



Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare

# **Octupole Collectivity in $^{96}\text{Zr}$ from Low-Energy Coulomb Excitation with the AGATA+SPIDER Setup**

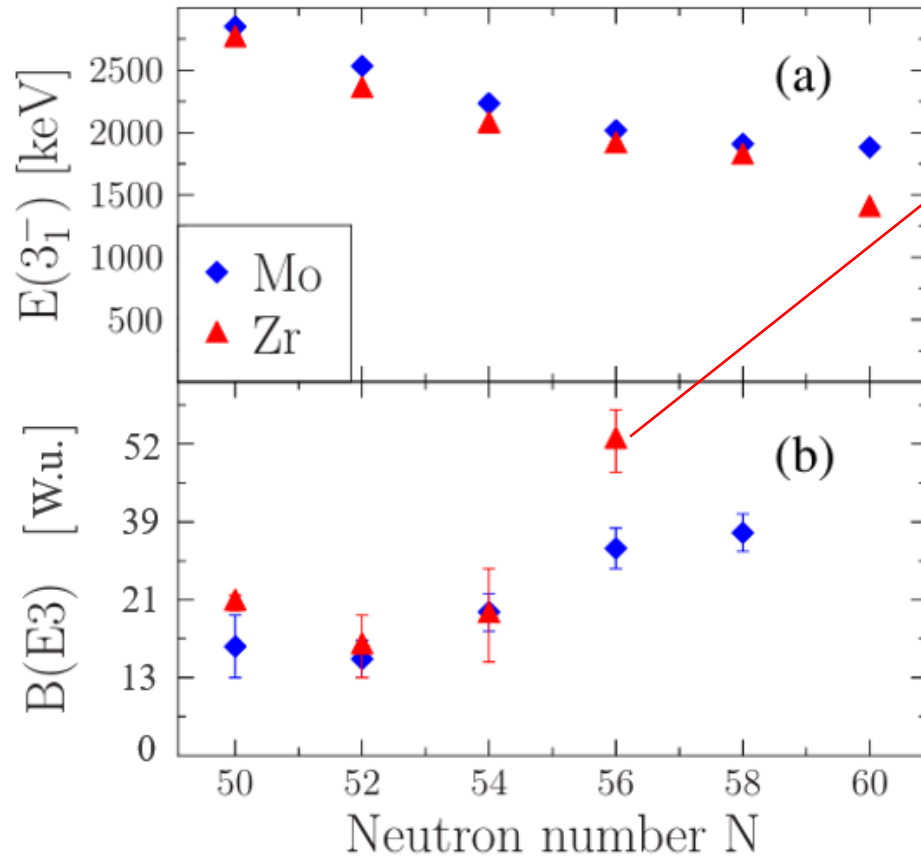
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Federica Ercolano

Young GAMMAs Meeting

June 21<sup>st</sup> 2024

# Octupole collectivity in Zr isotopes



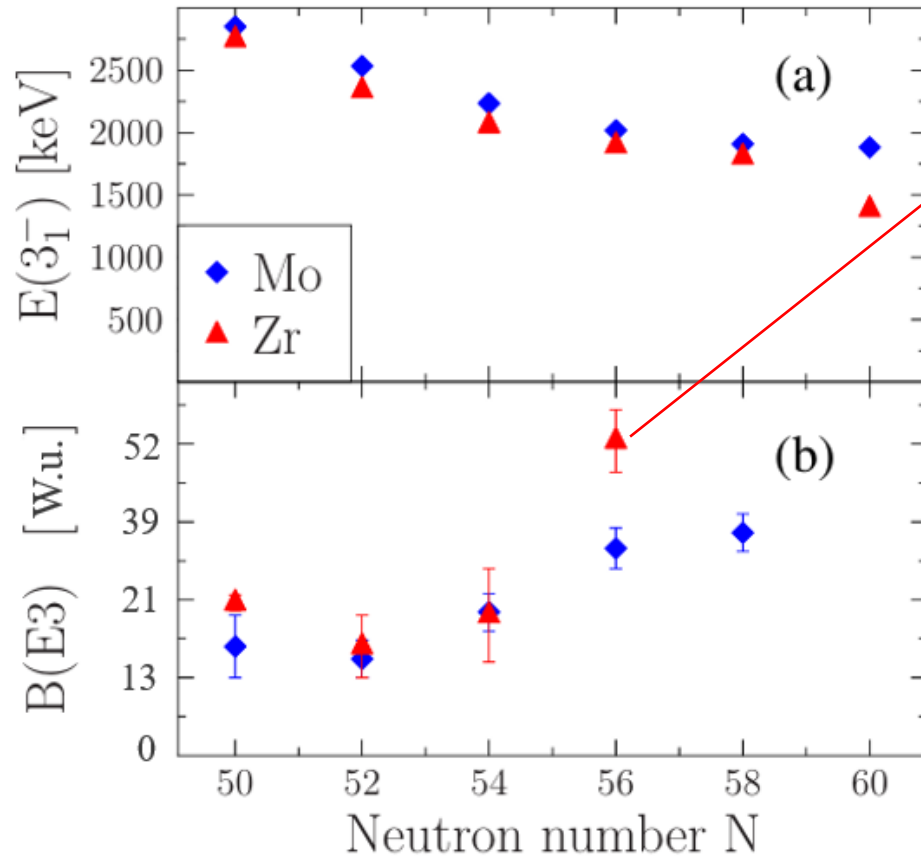
$B(E3, 3_1^- \rightarrow 0_1^+)$  value in  $^{96}\text{Zr}$  strikingly high (evaluated value: 53(6) W.u.), long-standing challenge for theory

