Beta Delayed Particle Emission

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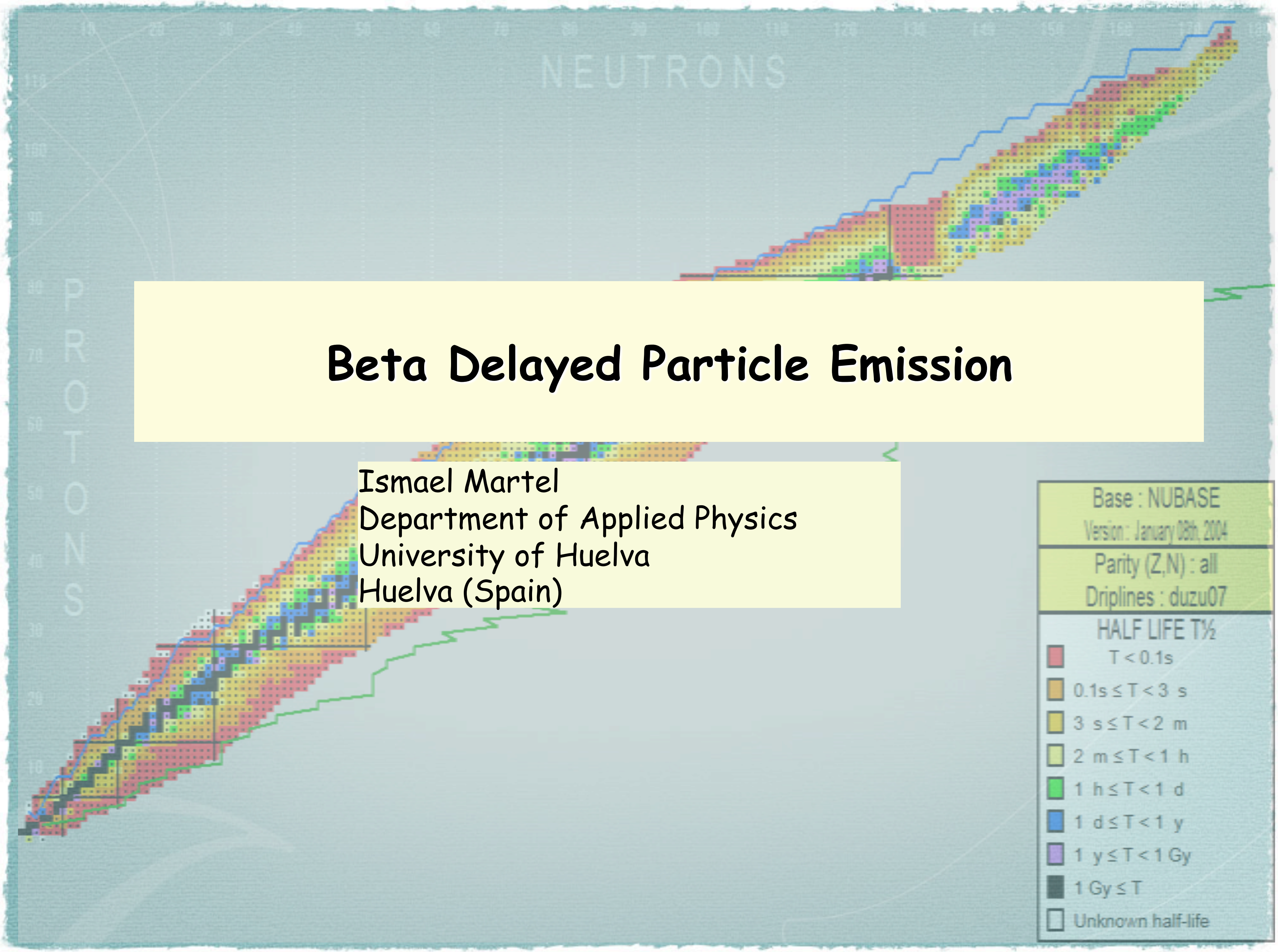
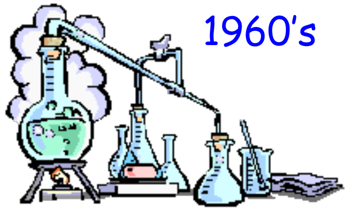


Huelva

Cristobal Columbus 1492

Recreativo Football Club 1889



1960's

1992

History:

→1492, the discovery of America: Shipbuilders, Caravels and the crew of Cristobal Columbus were from Huelva. Depart from a small port located at the village of Palos de la Frontera (Huelva).

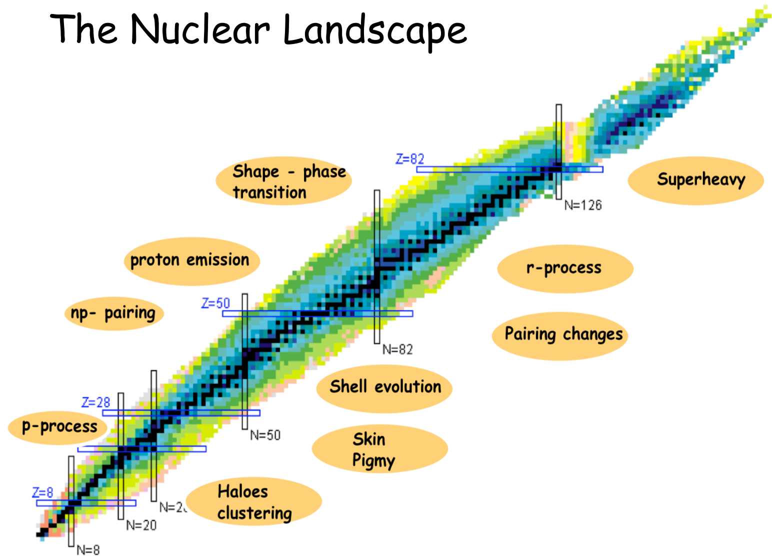
→1889, first football team in Spain (soccer) founded by British workers at "Rio Tinto" mines (Rio Tinto Company, London, 1873).

→1960's, one of largest industrial sites in Spain (Chemicals, Petrol & Mining industry)

→1992, University of Huelva was born, one of the youngest Universities of Spain. (15.000 students/ 150.000 habitants of Huelva)

→1999, the Nuclear & Particle Physics group (Estructura de la Materia)

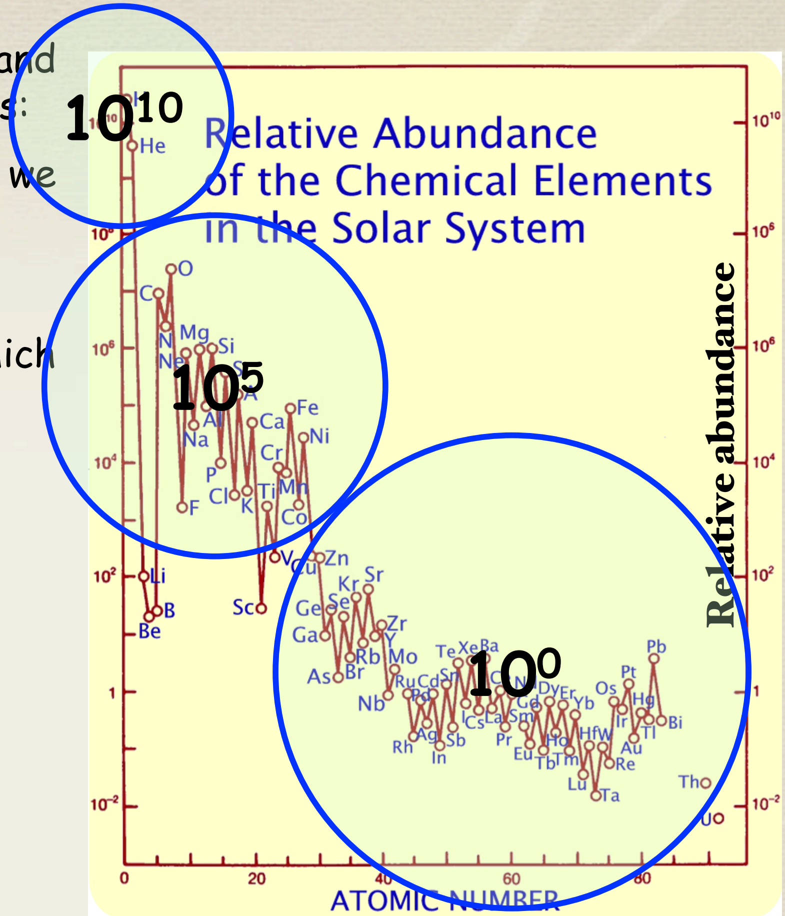
The Nuclear Landscape



Introduction

Along history, there has been a constant effort to understand the structure and mechanism of the nature that surround us:

- Why the Universe and the Nature have the structure we observe?
- Which are the basic constituents of matter?
- How the different building blocks of matter interact which each other?
- Where, when and how the Universe has been originated?



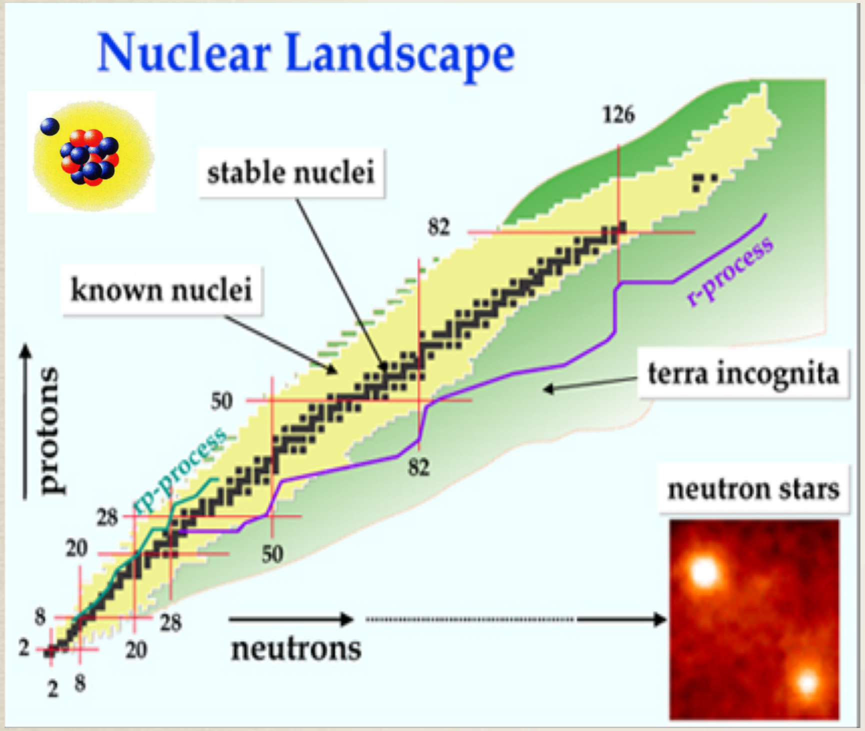
“Creation pillars”, nucleosynthesis of stars at Eagle’s Nebulae

The research efforts carried out in basic nuclear physics (and Science in a wide sense) along last century (XX) has provided an un-precedent knowledge of the subatomic structure of matter and its constituents, its dynamics and the Origin of the Universe itself.

From a historical point of view, the major steps in the understanding of the Universe have taken place in particle accelerators.

At present Radioctive Beam Facilities we can customize our nuclear system (N,Z), "fabricate" any nucleus controlling the number of constituent protons and neutrons.

