



Proposal: Beta-delayed neutron spectroscopy of ^{54}Ca Addendum of IS599

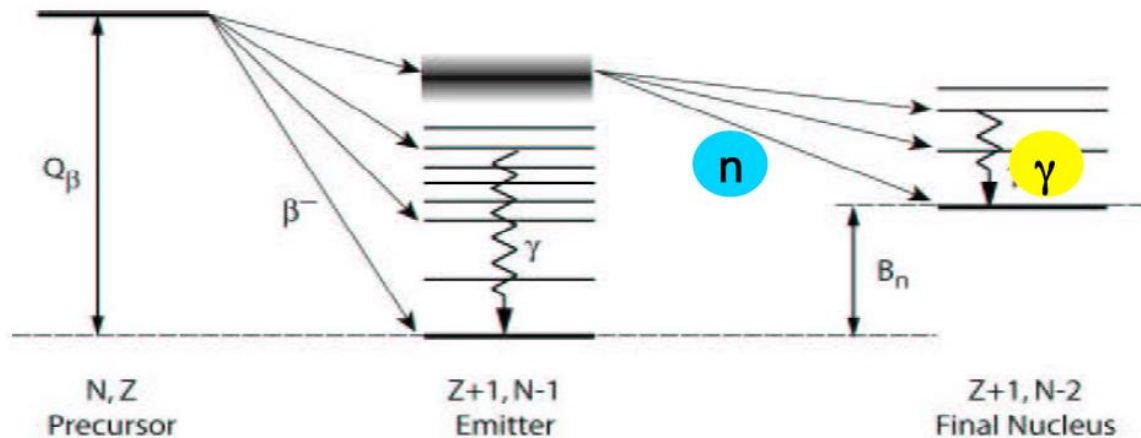


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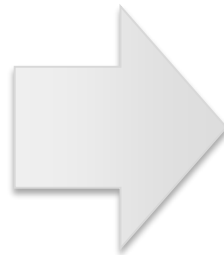
- Why beta-delayed neutron spectroscopy ?
- IS599: $^{51-53}\text{K} \rightarrow ^{51-53}\text{Ca}$
- Physics case for $^{54}\text{K} \rightarrow ^{54,53}\text{Ca}$
- Beam-time request

Beta-delayed neutron spectroscopy

In exotic nuclei close to shell closures we can have very large Q values (15 MeV or more)

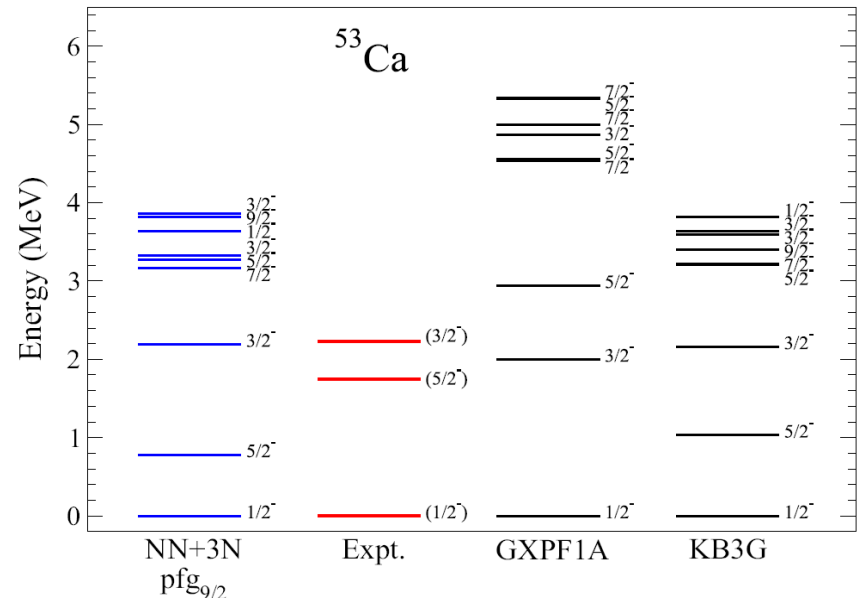
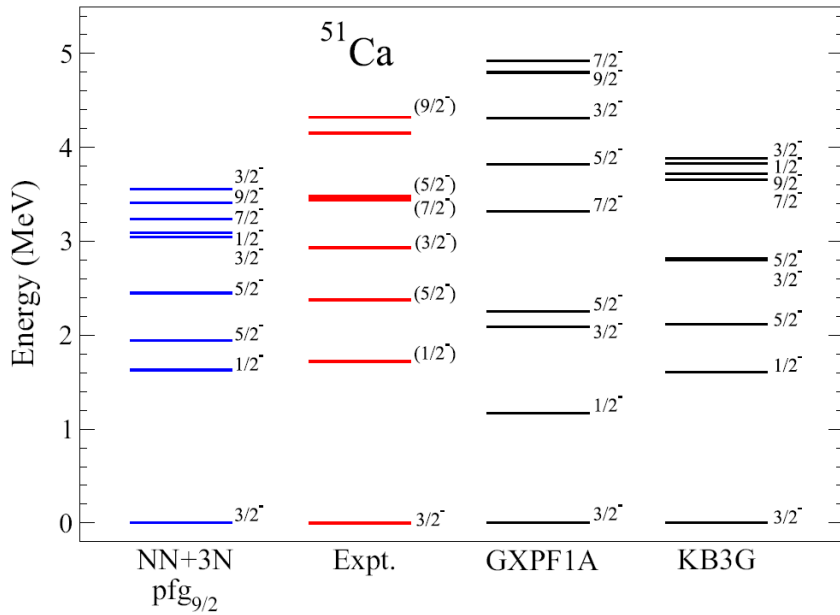


