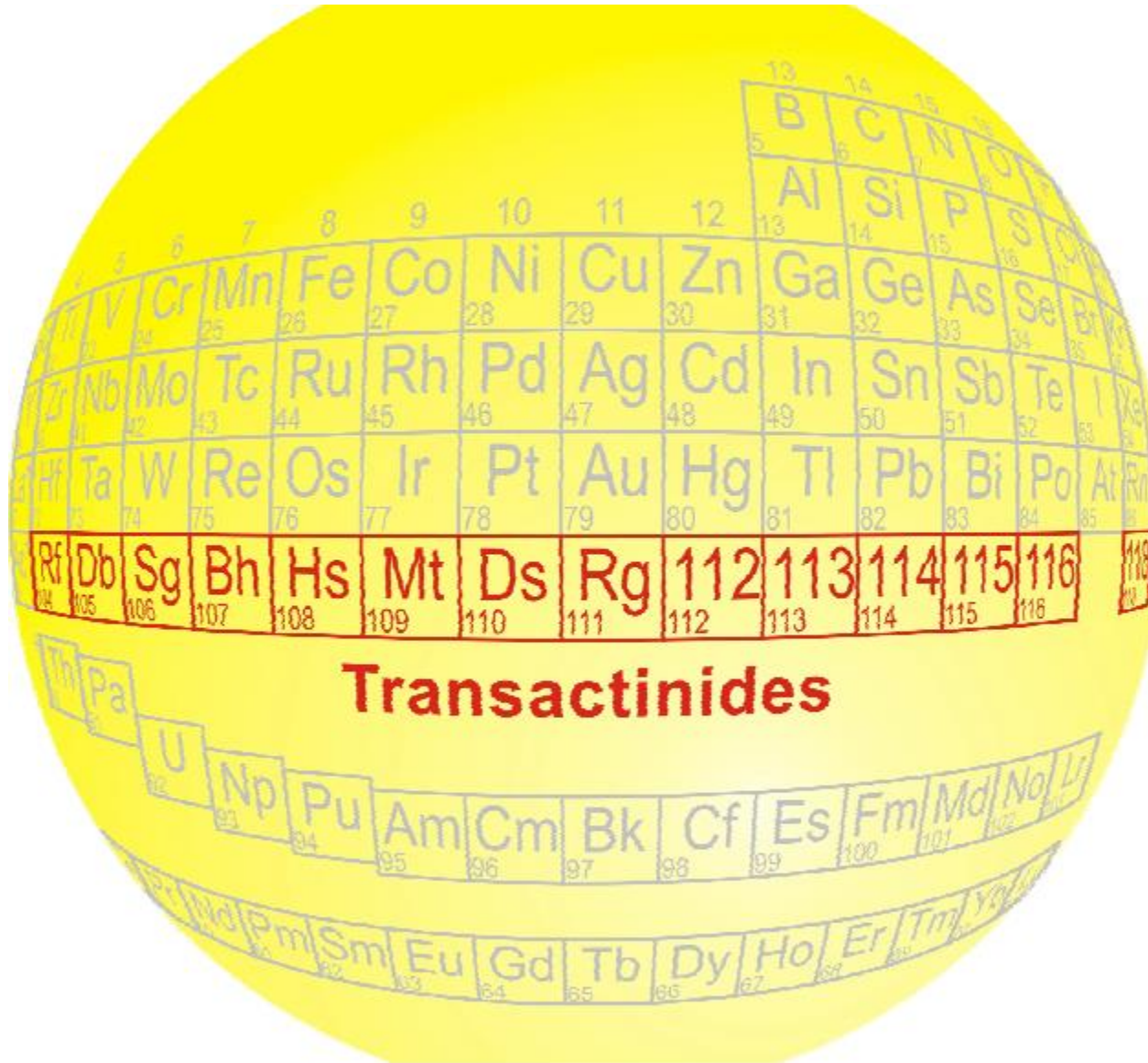


Super Heavy Elements



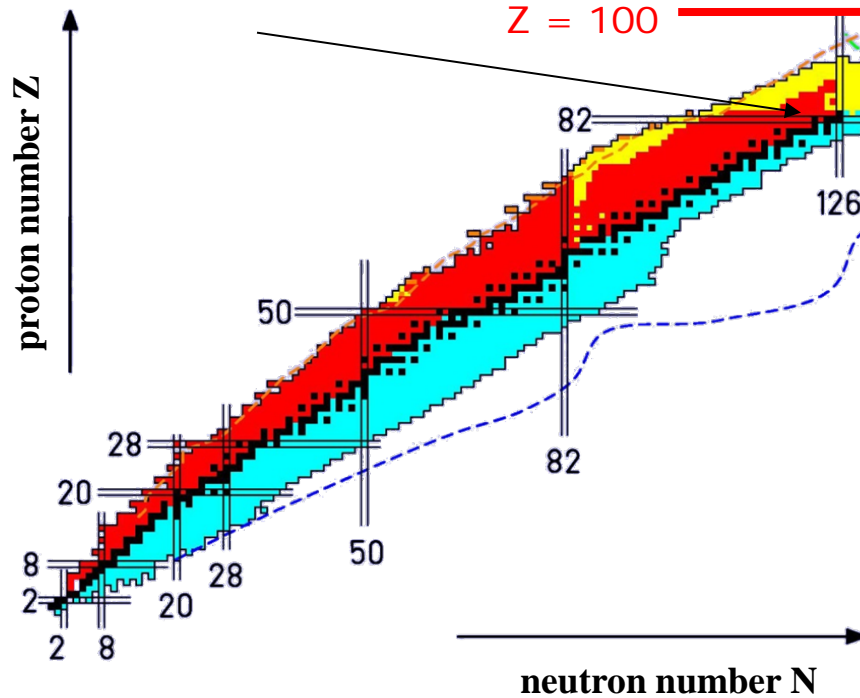
The Chart of Nuclides

- the "Playground" for Nuclear Physics

chart of nuclides:

- representation of isotopes in the Z-N plane
- isotope: atom (nucleus) of an element with different number of neutrons

Pb (lead) and Bi (bismuth)



? island of stability

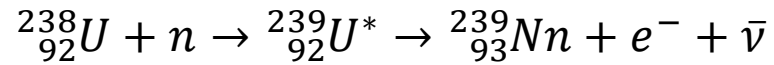
126
120
114 stabilisation via shell effects

184

SHE

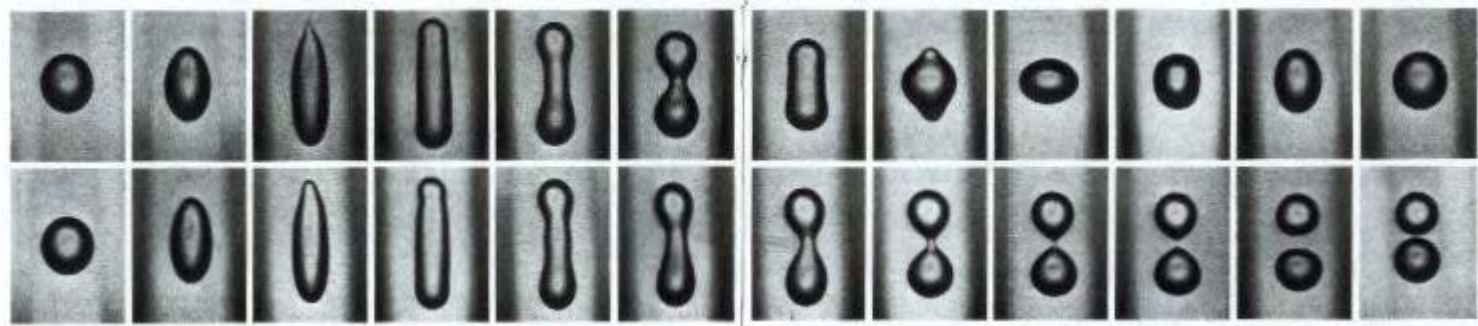
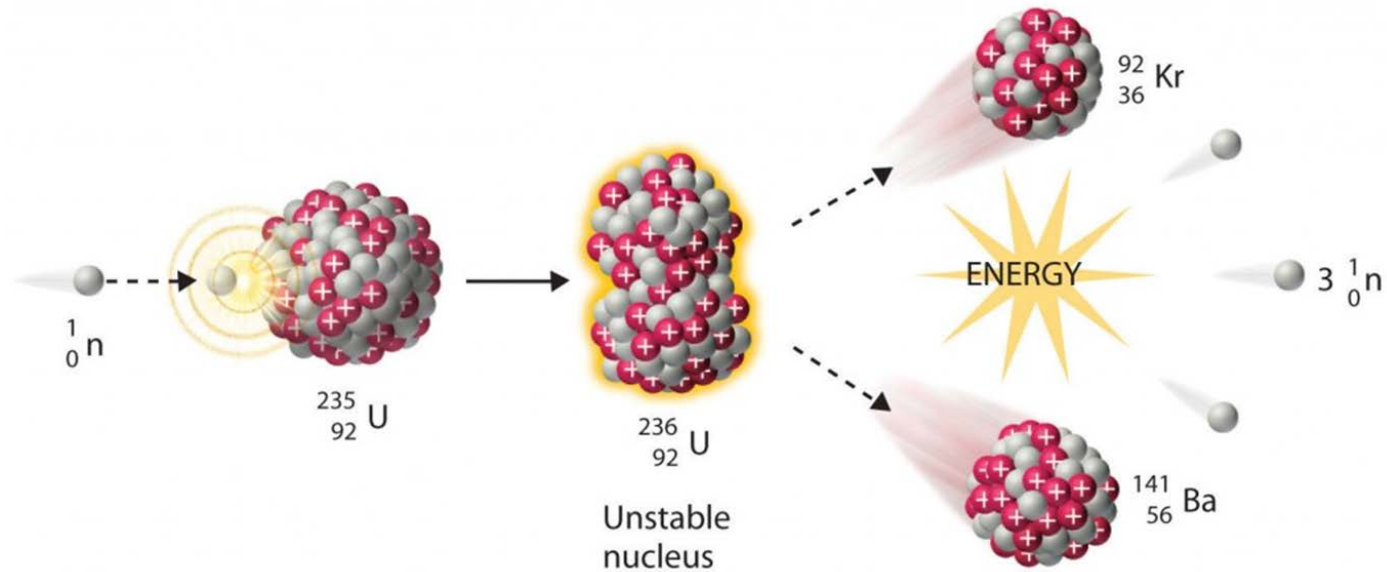
- black:** stable isotope
- red:** β^+ -unstable isotope
- blue:** β^- -unstable isotope
- yellow:** α -unstable isotope
- green:** spontaneous fission

Search for transurane (1934)



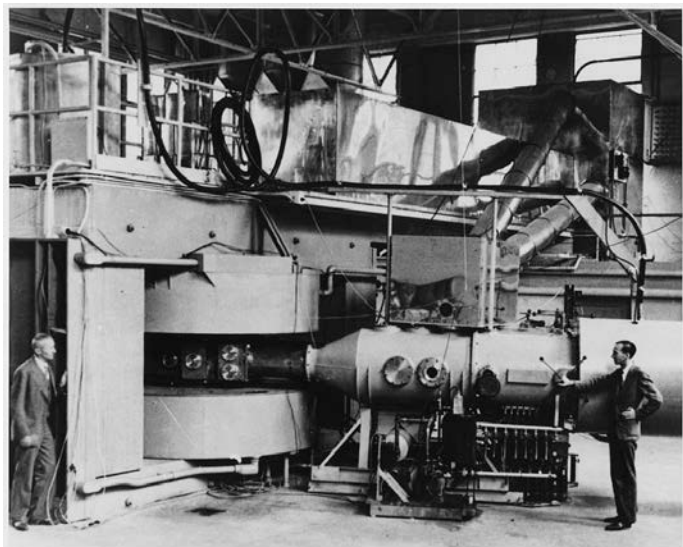
Otto Hahn and Lise Meitner

Discovery of nuclear fission (1938)



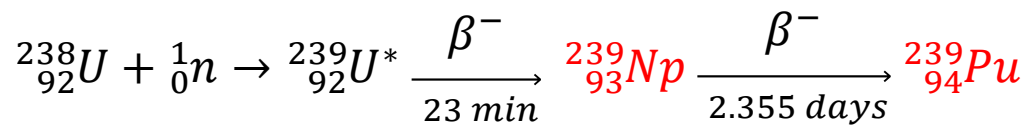
Liquid drop model: G. Gamow; Proc. Roy. Soc. London A123, 373 (1929)
N. Bohr & J.A. Wheeler; Phys. Rev. 56, 426 (1939)

Transuranium elements (1940)

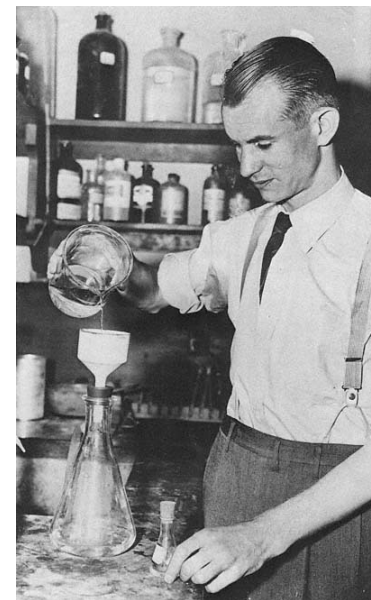


60-inch cyclotron (Berkeley, 1939)

H_2^+ , 2H & 4He beams ($Q/A = 1/2$)



Neptunium sphere
with Ni clad in U shells

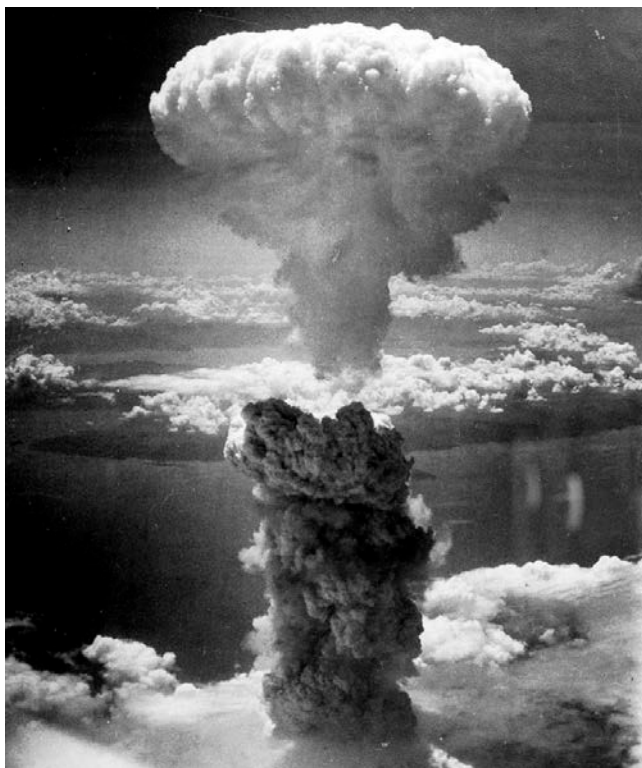
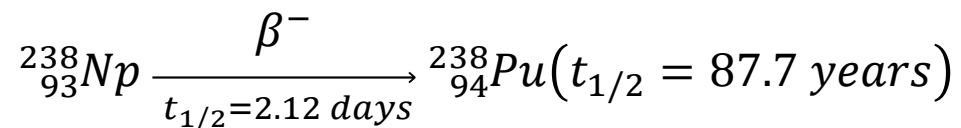
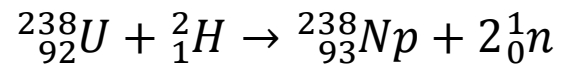


Edwin M. McMillan



Philip H. Abelson

Making new elements by simple reactions



Joseph W. Kennedy 1940



Arthur C. Wahl and
Glenn T. Seaborg (1966)

Making new elements with nuclear weapons

- ❖ The discovery of elements 99 (Md) and 100 (Fm)

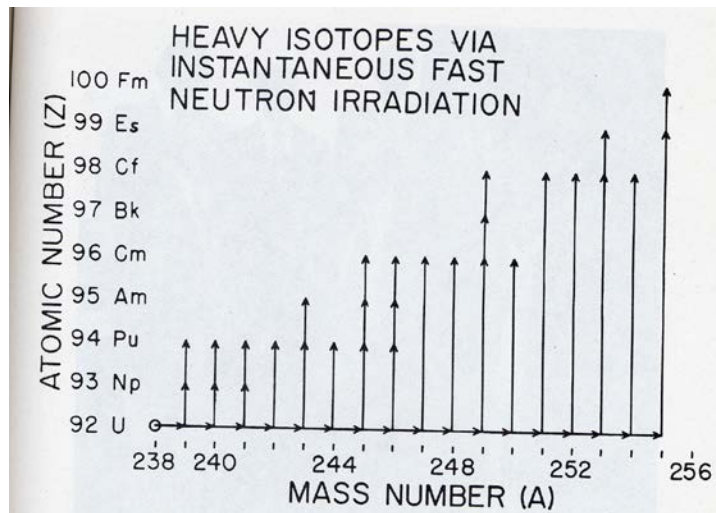


TABLE 6.1 Neutron Addition Paths to Transuranium Synthesis (Cra 74)

| Neutron Addition Process | Neutron Flux ($\text{n/cm}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$) | Reaction Time | Neutron Exposure (n/cm^2) | Average Neutron Energy (keV) |
|--------------------------|---|----------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| High flux reactor | $\approx 5 \times 10^{15}$ | 0.5 years | $\approx 10^{23}$ | 2.5×10^{-5} |
| Stellar s process | $\approx 10^{16}$ | $\approx 10^3$ years | $\approx 10^{26}$ | ≈ 10 |
| Stellar r process | $\geq 10^{27}$ | 1-100 s | $> 10^{27}$ | ≈ 100 |
| Nuclear explosion | $> 10^{31}$ | $< 10^{-6}$ s | $\approx 10^{25}$ | ≈ 20 |

MIKE

MIKE-2

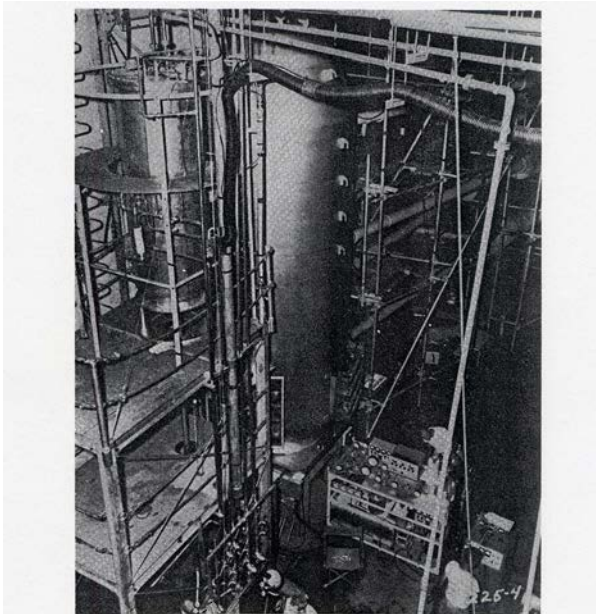
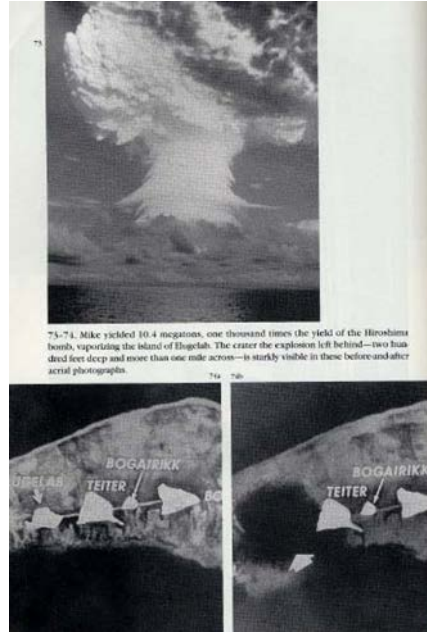
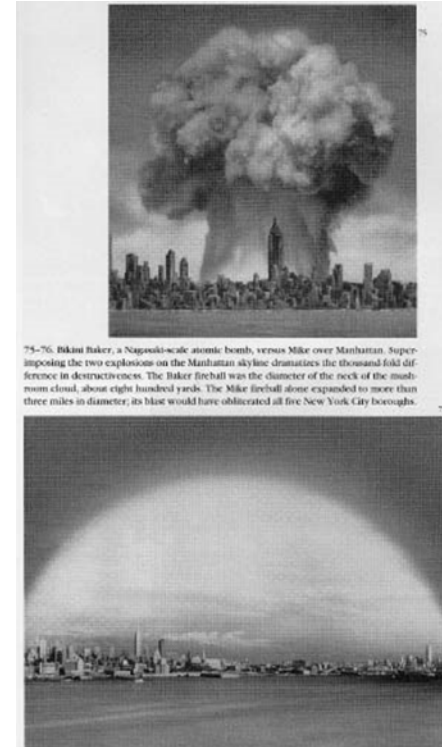


Figure 2.9 Closeup view of Mike device with its associated cryogenic equipment.



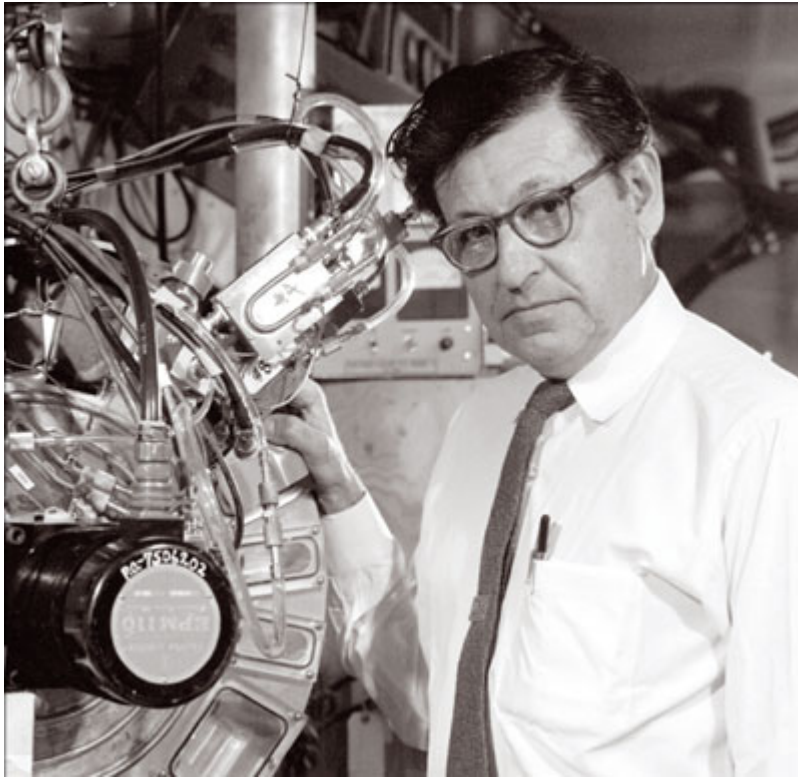
71-71. Mike yielded 10.4 megatons, one thousand times the yield of the Hiroshima bomb, vaporizing the island of Hugelab. The crater the explosion left behind—two hundred feet deep and more than one mile across—is starkly visible in these before-and-after aerial photographs.



75-76. Baker Baker, a Nagasaki-scale atomic bomb, versus Mike over Manhattan. Superimposing the two explosions on the Manhattan skyline dramatizes the thousand-fold difference in destructiveness. The Baker fireball was the diameter of the neck of the mushroom cloud, about eight hundred yards. The Mike fireball alone expanded to more than three miles in diameter; its blast would have obliterated all five New York City boroughs.

Samples of the bomb debris were collected on filter papers by aircraft flying through the mushroom cloud

Using heavy ion reactions to make new elements – the Berkeley area



Albert Ghiorso



Glenn Seaborg

Synthesis of elements 101 - 106

- ❖ Making elements one atom at a time
- ❖ $^{254}\text{Es} + ^4\text{He} \rightarrow ^{256}\text{Md} + n$

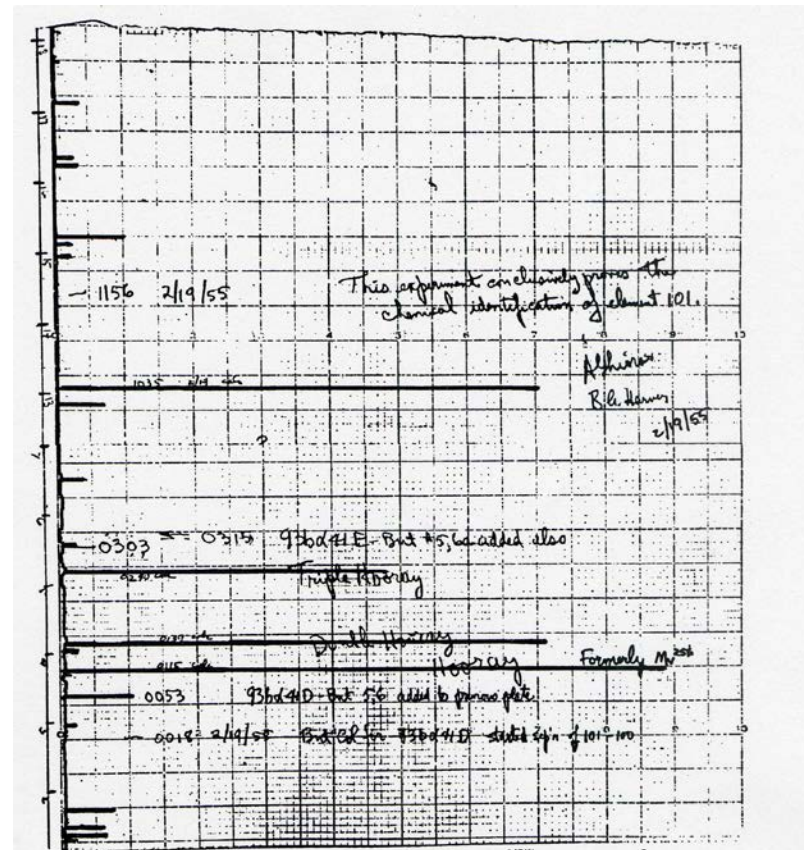
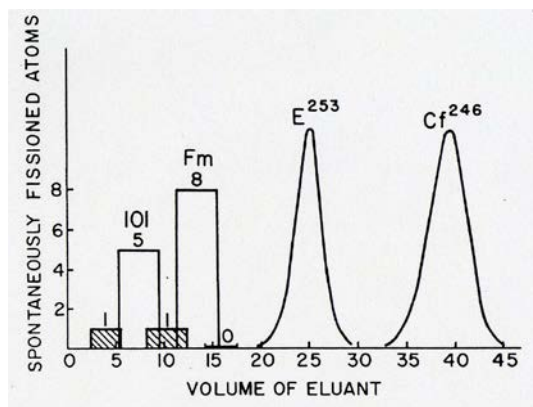
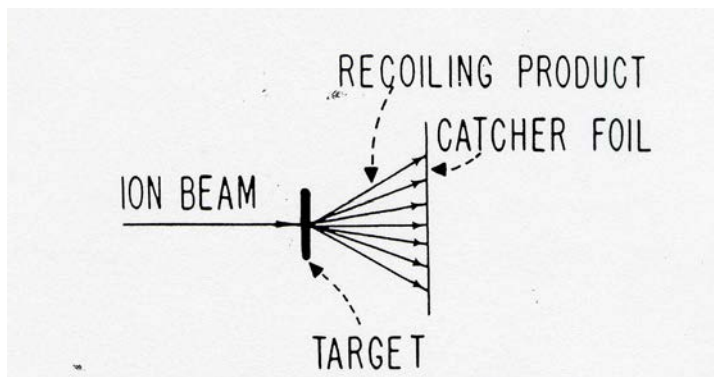


Figure 2.20 The ionization recording chart showing the first four events of the disintegration of mendelevium. The ordinate is the event time while the abscissa is the intensity of the ionization. The four pulses occurred at 1:15 a.m., 1:37 a.m., 2:40 a.m., and 10:35 a.m. on February 19, 1955. At 11:56 a.m., Ghiorso and Harvey made a note directly in the chart: "This experiment conclusively proves the chemical identification of element 101."

Hot fusion (1961-1974)

successful up to element 106 (Seaborgium)

- **Coulomb barrier** V_C between projectile and target nucleus has to be exceeded

$$V_C = \frac{Z_p \cdot Z_t \cdot e^2}{R_{int}} = 126.2 \text{ MeV} \quad ({}^{26}\text{Mg} + {}^{248}\text{Cm})$$

- reaction: $a + A \rightarrow C^* \rightarrow B + b$

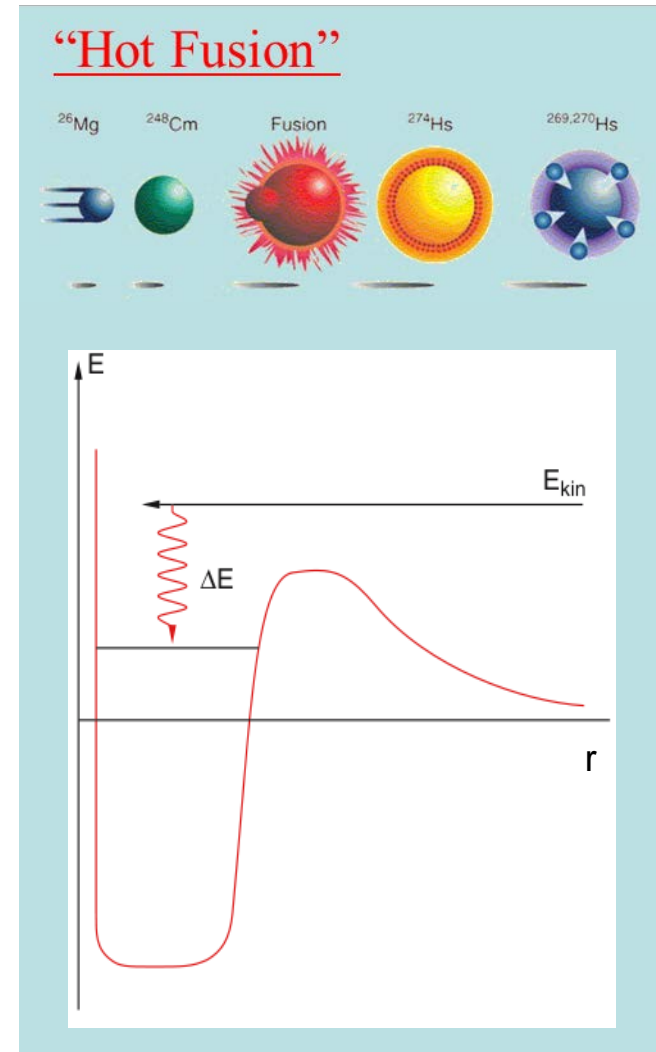
$$\Delta m = m_a + m_A - m_{CN}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta m &= (25.983 + 248.072 - 274.143) \cdot 931.478 \text{ MeV}/c^2 \\ &= -82.153 \text{ MeV}/c^2 \end{aligned}$$

- excitation energy of compound nucleus

$$E^* = E_{kin} + \Delta m \cdot c^2 = 126.2 \text{ MeV} - 82.2 \text{ MeV} = \mathbf{44.0 \text{ MeV}}$$

- approximate 4 neutrons will be evaporated to avoid fission



The problem

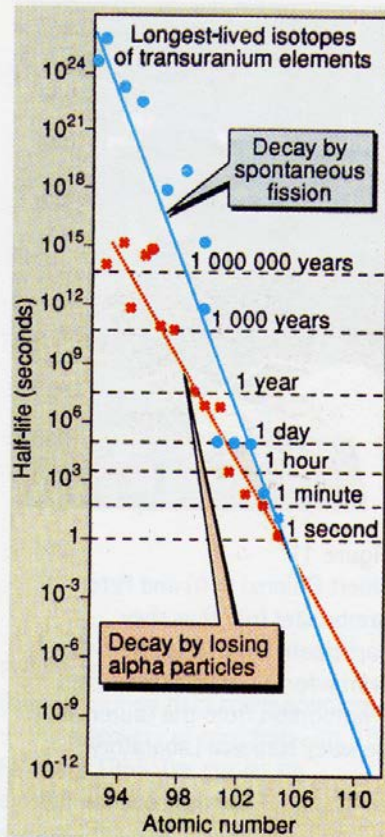


Figure 13
The half-lives of the longest-lived isotope of each element versus atomic number Z , circa 1970.