Proton Rich Nuclei ← → Neutron Rich Nuclei← → Light unbound systems ← → Super-heavy's



→ Evolution of nuclear structure and nuclear dynamics,

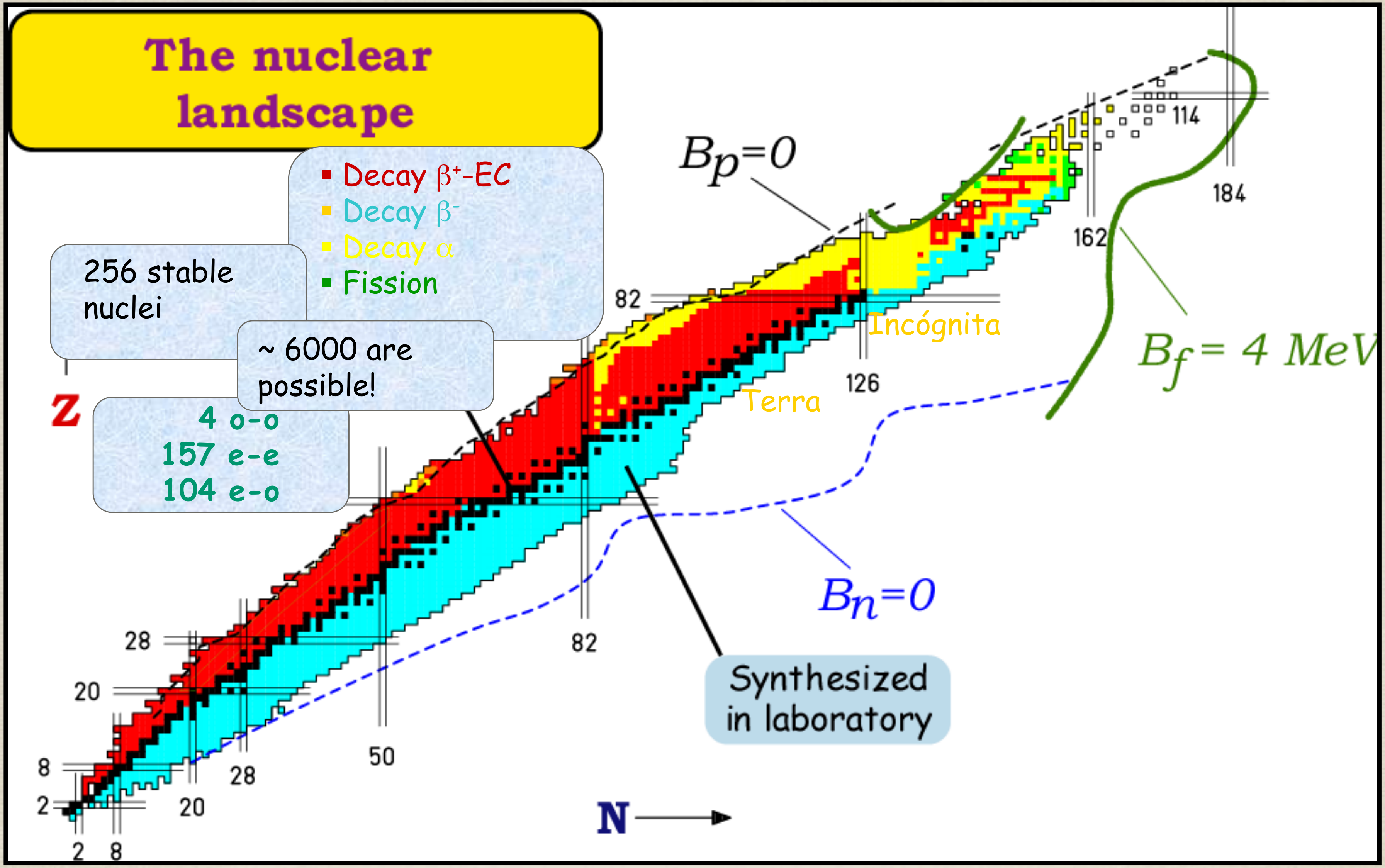
→ Exotic (N,Z) combinations → isospin degree of freedom

- Evolution of shell structure, phase shape transitions, nucleon-nucleon pairing, spin-orbit interaction
- Halo, skin, cluster nuclear structures
- Beyond the drip lines → unbound nuclei & resonances
- Exotic decay modes and Reaction dynamics of exotic systems
- Test of astrophysical scenarios → nuclear astrophysics

Spectroscopic tools → Particle Detectors + Accelerators

Theoretical tools: Precise knowledge of theoretical framework **well tested** with stable nuclei → Example: **DIRECT NUCLEAR REACTIONS** (FRESCO, ECIS, etc,...)

The nuclear landscape

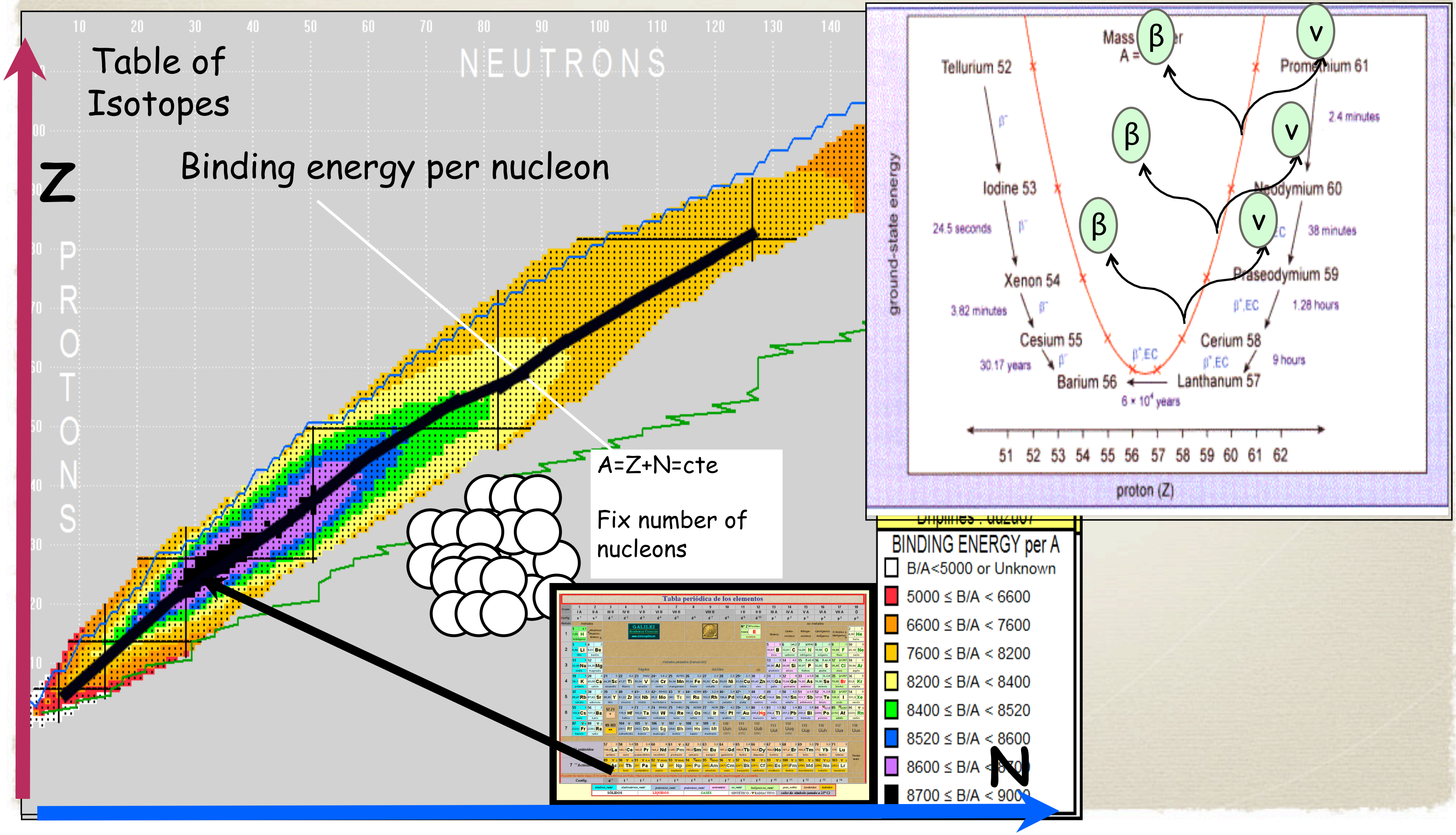


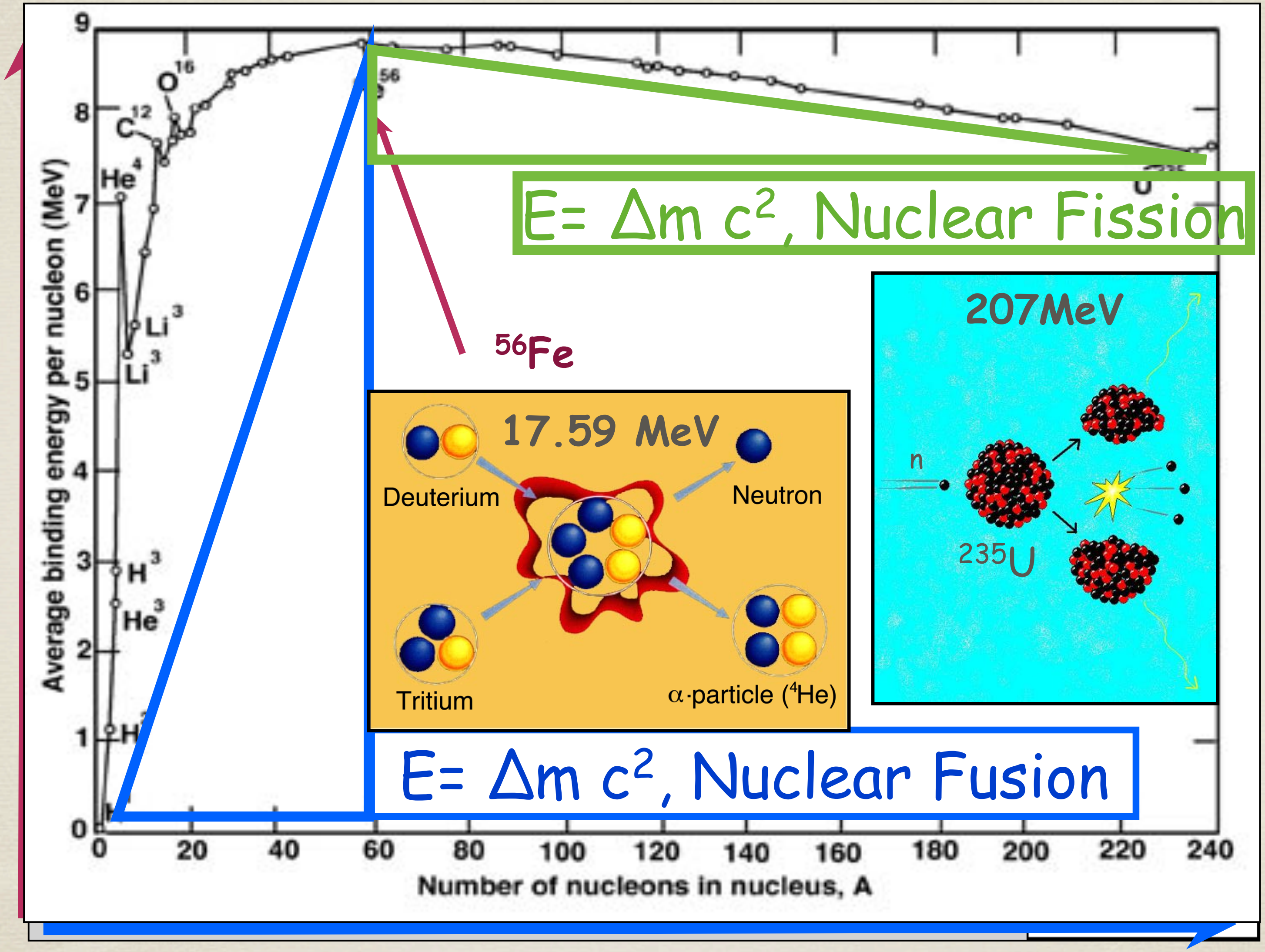
Nuclear stability and radioactivity

Atomic nuclei are very "particular" systems → only "magic" combinations of (Z,N) are possible → stable nuclei
→ nuclear interaction/ nuclear Structure

Far from "stable" configurations → excess of energy →
nucleons tends to reorganize → particle emission

→ weak nuclear force (p←→ n) + strong + Coulomb → radioactive decay or **radioactivity**.