The beta decay can thus populate states below and above the neutron (and $2n$) separation threshold



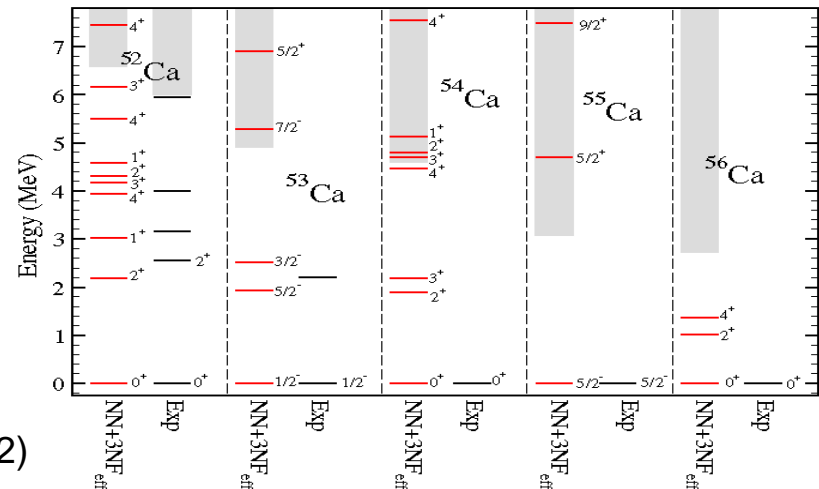
- Where does the beta strength go through (GT, FF) ?
- Particle-hole to measure the shell energies in exotic nuclei

How are the ESPEs evolving in Ca isotopes?



J. D. Holt et al., PRC 90, 024312 (2014)

Different predictions going towards the N=34 for the $f_{7/2}$ gap (different 3N forces + coupling to continuum)



G. Hagen et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 109, 032502 (2012)

Experimental setup: VANDLE + IDS

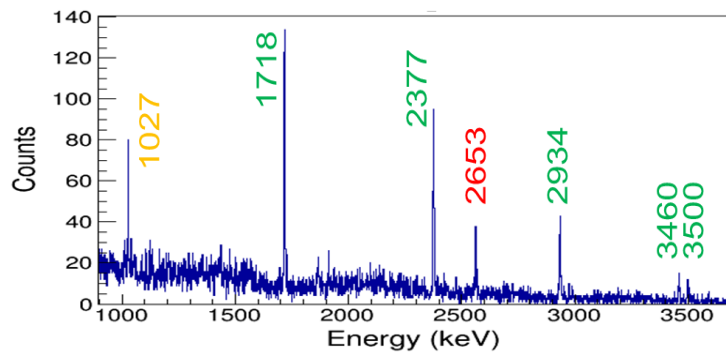
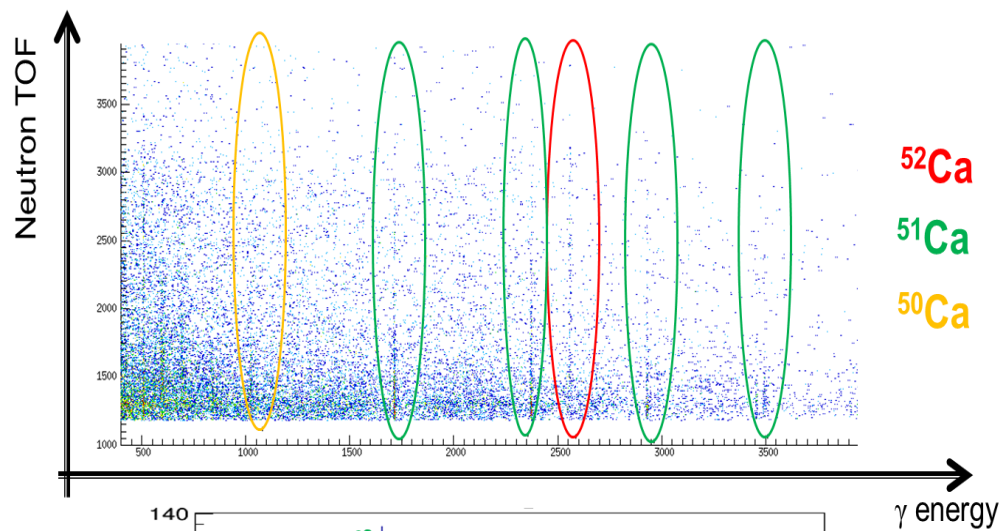
VANDLE neutron array: ϵ : 10 %; σ : 80 keV (1 MeV)



