

The NUMEN project: a new way to provide data-driven information on neutrino-less double-beta decay

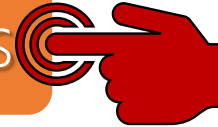
Alessandro Spatafora for the NUMEN collaboration
Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare, Laboratori Nazionali del Sud



14th International Spring Seminar on Nuclear Physics:
"Cutting-edge developments in nuclear structure physics"
20th May 2025 - Ischia, Napoli, Italia



Background: $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay and DCE reactions



Methods: the multi-channel strategy

Results: DCE measured cross-sections

Conclusions and perspectives

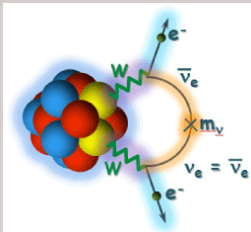
$0\nu\beta\beta$ decay: new physics beyond the Standard Model

Problems in modern physics:

1. Neutrinos absolute mass-scale
2. Neutrinos: Dirac or Majorana



$0\nu\beta\beta$ is the most promising approach!



Neutrinoless double beta decay**

$$\begin{aligned} {}^A_Z X_N &\rightarrow {}^A_{Z+2} Y_{N-2} + 2e^- \\ {}^A_Z X_N &\rightarrow {}^A_{Z-2} Y_{N+2} + 2e^+ \end{aligned}$$



**E. Majorana, Il Nuovo Cimento 14 (1937) 171
W. H. Furry, Phys. Rev. 56 (1939) 1184

Still **not observed!**

- Beyond the **standard model**
 - Violation of **lepton number conservation**
 - **CP violation** in lepton sector
- Way to **leptogenesis** and **GUT**...
- Access to effective neutrino masses

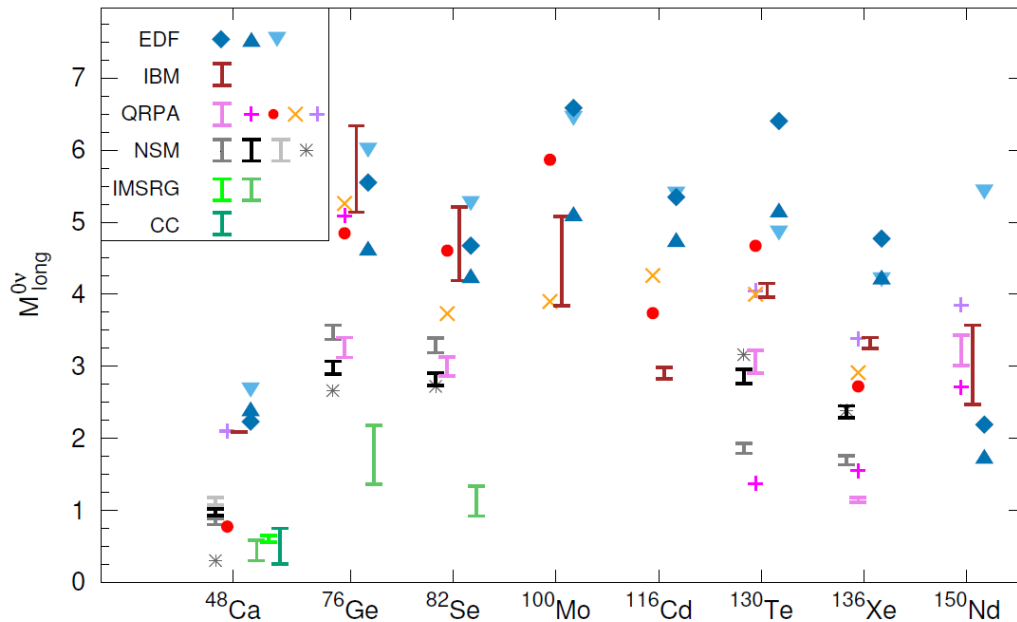
$$\frac{1}{T_{1/2}^{0\nu}} (0^+ \rightarrow 0^+) = g_A^4 G_{0\nu} |M^{0\nu\beta\beta}|^2 \left| \frac{\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle}{m_e} \right|^2$$



Nuclear Matrix Elements (NMEs):

Nuclear transition

probability $|M^{0\nu\beta\beta}|^2 = |\langle \Psi_f | \hat{O}^{0\nu\beta\beta} | \Psi_i \rangle|^2$?



M. Agostini et al., Rev. Mod. Phys. 95, 025002 (2023)

H. Ejiri et al., Phys. Rep. 797 (2019) 1–102

Measurements (still not conclusive for $0\nu\beta\beta$)

✓ β -decay and $2\nu\beta\beta$ decay

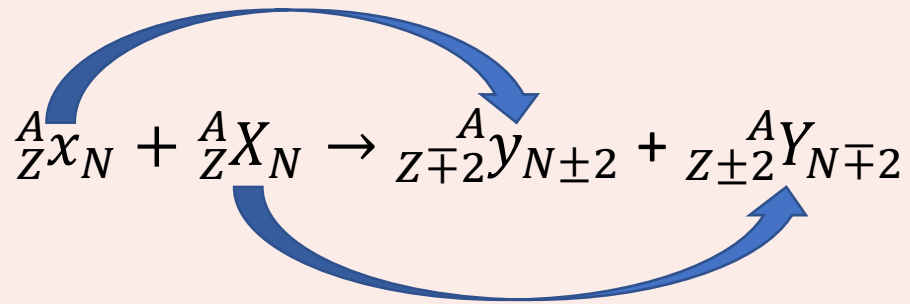
✓ (π^+, π^-) , single charge exchange ($^3\text{He}, t$), $(d, ^2\text{He})$, HI-SCE, electron capture, transfer reactions, μ -capture, γ -ray spectroscopy, $\gamma\gamma$ -decay etc.

✓ A promising experimental tool: **Heavy-Ion Double Charge-Exchange (HI-DCE)**

 **1st order isospin probes**

 **2nd order isospin probes**

Double Charge Exchange reactions (DCE)



${}^{76}\text{Se}$	${}^{77}\text{Se}$	${}^{78}\text{Se}$
${}^{75}\text{As}$	${}^{76}\text{As}$	${}^{77}\text{As}$
${}^{74}\text{Ge}$	${}^{75}\text{Ge}$	${}^{76}\text{Ge}$



Why to study DCE?

- Population of exotic nuclei from stable target and projectile
- Nuclear response to second order isospin operator
- **Connection with second order weak processes**



Nuclear **Double Charge Exchange reactions (DCE)** to stimulate in the laboratory the same nuclear transition (**g.s. to g.s.**) occurring in $0\nu\beta\beta$

F. Cappuzzello et al., EPJ A (2018) 54:72

Differences | Similarities



Theoretical aspects of Heavy-Ion Double-Charge Exchange



E. Santopinto, et al. Phys. Rev. C98 (2018)(R) 061601

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \rightarrow \frac{k}{k'} \left(\frac{\mu}{4\pi^2 \hbar^2} \right)^2 \left(\underbrace{2F(\theta)}_{\text{Reaction part}} \left(\underbrace{\frac{\mathcal{M}_{T \rightarrow T'}^{\text{DGT}} \mathcal{M}_{P \rightarrow P'}^{\text{DGT}}}{\bar{E}_p^{\text{GT}} + \bar{E}_t^{\text{GT}}}}_{\text{Structure part}} + \frac{\mathcal{M}_{T \rightarrow T'}^{\text{DF}} \mathcal{M}_{P \rightarrow P'}^{\text{DF}}}{\bar{E}_p^{\text{F}} + \bar{E}_t^{\text{F}}} \right) \right)^2_{[q_1, q_2 \approx 0]}$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{A \rightarrow A'}^{\text{DGT}} = c_{\text{GT}} \left\langle \Phi_{J'}^{(A')} \left| \sum_{n, n'} [\vec{\sigma}_n \times \vec{\sigma}_{n'}]^{(0)} \vec{\tau}_n \vec{\tau}_{n'} \right| \Phi_J^{(A)} \right\rangle$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{A \rightarrow A'}^{\text{DF}} = c_{\text{T}} \left\langle \Phi_{J'}^{(A')} \left| \sum_{n, n'} \vec{\tau}_n \vec{\tau}_{n'} \right| \Phi_J^{(A)} \right\rangle$$

Milestones:

- **DCE cross section** can be **factorized** in terms of reaction and nuclear structure parts
- **Nuclear structure** part can be factorized in terms of **target** and **projectile matrix elements**

Useful approximations:

(to separate in terms of DGT and DF NMEs)

- Eikonal approximation
- Closure approximation
- Low momentum transfer ($\theta_{\text{lab}} \approx 0^\circ$)

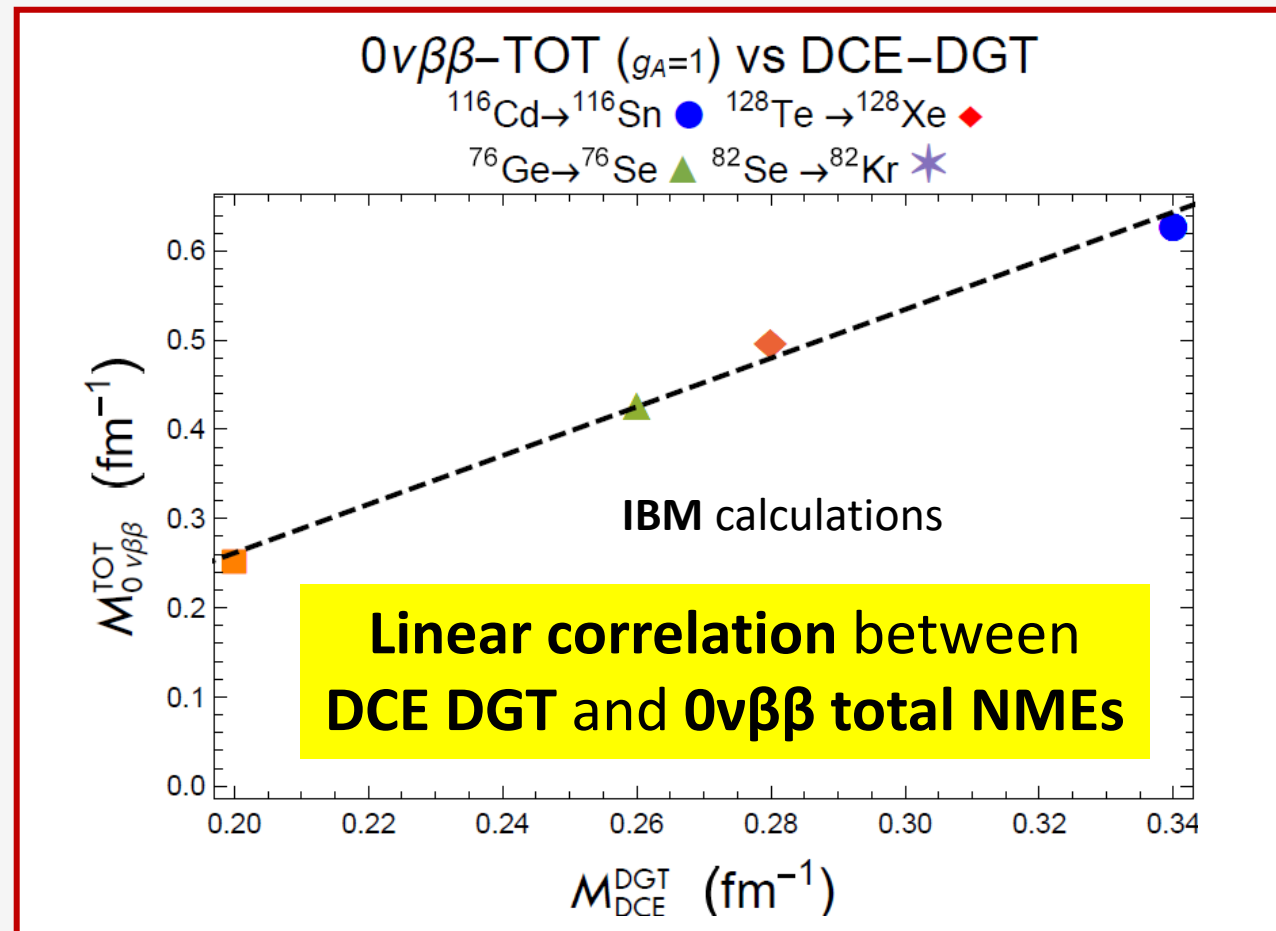
Separations confirmed in a fully quantum mechanical approach

