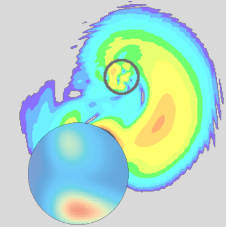




# Neutron-proton pairing through transfer reactions : where do we stand ? + Alpha clustering in neutron-rich Be

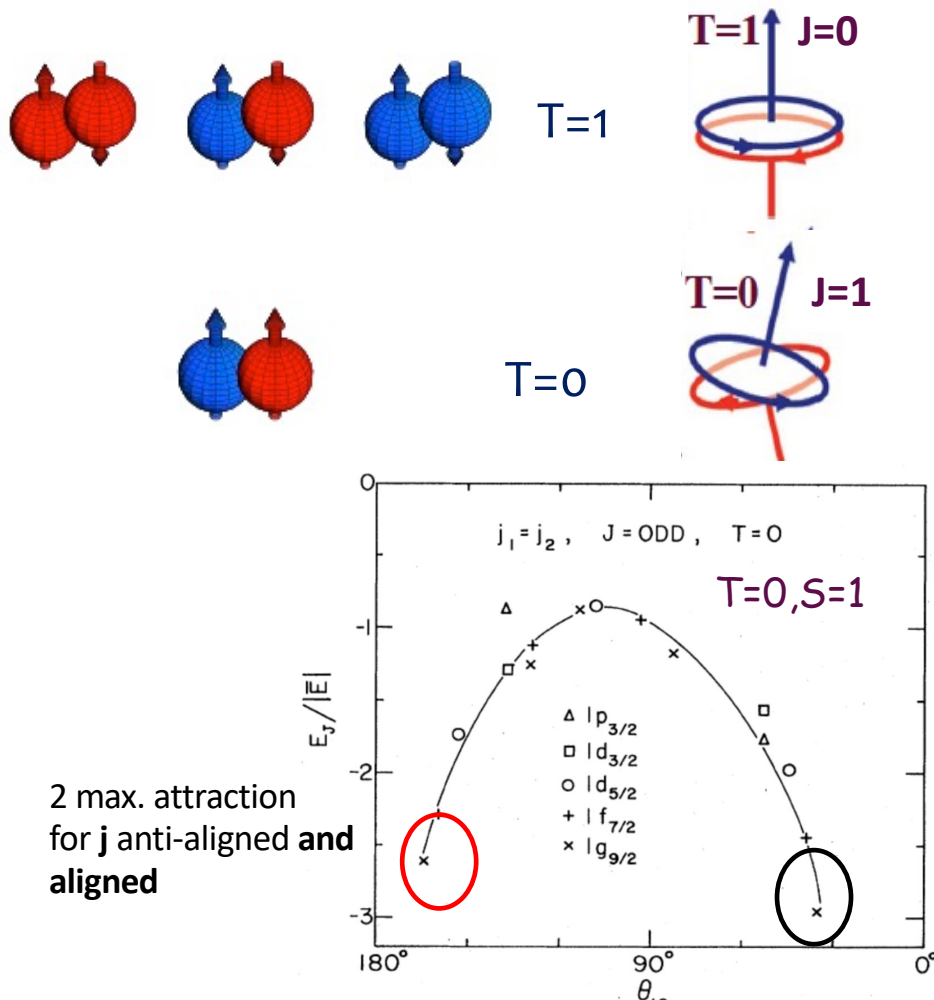
M. Assié, IJCLab Orsay, [assie@ijclab.in2p3.fr](mailto:assie@ijclab.in2p3.fr)



## Transfer to study pairing

- General introduction
- stable isotopes : *sd*-shell
- unstable nuclei: *fp* shell
  - recent results
  - future studies

## Neutron-proton pairing : generalities



2 max. attraction  
for  $j$  anti-aligned and  
aligned

- ▶ np pairing occurs in 2 different states:
  - $T=0$  (isoscalar)  $\leftarrow$  unique in np pairs
  - $T=1$  (isovector).
- ▶  $T=0$  pairing is stronger than in the  $T=1$  channel

but the question is whether or not the  $T=0$  pairing can create a correlated state in analogy with the BCS superfluid phase.

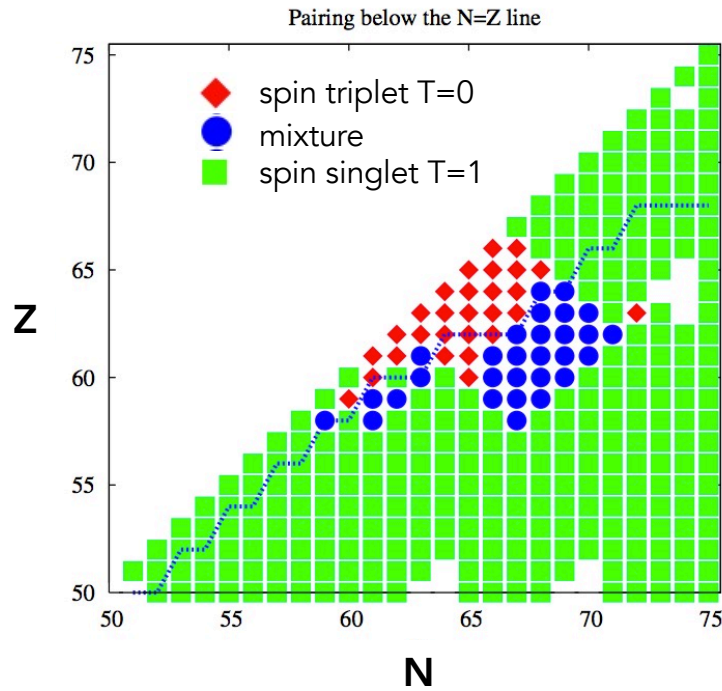
### Where to search for np pairing ?

stronger in high- $j$  orbitals  $\rightarrow$  fp shell

**2N-transfer** reactions were performed initially in the  $sd$ -shell nuclei and more recently in the  $fp$ -shell nuclei. A review of these results is presented here.

# Where to search for np pairing?

- ▶ nn, pp pairing increases when asymmetry increases
- ▶ np (T=1) pairing decreases drastically outside N=Z nuclei

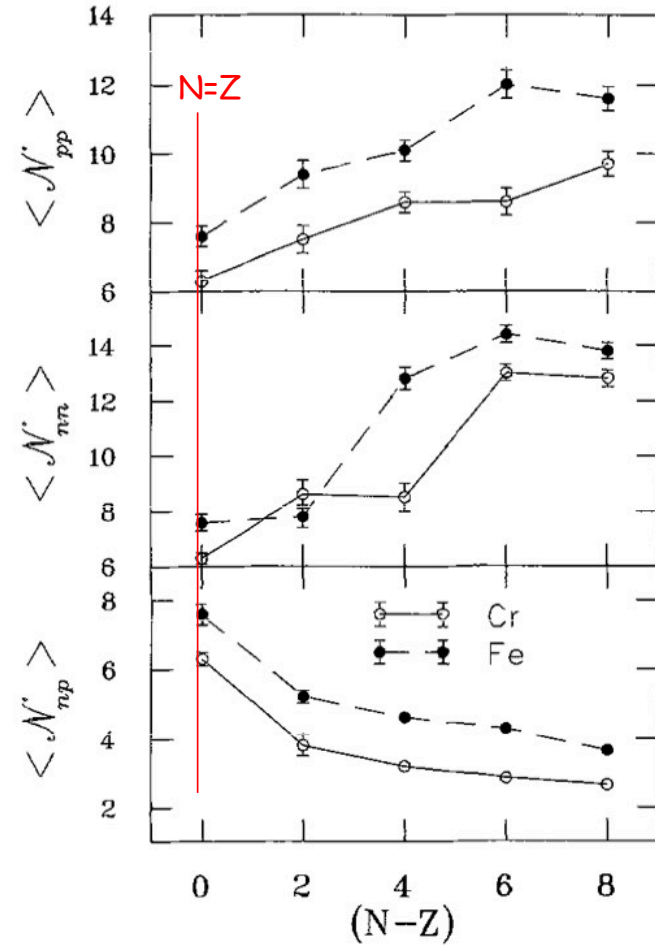


Gezerlis et al, PRL (2011)

What about N≠Z nuclei ?

- Mixed state (T=0 and T=1) predicted outside of N=Z

Shell Model Monte Carlo



Engel et al, PLB 389 (1996) 211

## Possible experimental probes for pairing

### Masses - BE differences

can be described by an appropriate combination of the symmetry energy and the isovector pairing energy.

→ **Evidence for full isovector pairing (nn,np,pp) - charge independence.**

*A.O. Macchiavelli PRC (2000), A.O. Macchiavelli PLB (2000)*

+ Heavy nuclei accessible, "simple" observable

**Rotational properties** ("delayed alignments") consistent with T=1 cranking model.

*Kaneko, Sun, de Angelis, Nuclear Physics A 957 (2017) 144*

+ Heavy nuclei accessible, — model dependent, no clear evidence

### Knock-out reactions :

*Simpson, Tostevin, 50 years of BCS*

What kind of information can we get ? --> not explored experimentally yet

**Deuteron transfer reaction :**  $\langle A + 2 | a^+ a^+ | A \rangle$

*Fröbrich (Phys. Lett. 1971) -> 2.5 enhancement factor. Piet Van Isacker PRL (2005)*

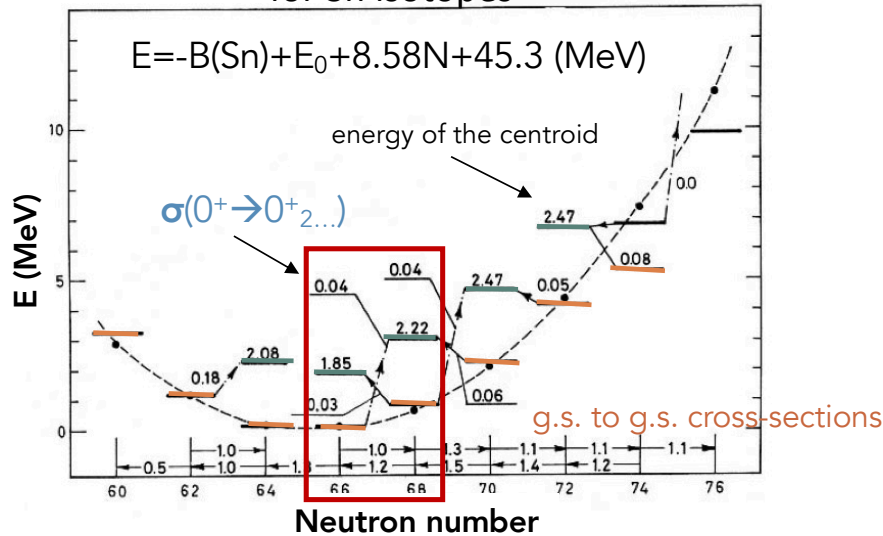
**analogous to the transition probabilities BE2's for the quadrupole case.**

+ THE "smoking gun"? — beam intensities  $> 10^4$ pps

## 2n-transfer : Rotational vs. vibrational pairing

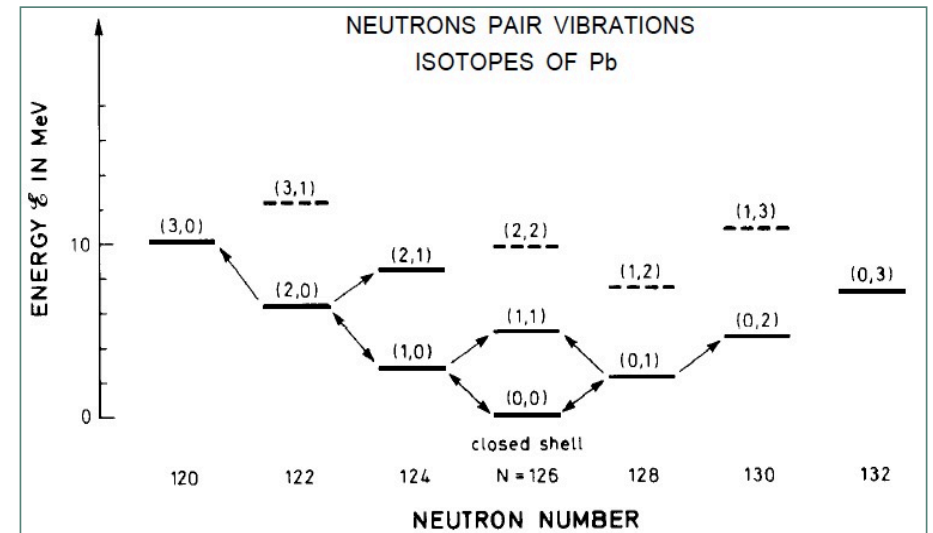
$(p,t) \text{ \& \ } (t,p) : R = \sigma_{rot}/\sigma_{qp} \sim 25$

for Sn isotopes



- Open shell nuclei -> static deformation of pair field
- "Superfluid" limit
- Rotational-like (parabolic) spectrum for even-N neighbors

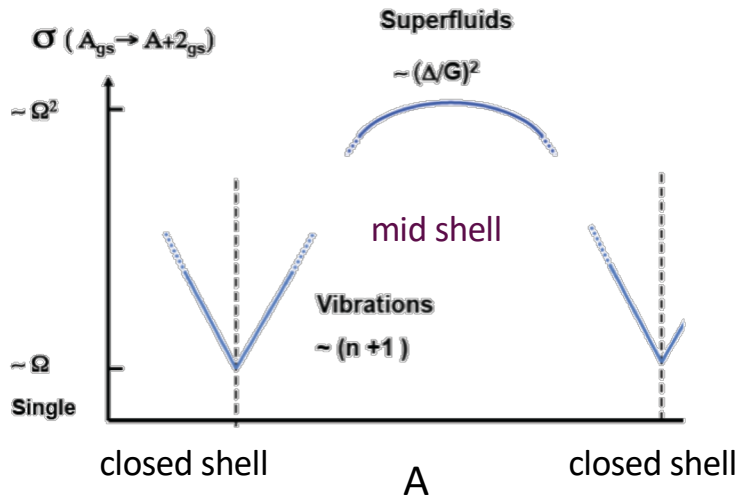
$(p,t) \text{ and } (t,p) : R = \sigma(gs(A) \rightarrow gs(A+2)) \sim \Omega$



- Closed shell : no static deformation of pair field
- "Normal" nuclei limit
- Vibrational-like spectrum
- Enhancement of pair addition/ pair removal cross section

Brink & Broglia, Nuclear superfluidity, Cambridge Press University (2005)

# Transposition for np-transfer reactions



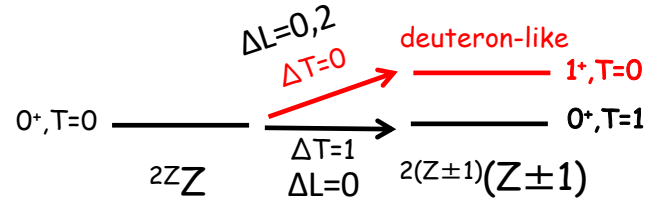
If pairing is important, the 2N transfer probability should be enhanced, particularly at mid-shell and will sign the onset of a superfluid phase.