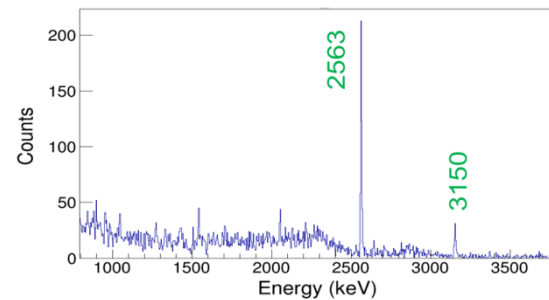
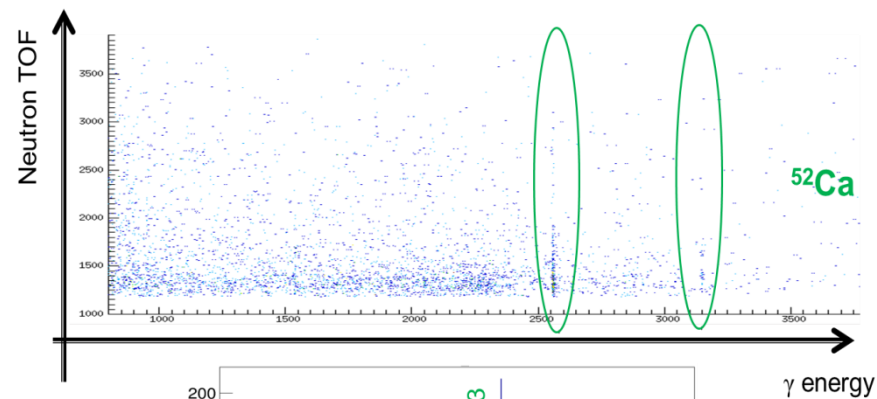
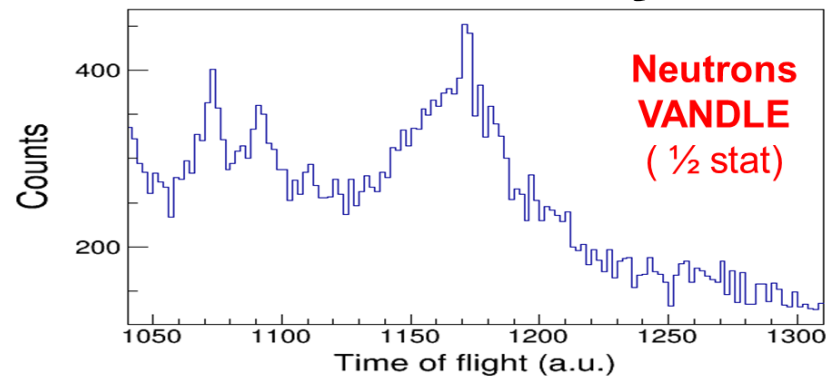
- Four clovers
- High-efficiency beta detector (>80 %)
- IDS tape
- 1 LaBr (Mr. Big)
- Low rates

Very preliminary IS599 results

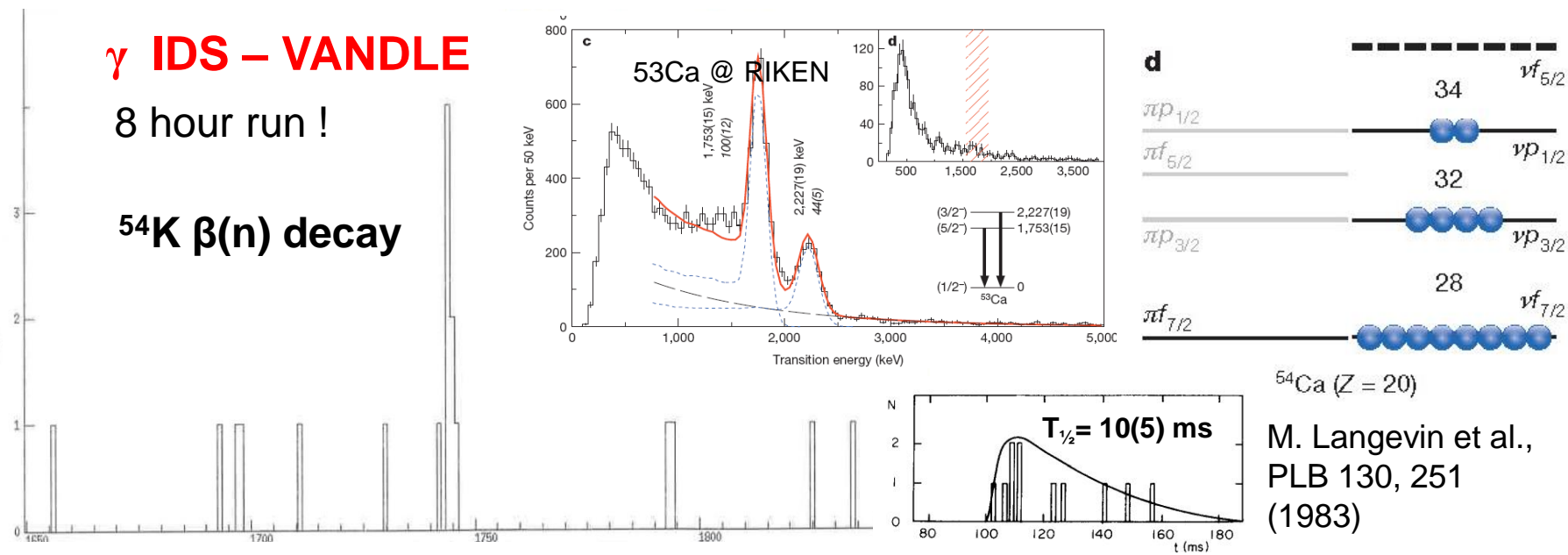
^{52}K decay



^{53}K decay



What we have observed: $^{54}\text{K} \rightarrow ^{54,53}\text{Ca}$ Q-value 20 MeV !



