

CELEBRATING THE CAREER AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF
ROBERT V. F. JANSSENS



NucChem GRC Chairs

Nuclear Physics Over The Years: From the high spin era to rare isotopes

Exploring $N=32$, 34 and 40 and the inverse-impact law

Alexandra Gade
University Distinguished Professor
FRIB and Department of Physics and Astronomy
Michigan State University

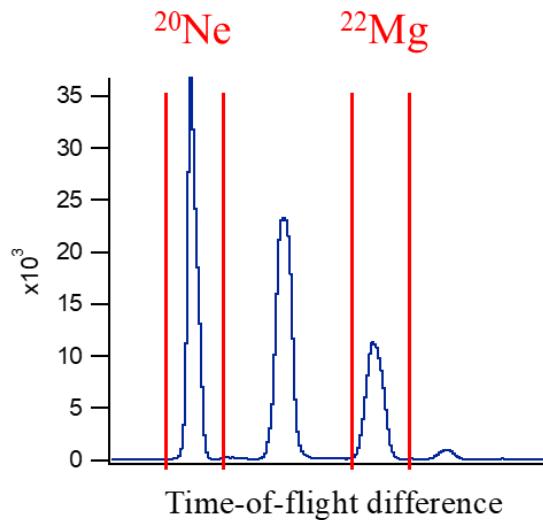
Outline

- 20+ years of collaboration on shell evolution
- Exploring shell evolution with Robert
 - Collectivity at $N=32$ and 34 – Intermediate-energy Coulomb excitation of neutron-rich Ti isotopes
 - Then and how far the field got since then
 - Knocking into $N=32$: Cross-shell excitations in ^{52}Ca
 - Then and the forefront now
 - Moving on to $N=40$ in Cr: The first spectroscopy of ^{64}Cr (2 x NSCL) and the first GRETINA paper at FRIB
- Trying to publish in PRL with Robert ... or the inverse-impact law

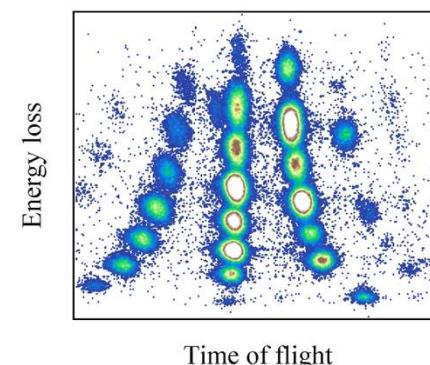


The experimental scheme at MSU

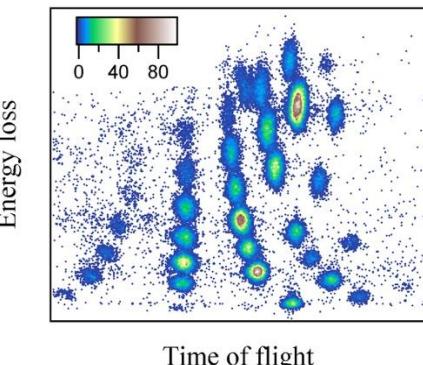
PID of the incoming beam via velocity difference



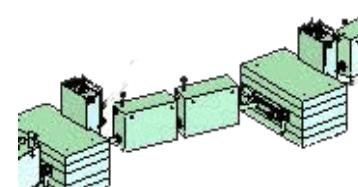
Reactions induced by ^{20}Ne



induced by ^{22}Mg

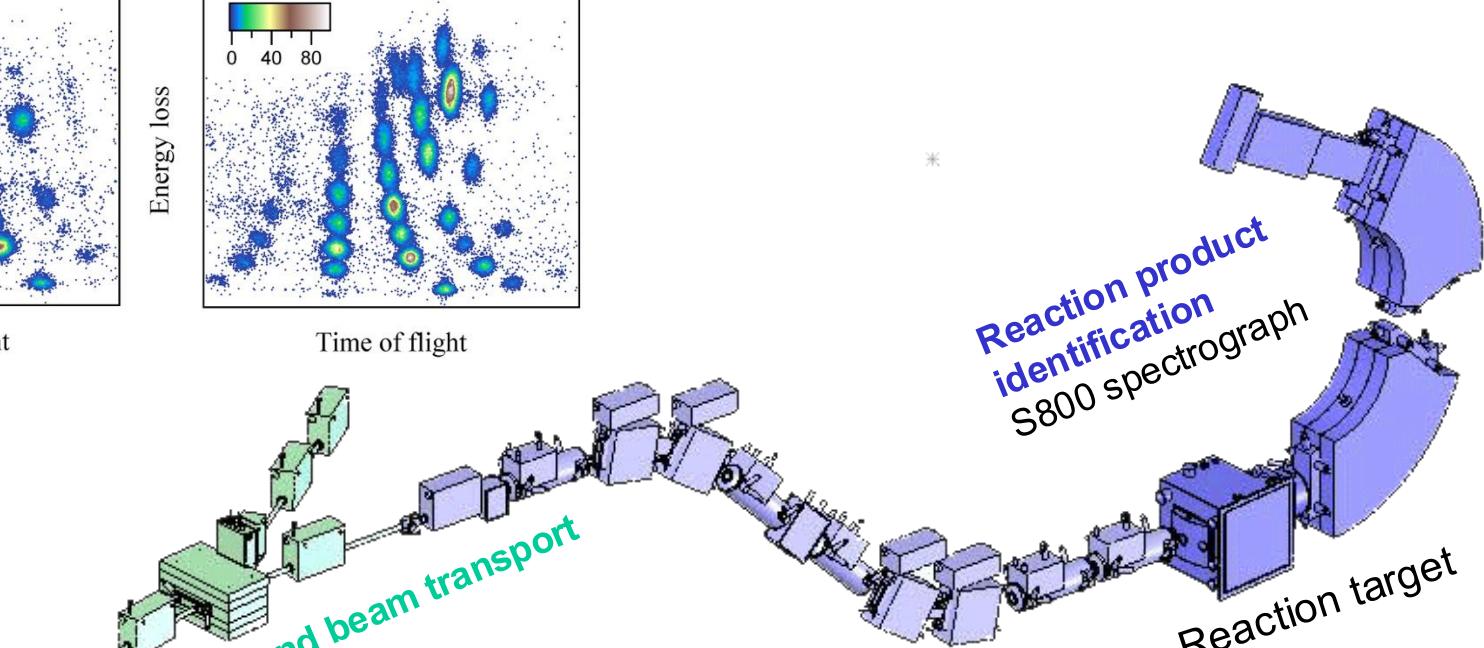


Identification and beam transport



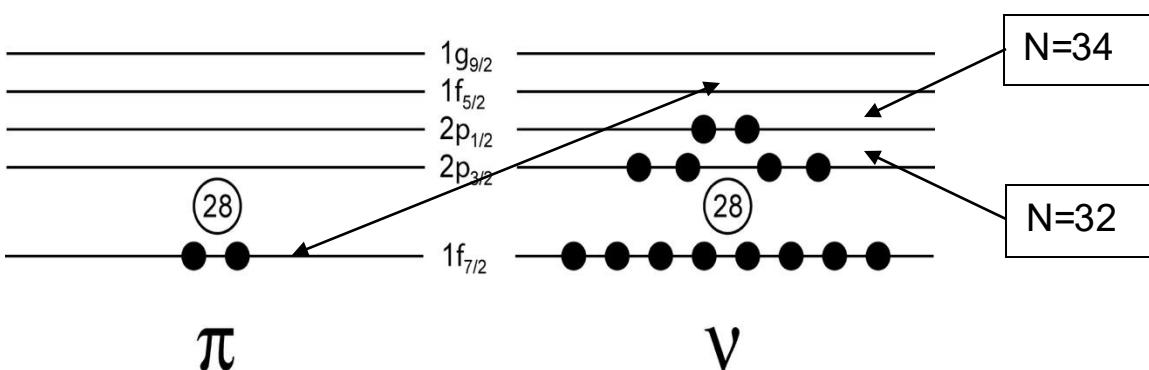
Driver accelerator

- Fragment separator
- Identification and beam transport
 - Stopped beam experiments
 - Fast beam experiments
 - Secondary reaction
 - Reaction product identification



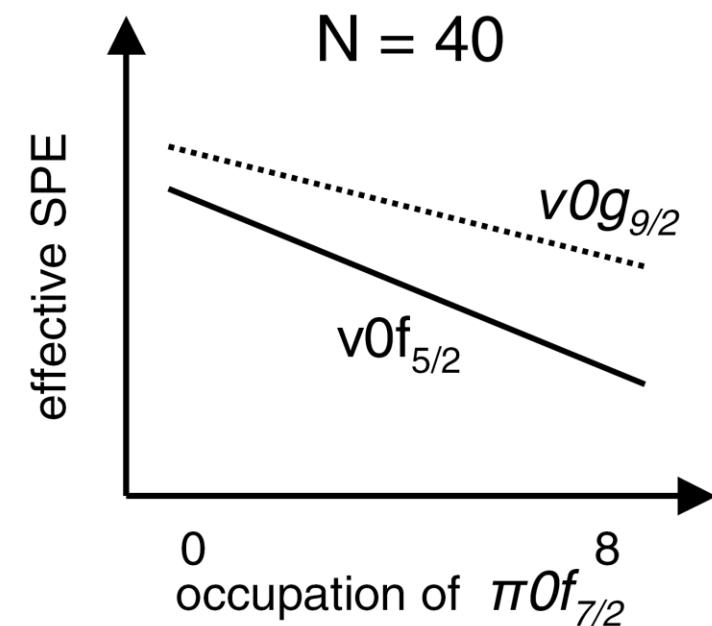
Shell evolution relevant to this talk

Monopole part of the tensor force



As protons are removed from the $\pi f_{7/2}$ shell ($\text{Ni} \rightarrow \text{Ca}$):

- $\pi f_{7/2} - \nu f_{5/2}$ monopole interaction weakens
- $\nu f_{5/2}$ goes up in energy
- together with a large $p_{3/2}$ - $p_{1/2}$ spin orbit splitting, possible shell gaps at $N=32$ and $N=34$



Same monopole story: The attractive monopole part of the tensor force ($\pi f_{7/2} - \nu f_{5/2}$) weakens as protons are removed from $\pi f_{7/2}$. The $\nu f_{5/2}$ orbit shifts up in energy and the gap between the $\nu f_{5/2}$ and $\nu g_{9/2}$ orbits is reduced, allowing neutron occupancy of the intruder $\nu g_{9/2}$ orbit already for nuclei with fewer than 40 neutrons

Intermediate-energy Coulomb excitation at $N=32$ and 34

RAPID COMMUNICATIONS

PHYSICAL REVIEW C 71, 041302(R) (2005)

Reduced transition probabilities to the first 2^+ state in $^{52,54,56}\text{Ti}$ and development of shell closures at $N = 32, 34$

D.-C. Dinca,^{1,2} R. V. F. Janssens,³ A. Gade,² D. Bazin,² R. Broda,⁴ B. A. Brown,^{1,2} C. M. Campbell,^{1,2} M. P. Carpenter,³ P. Chowdhury,^{3,5} J. M. Cook,^{1,2} A. N. Deacon,⁶ B. Fornal,⁴ S. J. Freeman,⁶ T. Glasmacher,^{1,2} M. Honma,⁷ F. G. Kondev,⁸ J.-L. Lecouey,² S. N. Liddick,^{2,9} P. F. Mantica,^{2,9} W. F. Mueller,² H. Olliver,^{1,2} T. Otsuka,¹⁰ J. R. Terry,^{1,2} B. A. Tomlin,^{2,9} and K. Yoneda²

¹*Department of Physics and Astronomy, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48824*

²*National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48824*

³*Physics Division, Argonne National Laboratory, Argonne, Illinois 60439*

⁴*Institute of Nuclear Physics, Polish Academy of Sciences, PL-31342 Cracow, Poland*

⁵*University of Massachusetts Lowell, Lowell, Massachusetts 01854*

⁶*Department of Physics and Astronomy, Schuster Laboratory, University of Manchester, Manchester M13 9PL, United Kingdom*

⁷*Center for Mathematical Sciences, University of Aizu, Tsuruga, Ikki-machi, Aizu-Wakamatsu, Fukushima 965-8580, Japan*