*S. Frauendorf, Prog. in Part. and Nucl. Phys. (2014)*  
*P. van Isacker, PRL (2005)*

Transfer can take place in

- T=0, J=1 state (deuteron transfer)
- T=1, J=0 state (analog to 2n or 2p transfer)

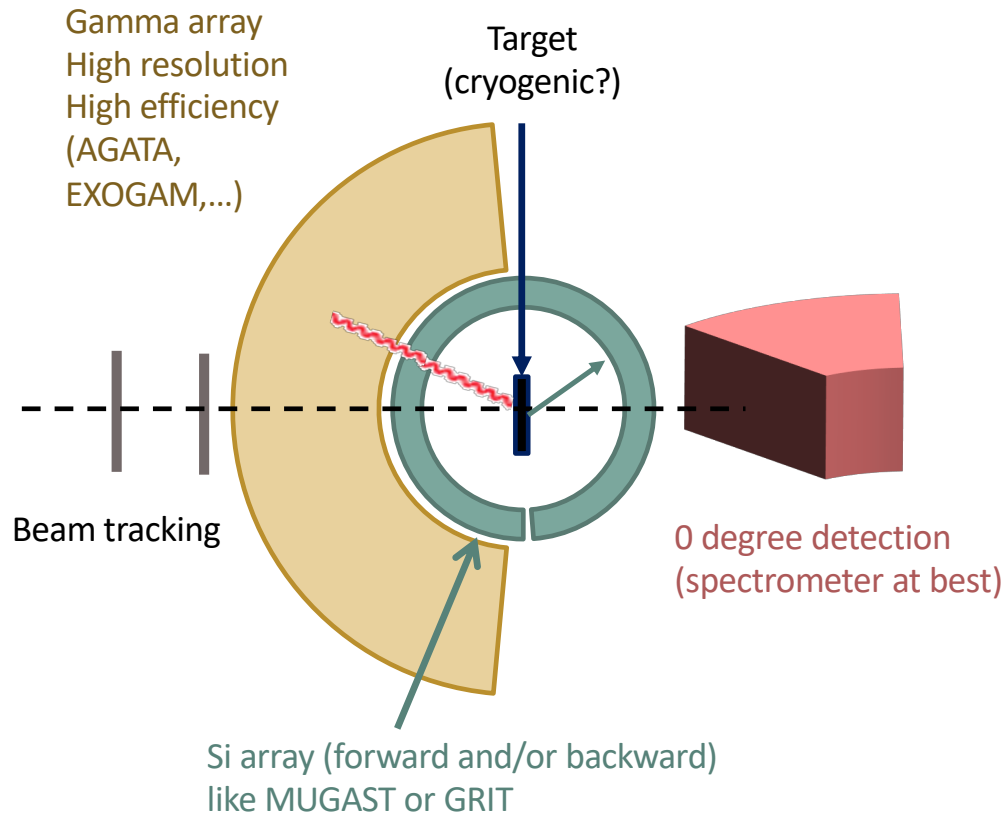
The (p, <sup>3</sup>He) transfer reaction allows both channels  $\Delta T = 0, 1$  to be studied



reaction	selectivity
(p, <sup>3</sup> He)	$\Delta T=0, 1$
( <sup>3</sup> He, p)	$\Delta T=0, 1$
(d, $\alpha$ )( $\alpha$ , <sup>6</sup> Li)	$\Delta T=0$
( $\alpha$ , d)( <sup>6</sup> Li, $\alpha$ )	$\Delta T=0$

The usual observable for np transfer is the ratio  $\sigma(0^+)/\sigma(1^+)$  that gives the relative strength of T=1/T=0 pairing.

## Typical experimental set-up for 2N transfer experiment in the unstable N=Z nuclei



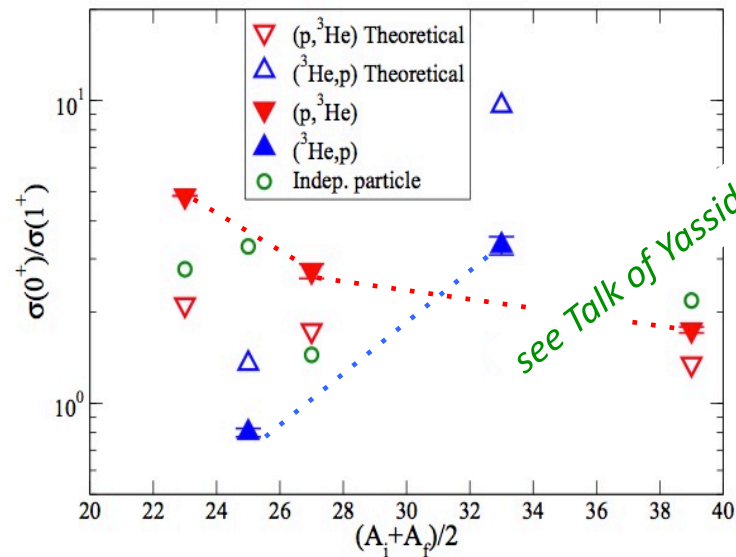
- ❑ **Low cross-sections  $\sim 100$   $\mu\text{b}$  and below**
  - > thick targets
  - > high beam intensities ( $>10^5$  pps)
- ❑ **Forward and/or backward particle detection :**  
depending on stripping or pick-up
  - > high granularity (angular distributions)
  - > good PID
- ❑ **High resolution & high efficiency gamma array :**  
2N transfer populate residual odd-odd nuclei with high density of states
- ❑ **Integration of  $^3\text{He}$  cryogenic targets** for  $(^3\text{He},p)$  measurements
- ❑ 0 degree detection to clean the spectra from background contributions

# Systematic of $d\sigma(0+)/d\sigma(1+)$

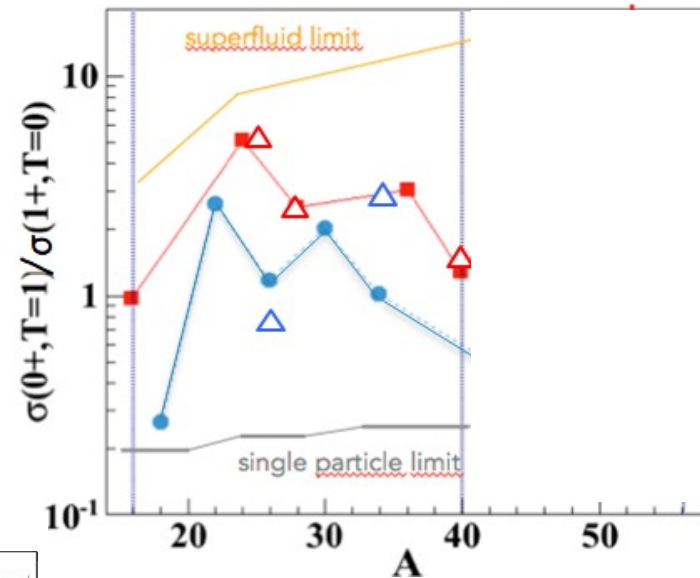
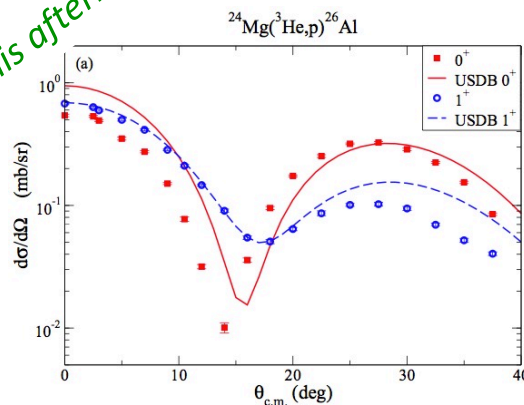
(p,  $^3\text{He}$ )  
( $^3\text{He}$ , p)

► sd-shell systematic measurement (stable nuclei)

- From literature & ENSDF:
  - max of cross-section (lowest angle measured) + no error bars
  - first 0+ and first 1+ states taken into account (no centroid)
- Recent consistent remeasurement : Y. Ayyad et al, PRC96 (2017) (open triangles)



see Talk of Yassid this afternoon !





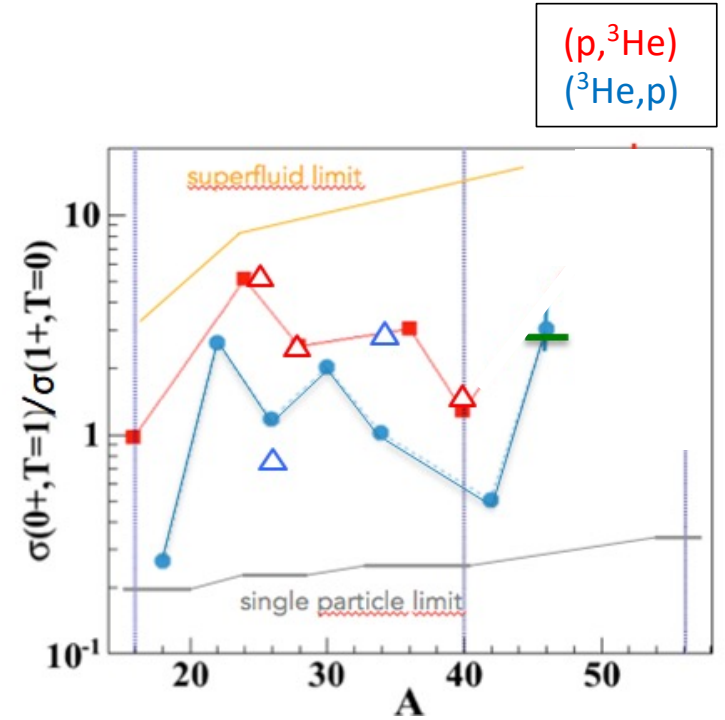
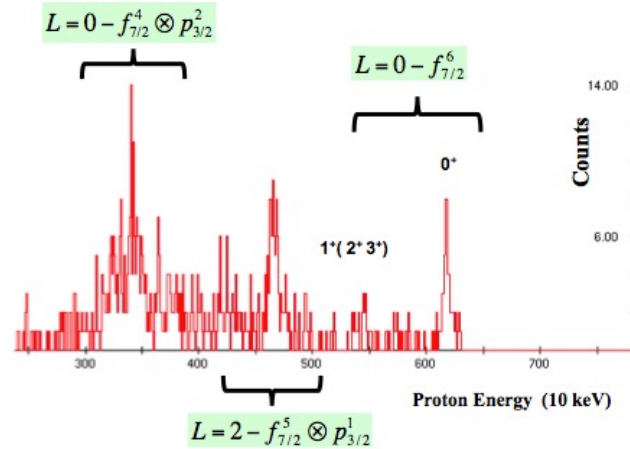
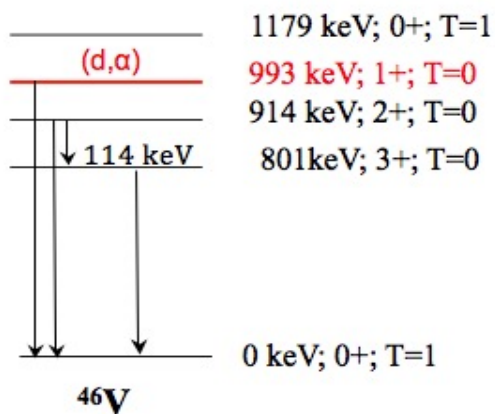
# Systematic of $d\sigma(0+)/d\sigma(1+)$

► **sd-shell systematic measurement (stable nuclei)**

- From literature & ENSDF:
  - max of cross-section (lowest angle measured) + no error bars
  - first 0+ and first 1+ states taken into account (no centroid)
- Recent consistent remeasurement : Y. Ayyad et al, PRC96 (2017) (open triangles)

► **fp shell measurements :**

- $^{44}\text{Ti}(^3\text{He},p)^{46}\text{V}$  in inverse kinematics @ Argonne (A.O. Macchiavelli et al)



courtesy of A.O. Macchiavelli

# Systematic of $d\sigma(0+)/d\sigma(1+)$

## ► sd-shell systematic measurement (stable nuclei)

### □ From literature & ENSDF:

- max of cross-section (lowest angle measured) + no error bars
- first 0+ and first 1+ states taken into account (no centroid)

### □ Recent consistent remeasurement : Y. Ayyad et al, PRC96 (2017) (open triangles)

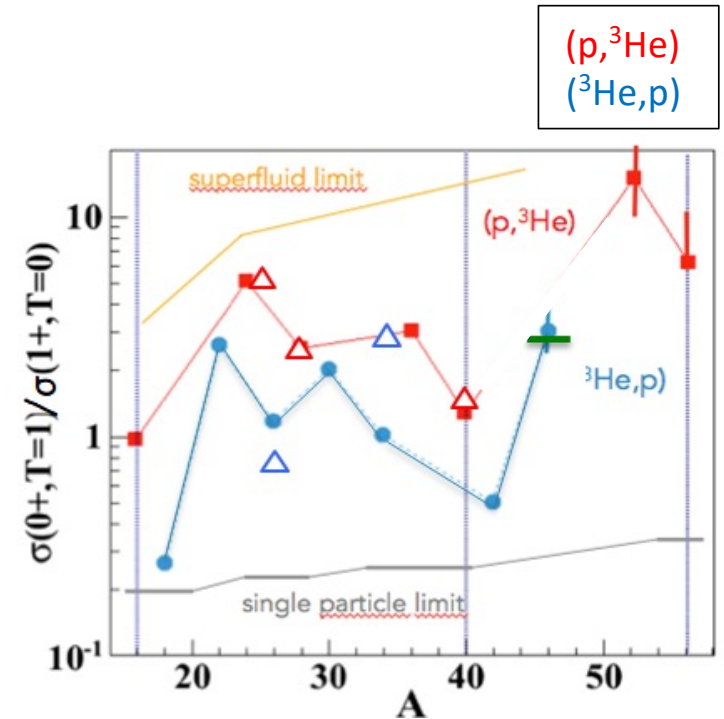
## ► fp shell measurements :

### □ $^{44}\text{Ti}(^3\text{He},p)^{46}\text{V}$

in inverse kinematics @ Argonne (A.O. Macchiavelli et al)

### □ $^{56}\text{Ni}$ , $^{52}\text{Fe}$ , $^{48}\text{Cr}(p,^3\text{He})^{54}\text{Co}$ , $^{50}\text{Mn}$ :

in inverse kinematics @ LISE (M. Assié et al)



