

Latest results from the BRIKEN campaign

A. Algora

IFIC (CSIC-Univ. of Valencia)

For the BRIKEN Collaboration



1932: Annus Mirabilis for Nuclear Physics

Wine: ???

Physics:

Anderson: positron discovery

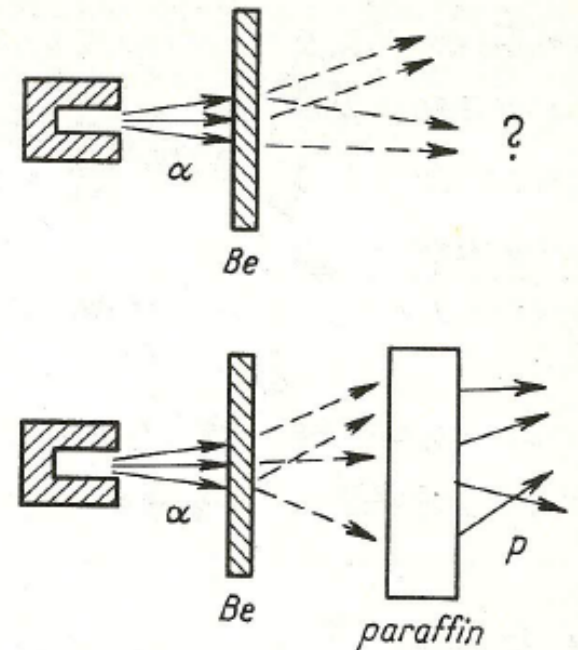
Cockroft and Walton: first reaction with accelerated particles

Chadwick: discovery of the neutron

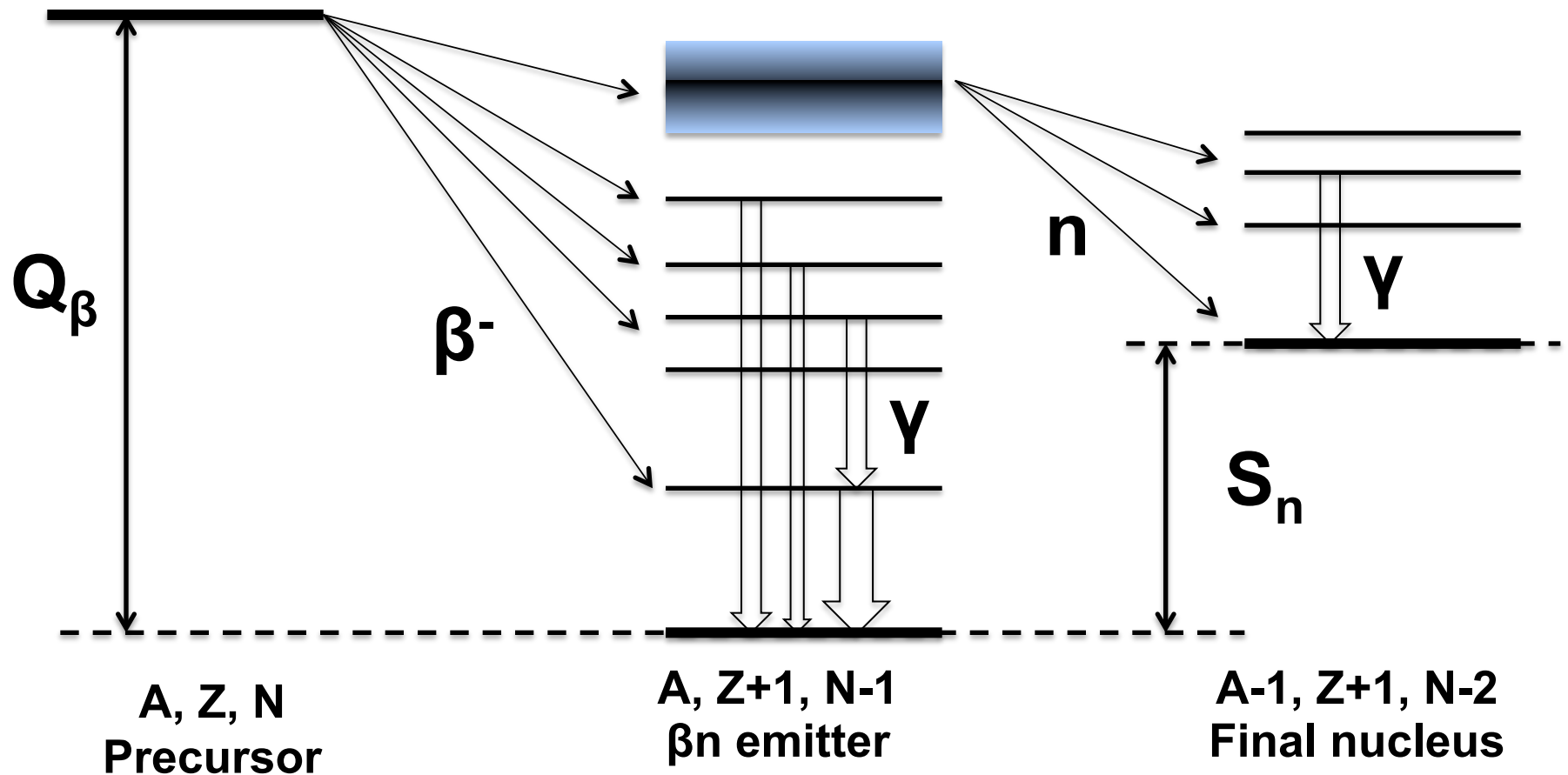
Fermi: first steps in the theory of beta decay

(based on Bothe-Geiger, Joliot-Curie, and his own measurements, it was already predicted by Rutherford in 1920)

Marks the beginning of proton-neutron nuclear model



Beta delayed neutrons



Discovered in 1939, by Roberts *et al.* Phys. Rev. 55, 510 (1939)
 (represent approximately 1 % of the neutrons emitted in fission)

Possible when $Q_\beta > S_n$

far enough from stability multiple emission $Q_\beta > S_{xn}$ ($x = 1, 2, 3, \dots$)

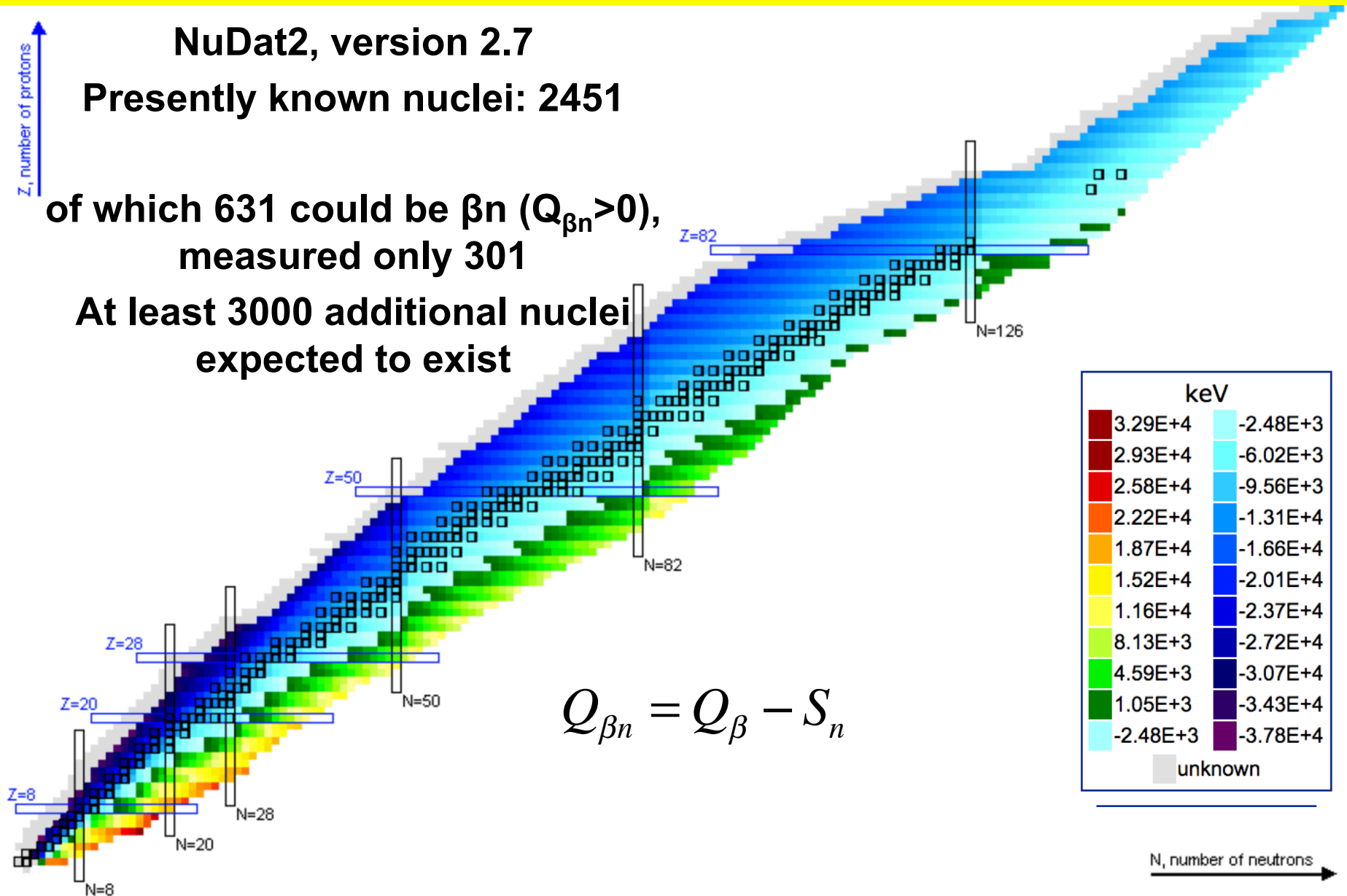
Beta delayed neutrons: $Q_{\beta n}$ according to NuDat2

NuDat2, version 2.7

Presently known nuclei: 2451

of which 631 could be βn ($Q_{\beta n} > 0$),
measured only 301

At least 3000 additional nuclei
expected to exist



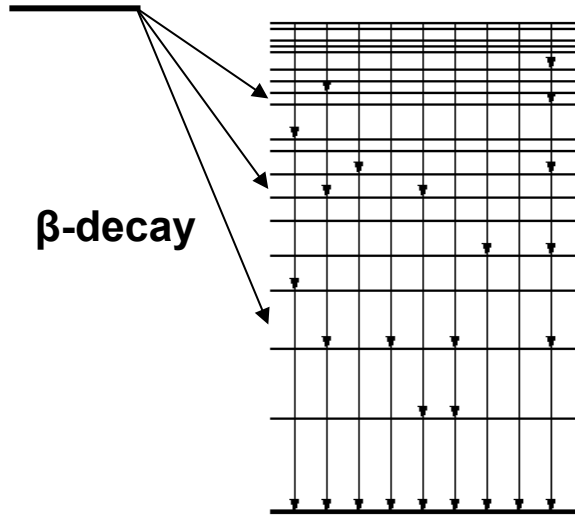
Summary of present knowledge of beta delayed neutron emitters

**Isotopes with $Q_{\beta xn} > 0$ based on AME2016
(out of 2451 known nuclei)**

Taken from P. Dimitriou *et al.* (to be submitted to NDS)

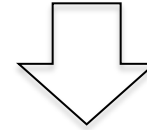
	Identified No of isotopes	Measured No of isotopes	Measured fraction	Measured mass region
$\beta 1n$	631	298	48.0 %	$^8\text{He} - ^{216}\text{Tl}$
$\beta 2n$	300	23	7.7 %	$^{11}\text{Li} - ^{136}\text{Sb}$
$\beta 3n$	138	4	2.9 %	$^{11}\text{Li} - ^{31}\text{Na}$
$\beta 4n$	58	1	1.7 %	^{17}B

Some definitions related to beta decay



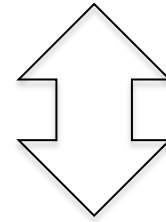
Primary experimental information

$$T_{1/2}, Q_{\beta}, P_{\beta}(E)$$



Experimental beta strength

$$S_{\beta}(E) = \frac{P_{\beta}(E)}{f(Z', Q_{\beta} - E) T_{1/2}} = \frac{1}{ft(E)}$$



Theoretical beta strength

$$f(Z', Q) = \text{const} \cdot \int_0^{p_{\max}} F(Z', p) p^2 (Q - E_e)^2 dp$$

Fermi / Gamow-Teller:

$$B_{i \rightarrow f} = \frac{1}{2J_i + 1} \left| \left\langle \Psi_f \left| \tau^{\pm} \text{ or } \sigma \tau^{\pm} \right| \Psi_i \right\rangle \right|^2$$

$$S_{\beta} = \frac{1}{6147 \pm 7} \left(\frac{g_A}{g_V} \right)^2 \sum_{E_f \in \Delta E} \frac{1}{\Delta E} B_{i \rightarrow f}$$

Integral quantities in beta decay

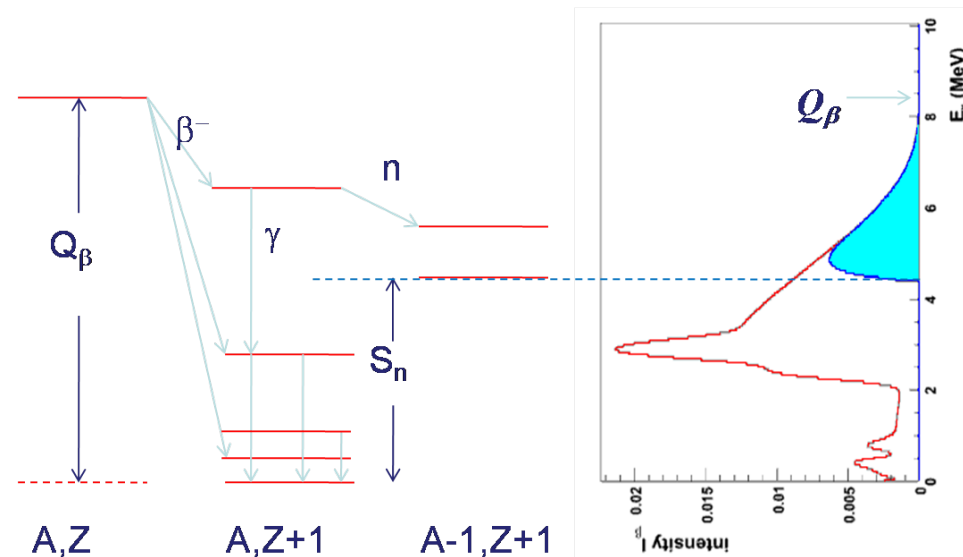
The (inverse of the) half-life $T_{1/2}$ is the weighted average of the β -strength S_β

$$\frac{1}{T_{1/2}} = \int_0^{Q_\beta} S_\beta(E_x) \cdot f(Q_\beta - E_x) dE_x$$

The neutron emission probability P_n measures the fraction of β -strength above the neutron separation energy S_n

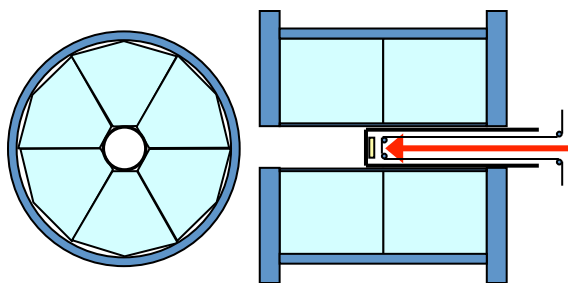
$$P_n = \frac{\int_{S_n}^{Q_\beta} S_\beta(E_x) \cdot f(Q_\beta - E_x) \cdot \frac{\Gamma^n}{\Gamma^n + \Gamma^\gamma} dE_x}{\int_0^{Q_\beta} S_\beta(E_x) \cdot f(Q_\beta - E_x) dE_x}$$

