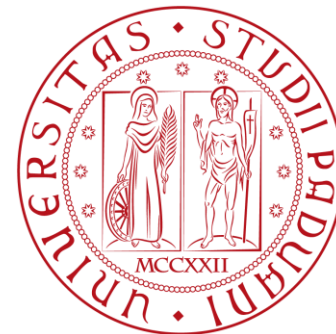




Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare  
Laboratori Nazionali di Legnaro



# Investigating the deformation of the intruder isomeric $1/2^+$ state in $^{79}\text{Zn}$ ( $N=49$ ) via Coulomb excitation

**Filippo Angelini**

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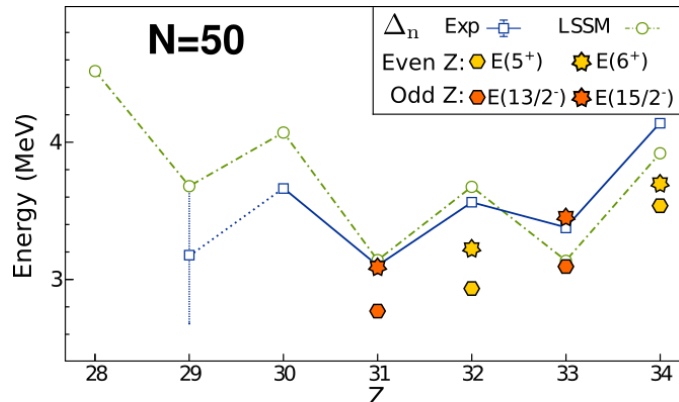
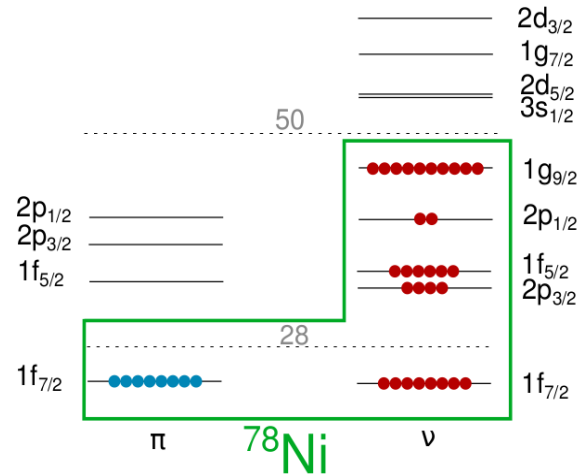
**INPC 2025**

**Daejeon, Korea**

# Nuclear shell evolution in the region of $^{78}\text{Ni}$

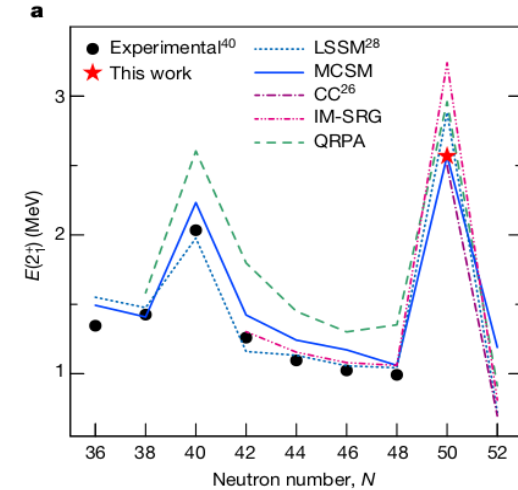
$^{78}\text{Ni}$  is the **most exotic neutron-rich doubly-magic** nucleus that can be approached experimentally

**Magicity** has been confirmed from spectroscopy  
But there are some questions:



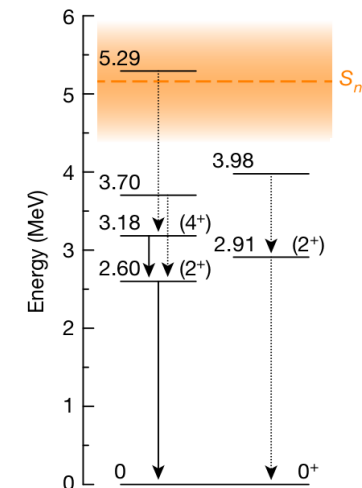
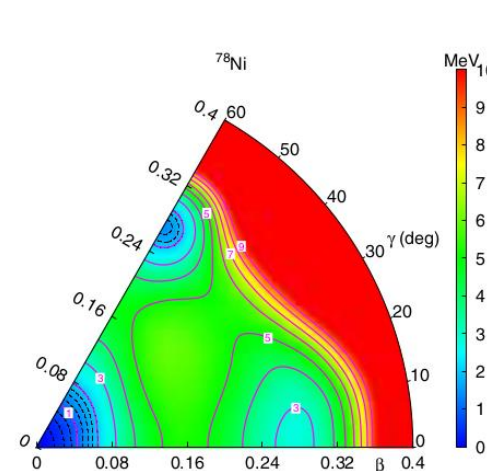
J. Dudouet et al, Phys. Rev. C 100, 011301(R) (2019)

2. **Shape coexistence** has emerged in  $^{78}\text{Ni}$  from shell model calculations: **Intruder deformed** configurations are found at low excitation energy



R. Taniuchi et al., Nature 569, 53–58 (2019)

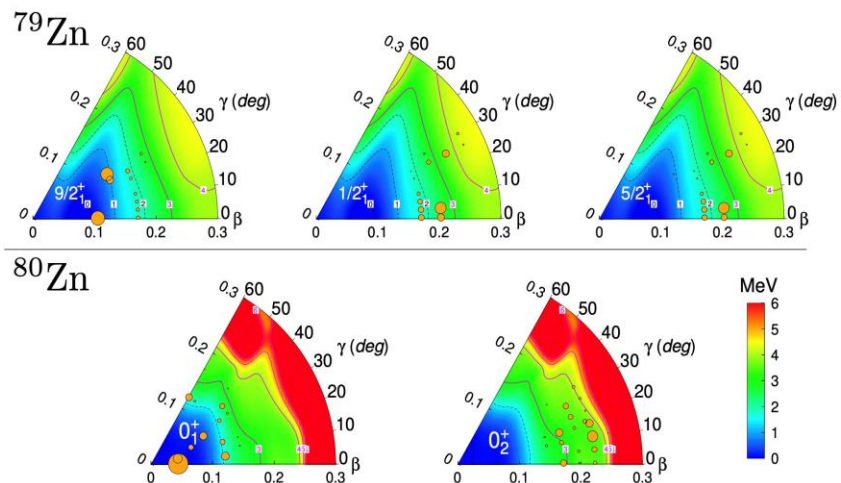
1. The **N = 50 shell gap** follows a **parabolic behaviour** along the isotonic line



F. Nowacki et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 117, 272501 (2016)

R. Taniuchi et al., Nature 569, 53–58 (2019)

# Shape coexistence in the region



From L. Nies et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 131, 222503 (2023)

Studies have shown **shape coexistence** in other two nuclei in the region:

- $^{80}\text{Ge}$  intruder  $0^+_2$  (later not confirmed)
- $^{79}\text{Zn}$  intruder isomer  $1/2^+$

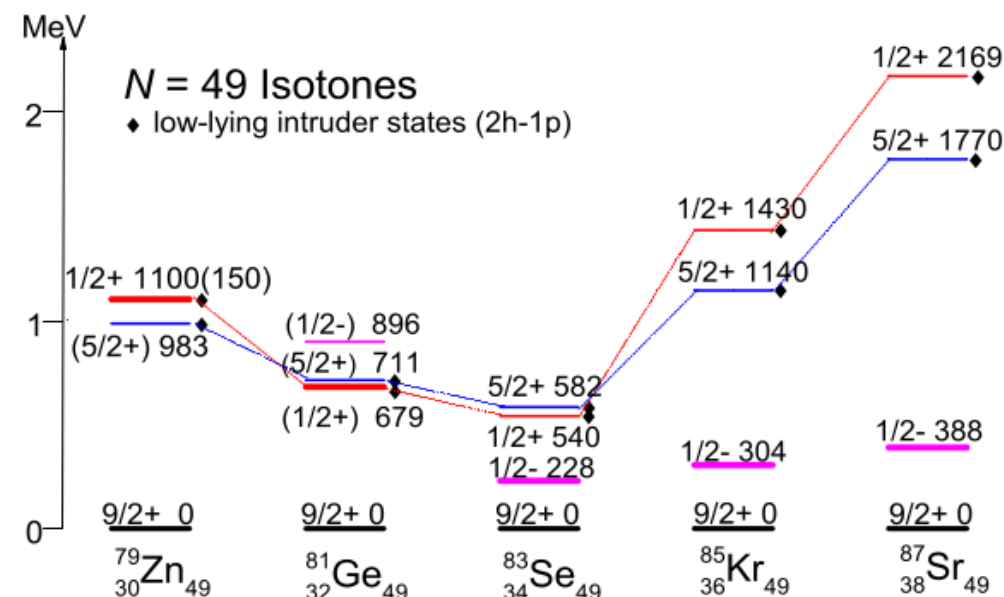
From A. Gottardo et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 116, 182502 (2016)

From F. H. Garcia et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 125, 172501 (2020)

From X. Yang et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 116, 182502 (2016)

## $^{79}\text{Zn}$ interesting case along $N=49$ isotonic chain:

- $9/2^+$  ground states (n-hole in  $g_{9/2}$ )
- $1/2^+$  and  $5/2^+$  intruder states from **neutron 2h-1p** excitations to the  $s_{1/2}$ ,  $d_{5/2}$  shells beyond  $N=50$
- **Deformation** in intruder band (e.g.  $^{83}\text{Se}$ )



From X. Yang et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 116, 182502 (2016)

$^{79}\text{Zn}$  studied with **radioactive beams**:

- $^{78}\text{Zn}(d,p)$  at ISOLDE**

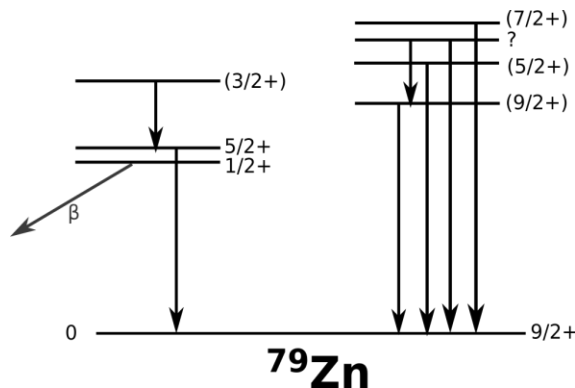
From R. Orlandi et al., Phys. Lett. B 740, 298-302 (2015)

