

Synthesis of Superheavy Elements at RIKEN



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for RIKEN SHE Collaboration



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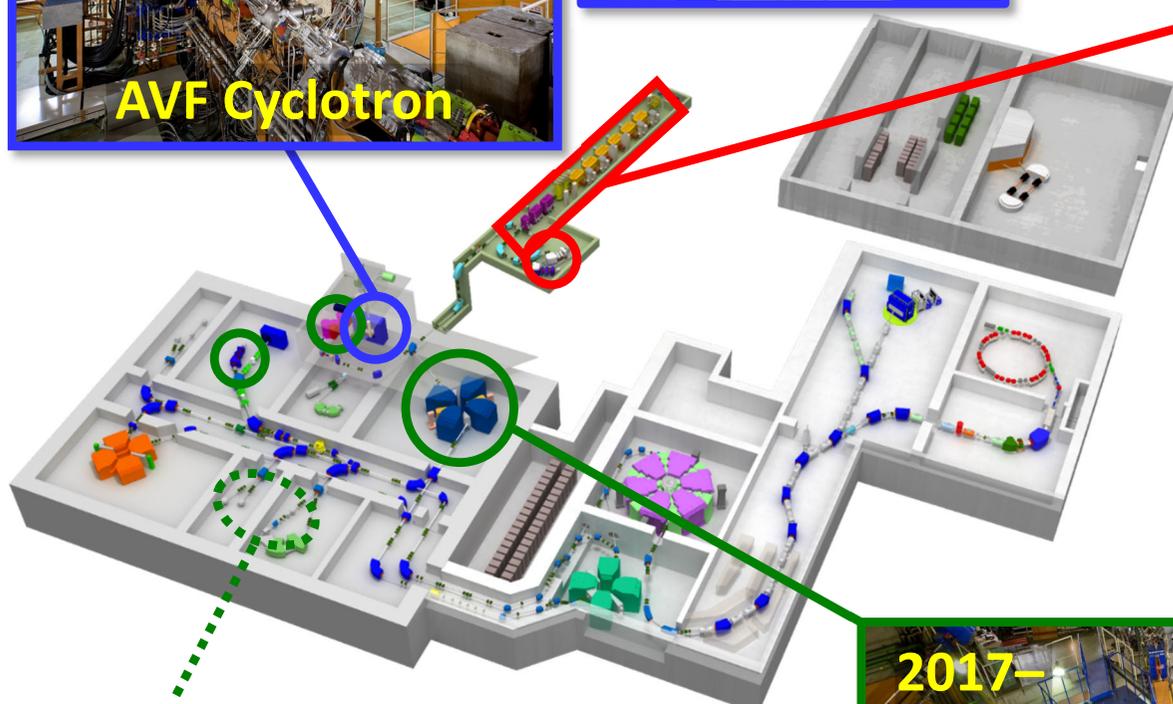
1. Facilities for SHE research at RIKEN RI Beam Factory

Facilities for SHE research in RIKEN RIBF

AVF



SRILAC

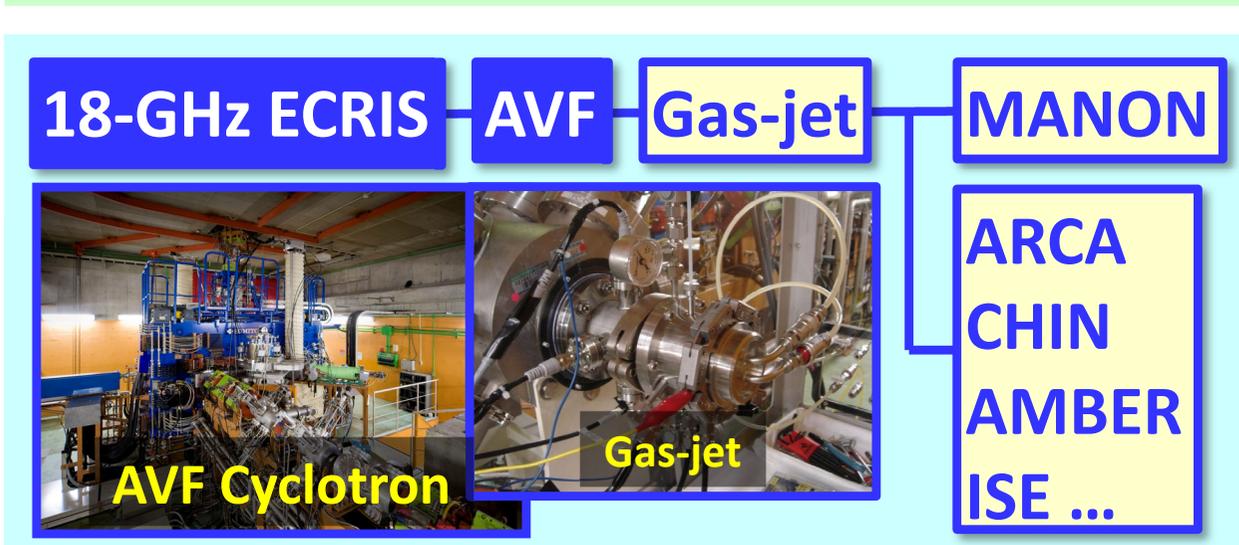
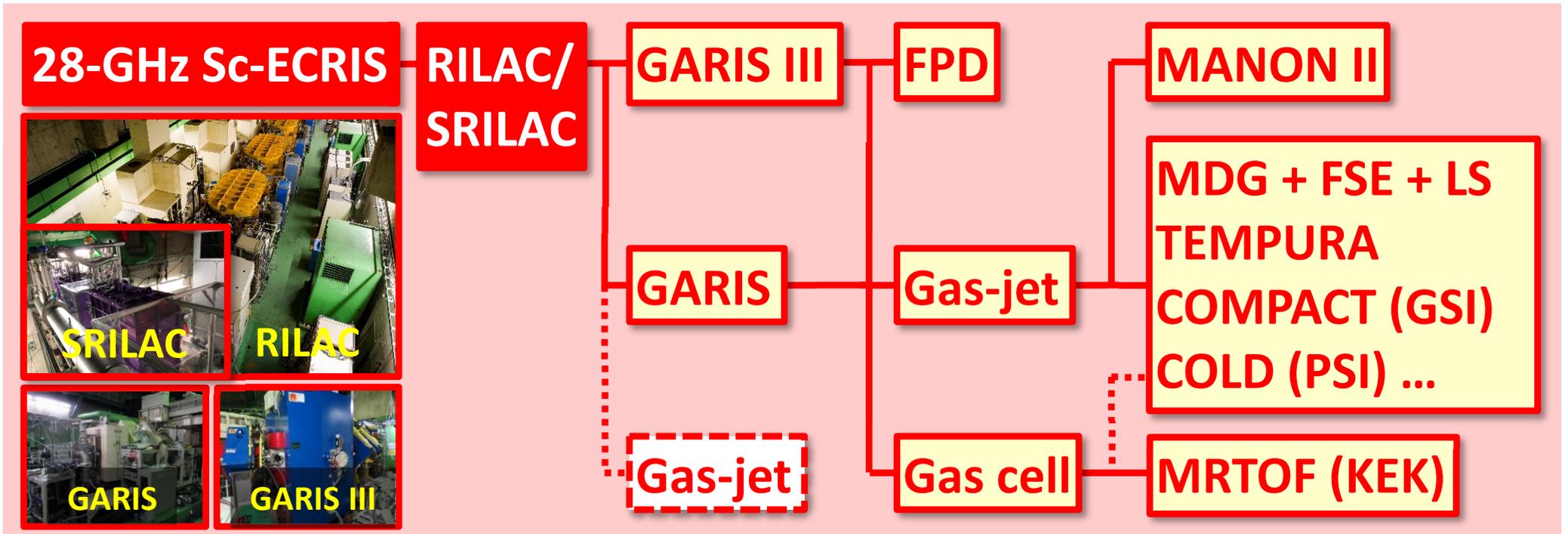


WNSC
KEK Wako Nuclear Science Center

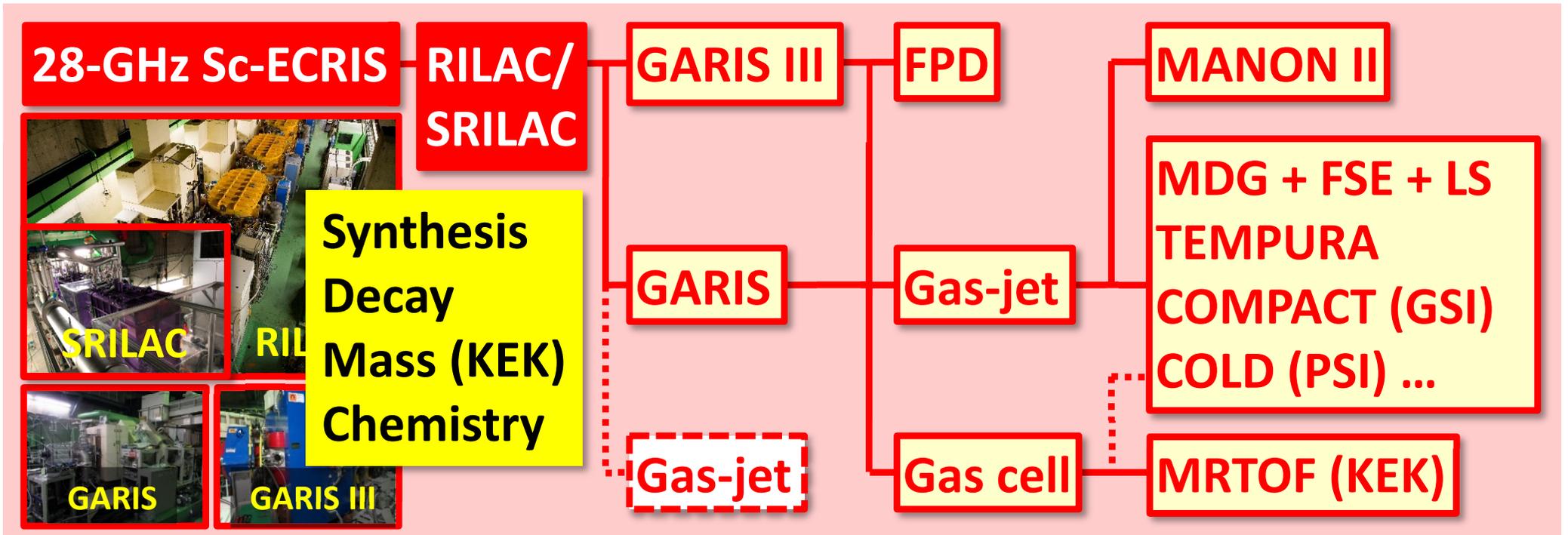
RRC

KISS
(KEK Isotope Separation System)
for multi-nucleon transfer reactions

Facilities for SHE research in RIKEN RIBF



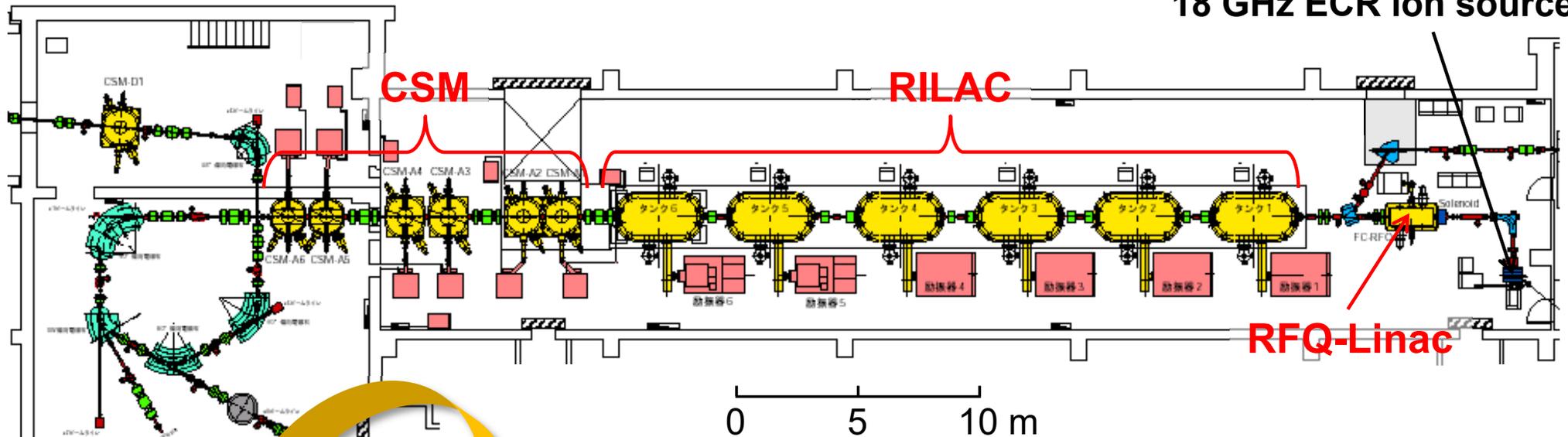
Facilities for SHE research in RIKEN RIBF



2. Synthesis of element 113 by cold fusion

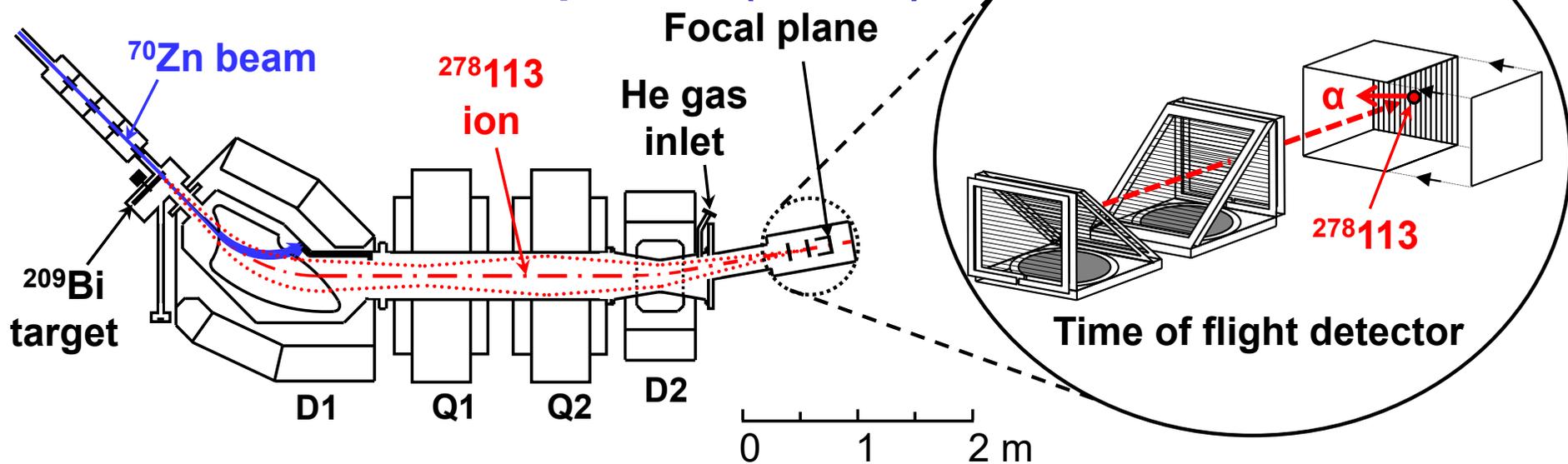
Experimental setup for synthesis of element 113

