



Exploring Delayed Gamma-Ray following Ordinary Muon Capture: Insights into Double Beta Decays and Antineutrino Nuclear Responses

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RCNP WORKSHOP FOR THEORETICAL AND EXPERIMENTAL APPROACHES FOR NUCLEAR MATRIX ELEMENTS OF DOUBLE BETA DECAYS



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OUTLINE

- 01 Introduction
- 02 Unique features of anti-neutrino nuclear responses by OMC
- 03 Measurement of delayed gamma rays in OMC
- 04 OMC rates
- 05 Perspectives on OMC experiments
- 06 Concluding Remarks

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Introduction



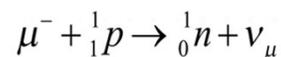
- Overview of Ordinary Muon Capture (OMC)
- Relationship between OMC and Double Beta Decays (DBDs)

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Overview of Ordinary Muon Capture (OMC)

- OMC is a weak nuclear process that involves the exchange of charged bosons to transform a proton (p) into a neutron (n).



- As a result, OMC on A_ZX produces a new isotope of $({}_{Z-1}^AX)$.
 - shown its utility in nuclear transformation for medical applications and elemental analysis, archaeological and astronomical purposes[1, 2, 8].
- The OMC process is initiated by the muon (μ) stopping in the target atom and is eventually captured into the nucleus by emitting a muon neutrino (ν_μ).
- Once the μ is captured, the nucleus is excited up to around 5-50 MeV, and then decays by emitting many particles, mostly neutrons.

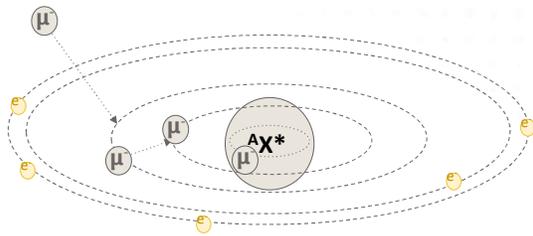
[1] I. Hashim, et al *Phy. Rev. C*, 97(1): 014617 (2018)

[2] I. Hashim et al, *Inst. and Methods in Physics Research Section A*: 163749 (2020)

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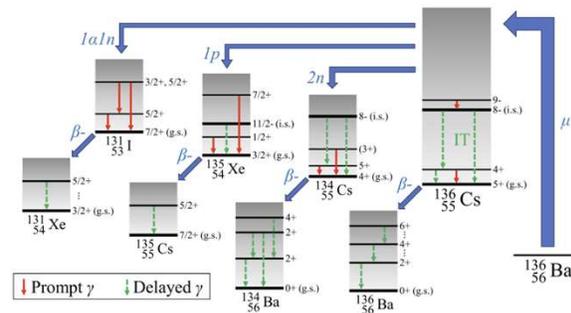
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Overview of Ordinary Muon Capture (OMC)



- Alpha, proton, deuteron and neutron were emitted after muon captured into nucleus.
- These particle emissions are accompanied by gamma ray by transition to its' ground state.

Measday, D. F. (2001). Phys. Rep. 354, 243409.



Ng. Z. W. , Hashim, I.H., Ejiri. H., J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys. In preparation.

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Relationship between OMC and Double Beta Decays (DBDs)

- OMC and DBD are fundamentally linked through their dependence on Nuclear matrix elements (NMEs) and nuclear structure properties.
- While the processes differ in their mechanisms, both provide valuable insights into weak interactions and the fundamental properties of neutrinos.
- NMEs play a critical role in governing the rates of DBD, particularly in determining the probability of neutrinoless double beta decay, a process crucial for probing the Majorana nature of neutrinos.
- The study delayed gamma rays from OMC provides detailed information about nuclear transitions of DBD intermediate nucleus.

