

FRIB TA “Dialogues on Nuclear Physics”, 23rd June 2020

Reactions at FRIB with heavy nuclei

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Outline

- Overview of FRIB physics capabilities for reactions studies
- Selected topics: opportunities and some theoretical challenges
 - Coulomb dissociation of halo nuclei
 - Spectroscopy of unbound nuclei
 - Indirect methods for astrophysics
 - The problem of quenching of spectroscopic factors
 - Searches for n-p pairing

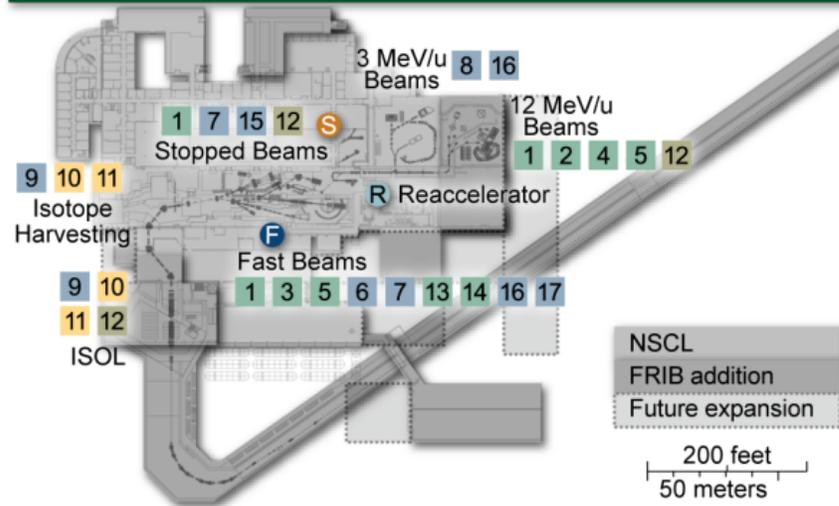
The Science of FRIB

Nuclear Structure	Nuclear Astrophysics	Tests of Fundamental Symmetries	Applications of Isotopes
Overarching Questions from NSAC 2007 LRP			
What is the nature of the nuclear force that binds protons and neutrons into stable nuclei and rare isotopes? What is the origin of simple patterns in complex nuclei?	What is the nature of neutron stars and dense nuclear matter? What is the origin of the elements in the cosmos? What are the nuclear reactions that drive stars and stellar explosions?	Why is there now more matter than antimatter in the universe?	What are new applications of isotopes to meet the needs of society?
Overarching questions are answered by rare isotope research			

- Fundamental overarching questions on:
- Nuclear structure beyond stability valley and beyond driplines
 - Nuclear Astrophysics

17 Benchmarks from NSAC RIB TF measure capability to perform rare-isotope research			
1. Shell structure 2. Superheavies 3. Skins 4. Pairing 5. Symmetries 13. Limits of stability 14. Weakly bound nuclei 15. Mass surface	6. Equation of State (EOS) 7. r-Process 8. $^{15}\text{O}(\alpha, \gamma)$ 9. ^{59}Fe supernovae 15. Mass surface 16. rp-Process 17. Weak interactions	12. Atomic electric dipole moment	10. Medical 11. Stewardship
MSU proposed technical scope is sufficient to meet all benchmarks			

