

# Beta decay of $^{66-64}\text{Ge}$ and $^{66-64}\text{Ga}$ : Total Absorption Spectroscopy

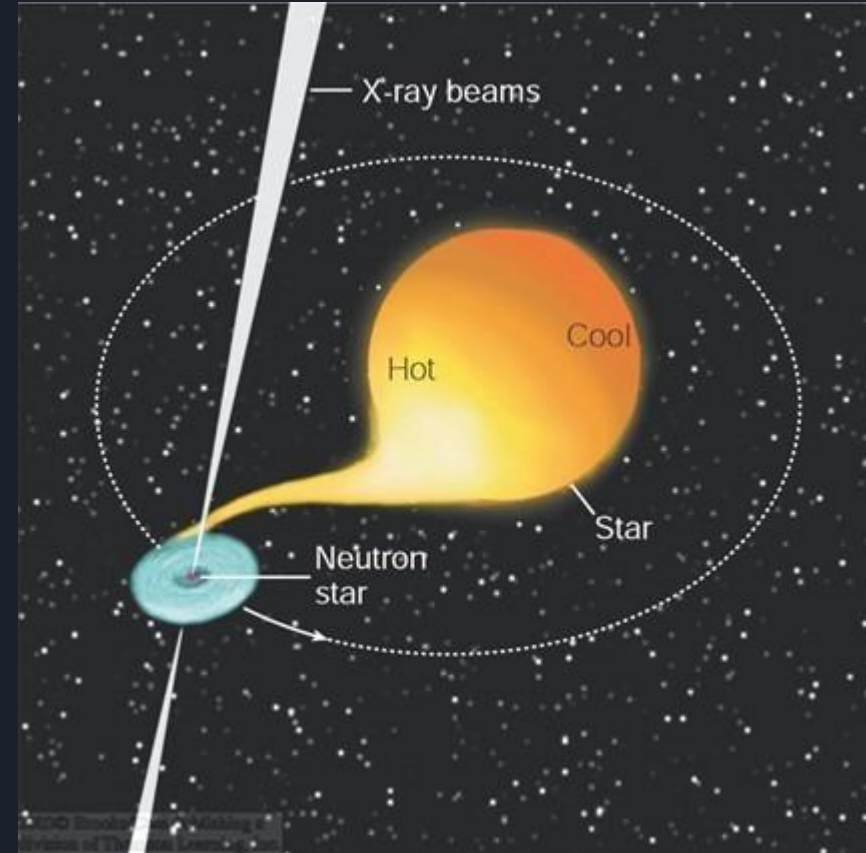
Selene Parra & Dr Enrique Nacher  
Instituto de Física Corpuscular (CSIC-UV)



# Type I x-ray bursts

- Binary systems: a neutron star accretes hydrogen-rich material from a low-mass companion (Red-Giant or Main-seq. star)
- Breakout from the hot CNO cycle, thus leading to the rp-process
- It happens at the surface of the neutron star
- Peak in 1 to 10 seconds, tail lasts 10 seconds to several minutes and the recurrence is 1 to several hours

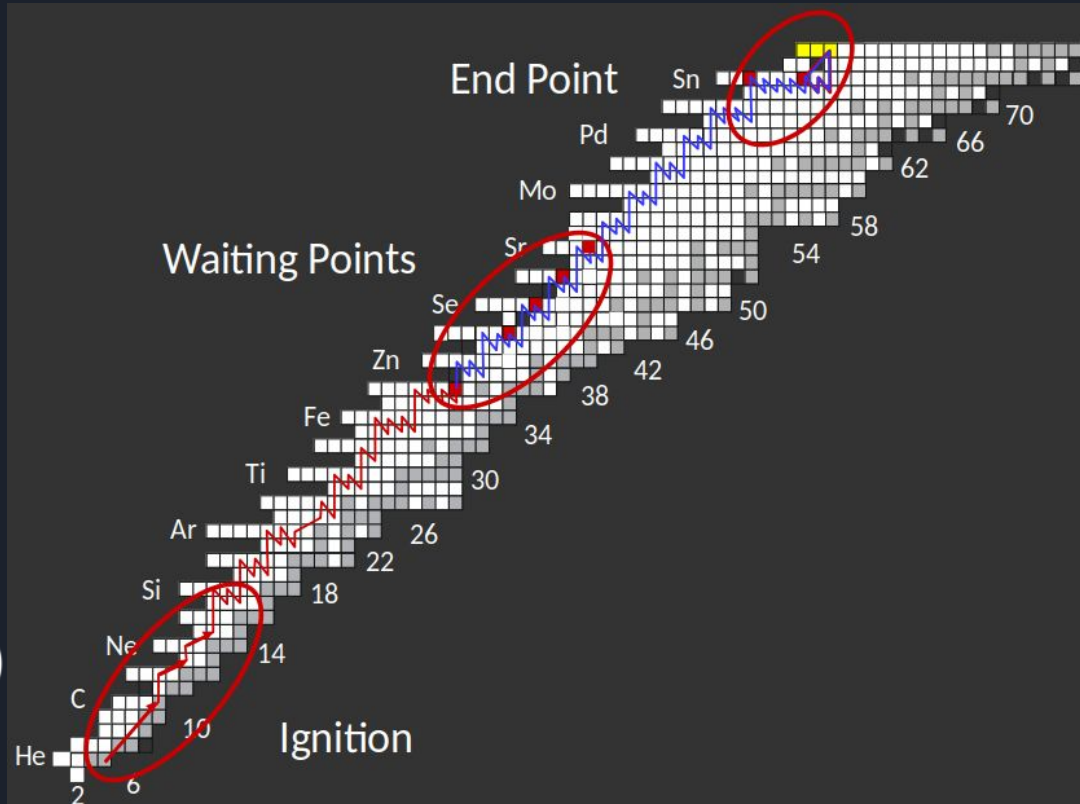
$$T_{\text{peak}} = 1 - 3 \text{ GK and } \rho = 10^6 - 10^7 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$$



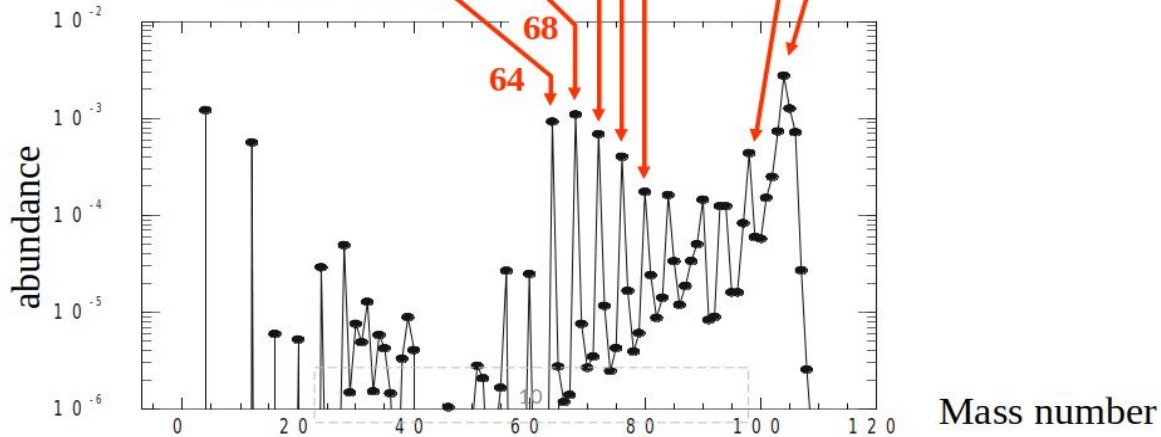
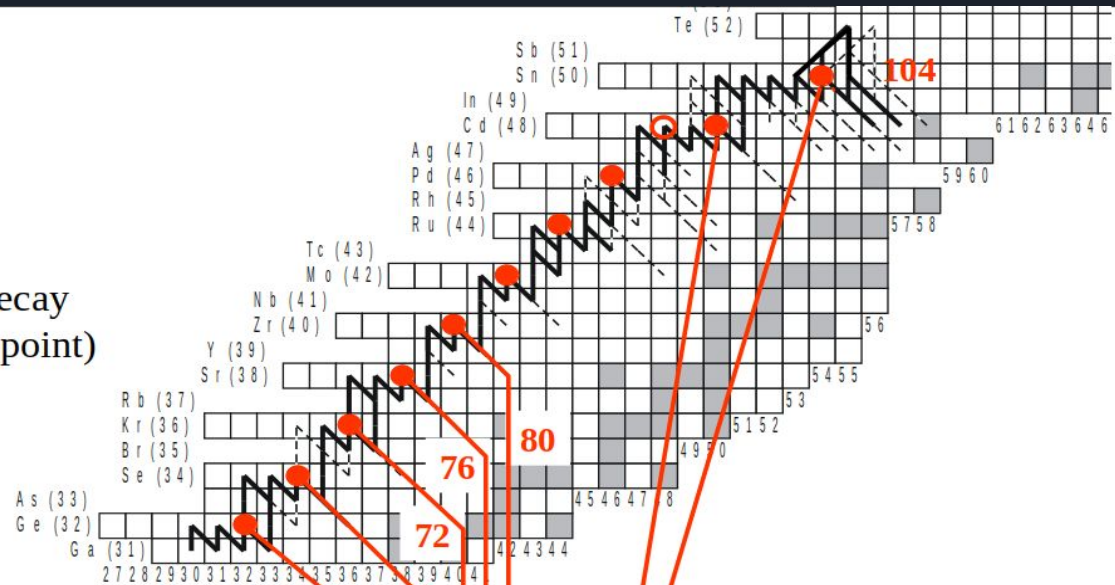
Nucleosynthesis pushed towards the proton drip-line through rapid proton capture reactions (rp)

When  $\beta$ -decay competes with proton capture: waiting point

(along the  $N=Z$  line  $^{64}\text{Ge}$ ,  $^{68}\text{Se}$ ,  $^{72}\text{Kr}$ ,  $^{76}\text{Sr}$ )



● slow  $\beta$  decay  
(waiting point)

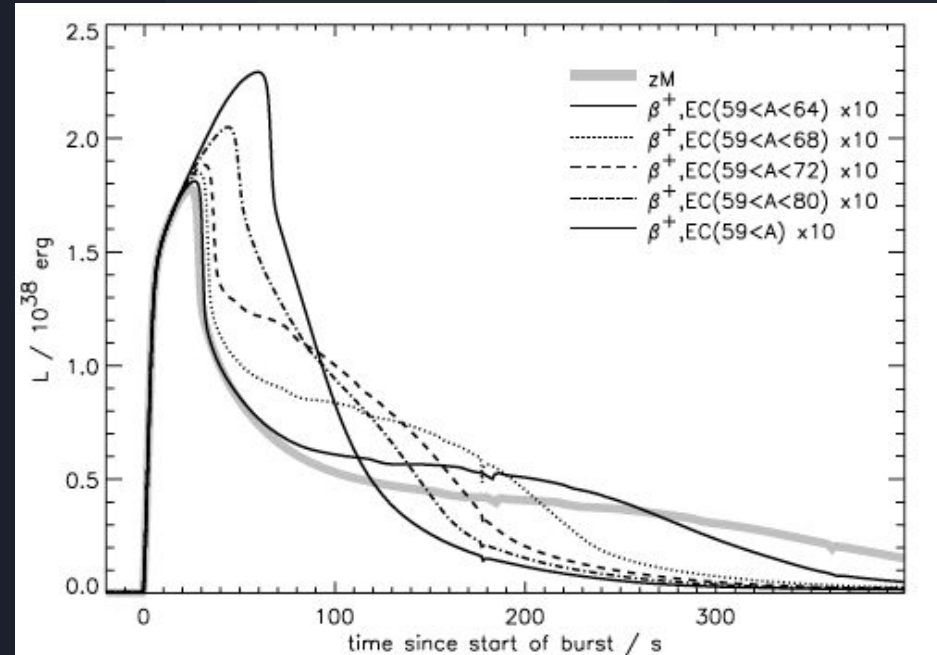


## Physical observable:

- Luminosity curve
- No matter is released

## Network calculations:

- Decay and reaction rates
- 1300 isotopes included, e.g. in *Woosley et al. ApJS 151 (2004)*

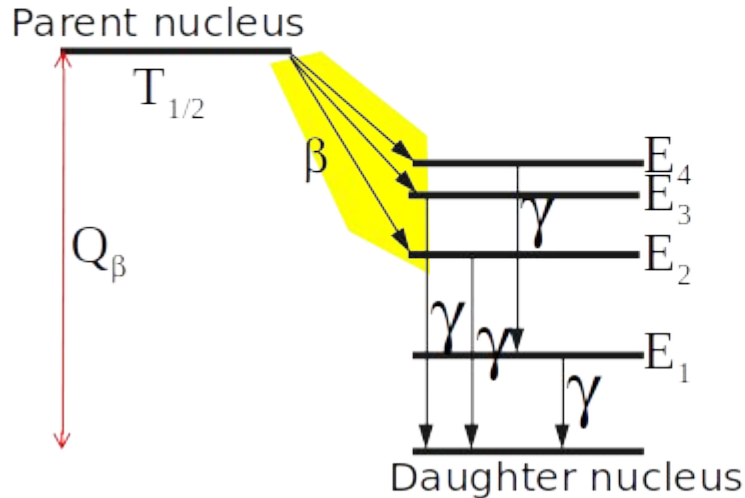


# What we measure in beta decay

$$B(GT) = \left| \langle \phi_f | \sum_k \sigma_k \tau_k^\pm | \phi_i \rangle \right|^2 \equiv \langle \sigma \tau \rangle^2$$



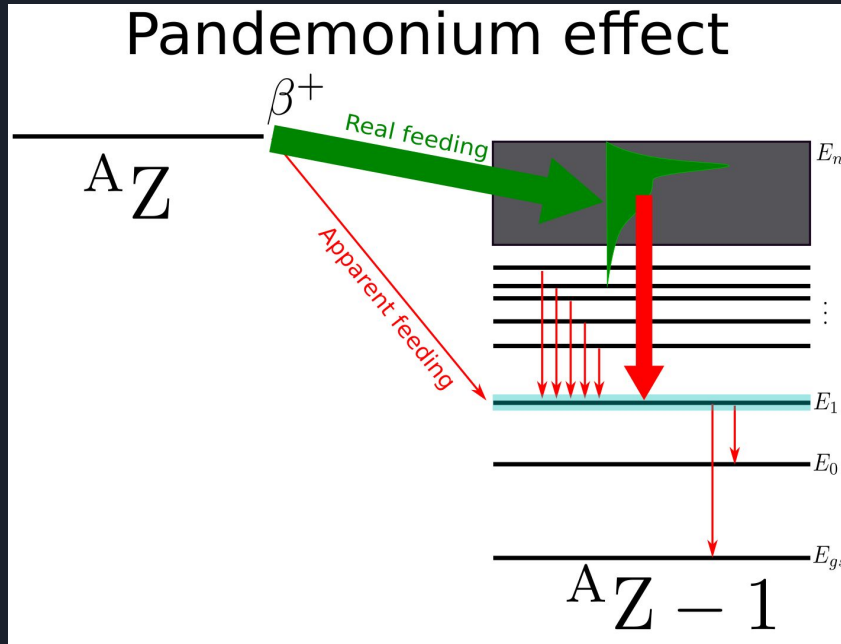
$$S_\beta = \frac{I_\beta(E)}{f(Q_\beta - E) T_{1/2}}$$



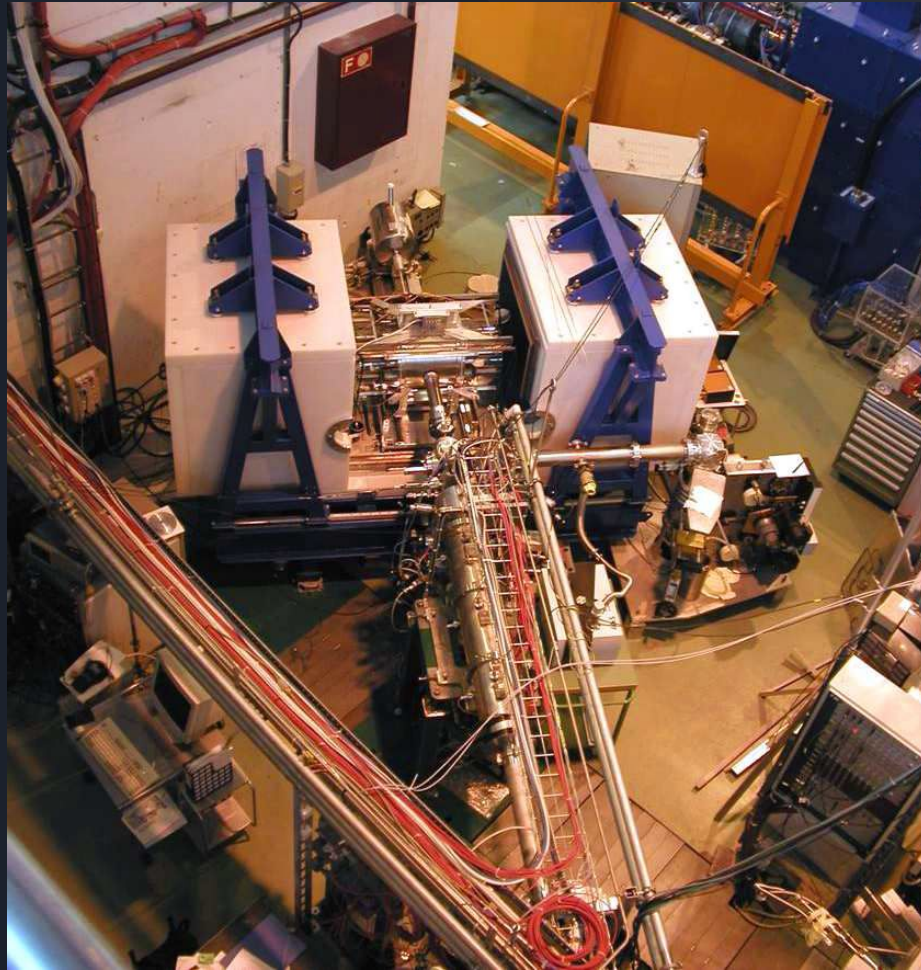
We can estimate the feeding from gamma intensity balance.

But this is only true for light isotopes, in general this is not so trivial, mainly because a phenomena called pandemonium

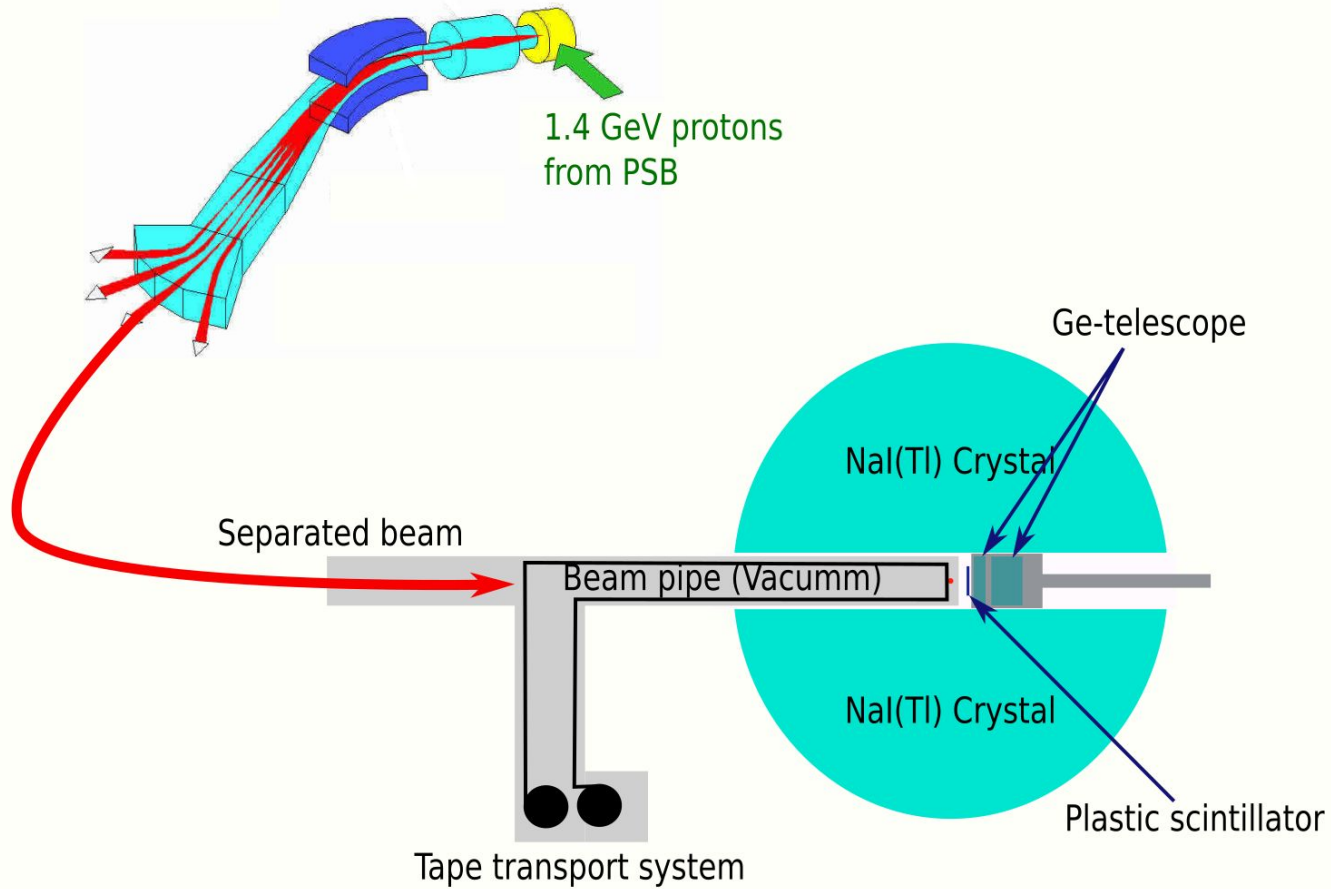
# Pandemonium



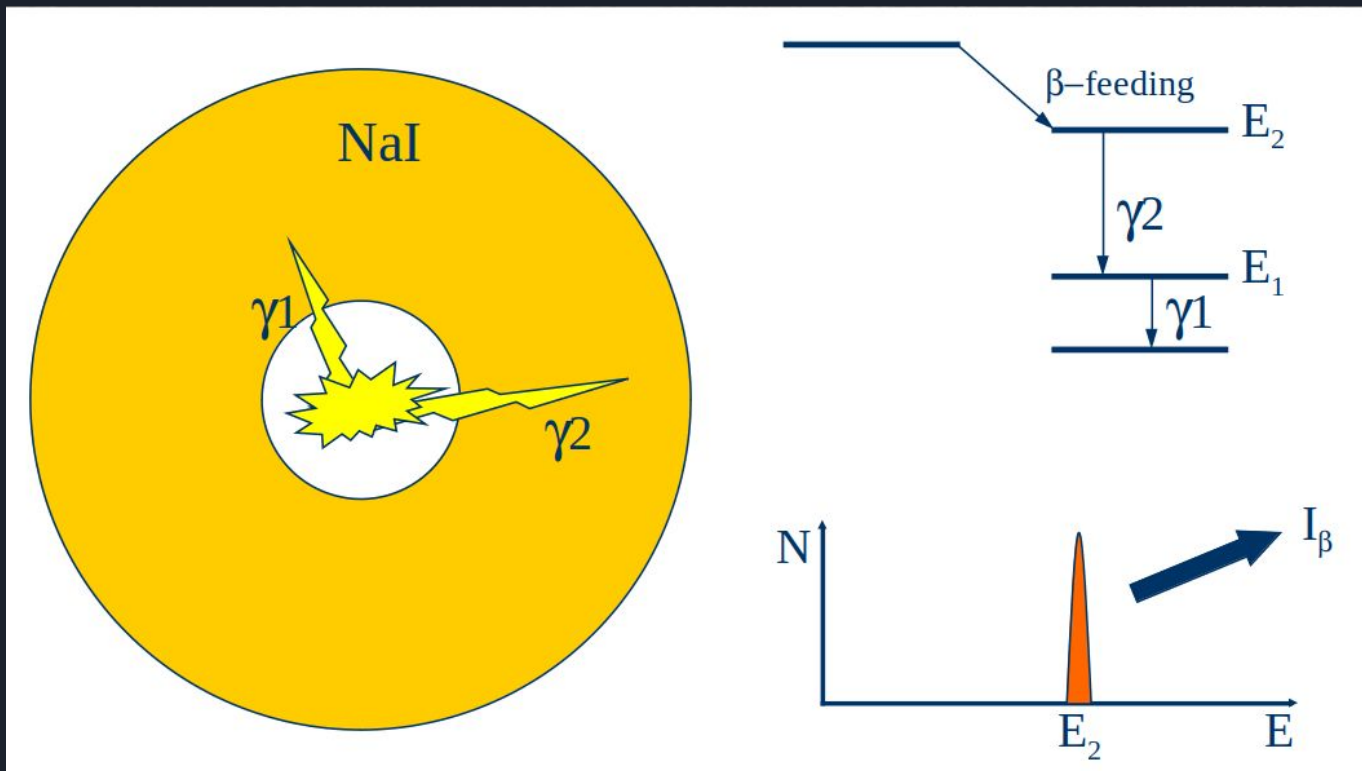
- Medium mass and heavy nuclei: large level density at high energy.
- Very fragmented  $\beta$ -feeding distribution and  $\gamma$  de-excitation pattern.
- HPGe arrays fail to detect systematically the upper part of the  $\gamma$ -cascade resulting in a wrong feeding and B(GT) distr.



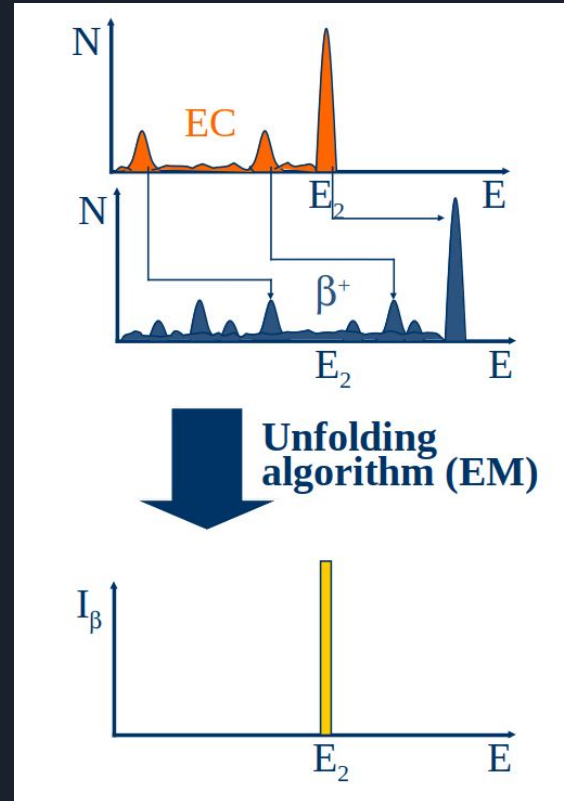
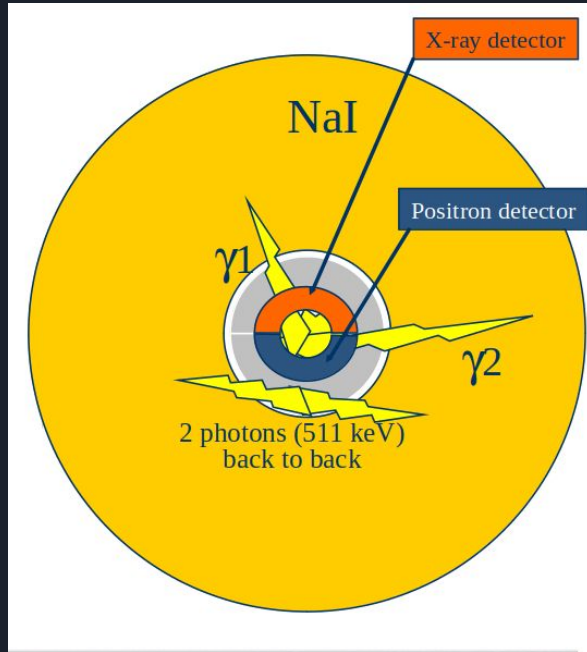


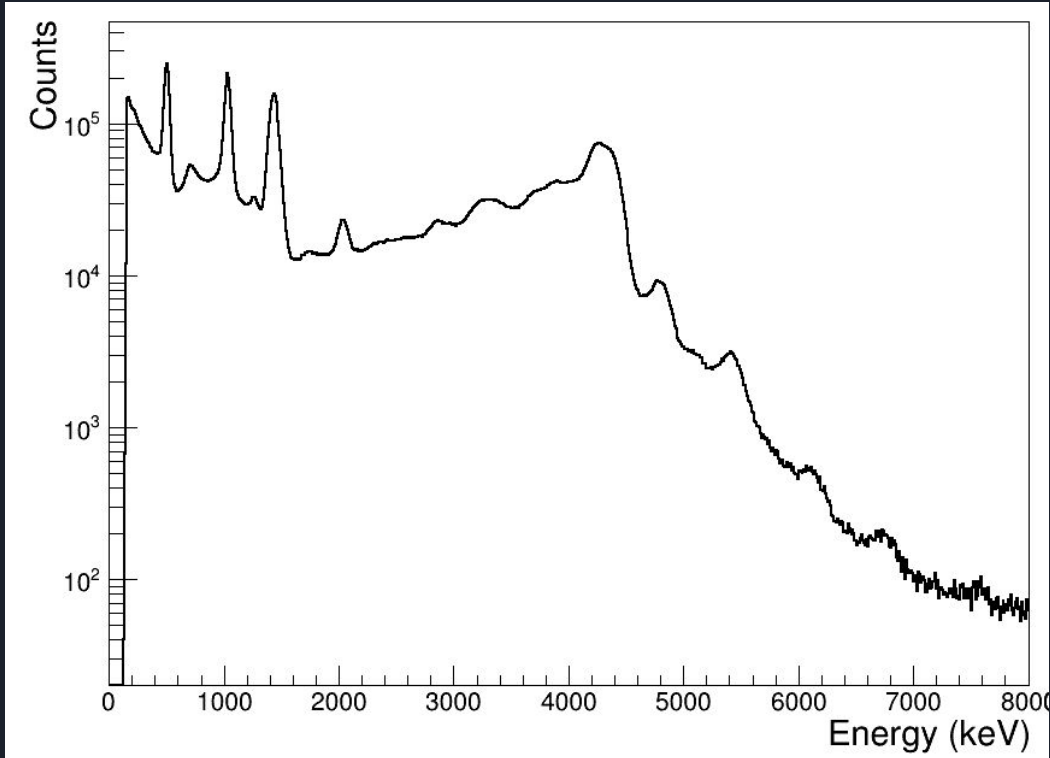


# Total Absorption Spectroscopy (TAS)

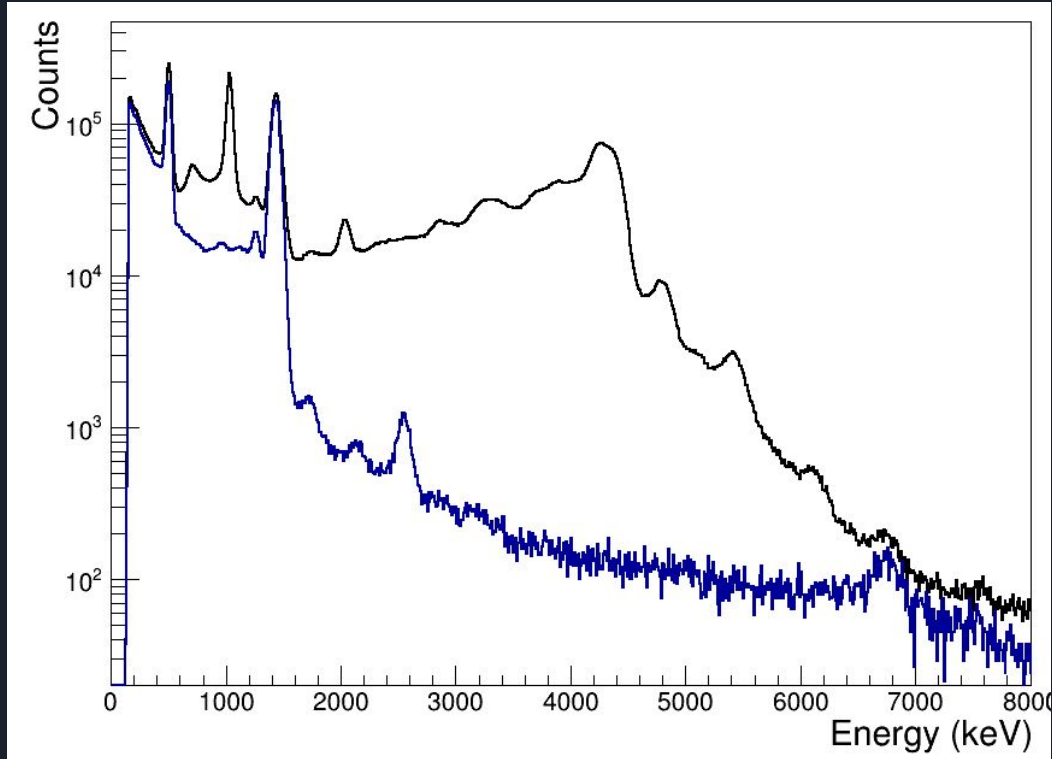
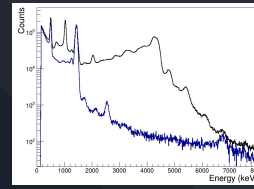
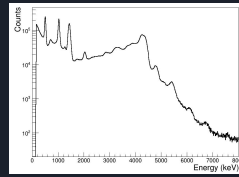


# Total Absorption Spectroscopy (TAS)

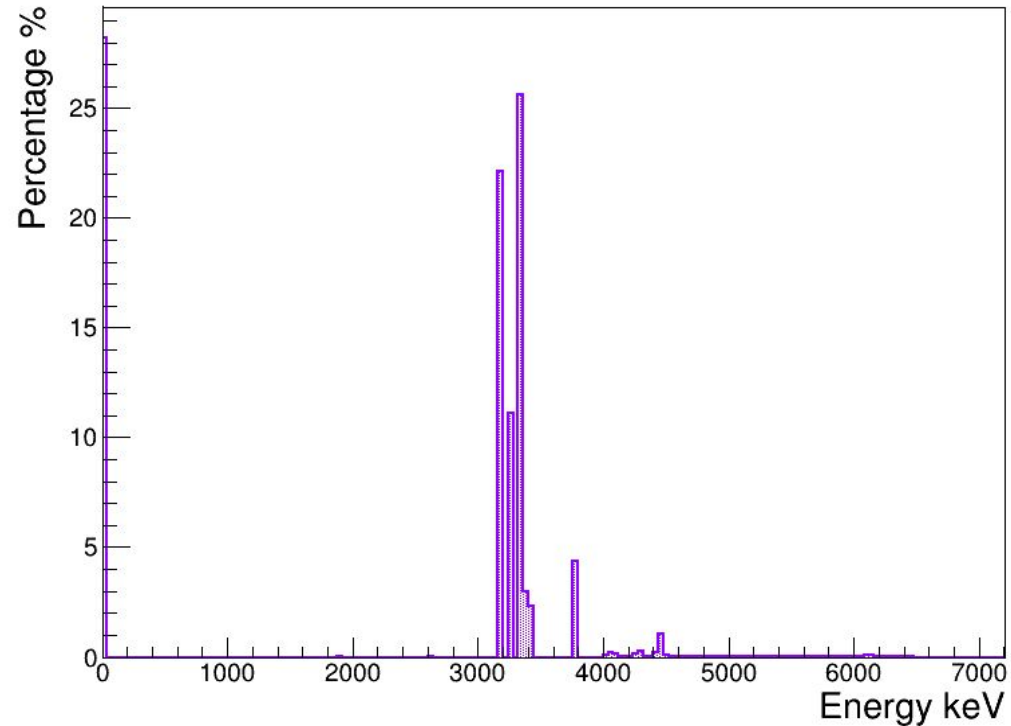
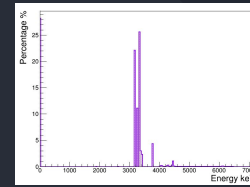
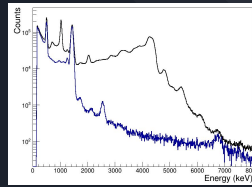
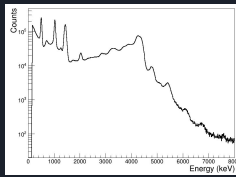




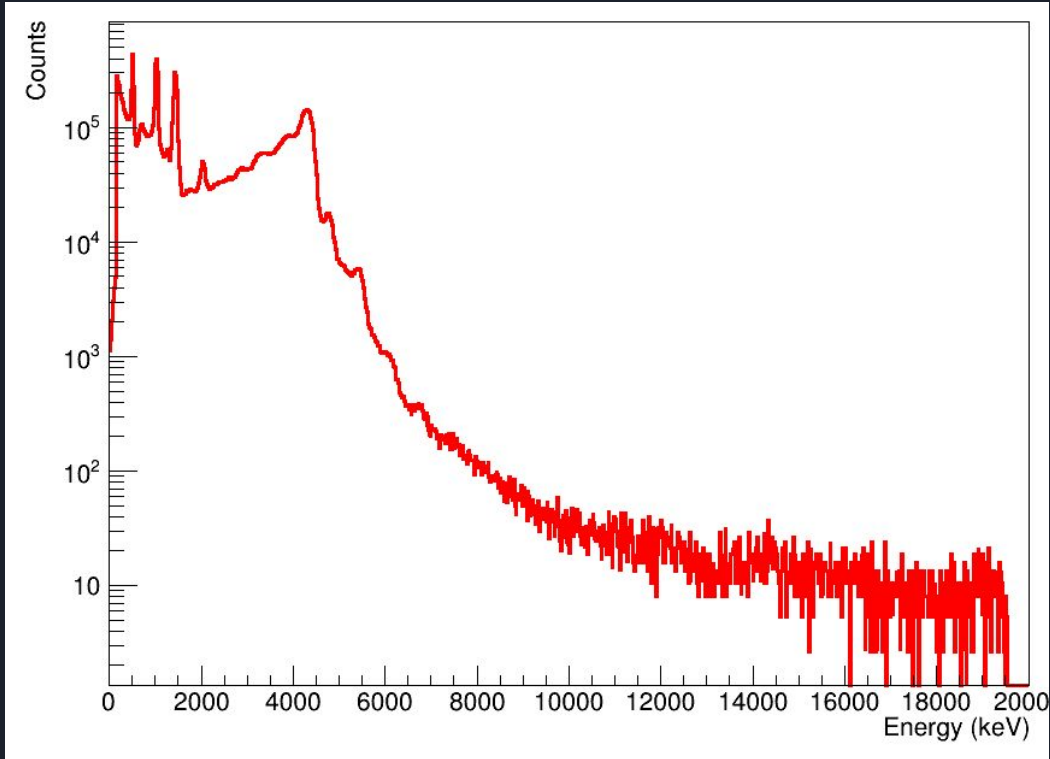
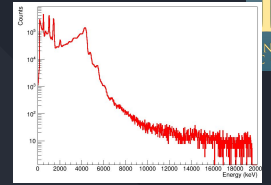
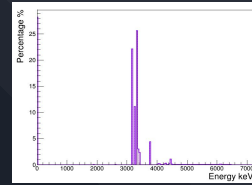
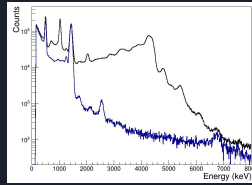
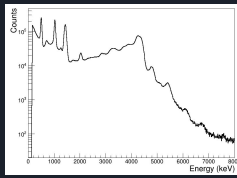
Measuring the Isotope of  
 interest with the TAS method



Then it must be identify every contaminant (background, pileup, daughter's decay, etc)



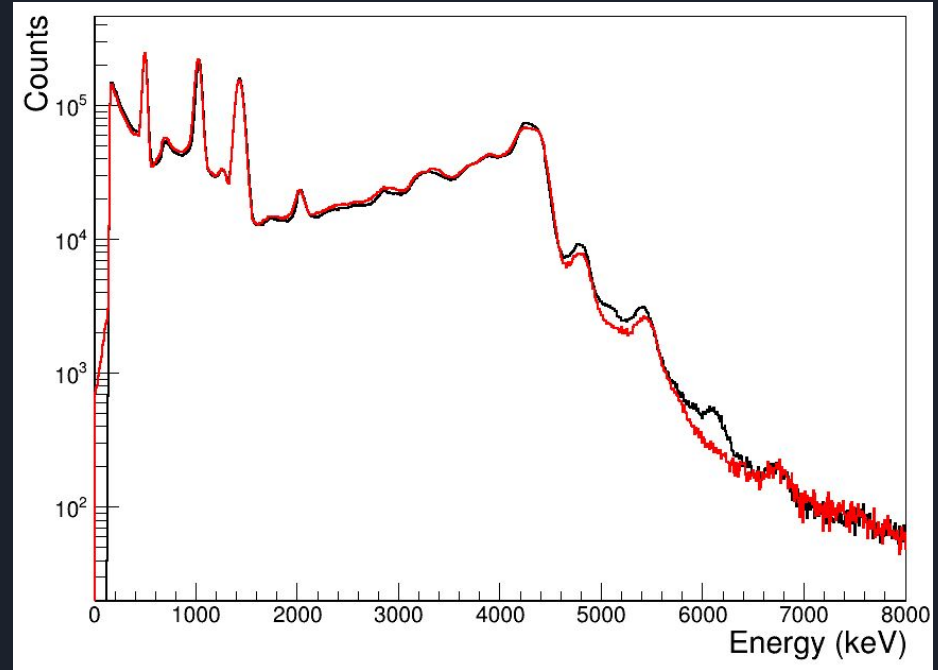
When everything in the gamma spectrum is well understood then is time for the unfolding algorithm (EM)



Finally with the new feeding by the unfolding algorithm we can recalculate a new gamma spectrum and compare with the TAS data

# Preliminary results

- $^{64}\text{Ga}$
- A very good fit with ENSDF data until 4500 keV
- a peak at  $\sim 6000$  keV not present in the ENSDF data





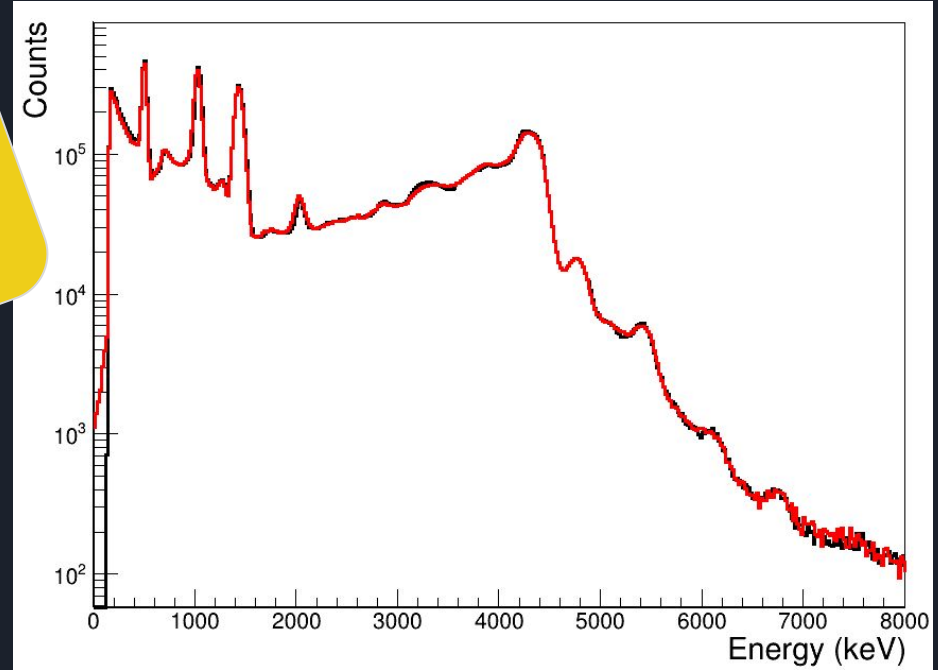
# Preliminary results

- $^{64}\text{Ga}$

- A very good fit to the data

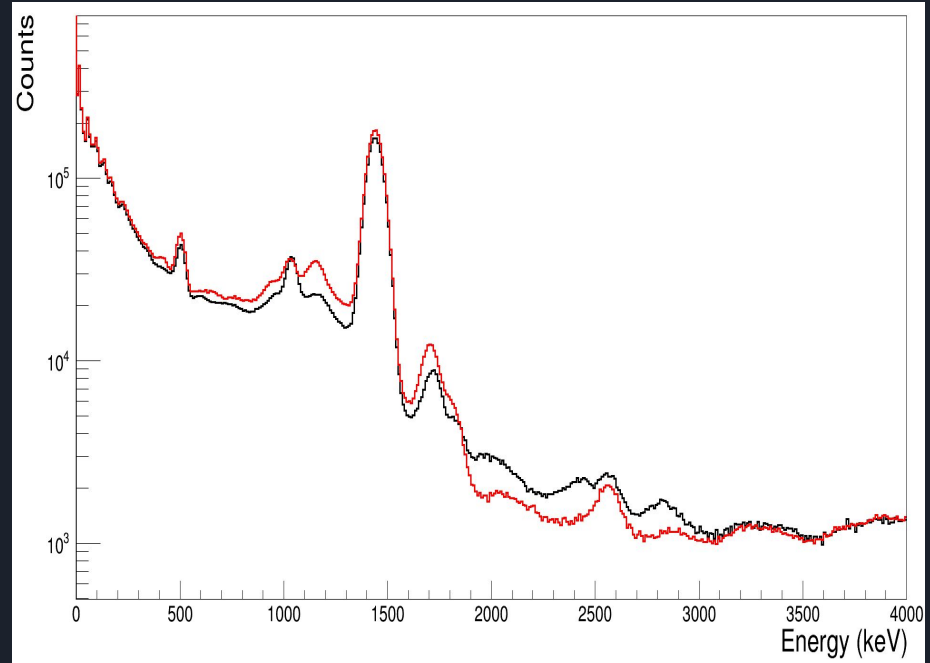
through deconvolution we obtain a recalculated spectrum that have the peak at  $\sim 6$  MeV!

keV not in the ENSDF data



# Preliminary results

- $^{64}\text{Ge}$
- ENSDF data has a good fit at low energies and close to the Q-value (4517 keV)
- There are clearly cascade from previously unseen levels close to the Q-value

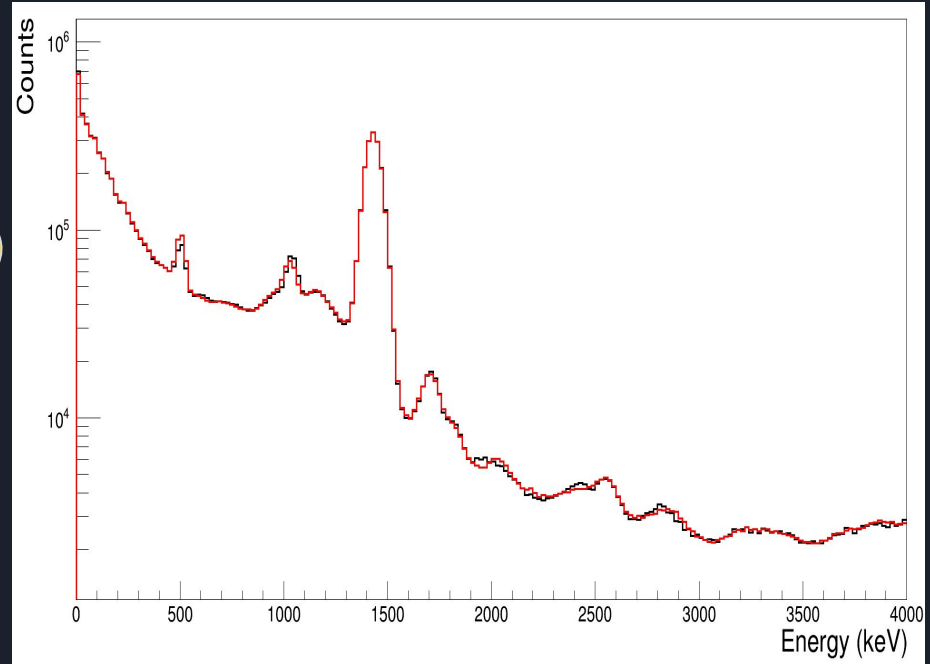


# Preliminary results

- $^{64}\text{Ge}$

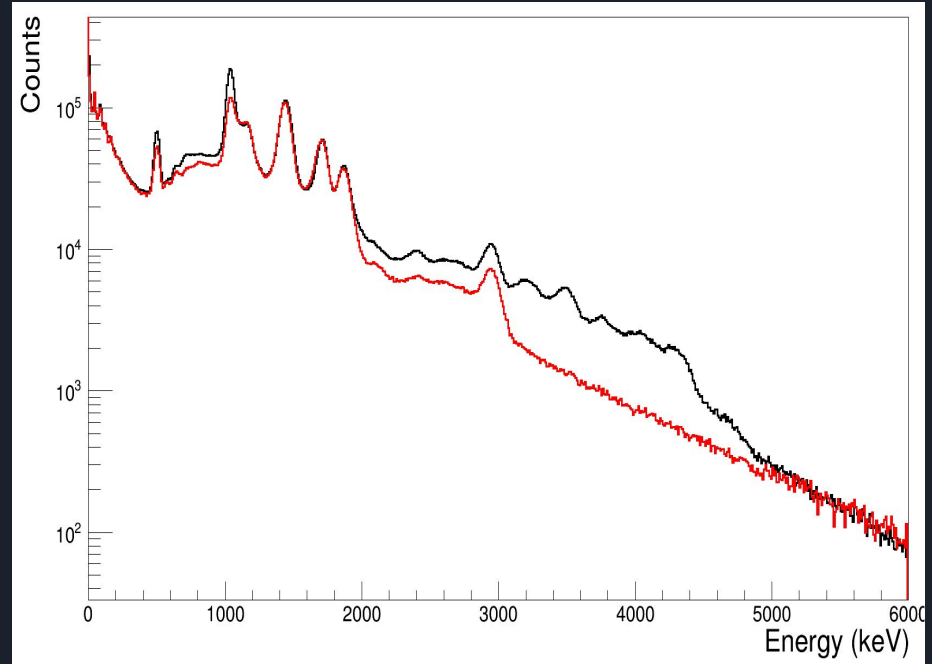
- ENSDF data has a gap at low energy
- This fit shows a better fit in the energy emission range
- Unseen peaks close to the Q-value

a better fit in the energy emission range



# Preliminary results

- $^{65}\text{Ge}$
- The data from the ENSDF had a good fit until  $\sim 2000$  keV
- There are many cascades from unseen levels



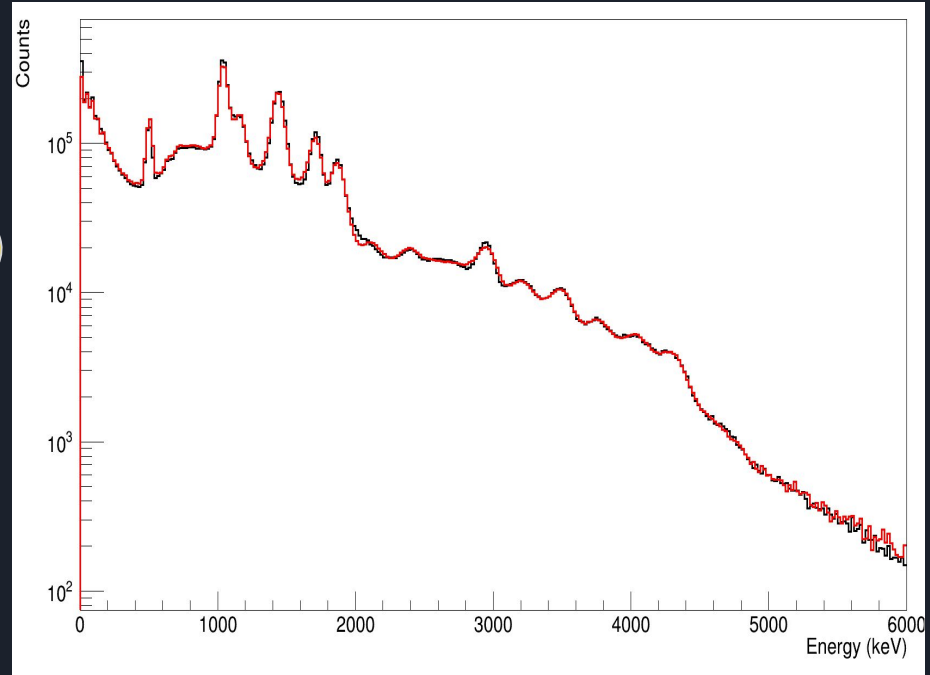
# Preliminary results

- $^{65}\text{Ge}$

- The data from the  
had a

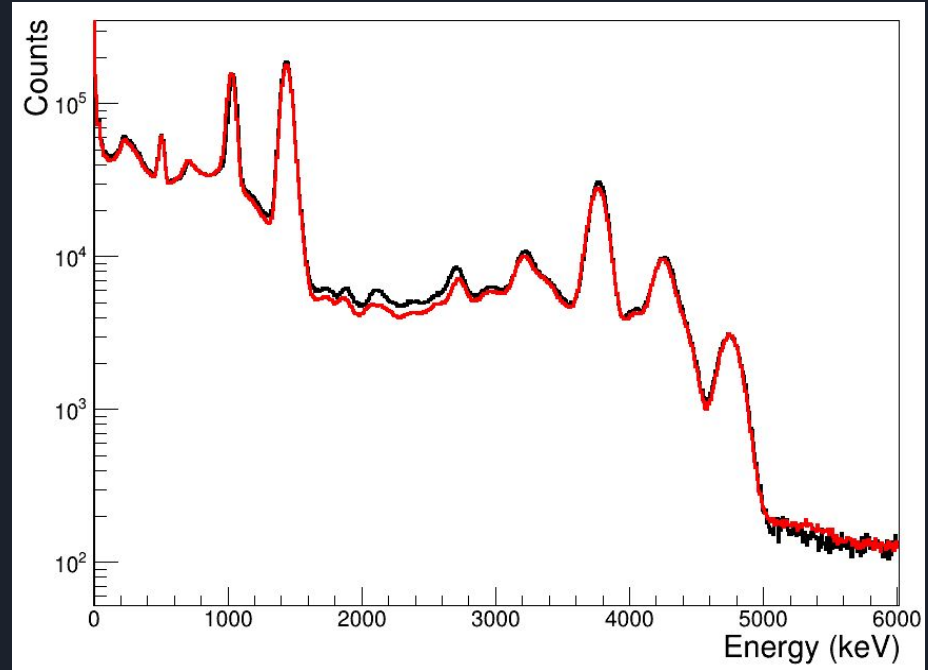
a much better fit accounting for the  
missing part of the spectrum

there are many cascades  
from unseen levels



# Preliminary results

- $^{66}\text{Ga}$
- ENSDF data has a overall a really good fit but has less statistic in the region from 1800 keV to 3000 keV



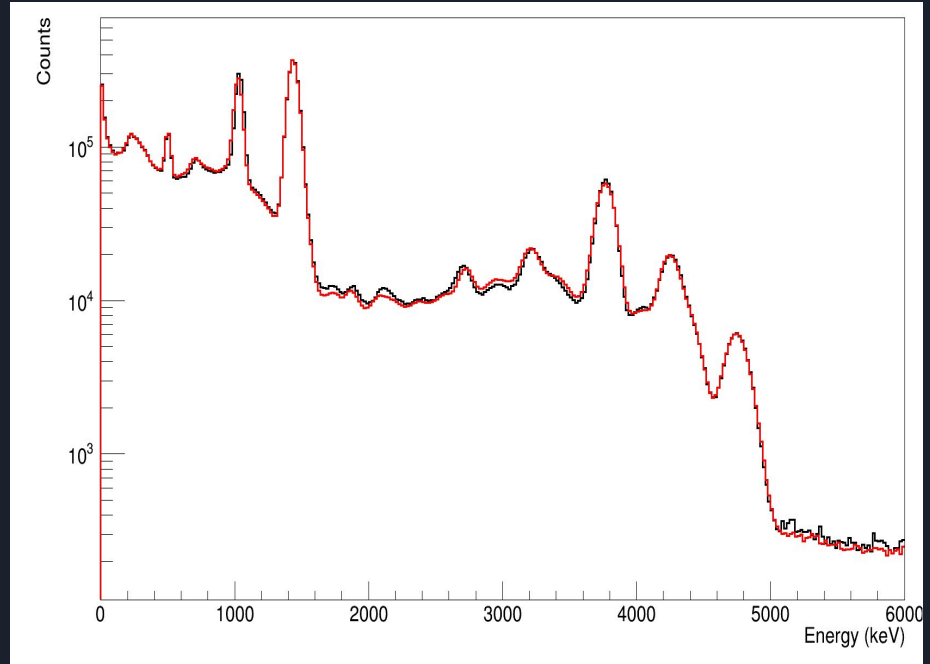
# Preliminary results

- $^{66}\text{Ga}$

- ENSDF

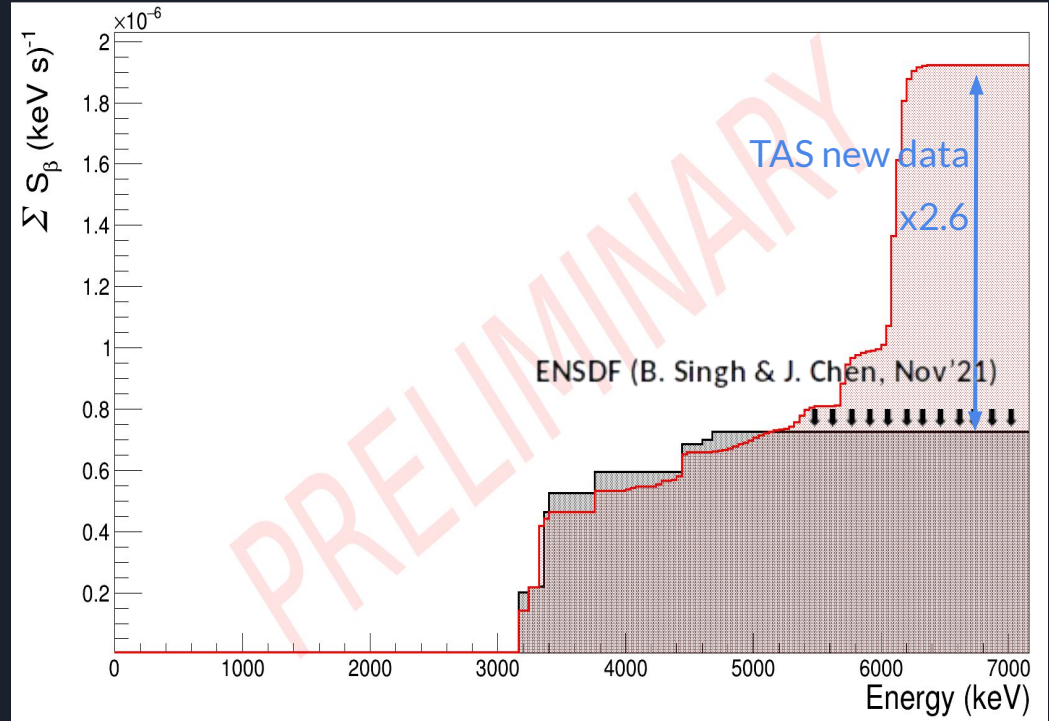
better fit in the region of 1800 keV  
to 3000 keV

region  
to 3000



# Preliminary results

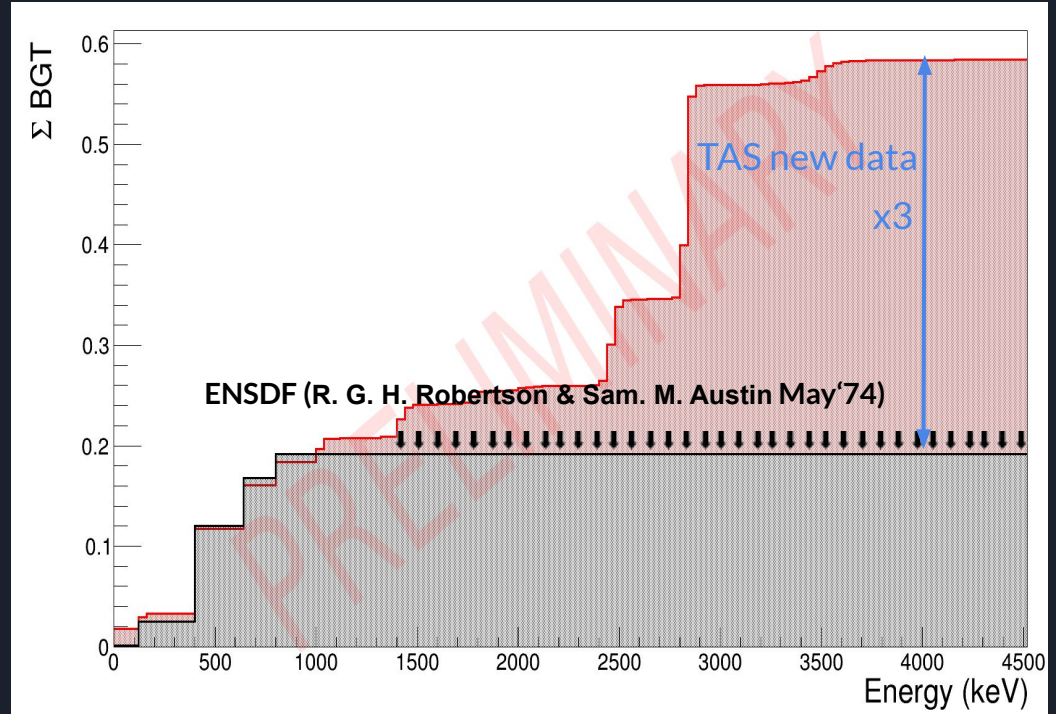
- $^{64}\text{Ga } S_{\beta}$
- The reconstruction of the peak in the gamma spectrum at ~6000 keV result in feeding above 5000 keV
- redistribution of the feeding on the known levels





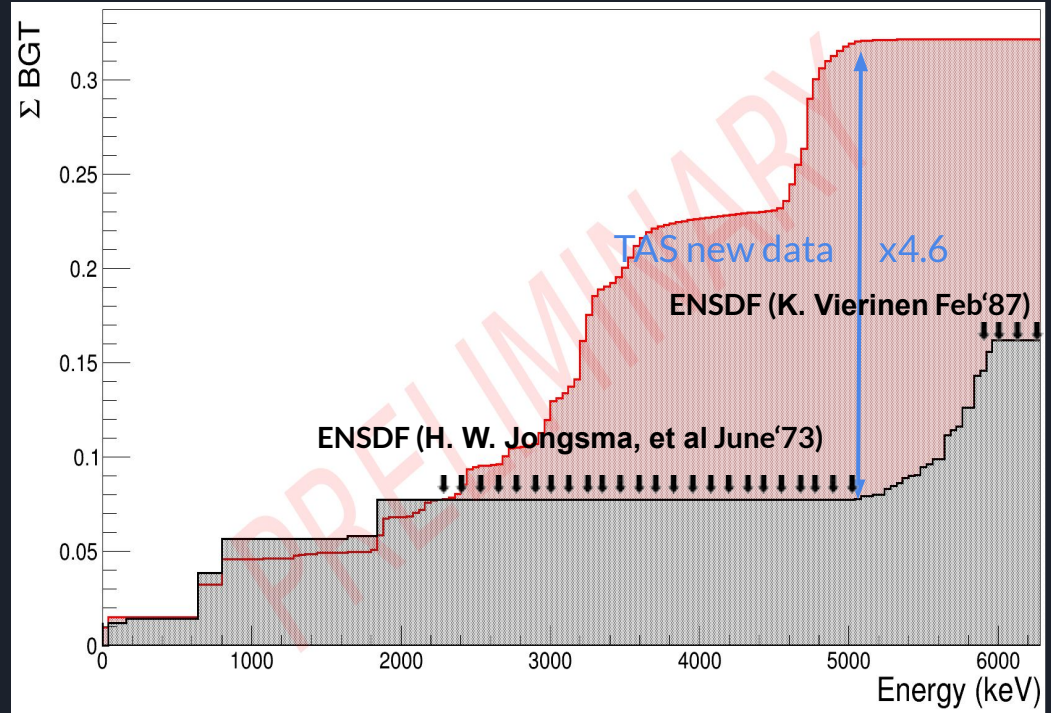
# Preliminary results

- $^{64}\text{Ge}$  B(GT)
- We are able to obtain feeding above the last know level (817 keV)
- Noticeable change in the feeding at the ground state
- Good agreement on the knows feeding even though so much of the gamma levels was unknown



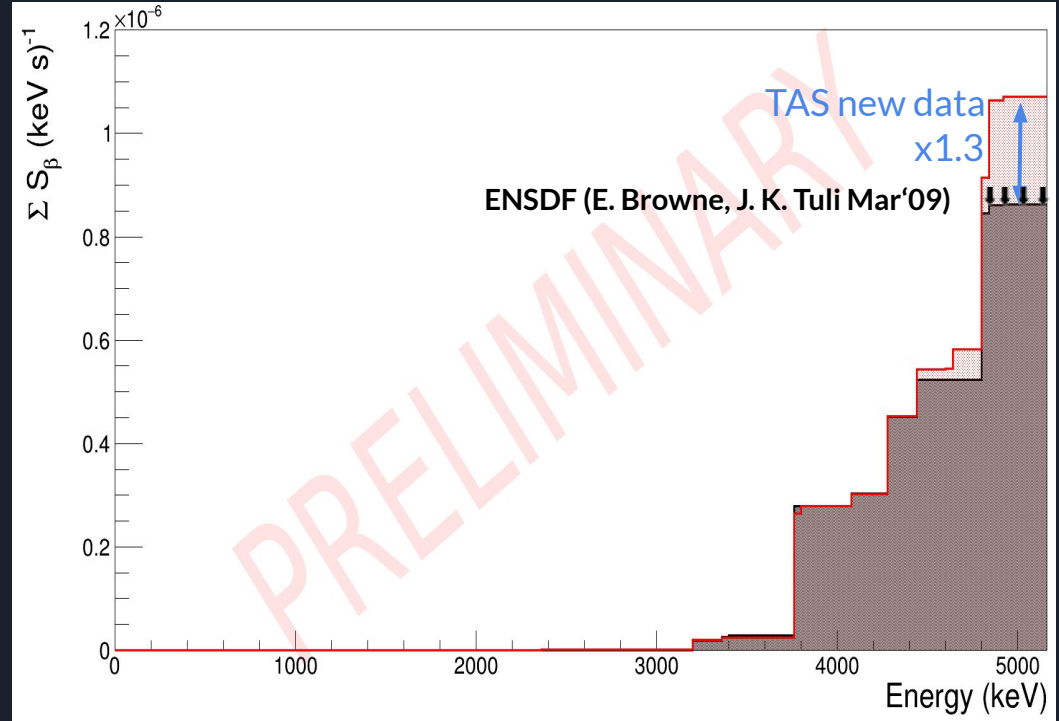
# Preliminary results

- $^{65}\text{Ge}$  B(GT)
- sets densities of energy levels found between  $\sim 2500$  and  $\sim 5000$  keV
- Noticeable two big 'jumps' on the BGT



# Preliminary results

- $^{66}\text{Ga } S_{\beta}$
- We observe a higher contribution at around 5 MeV that wasn't obvious from the gamma spectrum
- There is also a change in the feeding to the fundamental level

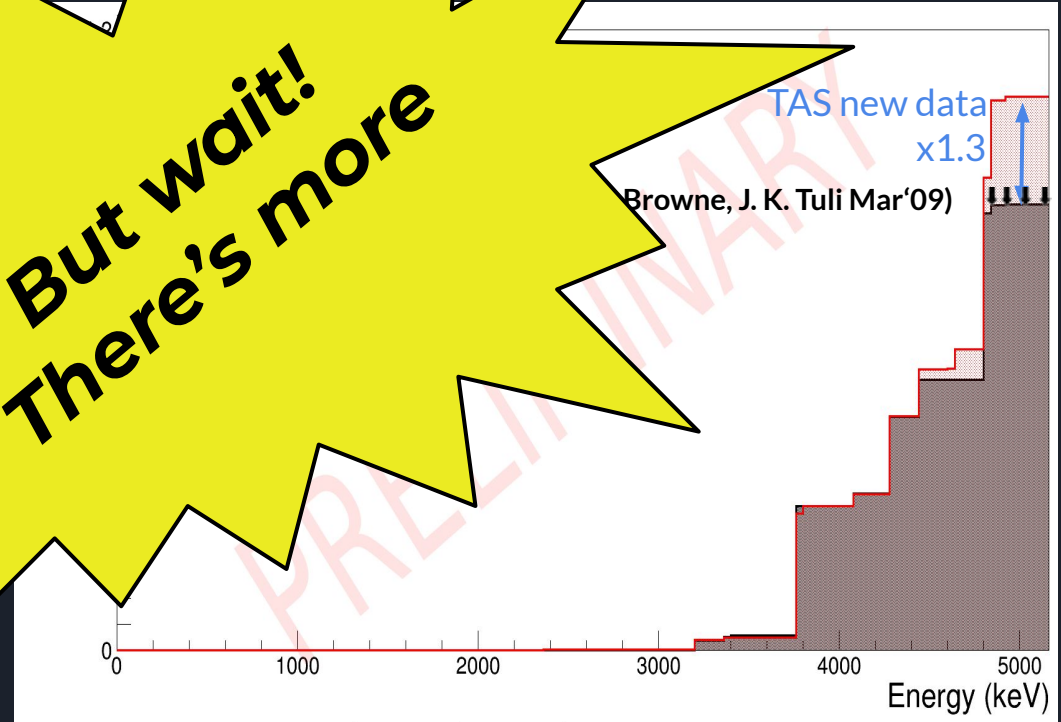


# Preliminary results

- $^{66}\text{Ga}$   $S_{\beta}$

- We observe a higher count rate around 5 MeV that wasn't seen before, coming from the gamma spectrum
- There is also a change in the shape of the spectrum around the fundamental level

**But wait!  
There's more**



Phys. Lett. B 848 (2024) 138338



ELSEVIER

Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](https://www.sciencedirect.com)


## Physics Letters B

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/physletb](https://www.elsevier.com/locate/physletb)



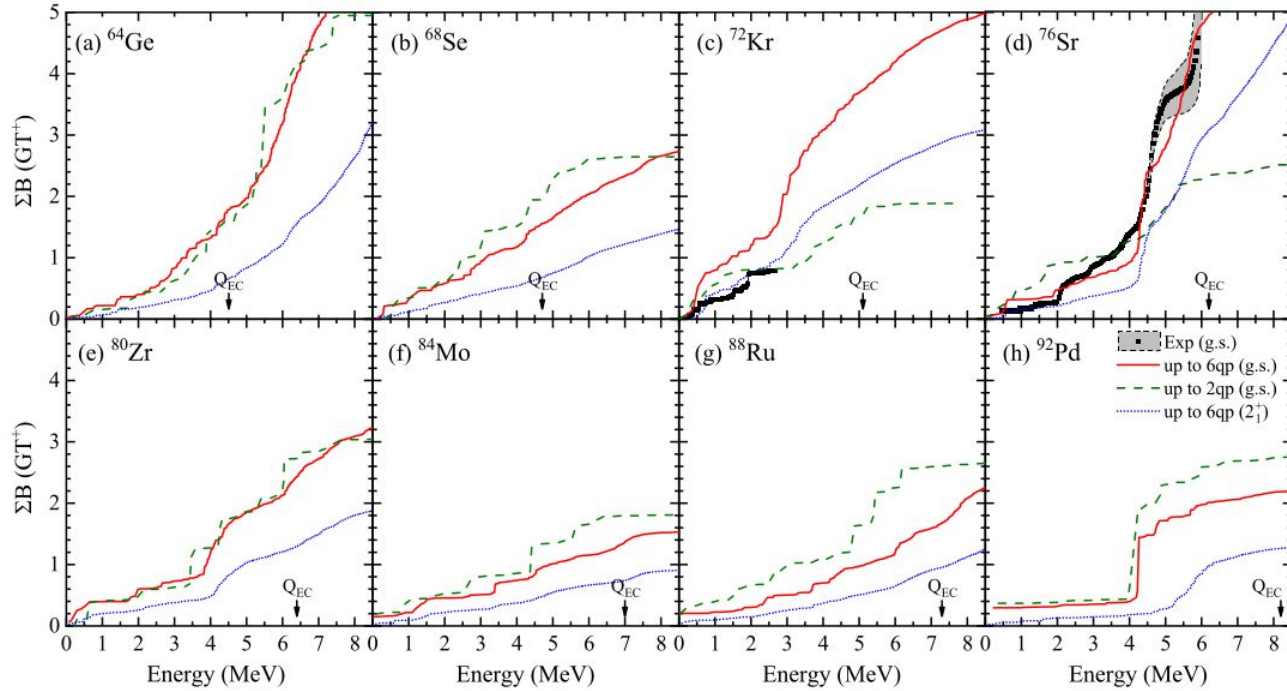
Letter

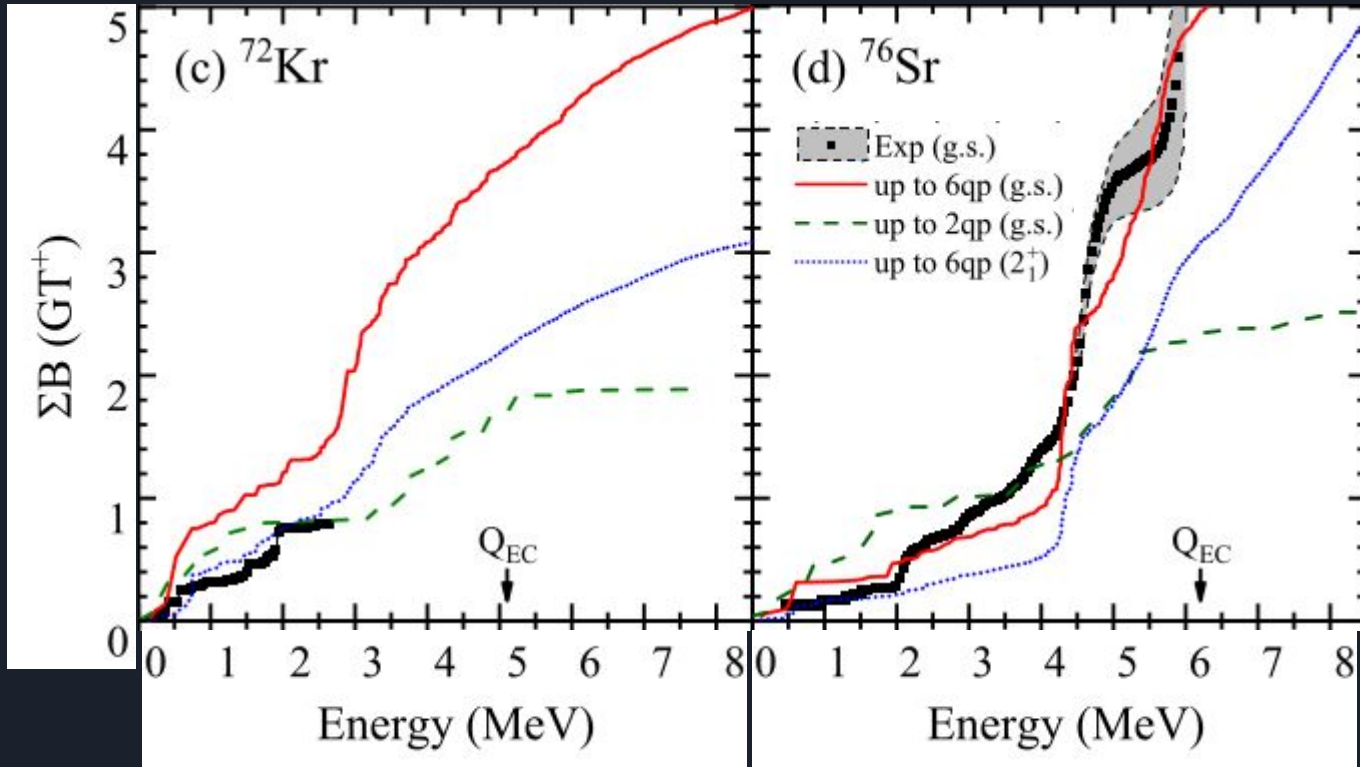
### Stellar weak-interaction rates for $rp$ -process waiting-point nuclei from projected shell model

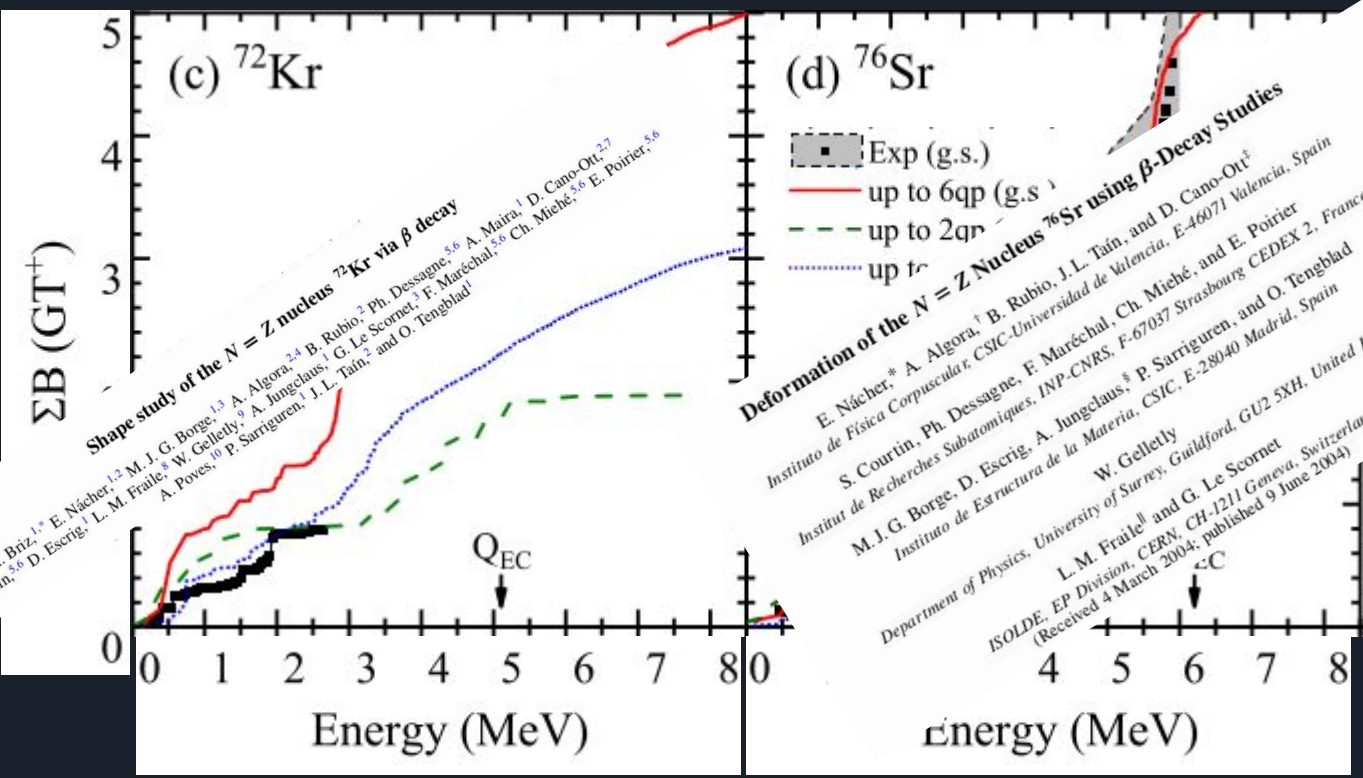
Zi-Rui Chen, Long-Jun Wang ,\*

*School of Physical Science and Technology, Southwest University, Chongqing 400715, China*





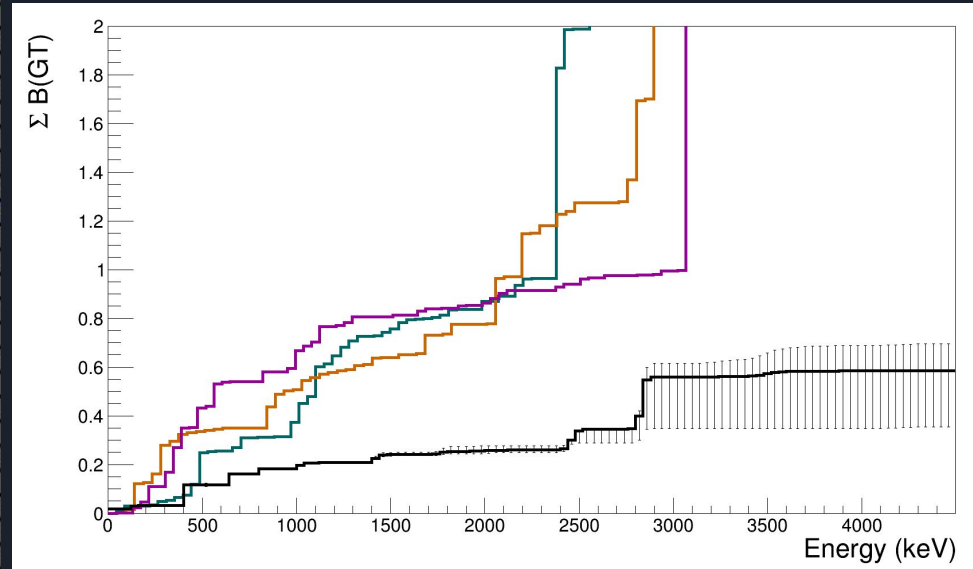
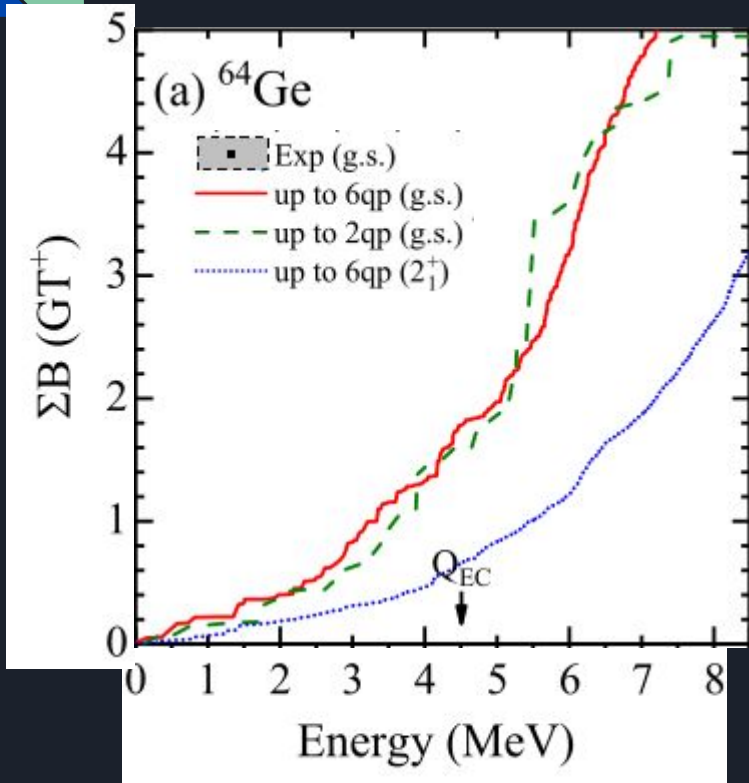




J. A. Briz,<sup>1,2</sup> E. Náchter,<sup>1,2</sup> M. J. G. Borge,<sup>1,3</sup> A. Algora,<sup>2,4</sup> B. Rubio,<sup>2</sup> Ph. Dessagne,<sup>5,6</sup> A. Maira,<sup>1</sup> D. Cano-Ott,<sup>2,7</sup>  
S. Courtin,<sup>5,6</sup> D. Eserig,<sup>1</sup> L. M. Fraile,<sup>8</sup> W. Gelletly,<sup>9</sup> A. Jungclauss,<sup>1</sup> G. Le Scornet,<sup>3</sup> F. Maréchal,<sup>5,6</sup> Ch. Miehé,<sup>5,6</sup> E. Poirier,<sup>5,6</sup>  
A. Poves,<sup>10</sup> P. Sarriguren,<sup>1</sup> J. L. Tañá,<sup>2</sup> and O. Tengblad<sup>1</sup>

E. Náchter,\* A. Algora,<sup>†</sup> B. Rubio, J. L. Tañá, and D. Cano-Ott<sup>‡</sup>  
Instituto de Física Corpuscular, CSIC-Universidad de Valencia, E-46100 Valencia, Spain  
S. Courtin, Ph. Dessagne, F. Maréchal, Ch. Miehé, and E. Poirier  
Institut de Recherches Subatomiques, INP-CNRS, F-67037 Strasbourg CEDEX 2, France  
M. J. G. Borge, D. Eserig, A. Jungclauss,<sup>§</sup> P. Sarriguren, and O. Tengblad  
Instituto de Estructura de la Materia, CSIC, E-28040 Madrid, Spain  
W. Gelletly  
Department of Physics, University of Surrey, Guildford, GU2 5XH, United Kingdom  
L. M. Fraile<sup>||</sup> and G. Le Scornet  
ISOLDE, EP Division, CERN, CH-1211 Geneva, Switzerland  
(Received 4 March 2004; published 9 June 2004)





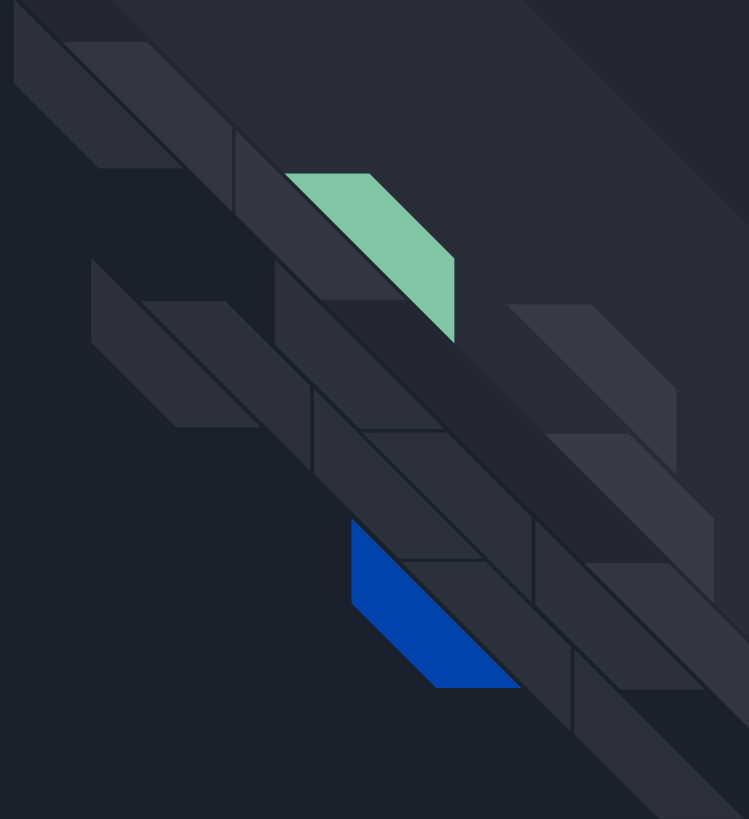


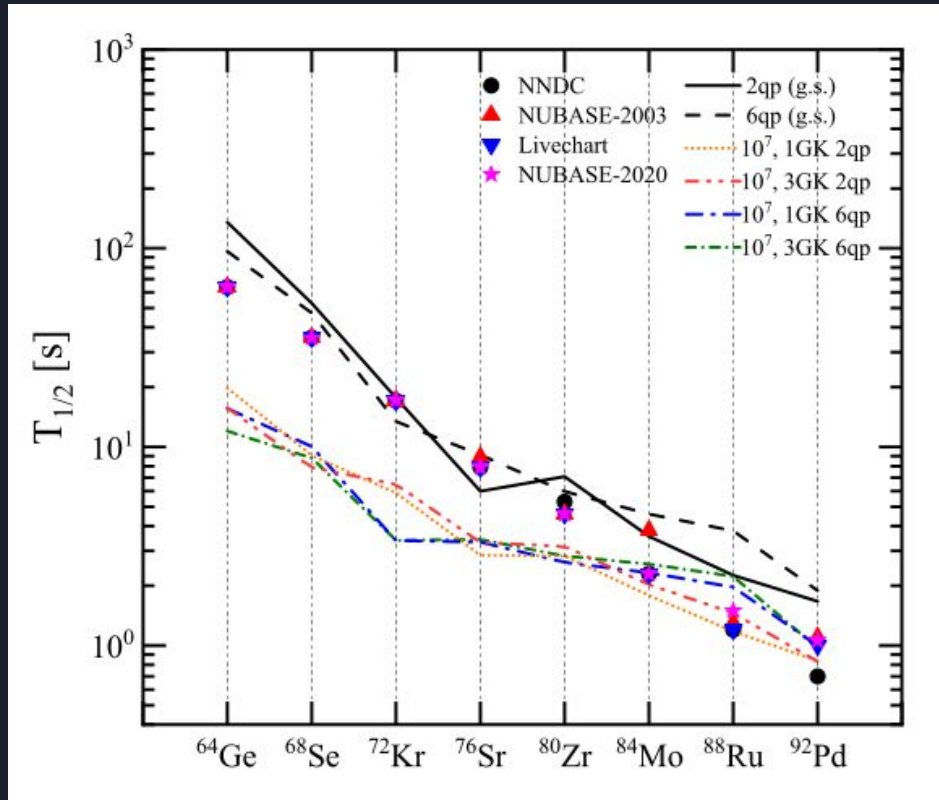
# Conclusions

- Astrophysical network calculations rely quite often on theoretical predictions that must be constrained. For this the  $T^{1/2}$  is not enough in general and the  $B(GT)$  must be used
- We have measured the  $B(GT)$  in the  $\beta$ -decay around the  $N=Z$  region for their importance in the weak-decay rates for astrophysical processes. We have the  $B(GT)$  of  $^{64,65}\text{Ge}$ , sadly  $^{66}\text{Ge}$  was contaminated so was unable to be analyzed and the  $S_{\beta}$  of  $^{64,66}\text{Ga}$
- Our work is important to develop a better model for nuclear structure necessary to understand stellar process as the case of the stellar evolution of type I x-ray burst

***Thank you for your attention***

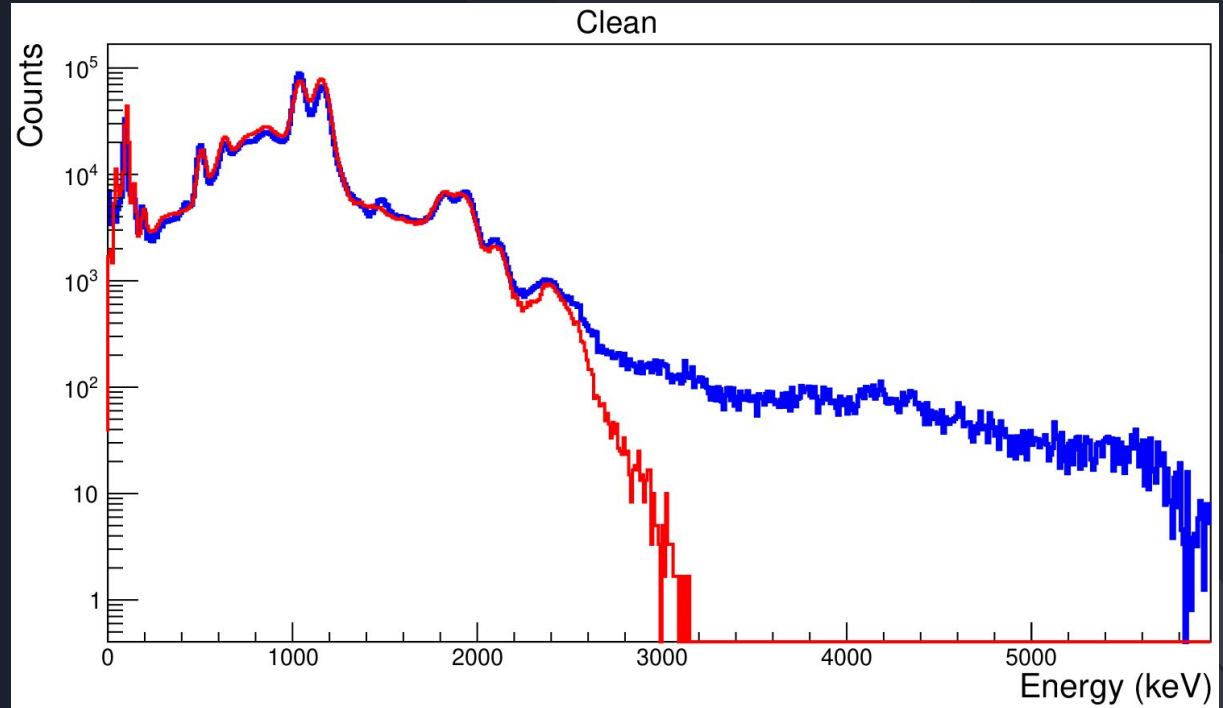
Extra





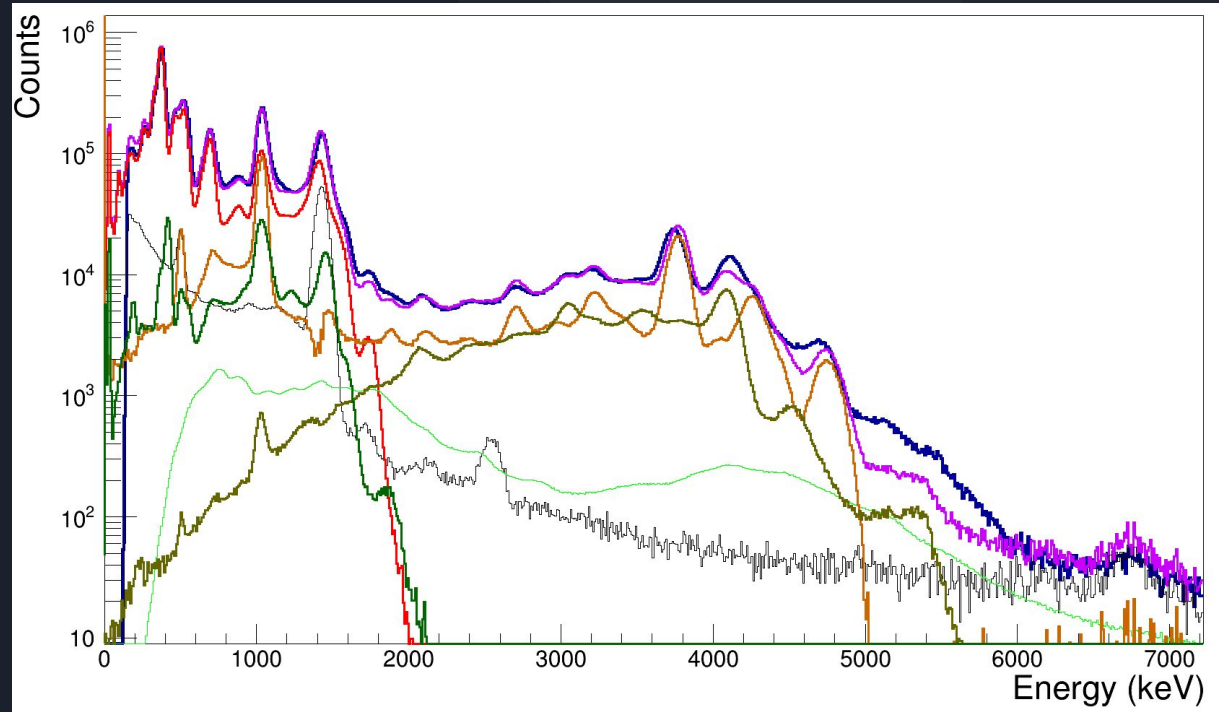
# Extra • $^{65}\text{Ga}$

- Unknown contamination above the Q-value (3254 keV)
- We believe it is may be  $^{69}\text{Se}$  and  $^{69}\text{As}$  as we have  $^{70}\text{Se}$  and  $^{70}\text{As}$  contamination on  $^{66}\text{Ge}$



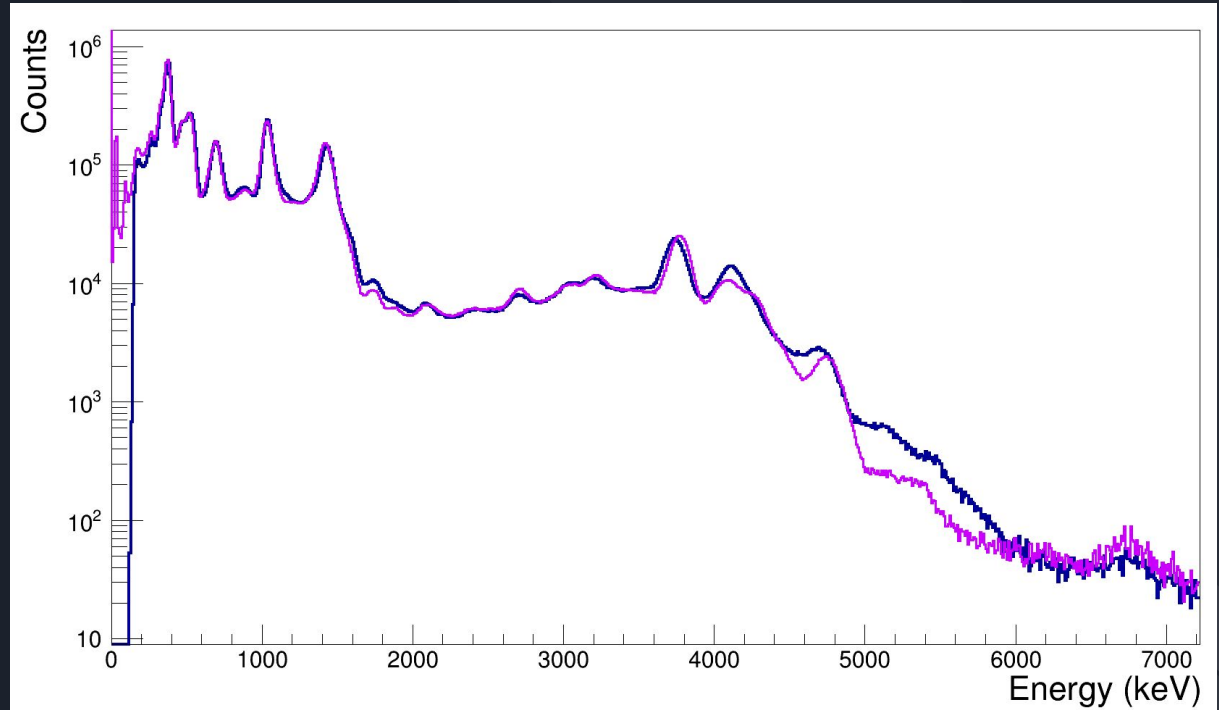
# Extra • $^{66}\text{Ge}$

- Contamination from  $^{70}\text{Se}$  and  $^{70}\text{As}$
- It's very apparent that  $^{70}\text{As}$  is affected by the pandemonium effect so its not well measure making the analysis of  $^{66}\text{Ge}$  impossible without a measurement of  $^{70}\text{Se} - ^{70}\text{As}$



# Extra • $^{66}\text{Ge}$

- Contamination from  $^{70}\text{Se}$  and  $^{70}\text{As}$
- It's very apparent that  $^{70}\text{As}$  is affected by the pandemonium effect so its not well measure making the analysis of  $^{66}\text{Ge}$  impossible without a measurement of  $^{70}\text{Se} - ^{70}\text{As}$



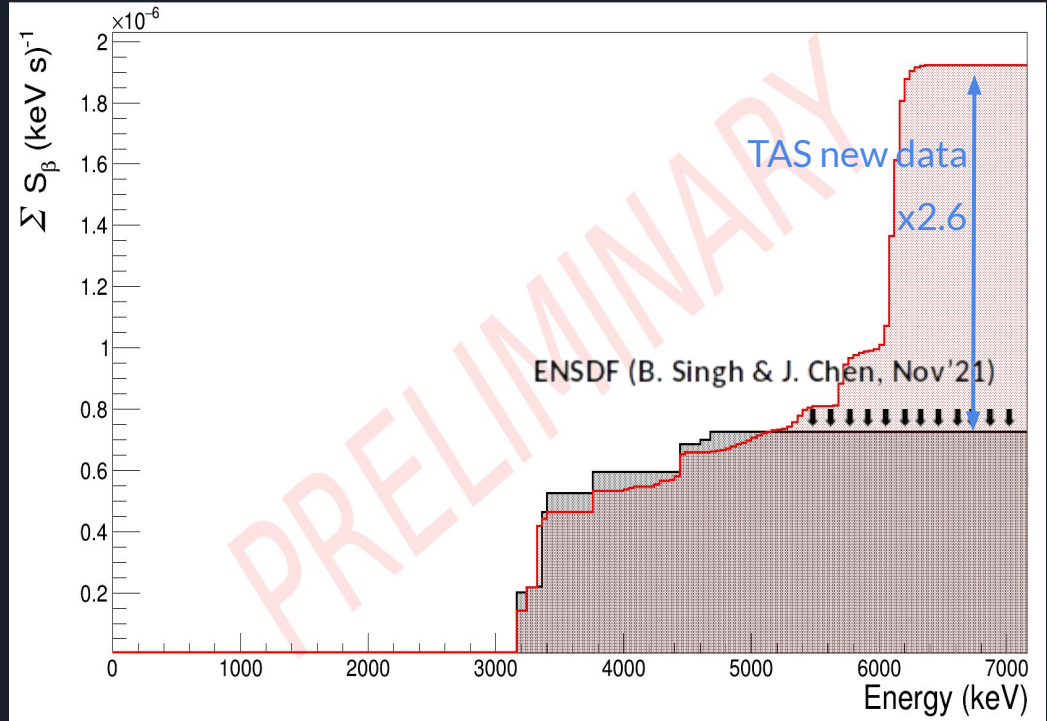


# Preliminary results

- $^{64}\text{Ga}$   $S_{\beta}$

Decay from  $0+$  to  $0+$  gs

	TAS	ENSDF
feeding	28.2 %	24.7 %
log ft	6.59	6.65

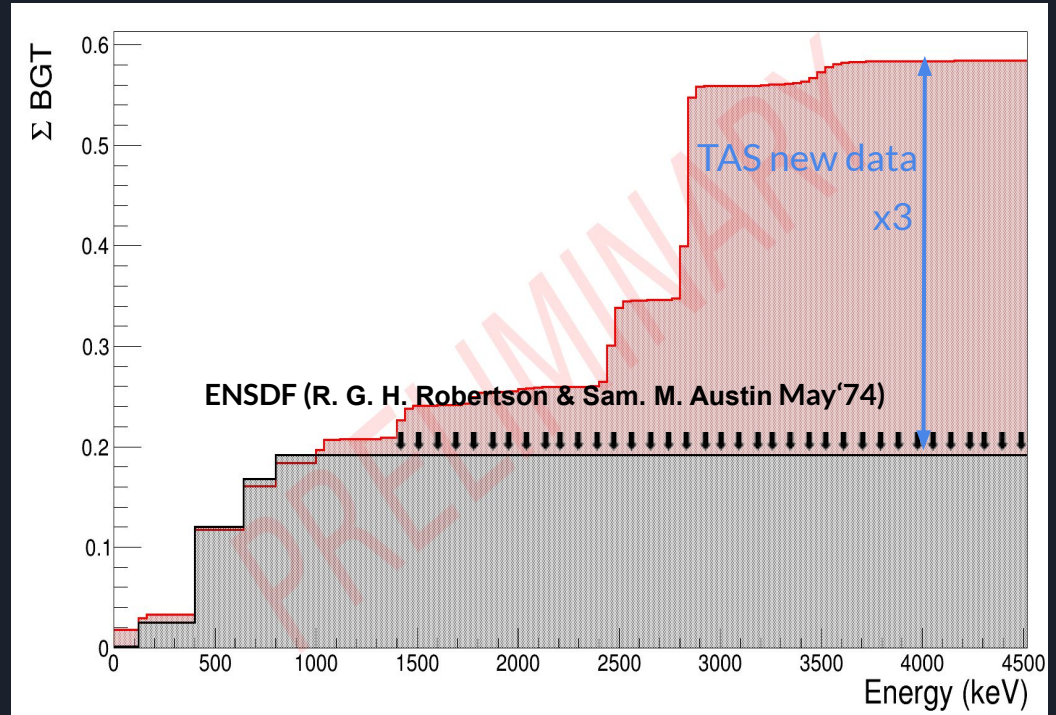


# Preliminary results

- $^{64}\text{Ge}$  B(GT)

Decay from  $0+$  to  $0+$  gs

	TAS	ENSDF
feeding	15.6 %	<1.3 %
log ft	5.3	>6.4

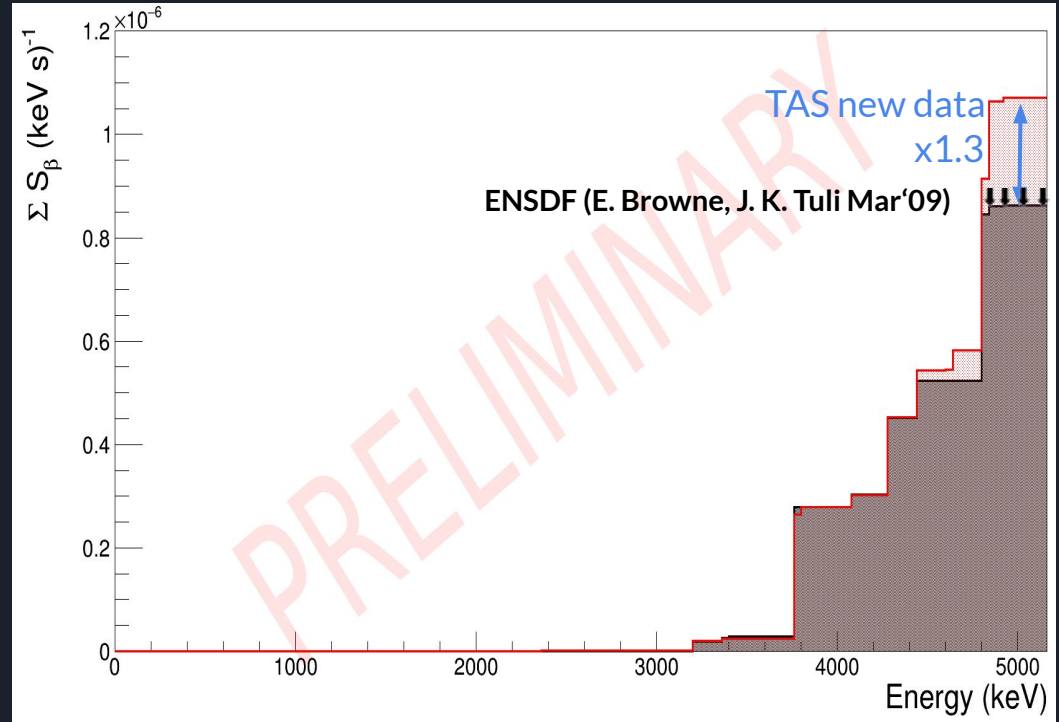


# Preliminary results

- $^{66}\text{Ga } S_{\beta}$

Decay from  $0+$  to  $0+$  gs

	TAS	ENSDF
feeding	45.5 %	51 %
log ft	7.93	7.88



# Preliminary results

- $^{64}\text{Ga } S_{\beta}$

$$M_F = \sqrt{\frac{2ft(\text{superallowed})}{ft(\text{case under study})}}$$

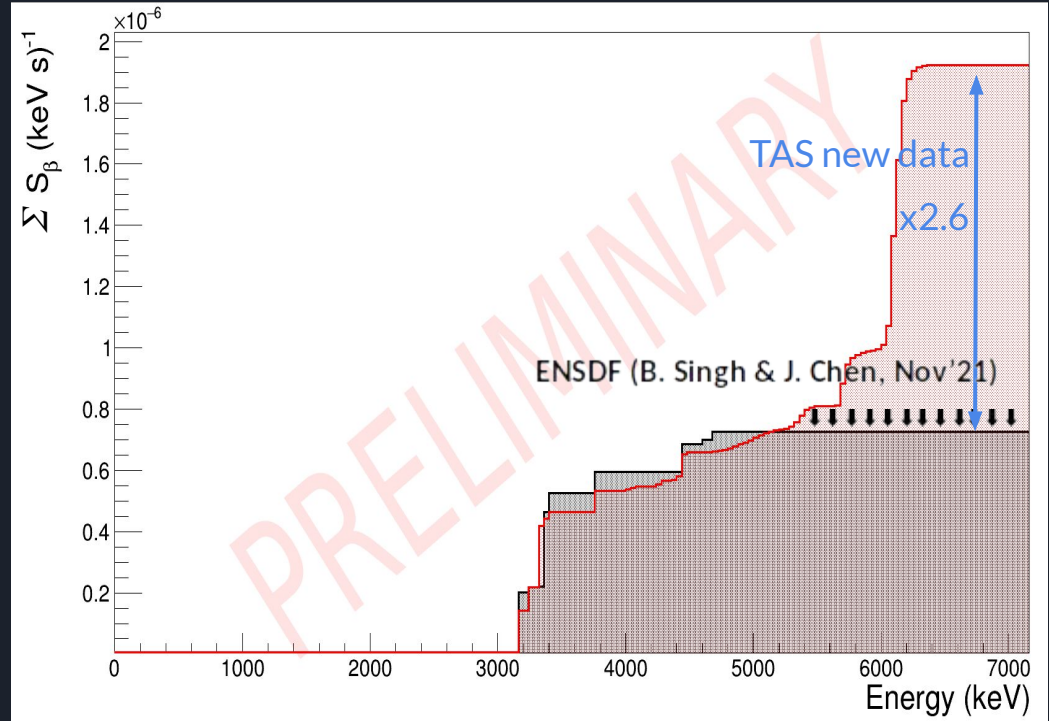
$$\alpha = M_F / \sqrt{2T}$$

$$H_c = \alpha \cdot (\Delta E_c - Q - 782)$$

- [Raman S. et al, Nucl. Phys. A254 \(1975\), 131](#)

Values for Coulomb displacement energy from [Antony, M., Pape, A., & Britz, J. Atomic Data and Nuclear Data Tables, \(1997\) 66\(1\), 1–63](#)

and super allowed ft from [Hardy, J. C., & Towner, I. S. Physical Review C, \(2020\) 102\(4\).](#)



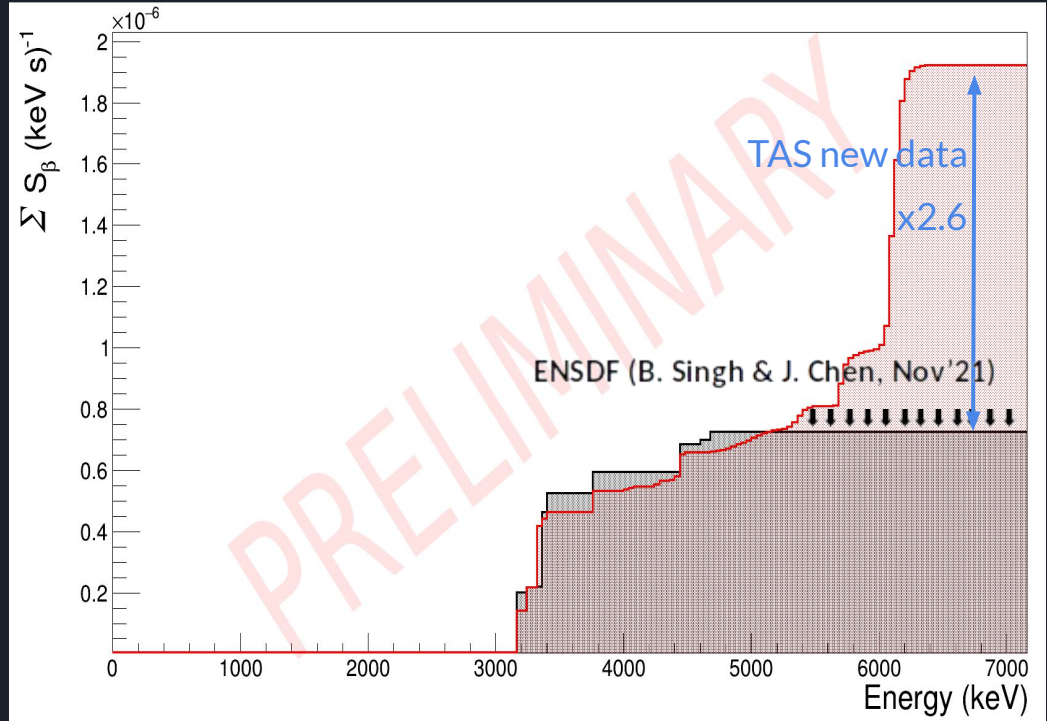
# Preliminary results

- $^{64}\text{Ga } S_{\beta}$

Decay from  $0+$  to  $0+$  gs

	TAS	Reported
$\alpha$ ( $10^{-3}$ )	19.85	19.5
Hc (keV)	37.30	39.6

- Bertsch, G.F. and Mekjian, A. (1972) "Isospin impurities in nuclei," *Annual Review of Nuclear Science*, 22(1), pp. 25–64.



# Preliminary results

- $^{66}\text{Ga } S_{\beta}$

Decay from  $0+$  to  $0+$  gs

	TAS	Reported
$\alpha$ ( $10^{-3}$ )	3.5	3.5
Hc (keV)	13.3	13.6

- Bertsch, G.F. and Mekjian, A. (1972) "Isospin impurities in nuclei," *Annual Review of Nuclear Science*, 22(1), pp. 25–64.