For n-rich nuclei very far from stability measurements of $T_{1/2}$ and P_n will provide access to nuclear structure information

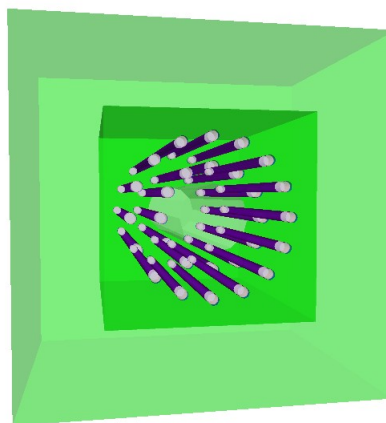


Beta strength measurements: combination of techniques

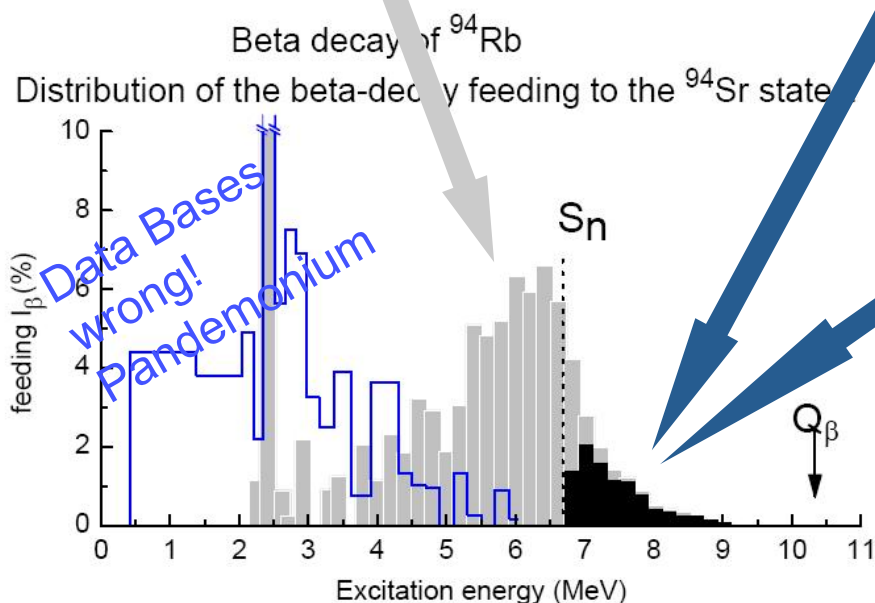
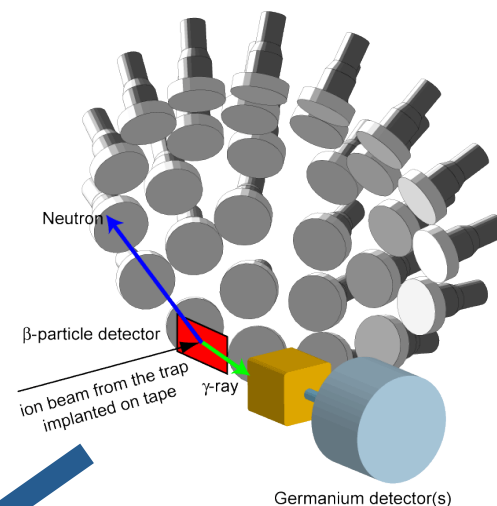
Total Absorption γ -Ray Spectrometer



4π Neutron Counter



Neutron Time of Flight Spectrometer



- TAGS provides data free of “Pandemonium” systematic error
- 4π n-counter provides P_n
- n-ToF Array provides the E_n distribution

P1n “experimental” definition

The neutron branching ratio of a nucleus into the β -1n channel is defined as:

$$P_{1N} = \frac{N_{1n}}{N_{decays}}$$

Most common ways to measure the Pn

1. Neutron and beta counting

$$P_{1N} = \frac{\epsilon_{\beta}}{\epsilon_{1n}} \frac{N_{\text{det } 1n}}{N_{\text{det } \beta}} \quad \Rightarrow \quad P_{1N} = \frac{\langle \epsilon_{\beta} \rangle}{\langle \epsilon_{1n} \rangle} \frac{N_{\text{det } 1n}}{N_{\text{det } \beta}}$$

2. Beta-neutron coincidences

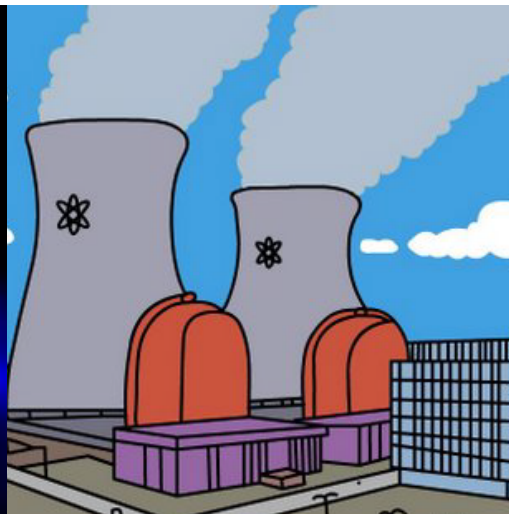
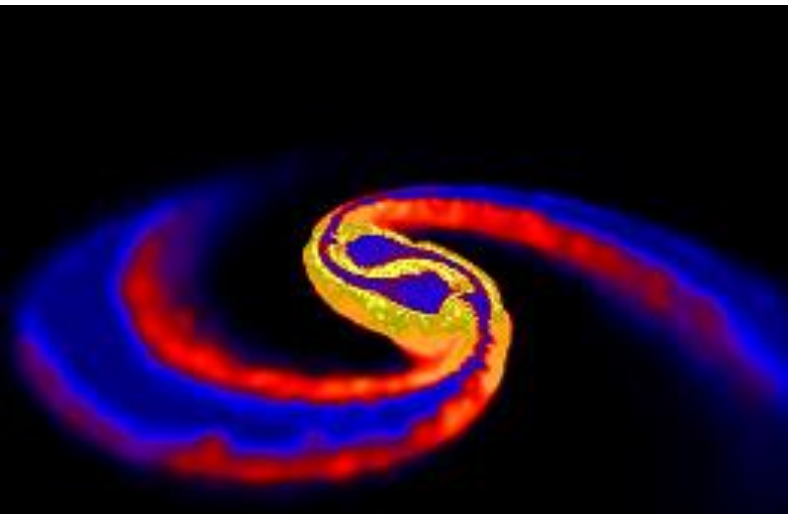
$$P_{1N} = \frac{\epsilon_{\beta}}{\epsilon_{1n} \epsilon_{\beta}^*} \frac{N_{\text{det } \beta 1n}}{N_{\text{det } \beta}} \quad \Rightarrow \quad P_{1N} = \frac{\langle \epsilon_{\beta} \rangle}{\langle \epsilon_{1n} \rangle \langle \epsilon_{\beta}^* \rangle} \frac{N_{\text{det } 1n}}{N_{\text{det } \beta}}$$

Why beta delayed neutrons are relevant?

Reactor kinetics: actually thanks to beta delayed neutrons we can control reactors. They represent approximately 1 % of the total number of neutrons emitted in fission.

Nuclear structure: they can provide information about the states populated in beta decay above the neutron separation energy (probe of the strength). For very exotic nuclei, they might be the only source of information.

Astrophysical applications: in relation to the r- process, they represent an additional neutron source that reshapes the final element abundance curve.



Role in rapid neutron capture process

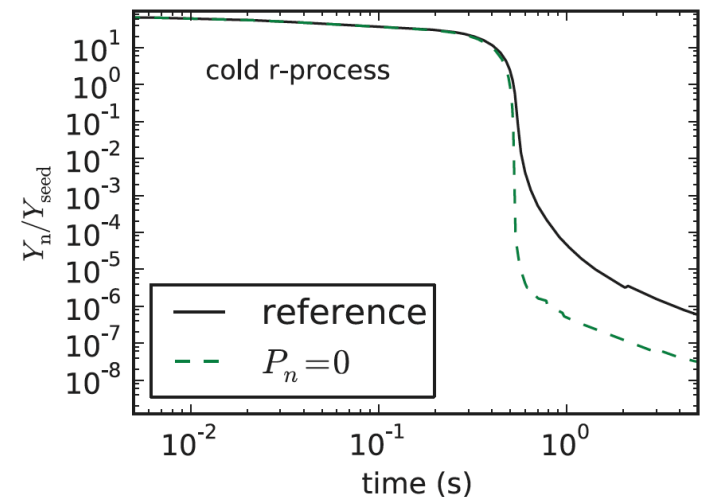
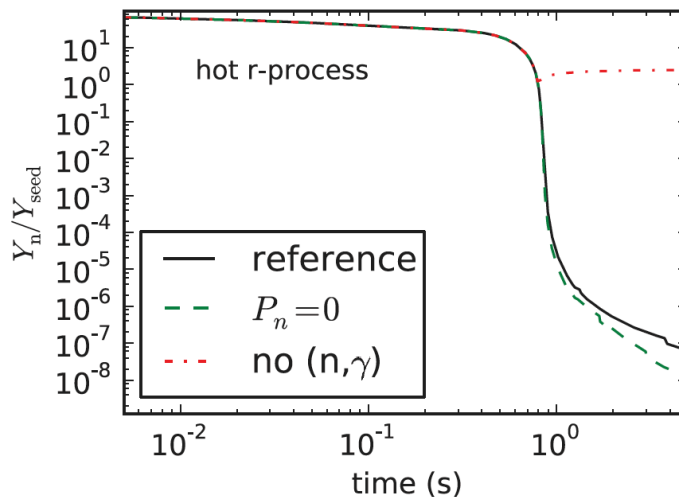
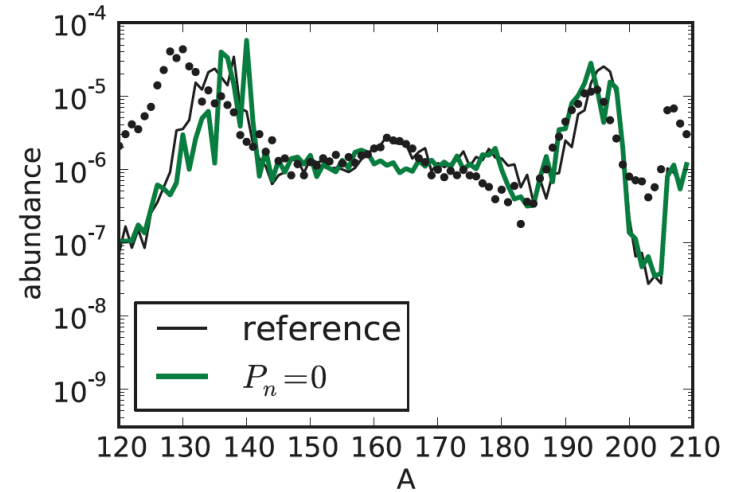
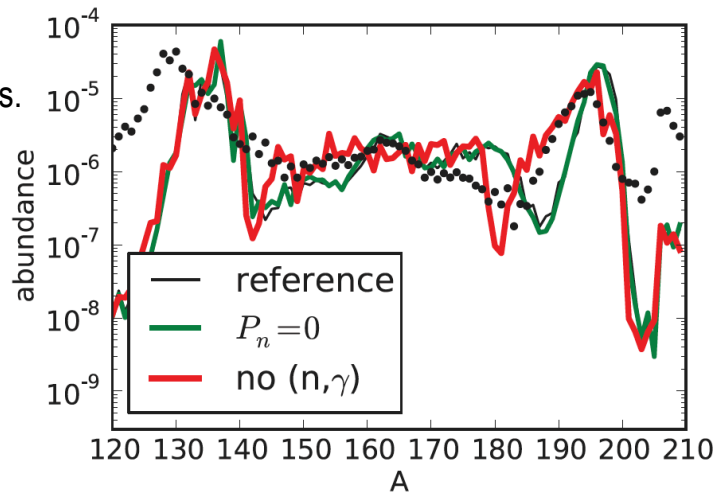
As a result of beta delayed neutrons, the additional neutrons influence the neutron to seed ratio at later times.

Consequences: smoothing and shift of the final distributions

Black line: standard nucl. phys. input

Red line: n capture and photodissociation suppressed

Green line: $P_n=0$



Figures from
Arcones et al.

PRC 83 045089
based on FRDM

See also

Mumpower et
al., etc

Renewed interest: KILONOVA event Multi messenger ERA

LETTER

doi:10.1038/nature24453

Origin of the heavy elements in binary neutron–star mergers from a gravitational–wave event

Daniel Kasen^{1,2}, Brian Metzger³, Jennifer Barnes³, Eliot Quataert¹ & Enrico Ramirez–Ruiz^{4,5}

PRL 119, 161101 (2017)

 Selected for a Viewpoint in *Physics*
PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending
20 OCTOBER 2017



GW170817: Observation of Gravitational Waves from a Binary Neutron Star Inspiral

B. P. Abbott *et al.**

(LIGO Scientific Collaboration and Virgo Collaboration)

(Received 26 September 2017; revised manuscript received 2 October 2017; published 16 October 2017)

Physics

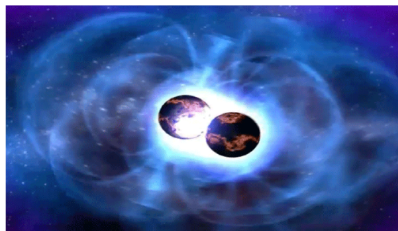
VIEWPOINT

Neutron Star Merger Seen and Heard

For the first time, researchers have detected both light and gravitational waves from the same event in space.

by Maura McLaughlin*

Over thousands of years, astronomy has evolved from hand-drawn maps of the night sky to breathtaking telescope images of the far-away cosmos. Yet despite this advance in technology, most of our information about the Universe has come from photon messengers. This changed in September 2015 with the detection of gravitational waves from a black hole merger at the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO) [1], an achievement that was recognized with this year's Nobel Prize in Physics. The chirp-like signal, caused by a traveling ripple through spacetime, gave us a new way to sense the Universe, like being able to hear, when before