H. Lenske et al., Universe (2024)

Theoretical aspects of Heavy-Ion Double-Charge Exchange



E. Santopinto, et al. Phys. Rev. C98 (2018)(R) 061601



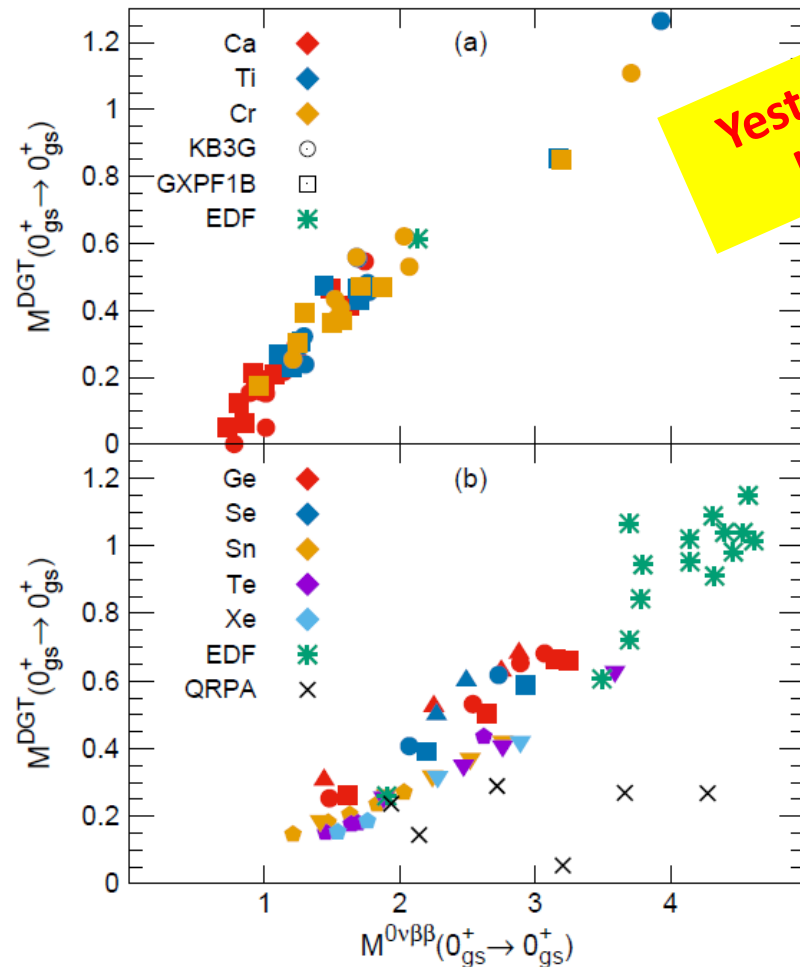
Useful approximations:

(to separate in terms of DGT and DF NMEs)

- Eikonal approximation
- Closure approximation
- Low momentum transfer ($\theta_{\text{lab}} \approx 0^\circ$)

*“The possibility of a **two-step factorization** of the very forward differential DCE cross section [...], combined with a **linear correlation** between **DCE-DGT** and **$0\nu\beta\beta$** NMEs, opens the possibility of placing an upper limit on $0\nu\beta\beta$ NMEs in terms of the **DCE experimental data** at $\vartheta = 0^\circ$.”*

Theoretical aspects of Double-Charge Exchange



Yesterday discussed
by L. Jokiniemi

DGT vs $0\nu\beta\beta$ linearity SM and EDF nuclear structure calculations

J. M Shimizu, et al. Physics Review Letter 120 (2018) 142502

“Our findings suggest that DGT experiments can be a very valuable tool to obtain information on the value of $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay nuclear matrix elements.”

Ok, it is time for
Nuclear reaction's
experiments!

The NUMEN project



Neutrinoless double beta decay**

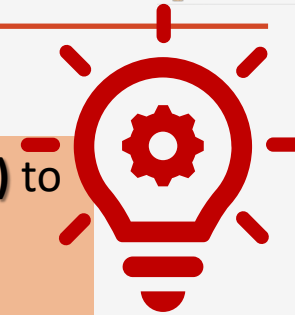
$$\frac{1}{T_{1/2}^{0\nu}} (0^+ \rightarrow 0^+) = G_{0\nu} |M^{0\nu\beta\beta}|^2 \left| \frac{\langle m_\nu \rangle}{m_e} \right|^2$$

**E. Majorana, Il Nuovo Cimento 14 (1937) 171
W. H. Furry, Phys. Rev. 56 (1939) 1184



Nuclear **Double Charge Exchange reactions (DCE)** to stimulate in the laboratory the same nuclear transition (**g.s. to g.s.**) occurring in $0\nu\beta\beta$

F. Cappuzzello et al., EPJ A (2018) 54:72



Why?

To extract **“data-driven” information** on NME for all the systems candidate for $0\nu\beta\beta$:

- **Constraints** to the existing theories of NMEs (nuclear wave functions)
- Model-independent **comparative information** on the sensitivity of half-life experiments
- Complete study of the **reaction mechanism**



Where?



Catania, LNS-INFN

- **K800** Superconducting Cyclotron
- **MAGNEX** magnetic spectrometer
- Experience in **nuclear reactions**



F. Cappuzzello et al., EPJ A 52 (2016) 167



The NUMEN project



Neutrinoless double beta decay**

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

**E. Majorana, Nuovo Cimento 14 (1937) 207
W. H. Furry, Phys. Rev. 56 (1939) 118

Nuclear **Double Charge Exchange reactions (DCE)** to stimulate in the laboratory the same nuclear transition (g.s. to g.s.) occurring in $0\nu\beta\beta$

F. Cappuzzello et al., EPJ A (2018) 54:72

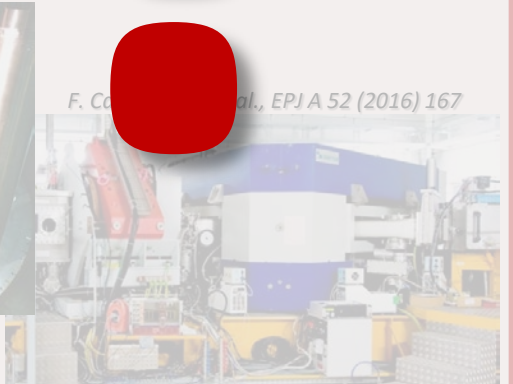


How?

To extract **data-driven** information on $0\nu\beta\beta$ for all the systems candidate for $0\nu\beta\beta$ by using the existing $0\nu\beta\beta$ (near $0\nu\beta\beta$) transitions) to obtain **comprehensive** information on the sensitivity of half-life measurements

- Complete **mechanism**

Where?

A photograph of the Palais des Papes in Avignon, France, a large Gothic palace complex.A photograph of the K800 Superconducting Cyclotron, a large particle accelerator.A photograph of the MAGNEX magnetic spectrometer, a large piece of scientific equipment.

INFN

- **K800** Superconducting Cyclotron
- **MAGNEX** magnetic spectrometer
- Experience in **nuclear reactions**

F. Cappuzzello et al., EPJ A 52 (2016) 167

Theoretical aspects of Heavy-Ion Double-Charge Exchange



F. Cappuzzello et al., Progr. Part. and Nucl. Physics 128 (2023) 103999

Progress in Particle and Nuclear Physics 128 (2023) 103999



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Progress in Particle and Nuclear Physics

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/ppnp



Review

Shedding light on nuclear aspects of neutrinoless double beta decay by heavy-ion double charge exchange reactions



F. Cappuzzello^{a,b}, H. Lenske^c, M. Cavallaro^{b,*}, C. Agodi^b, N. Auerbach^d,
J.I. Bellone^{a,b}, R. Bijker^e, S. Burrello^f, S. Calabrese^b, D. Carbone^b, M. Colonna^b,
G. De Gregorio^{g,l}, J.L. Ferreira^h, D. Gambacurta^b, H. García-Tecocoatzi^e,
A. Gargano^g, J.A. Lay^{i,j}, R. Linares^h, J. Lubian^h, E. Santopinto^k, O. Sgouros^b,
V. Soukeras^{a,b}, A. Spatafora^{a,b}, on behalf of the NUMEN collaboration

Theoretical aspects of Heavy-Ion Double-Charge Exchange



F. Cappuzzello et al., *Progr. Part. and Nucl. Physics* 128 (2023) 103999

DCE cross section is a combination of three different reaction mechanisms

- **One-step DCE – Majorana like reaction mechanism (MDCE):** relying on short range NN correlations, leading to the correlated exchange of two charged mesons between projectile and target

H. Lenske et al. *Progr. Part. and Nucl. Physics* 109 (2019) 103716

H. Lenske, *CERN Proceedings* 2019-001 (2019)

E. Santopinto et al., *PRC* 98, 061601 (2018)

- **Two-step DCE - Double single charge exchange (DSCE):** two consecutive single charge exchange processes

J.I. Bellone et al., *PLB* 807 (2020) 135528

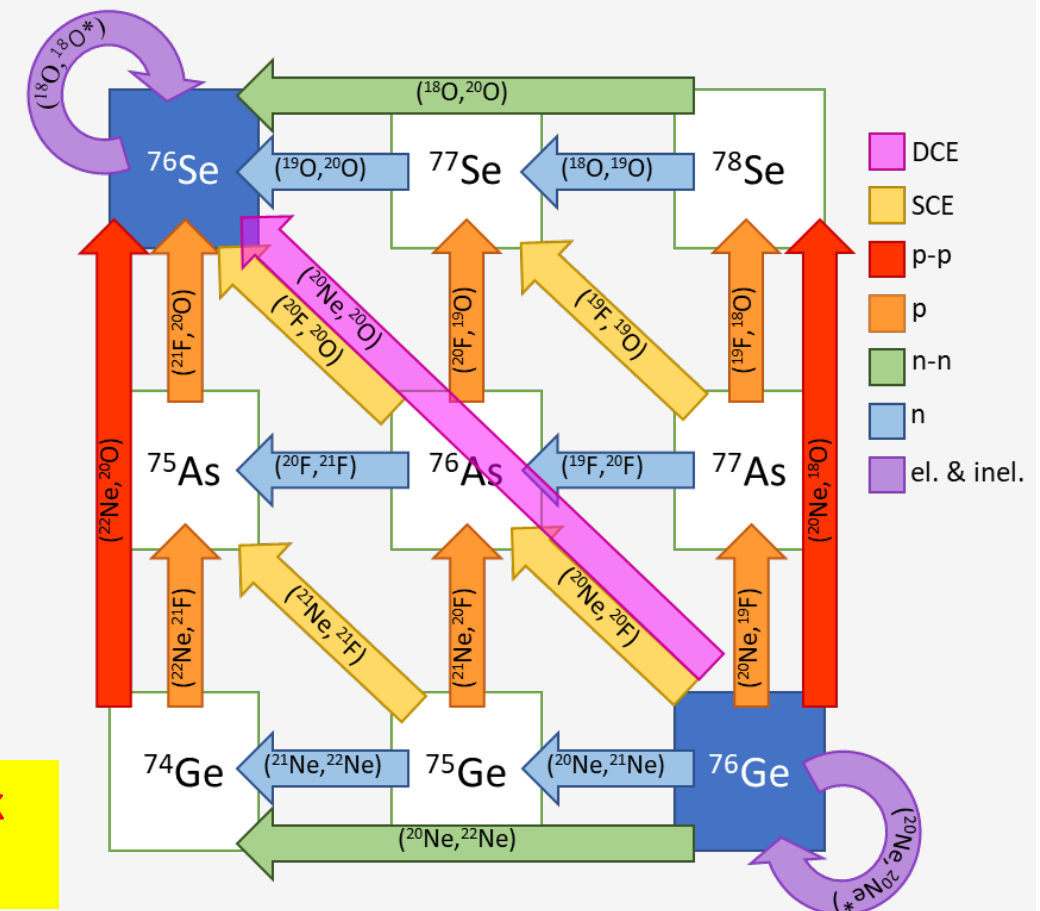
H. Lenske et al. *Universe* 7 (2020) 98

- **Multi-step nucleon transfer and SCE** (transfer defined by mean-field dynamics, its contribution can be tuned by kinematics conditions)

