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Fakultät Mathematik und Naturwissenschaften, Institut für Kern- und Teilchenphysik

New half-live results on very long-living nuclei



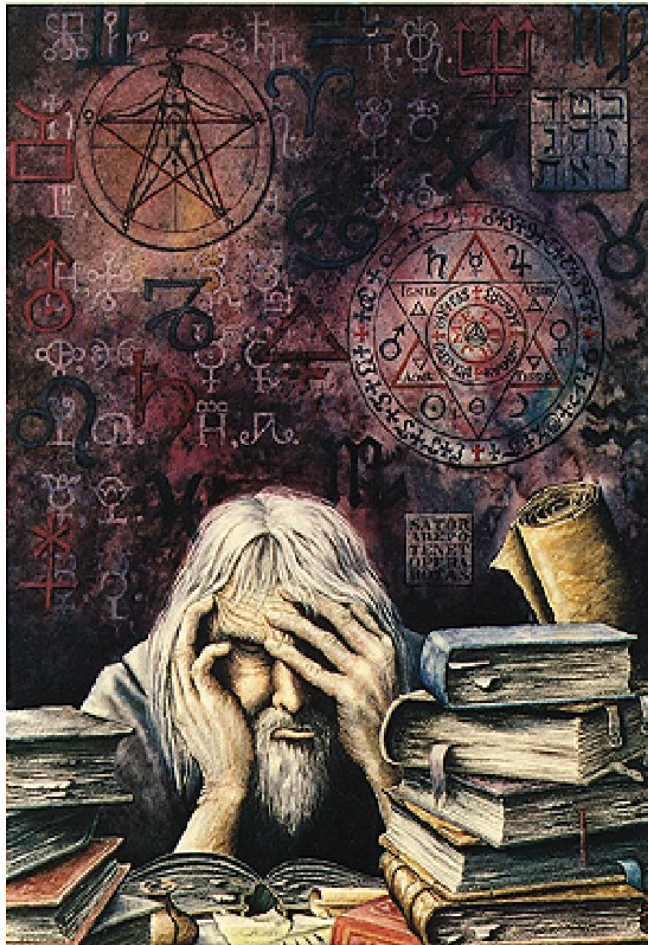
29.9. 2016, NNR 2016 Osaka

Kai Zuber

Institut für Kern- und Teilchenphysik



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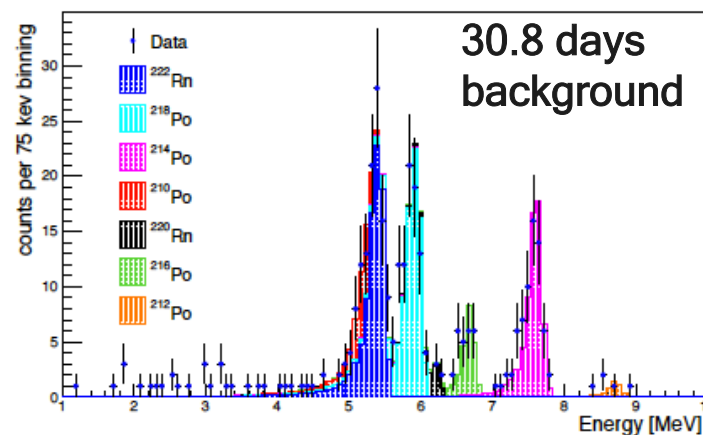
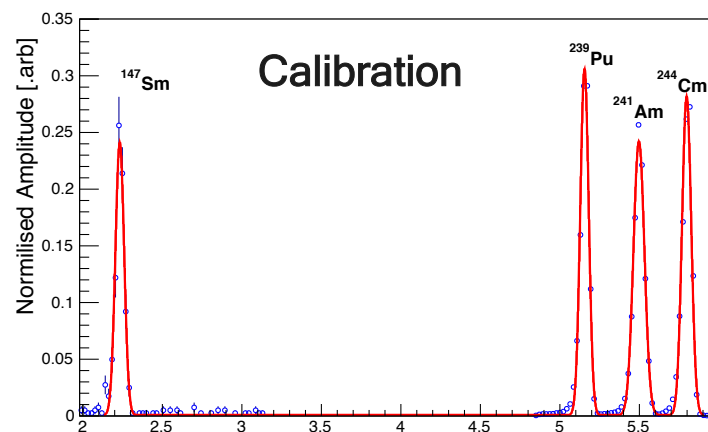
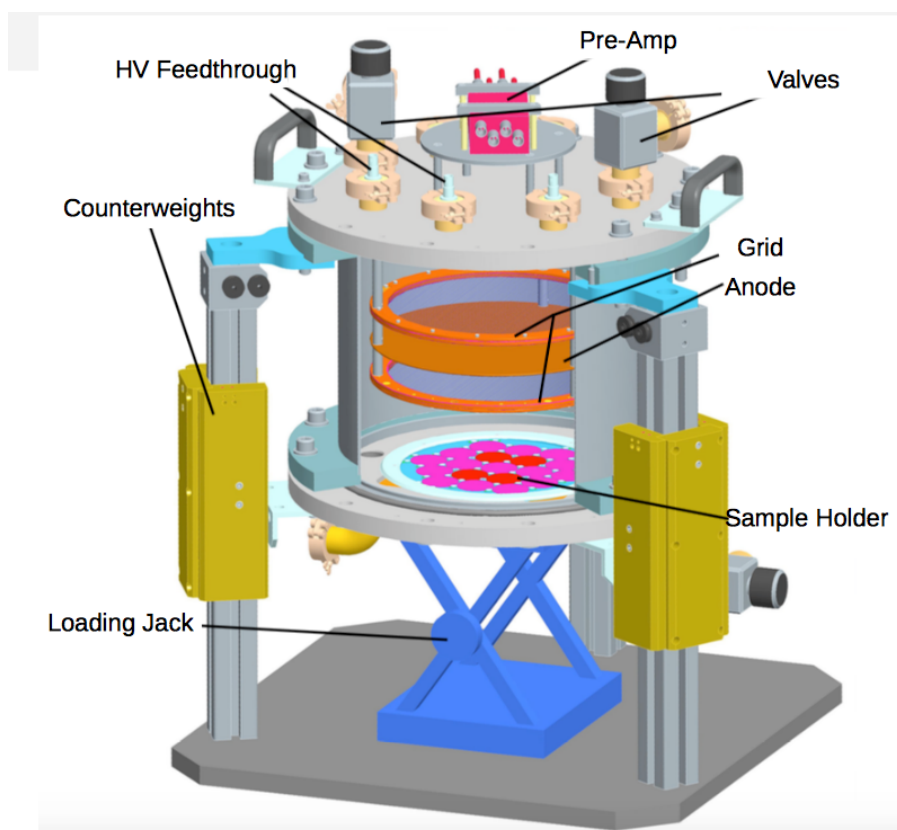


- ❖ A look on alpha decays
- ❖ Highly forbidden beta decays
- ❖ Double EC captures
- ❖ Double beta decays
- ❖ Nuclear astrophysics
- ❖ Summary

Alpha-decays

Long living = Half-life longer than the age of the Universe

Low background Frisch grid ionisation chamber
(< 10 per day between 1-9 MeV, in region 1-3 MeV only 1 event per 2 days)