First spectroscopy, single particle character of  **$5/2^+$  state**

- Laser spectroscopy at ISOLDE**

Spin assignments for  **$9/2^+$  g.s.** ( $\beta \sim 0.14$ ) and  **$1/2^+$  isomer**

**Large  $\langle r^2 \rangle$  for isomer**,  $\beta \sim 0.22$



- Beta decay at RIKEN**

Wide **exploration of level scheme** and spin assignments

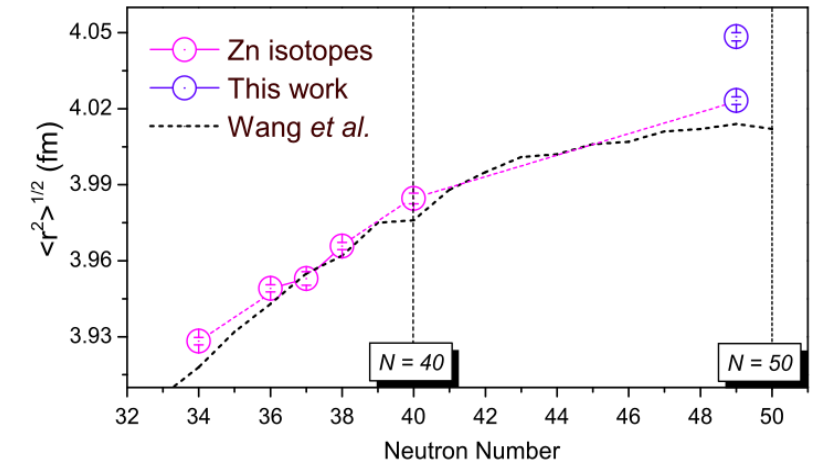
- Mass spectroscopy at ISOLDE, JYFL + PFSDG-U shell model calculations**

Ordering of intruder states  $1/2^+$  and  $5/2^+$ ,

Intruder band of  $^{79}\text{Zn}$  **matches the occupancy** of  $^{78}\text{Ni } 0^+_2$

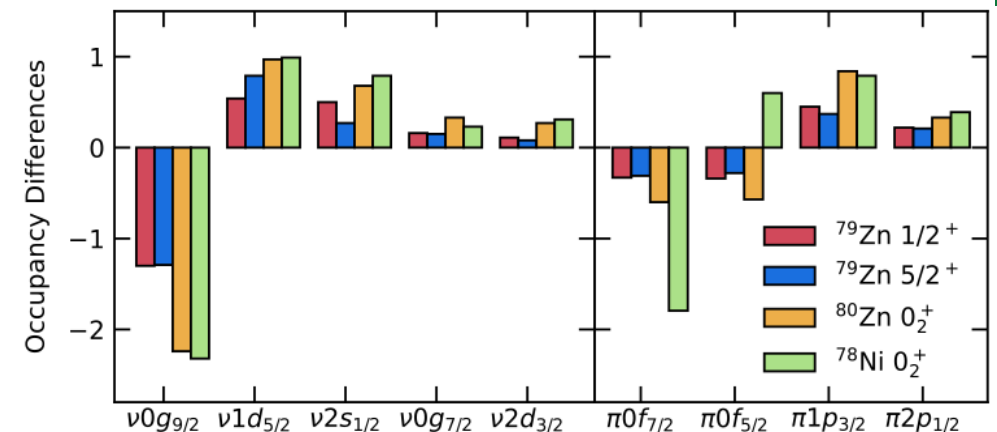
How to probe **deformation** of intruder band?  
**Coulomb excitation measurement**

## $^{79}\text{Zn}$ : previous studies



From X. Yang et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 116, 182502 (2016)

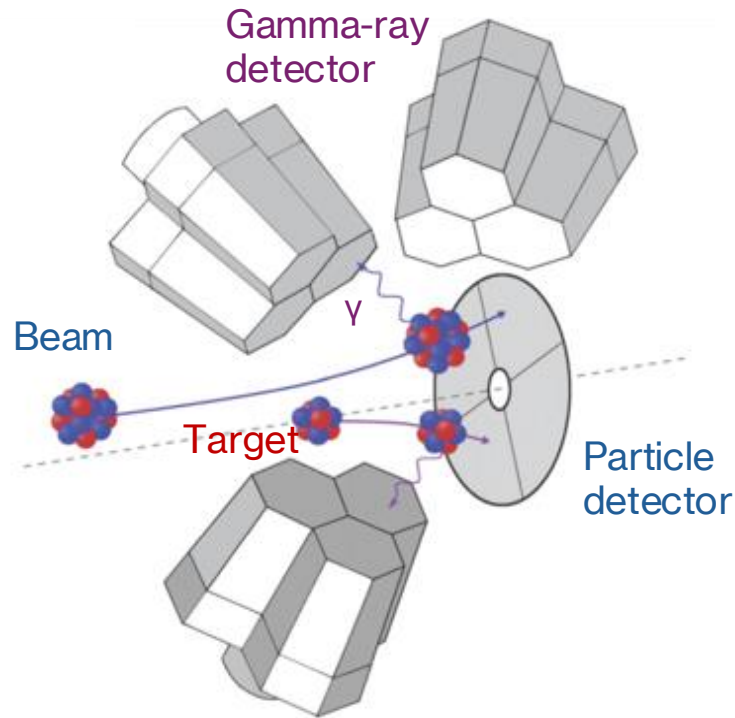
From M.C. Delattre's PhD thesis, Université Paris-Sud (2016)



From L. Nies et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 131, 222503 (2023)

# Coulomb excitation

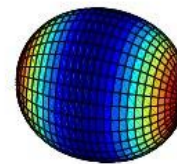
**Population of excited levels** via purely **electromagnetic interaction** in a quasi-elastic scattering (**safe energy criterion**)



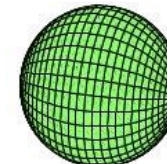
Measurement of **gamma-ray decay** of Coulomb-excited states in **coincidence with beam or target recoils**

Gamma-ray decay intensities, as a function of particle **scattering angle**, are related to **reduced transition probabilities** (e.g.  $B(E2)$ ) and **spectroscopic quadrupole moments**.

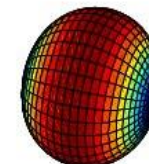
Prolate  $Q > 0$



Spherical  $Q = 0$



Oblate  $Q < 0$



For details about the method: M. Zielińska,  
Lecture Notes in Physics 1005 (2022), chap. 2

Determination of these observables with a **multi-dimensional fit** performed using dedicated analysis codes (e.g. **GOSIA**)



# $^{79}\text{Zn}$ Coulomb excitation at HIE-ISOLDE

- 8 Miniball HPGe triple clusters
- Forward DSSSD detector (CD),  $\theta$  range  $[20^\circ, 59^\circ]$

**ISOL** secondary beam from **UC<sub>x</sub>** primary target  
 $^{79}\text{Zn}$  @ 4.0 MeV/u,  $\sim 8 \times 10^4$  pps

Mixture of g.s. and isomer:  $r(^{79}\text{Zn}^m) = 7.1(4)\%$   
**Ratio measured** from mass spectroscopy

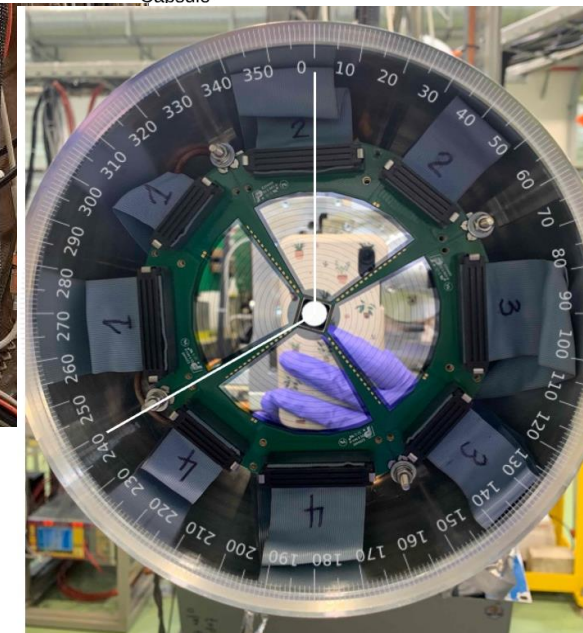
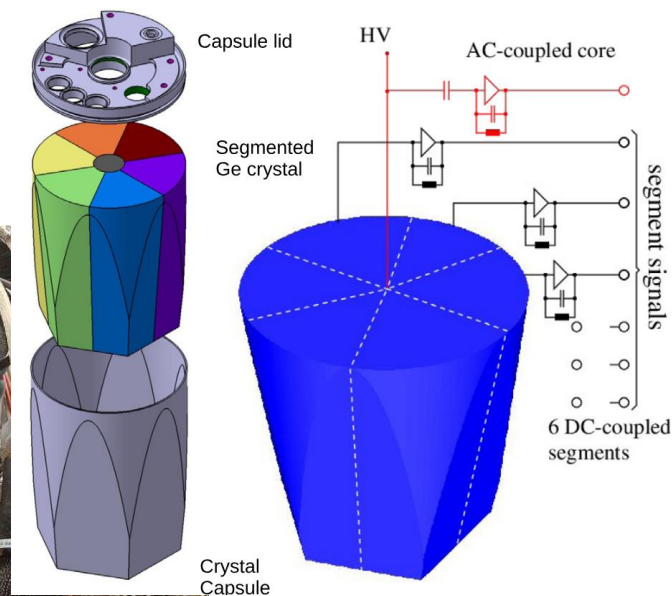
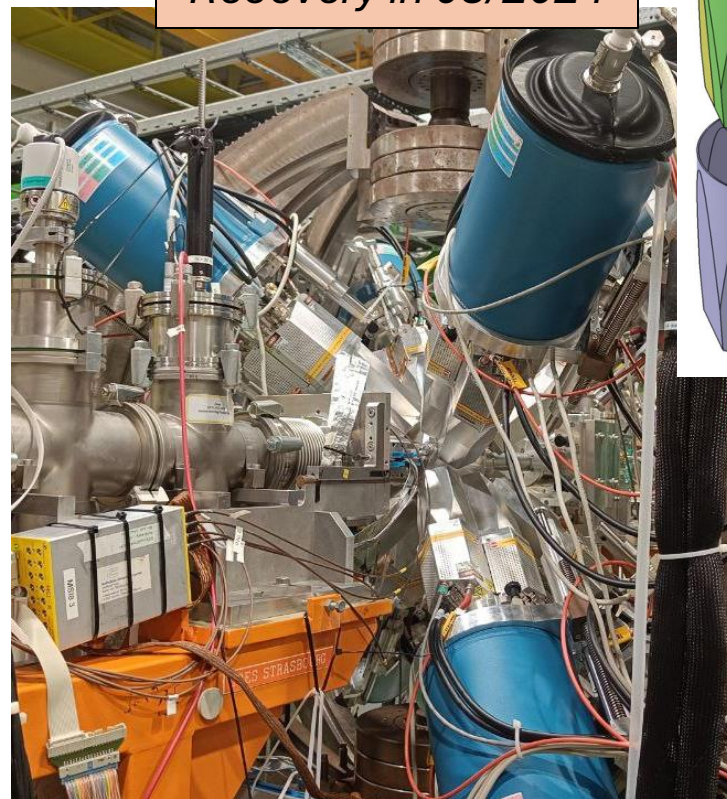
## Targets:

- $^{208}\text{Pb}$  4 mg/cm<sup>2</sup> for low target bg
- $^{196}\text{Pt}$  3 mg/cm<sup>2</sup> for target normalization

Scattering of **either partners** can be detected in the CD -> **Different  $\theta_{\text{CM}}$**

Gamma rays detected with Miniball  
 In flight emission: **Doppler correction needed**

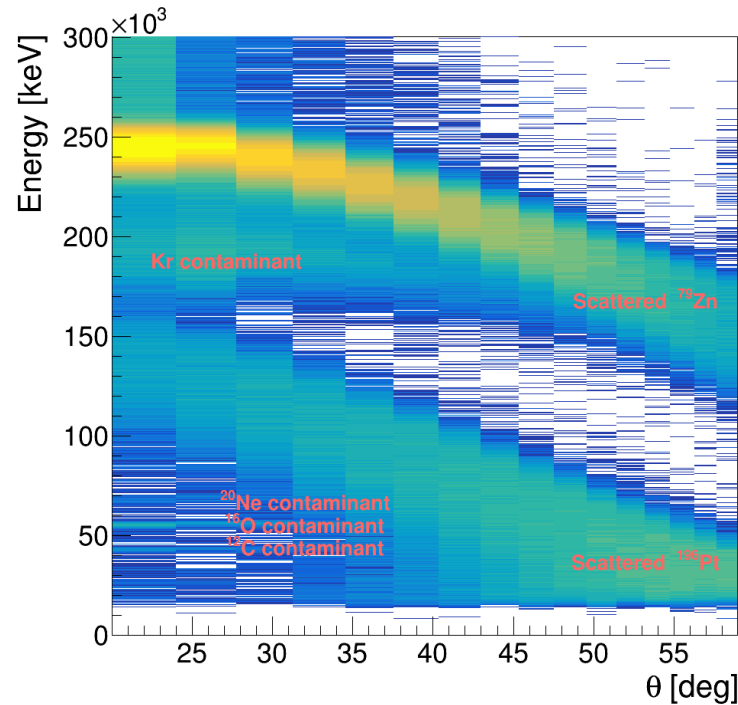
*First run in 09/2023  
 Recovery in 08/2024*



$$E_{\gamma}^{\text{CM}} = E_{\gamma} \frac{1 - \beta \cos(\theta)}{\sqrt{1 - \beta^2}}$$

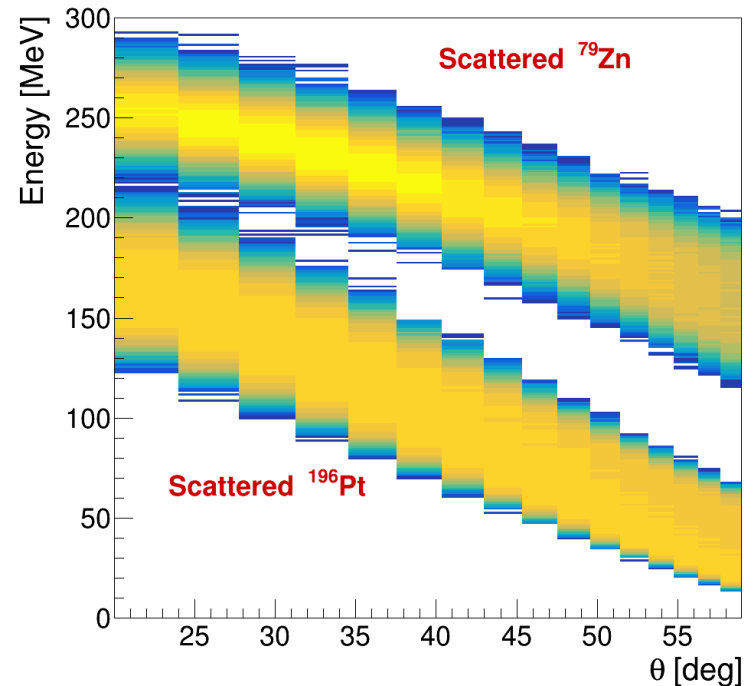
# Calibration of the CD detector

## Experiment



$^{79}\text{Zn}$  on  $^{196}\text{Pt}$

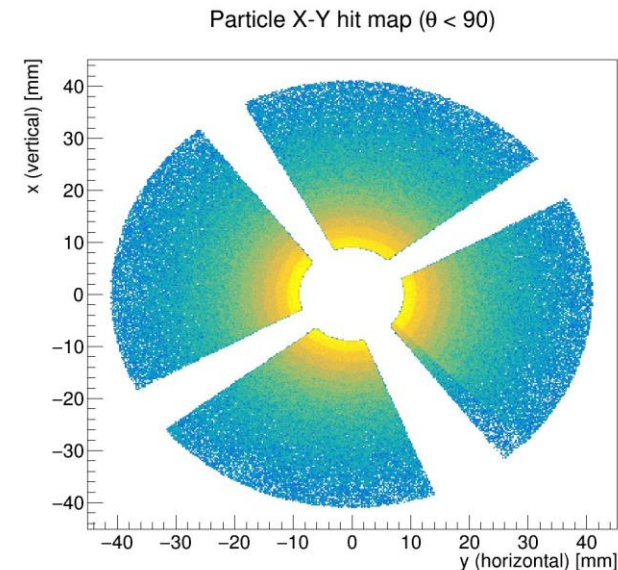
## Simulation



Stable **beam contaminants** from EBIS charge breeder ( $A/Q=4$ ):  
 $^{12}\text{C}^{3+}$ ,  $^{16}\text{O}^{4+}$ ,  $^{20}\text{Ne}^{5+}$ ,  $^{40}\text{Ar}^{10+}$ ,  
 $^{84}\text{Kr}^{21+}$  /  $^{80}\text{Kr}^{20+}$

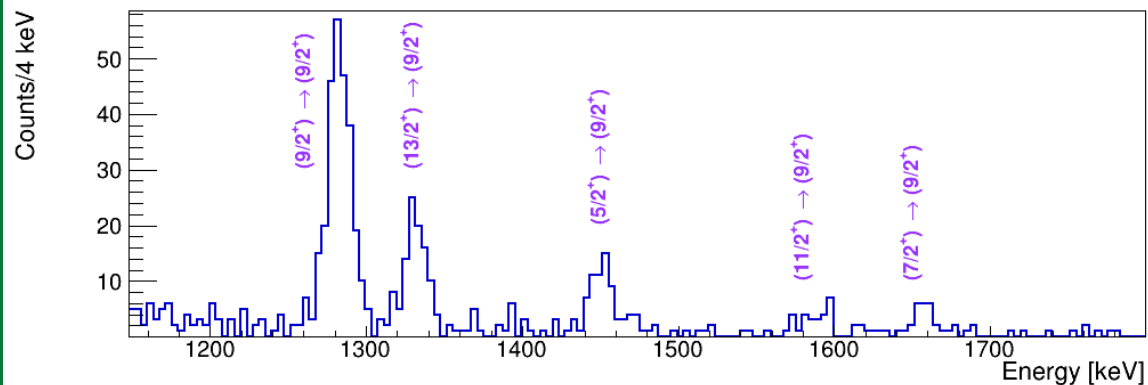
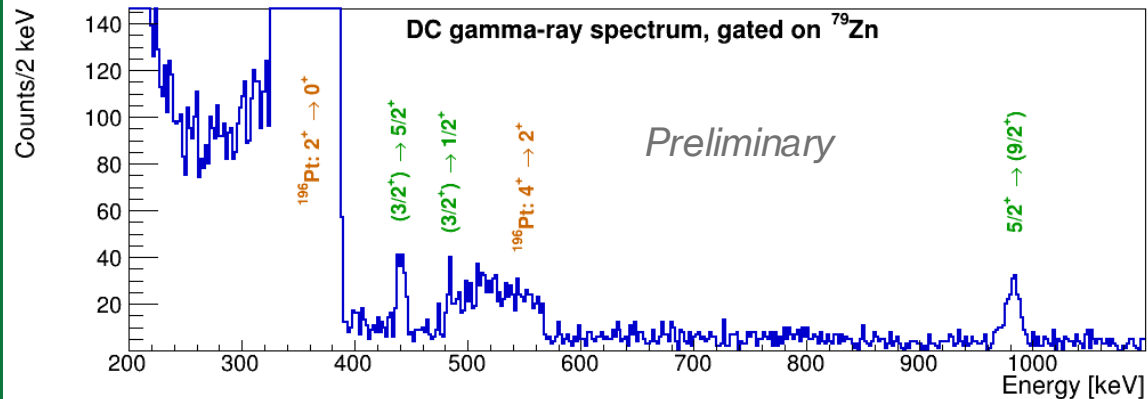
**Kinsim simulation** used to estimate the energy released in each ring