| element | name | longest-lived isotope | half-life [s] |
|---------|---------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 95 | Americium | ^{243}Am | $2.3 \cdot 10^{11}$ |
| 96 | Curium | ^{247}Cm | $5.0 \cdot 10^{14}$ |
| 97 | Berkelium | ^{247}Bk | $3.2 \cdot 10^{10}$ |
| 98 | Californium | ^{251}Cf | $2.8 \cdot 10^{10}$ |
| 99 | Einsteinium | ^{252}Es | $4.1 \cdot 10^7$ |
| 100 | Fermium | ^{257}Fm | $8.7 \cdot 10^6$ |
| 101 | Mendelevium | ^{258}Md | $4.4 \cdot 10^6$ |
| 102 | Nobelium | ^{259}No | $3.5 \cdot 10^3$ |
| 103 | Lawrencium | ^{266}Lr | $3.6 \cdot 10^4$ |
| 104 | Rutherfordium | ^{267}Rf | $4.7 \cdot 10^3$ |
| 105 | Dubnium | ^{268}Db | $1.1 \cdot 10^5$ |
| 106 | Seaborgium | ^{269}Sg | $1.8 \cdot 10^2$ |
| 107 | Bohrium | ^{270}Bh | $6.0 \cdot 10^1$ |
| 108 | Hassium | ^{277}Hs | $3.0 \cdot 10^1$ |
| 109 | Meitnerium | ^{278}Mt | $4.0 \cdot 10^0$ |
| 110 | Darmstadtium | ^{281}Ds | $1.4 \cdot 10^1$ |
| 111 | Roentgenium | ^{282}Rg | $1.2 \cdot 10^2$ |
| 112 | Copernicium | ^{285}Cn | $3.0 \cdot 10^1$ |
| 113 | Nihonium | ^{286}Nh | $8.0 \cdot 10^0$ |
| 114 | Flerovium | ^{289}Fl | $2.0 \cdot 10^0$ |
| 115 | Moscovium | ^{290}Mc | $8.0 \cdot 10^{-1}$ |
| 116 | Livermorium | ^{293}Lv | $6.0 \cdot 10^{-2}$ |
| 117 | Tennessine | ^{294}Ts | $5.0 \cdot 10^{-2}$ |
| 118 | Oganesson | ^{294}Og | $7.0 \cdot 10^{-4}$ |

The solution – The Darmstadt Era

- ❖ “Cold fusion” reactions
- ❖ Bombarding Pb or Bi with heavy ions – the resulting species are borne “cold”
- with low excitation energies – they survive better



Peter Armbruster



Gottfried Münzenberg



Sigurd Hofmann

Cold fusion (1981-1996)

- **Coulomb barrier** V_C between projectile and target nucleus has to be exceeded

$$V_C = \frac{Z_p \cdot Z_t \cdot e^2}{R_{int}} = 223.3 \text{ MeV} \quad ({}^{58}\text{Fe} + {}^{208}\text{Pb})$$

- reaction: $a + A \rightarrow C^* \rightarrow B + b$

$$\Delta m = m_a + m_A - m_{CN}$$

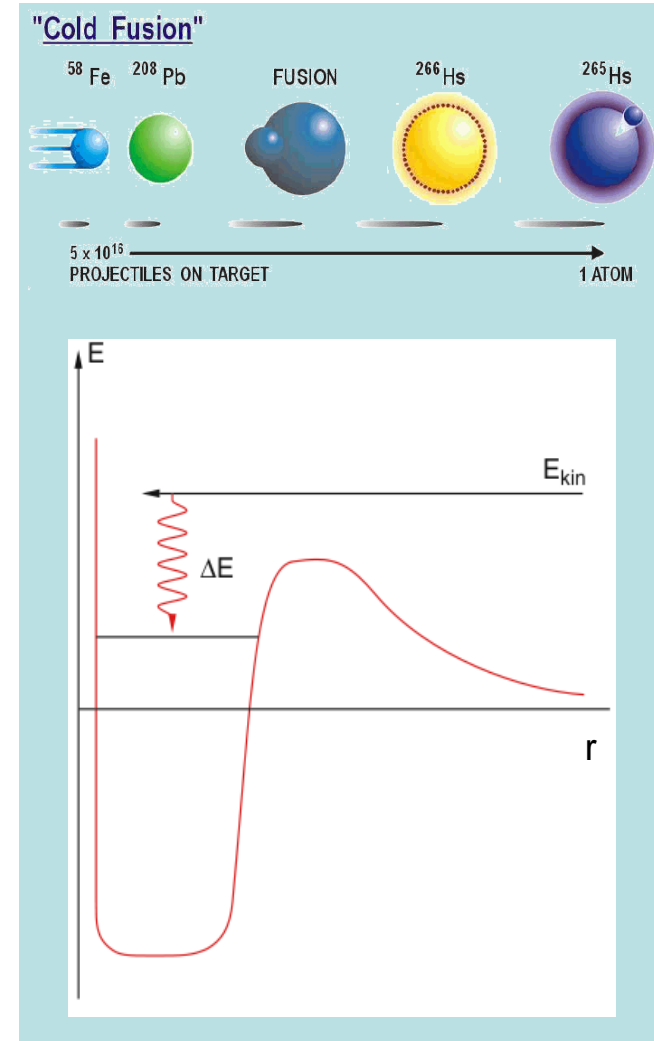
$$\begin{aligned} \Delta m &= (57.933 + 207.977 - 266.130) \cdot 931.478 \text{ MeV}/c^2 \\ &= -205.045 \text{ MeV}/c^2 \end{aligned}$$

- excitation energy of compound nucleus

$$E^* = E_{kin} + \Delta m \cdot c^2 = 223.3 \text{ MeV} - 205.0 \text{ MeV} = \mathbf{18.2 \text{ MeV}}$$

- approximate 1-2 neutrons will be evaporated to avoid fission

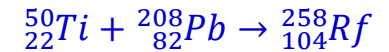
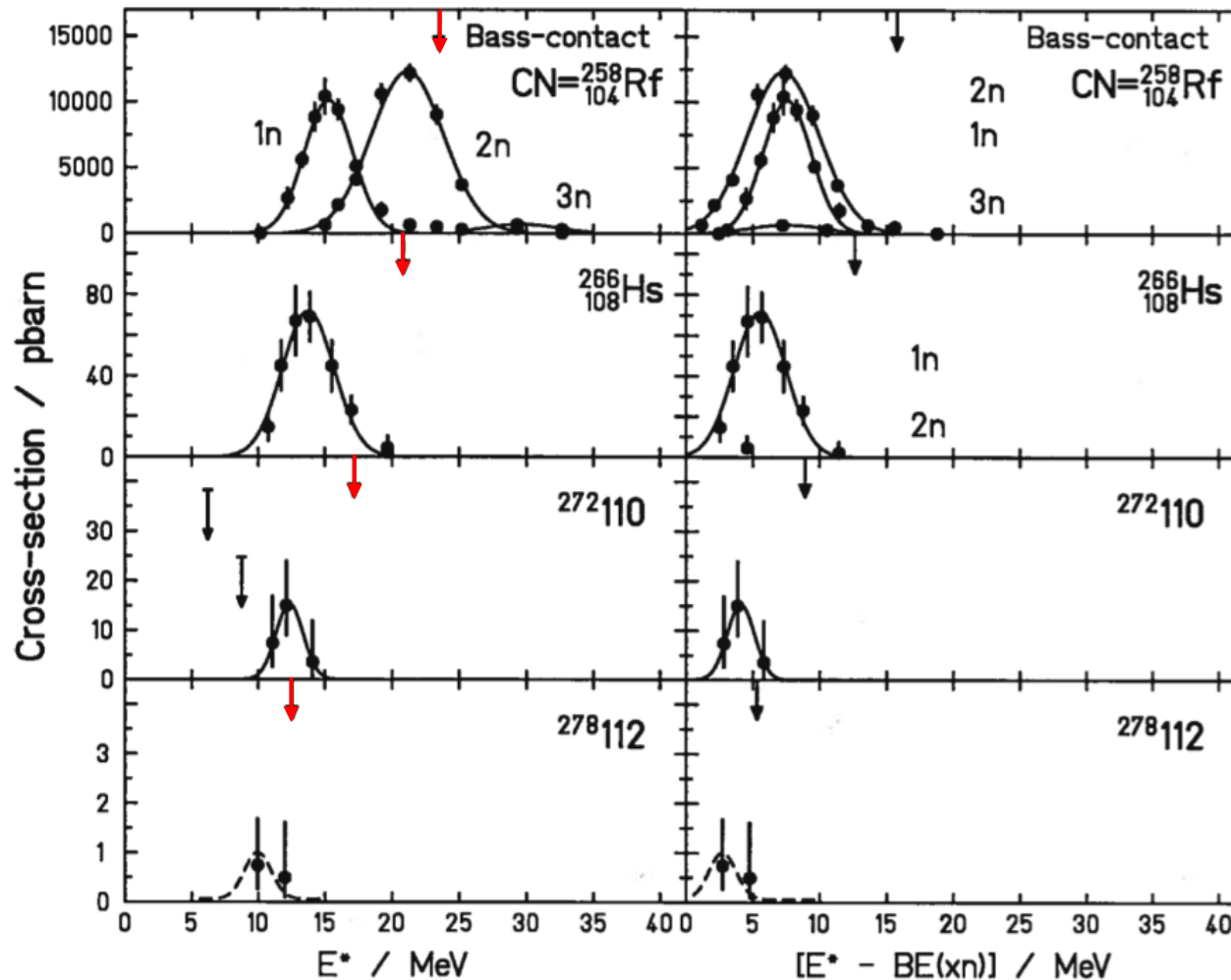
| reaction | Q_{gg} (MeV) | $V_C(R_{int})$ (MeV) | E^* (MeV) |
|--|----------------|----------------------|-------------|
| ${}^{48}_{20}\text{Ca} + {}^{208}_{82}\text{Pb} \rightarrow {}^{256}_{102}\text{No}$ | -153.796 | 175.05 | 21.25 |
| ${}^{54}_{24}\text{Cr} + {}^{209}_{83}\text{Bi} \rightarrow {}^{263}_{107}\text{Bh}$ | -189.911 | 210.00 | 20.09 |
| ${}^{58}_{26}\text{Fe} + {}^{208}_{82}\text{Pb} \rightarrow {}^{266}_{108}\text{Hs}$ | -205.045 | 223.31 | 18.27 |
| ${}^{58}_{26}\text{Fe} + {}^{209}_{83}\text{Bi} \rightarrow {}^{267}_{109}\text{Mt}$ | -208.526 | 225.86 | 17.33 |
| ${}^{62}_{28}\text{Ni} + {}^{208}_{82}\text{Pb} \rightarrow {}^{270}_{110}\text{Ds}$ | -223.225 | 238.84 | 15.62 |
| ${}^{64}_{28}\text{Ni} + {}^{209}_{83}\text{Bi} \rightarrow {}^{273}_{111}\text{Rg}$ | -228.52 | 240.78 | 12.26 |
| ${}^{70}_{30}\text{Zn} + {}^{208}_{82}\text{Pb} \rightarrow {}^{278}_{112}\text{Cn}$ | -244.38 | 252.67 | 8.29 |



<http://nuclear.lu.se/database/masses/>

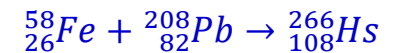
G. Audi et al. Nucl. Phys. A729 (2003) 337

Excitation functions



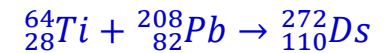
$$Q_{\text{gg}} = -169.5 \text{ MeV}$$

$$V_{\text{C}} = 194.2 \text{ MeV}_{\text{Bass}}$$



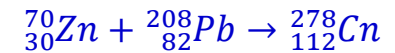
$$Q_{\text{gg}} = -205.0 \text{ MeV}$$

$$V_{\text{C}} = 227.1 \text{ MeV}_{\text{Bass}}$$



$$Q_{\text{gg}} = -224.9 \text{ MeV}$$

$$V_{\text{C}} = 242.2 \text{ MeV}_{\text{Bass}}$$

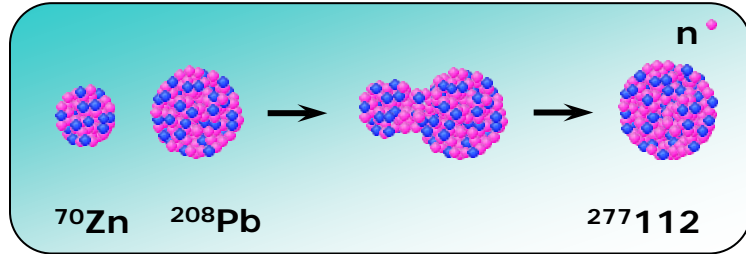


$$Q_{\text{gg}} = -244.2 \text{ MeV}$$

$$V_{\text{C}} = 257.2 \text{ MeV}_{\text{Bass}}$$

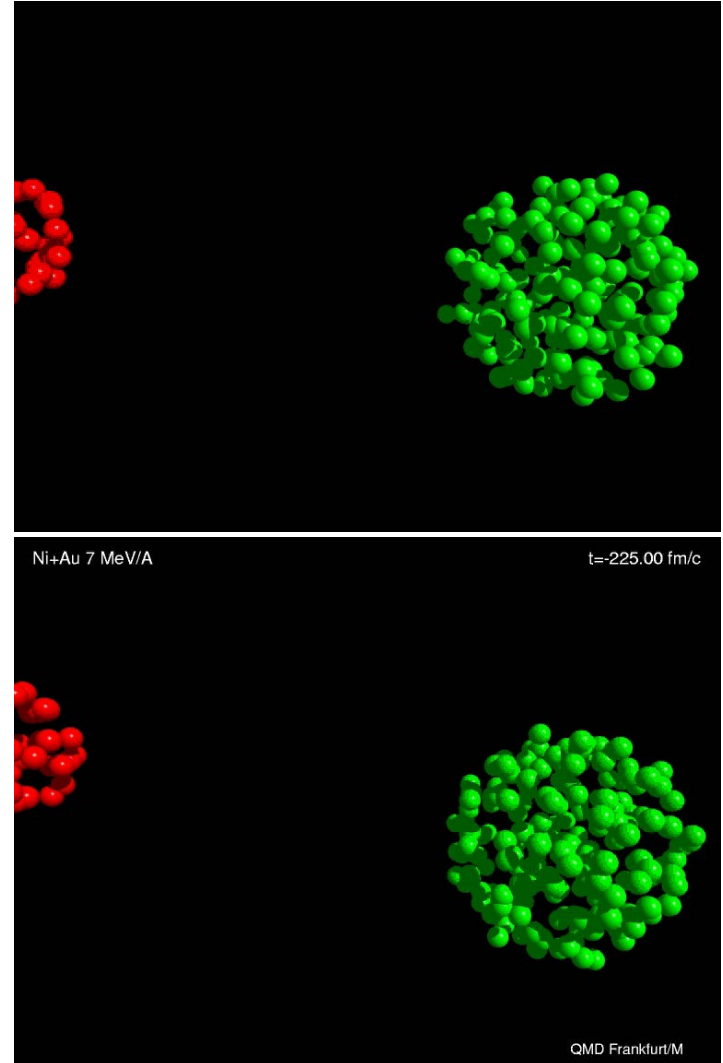
Fig. 1. Excitation functions for the production of elements 104, 108, 110, and 112 plotted versus the excitation energy of the compound system (left-hand side) and versus the excitation energy corrected by subtraction of the neutron binding energy [6] (right-hand side).

Synthesis of heavy elements

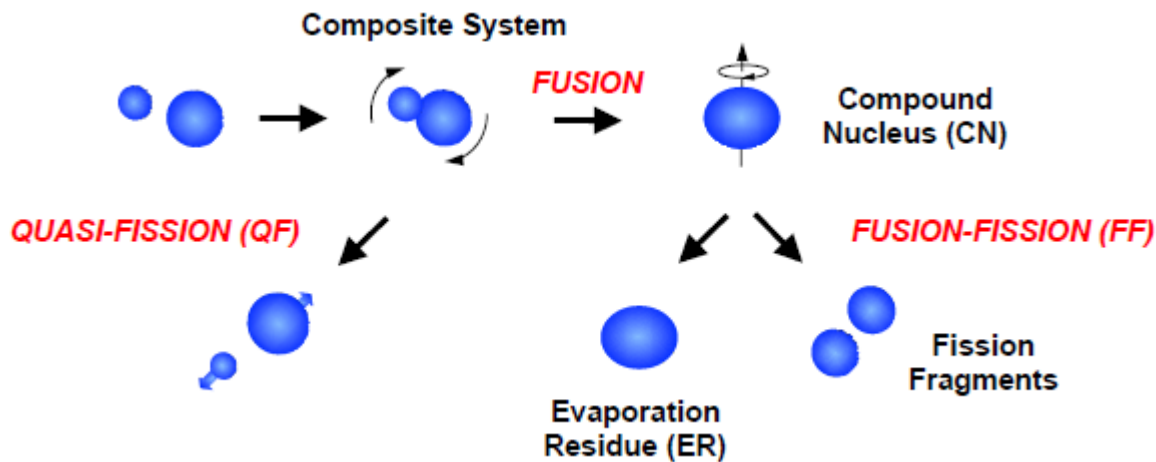


Fusion

$$-\frac{1}{10^{12}}$$



Fusion / fission competition

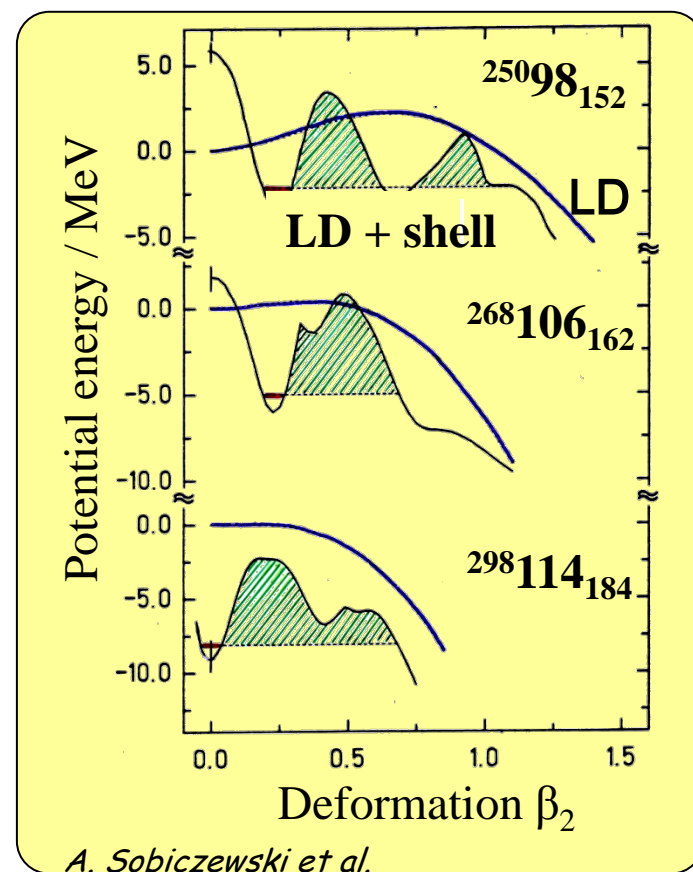


$$\sigma_{ER} = \sigma_{capture} \cdot P_{CN} \cdot P_{survival}$$

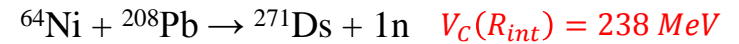
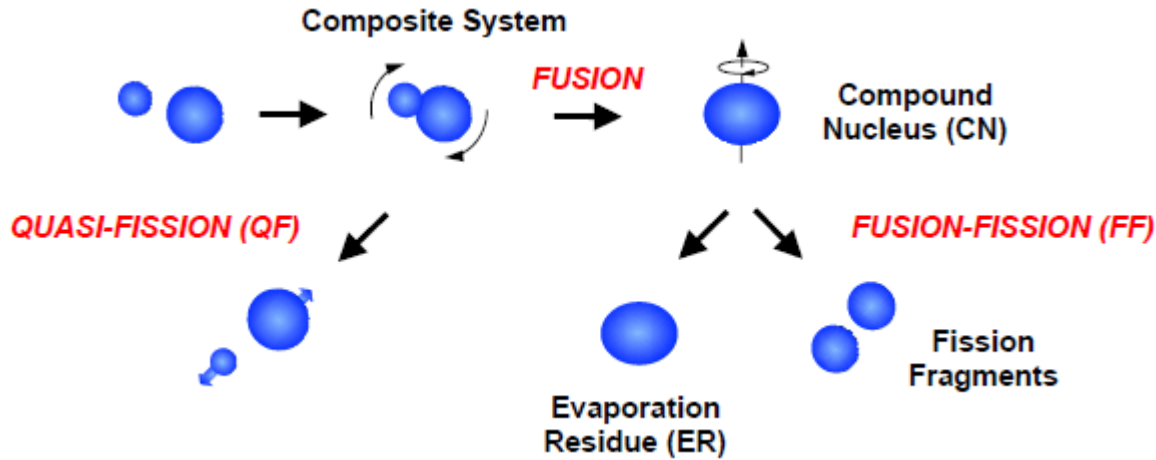
$$\sigma_{ER}^{xn}(E) = \frac{\pi}{k^2} \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} (2\ell + 1) \cdot \underbrace{P_{cont}(E, \ell)}_{\text{capture}} \cdot \underbrace{P_{CN}(E^*, \ell)}_{\text{formation}} \cdot \underbrace{P_{xn}(E^*, \ell)}_{\text{survival}}$$

competing: quasi-elastic quasi-fission fission

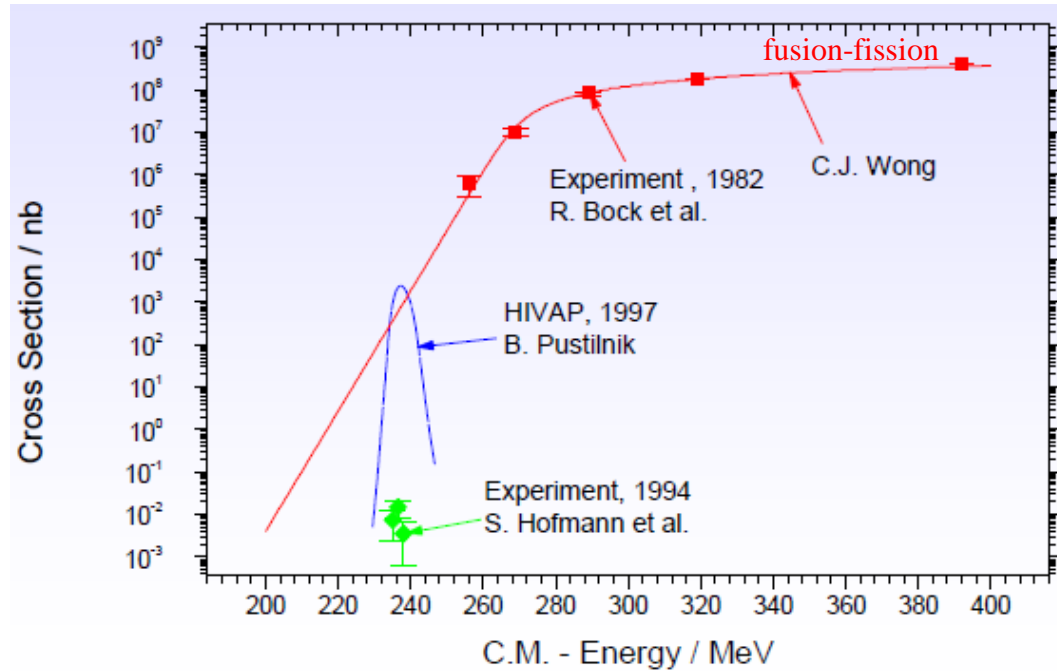
Superheavy system: $\sigma_{ER} \ll \sigma_{capture}$



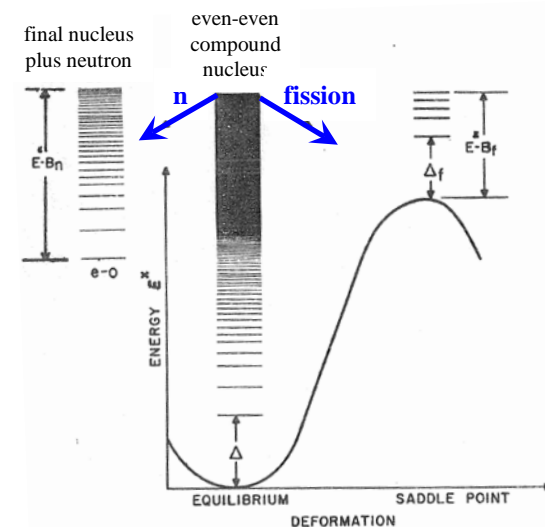
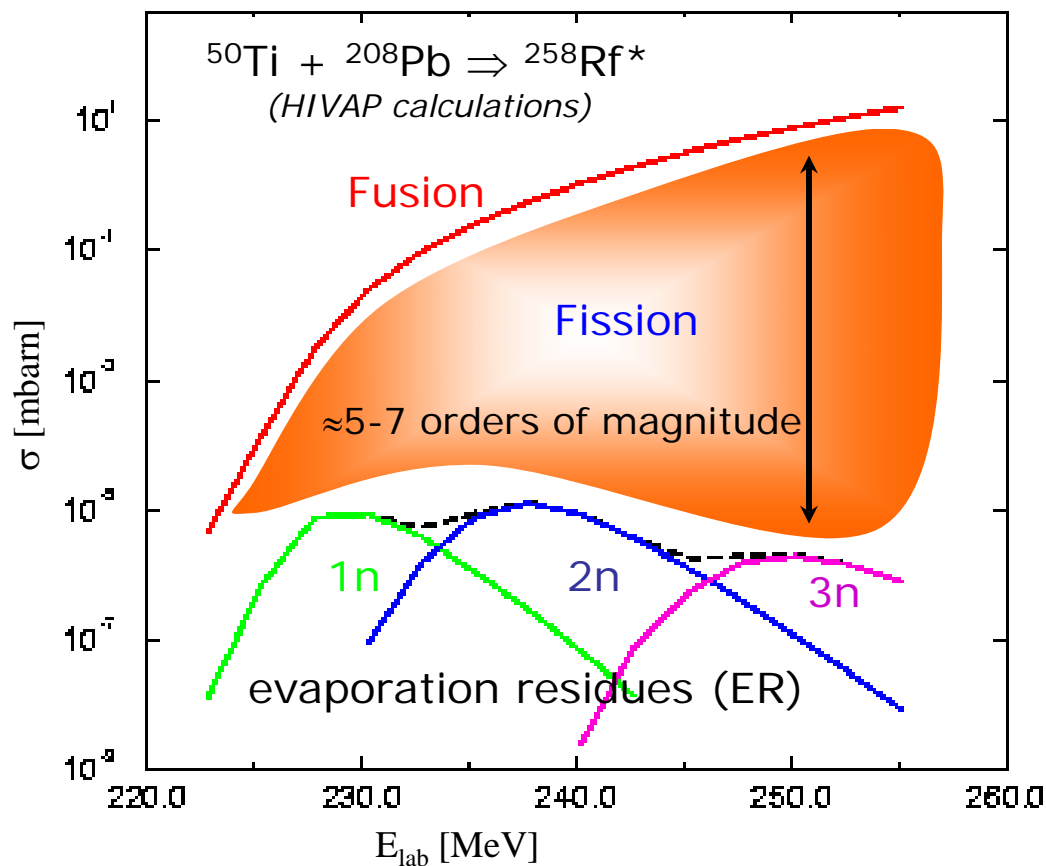
Fusion / fission competition



$$\sigma_{ER} = \sigma_{capture} \cdot P_{CN} \cdot P_{survival}$$



Fusion and evaporation



Both decay processes are determined by the level density, either from the residual nucleus or at the saddle point.

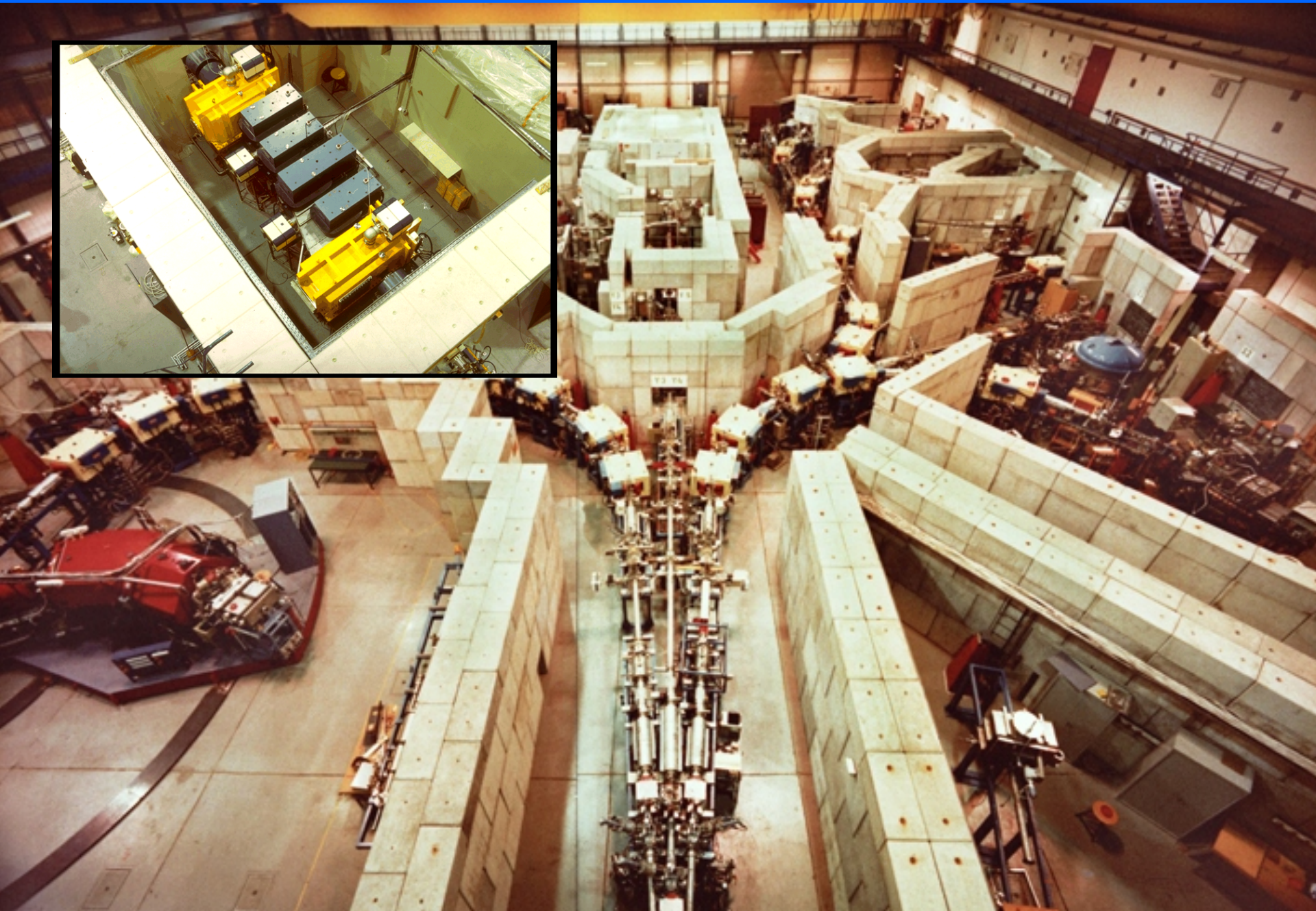
level density: $\rho(E^*) = \text{const} \cdot \exp(E^*/T)$

$$\frac{\Gamma_n}{\Gamma_f} = \frac{2 \cdot T \cdot A_{\text{CN}}^{2/3}}{K_0} \cdot \exp[(B_f - B_n)/T]$$

$$K_0 = \hbar^2 / 2 \cdot m \cdot r_0^2 \approx 11.4 \text{ MeV}$$

$$T = \sqrt{8 \cdot E^* / A_{\text{CN}}}$$

Separator for Heavy Ion Products (SHIP)



Separator for Heavy Ion Products (SHIP)

- Fusion products are slower than scattered or transfer particles

$$v_{CN} = [m_p / (m_p + m_t)] \cdot v_p$$

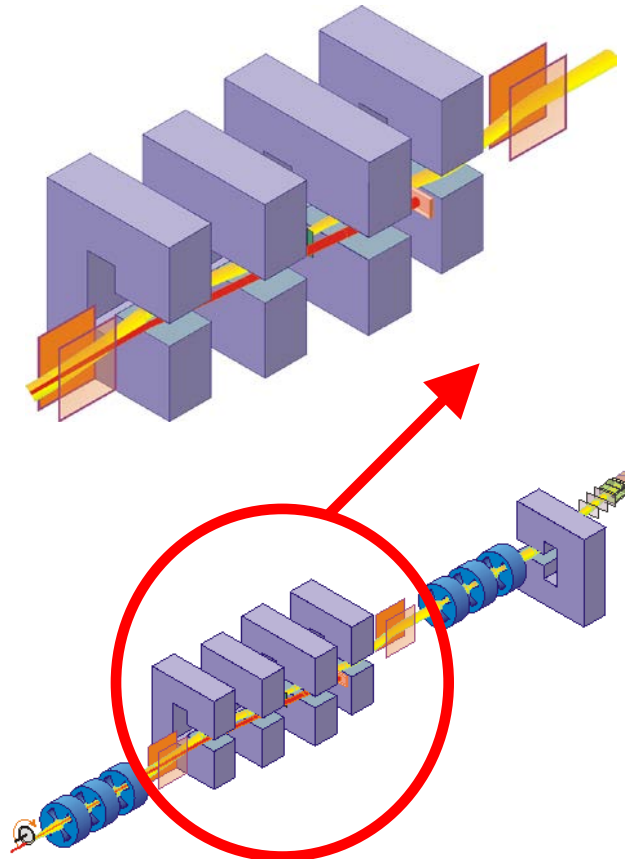
$$e.q.v_p \approx 10.3\% \rightarrow v_{CN} \approx 2.2\%$$