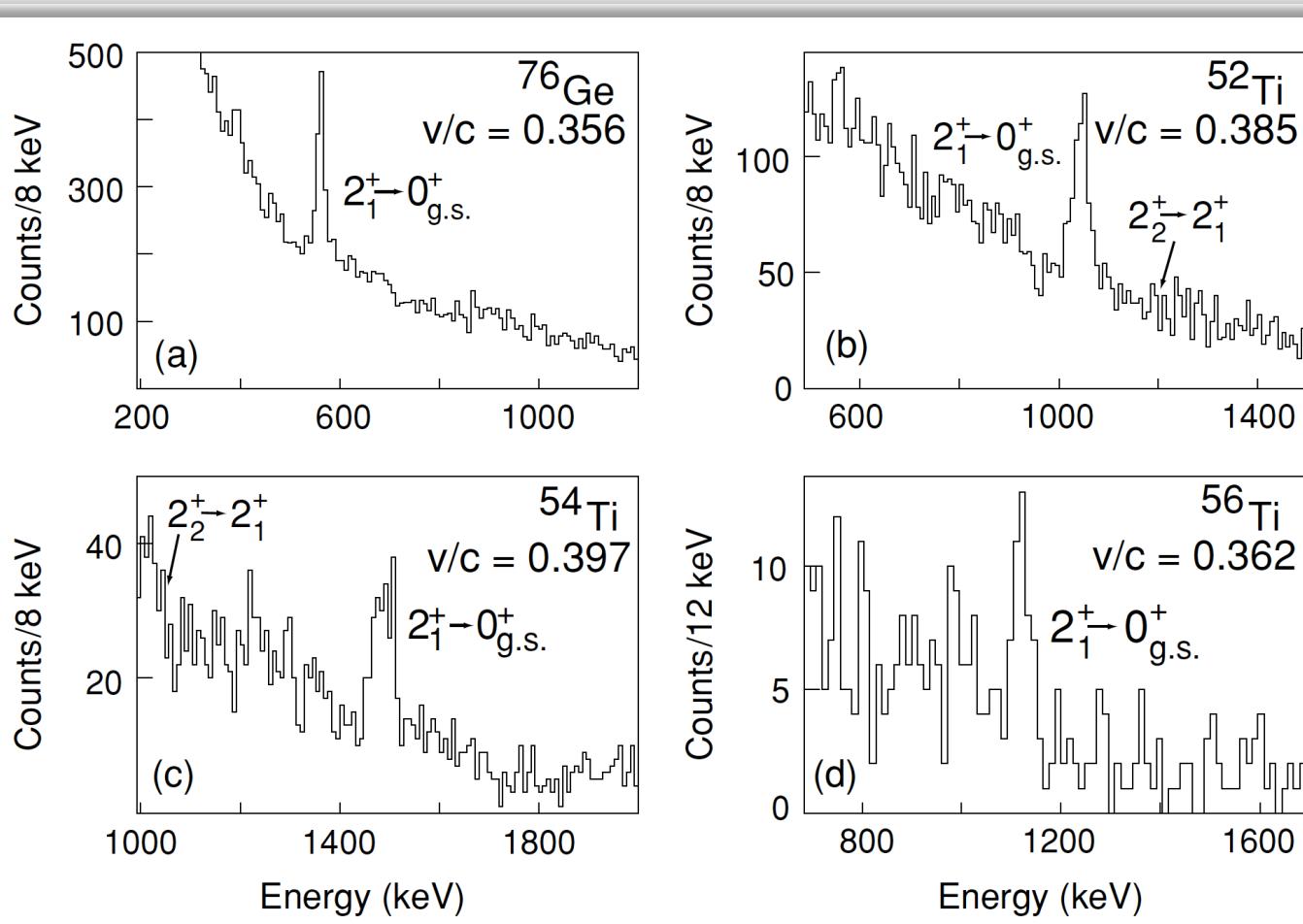
⁸*Nuclear Engineering Division, Argonne National Laboratory, Argonne, Illinois 60439*

⁹*Department of Chemistry, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48824*

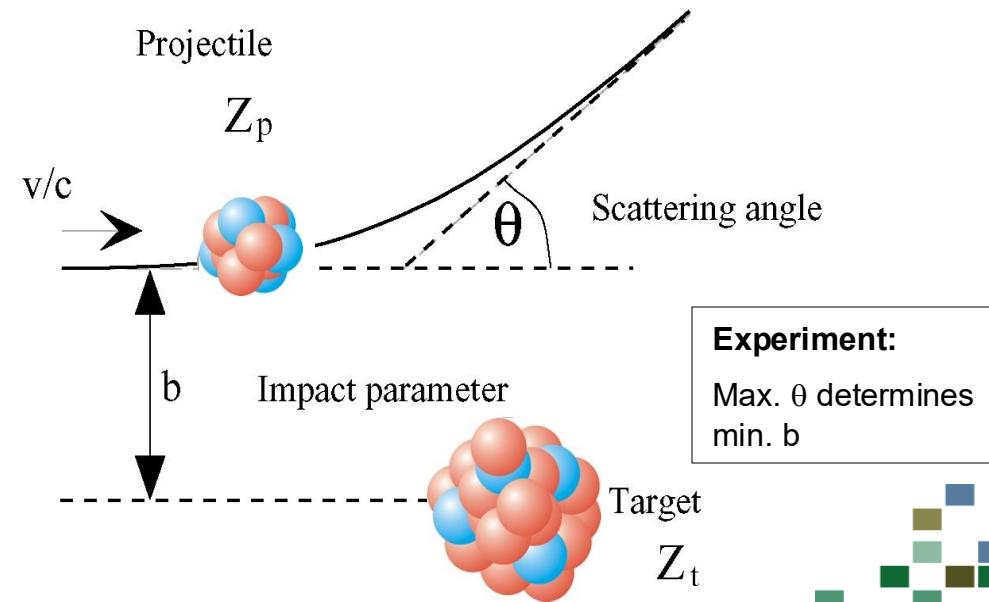
¹⁰*Department of Physics and Center for Nuclear Study, University of Tokyo, Hongo, Tokyo 113-0033, Japan and RIKEN, Hirosawa, Wako-shi, Saitama 351-0198, Japan*

(Received 8 November 2004; published 15 April 2005)

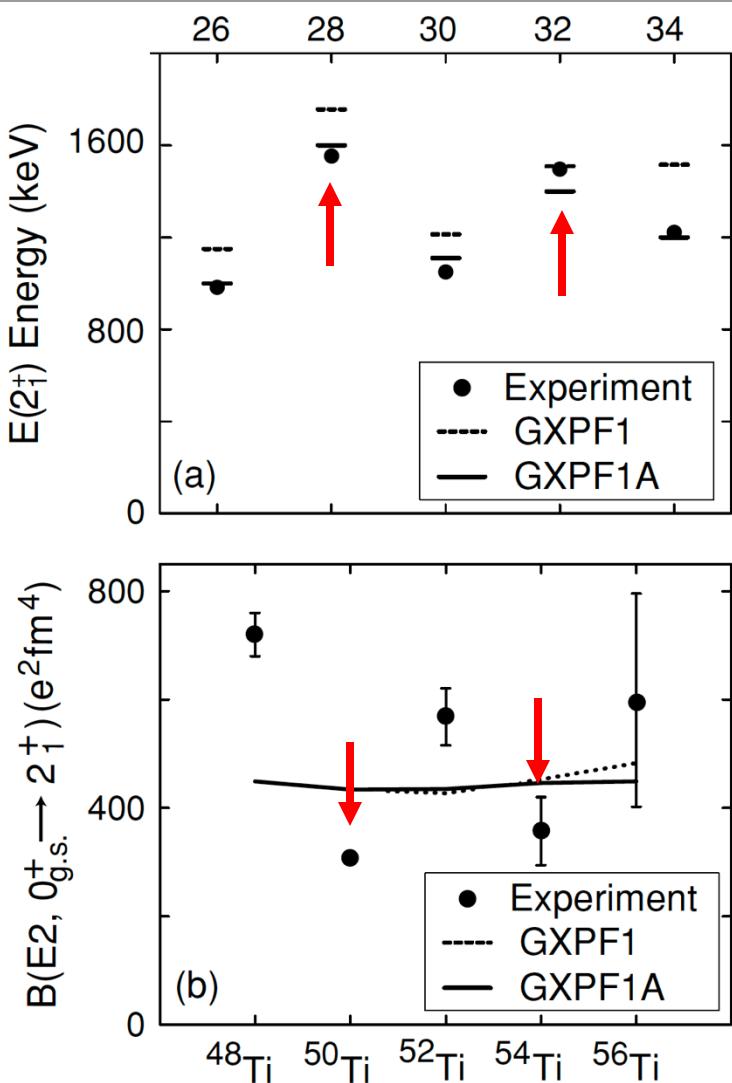
Intermediate-energy Coulomb excitation of $^{52,54,56}\text{Ti}$



- Ti projectile beams are excited in the Coulomb field of a gold target at $v/c > 0.3$
- Quadrupole-collective states are excited in a single step from the ground state $\rightarrow 2_1^+$ in even-even nuclei
- Peak area \rightarrow cross section $\rightarrow B(E2)$ value



Quadrupole collectivity in neutron-rich Ti isotopes



- Indeed, $N=32$ is a new magic number also according to the $B(E2)$ values
- But no experimental evidence for an $N=34$ sub-shell closure in Ti
- Astonishing:** No theory can reproduce staggering of the $B(E2)$ values unless the SM effective charges are ad-hoc significantly tinkered with

PHYSICAL REVIEW C 72, 047302 (2005)

Isovector effective charge and the staggering of $2^+ \rightarrow 0^+$ transition probabilities in the titanium isotopes

A. Poves,¹ F. Nowacki,² and E. Caurier²

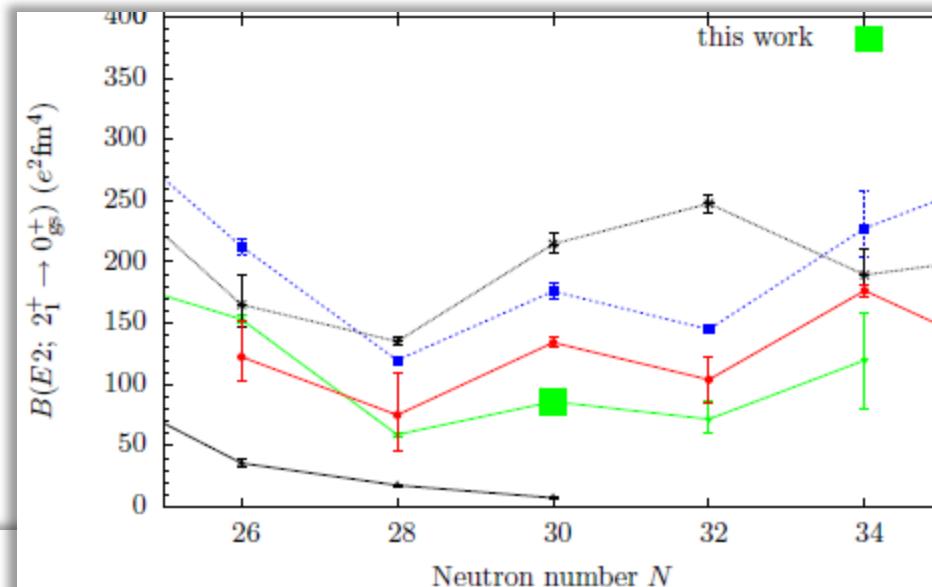
¹Departamento de Física Teórica, C-XI. Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, E-28049 Madrid, Spain

²IRIS, Bâtiment 27, IN2P3-CNRS/Université Louis Pasteur Boîte Postale 28, F-67037 Strasbourg Cedex 2, France

(Received 6 September 2005; published 27 October 2005)

In an effort to understand the magical status of $N = 32$ and $N = 34$ at the very neutron rich edge, experiments have been carried out in the titanium isotopes up to $A = 56$. The measured staggering of the $B(E2)$'s is not reproduced by the shell model calculations using the best effective interactions. We argue that this may be related to the choice of the isovector effective charge and to the value of the $N = 34$ neutron gap.

On the experimental front: AGATA paper suggests that the ^{52}Ti $B(E2)$ is lower and reduces the staggering (contradicts 2 experiments)



A. Goldkuhle et al., PRC 100, 054317 (2019)

Now

First spectroscopy of ^{60}Ti (NSCL - 2014) and ^{62}Ti (RIBF - 2020)

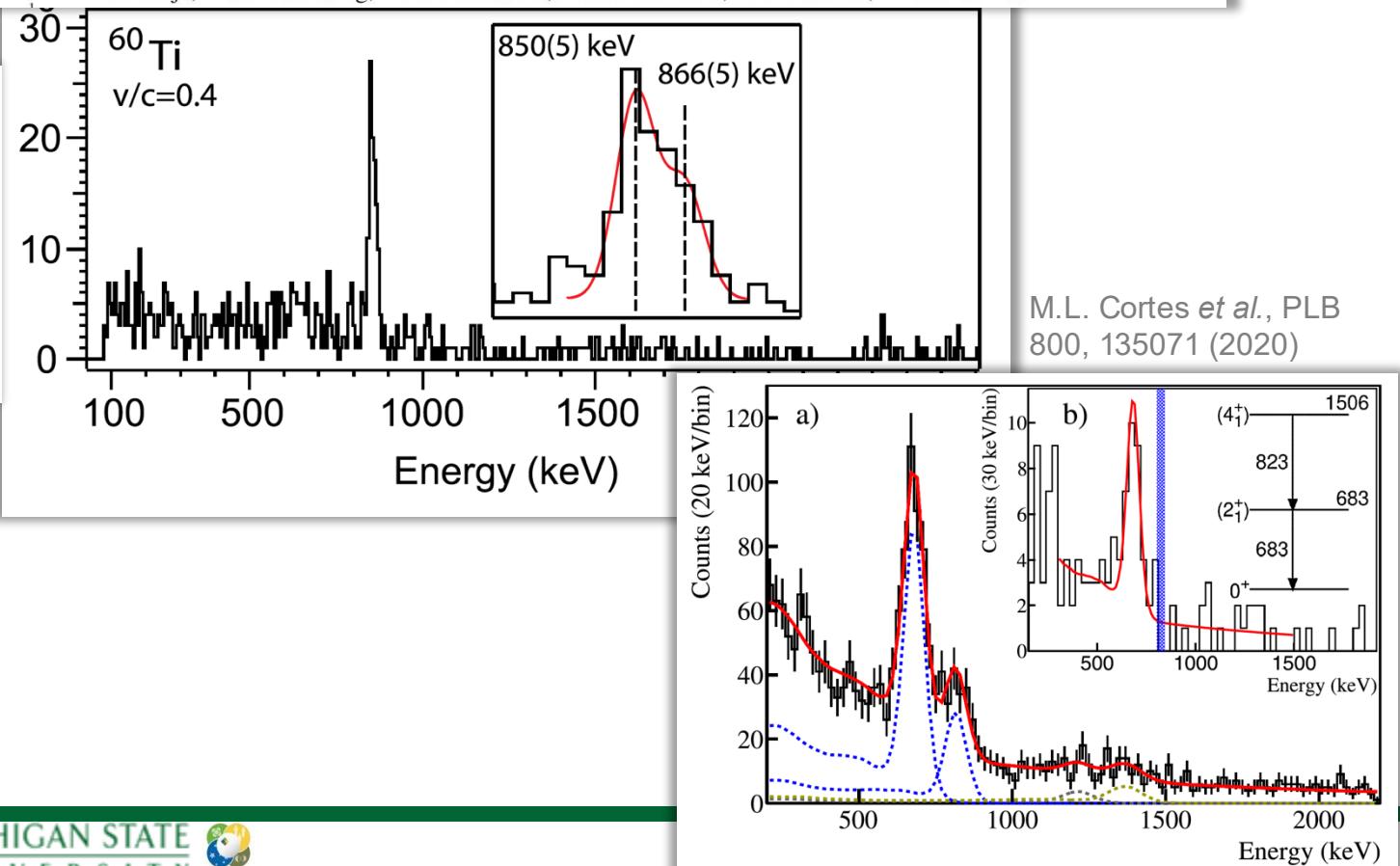
PRL 112, 112503 (2014)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending
21 MARCH 2014

