

# ***EuNPC Master class, 2015***

## ***“Basics of Precision Nuclear and Atomic Mass Measurements for Fundamental Studies”***



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# Content

1 Motivation for precision mass data

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2 How to weigh an atom

3 Nuclear structure studies

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4 Astrophysics applications

5 Tests of fundamental symmetries



# Some useful literature

## Books and review articles:

L.S. Brown and G. Gabrielse: Physics of a single electron or ion in a Penning trap; Rev. Mod. Phys. 58, 233 (1986)

G. Bollen: Traps for Rare Isotopes, Lecture Notes in Physics, 651, 169-210 (2004)

F.G. Major et al.; Charged Particle Traps, Volume I and II Springer, Vol. 37, Berlin (2005)

K. Blaum: High-accuracy mass spectrometry with stored ions, Phys. Rep. 425, 1-78 (2006)

J. Äystö: Overview of recent highlights at ISOL facilities, Nucl. Phys. A 805, 162c-171c (2008)

K. Blaum *et al.*: Precision atomic physics techniques for nuclear physics with radioactive beams; Physica Scripta T152, 014017 (2013)

# Characteristics of a (radioactive) nucleus



**its weight**



**its size**



**its life-time/decay**



**its shape**



**its e.m. properties**



**its mood (state)**

In recent years unique tools have been developed to determine experimentally and to describe theoretically these characteristics.

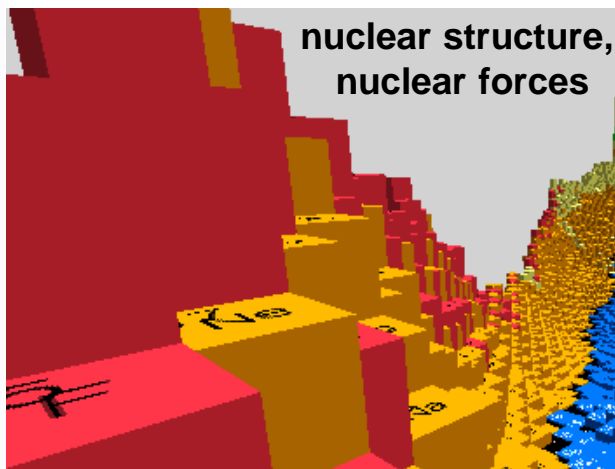




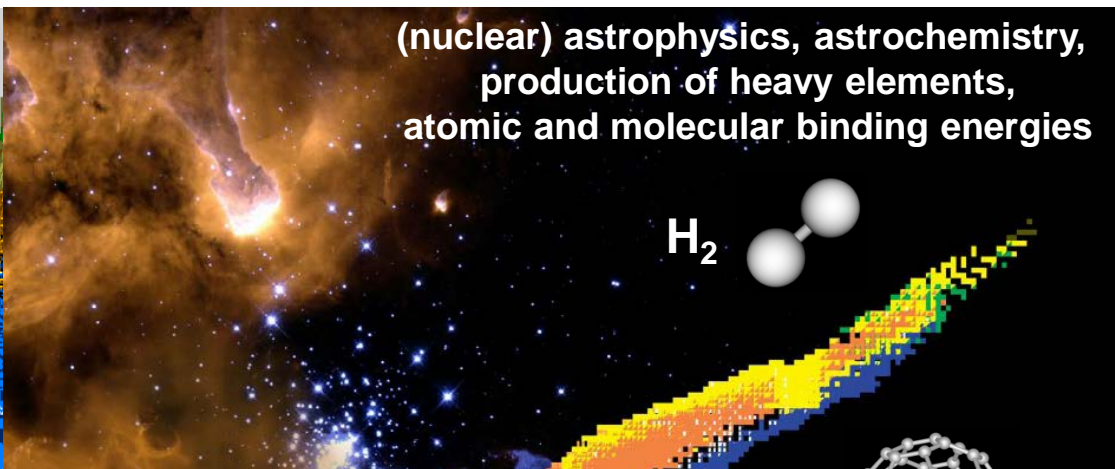


# Fields of applications

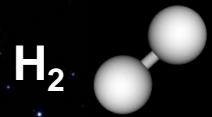
MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE  
FOR NUCLEAR PHYSICS