- E- and B-field are perpendicular to each other

$$B \cdot \rho = \frac{m \cdot v}{e \cdot q}$$

$$E \cdot \rho = \frac{m \cdot v^2}{e \cdot q}$$

$$F_{mag} = F_{el} \Rightarrow F_{tot} = 0$$



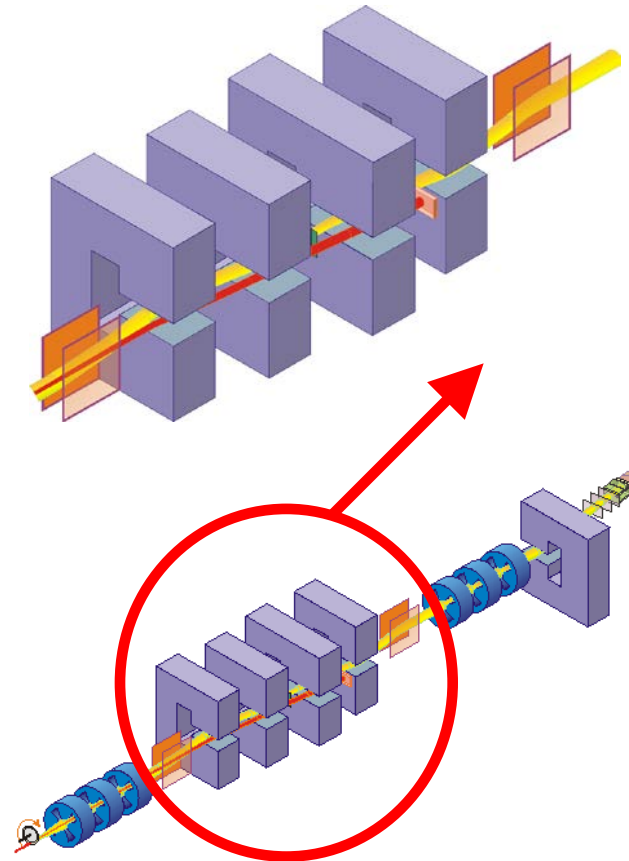
electric deflectors: ± 330 kV dipole magnets: 0.7 T max

Separator for Heavy Ion Products (SHIP)

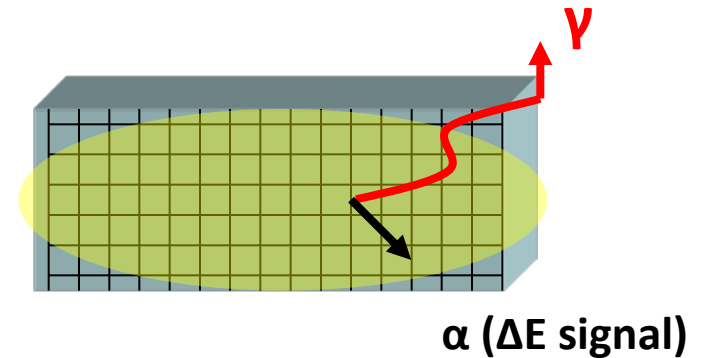
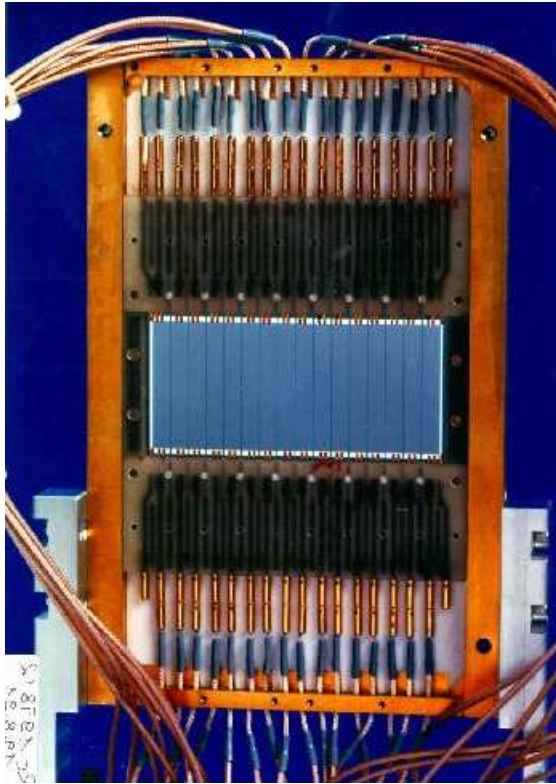
- The choice of E and B determines the transmitted velocity

$$v = \frac{E}{B}$$

- The rejected beam will be stopped on a cooled Cu plate



SHIP – stop detector



SHE will be measured in a pixel

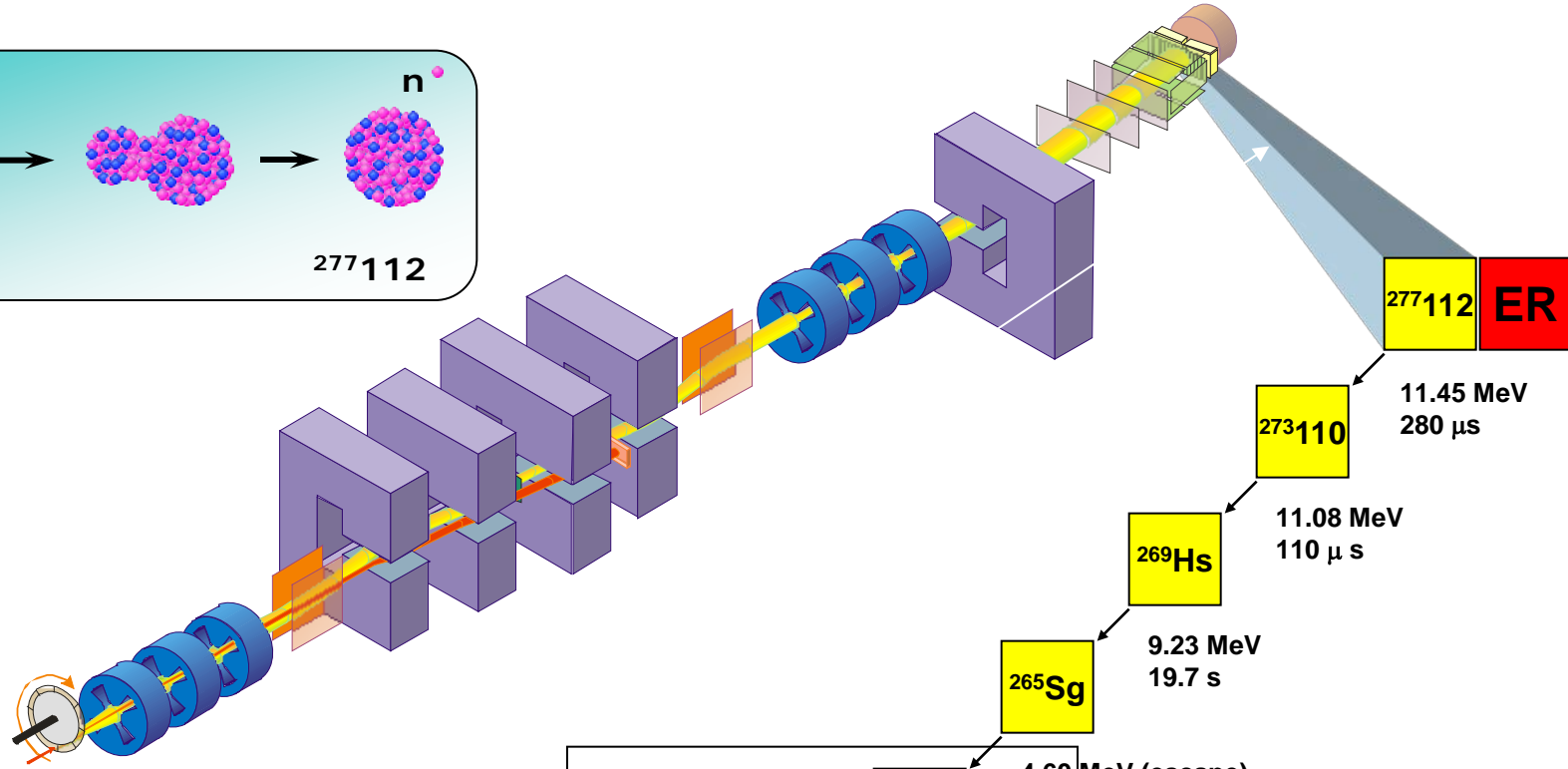
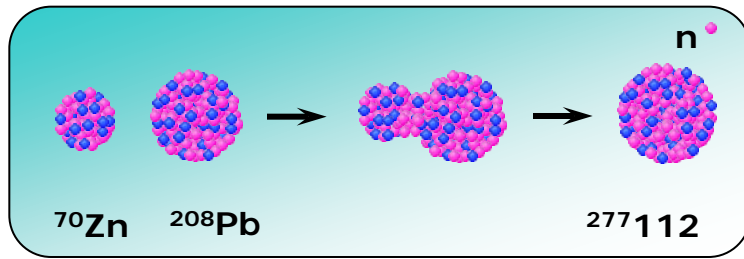
Wait for the emission of an α -particle
(or β -particle)

**correlation method: implantation and
decay event in the same pixel**

➤ position sensitive Silicon detector determines
the position and energy of SHE and α , β , ...

area: $27 \times 87 \text{ mm}^2$, thickness: 0.3mm, 16 strips
energy resolution $\Delta E = 18\text{-}20 \text{ keV}$ @ $E_\alpha > 6 \text{ MeV}$ (cooling 260K)
position resolution $\Delta x = 0.3 \text{ mm}$ (FWHM)

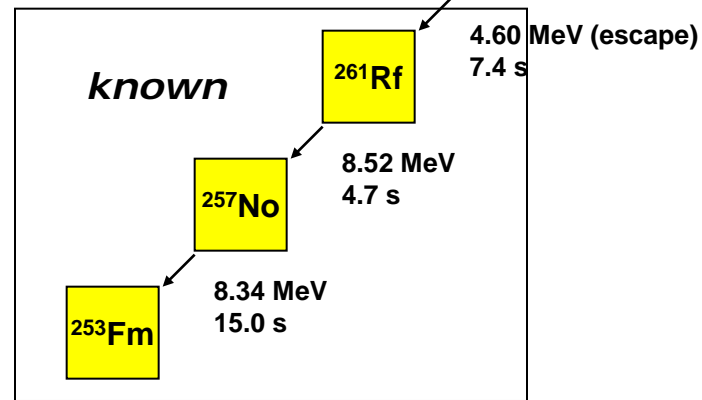
Synthesis and identification of heavy elements with SHIP



kinematical separation (in flight)

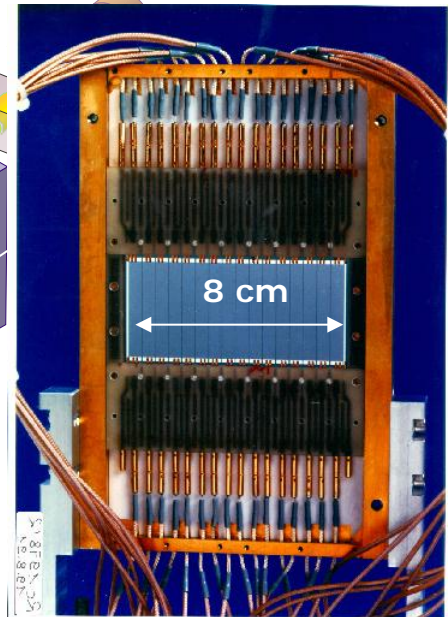
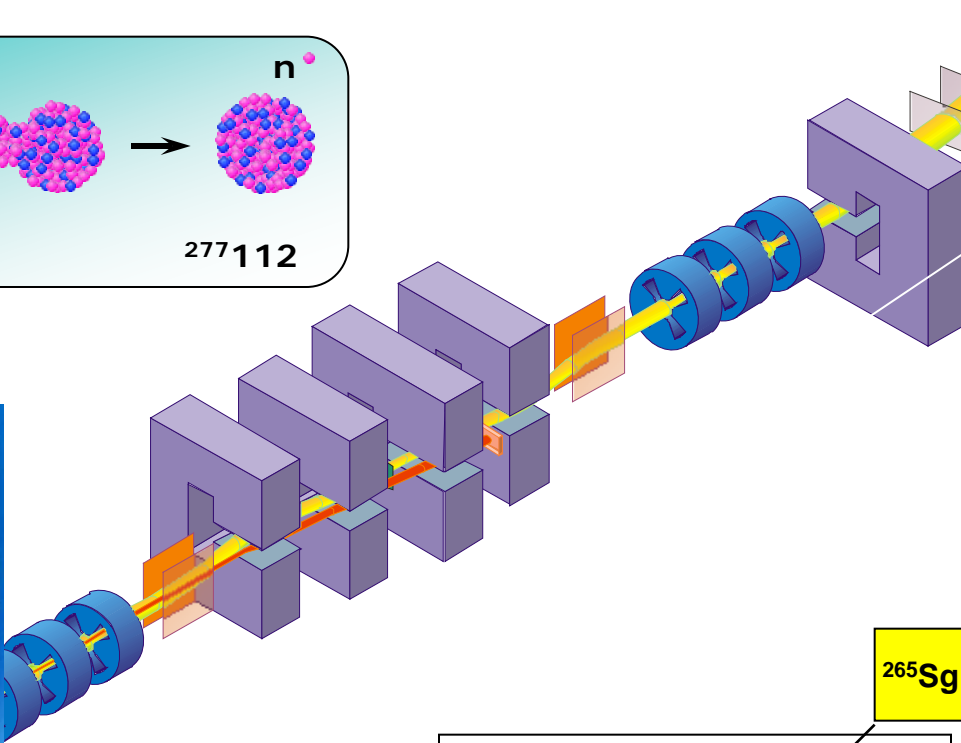
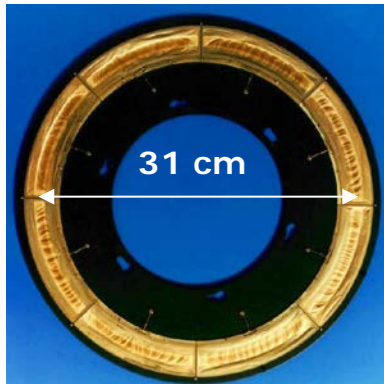
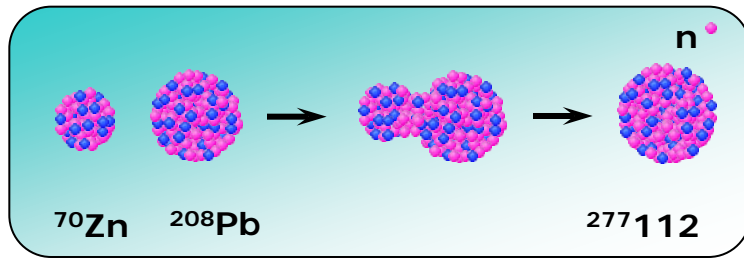
*using electric deflectors
and dipole magnets*

$v = E/B \rightarrow$ *velocity filter*



Date: 09-Feb-1996
Time: 22:37 h

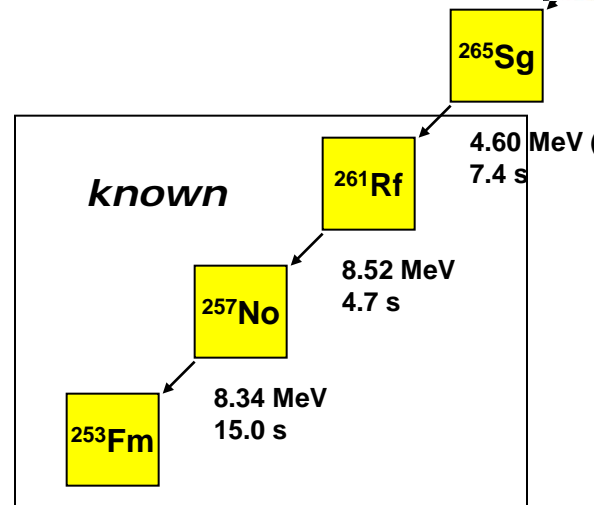
Synthesis and identification of heavy elements with SHIP



kinematical separation (in flight)

*using electric deflectors
and dipole magnets*

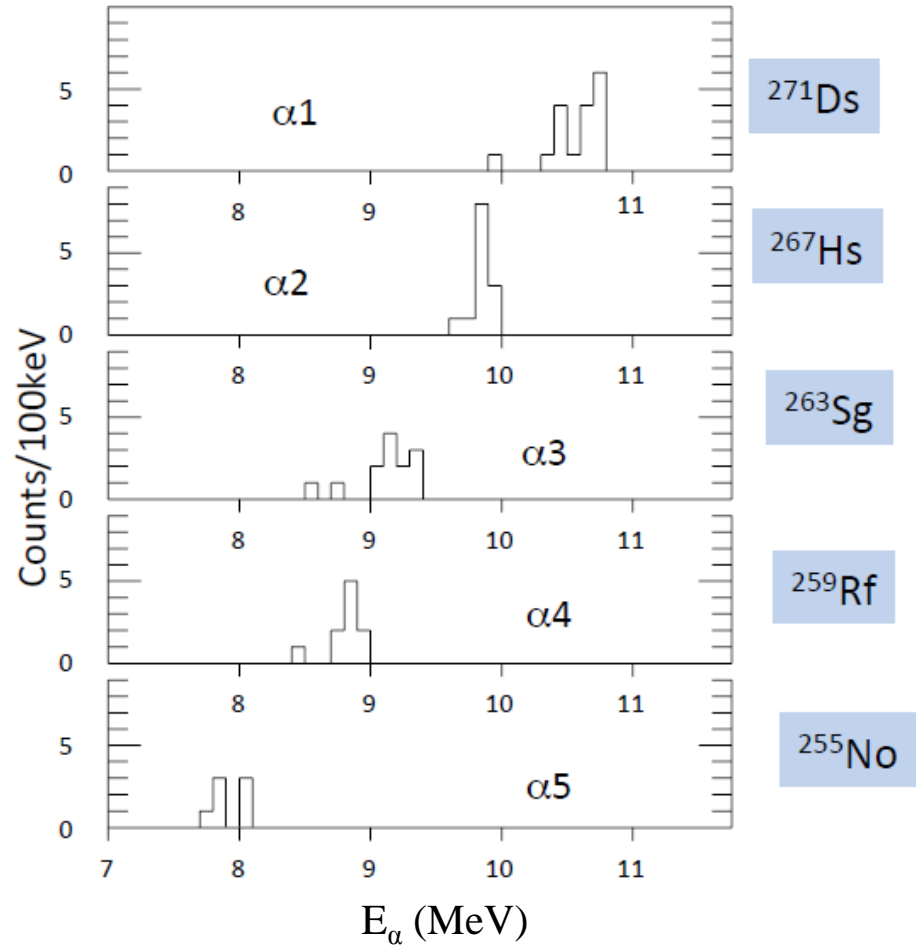
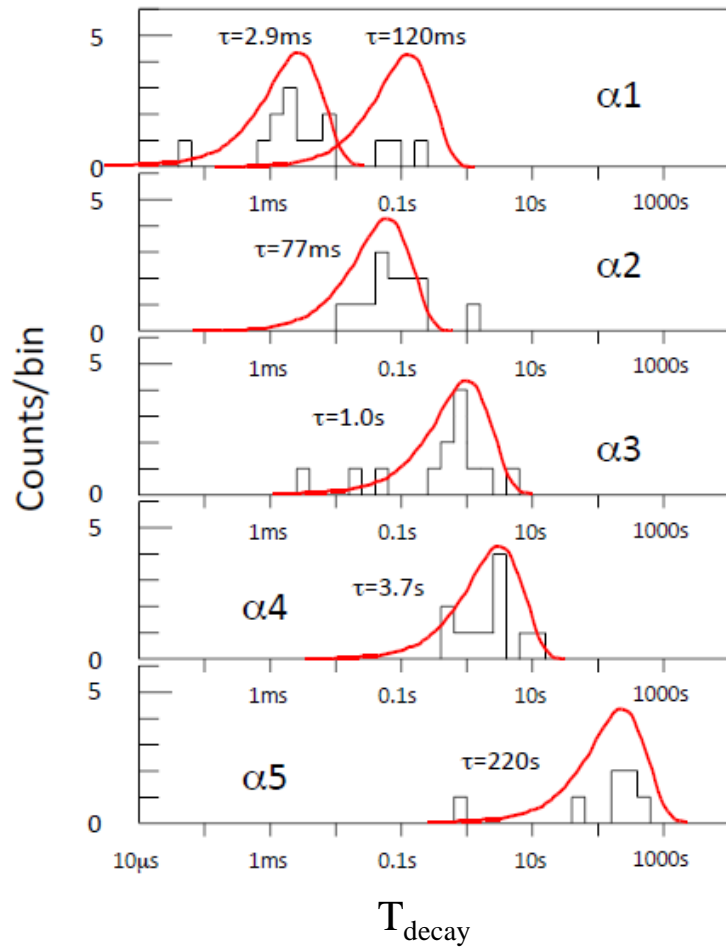
$v = E/B \rightarrow$ *velocity filter*



Identification by α - α correlations down to known isotopes

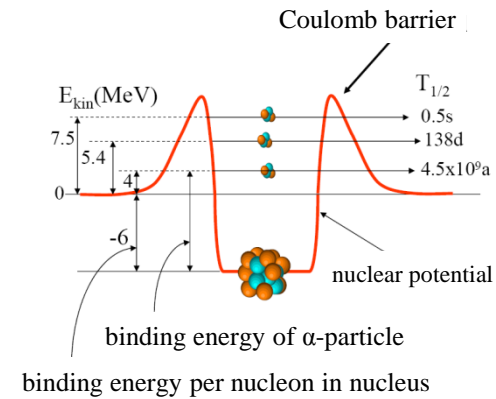
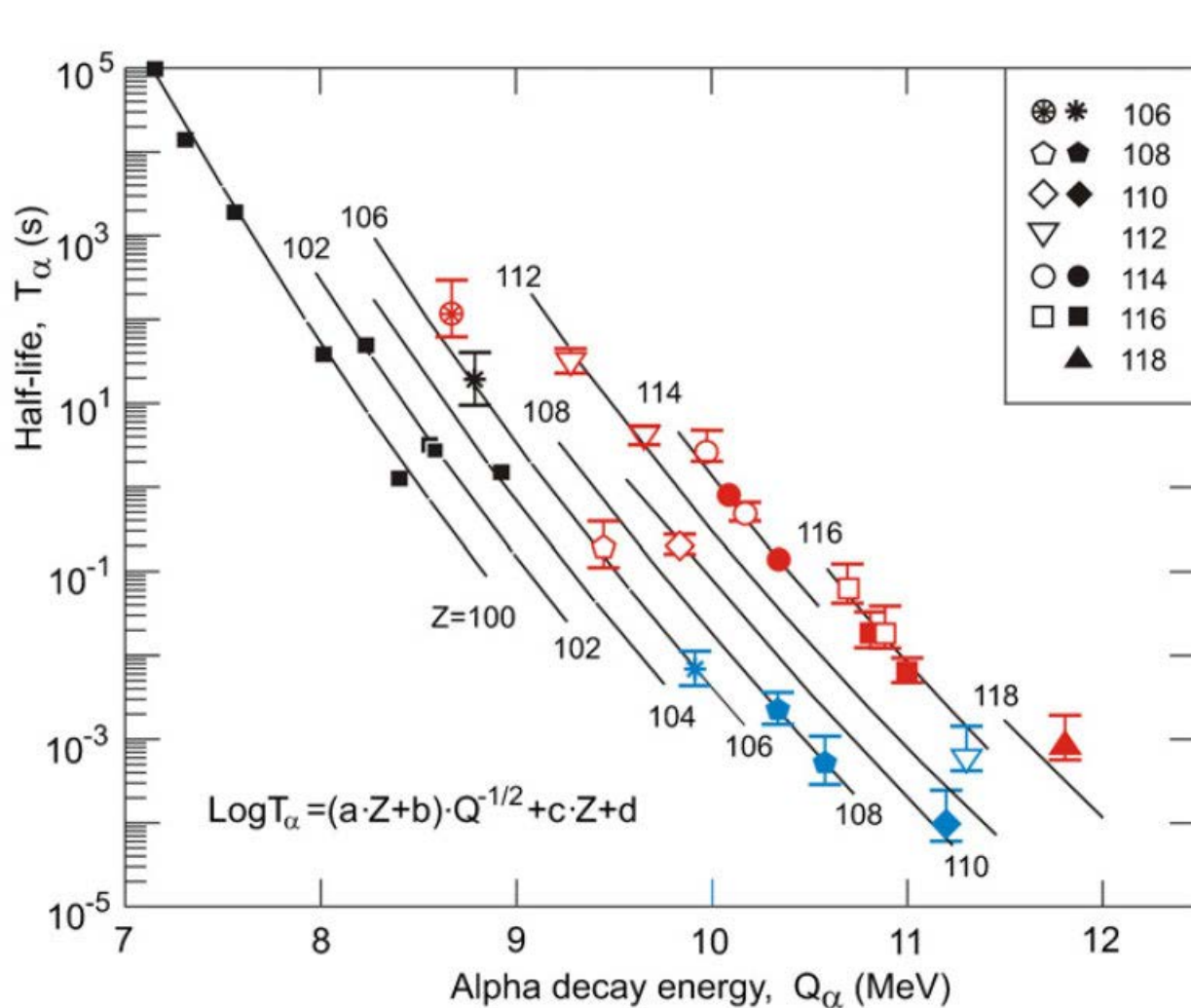
Date: 09-Feb-1996
Time: 22:37 h



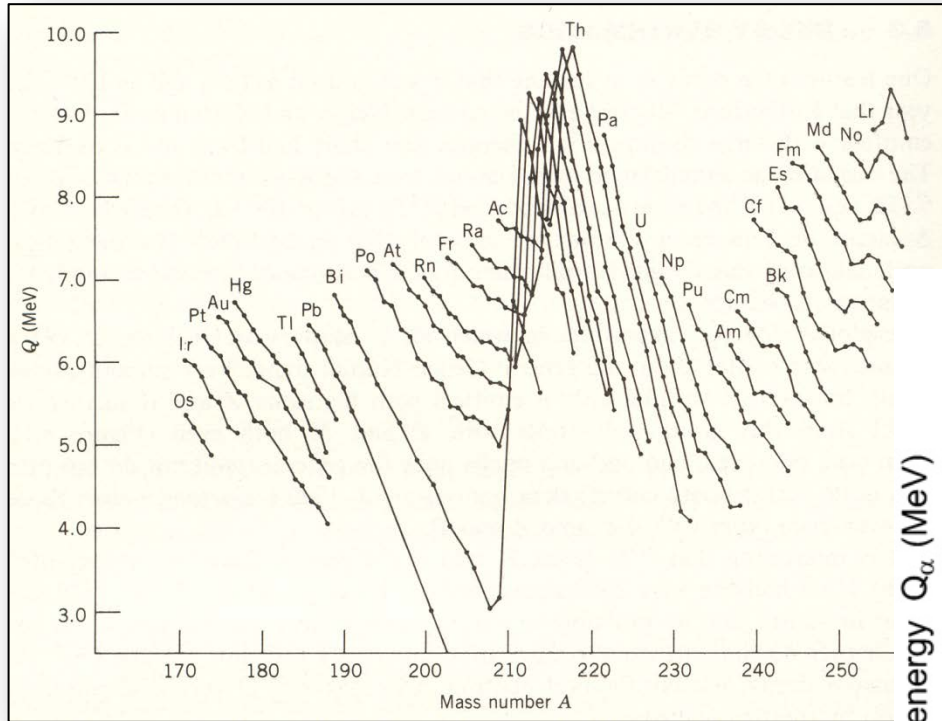


Geiger-Nuttall relationship

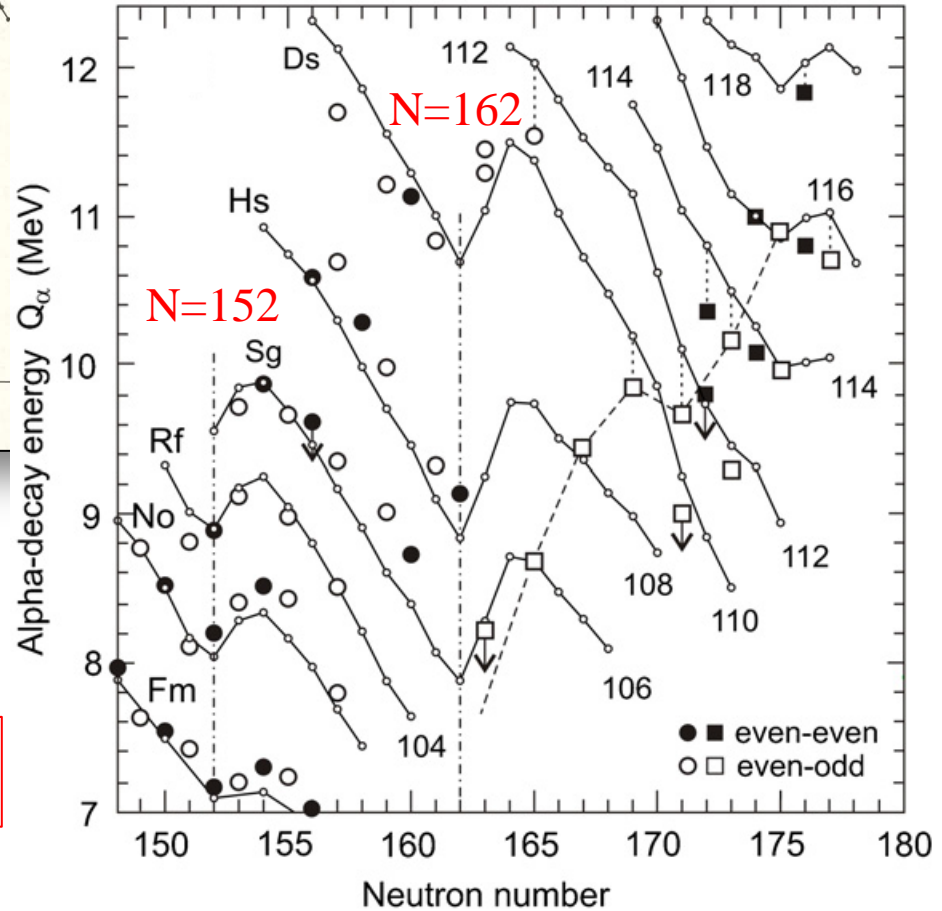
❖ The average decay properties of even mass decay chains match the Geiger-Nuttall relationship



Increase of Q_α values for the isotopes with $Z = 112-118$

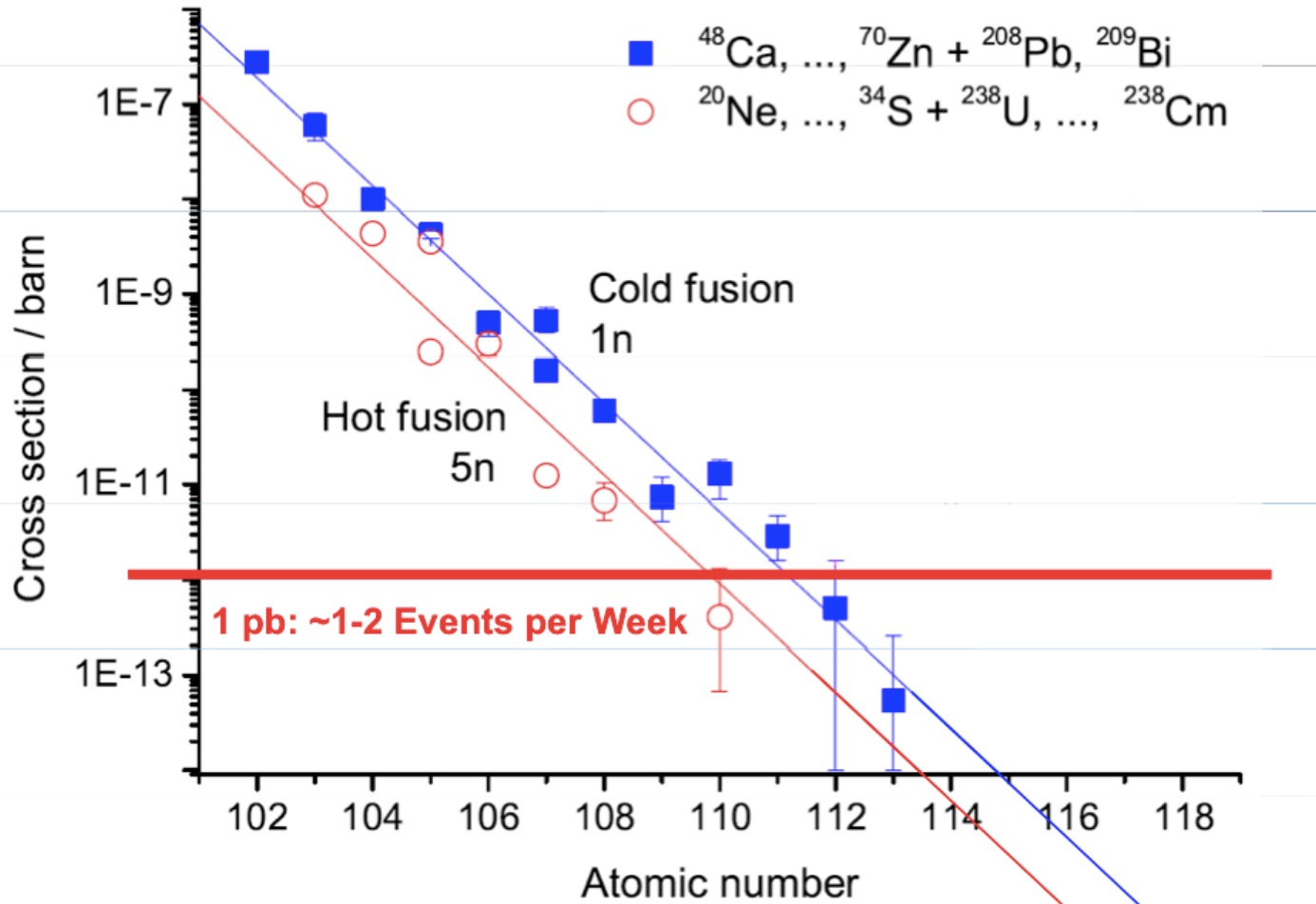


deformed shell closure



Micro-macro predictions:
nuclei with $N \geq 175$ are close to spherical ($\beta_2 \approx 0.09$)

The end of the “cold fusion” path?

