

# Nuclear Reactions 3 & 4

## Cross Section Measurements

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## (Direct) Cross Section

## Measurements (for Astrophysics)

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# Outline

- Introduction
- Charged Particle Induced Reaction Measurements
  - stable beams (example LUNA)
  - radioactive beams (examples ISOLDE and GSI)
- Neutron Induced Reaction Measurements
  - radiative capture
  - n,cp

Acknowledgements: Material partly from Colleagues of the NP Edinburgh Group (M. Aliotta, PJ Woods, A. Murphy, C.G. Bruno, ...) and n\_TOF Collaboration

# Introduction



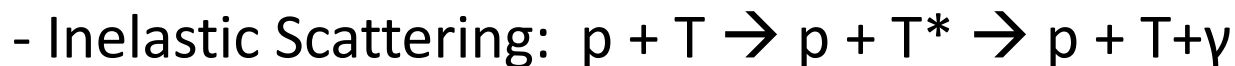
# Nuclear Reactions

- collision process between projectile  $p$  and target nuclei  $T$ :



- ejectile ( $e$ ) and recoil ( $R$ ) may be the same as  $p$  and  $T$  (scattering)

- Examples



# Nuclear Reactions

- Energy conservation:

$$m_p c^2 + E_p + m_T c^2 + E_T = m_e c^2 + E_e + m_R c^2 + E_R$$

E.... kinetic energy

- Q-value of a reaction:  $Q = m_p c^2 + m_T c^2 - m_e c^2 - m_R c^2$

$Q > 0$  ..... exothermic (energy is released)

$Q < 0$  ..... endothermic (energy is required)

- Threshold energy (lab) for projectile p reacting with stationary target T:

$$E_{th} = (-Q) \times (1 + m_p / m_T)$$

# Nuclear Reaction Cross Section

- cross section  $\sigma$  = quantitative measure of probability for a reaction to occur
- Dimension: **area**    Unit: **barn (b) =  $10^{-24} \text{ cm}^2$**
- cross sections are **energy (i.e. velocity) dependent**
- In general: not possible to determine reaction cross section from first principles

$$\sigma = \frac{N_e/t}{(N_b/tA)N_t}$$

$N_e/t$ ... Number of reactions per time

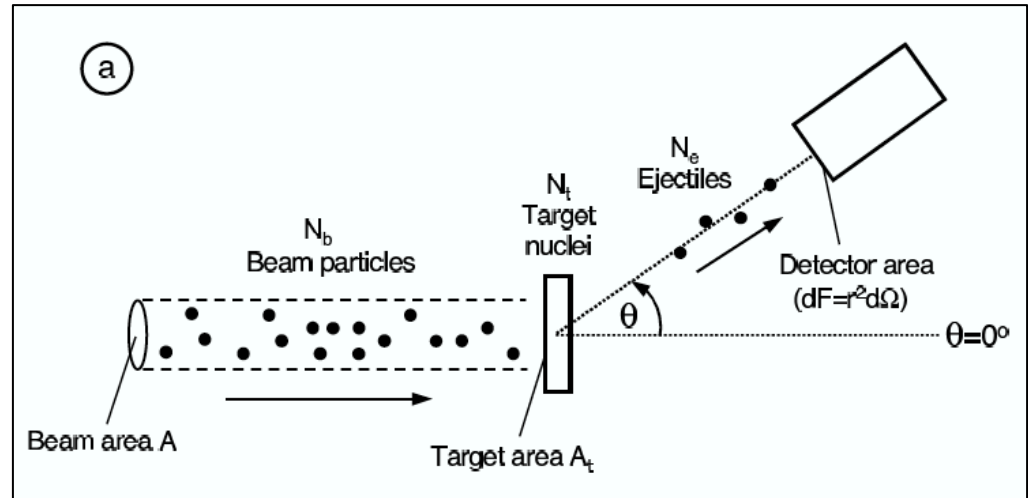
$N_b/tA$ ... Number of beam particles per time per area

$N_t$ ... Number of target nuclei in the beam

- Differential cross section:

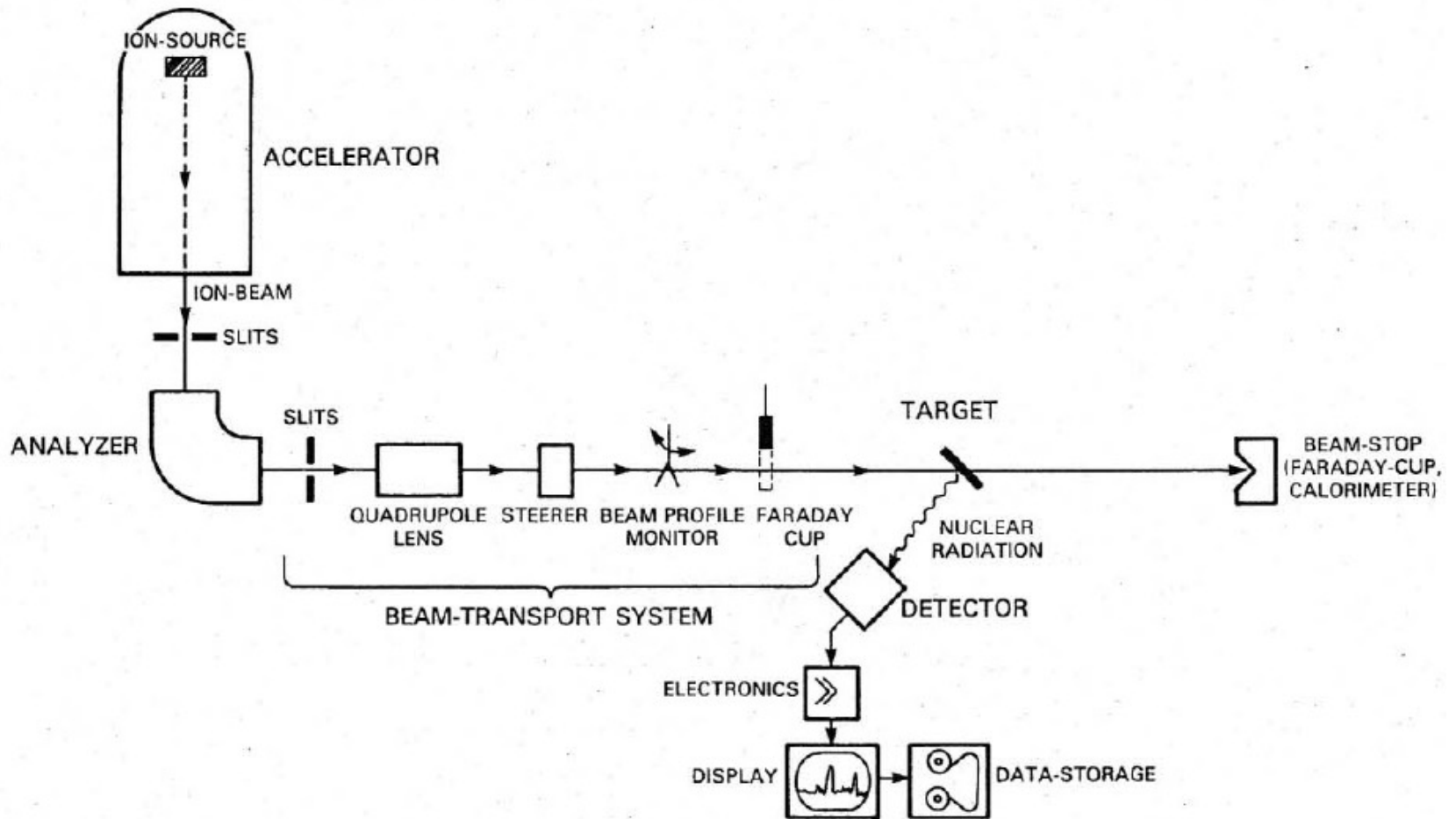
$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{N_e^{d\Omega}/t}{(N_b/tA)N_t} \frac{1}{d\Omega}$$

$$\text{and } \sigma = \int \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} d\Omega$$



# Reactions with Ion Beams

# Schematic Layout for Nuclear Reaction Experiments



Cauldrons in the Cosmos  
(Rolf & Rodney)

# Beam Requirements and Properties

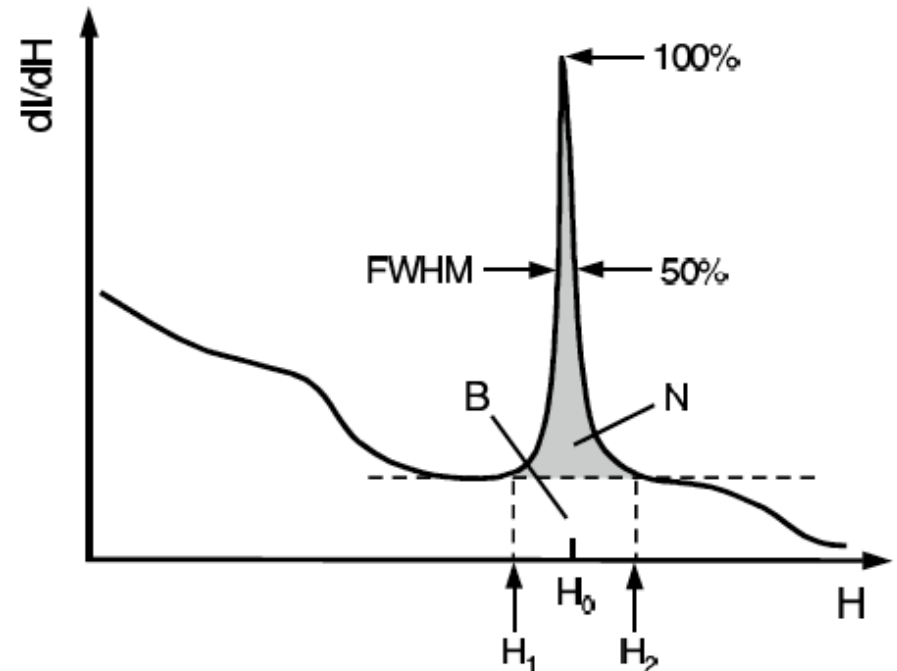
- high **intensity**
  - for stable nuclei,  $\mu\text{A}$ - $\text{mA}$  currents are possible, corresponding to  $\sim 10^{12}$ - $10^{15}$  particles per second (pps)
  - for unstable nuclei, intensities vary greatly depending on isotope ( $10^3$ - $10^6$  pps)
- low **energy spread**
  - ideally  $\Delta E \leq 1\text{keV}$
- easily adjustable energy
  - few keV steps often required
- well **collimated**
- high **purity**
- small **spot size** on target
  - better definition of interaction point
- good **absolute energy calibration**

# Target Requirements and Properties

- high **purity**
  - avoid background reactions on contaminants
- known and stable **stoichiometry** (for compound targets)
- appropriate and uniform **thickness**
  - thin enough to let beam pass through (transmission targets)
  - thick enough to stop the beam (beam-stop targets)
  - anywhere in between
- for **solid** targets
  - evaporated, sputtered, implanted
  - with or without backing
  - allow for water-cooling if high beam intensities are used
- for **gas** target
  - extended, or jet-like
  - with or without containment windows
  - recirculation (especially for expensive gases)

# Detector Requirements and Properties

- nuclear reactions are studied by measuring reaction products
  - mostly protons, neutrons,  $\alpha$  particles, or  $\gamma$  rays
- different types of radiation interact in different ways with
- type of detector used will depend on radiation to be measured
  
- electric signal produced in detector with amplitude proportional to energy deposited by radiation
  
- high **efficiency**
- good **energy resolution**  $R = \text{FWHM}/H_0$
- good **solid angle coverage**





# Reactions with Ion Beams

Yield measurements and Cross Section

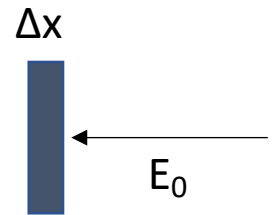
# Reaction Yield

$$\text{Yield} = \frac{\text{total number of reactions}}{\text{total number of incident particles}}$$

yield vs bombarding energy = *yield curve* or *excitation function*

Yield over slice of target with thickness  $\Delta x$ , assuming  $\sigma$  and **stopping power  $\epsilon$  constant** (energy lost by beam small)

$$\Delta Y = \frac{N_R}{N_B} = \sigma n \Delta x$$



With stopping power  $\epsilon(E) = -1/n \times dE/dx$  and particles per volume  $n$

Total yield from integration over all target slices:

$$Y(E_0) = \int \sigma(x)n(x)dx = \int \sigma(x)n(x)dx \frac{dE(x)}{dx} \frac{dx}{dE(x)}$$

$$Y(E_0) = \int_{E_0 - \Delta E}^{E_0} \frac{\sigma(E)}{\epsilon(E)} dE$$

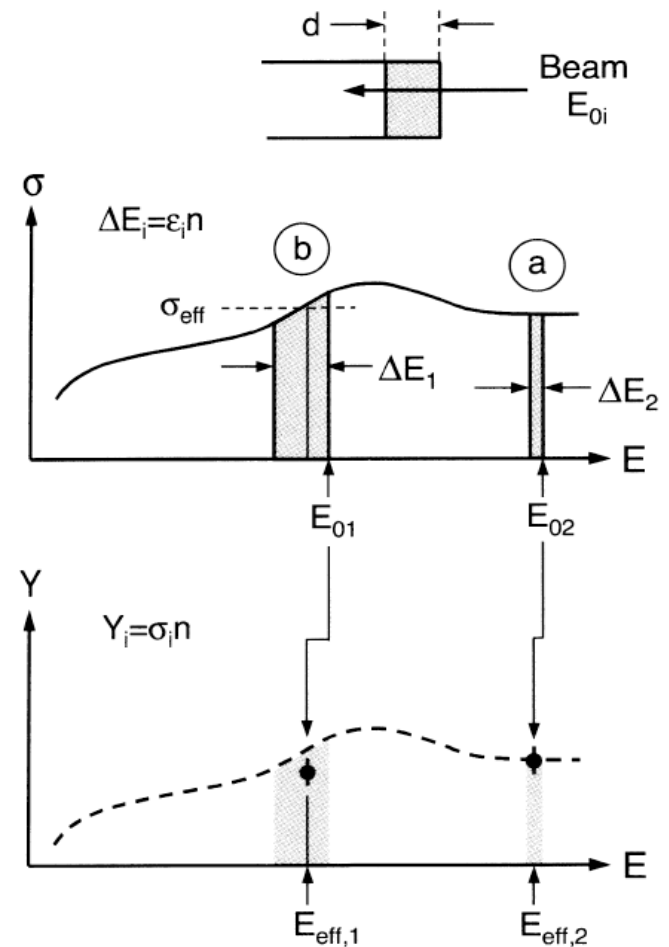
where  $\Delta E$  is the energy lost by the beam over the target thickness

for **non-resonant reactions** or for **broad resonances**

cross section and stopping power  $\varepsilon(E)$  are almost constant within small energy region

$$Y(E_0) = \int_{E_0 - \Delta E}^{E_0} \frac{\sigma(E)}{\varepsilon(E)} dE = \frac{\sigma(E_{\text{eff}})}{\varepsilon(E_0)} \Delta E(E_0)$$

$E_{\text{eff}}$  .... energy at which the cross section, evaluated at this energy, equals the cross section averaged over the target thickness; energy at which **50% of total yield** is obtained



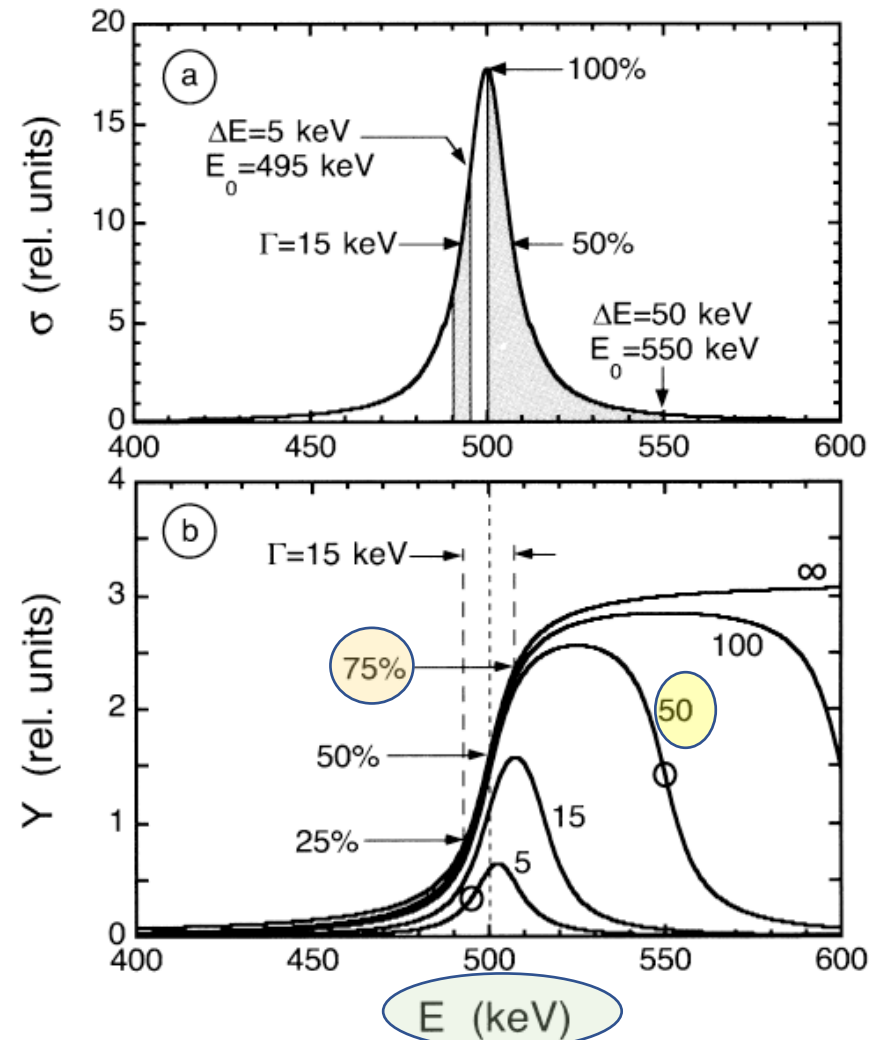
Iliadis, 2007

for resonant reactions:  
 yield depends strongly on **bombarding energy** and **target thickness**

beam energy ( $E_0$ )

target thickness in energy loss units  $\Delta E$

% of maximum yield that can be measured for  $\Delta E \rightarrow \infty$



for resonant reactions:

yield depends strongly on **bombarding energy** and **target thickness**

thin target thickness  $\Delta E \ll \Gamma$

yield curve resembles cross section curve

- max yield at  $E_R$
- $FWHM \approx \Gamma$  of resonant state

thick target thickness  $\Delta E \gg \Gamma$

yield approaches flat plateau

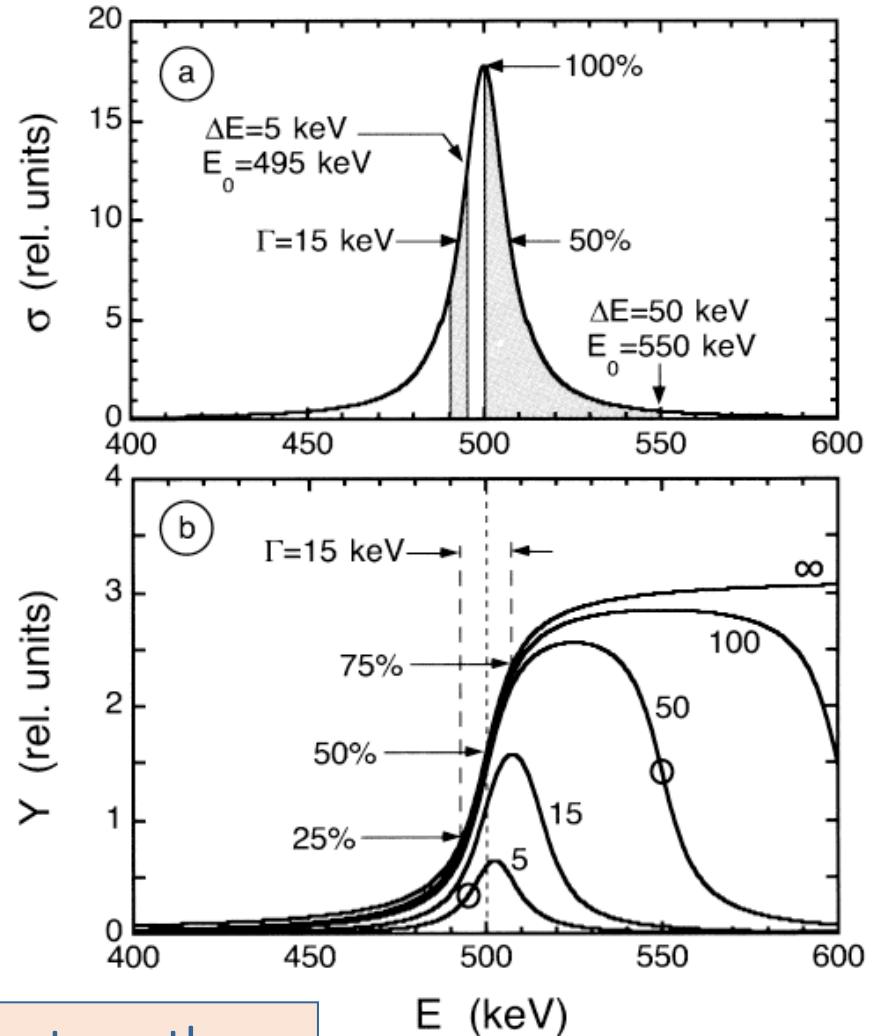
- max yield at  $E_R + \Delta E/2$
- $FWHM \approx \Delta E$