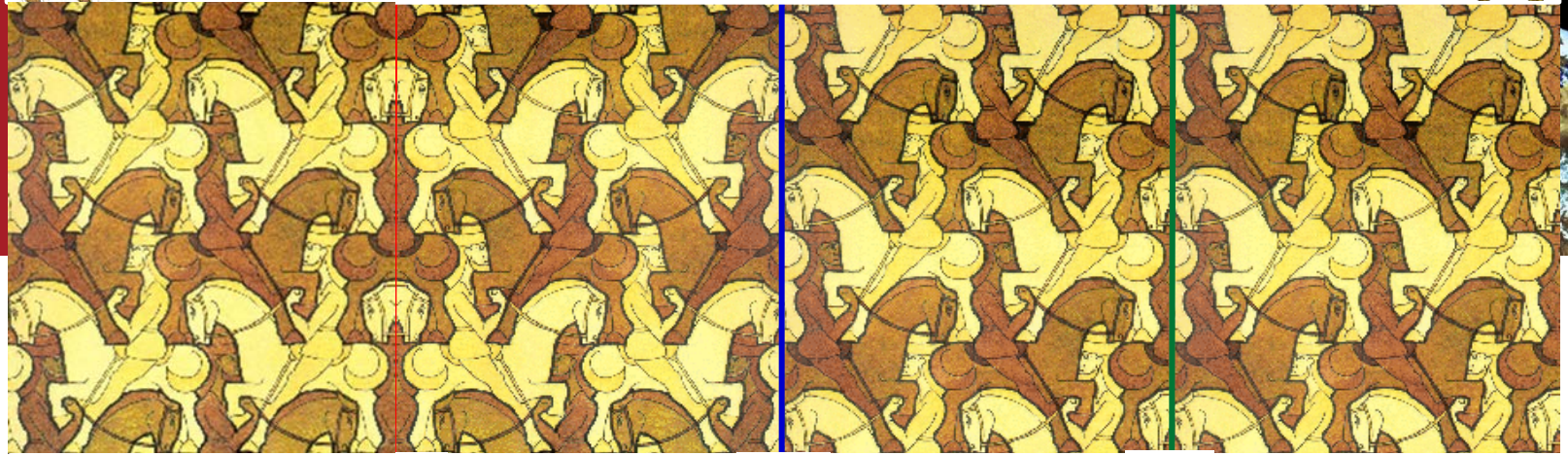
nuclear structure,  
nuclear forces



(nuclear) astrophysics, astrochemistry,  
production of heavy elements,  
atomic and molecular binding energies



particle      fundamental interactions and their symmetries,  
fundamental constants      antiparticle



**P**

**C**

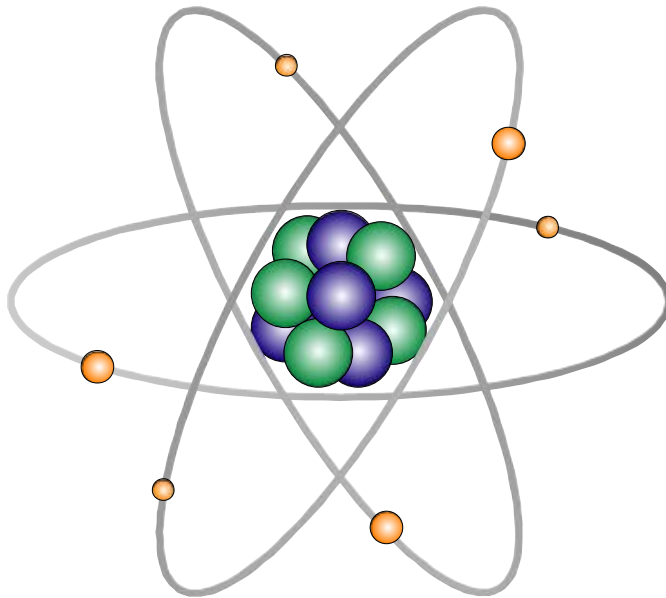
**T**

Credit to H.W. Wilschut.



# Atomic and nuclear masses

Masses determine the atomic and nuclear binding energies reflecting all forces in the atom/nucleus.



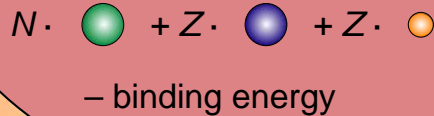
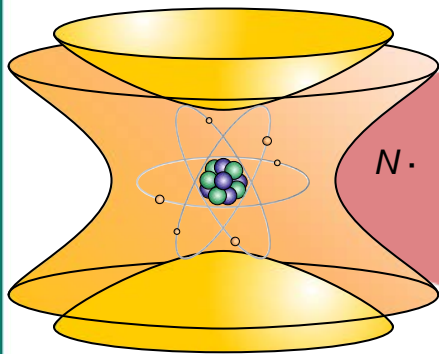
$$= N \cdot \text{green sphere} + Z \cdot \text{purple sphere} + Z \cdot \text{orange sphere} - \text{binding energy}$$

$$M_{\text{Atom}} = N \cdot m_{\text{neutron}} + Z \cdot m_{\text{proton}} + Z \cdot m_{\text{electron}} - (B_{\text{atom}} + B_{\text{nucleus}})/c^2$$

