



# Superheavy elements at SHE Factory recent achievements and perspectives

Alexander Karpov

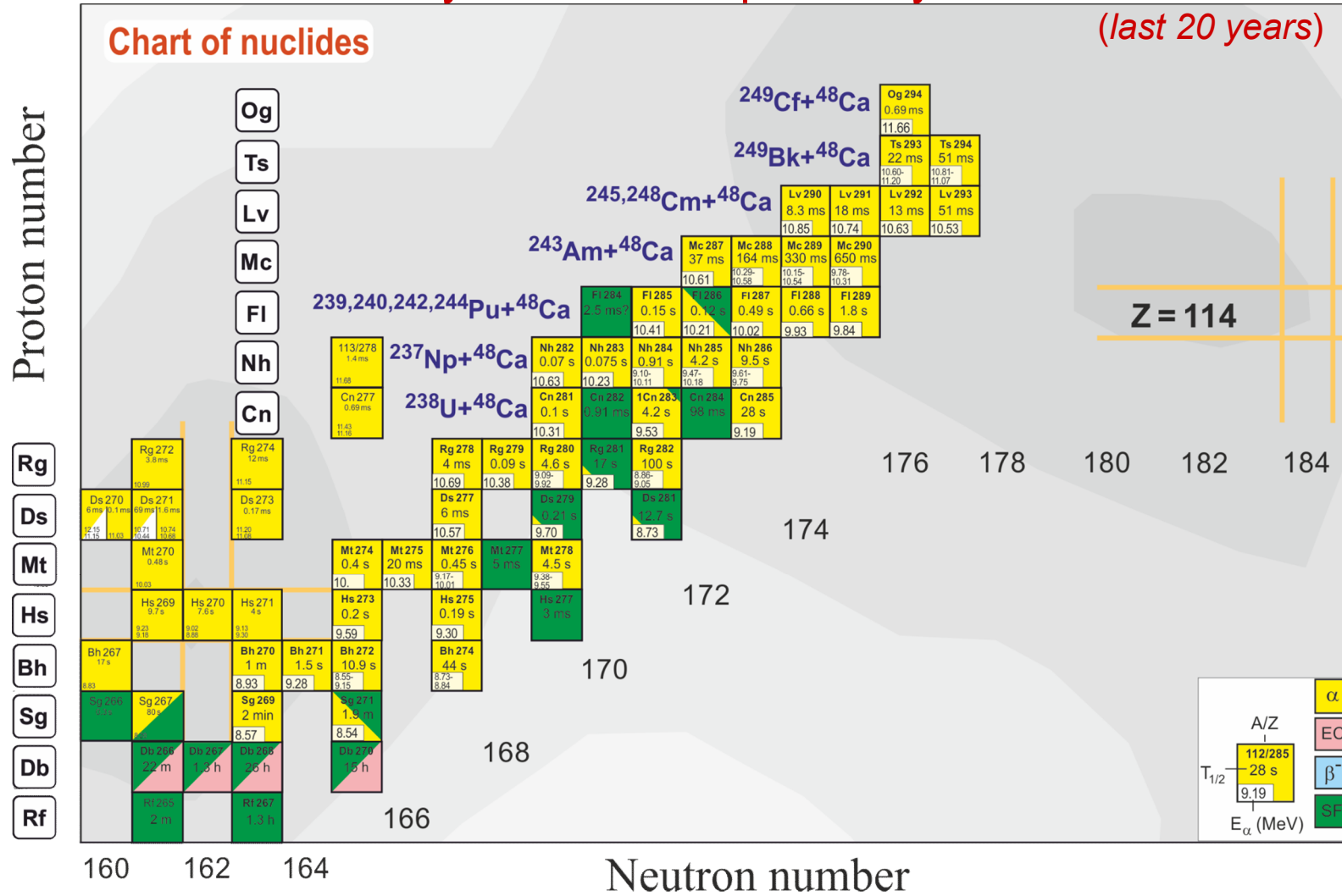
Flerov Laboratory of Nuclear Reactions, JINR

ДЦ-280

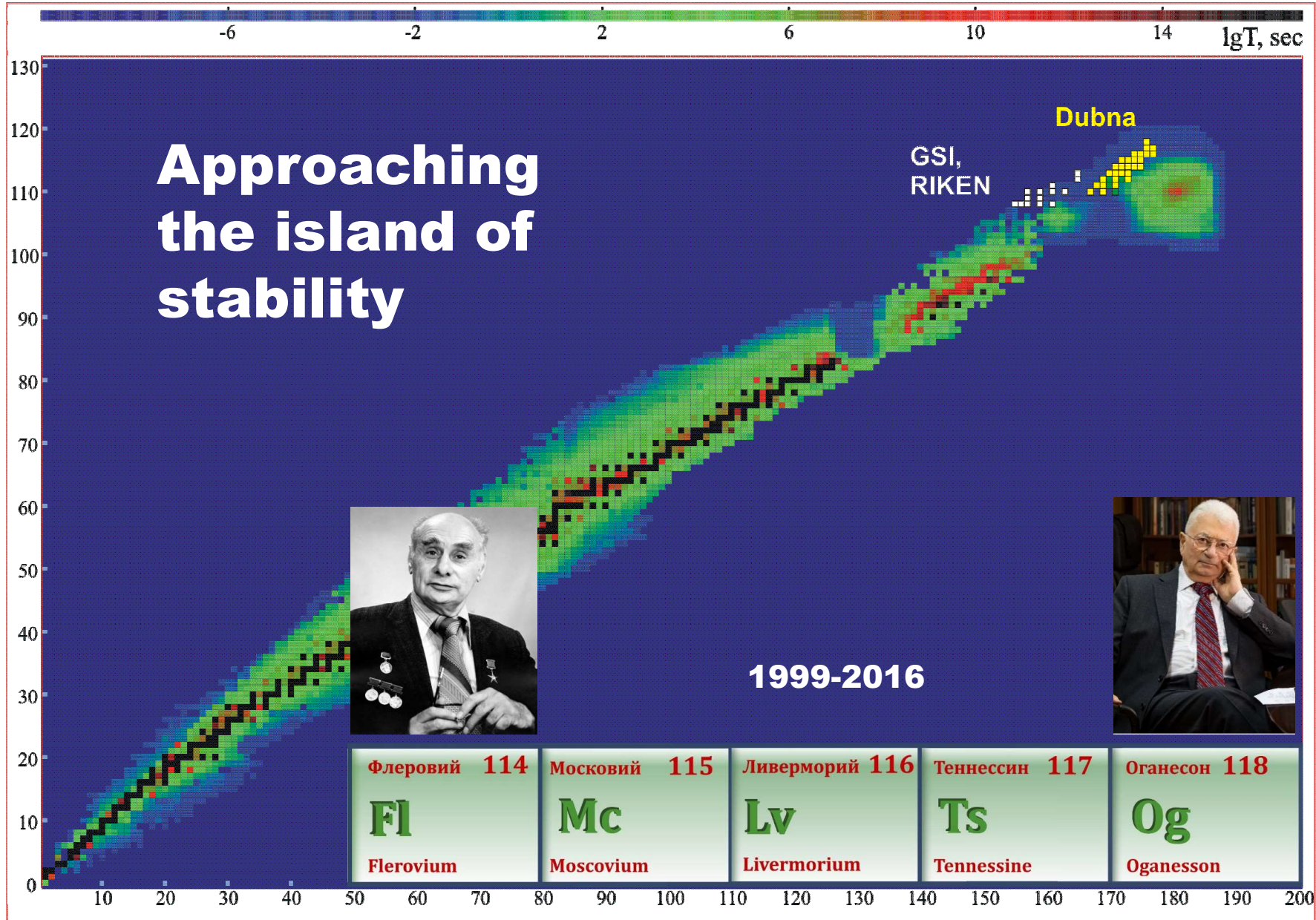
International Workshop on Nuclear and Particles Physics  
Almaty, April 24-30, 2022

# GREAT PROGRESS

## in Synthesis of Superheavy Nuclei



# Approaching the island of stability





ЛАБОРАТОРИЯ ЯДЕРНОЙ РЕАКЦИИ



# Периодическая таблица элементов Д.И. Менделеева

## D.I. Mendeleev's Periodic Table of Elements

1	Периодическая таблица элементов Д.И. Менделеева																18
Водород 1 <b>H</b> 1.00794 Hydrogen																	Гелий 2 <b>He</b> 4.0026 Helium
Литий 3 <b>Li</b> 6.941 Lithium	Бериллий 4 <b>Be</b> 9.01218 Beryllium															Неон 10 <b>Ne</b> 20.1797 Neon	
Натрий 11	Магний 12															Аргон 18	

### 10 of 18 elements discovered since 1956 were first synthesized in Dubna

11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Al	Si	P	S	Cl	Ar		
Zn	Ga	Ge	As	Se	Br	Kr	
Cd	In	Sn	Sb	Te	I	Xe	

Cs	Ba	La	Hf	Ta	W	Re	Os	Ir	Pt	Au	Hg	Tl	Pb	Bi	Po	At	Rn
Fr	Ra	Ac	Rf	Db	Sg	Bh	Hs	Mt	Ds	Rg	Cn	Nh	Fl	Mc	Lv	Ts	Og

### Лантаноиды Lanthanoides

Ce	Pr	Nd	Pm	Sm	Eu	Gd	Tb	Dy	Ho	Er	Tm	Yb	Lu
140.115	140.90765	144.24	[145]	150.36	151.965	157.25	158.92534	162.50	164.93032	167.26	168.93421	173.04	174.967

Водород 1 <b>H</b> 1.00794 Hydrogen
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### Актиноиды Actinoides

Th	Pa	U	Np	Pu	Am	Cm	Bk	Cf	Es	Fm	Md	No	Lr
232.0381	231.03588	238.0289	[237]	[244]	[243]	[247]	[247]	[251]	[252]	[257]	[258]	[259]	[262]

H - символ / symbol  
1.00794 - атомная масса / atomic mass  
1s<sup>1</sup> - электронная конфигурация / electron configuration  
13.59844 - 1-я потенциала ионизации, эВ / 1st ionization potential, eV  
0.0899 - плотность, кг/м<sup>3</sup> / density, kg/m<sup>3</sup>  
-259.34 - температура плавления, °C / melting temperature, °C  
-252.87 - температура кипения, °C / boiling temperature, °C

# DRIBS-III ACCELERATOR COMPLEX

FLEROV LABORATORY OF NUCLEAR REACTIONS



## FLNR's basic directions of research:

- Heavy and superheavy nuclei
- Radioactive ion-beam research
- Radiation effects and physical groundwork of nanotechnology
- Accelerator technologies

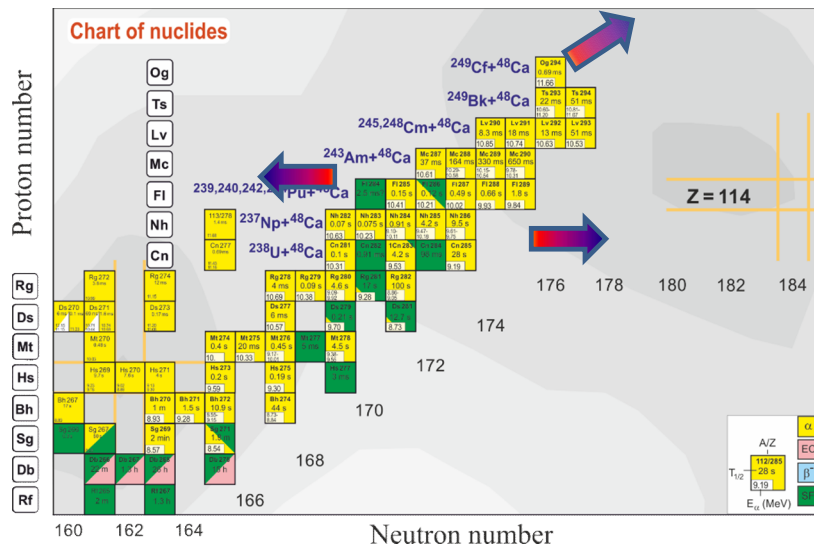
# SHE research: Main tasks

Experiments at the extremely low ( $\sigma < 100$  fb) cross sections:

- Synthesis of new SHE with  $Z = 119$  and  $120$  in reactions with  $^{50}\text{Ti}$ ,  $^{54}\text{Cr}$  ...;
- Synthesis of new isotopes of SHE;
- Study of decay properties of SHE;
- Exploring limits the Island of Stability;
- Study of excitation functions.