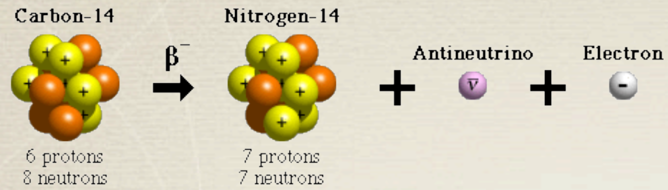




Average binding energy per nucleon (MeV)
Number of nucleons in nucleus, A
E= Δm c², Nuclear Fission
E= Δm c², Nuclear Fusion
56Fe
17.59 MeV
Deuterium
Neutron
Tritium
α-particle (4He)
207MeV
n
235U

Some common types of radioactivity

Beta -



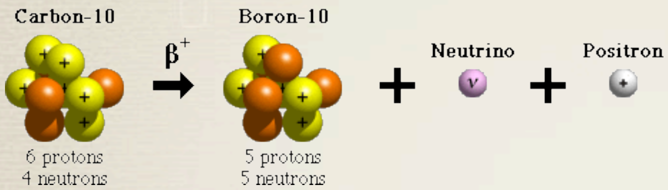
A neutron is transformed in a proton, with the emission of one electron and one antineutrino;

Z => Z+1

N => N-1

A= constant

Beta +

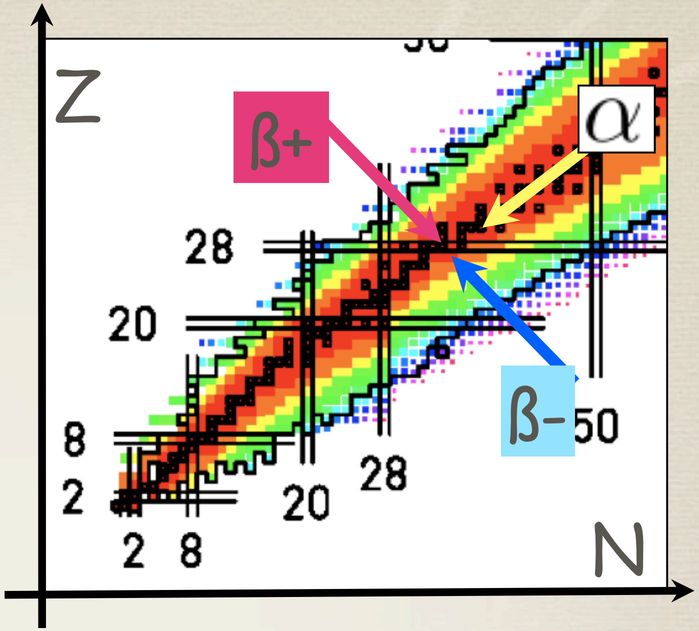


A proton is transformed in a neutron, with the emission of a positron and one neutrino:

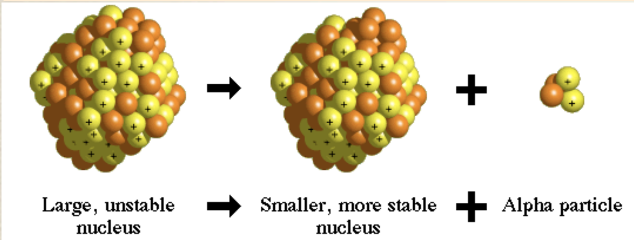
Z => Z - 1

N => N+1

A= constant



Particle emission: Alpha



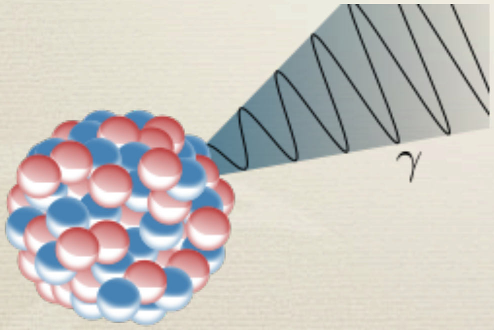
High mass nuclei can decay by emission of a helium nucleus;

Z => Z-2

N => N - 2

A=> A-4

Gamma decay



Emission of electromagnetic radiation (photons) occurs during transitions between nuclear states of higher to lower energies.

→ NO change in (N,Z) or A values

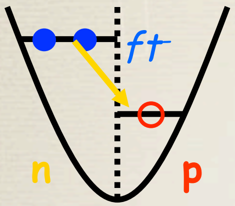
Beta decay

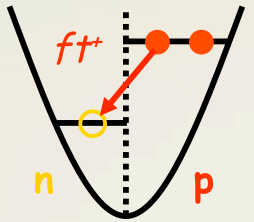
As it was previously discussed, weak interaction is one of the vehicles used for nuclear systems to release the excess of energy and travel from drip-lines to the Valley of Stability.

$\beta^-: n \rightarrow p + e^- + \bar{\nu}$ $\quad\beta^+: p \rightarrow n + e^+ + \nu$

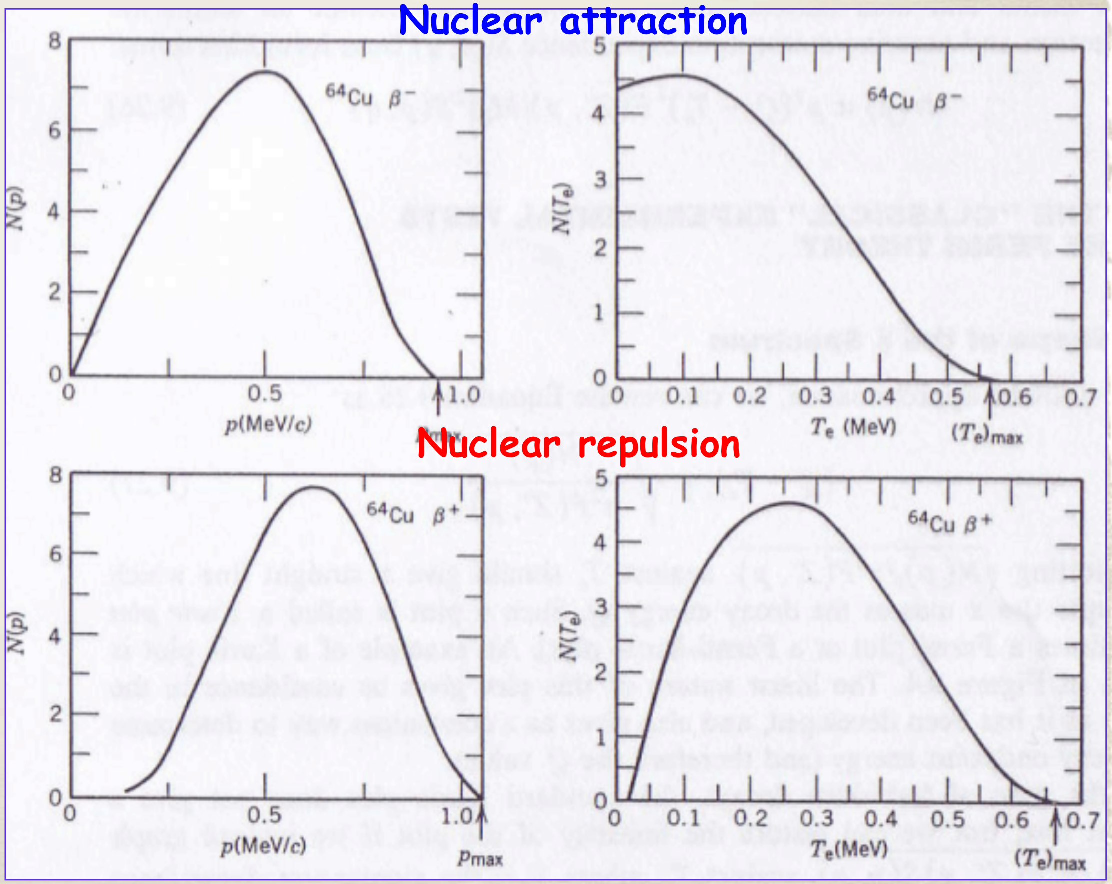
E.C. : $p + e^- \rightarrow n + \nu$

Competing process: **E.C.** Electron Capture, (Alvarez 1938)





Momentum & energy distributions



The energy spectrum of beta particles is continuous: **three body process**

Pauli 1931

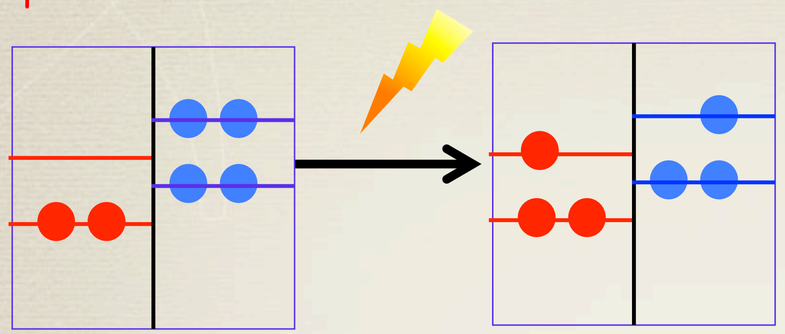
- Neutrino
- Beta
- Residual nucleus

Neutrino → Reines & Cowan 1950

K.S. Krane, Intr. Nucl. Phys., John wiley & Sons, 1988

Beta decay and isospin

Beta decay: transformation of proton ←→ neutron



OPERATIONS & OPERATORS

$|-1/2\rangle$ neutron $\quad |+1/2\rangle$ proton

$I = |-1/2\rangle\langle -1/2| + |+1/2\rangle\langle +1/2|$, identity

$\langle -1/2|+1/2\rangle = \langle -1/2 | +1/2\rangle = 0$, orthogonal

$\langle -1/2|-1/2\rangle = \langle +1/2 | +1/2\rangle = 1$, normalization

$T_z = (-1/2)\,|-1/2\rangle\langle -1/2| + (+1/2)\,|+1/2\rangle\langle +1/2|$

$T_+ = |+1/2\rangle\langle -1/2|$

$T_- = |-1/2\rangle\langle +1/2|$

Isospin flip operators

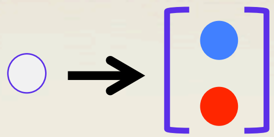
$Q = (2\,T_z + 1)/2$ = charge operator

$$M(A,T,T_z) = a(A,T) + b(A,T)\,T_z + c(A,T)\,T_z^2$$

Concept of **nucleon**: particle that can be proton/ neutron:

→ new quantum number ISOSPIN (T) describes "the charge state of the nucleon"

Dirac ket



$T_z=-1/2$ (neutron) $|-1/2\rangle$

$T_z=+1/2$ (proton) $|+1/2\rangle$

Isospin modulus: T=1/2

eigenvalues

$T_z\,|+1/2\rangle = +1/2\,|T = +1/2\rangle$

$T_z\,|-1/2\rangle = -1/2\,|T = +1/2\rangle$

The isooospin operator

$T_+\,|-1/$ neutron → proton $+1/2\rangle$

$T_-\,|+1/$ proton→ neutron $-1/2\rangle$

$T^{+/-}$ → beta decay operators!

The isobaric multiplet mass equation (IMME), Wigner 1957
→ drip lines, exotic radioactivity, etc

For a system nucleons T= Σ T(i) Tz = Σ Tz(i) $T^{+/-}$= Σ $T^{+/-}$(i) i=1…A nucleons

Beta interaction $Vb^{(+/-)} = g_v\, T^{(+/-)} + g_A\, ST^{(+/-)}$

g_v = Fermi constant
g_A= Gamow-Teller constant

Experimentally, beta decay can change spin of final nuclei (S operator)

Beta transition prob. → Fermi Golden Rule

λ (i, f; En, Eb) = 2π/ħ |⟨ i |Vb| f ⟩|² ρ (Q-En,Eb)

Transition probability — matrix element — Density of final states β , ν recoil excit: En

$|M(F)|^2 = |\langle i|T^{(+/-)}|f\rangle|^2$
$|M(GT)|^2 = |\langle i|ST^{(+/-)}|f\rangle|^2$

ρ (Q-En,Eb) ~ p_b(Q-Eb)² F(Zf,Eb)

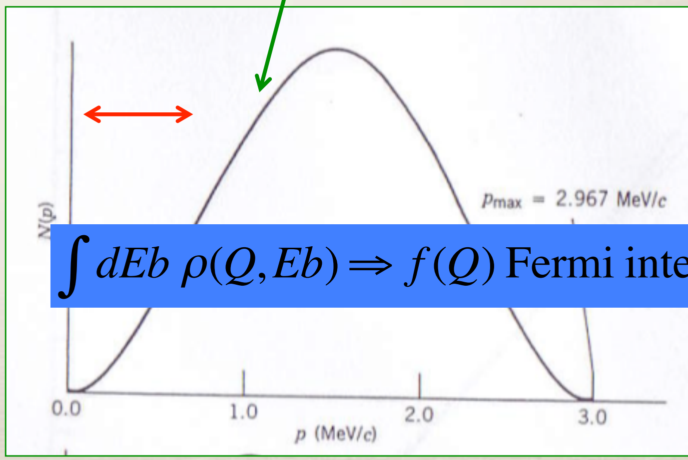
Phase space — nucl rep./atrac. (Fermi function)

| i ⟩ =|A; i ⟩ = initial nuclear state
|A; f ⟩ = |A; f ⟩ x |β ⟩ x | ν ⟩ final state

1st Forbidden decays, etc

$$|\beta\rangle x|\nu\rangle \sim e^{ik_\nu r} e^{ik_\beta r} \sim 1-(k_\beta+k_\nu)r+\ldots\sim 1$$

Allowed aproximation
Allowed decays
L=0 (r=0)