J. A. Lay et al. *JoP: Conf. Series* 1056 (2018) 012029

J. L. Ferreira et al., *PRC* 105 (2022) 014630

**M. Colonna talk
on Wednesday**



The NUMEN Experiments

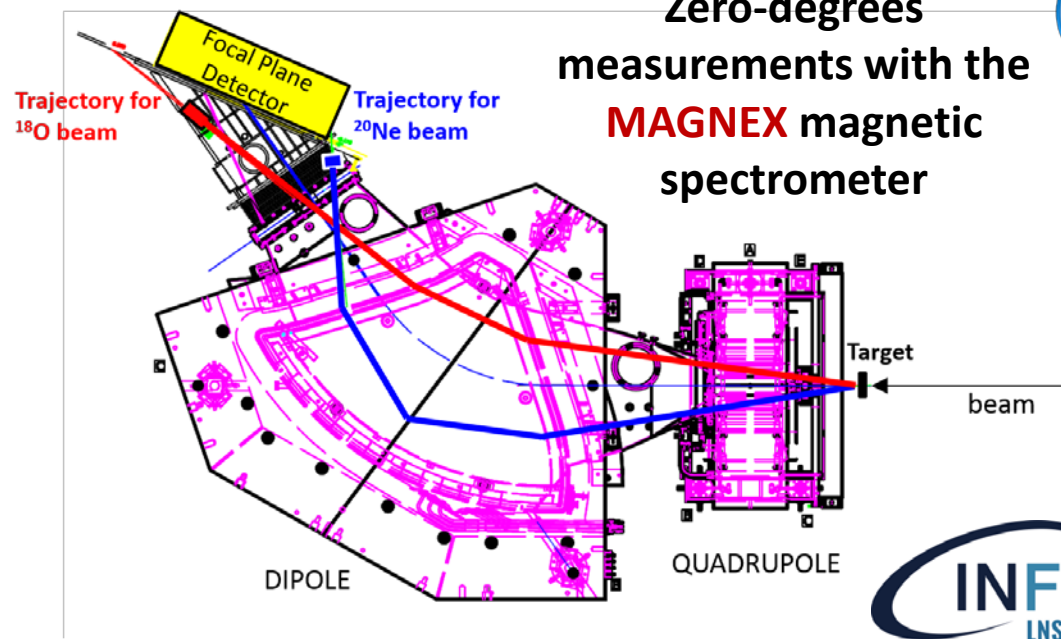
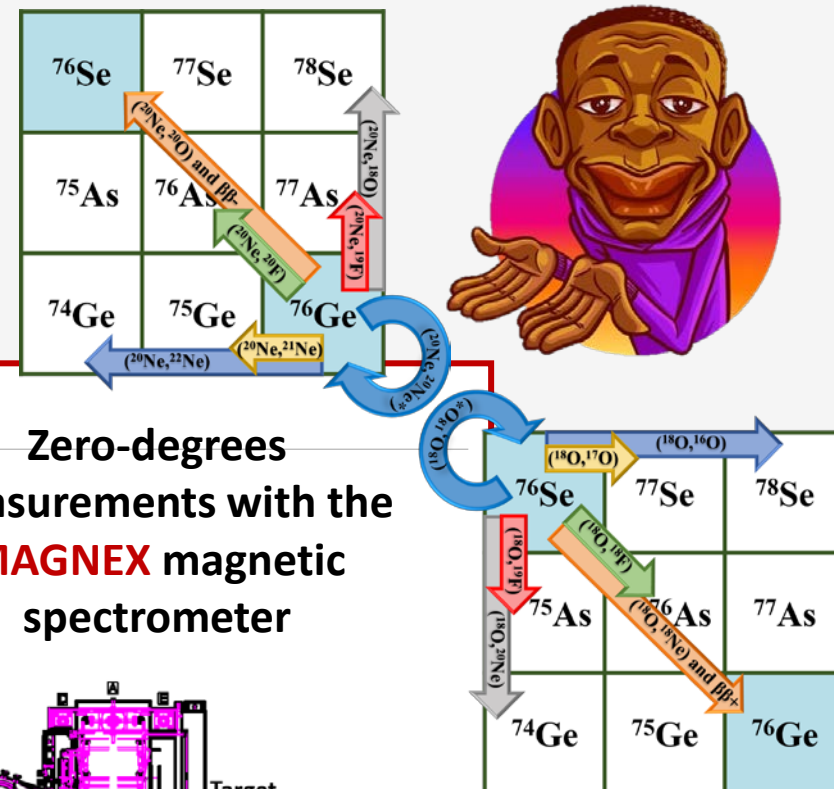
Two directions: $\beta\beta^-$ via $(^{20}\text{Ne}, ^{20}\text{O})$ and $\beta\beta^+$ via $(^{18}\text{O}, ^{18}\text{Ne})$

Complete net of reactions which can contribute to the DCE cross-section: 1p, 2p, 1n, 2n transfer, SCE, elastic and inelastic

Two (or more) incident energies to study the reaction mechanism

Transitions of interest for $0\nu\beta\beta$:
Limited number of targets so far, systematic exploration of all the candidates

Limitations of the past HI-DCE experiments are overcome!



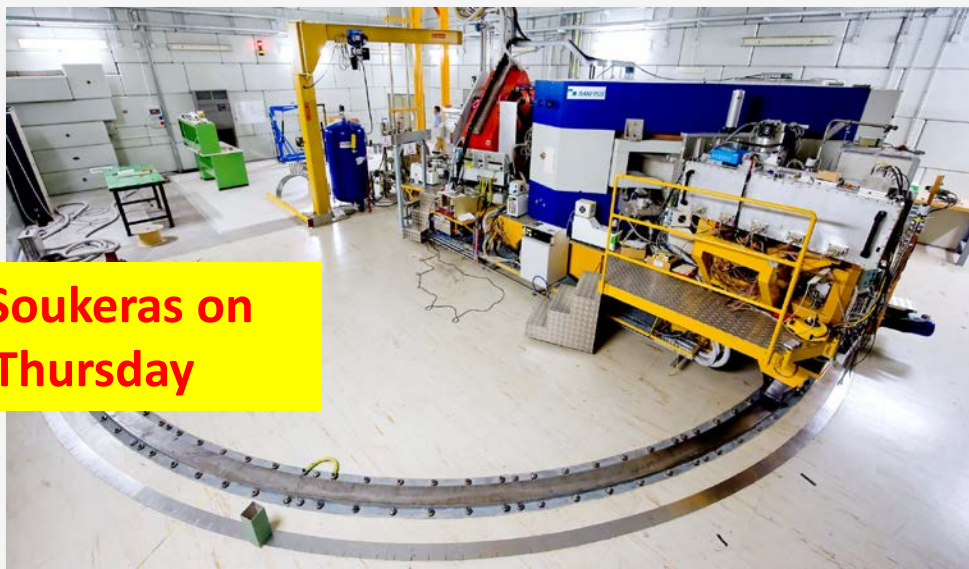
Heavy-Ion Double-Charge Exchange Experiments @ LNS



MAGNEX magnetic spectrometer

F. Cappuzzello et al., EPJ A (2016) 52:167

M. Cavallaro et al., NIM B 463 (2020) 334



V. Soukeras on
Thursday

Optical characteristics	Measured values
Angular acceptance (Solid angle)	50 msr
Angular range	-20° - +85°
Momentum (energy) acceptance	-14%, +10% (-28%, +20%)
Momentum dispersion for $k = -0.104$	3.68 cm/%
Maximum magnetic rigidity	1.8 T m

Measured resolution:

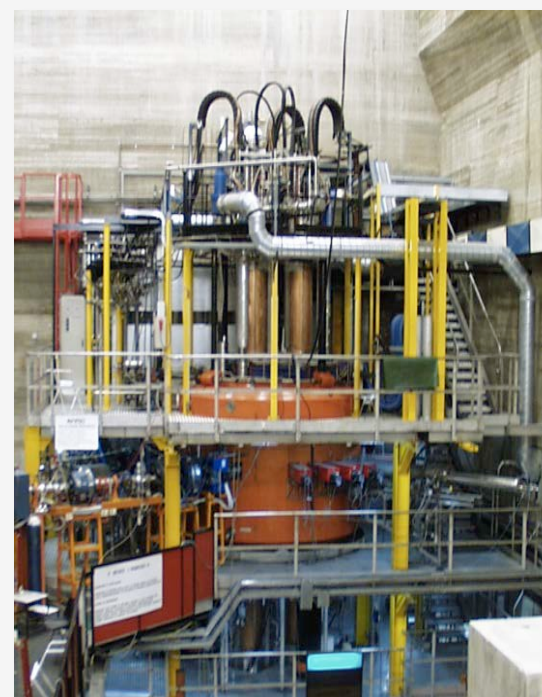
Energy $\Delta E/E \sim 1/1000$

Angle $\Delta\theta \sim 0.2^\circ$

Mass $\Delta m/m \sim 1/300$

- **Wide mass range** (protons to medium-mass)
- Measurement at **zero-degrees**

A. Badalà et al., Riv. Nuovo Cim. (2020)



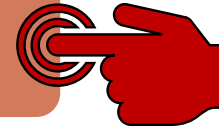
K800 Superconducting Cyclotron

- In operation since 1996.
- Accelerates from H to U ions
- Maximum energy 80 MeV/u.



Background: $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay and DCE reactions

Methods: the multi-channel strategy



Results: DCE measured cross-sections

Conclusions and perspectives

The NUMEN Experimental campaign

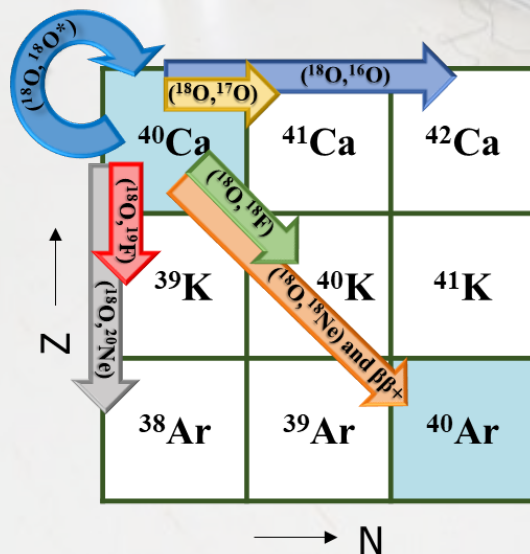


$^{40}\text{Ca} - ^{40}\text{Ar}$

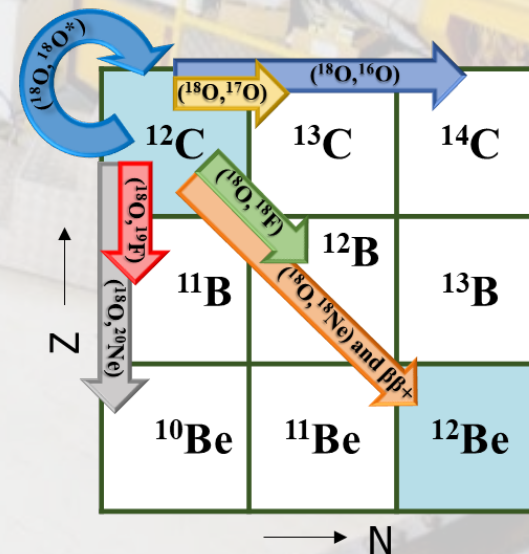
F. Cappuzzello et al., EPJ J A (2015) 51:145
J. Bellone et al., PLB 807 (2020) 135528
M. Cavallaro et al., Front. Astron. Space Sci. 8 (2021)
S. Calabrese et al., PRC 104 (2021) 064609
J. Ferreira et al., PRC 103 (2021) 054604
B. Urazbekov et al., PRC 108 (2023) 064609
B. Urazbekov et al., PRC 111 (2025) 044603
J. Ferreira et al., PRC 111 (2025) 054609

$^{12}\text{C} - ^{12}\text{B}$

A. Spatafora, Il Nuovo Cimento 45 (2022) 131
A. Spatafora et al., PRC 107 (2023) 024605
A. Spatafora et al., PRC 111 (2025) 064612