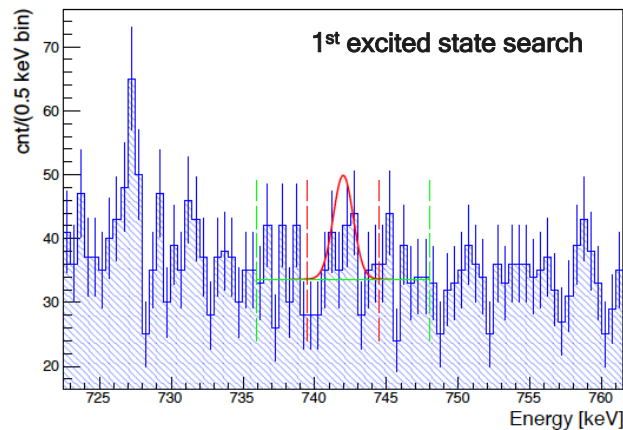
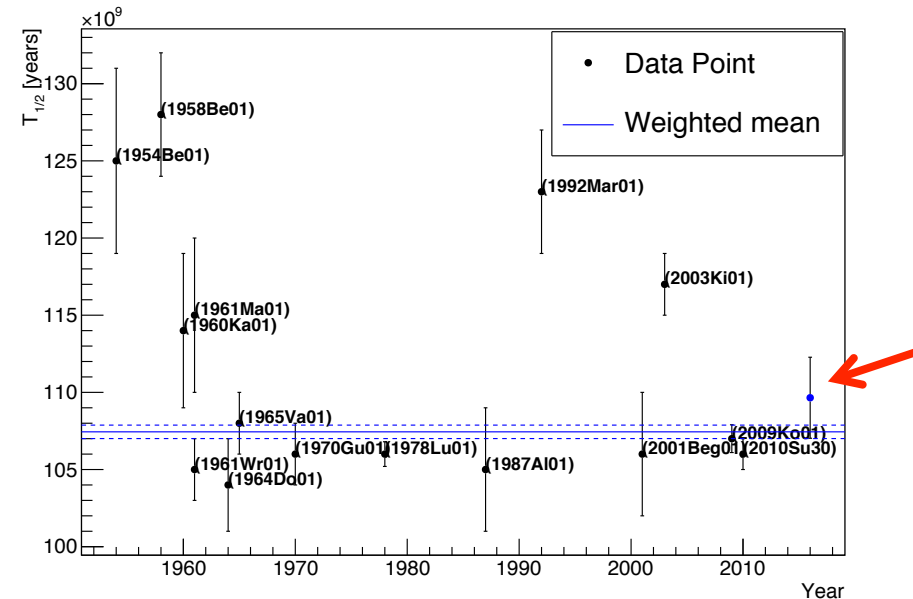
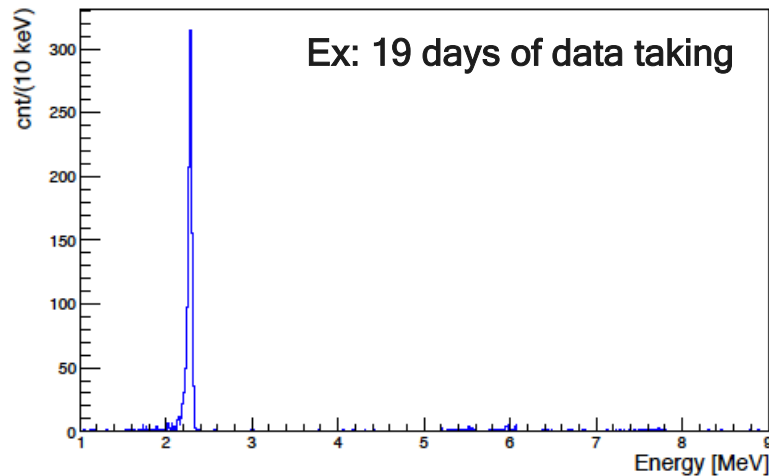
A. Hartmann, J. Hutsch, F. Krüger, M. Sobiella, H. Wilsenach, K. Zuber, NIM A 814, 12 (2016)

Alpha-decays – Sm147



Abundance : 14.99%
Our ICP-MS: 14.77%

First test: Calibration source



In total about 60000 Sm-147 events

Results: Ground state: $T_{1/2} = 1.097(35) \times 10^{11}$ years

1st excit. state: $T_{1/2} > 3.1 \cdot 10^{18}$ years (90% CL)

R. Heller, V. Neu, H. Wilsenach, K. Zuber, in preparation

Alpha-decays – Pt-190

Abundance : 0.014%

Can we use Pt-190 as cosmochronometer?



Laboratory: 3.9 ± 0.2 **$[10^{11} \text{ years}]$**

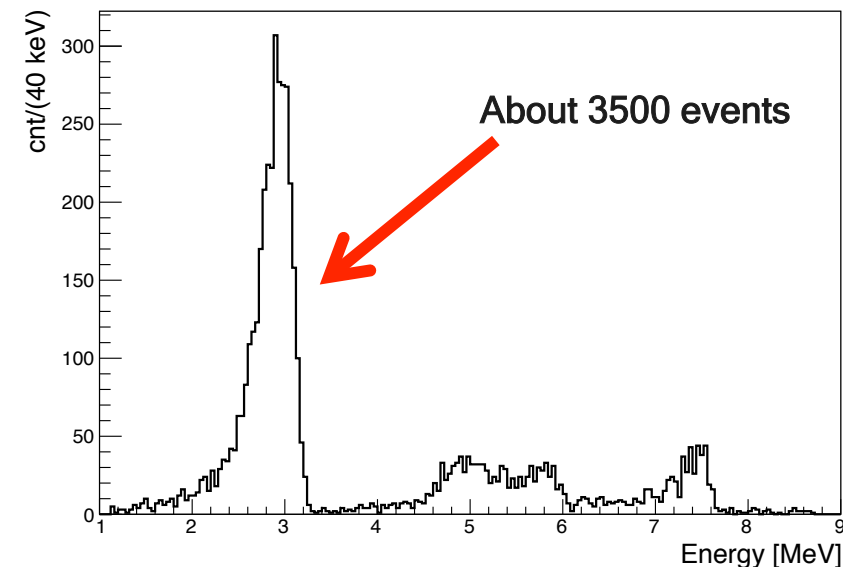
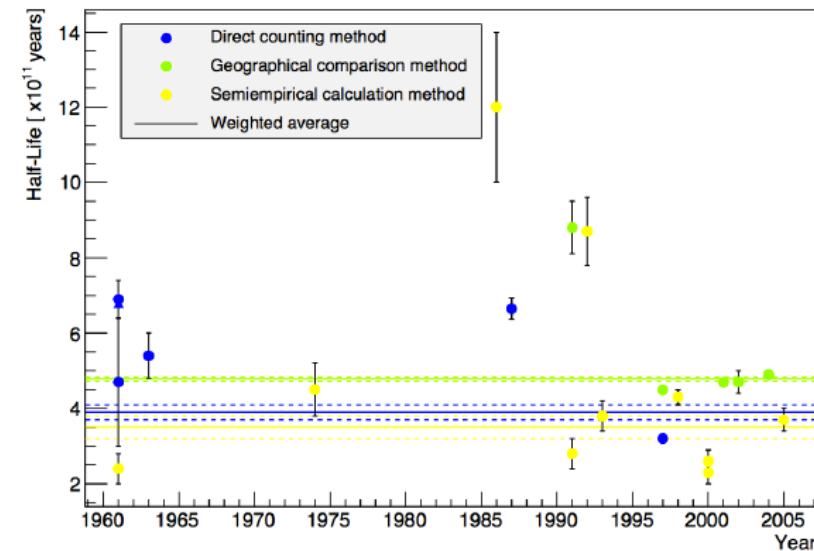
Geochemical : 4.78 ± 0.05

Semi-empirical calculations : 3.5 ± 0.3

O,Tavares et al., NIM B 243, 256 (2006)

Latest theory: 2.78

Y. Qian, Z. Ren, PLB 738, 87 (2014)

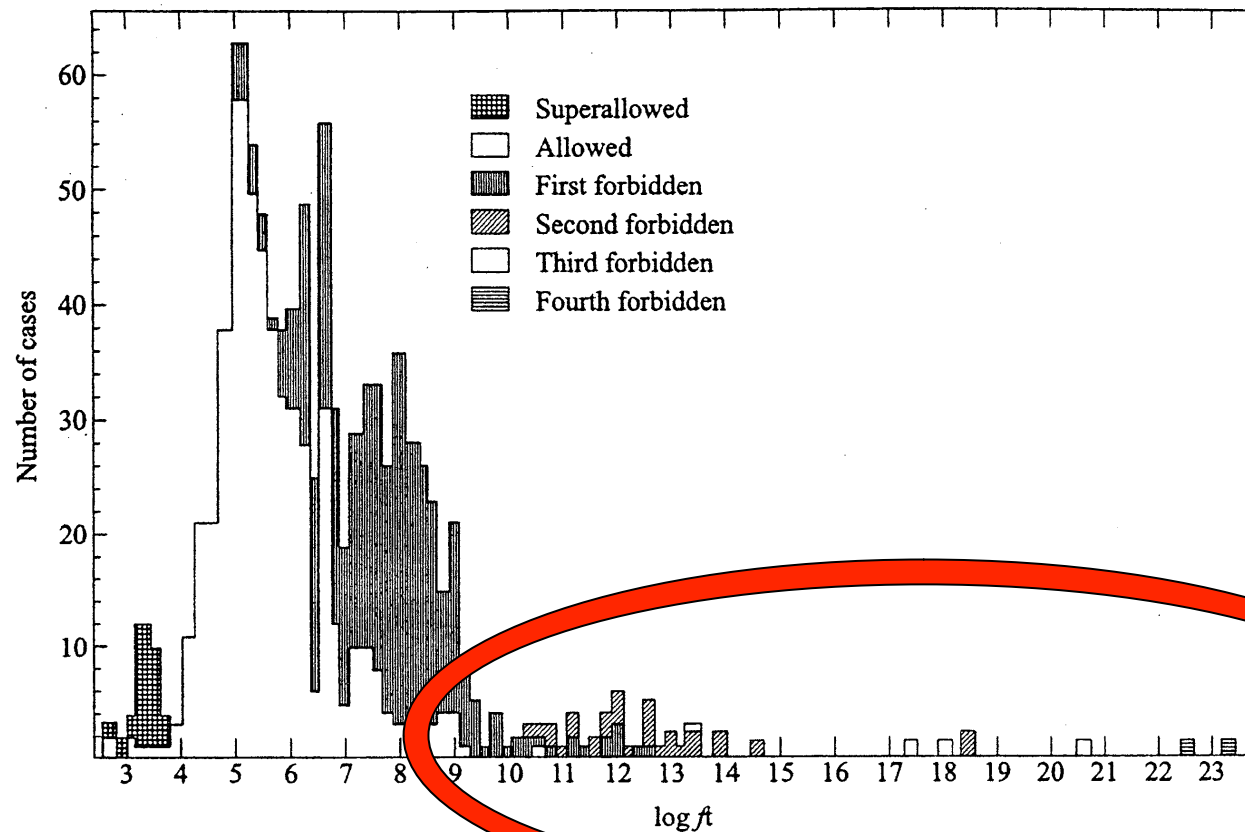


Y. Georgiev, H. Wilsenach, K. Zuber, in preparation

Highly forbidden beta decays



Highly forbidden decays have different energy spectra, a lot of operators



3-fold forbidden: ^{180m}Ta ,.....

