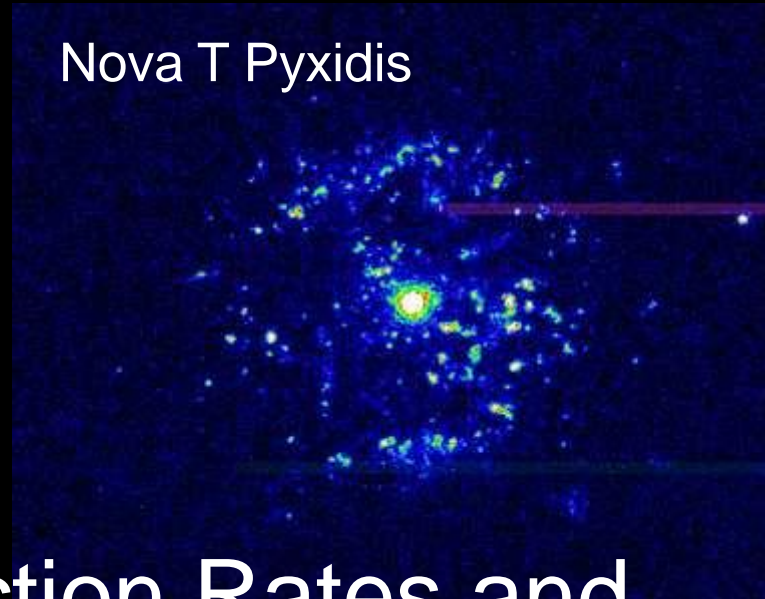


Nova Cygni



Nova T Pyxidis



# Novae Reaction Rates and Measurements

Measuring Nuclear Reaction Rates One Step at a Time

Shawn Bishop, TUM

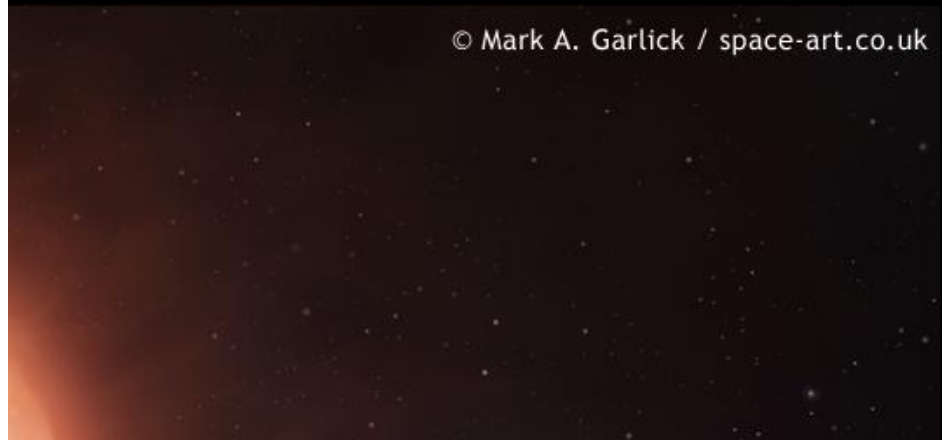
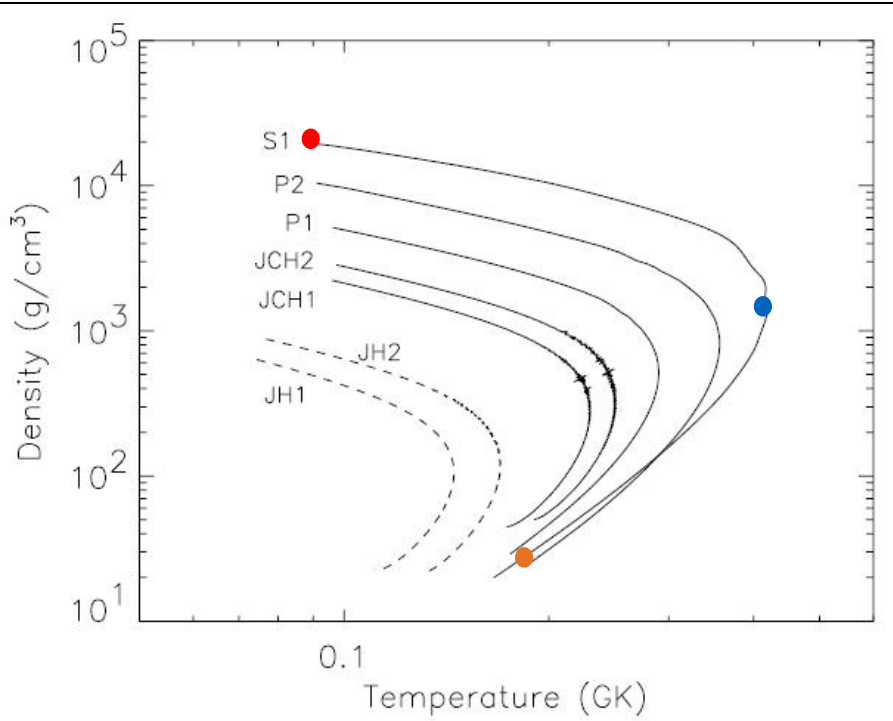
# Talk Outline

- **Astrophysics Primer**
  - Experimental nuclear astrophysics
  - The novae phenomenon
  - Reaction Rates & Measurements
- **Facilities at MLL**
  - Mapping Explosive Rates: Q3D Spectrometer
  - Doppler Lifetime Station
- **Search for Supernova Signal in the Fossil Record**
  - Intersection of astrophysics, nuclear physics techniques, geophysics & microbiology
- **Summary**

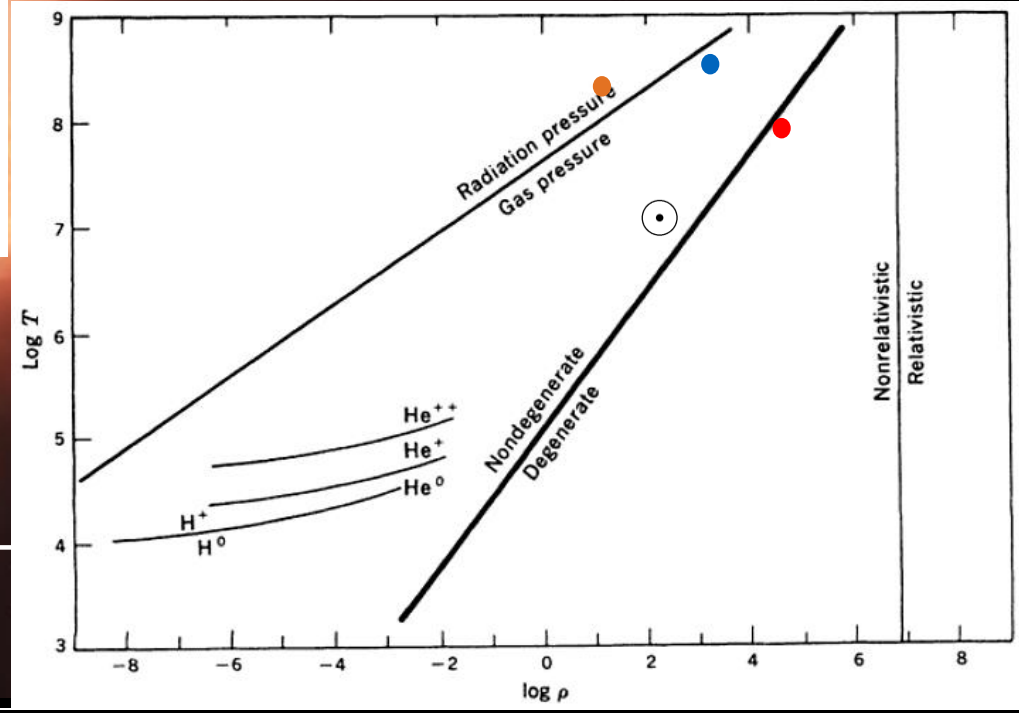


➤ We are star-stuff. -- Carl Sagan

# ASTROPHYSICS PRIMER

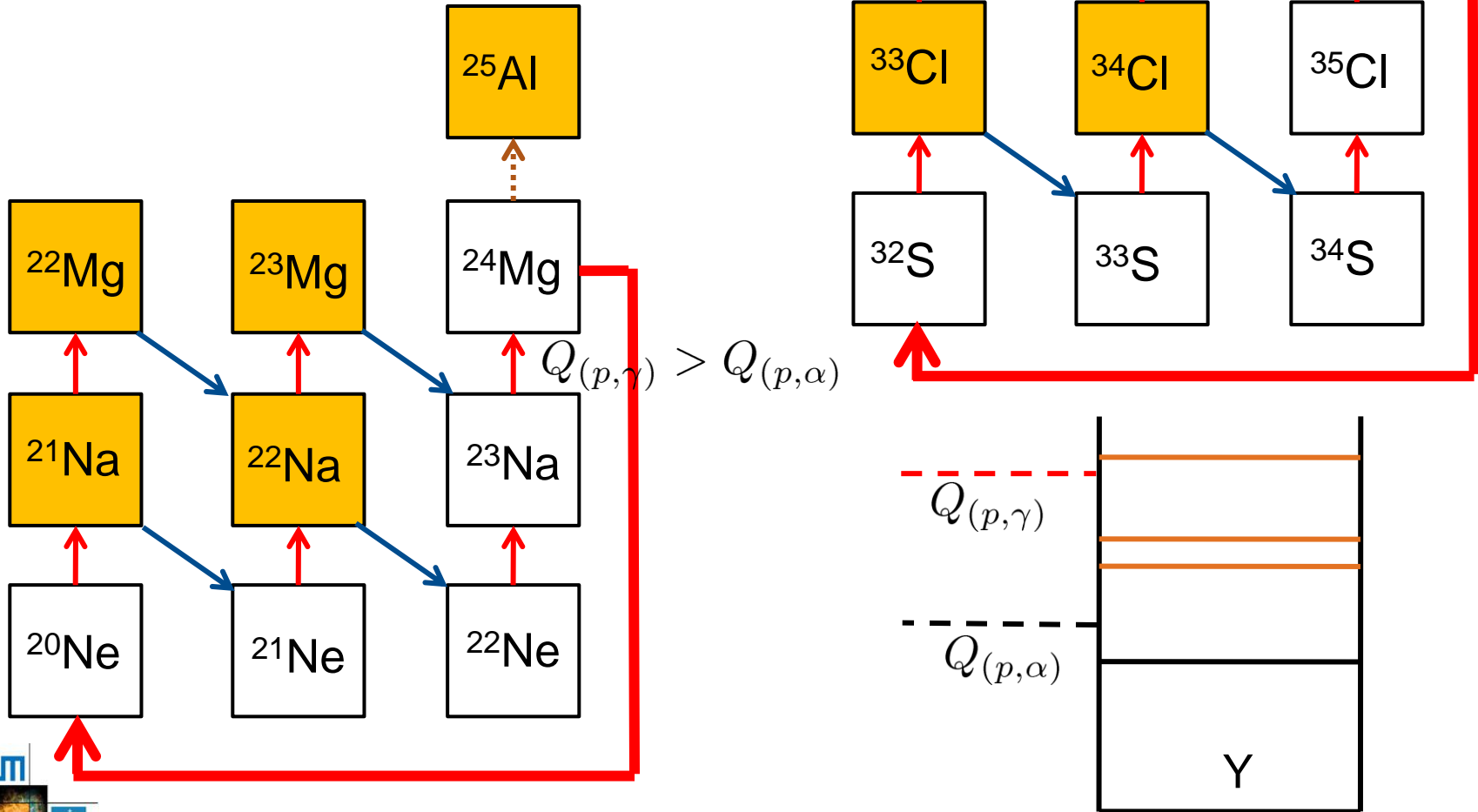


© Mark A. Garlick / space-art.co.uk



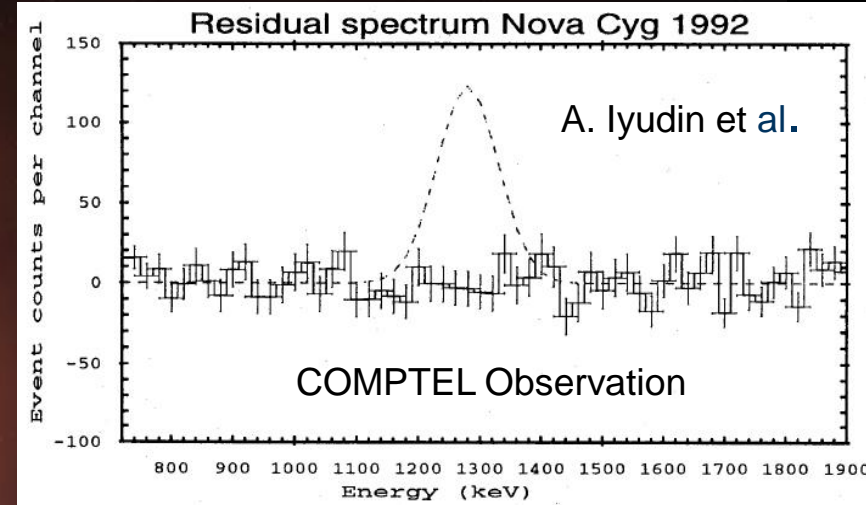
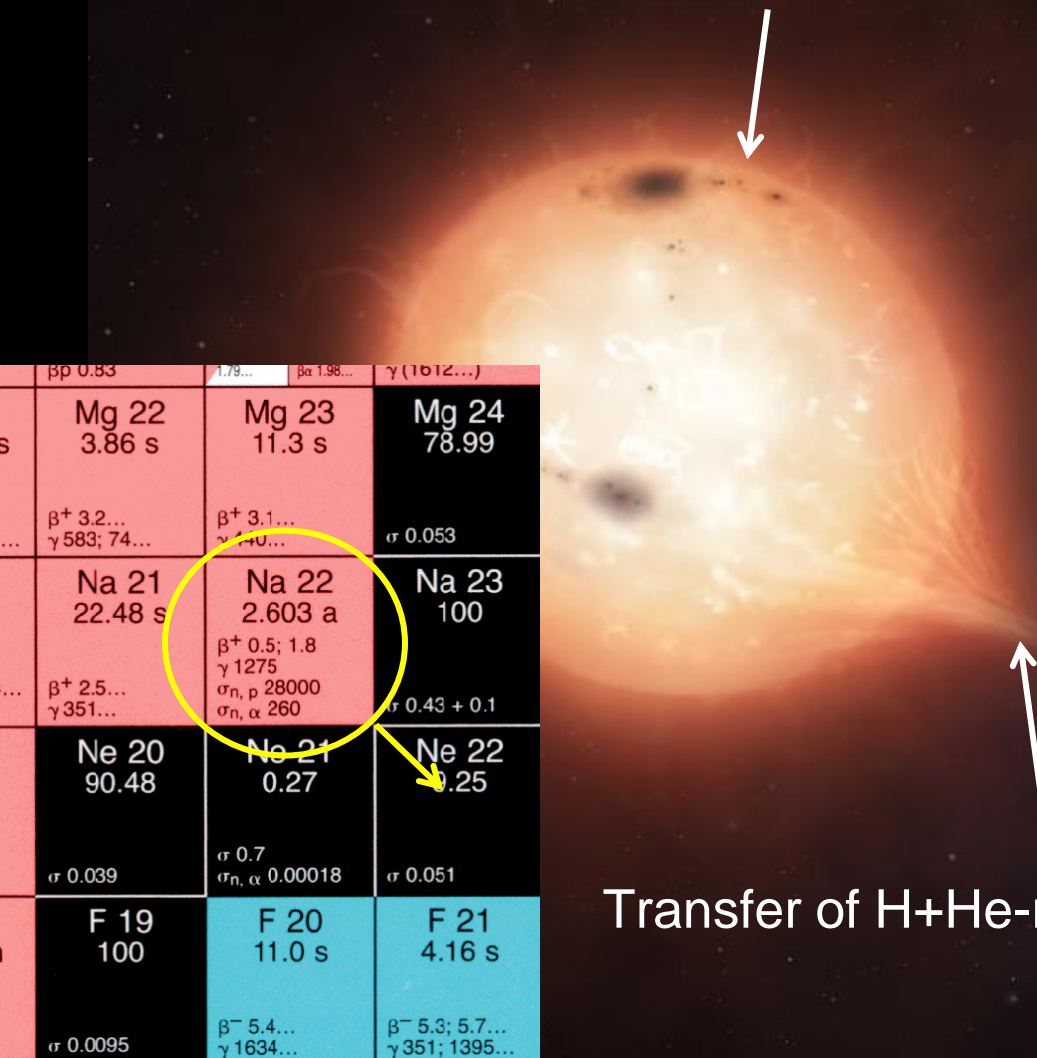
Transfer of H

