

# Electromagnetic dissociation of halo nuclei

*Thomas Aumann*



Workshop: The Physics of Halo Nuclei, Halo 06, Trento, October 30<sup>th</sup> 2006

- Coulomb breakup – spectroscopy and astrophysics
- Comparison of different methods
- Outlook: new experiments

# Trento 1996

## Workshop on the Physics of Halo Nuclei

At [ECT\\*](#), Trento, October 7 - 17 1996  
 Organized by

### Coulomb and Nuclear Break-up of ${}^6\text{He}$ at 240 A MeV

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 L.V. Chulkov<sup>7</sup>, J. Cub<sup>1</sup>, B. Eberlein<sup>5</sup>, Th.W. Elze<sup>4</sup>, H. Emling<sup>1</sup>, H. Geissel<sup>1</sup>,  
 V.Z. Goldberg<sup>7</sup>, M. Golovkov<sup>7</sup>, L. Grigorenko<sup>7,2</sup>, A. Grünschloß<sup>4</sup>, J. Holeczek<sup>10</sup>,  
 R. Holzmann<sup>1</sup>, B. Jonson<sup>2</sup>, A.A. Korsheninnikov<sup>13</sup>, J.V. Kratz<sup>5</sup>, G. Kraus<sup>1</sup>,  
 R. Kulessa<sup>9</sup>, Y. Leifels<sup>1</sup>, A. Leistenschneider<sup>4</sup>, T. Leth<sup>2</sup>, G. Münzenberg<sup>1</sup>, F. Nickel<sup>1</sup>,  
 T. Nilsson<sup>2</sup>, G. Nyman<sup>2</sup>, B. Petersen<sup>2</sup>, M. Pfützner<sup>1</sup>, A. Richter<sup>3</sup>, K. Riisager<sup>8</sup>,  
 W. Rohde<sup>5</sup>, C. Scheidenberger<sup>1</sup>, G. Schriener<sup>3</sup>, W. Schwab<sup>1</sup>, H. Simon<sup>3</sup>,  
 M.H. Smedberg<sup>2</sup>, M. Steiner<sup>11</sup>, A. Surowiec<sup>10</sup>, O. Tengblad<sup>12</sup>, M.V. Zhukov<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>9</sup>Instytut Fizyki, Uniwersytet Jagielloński, Kraków, Poland

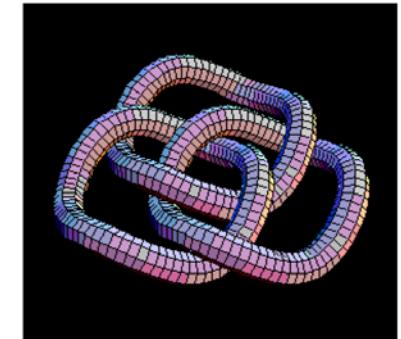
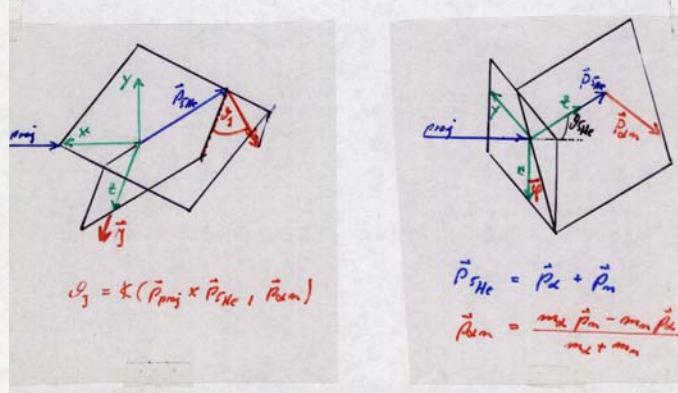
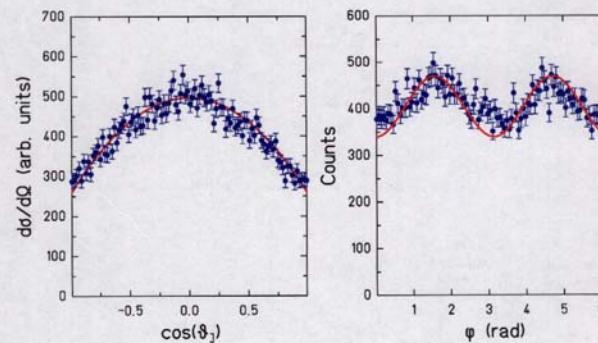
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### Large Spin Alignment of the ${}^5\text{He}$ Fragments



GSI Exp. S135

(Oct '95)

B. Jonson et al.

# Trento 2006

2006

## Workshop on the Physics of Halo Nuclei

10 years later

2006  
Systematic investigation of the drip-line nuclei  $^{11}\text{Li}$  and  $^{14}\text{Be}$  and their unbound subsystems  $^{10}\text{Li}$  and  $^{13}\text{p}$   
I. Simon et al.,  
*Nucl. Phys. A*, in preparation

Haik Simon

2005  
Three-body correlations in electromagnetic dissociation of Borromean nuclei: The  $^6\text{He}$  case  
V. Chulkov, H. Simon, I.J. Thompson, T. Aumann, M.J.G. Borge, Th.W. Elze, H. Emling, H. Geissel, L.V. Grigorenko, M. Hellström, B. Jonson, J.V. Kratz, R. Kulessa, K. Markenroth, M. Meister, G. Münenberg, F. Nickel, T. Nilsson, G. Nyman, V. Pribora, A. Richter, K. Riisager, C. Scheidenberger, G. Schriener, O. Tengblad, M.V. Zhukov,  
*Nucl. Phys. A* 759 (2005) 20.

2004  
Two- and three-body correlations: breakup of halo nuclei  
H. Simon, T. Aumann, M.J.G. Borge, L.V. Chulkov, Th.W. Elze, H. Emling, C. Forssén, H. Geissel, M. Hellström, B. Jonson, J.V. Kratz, R. Kulessa, Y. Leifels, K. Markenroth, M. Meister, G. Münenberg, F. Nickel, T. Nilsson, G. Nyman, V. Pribora, A. Richter, K. Riisager, C. Scheidenberger, G. Schriener, O. Tengblad and M.V. Zhukov,  
*Nucl. Phys. A* 734 (2004) 323.

2003  
On the  $t + n + n$  system and  $^5\text{H}$   
M. Meister, L.V. Chulkov, H. Simon, T. Aumann, M.J.G. Borge, W. Dostal, Th.W. Elze, H. Emling, H. Geissel, M. Hellström, B. Jonson, J.V. Kratz, R. Kulessa, Y. Leifels, K. Markenroth, G. Münenberg, F. Nickel, T. Nilsson, G. Nyman, V. Pribora, A. Richter, K. Riisager, C. Scheidenberger, G. Schriener, O. Tengblad and M.V. Zhukov,  
*Phys. Rev. Lett.* 91 (2003) 162504.

2002  
Searching for the  $^5\text{H}$  resonance in the  $t + n + n$  system  
M. Meister, L.V. Chulkov, H. Simon, T. Aumann, M.J.G. Borge, W. Dostal, Th.W. Elze, H. Emling, H. Geissel, M. Hellström, B. Jonson, J.V. Kratz, R. Kulessa, Y. Leifels, K. Markenroth, G. Münenberg, F. Nickel, T. Nilsson, G. Nyman, A. Richter, K. Riisager, C. Scheidenberger, G. Schriener, O. Tengblad and M.V. Zhukov,  
*Nucl. Phys. A* 723 (2003) 13.

2001  
Evidence for a new low-lying resonance in  $^7\text{He}$   
M. Meister, K. Markenroth, D. Aleksandrov, T. Aumann, L. Axelsson, T. Baumann, M.J.G. Borge, L.V. Chulkov, W. Dostal, B. Eberlein, Th.W. Elze, H. Emling, C. Forssén, H. Geissel, M. Hellström, B. Jonson, J.V. Kratz, R. Kulessa, Y. Leifels, A. Leistenschneider, I. Mukha, G. Münenberg, F. Nickel, T. Nilsson, G. Nyman, A. Richter, K. Riisager, C. Scheidenberger, G. Schriener, H. Simon, O. Tengblad and M.V. Zhukov,  
*Phys. Rev. Lett.* 88 (2002) 102501.

$^8\text{He}$ - $^6\text{He}$ : a comparative study of electromagnetic fragmentation reactions  
M. Meister, K. Markenroth, D. Aleksandrov, T. Aumann, T. Baumann, M.J.G. Borge, L.V. Chulkov, D. Cortina-Gil, B. Eberlein, Th.W. Elze, H. Emling, H. Geissel, M. Hellström, B. Jonson, J.V. Kratz, R. Kulessa, A. Leistenschneider, I. Mukha, G. Münenberg, F. Nickel, T. Nilsson, G. Nyman, M. Pfützner, V. Pribora, A. Richter, K. Riisager, C. Scheidenberger, G. Schriener, H. Simon, O. Tengblad and M.V. Zhukov,  
*Nucl. Phys. A* 700 (2002) 3.

2000  
 $^8\text{He}$ - $^6\text{He}$ : a comparative study of nuclear fragmentation reactions  
K. Markenroth, M. Meister, B. Eberlein, D. Aleksandrov, T. Aumann, L. Axelsson, T. Baumann, M.J.G. Borge, L.V. Chulkov, W. Dostal, Th.W. Elze, H. Emling, H. Geissel, A. Grünschloß, M. Hellström, J. Holeczek, B. Jonson, J.V. Kratz, G. Kraus, R. Kulessa, A. Leistenschneider, I. Mukha, G. Münenberg, F. Nickel, T. Nilsson, G. Nyman, M. Pfützner, V. Pribora, A. Richter, K. Riisager, C. Scheidenberger, G. Schriener, H. Simon, J. Stroth, O. Tengblad and M.V. Zhukov,  
*Nucl. Phys. A* 679 (2001) 462.

2000

Halo excitations in fragmentation of  $^6\text{He}$  at 240 MeV/u on carbon and lead targets  
D. Aleksandrov, T. Aumann, L. Axelsson, T. Baumann, M.J.G. Borge, L.V. Chulkov, J. Cub, W. Dostal, B. Eberlein, Th.W. Elze, H. Emling, H. Geissel, V.Z. Goldberg, M. Golovkov, A. Grünschloß, M. Hellström, K. Hencken, J. Holeczek, R. Holzmann, B. Jonson, A.A. Korshennikov, J.V. Kratz, G. Kraus, R. Kulessa, Y. Leifels, A. Leistenschneider, T. Leth, I. Mukha, G. Münenberg, F. Nickel, T. Nilsson, G. Nyman, B. Petersen, M. Pfützner, A. Richter, K. Riisager, C. Scheidenberger, G. Schriener, W. Schwab, H. Simon, M.H. Smedberg, M. Steiner, J. Stroth, A. Surowiec, T. Suzuki, O. Tengblad and M.V. Zhukov,  
*Nucl. Phys. A* 669 (2000) 51.

1999

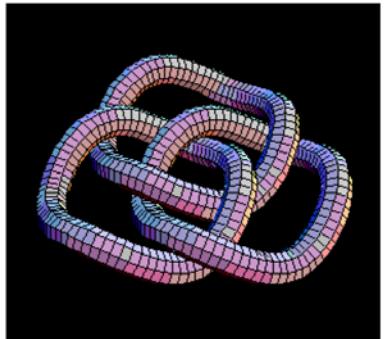
Direct experimental evidence for strong admixture of different parity states in  $^{11}\text{Li}$   
H. Simon, D. Aleksandrov, T. Aumann, L. Axelsson, T. Baumann, M.J.G. Borge, L.V. Chulkov, R. Collatz, J. Cub, W. Dostal, B. Eberlein, Th.W. Elze, H. Emling, H. Geissel, A. Grünschloß, M. Hellström, J. Holeczek, R. Holzmann, B. Jonson, J.V. Kratz, G. Kraus, R. Kulessa, Y. Leifels, A. Leistenschneider, T. Leth, I. Mukha, G. Münenberg, F. Nickel, T. Nilsson, G. Nyman, B. Petersen, M. Pfützner, A. Richter, K. Riisager, C. Scheidenberger, G. Schriener, W. Schwab, H. Simon, M.H. Smedberg, M. Steiner, J. Stroth, A. Surowiec, T. Suzuki, O. Tengblad and M.V. Zhukov,  
*Phys. Rev. Lett.* 83 (1999) 496.