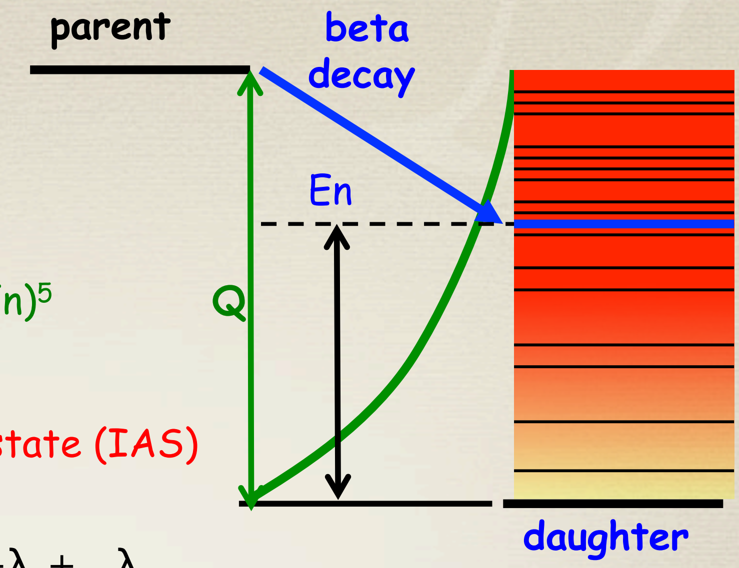
$$\int dEb\, \rho(Q,Eb) \Rightarrow f(Q) \text{ Fermi integral}$$

Finally

$$\lambda(i,f;En) = \frac{m_e^5 c^4}{2\pi\hbar^7}\left[g_V^2 |M(F)|^2 + g_A^2 |M(GT)|^2\right] f(Z_f, Q-En)$$

$$f(Z,E) = \frac{1}{m_e^5 c^7}\int_0^{p\max} F(Zf,p)\,p^2 (E-Eb)\,dp \quad \text{Fermi integral}$$

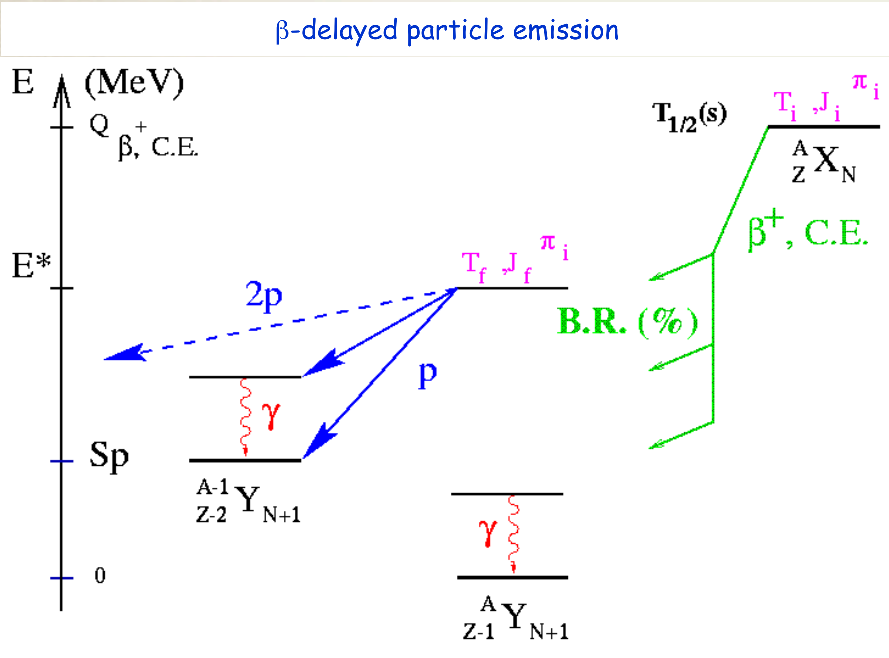
$F(Z_f,Q\text{-}En) \sim (Q\text{-}En)^5$



- Selection rules for allowed approx:
  - Fermi: $\Delta T=0$; $\Delta J=0$; $\pi_f = \pi_i$ → Isobaric analog state (IAS)
  - Gamow-Teller: $\Delta T=0\pm1$; $\Delta J=0\pm1$; $\pi_f = \pi_i$

Branching ratios and partial half-life

- $\lambda_T=\lambda_1+\lambda_2+\ldots\lambda_N$
- $T_T= Ln(2)/\lambda \rightarrow 1/T=1/T_1+1/T_2\ldots 1/T_N$
- $Br(i)= \lambda_i/\lambda_T=T_T/T_i$



ft-value (comparative half-life)

$$\lambda = Ln(2)/T_{1/2}$$

$$ft = f * \frac{T_{1/2}}{Br} = \frac{K}{g_V^2 |M(F)|^2 + g_A^2 |M(GT)|^2}$$

$$ft = \frac{C}{B(F)+B(GT)}$$

B(F), B(GT): reduced transition probability

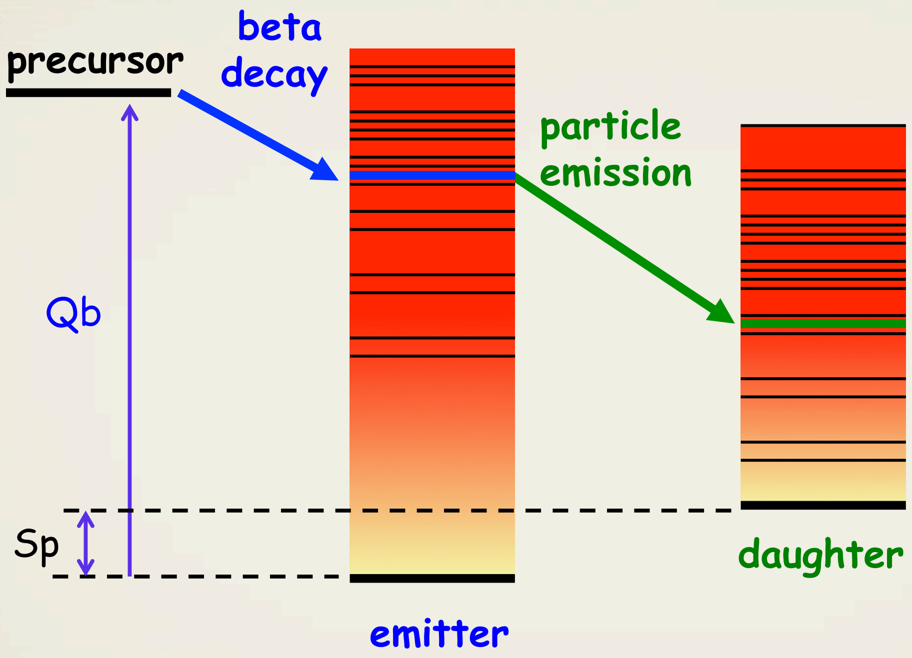
Large range ft~ 10^3 → 10^{20} → Tabulate Log(ft)

Beta delayed particle emission

Emission of particles from nuclear (excited) states populated by the beta decay

Two processes:

- Beta decay from the parent nucleus (precursor)
- Particle emission from excited states of "emitter" nucleus



E, Γ

Level density

Spin, Isospin

β-decay properties

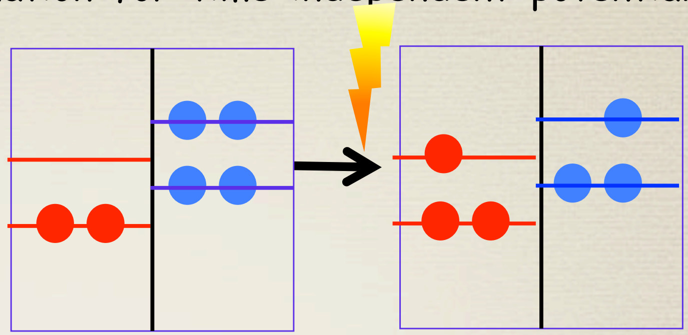
→ beta decay to excited levels of "emitter" nucleus; if the excited state is over separation energy Sp → emission of particles

→ The half-life of beta decay is much longer than the nuclear level of emitter, the half-life of the process is given by the beta decay → "***beta - delayed ….***"

Particle emission: transitions and decaying states

The wave functions obtained by solving the Schrödinger equation for time independent potentials have the property of being stationary states

$$\hat{H}\Psi_o(r,t) = E(0)\Psi_o(r,t) \qquad \Psi_o(r,t) = \Psi_o(r)e^{-i\frac{E(0)}{\hbar}t}$$



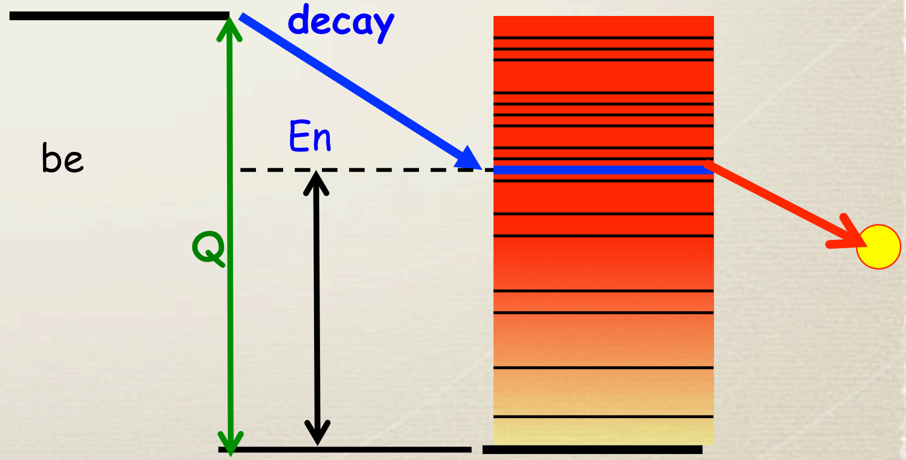
States will remain in that energy eigenstate forever!

Under a sudden change of the potential (like beta decay p←→n), we get a new hamiltonian H_{new} and the "old" wavefunctions are no more eigenvalues → start evolution with time:

$$\hat{U}(t)\Psi_o(r,t) = e^{-i\frac{\hat{H}_{new}}{\hbar}t}\Psi_o(r,t) = \sum c_i(t)\phi_i(r)e^{-i\frac{E(i)_{new}}{\hbar}t}$$

$$\hat{H}_{new}\phi_i(r,t) = E(i)_{new}\phi_i(r,t)$$

Some of these new states are continuum states → particle emission



The transition process (particle emission) can be described by the Fermi Golden Rule

$$\lambda = \frac{2\pi}{\hbar}|V_{if}|^2\rho(E_f)$$

$$V_{if} = \int \Psi^*_f(H_{new} - H_{old})\Psi_i \qquad \rho(E_f) = \frac{dn_f}{dE_f}$$

If Ef > Sp → tunnel through Coulomb barrier
→ P(r,t) decreases with time.

→ use of a complex energy eigenvalue in the final system:

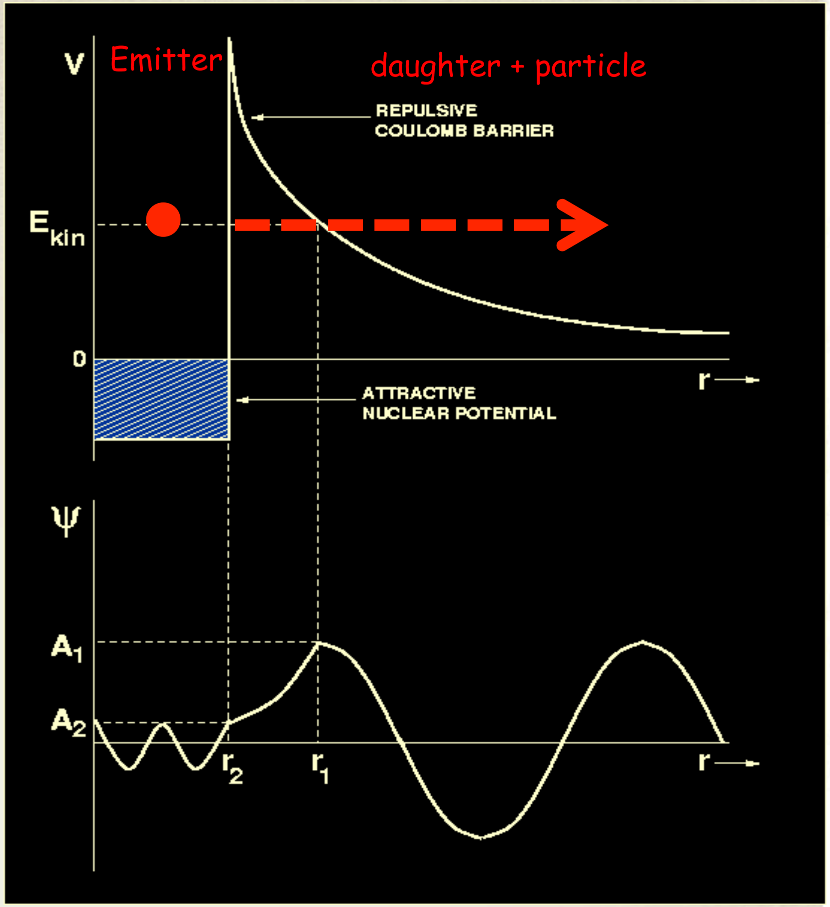
$E_d + i\,\Gamma_d/2$

$$\phi_d(r,t) = N\phi_d(r)e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar}(E_d+i\Gamma_d/2)t} = N\phi_d(r)\,e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar}E_d t}\,e^{\frac{1}{\hbar}\frac{\Gamma_d}{2}t}$$

$$P(r,t) = N^2\left|\phi_d(r,t)\right|^2 = N^2\left|\phi_d(r)\right|^2 e^{-\frac{1}{\hbar}\Gamma_d t}$$

$$P(r,t) = N^2\left|\phi_d(r)\right|^2 e^{-\lambda_d t}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{\tau} = \frac{\Gamma}{\hbar}$$