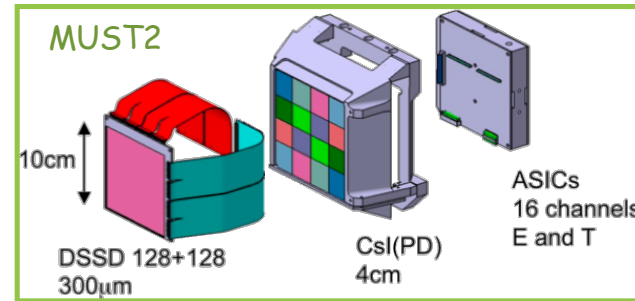
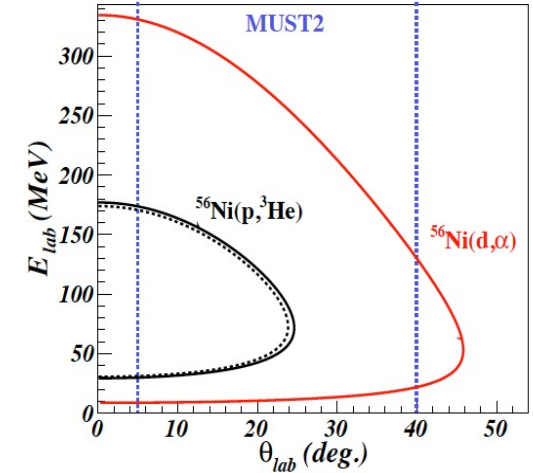
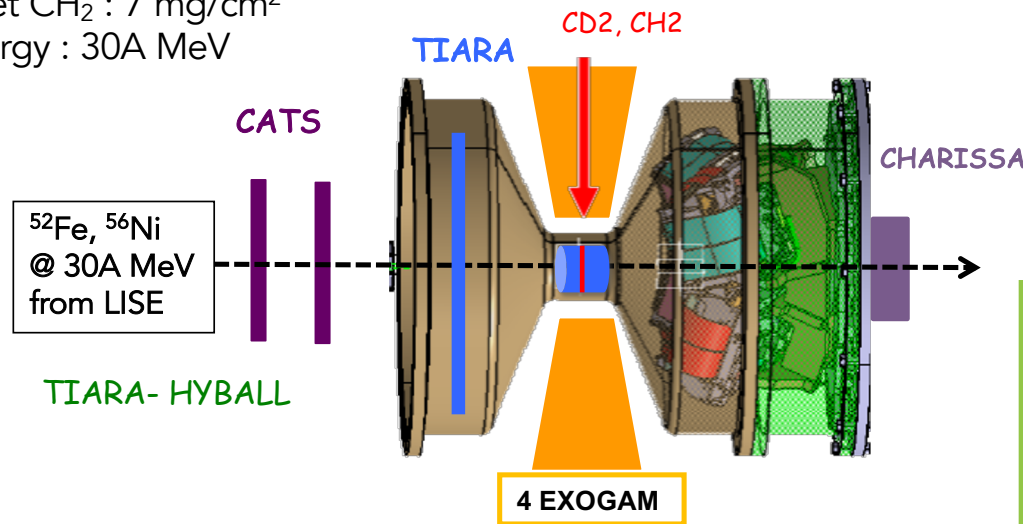
- Ratios obtained in different experiments and at different energies  
--> effect of the reaction mechanism

- L=0 and L=2 contributions overlapping  
--> angular distributions needed

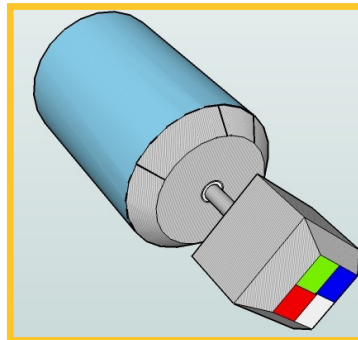
# Experimental set-up on LISE

$^{56}\text{Ni}(p, ^3\text{He})^{54}\text{Co}$  &  $^{52}\text{Fe}(p, ^3\text{He})^{50}\text{Mn}$

Beams produced by fragmentation of  $^{58}\text{Ni}$  primary beam  
 thick target  $\text{CH}_2$  : 7 mg/cm<sup>2</sup>  
 beam energy : 30A MeV



Efficiency ~8% @ 1 MeV  
 Energy resolution 3 keV  
 Doppler broadening 80 keV



- 1821 keV, 3+, T=0
  - 1445 keV, 2+, T=1
  - 936 keV, 1+, T=0
  - 197keV (isomeric) 0+, T=1
- <sup>54</sup>Co

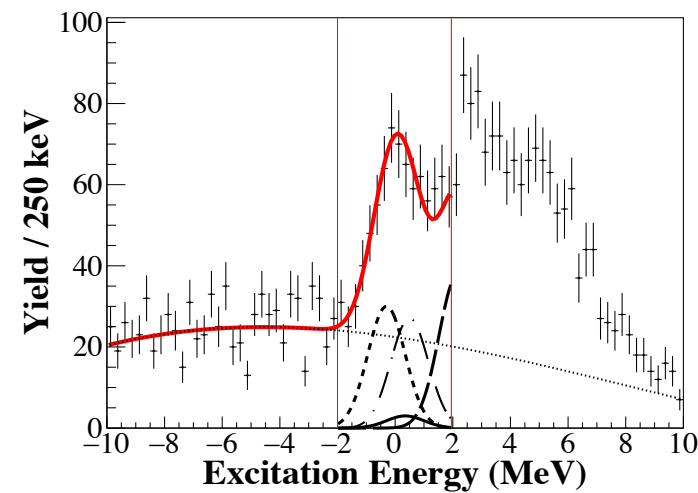
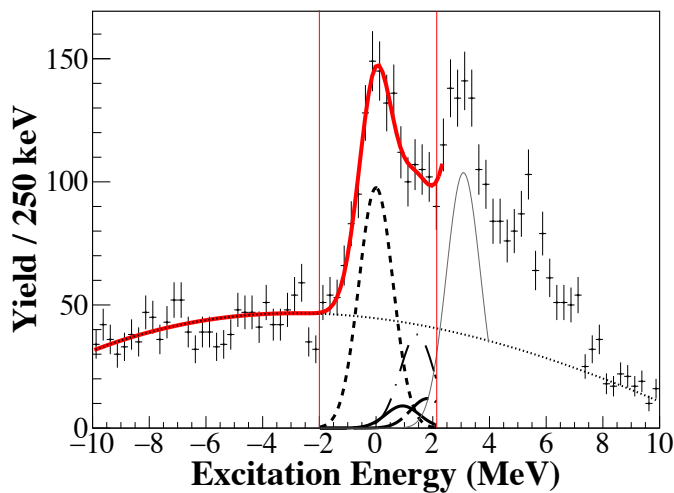
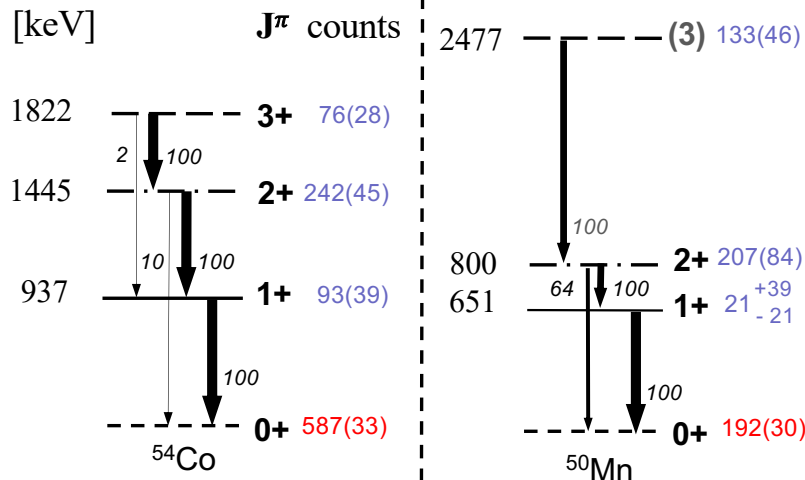
### The (p, <sup>3</sup>He) reaction on <sup>56</sup>Ni & <sup>52</sup>Fe

B. Le Crom et al, PLB (2022)

closed shell nucleus



open shell nucleus



# The (p,<sup>3</sup>He) reaction on <sup>56</sup>Ni & <sup>52</sup>Fe

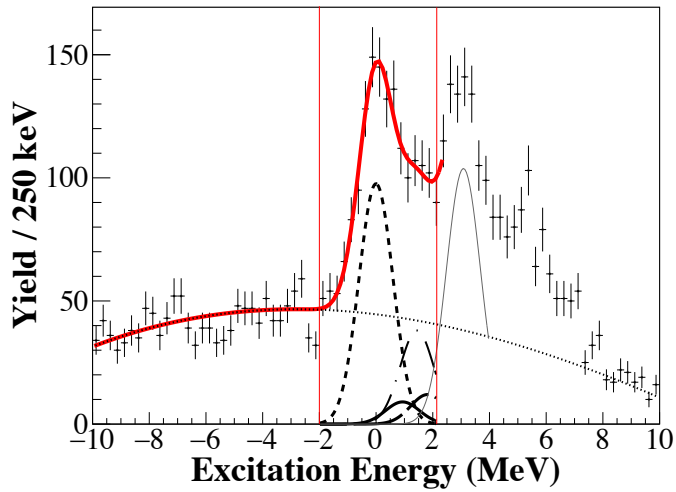
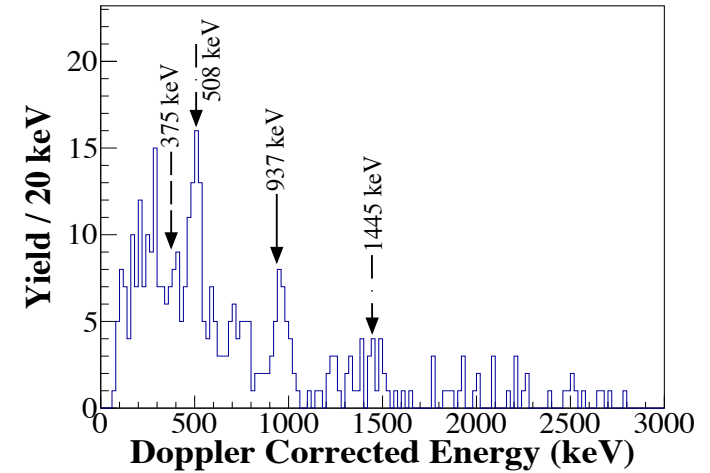
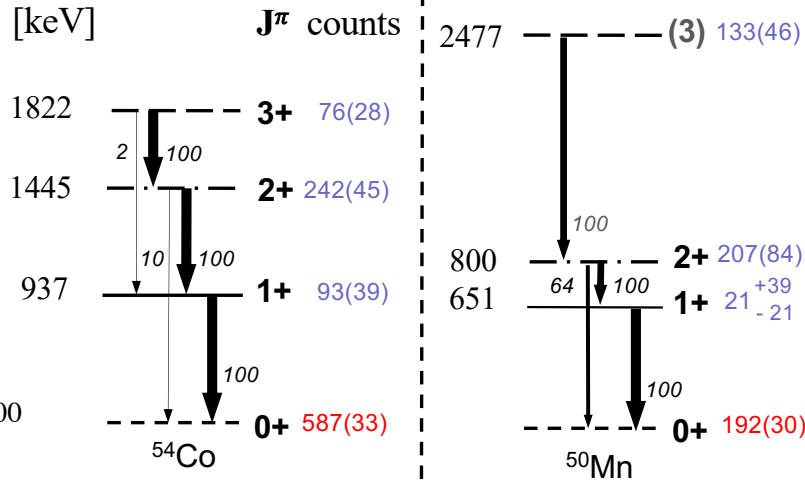
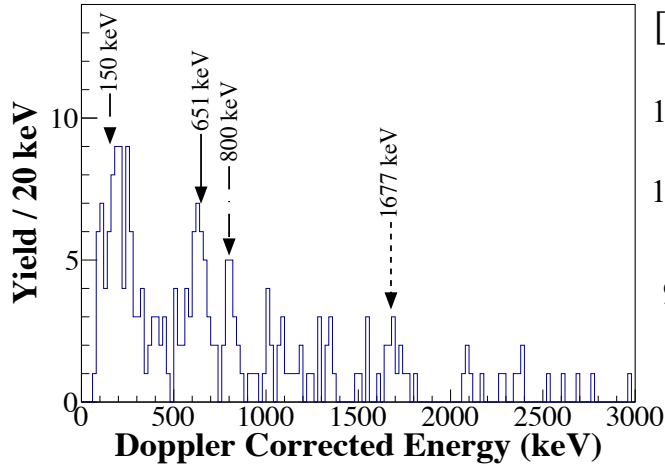
B. Le Crom et al, PLB (2022)

closed shell nucleus

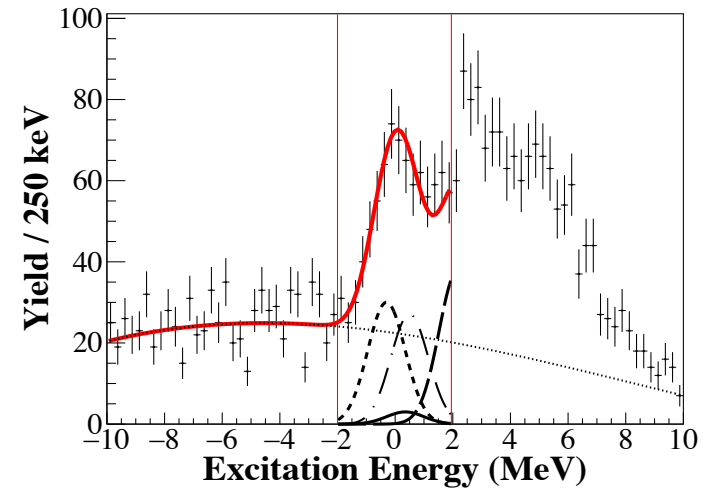
<sup>56</sup>Ni(p,<sup>3</sup>He)<sup>54</sup>Co