Continuum Excitations in  $^6\text{He}$

T. Aumann, D. Aleksandrov, L. Axelsson, T. Baumann, M.J.G. Borge, L.V. Chulkov, J. Cub, W. Dostal, B. Eberlein, Th.W. Elze, H. Emling, H. Geissel, V.Z. Goldberg, M. Golovkov, A. Grünschloß, M. Hellström, K. Hencken, J. Holeczek, R. Holzmann, B. Jonson, A.A. Korshennikov, J.V. Kratz, G. Kraus, R. Kulessa, Y. Leifels, A. Leistenschneider, T. Leth, I. Mukha, G. Münenberg, F. Nickel, T. Nilsson, G. Nyman, B. Petersen, M. Pfützner, A. Richter, K. Riisager, C. Scheidenberger, G. Schriener, W. Schwab, H. Simon, M.H. Smedberg, M. Steiner, J. Stroth, A. Surowiec, T. Suzuki, O. Tengblad and M.V. Zhukov,  
*Phys. Rev. C* 59 (1999) 1252.

1998

Manifestation of the Halo Structure in Momentum Distributions from  $^6\text{He}$  Fragmentation  
T. Aumann, L.V. Chulkov, V.N. Pribora, M.H. Smedberg,  
*Nucl. Phys. A* 640 (1998) 24.



Invariant Mass Spectrum and  $\alpha - n$  Correlation Function studied in the Fragmentation of  $^6\text{He}$  on a Carbon Target

D. Aleksandrov, T. Aumann, L. Axelsson, T. Baumann, M.J.G. Borge, L.V. Chulkov, J. Cub, W. Dostal, B. Eberlein, Th.W. Elze, H. Emling, H. Geissel, V.Z. Goldberg, M. Golovkov, A. Grünschloss, M. Hellström, J. Holeczek, R. Holzmann, B. Jonson, A.A. Korshennikov, J.V. Kratz, G. Kraus, R. Kulessa, Y. Leifels, A. Leistenschneider, T. Leth, I. Mukha, G. Münenberg, F. Nickel, T. Nilsson, G. Nyman, B. Petersen, M. Pfützner, A. Richter, K. Riisager, C. Scheidenberger, G. Schriener, W. Schwab, H. Simon, M.H. Smedberg, M. Steiner, J. Stroth, A. Surowiec, T. Suzuki, O. Tengblad and M.V. Zhukov,  
*Nucl. Phys. A* 633 (1998) 234.

1997

Large Spin Alignment of the Unbound  $^6\text{He}$  Fragment after Fragmentation of 240 MeV/u on  $^6\text{He}$   
L.V. Chulkov, T. Aumann, D. Aleksandrov, L. Axelsson, T. Baumann, M.J.G. Borge, R. Collatz, J. Cub, W. Dostal, B. Eberlein, Th.W. Elze, H. Emling, H. Geissel, V.Z. Goldberg, M. Golovkov, A. Grünschloss, M. Hellström, J. Holeczek, R. Holzmann, B. Jonson, A.A. Korshennikov, J.V. Kratz, G. Kraus, R. Kulessa, Y. Leifels, A. Leistenschneider, T. Leth, I. Mukha, G. Münenberg, F. Nickel, T. Nilsson, G. Nyman, B. Petersen, M. Pfützner, A. Richter, K. Riisager, C. Scheidenberger, G. Schriener, W. Schwab, H. Simon, M.H. Smedberg, M. Steiner, J. Stroth, A. Surowiec, T. Suzuki, O. Tengblad,  
*Phys. Rev. Lett.* 79 (1997) 201.

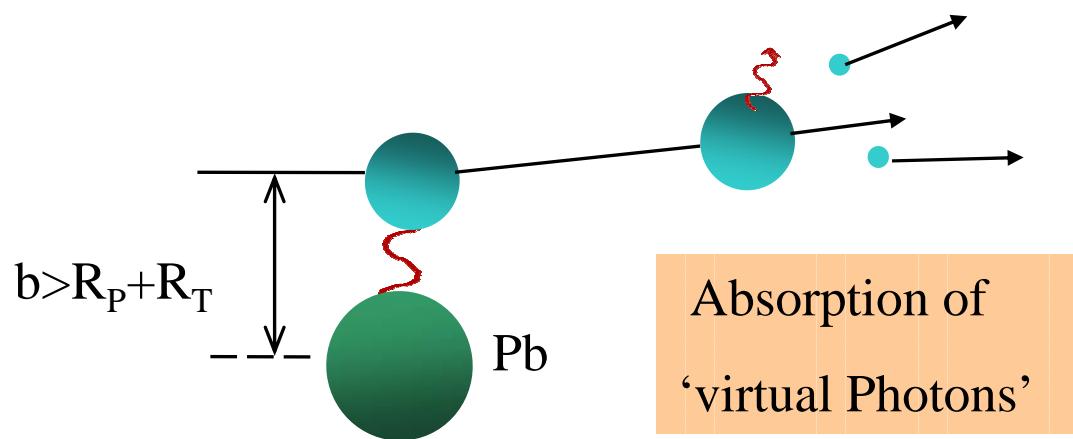
!996

GSI Exp. S135

(Oct '95)

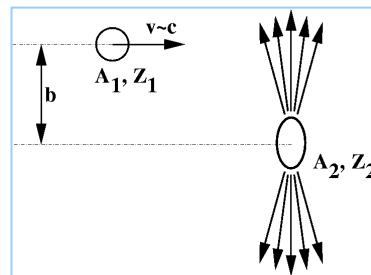
B. Jonson et al.

# Experimental Approach: Electromagnetic excitation at high energies



Absorption of  
'virtual Photons'

$$\sigma_{\text{elm}} \sim Z^2$$

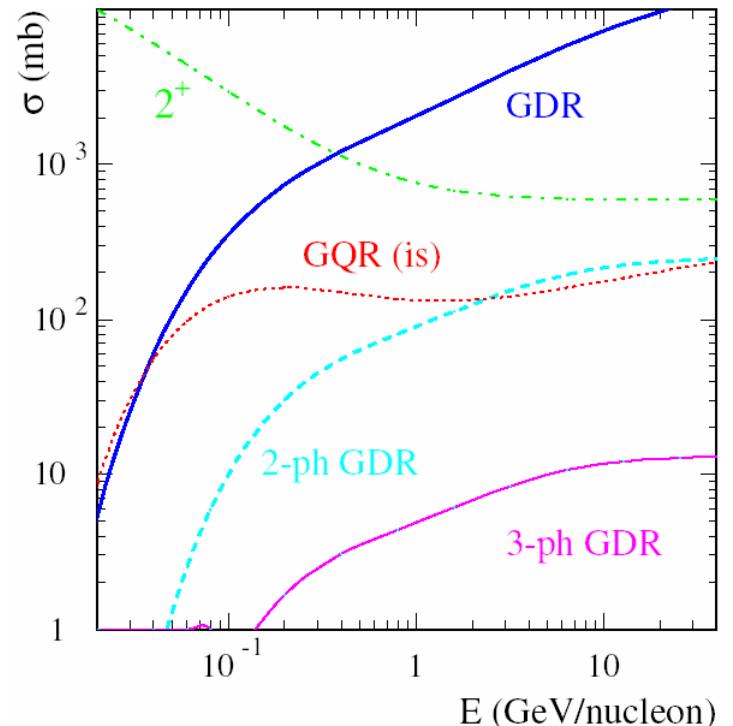


High velocities  $v/c \approx 0.6-0.9$   
 $\Rightarrow$  High-frequency Fourier components

$$E_{\gamma, \text{max}} \approx 25 \text{ MeV} (@ 1 \text{ GeV/u})$$

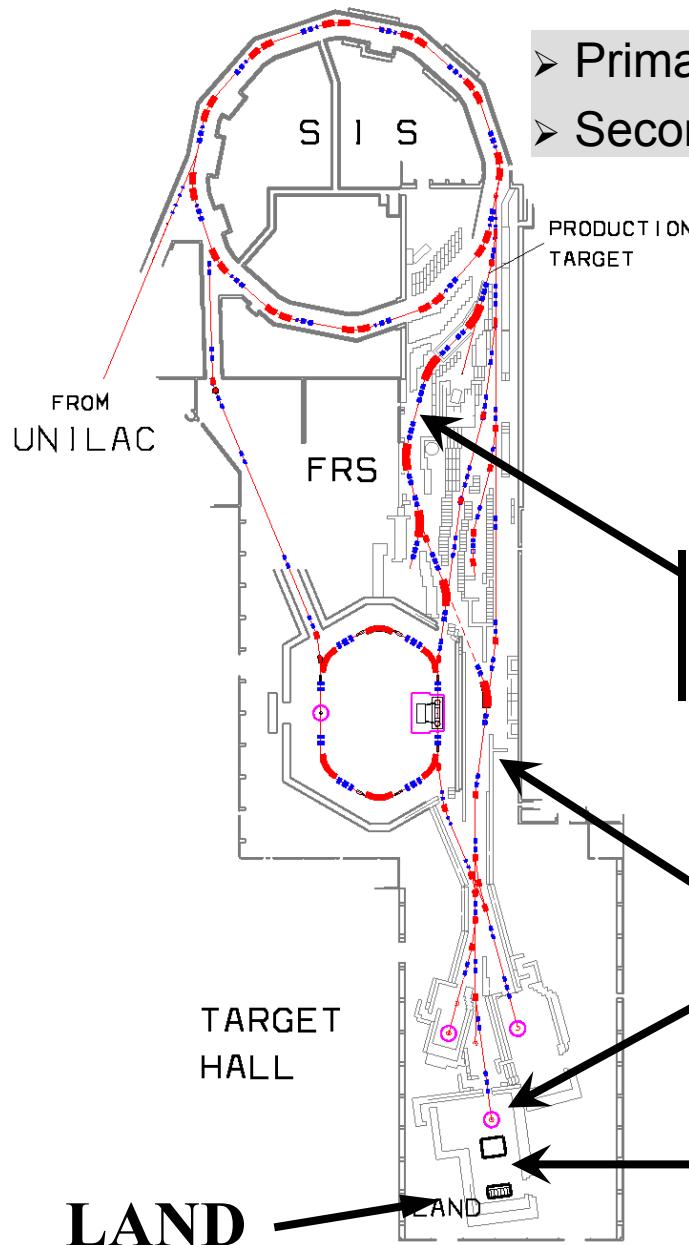
Semi-classical theory:

$$d\sigma_{\text{elm}} / dE = N_\gamma(E) \sigma_\gamma(E)$$



Determination of 'photon energy' (excitation energy) via a kinematically complete measurement of the momenta of all outgoing particles (invariant mass)

