

**Physics with  
Light n-rich  
Rare Ion Beams  
 ${}^{6,8}\text{He}$**

**“... beams must be made 1000  
times more intense than  
currently available ...”**

# Helium beams

Currently produced in various facilities with beam intensities:

→  ${}^6\text{He}$  ( $t_{1/2} = 0.8 \text{ s}$ )  $\sim 10^7$  ions/s

→  ${}^8\text{He}$  ( $t_{1/2} = 0.1 \text{ s}$ )  $\sim 10^5$  ions/s

# Recent developments!!!

**SPIRAL2** (*M.G. Saint-Laurent in2p3-00420784, version 1 - 24 Nov 2009*)

→  $^2\text{H}$  on spallation source as a neutron converter 1.5 kW followed by  $^9\text{Be}(n,\alpha)^6\text{He}$

Expected intensities  $10^9$  ions/s on target

**CERN**

→ Some 1.4 GeV proton on spallation source followed by  $^9\text{Be}(n,\alpha)^6\text{He}$ .  $10^{13}$  ions/bunch!!

# $^6\text{He}$ at iTL

Liquid lithium target?

→  $^7\text{Li}(p,2p)^6\text{He}$  @ 70 MeV,  $I \sim 350 \mu\text{A}$  (24 kW)

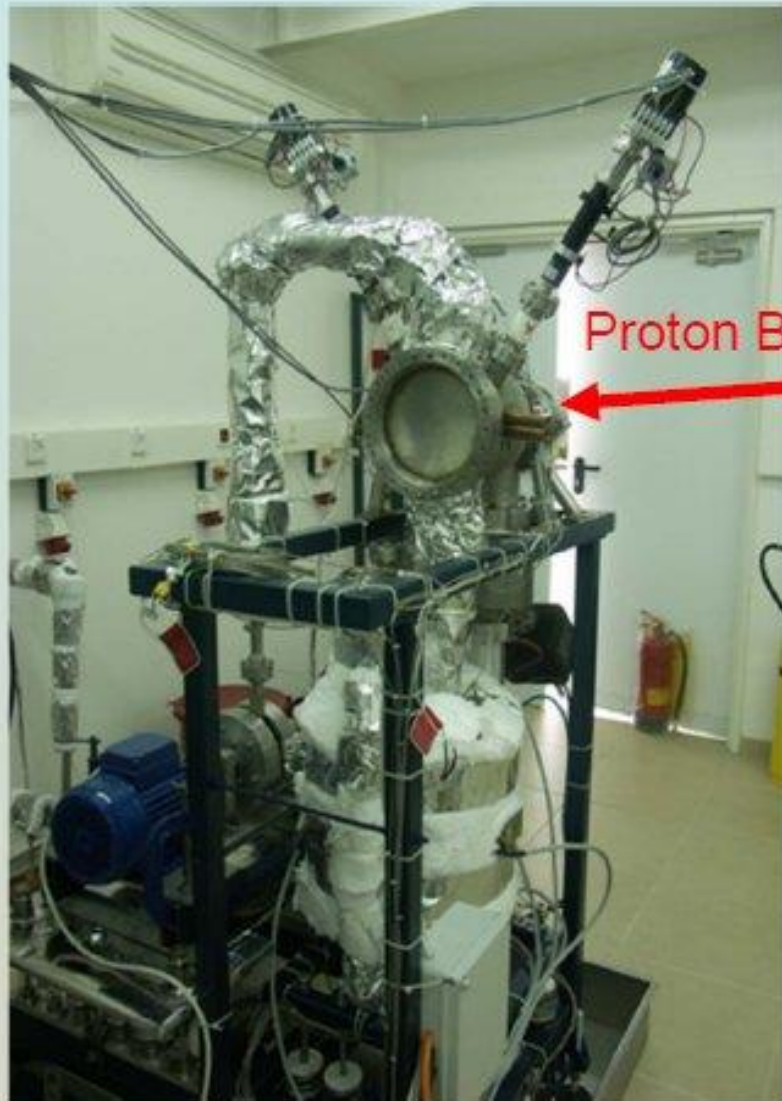
Effective thickness 50mm ( $E_p > 50\text{MeV}$ )

$\sigma \sim 20\text{mb}$  *V.B. Shostak et al. Nucl. Phys. A643 (1998).*

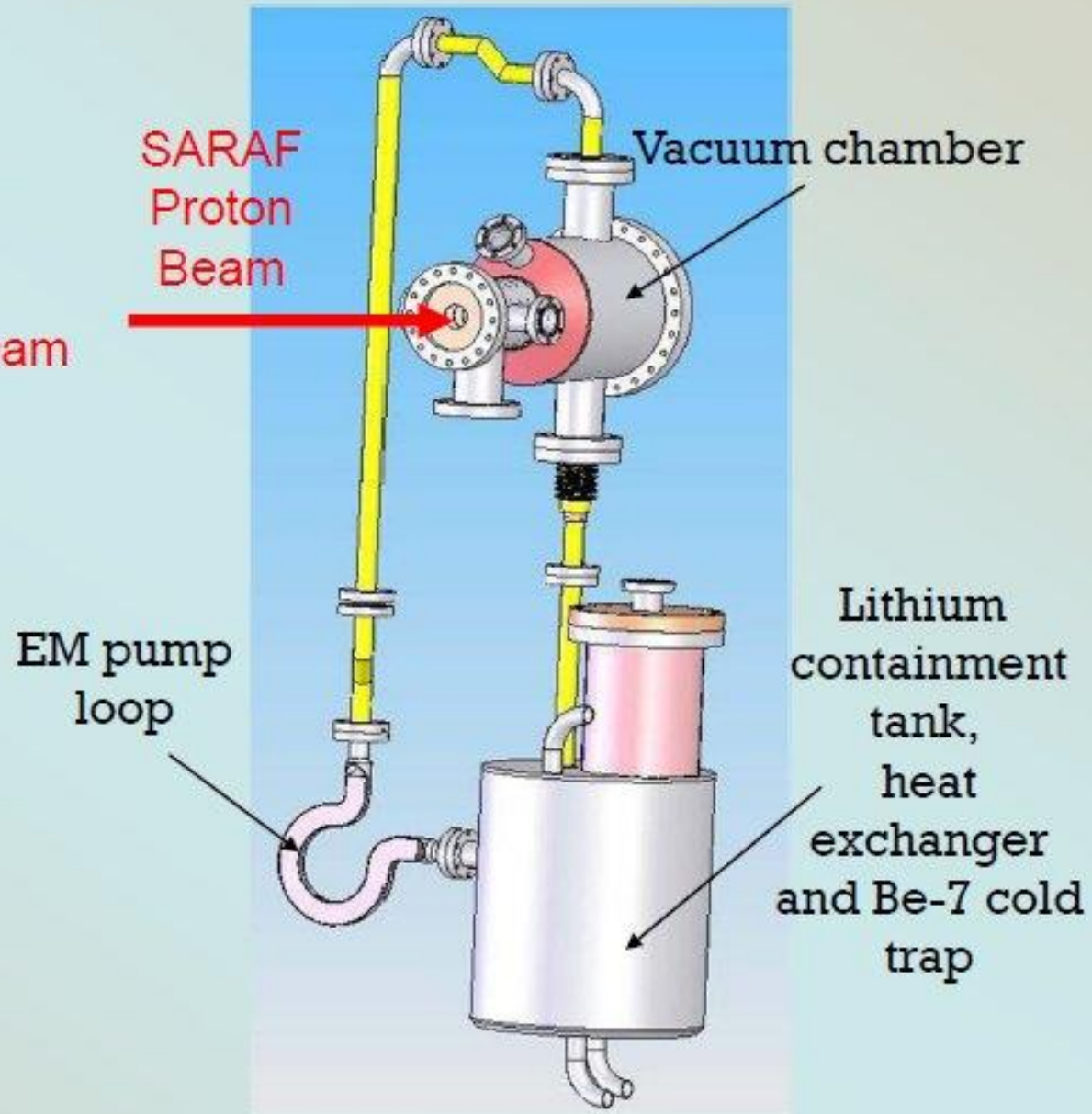
Produce  $10^{12}$  ion/s

Don't know how fast Helium comes out of  
Liquid lithium?