$$\delta m/m < 10^{-10}$$

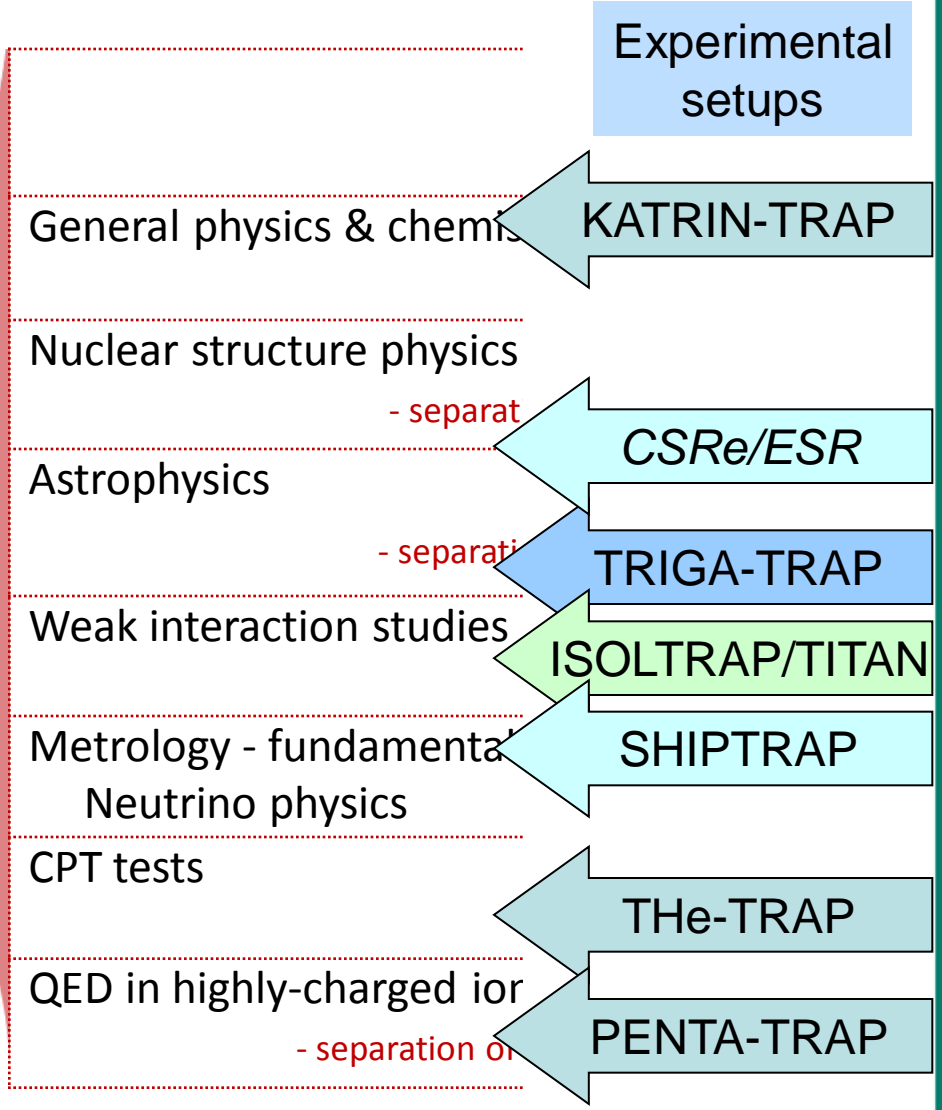
$$\delta m/m = 10^{-6} - 10^{-8}$$

# Why measuring atomic masses?



**Sources:**  
 Accelerator or reactor based  
 radioactive beam facilities  
 and electron beam ion traps.

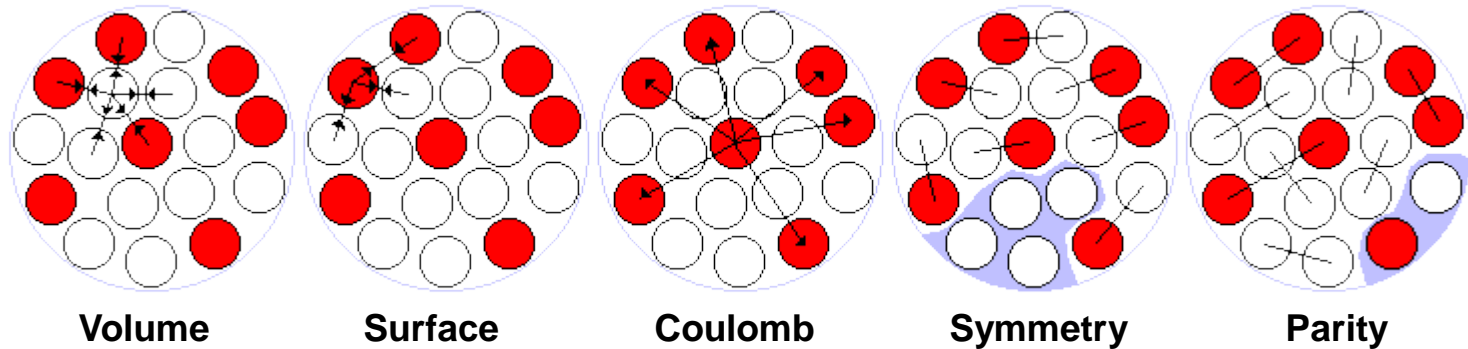
CERN IMP/GSI MPIK TRIGA







# The liquid drop model



$$E_{B,Kern} / A = a_{Vol} + a_{Oberf} A^{-1/3} + \frac{3e^2}{5r_0} Z^2 A^{-4/3} + (a_{Symm} + a_{OberfSymm} A^{-1/3}) I^2$$

$A = N + Z$ , neutron number  $N$ , proton number  $Z$  and elementary charge  $e$

