

# Welcome to NUMEN2015

*Challenges in the investigation of double charge exchange nuclear reactions: towards neutrino-less double beta decay*

Catania, December, 1-2, 2015

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# The nuclear matrix elements of $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay and the NUMEN project at INFN-LNS



## The NUMEN collaboration

INFN – LABORATORI NAZIONALI DEL SUD, CATANIA, ITALY  
DIPARTIMENTO DI FISICA E ASTRONOMIA, UNIV. DI CATANIA, CATANIA, ITALY  
INFN – SEZIONE DI CATANIA, CATANIA, ITALY  
UNIV. DEGLI STUDI DI ENNA "KORE", ENNA, ITALY  
INFN – SEZIONE DI GENOVA, GENOVA, ITALY  
INFN – SEZIONE DI TORINO, TORINO, ITALY  
INSTITUT FÜR THEORETISCHE PHYSIK, GIESSEN UNIVERSITY, GERMANY  
DEP. OF PHYSICS AND HINP, THE UNIV. OF IOANNINA, IOANNINA, GREECE  
INSTITUTO DE FISICA DA UNIVERSIDADE DE SAO PAULO, BRAZIL  
INST. DE FISICA DA UNIV. FEDERAL FLUMINENSE, NITEROI, BRAZIL  
AKDENIZ UNIVERSITY, ANTALYA, TURKEY



## Forthcoming collaborations

Other INFN sections  
INSTITUTO DE CIENCIAS NUCLEARES, UNAM, MEXICO  
CICANUM, UNIVERSIDAD DE COSTA RICA, SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA  
DÉPARTEMENT DE PHYSIQUE, UNIVERSITÉ HASSAN II – CASABLANCA, MOROCCO  
CERN  
BROKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY  
INSTITUTE OF MODERN PHYSICS, CHINESE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, LANZHOU, CHINA  
RCNP, OSAKA UNIVERSITY, OSAKA, JAPAN  
BOCHUM UNIVERSITY, GERMANY

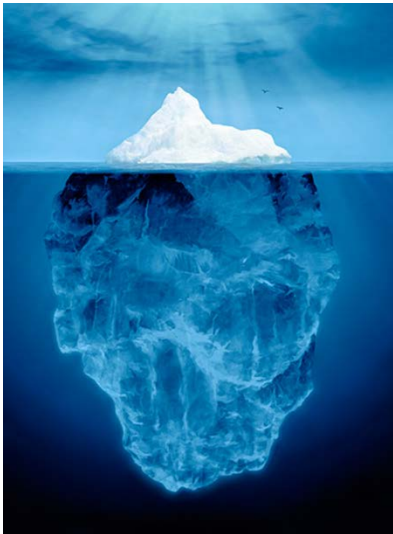
$$1/T_{1/2}^{0\nu}(0^+ \rightarrow 0^+) = G_{01} \left| M^{\beta\beta 0\nu} \right|^2 \left| \frac{\langle m_\nu \rangle}{m_e} \right|^2$$

Spokespersons: F. Cappuzzello ([cappuzzello@Ins.infn.it](mailto:cappuzzello@Ins.infn.it)) and C. Agodi ([agodi@Ins.infn.it](mailto:agodi@Ins.infn.it))