RESEARCH

NEUTRON STAR MERGER

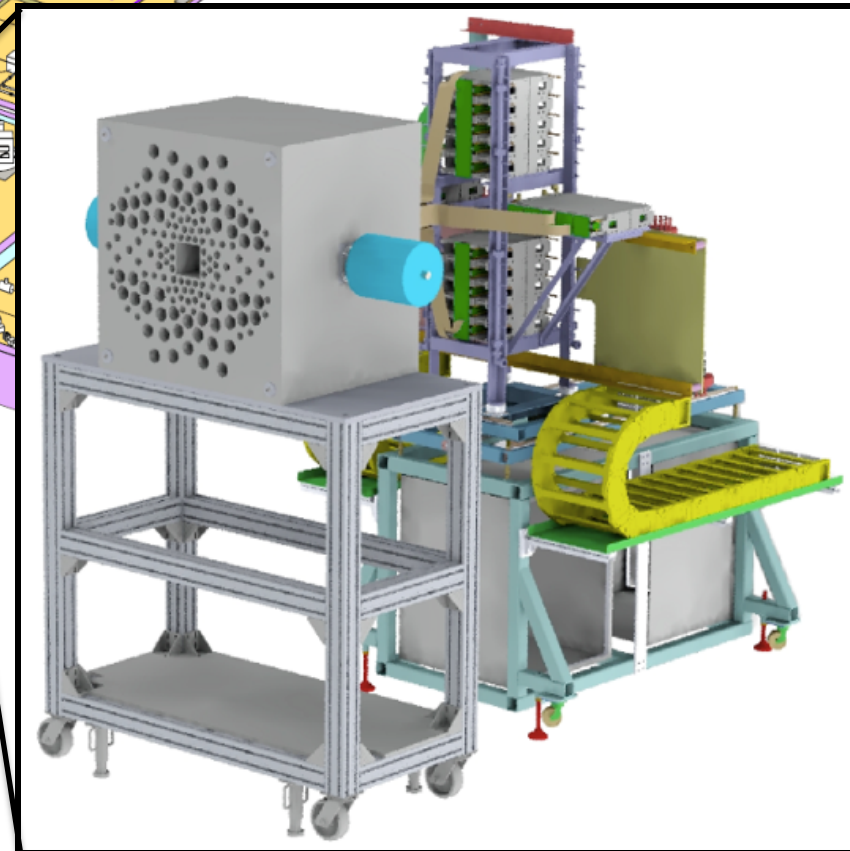
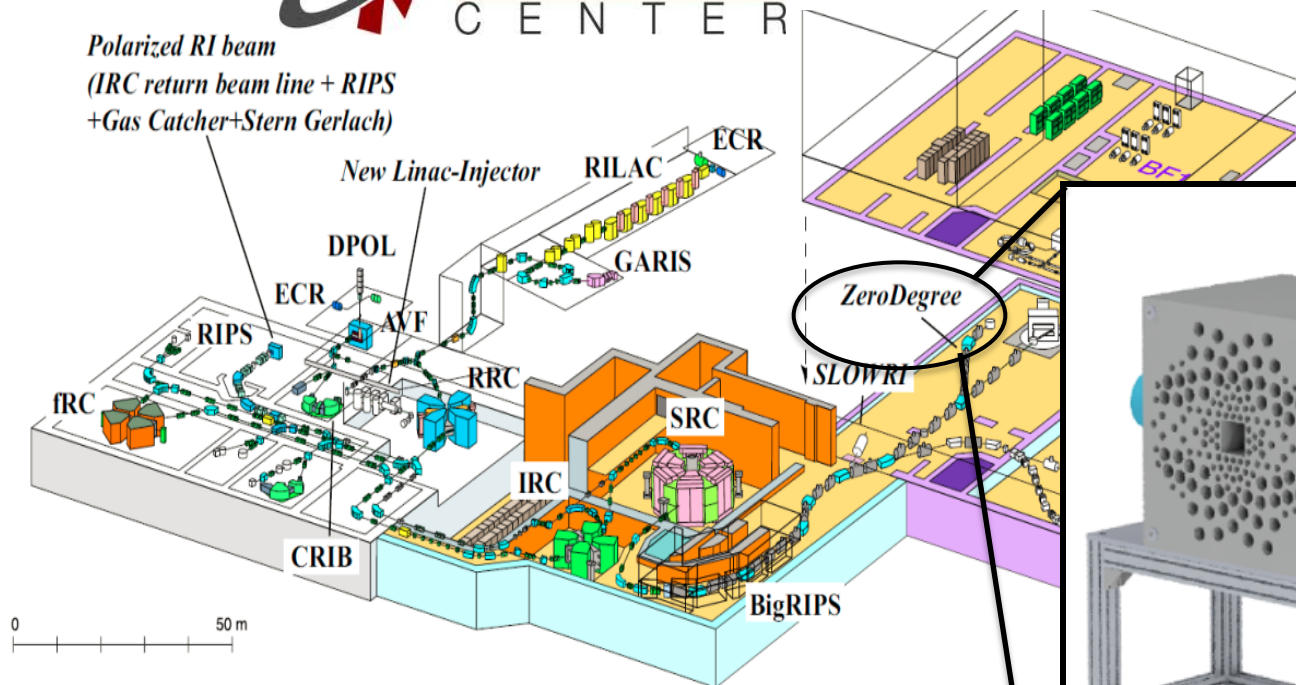
Light curves of the neutron star merger GW170817/SSS17a: Implications for r-process nucleosynthesis

M. R. Drout,^{1*} A. L. Piro,¹ B. J. Shappee,^{1,2} C. D. Kilpatrick,³ J. D. Simon,¹ C. Contreras,⁴ D. A. Coulter,³ R. J. Foley,³ M. R. Siebert,³ N. Morrell,⁴ K. Boutsia,⁴ F. Di Mille,⁴ T. W.-S. Holoien,¹ D. Kasen,^{5,6} J. A. Kollmeier,¹ B. F. Madore,¹ A. J. Monson,^{1,7} A. Murguía-Berthier,³ Y.-C. Pan,³ J. X. Prochaska,³ E. Ramirez-Ruiz,^{3,8} A. Rest,^{9,10} C. Adams,¹¹ K. Alatalo,^{1,9} E. Bañados,¹ J. Baughman,^{12,13} T. C. Beers,^{14,15} R. A. Bernstein,¹ T. Bitsakis,¹⁶ A. Campillay,¹⁷ T. T. Hansen,¹ C. R. Higgs,^{18,19} A. P. Ji,¹ G. Maravelias,²⁰ J. L. Marshall,²¹ C. Moni Bidin,²² J. L. Prieto,^{13,23} K. C. Rasmussen,^{14,15} C. Rojas-Bravo,³ A. L. Strom,¹ N. Ulloa,¹⁷ J. Vargas-González,⁴ Z. Wan,²⁴ D. D. Whitten^{14,15}

The BRIKEN project



International
collaboration of
more than 20
institutions

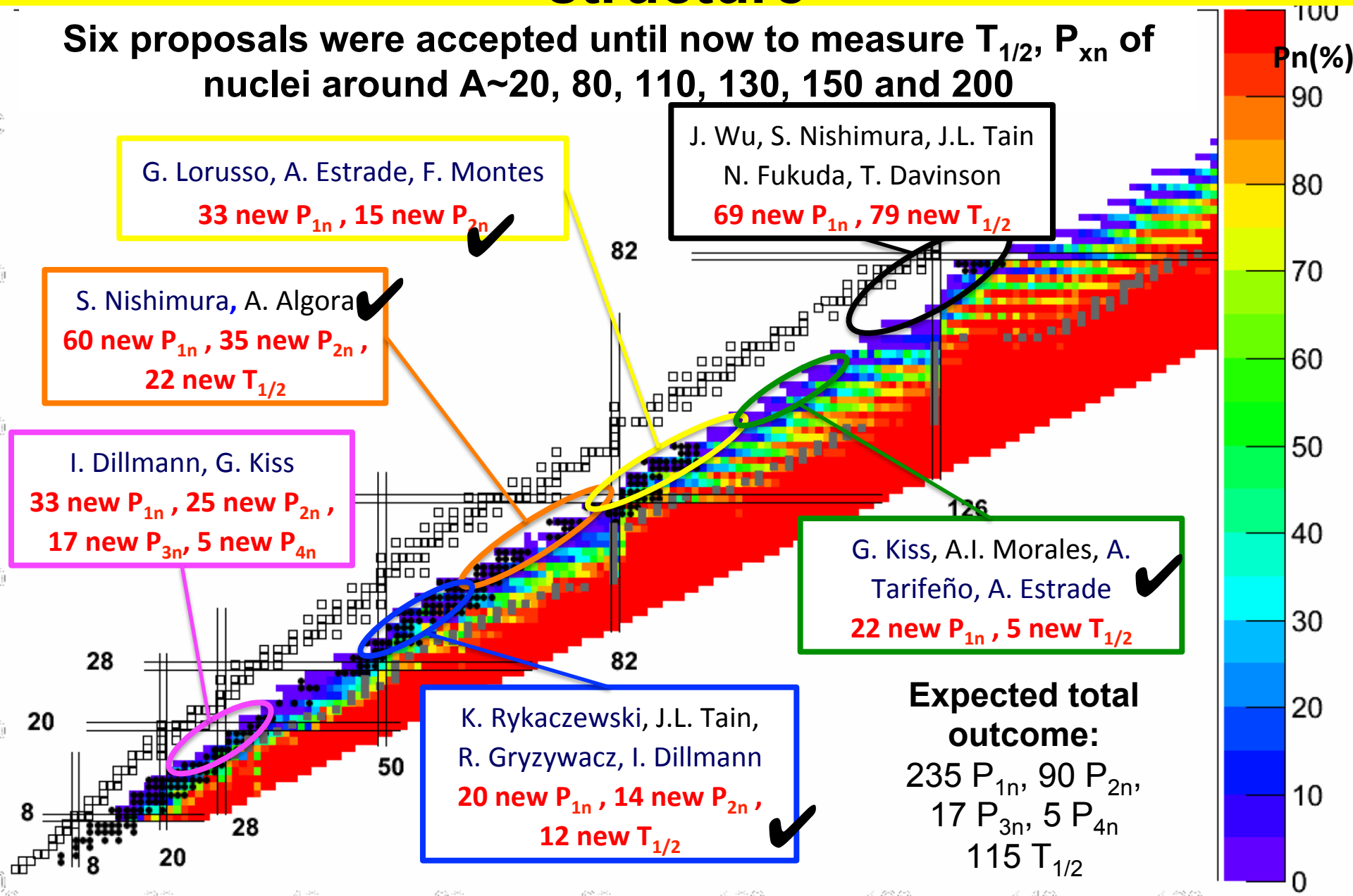


The largest ^3He moderated n counter
ever built combined with the AIDA detector
@ BigRips+ZeroDegree spectrometer
Exploits RIKEN very high beam intensities
Exploring the limits of nuclear existence*



Main goals: astrophysics and nuclear structure

Six proposals were accepted until now to measure $T_{1/2}$, P_{xn} of nuclei around $A \sim 20, 80, 110, 130, 150$ and 200

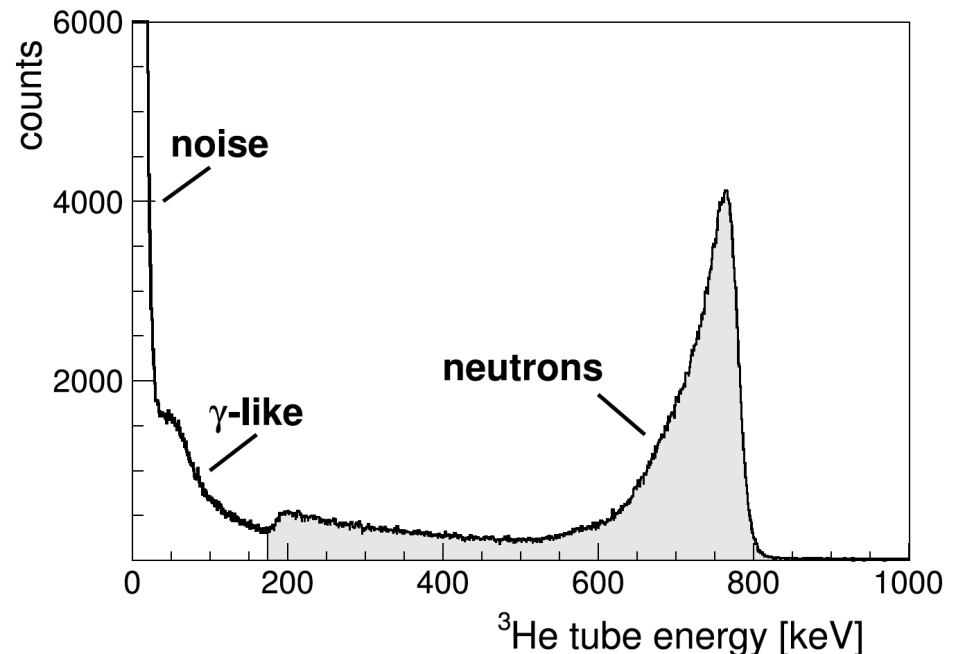
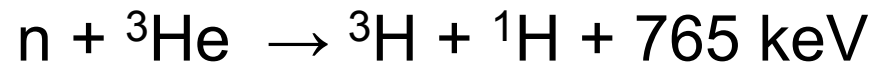
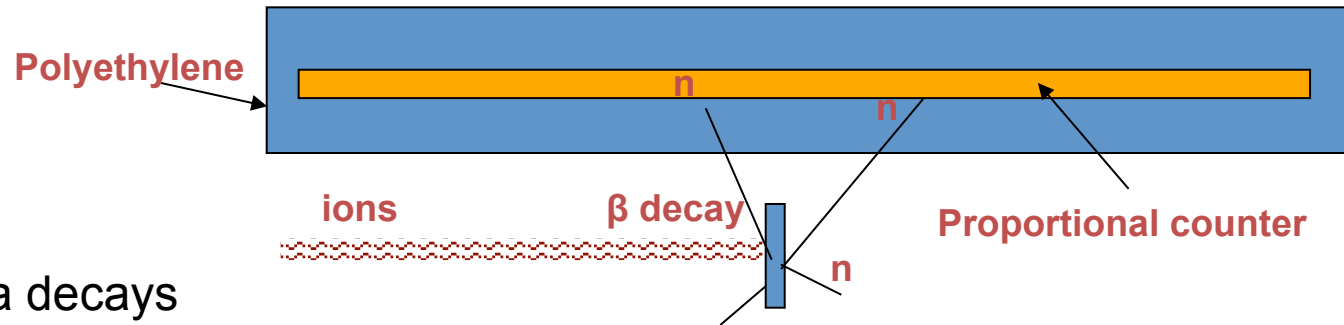