4-fold forbidden non-unique: ^{50}V , ^{113}Cd , ^{115}In

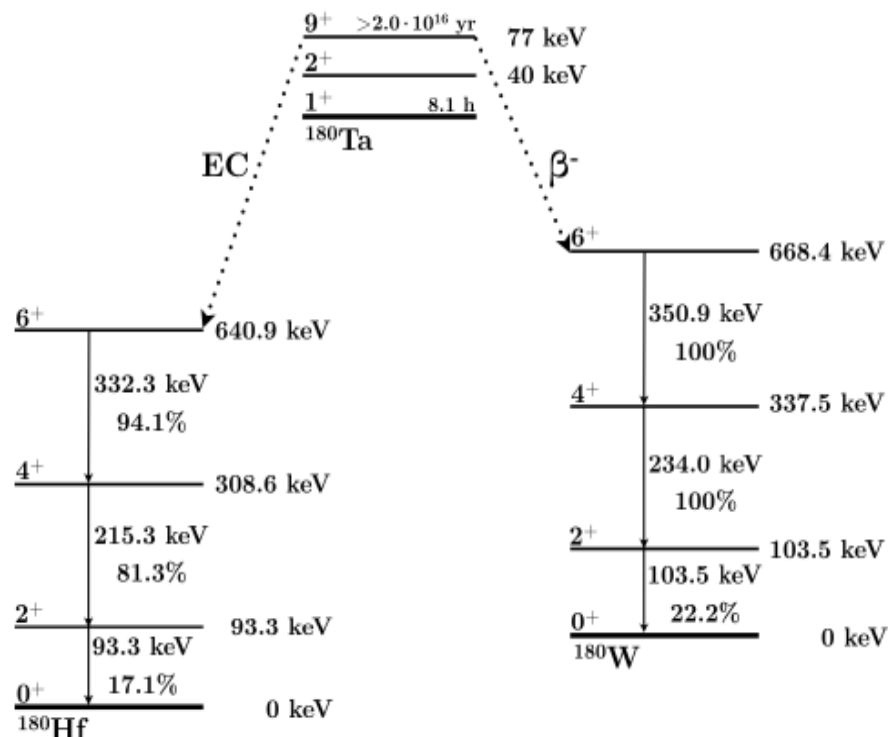
5-fold forbidden: ^{96}Zr , ^{48}Ca (in the range of double beta decay)

Ta-180m



Natures rarest “stable” isotope, only nucleus present in nature in an isomeric state

M. Hult et al., Appl. Rad. Isot. 67, 918921 (2009)



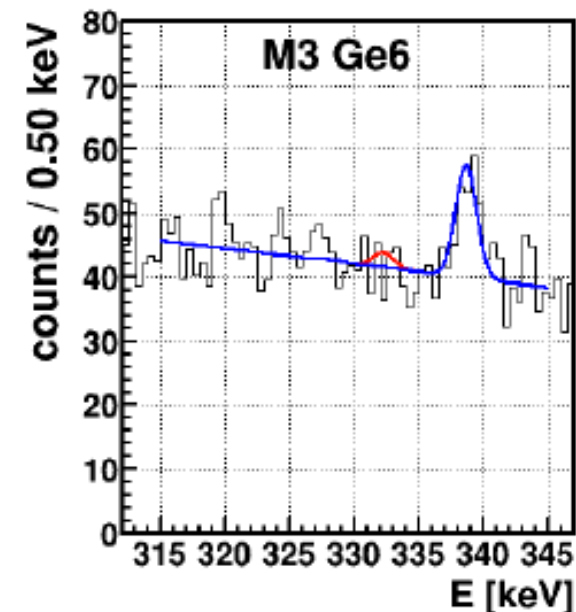
$> 2 \times 10^{17}$ yrs

$> 5.8 \times 10^{16}$ yrs

New measurement :

- Sandwich Ge-detector at HADES
- Almost twice as much statistics
- Lower intrinsic background
- Improved statistical analysis
- Combining all data sets

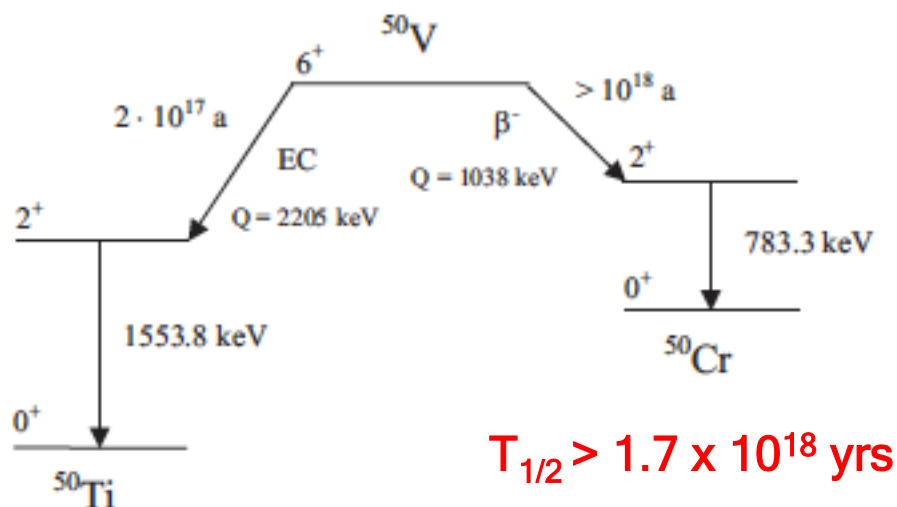
Example:



B. Lehnert, M. Hult, G. Lutter, K. Zuber, arXiv:1609.03725

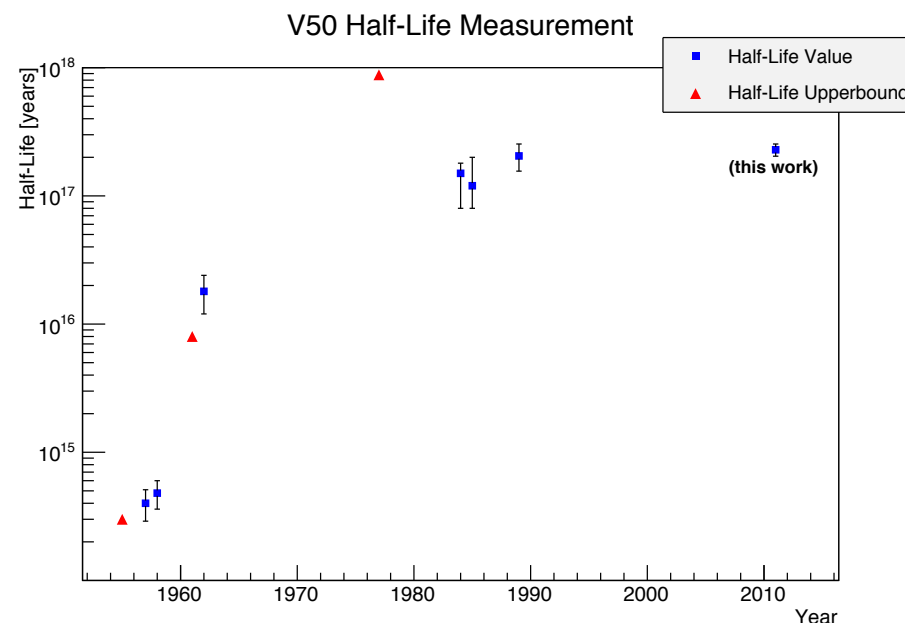
The case of V-50

The search for V-50 has a long history...started 1955



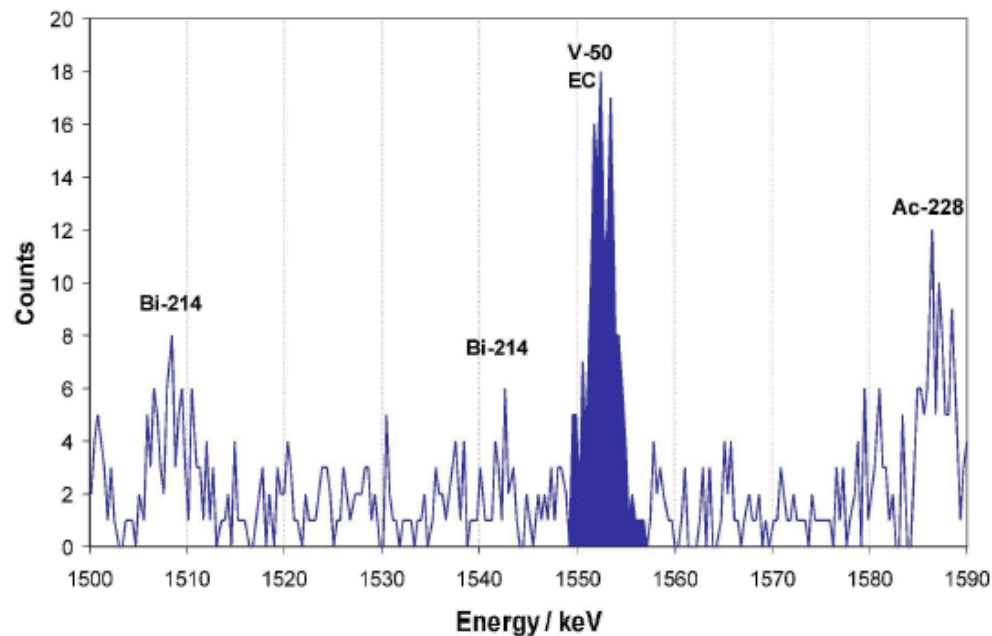
$$T_{1/2} > 1.7 \times 10^{18} \text{ yrs}$$

$$T_{1/2} = 2.29 \pm 0.25 \times 10^{17} \text{ years}$$



Measurement at PTB Braunschweig (ASSE)

The case of V-50



H. Dombrowski, S. Neumaier, K. Zuber,
PRC 83, 054322 (2011)

What about beta- branch?

Theoretical prediction (shell model) for beta- branch: $T_{1/2} \approx 2 \times 10^{19} \text{ yrs}$

M. Haaranen, P. Srivastava, J. Suhonen, K. Zuber, PRC 90, 044314 (2014)

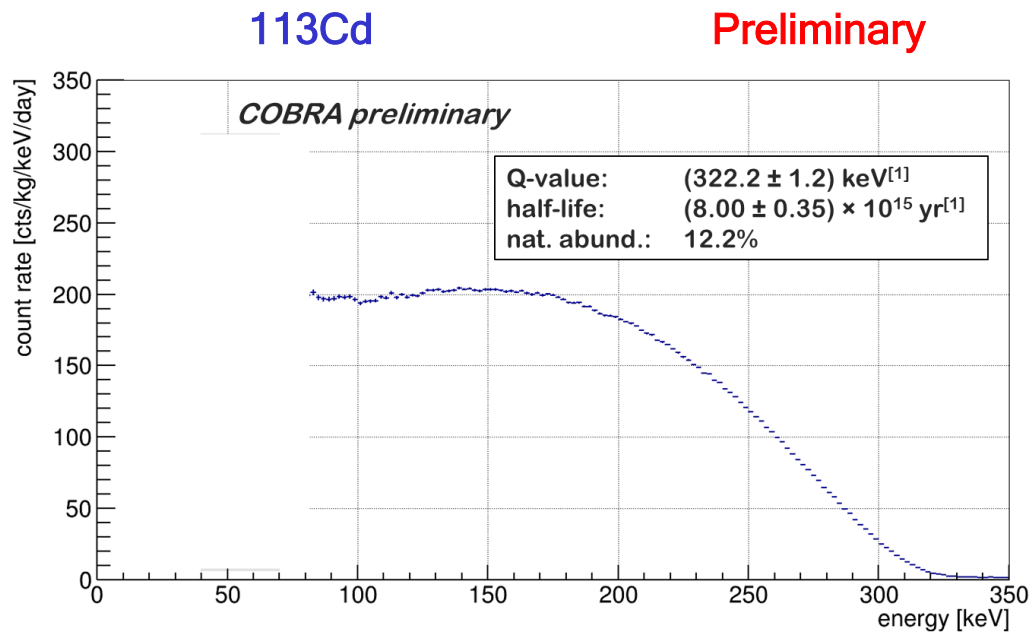
New measurement ongoing at LNGS: M. Laubenstein, S. Nagorny, K. Zuber in preparation

The case of ^{113}Cd



4-fold forbidden non-unique beta decay ($1/2^+ \rightarrow 9/2^+$)

COBRA experiment (CdZnTe detectors)



Q-value:

$$322 \pm 0.3(stat.) \pm 0.9(sys.) \text{ keV}$$

J. V. Dawson et al., Nucl. Phys. A 818,264 (2009)

AME 2012 value: $322.6 \pm 0.8 \text{ keV}$

Penning trap value: $323.89(27) \text{ keV}$

N. D. Gamage et al., Phys. Rev. C 94,025505 (2016)

Shape depends on g_A

M. T. Mustonen, M. Aunola, J. Suhonen, PRC 73,054301 (2006)

M. T. Mustonen, J. Suhonen, PLB 657,38 (2007)

$$\text{Half-life: } T_{1/2} = 8.00 \pm 0.11(stat.) \pm 0.24(sys.) \times 10^{15} \text{ years}$$

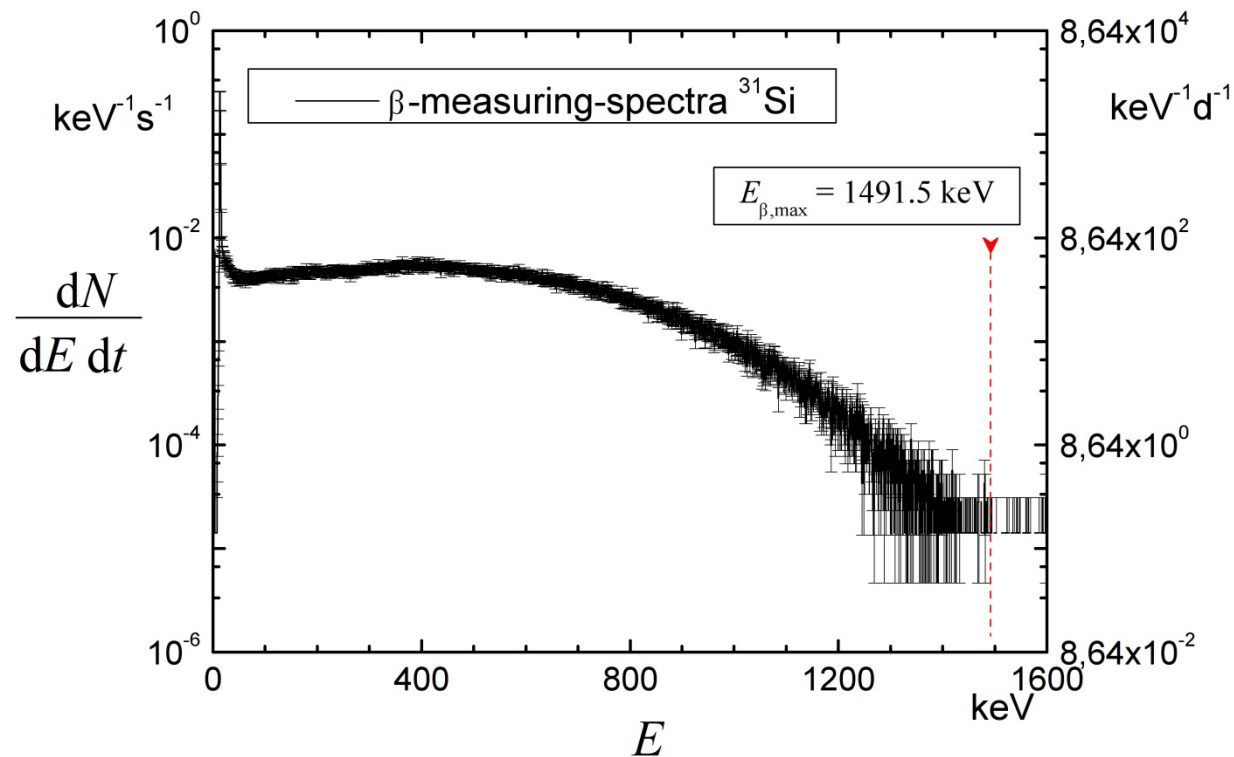
64 independent measurements of the half-life!