For  $\Delta E \rightarrow \infty$   $\Gamma = E_{0,75\%} - E_{0,25\%}$

$$Y_{max} = \frac{\lambda_r^2}{2} \frac{1}{\epsilon_r} \omega \gamma$$

$\epsilon$  stopping power at  $E_R$   
 $\lambda$  de Broglie at  $E_R$   
 $E_R$  resonance energy

yield measurement gives **directly resonance strength  $\omega \gamma$**



# Reactions with Stable Ion Beams

# Quiescent burning stages of stellar evolution

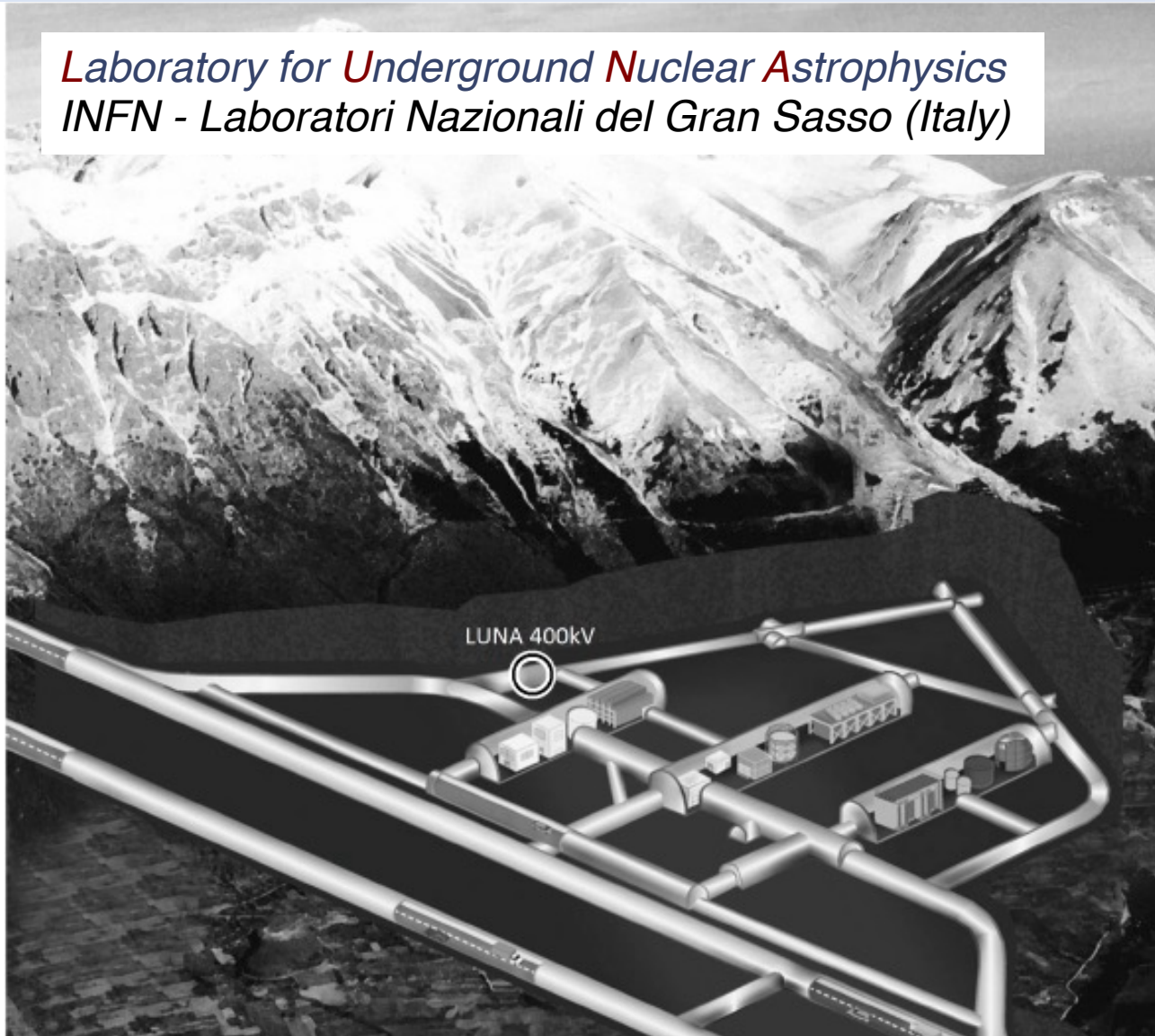


- Nuclear reactions in stable (quiescent) burning phases of stars happen energies **below the Coulomb Barrier** due to low the temperature  $T \sim 10^6 - 10^8$  K
  - $\Rightarrow E_0 \sim 100$  keV  $\ll E_{\text{coul}} \Rightarrow$  tunnel effect
  - $\Rightarrow 10^{-18}$  barn  $< \sigma < 10^{-9}$  barn
  - $\Rightarrow$  average interaction time  $\tau \sim \langle \sigma v \rangle^{-1} \sim 10^9$  y, hence unstable species DO NOT play significant role
- Low count rates (and poor signal-to-noise ratios) require
  - $\Rightarrow$  long measurements
  - $\Rightarrow$  ultra pure targets
  - $\Rightarrow$  high beam intensities
  - $\Rightarrow$  high detection efficiency
  - $\Rightarrow$  reducing natural background

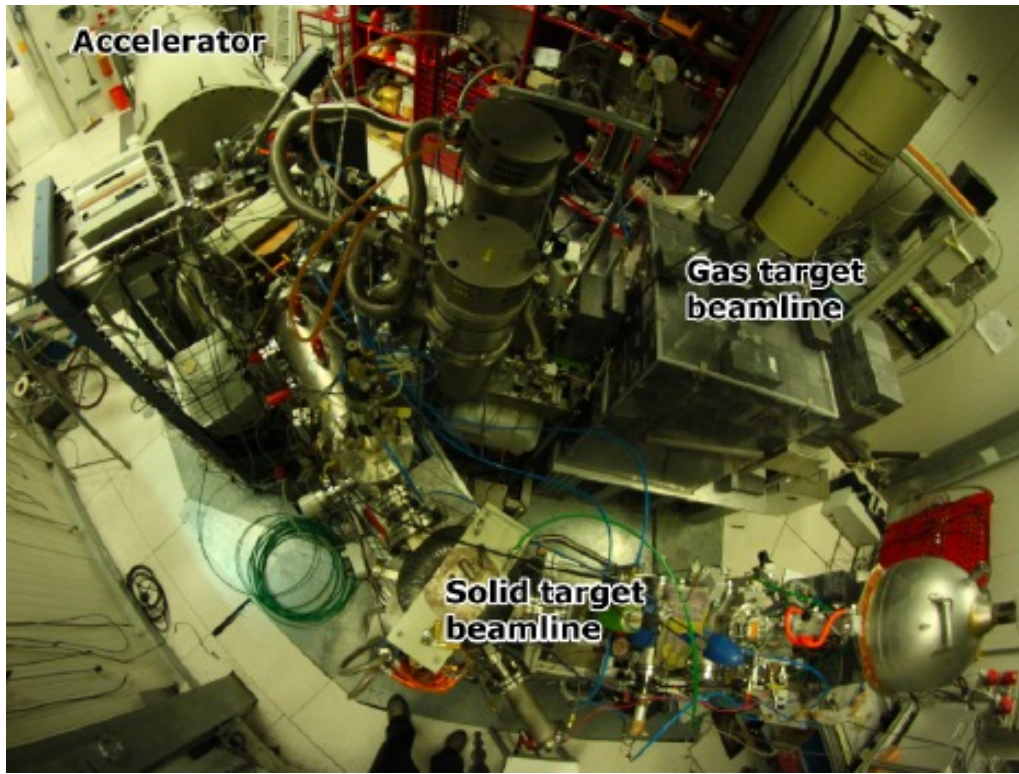
**Measurements underground**

# $^{17}\text{O}(p,\alpha)$ Cross Section at LUNA

*Laboratory for **U**nderground **N**uclear **A**strophysics  
INFN - Laboratori Nazionali del Gran Sasso (Italy)*

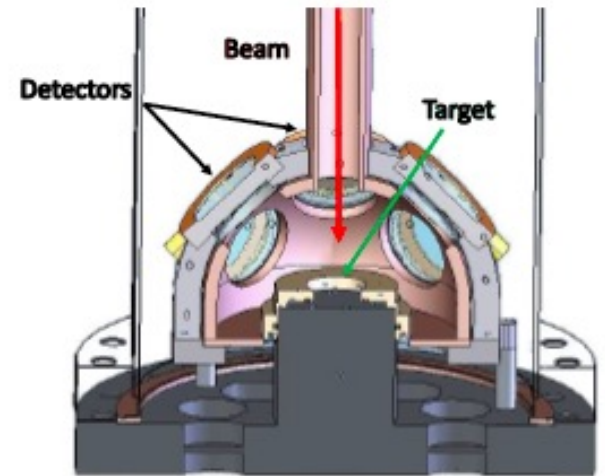


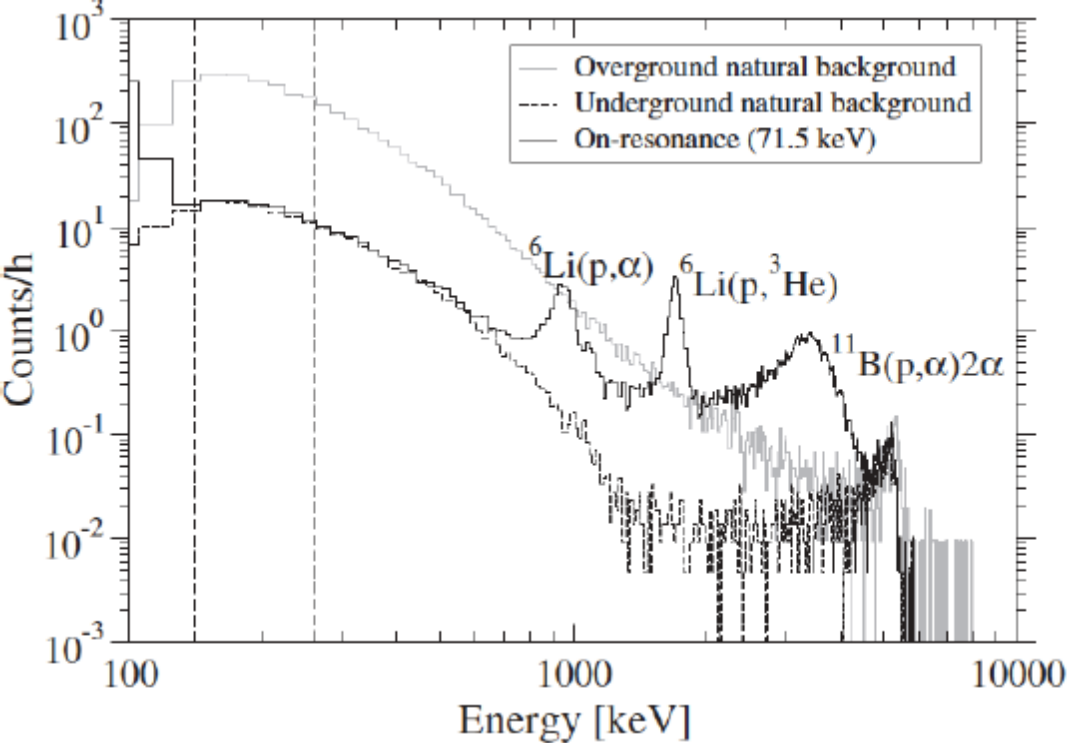




- typical beam intensities 100-200  $\mu\text{A}$
- expected alpha particle energy  $E \sim 200 \text{ keV}$   
(from 70 keV resonance in  $^{17}\text{O}(p,\alpha)^{14}\text{N}$ )
- protective aluminized Mylar foils before each detector

C.G. Bruno et al., Physical Review Letters, 117, 14 (2016)  
C.G. Bruno, PhD Thesis (U. Edinburgh)

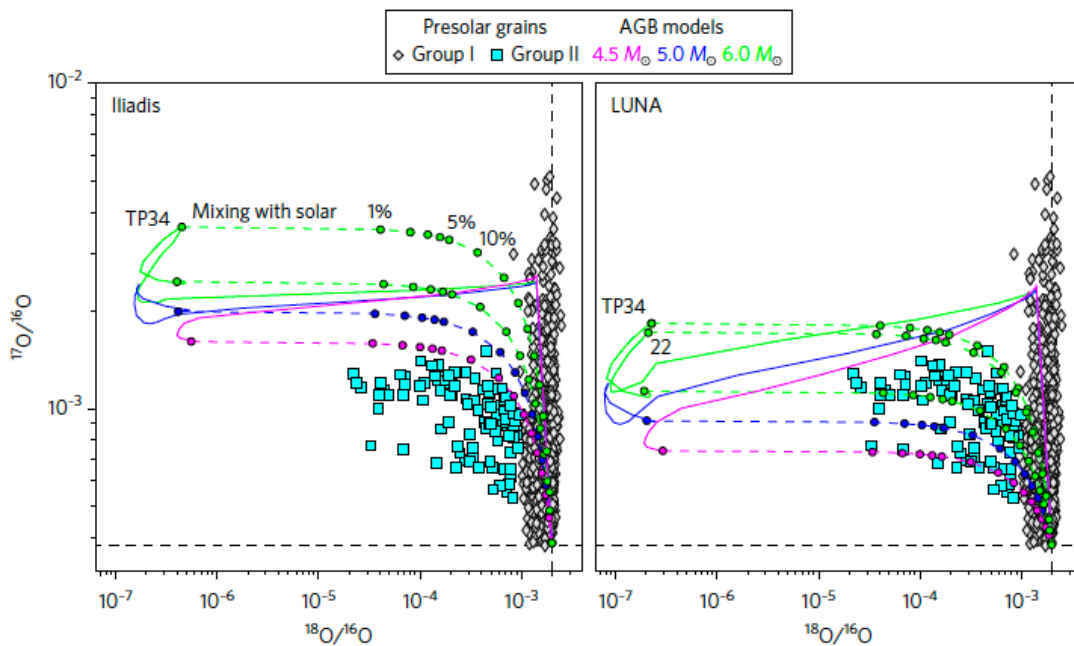




C.G. Bruno et al., Physical Review Letters, 117, 14 (2016)  
 C.G. Bruno, PhD Thesis (U. Edinburgh)

*Revised  $^{17}\text{O}(p,\alpha)$  rate showed that a group of meteoritic grains is produced in massive Asymptotic Giant Branch stars*

M. Lugaro et al,  
 Nature Astronomy 1,  
 0027 (2017)



# Reactions with Radioactive Ion Beams

# Explosive burning stages of stellar evolution

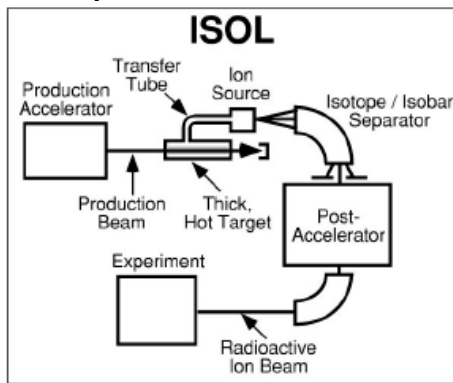
- Nuclear reactions in explosive environments ( $T \sim \text{GK}$ ) typically happen at higher energies (near Coulomb barrier)  $\rightarrow$  higher cross sections
- Reactions on protons and alphas: Measurements in **Inverse Kinematics**

CHALLENGES    **unstable nuclei**  $\Rightarrow$  short half-lives  
 $\Rightarrow$  low beam currents

REQUIREMENTS     $\Rightarrow$  **Radioactive Ion Beam** facilities  
 $\Rightarrow$  produce and accelerate ions of interest  
 $\Rightarrow$  dedicated detection systems

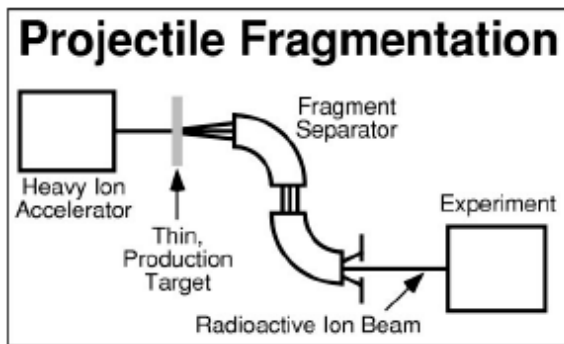
# Radioactive Ion Beam Production

- Off-Line Production and subsequent installation in accelerator (limited to long-lived isotopes)
- ISOL Technique



- excellent quality (small emittance)
- limited number of species and half lives

- In-Flight / fragmentation



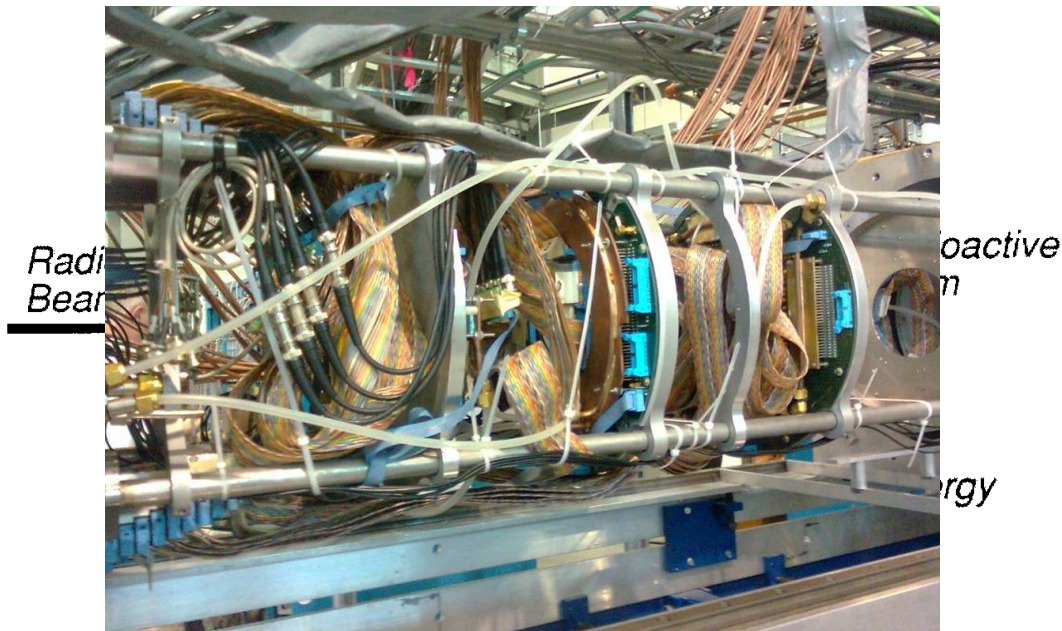
- independent of chemical properties
- small half lives possible
- larger beam spot, poorer emittance
- energies generally too high for nuclear astrophysical studies

Smith and Rehm, Annu. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci. 2001. 51:91–130



## light-heavy nuclei coincidence

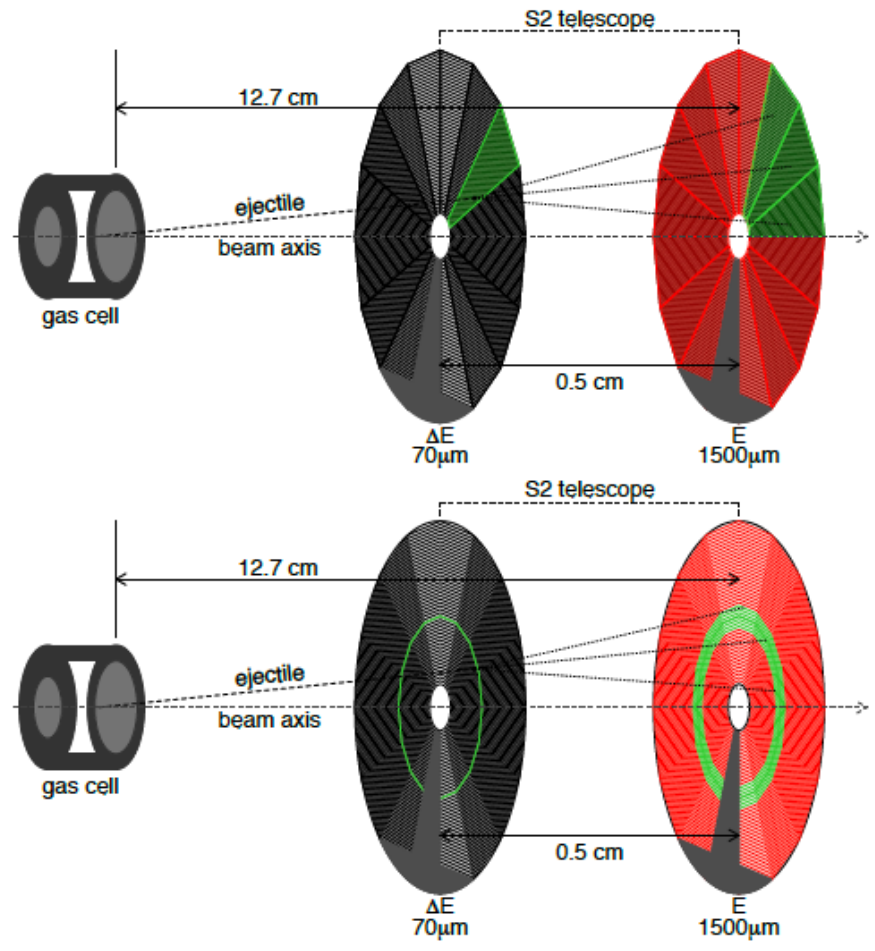
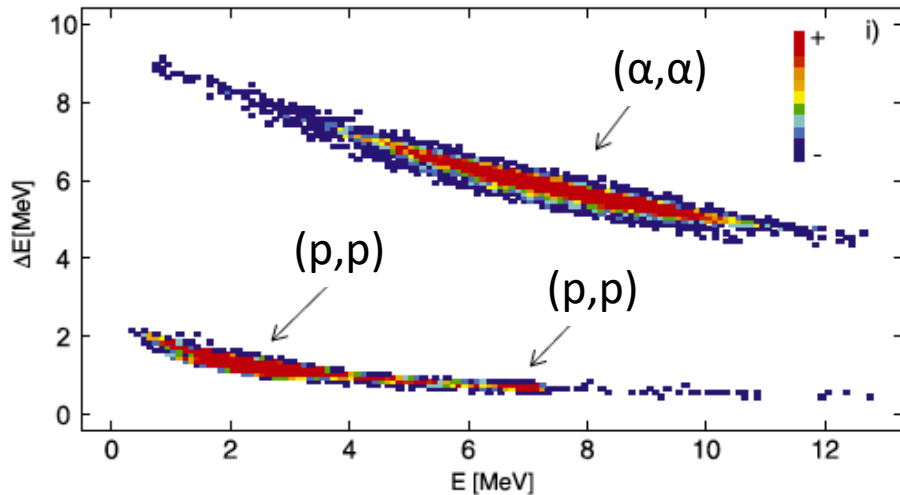
silicon strip detector arrays  $\Rightarrow$  large solid angle coverage (e.g. TUDA at TRIUMF)