H. Ejiri, J. Suhonen and K. Zuber Phys. Rep. 797, 1, 2019.

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Relationship between OMC and Double Beta Decays (DBDs)

- Both OMC and DBD capable to describe the distribution of transition probabilities between nuclear states.
- OMC serves as an experimental proxy to test and refine nuclear models used in DBD studies.
- By analyzing OMC rates, and N-Z dependence, researchers gain indirect but significant insights into the nuclear structure factors that influence DBD.

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OMC response M^μ versus $M^{0\nu}$

- Involvement of both g_A and g_P coupling:

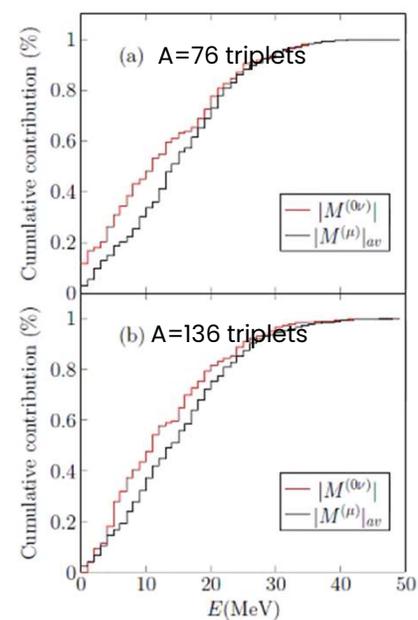
$$W^{OMC} \propto |g_A M_A + g_V M_V + g_P M_P|^2$$

$$M^{0\nu} = M_{GT}^{0\nu}(g_A, g_P, g_M) - \left(\frac{g_V}{g_A}\right)^2 M_F^{0\nu}(g_V) + M_T^{0\nu}(g_A, g_P, g_M)$$

- Transitions through the multipoles states $1 \leq J \leq 3$ dominate both OMC and $0\nu\beta\beta$

$$[t_{1/2}^{0\nu}]^{-1} = g_A^4 G_{0\nu} |M^{0\nu}|^2 \left(\frac{m_{\beta\beta}}{m_e}\right)^2$$

[1] L. Jokiniemi and J. Suhonen, PRC 102 024303 (2020)



Unique features of antineutrino nuclear responses by OMC



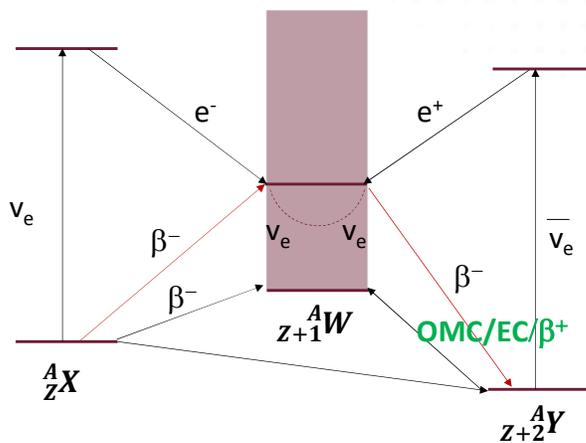
- Unique features of antineutrino nuclear responses (ANR)
- Role of OMC in ANRs



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Unique features of antineutrino nuclear responses (ANR)



- Antineutrino nuclear responses play a pivotal role in understanding fundamental processes and interactions involving weak forces.
- These responses reflect how nuclei interact with antineutrinos, revealing valuable information about nuclear structure, transitions, and fundamental symmetries.

H. Ejiri, J. Suhonen and K. Zuber Phys. Rep. 797, 1, 2019.

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Unique features of antineutrino nuclear responses (ANR)

- ANRs are governed by weak interaction operators, including Gamow-Teller (GT), Fermi, and forbidden transitions. These operators probe different aspects of nuclear structure, such as spin-isospin excitations and higher-order corrections, offering a comprehensive view of nuclear dynamics.
- ANRs exhibit a pronounced dependence on the neutron-proton (N-Z) ratio, which influences the strength of nuclear transitions.
- By analyzing ANRs, researchers can validate theoretical models used to predict key properties of neutrino and solar neutrino interactions, bridging gaps between experiment and theory.

