

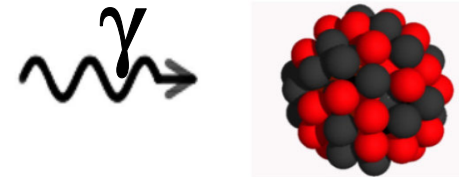
# Photonuclear Reactions with MeV $\gamma$ -rays from LCB



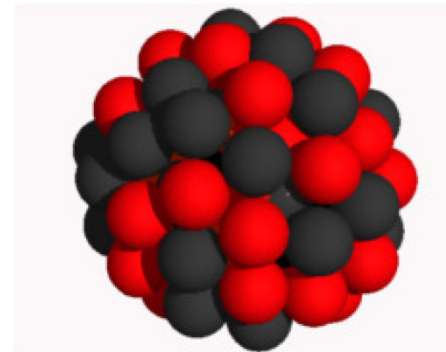
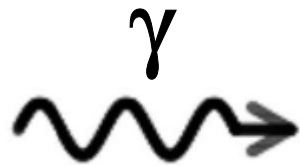
Norbert Pietralla, TU Darmstadt

## Outline

- Photonuclear Reactions
- Nuclear Resonance Fluorescence
- Some Previous Achievements
- Intensity Frontier → „Discovery Frontier“
  - „Availability Frontier“ (photonuclear reactions on rare isotopes)
  - „Sensitivity Frontier“ (weak channels: strong physics)
  - „Precision Frontier“ (high count rates, new methods)
- Conclusion



# Photonuclear Reactions



What happens?

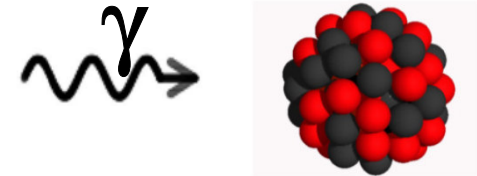
# Nuclear Physics with MeV-range photon beams



Pure EM-interaction

**(nuclear-)model independent**

**“small“ cross sections, intense beams**



Minimum projectile mass

**min. angular momentum transfer,  
spin-selective: low-spin modes [E1,M1,E2,(E3?)]**

Polarisation

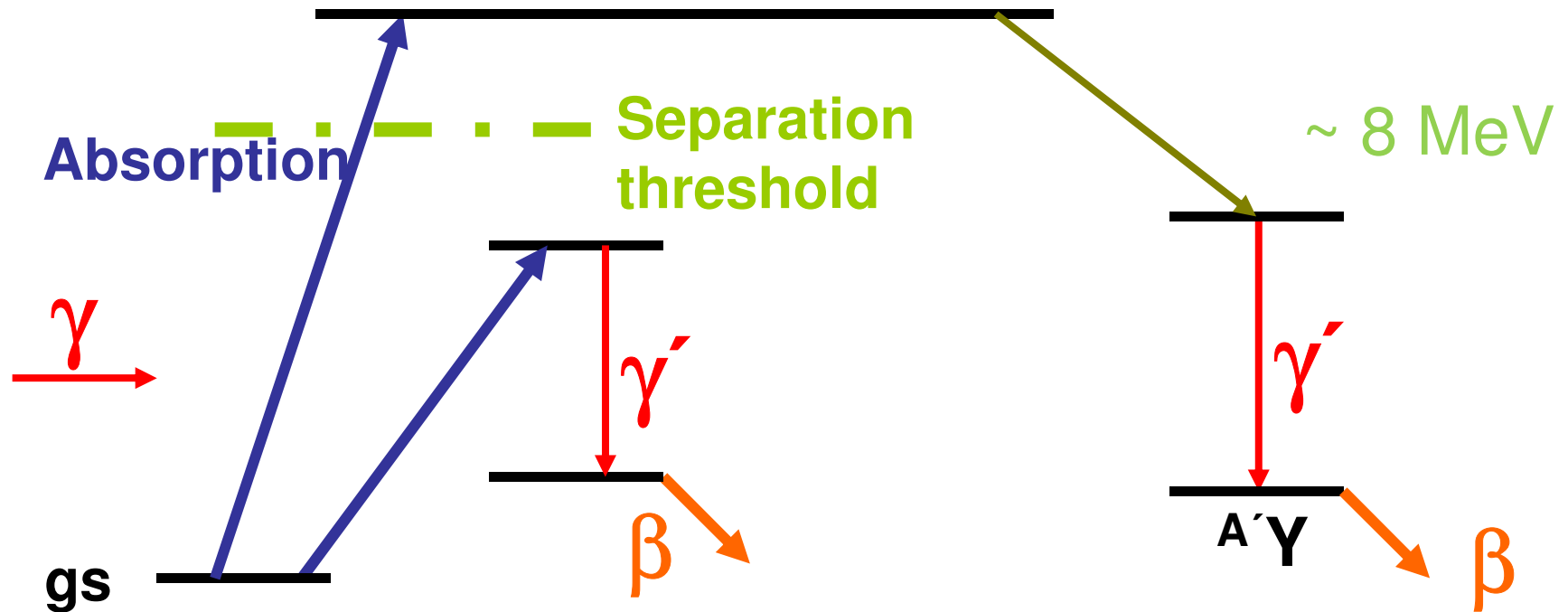
**„Parity Physics“, channel selectivity**

Narrow Bandwidth (at ELI-NP and CERN-ERL)

**Explore specific excitation energy**

**„Selective Manipulation of Nuclear States“: Nuclear Photonics**

# Photonuclear Reactions



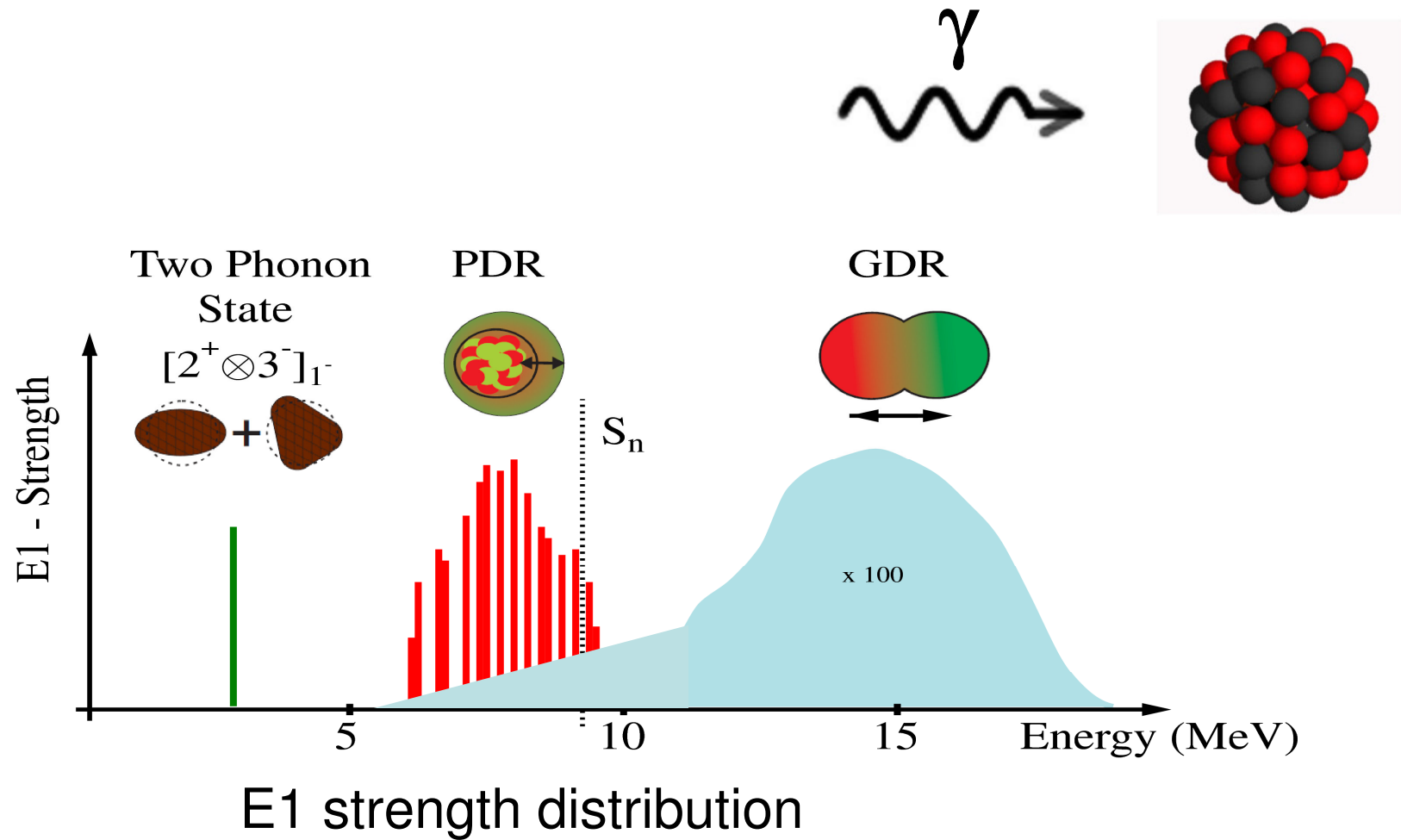
**Nuclear Resonance Fluorescence (NRF)**

**Photoactivation**

**Photodesintegration (-activation)**

**Photofission**

# Electromagnetic dipole-response

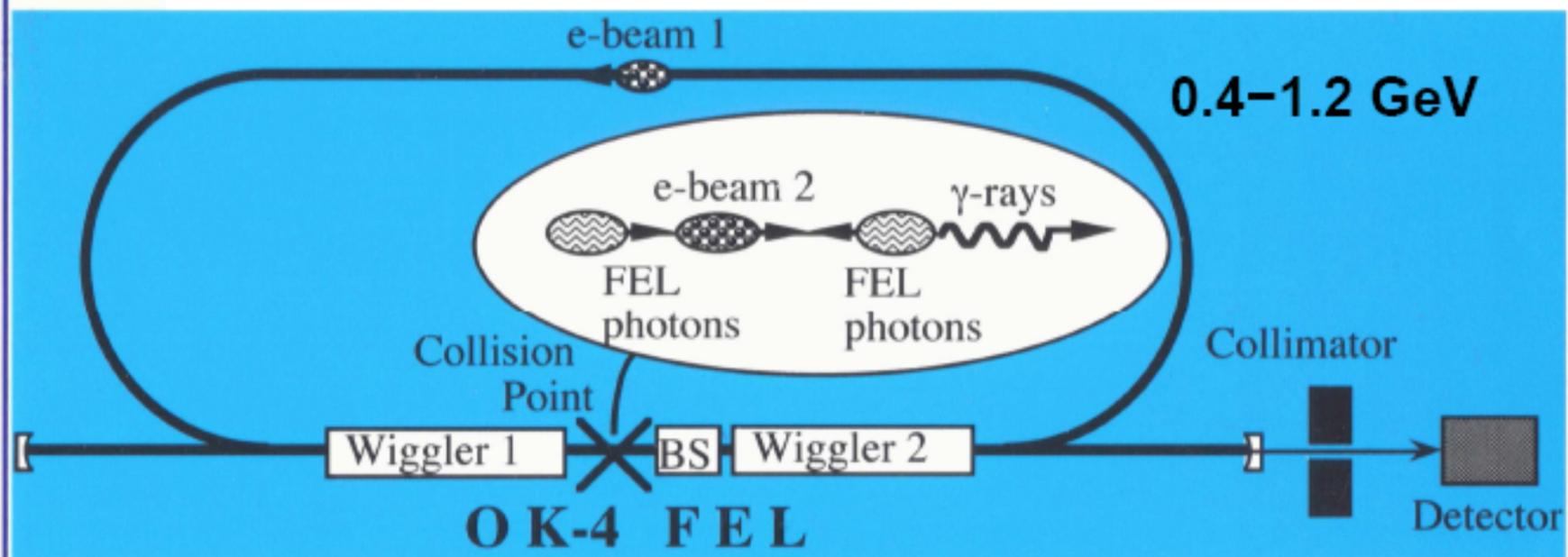


# High Intensity $\gamma$ -Ray Source (HlgS)



H.R.Weller, V.N.Litvinenko  
Duke University, Durham, NC, U.S.A.

## Compton Backscattering of Intra-cavity Laser Light



**2 - 60 MeV**

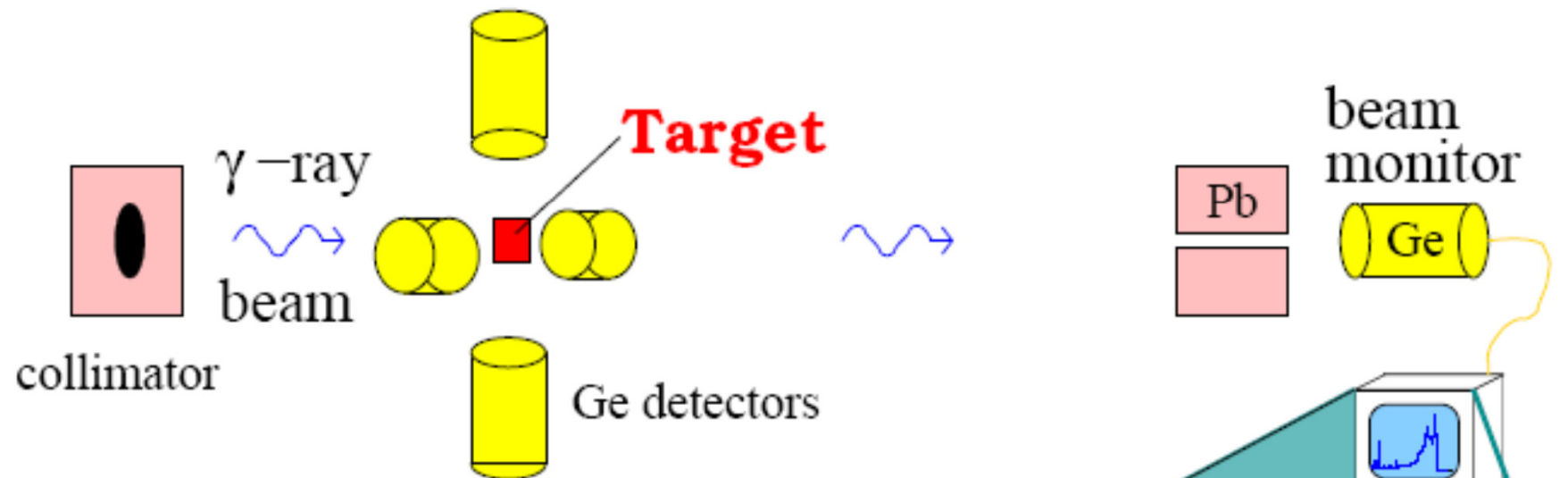
**1.7 - 6.4 eV**

**~ 1000**

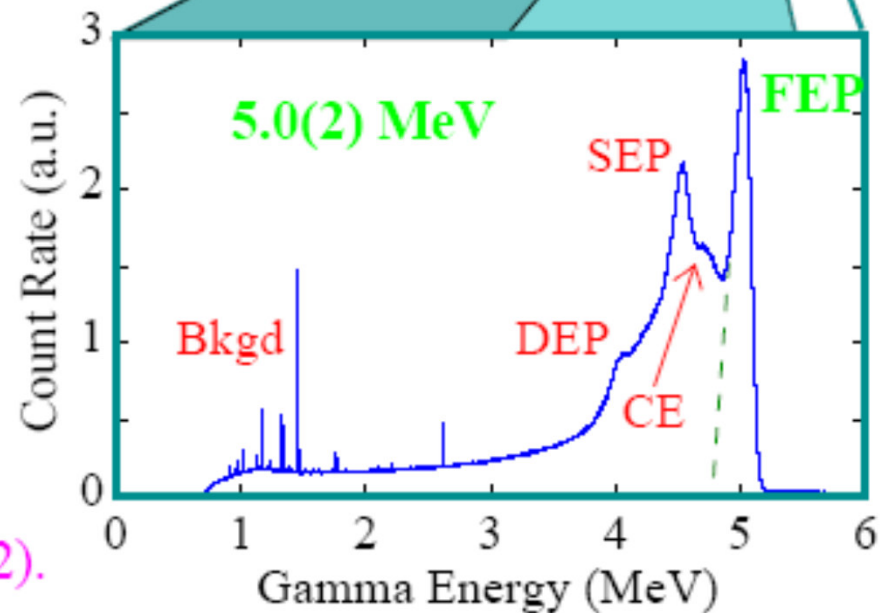
$$E_\gamma = \frac{4\gamma^2 E_{ph}}{(1+r+\gamma^2\theta^2)}; \quad r = \frac{4\gamma E_{ph}}{mc^2}; \quad E_{ph} = \frac{2\gamma^2 hc}{\lambda_w(1+K_w^2/2)}; \quad \gamma = \frac{E_e}{mc^2};$$

**nearly monochromatic, tunable, completely polarized**

## Looking at the HIGS Gamma-Ray Beam



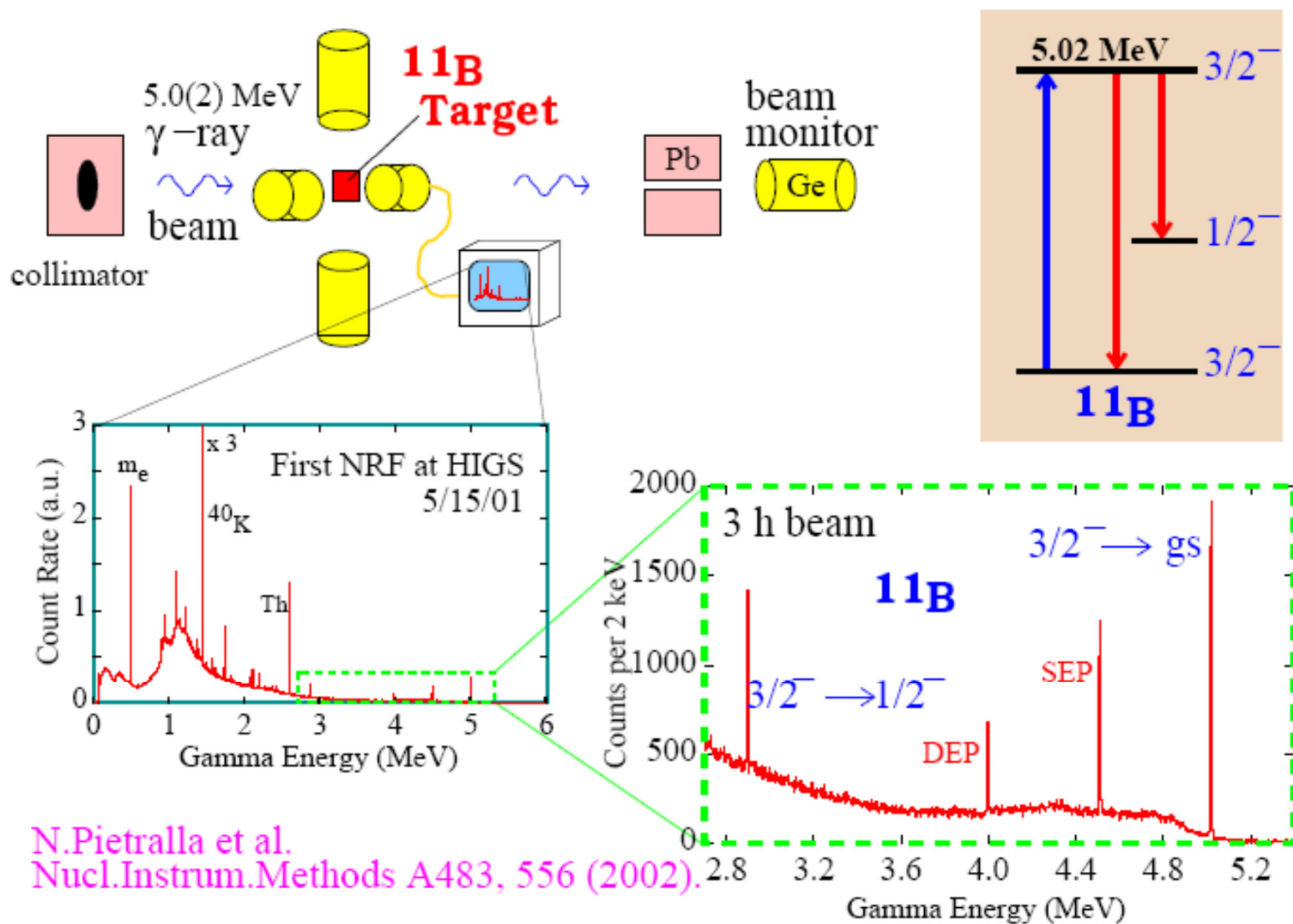
Flux at target:  $10^7/s$   
at maximum:  $10^5/(s \text{ keV})$   
Resolution: 3%  
(with 1" collimator)



N.Pietralla et al.  
Nucl.Instrum.Methods A 483, 556 (2002).