Basics of the technique: just counting

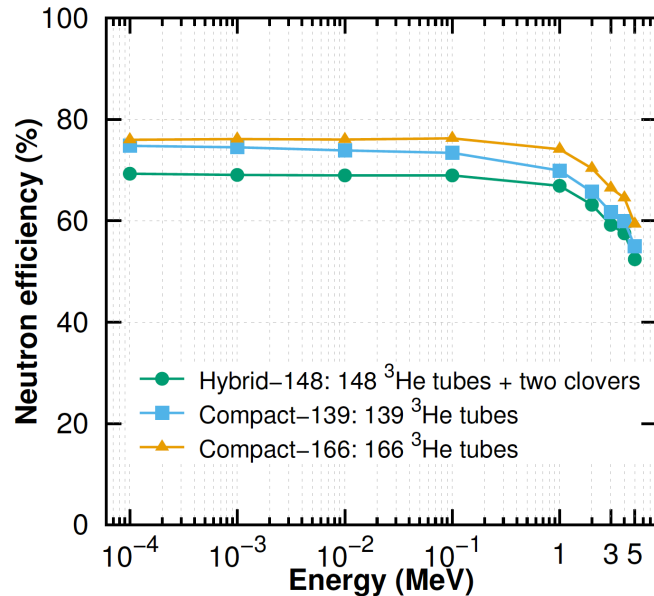
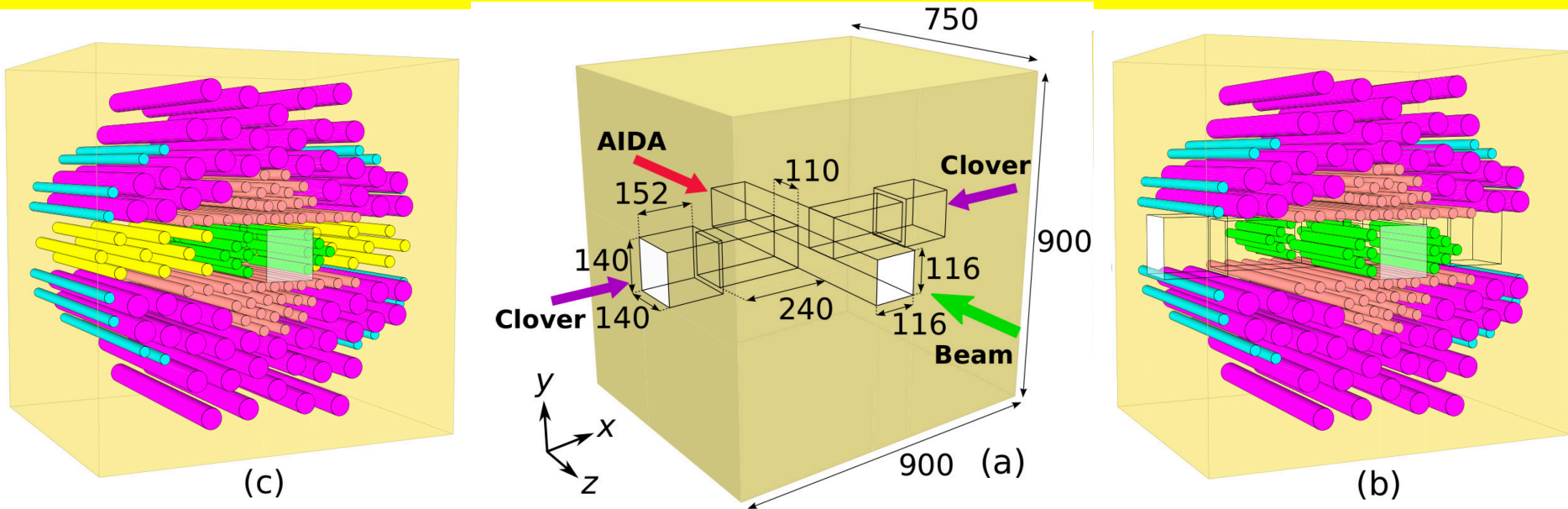
$$P_N = \frac{N_n}{N_\beta}$$

N_n is the number of beta decays going through neutron emission
 N_β is the number of decays

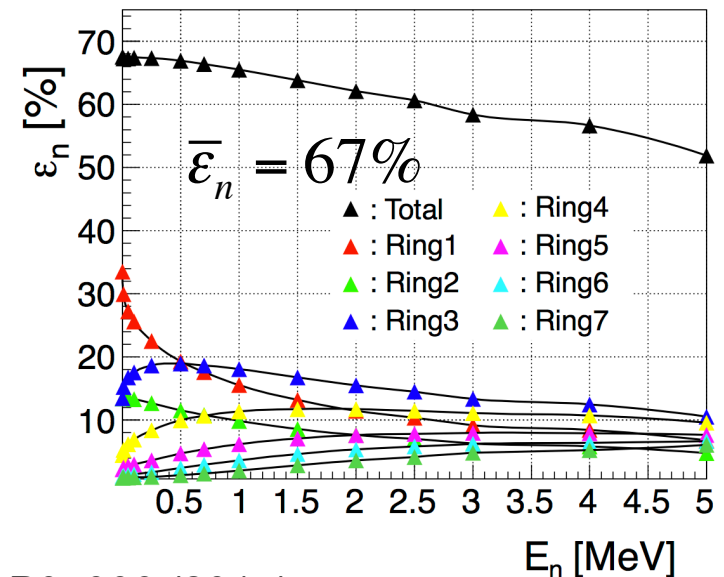
Moderation is needed. These detectors provide a clear signature of neutrons and have very limited sensitivity to gammas. Because of that they are superb neutron detectors.



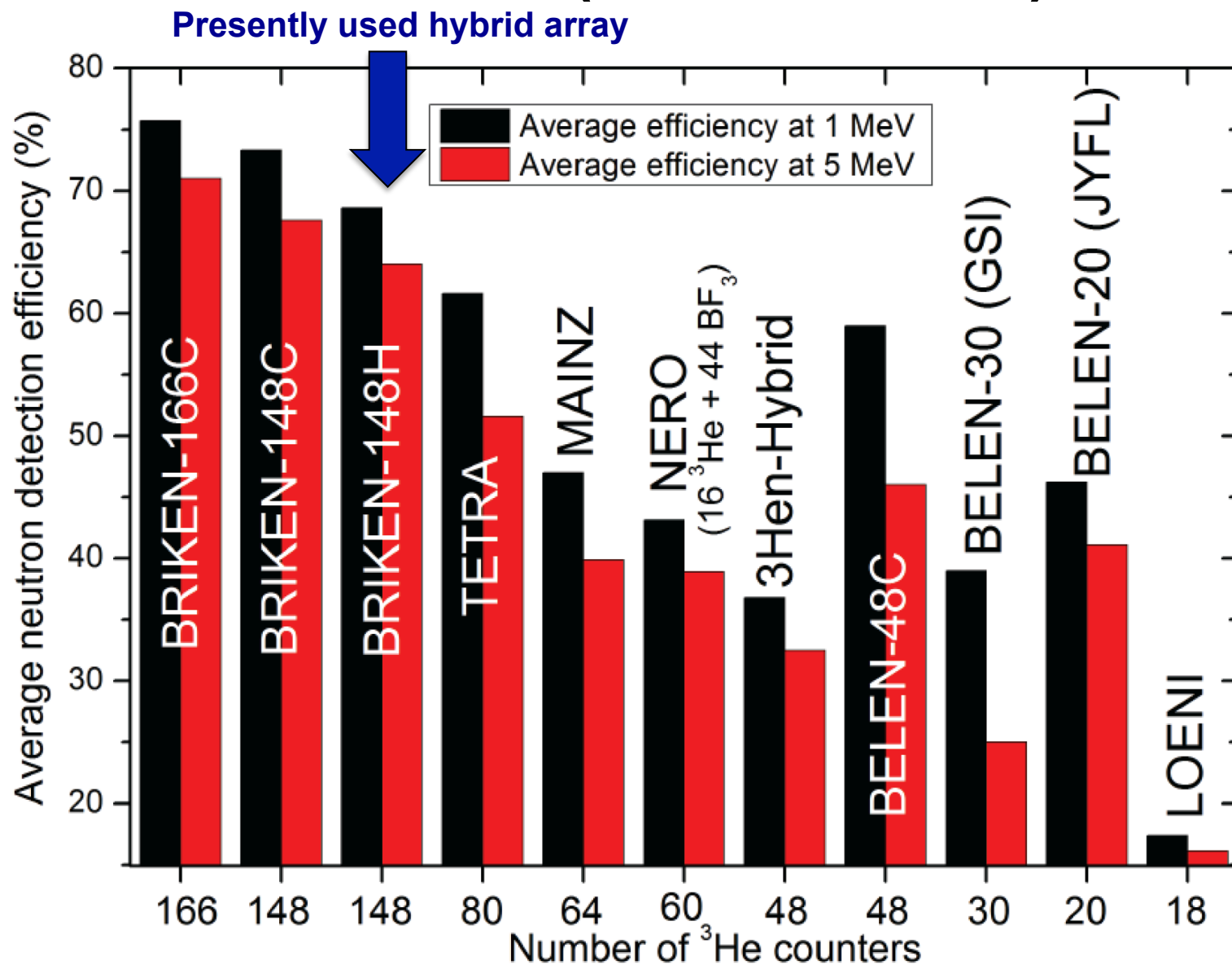
Monte Carlo optimization of the detector



In use:
Hybrid
arrangement of
140 ^3He tubes
(UPC, ORNL,
RIKEN ...) + 2
clovers (ORNL)



BRIKEN is the most efficient neutron array ever built (that we know)



Implantation detectors

AIDA (Advanced Implantation Detector Array)

Edinburgh, Daresbury, Liverpool

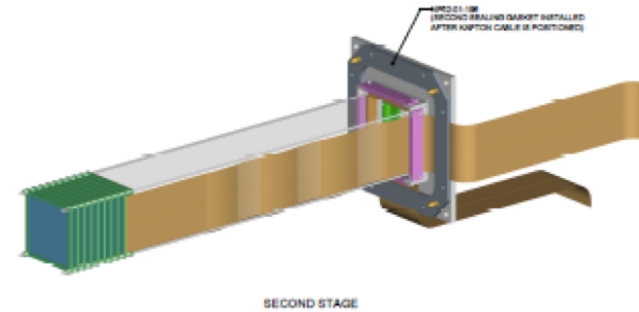
Stack of six Si DSSD

Size: 1mm×72mm×72mm

Granularity: 128×128 pixels (0.51mm strip)

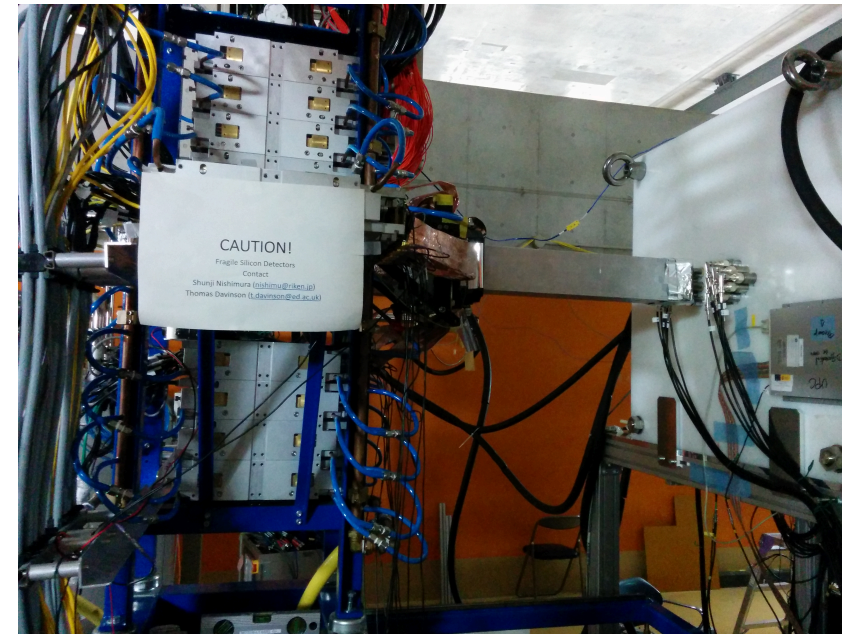
Low gain (implants) and high gain (betas) preamplifiers

Total data readout DACQ (1536 ch)



WAS3ABI + segmented YSO detector

Japan, UTK (USA), used in two exp.

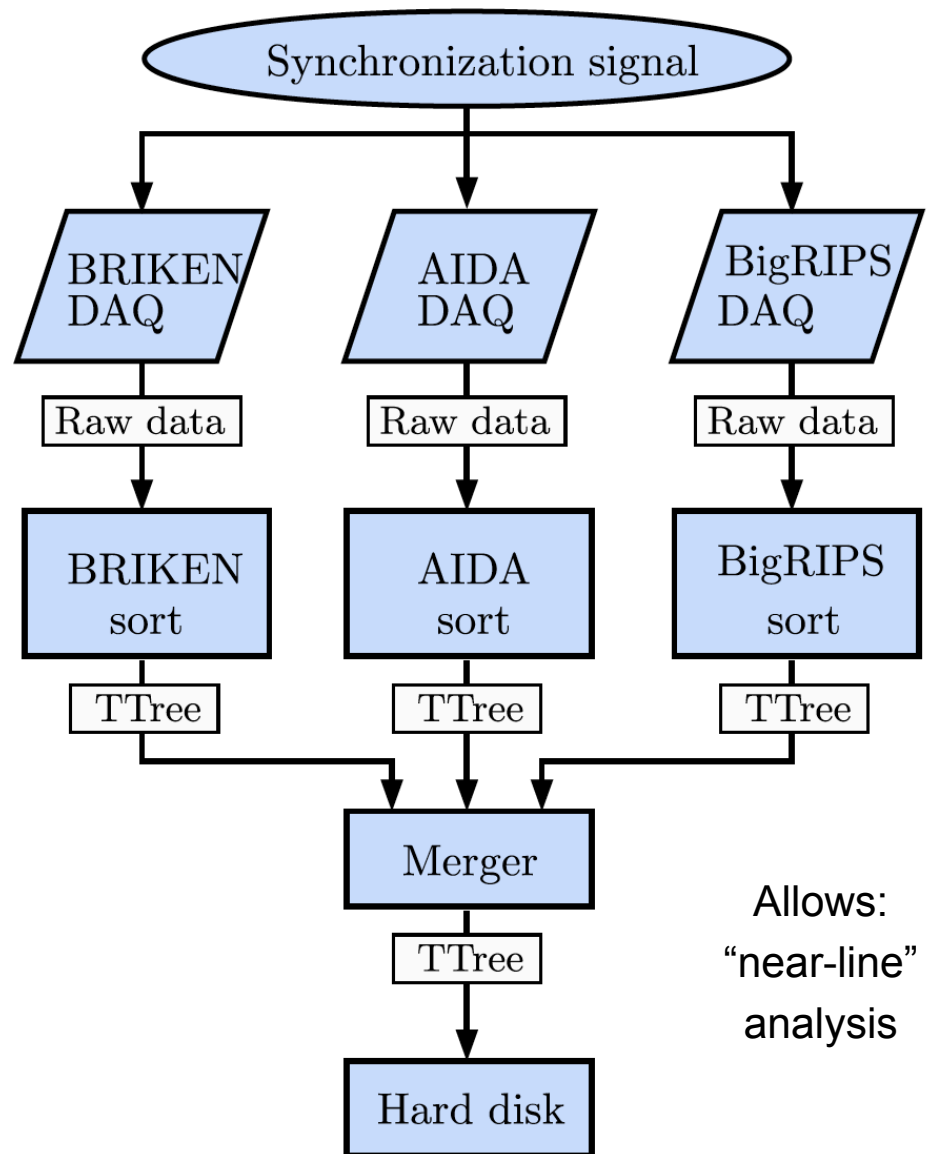


Griffin et al, JPSCConfProc14 (2016) 020622

DATA Acquisition System

BRIKEN GASIFIC70 DACQ
(developed at IFIC,
up-scaled system)

- Based on Struck SIS 3316 and SIS3302 digitizers
- Self-triggering system with a common clock
- Software development to merge the events of the diff. systems and have quick access to the combined events (“time grouping”)



Analysis (very brief summary)

Two different approaches (for the moment), one by the Valencia group (presented in the next slides), and the other by the Oak Ridge group

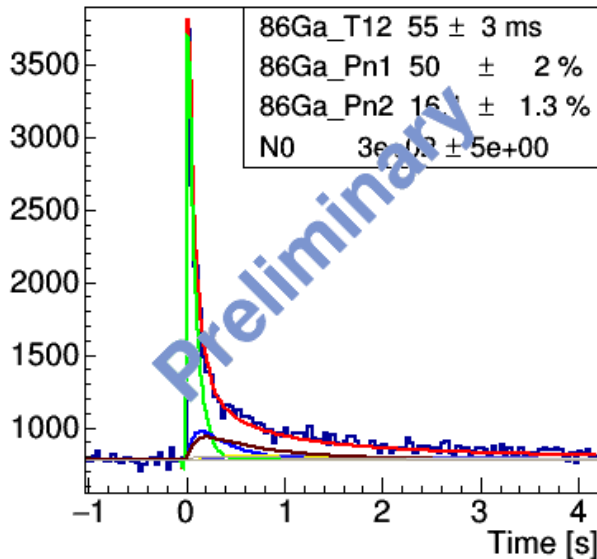
Details can be seen in the original publications:

Tolosa, Agramunt, Tain et al, NIM A 925 (2019) 133

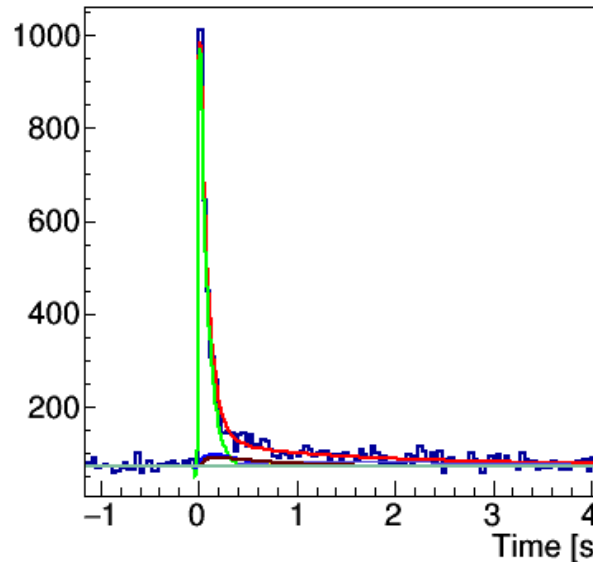
Rasco, Brewer, Yokoyama, et al., NIM A 911 (2018) 79

Example of analysis case

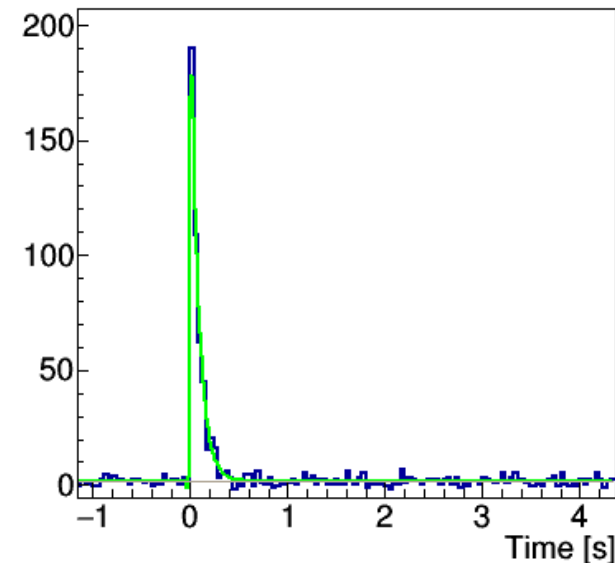
Ti - T β



Ti - T β [1n gated]



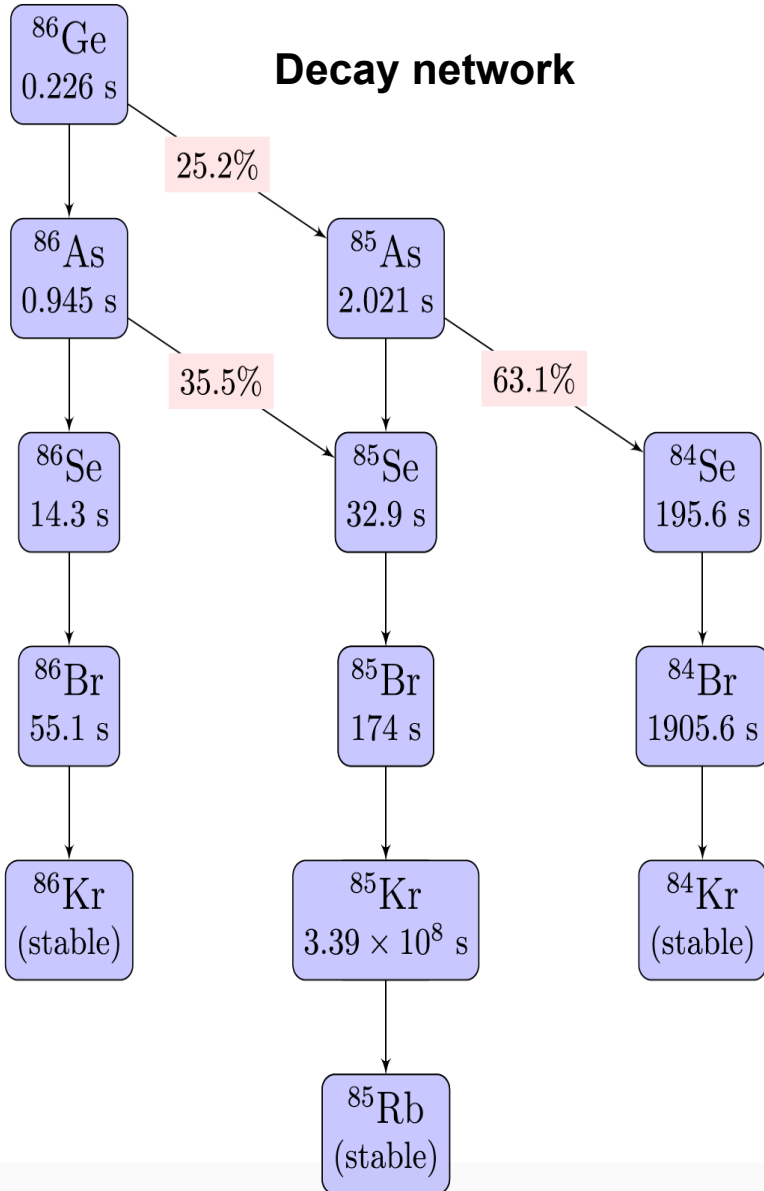
Ti - T β [2n gated]



- Sort the corresponding implant-beta histogram spectra with 0, 1, 2, ... neutron multiplicity conditions
- Simultaneously fit of the histograms using the 86Ga entire decay chain, leaving as free parameters parent T1/2, P1n, P2n and the number of parent decays. Histograms must be corrected by random correlations

Complex Analysis

Decay network



$$f_{\beta}(t) = \sum_{i \in \beta} \bar{\epsilon}_{\beta}^i \lambda_i N_i(t) + \text{bck}_{\beta}(t)$$

$$f_{\beta 1n}(t) = \sum_{j \in \beta 1n} \bar{\epsilon}_{\beta}^j \bar{\epsilon}_n^j P_{1n}^j \lambda_j N_j(t) + \text{bck}_{1n}(t)$$

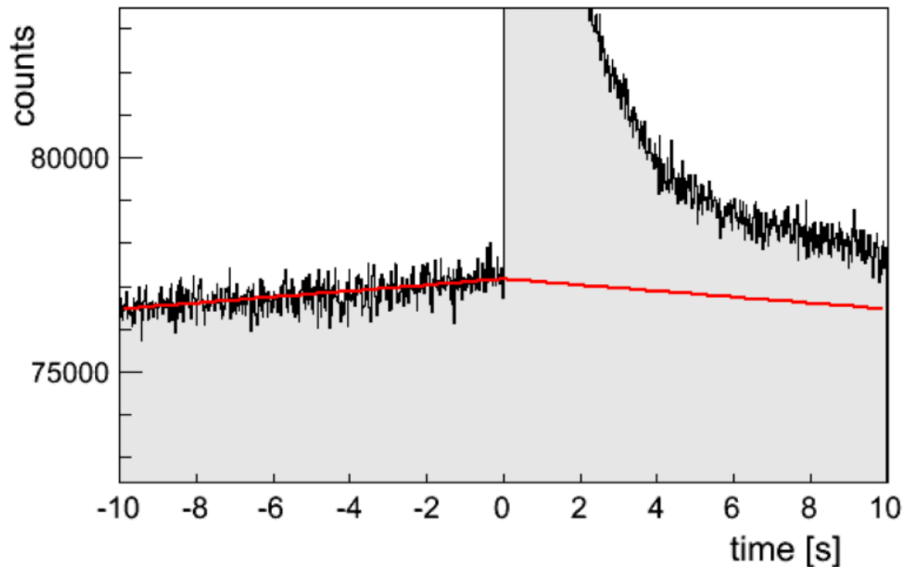
$$f_{\beta 2n}(t) = \sum \bar{\epsilon}_{\beta}^k \left(\bar{\epsilon}_n^k \right)^2 P_{2n}^k \lambda_k N_k(t) + \text{bck}_{2n}(t)$$

$$N_k(t) = N_1 \prod_{i=1}^{k-1} (b_{i,i+1} \lambda_i) \times \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{e^{-\lambda_i t}}{\prod_{j=1 \neq i}^k (\lambda_j - \lambda_i)}$$

$$b_{i,i+1} = P_{1n}^i, P_{2n}^i \text{ or } 1 - P_{1n}^i - P_{2n}^i$$

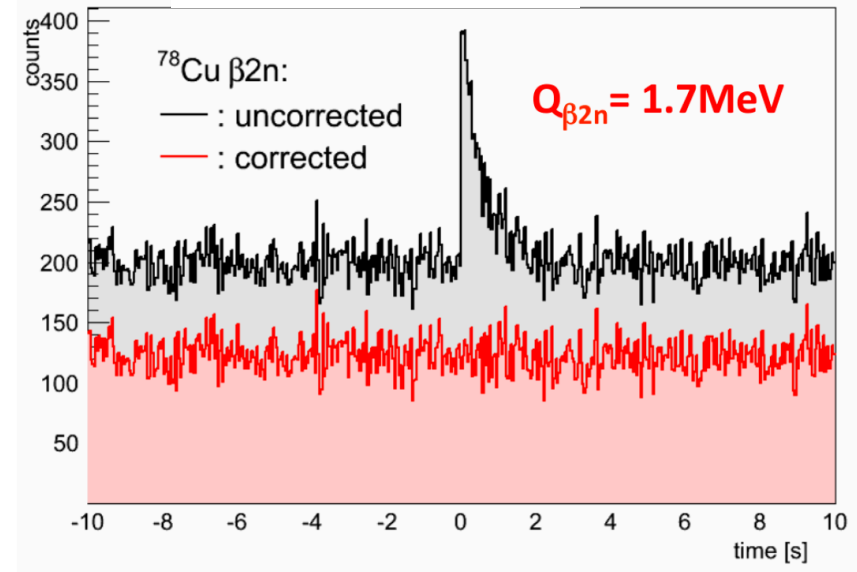
The devil is in the details: the relevance of corrections

Implant-beta



Uncorrelated beta background
Sometimes not completely flat
(because interruptions in the beam)
Corrected using backward time correlations

Implant-beta-2n



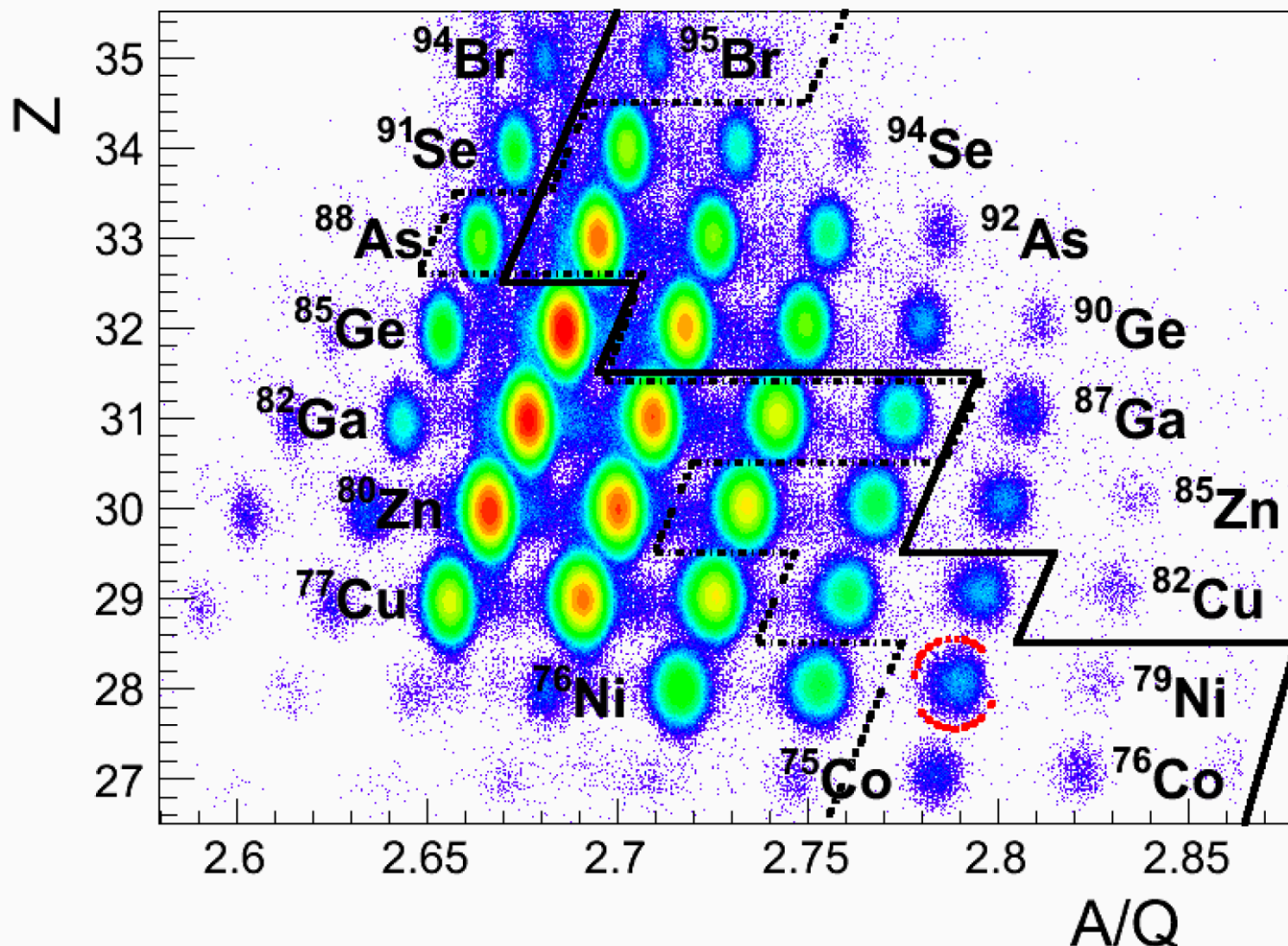
Beta-implant-2n correlation
Red: after correction of accidentals
Not taking into account accidental
corrections can be very misleading !!!