H. Ejiri, J. Suhonen and K. Zuber *Phys. Rep.* 797, 1, 2019.

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Measurement of Delayed Gamma Rays in OMC



- Techniques for detecting delayed gamma rays.
- Significance of delayed gamma-ray spectroscopy for DBD studies.

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Early Work on OMC



D2 beamline, J-PARC

PHYSICAL REVIEW C 97, 014617 (2018)

I. H. Hashim et al, Phys. Rev. C 97, 014617

Muon capture reaction on ^{100}Mo to study the nuclear response for double- β decay and neutrinos of astrophysics origin

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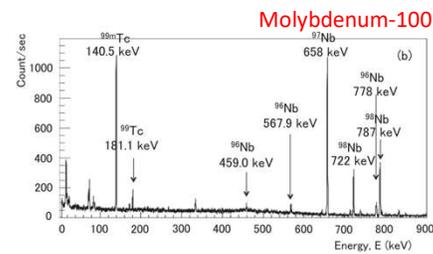
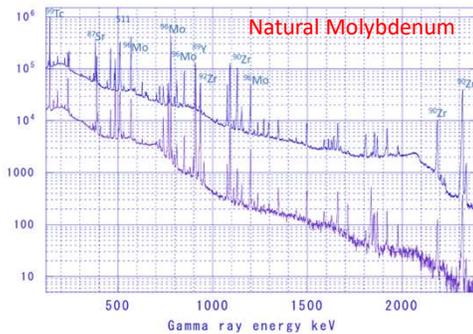
Journal of the Physical Society of Japan 82 (2013) 044202
<http://dx.doi.org/10.7566/JPSJ.82.044202>

FULL PAPERS

Nuclear γ Rays from Stopped Muon Capture Reactions for Nuclear Isotope Detection

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H. Ejiri et al, J. Phys. Soc. Jpn. 82, 044202 (2013)



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Techniques for detecting delayed gamma rays

| Isotope | Facility/ Momentum | Muon intensity | Method | References |
|--|------------------------|---|---|------------|
| ^{100}Mo | JPARC (30 MeV/c) | $1.8 \times 10^6/\text{s}$ | Measure delayed gamma rays to deduce $\text{Br}(X')$ | [1] |
| $\text{NatMo}, ^{100}\text{Mo}$ | MUSIC (45-55 MeV/c) | $2.5 \times 10^6/\text{s}$ | | [2] |
| $^{127}\text{I}, ^{197}\text{Au}, ^{209}\text{Bi}$ | TRIUMF (90 MeV/c) | $2.0 \times 10^5/\text{s}$ | Measure gamma ray from bound states (short lived) and muonic X-rays to deduce $\text{Br}(X')$ | [3] |
| $^{27}\text{Al}, ^{28}\text{Si}, ^{\text{Nat}}\text{Ca}, ^{56}\text{Fe}, ^{61}\text{Ni}, ^{127}\text{I}, ^{197}\text{Au}, ^{209}\text{Bi}$ | TRIUMF (90 MeV/c) | - | | [4] |
| $^{48}\text{Ti}, ^{76}\text{Se}, ^{82}\text{Kr}, ^{116}\text{Cd}$ and ^{150}Sm | PSI (28 MeV/c) | $3.0 \times 10^3/\text{s}$ and $2.5 \times 10^4/\text{s}$ | | [5,6] |

[1] Hashim, I. H. Osaka University. 2014

[2] Hashim, I., Ejiri, H., Othman, F., Ibrahim, Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research Section A: Accelerators, Spectrometers, Detectors and Associated Equipment, 2020:163749

[3] Measday, D. F., Stocki, T. J. and Tam, H. Physical Review C, 2007. 75(4): 045501.