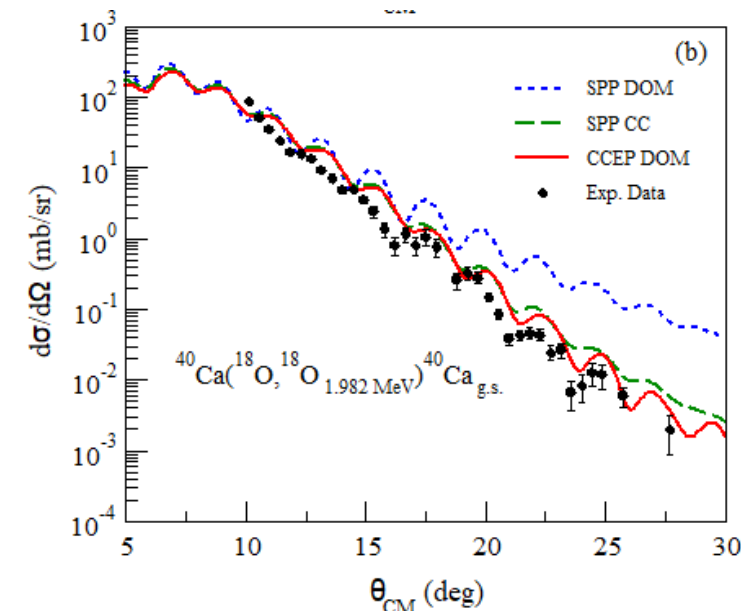
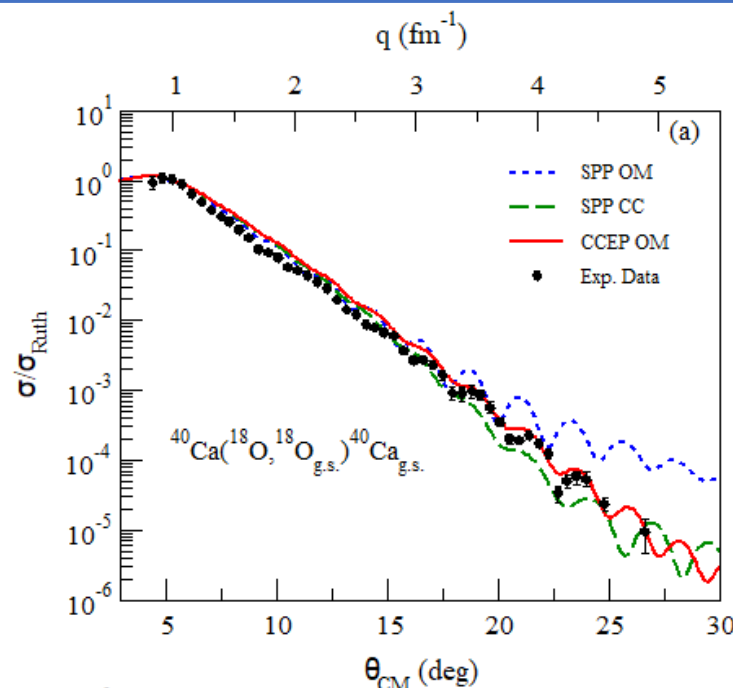
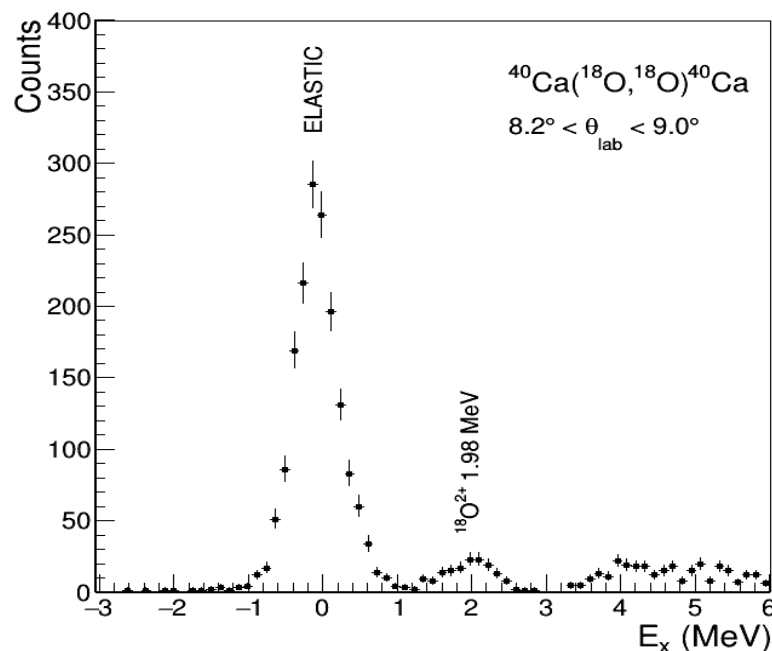
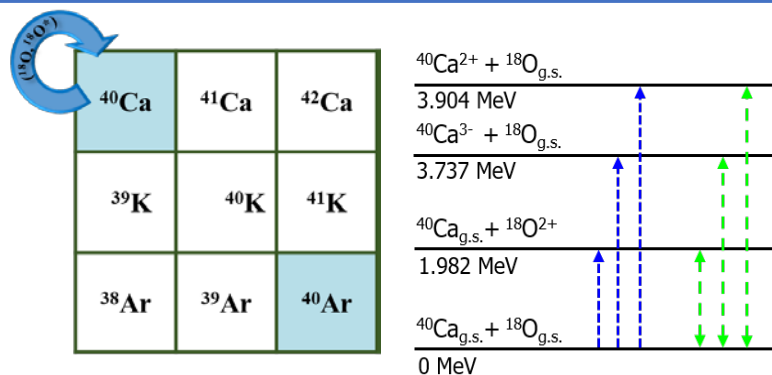
$E_{\text{beam}} = 15 \text{ AMeV}$
 $\blacksquare \text{ } ^{18}\text{O} + ^{40}\text{Ca}$



$E_{\text{beam}} = 15 \text{ and } 22 \text{ AMeV}$
 $\blacksquare \text{ } ^{18}\text{O} + ^{12}\text{C}$

Elastic and inelastic scattering

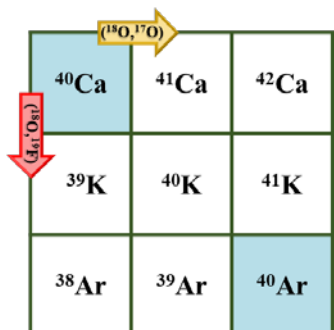
M. Cavallaro et al., Front. Astron. Space Sci. (2021) 8:659815



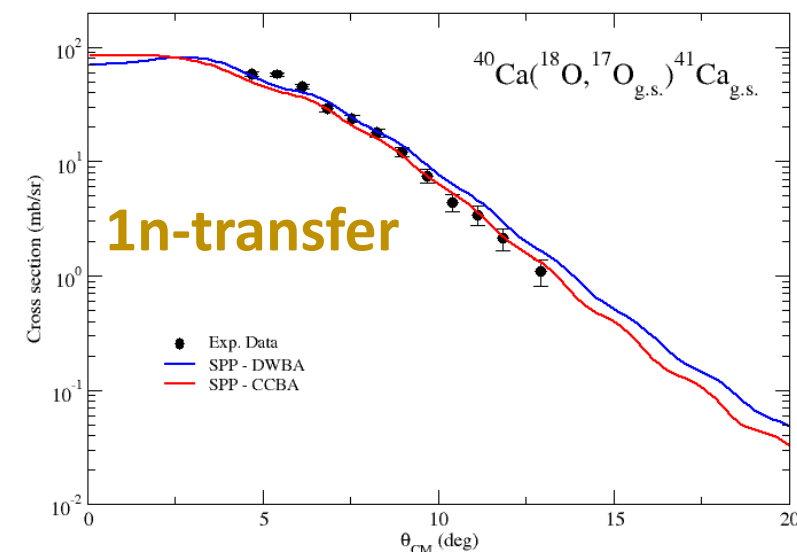
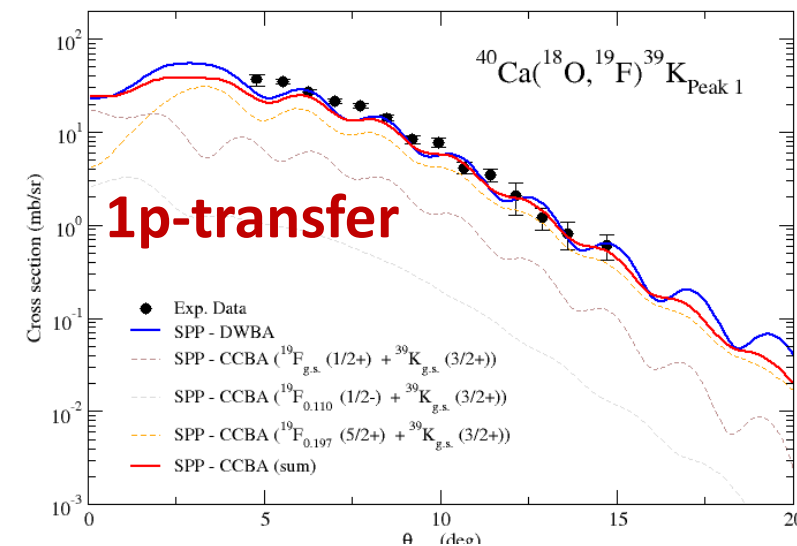
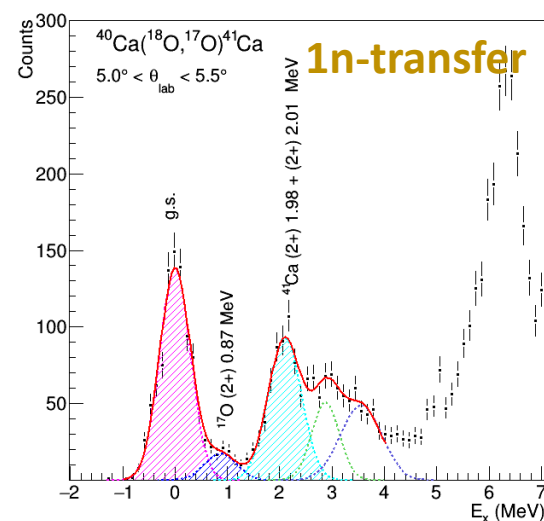
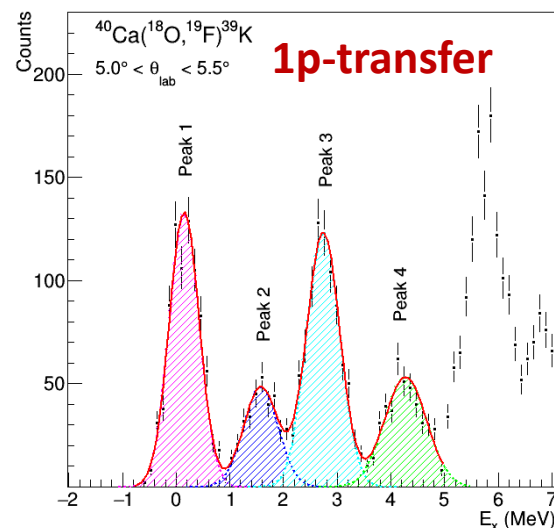
Key information from elastic and inelastic scattering:

- Good description of data from CC approach
- Initial State Interaction:
Nucleus-nucleus optical potential (Sao Paulo)
Couplings to low-lying 2^+ and 3^- states for projectile and target

1p/1n transfer reactions



S. Calabrese et al., Phys. Rev. C 104, 064609 (2021)



- ISI extracted from elastic and inelastic scattering data
- CCBA analysis
- Shell model spectroscopic amplitudes and **occupation probabilities**

Key information from one-nucleon transfer:

- **Good description of the data**
- Mixing of **single particle** and **core polarization** configurations
- **Nuclear structure** description under control

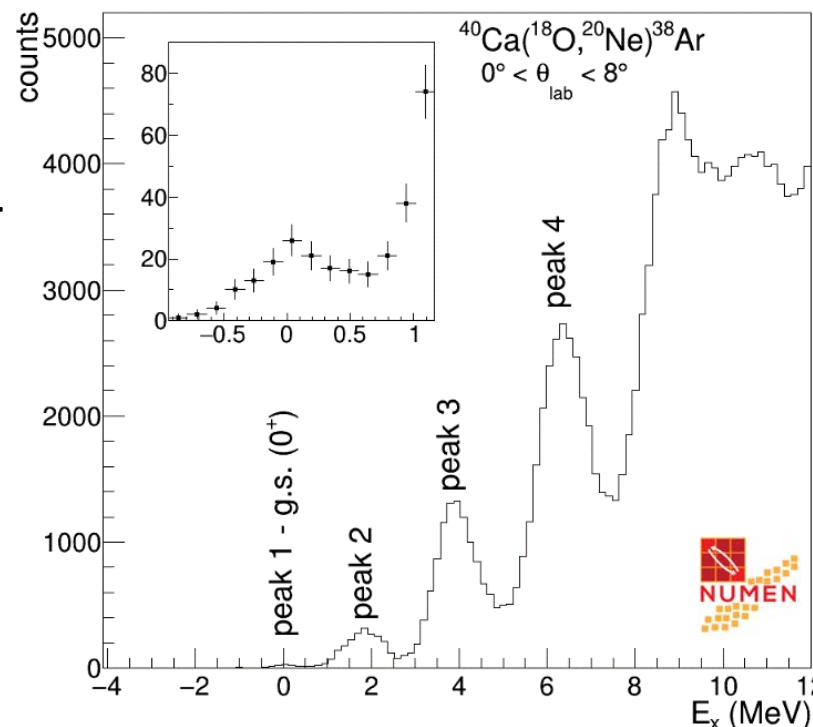
2p transfer reaction



^{40}Ca	^{41}Ca	^{42}Ca
^{39}K	^{40}K	^{41}K
^{38}Ar	^{39}Ar	^{40}Ar

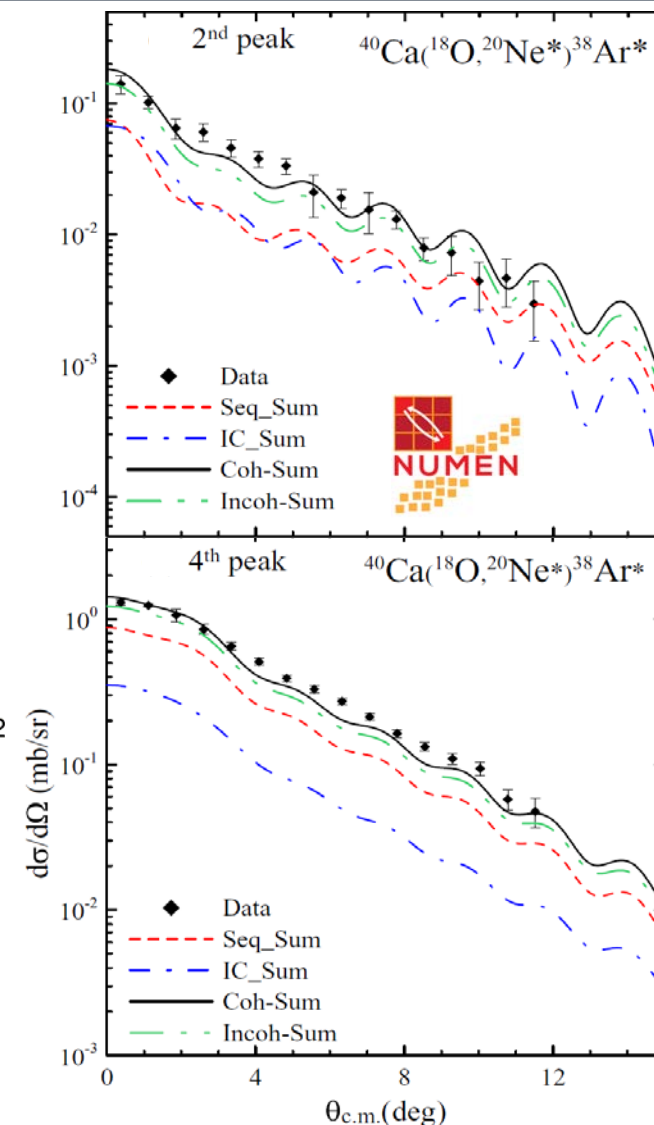
J.L. Ferreira et al., Phys. Rev. C 103 (2021) 054604