Nuclear Structure Towards $N = 40$ ^{60}Ca : In-Beam γ -Ray Spectroscopy of $^{58,60}\text{Ti}$

A. Gade,^{1,2} R. V. F. Janssens,³ D. Weisshaar,¹ B. A. Brown,^{1,2} E. Lunderberg,^{1,2} M. Albers,³ V. M. Bader,^{1,2} T. Baugher,^{1,2} D. Bazin,¹ J. S. Berryman,¹ C. M. Campbell,⁴ M. P. Carpenter,³ C. J. Chiara,^{5,3} H. L. Crawford,^{4,*} M. Cromaz,⁴ U. Garg,⁶ C. R. Hoffman,³ F. G. Kondev,⁷ C. Langer,^{1,8} T. Lauritsen,³ I. Y. Lee,⁴ S. M. Lenzi,⁹ J. T. Matta,⁶ F. Nowacki,¹⁰ F. Recchia,^{1,†} K. Sieja,¹⁰ S. R. Stroberg,^{1,2} J. A. Tostevin,¹¹ S. J. Williams,¹ K. Wimmer,^{12,1} and S. Zhu³



What happened to Dan-Cristian Dinca?

Dan-Cristian Dinca · 1st
Director, Science and Image Processing at American Science and Engineering, Inc.
Billerica, Massachusetts, United States · [Contact info](#)

306 connections

Matt Amthor, David Sharp Ph.D., and 4 other mutual connections

← **Experience**

American Science and Engineering, Inc.
20 yrs 3 mos

- Director, Science and Image Processing · Jun 2015 - Present · 10 yrs 4 mos
- Principal Scientist · Feb 2014 - Jun 2015 · 1 yr 5 mos
Research and development of new products and improvement of existing products with the main focus on designing X-ray imaging systems and their critical components
- Senior Staff Scientist · Apr 2010 - Feb 2014 · 3 yrs 11 mos
- Staff Scientist · Jul 2005 - Apr 2010 · 4 yrs 10 mos

Michigan State University
5 yrs

Proton cross-shell excitations in ^{52}Ca

RAPID COMMUNICATIONS

PHYSICAL REVIEW C **74**, 021302(R) (2006)

Cross-shell excitation in two-proton knockout: Structure of ^{52}Ca

A. Gade,^{1,2} R. V. F. Janssens,³ D. Bazin,¹ R. Broda,⁴ B. A. Brown,^{1,2} C. M. Campbell,^{1,2} M. P. Carpenter,³ J. M. Cook,^{1,2} A. N. Deacon,⁵ D.-C. Dinca,^{1,2} B. Fornal,⁴ S. J. Freeman,⁵ T. Glasmacher,^{1,2} P. G. Hansen,^{1,2} B. P. Kay,⁵ P. F. Mantica,^{1,6} W. F. Mueller,¹ J. R. Terry,^{1,2} J. A. Tostevin,⁷ and S. Zhu³

¹*National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48824, USA*

²*Department of Physics and Astronomy, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48824, USA*

³*Physics Division, Argonne National Laboratory, Argonne, Illinois 60439, USA*

⁴*Institute of Nuclear Physics, Polish Academy of Science, PL-31342 Cracow, Poland*

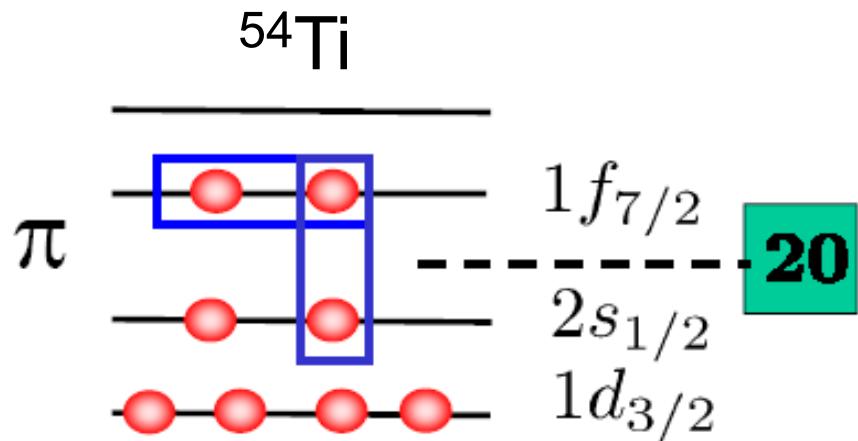
⁵*School of Physics and Astronomy, Schuster Laboratory, University of Manchester, Manchester M13 9PL, United Kingdom*

⁶*Department of Chemistry, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48824, USA*

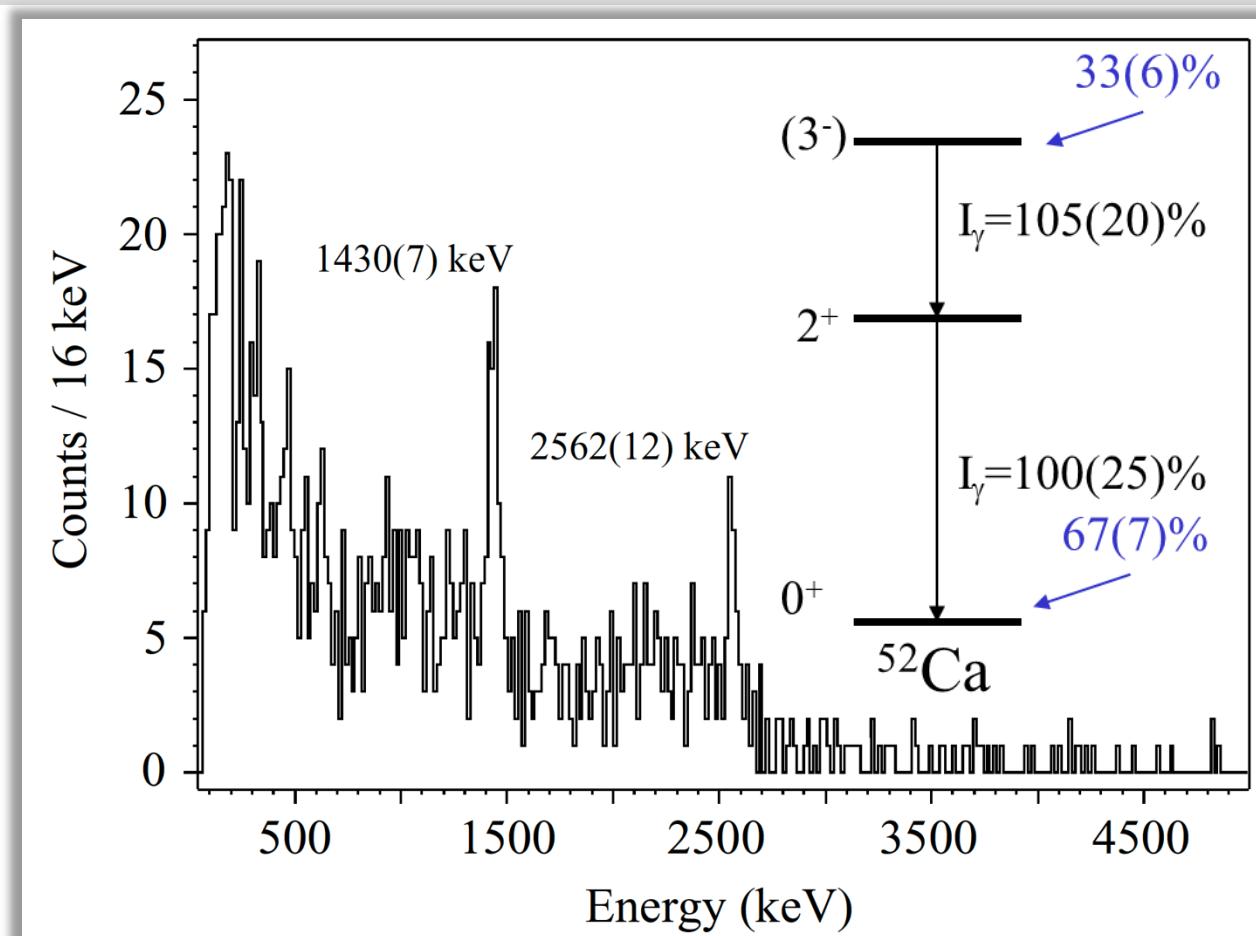
⁷*Department of Physics, School of Electronics and Physical Sciences, University of Surrey, Guildford, Surrey GU2 7XH, United Kingdom*

(Received 23 March 2006; published 16 August 2006)

Two-proton knockout from ^{54}Ti to ^{52}Ca - Proton cross-shell excitation in a neutron-rich nucleus!