Calibration of segments:  
**P-side vs N-side**

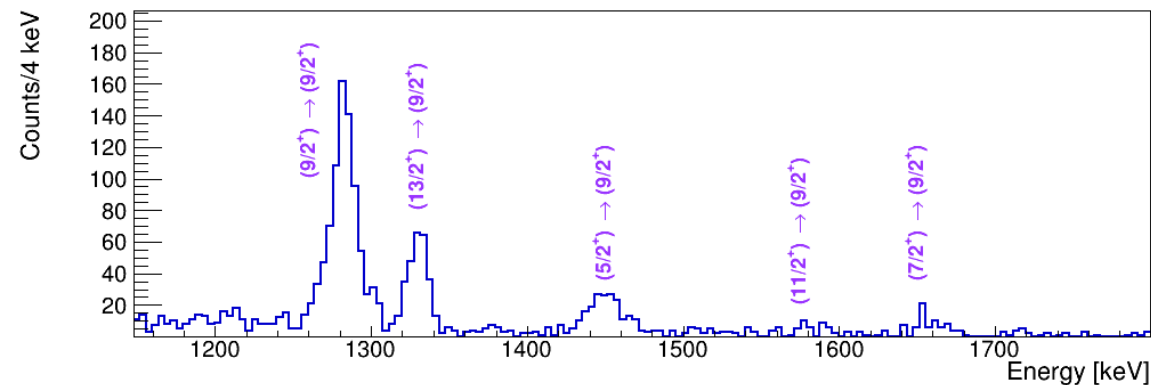
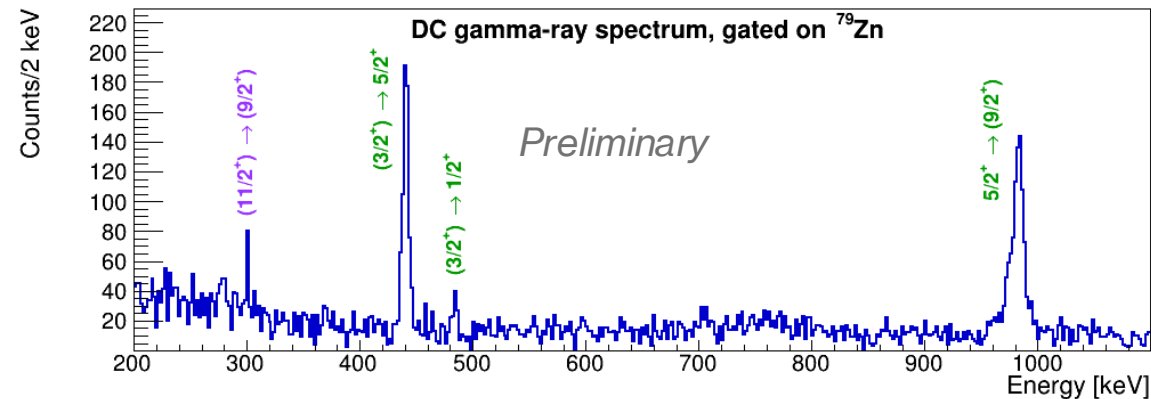


# DC addback spectra: target comparison

**$^{196}\text{Pt}$  target**

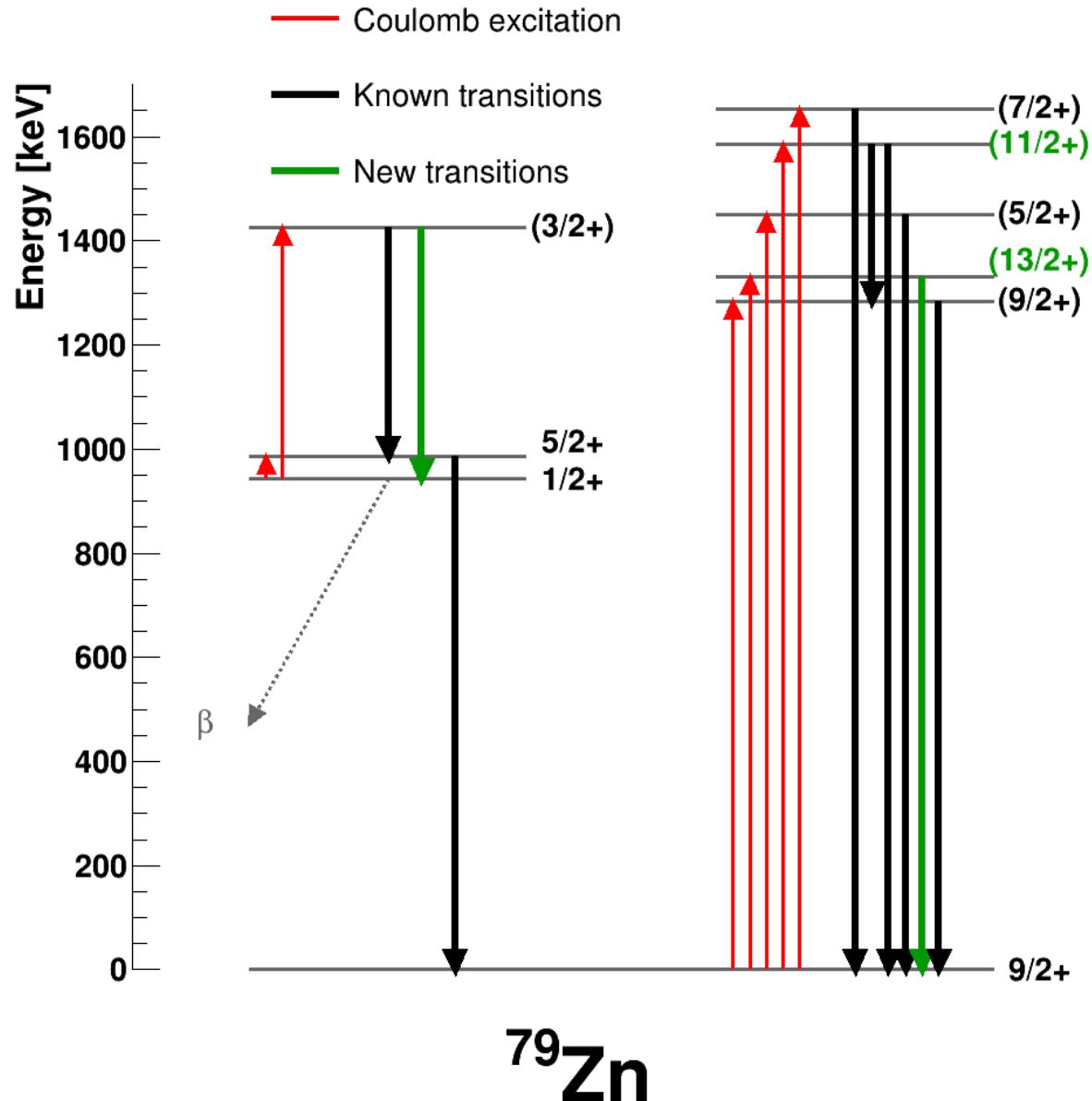


**$^{208}\text{Pb}$  target**





# Identified transitions

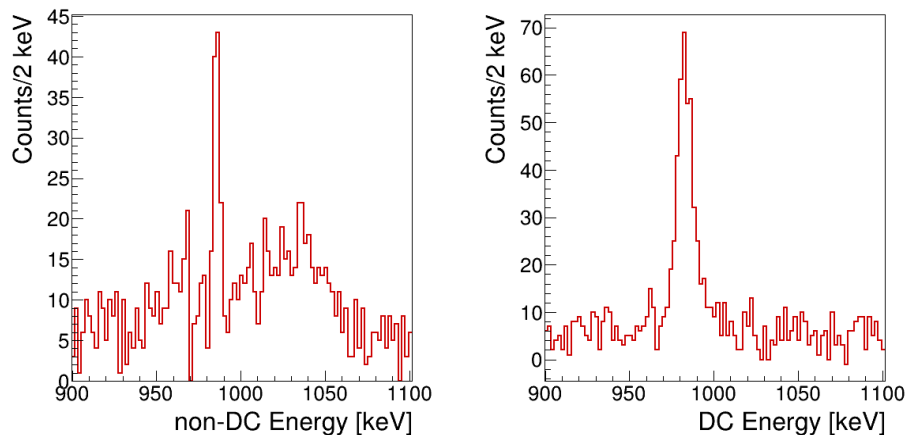
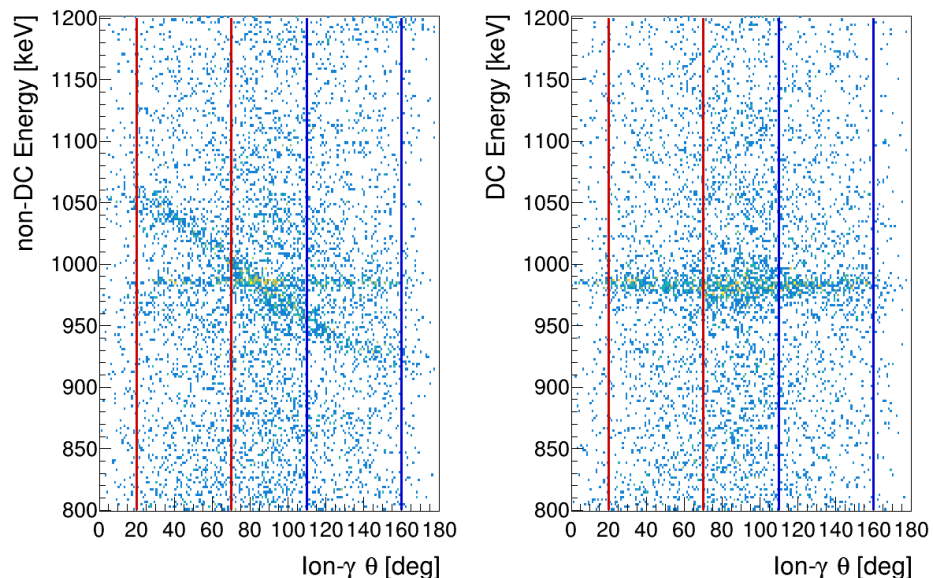


- New transition measured at ~480 keV: It completes the **intruder band** scheme as a  **$(3/2^+) \rightarrow 1/2^+$**  decay.

- Whole multiplet of  **$g_{9/2}$  n-hole coupled with  $2^+$  of  $^{80}\text{Zn}$**  was observed: 5 states lying around  **$E(2^+; ^{80}\text{Zn}) = 1492(1)$  keV**.