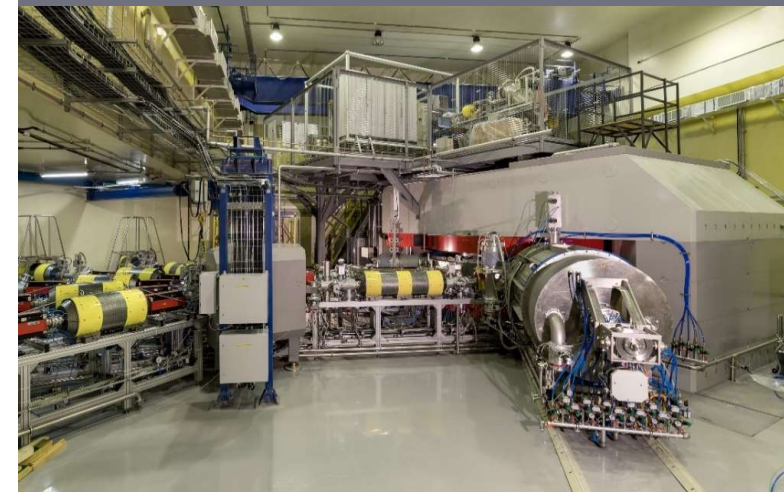
Experiments requiring high statistics:

- Nuclear spectroscopy of SHE;
- Precise mass measurements;
- Study of chemical properties of SHE.



## Beam of $^{48}\text{Ca}$ @ DC-280:

- Intensity: up to  $6 \cdot 10^{13}$  ions/s,  $10 \mu\text{A}$
- Energy: 5 - 8 A·MeV
- Efficiency: ~50%



# Cyclotron DC-280

## Factory of superheavy elements

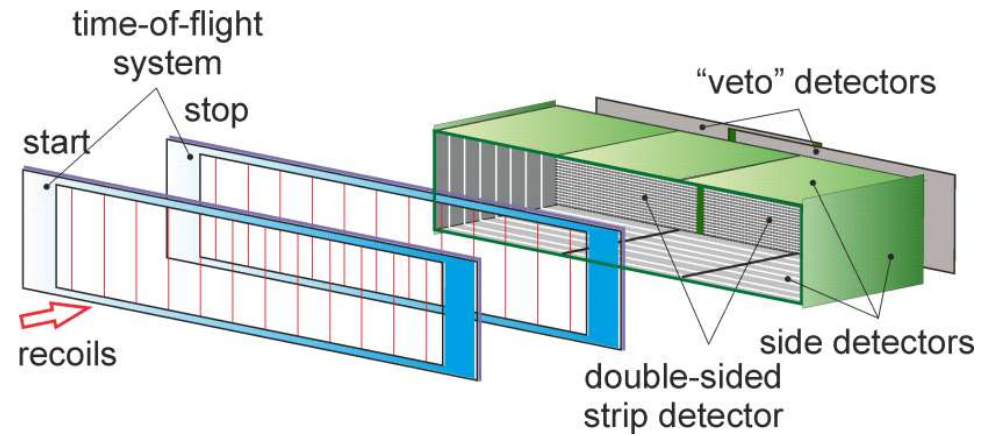
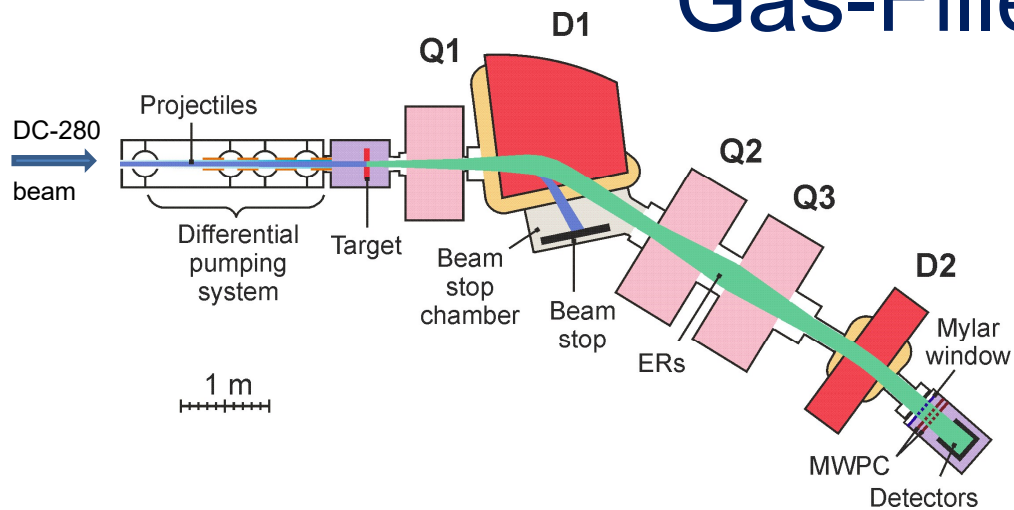
Beam of  $^{48}\text{Ca}$

Achieved Intensity:  
 $4.3 \cdot 10^{13}$  ions/s

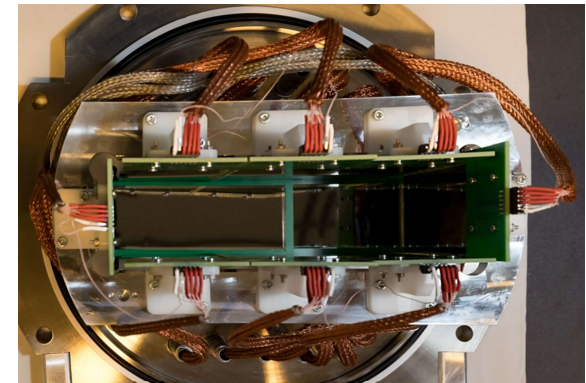
Efficiency:  
~50%



# Gas-Filled Separator, DGFRS-2



$^{242}\text{Pu}$  24-cm target wheel  
12 sectors



60×240 DSSD &  
60×120 SSSD  
Digital and analog electronics





~60 days

Nov.-Dec. 2020

Jan.-Feb. 2021

Jan.-Feb. 2022

# Results of the first experiment $^{243}\text{Am} + ^{48}\text{Ca}$

## Technical tasks:

- Transmission
- Background
- Image size on detector
- Systematics of charge states
- Test of digital and analog data acquisition systems

## Scientific tasks:

- Excitation function for  $xn$ -evaporation channels
- Decay properties
- Cross sections for the  $pxn$  channel
- EC branch for  $^{288}\text{Mc}$  and  $^{284}\text{Nh}$

$$I = 1.2\text{-}1.3 \text{ p}\mu\text{A} \sim (7\text{-}8) \cdot 10^{12} \text{ ions/s}$$

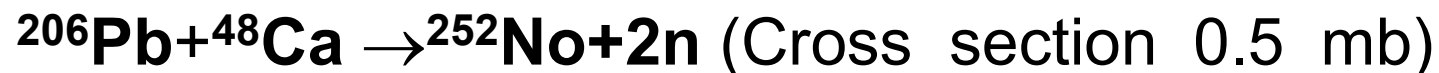
# Transmission

- From  $^{206}\text{Pb}(^{48}\text{Ca},2n)^{252}\text{No}$  test reaction:  $55\pm 7\%$
- From  $^{243}\text{Am}(^{48}\text{Ca},2-3n)^{288,289}\text{Mc}$  reaction:

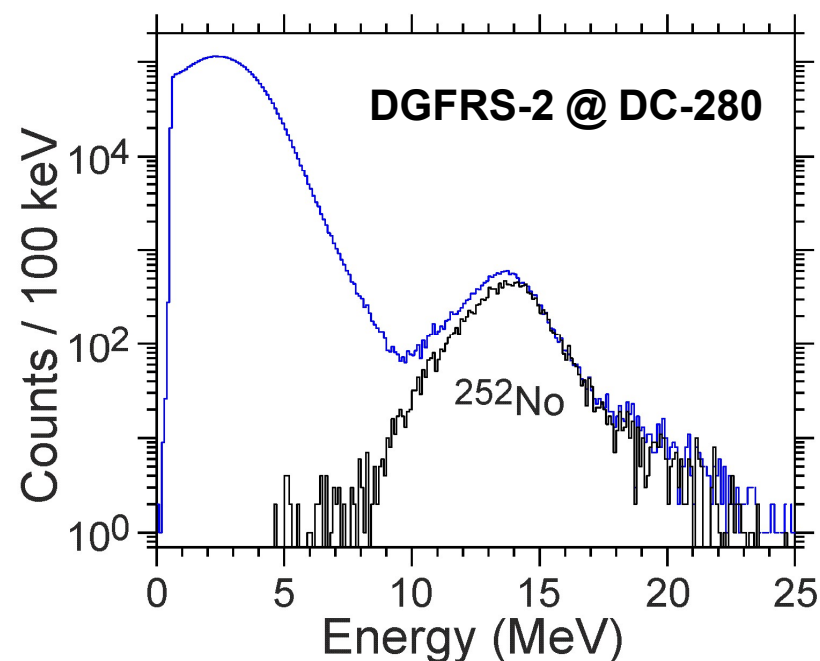
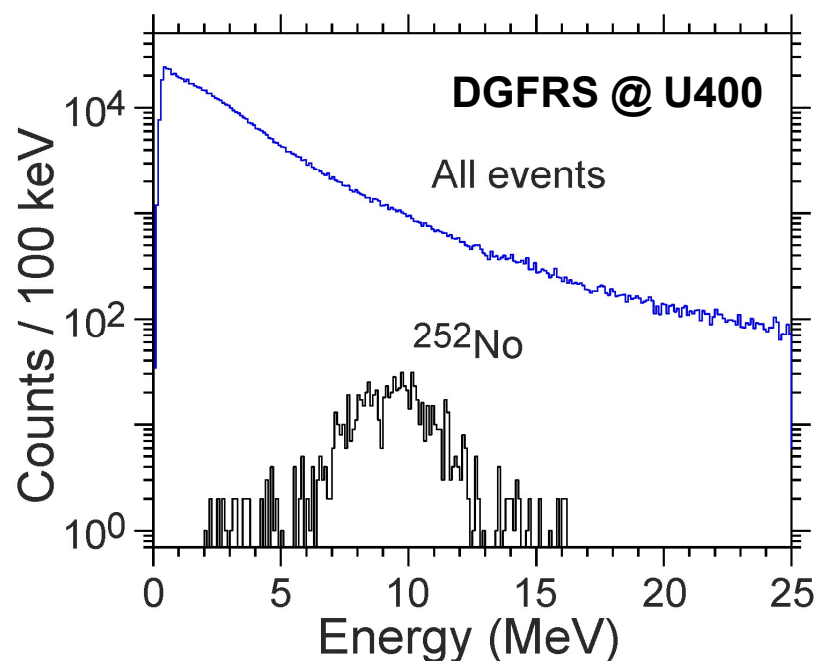
Comparison of results at the same  $^{48}\text{Ca}$  energy