# Liquid lithium loop



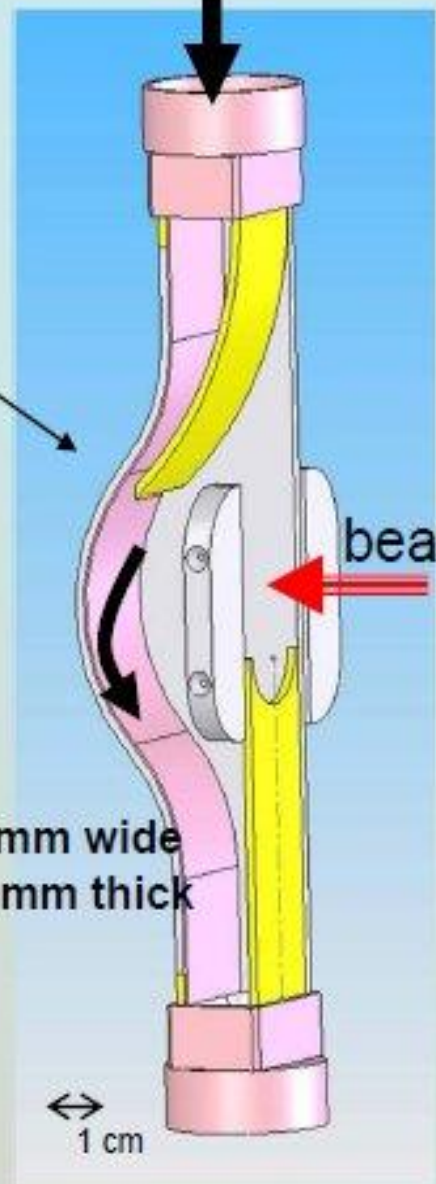
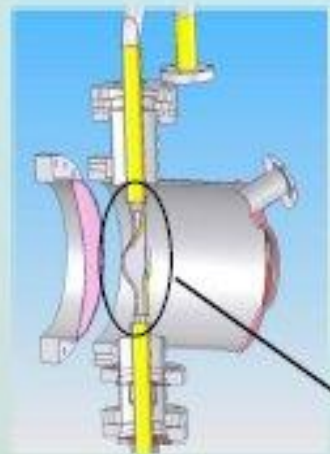
Neutron port



Accelerator port

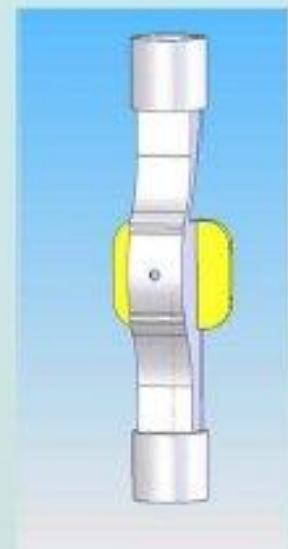
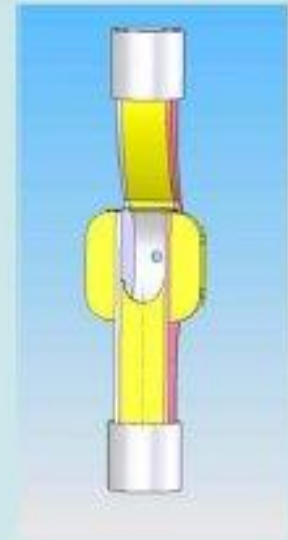
# Lithium Nozzle

liquid lithium

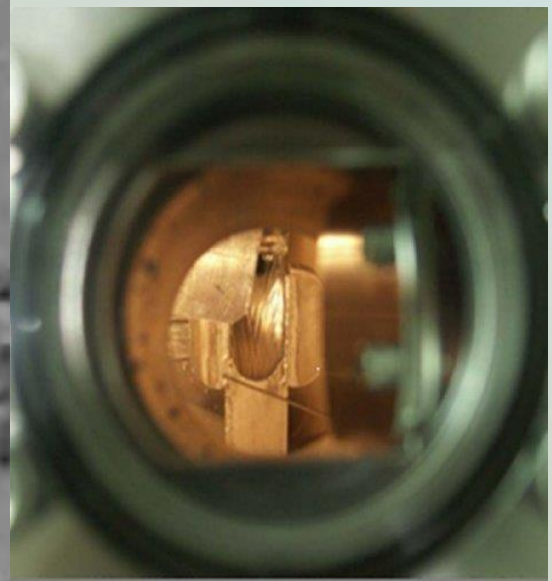


18 mm wide  
1.5 mm thick

1 cm



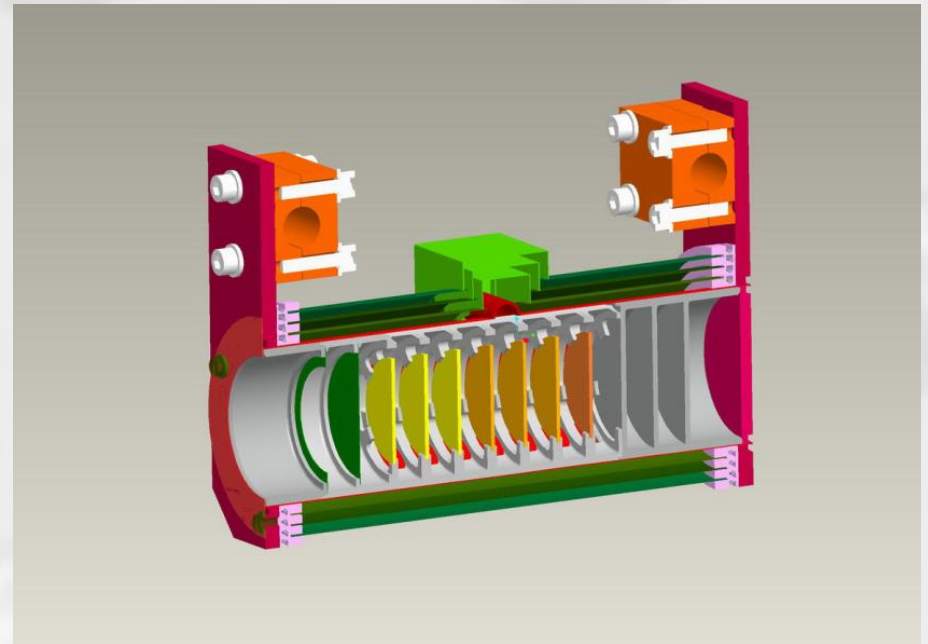
beam



# ${}^6,{}^8\text{He}$ from Boron targets:

→ Boron Carbide ( $\text{B}_4\text{C}$ ) or Boron Nitride (BN) are the hardest materials after diamond

Can be used in the  
SPES type design:  
ISOL technique





# ${}^{6,8}\text{He}$ from Boron targets:

→  ${}^{11}\text{B}(p,4p){}^8\text{He}$  @ 70 MeV,  $I \sim 350 \mu\text{A}$

→  ${}^{11}\text{B}(p,\alpha 2p){}^6\text{He}$

→  ${}^{10}\text{Be}(p,3p){}^8\text{He}$

Effective target thickness 10mm ( $E_p > 50\text{MeV}$ ),  
cross section  $\sigma \sim 1\text{mb}$  ??

