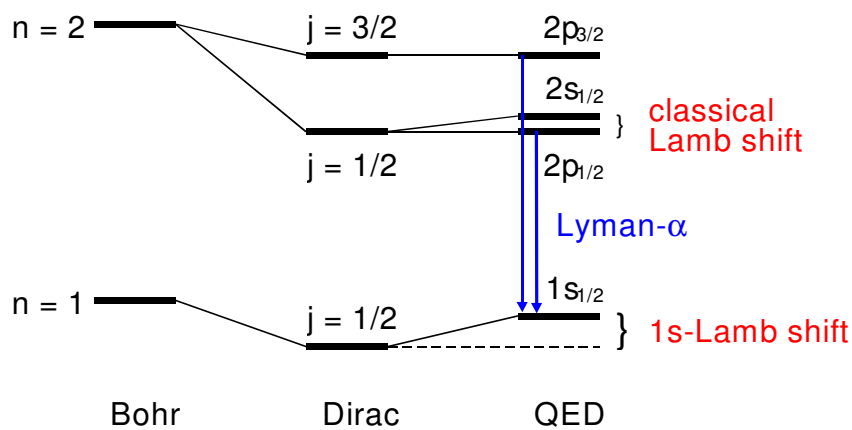
**Quantum
Electro-
Dynamics**

Hydrogen

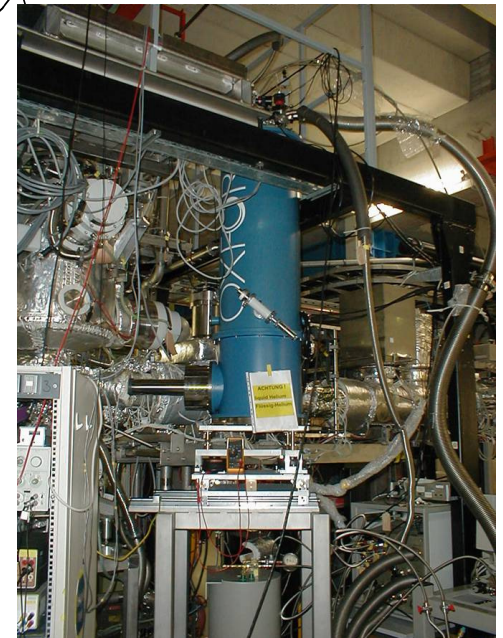
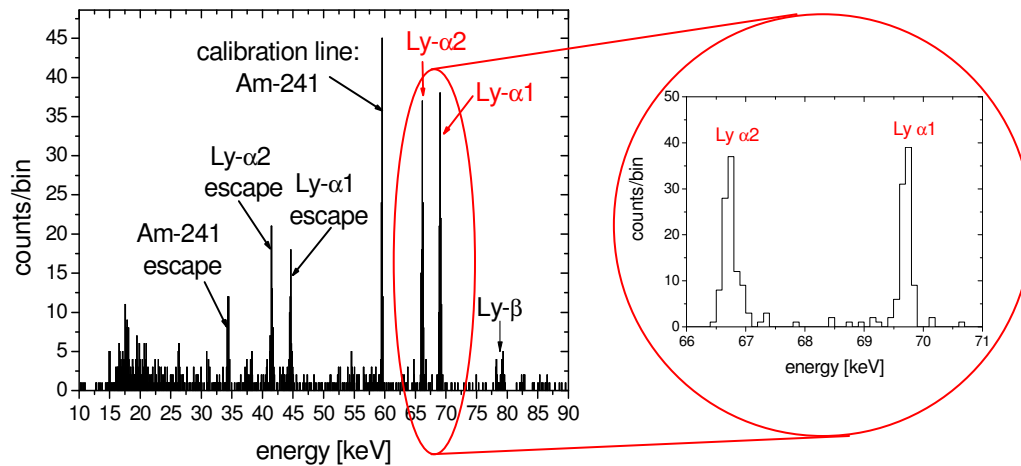
$$\begin{aligned}\langle E \rangle &= 1 \times 10^{10} \text{ V/cm} \\ E_K &= -13.6 \text{ eV} \\ \Delta E_{\text{Lamb}} &\approx 10^{-5} \text{ eV} \\ Z \alpha &\approx 10^{-2}\end{aligned}$$

CLTD`s for the Lambshift Experiment on Hydrogen-Like Heavy Ions – Present Status

idea of the experiment: determine absolute transition energy of the Lyman- α line
 \Rightarrow most sensitive test of QED ($Z\alpha \rightarrow 1$, higher order terms)



proof of principles for $^{238}U^{91+}$ and $^{207}Pb^{82+}$:



CLTD`s for the Lambshift Experiment on Hydrogen-Like Heavy Ions – Present Status

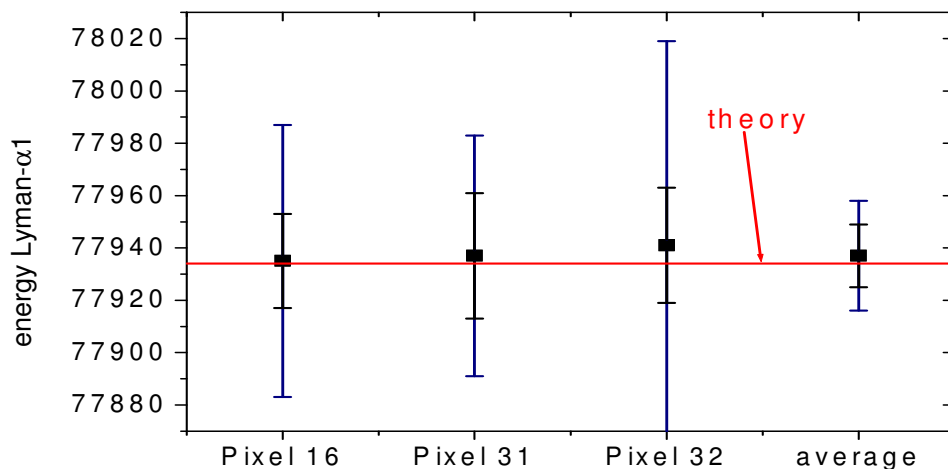
results of a joint experiment with the Atomic Physic Group (FOCAL crystal spectrometer):

beam: $^{207}\text{Pb}^{82+}$ at 219 MeV/u

overall efficiency: 2.5×10^{-7} (only 3 pixels)

V. Andrianov et al.

AIP Conf. Proc. 1185 (2009) 99



result:

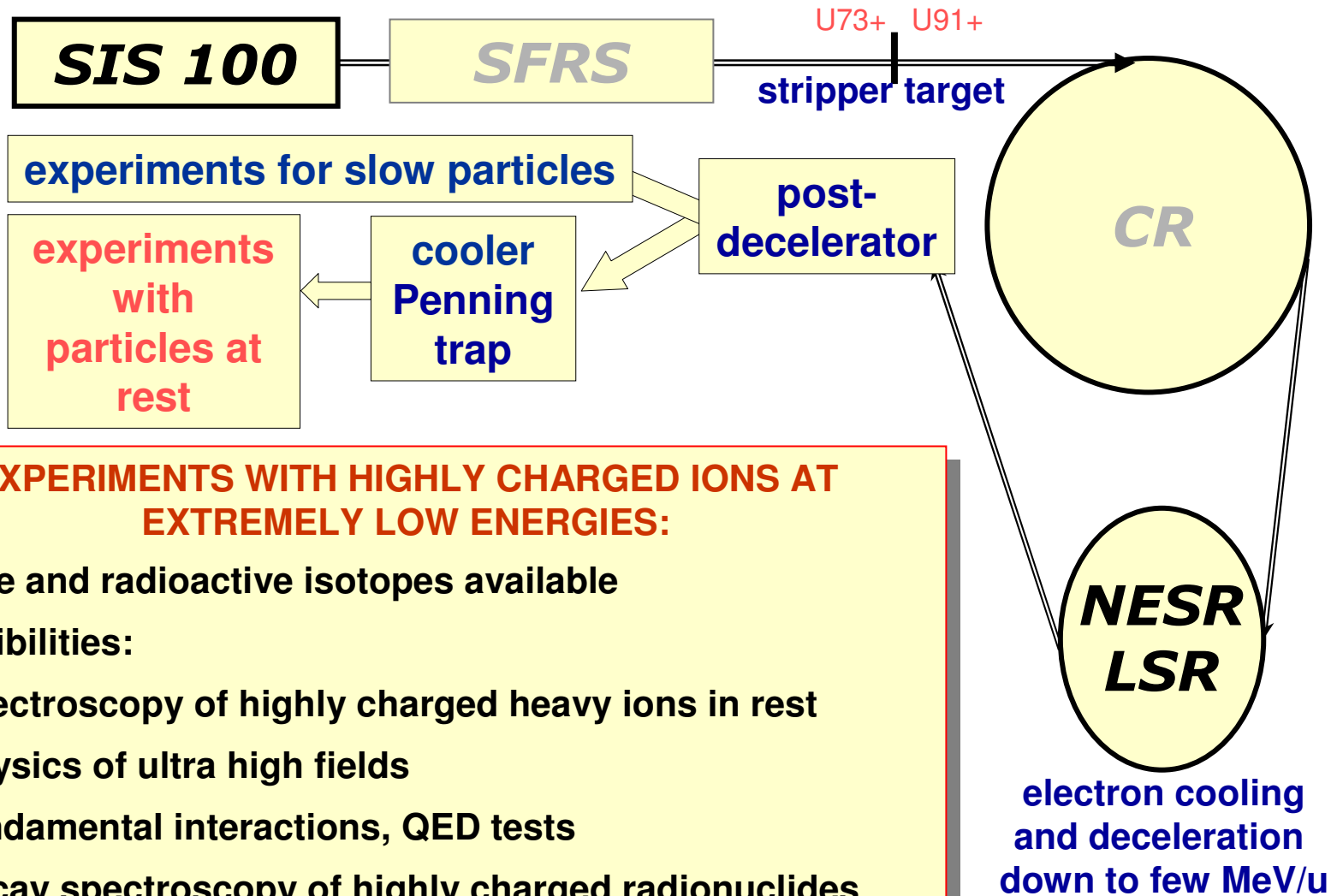
$$E(\text{Ly-a1}) = (77937 \pm 12_{\text{stat}} \pm 25_{\text{syst}}) \text{ eV}$$

- good agreement with theory
- systematic uncertainty dominant

next steps:

- production run with improved statistic and systematic error (aim: 1 eV accuracy)
- application in other atomic physics experiments (proposal submitted)
- at FAIR: HITRAP (highly charged ions at rest)

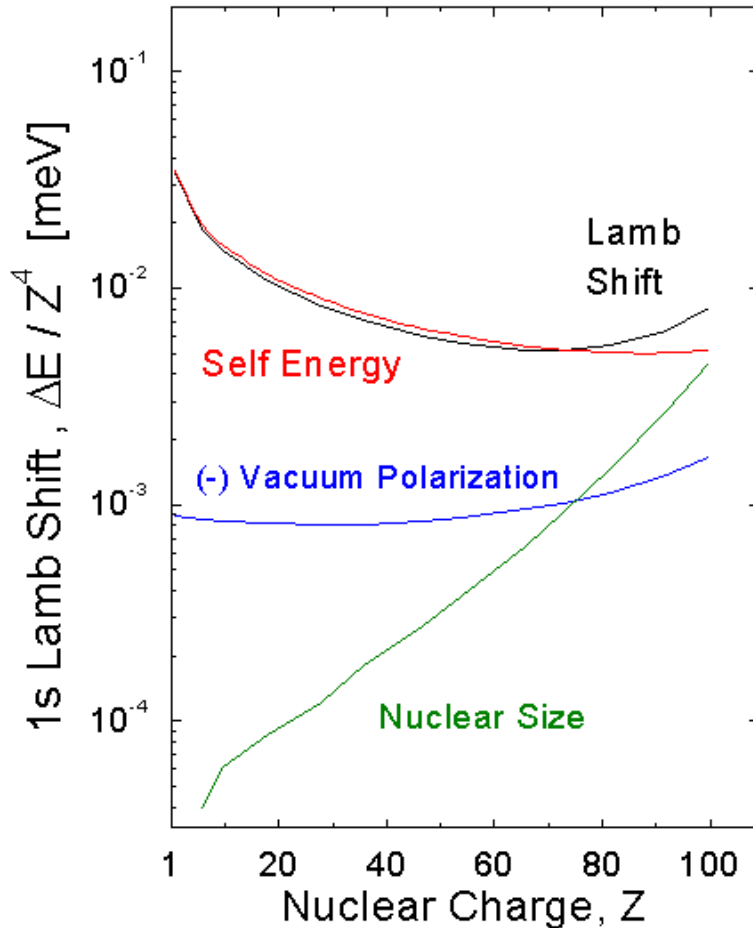
Perspectives with HITRAP@FAIR



EXPERIMENTS WITH HIGHLY CHARGED IONS AT EXTREMELY LOW ENERGIES:

- stable and radioactive isotopes available
- possibilities:
 - spectroscopy of highly charged heavy ions in rest
 - physics of ultra high fields
 - fundamental interactions, QED tests
 - decay spectroscopy of highly charged radionuclides
 - determine nuclear ground state properties (charge radii)

The 1s-Lamb Shift in Hydrogen-like Ions

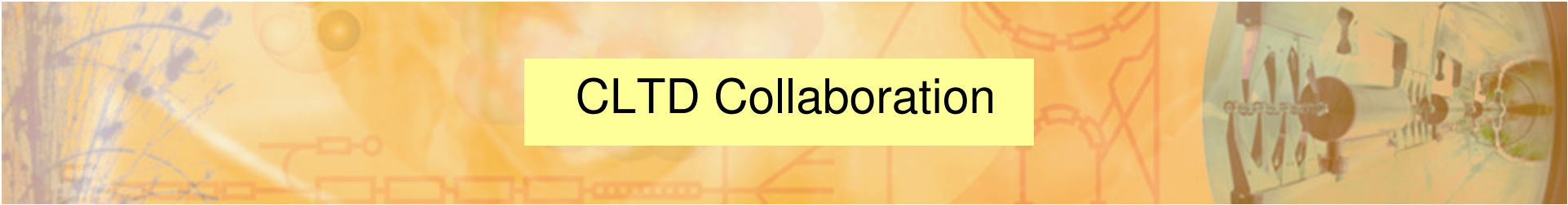


contributions to the 1s Lamb Shift:

for U^{91+} : Self Energy: 355 eV ($\approx 80\%$)
Vacuum Polarization: -89 eV ($\approx -20\%$)
Nuclear Size: 199 eV ($\approx 40\%$)

determination of nuclear charge radii:

- test QED for stable isotope with known rms-radius
- from Lamb shift measurement for chains of isotopes
⇒ determine charge radii with $\leq 1\%$ accuracy



CLTD Collaboration

A. Bleile^{1,2}, A. Echler^{1,2}, P. Egelhof^{1,2}, P. Grabitz^{1,2}, S. Ilieva¹,
H. Kettunen⁴, S. Kraft-Bermuth³, J.P. Meier¹, K. Müller³, M. Mutterer¹,
M. Rossi⁴, W.H. Trzaska⁴, A. Virtanen⁴

1 GSI Darmstadt

2 Univ. Mainz

3 Univ. Gießen

4 Univ. Jyväskylä



V. Conclusions

- Calorimetric Low Temperature Detectors have Substantial Advantage over Conventional Detection Systems concerning Resolution, Linearity, etc.
- CLTD`s for Heavy Ion Physics have been designed, tested and used in First Experiments.
- Possible Applications within NUSTAR, SPARC and other Projects seem to be attractive.