

Total Absorption Spectroscopy Measurements for Applications and Nuclear Structure

Alejandro Algora

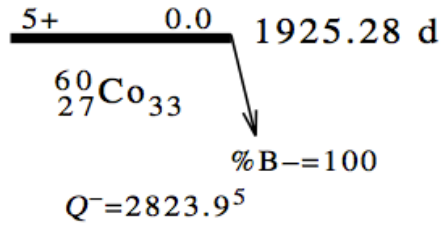
IFIC, CSIC-University of Valencia, Spain

MTA ATOMKI, Debrecen, Hungary

INT Neutrino Workshop, Seattle, November 2013

Example: ^{60}Co decay from <http://www.nndc.bnl.gov/>

Decay Scheme

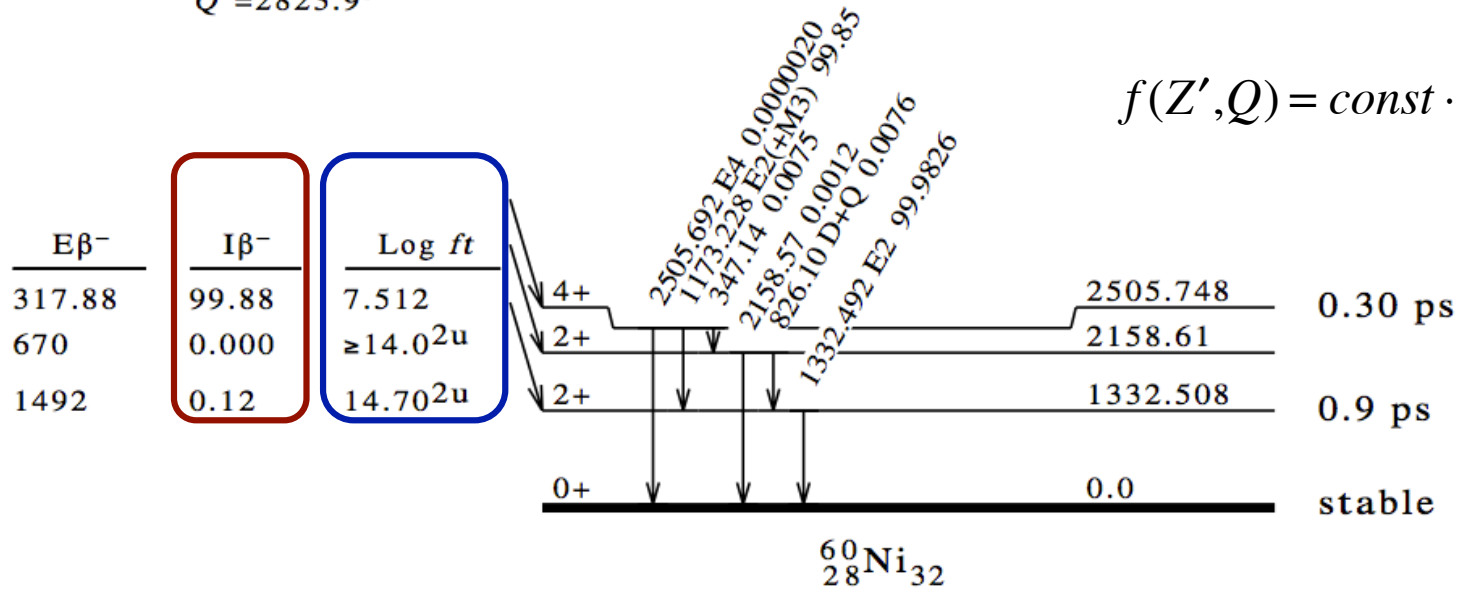


Intensities: relative I_γ

Feeding: $I_\beta = P_f * 100$

Comparative half-life: ft

$$f(Z', Q) = \text{const} \cdot \int_0^{P_{\max}} F(Z', p) p^2 (Q - E_e)^2 dp$$



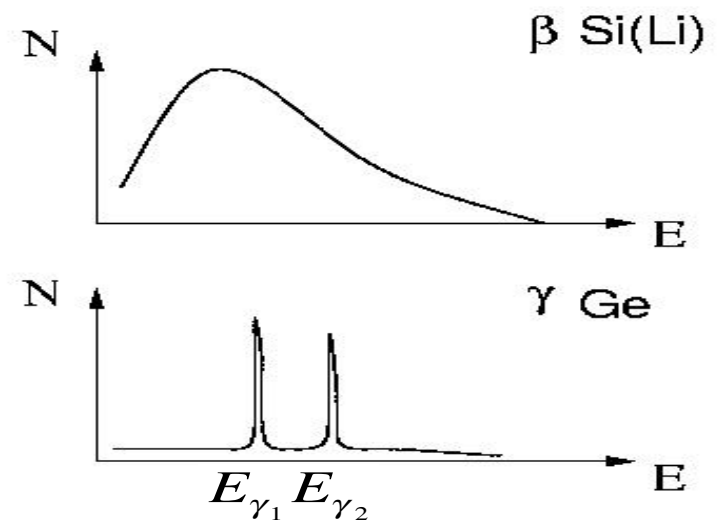
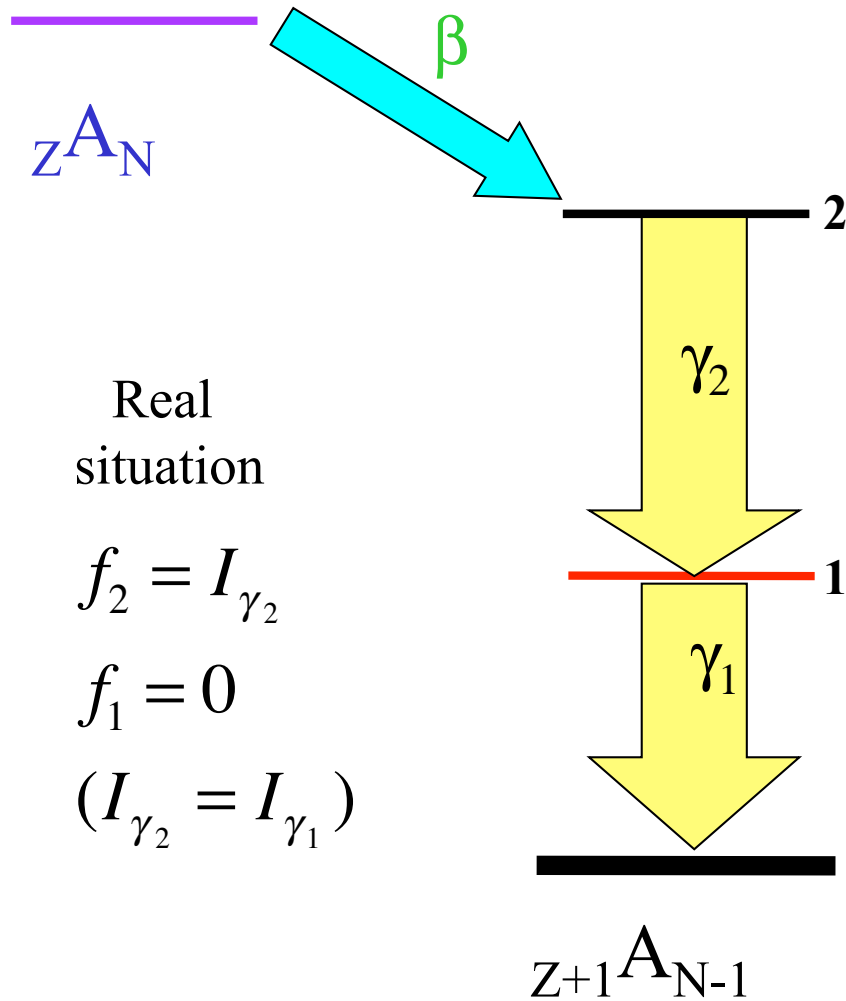
$$ft_f = \text{const}' \frac{1}{|M_{if}|^2} = \text{const}' \frac{1}{B_{i \rightarrow f}}$$

$$S_\beta(E) = \frac{P_\beta(E)}{f(Z', Q_\beta - E) T_{1/2}} = \frac{1}{ft(E)}$$

$$B_{i \rightarrow f} = \frac{1}{2J_i + 1} \left| \langle \Psi_f | \tau^\pm \text{ or } \sigma \tau^\pm | \Psi_i \rangle \right|^2$$

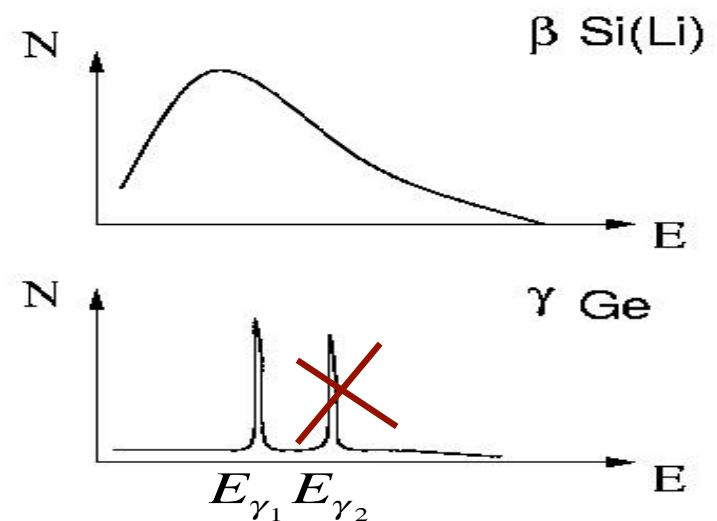
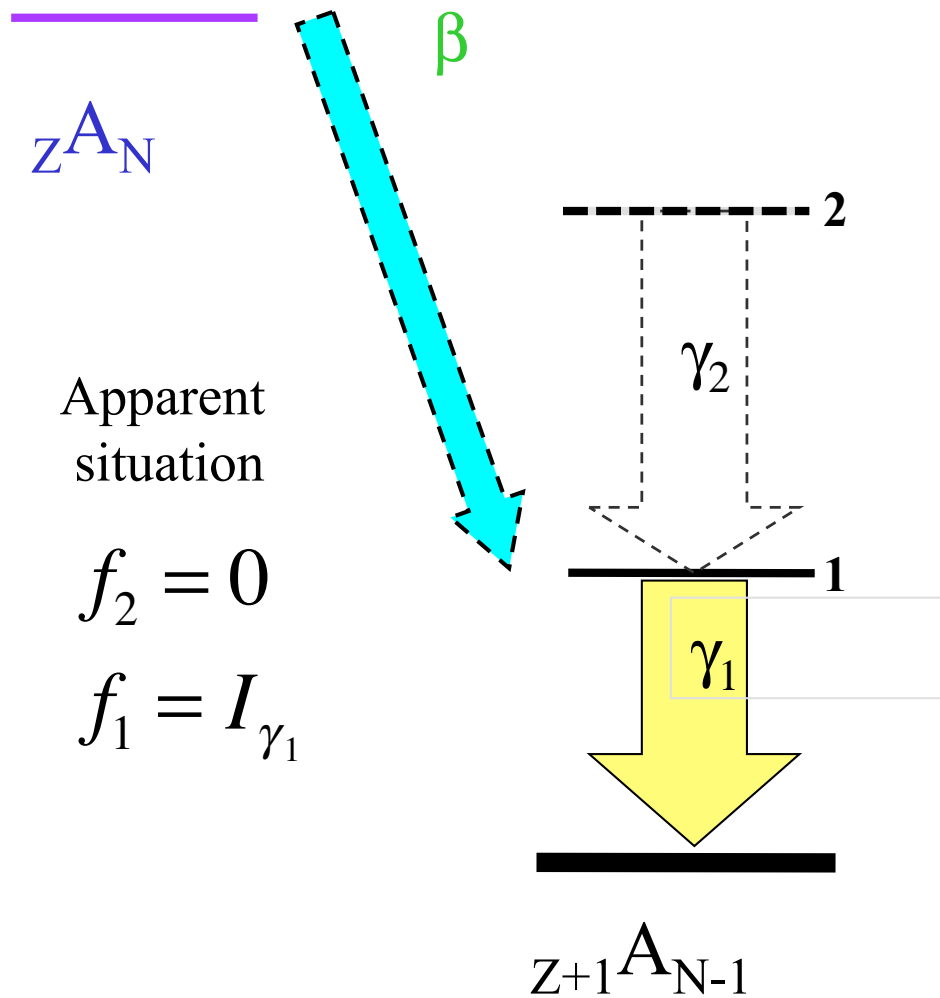
$$t_f = \frac{T_{1/2}}{P_f} \quad T_{1/2} = \frac{\ln(2)}{\lambda} = \tau \ln(2)$$

The problem of measuring the β -feeding



- Ge detectors are conventionally used to construct the level scheme populated in the decay
- From the γ intensity balance we deduce the β -feeding

Experimental perspective: the problem of measuring the β -feeding



- What happens if we miss some intensity

$$\text{Single } \gamma \sim \epsilon$$

$$\text{Coinc } \gamma_1 \gamma_2 \sim \epsilon_1 \epsilon_2$$

Pandemonium (The Capital of Hell)

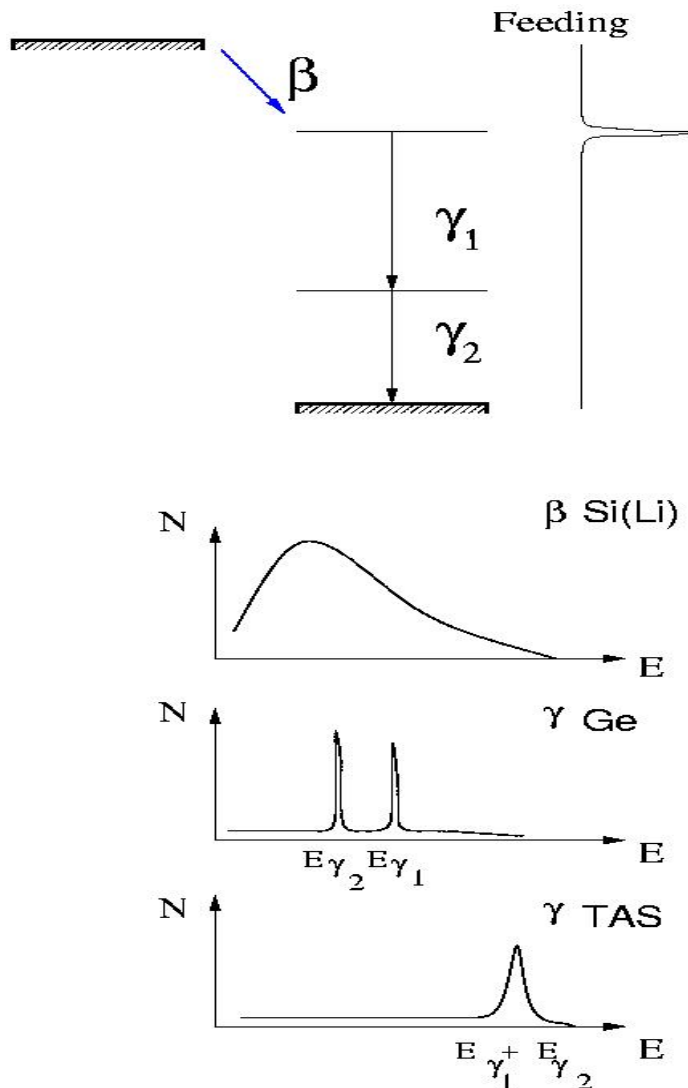
introduced by John Milton (XVII) in his epic poem *Paradise Lost*



John Martin (~ 1825), presently at Louvre

Hardy et al., *Phys. Lett.* 71B (1977) 307

TAGS measurements



Since the gamma detection is the only reasonable way to solve the problem, we need a highly efficient device:

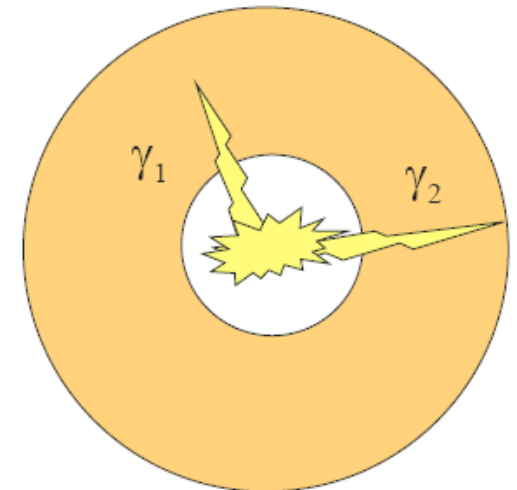
A TOTAL ABSORPTION SPECTROMETER

But there is a change in philosophy. Instead of detecting the individual gamma rays we sum the energy deposited by the gamma cascades in the detector.

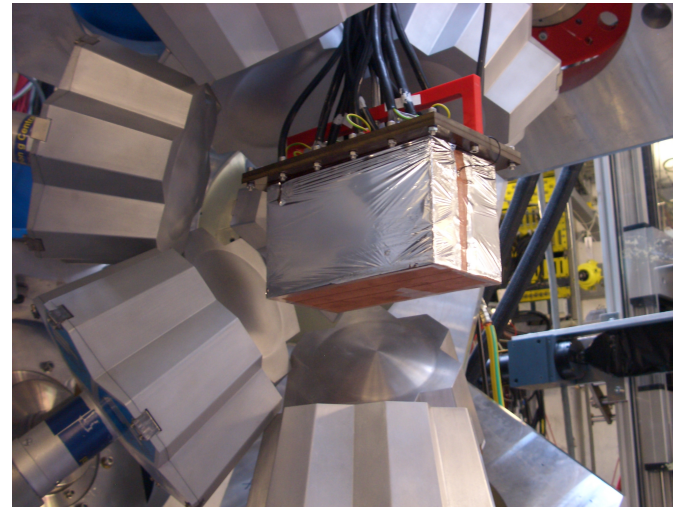
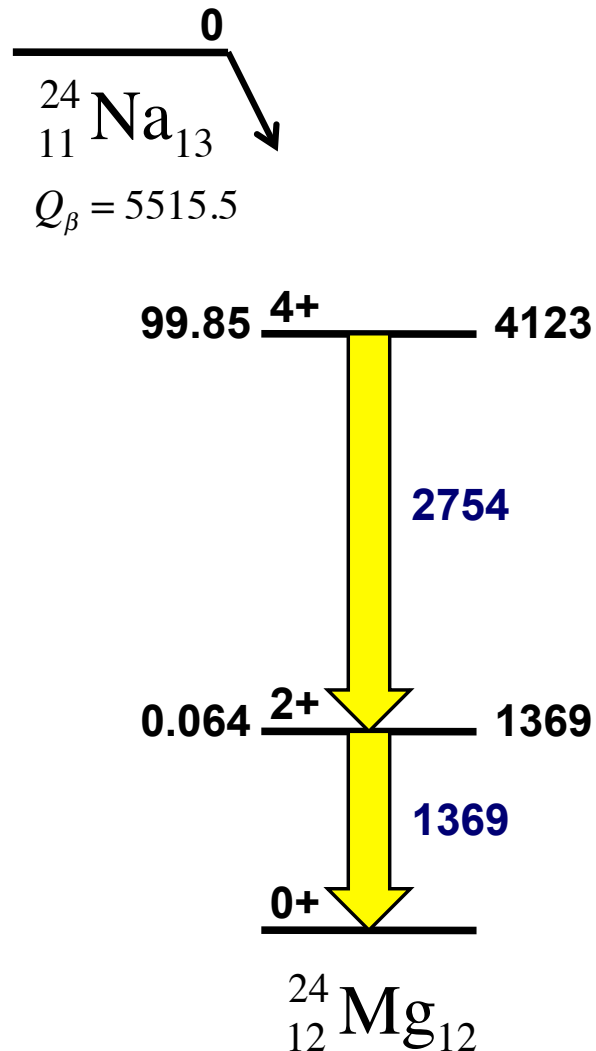
A TAS is like a calorimeter!