- ISI extracted from elastic and inelastic scattering data
- CCBA analysis **direct** and **two-step** transfer
- Shell model spectroscopic amplitudes



Key information from two-proton transfer:

- Good description of the data
- Very low cross-section (comparable with DCE) for low-lying states
- Competition between **one-step** and **two-step** mechanisms

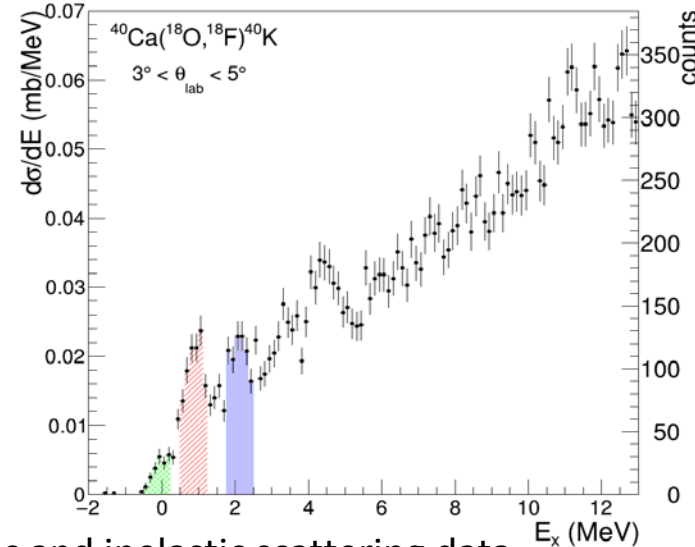
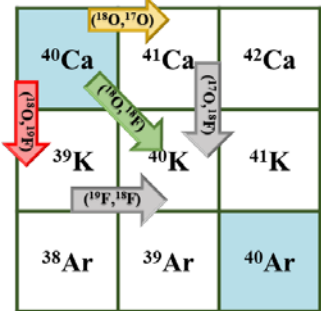


Single charge exchange

**B. Urazbekov talk
on Thursday**

New PAPER:

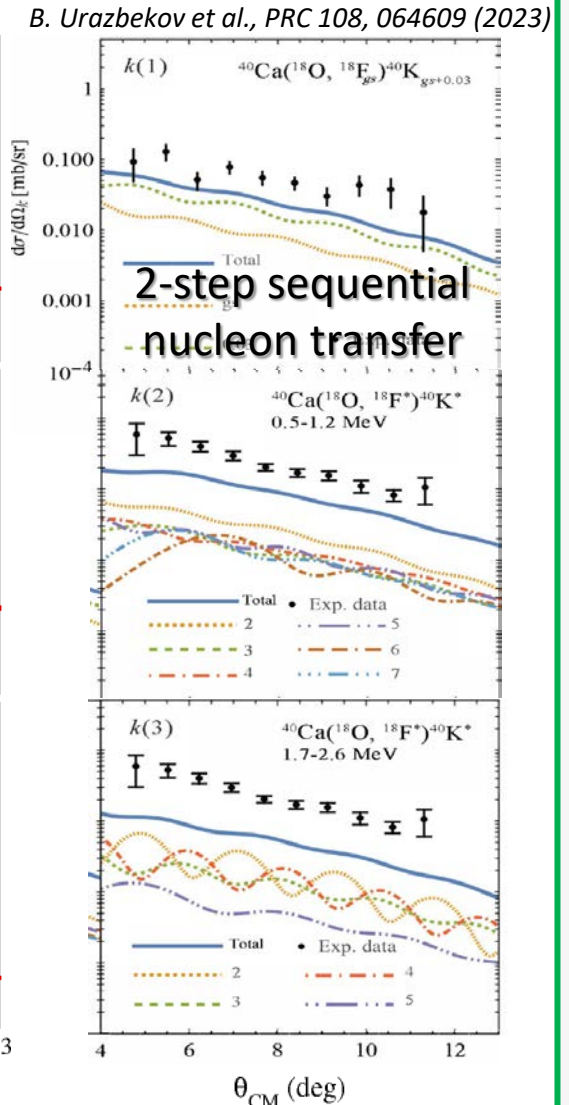
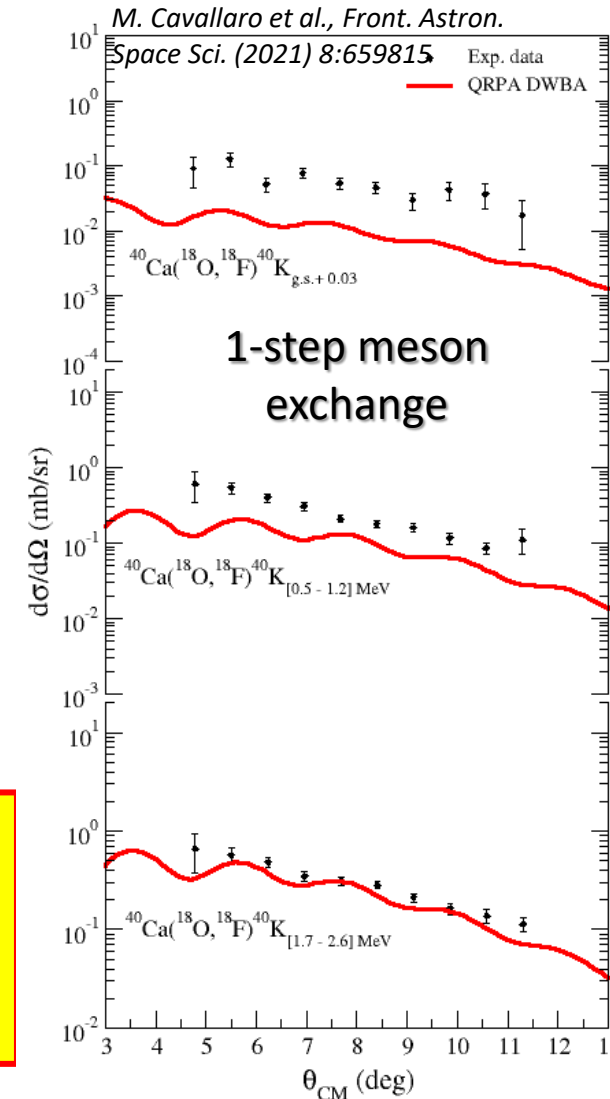
B. Urazbekov et al., PRC 111, 044603 (2025)



- ISI extracted from elastic and inelastic scattering data
- Double folding QRPA form factors for meson exchange
- 2-step DWBA analysis for sequential transfer SCE
- Shell Model spectroscopic amplitudes (occupancies)

Key information from SCE:

- Competition between **one-step** and **two-step**
- **Meson exchange** important at higher E_x
- **2-step nucleon transfer** less contribute at higher E_x



Double charge exchange

H. Lenske et al. Prog. Part. and Nucl. Phys. 109 (2019) 103716

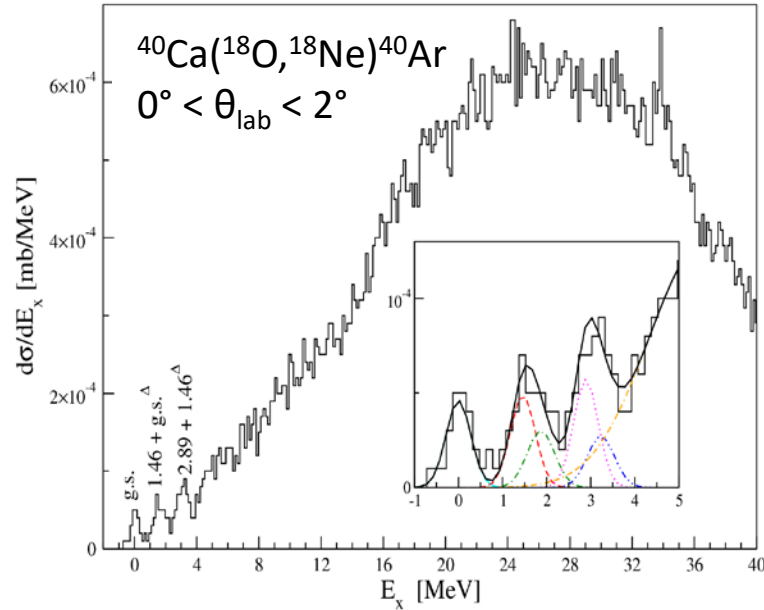
J. Bellone et al., PLB 2020, 807, 135528

H. Lenske et al., Universe 2021, 7, 98

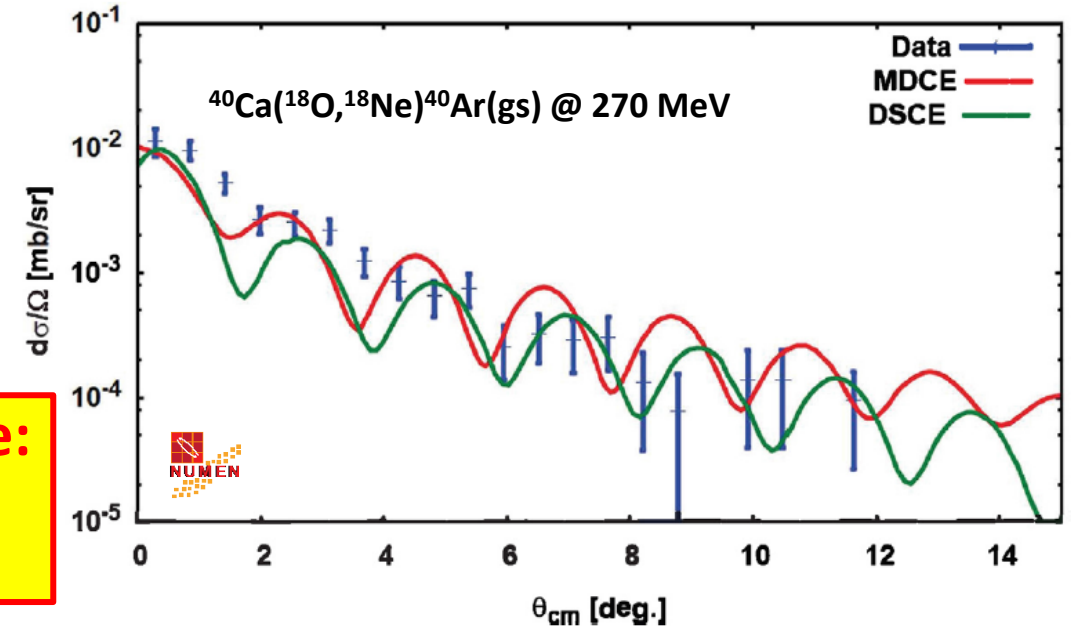
H. Lenske et al. Universe 2024, 10(2), 93



^{40}Ca	^{41}Ca	^{42}Ca
^{39}K	^{40}K	^{41}K
^{38}Ar	^{39}Ar	^{40}Ar



- ISI and FSI from double folding
- QRPA microscopic form factors up to $J^\pi = 5^\pm$
- Two-step DWBA for the **DSCE** amplitudes



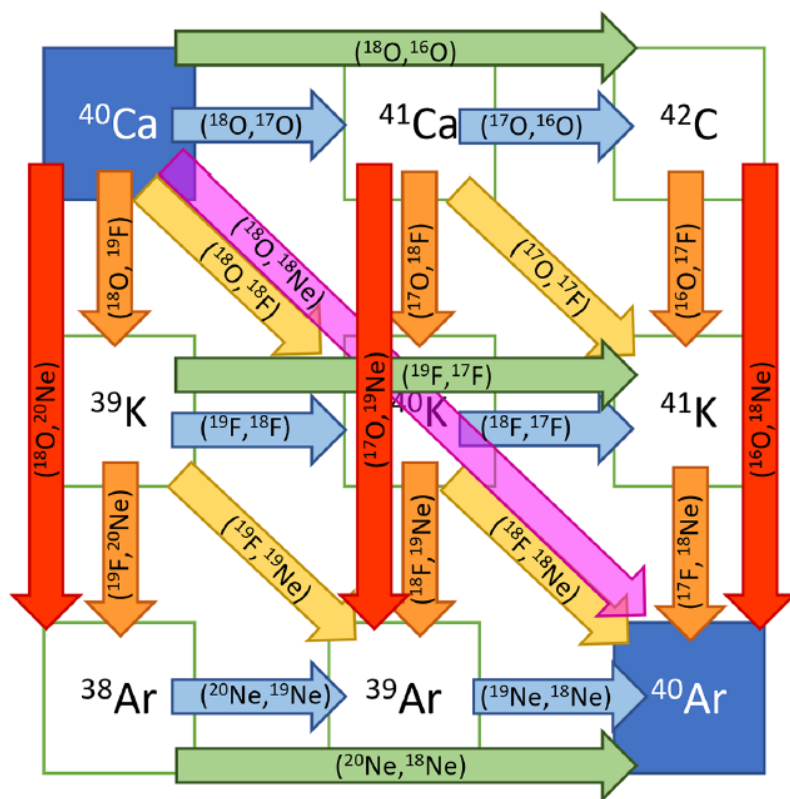
Key information from double charge-exchange:

- G.s. to g.s. transition isolated
- Spectroscopic factor extracted

A spectroscopic factor of $\beta^2 = S_{JAJB}^{IAI_aS_1S_2} = 0.024$ is obtained, assuming closure approximation for $L_{13} = L_{24} = \lambda = 0$

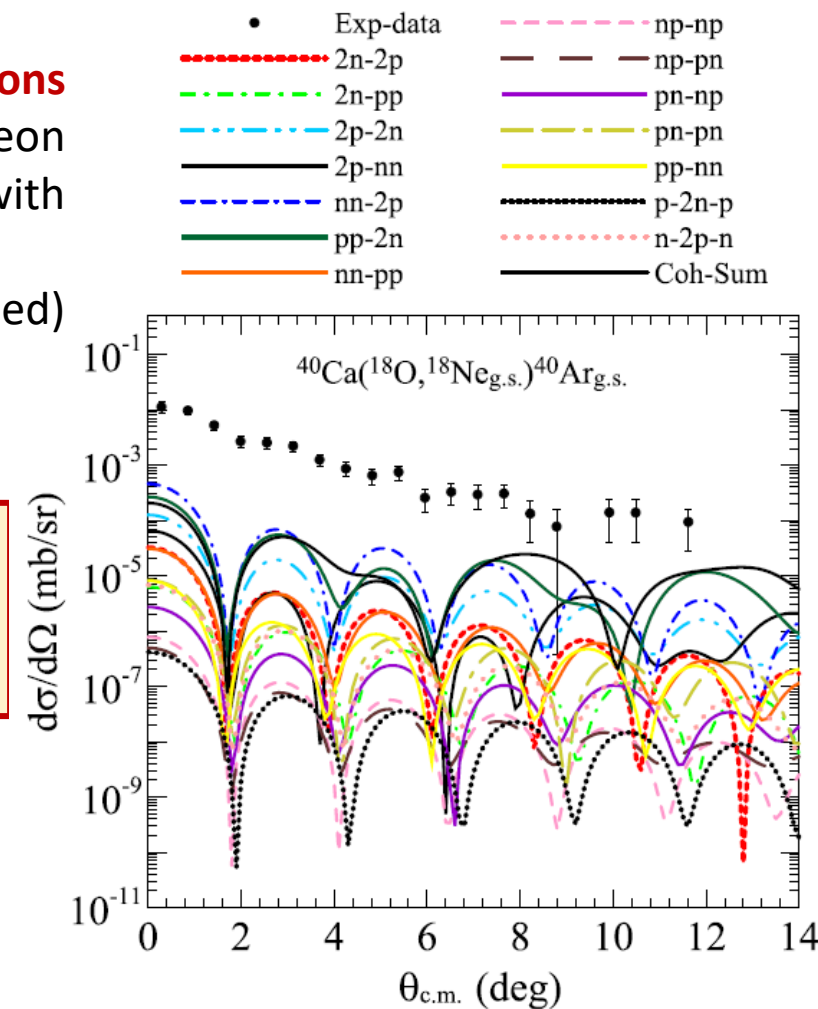
$$M_{JAJBIA, \lambda\mu}^{JAJBIA}(\mathbf{k}_\alpha, \mathbf{k}_\beta) \sim \sum_{S_1, S_2} \sum_{l_1, l_3, l_2, l_4} \sum_{L_{13}, L_{24}} \left\langle \chi_\beta^{(-)} \left| \left[\bar{F}_{S_2T}^{l_2, l_4, L_{24}} G_{opt}(\omega_\alpha - \bar{\omega}_\gamma) \otimes \bar{F}_{S_1T}^{l_1, l_3, L_{13}} \right]_{\lambda\mu} \right| \chi_\alpha^{(+)} \right\rangle \times S_{JAJB}^{IAI_aS_1S_2}(l_1, l_3, l_2, l_4, L_{13}, L_{24}, \lambda)$$

Double charge exchange



DWBA and **CCBA** calculations of all the multi-nucleon transfer routes competing with meson-exchange processes. Coherent (and constrained) approach

Negligible contribution of multi-nucleon transfer to the full DCE reaction mechanism



NEW PAPER

J. Ferreira et al., Phys. Rev. C 111, 014630 (2025)

Background: $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay and DCE reactions

Methods: the multi-channel strategy

Results: DCE measured cross-sections



Conclusions and perspectives

The NUMEN Experimental campaign



$^{116}\text{Cd} - ^{116}\text{Sn}$

D. Carbone et al., PRC 102, 044606 (2020)
 S. Calabrese et al., NIMA 980, 164500 (2020)
 D. Carbone et al., Universe 07, 58 (2021)
 S. Burrello et al. PRC 105, 024616 (2022)
 J. Ferreira et al., PRC 105, 014630 (2022)
 C. Eke et al., RP 67, 108037 (2024)

$^{76}\text{Ge} - ^{76}\text{Se}$

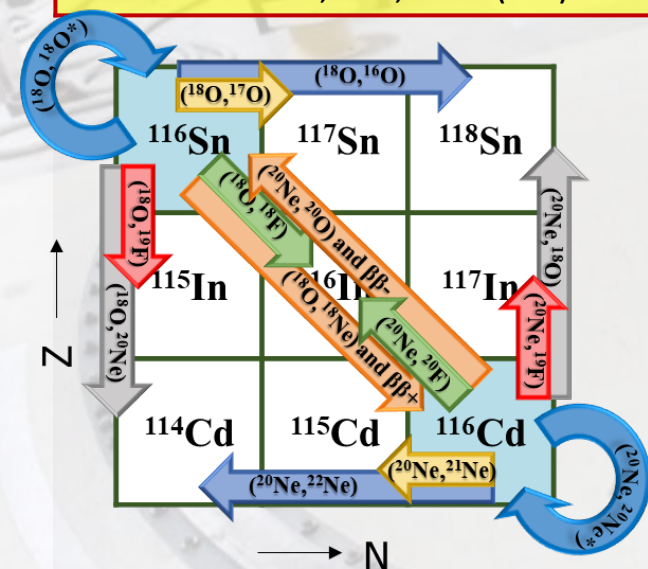
A. Spatafora et al., PRC 100, 034620 (2019)
 L. La Fauci et al., PRC 104, 054610 (2021)
 I. Ciraldo, Nuovo Cimento 44, 38 (2021)
 I. Ciraldo et al., PRC 105, 044607 (2022)
 I. Ciraldo et al., PRC 109, 024615 (2024)

$^{130}\text{Te} - ^{130}\text{Xe}$

M. Cavallaro et al., Res.Phys. 13,102191 (2019)
 V. Soukeras et al., Res. Phys. 28, 104691 (2021)
 D. Carbone et al., Universe 07, 58 (2021)

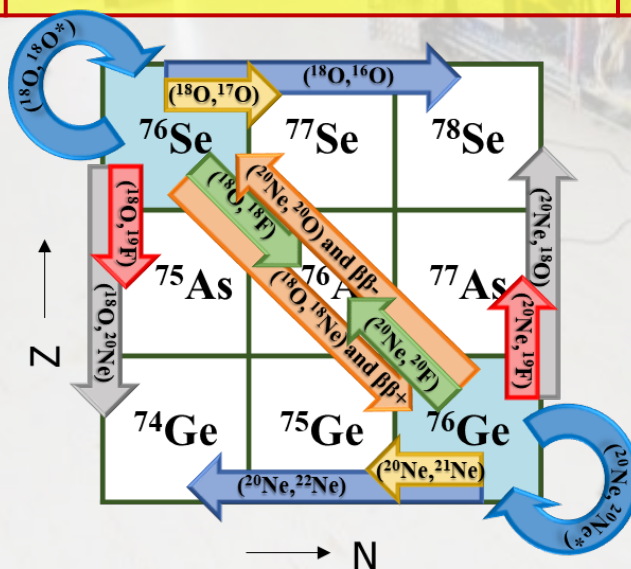
$^{48}\text{Ca} - ^{48}\text{Ti}$

O. Sgouros et al., PRC 104, 034617 (2021)
 G. A. Brischetto, Nuovo Cimento C 45, 96 (2022)
 O. Sgouros et al., PRC 108, 044611(2023)
 G. A. Brischetto et al., PRC 109, 014604(2024)



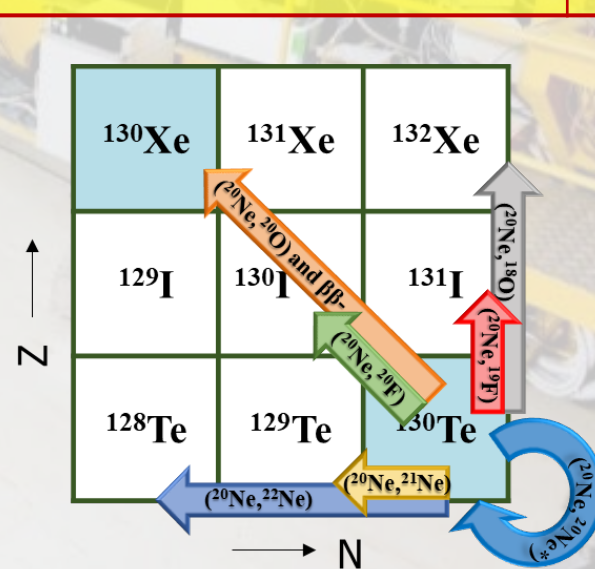
$E_{\text{beam}} = 15 \text{ A MeV}$

- $^{18}\text{O} + ^{116}\text{Sn}$
- $^{20}\text{Ne} + ^{116}\text{Cd}$



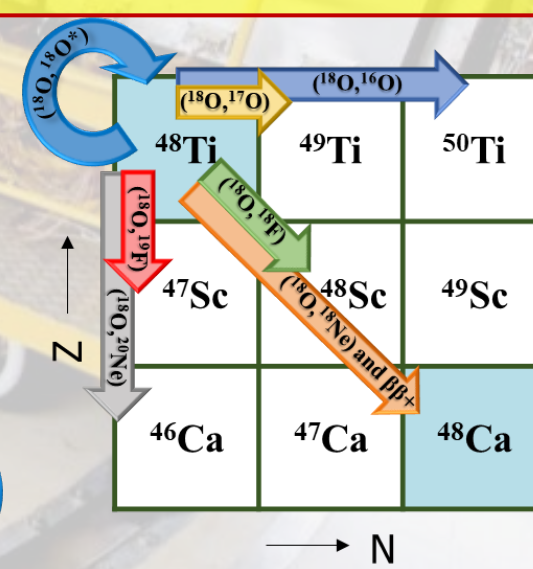
$E_{\text{beam}} = 15 \text{ A MeV}$

- $^{20}\text{Ne} + ^{76}\text{Ge}$
- $^{18}\text{O} + ^{76}\text{Se}$



$E_{\text{beam}} = 15 \text{ A MeV}$

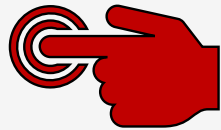
- $^{20}\text{Ne} + ^{130}\text{Te}$



$E_{\text{beam}} = 15 \text{ A MeV}$

- $^{18}\text{O} + ^{48}\text{Ti}$

Study $0\nu\beta\beta$ candidates: ^{76}Ge

TIME INVARIANCE 

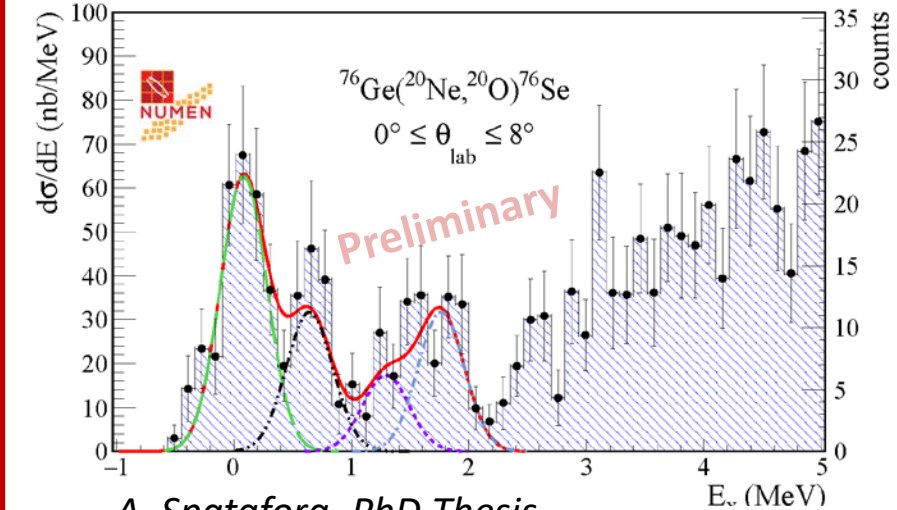


^{76}Se	^{77}Se	^{78}Se
^{75}As	^{76}As	^{77}As
^{74}Ge	^{75}Ge	^{76}Ge

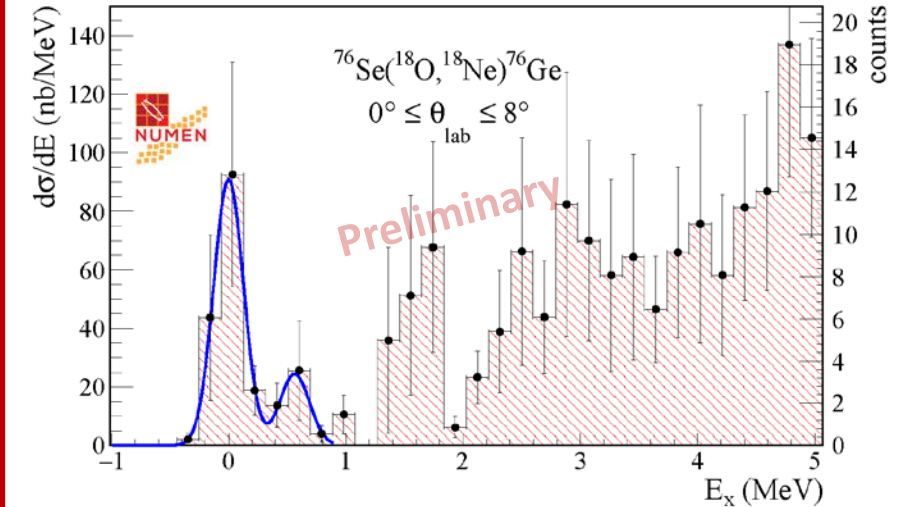
$^{76}\text{Ge} \leftrightarrow ^{76}\text{Se}$