# One-Nova Burning Cycles



# Main Sequence Companion or AGB

© Mark A. Garlick / space-art.co.uk



$\beta^+$ 0.83	$\beta^+$ 1.79...	$\beta^+$ 1.98...	$\gamma$ (1612...)
Mg 22 3.86 s	Mg 23 11.3 s	Mg 24 78.99	
$\beta^+$ 3.2... $\gamma$ 583; 74...	$\beta^+$ 3.1... $\gamma$ 140...		$\sigma$ 0.053
Na 21 22.48 s	Na 22 2.603 a	Na 23 100	
$\beta^+$ 2.5... $\gamma$ 351...	$\beta^+$ 0.5; 1.8 $\gamma$ 1275 $\sigma_n, p$ 28000 $\sigma_n, \alpha$ 260		$\sigma$ 0.43 + 0.1
Ne 20 90.48	Ne 21 0.27	Ne 22 3.25	
$\sigma$ 0.039	$\sigma$ 0.7 $\sigma_n, \alpha$ 0.00018	$\sigma$ 0.051	
F 19 100	F 20 11.0 s	F 21 4.16 s	
$\sigma$ 0.0095	$\beta^-$ 5.4... $\gamma$ 1634...	$\beta^-$ 5.3; 5.7... $\gamma$ 351; 1395...	

WD

Transfer of H+He-rich (or solar-like) material

# A Recent Surprise from Nova Cas. 1995

ISSN 1063-7729, *Astronomy Reports*, 2010, Vol. 54, No. 7, pp. 611–619. © Pleiades Publishing, Ltd., 2010.  
Original Russian Text © A. F. Iyudin, 2010, published in *Astronomicheskii Zhurnal*, 2010, Vol. 87, No. 7, pp. 667–676.

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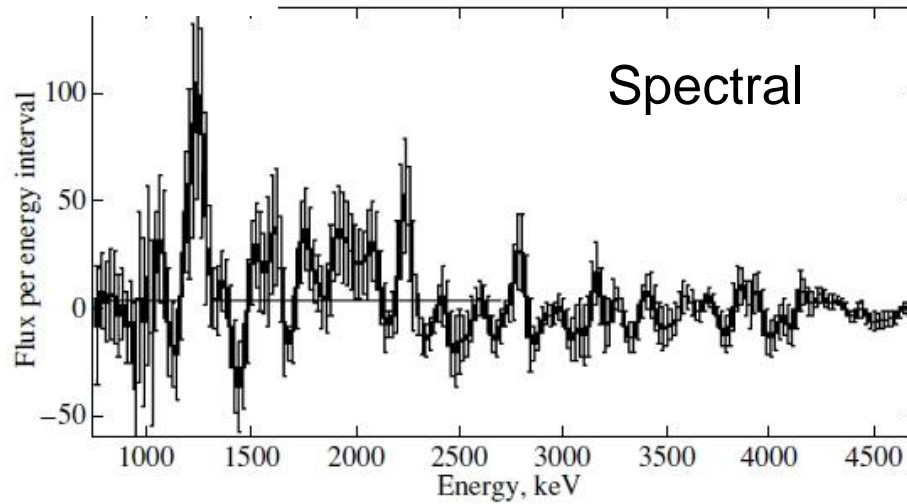
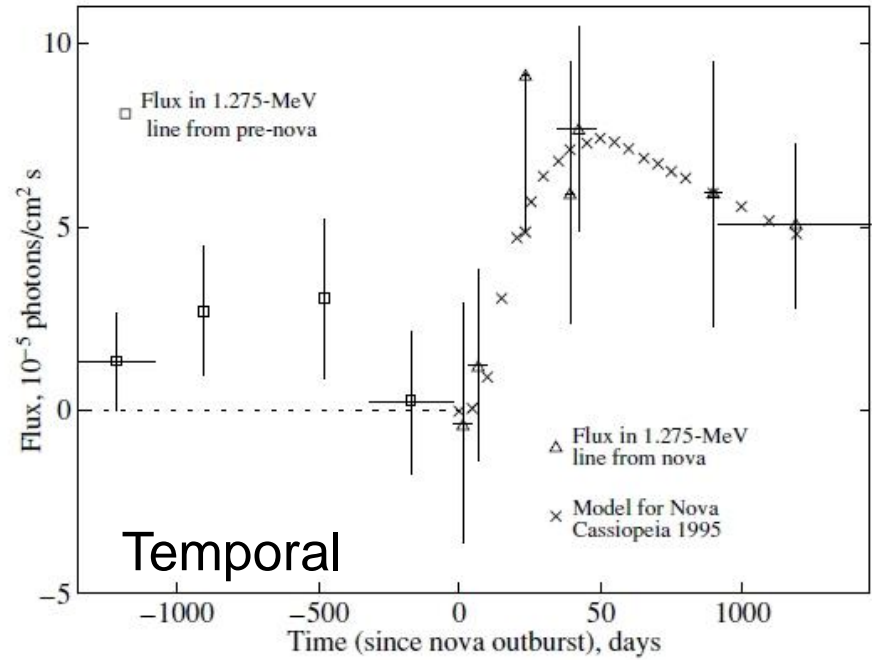
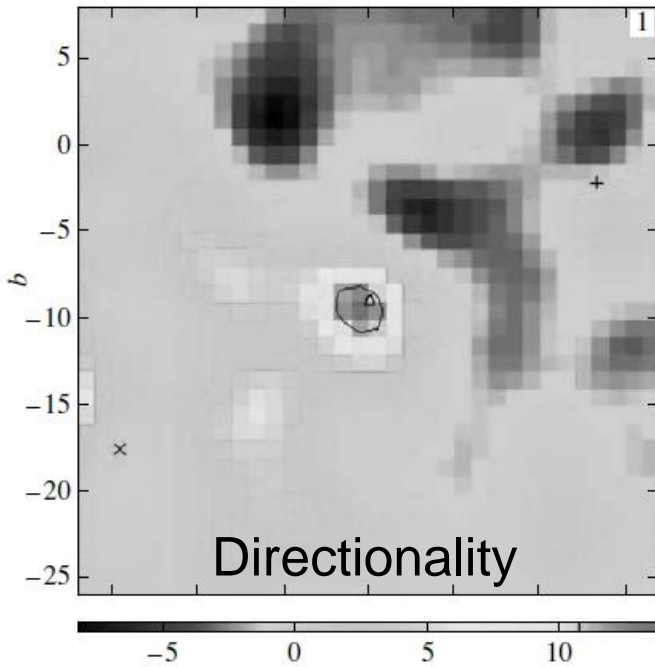
## Observation of Line Emission of the Isotope $^{22}\text{Na}$ from a Classical Nova

A. F. Iyudin

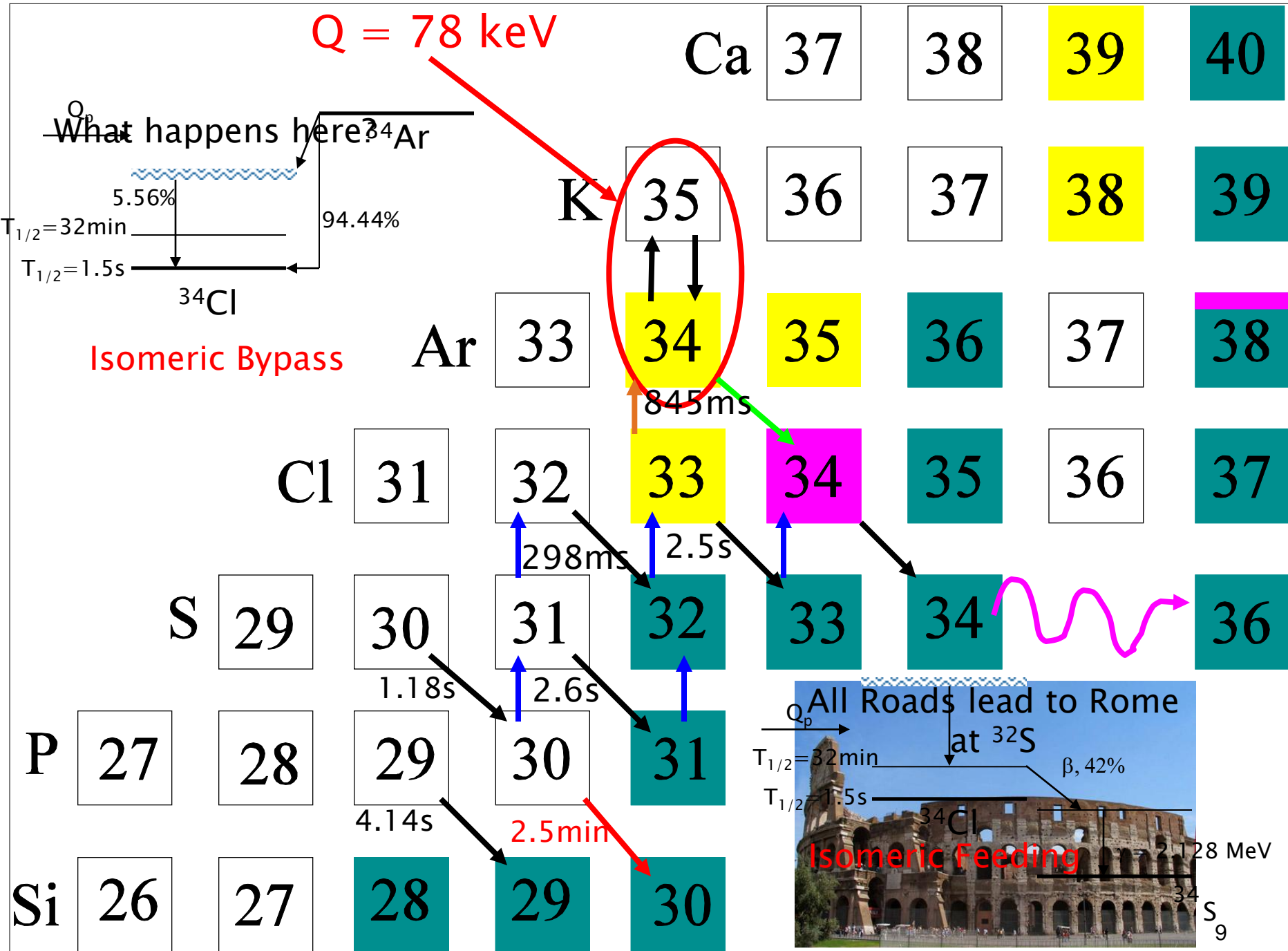
*D.V. Skobel'tsin Nuclear Physics Research Institute,  
M.V. Lomonosov Moscow State University, Moscow, Russia*

Received August 26, 2009; in final form, February 5, 2010







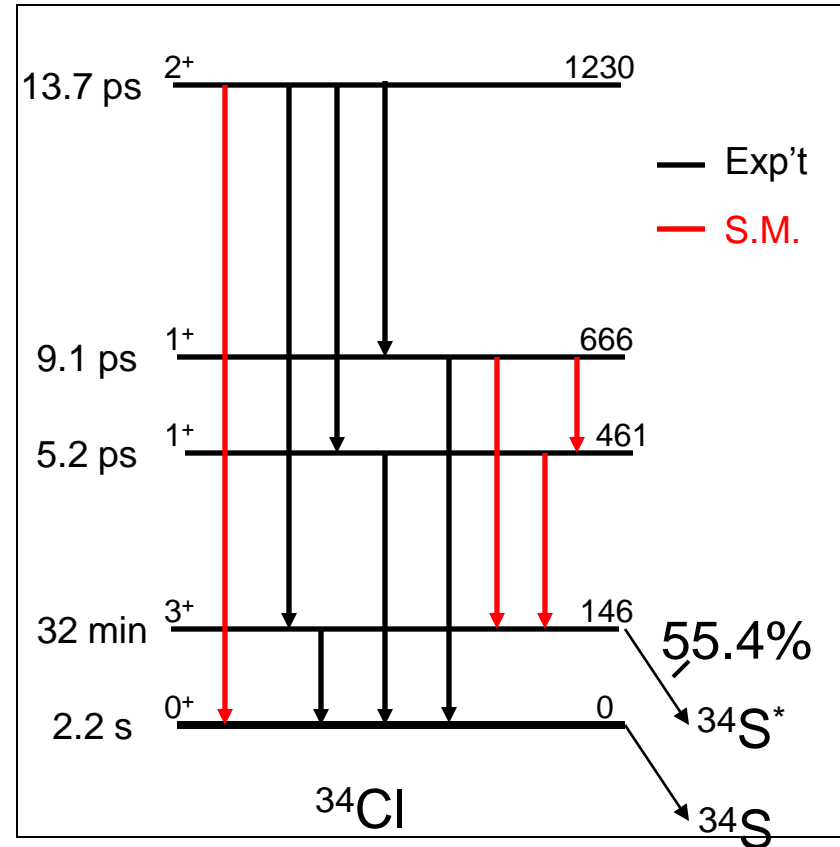


# A Thermonuclear Thermometer....



# $^{34m}\text{Cl}$ : A Thermonuclear Thermometer

- $3^+$  isomeric state gives rise to 2.12 MeV  $\gamma$ -line  $\approx 42\%$  per  $\beta$  decay
- Connected directly to ground by M3 transition (45.6% of the time)
- Radiation field can also connect isomeric state to ground state by induced transitions into higher states
  - If this is large enough, lifetime will be reduced from 32 min.
- System of coupled differential equations has been solved



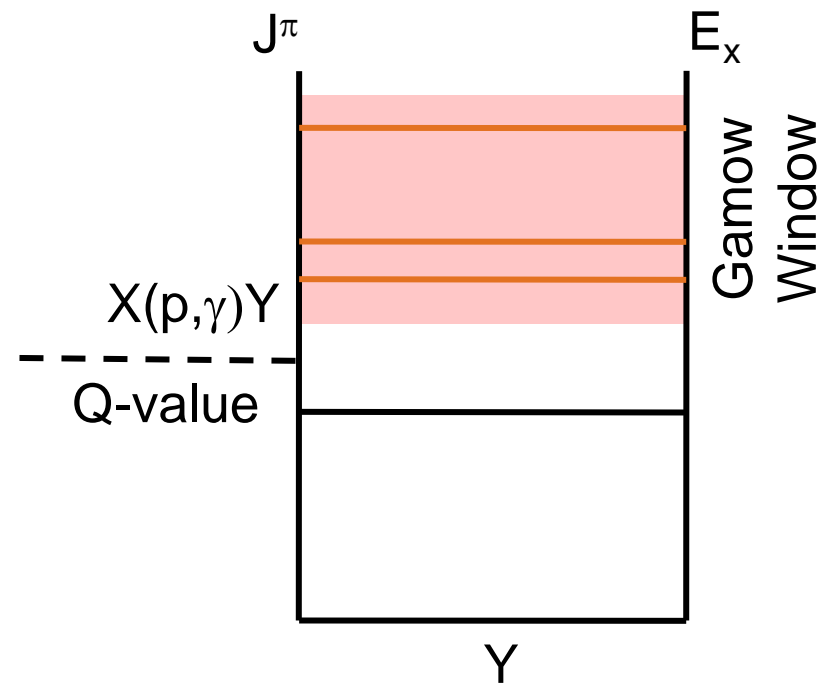
Coc et al., PRC61 (1999)

## Some Key Nuclear Reactions

- $^{34m}\text{Cl}$  is a “last chance”  $\gamma$ -emitter for novae nucleosynthesis
  - Bypassed:  $^{33}\text{Cl}(p,\gamma)^{34}\text{Ar}$
  - Produced:  $^{33}\text{S}(p,\gamma)^{34m}\text{Cl}$
  - Destroyed:  $^{34m}\text{Cl}(p,\gamma)^{35}\text{Ar}$
- Excited states need to be “mapped out”
  - Energy, width, branching ratio, spin
- Equipment and Instruments
  - Q3D spectrometer
  - 95% hpGe detector (Canberra)
  - Si-detector charged particle telescopes (Micron UK)

# What Needs to be Measured to Determine the Rates

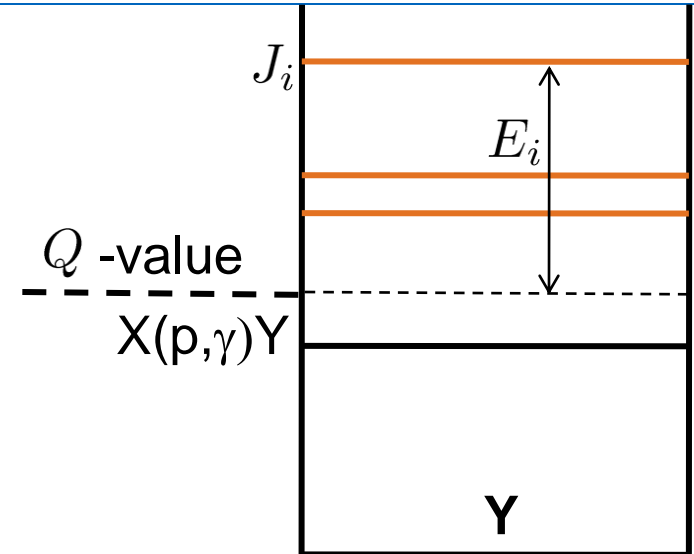
- Rates in explosive h-burning dominated by resonant proton-capture into excited states
- Properties of these states uniquely determine explosive  $X(p,\gamma)Y$  reaction rates
- Nuclear properties required:
  - Spin
  - Excitation energy
  - Lifetime
  - Proton and/or  $\gamma$  partial decay-widths
- Goal: Build facilities at MLL to accomplish these



# X(p,γ)Y Resonant Reaction Rate

$$\langle \sigma v \rangle = \left( \frac{8}{\pi \mu} \right)^{1/2} (kT)^{-3/2} \int_0^\infty E \sigma(E) e^{-\frac{E}{kT}} dE$$

$$\sigma(E) = \frac{\hbar^2}{\mu E} \frac{2J_r + 1}{(2J_p + 1)(2J_X + 1)} \frac{\Gamma_p \Gamma_\gamma}{(E - E_r) + \Gamma^2/4}$$



$$\langle \sigma v \rangle = \left( \frac{2\pi}{\mu kT} \right)^{3/2} \hbar^2 \sum_i \omega \gamma_i e^{-\frac{E_i}{kT}}$$

resonance strength

$$\omega \gamma = \frac{2J_i + 1}{(2J_p + 1)(2J_X + 1)} \frac{\Gamma_p \Gamma_\gamma}{\Gamma_p + \Gamma_\gamma} = g(1 - B_p) B_p \frac{\hbar}{\tau}$$

Key quantity

$\mu$  - reduced mass  
 $J_i, J_p, J_X$  - Spins of: resonance state/  
 projectile/ target  
 $T$  - temperature  
 $E_i$  - energy of state relative to Q  
 $\Gamma_p, \Gamma_\gamma$  - partial width of p- /  $\gamma$ - decay  
 $B_p = \Gamma_p / \Gamma$  - branching ratio



➤ Measuring Astrophysical Rates one Step at a Time

# FACILITIES

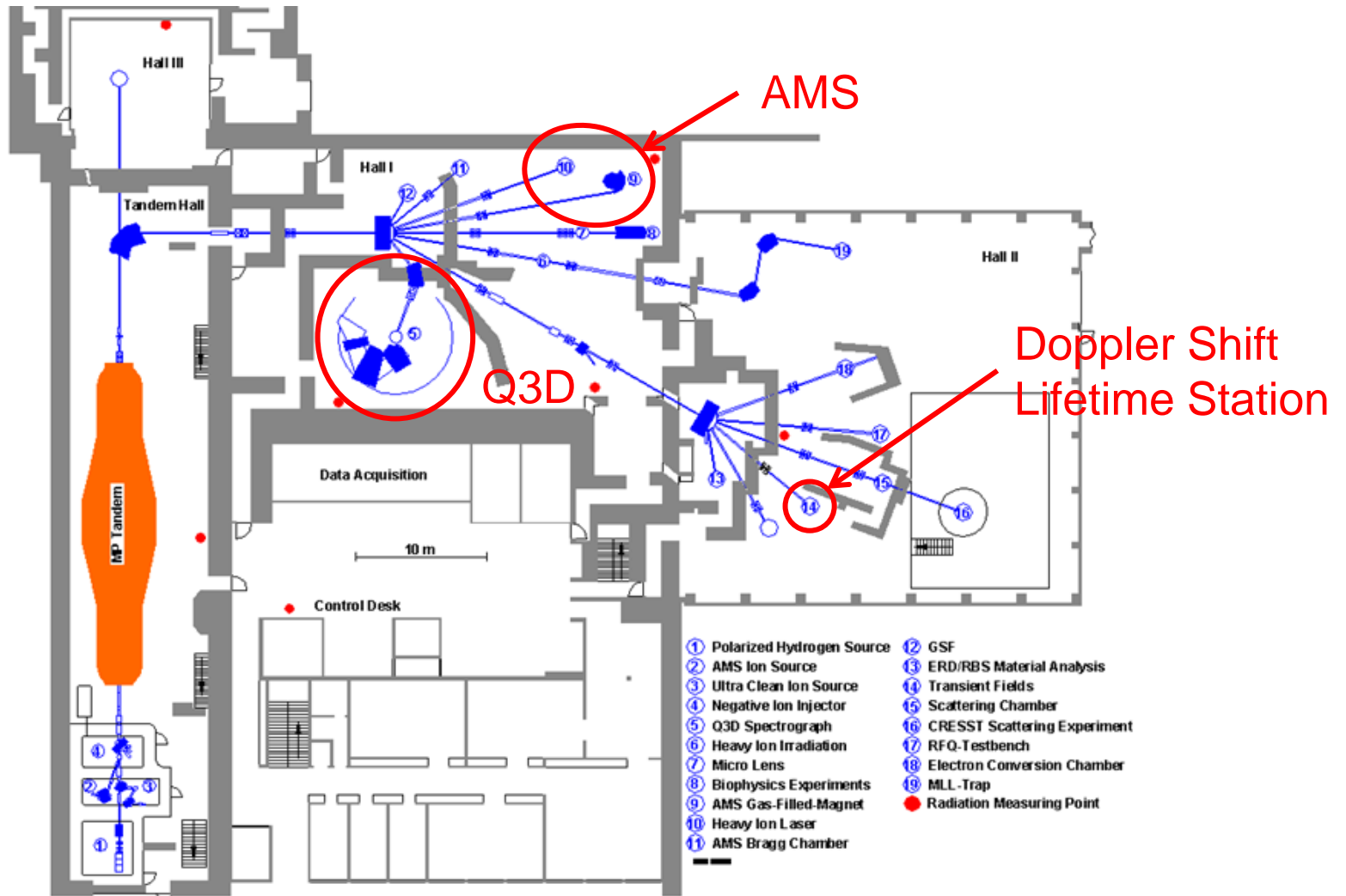


## MLL Overview

- 14 MV Terminal voltage
- Pulsed beam
  - 200 ns between pulses
  - Pulse width  $\sim 1$  ns
- Cesium sputtering ion source
  - Negative ion beams
  - No Nobel gas ion beams (except  $^3,^4\text{He}$ )
- Isobaric separation at  $90^\circ$  bending magnet



# Accelerator Laboratory: Overview

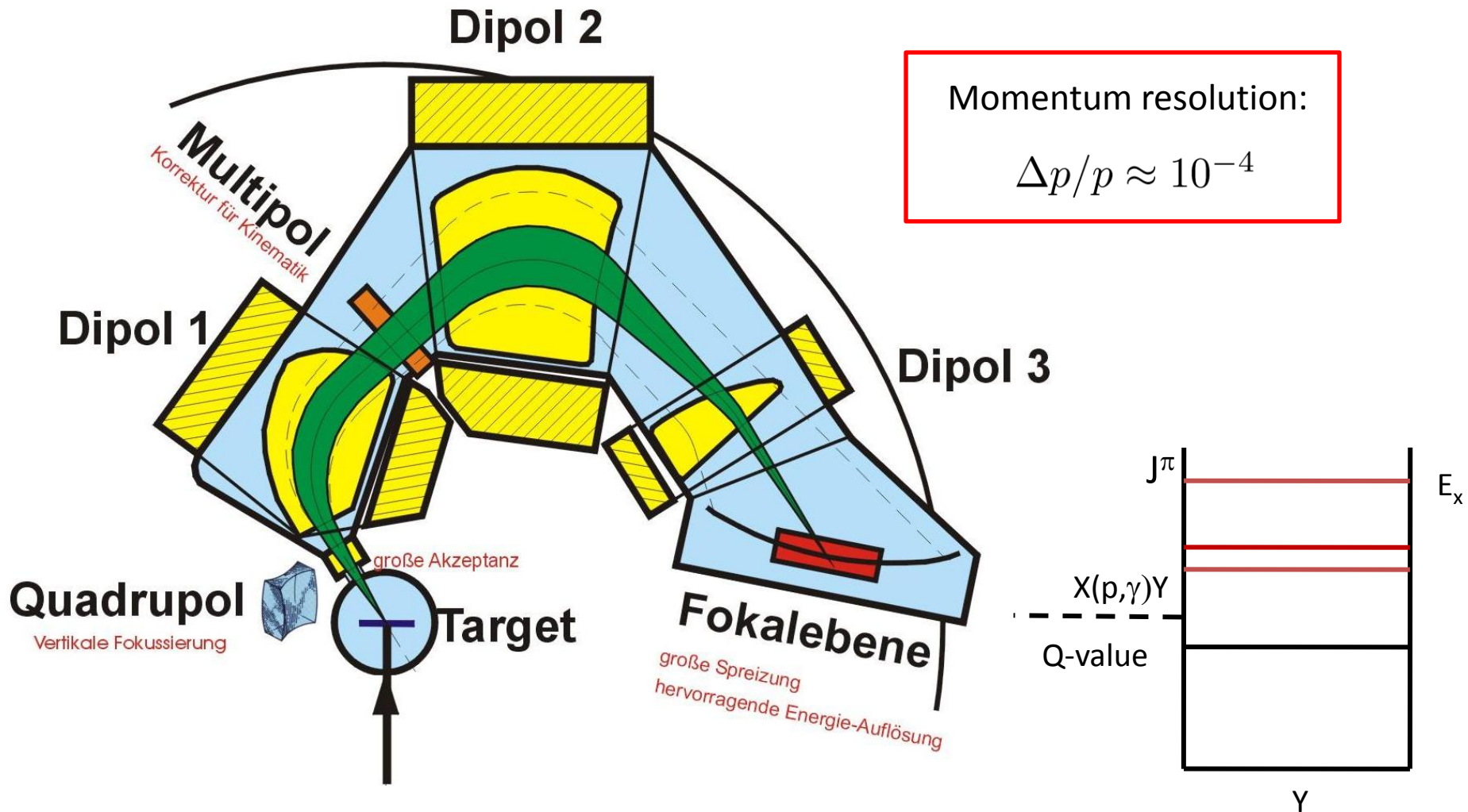


$$\langle \sigma v \rangle = \left( \frac{2\pi}{\mu kT} \right)^{3/2} \hbar^2 \sum_i \omega \gamma_i e^{-\frac{E_i}{kT}}$$

➤ Extracting  $\exp(-E_i/kT)$

# MAPPING EXPLOSIVE REACTION RATES: THE Q3D

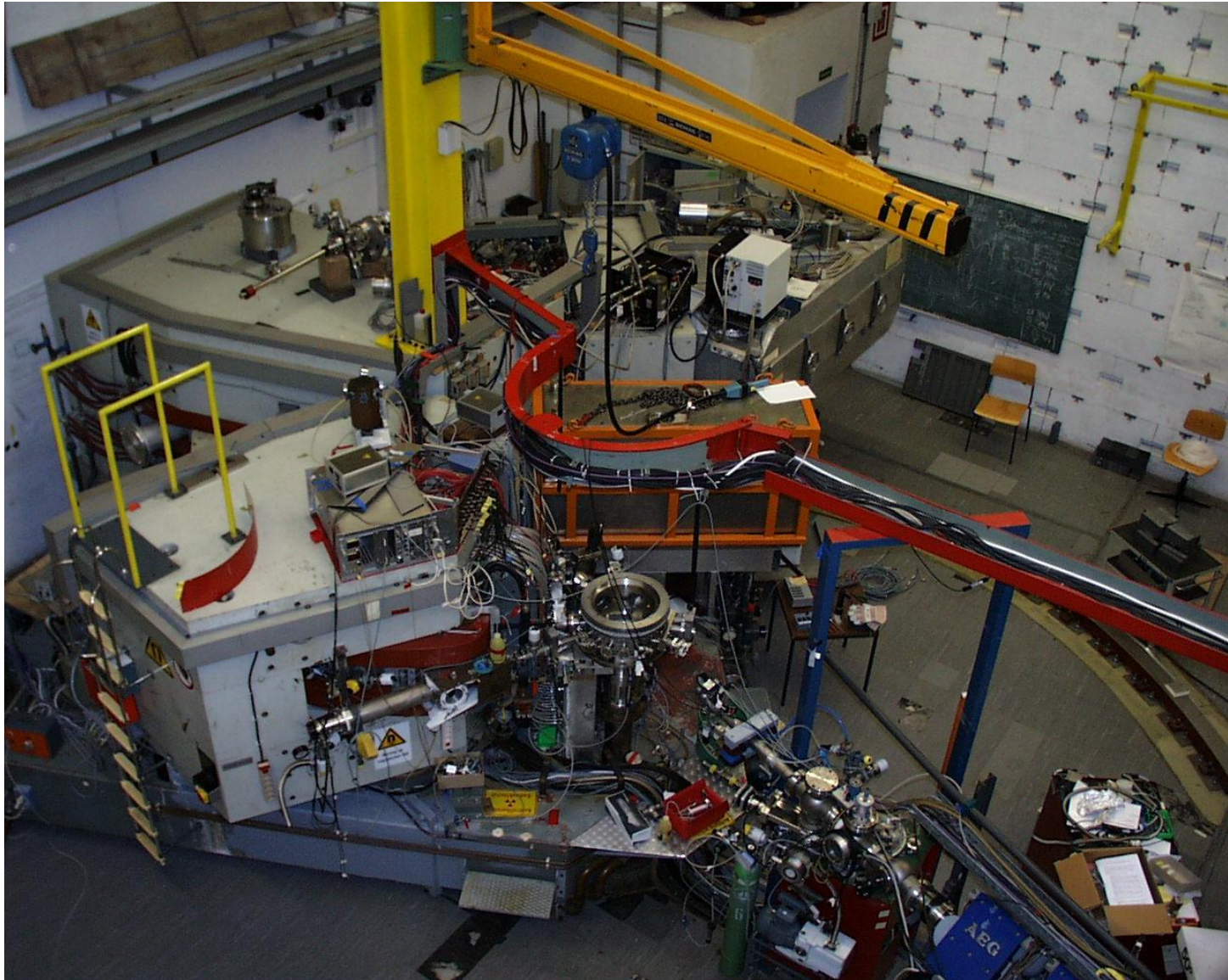
# Q3D High Resolution Spectrograph at TUM



Used to search for, and study, excited states of nuclei by populating those states using one-step transfer reactions:  $X(^3\text{He},t)Y$ , as an example

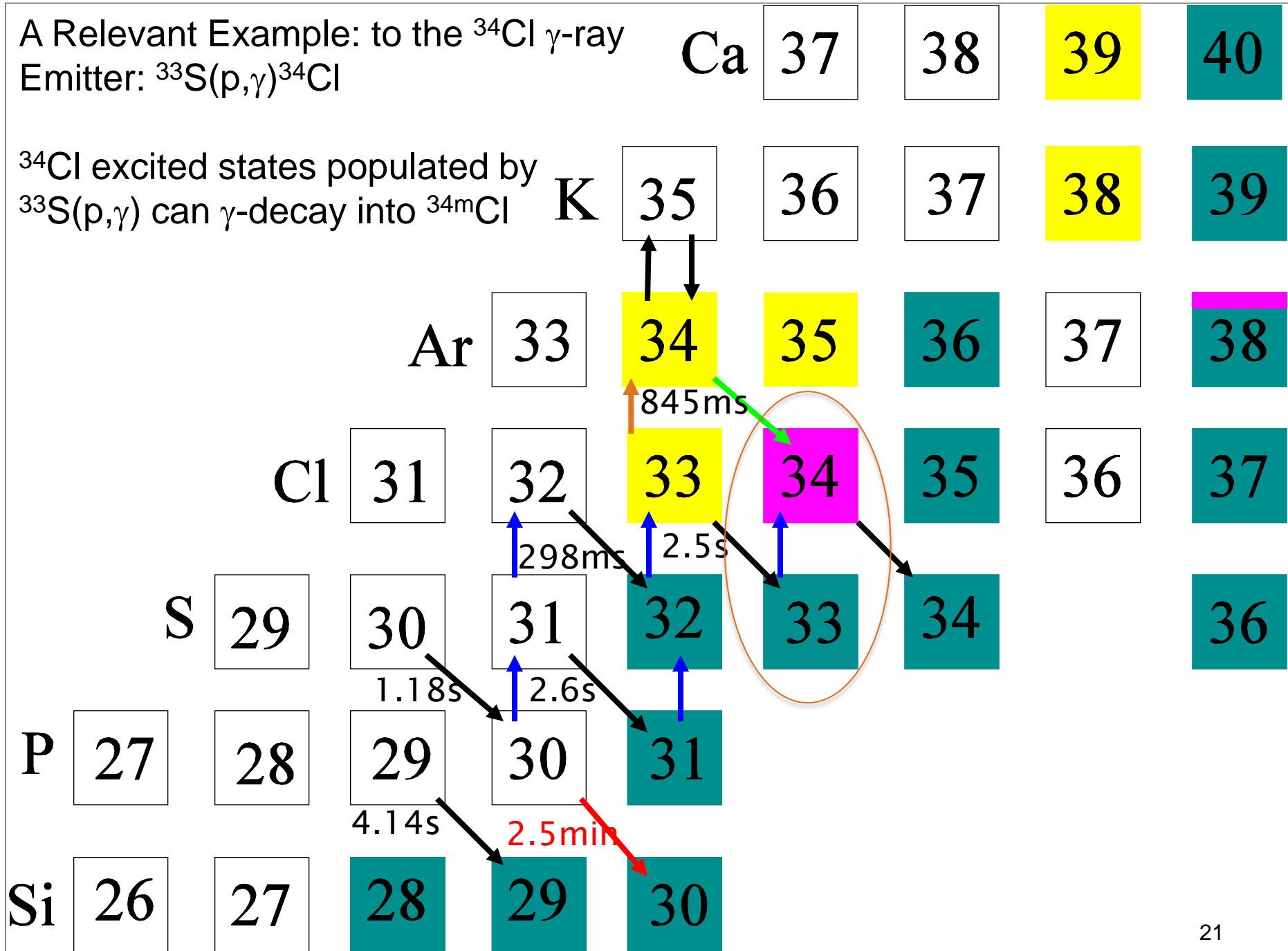
Position of triton along Focal Plane is a measure of the excitation energy.



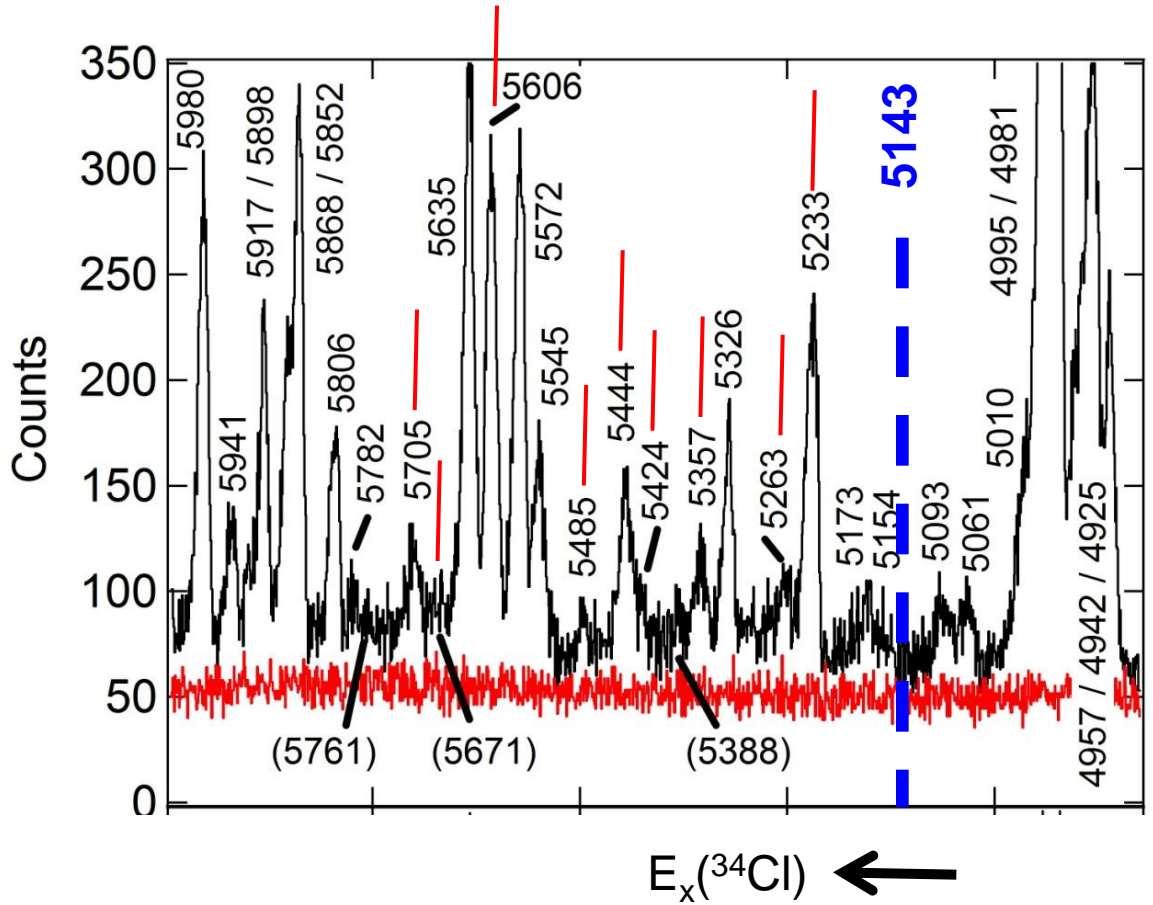
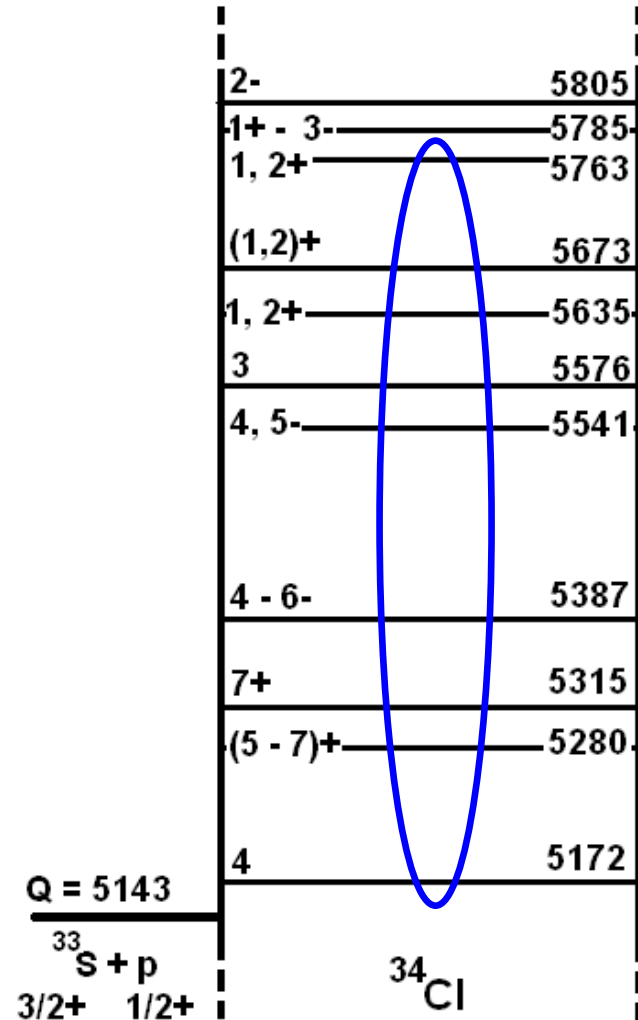


A Relevant Example: to the  $^{34}\text{Cl}$   $\gamma$ -ray Emitter:  $^{33}\text{S}(p,\gamma)^{34}\text{Cl}$

$^{34}\text{Cl}$  excited states populated by  $^{33}\text{S}(p,\gamma)$  can  $\gamma$ -decay into  $^{34m}\text{Cl}$



$$^{34}\text{S}(^3\text{He},t)^{34}\text{Cl}, E_{\text{He}} = 25 \text{ MeV}, \theta = 15^\circ$$



Parikh et al. PRC (2009)



$$\langle \sigma v \rangle = \left( \frac{2\pi}{\mu kT} \right)^{3/2} \hbar^2 \sum_i \omega \gamma_i e^{-\frac{E_i}{kT}}$$

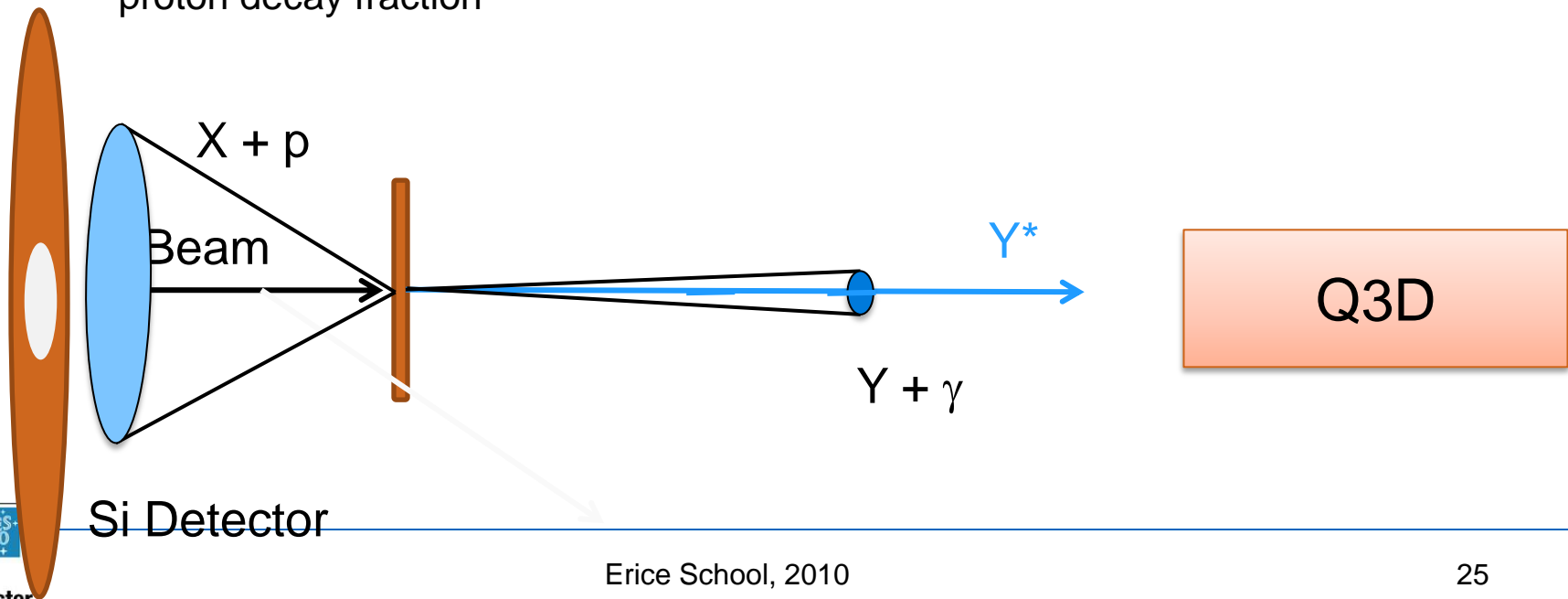
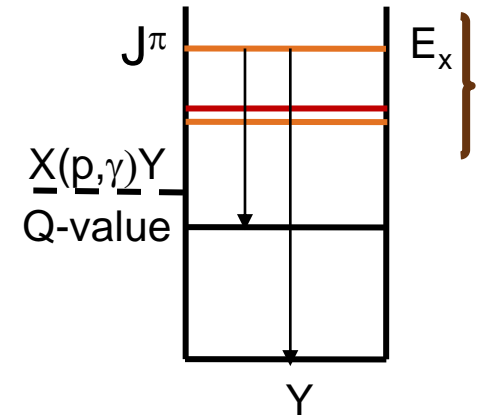
$$\omega \gamma = \frac{2J_i + 1}{(2J_p + 1)(2J_X + 1)} \frac{\Gamma_p \Gamma_\gamma}{\Gamma_p + \Gamma_\gamma} = g(1 - B_p) B_p \frac{\hbar}{\tau}$$

➤ Extracting  $B_p$

# MAPPING EXPLOSIVE REACTION RATES: THE Q3D

- Transfer reaction populates astrophysical state
- Product  $Y^*$  will either:
  - gamma-decay
  - proton-decay
- Decay cone for  $\gamma$ -decay is small
  - Detection of  $Y$  with Q3D, reconstruct kinematics, determine fraction of  $\gamma$ -decays
- Decay cone for proton decay large
  - Detect  $X$  and  $p$  together with Si, determine proton decay fraction

### Transfer reaction in inverse kinematics

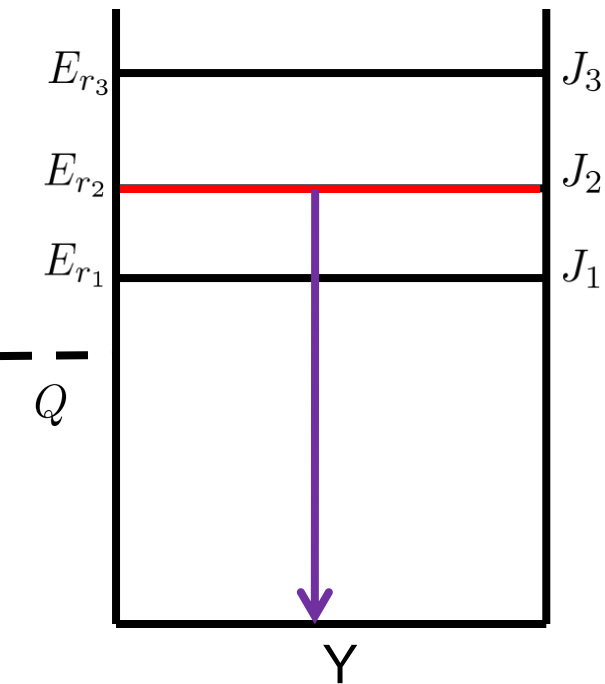
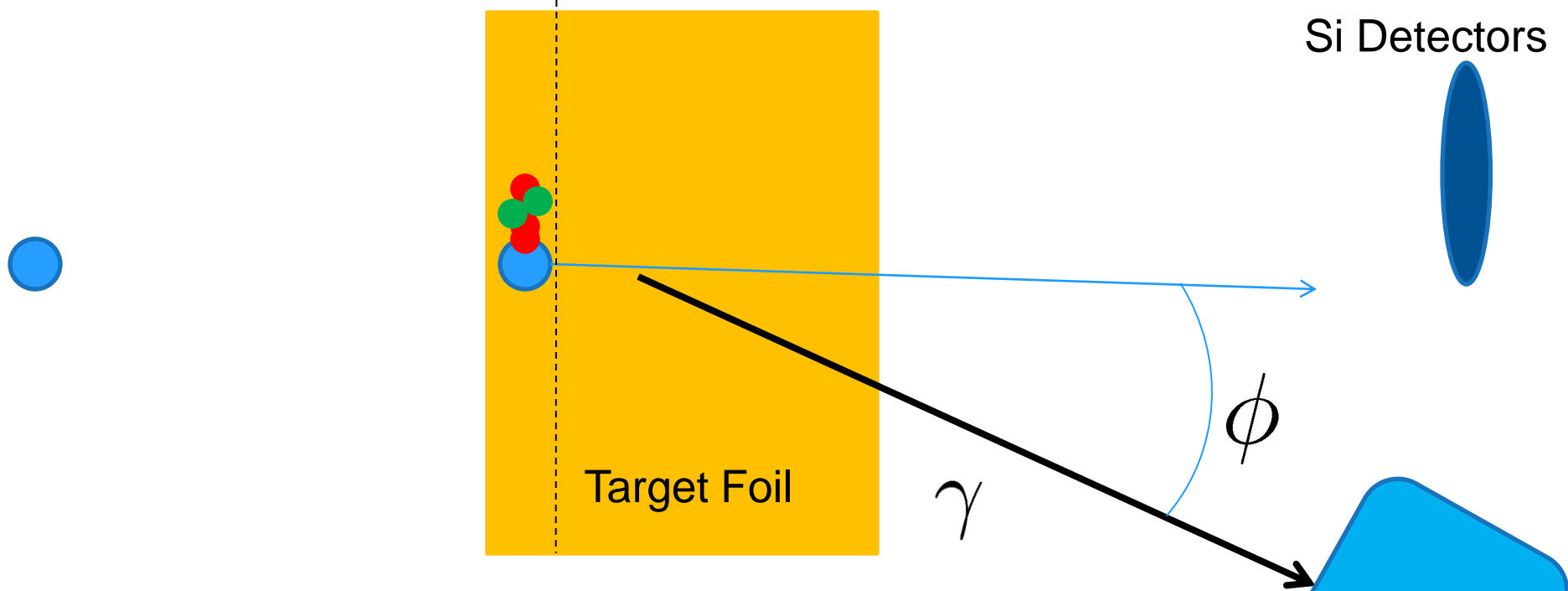


$$\omega\gamma = \frac{2J_i + 1}{(2J_p + 1)(2J_x + 1)} \frac{\Gamma_p \Gamma_\gamma}{\Gamma_p + \Gamma_\gamma} = g(1 - B_p) B_p \left( \frac{\hbar}{\tau} \right)$$

$$B_p = \Gamma_p / (\Gamma_p + \Gamma_\gamma)$$

➤ Extracting the  $\hbar/\tau$  term

# DOPPLER LIFETIME STATION

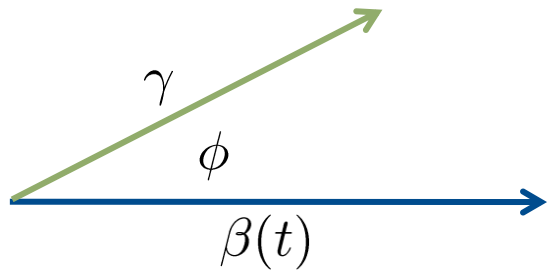


$$\nu' = \frac{\nu}{\gamma(1 - \beta \cos \phi)} = \nu \frac{(1 - \beta^2)^{1/2}}{1 - \beta \cos \phi}$$

$$\Rightarrow E'_\gamma = E_\gamma \frac{(1 - \beta^2)^{1/2}}{1 - \beta \cos \phi}$$

$$\approx E_\gamma (1 - 1/2\beta^2 + \dots)(1 + \beta \cos \phi + \dots)$$

$$\approx E_\gamma (1 + \beta \cos \phi)$$



$$E_{\gamma} = E_0 (1 + \beta_t \cos \phi)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{E_{\gamma} - E_0}{E_0} = \beta_t \cos \phi = V_t$$

Measurement of the Doppler shifted gamma yields velocity distribution of nucleus at instant of decay.

Decay probability in  $[t, t + dt]$ :

$$P_{\gamma} dt = \frac{1}{\tau} \exp(-t/\tau) dt$$

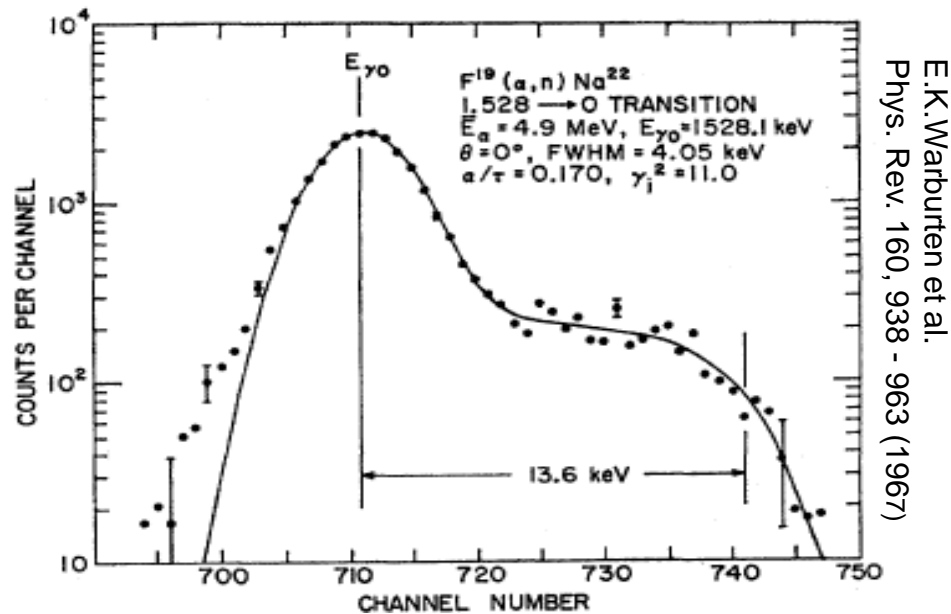
Fraction of N total nuclei that decay with velocity in  $[\beta(t) \cos \phi, \beta(t + dt) \cos \phi]$ :

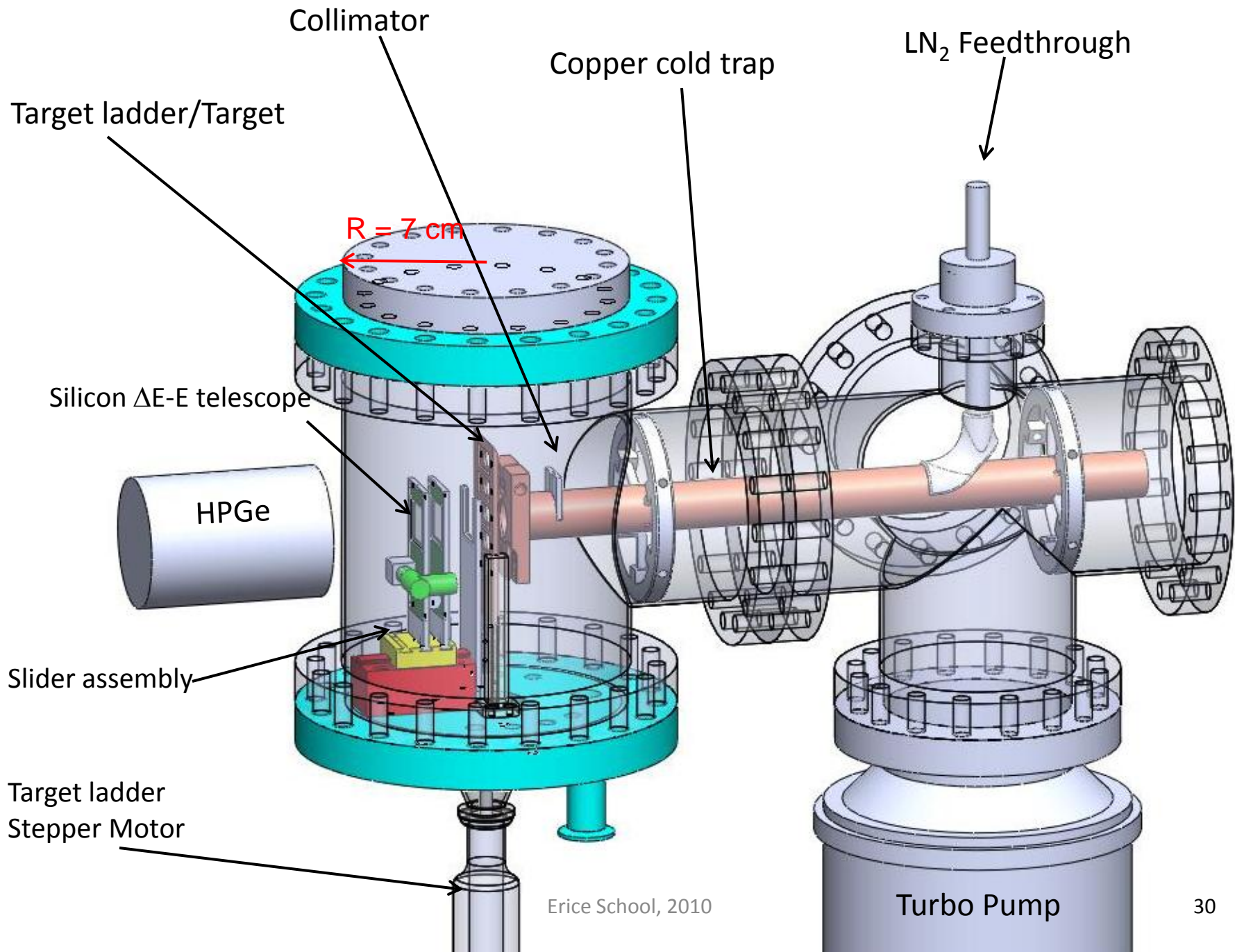
$$F(\tau) dt = V_t \frac{1}{\tau} \exp(-t/\tau) dt$$

Velocity distribution formed by an ensemble of  $N$  decaying particles:

$$F(\tau) = N \int_0^\infty \beta_t P_\gamma \cos \phi dt = \frac{N}{\tau} \int_0^\infty \beta_t \exp(-t/\tau) \cos \phi dt$$

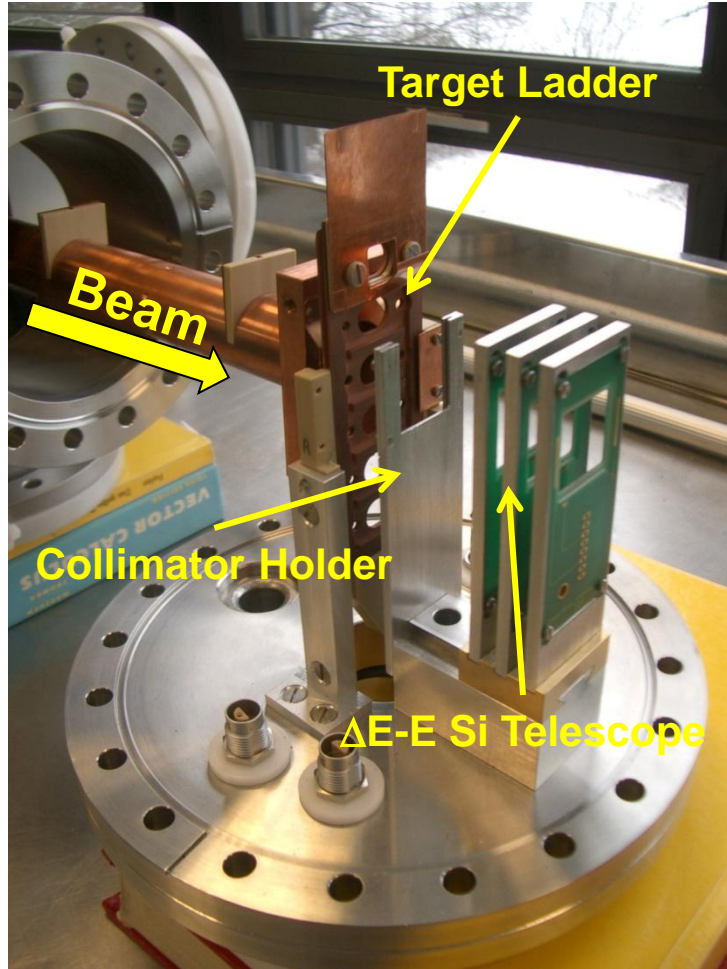
$$E_\gamma = E_0 (1 + F(\tau) \beta_0 \cos \phi)$$



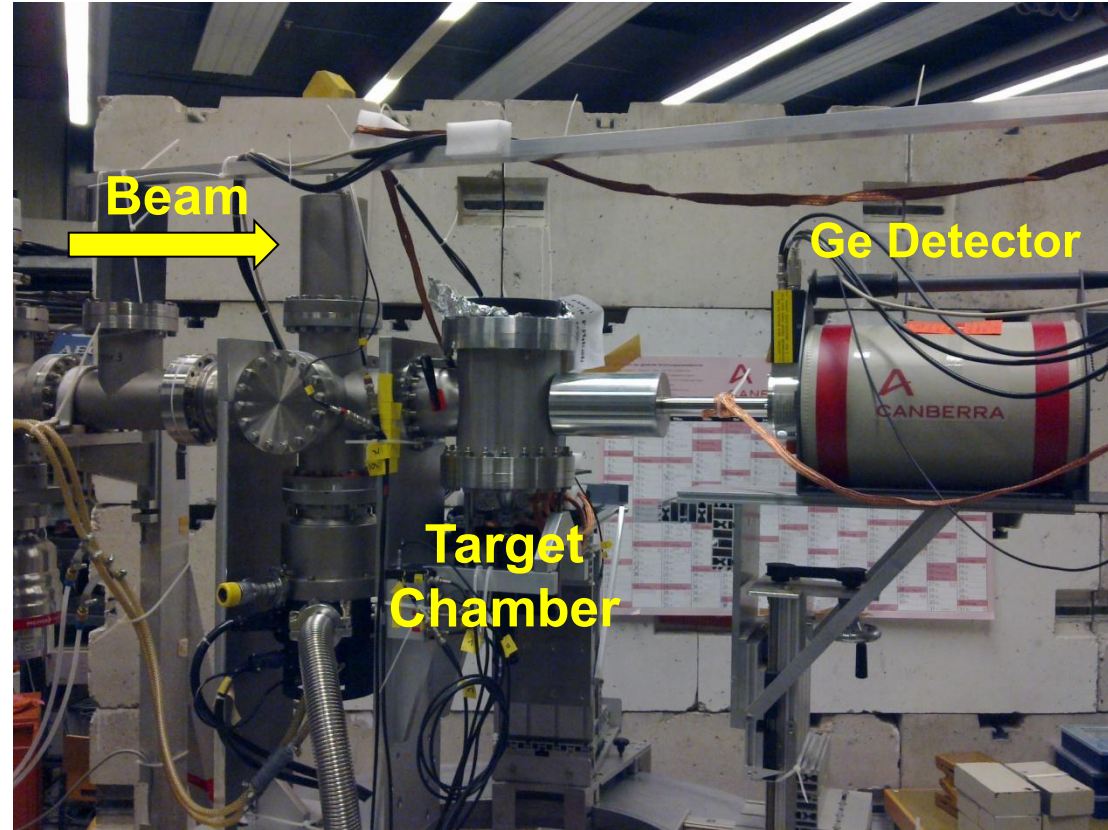




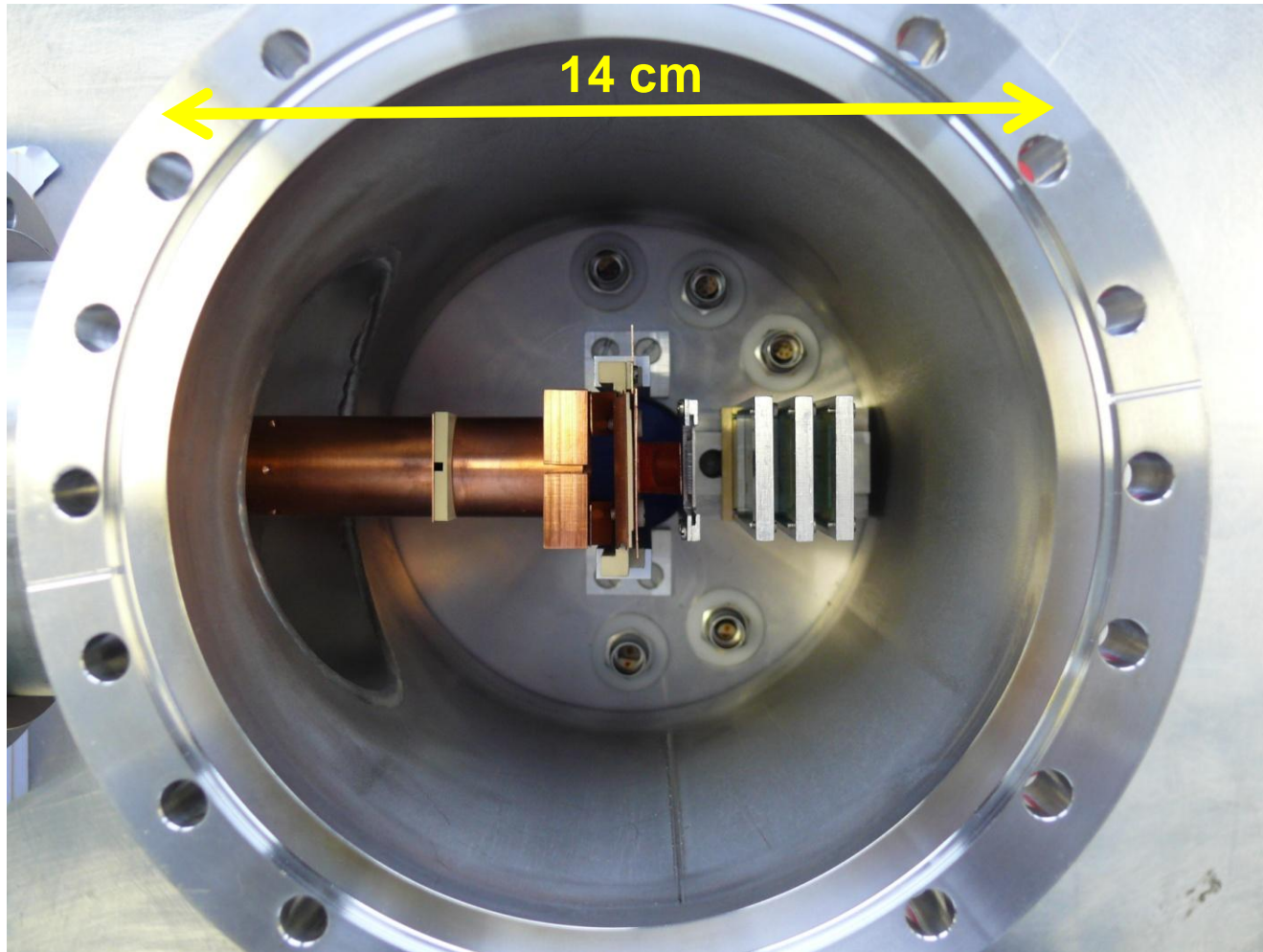
## Target Chamber Innards



## Installation on MLL Beamline

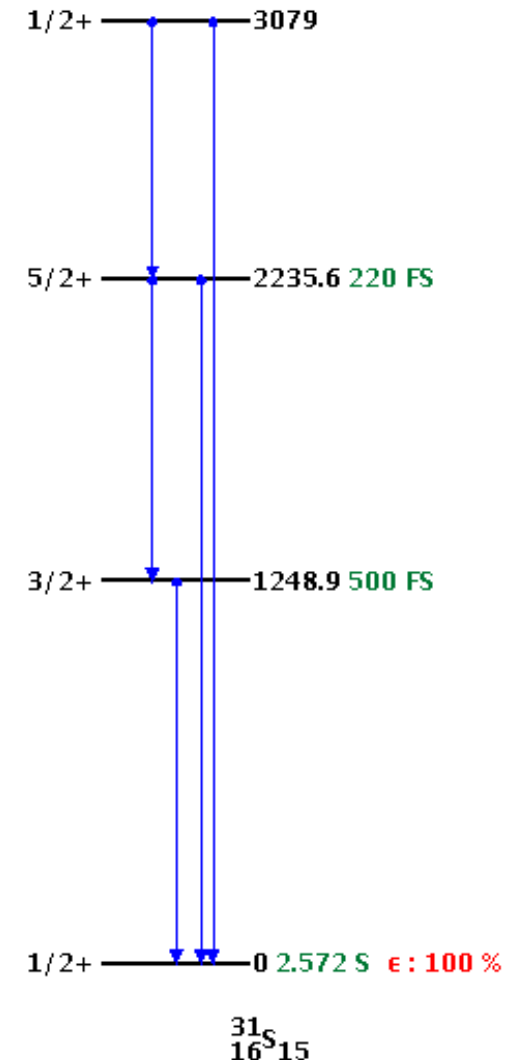


# Doppler Shift Station: Target Chamber



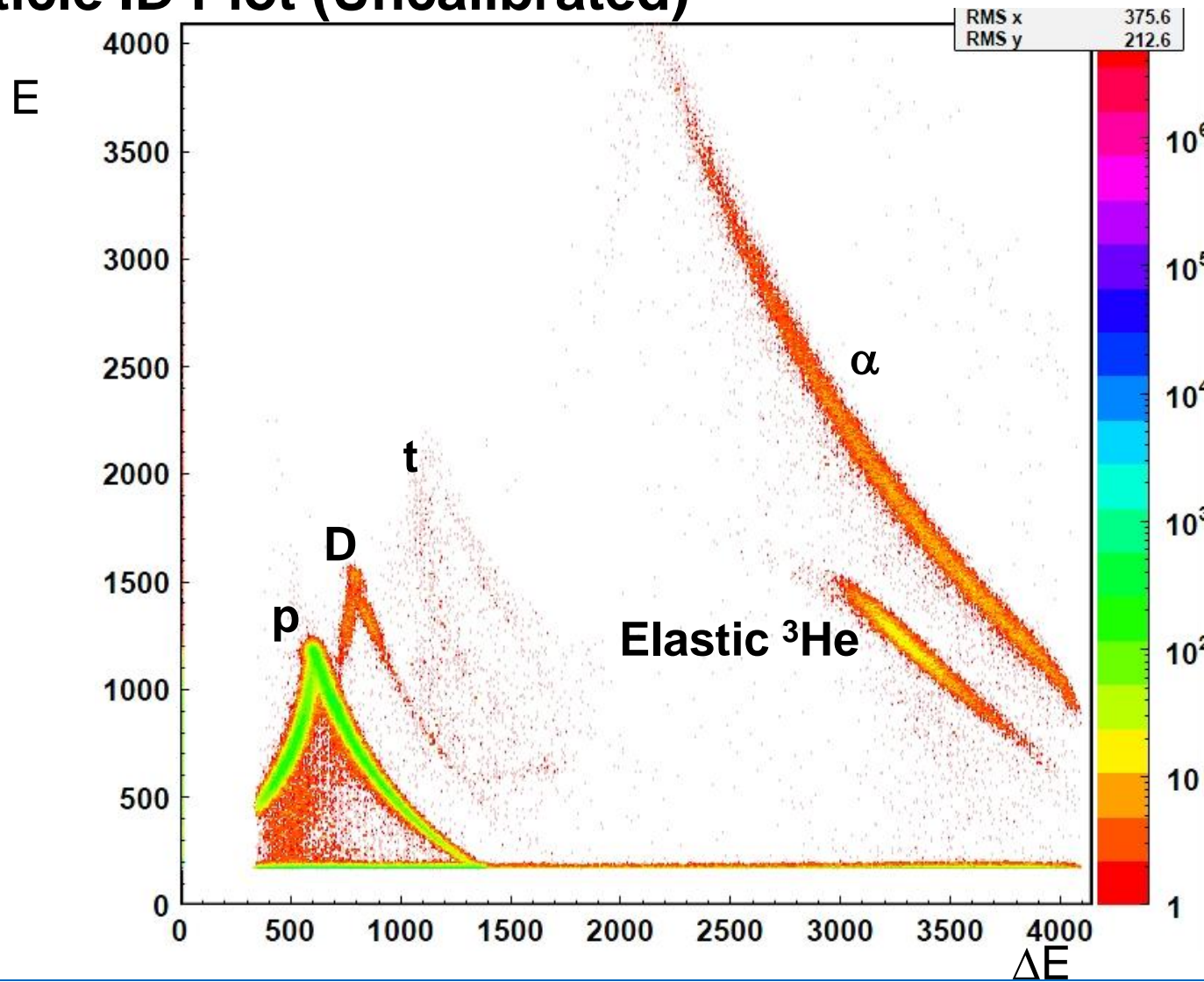
## Commissioning (two weeks ago)

- Chose the  $^{32}\text{S}(^3\text{He},\alpha)^{31}\text{S}$  reaction
  - 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> excited states previously observed
  - Lifetimes known
- Energy spacing large
  - Gammas easily distinguishable
  - Alpha particles well-separated kinematically
- $^{32}\text{S}$  beam energy: 80 MeV
- Target:
  - Au foil, 15 micron thick
  - 1<sup>st</sup> 0.5 micron implanted with  $^3\text{He}$  at FZD
- Analysis presently underway

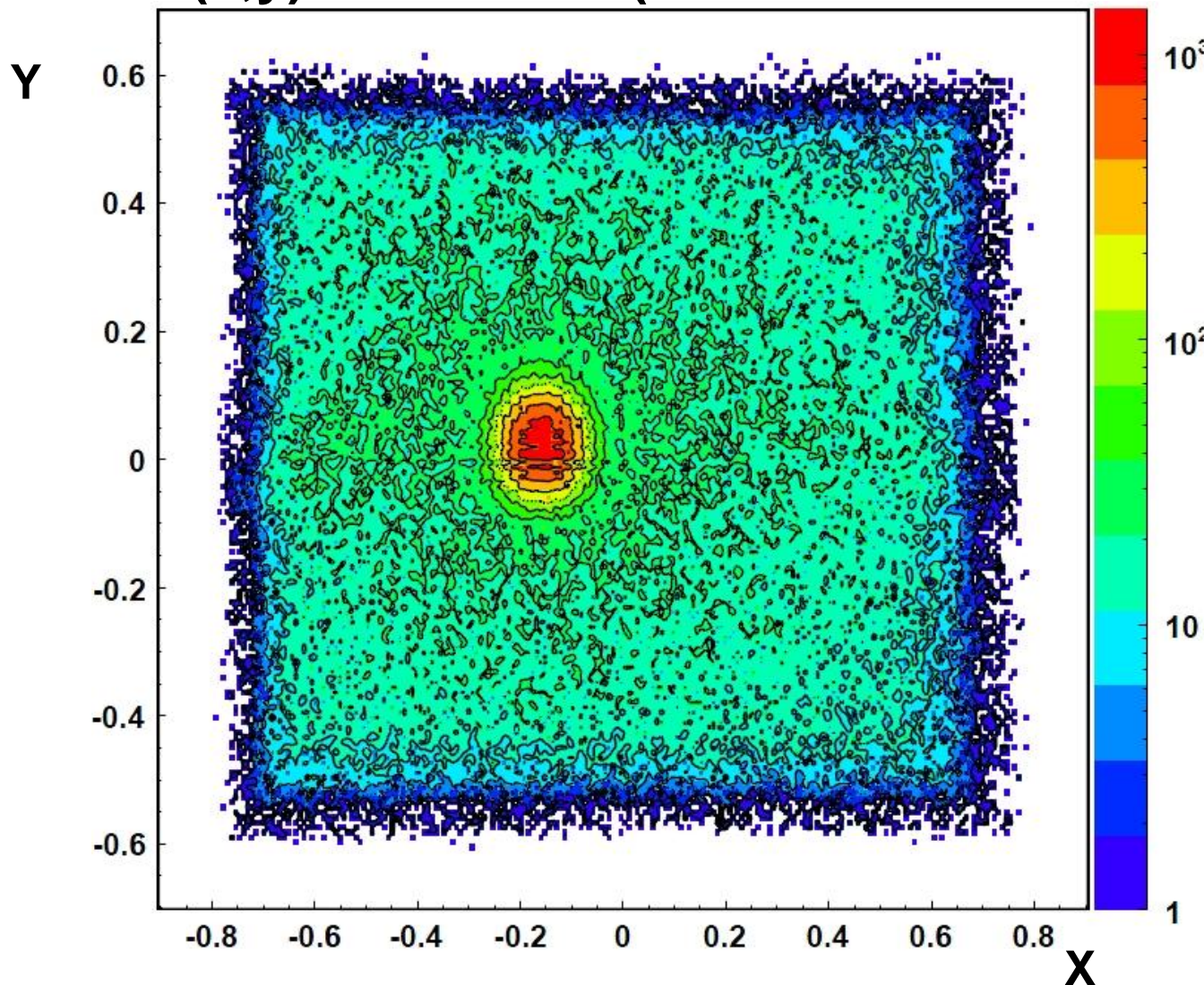




# Particle ID Plot (Uncalibrated)



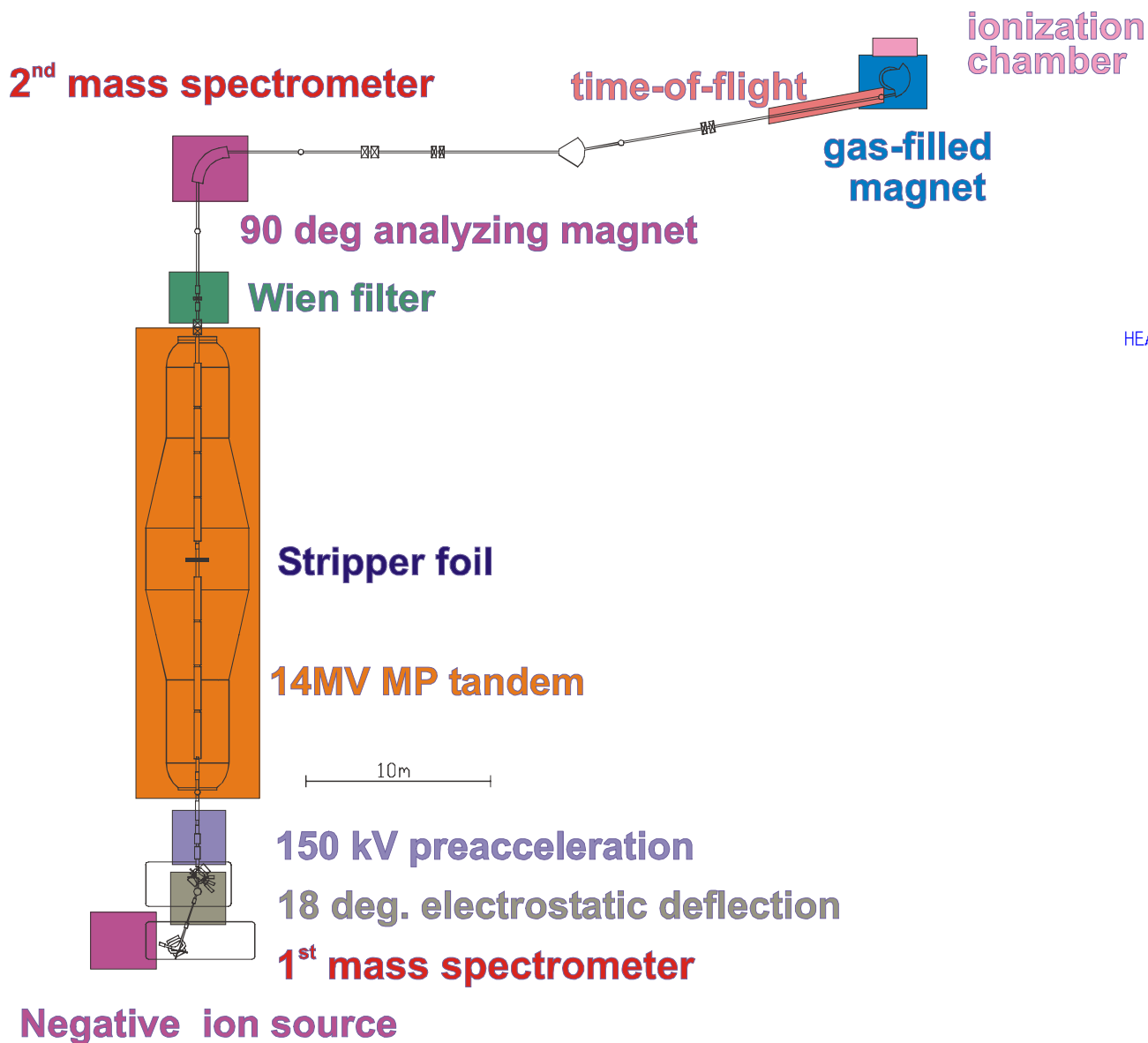
# Si-Detector (x,y) Hit Pattern (Raw and Uncalibrated)



 Looking into the Past

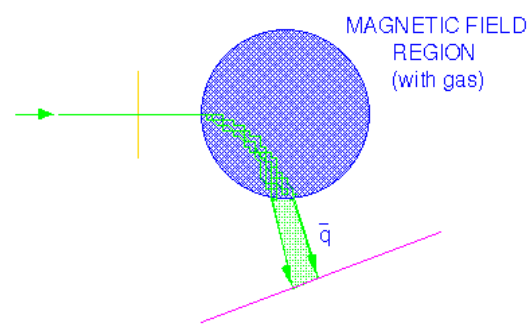
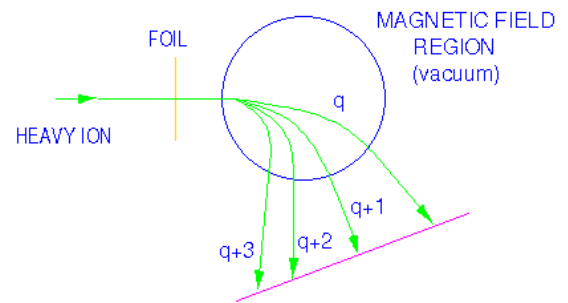
# ACCELERATOR MASS SPECTROMETRY

# Accelerator Mass Spectroscopy at TUM



magnetic rigidity

$$B\rho = \frac{Mv}{q}$$



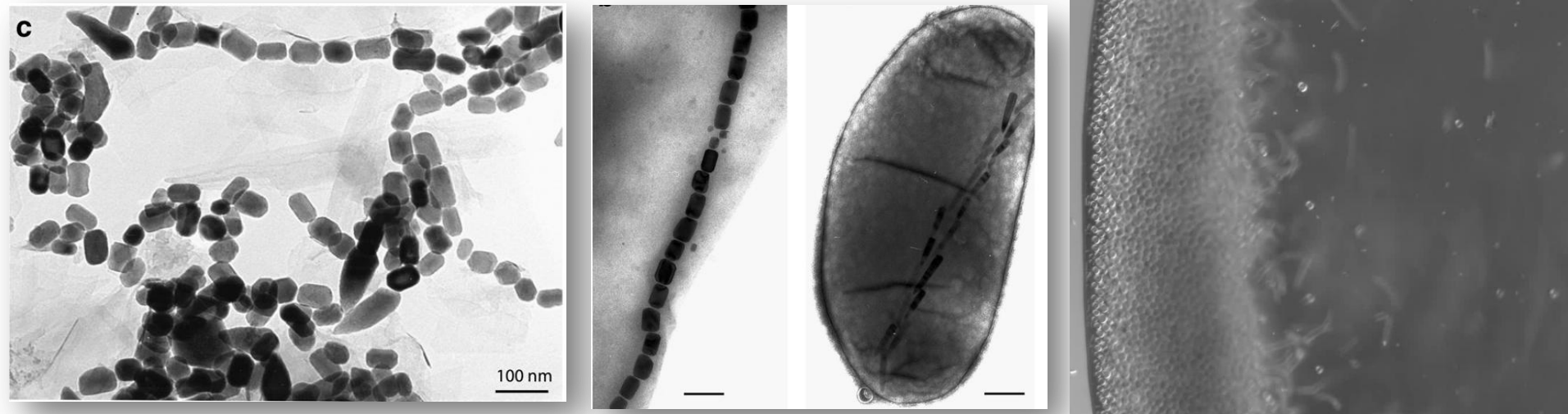
in a gas-filled magnet

$$\langle q \rangle \propto vZ^{0.4}$$

$$B\rho \propto \frac{M}{Z^{0.4}}$$



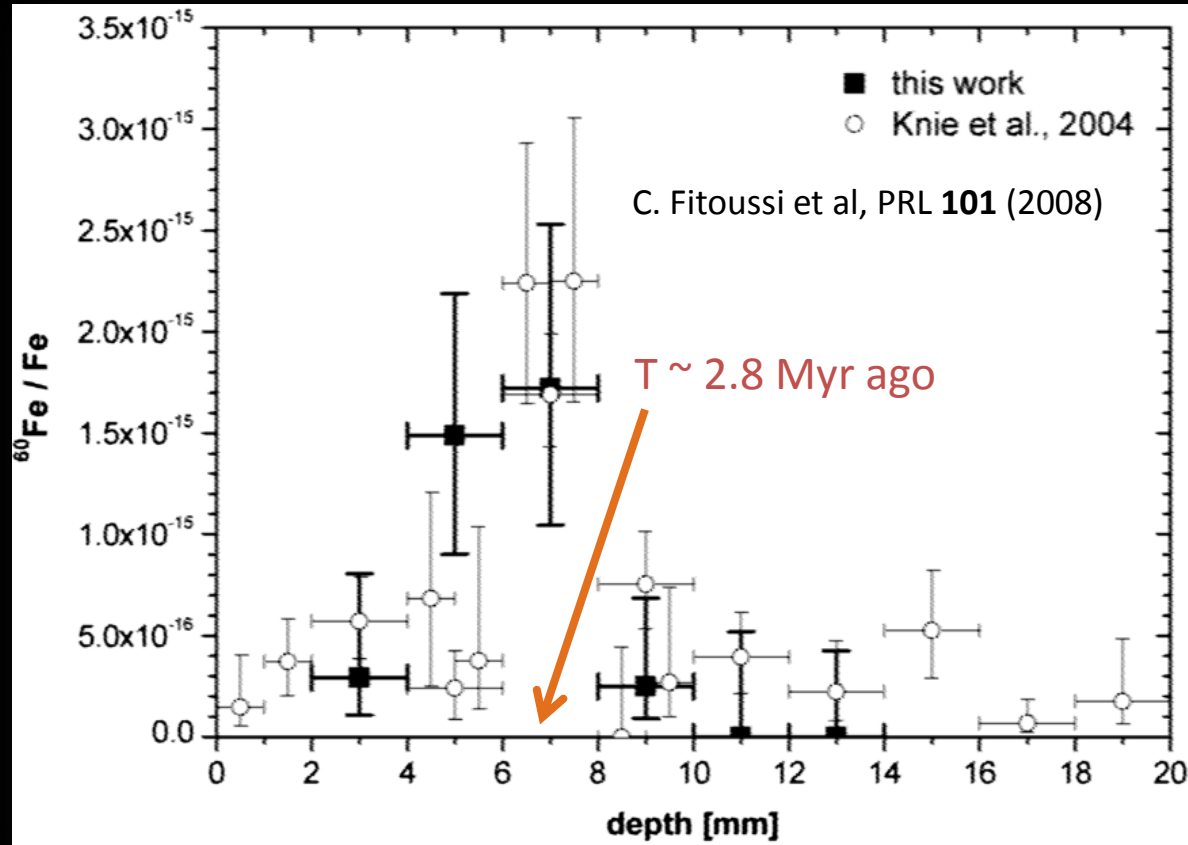
150 My BP



➤ The dead don't talk, but perhaps they have left us a message

# BIOGENIC RECORD OF A SUPERNOVA?





Erice School, 2010







# Fe Concentration in Drill Core

$$C_{Fe} = \frac{2m_{rs}}{w\mu_s} \frac{M_{Fe}}{M_{Fe_3O_4}}$$

$w$  = sample mass (~ 5 g)

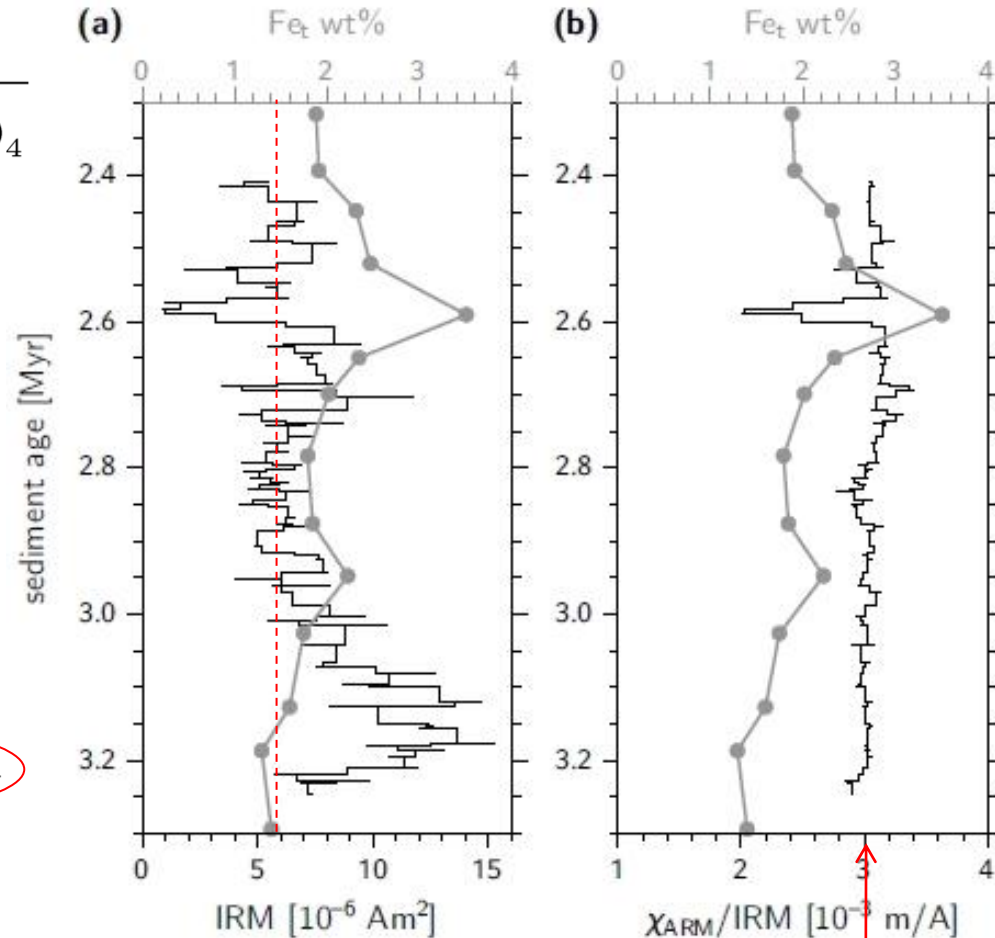
$\mu_s$  = <sample magnetic moment> (~ 6 Am<sup>2</sup>)

$m_{rs}$  = saturation magnetization (92 Am<sup>2</sup>/kg)

Primary Fe minerals:  $\chi_{ARM}/IRM < 2 \times 10^{-4}$  m/A

Dispersed magnetite:  $\chi_{ARM}/IRM > 10^{-3}$  m/A

Intact M-somes:  $\chi_{ARM}/IRM \approx 3_{-1}^{+2} \times 10^{-3}$  m/A



# Estimate of $^{60}\text{Fe}$ in the Magnetofossils

Atom flux of iron from bacteria growth and sedimentation rate:

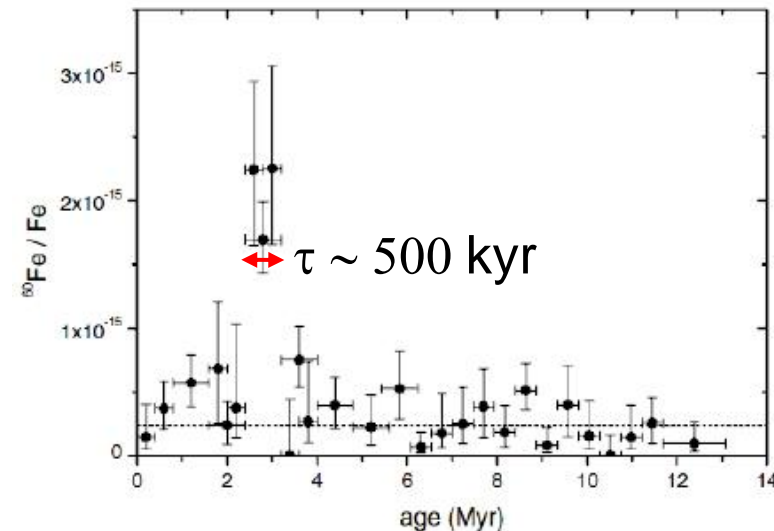
$$\Phi_{\text{Fe}} = C_{\text{Fe}} \frac{N_A}{M_{\text{Fe}}} \rho \frac{dh}{dt}$$

Atom flux of  $^{60}\text{Fe}$ :  $\Phi_{60} = \frac{\phi_{60}}{\tau}$ ;  $\phi_{60} = 3.8 \times 10^8 \text{ atom/cm}^2$  [Knie et al., PRL (2004) ]

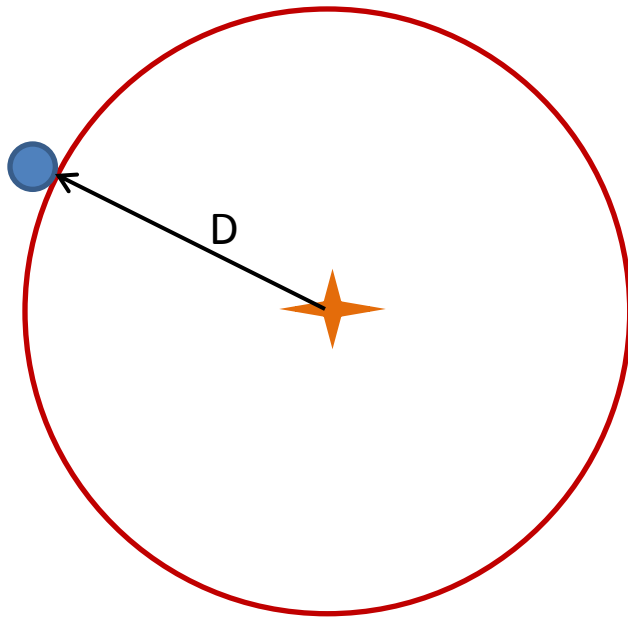
Ratio of fluxes gives atom ratios:

	$^{60}\text{Fe}/\text{Fe}$		
	$\tau = 250 \text{ kyr}$	$\tau = 500 \text{ kyr}$	$\tau = 750 \text{ kyr}$
$\phi_{60}$	$1.8 \times 10^{-12}$	$9.0 \times 10^{-13}$	$6.0 \times 10^{-13}$
$0.006 \times \phi_{60}$	$1.1 \times 10^{-14}$	$5.4 \times 10^{-15}$	$3.6 \times 10^{-15}$

Amount of drill core: 100 – 200 grams;  $\rightarrow$  approx. 2 – 4 mg magnetite



# Earth: A SN Yield Detector



- Particle Flux of isotope “i” at radius D

without decay: 
$$F_i = \frac{M_i}{4\pi A_i D^2} N_A$$

- Cross sectional area of Earth intercepting SN debris:

$$A_{int} = \pi R_e^2$$

- This debris deposited on Earth uniformly, over an area of:  $A_e = 4\pi R_e^2$

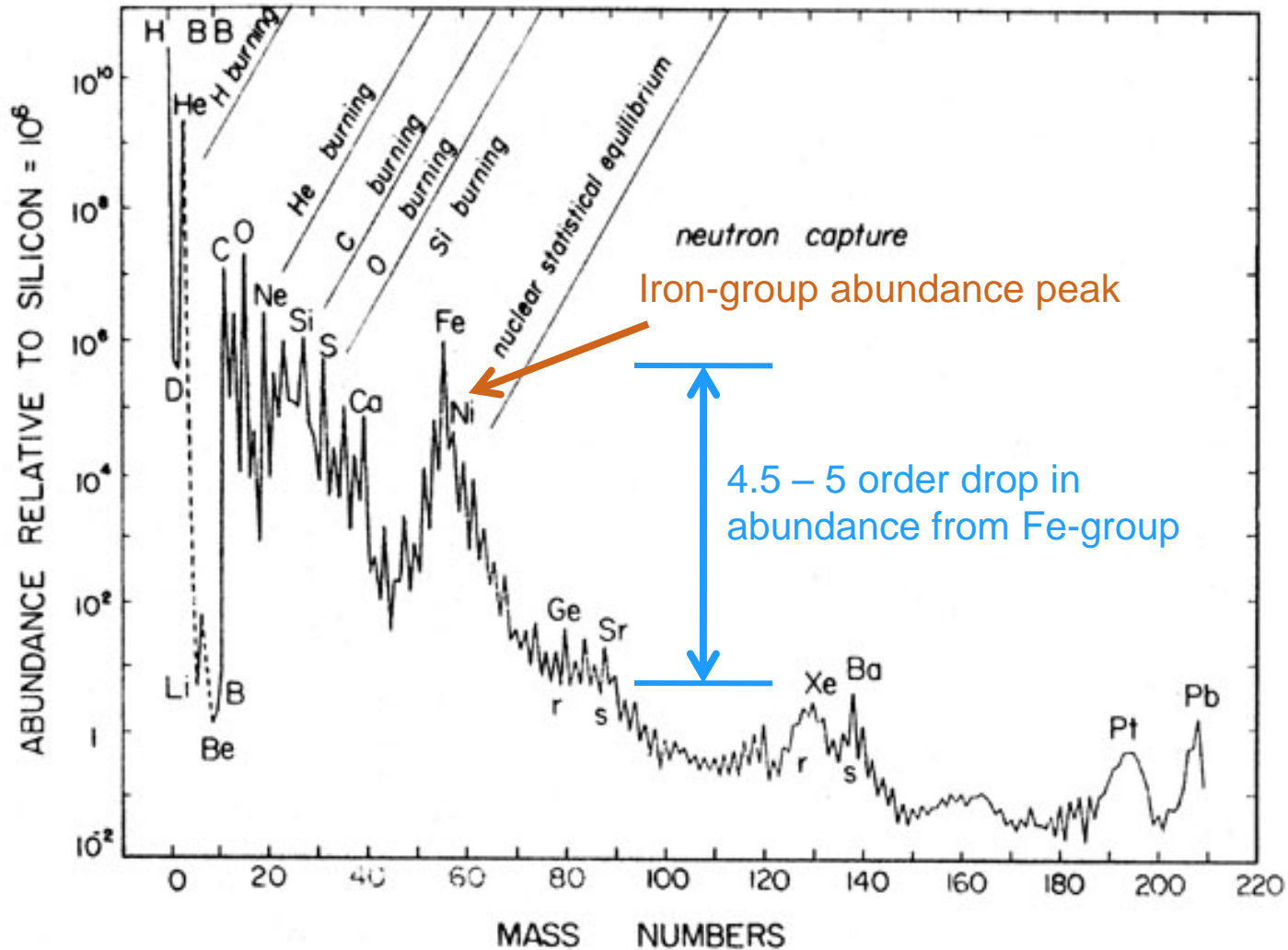
Number of atoms “i” deposited in uniform layer on Earth’s surface (now include decay) after a time T since SN occurred:

$$N_i = \frac{F_i A_{int}}{A_e} e^{-\lambda_i T} = \frac{F_i}{4} e^{-\lambda_i T}$$

Ratio of any two radio-nuclides: 
$$R = \frac{N_i}{N_j} = \frac{M_i}{M_j} \frac{A_j}{A_i} \exp [(\lambda_j - \lambda_i)T]$$

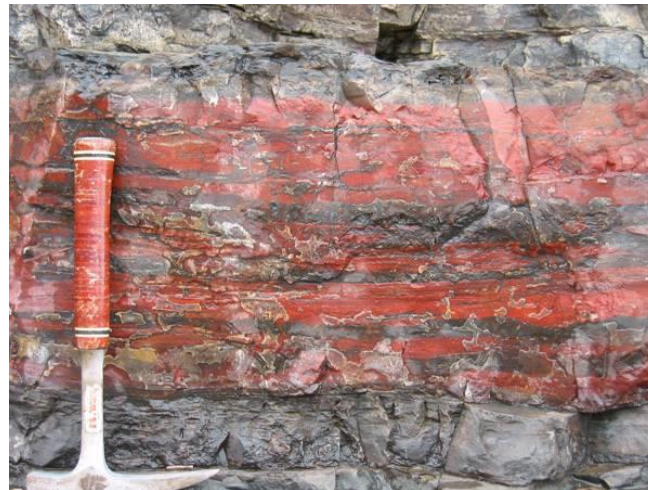
**Independent of unknown distance D!**

# The Problem of AMS Detection Beyond Iron

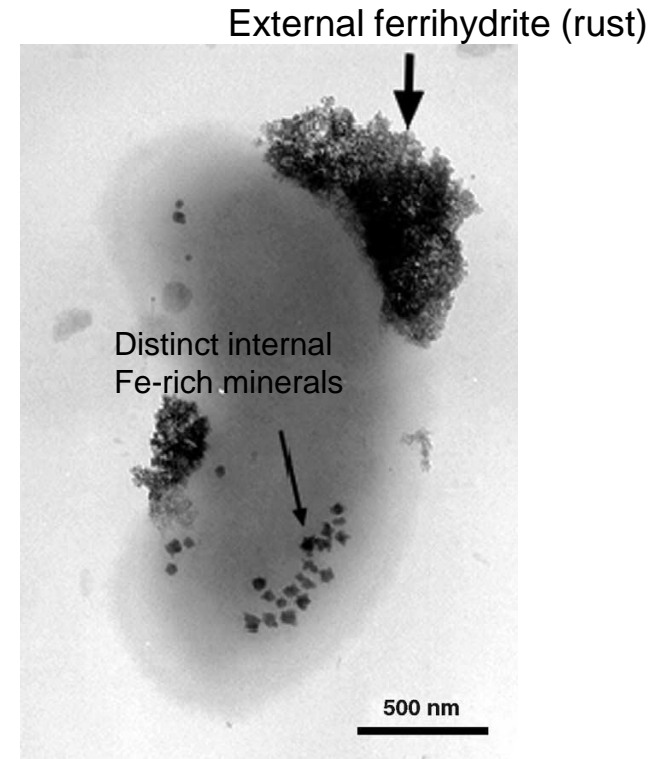




# Could These be the Result of Microbial Activity?



Banded Iron Formation



## Summary

- Astrophysics program at TUM underway
- Objective: Properties of nuclear states for nova
- Status of program
  - Q3D spectrograph for measuring/searching out excited states
  - Doppler lifetime station commissioning underway
  - Arrival of neutron detector in July to extend Doppler station to transfer reaction channels with neutron ejectiles
    - Try to utilize pulsed-beam feature of MLL Tandem
    - Another PhD student required (know any candidates?)
- Supernova search in microfossils
  - Initial phases of project underway (another PhD project)
  - Manuscript presently under peer review: *Icarus*



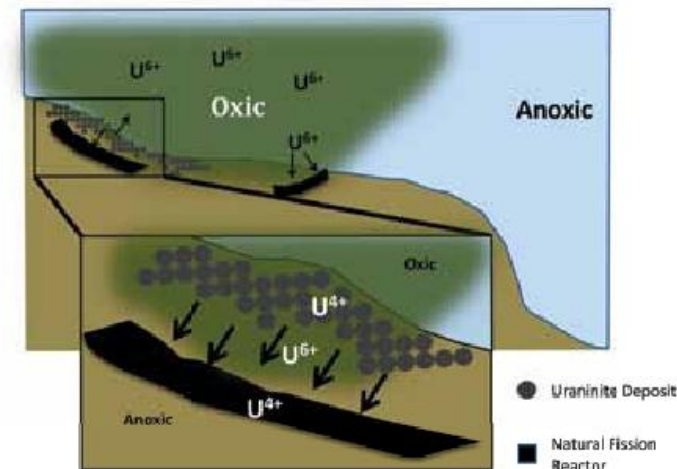
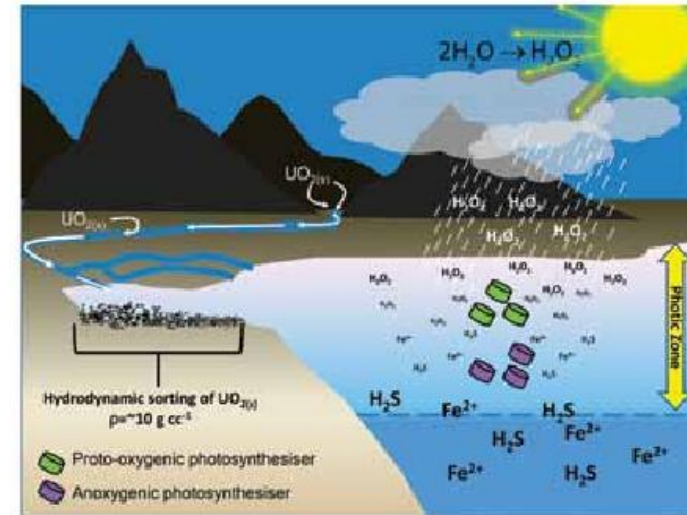
# EXTRA SLIDES





# Bacteria and Archean Nuclear Reactors

- Connected to when bacterial life evolved to cope with increasingly richer O<sub>2</sub> atmosphere
  - Ca. 3 Gyr before present
- Erosion carries UO<sub>2</sub> to into shallow basins
- Photosynthesis of newly evolving bacteria produces O<sub>2</sub> in shallow water, bringing U<sup>6+</sup> into purely dissolved form in water column
- Water motion/currents carry U<sup>6+</sup> out of O<sub>2</sub>-rich water
  - Redox boundary changes U<sup>6+</sup> → U<sup>4+</sup>
  - U<sup>4+</sup> is precipitated out of solution at the oxic-anoxic boundary
  - Highly concentrated in small zone
- Possible source of natural nuclear reactor
  - Look for depletions in <sup>235</sup>U



# If Companion is AGB

- ▶  $^{36}\text{S}$  is s-process: not nova
- ▶ AGB Star:  $^{36}\text{Cl}(n,p)^{36}\text{S}$
- ▶  $^{34}\text{S}$  in nova from  $^{34}\text{Cl}$  decay
- ▶ Sulfur measurements should be target of grains

	Ca	37	38	39	40
K	35	36	37	38	39
Ar	34	35	36	37	38
Cl	33	34	35	36	37
S	32	33	34	35	36
	31				
	30				