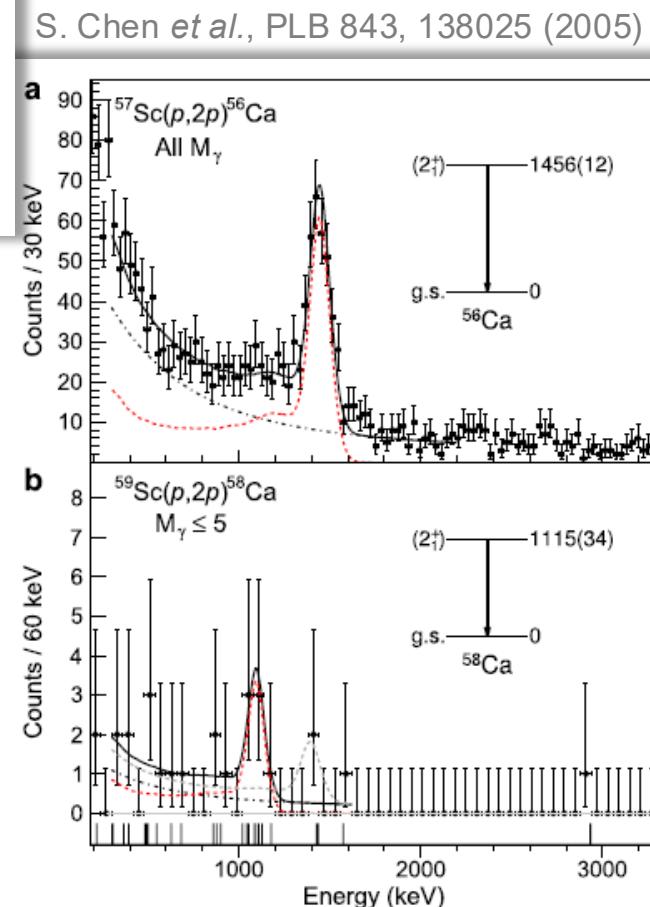
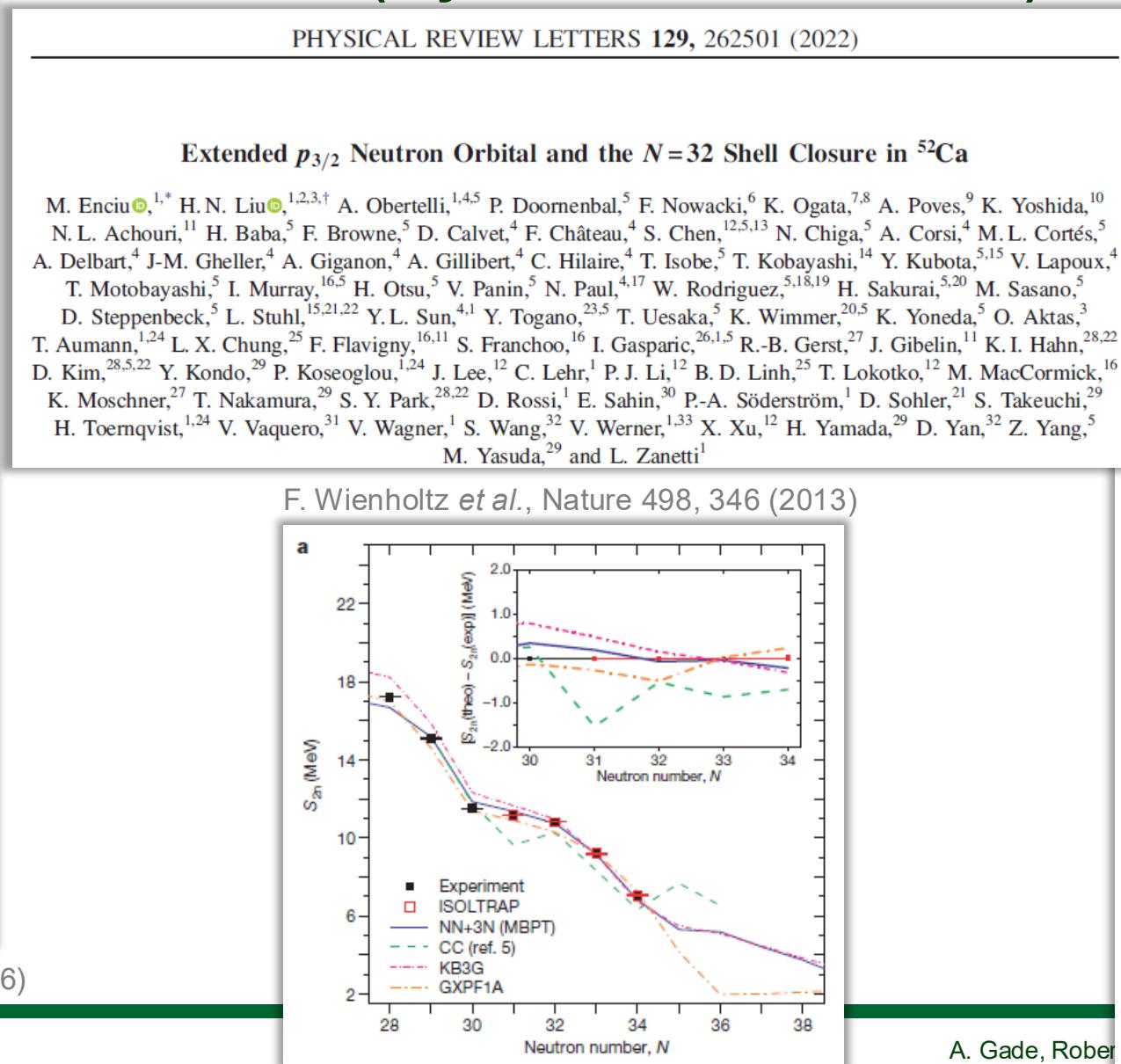
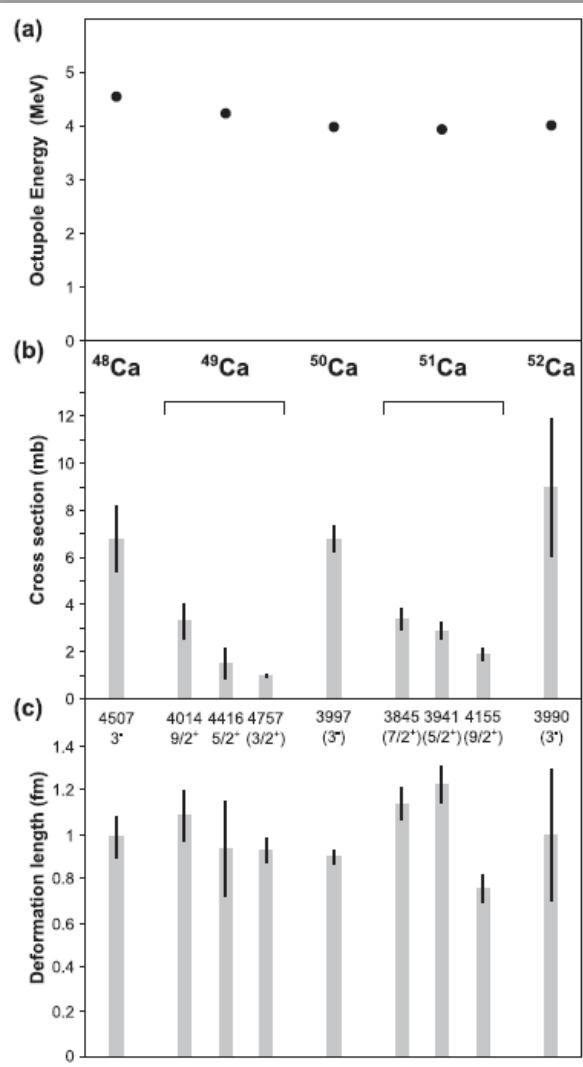


- (i) Removal of two protons out of $f_{7/2}$ \rightarrow population of the ground state of ^{52}Ca
- (ii) Removal of protons out of $f_{7/2}$ and $s_{1/2}$ or $f_{7/2}$ and $d_{3/2}$ \rightarrow population of the 3^- state of ^{52}Ca
- (iii) No direct population of the 2^+ state of ^{52}Ca \rightarrow confirmation of $N=32$ sub-shell gap (^{52}Ca 2^+ : neutron ph excitation involving $\nu p_{1/2}$ and $\nu p_{3/2}$ and the $N=32$ gap is strong enough to prevent such configurations in the gs of ^{54}Ti)



Now

B(E3) measured, ^{52}Ca a halo?!, the rise of the MR-TOFs, and energies claimed out to ^{58}Ca (if you believe it – I don't)



First spectroscopy of ^{64}Cr at NSCL (SeGA) ... and again a decade later with GRETINA

RAPID COMMUNICATIONS

PHYSICAL REVIEW C 81, 051304(R) (2010)

Collectivity at $N = 40$ in neutron-rich ^{64}Cr

A. Gade,^{1,2} R. V. F. Janssens,³ T. Baugher,^{1,2} D. Bazin,¹ B. A. Brown,^{1,2} M. P. Carpenter,³ C. J. Chiara,^{3,4} A. N. Deacon,⁵ S. J. Freeman,⁵ G. F. Grinyer,¹ C. R. Hoffman,³ B. P. Kay,³ F. G. Kondev,⁶ T. Lauritsen,³ S. McDaniel,^{1,2} K. Meierbachtol,^{1,7} A. Ratkiewicz,^{1,2} S. R. Stroberg,^{1,2} K. A. Walsh,^{1,2} D. Weisshaar,¹ R. Winkler,¹ and S. Zhu³

¹National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48824, USA

²Department of Physics and Astronomy, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48824, USA

³Physics Division, Argonne National Laboratory, Argonne, Illinois 60439, USA

⁴Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland 20742, USA

⁵School of Physics and Astronomy, Schuster Laboratory, University of Manchester, Manchester M13 9PL, United Kingdom

⁶Nuclear Engineering Division, Argonne National Laboratory, Argonne, Illinois 60439, USA

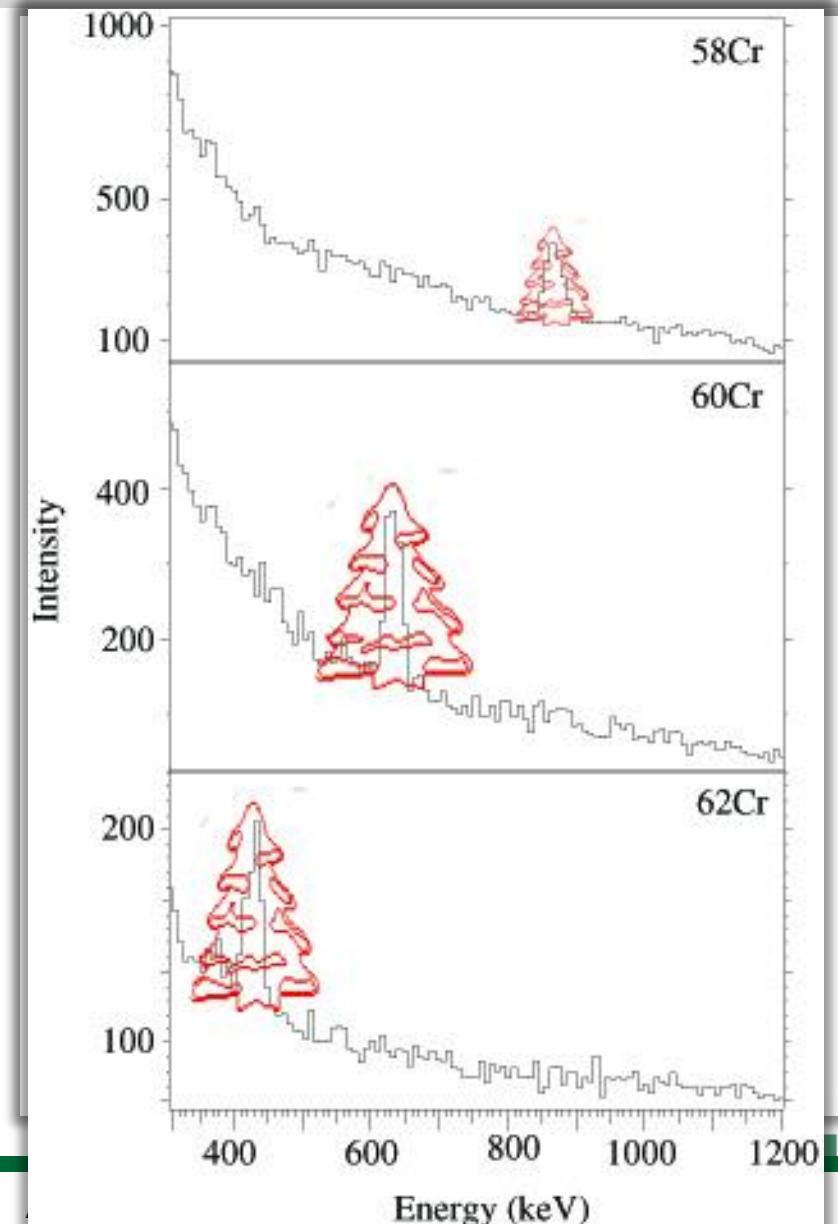
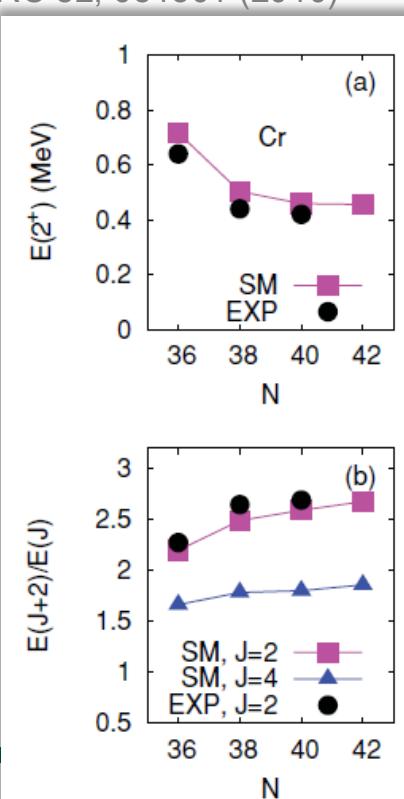
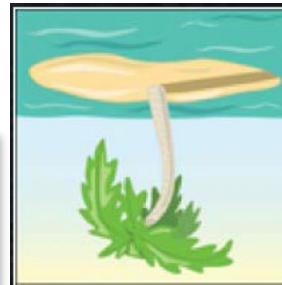
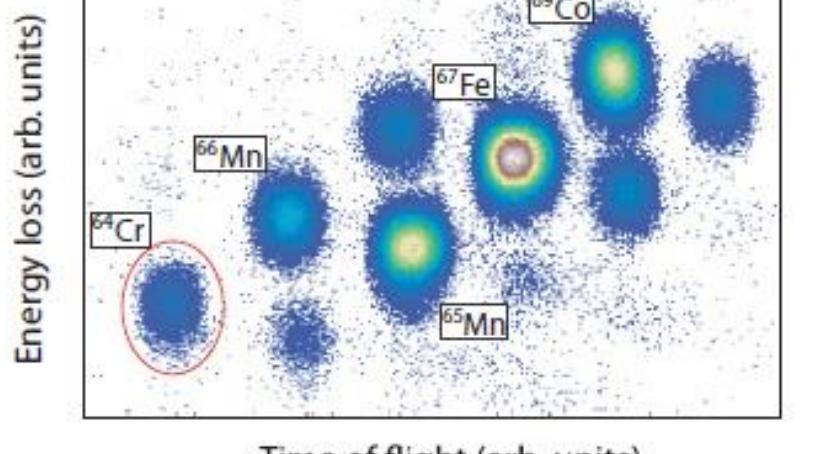
⁷Department of Chemistry, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48824, USA

(Received 19 March 2010; published 28 May 2010)

Accidental first spectroscopy of ^{64}Cr in inelastic scattering off Be

- Was supposed to be an experiment where we go on different reaction settings and explore the neutron-rich Fe and Cr nuclei via spectroscopy following knockout, fragmentation ...
- However, had ^{64}Cr in the massive cocktail beam and saw that ^{64}Cr seems to be excited in inelastic scattering off Be
- Changed plans, stayed on inelastic scattering and did that for $^{60,62,64}\text{Cr}$ and got the Fe's for free

S. Lenzi *et al.*, PRC 82, 054301 (2010)



^{64}Cr reloaded ... With GRETINA and 11 years later

- Most detailed spectroscopy then on ^{62}Cr and ^{64}Cr
- Afforded by arge increase if ^{82}Se primary beam intensity and GRETINA
- Collaboration with Silvia Lenzi and Alfredo Poves

PHYSICAL REVIEW C **103**, 014314 (2021)

In-beam γ -ray spectroscopy of $^{62,64}\text{Cr}$

A. Gade^{1,2}, R. V. F. Janssens^{3,4}, D. Bazin^{1,2}, P. Farris^{1,2}, A. M. Hill^{1,2}, S. M. Lenzi⁵, J. Li¹, D. Little^{3,4}, B. Longfellow^{1,2,*}, F. Nowacki^{6,7}, A. Poves⁸, D. Rhodes^{1,2}, J. A. Tostevin⁹, and D. Weisshaar¹⁰

¹National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48824, USA

²Department of Physics and Astronomy, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48824, USA

³Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27599, USA

⁴Triangle Universities Nuclear Laboratory, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina 27708, USA