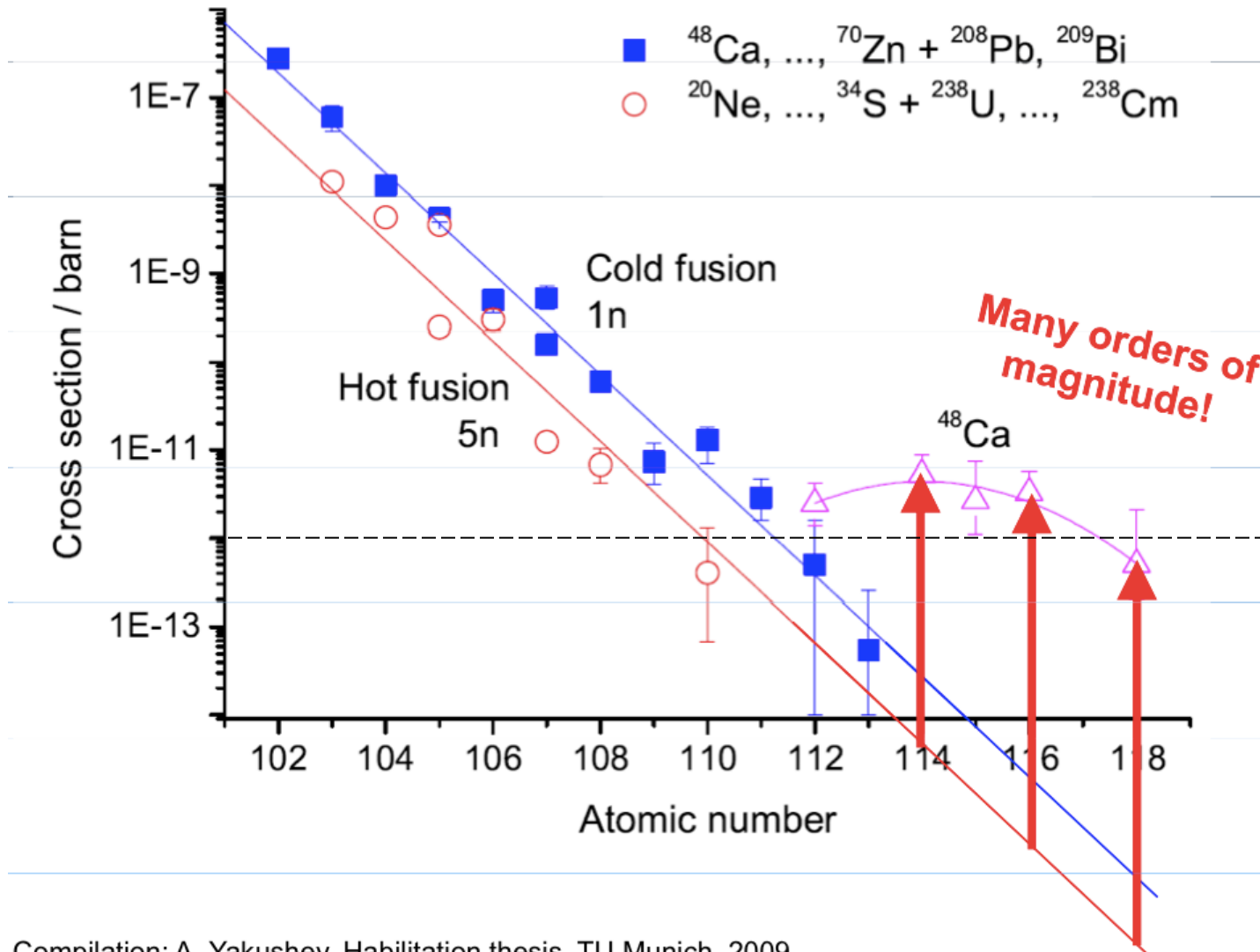


Compilation: A. Yakushev, Habilitation thesis, TU Munich, 2009

“Hot fusion” – The Dubna Era



Yuri Oganessian



Compilation: A. Yakushev, Habilitation thesis, TU Munich, 2009

\rightarrow requires very efficient separation and detection techniques

Using ^{48}Ca beams with actinide targets

Joint Institute of Nuclear Research (Dubna) has extended the periodic table to $Z=118$

❖ ^{48}Ca projectiles produced by U400 heavy ion accelerator

energy: 235 -250 MeV

beam intensity: 1.0 – 1.5 μA

consumption: 0.5 – 0.8 mg/h

beam dose: $(0.3 - 3.0) \cdot 10^{19}$



| year | element | reaction | number of atoms |
|------|---------|--|-----------------|
| 2000 | 114 | $^{48}\text{Ca} \rightarrow ^{244}\text{Pu}$ | 50 |
| 2004 | 113 | decay product of $Z=115$ | 8 |
| 2004 | 115 | $^{48}\text{Ca} \rightarrow ^{243}\text{Am}$ | 30 |
| 2005 | 116 | $^{48}\text{Ca} \rightarrow ^{248}\text{Cm}$ | 30 |
| 2006 | 118 | $^{48}\text{Ca} \rightarrow ^{249}\text{Cf}$ | 3 - 4 |
| 2010 | 117 | $^{48}\text{Ca} \rightarrow ^{249}\text{Bk}$ | 6 |

prices per 1 mg
 $^{197}\text{Au} \approx 0.03$ \$
 $^{239}\text{Pu} \approx 4$ \$
 $^{48}\text{Ca} \approx 80$ \$
 $^{249}\text{Cf} \approx 60\,000$ \$

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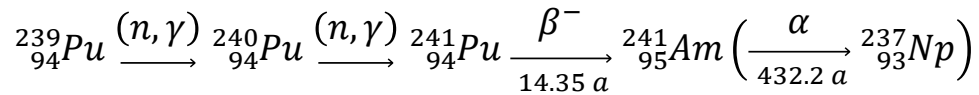
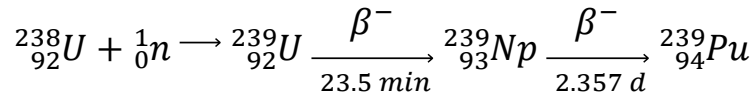
beam dose: $(0.3 - 3.0) \cdot 10^{19}$



| reaction | Q_{gg} (MeV) | $V_{\text{C}}(\text{R}_{\text{int}})$ (MeV) | E^* (MeV) |
|--|-----------------------|---|-------------|
| $^{48}_{20}\text{Ca} + ^{244}_{94}\text{Pu} \rightarrow ^{292}_{114}\text{Fl}$ | -160.5 | 197.3 | 36.8 |
| $^{48}_{20}\text{Ca} + ^{243}_{95}\text{Am} \rightarrow ^{291}_{115}\text{Mc}$ | -170.6 | 199.7 | 29.1 |
| $^{48}_{20}\text{Ca} + ^{248}_{96}\text{Cm} \rightarrow ^{296}_{116}\text{Lv}$ | -166.6 | 201.1 | 34.5 |
| $^{48}_{20}\text{Ca} + ^{249}_{97}\text{Bk} \rightarrow ^{297}_{117}\text{Ts}$ | -170.1 | 203.2 | 33.1 |
| $^{48}_{20}\text{Ca} + ^{249}_{98}\text{Cf} \rightarrow ^{297}_{118}\text{Og}$ | -174.3 | 205.4 | 31.1 |

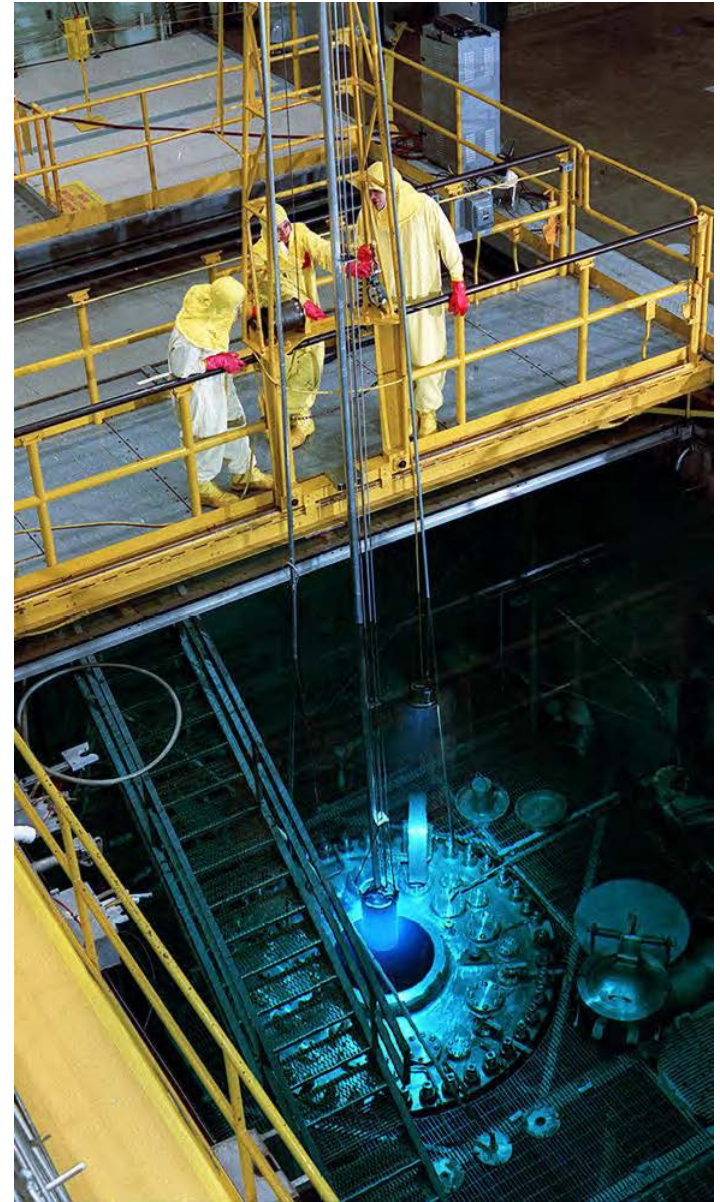
Q_{gg} and V_{C} (Bass) from <http://nr.v.jinr.ru/nrv/webnrv/qcalc/>

Irradiation of targets at HFIR reactor (Oak Ridge)



❖ Irradiation in the HFIR flux trap (18 month)

- thermal-neutron flux of $2.5 \cdot 10^{15}$ neutrons/(s·cm²)
- 31 target positions
(10 – 13 targets typically irradiated)
- produces ~35 mg ²⁵²Cf per target
(smaller quantities of Bk, Es, Fm)



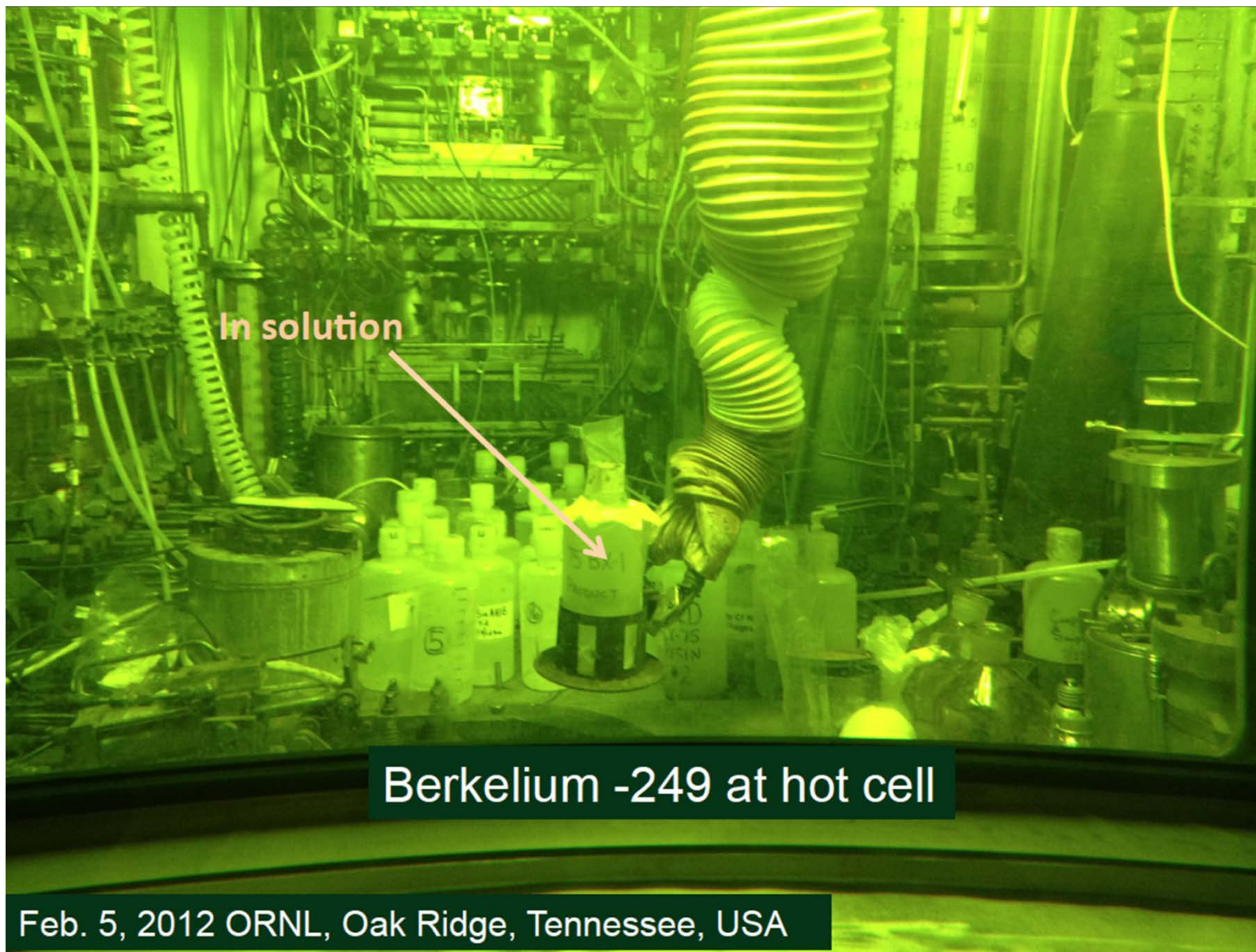
22 mg of $^{249}\text{Bk} \approx 1 \text{ M\$}$, 250 day irradiation in HFIR (ORNL)



$\text{Bk}(\text{NO}_3)_3$ product

- ❖ The two year experimental campaign began with a 250 day irradiation in HFIR, producing 22 milligram of ^{249}Bk , which has a 320 day half-life. The irradiation was followed by 90 days of processing at radiochemical Engineering Development Center (REDC) to separate and purify the Berkelium. The ^{249}Bk target was prepared at Dimitrovgrad and then bombarded for 150 days at the Dubna facility.

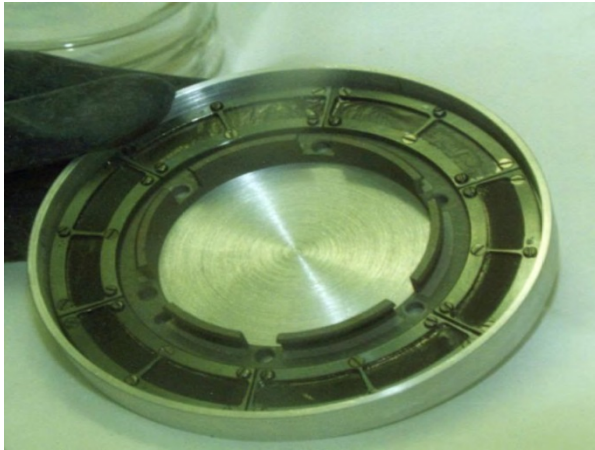
22 mg of $^{249}\text{Bk} \approx 1 \text{ M\$}$, 250 day irradiation in HIFR (ORNL)



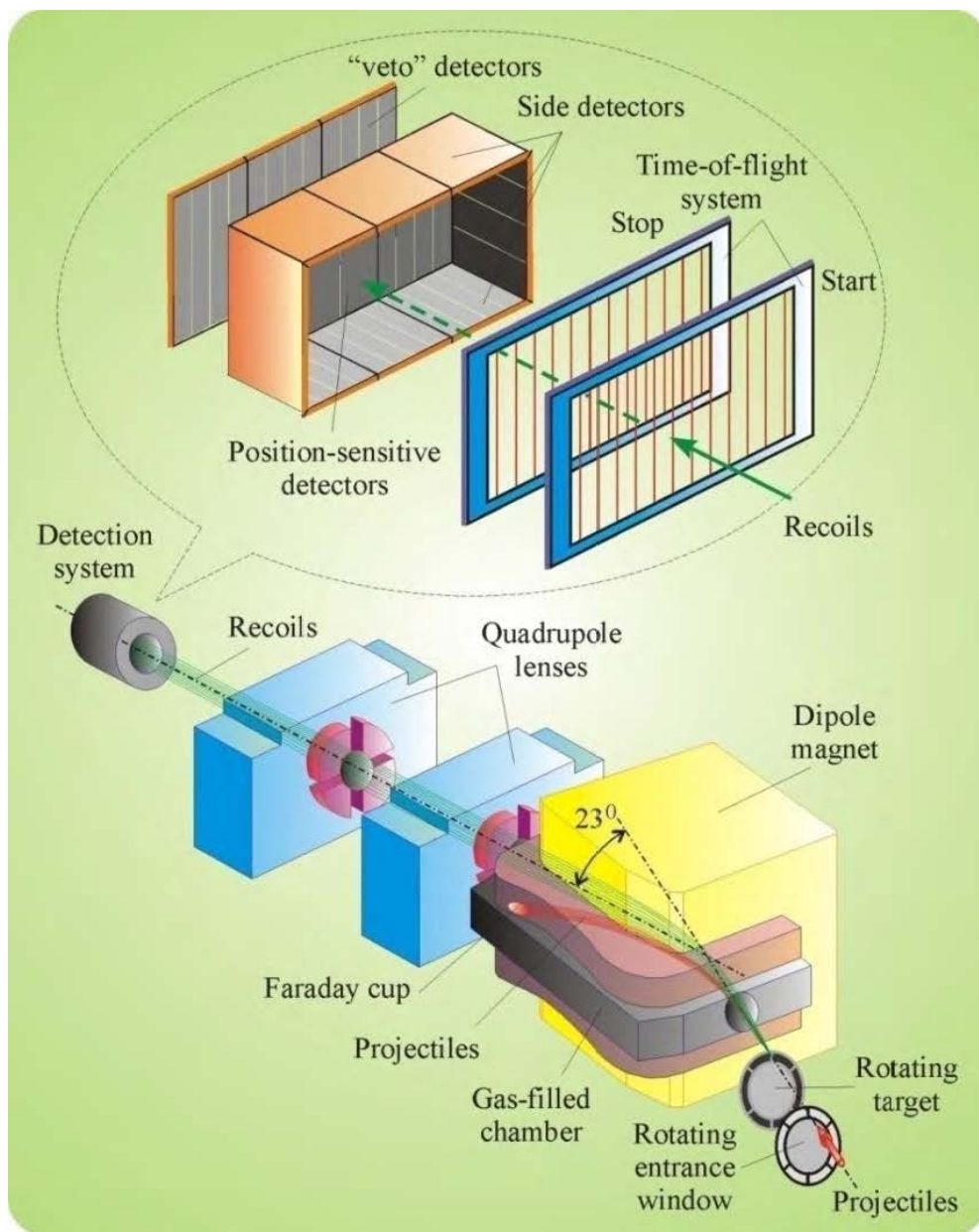
Berkelium -249 at hot cell

Feb. 5, 2012 ORNL, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, USA

^{249}Cf target



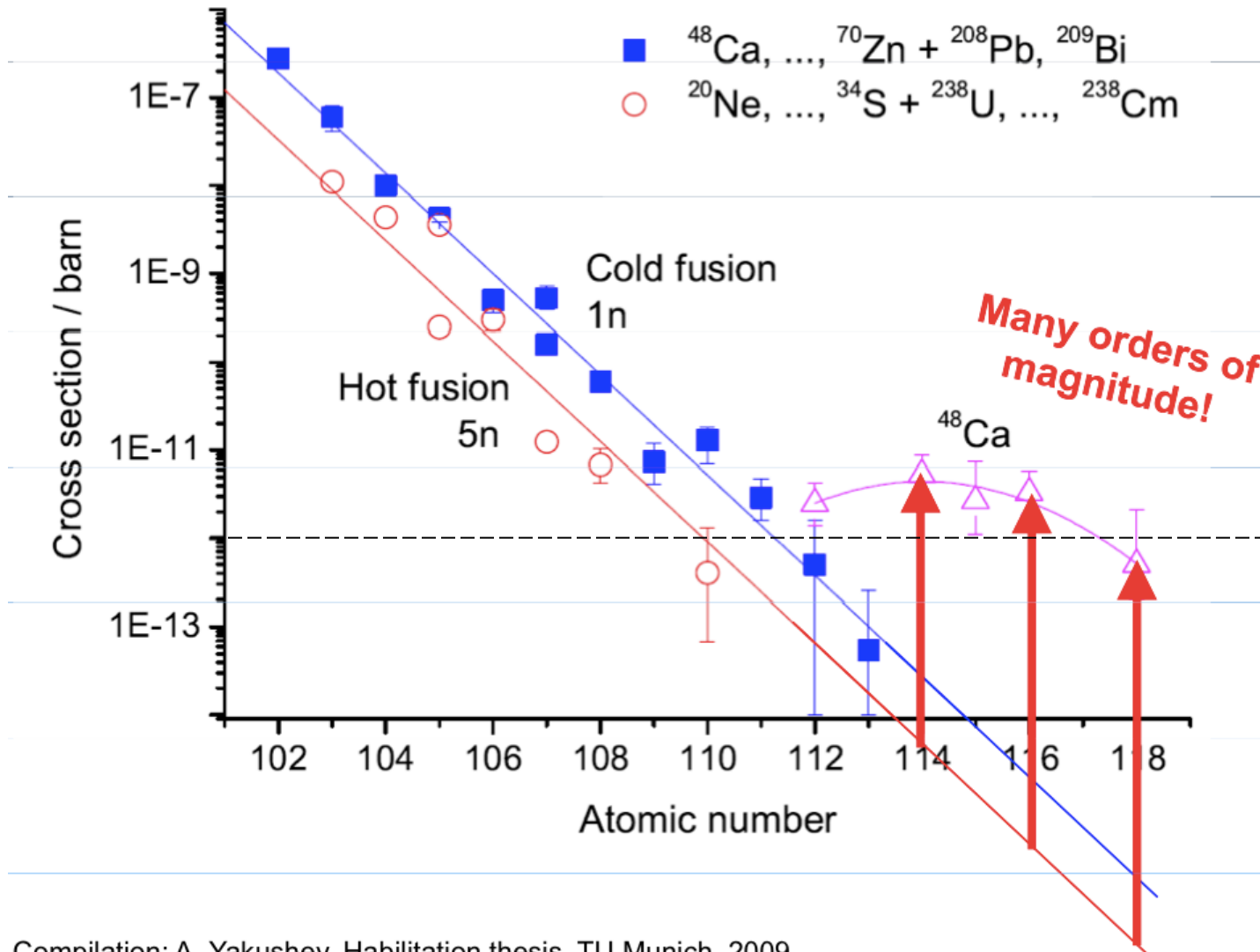
Dubna gas filled recoil separator (DGFRS)



“Hot fusion” – The Dubna Era



Yuri Oganessian



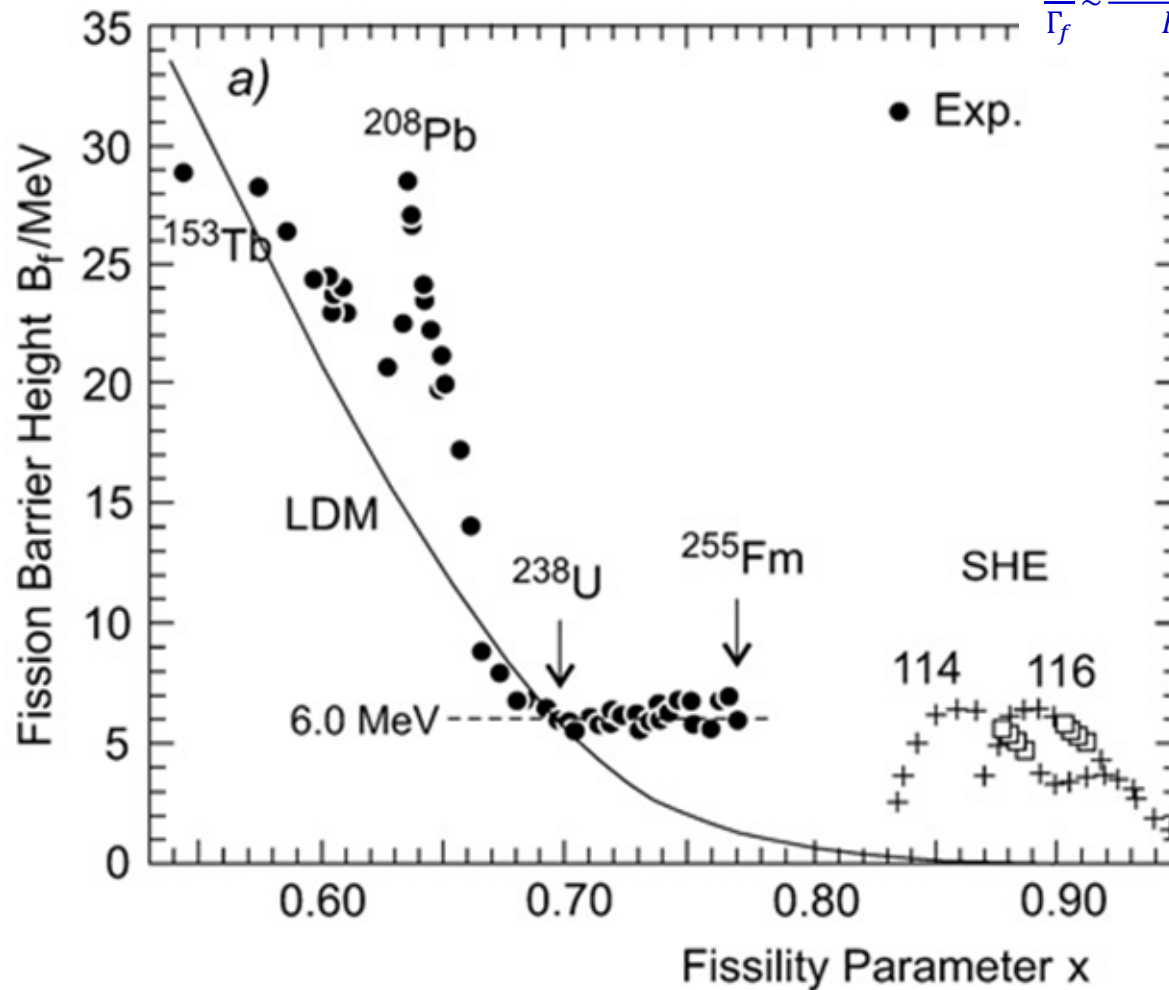
Compilation: A. Yakushev, Habilitation thesis, TU Munich, 2009

\rightarrow requires very efficient separation and detection techniques

Cross sections – fission barriers

$$\sigma_{ER} = \sigma_{capture} \cdot P_{CN} \cdot P_{survival}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma_n}{\Gamma_f} \sim \frac{2 \cdot T \cdot A_{CN}^{2/3}}{K_0} \cdot \exp[(B_f - B_n)/T]$$



