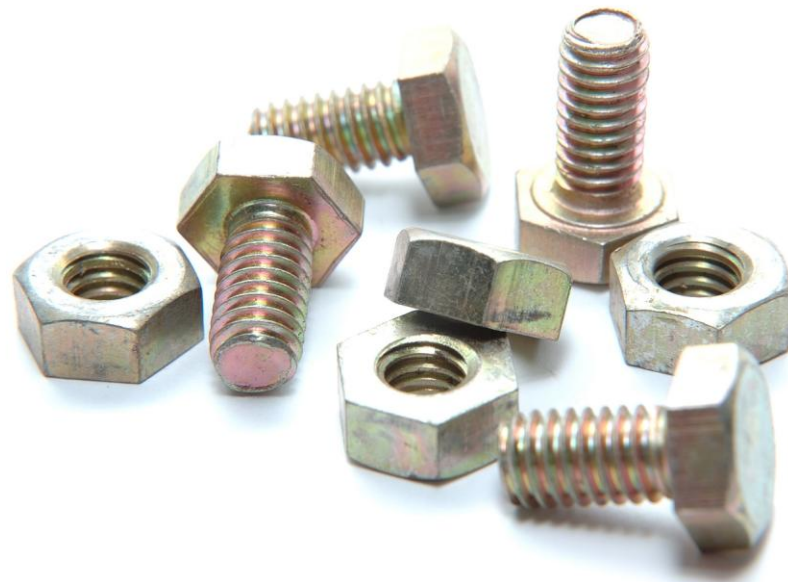


# Experimental Techniques I

Darek Seweryniak  
Argonne National Laboratory

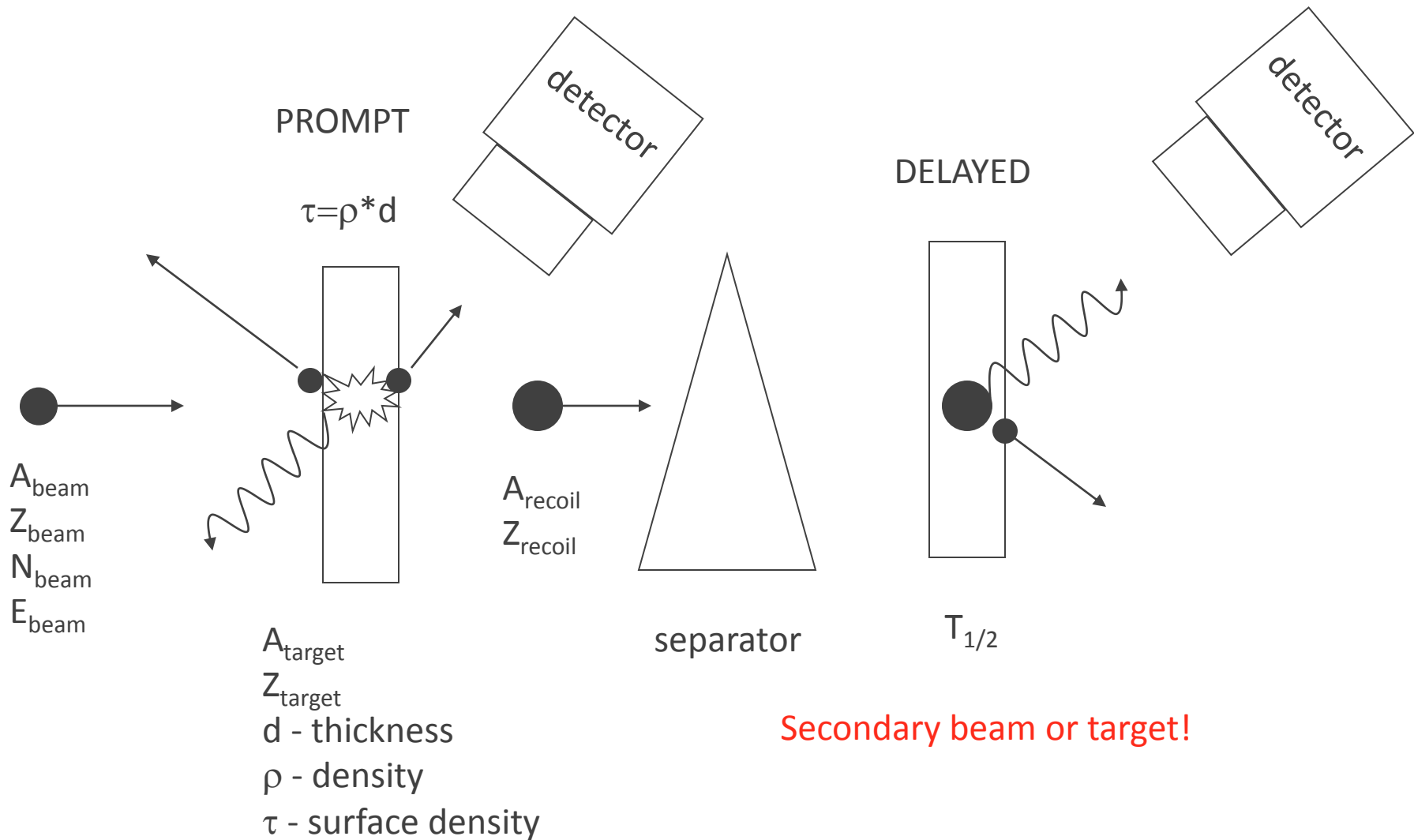


# Content

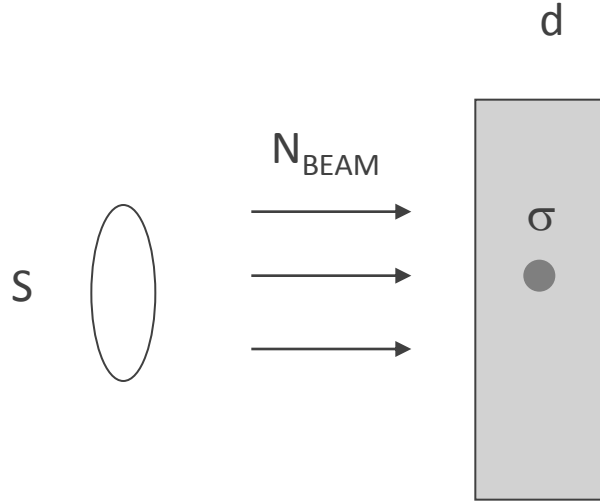
- Nuclear Physics Experiment
- Interaction of Particles with Matter
- Particle Detectors
- Signal Processing



# Nuclear Physics Experiment



# Cross section/Interaction length



$$n_{TARGET} = \frac{N_{TARGET}}{V}$$

$$n_{TARGET} = \frac{N_A}{A} \rho$$

$$N_{REACTION} = N_{BEAM} \frac{n_{TARGET} S d \sigma}{S}$$

$$[\sigma] = \text{barn} = 10^{-24} \text{cm}^2 = (10 \text{fm})^2$$

cross section

*outhouse* =  $1 \mu\text{b}$

*shed* =  $10^{-24} \text{b}$

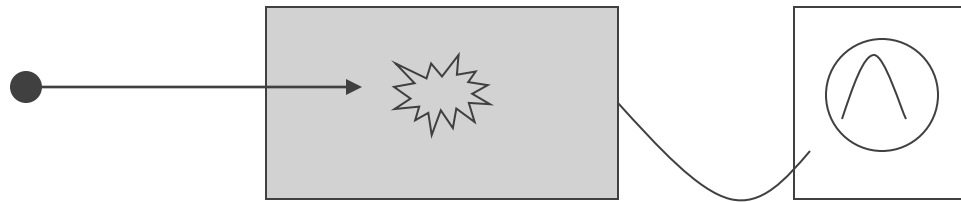
$$P(x) = e^{-n_{TARGET} \sigma x}$$

survival probability

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{n_{TARGET} \sigma}$$

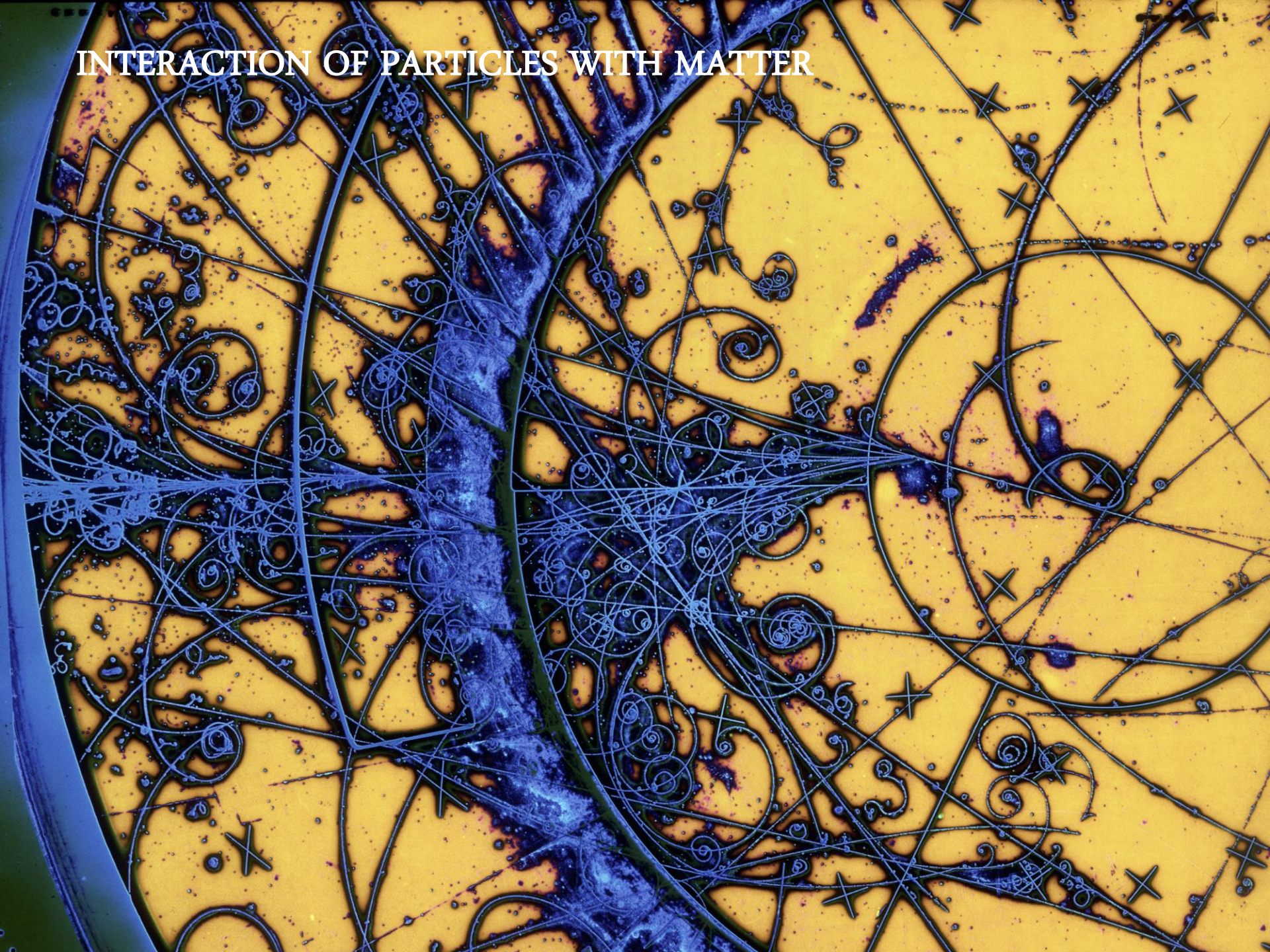
interaction length

# Particle detection



- Energy
- Time
- Position
- ID
- Direction
- Velocity
- Momentum
- Mass
- ...
- Energy resolution
- Time resolution
- Position resolution
- Efficiency
  - Intrinsic
  - Solid angle
- Count rates
- Radiation damage
- ...

# INTERACTION OF PARTICLES WITH MATTER

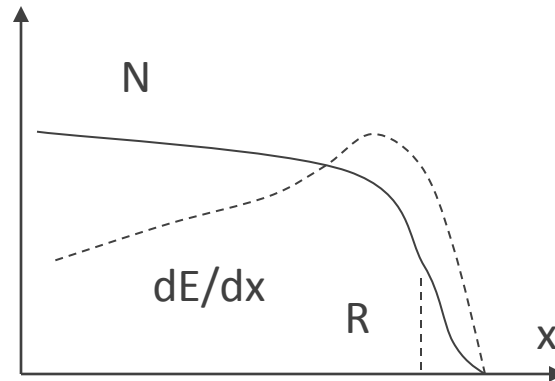
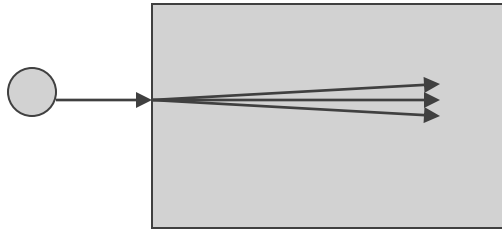


# Interaction of particles with matter

- Heavy charged particles : p, d, t,  $^3\text{He}$ ,  $\alpha$ , heavier nuclei
- Electrons/positrons: conversion electrons,  $\beta^- / \beta^+$  decay, pair production
- Gamma rays
- neutrons

# Heavy charged particles

Inelastic interactions  
with electrons



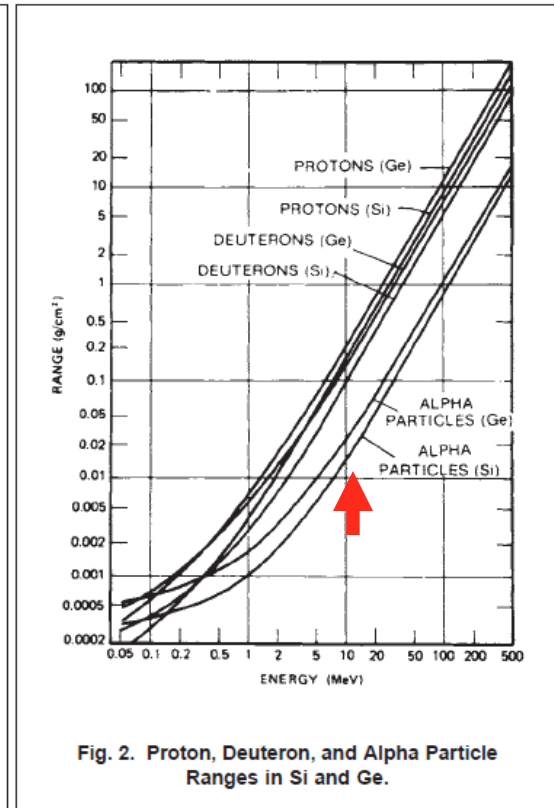
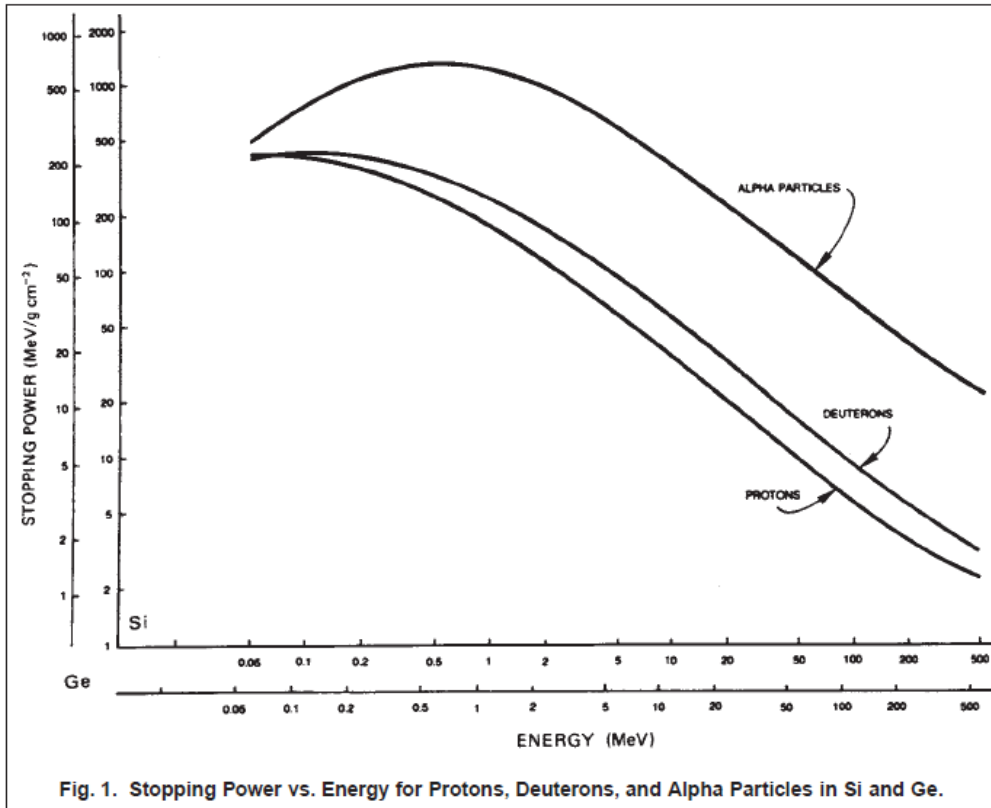
$$-\frac{dE}{dx} = \frac{4\pi e^4 z^2}{m_0 v^2} nZ \left[ \ln \frac{2m_0 v^2}{I} - \ln \left( 1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2} \right) - \frac{v^2}{c^2} \right] \quad \text{Bethe-Block formula}$$

$z$  – projectile atomic number  
 $v$  – projectile velocity  
 $m_0$  – electron mass  
 $e$  – electron charge

$n$  – target number density  
 $Z$  – target atomic number  
 $nZ$  – target electron density  
 $I$  – average excitation and ionization potential



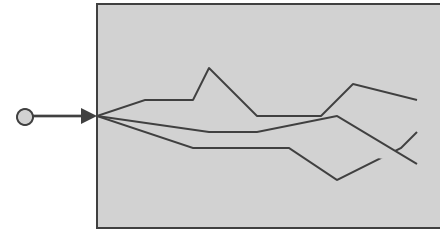
# Stopping Power and Range in Si and Ge



ORTEC detector catalog

# Electrons (positrons)

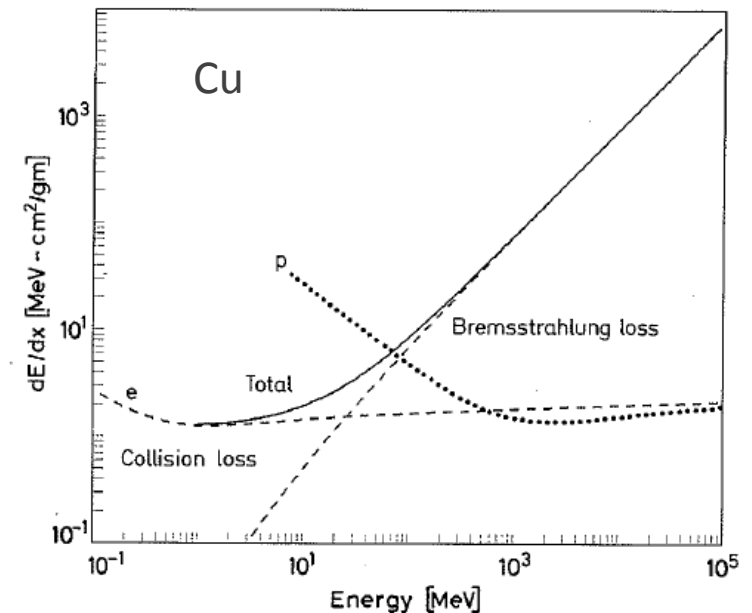
- Same interaction as for ions BUT lower mass
- Radiative energy loss – bremsstrahlung
- Backscattering



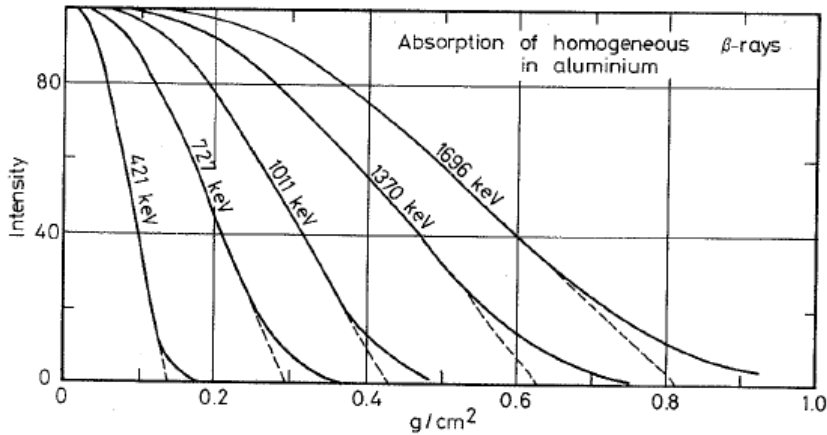
$$-\left(\frac{dE}{dx}\right)_c = \frac{4\pi e^4 z^2}{m_0 v^2} nZ \left[ \ln \frac{m_0 v^2 E}{2I^2(1-\beta^2)} - \dots \right]$$

$$-\left(\frac{dE}{dx}\right)_r = \frac{E(Z+1)e^4}{137m_0^2 c^4} nZ \left[ 4 \ln \frac{2E}{m_0 c^2} - \frac{4}{3} \right]$$

$$\frac{\left(\frac{dE}{dx}\right)_r}{\left(\frac{dE}{dx}\right)_c} \approx \frac{E[\text{MeV}]Z}{700}$$

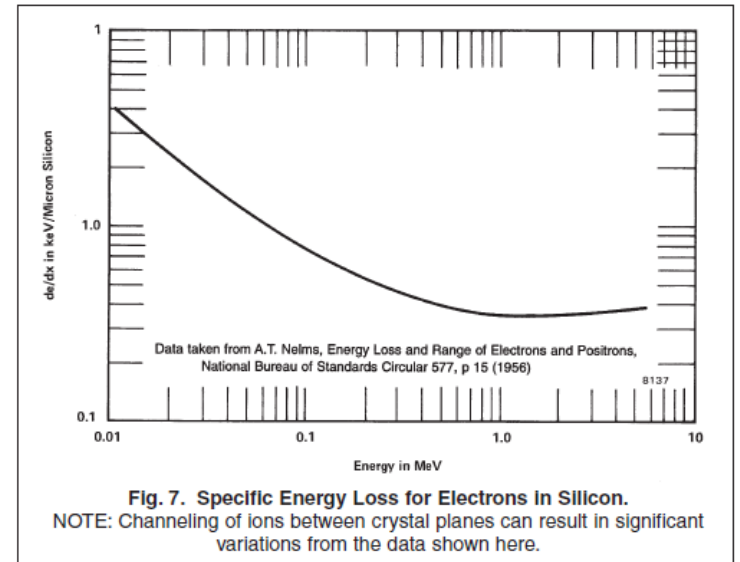
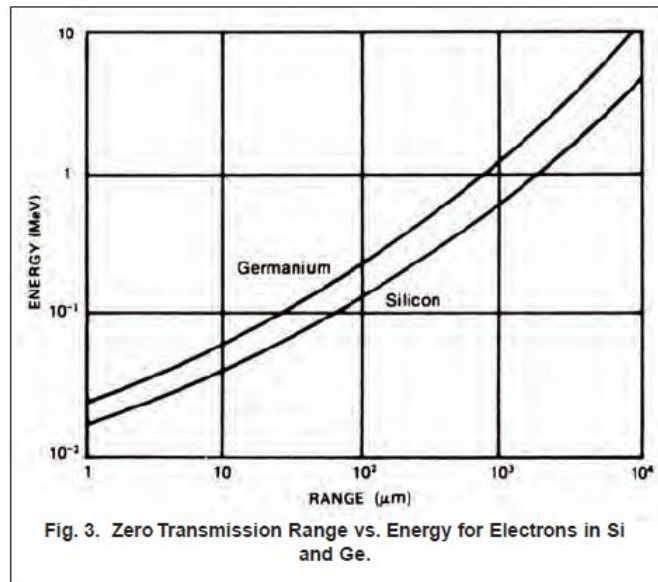


# Electron energy loss



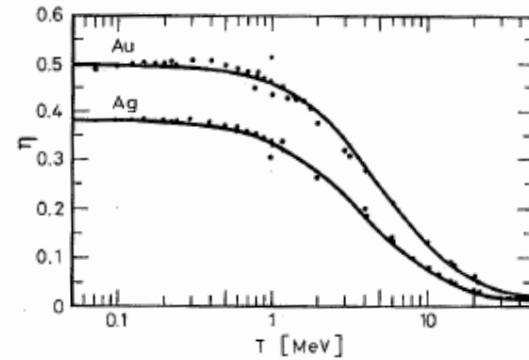
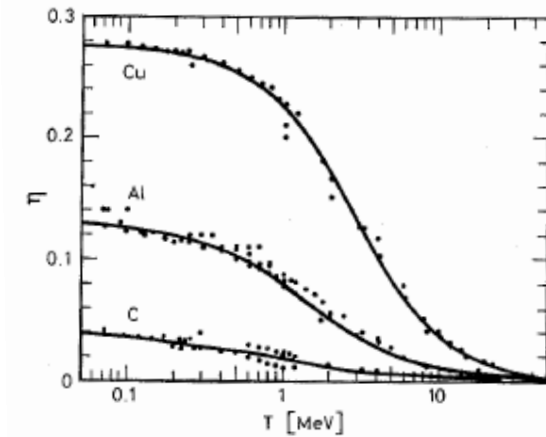
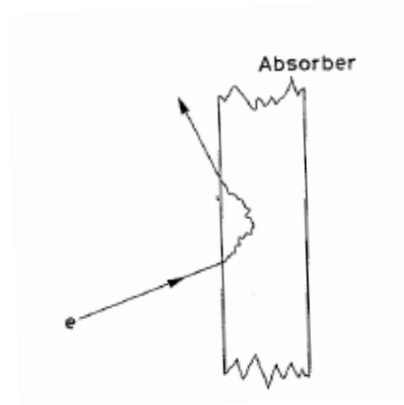
Range not defined well

100 keV -10 MeV – 0.5 keV/ $\mu$ m in Si



From ORTEC detector catalog

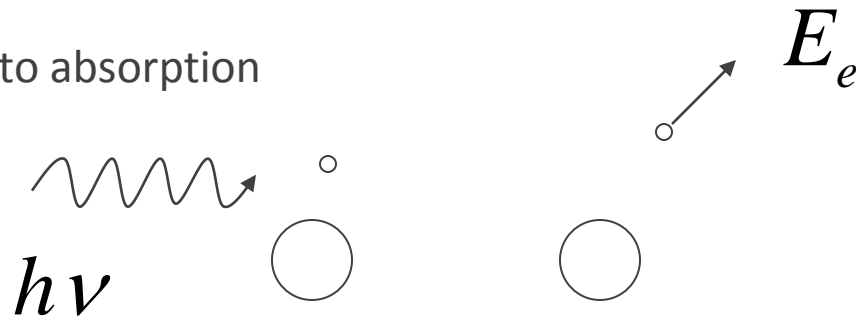
# Electron backscattering



Backscattered fraction

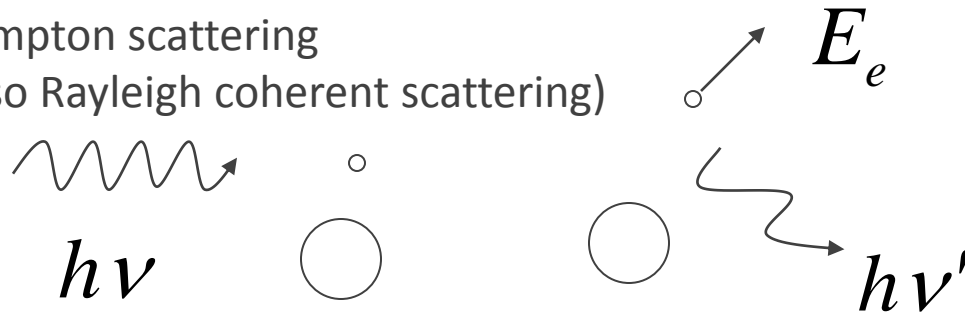
# Gamma rays

Photo absorption



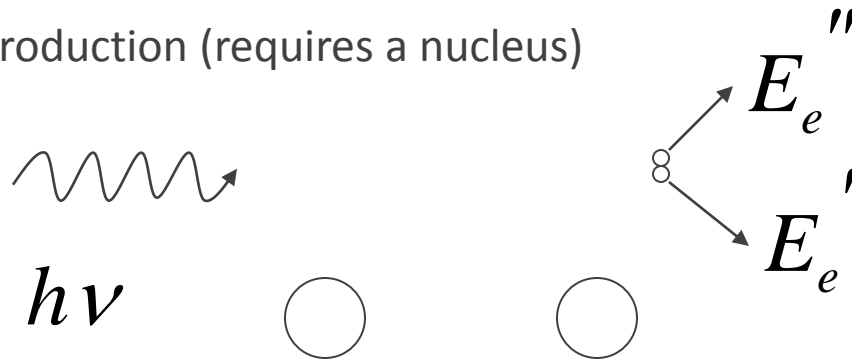
$$h\nu = E_e + B_e$$

Compton scattering  
(also Rayleigh coherent scattering)



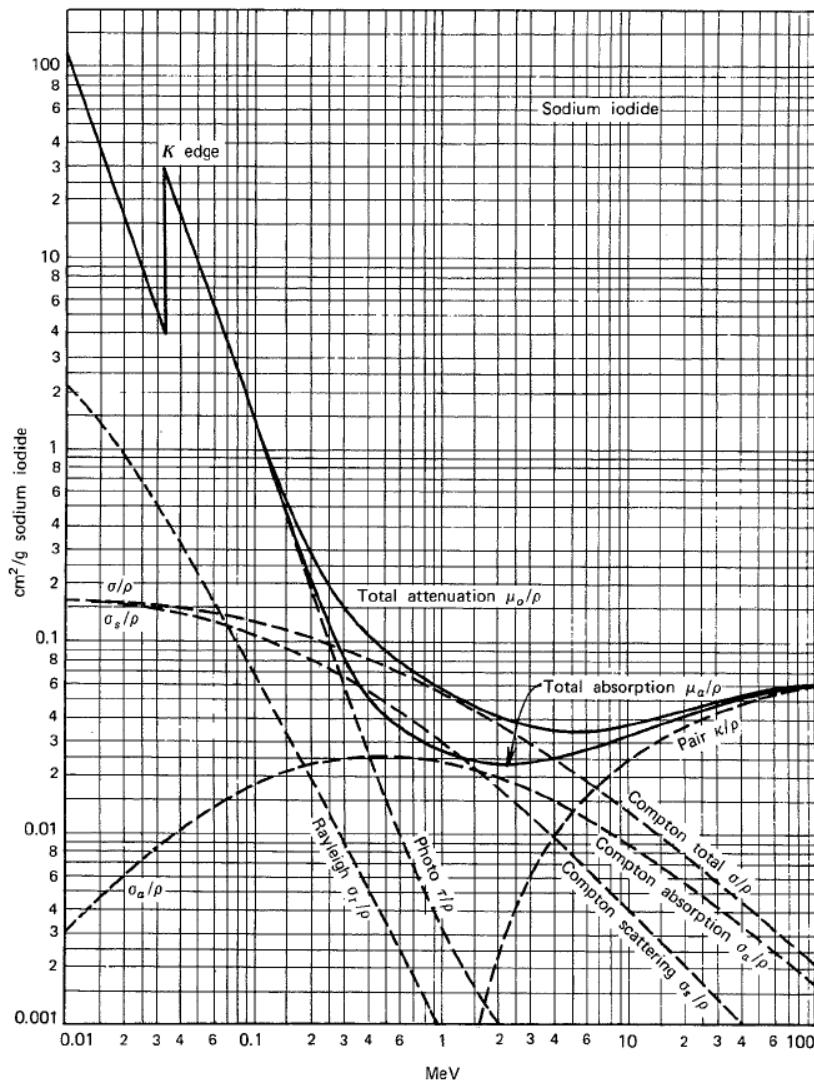
$$h\nu = E_e + B_e + h\nu'$$

Pair production (requires a nucleus)



$$h\nu = E_e'' + E_e' + 2m_0c^2$$

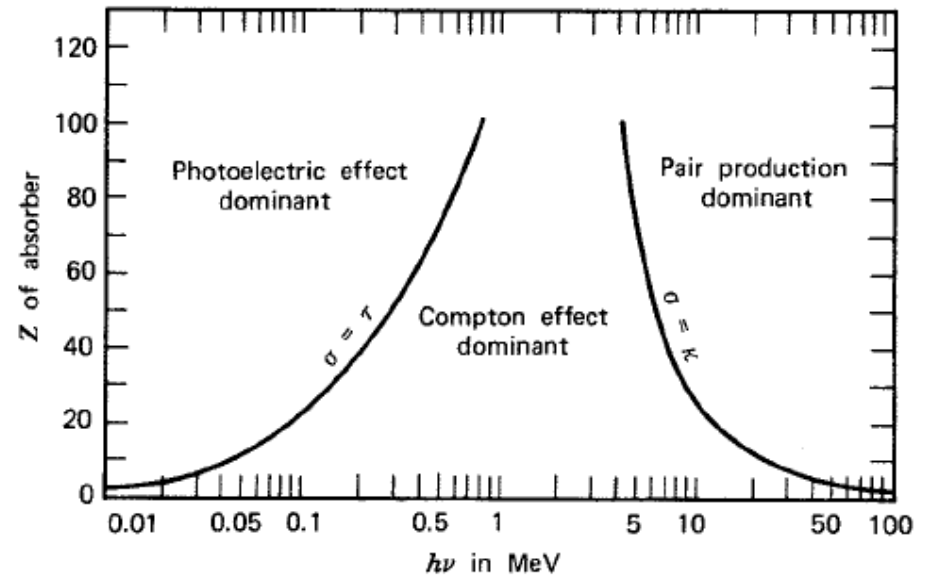
# Gamma-ray attenuation



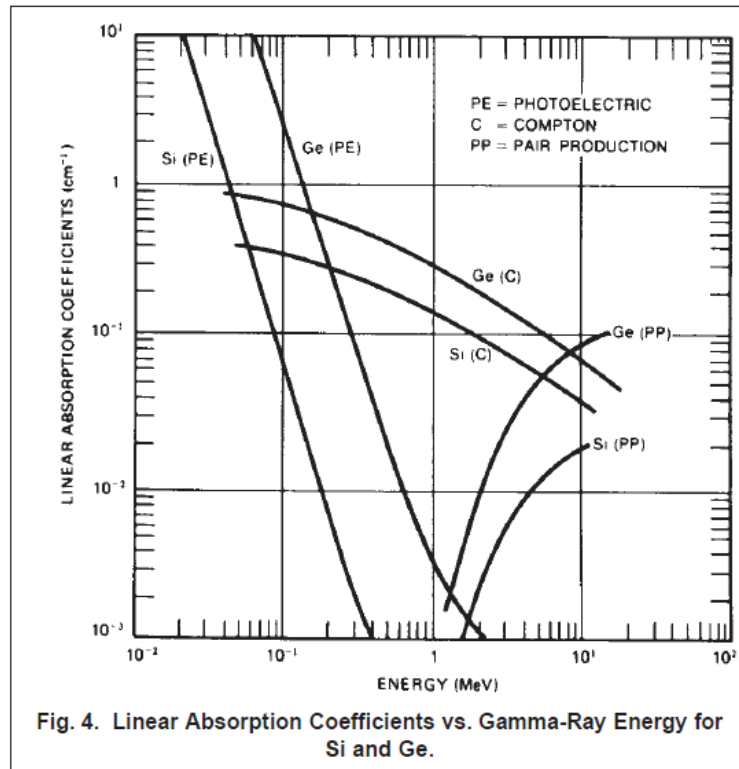
$$\sigma = \sigma_{COMPT} + \tau_{PE} + \kappa_{PAIR} + \sigma_R$$

$$I = I_0 e^{-\frac{\mu_0}{\rho} \tau} = I_0 e^{-\frac{N_A \sigma}{A \rho} \tau}$$

$\gamma$ -ray attenuation

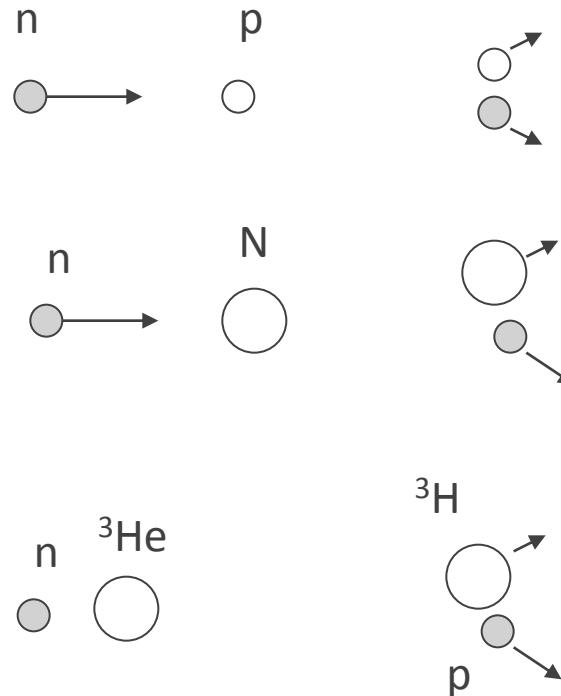


# Gamma-ray linear absorption coefficient



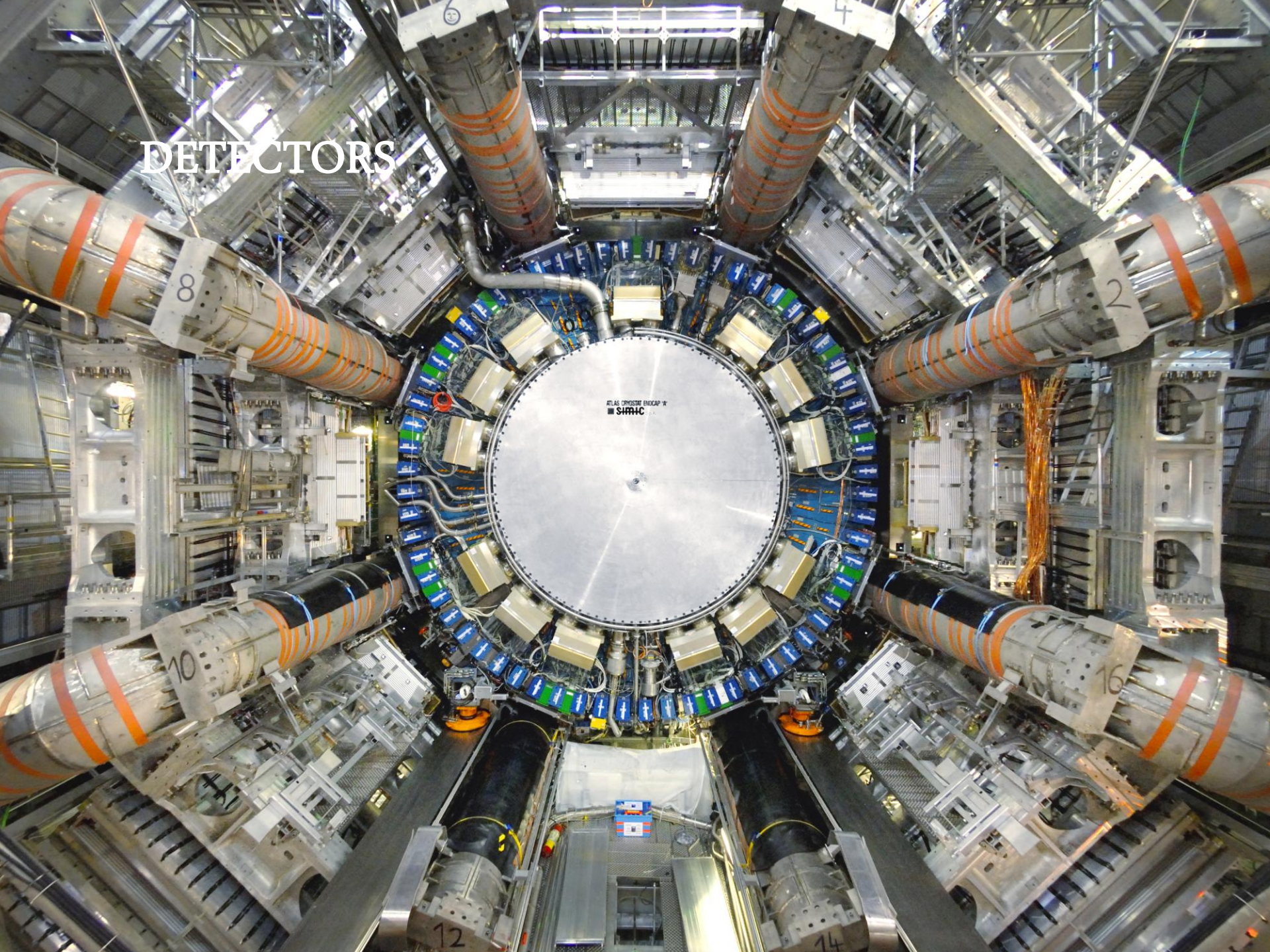
# Neutrons

- Fast neutrons
  - Scattering
  - Hydrogen most efficient
- Slow neutrons  $< 0.5$  eV
  - Scattering leads to thermalization (0.025 eV)
  - Nuclear reactions with positive Q value
    - $(n, \gamma)$
    - $(n, \alpha)$
    - $(n, p)$
    - $(n, f)$





# DETECTORS

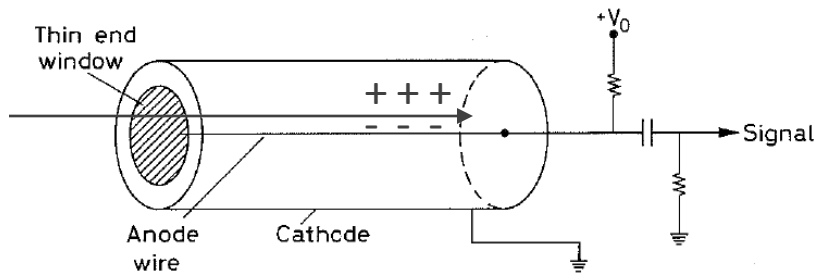


# Detectors

- Gas detectors
  - Ionization chamber
  - Multiwire proportional counter
  - Time projection chamber
- Scintillators
  - Organic
  - Non-organic
  - photomultipliers
- Semiconductor detectors
  - Si
  - Ge



# Modes of operation of a gas detector



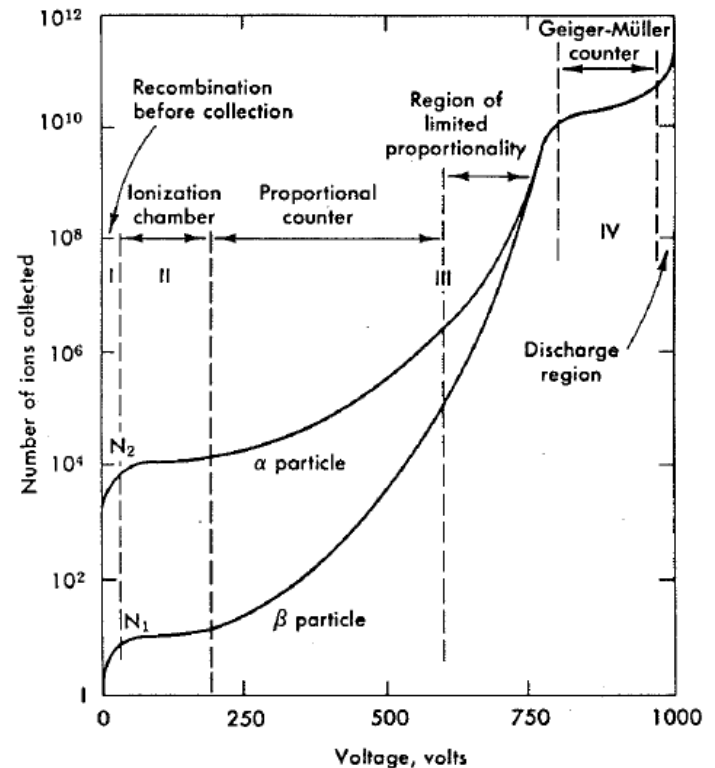
~30 eV mean energy for creating electron-ion pair

Ar

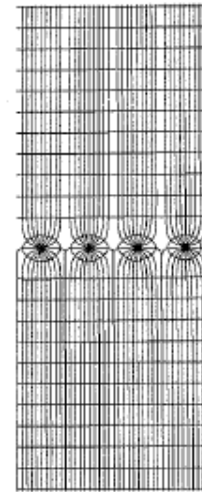
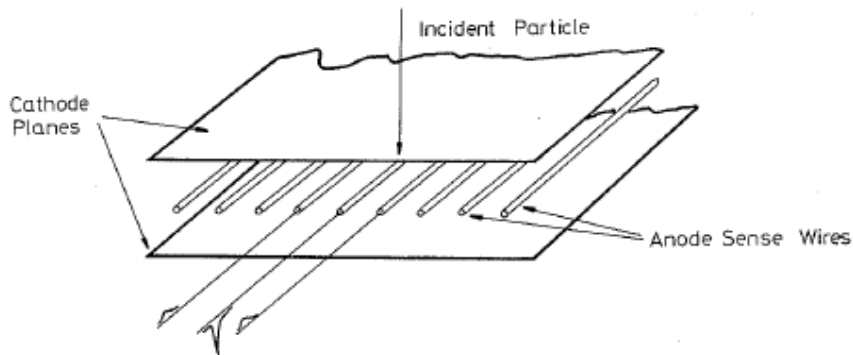
Ar90%+methane10%=P10

Isobutane

...



# Multiwire proportional counter



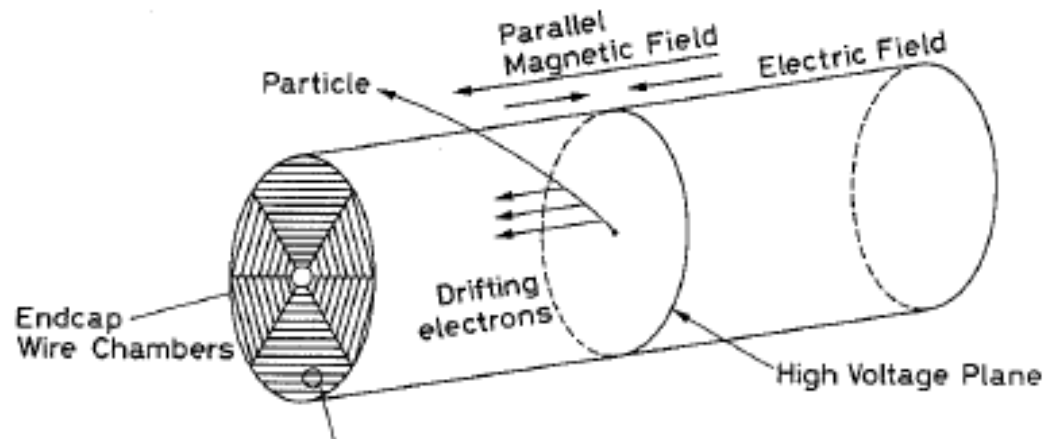
Electrons accelerated in very high electric field close to thin wires ionize more molecules leading to avalanche formation



The Nobel Prize in Physics 1992 was awarded to Georges Charpak *"for his invention and development of particle detectors, in particular the multiwire proportional chamber"*

# Time-projection chamber

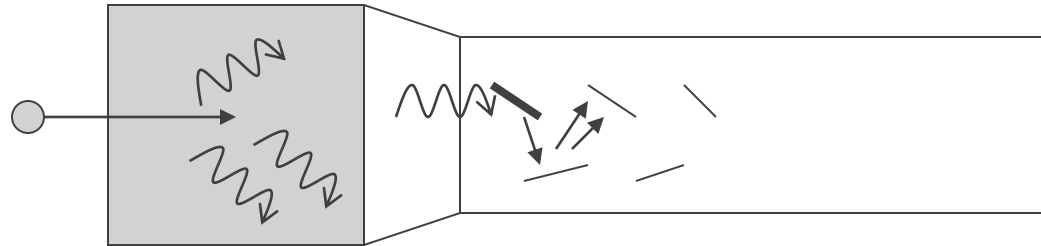
- x,y coordinates
- Drift time along magnetic field provides z-coordinate
- 3-dimensional imaging



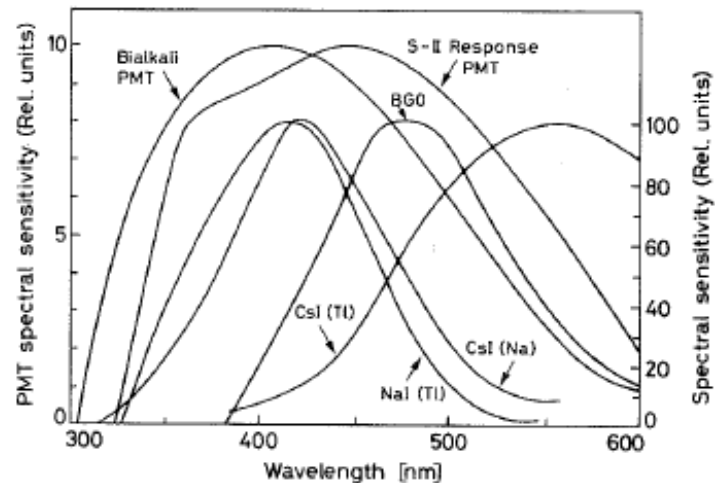
# Scintillator detectors

Charged particles excite molecules which deexcite by emitting light

- Organic
  - Plastics
  - Liquid
  - Crystals
- Non-organic
  - Crystals
- Light guides
  - Plastics

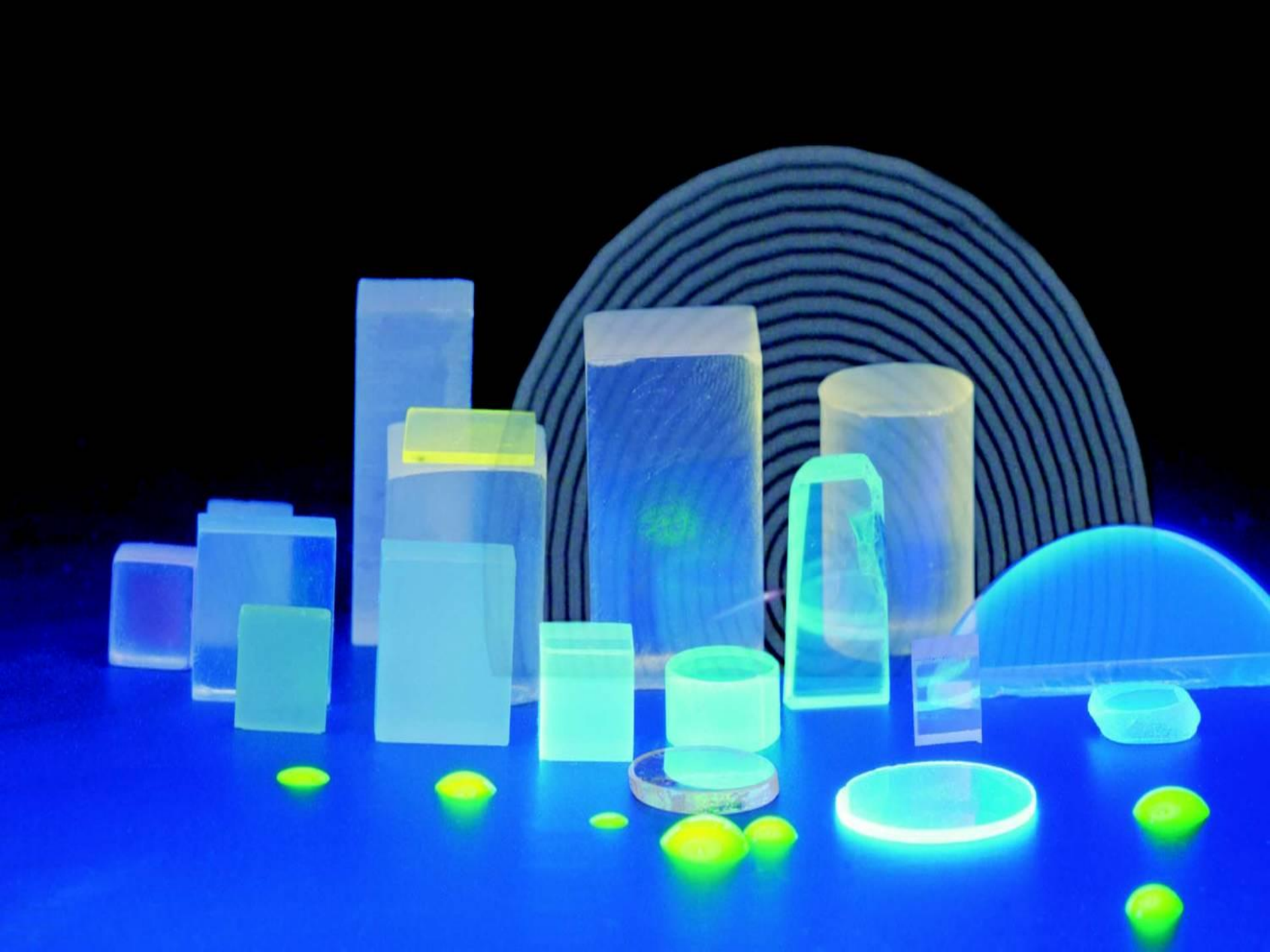


scintillator light guide photomultiplier



# Scintillators - comparison

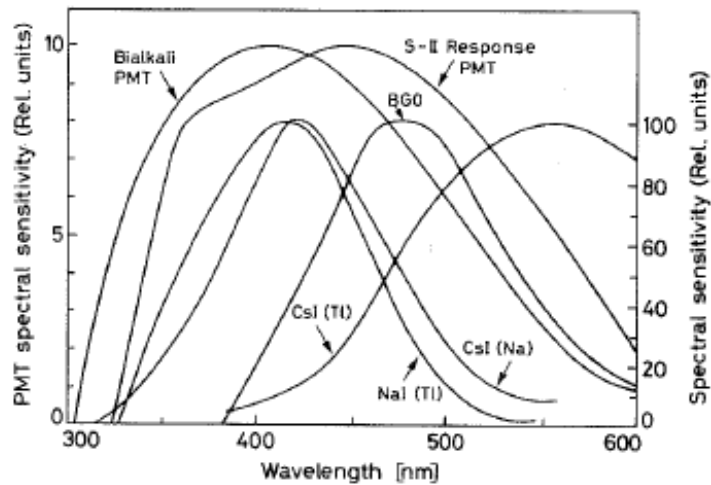
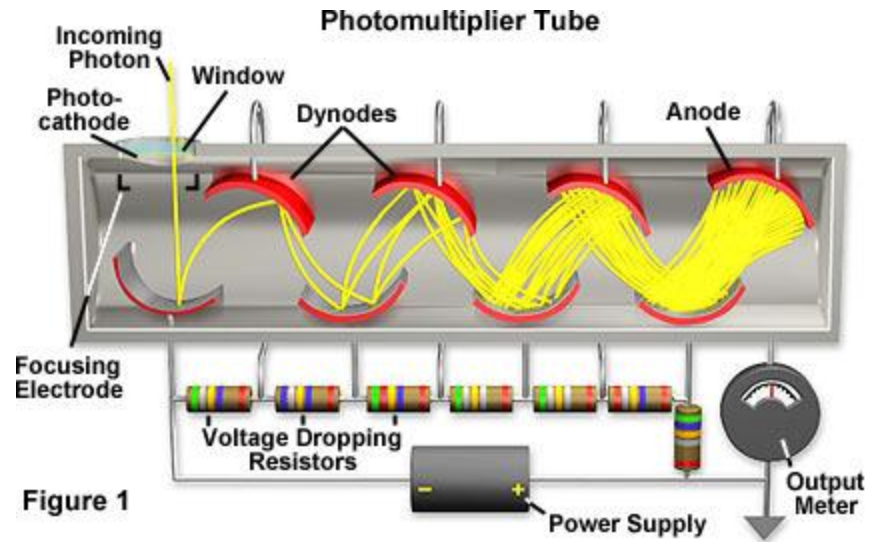
NE102A	plastic	1.03 g/cm <sup>3</sup>	10 ph/keV	2.4 ns	fast/inexpensive
NE213	liquid	0.87 g/cm <sup>3</sup>	13 ph/keV	3.7 ns	ny discrimination
NaI(Tl)	crystal	3.67 g/cm <sup>3</sup>	38 ph/keV	250 ns	dense Bright common
BaF <sub>2</sub>	crystal	4.88 g/cm <sup>3</sup>	10/1.8ph/keV	630/0.7 ns	fast
BGO	crystal	7.13 g/cm <sup>3</sup>	9 ph/keV	300 ns	dense
LaBr <sub>3</sub>	crystal	5.08 g/cm <sup>3</sup>	63 ph/keV	16 ns	dense bright fast

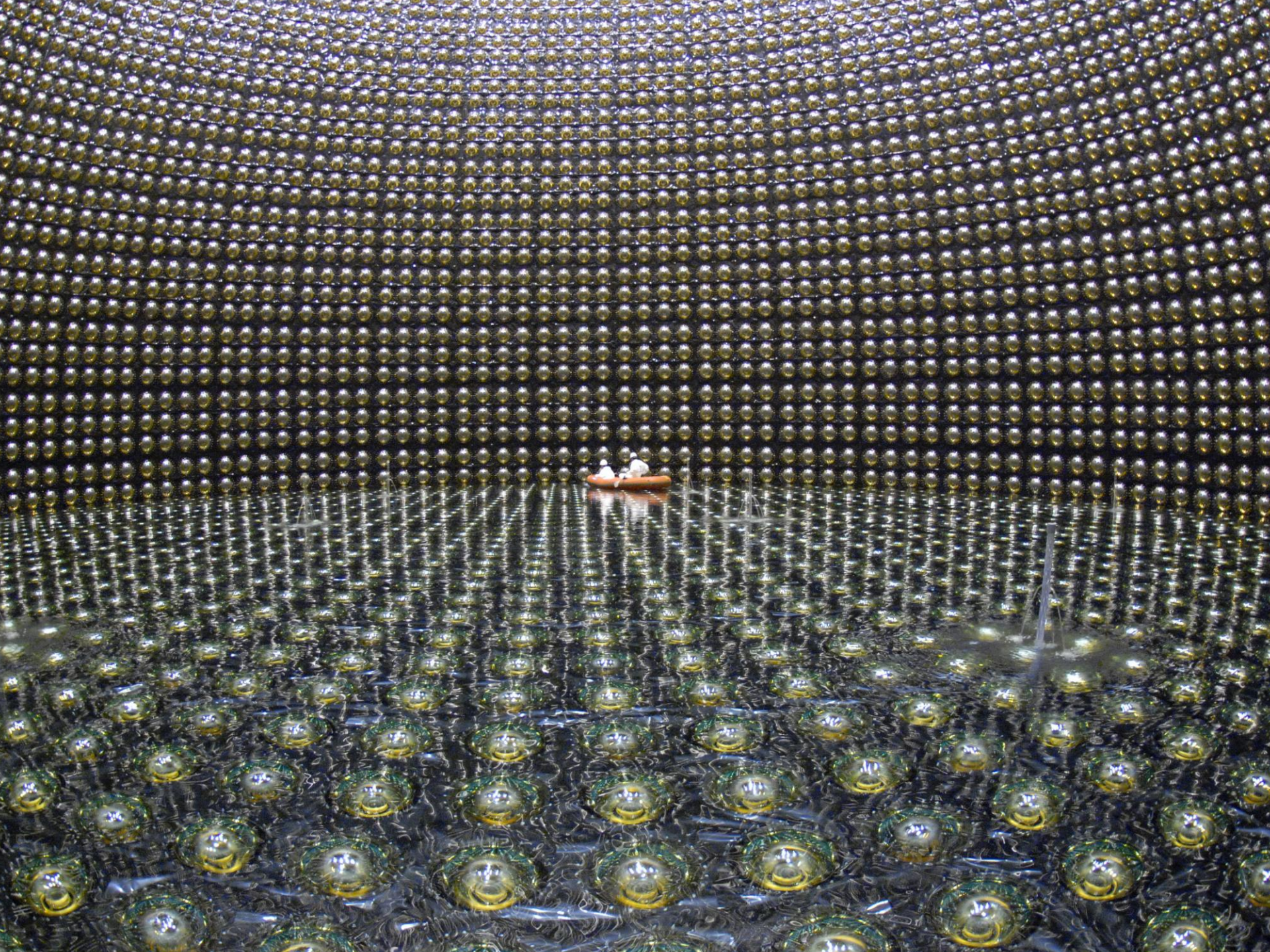




# Photomultiplier

- Photomultipliers
- Channel plates
- Photodiodes
- Avalanche photodiodes

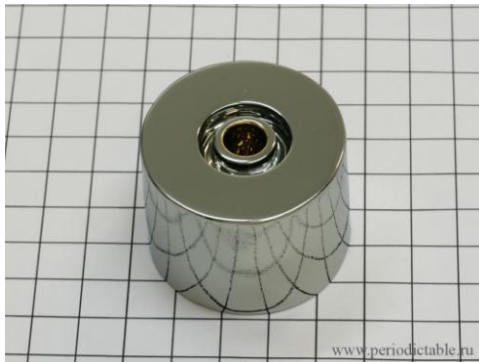
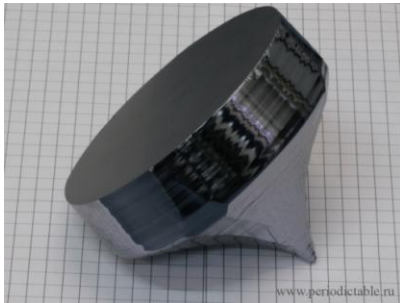




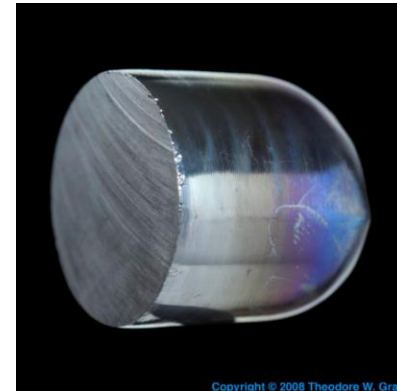
# Semiconductor detectors

- Dense
- Excellent energy resolution

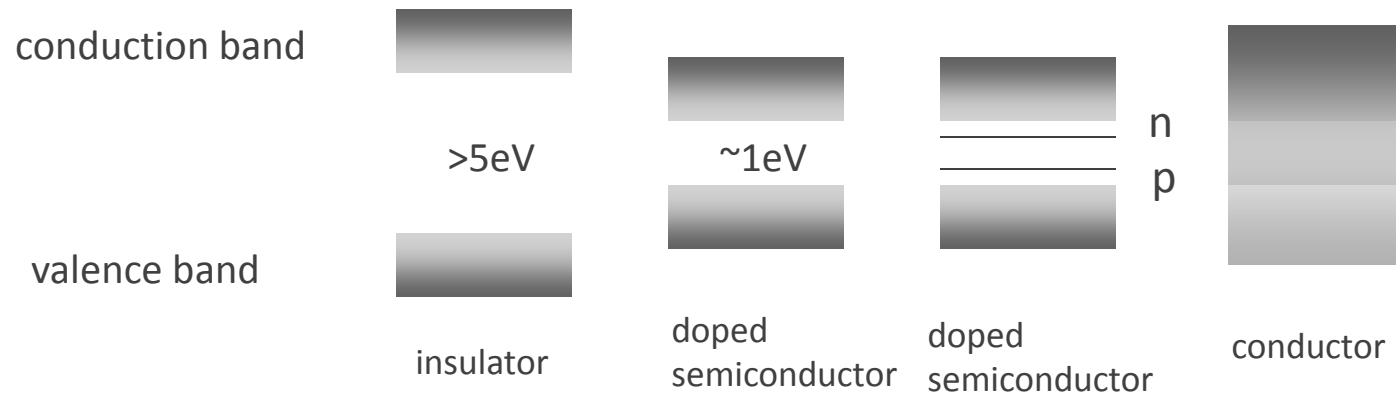
Germanium



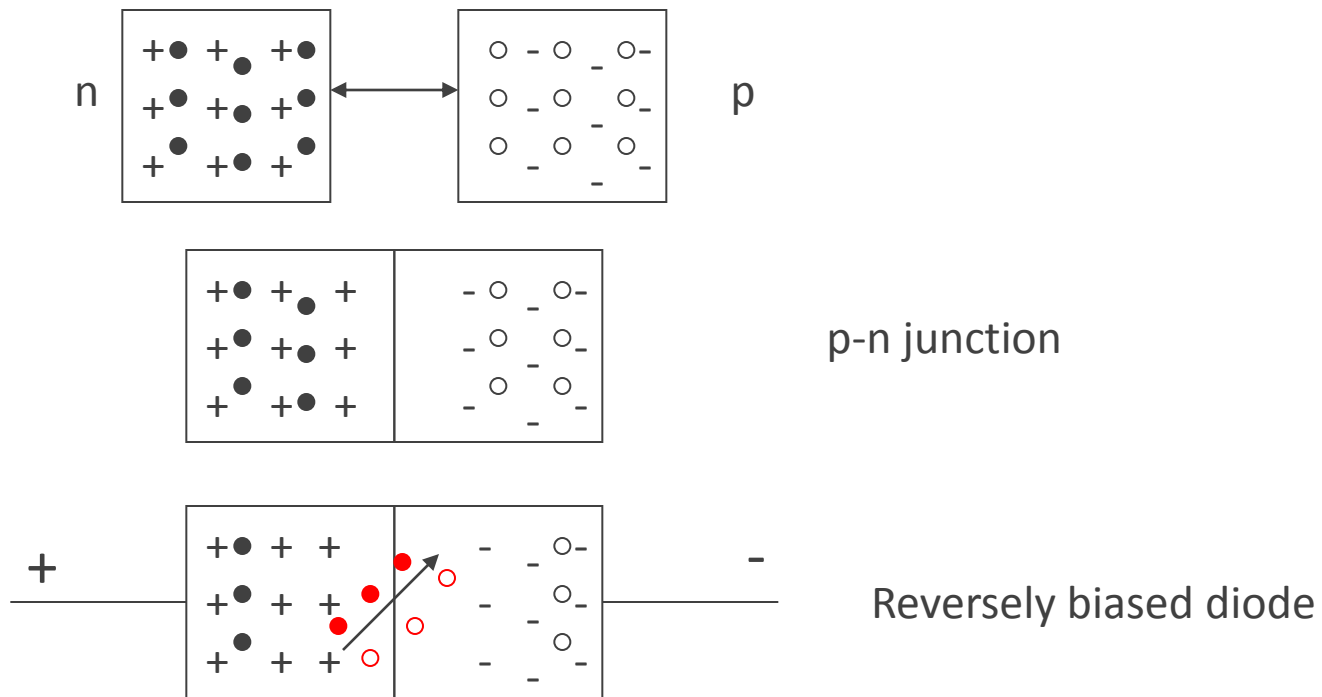
Silicon



# Band structure



# p-n junction

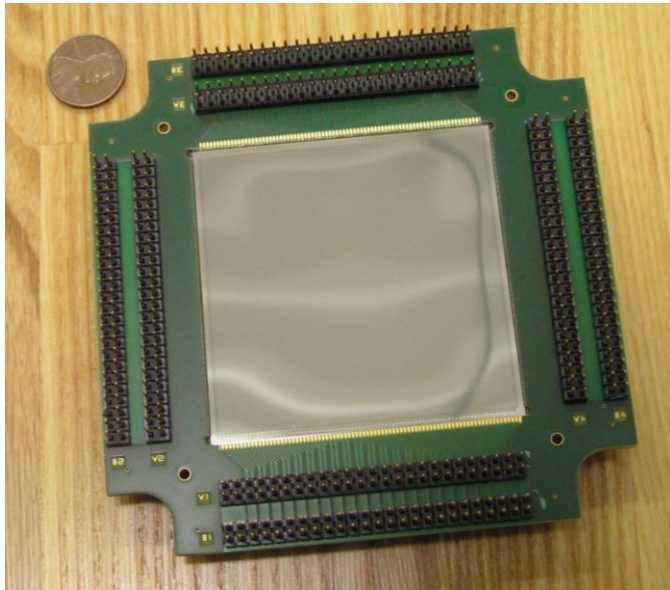


- + acceptor atom
- Donor atom
- Electron
- Hole

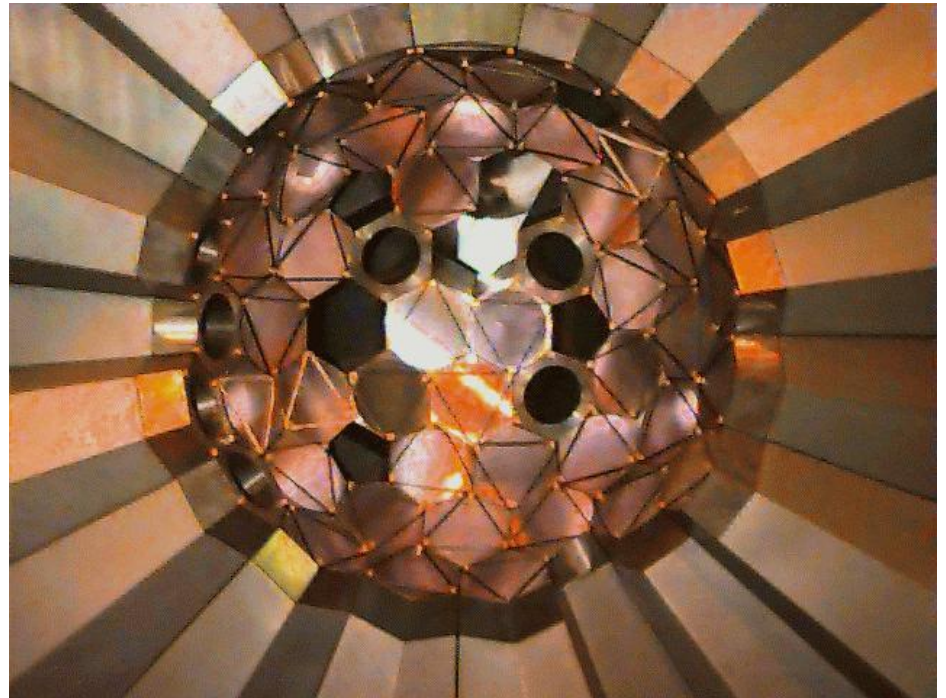
# Semiconductor detector comparison

material	Atomic number	density	gap	Energy per e-h pair	Temp	Comments
Si	14	2.33 g/cm <sup>3</sup>	1.1 keV	3.62 keV	300 K room	thin
Ge	32	5.32 g/cm <sup>3</sup>	0.7 keV	2.96 keV	77 K LN2	Excellent E large Expensive
CdTe	48/52		1.45 keV		300 K room	Small





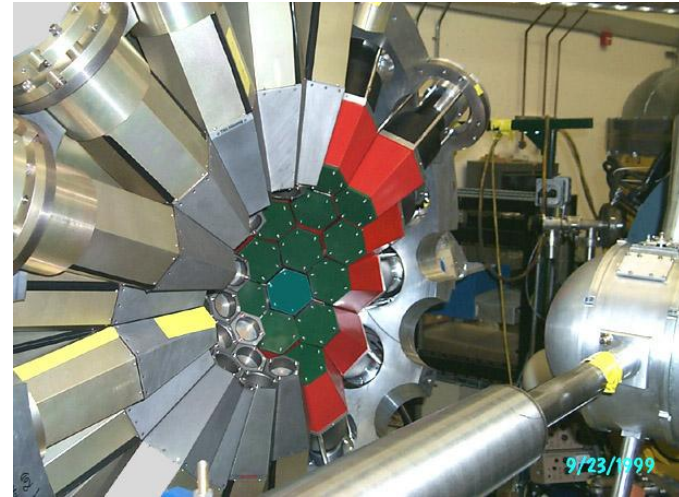
Double sided Si strip Detector



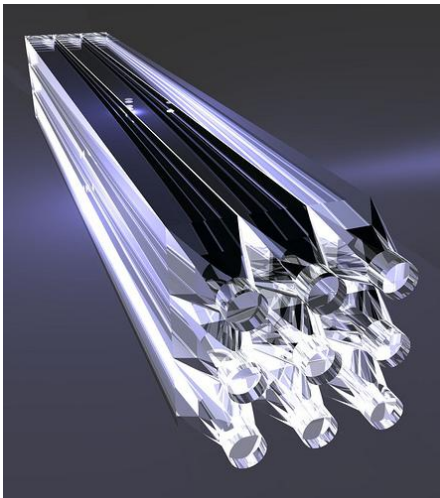
Ge detector arrays

# Neutron detectors

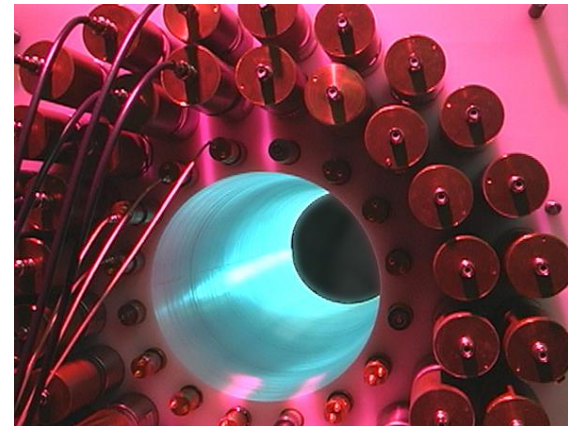
- Liquid scintillators
  - $n\gamma$  discrimination
  - no energy information
- Plastic detectors
  - Fast
  - TOF measurements
- $^3\text{He}$  detectors
  - Moderator
  - proportional  $^3\text{He}$  counter



Neutron Wall



Mona



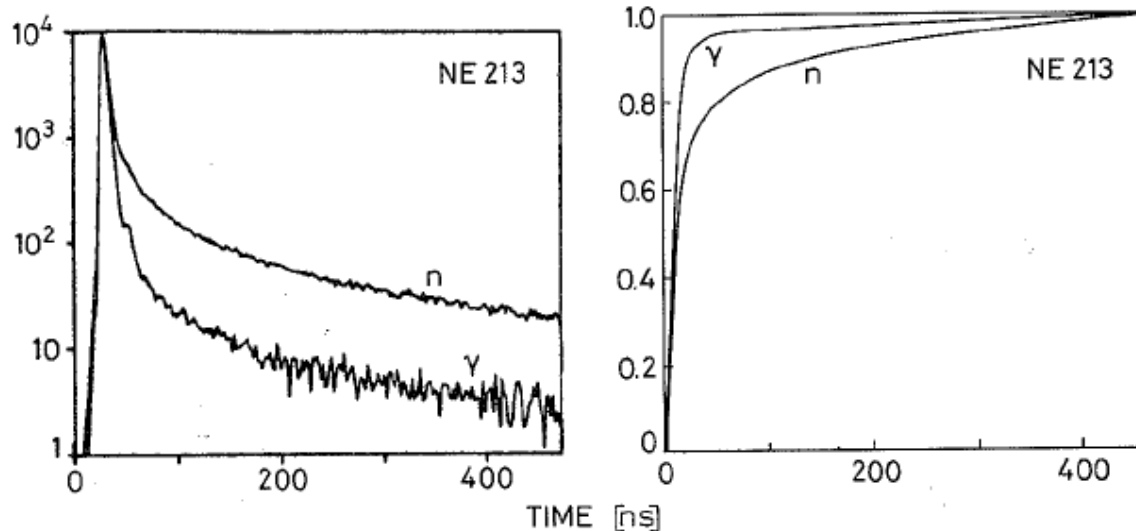
Nero



# Neutron-gamma discrimination

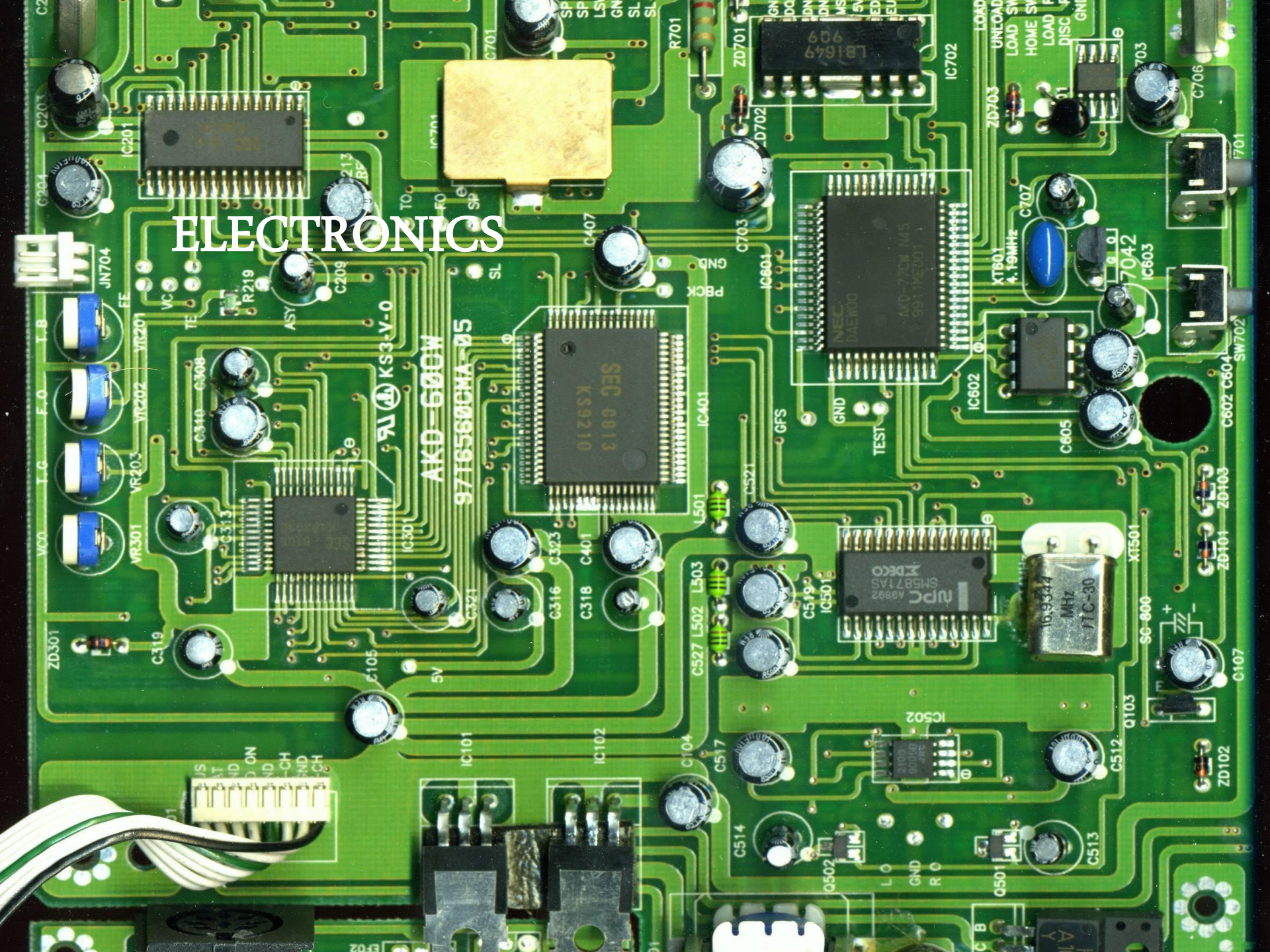
NE213, BC-529 – fast and slow light component

Electrons and protons excite the 2 components differently

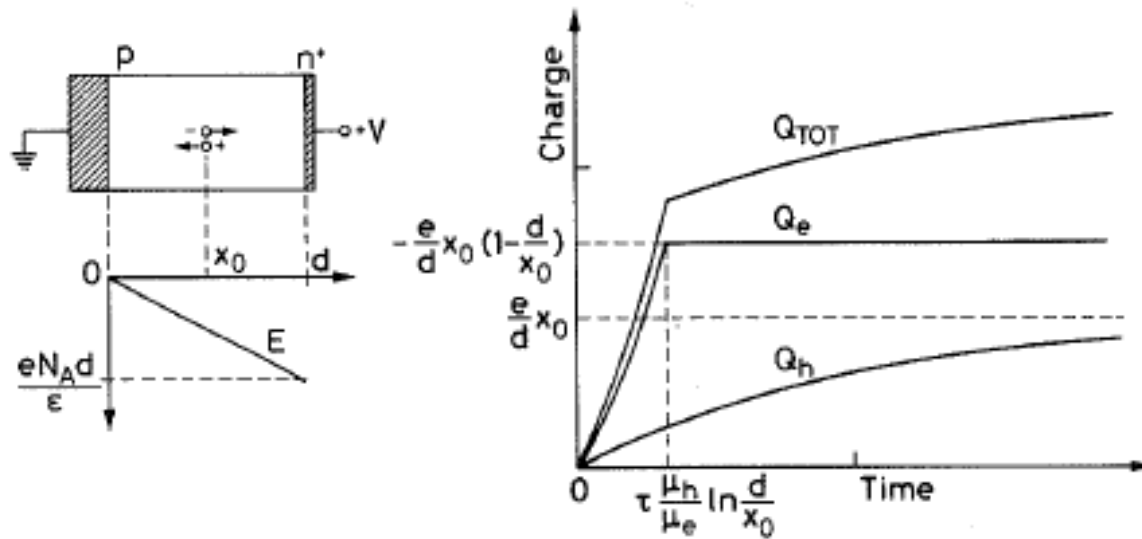


Neutrons are converted into protons  
Gamma rays are converted into electrons

# ELECTRONICS

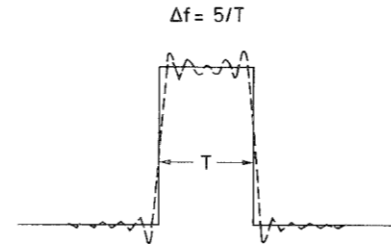
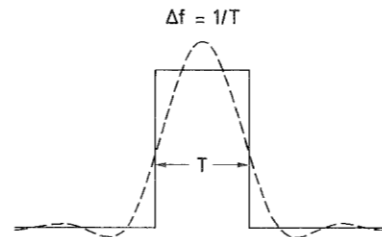
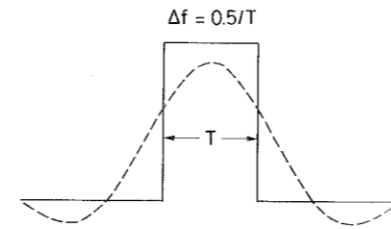
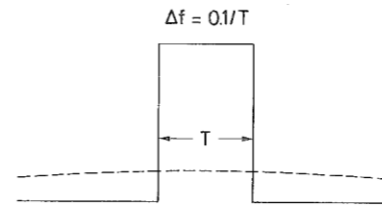
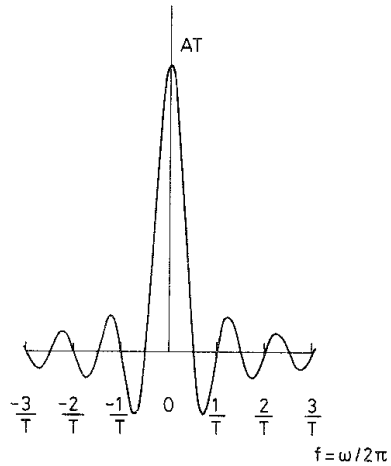
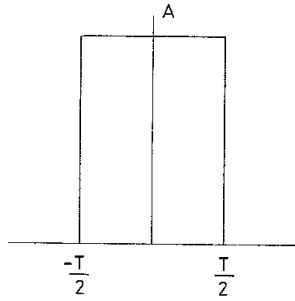


# Signal formation



Signal starts the moment the electrons and holes start moving apart.  
The risetime depends on the carrier mobility, material resistivity and interaction point.

# Frequency domain

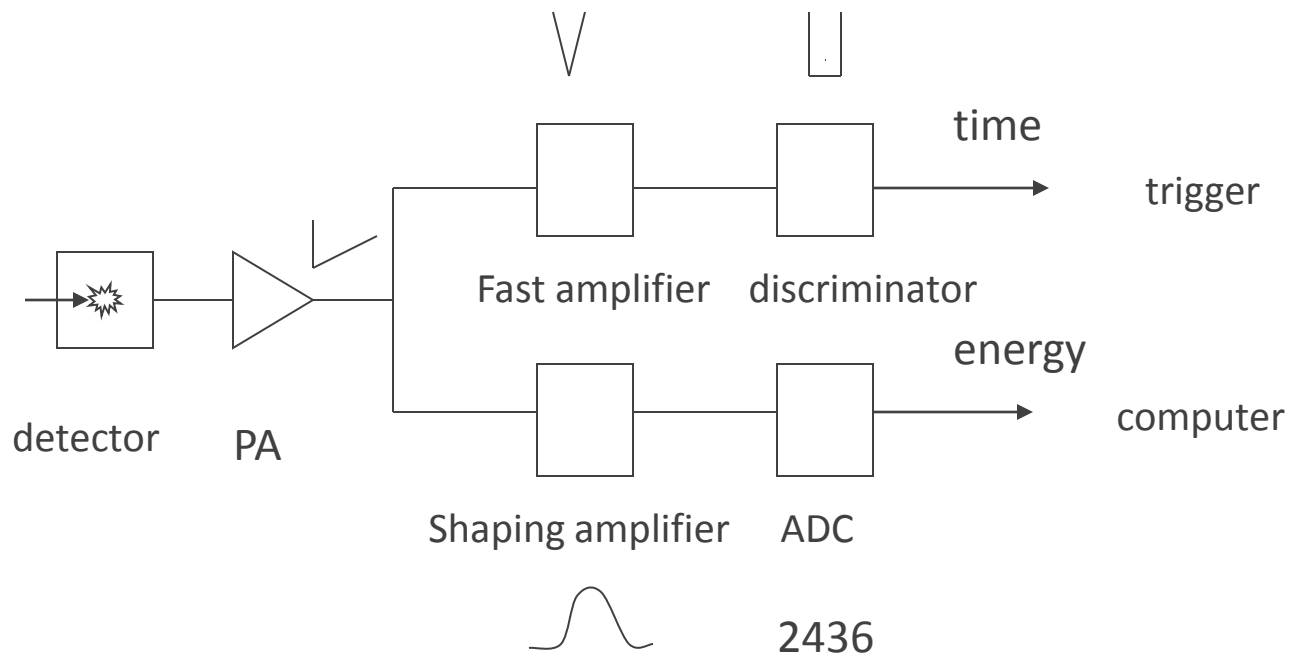


High frequency cut-off

Fourier transform

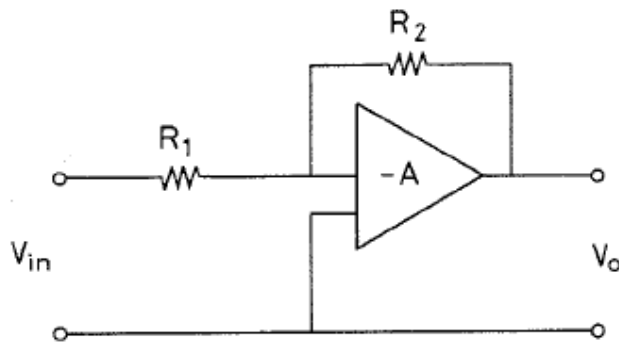
# Signal processing

- Preamplifiers
- Amplifiers
- Discriminators
- Analog-to-Digital converters
- Digital electronics



# Preamplifiers

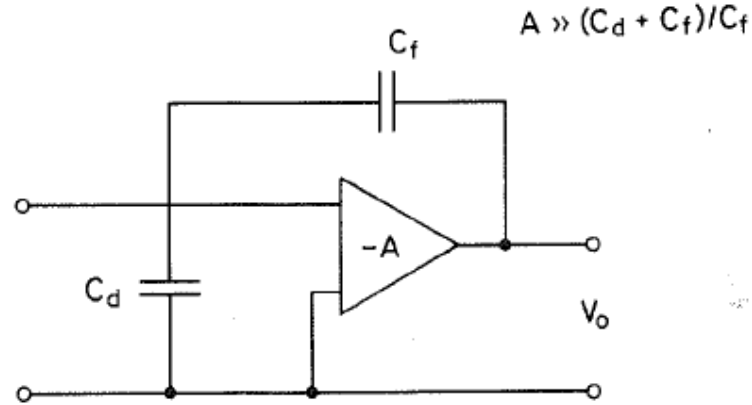
- 1<sup>st</sup> amplification stage
  - Low noise



$$V_0 = \frac{Q}{C_{tot}}$$

Voltage sensitive

Depends on detector capacitance!



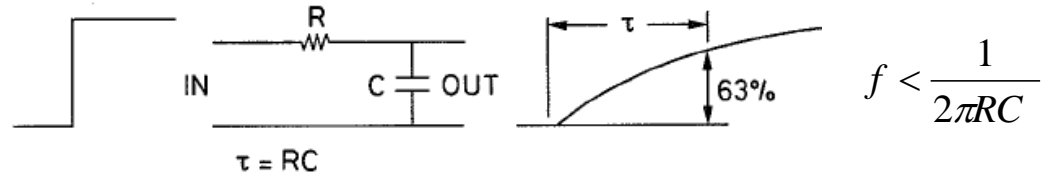
$$V_0 = -\frac{Q}{C_f}$$

Charge sensitive

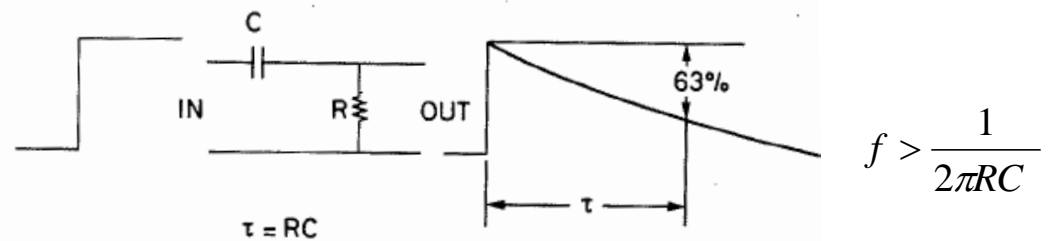
resistor parallel to  $C_f$  results in exponential tail

# Amplifiers

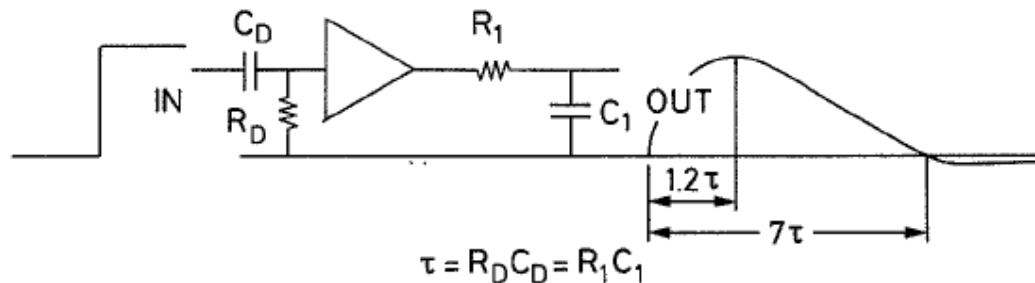
- 2<sup>nd</sup> amplification stage
  - Amplification
  - Shaping
  - Filtering



Low pass filter, integrating circuit



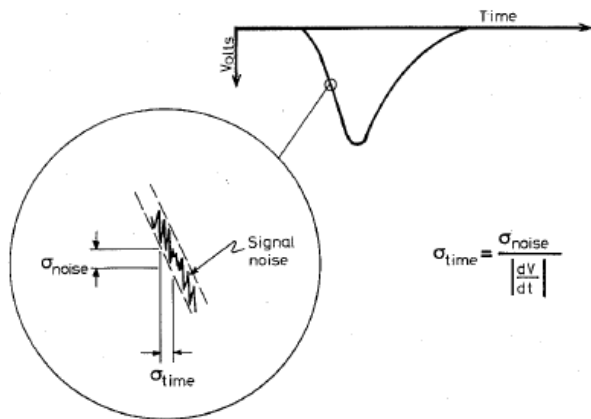
High pass filter, differentiating circuit



CR-RC pulse shaping

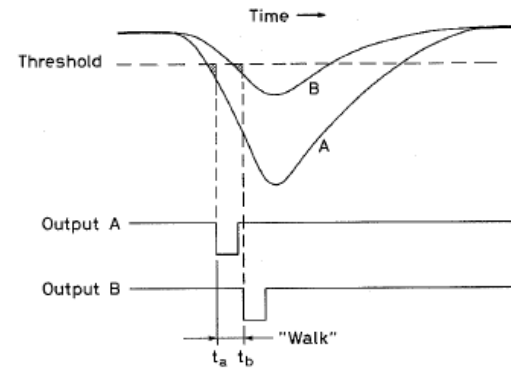
# Discriminators

- Time measurement
- Discriminators
  - Leading edge
  - Constant fraction
  - Rise time compensation

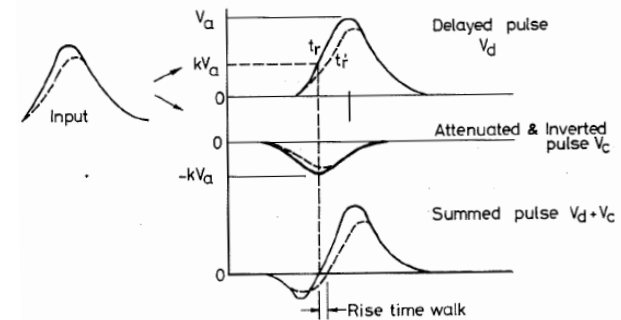


$$\sigma_{\text{time}} = \frac{\sigma_{\text{noise}}}{\left| \frac{dV}{dt} \right|}$$

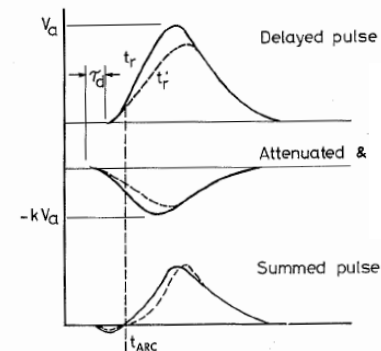
LE



CF



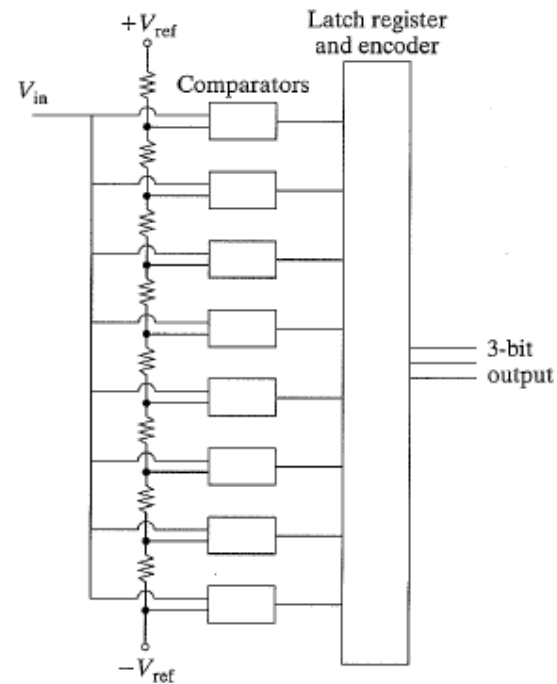
ARC





# Analog-to-digital converters

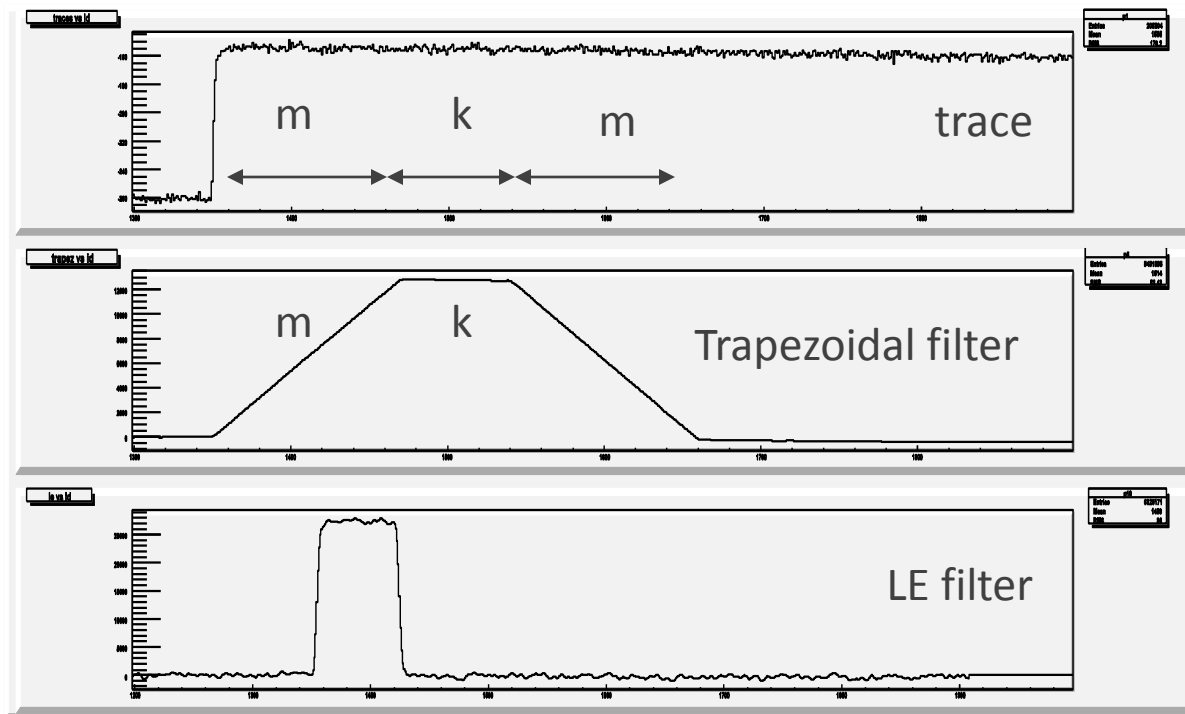
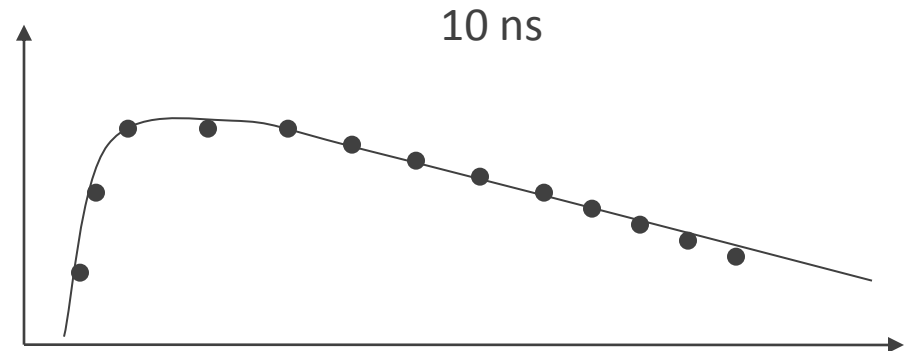
- ADC - amplitude
- QDC - charge
- TDC - time
- Different methods
  - Wilkinson method - accurate
  - Successive approximation - fast
  - Flash ADC – very fast



Flash ADC

# Digital electronics

- PA signal is digitized every  $\sim 10\text{ns}$
- Trapezoidal filter - energy
- LE filter - time

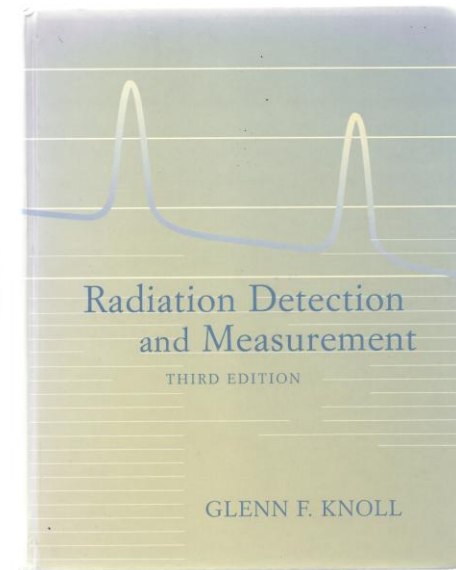
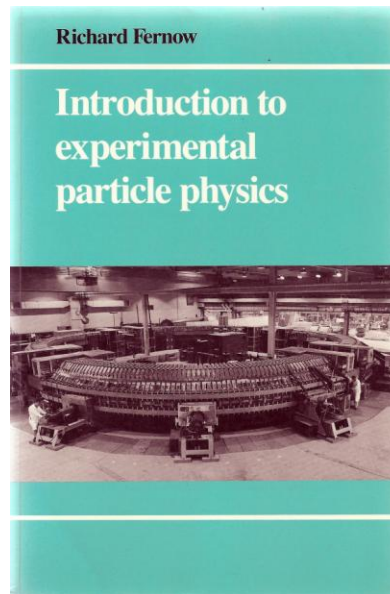
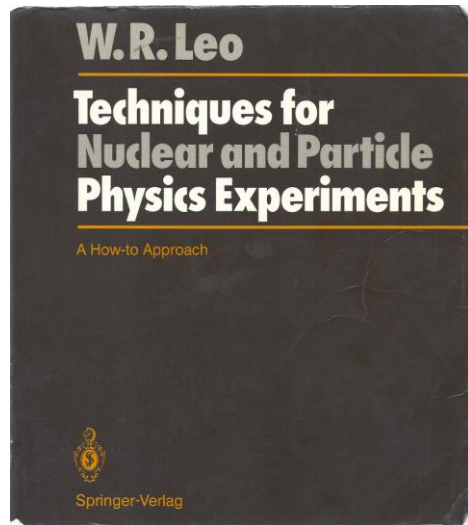


$$x(n)$$

$$y(n) = y(n-1) + x(n) - x(n-m) - (x(n-m-k) - x(n-2m-k))$$

$$y(n) = x(n) - x(n-k)$$

# Textbooks



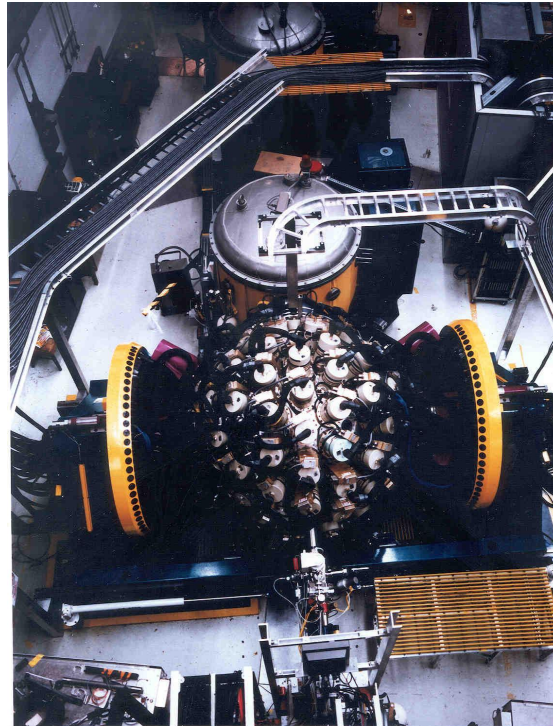
**Thank you!**



# Experimental Techniques II

Darek Seweryniak

Argonne National Laboratory

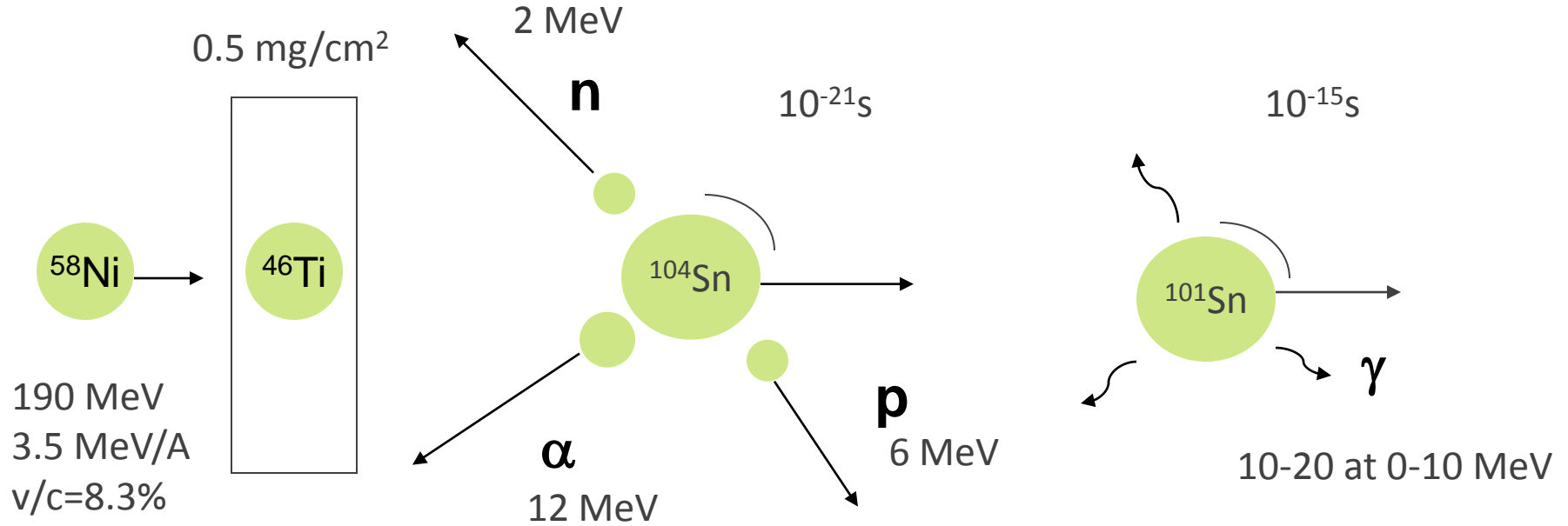


# Outline

- In-beam spectroscopy of exotic proton rich nuclei
  - Gammastere
  - Microball and Neutron Shell
  - Fragment Mass Analyzer
    - Ionization chamber
    - Double-Sided Silicon Strip Detector (DSSD)
- Three great ideas
  - In-trap neutrino-beta correlations
  - Optical time projection chamber
  - Superheated active chamber



# Heavy-ion fusion evaporation reactions



## REACTION

## PARTICLE EVAPORATION

## DEEXCITATION

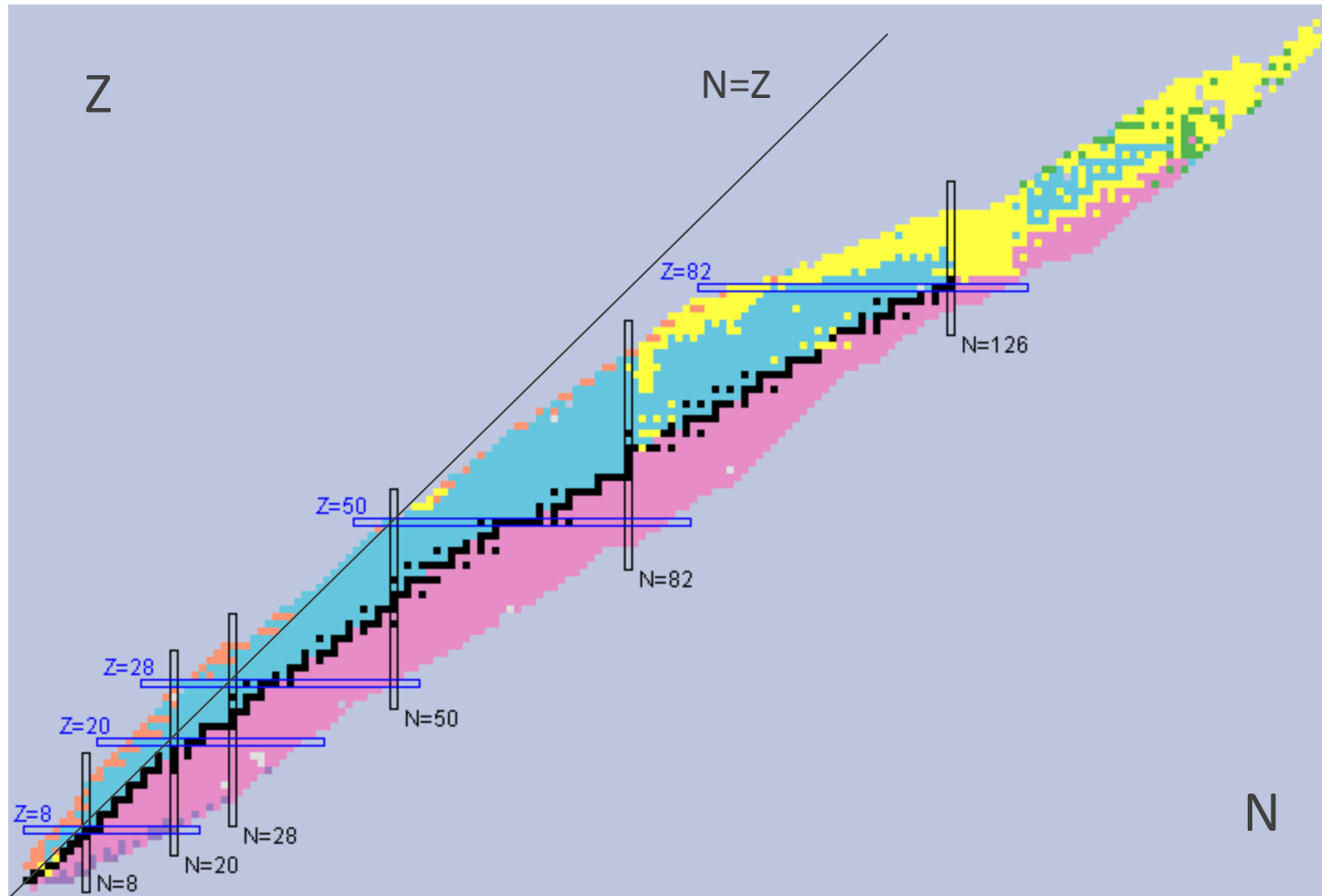
$E_{\text{CM}} = 84 \text{ MeV}$   
 $E_{\text{BARRIER}} = 82 \text{ MeV}$   
 $E_{\text{CN}} = 51 \text{ MeV}$

Thermal particle spectra,  
 average energies in centre of mass,  
 $p, \alpha$  must overcome Coulomb barrier

$E^* \sim 10 \text{ MeV}$

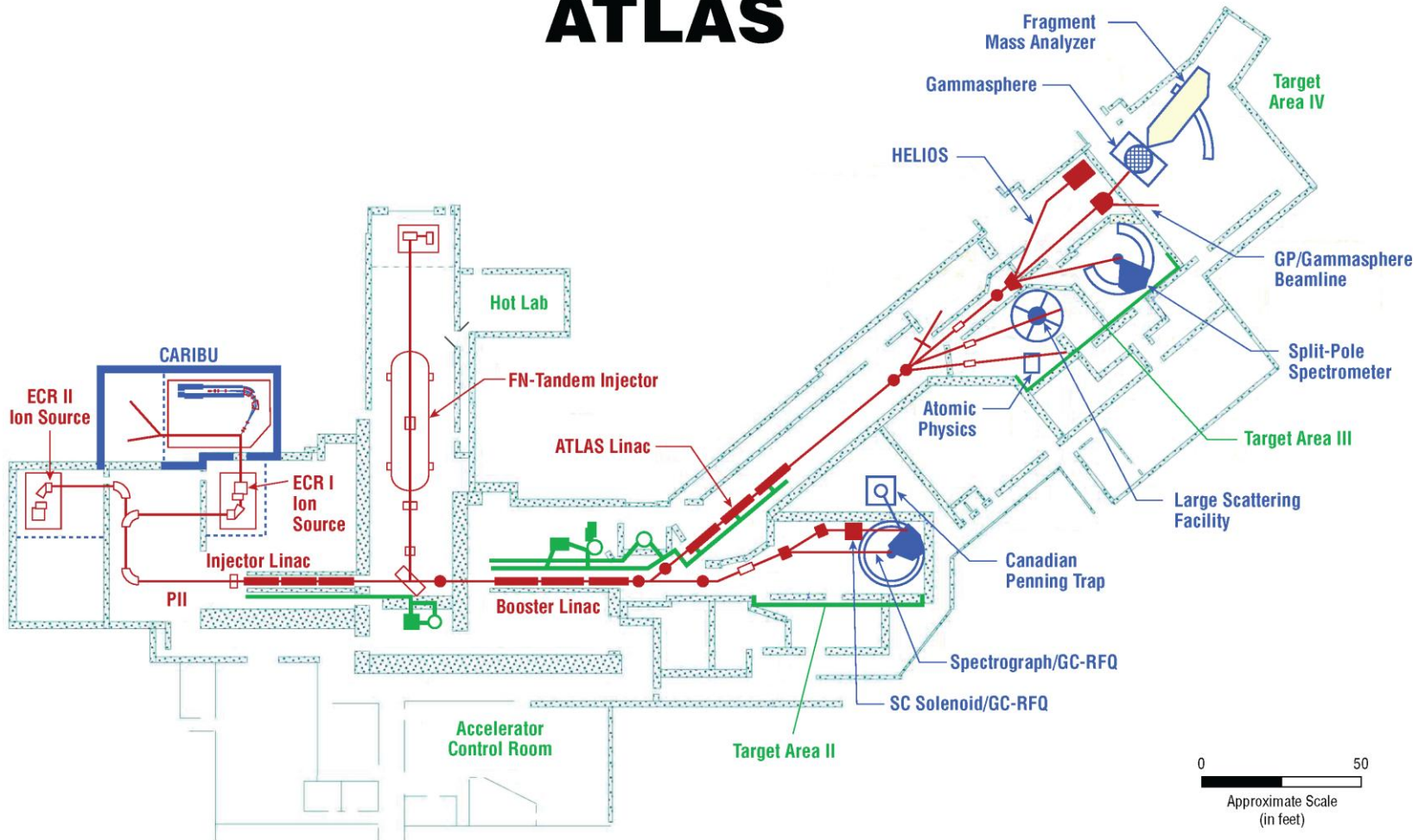
Many channels open, mostly protons are evaporated,  
 sometimes alpha particles and seldom neutrons!

# Why are heavy-ion fusion evaporation good for producing exotic proton rich nuclei?





# ATLAS



All stable beams from H to U with energies up to ~10 Me/nucleon



# Why bother with fusion-evaporation beams?

## Fragmentation

- can produce and identify everything
- prompt spectroscopy impossible

## Fusion-evaporation

- higher cross section but thinner targets
- prompt spectroscopy possible
- reaction channel identification difficult

Reaccelerated radioactive beams at up to 12 MeV/nucleon are planned for FRIB!

One could use proton rich radioactive beams to produce and study more exotic nuclei!

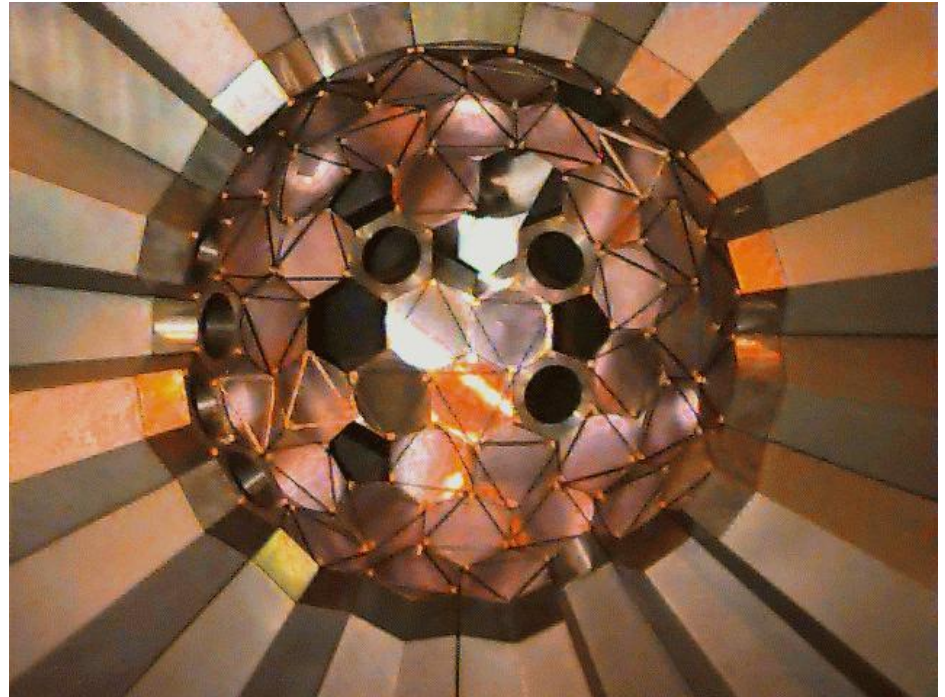
# Challenge

How to assign prompt gamma rays to exotic nuclei produced with tiny cross sections in the presence of a large background due to strong channels?



# GAMMASPHERE

$4\pi$  array of Compton suppressed  $\gamma$ -ray



Up to 110 HPGe detectors in BGO shields  
 $\gamma$ -ray detection efficiency at 1.3MeV  $\sim 10\%$   
The world's largest

Originally stationed at LBNL, moved to ANL in 1997 and again in 2003

# GAMMASPHERE detectors



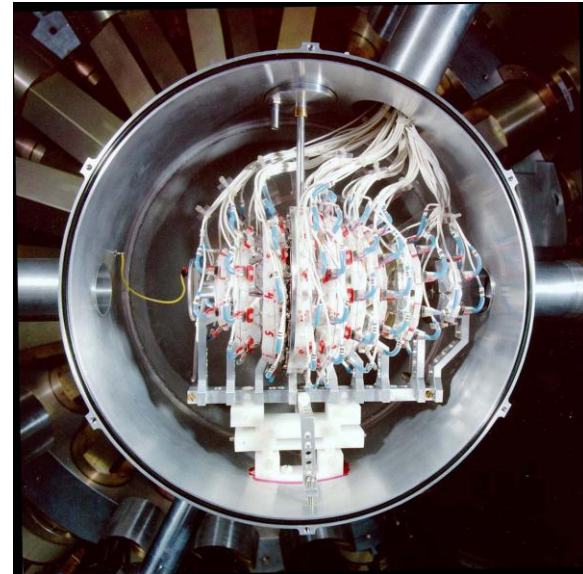
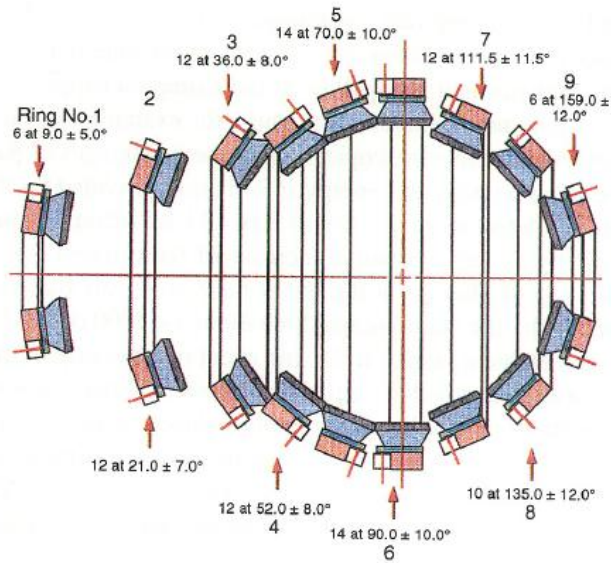
# Idea

Detect evaporated particles in coincidence with gamma rays!



# Microball - charged particle detector

D.G. Sarantites et al., NIM A530, 473 (2004)



$^{95}\text{CsI(Tl)}$  1-3 mm

0.5-.10,  $7\mu\text{s}$  light components

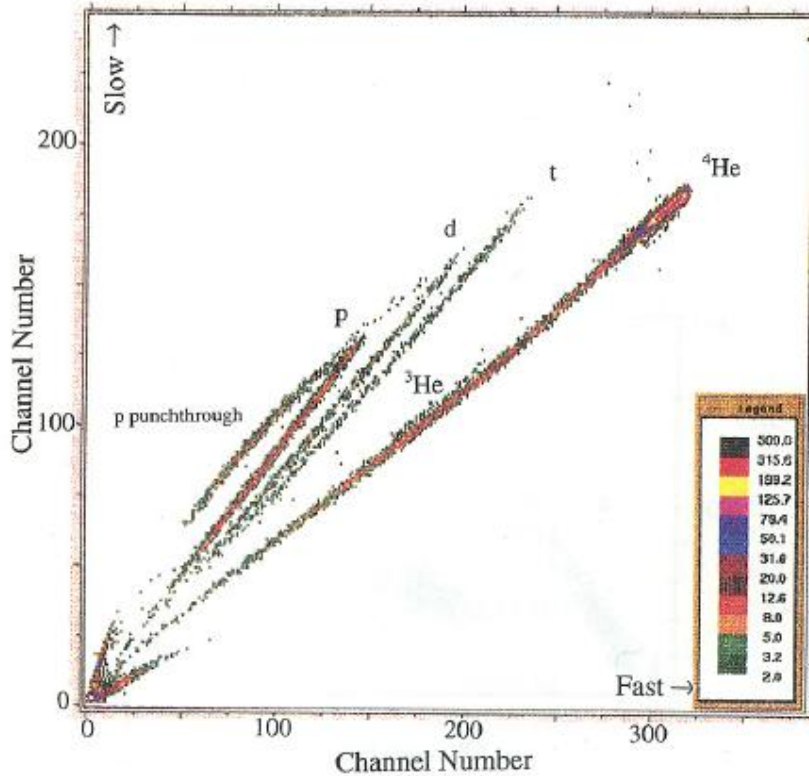
$\sim 4\pi$  coverage

In-beam efficiency:

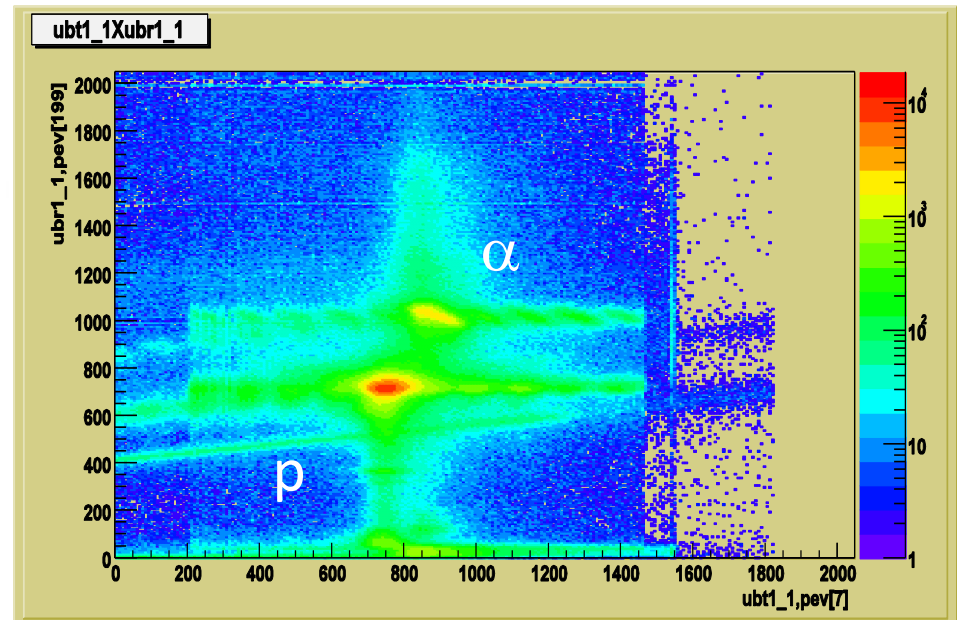
Protons  $\sim 70\%$

Alphas  $\sim 50\%$

# CsI(Tl) pulse shape discrimination



FAST/SLOW

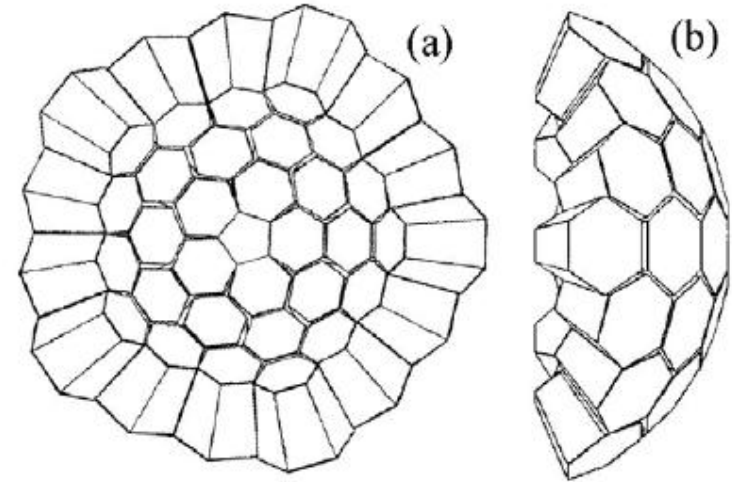


TOF

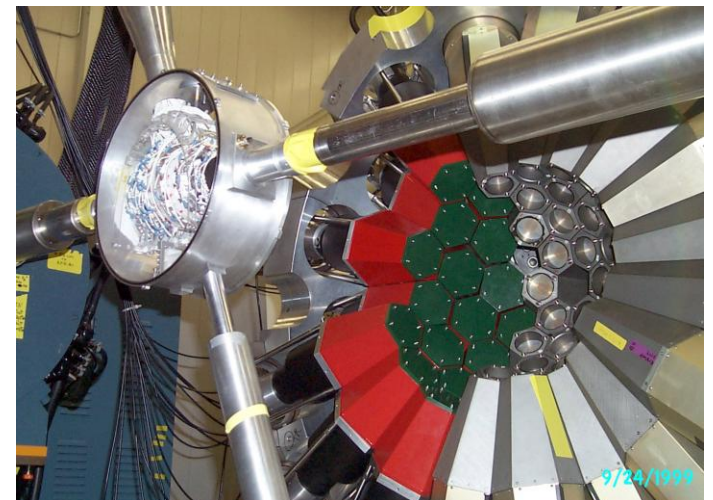


# Neutron Shell

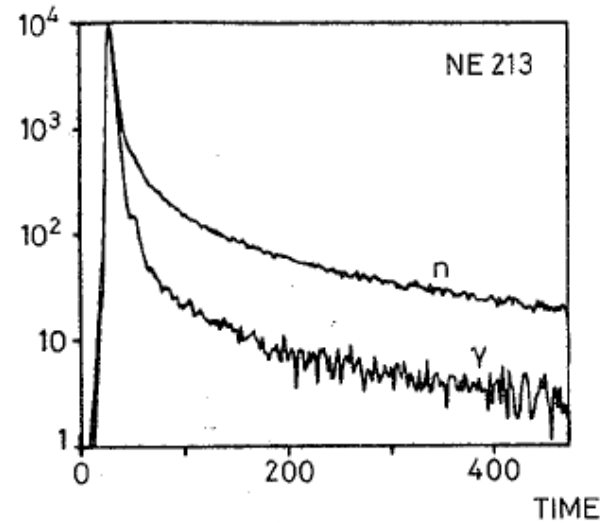
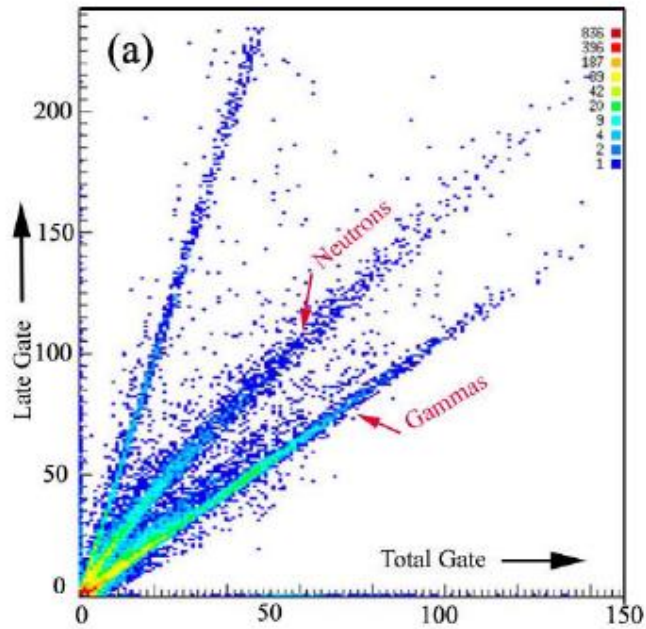
D.G. Sarantites et al., NIM A530, 473 (2004)



35 BC501A liquid scintillators  
~10ns, ~100ns light components  
 $1\pi$  array  
in-beam Efficiency ~30%



# BC501A n- $\gamma$ discrimination



# Channel selection

Problem:

we do not detect all the particles

$$P(k, n) = \binom{n}{k} (1 - \varepsilon)^{n-k} \varepsilon^k$$

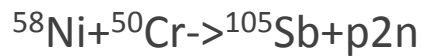
Binomial distribution

Probability of detecting  $k$  particles out of  $n$   
 $\varepsilon$  – detection probability

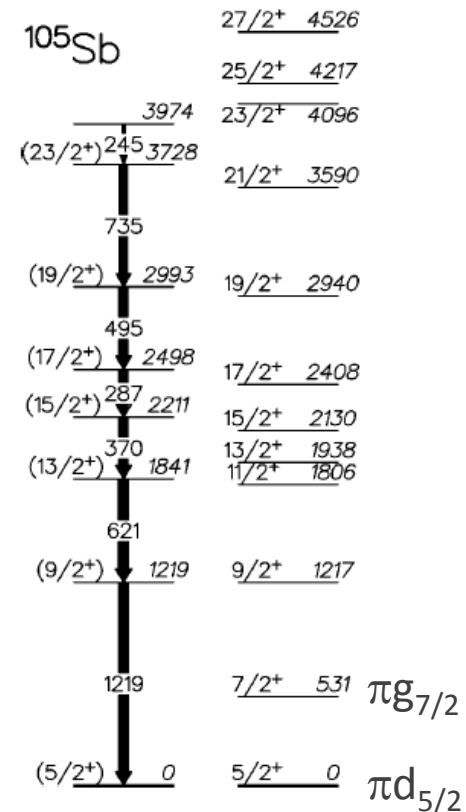
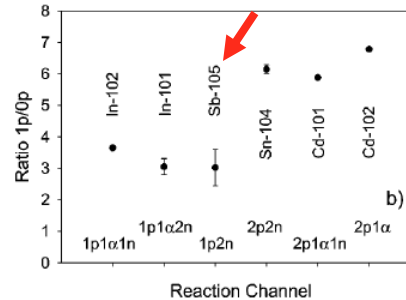
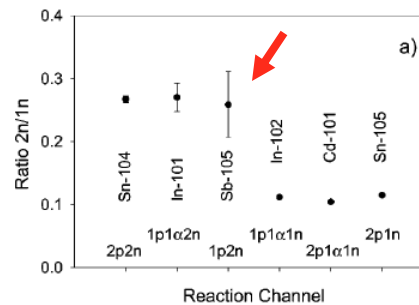
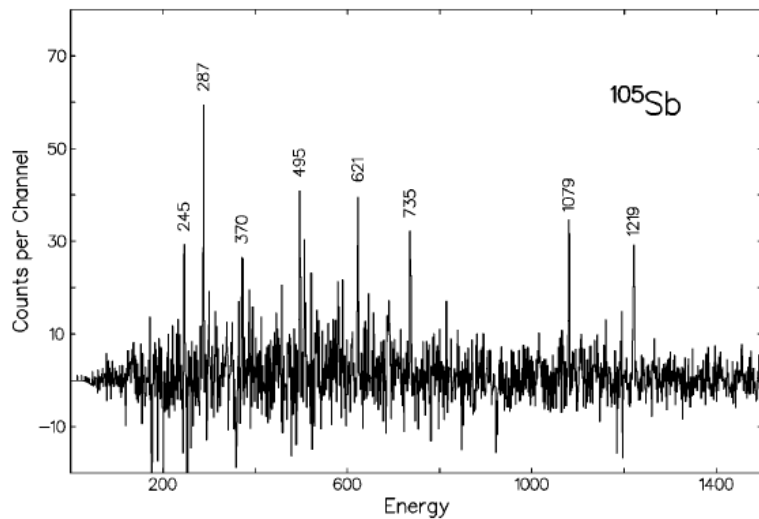
Solution:

use intensity ratios from spectra corresponding to different numbers of detected particles

# Proton rich nucleus $^{105}\text{Sb} = ^{100}\text{Sn} + \pi + 4\nu$



$\sigma \sim 10 \mu\text{b}$



M. Lipoglavsek et al., Phys. Rev. C65, 051307 (2002)

# Idea

Measure the mass number and atomic number of reaction products !



# Argonne Fragment Mass Analyzer



# Argonne Fragment Mass Analyzer

Mass resolution:  $\delta M/M \sim 1/350$

Angular acceptance:  $\Delta\Omega = 8 \text{ msr}$  (2 msr)

Energy acceptance:  $\Delta\varepsilon/\varepsilon = \pm 20\%$

M/Q acceptance:  $\Delta(M/Q)/(M/Q) = 10\%$

Flight path 8.2m

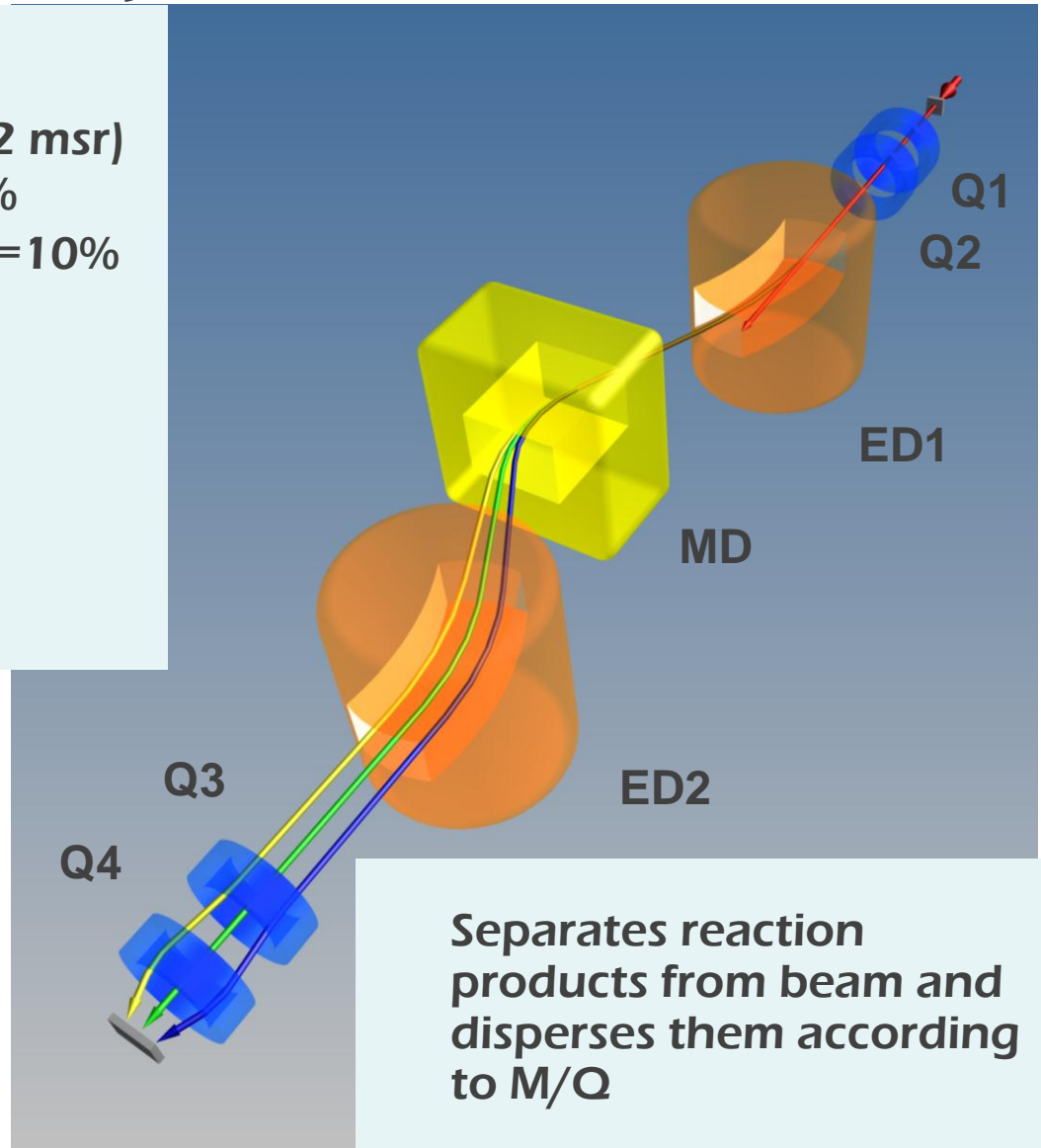
Max( $B\rho$ ) = 1.1 Tm

Max( $E\rho$ ) = 20 MV

Can be rotated off 0 degrees

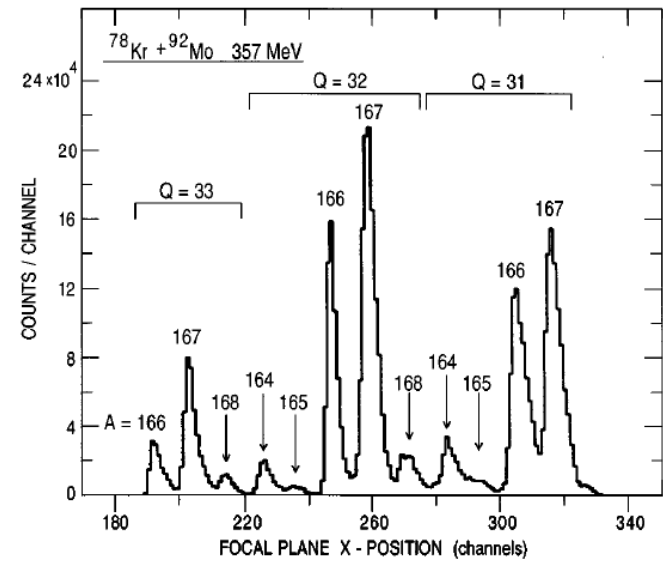
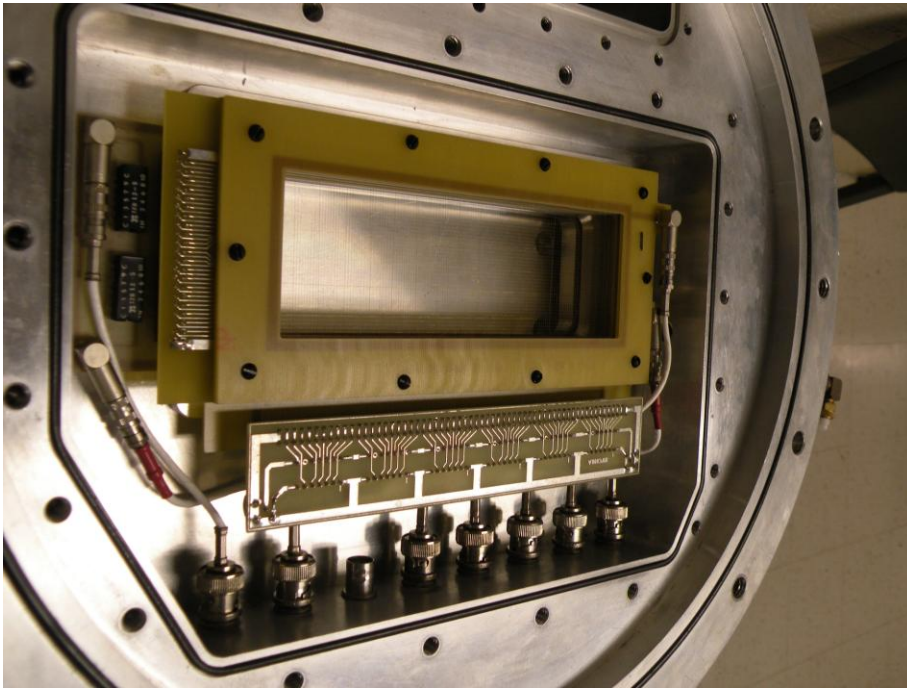
Can be moved along the axis

Different focusing modes



Separates reaction products from beam and disperses them according to M/Q

# Focal Plane Parallel Grid Avalanche Counter



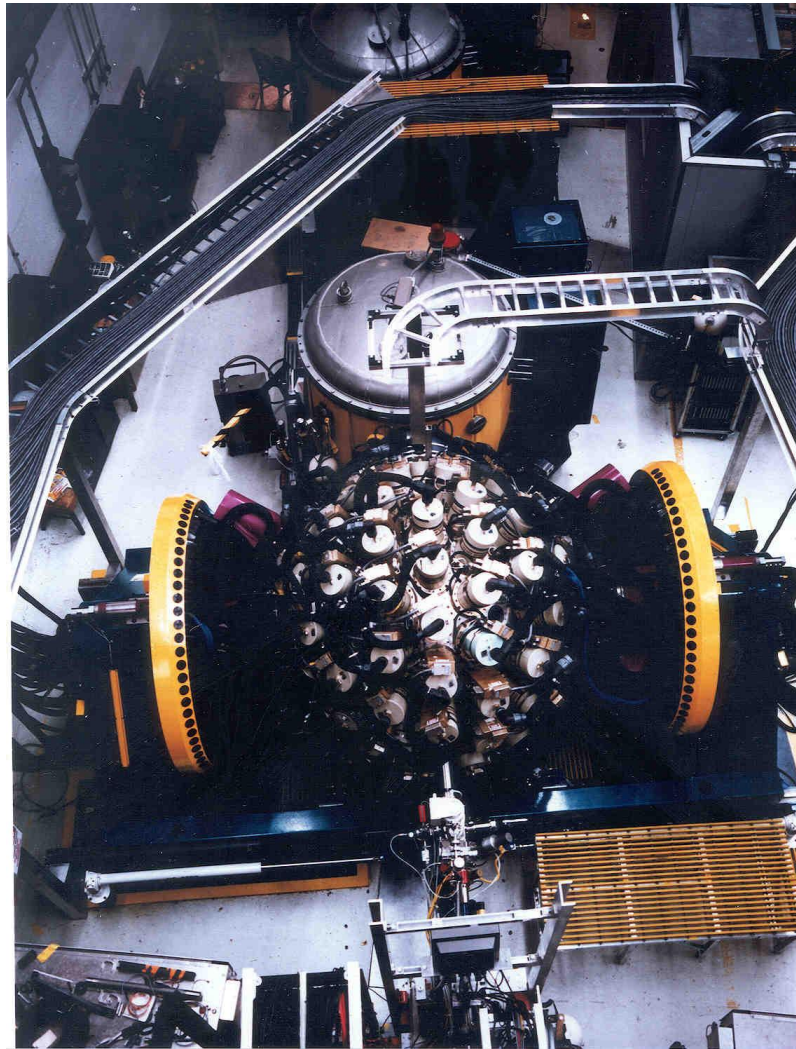
PGAC

Isobutane at 3 Torr

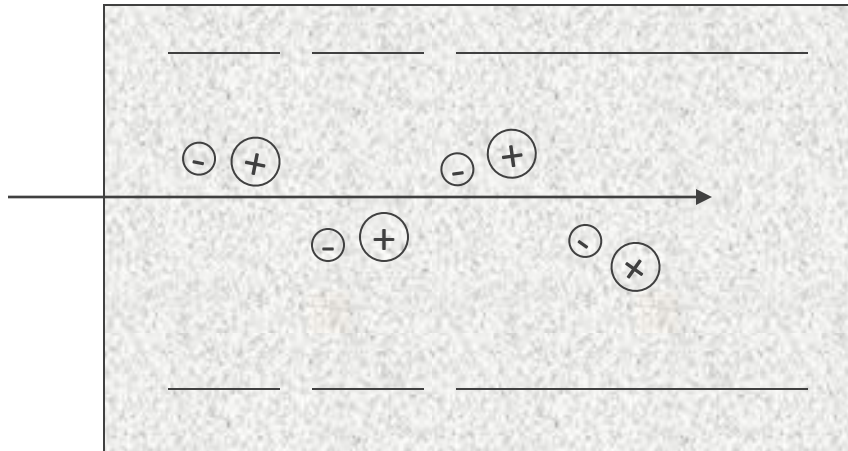
Y and Y wire planes



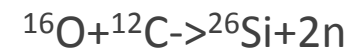
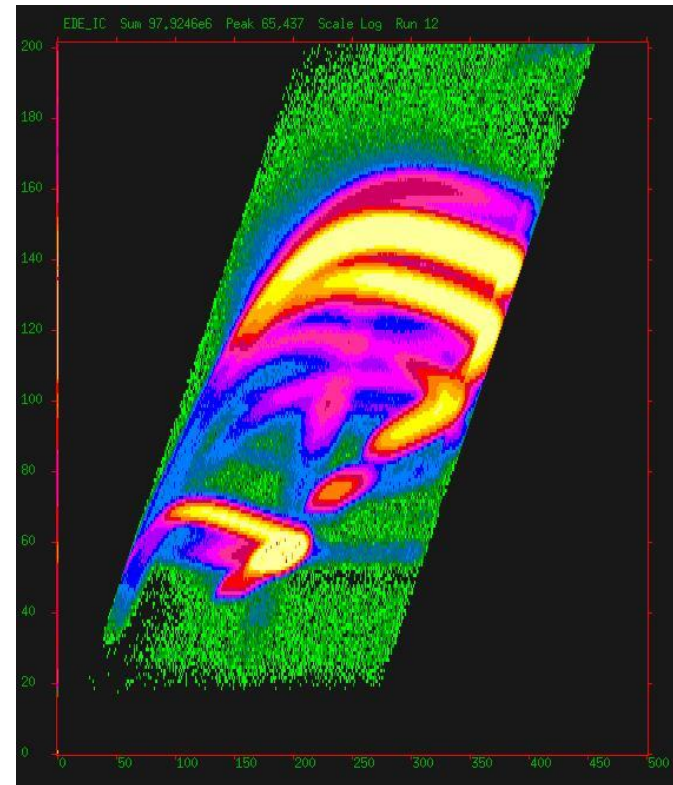
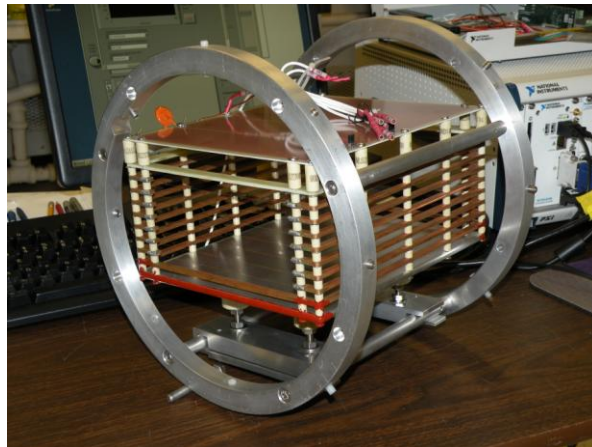
# GAMMASPHERE+FMA



# Ionization Chamber



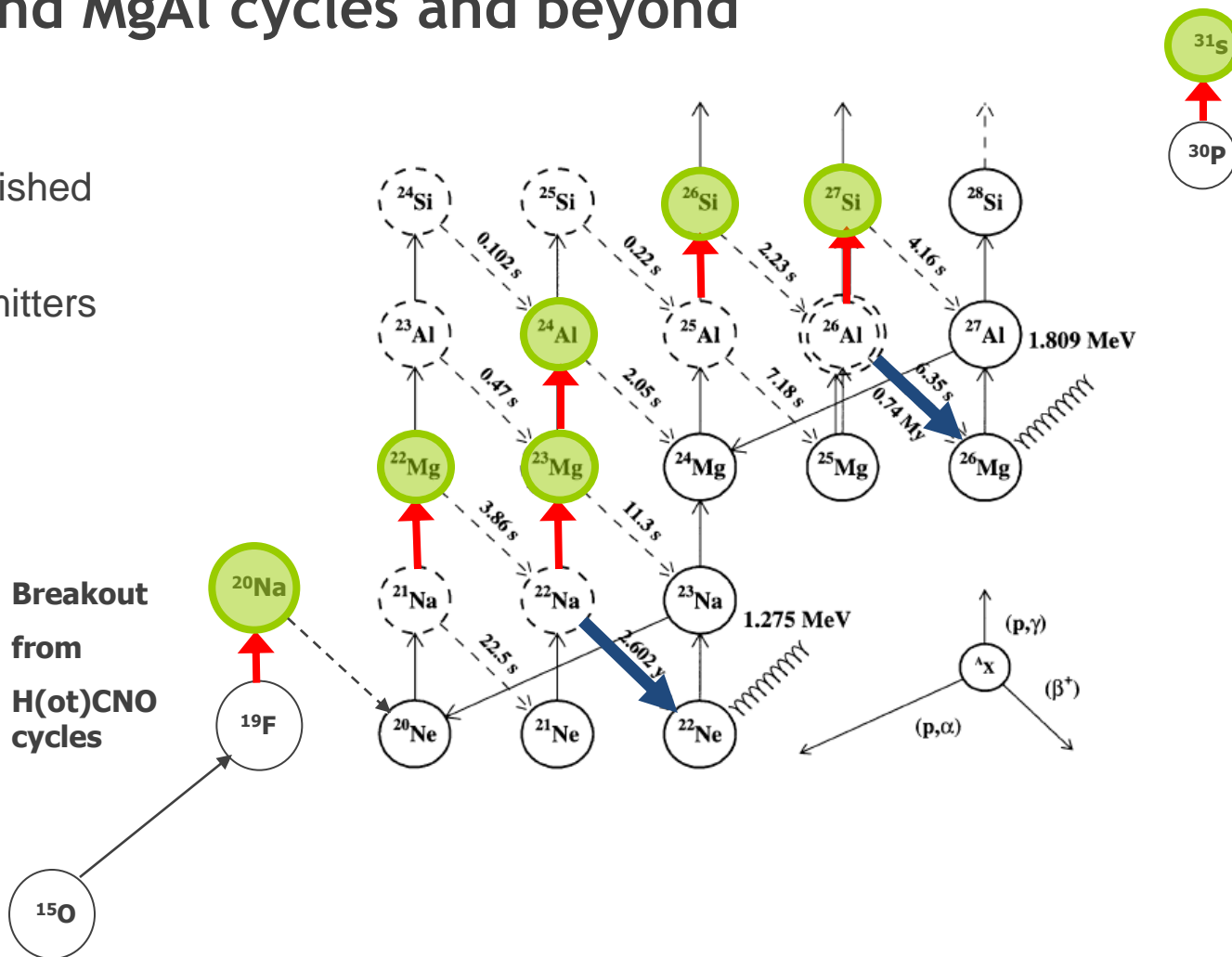
$\Delta E1$     $\Delta E2$     $\Delta E3$   
Isobutane  $\sim 15$  Torr



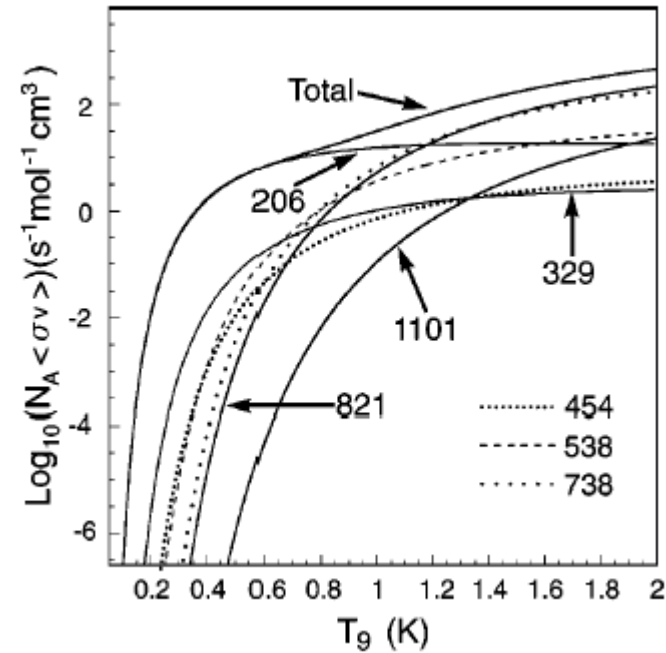
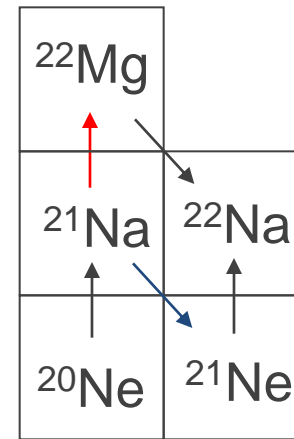
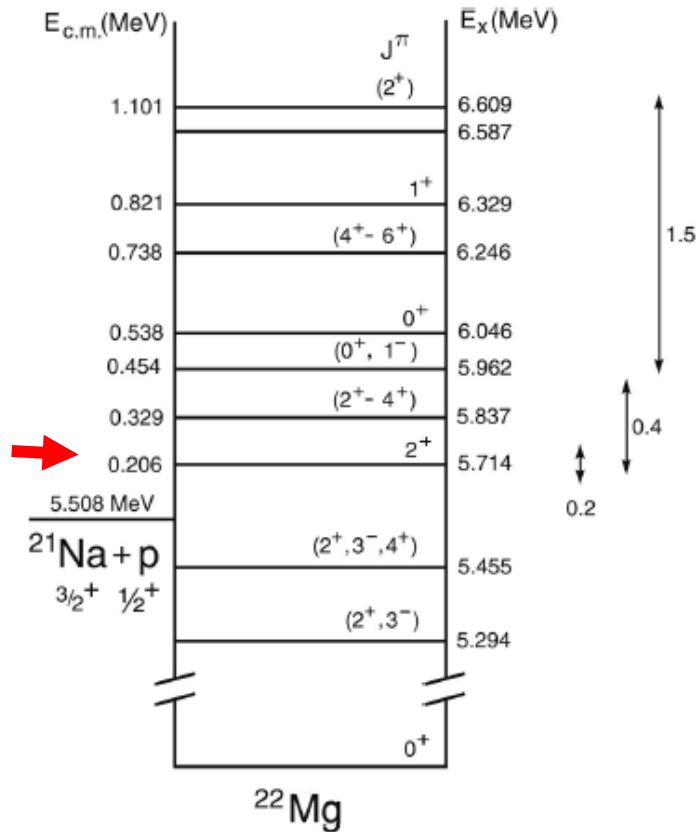
This method works well for low Z and fast ions

# NeNa and MgAl cycles and beyond

 published  
  $\gamma$  emitters



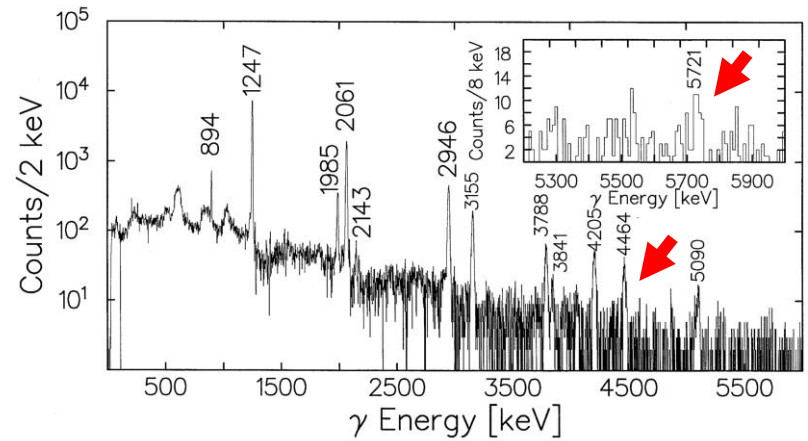
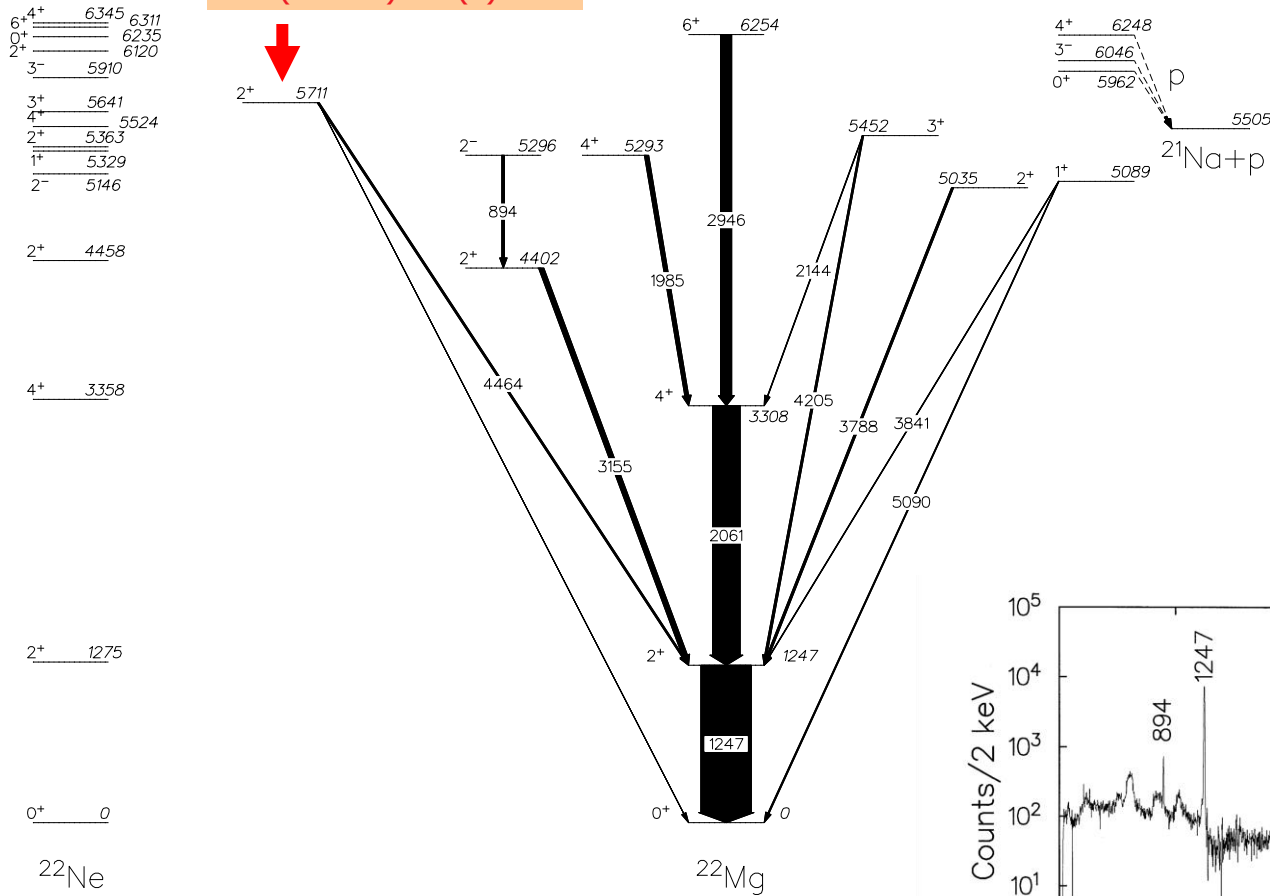
# The $^{21}\text{Na}(p,\gamma)^{22}\text{Mg}$ reaction



J. D'Auria et al., PRC 69, 065803 (2004)

# In-beam spectroscopy of $^{22}\text{Mg}$

$E(2^+) = 5711.0(1.0)$  keV  
 $b(2^+ \rightarrow 0^+) = 14(4)\%$



D. Seweryniak et al., PRL 94, 032501 (2005)

# Idea

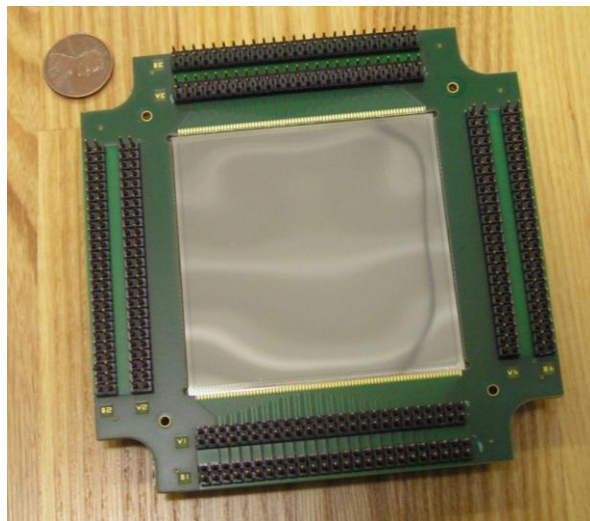
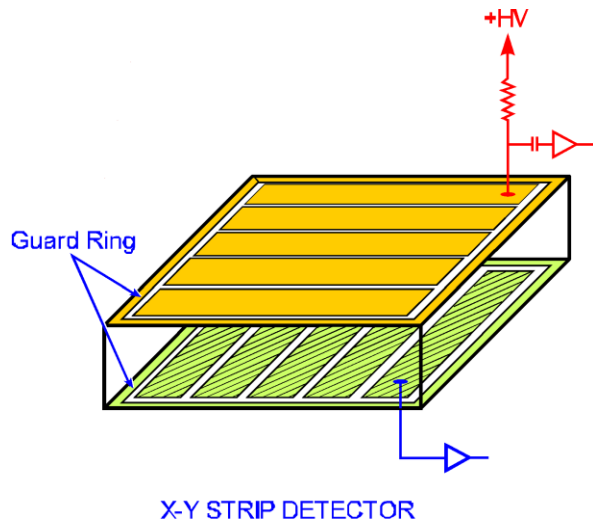
Correlate prompt gamma rays  
with characteristic decays  
of reaction products!



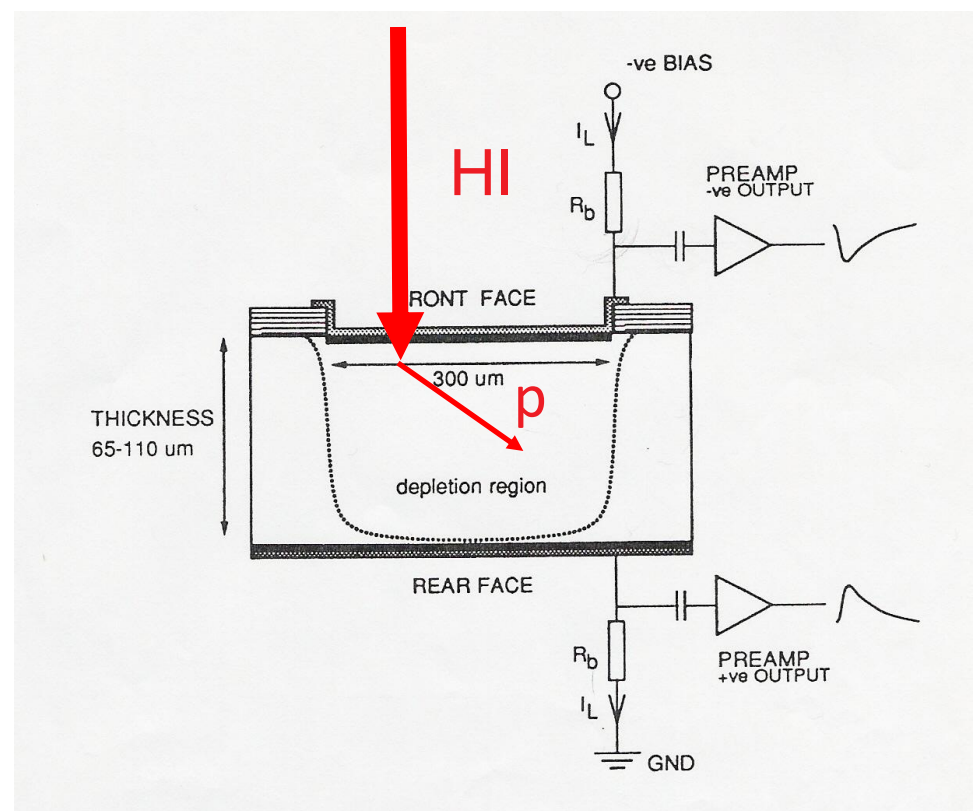
# Problem

But the decay lifetimes are long?!

# Double-Sided Silicon Strip Detector DSSD



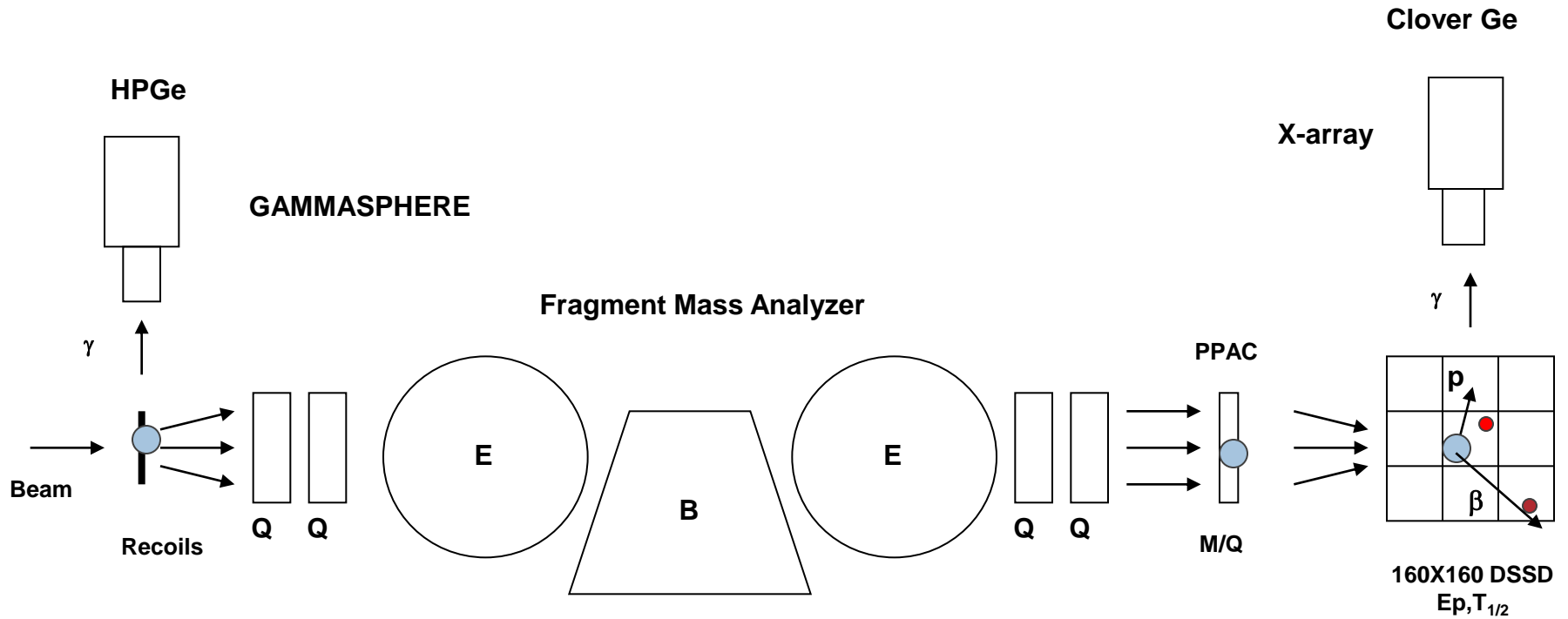
160X160 DSSD



Pixel=300  $\mu\text{m}$ X300 $\mu\text{m}$ X100(300) $\mu\text{m}$



# Recoil-Decay Tagging



Prompt  $\gamma$  rays  
Recoils  
Implants



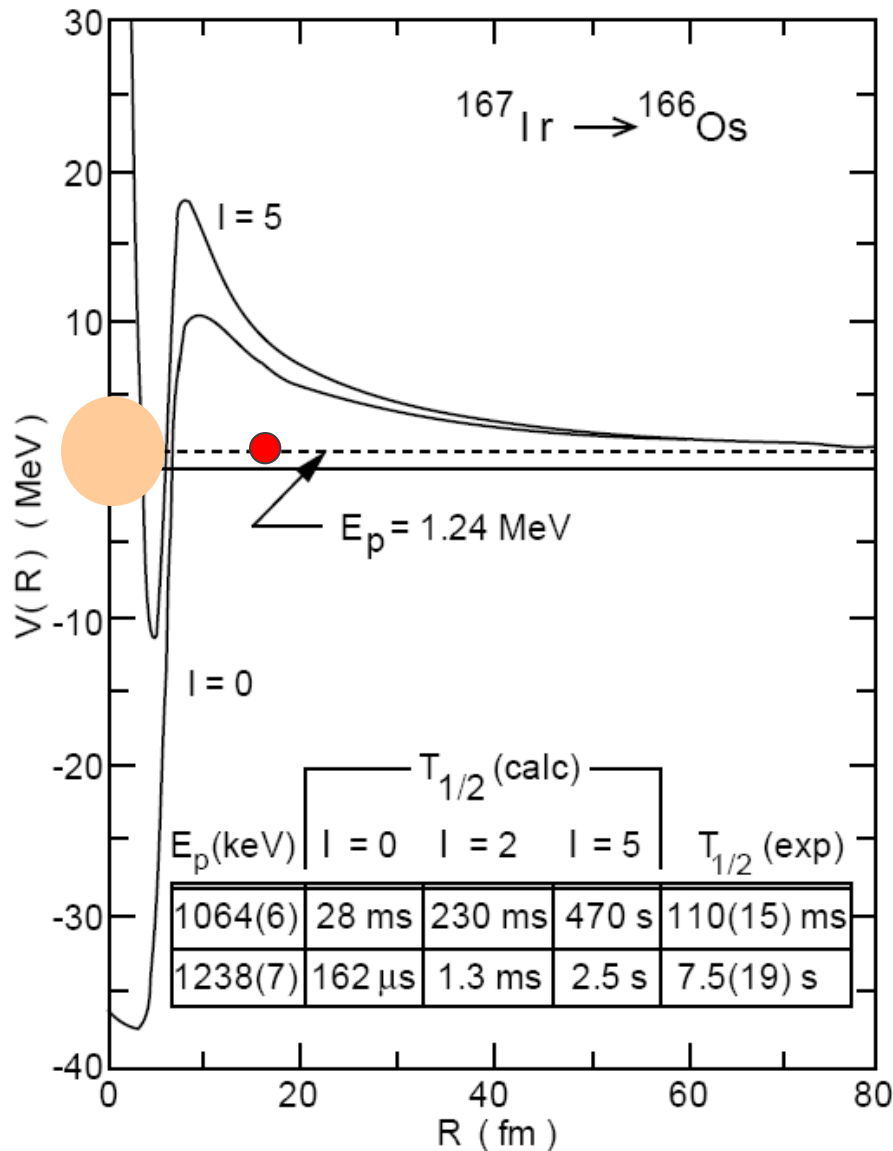
Spatial and time  
correlations  
in the DSSD

characteristic decays  
or chains of decays:

Protons  
Alphas  
 $\beta$ -delayed particles  
Isomers  
 $\beta$  decay

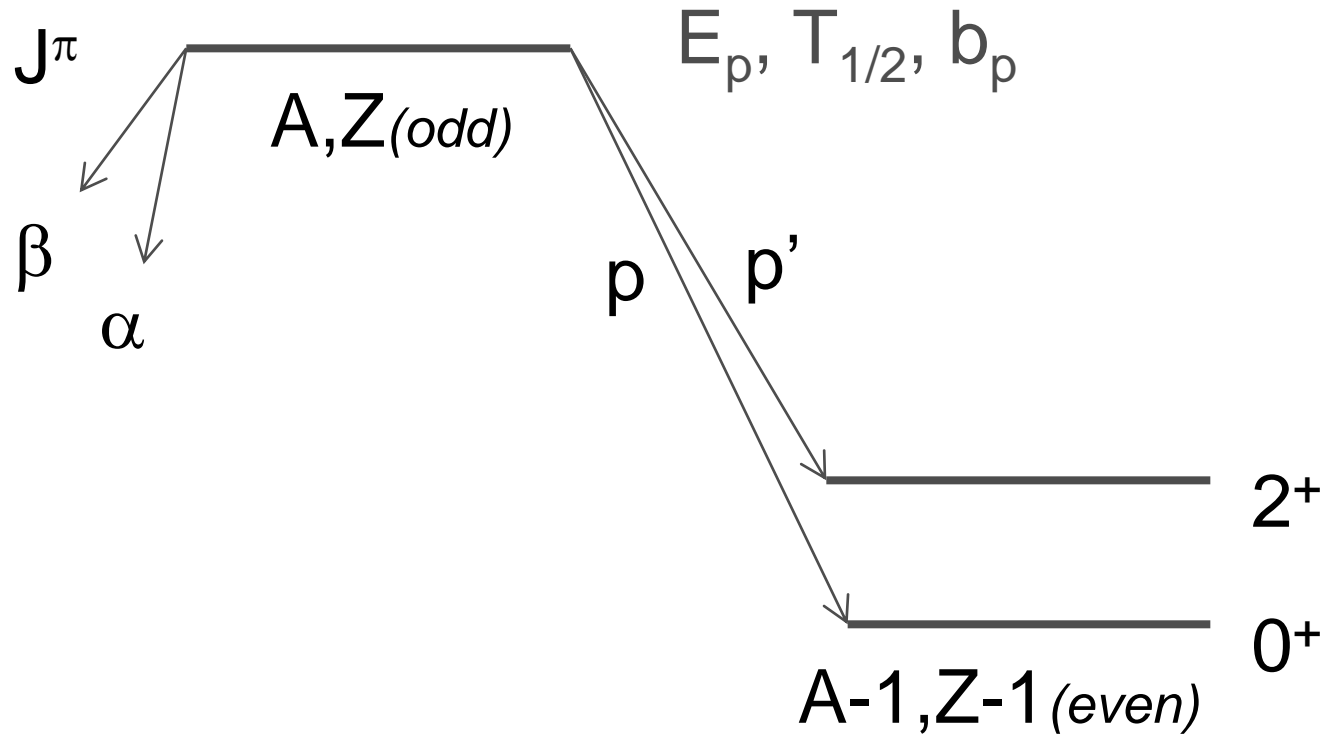
10nb out of 1b!

# Proton emission



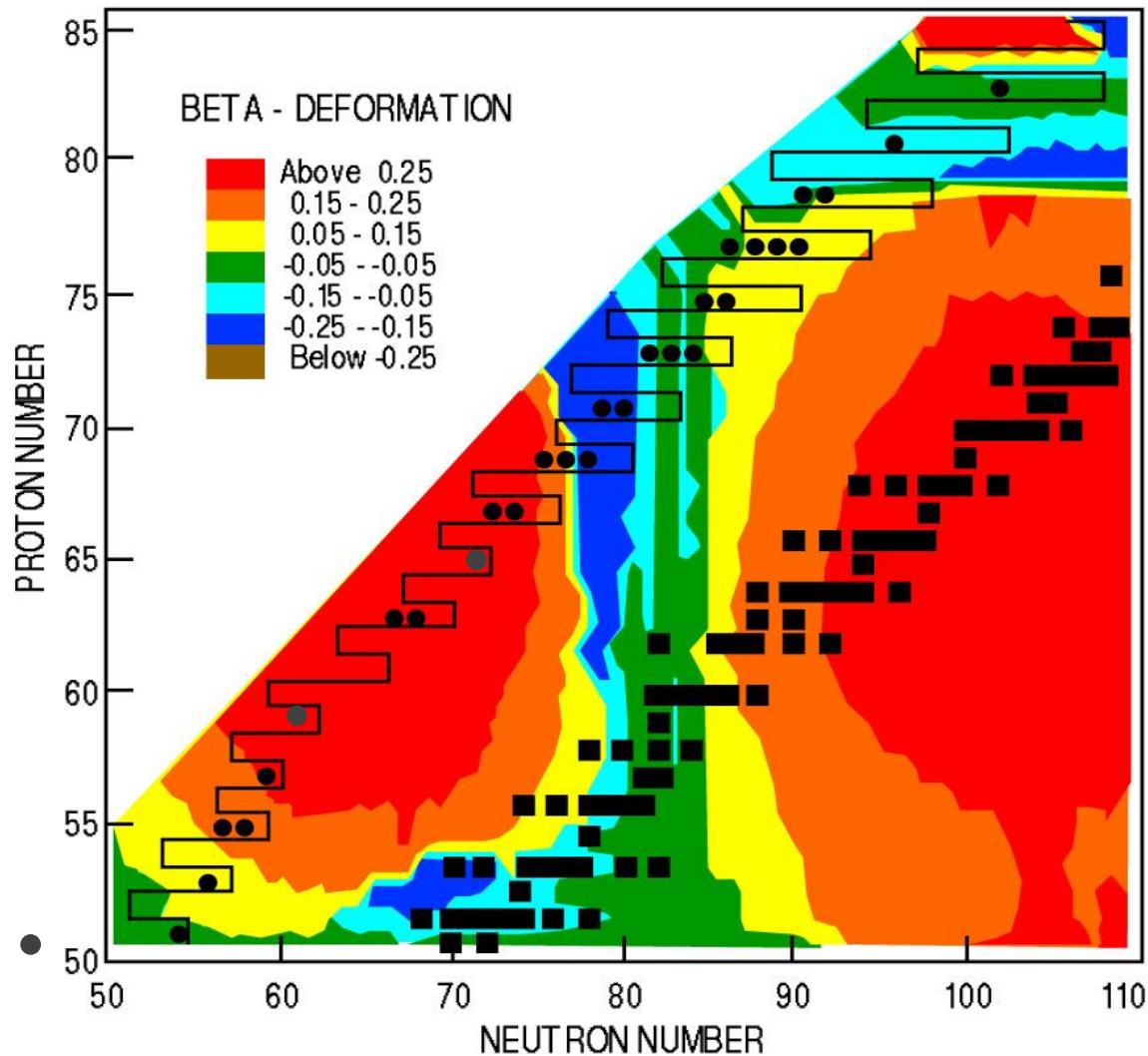
- ✓ Analogous to  $\alpha$  decay
- ✓ No pre-formation factor
- ✓ Decay rates sensitive to  $E_p$  and  $l_p$
- ✓ Source of information on nuclear structure and masses far from stability
- ✓ Unique laboratory to study tunneling through a 3D barrier (deformed emitters)

# Proton Decay Observables



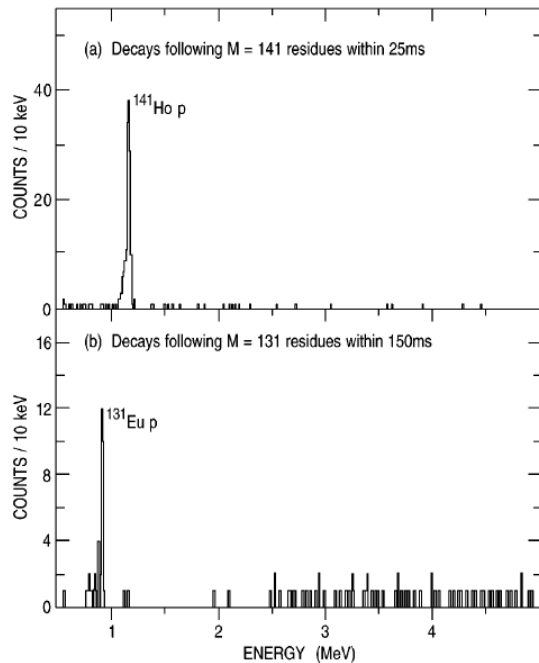
# Proton emitter landscape

ANL-P-22,108

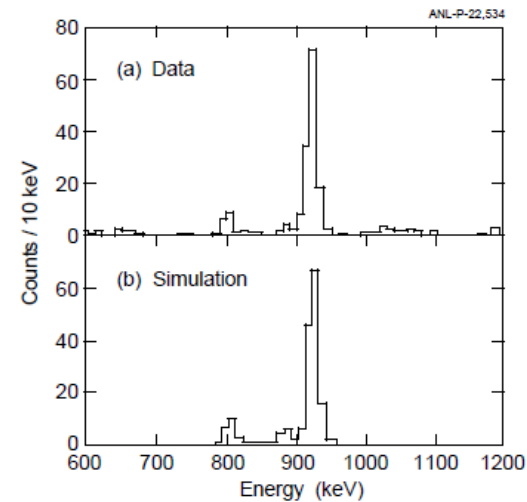


- ✓ Spherical
- ✓ Axially deformed
- ✓ Odd-odd axially deformed
- ✓ Coupling to vibrations
- ✓ Non-axial deformation

# Proton emitters



First deformed proton emitters  
Anomalous decay rates explained  
by introducing deformation

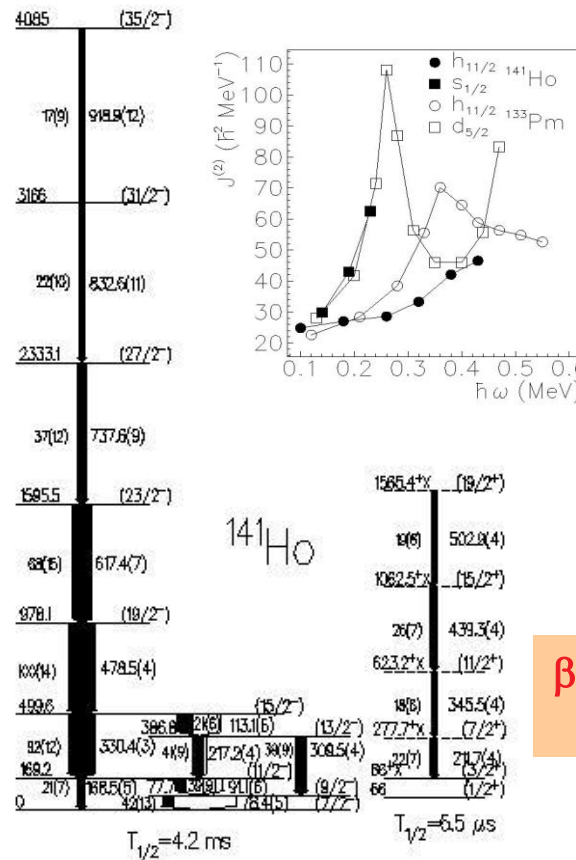
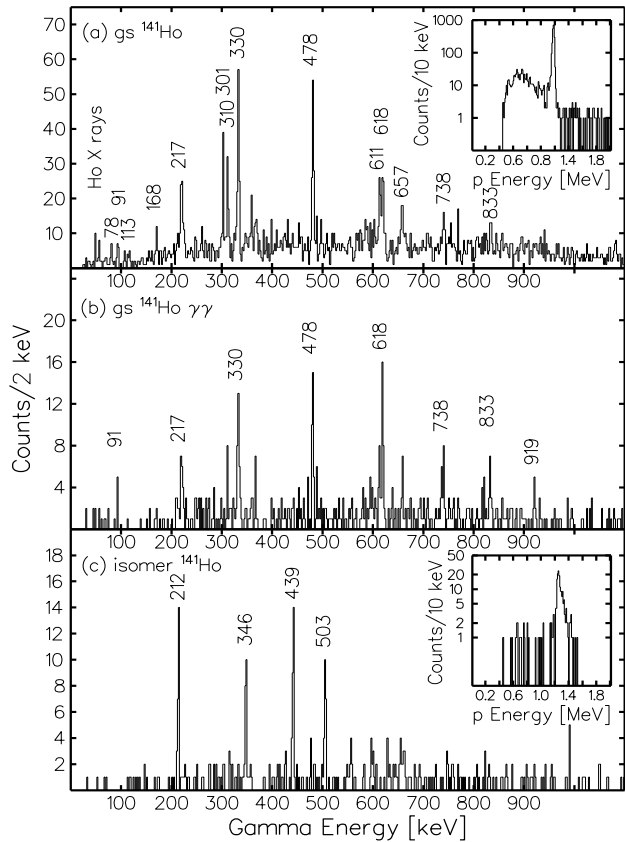


First fine structure

C.N. Davids et al., PRL C55 (1997)2255

A. Sonzogni et al., PRL 83 (1999)1116

# Rotational bands in the deformed proton emitter $^{141}\text{Ho}$



Unexpectedly large signature splitting indicates triaxial shape!

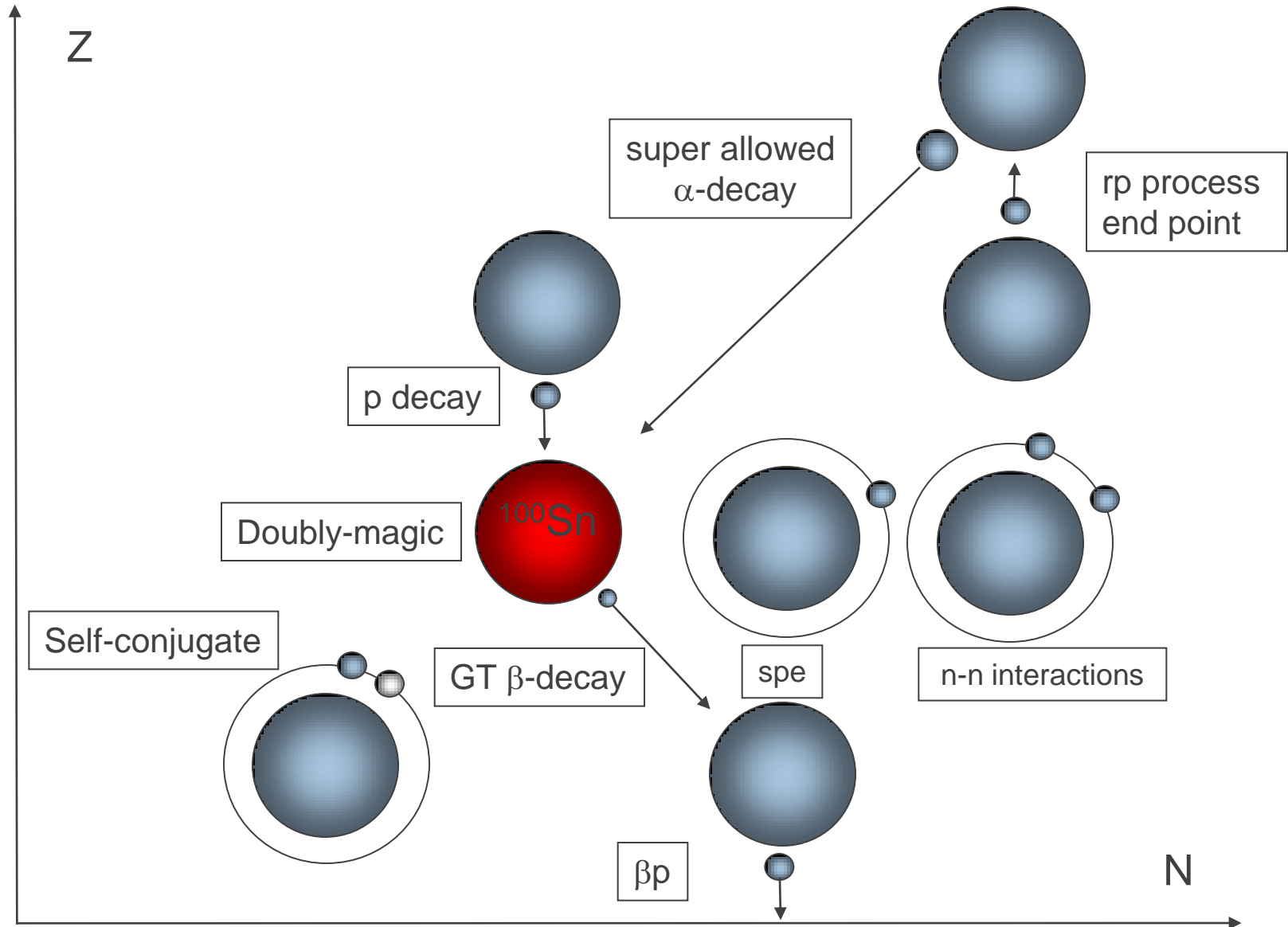
$\beta=0.25(4)$  from Harris formula

$7/2-[523]$

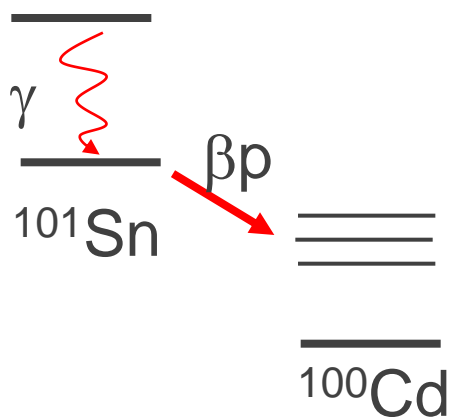
$1/2+[411]$

D. Seweryniak et al., PRL C86(2001)1458

# $^{100}\text{Sn}$ physics

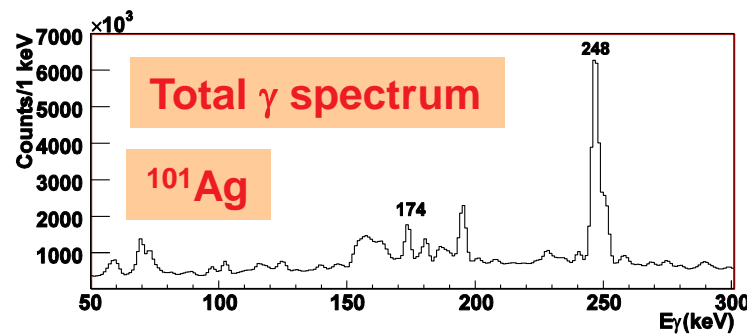
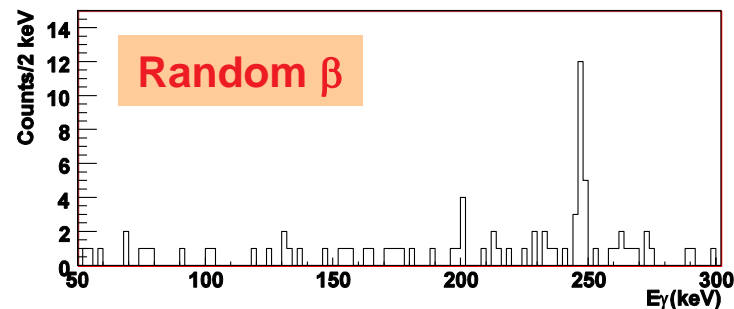
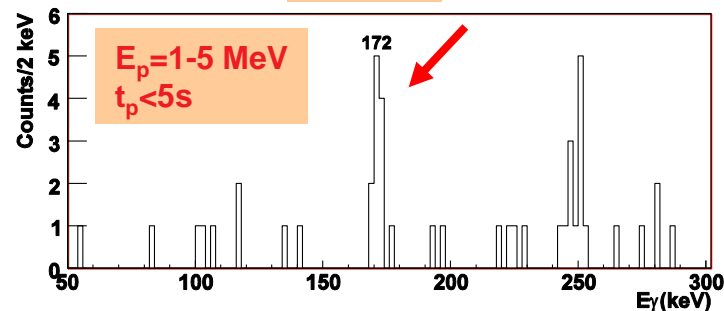


# $^{101}\text{Sn}$ $\beta p$ recoil-decay tagging experiment



$E_p = 1.5\text{-}5\text{ MeV}$   
 $T_{1/2} = 1.9(3)\text{ s}$   
 $b_{\beta p} \sim 15\%$

$\gamma$  rays



D.Seweryniak et al., *PRL* 99, 022504 (2007)



# Light Sn isotopes

$2^+$  1472  $11/2^+$  \_\_\_\_\_

$13/2^+$  \_\_\_\_\_

$9/2^+$  \_\_\_\_\_

$2^+$  1258

$9/2^+$  \_\_\_\_\_

172

$7/2^+$  168

$7/2^+$  200

$0^+$  \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

$0^+$  \_\_\_\_\_

$5/2^+$  \_\_\_\_\_

$0^+$  \_\_\_\_\_

$5/2^+$  \_\_\_\_\_

$^{100}\text{Sn}$

$^{101}\text{Sn}$

$^{102}\text{Sn}$

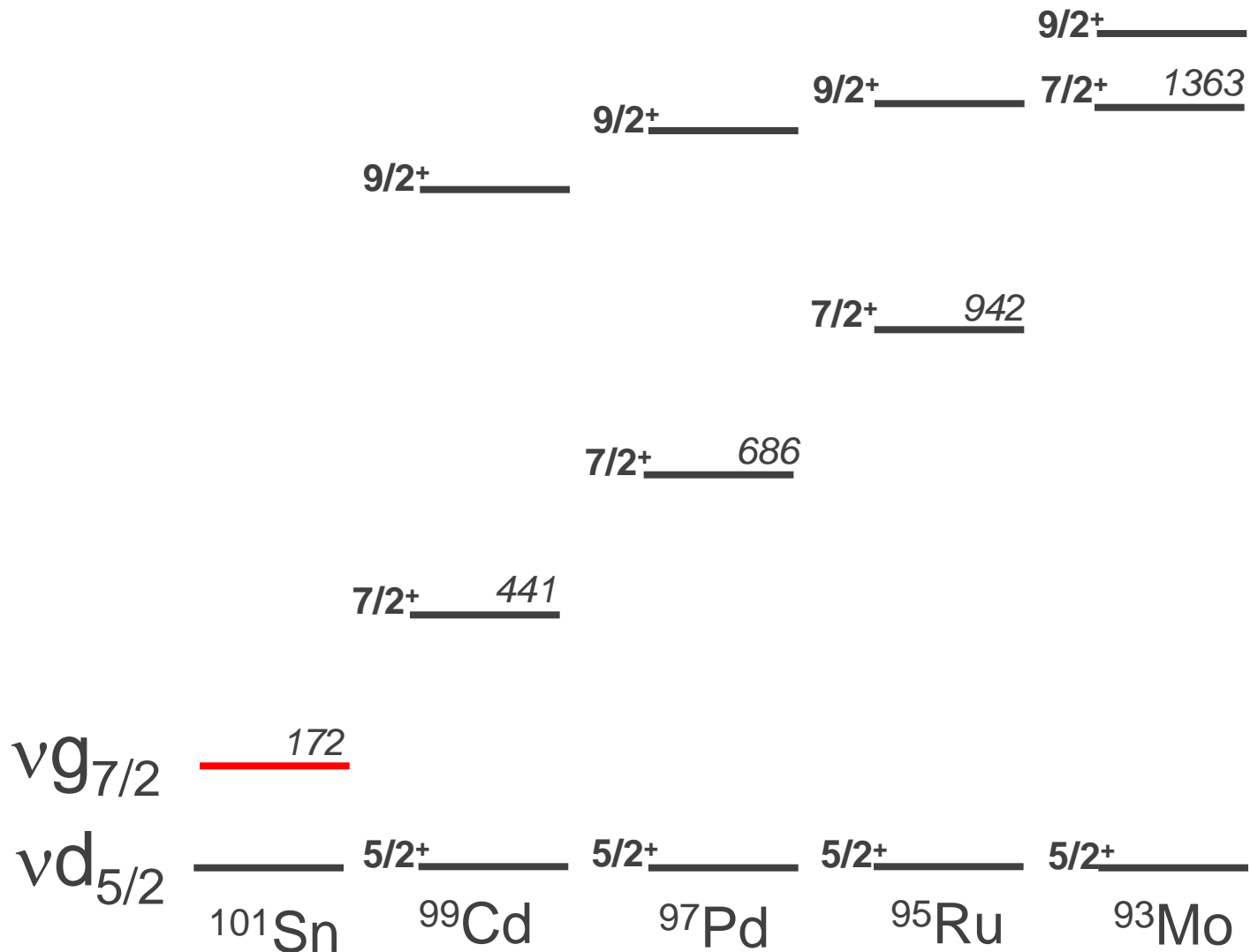
$^{103}\text{Sn}$

$^{104}\text{Sn}$

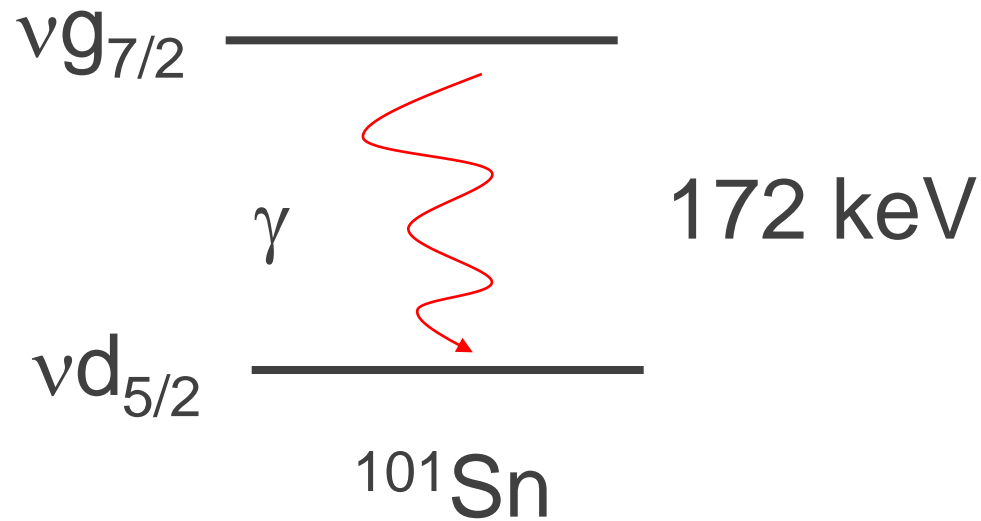
$^{105}\text{Sn}$



# N=51 isotones

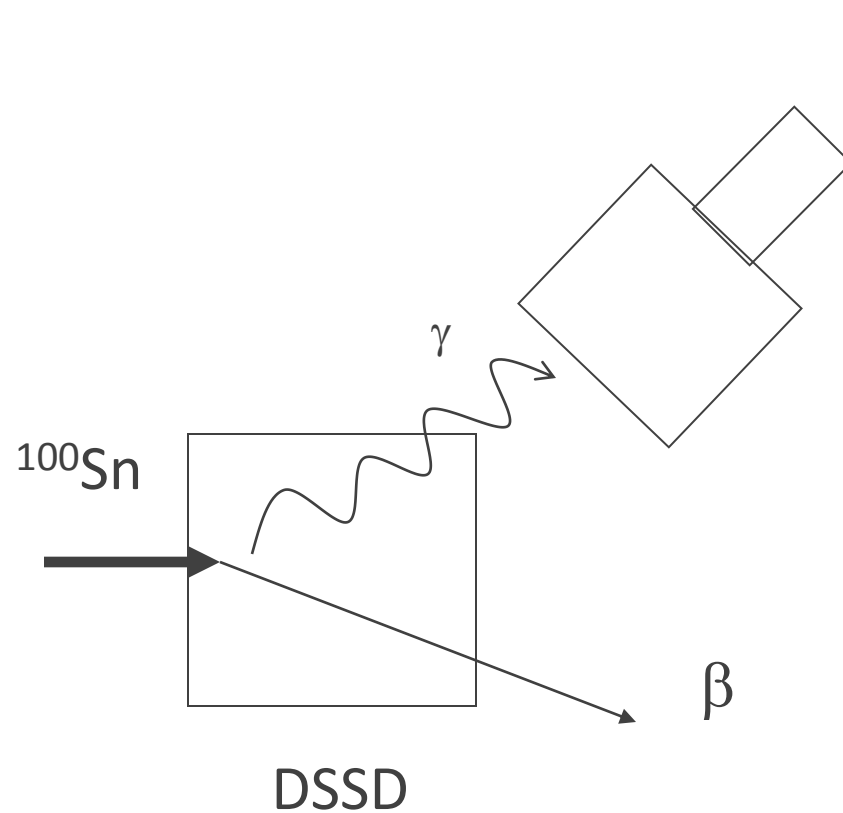


# $^{101}\text{Sn}$ level scheme



See Douglas diJulio's poster

# $^{100}\text{Sn}$ beta delayed gamma tagging?



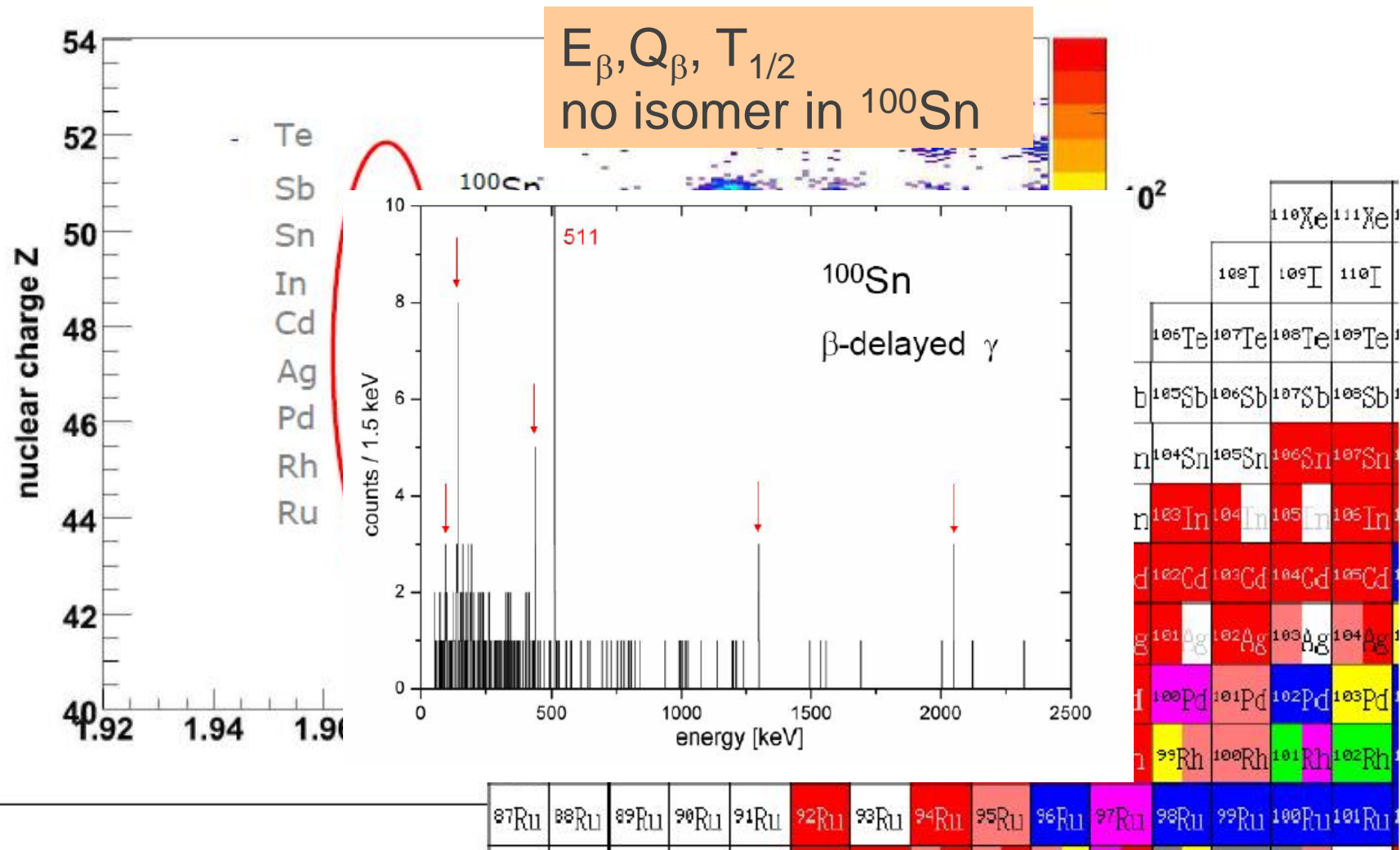
Tagging with characteristic  
 $\beta$  delayed  $\gamma$  rays

# Probing proton dripline

T.Faestermann

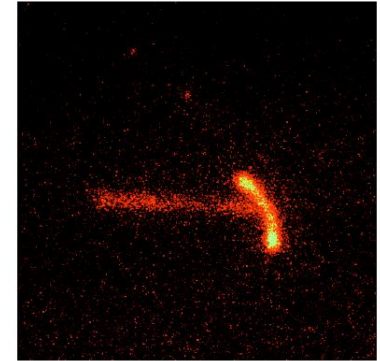
analysis: K.Eppinger, C.Hinke

TU München



# Three great ideas

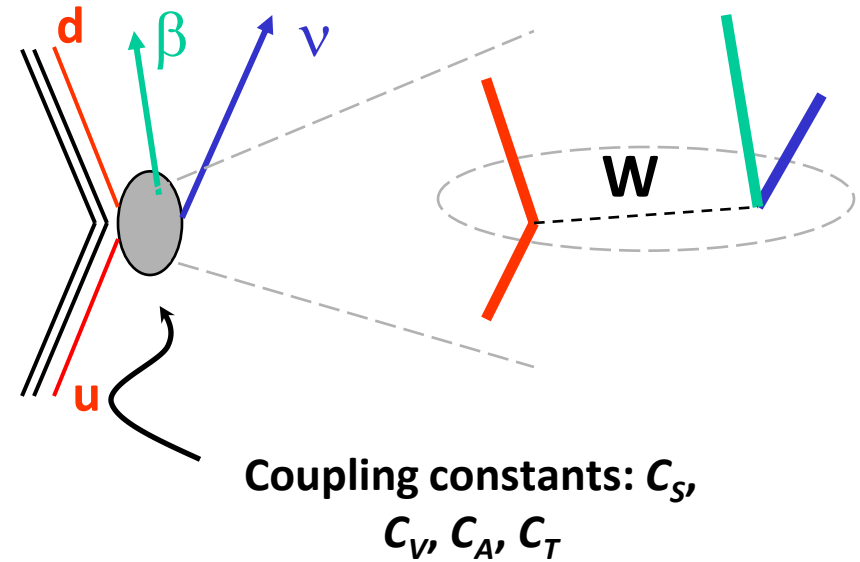
- In-trap neutrino-beta correlations
- Optical time projection chamber
- Superheated active chamber
  
- How to detect a neutrino?
- How to take a photo of a proton?
- Bubble chamber – no need to say more



# $\beta$ – n correlations

slides courtesy of Jason Clark

$$\begin{aligned}
 H_{\text{int}} = & (\bar{\psi}_2 \psi_1) (C_S \bar{\psi}_e \psi_\nu + C'_S \bar{\psi}_e \gamma_5 \psi_\nu) \\
 & + (\bar{\psi}_2 \gamma_\mu \psi_1) (C_V \bar{\psi}_e \gamma^\mu \psi_\nu + C'_V \bar{\psi}_e \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 \psi_\nu) \\
 & + \frac{1}{2} (\bar{\psi}_2 \sigma_{\lambda\mu} \psi_1) (C_T \bar{\psi}_e \sigma^{\lambda\mu} \psi_\nu + C'_T \bar{\psi}_e \sigma^{\lambda\mu} \gamma_5 \psi_\nu) \\
 & - (\bar{\psi}_2 \gamma_\mu \gamma_5 \psi_1) (C_A \bar{\psi}_e \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 \psi_\nu + C'_A \bar{\psi}_e \gamma^\mu \psi_\nu) \\
 & + (\bar{\psi}_2 \gamma_5 \psi_1) (C_P \bar{\psi}_e \gamma_5 \psi_\nu + C'_P \bar{\psi}_e \psi_\nu)
 \end{aligned}$$



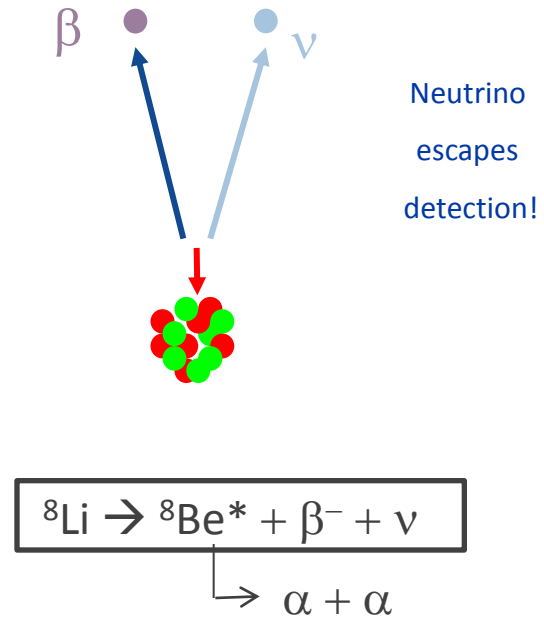
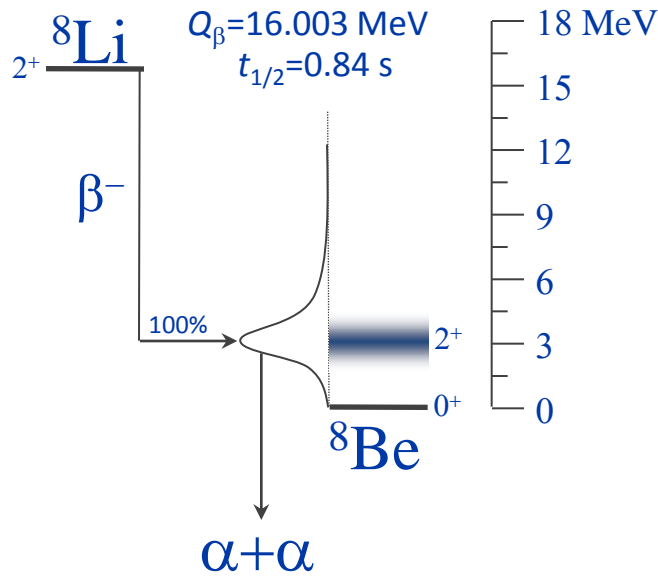
$$dW = dW_0 \varepsilon \left[ 1 + \frac{\vec{p}_e \cdot \vec{p}_\nu}{E_e E_\nu} \mathbf{a} + \frac{\Gamma m_e}{E_e} \mathbf{b} + \vec{J} \cdot \left( \frac{\vec{p}_e}{E_e} \mathbf{A} + \frac{\vec{p}_\nu}{E_\nu} \mathbf{B} + \frac{\vec{p}_e \times \vec{p}_\nu}{E_e E_\nu} \mathbf{D} \right) + \dots \right]$$

$$dW_0 = F(Z, E_e) p_e E_e (E_0 - E_e)^2 dE_e d\Omega_e d\Omega_\nu$$

■ Compare experimental values to SM predictions

■ Put limits on terms “forbidden” by SM

# $\beta$ - $\nu$ correlations in ${}^8\text{Li}$



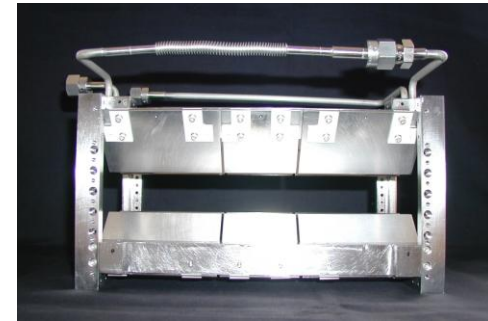
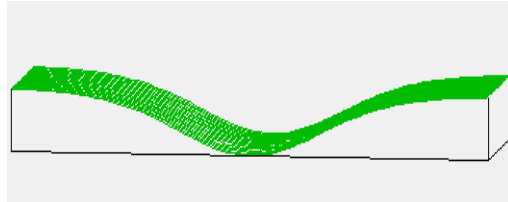
**Solution: Detect all particles BUT neutrino and use energy and momentum conservation to characterize the neutrino**



# Open geometry ion trap for decay studies

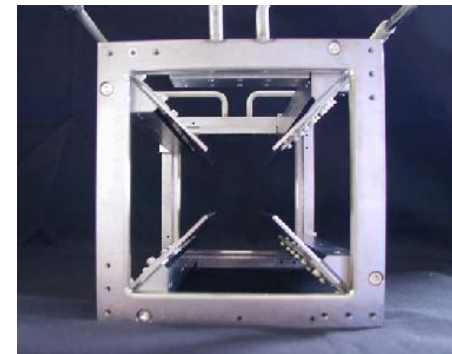
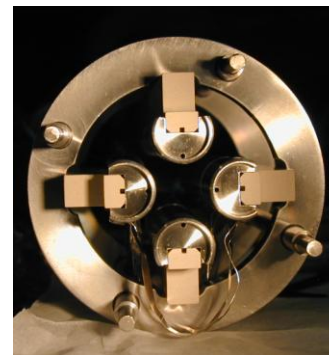
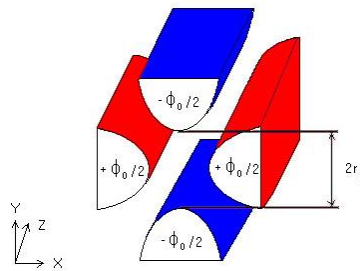
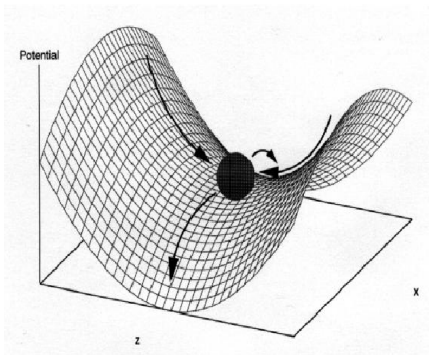
A Paul trap is an ion trap which confines ions through the presence of:

- constant, electrostatic harmonic potential along beam axis (provides axial confinement)



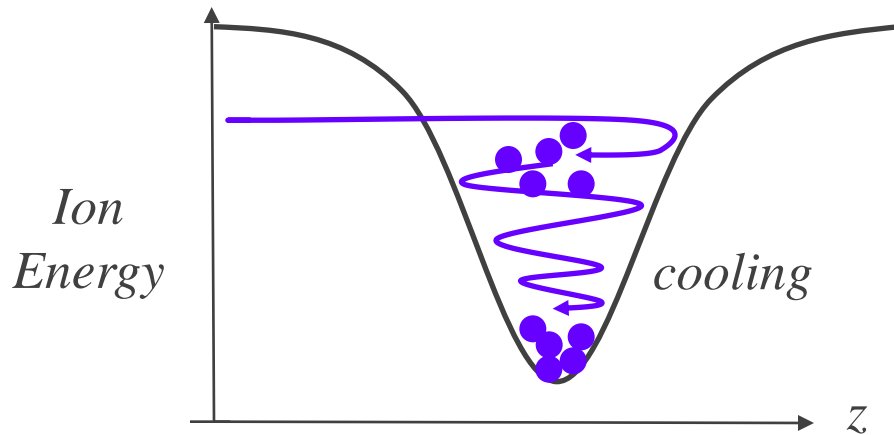
DC (V): 50, -40, 50

- RF field (provides radial confinement)



# Ion properties in a Paul trap

Buffer gas used to cool ions:



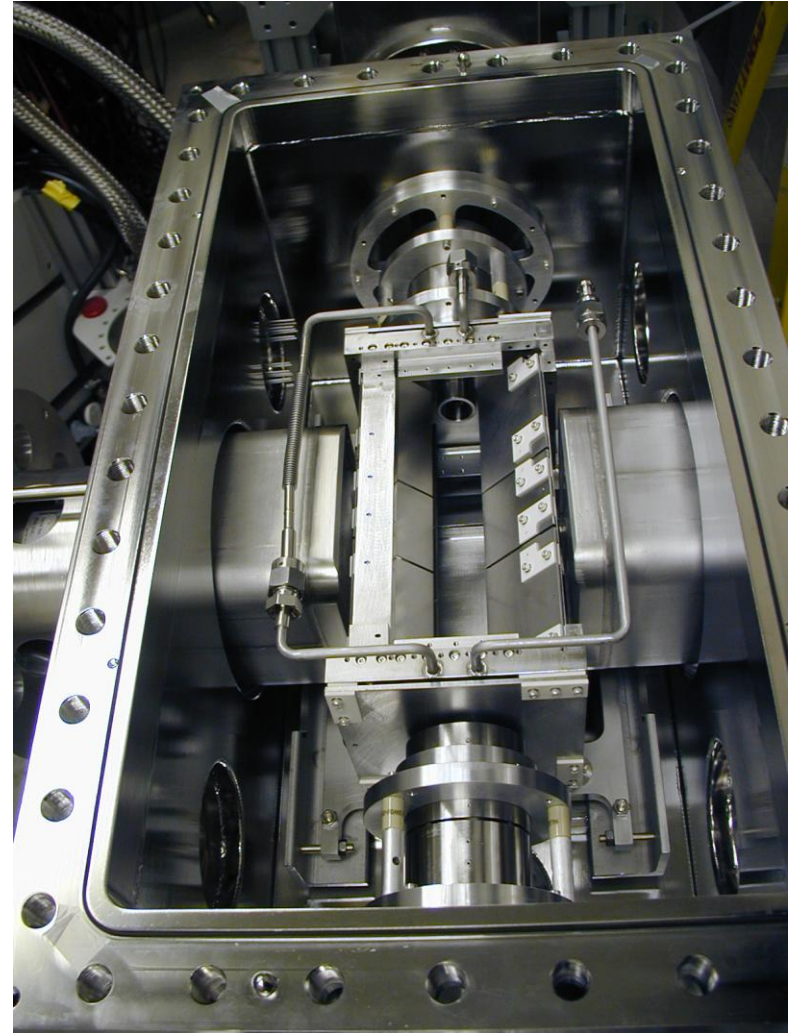
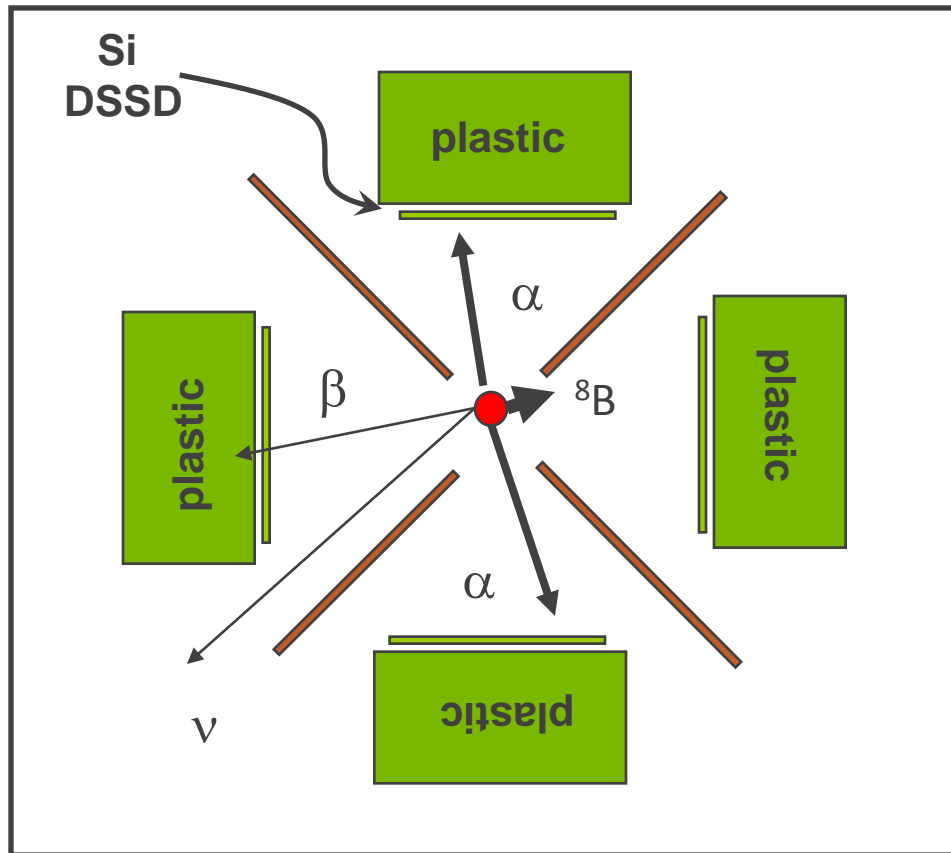
Additional cooling provided by liquid nitrogen cooled trap:



Results:

- good vacuum properties
  - ions have long 'trap lifetime' ( $> 10$  s)
- ions are well centered in trap ( $< 1$  mm<sup>3</sup>) after cooling (50 ms)
- ions almost at rest ( $< 0.1$  eV)
- element independent (can use trap for any ion)
- good capture efficiency ( $\sim 100\%$ )

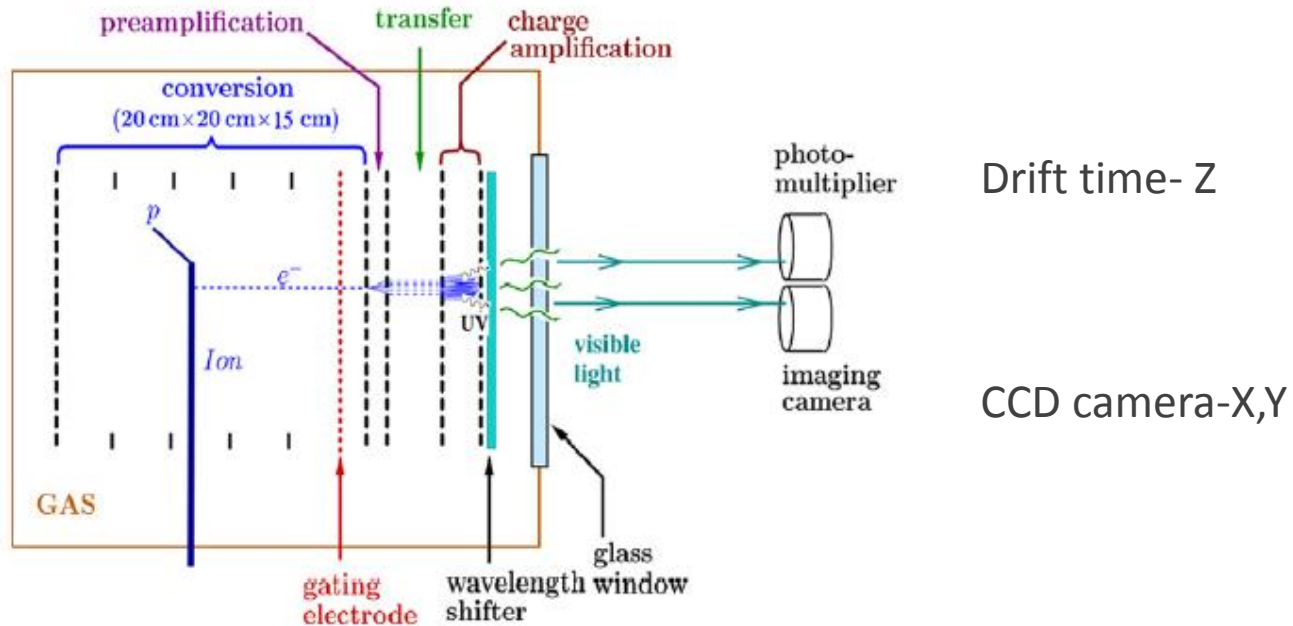
# Open geometry Paul trap for decay studies



# Optical time projection chamber

K.Miernik et al., NIM A581(2007)194

Detection of multi charged particle decay of fragmentation products.



Ar(49%)+He(49%)+N<sub>2</sub>(1%)+CH<sub>4</sub>(1%)

20x20x15cm<sup>3</sup>

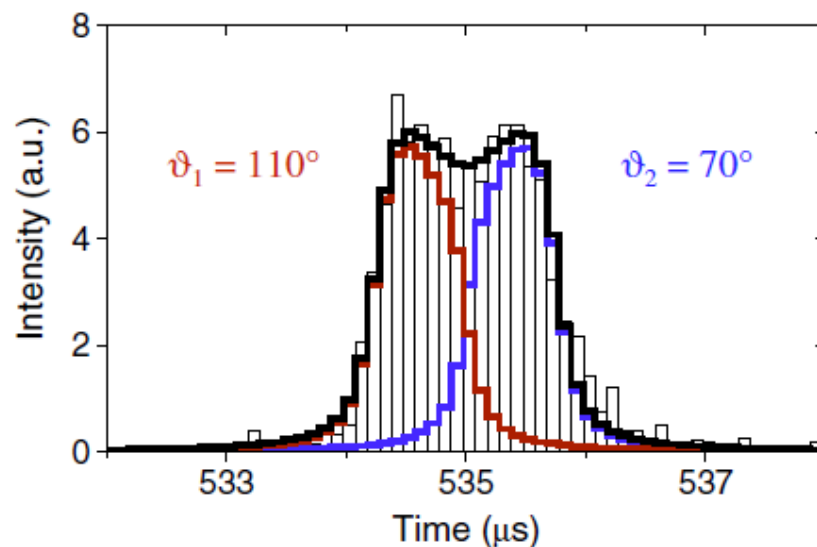
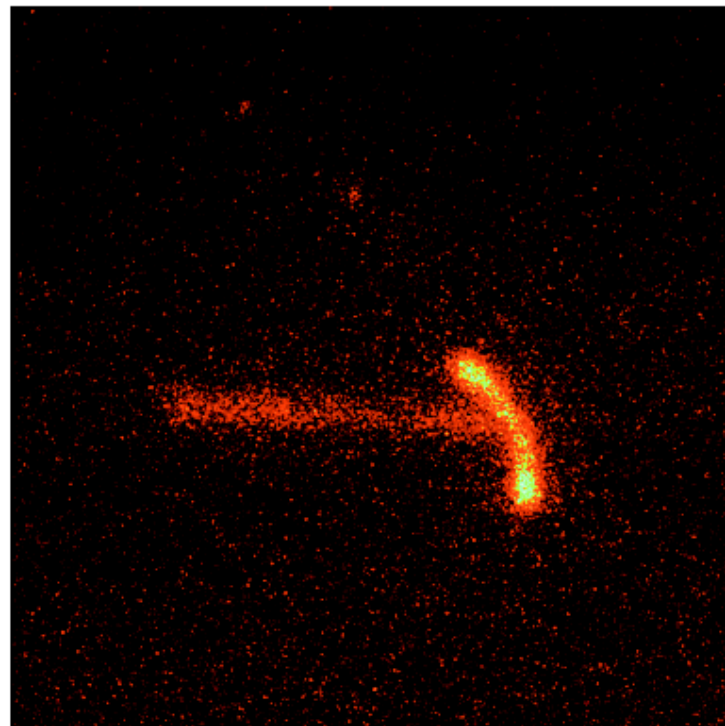
2 gains: HI, decay

ON-OFF

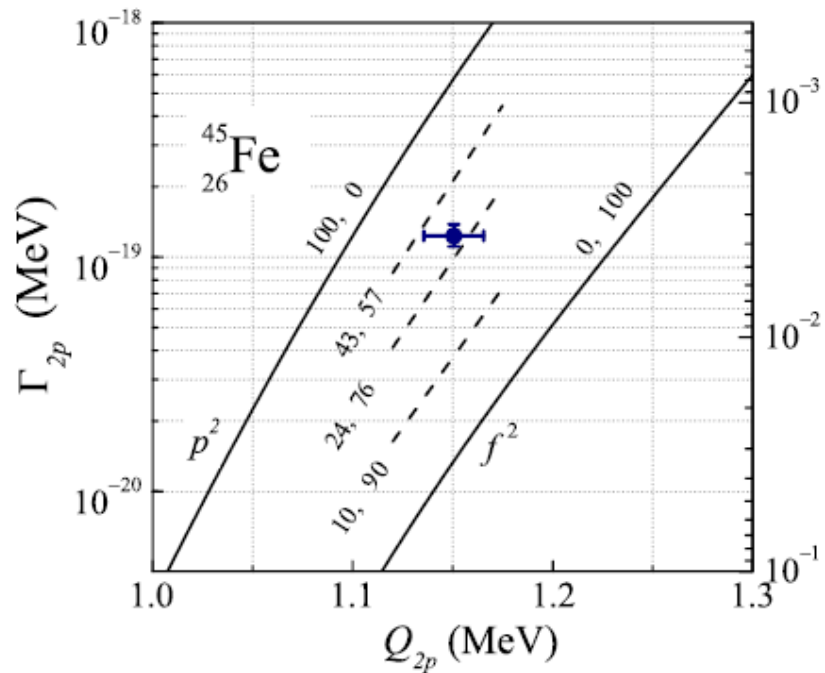
# $^{45}\text{Fe}$ 2-proton decay observation

K.Miernik et al., PRL 99, 192501 (2007)

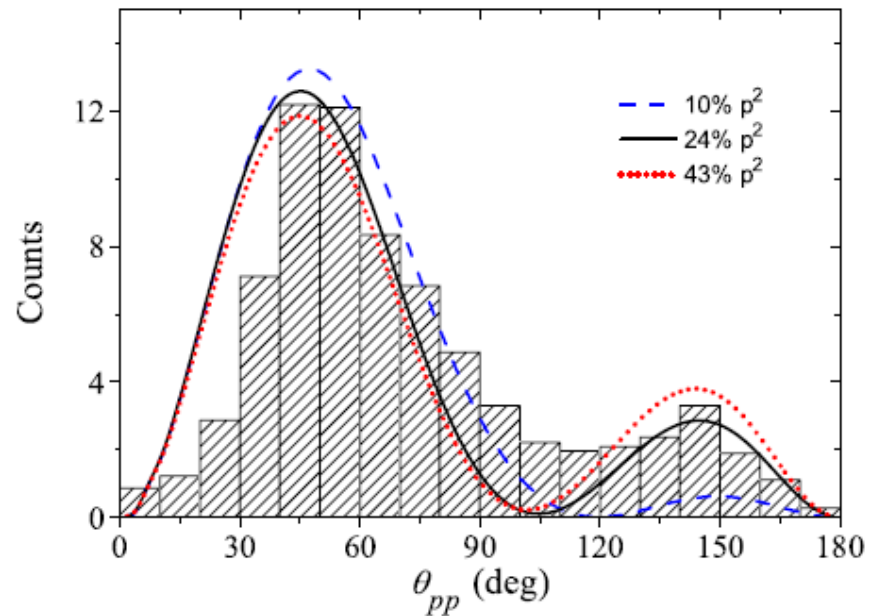
- proton decay energetically impossible
- Proton-proton correlations
  - no correlations
  - $^2\text{He}$  emission
  - something in between



# $^{45}\text{Fe}$ 2-proton decay results



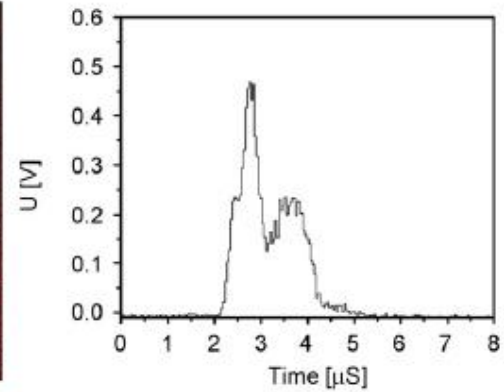
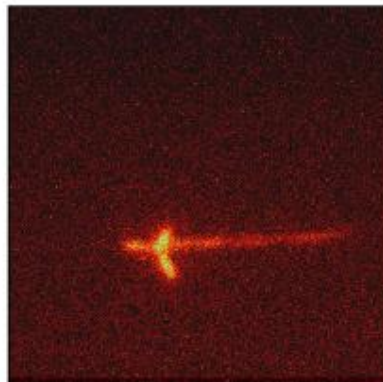
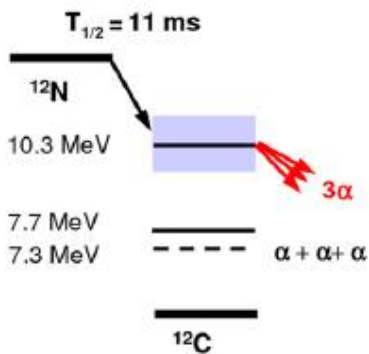
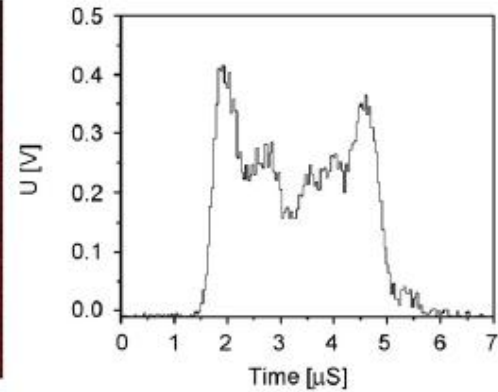
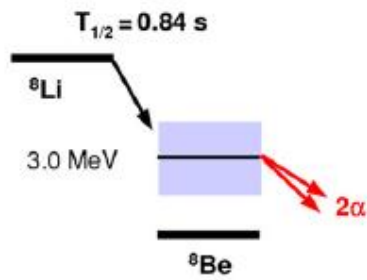
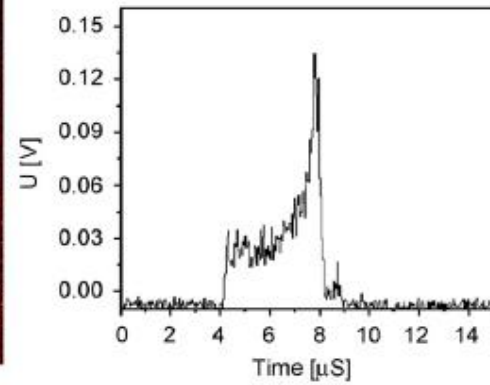
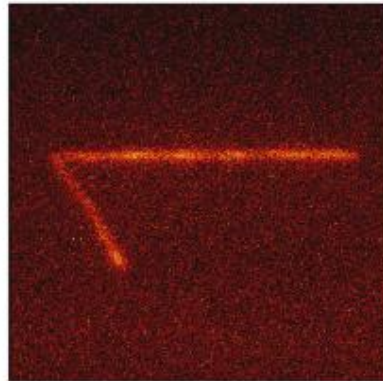
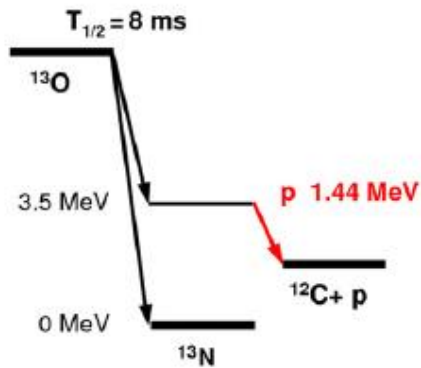
Measured lifetime



p-p angular correlations

2p decay requires a 3-body model

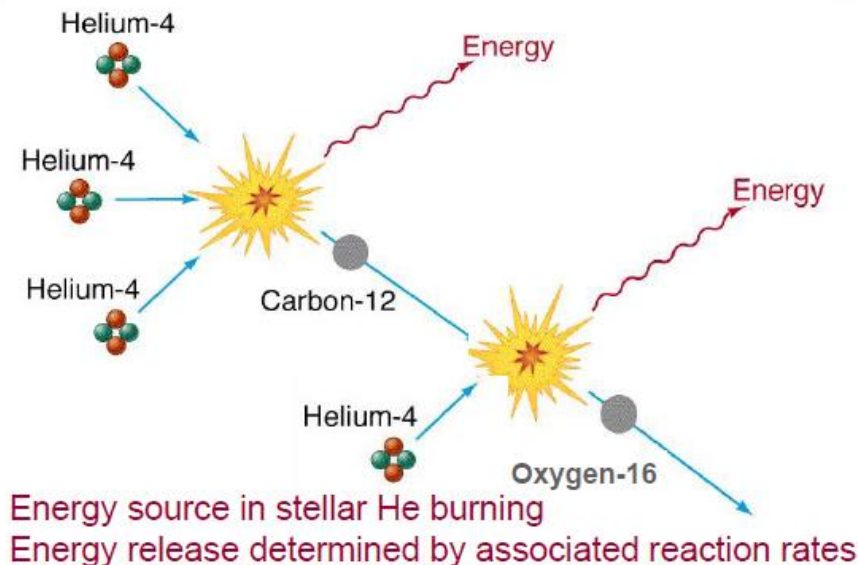
Recently the 2p decay of the doubly-magic  $^{48}\text{Ni}$  was observed at NSCL!



# Superheated active chamber

slides courtesy B. DiGiovine

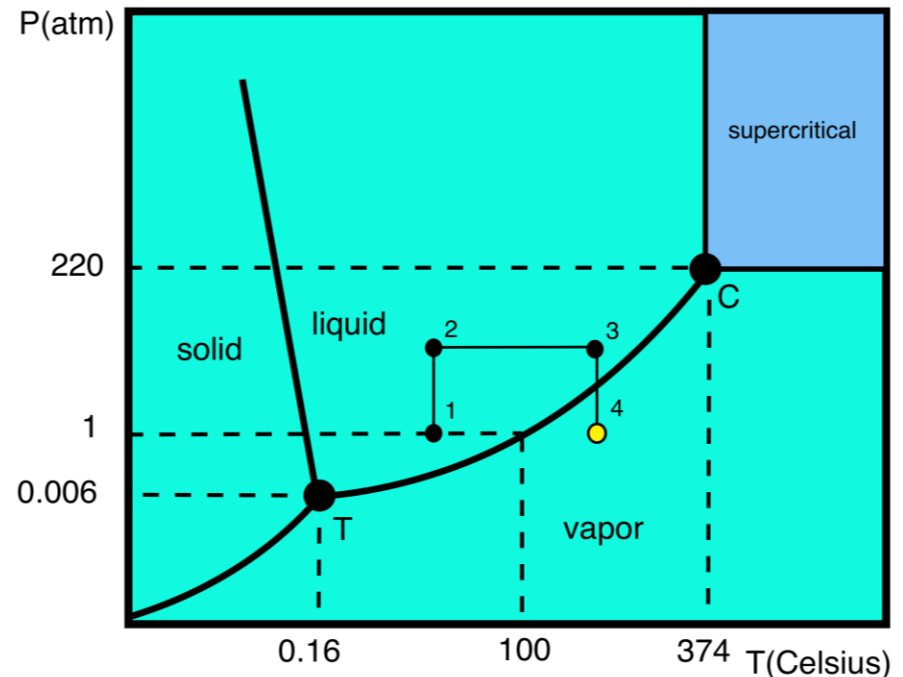
- $^{12}\text{C}(^4\text{He},\gamma)^{16}\text{O}$  reaction important for stellar He burning
- Direct measurements reached their limit
  - Small cross section
  - Background
- Measure inverse reaction  $^{16}\text{O}(\gamma,\alpha)^{12}\text{C}$  using a gamma-ray beam and a superheated active target





# Superheated liquid

- Pressure is raised in detector to a value above its vapor pressure at operating temperature (1-2)
- Temperature is then increased to operating temperature (2-3)
- Pressure is then reduced to a value which the active medium should exist in a liquid state (3-4)
- This is called a metastable state, and the liquid is now considered superheated
- Small disturbances in the liquid will cause vaporization
- Recoiling particles from nuclear reactions deposit their energy over a very short distance
- This deposited energy is enough to induce nucleation, which results in a bubble and is our detected event
- The detector system “sees” this event and pressurizes the system causing the bubble to liquefy, resetting the detector (4-3)
- By varying the operating T&P we can vary the amount of superheat, which allows us to adjust the detection threshold of the system



R134-a refrigerant  
Later water

# Bubble chamber

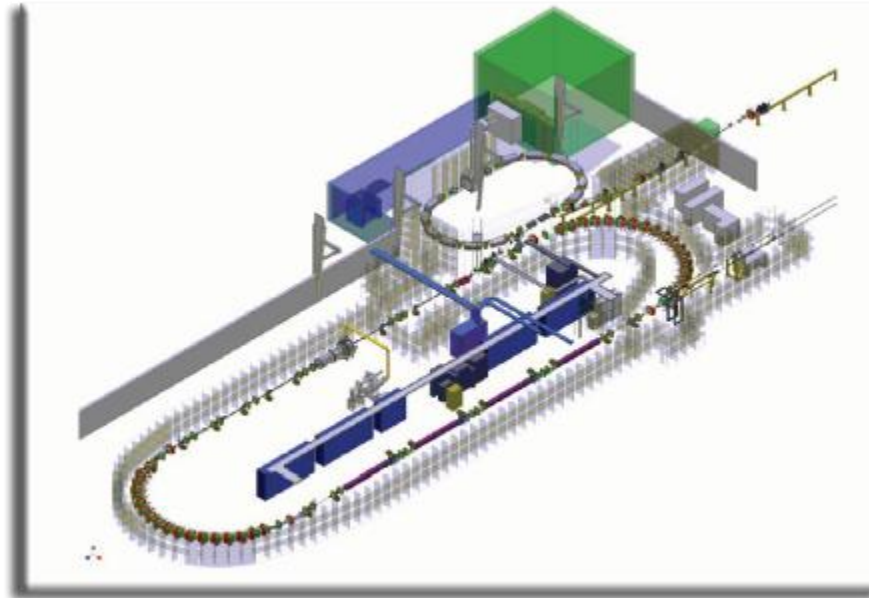
- The detection of the bubble and the subsequent pressurization must be done quickly!
- Utilizing cameras running at 100fps, our software compares to sequential photos, subtracts them, and activates the pressurization cycle within 10ms after the event is detected
- Pressure must begin to increase within  $\sim 40$ ms to control the bubble and prevent a run-away boil
- Initial testing of equipment and software at room temperature using a commercial refrigerant R134-a allowed us to troubleshoot and operate the system without the additional complications of high temperatures



# H $\gamma$ S facility

## High Intensity Gamma Ray Source

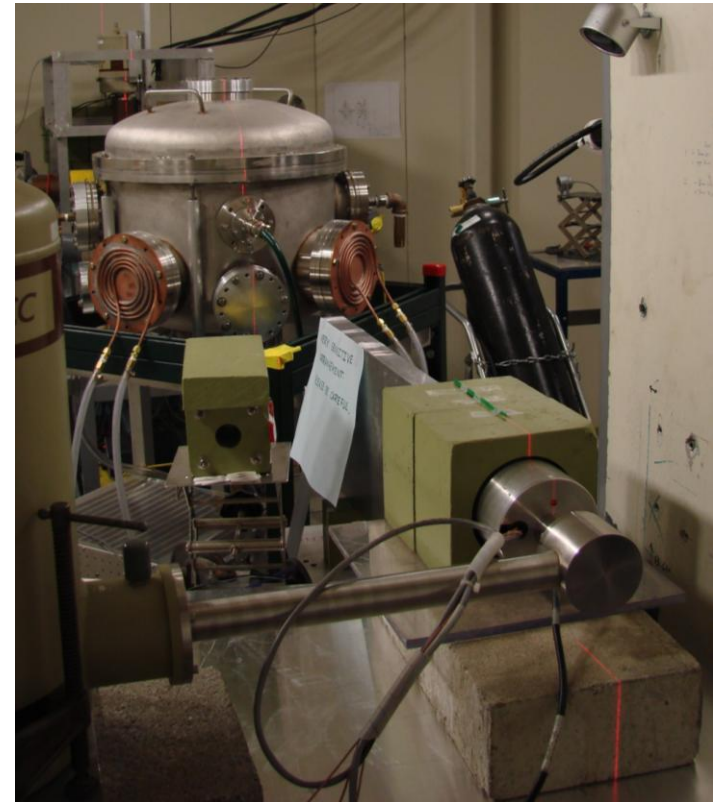
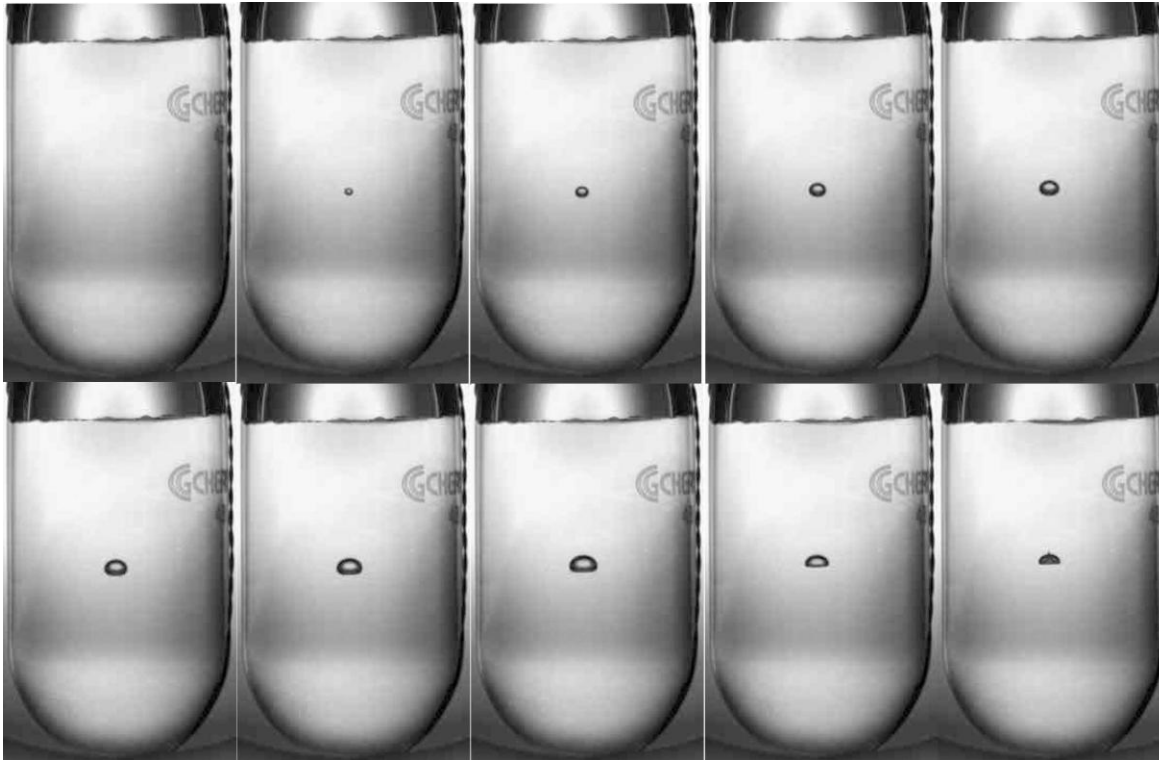
### TUNL lab at Duke



Light compton Backscattered from a high energy electron beam

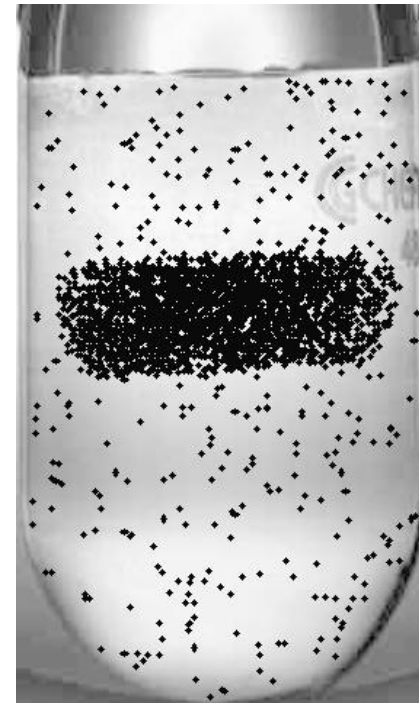
# First experiments at HlyS

- Proof of principle experiment was conducted at Duke
- Second generation room temperature detector, active medium was R134-a
- Followed excitation function for photodisintegration curve of fluorine



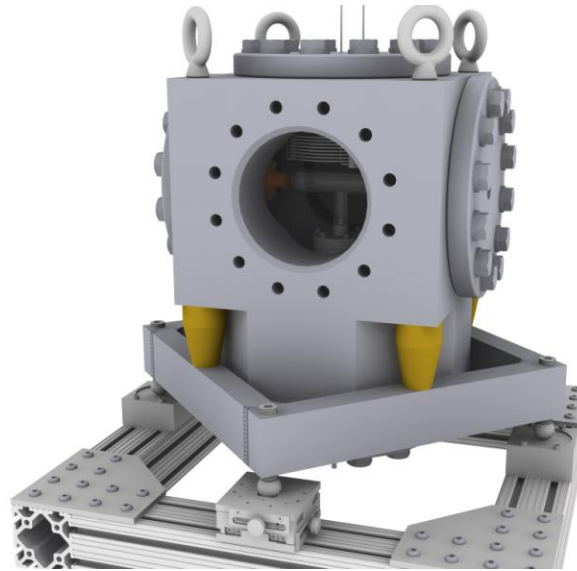
# Results from HIγS

- Successfully confirmed excitation function for photodisintegration of fluorine
- Successfully confirmed  $dN/dt$  advantage of the technique
- Laid groundwork for future superheated water experiments
- Detector worked so well for preliminary fluorine experiments it will now be dedicated to room temperature experiments, a third detector will be built, realizing lessons learned, for superheated water experiments

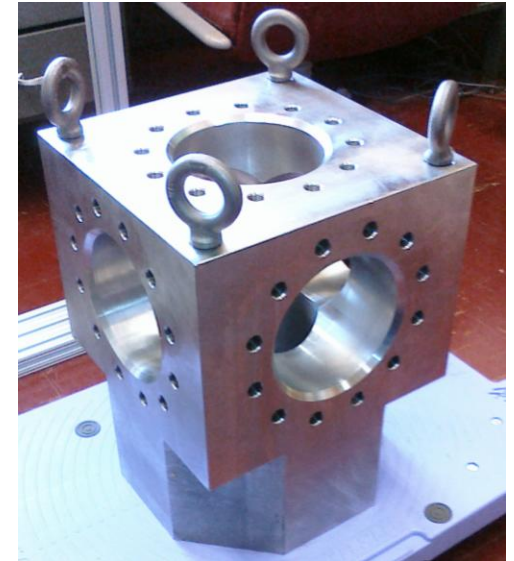


# Third generation bubble chamber

- The realization of the high T&P which is necessary to make a viable superheated water bubble chamber spurred a new design direction
- Rather than having a glass vessel support the high pressure differentials an external pressure vessel will support the pressure differential allowing for a thin glass vessel inside connected to a bellows with the active volume, surrounded in a bath of hot oil. This oil is now the fluid that gets acted on directly by the pressurization system
- Components are in the process of manufacture, design work is beginning to finish up, construction should begin by spring



Version 3



**Thank you**