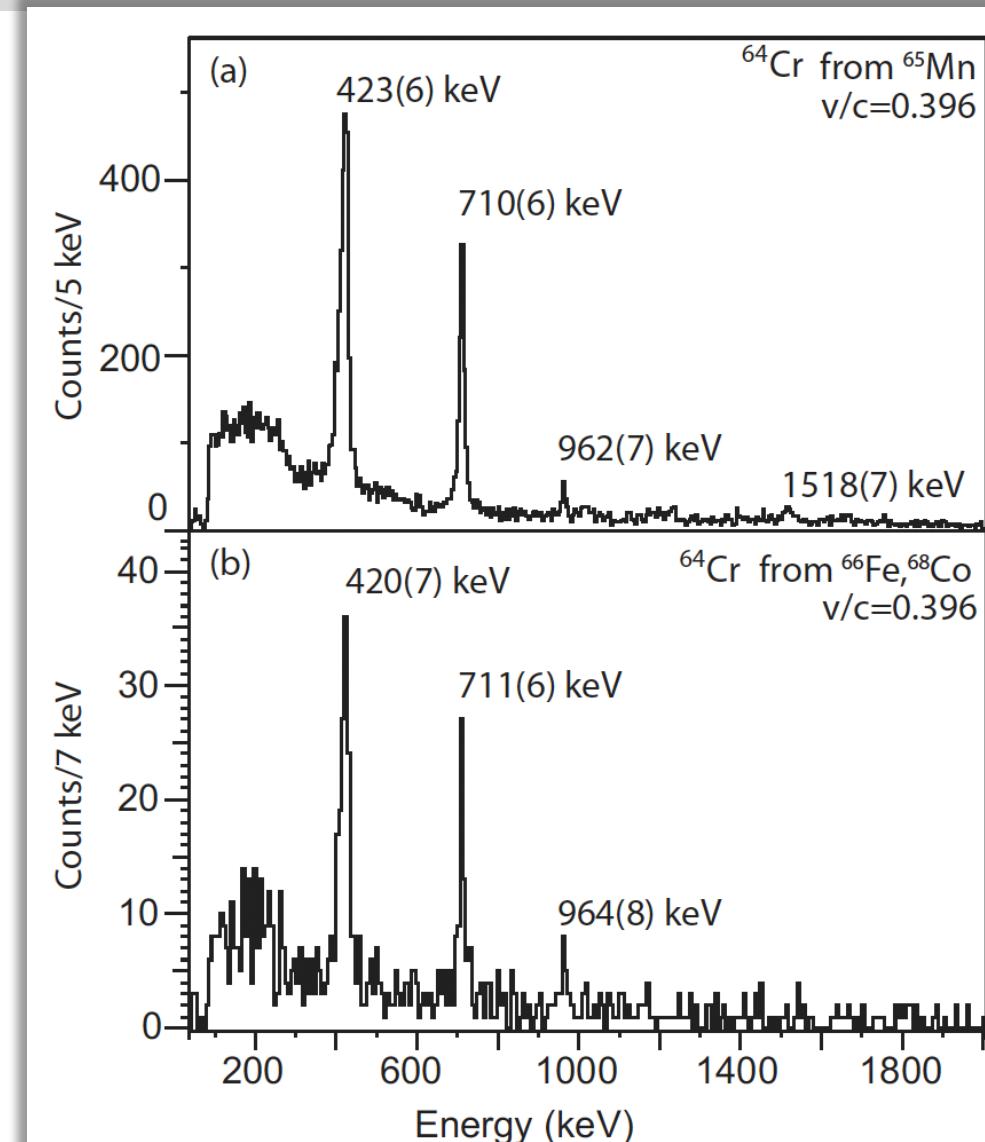
⁵Dipartimento di Fisica e Astronomia dell'Università and INFN, Sezione di Padova, I-35131 Padova, Italy

⁶Université de Strasbourg, IPHC, 23 Rue du Loess 67037 Strasbourg, France

⁷CNRS, UMR7178, 67037 Strasbourg, France

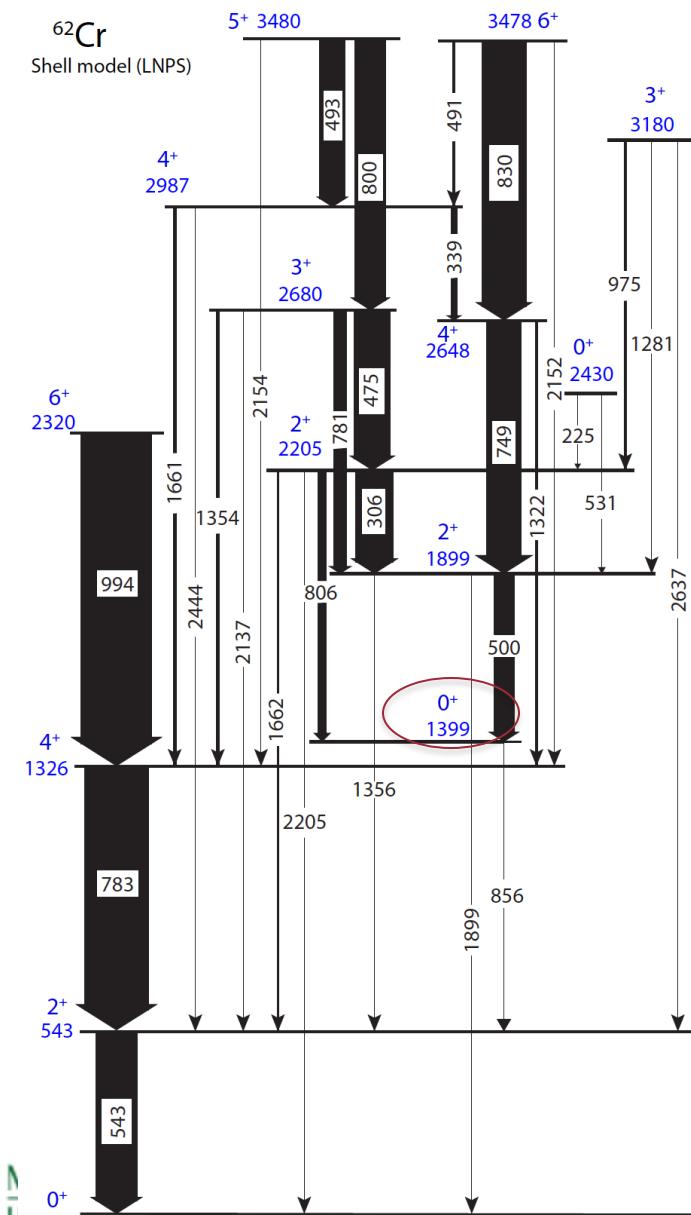
⁸Departamento de Física Teórica e IFT-UAM/CSIC, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, E-28049 Madrid, Spain

⁹Department of Physics, Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences, University of Surrey, Guildford, Surrey GU2 7XH, United Kingdom

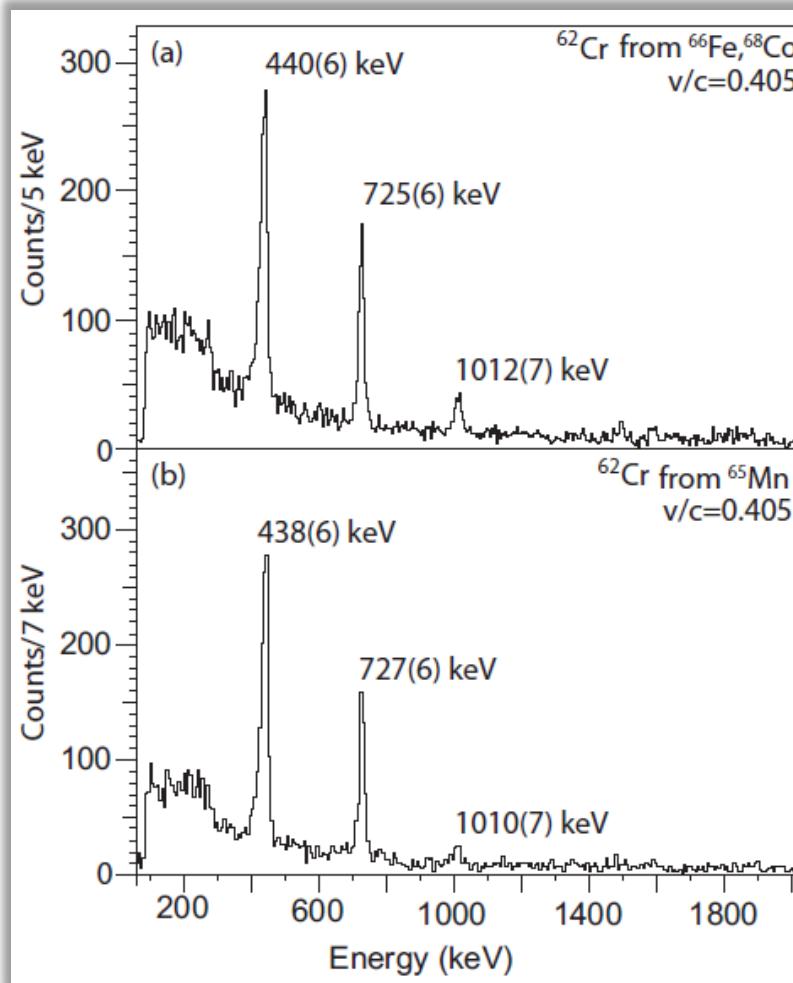


Who ordered that?

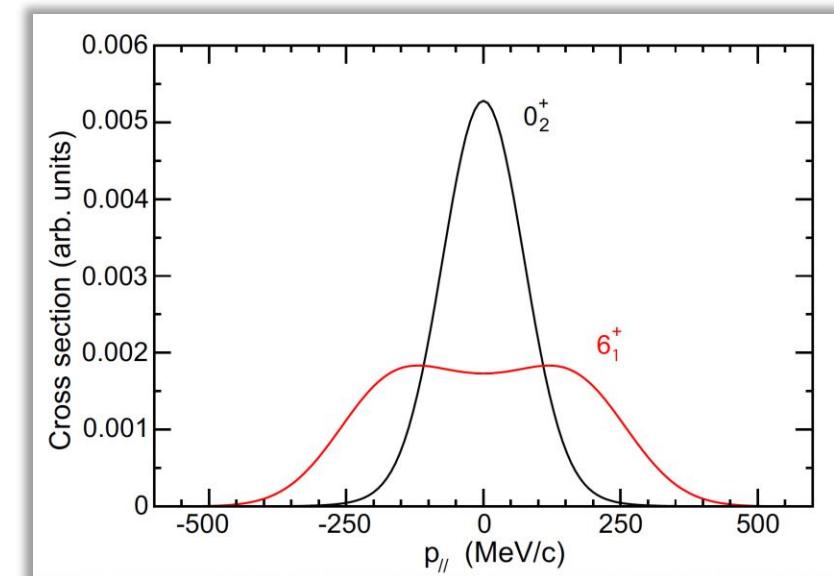
Interesting collective structures predicted in the $N=40$ Island of Inversion



- **Goal:** Find the predicted 0^+ band head and maybe the other collective structure



Already proposed in the spectroscopy paper:
Find the 0^+ in the $^{64}\text{Fe}-2\text{p}$



Now: The first GRETINA experiment at FRIB

nature physics

Article <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41567-024-02680-0>

In-beam spectroscopy reveals competing nuclear shapes in the rare isotope ^{62}Cr

Received: 17 March 2024

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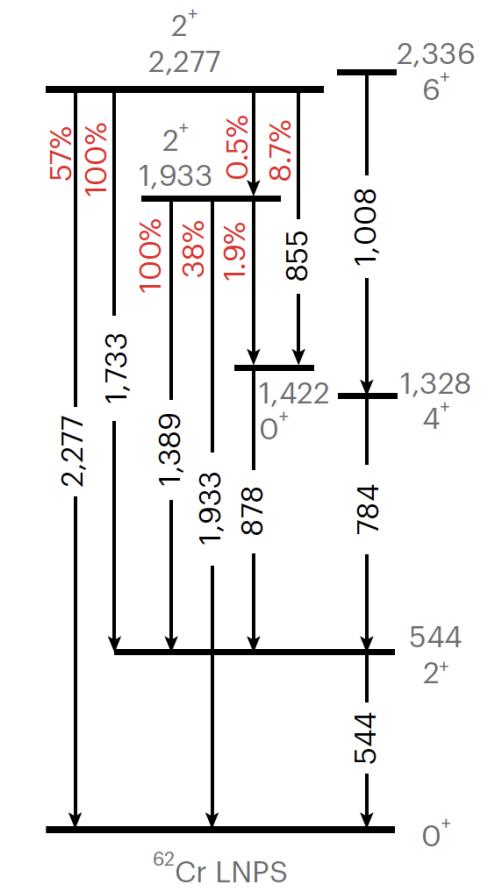
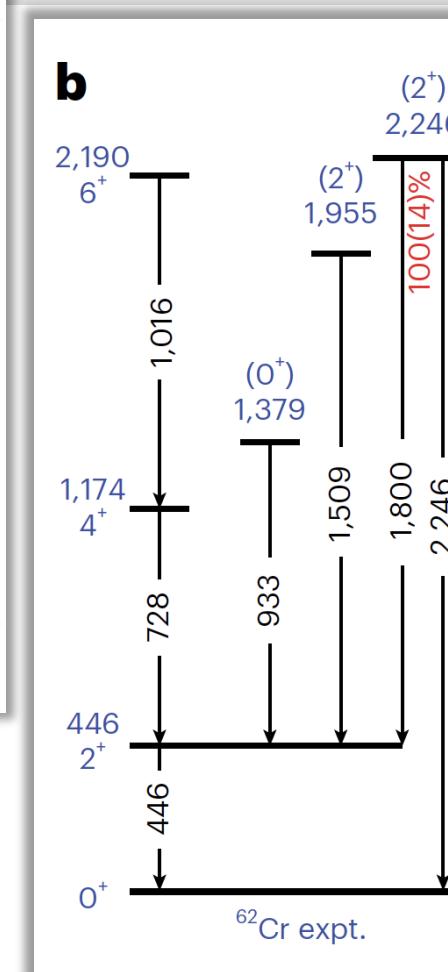
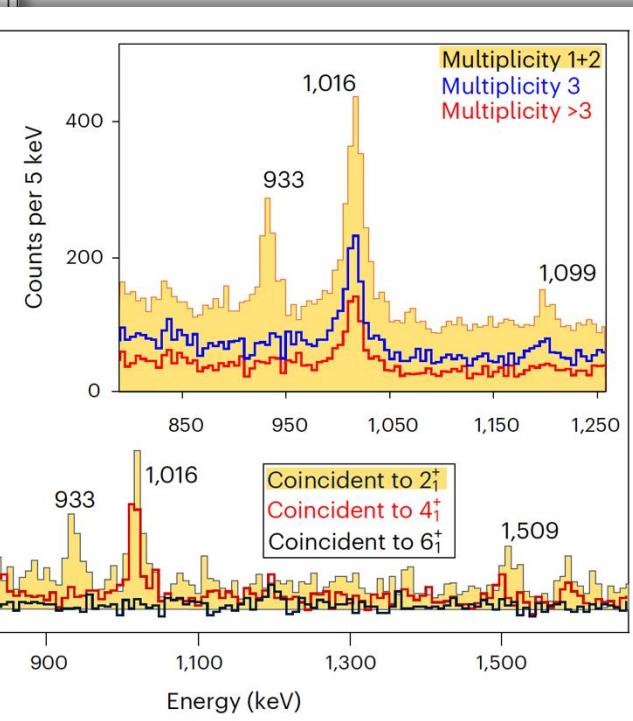
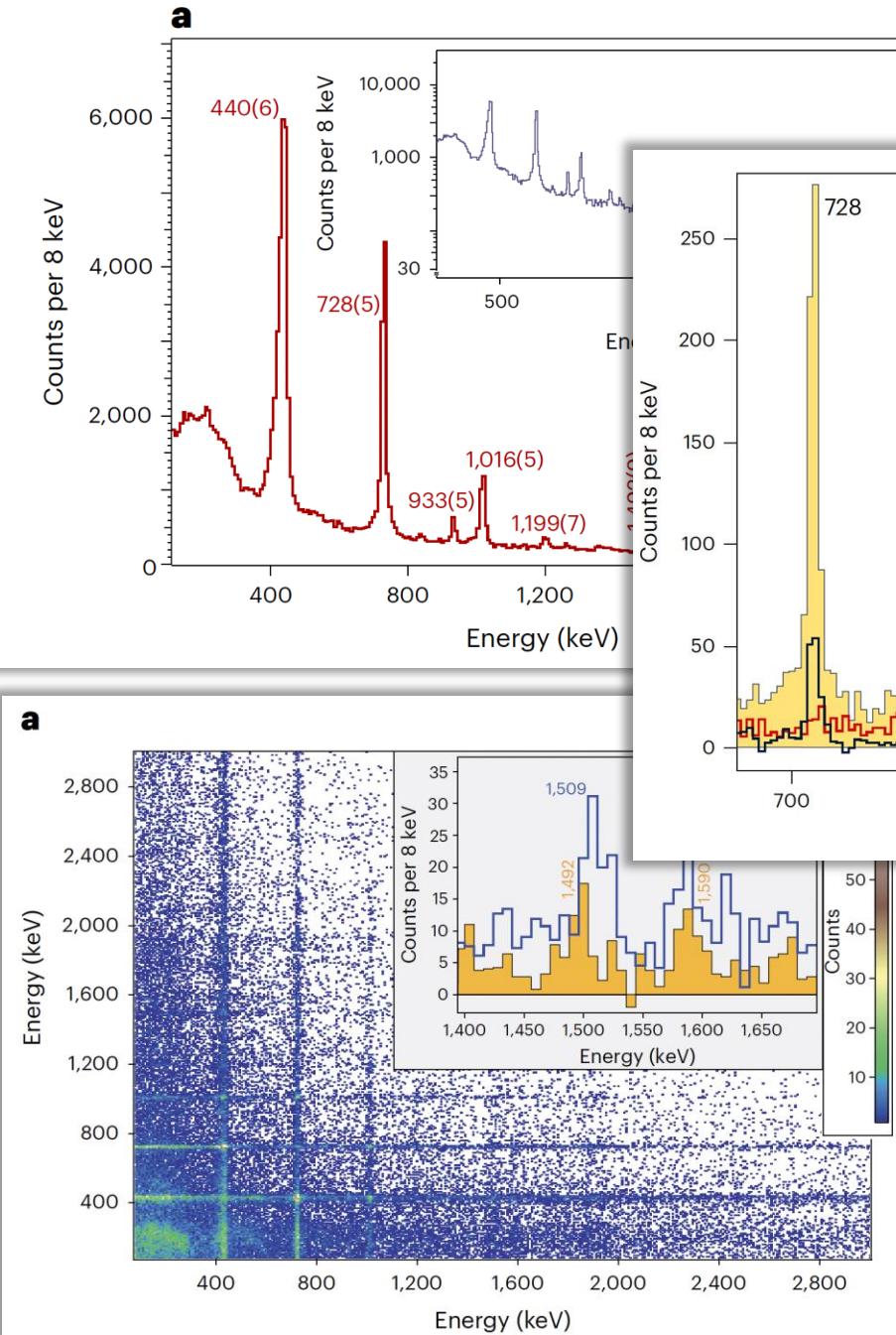
Published online: 18 October 2024

 Check for updates

Alexandra Gade  , Brenden Longfellow , Robert V. F. Janssens ,
Duc D. Dao , Frédéric Nowacki , Jeffrey A. Tostevin ,
Akaa D. Ayangeakaa , Marshall J. Basson , Christopher M. Campbell ,
Michael P. Carpenter , Joseph Chung-Jung , Heather L. Crawford ,
Benjamin P. Crider , Peter Farris , Stephen Gillespie , Ava M. Hill ,
Silvia M. Lenzi , Shumpei Noji , Jorge Pereira , Carlotta Porzio ,
Alfredo Poves , Elizabeth Rubino & Dirk Weisshaar 

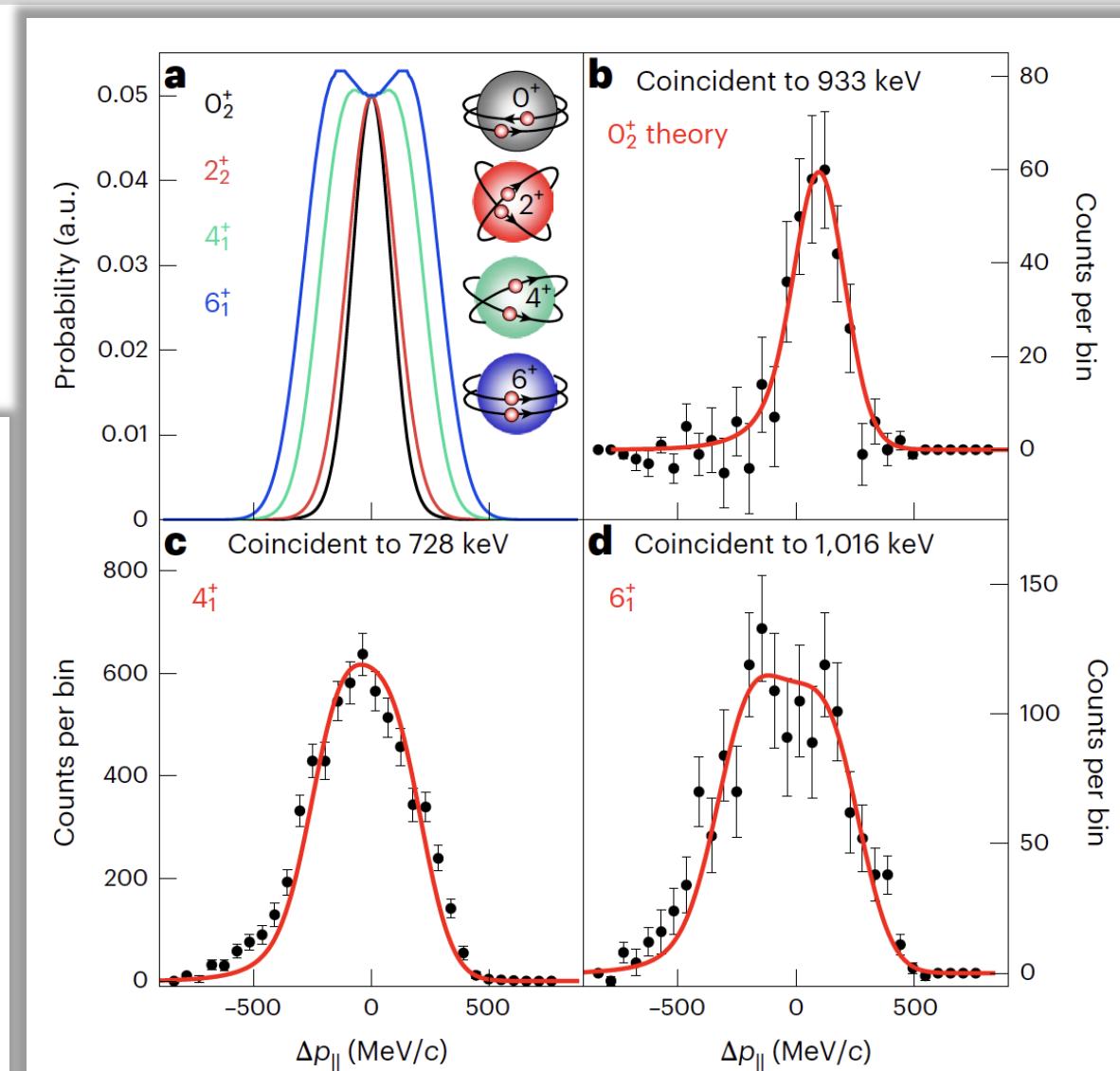
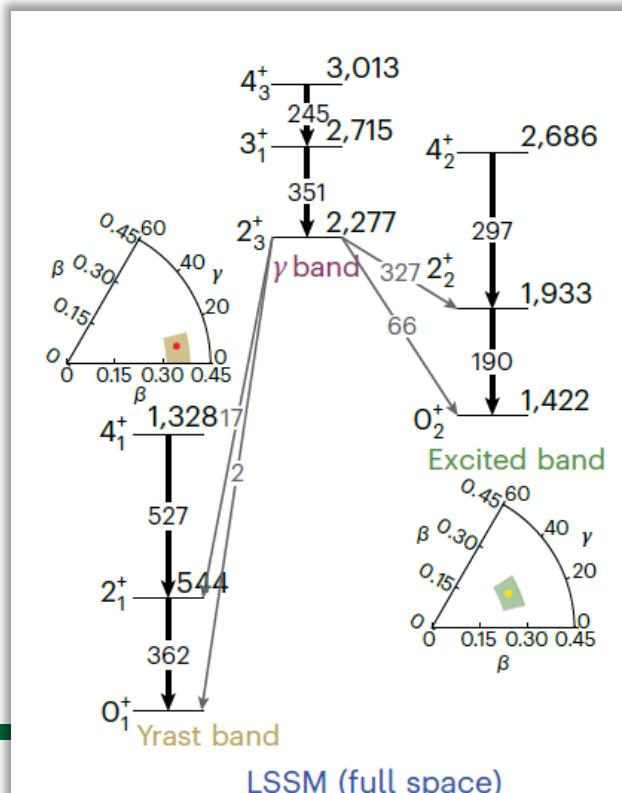


$^{64}\text{Fe-2p}$ at at FRIB



Understanding ^{62}Cr via two-nucleon knockout

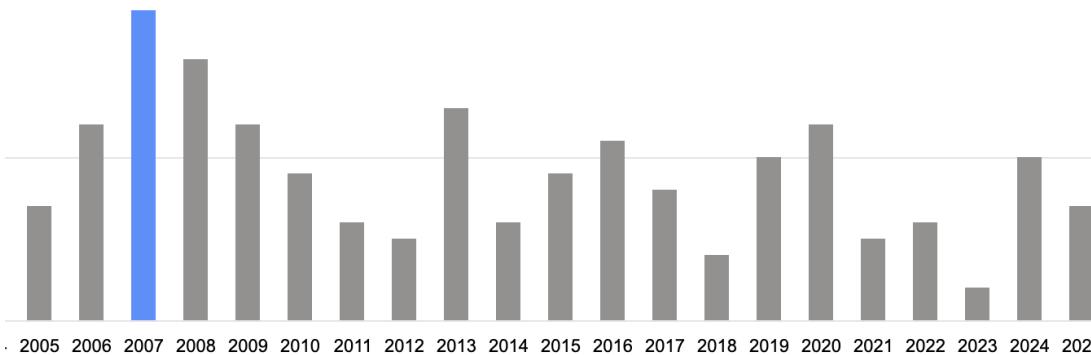
- For the states where the transitions are free-standing, have ok peak-to-background ratios, and feeding is manageable, the momentum distributions extracted confirm total angular momentum assignments
 - 4^+_1 and 6^+_1 assignments confirmed
 - 0^+_2 assignment convincing, but 2^+_2 cannot be excluded
- Deformation in $\beta\gamma$ according to Kumar-Cline invariants extracted from the conventional shell model (LNPS effective interaction)
- Interesting case of shape coexistence



Trying to publish in PRL with Robert ... or the inverse-impact law

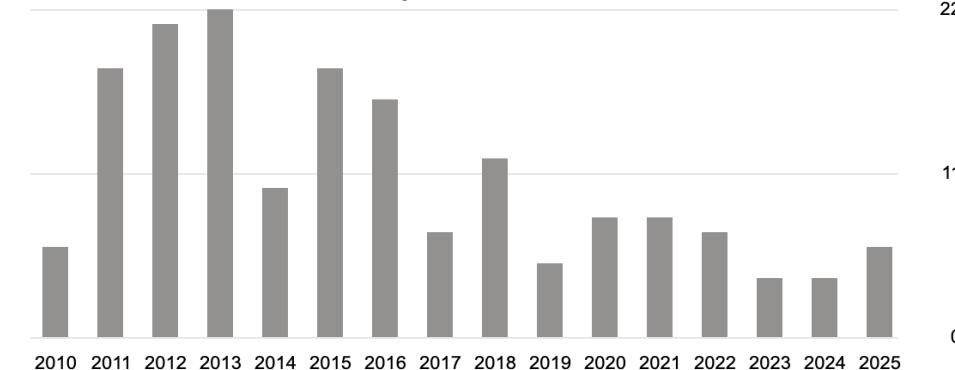
54,56 Ti Citations per year

$$IF = \# \text{total citations} / \# \text{years} = 193 / 20 = 9.65 > 8.1 (\text{PRL})$$



64 Cr Citations per year

$$IF = \# \text{total citations} / \# \text{years} = 172 / 15 = 11.5 > 8.1 (\text{PRL})$$



- Impact factor for a journal:

$$IF(\text{year}2) = \# \text{citations}(\text{years } 1+2) / 2$$

- Newest for PRL: $IF(2023) = 8.1$

- Here, for a paper: $IF = \# \text{total citations} / \# \text{years}$

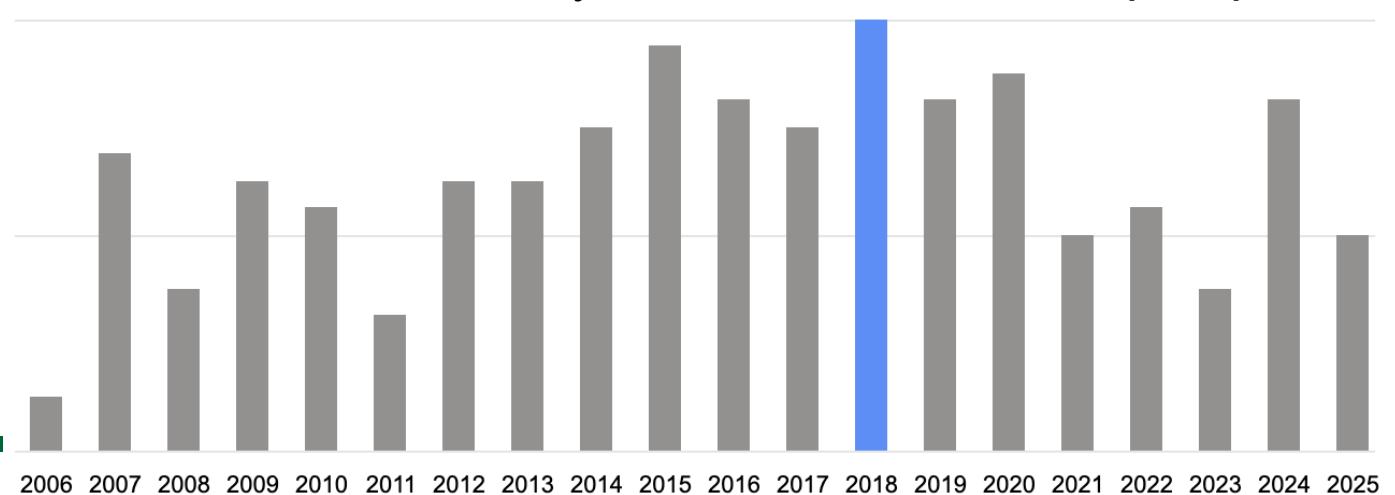
Inverse-impact Law: Publishing with RVFJ

(i) 3 out of 4 papers from our collaboration submitted to PRL became PRC rapids due to “lack of general interest/impact”

(ii) All of these rapids may exceed PRL in impact and some of them for 20 years!

52 Ca Citations per year

$$IF = \# \text{total citations} / \# \text{years} = 203 / 19 = 10.68 > 8.1 (\text{PRL})$$



Thanks for 20+ years of fantastic collaboration and friendship + thoughts at the end

- In US academia, one needs famous senior colleagues to write an obscene number of letters for all sorts of occasions – Thanks, Robert, for writing a few tens of them for me
- Nuclear Physics is a team sports and will starve without collaborations such as ours

Hoping for continued scientific adventures and the occasional, enjoyable conference experience - my GRC lobster will always have your name on it!

Thank you!

AG is supported by the DOE-SC, Office of Nuclear Physics, under Award Number DE-SC0023633

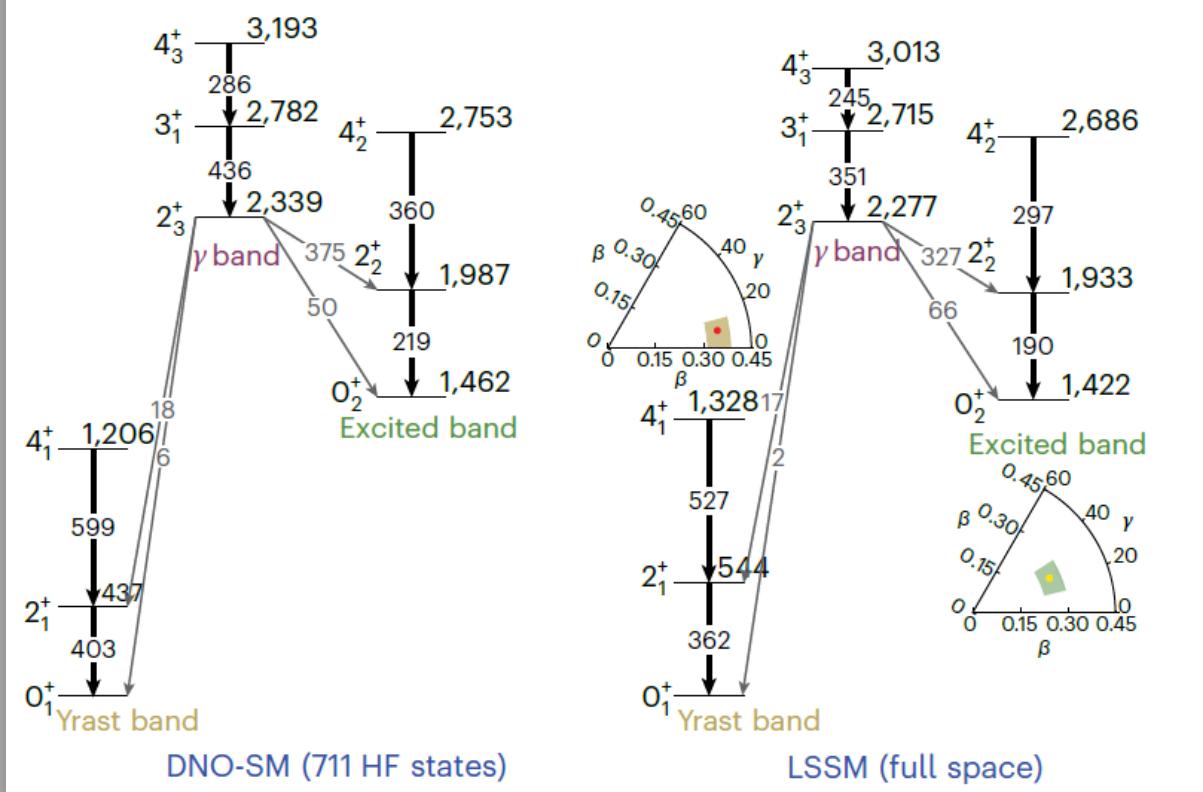


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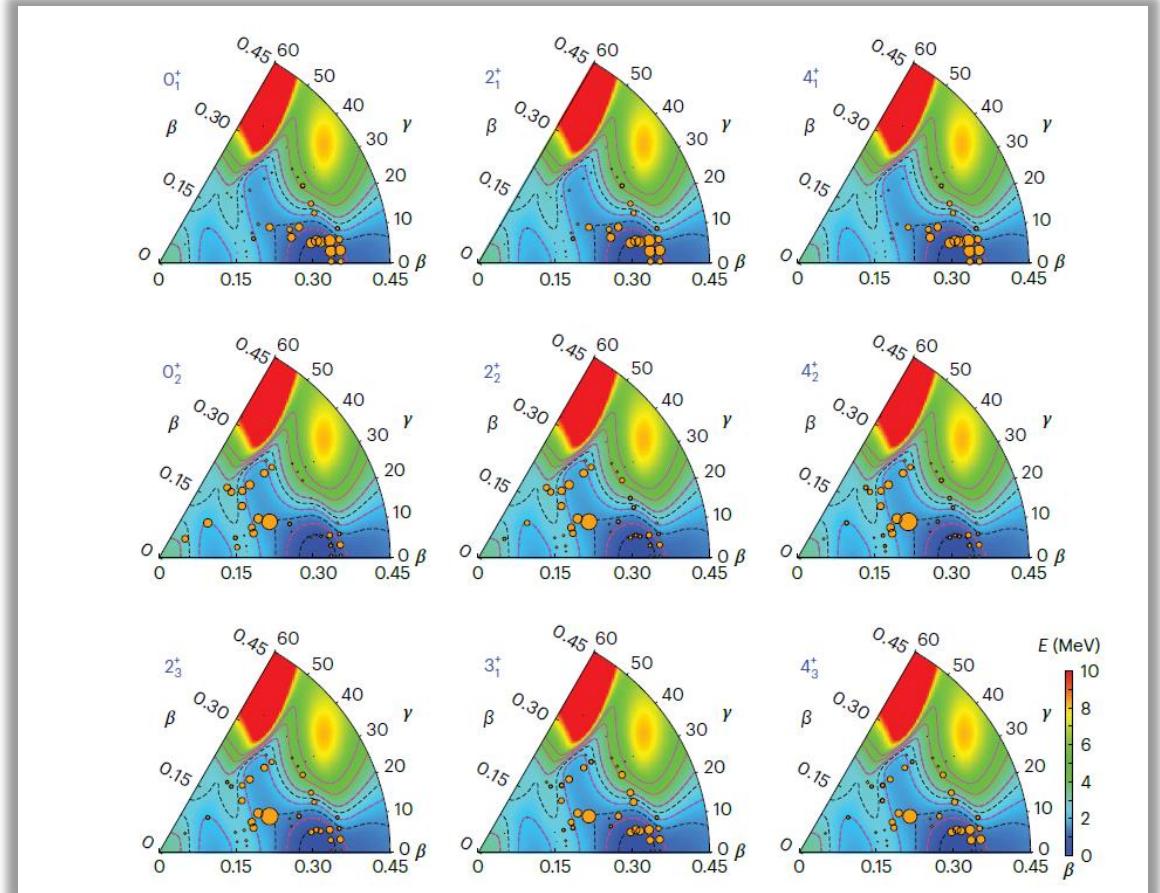
Analyzing the shapes of ^{62}Cr