Spontaneous fission half-lives of actinides

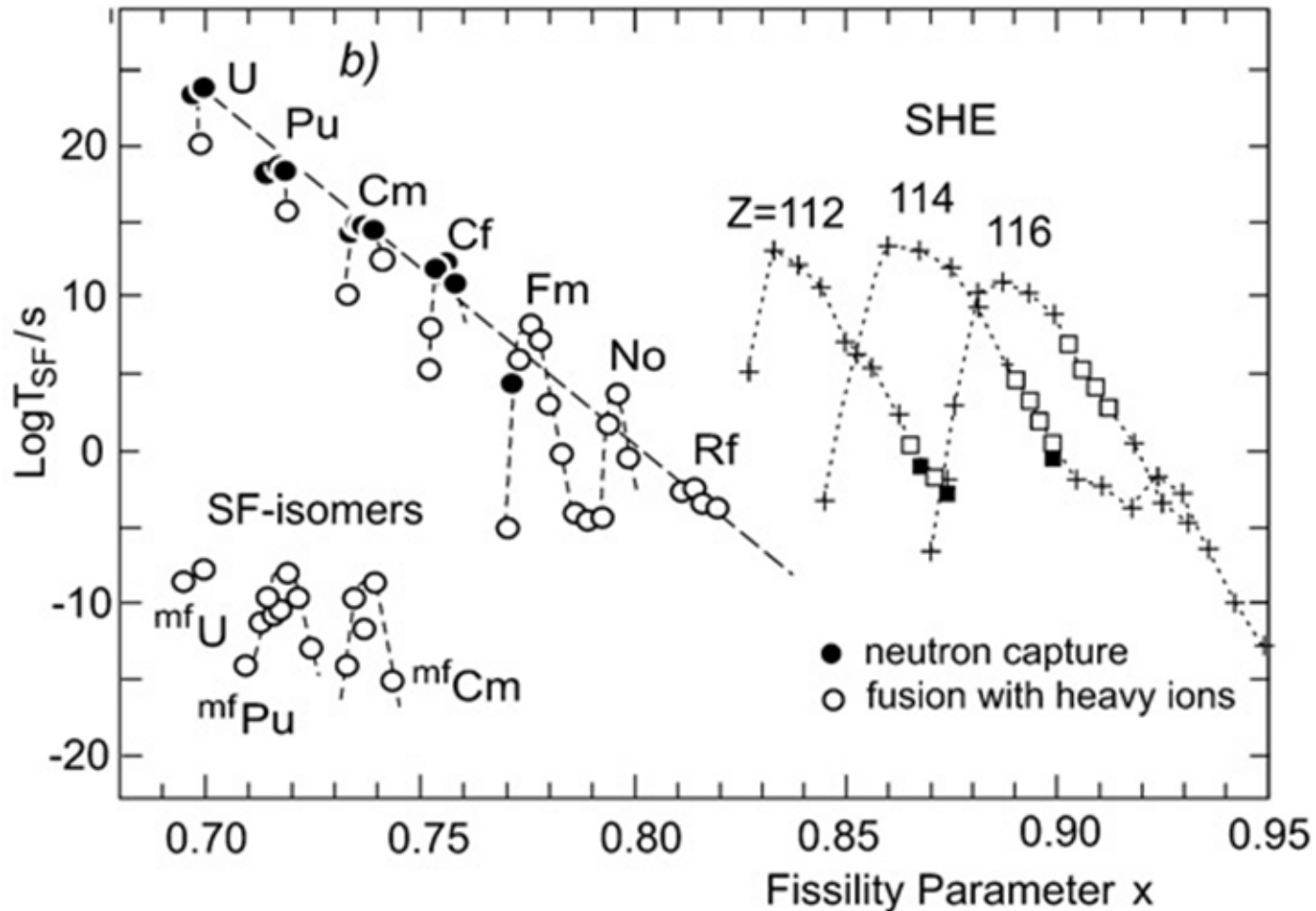


Chart of nuclides: the domain of heavy and superheavy elements

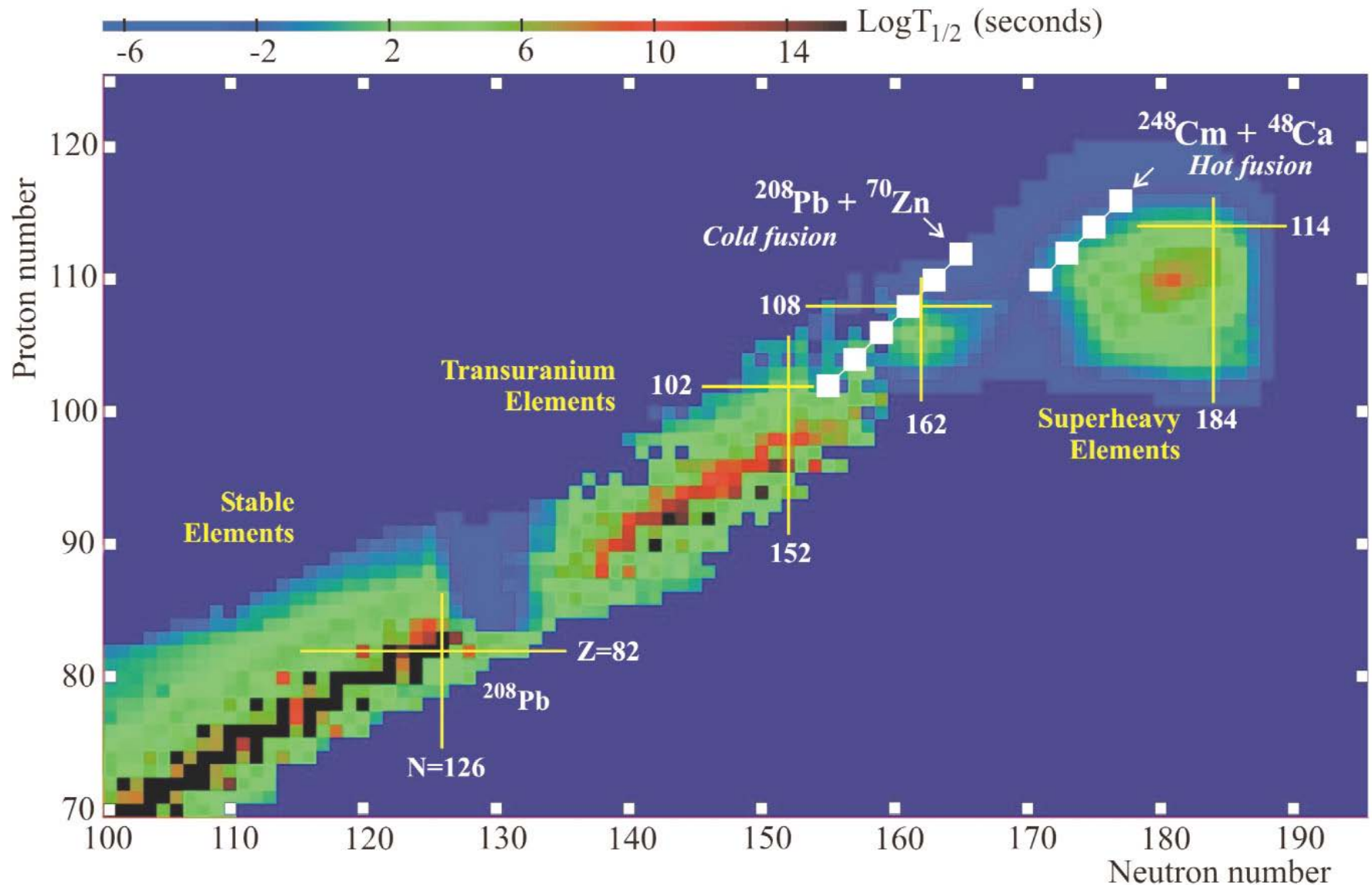
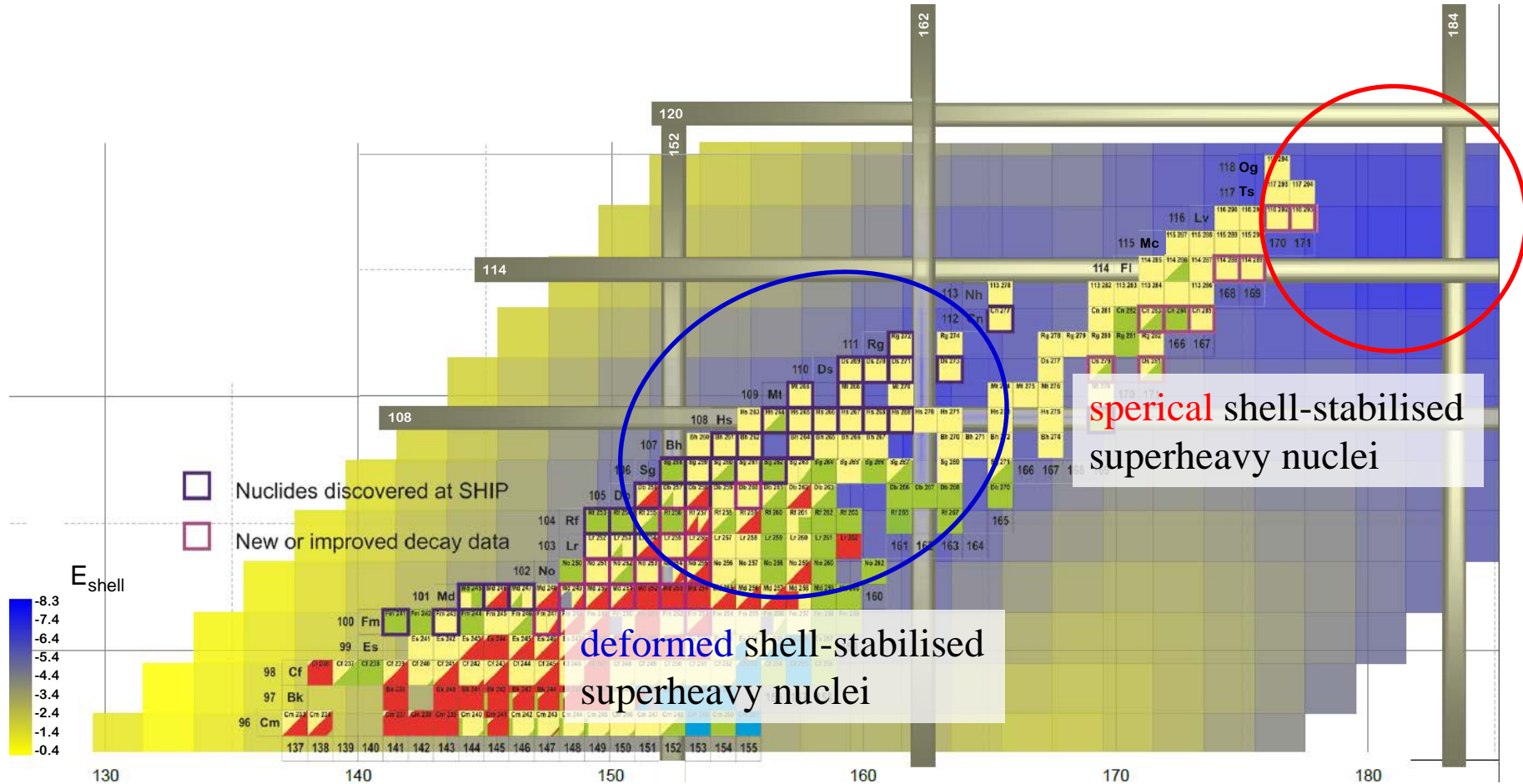
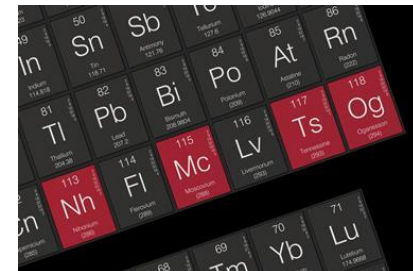


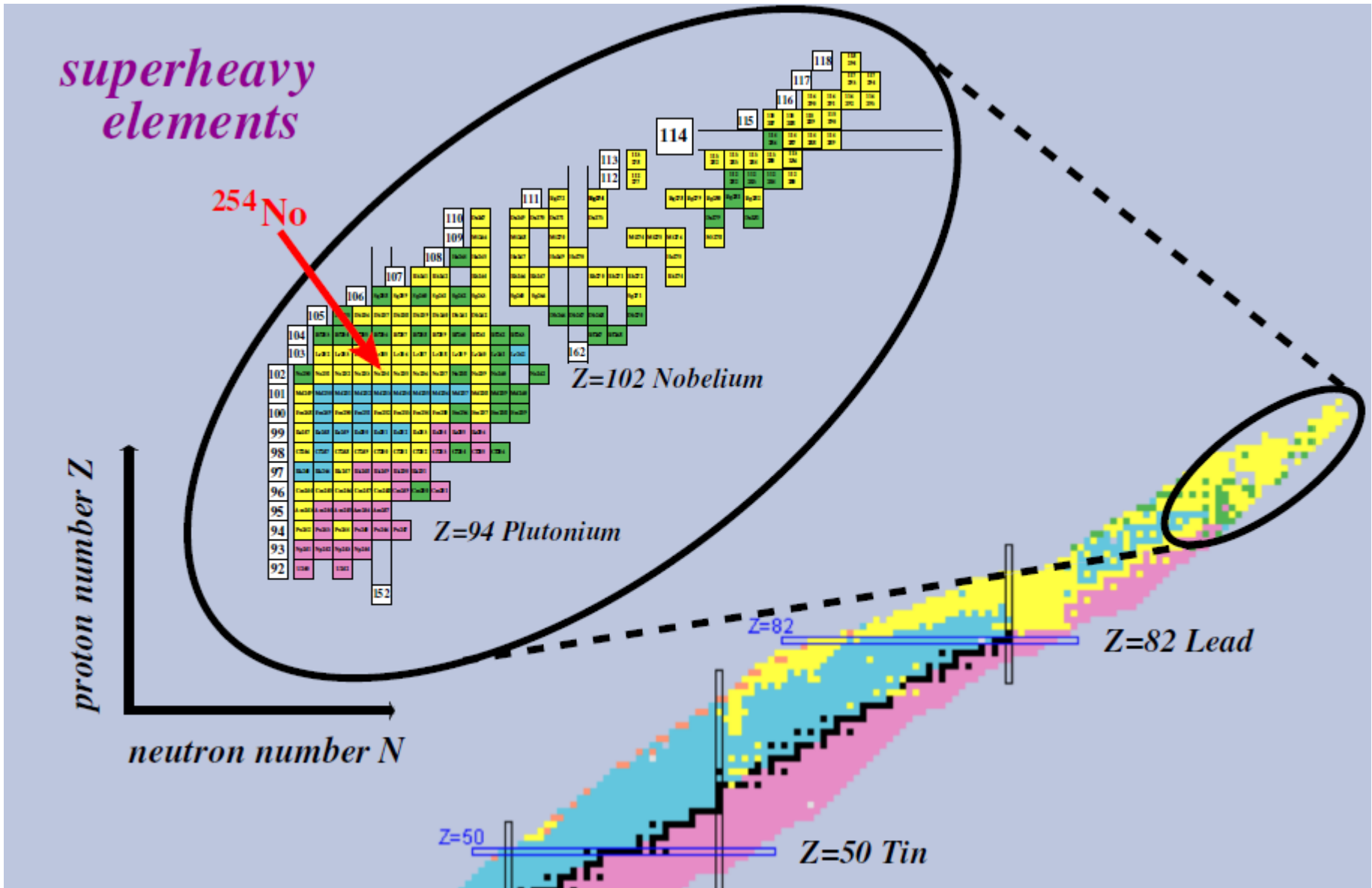
Chart of nuclides: the domain of heavy and superheavy elements



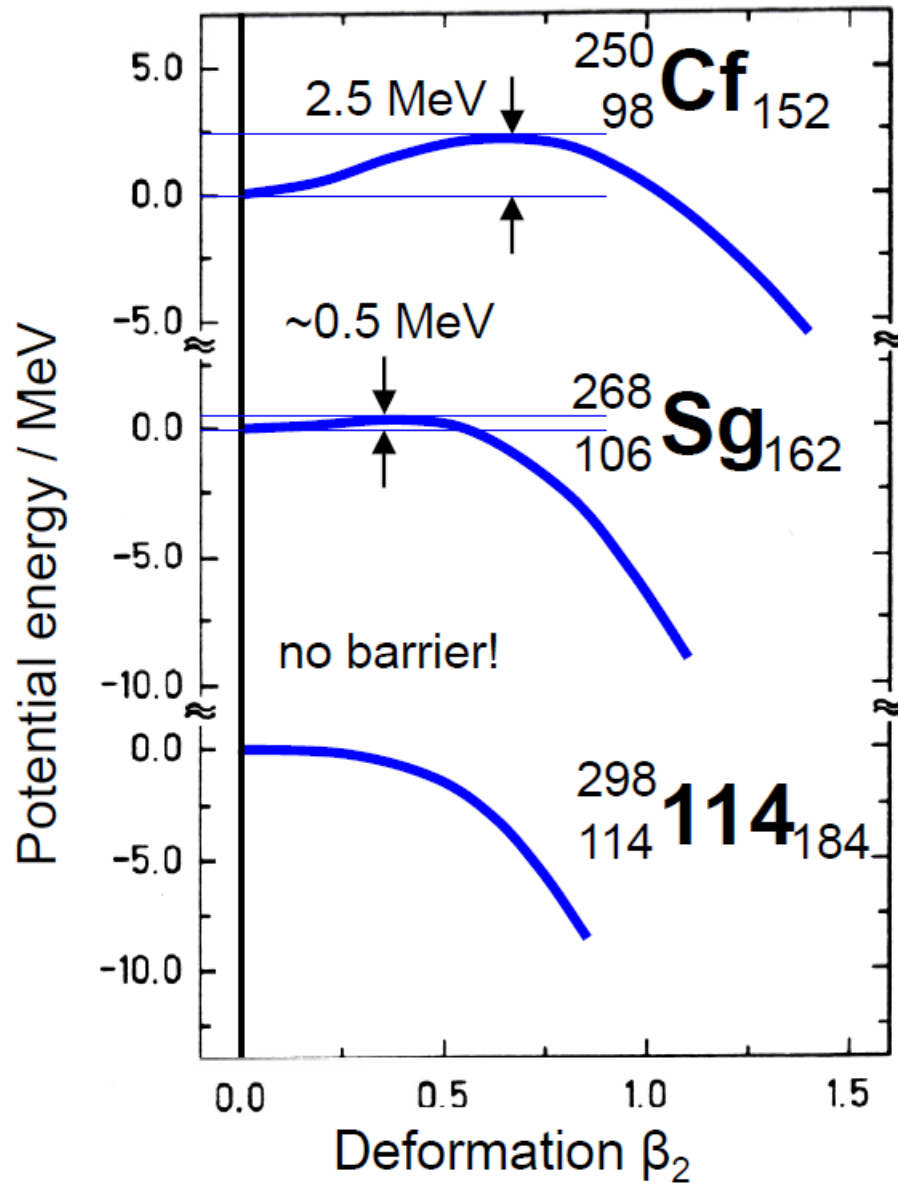
Calc.: A. Sobiczewski



What is the structure of SHE?

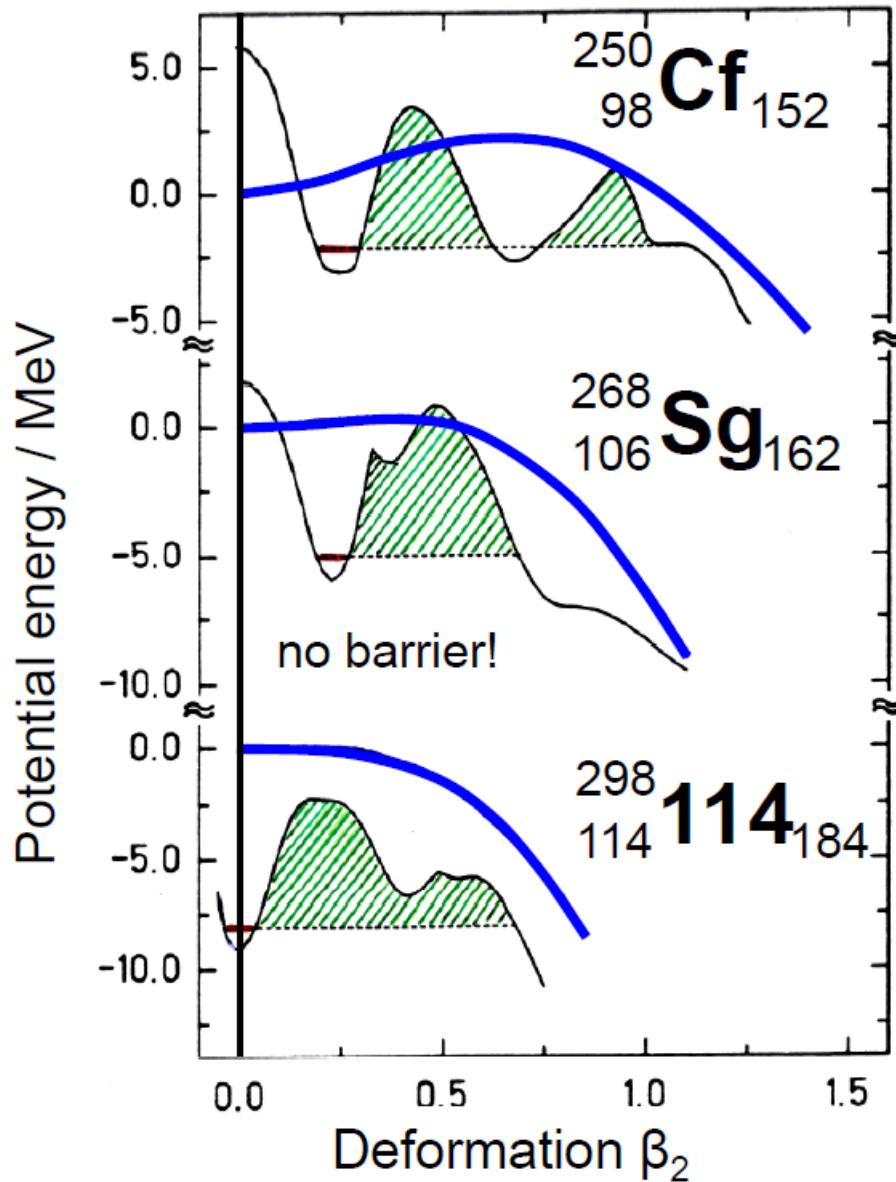


Influence of shell effects on fission barrier



— macroscopic barrier:
disappears at $Z \sim 104$!

Influence of shell effects on fission barrier



— macroscopic barrier:
disappears at $Z \sim 104$!

— with shell structure:

spherical \leftrightarrow deformed ground state

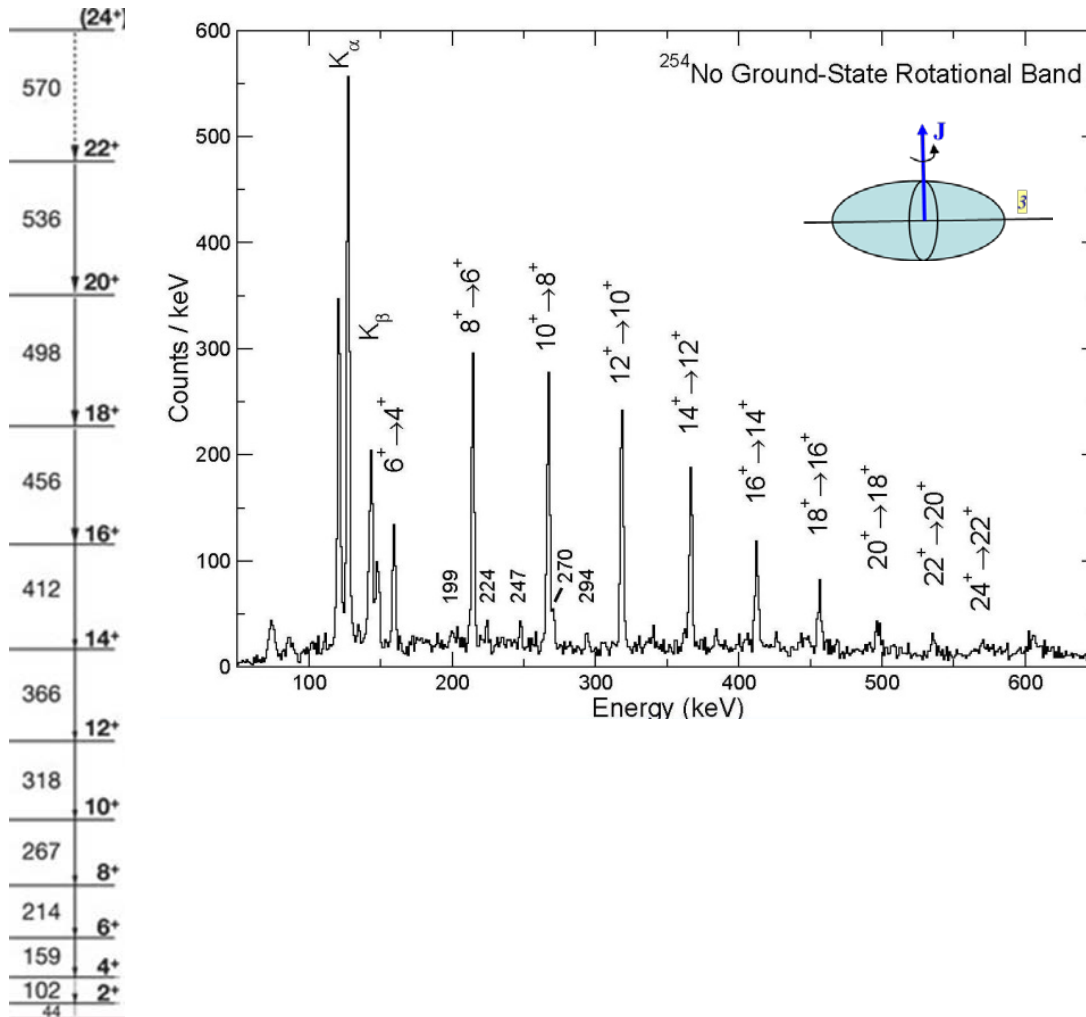
fission barrier is also > 0 for $Z \geq 104$

some fission barriers have complicated shapes,
multi-humped structure

elements exist only due to shell effects:

superheavy elements

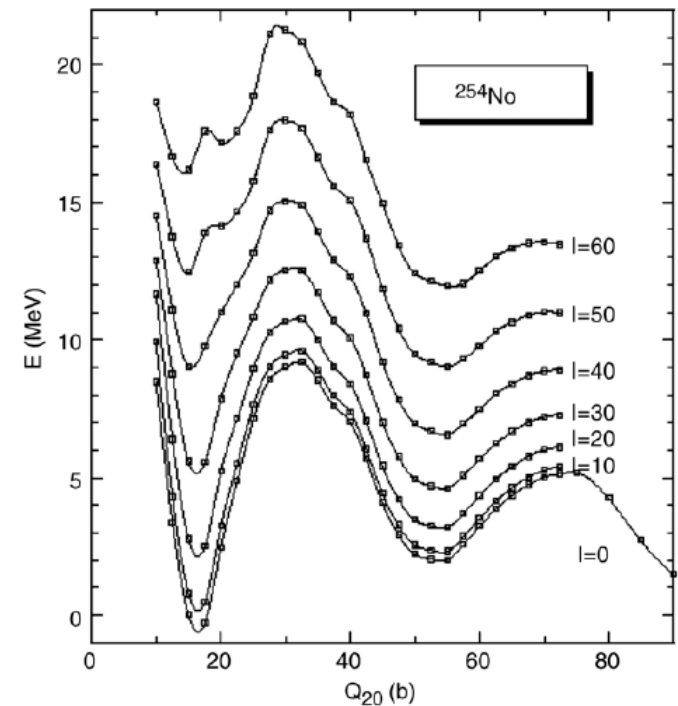
Spinning the heaviest elements



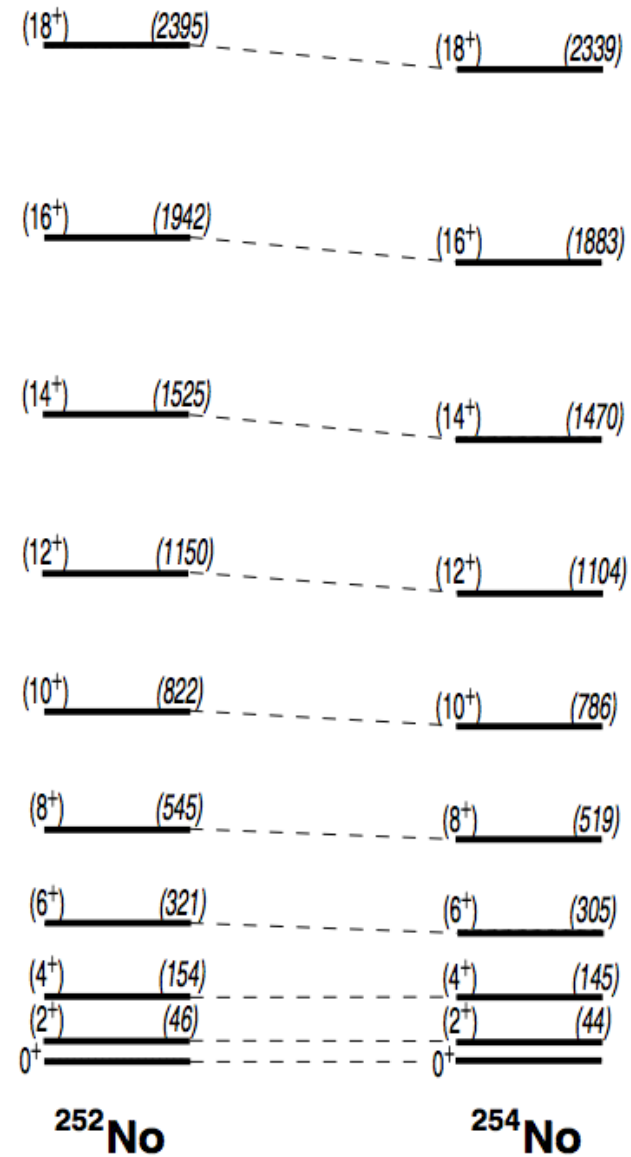
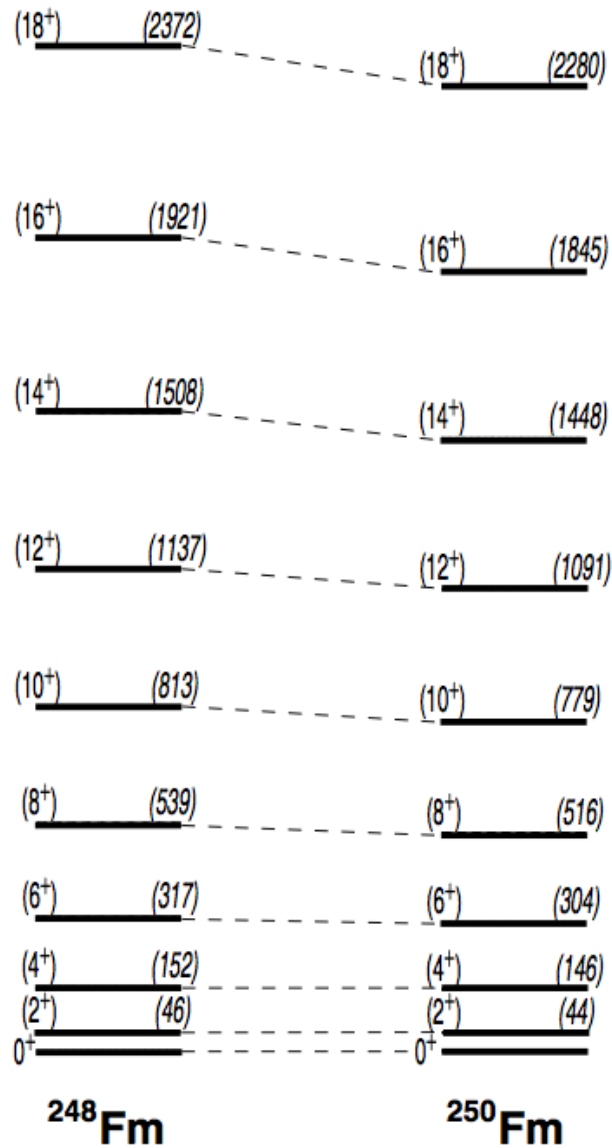
$$\text{rotational energy: } E_I = \frac{\hbar^2}{2\mathcal{I}} \cdot I(I + 1)$$

$$\gamma\text{-ray energy: } E_I - E_{I-2} = \frac{\hbar^2}{2\mathcal{I}} \cdot (4I - 2)$$

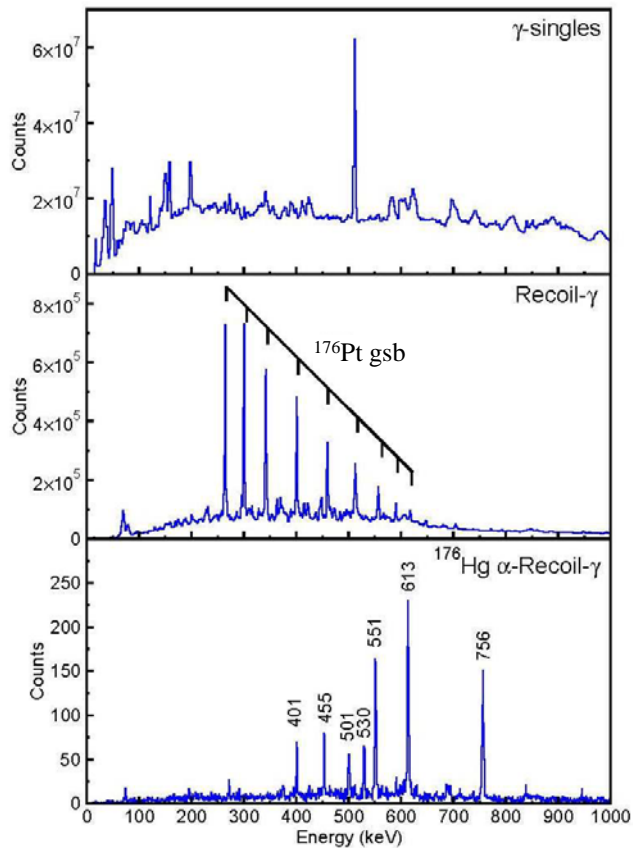
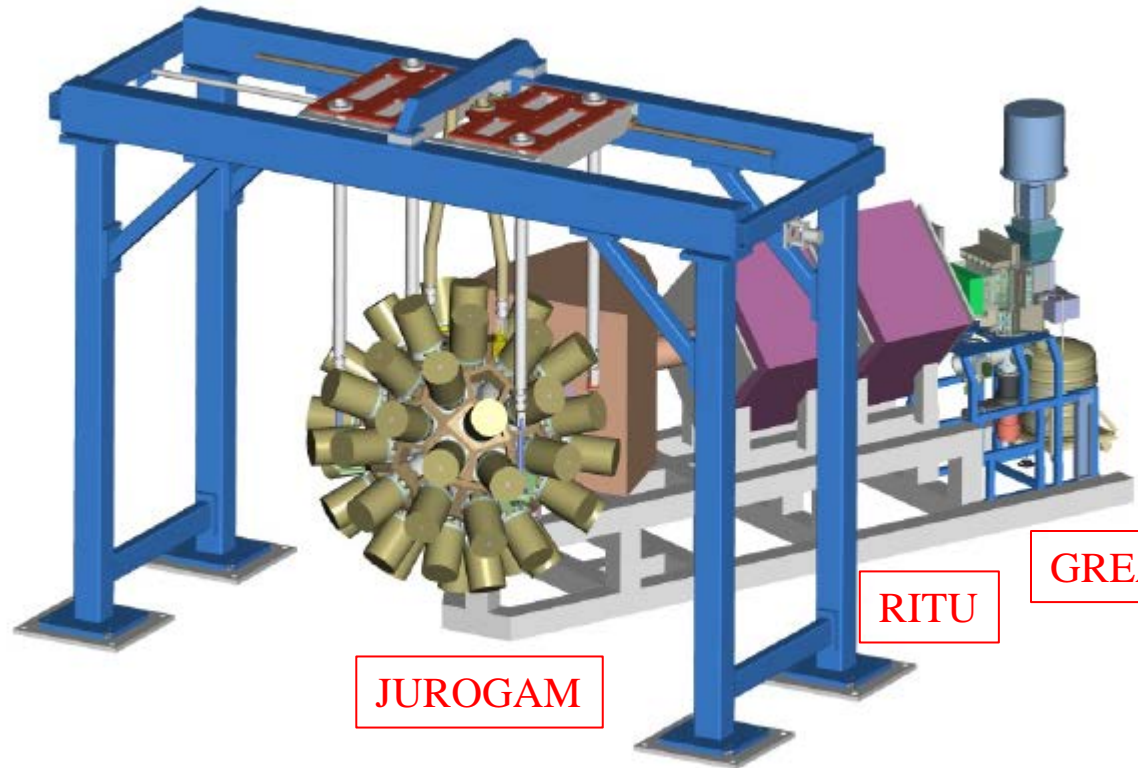
dependence of the fission barrier on spin I