Beta decay spectra



There is a general demand to measure beta spectra for various reasons

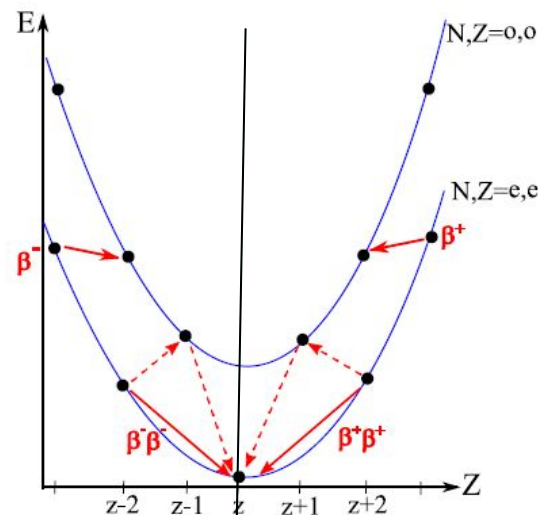
High resolution, low background beta spectroscopy



Double EC and DBD

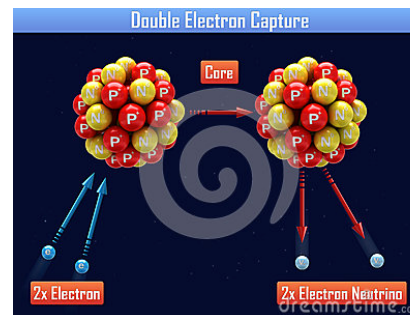
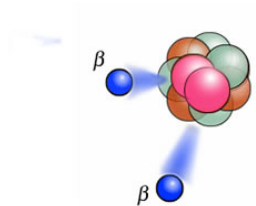
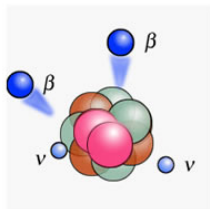


Mass parabola (isobar)



There are 35 double beta
(and ECEC) emitters out of
which are 6 double positron emitters

$$(T_{1/2}^{0\nu})^{-1} = G^{0\nu} g_A^4 |M^{0\nu}|^2 \left(\frac{\langle m_{ee} \rangle}{m_e} \right)^2$$



Depending on Q-value
competing with double positron
and EC/positron decay

Both modes can occur with/without neutrinos

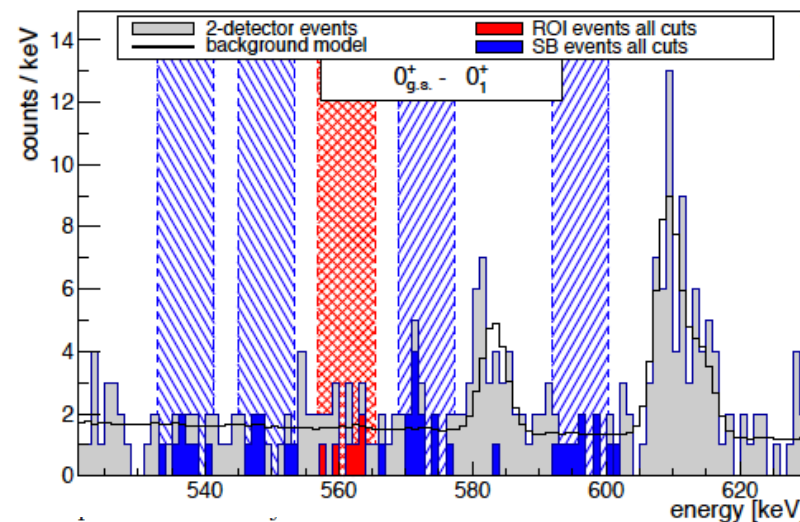
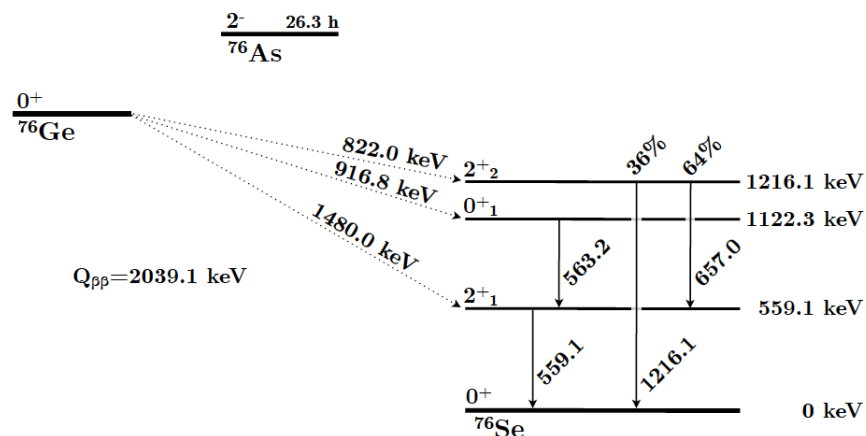
Also transitions into excited states possible

Excited state transitions



Only first excited 0^+ state has been seen in Mo-100 and Nd-150

GERDA phase I : First (and only) multi-detector analysis in GERDA



Decay mode	n_k	m_k	ϵ_k [%]	Frequentist 90 % C.L.		Bayesian 90 % C.I.	
				$T_{1/2}$ [10^{23} yr]	$\widehat{T}_{1/2}$ [10^{23} yr]	$T_{1/2}$ [10^{23} yr]	$\widehat{T}_{1/2}$ [10^{23} yr]
$0^+_{g.s.} - 2^+_1$	2	10	0.389	> 1.6	> 1.3	> 1.3	> 1.2
$0^+_{g.s.} - 0^+_1$	5	34	0.919	> 3.7	> 1.9	> 2.7	> 1.8
$0^+_{g.s.} - 2^+_2$ branch 1	6	29	0.594	> 1.7	> 1.2	> 1.4	> 1.1
$0^+_{g.s.} - 2^+_2$ branch 2	0	2	0.092	> 0.74	> 0.64	> 0.49	> 0.46
$0^+_{g.s.} - 2^+_2$ combined	-	-	-	> 2.3	> 1.4	> 1.8	> 1.3

M. Agostini et al.,
J. Phys. G 42. 115201 (2015)

Excited state transitions



More measurements :

Nuclide	γ -energies	HL limit	Reference
0/2 $\nu\beta\beta$ decays into excited states		Our measurements	
^{76}Ge	563.2 / 559.1 keV	$3.7 \cdot 10^{23}$ yrs (90% CL)	J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys. 42 115201 (2015)
^{110}Pd	815.3 / 657.8 keV	$4.0 \cdot 10^{21}$ yrs (90% CI)	arXiv:1606.06616[nucl-ex] , accepted
^{102}Pd	468.6 / 475.1 keV	$8.8 \cdot 10^{18}$ yrs (90% CI)	arXiv:1606.06616[nucl-ex] , accepted
^{136}Xe	760.5 / 818.5 keV	$6.9 \cdot 10^{23}$ yrs (90% CL)	Phys. Rev. C 93 035501 (2016)
^{130}Te	1257.5 / 536.1 keV	$1.3 \cdot 10^{23}$ yrs (90% CL)	Phys. Rev. C 85 045503 (2012)

More half-life limits exist but almost always below 10^{20} years

Double EC and DPD



Theory prediction lacking for neutrinoless double EC:

- Internal bremsstrahlung gamma (monoenergetic)
- Pair production in nuclear field
- Internal conversion

M. Doi, T. Kotani, Prog. Theo. Phys. 89,130 (1993)

(GERDA and our measurements)

Nuclide	γ -energies	HL limit	Reference
radiative 0ν ECEC decays			
^{36}Ar	429.9 keV	$3.6 \cdot 10^{21}$ yrs (90% CL)	arXiv:1605.01756 [nucl-ex]
^{58}Ni	1918.3 keV	$2.1 \cdot 10^{21}$ yrs (90% CL)	J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys. 43 065201 (2016)

Again more measurements exist

Resonances ?