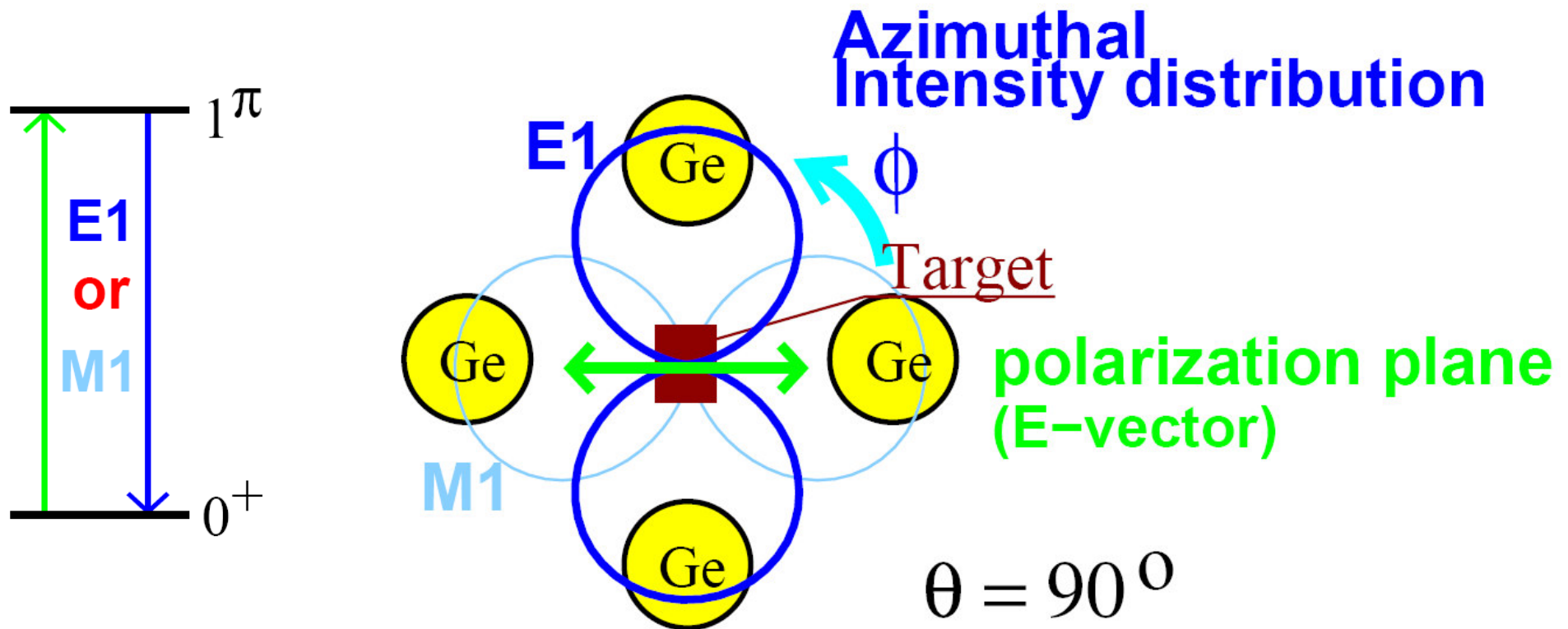
# Looking at the Target



N. Pietralla et al.  
 Nucl. Instrum. Methods A483, 556 (2002).

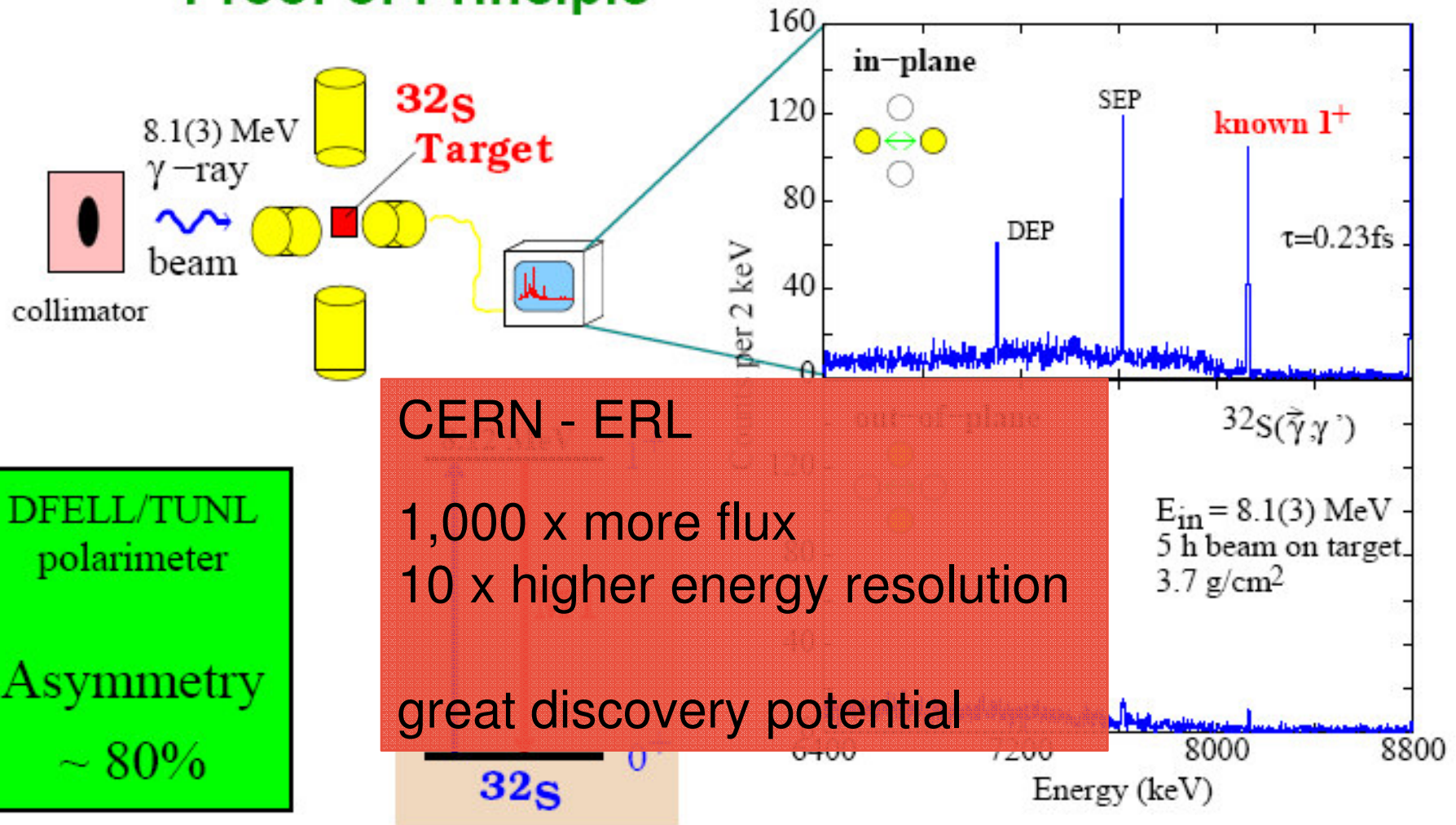


# Parity Measurements with Linearly Polarized Photon Beams



**Azimuthal asymmetry  $\rightarrow$  parity quantum no.**

# Proof of Principle

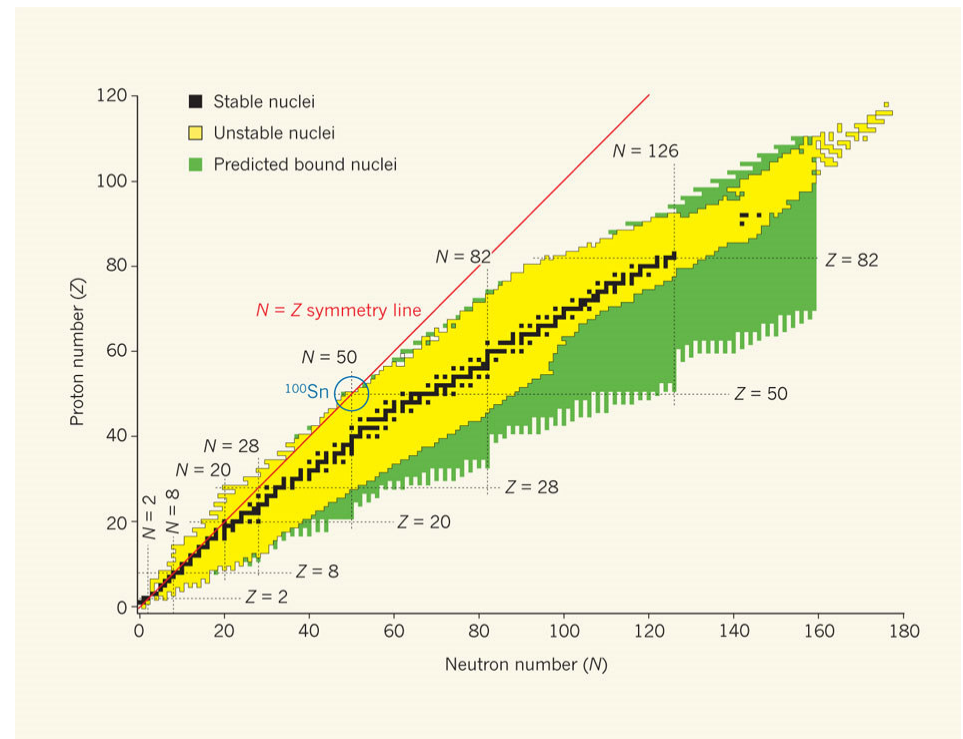


N.Pietralla et al., Nucl.Instrum.Methods A483, 556 (2002).

N. Pietralla et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 88, 012502 (2002).

# Physics with Photon Beams

- Nuclear Structure Physics
  - Nuclear single particle structure
  - Collective nuclear structures
  - Photofission
- Particle-Physics Metrology
  - Neutrino detectors
  - Nuclear matrix elements for  $\beta\beta$ -decay
- Nuclear Astrophysics
  - Capture / desintegration reactions
  - Nuclear synthesis
- Applications
  - Radiotomography
  - Nuclear Photonics



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# ELI – Nuclear Physics, Bucharest, Design



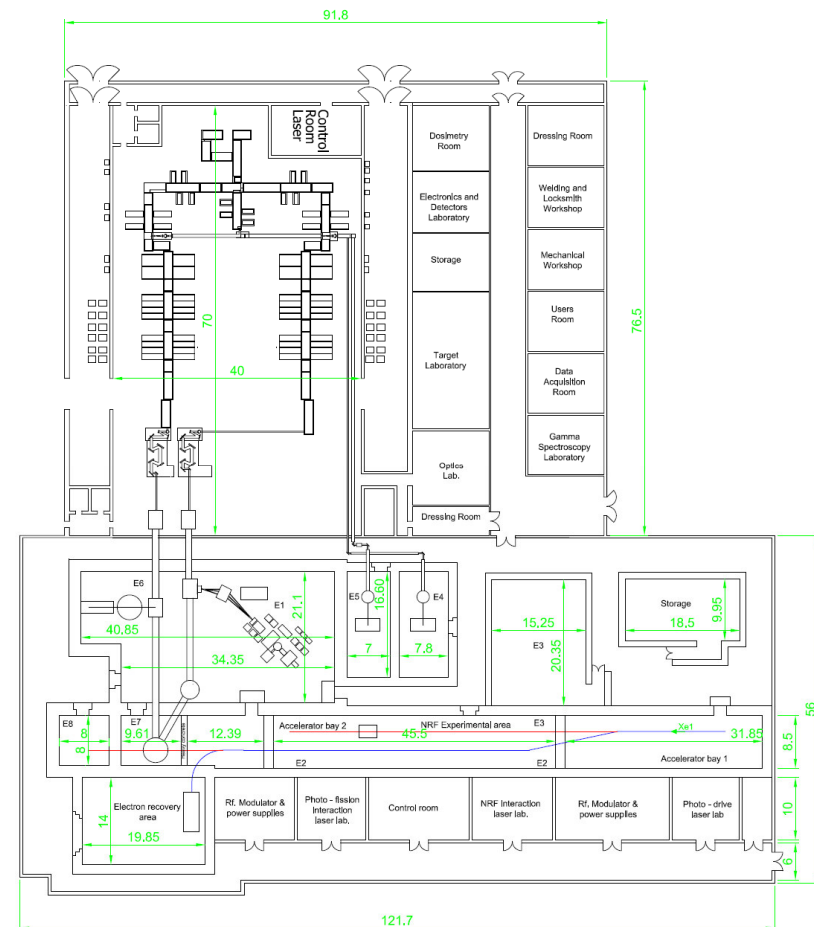


# ELI – Nuclear Physics, Floor Plan

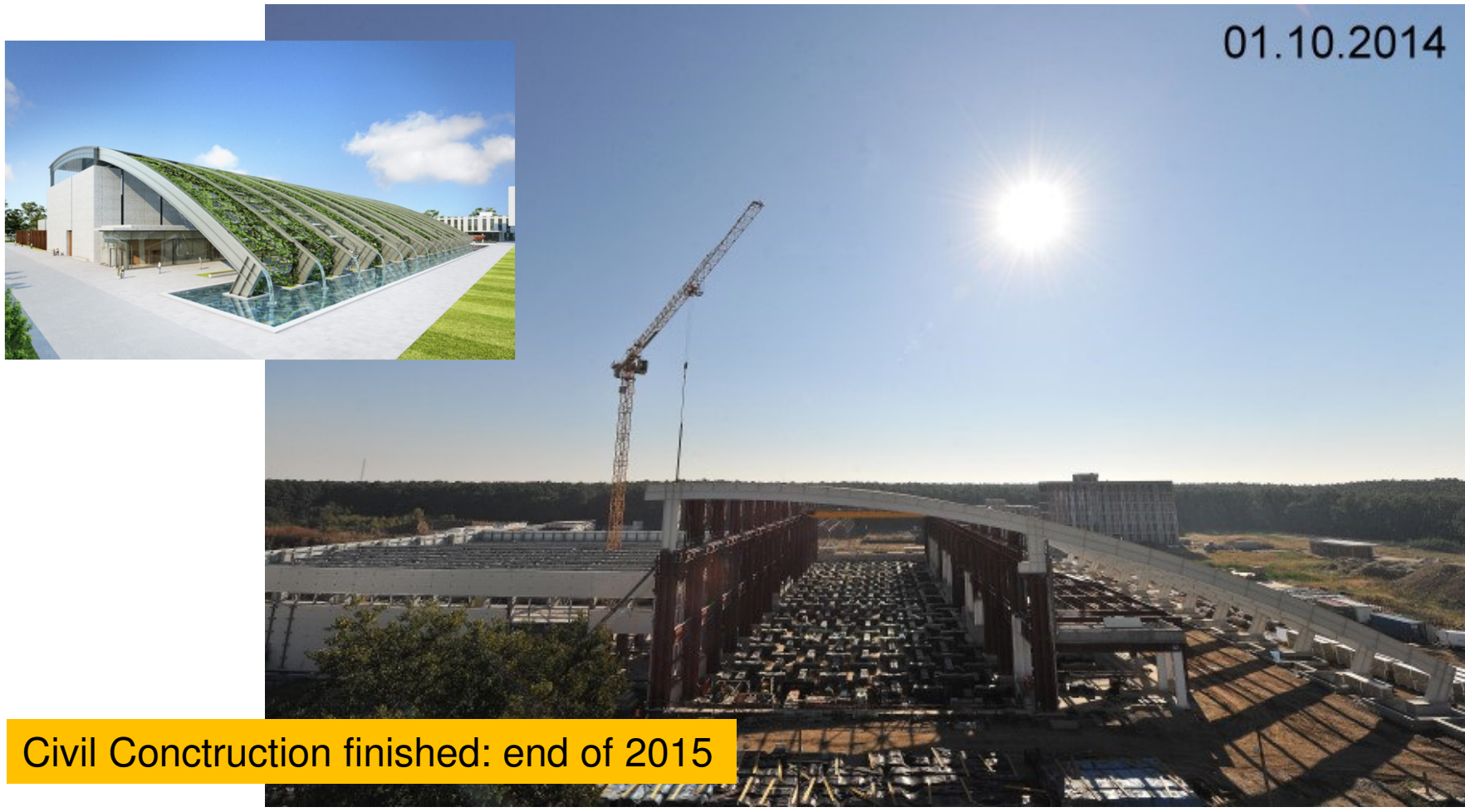
## Equipment

- 2 10-Petawatt-Laser (low-rep., Thales)
- 700 MeV Electron linac (warm)
- external high-rep. high intens. laser
- highest-brilliant gamma beams from Lasercompton-backscattering  $0.5 \text{ MeV} < E_\gamma < 20 \text{ MeV}$ ,  $10^4 / \text{eV s}$
- minimale Bandbreite 0.5% - 0.1%

→ **Photonuclear Reactions**



# ELI – NP, Progress

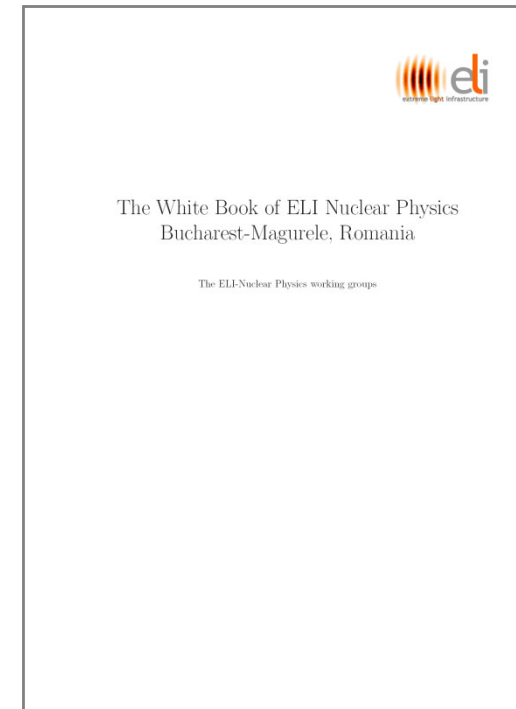


Civil Construction finished: end of 2015

# International Scientific Advisory Board Implementation Phase ELI-NP



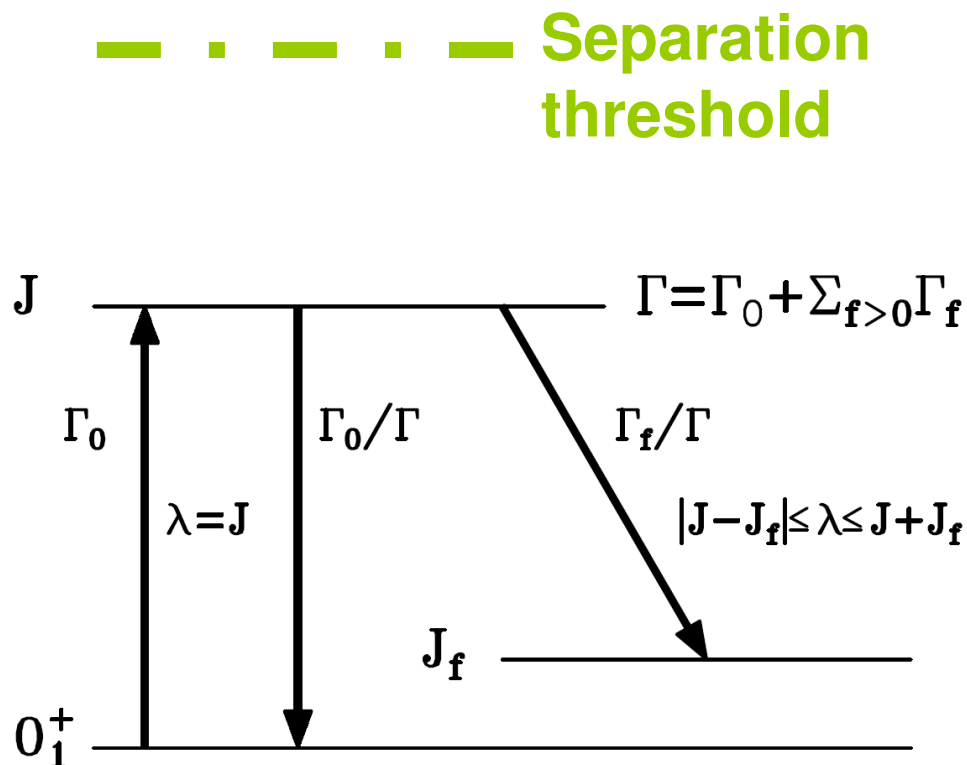
Faiçal AZAIEZ - Institut de Physique Nucléaire d'Orsay, France  
Christopher BARTY - Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, USA  
Paul BOLTON - Kansai Photon Science Institute, JAEA, Japan  
Angela BRACCO - Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare, Milano, Italy  
Richard CASTEN - Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut, USA  
John COLLIER - STFC Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Oxfordshire, United Kingdom  
Sandro DI SILVESTRI - Politecnico di Milano, Italy  
Umberto DOSSELI - Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare, Laboratori Nazionali di Frascati, Italy  
Muhsin HARAKEH - KVI, University of Groningen, Groningen, The Netherlands (Vice-chairman)  
Calvin HOWELL - Triangle Universities Nuclear Laboratory, Durham, USA  
Ken LEDINGHAM - The University of Strathclyde, Scotland, United Kingdom  
Patrick MORA - École Polytechnique - Saclay, Palaiseau, France  
Gerard MOUROU - École Polytechnique - Saclay, Palaiseau, France  
Chang Hee NAM - Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology, Korea  
Norbert PIETRALLA - Technische Universität Darmstadt, Germany  
Carlo RIZUTTO - Elettra-Sincrotrone Trieste, Italy  
Guenther ROSNER - Facility for Antiproton and Ion Research, FAIR, Darmstadt, Germany  
Hartmut RUHL - Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, Germany  
Christoph SCHEIDENBERGER - GSI Darmstadt, Justus-Liebig-University, Giessen, Germany  
Toshiki TAJIMA - University of California at Irvine, USA (Chairman)  
Michael WIESCHER - University of Notre Dame, Indiana, USA



