

The 4th International Conference on the Chemistry and Physics of the Transactinide Elements



5 - 11 September 2011, Sochi, Russia

**Super Heavy Elements Research at GANIL:
Past , Present and Future**

S. Galès

I) ALICE @Orsay :The Origin

II) SHE @GANIL

1995-2003 : A true attempt to enter in the race
Fusion reactions with LISE

III) 2003- 2011 The Modern Era

- Spectroscopy and reaction dynamics with symmetric systems
 - Channeling and Recent X-ray clock for fission times
 - U+U test experiment
 - U beams in inverse kinematics – A new window

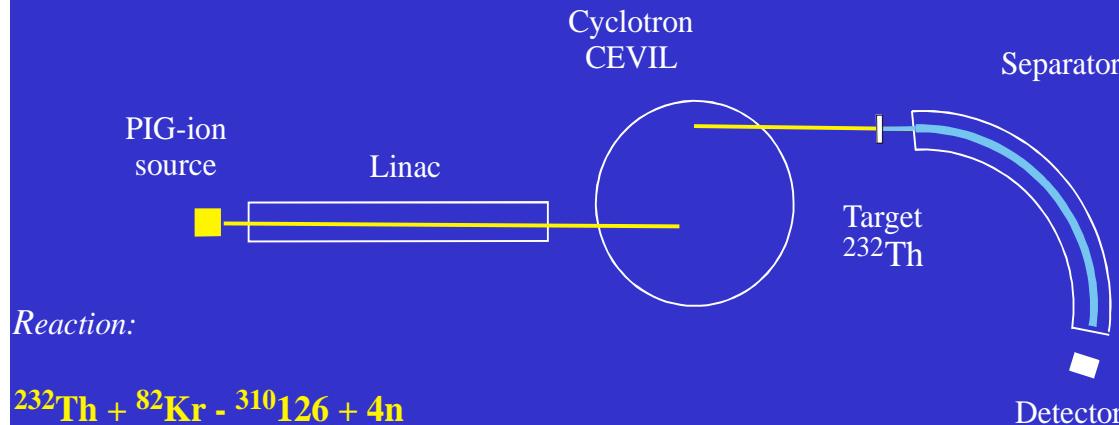
IV) 2012 and Beyond :GANIL-SPIRAL2 and S3

The number of neutrons.

SHE research at Orsay in 1968...

First experiment on the synthesis SHE with Z=126, N=184

IPN (Orsay) 1971



LINAG PIG Source



Electrostatic separator + Double Focusing spectro- Magnetic analyser
Detection with E_{TKE} and TOF
 \rightarrow Mass

1969: The World First HI Accelerator Complex

ALICE = LINAG + Cyclotron

with heavy ions up to krypton at variable energies

**March 1970,
Search For SHE
M. Riou and Marc Lefort
& Y.Oganessian
Fusion reaction :
 $\text{Kr} + \text{Th} \rightarrow \text{SHE}(126) + \text{xn}$**

Expected cross section was very optimistic:

$\sigma_{4\text{n}}$ about 0.5 mb!

Super Heavy Elements at Orsay

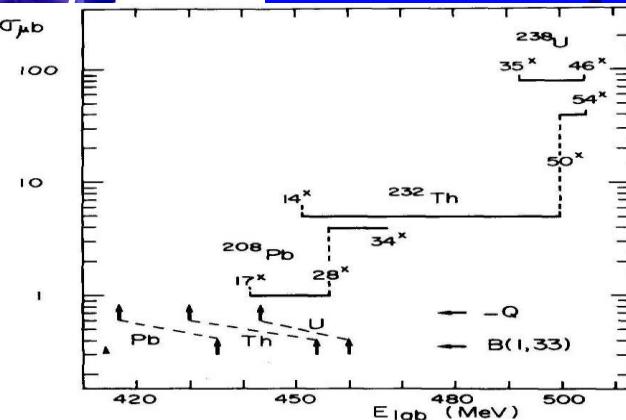


Fig. 1. Upper limits of the cross section for compound nucleus formation as a function of the bombarding energy of ^{84}Kr on targets of ^{208}Pb , ^{232}Th and ^{238}U . The Q values have been calculated from the masses given by Nix [1]. Numbers with stars indicate the excitation energies of the compound nucleus for the corresponding incident energies. The symbol $B(1, 33)$ has been used for $B = Z_1 Z_2 e^2 / r_e (4^{1/3} A_2^{1/3})$ (expressed in MeV) with $r_e = 1.33$ fm observed to correspond to the transfer reaction threshold on Th [7] and to elastic scattering measurements [8].

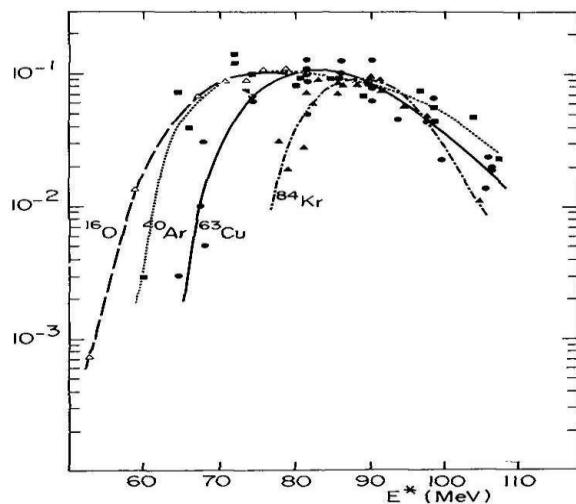


Fig. 22 - Excitation functions for (HI, 5n) reactions passing through the same compound nucleus ^{158}Er (^{159}Tm for ^{63}Cu projectiles). The shift between ^{16}O and ^{84}Kr is clearly seen [75-76].

1972 Results no M>300 observed
Stability island does not exist

- Or failed method ?

$\sigma_{lim}(^{84}\text{Kr} + ^{208}\text{Pb} @ 460-500\text{MeV}) = 1\mu\text{b}$ so
 σ_{fus} deduced to be very negligible

But....

1972-1982

The studies of fusion with Krypton beams with lighter targets

- *Discovery of viscosity and new reaction process :Quasi Fission and/or Deep inelastic*

*Since then Dubna-Orsay
Collaboration was very active*

Chemistry of SHE with few atoms

Radiochimica Acta 37, 113 (1984)

Experimental studies on the formation
and
radioactive decay of isotopes with Z
 $=104\text{-}109$

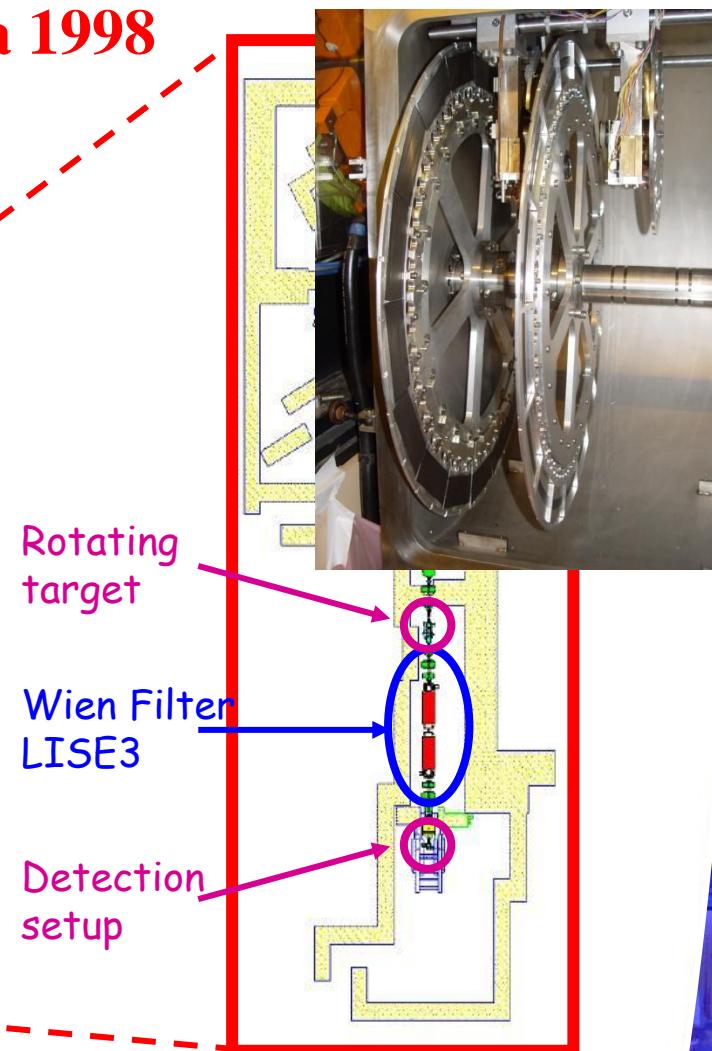
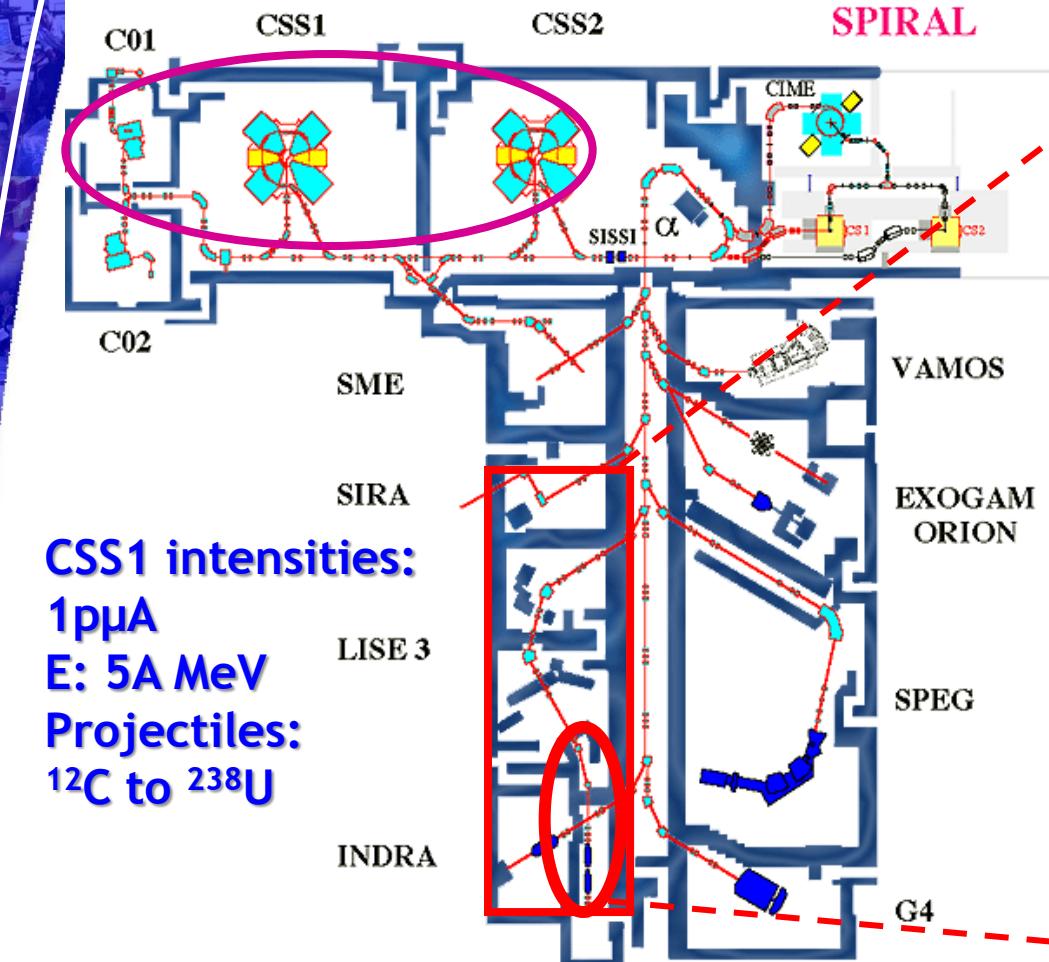
*Yu. Oganessian, M. Hussonois,
A. Demin, Yu. Kharitonov, H. Bruchertseifer,
O. Constantinescu, Yu. Korotkin, S. Tretiakova,
I. Shirokovsky and I. Estevez*

by Yuri Tumanov



Super Heavy Elements at GANIL

Started with Kr+Pb saga 1998

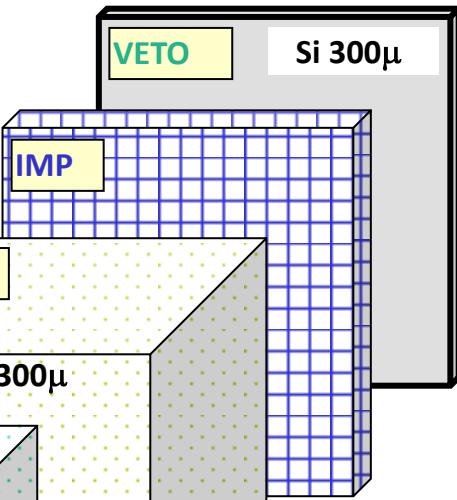
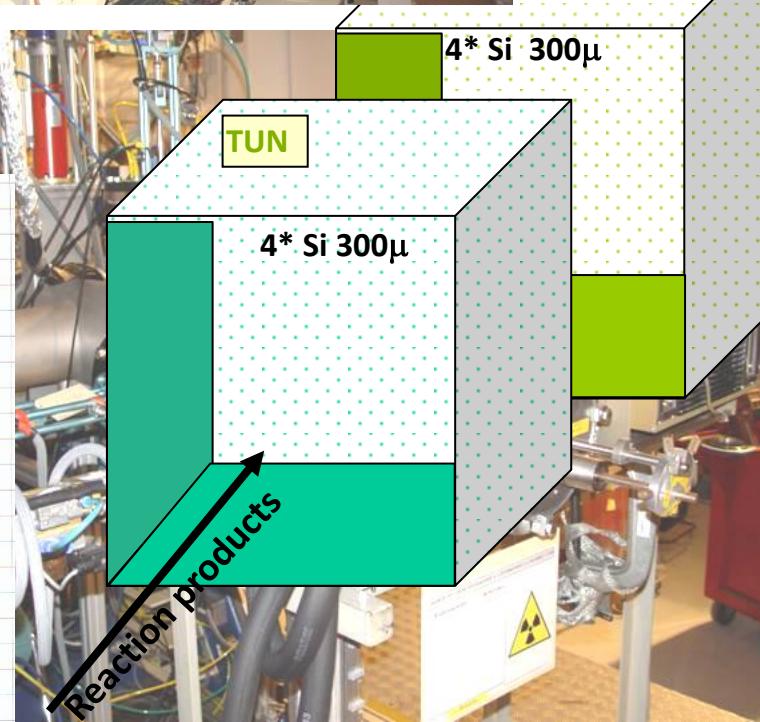


DAPNIA/SPhN, CEN Saclay; Univ. Jyvaskyla, Finland; JINR, Dubna, Russia; Univ. Liverpool, U.K.; G.S.I., Darmstadt; C.S.N.S.M., Orsay; I.R.E.S., Strasbourg; I.F.U., Krakow; GANIL, Caen; LPC, Caen

LISE: Small cross-sections measurements in cold fusion reactions



Species 48 et 1, avant leur mise à zéro :



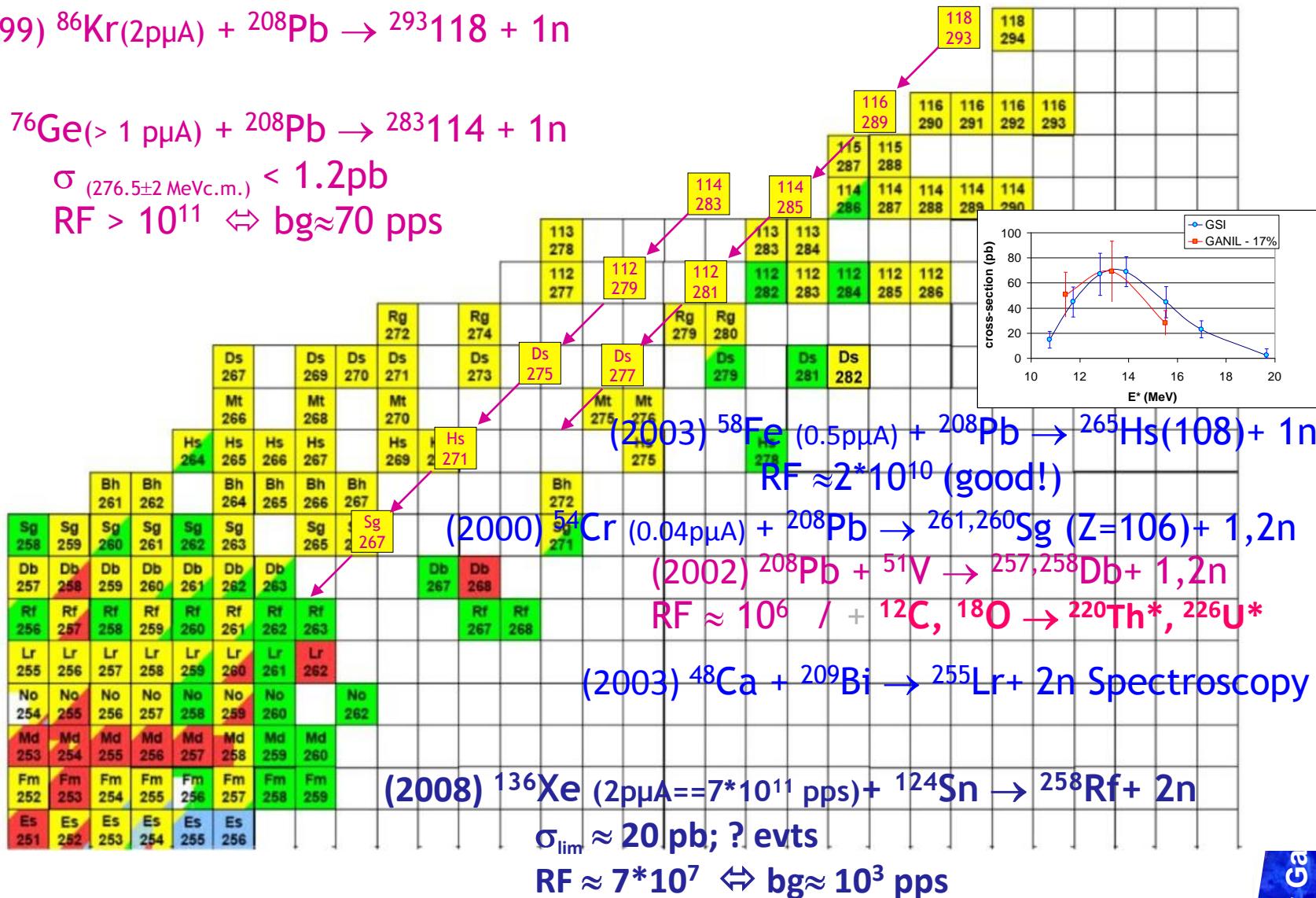
Target control and evolution...

Fusion-evaporation reactions

$$(1999) \ ^{86}\text{Kr}(2\mu\text{A}) + ^{208}\text{Pb} \rightarrow ^{293}118 + 1\text{m}$$

$$(2003) \ ^{76}\text{Ge}(> 1 \text{ p}\mu\text{A}) + ^{208}\text{Pb} \rightarrow ^{283}114 + 1n$$

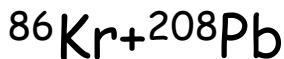
$$\sigma_{(276.5 \pm 2 \text{ MeVc.m.})} < 1.2 \text{ pb}$$



Ch. Stodel et al, CP891, Tours Symposium on Nuclear Physics VI, 2006, p.55-59
A. Wieloch et al, NIMA517 (2004) 364-371

LISE: Small cross-sections measurements in cold fusion reactions

1999 : Search for Z=118;



2000 : characterisation test

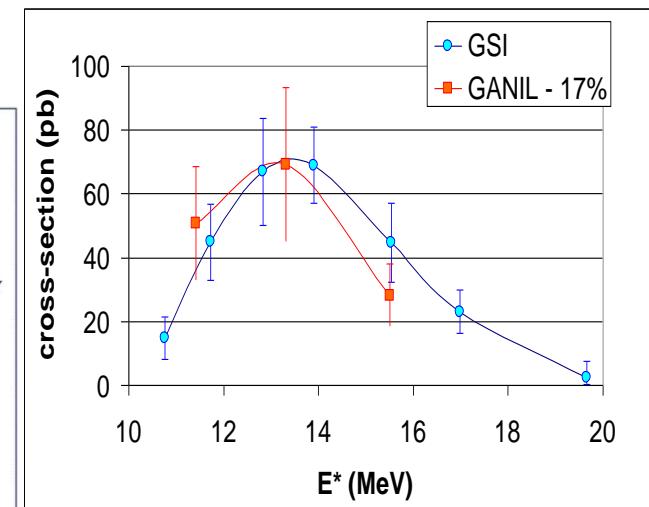
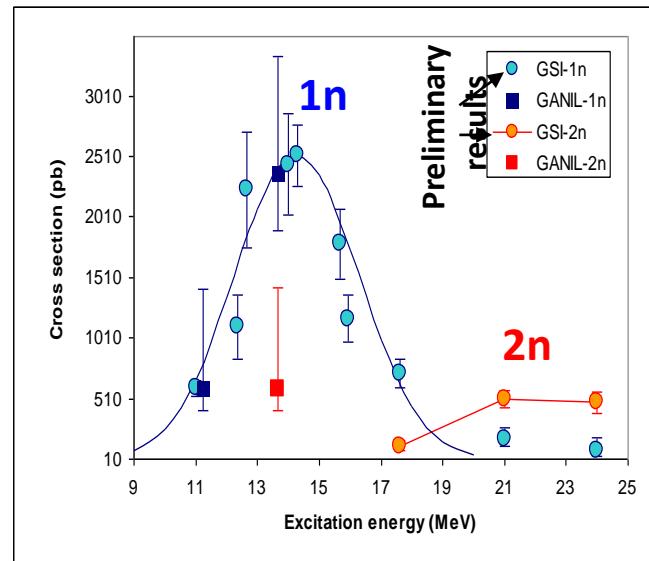
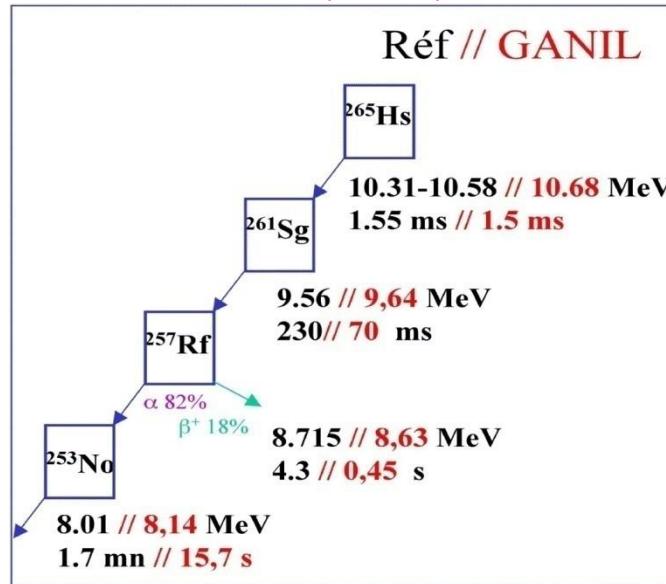


$$\text{Rejection} = 1.7 \cdot 10^{10}$$

$$10 \text{ events } \varepsilon = 15\% \text{ (poor)}$$

Absolute Energy very similar to GSI

2003 : « test »



Rejection = $2 \cdot 10^{10}$
 $I = 500 \text{ pnA}$

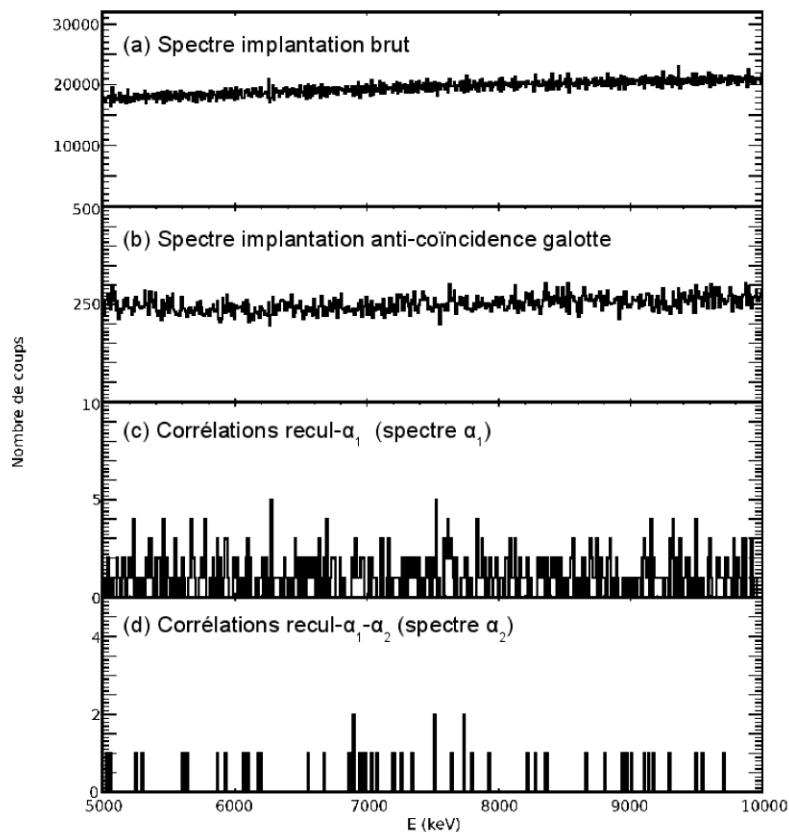
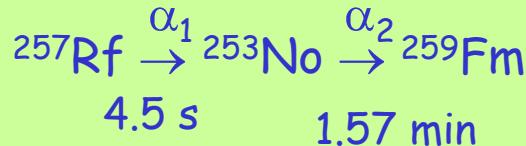
LISE: Small cross-sections measurements in cold fusion reactions

- 1 beam energy, $E = 5.02 \text{ MeV/A}$
- Large intensity: new method developed by Ion Source Group > $1\text{p}\mu\text{A}$
- Very good rejection factor (low background) > 10^{11} (70 events/s)
- Good behavior of targets ($420 \mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$)

- Beam dose of $^{76}\text{Ge} = 5 * 10^{18}$
 \Rightarrow Sensitivity : 1 event = 0.6 pb
No event attributed to $^{283}\text{114}$
 \Rightarrow Cross-section < 1.2 pb
in energy range 274.5-278.5 MeV c.m.
unless decays (α or spontaneous fission) within 3 μs
- 3 α and 4 α chains of actinides (transfer products).