- $(A,Z) \rightarrow (A,Z-2) + 2 e^+ (+2\nu_e)$ $\beta+\beta+$
- $e^- + (A,Z) \rightarrow (A,Z-2) + e^+ (+2\nu_e)$ $\beta+/\text{EC}$
- $2 e^- + (A,Z) \rightarrow (A,Z-2) (+2\nu_e)$ EC/EC

$$Q-4m_e c^2$$

$$Q-2m_e c^2$$

$$Q$$

Enhanced if V+A is at work

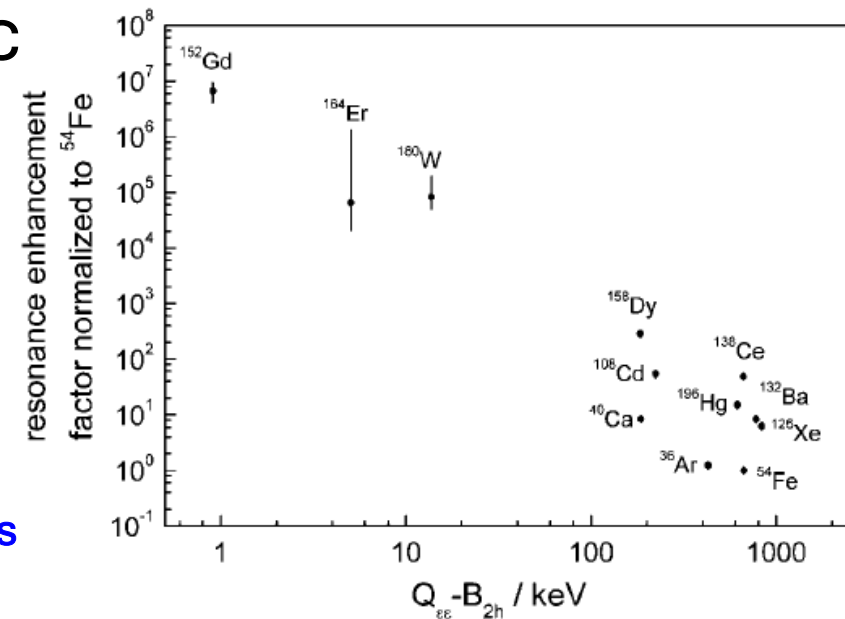
M. Hirsch et al, Z. Phys. A 347,151 (1994)

Resonant enhancement ($\times 10^6$) of 0ν ECEC if excited state in daughter is degenerate (within 200 eV) with initial ground state (-> **Q-values**)

J. Bernabeu, A. deRujula, C. Jarlskog, Nucl. Phys. B 221,15 (1983)
S. Zujkoswski, S. Wycech, PRC 70, 052501 (2004)

Still not good enough to compete with neutrino mass bounds from double beta decay

Best candidate : ^{152}Gd
measured with SHIPTRAP at GSI

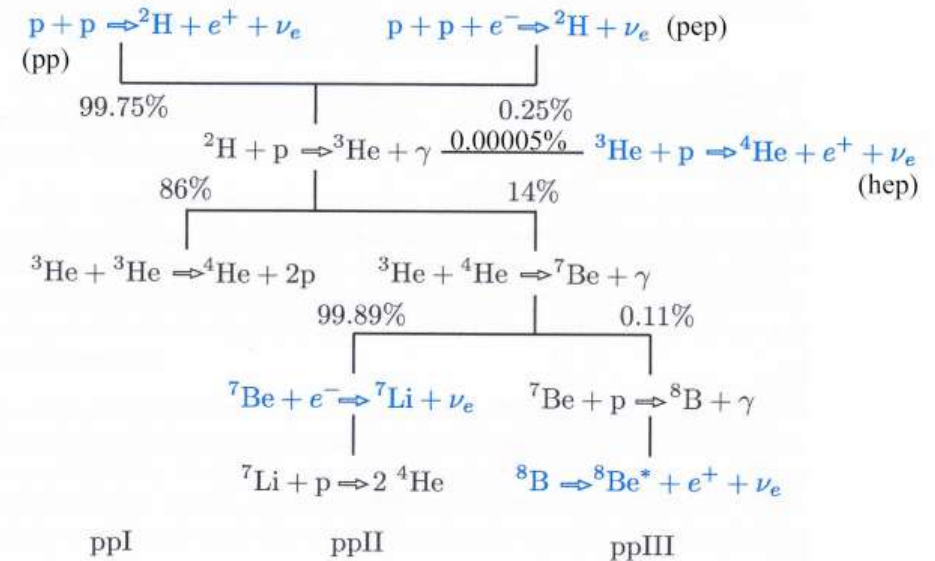
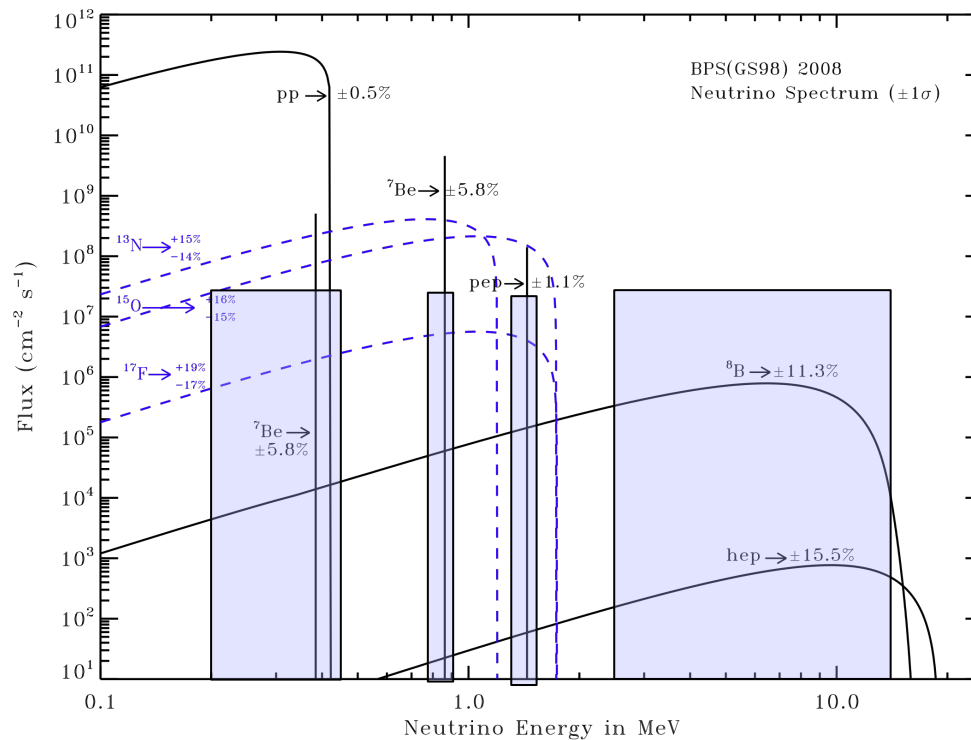
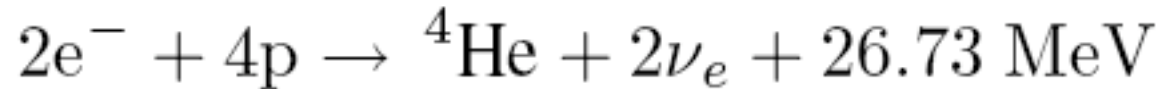


S. Eliseev et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 106,052504 (2011)

Solar neutrinos



Assumption: The Sun is producing energy via nuclear fusion



60 billion solar neutrinos penetrate us per cm^2 every second

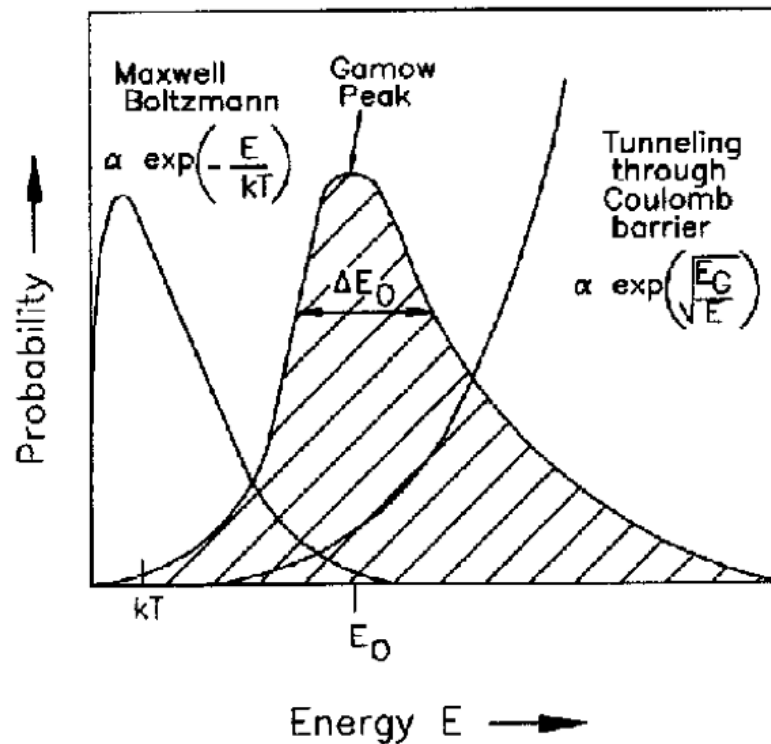
Not measured yet: CNO-neutrinos, hep-neutrinos