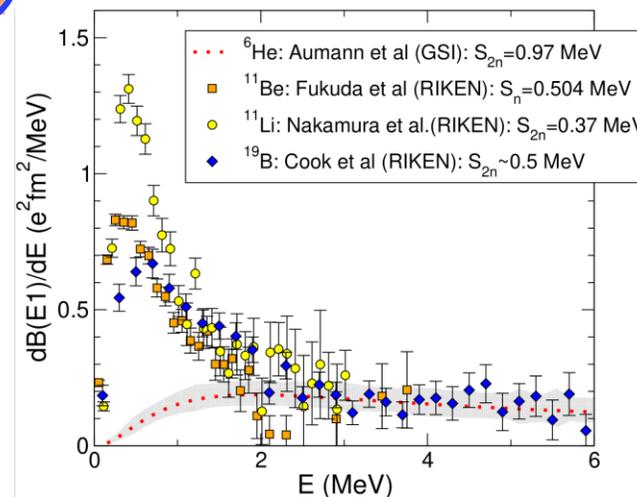
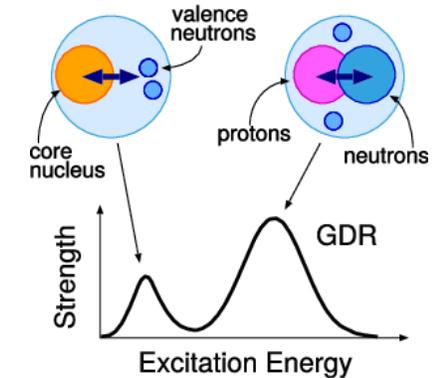
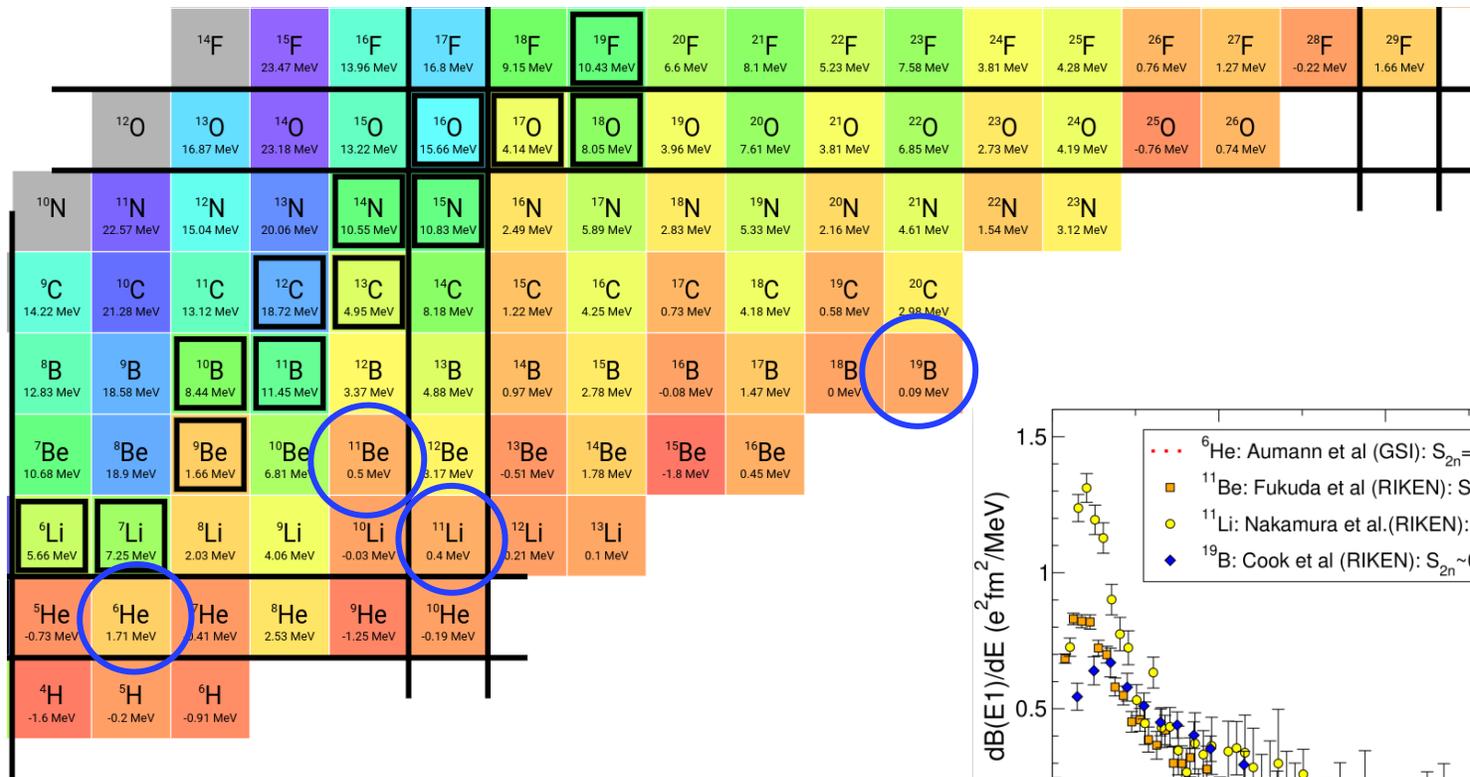
How can we use reactions with "heavy nuclei" to shed light on these problems?