The revised value  $B(E3) = 42(3)$  W.u. resulting from a new measurement of E1/E3 branching ratio in  $^{96}\text{Zr}$  (Ł. Iskra *et al*, Phys. Lett. B 788 (2019)) is in better agreement with the experimental trend

The present work aims to extract for the first time the  $3_1^- \rightarrow 0_1^+$   $\gamma$ -ray transition probability **directly**, via the **low-energy Coulomb excitation technique**.

Adapted from T. Kibédi and R.H. Spear, At. Data Nucl. Data Tables 80, 35 (2002).

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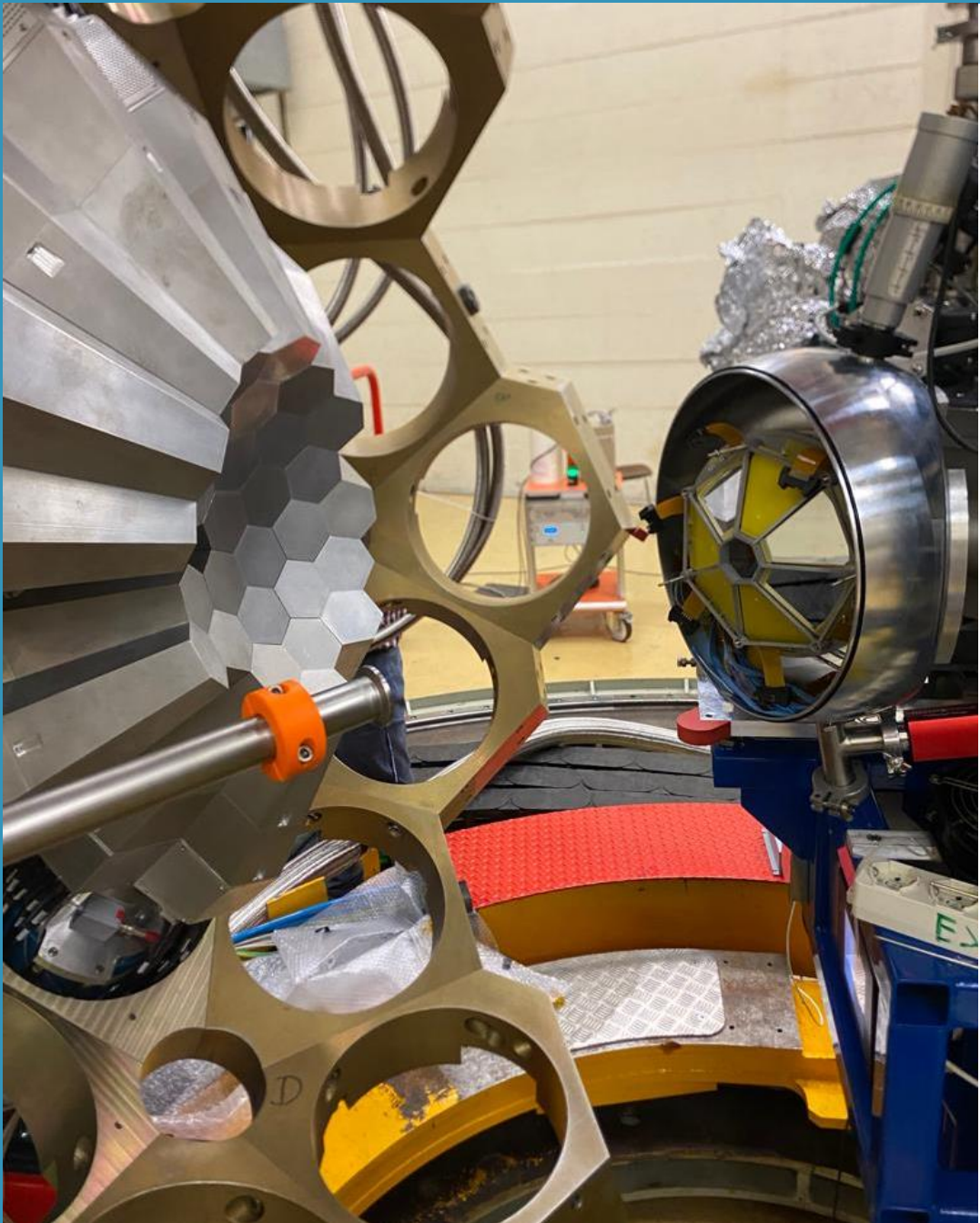
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Coulomb Excitation Semi-Classical Treatment,  
First-Order Perturbation Theory:

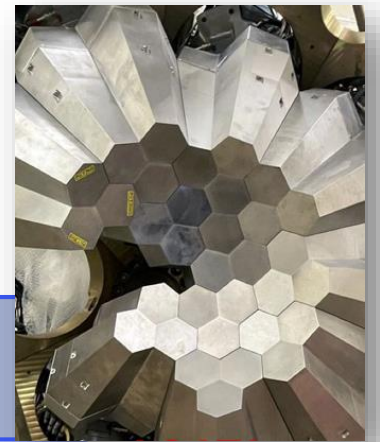
$$\sigma = \sum_{\lambda} \sigma_{E\lambda} \longrightarrow \sigma_{E\lambda} \propto \left( \frac{Z_P e}{\hbar v_P} \right)^2 a^{-2\lambda+2} B(E\lambda)$$



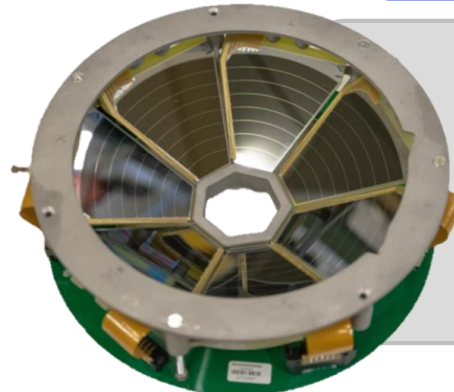
# Coulomb-Excitation Setup at LNL



- Data taking: October 21-25, 2022
- Beam:  $^{58}\text{Ni}$  160 MeV, 3 pA
- Target: self-supporting  $^{96}\text{Zr}$



AGATA array (11 ATCs),  
close-up position



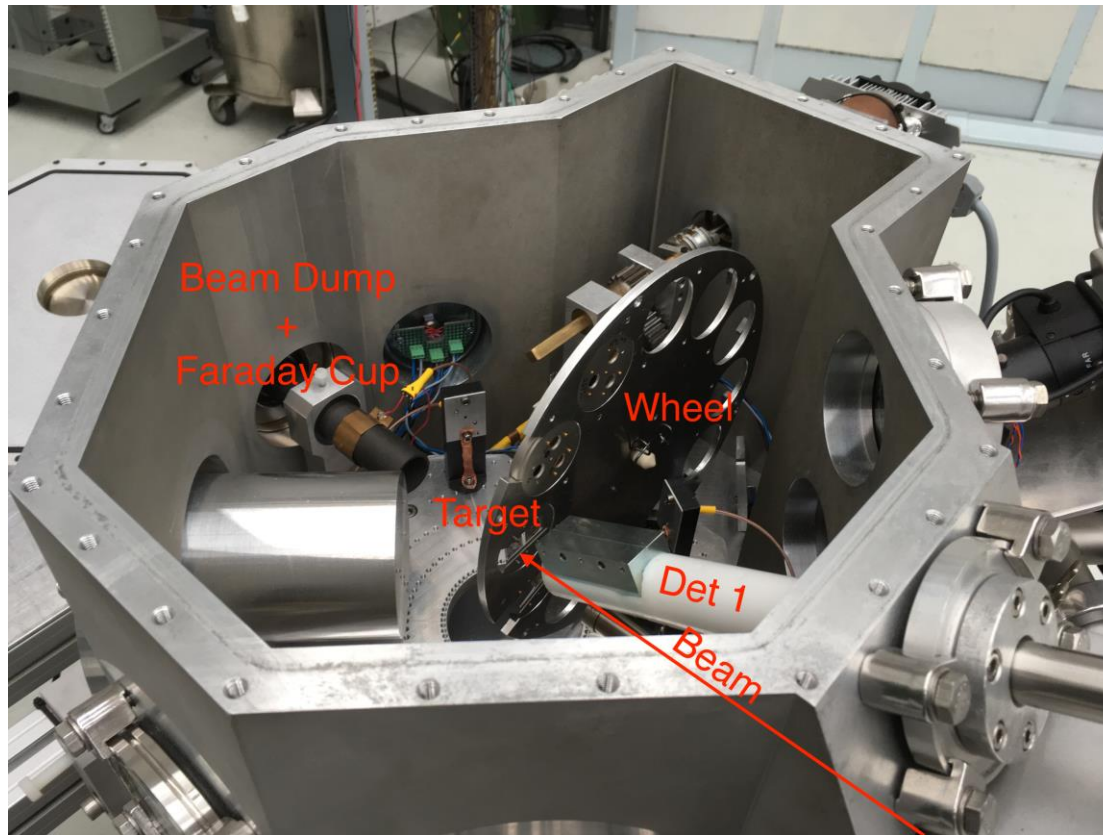
SPIDER modular array of Si detectors  
segmented into 8 annular strips (junction  
side).

$\vartheta_{LAB} = 126^\circ - 162^\circ$  (detection of back-  
scattered  $^{58}\text{Ni}$  ions).