**strong international  
user community**



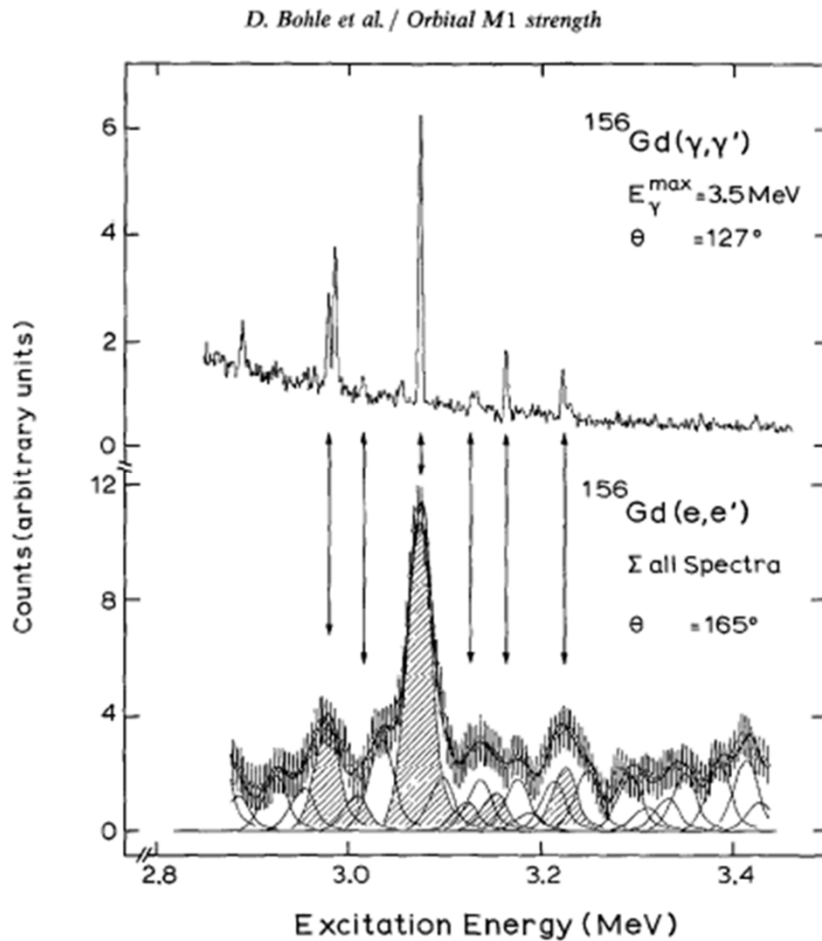
# Nuclear Resonance Fluorescence



## Observables

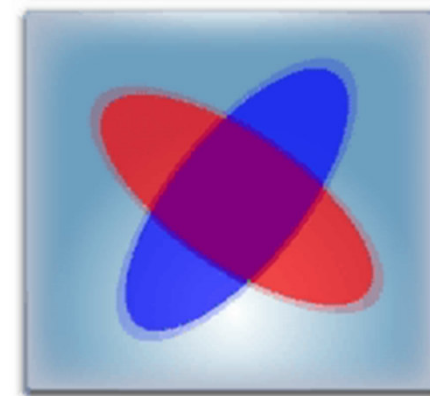
- Excitation Energy  $E_r$
- Spin  $J$
- Parity  $\pi$
- Decay Energies  $E_\gamma$
- Level Width  $\Gamma$  (eV)
- Lifetime  $\tau$  (ps – as)
- Decay Branching  $\Gamma_i/\Gamma_0$
- Partial Widths  $\Gamma_i$
- Multipole Mixing  $\delta$
- Decay Strengths  $B(\pi\lambda)$

# Some Historic Physics Highlights from NRF (personal selection)



## Nuclear Scissors Mode

A. Richter,  
Darmstadt, 1983



Scissors mode

Classically: current loop

→ magnetic excitation: M1

First example of mixed-symmetry  
state

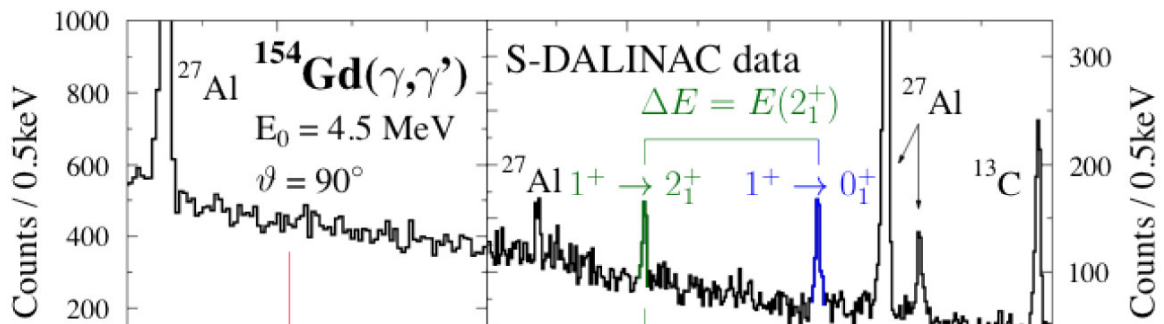
Discovery in electron scattering

Systematics: photon scattering

# Scissors Mode: Decay to intrinsic excitations

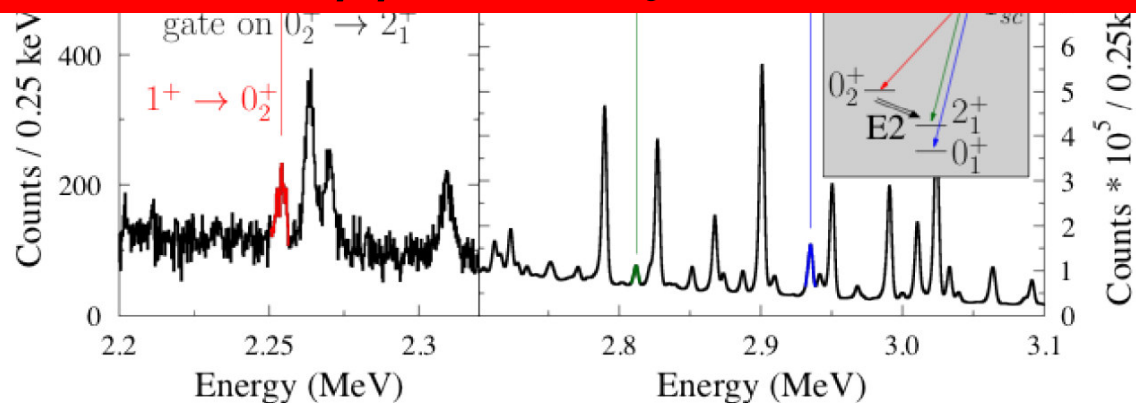
$1^+_{sc} \rightarrow 0^+_{\beta}$  first observed in  $^{154}\text{Gd}$  (N=90)

- Identification  
@ S-DALINAC



Supplies new constraint to  $0\nu\beta\beta$  - decay matrix element

- Branching  
from  $\gamma$ -spectroscopy  
following EC decay  
(HORUS data)  
with Zilges-group

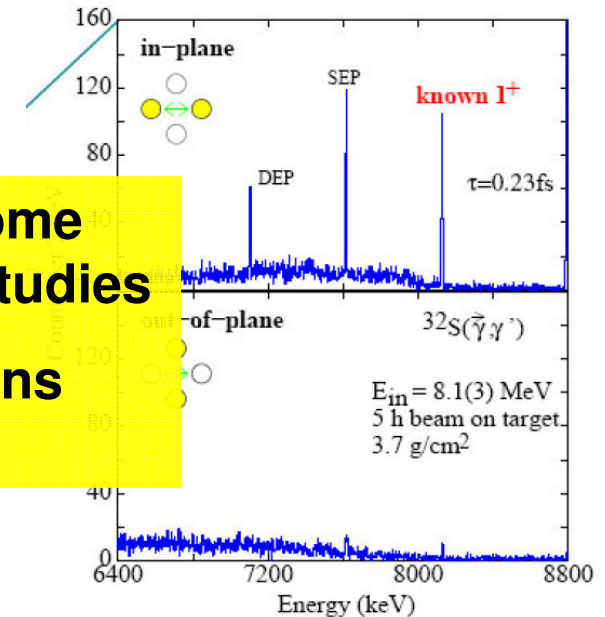


J.Beller, N.P. et al., *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **111**, 172501 (2013).

# 1. Availability Frontier

- Current NRF measurements require gramm-size targets ( $\sim 10^{22-21}$  nuclei)
- Required by
  - cross sections ( $\sim 10^{-28}$  cm<sup>2</sup>)
  - detection efficiency ( $\sim 10^{-2}$ )
  - available luminosities ( $\sim 10^{20}$  cm<sup>-2</sup>s<sup>-1</sup>)  
(number of target nuclei times  $\gamma$ -ray flux)
  - reasonably long beam times (order of days)
- Rare p-process nuclei (<sup>106</sup>Cd, <sup>130</sup>Ba, <sup>156</sup>Dy, <sup>174</sup>Hf)  
~ 0.1% ab., enriched material at ~\$1,000/mg
- Long-lived radioactive isotopes (<sup>10</sup>Be, <sup>182</sup>Hf, <sup>250</sup>Cm)  
 $T_{1/2} > \sim 10,000$  yrs.

**51 more nuclides would become accessible to photonuclear studies**  
**A variety of scientific questions could be answered.**



# Some Examples for Science Cases on Rare or Long-lived Radioactive Isotopes

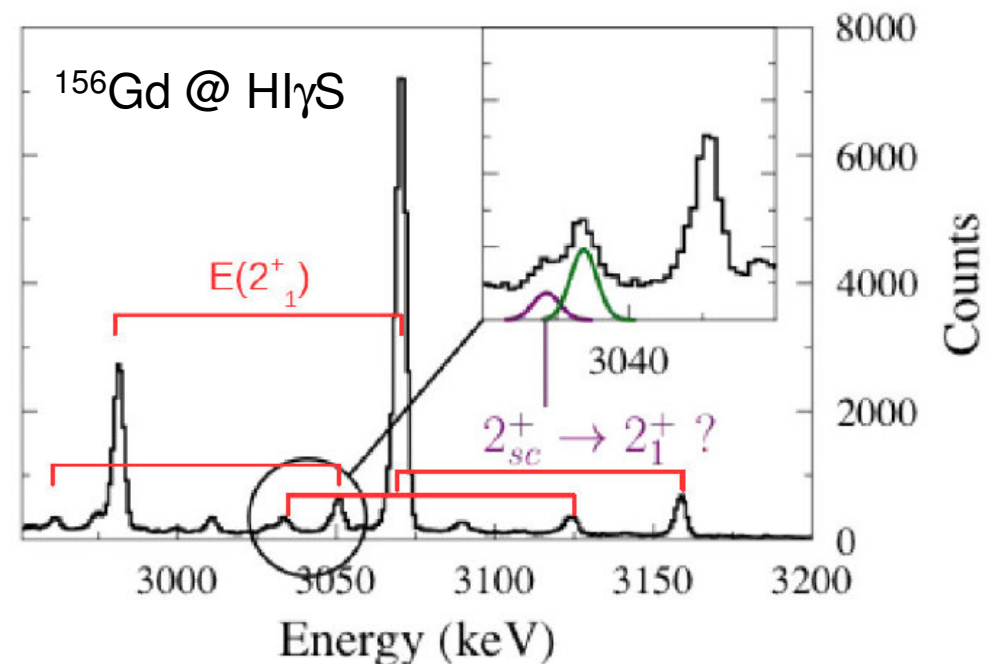
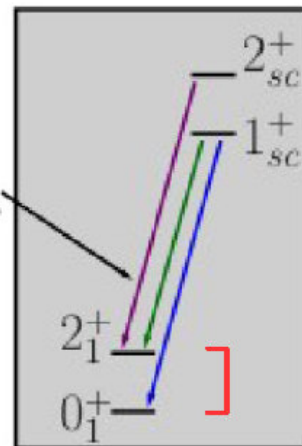


- **$^{10}\text{Be}$** : What dominates the low-energy E1 strength in light nuclei, 1s – 1p particle-hole transitions or cluster structure?  
(lifetimes of  $1^{-}/2^{+}$  doublet at 6 MeV, 2nd/3rd excited state)
- **$^{53}\text{Mn}$** : What is the fragmentation of the  $\pi(f_{7/2} - f_{5/2})$  spin-flip strength across the Z=28 shell?
- **$^{126}\text{Sn}$** : How does the fine-structure of the PDR evolve with neutron excess?
- **$^{156}\text{Dy}$** : Test of the predicted decay branch of  $0\nu\beta\beta$ -decay at N=90 from M1 decay branching of the  $1^{+}$  scissors mode
- **$^{248}\text{Cm}_{152}$** : What are the fission resonances at the N=152 shell?
- **$^{250}\text{Cm}$** : First access to dipole strength above N=152 shell

## 2. Sensitivity Frontier

- Search for weak signals sensitive to the physics under study
- One example: Rotational Moment of Inertia of the Scissors Mode

- Otr "isolated transition"

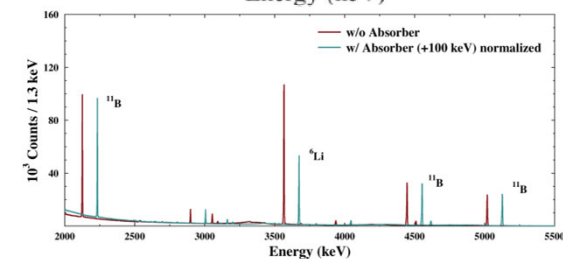
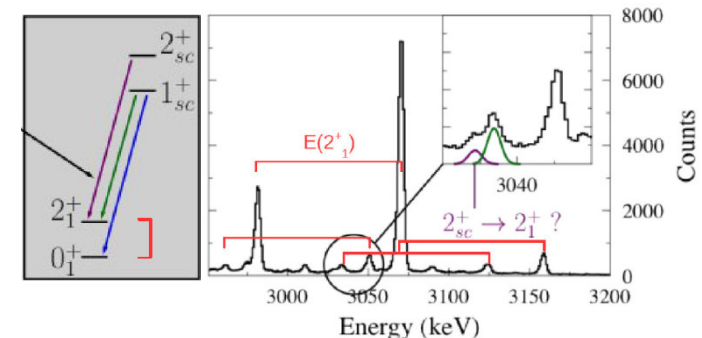


Data: J.Beller, TU Darmstadt

# „Discovery Frontier“ for NRF at HIγS-2 / ELI-NP

## High-Intensity Frontier = „Discovery Frontier“ (scientific opportunities)

- „Availability Frontier“  
(NRF on rare isotopes,  
access to broader „nuclear gene pool“)
- „Sensitivity Frontier“  
(weak channels: strong physics)
- „Precision Frontier“  
(high count rates, new methods)



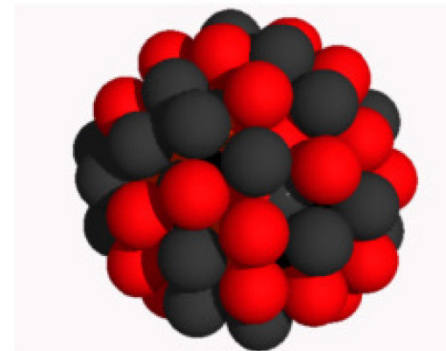
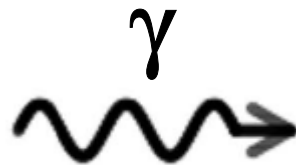


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**Thank you very much !**

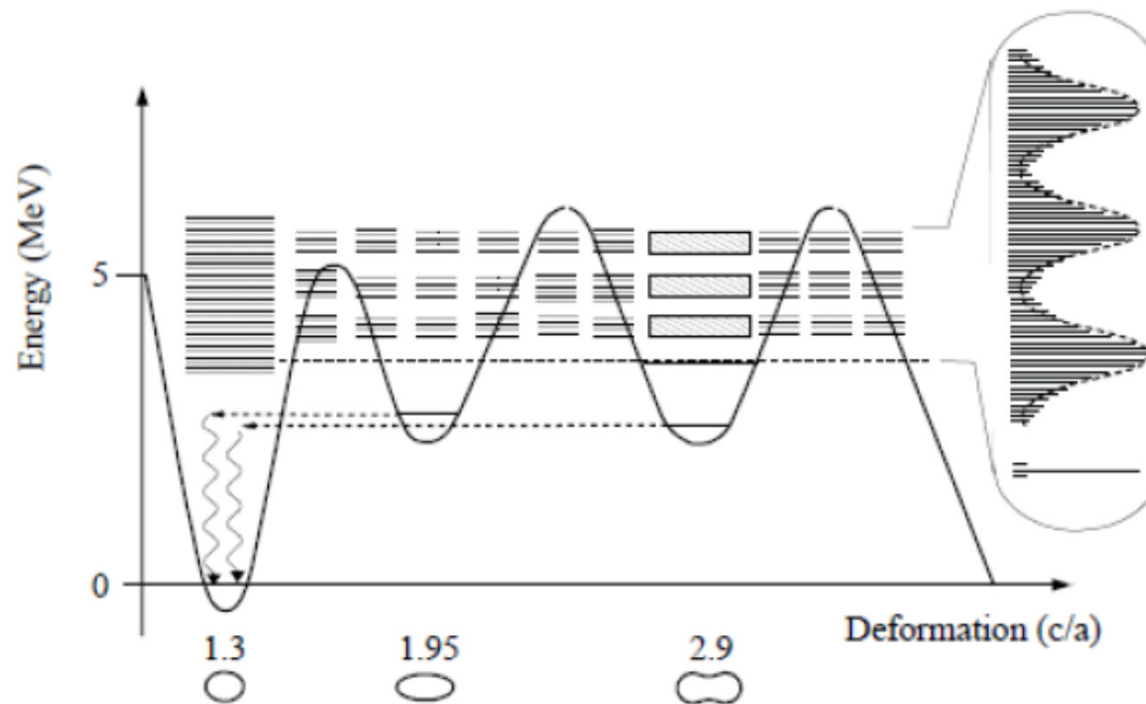
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at  $10^5 - 10^7 \gamma / (\text{eV s})$  at CERN - ERL





# Photofission

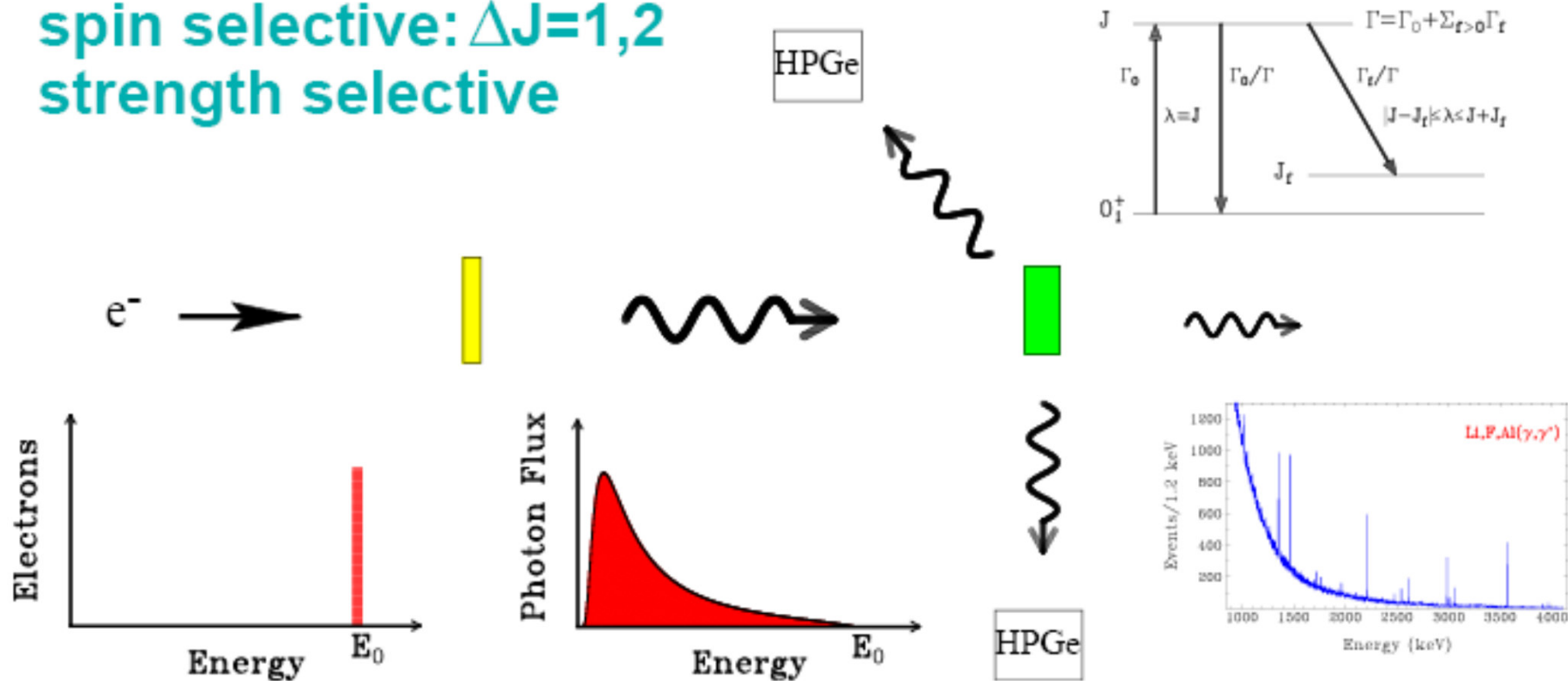




# Photon Scattering (Nuclear Resonance Fluorescence)

Traditionally Bremsstrahlung: Kneissl, Pietralla, Zilges, J.Phys.G 32, R217 (2006).