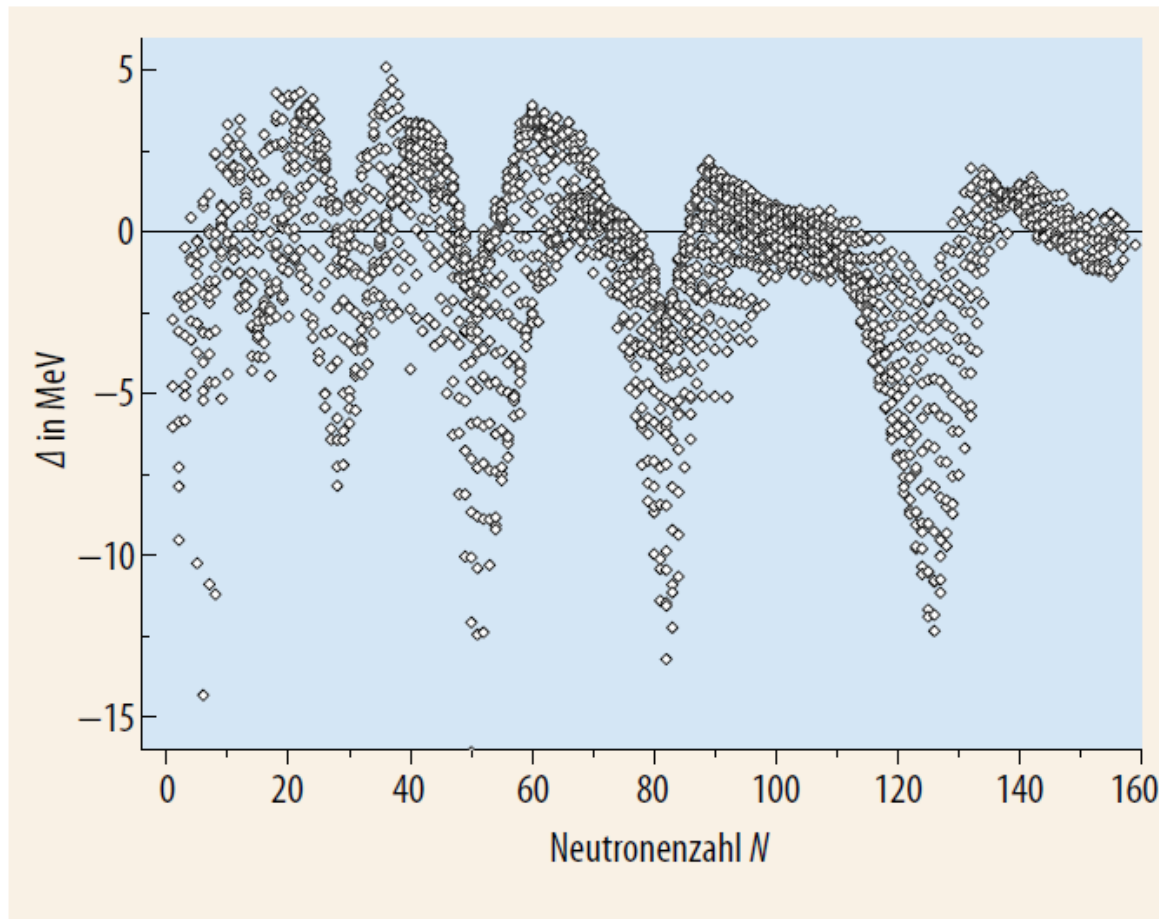


Nuclear Radius:  $R \approx r_0 A^{1/3}$

Symmetry:  $I^2 = (N - Z)^2 / A^2$

C. F. v. Weizsäcker, Zeitschrift der Physik, 96, 431 (1935)