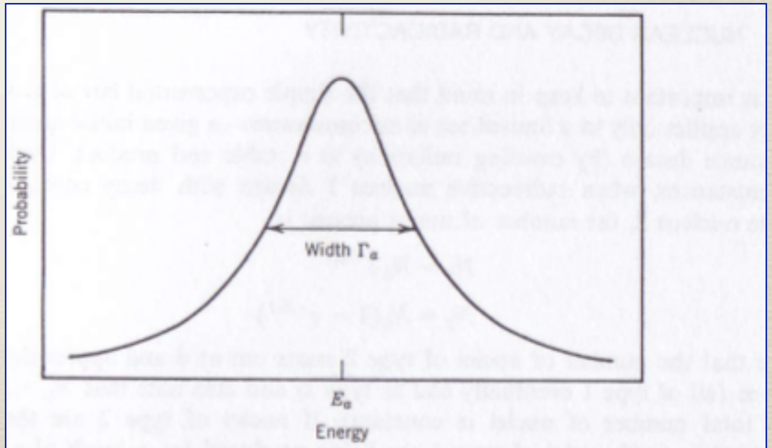


For the energy distribution (energy representation)
→ Fourier transform

$$\phi_d(E) \approx \int e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar}Et}\phi_d(t)\,dt \approx \int e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar}Et}\,e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar}E_d t}\,e^{-\frac{1}{\hbar}\frac{\Gamma_d}{2}t}\,dt$$

$$\phi_d(E) \approx \frac{1}{(E-E_d)+i\frac{\Gamma}{2}}$$

$$P(E) \approx \frac{1}{(E-E_{dec})^2 + \left(\frac{\Gamma}{2}\right)^2}$$



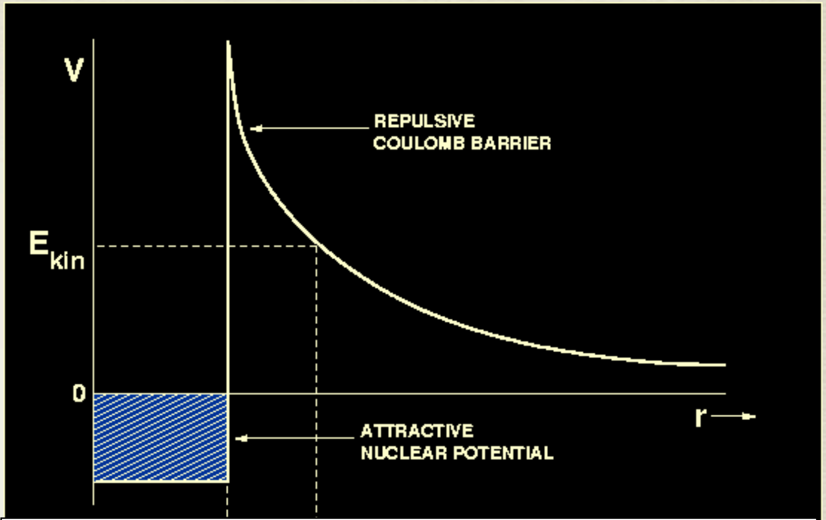
3 Probability to observe the energy of an unstable state of width Γ_a.

Why complex eigenvalues? → $E_d + i\,\Gamma_d/2$ → naturally arise from solving Shrödinger ecuation at E>0!

Georg Gamow : simple model of alpha decay, G.A. Gamow, Zs f. Phys. 51 (1928) 204; 52 (1928) 510

→ Quantum tuneling through barrier

$$u''(r) = \left[\frac{l(l+1)}{r^2} + \frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2}V(r) - k^2\right]u(r)$$
$$u(r) \sim C_0\, r^{l+1}\ ,\ r \to 0$$
$$u(r) \sim C_+\, H^+_{l,\eta}(kr)\ ,\ r \to +\infty \text{ (bound,resonant)}$$
$$u(r) \sim C_+\, H^+_{l,\eta}(kr) + C_-\, H^-_{l,\eta}(kr)\ ,\ r \to +\infty \text{ (scattering)}$$



If keep same boundary condition → $H^+(kr)$, r→ ∞
Bound and resonant states → poles of the Scattering matrix S(k) (matching with outgoing WF)

Bound states:
→ pure imaginary K values: ~ - i Ki, Er < 0

Resonant states:
→ complex K values: Kr – i Ki, Er > 0, Γ> 0

→ GAMOW STATES

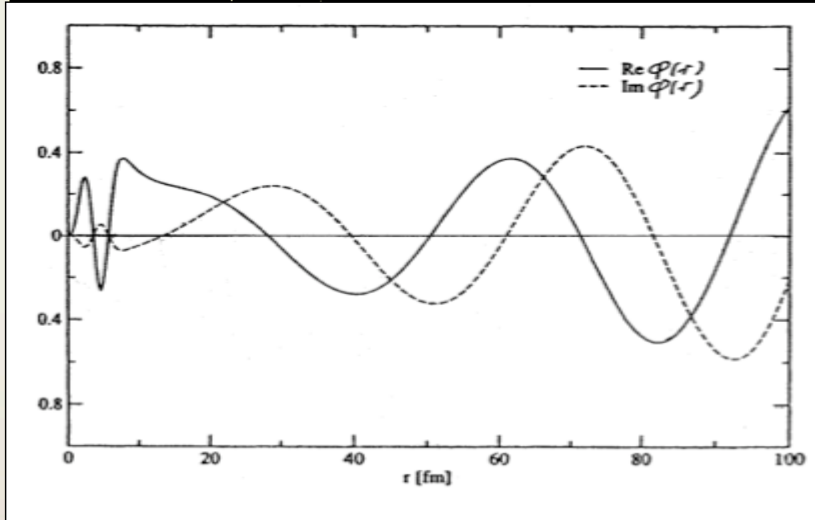


Figure 1: Gamow radial wave function $\varphi_{nl}(r)$

$$\hat{1} = \sum_{i=b} |u_i\rangle\langle\tilde{u}_i| + \sum_{j=r} |u_j\rangle\langle\tilde{u}_j| + \int_{L^+} |\varphi(k)\rangle dk \langle\tilde{\varphi}(k^*)|$$

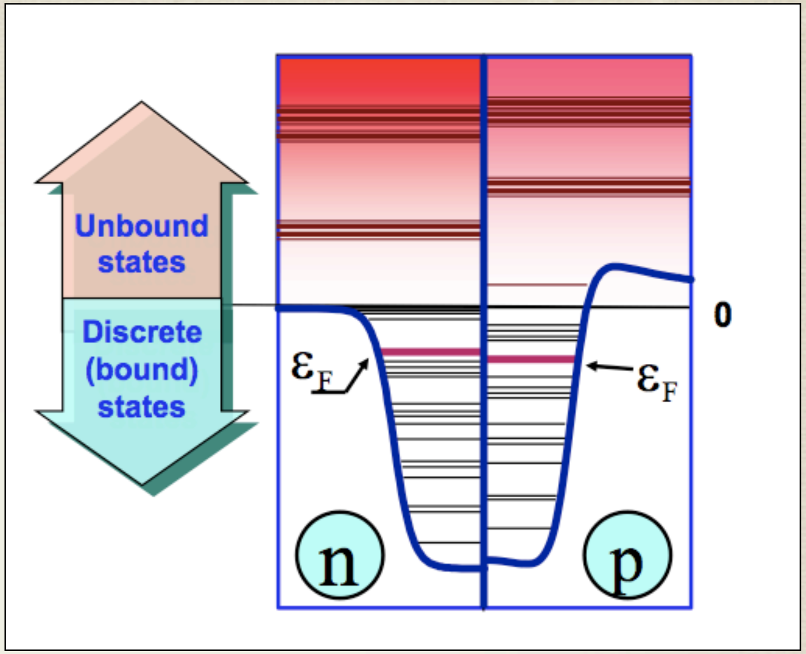
Consistent description of bound and scattering states: → a rigged Hilbert space (Gel'fand triple space): 1960s Gel'fand combined Hilbert space with the theory of distributions.

Spectacular applications: Shell model in the continuum// → Shell model in the complex energy plane; N. Michel, W. Nazarewicz, M. Oloszajzak and T. Vertse (J. Phys. G.: Nucl. Part. Phys. 36 (2009) 013101

Difficult to overestimate the importance of Gamow theory!!.

Some references: Humblet and Rosenfeld, Nucl. Phys. 26, 529 (1961); T. Berggren, Nucl. Phys. A 109 (1968) 265. R. de la Madrid, Nucl. Phys. A812, 13 (2008)

Gamow states of a finite potential



R-MATRIX DESCRIPTION

Tradicional method → based on R-matrix theory for unbound nuclei → scattering, reactions, particle decay. (F. C. Barker, Aust. J. Phys., 1988, 41, 743-63, E.K. Warburton, PRC 33 (1986)303-313)

$$P(E) \propto \left| \sum_i \frac{G(i)^{1/2}\Gamma(i)^{1/2}}{(E(i)+\Delta(i)-E-i\frac{\Gamma}{2})} \right|^2$$

G(i) : feeding factor of the decaying state

Γ(i) : level width **Γ(i) : 2 P(E)*γ²**

Δ(i) : shift factor (WF matching at pot. radius)

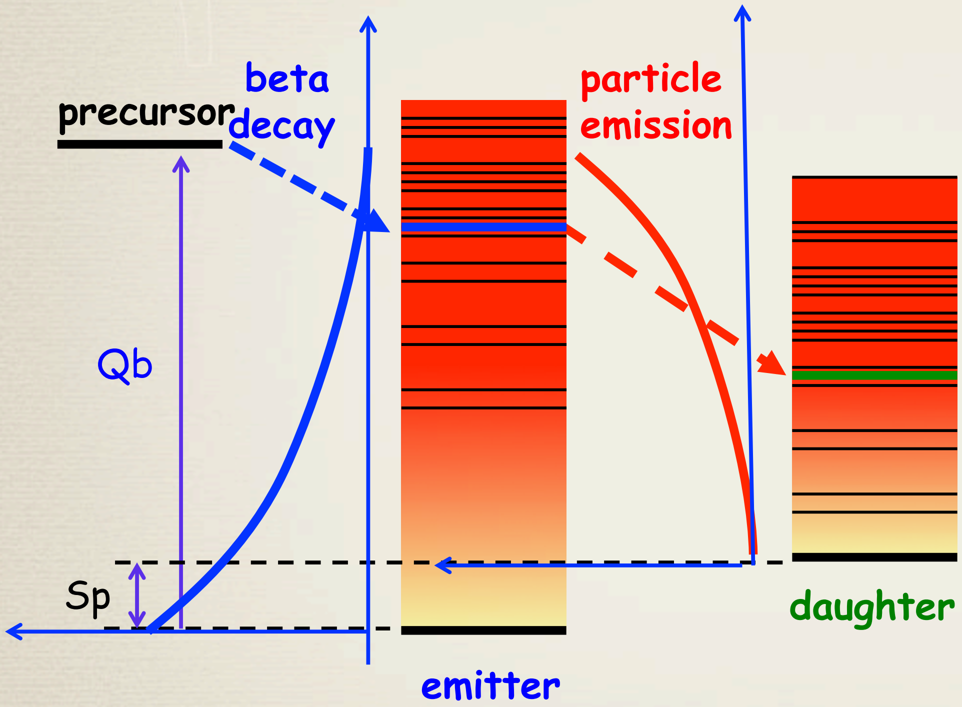
E(i) : level energy/resonance

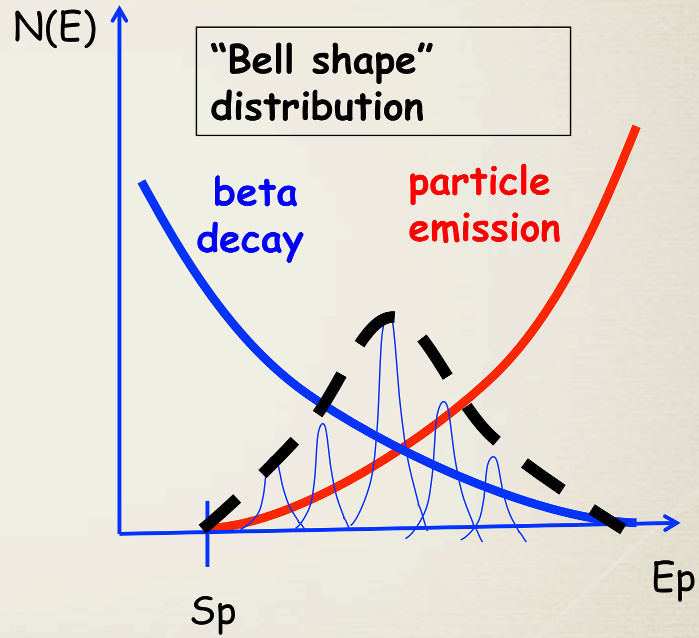
Penetration factor (barrier)