Big crystal, 4π

$$d = R(B) \cdot f$$



Ge detector case: ^{24}Na decay



© SIMONS TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
 RTVEE.COM

 Stopped Beam
 Configuration:
 15 clusters, 105
 Ge capsules

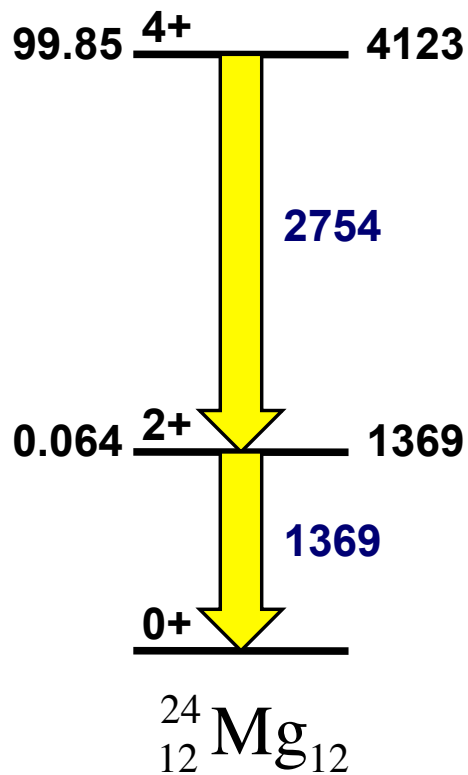
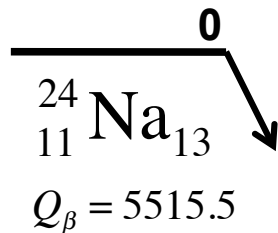
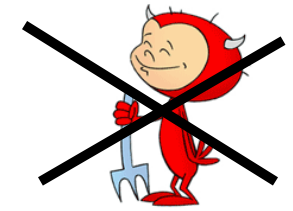
$$\epsilon_{p1} = 0.10 \quad \gamma_1 = 1369 \text{ keV}$$

$$\epsilon_{p2} = 0.06 \quad \gamma_2 = 2754 \text{ keV}$$

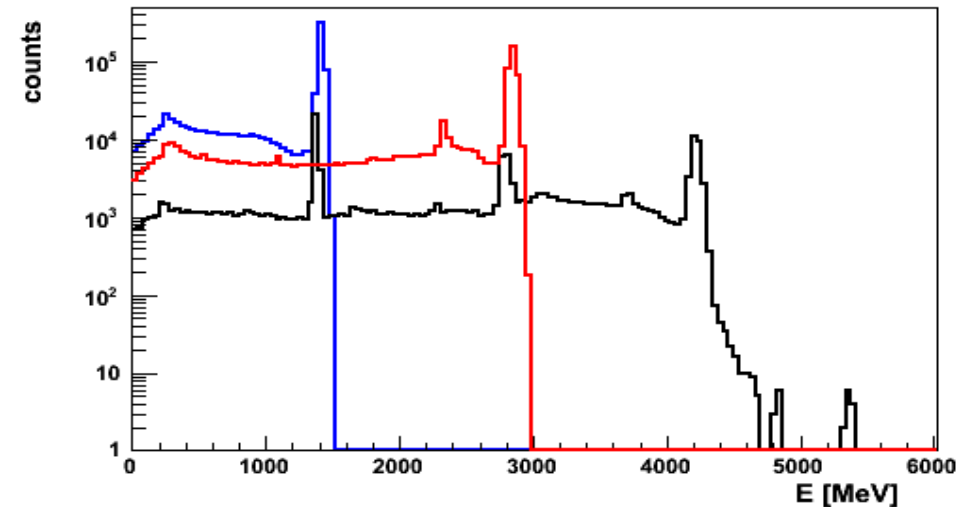
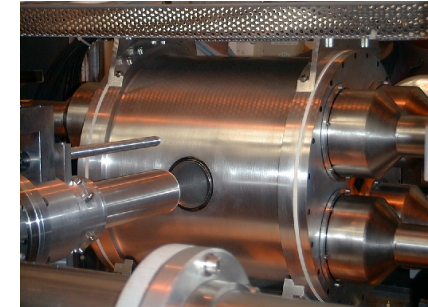
$$\epsilon_{coinc} = \epsilon_{p1} \cdot \epsilon_{p2}$$

$$\epsilon_{coinc} = 0.006$$

TAS case: ^{24}Na decay



$$d = R(B) \cdot f$$



$$\varepsilon_{Total}(1369 \text{ keV}) = 0.81$$

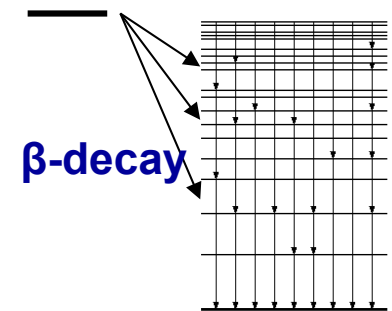
$$\varepsilon_{Total}(2754 \text{ keV}) = 0.72$$

$$\varepsilon_{Total}(cascade) = \varepsilon_{Total}^{\gamma_1} (1 - \varepsilon_{Total}^{\gamma_2})$$

$$+ \varepsilon_{Total}^{\gamma_2} (1 - \varepsilon_{Total}^{\gamma_1}) + \varepsilon_{Total}^{\gamma_1} \varepsilon_{Total}^{\gamma_2} = 0.95$$

Analysis

$$d_i = \sum_j R_{ij} f_j \quad \text{or} \quad \mathbf{d} = \mathbf{R} \cdot \mathbf{f}$$



\mathbf{R} is the response function of the spectrometer, R_{ij} means the probability that feeding at a level j gives counts in data channel i of the spectrum

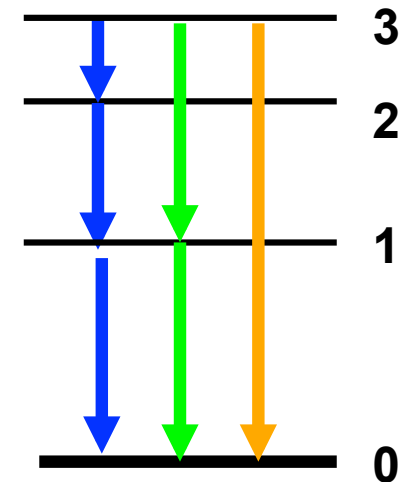
The response matrix \mathbf{R} can be constructed by recursive convolution:

$$\mathbf{R}_j = \sum_{k=0}^{j-1} b_{jk} \mathbf{g}_{jk} \otimes \mathbf{R}_k$$

\mathbf{g}_{jk} : γ -response for $j \rightarrow k$ transition

\mathbf{R}_k : response for level k

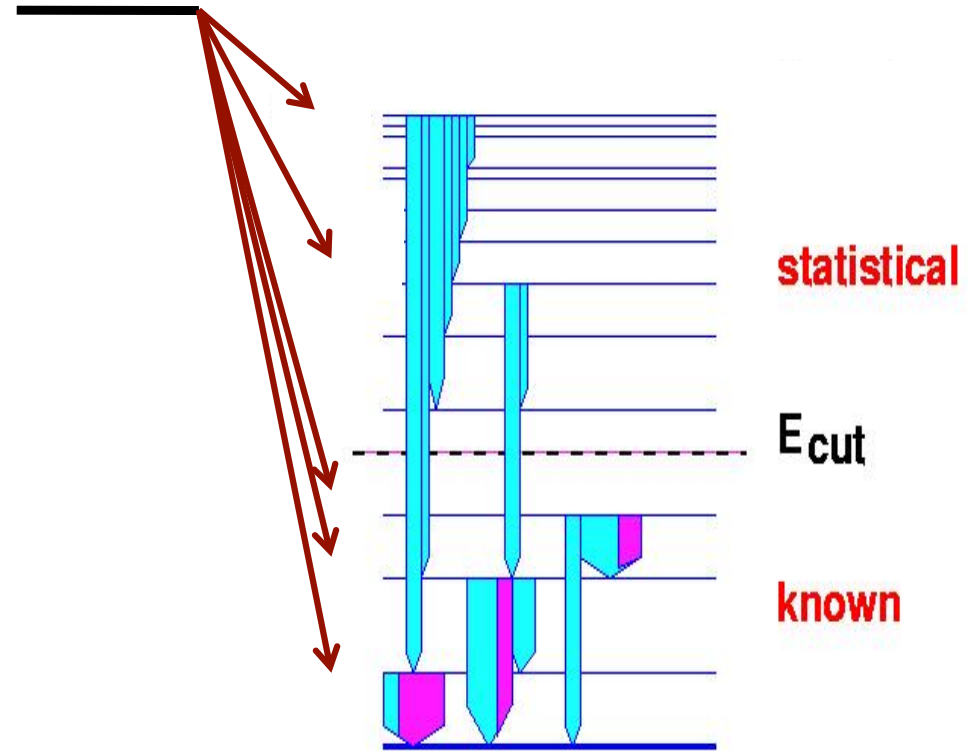
b_{jk} : branching ratio for $j \rightarrow k$ transition



Mathematical formalization by Tain, Cano, et al.

The complexity of the TAGS analysis

$$d = R(B) \cdot f$$



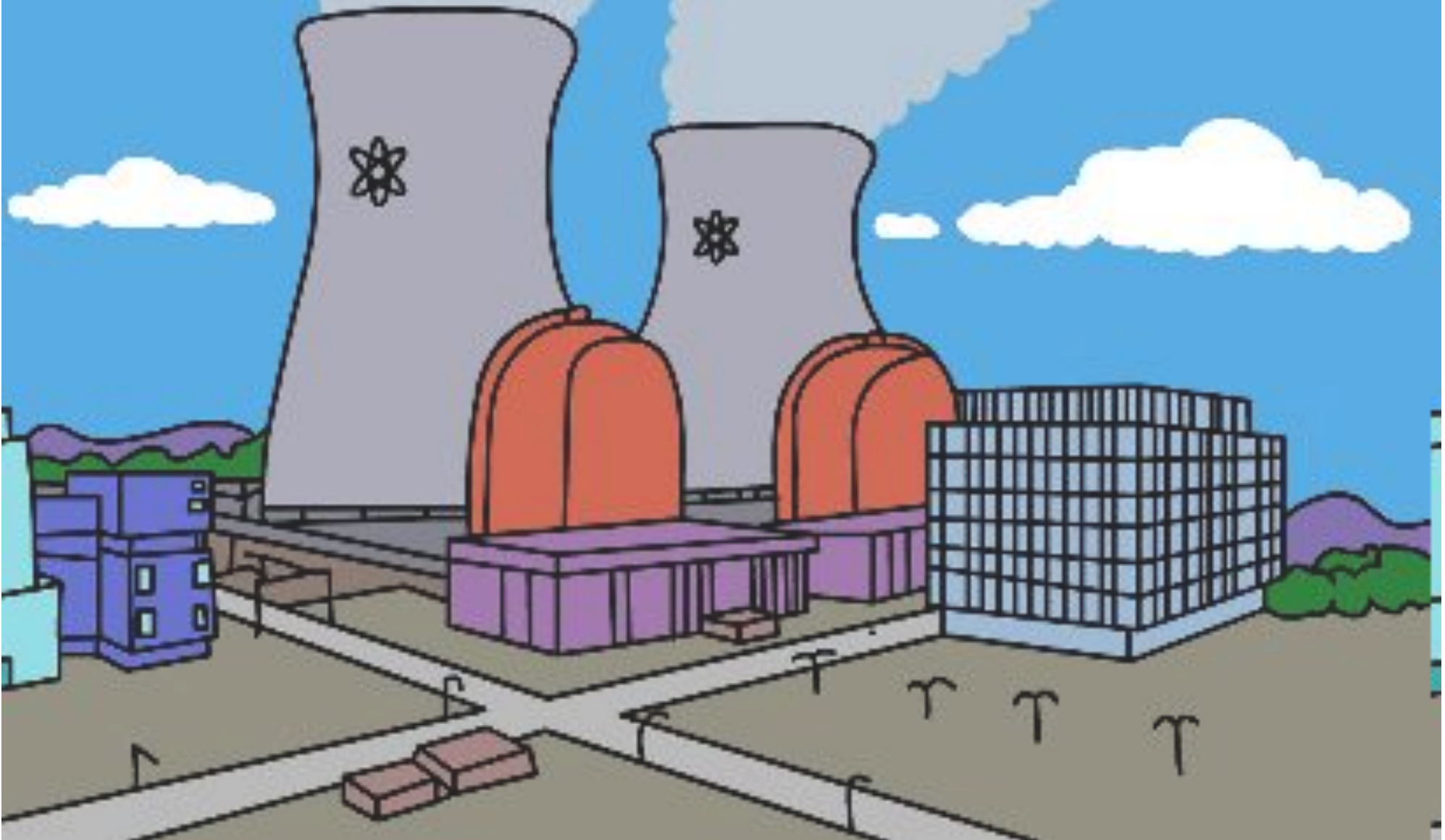
Expectation Maximization (EM) method:
modify knowledge on causes from effects

$$P(f_j | d_i) = \frac{P(d_i | f_j) P(f_j)}{\sum_j P(d_i | f_j) P(f_j)}$$

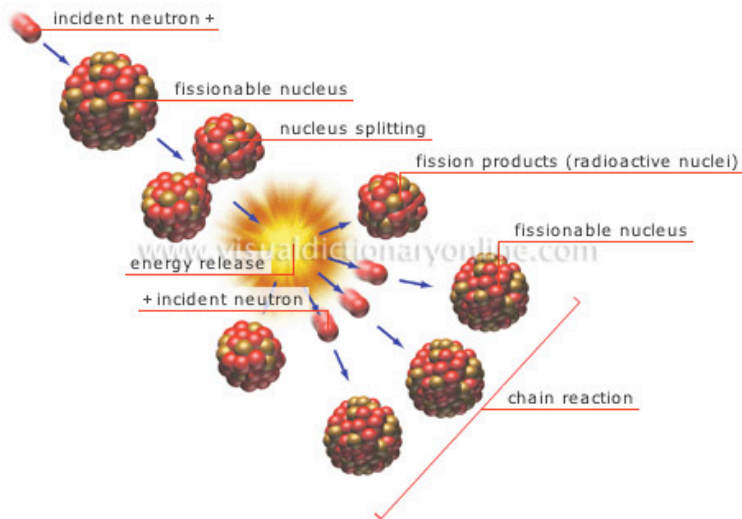
Algorithm:

$$f_j^{(s+1)} = \frac{1}{\sum_i R_{ij}} \sum_i \frac{R_{ij} f_j^{(s)} d_i}{\sum_k R_{ik} f_k^{(s)}}$$

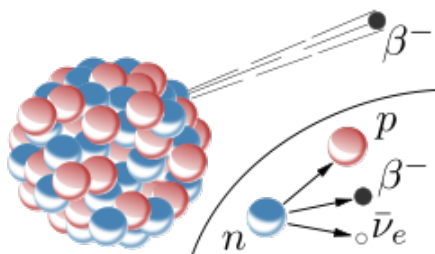
Application to the reactor decay heat
(and also to neutrino physics)



Fission process energy balance and beta decay



Each fission is approximately followed by 6 beta decays (sizable amount of energy released by the fission products)



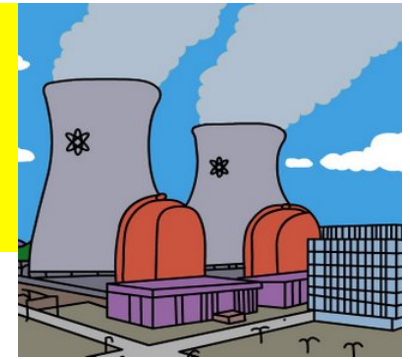
Energy released in the fission of ^{235}U

Energy distribution	MeV
Kinetic energy light fission fragment	100.0
Kinetic energy heavy fission fragment	66.2
Prompt neutrons	4.8
Prompt gamma rays	8.0
Beta energy of fission fragments	7.0
Gamma energy of fission fragments	7.2
Subtotal	192.9
Energy taken by the neutrinos	9.6
Total	202.7

James, J. Nucl. Energy 23 (1969) 517



Decay heat: how to determine it ?