18 GHz ECR ion source

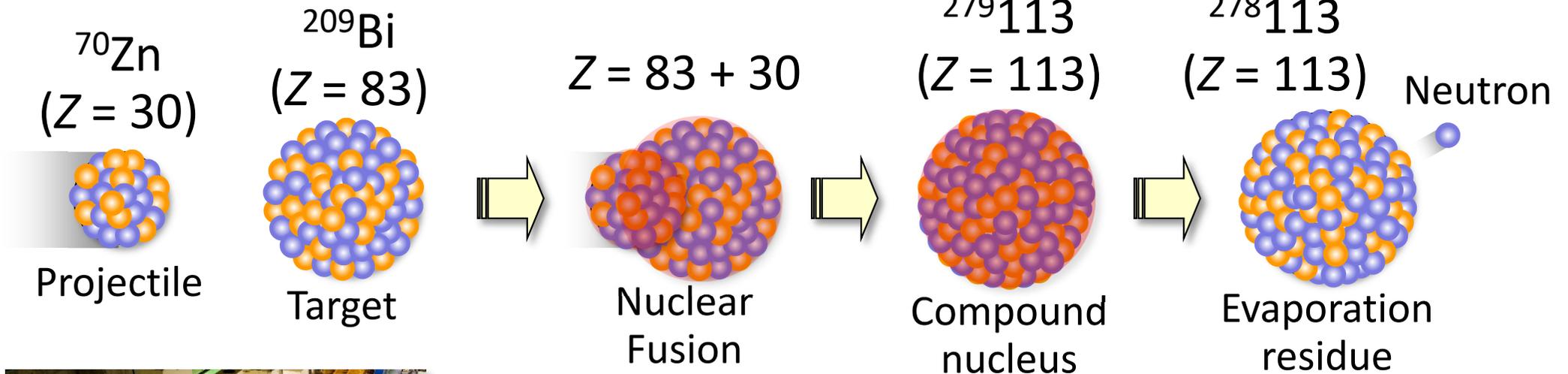


RIKEN Linear ACcelerator (RILAC)

GAs filled Recoil Ion Separator (GARIS)



Cold fusion reaction to produce element 113



Period	Sept. 5, 2003 – Aug. 18, 2012
Irradiation time	13274 hours (553 days)
Experimenters	43
Beam energy	348 MeV in the middle of the target
Beam intensity	0.47 μA ($2.8 \times 10^{12} \text{ s}^{-1}$)
Beam integral	1.35×10^{20} (15 mg)
Target thickness	0.45 mg cm^{-2} ($1.3 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-2}$)
GARIS eff.	80%
PSD + SSD eff.	94%

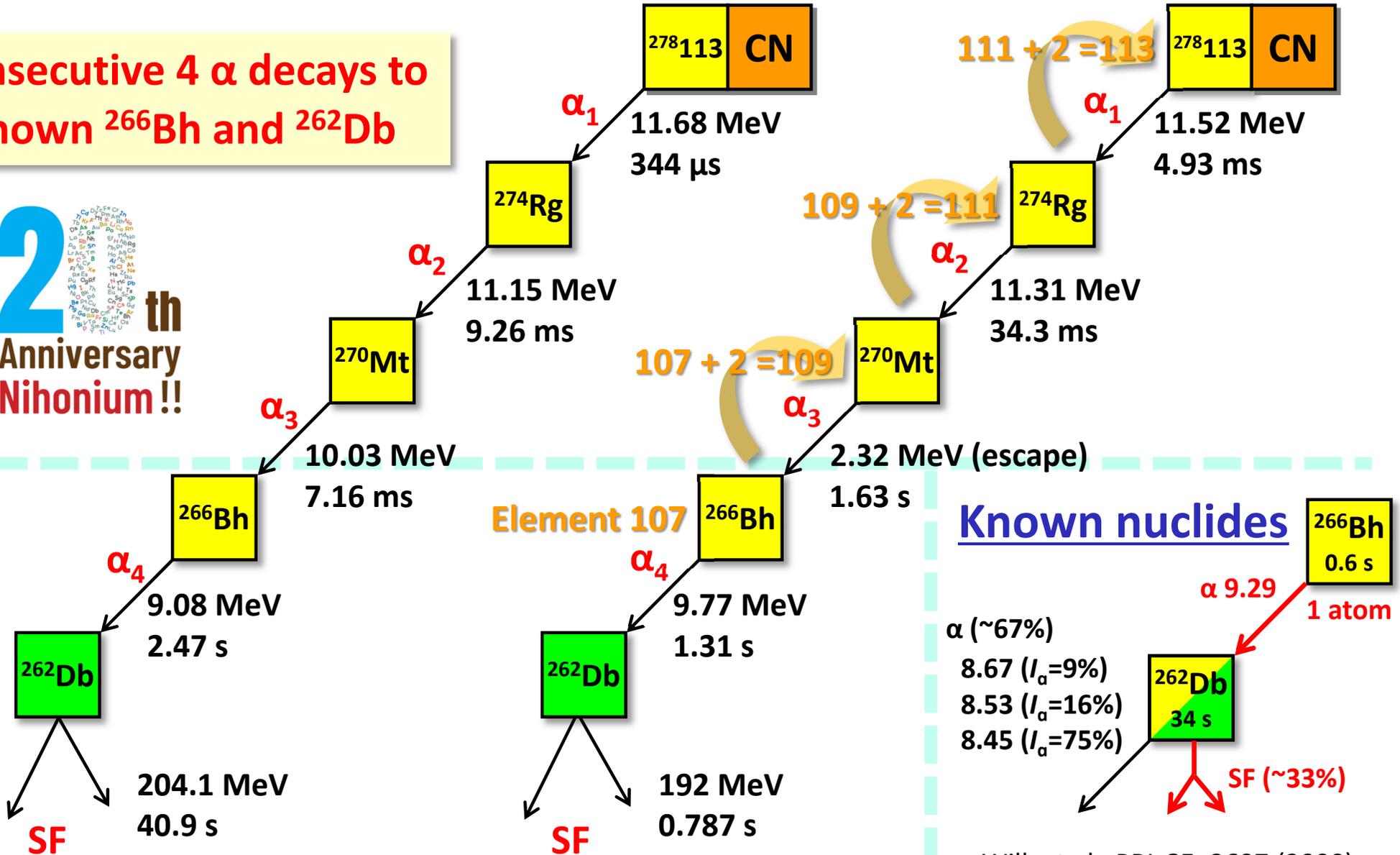
Observation of $^{278}_{113}\text{CN}$

Consecutive 4 α decays to known ^{266}Bh and ^{262}Db

2th Anniversary Nihonium!!

July 23, 2004

April 2, 2005



Morita et al., JPSJ **73**, 2593 (2004).

Morita et al., JPSJ **76**, 045001 (2007).

Wilk et al., PRL **85**, 2697 (2000).
Table of Isotopes, 8th ed. (1996).



2006 Claim for the discovery of $^{278}_{113}\text{CN}$ to JWP of IUPAC and IUPAP
2011 Not approved due to few data on $^{278}_{113}\text{CN}$ and $^{266}_{107}\text{Bh}$

Observation of the 3rd event of ²⁷⁸113

- Consecutive 6 α decays to known ²⁶⁶Bh, ²⁶²Db, and ²⁵⁸Lr
- Direct production and decay studies of ²⁶⁶Bh by ²⁴⁸Cm(²³Na,5n)²⁶⁶Bh

➔ 2012 Claim for the discovery of E113 to JWP

²⁷⁸113 CN Aug. 12, 2012

α_1
11.82 MeV
667 μ s

²⁷⁴Rg

α_2
10.65 MeV
9.97 ms

²⁷⁰Mt

α_3
10.26 MeV
444 ms

²⁶⁶Bh

α_4
9.39 MeV
5.26 s

²⁶²Db

α_5
8.63 MeV
126 s

²⁵⁸Lr

α_6
8.66 MeV
3.78 s

²⁵⁴Md

Cross section:
 22^{+20}_{-13} fb

Known nuclides

²⁶⁶Bh
~1 s

α 8.82–9.23
1 + 20 atoms

²⁶²Db
34 s

α (48%)
8.68 ($I_\alpha=30\%$)
8.46 ($I_\alpha=70\%$)

SF (52%)

α (97.4%)
8.654 ($I_\alpha=9\%$)
8.621 ($I_\alpha=25\%$)
8.595 ($I_\alpha=46\%$)
8.565 ($I_\alpha=20\%$)

²⁵⁸Lr
3.5 s

EC (2.6%)

²⁵⁴Md

Morita et al., JPSJ **81**, 103201 (2012).

Table of Isotopes, 8th ed. (1996).
Morita et al., JSPS **78**, 064201 (2009).
Haba et al., PRC **89**, 024618 (2014).



International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry

Highlights

- The IUPAC Network
- Periodic Table of the Elements



< [ICSU publications on climate change](#)

30 Dec 2015 23:50 Age: 2 days
Category: Press Releases

Discovery and Assignment of Elements with Atomic Numbers 113, 115, 117 and 118

IUPAC announces the verification of the discoveries of four new chemical elements: The 7th period of the periodic table of elements is complete.

The fourth IUPAC/IUPAP Joint Working Party (JWP) on the priority of claims to the discovery of new elements has reviewed the relevant literature for elements 113, 115, 117, and 118 and has determined that the claims for discovery of these elements have been fulfilled, in accordance with the criteria for the discovery of elements of the IUPAP/IUPAC Transfermium Working Group (TWG) 1991 discovery criteria. These elements complete the 7th row of the periodic table of the elements, and the discoverers from Japan, Russia and the USA will now be invited to suggest permanent names and symbols. The new elements and assigned priorities of discovery are as follows:

Element 113 (temporary working name and symbol: ununtrium, Uut)

The RIKEN collaboration team in Japan have fulfilled the criteria for element Z=113 and will be invited to propose a permanent name and symbol.

Nihonium – The first element discovered in Asian countries –



INTERNATIONAL UNION OF
PURE AND APPLIED CHEMISTRY

Advancing Chemistry Worldwide

<i>President</i> Prof. Natalia P. Tarasova (Russia)	<i>Vice President</i> Prof. Qi-Feng Zhou (China)	<i>Secretary General</i> Prof. Richard Hartshorn (New Zealand)
<i>Past President</i> Dr. Mark C. Cesa (USA)	<i>Treasurer</i> Mr. Colin J. Humphris (UK)	<i>Executive Director</i> Dr. Lynn M. Soby (USA)

For Immediate Release 30 November 2016

IUPAC Announces the Names of the Elements 113, 115, 117, and 118

Elements 113, 115, 117, and 118 are now formally named nihonium (Nh), moscovium (Mc), tennessine (Ts), and oganesson (Og)

Research Triangle Park, NC (USA): On 28 November 2016, the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) approved the names and symbols for four elements: nihonium (Nh), moscovium (Mc), tennessine (Ts), and oganesson (Og), respectively for element 113, 115, 117, and 118.



Naming ceremony, March 14, 2017

Atomic number	Element name	Element symbol
113	nihonium	Nh
115	moscovium	Mc
117	tennessine	Ts
118	oganesson	Og

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1	1 H																	2 He
2	3 Li	4 Be											5 B	6 C	7 N	8 O	9 F	10 Ne
3	11 Na	12 Mg											13 Al	14 Si	15 P	16 S	17 Cl	18 Ar
4	19 K	20 Ca	21 Sc	22 Ti	23 V	24 Cr	25 Mn	26 Fe	27 Co	28 Ni	29 Cu	30 Zn	31 Ga	32 Ge	33 As	34 Se	35 Br	36 Kr
5	37 Rb	38 Sr	39 Y	40 Zr	41 Nb	42 Mo	43 Tc	44 Ru	45 Rh	46 Pd	47 Ag	48 Cd	49 In	50 Sn	51 Sb	52 Te	53 I	54 Xe
6	55 Cs	56 Ba	57-71 *	72 Hf	73 Ta	74 W	75 Re	76 Os	77 Ir	78 Pt	79 Au	80 Hg	81 Tl	82 Pb	83 Bi	84 Po	85 At	86 Rn
7	87 Fr	88 Ra	89-103 †	104 Rf	105 Db	106 Sg	107 Bh	108 Hs	109 Mt	110 Ds	111 Rg	112 Cn	113 ↑ Nh	114 Fl	115 ↑ Mc	116 Lv	117 ↑ Ts	118 ↑ Og

* Lanthanide

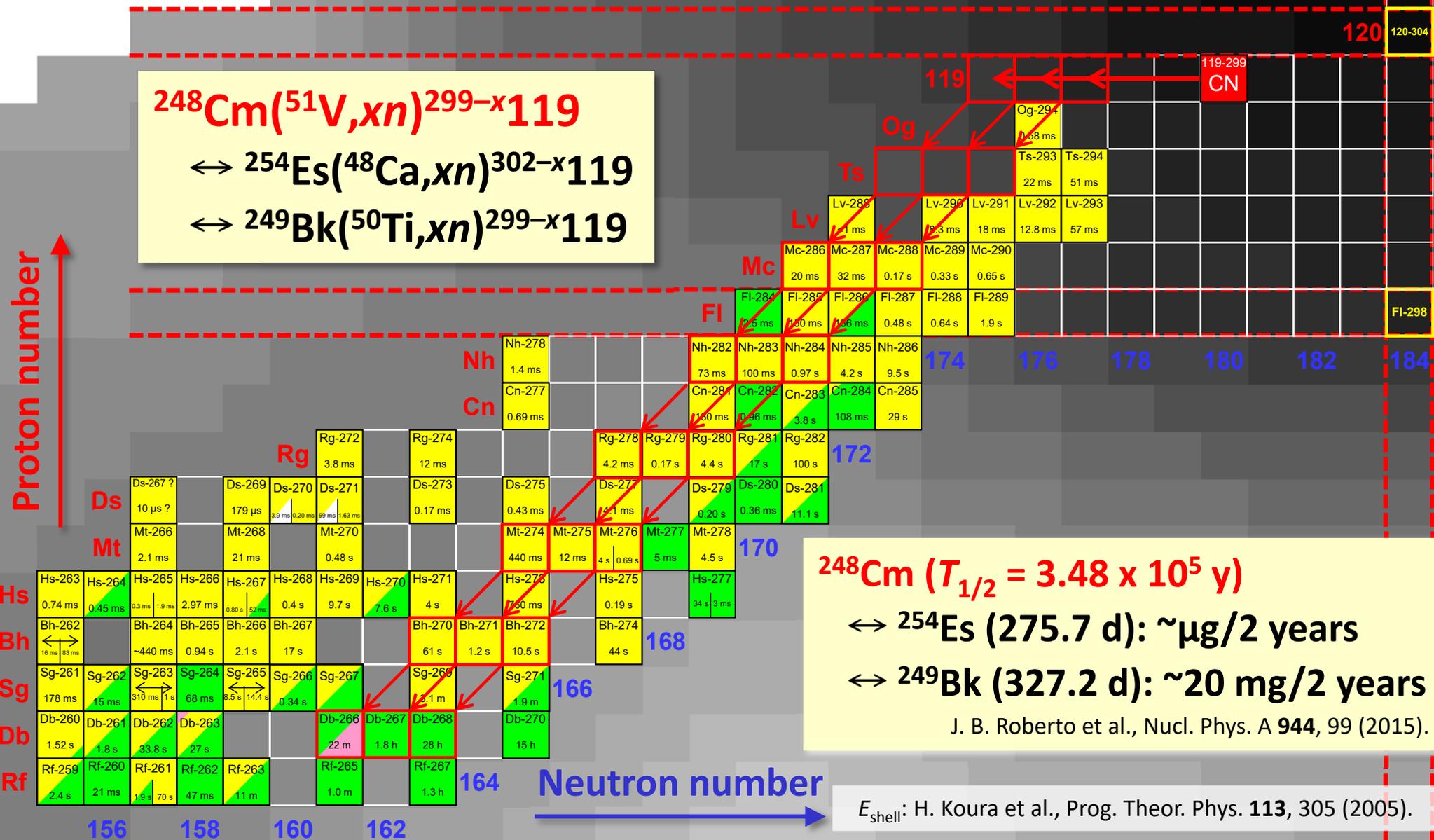
57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71
La	Ce	Pr	Nd	Pm	Sm	Eu	Gd	Tb	Dy	Ho	Er	Tm	Yb	Lu
89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103
Ac	Th	Pa	U	Np	Pu	Am	Cm	Bk	Cf	Es	Fm	Md	No	Lr