- Coincident detection of heavy recoil and light ion (i.e. proton, alpha)
- High segmentation of detectors for accurate determination of kinematics
- If possible dE-E particle identification

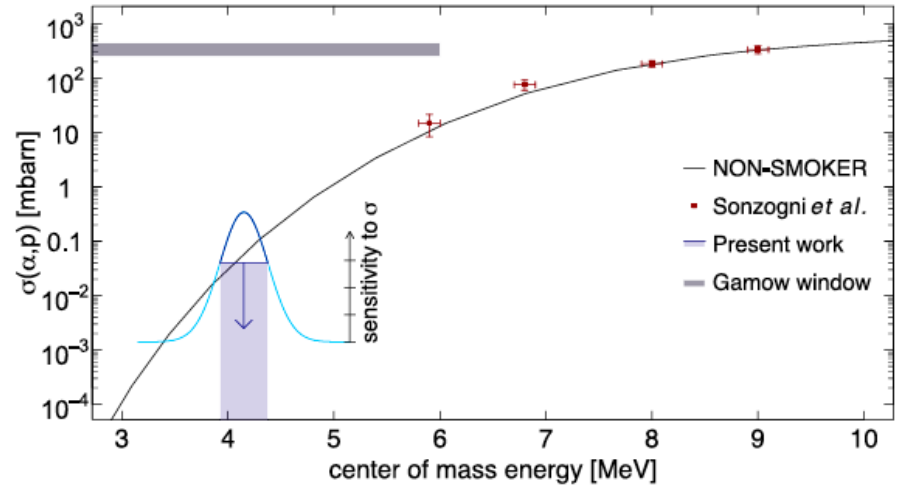
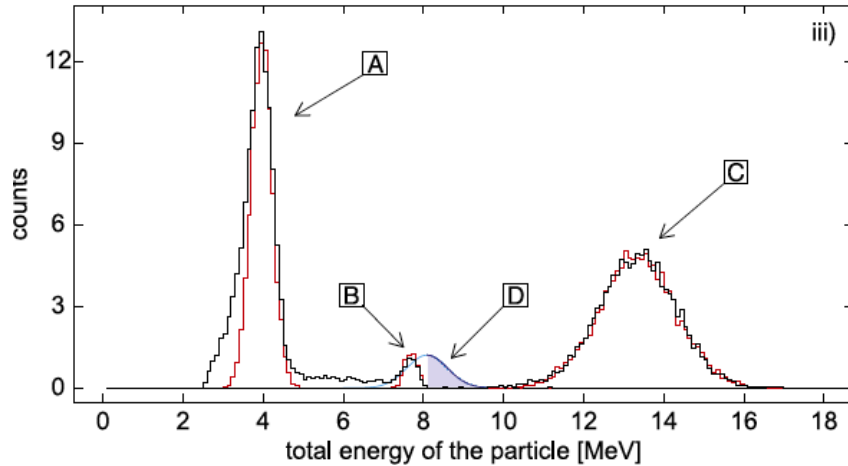
# $^{44}\text{Ti}(\alpha, p)$ Cross Section at REX-ISOLDE

- Important destruction reaction of cosmic  $\gamma$ -ray emitter  $^{44}\text{Ti}$
- $^{44}\text{Ti}$  from highly irradiated components of the SINQ spallation neutrons source (PSI)
- Detection of Proton using  $\Delta E$ -E technique
- $\Delta E = \text{fraction of energy lost in thin detector} \sim MZ^2/E_{ini}$

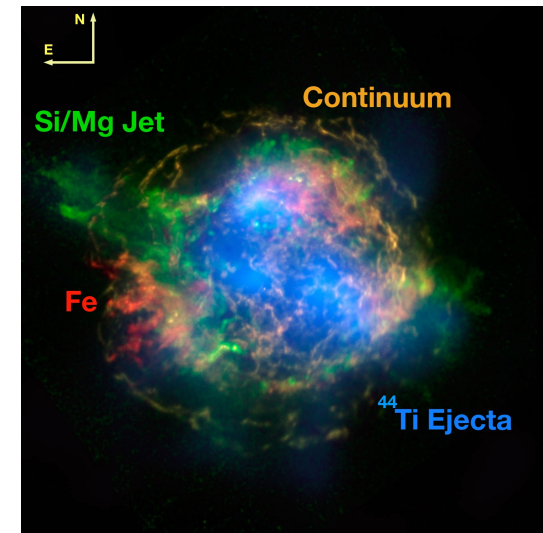


V. Margerin et al. Physics Letters B 731 (2014) 358–361 ; V. Margerin, PhD Thesis (U. Edinburgh)

# $^{44}\text{Ti}(\alpha, p)$ Cross Section at REX-ISOLDE



- No signal above background
- Upper limit suggests lower destruction rate





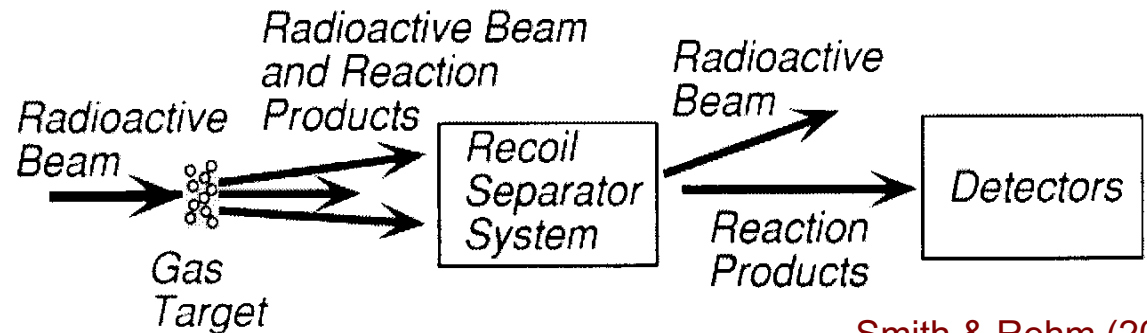
# RADIATIVE CAPTURE

## 1. heavy recoil detection

$X(p,\gamma)Y$   
 $X(\alpha,\gamma)Y$  } among the most common reactions  
in nuclear astrophysics

inverse kinematics  $\Rightarrow$  forward peaked emission ( $\theta \sim 1^\circ$ )  
 $\Rightarrow$  detection efficiency  $\sim 100\%$

**BUT:** high suppression factors required ( $10^{10}$ - $10^{15}$ )



Smith & Rehm (2001)

## 2. $\gamma$ -ray detection

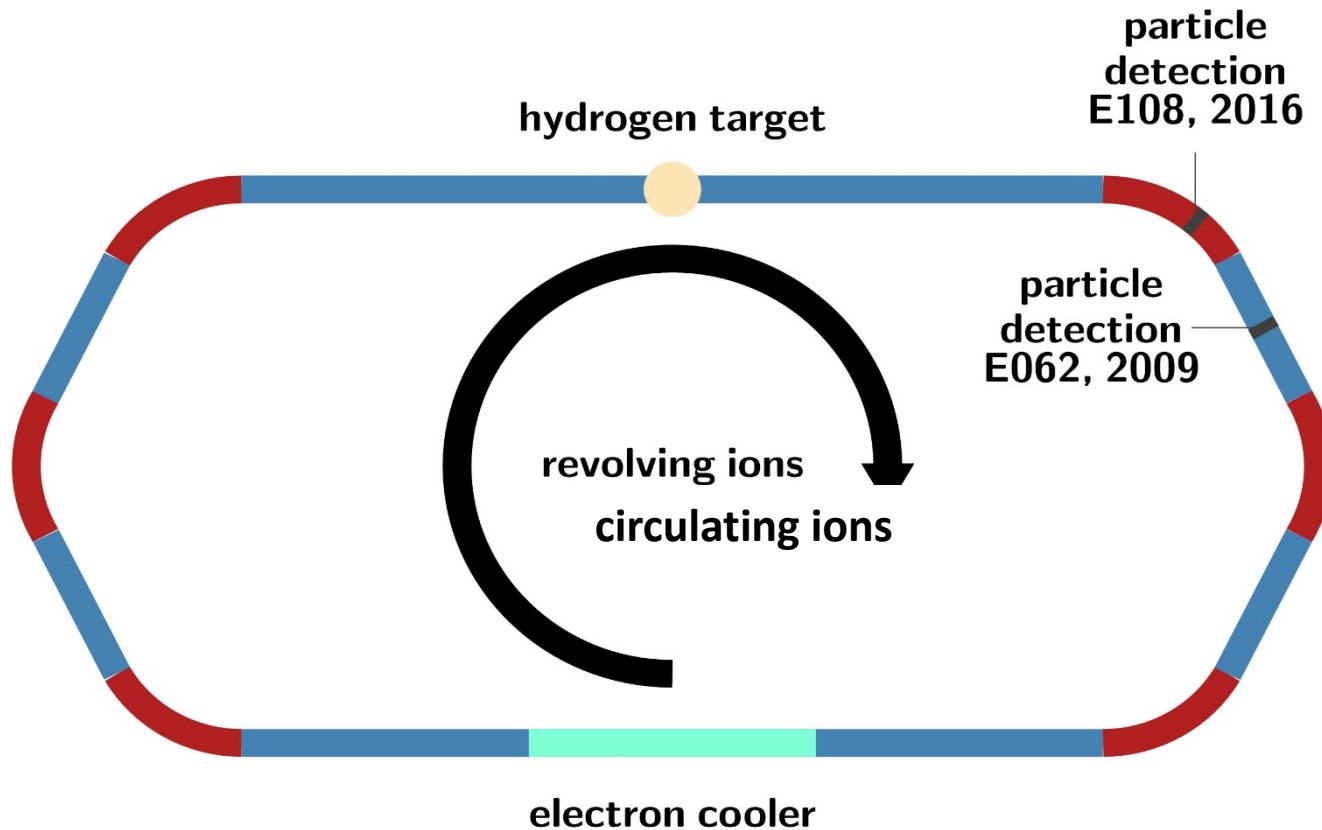
low efficiency  $\Rightarrow \sim 4\pi$  coverage needed  
 $\gamma$ -ray background induced by  $\beta^+$  beam decay

## 3. delayed decay measurement for example: $^{19}\text{Ne}(p,\gamma)^{20}\text{Na}(\beta^+)^{20}\text{Ne}^*(\alpha)^{16}\text{O}$

# REACTION MEASUREMENTS AT ION STORAGE RINGS

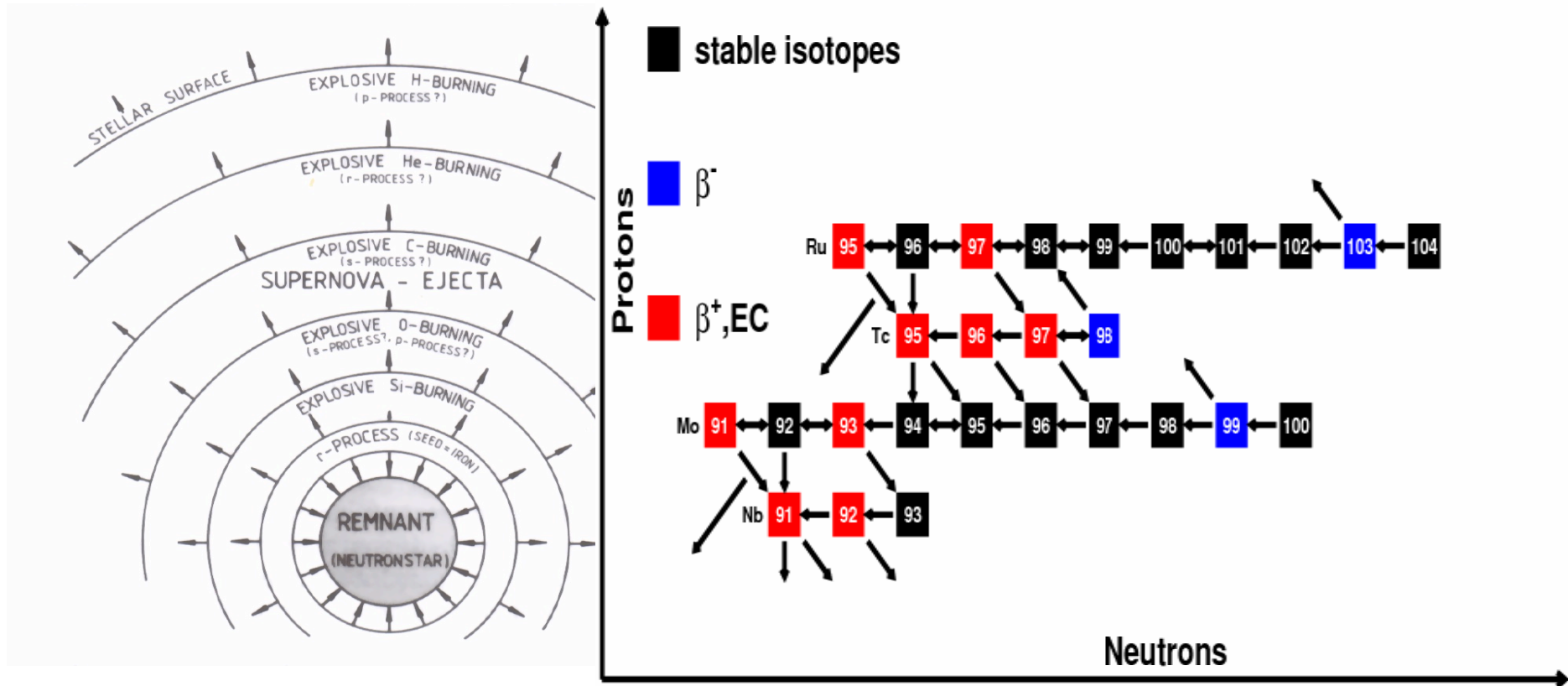
Advantages of using inverse kinematics in storage rings:

1. Heavy isotope can be **radioactive** or stable
2. Gas/jet target and beam species are **pure**

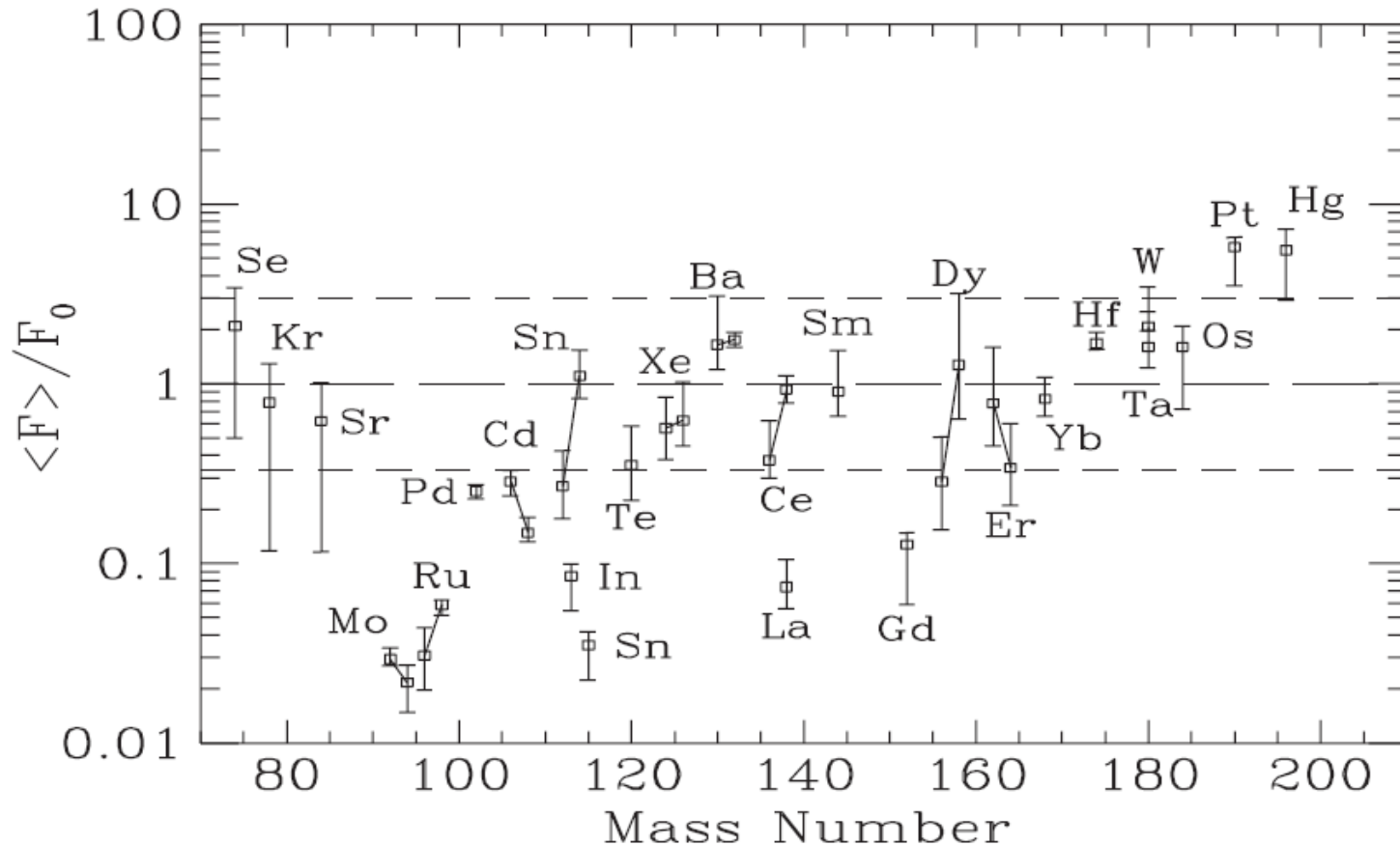


# Puzzle of the origin of certain highly abundant **p-nuclei**

eg  $^{92,94}\text{Mo}$  and  $^{96}\text{Ru}$

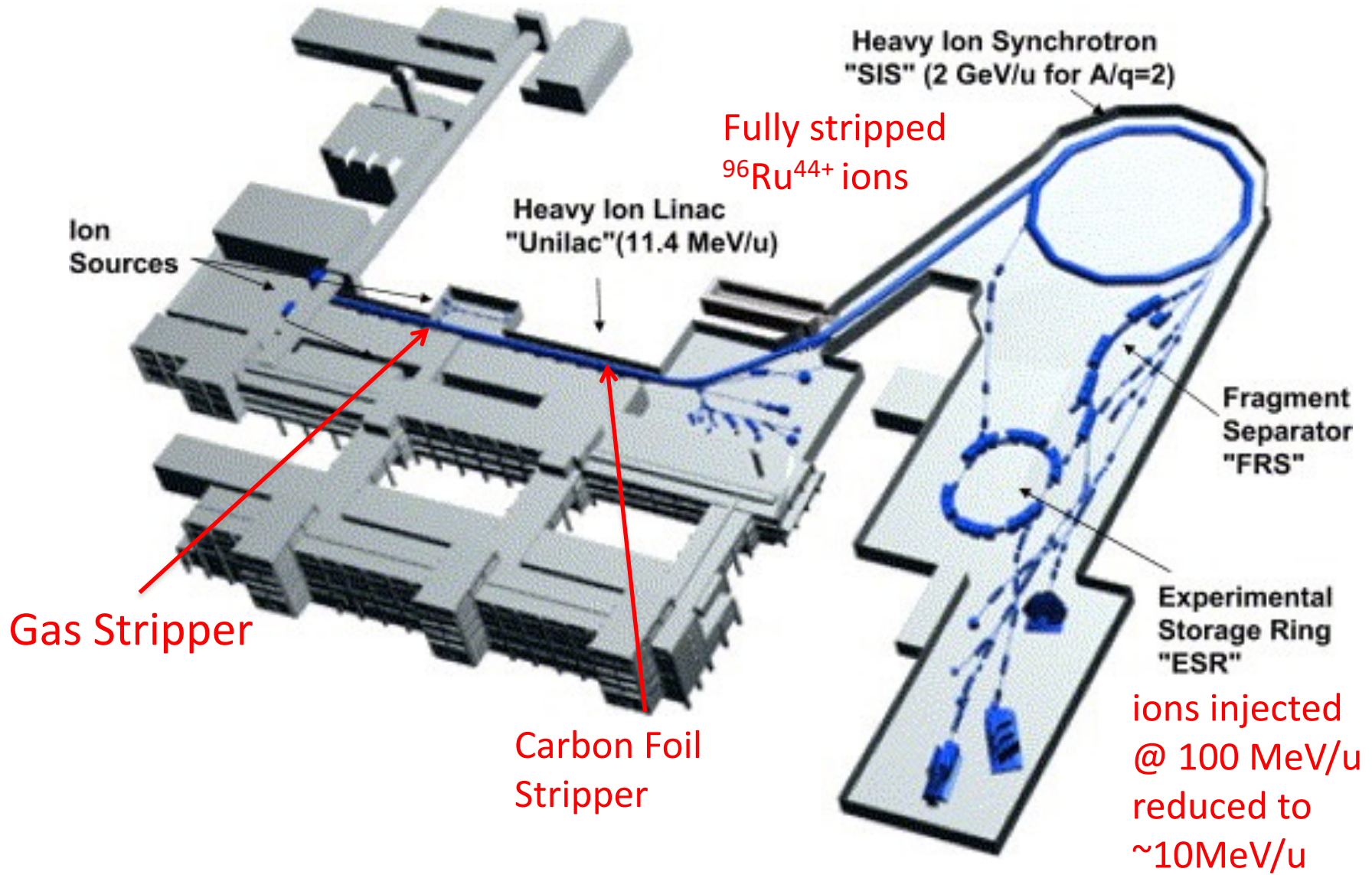


# Predicted p-process abundances compared to observations



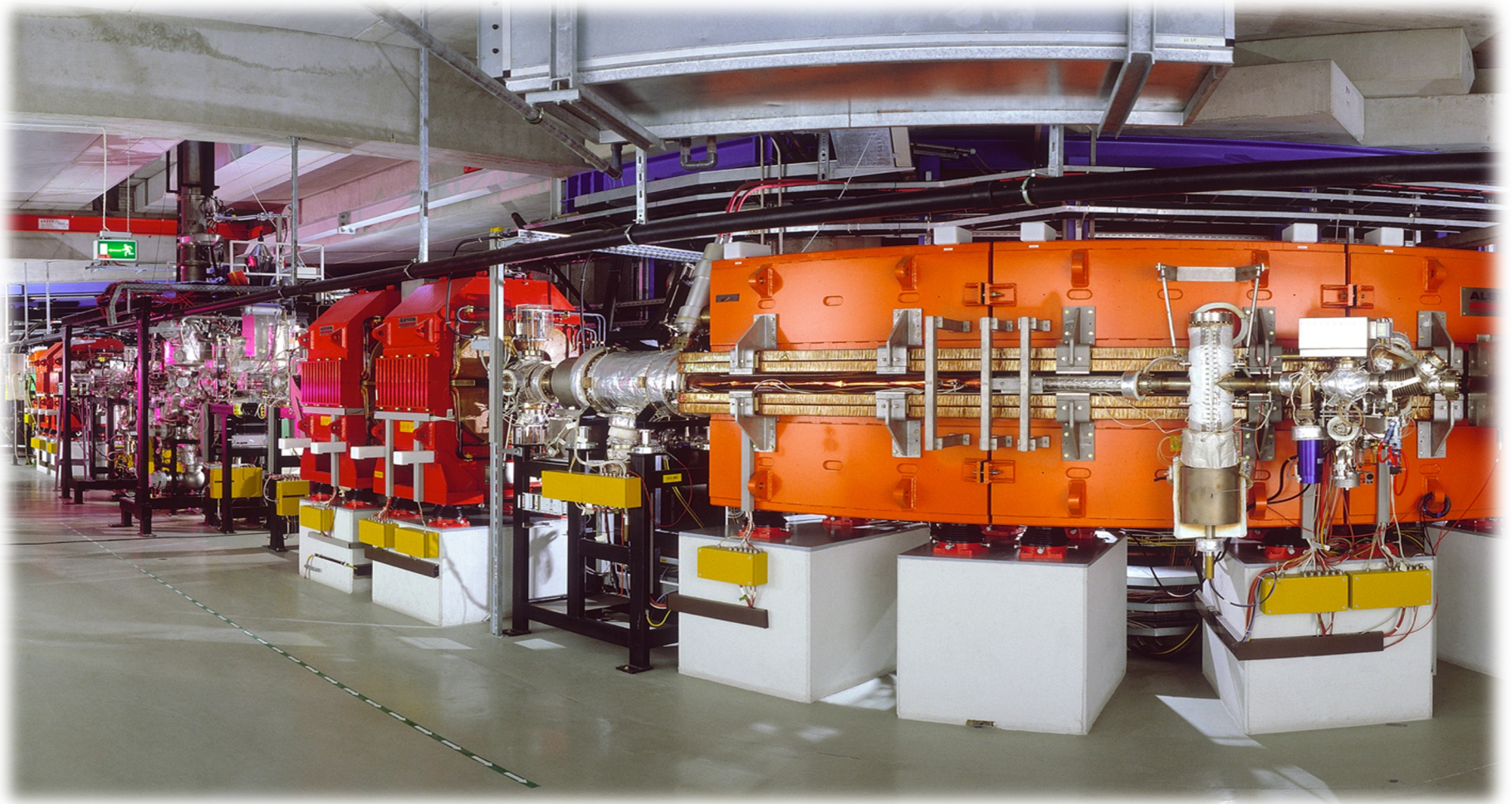
Arnould & Goriely Phys. Rep. **384**,1 (2003)

Study of  $^{96}\text{Ru}(p,\gamma)^{97}\text{Rh}$  reaction with **decelerated beams** using the ESR storage ring at GSI



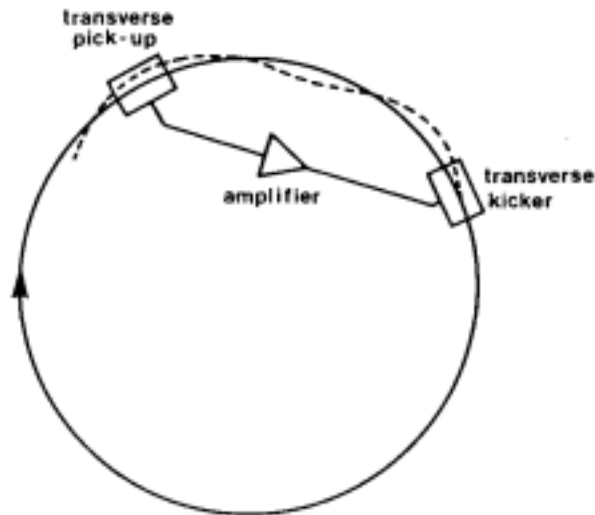


Ions cooled and decelerated to  $\sim 10$  MeV/u in ESR



# Stochastic Cooling

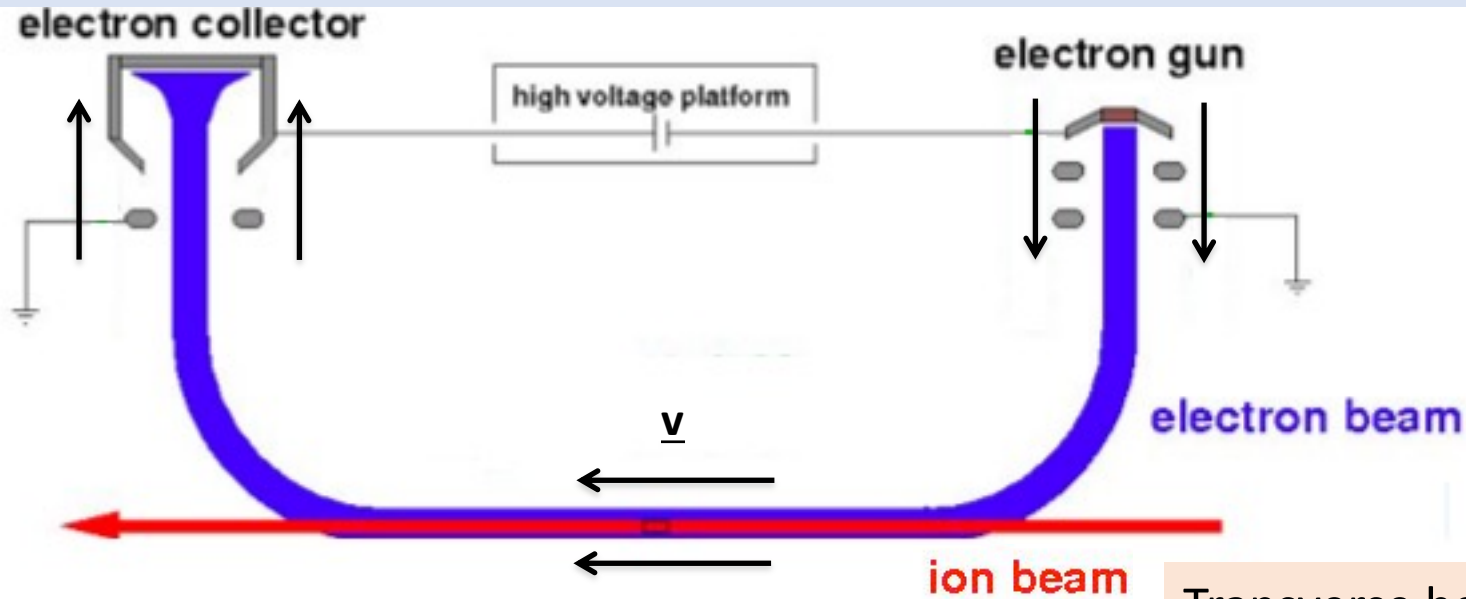
- Used for fast pre-cooling of **hot fragment beams**.
- Simon Van der Meer shared Nobel prize with Carlo Rubbia (1984).



Demonstration of Stochastic cooling for a single ion.

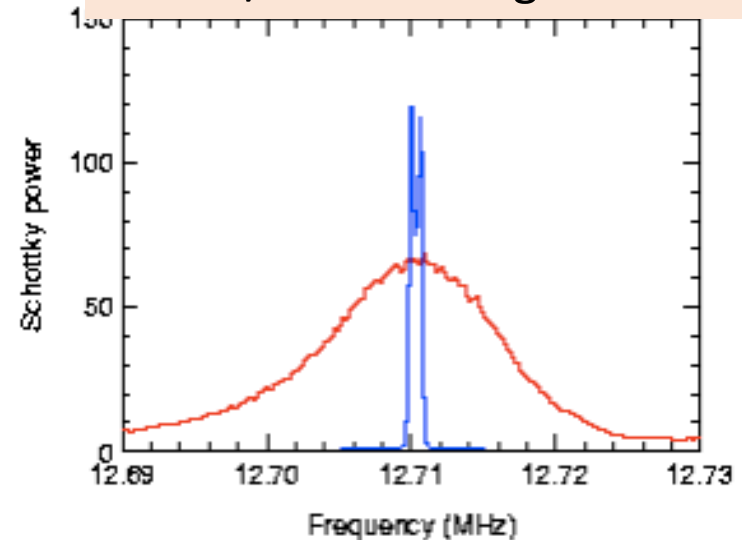
Taken from Simon Van der Meer Nobel prize lecture, 1984

# Electron Cooling of the Beam



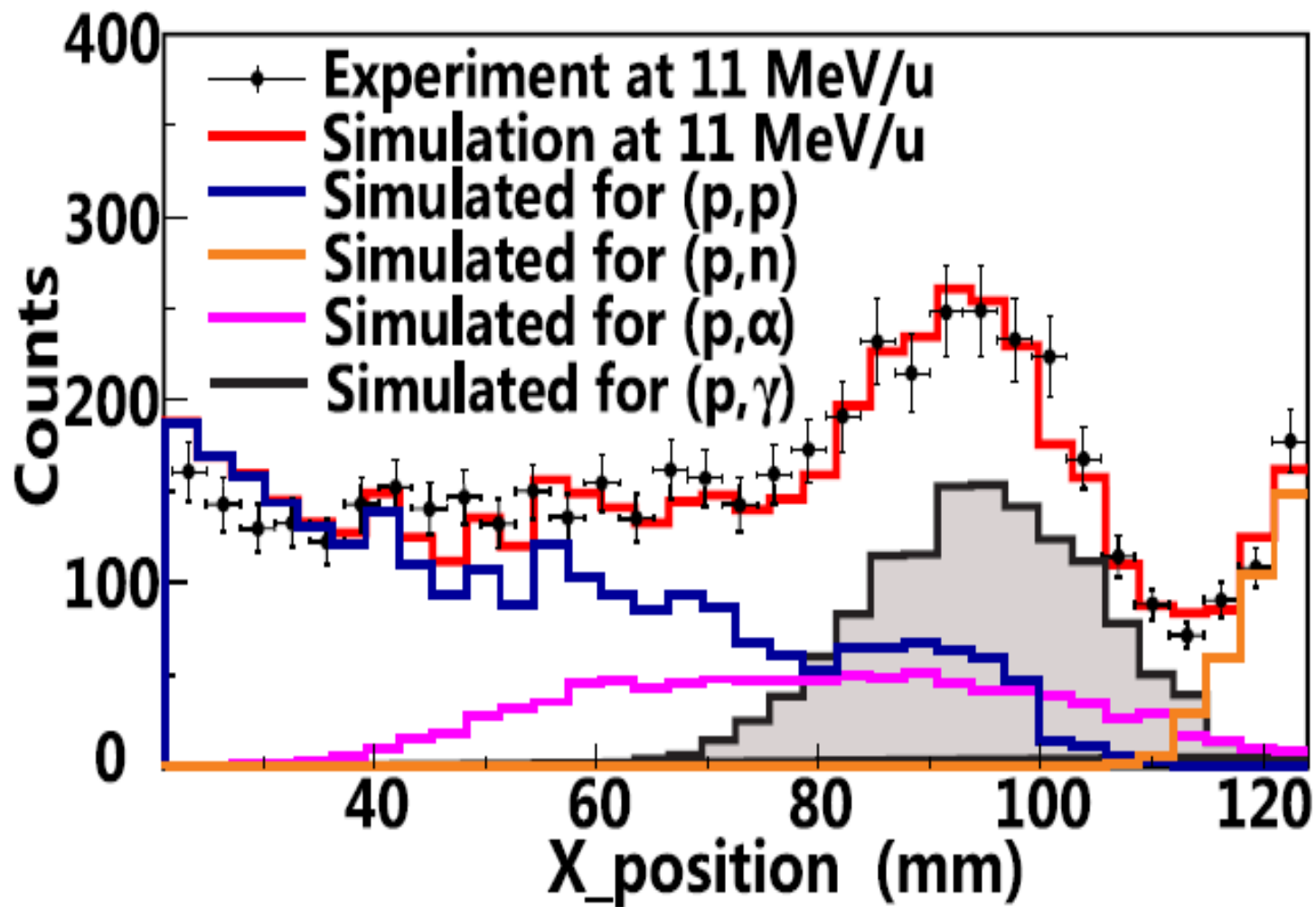
Electron cooler  
at the ESR

Transverse beam profile  
before/after cooling



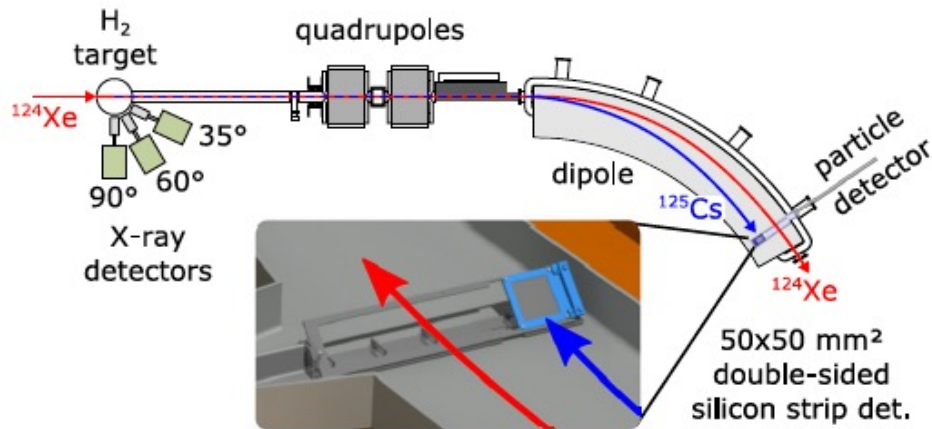




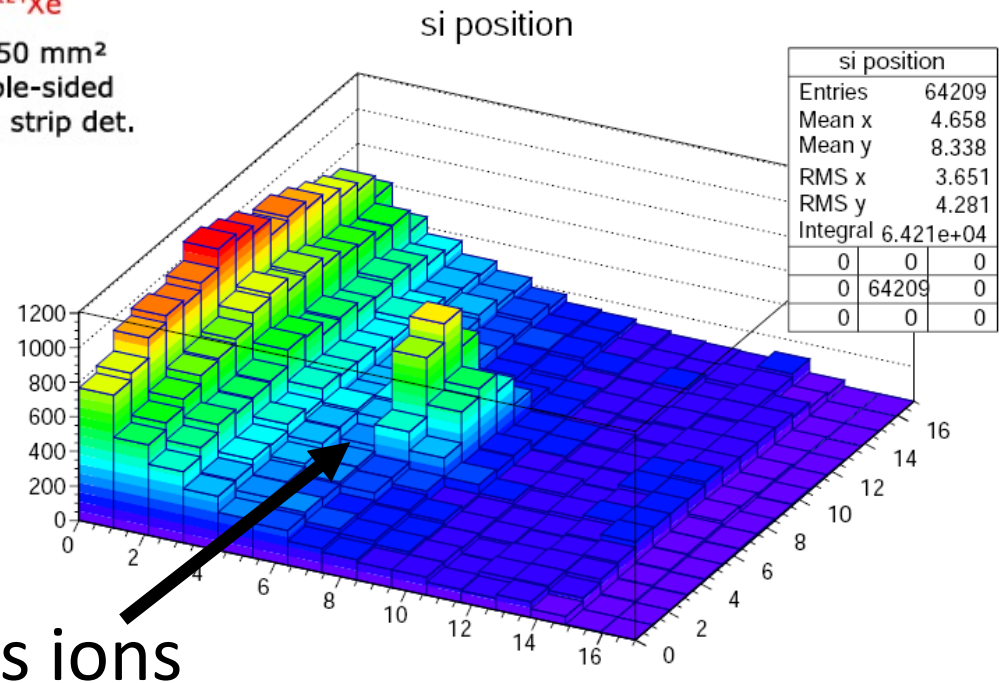


# $^{124}\text{Xe}(p,\gamma)^{125}\text{Cs}$ particle detectors in Ultra High Vacuum

J. Glorius et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 122, 092701 (2019)



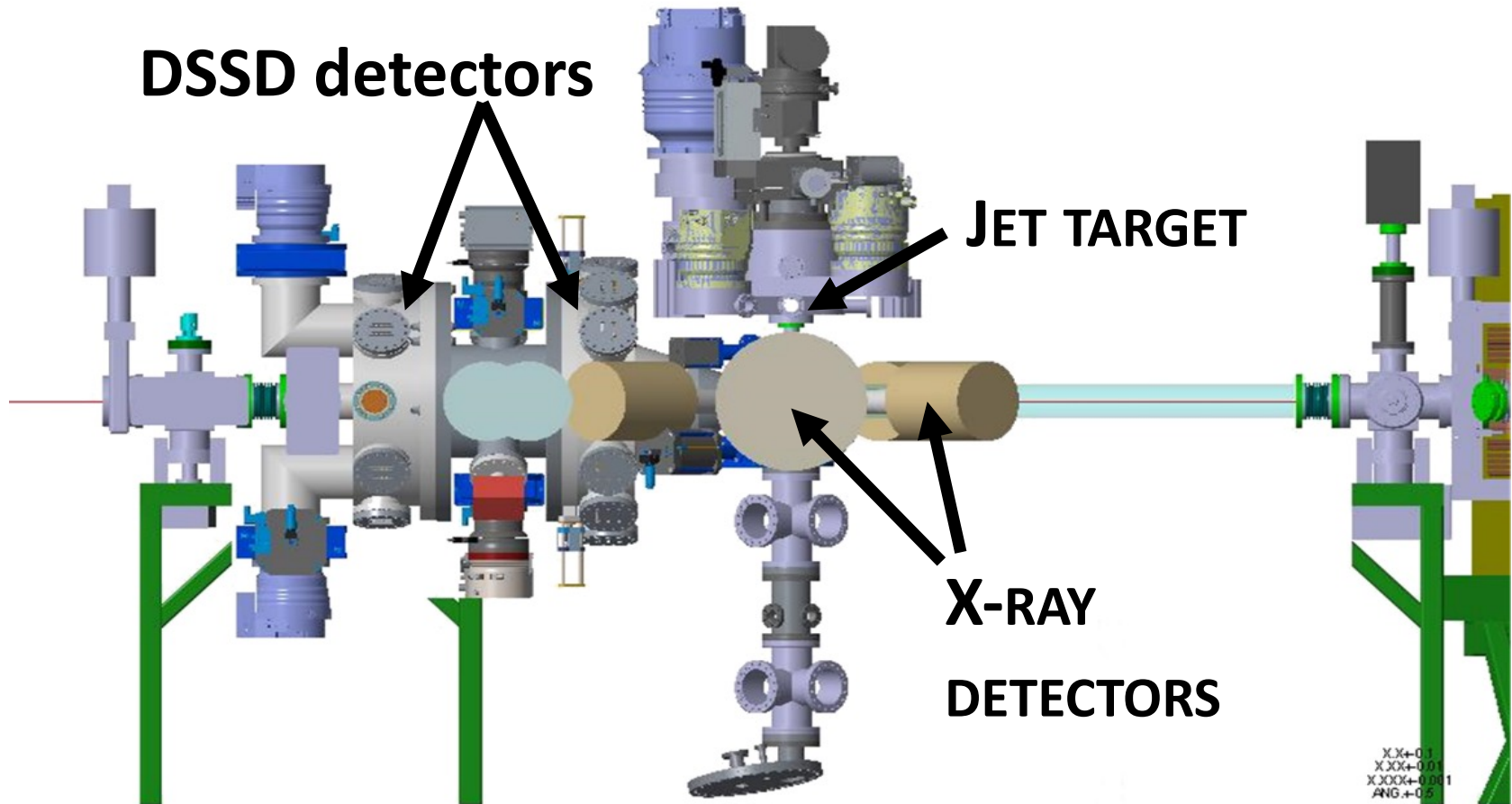
... allowed to measure reactions close to stellar particle energies



