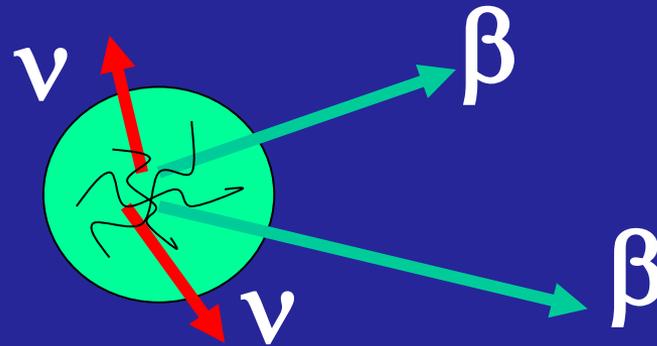


Novel approaches to the nuclear physics of $\beta\beta$ -decay: chargex reactions, mass-measurements, μ -capture

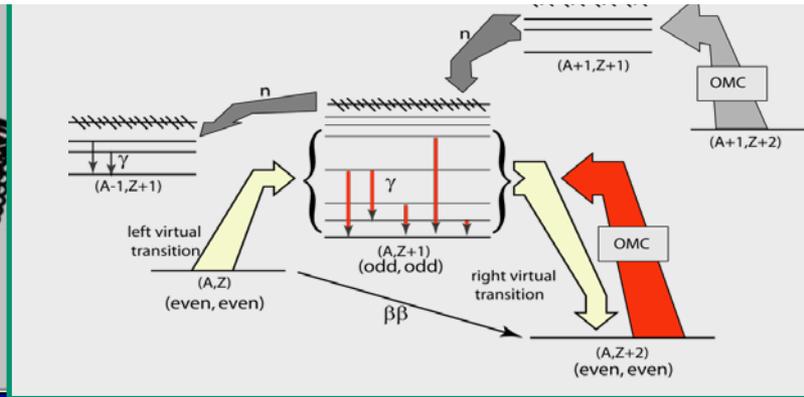
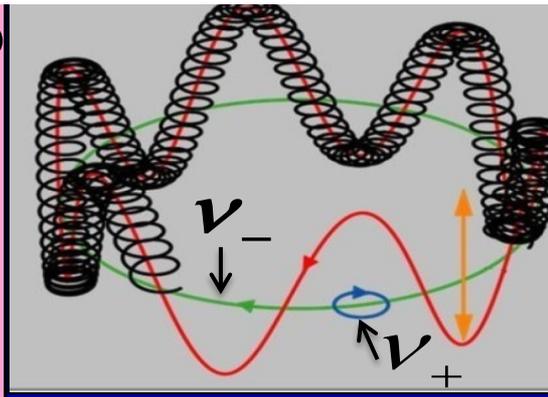


CNNP Catania 2017

Gentle Touch:

- $q_{tr} = 0$
- $\Delta I = 0$
- $0 \hbar\omega$ excitation

The graph shows a red curve for $\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}$ versus θ . The x-axis has markers at 5 and 10. A blue cloud with 'GT?' is shown above the graph.



Where do we stand in $\beta\beta$ decay when putting together the pieces of the puzzle?

1. General features

2. Chargex-reactions ($^3\text{He}, t$) & ($d, ^2\text{He}$)

- **perfect for $2\nu\beta\beta$ NME's**

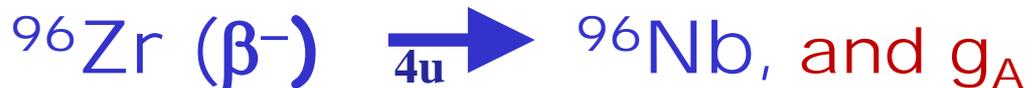
3. Chargex-reactions

- **limited for $0\nu\beta\beta$ NME's**
(here: 2^- states and nuclear wave function)

4. Mass measurements

- $0\nu\beta\beta$ NME
- ^{96}Zr is a „golden“ case

(PRL116, Feb-2016)



5. Muon capture projects starting (MuSIC)

- **a high- q transfer phenomenon !!**
gives handle on g_A quenching



-1-

General features

($2\nu\beta\beta$ / $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay)

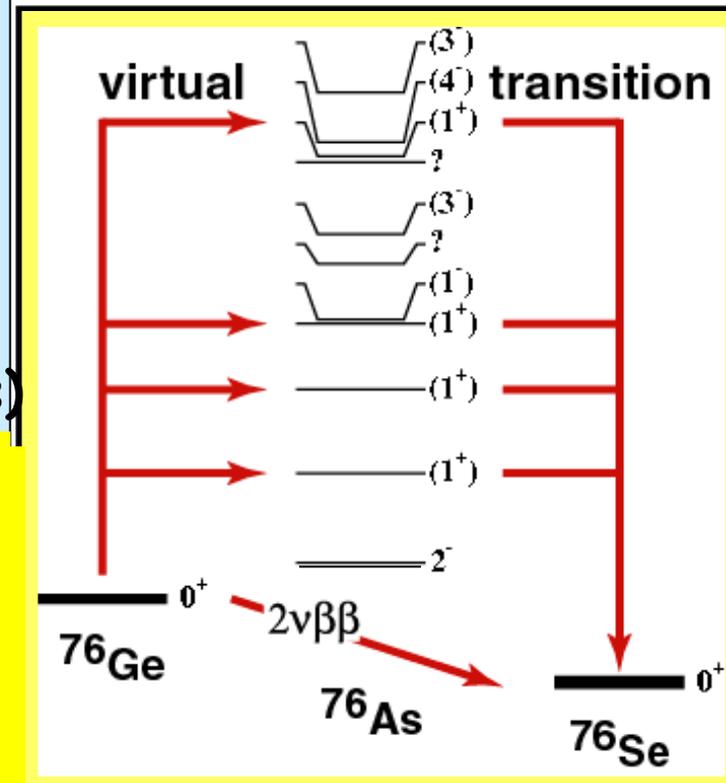
$$M_{\text{DGT}}^{(2n)} = \dot{\mathbf{a}}_m \frac{\langle \mathbf{0}_{g.s.}^{(f)} | \dot{\mathbf{a}}_k \mathbf{s}_k \mathbf{t}_k^- | \mathbf{1}_m^+ \rangle \langle \mathbf{1}_m^+ | \dot{\mathbf{a}}_k \mathbf{s}_k \mathbf{t}_k^- | \mathbf{0}_{g.s.}^{(i)} \rangle}{\frac{1}{2} Q_{\text{bb}}(\mathbf{0}_{g.s.}^{(f)}) + E(\mathbf{1}_m^+) - E_0}$$

$$= \dot{\mathbf{a}}_m \frac{M_m(GT^+) M_m(GT^-)}{E_m}$$

to remember:

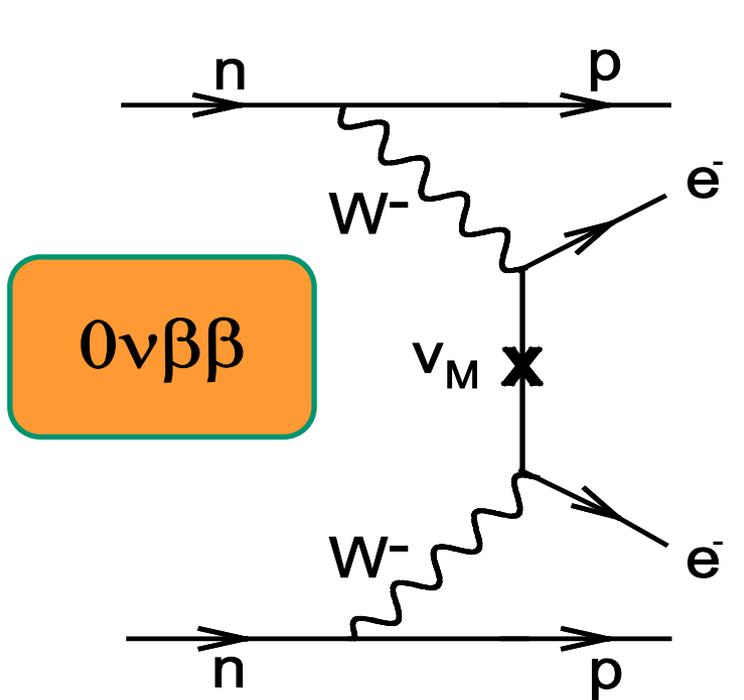
1. 2 sequential & „allowed“ β^- -decays of „Gamow-Teller“ type
2. „1, 2, 3, ... forbidden“ decays negligible
3. Fermi-transitions do not contribute (because of different isospin-multiplets)

Can be determined via charge-exchange reactions in the (n,p) and (p,n) direction (e.g. (d, ^2He) or (^3He ,t))

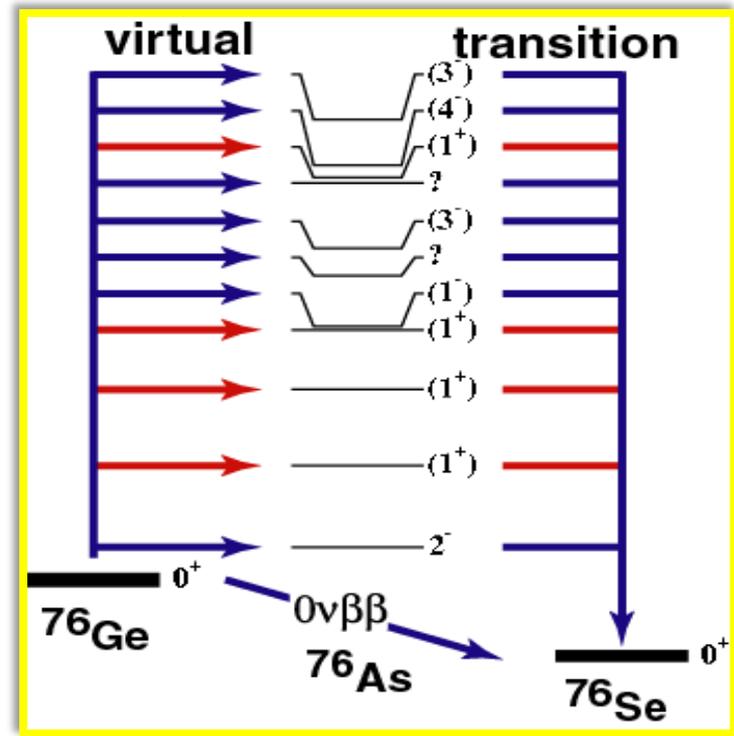


$$G_{(b^- b^-)}^{0n} = G^{0n}(Q, Z) g_A^4 \left| M_{DGT}^{(0n)} \right| \frac{g_V}{g_A} \frac{g_H - Q_2}{g_H + Q_2} M_{DF}^{(0n)} \left| m_{n_e} \right|^2$$

Majorana- ν !