† Actinide

**3. Search for element 119 in the
 $^{248}\text{Cm}(^{51}\text{V},xn)^{299-x}\text{119}$ reaction**

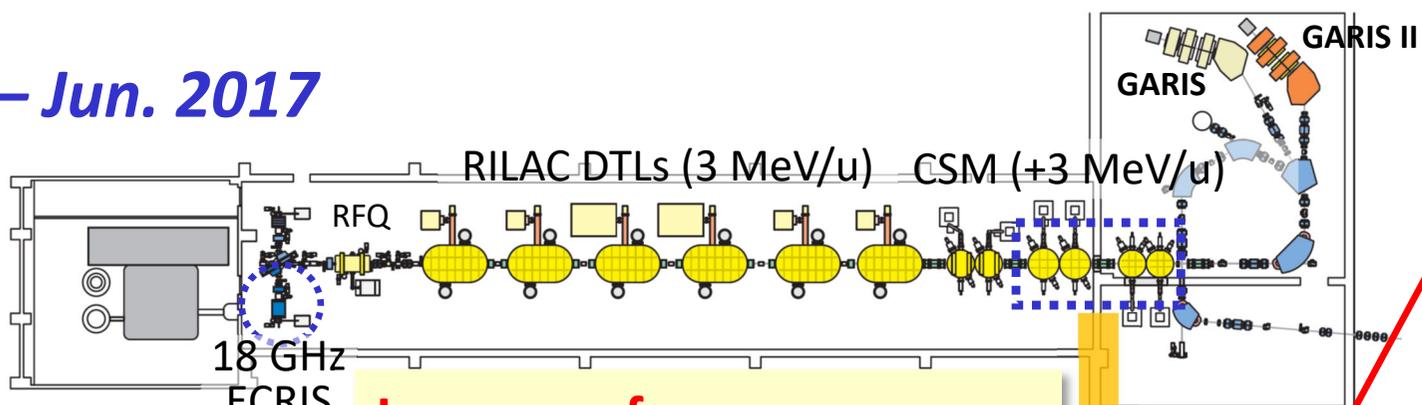
Search for element 119 at RIBF

RIKEN – ORNL – UTK - Kyushu Univ. – Niigata Univ. – Saitama Univ. –
 Osaka Univ. – Tohoku Univ. – JAEA – Yamagata Univ. – IPHC – IMP –
 ANU – NCBJ Collaboration



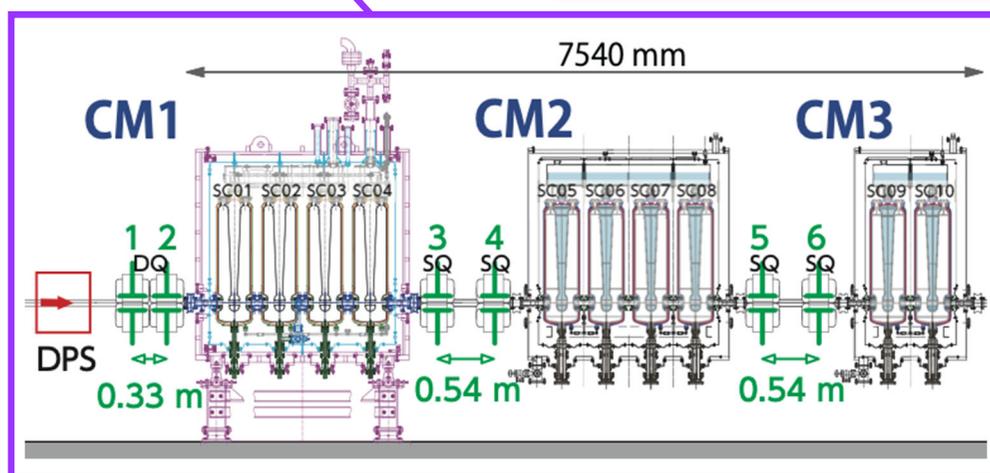
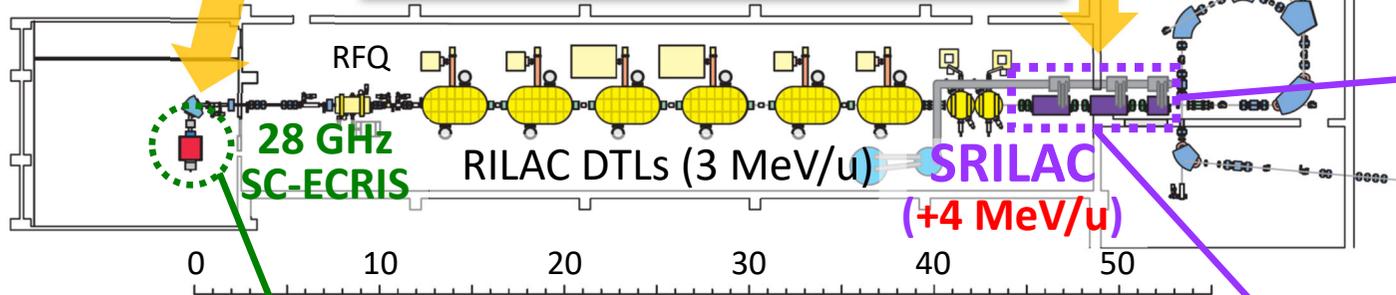
Upgrade of RILAC (June 2017–February 2020)

– Jun. 2017



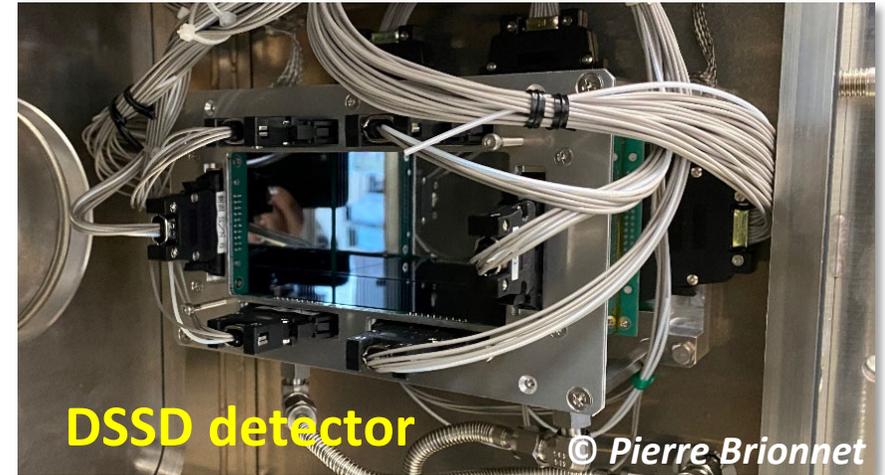
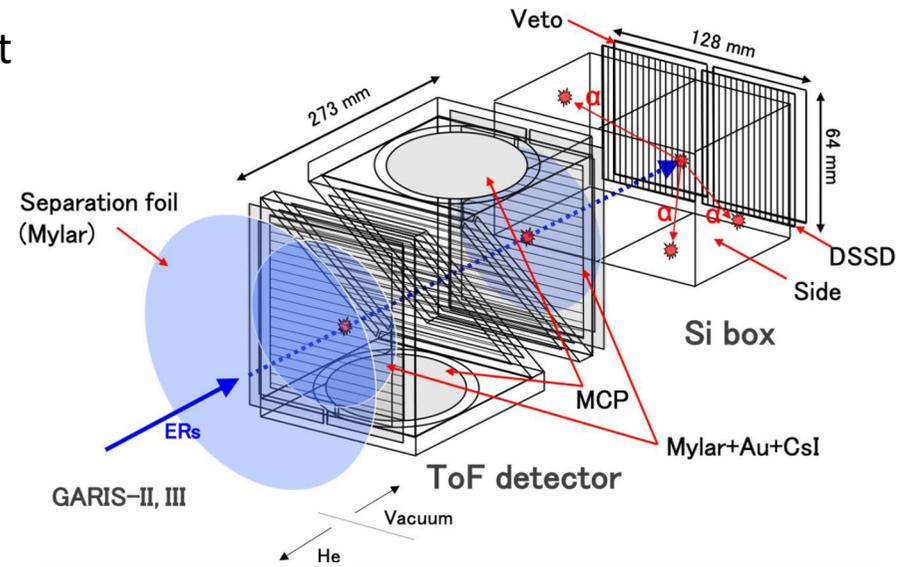
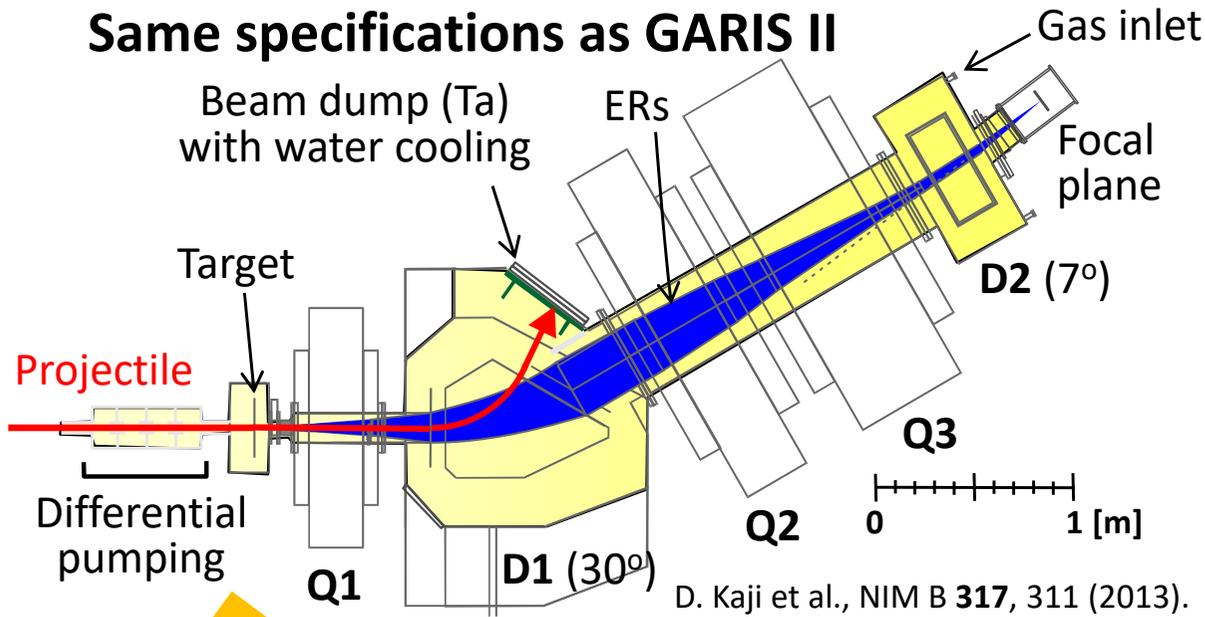
Feb. 2020 –

Increase of beam energy (+ 1 MeV/u) and intensity (x 5–10)

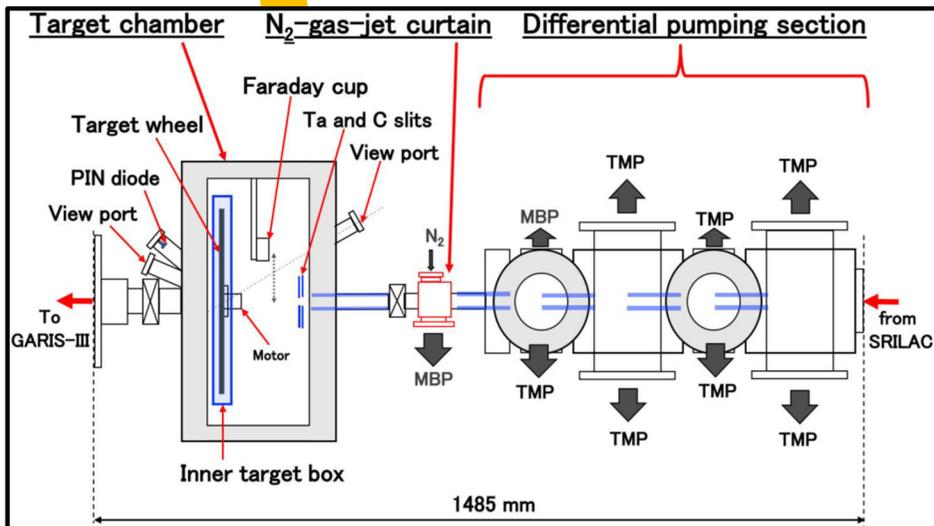


Gas-filled recoil ion separator, GARIS III

Same specifications as GARIS II



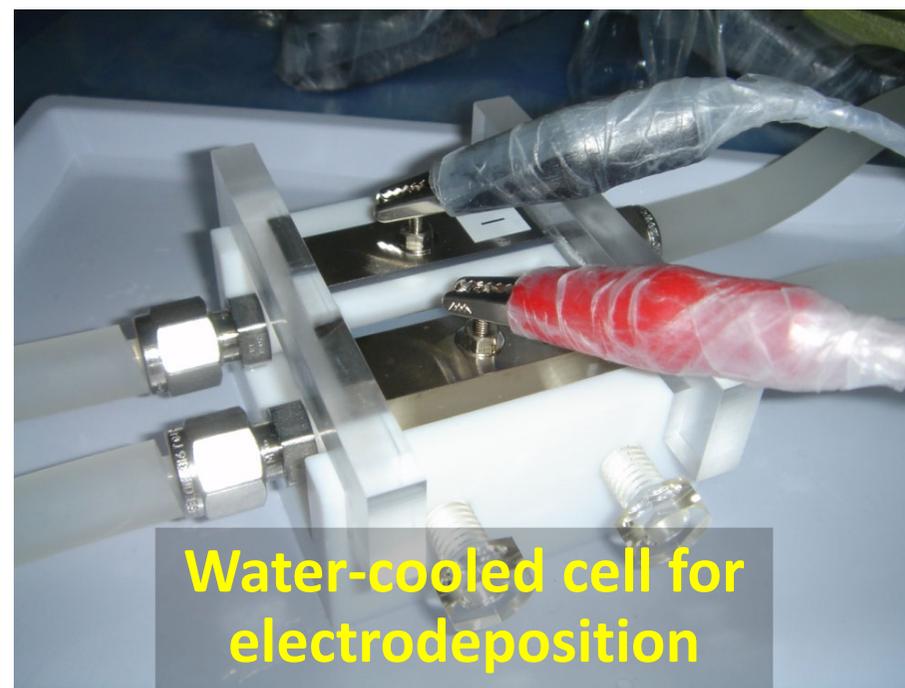
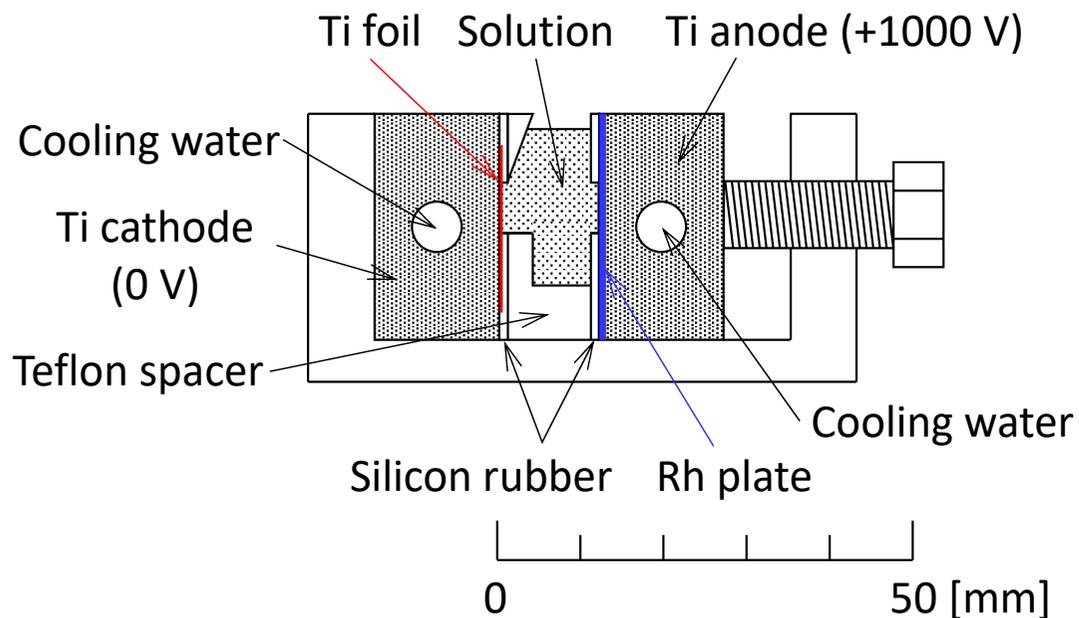
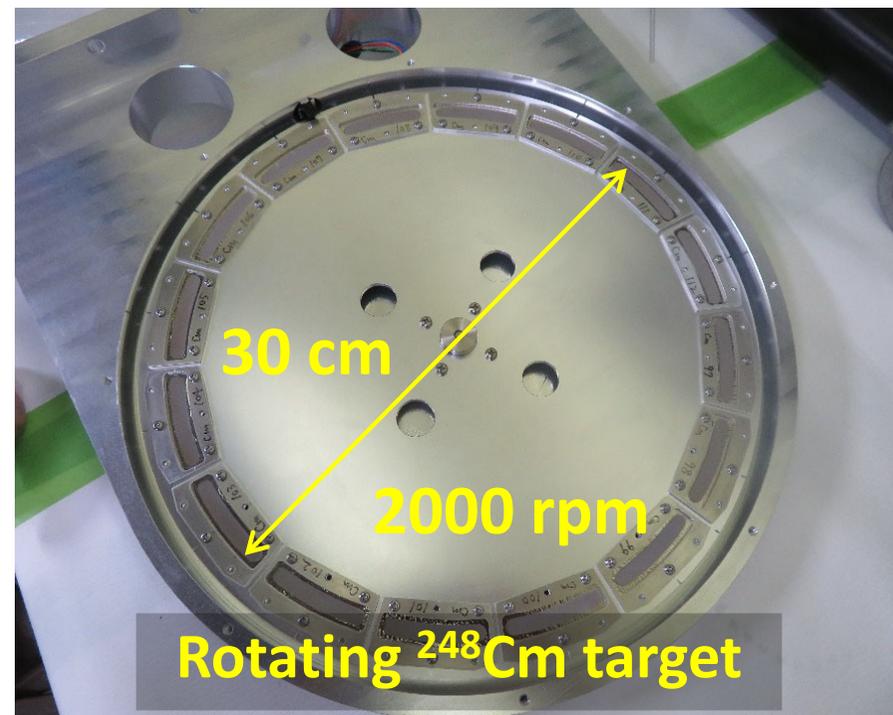
	GARIS	GARIS II&III
$\Delta\theta$ (mrad)	± 67	± 55
$\Delta\phi$ (mrad)	± 58	± 120
$\Delta\Omega$ (msr)	≈ 12	≈ 20