	DGFRS @ U400	DGFRS-2 @ DC-280
Target thickness, mg/cm <sup>2</sup>	0.37	0.43
Beam dose, 10 <sup>18</sup>	3.3	3.4
No decay chains	<sup>288</sup> Mc – 6 <sup>289</sup> Mc – 0	<sup>288</sup> Mc – 13 <sup>289</sup> Mc – 2
Yield	1	1.8-2.1

# Background conditions



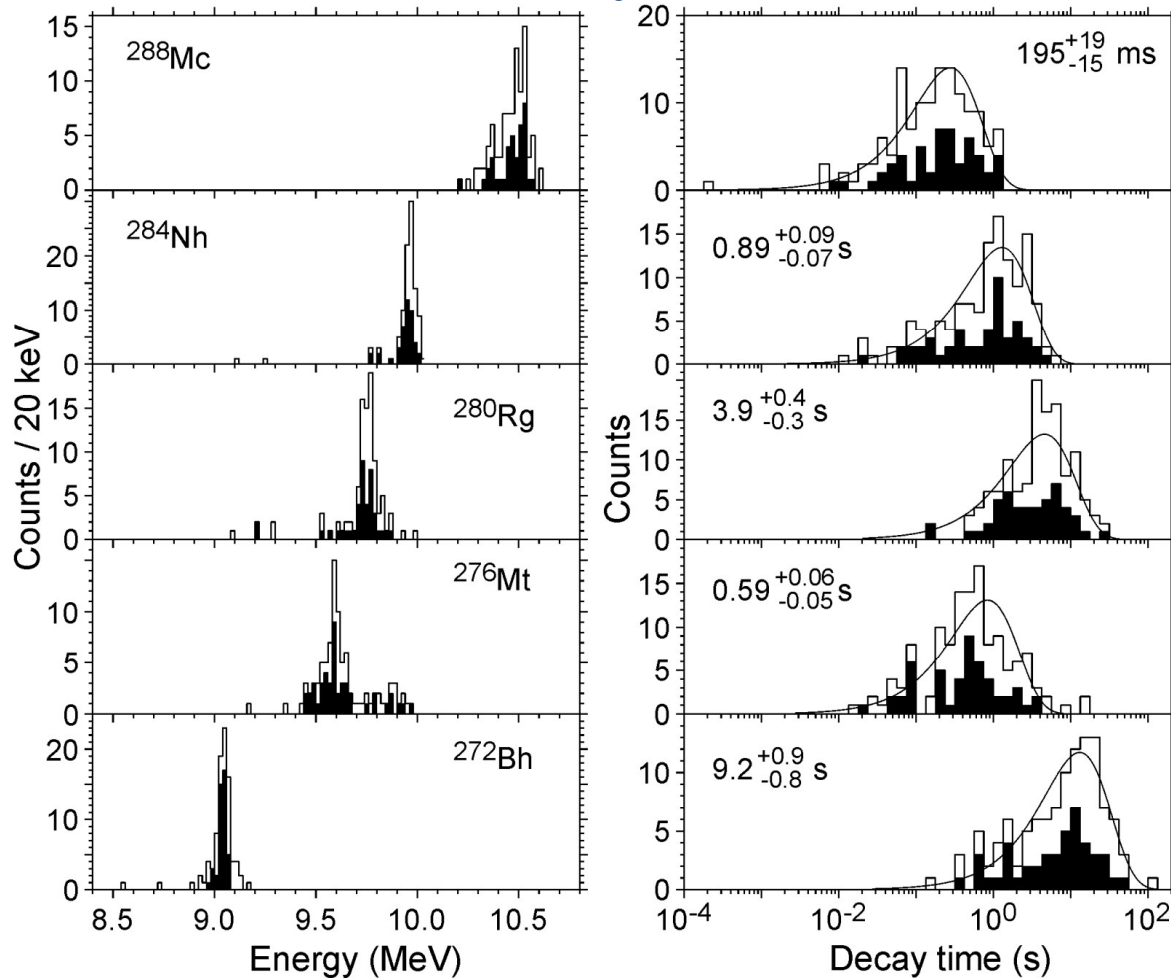
Background suppression is 200+ higher at the DGFRS-2 than at DGFRS



Energy spectra of all the particles registered by MWPC (top blue line) and of  $^{252}\text{No}$  (bottom black line) nuclei produced in the  $^{206}\text{Pb}(^{48}\text{Ca}, 2n)$  reaction using separators DGFRS (a) and DGFRS-2 (b).

# Results of the first experiment

## $^{288}\text{Mc}$ decay properties



**DGFRS, JINR  
TASCA, GSI  
BGS, LBNL**

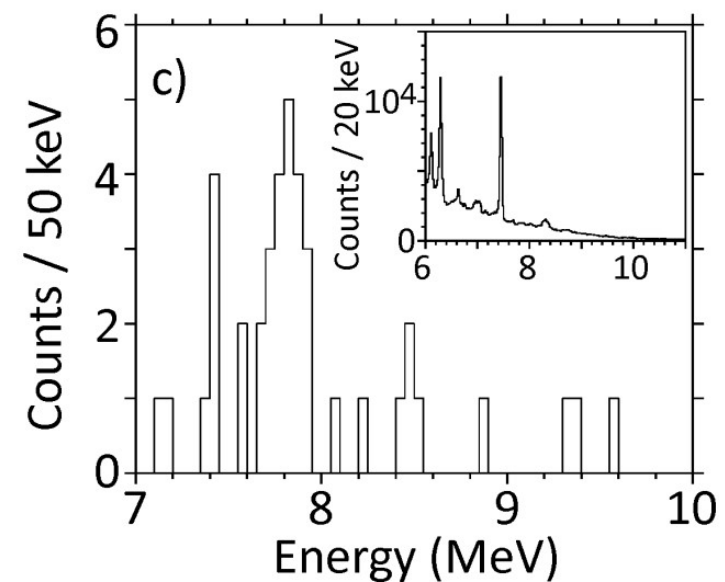
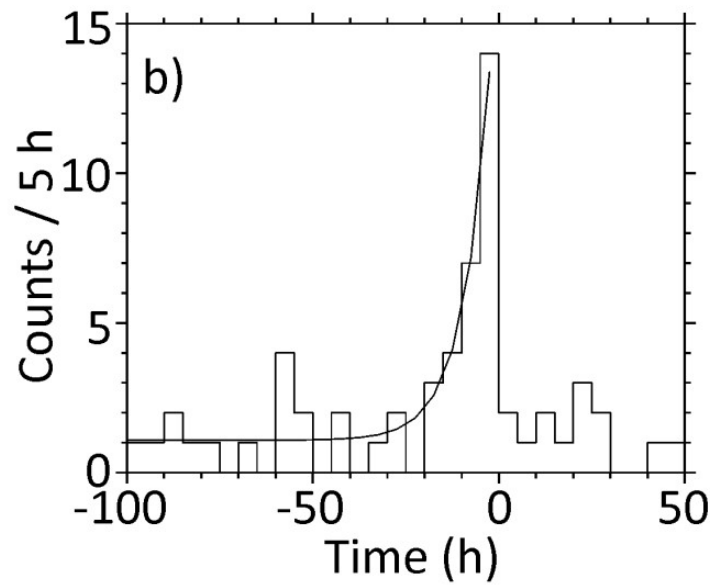
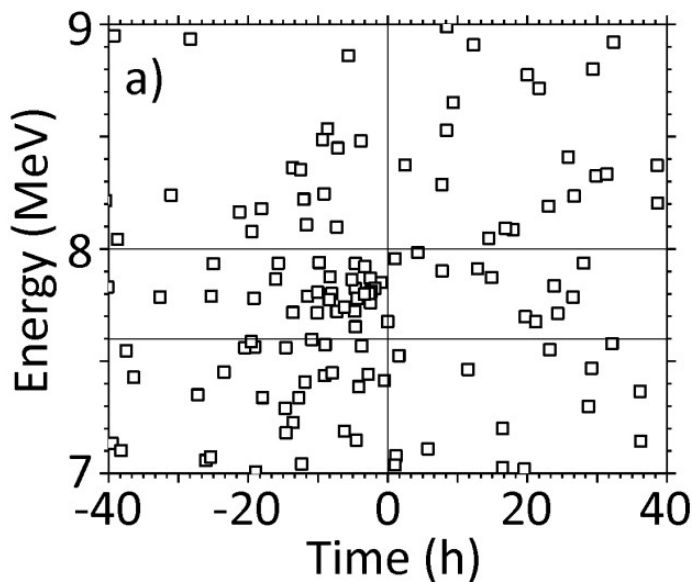
**DGFRS-2, JINR**