# Target Characterization

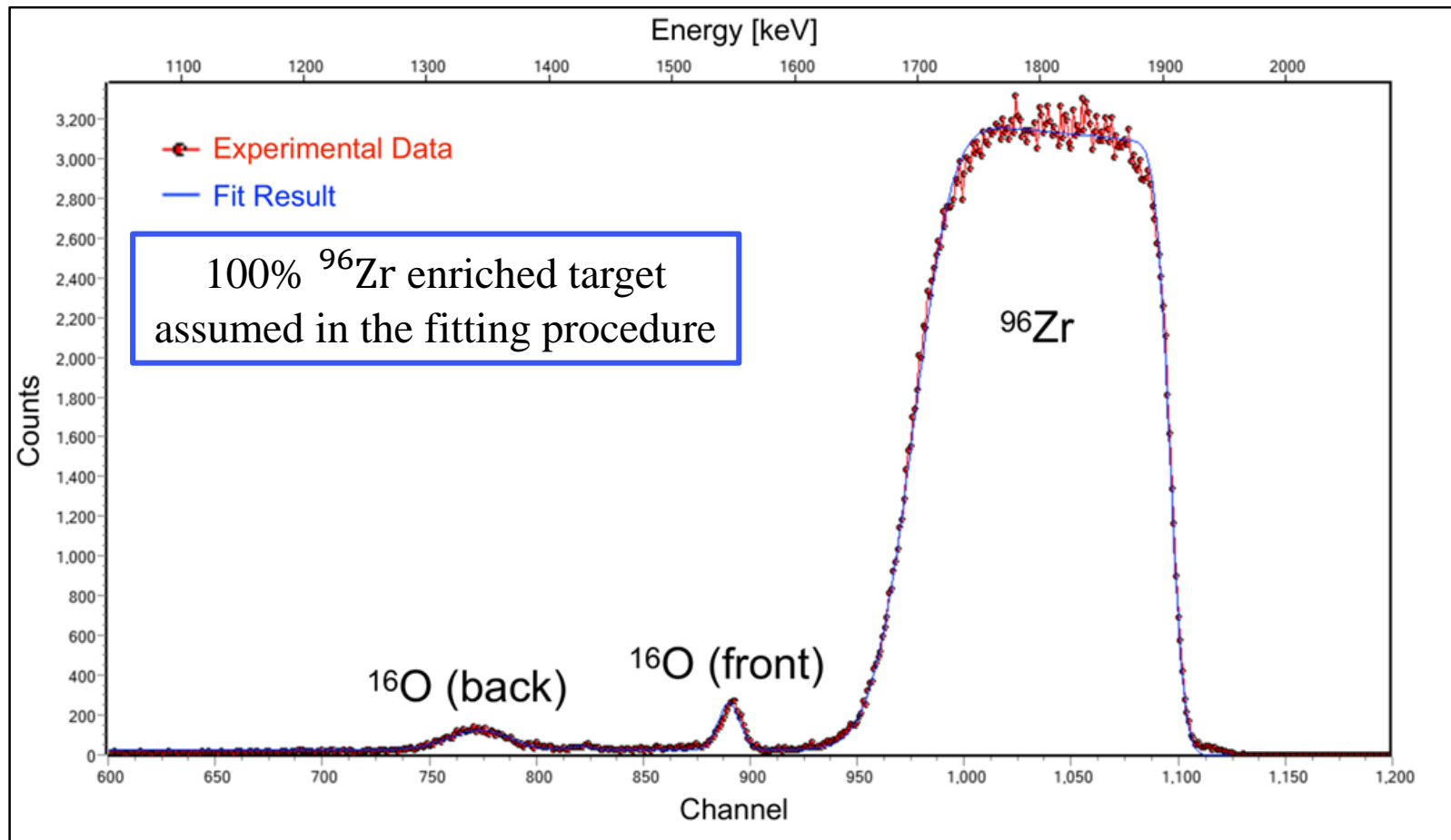
The  $^{96}\text{Zr}$  target employed in this work was characterized using the Rutherford Backscattering Spectrometry (RBS) method at the INFN LABEC laboratory in Florence.



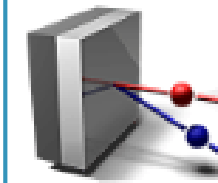
Setup used for the RBS measurement at LABEC:

- Proton beam with 2 MeV energy
- $^{96}\text{Zr}$  target mounted on a rotating wheel
- Silicon detector placed at  $165^\circ$  degrees

# Target Characterization



Experimental RBS spectrum resulted from the  $^{96}\text{Zr}$  target analysis at LABEC.