# Experimental Approach: Production of (fission-)fragment beams



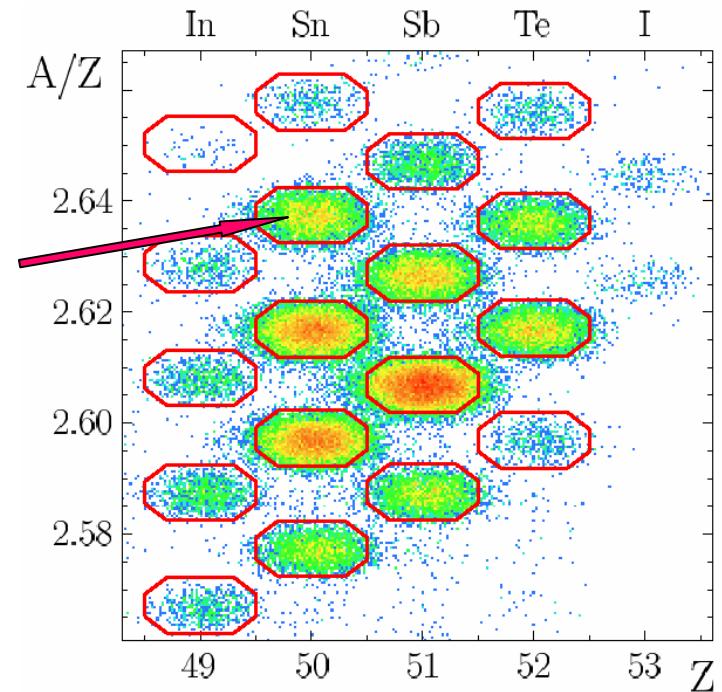
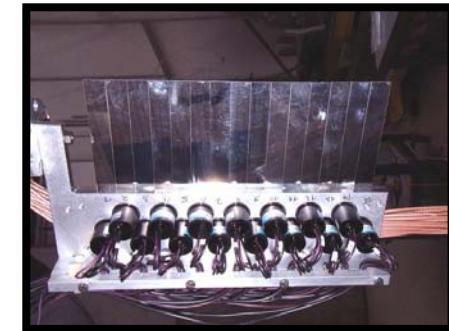
- Primary:  $3 \times 10^8$   $^{238}\text{U}$ /spill @ 550 MeV/u
- Secondary (mixed): 50 ions  $^{132}\text{Sn}$ /spill ( $\sim 10/\text{sec}$  @ 500 MeV/u)

$$\frac{A}{Z} = \frac{e}{m_u c} \frac{B\rho}{\beta\gamma}$$

$B\rho$  – from position at middle focal plane of the FRS

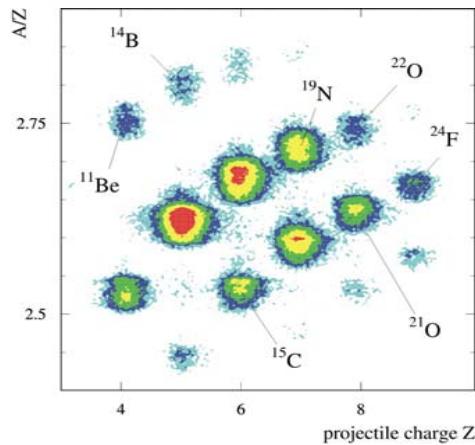
$\beta$  – from TOF

$Z$  – from  $\Delta E$

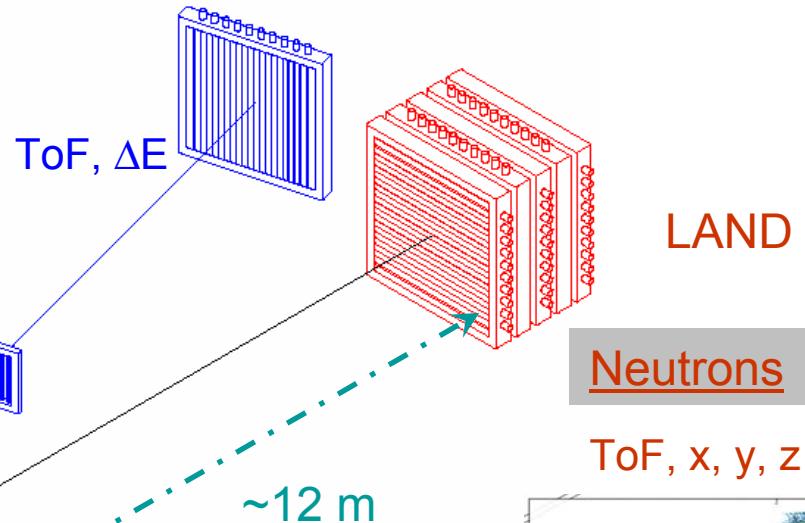


# The LAND reaction setup @GSI

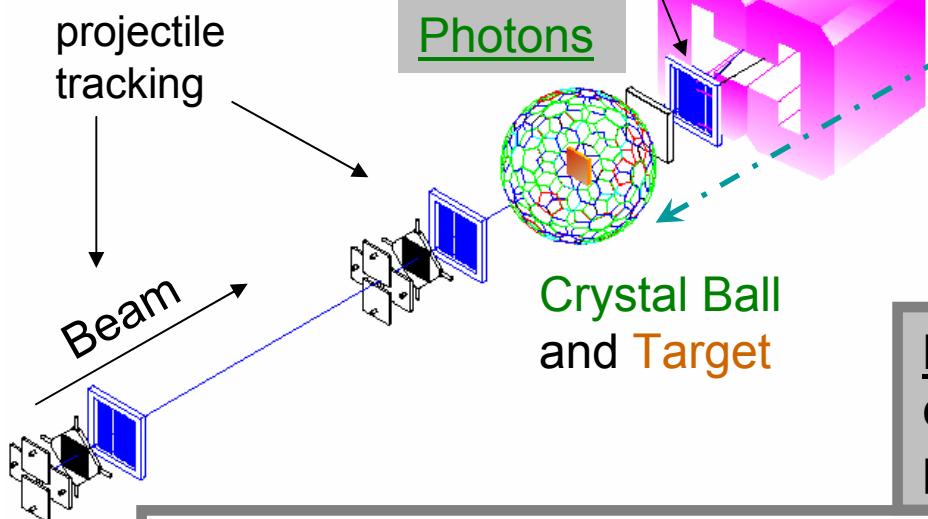
Mixed beam



Charged fragments

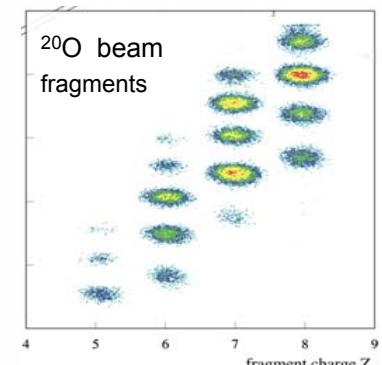


projectile tracking



Excitation energy  $E^*$  from kinematically complete measurement of all outgoing particles:

$$E^* = \left( \sqrt{\sum_i m_i^2 + \sum_{i \neq j} m_i m_j \gamma_i \gamma_j (1 - \beta_i \beta_j \cos \theta_{ij})} - m_{proj} \right) c^2 + E_\gamma$$

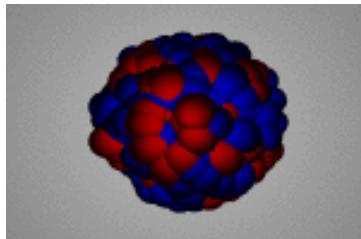
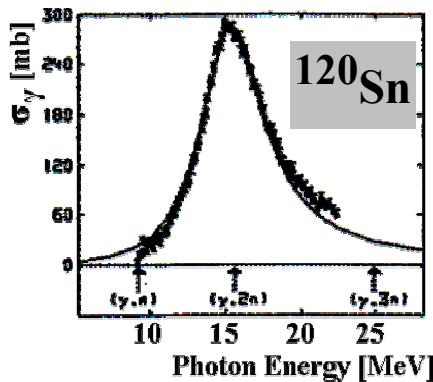


# The dipole response of neutron-rich nuclei

## Stable nuclei:

100% of the E1 strength absorbed into the

## Giant Dipole Resonance (GDR)

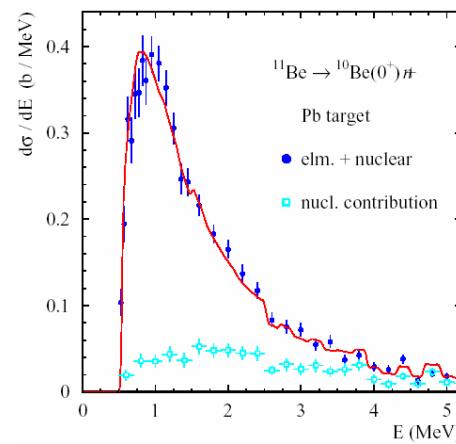


## Neutron-Proton asymmetric nuclei: low-lying dipole strength

! threshold strength

non-resonant transitions

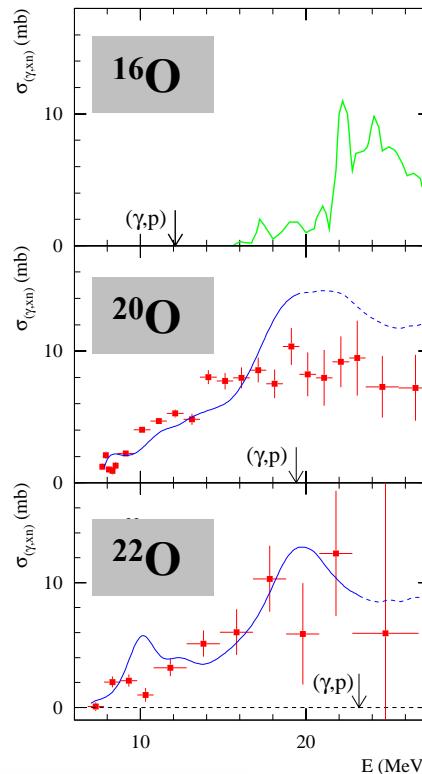
The one-neutron Halo  $^{11}\text{Be}$



spectroscopic tool:

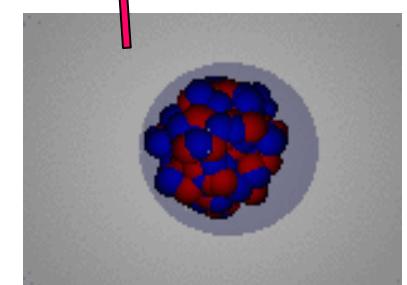
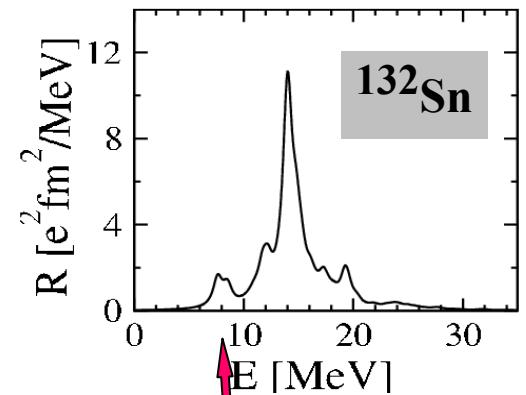
$$\frac{d\sigma}{dE^*}(I_c^\pi) = \left(\frac{16\pi^3}{9\hbar c}\right) N_{E1}(E^*) \sum_{nlj} C^2 S(I_c^\pi, nlj) \times \sum_m |\langle \mathbf{q}|(Ze/A)rY_m^1|\phi_{nlj}(r)\rangle|^2.$$

! strong fragmentation



? new collective soft dipole mode  
(Pygmy resonance)