# First observation of $\alpha$ -decay of $^{268}\text{Db}$ and new isotope $^{264}\text{Lr}$

$$b_{\alpha} (^{268}\text{Db}) = 55 (^{+20}_{-15}) \%$$

$$T_{1/2} (^{268}\text{Db}) = 16 (^{+6}_{-4}) \text{ h}$$

$$T_{1/2} (^{264}\text{Lr, SF}) = 4.9 (^{+2.1}_{-1.3}) \text{ h}$$



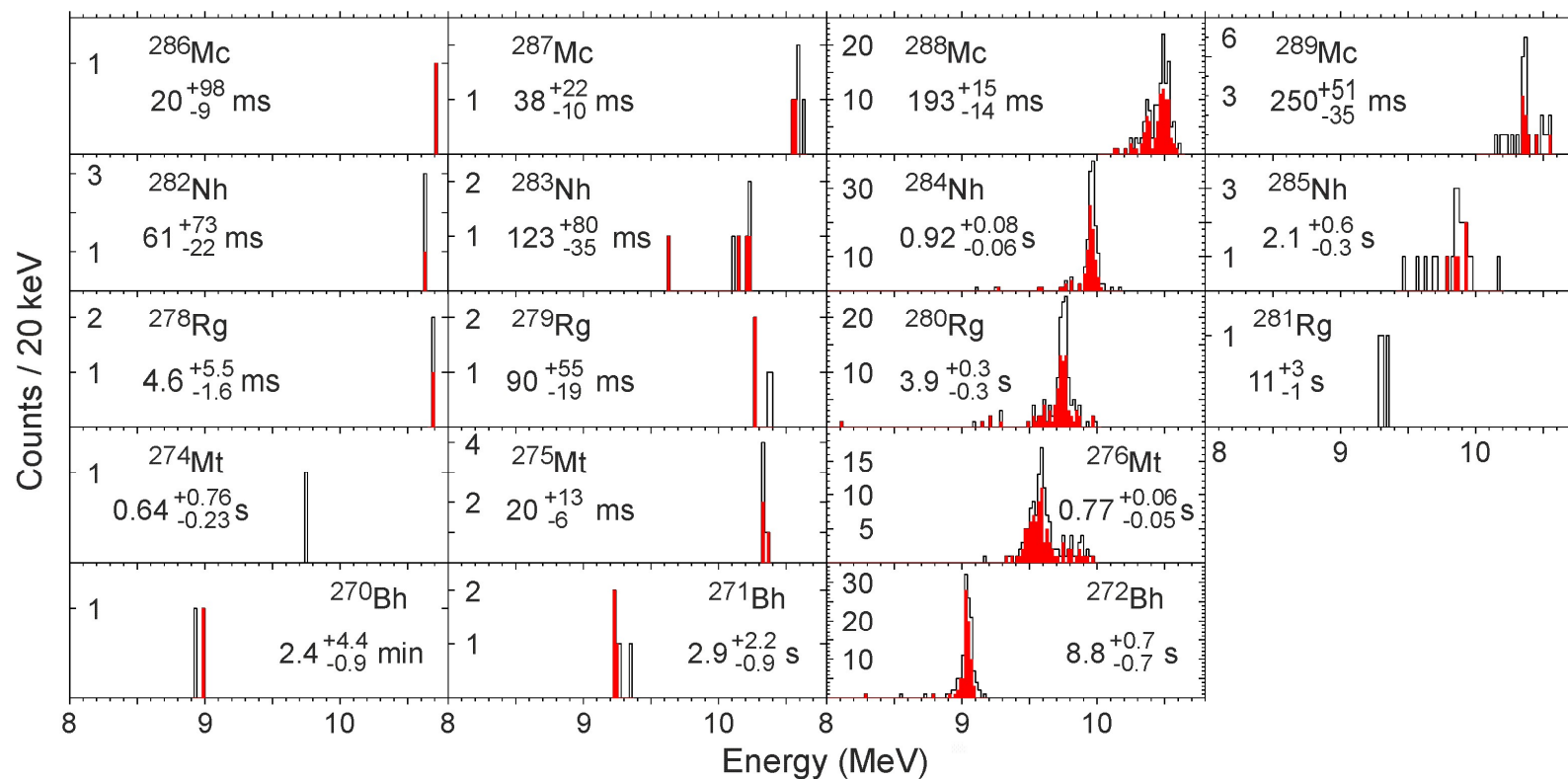
# First experiments: statistics summary

<b>E (MeV)</b>	239.1	240.9	242.0	243.9	251.0	259.0	<b>total</b>	<i>before</i>
<b>Dose, 10<sup>18</sup></b>	2.4	2.3	9.2	8.1	2.0	5.0	<b>29</b>	
<b><sup>286</sup>Mc (5n)</b>	-	-	-	-	0	1	<b>1</b>	0
<b><sup>287</sup>Mc (4n)</b>	-	-	2	-	1	1	<b>4</b>	3
<b><sup>288</sup>Mc (3n)</b>	9	16	52	30	0	3	<b>110</b>	31
<b><sup>289</sup>Mc (2n)</b>	-	1	4	5	-	-	<b>10</b>	18

# $^{243}\text{Am}(^{48}\text{Ca}, 2-5n)^{286-289}\text{Mc}$ Reaction

*125 decay chains*

*Decay properties of 22 isotopes*



**DGFRS, JINR**  
**TASCA, GSI**  
**BGS, LBNL**

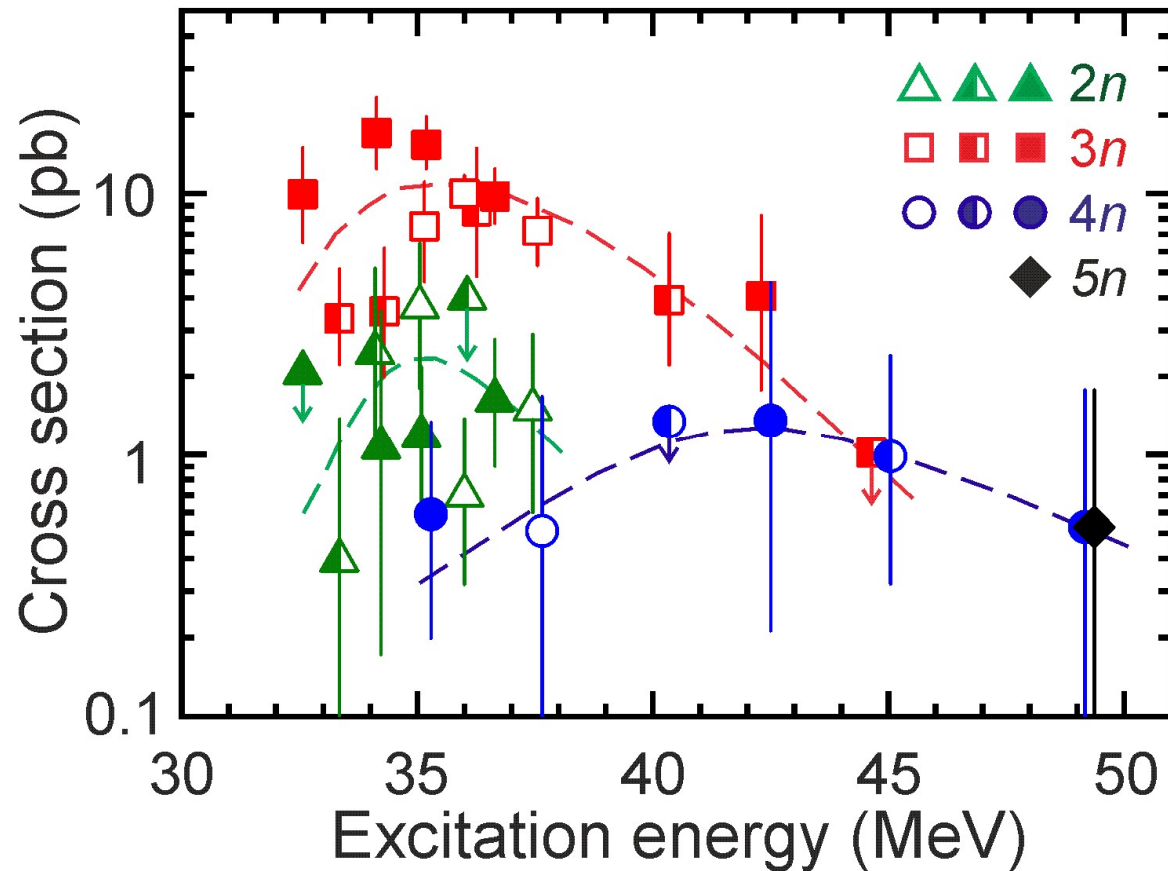
**DGFRS-2, JINR**



# Results of the first experiments

## Excitation function

DGFRS (open),  
TASCA (half open),  
DGFRS-2 (filled)