Reduced width (nuclear matrix element)

SUMMARY: what to expect for beta delayed particle emission

Two processes:
- Beta decay → FERMI INTEGRAL (Matrix elements) → $(Q\text{-}E_n)^5$
- Particle emission → BARRIER PENETRABILITY ~ P(Ek) ~ 1/(1+ exp((EB–Ek)/ωb) (parabolic)
- Breit – Wigner shapes on each level
- Density of states above Sp





history → observed since early stages of nuclear physics:

Beta delayed alphas ($\beta\alpha$): Rutherford (1916) [*Philos. Mag.* ***31*** *(1916) 379*]
→ "Long range alpha particles followed by beta decay of 212Bi"

Beta delayed protons (**βp**): Marsden (1914) → $^{14}N(\alpha,p)^{17}O$ [*Philos. Mag.* ***37*** *(1919) 537*]; Álvarez (1950) bombarded ^{10}B and ^{20}Ne with 32 MeV protons → beta delayed ^{8}B, ^{20}Na α-emitters

The modern era begins in 1960's (βp, β2p)/ Zeldovich, Karnaukhov, Goldansky…
[*Goldanskii NPA 19 (1960) 482*]

→ Spectroscopic tool: Information about level energies, spins and parities of participant nuclei (precursor, emitter, daughter)

At present days investigations on beta delayed radioactivity are very intense, particularly with the use of radioactive beams:
typical decay mechanism at drip lines

- Large Qb values → access high energy states

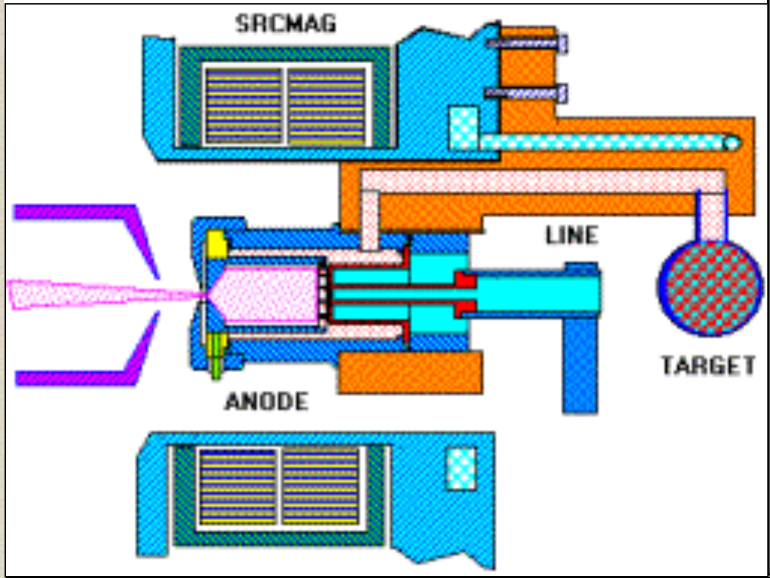
Good alternative to gamma spectroscopy and nuclear reactions limited by beam intensities ~10^4 pps

- Beta delayed particle emission → limited by selection rules of beta decay

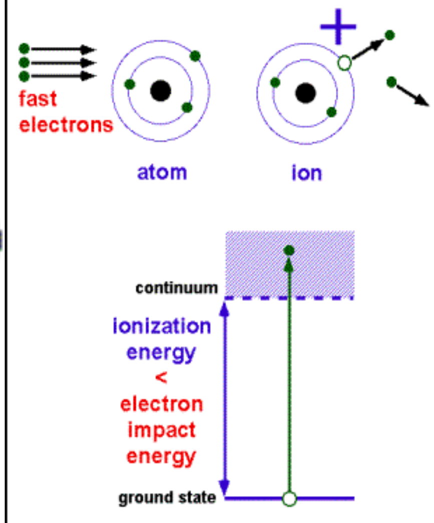
- Usually first type of studies close to drip lines → low isotope production → largest yields obtained directly after ion source and implanted on decay foil.

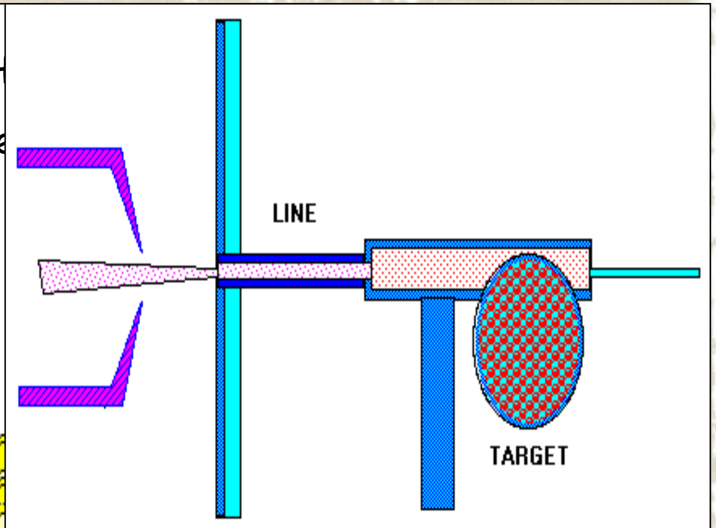
- Relatively "simple" experimental setups.

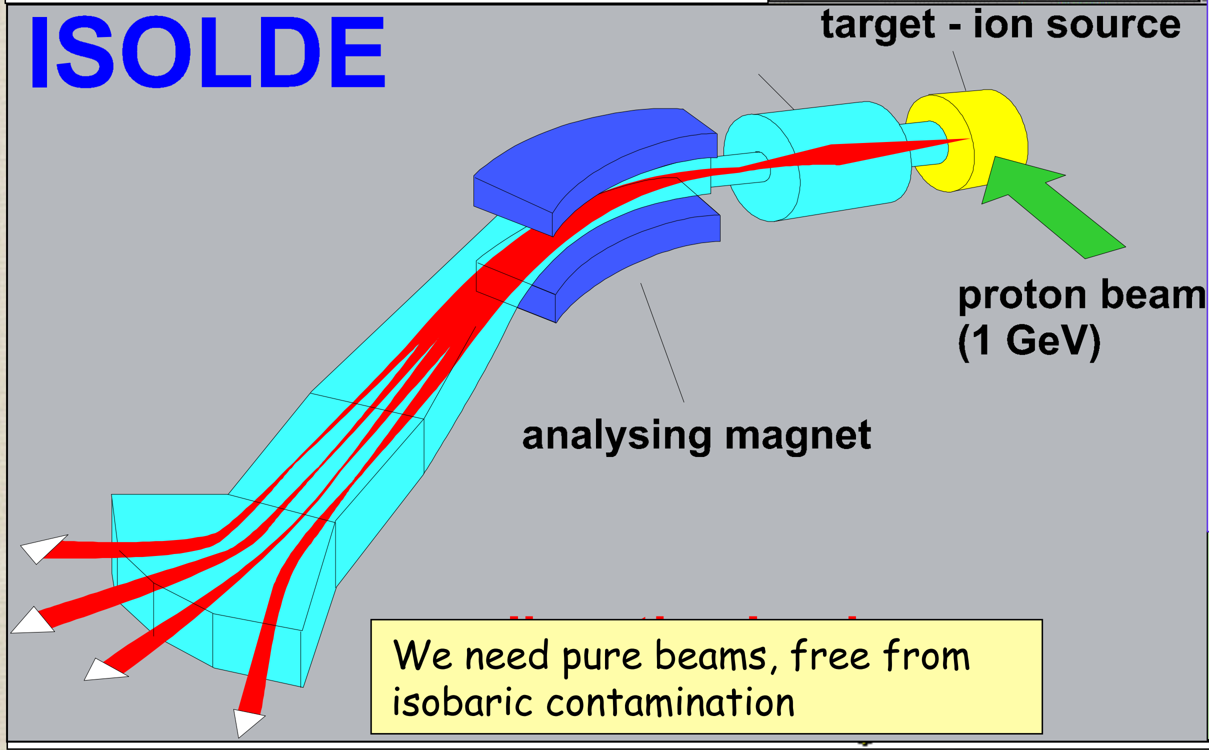
Plasma ion source



Ionization by electron impact

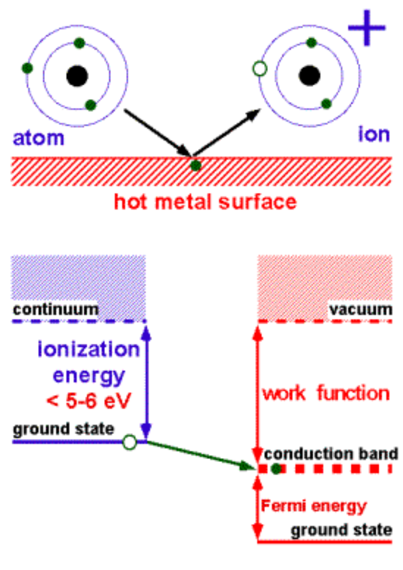






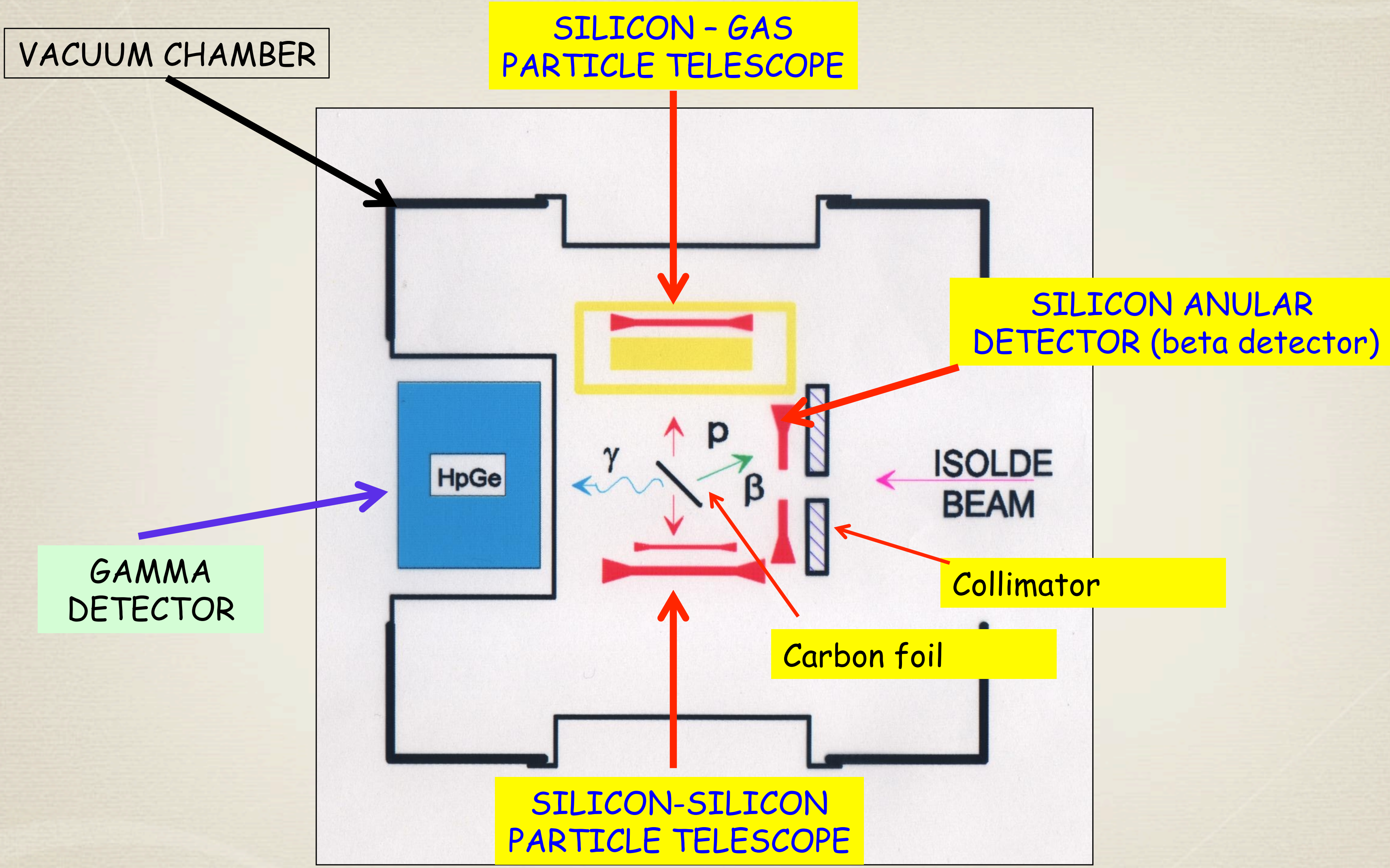
We need pure beams, free from isobaric contamination