# Measurements at Stellar Energies

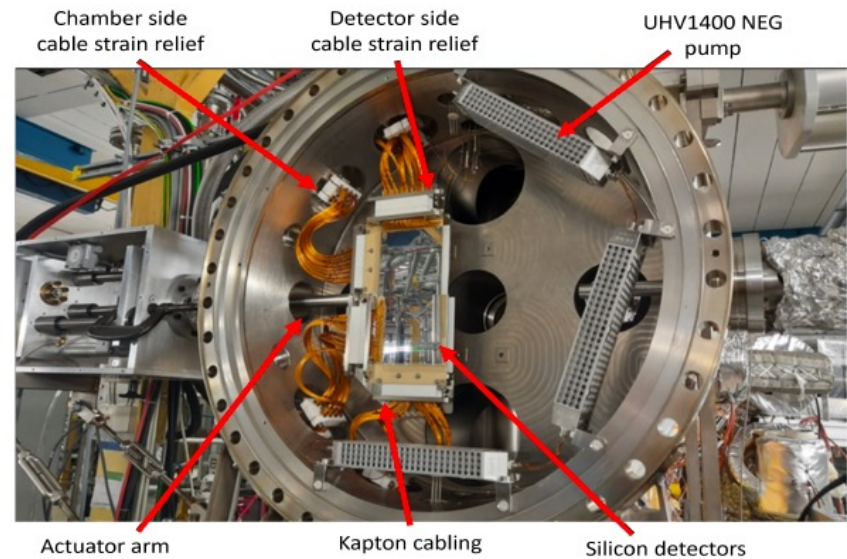
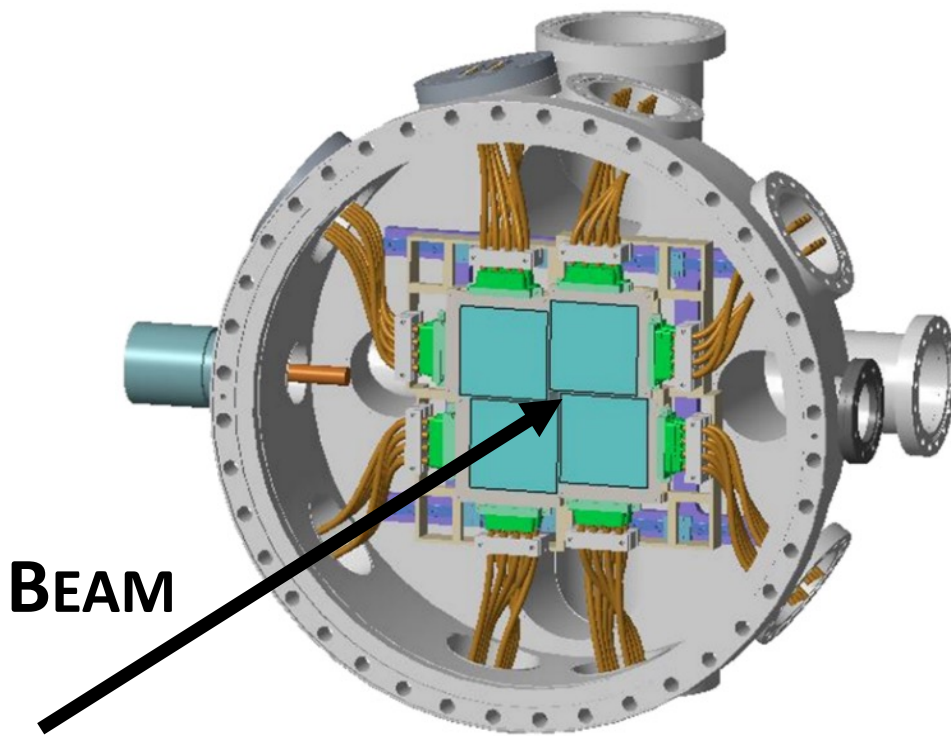


# NUCLEAR ASTROPHYSICAL REACTION STUDIES USING THE CRYRING ARRAY FOR REACTION MEASUREMENTS (CARMÉ)



C. Bruno et al., NIMA [Volume 1048](#), (2023), 168007  
J. Marsh, PhD Thesis (U. Edinburgh 2023)





J. Marsh, PhD Thesis (U. Edinburgh 2023)

This system will be used for **high resolution** charge particle reaction studies for nuclear astrophysics including:

- I. Direct astrophysical reaction measurements e.g.  $(p, \alpha), (\alpha, p)$
- II. Indirect reactions probing key resonance properties e.g.  $(d, p)$

First nuclear astro measurement scheduled for Feb 2023 (Ultra-high resolution study of the  $^{15}\text{O}(\alpha, \alpha)^{15}\text{O}$ , PIs Bruno & Woods)

# Reactions with Neutron Beams

## FEATURES

- ⇒ no Coulomb barrier
- ⇒ neutrons do not lose energy in target – either transmitted or absorbed/scattered

## CHALLENGES

- ⇒ free neutrons unstable, hence stable or long-lived reaction partners
- ⇒ neutron energy cannot be ‘tuned’ in accelerator
- ⇒ background from scattered neutrons

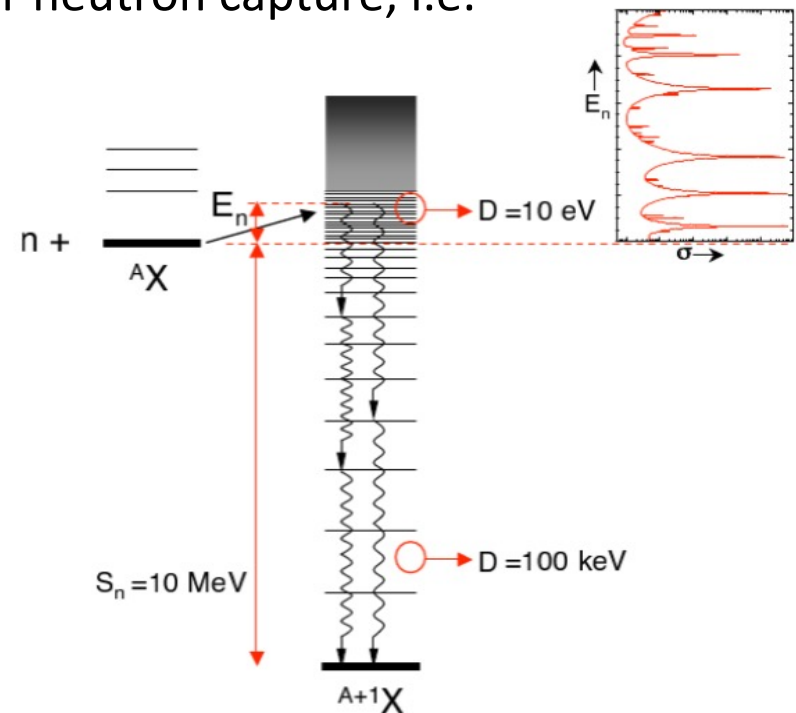
## REQUIREMENTS

- ⇒ Intense neutron source
- ⇒ ‘white’ neutron spectrum or spectrum with the ‘right’ energy for the application
- ⇒ detection system insensitive to neutrons



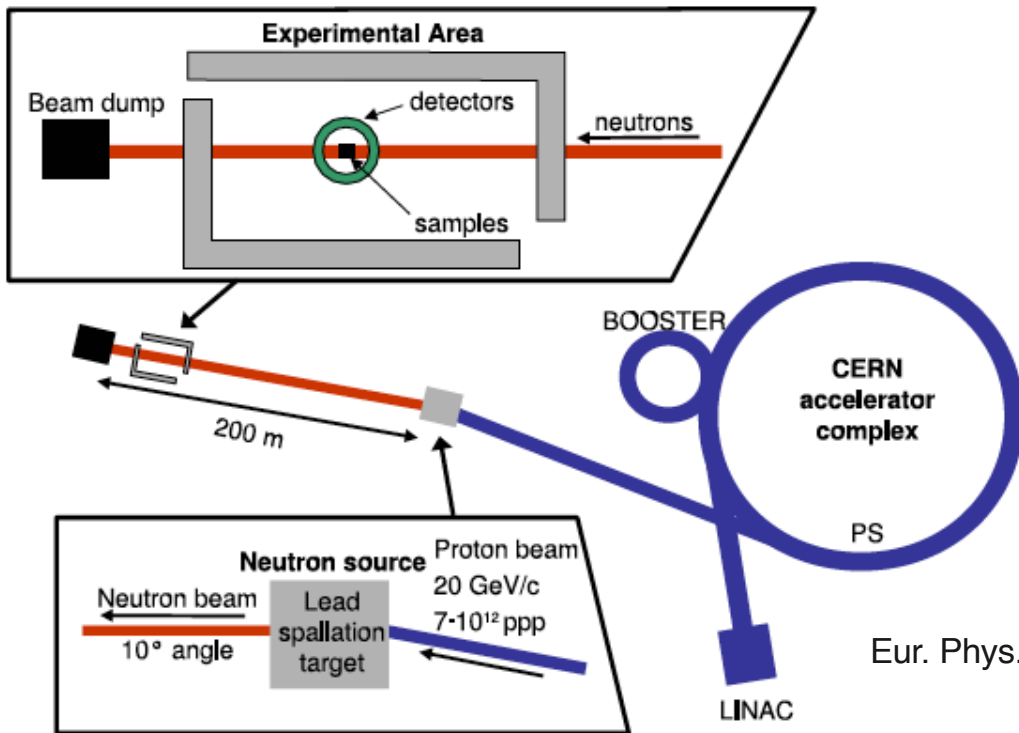
# Time-of-Flight technique

- applicable to all stable and long-lived nuclei
- need pulsed neutron source for  $E_n$  determination via ToF
- measurement of prompt emission after neutron capture, i.e. prompt  $\gamma$ -rays or  $p, \alpha$ , etc
- measurement of resonance properties
- main background: neutrons scattered from the target:  $\rightarrow$  need  $\gamma$ -ray detectors insensitive to neutron reaction

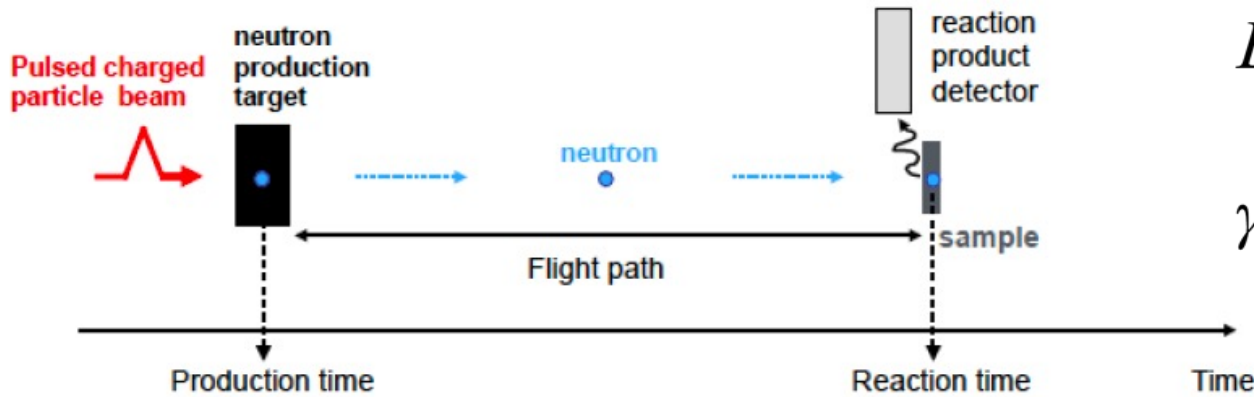


compound neutron capture reaction

# The n\_TOF facility at CERN



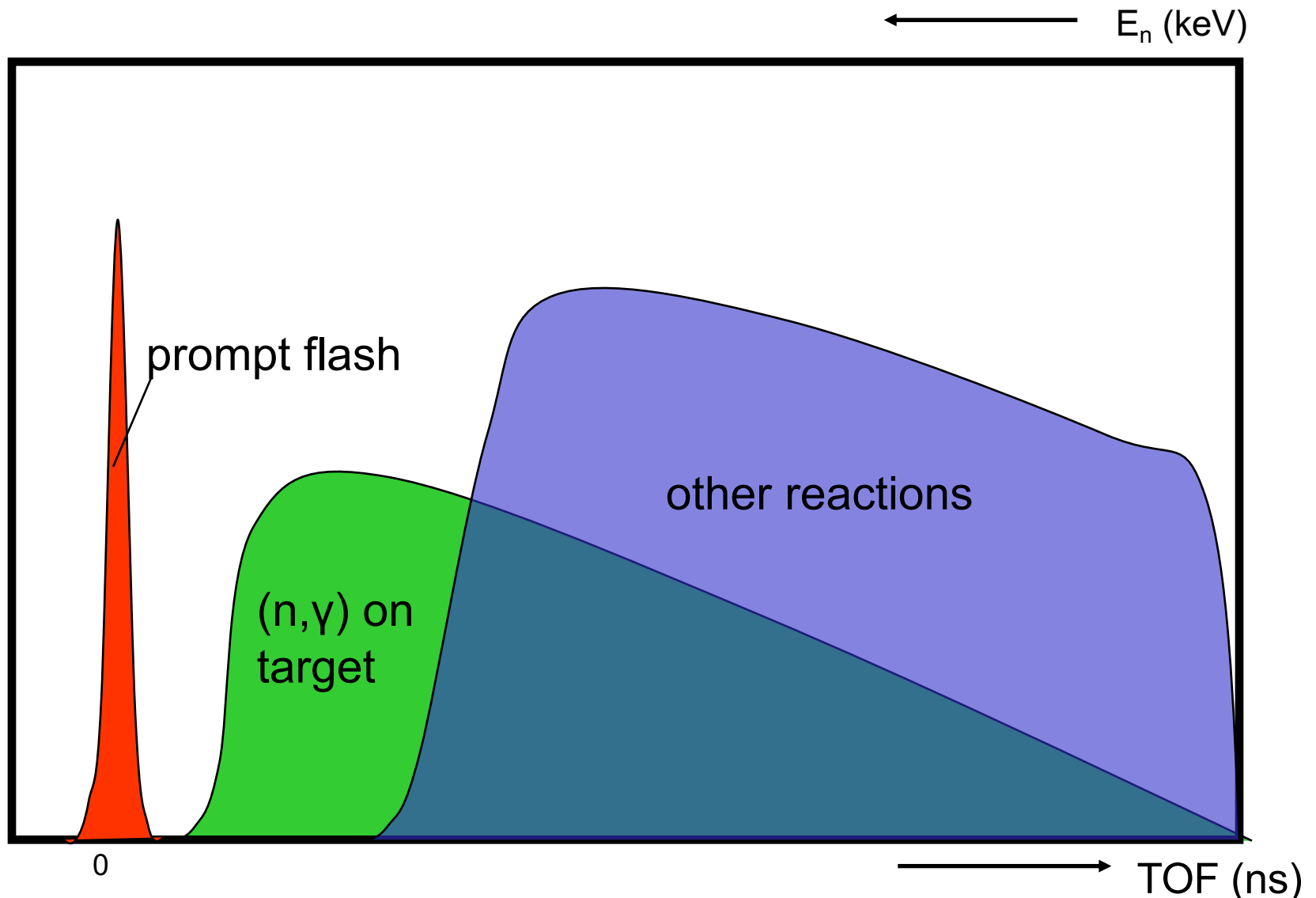
Eur. Phys. J. A (2013) 49: 27



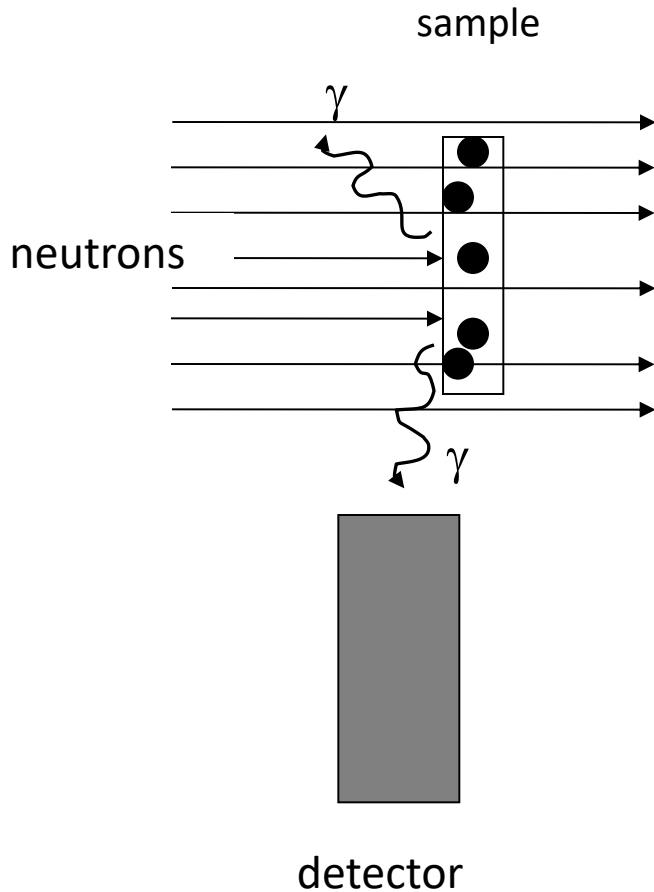
$$E_n = mc^2 (\gamma - 1)$$

$$\gamma = \left( 1 - \frac{(L / \text{tof})^2}{c^2} \right)^{-1/2}$$

# Schematic TOF Spectrum



# Radiative Neutron Capture Yield



**Capture Yield  $Y_R(E_n)$ :**

Probability that reaction takes place  $\rightarrow$

$$0 < Y < 1$$

$$Y_R(E_n) = C / \epsilon \Phi(E_n)$$

Counts

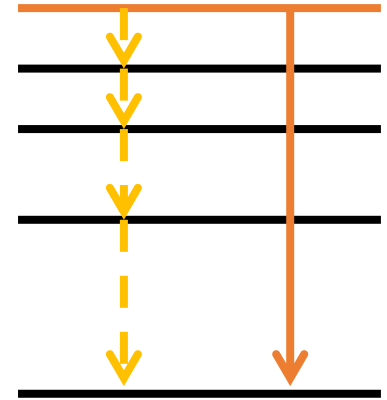
Incident neutrons on sample

Efficiency to detect a capture event

# $\gamma$ -ray Detection

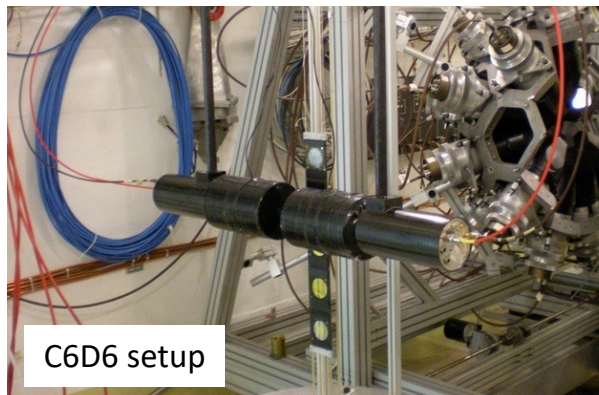
## Considerations:

- Efficiency to detect capture event  $\epsilon_c$  independent of fluctuations in cascade
- Good timing characteristics
- low sensitivity to neutrons



## Single $\gamma$ 's (Total Energy Detection)

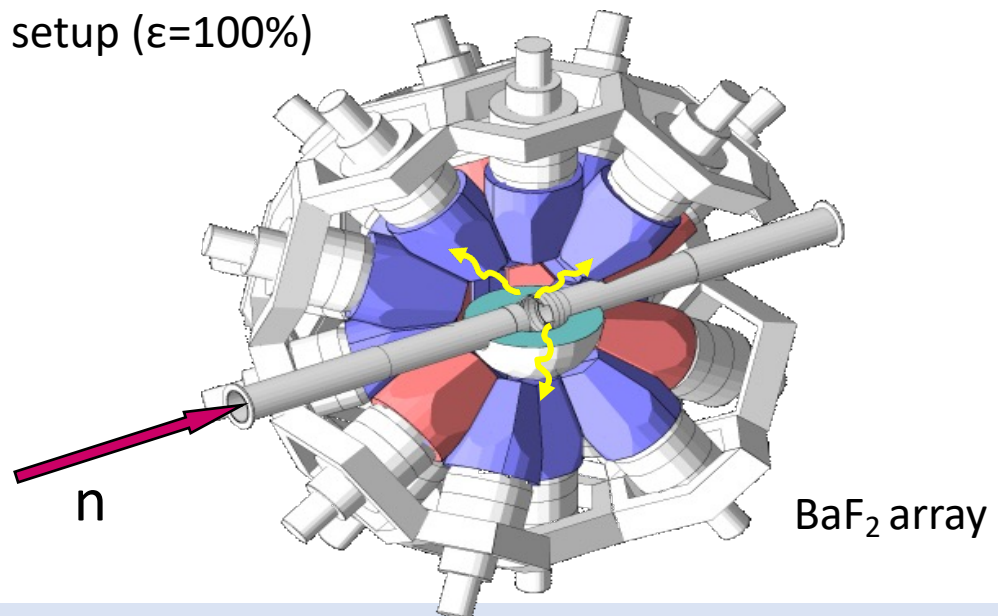
- Moxon-Rae
- Pulse Height Weighting



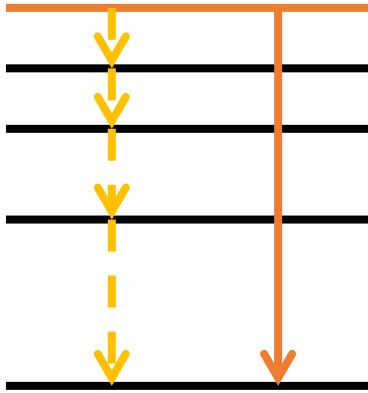
C6D6 setup

## Total Cascade detection

- $4\pi$  setup ( $\epsilon=100\%$ )