Produce  $\sim 10^{11}$  ions/s

Extract Helium through diffusion ( $T > 2000\text{K}$ )

# **${}^6,{}^8\text{He}$ from Beryllium Oxide targets:**

- ${}^9\text{Be}(n,\alpha){}^6\text{He}$  (needs a neutron converter)**
- ${}^{10}\text{Be}(p,3p){}^8\text{He}$  (needs loads of  ${}^{10}\text{Be}$ )**

**Extract Helium through diffusion ( $T > 2000\text{K}$ )**

# Cluster states

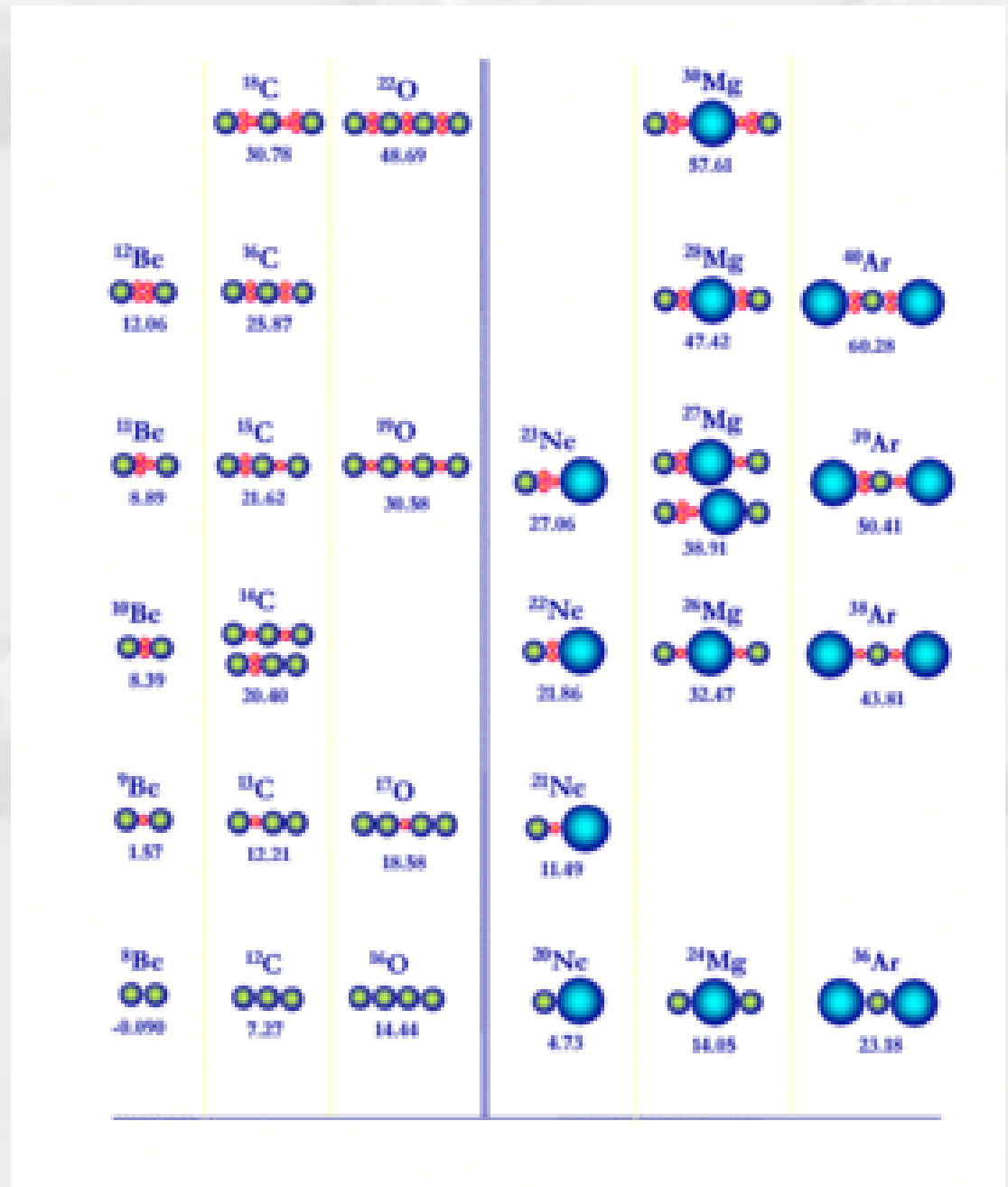
In light neutron rich

Nuclei:

Extended Ikeda

Diagram

(W. Von Oertzen)

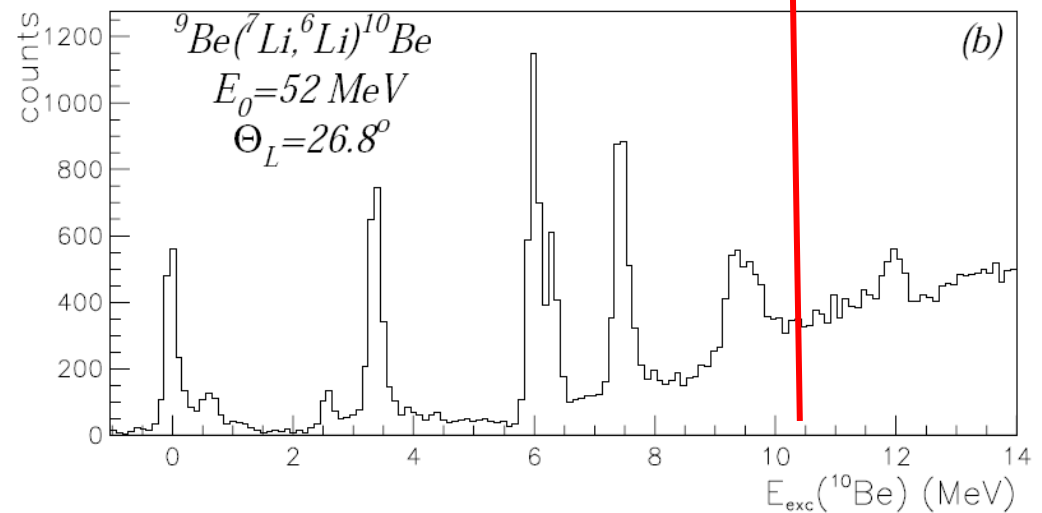
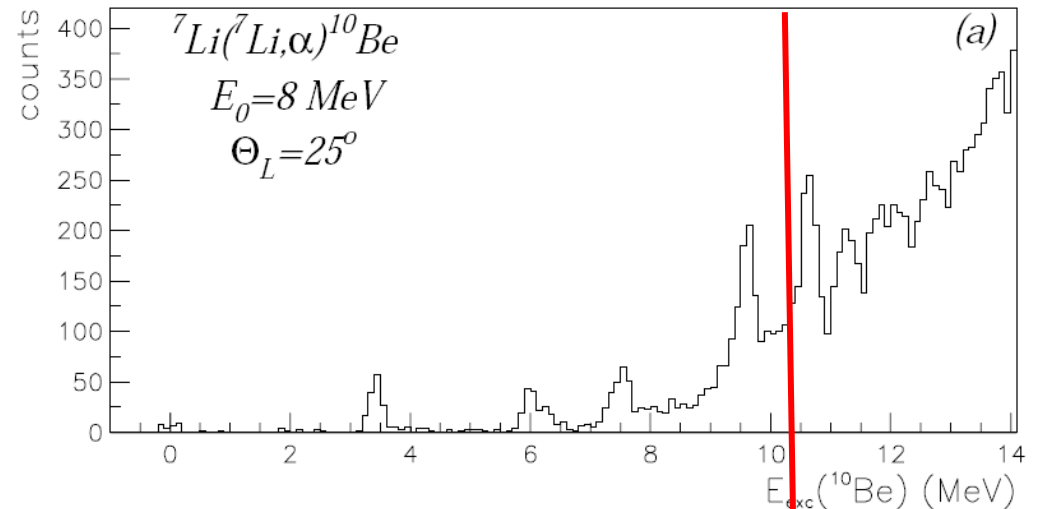