[4] Measday, D. F. and Stocki, T. J. AIP Conference Proceedings. American Institute of Physics. 2007, vol. 884. 169–175

[5] Zinatulina, D., Brudanin, V., Briancan et al. AIP Conference Proceedings. American Institute of Physics. 2013, vol. 1572. 122–125.

[6] Zinatulina, D., Brudanin, V., Egorov, V., Physical Review C, 2019. 99(2): 024327.



Techniques for detecting delayed gamma rays

| A | $14 \leq A \leq 28$ [1] | $40 \leq A \leq 58$ [1] | $76 \leq A \leq 100$ [2,3] | $127 \leq A \leq 150$ [1,2,4] |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| $(\mu, 0n)$ | 9 - 26% | 27 - 32% | 10-15% | 8 -12% |
| $(\mu, 1n)$ | 45 - 49% | 42 - 60% | 45 - 60% | 40 - 50% |
| $(\mu, 2n)$ | 6 - 27% | 3 - 9% | 15 - 20% | 15 - 20% |
| $(\mu, 3n)$ | 1 - 4% | ~1% | 5 - 9% | 12 - 15% |
| $(\mu, 4n)$ | ~0 | ~0 | 2 - 4% | 5 - 10% |
| (μ, xn) $x > 4$ | ~0 | ~0 | <3% | <2% |
| (μ, p) | ~2% | 5-10% | <1% | <1% |
| (μ, pxn) $x > 0$ | 5 - 9% | 5-11% | ~0 | <1% |
| (μ, an) | ~0 | ~0 | <1% | ~0 |
| (μ, axn) $x > 0$ | ~3% | 0-3% | ~0 | ~0 |

- Light nuclei can emit up to 3 neutrons with total probability of 85%.
- Medium-heavy nuclei can emit more than 4 neutrons with total probability of 96%.
- Light nuclei have higher proton and alpha emission (~10-15%) than medium-heavy nuclei (<5%).

[8] Measday, D. F. and Stocki, T. J. AIP Conference Proceedings. American Institute of Physics. 2007, vol. 947. 253-257.
 [9] Zinatulina, D., et al, I Physical Review C, 2019. 99(2): 024327
 [10] Hashim, I., Ejiri, H., Othman, et al NIMA, 2020:163749.
 [11] Measday, D. F., Stocki, T. J. et al Physical Review C, 2007. 75(4): 045501.

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Techniques for detecting delayed gamma rays

First evidence of alpha emission from OMC on ^{136}Ba

PSI 2021 Campaign

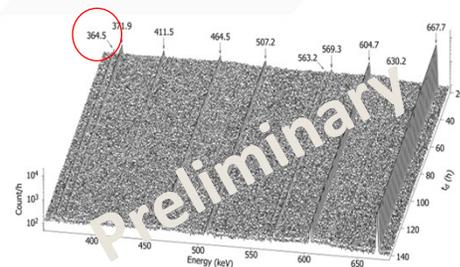
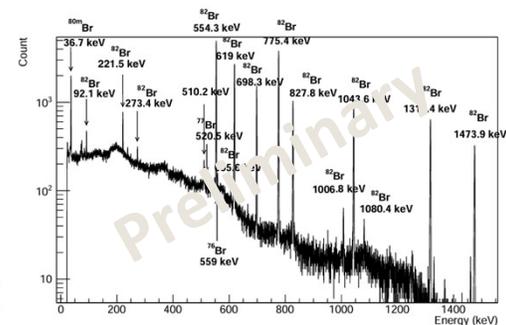


Figure 4. The time evolution of acquired γ spectra from the off-line measurement on ^{136}Ba in the energy range of 50 to 680 keV.

Ng. Z. W., Hashim, I.H., Ejiri. H., In preparation

Our first trial with gas target from OMC on ^{82}Kr

PSI 2019 Campaign



Ng. Z. W., Hashim, I.H., Ejiri. H., In preparation



Significance of delayed gamma-ray spectroscopy for DBD studies.