Only one γ ray observed: likely it is the $5/2^-$ state already seen at RIKEN

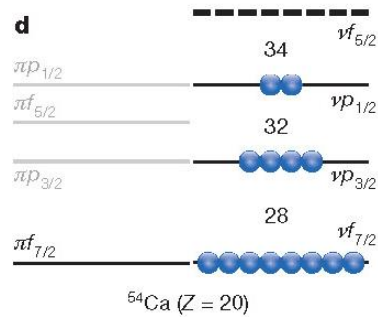
Gxpf1br interaction in ^{53}Ca : $5/2^-$ is 85% $(vp_{1/2})^0 (vf_{5/2})^1$

^{54}K : $N=35$ isotope. One neutron in $f_{5/2}$?

Pairing $f_{5/2} = 1.2$ MeV; Pairing $p_{1/2} = 0.2$ MeV : strong pair scattering across $N=34$

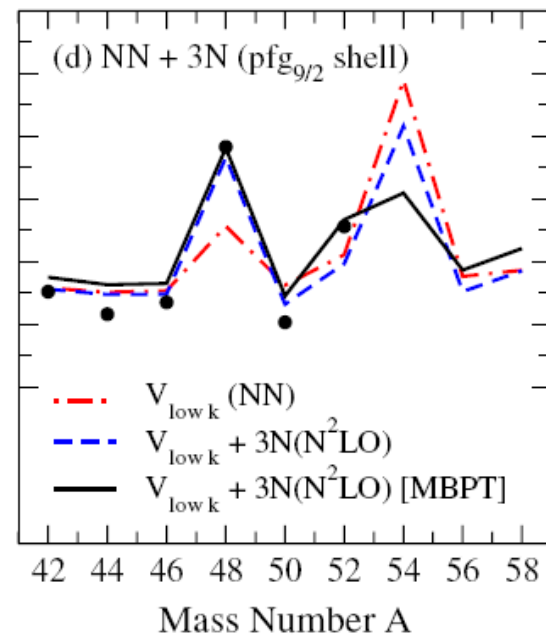
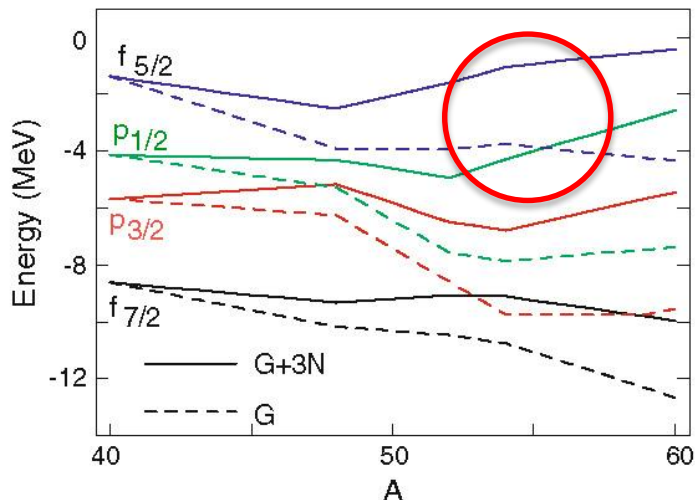
^{54}K 2^- ground state: $\langle f_{5/2} \rangle = 3$; $\langle p_{1/2} \rangle = 0.8$