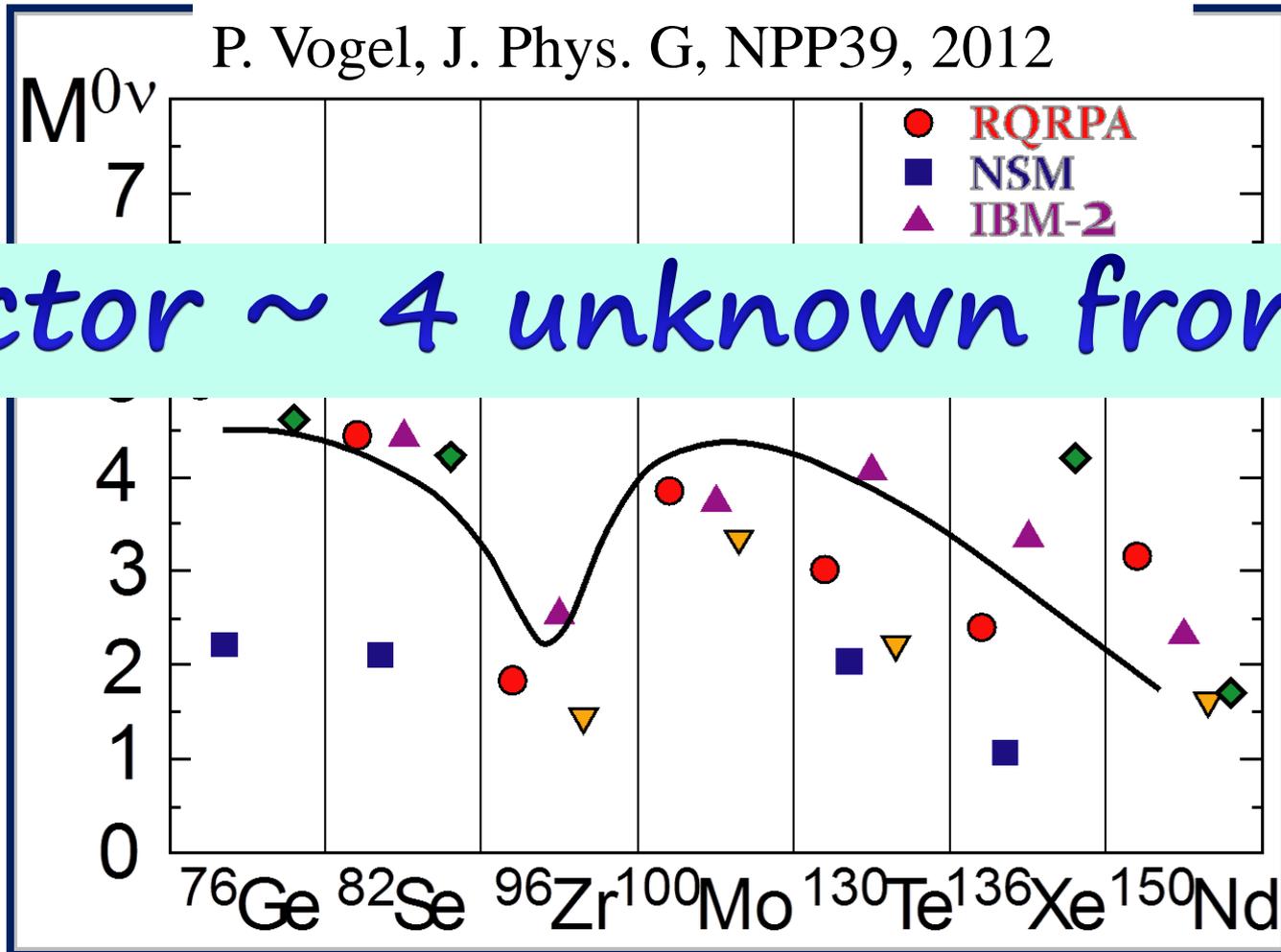


$q_{tr} \sim 0.5 \text{ fm}^{-1} !!$



NOT accessible thru charge-ex reaction

The situation of the Nuclear Matrix Elements for neutrinoless $\beta\beta$ decay



+ factor ~ 4 unknown from g_A^4 .

-2-

Charge-exchange reactions

GT-part

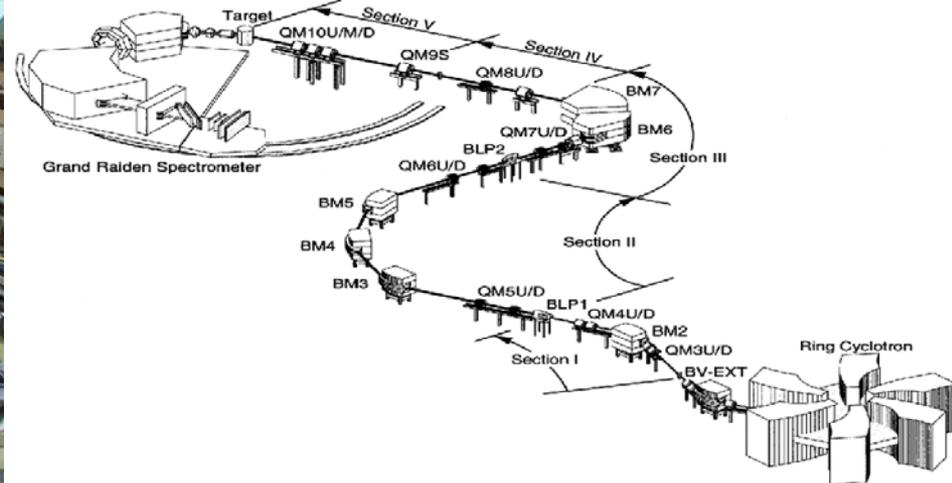
($2\nu\beta\beta$ decay)

Charge-exchange reactions

Grand Raiden Magnetic Spectrometer



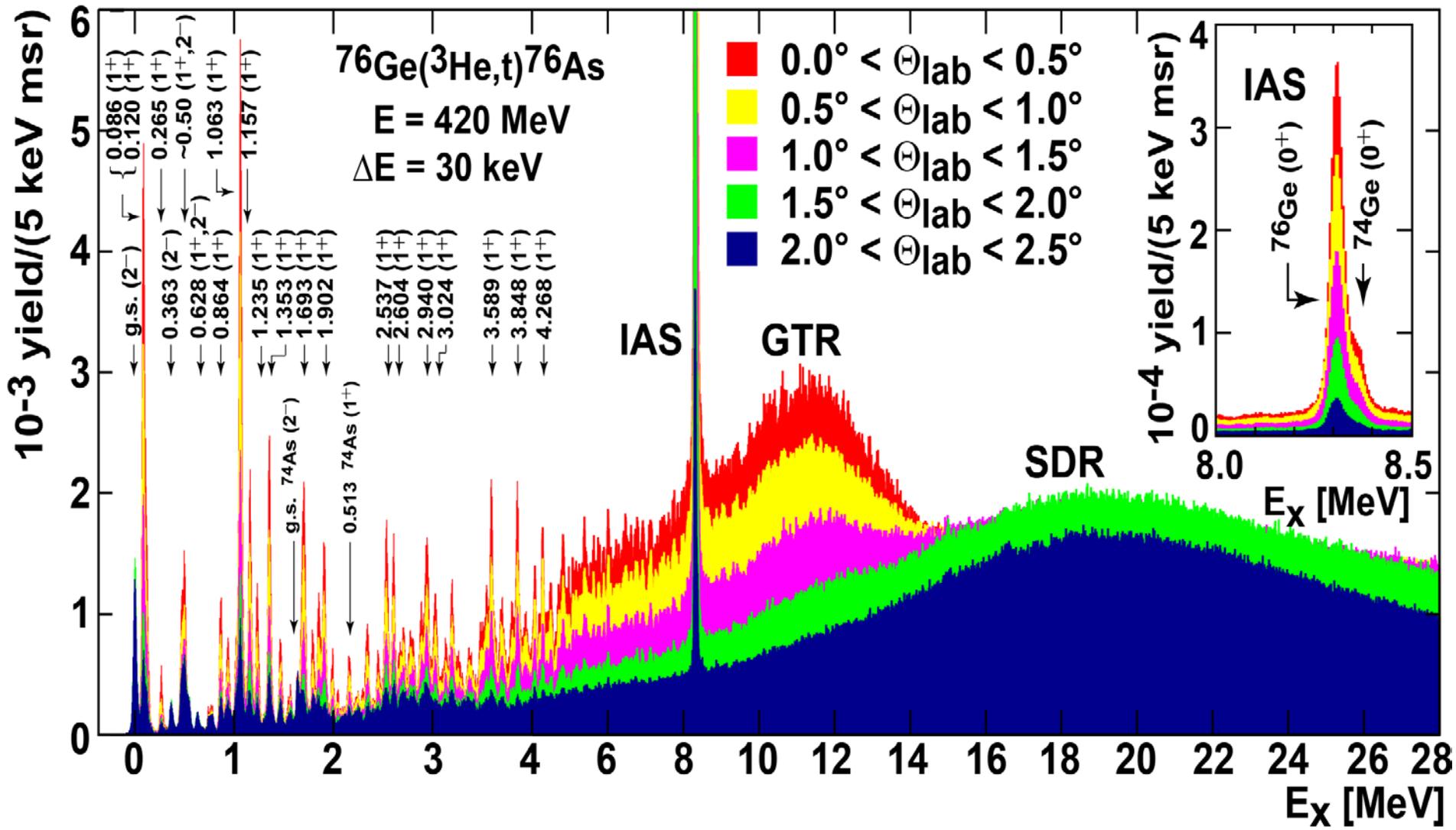
$\Delta E/E \sim 5 \times 10^{-5}$ ~ 25 keV
at 420 MeV (${}^3\text{He}$)



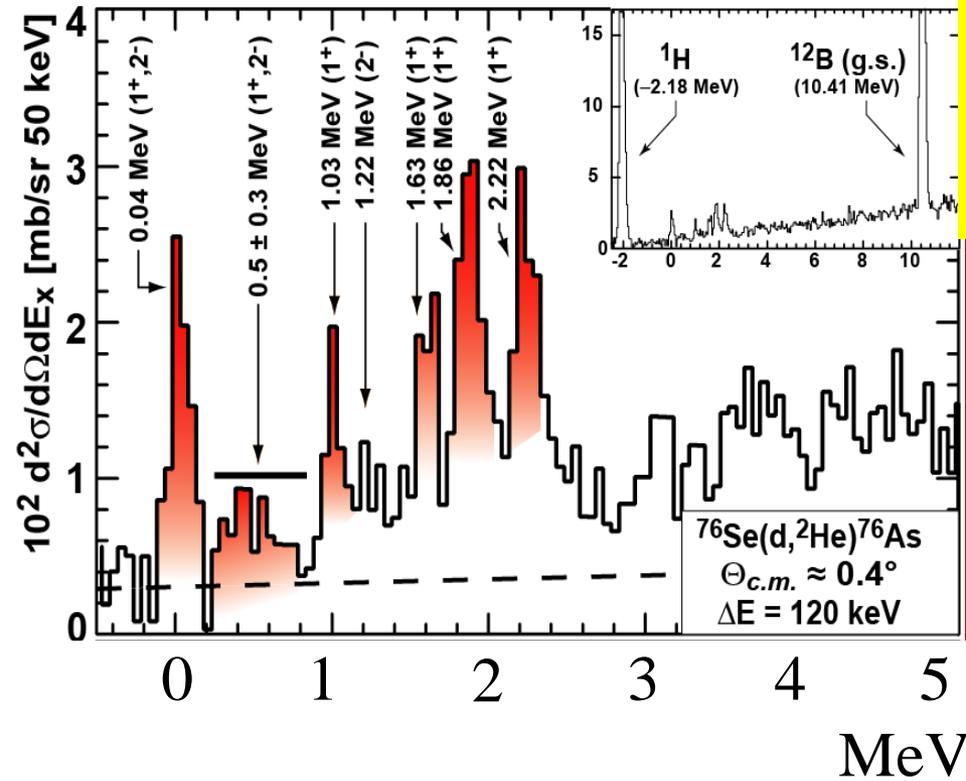
^{76}Ge

$N-Z=10$

Resolution is the key !!!