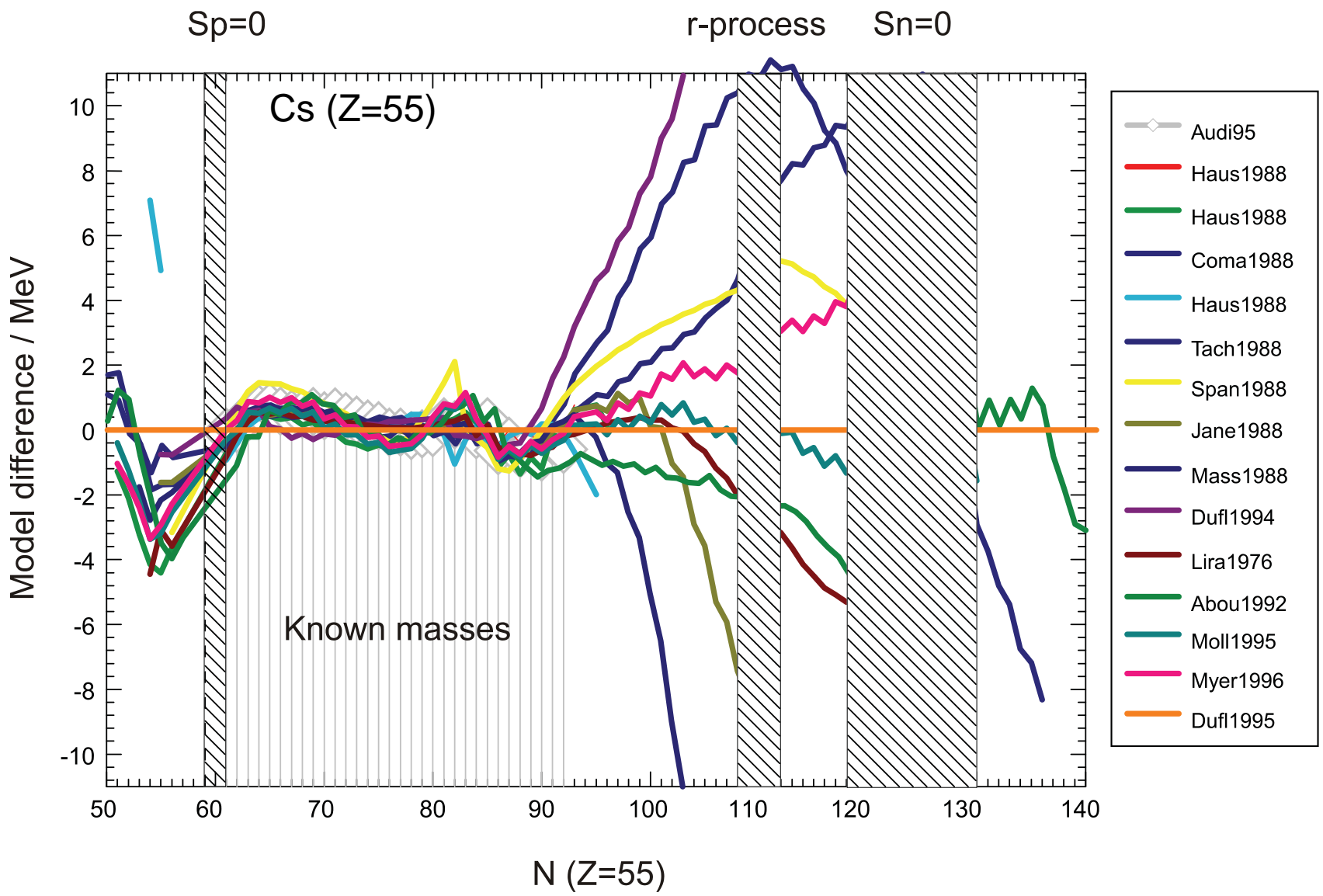
# Comparison $B_{\text{nuc}}$ : Theory-experiment



Nuclear structure effects like shell closures become visible.