Three-body forces in Ca isotopes



Two-body forces cannot explain the $N=28$ SO shell closure

Neutron single-particle energy of Ca isotopes



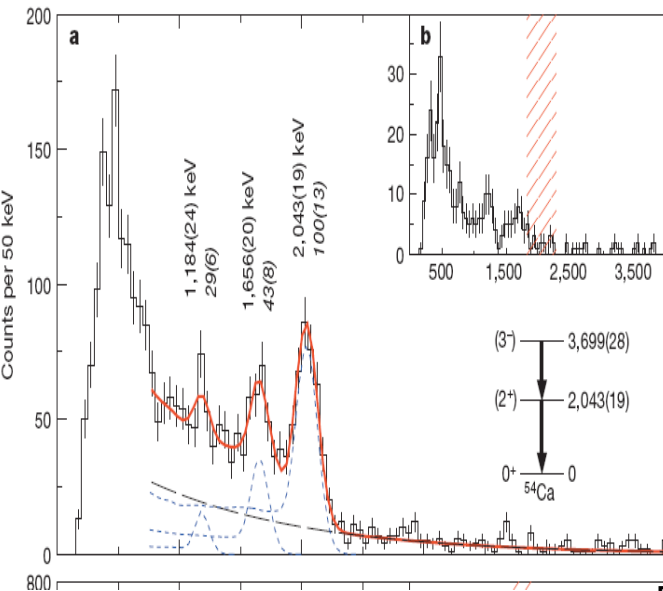
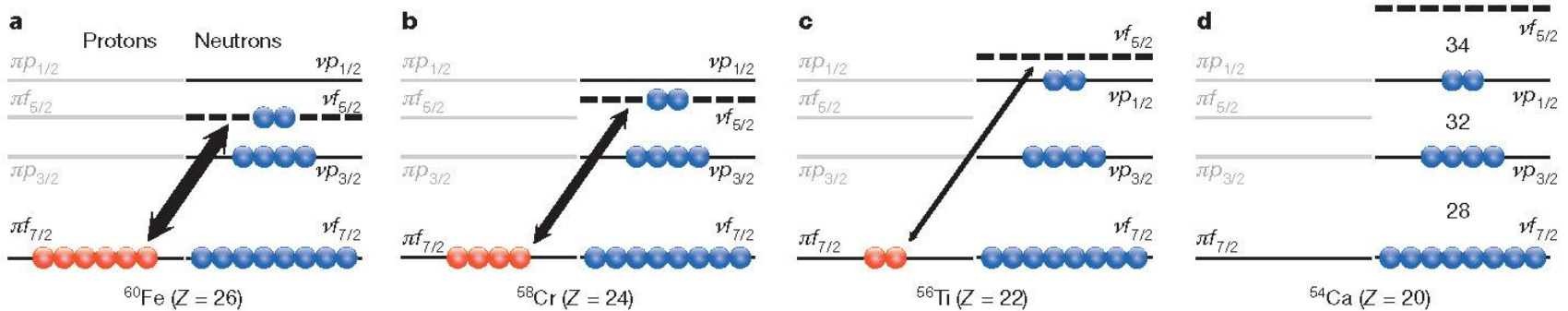
J. D. Holt et al., J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys. 39 (2012) 085111

Three-body forces: repulsion between $f_{7/2}$ and $p_{3/2}, p_{1/2}, f_{5/2}$

T. Otsuka and T. Suzuki, Few-Body Syst (2013) 54:891–896

The N=34 subshell closure

The N=34 subshell gap is created by the tensor force



D. Steppenbeck et al., Nature 502, 207 (2013)

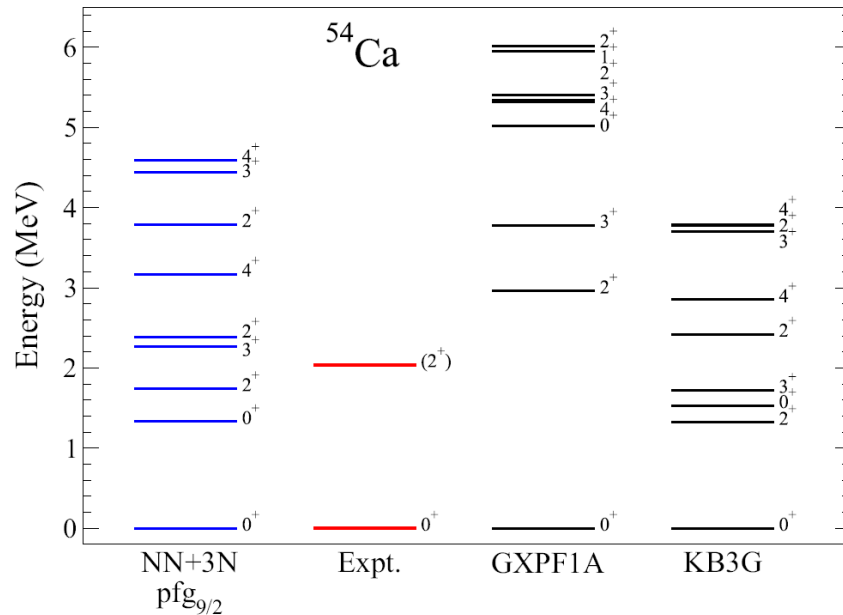
2^+ found at 2 MeV, consistent with the tensor + 3-body theory

F. Wienholtz et al., Nature 498, 346 (2013)

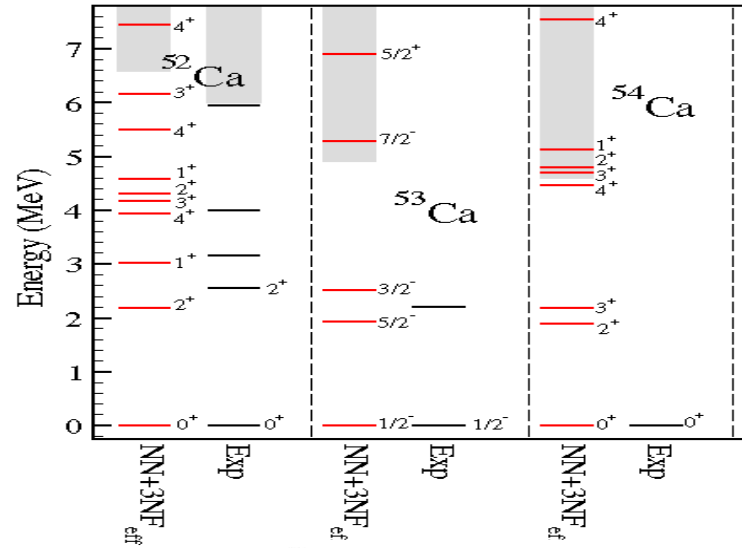
Three-body forces reduce the N=34 gap by adding repulsion to $p_{1/2}$ with respect to $f_{5/2}$