- Assignment of  **$(11/2^+)$**  and  **$(13/2^+)$**  spins: their population in beta decay was hindered due to **low spin** of mother nucleus ( $5/2^-$ )

# State at 985 keV: lifetime



Transition at **985 keV:  $5/2^+ \rightarrow 9/2^+_{\text{g.s.}}$**

Components are visible both **with and without DC**

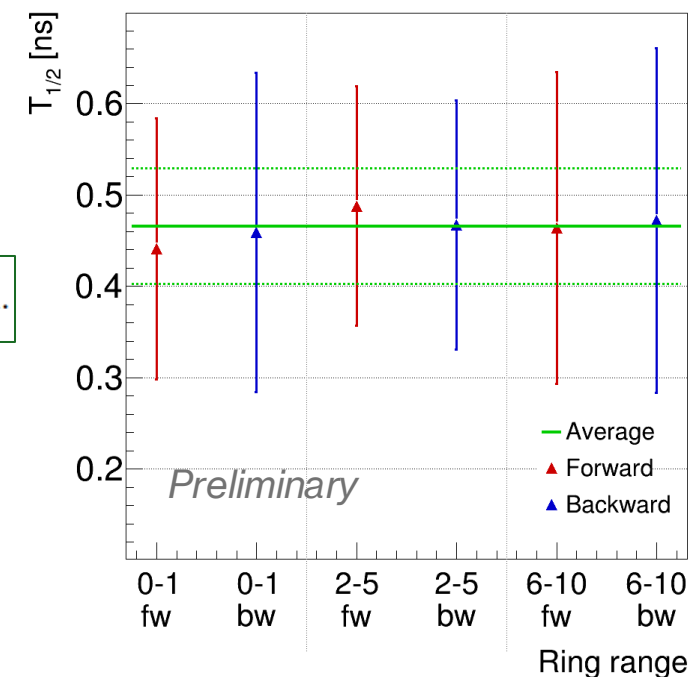
A part of the decays happens **after implantation** in the CD

Sort of **Recoil Distance Doppler Shift** method with different CD rings to estimate lifetime

$$\langle T_{1/2} \rangle = 0.466 \pm 0.063 \text{ ns}$$

$$B(E2; 5/2^+ \rightarrow 9/2^+) = 0.065 \pm 0.009 \text{ W.u.}$$

**Strongly hindered transition!**



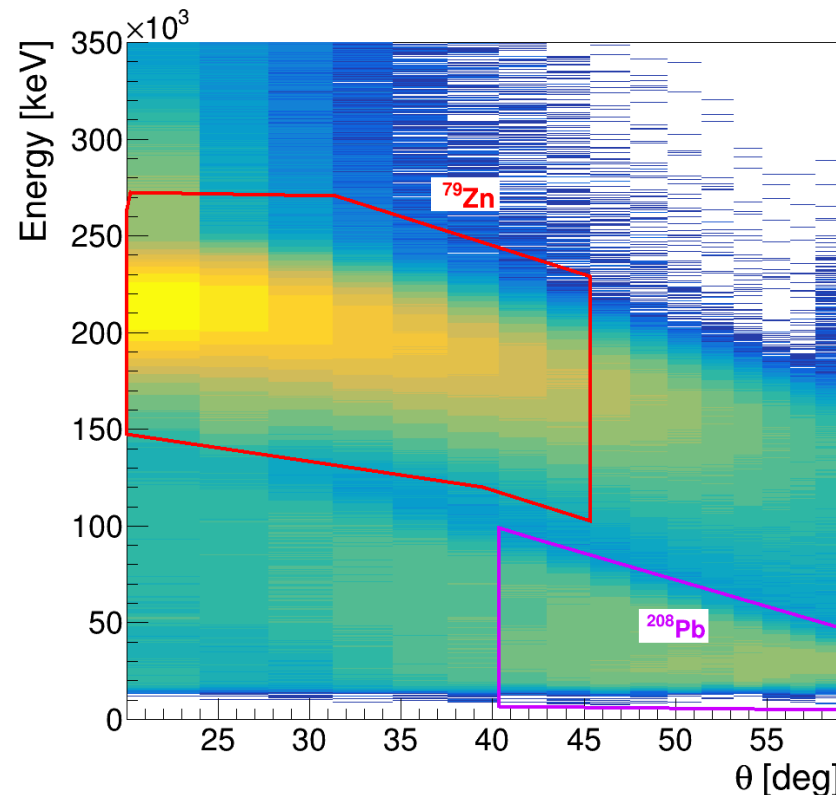
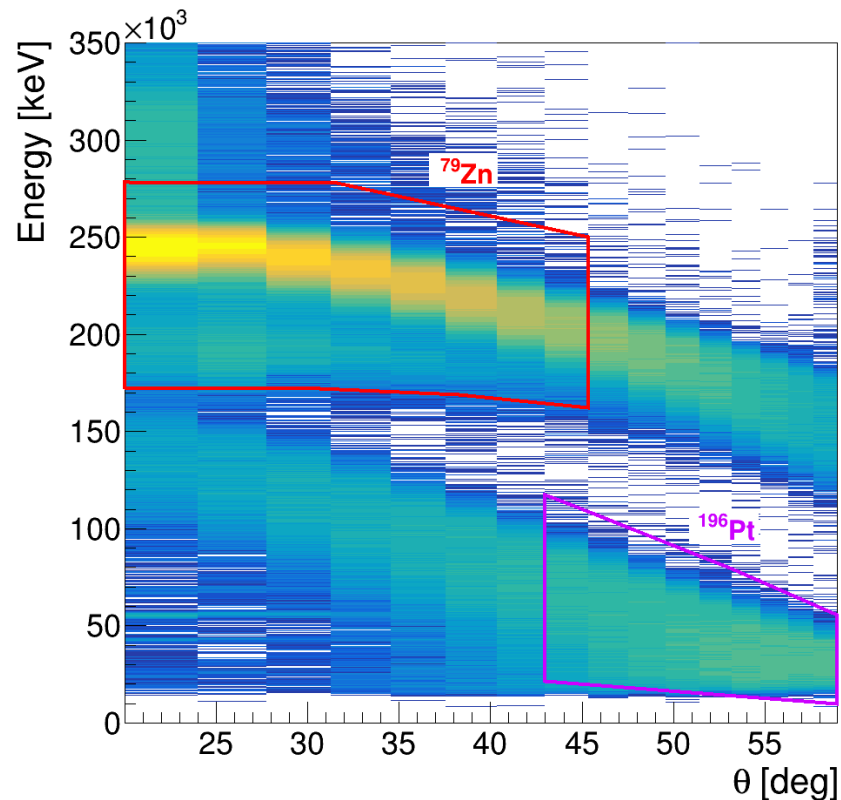
Inspired from R. Clews's Master thesis, University of Liverpool (2021)

# GOSIA analysis: safe energy cuts

**GOSIA** is a standard code used to extract **electromagnetic matrix elements** via a multi-dimensional fit of **gamma-ray intensities** measured in Coulomb excitation experiments

**GOSIA2** used for normalization to **target excitations** ( $^{196}\text{Pt}$ )

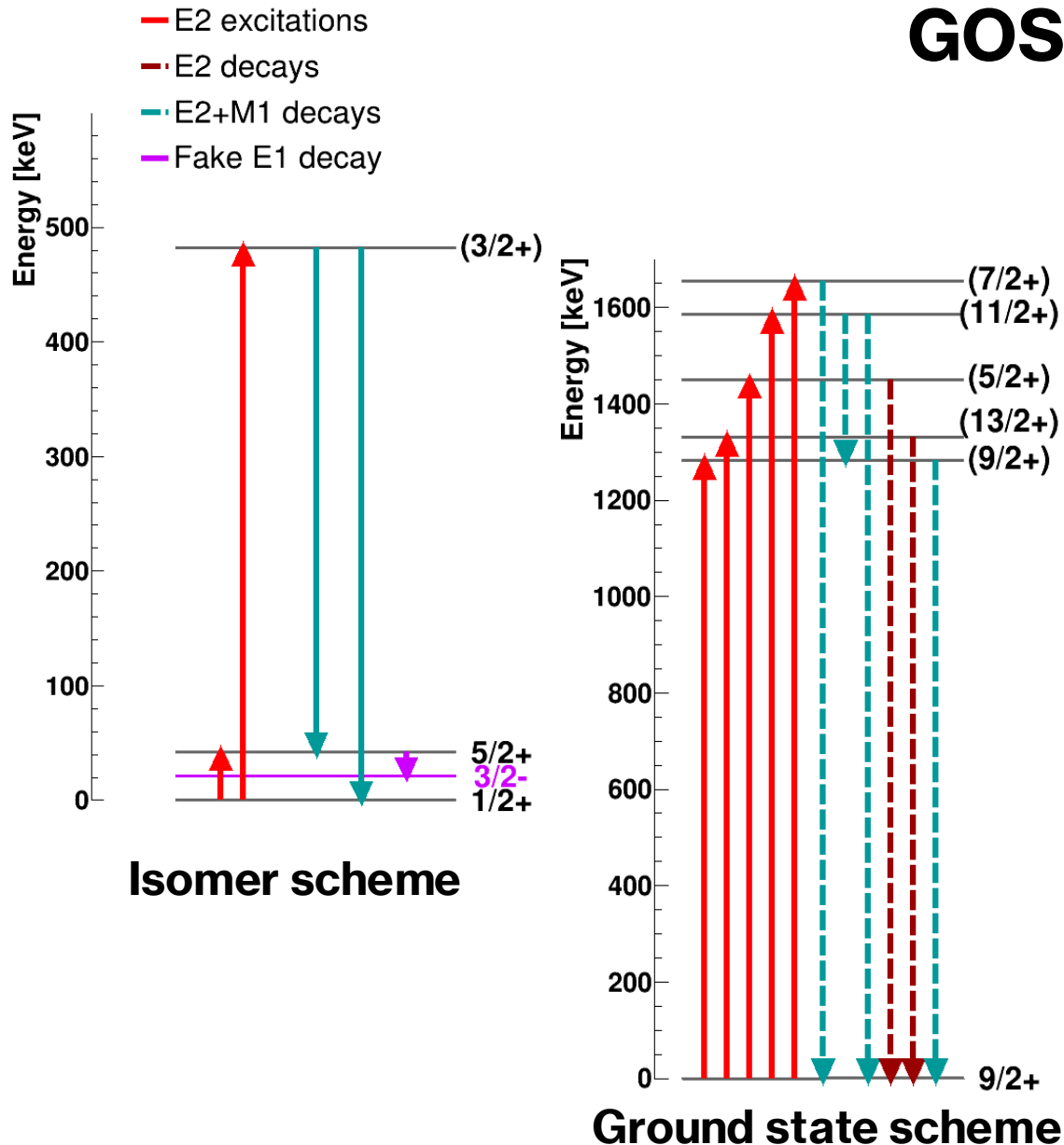
Extraction of **EM matrix elements** and uncertainty estimation



Selections for ensuring:

- **Safe energy criterion.**
- **No double counting of the  $\theta_{\text{CM}}$  range where both scattered partners can be detected.**

# GOSIA analysis: excitation schemes

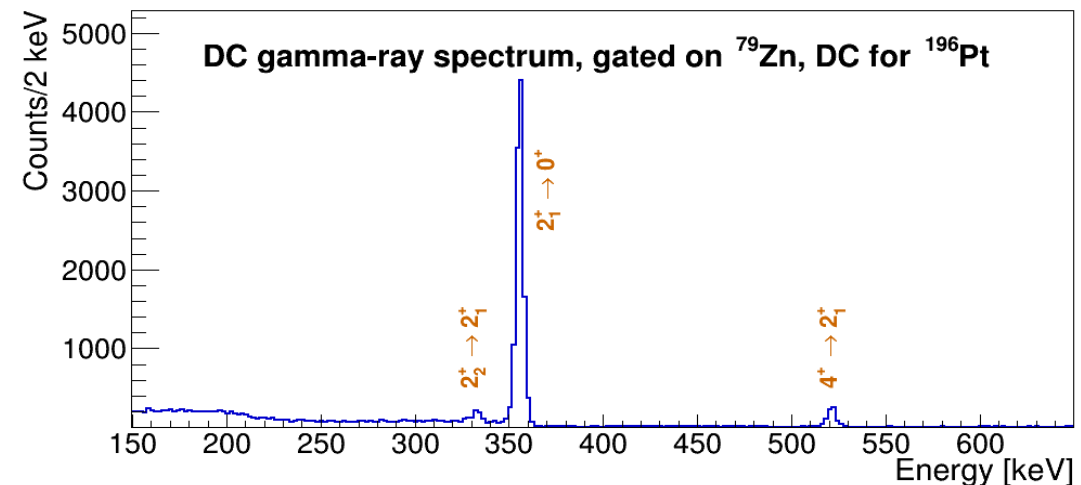


From the  $(5/2^+)$  lifetime estimation, the excitation of this state from g.s. is **negligible (~1%)**

It is possible to use a simpler treatment with **2 separate schemes** for **isomer** and **g.s.** excitations.