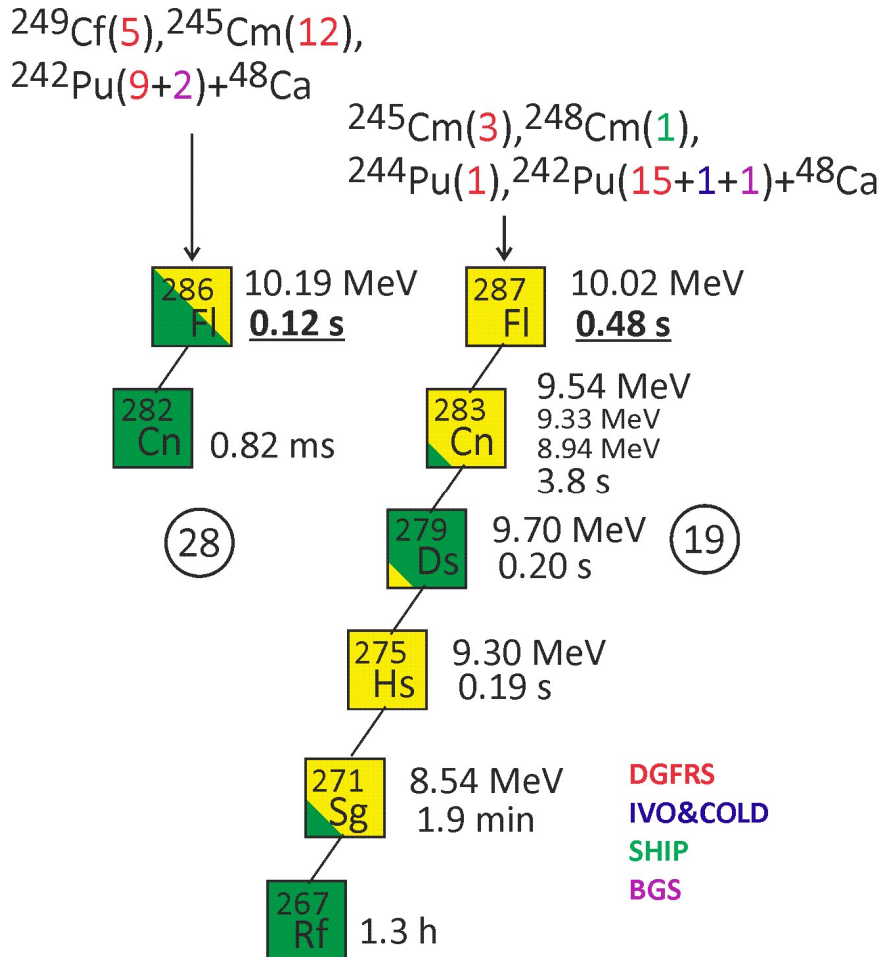




Completed in June 2021

# Preparation of experiment on chemistry of Fl and Cn

## Results of the experiment $^{242}\text{Pu}+^{48}\text{Ca}$



**E=242.5 MeV, Beam dose=11.2  $10^{18}$**

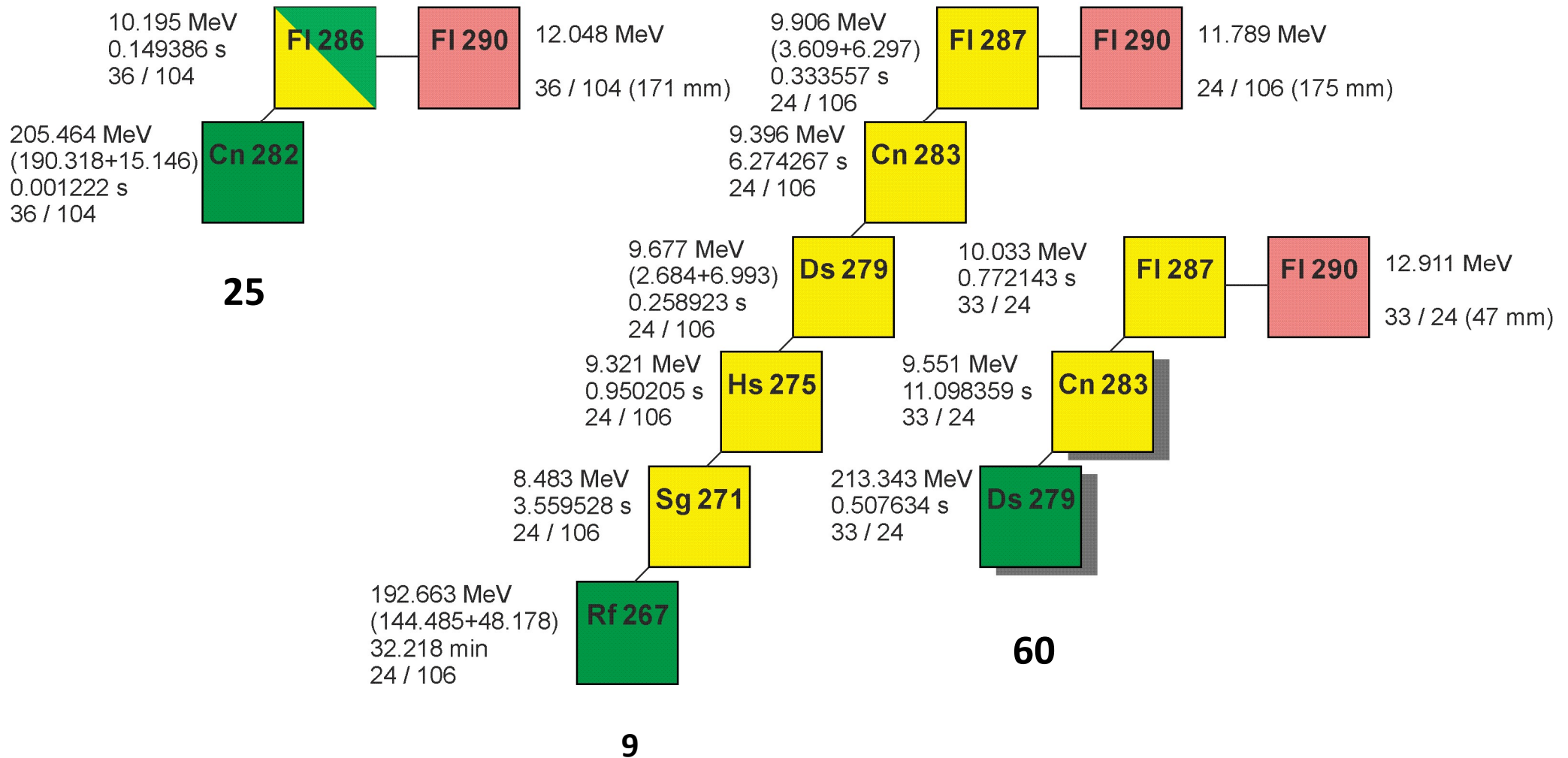
**N ( $^{287}\text{Fl} / ^{286}\text{Fl}$ ) = 65 / 11**

**E=247.5 MeV, Beam dose=5.0  $10^{18}$**

**N ( $^{287}\text{Fl} / ^{286}\text{Fl}$ ) = 4 / 14**

**I = 0.05, 0.1 ... 1, 1.5, 2.0, 2.5, 3  $\mu\text{A}$**

# Results of the first experiment $^{242}\text{Pu}+^{48}\text{Ca}$

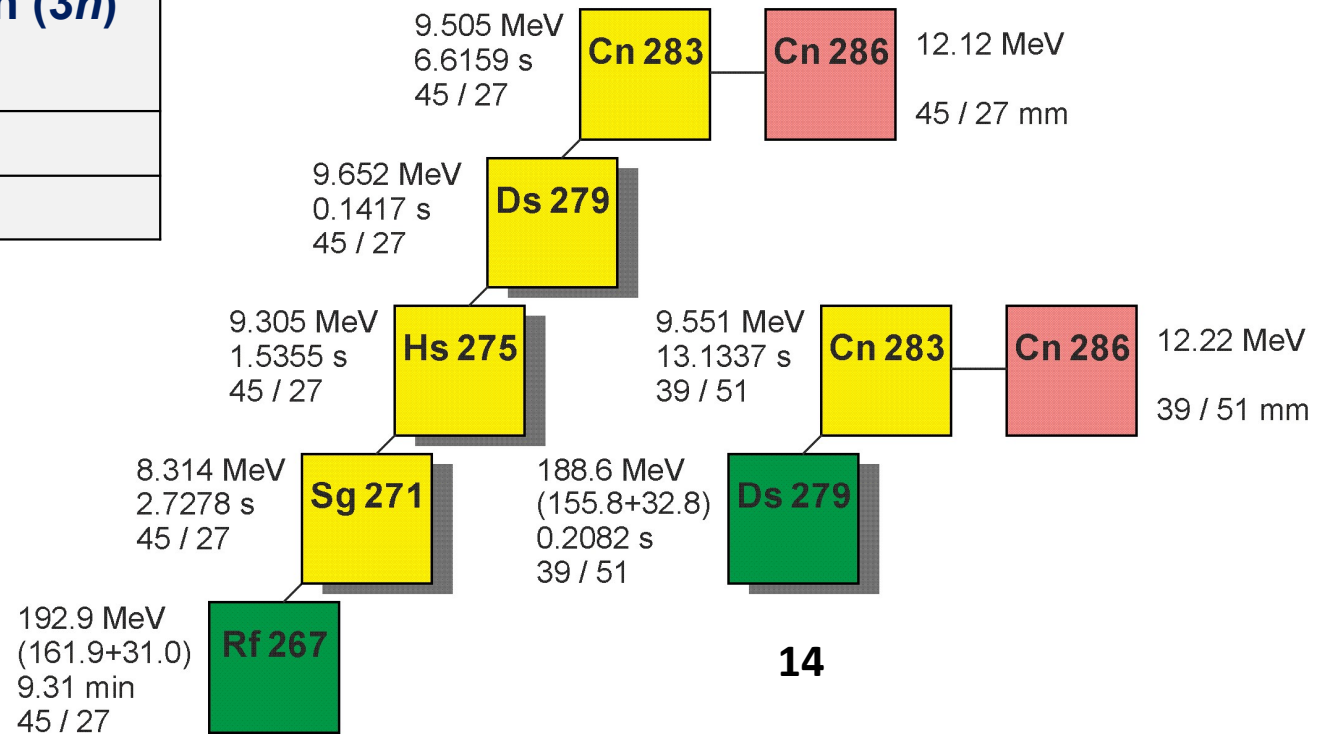


# $^{238}\text{U}(^{48}\text{Ca},3n)^{283}\text{Cn}$ (September – October 2021)

$E_{\text{lab}}$ (MeV)	beam dose $\times 10^{18}$	$^{283}\text{Cn}$ (3n)
234.4	12.1	4
231.1	13.5	12

beam: 0.5, 1, ... 6.5  $\mu\text{A}$

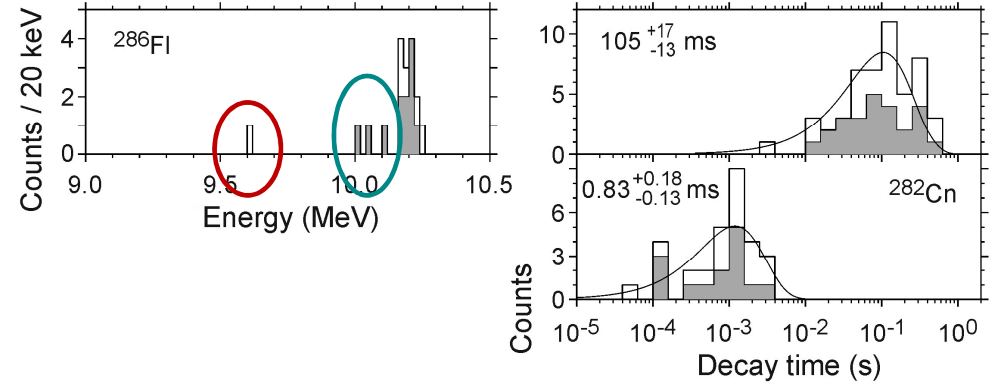
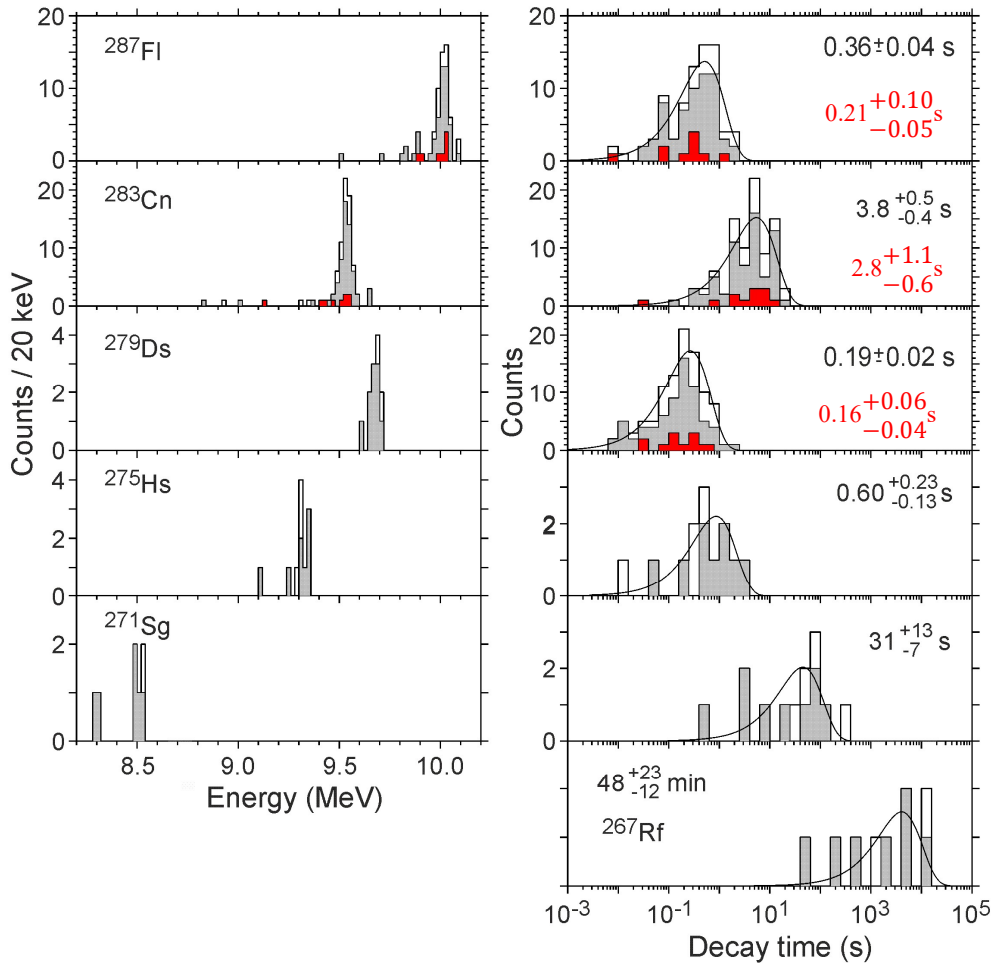
target: 24 cm