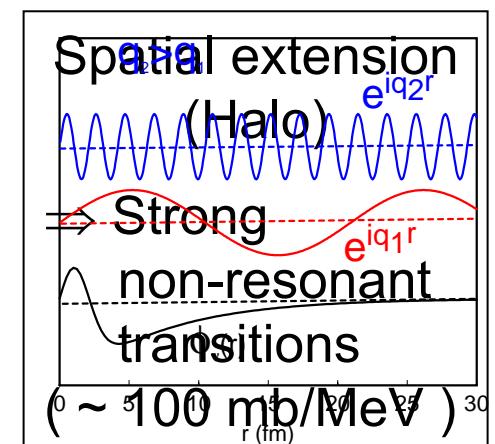
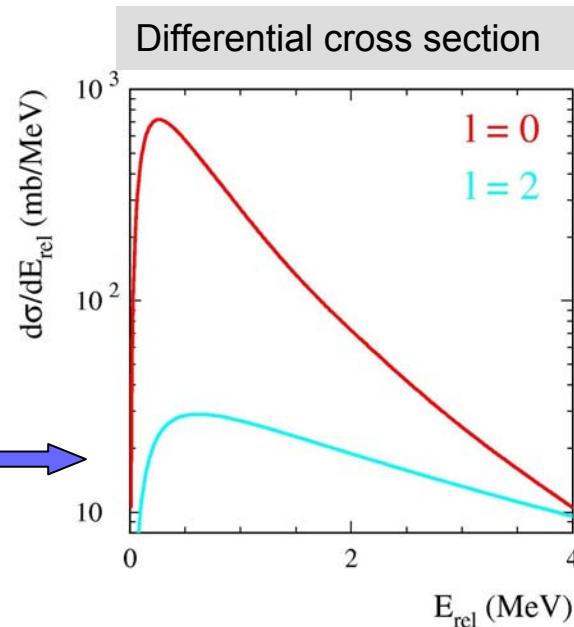
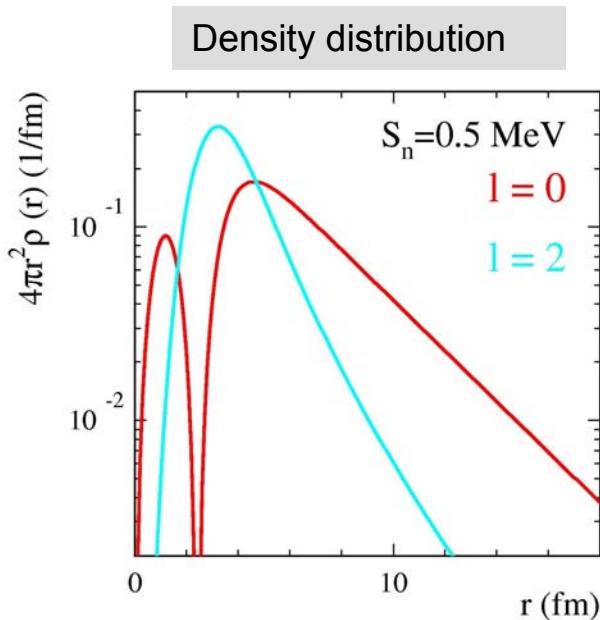
Prediction: RMF (N. Paar et al.)



# Low-lying E1 strength as spectroscopic tool

Wave function: e.g.  $|^{11}\text{Be}\rangle = \alpha|^{10}\text{Be}(0^+)\otimes 2s_{1/2}\rangle + \beta|^{10}\text{Be}(2^+)\otimes 1d_{5/2}\rangle + \dots$

$$\frac{d\sigma(I_c^\pi)/dE_{\text{rel}}}{N_{\text{E1}}(E^*)} = \frac{16\pi^3}{9\hbar c} S(I_c^\pi, nlj) \sum_m |\langle q | \frac{Ze}{A} r Y_m^l | \Phi_{nlj} \rangle|^2$$



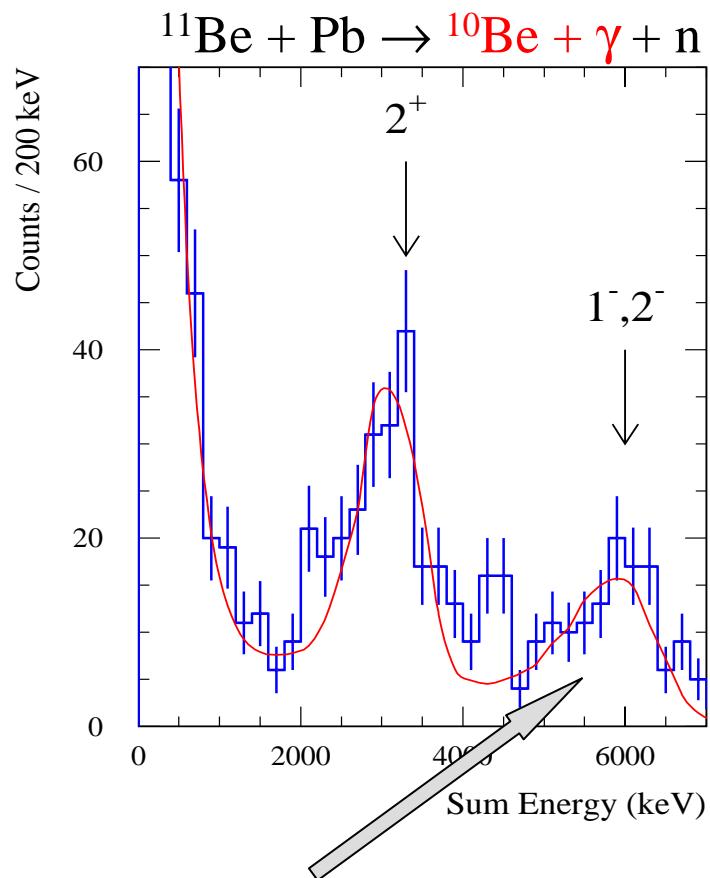
**Shape of differential cross section**  $\Rightarrow$  **angular momentum  $l$**

**$\gamma$ -ray coincidence**  $\Rightarrow$  **identification of core state**

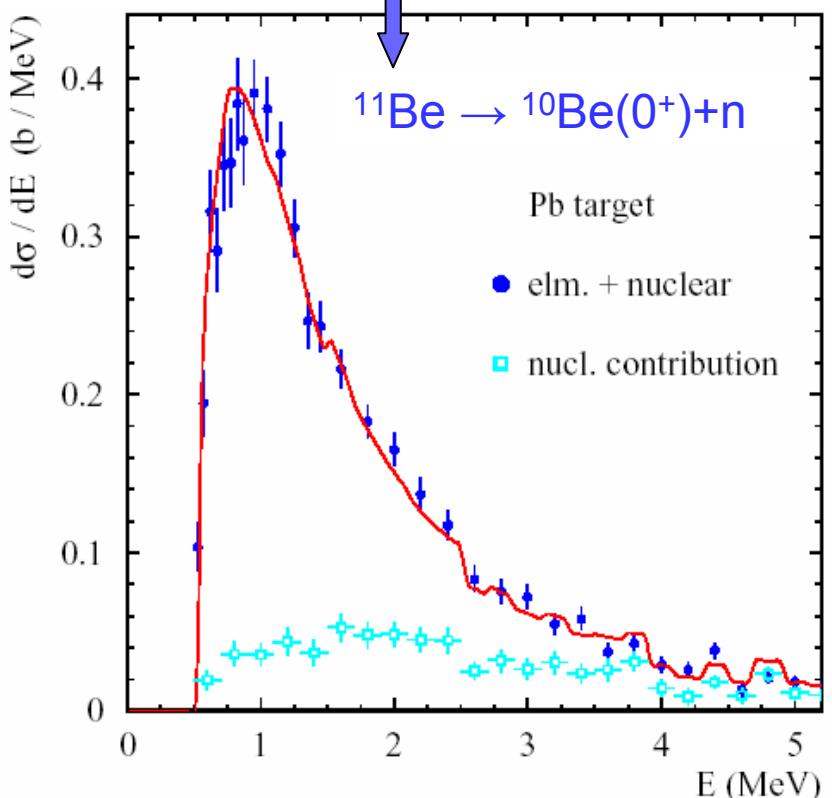
**Cross section**  $\Rightarrow$  **spectroscopic factor**

# Coulomb breakup as spectroscopic tool: The classical one-neutron halo $^{11}\text{Be}$

$$|^{11}\text{Be}\rangle = \sqrt{S(2^+)} |^{10}\text{Be}(2^+) \otimes 1d_{5/2}\rangle + \underbrace{\sqrt{S(0^+)} |^{10}\text{Be}(0^+) \otimes 2s_{1/2}\rangle}_{\text{...}} + \dots$$



ph states at 6 MeV  
(inner shell p neutrons lifted into continuum)



# Coulomb breakup as spectroscopic tool: The classical one-neutron halo $^{11}\text{Be}$

$$|^{11}\text{Be}\rangle = \sqrt{S(2^+)} |^{10}\text{Be}(2^+) \otimes 1d_{5/2}\rangle + \underbrace{\sqrt{S(0^+)} |^{10}\text{Be}(0^+) \otimes 2s_{1/2}\rangle}_{\text{E1 strength distribution}} + \dots$$

Spectroscopic factor using a distorted-wave approach:

$$S(0^+) = 0.61(5)$$

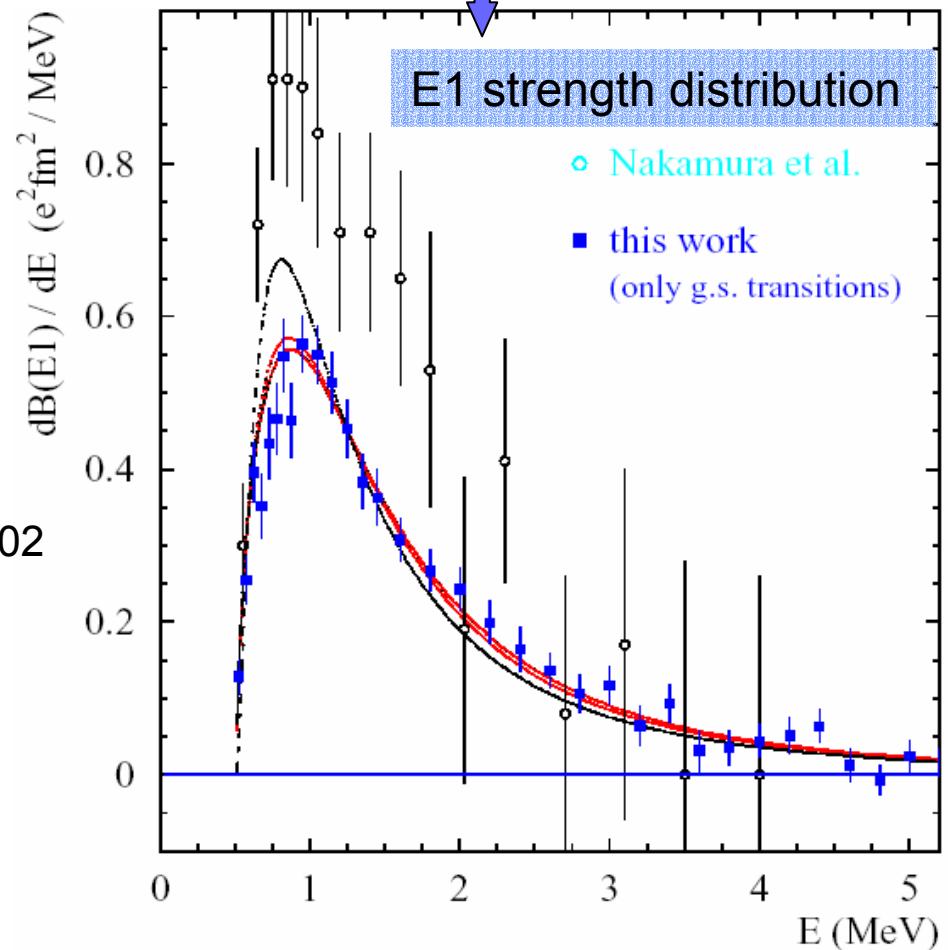
Analysis in the effective range approach:

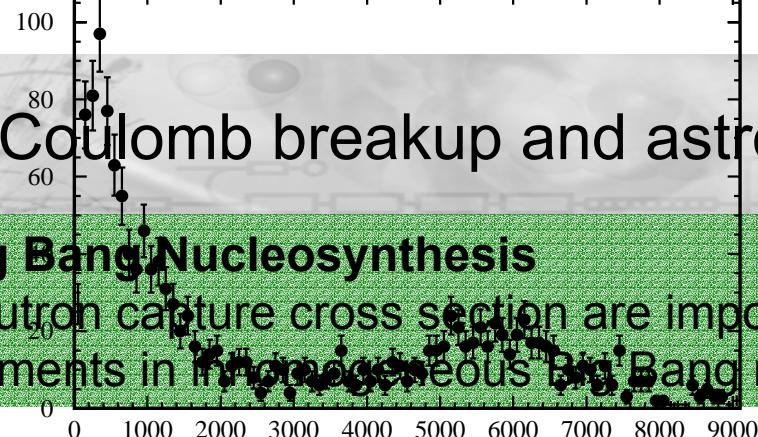
$$S(0^+) = 0.70(5)$$

S. Typel, G. Baur, PRL **93** (2004) 142502

Halo radius

$$\langle r^2 \rangle^{1/2} = 5.7(4) \text{ fm}$$



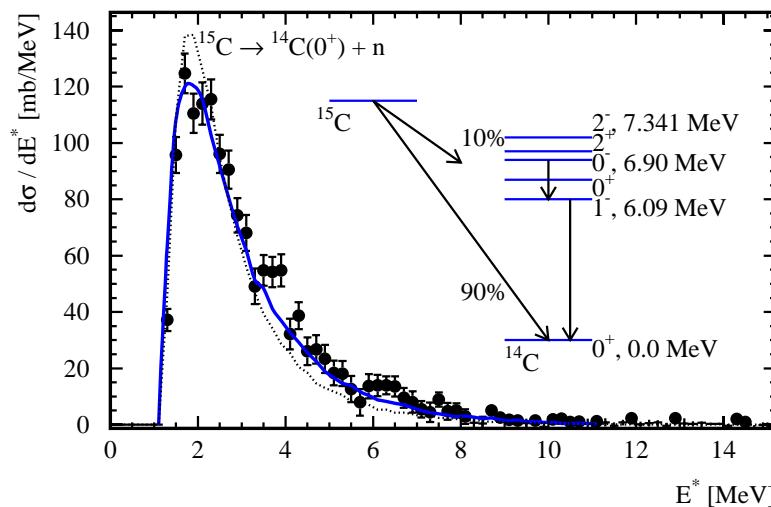


## Coulomb breakup and astrophysics – example $^{14}\text{C}(\text{n},\gamma)^{15}\text{C}$

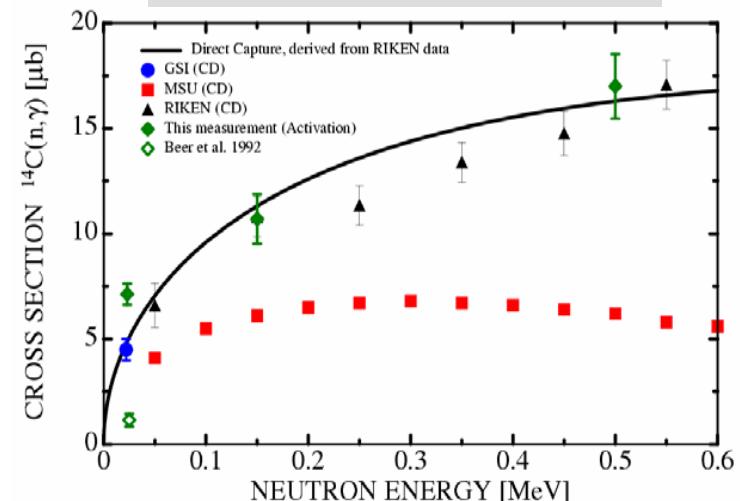
### Big Bang Nucleosynthesis

Neutron capture cross section are important for the break-out towards heavier elements in inhomogeneous Big Bang models.

### Coulomb breakup



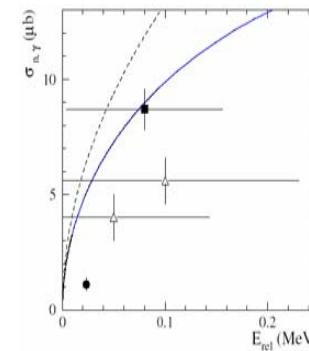
### Capture cross section



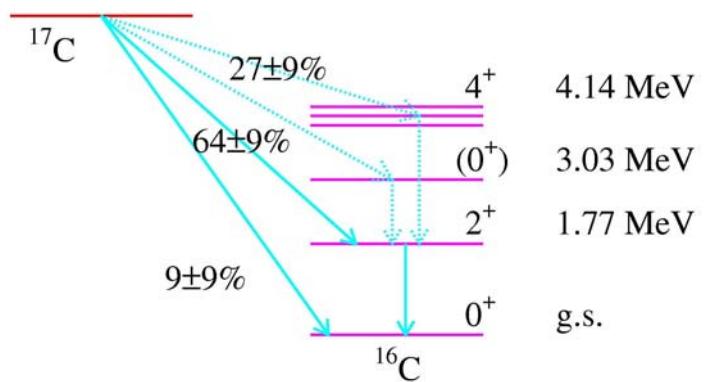
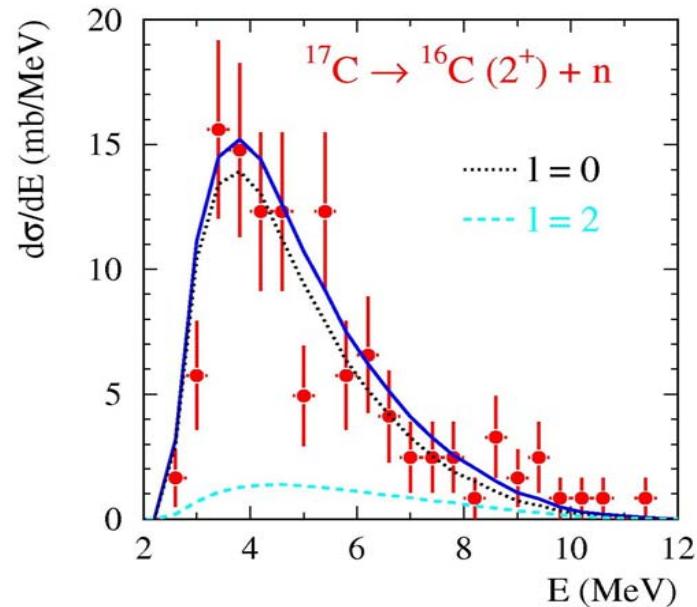
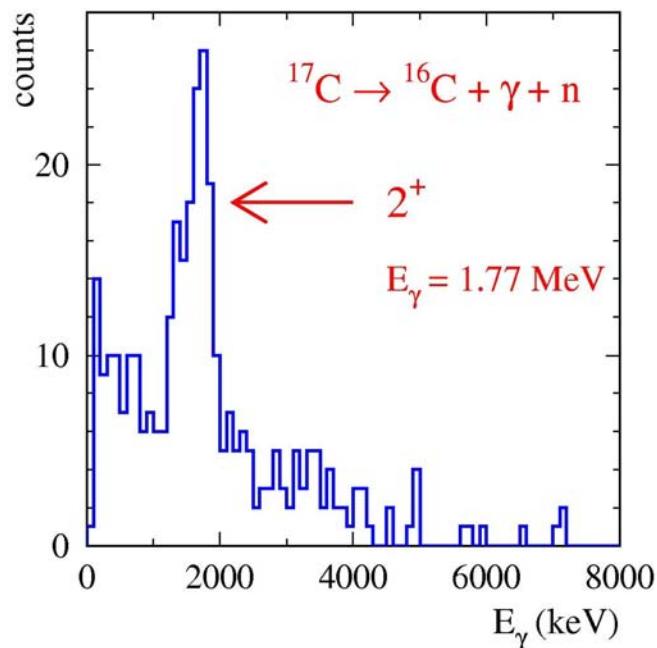
### Limitation:

energy-resolution at present not sufficient to measure at very small relative energies

→ R3B: resolution down to 20 keV at ~200keV



# Coulomb breakup of $^{17}\text{C}$



⇒ Dominant ground state configuration

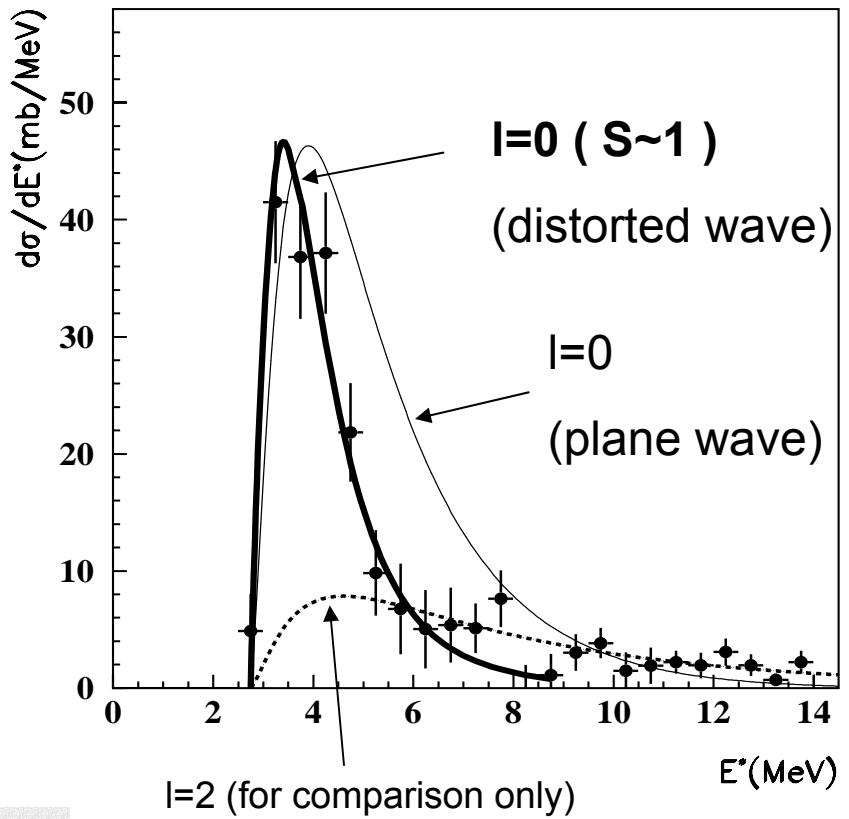
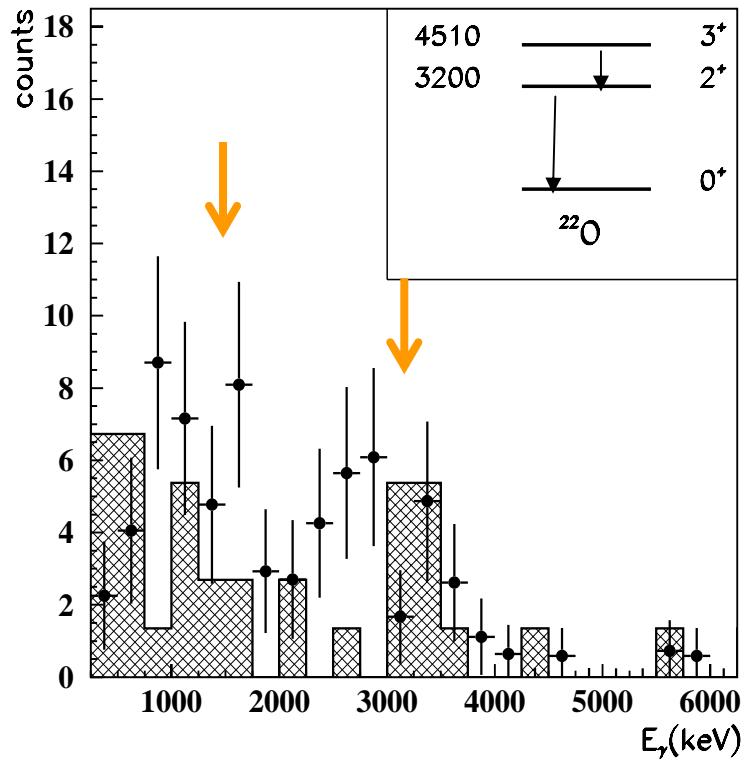
$$|^{16}\text{C}(2^+) \otimes v_{s,d} \rangle$$