$^{136}\text{Xe} + ^{124}\text{Sn}$:Synthesis of very heavy elements: Fusion with (nearly-)symmetric channel

Selectivity (α)



Beam:

$^{136}\text{Xe}^{18+}$ @ 4.6 MeV/u Target ^{124}Sn -
 $\approx 2 \mu\text{Ae}$ ($\approx 7 \cdot 10^{11}$ pps) $400 \mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$

Search for α decays

- (a) ≡ Rough implantation spectrum
- (b) ≡ (a) + No MCP
- (c) ≡ (b) + correlated residue
- (d) ≡ (c) + correlation (c)

Observations

- No clear α spectrum
- Large background

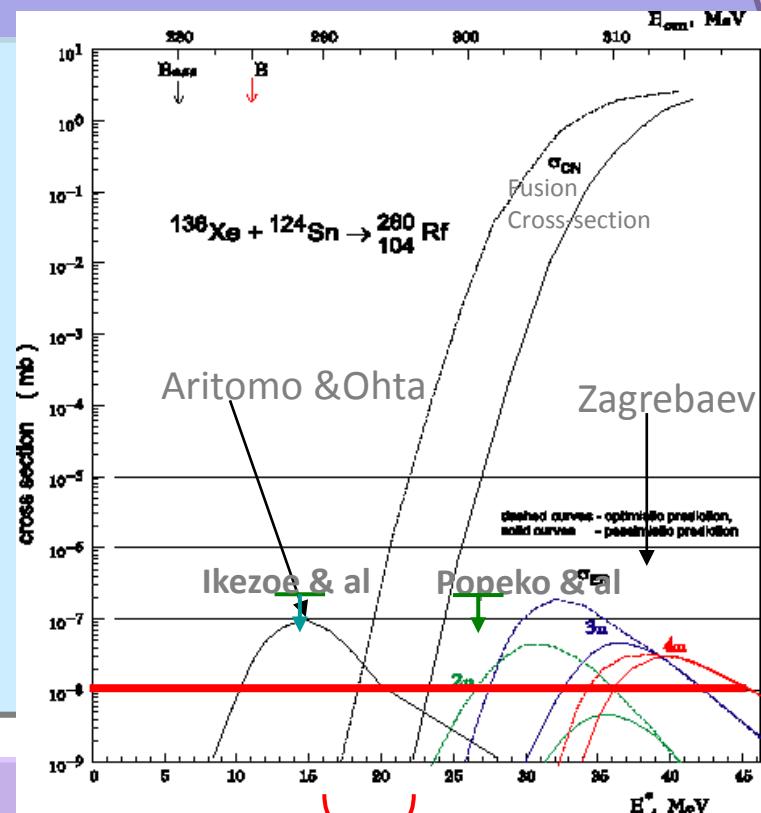
Limit cross-sections:

- ^{257}Rf : $\sigma_{3n} < 172.4 \text{ pb}$
- ^{258}Rf : $\sigma_{2n} < 80.8 \text{ pb}$
- ^{259}Rf : $\sigma_{1n} < 235.1 \text{ pb}$

Conclusion

- o Results:
 - Upper limits of σ_{xn} ($E^*=20$ MeV)
 - Models ,discrimination
- o Experimental set-up Lise3@GANIL
 - Difficult velocity separation (≈ 1300 pps in Si-implantation)
 - Need of the ionization chamber
- SHE synthesis
- Reaction mechanism (synthesis of heavy nuclei)

Evaporation residues cross sections



Perspectives

- o LISE3@RIB of SPIRAL2
 - o Background?
 - o Technical studies/upgrade (Wien filter, detection..), tests
 - o Rn and Ra isotopes with Ba*, Xe*, Sn* beams

E533

E533

Super-heavy fission times

$$^{238}\text{U} + \text{Ni} \rightarrow (120)^*$$

$$^{238}\text{U} + \text{Ge} \rightarrow (124)^*$$

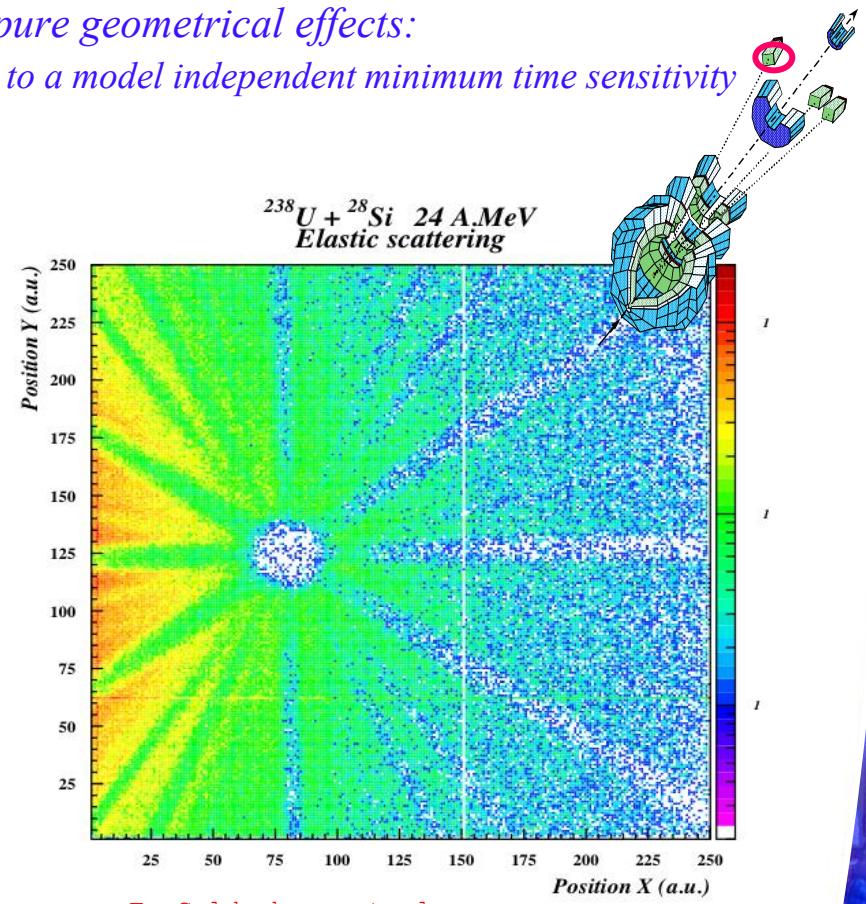
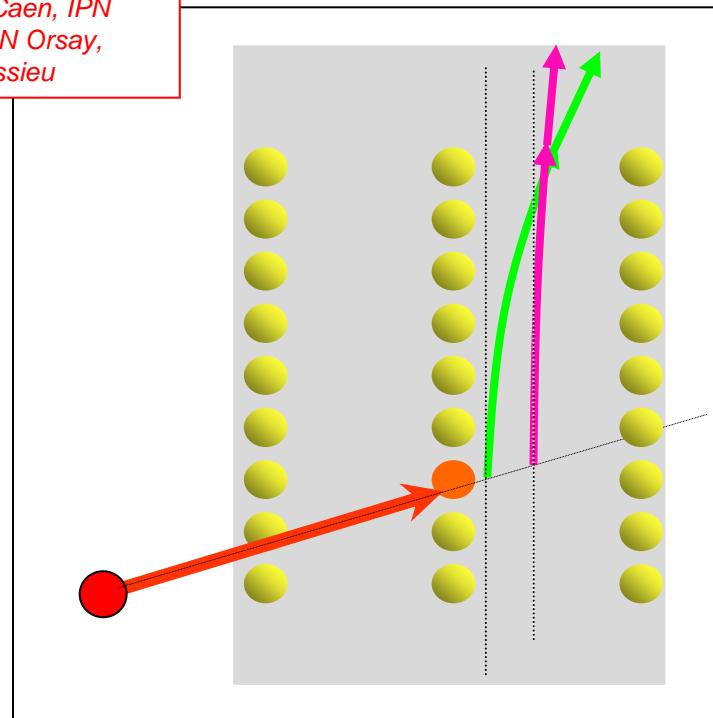
$$^{238}\text{U} + \text{Ge} \rightarrow (114)^*$$

Blocking technique in single crystals:

- Single crystal as target
- Dips in the angular distributions (deflection of the fragments by the crystal atoms)
- The minimum yield arises from pure geometrical effects:
thermal vibration amplitude gives rise to a model independent minimum time sensitivity

^{238}U @ 6.6 MeV/A

DAPNIA/SPhN,
GANIL Caen, IPN
Lyon, IPN Orsay,
GPS Jussieu

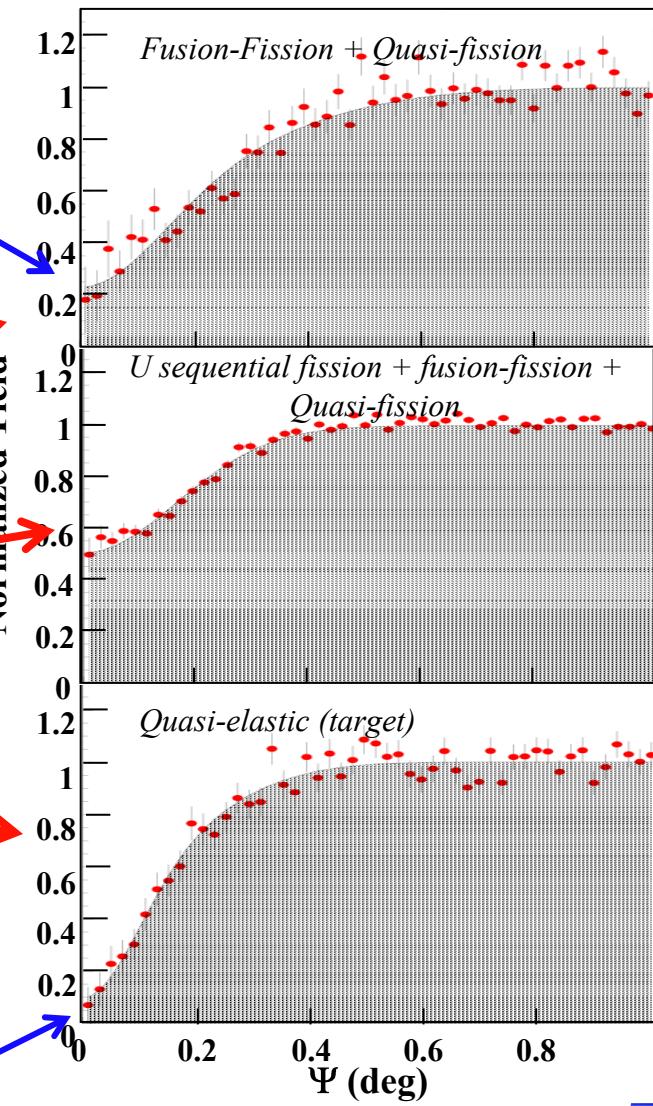
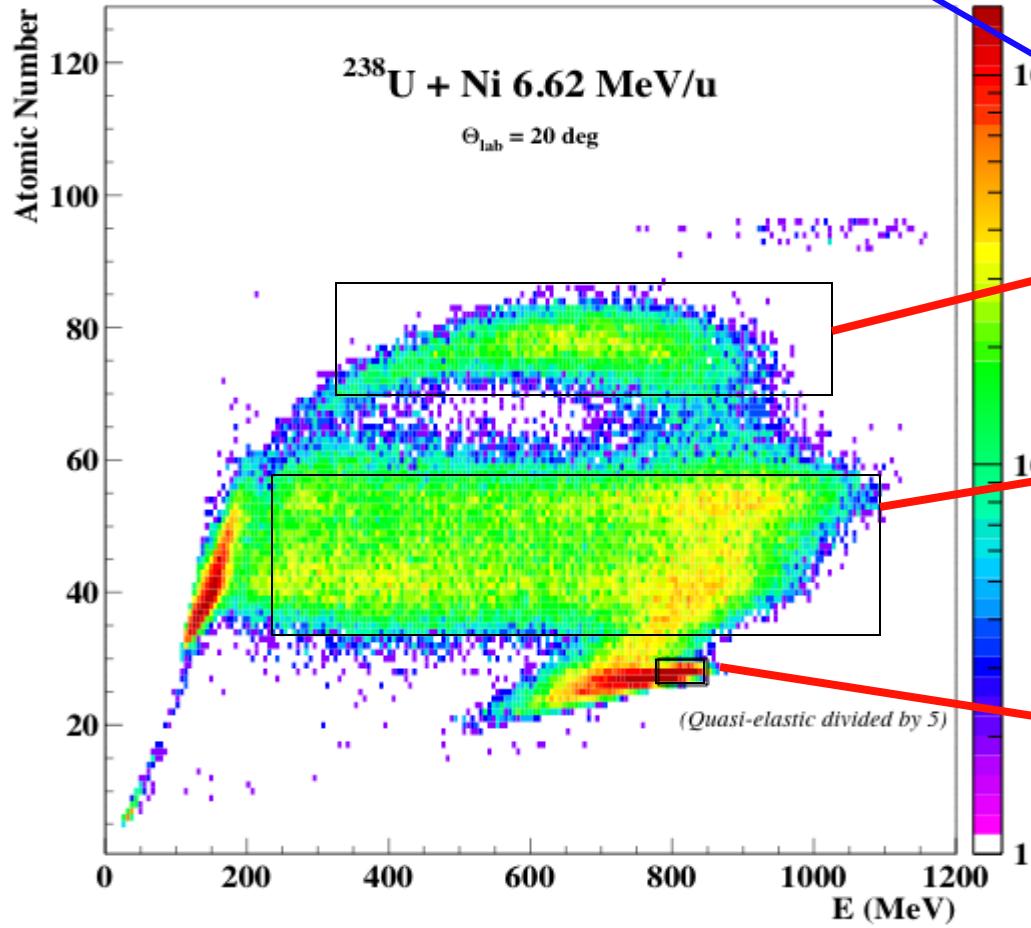


Formation of super-heavy nuclei by fusion:

Characterisation of total fusion events by INDRA, a 4π charged product detector

M. Morjean et al, Physical Review Letters 101 (2008) 072701;
European Physical Journal D 45 (2007) 27-31

Direct evidence for long times: Z=120



$t_{\text{reac}} < t_{\min}(\text{thermal vibrations}) \Leftrightarrow \chi_{\min} \approx 0.1$
 $t_{\min} \approx 10^{-18} \text{ s}$

X-ray fluorescence

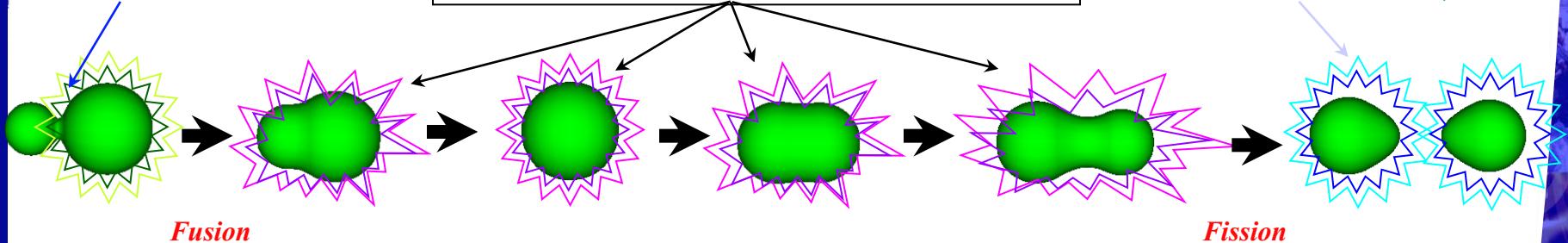
(Reaction time from inner shell vacancy lifetime)



Vacancy creation in inner electronic shells during the fusion process

Filling of the vacancies with X-ray emission at energies characteristic of the nucleus atomic number

Modification of the characteristic X-ray energies (adiabatic adjustment of the electron shells)



$$N_X = N_{em} N_{vac} \frac{\tau_{nucl}}{\tau_{nucl} + \tau_{atom}}$$

Must be measured

N_x = number of characteristic X-rays detected

N_{em} = number of compound nuclei

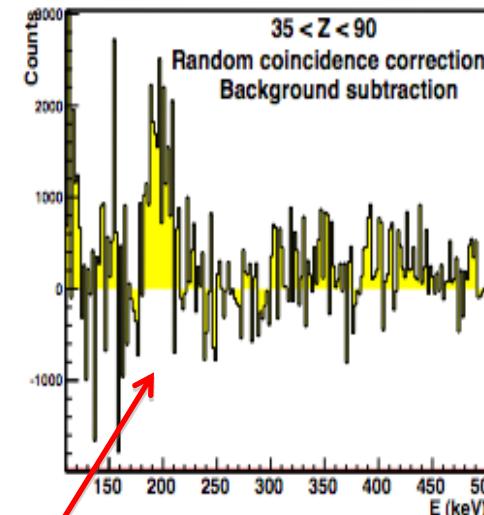
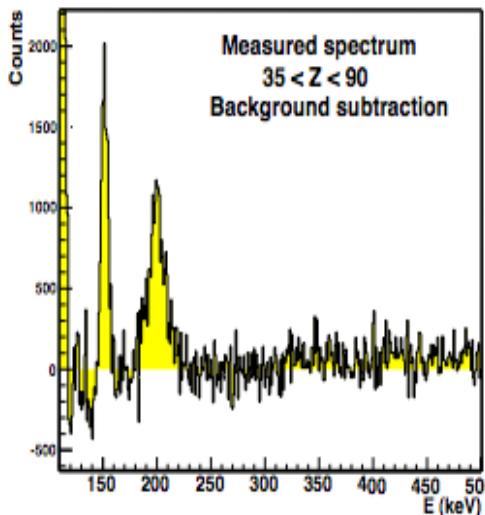
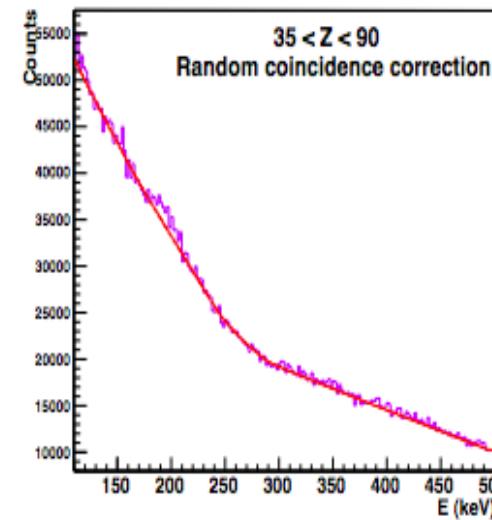
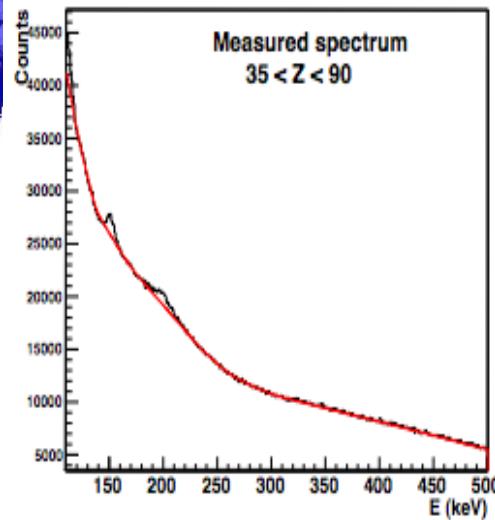
N_{vac} = vacancy number per compound nucleus

τ_{nucl} = Fission time of the compound nucleus

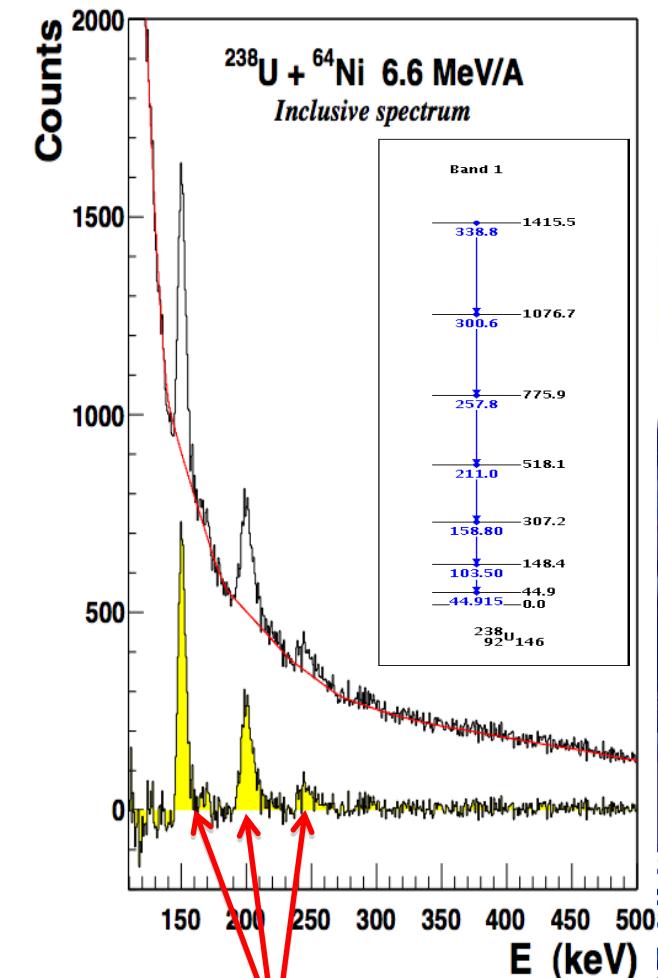
τ_{atom} = Lifetime of the vacancies

X-ray fluorescence

(Reaction time from inner shell vacancy lifetime)



Characteristic X_K from $Z = 120$



γ -rays from uranium

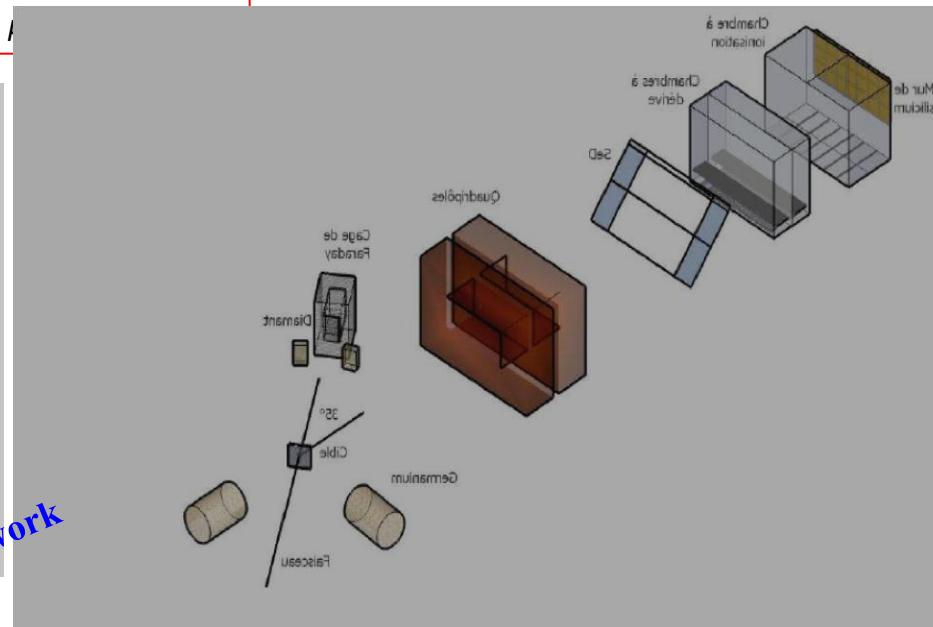
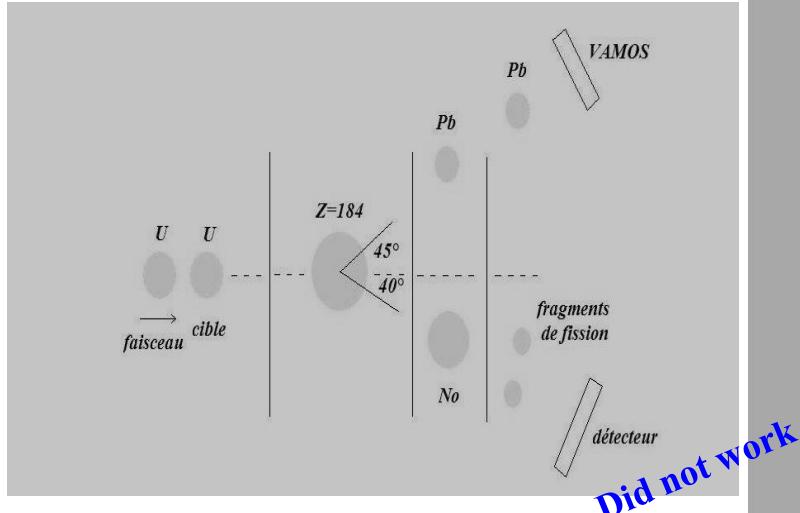
Study of super-heavy nuclear systems

Expérience E511 : $^{238}\text{U} + ^{238}\text{U}$

E=6.1;6.5;6.9;7.1;7.4 A MeV

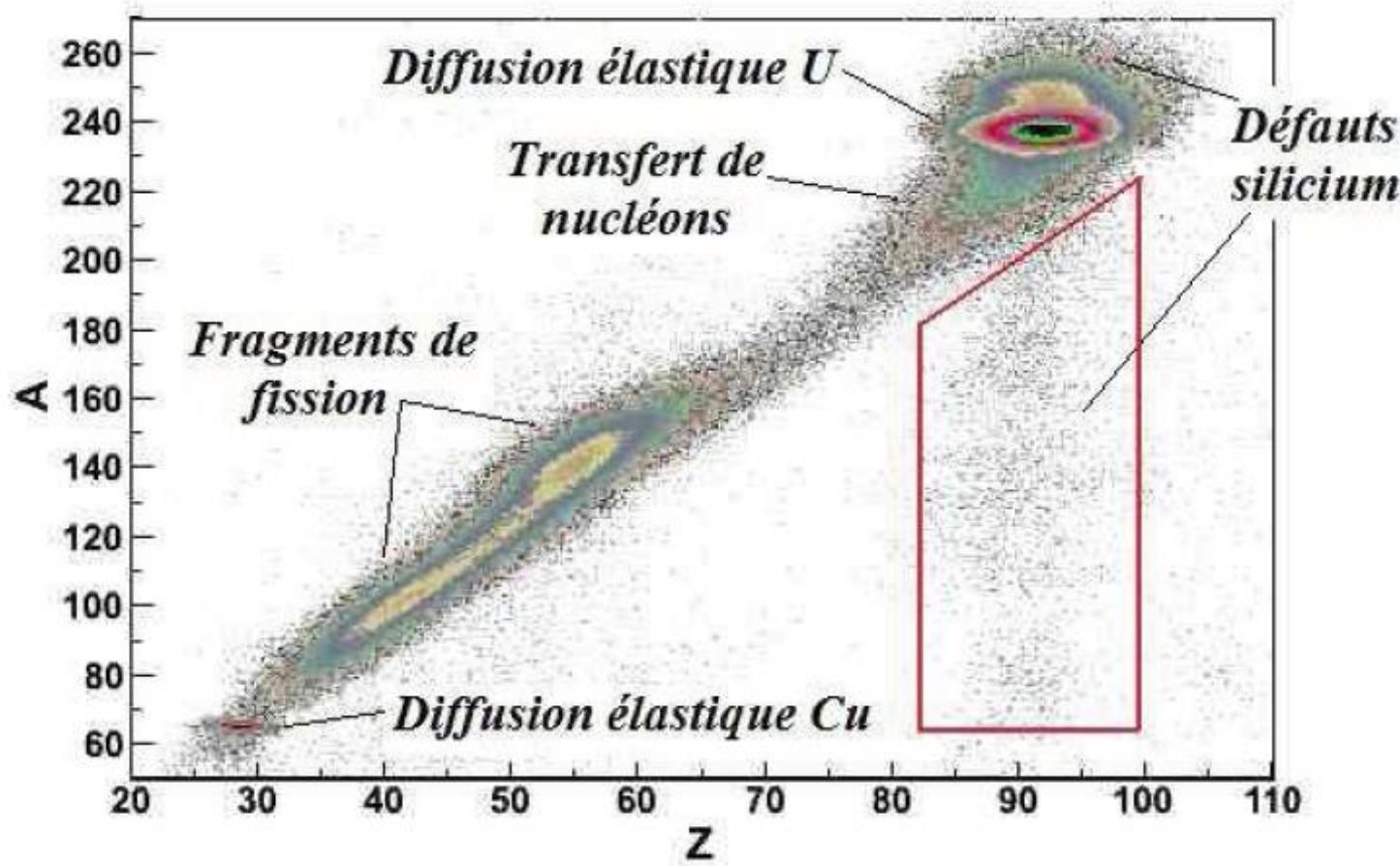
Ganil - GSI - Dapnia/SphN - CENBG - KVI

Search for a long-lived component in the reaction U+U near the Coulomb barrier, A.C.C Villari et al, Tours Symposium on Nuclear Physics VI – AIP Conference Proceedings 891 (2007)

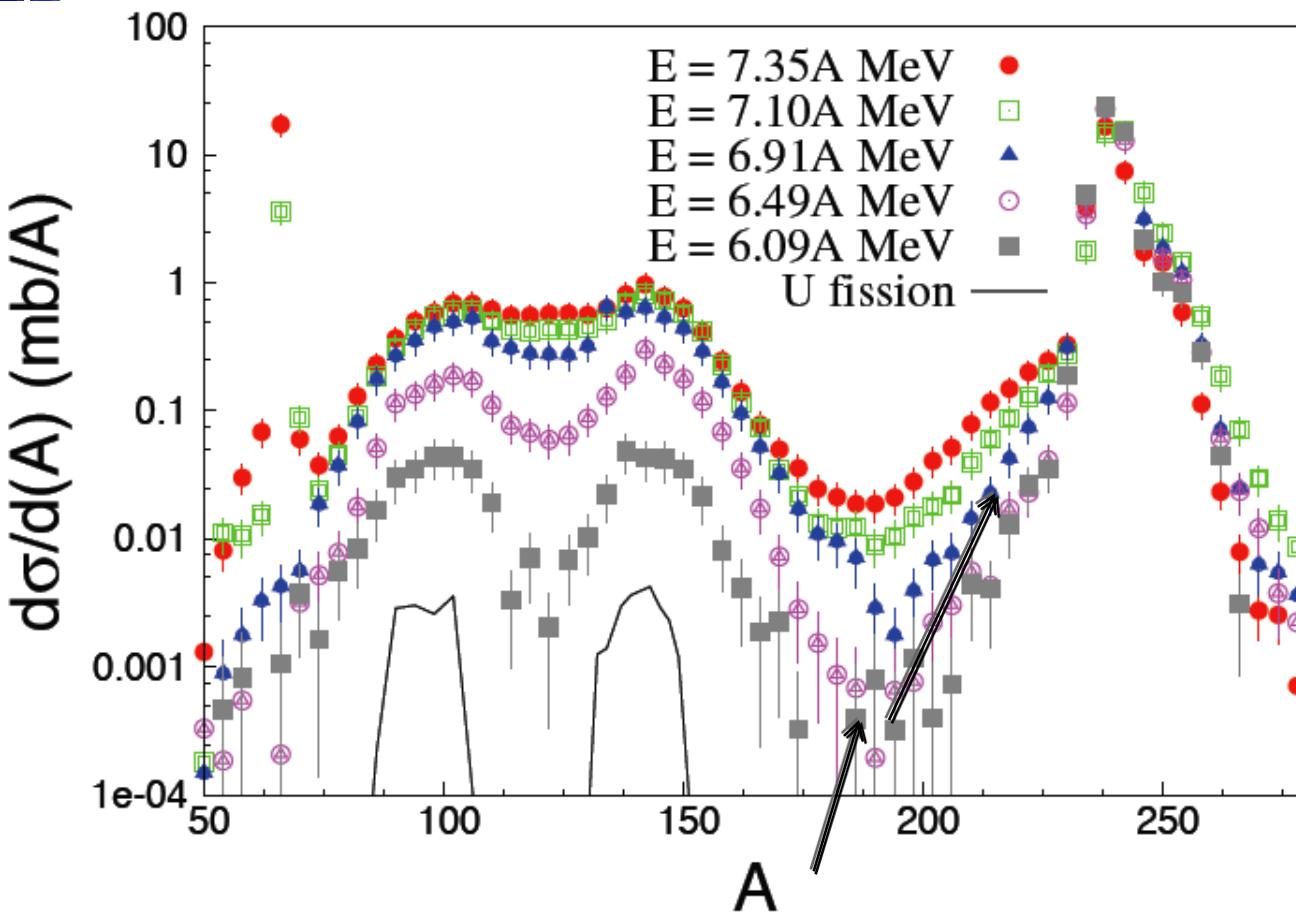


C. Golabek PhD Thesis, 2009 Caen
Eur. Phys. J. A 43 (2010) 251
Phys. Rev. Lett. 103, 042701 (2009)

U+U fragment production ($E=7.35 \text{ A MeV}$)