Rotational Bands



In-beam spectroscopy: recoil-decay tagging

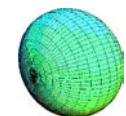
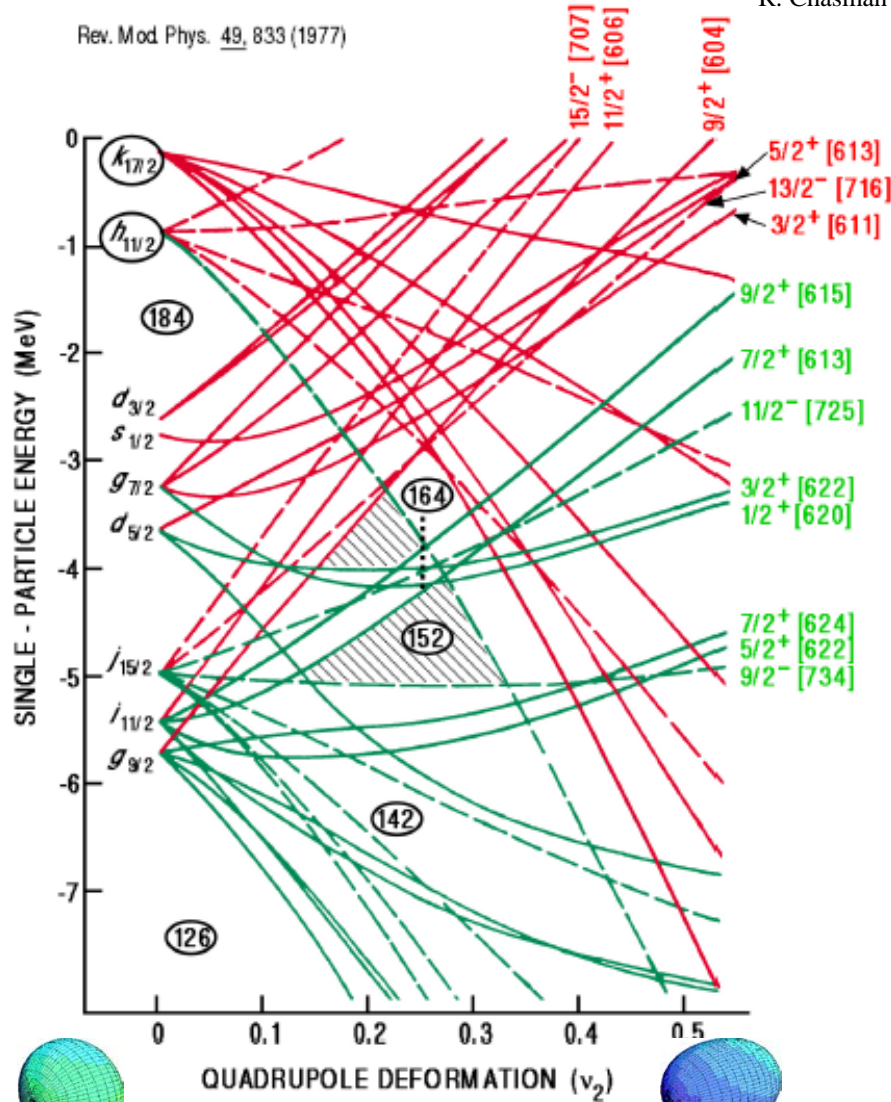


- Typical beam intensity: 6.25×10^{10} pps
- Total Gamma Ray Counting Rate: >1 MHz
- 10 nb - 3 reactions/hour
- 1 in 10^9 selectivity

Single particle orbitals

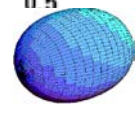
R. Chasman et al. Rev. Mod. Phys. 49 (1977), 833

Rev. Mod. Phys. 49, 833 (1977)



Oblate

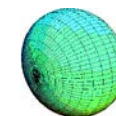
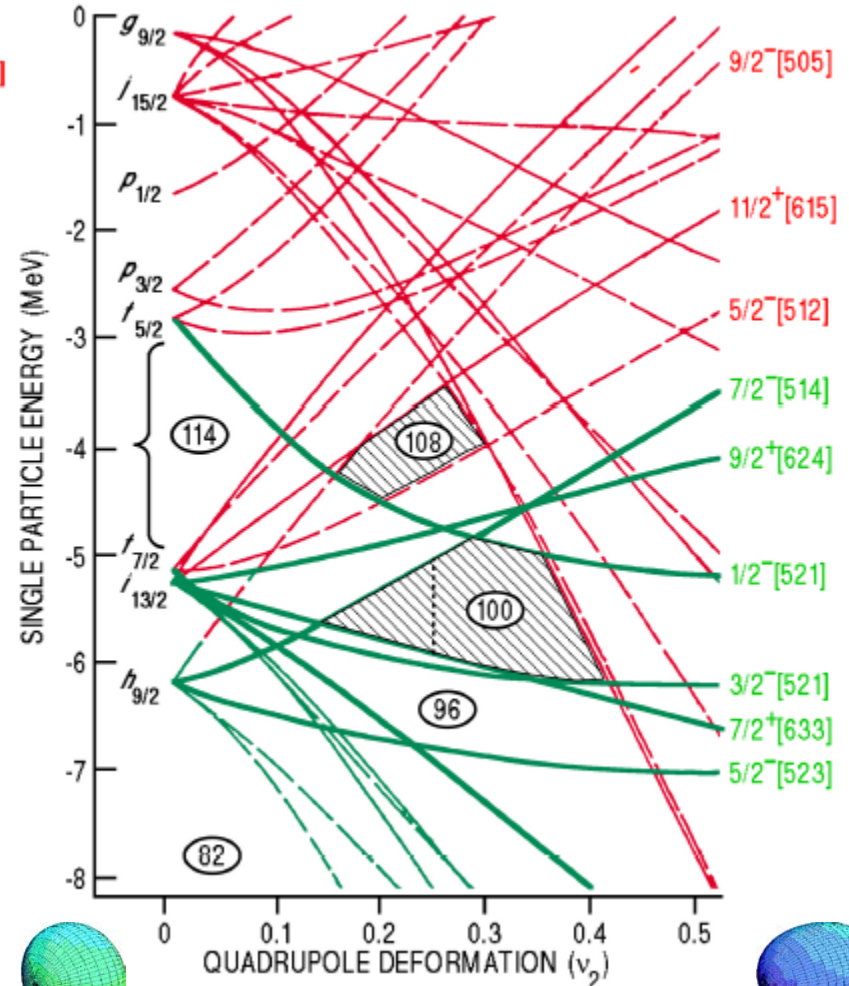
$^{254}_{102}\text{No}_{152}$ $\beta_2 \sim 0.28$



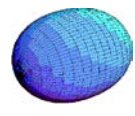
Prolate

Rev. Mod. Phys. 49, 833 (1977)

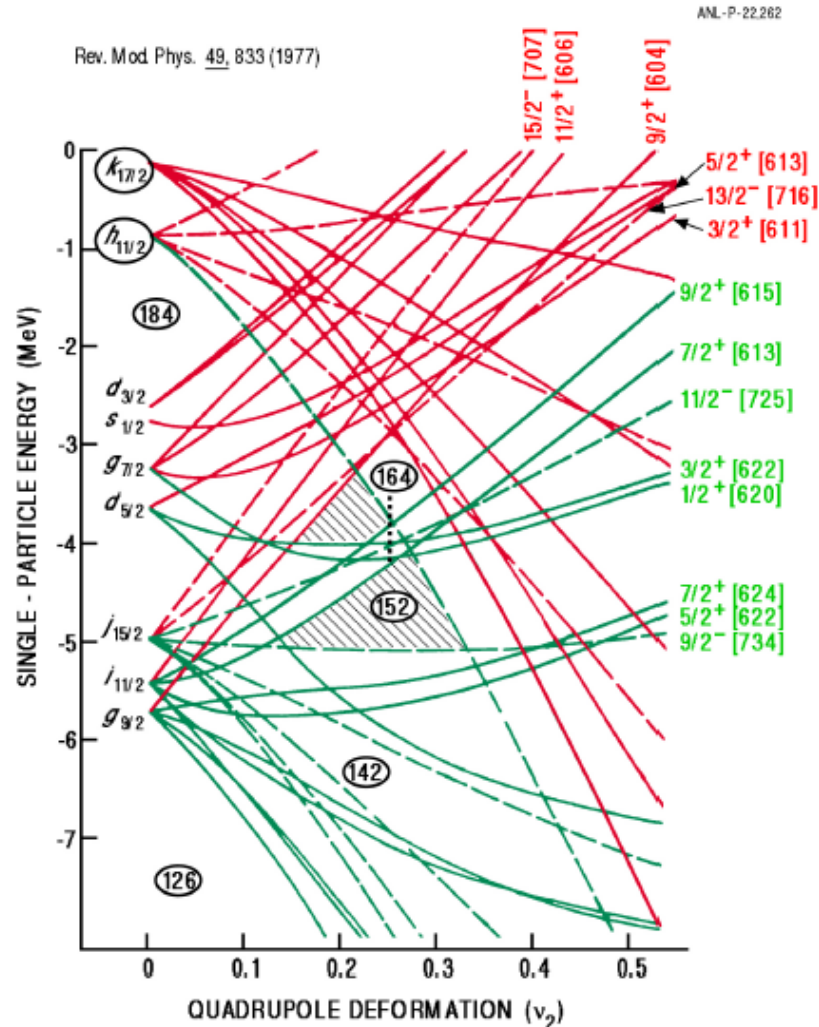
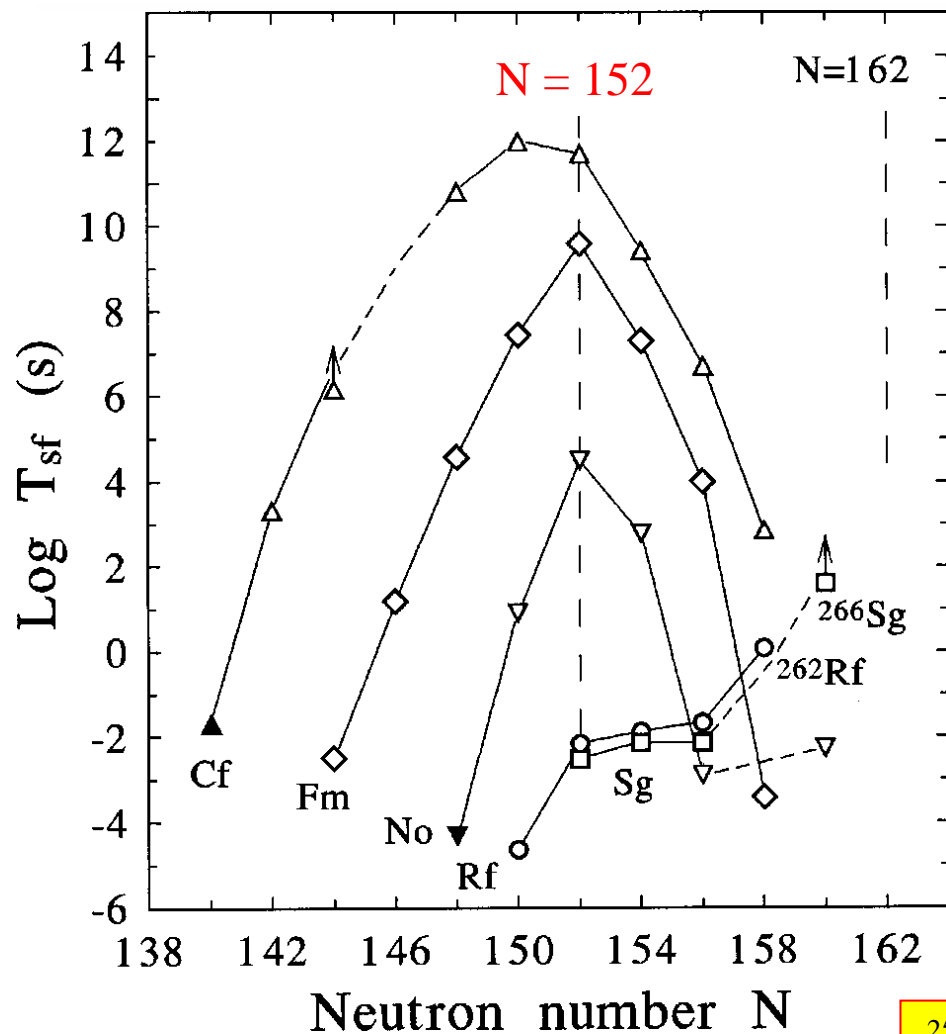
ANL-P-22,033



QUADRUPOLE DEFORMATION (ν_2)



Stability of heavy elements – Nilsson level energy gap

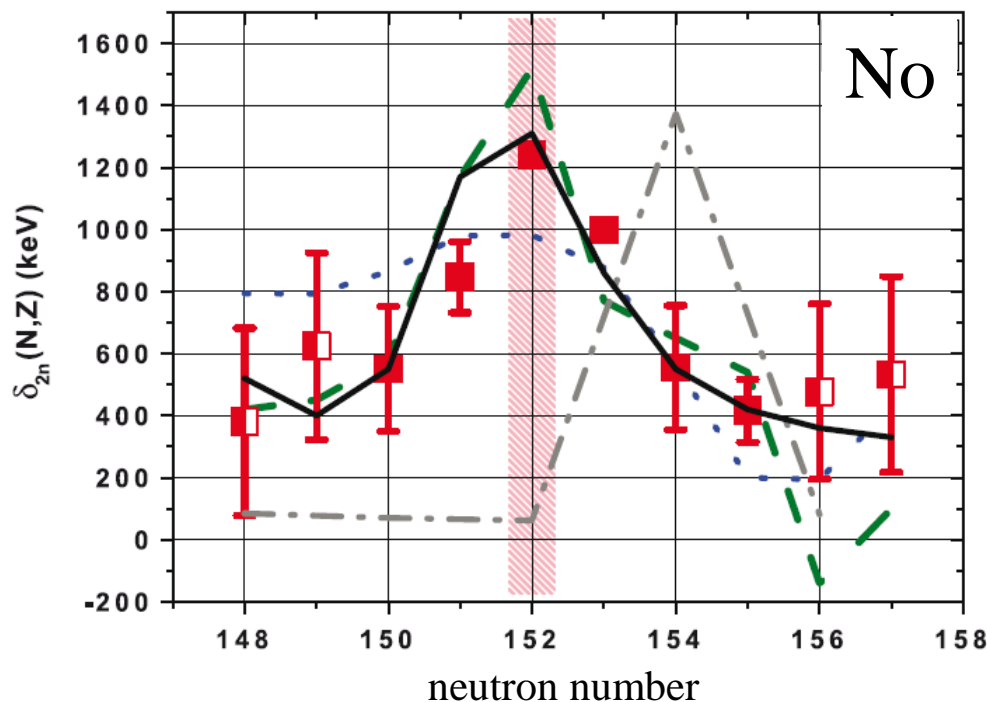


^{254}No ($Z=102$), ^{252}Fm ($Z=100$) and ^{250}Cf ($Z=98$)
with $N=152$
 seem to be more stable than their neighbors

Shiptrap: Probing the strength of shell effects

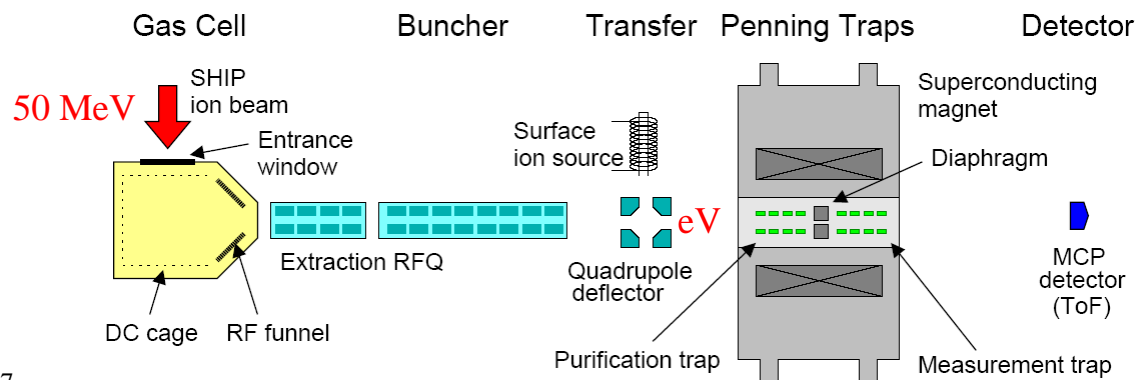
$$\delta_{2n}(N, Z) = 2 \cdot B(N, Z) - B(N - 2, Z) - B(N + 2, Z)$$

$$\delta_{2n}(N, Z) = S_{2n}(N, Z) - S_{2n}(N + 2, Z)$$



Muntian (mic-mac), Z=114 N=184
 Möller FRDM, Z=114 N=184
 TW-99, Z=120 N=172
 SkM*, Z=126 N=184

$^{206}\text{Pb}(^{48}\text{Ca}, 2n)^{252}\text{No}$
 $^{207}\text{Pb}(^{48}\text{Ca}, 2n)^{253}\text{No}$
 $^{208}\text{Pb}(^{48}\text{Ca}, 2n)^{254}\text{No}$
 $^{208}\text{Pb}(^{48}\text{Ca}, 1n)^{255}\text{No}$



E. Minaya Ramirez et al.; Science 337 (2012), 1207

Isomeric states in even-even nuclei

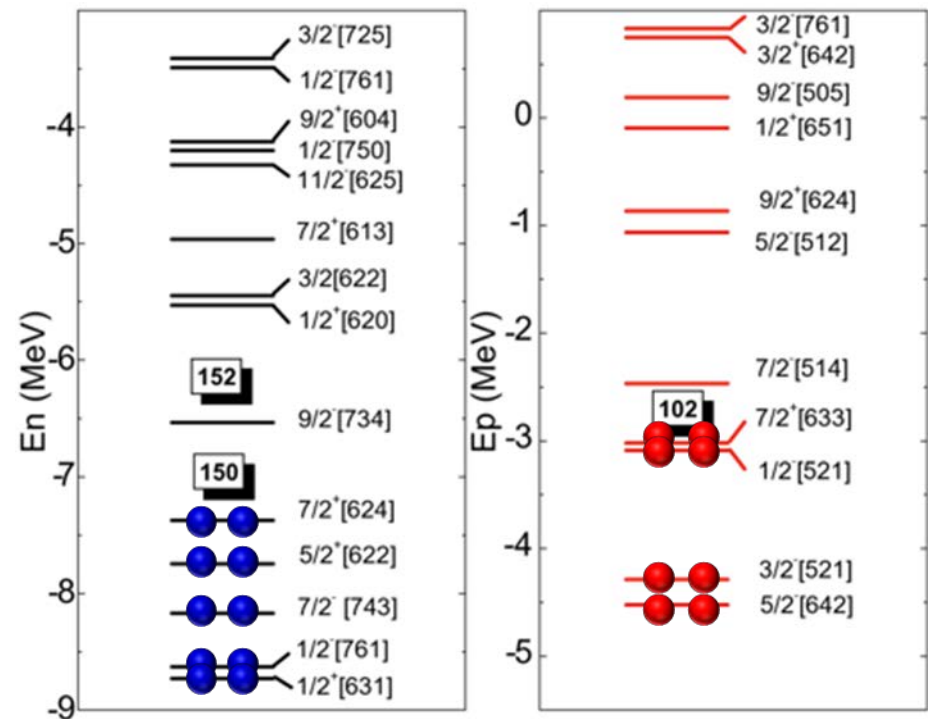
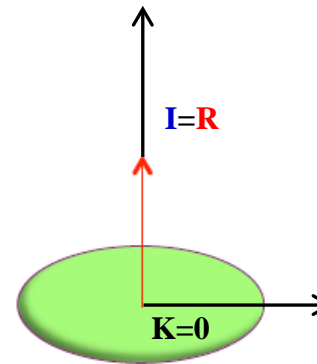
Why K-isomers occur?

- deformed nuclei
- breaking of particle pair at Fermi surface
- selection rule for electromagnetic transitions $\lambda \geq \Delta K$ is not fulfilled
- excitation energy of quasi-particle:

$$E = \sqrt{(\varepsilon - \lambda)^2 + \Delta^2}$$

What we can learn?

- information about Nilsson level energy gaps
- influence on stability of superheavy elements
- pairing interaction



Isomeric states in even-even nuclei

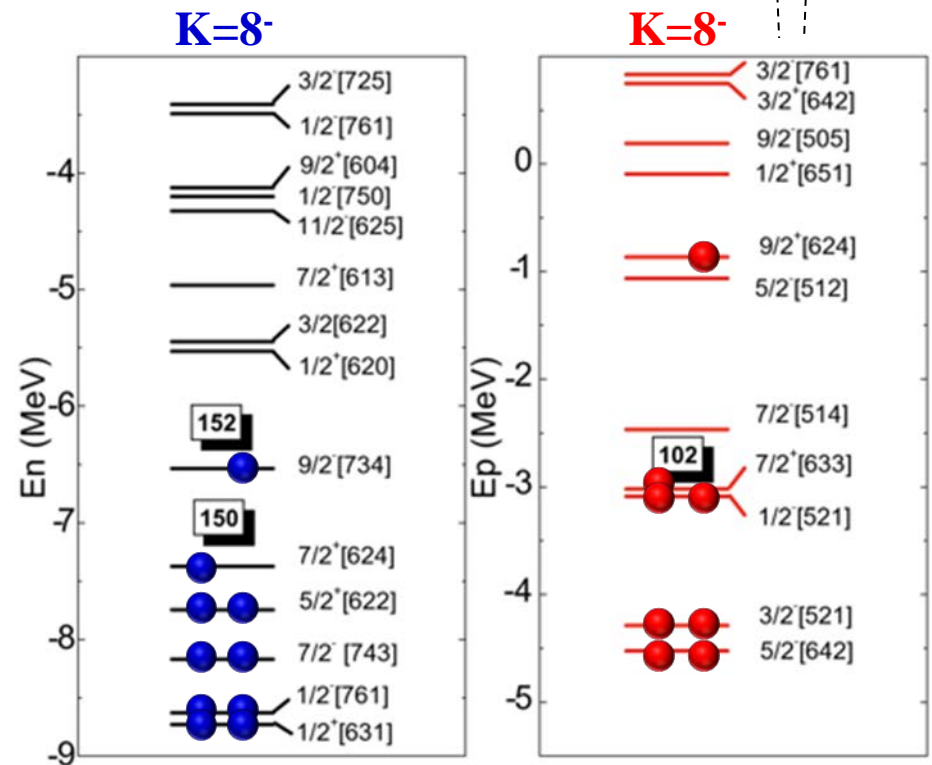
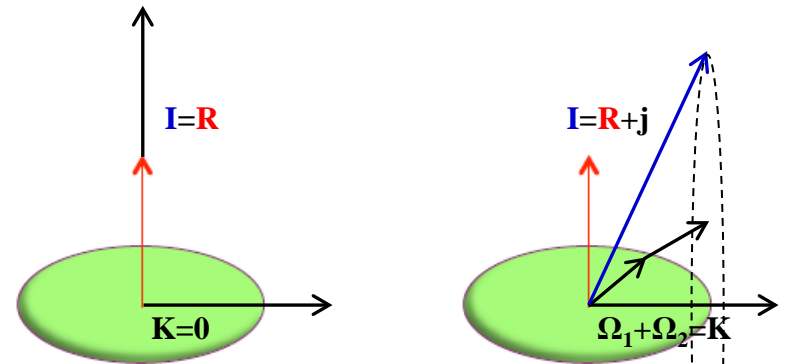
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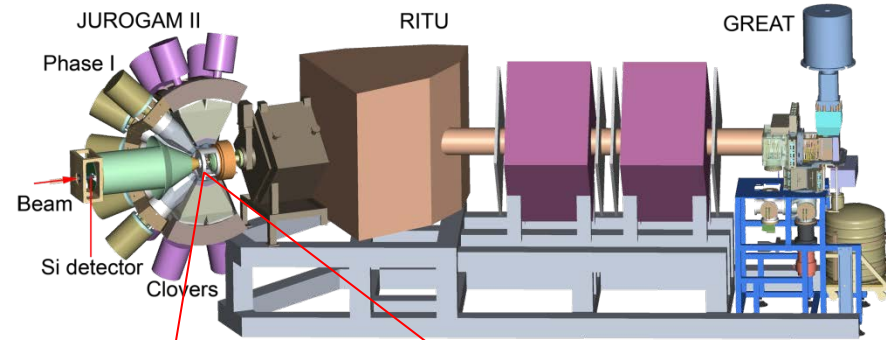
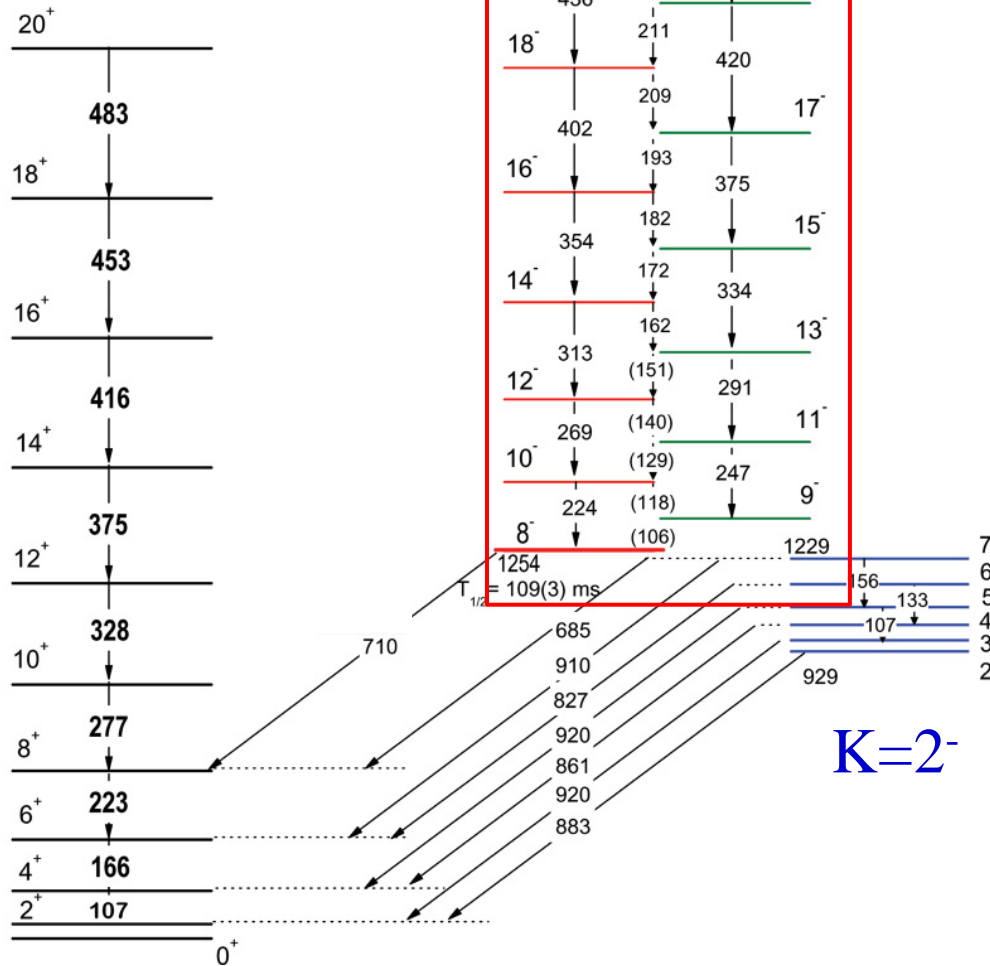
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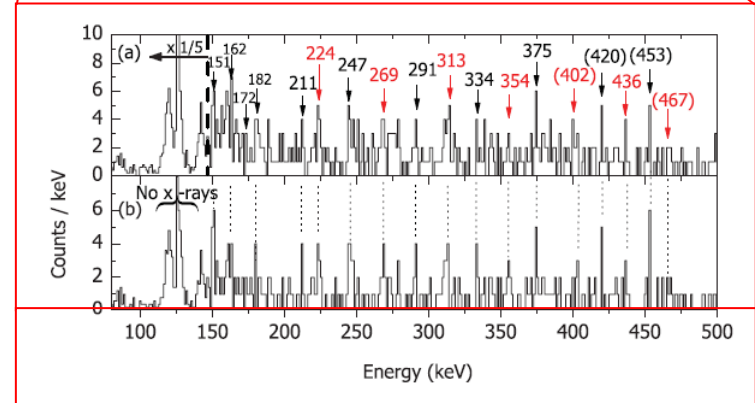
K-isomers in ^{252}No

K=8⁻

$\nu[734] 9/2^- \otimes \nu[624] 7/2^+$



K=8⁻



B. Sulignano et al; Phys. Rev. C 86, 044318 (2012)

Neutron single particle states in ^{252}No

7/2+[624] Nilsson configuration $i_{11/2}$

9/2-[734] Nilsson configuration $j_{15/2}$

$$g(j) = \begin{cases} \frac{2\ell \cdot g_\ell + g_s}{2\ell + 1} & \text{for } j = \ell + 1/2 \\ \frac{2(\ell + 1) \cdot g_\ell - g_s}{2\ell + 1} & \text{for } j = \ell - 1/2 \end{cases}$$

proton: $g_t = 1$ $g_s = 5.59$

neutron: $g_t = 0$ $g_s = -3.83$

$$g_k \nu\nu(\text{th.}) \\ 0.01$$

$$g(i_{11/2}) = +0.295 \quad g(j_{15/2}) = -0.255$$

$$g(j_1 \times j_2; J) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot (g_1 + g_2) + \frac{j_1(j_1 + 1) - j_2(j_2 + 1)}{2J(J + 1)} \cdot (g_1 - g_2)$$

$$g(i_{11/2} \times j_{15/2}; 8) = 0.09$$

$$B(M1; I \rightarrow I - 1) = \frac{3}{4\pi} [g_K - g_R]^2 \cdot K^2 |\langle IK10 | (I - 1)K \rangle|^2$$

$$B(E2; I \rightarrow I - 2) = \frac{5}{16\pi} Q_0^2 |\langle IK20 | (I - 2)K \rangle|^2$$

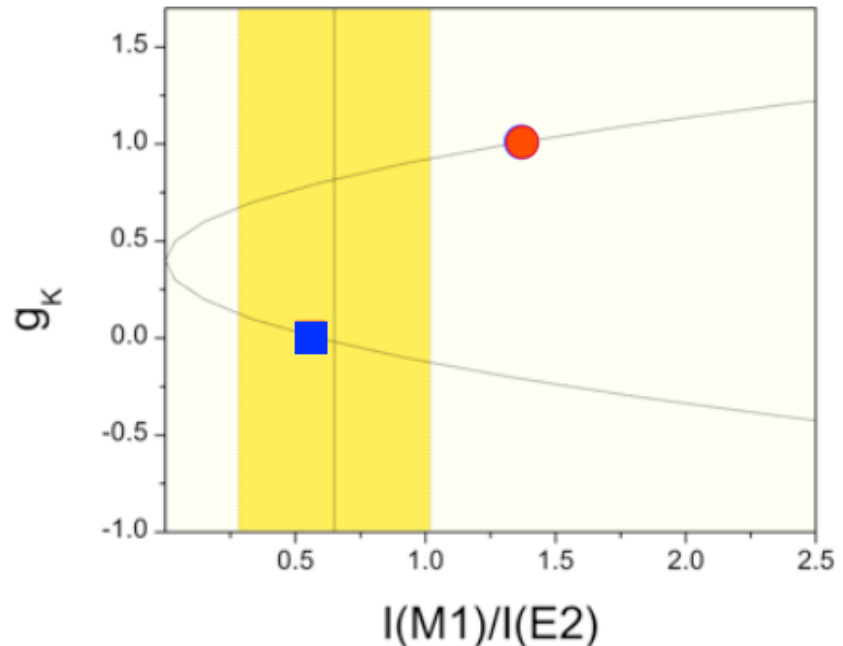
$$g_R = Z/A = 0.40$$

$$g_k \pi\pi(\text{th.}) \\ 1.001$$

Branching ratio

$$R_{\text{exp}} = I_\gamma(J \rightarrow J - 1) / I_\gamma(J \rightarrow J - 2)$$

$$R_{\text{th}} = \frac{T(M1)}{T(E2)} = \frac{1.76[E_\gamma(M1)]^3 B(M1)s^{-1}}{1.22[E_\gamma(E2)]^5 B(E2)s^{-1}}; \propto \frac{(g_K - g_R)^2}{Q_0^2}$$

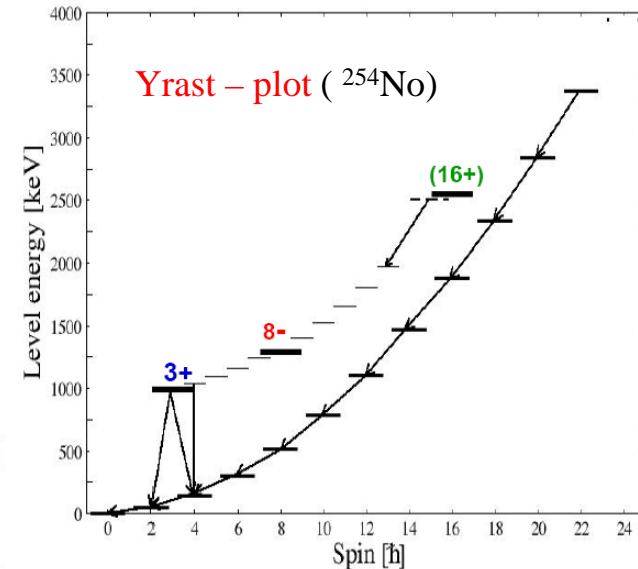
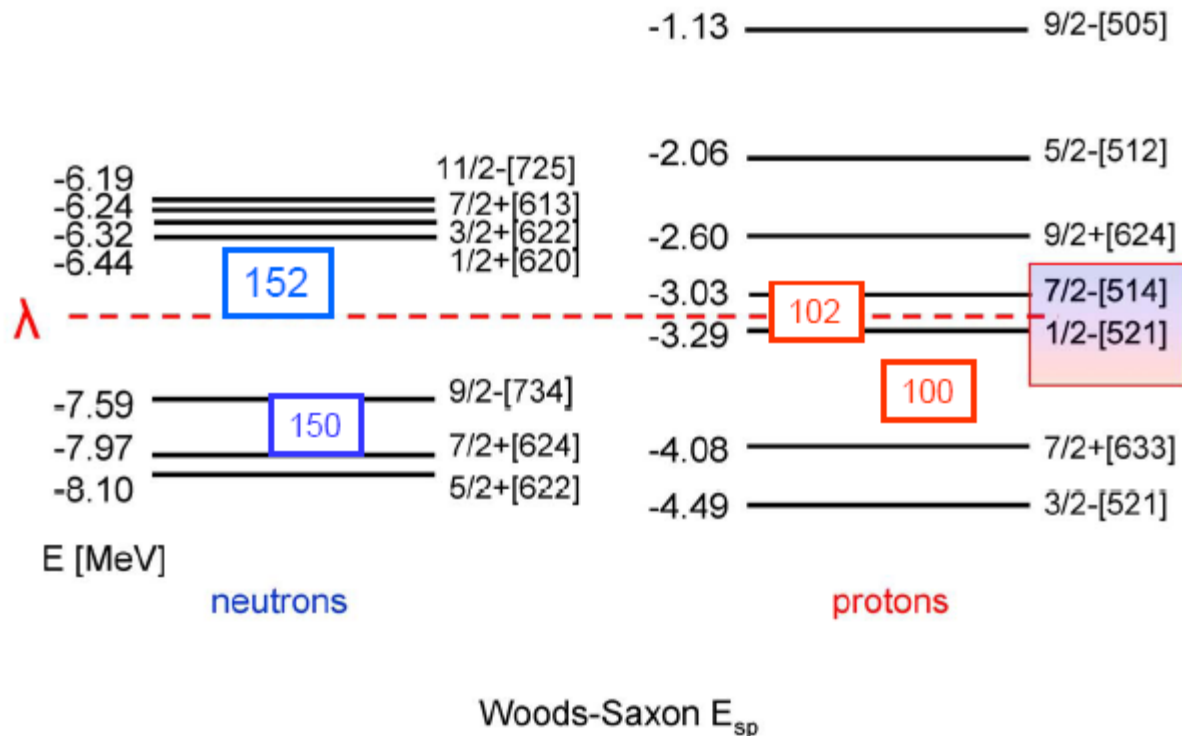