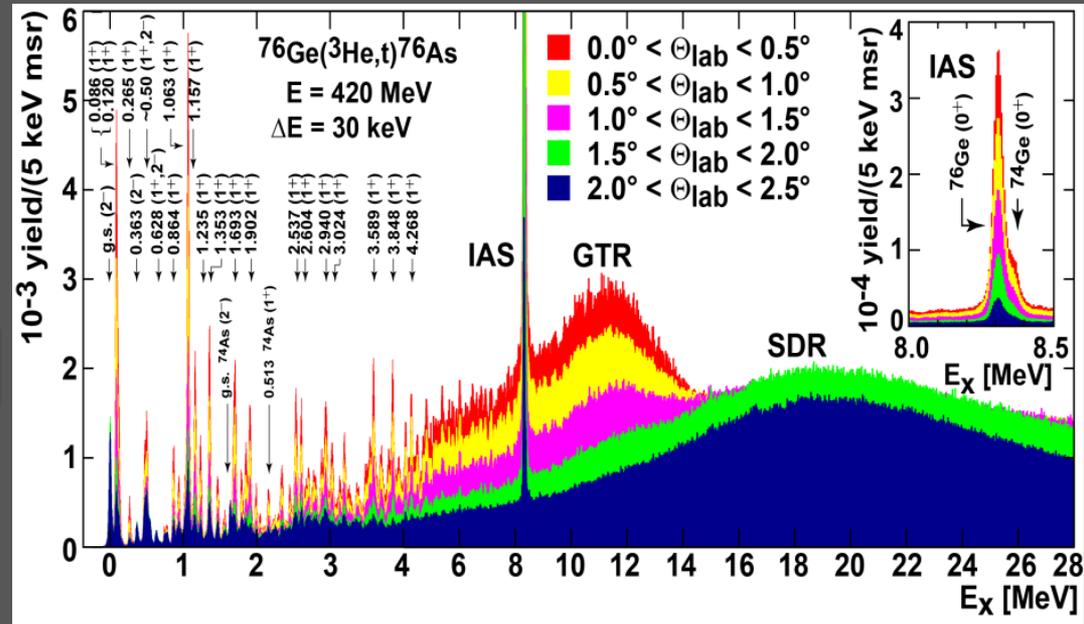
**almost 70 !! resolved single states up to 5 MeV
 identified as GT 1+ transitions !!!**



the other leg
 (BGT⁺):
 $^{76}\text{Se}(d, ^2\text{He})^{76}\text{As}$
 ($\Delta E = 120 \text{ keV}$)

a surprise:

low-E part of
NME makes up
~100% of total
 $2\nu\beta\beta$ -ME



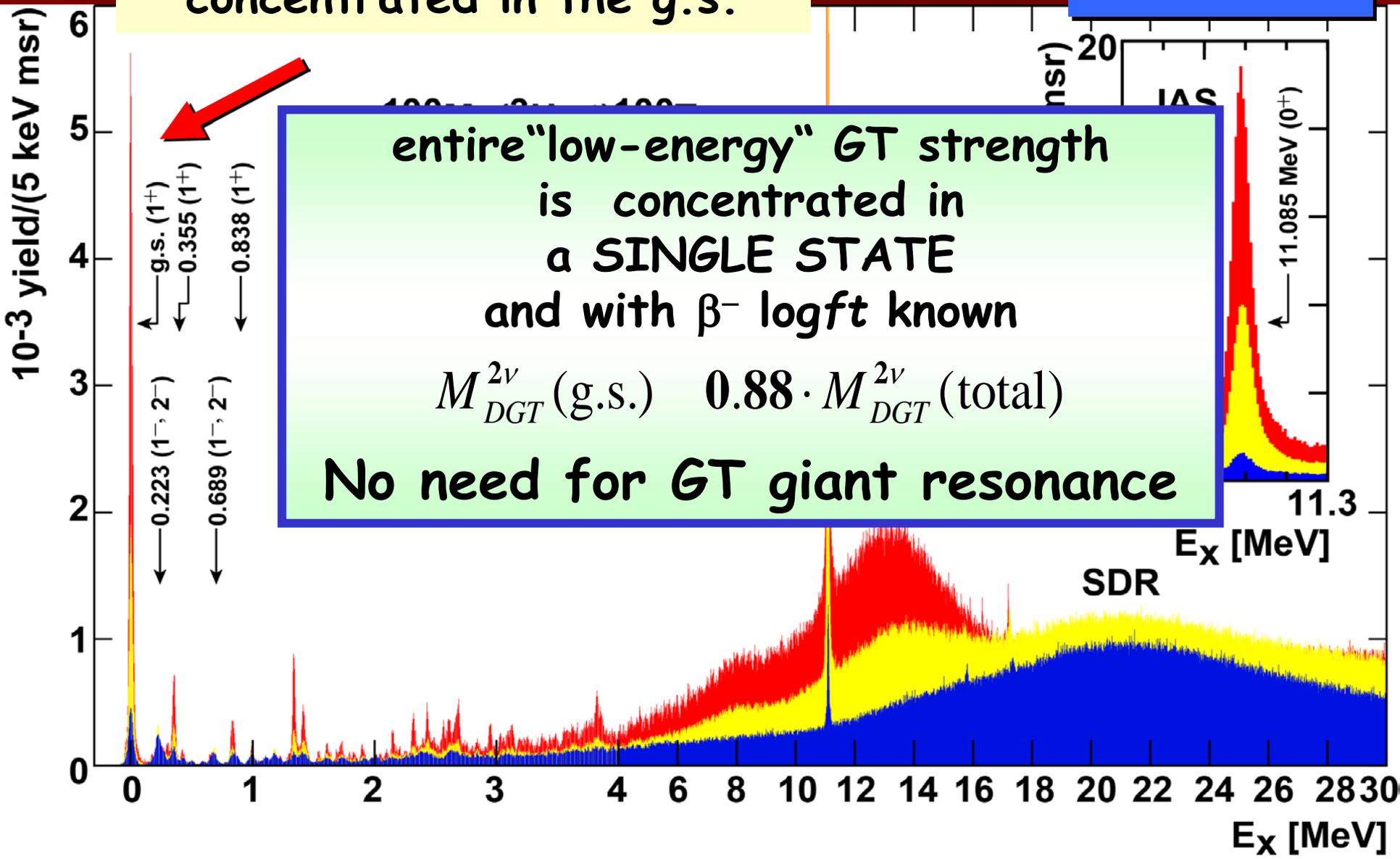
no need for
GT giant resonance contribution

100Mo

N-Z=16

HERE: almost the entire low-E GT strength is concentrated in the g.s.

100Mo

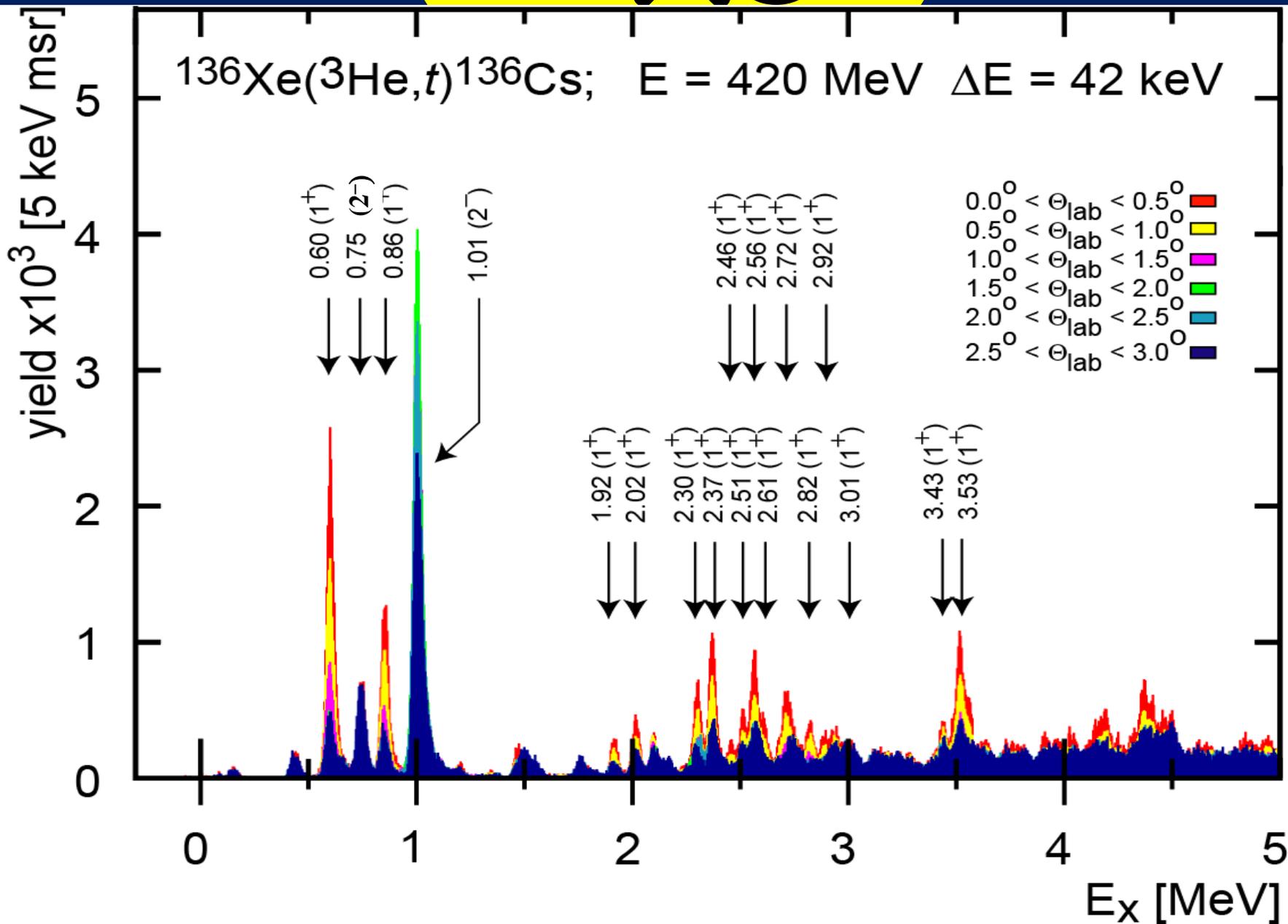


^{136}Xe

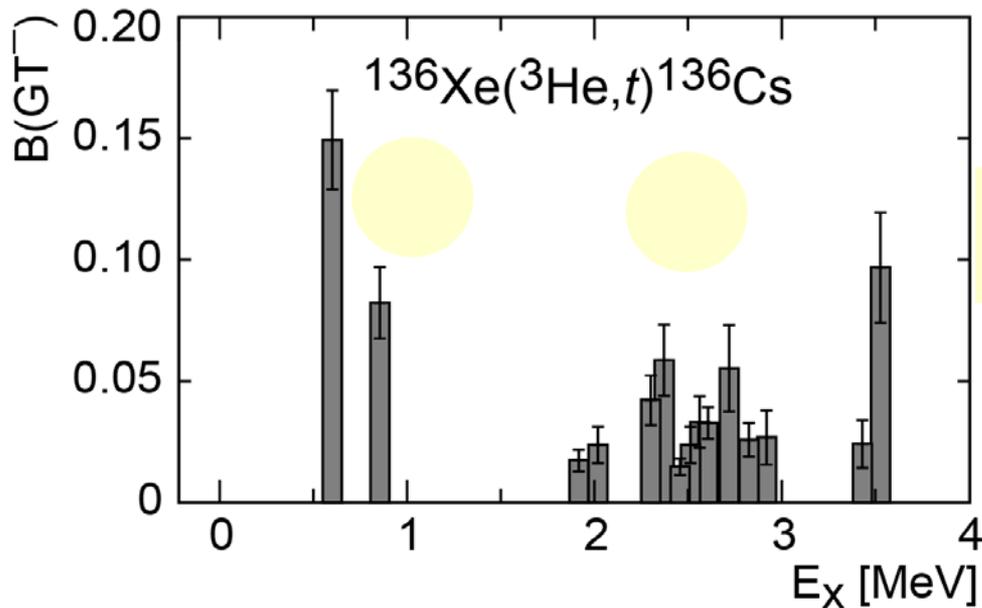
$N-Z=28$

question: why so stable !!!

^{136}Xe

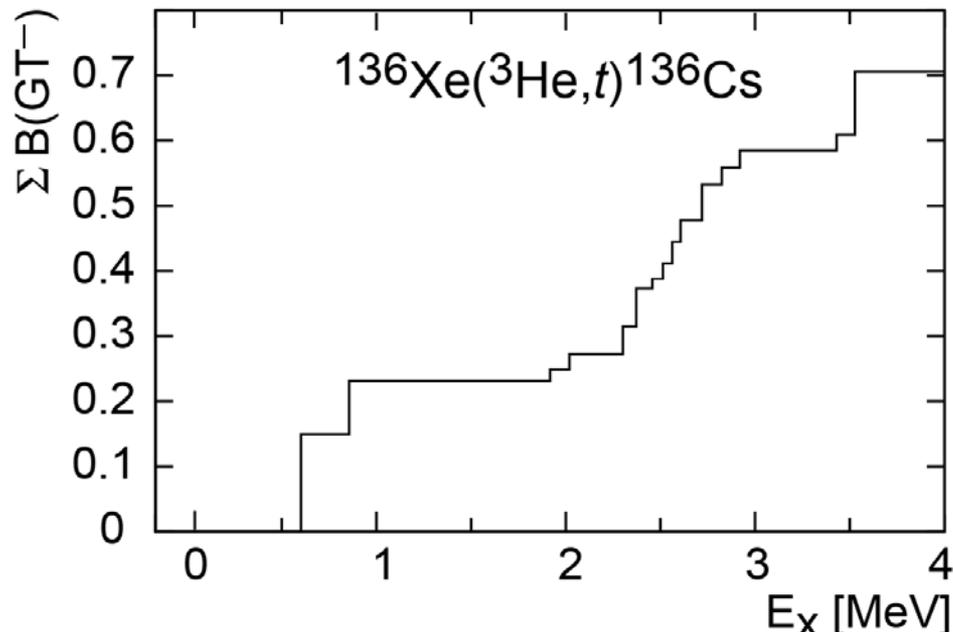


What's the size of the NME?