Hamamatsu Photonics K. K.

- DSSD: 320 μm , 60 x 123 mm², 64 x 64 strips
pixel size: $\sim 1 \times 2 \text{ mm}^2$
- Side detector: 320 μm
Small: 60 x 60 mm²; Large: 60 x 123 mm²
- Veto detector: 650 μm , 60 x 123 mm² (4 pads)

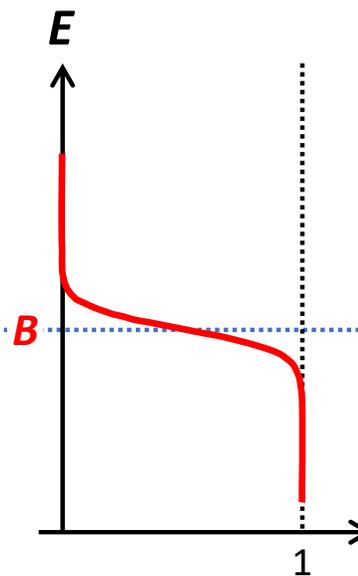
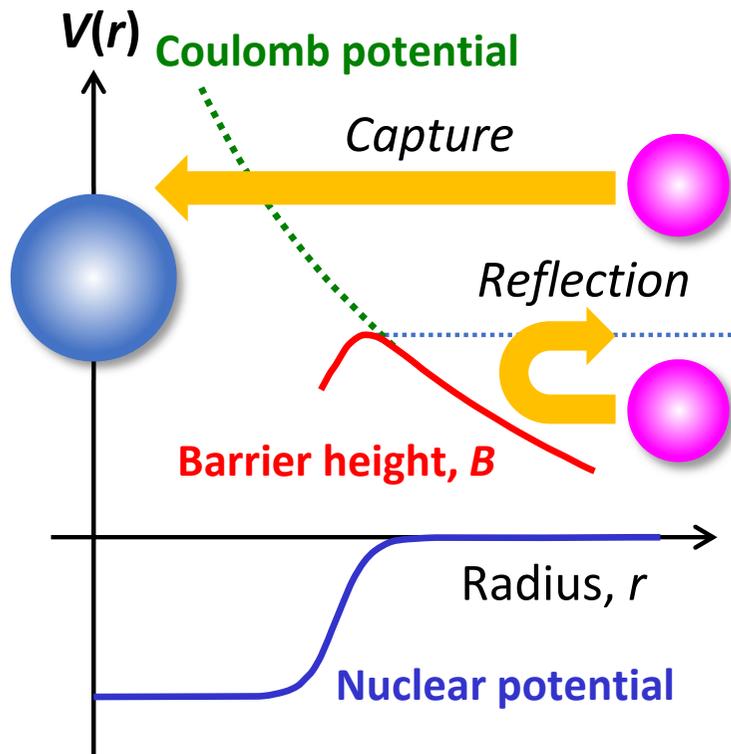
^{248}Cm target



What is the optimal reaction energy ?

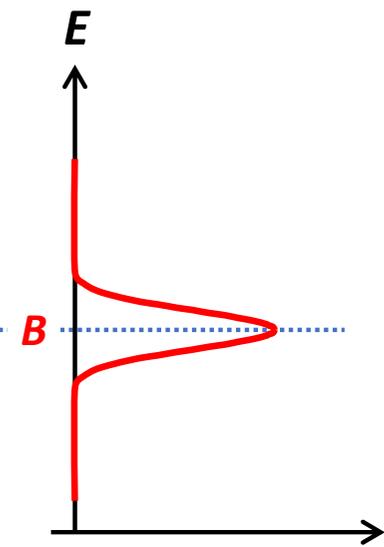
$$\sigma_{\text{ER}} = \underbrace{\sigma_{\text{cap}}}_{\text{Capture}} \times \underbrace{P_{\text{CN}}}_{\text{CN formation}} \times \underbrace{P_{\text{surv}}}_{\text{Survival of ER}}$$

Measurement of excitation function of quasielastic backscattering to Rutherford scattering ($d\sigma_{\text{QE}}/d\sigma_{\text{Ruth}}$) by detecting non-captured projectiles
 → Optimal reaction energy for capture process



Reflection probability, $R(E)$

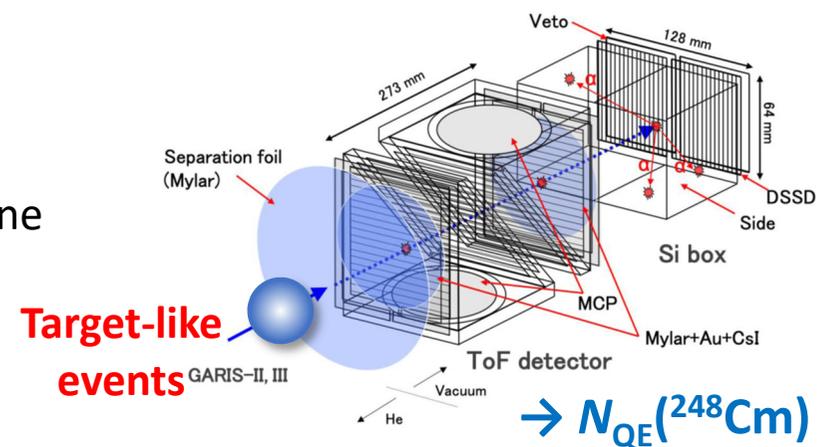
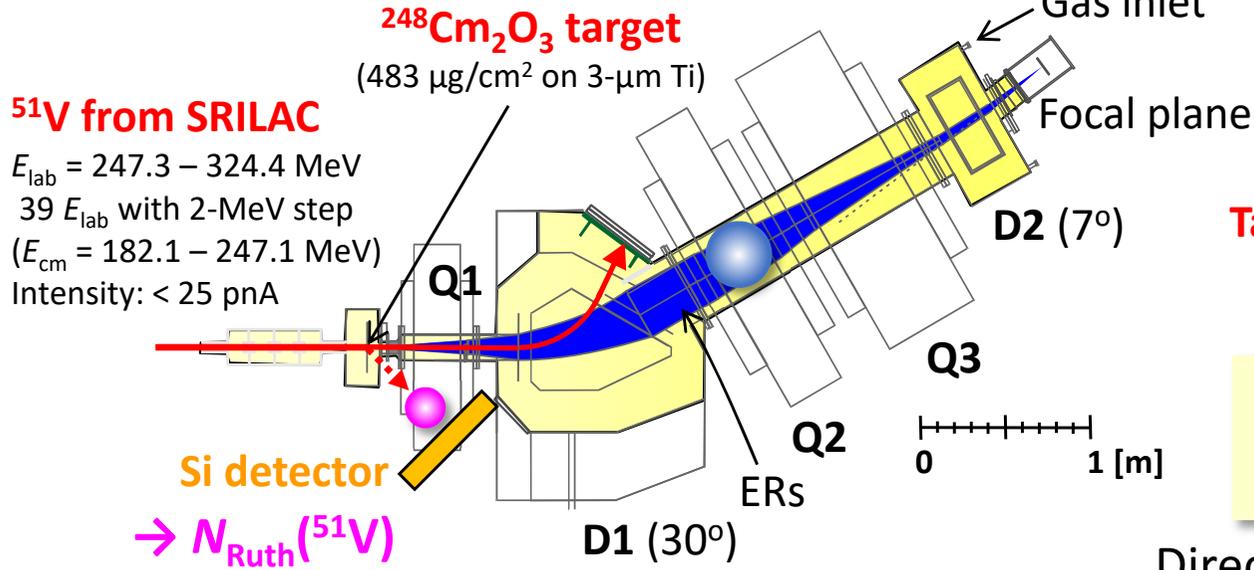
$$R(E) = \frac{d\sigma_{\text{QE}}}{d\sigma_{\text{Ruth}}}$$



Barrier distribution, $D(E)$

$$D(E) = - \frac{dR(E)}{dE}$$

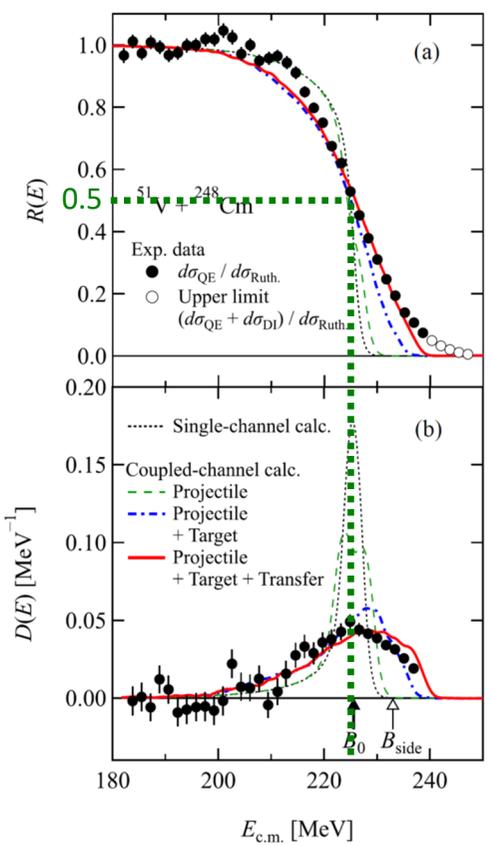
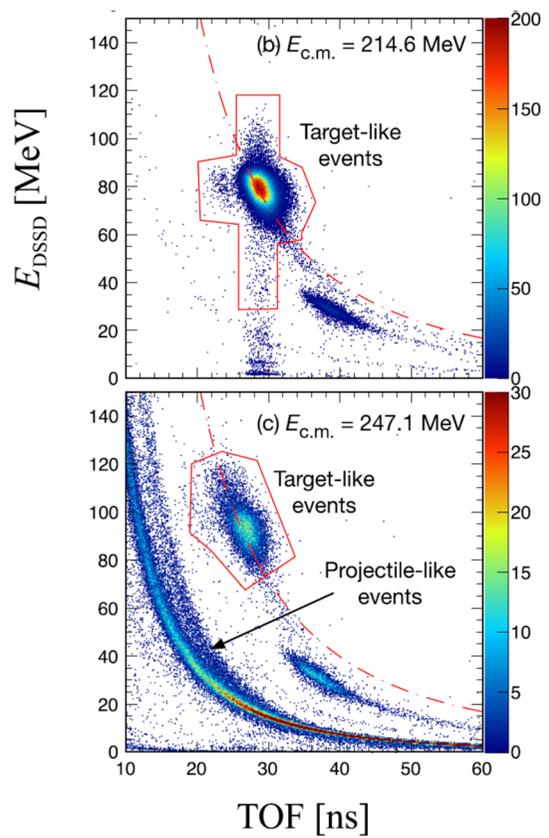
Experimental method



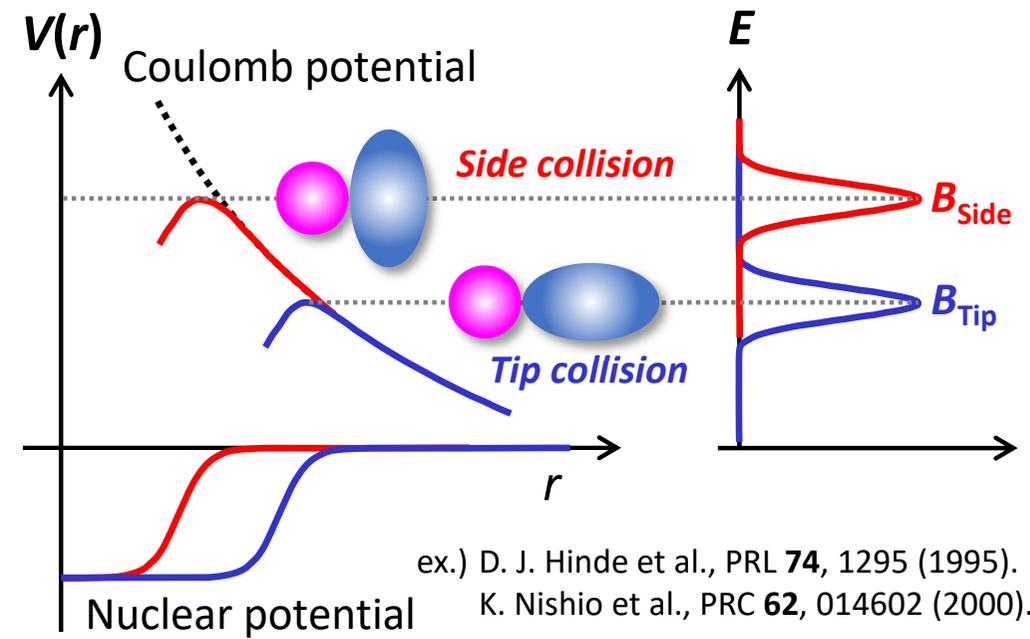
$$R(E) = \frac{d\sigma_{\text{QE}}}{d\sigma_{\text{Ruth}}} \propto \frac{N_{\text{QE}}(^{248}\text{Cm})}{N_{\text{ruth}}(^{51}\text{V})}$$

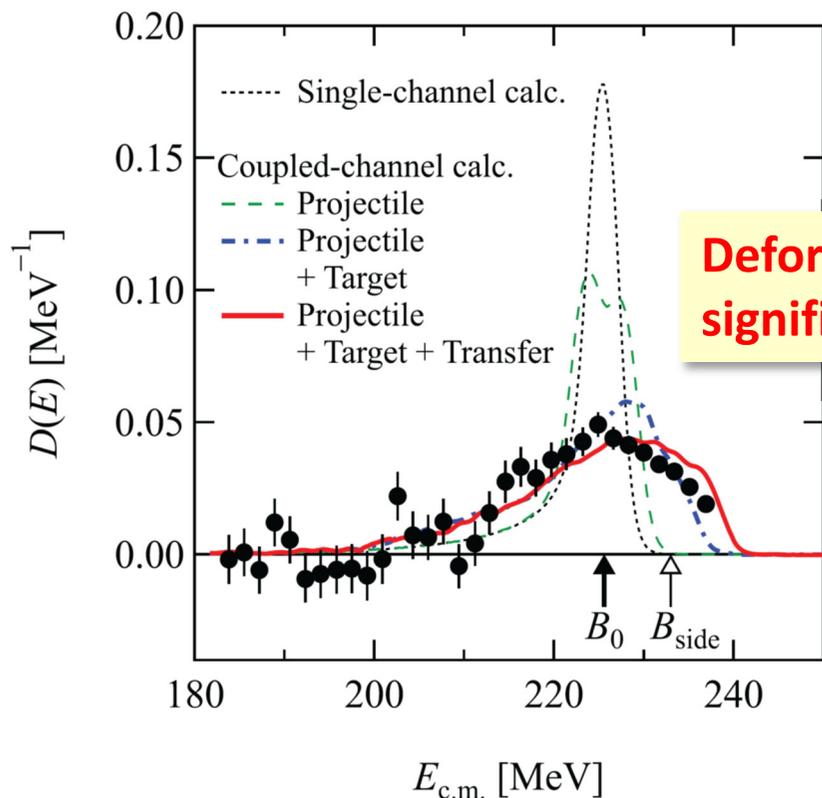
Direct measurement of QE barrier at $L \sim 0$

T. Tanaka et al., J. Phys. Soc. Jpn. **87**, 014201 (2018).
 T. Tanaka et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **124**, 052502 (2020).
 M. Tanaka et al., J. Phys. Soc. Jpn. **91**, 084201 (2022).