Surface Ionization



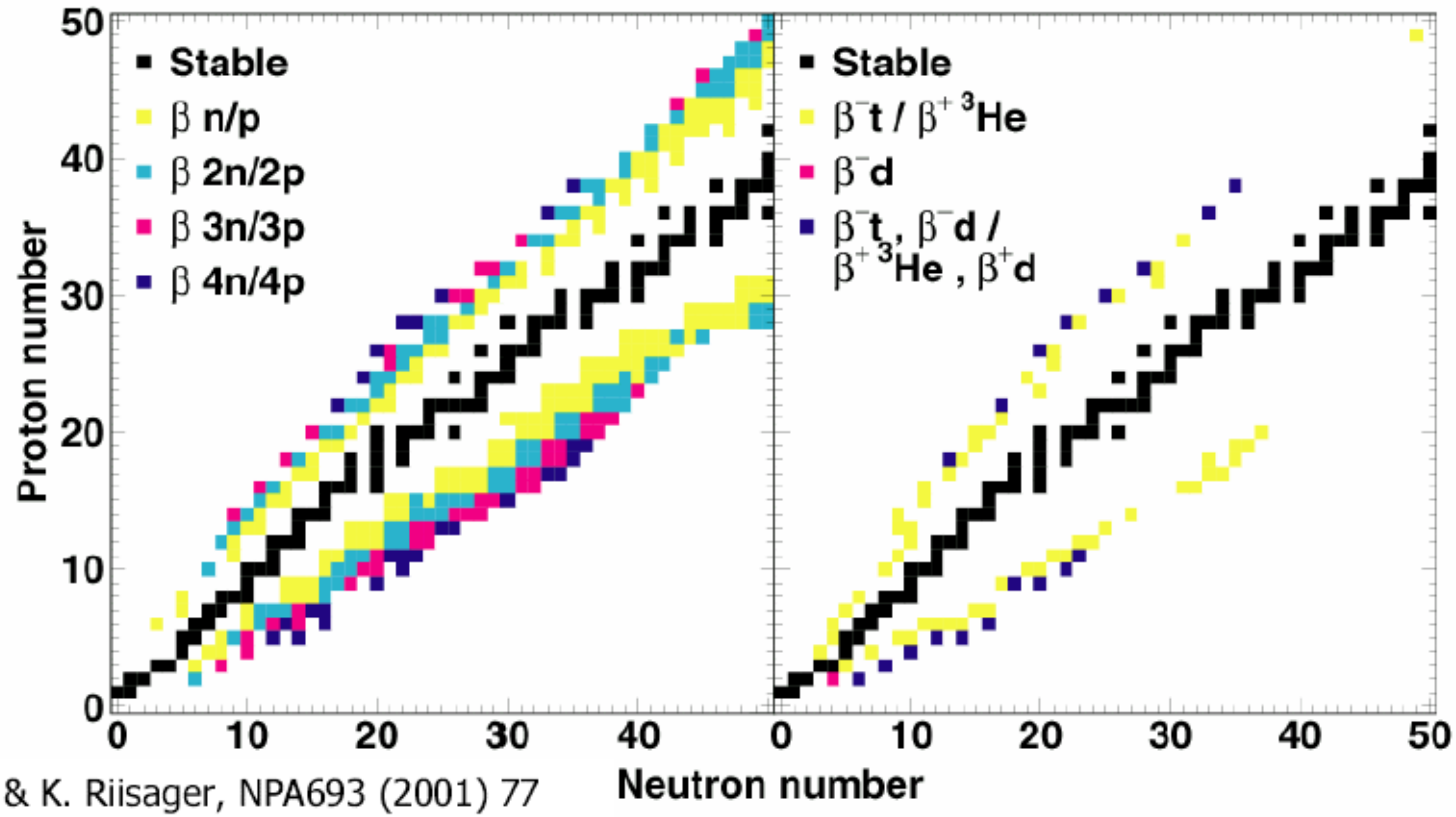
Example: ^{31}Ar produced at ISOLDE with a CaO-target and plasma ion-source (cooled transfer line) at a rate of 2 atom/s!!

TYPICAL EXPERIMENTAL SETUP



Low energy beam (~60 keV) → point like sources → good angular resolution → angular correlations

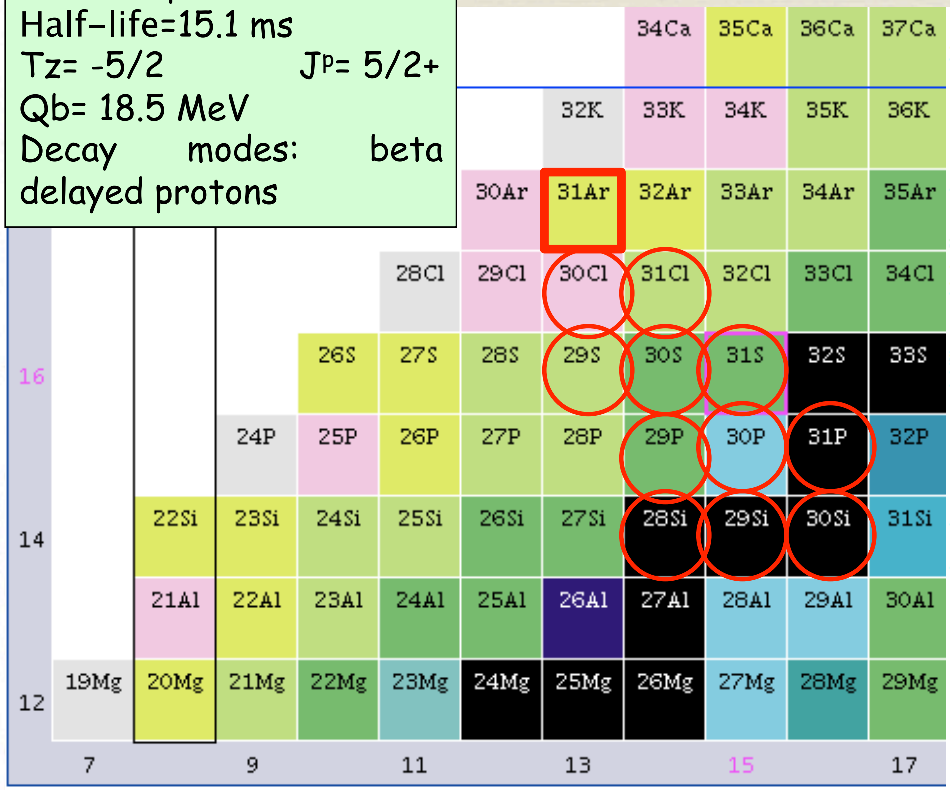
Beta delayed particle emitters

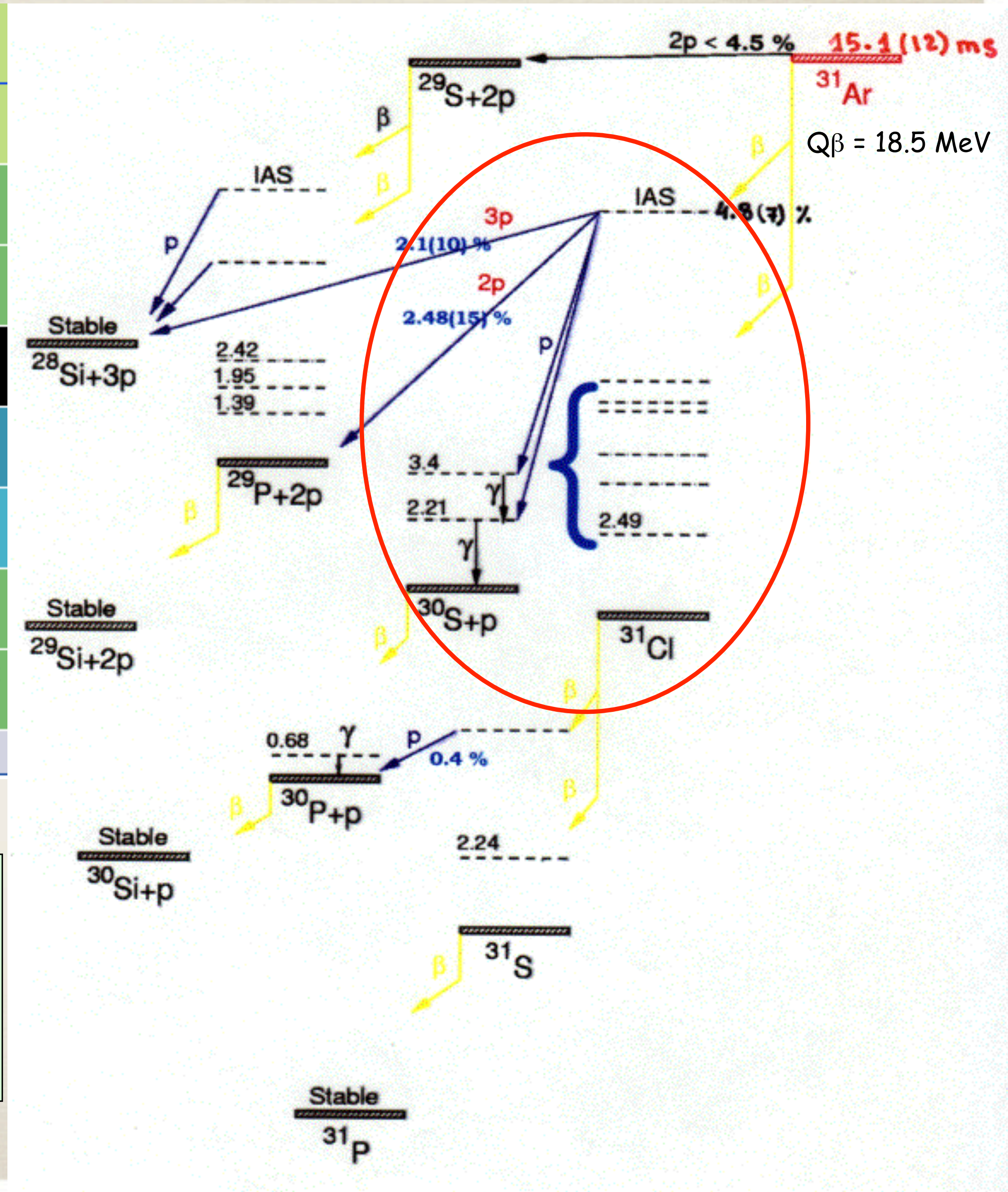


B.Jonson & K. Riisager, NPA693 (2001) 77

Example: The case of beta delayed particle emission from 31Ar (Z=18, N=13)