## SIMNRA

Computer simulation of  
RBS, ERDA, NRA, MEIS  
and PIGE by Matej Mayer

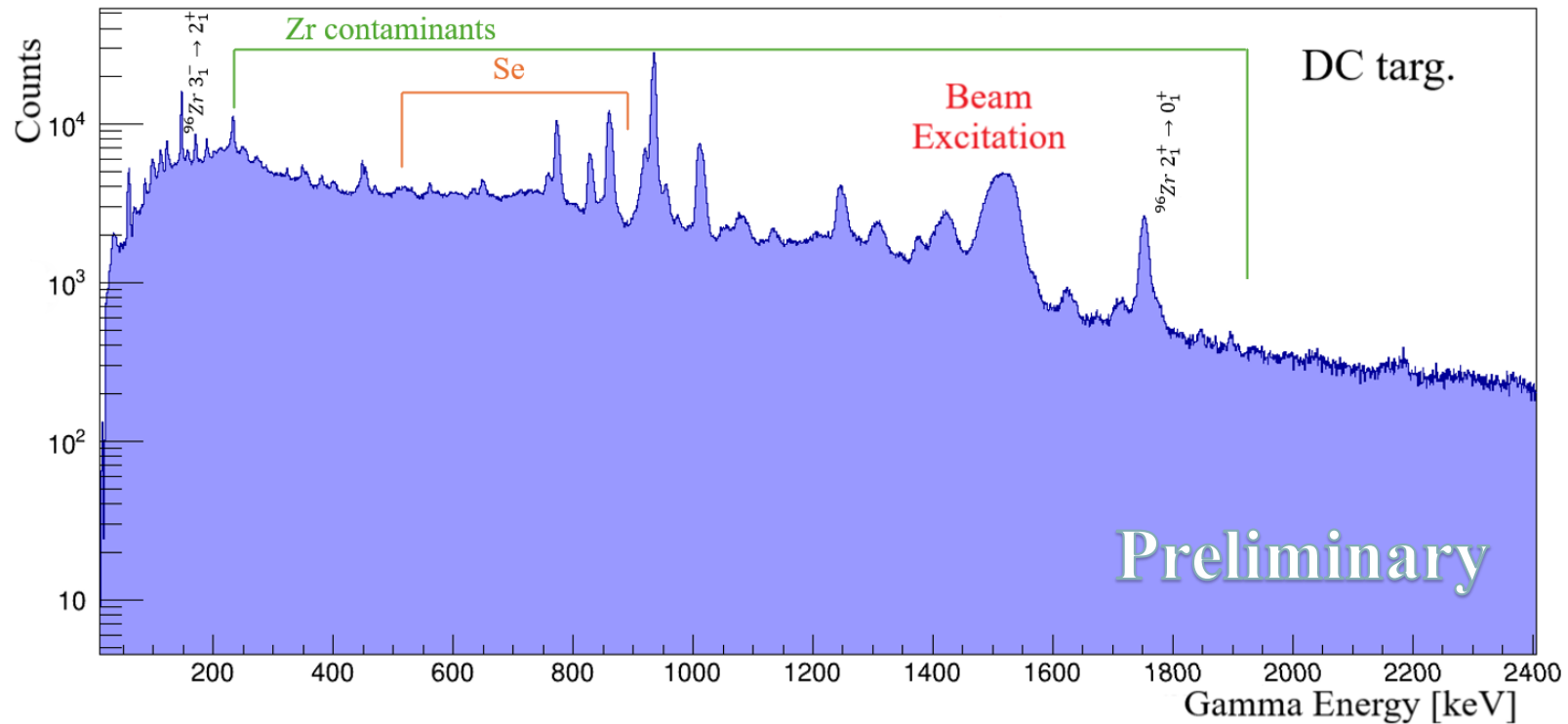


Max-Planck-Institut  
für Plasmaphysik

Results of the RBS measurement:

- oxidized front and back surfaces of the target
- $^{96}\text{Zr}$  target thickness:  
 $690 \mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$

# Experimental results

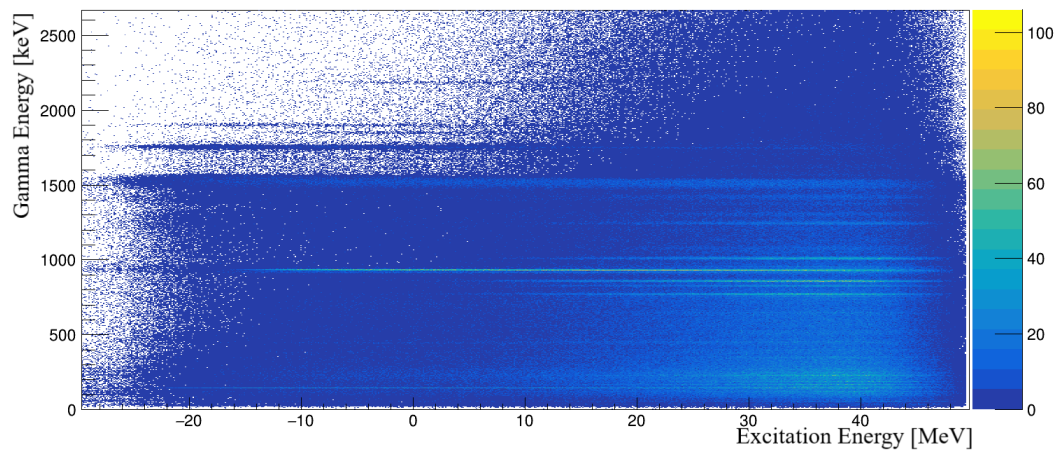


Excitation lines from other Zr isotopes ( $A = 90, 92, 94$ ) present in the target