high energy resolution  
spin selective:  $\Delta J=1,2$   
strength selective



# NRF Basic Facts

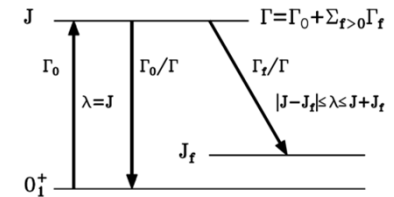
Widths of particle-bound states:  $\Gamma \leq 10 \text{ eV}$   
 Single-spin level density:  $\rho_J \leq 10^4 \text{ MeV}^{-1}$   
 → isolated resonances

QM:  $H\Psi = i\hbar\dot{\Psi} \quad \Psi = \Psi_0 e^{i\epsilon t/\hbar}, \quad \epsilon = E_0 + i\Gamma/2$

Decay law:  $\langle \Psi | \Psi \rangle(t) = e^{-t/\tau} = e^{-\Gamma t/\hbar}, \quad \Gamma \tau = \hbar$

Typical lifetime limit:  $\tau \geq 100 \text{ as}$

Total width:  $\Gamma = \sum_i \Gamma_i, \quad \Gamma_i = \sum_{\pi\lambda} \Gamma_{i,\pi\lambda}$



Transition rates:  $\Gamma_{i,\pi\lambda} = c_{\pi\lambda} \left( \frac{E_\gamma R}{\hbar c} \right)^{2\lambda+1} B(\pi\lambda; J_i \rightarrow J_f)$

# NRF cross section

Breit-Wigner absorption resonance curve for isolated resonance

[from Fourier transform:  $\Psi(t) \rightarrow \Psi(E)$  ]

$$\sigma_a(E) = \pi \bar{\lambda}^2 \frac{2J + 1}{2} \frac{\Gamma_0 \Gamma}{(E - E_r)^2 + (\Gamma/2)^2} \sim \Gamma_0/\Gamma$$

On resonance cross sect.s are very large:  $\sigma_0 \cong 200 \text{ b}$  (for  $\Gamma_0 = \Gamma$ , 5 MeV)

However, resonances are very narrow

Thermal motion of target nuclei lead to Gaussian Doppler-broadening of resonance (typical Doppler width  $\Delta \approx \text{few eV} \gg \Gamma \approx 10\text{s of meV}$ )

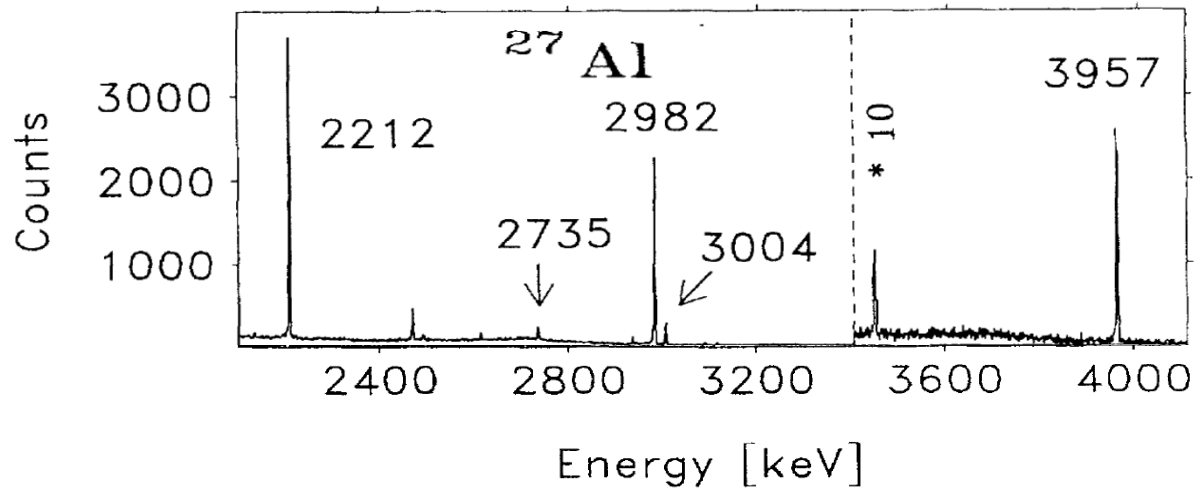
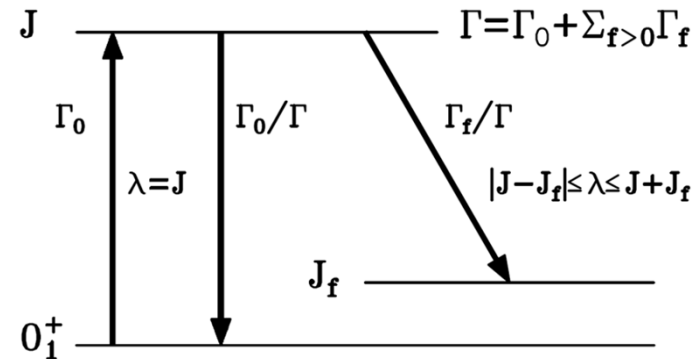
$$\sigma_a^D(E) = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} \sigma_0 \frac{\Gamma}{\Delta} e^{-\left(\frac{E-E_r}{\Delta}\right)^2}$$

Energy-integrated cross section:  $I_a = \int \tilde{\sigma}_a^D(E) dE = \frac{\pi}{2} \sigma_0 \Gamma \sim \Gamma_0$



# Scattering cross section

$$I_{sc,0} = I_a \Gamma_0 / \Gamma \sim \Gamma_0^2 / \Gamma$$



N. Pietralla et al., Phys. Rev. C, 51, 1021 (1995).

# Angular Distribution, Spin Quantum Number J

$$\left\langle \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \right\rangle_f(\theta) = g \left( \frac{\pi \hbar c}{E_r} \right)^2 \Gamma_0 \frac{\Gamma_f}{\Gamma} \frac{W(\theta)}{4\pi} \equiv I_{s,f} \frac{W(\theta)}{4\pi} .$$

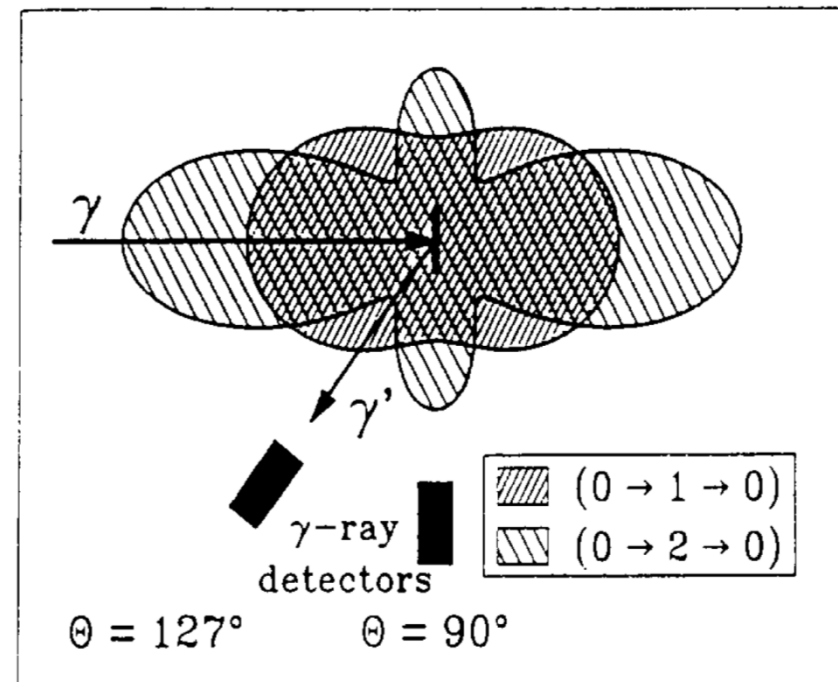
Photon helicity 1,  $m = \pm 1$

→ non-isotropically alignment of photo-excited state (even oriented for circularly polarized beam)

Pronounced angular correlations when involving spin-0 states (ee-nuclei)

Angular distribution functions  $W(\vartheta)$  from angular correlation theory

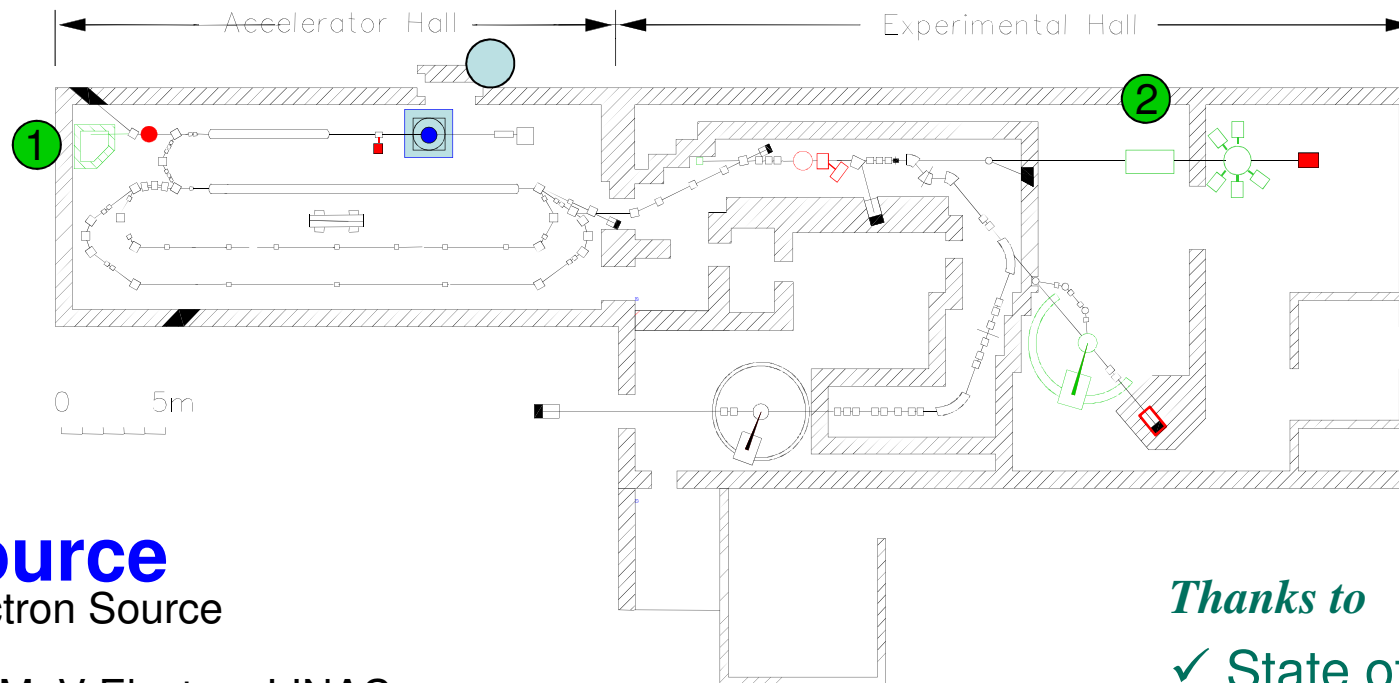
→ Spin quantum numbers J (easiest in even-even nuclei).



90°/127° – intensity ratios: 2.0 (J=2) vs 0.8 (J=1)



# S-DALINAC at TU Darmstadt



**Source**  
● Electron Source

● 130 MeV Electron LINAC

## Photon Experiments

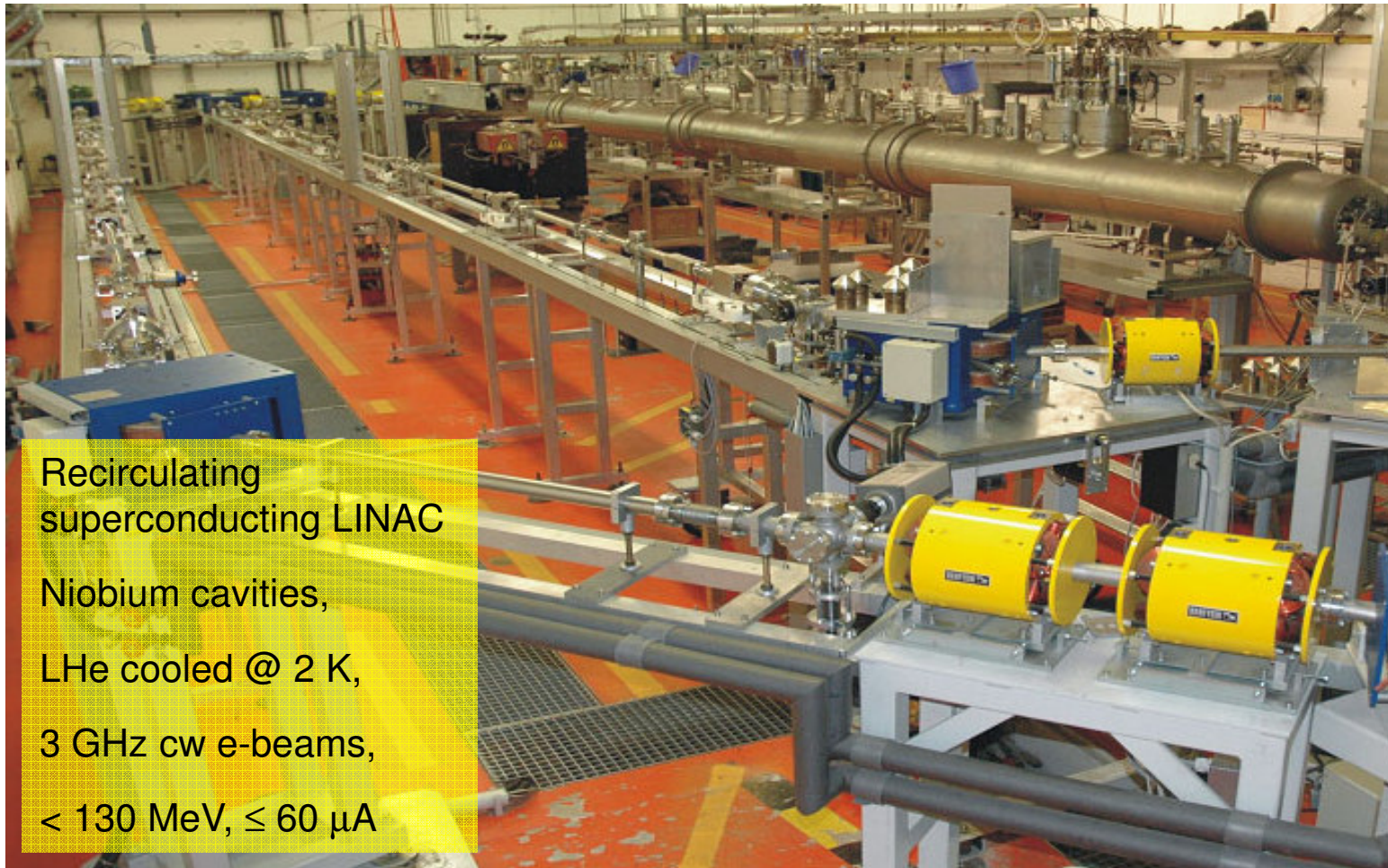
① 10 MeV Injector: Photon Scattering / Photofission

② < 30 MeV Tagger: Photodesintegration / Photon Scattering

*Thanks to*

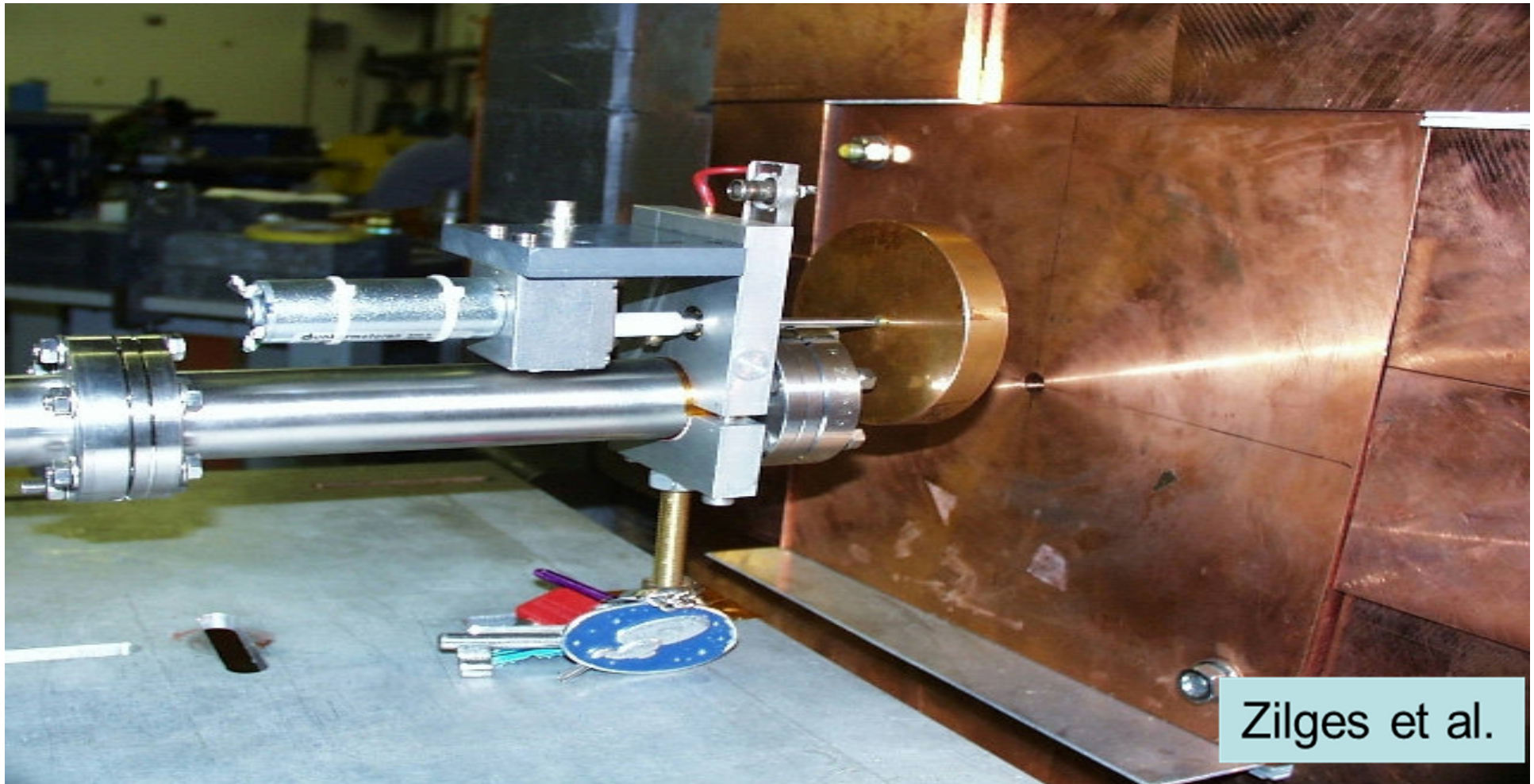
- ✓ State of Hesse
- ✓ TU Darmstadt
- ✓ DFG