# Heavy-ion DCE

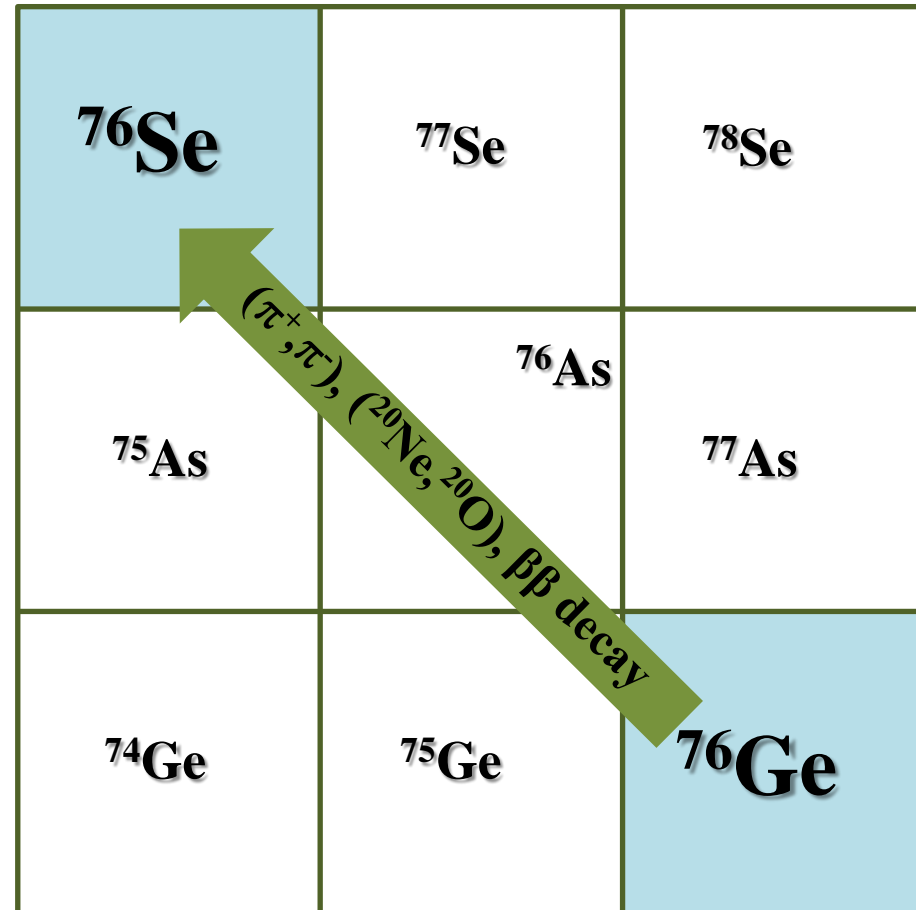
- ✓  ${}^a_zx_n + {}^A_ZX_N \rightarrow {}^{a}_{z-2}y_{n+2} + {}^{A}_{Z+2}Y_{N-2}$
- ✓ Induced by strong interaction
- ✓ Sequential nucleon transfer mechanism 4<sup>th</sup> order:
- ✓ Meson exchange mechanism 2<sup>nd</sup> order
- ✓ Possibility to go in both directions