$$T_{1/2}^{2n} = 2.2 \times 10^{21} \text{ yr}$$

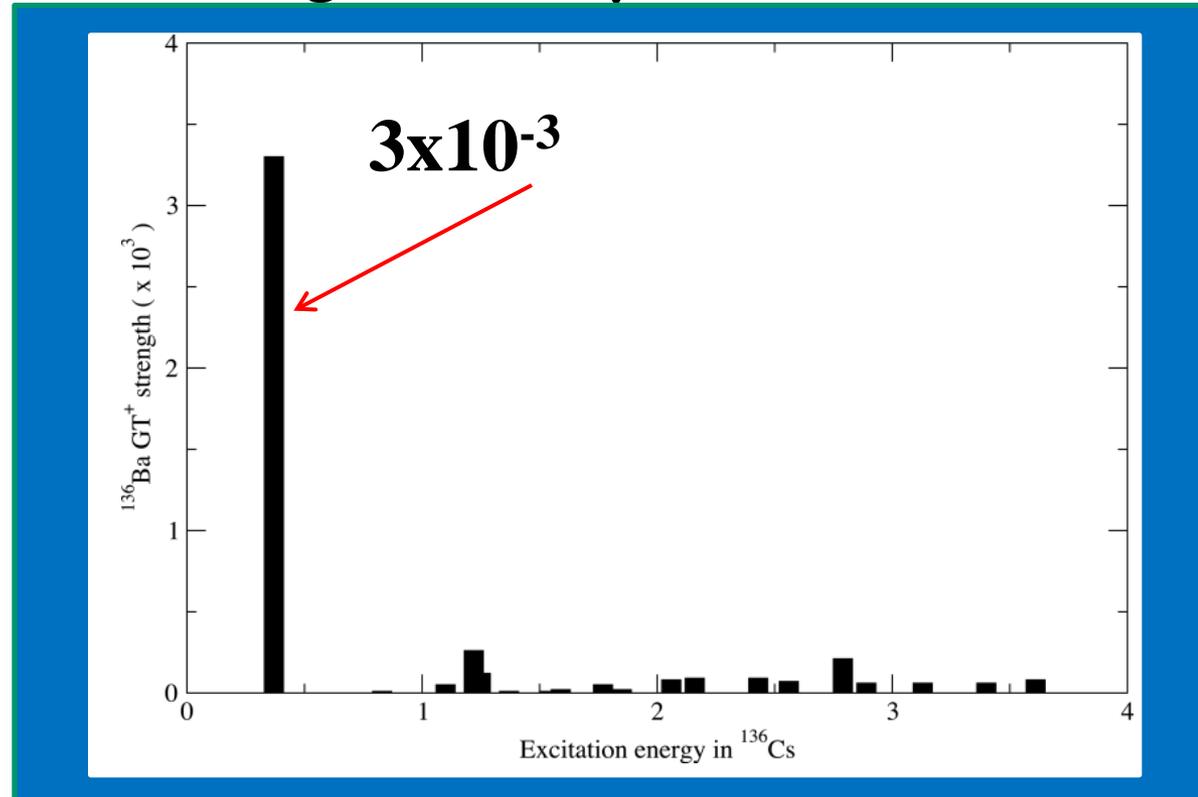
$$M_{\text{DGT}}^{(2)} = 0.019 \text{ MeV}^{-1}$$



A. Poves (simultaneous to our publication):

there is no $B(GT^+)$ strength, except for lowest 1^+ state

Recall:
 ^{136}Xe is almost
doubly magic!!



Shell model provides conclusive explanation for the deemed „pathologically“ long half-life of ^{136}Xe .

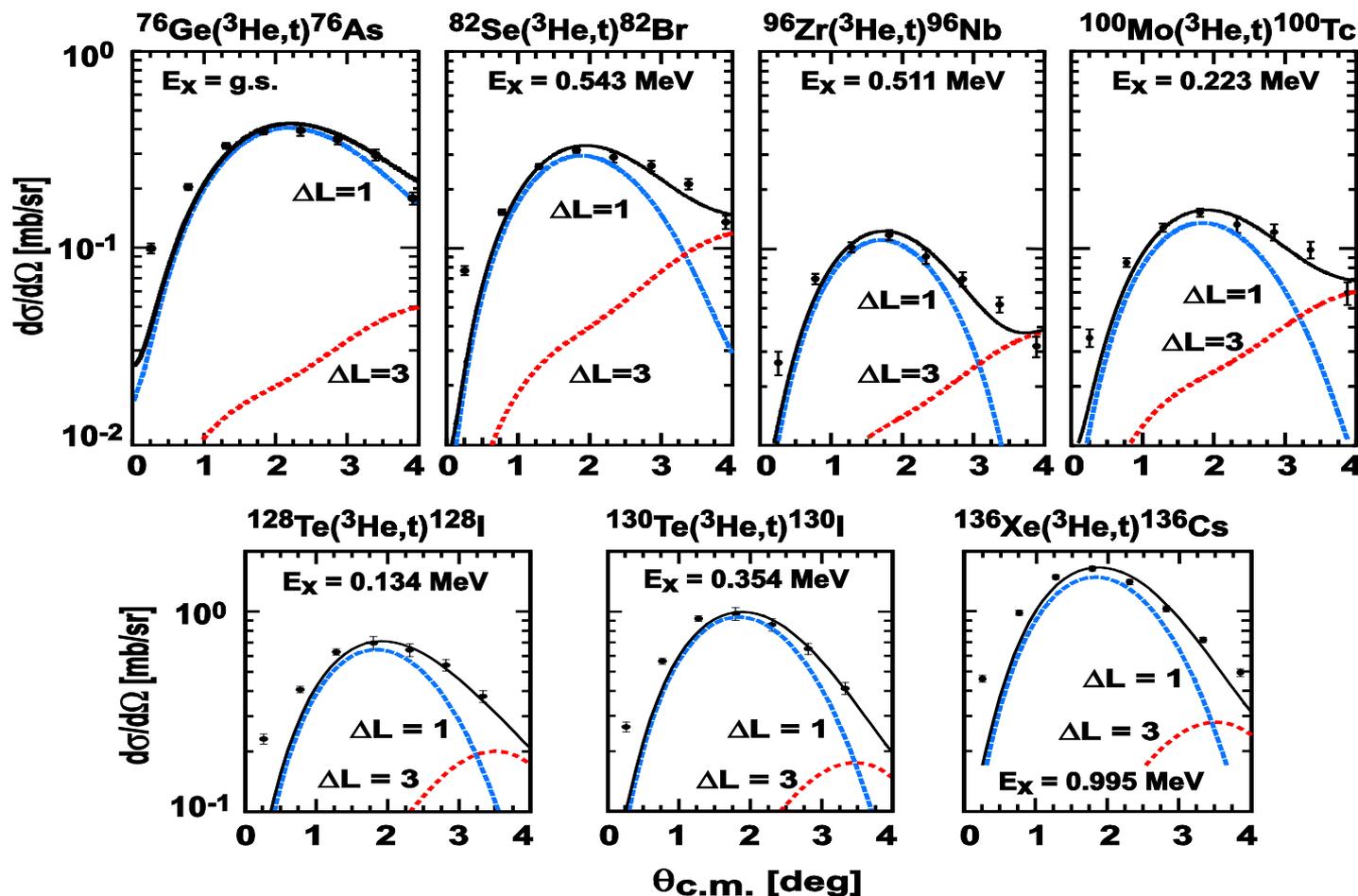
Expt'l test: $^{136}\text{Ba}(d, ^2\text{He})^{136}\text{Cs}$