Measurements of new beta-delayed neutron emission properties around doubly-magic ^{78}Ni

Spokespersons: K. P. Rykaczewski, J. L. Tain, R. K. Grzywacz, I. Dillmann

Expected outcome: 20 new P1n , 14 new P2n , 12 new T1/2

Region characterized by a large spread of the predicted theoretical $T_{1/2}$, and Pn values



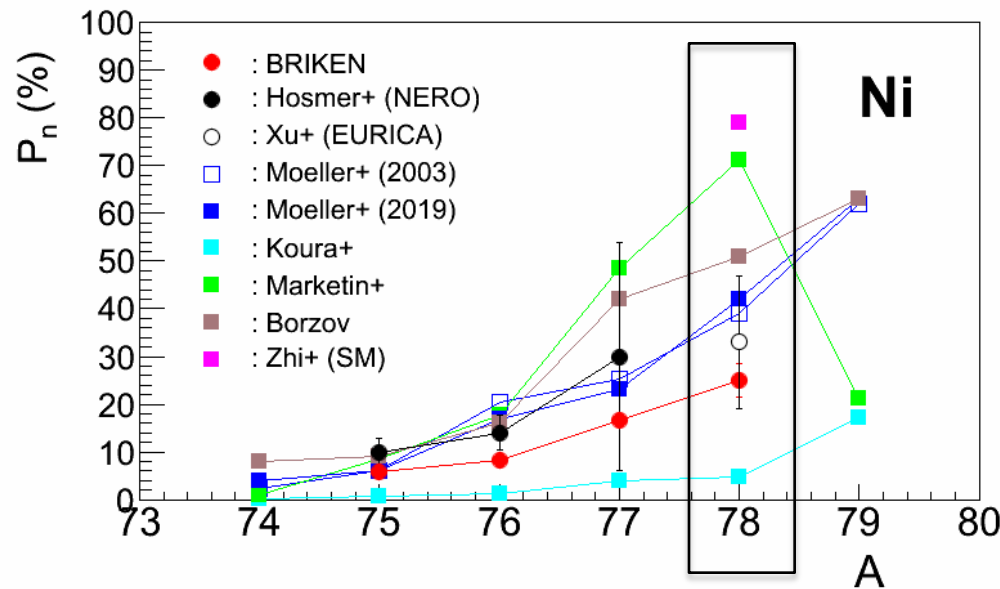
June 2018

^{86}Ge	$6.6 \cdot 10^6$
^{78}Ni	$7.6 \cdot 10^3$

--- New P_{xn}
— New $T_{1/2}$

Ps. In a later experiment 35000 implants of ^{78}Ni were collected (director discretionary beamtime for KPR)

Some preliminary results from the ^{78}Ni experiment



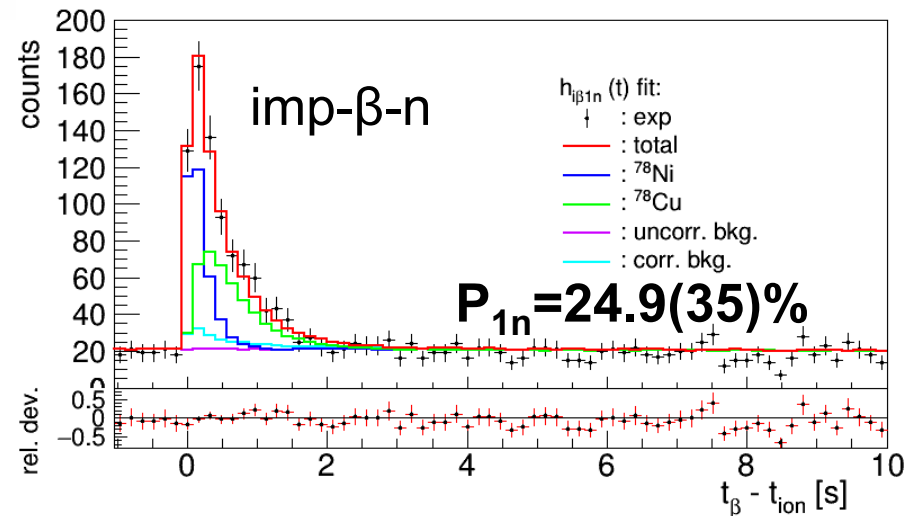
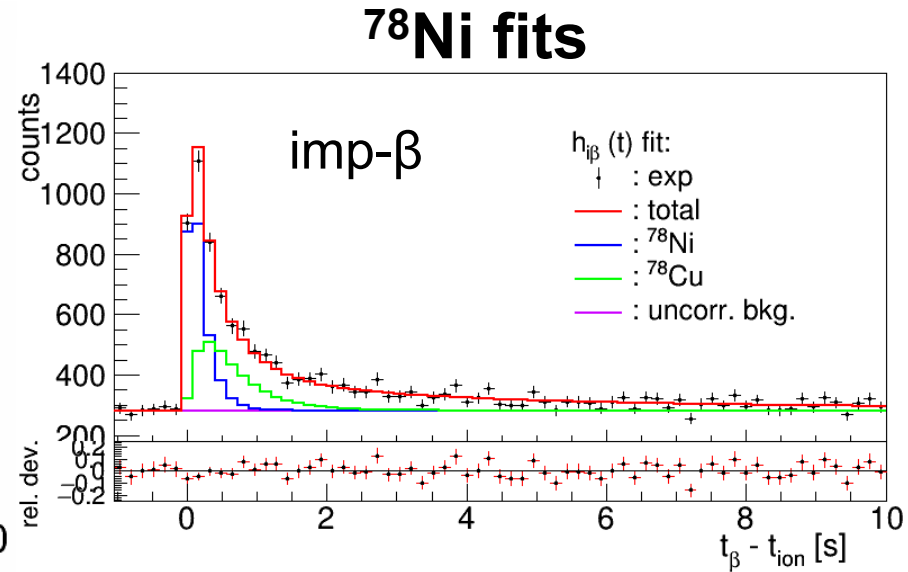
Hosmer et al., PRC 82 (2010) 025806

Z.Y.Xu, PhD Thesis (2014)

Borzov, PRC 71 (2005) 065801

Zhi et al., PRC 87 (2013) 025803

Large spread of the predicted theoretical values

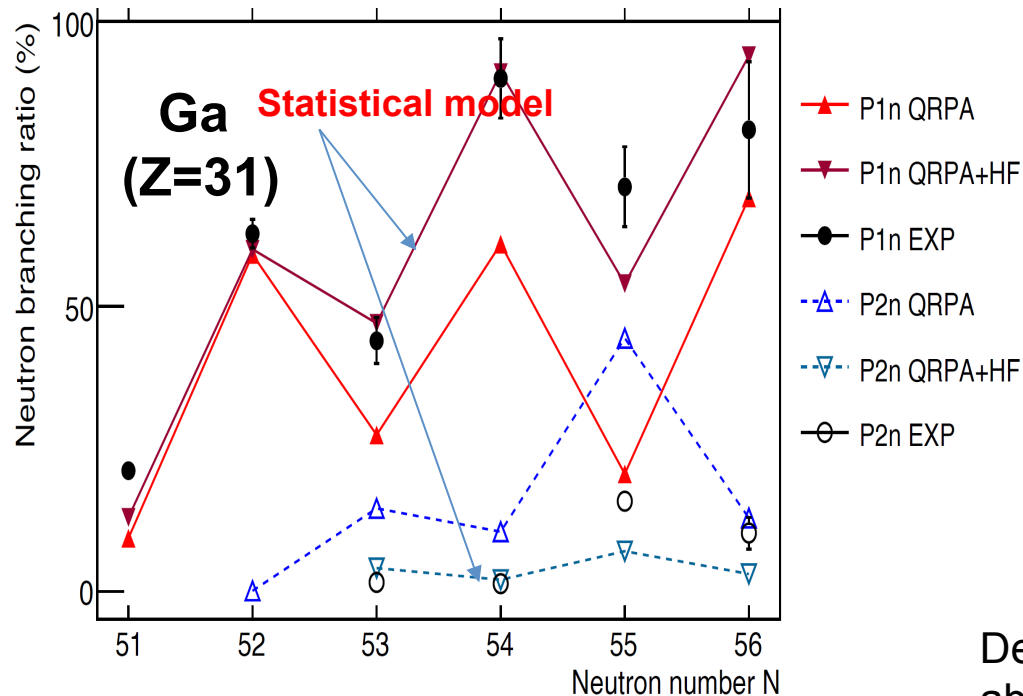


(Analysis by Alvaro Tolosa)

Strong one-neutron emission from two-neutron unbound states in β -decays of $^{86-87}\text{Ga}$ isotopes.

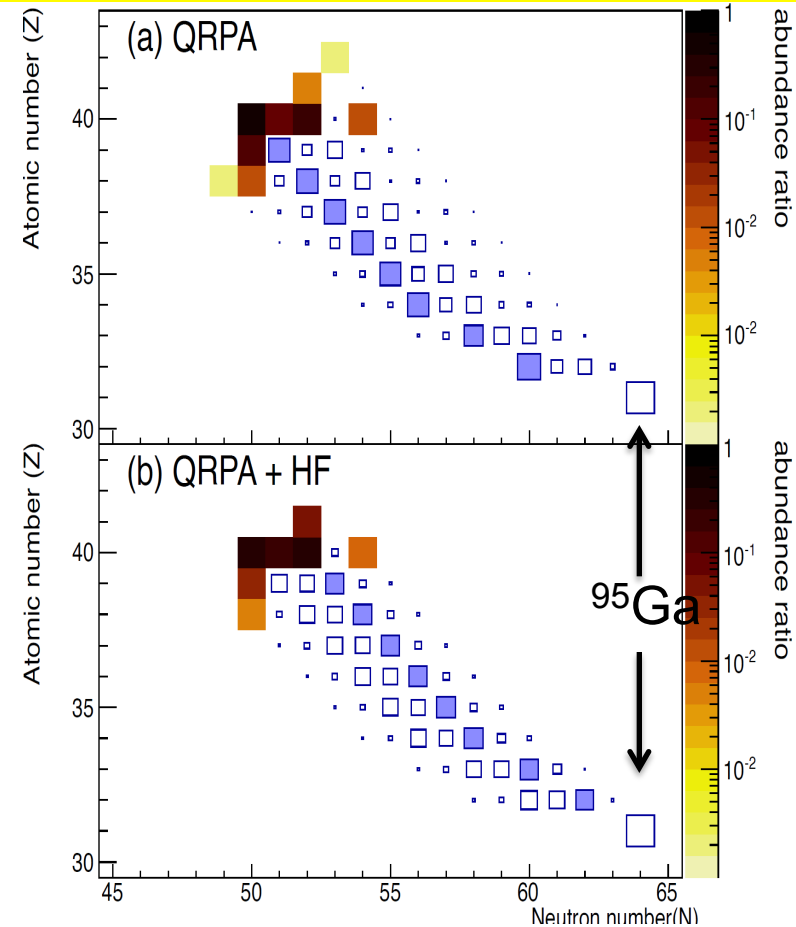
R. Yokoyama et al. submitted to PRL

- New P2n values by BRIKEN are lower than QRPA prediction.
- Inclusion of Hauser-Feshbach statistical model reproduces exp data well.



QRPA: Möller *et al.*, PRC 67 055802 (2003)

QRPA+HF: Möller *et al.*, At. Dat. Nucl. Dat. Tabl. 125 1 (2019)



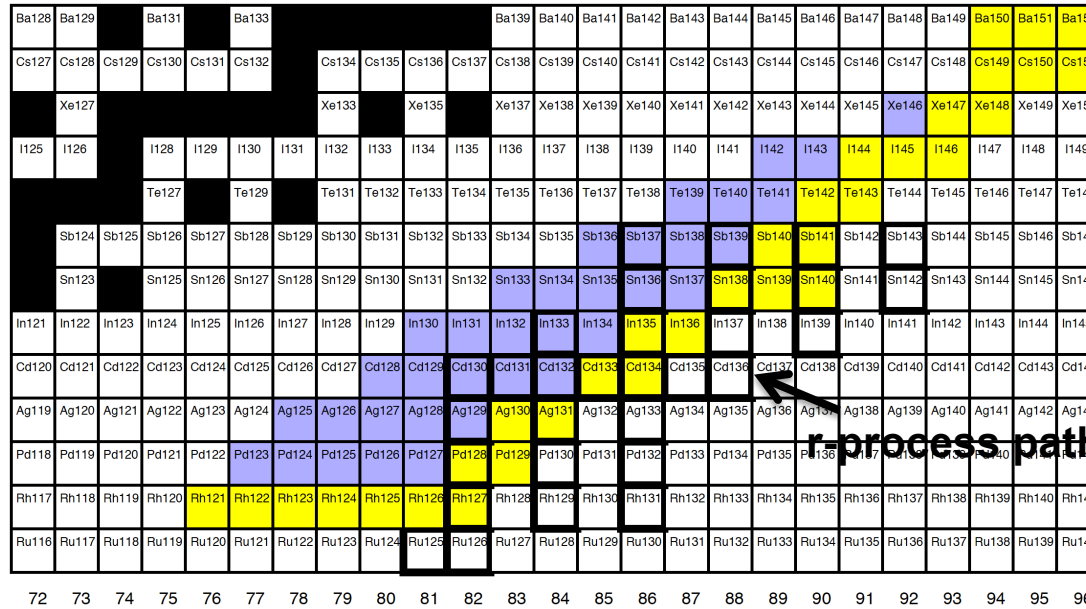
Decay path of ⁹⁵Ga decay chain and the final abundance simulated by using Pxn values by QRPA and QRPA+HF

Inclusion of stat. model changes the r-process abundance calculations significantly

Slide by Yokoyama

Measurement of beta-delayed neutron emission probabilities relevant to the $A = 130$ r-process abundance peak

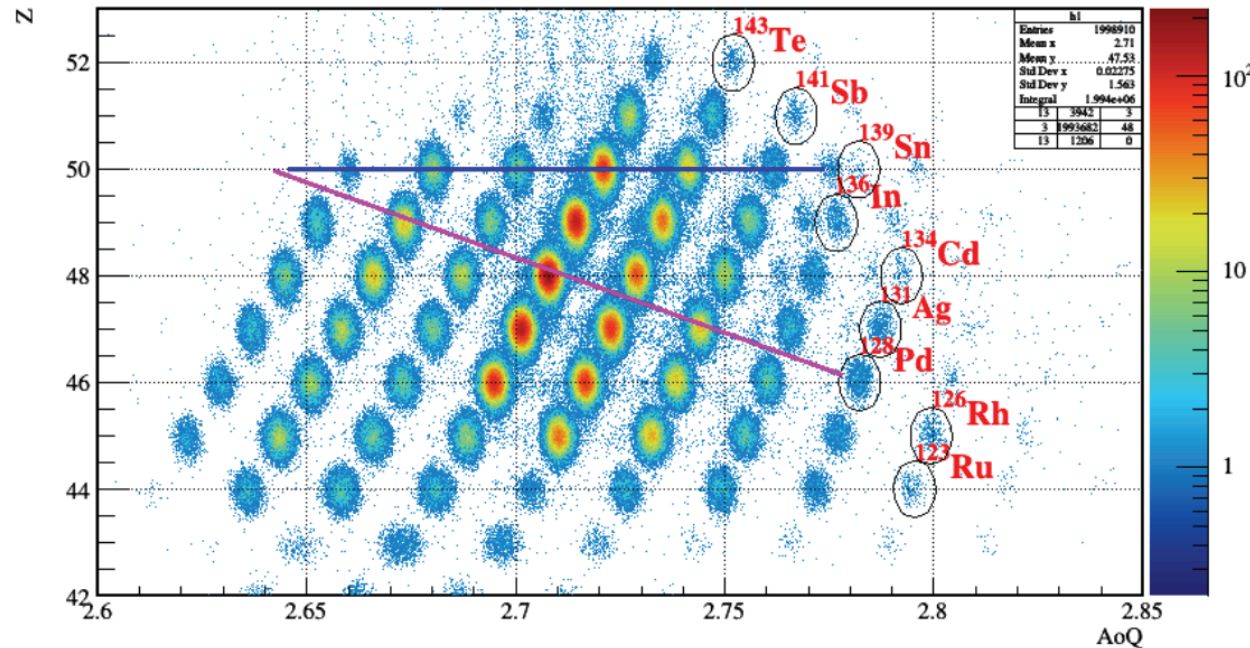
Spokespersons: A. Estrade,
G. Lorusso, F. Montes