Favorable side collision in hot fusion





Deformed ^{248}Cm target significantly affects $D(E)$.

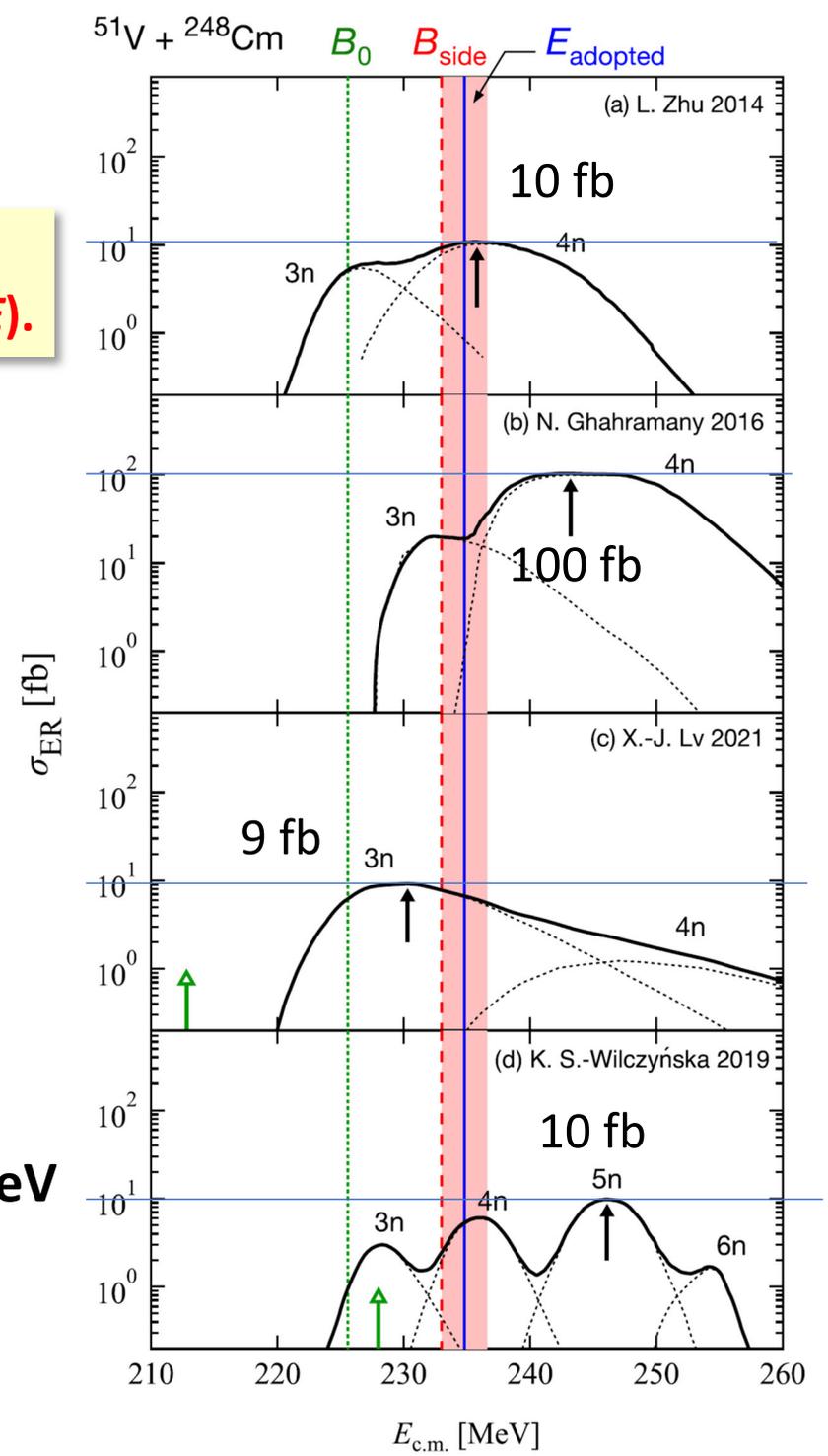
CCFULL code:

K. Hagino et al., Comput. Phys. Commun. **123**, 143 (1999).

- Average barrier height: $B_0 = 225.6(2) \text{ MeV}$
- Side-collision energy: $B_{\text{side}} = 233.0(2) \text{ MeV}$
from optical potential $V(r, \vartheta)$ in CC calculation
- Uncertainty between E_{opt} & B_{side} : $\Delta E_{\text{opt}} = +3.5 \text{ MeV}$
from the $^{48}\text{Ca} + ^{248}\text{Cm}$ system (+1.5% for B_{side})
T. Tanaka et al., PRL **124**, 052502 (2020).

→ Adopted energy for the $^{51}\text{V} + ^{248}\text{Cm}$ system

$$E_{\text{adopted}} = B_{\text{side}} + 0.5 \times \Delta E_{\text{opt}} = 234.8 \text{ MeV}$$



M. Tanaka et al., JPSJ **91**, 084201 (2022).

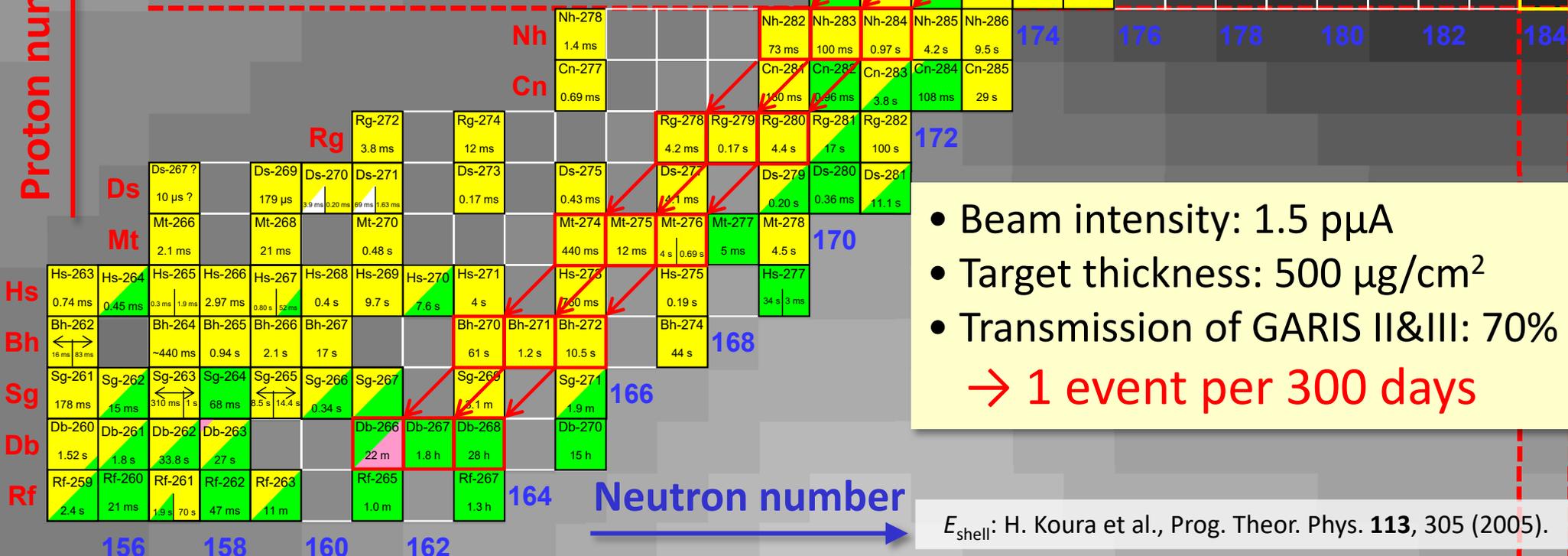
Search for element 119 at RIBF

RIKEN – ORNL – UTK - Kyushu Univ. – Niigata Univ. – Saitama Univ. –
 Osaka Univ. – Tohoku Univ. – JAEA – Yamagata Univ. – IPHC – IMP –
 ANU – NCBJ Collaboration



Target cross section: $\sigma = 5 \text{ fb}$

Proton number ↑



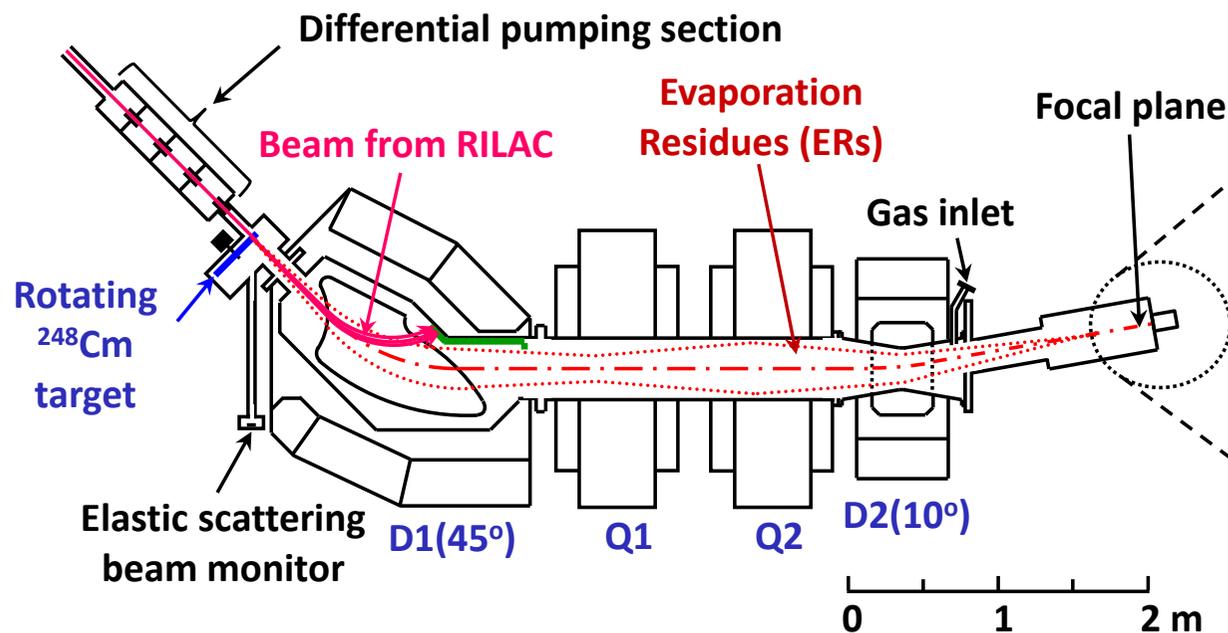
- Beam intensity: 1.5 μA
 - Target thickness: 500 $\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$
 - Transmission of GARIS II&III: 70%
- 1 event per 300 days

E_{shell} : H. Koura et al., Prog. Theor. Phys. **113**, 305 (2005).

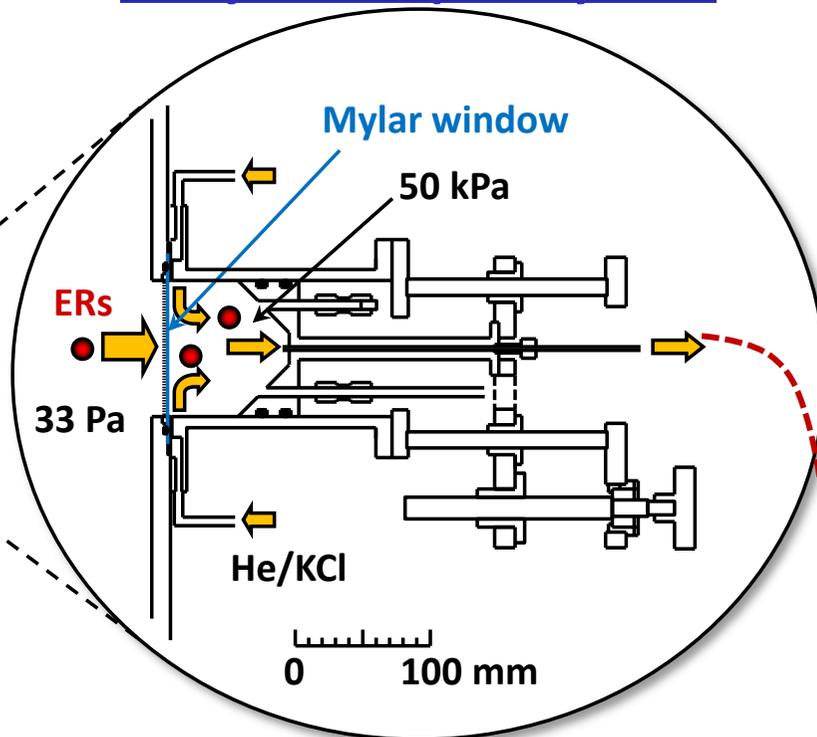
4. Production and decay studies of ^{261}Rf , ^{262}Db , ^{265}Sg , and ^{266}Bh

GARIS + gas-jet + MANON

RIKEN GARIS



Gas-jet transport system



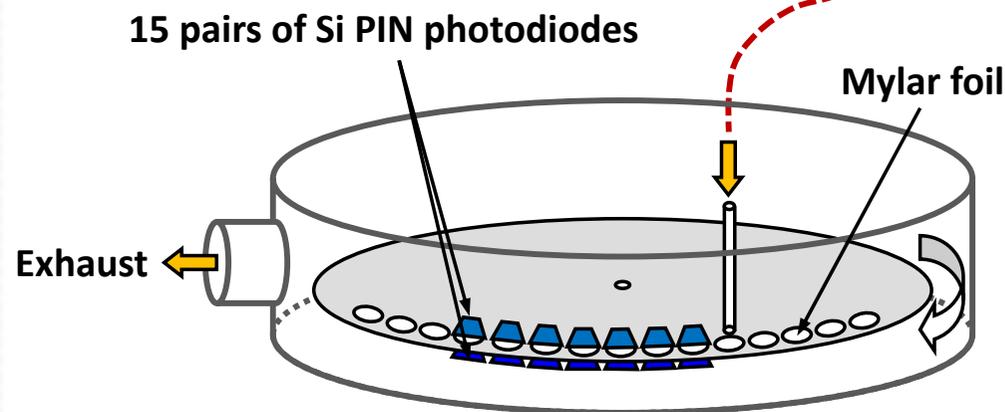
Breakthroughs in SHE chemistry

- Chemistry experiments under low background radiation
- Stable and high gas-jet transport yield
- New chemical reactions