Duc D. Dao, Frederic Nowacki, Silvia Lenzi, Alfredo Poves

Duc D. Dao, Frederic Nowacki

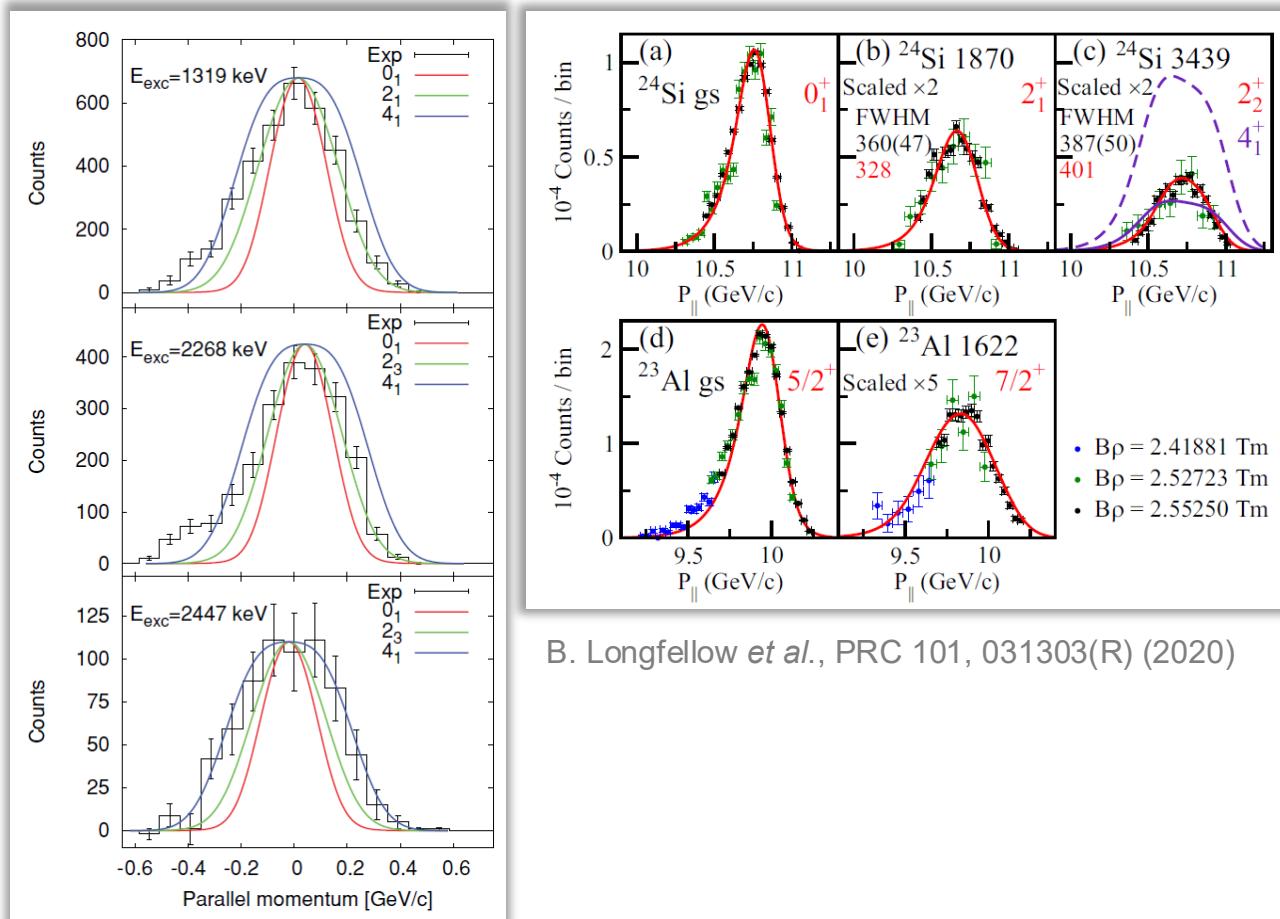
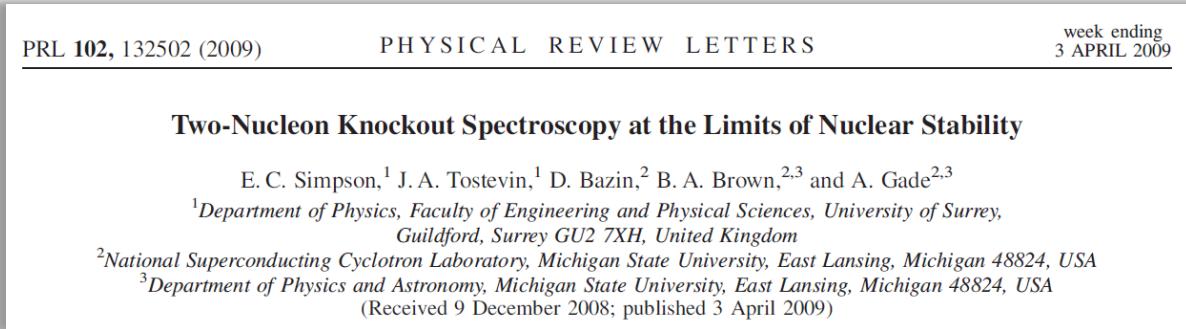
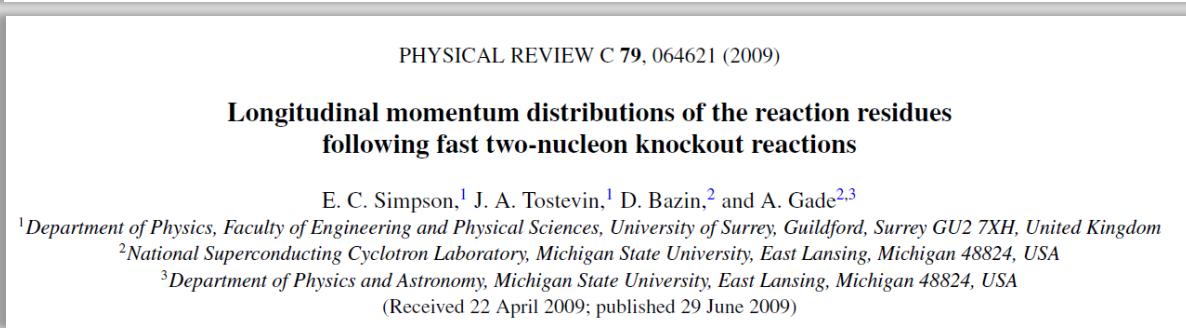
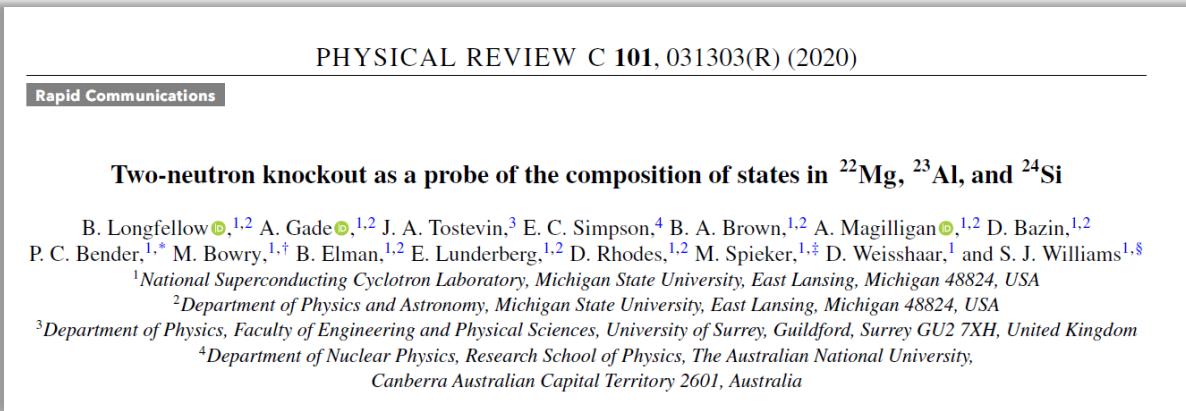


Deformation in $\beta\gamma$ according to Kumar-Cline invariants extracted from the conventional shell model (LNPS effective interaction)



$\beta\gamma$ planes according to the discrete non-orthogonal shell model

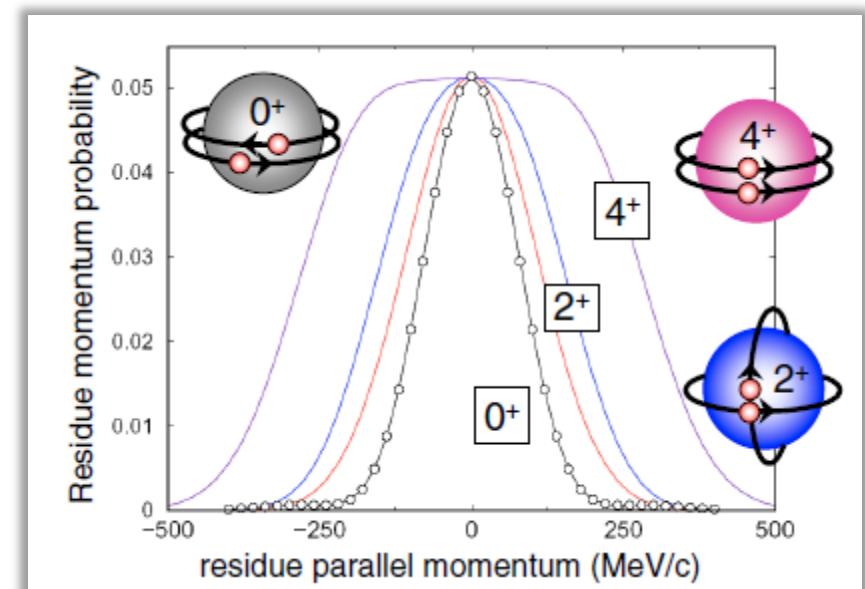
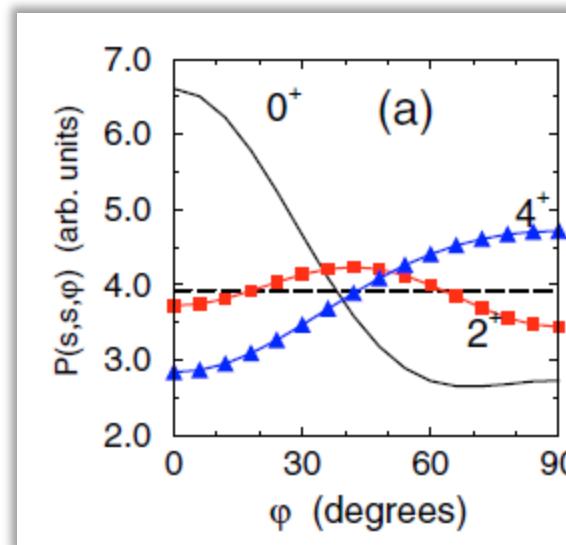
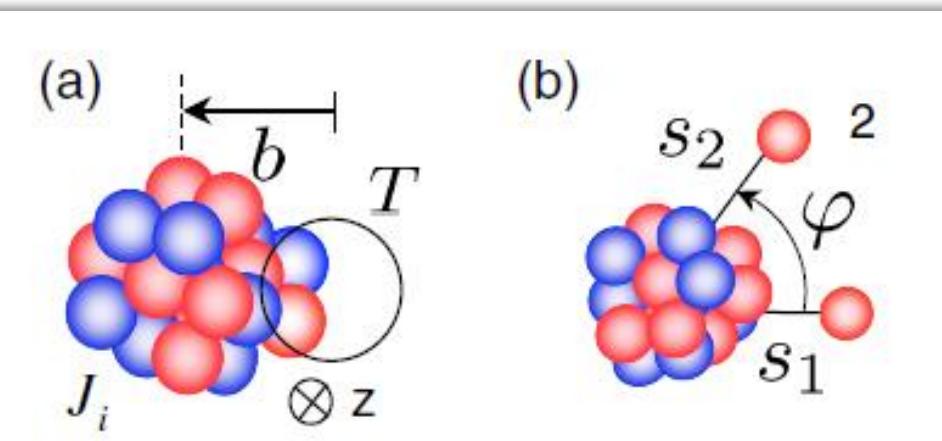
Excursion: Shape of longitudinal momentum distribution encodes final-state total angular momentum



B. Longfellow *et al.*, PRC 101, 031303(R) (2020)

D. Santiago-Gonzalez *et al.*,
 PRC 83, 061305(R) (2011)

Momentum distributions in two-nucleon knockout



Eur. Phys. J. Special Topics 150, 67–70 (2007)
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DOI: 10.1140/epjst/e2007-00268-6

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Reaction spectroscopy at fragmentation beam energies – recent advances in studies of two-nucleon removal

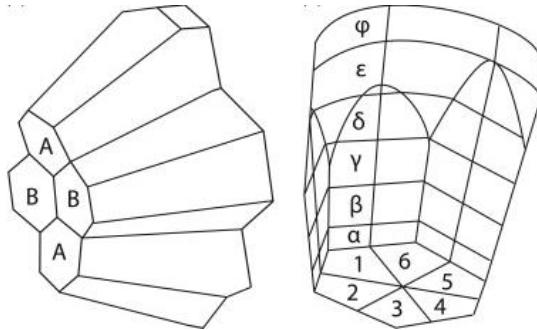
J.A. Tostevin^{1,2,a}

¹ Department of Physics, School of Electronics and Physical Sciences, University of Surrey, Guildford, Surrey GU2 7XH, UK

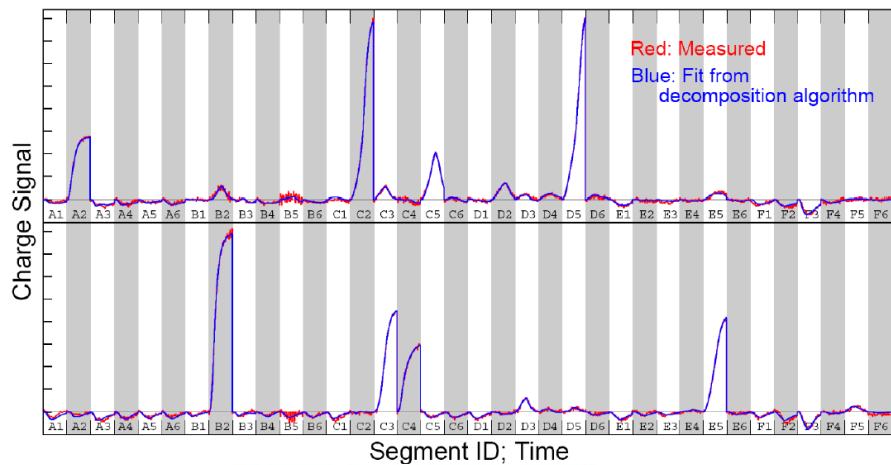
² Department of Nuclear Physics, Research School of Physical Sciences and Engineering, The Australian National University, Canberra, ACT 0200, Australia

γ rays emitted in flight are Doppler shifted – needed for reconstruction: Velocity and emission angle

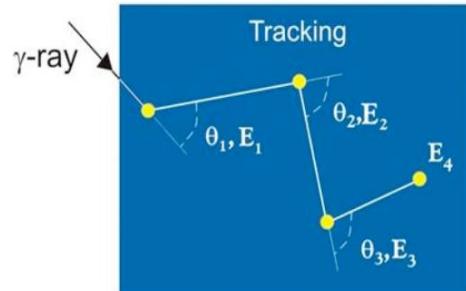
Segmented HP
Ge detectors



Signal
decomposition
from digitizer
traces



Determine
precise location
and sequence of
 γ -ray interaction
points



Doppler-reconstruction of γ
rays emitted in flight