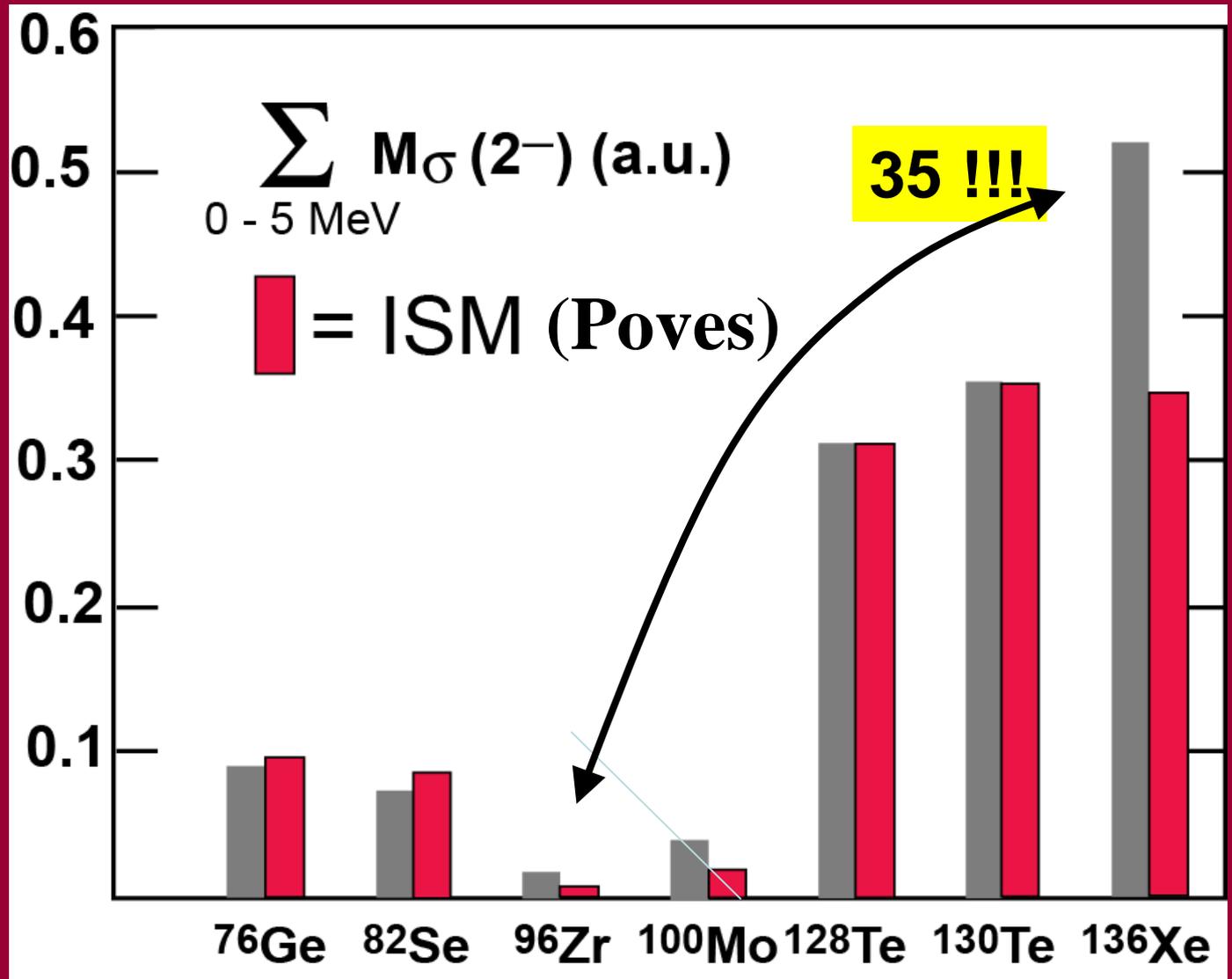
-3-

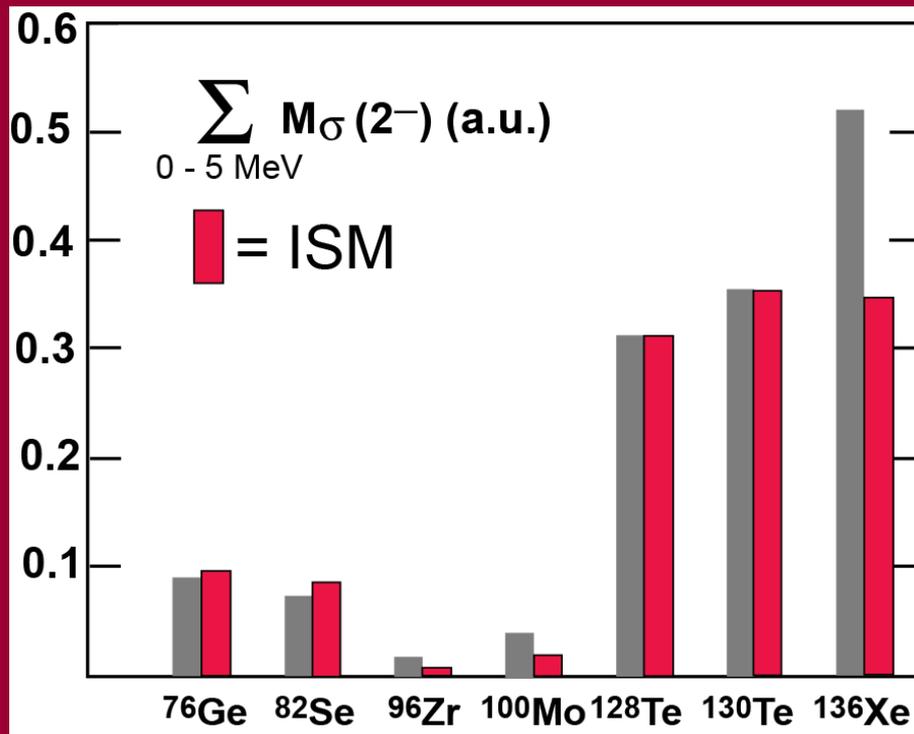
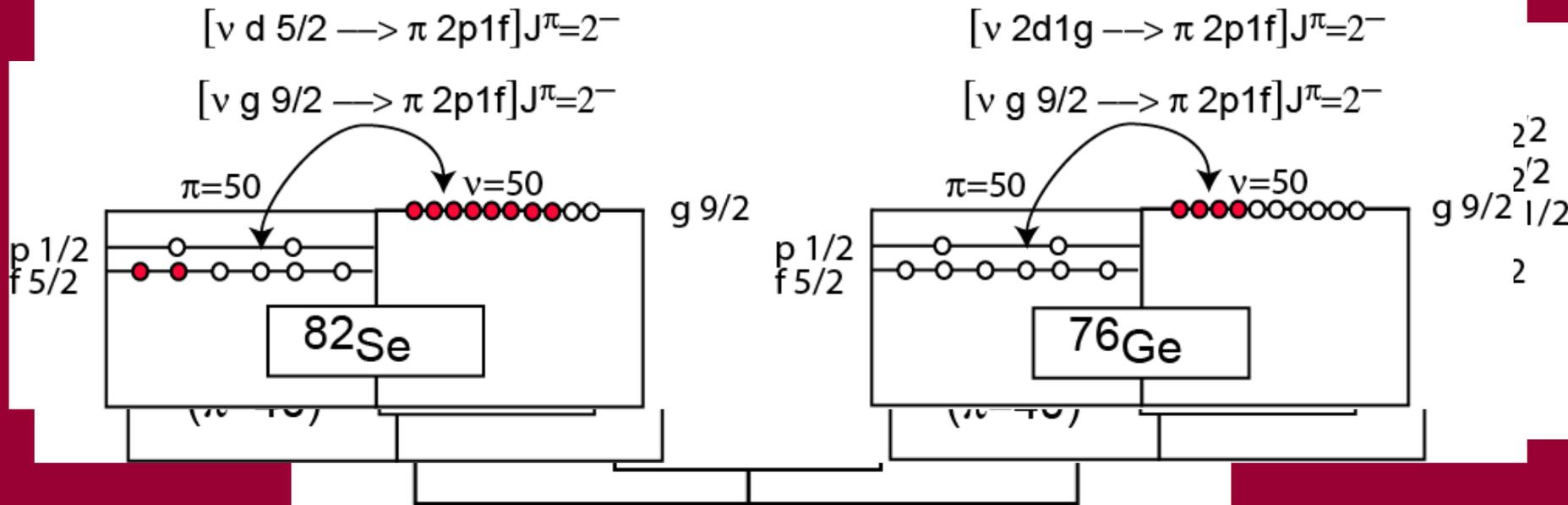
Charge-exchange reactions
spin-dipole part
($0\nu\beta\beta$ decay)

Charge-exchange reaction towards the $0\nu\beta\beta$ NME's

Here: 2^- states via chargex reactions

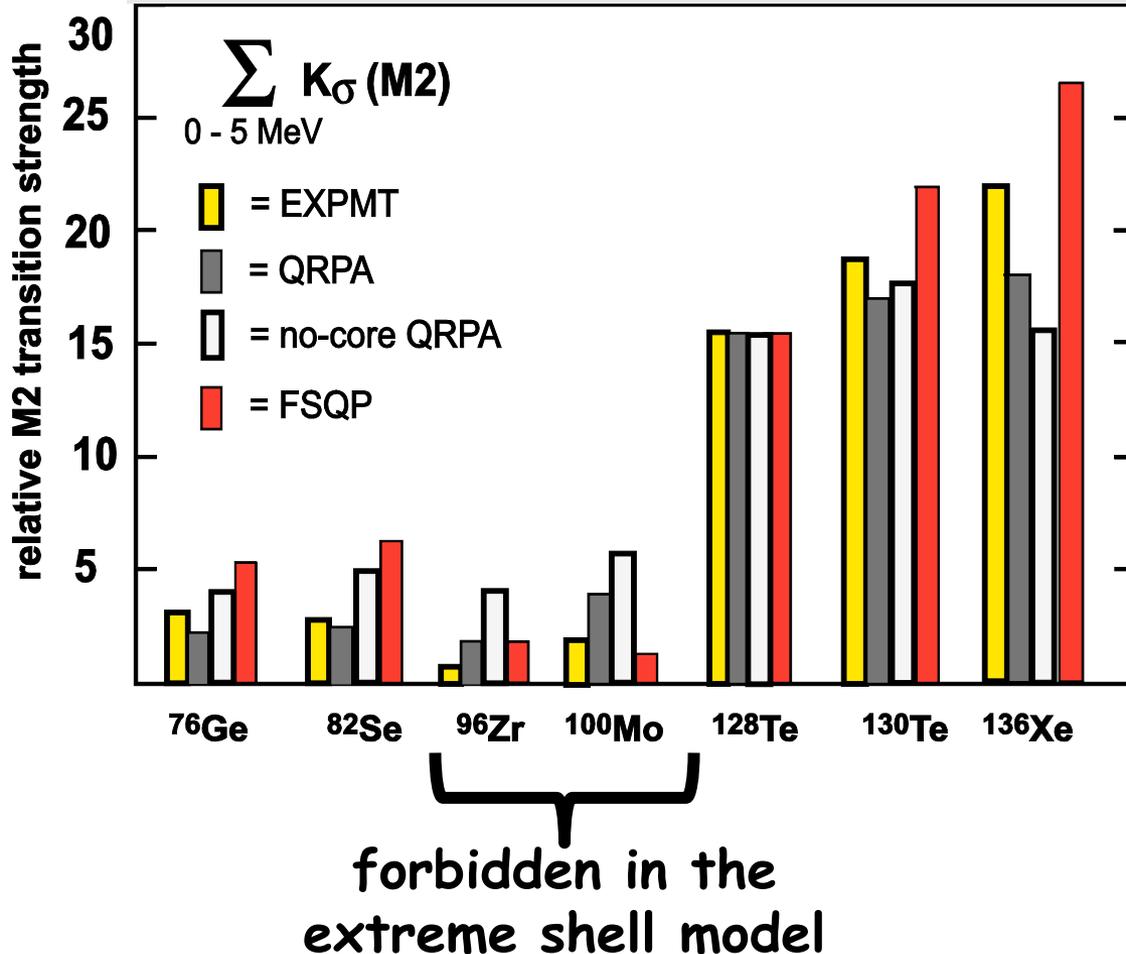






Low-energy spin-dipole (2-) strength to test nuclear wave function for $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay NME's

$$\left. \frac{d\sigma^{\text{SD}}}{d\Omega} \right|_{q_{\text{max}}} = \left[\frac{\mu}{\pi^2} \right]^2 \frac{k_f}{k_i} N_D^{\sigma\tau} \left| \frac{J_{\sigma\tau}^{q_{\text{max}}}}{r_0 A^{1/3}} \right|^2 K_{\sigma}(M2).$$



MODELS

QRPA

→ reasonable description

no-core QRPA

→ washes out shell structures

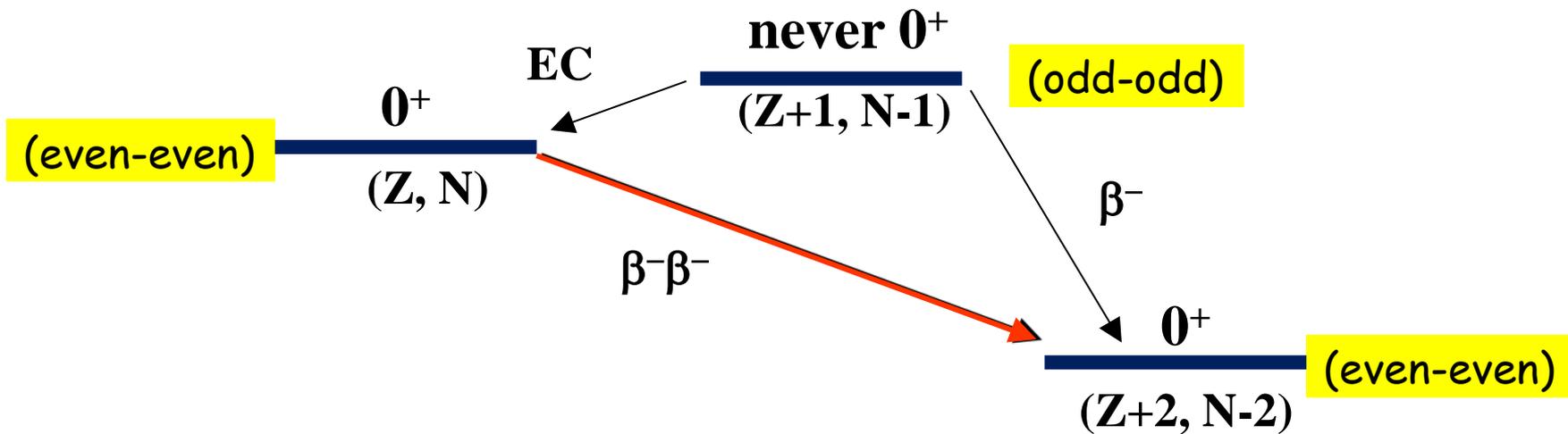
FSQP

→ semi-microscopic model,
excellent description of data

-4-

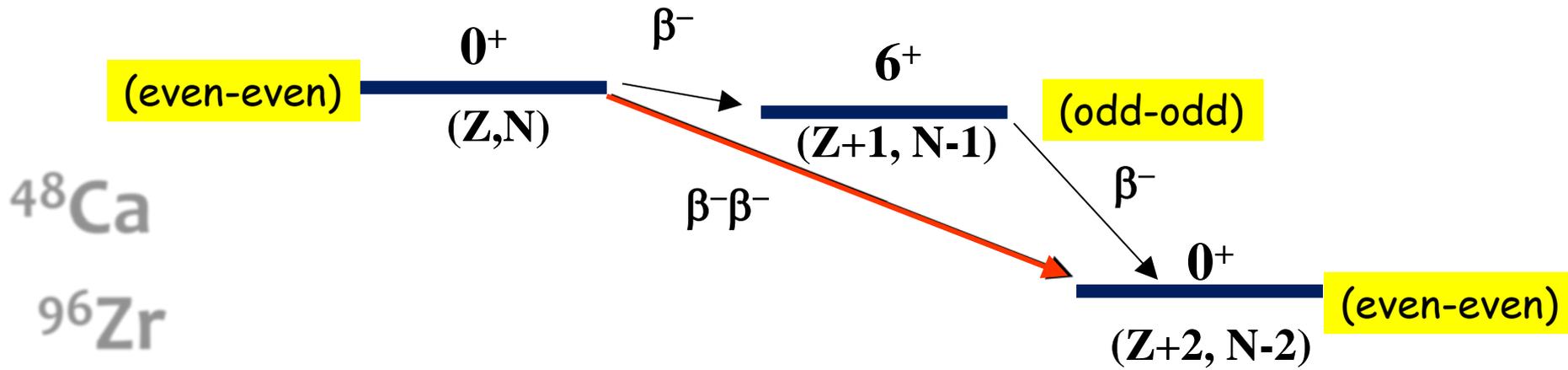
Mass measurements
and $0\nu\beta\beta$ NMEs
 ^{96}Zr