- Measure it (lacks flexibility and it is costly)
- Try to predict or calculate in the best way
 - Statistical method (the first solution)

Way and Wigner, Phys. Rev. 73 (1948) 1318

$$B(t) = 1.26t^{-1.2} \text{ MeV / s}$$

$$\Gamma(t) = 1.40t^{-1.2} \text{ MeV / s}$$

later, Griffin, Phys. Rev. 134 (1964) B817

- Summation calculations (next slide)

Decay heat: summation calculations



$$f(t) = \sum_i E_i \lambda_i N_i(t)$$

E_i Decay energy of the nucleus i (gamma, beta or both)

λ_i Decay constant of the nucleus i $\lambda = \frac{\ln(2)}{T_{1/2}}$

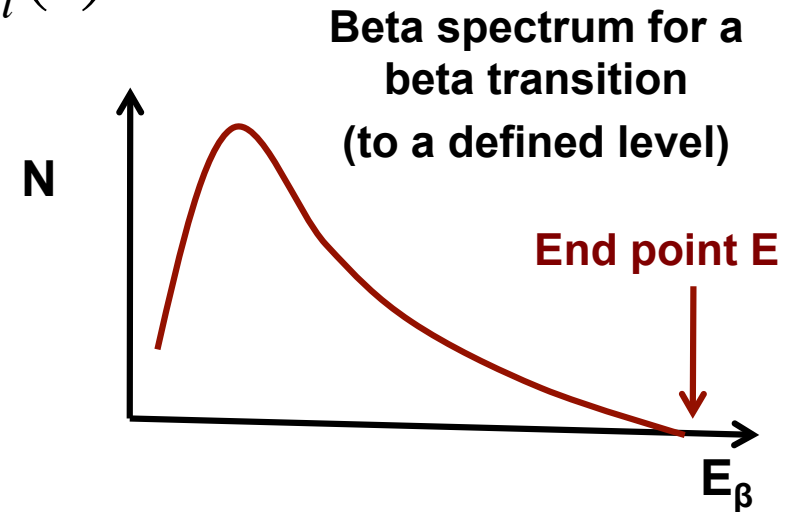
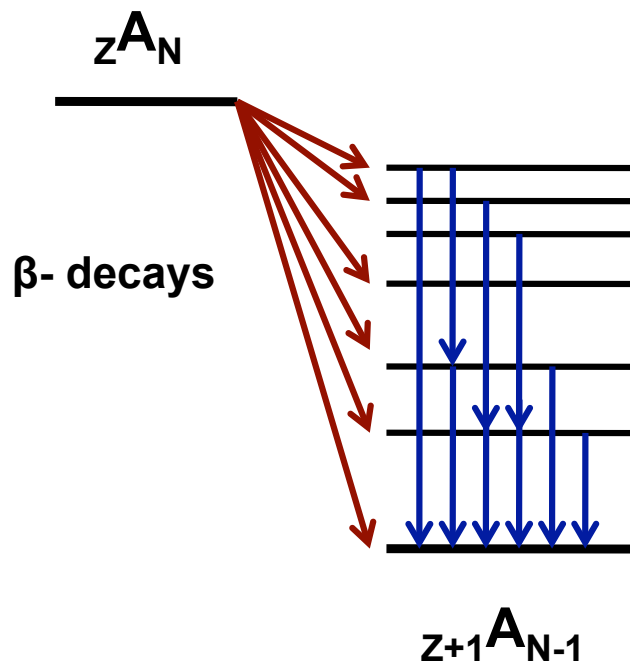
N_i Number of nuclei i at the cooling time t

Requirements for the calculations: large databases that contain all the required information (**half-lives, mean γ - and β -energies** released in the decay, n-capture cross sections, fission yields, this last information is needed to calculate the inventory of nuclides)

How the mean energies are determined ?

$$f(t) = \sum_i E_i \lambda_i N_i(t)$$

DATABASES:
feeding or beta
decay prob.
distributions

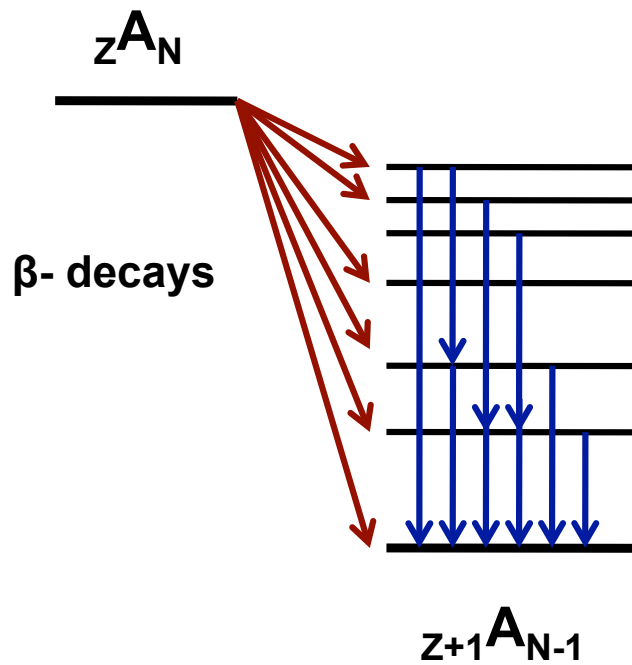


$$\bar{E}_\beta = \sum_i I_\beta(E_i) \langle E_{\beta,i} \rangle$$

$$\bar{E}_\gamma = \sum_i I_\beta(E_i) E_i$$

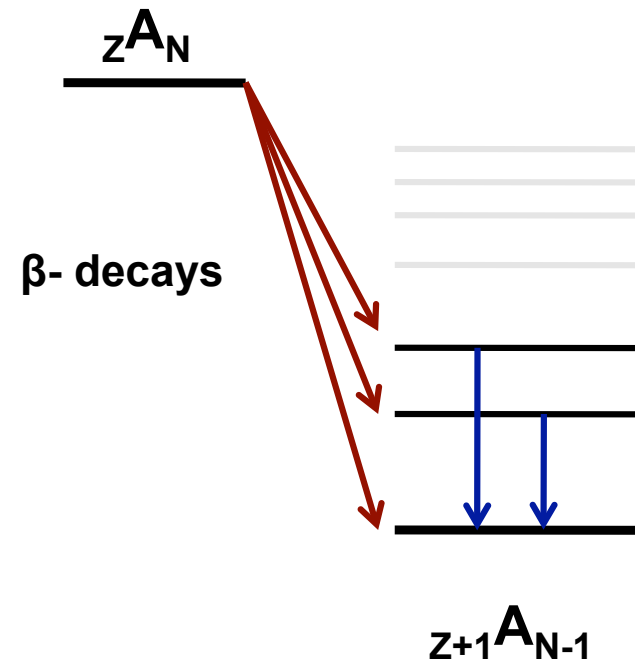
Mean energies and Pandemonium

$$f(t) = \sum_i E_i \lambda_i N_i(t)$$



$$\bar{E}_\beta = \sum_i I_\beta(E_i) \langle E_{\beta,i} \rangle$$

$$\bar{E}_\gamma = \sum_i I_\beta(E_i) E_i$$



\bar{E}_β overestimation

\bar{E}_γ underestimation

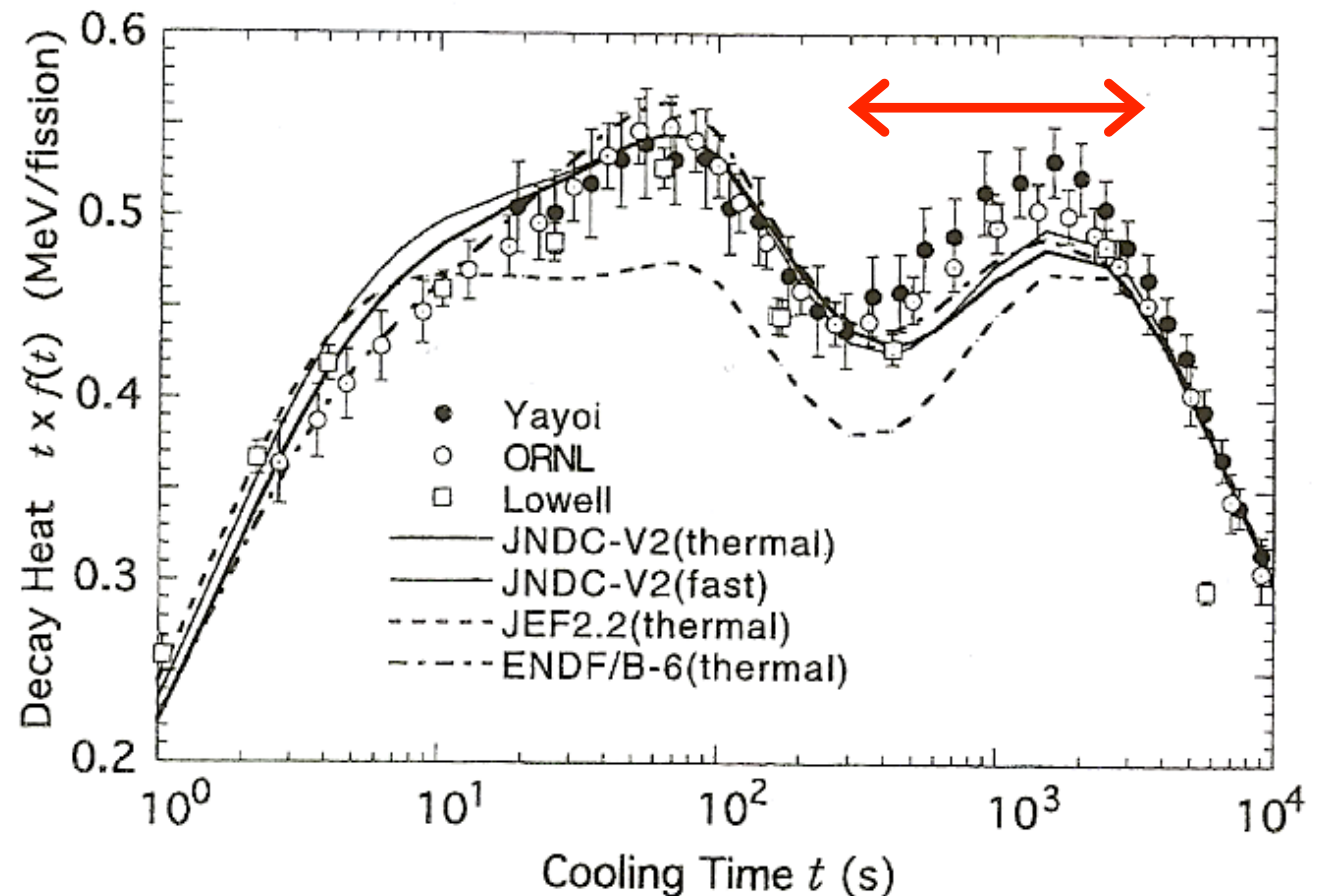
The beginning ...

We got interested in the topic after the work of Yoshida and co-workers (Journ. of Nucl. Sc. and Tech. 36 (1999) 135)

^{239}Pu example (similar situation for $^{235,238}\text{U}$)

Detective work: identification of some nuclei that could be blamed for the anomaly $^{102,104,105}\text{Tc}$

^{239}Pu example (γ component)



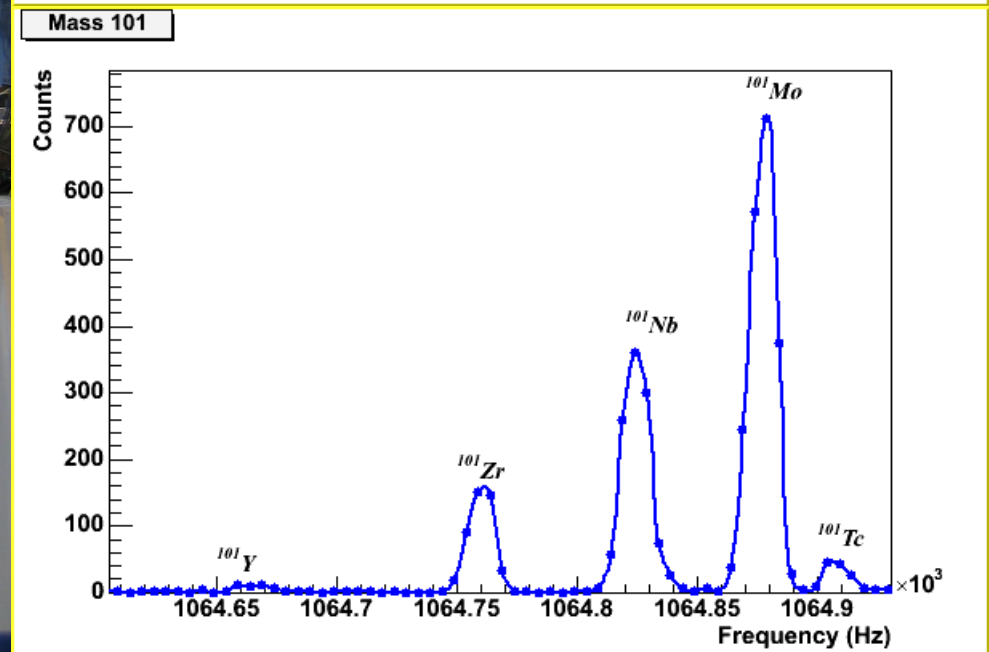
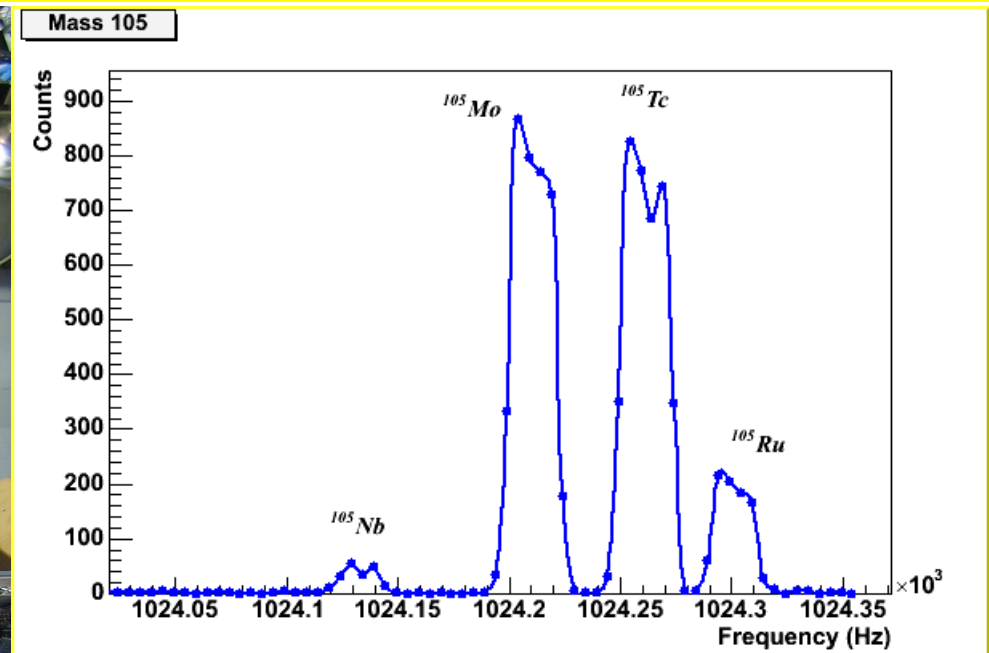
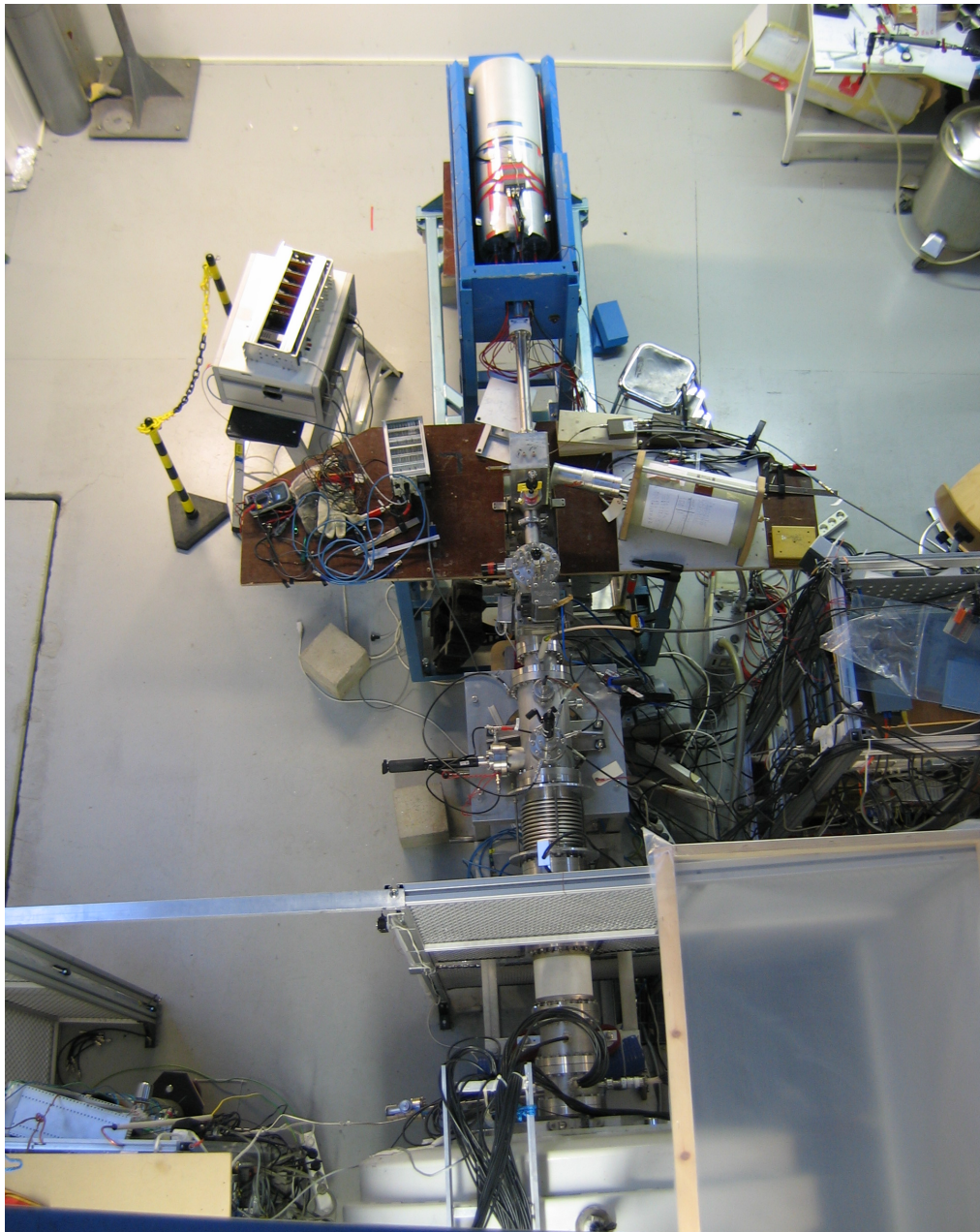
The “famous” list

WPEC-25 (IAEA working group)