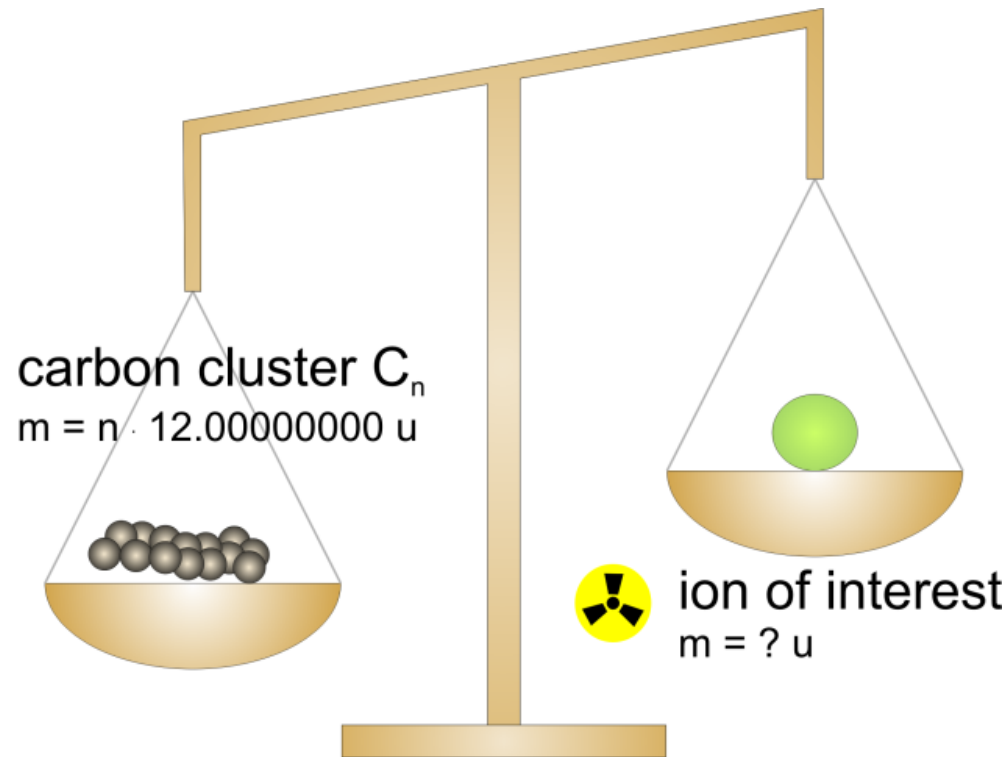
1949: The shell model and magic numbers (Göppert-Mayer + Jensen).

# Test of nuclear mass models



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# How to weigh an atom

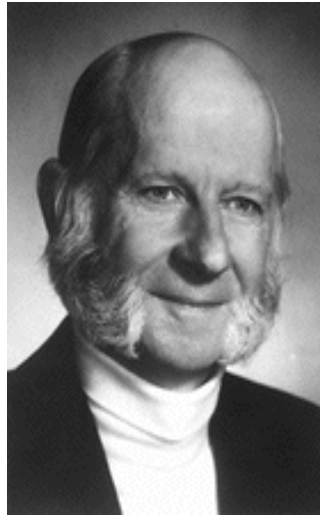
 $v_{C,1}$  $v_{C,2}$ 

$$\frac{v_{C,1}}{v_{C,2}}$$

# How to weigh atoms/ions?

By capturing and storing of ions  
and comparing with other masses!

*Hans Dehmelt  
(1922 - ... )*



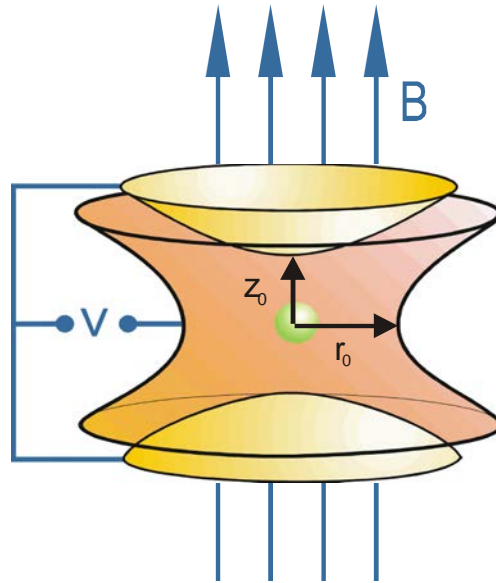
*Wolfgang Paul  
(1913 - 1993)*

**Nobel Prize in Physics in 1989 to  
Hans Dehmelt und Wolfgang Paul  
„for the development of the ion trap technique“.**