Chemistry laboratory

MANON II for α /SF spectrometry

10 m



Production and decay studies of ^{261}Rf , ^{262}Db , ^{265}Sg , and ^{266}Bh

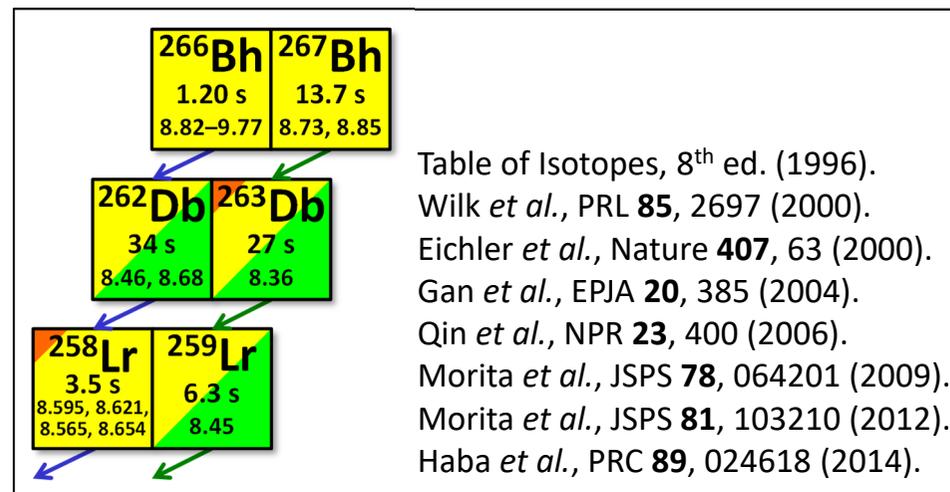
Nuclide	$^{261}\text{Rf}^{a,b}$ (Z=104)	$^{262,263}\text{Db}$ (Z=105)	$^{265}\text{Sg}^{a,b}$ (Z=106)	$^{266,267}\text{Bh}$ (Z=107)
Half-life	68, 3 s ¹⁾	34 s, 27 s ²⁾	8.9, 16.2 s ¹⁾	1.7 s, 17 s ⁴⁾
Reaction	$^{248}\text{Cm}(^{18}\text{O},5n)$	$^{248}\text{Cm}(^{19}\text{F},5;4n)$	$^{248}\text{Cm}(^{22}\text{Ne},5n)$	$^{248}\text{Cm}(^{23}\text{Na},5;4n)$
Cross section (nb)	12 ³⁾ , ?	1.5 ³⁾ , ?	0.2–0.3 ¹⁾ ?	0.05 ⁵⁾ ?
Beam energy (MeV)	95	103, 97.4	118	135, 131, 126, 121
Beam intensity (pμA)	7	4	3	3
$^{248}\text{Cm}_2\text{O}_3$ target (μg/cm ²)	280, 230	230, 290, 330	230, 280	290, 260, 270
Magnetic rigidity (Tm)	1.58–2.16	1.73–2.09	1.73–2.16	2.12
GARIS He (Pa)	33	32	33	33
GARIS transmission (%)	7.8 ± 1.7	8.1 ± 2.2	13	15
RTC Mylar window (μm)	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.7
Honeycomb grid (%)	78/84	84	72/84	78
Gas-jet He (kPa)	49	47	49	80
Chamber depth (mm)	20	20	40	20
He flow rate (L/min)	2.0	2.0	2.0	5.0
KCl generator (°C)	620	620	600/605	620
MANON step interval (s)	30.5, 2.0	15.5	20.5, 10.5	5.0, 8.5, 15.0

1) Düllmann and Türler, PRC **77**, 064320 (2008). 2) Firestone and Shirley, *Table of Isotopes*, 8th ed. (Wiley, New York, 1996).

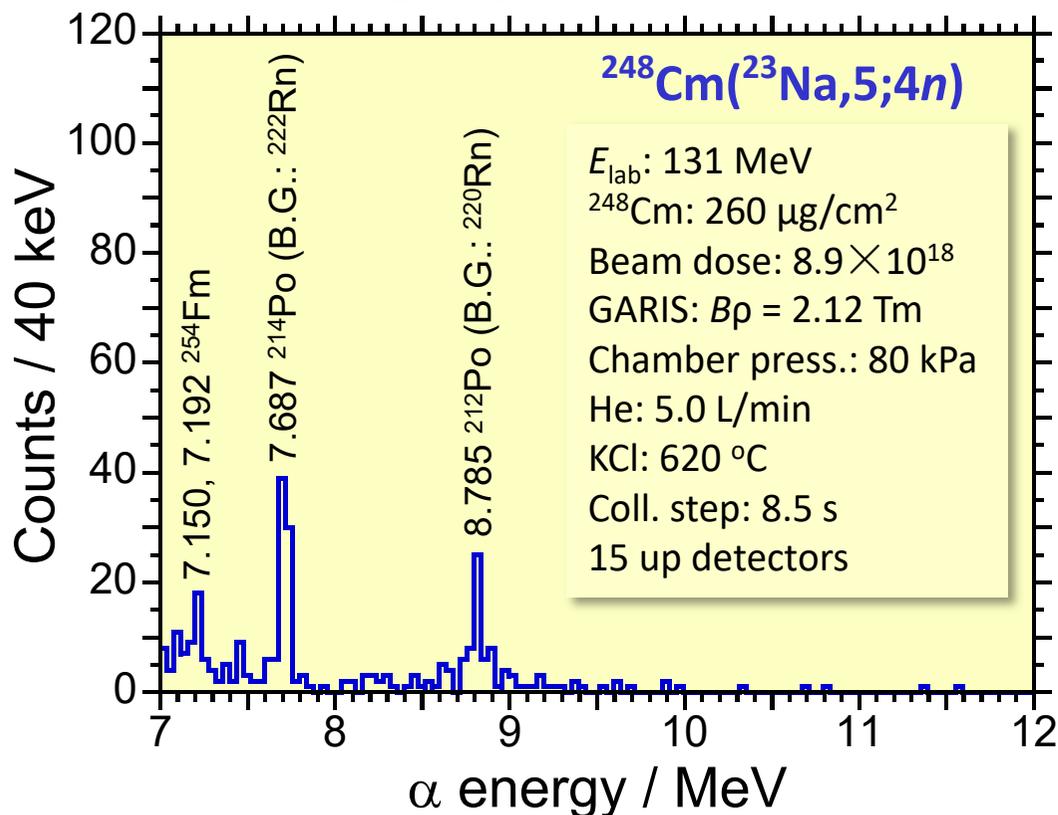
3) Nagame et al., JNRS **3**, 85 (2002). 4) Wilk et al., PRL **85**, 2697 (2000). 5) Morita et al., JSPS **78**, 064201 (2009).

Production and decay studies of $^{266,267}\text{Bh}$

^{22}Na beam energy (MeV)	Thickness of $^{248}\text{Cm}_2\text{O}_3$ target ($\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$)	Beam integral ($\times 10^{18}$)	MANON Step interval (s)
121	257	10.20	8.5
126	256	9.26	8.5
	290	4.96	5.0
131	290	3.99	15.0
	257	8.90	8.5
	257	9.02	8.5
135	256	11.21	8.5

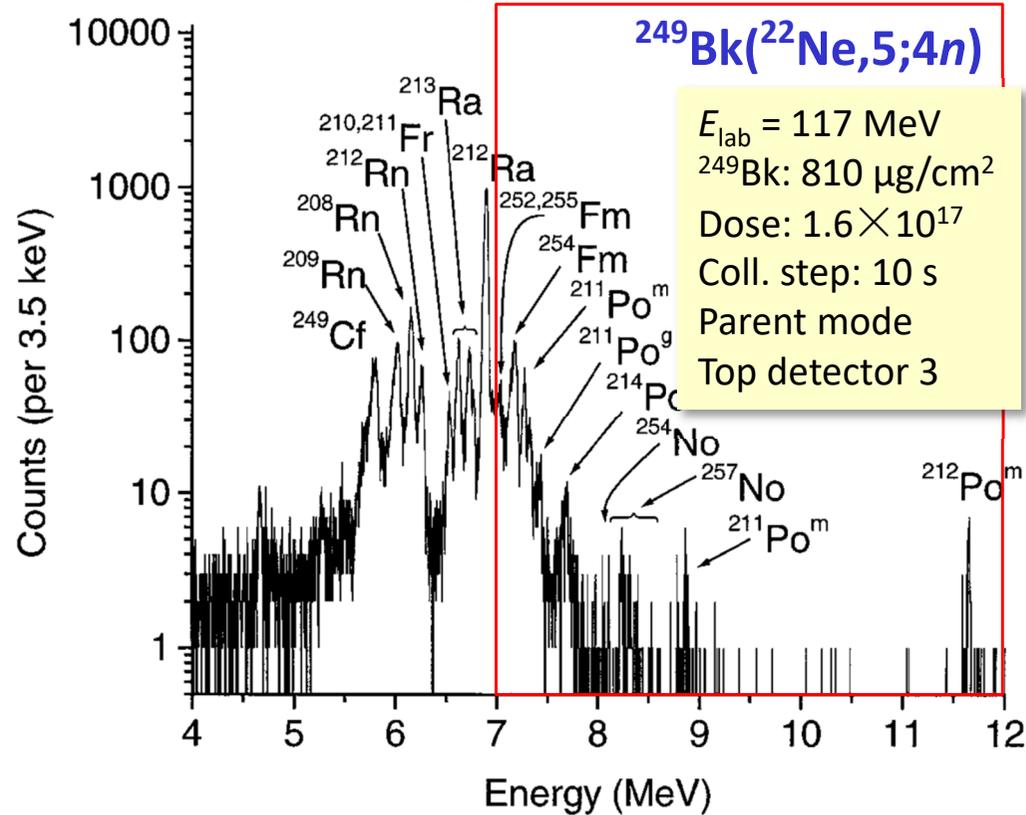


GARIS + gas-jet + MANON II



H. Haba *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C **102**, 024625 (2020).

Gas-jet + MG



P. A. Wilk *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **85**, 2697 (2000).

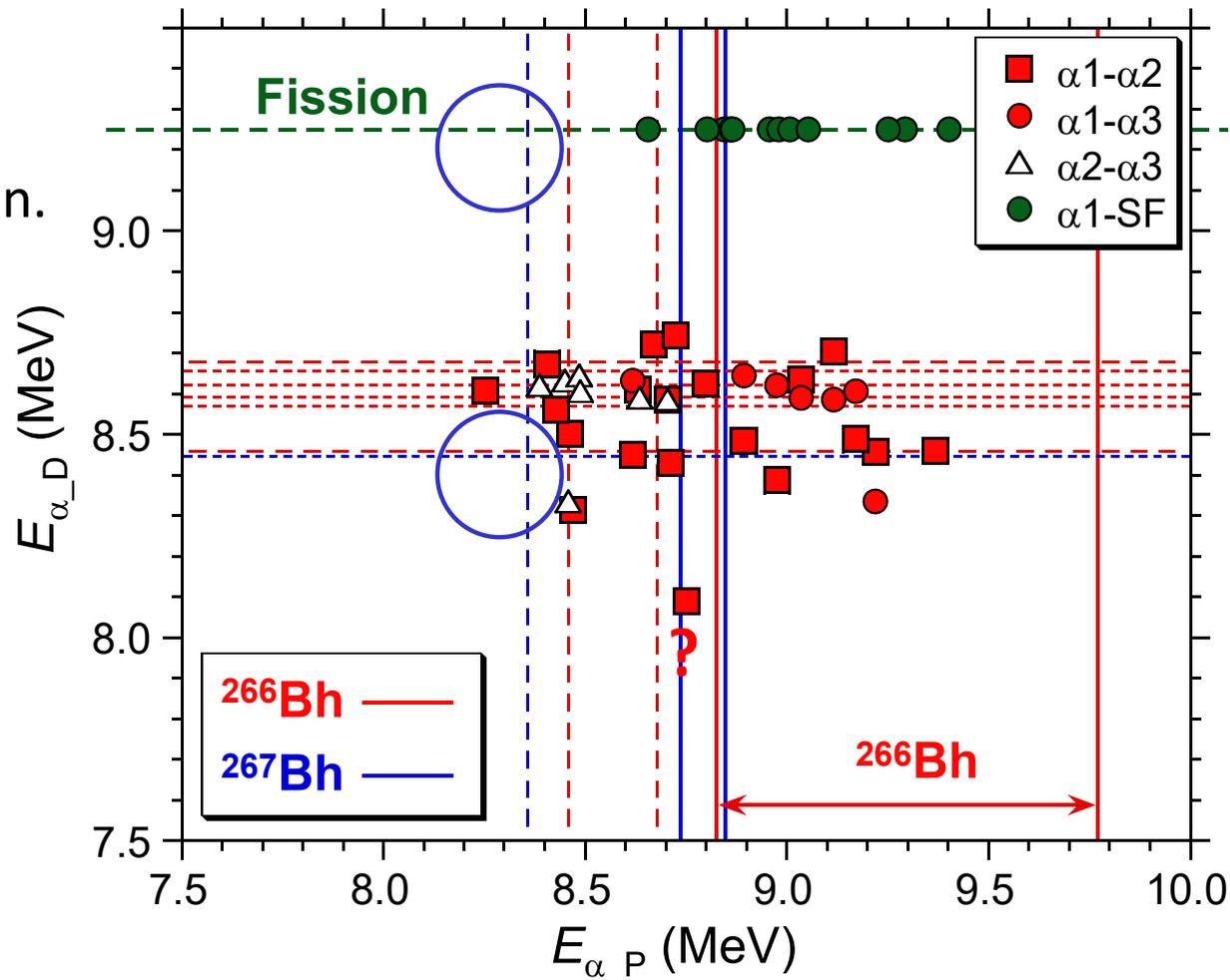
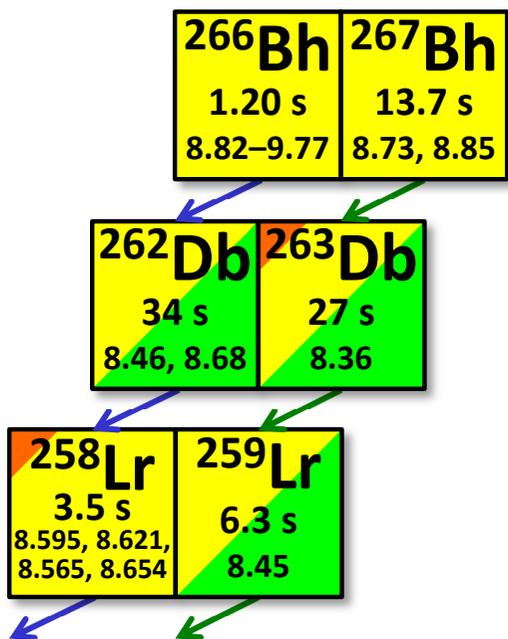
Search for α - α /SF correlations

$$E_{\alpha_1} = 8.00\text{--}10.00 \text{ MeV}$$

$$E_{\alpha_2; \alpha_3} = 8.00\text{--}8.77 \text{ MeV}$$

$$E_{\text{SF}} \geq 20 \text{ MeV; Si top \& bottom coin.}$$

$$\Delta T \leq 340 \text{ s [= } 10 T_{1/2}({}^{262}\text{Db)}]$$



Energy (MeV)	α - α - α		α - α		α -SF		α - α -SF	
	Obs.	RDM	Obs.	RDM	Obs.	RDM	Obs.	RDM
121	0	<0.00	0	<0.15	0	<0.02	0	<0.00
126	0	<0.00	1	<0.16	3	<0.03	0	<0.00
131	5	<0.00	21	<1.09	10	<0.13	0	<0.00
135	2	<0.00	9	<0.15	0	<0.02	0	<0.00
Total	7	<0.00	31	<1.55	13	<0.19	0	<0.00