aim P_n values

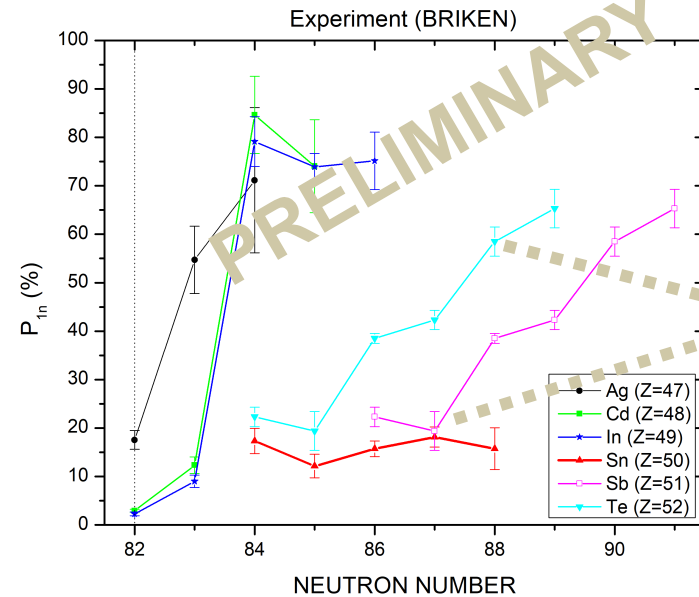
June 2018

Expected outcome:
33 new P1n , 15 new P2n

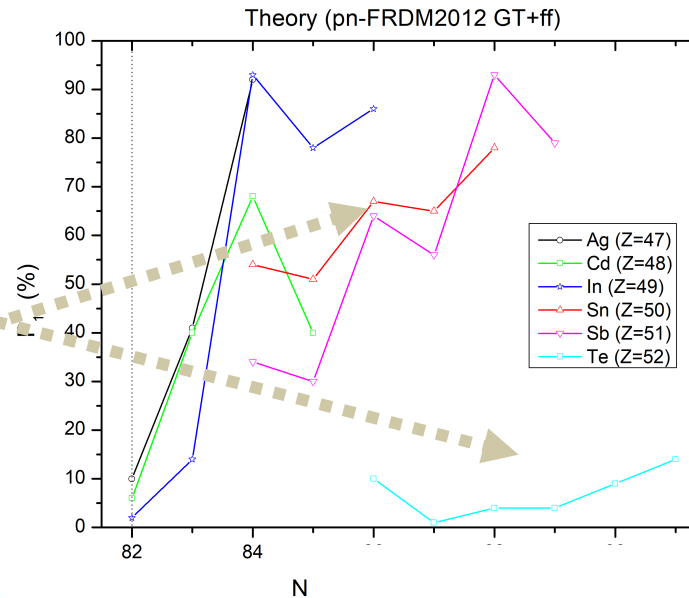


Preliminary impact of $A \sim 130$ P_{1n} values

BRIKEN



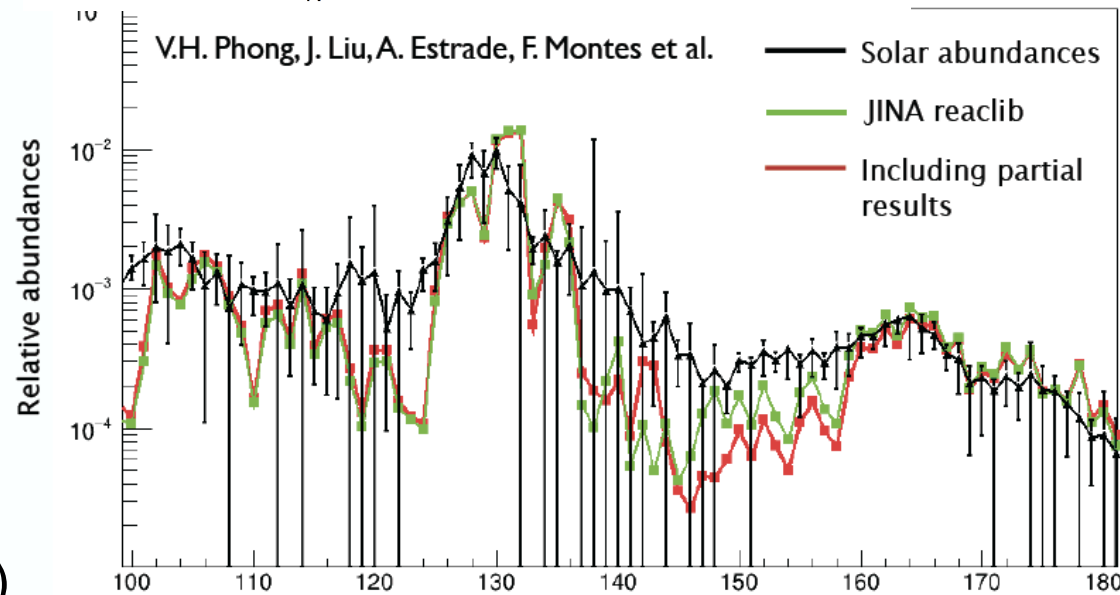
Moeller et al. 2019



Comparison with theory shows marked differences for some isotopic chains

New partial data has significant effect on abundances between 2nd and REP peak

(from Fernando Montes et al.)



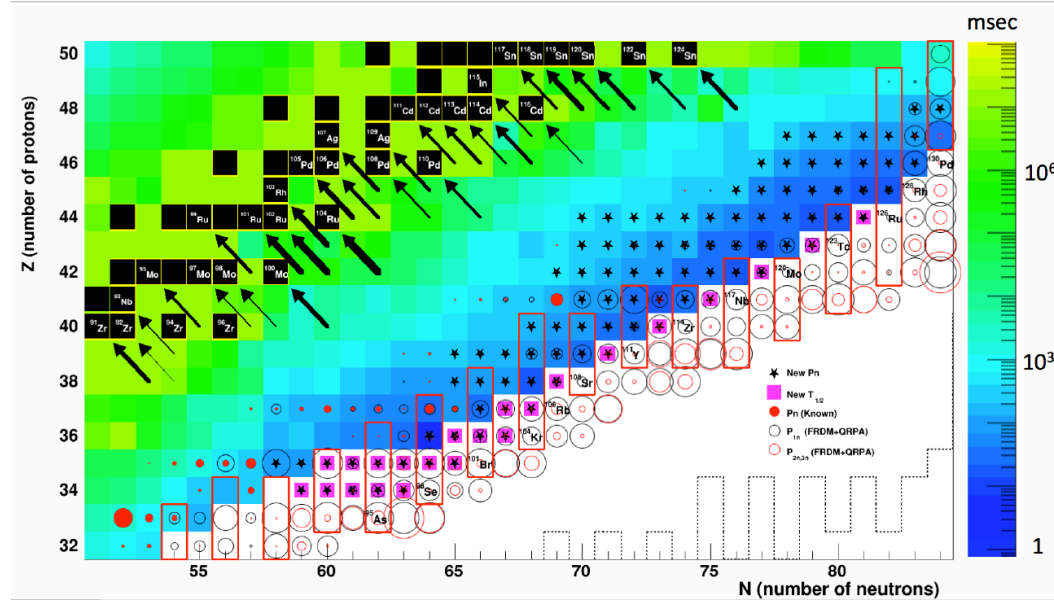
Decay properties of r-process nuclei in deformed region around $A = 100 \sim 125$

Spokespersons: S. Nishimura, A. Algora

Expected outcome:

60 new P1n , 35 new P2n ,
22 new T1/2

November 2017



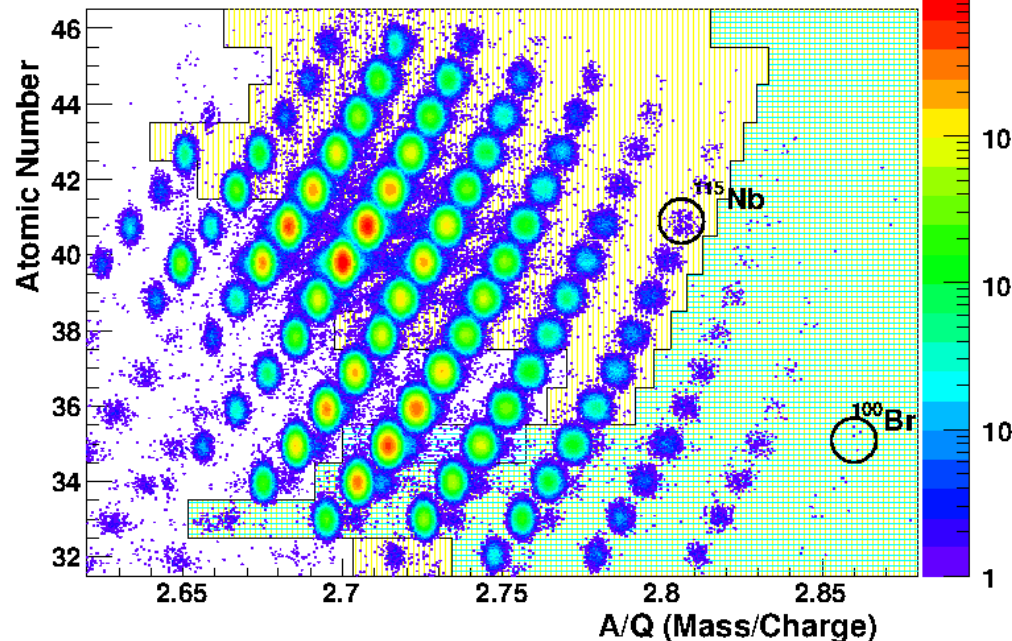
r-process path



P_n Unknown

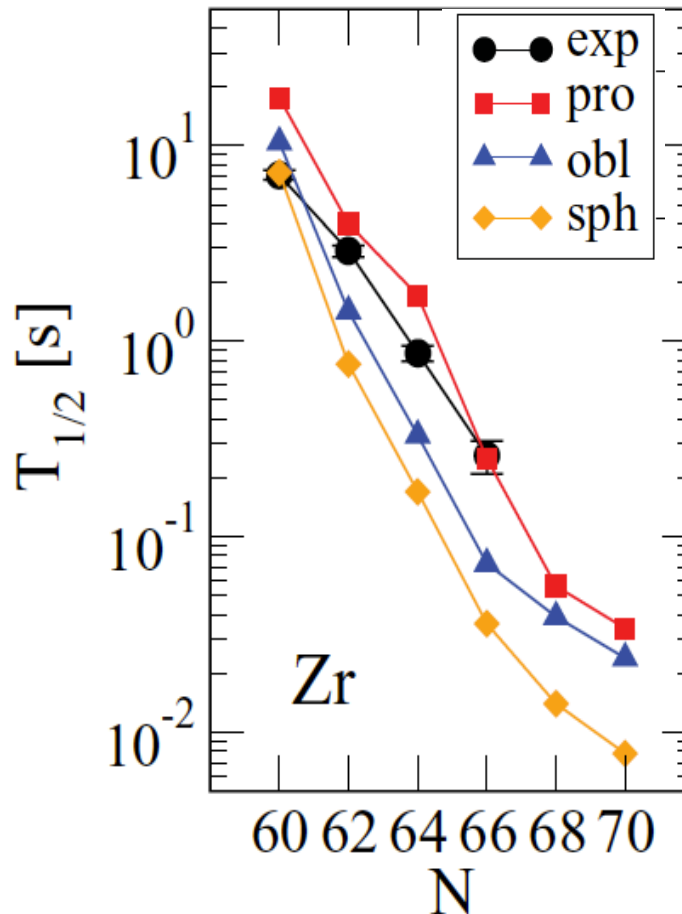
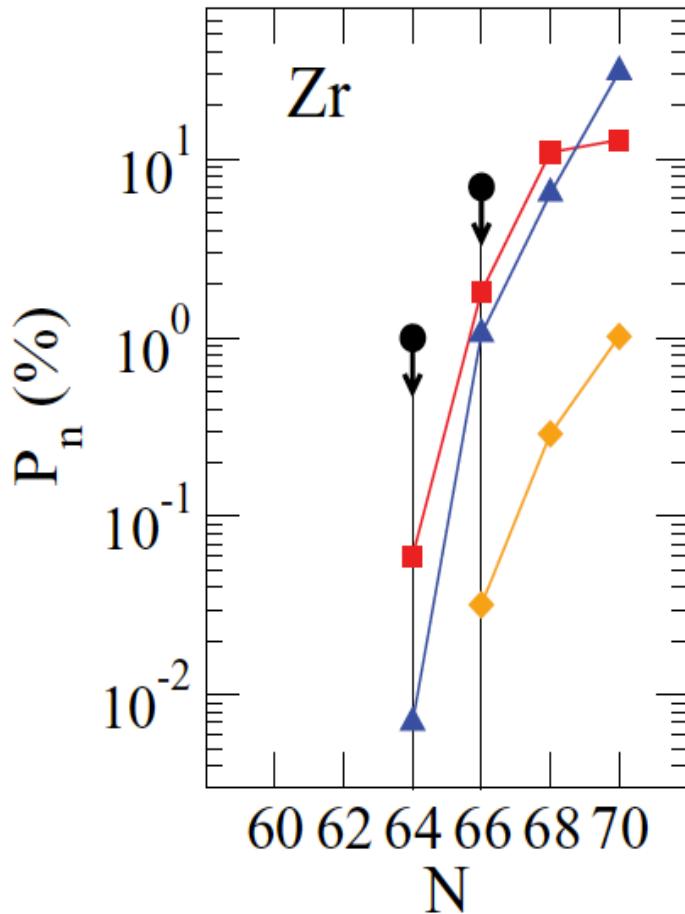
T_{1/2} Unknown

(counts)



(ID plot from S. Nishimura)

Decay properties of r-process nuclei in deformed region around $A = 100 \sim 125$, shape effects



Dependence of the $T_{1/2}$ and P_n values on the deformation of the parent. Example for Zr, similar situation for Mo.