# S-DALINAC at TU Darmstadt



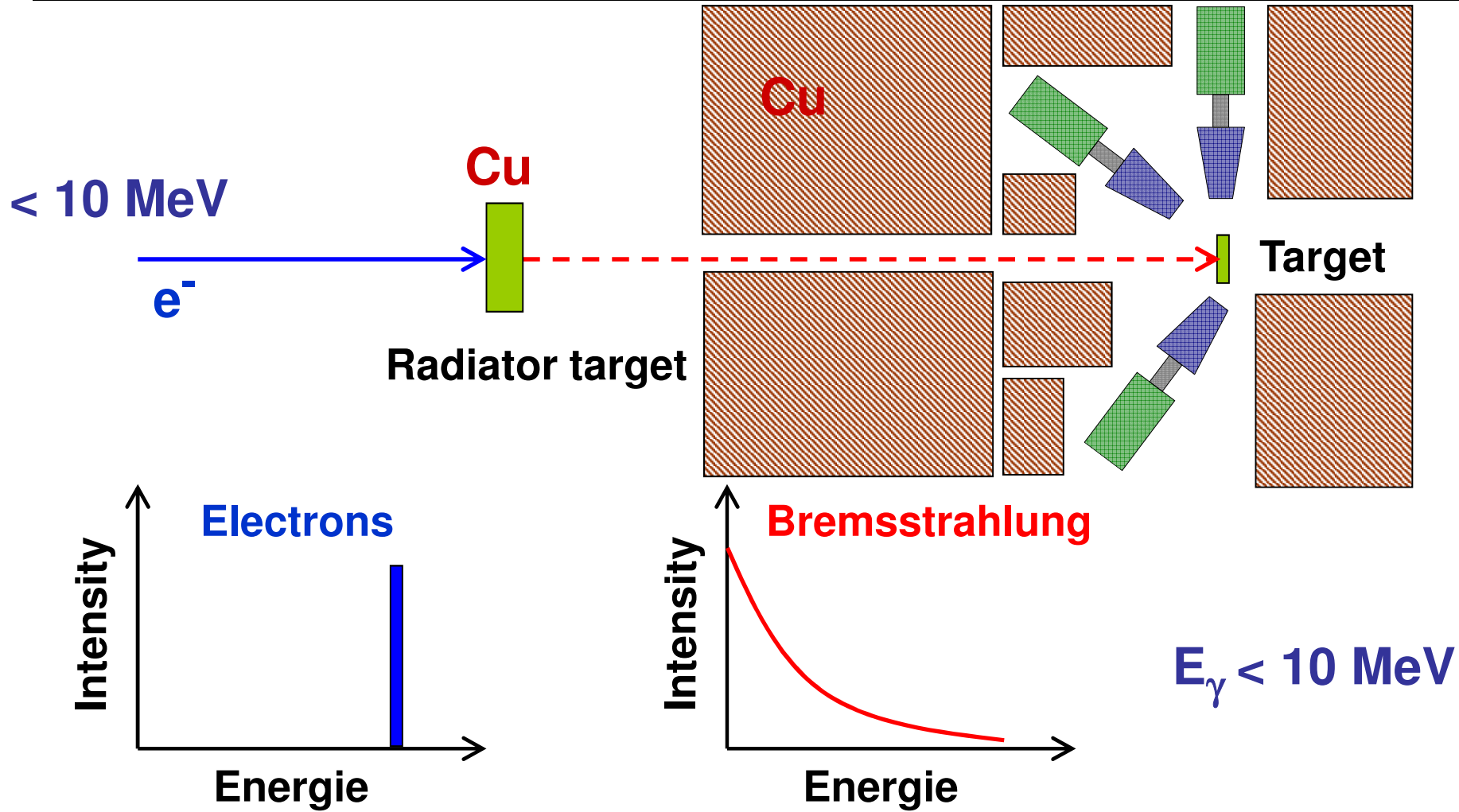


# Bremsstrahlung-Site



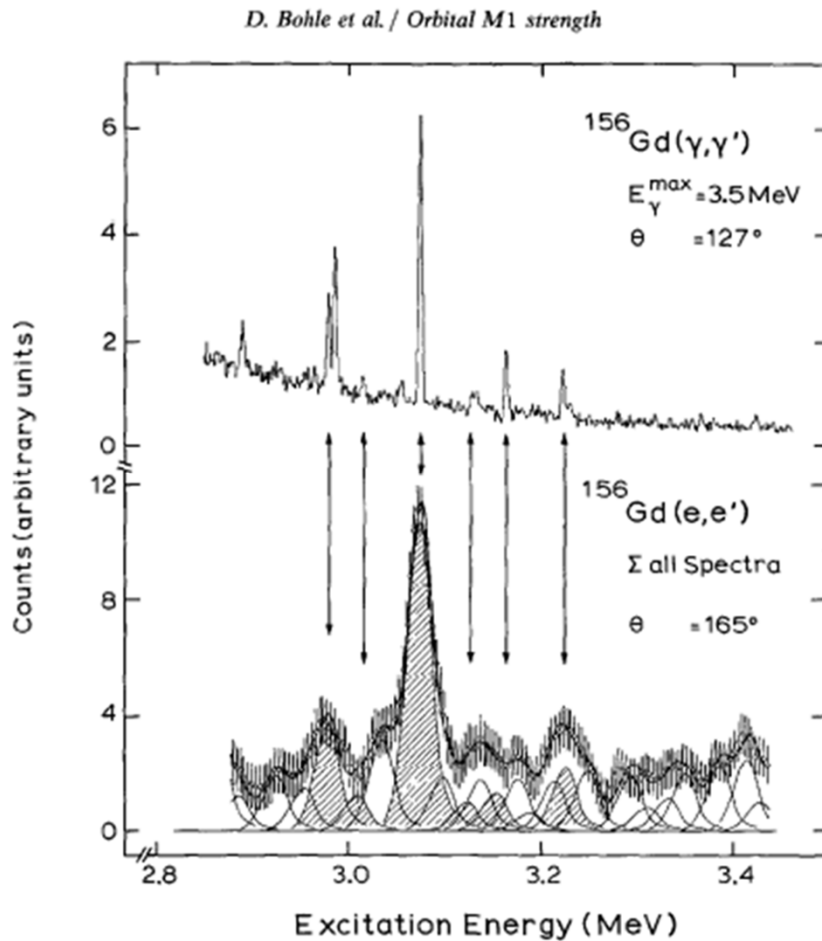
# Darmstadt Low-Energy Photon Scattering Site at S-DALINAC

K.Sonnabend et al., NIM A (2011).



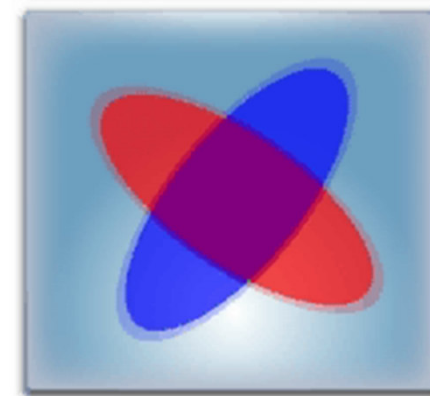


# Some Historic Physics Highlights from NRF (personal selection)



## Nuclear Scissors Mode

A. Richter,  
Darmstadt, 1983



Scissors mode

Classically: current loop

→ magnetic excitation: M1

First example of mixed-symmetry  
state

Discovery in electron scattering

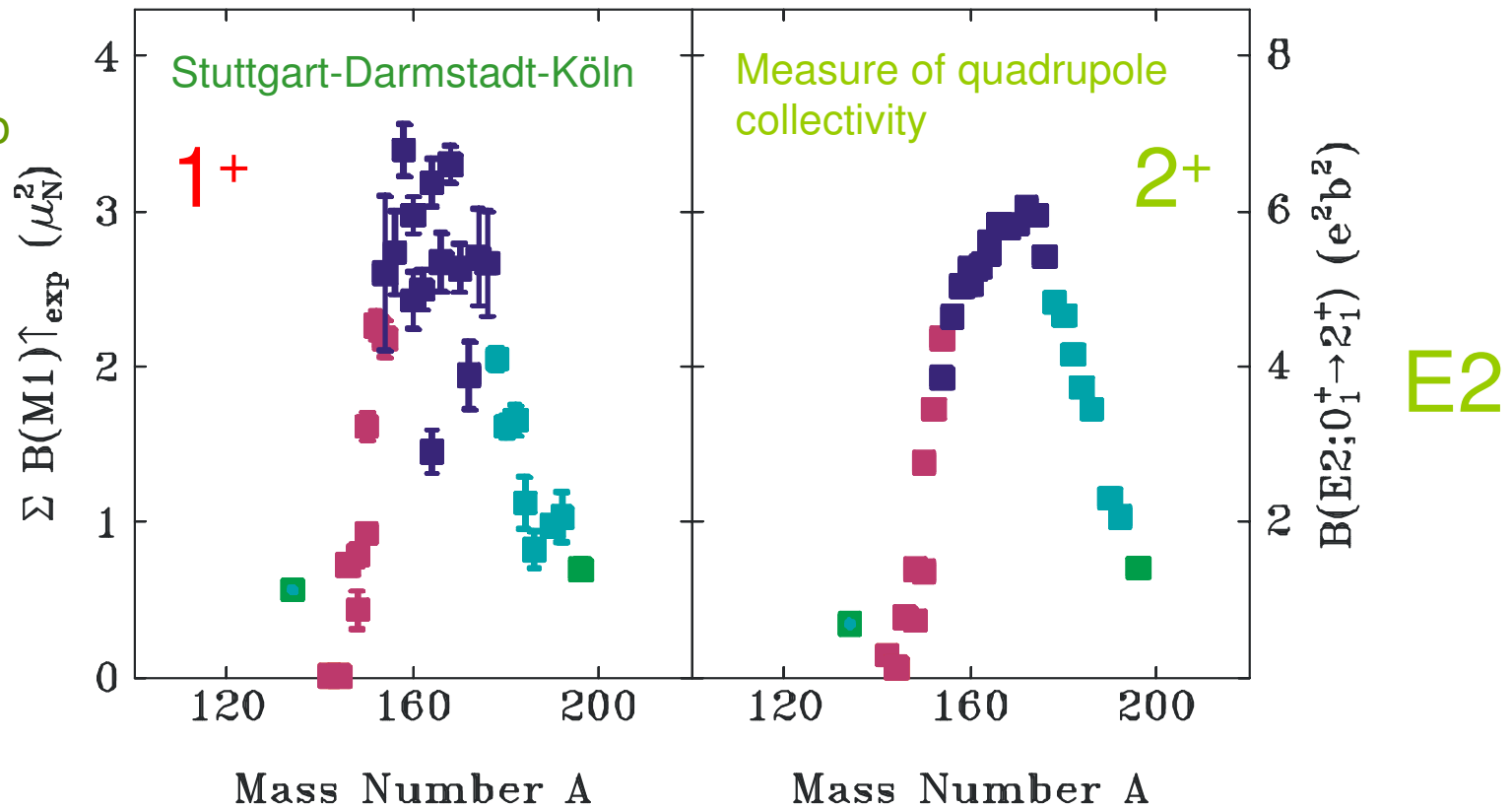
Systematics: photon scattering

# Systematics of scissors mode in rare earth's

## Collectivity of the Scissors Mode

Richter,  
Kneissl,  
von Brentano  
et al.

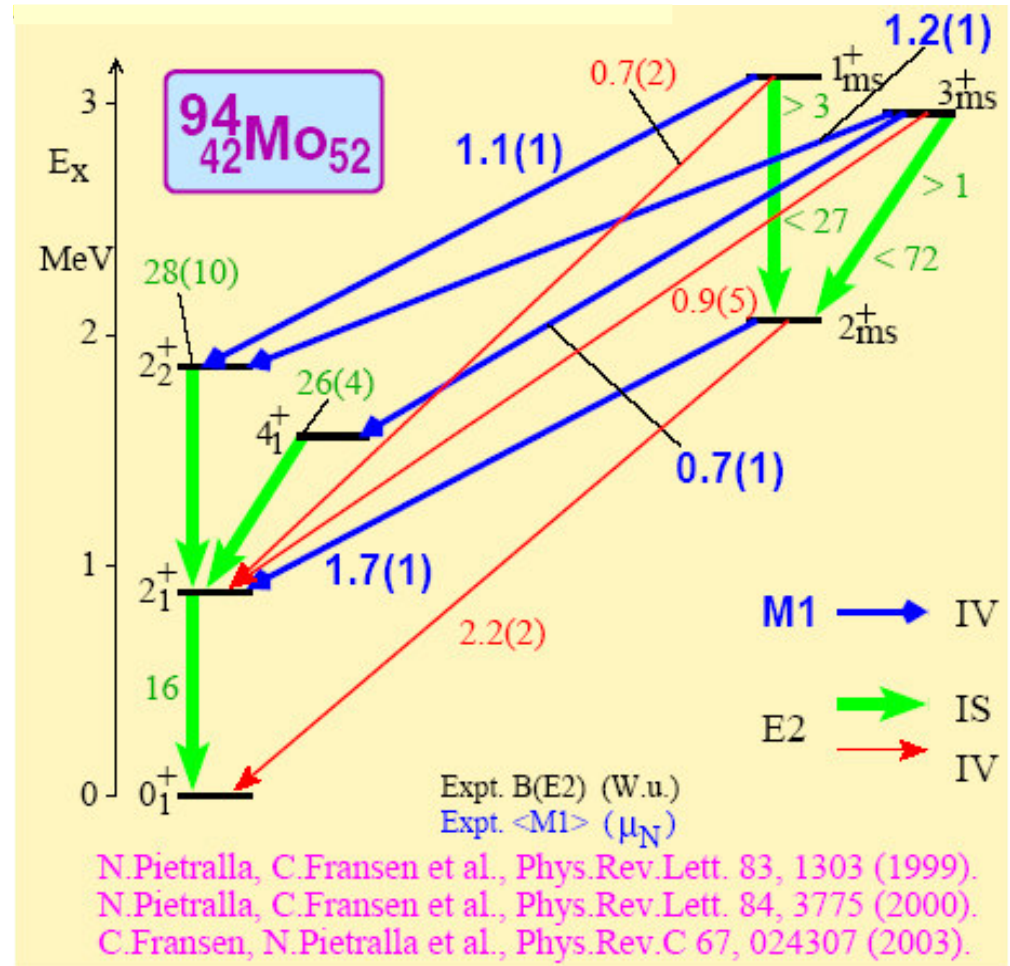
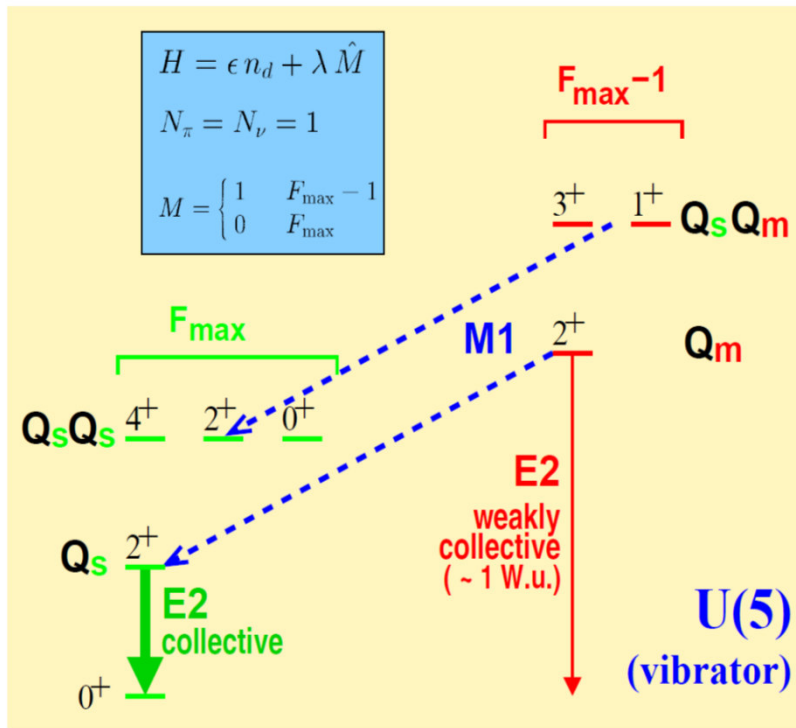
M1



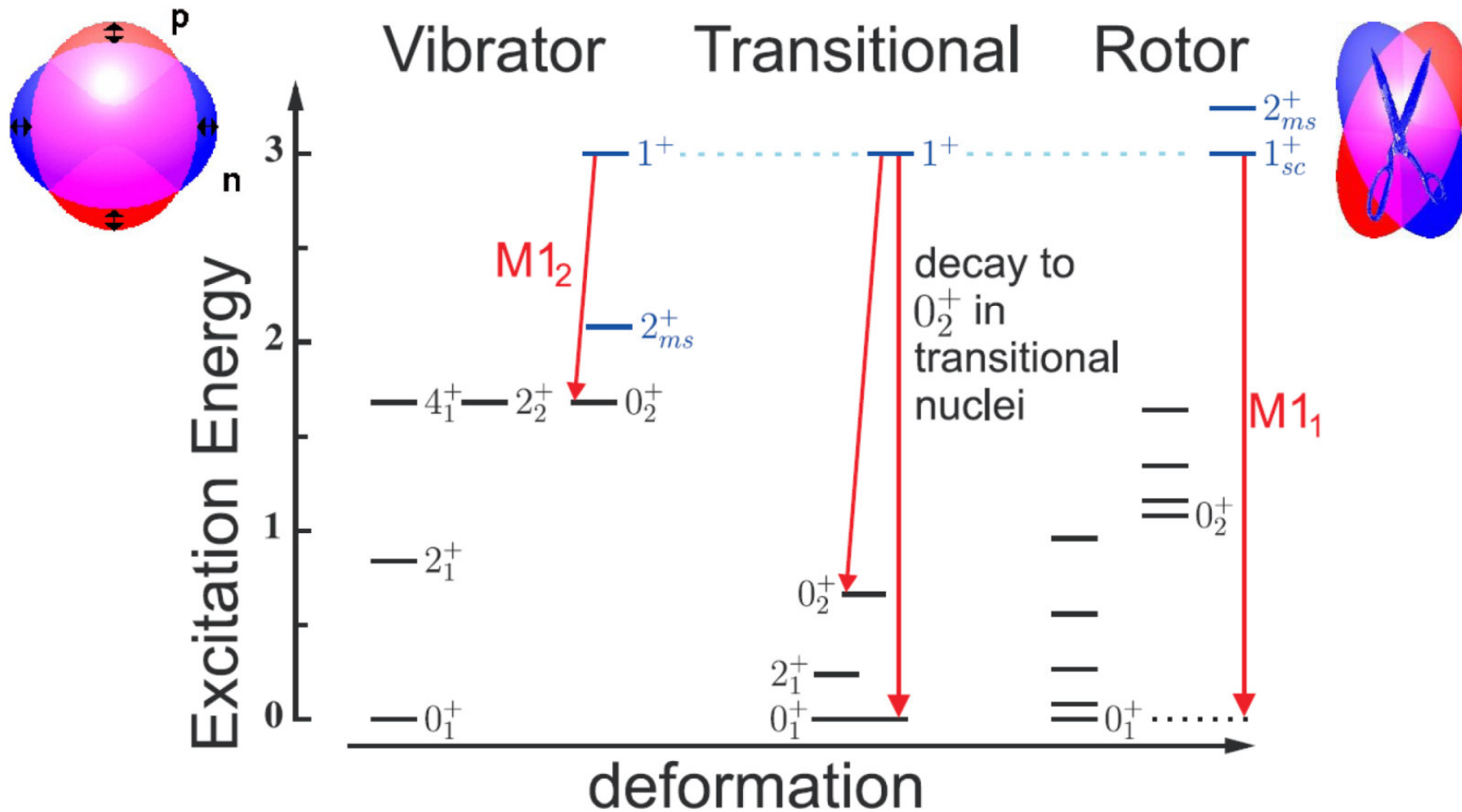
N. Pietralla et al., PRC 58, 184 (1998)

# Nuclear Structures with Mixed pn-Symmetry

M1 as unique signature for mixed-symmetry states



# M1 Scissors mode: Decay to intrinsic excitations



# ‘Application’: Dipole strength and $0\nu\beta\beta$ -decays



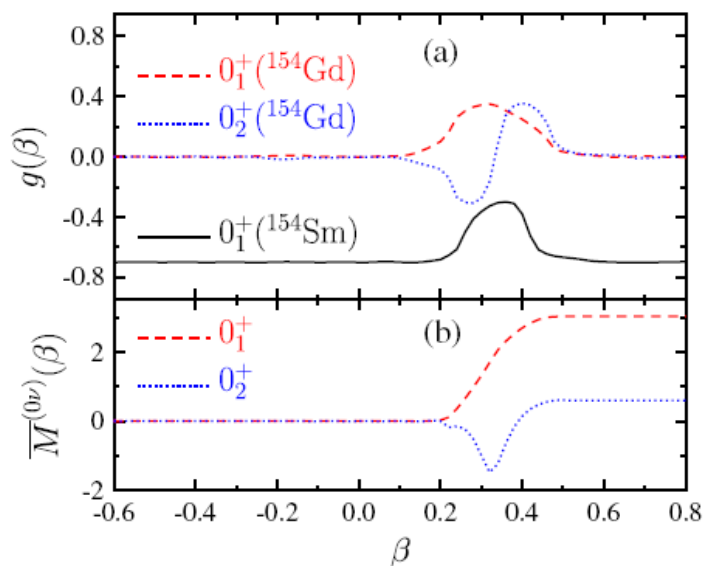
PRL **111**, 172501 (2013)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

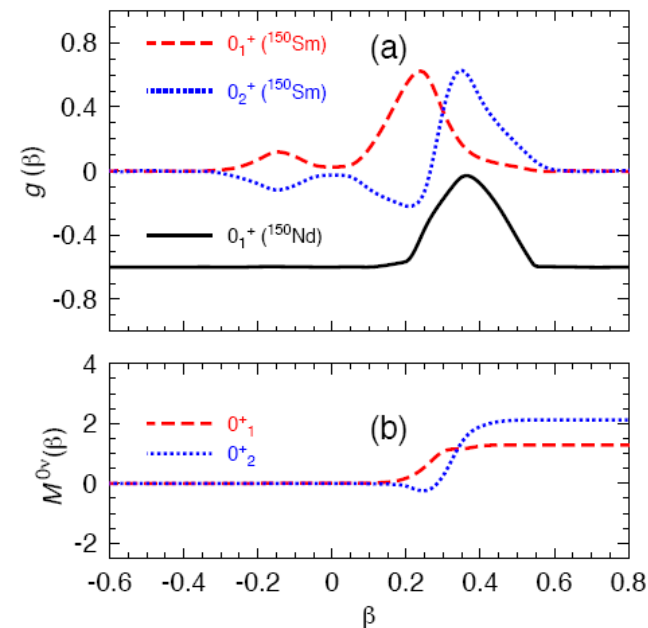
week ending  
25 OCTOBER 2013

## Constraint on $0\nu\beta\beta$ Matrix Elements from a Novel Decay Channel of the Scissors Mode: The Case of $^{154}\text{Gd}$

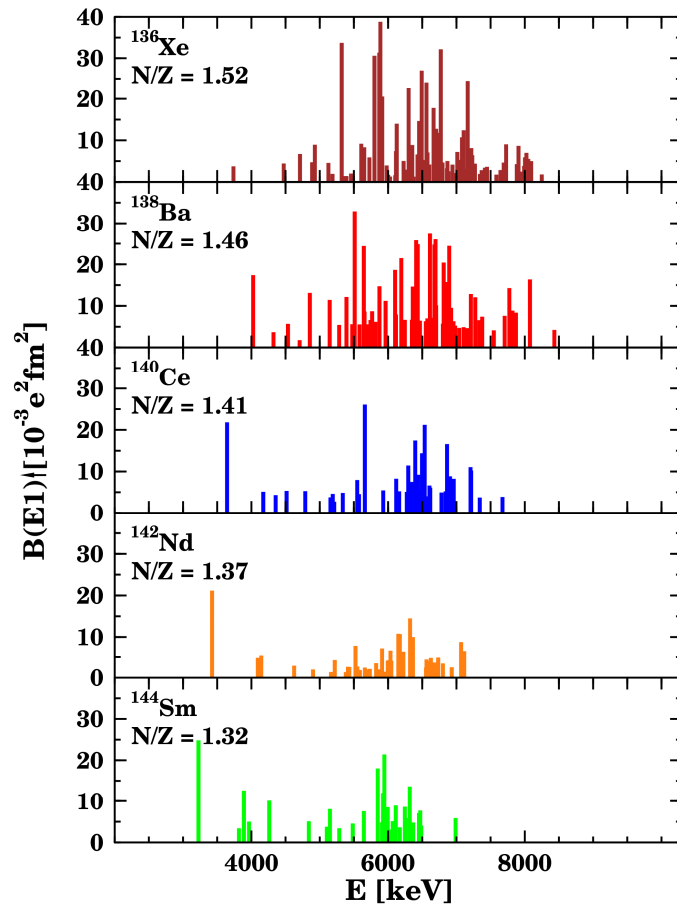
J. Beller,<sup>1,\*</sup> N. Pietralla,<sup>1</sup> J. Barea,<sup>2</sup> M. Elvers,<sup>3,†</sup> J. Endres,<sup>3,‡</sup> C. Fransen,<sup>3</sup> J. Kotila,<sup>4</sup> O. Möller,<sup>1</sup> A. Richter,<sup>1</sup>  
T. R. Rodríguez,<sup>1</sup> C. Romig,<sup>1</sup> D. Savran,<sup>5,6</sup> M. Scheck,<sup>1,7</sup> L. Schnorrenberger,<sup>1</sup> K. Sonnabend,<sup>8</sup>  
V. Werner,<sup>9</sup> A. Zilges,<sup>3</sup> and M. Zweidinger<sup>1</sup>



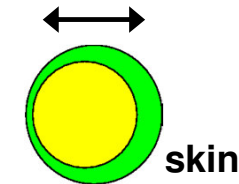
**$^{150}\text{Nd}$ :**  
larger  $0\nu\beta\beta$ -  
decay branch  
to  $0_2^+$  state  
than to gs due  
to QSPT at  
 $N=90$ .



# Pygmy Dipole Resonance



- Concentration around 5-7 MeV
- Fragmented strength
- Summed strength: Scaling with  $N/Z$  ?



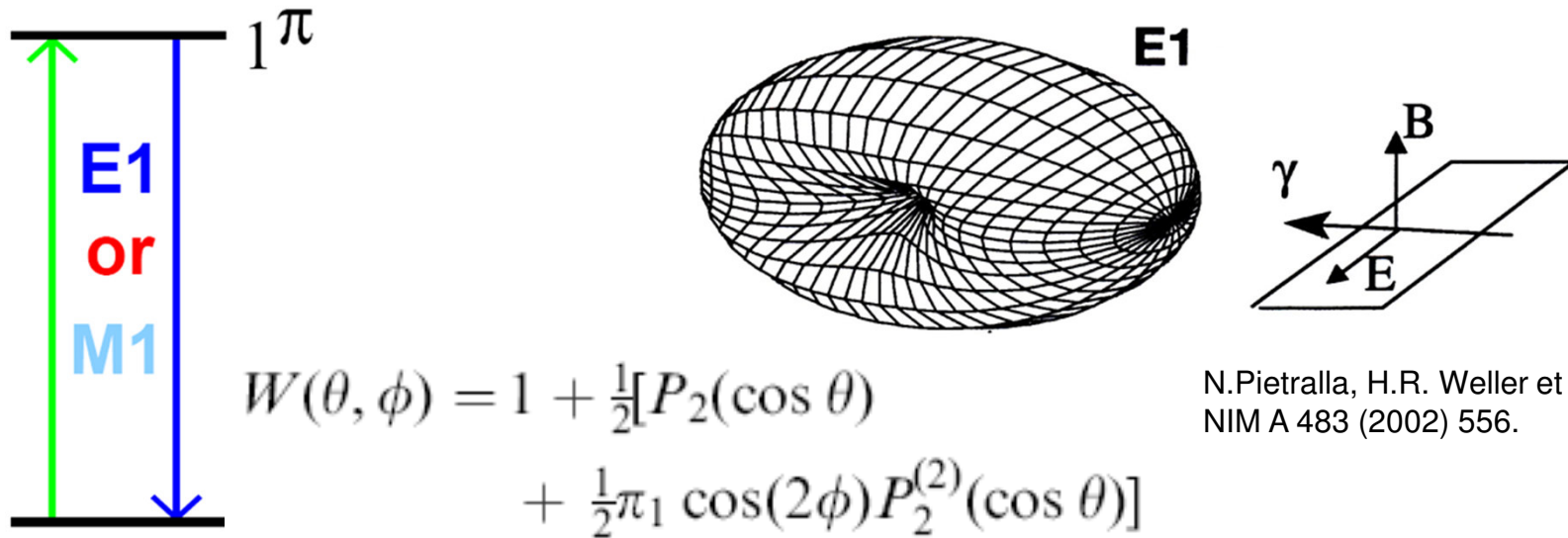
*R.-D. Herzberg et al., PLB 390, 49 (1997).*

*A. Zilges et al., PLB 542, 43 (2002).*

*D. Savran et al., PRC 84, 024326 (2011).*

*U. Kneissl et al., J.Phys.G 32, R217 (2006).*

# Parity quantum number $\pi$ for $J=1$ states



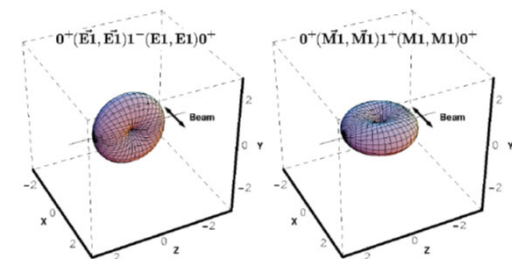
N.Pietralla, H.R. Weller et al.,  
NIM A 483 (2002) 556.

Elastic scattering distribution not isotropic about incident polarization plane.

No intensity along oscillating dipole vector

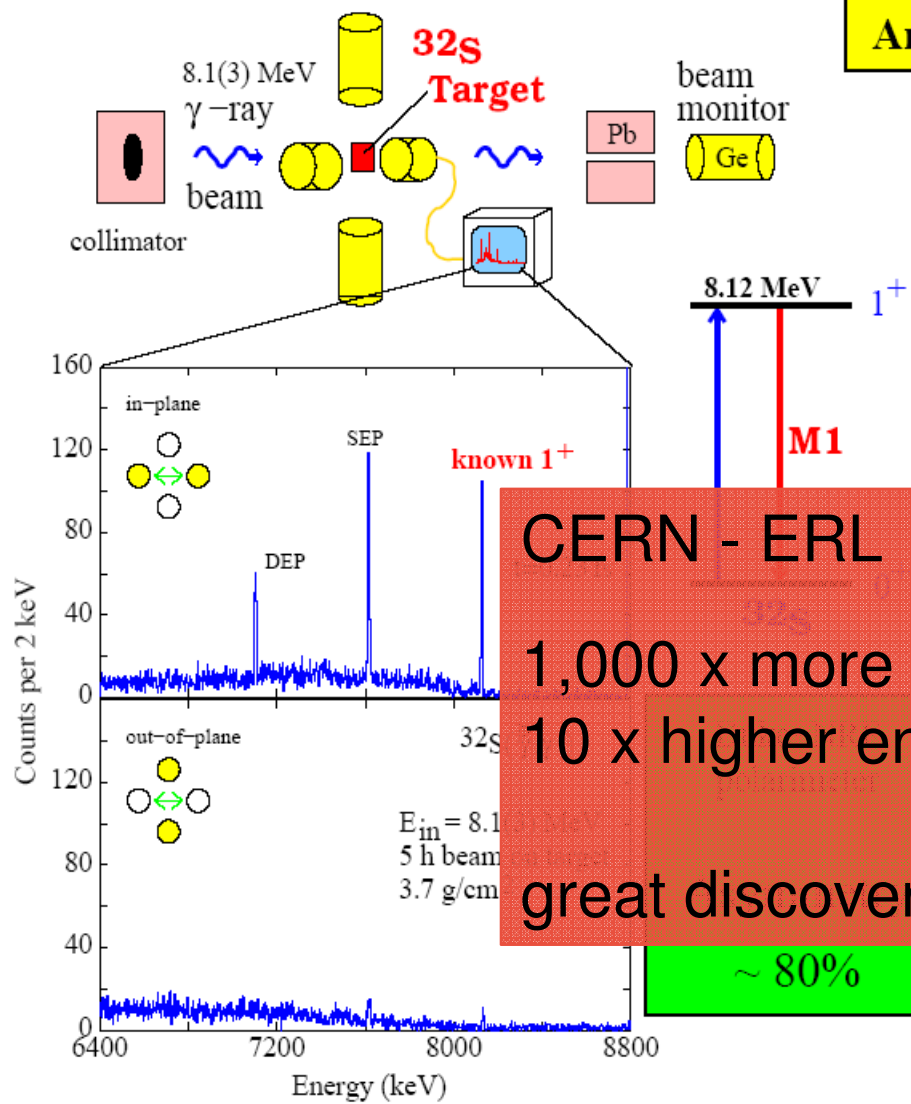
Azimuthal rotation by  $90^\circ$  for M1 and E1 distributions

Observable only for linearly polarized beam

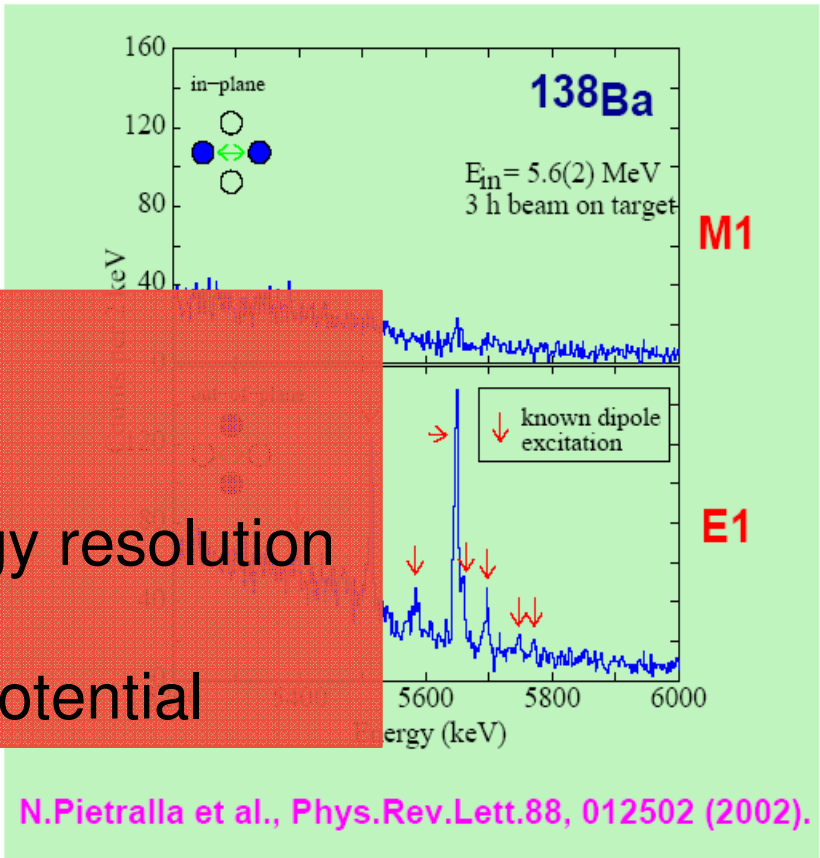




# Analyzing Power for the Pygmy Resonance



"pygmy resonance": all E1 !



CERN - ERL  
 1,000 x more flux  
 10 x higher energy resolution  
 great discovery potential

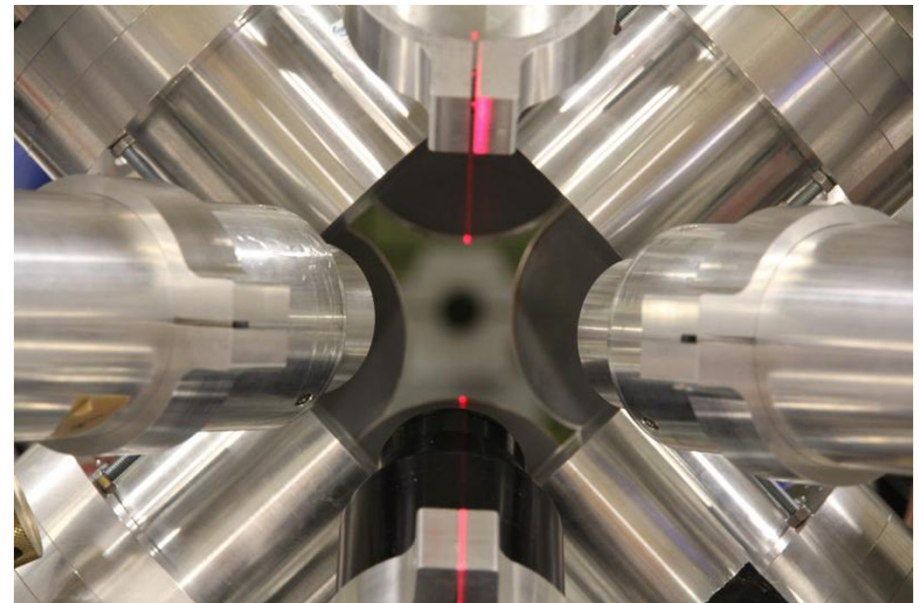
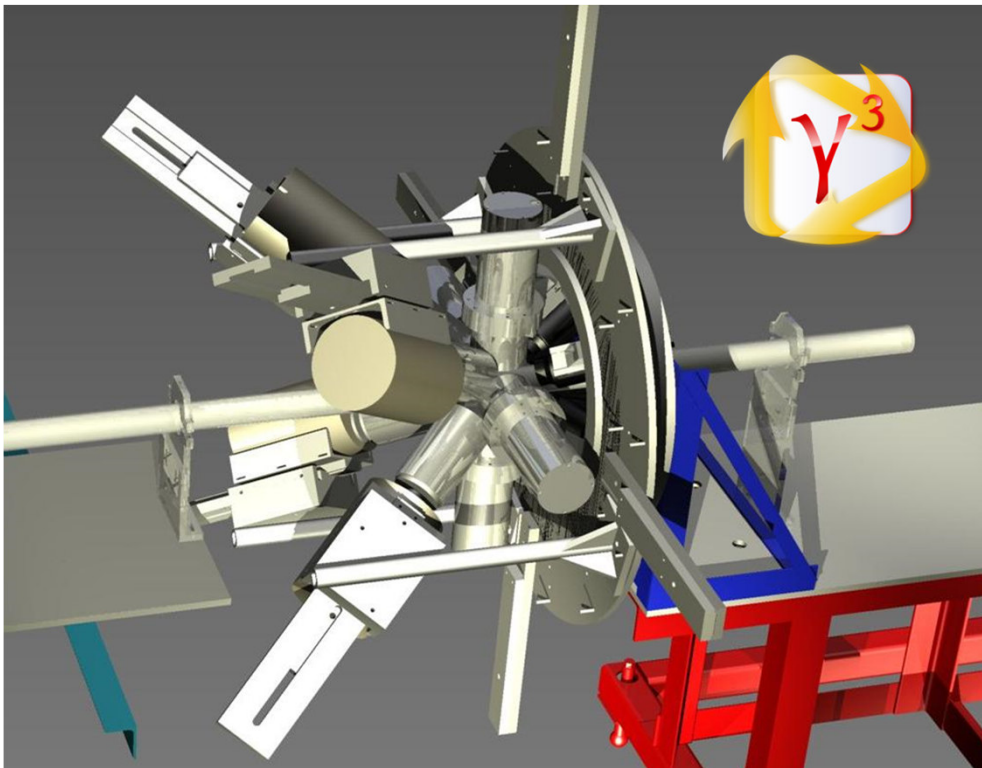
N.Pietralla et al., Phys.Rev.Lett.88, 012502 (2002).

N.Pietralla et al., Nucl.Instrum.Methods A483, 556 (2002).

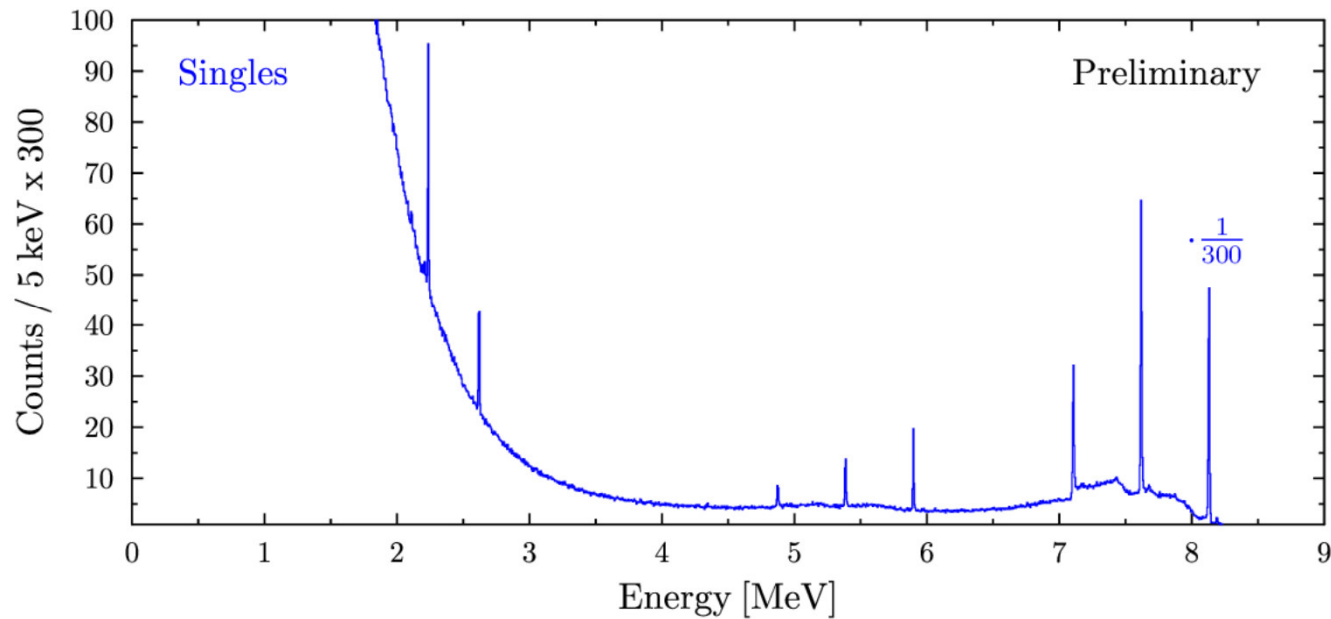
established international community  
 (not only NRF!)

# Advanced set-up: $\gamma^3$ at H $\gamma$ S

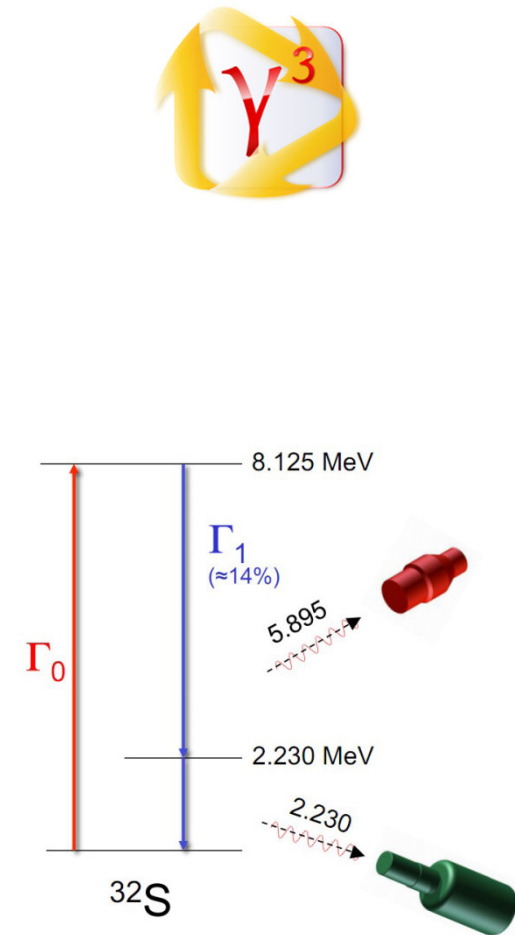
B. Löher et al., Nucl. Instruments Methods Phys. Res. Sect. A **723**, 136–142 (2013).



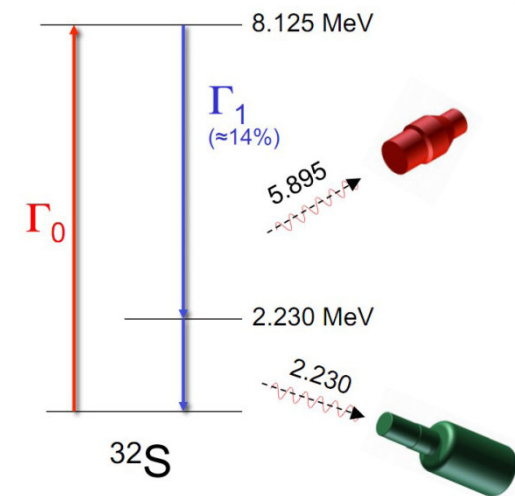
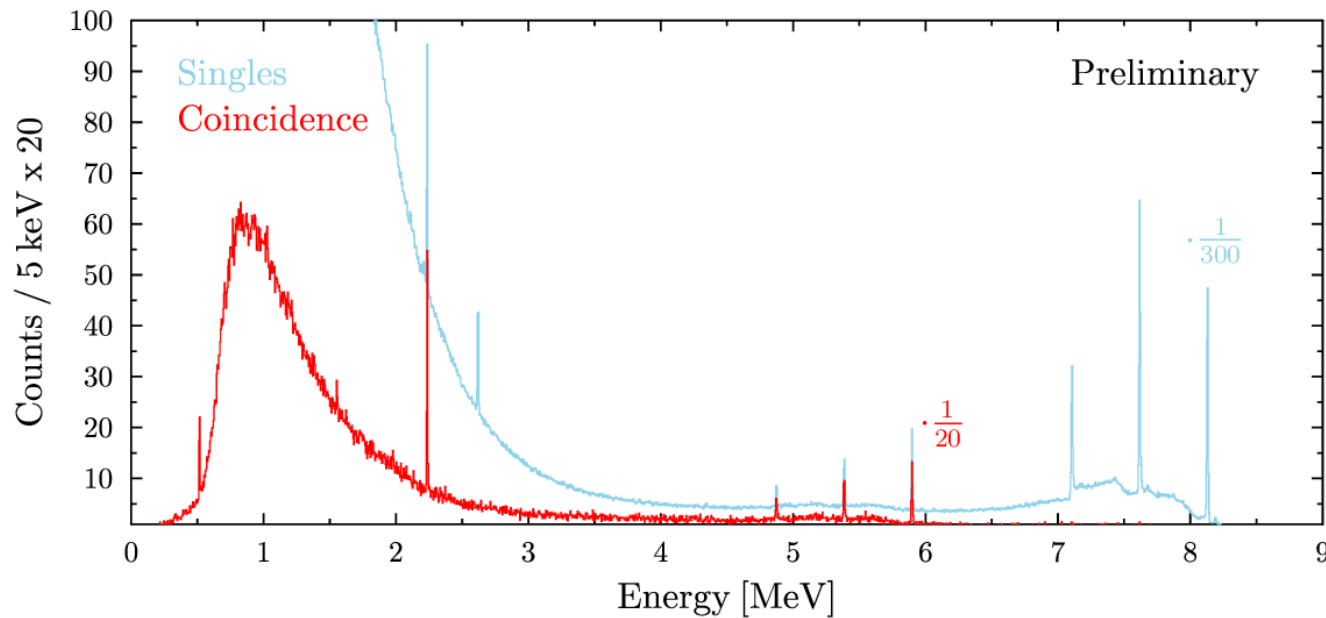
# First $\gamma\gamma$ -coincidences in a $\gamma$ -beam: $\gamma^3$ @ HI $\gamma$ S



B. Löher et al., Nucl. Instruments Methods Phys. Res. Sect. A **723**, 136–142 (2013).

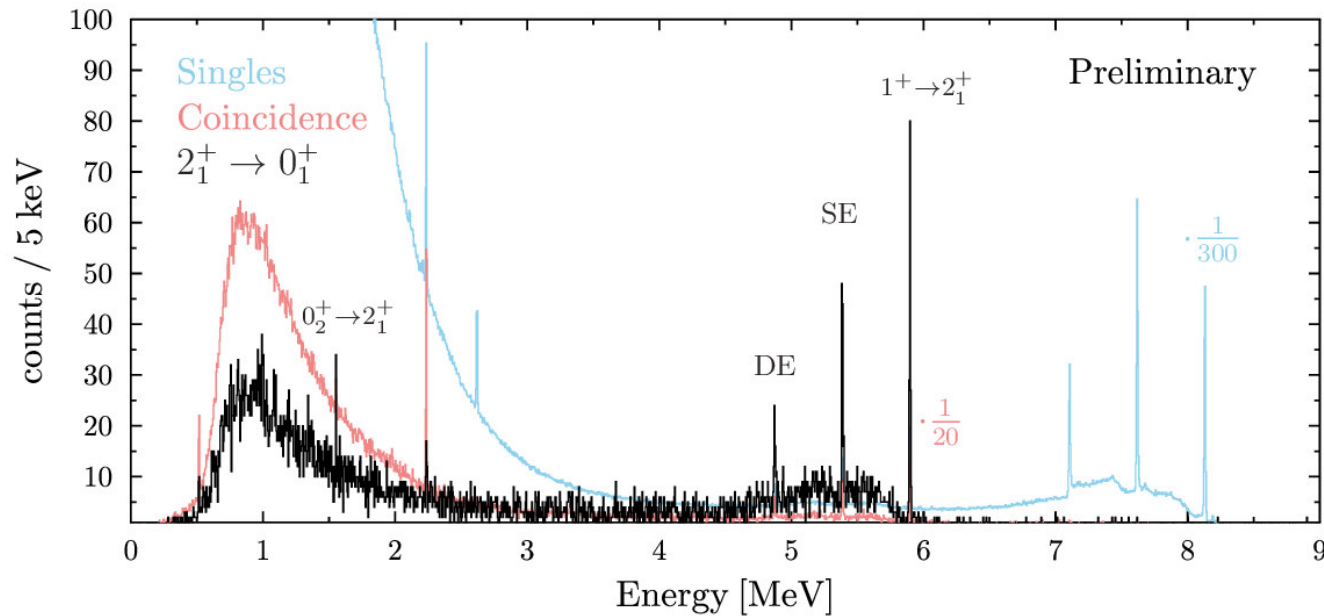


# First $\gamma\gamma$ -coincidences in a $\gamma$ -beam: $\gamma^3$ @ HI $\gamma$ S

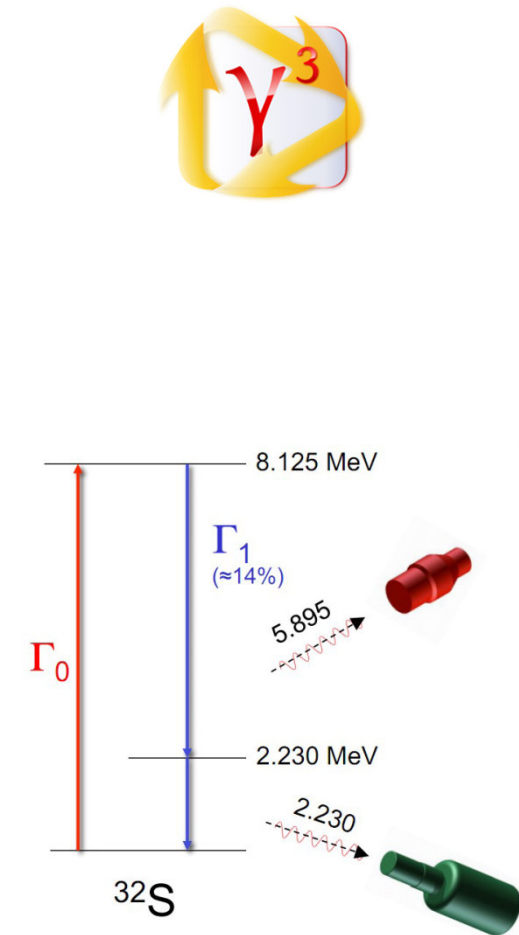


B. Löher et al., Nucl. Instruments Methods Phys. Res. Sect. A **723**, 136–142 (2013).

# First $\gamma\gamma$ -coincidences in a $\gamma$ -beam: $\gamma^3$ @ HI $\gamma$ S

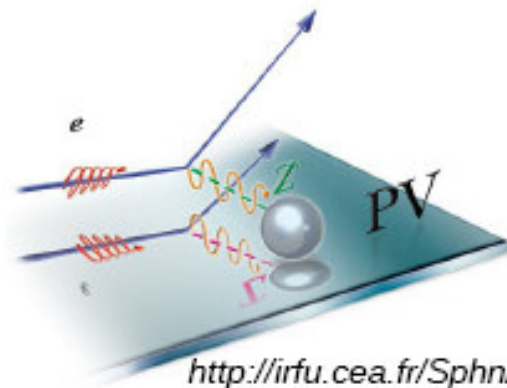


B. Löher et al., Nucl. Instruments Methods Phys. Res. Sect. A **723**, 136–142 (2013).





# Parity Violation in Nuclear Structure?



- ▶ parity violation (PV) effect postulated in 1956 and experimentally verified in 1957 by Wu *et al.*
- ▶ various theoretical and experimental attempts but impact of weak interaction on nuclear structure not well tested, yet

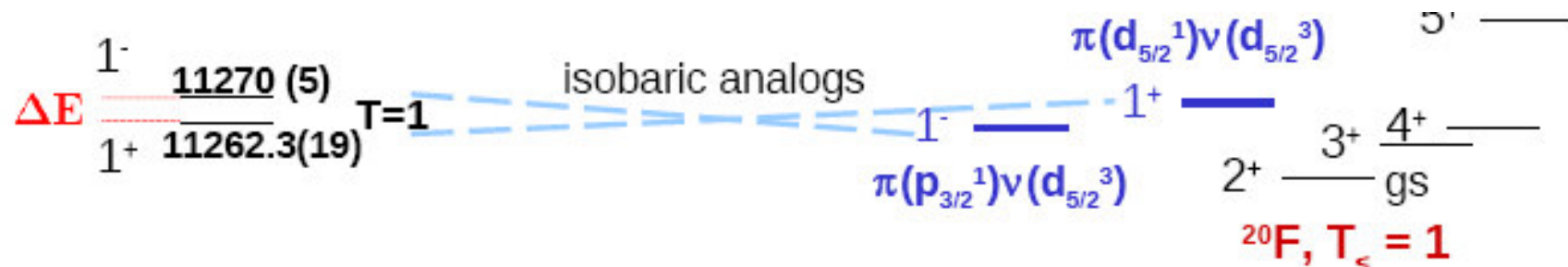
- ▶ parity non conservation in nuclear excitation could be tested with circularly photon beams [1]

$$A_{RL}^a = \frac{\sigma_R^a - \sigma_L^a}{\sigma_R^a + \sigma_L^a} \sim \frac{2R}{E_\pi - E_{-\pi}} \langle \phi_{-\pi} | V_{PNC} | \phi_\pi \rangle$$

$AZ$	Transition ( $J_i^\pi; I_i$ )[ $E_i$ ] $\rightarrow$ ( $J_f^\pi; I_f$ )	$[E_f]$	Admixture ( $J_f^\pi$ )[ $E_f'$ ]	$ R_N/\Delta E $
$^{14}\text{C}$	$(0^+, 1) \rightarrow (2^-, 1)$	[7340]	[7010]	$31 \pm 6$
$^{14}\text{N}$	$(1^+, 0) \rightarrow (1^+, 0)$	[6203]	[5691]	$7.0 \pm 2.0$
	$(1^+, 0) \rightarrow (0^+, 1)$	[8624]	[8776]	$40 \pm 5$
	$(1^+, 0) \rightarrow (2^-, 1)$	[9509]	[9172]	$45 \pm 5$
$^{15}\text{O}$	$(\frac{1}{2}^-, \frac{1}{2}) \rightarrow (\frac{1}{2}^-, \frac{1}{2})$	[11 025]	[10938]	$37 \pm 7$
$^{16}\text{O}$	$(0^+, 0) \rightarrow (2^-, 0)$	[8872]	[6917]	$18 \pm 2$
			[11 520]	$9.5 \pm 0.7$
$^{18}\text{F}$	$(1^+, 0) \rightarrow (1^-, 0+1)$	[5605]	[5603]	$590 \pm 110$
$^{20}\text{Ne}$	$(0^+, 0) \rightarrow (1^-, 0)$	[11 270]	[11 262]	$670 \pm 7000$

[1] A.I. Titov *et al.*, *J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys.* **32** 1097 (2006)

# $^{20}\text{Ne}$ Parity Doublet



- ▶ doublet is isobaric analog of simple shell model states
- ▶ high nuclear enhancement factor [1]:
  - ▶ overlapping wavefunctions
  - ▶ small energy splitting (large uncertainty)

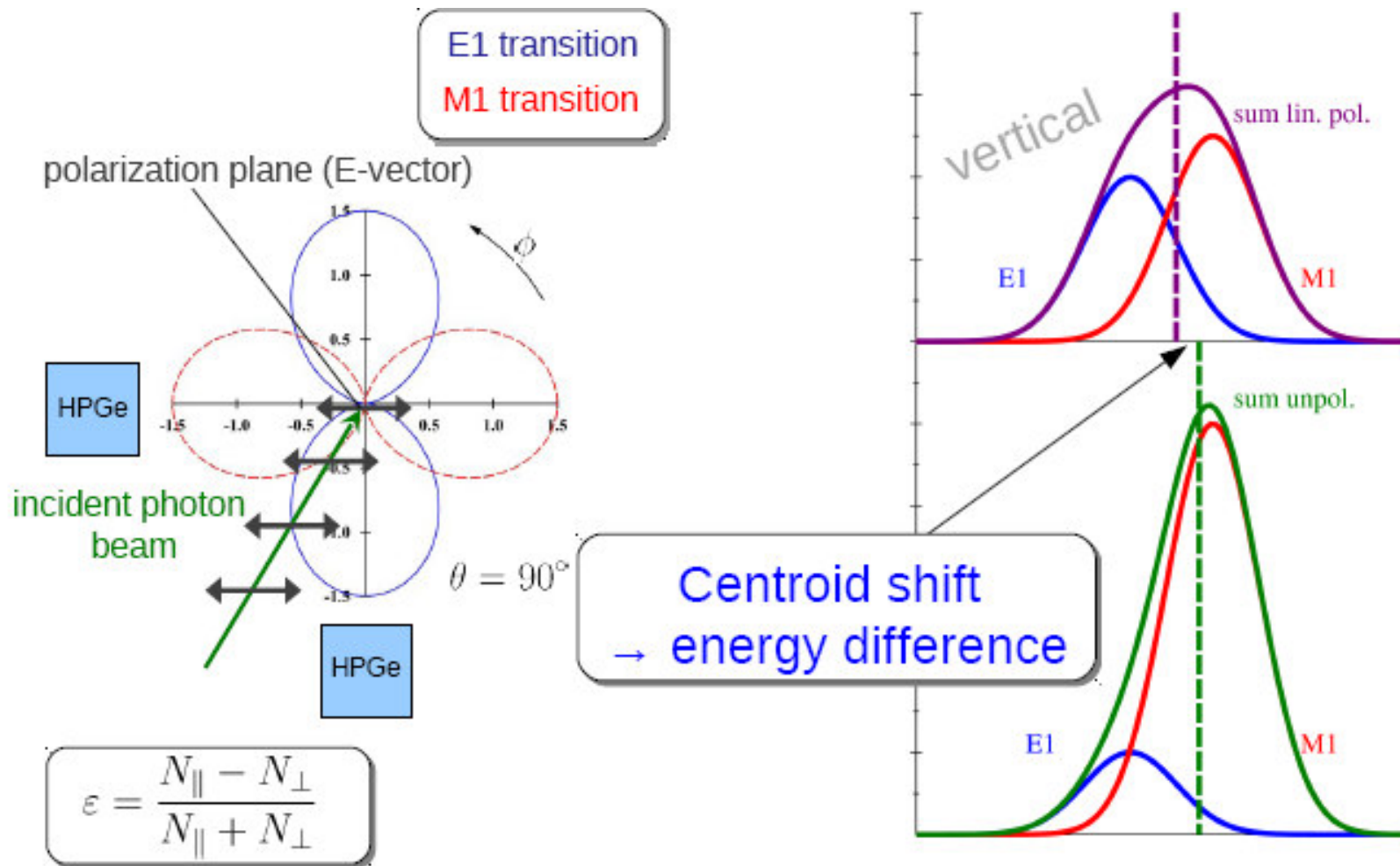
$$|R_N/\Delta E| = (670 \pm 7000) \quad \Delta E = (7.7 \pm 5.3) \text{ keV}$$

$0^+$   $^{20}\text{Ne}$   $T_c=0$

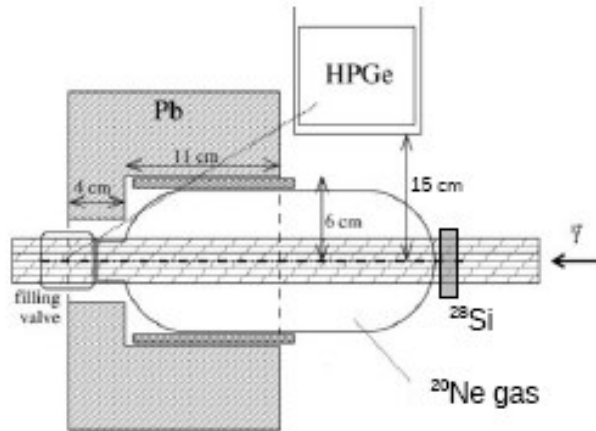
- ▶ feasibility of measurement of PV effect on  $^{20}\text{Ne}$ ?



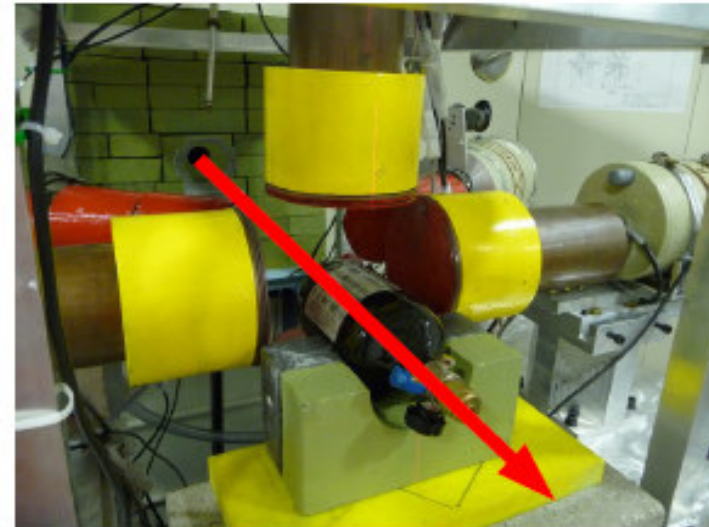
# Energy Splitting of $^{20}\text{Ne}$ Parity Doublet



# Experiment on $^{20}\text{Ne}$ at H $\gamma$ S



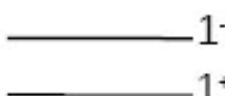
adapted from  
T.C. Li *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C **73** 054306 (2006)



- beam energy: 11.26 MeV ( $\Delta E \approx 350$  keV)
- 4 h with circular polarized photons  
(isotropic emission → reference point)
- 20 h with linear polarized photons  
(separation of  $1^+$  and  $1^-$  state)

# Energy Splitting of $^{20}\text{Ne}$ Parity Doublet

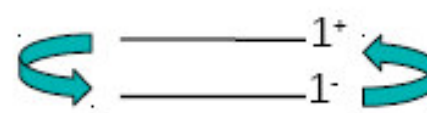
◆ before:



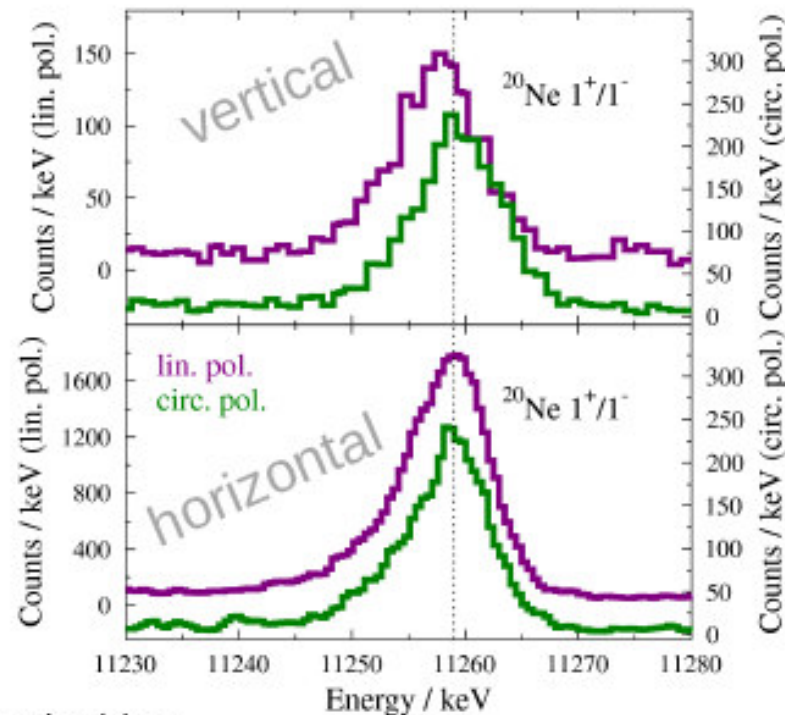
$$\Delta E = (7.7 \pm 5.3) \text{ keV}$$

$$\frac{R_N}{\Delta E} = 670 \pm 700$$

◆ now:



$$\Delta E = (3.2 \pm 0.9) \text{ keV}$$

$$\frac{R_N}{\Delta E} = 1610 \pm 670$$


HlyS data  
J.Beller  
et al., TU  
Darmstadt,  
to be publ.  
(2014)

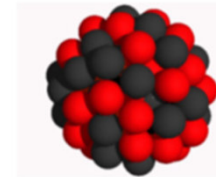
- ◆  $^{20}\text{Ne}$  doublet:
- strong M1:  $\Gamma_{0, 1+} = 11.2(20) \text{ eV}$  [2]
  - weak E1:  $\Gamma_{0, 1-} = 0.39(5) \text{ eV}$  [2]

[2] D.R. Tilley et al., Nucl. Phys. A 636 (1998) 259

# Scientific Opportunities at High-Intensity

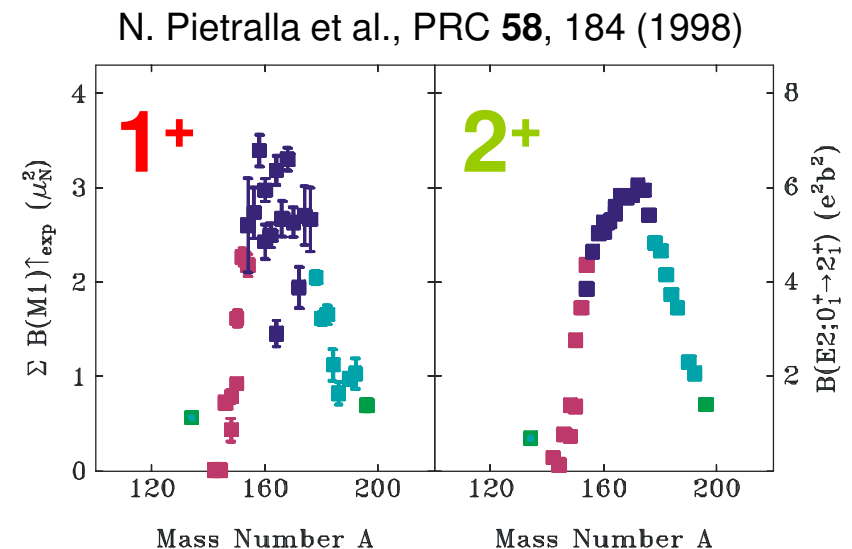
## Outline

- Photonuclear Reactions
- Nuclear Resonance Fluorescence
- Some Previous Achievements
- Intensity Frontier (instrumental challenge) → **„Discovery Frontier“**  
(scientific opportunities)
  - **„Availability Frontier“** (NRF on rare isotopes)
  - **„Sensitivity Frontier“** (weak channels: strong physics)
  - **„Precision Frontier“** (high count rates, new methods)
- Conclusion



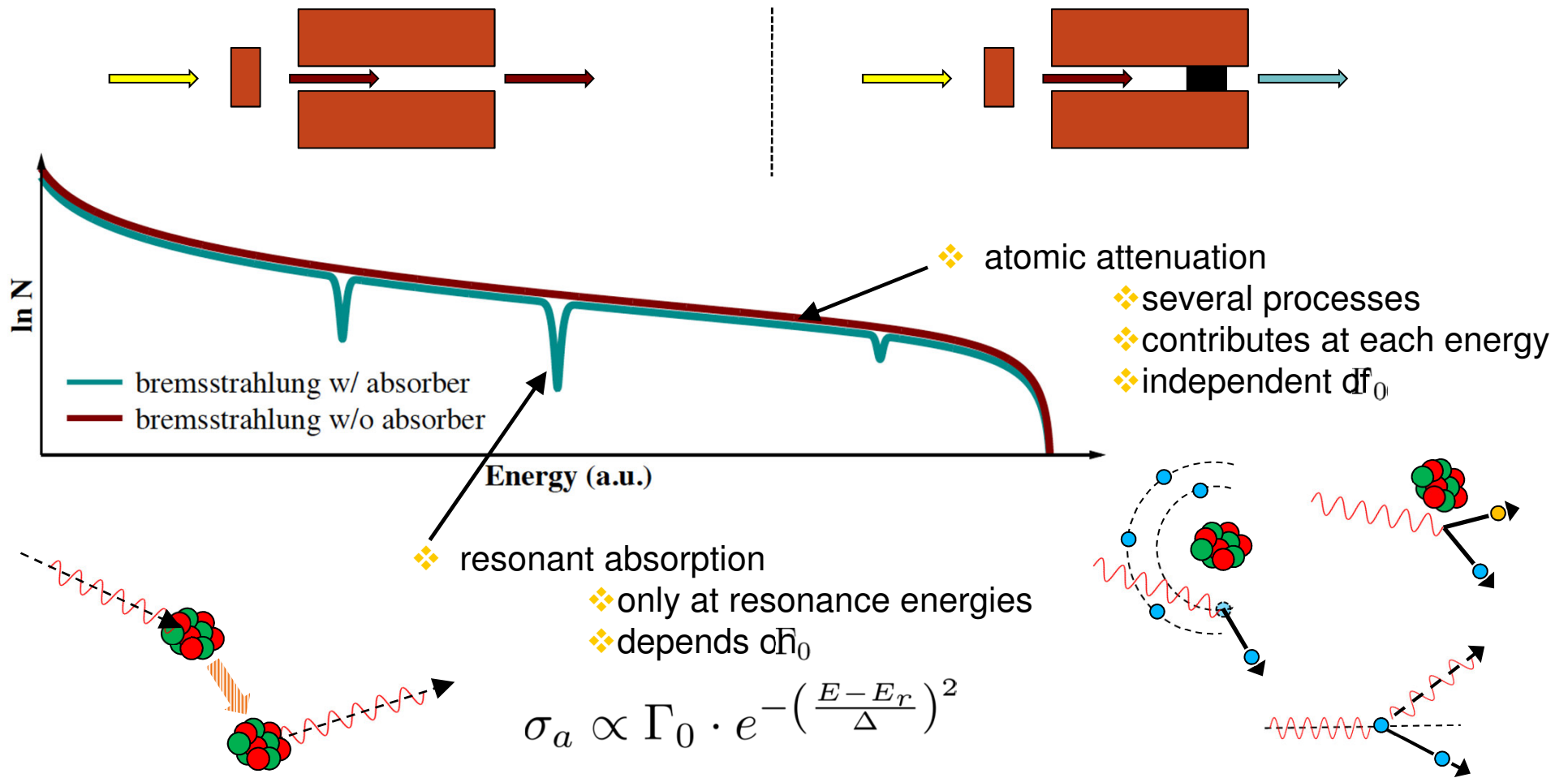
### 3. Precision Frontier

- **High Intensity = High count rates → small statistical uncertainties**
  - address unresolved questions that cannot be answered today because of uncertainties
  - e.g., scaling of scissors mode with deformation
  - evolution of K-mixing in octupole-vibrational bands of deformed nuclei
  - the „unknown unknown“...
- **High Intensity enables new approaches**
  - e.g. → **Nuclear Self Absorption**



# Absorption Processes

Absorption lines only a few eV wide!



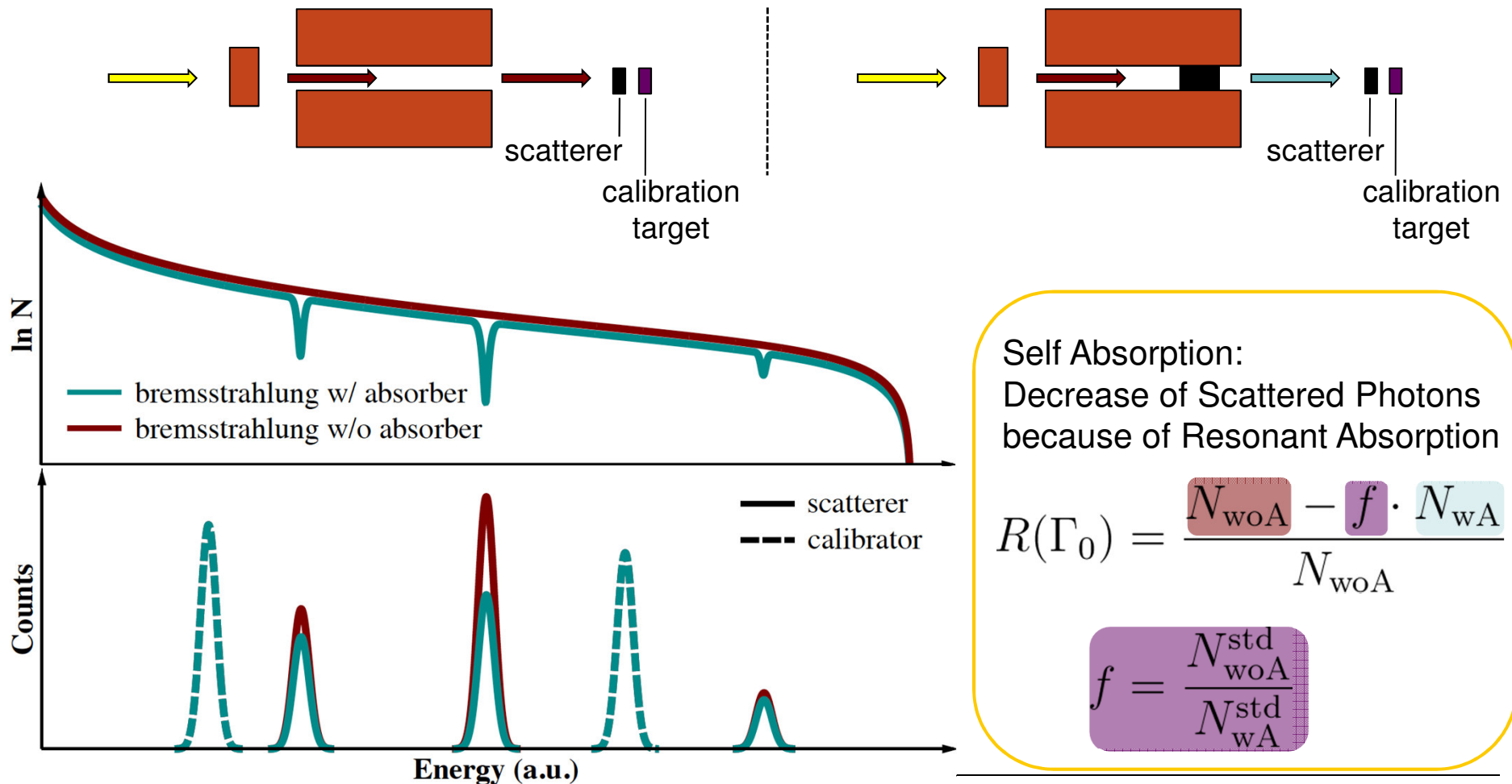


# Principle of Measurement and Self Absorption<sup>1</sup>

1 F. R. Metzger, Prog. in Nucl. Phys. 7 (1959) 53



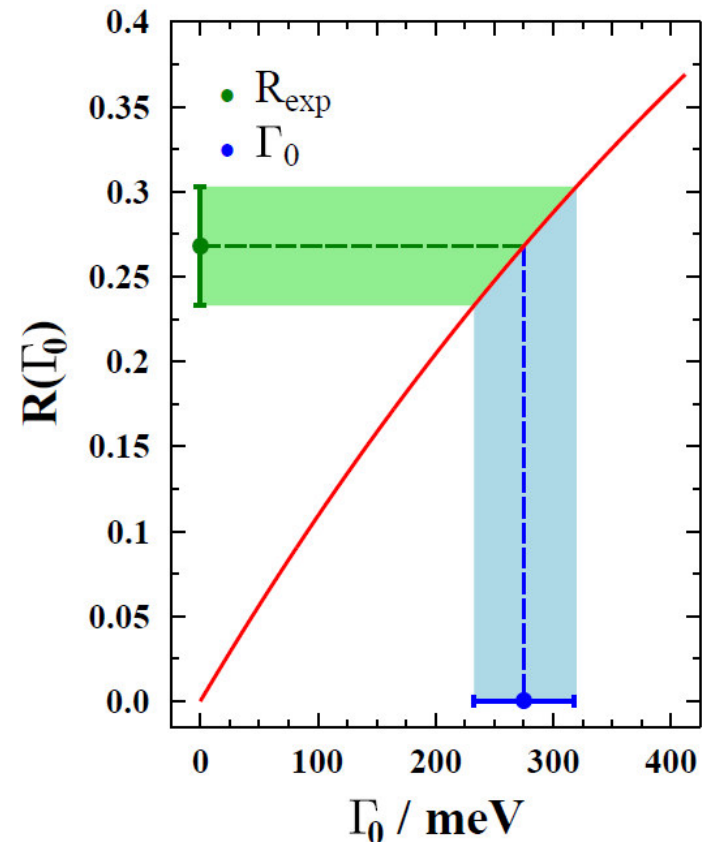
Use scatterer made of absorber material as „high-resolution detector“.



# Determination of Ground-State Transition Width and Branching Ratio to the Ground State

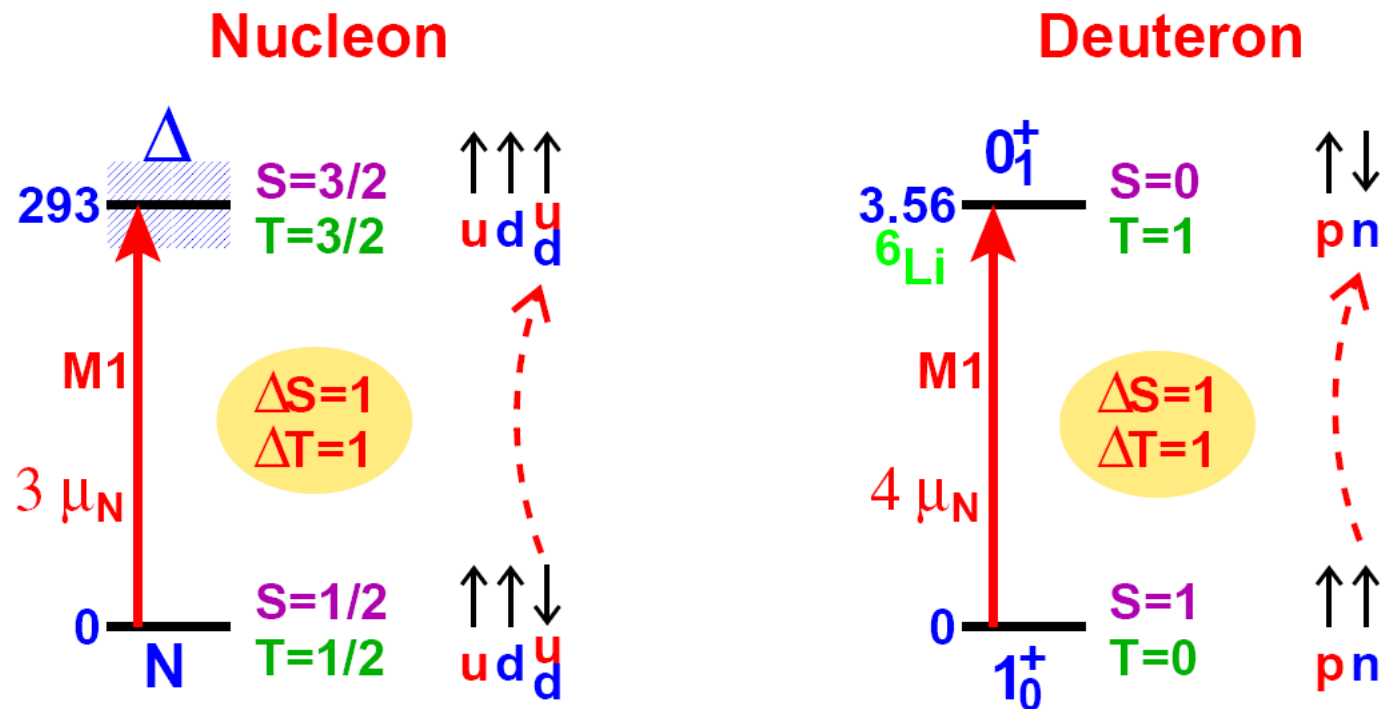
- ❖ calculate  $R$  as function of  $\Gamma_0$
- ❖ self absorption  $R_{\text{exp}}$  determined experimentally
- ❖ comparison of experiment and calculation gives ground-state transition width  $\Gamma_0$

- ❖ NRF measurement gives  $\Gamma_0 \cdot \frac{\Gamma_0}{\Gamma}$
- ❖ thus total transition width  $\Gamma$  and branching ratio  $\Gamma_0/\Gamma$  to ground state can be determined



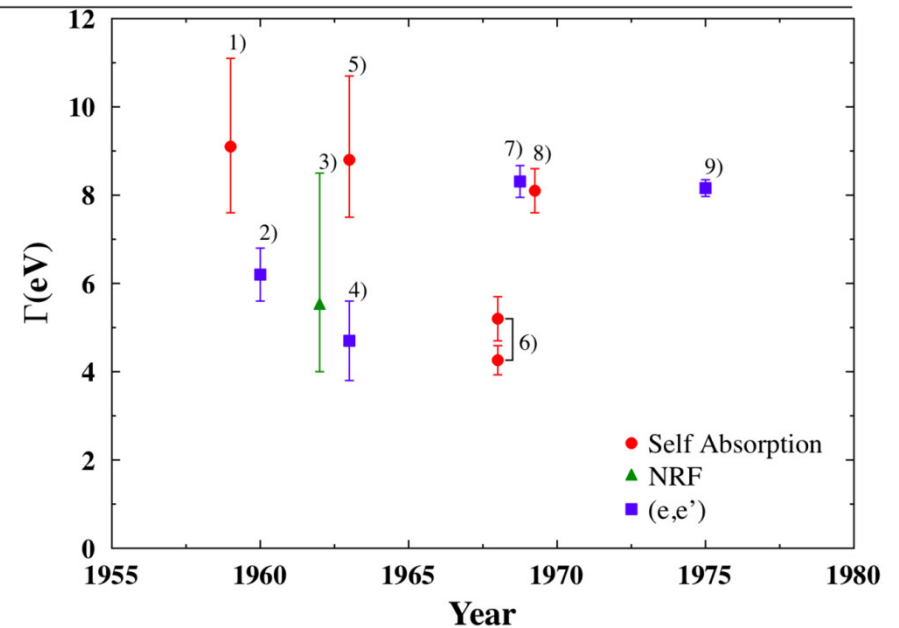
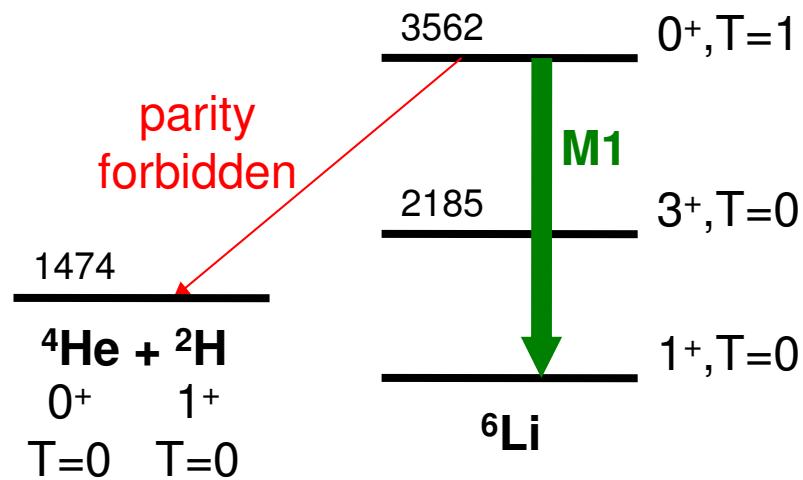
# Application: ${}^6\text{Li}$ as Benchmark for *ab-initio* Nuclear Structure Theory

## Isospin Excitations of Nucleons and Nuclei

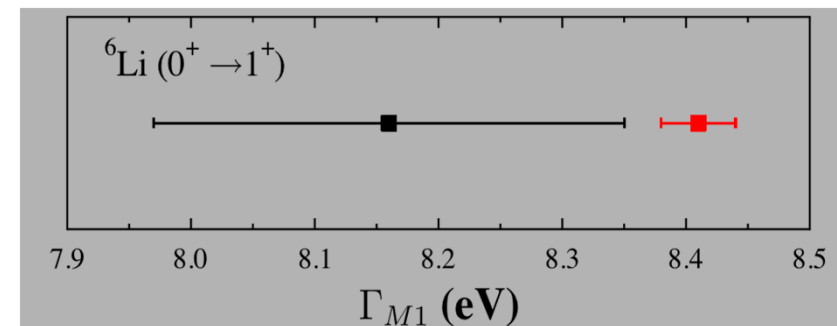


Nuclear Quasideuteron-Configurations: A.F.Lisetskiy et al., Phys. Rev. C **60**, 064310 (1999).

# ${}^6\text{Li}$ as Benchmark for *ab-initio* Theory



- ❖ Exp.:  $\Gamma_{M1} = \mathbf{8.16(19) \text{ eV}}$  (from  $(e, e')$ )
- ❖ S. Pastore *et al.*, PRC **87** (2013):  
chiral currents contribute significantly to  $\Gamma_{M1}$
- ❖ GFMC with one-body EM current operator at leading order (impulse approximation): **6.90(2) eV**
- ❖ GFMC with additional two-body meson-exchange currents up to  $N^3\text{LO}$  ( $| \text{EFT}$ ): **8.41(3) eV**



# Self Absorption Measurement on ${}^6\text{Li}$

(Ch.Romig, TU Darmstadt, PhD thesis, 2014 in preparation)



- ◇ scatterer: 5 g  $\text{Li}_2\text{CO}_3$  (enriched to 95% in  ${}^6\text{Li}$ )
- ◇ calibration target: 4.2 g  ${}^{11}\text{B}$  (sandwiched)
- ◇ absorber: 10 g  $\text{Li}_2\text{CO}_3$  (enriched to 95% in  ${}^6\text{Li}$ )
- ◇ endpoint energy: 7.1 MeV
- ◇ 7 days w/o absorber
- ◇ 8 days w/ absorber