From T. Uesaka talk at NN2015



Tiny amount of DGT strength in low lying states

Sum rule almost exhausted by DGT Giant Mode



# Heavy-ion DCE

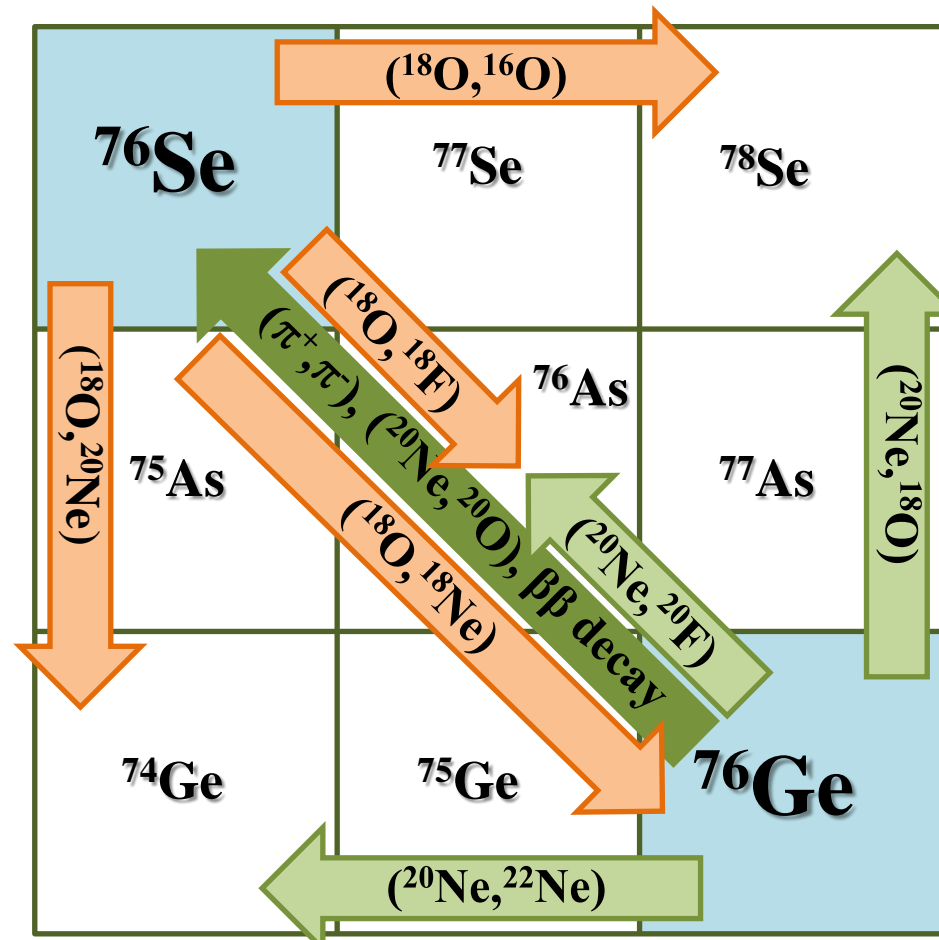
- ✓  ${}^a_zx_n + {}^A_ZX_N \rightarrow {}^{a-2}_{z-2}y_{n+2} + {}^{A+2}_{Z+2}Y_{N-2}$
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# $0\nu\beta\beta$ vs HI-DCE