The isomer $K=8^-$ is based on 2-qn excitation

K-isomeric states

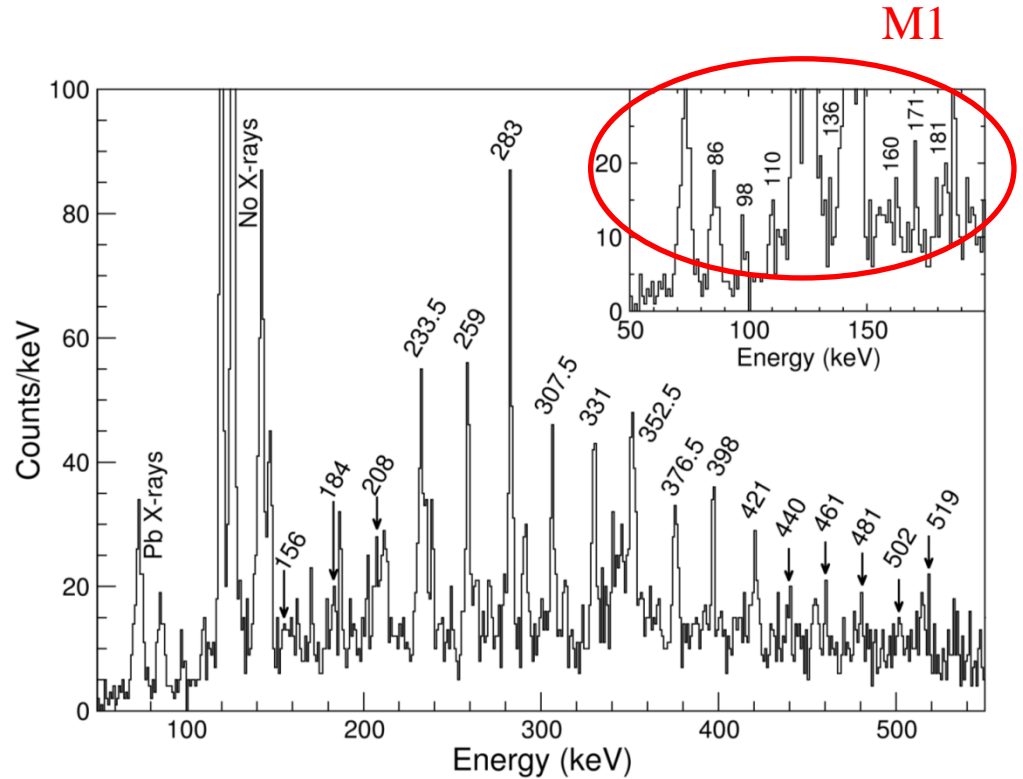
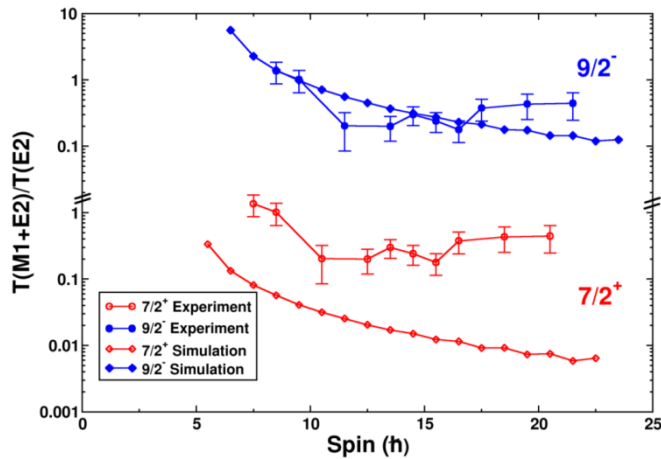
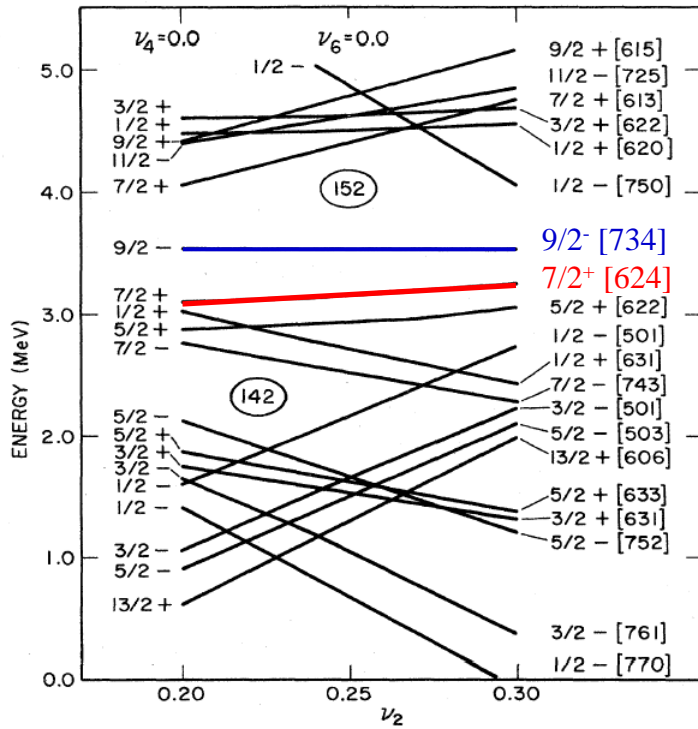
Exp. results: excitation of isomeric states

^{254}No with $Z=102$ and $N=152$ – **protons** will be excited easily
 ^{250}Fm with $Z=100$ and $N=150$ – **neutrons** will be excited easily

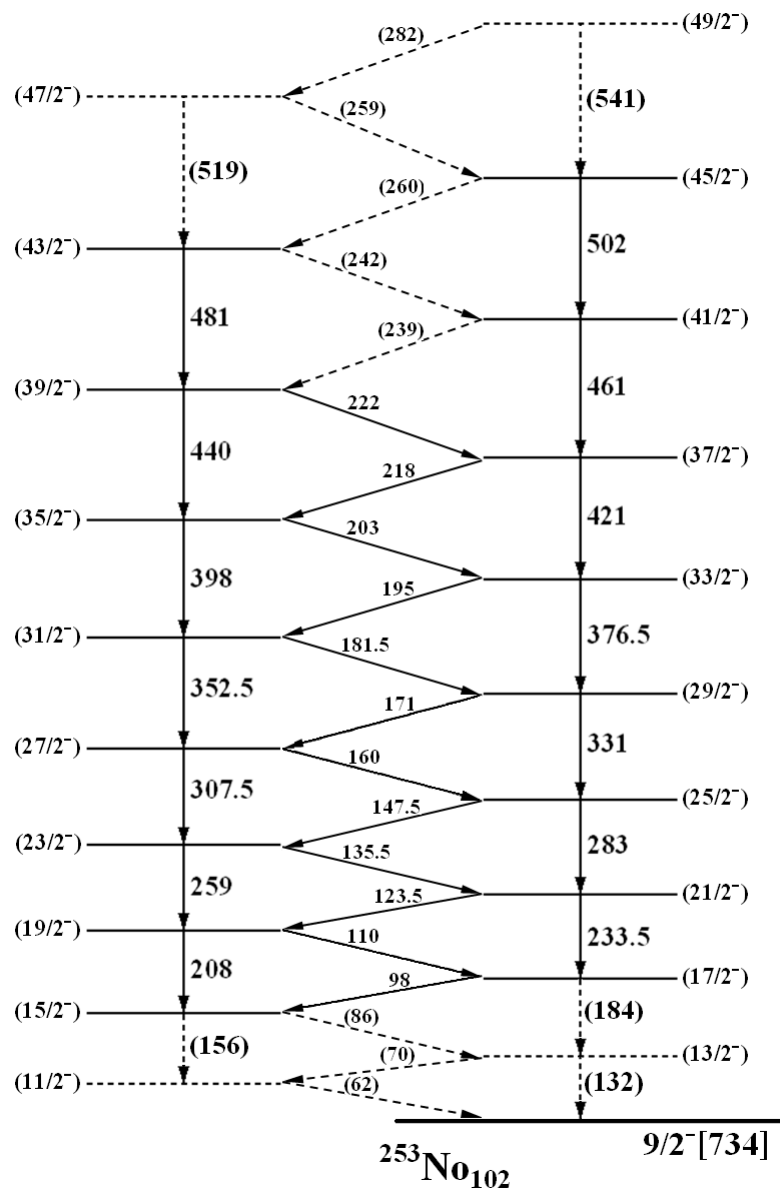
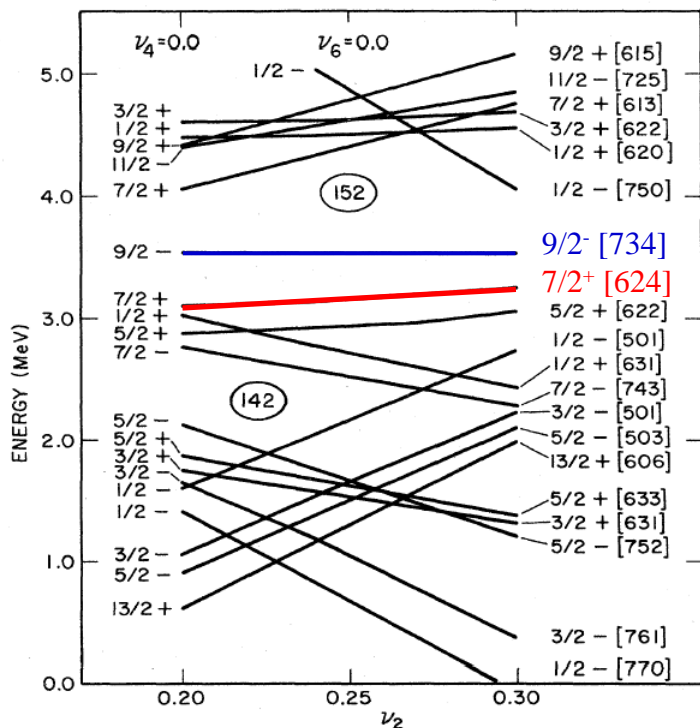


Level scheme of ^{253}No (151 neutrons)

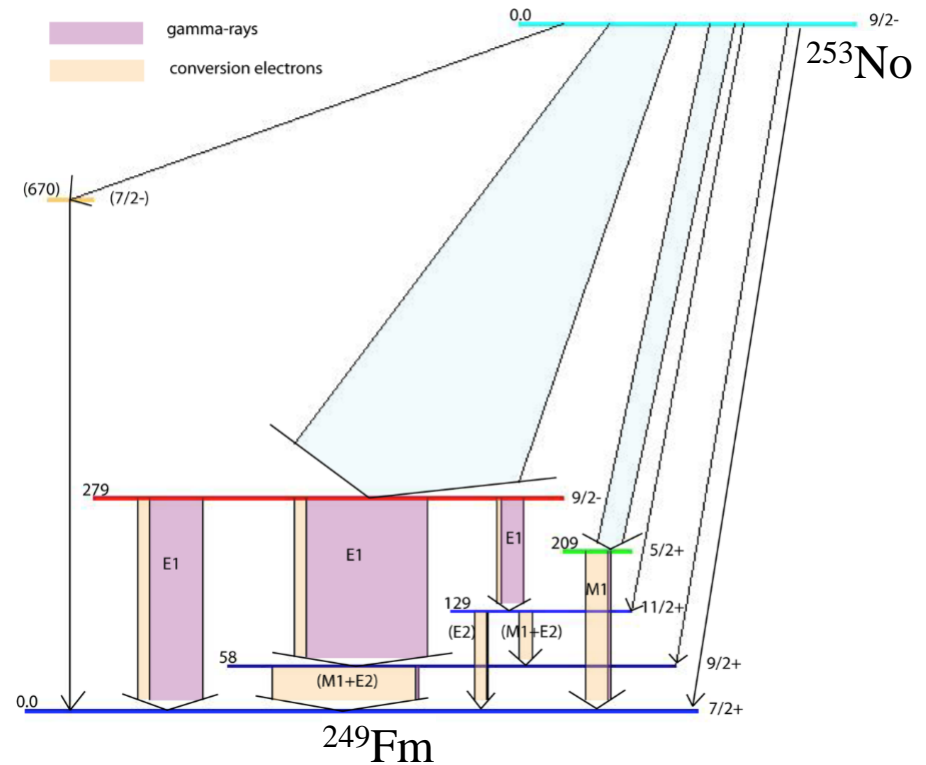
- ❖ ground state $9/2^-$
- ❖ excited state $7/2^+$
- ❖ rotational band observed at Gammasphere & JUROGAM



Level scheme of ^{253}No (151 neutrons)



Alpha decay of ^{253}No



In general, α -decay in even-even parents lead to the ground state of the daughter nucleus so that the emitted particle carries away as much energy as possible and as little angular momentum as possible.

α -decays of *odd-A* heavy nuclei populate predominantly low-lying excited states that *match the spin of the parent* so that the orbital angular momentum of the α -particle can be zero.

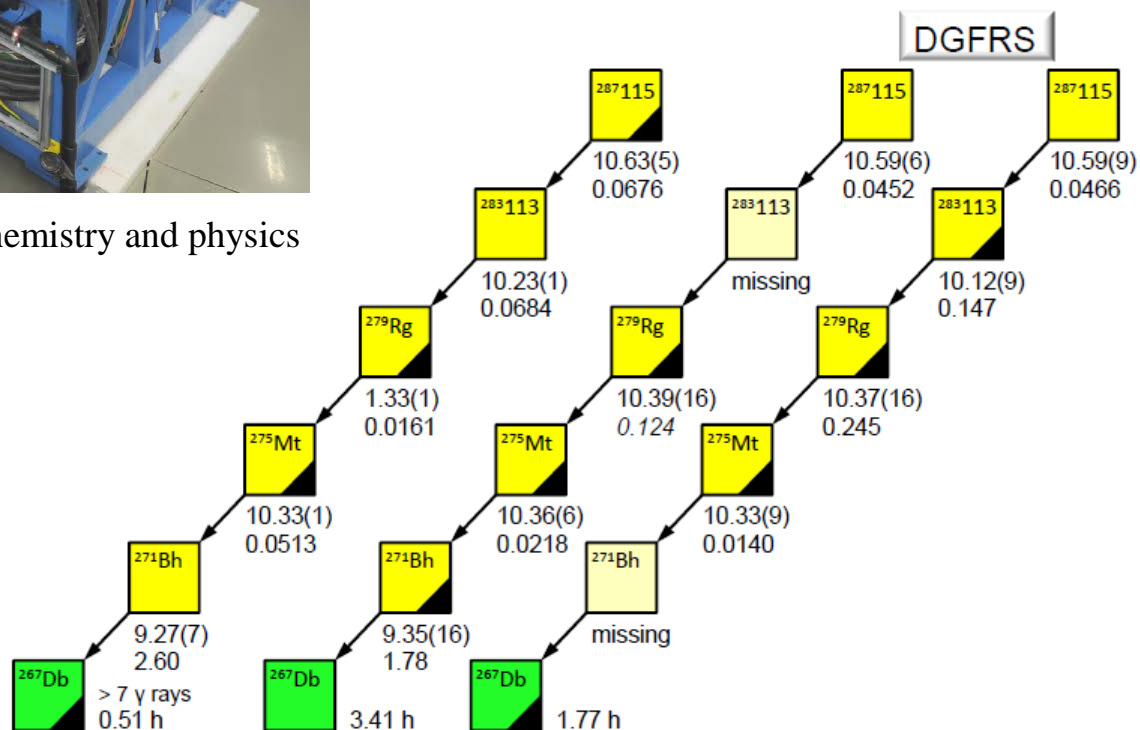
Spectroscopy of element 115



TASCA

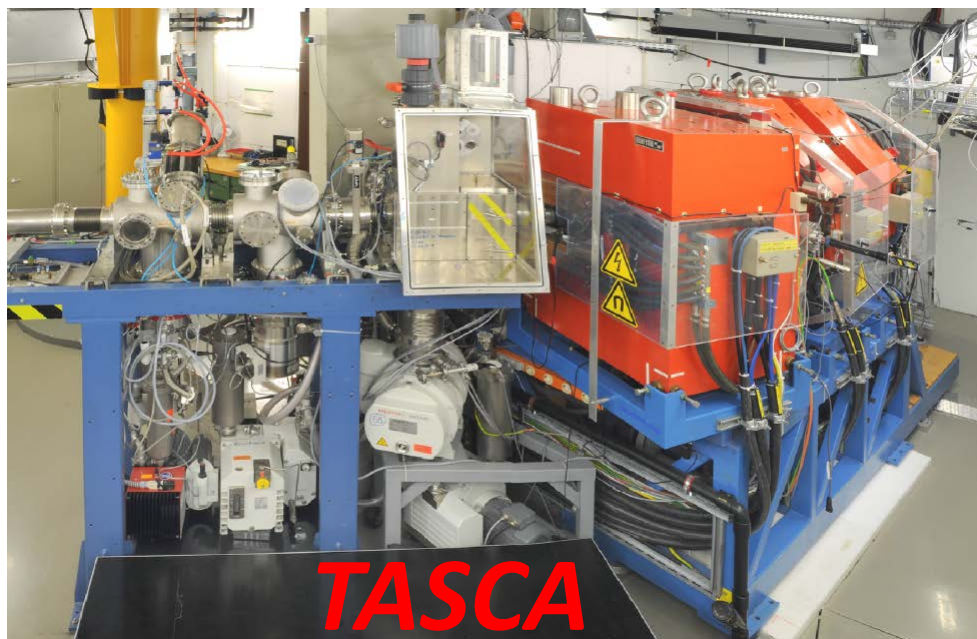
Recoil separator for superheavy element chemistry and physics

1 chain (out of 30) is compatible with
2 chains (out of 37) associated with the
 4n channel $^{287}_{115}\text{Mc}$ by *Oganessian et al.*



Dubna Gas Filled Recoil Separator

Spectroscopy of element 115



^{243}Am target wheel

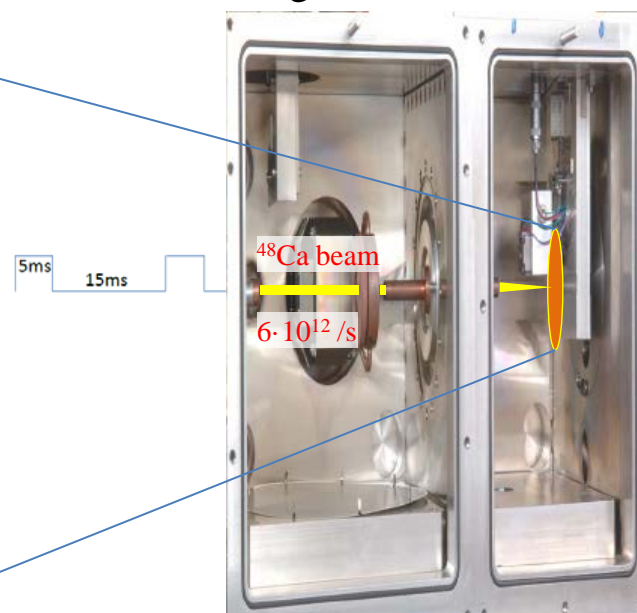
0.83 mg/cm^2

$20 \text{ mg}, 5 \cdot 10^{19}$

$> 150 \text{ MBq } \alpha, \beta, \gamma$

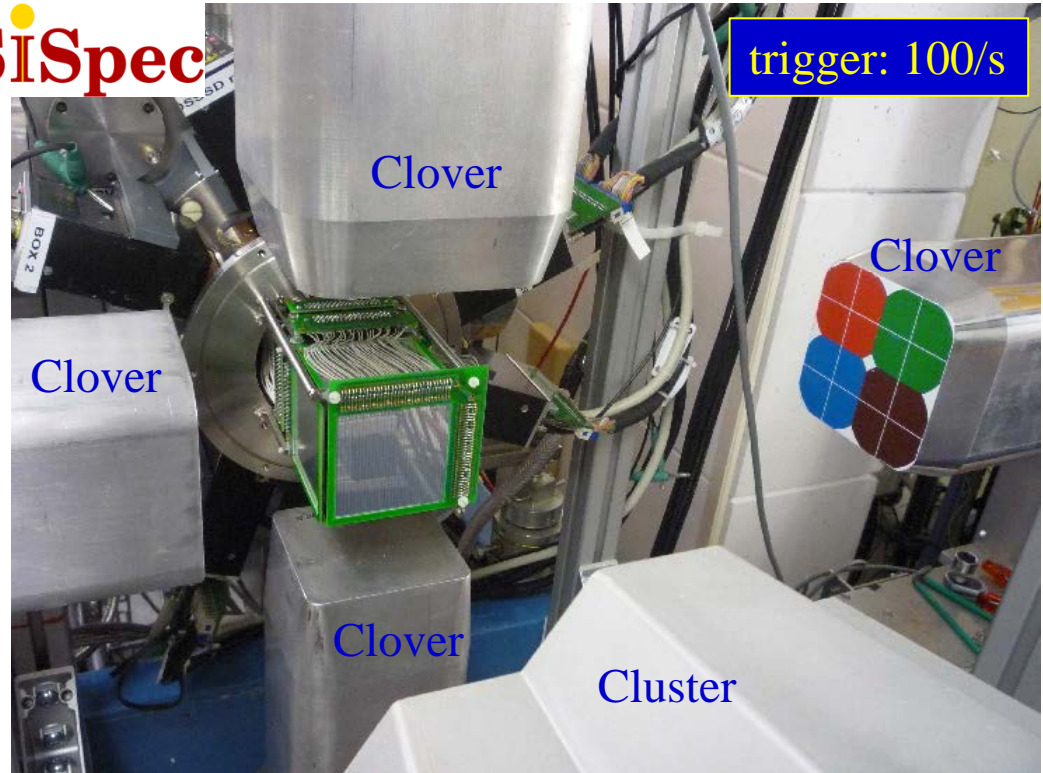


target chamber side view



Spectroscopy of element 115

TASISpec



Highly efficient multi-coincidence spectroscopy set-up for TASCA's very compact focal plane image

1 Implantation DSSSD (1024 pixels)
4 box-DSSSDs (1024 pixels)
→ ~ 80% α -detection efficiency

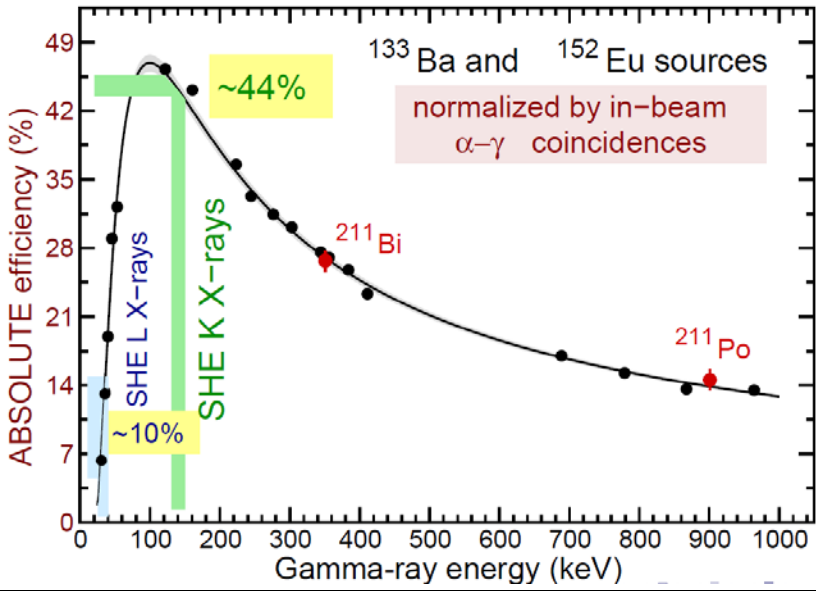
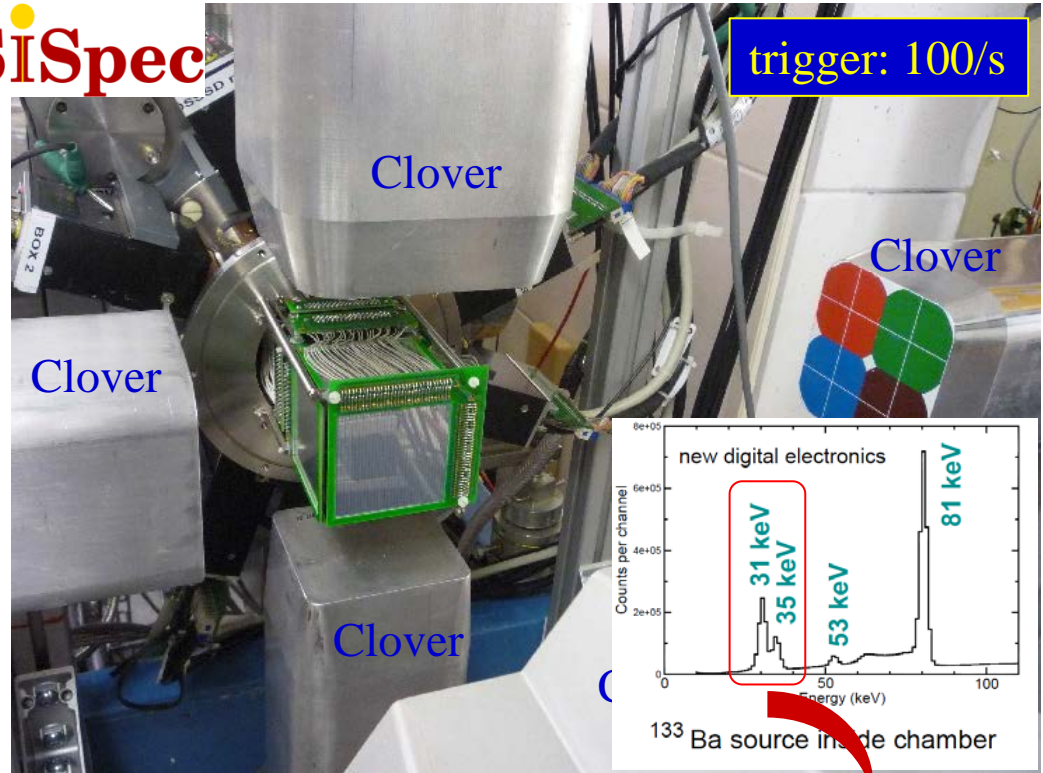
4 Ge Clover (4·4 crystals)
1 Ge Cluster (7 crystals)
→ ~ 40% γ -detection eff. at 150 keV

TASCA Small Image mode SPECTroscopy

TASISpec

Highly efficient multi-coincidence spectroscopy set-up for TASCA's very compact focal plane image

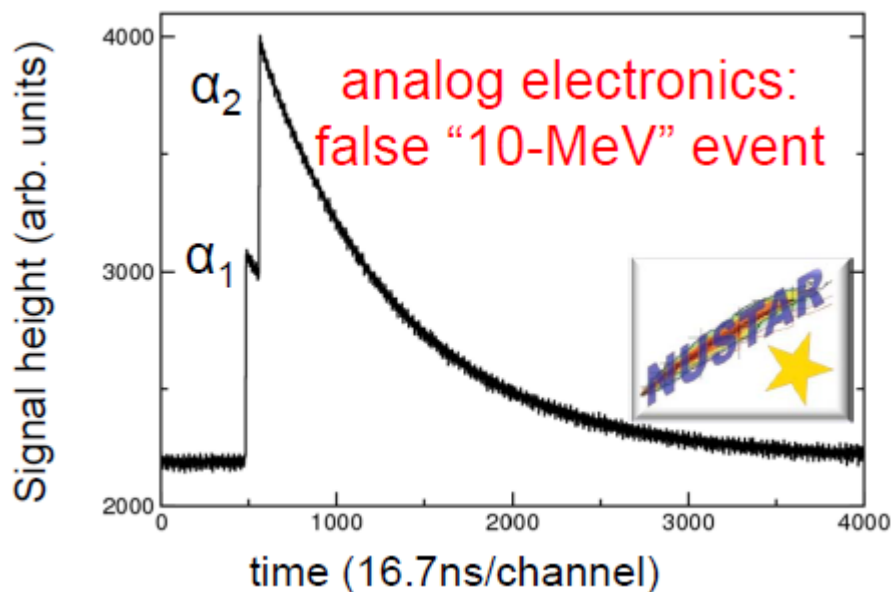
- 1 Implantation DSSSD (1024 pixels)
- 4 box-DSSSDs (1024 pixels)
- ~ 80% α -detection efficiency



Ba_{56} K X-rays \equiv Nh_{113} L X-rays !!!

96 DSSSD p-sides

60 MHz dead-time free sampling ADC
“FEBEX” cards developed at GSI-EE

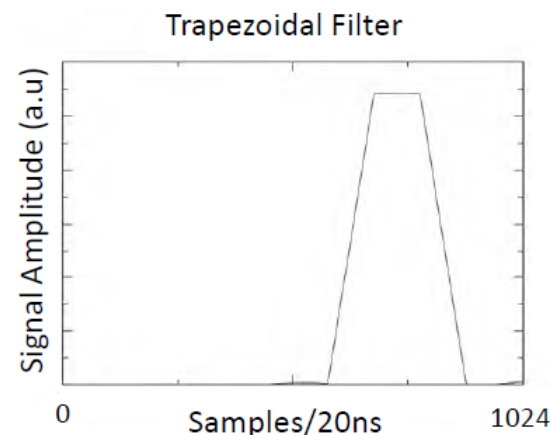


- detect summing, reduce background
- software optimization (MWD) towards best possible resolution
- large dynamic range (linear within 0.1 – 100 MeV, time-over threshold)

25 Ge crystals

100 MHz commercial sampling ADCs,
4x SIS3302 cards, FPGA processed:

- flat-top energy
- baseline
- pile-up flagging



That allows to ...