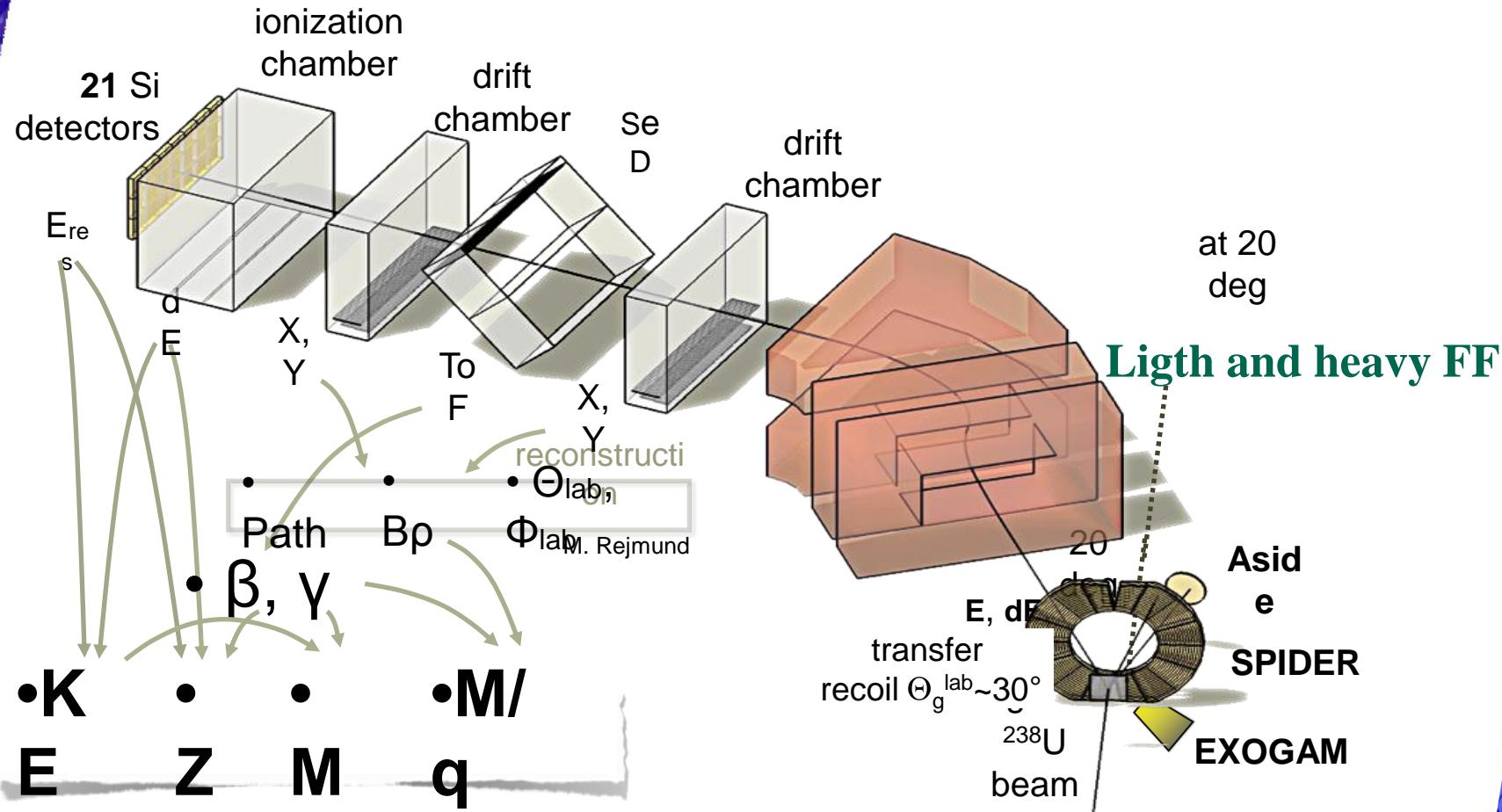
Evolution of the fragment distribution with energy



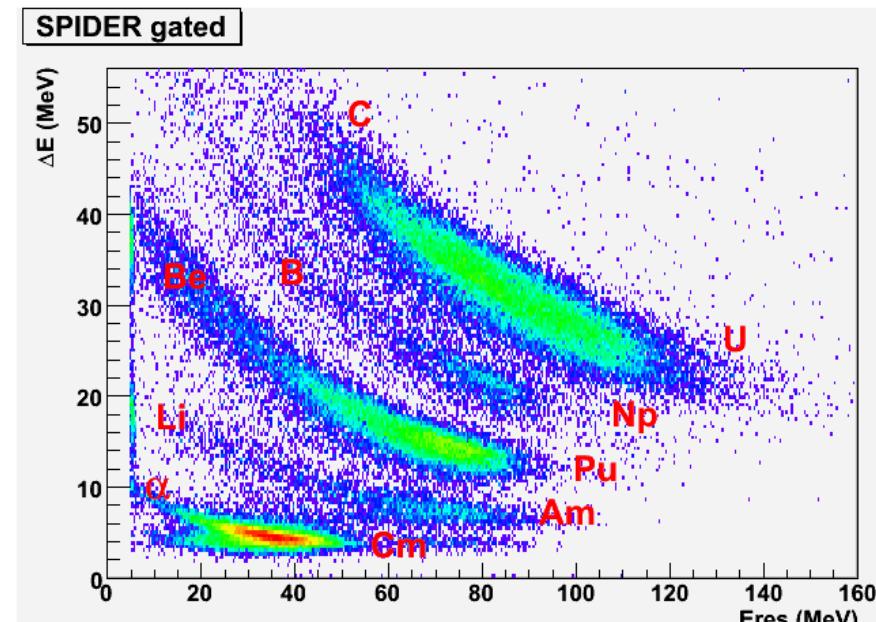
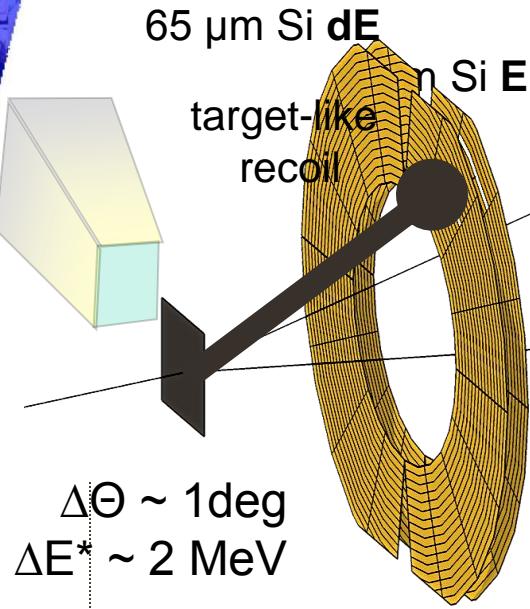
As E^* increases,
transfer toward Pb
increases.
But production
above U decreases
due to increasing
fission probability

Fission investigations using transfer and fusion in inverse kinematics

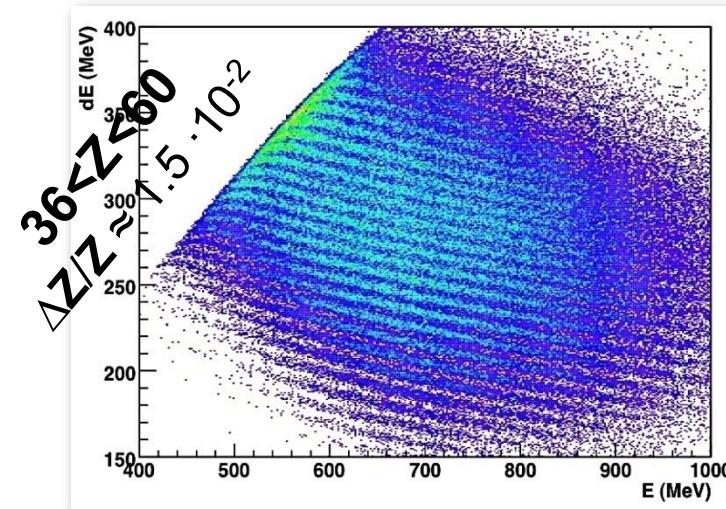
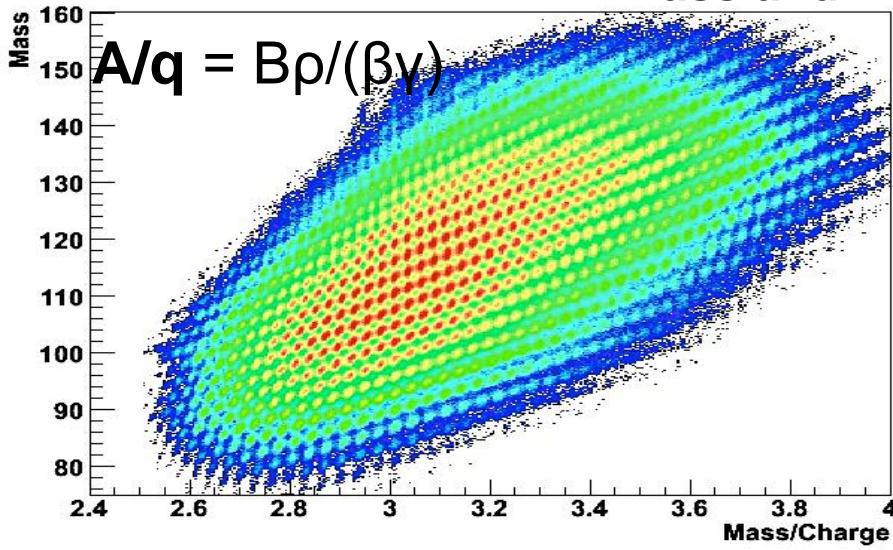
- Inverse kinematics : access to heavy fragments
- Spectrometer VAMOS : isotopic distribution

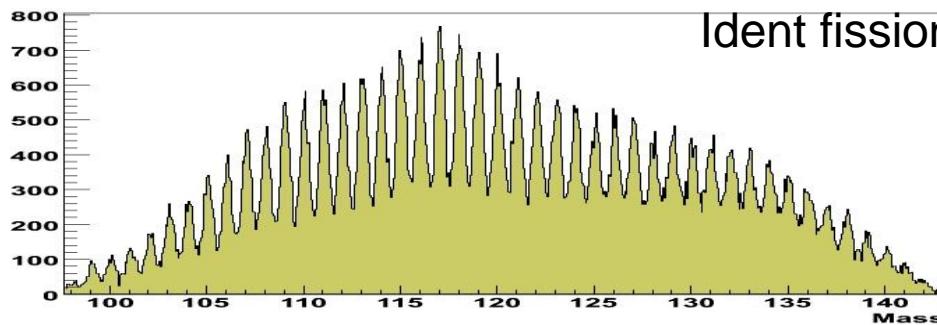


Identification of the fissioning nucleus with SPIDER

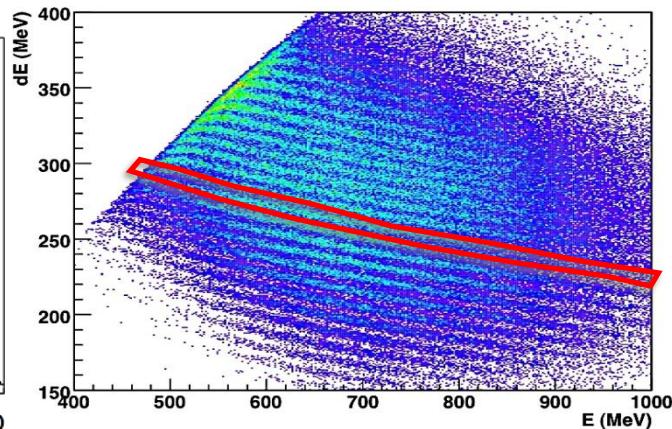
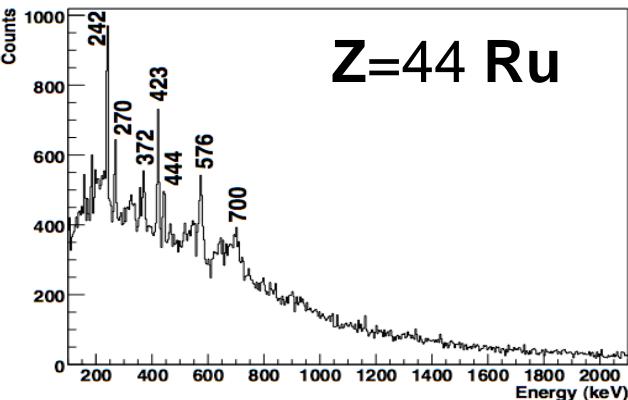
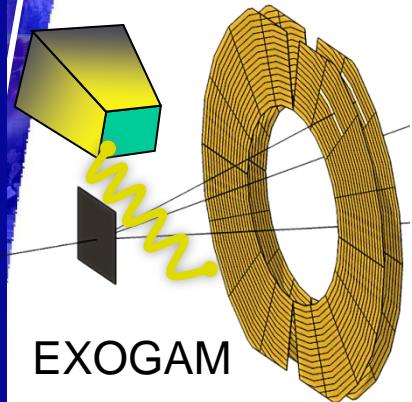


Mass and Z identification with VAMOS : A, A/q

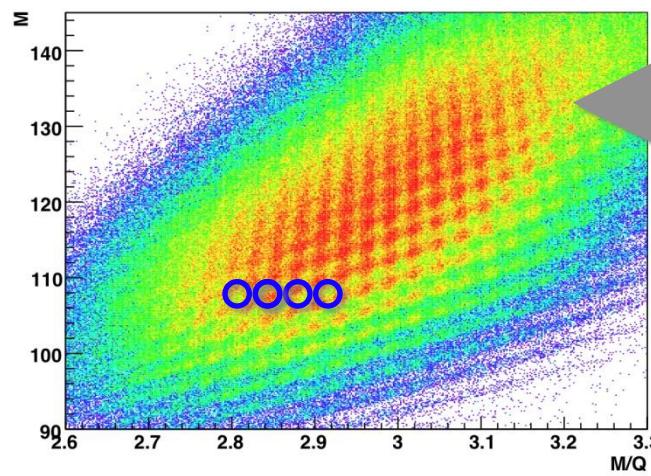
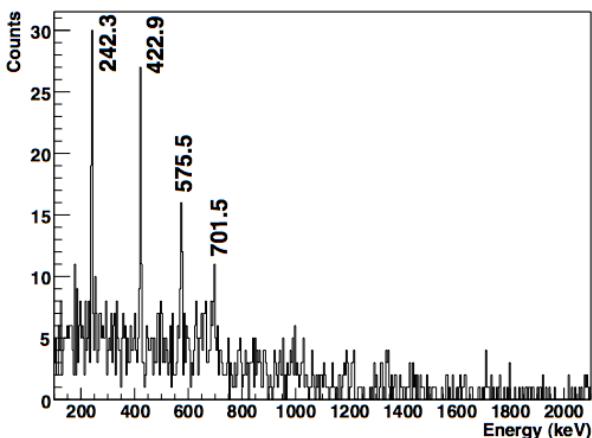


Ident fission fragment $A \approx 90$ à $A \approx 140$ 

Identification Calibration with EXOGAM



$M=108$ ^{108}Ru



non ambiguouse Identification in A , Q et Z

Preliminary results

- Isotopic distribution on 3 orders of magnitude (from l'astatine ($Z=33$) to promethium ($Z=61$))
- for 5 different actinides (^{238}U , ^{239}Np , ^{240}Pu , ^{243}Am , ^{250}Cf)
- our data match with previous measurements for light fragments

Low excitation energy produce more neutron-rich nuclei

High excitation energy produce broader isotopic distributions

Thèse X. Derkx 2010
O. Delaune 2011
Expérience E516

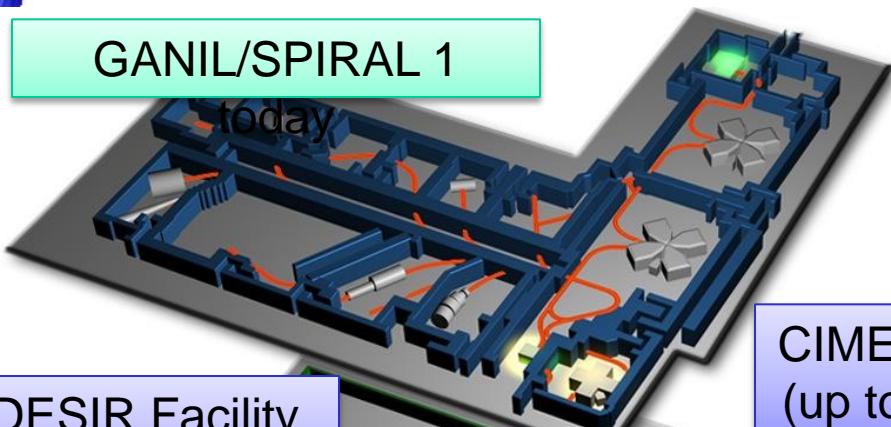
A. Shrivastava, M. Caamaño, M. Rejmund, A. Navin, F. Rejmund, K. -H. Schmidt, A. Lemasson, C. Schmitt, L. Gaudefroy, K. Sieja, L. Audouin, C. O. Bacri, G. Barreau, J. Benlliure, E. Casarejos, X. Derkx, B. Fernández-Domínguez, C. Golabek, B. Jurado, T. Roger, and J. Taieb, Prompt spectroscopy of isotopically identified fission fragments , Phys. Rev. C 80, 051305 (2009)

« Isotopic resolution of fission fragments from $^{238}\text{U}+^{12}\text{C}$ transfer and fusion réactions »,
M. Caamaño, F. Rejmund, X. Derkx, K.-H. Schmidt, L. Audouin, C.-O. Bacri, G. Barreau, L. Gaudefroy, C. Golabek, B. Fernandez-Dominguez, B. Jurado, A. Lemasson, A. Navin, J. Benlliure, E. Casarejos, M. Rejmund, T. Roger, C. Schmitt, J. Taieb, 4th International Workshop on Nuclear Fission and Fission-Product Spectroscopy, Cadarache, France, May 2009, AIP

GANIL/SPIRAL1/SPIRAL2 facility

GANIL/SPIRAL 1

today



DESIR Facility
low energy RIB

S3 separator-spectrometer

Neutrons For Science

SP2 Beam time: 44 weeks/y
GANIL Beam time: 35 weeks/y
ISOL RIB Beams: 28-33 weeks/y
GANIL+SP 2 Users: 700-800/y

CIME cyclotron RIB at 1-20 AMeV
(up to 9 AMeV for fiss. fragments)

HRS+RFQ Cooler

RIB Production Cave
Up to 10^{14} fiss./sec.

LINAC: 33MeV p, 40 MeV d, 14.5 A MeV HI

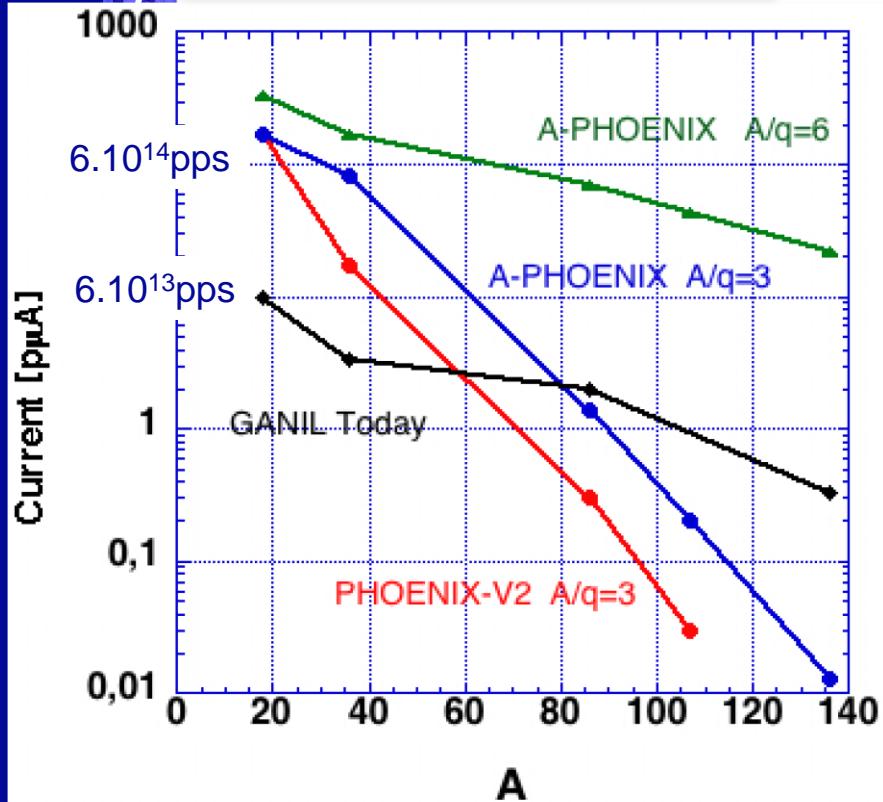
A/q=3 HI source
Up to 1mA

A/q=6 Injector option

A/q=2 source
p, d, $^{3,4}\text{He}$ 5mA

SPIRAL2 is one of the ESFRI list projects (40 most important EU research infrastructure projects)

Energy = 0.75-15 A.MeV



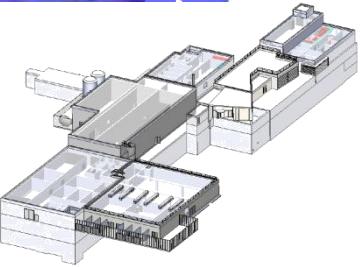
Above one or two order of magnitudes higher than present facilities

LINAC beams for the Day 1 SPIRAL2 Phase 1 experiments*)
Based on the recommendations of SPIRAL2 SAC for the LoI
M.L. version 05/10/2009

| Ion(s) | Energy Range (MeV/nucleon) | Maximum Intensity (ppA) | Date of availability ***) | Remarks |
|---|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| ¹ H ¹⁺ | 20-33 | 2-10 | December 2012 | NFS beam line; Intensity with fast chopper 1/100 |
| ² H ¹⁺ | 10-20 | 2-10 | December 2012 | NFS beam line; Intensity with fast chopper 1/100 |
| ⁴ He ²⁺ | 10-20 | 2-10 | December 2012 | NFS beam line; Intensity with fast chopper 1/100 |
| ¹² C ⁴⁺ | 5-7 | ³ 10 **) | February 2013 | S3 beam line |
| ¹⁸ O ⁶⁺ | 5-7 | ³ 10 **) | February 2013 | S3 beam line |
| ²² Ne ⁸⁺ | 5-7 | ³ 10 **) | February 2013 | S3 beam line |
| ⁴⁰ Ar ¹⁴⁺ | 4-5 | ³ 10 **) | February 2013 | S3 beam line |
| ²⁸⁻³⁰ Si ¹⁰⁺ or ³²⁻³⁶ S ¹²⁺ | 5-7 | ³ 10 **) | November 2013 | S3 beam line |
| ⁴⁰ Ca ¹⁴⁺ | 5-7 | ³ 10 **) | November 2013 | S3 beam line |
| ⁴⁸ Ca ¹⁶⁺ | 5-7 | ³ 10 **) | November 2013 | S3 beam line |
| ⁵⁸ Ni ¹⁸⁺ | 4-14 | ³ 1 **) | November 2013 | S3 beam line |

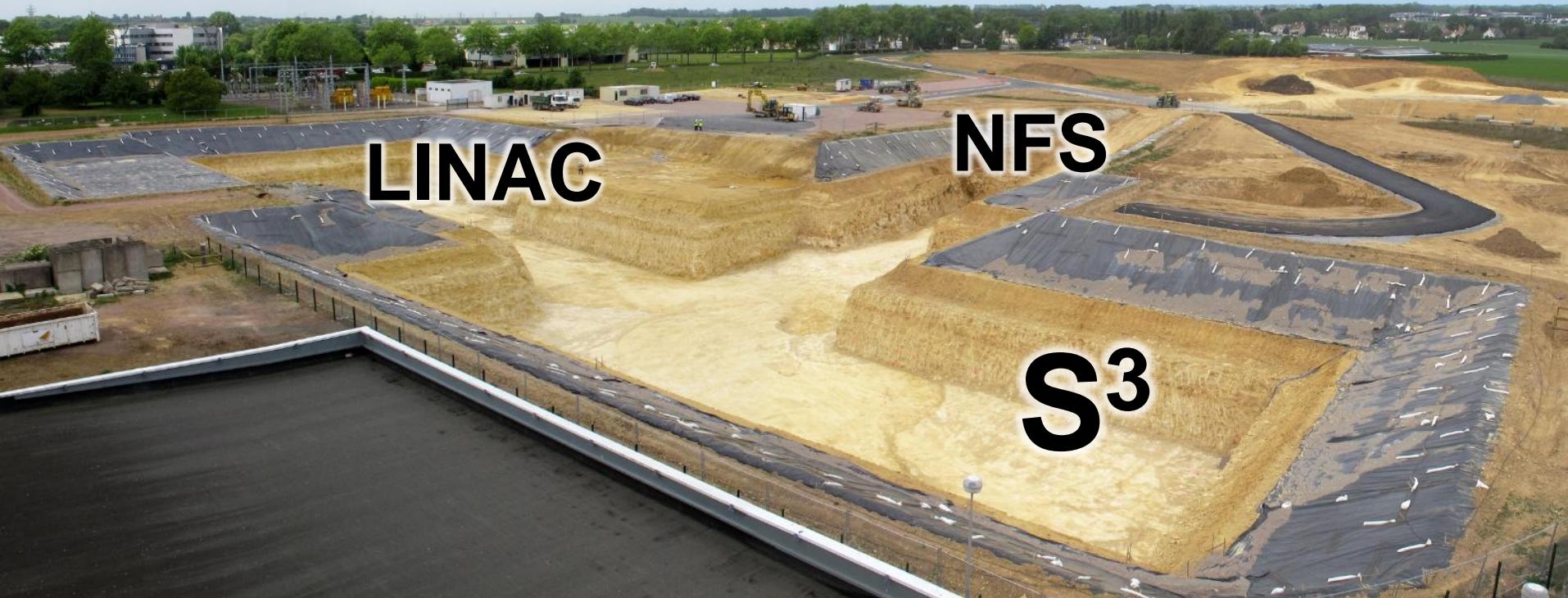
SPIRAL2 beam schedule scenari

AEL : 16-26 Weeks available/year (more than 4 months/year)



Civil construction SPIRAL2 Phase 1

- ✓ Beginning of ground breaking: December 2010
- ✓ End of excavation phase: May 2011
- ✓ Beginning of construction of buildings : July 2011
- ✓ S3 vault ready for installation : End 2012



S³

Super Separator Spectrometer

H. Savajols (GANIL)

S³ Collaboration (Lol signed by 100 physicist, 28 laboratoires)

ANL (US), CENBG, CSNSM, JINR-FLNR (Russia), GANIL, GSI (Germany), INFN Legnaro (Italy), IPHC, IPNL, Irfu/CEA Saclay, IPNO, JYFL (Finland), K.U. Leuven (Belgium), Liverpool-U (UK), LNS (Italy), LPSC, MSU (US), LMU (Germany), Nanjing-U (China), Northern Illinois-U(US), SAS Bratislava (Slovaquia), Smoluchowski Inst (Poland), CEA-DAM, SUBATECH, TAMU (US), U. Mainz (Germany), York-U (UK), Vinca Institute (Serbia)



Physics objectives

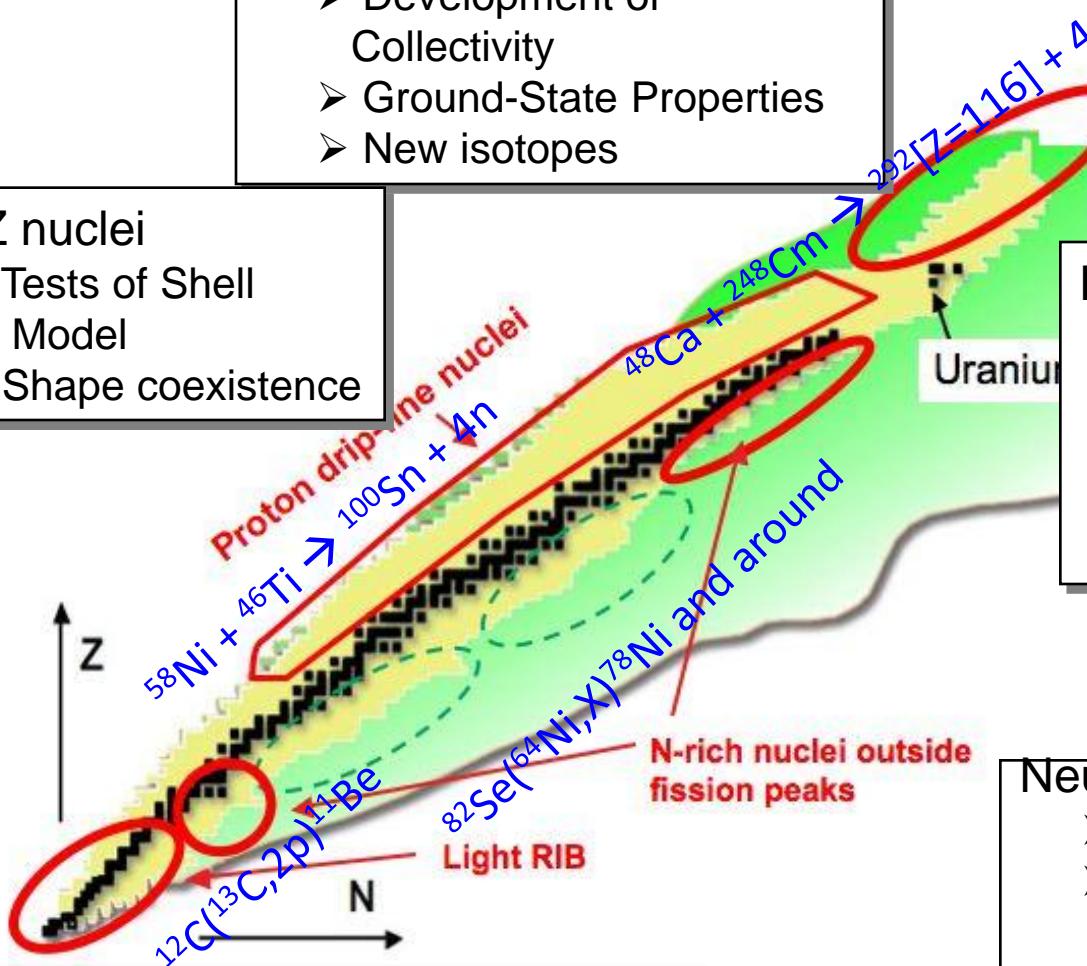
Proton Dripline

- Single-Particle structure
- Development of Collectivity
- Ground-State Properties
- New isotopes