Table 6

RIs produced by OMC on ¹⁰⁰Mo. Columns 1 and 2 show the RI produced by μ capture and the residual nucleus, and column 3 gives the emission process involved. Column 4 gives the half-life of the RIs produced by OMC. Column 5 is the number of the RIs, column 6 lists the typical γ ray(s) [7], and column 7 is the calculated $N(X)$ by the PNEM.

| RI | Final N | Process | Half-life (h) | $N(X) \times 10^8$ | γ rays (keV) | calc. $N(X) \times 10^8$ |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| ¹⁰⁰ Nb | ¹⁰⁰ Mo | ¹⁰⁰ Mo($\mu,0n$) | 4.4×10^{-3} | 0.6 ± 0.1 | 535.6 ^a | 0.35 ± 0.26 |
| ⁹⁹ Mo | ^{99m} Tc | ¹⁰⁰ Mo($\mu,n\beta^-$) | 66 | 3.8 ± 0.4 | 140.5, 181.0, 739.5 | 2.91 ± 1.02 |
| ⁹⁸ Nb | ⁹⁸ Mo | ¹⁰⁰ Mo($\mu,2n$) | 7.1×10^{-3} , 0.855 | 3.0 ± 0.8 | 734.7 ^a , 787.4 | 2.08 ± 1.01 |
| ⁹⁷ Nb | ⁹⁷ Mo | ⁹⁸ Mo($\mu,1n$) | 1.2 | 8.8 ± 1.5 | 658.1 | 8.51 ± 0.83 |
| ⁹⁷ Zr | ⁹⁷ Nb | ⁹⁸ Mo(μ,p) | 16.9 | 0.05 ± 0.02 | 743.5 | - |
| ⁹⁶ Nb | ⁹⁶ Mo | ⁹⁷ Mo($\mu,1n$) | 23.4 | 4.5 ± 1.0 | 568.8, 778.2, 1091.3 | 7.02 ± 1.37 |
| ⁹⁵ Nb | ⁹⁵ Mo | ⁹⁶ Mo($\mu,1n$) | 1205 | 6.7 ± 1.0 | 765.8 | 7.52 ± 2.16 |
| ⁹⁴ Nb | ⁹⁴ Mo | ⁹⁸ Mo($\mu,1n$) | 1.75×10^5 | 8.62 ± 1.0^b | - | 8.29 ± 1.13 |
| ⁹³ Nb | ⁹³ Nb | ⁹⁴ Mo($\mu,1n$) | 1.41×10^5 | 5.26 ± 1.0^b | - | 5.06 ± 1.35 |
| ⁹² Nb | ⁹² Zr | ⁹⁴ Mo($\mu,2n$) | 244.8 | 3.0 ± 0.15 | 934.5 | 2.78 ± 1.17 |
| ⁹¹ Nb | ⁹¹ Zr | ⁹² Mo($\mu,1n$) | 6×10^5 | 5.19 ± 1.0^b | - | 5.00 ± 1.17 |
| ⁹⁰ Nb | ⁹⁰ Zr | ⁹² Mo($\mu,2n$) | 14.6 | 1.9 ± 0.3 | 1129.2, 2186, 2319.0 | - |

^aThe γ rays measured in the ¹⁰⁰Mo experiment.

^b $N(X)$ obtained by calculation using PNEM.

- In different cases, neutron are measured on time of flight (TOF) measurement[3].
- The main problem is how to relate delayed γ -ray to the neutrino nuclear responses
 - Using proton neutron emission model (PNEM) to obtain the β^+ virtual transition distribution