(from "FRIB Scientific and Technical Merit" - Michigan State University)

Unveiling the halo structure by Coulomb dissociation

- Weak binding energy of neutron-halo nuclei enhances breakup probability near threshold in reactions with high-Z targets \Rightarrow mostly triggered by "stretching" caused by **Coulomb E1** forces.
- Analyses of Coulomb dissociation experiments can (in principle) provide $dB(E1)/dE$ strengths from measured breakup cross sections.

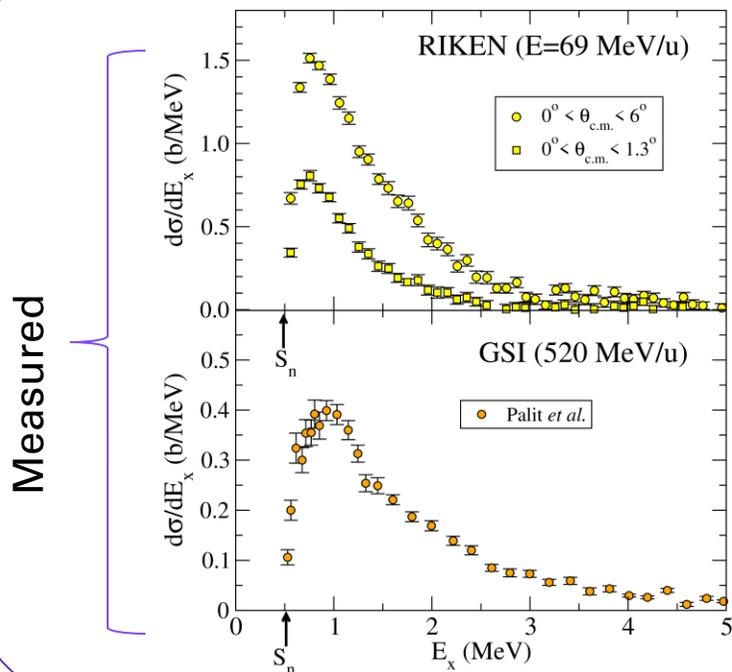


Most existing studies limited to light systems

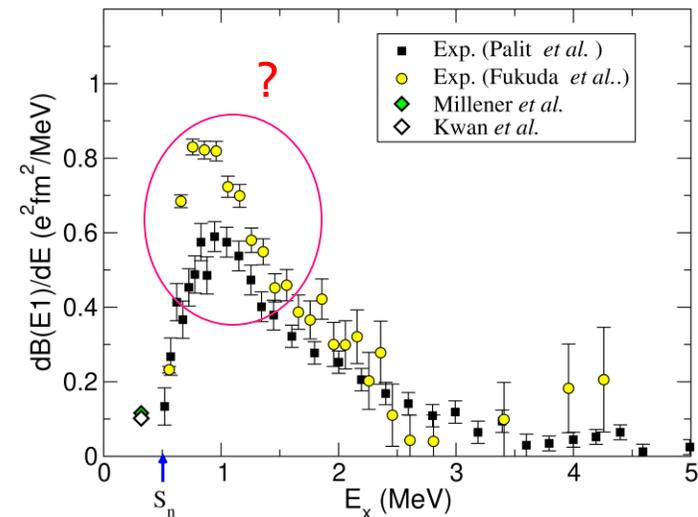
Analysis of Coulomb dissociation experiments