Normalization to  $^{196}\text{Pt}$  **2<sup>+</sup> excitation**

*Analysis is ongoing*



# Conclusions

## Up to now:

- Observed population of states built on the  $9/2^+$  **ground state** and the  $1/2^+$  **intruder isomeric state** in  $^{79}\text{Zn}$  via low-energy Coulomb excitation
- Lifetime extracted for  **$5/2^+$  intruder state**: very **hindered** transition
- **GOSIA analysis** ongoing

## Perspectives:

- Extraction of **EM matrix elements** with uncertainties
- Comparison with predicted values from **shell model calculations**



# Thank you to the collaboration!

F. Angelini <sup>1,2</sup>, A. Gottardo<sup>1</sup>, M. Zielińska <sup>3</sup>, I. Anastasov <sup>4</sup>, M. Balogh <sup>1</sup>, F. Browne <sup>5</sup>, D. Brugnara <sup>1</sup>, J. Cederkall <sup>6</sup>, G. Colombi <sup>7</sup>, F. Didierjean <sup>8</sup>, G. Duchene <sup>8</sup>, M. Droste <sup>9</sup>, Z. Eleme <sup>10</sup>, S. Franchoo <sup>11,12</sup>, L. Gaffney <sup>13</sup>, B. Gongora Servin <sup>1,14</sup>, A. Illana <sup>15</sup>, B. Johansson <sup>16</sup>, B. Jones <sup>13</sup>, M. Kaci <sup>11</sup>, D. Kalaydjieva <sup>7</sup>, H. Kleis <sup>9</sup>, M. Komorowska <sup>17</sup>, T. La Marca <sup>18</sup>, S. Lange <sup>7</sup>, M.M.R. Majid <sup>6</sup>, N. Marchini <sup>19</sup>, K. Mashtakov <sup>7</sup>, A. Nannini <sup>19</sup>, L. Nies <sup>20</sup>, B. Olaizola <sup>21</sup>, E. Pilotto <sup>2,22</sup>, C. Porzio <sup>20</sup>, M. Rocchini <sup>19</sup>, M. Satrazani <sup>23</sup>, K. Stoychev <sup>7</sup>, G. Tocabens <sup>3</sup>, P. Van Duppen <sup>23</sup>, N. Warr <sup>9</sup>, K. Wrzosek-Lipska<sup>17</sup>, L. Zago <sup>1</sup> + *the Miniball and ISOLDE collaborations*

- 1 INFN-LNL, Legnaro (PD), Italy
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- 4 University of Sofia, Sofia, Bulgaria
- 5 University of Manchester, Manchester, UK
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- 7 University of Guelph, Guelph, Canada
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- 9 University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany
- 10 University of Ioannina, Ioannina, Greece
- 11 IJCLab-Orsay, Orsay, France
- 12 University Paris-Saclay, Orsay, France

- 13 University of Liverpool, Liverpool, UK
- 14 University of Ferrara, Ferrara, Italy
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- 16 Chalmers University of Technology, Gothenburg, Sweden
- 17 HIL UW, Warsaw, Poland
- 18 University of Florence, Florence, Italy
- 19 INFN-Florence, Florence, Italy
- 20 CERN, Geneva, Switzerland
- 21 IEM-CSIC, Madrid, Spain
- 22 INFN-Padova, Padova, Italy
- 23 KU Leuven, Leuven, Belgium

# **BACKUP SLIDES**

# Coulomb excitation

Heavy ion **inelastic scattering** via **electromagnetic interaction**

Safe energy -> **Purely EM** interaction

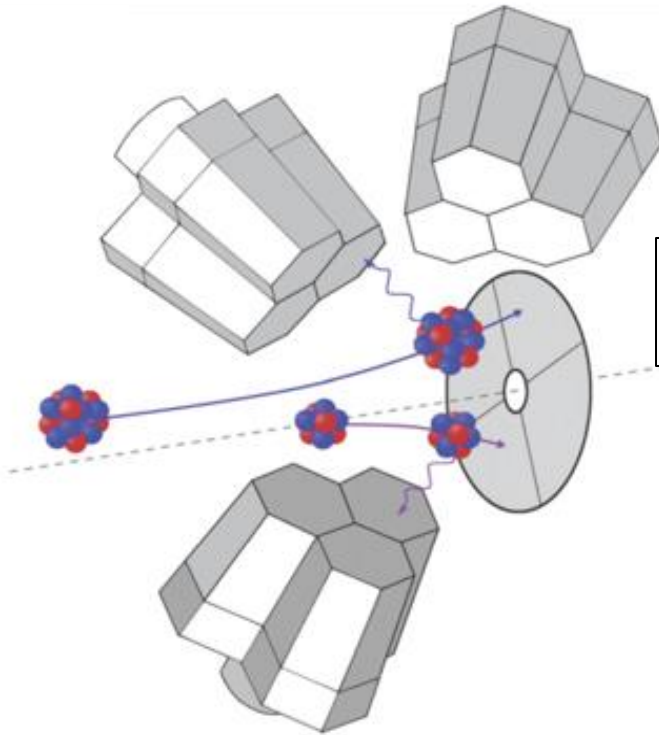
*Cline's "safe energy" criterion*

$$E_P(\theta_{CM}) < 0.72 \cdot \frac{Z_P Z_T}{1.25 (A_P^{1/3} + A_T^{1/3}) + 5} \cdot \frac{A_P + A_T}{A_T} \cdot \left( 1 + \frac{1}{\sin \frac{\theta_{CM}}{2}} \right) \quad [\text{MeV}]$$

*Time-dependent perturbation theory*

$$i\hbar \frac{da_k(t)}{dt} = \sum_n a_n(t) \langle \varphi_k | V(t) | \varphi_n \rangle \exp \frac{it}{\hbar} (E_k - E_n)$$

$$\frac{d\sigma_{dx}}{d\Omega} = \frac{d\sigma_R}{d\Omega} \cdot P_n \quad P_n = |a_n|^2$$



**EM potential  $V(t)$**  expanded in **multipoles**

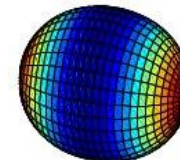
**Excitation  $\sigma$**  is proportional to EM multipole **matrix elements** (mainly E2)

Extraction of **transitional matrix elements** and **quadrupole moments**

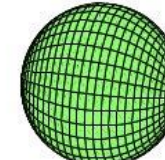
Setup: Heavy ion particle detector + gamma array