# Total Energy Detection



For  $\gamma$ -detection efficiency  $\varepsilon_\gamma$  proportional to  $\gamma$ -ray energy  $E_\gamma$  and small detection efficiency the cascade efficiency  $\varepsilon_C$  is proportional to the excitation energy  $E_C$  of the nucleus:

$$\varepsilon_\gamma = kE_\gamma \quad \longrightarrow \quad \varepsilon_C = 1 - \prod_i (1 - \varepsilon_{\gamma,i})$$
$$\quad \longrightarrow \quad \varepsilon_C \approx \sum_i \varepsilon_{\gamma,i} = \sum_i k E_{\gamma,i} = kE_C$$

- 1) Design detector with  $\varepsilon_\gamma = kE_\gamma$  (Moxon-Rae Detectors)
- 2) Manipulate signals a posteriori to achieve proportionality (Pulse Height Weighting Technique)

*R. L. Macklin and R. H. Gibbons, [Phys. Rev. 159, 1007 \(1967\)](#).*

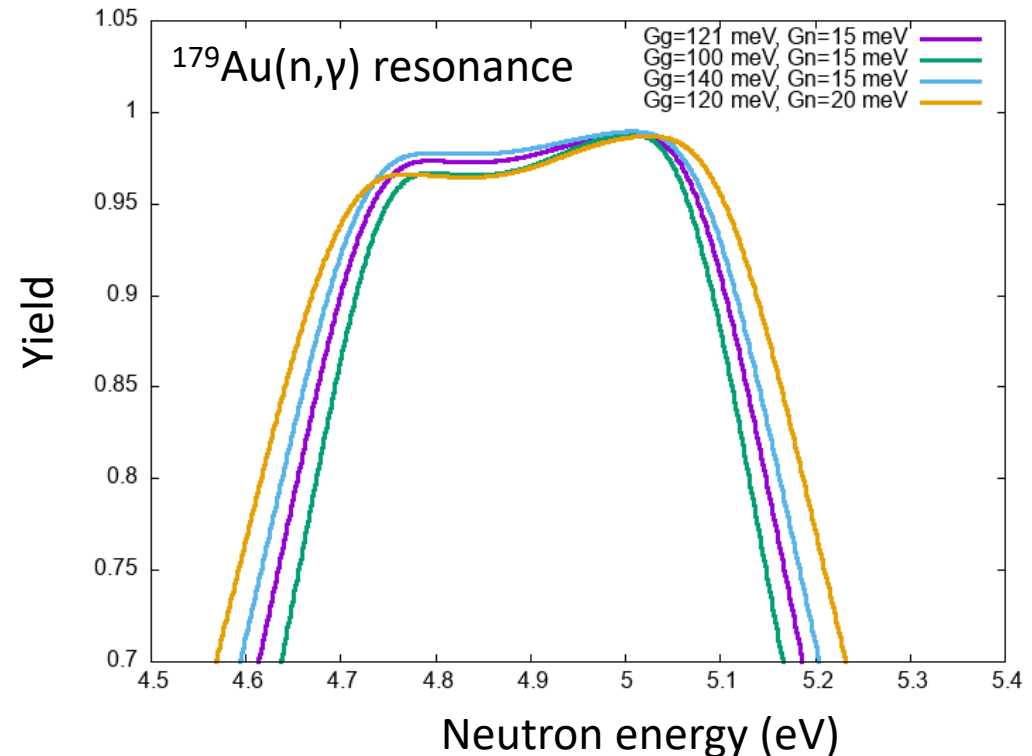
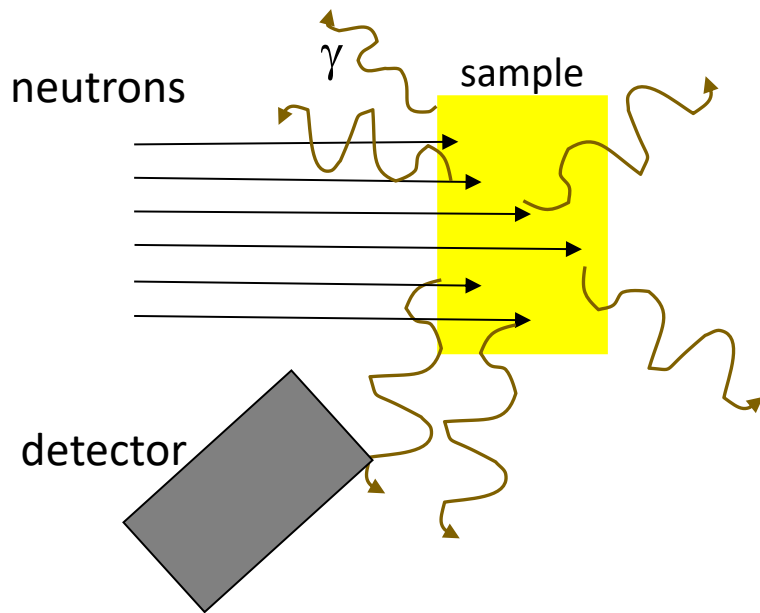
*U. Abbondanno and the n\_TOF Collaboration, [NIM A 521, 454 \(2004\)](#).*

# Neutrons incident on sample - Neutron flux $\phi$

Determination of  $\Phi(E_n)$  using a reaction(s) with a well known cross section.

In some cases,  $\Phi$  at a particular energy can be determined with high accuracy using the **Saturated Resonance technique**:

- Find resonance with capture  $\gg$  scattering and large cross section
- make target thick enough so no neutron is transmitted
- Close to 100% of neutrons react and cause a gamma cascade



# Neutron Capture Resonances

for a single isolated resonance:

resonant cross section given by **Breit-Wigner expression**

$$\sigma(E) = \pi\lambda^2 \frac{2J + 1}{(2J_n + 1)(2J_T + 1)} \frac{\Gamma_\gamma \Gamma_n}{(E - E_R)^2 + (\Gamma_{TOT}/2)^2}$$

geometrical factor

$\propto 1/E$

spin factor  $g$

$J$  = spin of Resonance

$J_n$  = spin of neutron (1/2)

$J_T$  = spin of target

strongly energy-dependent term

$\Gamma_n$  = partial width for decay via emission of neutron  
= probability of compound formation via neutron

$\Gamma_\gamma$  = partial width for decay via emission  $\gamma$ -ray  
= probability of compound decay via  $\gamma$ -emission

$\Gamma$  = total width of compound's excited state  
=  $\Gamma_n + \Gamma_\gamma + \dots$

$E_R$  = resonance energy



# Neutron Capture Resonances

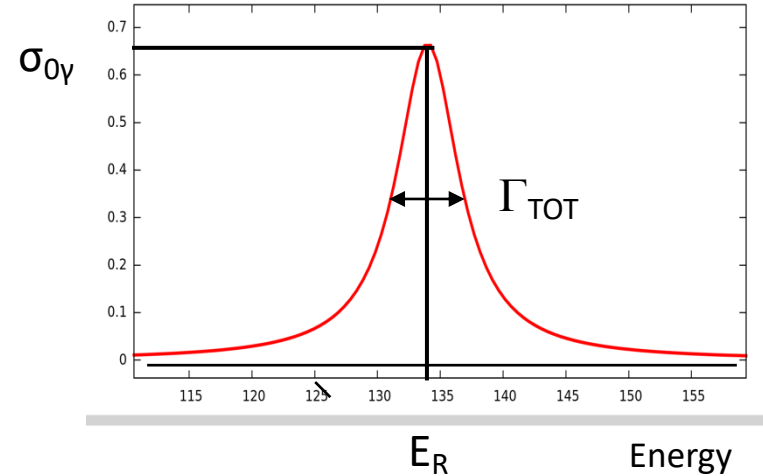
Assuming  $\sigma_{TOT} \sim \sigma_\gamma + \sigma_n$

$$\sigma_{n\gamma}(E) = \pi\lambda^2 g \frac{\Gamma_\gamma \Gamma_n}{(E - E_R)^2 + (\Gamma_{TOT}/2)^2}$$

$$\sigma_{0\gamma} = \sigma(E_R) = \pi\lambda^2 g \frac{\Gamma_\gamma \Gamma_n}{(\Gamma_{TOT}/2)^2} = \sigma_0 \frac{\Gamma_\gamma}{\Gamma_{TOT}}$$

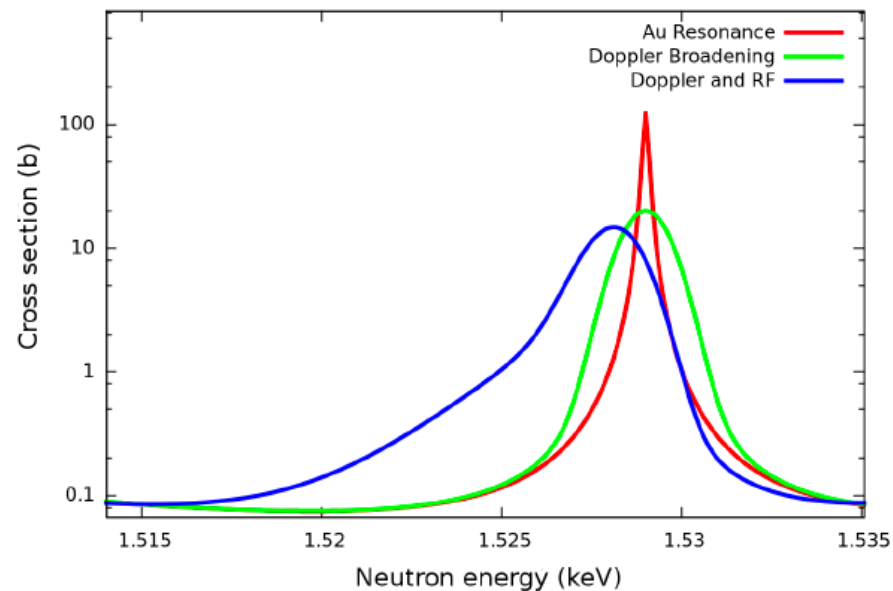
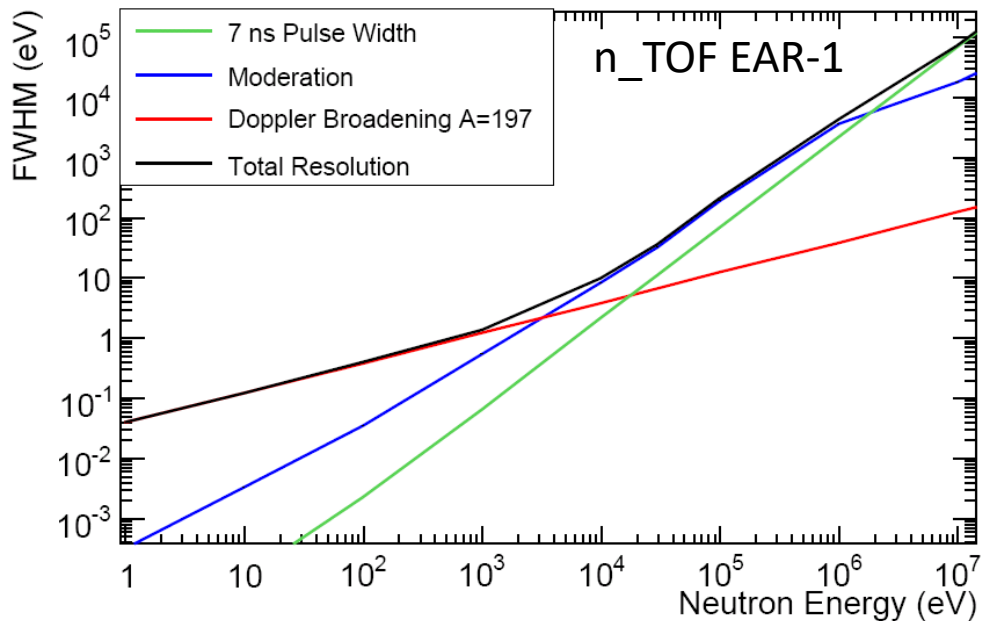
$$\sigma_0 = \sigma_{TOT}(E_R) = 4\pi\lambda^2 g \frac{\Gamma_n}{\Gamma_{TOT}}$$

Very good resolution: all resonance parameters ( $E_R$ ,  $J$ ,  $\Gamma_\gamma$ ,  $\Gamma_n$ ) from capture and total cross section measurement



# Resolution Broadening

- Pulse width
- Neutron production target + moderator
- Doppler broadening
- flight path length
- Data acquisition



# Area Analysis

However  $\Gamma_{\text{exp}} \gg \Gamma_{\text{nat}}$  in most cases

→ Analysis yields the **Resonance Area**

$$A_{\text{capture}} \propto ng\Gamma_{\gamma}\Gamma_n/\Gamma_{\text{TOT}}$$

Can extract resonance parameters when combined with transmission measurement with a thin and thick sample:

$$A_{\text{transmission,thick}} \propto \sqrt{ng\Gamma_n\Gamma_{\text{TOT}}}$$

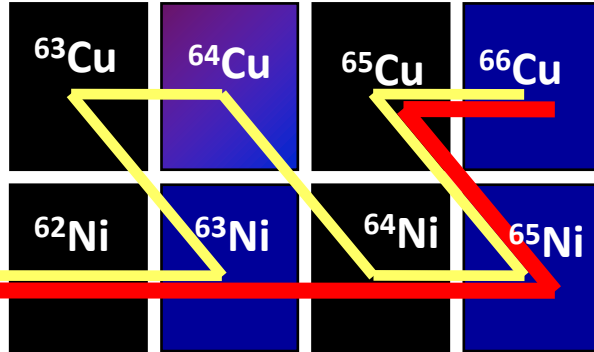
$$A_{\text{transmission,thin}} \propto ng\Gamma_n$$

thin...  $T \sim 1$

thick...  $T \sim 0$

n... areal density

## s-process branching $^{63}\text{Ni}(n,\gamma)$

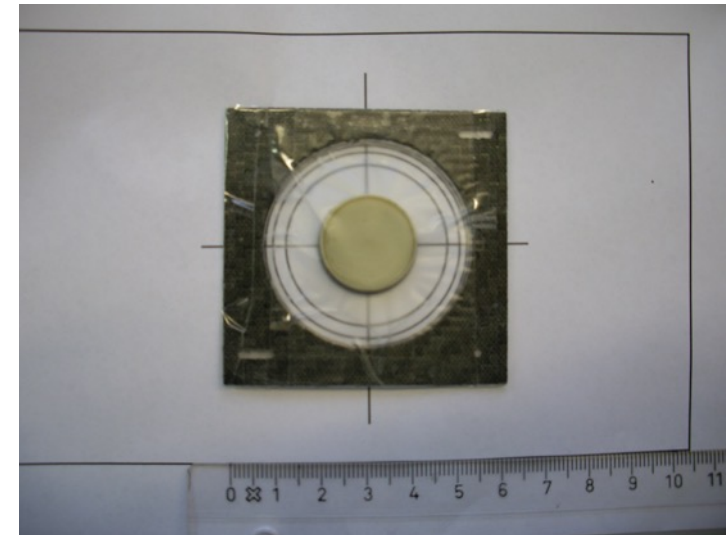


Measurement of  $^{62}\text{Ni}(n,\gamma)$  and branching point  $^{63}\text{Ni}(n,\gamma)$  at stellar energies at n\_TOF

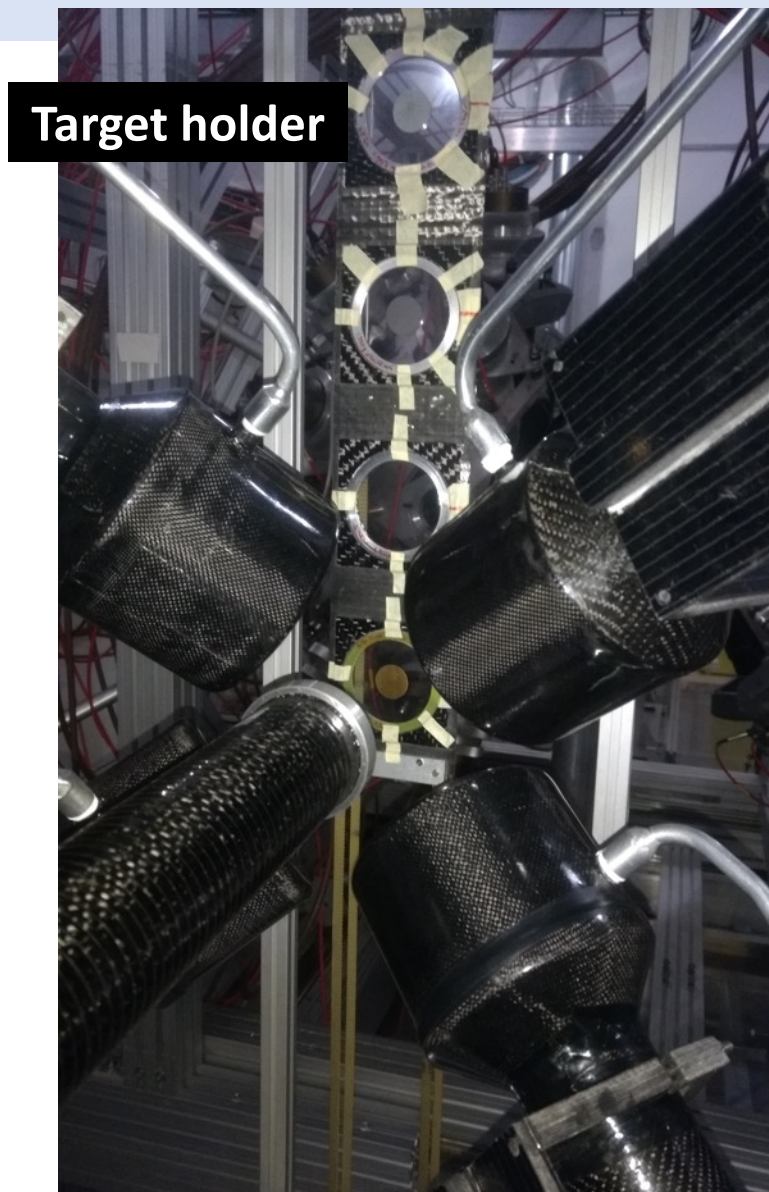
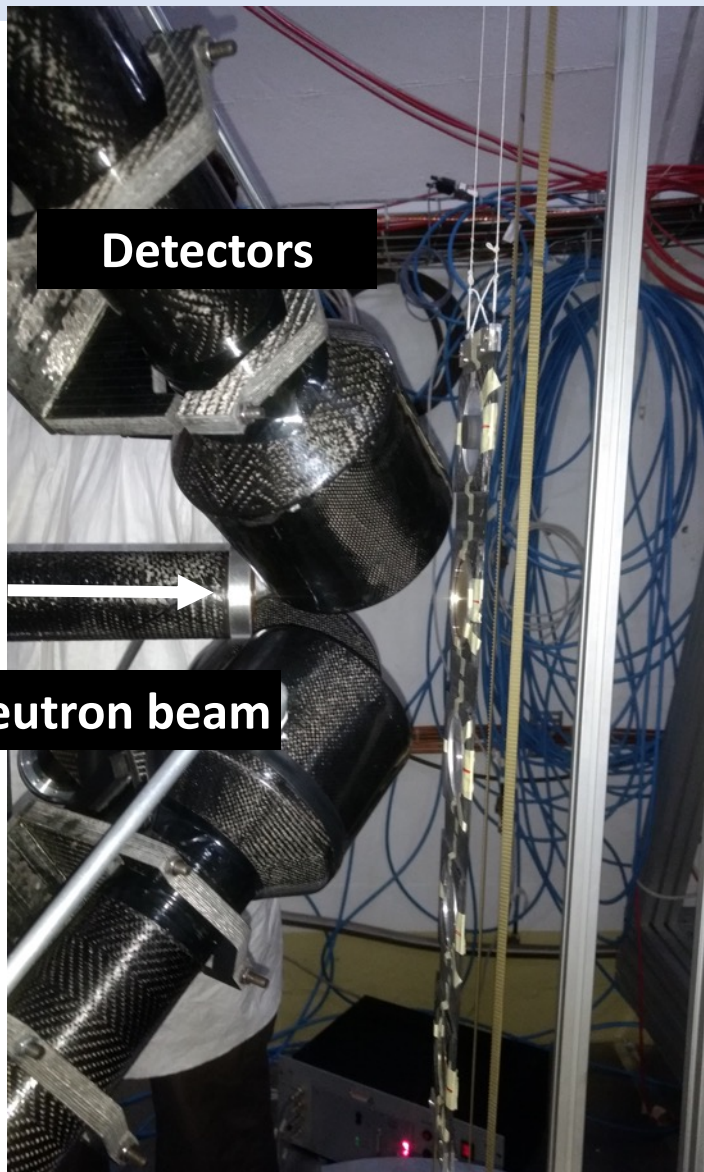
$^{63}\text{Ni}$  is **radioactive** ( $t_{1/2} \sim 100$  y)  $\rightarrow$  need to produce a radioactive target

- 1) irradiation of  $^{62}\text{Ni}$  at ILL thermal reactor (high cross sections and neutron flux)
- 2) chemical separation of contaminants at PSI (other elements)

$\rightarrow$  resulting target:  $\sim 100$  mg  $^{63}\text{Ni}$ , 900 mg  $^{62}\text{Ni}$