- **Goal:** extracting $dB(E1)/dE_x$ from exclusive breakup data with high-Z target
- **Standard analysis \Rightarrow EPM method**
 1. Only Coulomb excitation for $\theta < \theta_0$ ("safe" Coulomb)
 2. Coulomb part of $d^2\sigma/dE d\Omega$ proportional to $dB/dE \Rightarrow \frac{d^2\sigma}{d\Omega d\varepsilon} = \frac{dB(E1, \varepsilon)}{d\varepsilon} F_1(\theta, \xi), \quad (E_x = S_n + \varepsilon)$
 3. **Nuclear** contribution, if present, can be added incoherently.

Example: the $^{11}\text{Be} + ^{208}\text{Pb}$ case



EPM



Fukuda *et al.*, PRC70 (2004) 054606

Palit *et al.*, PRC68 (2003) 034318.

Novel method for analysis of Coulomb dissociation experiments [arXiv:2004.14612]

Reaction framework: CDCC or extended CDCC (XCDCC) [Summers *et al.*, PRC74, 014606 ('06), de Diego, PRC89, 064609 ('14)]

- Nuclear and Coulomb on equal footing and to all orders.
- Approximate relativistic kinematics.
- Much more demanding numerically than EPM.

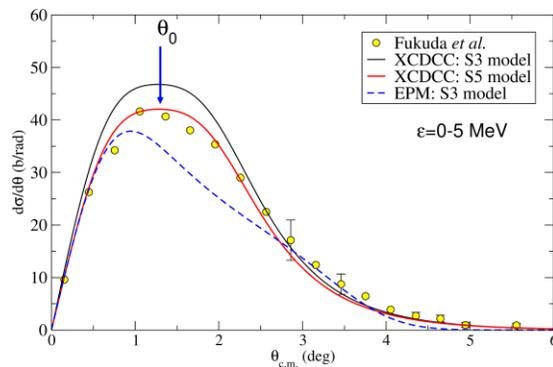
Structure model: particle-plus-core few-body model with possible core excitations.

Strategy:

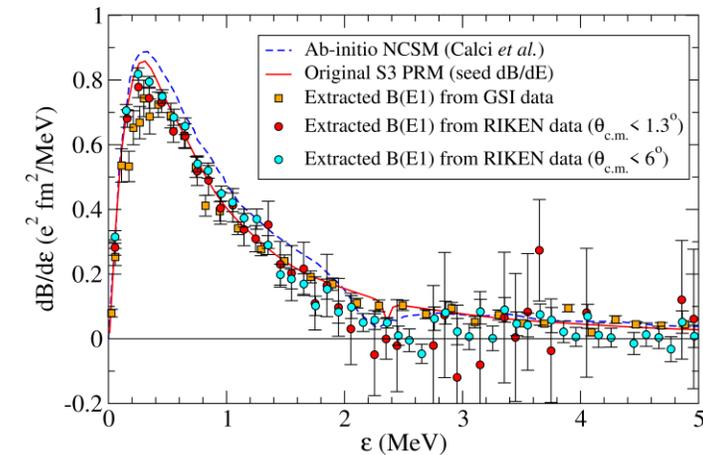
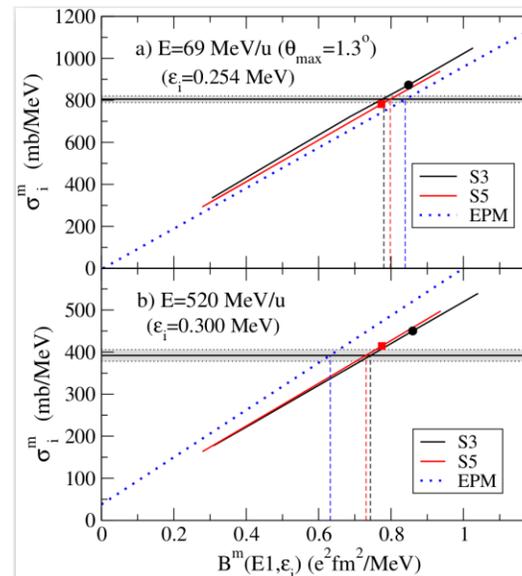
1. Using (X)CDCC, study dependence of calculated $d\sigma_{bu}/dE$ upon small variations of dB/dE of assumed structure model
2. Derive "correction" factors for each excitation energy to match measured $d\sigma_{exp}/dE$