⇒ ground-state spin  $I^\pi = 1/2^+$  excluded

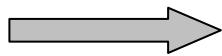
Data: LAND-FRS@GSI

U. D. Pramanik et al., Phys. Lett. B 551 (2003) 63

# Coulomb breakup as spectroscopic tool: The ground state structure of $^{23}\text{O}$



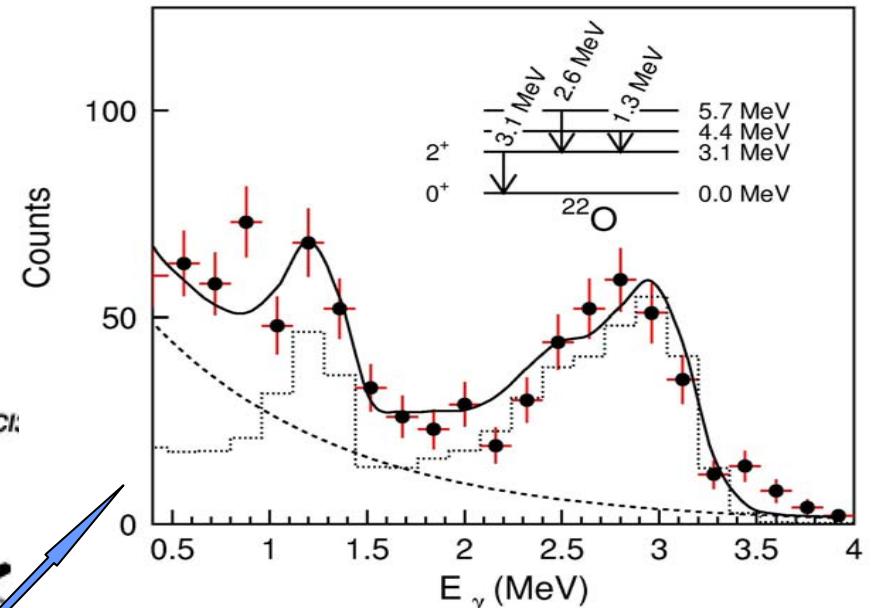
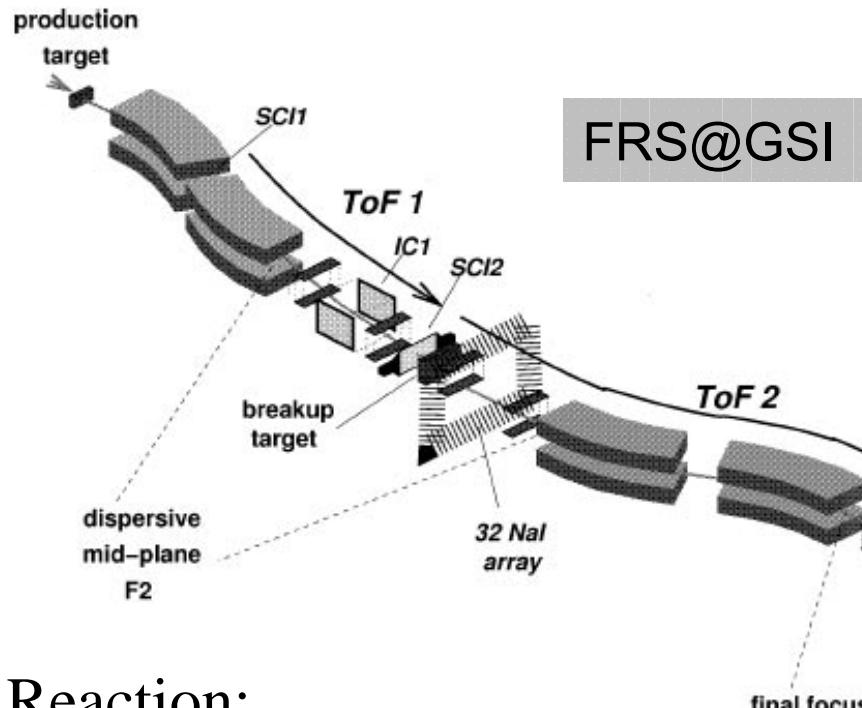
dominant g.s. configuration :  
 $|^{22}\text{O}(0^+) \otimes \nu_s \rangle$



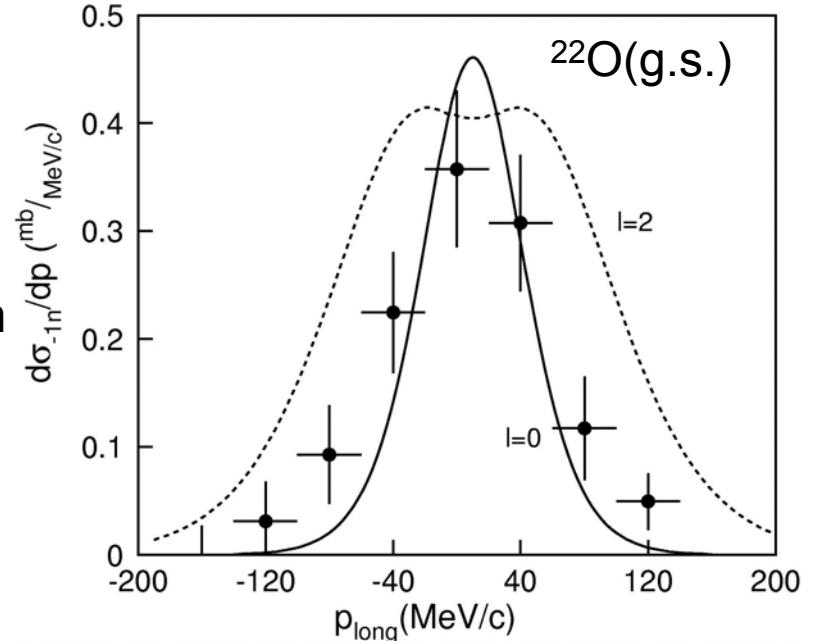
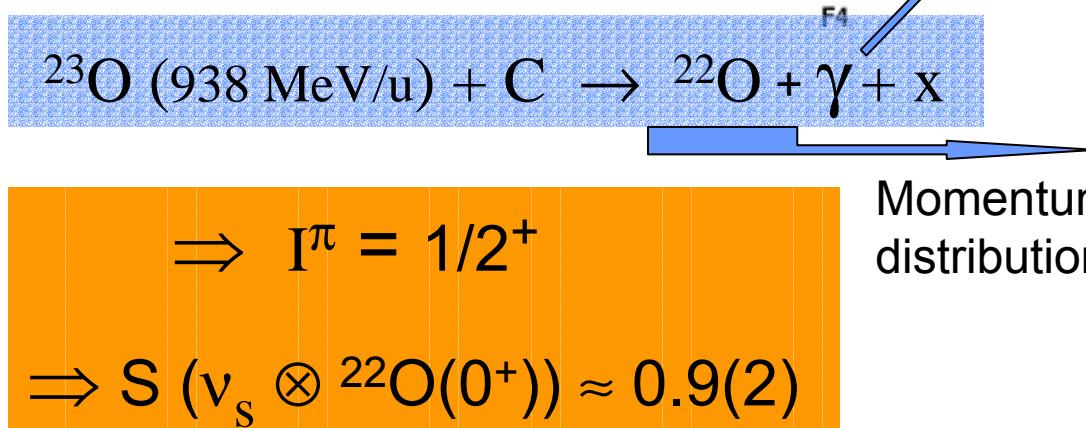
Final state interaction important !

C. Nociforo, K.L. Jones et al.,  
PLB 605 (2005) 23

# $^{23}\text{O}$ : the heaviest halo nucleus?



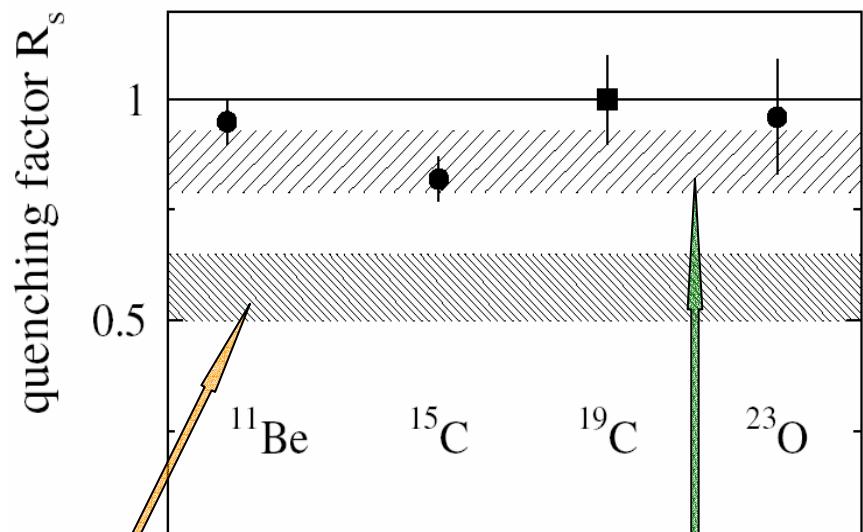
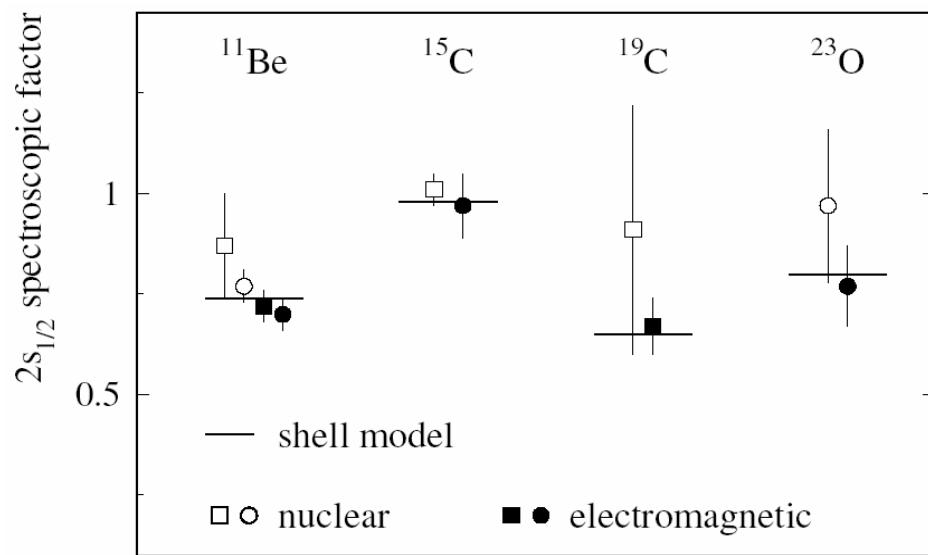
Reaction:



# Absolute single-particle occupancies

Spectroscopic factors for  $2s_{1/2}$  halo states  
derived from nuclear and Coulomb breakup  
in comparison to the shell model

Ratio of experimental occupancies  
to shell-model values



Typical reduction observed for stable nuclei  
(deduced from electron-induced knockout  
reactions)

effect of short-range correlations

Halo states  
(almost free nucleons)