10^{14} part/s → 10 evt/day @ 1 pb

N=Z nuclei

- Tests of Shell Model
- Shape coexistence



Heavy and Superheavy Elements

- Synthesis
- Spectroscopy and Structure
- Ground-State Properties
- Chemistry

13 Lols submitted

Lols signed by 170 physicists

Requested beam time phase 1: 380 days

Neutron-Rich Nuclei

- Single-Particle structure
- Quenching of Shell Gaps
- Ground-State Properties
- New isotopes

PRODUCTION AND SPECTROSCOPY OF HEAVY AND SUPERHEAVY ELEMENTS USING S³ AND LINAG (P. GREENLEES, JYVÄSKYLÄ)

- Neutron deficient nuclei around Z=92 N=126
- Study of neutron rich isotopes produced by asymmetric reactions
- Isomerism studies in the Z=100-110 region
- Production of SHE with Z=104 to 112 with U target

Co-Spokespersons

- Karl Haushild, CSNSM
- Amel Korichi, CSNSM
- Christophe Theisen, Irfu/SPhN
- Christelle Stodel, GANIL

Ankara University, Turkey

Argonne National Laboratory

CSNSM Orsay, France

FLNR JINR Dubna

GANIL, France

GSI, Germany

IFJ PAN Krakow, Poland

IPN Lyon, France

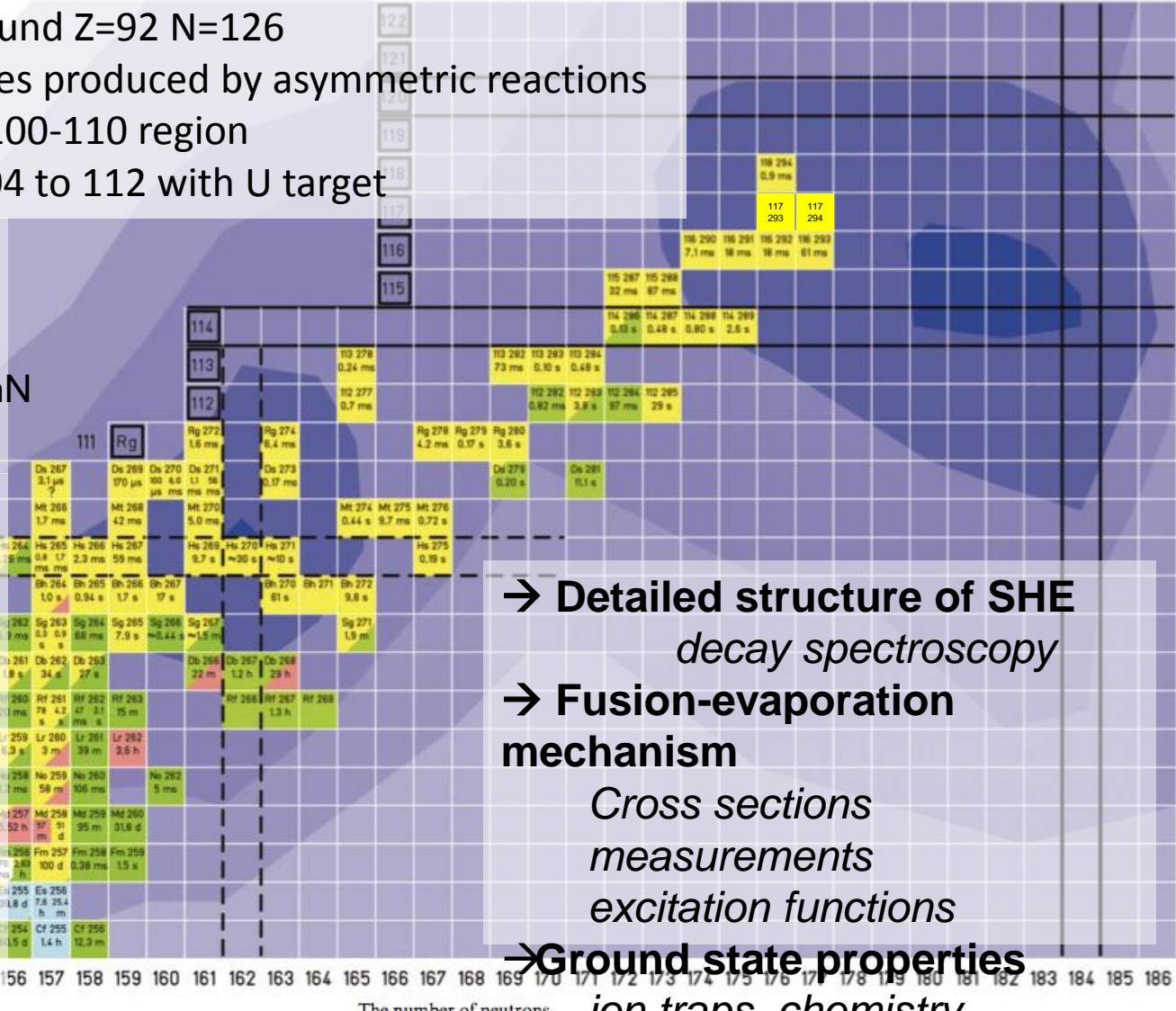
IPHC Strasbourg, France

Irfu CEA Saclay, France

Nanjing University, China

University of Jyväskylä, Finland

University of Liverpool, U.K.



→ Detailed structure of SHE
decay spectroscopy

→ Fusion-evaporation
mechanism

Cross sections
measurements
excitation functions

→ Ground state properties
ion trans chemistry

Study of closed shells

Spherical closed shell

$N=184$: common to all models, strong effect observed

$Z=114, 120, 126$?

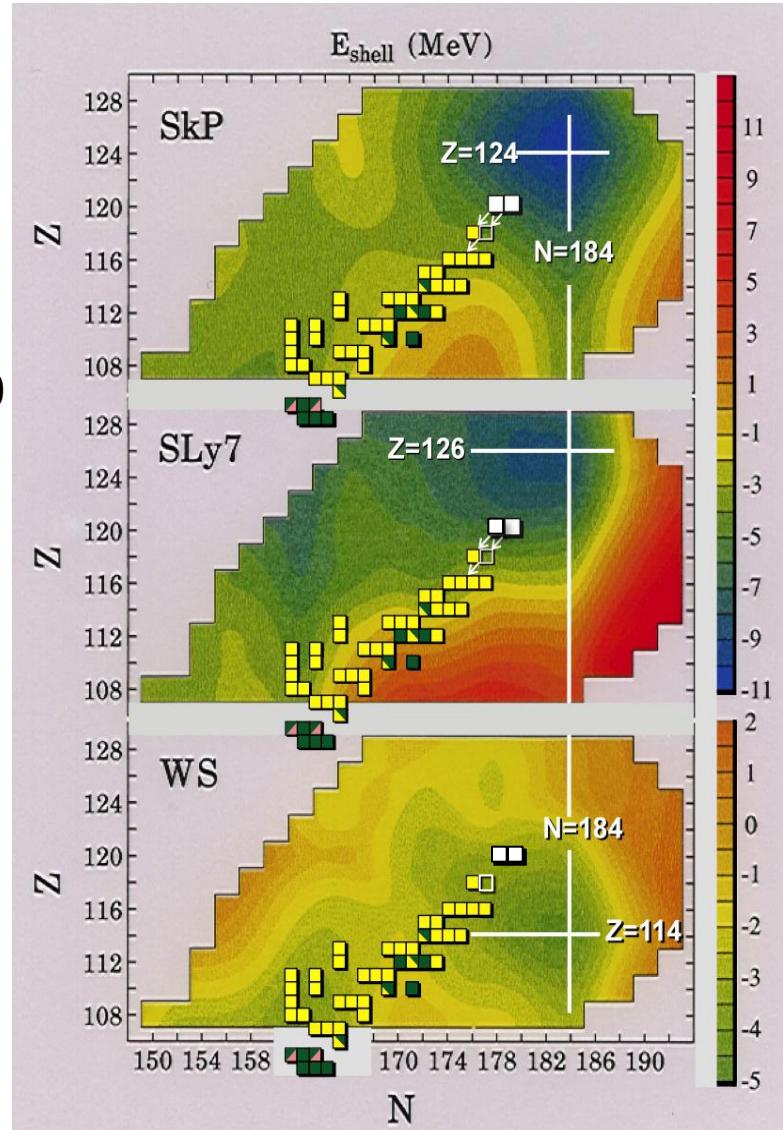
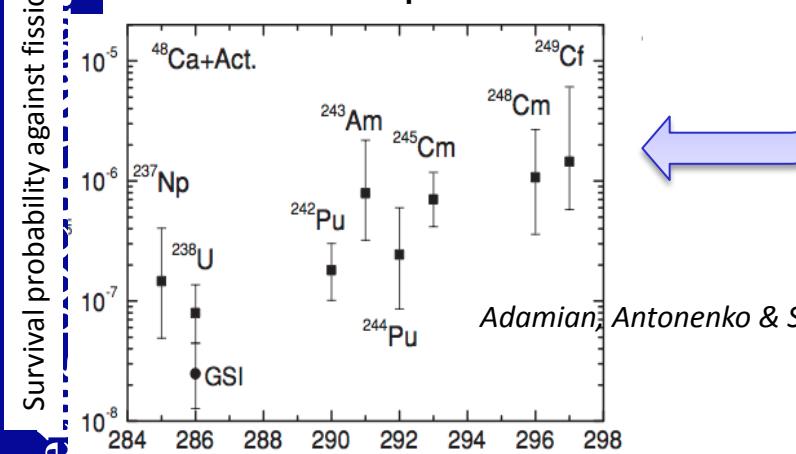
Observables

Decay properties (alpha, fission)

→ Decays half-lives very sensitive to shell closure: $Z=114$ is weak, decay times gets shorter for $Z=120$

Production cross sections

→ Seem to point at a shell closure for $Z \geq 120$



Deformed closed shell around ^{270}Hs

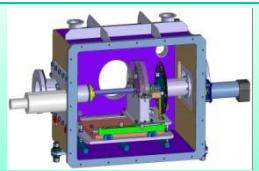
e.g. $^{40}\text{Ar} + ^{238}\text{U} \rightarrow ^{274}\text{Ds} + 4\text{n} \rightarrow ^{270}\text{Hs} + \alpha$

$I=50\mu\text{A} \rightarrow 190\text{evt/week}@\sigma_{\text{th}}=2\text{pb}$

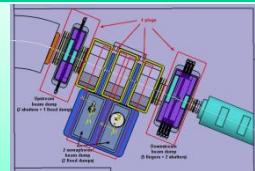
→ Detailed α , e^- , γ decay spectroscopy

Principle : Two-stage selection (B_p & m/q) that will achieve very good rejection of both the beam and adjacent mass channels of reaction products

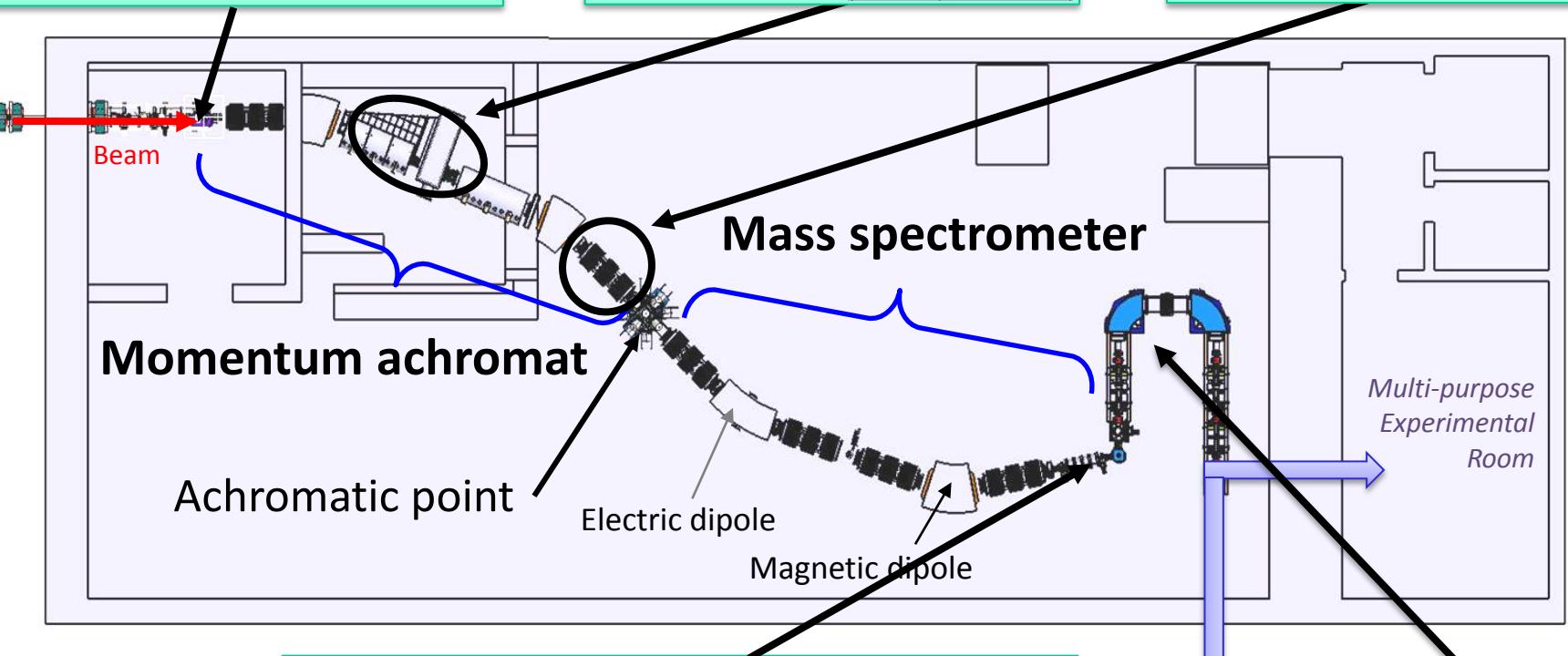
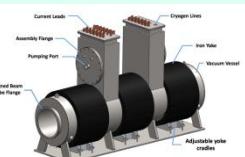
High power
Rotating targets
including actinides



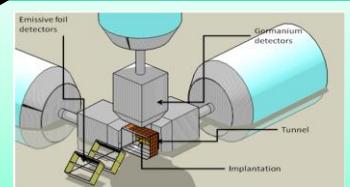
Beam dump
& Movable fingers



Large acceptance
Multipoles



Implantation-decay station
At the mass dispersive
plan



DESIR

Low Energy
Branch

S³ performances for SHE

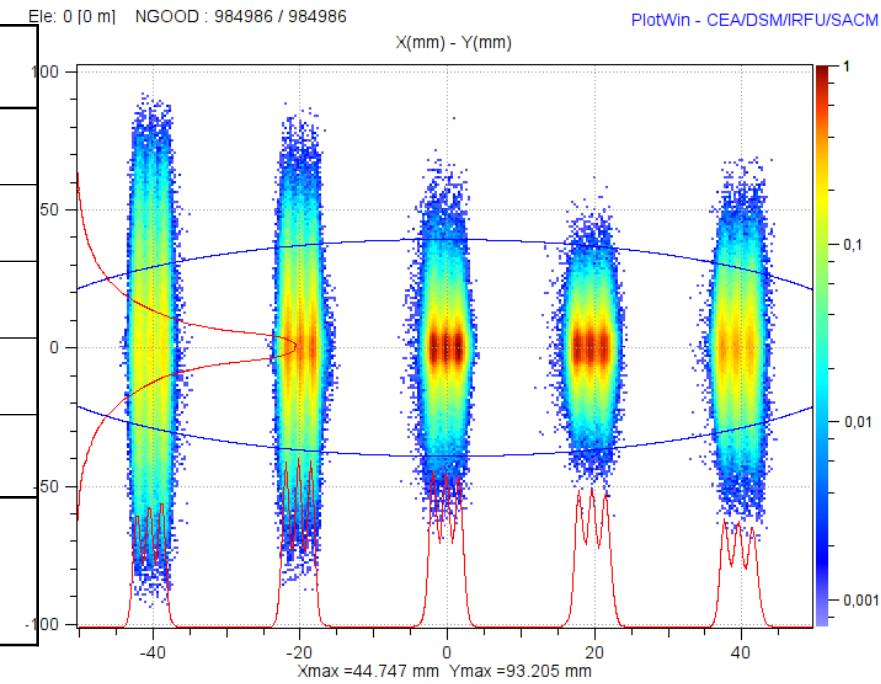
$^{48}\text{Ca} + ^{248}\text{Cm} \rightarrow ^{292}\text{116} + 4\text{n}$
 $I = 10\text{ p}\mu\text{A} - 300\mu\text{g/cm}^2 - \sigma = 3\text{ pb}$

- Random interaction point in target
- Angular straggling from Meyer + evaporation
- Q distribution from Shima-Sagaïdak-Yeremin
- All order ray-tracing with field maps

Transmission

| +Q | Population % | Transmission % |
|-----------------------|--------------|----------------|
| 18 | 15.3 | 39 |
| 19 | 17.3 | 85 |
| 20 | 16.2 | 87 |
| 21 | 12.6 | 75 |
| 22 | 8.4 | 29 |
| Folded transmission : | | 47% |

Image at focal plane



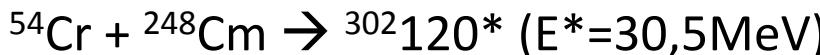
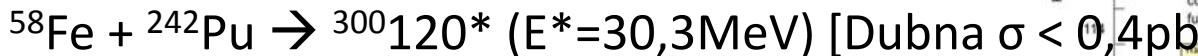
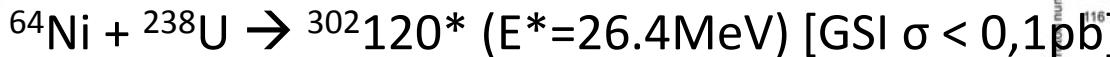
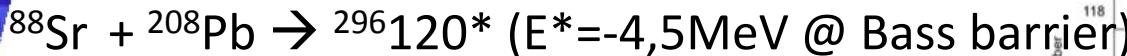
→ 40 implantations/week

→ M/dM = 374 FWHM

Simulations by D. Boutin (Ganil); O. Delferrière J. Payet (Irfu/SACM); F. Déchery (Irfu/SPhN)

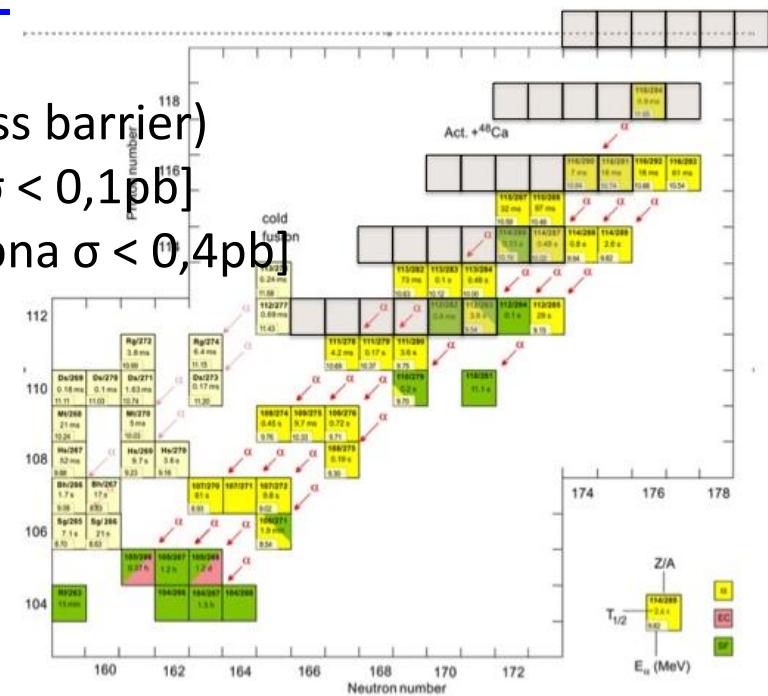
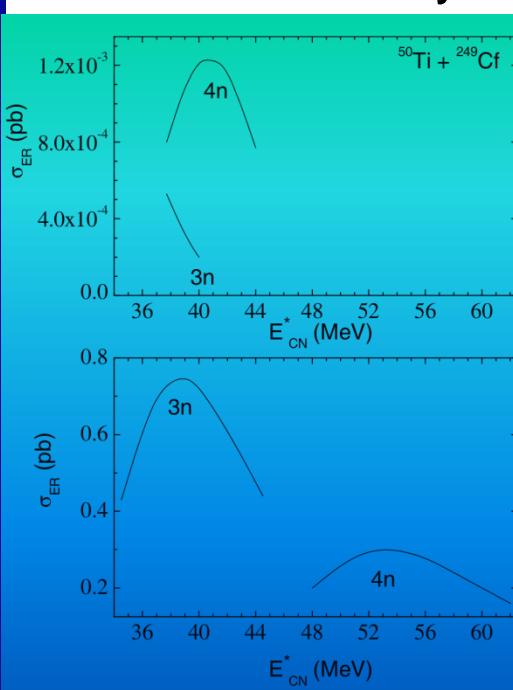
Towards the heaviest elements : Reaching Z=120

Possible reactions :



Various σ predictions

- Reaction model ?
- Real stability of the nuclei ?



→ must reach the 0,01pb sensitivity

Beam = 10pμA

Target = 300μg/cm²

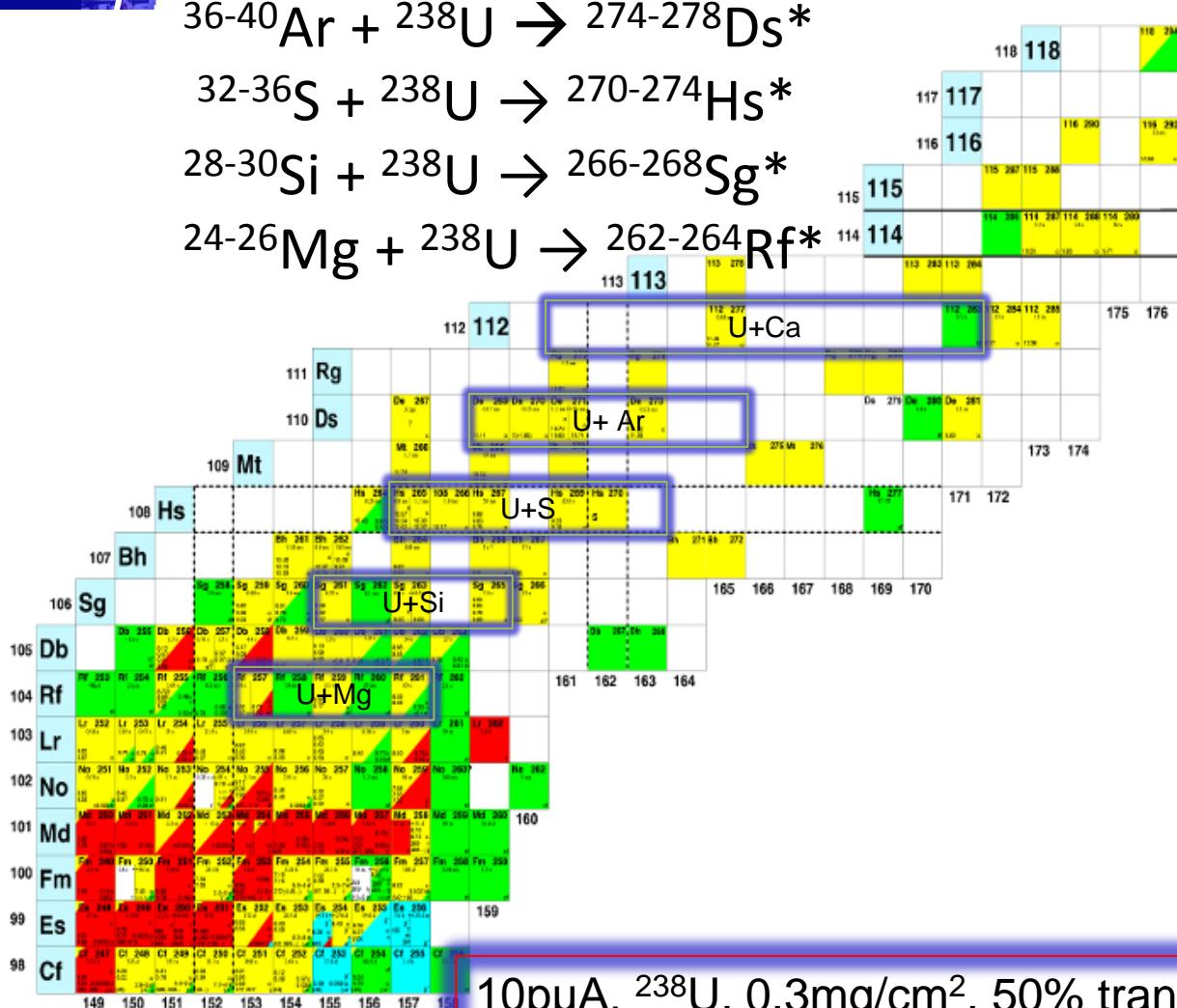
Effective beam on target = 80%

Transmission = 50%

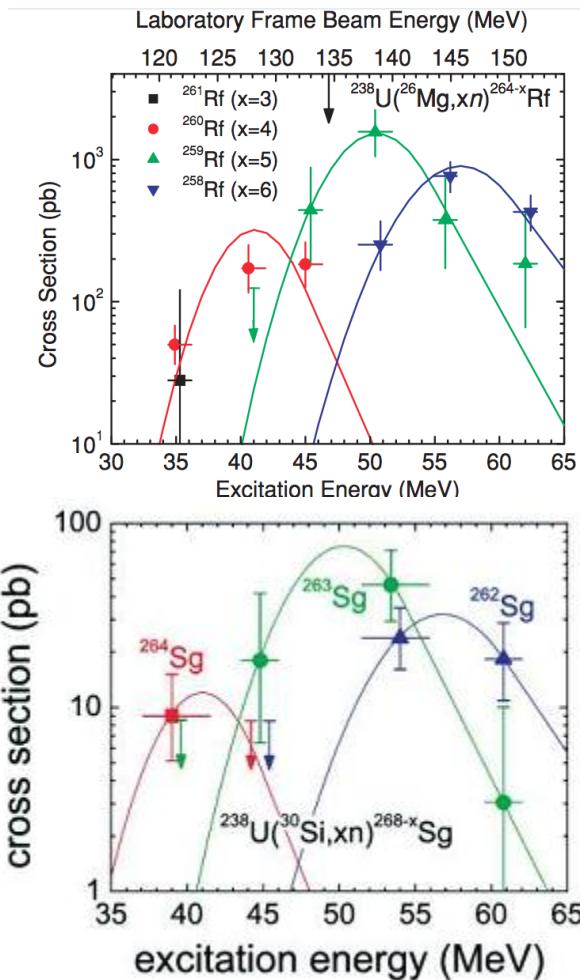
α Detection efficiency = 70%

→ $\sigma(1 \alpha\text{-event}) = 0.007\text{pb}$ for 3 months

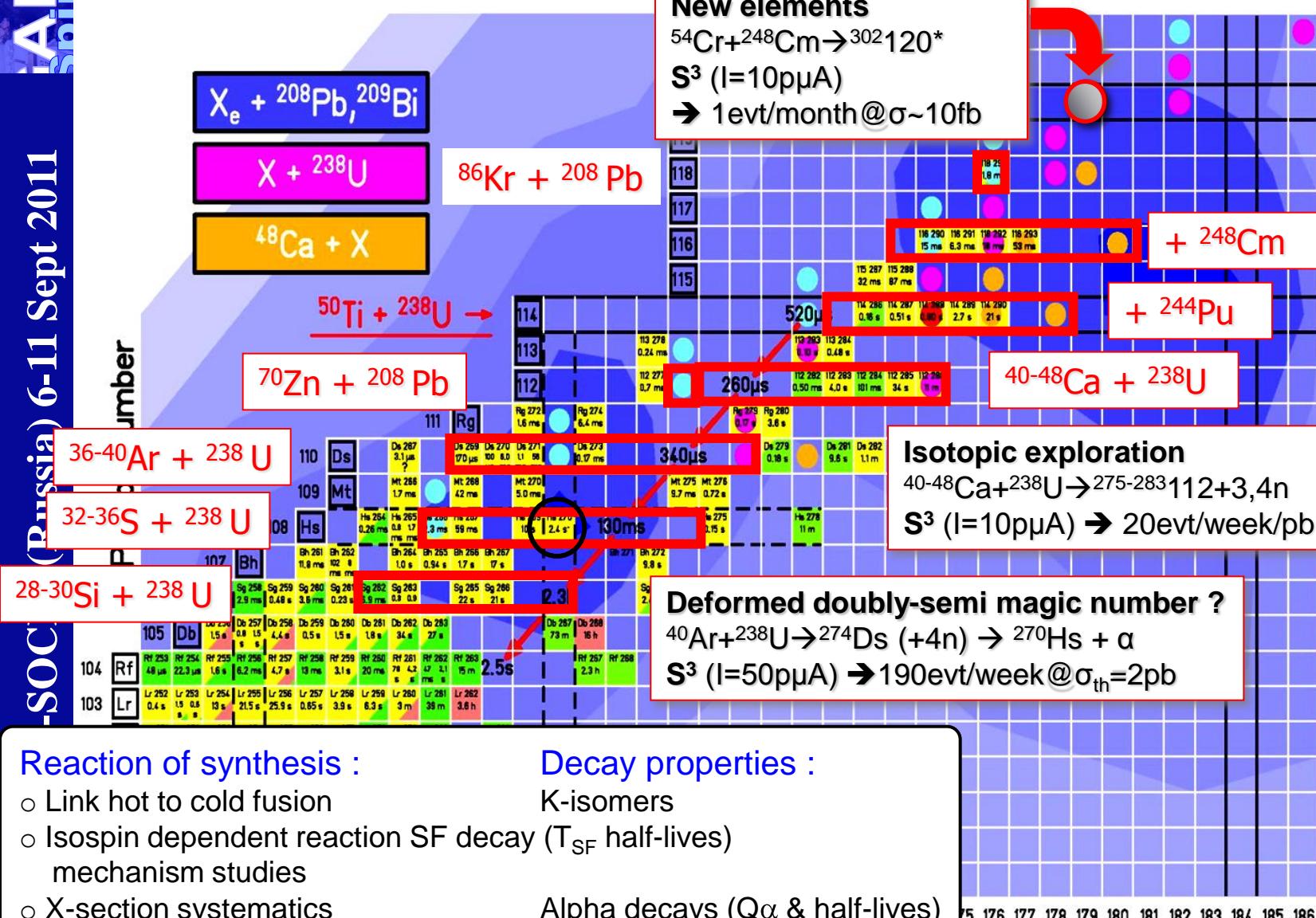
But before : SHE with Z=104-112 with U targets



10 pμA, ^{238}U , 0.3 mg/cm², 50% transmission, 55% full energy α
 → 80 α evts/week @ 10 pb



Studying, completing, enlarging



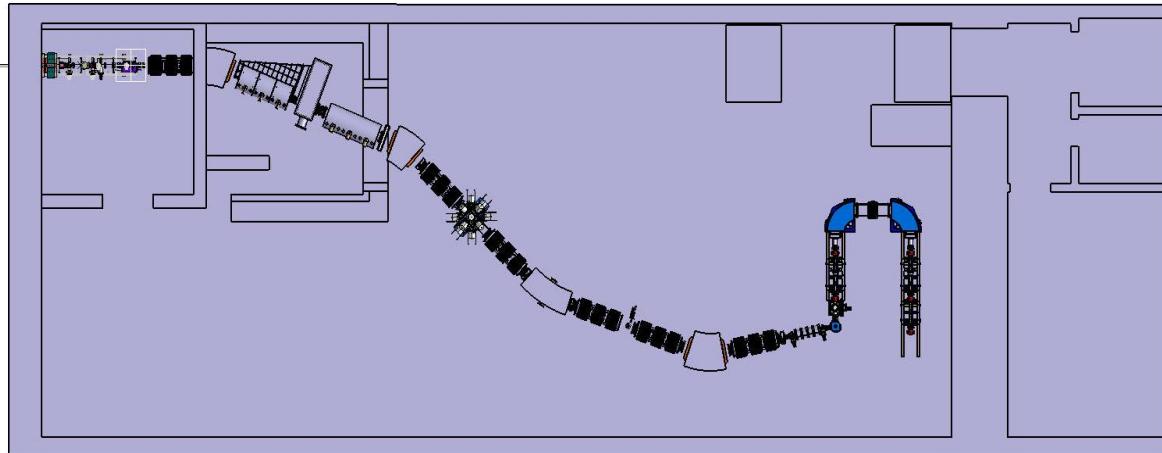
| | |
|----|----|
| Zr | Zn |
| Y | Cu |
| Sr | Ni |
| Rb | Co |
| Kr | Es |
| Br | Cf |
| Se | Mn |
| As | Bk |
| Ge | Cr |
| Ga | Cm |
| Sc | V |
| Zn | Am |
| Ca | Pu |
| Cu | Ti |
| K | Sc |
| Ni | Np |
| Ar | Zn |
| Co | Ca |
| Fe | K |

| |
|----|
| Si |
| Al |
| Mg |
| Na |
| Ne |

| |
|---|
| X |
| X |
| X |

Conclusions

S³ will be a unique tool to study of Superheavy Elements



- High intensity beams
- Large transmission
- Mass resolution
- Dedicated detection

- Structure of nuclei that are today barely known
 - detailed spectroscopy, new isomers, assignments of states*
- Less sensitive techniques can be applied to the heaviest nuclei
 - high resolution mass measurement with ion traps*
- Study of fine effects with a high cross section sensitivity
 - isospin dependance of cross sections*
- Reach new elements ?

Civil engineering
SPIRAL2 , May 20 2011

-10m Underground Floor Aug 2011

Infrastructure



Thanks to Orsay colleagues, Christelle Stoedel, Fanny
Farget, M.Morjean, Herve Savajols S3 and SPIRAL2
Project group
Thanks for your patience and come to visit us
At GANIL-SPIRAL2 new facility

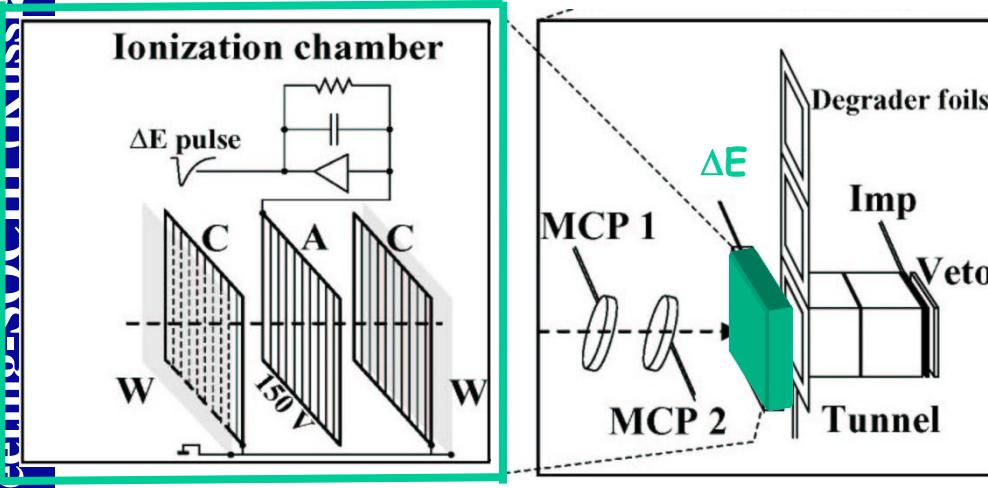


END

2002 : inverse kinematics

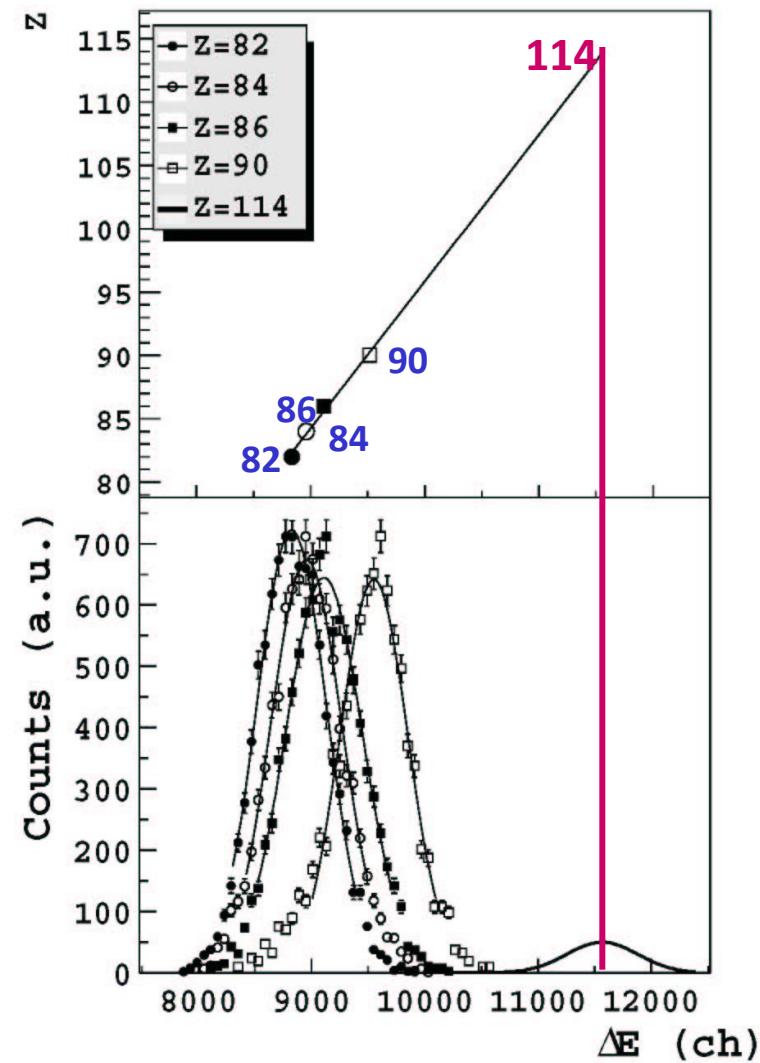


Ionisation chamber test for coulomb excitation



Detection chamber

A. Wieloch et al, NIM A 517 (2004) 364-371

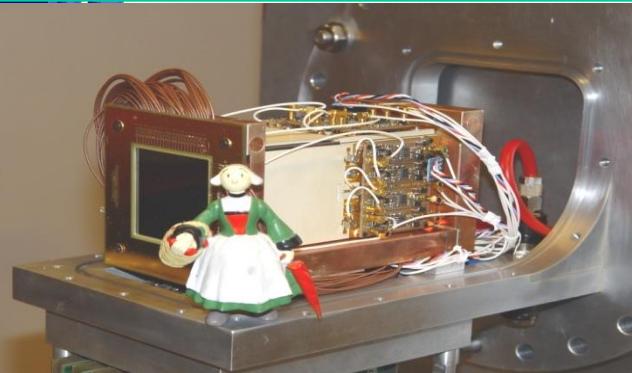


Spectroscopy of transfermium

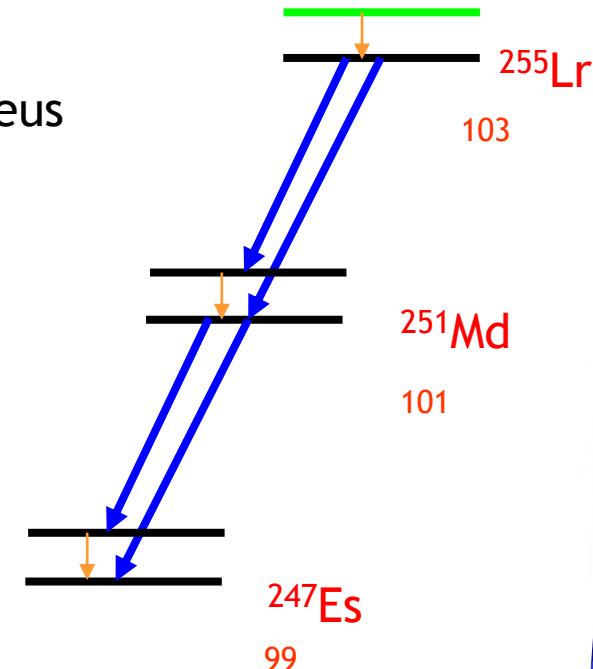
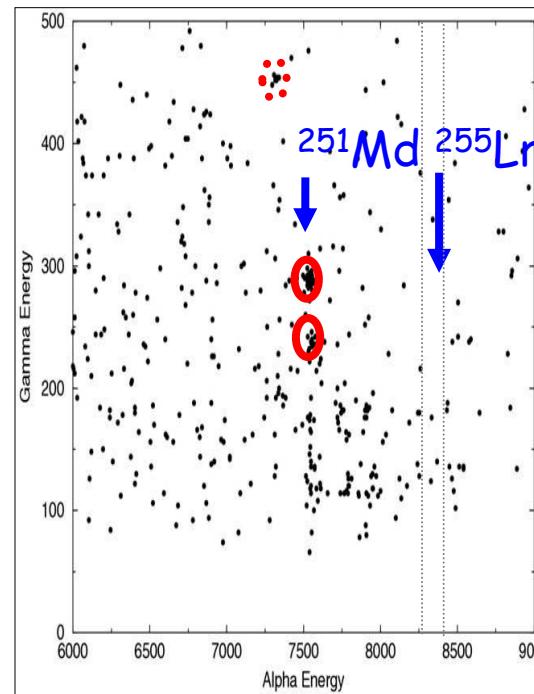


^{251}Md

odd-A nucleus



- New isomeric $7/2^-$ state in ^{255m}Lr
- Excited states in ^{251}Md
- $Q_{\alpha(\text{gs-gs})}$ for ^{255}Lr revised
- Spin and parity of ground- and excited- states from γ -ray, multipolarities, $E(\alpha\text{-decay})$ and HF
- HFB calculations OK for $7/2^-$ and $7/2^+$ states



DAPNIA/SPhN CEN Saclay
Univ.Jyvaskyla, Finland
JINR, Dubna, Russia
Univ. Liverpool, U.K.
G.S.I., Darmstadt
C.S.N.S.M., Orsay
I.R.E.S., Strasbourg
I.F.U., Krakow
GANIL, Caen, LPC, Caen

A. Chatillon et al, European Physical Journal A 2006 30 397-411

Synthesis of very heavy elements:

Fusion with (nearly-)symmetric channel

Experimental interest

- Mass symmetry
 - :() Synthesis of new super-heavy elements (Z)
- Mass symmetry + shell effects
 - :() Synthesis of new heavy (...super) heavy isotopes
 - :() Study of fusion mechanisms

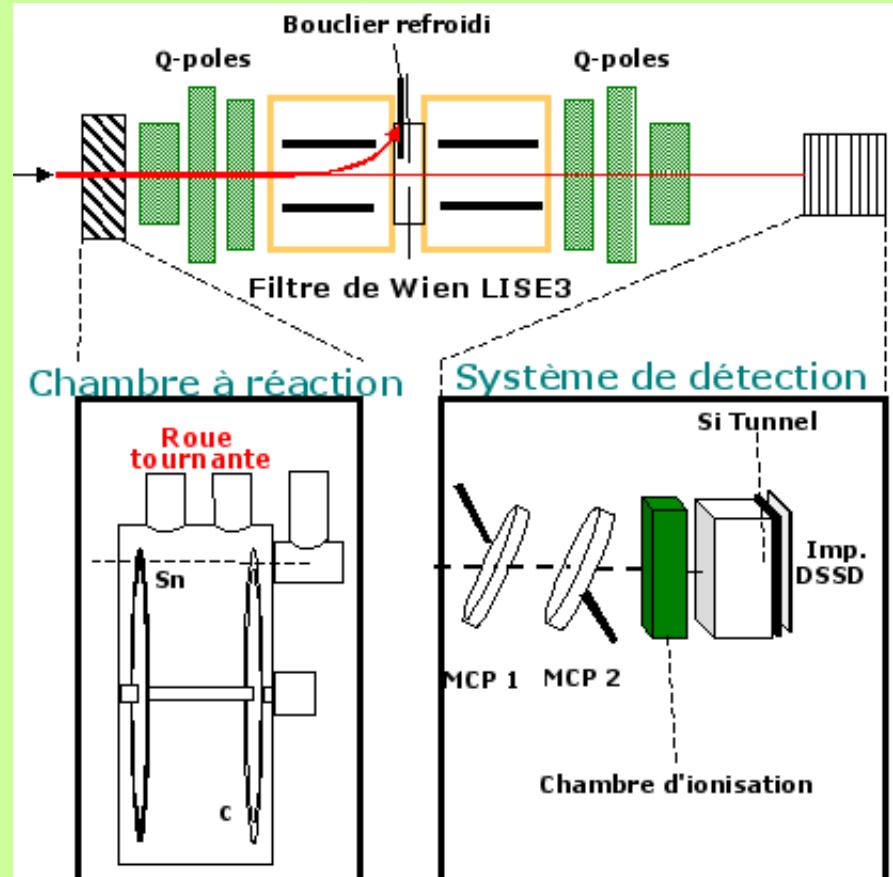
Advantages and drawbacks....

- :() Good transmission (forward focused kinematics)
- :() Very difficult velocity separation

Future : SPIRAL2@GANIL

- = Highly intense beams of neutron rich nuclei (Xe, Kr)
Systematic study of the neutron influence on fusion
- \Rightarrow RIB SPIRAL2 + LISE 3 == Fusion with symmetric channel possible ?

Experimental Set-up



Experimental set-up

- Beam:

$^{136}\text{Xe}^{18+}$ @ 4.6 MeV/u
 $\approx 2 \mu\text{Ae}$ ($\approx 7.10^{11}$ pps)

- Targets:

^{124}Sn (99%) - $400 \mu\text{g/cm}^2$
 $\delta E^* = \pm 3$ MeV

- Wien filter:

$E = 200 \text{ kV/m}$, $B = 190 \text{ G}$
 $\varepsilon_{\text{trans}} \approx 37\%$
 Rejection $\approx 5.10^8$
 Test 😞

- Detection system:

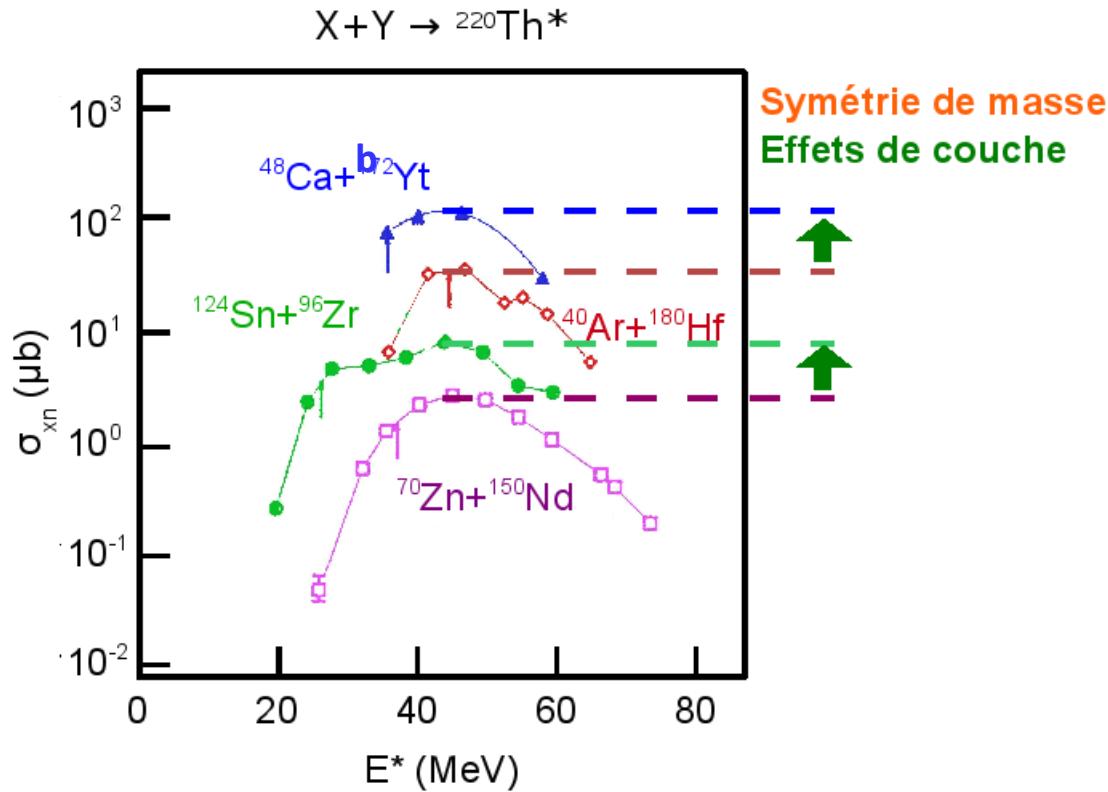
Micro-channel plates (MCP)
 Ionisation chamber (Z)
 Si BEST (E) 48×48
 Universal clock

Fusion : influence of the entrance channel (Exp.)

Asymmetry and shell effect

Ex.: influence of the entrance channel for the formation of $^{220}\text{Th}^*$
Fusion evaporation cross-sections (σ_{xn})

- Mass symmetry 😕
- Shell effects (use of highly bound nuclei) 😊



Events analysis

| Isotope | ^{257}Rf | ^{258}Rf | ^{259}Rf |
|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| ΔT_1 | 13,5 s | 44,1 ms | 7,5 s |
| ΔT_2 | 5,1 min | 2,75 min | 9,3 min |

⇒ Observed correlations

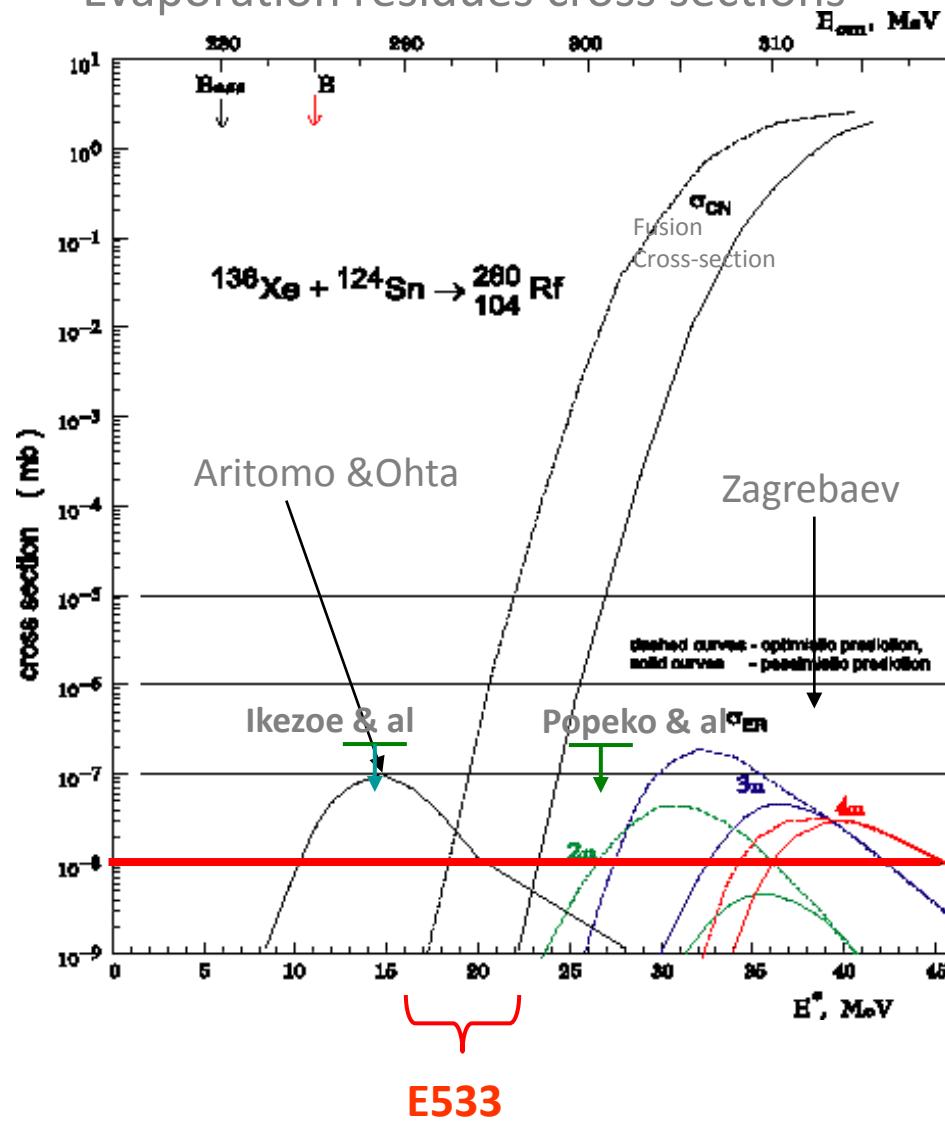
| | | | |
|------------------------------|-----|---|----|
| {ER- α_1 } | 105 | 0 | 22 |
| {ER- $\alpha_1 - \alpha_2$ } | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| {ER- α_1 } | | 9 | |

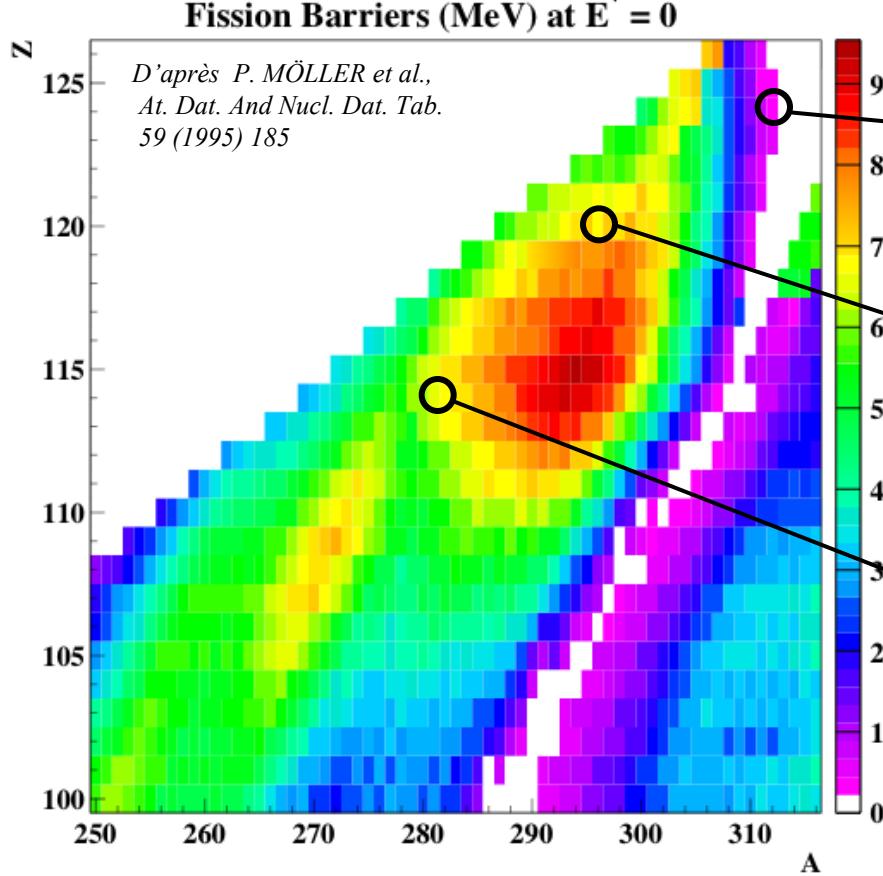
⇒ Estimation of random correlations (inverse reading of data)

| | | | |
|------------------------------|-----|----|----|
| {ER- α_1 } | 103 | 0 | 14 |
| {ER- $\alpha_1 - \alpha_2$ } | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| {ER- α_1 } | | 12 | |

Observed correlations ≡ random correlations

Evaporation residues cross sections





$Z = 124$ ($^{238}\text{U} + \text{Ge}$)

At least 12% of capture events with fission times longer than 10^{-18} s

$Z = 120$ ($^{238}\text{U} + \text{Ni}$)

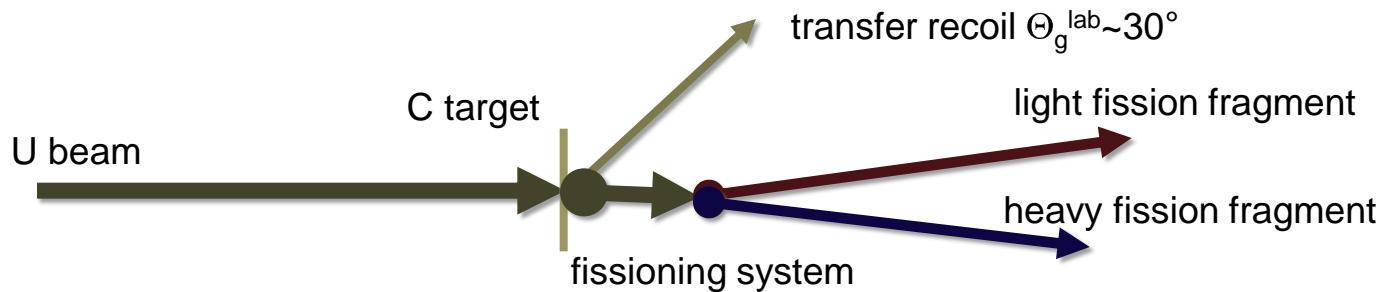
At least 10% of capture events with fission times longer than 10^{-18} s

$Z = 114$ ($^{208}\text{Pb} + \text{Ge}$)

No capture events (*below the sensitivity threshold*) with fission times longer than 10^{-18} s

$Z = 120$ and 124 very stable with respect to fission

Asymmetric fission for $Z = 120$ and 124



transfer

- U, Np, Pu, Am, Cm
- different E^*

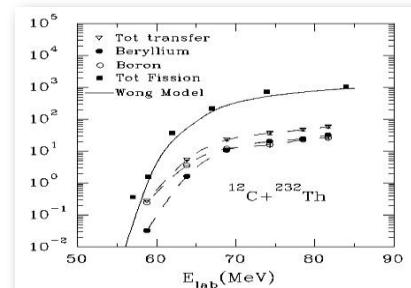
transfer - fission

~ 100 mbarn

Angle de grazing ~35°

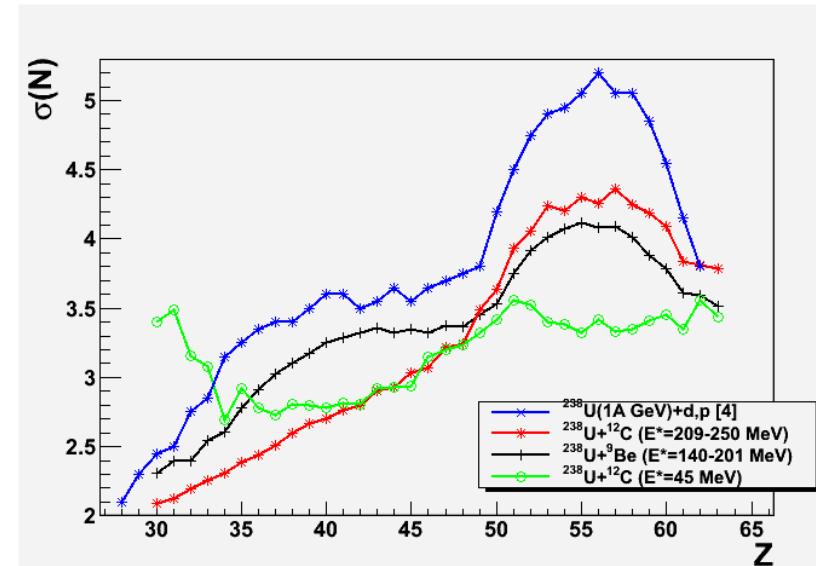
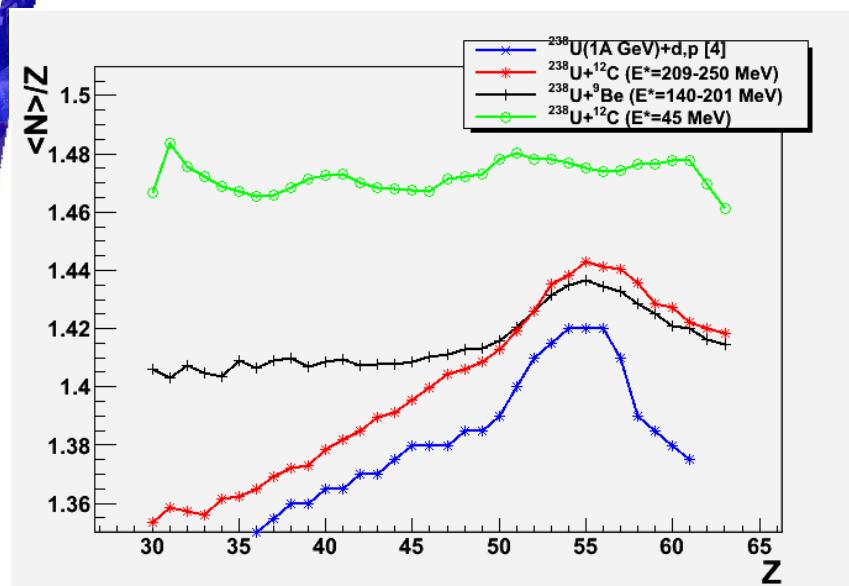
fusion - fission

~ 1000 mbarn



Evolution of global fission-fragment characteristics with excitation energy

Comparison of fusion-fission isotopic distributions at different beam energy.
 Comparison with spallation data.



Low excitation energy produce more neutron-rich nuclei

High excitation energy produce broader isotopic distributions

A. Shrivastava, M. Caamaño, M. Rejmund, A. Navin, F. Rejmund, K. -H. Schmidt, A. Lemasson, C. Schmitt, L. Gaudefroy, K. Sieja, L. Audouin, C. O. Bacri, G. Barreau, J. Benlliure, E. Casarejos, X. Derkx, B. Fernández-Domínguez, C. Golabek, B. Jurado, T. Roger, and J. Taieb, Prompt spectroscopy of isotopically identified fission fragments , Phys. Rev. C 80, 051305 (2009)

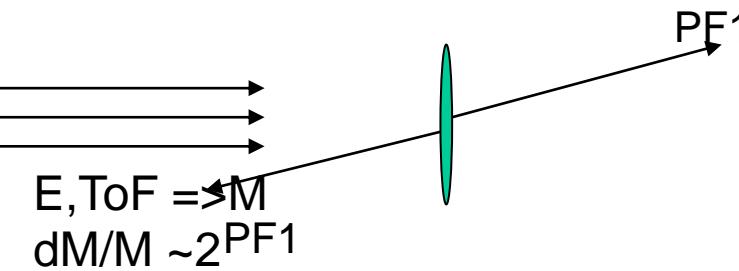
« Isotopic resolution of fission fragments from $^{238}\text{U}+^{12}\text{C}$ transfer and fusion réactions », M. Caamaño, F. Rejmund, X. Derkx, K.-H. Schmidt, L. Audouin, C.-O. Bacri, G. Barreau, L. Gaudefroy, C. Golabek, B. Fernandez-Dominguez, B. Jurado, A. Lemasson, A. Navin, J. Benlliure, E. Casarejos, M. Rejmund, T. Roger, C. Schmitt, J. Taieb, 4th International Workshop on Nuclear Fission and Fission-Product Spectroscopy, Cadarache, France, May 2009, AIP

Thèse
 X. Derkx 2010
 O. Delaune 2011

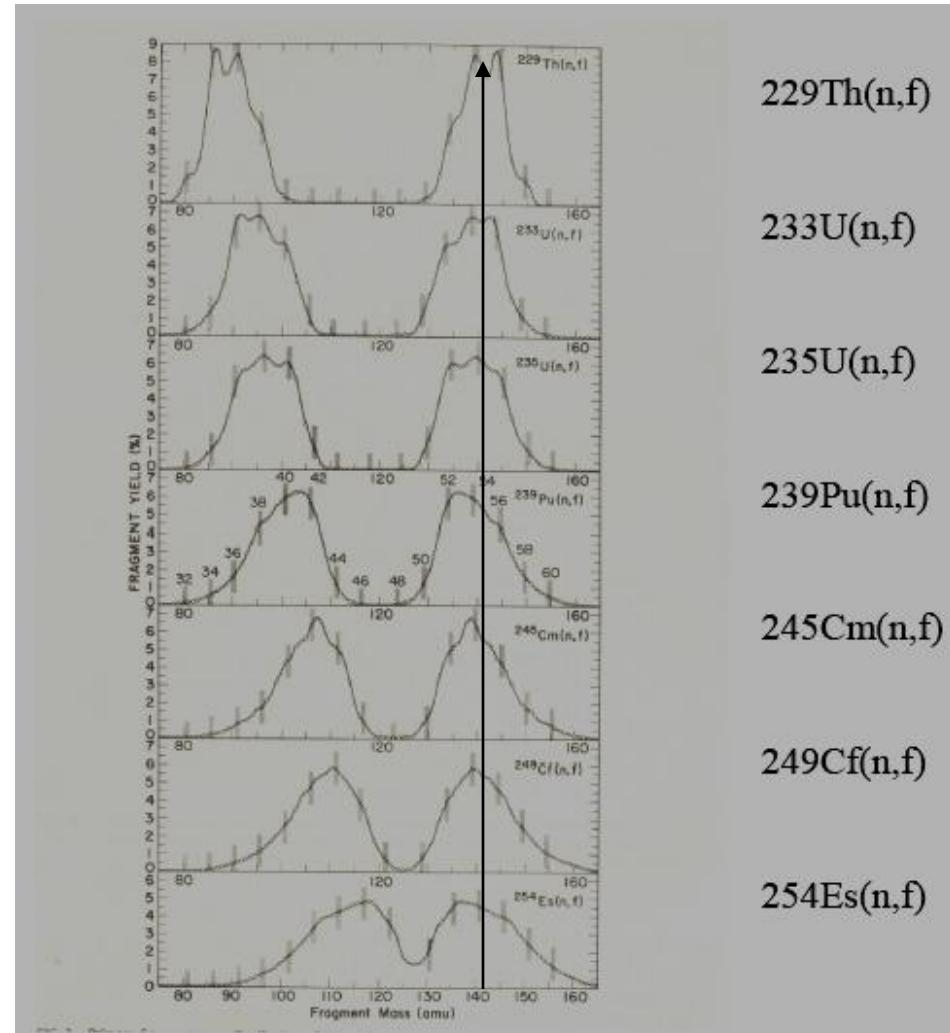
Expérience E516

Mass distribution

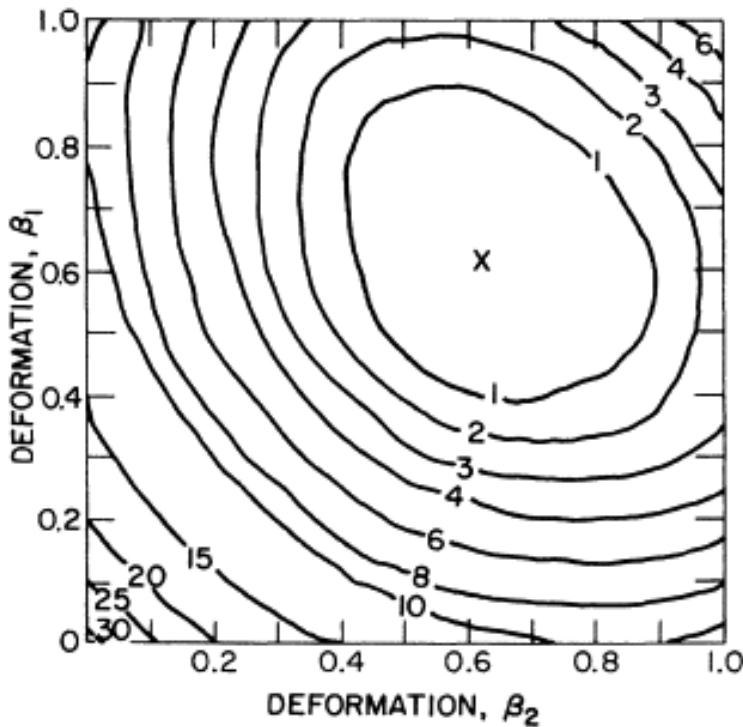
n



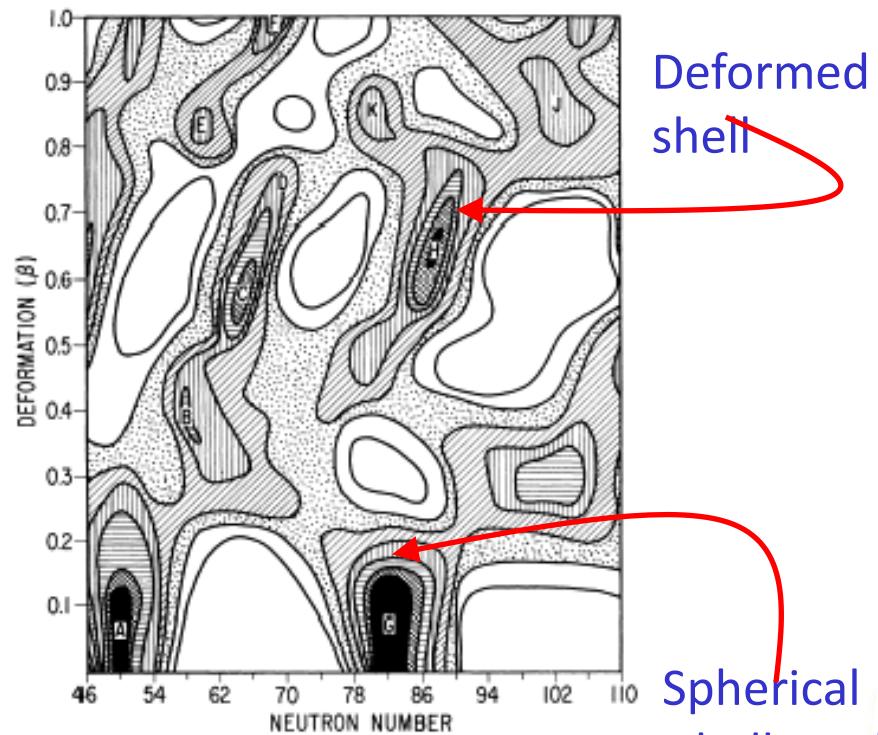
- Fission: macroscopic process
- Fission fragment distribution strongly influenced by structural effects
- Neutron shell effects in the nascent fragments produce an asymmetric distribution and stabilize the mass distribution around $A=140$

 $A \sim 140$

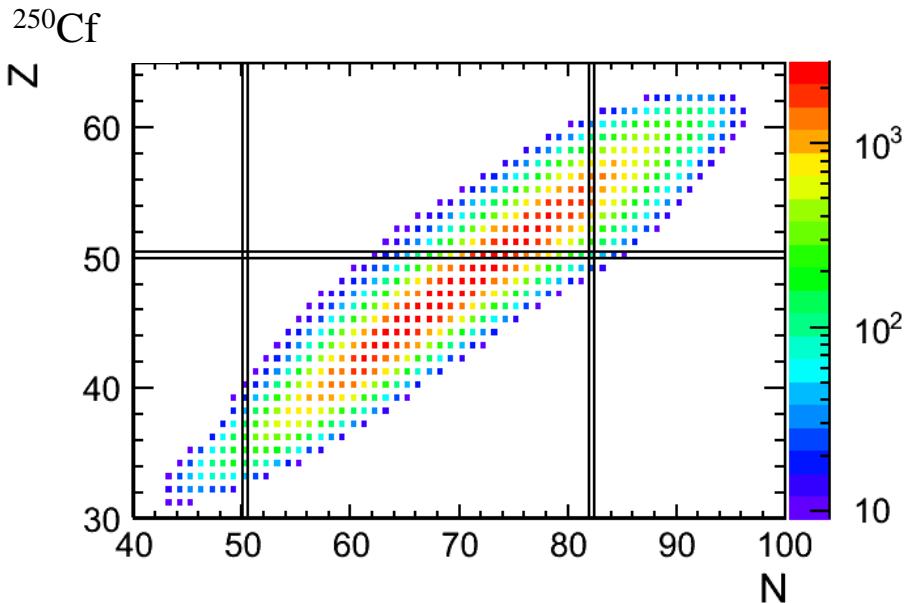
Liquid drop :
Symmetric fission with equally deformed
fragments



Shell effects modify the minima of PES

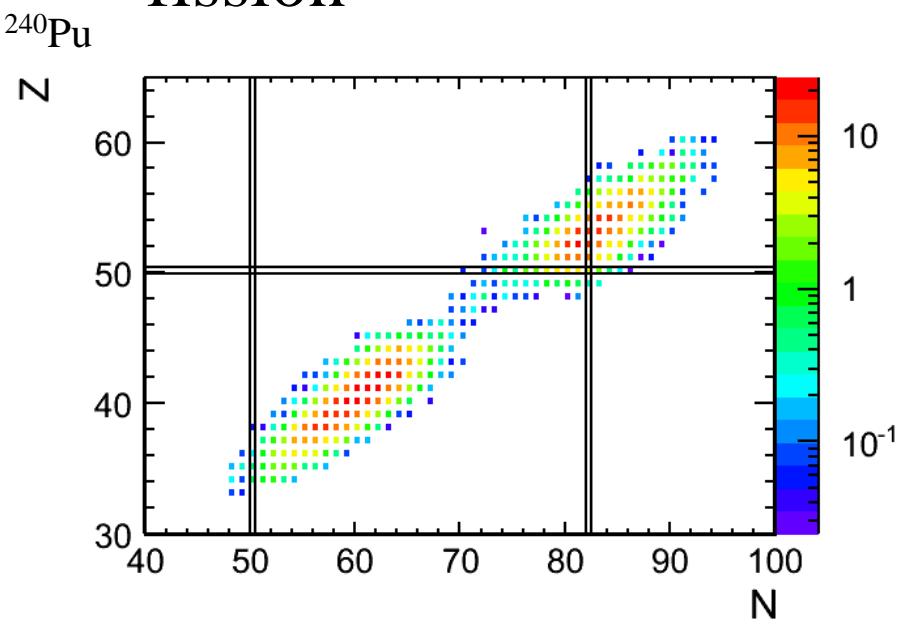


The exact position of the different minima is still controversial
→ Difficulty (impossibility) to predict fission fragment yields

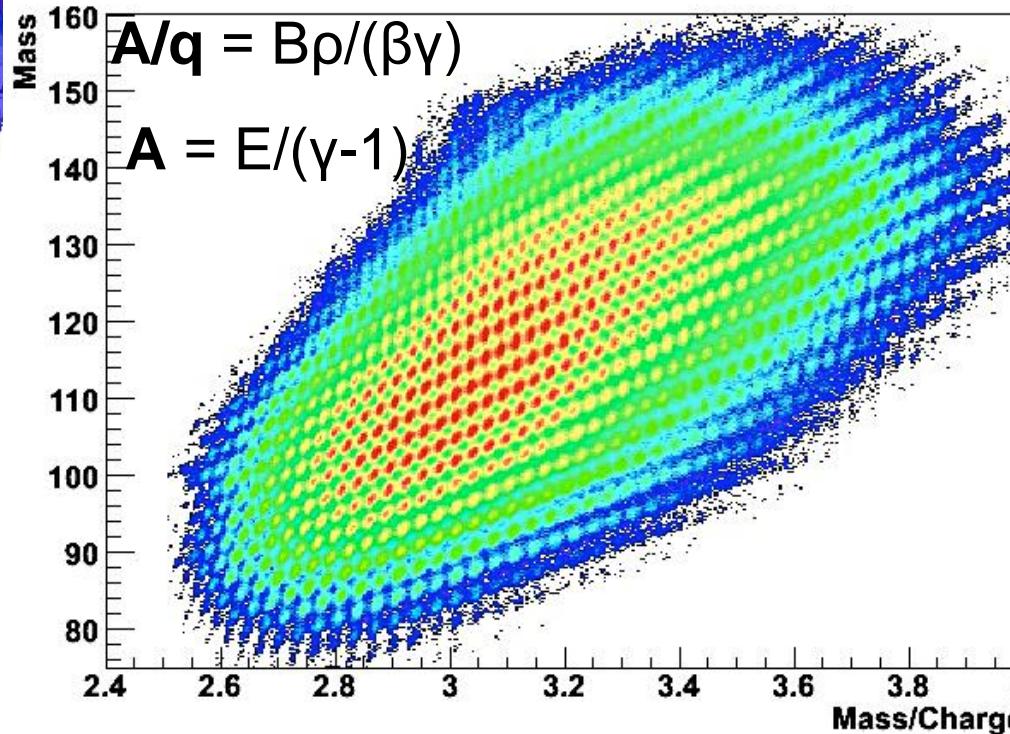


Fusion-fission, $E^* = 45$ MeV symmetric fission

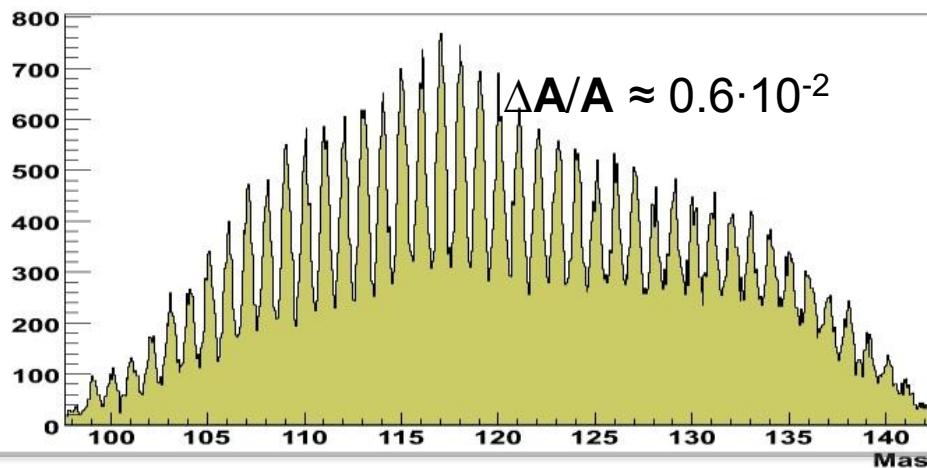
Transfer-fission, $E^* = 12$ MeV, assymmetric fission



Mass identification with VAMOS : A, A/q



Ident fission fragment $A \approx 90$ à $A \approx 140$

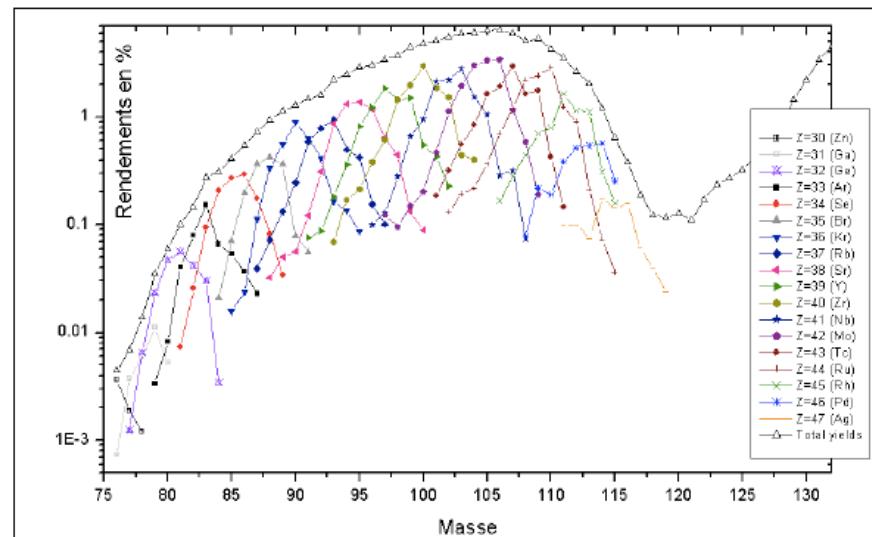


□ Spectromètre (Lohengrin, ILL)

Mesure précise de A

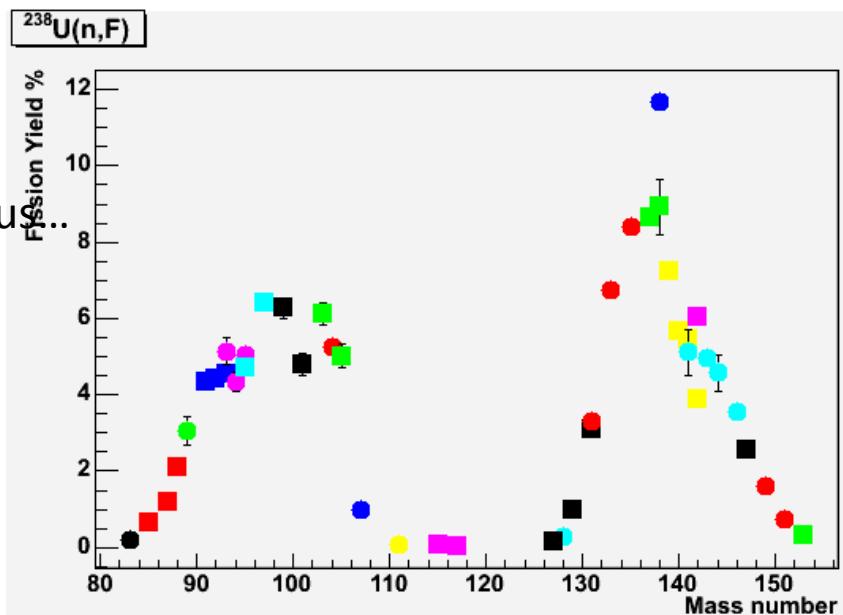
Mesure de Z avec une chambre à ionisation

-Energie cinétique des fragments très basse
 =>méthode limitée aux fragments légers
 (pas d'information sur les effets de couche
 dans les fragments lourds)

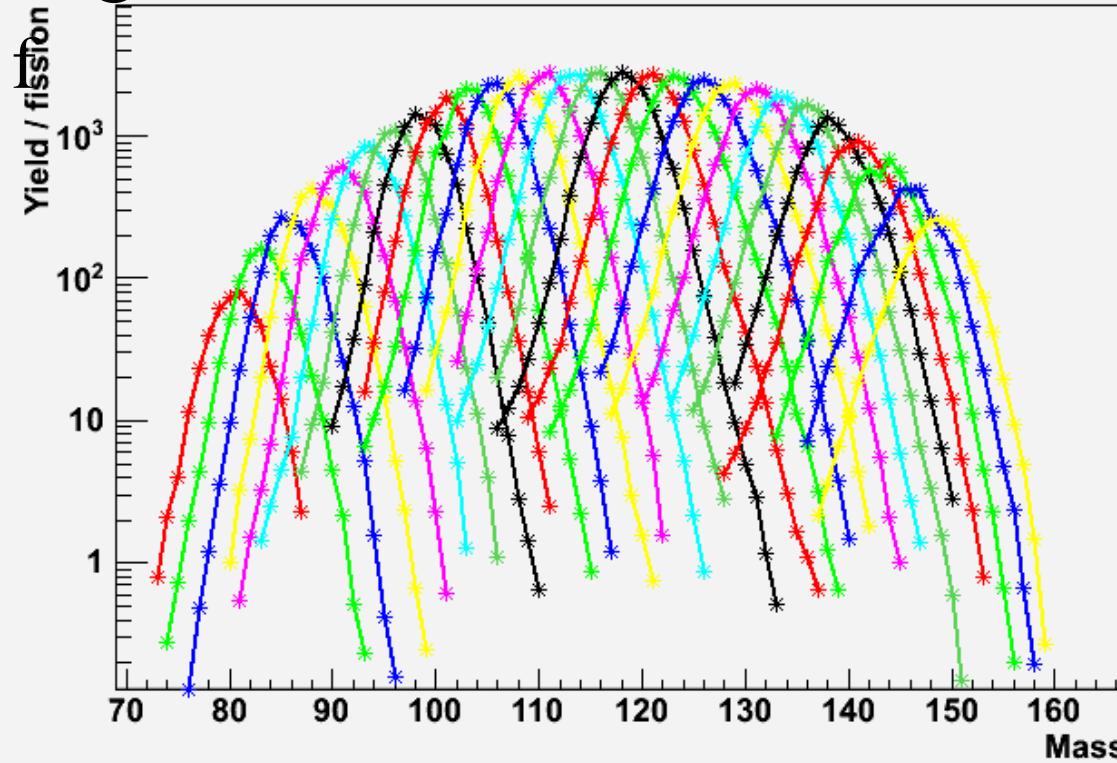


- Spectroscopie γ

Rapports de branchement, isomères inconnus...
 ⇒Distribution isotopique complète
 difficile à mesurer
 ⇒Conclusions sur le rôle des neutrons
 restent incomplètes

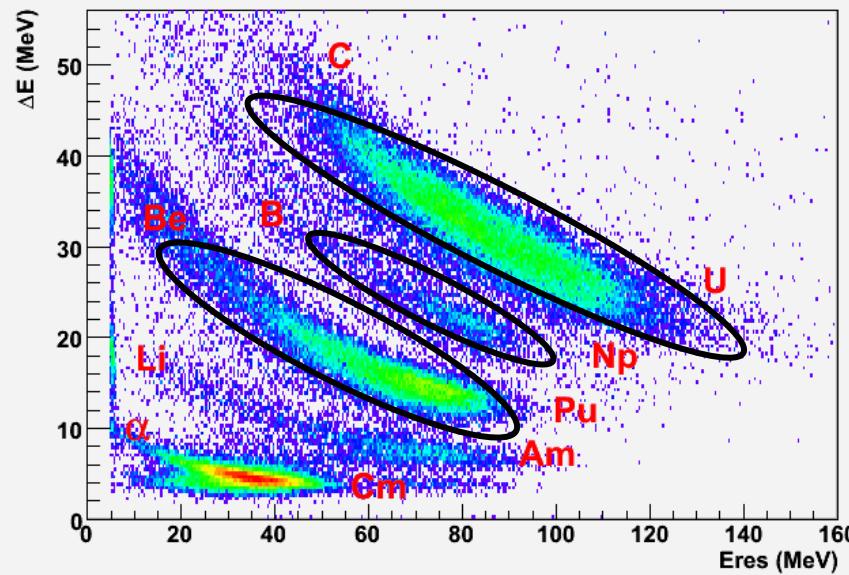


250C

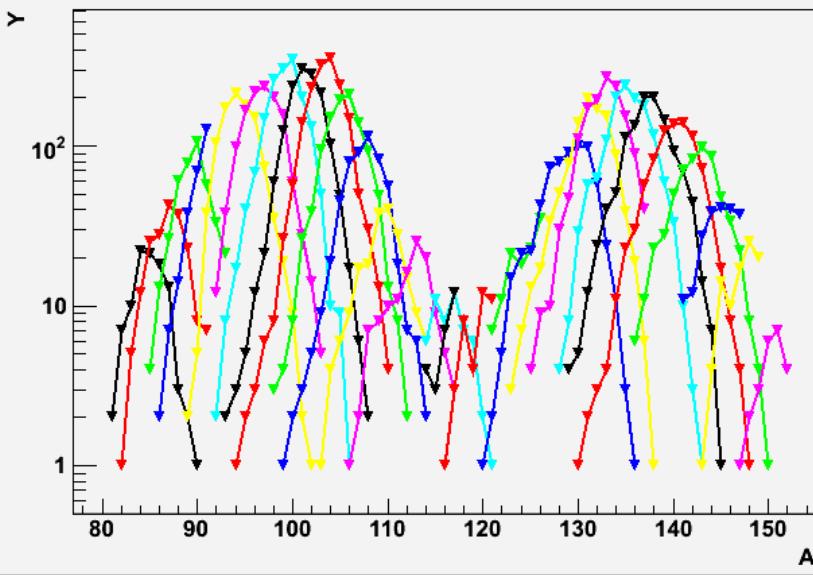


$^{238}\text{U} + ^{12}\text{C}$
 $E^* \approx 45 \text{ MeV}$
(symmetric fission)

SPIDER gated



hfig



One experiment, different fissioning systems

Access to the complete and isotopic distribution of fission fragments for the first time

Tome 36 N° 2 FÉVRIER 1975

LE JOURNAL DE PHYSIQUE

Classification
Physics Abstracts
4.490

SEARCH FOR SUPERHEAVY ELEMENTS IN NATURE
C. STEPHAN and J. TYS (*)

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M. SOWINSKI
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Laboratoire René-Bernas,
Institut de Spectrométrie Nucléaire et de Spectrométrie de masse, 91406 Orsay, France

(Reçu le 2 juillet 1974)

Résumé : On a essayé de mettre en évidence d'éléments superlourds par leur fission induite par les neutrons dans des échantillons de diverses matières naturelles (minéraux, poussière lunaire, météorite), préalablement analysés dans un séparateur de masse. Des masses subissant la fission ont effectivement été collectées dans la région de masse $A = 300$. Aucune conclusion sur l'existence des éléments superlourds n'a pu être obtenue en raison d'une contamination possible de cette région de masse par des débris nucléaires issus d'autres sources de thorium. Cependant, la plupart des rapports de sections efficaces de fission qui sont difficilement explicable par la présence d'atomes d'uranium ou de thorium. Des résultats complémentaires concernant les propriétés des atomes contenus dans ces masses sont également donnés.

Abstract : Superheavy elements have been searched for by neutron induced fission of mass separated samples. Various natural materials have been investigated : minerals, manganese nodules, lunar dust, meteoritic materials. Fissioning masses have been collected in the $A = 300$ mass region. However, one cannot conclude that these masses are superheavy elements because of a possible contamination of this mass region by nuclear debris from other sources of thorium. In this test for this possibility, the ratios of fast to thermal neutron events have been determined in each separated mass region. These ratios cannot be completely understood due to the fission of U or Th atoms. Some complementary results concerning the properties of the atoms contained in these masses are also given.

1. Introduction. — A few years ago, some superheavy elements were predicted in theory to have half-lives of more than 10⁵ years, which prompted experimentalists to search for superheavy elements in nature [1, 2, 3, 4]. At that time calculations had not been done about their rate of formation during the nucleosynthesis of elements. All calculations, since

then, are pessimistic about the occurrence of superheavy elements in nature and some even believe their formation is impossible [5, 6]. However, the parameters used in these calculations may not be known with enough precision to warrant such a drastic conclusion. For example, O. Johns [7] has shown that the possibility of formation of superheavy nuclei depends critically on the neutron density and the temperature existing in supernovae, neither of which are known with the necessary accuracy. It is inter-

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SHE in Nature 1975

New method with a mass separator to search uranium and thorium in very low quantity, sensitivity limit of 10⁻¹¹ or 10⁻¹³ g/g of SHE

Super Heavy elements In Nature

SHIN

Laboratoire Souterrain de Modane



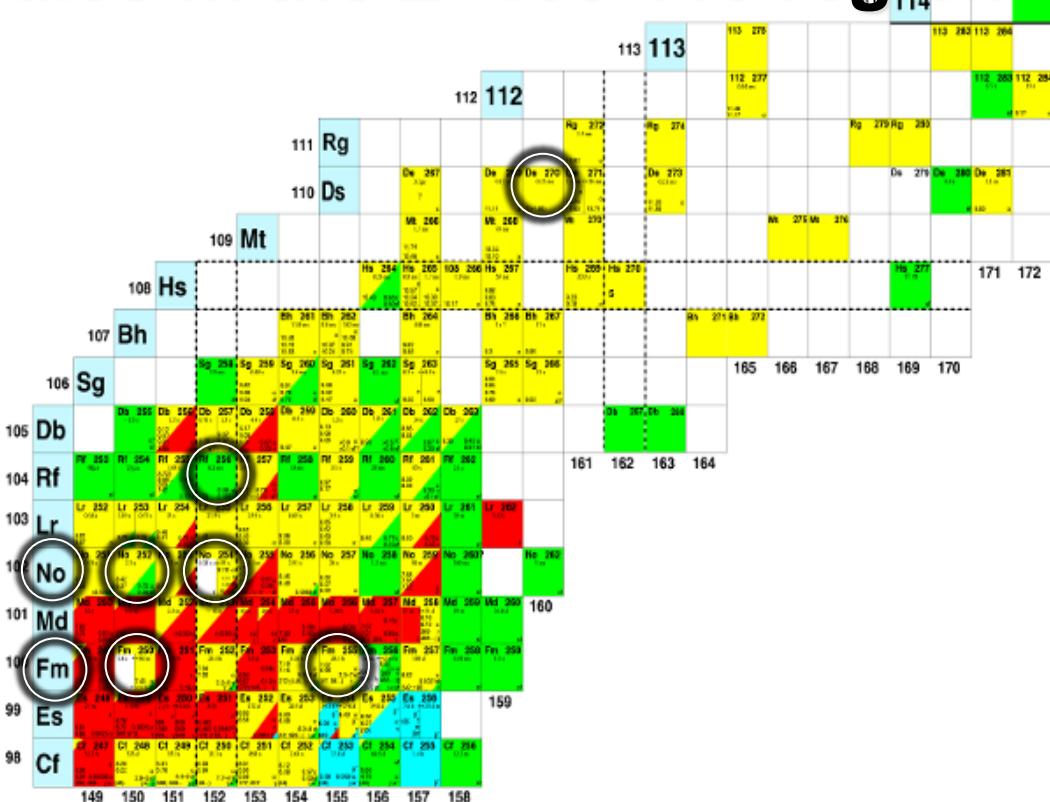
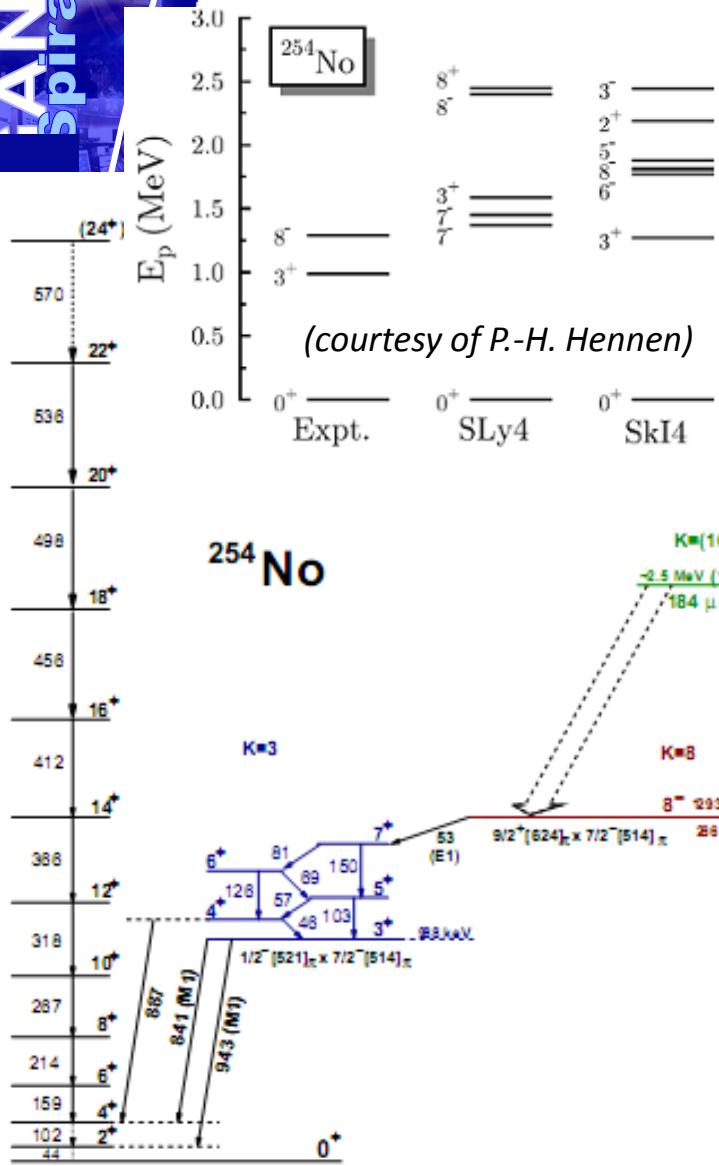
Since April 2009, search for Z=114 in a sample of Xe

Neutrons from spontaneous fission of long-lived super-heavy nuclei
Svirikhin, A.; Briançon, Ch.; Dmitriev, S.; Oganessian, Yu.; Sokol, E.; Testov, D.; Yeremin, A.

AIP Conference Proceedings;10/15/2009, Vol. 1175 Issue 1, p297

Concentration of Z=108 in Os sample 10⁻¹⁴ g/g

K-isomerism studies in the Z=100-110 region

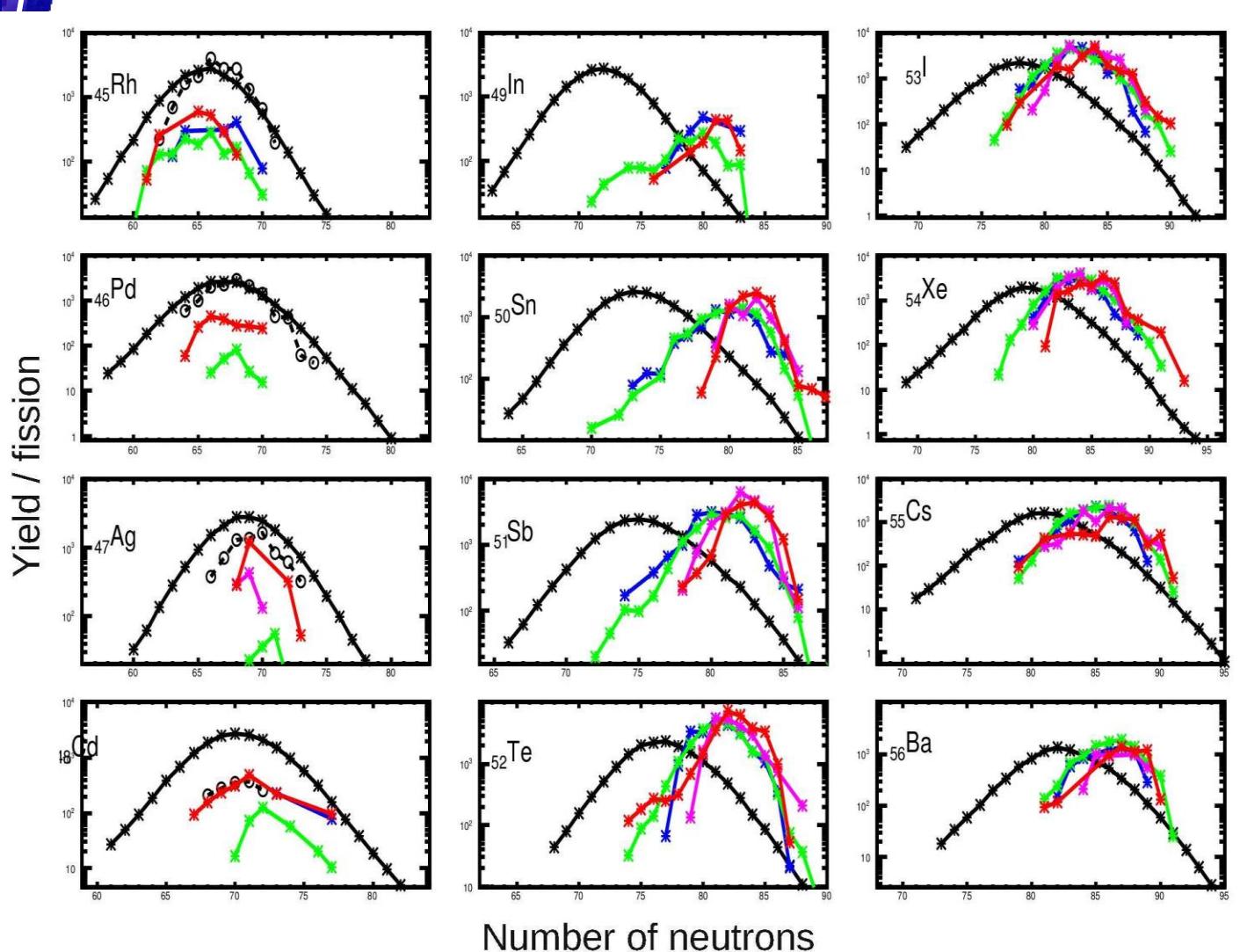


- No isomers known in Sg, Hs isotopes
- High-statistics allow better assignments of multipolarities, etc

Experimental Challenges

- ➔ Very low cross sections ($< 10\text{-}100\text{pb}$)
- ➔ with $I=10\mu\text{A}$, $\approx 100\text{evt/week}$
- ➔ stringent demands on focal plane set-up

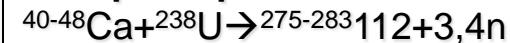
Isotopic distributions in fusion-induced and transfer-induced fission



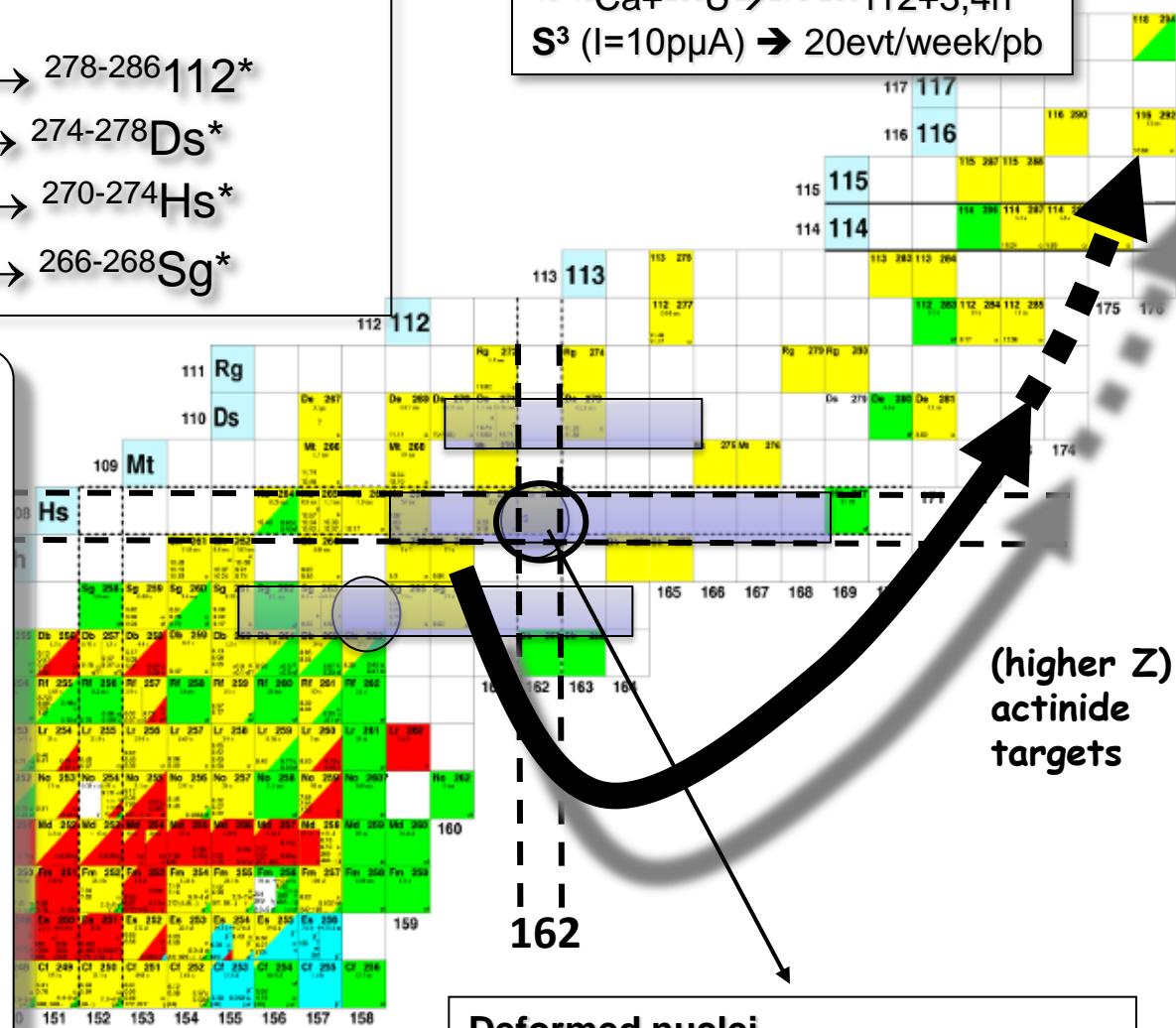
Production of SHE with Z=106-108-110-112



Isotopic exploration



S^3 ($I=10\text{p}\mu\text{A}$) $\rightarrow 20\text{evt/week/pb}$



At the crossing road for

Reaction of synthesis :

- Link hot to cold fusion
- Isospin dependent reaction mechanism studies
- X-section systematics

Decay properties :

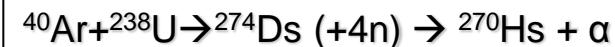
- K-isomers
- SF decay (T_{SF} half-lives)
- Alpha decays ($Q\alpha$ & half-lives)

Trans-actinide chemistry

GS properties

- Mass measurements ...

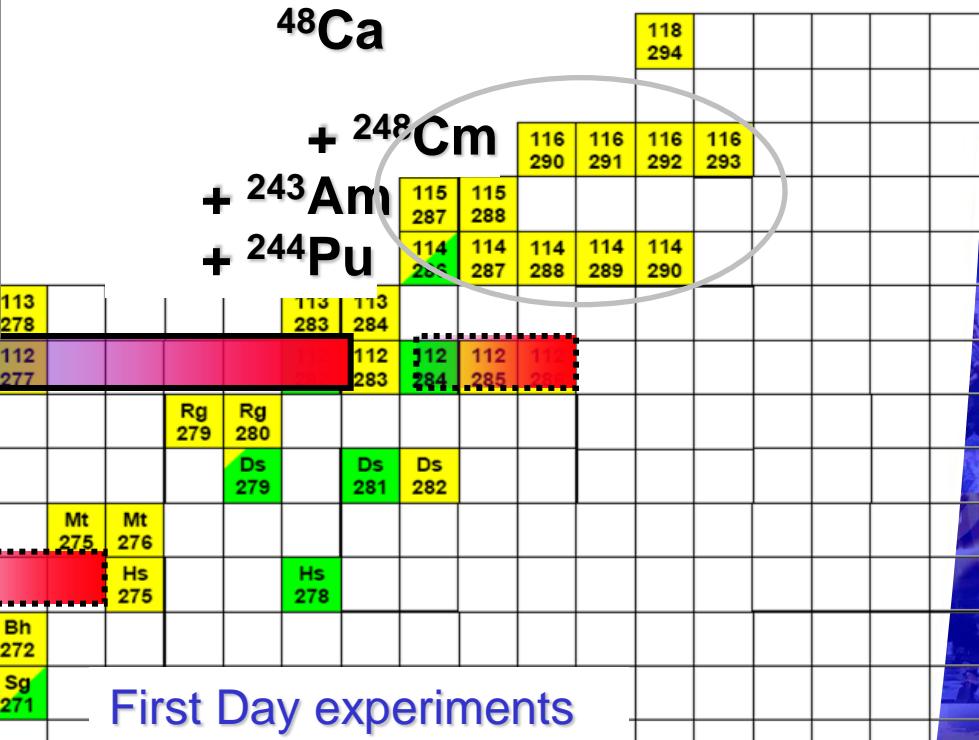
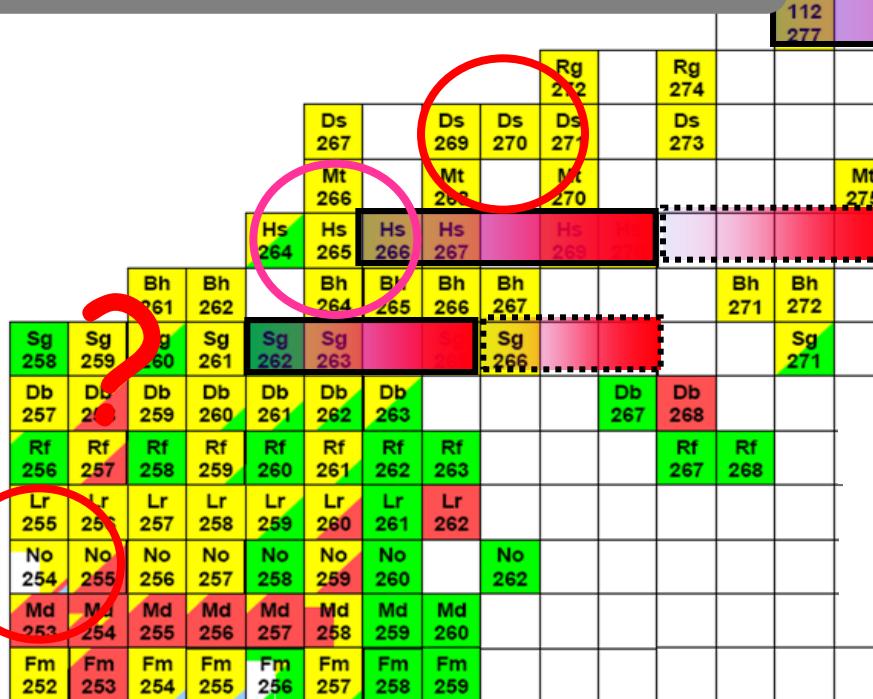
Deformed nuclei



S^3 ($I=50\text{p}\mu\text{A}$) $\rightarrow 190\text{evt/week}@\sigma_{th}=2\text{pb}$

- link hot to cold fusion
- x-section systematics
- transactinide chemistry
- hunt for K-isomers
- isospin dependent reaction mechanism studies

Mid-term experiments (reproductibility)



First Day experiments

40-48^{Ca}

$$+ {}^{238}\text{U} \rightarrow {}^{278-286}\text{112}^*$$

32-36S

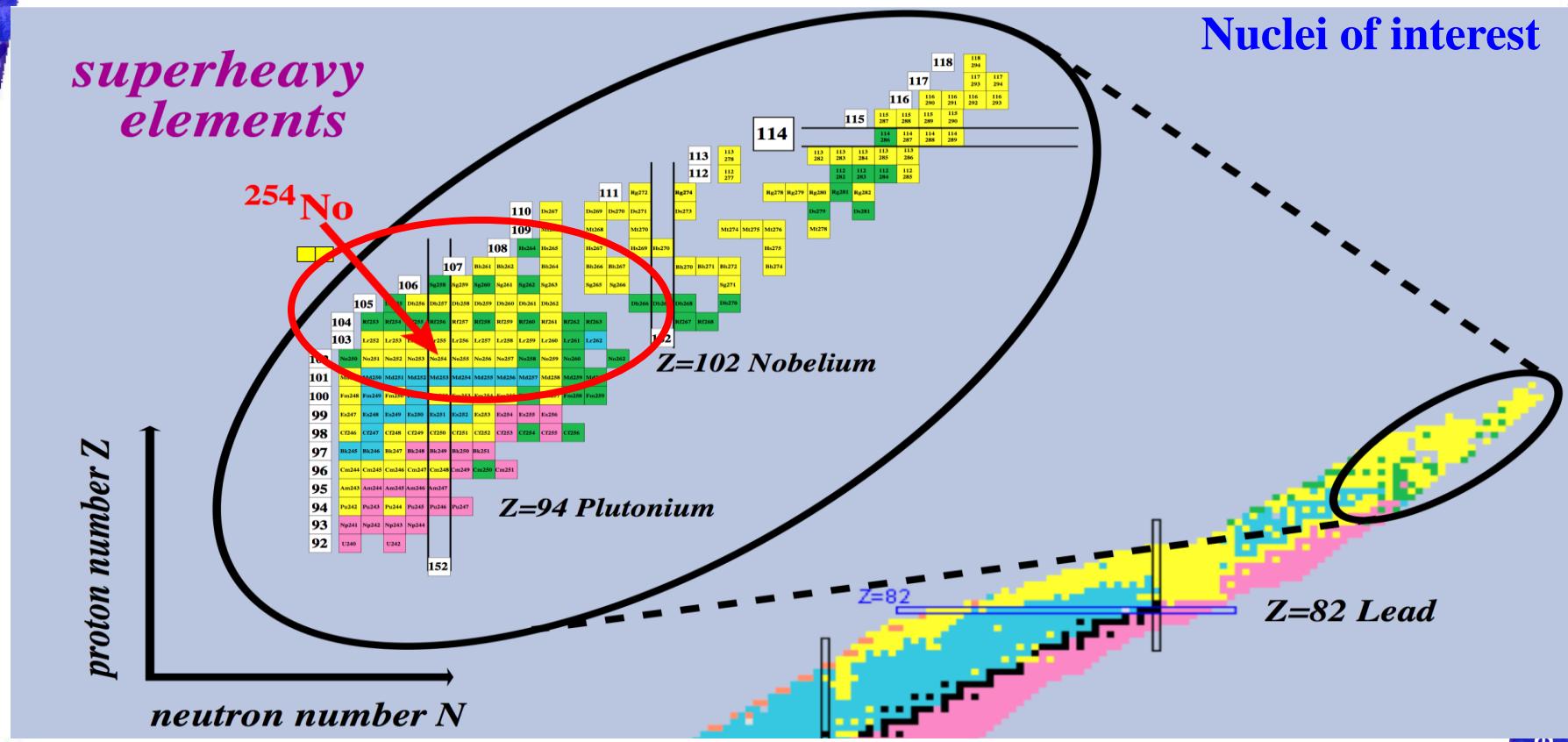
$$+ {}^{238}\text{U} \rightarrow {}^{270-274}\text{Hs}^*$$

28-30 Si

$$+ {}^{238}\text{U} \rightarrow {}^{266-268}\text{Sq}^*$$

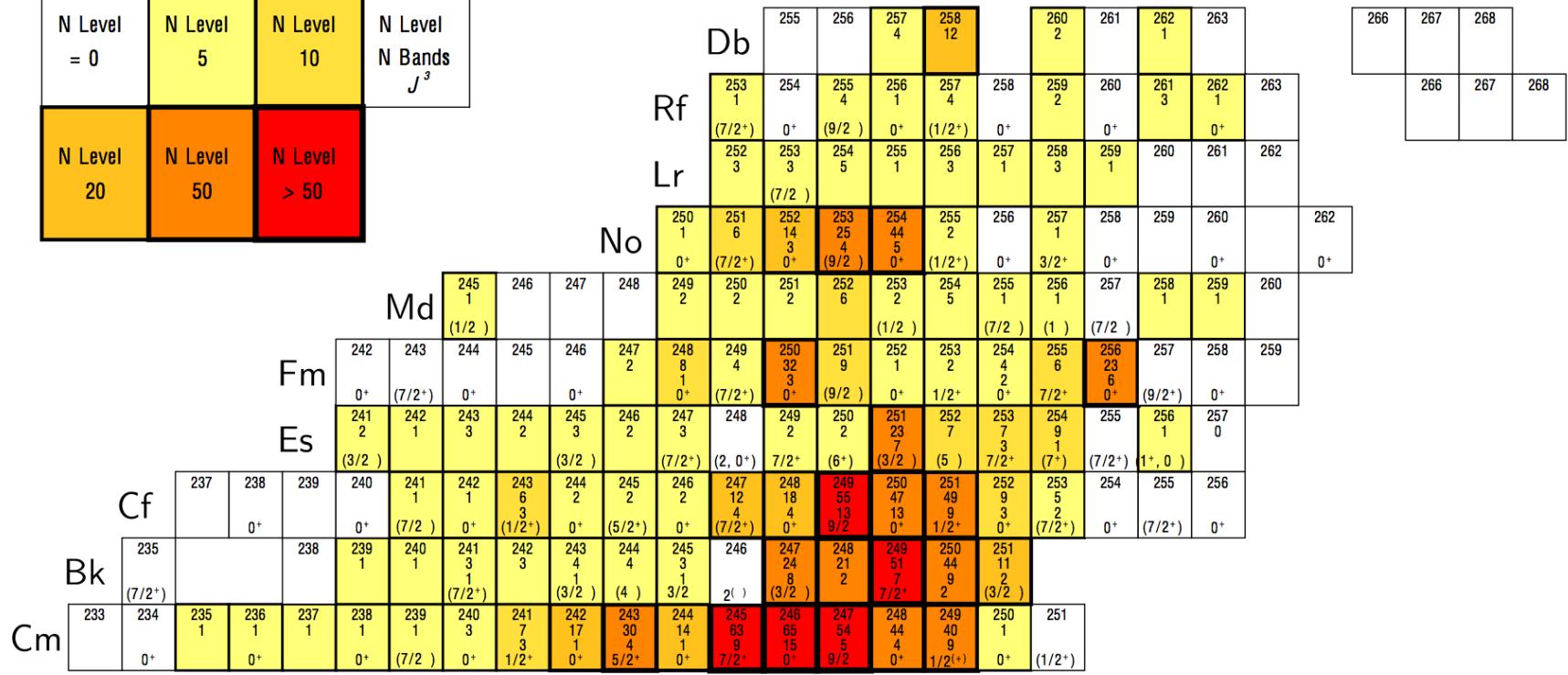
GABRIELA Campaign

Spectroscopic studies of heavy elements at FLNR



| N Level = 0 | N Level 5 | N Level 10 | Mass N Level N Bands J^{π} |
|----------------|---------------|-----------------|---|
| N Level 20 | N Level 50 | N Level > 50 | |