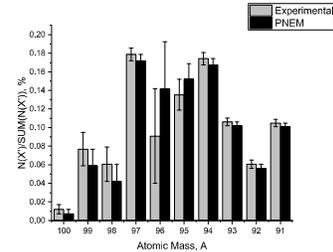


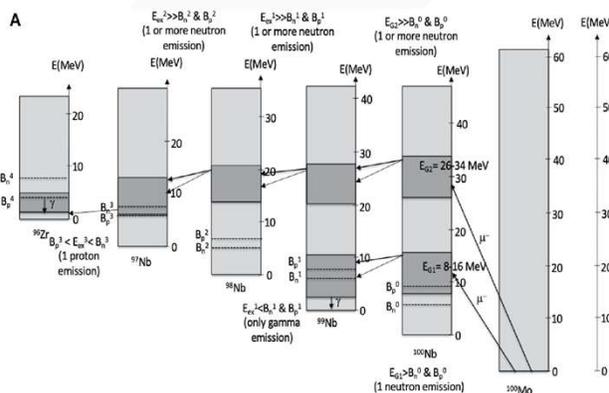
Fig. 6. Isotope mass distributions of RIs produced by MuCIP on ¹⁰⁰Mo.

[1] H. Ejiri, I. H. Hashim, et al. J. Phys. Soc. Japan, 82 (2013) 044202.

[2] I. H. Hashim et al, Nucl. Instr. Method. A, Mar 2020

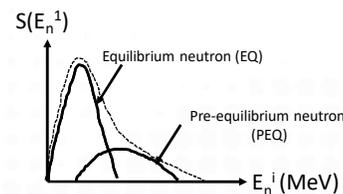


Significance of delayed gamma-ray spectroscopy for DBD studies.



- Neutron emission model (NEM) and proton neutron emission model (PNEM) have been developed to calculate the β^+ virtual transition [1,2].
- Overall β^+ virtual transition gives equivalent information of excitation energy involve after muon capture process (muon capture strength).

$$S(E_n^1) = k \left[E_n^1 \exp\left(-\frac{E_n^1}{T_{EQ}(E)}\right) + p E_n^1 \exp\left(-\frac{E_n^1}{T_{PEQ}(E)}\right) \right]$$



I.H. Hashim and H.Ejiri. Front. Astron. Space Sci. 8:666383. 2021



Significance of delayed gamma-ray spectroscopy for DBD studies.

| Isotope | Method | E_{G1} (MeV) | E_{G2} (MeV) | Reference |
|---|---------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------|
| ^{100}Mo | Exp + NEM | 12 | 30 | [1] |
| ^{23}Na , ^{24}Mg , ^{27}Al , ^{28}Si , ^{40}Ca , and ^{56}Ni | Exp + NEM | 12-18 | 30-46 | [2] |
| ^{76}Se , ^{106}Cd , ^{127}I , ^{150}Sm , ^{197}Au and ^{209}Bi | Exp + NEM | 9.9-12.2 | 25.7-31.5 | [3] |
| ^{100}Mo | Exp + NEM + pn-QRPA | 10.5 | 29.5 | [4] |
| ^{100}Mo , ^{107}Pd , ^{108}Pd , ^{127}I and ^{209}Bi . | Exp + PNEM | 10-18 | 25-45 | [5] |

[1] Hashim, I. et al., Physical Review C, 2018

[2] Muslim, N.F.H. BSc Thesis, UTM. 2018

[3] Ibrahim, F. BSc Thesis, UTM. 2018

[4] Jokiniemi, L. et al. Phys Lett B, 2019

[5] Hashim, I., et al. Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research Section A: Accelerators, Spectrometers, Detectors and Associated Equipment, 2020

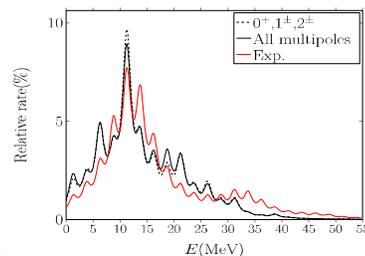
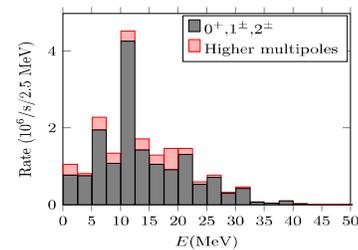
F. Othman, UTM PhD Thesis 2023

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Significance of delayed gamma-ray spectroscopy for DBD studies.