**Gamma decays** used to quantify the excitations of states

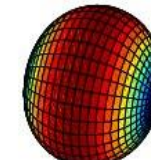
Prolate  $Q > 0$



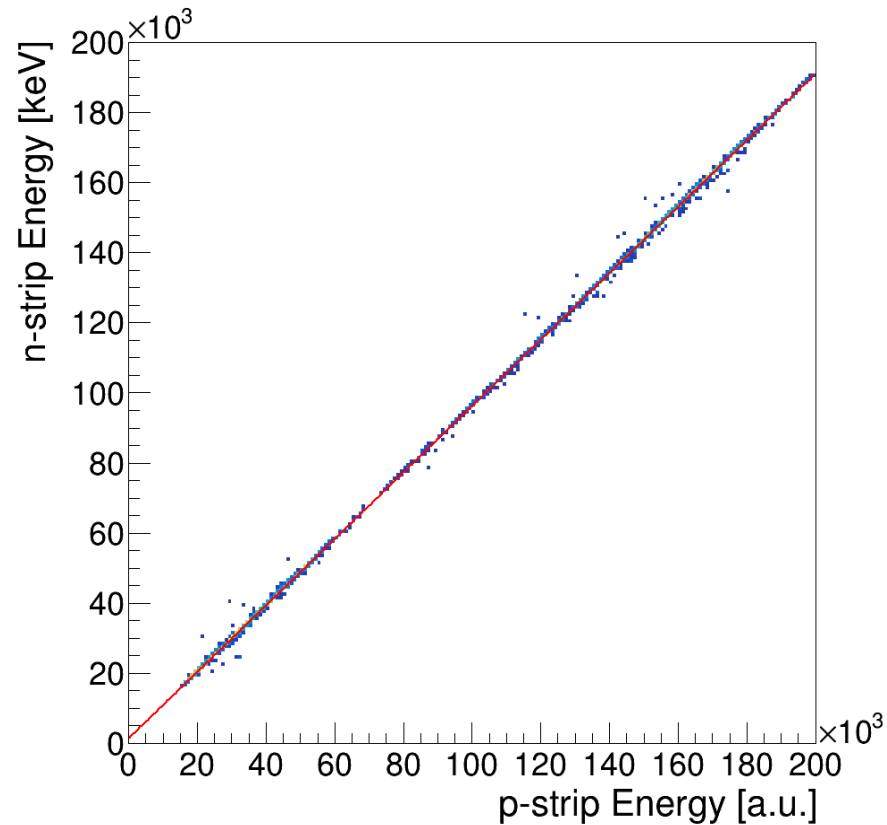
Spherical  $Q = 0$



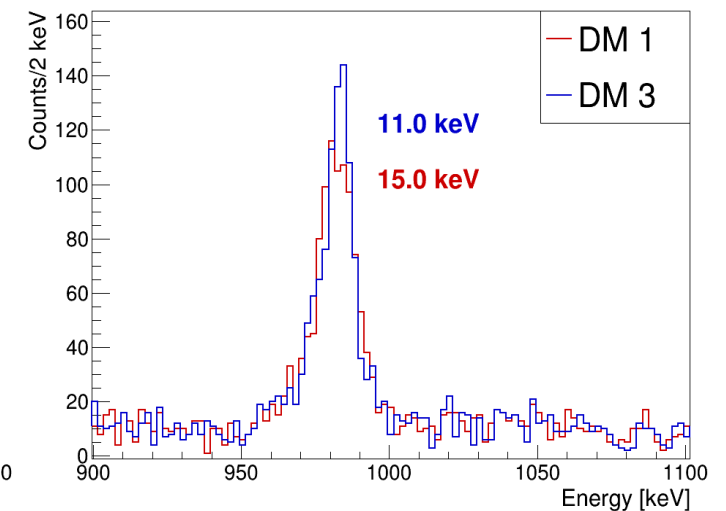
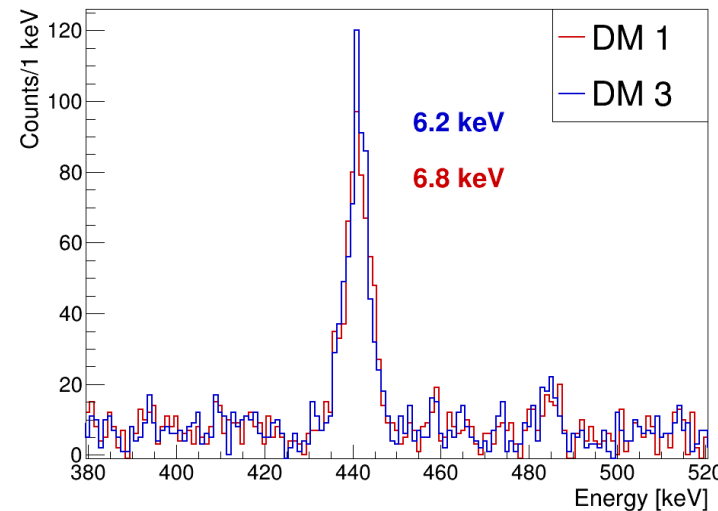
Oblate  $Q < 0$



# CD p-n side calibration



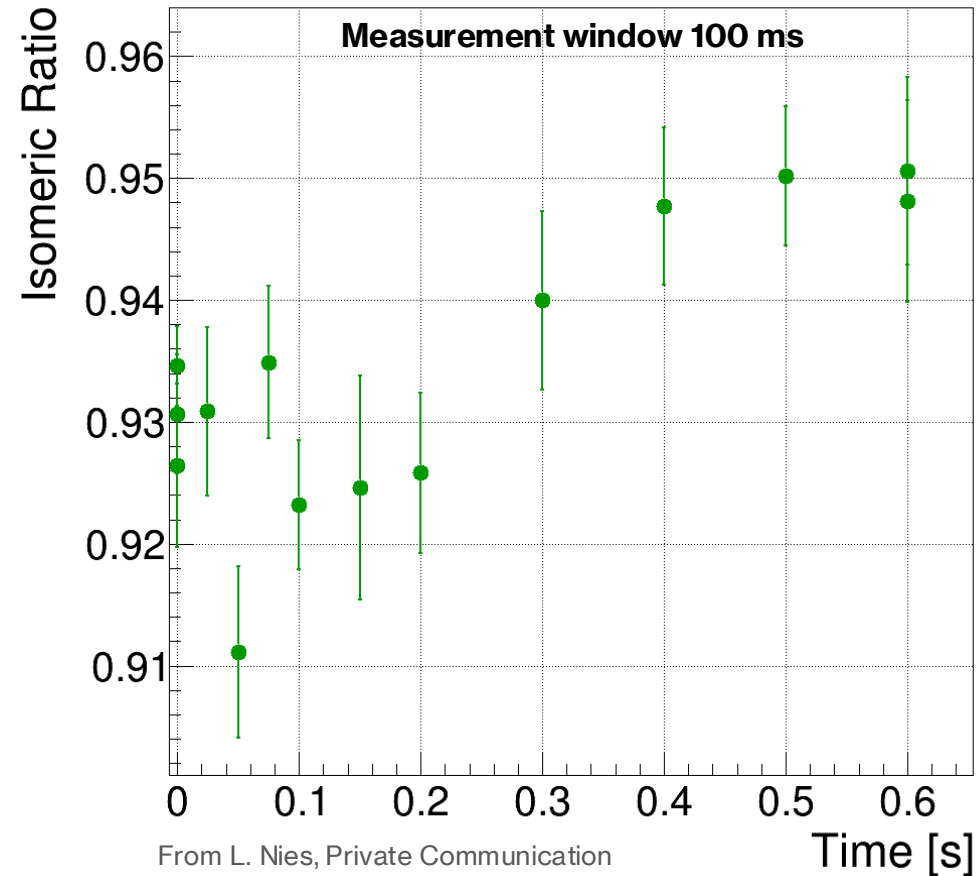
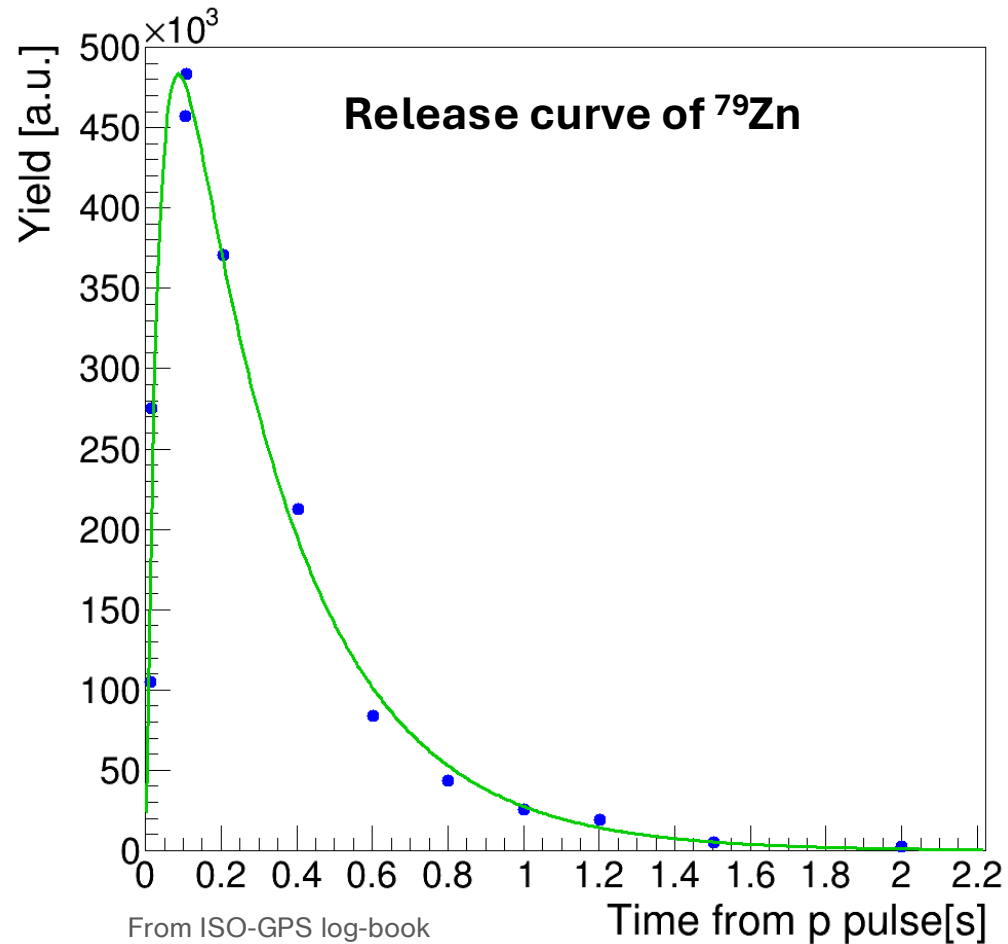
- A. Ring 13 (**P-side**) is calibrated with the simulation
- B. All the **N-side** strips are calibrated with coincident events with the ring 13
- C. All the remaining P-side rings are calibrated with coincident events with N-side strip 5



Doppler Mode 1: Average  $\beta$  from the CD angle

Doppler Mode 3: event-by-event  $\beta$  from CD energy

# Isomeric ratio estimation



$$f_i = \frac{\int_{t_i}^{t_i + 100 \text{ ms}} R(t) dt}{\int_0^{1.2 \text{ s}} R(t) dt}$$

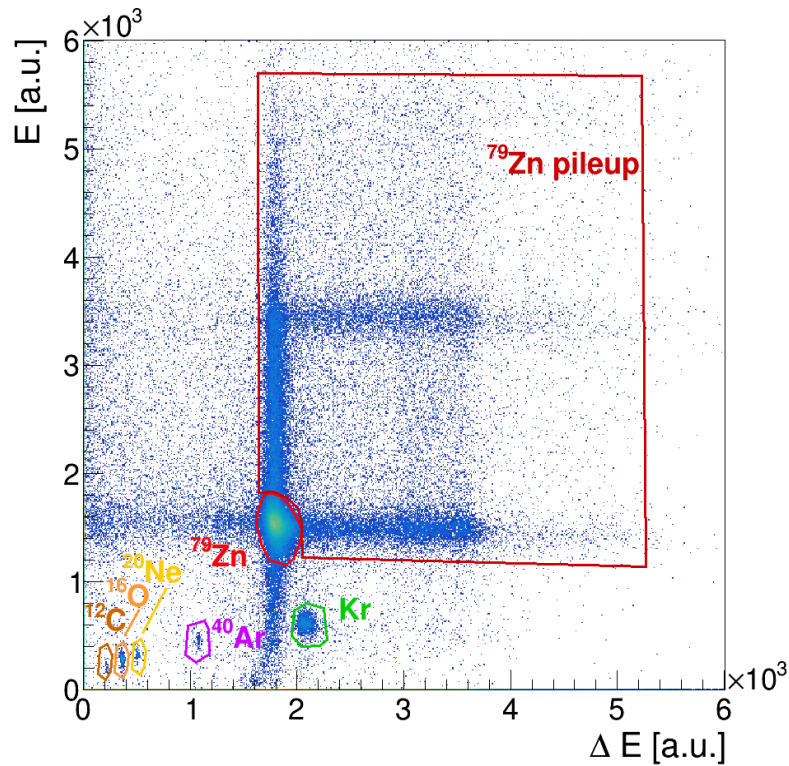
$$r = N(^{79}\text{Zn in g.s.}) / N(^{79}\text{Zn total})$$

$$\bar{r} = \frac{\sum_i \frac{r_i \cdot f_i}{\sigma_i^2}}{\sum_i \frac{f_i}{\sigma_i^2}} \quad \sigma_{\bar{r}} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{\sum_i \frac{f_i}{\sigma_i^2}}}$$