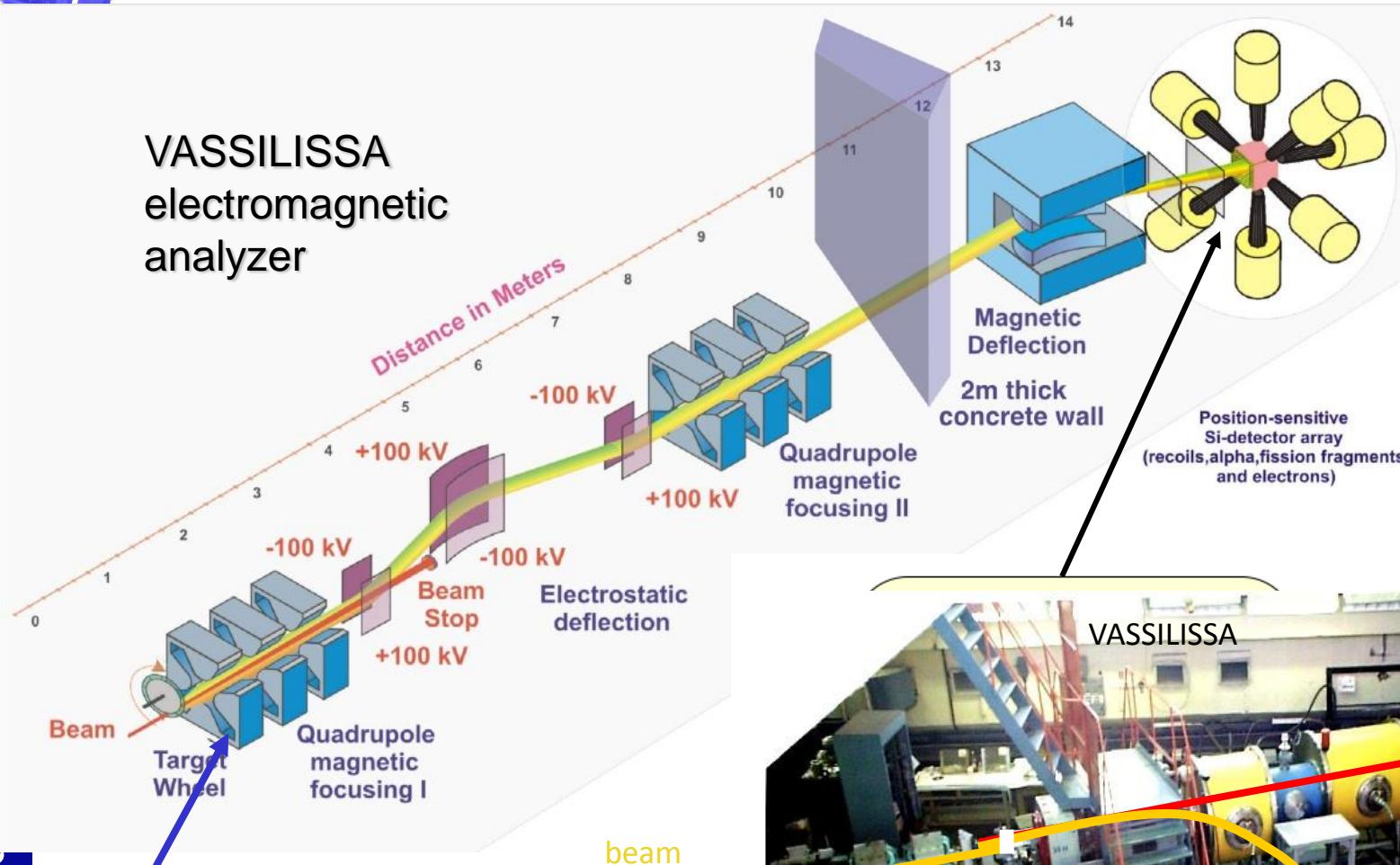
R. Herzberg and P. Greenlees, Progress in Part. and Nucl. Phys. 61 (2008) 674



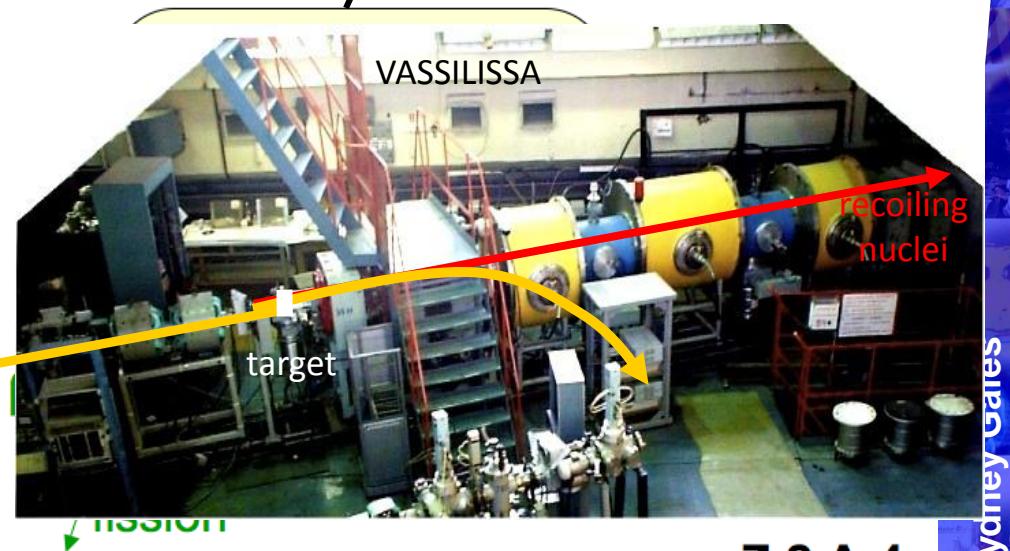
Very little data

Neutron Number

VASSILISSA electromagnetic analyzer

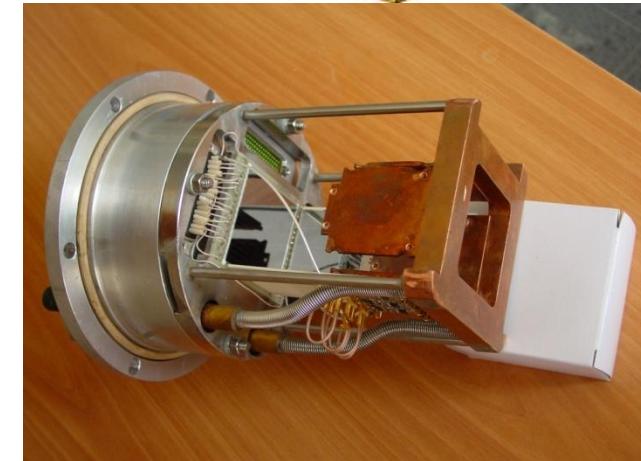
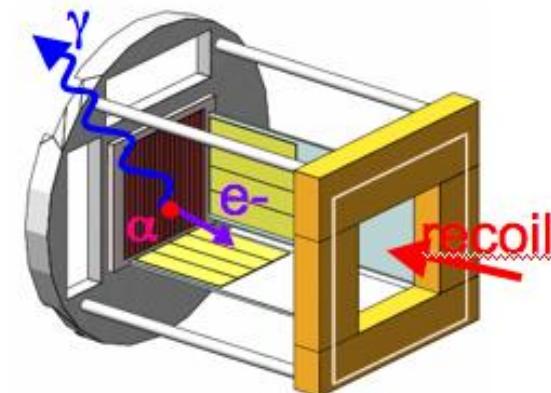
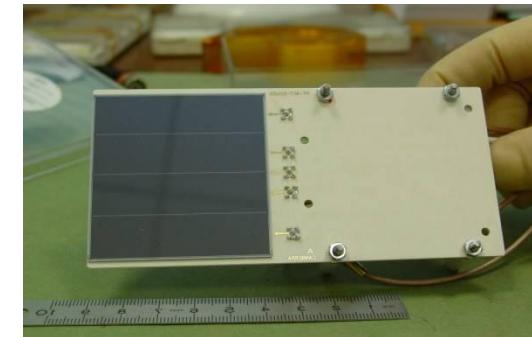
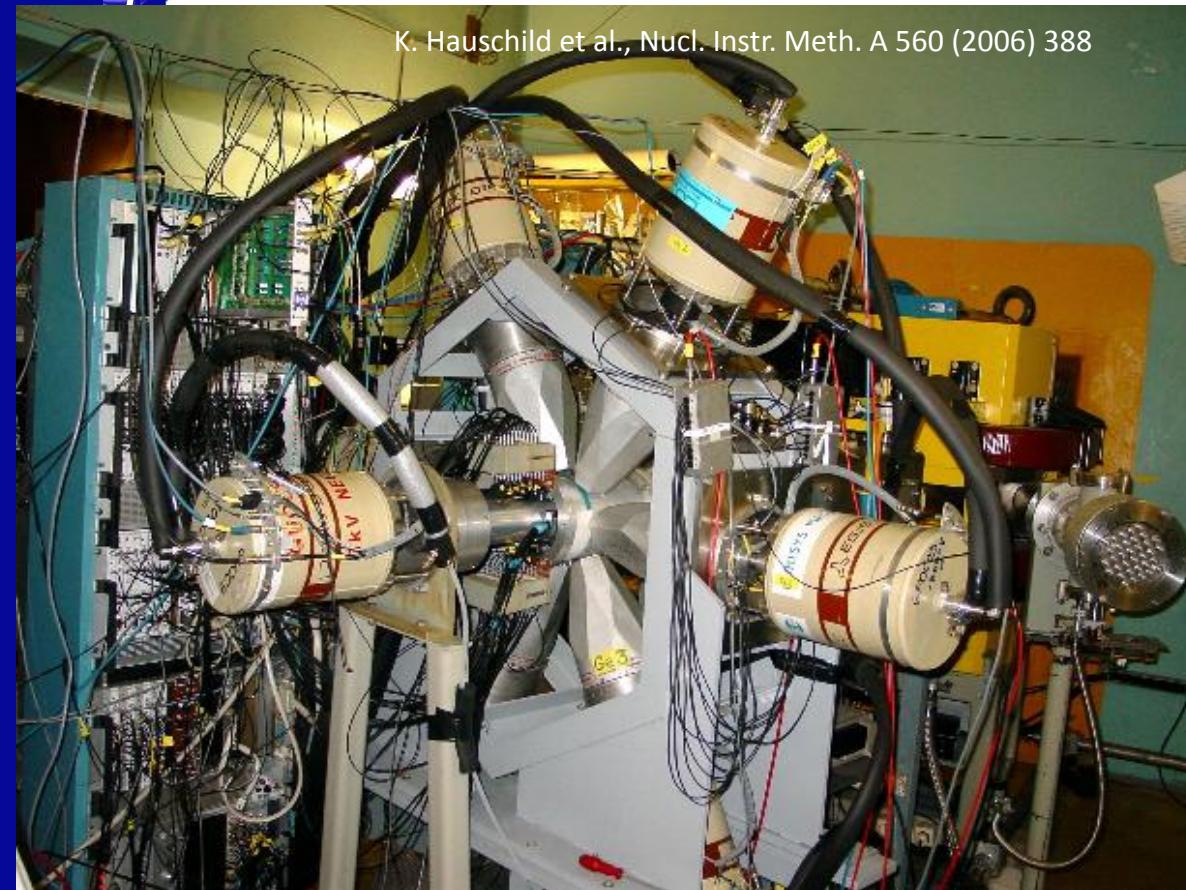


-intense beams
-stable & radioactive targets



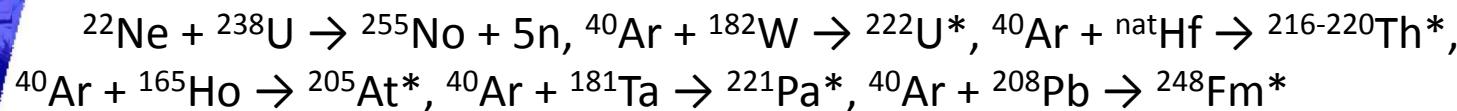
<http://www.csnsm.in2p3.fr/-GABRIELA->

K. Hauschild et al., Nucl. Instr. Meth. A 560 (2006) 388



- 1st tests with beam: spring 2004
- 1st campaign: fall 2004
- 4 campaigns in 2005, 2006, 2008 et 2009

4. February 1st – March 10th 2008:

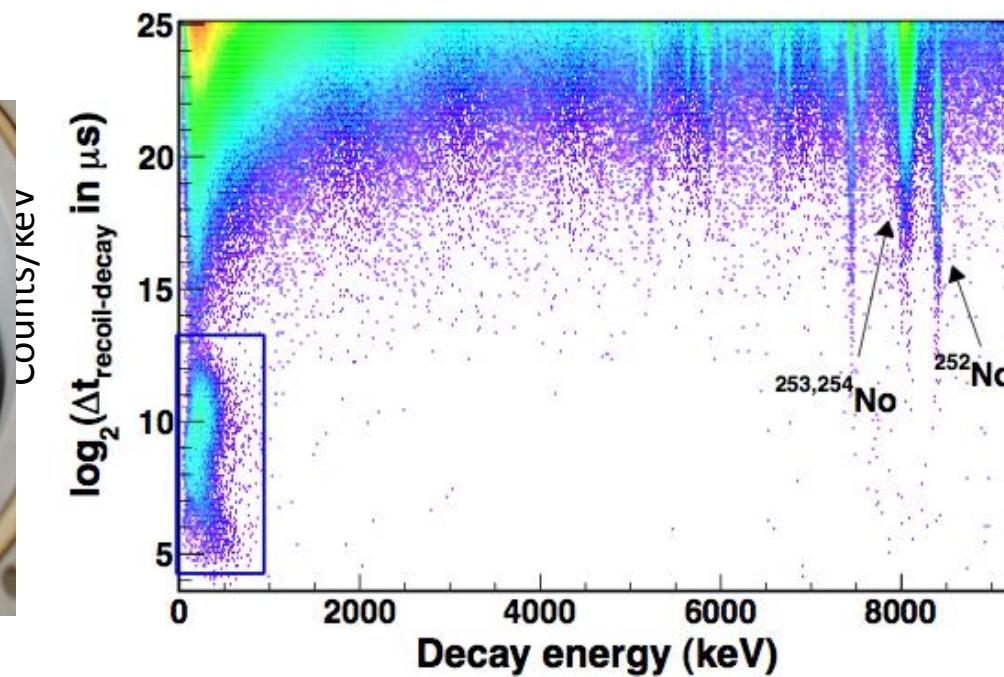
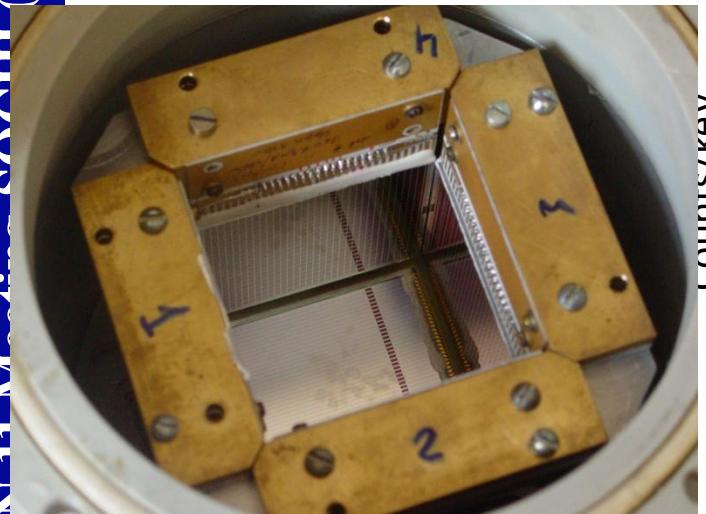
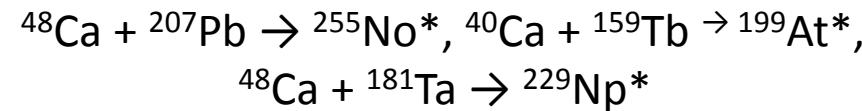


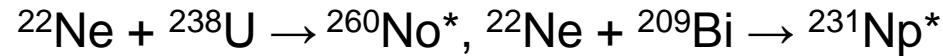
new larger and thicker 32-strip detectors instead of 4-strip detectors for tunnel

48x48 DSSD instead of 16-strip position sensitive stop detector

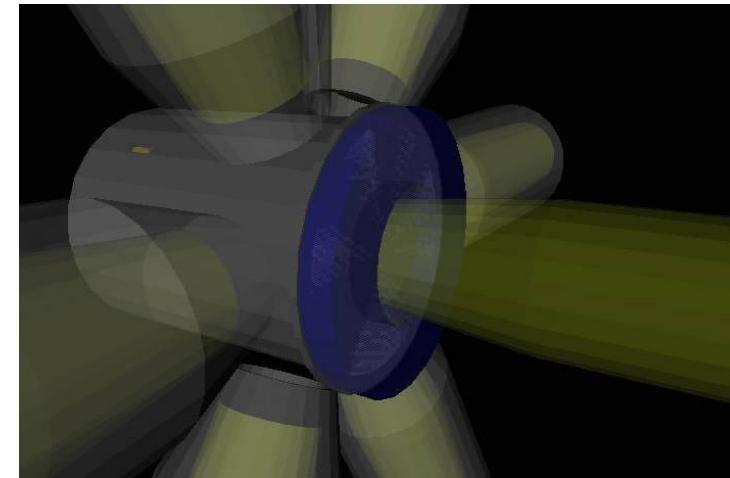
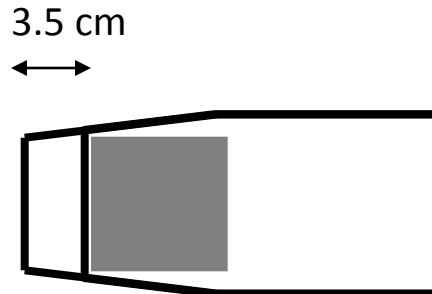
New electronics for DSSD

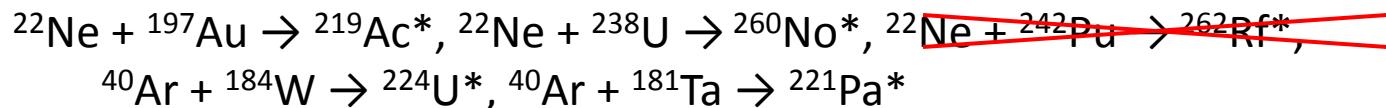
5. February 9th – March 14th 2009:



1. First full scale experiment: September 23^d – October 25th 2004**2. October 3^d – November 9th 2005**

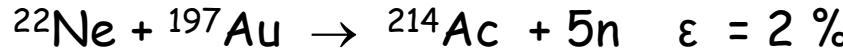
- 37 degree magnet replaced by 8 degree magnet
- More compact focal plane detection system and thinner ToF foils
- Gamma-ray efficiency doubled



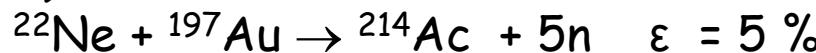
3. October 30th - December 4th 2006

transmission tests with Ne beam

- 1) VASSILISSA ToF : 2 thin foils (20 µg each)



- 2) VASSILISSA ToF : 1 thin foils



- 1) VASSILISSA ToF : 1 thin foil



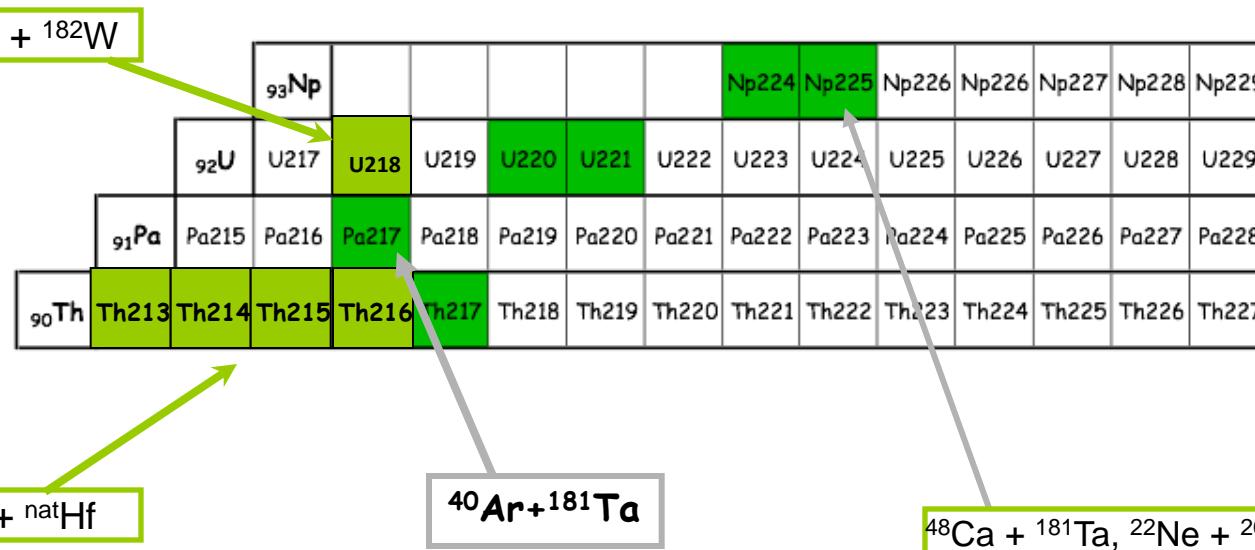
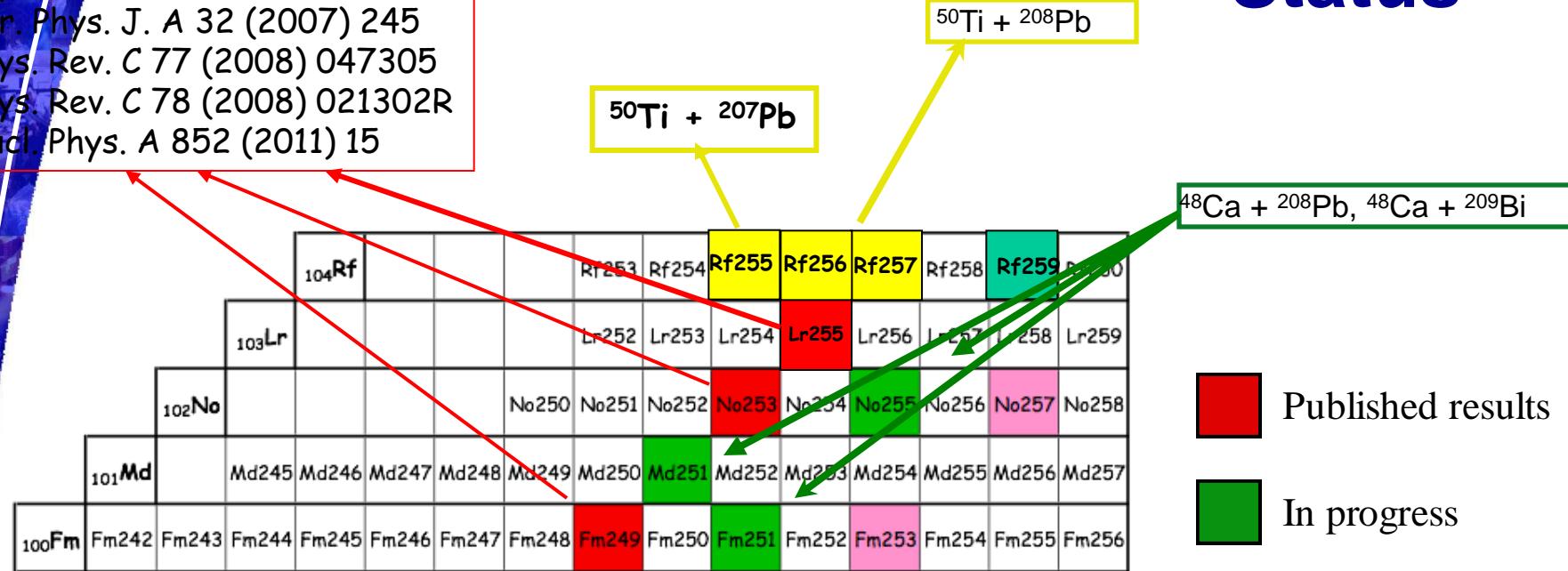
- 2) VASSILISSA ToF : without foils



Use of metallic targets helps to improve transmission

Status

Phys. Rev. C 74 (2006) 044303
 Eur. Phys. J. A 32 (2007) 245
 Phys. Rev. C 77 (2008) 047305
 Phys. Rev. C 78 (2008) 021302R
 Nucl. Phys. A 852 (2011) 15

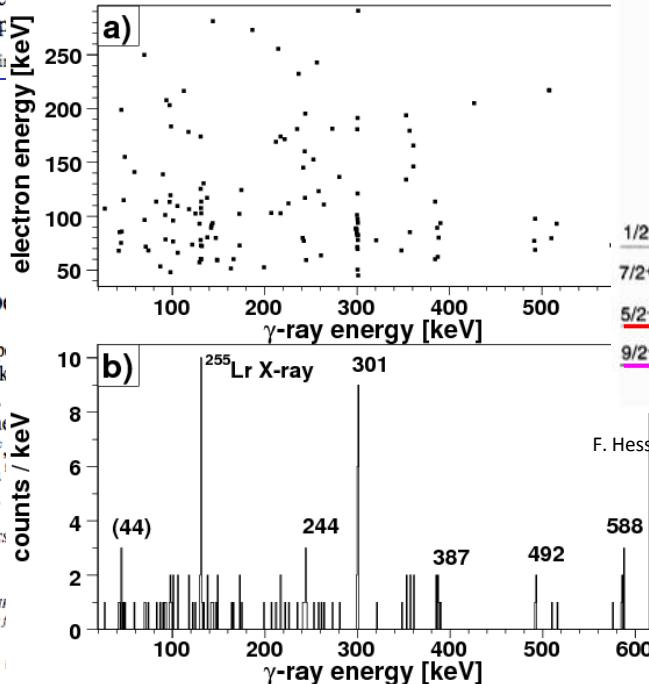


GABRIELA: A new detector array for ν -ray and conversion electron

ToF spectroscop

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1



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Abstract

New high-statistics data have been obtained on the decay properties of ^{253}No and its daughters using the reaction $^{207}\text{Po}(^{48}\text{Ca}, 2n)^{253}\text{No}$. This was made possible thanks to an improved transmission of fusion-evaporation residues through the VASSILISSA recoil separator and an increased efficiency of the GABRIELA detector setup. The decay schemes of ^{253}No and ^{249}Fm have been revisited. The known level scheme of ^{249}Fm has been confirmed, including a new level at 669 keV excitation energy. The observation of LX-rays in coincidence with the decay of ^{249}Fm gives additional support to the ground-state configuration

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¹ Deceased.

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ence of orbitals with large spin projections Ω on the symmetry axis. Isomeric states are therefore extremely revealing of the underlying structure of the nucleus: nature ordering of single-particle states, deformation config-

as a two-proton $A = 8$ isomer via the properties of its electromagnetic decay [9, 10].

Long-lived spin isomers have been observed in ^{257}Rf [11], ^{253}Lr and ^{257}Db [12], ^{251}No [13] and ^{255}Lr [14]. The isomers in ^{251}No , ^{253}Lr and ^{257}Db involve a low-spin single-particle neutron (for No) or proton (for Lr and Db)

Results 4.7 s

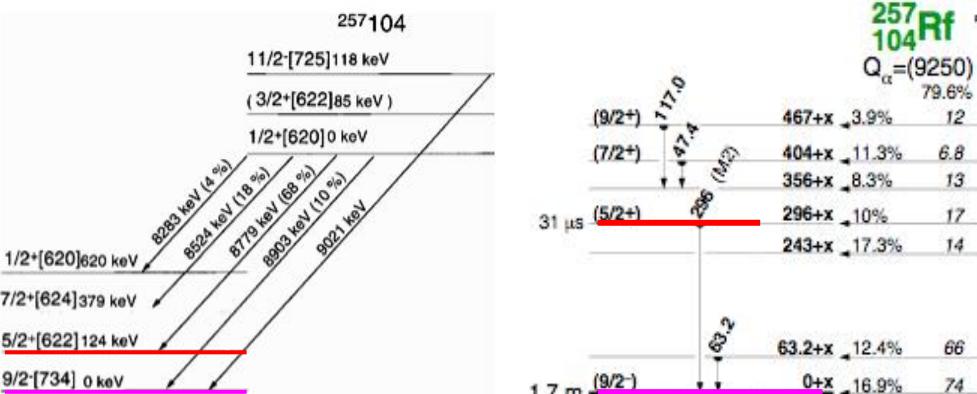


Table of Isotopes