Physical motivation

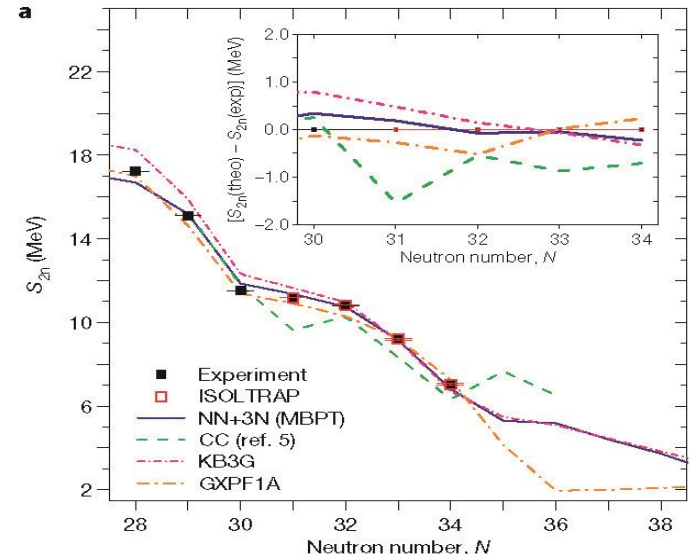
«first principle»



«renormalized to ^{40}Ca mass»



- 2^+ known, detailed spectroscopy: confirmation of 3^- , 4^+ (very different predictions for different 3-body force renormalization)
- Neutron emission towards ^{53}Ca : distribution of the GT (shell closures) and scattering across $N=34$.

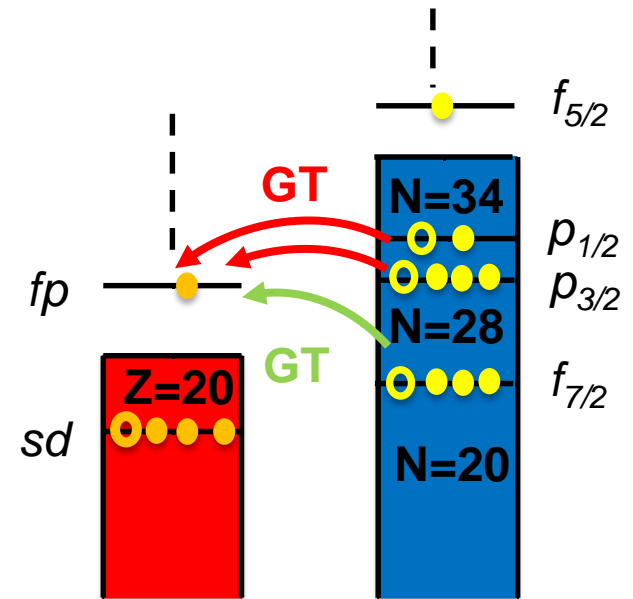


What we expect to see (1)

1. Calculations with the PSDPF interaction predict a 2^- ground state from ^{54}K (also from systematics)
2. Shell-model calculations also predict a strong population of 3^- states, close and above the $S_n=4.4$ MeV
3. After GT: holes in $f_{7/2}$, $p_{3/2}$, $p_{1/2}$, neutrons in $f_{5/2}$

In the n-emission daughter ^{53}Ca , which states populated? What is the fragmentation? -> observing 10-20 % branches

^{54}K $\beta(\text{GT})$ decay to ^{54}Ca



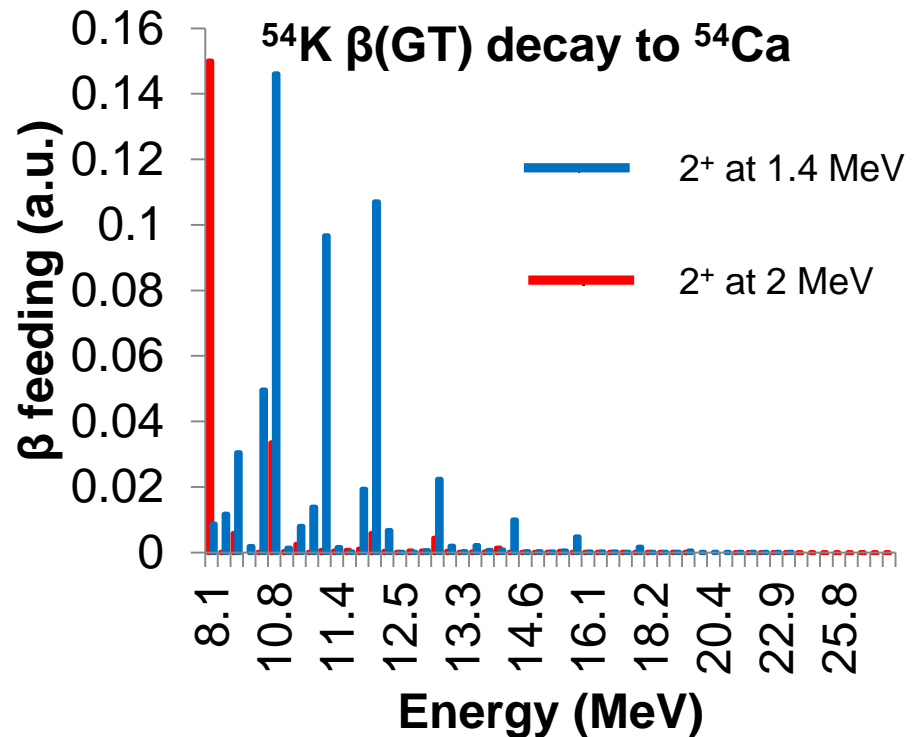
$\text{GT: } \left. \begin{array}{l} \nu p_{1/2} \rightarrow \pi p_{1/2} \\ \nu p_{3/2} \rightarrow \pi p_{3/2} \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} 48\text{Ca} \\ \text{core} \end{array}$
 $\nu f_{7/2} \rightarrow \pi f_{7/2} \quad 40\text{Ca} \text{ core}$