- Total OMC rate for nuclei
- Involvement of overall individual spin states for intermediate nuclei
- Theoretical pn-QRPA simulate the same distribution by g_A and g_p combination => **Absolute capture strength.**
- The first comparison of experimental data of ^{100}Mo with pn-QRPA:
 - More than 90% of the contribution is from 0^\pm , 1^\pm and 2^\pm .
 - Remaining coming from higher multipole states.
- The present calculation was using Neutron Emission Model (NEM) with lower energy resolution.
 - The new PNEM is expected to provide much accurate capture strength with inclusion of proton and Coulomb barrier effect with higher energy resolution.



[1] L. Jokiniemi J. Suhonen, H. Ejiri and I. Hashim PL B 794 143 (2019)



N-Z dependence of OMC Rates

- Observations on neutron-proton ratio (N-Z) dependence.
- Implications for nuclear structure and decay mechanisms.

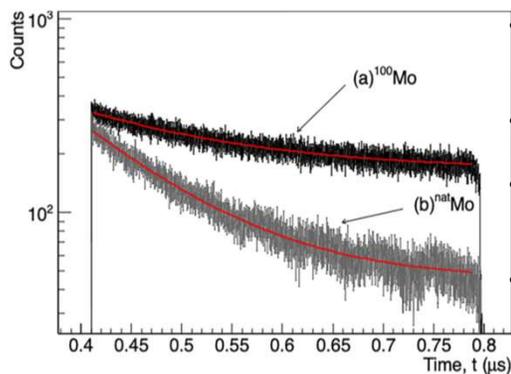


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Observations on neutron-proton ratio (N-Z) dependence.

Measurement of muon disappearance rate on ^{100}Mo and $^{\text{nat}}\text{Mo}$ shows that



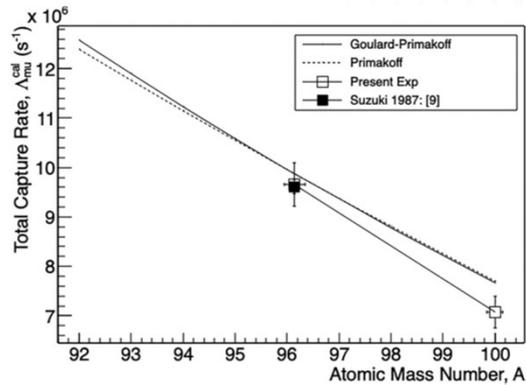
I. H. Hashim et al. *Physical Review C* 108, 014618 (2023)

- The experimental OMC rates for ^{100}Mo and $^{\text{nat}}\text{Mo}$ are determined by examining the time spectra of the electron decaying from the trapped muon.
- The increment of A resulting in significantly lower OMC rates.
- The OMC rate for ^{100}Mo is 27% lower than the rate for $^{\text{nat}}\text{Mo}$, with the effective A around 96 due to the blocking effect of the surplus neutrons in ^{100}Mo [3].
- The present experiment show, for the first time, a significant reduction in the OMC rate for the DBD nucleus of ^{100}Mo with $N - Z = 16$ compared to the rate for $^{\text{nat}}\text{Mo}$ with $A \approx 96$ and $N - Z = 12$.

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Implications for nuclear structure and decay mechanisms.



- This $N - Z$ dependence is consistent with the general $N - Z$ dependence observed in other nuclei [9,26] and supports the phenomenological OMC rate as a function of $N - Z$ proposed by Primakoff [34].
- This demonstrates that some g_A quenching was detected in nuclear structural effects on the OMC process.

I. H. Hashim et al. *Physical Review C* 108, 014618 (2023)

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Perspectives on OMC experiments



- Current challenges and advancements in experimental techniques.
- Future directions for OMC in studying antineutrino nuclear responses.