# Cluster states in light neutron rich nuclei:

## $^{10}\text{Be}$

### Inclusive measurements

*Đ. Miljanić et al,  
Fizika B 10 (2001) 235*



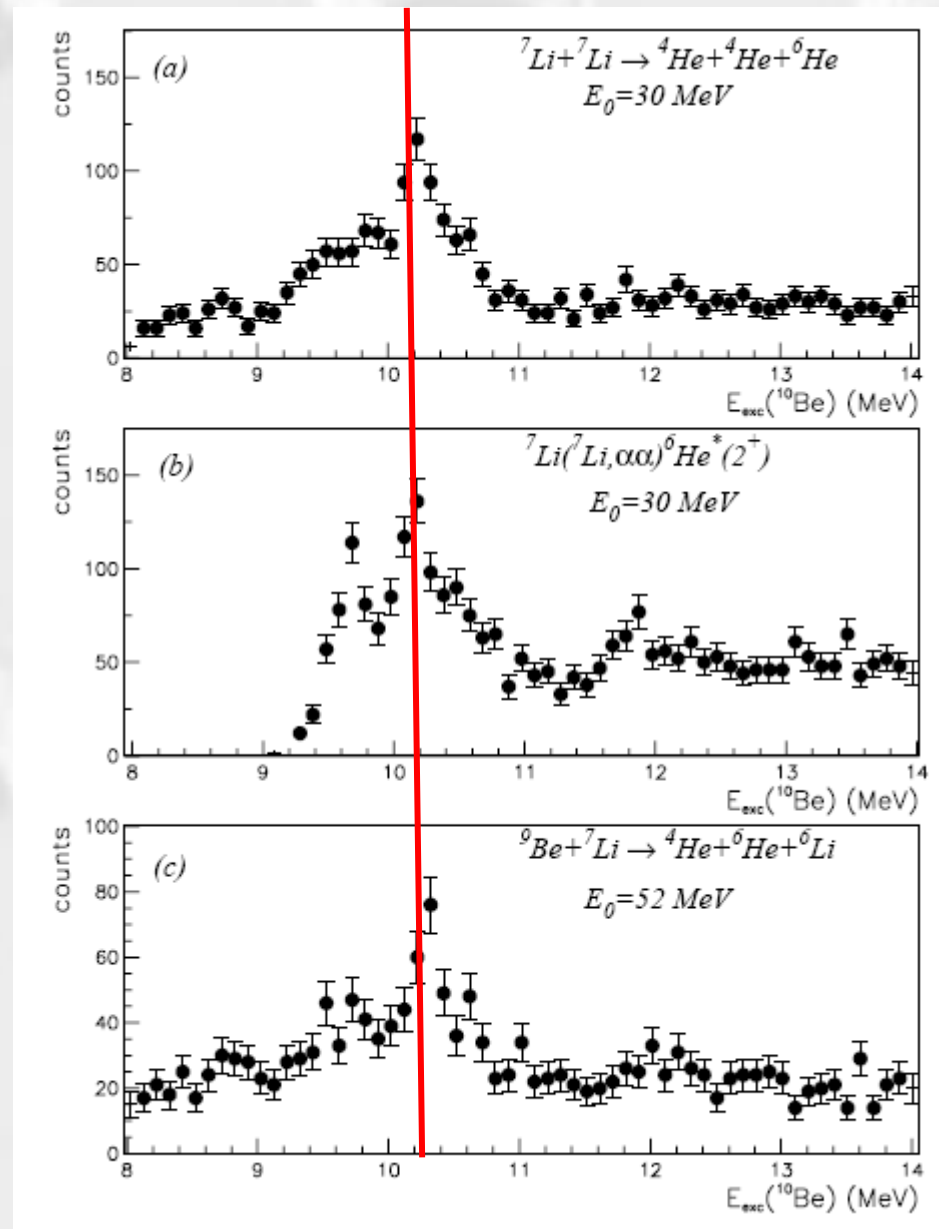
# Cluster states in light neutron rich nuclei:

## $^{10}\text{Be}$

Selection of the  
decay channel

= selectivity

*Đ. Miljanić et al,  
Fizika B 10 (2001) 235*



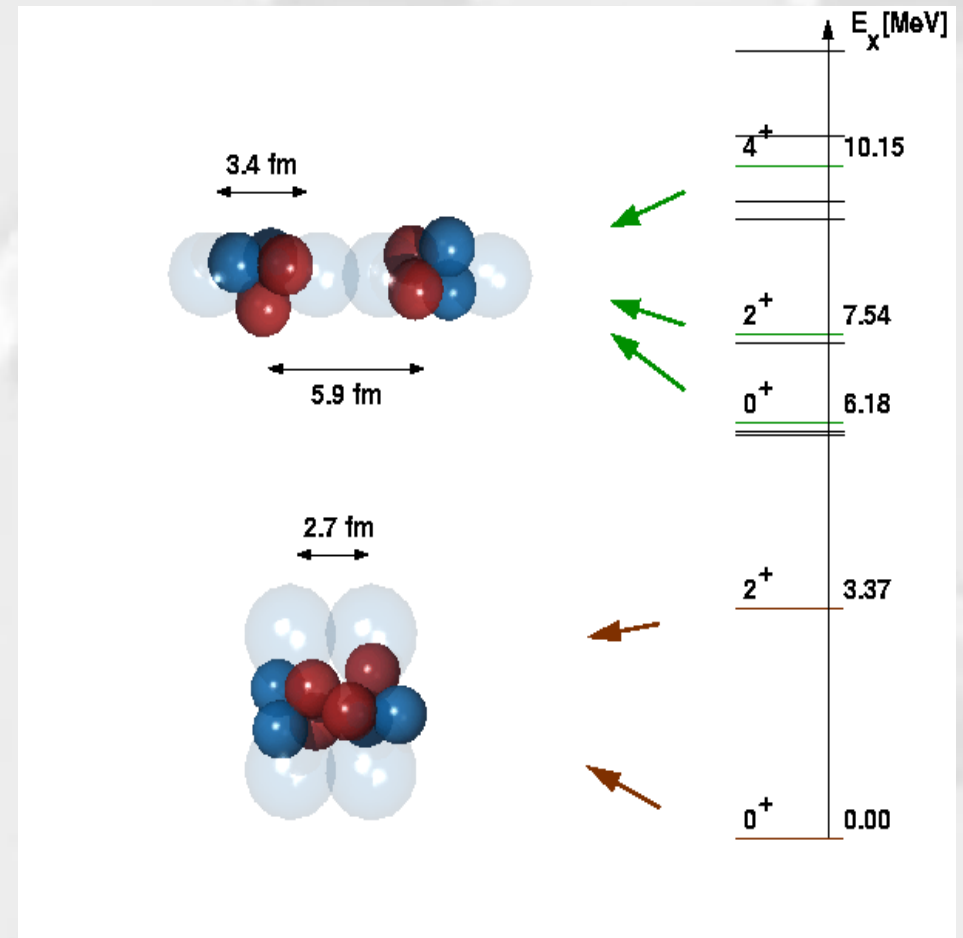
# Cluster states in light neutron rich nuclei:

## $^{10}\text{Be}$

$^{10}\text{Be}$   $E_x = 10.15$  MeV  
Decays mostly via  
 $\alpha + ^6\text{He}$

moment of inertia  
>2.5 times larger than  
for already deformed  
 $^{10}\text{Be}$  ground state band

*M. Milin et al.,  
Nucl.Phys. A753 (2005) 263*



# Cluster states in light neutron rich nuclei

## ${}^5\text{H}$

- Three-body cluster configuration  $t + n + n$
- Two neutrons outside the  $N = 2$  shell

Halo nucleus,

Loads of theoretical interest: Grigorenko et al., (2005), Descouvemont et al., (2008), Garrido et al. (2007), Nesterov et al. (2010)...

# Cluster states in light neutron rich nuclei

## $^5\text{H}$

$^3\text{H}(t,p)$  reaction M.S. Golovkov et al., Phys. Rev. C72, 064612 (2005)

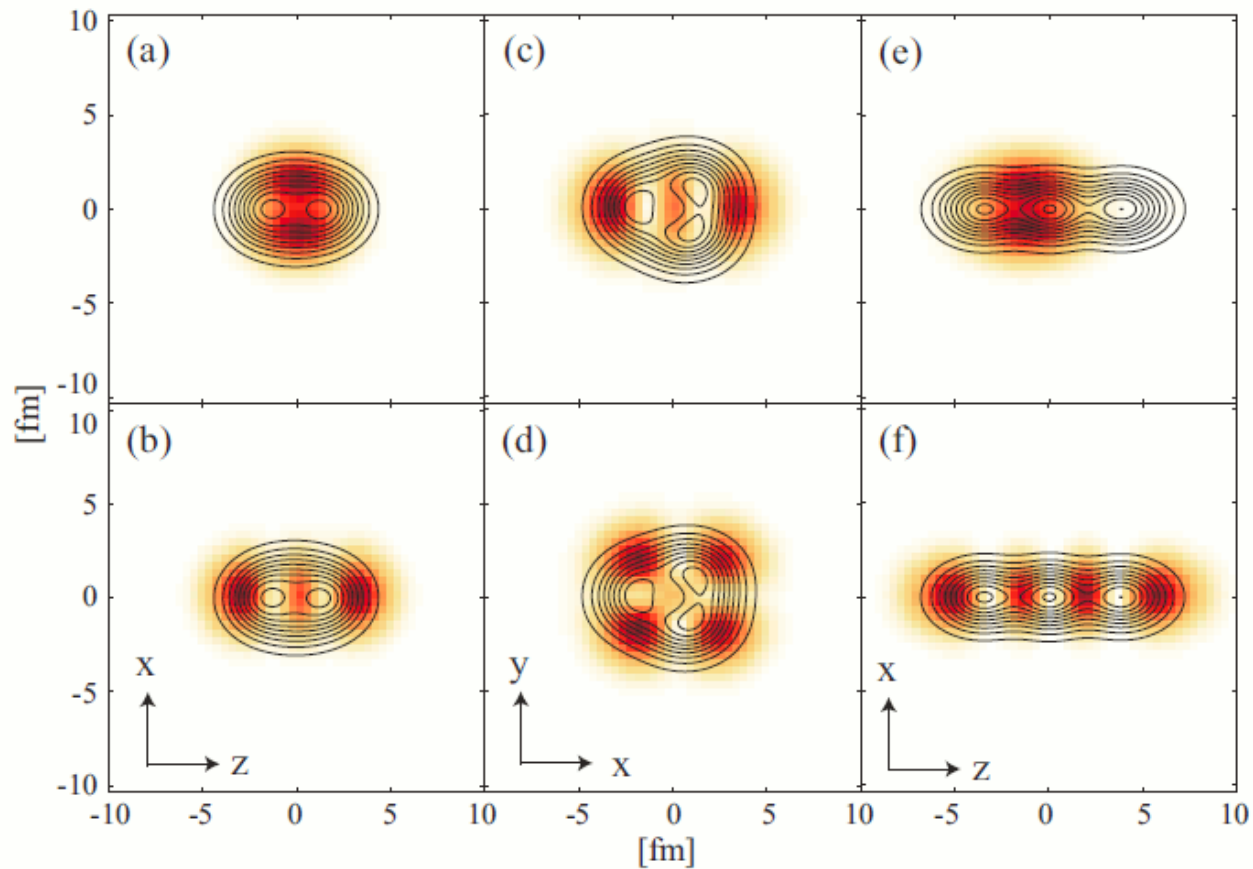
One proton knock-out using  $^6\text{He}$  beam

Segmented Silicon Detectors + neutron detectors



# Cluster states in light neutron rich nuclei:

# $^{16}\text{C}$



*T. Baba et al.*, Phys. Rev. C **90**, 064319 (2014)

## Cluster states in light neutron rich nuclei:

# $^{16}\text{C}$

**Molecular resonances stabilized by valence neutrons:**  
molecular chain expected in this nucleus

**Only a couple of unbound states known...**

Little proton collectivity compared to neighbouring even carbon isotopes small  $B(E2) 2^{+} \rightarrow 0^{+}$ .

*Y. Satou et al., Physics Letters B 728 (2014) 462–466*

*Wiedeking et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 100, 152501 (2008).*

**Shell model calculations very sensitive to NNN interaction!**

## Cluster states in light neutron rich nuclei:

# $^{16}\text{C}$

No evidence of  $6\text{He}$  decay channels...

*P.J. Leask et al., J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys. 27 (2001) B9–B14*

*1 neutron knock out from  $^{17}\text{C}$  RIB at RIKEN:*

*Y. Satou et al., Physics Letters B 728 (2014) 462–466*

$^{18}\text{O}(^6\text{He}, ^8\text{Be})^{16}\text{C}$  at iTL

# Experimental setup

**$^6\text{He}$  at 22 MeV/u**

**$^8\text{He}$  at 12.5 MeV/u**

**Segmented silicon detector arrays**

**Magnetic spectrometer**

**ACTAR type detector**

# Neutron matter

**4n bound state is theoretically excluded**

*I.V. Simenog Ukr.J.Phys. 51, 954 (2006)*

*R. Lazauskas et al. Phys.Rev. C 72, 034003 (2005)*

*K. Arai, Phys.Rev. C 68, 034303 (2003)*

*C.A. Bertulani J.Phys.(London) G29, 2431 (2003)*

*... and many more*

# Neutron matter

**8n, octoneutron, (where will we stop?)**

*V. A. Varlachev et al., Physics 73 (2), 143 (2009).*

*B. G. Novatsky, et al., JETP Letters 98 (11), 656 (2013).*

*G. N. Dudkin, et al., Nucl. Instr. Methods. A 760, 73 (2014).*

# Neutron matter

50 years later....