<sup>52</sup>Fe(p,<sup>3</sup>He)<sup>50</sup>Mn

open shell nucleus



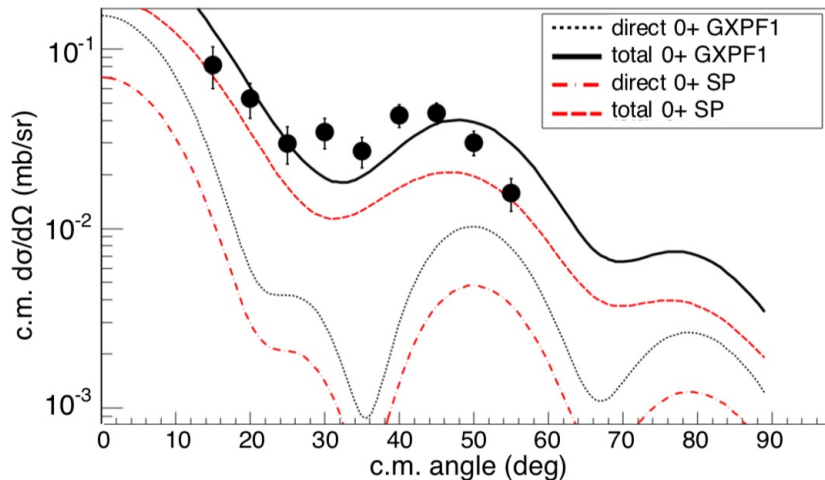
	$\sigma(0+,T=1)$ ( $\mu\text{b}$ )	$\sigma(1+,T=0)$ ( $\mu\text{b}$ )	Ratio
<b><sup>56</sup>Ni(p,<sup>3</sup>He)<sup>54</sup>Co</b>			
this work	109 <sup>stat</sup> ± 5 <sup>sys</sup> ± 10	17 <sup>stat</sup> ± 7 <sup>sys</sup> ± 2	6.3 <sup>+3.1</sup> <sub>-2.1</sub>
SP	73	19	3.8
GXPFI	136	21	6.4
<b><sup>52</sup>Fe(p,<sup>3</sup>He)<sup>50</sup>Mn</b>			
this work	145 <sup>stat</sup> ± 12 <sup>sys</sup> ± 15	16 <sup>+29</sup> <sub>-16</sub> ± 2 <sup>sys</sup>	9.1 <sup>+∞</sup> <sub>-3.7</sub>
SP	69	16	4.3
GXPFI	257	17	15.1



# Comparison with DWBA

B. Le Crom et al, PLB (2022)

Angular distribution for g.s. of  $^{54}\text{Co}$



## ► DWBA calculations

- with form factors from Sagawa-san team including other shells than  $f_{7/2}$  (**pairing case**) using GXPF1 interaction
  - with single particle form factors (**no pairing case**)
- Potentials set from  $^{56}\text{Ni}(p,d)$  measurement

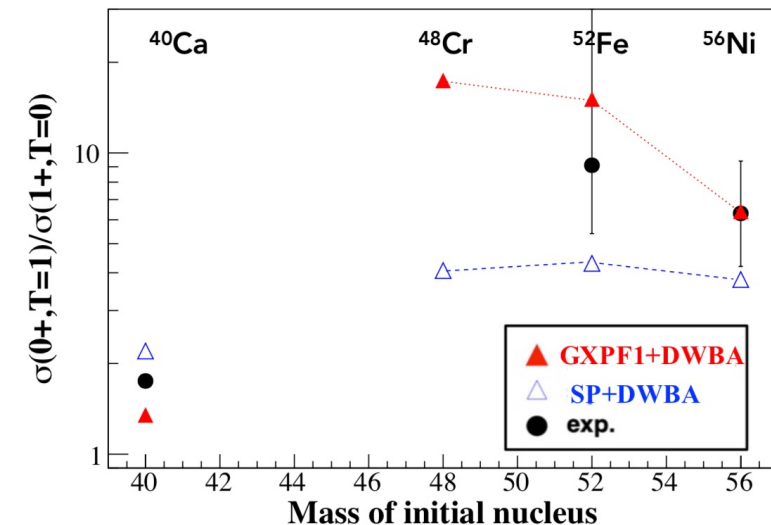
## ► Direct vs. sequential ?

correlations kept in the sequential transfer ?

Potel, Rep. Prog. Phys. 76 (2013) 106301

## ► Comparison of ratios of CS

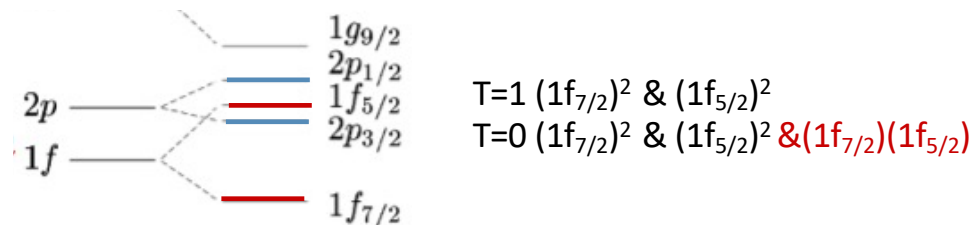
- Good agreement between exp and DWBA+pairing (although with large error bars)
- $T=1 \sim$  superfluid,  $T=0$  very weak due to the effect of spin-orbit that hinders  $T=0$  pairing in the  $fp$ -shell.



# Open questions on np pairing with transfer

## 1- Effect of the spin-orbit ?

- **Spin-orbit splitting** hinders T=0 pairing in the **f-shell**



- **What would be the effect for the 2p shell ?** (smaller spin-orbit splitting)

--> case of  $^{58}\text{Cu}$

-->  $^{58}\text{Cu}$  only odd-odd nucleus in fp-shell with g.s. T=0

- **Is there any effect of spin-orbit in the sd-shell ?**

$d_{3/2}$  and  $d_{5/2}$  spin-orbit splitting of the same order of magnitude as for  $f_{7/2}$  and  $f_{5/2}$  and even stronger in the g-shell

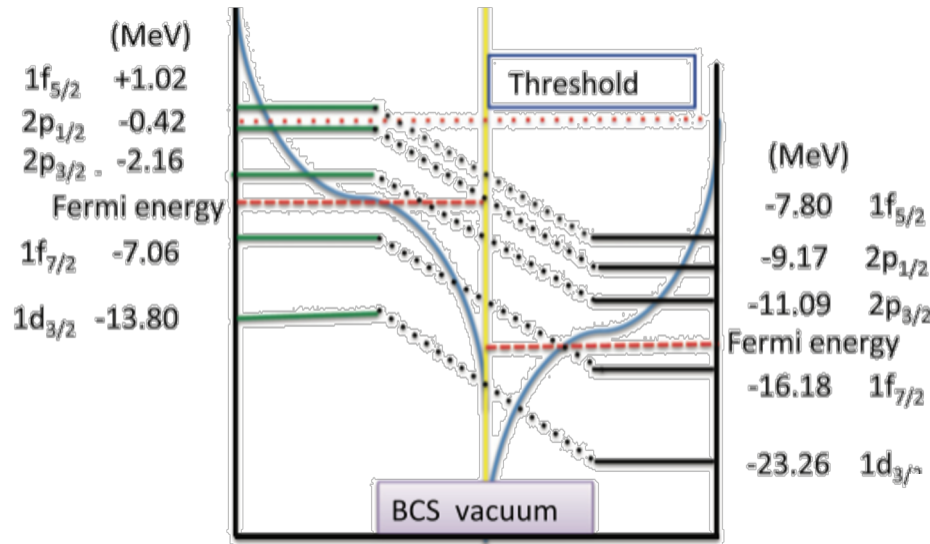
## 2- Effect of other (repulsive) channels ?

- **Baroni et al PRC 2010** : T=0 pairing weakened by the contributions of  $^1P_1$  and D-wave (repulsive)

# Open questions on np pairing with transfer

## 3- Coulomb effect ?

8.8 MeV gap between  $f_{7/2}$  n and p in  $^{56}\text{Ni}$



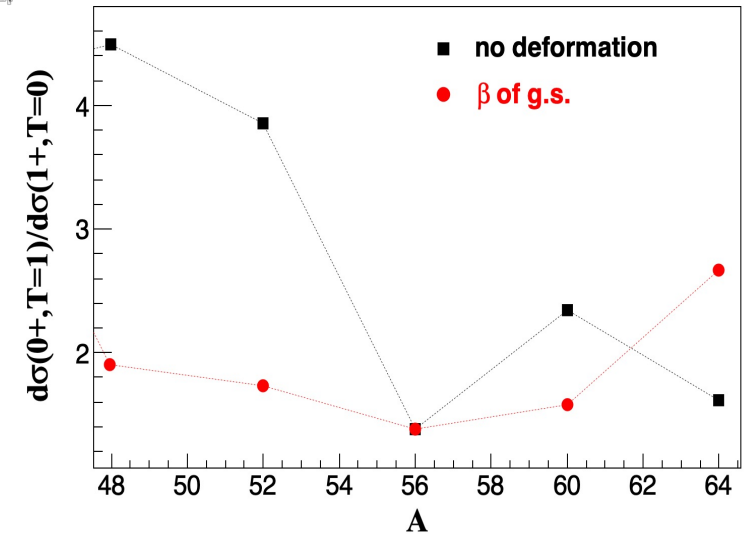
## 4- Effect of deformation ?

### □ The case of $^{48}\text{Cr}$

Deformation affects strongly the ratios of the CS in particular in  $^{48}\text{Cr}$

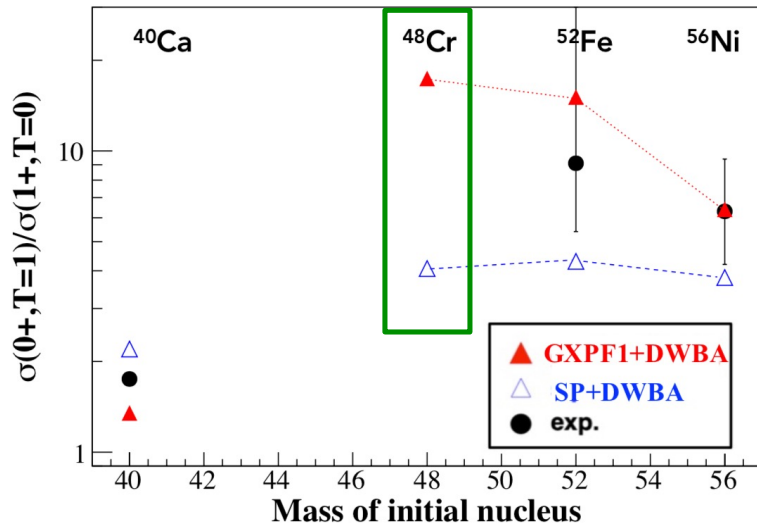
→ experiment performed at GANIL :  $^{48}\text{Cr}(p, ^3\text{He})$  run in 2023

PhD thesis of Hugo Jacob





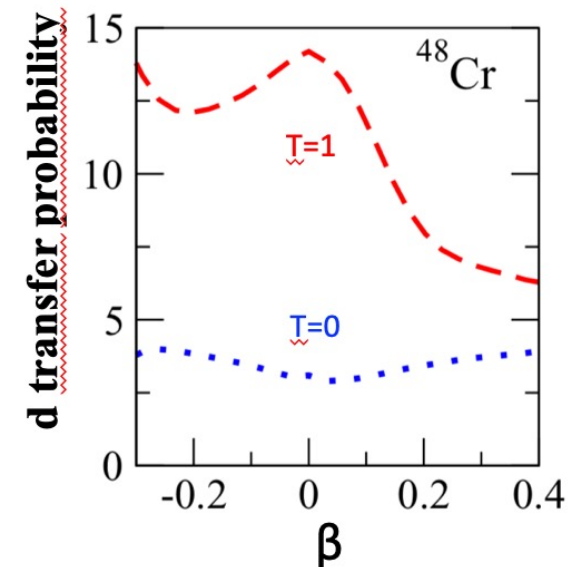
# Interplay between pairing and deformation



- Case of  $^{48}\text{Cr}$ : comparison with ratios predicted by DWBA calculations for 2 cases:

- single particle case (no pairing)
- np pairing through TNA from Shell Model + GXPF1 calculations (pairing)

$^{48}\text{Cr}$	ENSDF	GXPFI
$B(E2, 2+ \rightarrow 0+)$ w.u.	31 (4)	20.5
$\beta_2$	0.368	



- Recent calculations combining deformation and pairing

*D. Gambacurta, D. Lacroix, Phys. Rev. C 91 (2015)*

--> It affects mainly the T=1 component

--> The ratio could be lowered by a factor of about 3

The main goal of the experiment is to measure the ratio  $\sigma(0^+)/\sigma(1^+)$  for  $^{48}\text{Cr}(p, ^3\text{He})^{46}\text{V}$  to compare with theoretical predictions.

# Experimental method for $^{48}\text{Cr}(p, ^3\text{He})^{46}\text{V}$

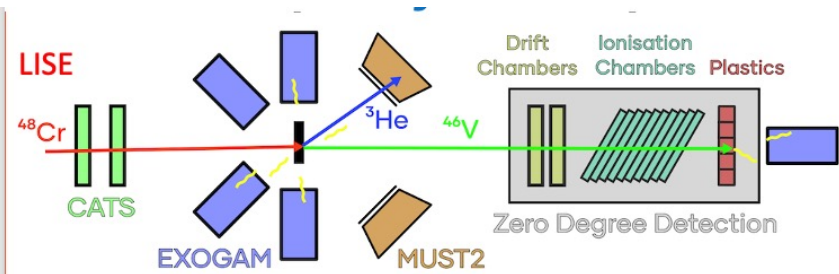
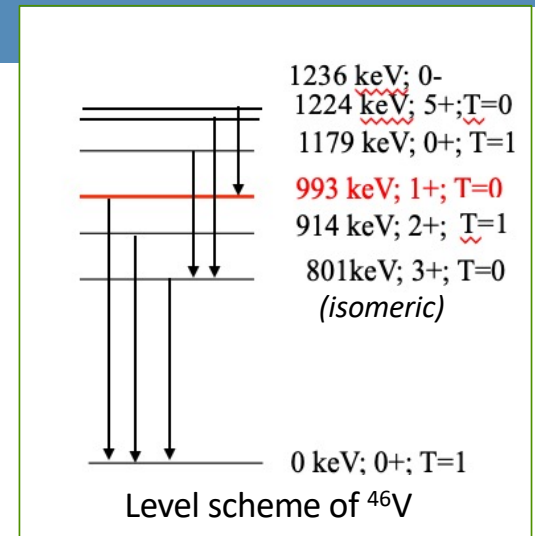
## Beam production:

Fragmentation of  $^{50}\text{Cr}^{23+}$  at 72 MeV/u on 1 mm thick  $^9\text{Be}$  target to produce  $^{48}\text{Cr}$  at 30 MeV/u with  $10^6\text{pps}$  and 90% purity.

Target:  $\text{CH}_2$  target  $5\text{ mg/cm}^2$

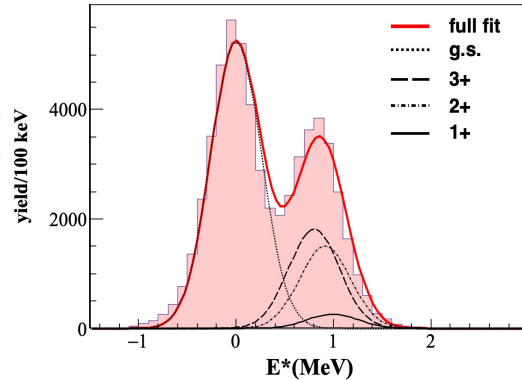
## Experimental set-up:

Given the high density of states in  $^{46}\text{V}$ , particle-gamma coincidence needed.