Several questions:

- Transition to oblate shapes for $Z=40$?
- Is there an spherical shell for $N=70$? (astrophysical implications)

QRPA calculations (using SLy4)

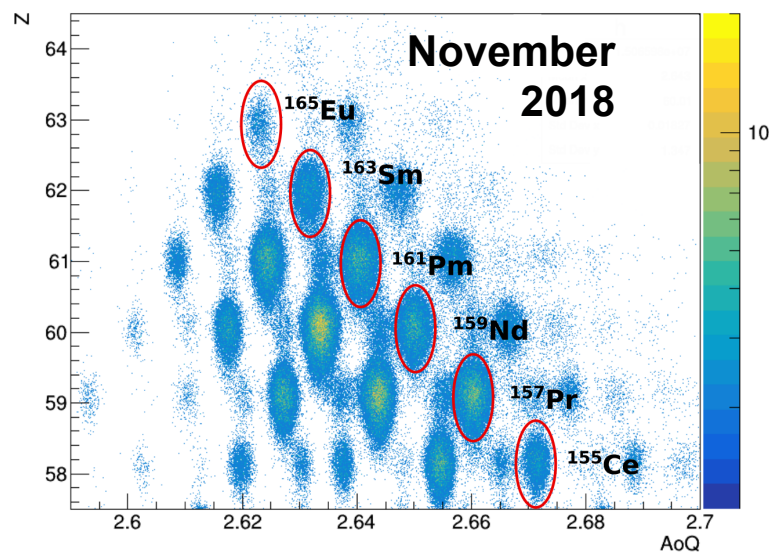
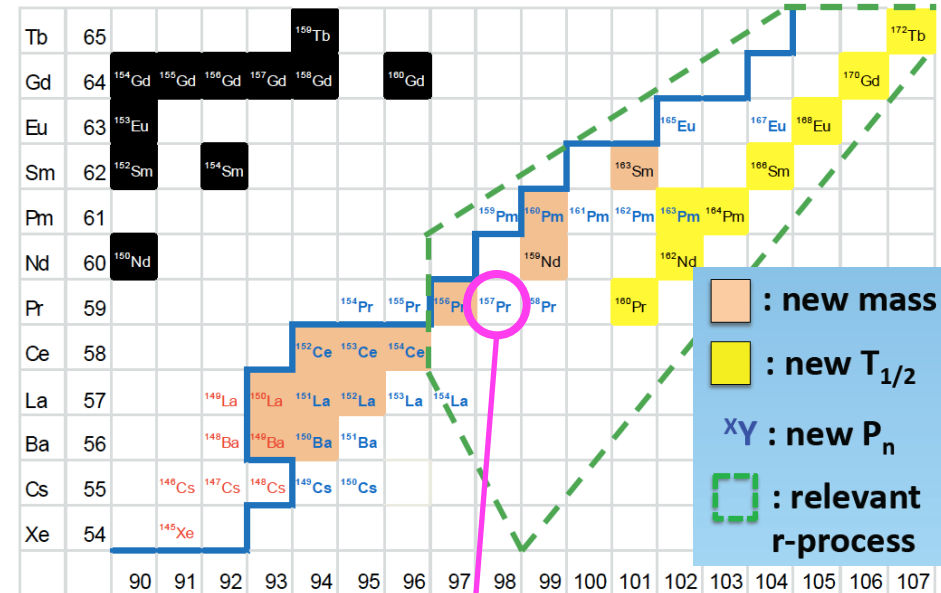
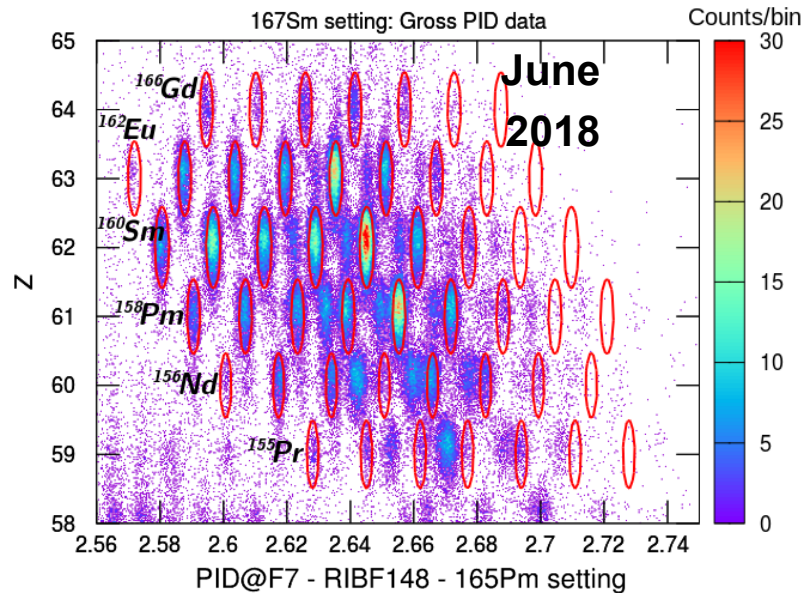
Sarriguren, Pereira PRC **81** (2010) 064314

Sarriguren, Algora, Pereira, PRC **89** (2014) 034311

Masses, half-lives and beta delayed neutron emission probabilities relevant to understand the formation of the rare earth r process peak

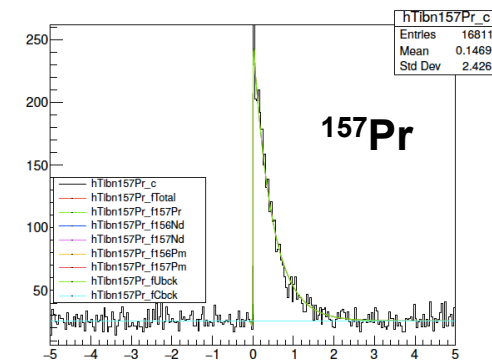
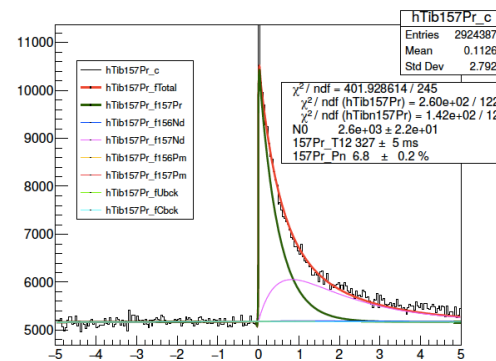
Spokespersons: G. Kiss, A. I. Morales, A. Tarifeño-Saldivia, A. Estrade

Expected outcome: 22 new P_{1n} , 5 new T_{1/2}



Imp- β

Imp- β -1n

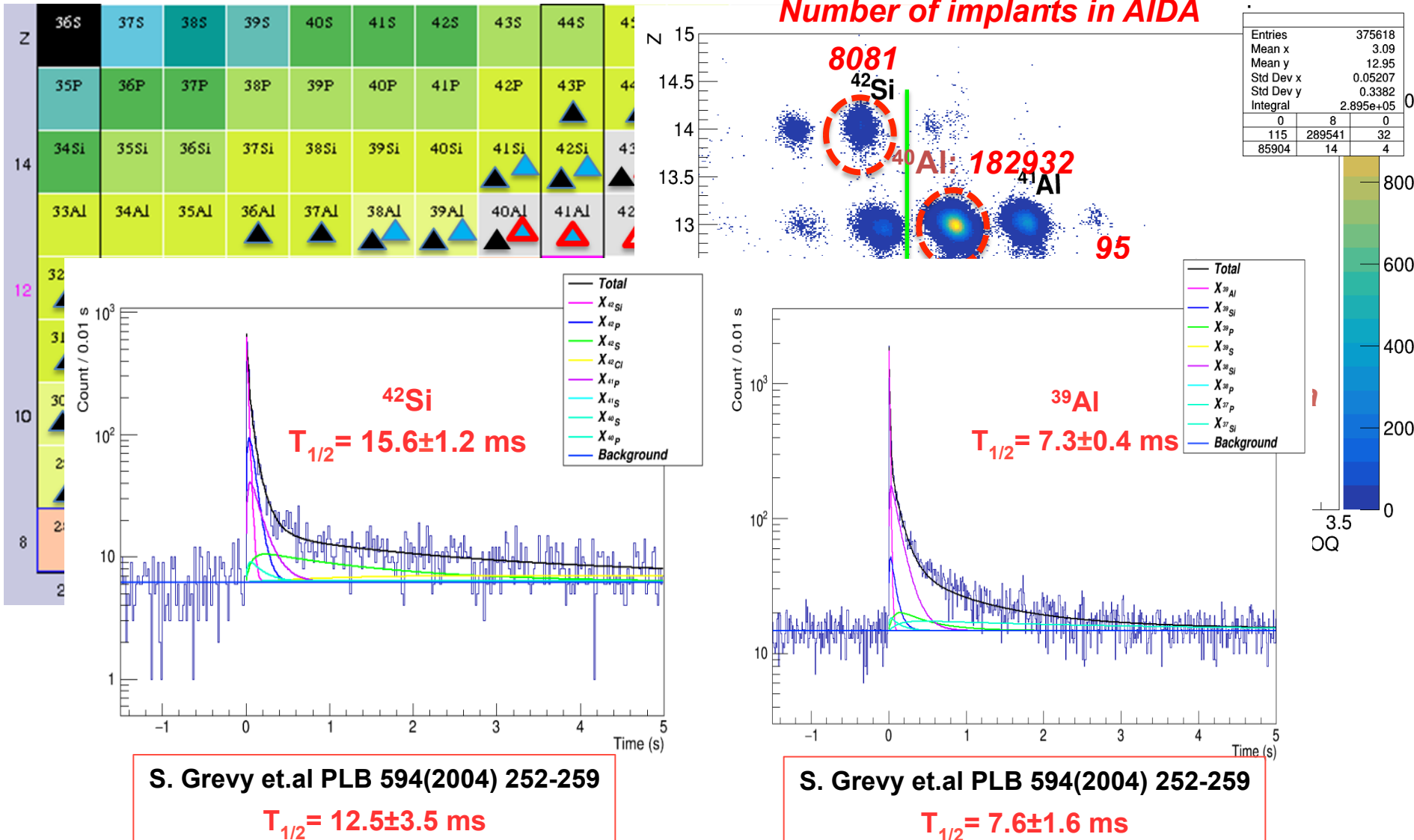


(from Ariel Tarifeño)

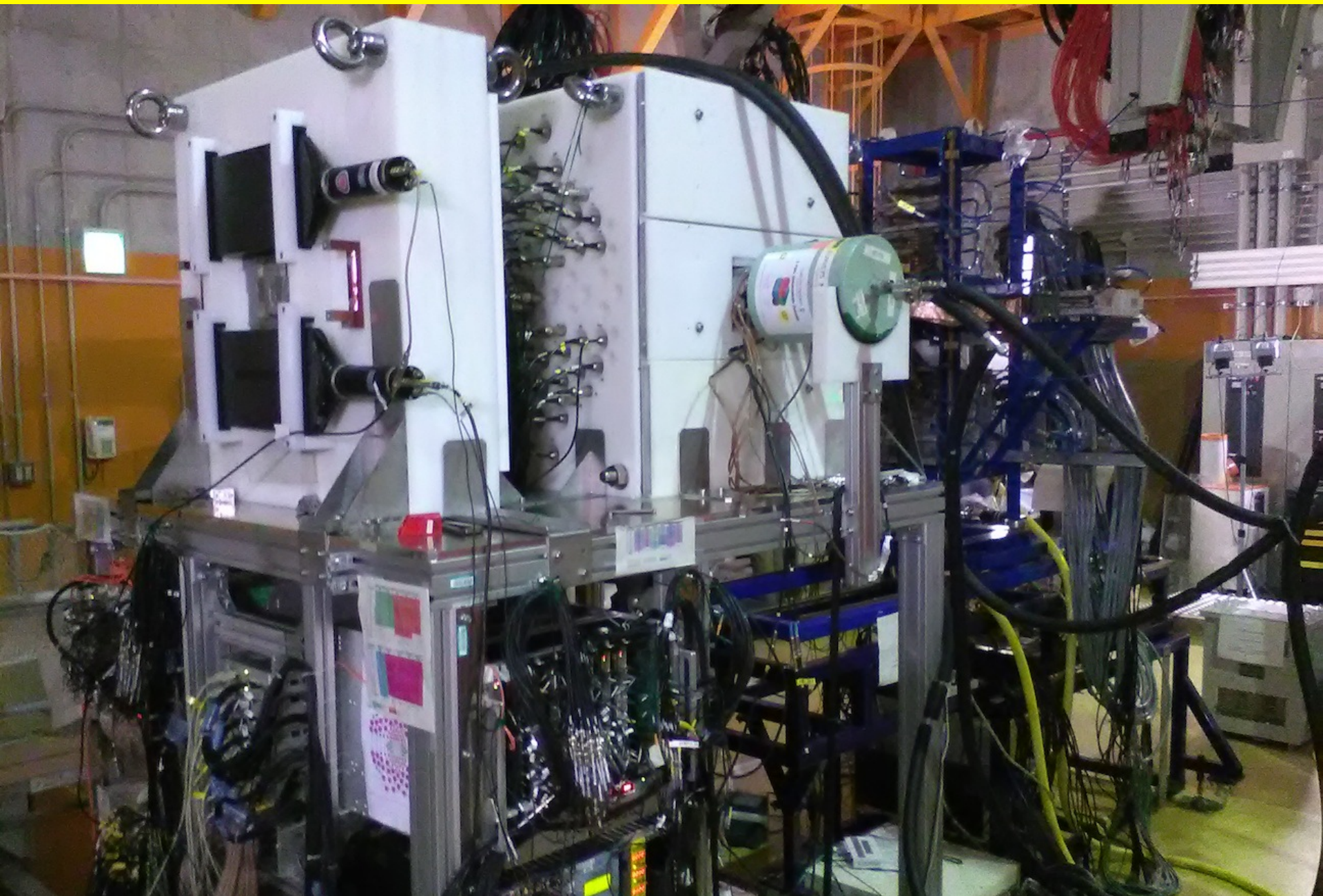
(parasitic measurements done in 2016 & 2017)

Spokespersons: I. Dillmann, G. Kiss

Expected outcome (original experiment): 33 new P1n , 25 new P2n ,17 new P3n, 5 new P4n



BRIKEN itself



Participants/Collaborators

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IAEA

International Atomic Energy Agency
Atoms for Peace and Development

IAEA Coordinated Research Project on Reference Database for beta-delayed neutron emission

2013-2017:

Research Coordination Meeting 1: 26-30 August 2013

Research Coordination Meeting 2: 23-27 March 2015

**Research Coordination Meeting 3: 16-20 October
2016**

Coordinated by P. Dimitriou (IAEA)

Objective

To create a Reference Database for Beta-Delayed Neutron Emission that contains both a compilation of existing data and recommended data for individual precursors and aggregate quantities (nu-bars, group constants)

Final Coord. Research Project summary paper

Development of a Reference Database for Beta-Delayed Neutron Emission

P. Dimitriou,^{1,*} I. Dillmann,^{2,3} B. Singh,⁴ V. Piksaikin,⁵ K.P. Rykaczewski,⁶ J.L. Tain,⁷ A. Algora,⁷ K. Banerjee,⁸ I.N. Borzov,^{9,10} D. Cano-Ott,¹¹ S. Chiba,¹² R. Grzywacz,^{13,6} X. Huang,¹⁴ T. Marketin,¹⁵ F. Minato,¹⁶ G. Mukherjee,⁸ M. Fallot,¹⁷ D. Foligno,¹⁸ B.C. Rasco,⁶ A. Sonzogni,¹⁹ M. Verpelli,¹ A. Egorov,⁵ D. Gremyachkin,⁵ M. Madurga,¹³ E.A. McCutchan,¹⁹ K.V. Mitrofanov,⁵ M. Estienne,¹⁷ L. Giot,¹⁷ M. Narbonne,¹⁷ E. Mendoza,¹¹ P. Romojaró,¹¹ A. Sanchez-Caballero,¹¹ and N. Scielzo²⁰

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Will be published as Nuclear Data Sheets Special Issue (June 2019)

<https://www-nds.iaea.org/beta-delayed-neutron/database.html>

Summary

- BRIKEN has completed 4 experiments of the 6 already approved. Additional proposals might be coming.
- Considerable work has been invested in the development of analysis tools and on the evaluation of systematic errors.
- Large amount of new P_{xn} and $T_{1/2}$ values are expected from these measurements.
- It will provide data to further test theoretical models. First results are coming out
- Increased evidence of the importance of the inclusion of gamma-n competition (need for an statistical model treatment)
- Will contribute dramatically to the improvement of r-process calculations

Expected results

**Isotopes with $Q_{\beta xn} > 0$ based on AME2016
(out of 2451 known nuclei)**

Data taken from P. Dimitriou *et al.* (to be submitted to NDS)

	Identified No of isotopes	Measured No of isotopes	Meas. fraction	Expected BRIKEN results
$\beta 1n$	631	298	48.0 %	+ ~250
$\beta 2n$	300	23	7.7 %	+ ~50
$\beta 3n$	138	4	2.9 %	+ ~10
$\beta 4n$	58	1	1.7 %	+ ~5

THANK YOU

Many slides and contributions from: I. Dillman, J. L. Tain, G. Kiss, F. Montes, A. Tarifeño, R. Yokoyama, C. Rasco, N. Neerajan, S. Nishimura, A. Estrade

Discussions with : A. Tolosa, J. L. Tain