Integrated cross-section ($0^\circ < \theta_{\text{lab}} < 8^\circ$)		$0^+ \rightarrow 0^+$
$^{76}\text{Ge}(^{20}\text{Ne}, ^{20}\text{O}_{\text{g.s.}})^{76}\text{Se}_{\text{g.s.}}$		$30 \pm 4 \text{ nb}$
$^{76}\text{Se}(^{18}\text{O}, ^{18}\text{Ne}_{\text{g.s.}})^{76}\text{Ge}_{\text{g.s.}}$		$29 \pm 6 \text{ nb}$

- Same cross sections for different directions
 - G.s. to g.s. transition: **isolated!**
 - Similar **distortion factors**
- Same NME (encouraging test of **time invariance!**)



A. Spatafora, PhD Thesis



Study $0\nu\beta\beta$ candidates: ^{116}Cd

TIME INVARIANCE 

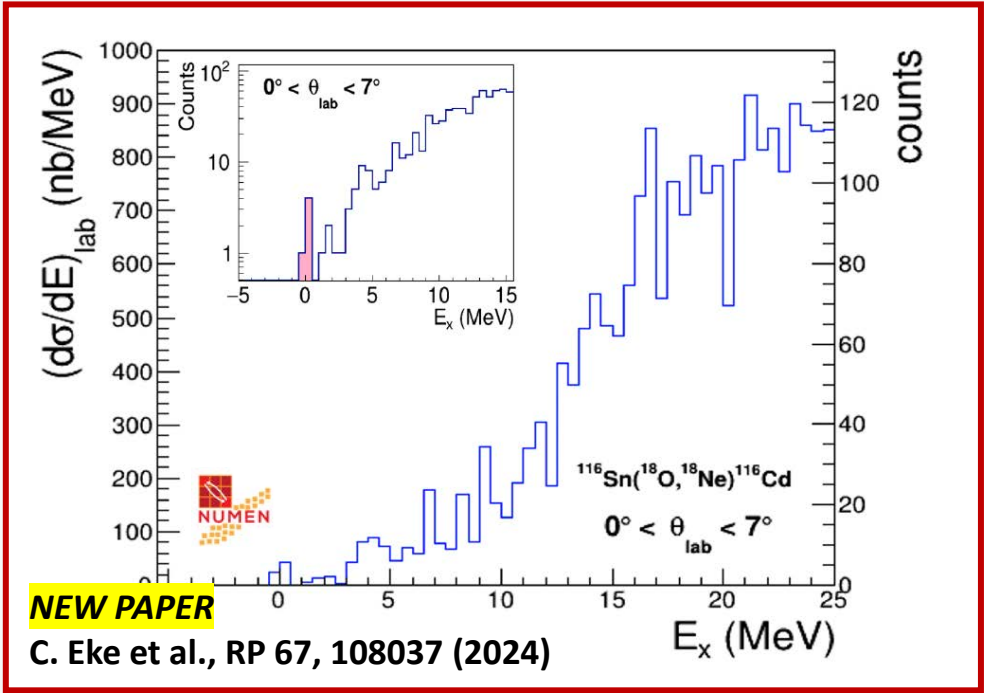
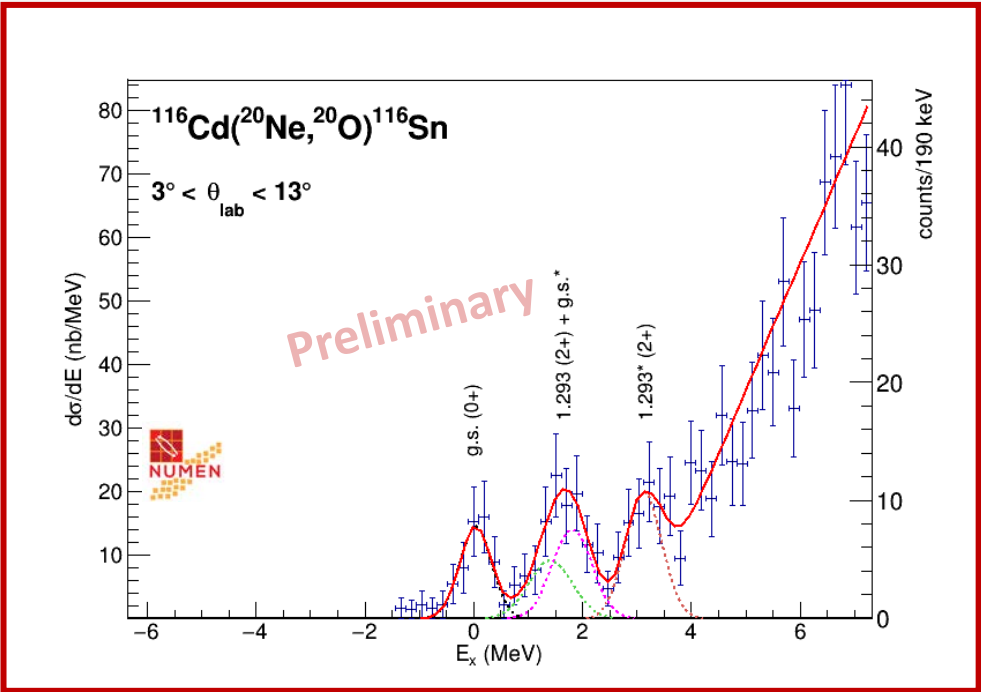


^{116}Sn	^{117}Sn	^{118}Sn
^{115}In	^{116}In ($^{20}\text{Ne}, ^{20}\text{O}$)	^{117}In
^{114}Cd	^{115}Cd	^{116}Cd

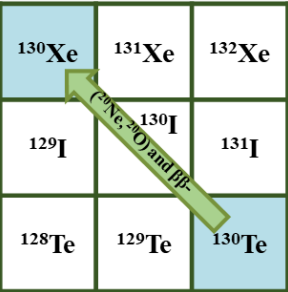
$^{116}\text{Cd} \rightarrow ^{116}\text{Sn}$			
State (MeV)	Counts	Absolute cross section (nb)	
$^{116}\text{Sn}_{\text{gs}} (0^+) + ^{20}\text{O}_{\text{gs}} (0^+)$	31	12 ± 2	
$^{116}\text{Sn}_{1.293} (2^+) + ^{20}\text{O}_{\text{gs}} (0^+)$ $^{116}\text{Sn}_{\text{gs}} (0^+) + ^{20}\text{O}_{1.673} (2^+)$	67	24 ± 3	

^{116}Sn	^{117}Sn	^{118}Sn
^{115}In	^{116}In ($^{18}\text{O}, ^{18}\text{Ne}$) and $\beta\beta$	^{117}In
^{114}Cd	^{115}Cd	^{116}Cd

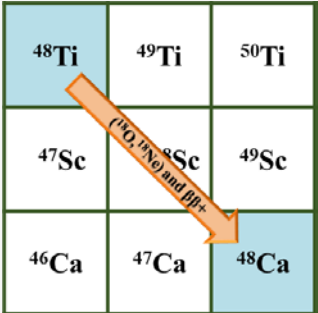
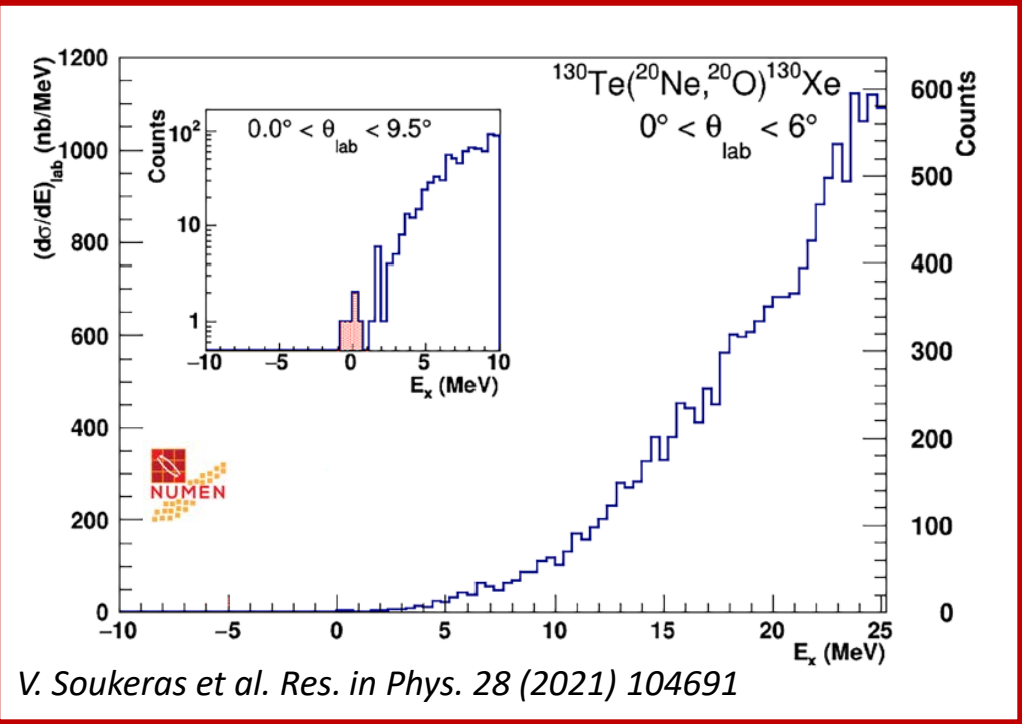
$^{116}\text{Sn} \rightarrow ^{116}\text{Cd}$			
E_x range (MeV)	Counts	Int. cross-section (nb)	Cross-section 95% C.L. (nb)
$-1 \div 1$	5	36	[4-46]



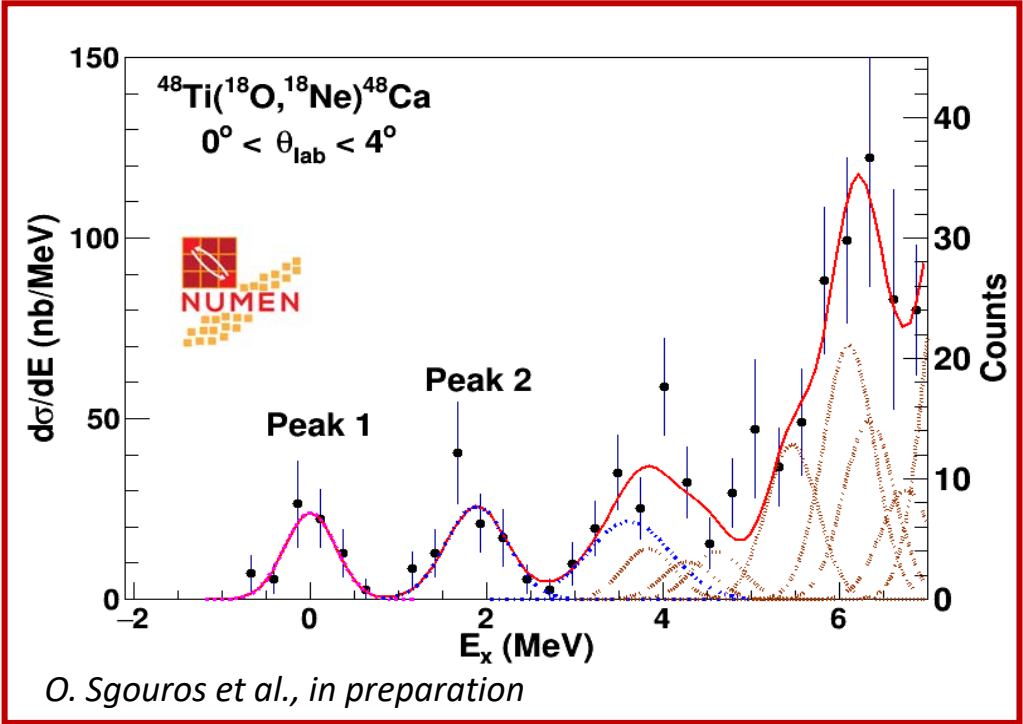
Study $0\nu\beta\beta$ candidates: ^{130}Te and ^{48}Ti