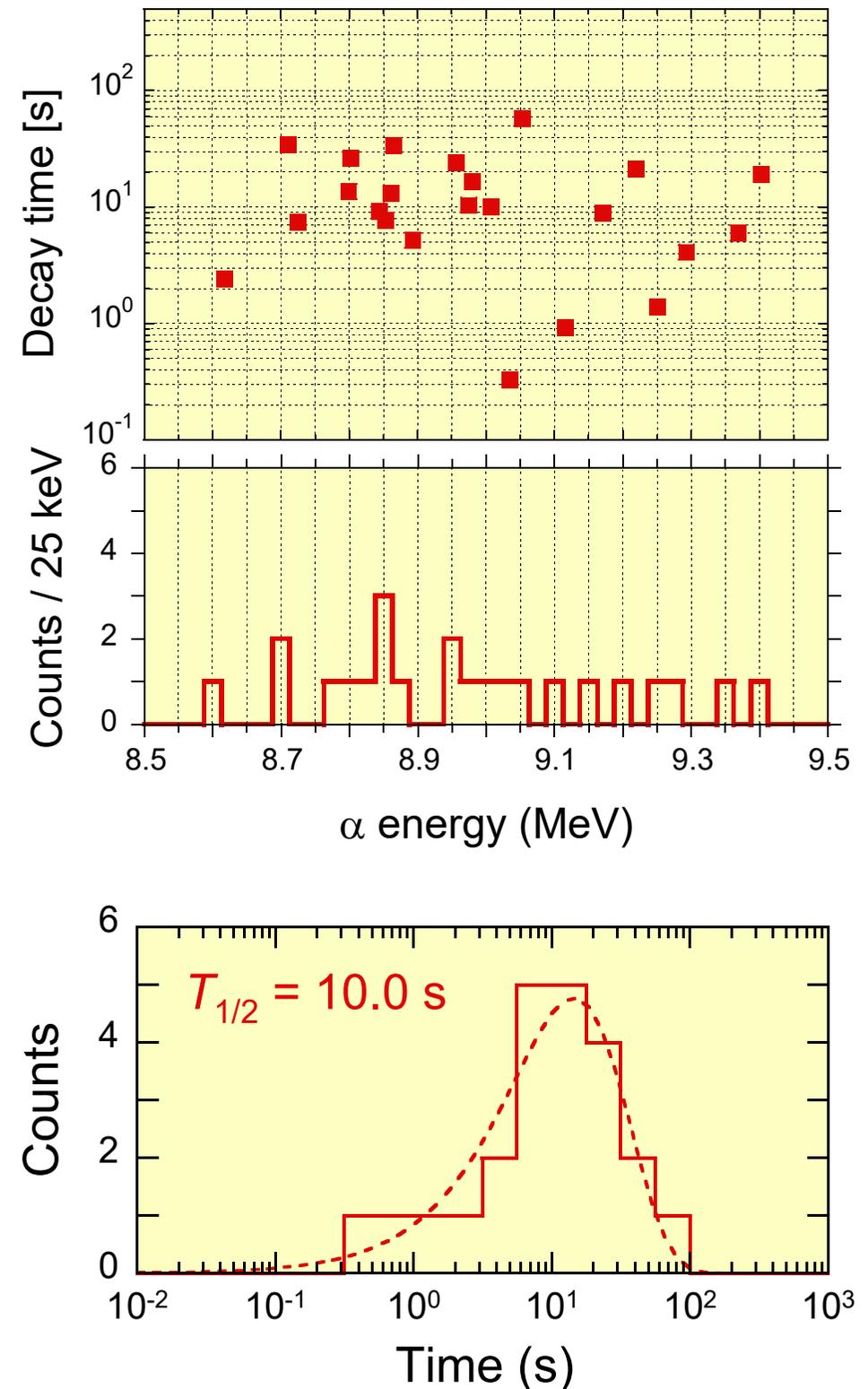
Decay properties of ^{266}Bh

- E_α of ^{266}Bh : $E_\alpha = 8.62\text{--}9.40$ MeV.
 $\leftrightarrow E_\alpha = 8.82\text{--}9.77$ MeV in Refs.
- $T_{1/2} = 10.0$ s in this work is longer than those of ^{266}Bh in Refs.

Nuclide	This work		Refs. [1–4]	
	N	$T_{1/2}$ [s]	N	$T_{1/2}$ [s]
^{266}Bh	23	$10.0^{+2.6}_{-1.7}$	8	$1.20^{+0.66}_{-0.31}$
^{267}Bh	0	–	11	$13.7^{+5.9}_{-3.2}$

- [1] $^{249}\text{Bk}(^{22}\text{Ne},5;4n)^{266,267}\text{Bh}$ ($N = 1, 5$): Wilk *et al.*, PRL **85**, 2697 (2000).
 [2] $^{249}\text{Bk}(^{22}\text{Ne},4n)^{267}\text{Bh}$ ($N = 6$): Eichler *et al.*, Nature **407**, 63 (2000).
 [3] $^{243}\text{Am}(^{26}\text{Mg},3n)^{266}\text{Bh}$ ($N = 4$): Qin *et al.*, Nucl. Phys. Rev. **23**, 400 (2006).
 [4] $^{209}\text{Bi}(^{70}\text{Zn},n)^{278}113 \rightarrow ^{266}\text{Bh}$ ($N = 3$): Morita *et al.*, JPSJ **81**, 103201 (2012).

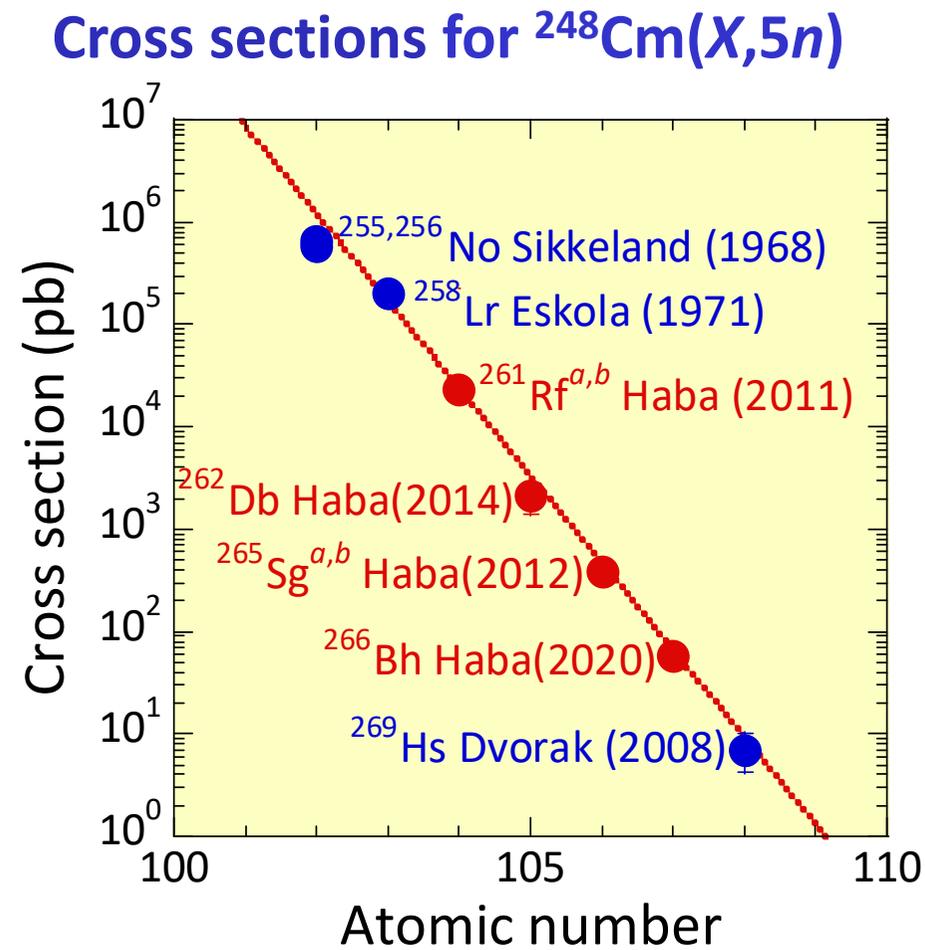
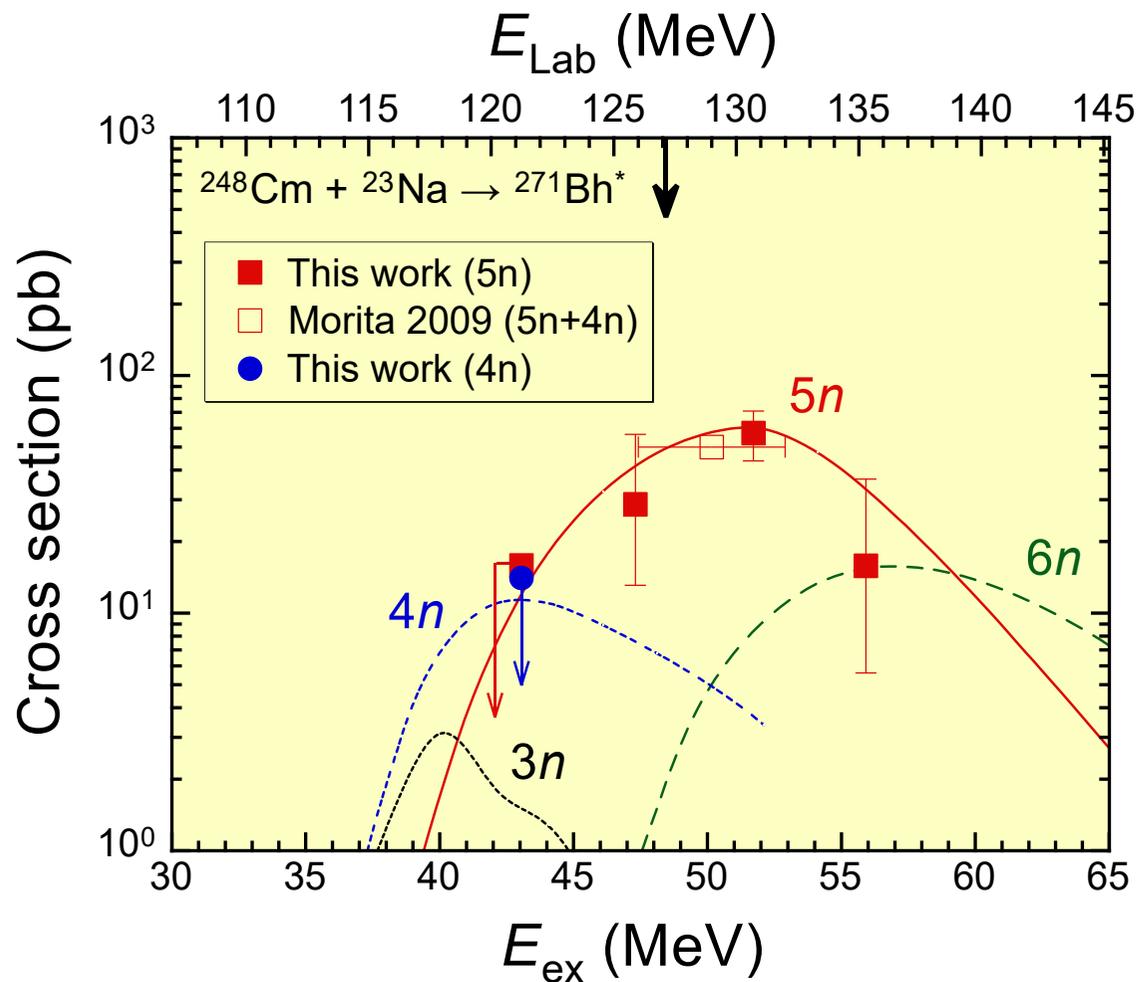
- Existence of an isomeric state in ^{266}Bh ?
 Miss assignment of ^{266}Bh to ^{267}Bh in the previous experiments?
- The long half-life of ^{266}Bh is good for Bh chemistry.



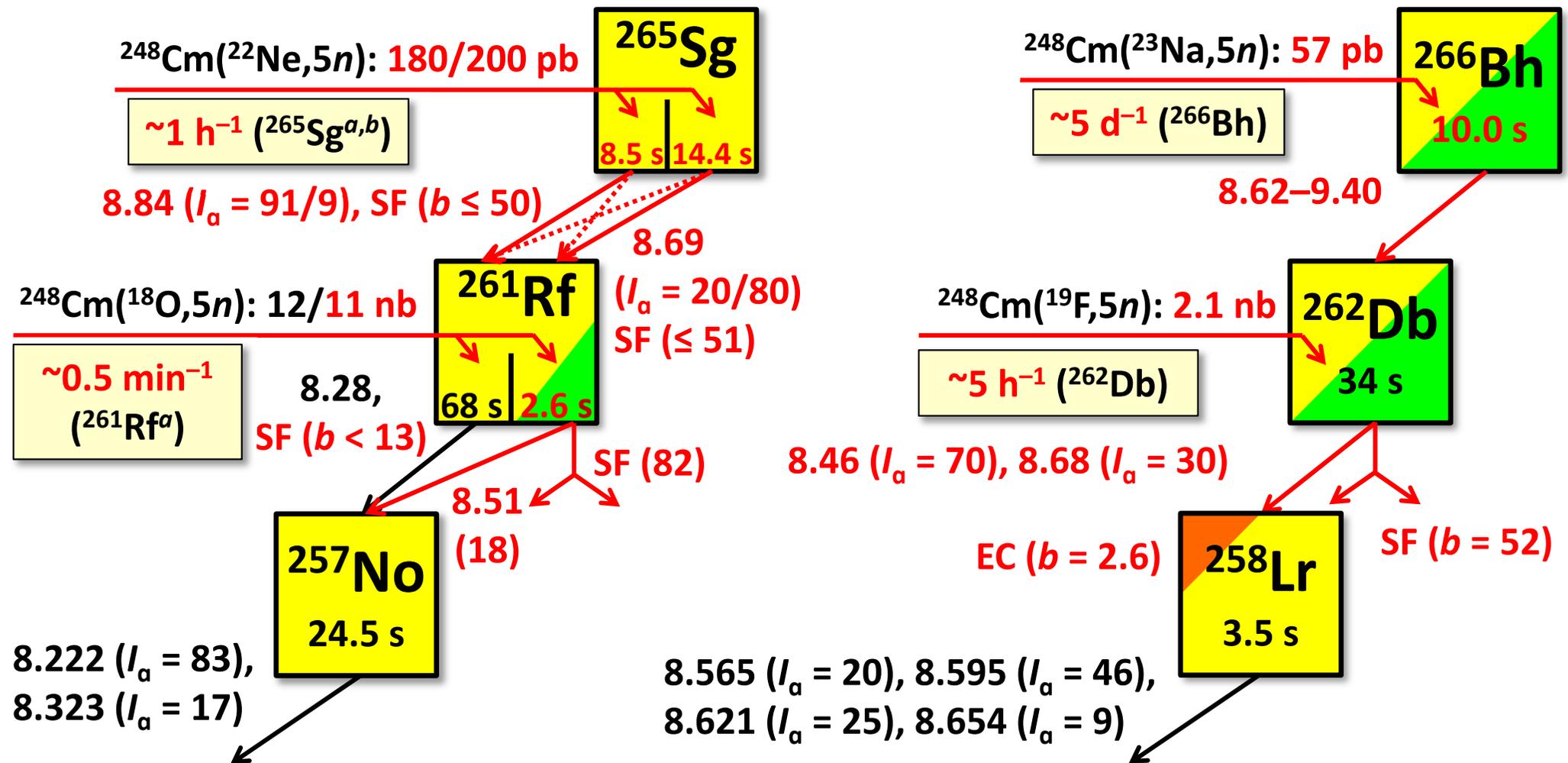
Cross section of $^{248}\text{Cm}(^{23}\text{Na},5n)^{266}\text{Bh}$

Reaction	Cross section at 131 MeV	Reaction*	Cross sections* at 117/123 MeV
$^{248}\text{Cm}(^{23}\text{Na},5n)^{266}\text{Bh}$	57 ± 14 pb	$^{249}\text{Bk}(^{22}\text{Ne},5n)^{266}\text{Bh}$	-/25–250 pb
		$^{249}\text{Bk}(^{22}\text{Ne},4n)^{267}\text{Bh}$	$58^{+33}_{-15}/96^{+55}_{-25}$ pb

*Wilk *et al.*, PRL **85**, 2697 (2000).