What we expect to see (2)

Large-scale shell-model calculation in the psdpf space with Antoine:

The most intense states are 3-

	$\nu f_{7/2}$	$\nu p_{3/2}$	$\nu p_{1/2}$	$\nu f_{5/2}$
^{54}Ca after GT	7.5	3.4	1	2



Results:

- From ^{54}Ca γ -ray spectroscopy: more detailed level scheme, comparison with different 3-body models
- From neutron spectroscopy: GT distribution and neutron evaporation as a probe of N=34

Rates and spectroscopy

- ^{54}K rate (realistic, based on previous result plus some target improvements): 0.5 pps, (possible to improve with target optimized for fast release ?)
- 8% neutron efficiency, 90% β efficiency, 2 % γ efficiency
- 60-90 % neutron emission: around $(1-2) \cdot 10^4$ neutrons detected in 7 days
- 10% feeding to excited ^{54}Ca states: around 200 γ rays from ^{54}Ca in 7 days; mainly 2^+ and 3^- , likely also 4^+ states
- Lifetime from neutrons and gammas

In total, 21 shifts (seven days) are requested

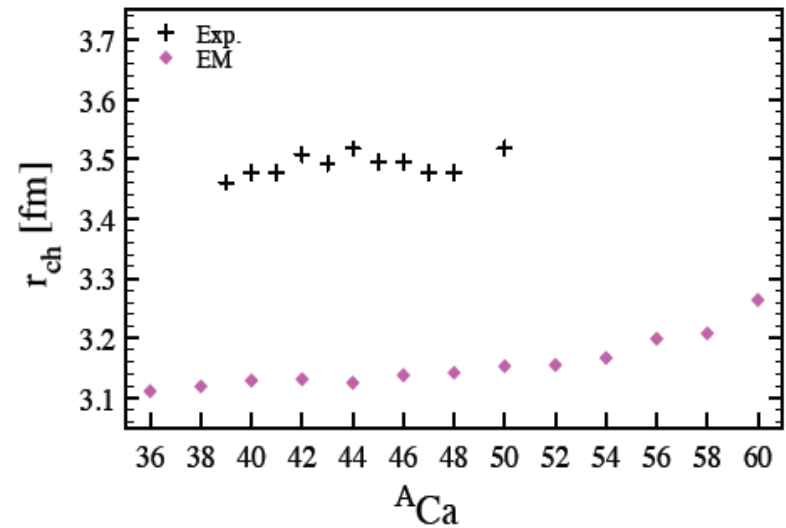
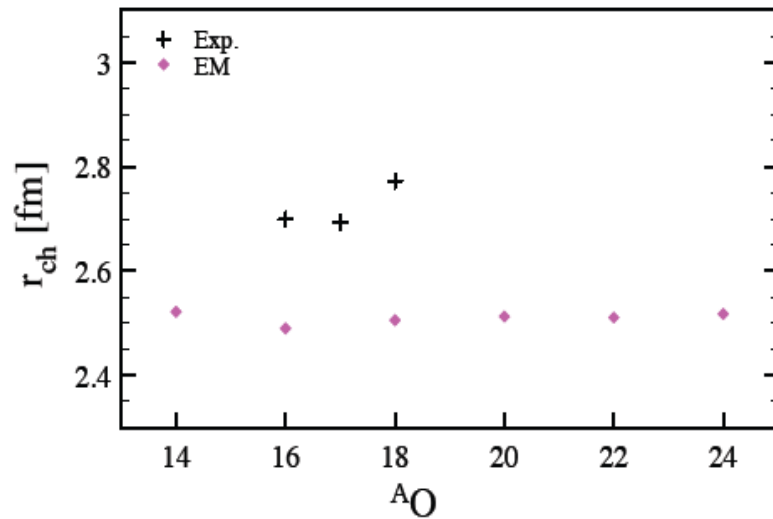
Collaboration