# Coulomb / Nuclear Breakup

## Coulomb breakup

best suited for halo states  
(-> huge cross sections)

well understood reaction mechanism  
(in particular at high energies)

sensitivity to low-density tail of w.f.  
(asymptotic normalization)

no parameters in cross section  
calculations

problem of final state interaction

## Knockout + Diffraction

general applicable  
(for valence nucleon states)

quantitative reaction theory for knockout  
part ( and for high beam energies )

surface dominated

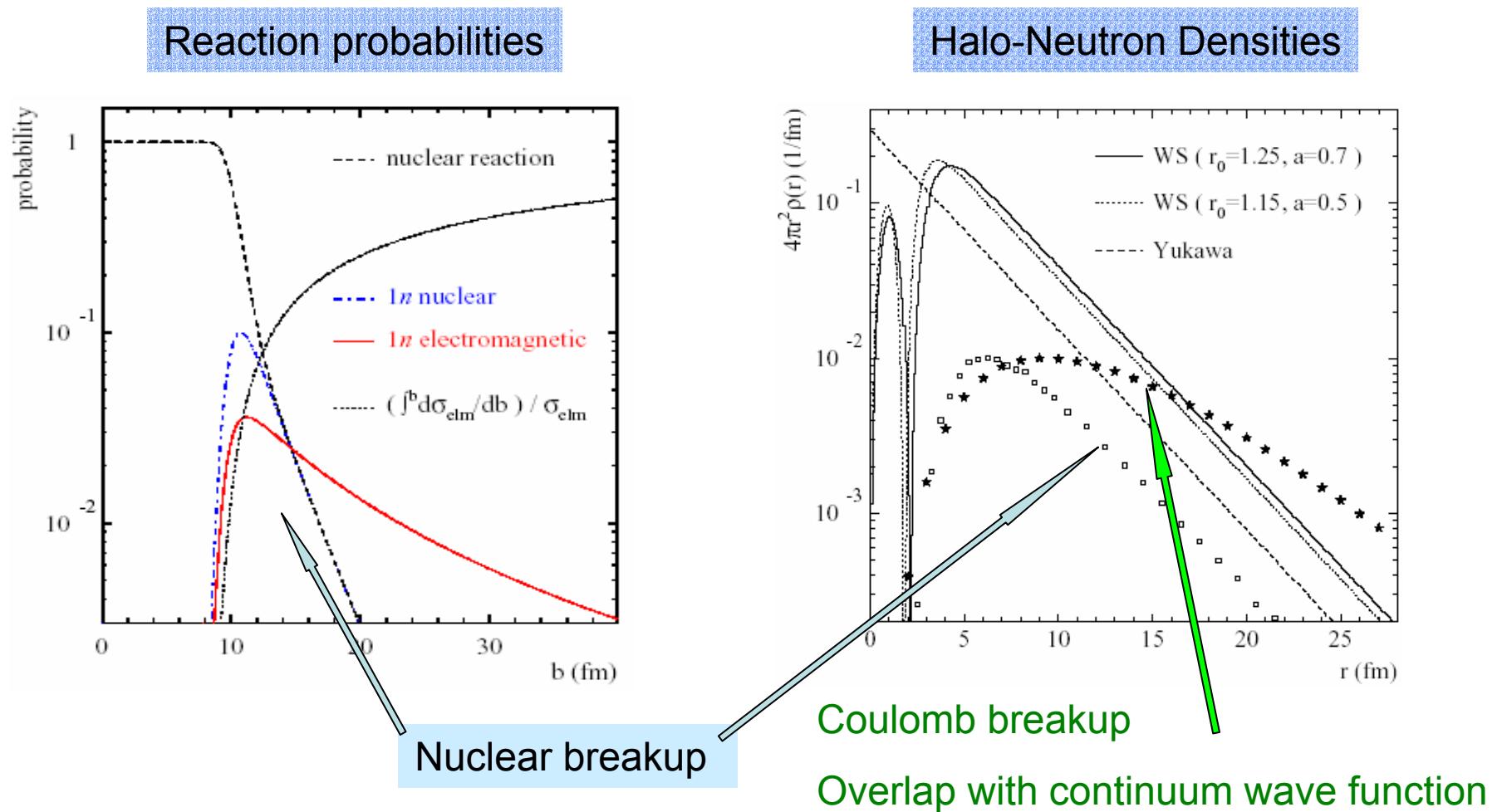
'core' absorption has to be taken into  
account (assuming densities)

two mechanisms: knockout + diffraction  
final state interaction in case of  
diffraction (resonant excitations)

The two reaction mechanism are complementary and require different approximations in the reaction calculation

Comparison helps judging how quantitative are spectroscopic factors

# Sensitivity of Coulomb and nuclear breakup

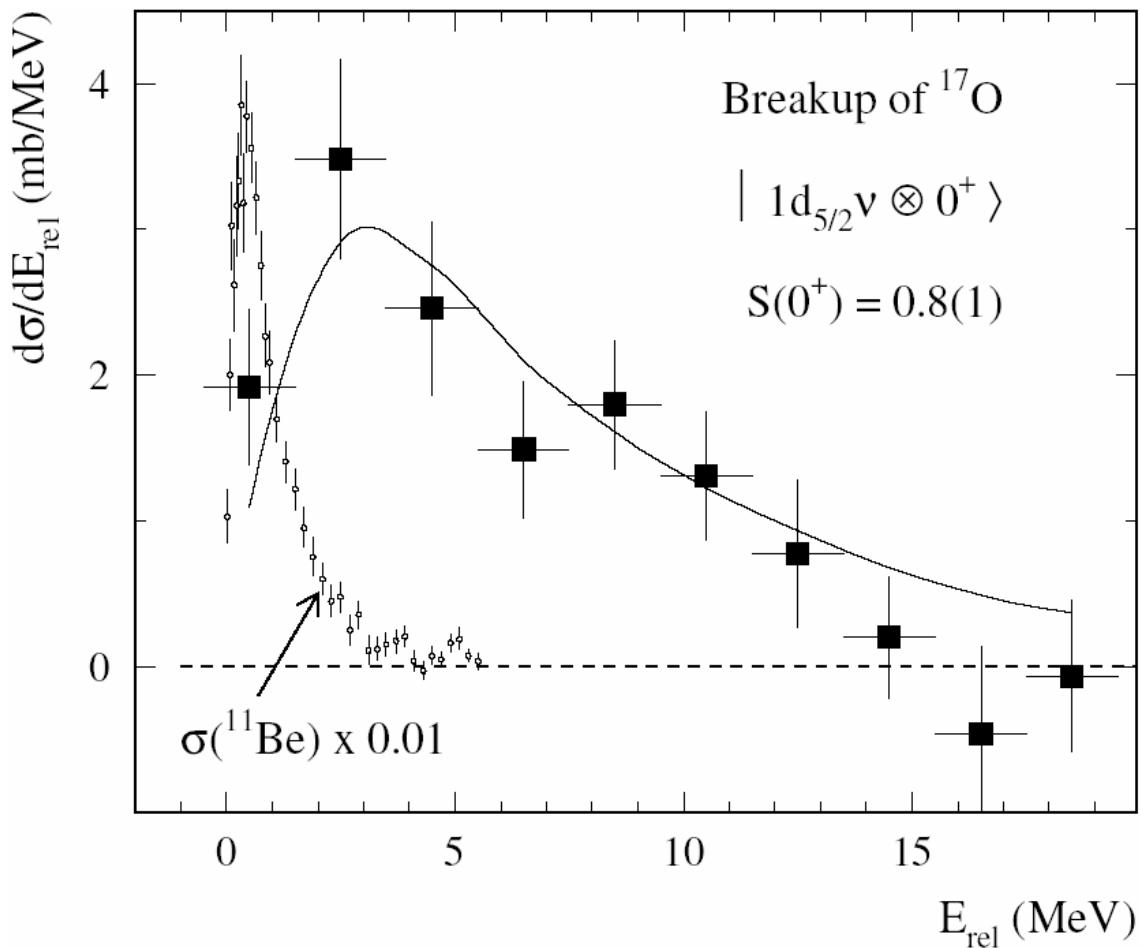


Sensitivity to the tail of the wave function only

Alternative approach: quasi-free scattering: (p,2p), (p,pn) etc. at LAND and R3B  
or (e,e'p) at the e-A collider at FAIR

# Sensitivity of Coulomb breakup

Comparison of the one-neutron halo  $^{11}\text{Be}$   
with the well bound  $^{17}\text{O}$  d neutron



Coulomb breakup is very sensitive to extended neutron-density distributions (halo)

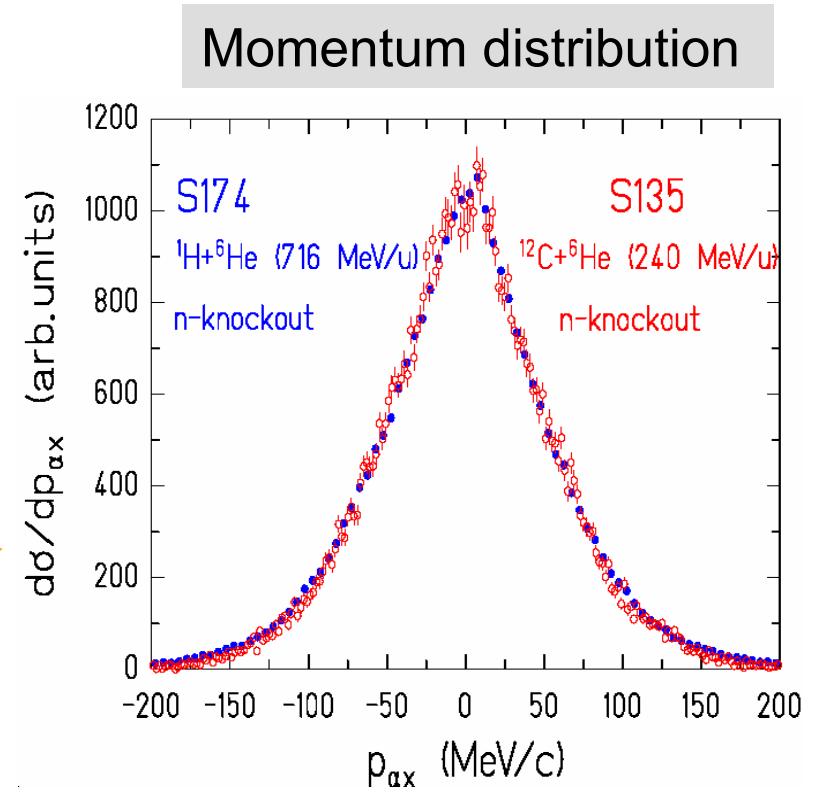
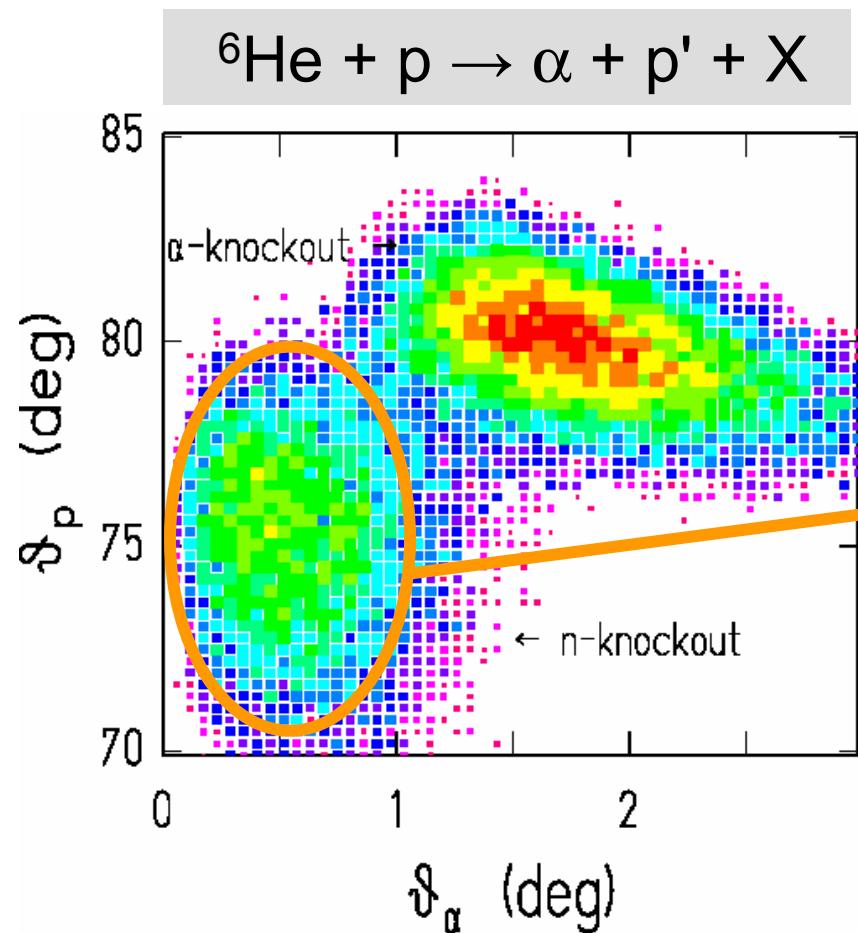
→ applicability as a spectroscopic tool mainly for weakly bound nuclei (large cross sections)