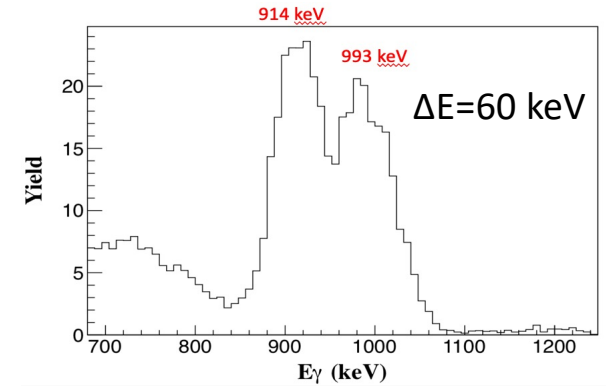


Excitation energy (from particle)

$\Delta E$  (FWHM)=611 keV



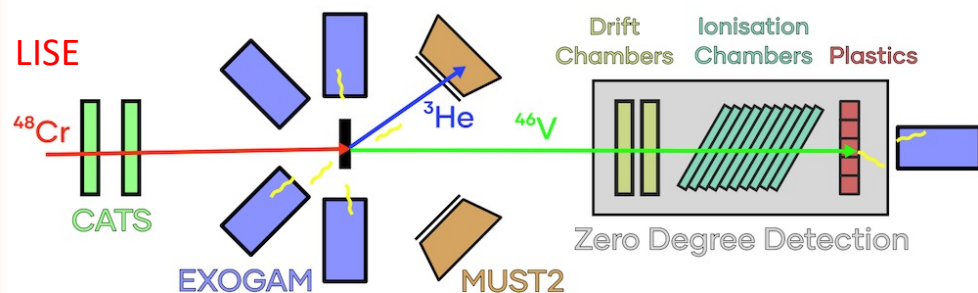
EXOGAM response to 1+ & 2+ decay



- > For the  $0+, T=1$  (g.s.) :  $\sigma(0^+)$  & angular distribution can be deduced from  $E^*$  measurement
- > For the  $1+, T=0$  (993 keV) : particle-gamma coincidence to determine  $\sigma(1^+)$   
angular distribution from gamma gated  $E^*$  spectrum (if enough statistics)

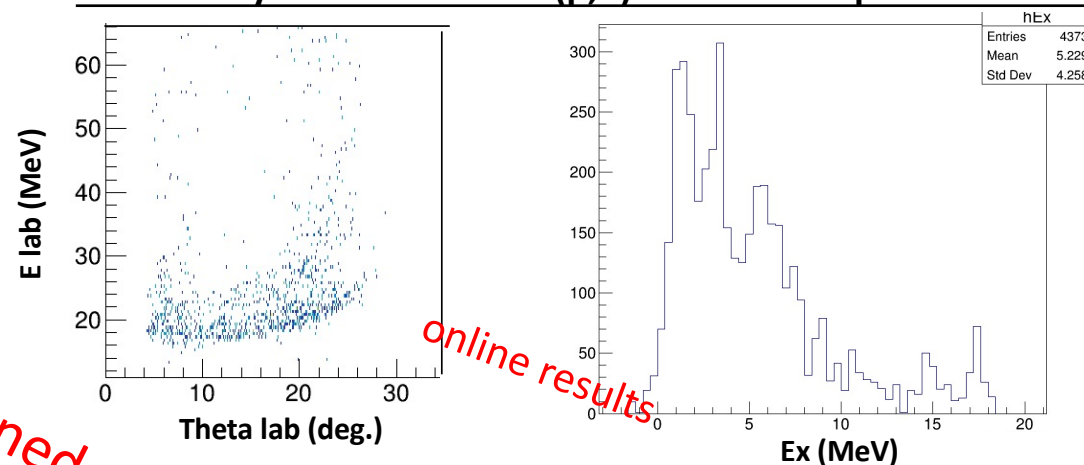
## Study of the two-nucleon transfer reaction $^{48}\text{Cr}(p, ^3\text{He})^{46}\text{V}$

MUGAST spokesperson : V. Girard-Alcindor

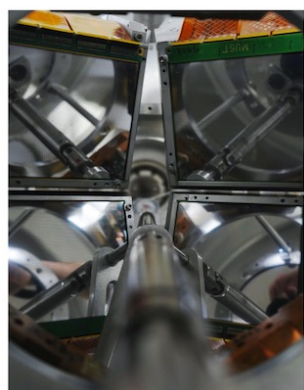


- $^{48}\text{Cr}$  :  $2.5 \cdot 10^5$  pps, 97% purity
- $\text{CH}_2$  target

### Preliminary results from $^{48}\text{Cr}(p,d)$ with a small part of statistics



Stay tuned ...



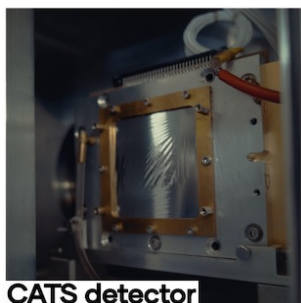
MUST2 detectors



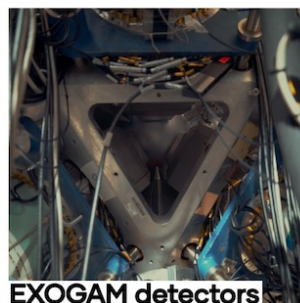
Zero Degree Detection



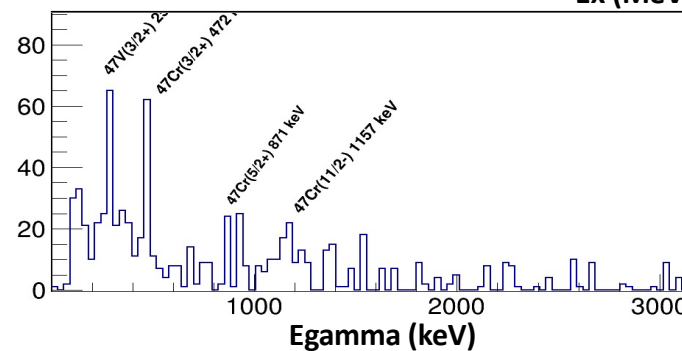
Targets



CATS detector



EXOGAM detectors



# Thank you for your attention and thank you to

## V. Girard-Alcindor, H. Jacob (IJCLab)

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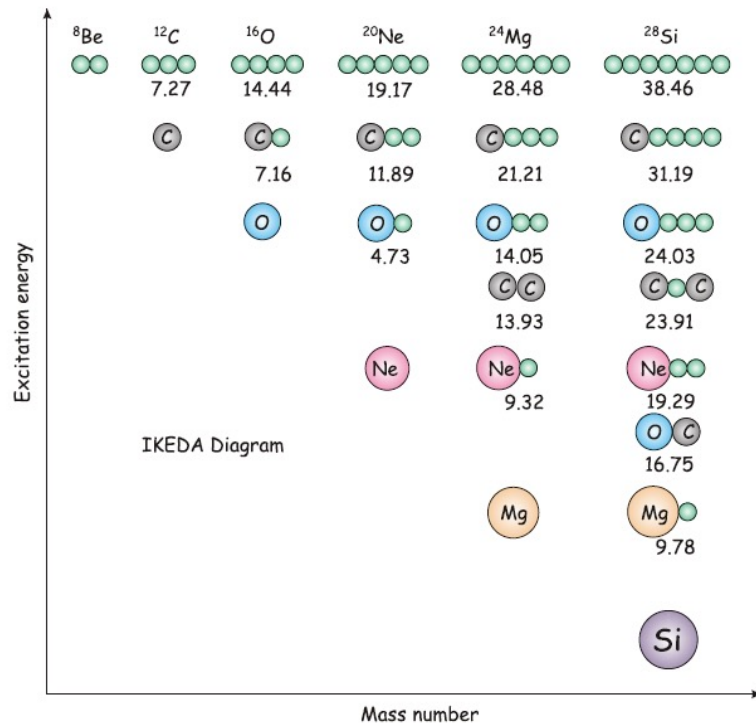
# Alpha clusters in the neutron-rich Be isotopes

*courtesy of D. Beaumel, IJCLab*

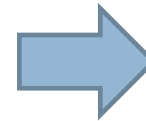
# Clustering in light nuclei

## The Ikeda diagram

For  $N=Z=2n$  "alpha-conjugate" nuclei



- Cluster structure typically occurs close to cluster decay thresholds
- Based on properties of some near threshold states
  - ✓ Rotational bands with molecule-like structure
    - Very large moment of inertia
  - ✓ Large alpha-decay widths

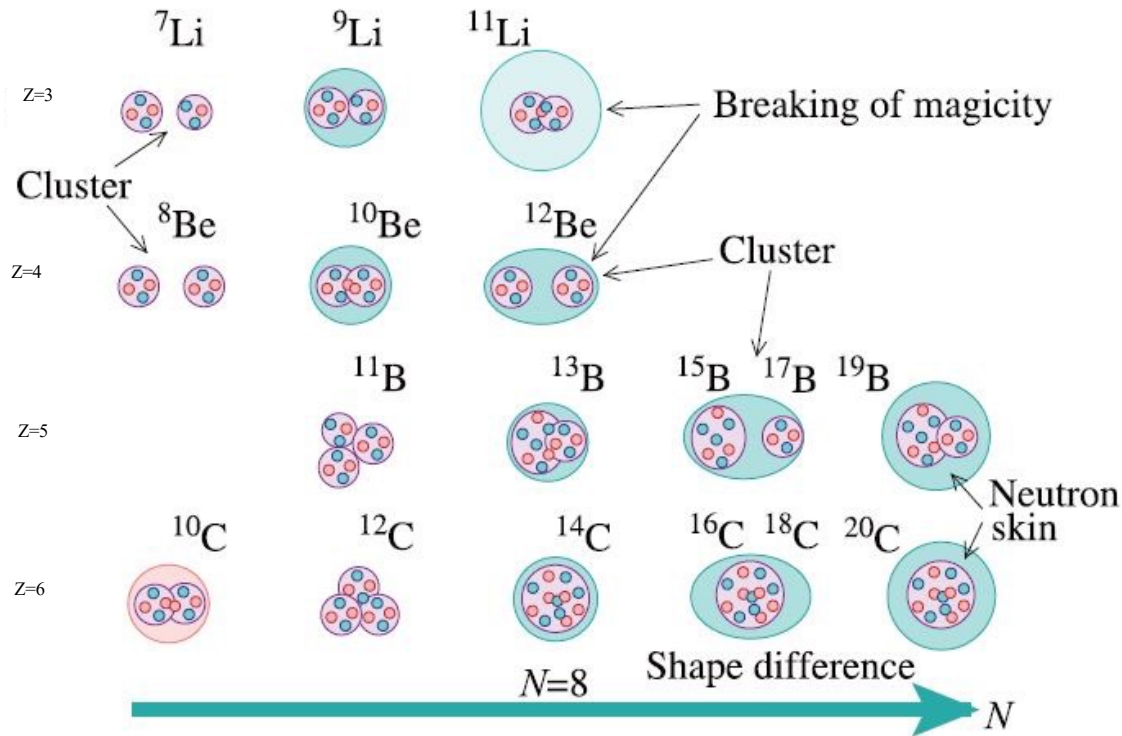


Unified picture of clustering

K.Ikeda, N.Takigawa, H.Horiuchi, PTP (1968)

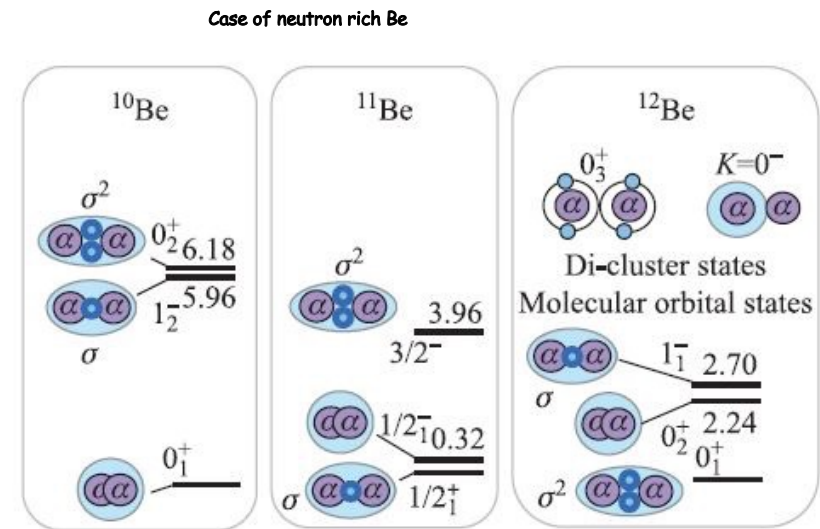
# Clustering in light neutron-rich nuclei

## GROUND-STATES !



**Antisymmetrized Molecular Dynamics (AMD)**  
 Y.Kanada-En'yo, H.Horiuchi, Front. Phys. 13 (2018)

When Adding neutrons to  $N=Z$  nuclei:  
 Various Molecular structures  
 Neutron orbiting around the core of clusters  
 for low-lying states including the ground-state



p orbit  $\leftrightarrow$  p-orbit in SM limit – reduce clustering  
 s orbit  $\leftrightarrow$  sd intruder configuration – enhance clustering

**Calls for direct evidence of Molecular structure !**

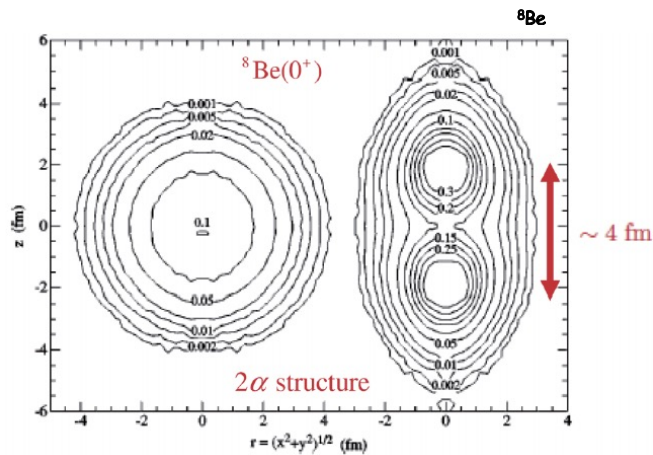
# Calculations from first principles for Be isotopes

## QMC calculation for ${}^8\text{Be}$

R.B. Wiringa, S.C. Pieper, J. Carlsson,  
V.R. Pandharipande, *Phys. Rev. C* 62 (2000)