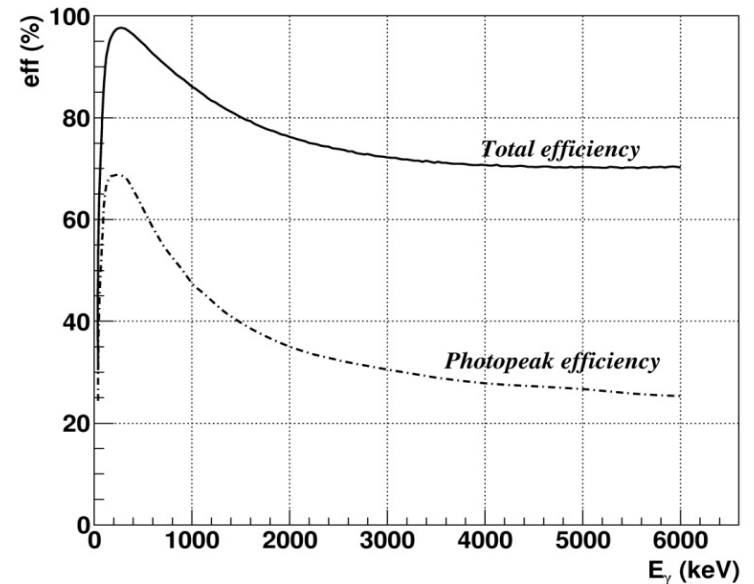
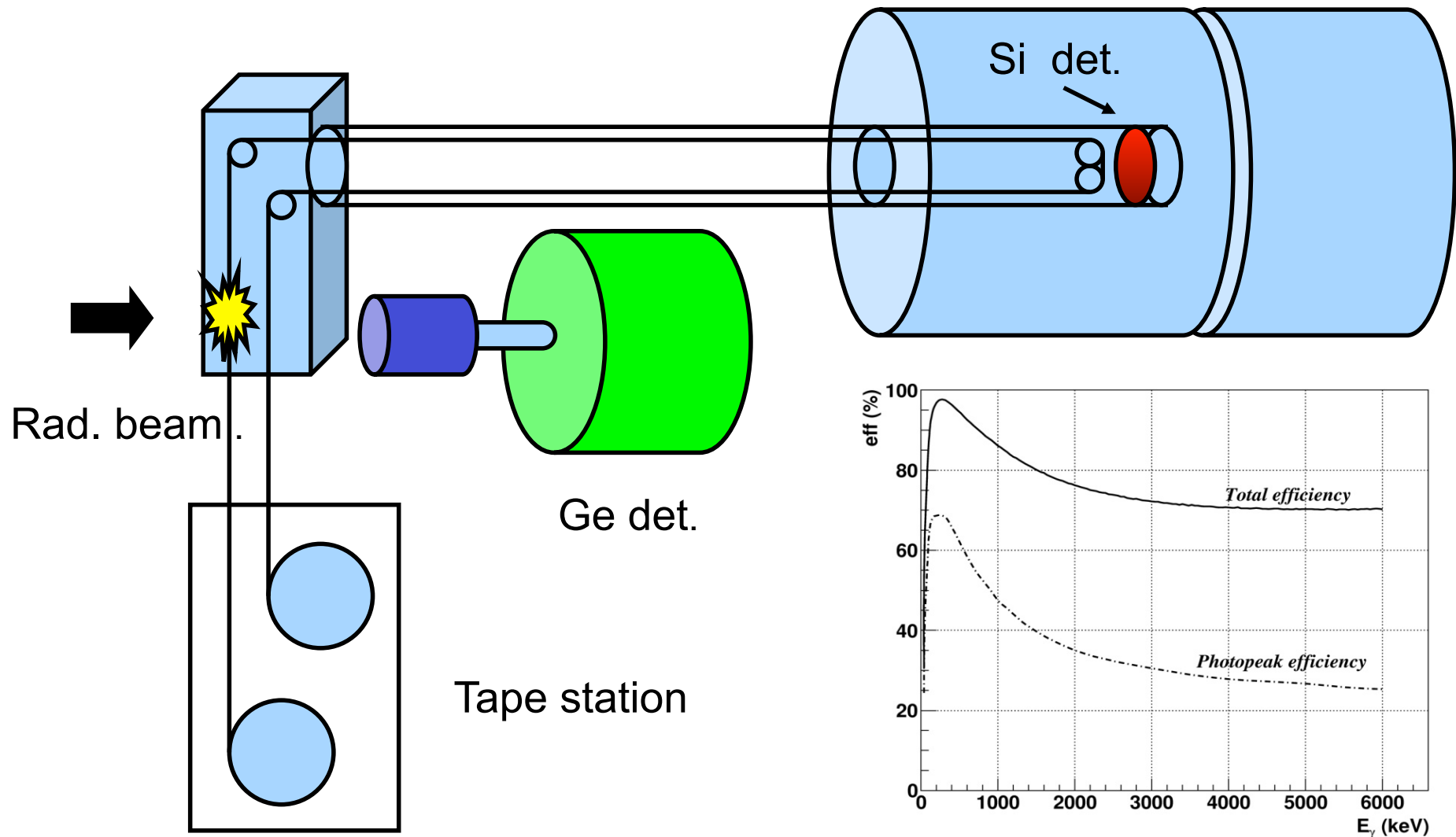
Radionuclide	Priority	Radionuclide	Priority	Radionuclide	Priority
35-Br-86	1	41-Nb-99	1	52-Te-135	2
35-Br-87	1	41-Nb-100	1	53-I-136	1
35-Br-88	1	41-Nb-101	1	53-I-136m	1
36-Kr-89	1	41-Nb-102	2	53-I-137	1
36-Kr-90	1	42-Mo-103	1	54-Xe-137	1
37-Rb-90m	2	42-Mo-105	1	54-Xe-139	1
37-Rb-92	2	43-Tc-102	1	54-Xe-140	1
38-Sr-89	2	43-Tc-103	1	55-Cs-142	3
38-Sr-97	2	43-Tc-104	1	56-Ba-145	2
39-Y-96	2	43-Tc-105	1	57-La-143	2
40-Zr-99	3	43-Tc-106	1	57-La-145	2
40-Zr-100	2	43-Tc-107	2		
41-Nb-98	1	51-Sb-132	1		

37 nuclides, of which 23 were given first priority, reports by A. Nichols et al. (IAEA).

New feature: IGISOL + trap-assisted spectroscopy

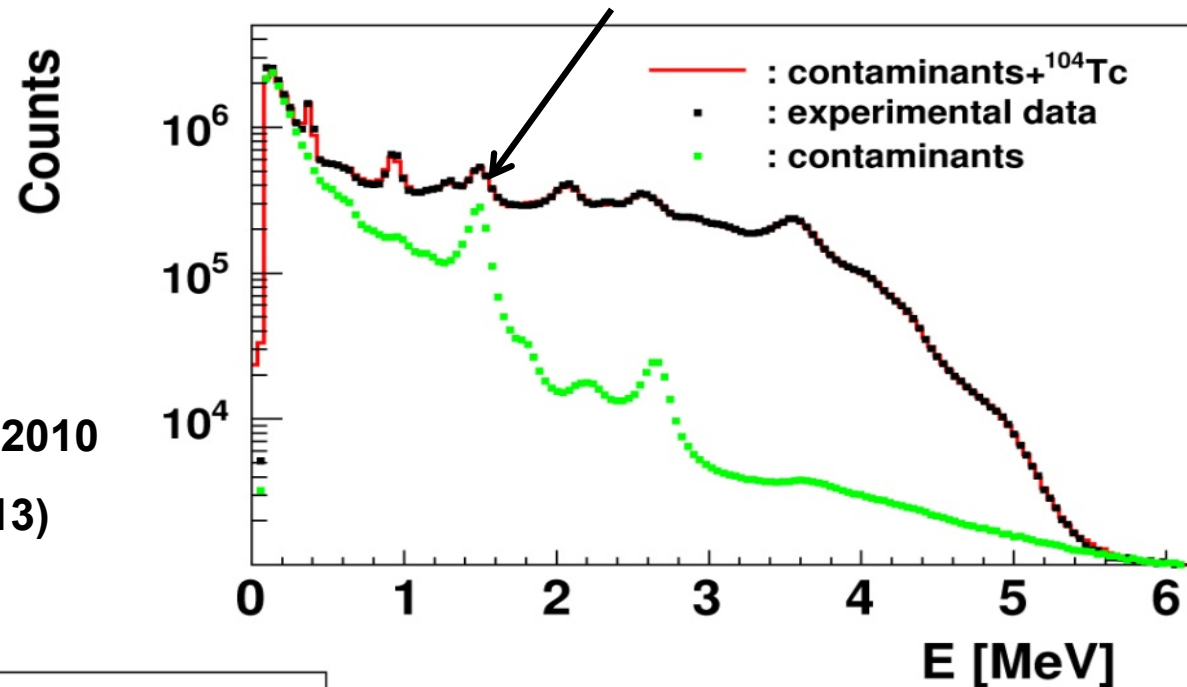


TAS experimental setup at Jyväskylä



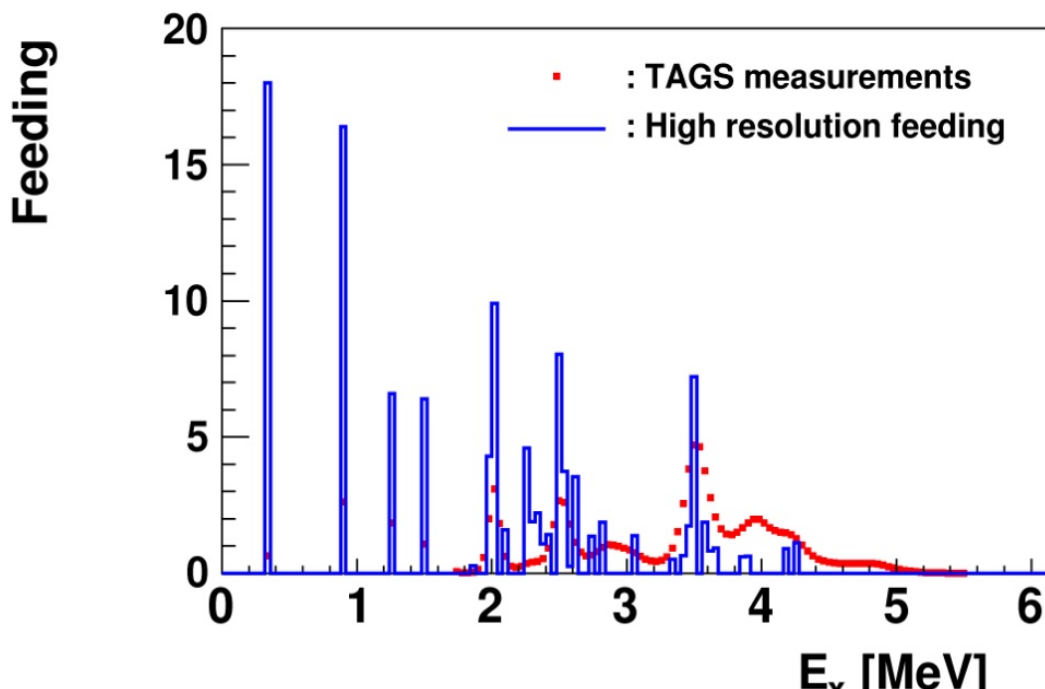
Results of the analysis for ^{104}Tc

d and R(b)*f^{final}



D. Jordan, PhD Thesis, Valencia, 2010

D. Jordan, PRC 87, 044318 (2013)



$$T_{1/2} = 1098(18) \text{ s}; Q_{\beta} = 5516(6) \text{ keV}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} E_{\beta}(\text{TAGS}) = 931(10) \text{ keV} \\ E_{\beta}(\text{JEFF-3.1}) = 1595(75) \text{ keV} \end{array} \right\} \Delta E_{\beta} = -664 \text{ keV}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} E_{\gamma}(\text{TAGS}) = 3229(24) \text{ keV} \\ E_{\gamma}(\text{JEFF-3.1}) = 1890(31) \text{ keV} \end{array} \right\} \Delta E_{\gamma} = 1339 \text{ keV}$$

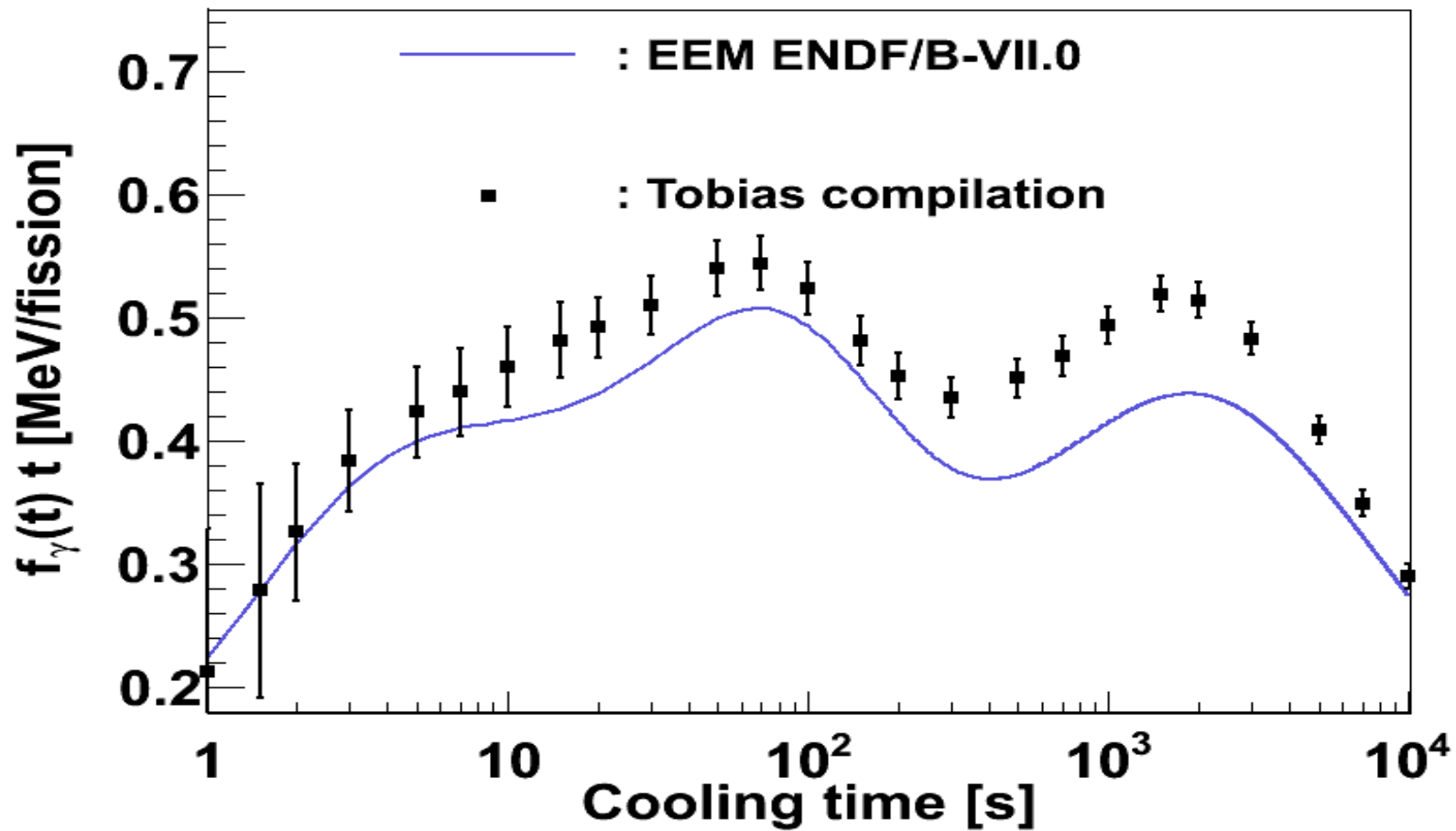
All results published up to now

Isotope	Energy type	TAGS [keV]	JEFF-3.1 [keV]	ENDF/B-VII [keV]	Difference [keV]
¹⁰¹ Nb (7.1 s)	beta	1797 (133)	1863 (307)	1966 (307)	-67/-169
	gamma	445 (279)	245 (22)	270 (22)	200/175
¹⁰² Tc (5.28 s)	beta	1935 (11)	1945 (16)	1945 (16)	-10
	gamma	106 (23)	81 (5)	81 (5)	25
¹⁰⁴ Tc (1098 s)	beta	931 (10)	1595 (75)	1595 (75)	-664
	gamma	3229 (24)	1890 (31)	1890 (31)	1339
¹⁰⁵ Tc (456 s)	beta	764 (81)	1310 (173)	1310 (205)	-546
	gamma	1825 (174)	668 (19)	665 (19)	1157/1160
¹⁰⁵ Mo (35.6 s)	beta	1049 (44)	1922 (122)	1922 (122)	-873
	gamma	2407 (93)	551 (24)	552 (24)	1856/1855
¹⁰⁶ Tc (35.6 s)	beta	1457 (30)	1943 (69)	1906 (67)	-486/-449
	gamma	3132 (70)	2191 (51)	2191 (51)	941
¹⁰⁷ Tc (21.2 s)	beta	1263 (212)	2056 (254)	2054 (254)	-793/-791
	gamma	1822 (450)	515 (11)	515 (11)	1307

$$Q_{\beta}({}^{102}\text{Tc} \rightarrow {}^{102}\text{Ru}) = 4532 \text{ keV} \quad Q_{\beta}({}^{101}\text{Nb} \rightarrow {}^{101}\text{Mo}) = 4569 \text{ keV}$$

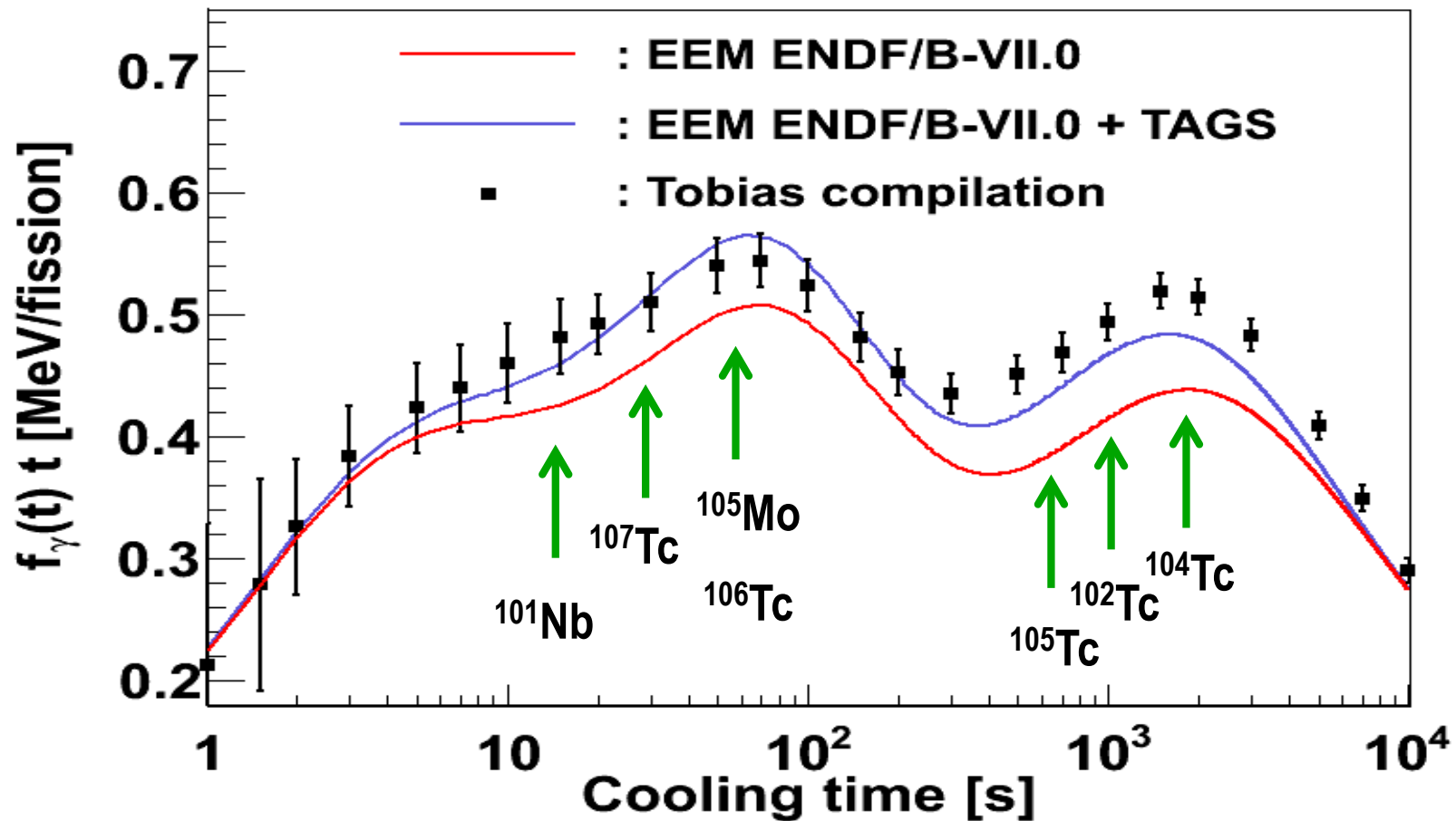
Impact of the results for ^{239}Pu : electromagnetic component

Motivated by Yoshida *et al.* (Journ. of Nucl. Sc. and Tech. 36 (1999) 135) and WPEC-25



Impact of the results for ^{239}Pu : electromagnetic component

Motivated by Yoshida *et al.* (Journ. of Nucl. Sc. and Tech. 36 (1999) 135) and WPEC-25



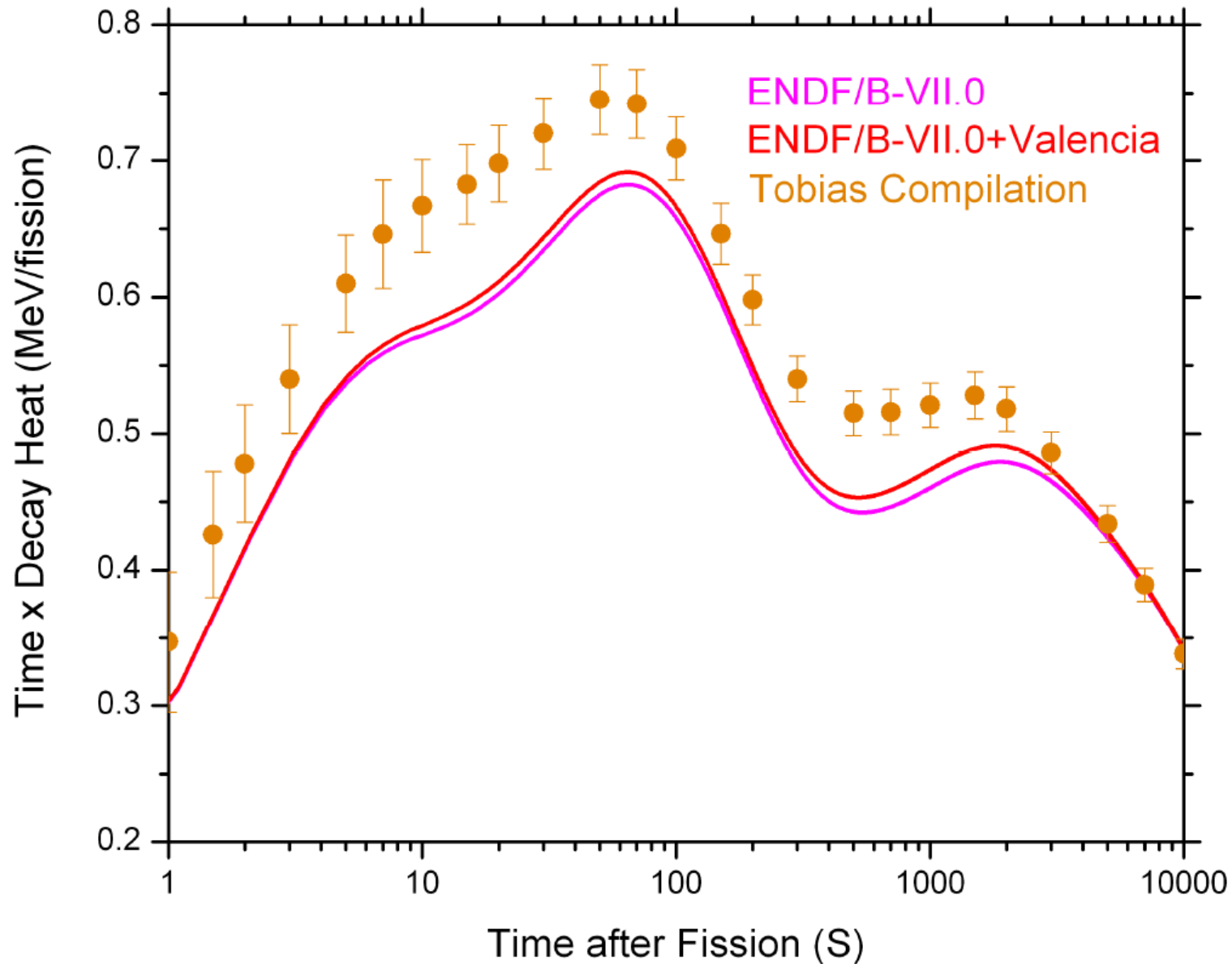
DH Courtesy A. Sonzogni

Algora, Phys. Rev. Letts. 105, 202505, PhD Thesis D. Jordan

K. P. Rykaczewsky, Physics 3, 94 (2011)

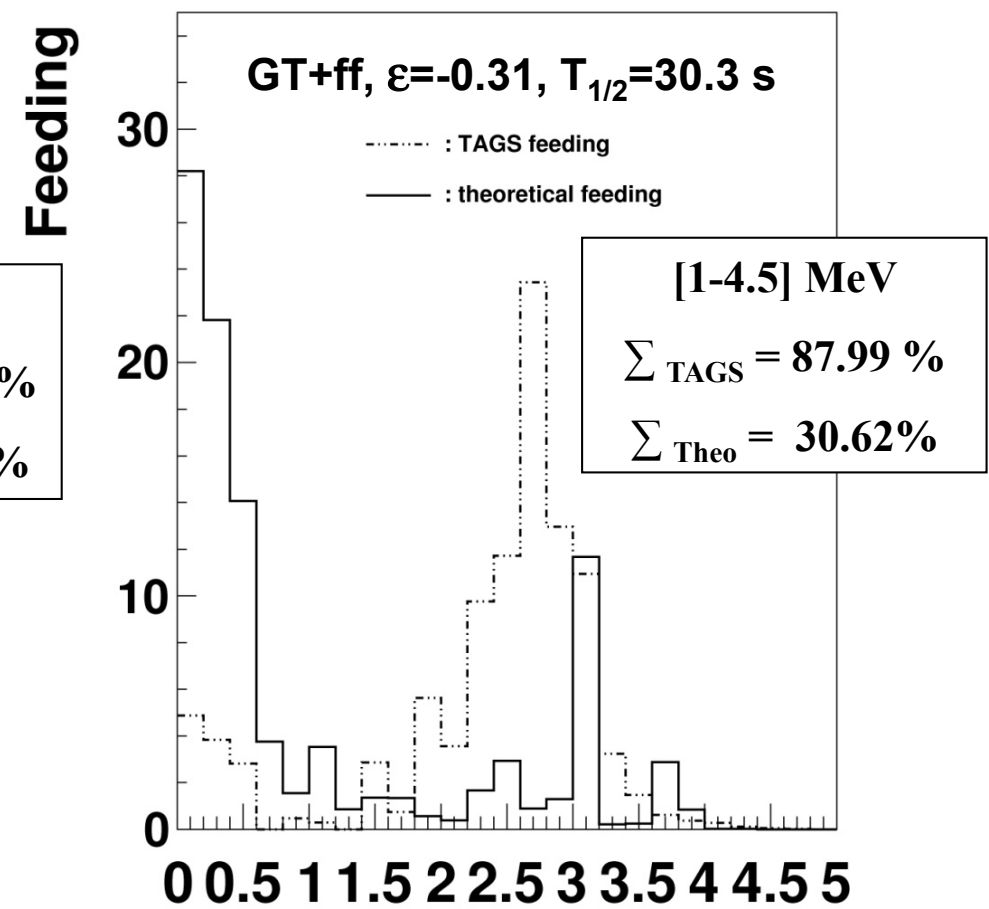
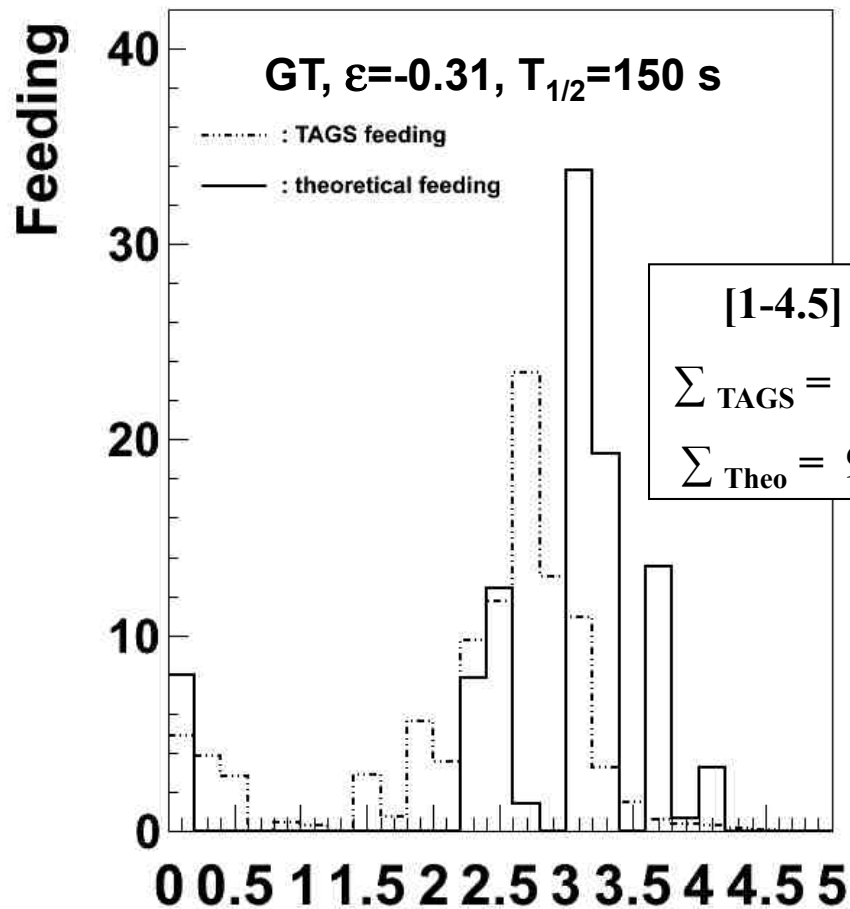
Results also confirmed by R. W. Mills
using JEFF 3.1

Impact of the results for ^{235}U



Results of QRPA calculations

^{105}Mo , $T_{1/2}(\text{exp}) = 35.6 \text{ s}$



[0-0.5] MeV
 $\Sigma_{\text{TAGS}} = 11.51\%$
 $\Sigma_{\text{Theo}} = 7.94\%$

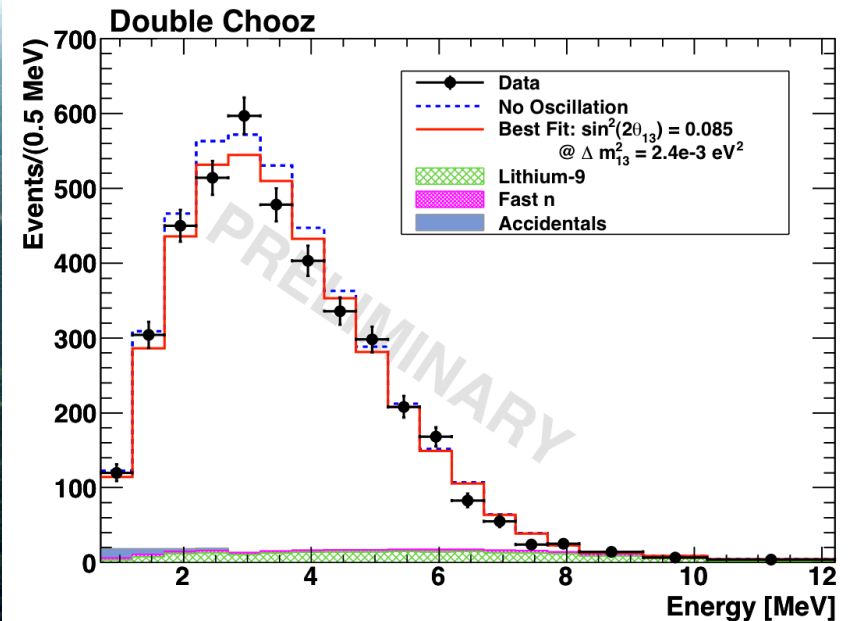
E_x [MeV]

[0-0.5] MeV S
 $\Sigma_{\text{TAGS}} = 11.51\%$
 $\Sigma_{\text{Theo}} = 67.84\%$

E_x [MeV]

Kratz et al.

Reactor neutrino experiments: summation calculations



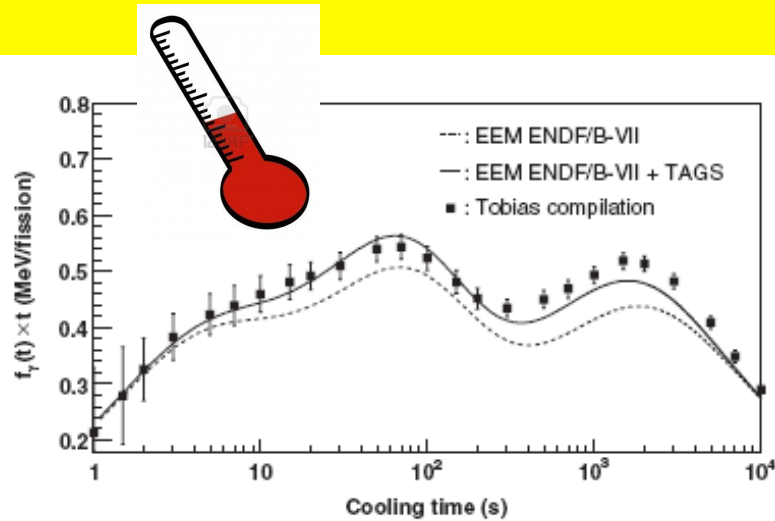
$$N(E_\nu) = \sum_n Y_n(Z, A, t) \cdot \sum_i b_{n,i}(E_0^i) P_\nu(E_\nu, E_0^i, Z)$$

Y_n Number of beta decays per unit time of fragment with Z, A (cumulative Yield)

$b_{n,i}$ branching ratio of the i branch with maximum electron energy E_0^i

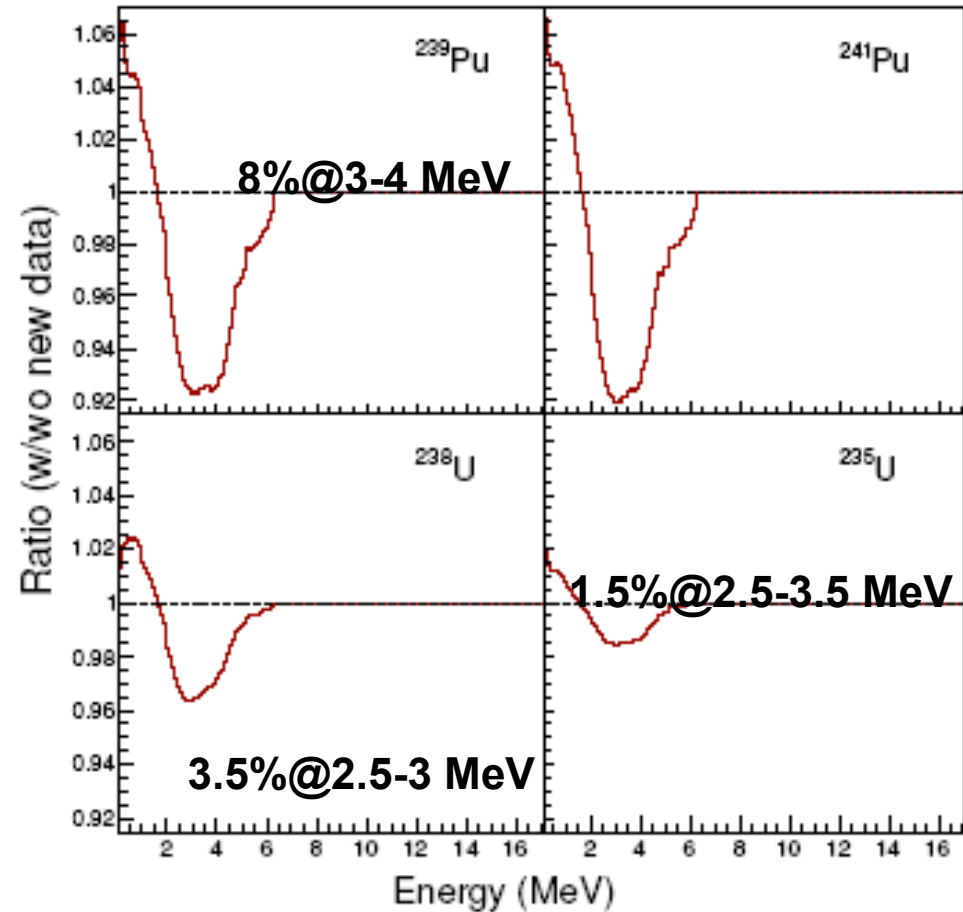
P_ν neutrino spectrum of the i branch with maximum electron energy E_0^i

Some additional impact of our data



Algora et al., PRL 105.202501
Dolores Jordan, PhD thesis, 2010

M. Fallot et al., PRL 109.202504

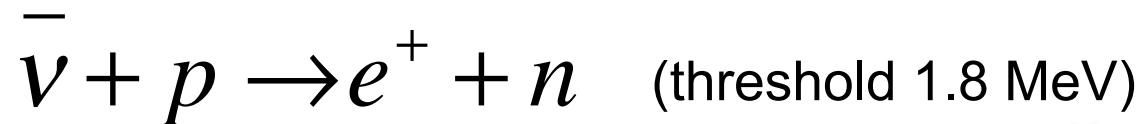


Ratio between 2 antineutrino spectra built with and without the $^{102,104,105,106,107}\text{Tc}$, ^{105}Mo , ^{101}Nb TAS data



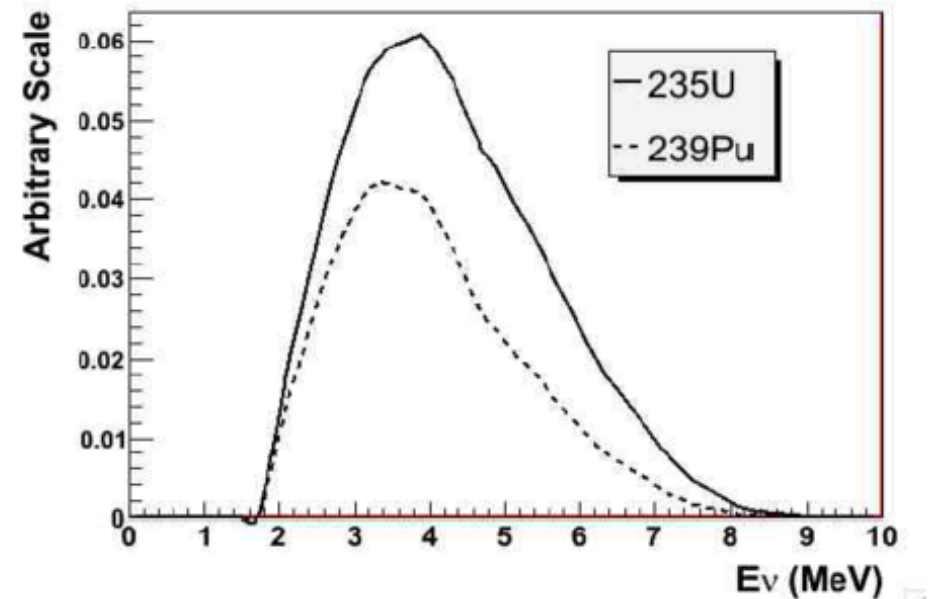
Another application: prediction of the neutrino spectrum from reactors for non-proliferation

	²³⁵U	²³⁹Pu
Released E per fission	201.7 MeV	210.0 MeV
Mean neutrino E	2.94 MeV	2.84 MeV
Neutrinos/fission >1.8 MeV	1.92	1.45
Aver. Int. cross section	$3.2 \times 10^{-43} \text{cm}^2$	$2.8 \times 10^{-43} \text{cm}^2$



•Relevance for non-proliferation studies (working group of the IAEA). Neutrino flux can not be shielded. Study to determine fuel composition and power monitoring. Non-intrusive and remote method.

•Approved proposal to study some nuclides related to this problem (IGISOL, trap assisted TAS) (Fallot, Tain, Algora)



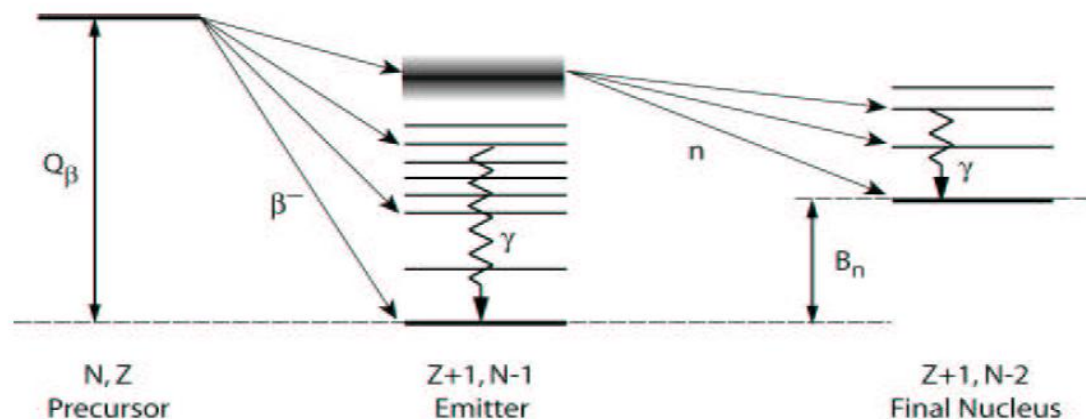
Motivation of recently analyzed cases: ^{87}Br , ^{88}Br



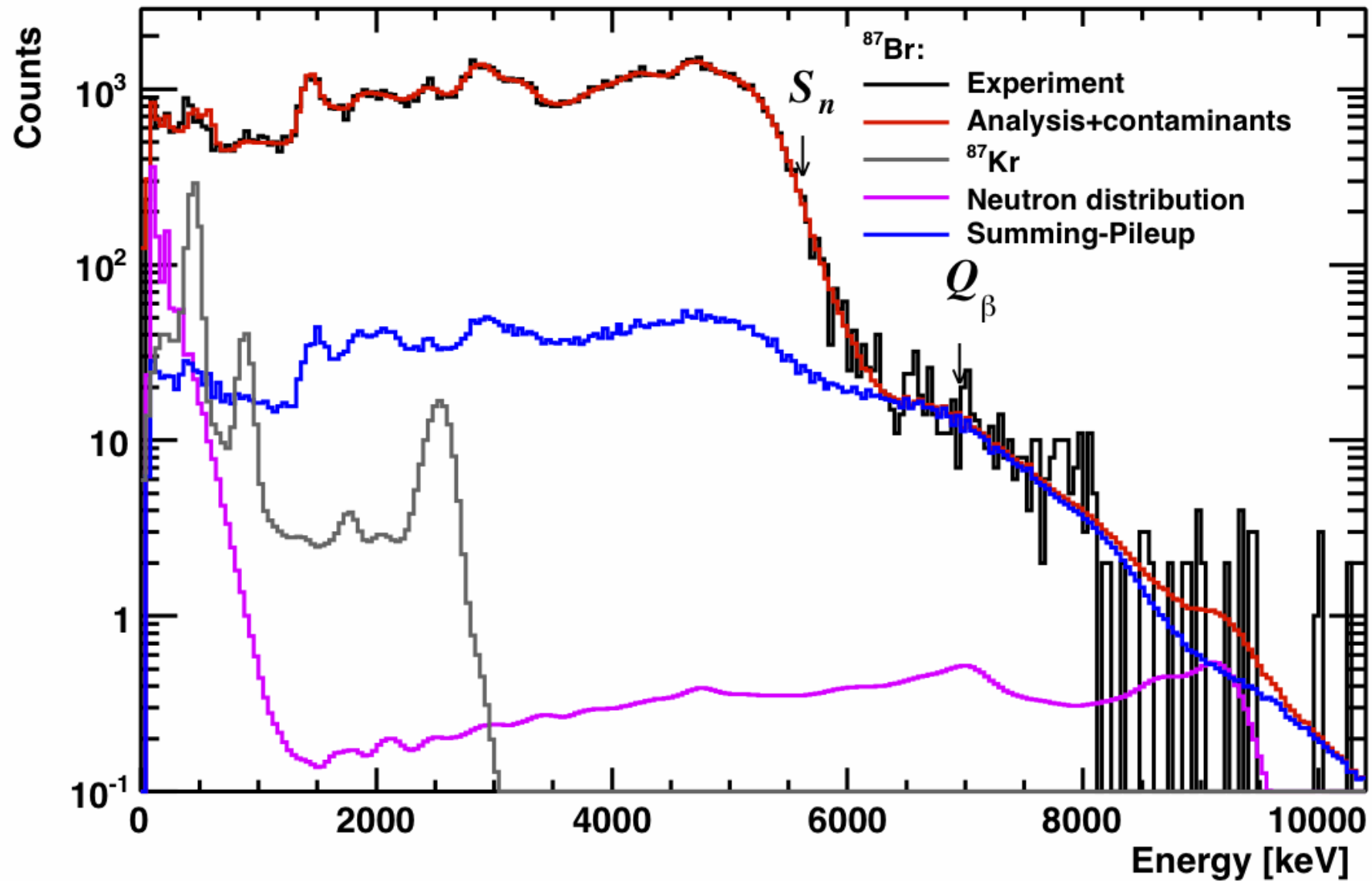
- Priority one in the IAEA list
- Moderate fission yields
- Pandemonium cases ?
- Interest from the structure point of view: vicinity of n closed shell
- Competition between gamma and neutron emission above the S_n value

$$\frac{1}{T_{1/2}} = \int_0^{Q_\beta} S_\beta(E_x) \cdot f(Q_\beta - E_x) dE_x$$

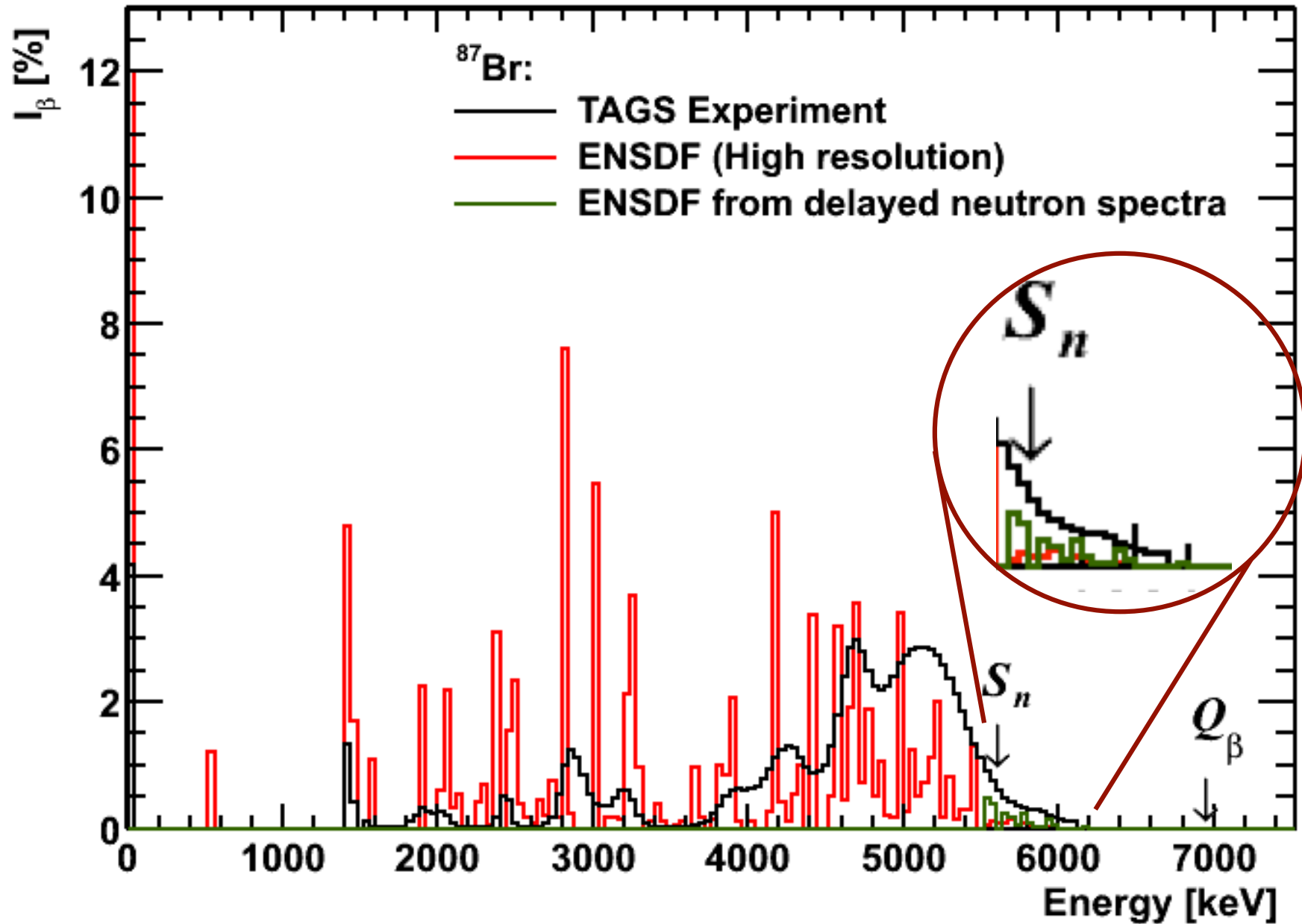
$$P_n = \frac{\int_0^{Q_\beta} S_\beta(E_x) \cdot f(Q_\beta - E_x) \cdot \frac{\Gamma^n}{\Gamma^n + \Gamma^\gamma} dE_x}{\int_0^{Q_\beta} S_\beta(E_x) \cdot f(Q_\beta - E_x) dE_x}$$



^{87}Br : meas. spectrum + contaminants + analysis



Deduced feedings from ^{87}Br decay

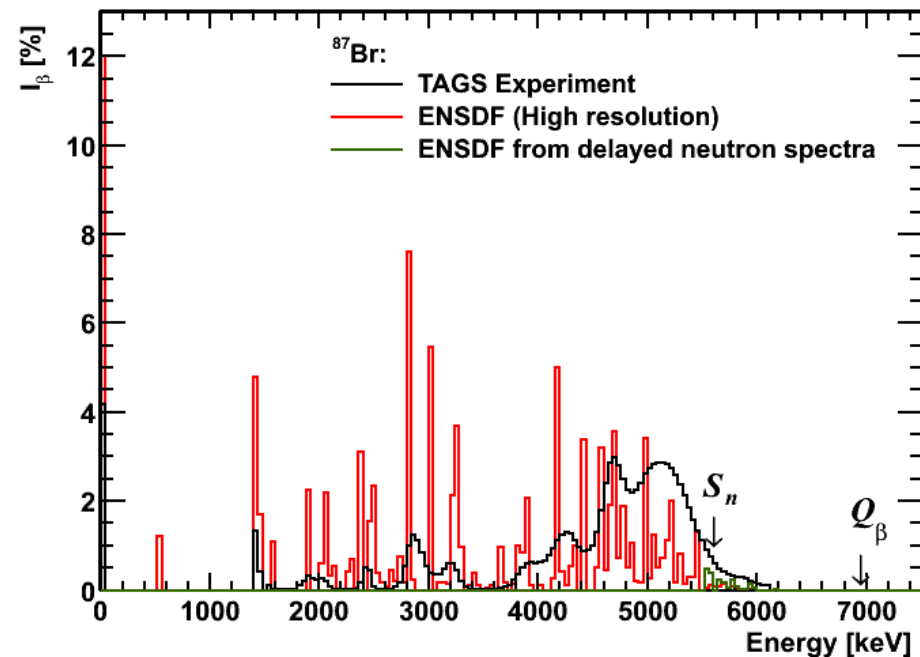
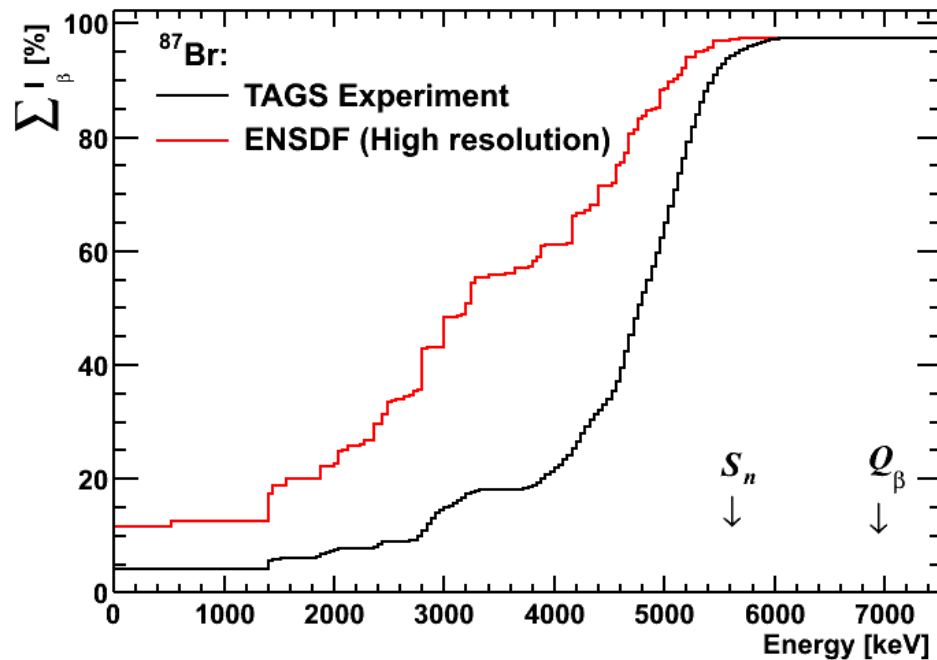


^{87}Br feedings and mean energies (very preliminary !)

	ENDF	TAGS
$\langle E_\beta \rangle$ [keV]	1656(75)	1017(16)
$\langle E_\gamma \rangle$ [keV]	3345(35)	4242(30)
% above Sn	0.58	< 5.4 %

$Q_\beta = 6817(5)$ keV
 $S_n = 5515.4(8)$
 $T_{1/2} = 55.65(13)$ s
 $P_n(^{87}\text{Br}) = 2.52(7)\%$
 Cum fiss. (^{235}U) = 0.02
 Cum fiss. (^{239}Pu) = 0.005

Nuh et al. $I_{\text{gam}}/I_n \sim 0.9$

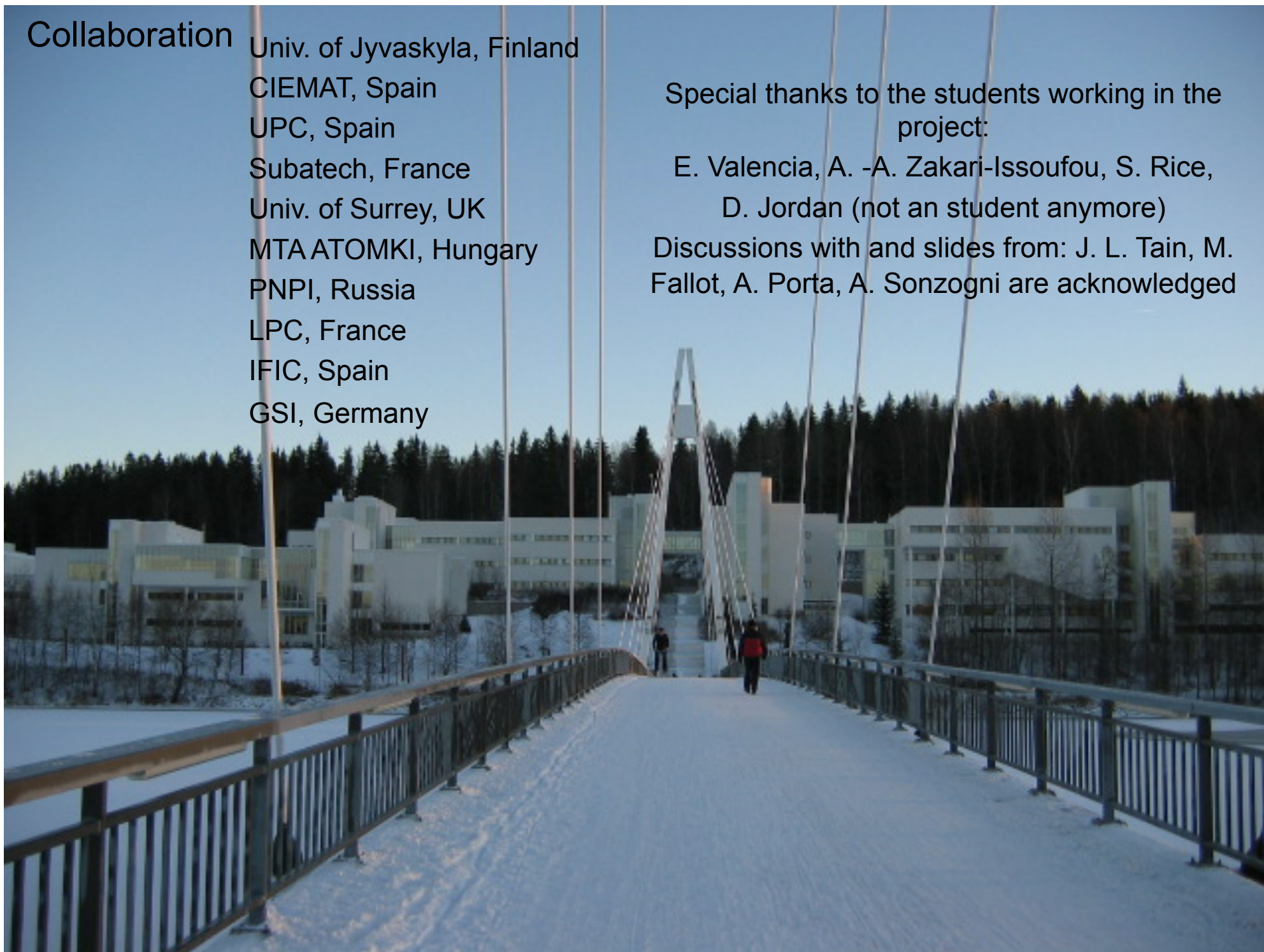


Collaboration Univ. of Jyvaskyla, Finland
CIEMAT, Spain
UPC, Spain
Subatech, France
Univ. of Surrey, UK
MTA ATOMKI, Hungary
PNPI, Russia
LPC, France
IFIC, Spain
GSI, Germany

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E. Valencia, A. -A. Zakari-Issoufou, S. Rice,
D. Jordan (not an student anymore)

Discussions with and slides from: J. L. Tain, M. Fallot, A. Porta, A. Sonzogni are acknowledged

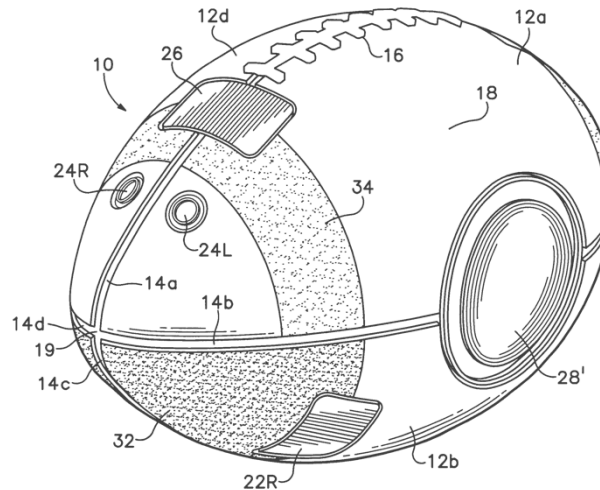


Nuclear Shapes

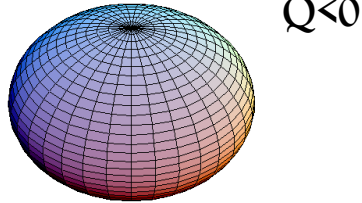
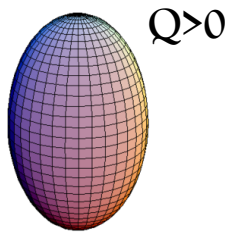
Experimentally how do we deduce nuclear shapes ?

What can beta decay offer ?

In any question related to nuclear shapes, you should remember that the answer is always model dependent

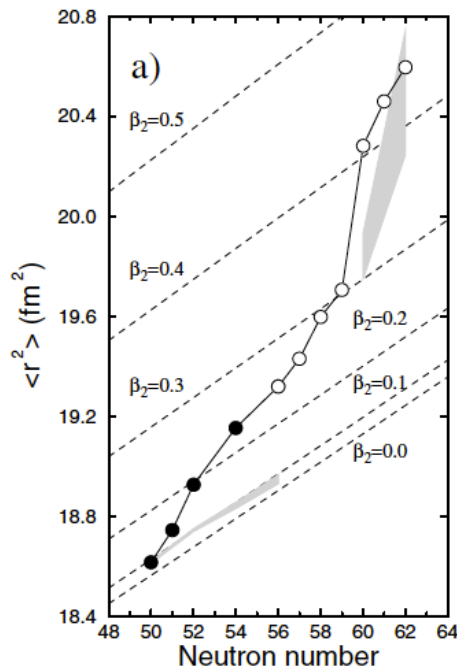


Experimentally how the shapes of nuclei are determined ?



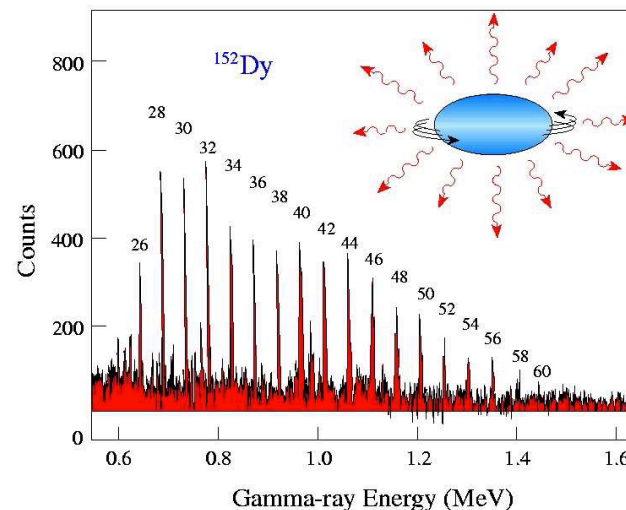
$$Q_s = \frac{3K^2 - I(I + 1)}{(I + 1)(2I + 3)} Q_0$$

- Nuclear electric quadrupole moments
- Nuclear radii measurements by means of isotope shifts (muonic atoms, laser spectroscopy)
- Nuclear spectroscopy methods (lifetime meas., fast-timing, electron-conversion measurements, etc.)



Campbell
PRL 89, 2002

Laser spectroscopy
of cooled Zr
fission products
(droplet model)

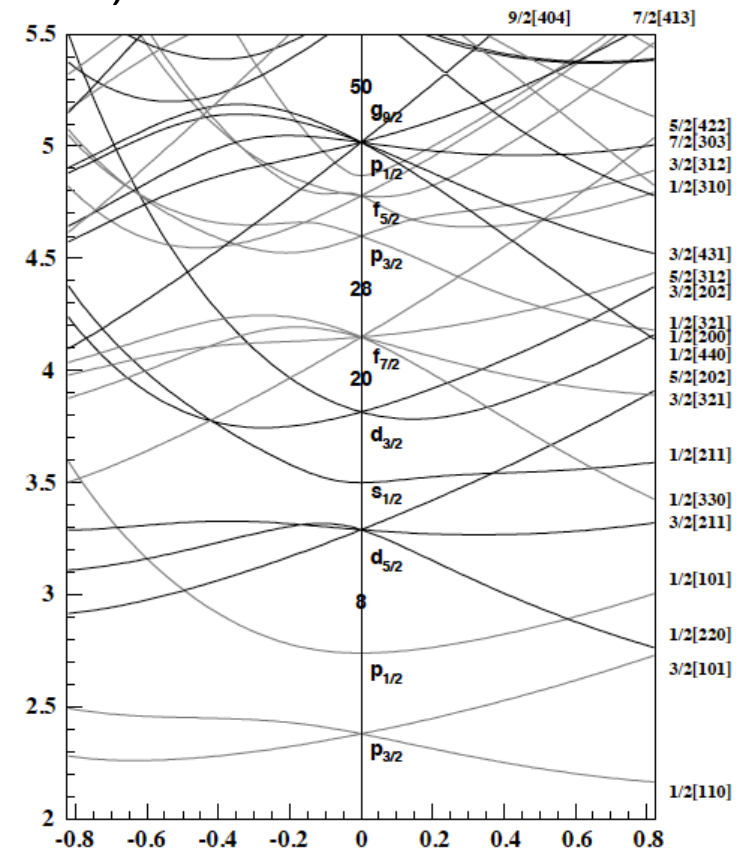
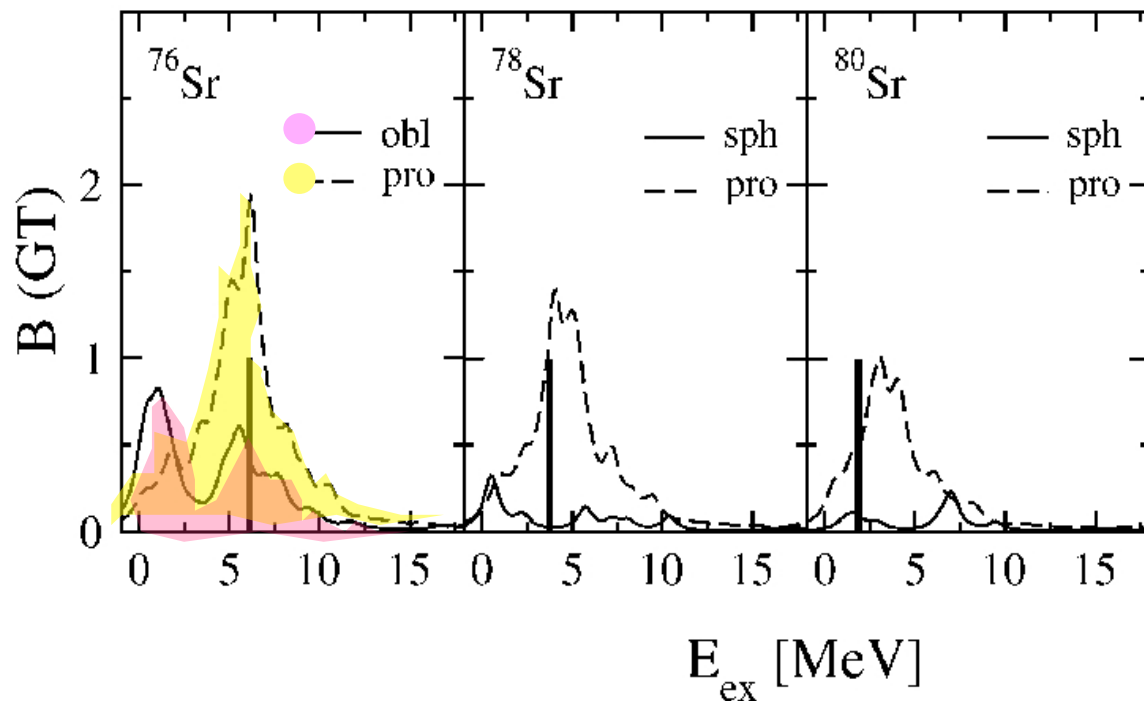


P. Twin et. al
Phys. Rev. Lett. 57 (1986)

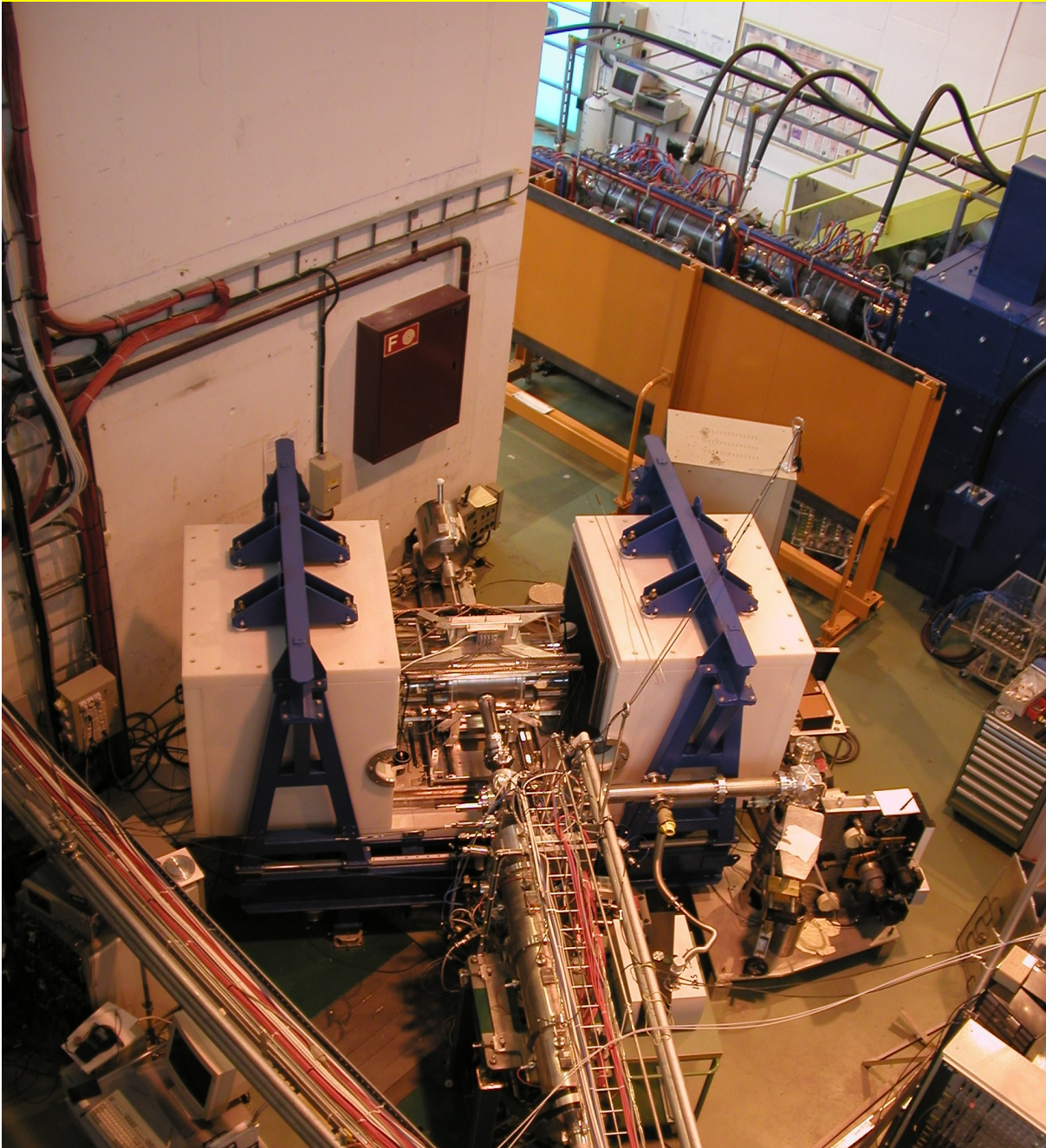
What can beta decay offer apart from spectroscopy ...

One alternative, based in the pioneering work of I. Hamamoto, (Z. Phys. A353 (1995) 145) later followed by studies of P. Sarriguren *et al.*, Petrovici *et al.* is related to the dependency of the strength distribution in the daughter nucleus depending on the shape of the parent. It can be used when theoretical calculations predict different $B(GT)$ distributions for the possible shapes of the ground state (prolate, spherical, oblate).

P. Sarriguren *et al.*, Nuc. Phys. A635 (1999) 13



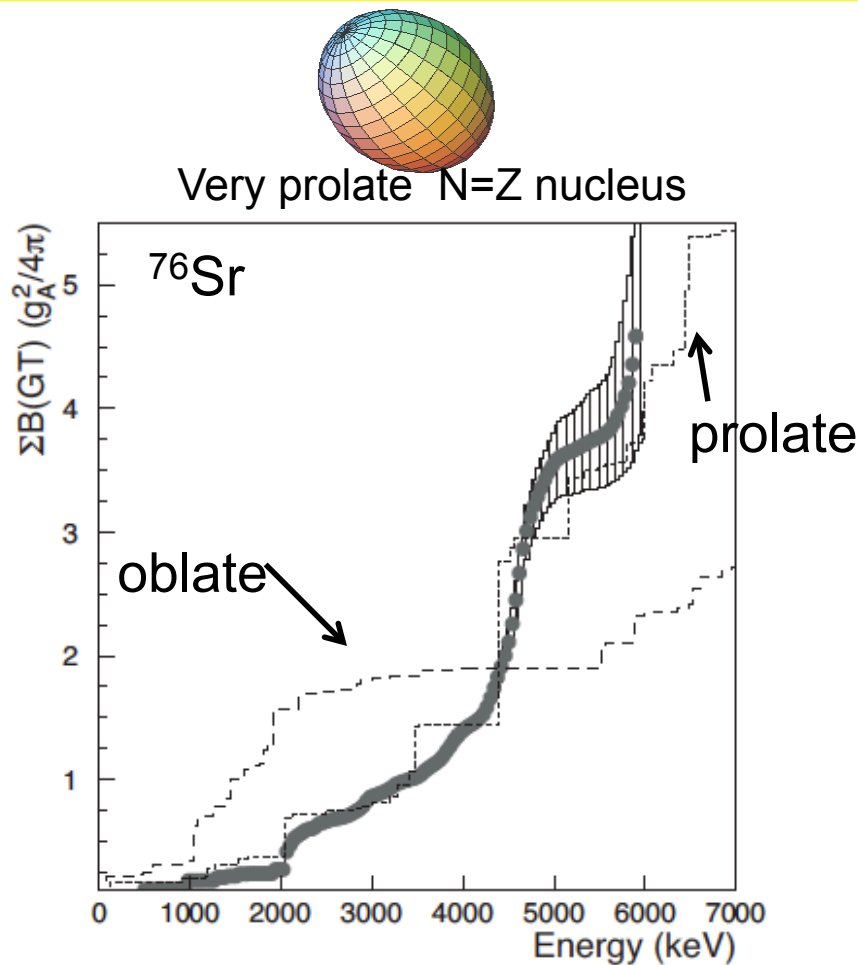
Lucrecia: the TAS at ISOLDE (CERN) (Madrid-Strasbourg-Surrey-Valencia)



- A large NaI cylindrical crystal 38 cm \varnothing , 38cm length
- An X-ray detector (Ge)
- A β detector
- Possibility of collection point inside the crystal

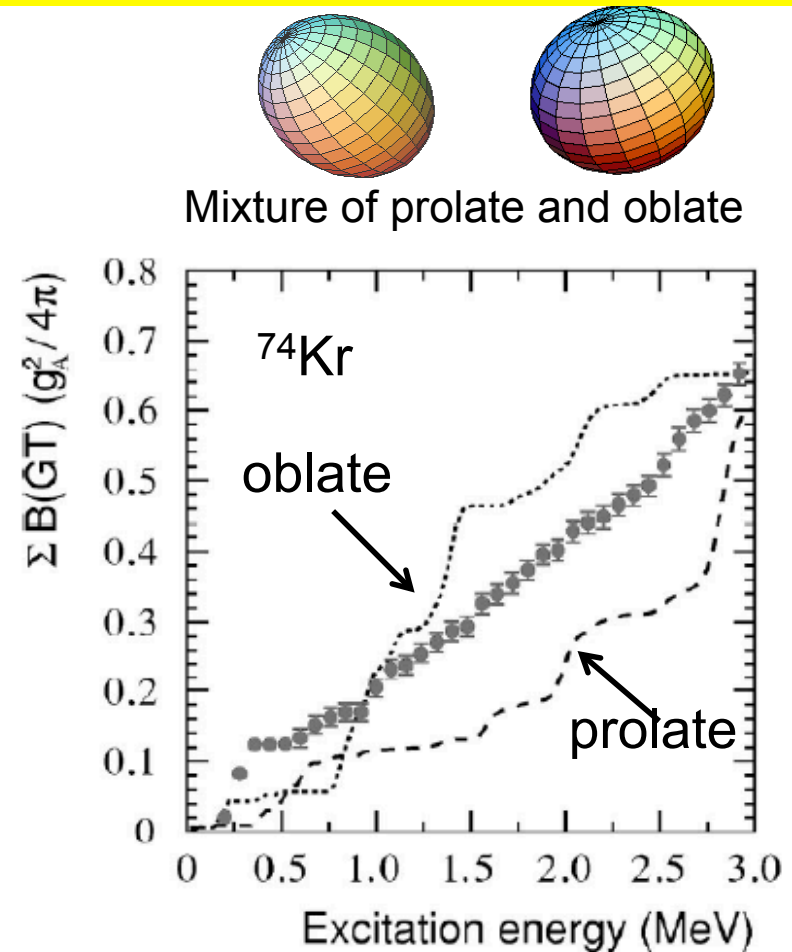
Some earlier examples

(proposals of B. Rubio, P. Dessagne, W. Gelletly, et al.)



E. Náchér *et al.* *PRL* 92 (2004) 232501 and
PhD thesis Valencia

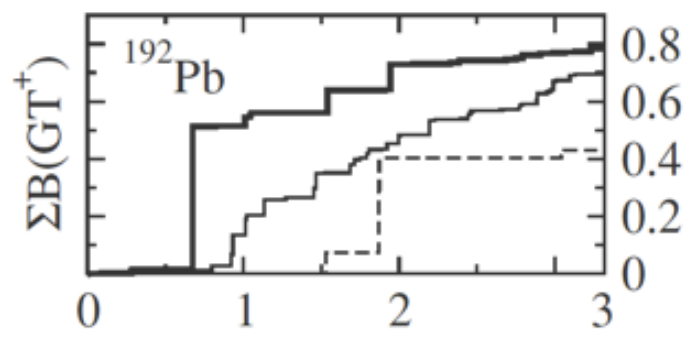
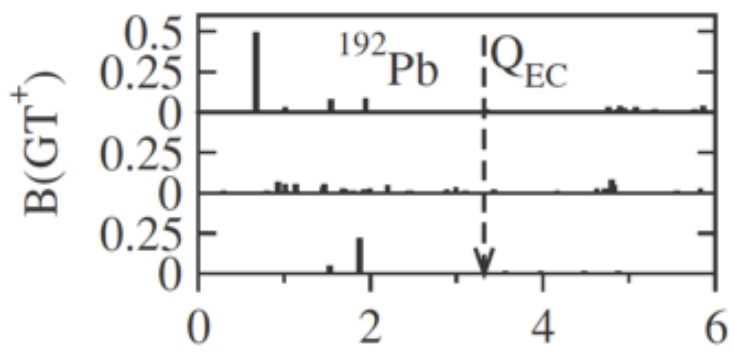
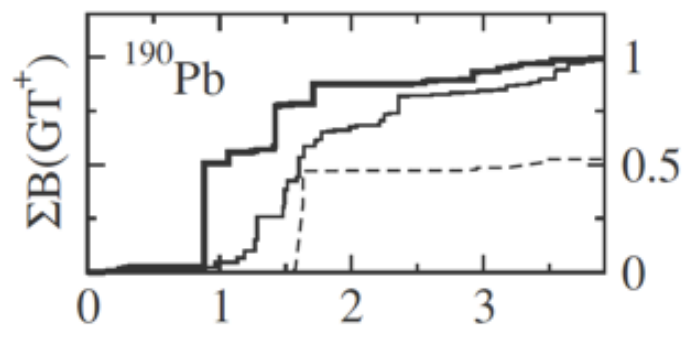
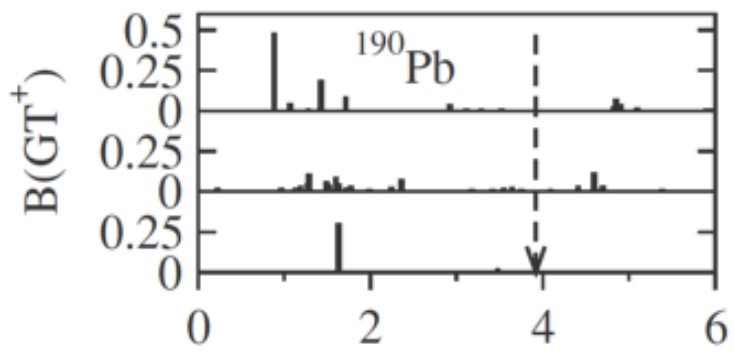
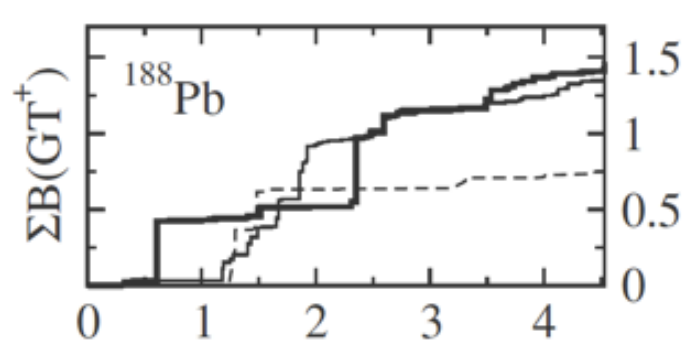
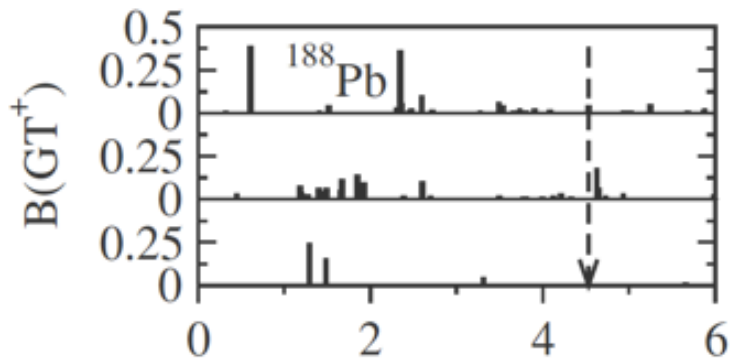
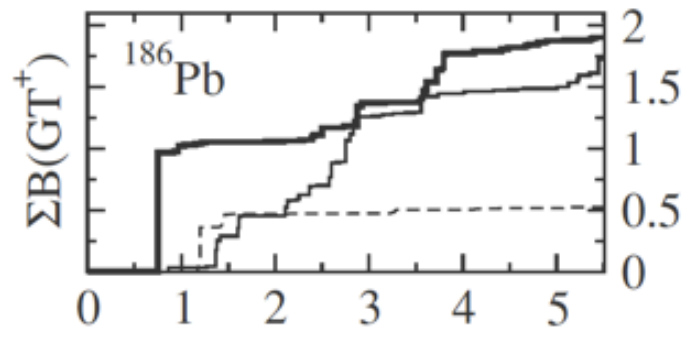
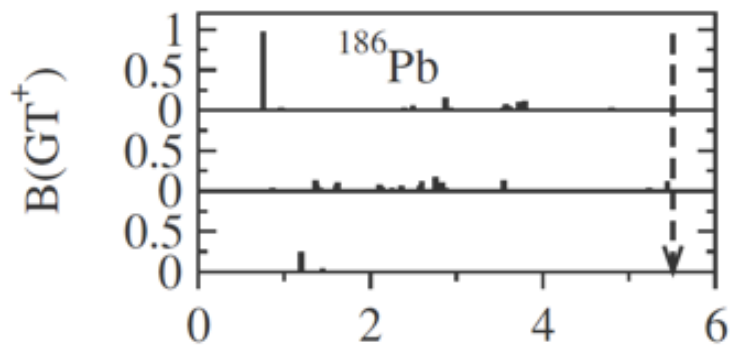
Ground state of ^{76}Sr prolate ($\beta_2 \sim 0.4$) as
indicated in Lister *et al.*, *PRC* 42 (1990)
R1191



E. Poirier *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. C* 69, 034307
(2004) and PhD thesis Strasbourg

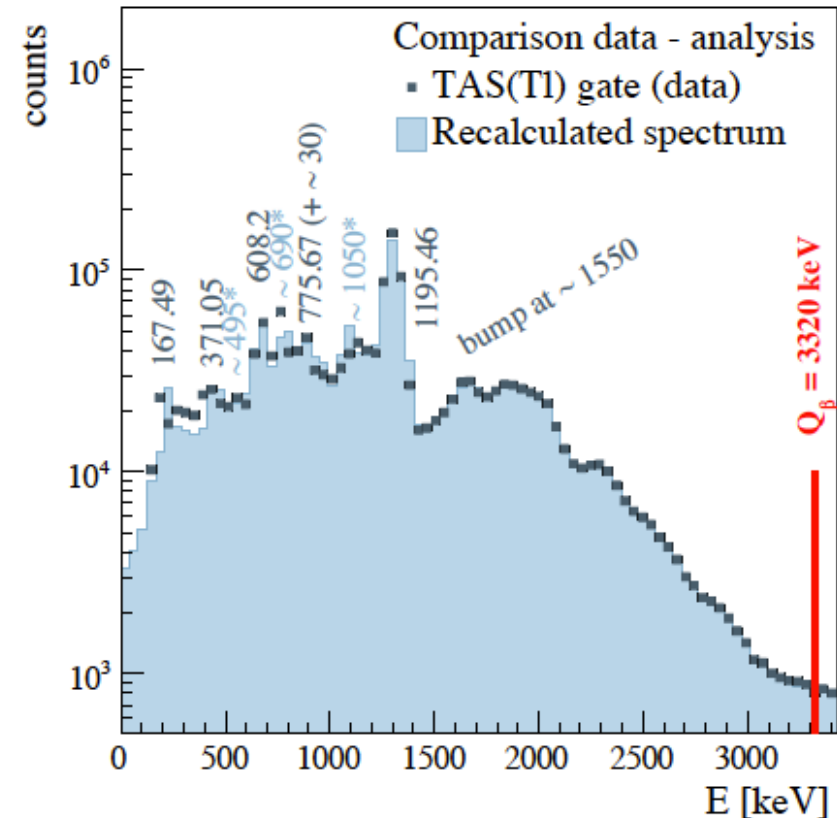
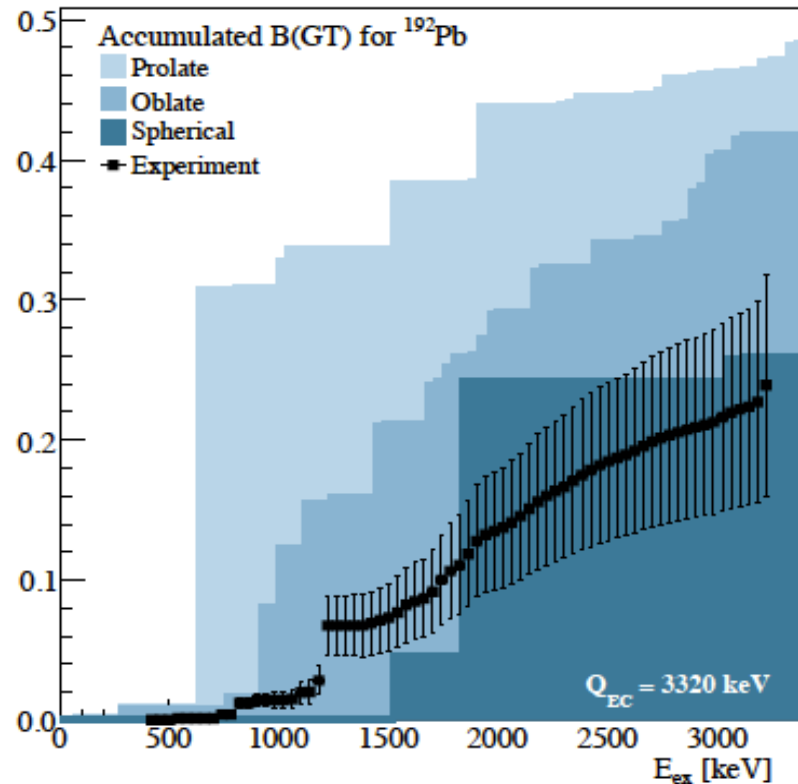
Ground state of ^{74}Kr : $(60 \pm 8)\%$ oblate, in
agreement with other exp results and with
theoretical calculations (A. Petrovici *et al.*)

The B(GT) profiles



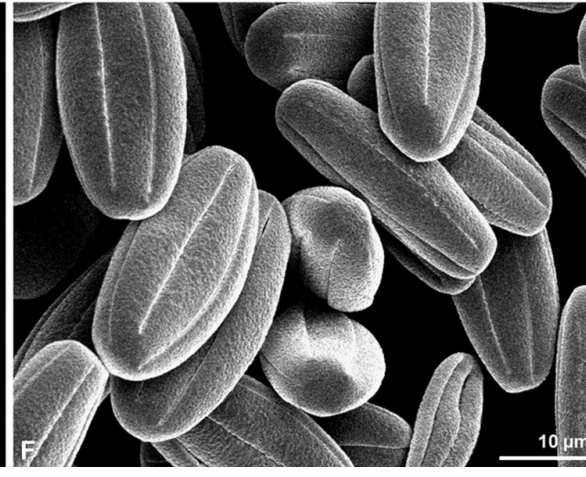
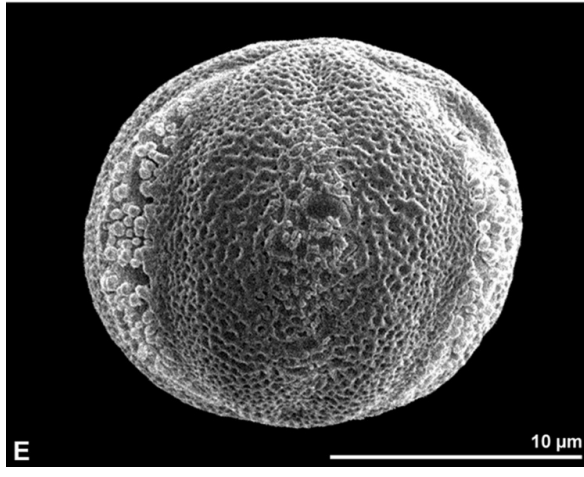
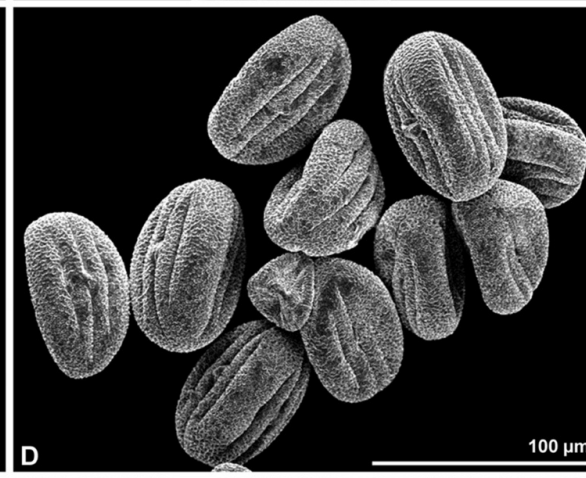
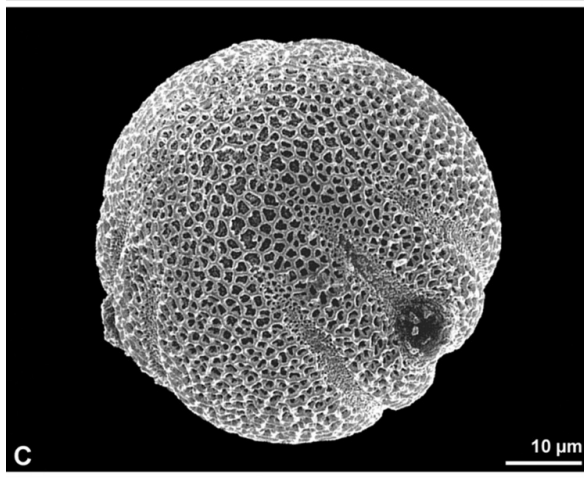
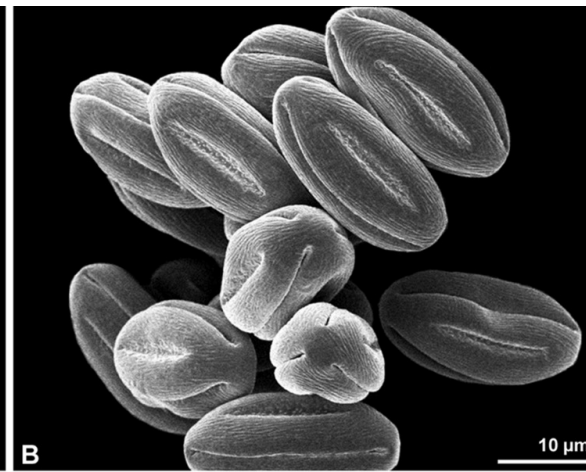
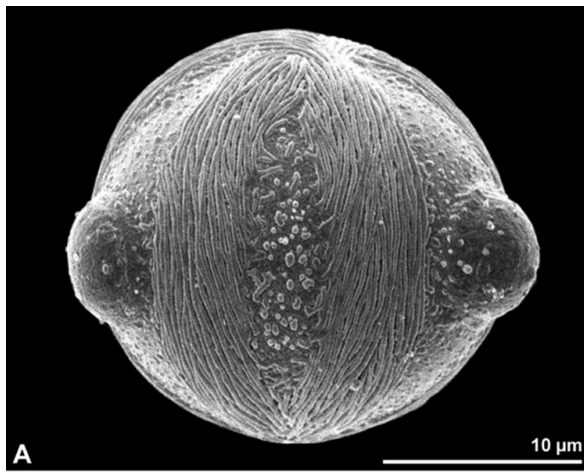
--- spherical
 — oblate
 — prolate

IS440 results: ^{192}Pb example



Thesis work of M. E. Estevez 2012, and M. E. Estevez *et al.* in preparation. Theory from PRC 73 (2006) 054317

Results consistent with spherical picture, but less impressive than in the $A \approx 80$ region. Similar situation for ^{190}Pb . *Possible explanation, the spherical character of the Pb nuclei, but requires further testing.*



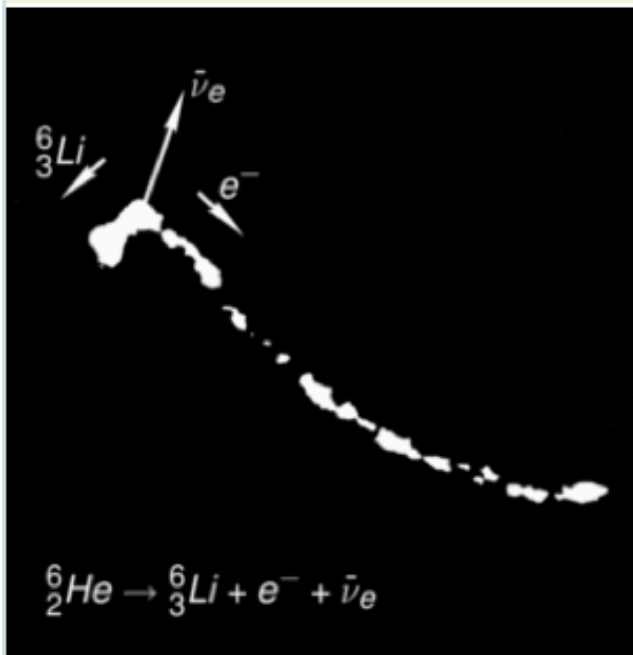
E. Estevez, J .L. Tain, B. Rubio, E.Nácher, J. Agramunt, A. B. Perez, L. Caballero, F. Molina, D. Jordan, A. Krasznahorkay, M. Hunyadi, Zs. Dombrádi, W. Gelletly, P. Sarriguren, O. Moreno, M. J. G. Borge, O. Tengblad, A. Jungclaus, L. M. Fraile, D. Fedosseev, B. A. Marsh, D. Fedorov, A. Frank, A. Algora

Conclusions

- I hope I have shown you that total absorption measurements can contribute to a better assessment of the decay heat in nuclear reactors.
- We are running a research program related to this topic, that can also have an impact in nuclear structure and astrophysics (not discussed here) and in neutrino physics applications
- The technique can be used for testing nuclear models, which can also be of relevance for neutrino physics applications

THANK YOU

**Institute of Nuclear Research
(MTA ATOMKI),
Debrecen, Hungary**



EUROPEAN PHYSICAL SOCIETY – EPS HISTORIC SITE
THE NEUTRINO EXPERIMENT AT MTA ATOMKI

USING A CLOUD CHAMBER LOCATED IN THIS BUILDING, IN 1956 J. CSIKAI AND A. SZALAY PHOTOGRAPHED BETA-DECAY EVENTS. IN SOME CASES THE ANGLE BETWEEN THE TRACKS OF THE ELECTRON AND THE RESIDUAL NUCLEUS IMPLIED THE EMERGENCE OF AN UNDETECTED THIRD PARTICLE IN THE DECAY. THUS CONFIRMING THE EXISTENCE OF THE NEUTRINO, THE DEBRECEN NEUTRINO EXPERIMENT LAID A BRICK OF THE FOUNDATION OF MODERN PHYSICS.