$\beta\text{-}\beta\text{-}$



$\beta\ \beta$

$\beta\text{-}\beta^-$ decay



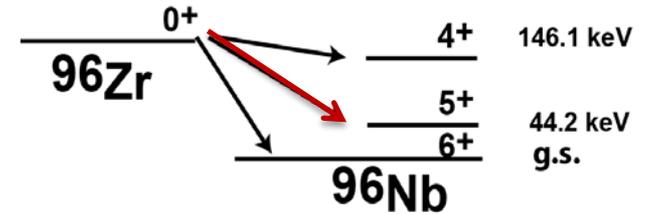
1. 48Ca

96Zr

$\beta\ \beta$

Idea

- Q-value
single β -decay



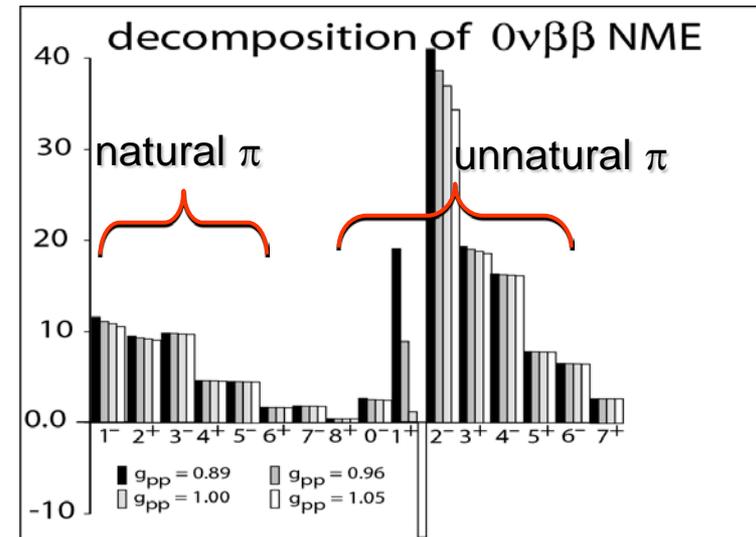
- single β -decay



- 4-fold forbidden

- β -decay NME

- $0\nu\beta\beta$ -decay NME for the same nucleus!!



Competition between β & $\beta\beta$ decay of ^{96}Zr

two conflicting half-lives:

$$T_{1/2}^{2\nu\beta\beta} = (2.3 \pm 0.2) \times 10^{19} \text{ y}$$

$$T_{1/2}^{\beta} = (0.94 \pm 0.32) \times 10^{19} \text{ y}$$

can this difference be reconciled ?
yes, if single β competes with $\beta\beta$ decay

$$(T_{1/2})^{-1} = (T_{1/2}^{2\nu\beta\beta})^{-1} + (T_{1/2}^{\beta})^{-1}$$

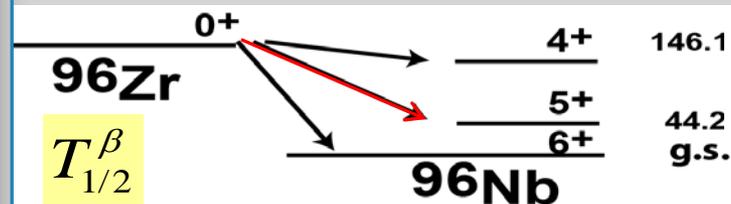
$$T_{1/2}^{\beta} = (1.6 \pm 0.9) \times 10^{19} \text{ y}$$

$$T_{1/2}^{\beta} > 2.6 \times 10^{19} \text{ y}$$

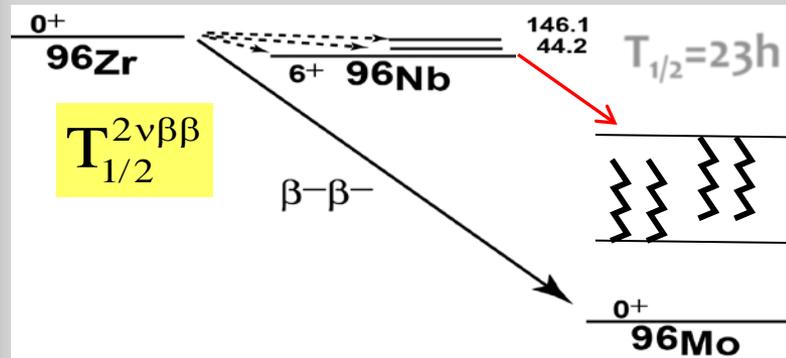
$$T_{1/2}^{\beta} = 24 \times 10^{19} \text{ y}$$

BUT

$$(T_{1/2}^{\beta})^{-1} \propto 0(Q^{13}) g_A^2 \langle M_{\beta}^{4u} \rangle^2$$



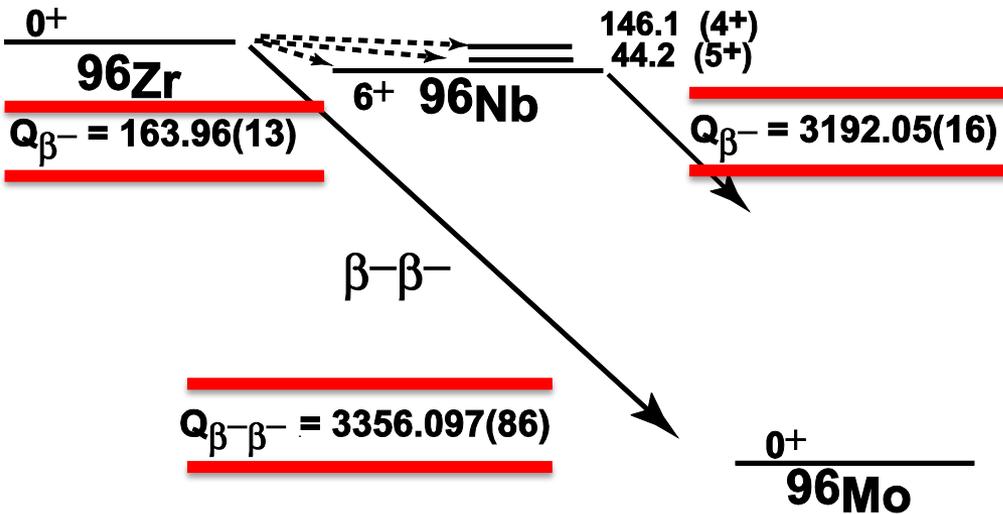
- $0^+ \rightarrow 6^+$ 6-fold non-unique (unobservably long)
- $0^+ \rightarrow 5^+$ 4-fold unique (possible)
- $0^+ \rightarrow 4^+$ 4-fold non-unique (no phase space)



Q-value

$$\longrightarrow M_{\beta}^{4u} \longrightarrow (T_{1/2}^{0\nu\beta\beta})^{-1} \propto Q^5 |M_{\beta\beta}^{0\nu}|^2 \langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle^2$$

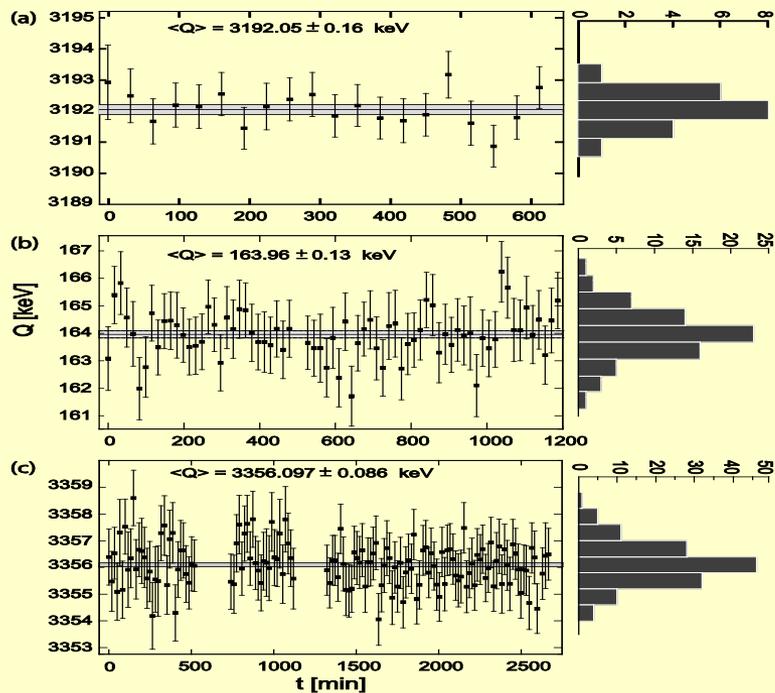
Results



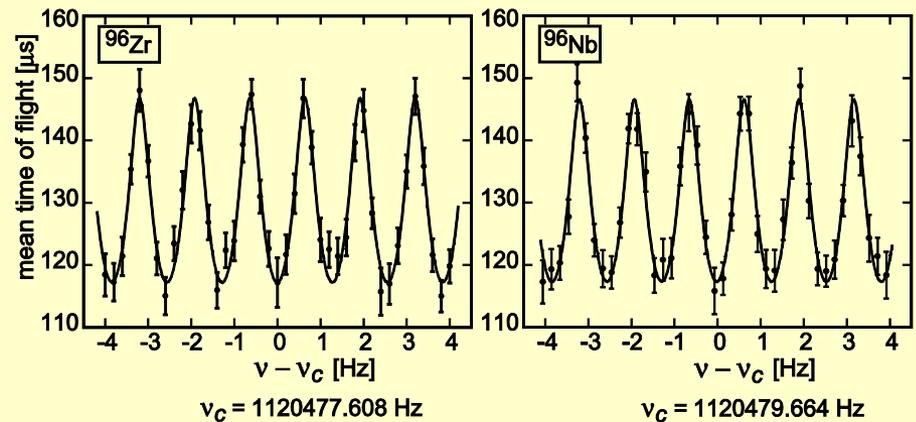
96Zr

$Q_{\beta\beta} = 3356.097 \pm 0.086 \text{ keV}$

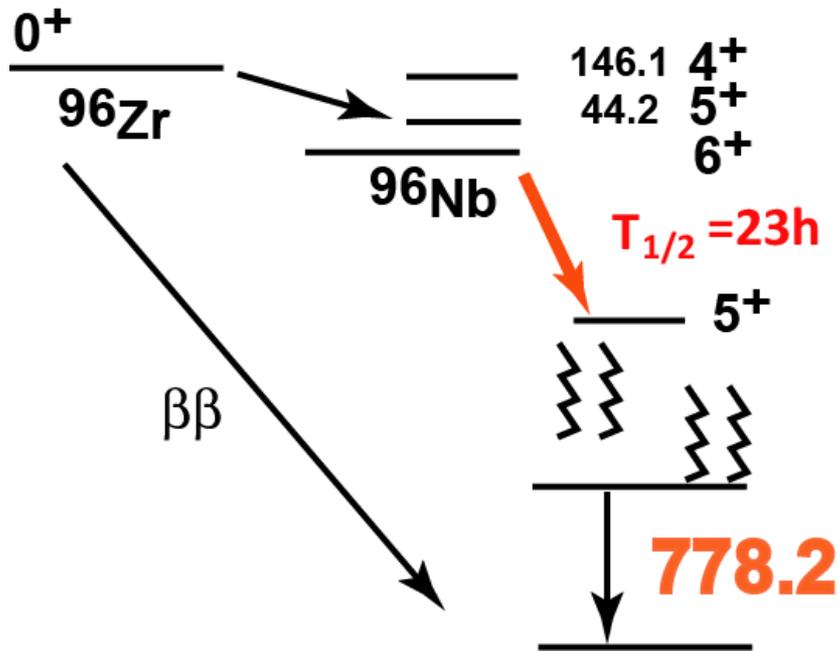
$Q_{\beta} = 163.96 \pm 0.13 \text{ keV} \quad !!$



Ramsey excitation



Next: need $T_{1/2}$ of single β decay



$$T_{1/2}(\text{QRPA}) = \frac{24}{g_A^2} \times 10^{19} \text{ yr}$$

$$T_{1/2}(\text{SM}) = \frac{11}{g_A^2} \times 10^{19} \text{ yr}$$

$$T_{1/2}(\text{exp}) > 2.3 \times 10^{19} \text{ yr}$$

Important side effect:

single β decay depends on g_A^2
 $2\nu/0\nu\beta\beta$ decay depends on g_A^4

A measurements of single β decay gives expmtl handle on the quenching of g_A

-5-

Muon capture
and $0\nu\beta\beta$ NMEs

Motivations

- μ -cap features momentum transfers similar to $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay ($q_{tr} \sim 0.5\text{fm}^{-1} \sim 100\text{MeV}/c$)
- μ -cap processes to 1^+ states in $A(\mu^-, \nu)B$ may be compared with charge-ex reactions of (n,p) type.
- μ -cap may give access to g_A quenching issue

However

- only the 0ν -channel ($\sim 5\%$) is most relevant for $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay
- level scheme of final odd-odd nucleus is extremely!! poorly known

The muon capture and g_A in weak decays

Title

Exclusive μ -capture on ^{24}Mg , ^{32}S and ^{56}Fe populating low-lying 1^+ states to probe the weak axial current at high momentum transfer

M. Alanssari,¹ I. H. Hashim,² L. Jokiniemi,³ H. Ejiri,⁴
E. Ideguchi,⁴ A. Sato,⁴ J. Suhonen,³ and D. Frekers¹

¹Institut für Kernphysik, Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität, D-48149 Münster, Germany

²Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, 81310 Johor Bahru, Malaysia

³University of Jyväskylä, Department of Physics, FI-40014, Finland

⁴Research Center for Nuclear Physics, Osaka University, Ibaraki, Osaka 567-0047, Japan

The amazing muon

There has not been any other elementary particle so „successful“ in advancing our knowledge in so many different areas of physics.