Application to $^{11}\text{Be}+^{208}\text{Pb}$

1. Nuclear excitation not negligible, even for $\theta \ll$
2. Coulomb part of $d^2\sigma/dE d\Omega$ approx. linear with dB/dE , but NOT proportional.
3. Nuclear contribution interferes with Coulomb.



S3, S5 models from Summers, PLB650,124 (2007)0370



A.M.M., J.A. Lay, J.Gómez-Camacho, arXiv:2004.14612

Planning future Coulomb dissociation experiments

8.58 MeV	10.31 MeV	6.11 MeV	8.07 MeV	5.83 MeV	7.82 MeV	5.6 MeV	7.4 MeV	4.3 MeV	5.95 MeV	3.67 MeV	
³⁵ S 6.99 MeV	³⁶ S 9.89 MeV	³⁷ S 4.3 MeV	³⁸ S 8.04 MeV	³⁹ S 4.37 MeV	⁴⁰ S 7.75 MeV	⁴¹ S 4.24 MeV	⁴² S 6.7 MeV	⁴³ S 2.63 MeV	⁴⁴ S 5.08 MeV	⁴⁵ S 2.86 MeV	⁴⁷ S?
³⁴ P 6.28 MeV	³⁵ P 8.38 MeV	³⁶ P 3.46 MeV	³⁷ P 6.82 MeV	³⁸ P 3.7 MeV	³⁹ P 6.22 MeV	⁴⁰ P 3.41 MeV	⁴¹ P 4.94 MeV	⁴² P 2.08 MeV	⁴³ P 4.4 MeV		
³³ Si 4.51 MeV	³⁴ Si 7.51 MeV	³⁵ Si 2.51 MeV	³⁶ Si 6.12 MeV	³⁷ Si 2.21 MeV	³⁸ Si 5.67 MeV	³⁹ Si 1.58 MeV	⁴⁰ Si 4.96 MeV	⁴¹ Si 1.38 MeV			
³² Al 4.22 MeV	³³ Al 5.47 MeV	³⁴ Al 2.57 MeV	³⁵ Al 5.29 MeV	³⁶ Al 1.9 MeV	³⁷ Al 4.21 MeV	³⁸ Al 1.67 MeV					
³¹ Mg 2.31 MeV	³² Mg 5.78 MeV	³³ Mg 2.28 MeV	³⁴ Mg 4.71 MeV	³⁵ Mg 0.75 MeV	³⁶ Mg 3.33 MeV	³⁷ Mg 0.24 MeV					
³⁰ Na 2.28 MeV	³¹ Na 4.3 MeV	³² Na 1.68 MeV	³³ Na 2.93 MeV	³⁴ Na 0.17 MeV							
²⁹ Ne 0.97 MeV	³⁰ Ne 3.19 MeV	³¹ Ne 0.17 MeV									
²⁸ F -0.22 MeV	²⁹ F 1.66 MeV										

Opportunities at FRIB

- Heavier halo candidates: ³¹Ne, ³⁷Mg, ⁴⁷S
- Exclusive measurements with particle and γ coincidences
E.g.: $^{31}\text{Ne} \Rightarrow ^{30}\text{Ne}^* + n + \gamma$
- E=100-200 MeV/u optimal for minimizing multistep couplings while keeping relativistic effects under control.



