



**STUDY OF LEVEL STRUCTURE OF HEAVY HELIUM  
ISOTOPE  $^8\text{He}$  IN STOPPED PION ABSORPTION**

**B.A. Chernyshev**

*National Research Nuclear University "MEPhI"*

# Heavy helium isotope ${}^8\text{He}$

Among the nucleon-stable isotopes,  ${}^8\text{He}$  has a record ratio of the number of neutrons to the number of protons:  $N/Z = 3$ .

In  ${}^8\text{He}$ , the valence nucleons are more bound compared to the valence neutrons in  ${}^6\text{He}$  ( $S_{2n}({}^8\text{He}) = 2.14$  MeV,  $S_{2n}({}^6\text{He}) = 0.973$  MeV).

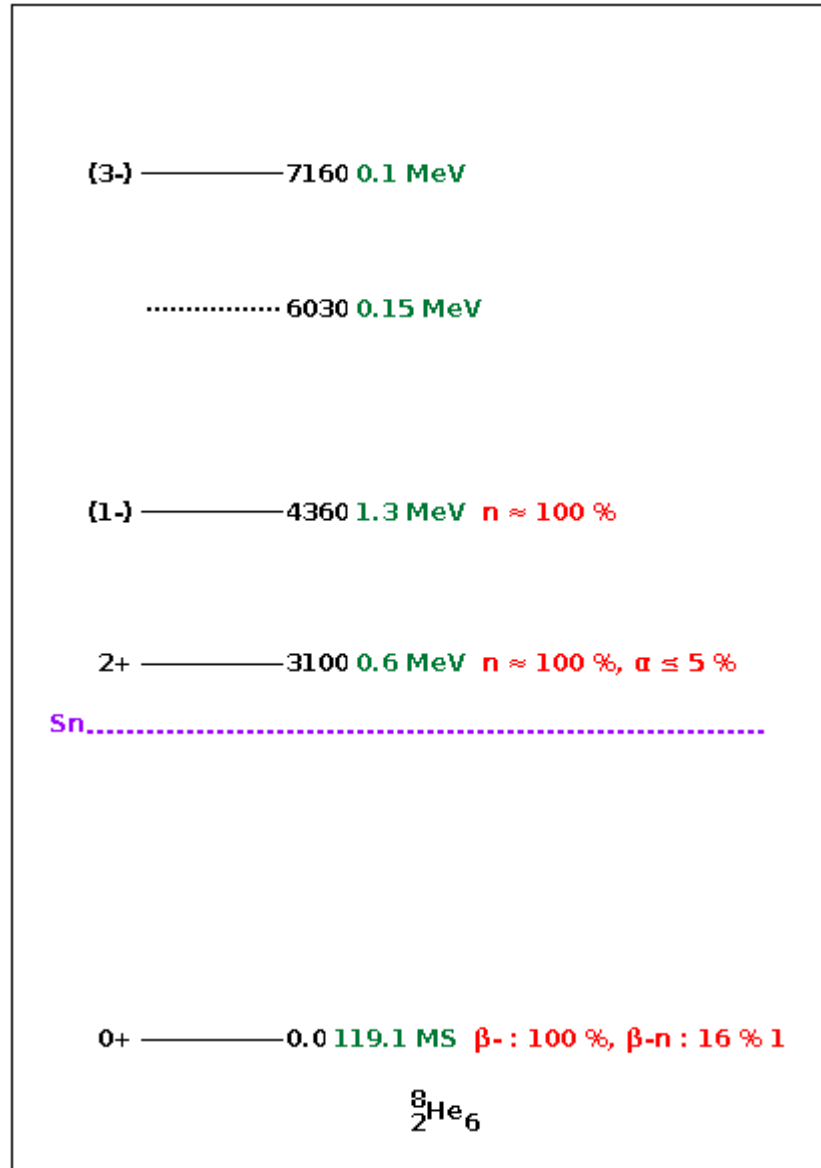
A possible consequence is the coincidence of the values of the root-mean-square radii of these isotopes ( $RRMS({}^6\text{He}) = 2.50 \pm 0.05$  fm,  $RRMS({}^8\text{He}) = 2.52 \pm 0.03$  fm)

This coincidence and careful analysis of the measured cross sections for different breakup channels suggest that the structure of  ${}^8\text{He}$  is best described as a five-body system ( ${}^4\text{He}+n+n+n+n$ ) rather than as a two-neutron halo ( ${}^6\text{He}+n+n$ )

It was shown experimentally and theoretically, that along with the  $(p_{3/2})^4$  component the wave function of the ground state, can contain a noticeable admixture of other components –  $(p_{3/2})^2(s_{1/2})^2$ ,  $(p_{3/2})^2(d_{3/2})^2$  and  $(p_{3/2})^2(p_{1/2})^2$ .

# Heavy Helium Isotope ${}^8\text{He}$

<https://www.nndc.bnl.gov/nudat2>

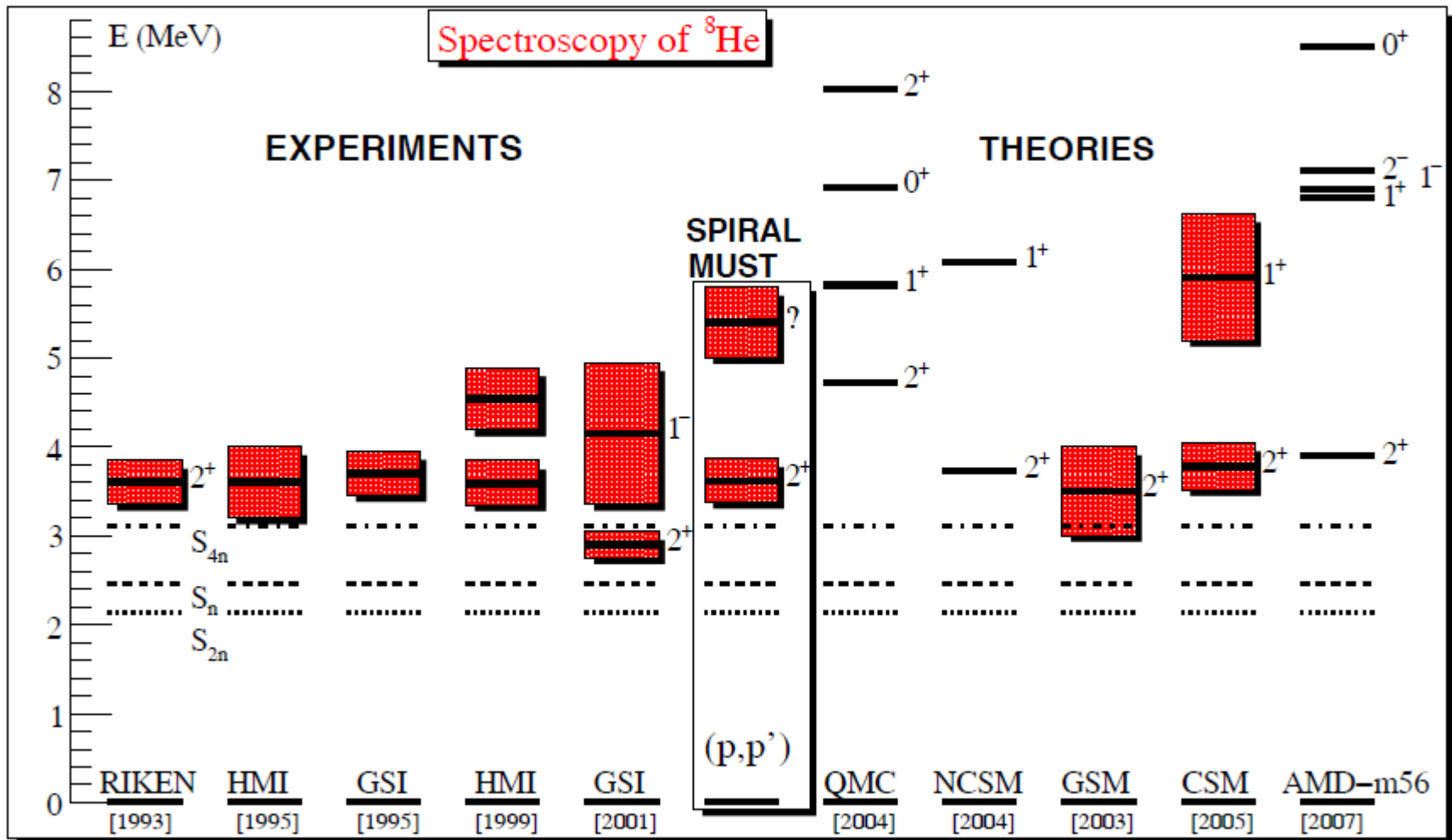


$S_{2n} = 2.14 \text{ MeV}$

# Excited States of $^8\text{He}$

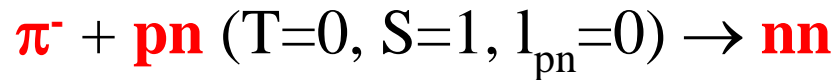
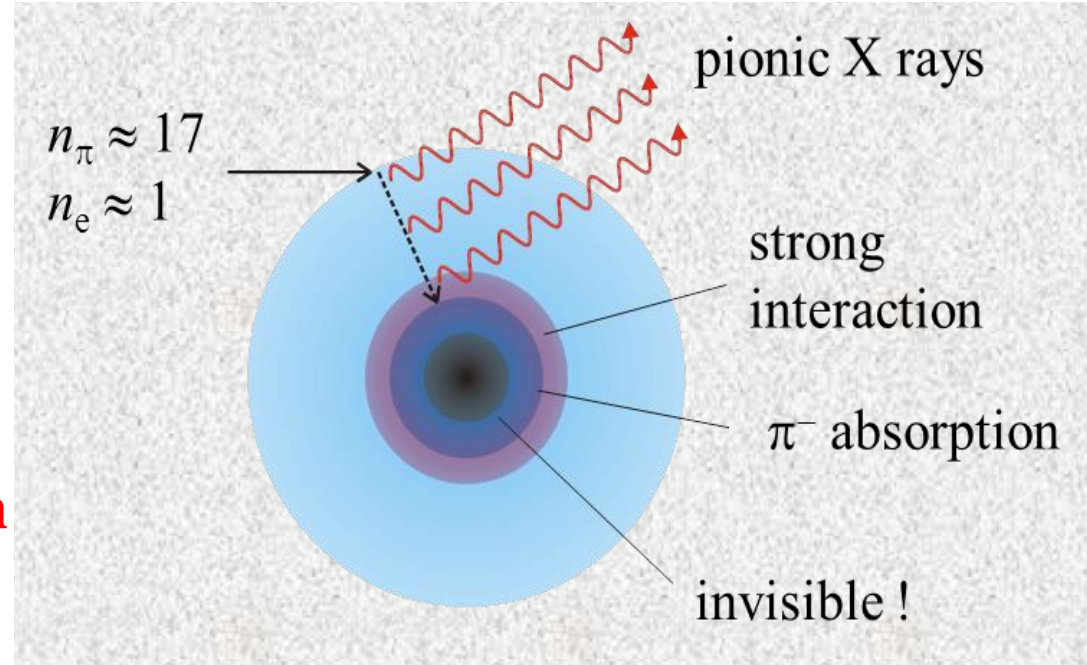
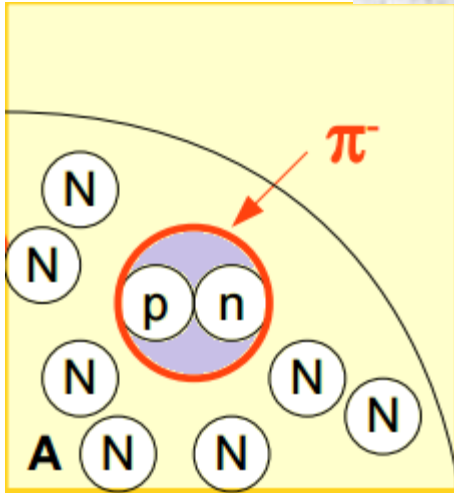
$E_x$ , MeV	$\Gamma$ , MeV	$J^P$	work, reaction
2.6 ÷ 3.6	~0.6	2 <sup>+</sup>	[1]
4.36(20)	1.3(5)	(1 <sup>-</sup> )	
(6.03(10))	0.15(15)		
7.16(4)	0.1(1)	(3 <sup>-</sup> )	
3.62(14)	0.3(2)	2 <sup>+</sup>	
5.4(5)	0.5(3)		
≈3		1 <sup>-</sup>	[3], (t,p)
3.6 ÷ 3.9	0.52 ÷ 0.82	2 <sup>+</sup>	
5.3 ÷ 5.5		1 <sup>+</sup>	
≈7.5			
2.99(2)	0.65(2)	2 <sup>+</sup>	
4.14(6)	1.25(5)		

- 1. Tilley D R, *et al.*, 2005 *Nucl. Phys. A* 745 155.
- 2. Scaza F *et al.*, 2007 *Nucl. Phys. A* 788 260c.
- 3. Golovkov M S *et al.*, 2009 *Phys. Lett. B* 672 22.
- 4. XIAO J *et al.*, 2012 *Chin. Phys. Lett.* 29 082501.

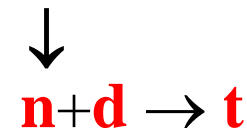
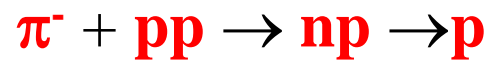


•Lapoux V and Alamanos N, 2015 *Europ. Phys. J. A* 51 91.

# Stopped pion absorption by nuclei – Tool for production of neutron-rich states



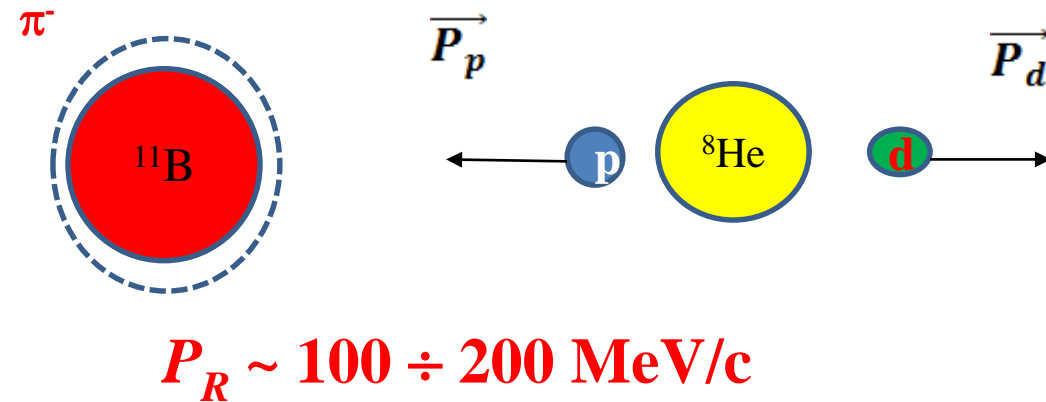
## Cluster absorption



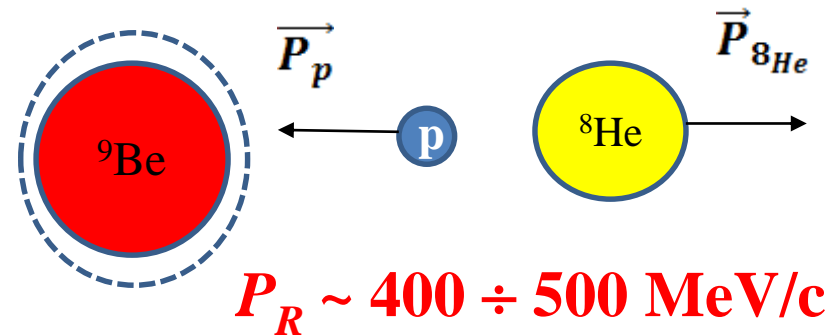
## Secondary pick-up

# Stopped pion absorption by nuclei – Tool for production of neutron-rich states

## Three-body channels



## Two-body channels





# Stopped pion absorption by nuclei – Tool for production of neutron-rich states *Advantages and disadvantages*

## Advantages of the method :

Formation of residual nuclei with large neutron excess  $N \gg Z$

The absence of errors due to the energy resolution and the angular divergence of the beam

$$E_0 = M_A + m_{\pi^-} - |B_{\pi}|; \quad P = 0$$

Large range of excited energy studied  $0 \leq E_x \leq 40 \text{ MeV}$

Opportunity to study a wide range of nuclei in a single experimental run

## Disadvantages of the method :

Lack of reliable theoretical models that describe the reactions studied

It is quite difficult to determine quantum numbers of the state studied



# Layout of spectrometer (LAMPF)

Beam	Target	Sizes and Impurities	Stop rate, 1/s	SCD- telescopes	Threshold(MeV)
$E_{\pi} = 30 \text{ MeV}$ ( $\Delta p/p = \pm 1\%$ )	${}^9\text{Be}$ ${}^{10,11}\text{B}$ ${}^{12,14}\text{C}$	Thickness – $25 \text{ mg/sm}^2$ , ( $135\mu\text{m}$ ), diameter – $26 \text{ mm}$ ,	$\sim 6 \cdot 10^4$	2 Si(Au) - $T=100, 450\mu\text{m}$ 14 Si(Li) - $T=3 \text{ mm}$ , $Wd \approx 0.1\text{mm}$ $S=8 \text{ mm}^2$ $\Omega=55 \div 15 \text{ mster}$	$E_p \approx 3.5$ , $E_d \approx 4$ , $E_t \approx 4.5$ , $E_{\text{He}} \approx 15$ .

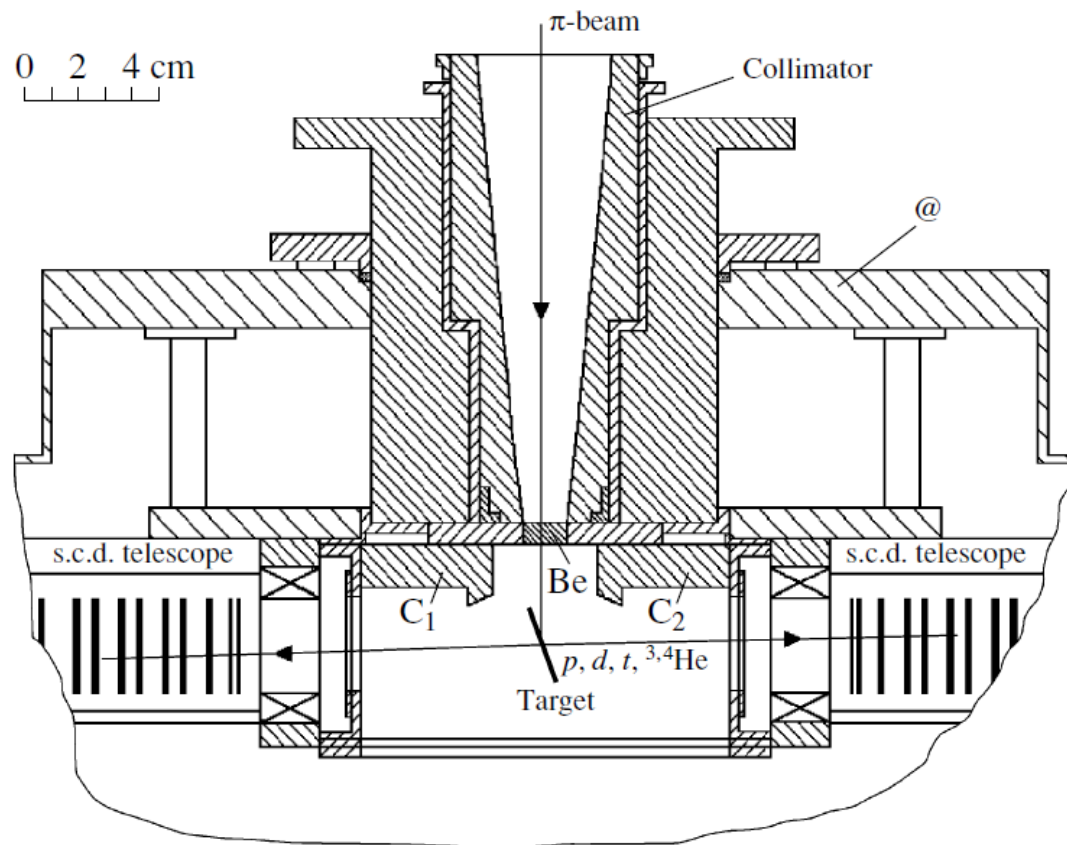
## FWHM

$\Delta E < 0.5 \text{ MeV}$  ( $Z=1$ )

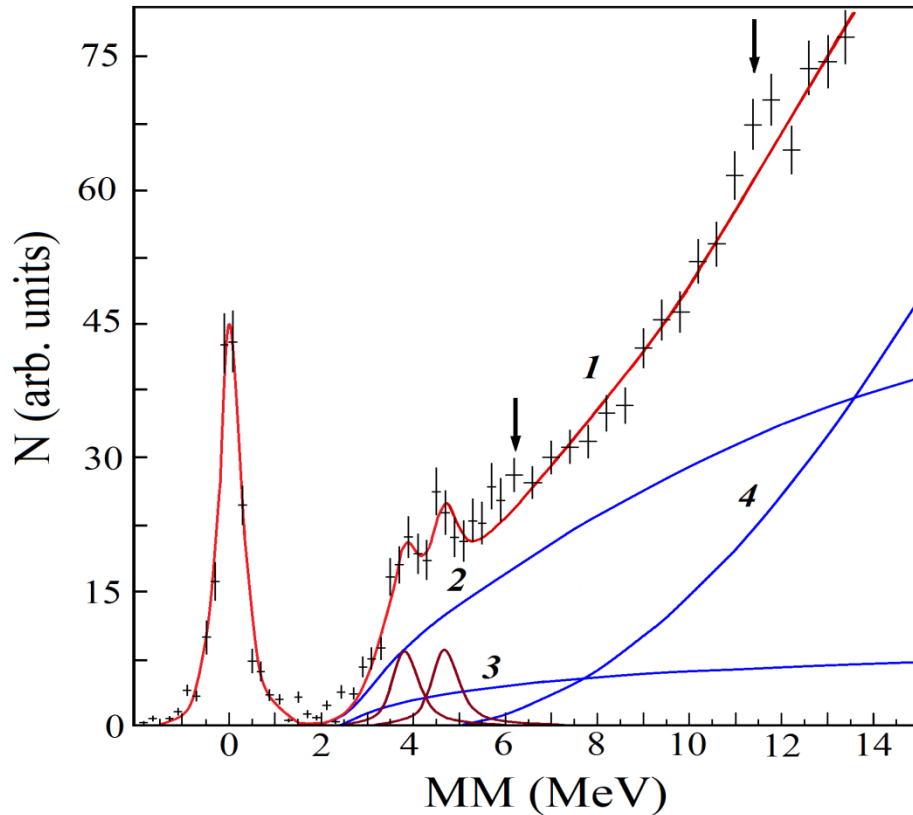
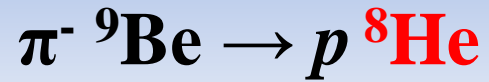
$\Delta E < 2.0 \text{ MeV}$  ( $Z=2$ )

$\Delta MM < 1 \text{ MeV}$  ( $Z_1=1, Z_2=1$ )

$\Delta MM < 3 \text{ MeV}$  ( $Z_1=1, Z_2=2$ )



# $^8\text{He}$ production on the $^9\text{Be}$ target



$E_x$ , MeV	$\Gamma$ , MeV
0.1(1)	0.1(1)
$3.9 \pm 0.2$	$\approx 0.5$
$4.6 \pm 0.3$	$\approx 0.5$

$E_x \approx 3 \text{ MeV}$  ???

$E_x \approx 6.5 \text{ MeV}$  ???

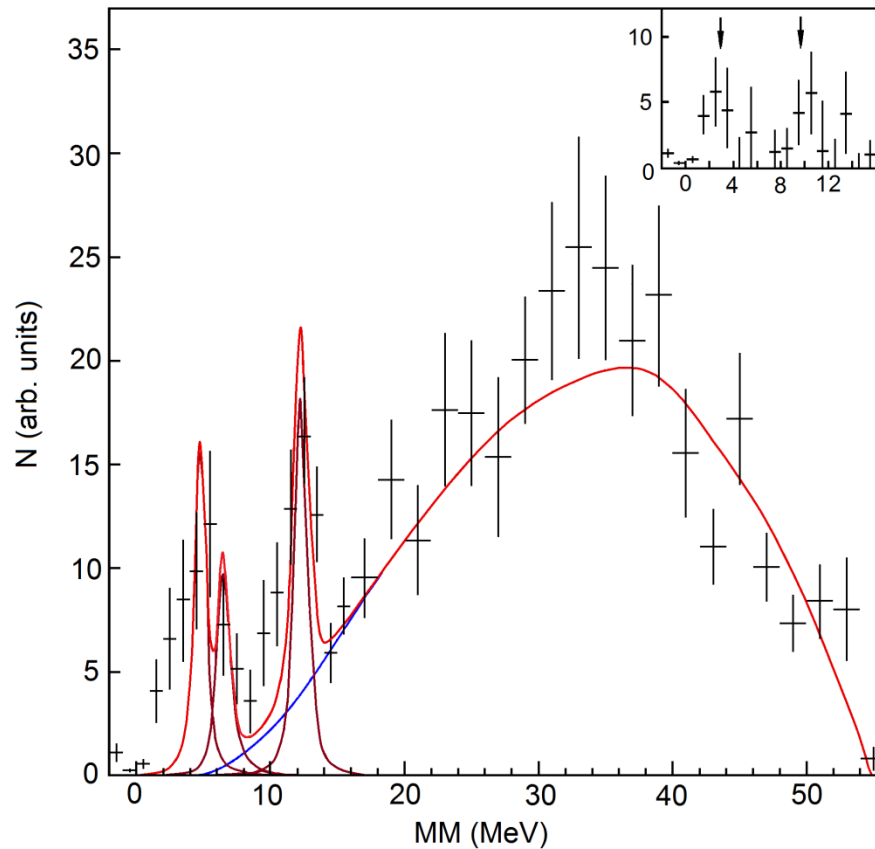
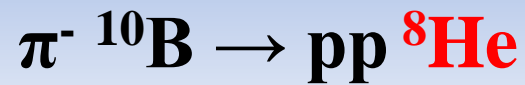
$E_x \approx 12 \text{ MeV}$  ???

2 - Phase volume  $\pi^- \text{}^9\text{Be} \rightarrow p + \text{}^6\text{He} + 2n$

3 - Phase volume  $\pi^- \text{}^9\text{Be} \rightarrow p + \text{}^7\text{He} + n$

4 - Phase volume  $\pi^- \text{}^9\text{Be} \rightarrow p + \text{}^6\text{He}^*(1.797) + 2n$

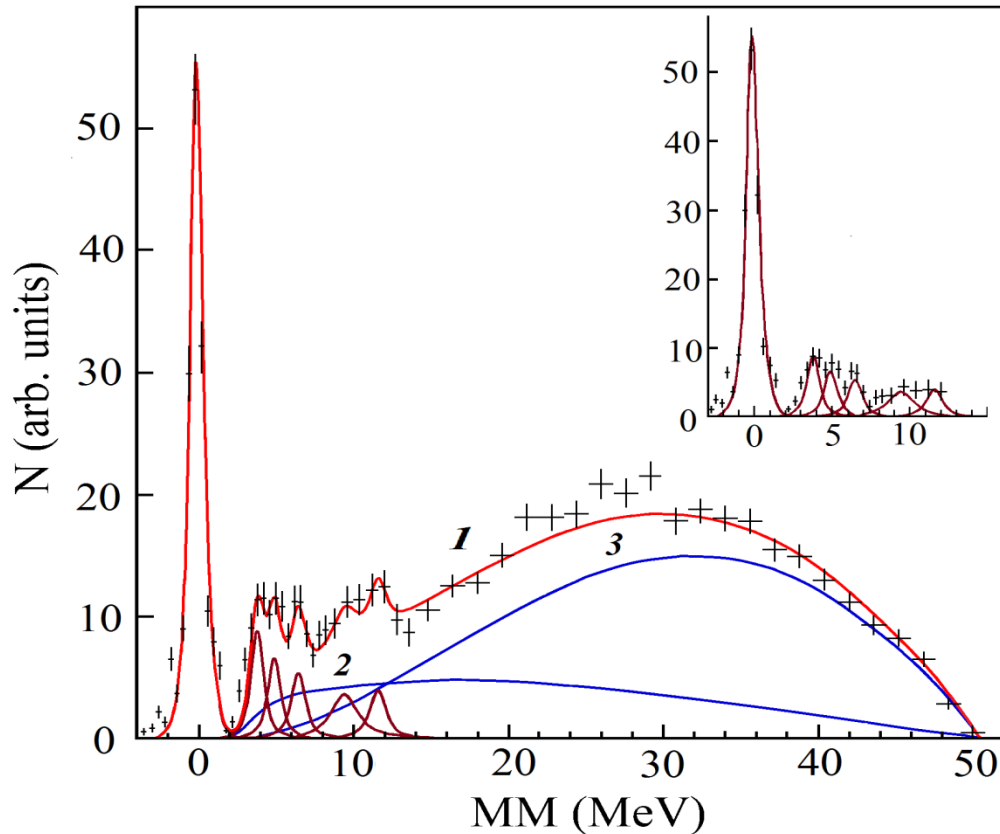
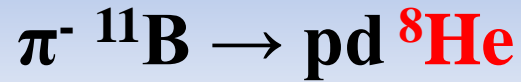
# ${}^8\text{He}$ production on the ${}^{10}\text{B}$ target



$E_x$ , MeV	$\Gamma$ , MeV
$\sim 3$	
$\approx 4.6$	$< 0.6$
$\approx 6.4$	$< 0.6$
$\sim 9.5$	
$12.2 \pm 0.5$	$0.8 \pm 0.3$

Phase volume  $\pi^- {}^{10}\text{B} \rightarrow \text{pp } {}^6\text{He}^*(1.8)2\text{n}$

# ${}^8\text{He}$ production on the ${}^{11}\text{B}$ target

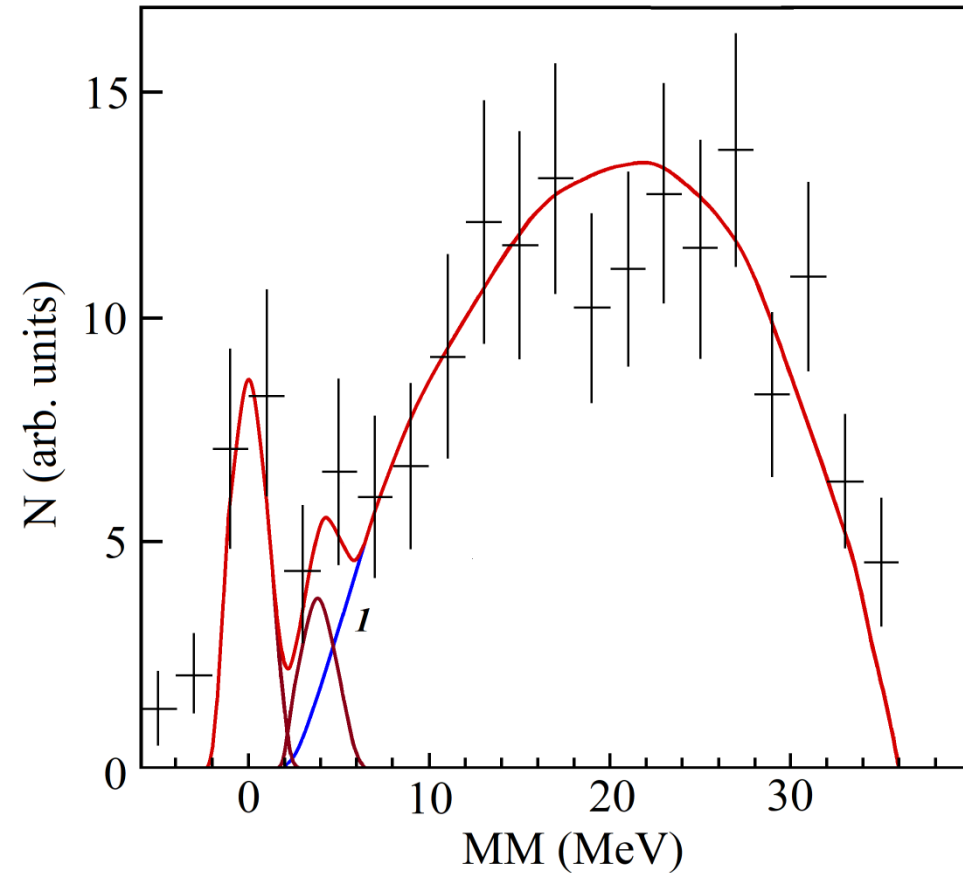
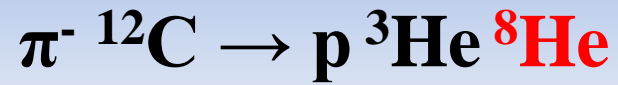


$E_x, \text{MeV}$	$\Gamma, \text{MeV}$
<b><math>0.1 \pm 0.1</math></b>	<b><math>0.1 \pm 0.1</math></b>
<b>3.9</b>	<b>0.5</b>
<b>4.6</b>	<b>0.5</b>
<b><math>6.4 \pm 0.2</math></b>	<b><math>0.6 \pm 0.3</math></b>
<b><math>9.3 \pm 0.4</math></b>	<b><math>1.7 \pm 0.3</math></b>
<b><math>11.5 \pm 0.3</math></b>	<b><math>0.8 \pm 0.3</math></b>

**2 - Phase volume  $\pi^- {}^{11}\text{B} \rightarrow \text{pd} {}^6\text{He} {}^2\text{n}$**

**3 - Phase volume  $\pi^- {}^{11}\text{B} \rightarrow \text{pd} {}^6\text{He}^*(1.8) {}^2\text{n}$**

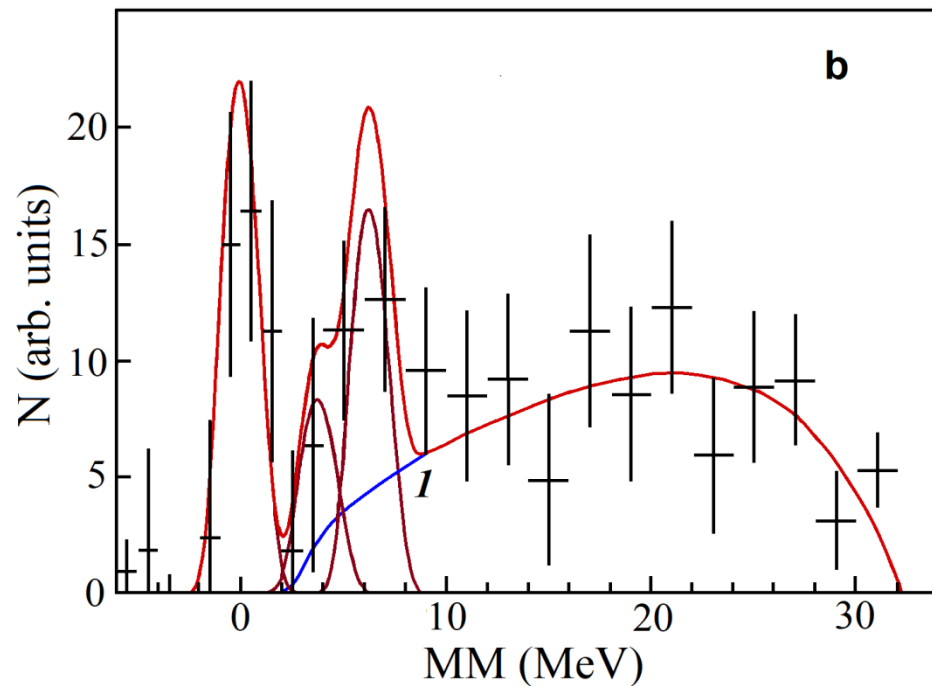
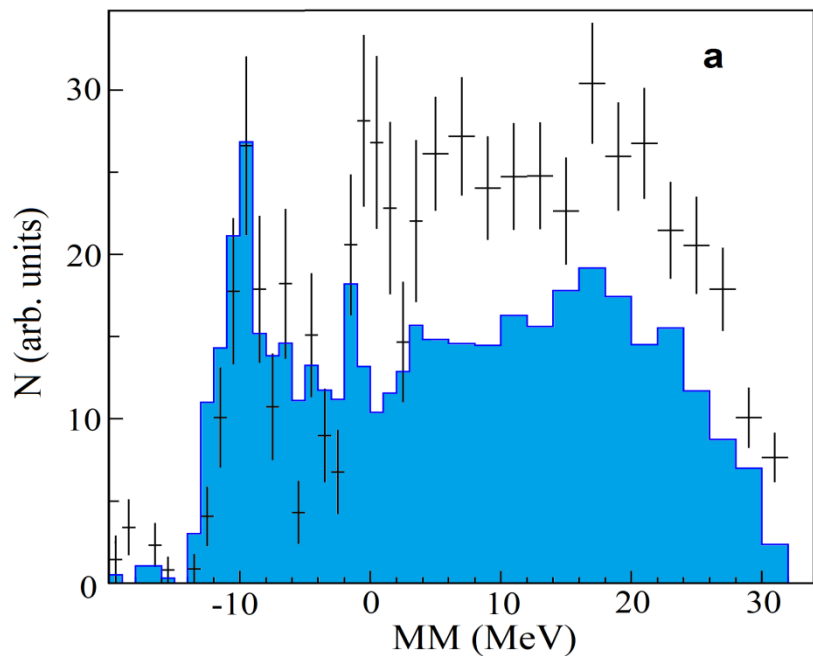
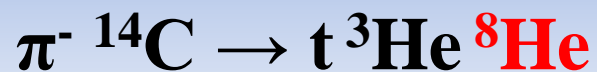
# ${}^8\text{He}$ production on the ${}^{12}\text{C}$ target



$E_x$ , MeV	$\Gamma$ , MeV
0.0(1)	<0.2
$\approx 3.9$	<1

1- total distribution by phase volumes

# ${}^8\text{He}$ production on the ${}^{14}\text{C}$ target

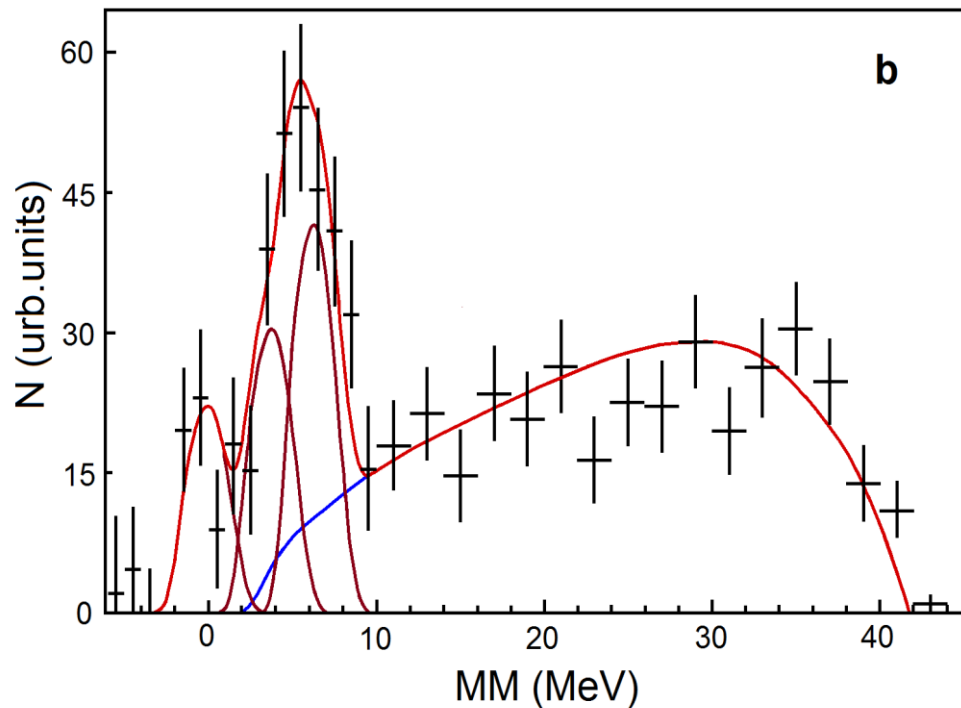
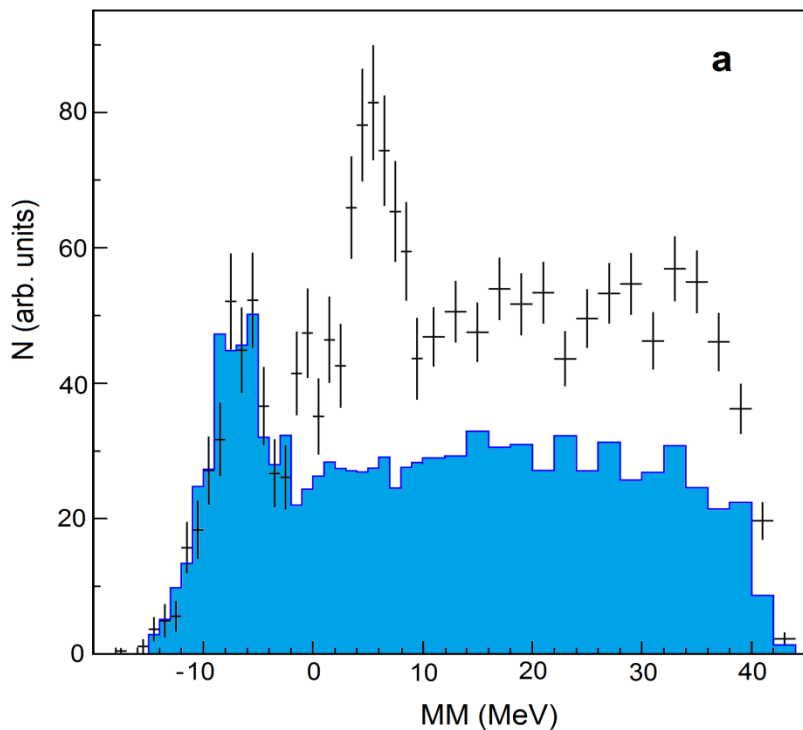


$E_x$ , MeV	$\Gamma$ , MeV
0.0(1)	<0.2
$\approx 3.9$	<1
$\approx 6.4$	<1

1- total distribution by phase volumes



# $^8\text{He}$ production on the $^{14}\text{C}$ target



$E_x$ , MeV	$\Gamma$ , MeV
<b>0.0(1)</b>	<b>&lt;0.2</b>
<b><math>\approx 3.9</math></b>	<b>&lt;1</b>
<b><math>\approx 6.4</math></b>	<b>&lt;1</b>

1- total distribution by phase volumes

# Excited States of $^8\text{He}$

$E_x$ , MeV	$\Gamma$ , MeV	$J^P$	work, reaction
2.6 ÷ 3.6	~0.6	$2^+$	[1]
$\approx 3$	~0.6	$(1^-), (2^+)$	[3], [4]
$\approx 3$ ???			$\pi^- \text{}^9\text{Be} \rightarrow p \text{}^8\text{He}$ $\pi^- \text{}^{10}\text{B} \rightarrow pp \text{}^8\text{He}$
3.6 ÷ 3.9	$\approx 0.5$	$2^+$	[2, 3]
$3.9 \pm 0.2$	$\approx 0.5$		$\pi^- \text{}^9\text{Be} \rightarrow p \text{}^8\text{He}$
$\approx 4.2$	1.2	$\approx (1^-)$	[1, 4]
$4.6 \pm 0.3$	$\approx 0.5$		$\pi^- \text{}^9\text{Be} \rightarrow p \text{}^8\text{He}$ $\pi^- \text{}^{10}\text{B} \rightarrow pp \text{}^8\text{He}$ $\pi^- \text{}^{11}\text{B} \rightarrow pd \text{}^8\text{He}$
5.4(5)	0.5(3)	$1^+$	[2, 3]
(6.03(10))	0.15(15)		[1]
$\approx 6.4$	~0.6		$\pi^- \text{}^{10}\text{B} \rightarrow pp \text{}^8\text{He}$ $\pi^- \text{}^{11}\text{B} \rightarrow pd \text{}^8\text{He}$ $\pi^- \text{}^{14}\text{C} \rightarrow t^3\text{He} \text{}^8\text{He}$ $\pi^- \text{}^{14}\text{C} \rightarrow d^4\text{He} \text{}^8\text{He}$
7.16(4)	0.1(1)	$(3^-)$	[1, 3]
$9.3(4)$	$1.7(3)$		$\pi^- \text{}^{10}\text{B} \rightarrow pp \text{}^8\text{He}$ $\pi^- \text{}^{11}\text{B} \rightarrow pd \text{}^8\text{He}$
$12.2(3)$	$0.8(3)$		$\pi^- \text{}^{10}\text{B} \rightarrow pp \text{}^8\text{He}$ $\pi^- \text{}^{11}\text{B} \rightarrow pd \text{}^8\text{He}$

# Conclusion

- The level structure of the heavy helium isotope  $^8\text{He}$  was experimentally determined in 6 channels of the reaction of the stopped pion absorption by  $^9\text{Be}$ ,  $^{10,11}\text{B}$ , and  $^{12,14}\text{C}$  nuclei.
- Data for low-lying states coincide with the results of other authors.
- An excess of events is observed near the decay threshold, which may be related to the soft dipole resonance predicted by the Dubna group.
- For the first time, highly excited levels were observed at  $E_x \approx 6.4, 9.3$  and  $12.2$  MeV.

**Thank you  
for your attention!**