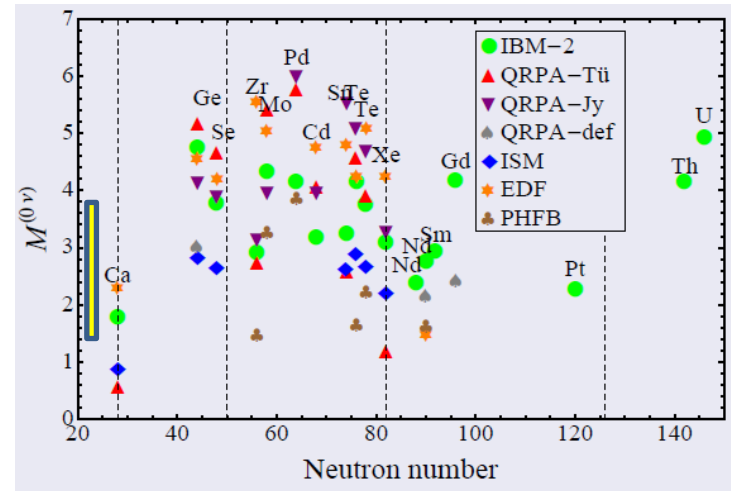
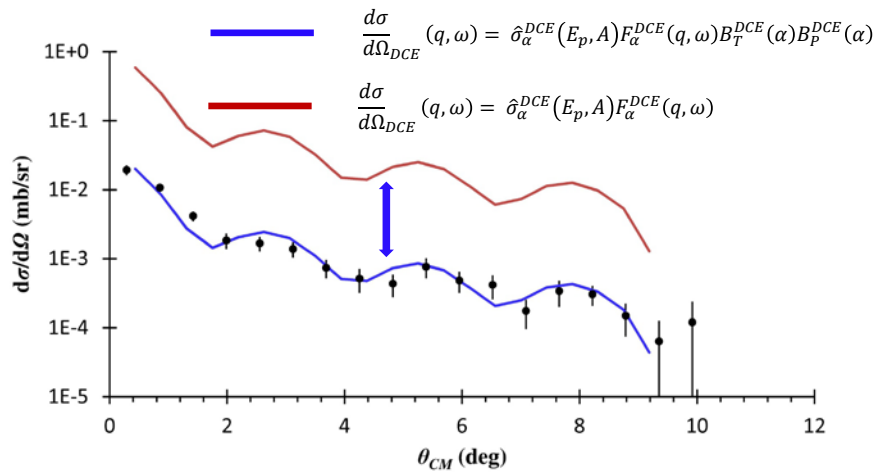
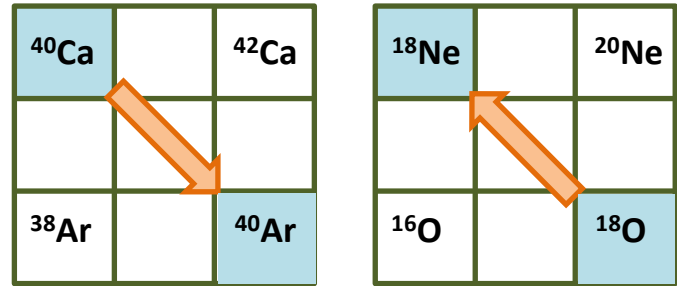
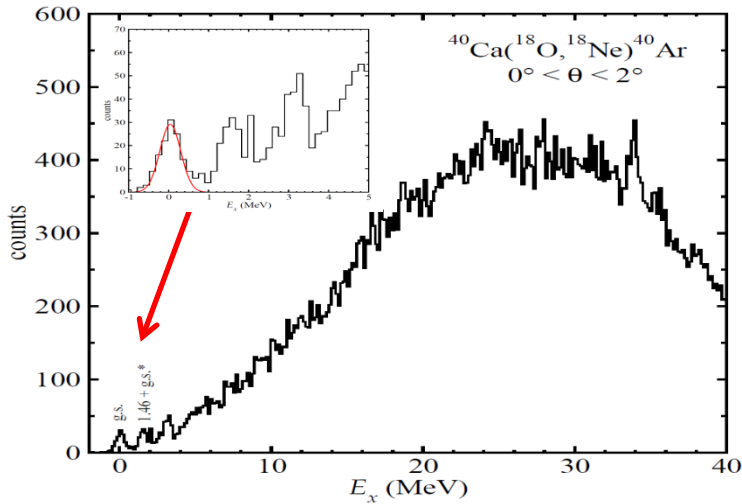
1. **Initial and final states**: Parent/daughter states of the  $0\nu\beta\beta$  are the same as those of the target/residual nuclei in the DCE;
2. **Spin-Isospin mathematical structure** of the transition operator: Fermi, Gamow-Teller and rank-2 tensor together with higher L components are present in both cases;
3. **Large momentum available**: A linear momentum (100 MeV/c or so) is characteristic of both processes;
4. **Non-locality**: both processes are characterized by two vertices localized in two valence nucleons. In the ground to ground state transitions a pair of protons/neutrons is converted in a pair of neutrons/protons so the non-locality can be affected by basic pairing correlation length;
5. **In-medium** processes: both processes happen in the same nuclear medium, thus quenching phenomena are expected to be similar;
6. Relevant **off-shell propagation** in the intermediate channel.

# Qualitative is not enough

**We need to access quantitative information with control of the error bars!**

How far we are from that goal?

# $^{40}\text{Ca}(^{18}\text{O}, ^{18}\text{Ne})^{40}\text{Ar}$ @ 270 MeV



F. Cappuzzello et al. Eur. Phys. J. A (2015) 51: 145

$$|M^{0\nu\beta\beta}({}^{40}\text{Ca})|^2 = 0.37 \pm 0.18$$

Pauli blocking about 0.14 for F and GT

# Tools for DCE at LNS

## The Superconducting Cyclotron



## MAGNEX





# Moving towards hot-cases:



## Caveat

- The ( $^{18}\text{O},^{18}\text{Ne}$ ) reaction is particularly **advantageous**, but it is of  $\beta^+\beta^+$  kind;
- None of the reactions of  $\beta^-\beta^-$  kind looks like as favourable as the ( $^{18}\text{O},^{18}\text{Ne}$ ).  
( $^{18}\text{Ne},^{18}\text{O}$ ) requires a radioactive beam  
( $^{20}\text{Ne},^{20}\text{O}$ ) or ( $^{12}\text{C},^{12}\text{Be}$ ) have smaller  $B(\text{GT})$
- The reaction Q-values are normally more negative than in the  $^{40}\text{Ca}$  case
- In some cases **gas or implanted target** will be necessary, e.g.  $^{136}\text{Xe}$  or  $^{130}\text{Xe}$
- In some cases the **energy resolution** is not enough to separate the g.s. from the excited states in the final nucleus → Coincident **detection of  $\gamma$ -rays**

**Much higher beam current is needed**

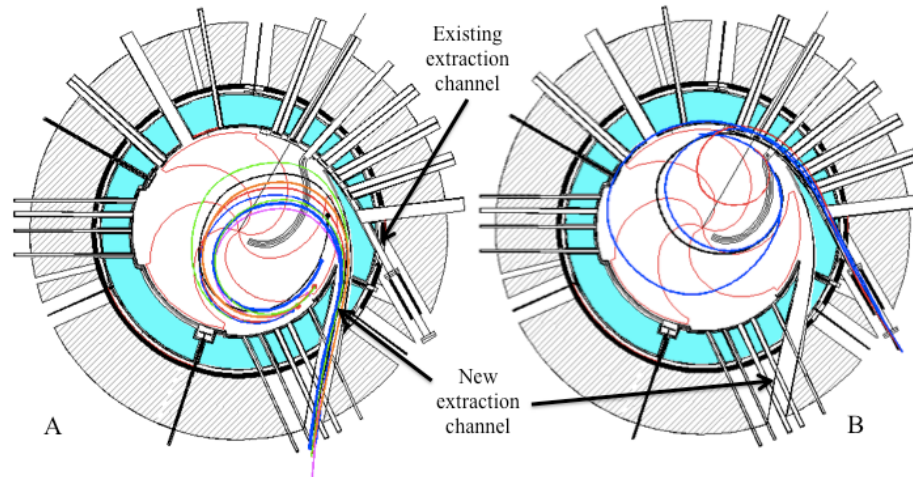
# Present technology is not enough

**We need to measure at very high rates of heavy ions!**

How far we are from that goal?

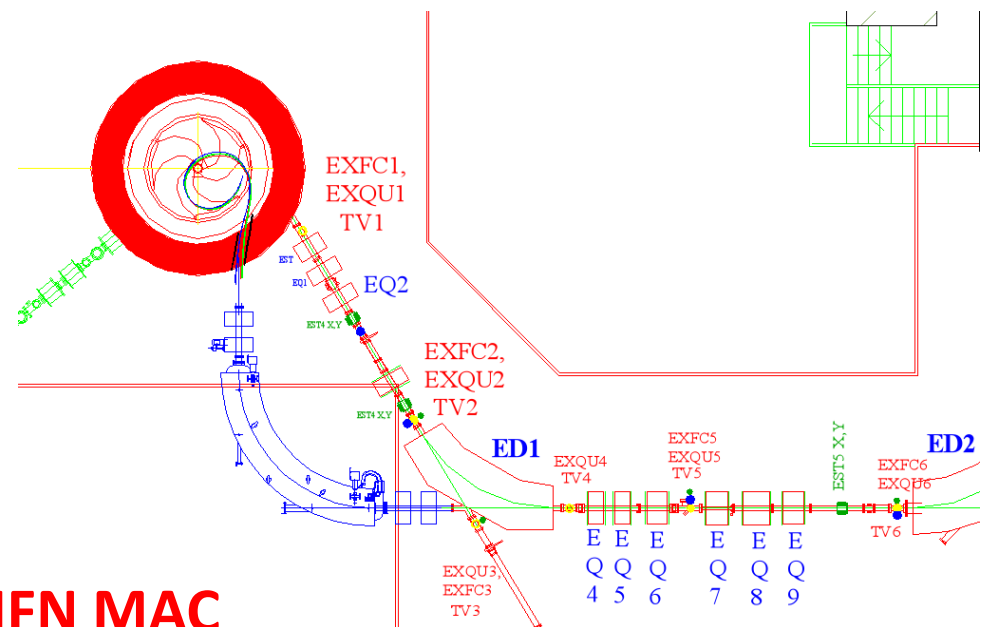
# Major upgrade of LNS facilities: The CS accelerator

- The **CS** accelerator current (from 100 W to 5-10 kW);



Extraction by stripping

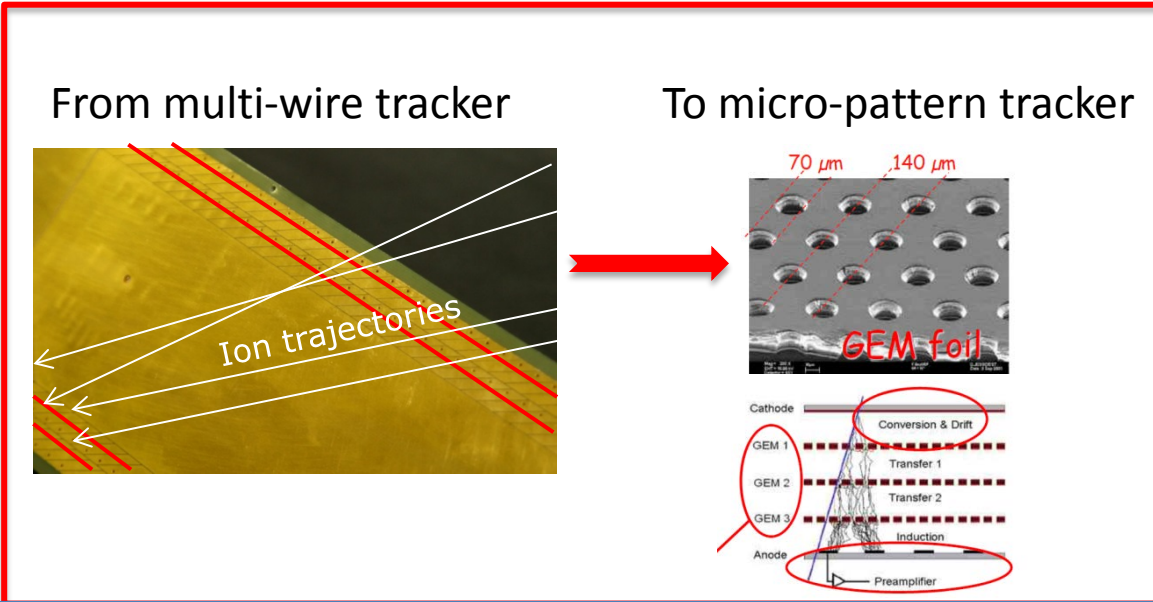
- The **beam transport line** transmission efficiency to nearly 100%



Project submitted to INFN MAC

# Major upgrade of LNS facilities: the MAGNEX spectrometer

- The **MAGNEX focal plane** detector rate (from 2 kHz to several MHz)

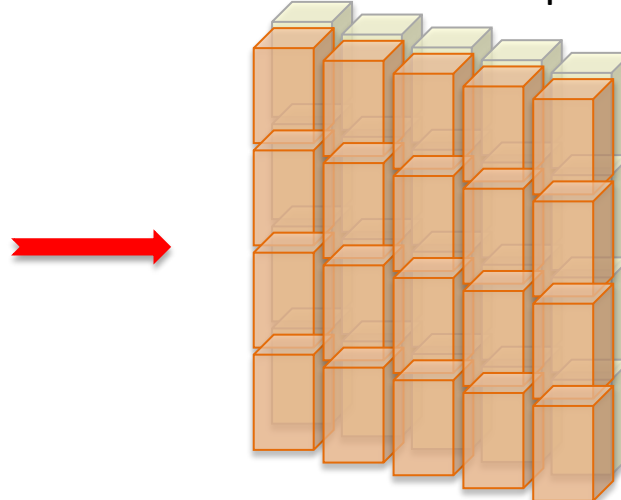


- R&D key issue : GEM-based tracker at **low pressure and wide dynamic range**
- Collaboration with LNF and CERN

From wall of **60** Si pad



To wall of **2500 SiC-SiC** pad telescopes



**A big challenge!**

**0.9 M€ call approved by INFN CSN5 (SICILIA) in collaboration with CNR STM microelectronics FBK**

# The Phases of NUMEN project

- **Phase1:** The experimental feasibility
- **Phase2:** “hot” cases optimizing the experimental conditions and getting first results (approved)
- **Phase3:** The facility Upgrade (Cyclotron, MAGNEX, beam lines, .....):
- **Phase4:** The systematic experimental campaign

Preliminary time table

| year   | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016     | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
|--------|------|------|------|----------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Phase1 | done |      |      |          |      |      |      |      |      |
| Phase2 |      |      |      | Approved |      |      |      |      |      |
| Phase3 |      |      |      |          |      |      |      |      |      |
| Phase4 |      |      |      |          |      |      |      |      |      |



# Challenging some hot cases in Phase 2

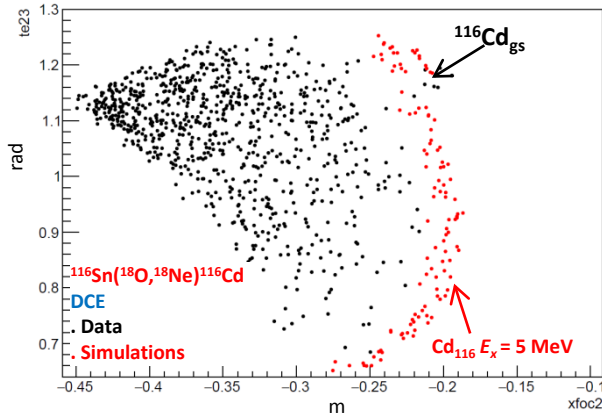
| Reaction  | Energy (MeV/u) | 2016                |    |     |    | 2017 |    |     |    | 2018 |    |     |    |
|---|----------------|---------------------|----|-----|----|------|----|-----|----|------|----|-----|----|
|   |                | I                   | II | III | IV | I    | II | III | IV | I    | II | III | IV |
| $^{116}\text{Sn}(^{18}\text{O}, ^{18}\text{Ne})^{116}\text{Cd}$ | 15-30          | Approved experiment |    |     |    |      |    |     |    |      |    |     |    |
| $^{116}\text{Cd}(^{20}\text{Ne}, ^{20}\text{O})^{116}\text{Sn}$ | 15-25          | Approved test       |    |     |    |      |    |     |    |      |    |     |    |
| $^{130}\text{Te}(^{20}\text{Ne}, ^{20}\text{O})^{130}\text{Xe}$ | 15-25          |                     |    |     |    |      |    |     |    |      |    |     |    |
| $^{76}\text{Ge}(^{20}\text{Ne}, ^{20}\text{O})^{76}\text{Se}$   | 15-25          |                     |    |     |    |      |    |     |    |      |    |     |    |
| $^{76}\text{Se}(^{18}\text{O}, ^{18}\text{Ne})^{76}\text{Ge}$   | 15-30          |                     |    |     |    |      |    |     |    |      |    |     |    |
| $^{106}\text{Cd}(^{18}\text{O}, ^{18}\text{Ne})^{106}\text{Pd}$ | 15-30          |                     |    |     |    |      |    |     |    |      |    |     |    |

# Results from a test run on $^{116}\text{Sn}(^{18}\text{O}, ^{18}\text{Ne})^{116}\text{Cd}$ October 2015

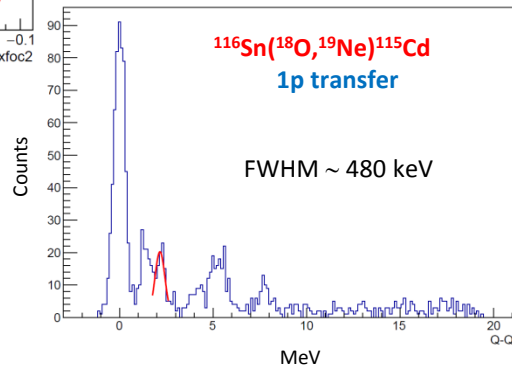
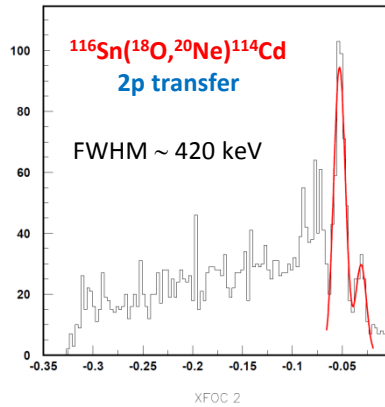
- ✓  $E_{\text{beam}}=15\text{MeV/u}$ , target thickness  $400\ \mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$
- ✓  $150\ \mu\text{C}$  integrated charge in 50 hours at 1 enA (including dead time 50%)
- ✓ Detector and beam transport performances studied up to 6 enA
- ✓ Realistic cross section estimate for DCE

Preliminary

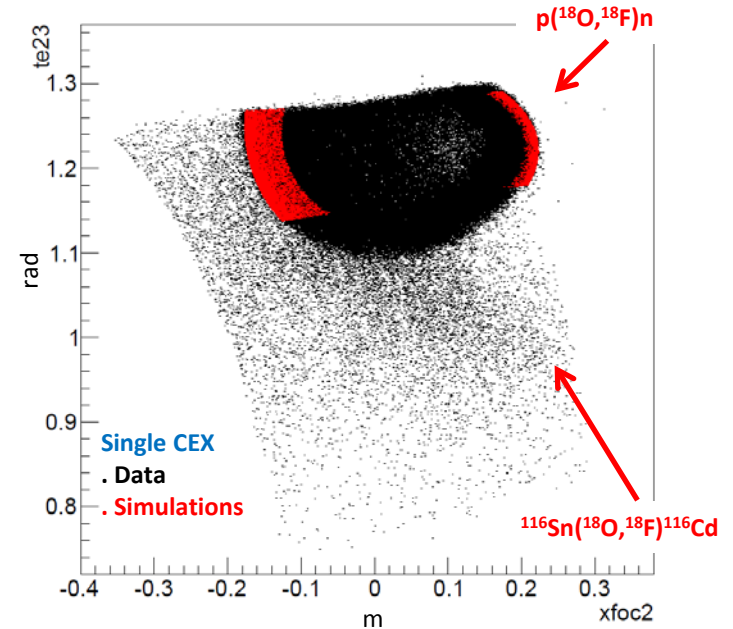
## Good sensitivity for DCE



Perhaps 3 counts for  
 $^{116}\text{Sn}_{\text{gs}} \rightarrow ^{116}\text{Cd}_{\text{gs}}$



## Good energy resolution and accuracy



**Let's enjoy the workshop**