Contribution from the products ( $^{72}\text{Se}, ^{72}\text{Br}, ^{69}\text{As}$ ) of the fusion-evaporation reaction  $^{58}\text{Ni} + ^{16}\text{O}$  at 160 Mev

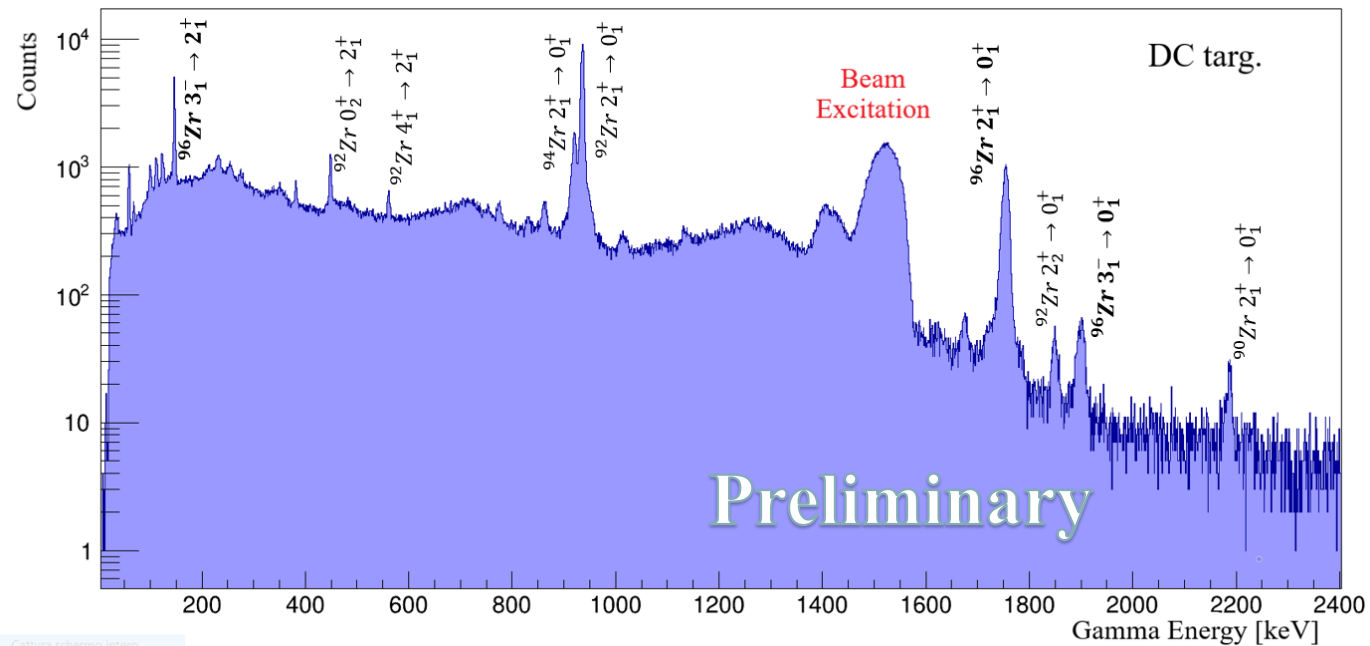
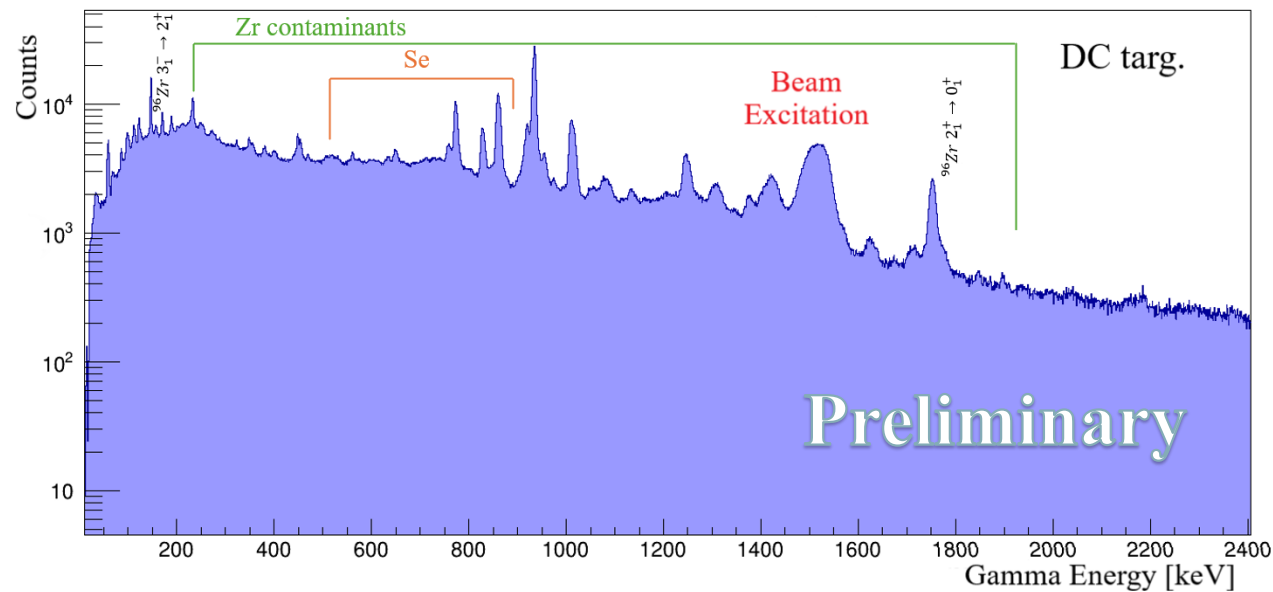
$\gamma$ -ray energy spectrum acquired in coincidence with the back-scattered  $^{58}\text{Ni}$  ions Doppler corrected for the target nuclei.