**3 (DGFRS-1) +  
1 (SHIP) +  
9 ( $^{242}\text{Pu}$ ) +  
2**

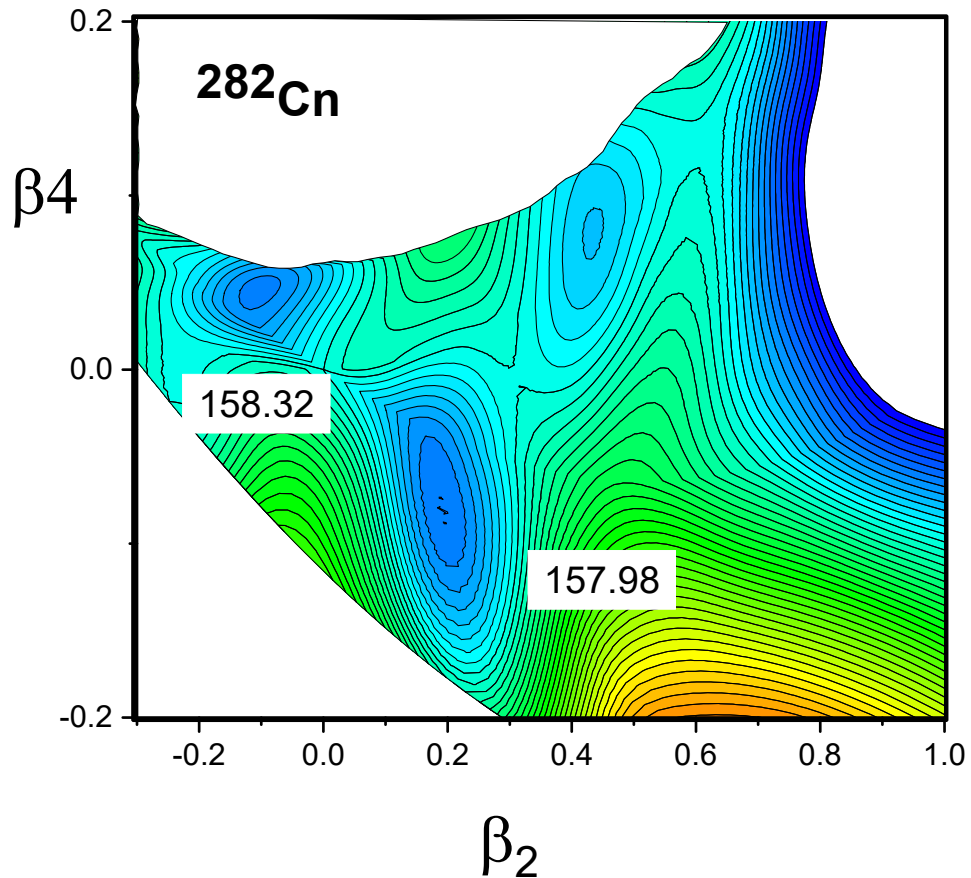
# $^{242}\text{Pu}(^{48}\text{Ca},3-4n)^{286,287}\text{Fl}$ and $^{238}\text{U}(^{48}\text{Ca},3n)^{283}\text{Cn}$

## Decay properties of 8 isotopes



- $^{287}\text{Fl}$ ,  $^{283}\text{Cn}$ , and  $^{279}\text{Ds}$ : decay through different states
- $^{286}\text{Fl}$ :  $\alpha$ -decay line 9.6 MeV for was not observed  
*A. Sămark-Roth et al., PRL (2021)*
- $^{286}\text{Fl}$ : decay on  $2^+$  rotational state  $^{282}\text{Cn}$  or through isomeric states

## Presumable $\alpha$ -decay of $^{286}\text{Fl}$ on rotational $2^+$ -state of $^{282}\text{Cn}$



*“experiment”:*

$E_{2^+} = 100 - 200$  keV

$0^+$ : 82% and  $2^+$ : 18%

*two-center shell model:*  $\beta_2 = 0.18$ ,  $\beta_4 = -0.08$

$E_{2^+} = 75$  keV

$0^+$ : 67% and  $2^+$ : 33%

*deduced for  $0^+$ : 82% and  $2^+$ : 18%*

$\beta_2 = 0.13$

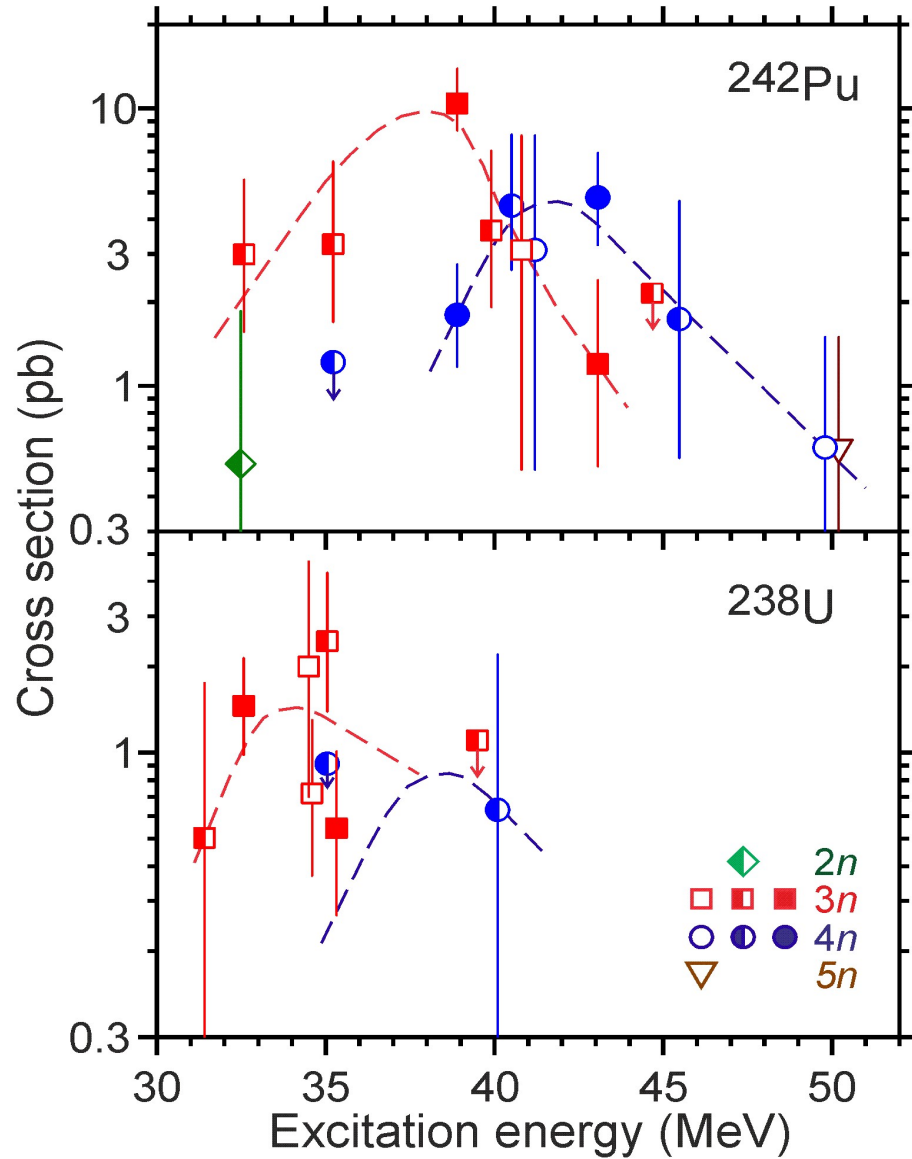
$E_{2^+} = 101$  keV

*E.A. Kolganova*

## Excitation functions

$^{242}\text{Pu}(^{48}\text{Ca}, 3-4n)^{286,287}\text{Fl}$   
*94 new events*

$^{238}\text{U}(^{48}\text{Ca}, 3n)^{283}\text{Cn}$   
*16 new decay chains*





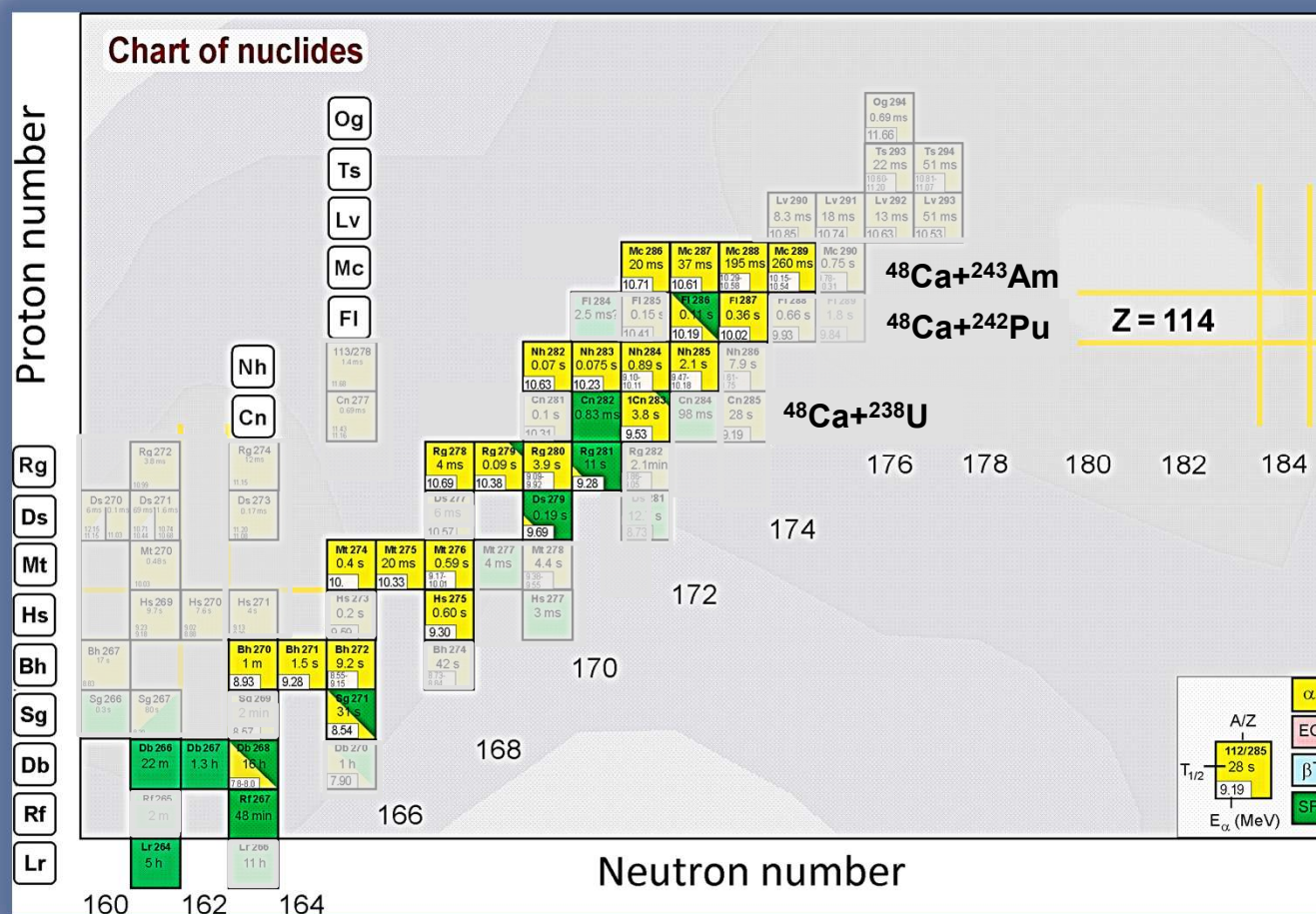
# Summary of experiments @ Superheavy Element Factory in 2021-2022