E_x range (MeV)	Counts	Int. cross-section (nb)	Cross-section 95% C.L. (nb)
-1 ÷ 1	5	13	[3--18]



Peak label	Integrated yield (counts)	Int. cross-section (nb)
1	24	20 ± 4
2	32	28 ± 5

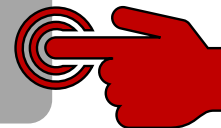


Background: $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay and DCE reactions

Methods: the **multi-channel** strategy

Results: DCE measured **cross-sections**

Perspectives and conclusions



PERSPECTIVES:

- MAGNEX FPD @ iThemba LABS: new measurement of $^{18}\text{O} + ^{76}\text{Se}$ @ 22 AMeV
- LNS experimental campaign: CS and MAGNEX FPD **upgrade** to study all the $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay candidates with the **high intensity beams**
- **TREFLE**: **T**ransfer **R**Eactions **F**or neutrinoless double **L**E beta decay @IJCLab Orsay (O. Sgouros *et al.*)



PERSPECTIVES:

- MAGNEX FPD @ iThemba LABS: new measurement of $^{18}\text{O} + ^{76}\text{Se}$ @ 22 AMeV
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- **TREFLE**: Transfer REactions For neutrinoless double beta decay @ IJCLab Orsay (O. Sgouros *et al.*)

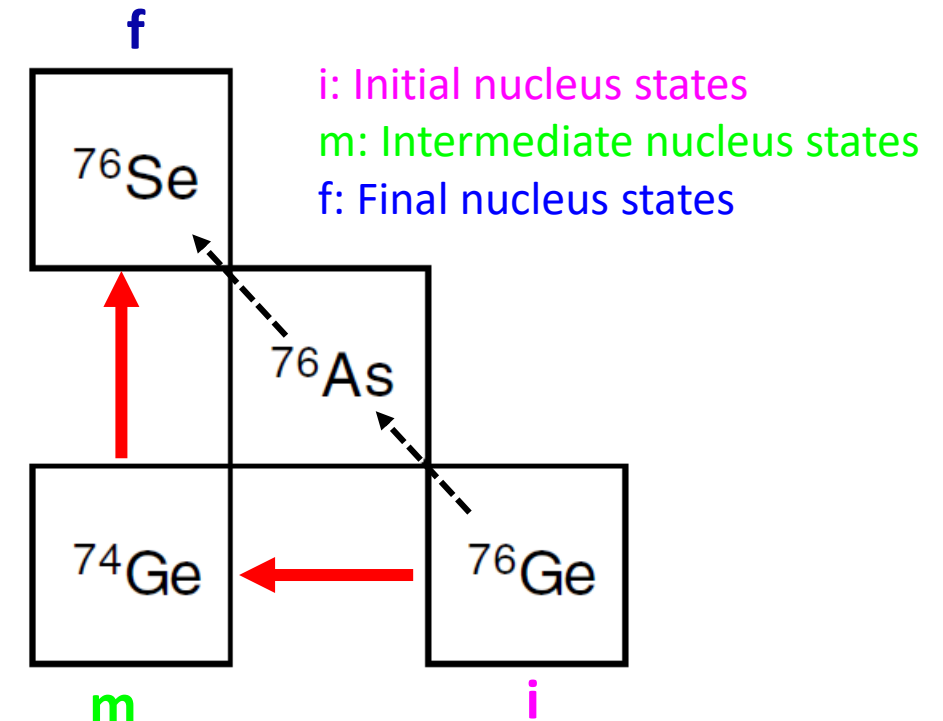
IDEA (by B. A. Brown, Phys. Rev. Lett. 113, 262501 (2014))

$$M^{0\nu} = \sum_{E_m J_m} V(f, i, m)$$

$$V(f, i, m) = \sum \langle k_\alpha, k_\beta, J_m | V | k_\gamma, k_\delta, J_m \rangle$$

$$\times TNA(f, m, k_\alpha, k_\beta, J_0) TNA(i, m, k_\gamma, k_\delta, J_0)$$

Two-nucleon spectroscopic
amplitudes



PERSPECTIVES:

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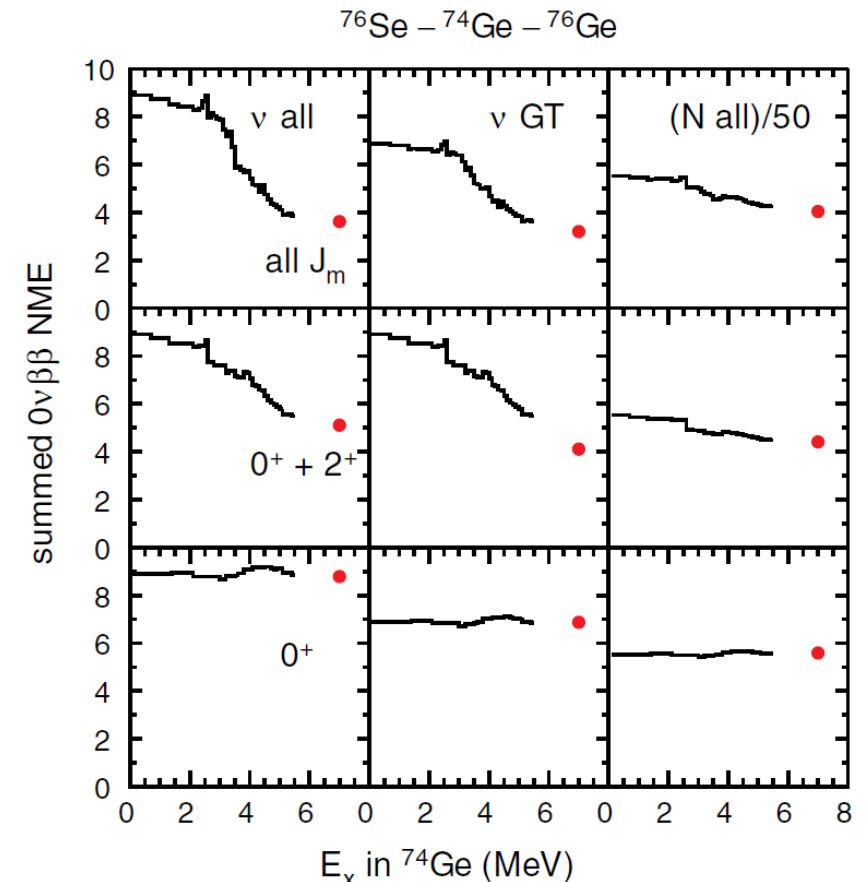
IDEA (by B. A. Brown, Phys. Rev. Lett. 113, 262501 (2014))

$$M^{0\nu} = \sum_{E_m J_m} V(f, i, m)$$

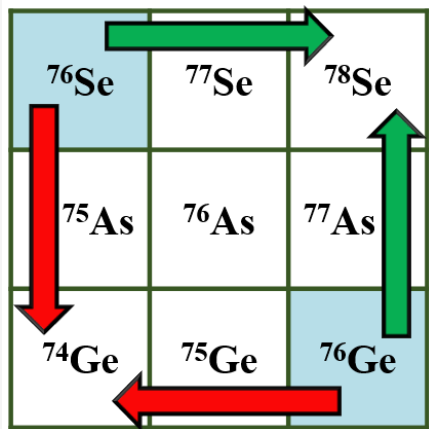
$$V(f, i, m) = \sum \langle k_\alpha, k_\beta, J_m | V | k_\gamma, k_\delta, J_m \rangle$$

$$\times TNA(f, m, k_\alpha, k_\beta, J_0) TNA(i, m, k_\gamma, k_\delta, J_0)$$

Two-nucleon spectroscopic
amplitudes



TREFLE: Transfer REactions For neutrinoless double beta decay @IJCLab Orsay



Cross section measurements for:

- $^{76}\text{Ge} \rightarrow ^{74}\text{Ge}$ two-neutron transfer
- $^{76}\text{Se} \rightarrow ^{74}\text{Ge}$ two-proton transfer

Validate $\langle ^{74}\text{Ge} | ^{76}\text{Ge} \rangle$
and $\langle ^{74}\text{Ge} | ^{76}\text{Se} \rangle$ TNA

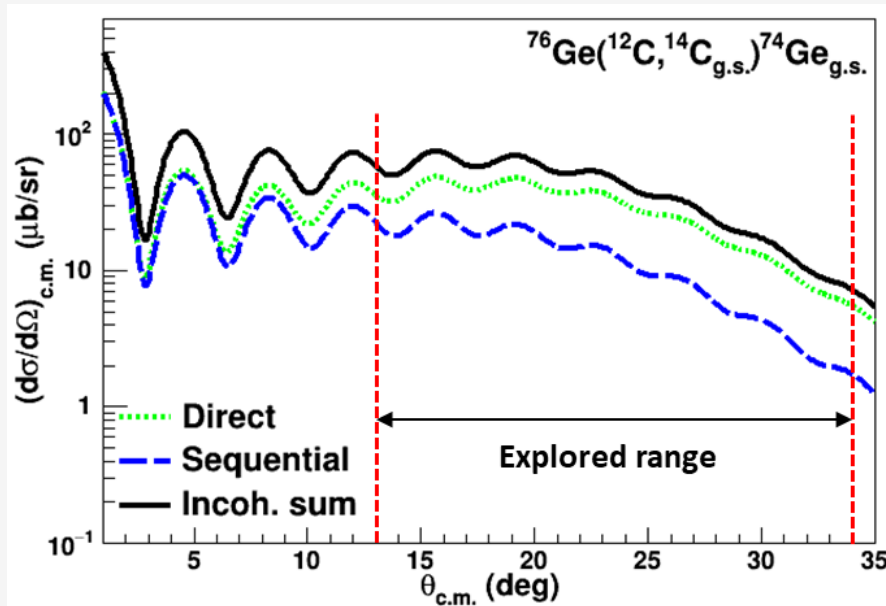
Calculate
NME (A)

Cross section measurements for:

- $^{76}\text{Se} \rightarrow ^{78}\text{Se}$ two-neutron transfer
- $^{76}\text{Ge} \rightarrow ^{78}\text{Se}$ two-proton transfer

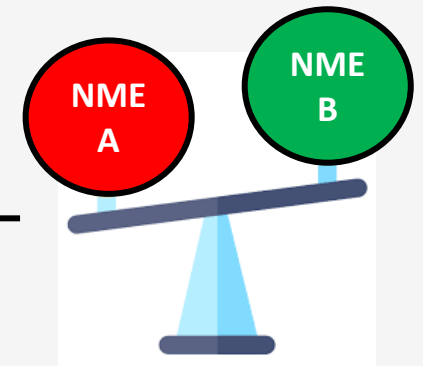
Validate $\langle ^{78}\text{Se} | ^{76}\text{Se} \rangle$
and $\langle ^{78}\text{Se} | ^{76}\text{Ge} \rangle$ TNA

Calculate
NME (B)



Experimental check for the
NMEs **time invariance** !

CRC reaction calculations by O. Sgouros
Large-scale shell-model calculations by G. De Gregorio



Compare the values
of calculated NMEs

PERSPECTIVES:

- MAGNEX FPD @ iThemba LABS: new measurement of $^{18}\text{O} + ^{76}\text{Se}$ @ 22 AMeV
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- **TREFLE**: Transfer REactions For neutrinoless double beta decay @IJCLab Orsay (O. Sgouros *et al.*)

CONCLUSIONS:

- Multichannel approach for the data analysis: a way to the full **DCE reaction mechanism**
- **DCE cross-sections on ^{116}Cd , ^{76}Ge , ^{76}Se , ^{48}Ti , ^{130}Te and ^{116}Sn measured for the first time**
 - Good energy resolution to isolate the g.s. $\rightarrow$ g.s. transition
 - Absolute cross section measured (tens of nb!)
 - Time invariance
- New **theory** of DCE (**DSCE**, **MDCE** and **multi-nucleon transfer**)
- New **experimental campaigns** at LNS, iThemba LABS and ICJLab Orsay

The NUMEN collaboration



(NUclear Matrix Elements for Neutrinoless double beta decay)

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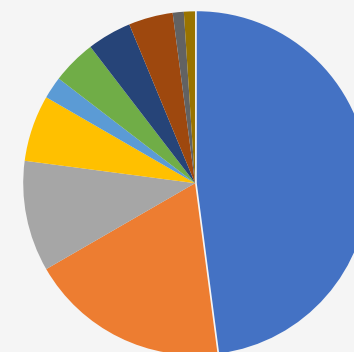
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31 Institutions
10 Countries



Italy	Brazil
Mexico	Turkey
Germany	Sud Africa
Greece	Spain
Romania	Israel

Grazie

Now, it is time for questions!