Production and decay studies of ^{261}Rf , ^{262}Db , ^{265}Sg , and ^{266}Bh



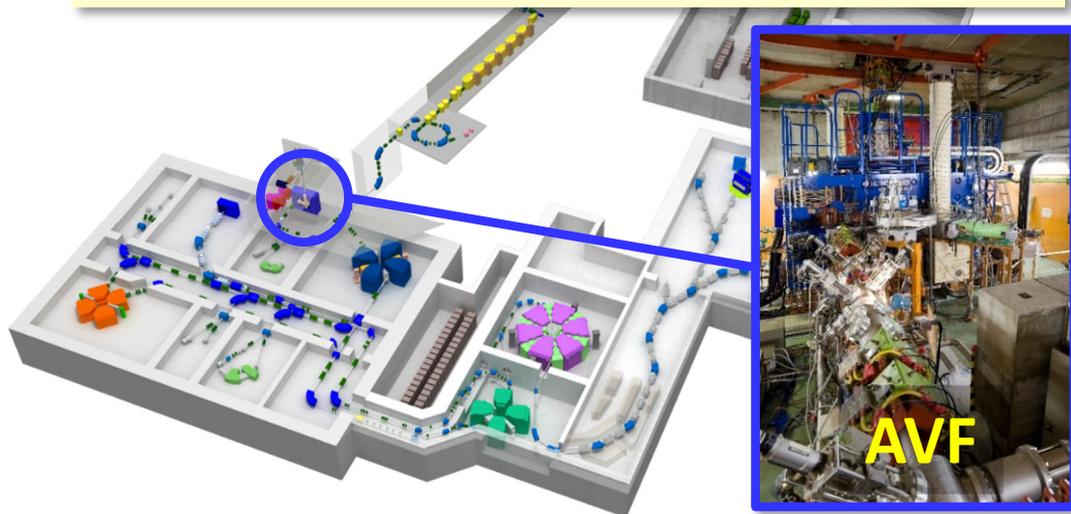
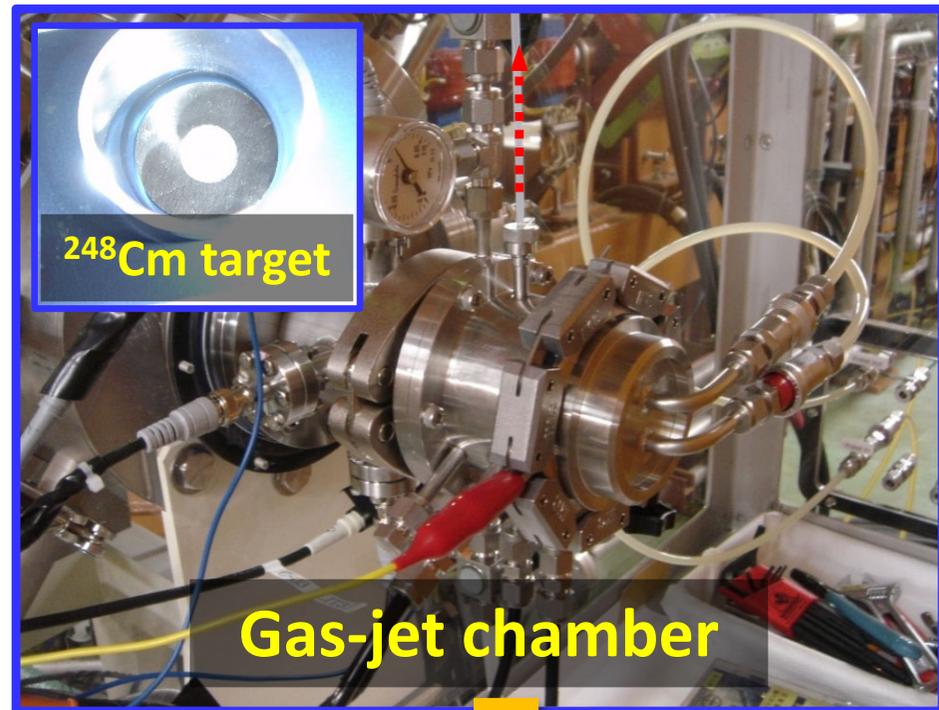
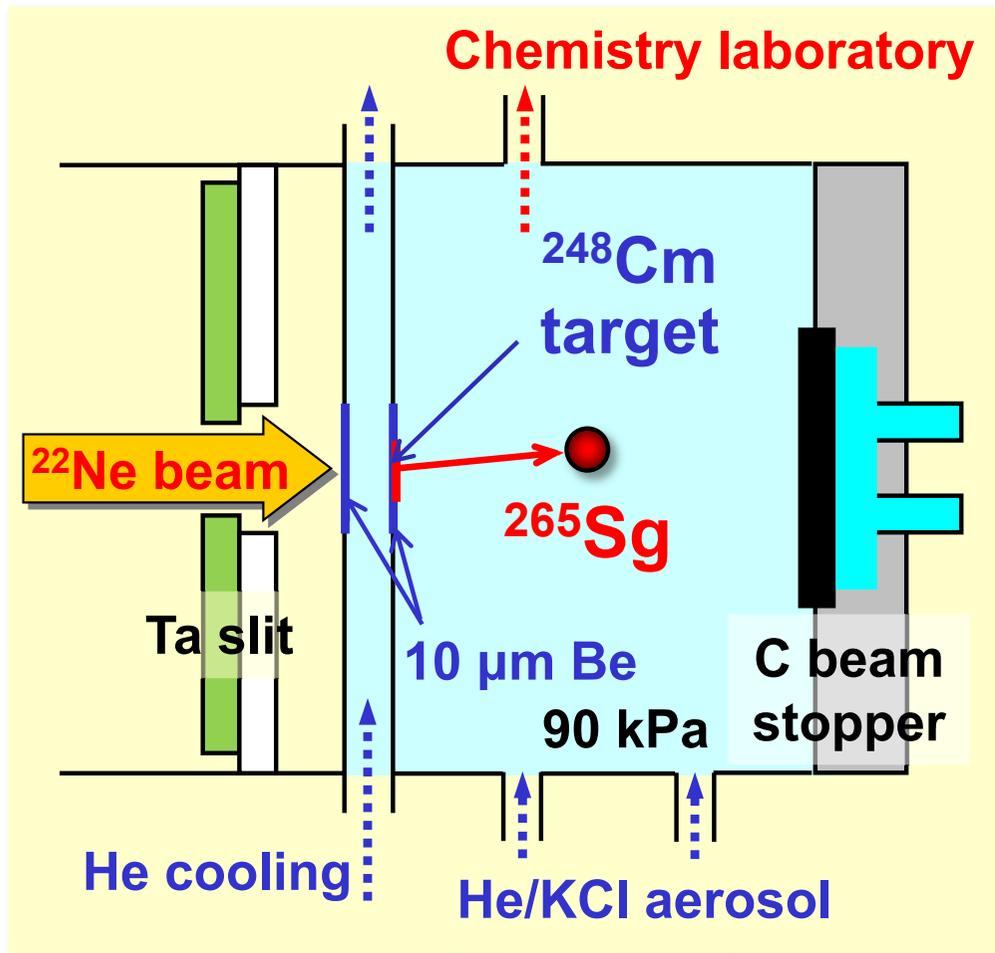
H. Haba et al., Chem. Lett. **38**, 426 (2009).
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 H. Haba, EPJ Web Conf. **131**, 07006 (2016).
 H. Haba et al., Phys. Rev. C **102**, 024625 (2020).

Pre-separated SHE RIs are ready for chemistry experiments.

5. Solution chemistry of Rf and Db

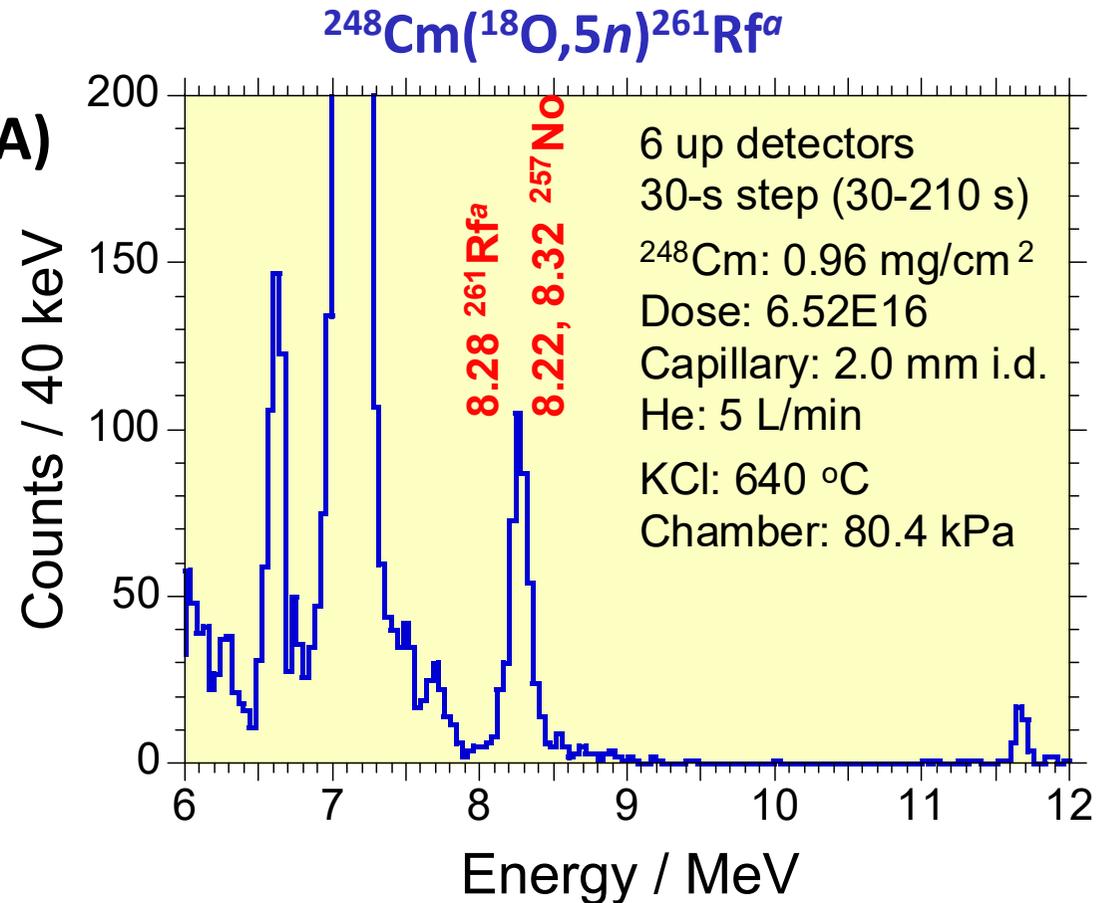
SHE production system at RIKEN AVF cyclotron



Conventional target and gas-jet system for production of SHEs

- Heavy-ion beams from AVF:
 ^{12}C , ^{18}O , ^{19}F , ^{22}Ne , and ^{26}Mg ($\sim 1 \text{ p}\mu\text{A}$)
- High production yields without a recoil separator

Z	Reaction	Half-life
102	$^{248}\text{Cm}(^{12}\text{C},5n)^{255}\text{No}$	3.52 min
104	$^{248}\text{Cm}(^{18}\text{O},5n)^{261}\text{Rf}^a$	68 s
105	$^{248}\text{Cm}(^{19}\text{F},5n)^{262}\text{Db}$	34 s
106	$^{248}\text{Cm}(^{22}\text{Ne},5n)^{265}\text{Sg}^b$	14.4 s
108	$^{248}\text{Cm}(^{26}\text{Mg},5n)^{269}\text{Hs}$	9.7 s



Exp.	Beam [MeV]	Beam [p μA]	Irrad. [h]	No. of α events	Gas-jet eff.** [%]	σ^{***} [nb]	Yield at AVF HL [atoms/min]
^{255}No	79.1	0.944	1.09	2689	46	900	200
$^{261}\text{Rf}^a$	96.4	0.870	3.34	865*	63	17	5

* Including α particles of ^{257}No .

** Estimated from the gas-jet efficiencies of ^{169}Hf produced in $^{nat}\text{Gd}(^{18}\text{O},xn)^{169}\text{Hf}$.

*** The target thicknesses were assumed to be 325 and $569 \text{ }\mu\text{g/cm}^2$ for ^{255}No and $^{261}\text{Rf}^a$, respectively.

Solution chemistry of Rf and Db at AVF

ARCA (JAEA)

Liq. chromatography

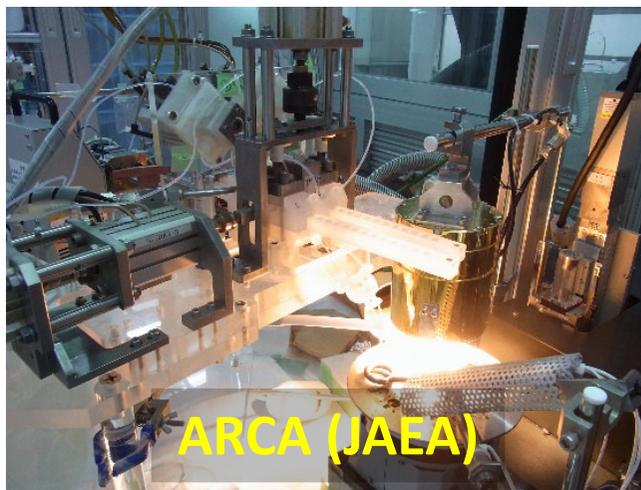
CHIN (Osaka Univ.)

Co-precipitation

AMBER (Osaka Univ.)

ISE (Osaka Univ.)

Liq.-liq. flow extraction



+



- **Reversed-phase TTA extraction of Rf fluoride with ARCA**

(Kanazawa Univ.)

A. Yokoyama et al., Radiochim. Acta **107**, 27 (2019). → **Rf < Zr ≈ Hf**

- **Extraction of Rf chloride with Aliquat 336 resin (Osaka Univ.)**

T. Yokokita et al., Dalton Trans. **45**, 18827 (2016). → **Rf > Zr > Hf**

- **Hydroxide co-precipitation of Rf with Sm(OH)₃ (Osaka Univ.)**

Y. Kasamatsu et al., Nat. Chem. **13**, 226 (2021). → **Rf > Zr ≈ Hf**

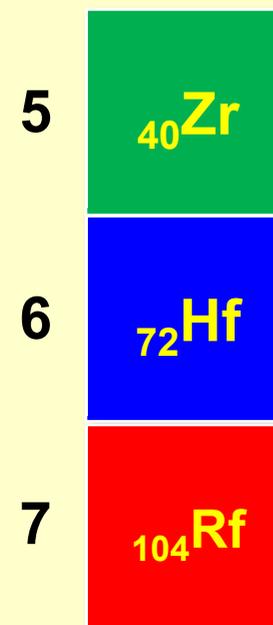
- **Anion-exchange of Rf sulfate with AMBER (RIKEN)**

A. Yokokita et al., to be submitted. → **Rf (≈ Th) < Zr ≈ Hf**

- **Reversed-phase TBP extraction of Db fluoride (Niigata Univ.)**

M. Murakami et al., to be submitted. → **Db ≈ Nb, Db ≠ Ta**

Group 4



6. Summary

- Present status of RIKEN RIBF facilities for SHE research was introduced.
- Element 113 was synthesized in the cold fusion of $^{209}\text{Bi} + ^{70}\text{Zn}$.
- A synthesis experiment of element 119 in the $^{248}\text{Cm}(^{51}\text{V}, xn)^{299-x}119$ reaction is ongoing using GARIS III at the upgraded SRILAC facility.
- Production and decay properties of ^{261}Rf , ^{262}Db , ^{265}Sg , and ^{266}Bh were investigated using the GARIS gas-jet system coupled to the rotating wheel apparatus for α and SF spectrometry.
- Formations of chloride, fluoride, hydroxide, and sulphate complexes of Rf and fluoride complexes of Db were investigated using the conventional gas-jet transport system at AVF.