## Experiments:



Beam time in 2021: 5095 h

- 235 new events of synthesis of superheavy nuclides;
- Decay properties 30 isotopes;
- New isotopes:  $^{287}\text{Mc}$ ,  $^{264}\text{Lr}$ ;
- New decay modes:  $^{268}\text{Db}$  (alpha-decay),  $^{279}\text{Rg}$  (spontaneous fission);
- Indication of excited state in  $^{286}\text{Fl}$ ;
- Test of target stability up to  $6.5 \mu\text{A}$  of  $^{48}\text{Ca}$ ;

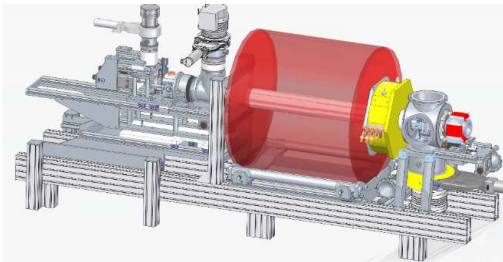


## TARGETS



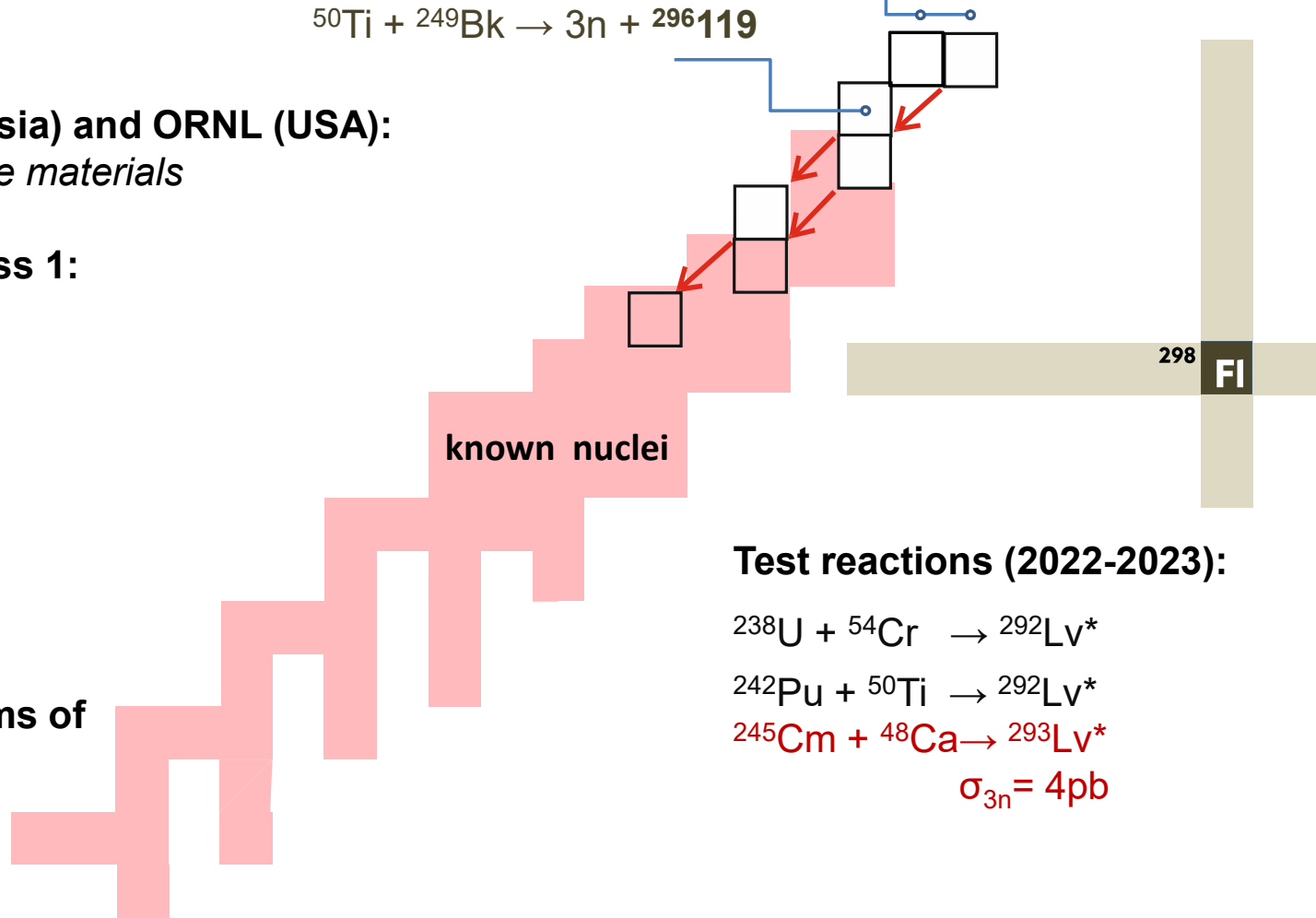
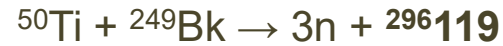
- **Cooperation with Rosatom (Russia) and ORNL (USA):**  
*Isotopically enriched heavy actinide materials*
- **Radiochemical laboratory of class 1:**  
*Stability studies & Manufacturing and regeneration*

## BEAMS



- **Production of high-intensity beams of  $^{50}\text{Ti}$ ,  $^{54}\text{Cr}$  and others**
- **New ECR-28 GHz (2024)**

## Synthesis of new elements @ SHE Factory

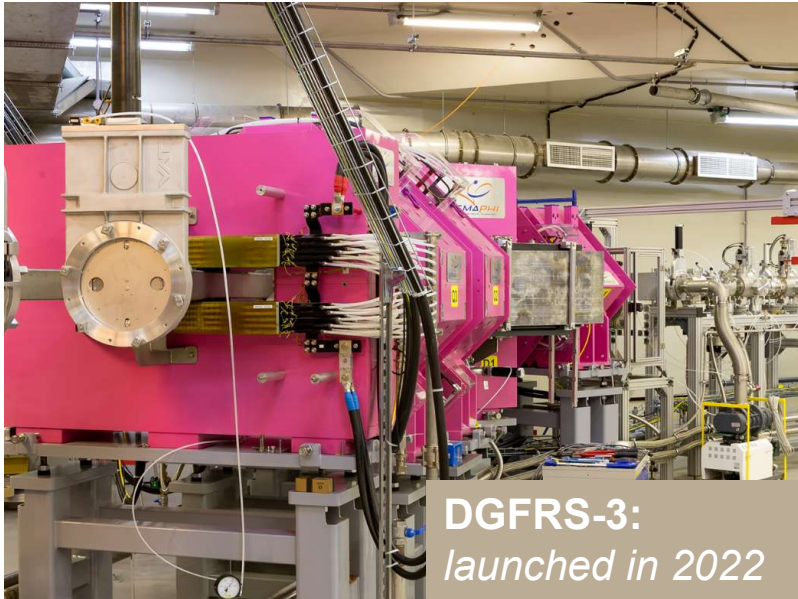


### Test reactions (2022-2023):



$$\sigma_{3n} = 4\text{pb}$$

# SHE research program with existing separators @ SHE Factory

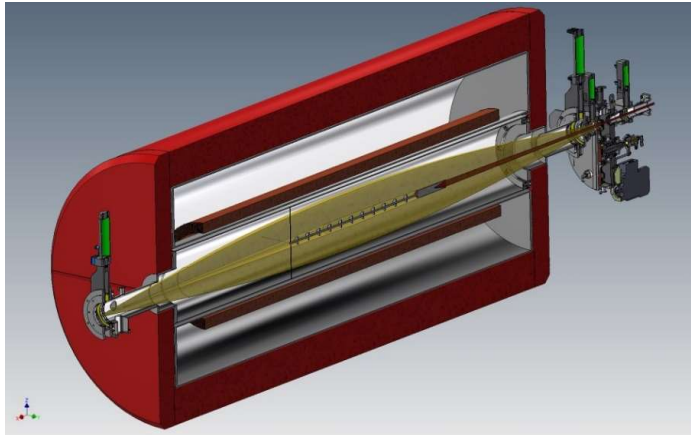


- Spectroscopy of SHE;
- Chemical studies for SH nuclei with half-lives **longer than 1 sec** (114 and lighter);
- Precise mass measurements (new developments are due);



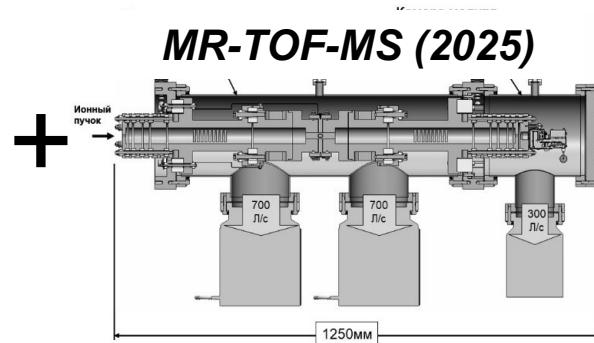
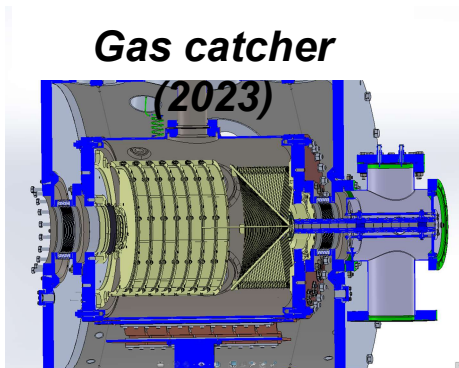
- Synthesis of new SHE;
- Synthesis of new neutron-deficient isotopes of SHE: “shaping” of island of stability;
- Search for rear decay channels in  $^{48}\text{Ca}$ -induced reactions (EC, pxn, 1-2n): towards island of stability;
- Decay modes, excitation functions, etc.