**Weighted average** on uncertainty  
and **integral of release curve**

$$\bar{r} = 0.9308 \pm 0.0039$$





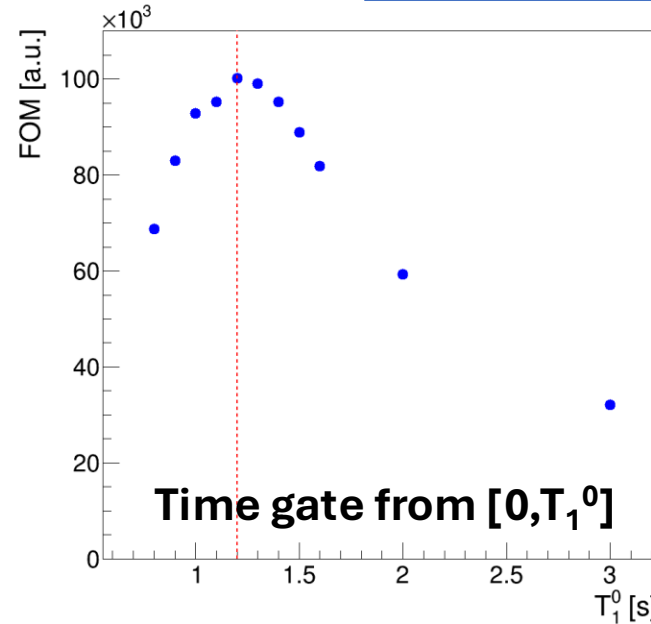
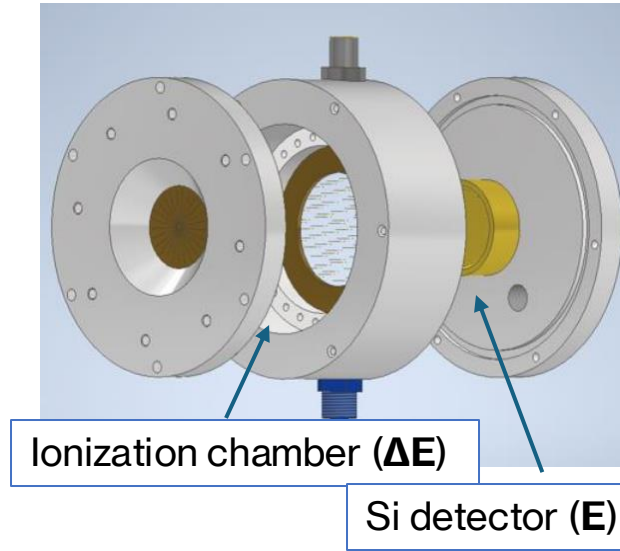
**Beam contaminants** can excite  $^{196}\text{Pt}$ :  
Their effect must be **evaluated**

**No time correlation** with proton pulse

$^{79}\text{Zn}$   $T_{1/2} \sim 0.7$  s

Time gate **must not cut Zn**

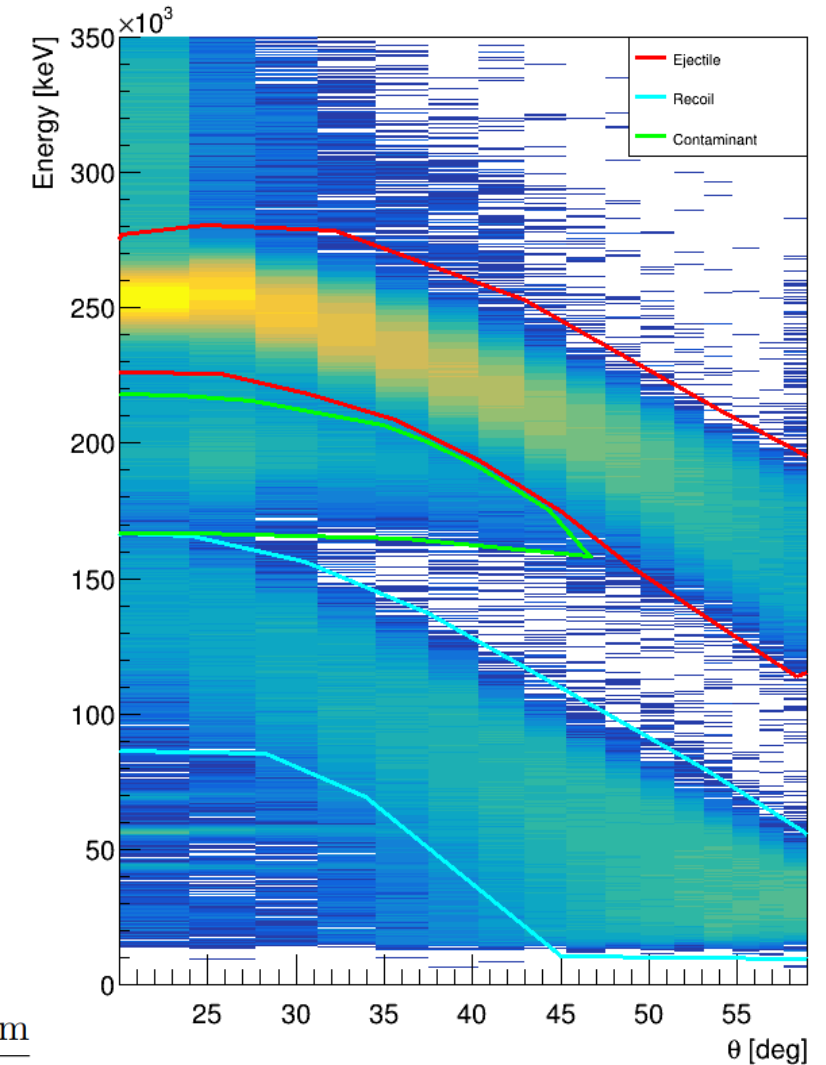
**Optimal  $T_1^0 = 1.2$  s**



$$FOM = \frac{\text{Integral [430, 450] keV from DC } \gamma \text{ spectrum}}{\text{Kr/Zn ratio from IC}}$$

# Beam contaminants

CD energy vs  $\theta$  for  $^{196}\text{Pt}$  target

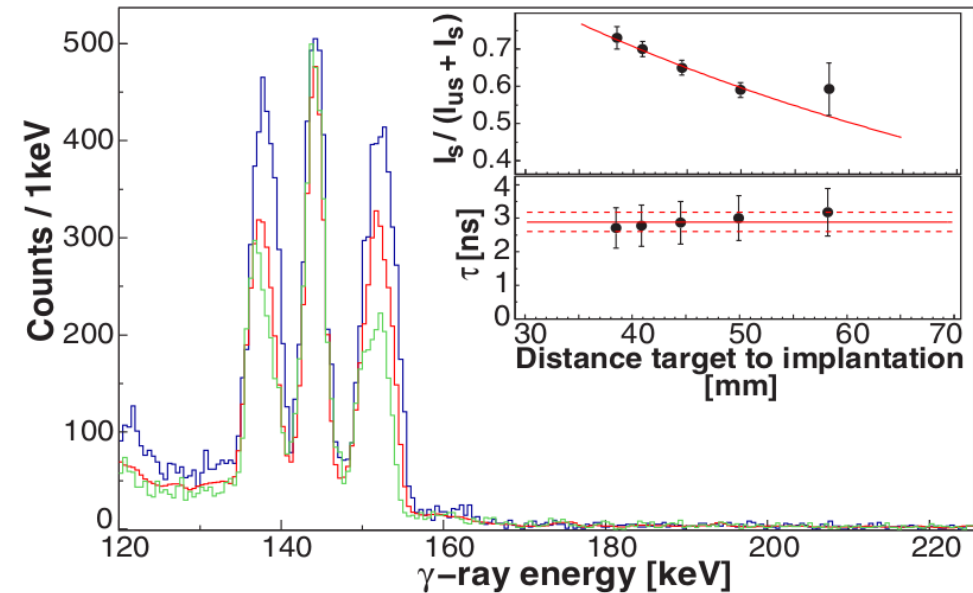
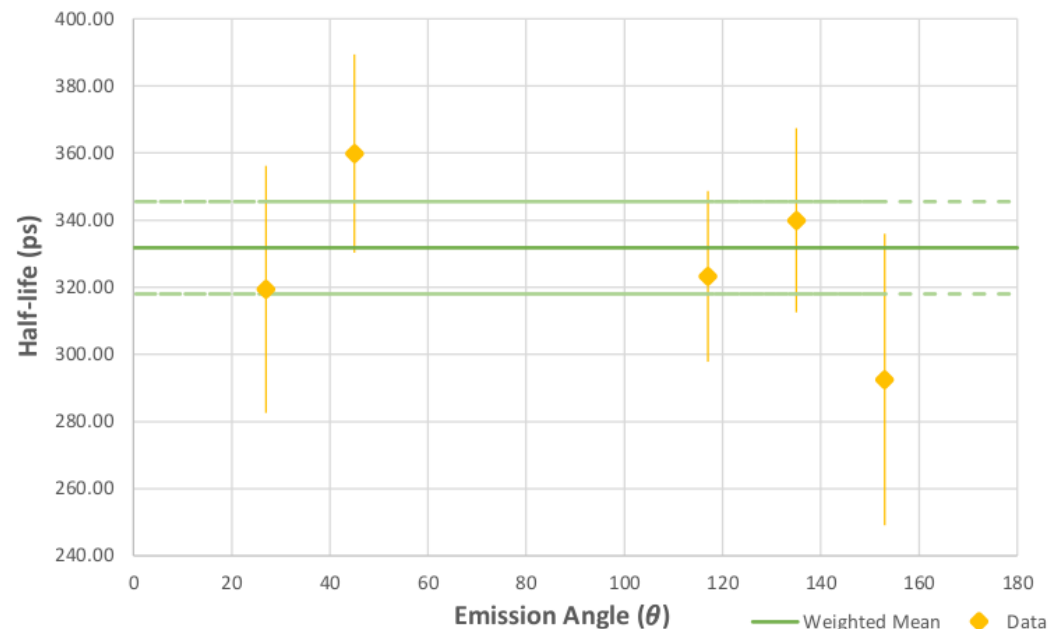


# State at 985 keV: lifetime

## How to extract lifetime ?

Dividing into theta ranges and extracting the ratio of stopped and in-flight component (plunger-like)

Method tried before in a coulex of  $^{98}\text{Sr}$ , but result was significantly lower than real value!



E. Clement et al., PRC 94, 054326 (2016)

$^{222}\text{Rn}$  Coulomb excitation at Miniball.  
Compatible with literature.

Previously measured value:  
 $T_{1/2}(2^+) = 320 \pm 20$  ps