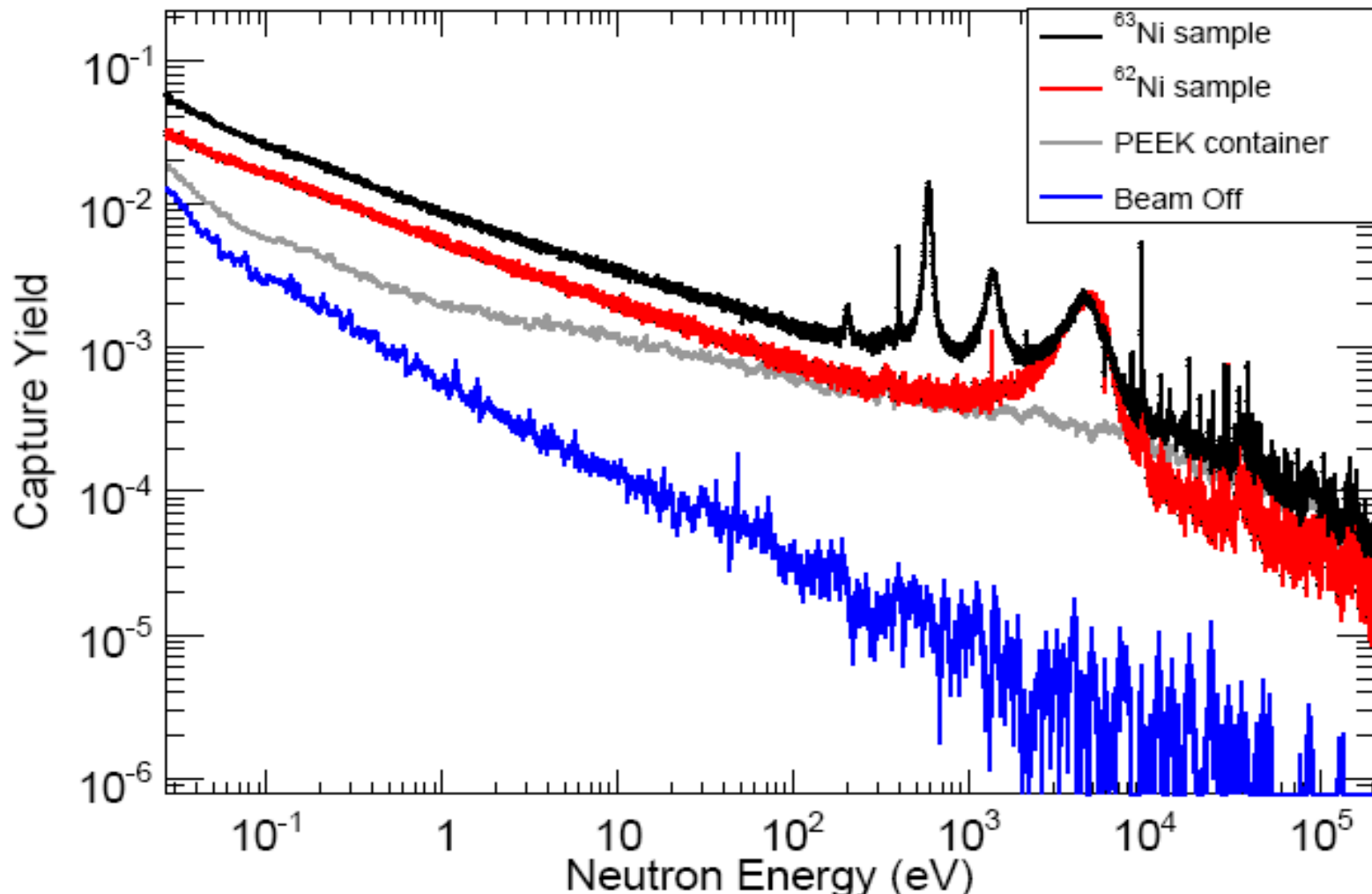
s-process branching  $^{63}\text{Ni}(n,\gamma)$



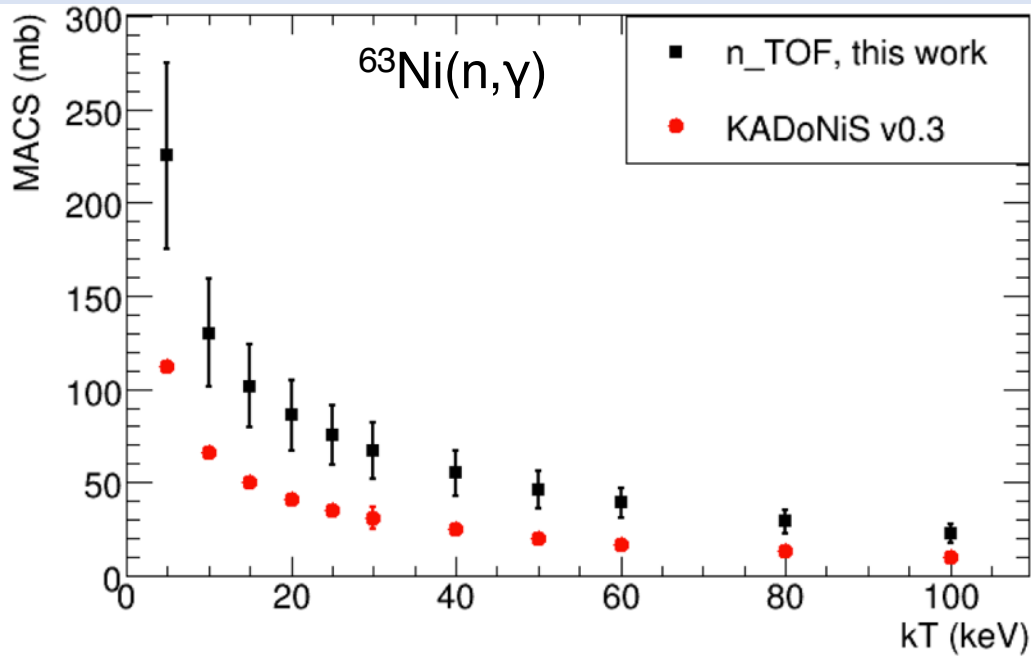
Setup for prompt  $\gamma$ -ray detection using scintillation detectors with low neutron sensitivity

## s-process branching $^{63}\text{Ni}(n,\gamma)$

Typical neutron time-of-flight spectrum: neutron energy resolution  $\Delta E/E \sim 10^{-3}$  at 1 keV  $\rightarrow$  can access individual states for high A

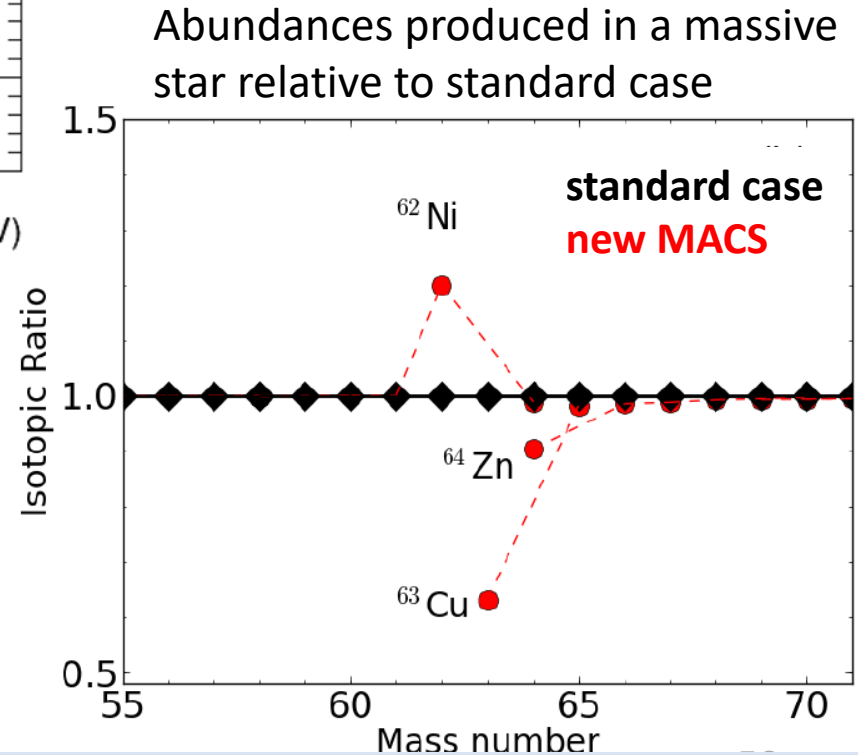


# s-process branching $^{63}\text{Ni}(n,\gamma)$



Maxwellian averaged cross section  
 $\sim 2x$  higher than previous theoretical  
 estimates + lower  $^{62}\text{Ni}$  cross section  
 than previous data

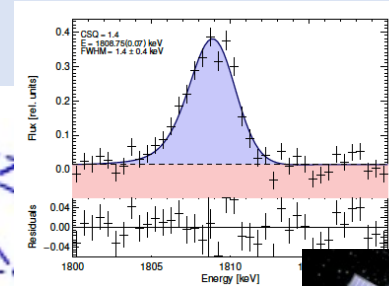
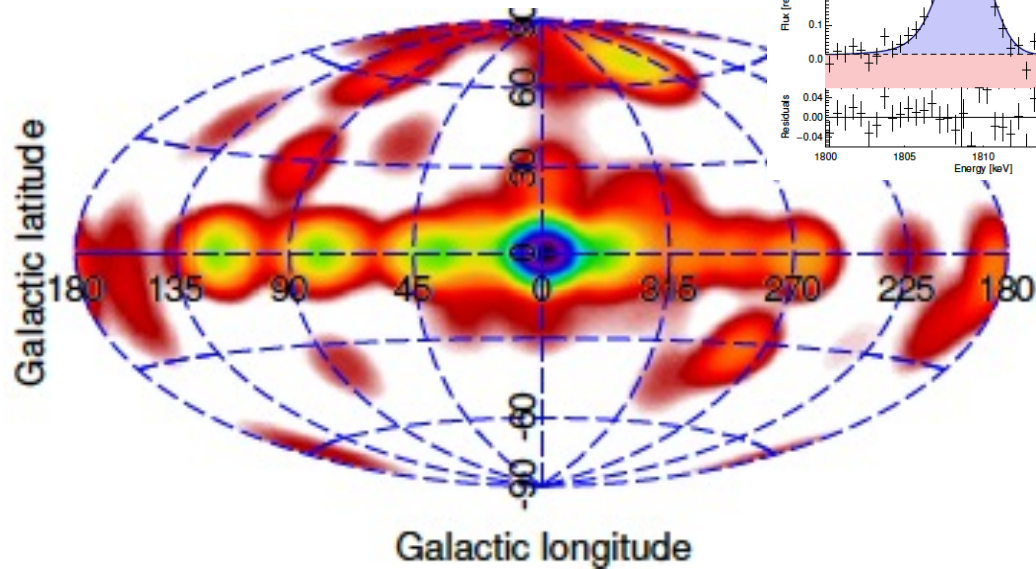
Impact on  $^{62}\text{Ni}$ ,  $^{63}\text{Cu}$  and  $^{64}\text{Zn}$   
 abundances produced in massive  
 stars (weak component of the s  
 process)



C. Lederer et al., PRL 110, 022501 (2013)  
 C. Lederer et al., PRC 89, 025810 (2014)



# Cosmic $\gamma$ -ray emitter $^{26}\text{Al}$



## Main Origin of $^{26}\text{Al}$ in massive stars (Diehl et al, Nature 439 (2006))

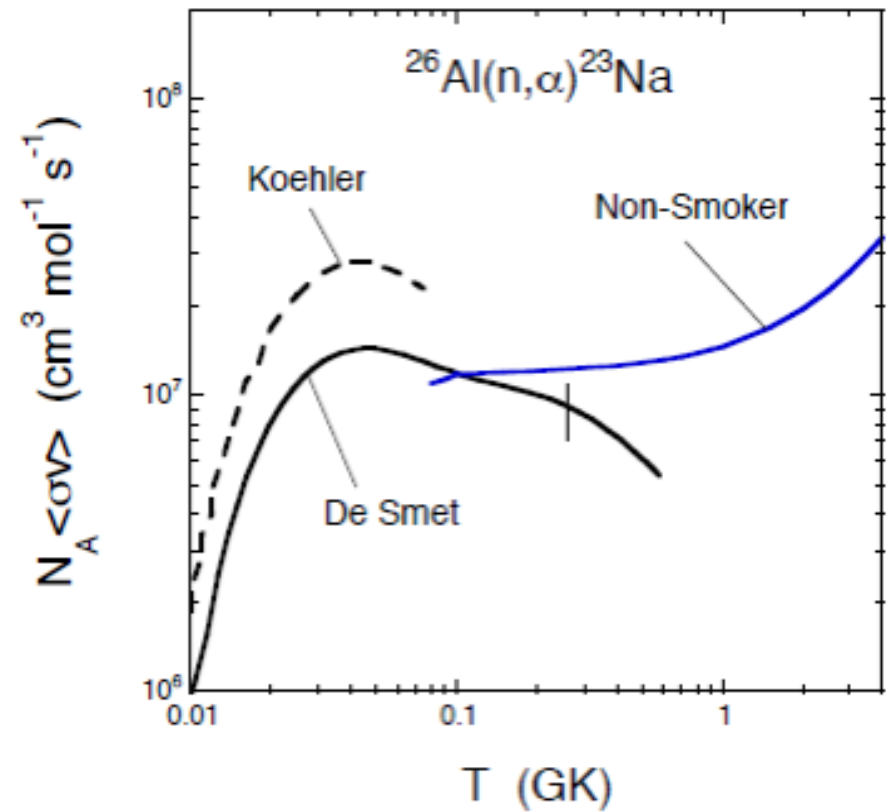
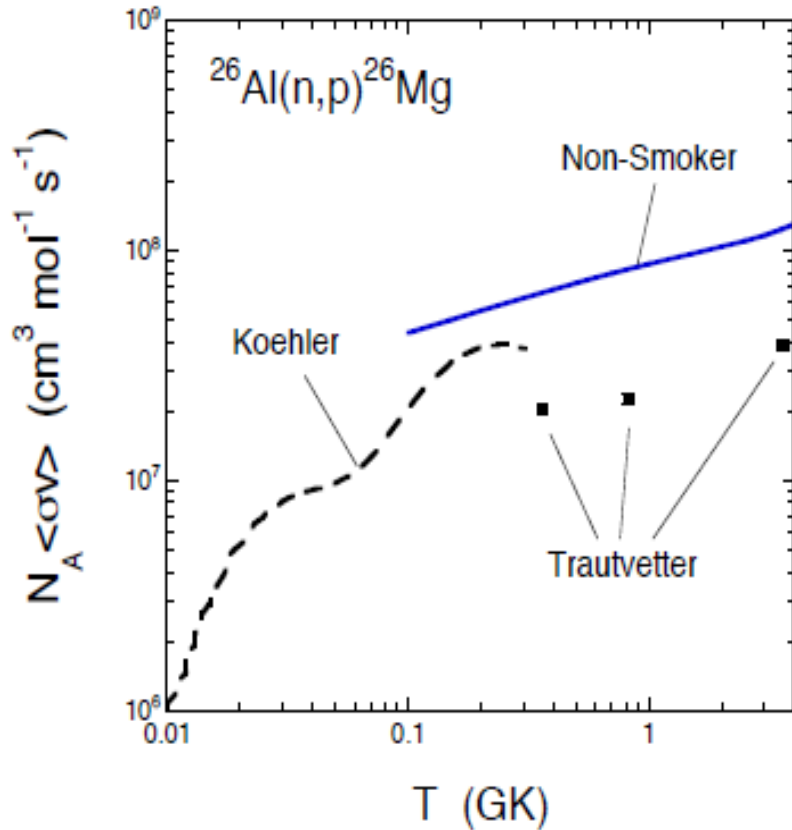
Mainly produced in

- convective hydrogen burning in Wolf-Rayet stars followed by ejection by stellar wind
- convective Carbon shell burning followed by ejection from core collapse supernova
- explosive Ne/C burning in core collapse phase of supernova

Key uncertainties for theoretical predictions of abundances:  $^{26}\text{Al}(n,p)$  and  $^{26}\text{Al}(n,\alpha)$  reaction rates [Iliadis et al., Astrophys. J. Supp. 193, 16 (2011)]

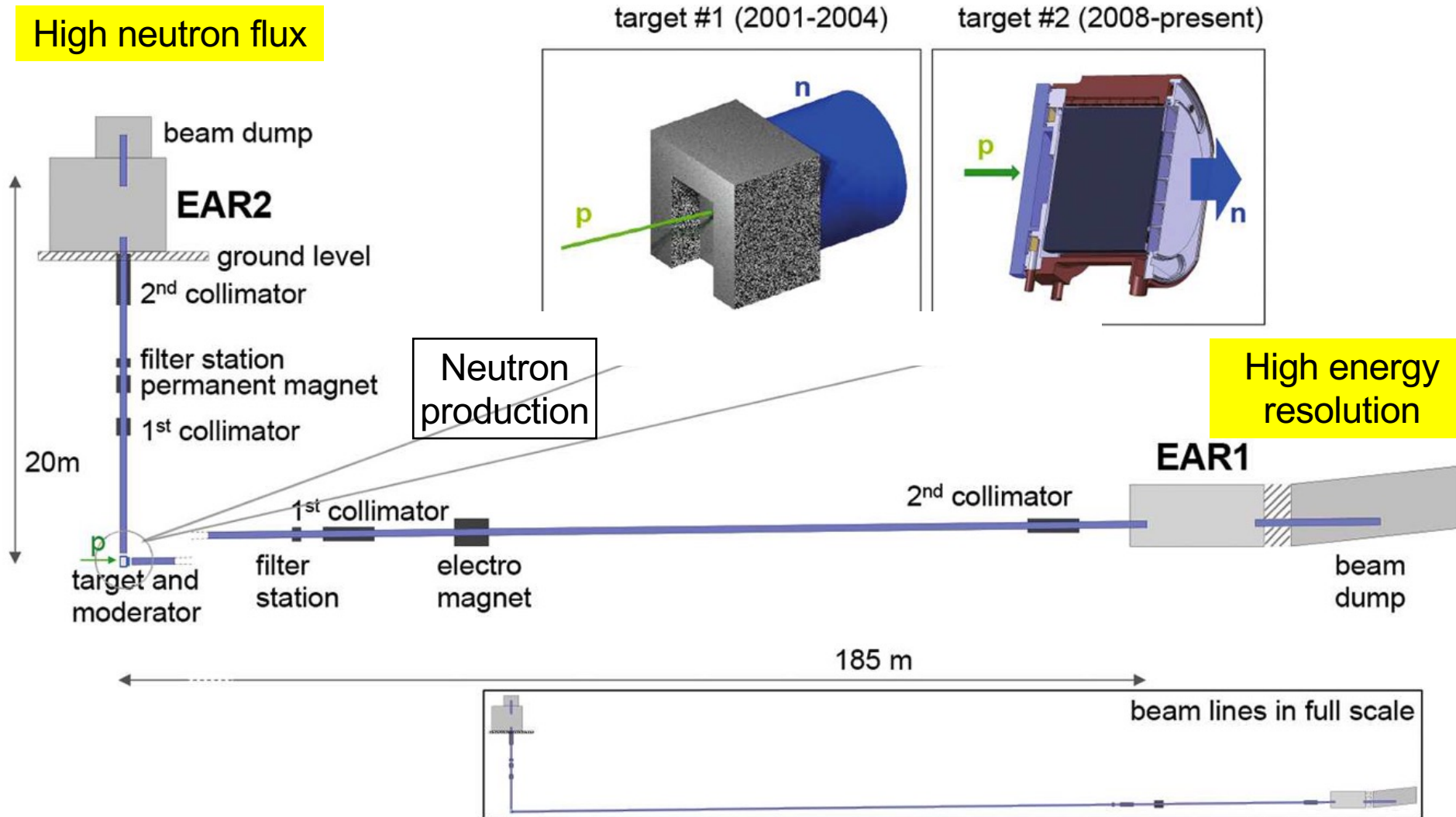


# $^{26}\text{Al} + n$ reactivities from previous measurements



C Iliadis et al., Ast. J. Supp. 193, 16 (2011)