- restore baseline in software
- retain (almost) nominal Ge-detector energy resolution

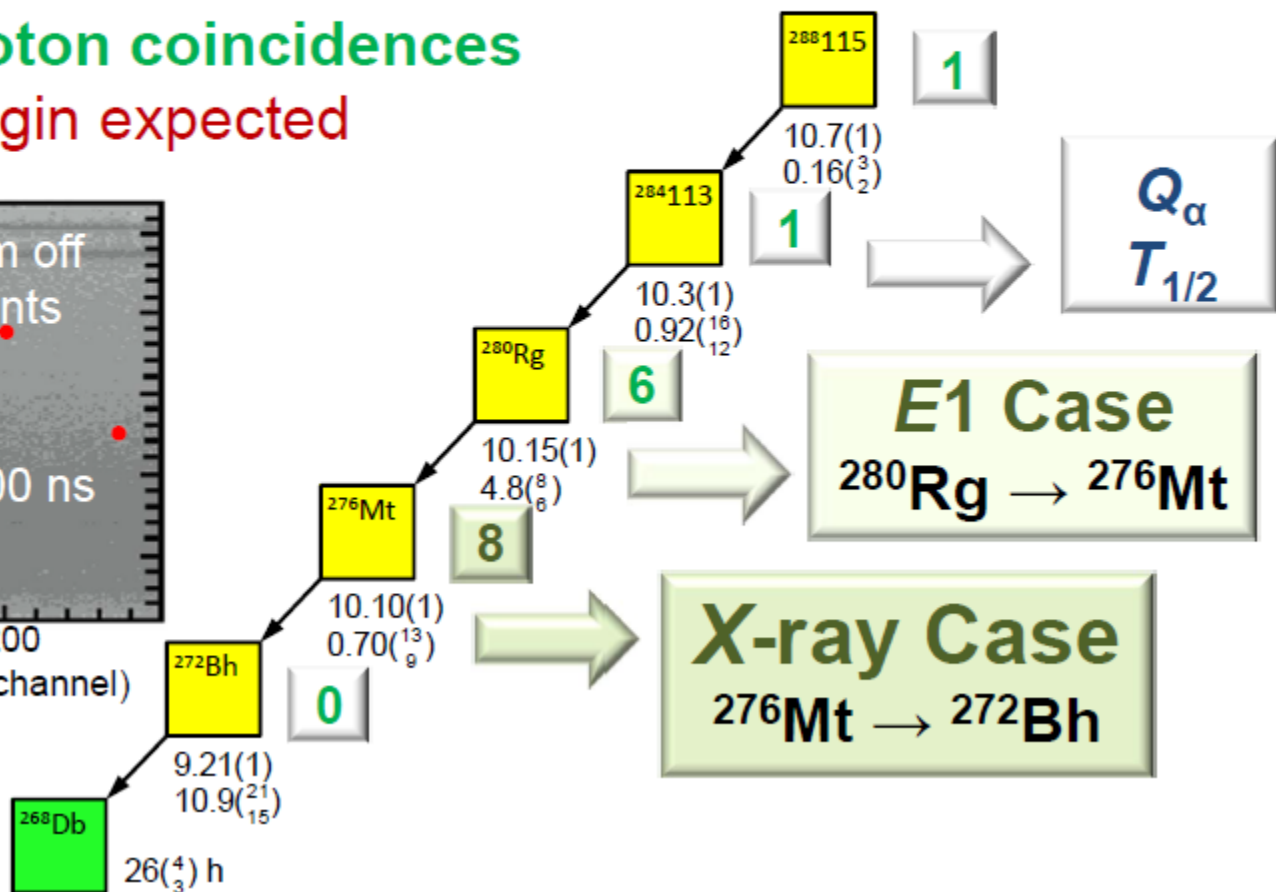
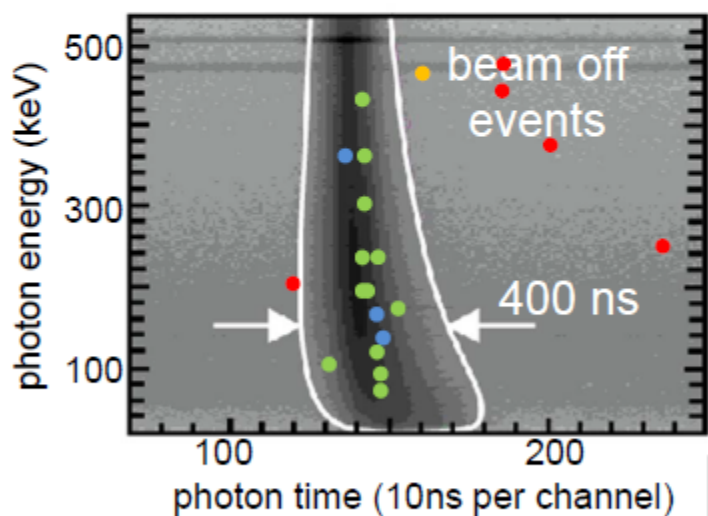
... at high counting rates.

Results – ^{288}Mc (3n – channel)

22 chains (out of 30) of ours are compatible with the
31 chains (out of 37) associated with the 3n channel $^{288}115$
 by Oganessian *et al.*

16 prompt α -photon coincidences

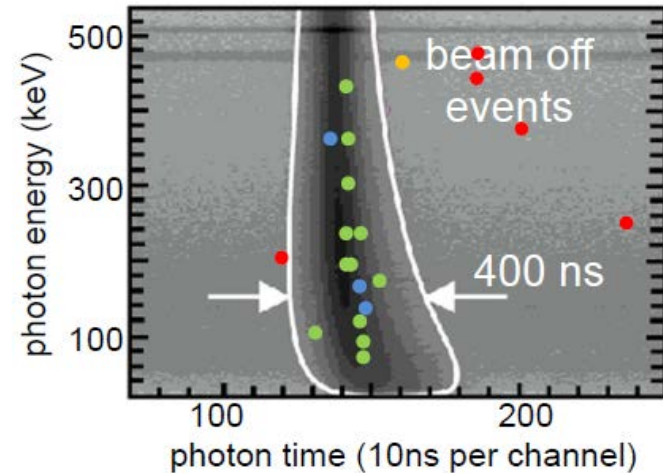
2-3 of random origin expected



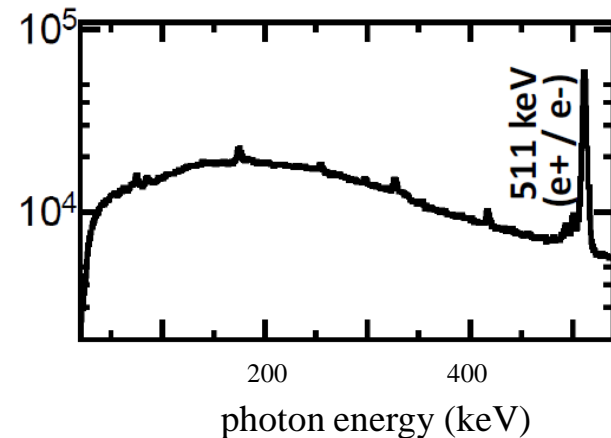
α – photon coincidences

Correlation time between implantation DSSSD detector and any Ge detector.

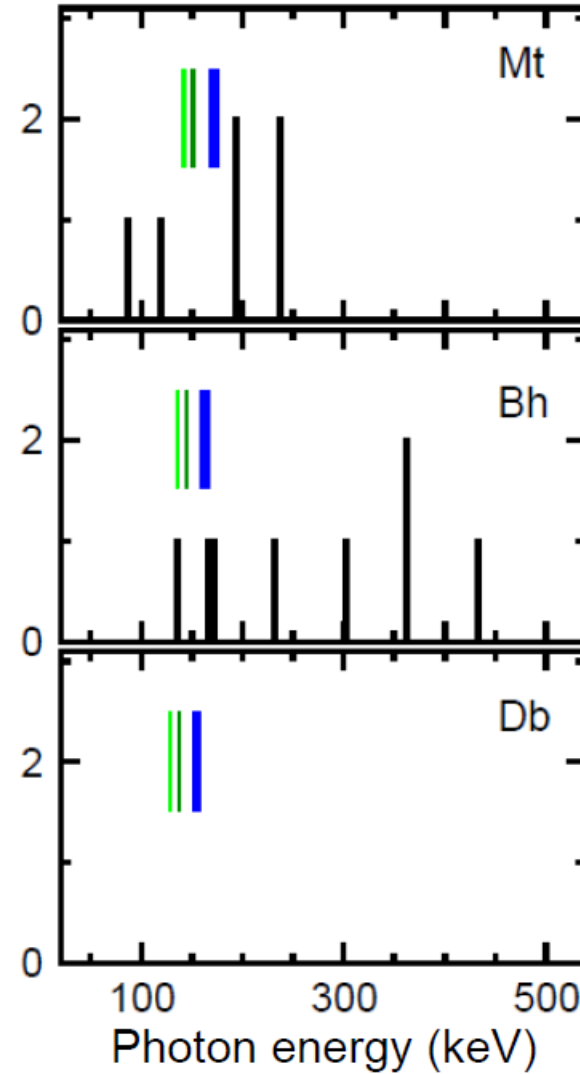
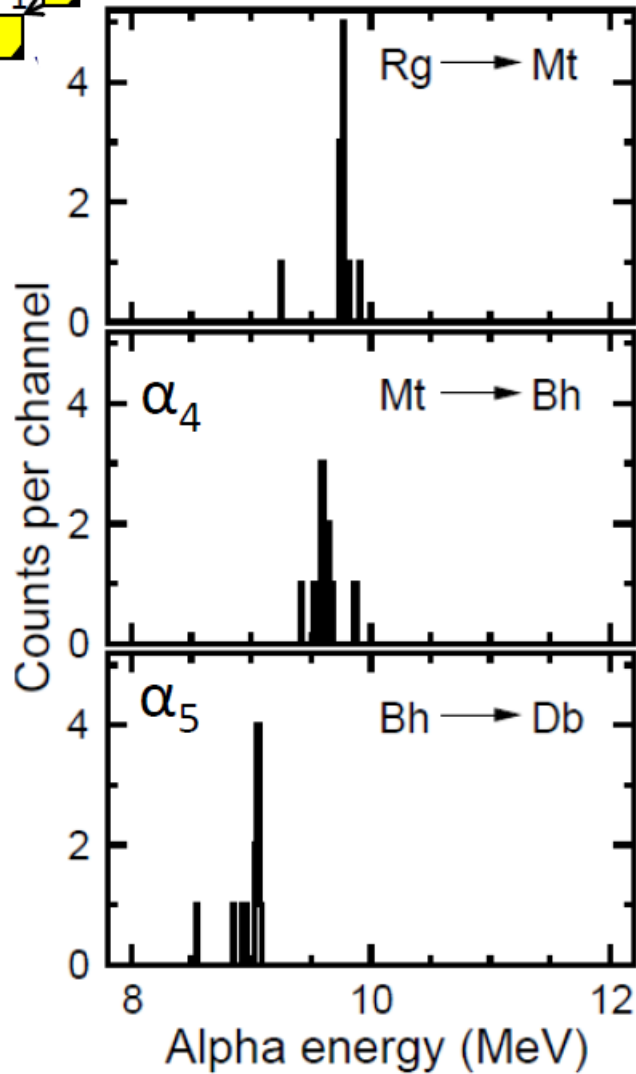
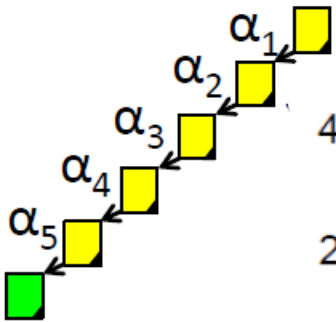
White line marks the gate for prompt coincidences.



Total projection of Ge-detector events in prompt coincidence with events in the implantation DSSSD, both accumulated during beam-off periods.



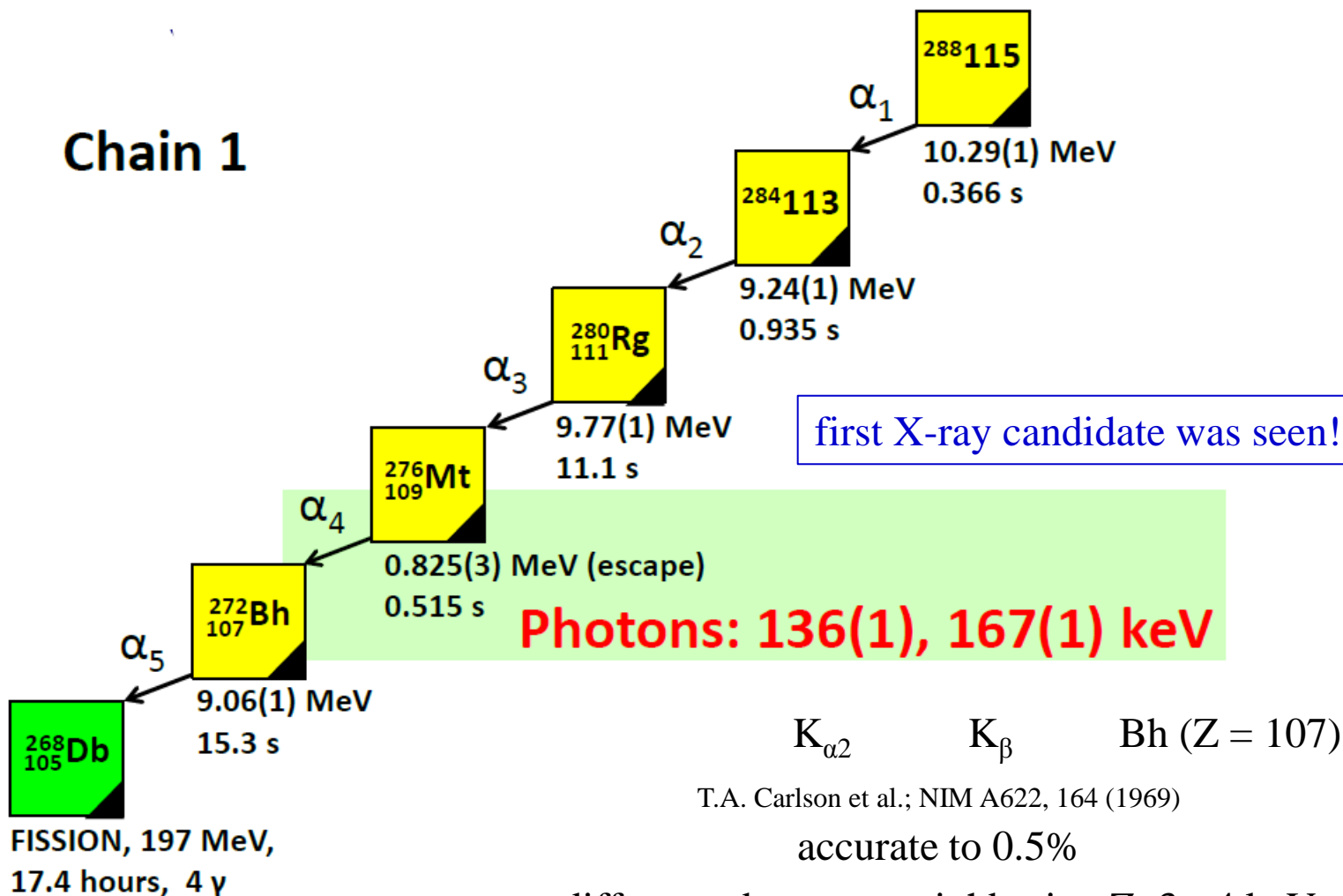
Identification of Z



**X-ray
fingerprinting**

Characteristic X-rays

Chain 1



Chemistry of superheavy elements

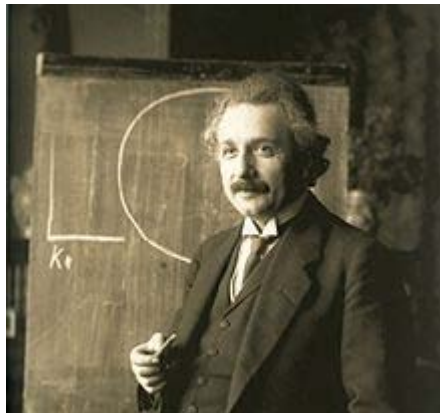
| Group→ | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
|---------|----------|----------|-------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
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| | | | | ** 90 Th | 91 Pa | 92 U | 93 Np | 94 Pu | 95 Am | 96 Cm | 97 Bk | 98 Cf | 99 Es | 100 Fm | 101 Md | 102 No | 103 Lr | |

- Are the new elements in the same period?
- Does e.g. **Lv** show the same chemical properties as **O, S, Se, Te** and **Po**?

Chemistry of superheavy elements

relativistic effect: important for large Z

$$E = mc^2$$



- ❖ High atomic number: strong Coulomb attraction causes electrons to move faster.
- ❖ Causes relativistic mass increase $m = m_0(1 - \beta^2)^{-1/2}$, with $\beta = v/c$; and as a consequence, contraction of spherical orbitals (ns , $np_{1/2}$)
- ❖ The s and $p_{1/2}$ atomic orbitals contract relativistically.
- ❖ The shrinking of the inner shells results in an increased screening of the nuclear charge, and this gives rise to an expansion of the $p_{3/2}$ and of higher angular momentum orbitals.
- ❖ Strong spin-orbit splitting

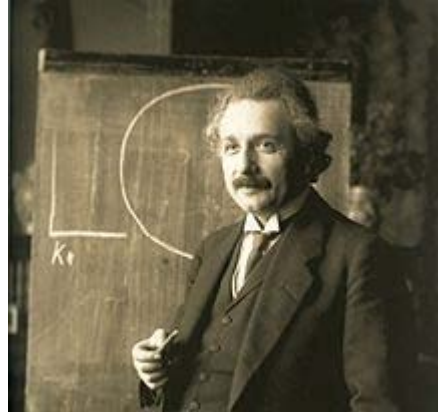
$$\text{Bohr model:} \quad E = -(2\pi^2 e^4 / n^2 h^2) \cdot m \cdot Z^2 \quad r = Ze^2 / m \cdot v^2 \quad v = (2\pi e^2 / n \cdot h) \cdot Z$$

for hydrogen, $m/m_0 = 1.000027$, for element $Z=114$, $m/m_0 = 1.79$, for element $Z=118$, $m/m_0 = 1.95$

Chemistry of superheavy elements

relativistic effect: important for large Z

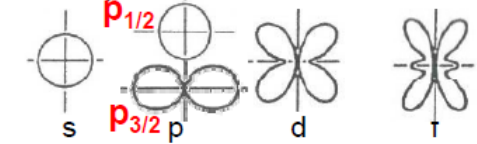
$$E = mc^2$$



Examples of **non-relativistic** orbitals



Examples of **relativistic** orbitals



Solution of the Dirac equation (relativistic quantum mechanics) for a hydrogen-like atom:

$$E_{1s} = mc^2 \sqrt{1 - (Z\alpha)^2} \sim mc^2 \cdot \left(1 - \frac{(Z\alpha)^2}{2} - \frac{(Z\alpha)^4}{8} + \dots \right)$$

relativistic effect

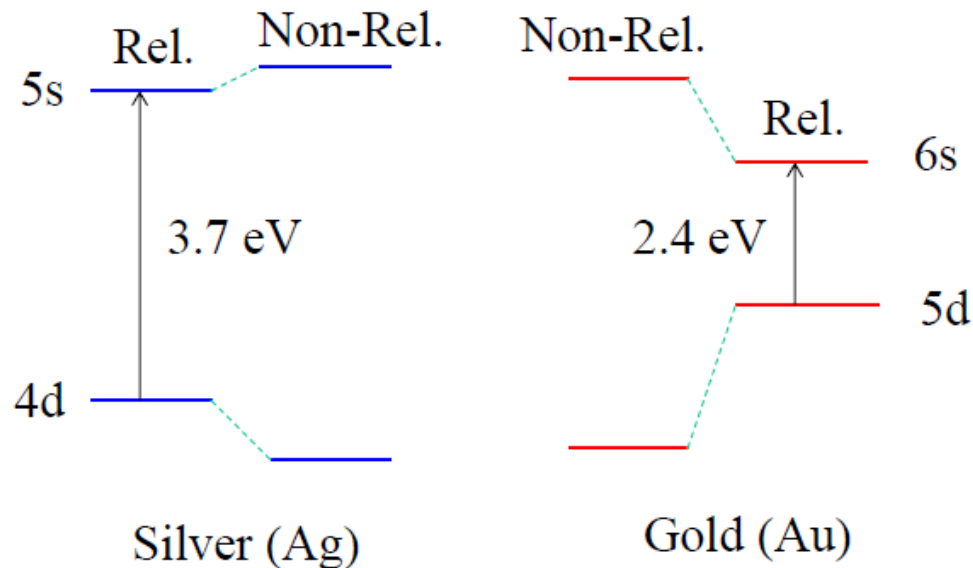
Famous example of relativistic effects: the color of gold

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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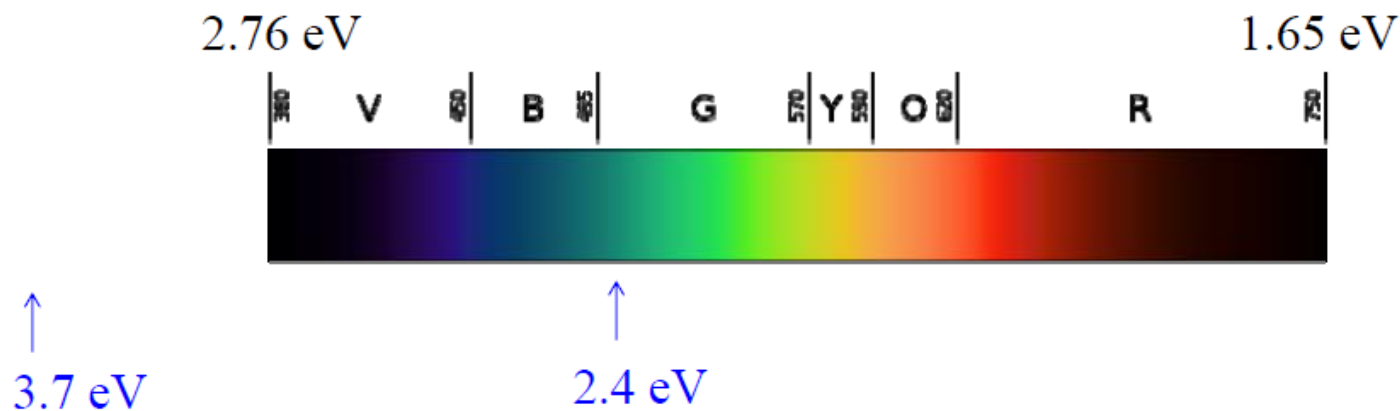


Gold looked like silver if there was no relativistic effect!

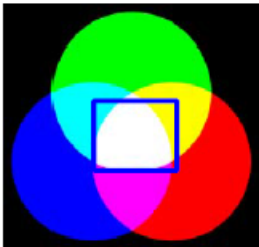
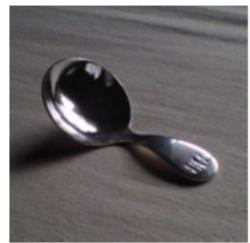
Famous example of relativistic effects: the color of gold



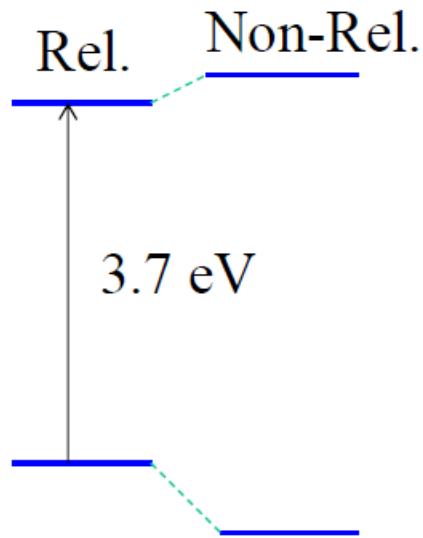
cf. visible spectrum



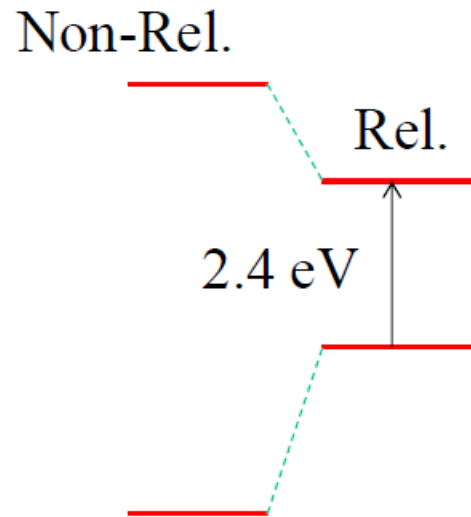
Famous example of relativistic effects: the color of gold



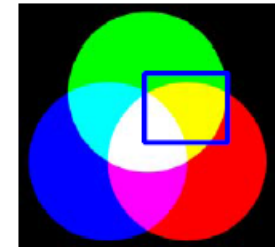
no color
absorbed



Silver (Ag)



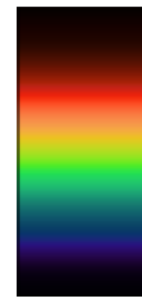
Gold (Au)



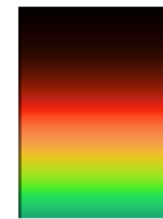
blue: absorbed



Ag



Au



Chemistry of superheavy elements

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- ❖ Gold is smaller than Silver
- ❖ Roentgenium is of the same size as Copper

Chemistry of superheavy elements

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How do the relativistic effects alter the periodic table for SHE?

→ a big open question

Chemistry of superheavy elements

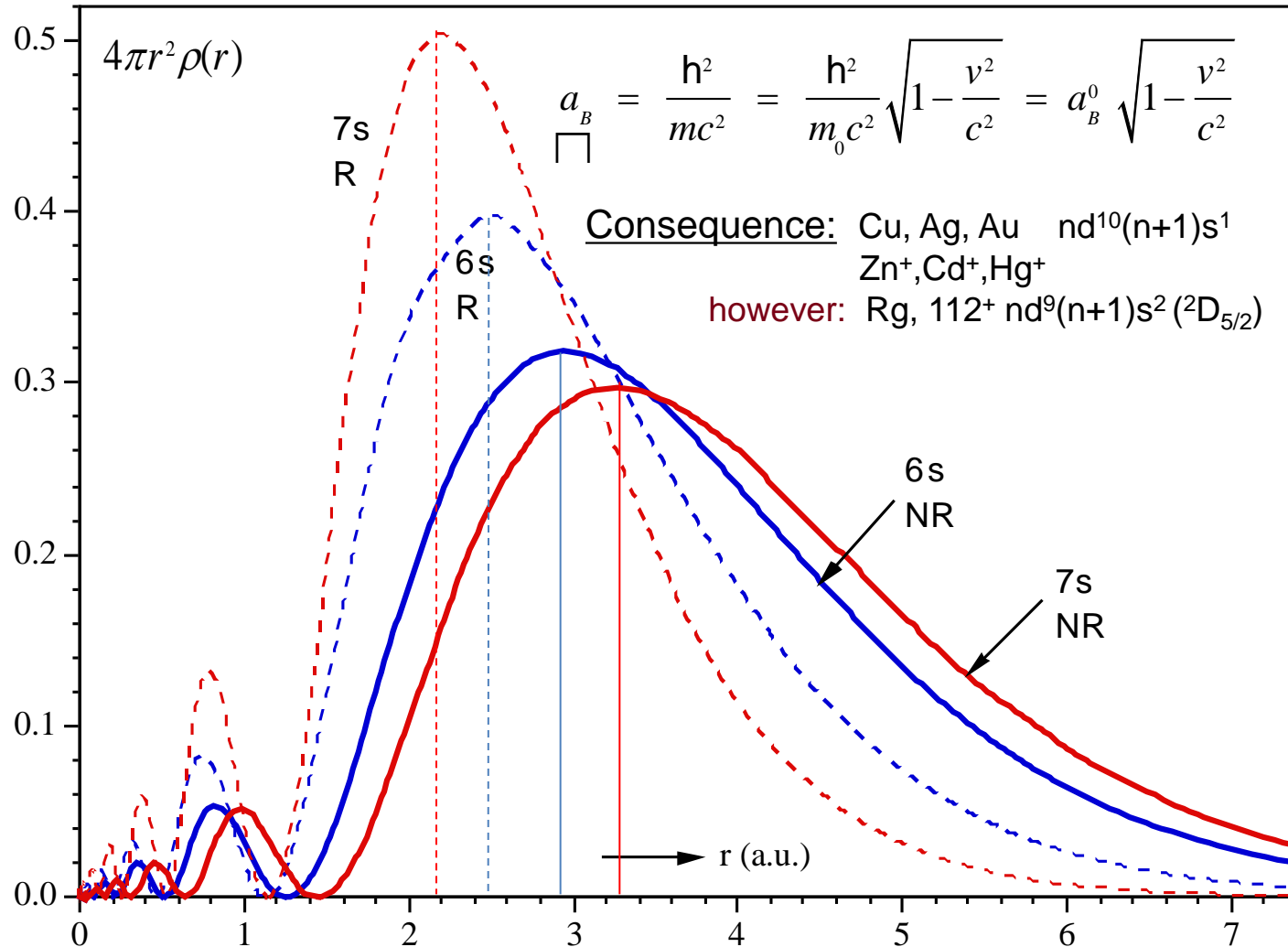
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- ❖ **Dubnium** does not behave like **Tantalum** (1993)
- ❖ **Sg** (1997) **Bh** (2000) and **Hs** (2001) confirmed relativistic calculations predicting the expected behavior in the periodic table.
- ❖ **Hassium**, for instance, forms a gaseous oxide similar to **Osmium**.

The atomic orbitals $s_{1/2}$ and $p_{1/2}$ are contracted relativistically. The shrinking of the inner shells results in an increased *screening of the nuclear charge*, and this gives rise to an expansion of the $p_{3/2}$ and of higher angular momentum orbitals. Another relativistic effect is a *change in the spin-orbit coupling*. Both can produce drastic rearrangements of orbital levels. That is what is predicted to happen for Cn. Recent calculations indicate that the $7s$ orbital should be shifted below the $6d_{5/2}$ orbital due to relativistic effects. It is the large relativistic stabilization of its valence $7s$ orbital, combined with its closed shell electron configuration, that has led to the prediction that element 112 is chemically inert (not very reactive).

Chemistry of the superheavy elements with $Z > 118$ is believed to show relativistic effects that are so large that comparison with lighter elements or nonrelativistic results is meaningless.

Example: the relativistic 6s/7s contraction in Au and Rg



P. Schwerdtfeger

E.Eliav, U.Kaldor, P.Schwerdtfeger, B.Hess, Y.Ishikawa, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **73**, 3203 (1994).

M.Seth, P.Schwerdtfeger, M.Dolg, K.Faegri, B.A.Hess, U.Kaldor, *Chem. Phys. Lett.* **250**, 461 (1996).

The limits of the periodic table

❖ Can this go forever? NO!!!

The relativistic Dirac equation gives the ground state energy as

where m_0 is the rest mass of the electron. For $Z > 137$, the wave function of the Dirac ground state is oscillatory, rather than bound.

More accurate calculations taking into account the effects of the finite size of the nucleus indicate that the binding energy first exceeds $2mc^2$ for $Z > 173$.

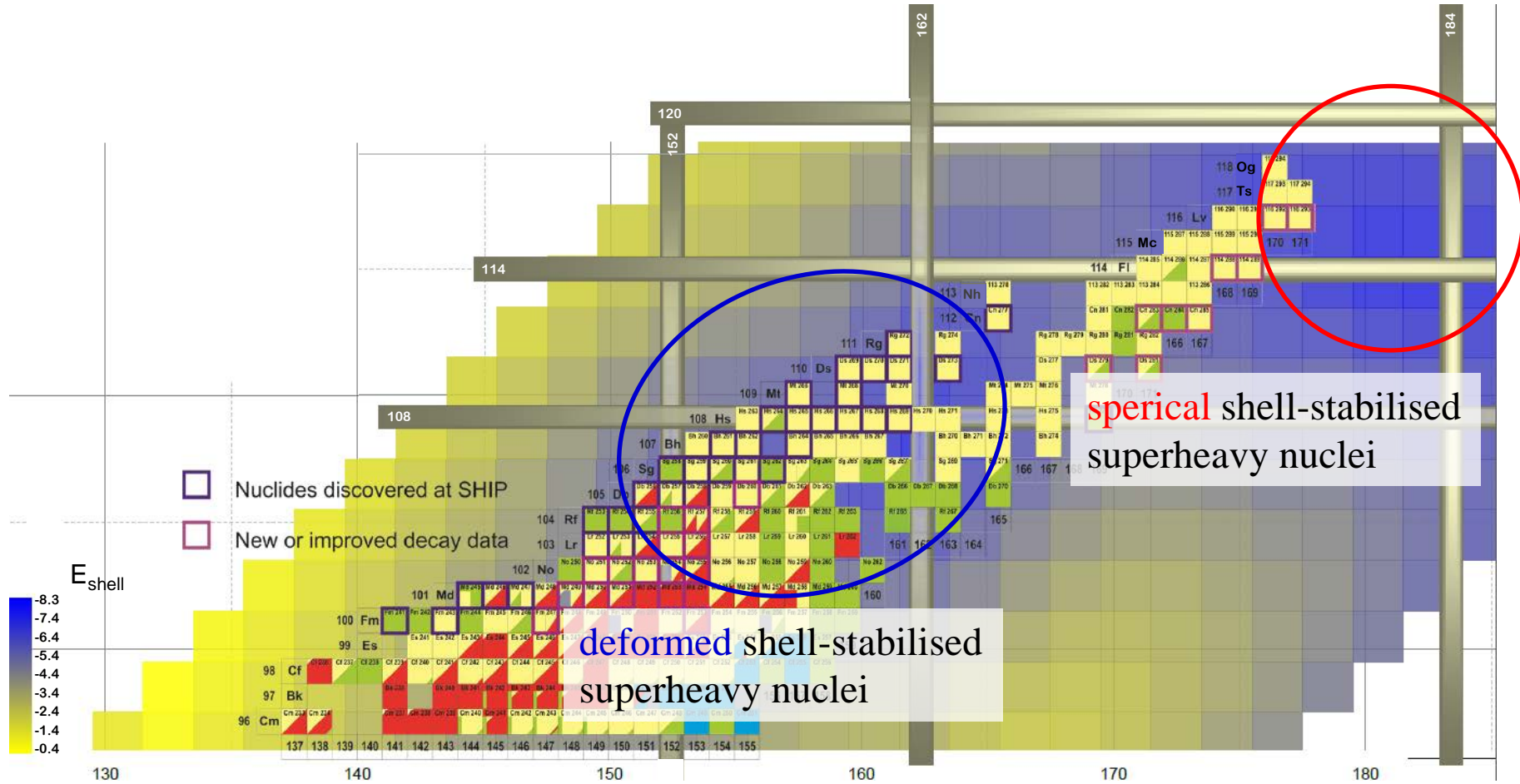
$$E = \frac{m_0 \cdot c^2}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{Z^2 \cdot \alpha^2}{n - (j + 1/2) + \sqrt{(j + 1/2)^2 - Z^2 \cdot \alpha^2}}}}$$

❖ The end of chemistry

❖ Does the periodic table has limits? Yes!!!

- At some point ($Z \sim 122$) all the electron energy levels of adjacent elements are similar so that there are no differences in their chemical behavior.

Chart of nuclides: the domain of heavy and superheavy elements



Calc.: A. Sobiczewski