# R&D and launch of new experimental setups at SHE Factory



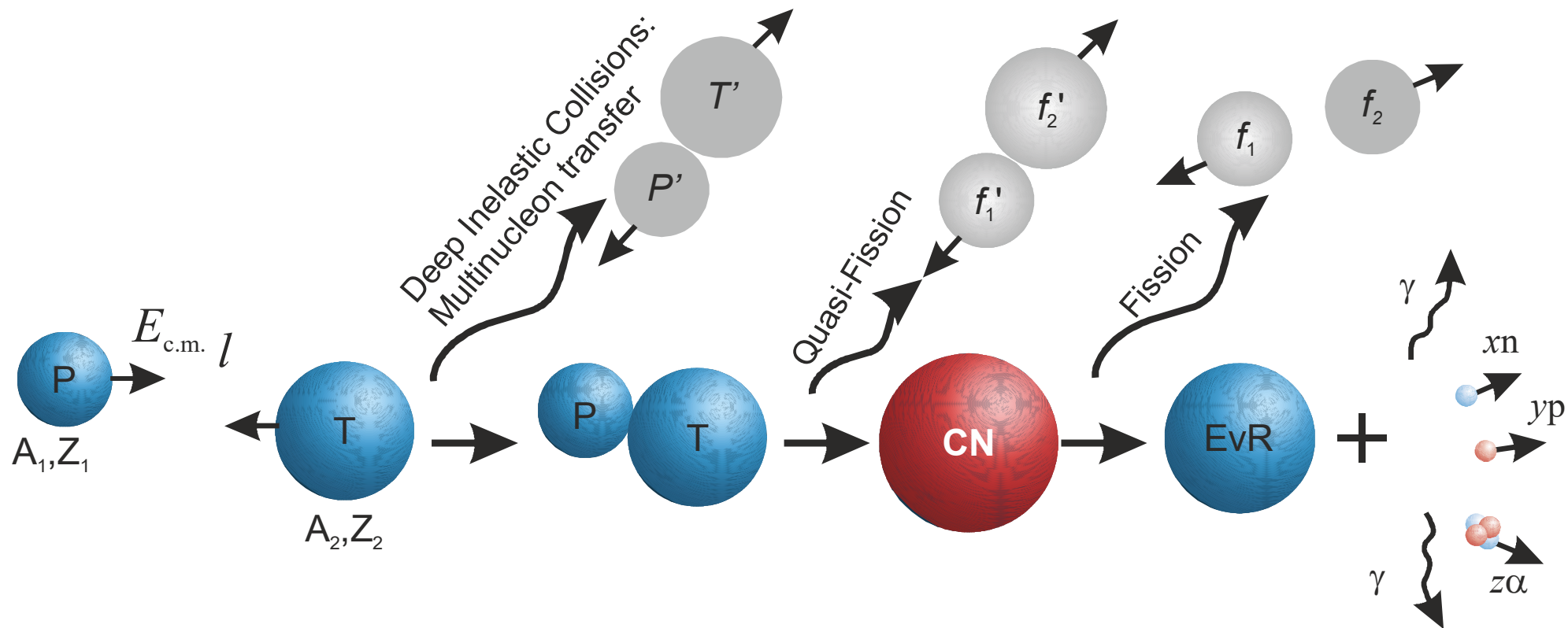
## GASSOL – Solenoid-based separator (2025)

- Stopping SH atoms in a small volume of 1-2 cm<sup>3</sup>
- Chemistry of short-lived SHE  $T_{1/2} \geq 30$  ms (up to element 117)

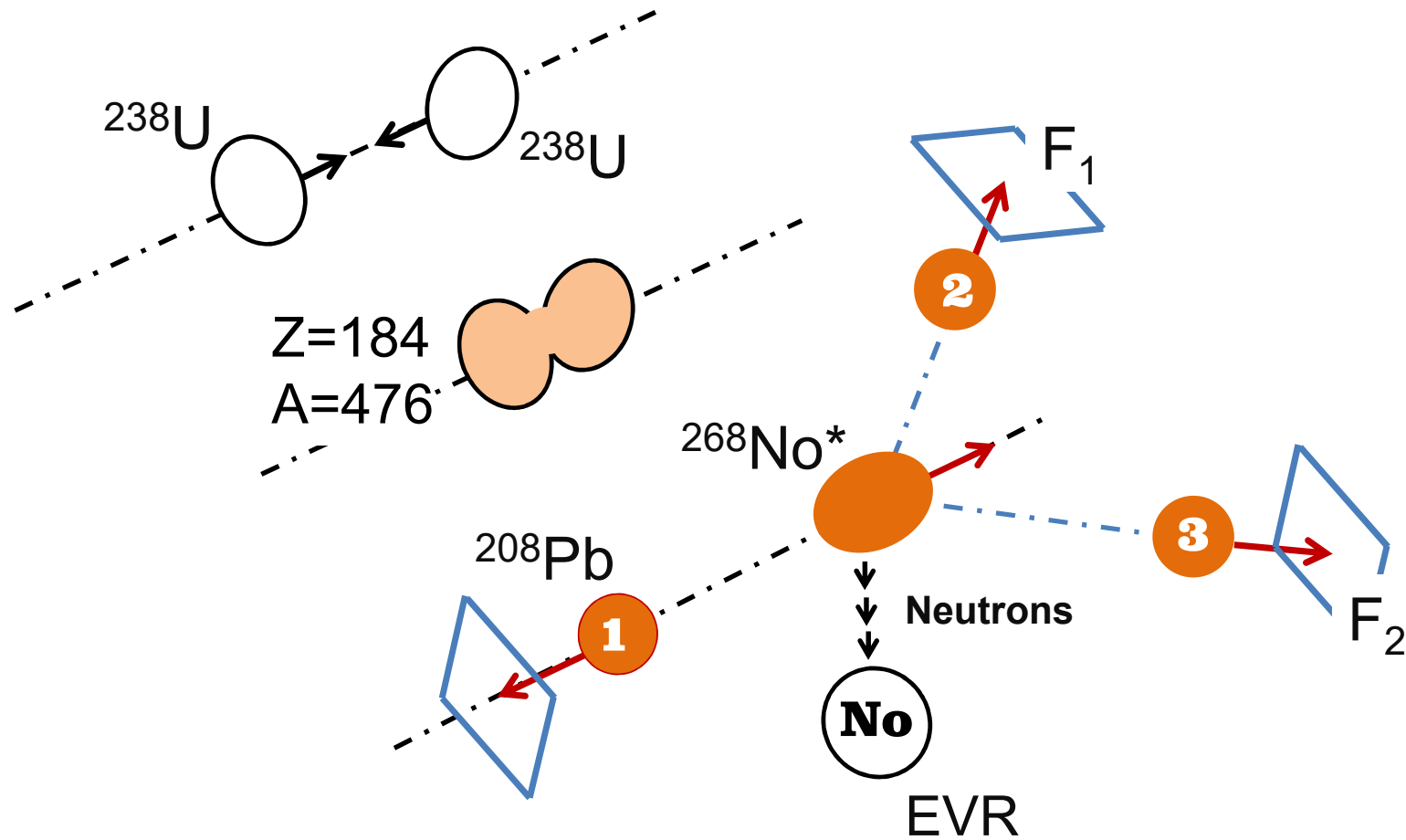


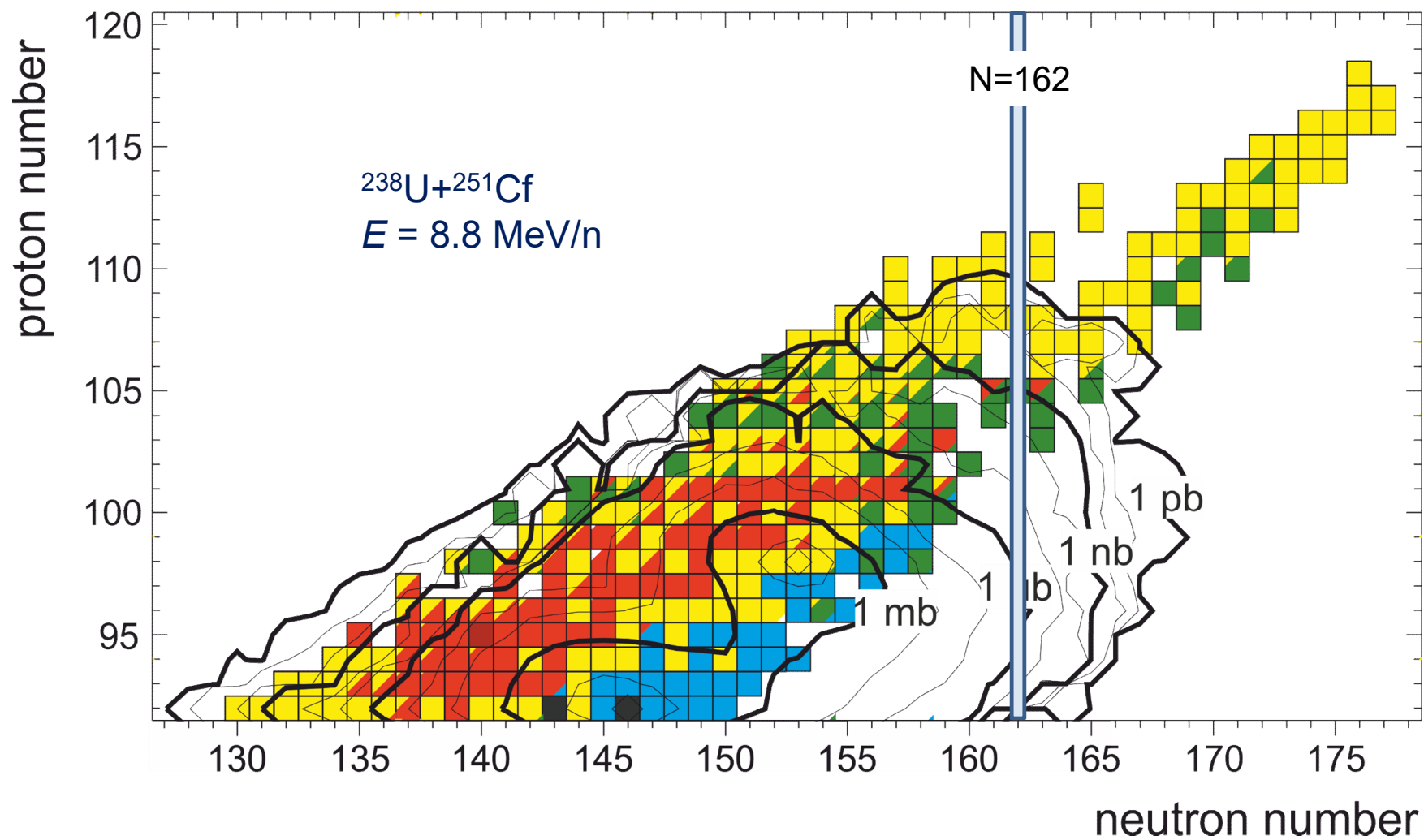
Mass-spectrometry of SHE:  $\Delta M / M \sim 10^{-7}$

Other developments under consideration:  
Laser spectroscopy; Penning trap setup; etc.



# Studying the $^{238}\text{U} + ^{238}\text{U}$ reaction





V.V. Saiko

# Thank you for your attention