# Storage and cooling techniques

## Penning trap

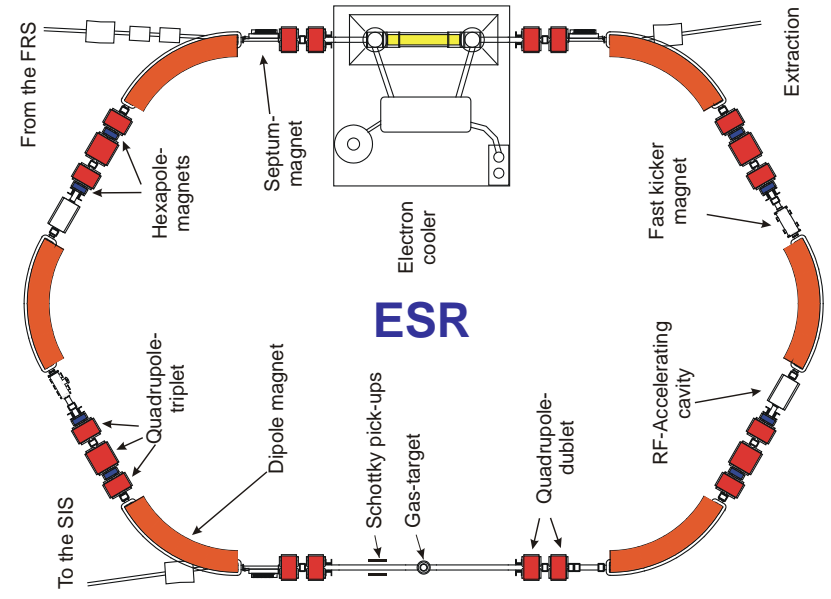


0 0.5 1 cm

particles at nearly rest in space

- \* ion cooling
- \* single-ion sensitivity

## Storage ring



0 2.5 5 m

relativistic particles

- \* long storage times
- \* high accuracy



# The Penning trap

- Trapping of particle via motion in em field
- Strong homog. magnetic field in z direction, particle moves with cyclotron frequency

$$\omega_c = \frac{q}{m} B_z$$

→ bound in radial direction

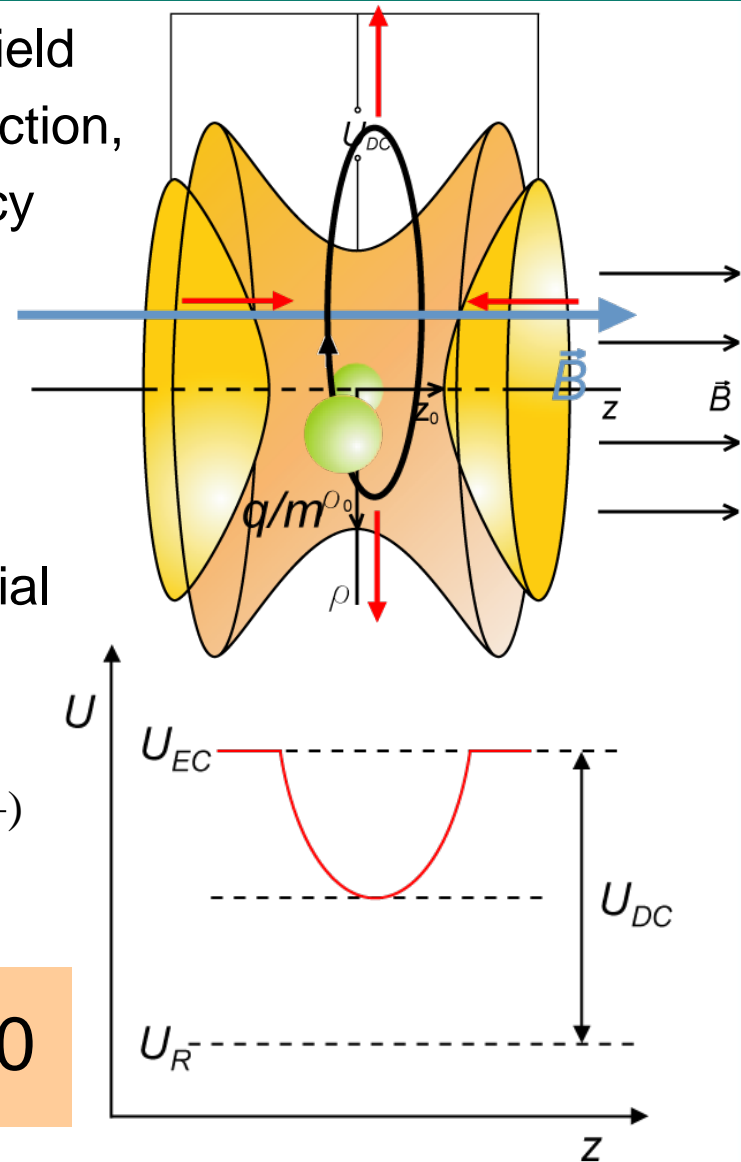
- Weak, electrostatic quadrupole potential

$$V(z, \rho) = \frac{U_{DC}}{2d^2} (z^2 - \frac{1}{2}\rho^2)$$

Geometry parameter  $d^2 = \frac{1}{2} (z_0^2 + \frac{\rho_0^2}{2})$

- Equations of motion in 3D:

$$\vec{F} = -e_0 (\vec{\nabla} \phi(r) + \vec{v} \times \vec{B}) + m \ddot{\vec{r}} = 0$$