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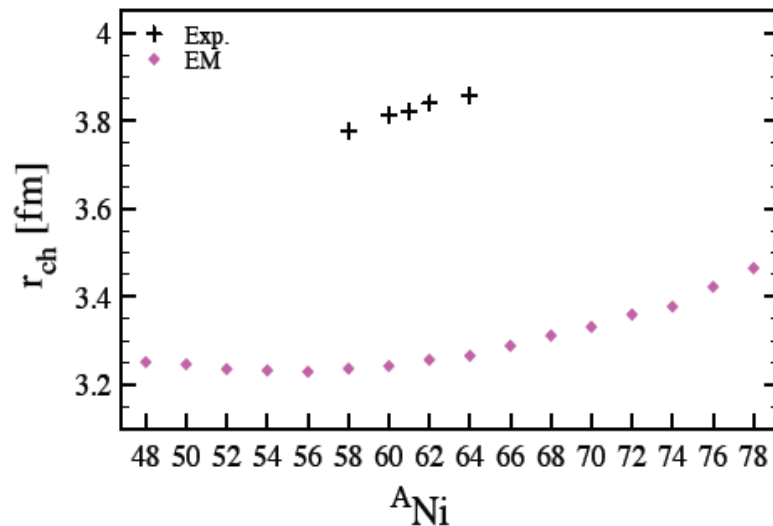
IDS collaboration

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5 University of Padova and INFN Padova, 6 University of Milano
and INFN Milano, 7 KU Leuven, 8 CSNSM Orsay, 9 Colorado
School of Mines, 10 NSCL, 11 IFIC Valencia, 12 Aarhus
University, 13 IFIN-HH, Bucharest

Charge radii



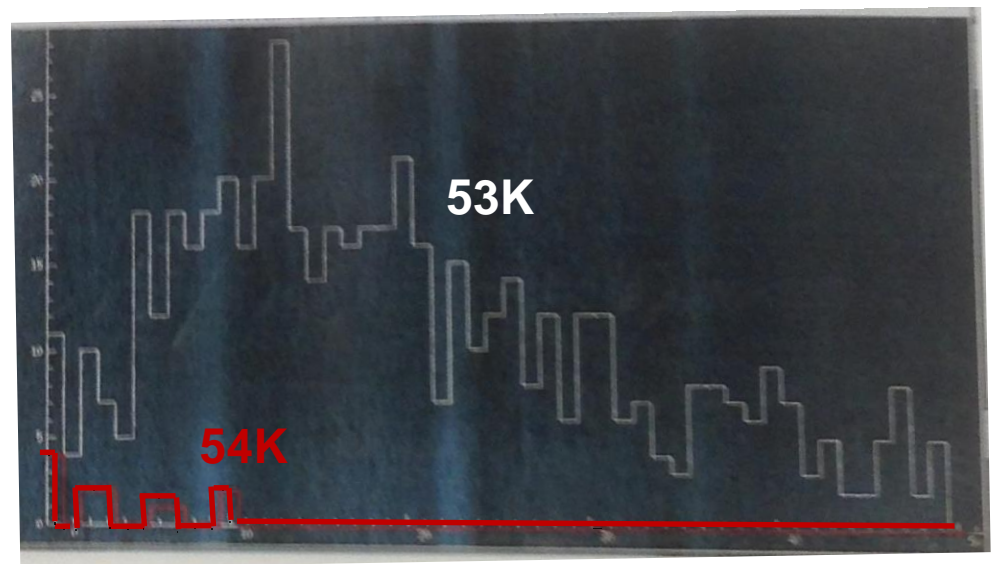
[Somà *et al.* in preparation]



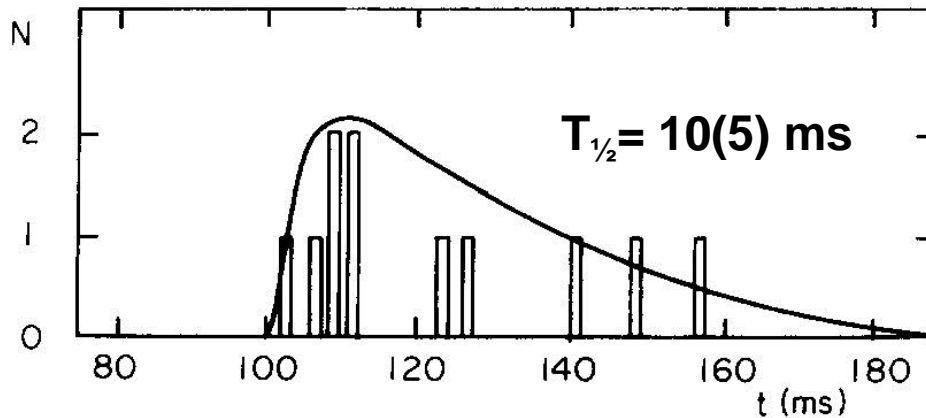
- ⇒ Radii largely underestimated
- ⇒ Consistent with overbinding & spectra
- ⇒ Higher orders? 4NF? Hard core?

V. Somà

Our result from gamma rays



$^{54}\text{K} \rightarrow ^{53}\text{Ca}$: PRELIMINARY RESULTS (2)



Result from neutrons:
M. Langevin et al., PLB 130, 251 (1983)

Our result from gamma rays

**New proposal for
dedicated
experiment !**