Production: $p + A \rightarrow X + \pi^-$

(26ns)

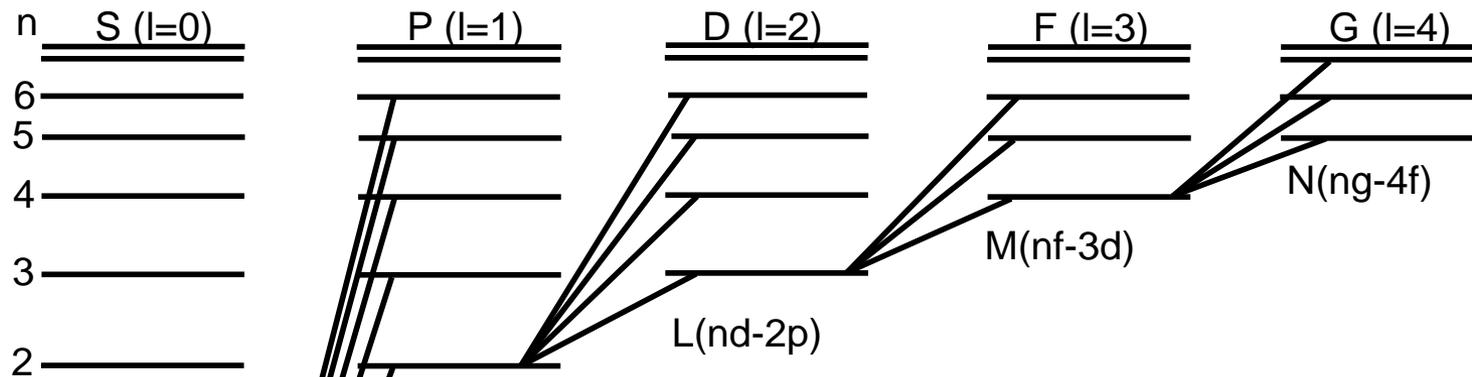
$$\mu^- + \bar{\nu}_\mu$$

(2.2 μ s)

$$e^- + \bar{\nu}_e + \nu_\mu$$

$$\Gamma_\mu = \frac{1}{\tau_\mu} = \frac{G_F^2 m_\mu^5}{192\pi^3} (1 - \varepsilon) = (2,196981(2) \mu\text{sec})^{-1} \quad (\varepsilon \approx 10^{-3})$$

$$G_F = 1,16637(2) \cdot 10^{-5} \text{GeV}^{-2}$$



neutrino

K(np-1s)

prompt Lyman α -series of atomic μ -capture followed by delayed nucl. capture

$$\lambda_{cap} = \lambda_{total} - Q\lambda_{decay}$$

Huff-factor

$$\lambda_{decay} = (2.2\mu s)^{-1} = 4.54 \cdot 10^5 s^{-1}$$

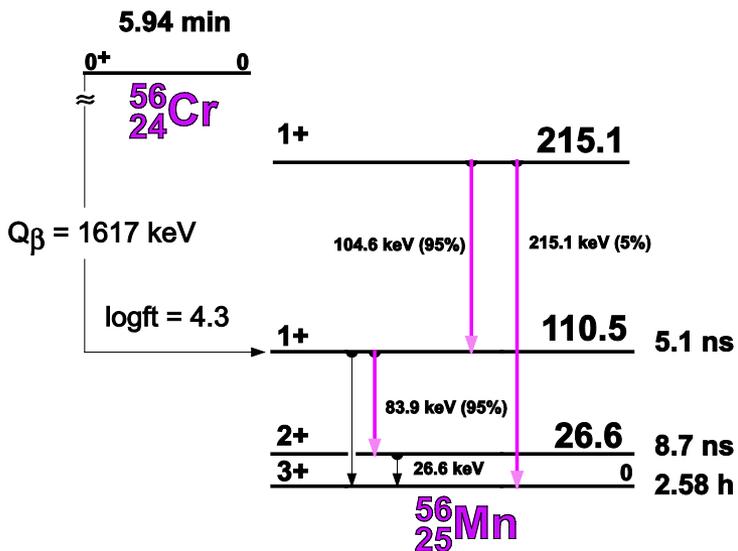
$$\lambda_{total} \sim (10 - 1000 ns)^{-1} \sim 10^8 - 10^6 s^{-1}$$

$$Q \sim 0.9 - 1.0$$

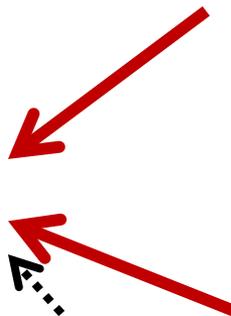
- the neutrino takes most of the energy
- $E_x(\text{nucl}) < 10 - 20 \text{ MeV}$

captured by the nucleus

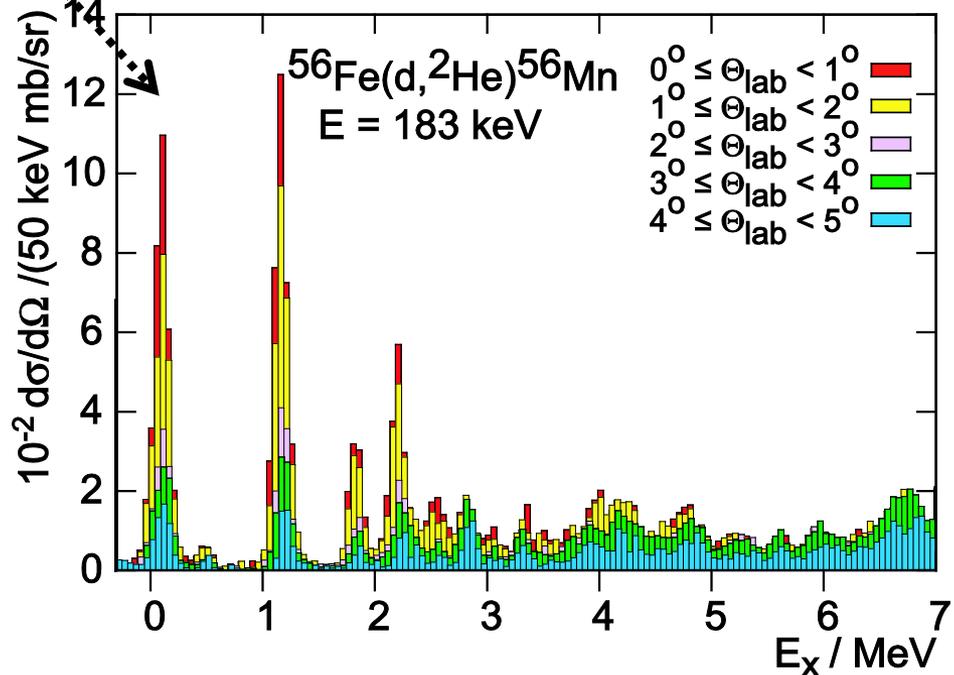
The issue of g_A queching



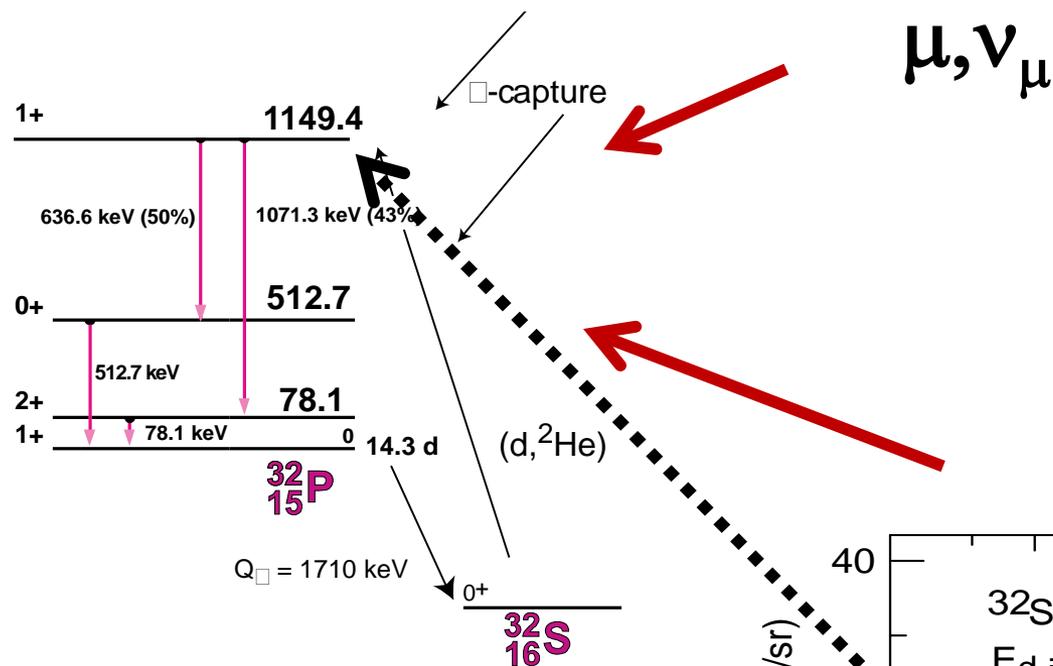
μ, ν_μ



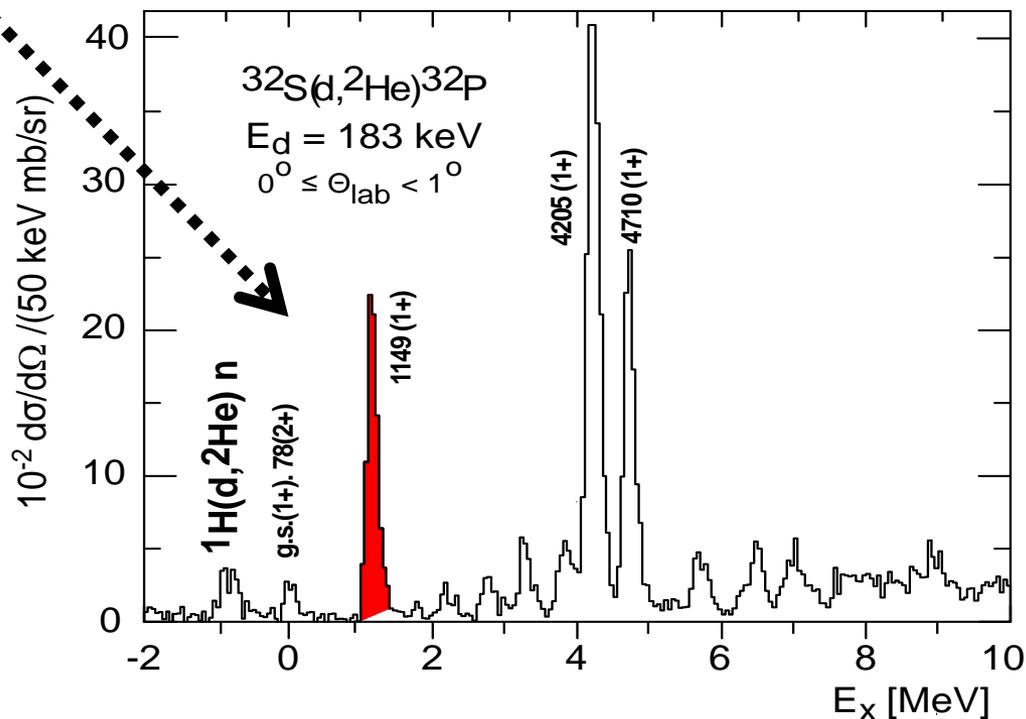
Example:
Compare transition strength in μ -cap and $(d, ^2\text{He})$ charge-ex



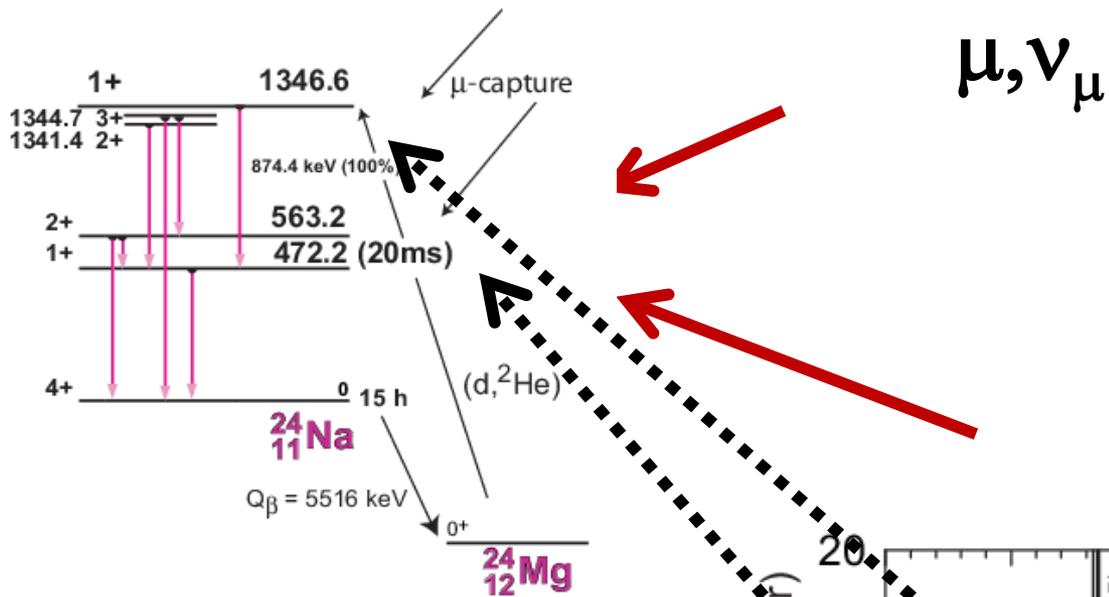
The issue of g_A queching



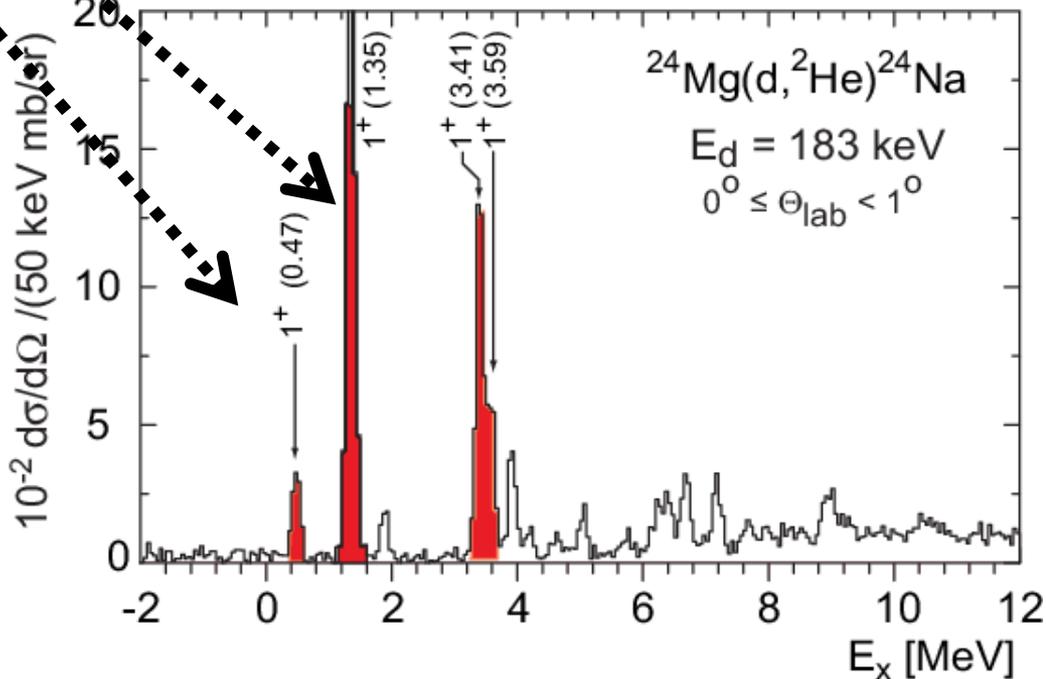
Example:
 Compare transition strength in μ -cap and $(d, ^2\text{He})$ charge-ex

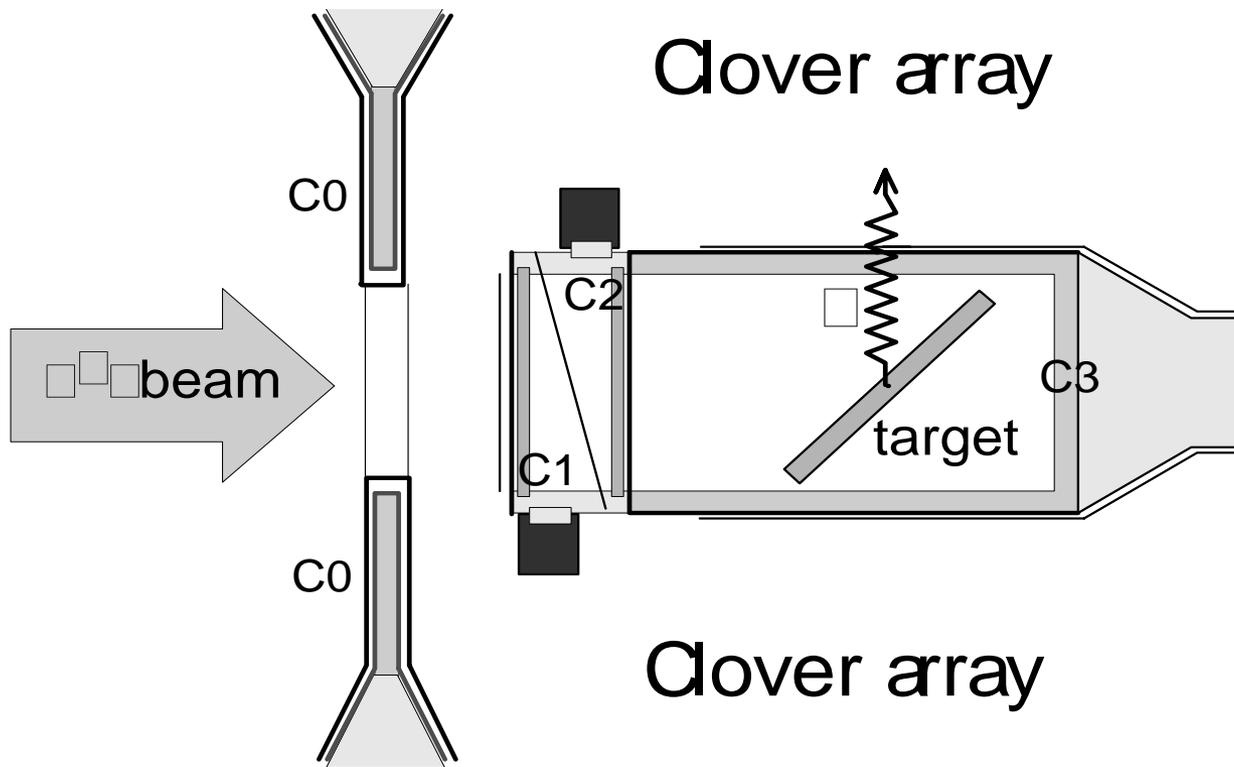


The issue of g_A queching



Example:
Compare transition strength in $\mu\text{-cap}$ and $(d, ^2\text{He})$ charge-ex

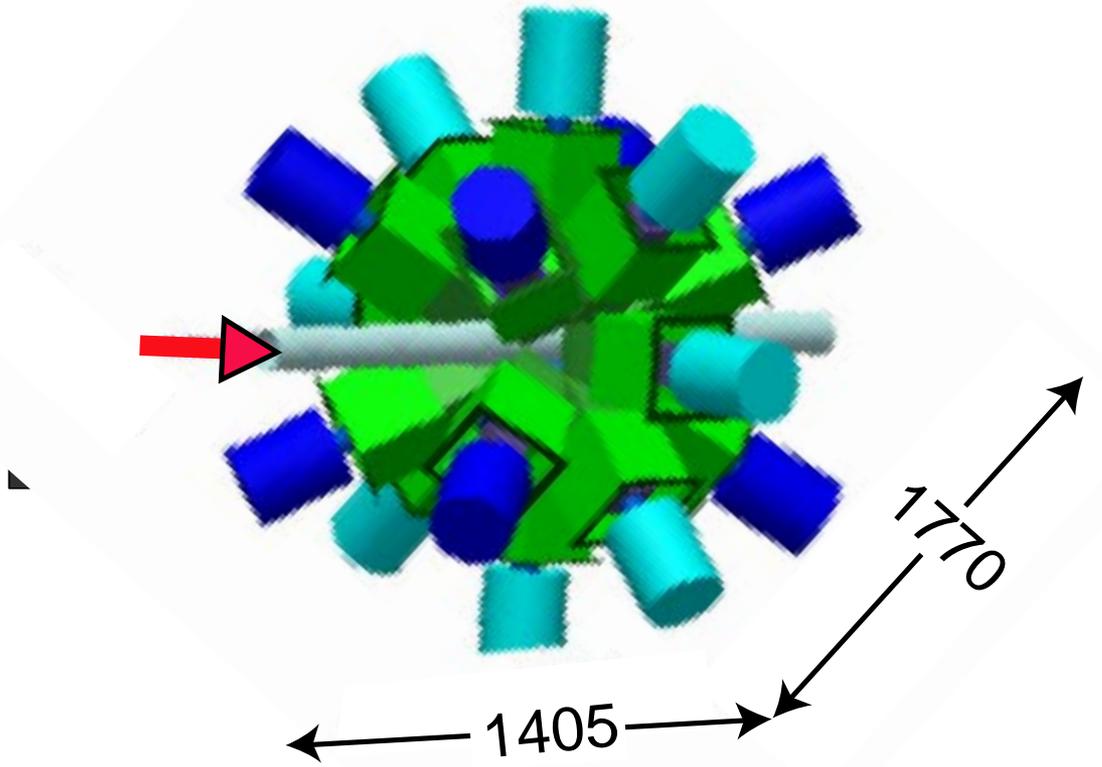
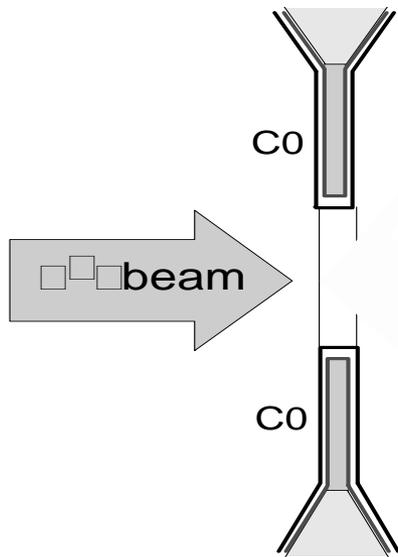




$$\mu_{stop} = \overline{C0} \wedge C1 \wedge C2 \wedge \overline{C3}$$

$\mu-$





The issue of g_A queching

But: Hold your horses !!!
things are a bit more complicated

μ

What is this ????

$\pi - 1$



Conclusion

- **Charge-ex reactions:**
 - useful tool for $2\nu\beta\beta$ decay NME's.
- **Spin-dipole excitation via charge-ex:**
 - used for first time, low-E spin-dipole strength mirrors ground-state properties
- **Precision mass measurement:**
 - ^{96}Zr is a golden case for testing 0ν -NME's and getting experimental handle on g_A
- **μ -cap:**
 - maybe the only viable tool to study weak response at high momentum transfer and to fix the g_A problem by comparing with $(d, ^2\text{He})$