# Experimental results



$\gamma$ -ray energy Doppler-corrected for the target nuclei as a function of the total excitation energy of the  $^{58}\text{Ni} + ^{96}\text{Zr}$  system.

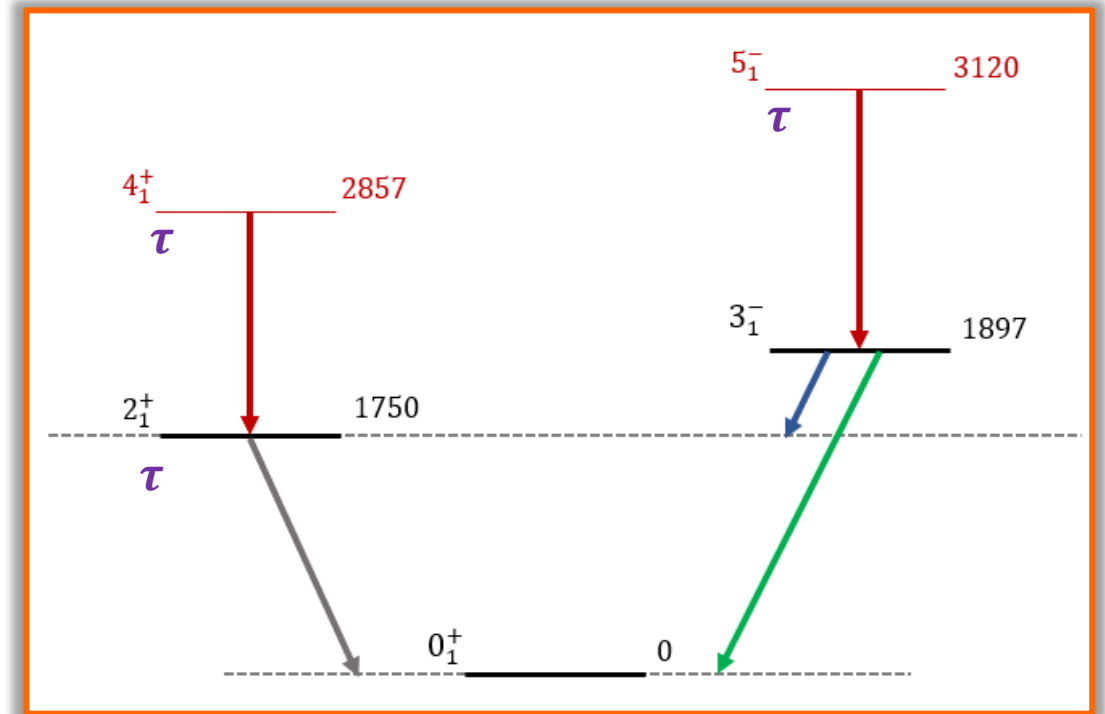
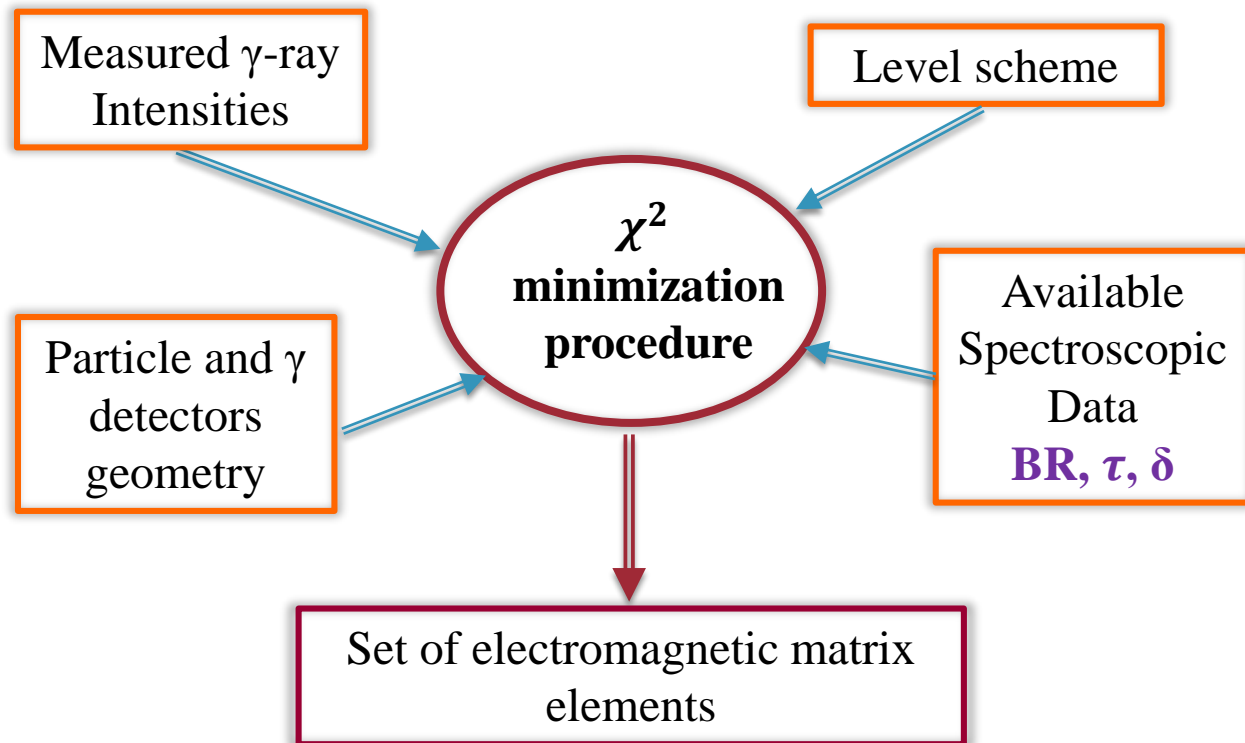
Excitation Energy Selection to remove the fusion-evaporation background