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Current challenges and advancements in experimental techniques

- The original Monument proposal envisaged three series of measurements at PSI on isotopes of interest for $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay and astrophysical applications.
- Our efforts started in ^{76}Se and ^{136}Ba (2021), ^{100}Mo for astrophysical applications in 2022, followed by ^{48}Ti in 2023 for setting a benchmark of ab initio calculations for $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay.

G.R.Araujo, et al. (MONUMENT experiment). Eur. Phys. J. C (2024) 84:1188

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Eur. Phys. J. C (2024) 84:1188
https://doi.org/10.1140/epjc/s10052-024-13470-6

THE EUROPEAN PHYSICAL JOURNAL C

Regular Article

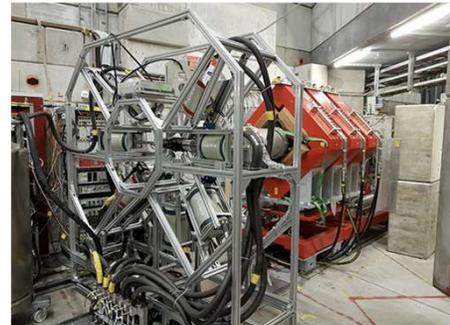
Experimental Physics

The MONUMENT experiment: ordinary muon capture studies for $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay

G. R. Araujo¹, D. Bajjal², L. Banditi³, V. Belov^{4,5}, E. Bussola^{6,7,8}, T. E. Coccolini⁹, H. Ejiri¹⁰, M. Fumina¹¹, K. Ginos¹², I. H. Habibian¹³, M. Helnes¹⁴, S. Kozartsev¹⁵, A. Knecht¹⁶, E. Mondragón¹⁷, Z. W. Ng¹⁸, I. Ostrovsky¹⁹, F. Othman²⁰, N. Ranyanueva²¹, S. Scherer²², M. Schwarz²³, E. Shvedchik²⁴, M. Shirechenko²⁵, Yu. Shishov²⁶, E. O. Sushenok²⁷, J. Suhonen^{28,29}, S. M. Voglata³⁰, C. Wiesinger³¹, I. Zhitnikov³², D. Zinatulina³³

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Future directions for OMC in studying ANRs

- Looking ahead, measurement on light nuclei motivated by further exchanges with nuclear physics theorists, would be aimed at comparison with ab initio calculations.
- Despite the lack of a direct link to the $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay isotopes, these isotopes can help to study theoretical aspects such as the role of meson exchange currents infinite momentum transfer, in light systems where the calculations are more under control than in the heavier ones.
- However, this desired measure would require a revision of the experimental approach, as a challenging plethora of γ -rays and μ X-rays are expected.

G.R.Araujo, et al. (MONUMENT experiment). Eur. Phys. J. C (2024) 84:1188

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Concluding Remarks



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Concluding Remarks

- OMC can efficiently transmute the target isotope into isotope of mass number $Z-1$ along with emission of neutral and charged particle.
- measurement of delayed gamma rays gives majority branching ratio observation from $(\mu, 1n)$ channel.
- OMC and DBD are linked through their dependence on NMEs and nuclear structure properties. These processes differ in their mechanisms, both provide valuable insights into weak interactions and the fundamental properties of neutrinos.
- ANRs obtained by the observation of delayed gamma rays following OMC reflect how nuclei interact with antineutrinos, revealing valuable information about nuclear structure, transitions, and fundamental symmetries.

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Concluding Remarks

- The extensive experimental programs on OMC for other nuclei of DBD and supernova anti-neutrino interests are under progress at Research Center Nuclear Physics (RCNP), Osaka and Paul Scherrer Institute (PSI), Zurich, by the joint group of OMC4DBD/MONUMENT collaboration.
- Current focused revolved on $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay of astrophysical applications and benchmarking of ab initio calculations.

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