Fusion reactions

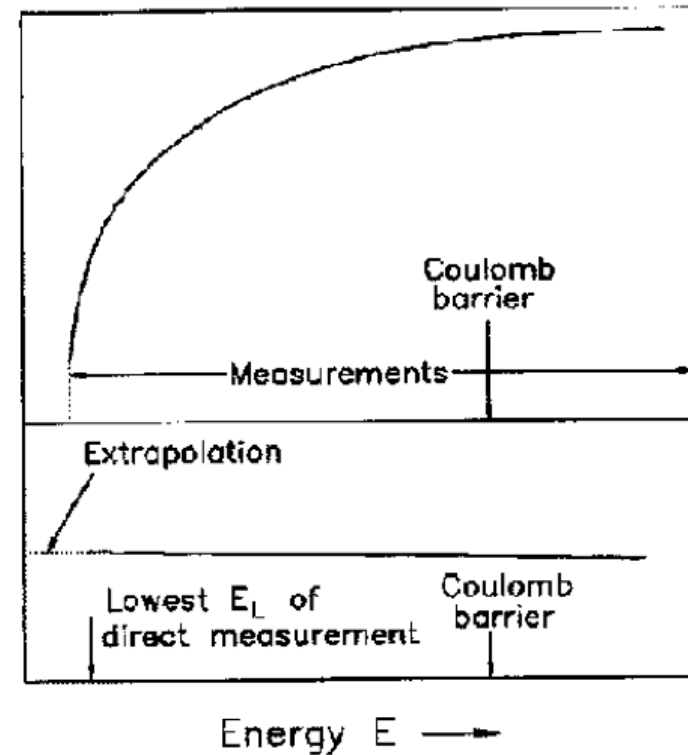
Charged particle reactions -> Coulomb barrier

Compromise between Maxwell –Boltzmann distribution and tunneling probability

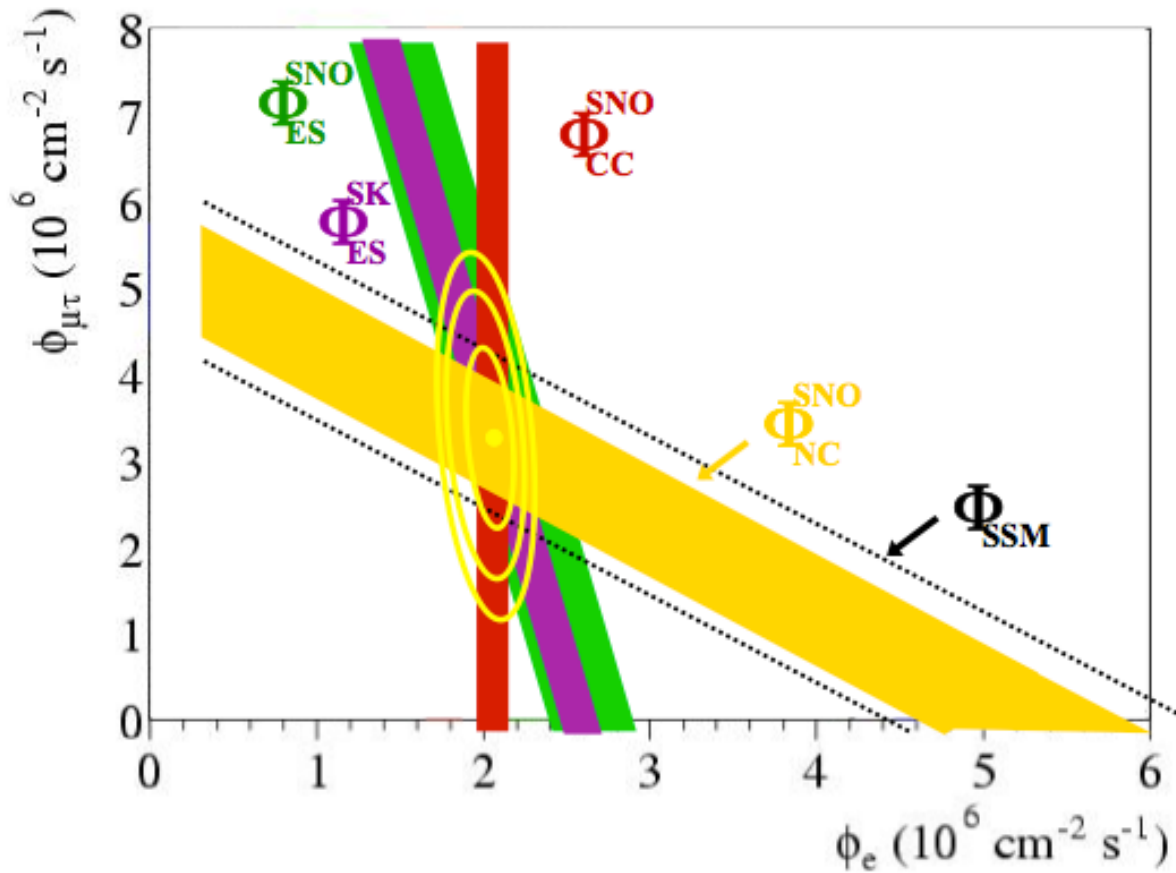
$$S(E) \equiv \frac{E}{\exp(-2\pi\eta)} \sigma(E)$$



$S(E)$ factor Cross-Section $\sigma(E)$
(linear scale) (log scale)



Solar neutrinos - Felsenkeller



SNO for the first time neutrino flux measurements more precise than solar model predictions

Uncertainties

Nuclear reaction rates

	S_{11}	S_{33}	S_{34}	S_{17}	$S_{1,14}$	Opac	Diff
pp	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2
pep	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.2
hep	0.1	2.3	0.4	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.5
^7Be	1.1	2.2	4.7	0.0	0.0	3.2	1.9
^8B	2.7	2.1	4.5	7.7	0.0	6.9	4.0
^{13}N	2.1	0.1	0.3	0.0	5.1	3.6	4.9
^{15}O	2.9	0.1	0.2	0.0	7.2	5.2	5.7
^{17}F	3.1	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	5.8	6.0

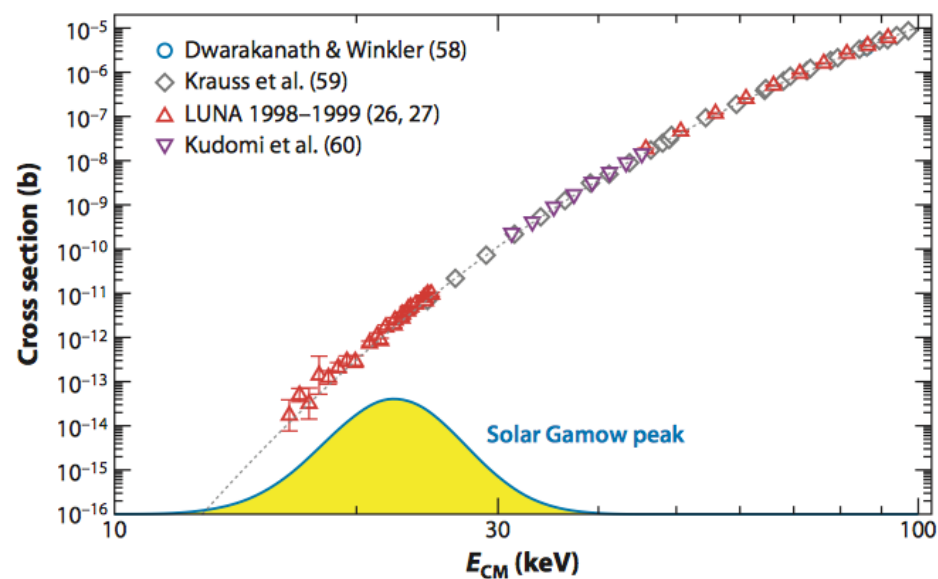
$^3\text{He}(\alpha, \gamma)^7\text{Be}$
 $^7\text{Be}(p, \gamma)^8\text{B}$