# Coulomb-Excitation Analysis - GOSIA code

GOSIA exploits the semi-classical Coulomb-excitation treatment to evaluate the excitation cross-sections and to extract the observables of interest.



$^{96}\text{Zr}$  Level scheme used in the GOSIA analysis

# Coulomb-Excitation Analysis - Preliminary Results

The E1 and E3 electromagnetic matrix elements extracted in the present work have been used to calculate the reduced transition probabilities:

$$B(E1, 3_1^- \rightarrow 2_1^+) = 114(13) \cdot 10^{-4} W.u.$$

$$B(E3, 3_1^- \rightarrow 0_1^+) = 41(3) W.u.$$



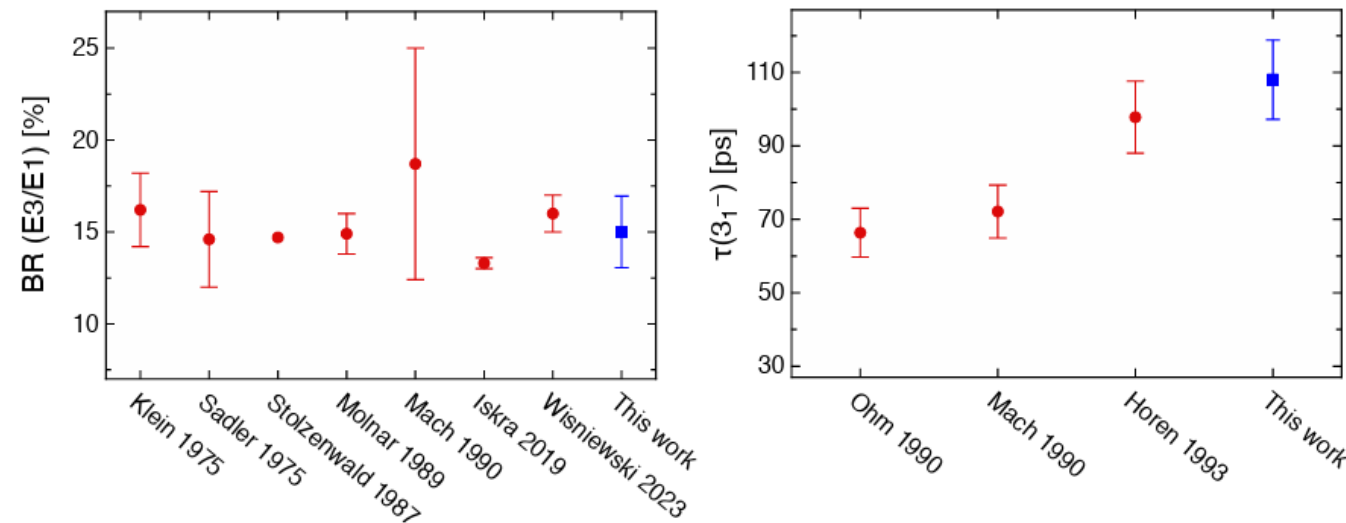
This value confirm the results of the indirect determination of the  $B(E3; 3_1^- \rightarrow 0_1^+) = 42(3) W.u.$  value in  $^{96}Zr$  from Ł. Iskra *et al*, Phys. Lett. B 788 (2019)

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The matrix elements extracted in this work are in agreement with the most recent measurements of the  $3_1^- \rightarrow 0_1^+ / 3_1^- \rightarrow 2_1^+$  branching ratio and the lifetime of the  $3_1^-$  state.



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# THANK YOU FOR THE ATTENTION

## Collaboration

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