High neutron flux



# $^{26}\text{Al}(n,p)$ and $^{26}\text{Al}(n,\alpha)$

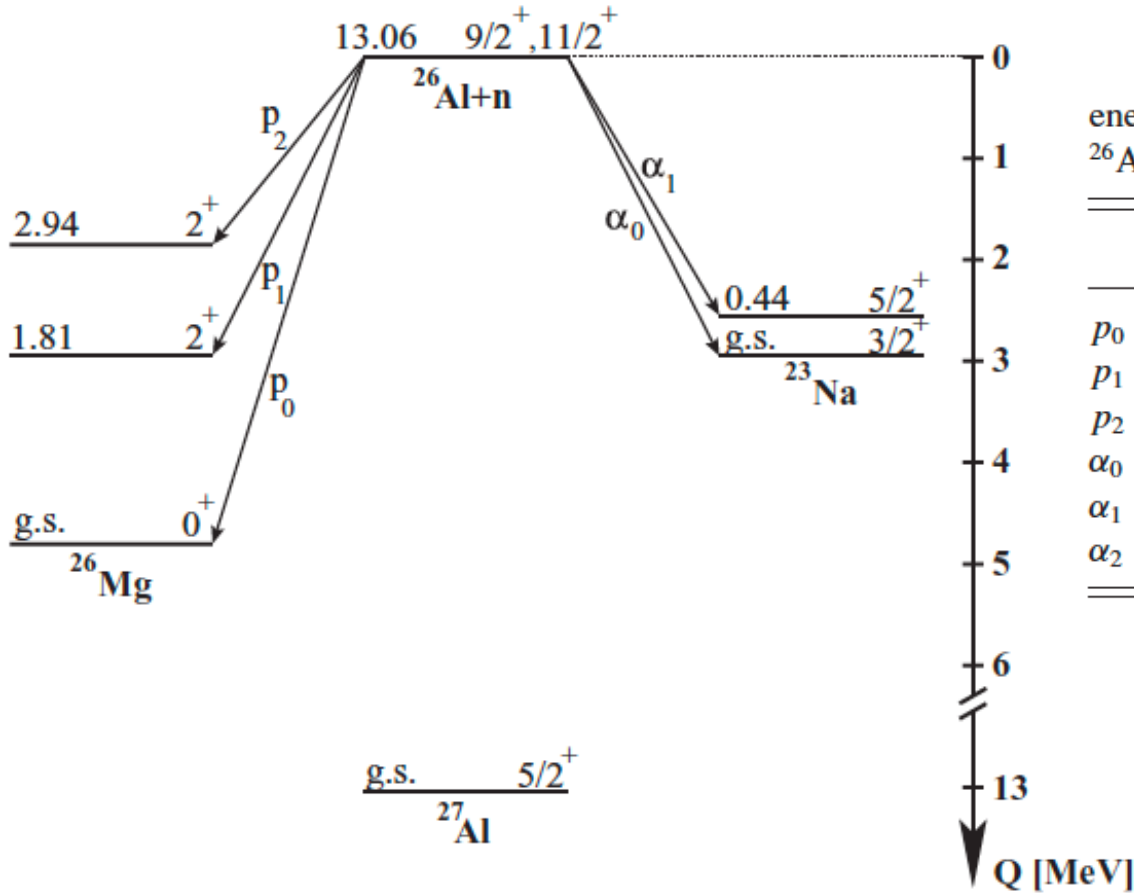
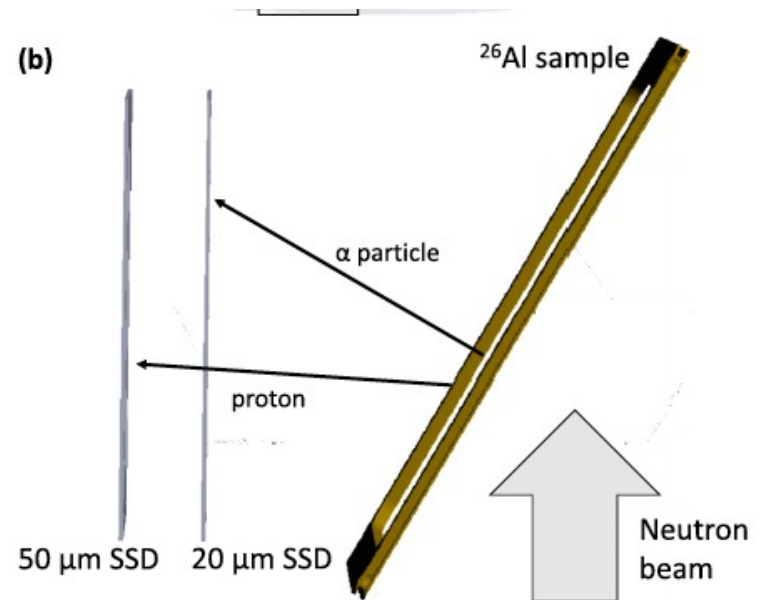
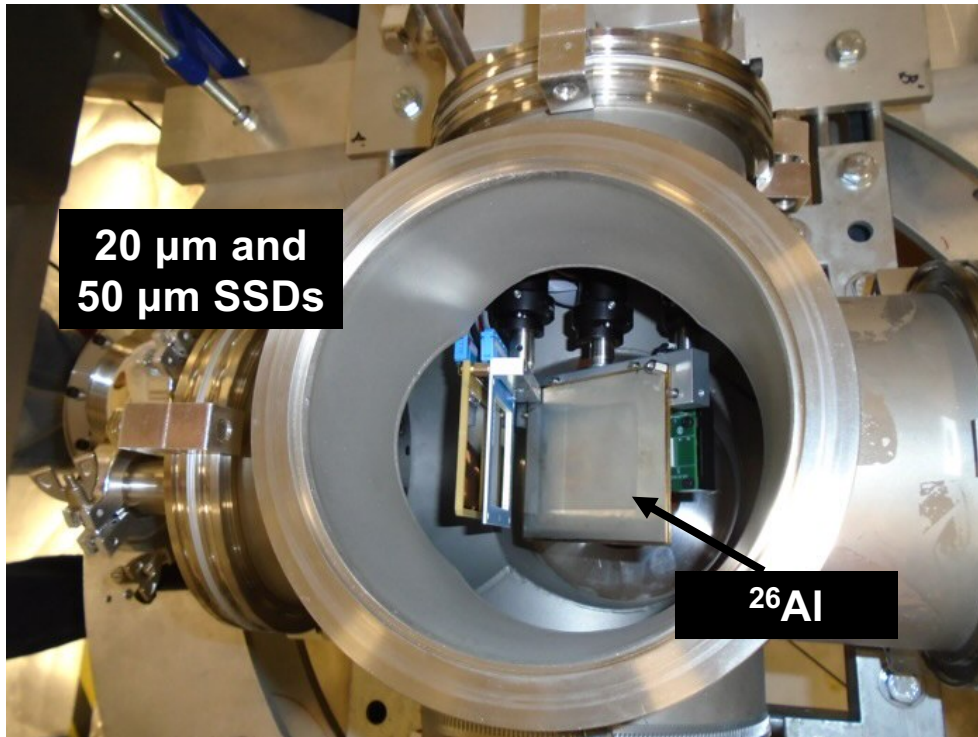


TABLE I.  $Q$  values and corresponding ejectile energies for the possible  $^{26}\text{Al}(n, \alpha_i)^{23}\text{Na}$  and  $^{26}\text{Al}(n, p_i)^{26}\text{Mg}$  reactions.

	$Q$ value (MeV)	$E$ (MeV)
$p_0$	4.78	4.60
$p_1$	2.98	2.87
$p_2$	1.85	1.78
$\alpha_0$	2.97	2.53
$\alpha_1$	2.53	2.16
$\alpha_2$	0.89	0.76

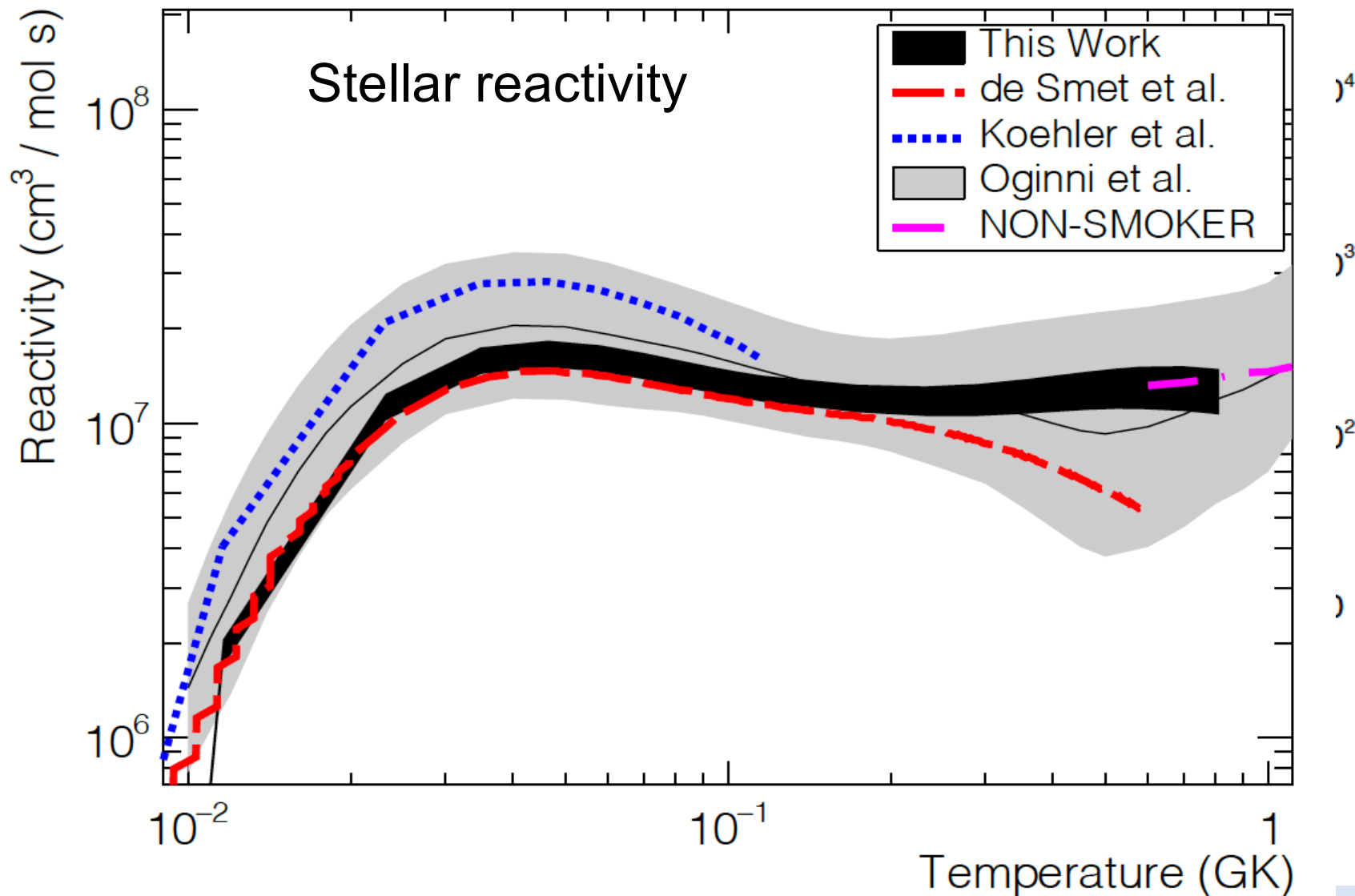
de SMET et al PHYSICAL REVIEW C 76, 045804 (2007)

# Silicon Strip Detection Setup: $\Delta E - E$ Technique

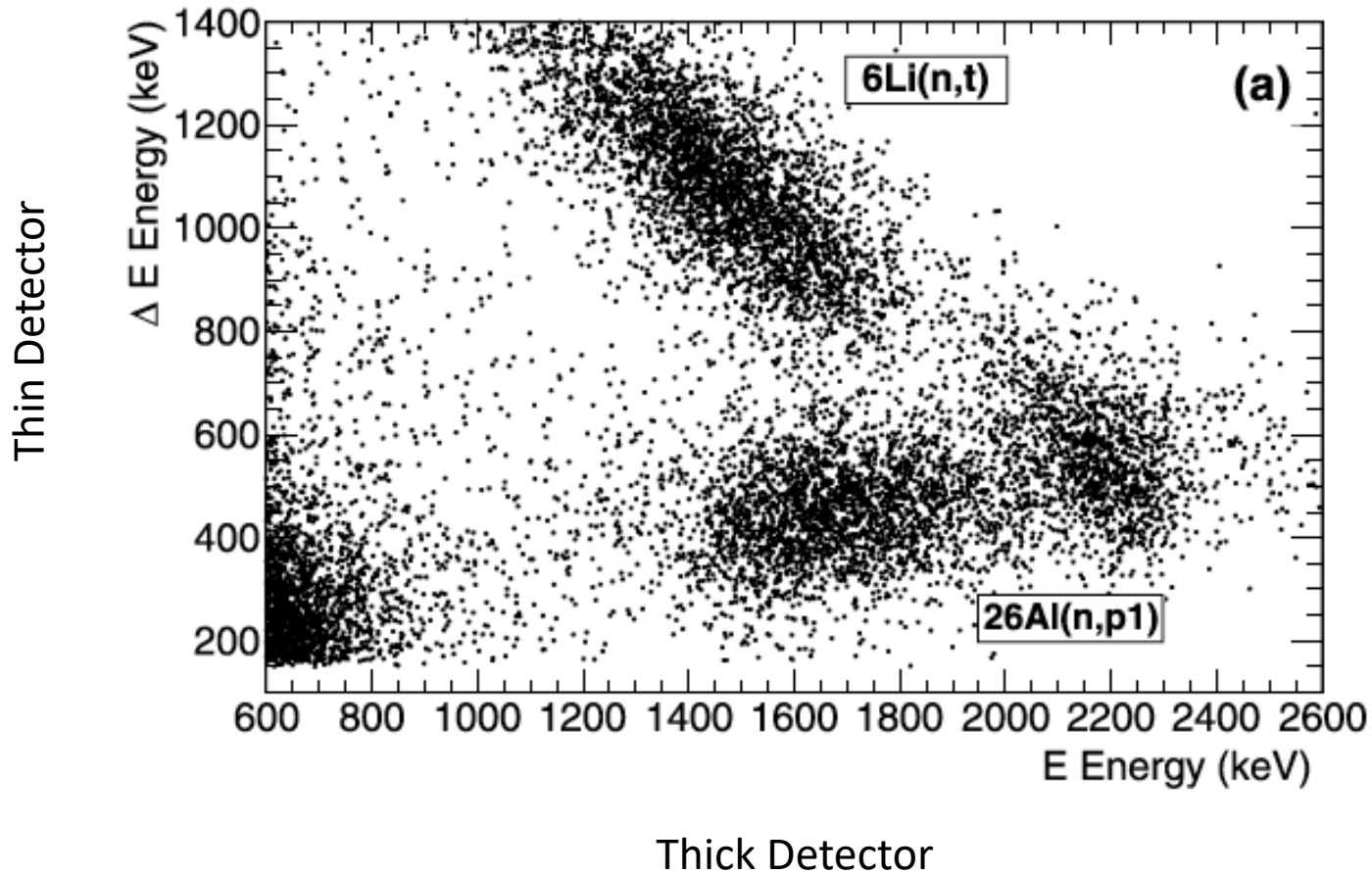


$^{26}\text{Al}$  Target (JRC GELINA):  $2.6 \cdot 10^{17}$  atoms

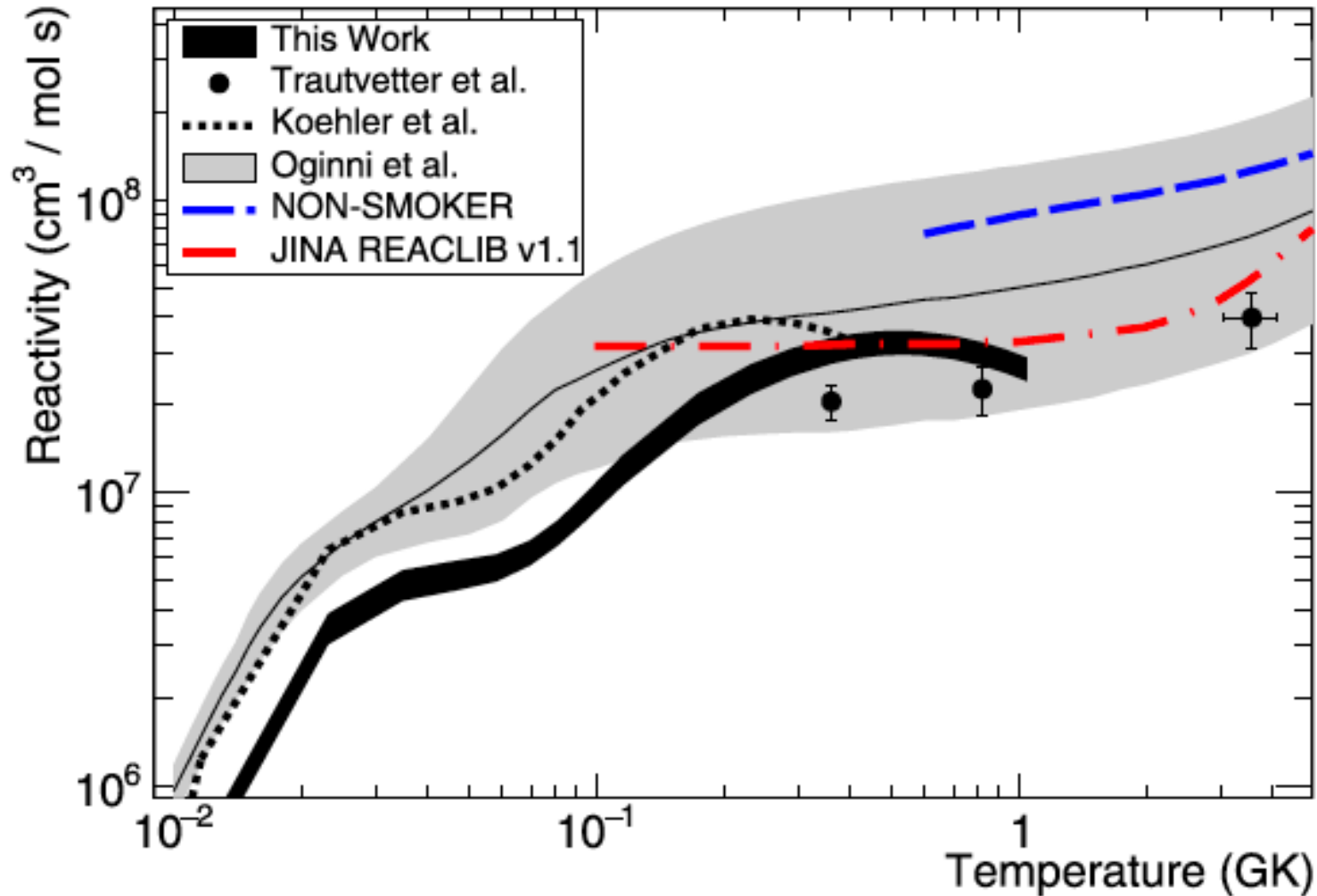
# $^{26}\text{Al}(n,\alpha)$ measured at n\_TOF / GELINA



# $\Delta E - E$ Spectra



# New n\_TOF $^{26}\text{Al}(n,p)$ stellar reactivities



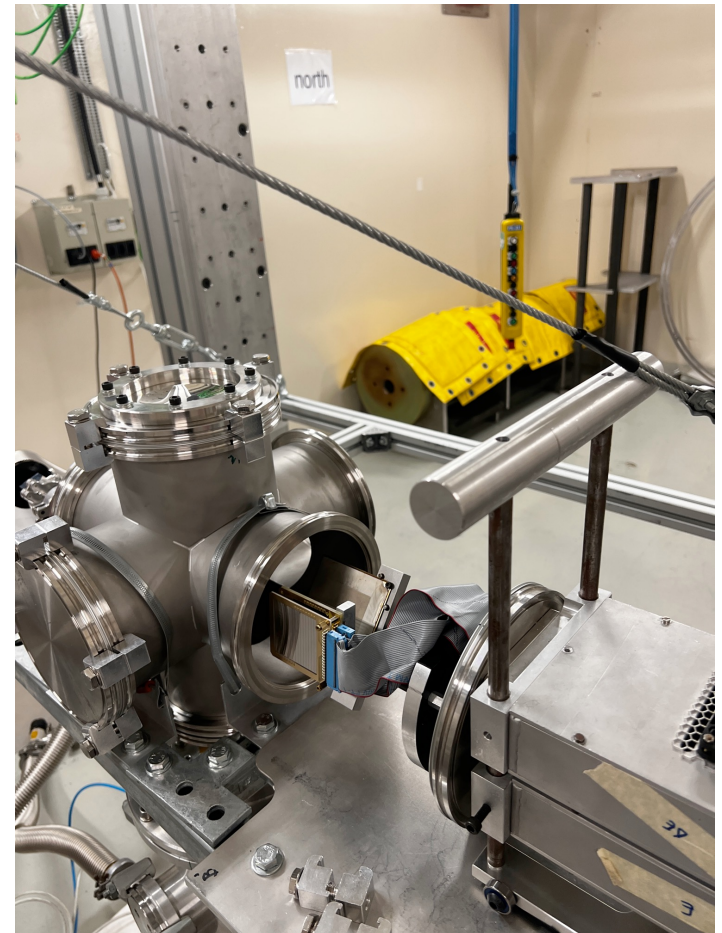
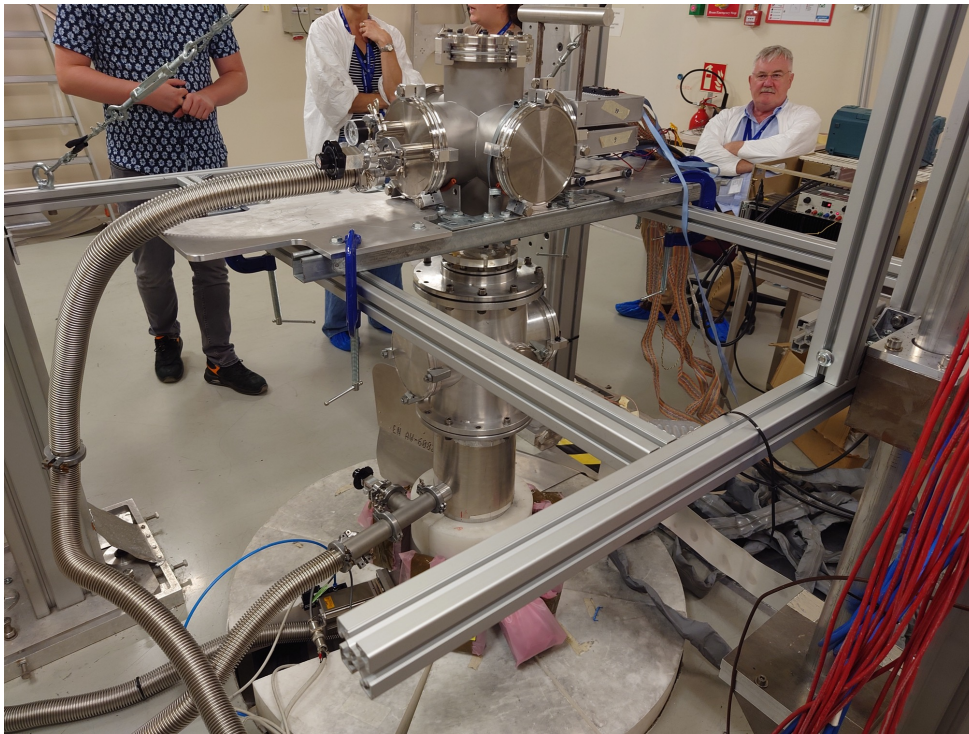
C. Lederer-Woods et al., PHYSICAL REVIEW C 104, L022803 (2021)



# New Run at for high neutron energy 2023



... taking advantage of higher flux which allows use of better collimated neutron beam





THE END