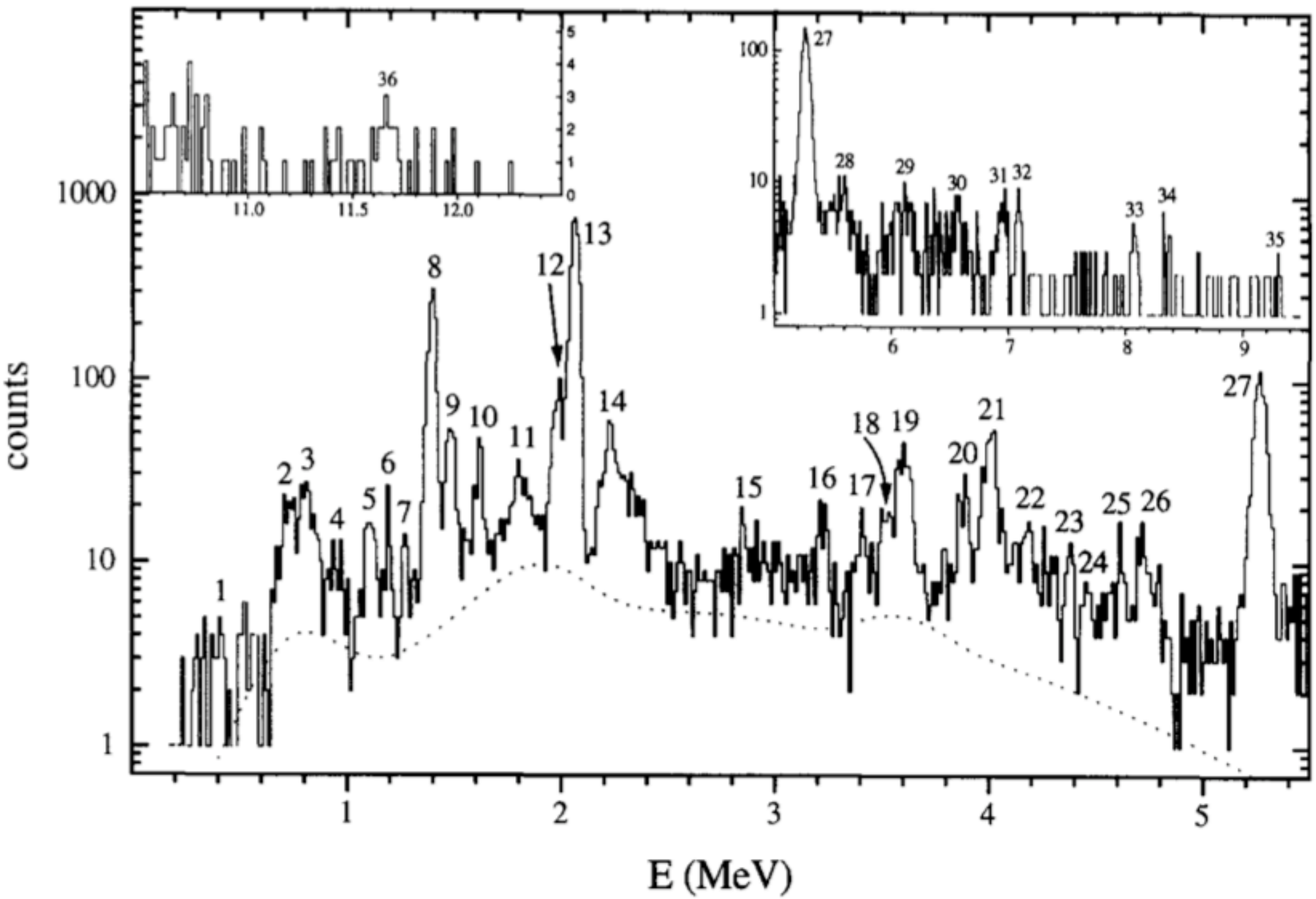
31Ar: drip line nucleus
Half-life=15.1 ms
Tz= -5/2 J^p= 5/2+
Qb= 18.5 MeV
Decay modes: beta delayed protons





What is interesting:
High Qb: access to many levels of 31Cl; determine Jpi, widths, etc
P-emitter: bp, b2p, 3p...
B-2p emitter: Direct vs sequencial p-decay

EXPERIMENTAL PROTON SPECTRUM



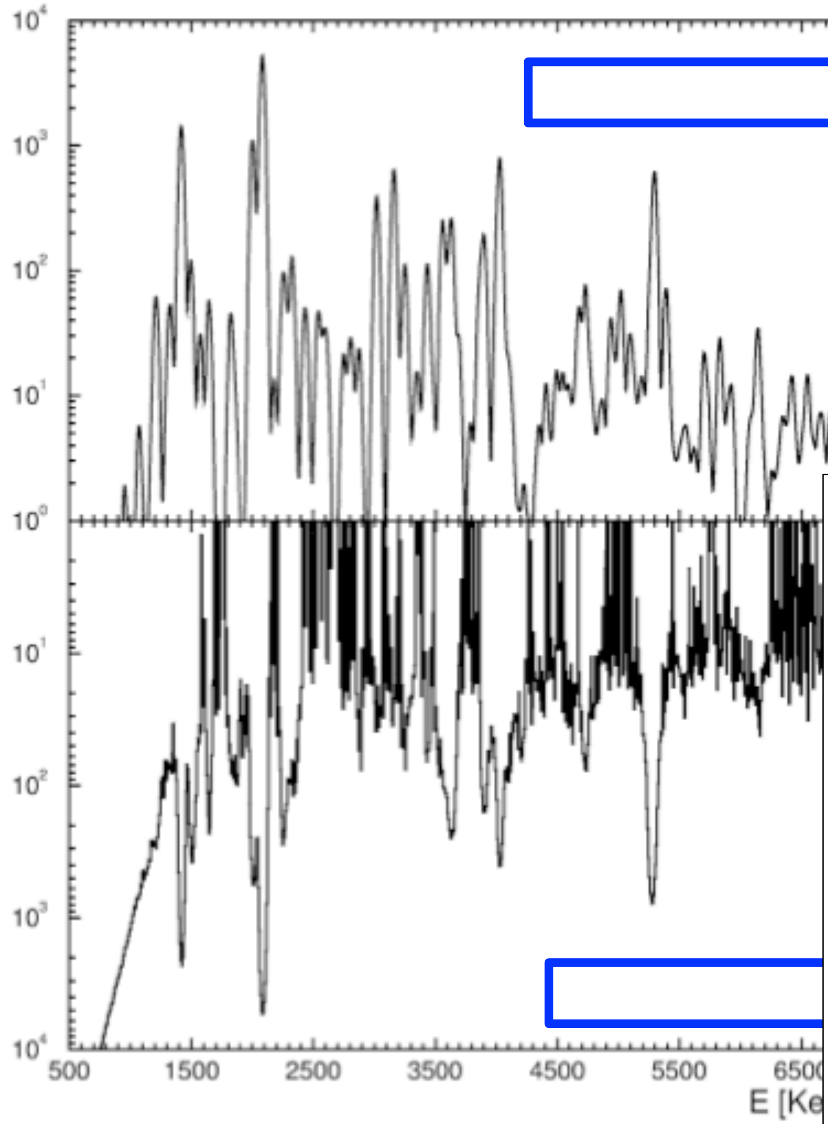


Fig. 3. Experimental energy spectrum of the beta-del
spectrum (up) after adjustment of level energies. Th
of 12 keV width.

Table 1
Results of the analysis of the beta-delayed proton energy spectrum

J^{π}_{Cl}	E_{Cl}	B(GT) (th)	J^{π}_{S}	E_{p} (exp)	I_{p} (th)	I_{p} (exp)	Γ (th)
$5/2^+_1$	1753	0.053	0^+_1	1416(2)	27.1	34.0(3)	0.02
$3/2^+_2$	2443	0.243	0^+_1	2084(2)	100	100.0(6)	0.4
$5/2^+_2$	2618	0.004	0^+_1	2253(2)	1.6	4.0(3)	0.8
$7/2^+_1$	3752	0.004	2^+_1	1211(4)	1.1	1.7(5)	0.11
$3/2^+_3$	4045	0.028	0^+	3634(3)	4.4	6.1(8)	9.8
			2^+_1	1504(2)	2.3	6.2(2)	5.1
$7/2^+_2$	4905	0.014	2^+_1	2327(4)	2.4	5.1(4)	1.7
$5/2^+_3$	5390	0.011	2^+_2	1643(2)	1.1	2.88(14)	3.4
$7/2^+_3$	5621	0.057	2^+_1	3020(3)	7.4	1.08(14)	3.1
$3/2^+_4$	5658	0.010	1^+_1	1643(2)	0.8	2.88(14)	3.8
$5/2^+_4$	5767	0.360	0^+_1	5276(5)	11.5	17.6(3)	7.4
			2^+_1	3153(4)	12.2	0.44(10)	7.8
			2^+_2	2008(2)	20.9	10.0(2)	13.4
$7/2^+_4$	6047	0.022	2^+_1	3432(3)	2.1	0.89(11)	9.8
$5/2^+_5$	6180	0.047	2^+_1	3561(11)	4.5	3.6(8)	30.8
$7/2^+_5$	6533	0.044	2^+_1	3902(3)	3.4	2.22(14)	11.3
$3/2^+_5$	6640	0.023	0^+_1	6145(7)	0.5	0.51(12)	5.4
$7/2^+_6$	6665	0.186	2^+_1	4030(3)	14.7	7.0(2)	4.6
			2^+_2	2881(3)	0.4	0.99(13)	0.13
$7/2^+_7$	7050	0.050	2^+_2	3249(4)	1.9	1.17(15)	2.6
			3^+_2	1300(13)	0.9	0.7(11)	1.3

LEVEL SCHEME

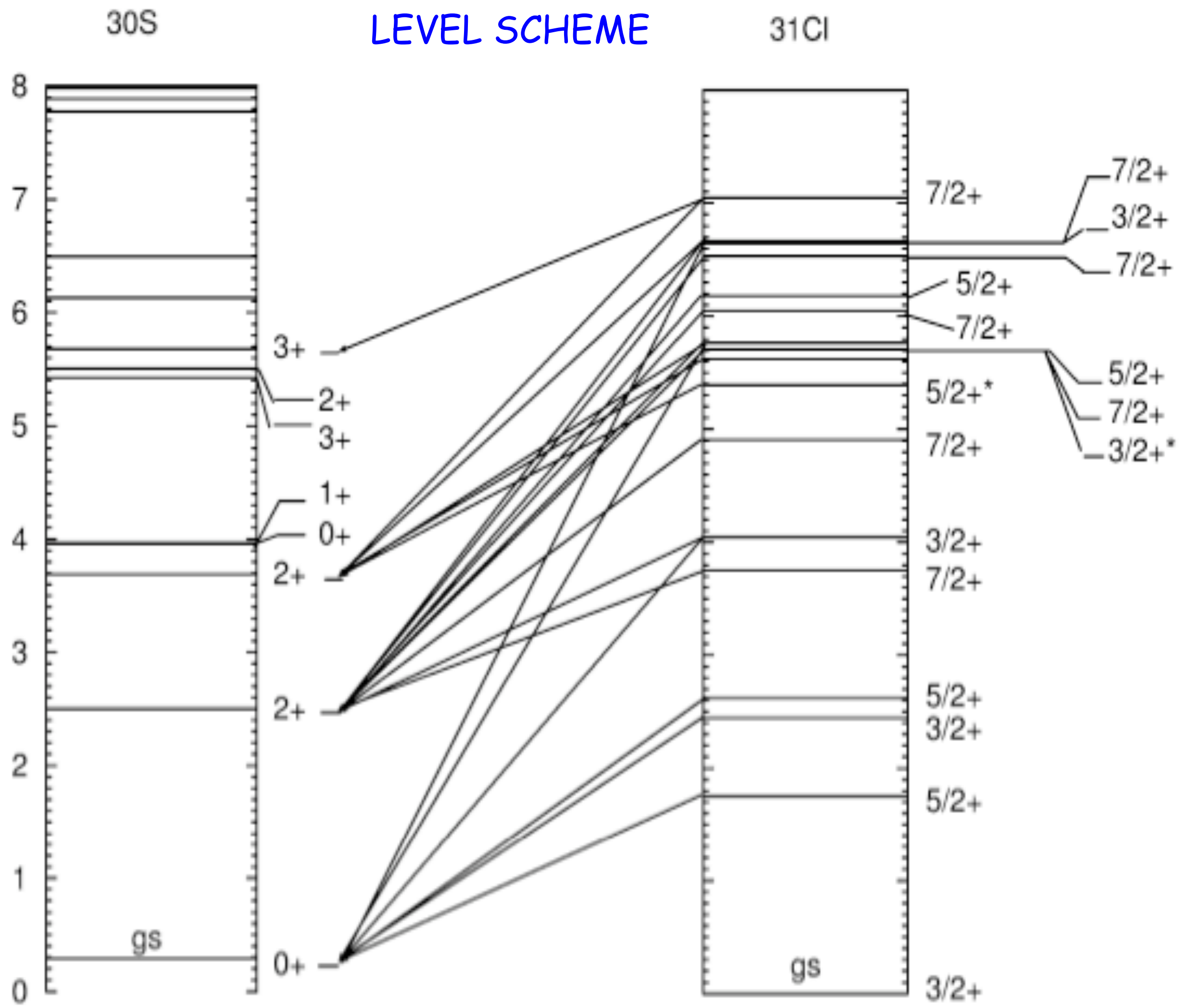


Fig. 4. The proposed level scheme and decay mechanism for ^{31}Cl. Energy levels are given in MeV, relative to the ground state of ^{31}Cl. (*) means ambiguous assignment; see text for details.

SUMMARY

We have revised the physics concepts behind the beta delayed particle emission process:

- Basic ides about the exotic decay process

- Exotic decays are an important source of spectroscopic information: level energies, spins, B(F) and B(GT) values, etc

- Technical aspects to measure these decay modes

- Status of beta delayed nucleon emission

- Basic ideas for beta decay and isospin

- Simple models for particle emission (Gamow states, R-Matrix,…)

THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION…