





# Binding energy studies of shell closures in exotic nuclei with ISOLTRAP

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### **Outline:**

- Introduction
- Neutron-rich Argon isotopes
- Evolution of *N*=28 shell gap
- Conclusion and perspectives



## INTRODUCTION



# The nuclear binding energy

• Reflects the interaction of ALL the nuclear constituents

$$M_{nuc}(Z,N) = \frac{Zm_p + Nm_n + E(Z,N)/c^2}{dM_p}$$





# **Example : Calcium chain**



G. Audi et al., Chinese Phys. C 41, 3 (2017) F. Wienholtz et al., Nature 498, 346 (2013) S. Michimasa et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 121, 022506 (2018)



### New features far from stability



G. Audi et al., Chinese Phys. C 41, 3 (2017) F. Wienholtz et al., Nature 498, 346 (2013) S. Michimasa et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 121, 022506 (2018)



### **MR-ToF mass spectrometry**





# Penning-trap mass spectrometry





# Neutron-rich Argon isotopes



# The vanishing of nuclear shells

• Example: *N* = 20 "Island of Inversion"



ENSDF (2015)



# What happens for N = 28?

- Fast reduction of  $E2_1^+$  below  ${}^{48}Ca$
- Collapse of the N=28 shell-closure



#### ENSDF (2015)

![](_page_10_Picture_5.jpeg)

# What happens for N = 28?

- Fast reduction of  $E2_1^+$  below  ${}^{48}Ca$
- Collapse of the N=28 shell-closure

![](_page_11_Figure_3.jpeg)

#### ENSDF (2015)

![](_page_11_Picture_5.jpeg)

### Mass measurements of <sup>46-47</sup>Ar

![](_page_12_Figure_1.jpeg)

Z. Meisel *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **94**, 022501 (2015).

### Mass measurements of <sup>48</sup>Ar

![](_page_13_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_13_Picture_2.jpeg)

### Mass measurements of <sup>48</sup>Ar

![](_page_14_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_14_Picture_2.jpeg)

# **Evolution of the** *N* = 28 **empirical shell gap**

![](_page_15_Picture_1.jpeg)

# **Strength of the** *N* **= 28 shell gap**

- Rapid collapse of the N=28 one-neutron empirical shell gap for Z <18
- From Ca to Ar, ~400keV reduction

![](_page_16_Figure_3.jpeg)

Z. Meisel *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **94**, 022501 (2015).

![](_page_16_Picture_5.jpeg)

# **Correlations south of 48Ca**

- Multipole energy extracted from calculated g.s
- ANTOINE code using *SDPF-U* interaction

![](_page_17_Figure_3.jpeg)

L. Gaudefroy et al., Phys. Rev. C. 81, 064329 (2010)

![](_page_17_Picture_5.jpeg)

# **Theoretical trends**

- *SDPF-U* phenomenological interaction –> good agreement
- *VS-IMSRG ab-initio* approach –> also good agreement
- UNEDF0 -> strength of pairing too low

![](_page_18_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Picture_5.jpeg)

# **VS-IMSRG** in the region

- *VS-IMSRG ab-initio* approach extended down to S
- Predicts erosion of N = 18 shell gap
- Need for more precise mass data below Z < 18

![](_page_19_Figure_4.jpeg)

• VS-IMSRG  $\rightarrow$  48Ca (90%), 46Ar(40%) of the g.s

# **SCGF predictions :**

- *ab-initio* calculations using Self Consistant Green's Function
- Two nuclear interactions
- Good agreement with experiment
- Also predicts a reduction of the N=28 shell gap Z < 18

![](_page_20_Figure_5.jpeg)

![](_page_20_Picture_6.jpeg)

### Conclusion

![](_page_21_Picture_1.jpeg)

# In summary:

- Improved precision for <sup>46-48</sup>Ar
- ~ 400 keV reduction of the one-neutron empirical shellgap
- Apparently strong shell gap
- Argon rather a transitional chain
- Ab-initio (VS-IMSRG,SCGF) results in good agreement
- Need for high-precision measurements of isotopes with Z < 18

![](_page_22_Picture_7.jpeg)

# Acknowledgement:

![](_page_23_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_23_Picture_2.jpeg)