PHYSICAL REVIEW

VOLUME 137, NUMBER 2B

25 JANUARY 1965

## Further Evidence for the Nonexistence of Particle-Stable Tetraneutrons

S. CIERJACKS, G. MARKUS, W. MICHAELIS, AND W. PÖNITZ

*Institut für Angewandte Kernphysik, Kernforschungszentrum Karlsruhe, Karlsruhe, Germany*

(Received 9 September 1964)

A search was made for the occurrence of particle-stable tetraneutrons in the fast-deuteron-induced fission of uranium. This process is known to give a high yield of alphas and tritons. In order to deduce the presence of tetraneutrons, the following hypothetical reactions were investigated:  $N^{14}(n^4, n)N^{17}$ ,  $O^{16}(n^4, t)N^{17}$ ,  $Mg^{26}(n^4, 2n)Mg^{28}$ ,  $Rh^{103}(n^4, 2n)Rh^{105}$ ,  $Bi^{209}(n^4, n)Bi^{212}$  and  $Bi^{209}(n^4, 2n)Bi^{211}$ . No evidence for tetraneutrons was found. The upper limits of tetraneutron yields per alpha obtained from the above reactions are:  $2 \times 10^{-8}$ ,  $3 \times 10^{-4}$ ,  $3 \times 10^{-5}$ ,  $3 \times 10^{-4}$ ,  $1 \times 10^{-6}$ , and  $1 \times 10^{-8}$ , respectively. It seems reasonable to conclude from these results that the existence of tetraneutrons is most unlikely.

looked for  $4n$  emission in fission events

# Neutron matter

## Break up of $^{14}\text{Be}$

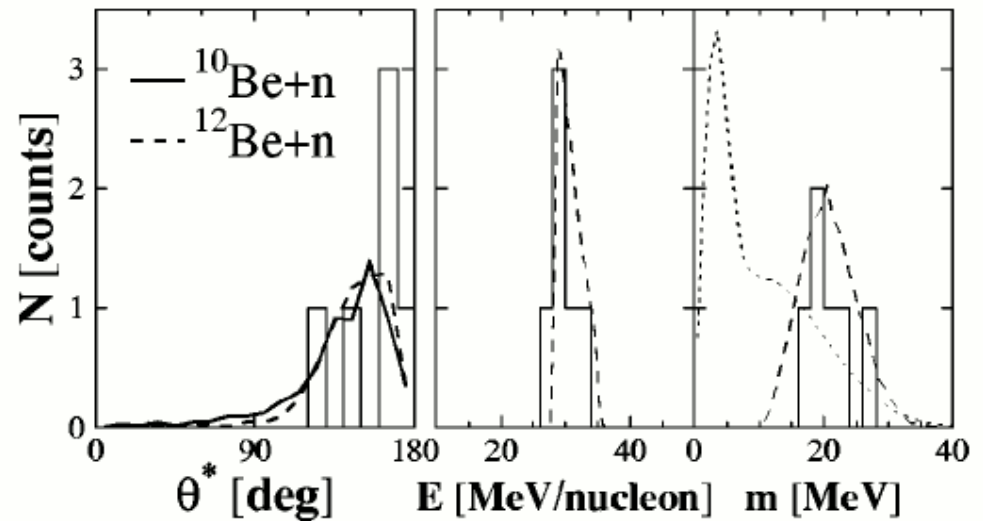


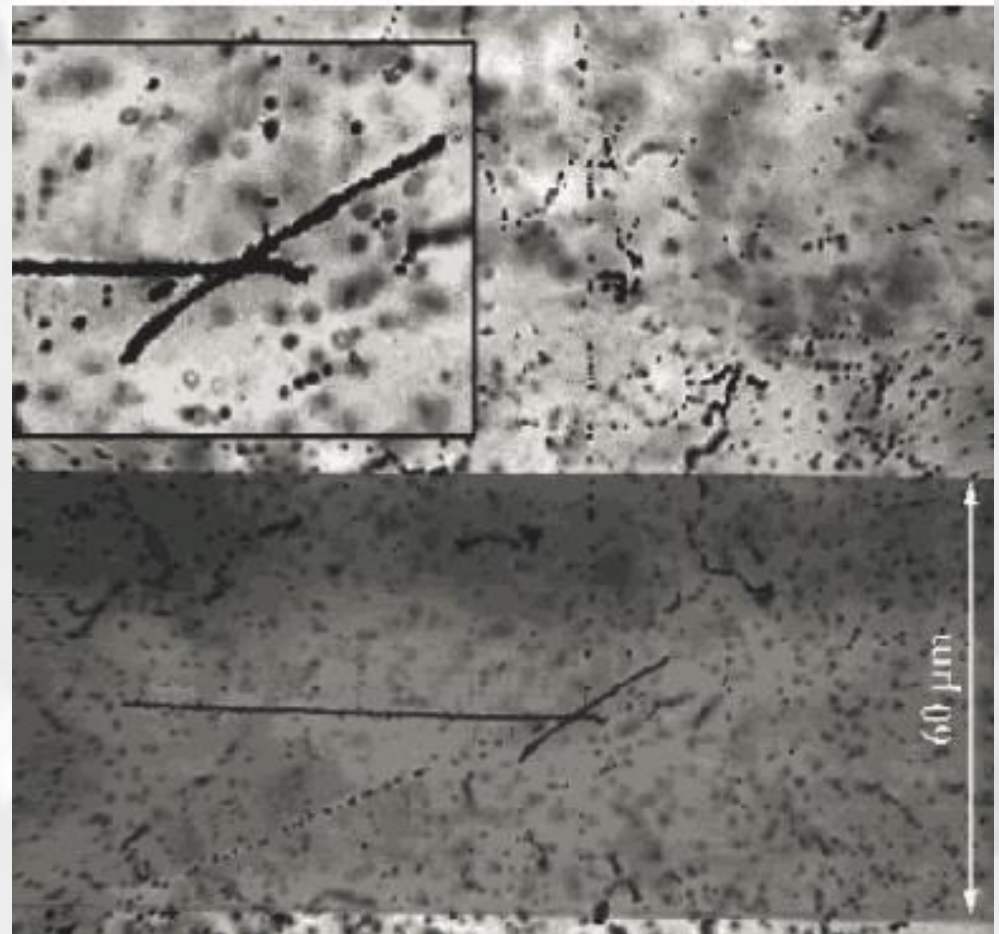
FIG. 13. Distributions for the six multilineutron candidate events (histograms). Left: relative angle between the Be fragment and the neutron cluster in the average-beam-velocity frame, compared to the data for  $^{10}\text{Be}+n$  (solid line) and to those for  $^{12}\text{Be}+n$  (dashed line); both distributions have been normalized to six events. Middle-right: total kinetic energy and invariant mass with respect to the threshold for the  $^{10}\text{Be}+4n$  system; the dashed lines are the result of a simulation in which the input distribution (dotted line) has been filtered by the analysis conditions used in Fig. 6.

*F.M. Marques et al. Phys. Rev. C65, 044006 (2002)*



# Neutron matter

Decay of  $^8\text{He}$  in  
emulsion plates



*D.A. Artemenkov et al. Few-Body Systems 55, 733 (2014) Few-Body Systems 55, 733 (2014)*

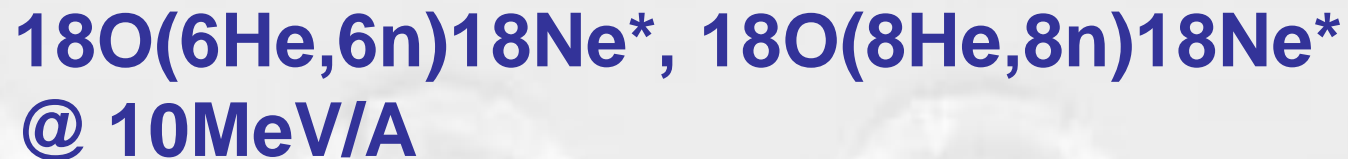
# Neutron matter

Look for correlations/resonance (2MeV?)

→ two proton stripping reactions



→ double charge exchange reactions



Identification of  $^{18}\text{Ne}$  via g-ray transition or/and MCP/tof

Detection of neutrons in a dedicated neutron wall

# Neutron detectors ... matter

Cheap scintillator

121 x 100 L

=12100L

X 1000R/L

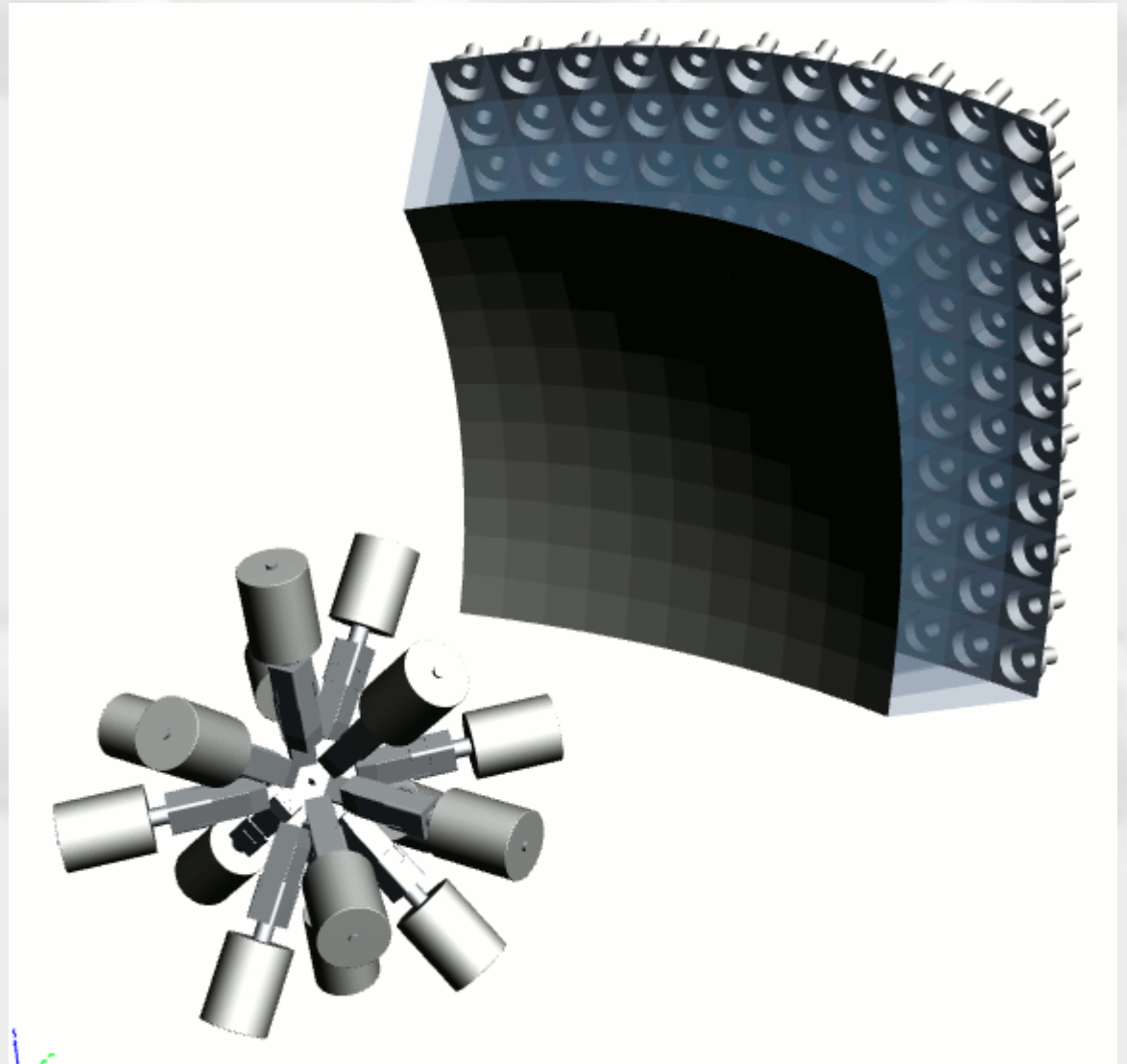
~12.0MR

10" tubes

+ 121 x 40000

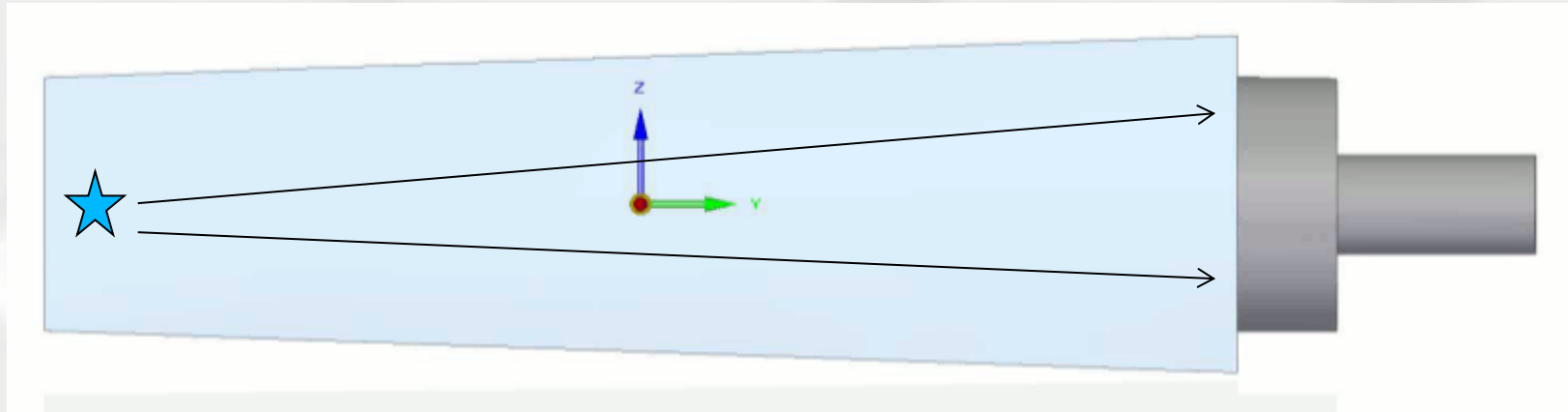
~ 5MR

Not too bad...



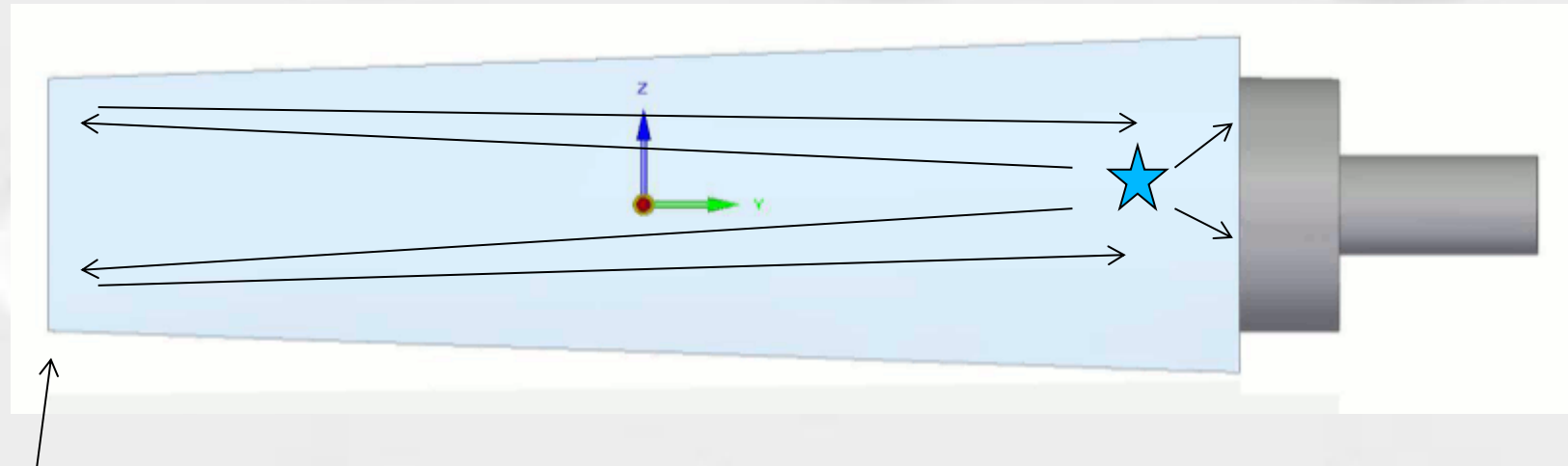
# Neutron detectors ... matter

## Pulse shape analysis to deduce the interaction point



# Neutron detectors ... matter

## Pulse shape analysis to deduce the interaction point



Reflective coating 😊



$\Delta t = 10\text{ns}$

# Two nucleon transfer

Two nucleon stripping reaction important to probe neutron and proton pairing in nuclei.

(p,t) and (t,p) used extensively:

only the two-neutron components

Fewer measurement using (3He,n)

*W.P. Alford et al. Phys. Rev. C 30, 67 (1984)*

*A. Roberts et al., Phys. Rev. C **87**, 051305(R) (2013)*

# Two nucleon transfer ( ${}^3\text{He},n\gamma$ ) at iTL

EPJ A

2013 Impact factor **2.421**

Hadrons and Nuclei

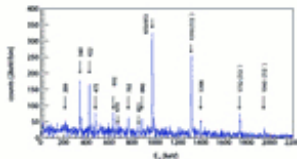
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## EPJ A Highlight - Achieving high resolution in binary nuclear reactions with outgoing fast neutrons – at last!

Published on Tuesday, 28 October 2014 12:54



To date, the two-nucleon pick-up and stripping counterparts of the (p,t) and (t,p) reactions, the ( ${}^3\text{He},n$ ) and ( $n, {}^3\text{He}$ ) reactions, have been poorly investigated due to the difficulty in performing high-resolution measurements of fast-neutron energies. The best time-of-flight ( ${}^3\text{He},n$ ) measurements report resolutions not better than 250 keV. This lack of experimental resolution has hindered a full understanding of the role of proton pairing in nuclei.

In the present work, this experimental constraint is addressed by detecting the  $\gamma$ -ray decay of populated excited states in an array of escape-suppressed HPGe detectors in coincidence with neutron detectors placed near  $\theta_{\text{lab}} = 0^\circ$ . High selectivity is obtained and a large rejection factor of unwanted reaction channels, of the order of 1 in  $10^3$ , is demonstrated. The population strength of excited states is deduced with an energy resolution better than 3 keV. This allows the proton occupancy of excited states, populated selectively in direct two-proton stripping reactions, to be measured.

We use the  ${}^{59}\text{Co}({}^3\text{He},n){}^{61}\text{Cu}$  reaction at  $E_{\text{lab}} = 22.5$  MeV to populate 2p-1h proton states across the  $Z = 28$  closed shell. The observed relative  $L = 0$  two-proton stripping strengths are compared with large-basis shell-model calculations. Discrepancies with theory suggest that proton occupancies of the  $f7/2$  shell are not currently well reproduced. Systematic measurements in various mass regions are underway in order to address the present lack of high-resolution experimental data.

P. Papka *et al.* (2014), High-resolution two-proton stripping to 2p-1h  $7/2^-$  states via the  ${}^{59}\text{Co}({}^3\text{He},n\gamma){}^{61}\text{Cu}$  reaction, European Physical Journal A 50: 158, DOI 10.1140/epja/i2014-14158-x



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Editors-in-Chief

N. Alamanos and T.S. Bíró

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# Structure of $\beta\beta$ nuclei

## Nuclear Matrix Elements

Transfer reactions  
to determine the  
wave functions

$(p,t)$        $(t,p)$   
 $(^3\text{He},t)$     $(t,^3\text{He})$   
 $(^3\text{He},n)$     $(^6\text{He},^8\text{Be})$   
 $(^3\text{He},p)$     $(p,^3\text{He})$   
 $(d,p)$        $(p,d)$

<b>100Ru</b> STABLE 12.60%	<b>101Ru</b> STABLE 17.06%	<b>102Ru</b> STABLE 31.55%
<b>99Tc</b> 2.111E+5 Y $\beta^-$ : 100.00%	<b>100Tc</b> 15.46 S $\beta^-$ : 100.00% $\epsilon$ : 2.6E-3%	<b>101Tc</b> 14.02 M $\beta^-$ : 100.00%
<b>98Mo</b> STABLE 24.39%	<b>99Mo</b> 65.976 H $\beta^-$ : 100.00%	<b>100Mo</b> 7.3E+13 Y 9.82% $2\beta^-$ : 100.00%



# Two nucleon transfer

## Two-neutron pick up

Two neutron stripping reaction ( ${}^6\text{He}, \alpha$ ) could be purer than (t,p) (DWBA normalisations usually need factors of 2 to 3, unhappiness factor)

${}^6\text{He}$ : halo nucleus

- > cigar configuration or two neutron correlated
- > two neutron transfer mostly from the two neutron correlated configuration: single step is favoured!

*D. Smalley et al., Phys. Rev. C **89**, 024602 (2014)*

# Two nucleon transfer:

## Two-proton pick up

Two proton pick-up reaction ( ${}^6\text{He}$ ,  ${}^8\text{Be}$ ) the simplest of all!

Heavier systems become messy very rapidly

( ${}^{14}\text{C}$ ,  ${}^{16}\text{O}$ )

Momentum mismatch for low relative angular momentum transfer

Structure of  ${}^{14}\text{C}$  is complicated makes DWBA calculations uncertain

Can be used systematically on all  $\beta\beta$  nuclei...

**Final remarks:**

**....Loads to do with  ${}^6\text{He}$**

**t He end**