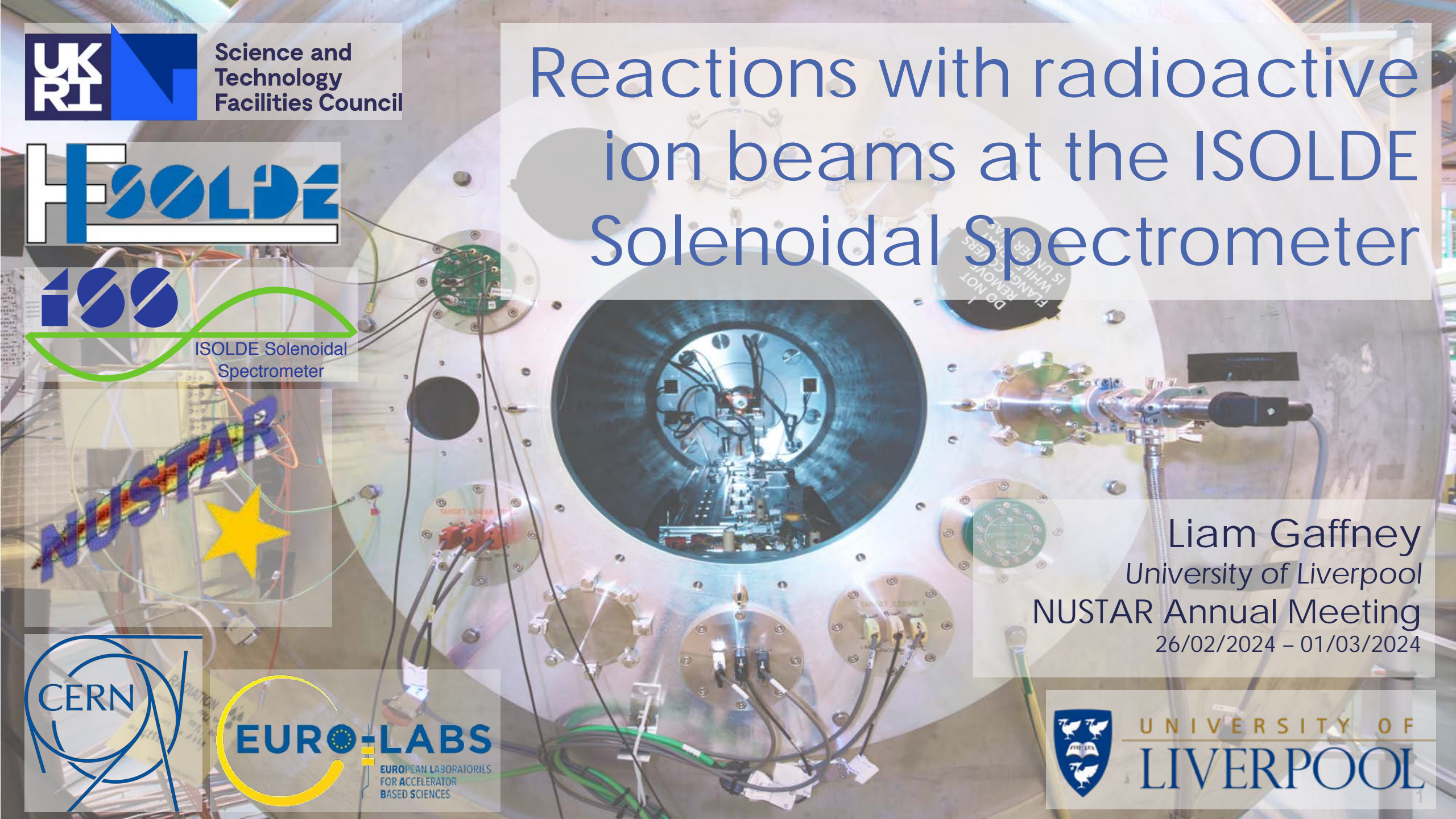




# Reactions with radioactive ion beams at the ISOLDE Solenoidal Spectrometer

Liam Gaffney  
University of Liverpool  
NUSTAR Annual Meeting  
26/02/2024 – 01/03/2024





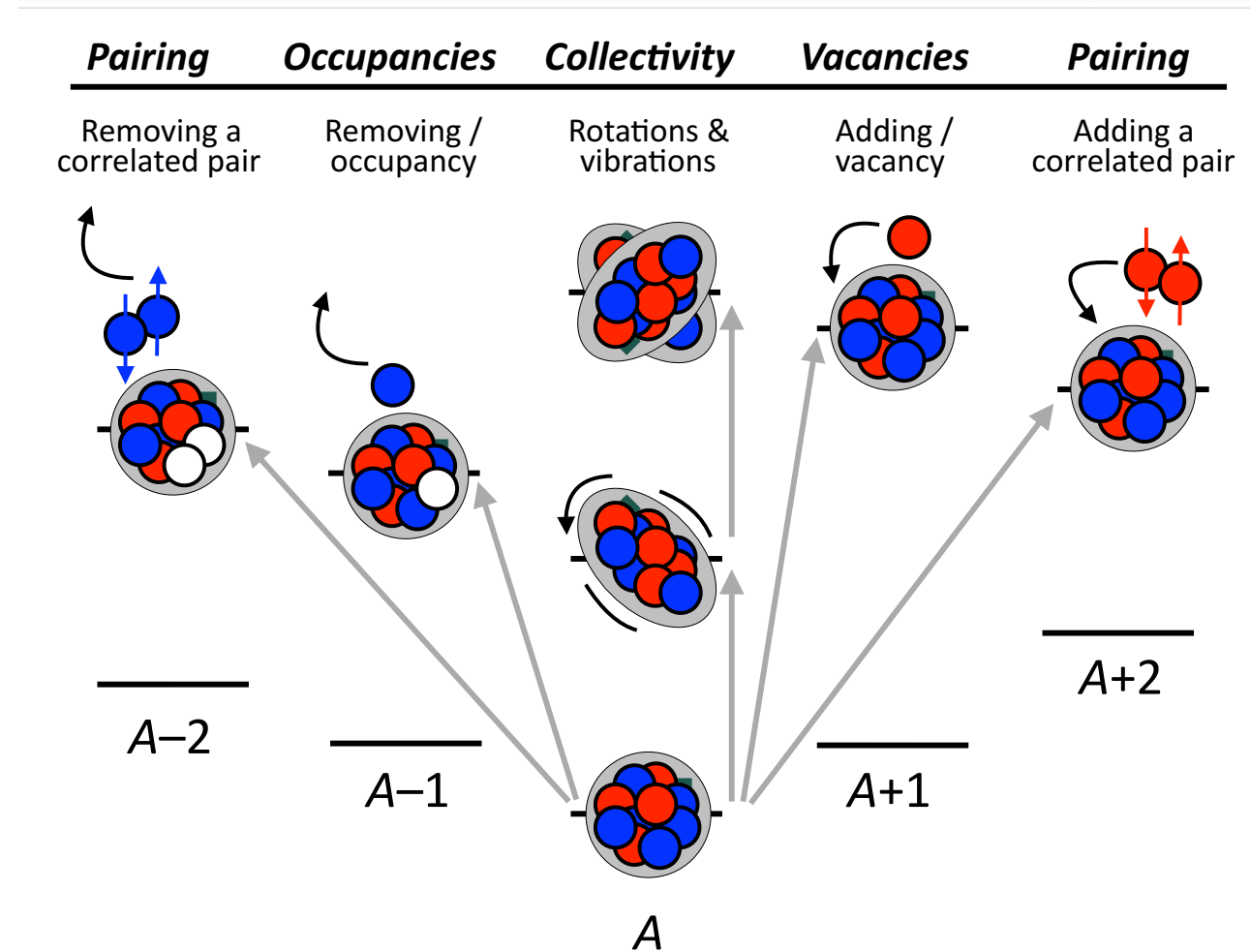
# Overview

- Introduction to solenoid technique
  - ISS@HIE-ISOLDE
- Overview of ISS operation.
- Summary of ISS physics (so far).
  - Neutron states above  $N=126$
  - Onset of deformation at  $N=60$
  - Single-particle states around  $^{68}\text{Ni}$
  - Towards the (1<sup>st</sup>) island-of-inversion
- SpecMAT active target
- Future program at ISS.

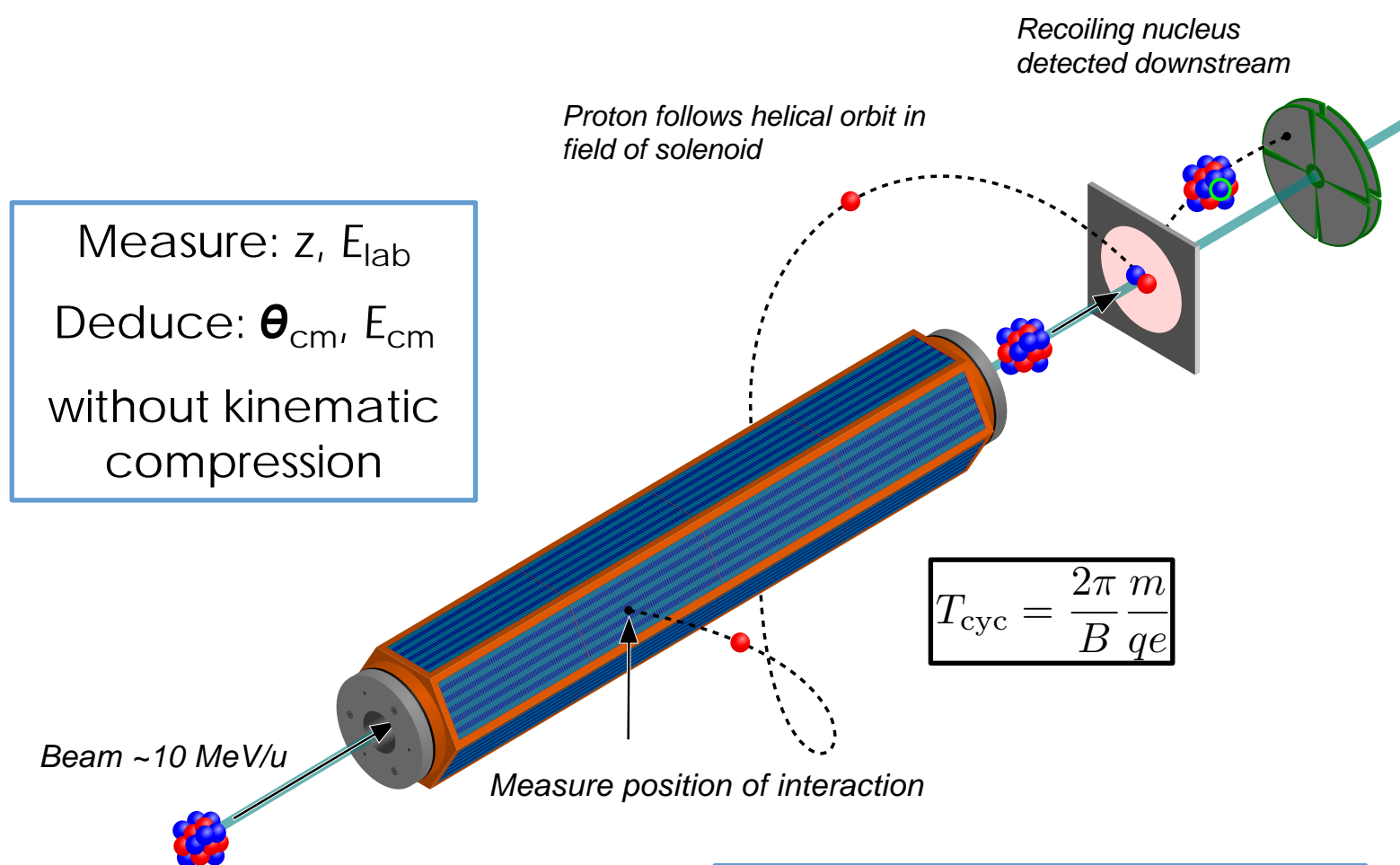


# Direct reactions around the Coulomb barrier

- Access to variety of nuclear structure information
- **Single-particle states**,  $E_{(EX,SP)}$ ,  $\ell$ , spectroscopic factors, e.g. (d,p), (p,d)...
- **Pair-correlations**,  $E_{(EX)}$ ,  $\ell$ , e.g. (p,t), (t,p)...
- **Collective properties** via e.g. (p,p'), (d,d'), ( $\alpha,\alpha'$ ), Coulex...
- Reactions performed  $\sim 10$  MeV/u (few to 10s MeV/u).

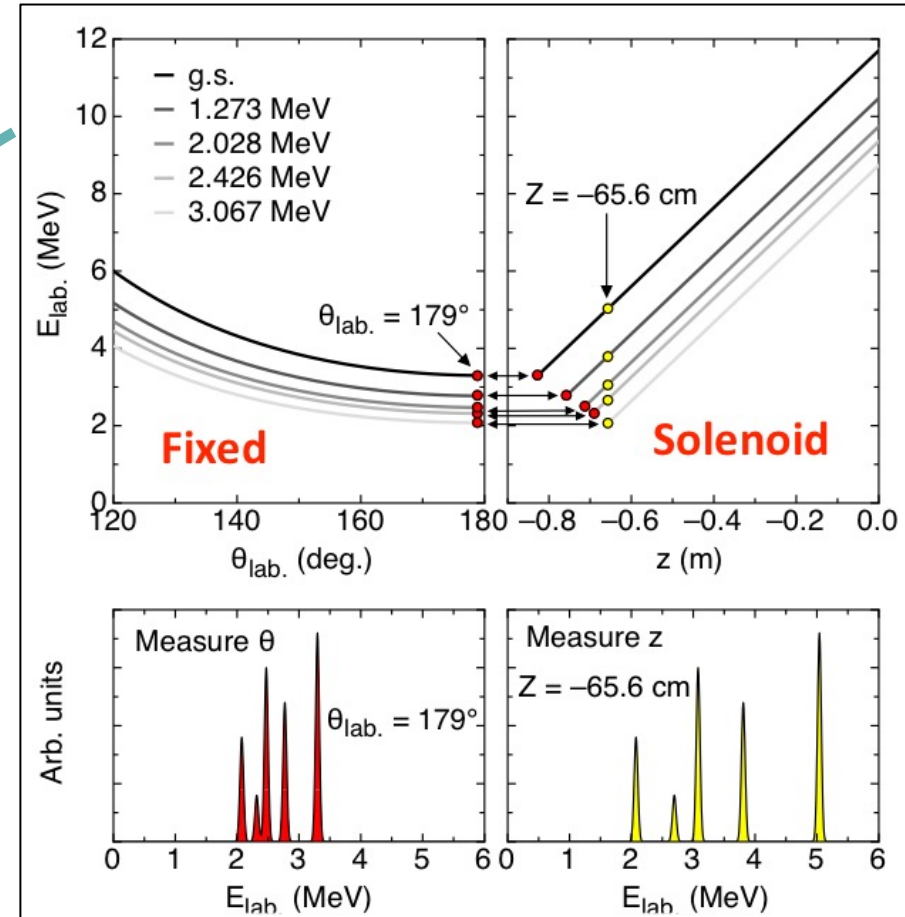


# Solenoidal spectrometer technique



$$T_{\text{cyc}} = \frac{2\pi m}{B q e}$$

$$\cos \theta_{\text{cm}} = \frac{v_{\text{lab}}^2 - V_{\text{cm}}^2 - v_0^2}{2v_0 V_{\text{cm}}}$$

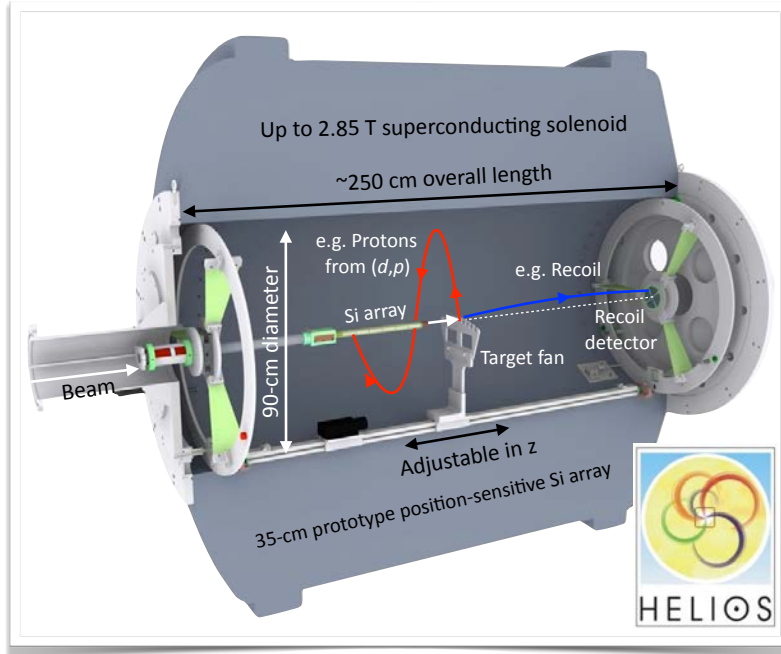


$$E_{\text{cm}} = E_{\text{lab}} + \frac{mV_{\text{cm}}^2}{2} - \frac{mzV_{\text{cm}}}{T_{\text{cyc}}}$$



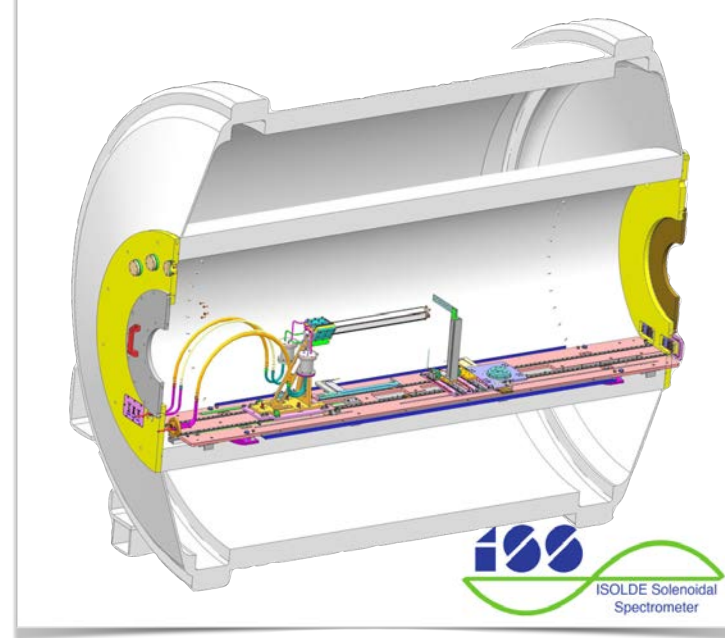
# Solenoidal spectrometers around the world

## HELIOS@Argonne



- “The pioneer” from 2008.
- Stable beams, RAISOR and CARIBU.
- 3T MRI magnet.
- Resistive-division Si array.