$^{14}\text{N}(p, \gamma)^{15}\text{O}$

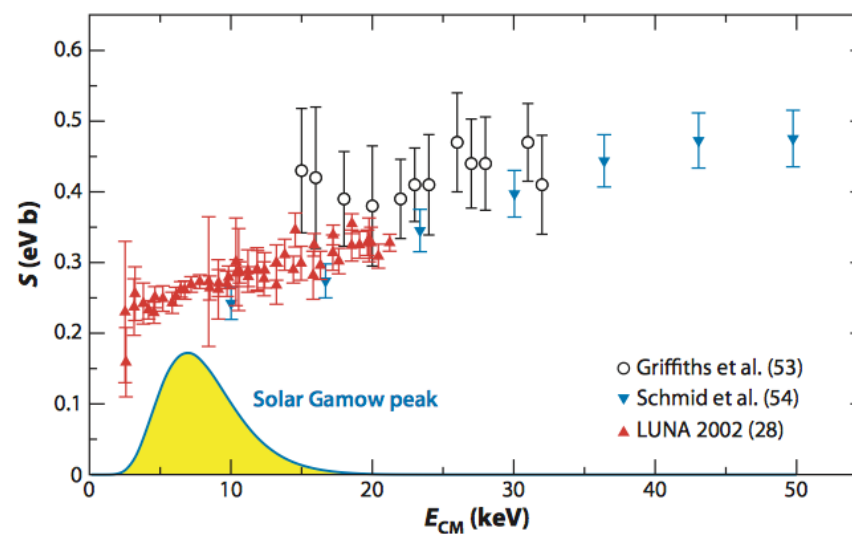
Unsicherheit im vorhergesagten
Neutrinofluss, in Prozent

Antonelli et al., 1208.1356

${}^3\text{He}({}^3\text{He}, 2p){}^4\text{He}$

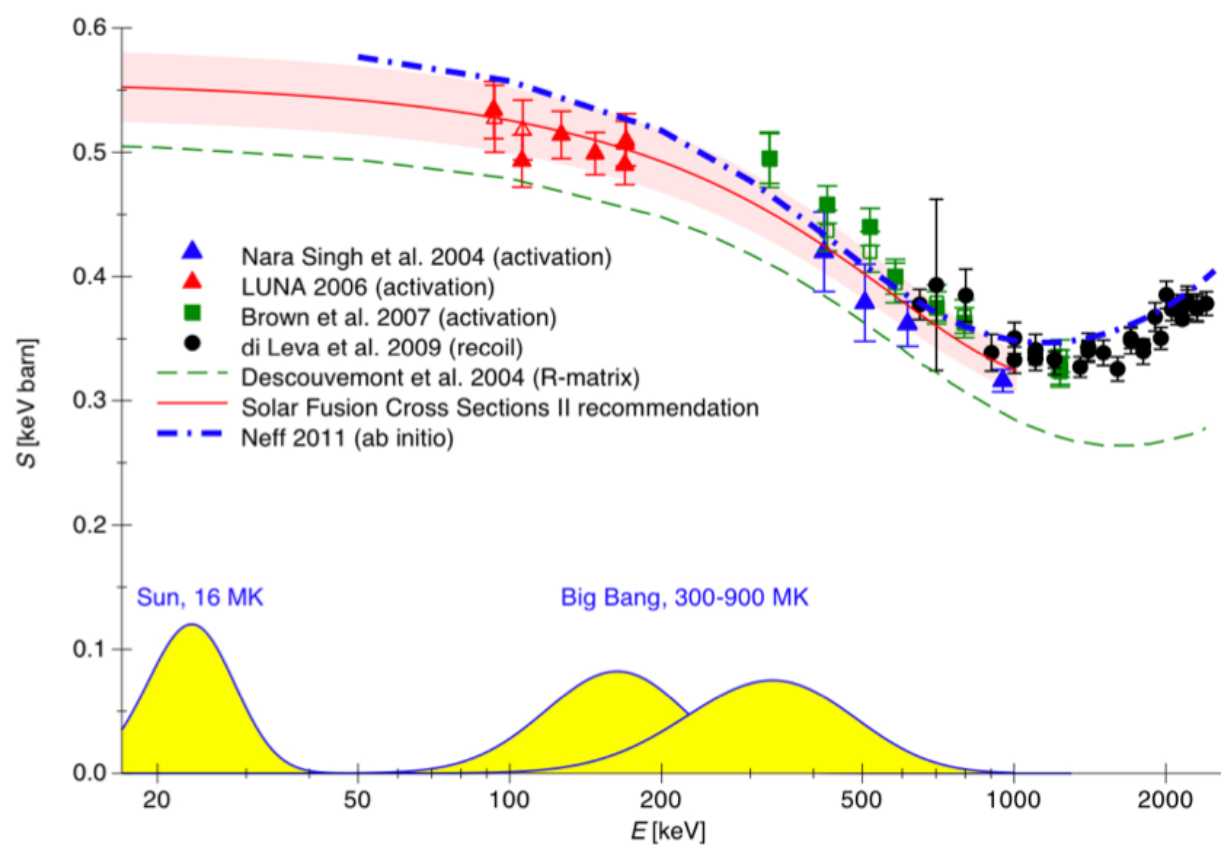


$2\text{H}(p, \gamma){}^3\text{He}$



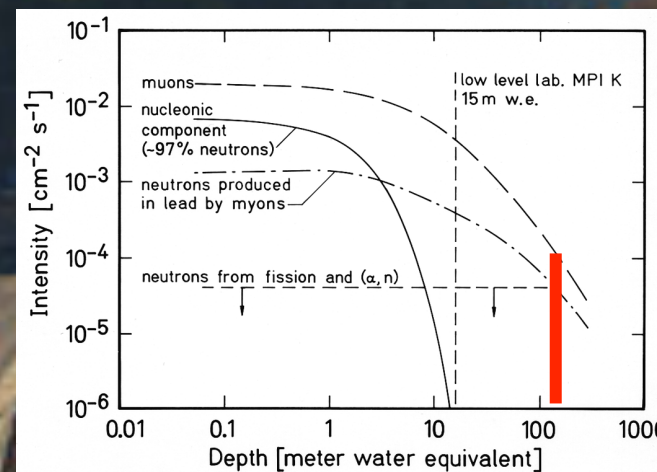
C. Broggini et al., Ann. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci. 60,53 (2010)

${}^3\text{He}({}^4\text{He}, \gamma){}^7\text{Be}$

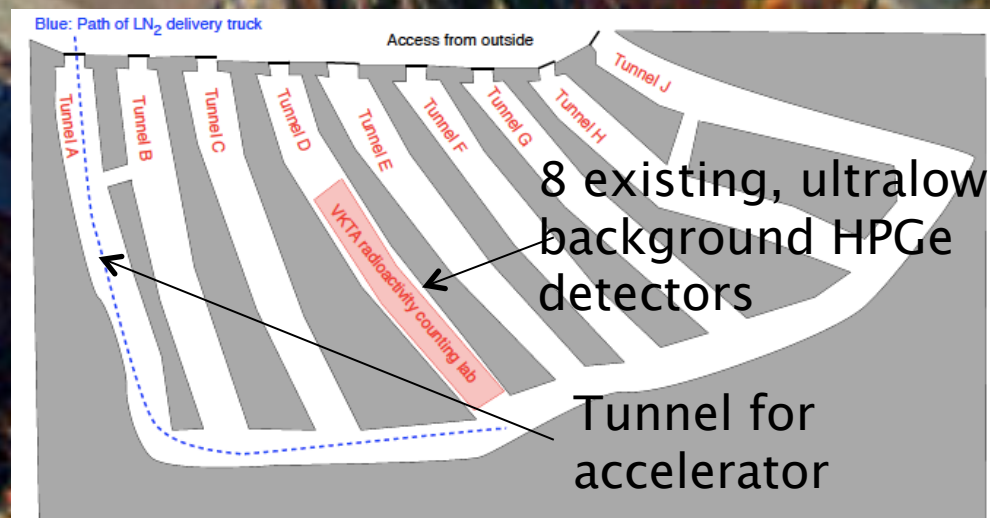


Felsenkeller Laboratory Dresden

T. Szücs et al., Eur. Phys. J. A 48,8 (2012)



We have the accelerator
We have the underground lab





Felsenkeller -accelerator



Kai Zuber

Felsenkeller - Status



- Accelerator will provide p, alpha and C beams
- Construction work on site has started one month ago
- Accelerator planned to go underground spring 2017
- „First light“ autumn 2017

Remember: it will be a user facility, i.e. there will be a Scientific Advisory Committee and everybody can send proposals

Summary

- Measurement of half-lives of long living nuclides is still interesting as some values are not as good as they look at first glance
- A new half-life measurement of Pt-190 has been obtained
- The EC-branch half-life of V-50 has been measured
- A new value for Ta-180m half-life is given
- Spectral shape searches in highly forbidden beta decay sounds interesting for learning about quenching of g_A
- Various new limits on excited states searches in double beta decay and in radiative double EC have been obtained
- Resonance enhancement for double EC into excited state seems to be realised in Gd-152, but still worse than neutrino mass searches in double beta decay

New facilities built to study long-living alpha decays, spectral shapes of beta decays and (soon) cross sections measurements using p, alpha, C - beams