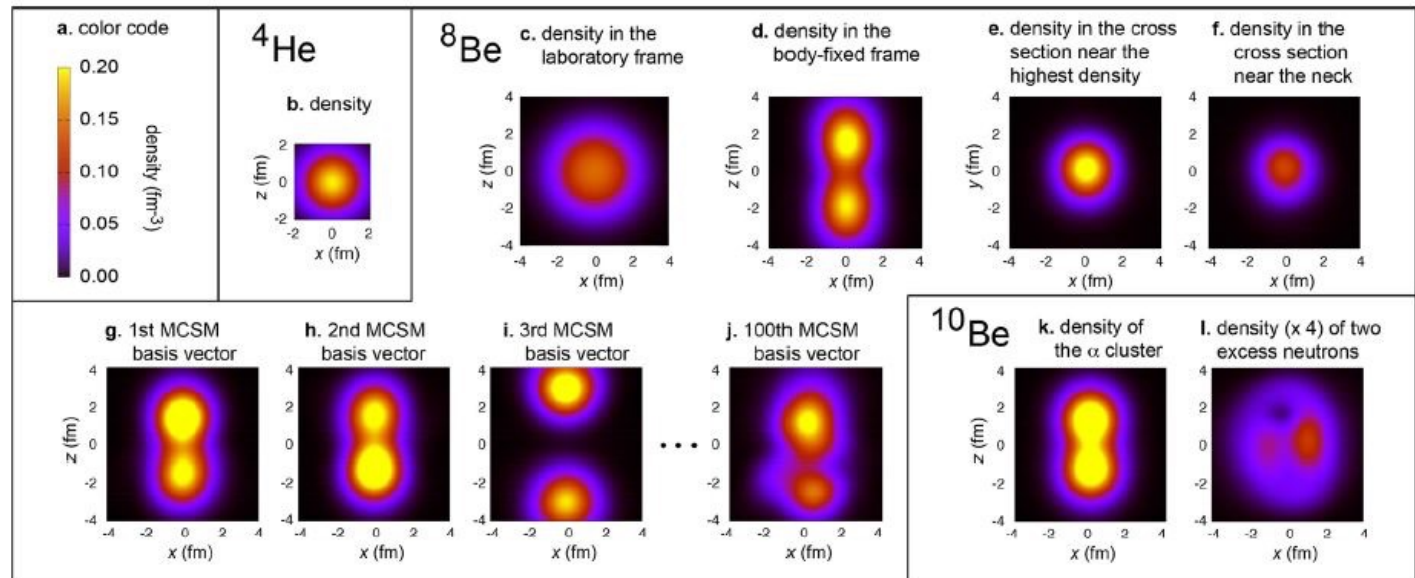
Quantum Monte-Carlo

AV18 + Urbana IX



Rotational band well reproduced

## Be isotopes in no-core Monte-Carlo Shell Model

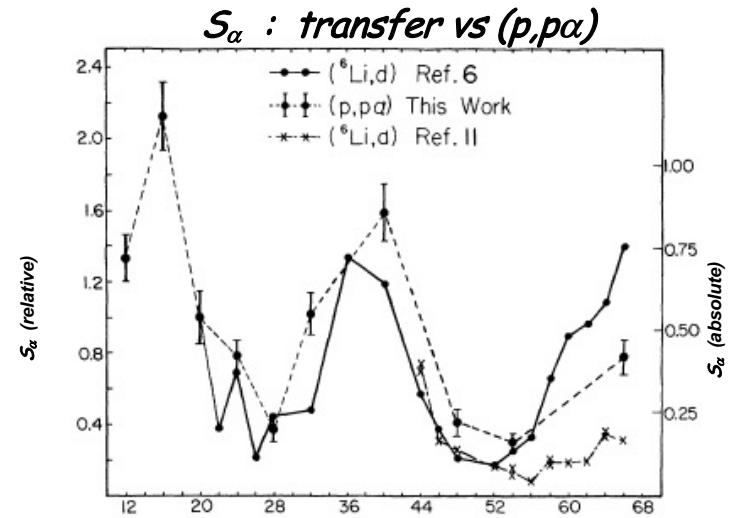


T.Otsuka, T.Abe et al., *Nature comm.* 2022



# Cluster knockout reactions

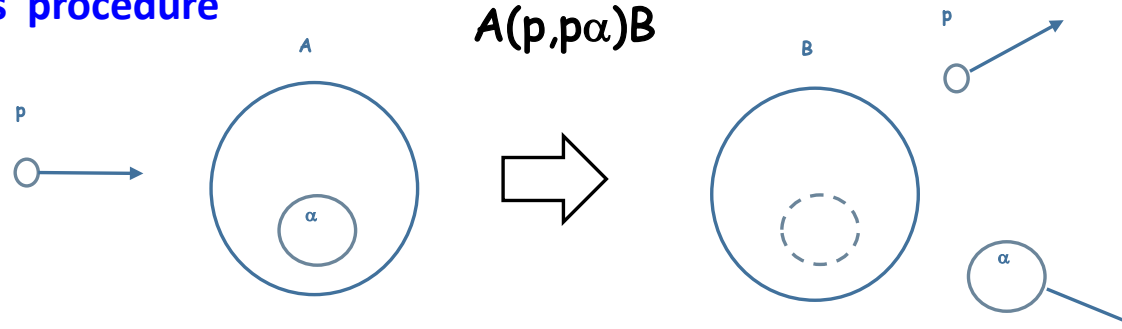
- Direct reaction
  - ✓ short reaction time ( $\sim 10^{-22}$ s)
  - ✓ one-step dominant
- (e,e'p), (p,2p) and (p,pn) for nucleons  
(p,pa), (a,2a) for alpha cluster
- Well-studied since the 70's with proton and alpha beams on stable targets
- Incident p energy : 100~400 MeV  
(  $l \sim 0.5-0.25$ fm)
- *Peripheral* reaction
- Extraction of spectroscopic factors  $S_\alpha$



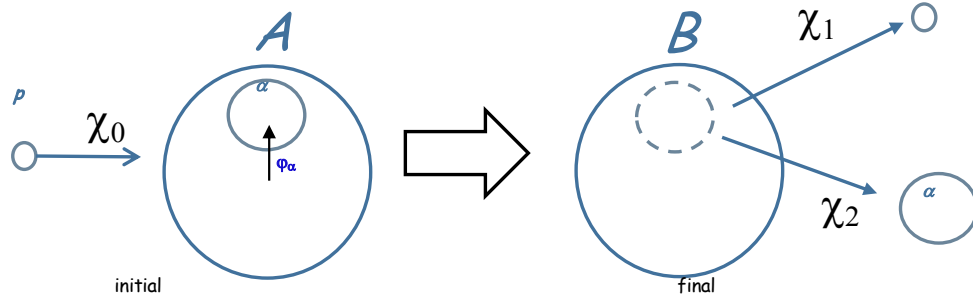
(T. Carey et al., PRC (1984))

Target mass No.

- Recently: new analysis procedure

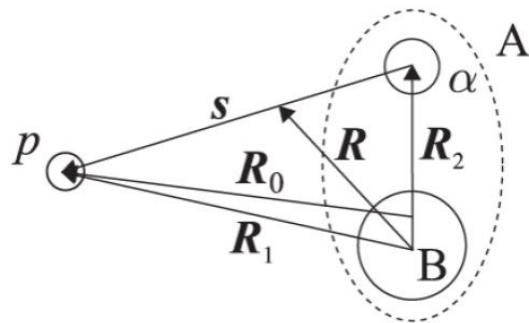


# Amplitude and cross-section in Distorted Wave Impulse Approximation (DWIA)



$$\frac{d^3\sigma^{DWIA}}{dE_1^L d\Omega_1^L d\Omega_2^L} = F_{\text{kin}} C_0 \frac{d\sigma_{p\alpha}}{d\Omega_{p\alpha}}(\theta_{p\alpha}, E_{p\alpha}) |\bar{T}_{P_0 P_1 P_2}|^2$$

Kinematical factor      Constant      2-body p- $\alpha$  Xsection      Transition amplitude



$$T_{P_0 P_1 P_2} = \left\langle \chi_{1,P_1}^{(-)}(R_1) \chi_{2,P_2}^{(-)}(R_2) |t_{p\alpha}(s)| \chi_{0,P_0}^{(+)}(R_0) \varphi_{\alpha}(R_2) \right\rangle$$

$\chi_{0,P_0}^{(+)}(R_0)$   $\chi_{1,P_1}^{(-)}(R_1)$   $\chi_{2,P_2}^{(-)}(R_2)$  distorted waves for p-A, p-B and  $\alpha$ -B  
 Obtained from elastic scattering data

$t_{p\alpha}(s)$  Transition interaction

$\varphi_{\alpha}(R_2)$  **Cluster Wave function**

- Phenomenological
- Microscopic (AMD, ab initio ...)

# THSR-based calculations for $^{10}\text{Be}(p,p\alpha)$ $^6\text{He}(\text{GS})$ at 250 MeV/u

M.Lyu et al., PRC 97 (20.

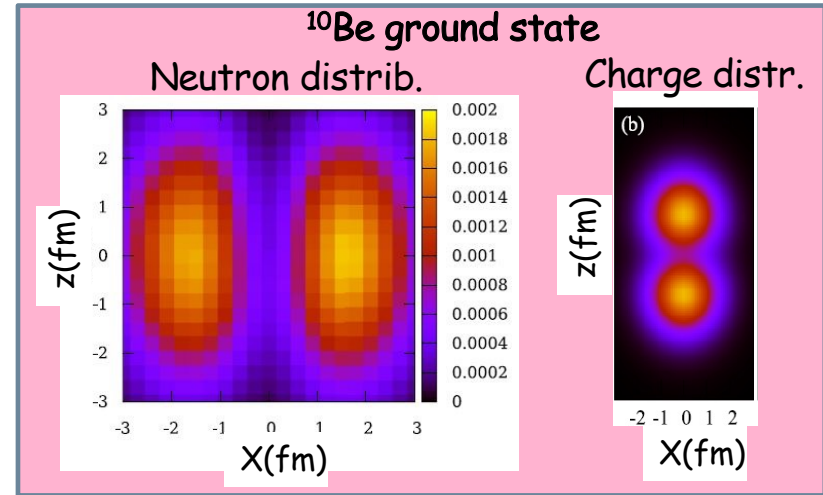
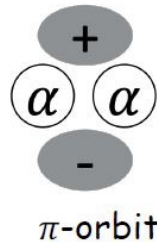
Tohsaki, Horiuchi, Schuck, Röpke (THSR) wave-function

Well adapted to discuss cluster states in light nuclei

→ Cluster wave-function overlap of  $^{10}\text{Be}$  and  $^6\text{He}$

→ Optical potentials folding of calculated density

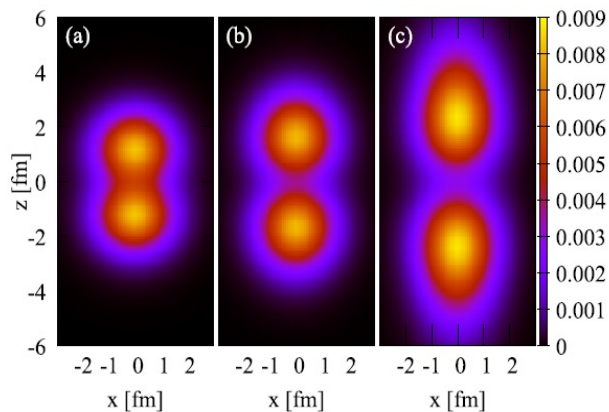
$$^{10}\text{Be}: 2\alpha + 2n(p)$$



Good reproduction of :

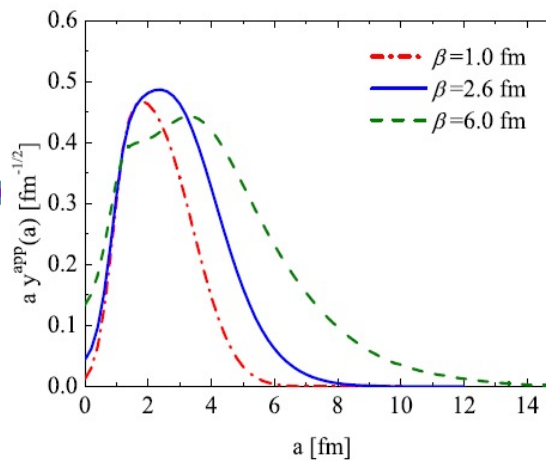
- $^{10}\text{Be}$  GS energy
- Charge radius 2.31fm (exp=2.36fm)

## $^{10}\text{Be}$ charge distribution



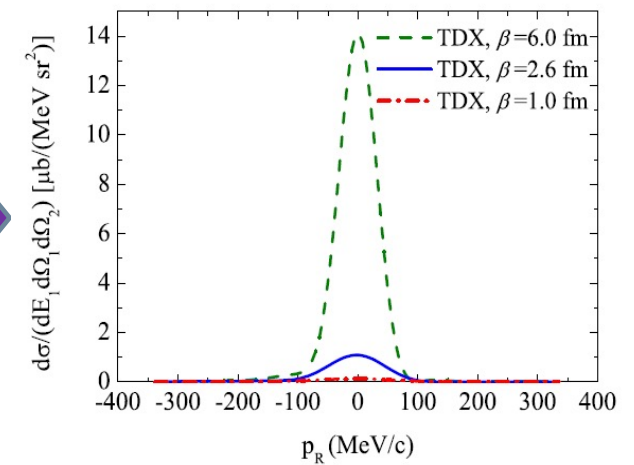
↑ Variational result

## Cluster wave-function



DWIA calc.

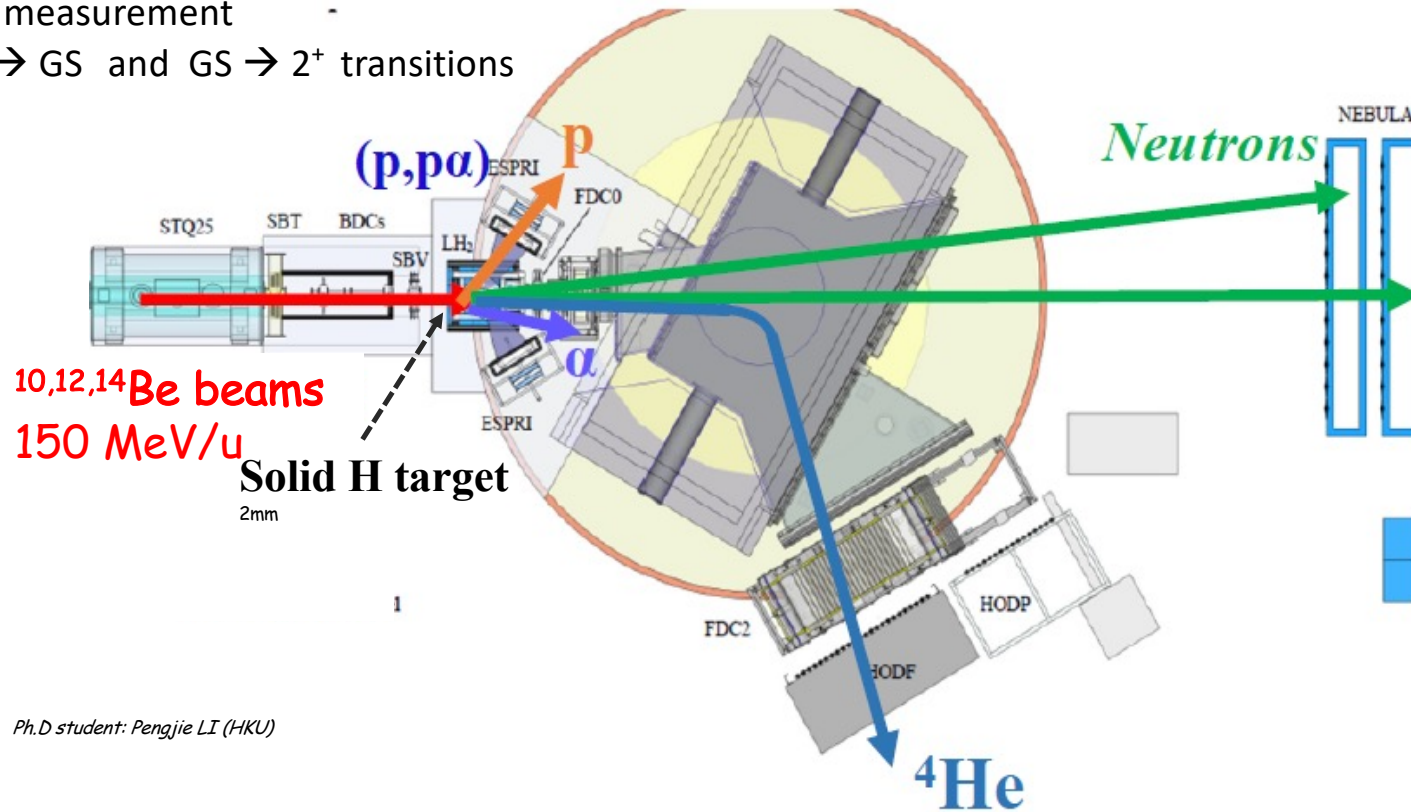
## $^{10}\text{Be}(p,p\alpha)$ cross-section



## Study $^{10,12,14}\text{Be}(p,p\alpha)$ at 150 MeV/u

- Clustering in n-rich Be
- First spectrum for the 6n system

- Missing-mass measurement
- measure:  $\text{GS} \rightarrow \text{GS}$  and  $\text{GS} \rightarrow 2^+$  transitions



Ph.D student: Pengjie LI (HKU)

Collaboration: IJCLab, Hong Kong U., RIKEN, TI Tech, LPC Caen, Tohoku U., RCNP Osaka, CEA Saclay, Kyoto U., TU Darmstadt, NIPNE Bucharest, Kyushu U.

## *Samurai12 collaboration*

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**TU Darmstadt:** A. Frotscher, H.N. Liu, Y.L. Sun, J. Tanaka, A. Obertelli

**LPC Caen:** L. Achouri, J. Gibelin, F. M. Marqués, N. Orr

**TiTech:** Y. Kondo, A. Kurihara, H. Miki, T. Tomai, H. Yamada, M. Yasuda

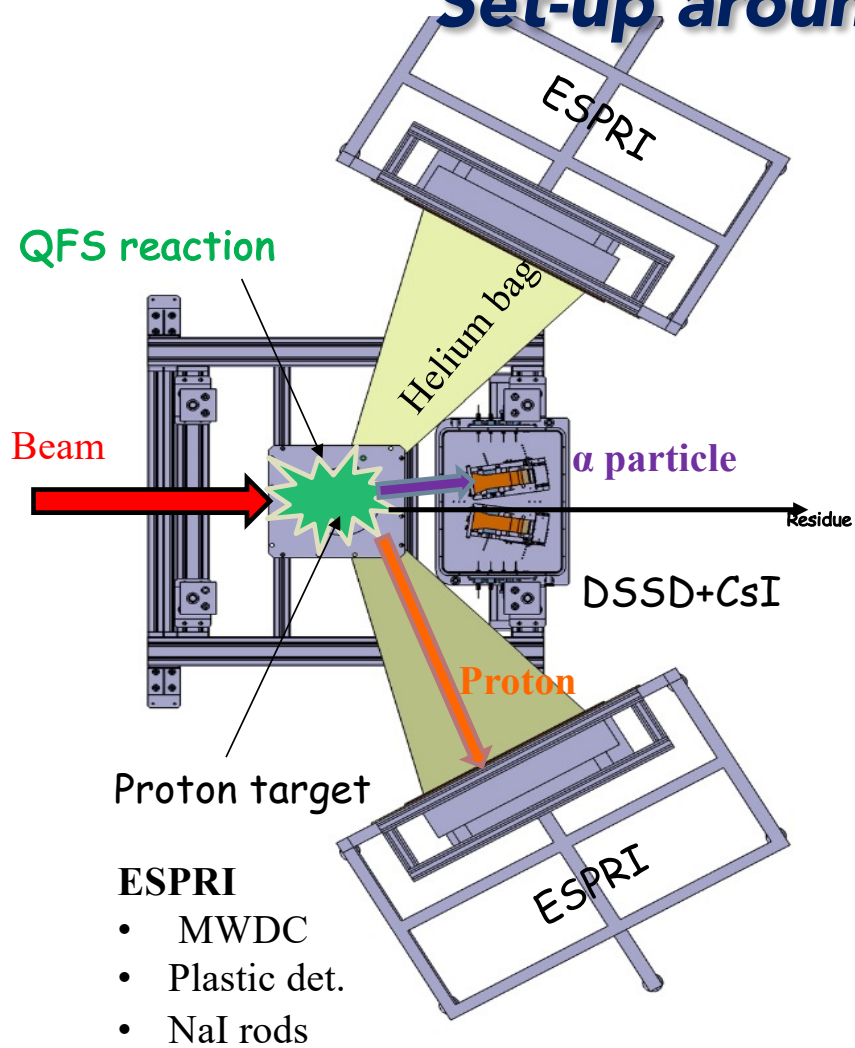
**Tohoku Univ.:** Y. Matsuda

**RCNP Osaka:** , M.J. Lyu, K. Ogata

**CEA Saclay:** , A. Corsi, A. Gillibert

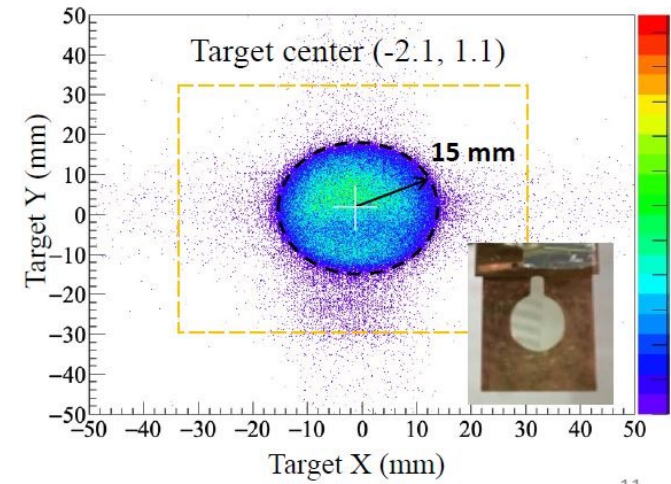


# Set-up around target



Target : 2mm-thick solid H

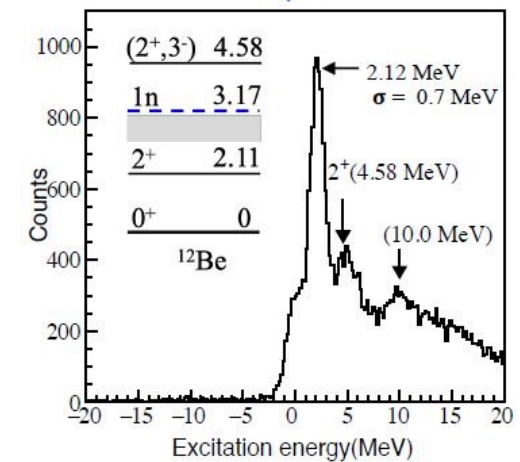
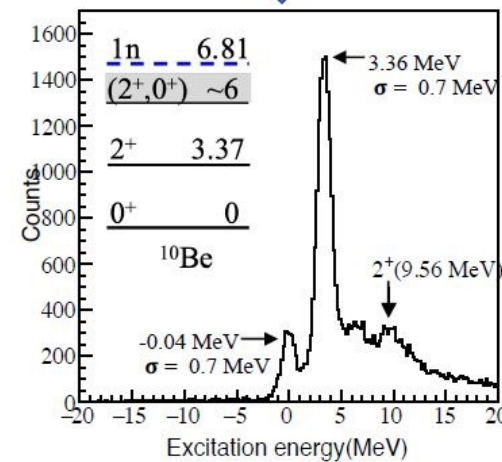
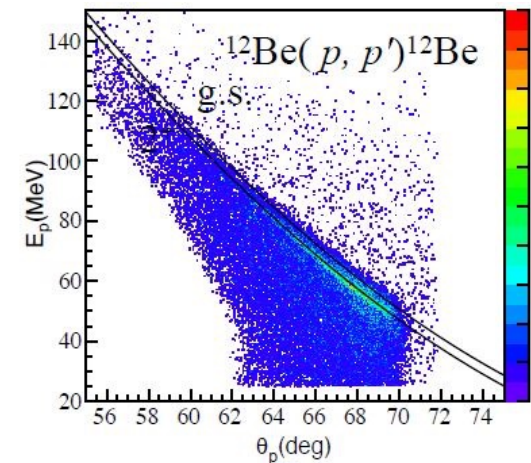
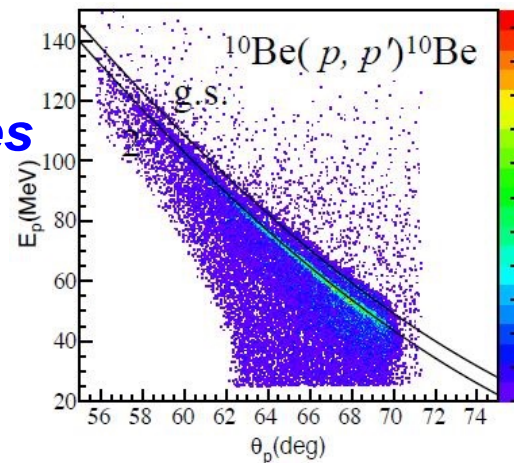
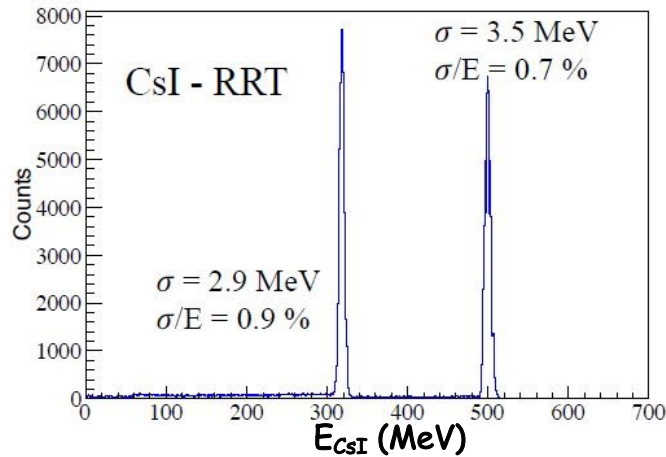
*Y.Matsuda et al., NIMA 643 (2011)*



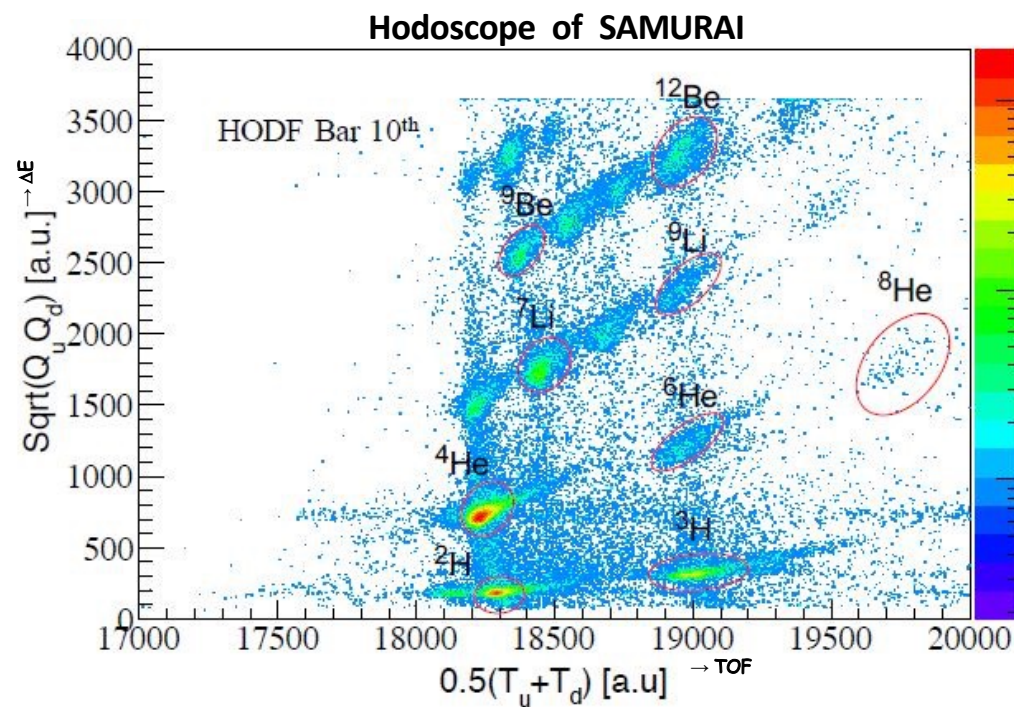
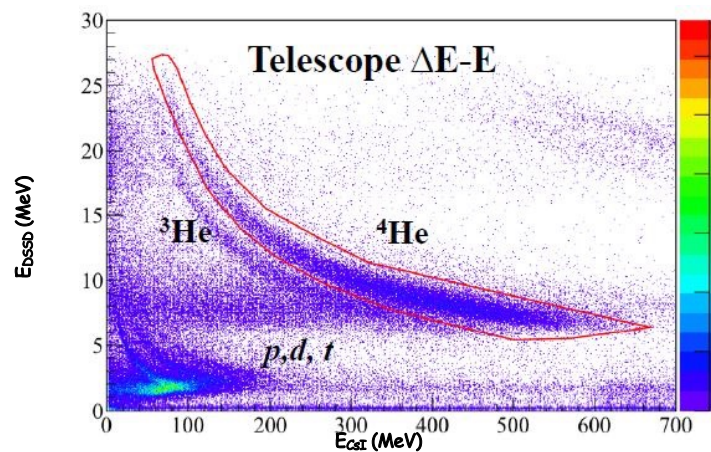
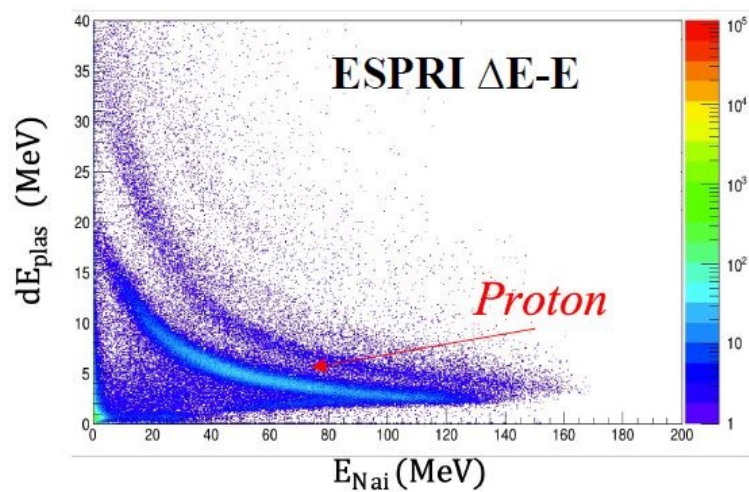
## Energy calibrations of ESPRI

## Energy calibrations of Telescopes

$\alpha$  beams at 120 and 150 MeV/u



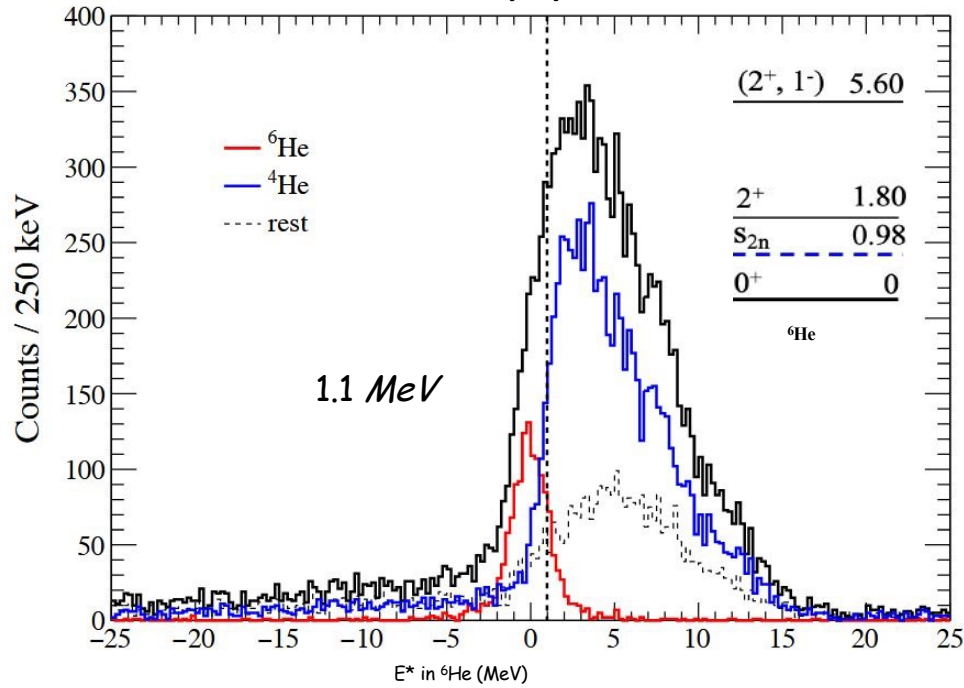
# Particle identification – channel selection





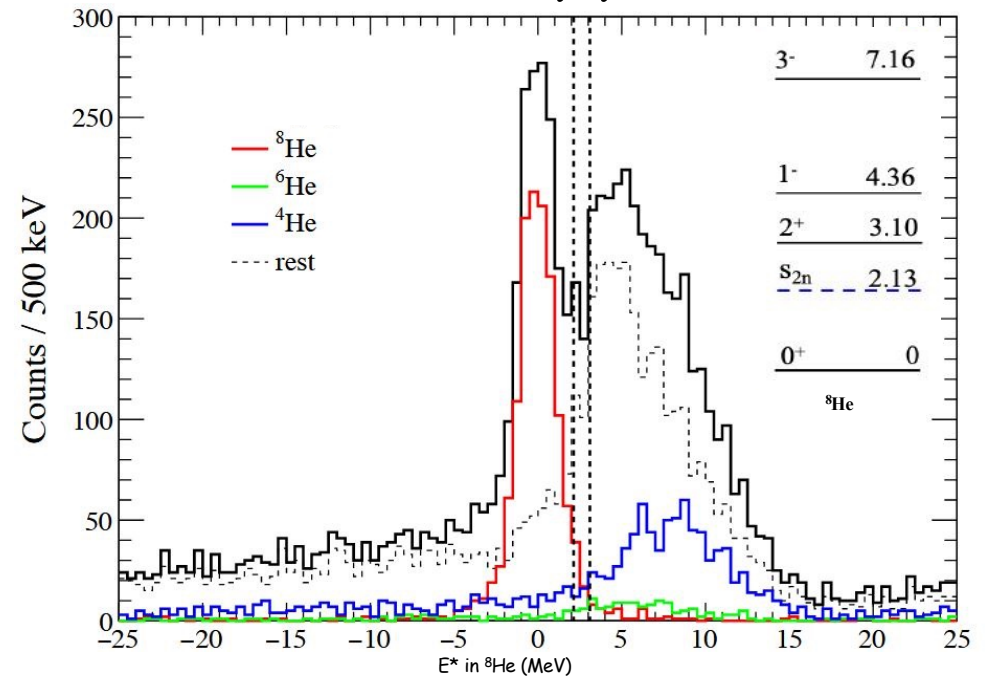
# Excitation energy spectra

$^{10}\text{Be}(p,p\alpha)$



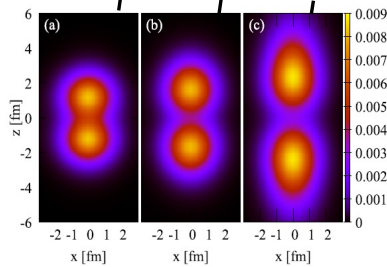
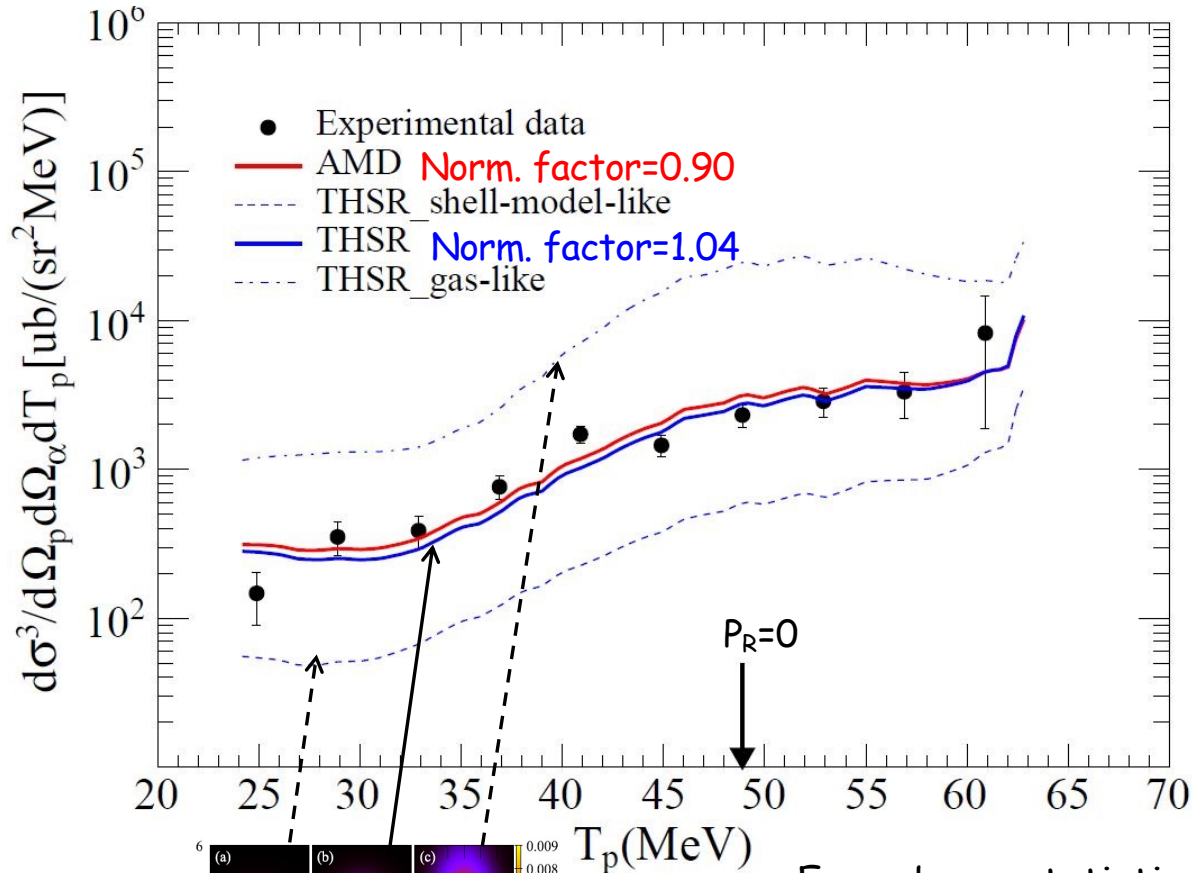
$\sigma({}^6\text{He}^{65}) = 1.1 \text{ MeV}$

$^{12}\text{Be}(p,p\alpha)$



$\sigma({}^8\text{He}^{65}) = 1.1 \text{ MeV}$

# TDX for $^{10}\text{Be}(p,p\alpha)^6\text{He}(\text{GS})$



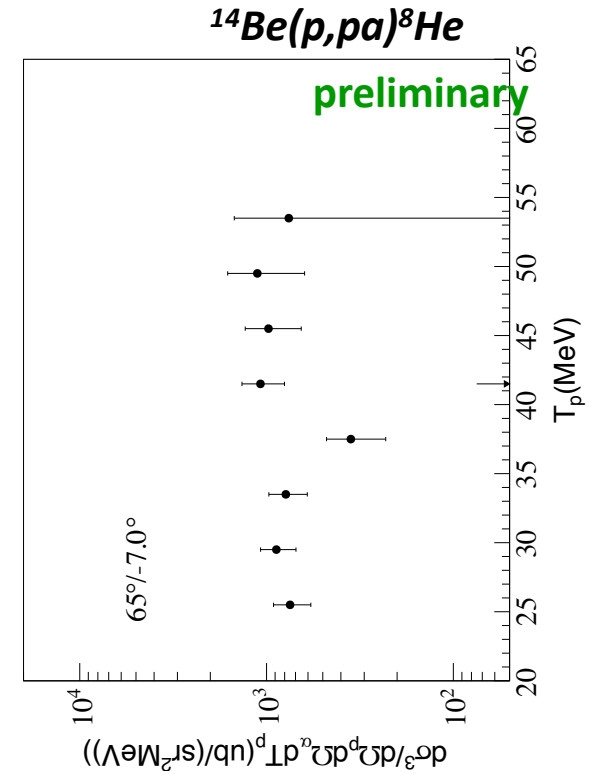
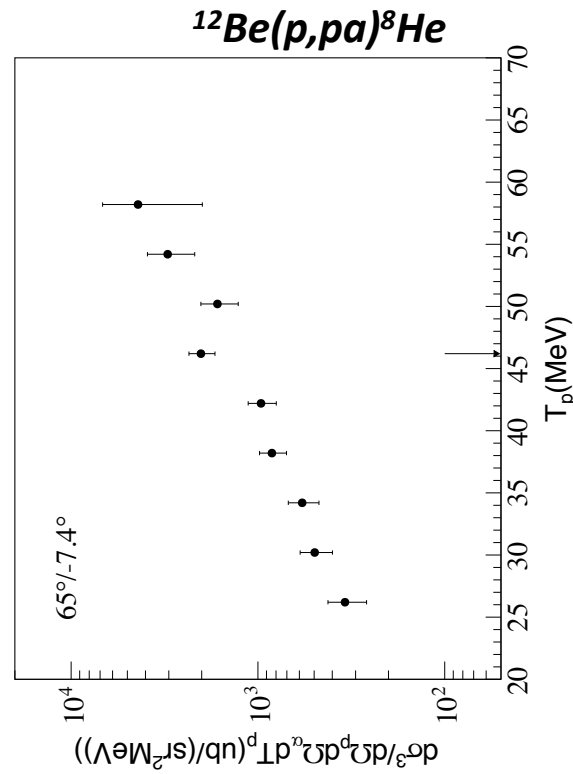
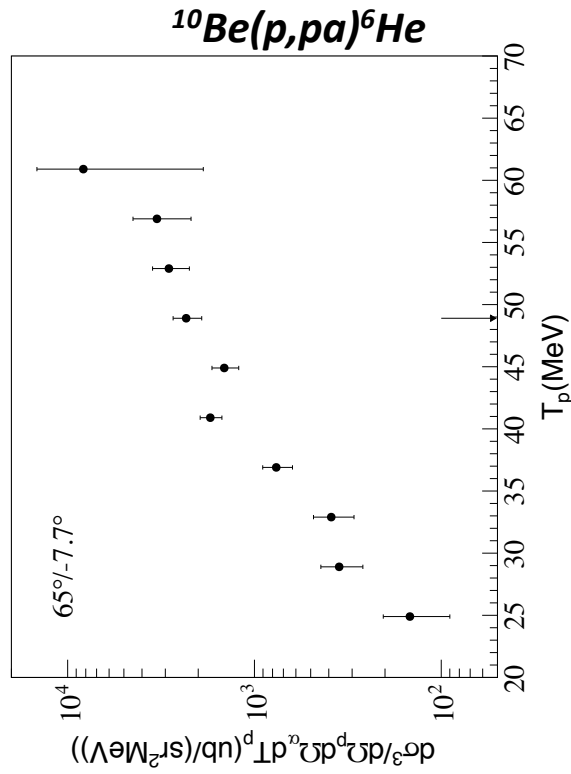
Error bars: statistical + error on PV

Optical potentials : from Dirac phenomenology

*Molecular structure of the  $^{10}\text{Be}$  GS is validated*

*Submitted for publication*

# Experimental TDX for $^{10-14}\text{Be}(p,p\alpha)$



Clustering evolution with  $N$

Gated by  $^8\text{He}$  residue

## Conclusions/Prospects

- First measurement of (p,pa) in inverse kinematics with RIB with proper kinematical conditions  
→ direct evidence of the Molecular structure of the  $^{10}\text{Be}$  GS
- First steps to quantitatively probe cluster evolution in GS towards the dripline  
Preliminary results show large triton K.O. Xsec for the halo nucleus  $^{14}\text{Be}$   
  
Complementary program using transfer reaction at LISE/GANIL with the MUGAST array  
E870 experiment accepted at last GANIL PAC meeting  
(p,a) and (d, $^6\text{Li}$ ) pickup reactions in inverse kinematics
- Planned study of (p,pa) on n-rich Carbon isotopes at RIKEN/Samurai (accepted expt)  
(spokesperson: Zaihong Yang)