## Future: Quasi-free scattering in inverse kinematics

- kinematical complete measurement of  
 $(p, pn)$ ,  $(p, 2p)$ ,  $(p, pd)$ ,  $(p, \alpha)$ , .... reactions
- redundant experimental information:  
kinematical reconstruction from proton momenta  
plus gamma rays, recoil momentum, invariant mass
- sensitivity not limited to surface  
→ spectral functions  
→ knockout from deeply bound states
- cluster knockout reactions

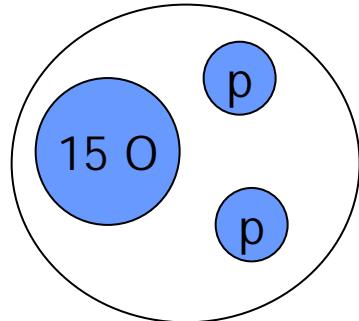
# Quasi-free cluster knockout

Experiment S174: Proton elastic scattering (P. Egelhof et al.)



Spectroscopic factors:  
neutron: 1.7(2)  
alpha: 0.8(1)

# Planned experiment for 2007: The 2p halo $^{17}\text{Ne}$



- Dripline nucleus
- $S_{2p} = 0.95 \text{ MeV}$
- Borromean system: binary sub-systems unbound
- only realistic 2-proton halo candidate

mixture of  $s^2$  and  $d^2$  configurations in the ground-state wave function:

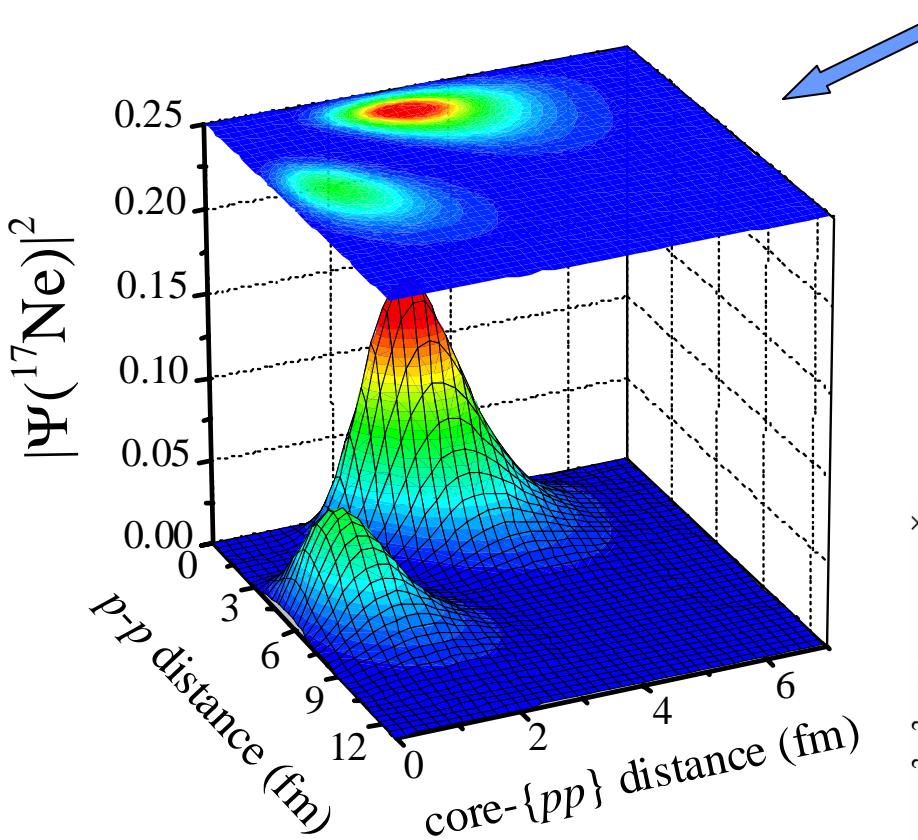
- theoretical prediction vary from dominance of  $d^2$  (no halo) to dominance of  $s^2$  configuration (halo formation)
- experimental information does not allow a clear conclusion

only inclusive data (e.g. momentum distributions, cross sections)

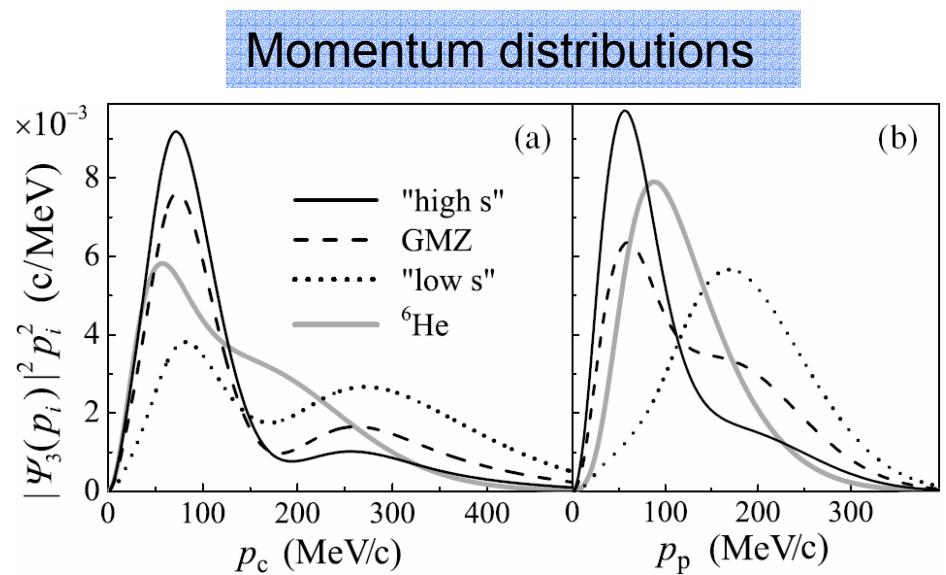
the proton knockout data (RIKEN) include contributions from knockout of core protons, only the momentum distribution of the A-2 system was measured (inclusively)

# Theoretical predictions: 3-body model

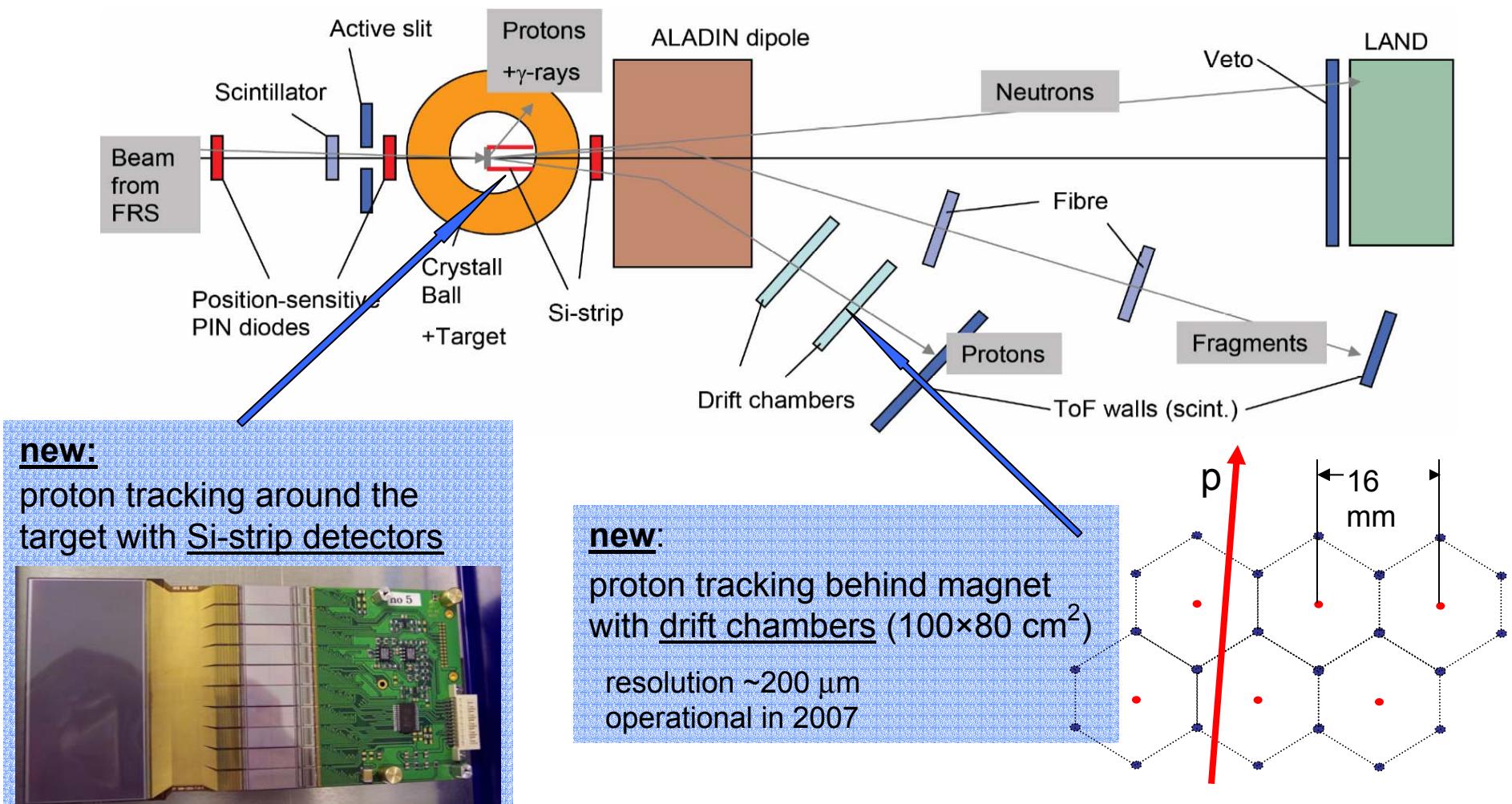
L.V. Grigorenko, I.G. Mukha, M.V. Zhukov,  
Nucl. Phys. A 713 (2003) 372



- Correlation density of the  $^{17}\text{Ne}$  g.s. WF
- Two peaks, strong “diproton” peak, similar to  $^6\text{He}$  due to mixing of  $s^2$  and  $d^2$
- s/d configuration mixing is about 50%



# Extended experimental Setup at Cave C: Proton detection



**Exclusive measurement of**

- inelastic excitation plus neutron and proton decay
- quasi-free scattering:  $(p,2p)$ ,  $(p,pn)$

# The LAND/FRS Collaboration S188/S233

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