## ISS@ISOLDE



- Since 2018 (LS2 2019-2021).
- Post-accelerated ISOL beams.
- Energies up to  $\sim 10$  MeV/u.
- Pre-LS2 with HELIOS on-axis array.
- Post-LS2 double-sided Si strip array.
- 4T MRI magnet – clearance for 2.5 T.
- Solenoidal spectrometer & SpecMAT.

## SOLARIS@FRIB



- From 2021 with initial configuration.
- ReA6 beam line.
- Early implementation using HELIOS array.
- Building forward/backward dual array.
- 4T MRI magnet.
- Solenoidal spectrometer & AT-TPC.



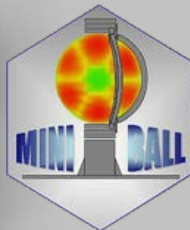
# HIE-ISOLDE Phase 2 (2018)



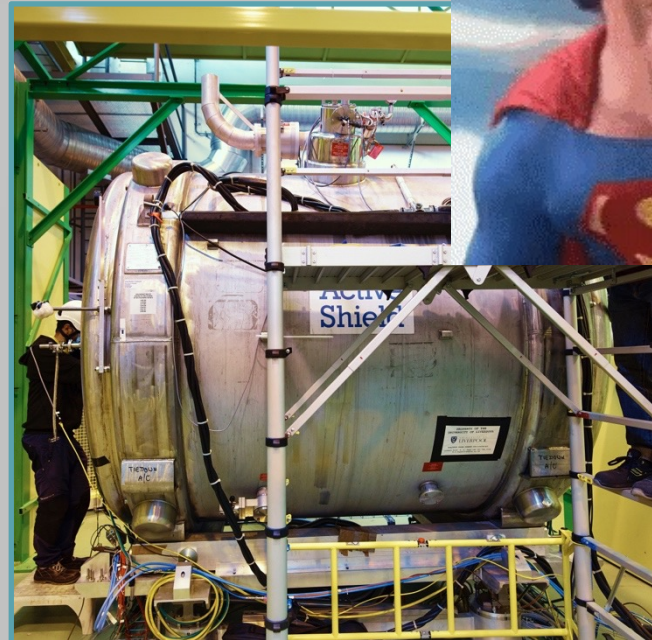
10.0 MeV/u



← RIB from ISOLDE



Moveable  
Setups (SEC)





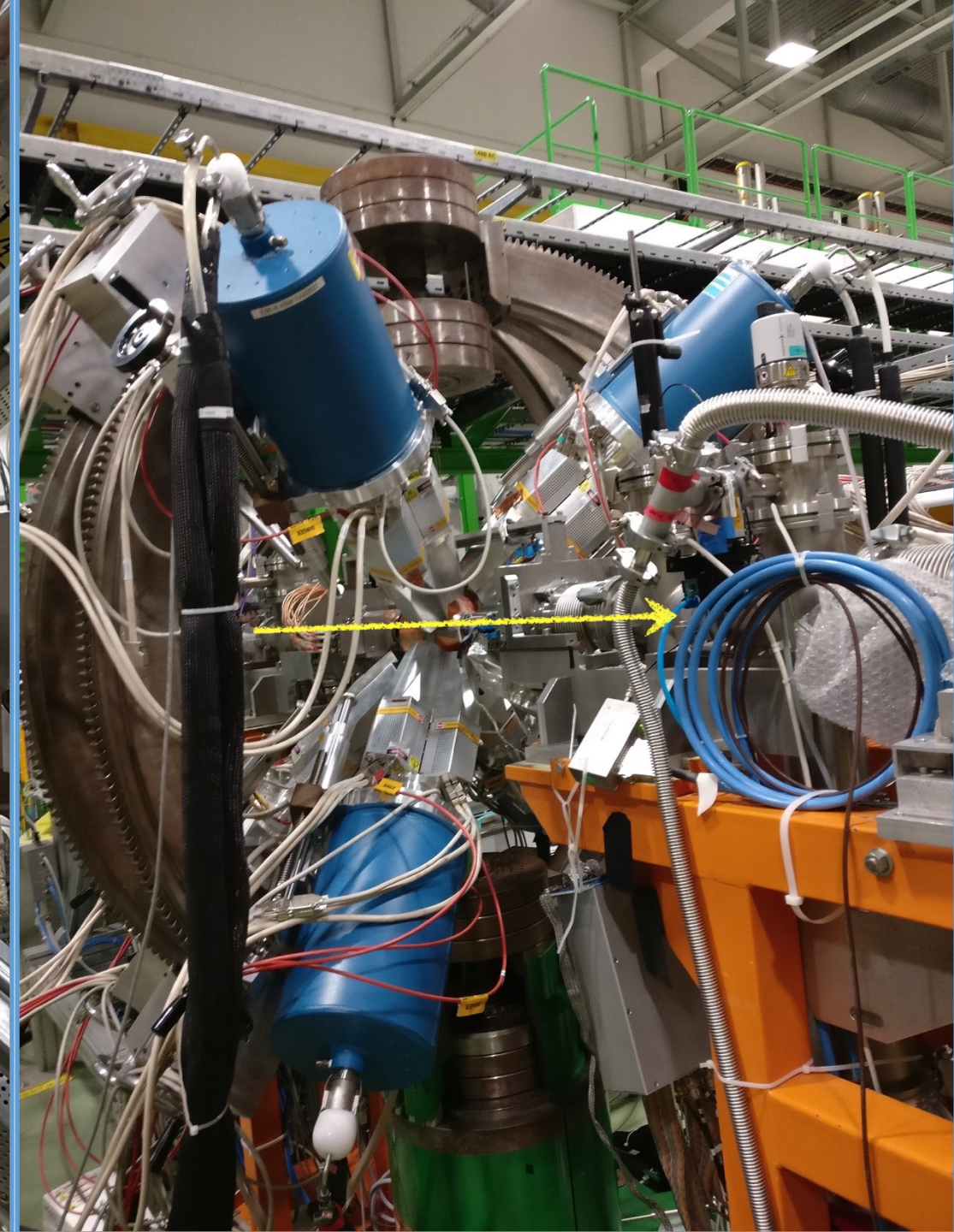
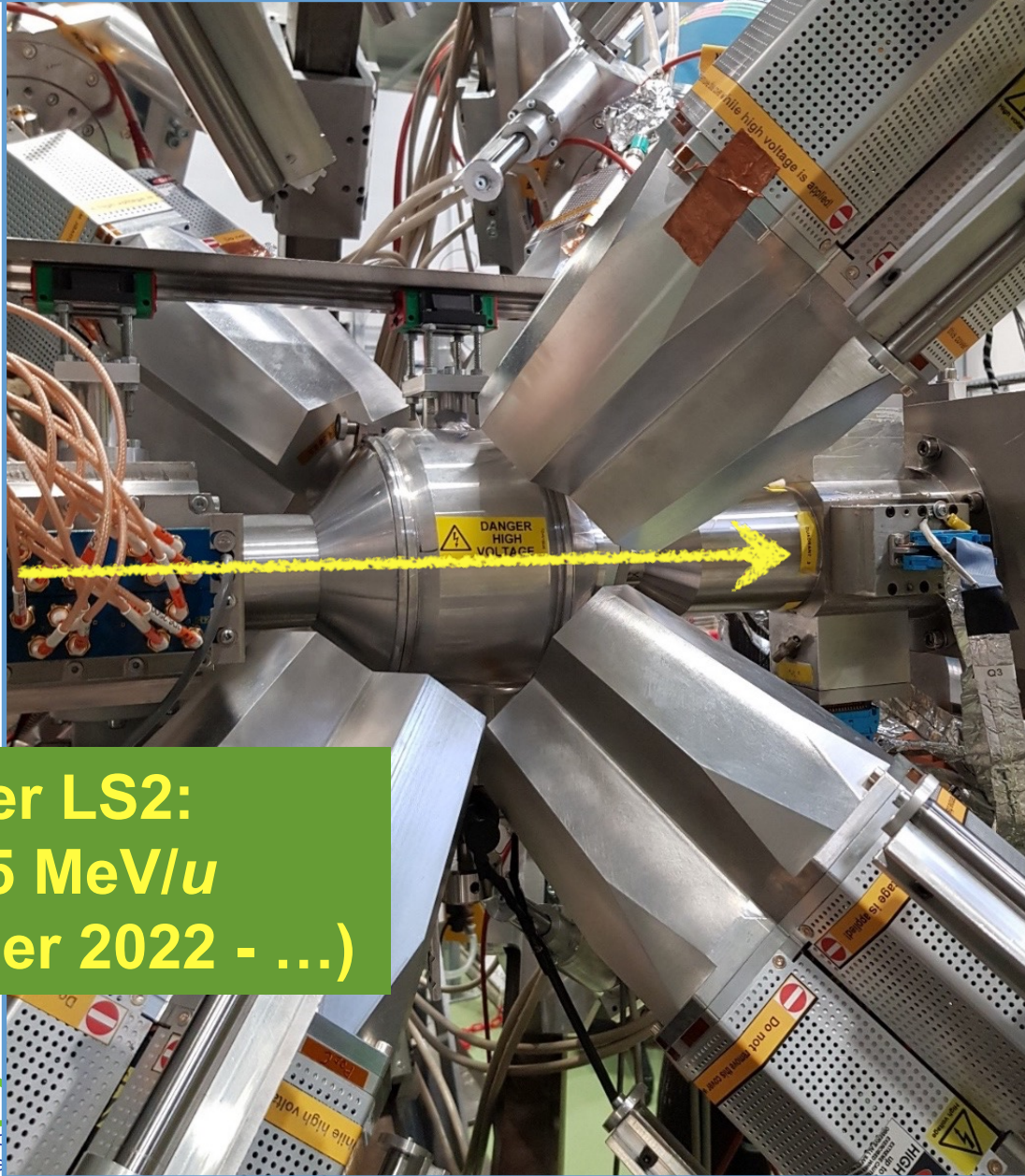
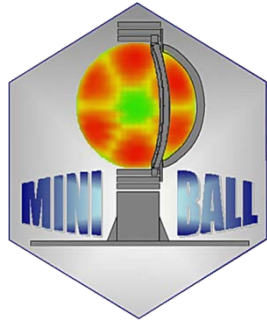
# Brief aside – new-Miniball

- New DAQ based on FEBEX4 from GSI
  - 16 channel, differential input, plus SE adaptor boards
  - Big thanks to Nik Kurz and Shizu Minami for help and guidance
- Bespoke firmware developed at STFC Daresbury
  - Free-running triggerless readout, cross-channel triggering
  - CFD, MWD, pileup flagging, trace mode, etc...
- New cryostats and new encapsulation of the crystals.
- New preamps based on the AGATA design.





# Miniball @ HIE-ISOLDE



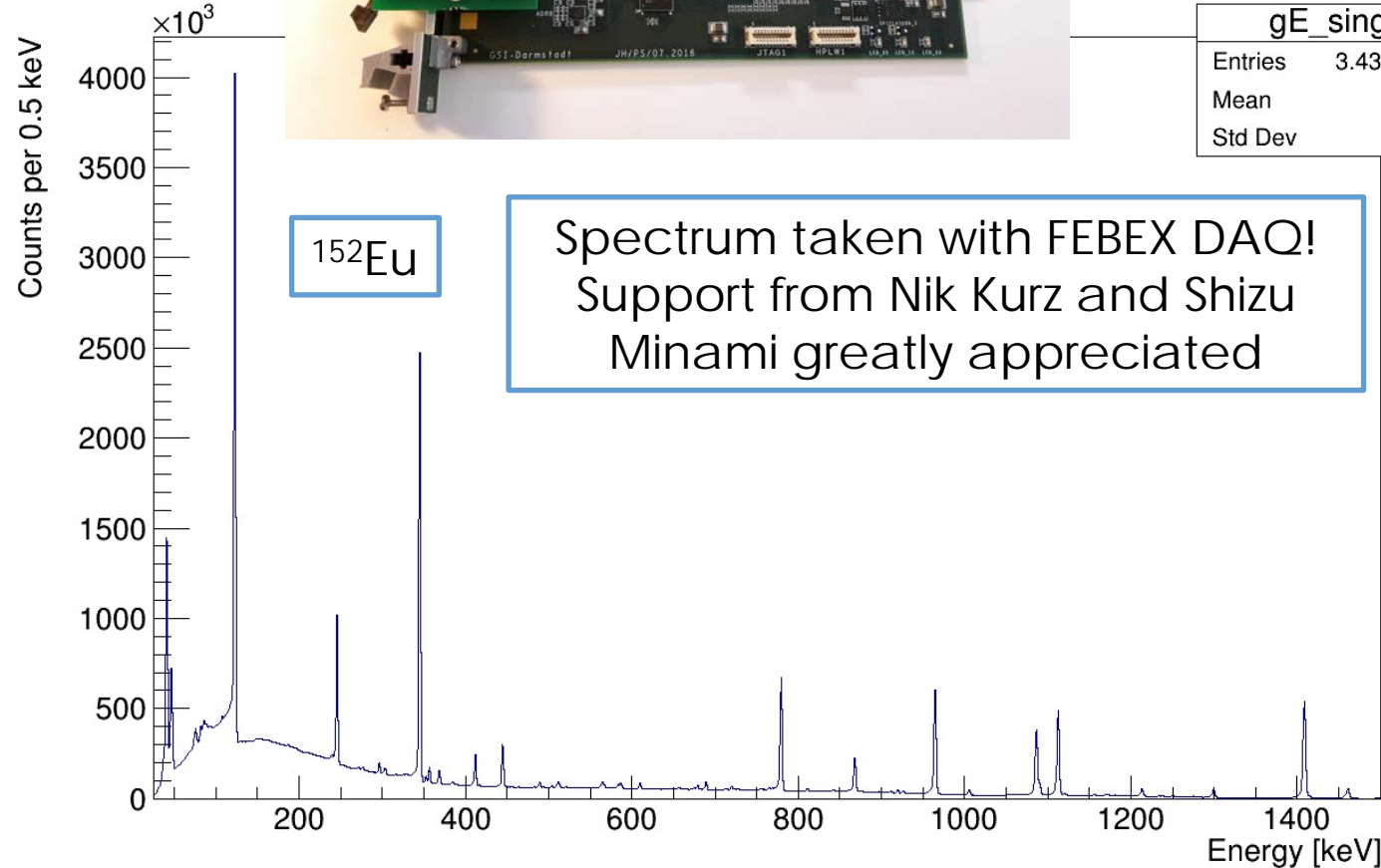
After LS2:  
< 9.5 MeV/u  
(November 2022 - ...)



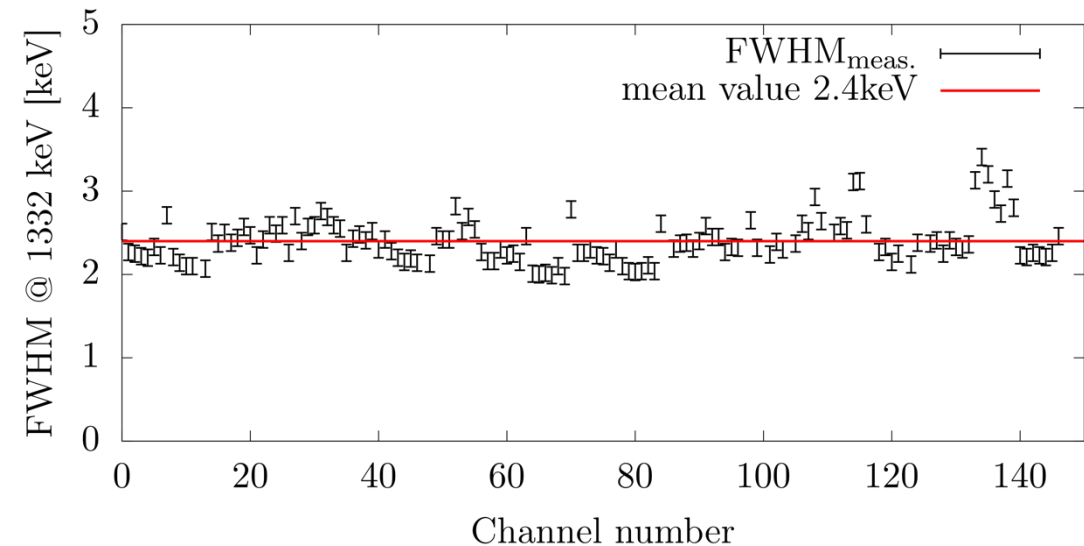
# Re-commissioning



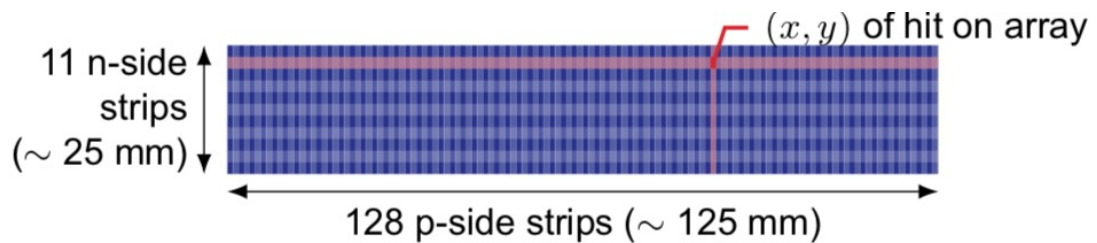
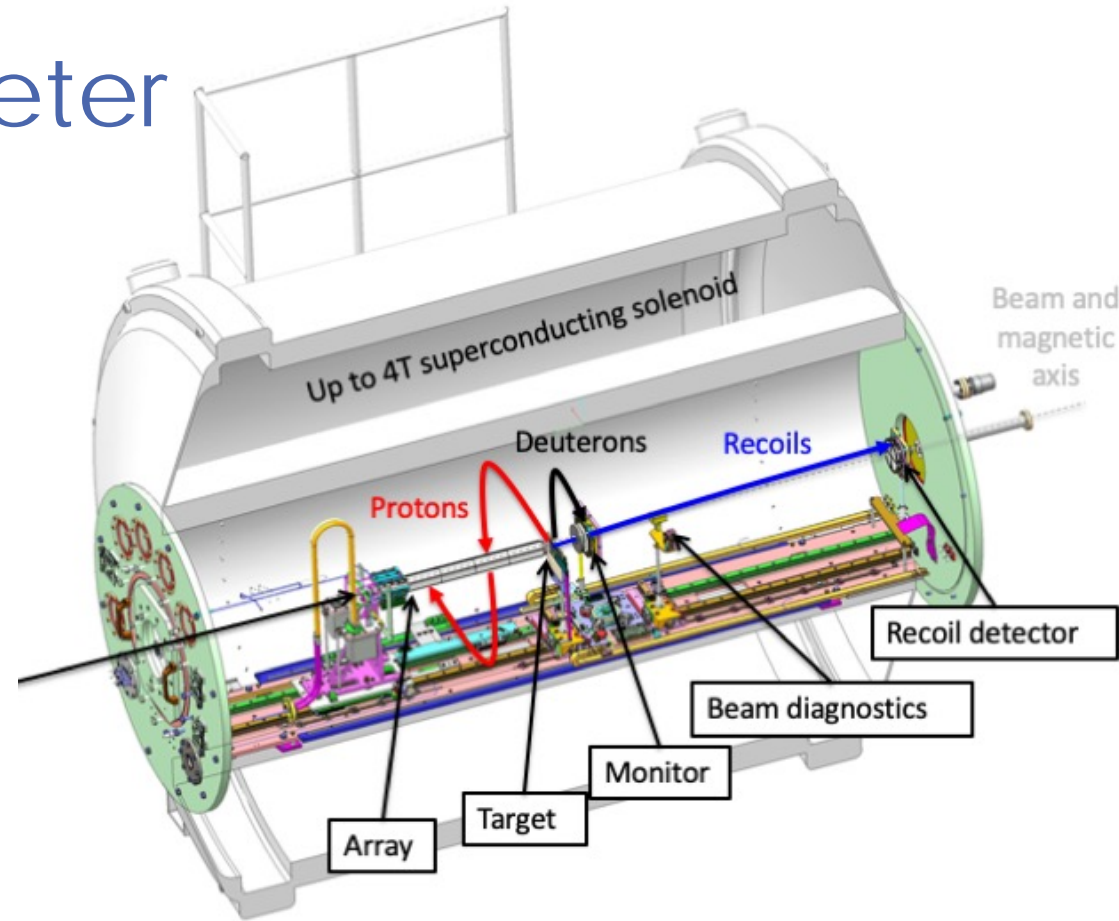
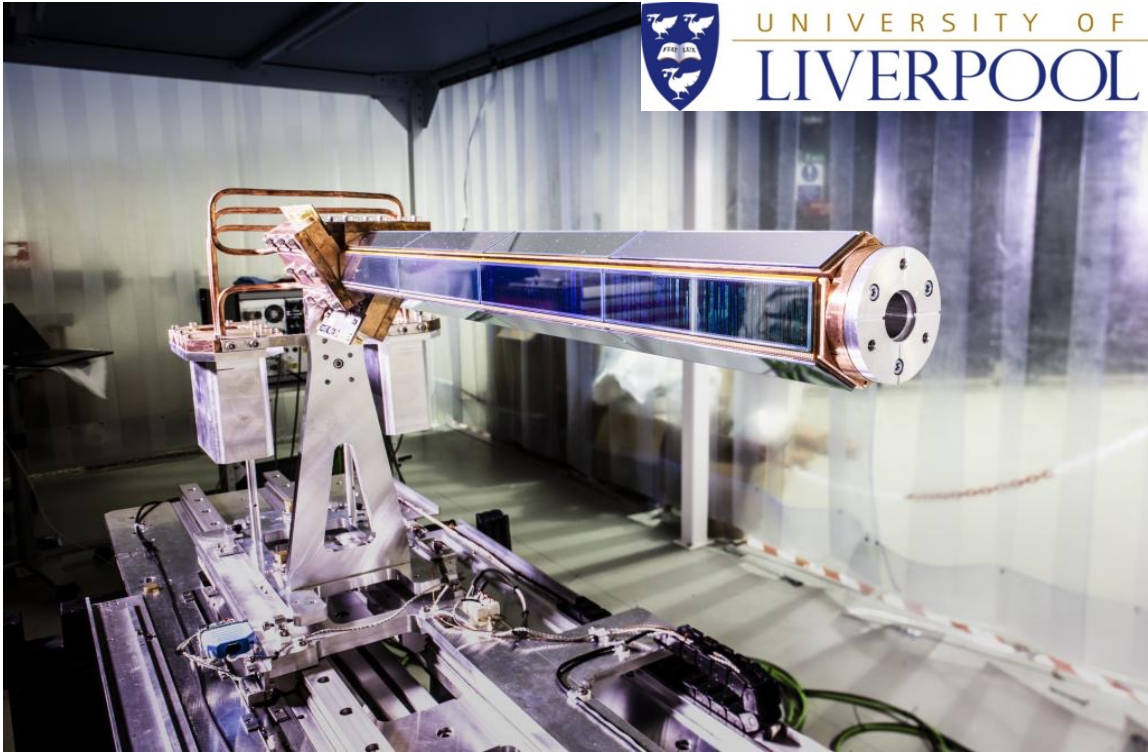
- Seven new triple cryostats approved, mounted and operational in November 2022 “mini-campaign”.
- Full campaign in 2023 with 8 triples and 25 FEBEX modules with bespoke firmware



Analysis by Max Droste  
Work on the ground from  
Herbert Hess and Frank Browne



# ISOLDE Solenoidal Spectrometer



## On-axis silicon detector

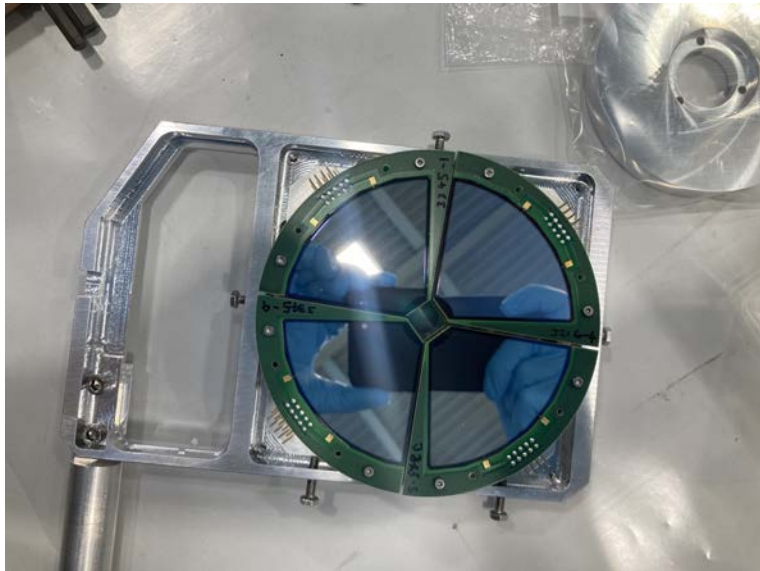
- Hexagonal array with four DSSDs on each side.
  - 128 x 0.95 mm p-side strips along the length.
  - 11 x 2 mm n-side strips along the width
  - 1800 channels → R<sup>3</sup>B ASICs for readout!
- Total length of silicon = 510.4 mm.
  - 66% solid angle coverage.



# ISS modes of operation

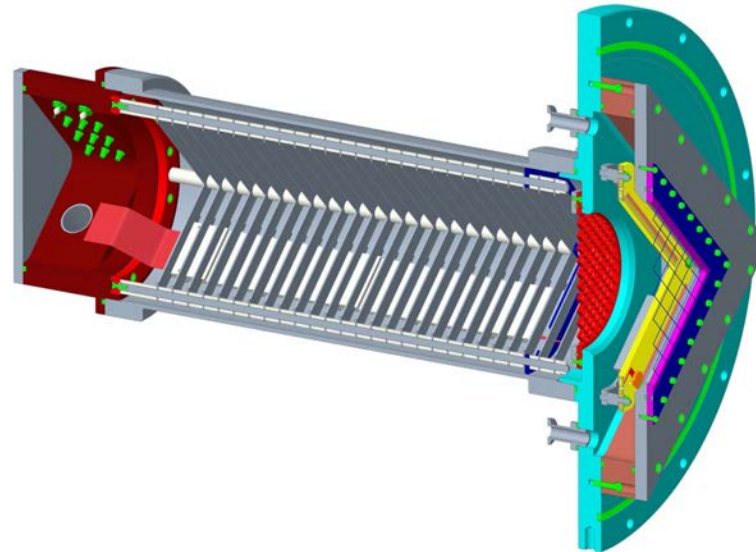
## Si-recoil mode

- Silicon  $\Delta E$ -E for beam-like reaction partner; used for  $A < 50$ .
- Clean selection of reaction channel; removes fusion on carbon and isobars in beam.



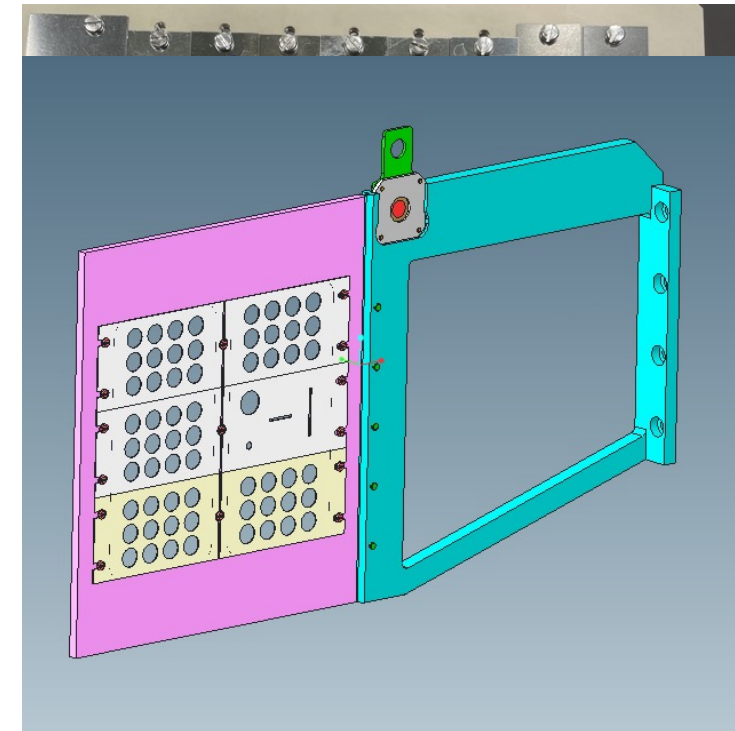
## Gas-recoil mode

- Fast-counting Bragg chamber and MWPC for medium-mass beams.
- Used in beam just twice so far; fast pre-amps and zero-degree blocker being implemented for 2024.



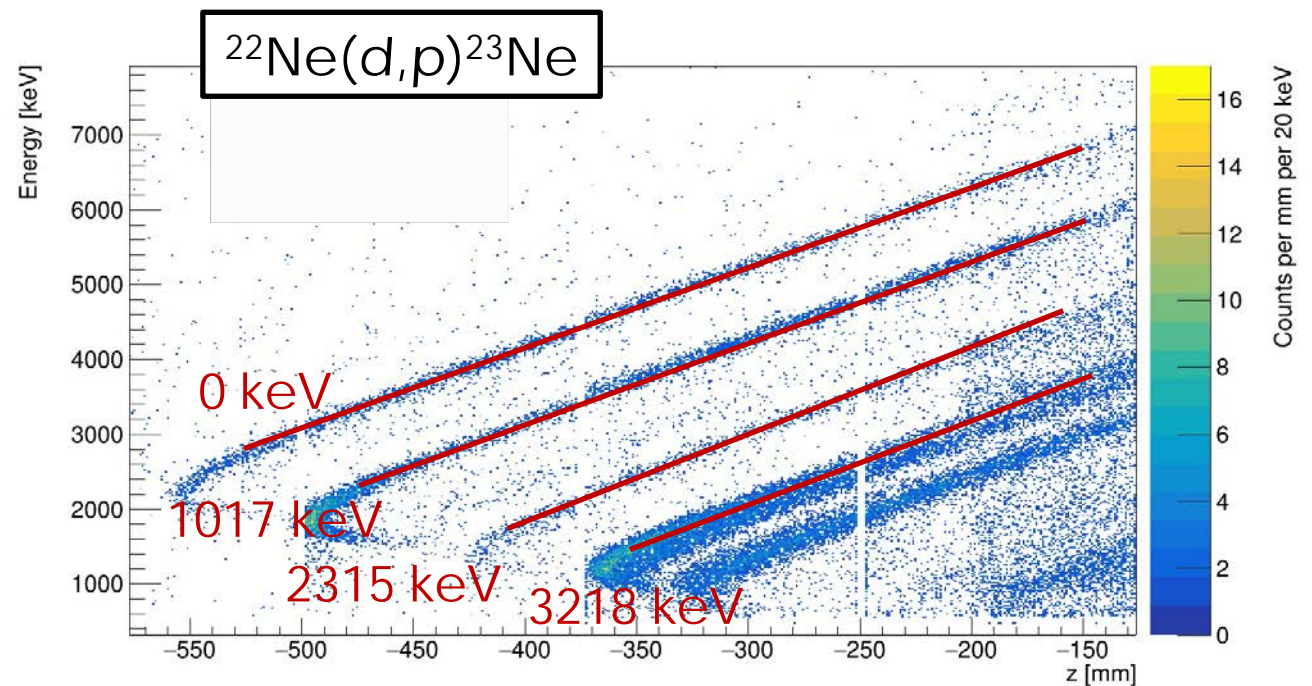
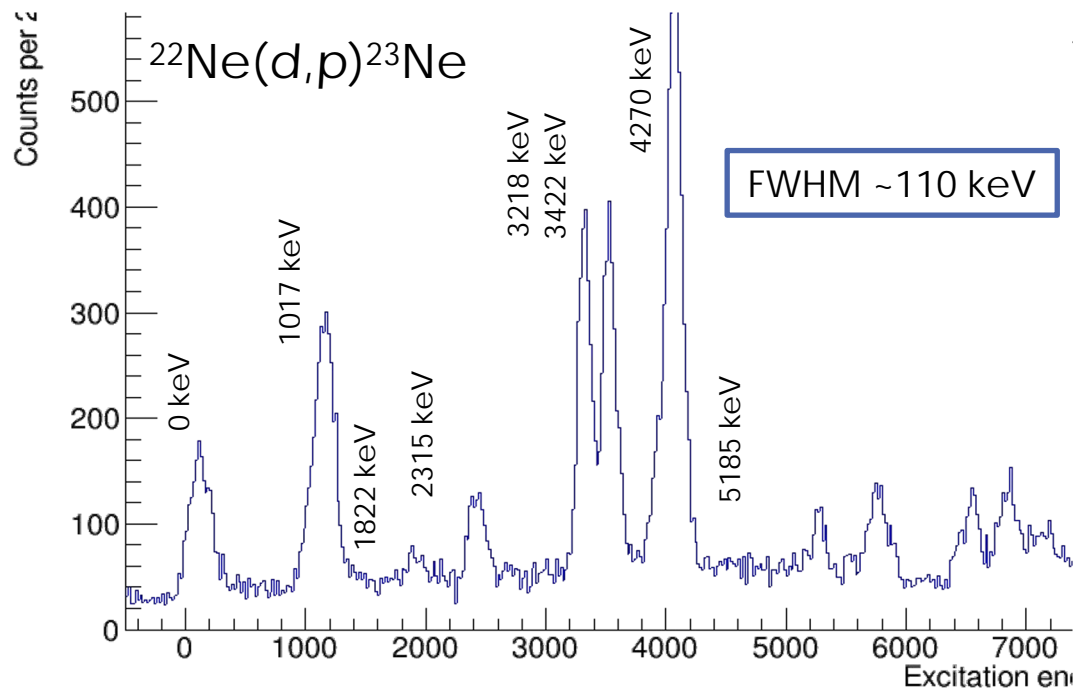
## Singles mode

- High intensity or heavy beams.
- FC at zero degrees, EBIS time structure to remove decay background.



# Proof-of-principle experiment at ISS

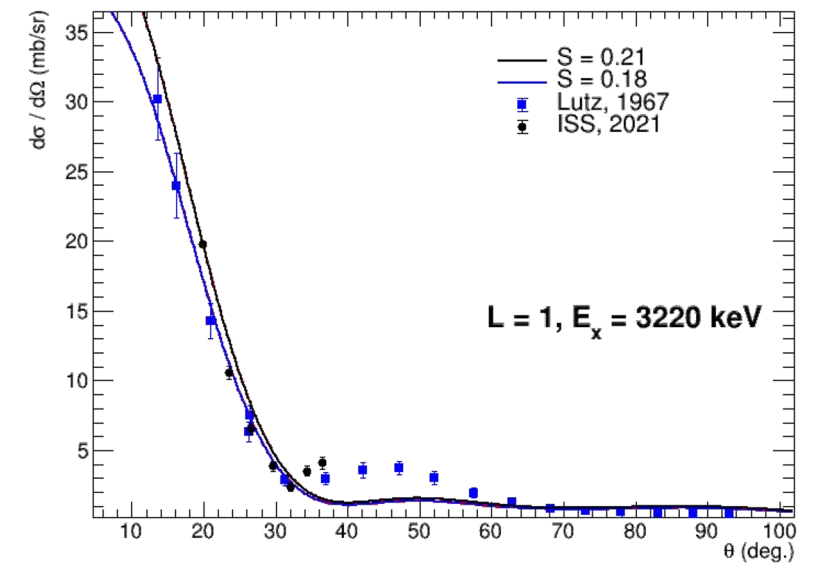
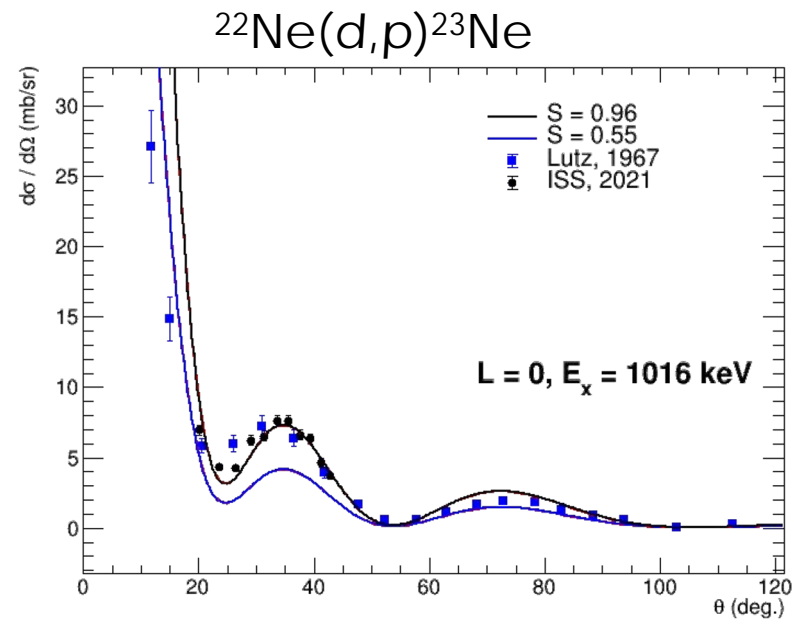
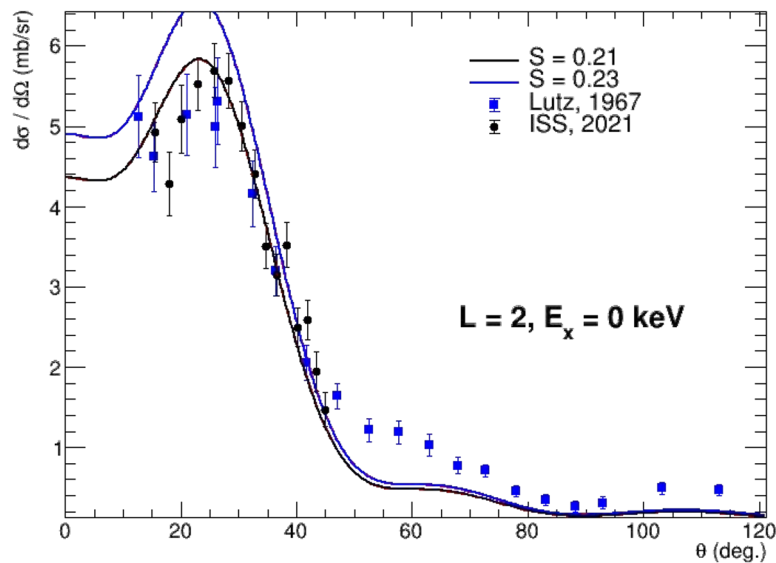
- Stable beam following CERN's LS2 in 2021...  $^{22}\text{Ne}$  at 6.05 MeV/u.
  - Matching normal kinematics study with gas target! [H.F. Lutz et al. NPA 95 (1967) 591]
  - Implementation of precise energy calibration, pulse-height corrections, energy loss corrections, kinematic reconstruction





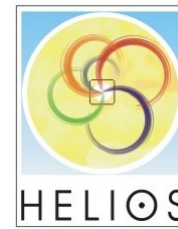
# Proof-of-principle experiment at ISS

- Stable beam following CERN's LS2 in 2021...  $^{22}\text{Ne}$  at 6.05 MeV/u.
  - Matching normal kinematics study with gas target! [H.F. Lutz et al. NPA 95 (1967) 591]
  - Implementation of precise energy calibration, pulse-height corrections, energy loss corrections, kinematic reconstruction





# Physics so far



2018 Campaign achieved with HELIOS array + DAQ



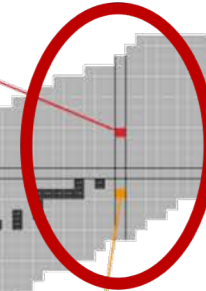
Neutron states above  $N=126$



LUND UNIVERSITY



$^{212}\text{Rn}$

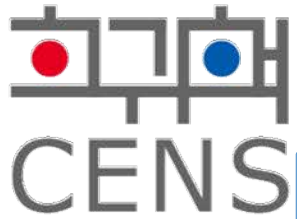


Sheffield Hallam University

$^{110}\text{Sn}$

Single-particle states along  $Z=50$

$^{206}\text{Hg}$



$^{61}\text{Zn}$  *rp*-process

Onset of deformation in Kr isotopes

New magic numbers in Ca

Semi-magic  $^{68}\text{Ni}$



$^{49,50}\text{Ca}$

$N=20$  island of inversion

$^{68}\text{Ni}$

$^{92,94}\text{Kr}$

$^{28}\text{Mg}$

Rotational states in  $^8\text{Be}$

Structure of  $^{12}\text{Be}$

$^{27}\text{Na}$

$^{30}\text{Mg}$

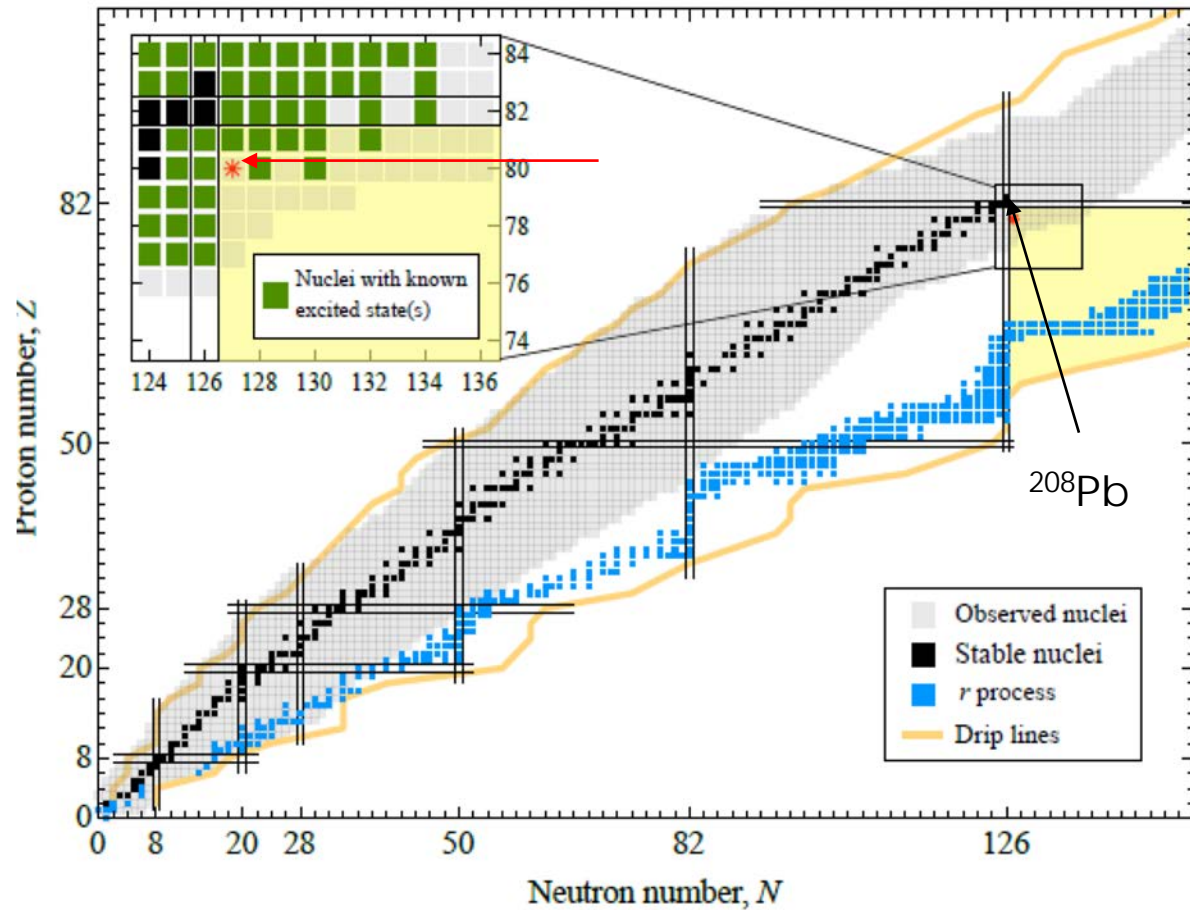


UNIVERSITY OF SURREY

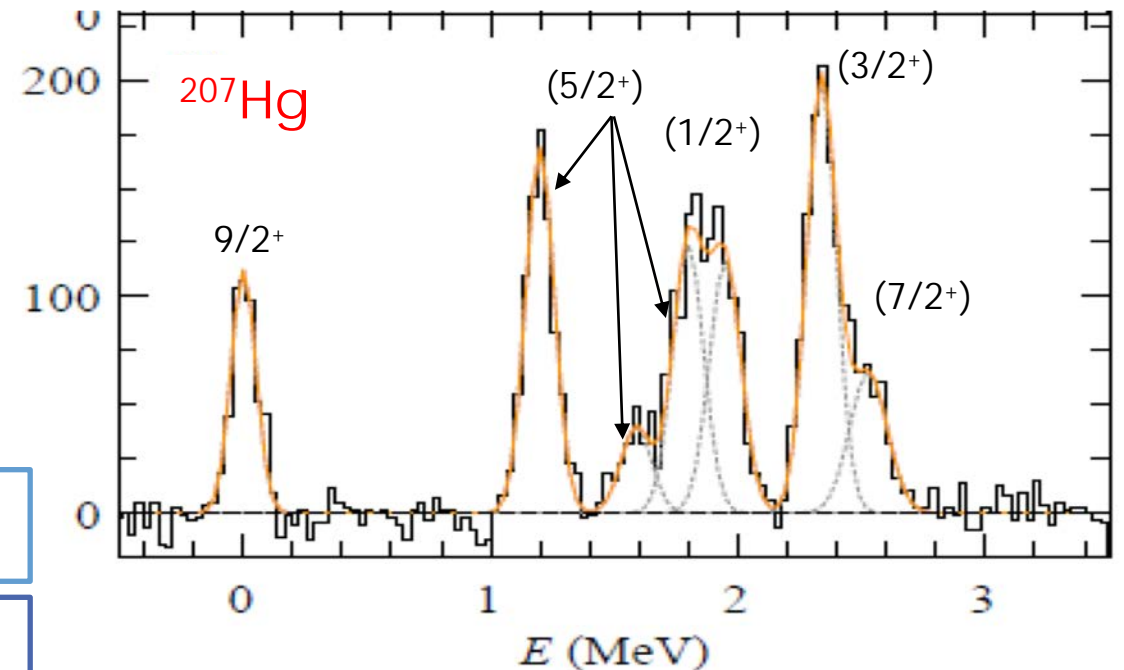
- 2018
- 2021
- 2022
- 2023



# Neutron states above $N=126$ – $^{206}\text{Hg}(d,p)^{207}\text{Hg}$



- Terra incognita for excited states south-east of  $^{208}\text{Pb}$ ... New Hg beam development.
- First probe of neutron single-particle states above  $N=126$  in elements below Pb.
  - Important for evolution towards the  $r$ -process.

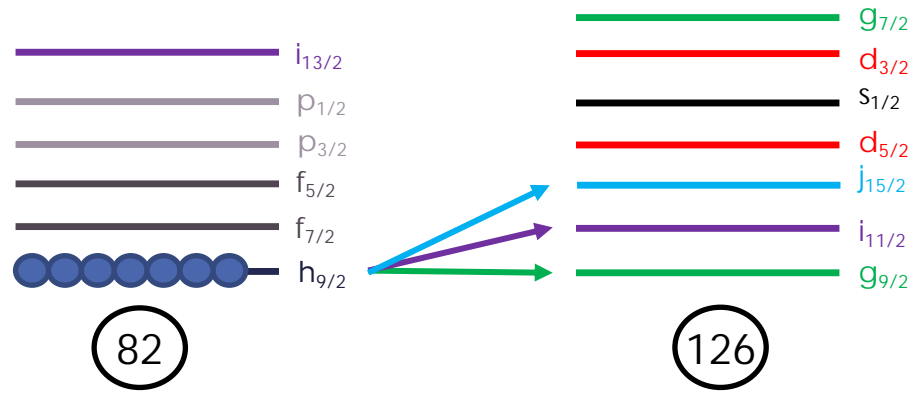


First result from ISS; early exploitation mode before CERN's LS2 using HELIOS array + DAO

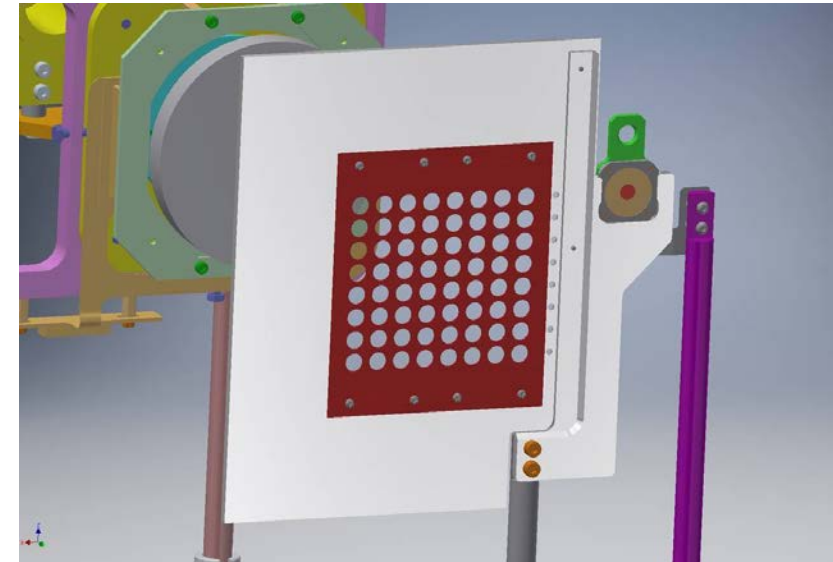
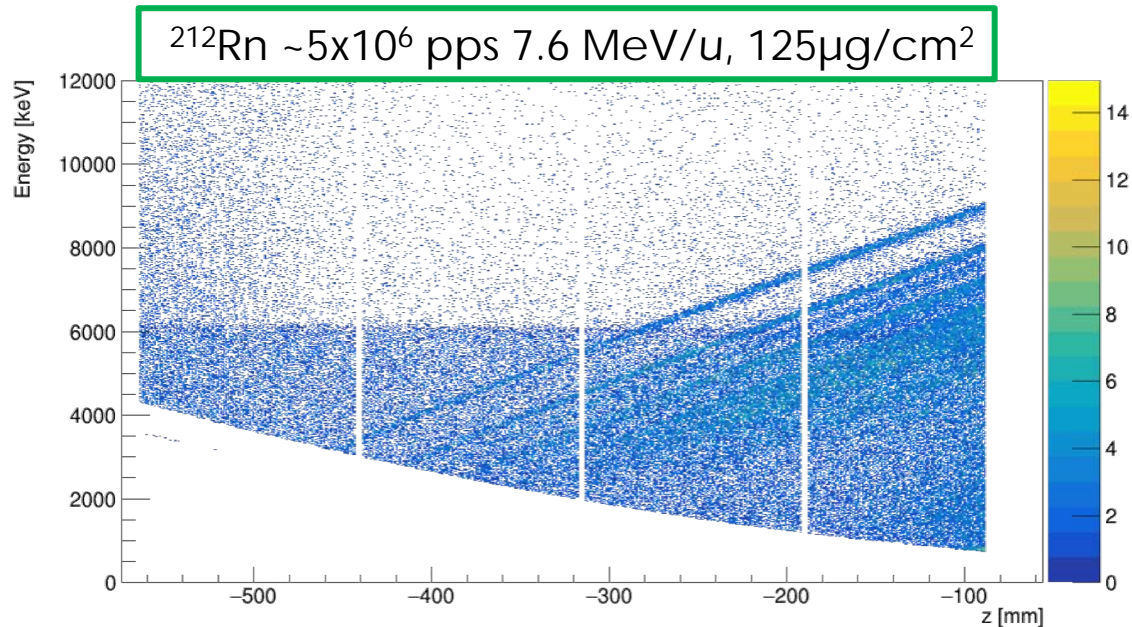
Tang et al. PRL 124, 062502 (2020)



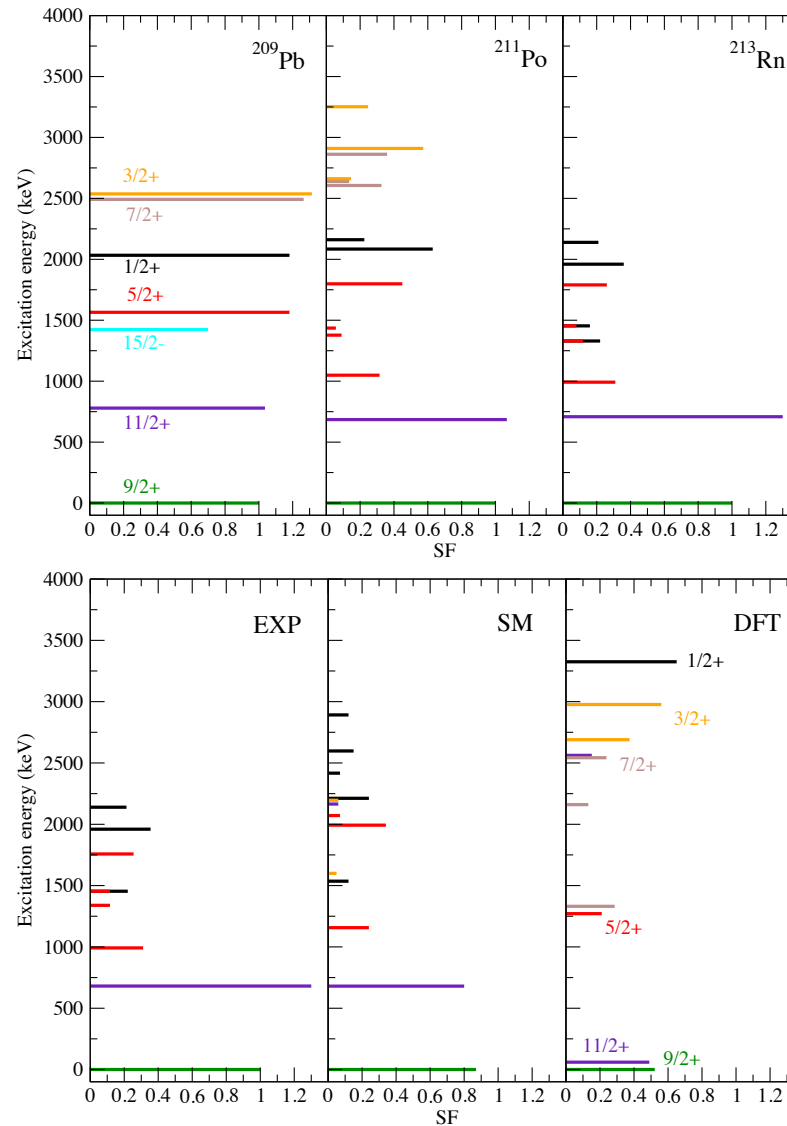
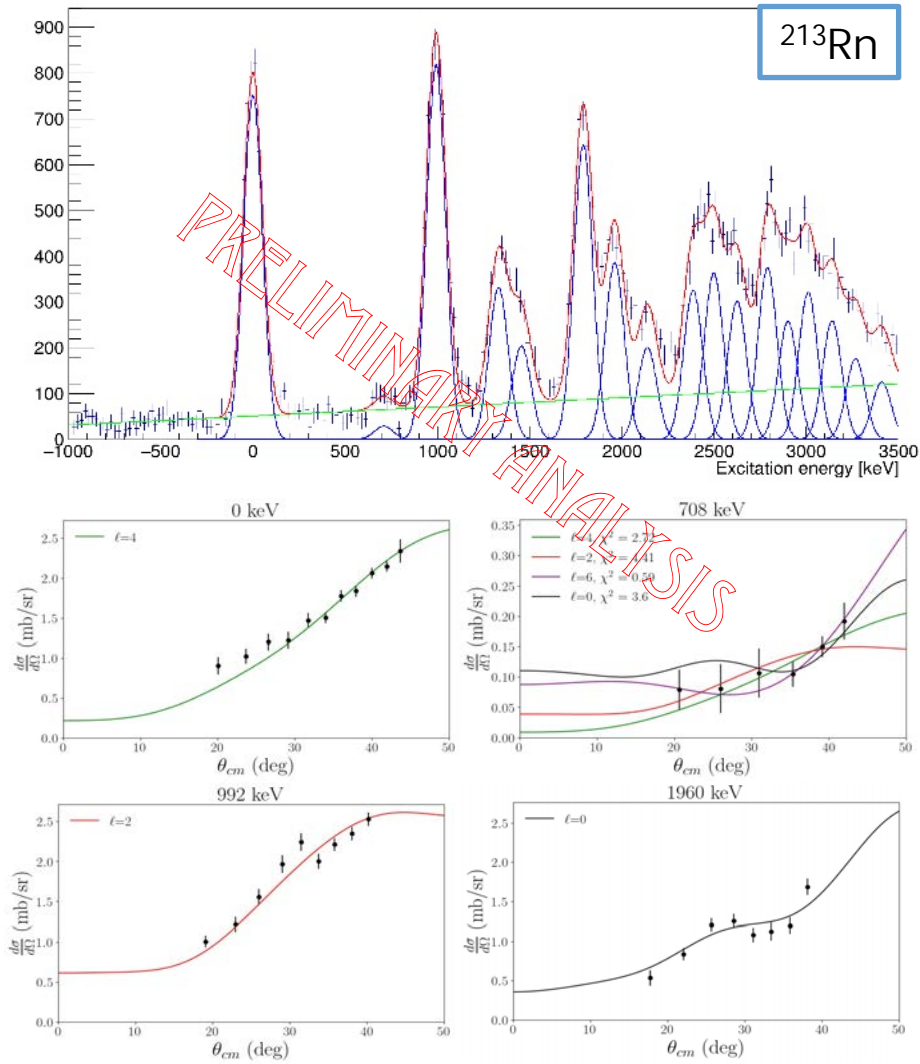
# Neutron states above $N=126$ - $^{212}\text{Rn}(d,p)^{213}\text{Rn}$



- First probe of low-lying levels in  $^{213}\text{Rn}$  (17 new states identified).
- Investigating monopole shifts and role of particle-vibration coupling on fragmentation of strength north of  $^{208}\text{Pb}$ .
- Heaviest shell closure we have access to in nuclear chart.
  - Benchmark calculations by studying single-particle behaviour.
- Background from alpha decay of beam
  - EBIS on/EBIS off subtraction removes almost all background.



# Neutron states above $N=126$ - $^{212}\text{Rn}(d,p)^{213}\text{Rn}$

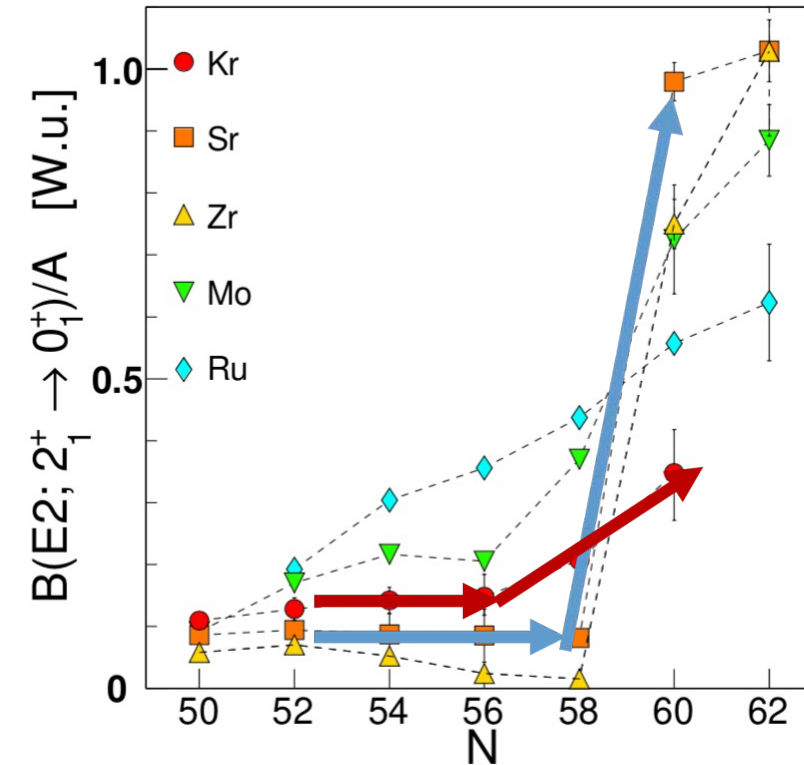
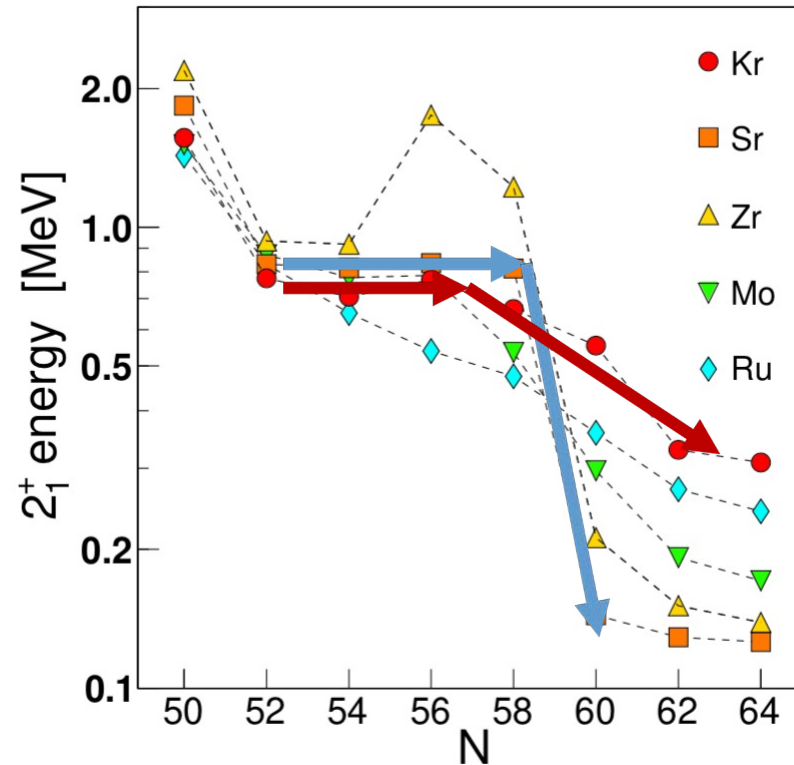


- Angular distributions and absolute cross-sections obtained for 17 states in  $^{213}\text{Rn}$ .
  - Mainly  $\ell = 2, 4$  plus  $i_{11/2}$  at 708 keV
- Preliminary data compared to systemics for  $N=127$ .
- $^{213}\text{Rn}$  strength distribution similar to  $^{211}\text{Po}$ , up to 2 MeV (so far).
- Early comparison to SM (B. A. Brown) and DFT (G. Colo).
- Analysis to be completed this spring...



# Onset of deformation at $N=60$ – $^{92}\text{Kr}(d,p)^{93}\text{Kr}$

- Sr and Zr show rapid and dramatic onset of deformation at  $N=60$ .
- Smooth increase for the Kr isotopic chain<sup>1</sup>.
- Low-lying intruder configurations → shape coexistence<sup>2,3</sup>
- Proton excitations across  $Z = 40$  to  $\pi g_{9/2}$ .
  - Ground-state configuration at  $N = 60$ .
  - Filling neutron orbitals lowers energy of  $\pi g_{9/2}$ .
  - Large overlap of  $\pi g_{9/2}$  and  $\nu g_{7/2}$ ...
  - Tensor force<sup>4</sup> → Type-II shell evolution<sup>5</sup>
- Close proximity of  $\nu s_{1/2}$ ,  $\nu d_{3/2}$ ,  $\nu g_{7/2}$ ,  $\nu h_{11/2}$  orbitals.
  - Enhanced quadrupole interaction from coherent contributions → deformation



<sup>1</sup> M. Albers, et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 108, 062701 (2012).

<sup>2</sup> J.E. García-Ramos and K. Heyde, Phys. Rev. C 100, 044315 (2019).

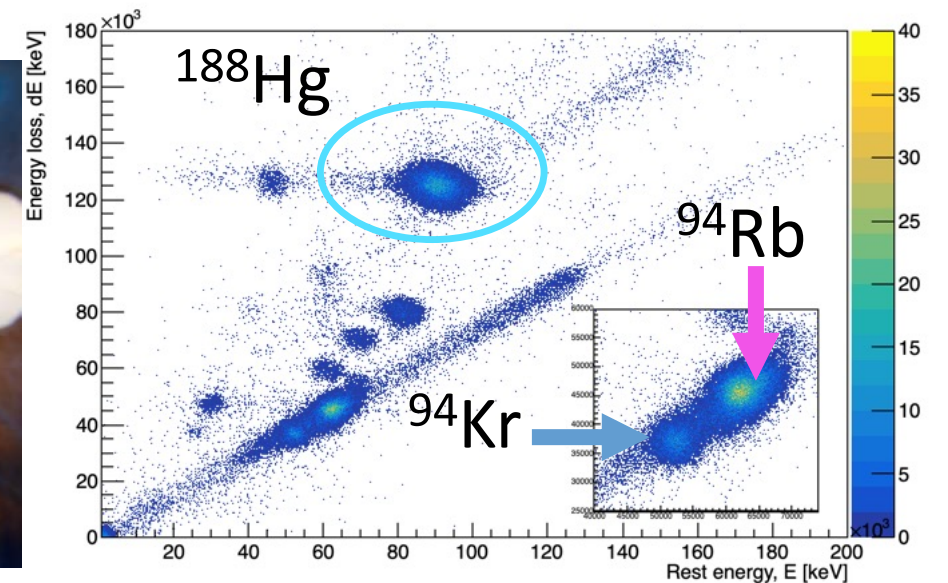
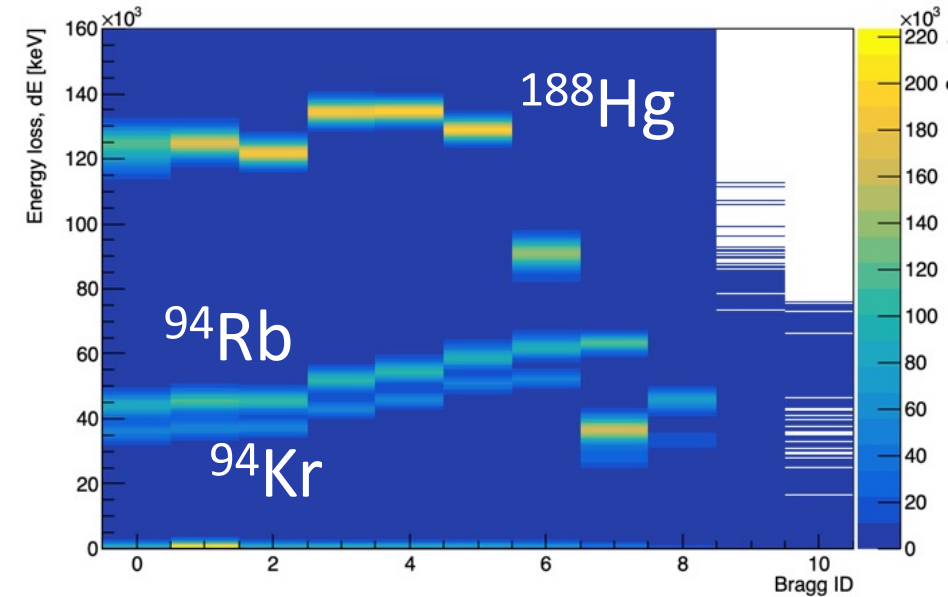
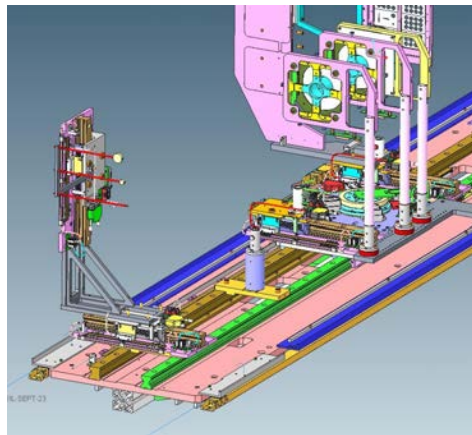
<sup>3</sup> P.E. Garrett, M. Zielińska, and E. Clément, Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 163, 103931 (2021).

<sup>4</sup> P. Federman and S. Pittel, Phys. Lett. B 69, 385 (1977).

<sup>5</sup> T. Togashi, Y. Tsunoda, T. Otsuka, and N. Shimizu, Phys. Rev. Lett. 117, 172502 (2016).

# Onset of deformation at $N=60$ – $^{92}\text{Kr}(d,p)^{93}\text{Kr}$

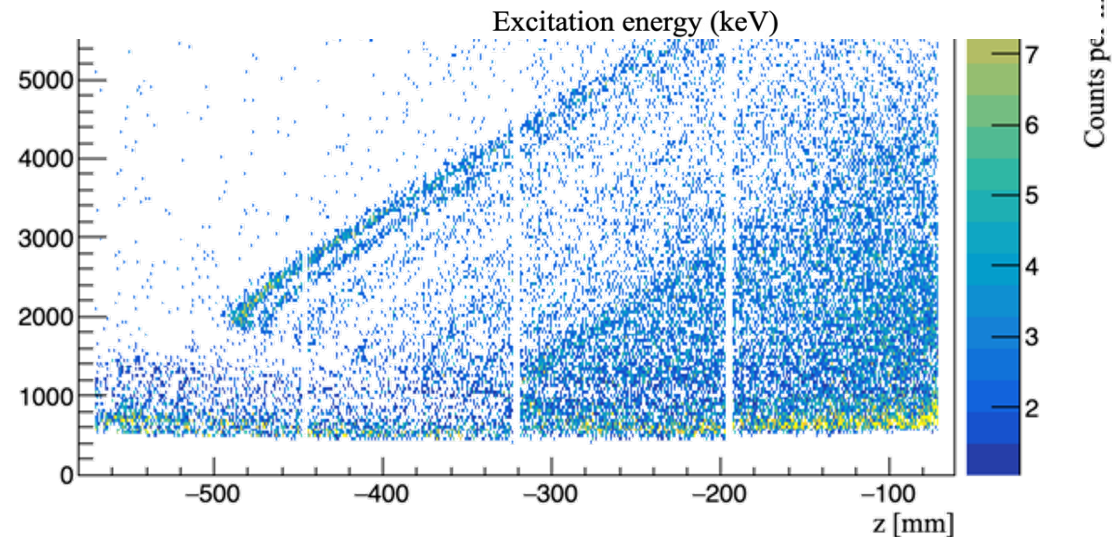
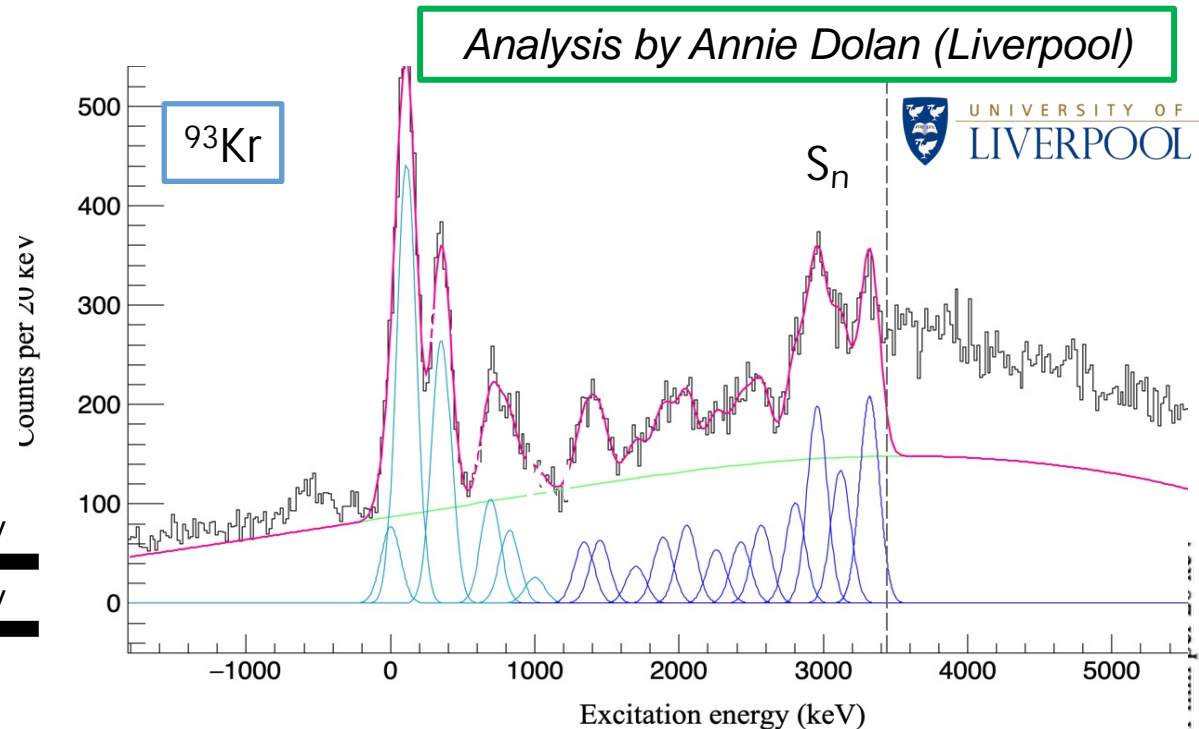
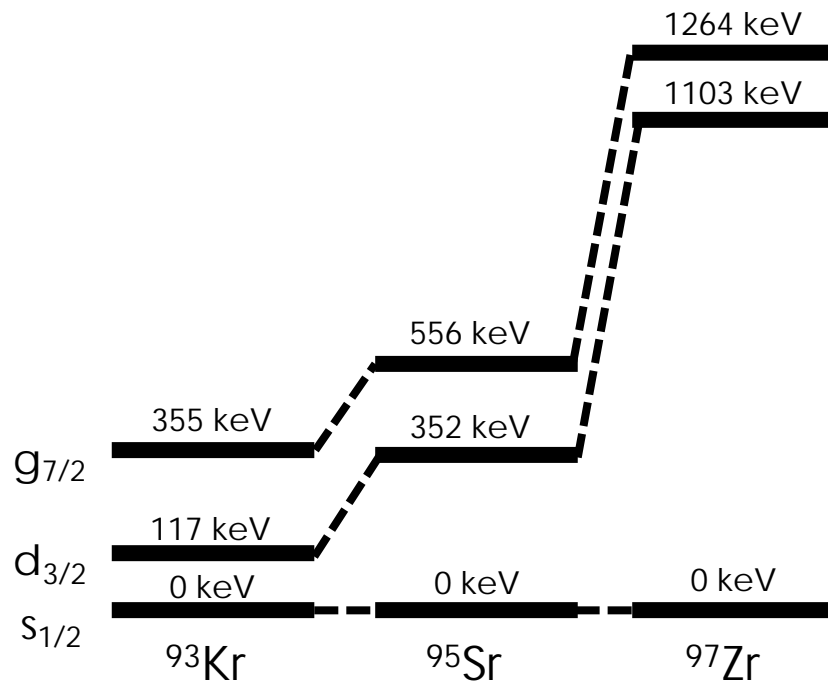
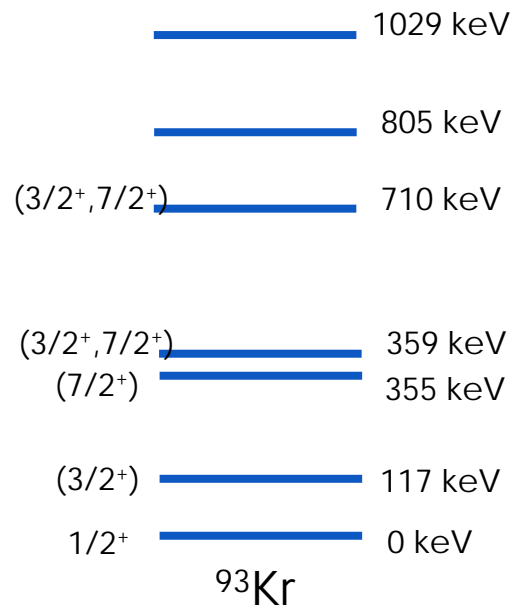
- Fast-counting ionisation chamber used to diagnose beam composition
  - Short  $T_{1/2}$  + charge breeding = in-trap decay (Rb daughter)
- Event-by-event selection wasn't possible due to pileup.
  - High instantaneous rates from EBIS + insufficient blocking of direct beam
  - Faster preamps installed for 2024
  - New beam blocker mechanism





# Onset of deformation at $N=60 - {}^{92}\text{Kr}(d,p){}^{93}\text{Kr}$

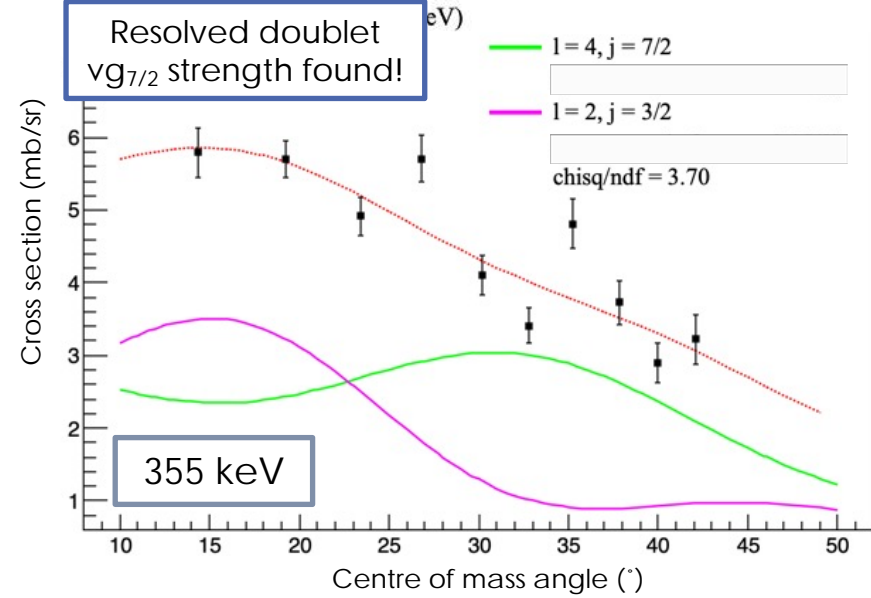
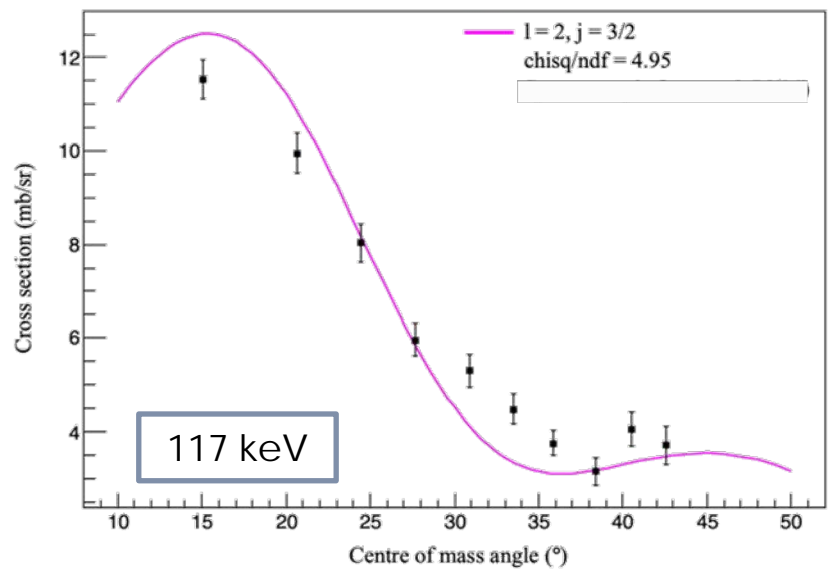
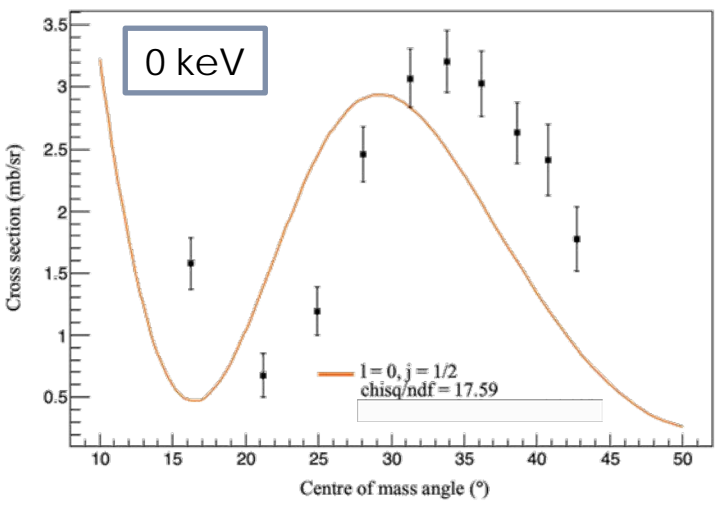
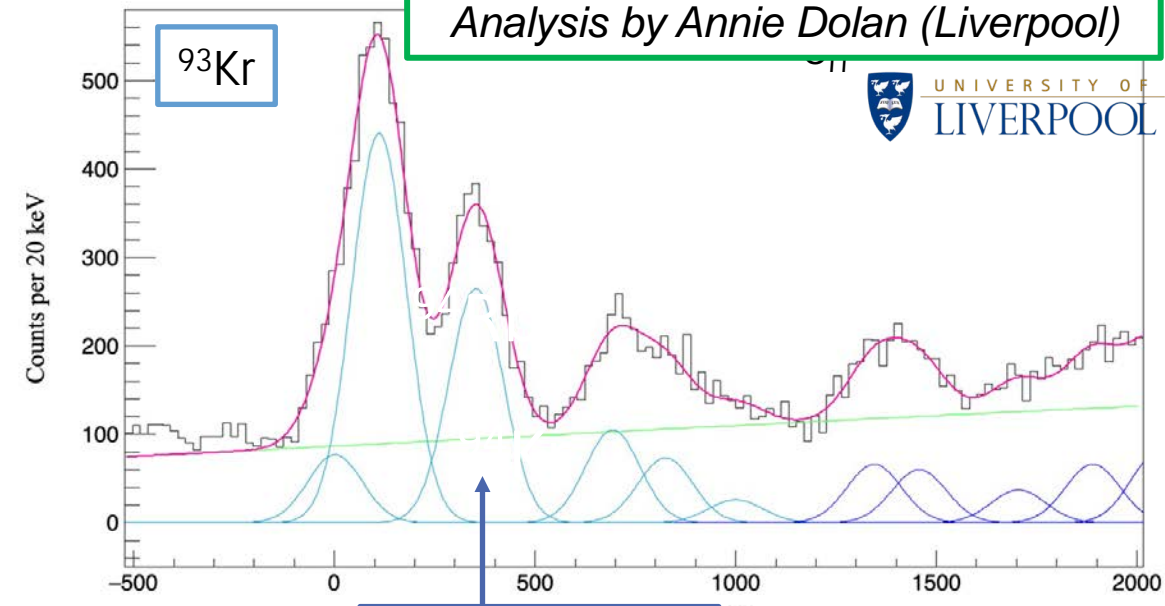
- 7 states populated up to  $\sim 1$  MeV; known energy from  $\beta$ -decay studies.
  - 12 new states populated up to  $S_n$ .
- Angular distributions give definitive  $\ell$  assignments.
  - Locate  $\ell=4$  strength to observe  $g_{7/2}$  evolution



# Onset of deformation at $N=60 - {}^{92}\text{Kr}(d,p){}^{93}\text{Kr}$

- 7 states populated up to  $\sim 1$  MeV; known energy from  $\beta$ -decay studies.
  - 12 new states populated up to  $S_n$ .
- Angular distributions give definitive  $\ell$  assignments.
  - DWBA analysis to extract SFs.

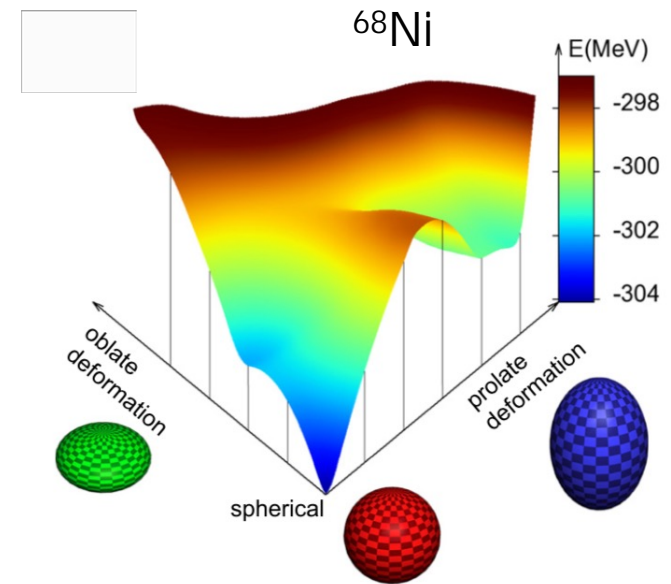
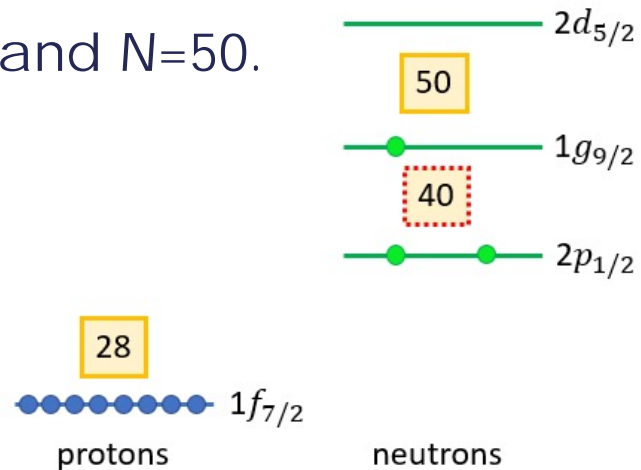
Analysis by Annie Dolan (Liverpool)



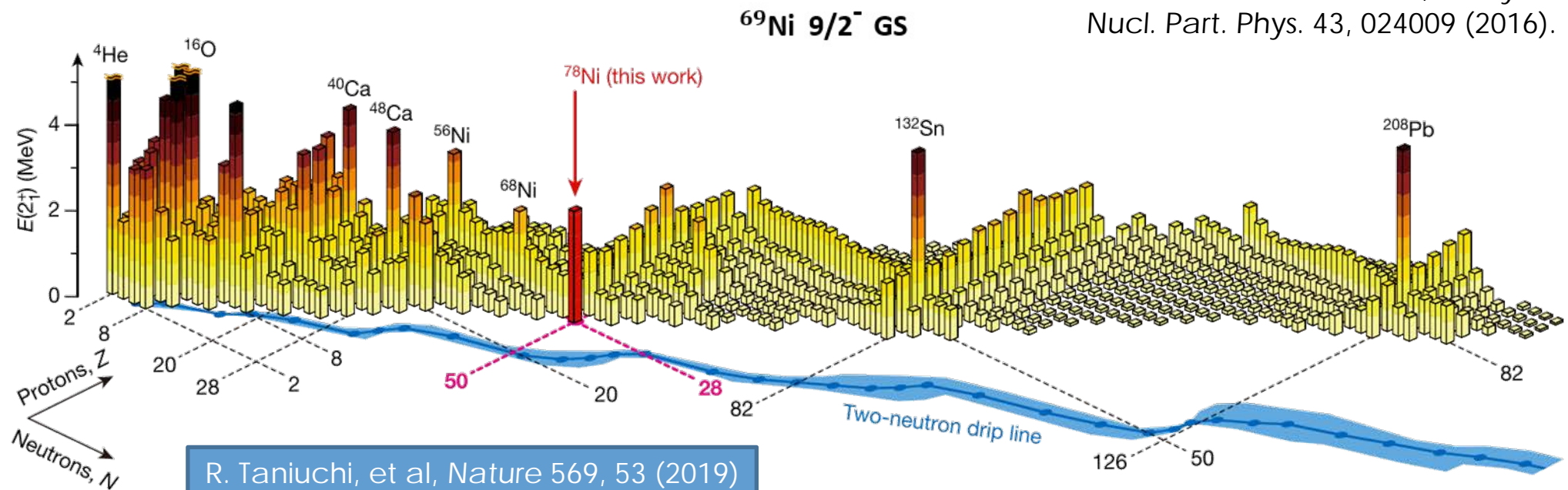


# Semi-magic $^{68}\text{Ni}$ - $^{68}\text{Ni}(d,p)^{69}\text{Ni}$

- Two doubly-magic Ni isotopes at  $N=28$  and  $N=50$ .
- Sub-shell closure at  $N=40 \rightarrow ^{68}\text{Ni}$ .
- Deformed intruder states predicted.
- Next two neutron orbitals define the  $N=50$  shell gap:  $1g_{9/2} \leftrightarrow 2d_{5/2}$



T. Otsuka and Y. Tsunoda, *J. Phys. G Nucl. Part. Phys.* 43, 024009 (2016).



R. Taniuchi, et al, *Nature* 569, 53 (2019)

# Semi-magic $^{68}\text{Ni}$ - $^{68}\text{Ni}(d,p)^{69}\text{Ni}$

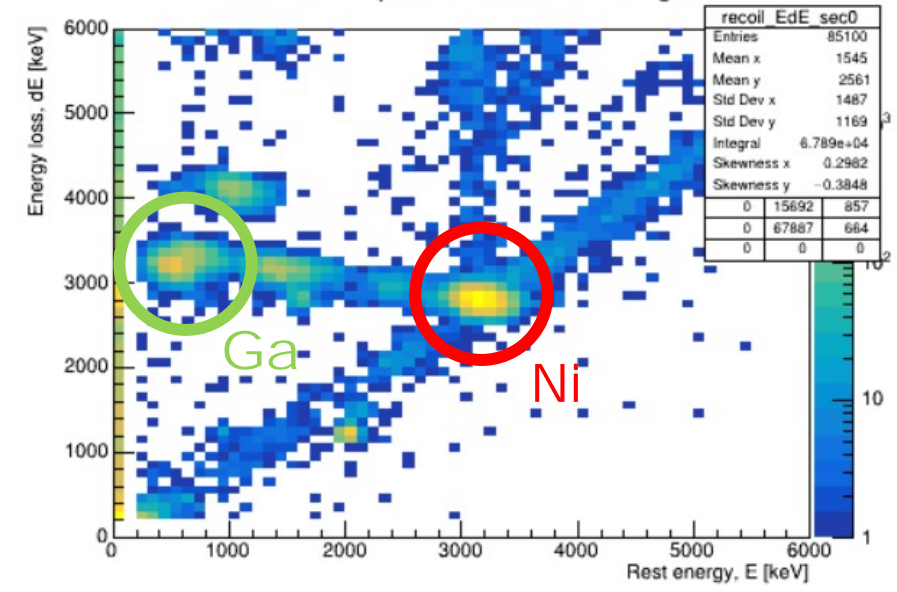
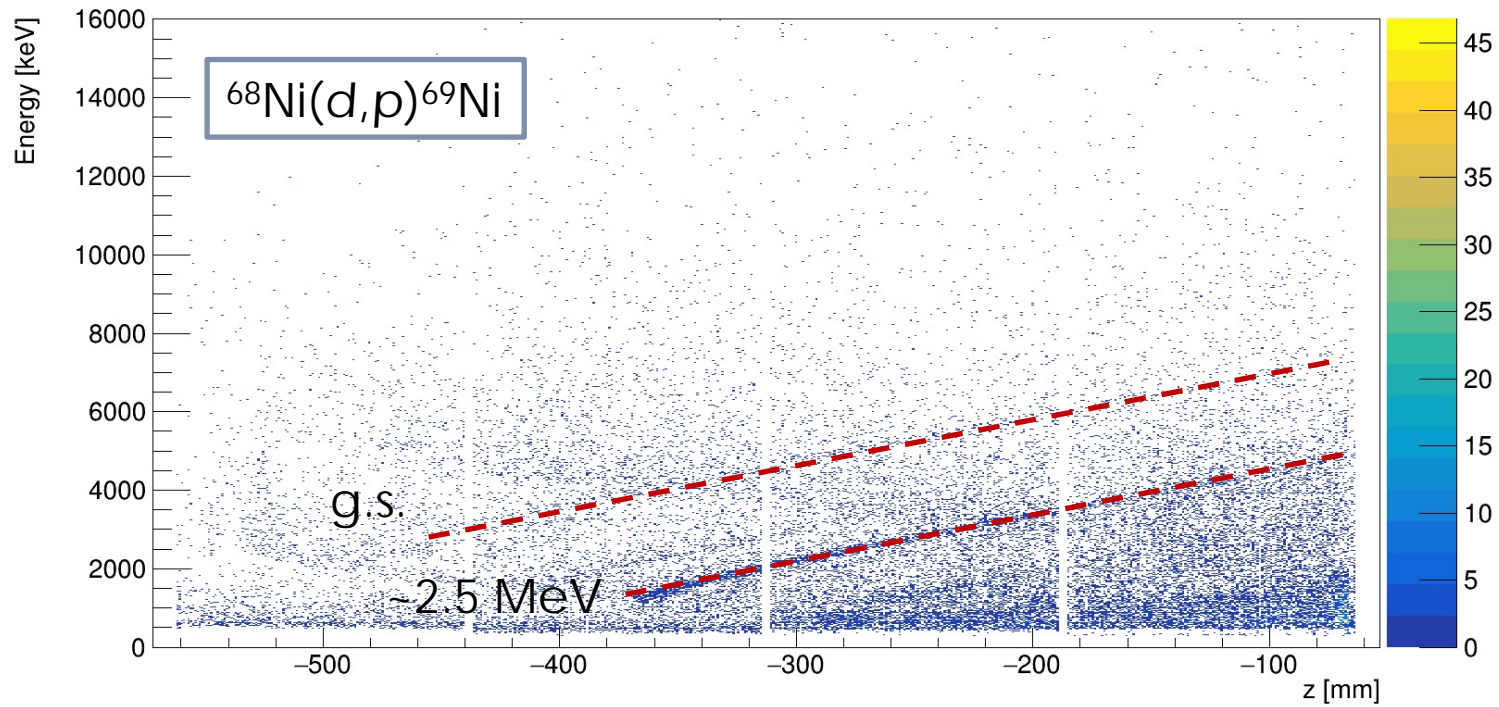
- Large contamination from  $^{68}\text{Ga}$ , suppressed with proton beam gate and interesting supercycle structure.
- Subtraction possible with "laser off + beam gate off" run.

PSB Fixdisplay - W 46 15-Nov-2022 22:13:30

Comments (15-Nov-2022 20:07:44)  
 Supervisor : A.Findlay 163961  
 Operator : CCC: 76671 Enjoy yourself

BP	User	Pls	Inj.	Acc.	b.Ej.E10	Ej.E10	Dest.
52	ISOGPS_2022	18	●●●●	●●●●	3188	3242	ISOGPS
53	ISOGPS_2022	18	●●●●	●●●●	3201	3205	ISOGPS
54	ISOGPS_2022	18	●●●●	●●●●	3190	3145	ISOGPS
1	ISOGPS_2022	18	●●●●	●●●●	3205	3183	ISOGPS
2	ISOGPS_2022	18	●●●●	●●●●	3203	3195	ISOGPS
3	ISOGPS_2022	18	●●●●	●●●●	3207	3191	ISOGPS
4	ISOGPS_2022	18	●●●●	●●●●	3205	3213	ISOGPS
5	ISOGPS_2022	18	●●●●	●●●●	3214	3178	ISOGPS
6	ISOGPS_2022	18	●●●●	●●●●	3213	3196	ISOGPS
7	ISOGPS_2022	18	●●●●	●●●●	3197	3238	ISOGPS
8	ISOGPS_2022	18	●●●●	●●●●	3208	3193	ISOGPS
9	ISOGPS_2022	18	●●●●	●●●●	3211	3208	ISOGPS
	ISOGPS_2022						ISOGPS

9/54 No Message

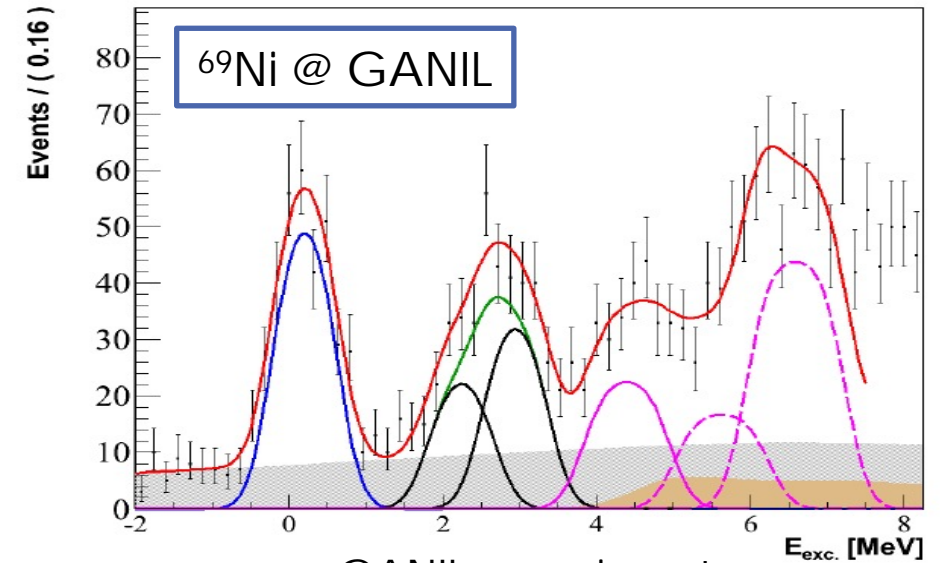
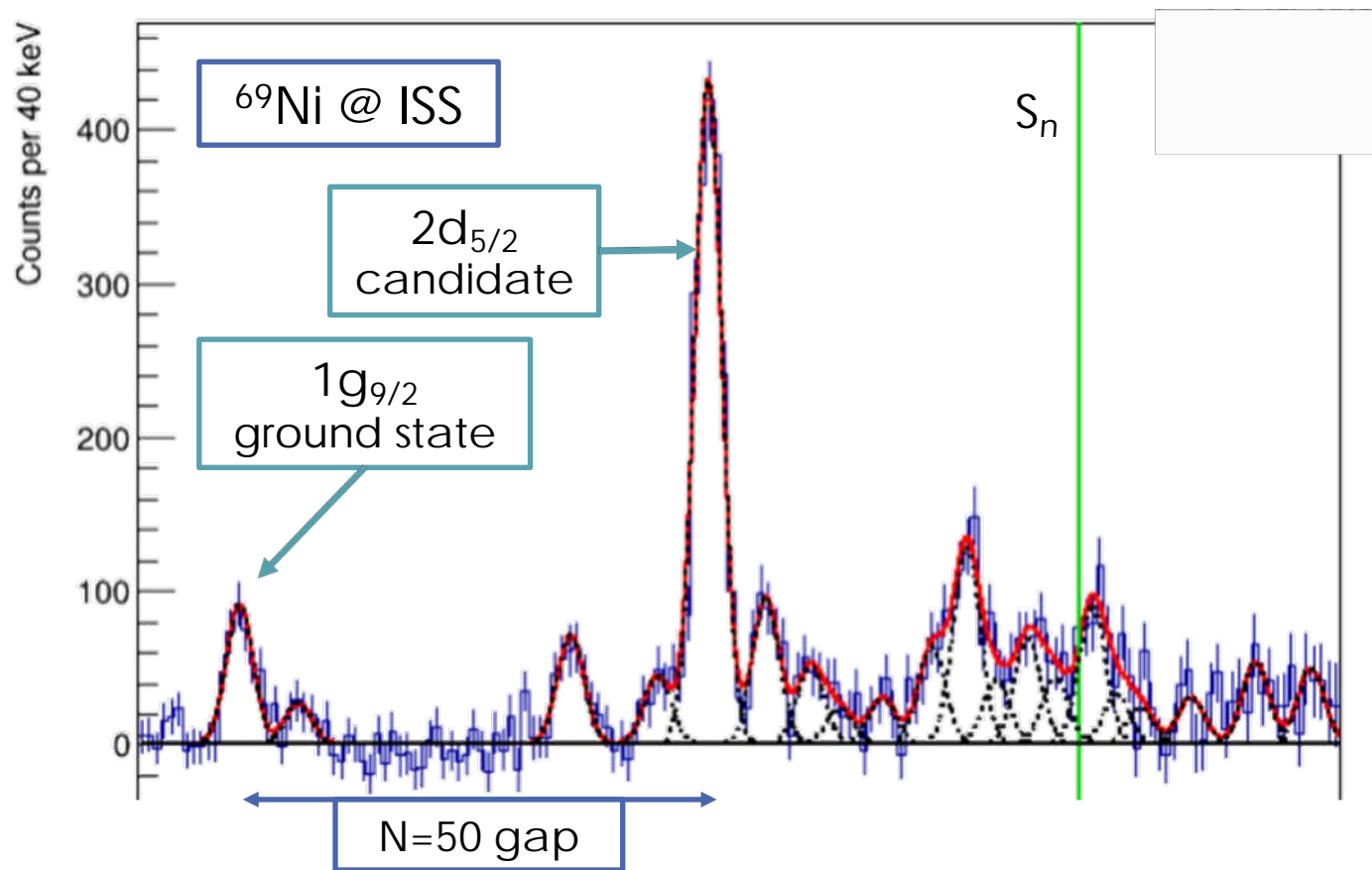


Configuration	Ratio Ni:Ga
No beam gate	1:7
With beam gate	4:1

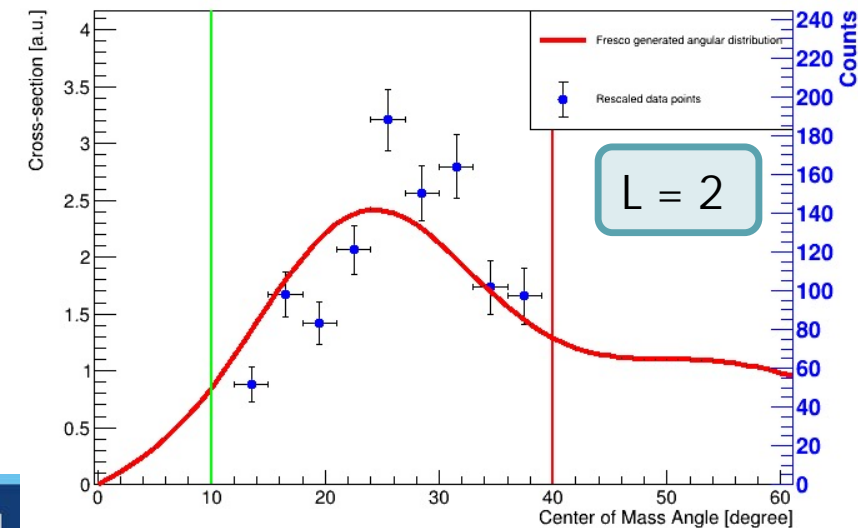


# Semi-magic $^{68}\text{Ni}$ - $^{68}\text{Ni}(d,p)^{69}\text{Ni}$

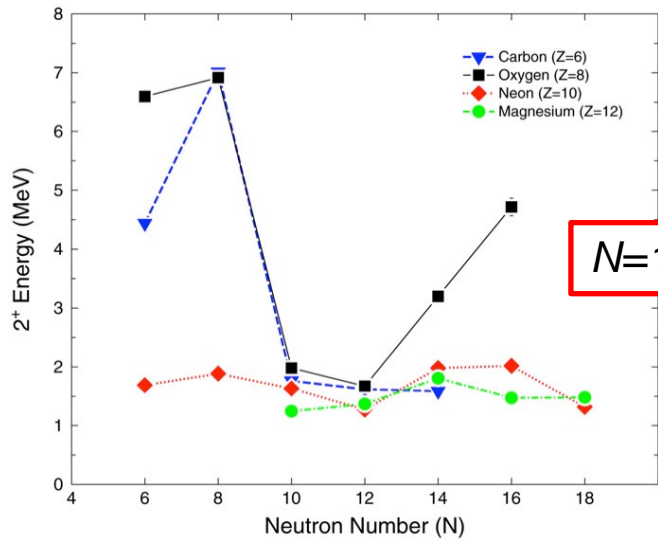
- $^{68}\text{Ni}$  beam  $\sim 2 \times 10^4$  pps @ 6.0 MeV/u (matched for  $\ell=2$ )



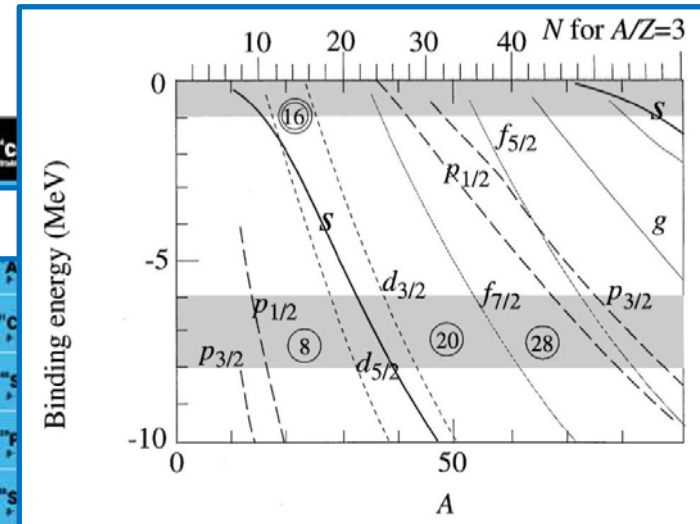
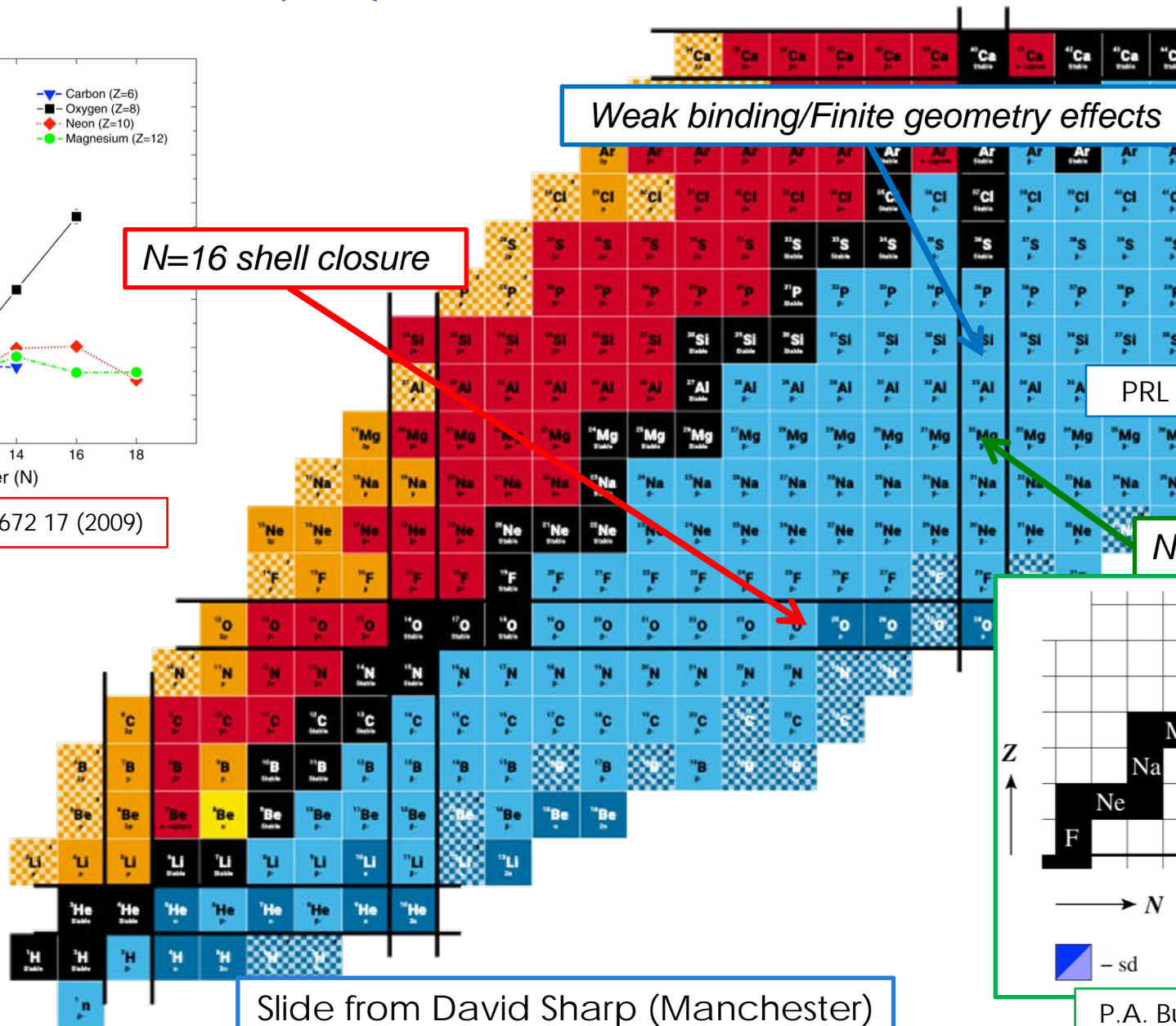
GANIL experiment  
(2010, unpublished, M. Moukkamad et al.)  
 $E_{beam} = 25.14$  MeV/u;  $\text{CD}_2$  Target : 2.6 mg/cm<sup>2</sup>



# Towards the (1<sup>st</sup>) Island of Inversion

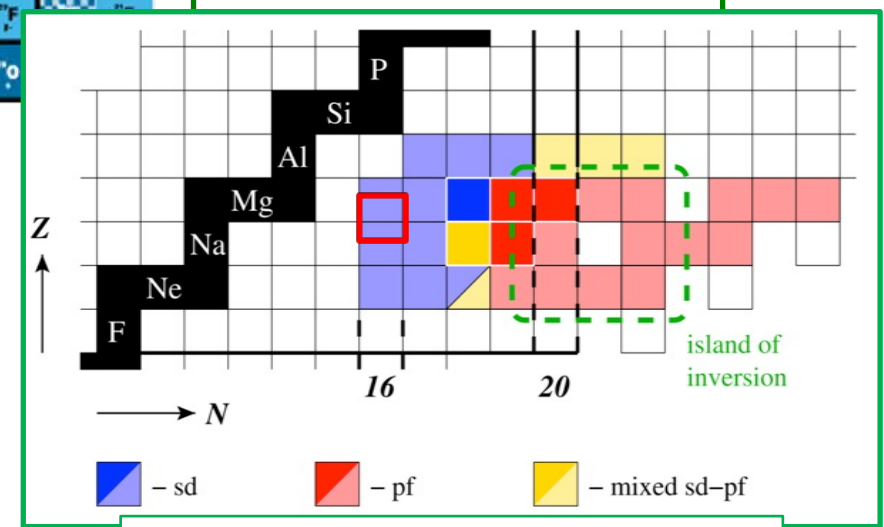


C.R. Hoffman, et al., PLB 672 17 (2009)



PRL 119, 182502 (2017); PRL 84, 5493 (2000)

**N=20 Island of Inversion**



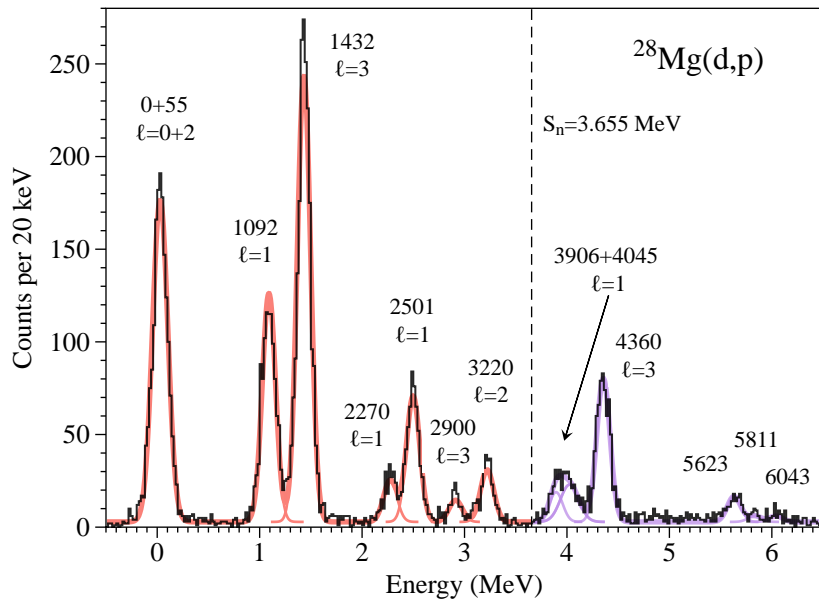
P.A. Butler, et al., JPG 44, 044012 (2017)

Slide from David Sharp (Manchester)

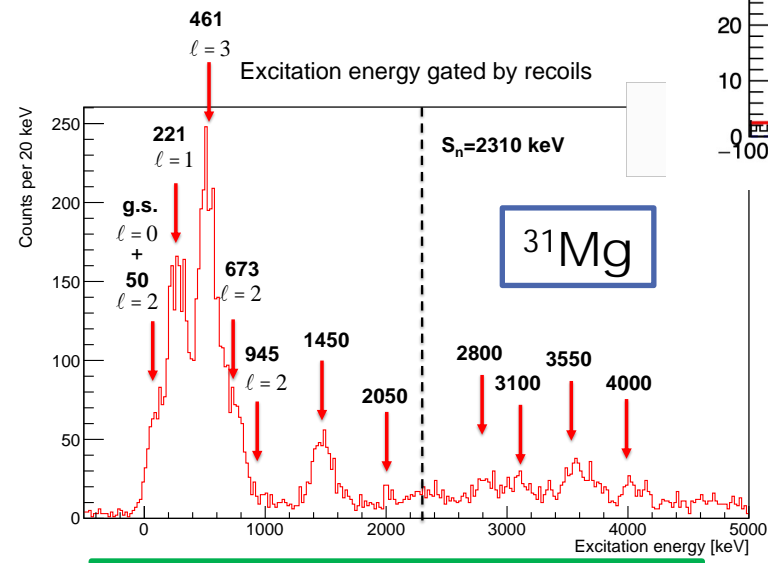


# Towards the (1<sup>st</sup>) Island of Inversion

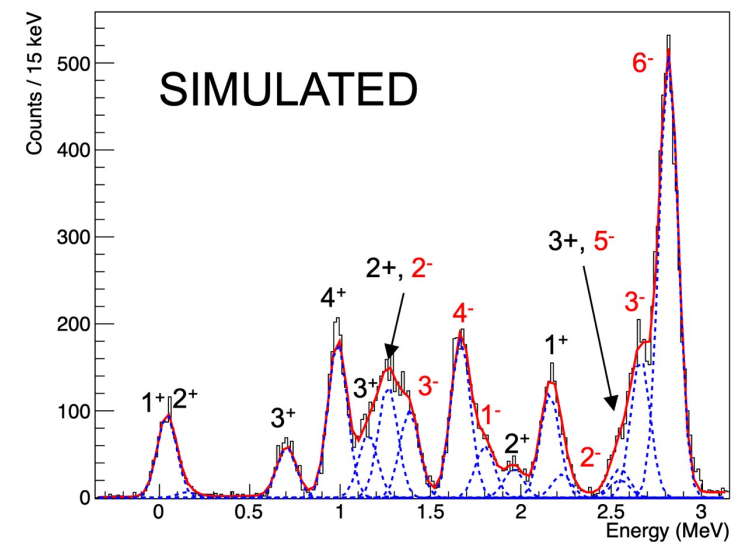
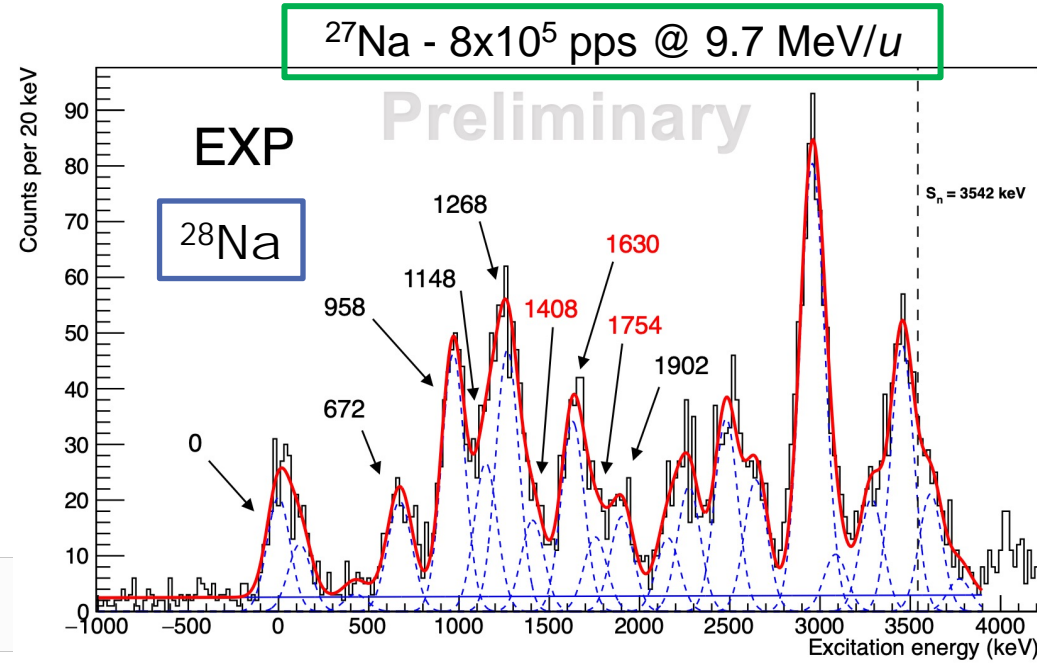
- Range of probes already used to study Iol.
- Single-particle evolution towards Iol important for tracking orbitals and occupancies...
- ISOLDE provides excellent beams in this region, programme at ISS focussing on N=17 and along the Mg chain



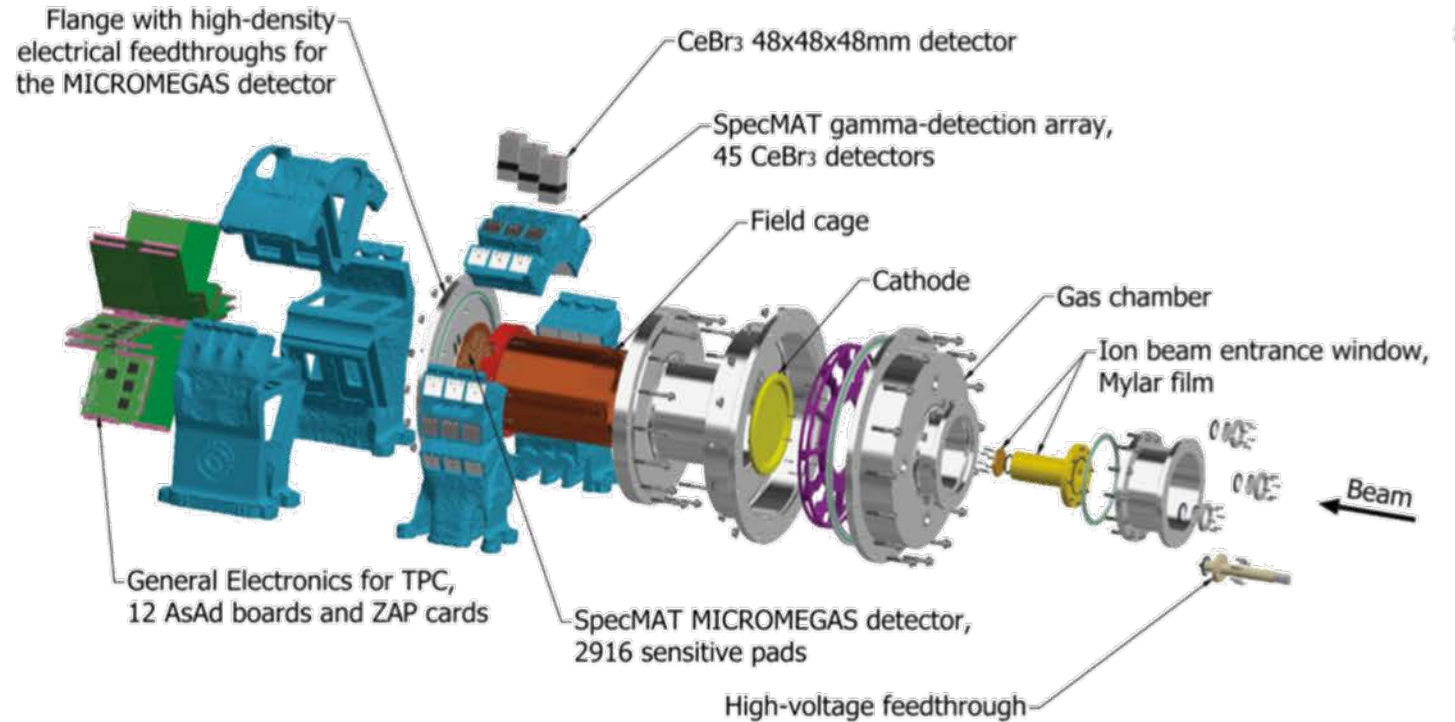
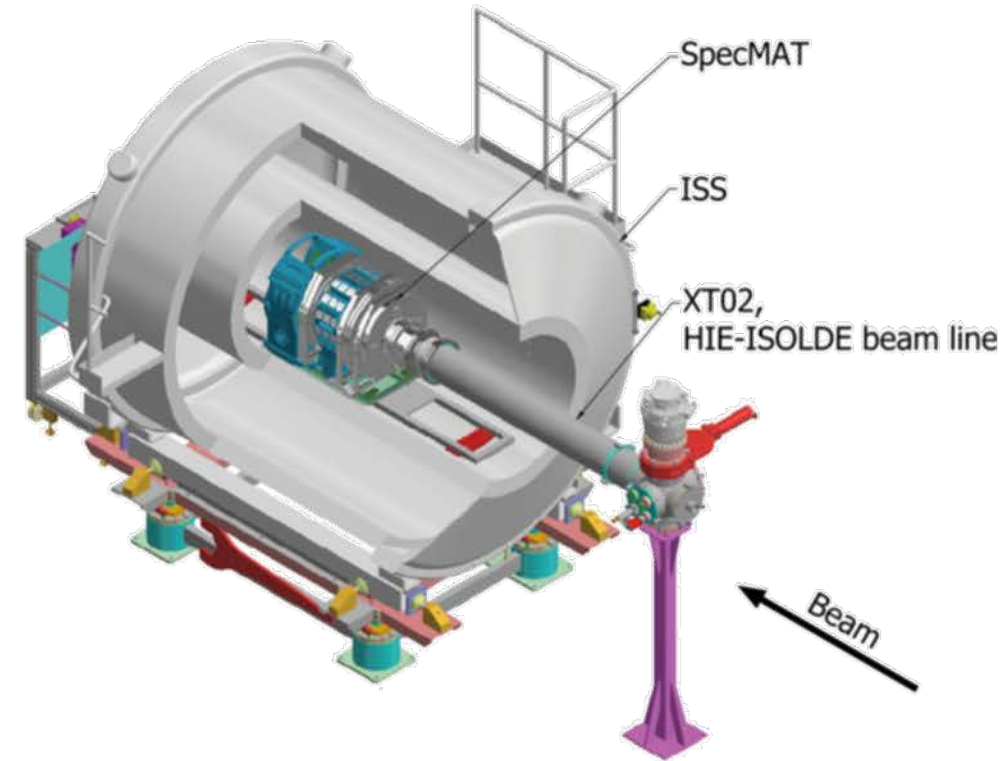
P.T. MacGregor *et. al.*, PRC **104**, L051301 (2021).



<sup>30</sup>Mg - 1x10<sup>5</sup> pps @ 8.2 MeV/u



# SpecMAT active target – first beam

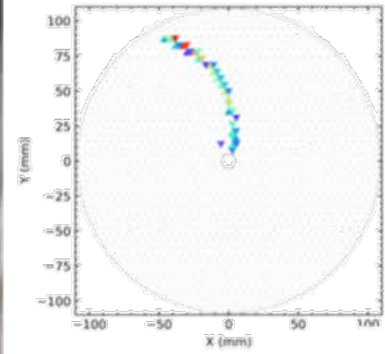
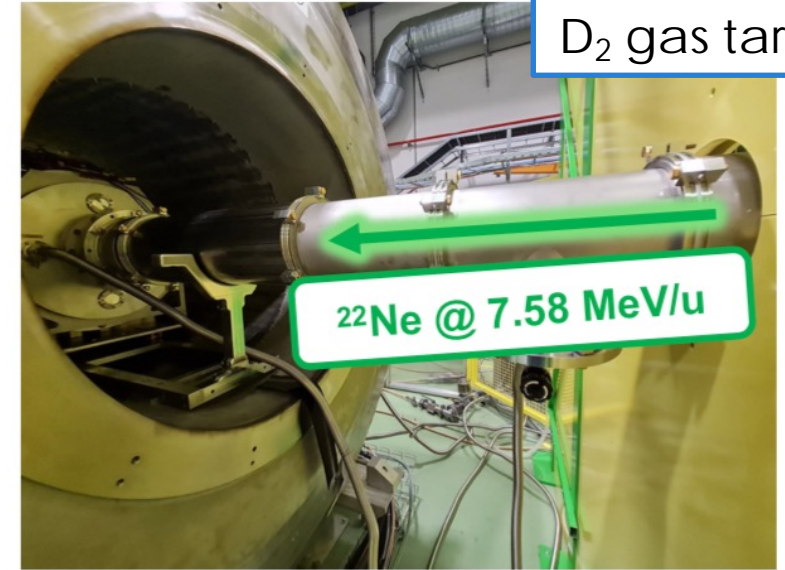


Active target within ISS combined with a time-projection chamber and CeBr detectors. Led by team from KU Leuven

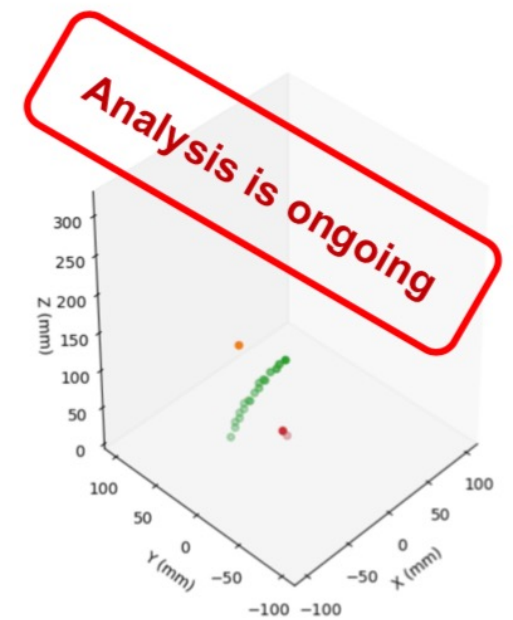


# SpecMAT active target – first beam

June 2023  
D<sub>2</sub> gas target



$\alpha$ -particle track measured in B=2.5T (offline)



SpecMAT installed in the ISS solenoid at ISOLDE

Thanks to Oleksii Poleshchuk (KU Leuven)



# Thanks to collaboration and funders