# Equation of motion in a Penning trap

plus Lorentz force:

$$\vec{F} = -e_0 \vec{\nabla} \phi(r) + \vec{v} \times \vec{B}$$

equation of motion:

$$\vec{F} = -e_0 (\vec{\nabla} \phi(r) + \vec{v} \times \vec{B}) + m \ddot{\vec{r}} = 0$$

axial oscillation

$$\frac{2e_0 U_0}{m d_0^2} \cdot z + m \ddot{z} = 0$$

$$\omega_z = \sqrt{\frac{2e_0 U_0}{m d_0^2}}$$

z or axial frequency

radial oscillation

substitution:

$$u = x + iy$$

$$\omega_c = \frac{e_0}{m} B$$

$$u(t) = u_0 e^{-i\omega t}$$

$$i\omega_c \dot{u} - \frac{\omega_z^2}{2} u + \ddot{u} = 0$$

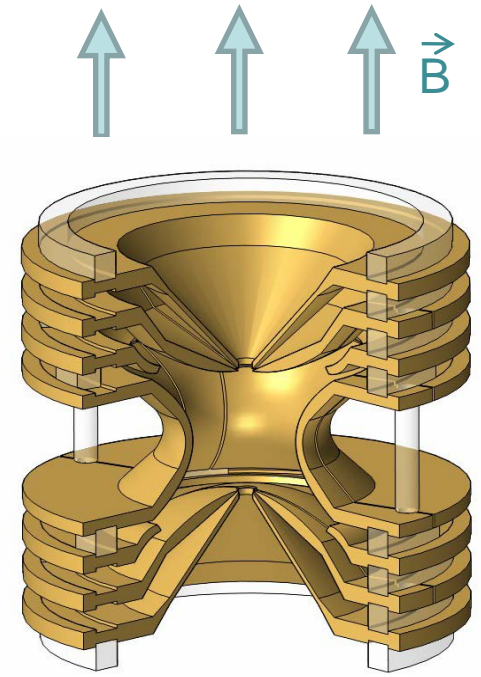
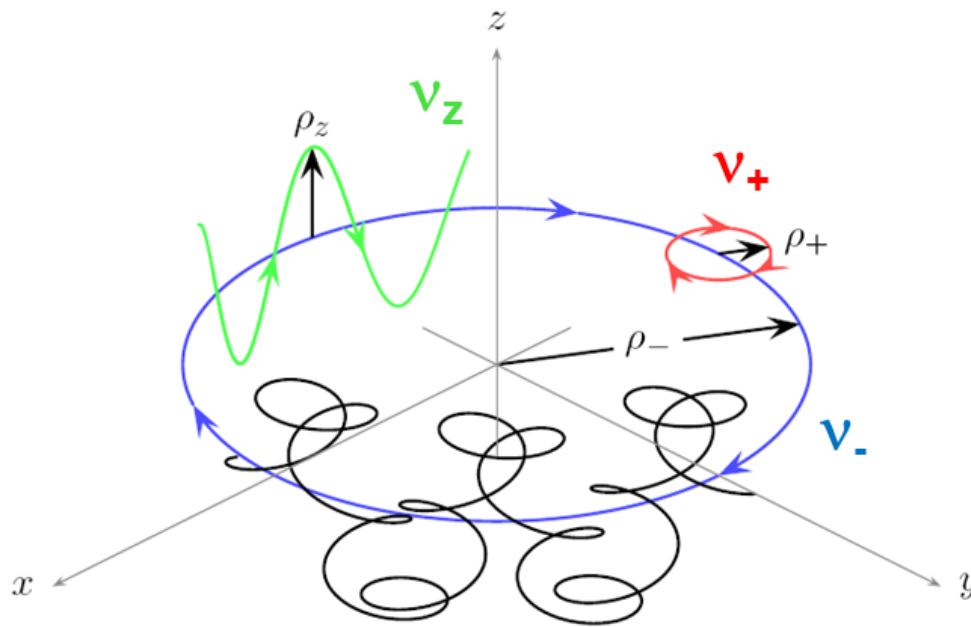
$$\omega_+ = \frac{\omega_c}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{\omega_c^2}{4} - \frac{\omega_z^2}{2}}$$

modified cyclotron frequency

$$\omega_- = \frac{\omega_c}{2} - \sqrt{\frac{\omega_c^2}{4} - \frac{\omega_z^2}{2}}$$

magnetron frequency

# Storage of ions in a Penning trap



The free cyclotron frequency is inverse proportional to the mass of the ions!

$$\omega_c = qB / m$$

An *invariance theorem* saves the day:

$$\omega_c^2 = \omega_+^2 + \omega_-^2 + \omega_z^2$$

$$\omega_c = \omega_+ + \omega_-$$

L.S. Brown, G. Gabrielse, Rev. Mod. Phys. 58, 233 (1986).  
K. Blaum, Phys. Rep. 425, 1 (2006).



# End of lecture 1

## What did we learn?

- 1) Motivation for precision mass data
- 2) Liquid drop model and nuclear binding energy
- 3) Storage of charged particles
- 4) Penning trap technique

## What comes next?

- 1) Manipulation of stored ions
- 2) Frequency measurement techniques
- 3) Experimental setup
- 4) Applications of precision nuclear mass data
  - \* Nuclear physics and astrophysics