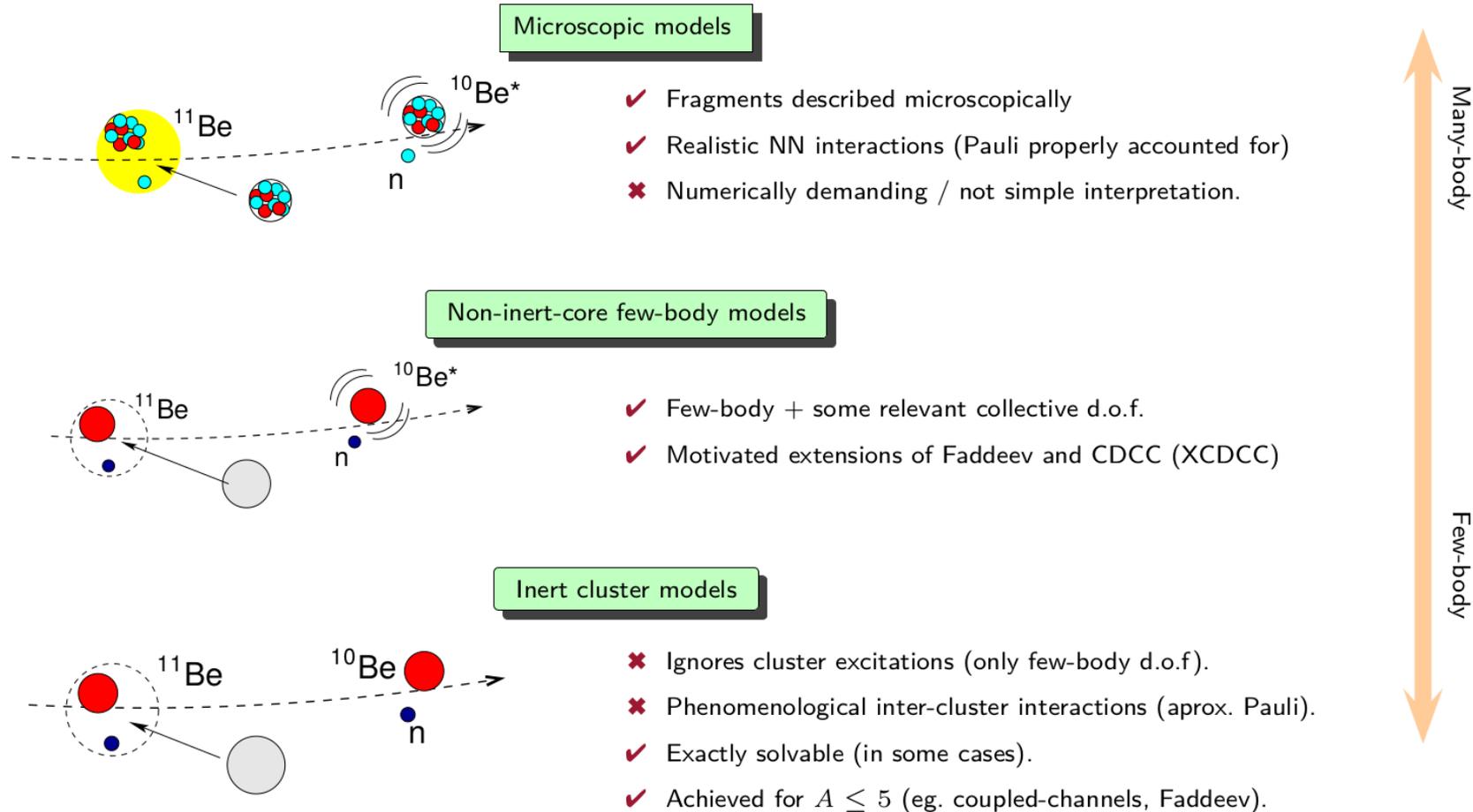
Challenges for theory

- (X)CDCC numerically demanding
- Modeling the structure of **deformed** halos?
- In experiments with γ coincidences, theory should provide population of **specific core states** and possible **core excitation/deexcitations**.
- **Relativistic** effects for E > 100 MeV/u
- More complicated excitation modes (**core+4n?**).

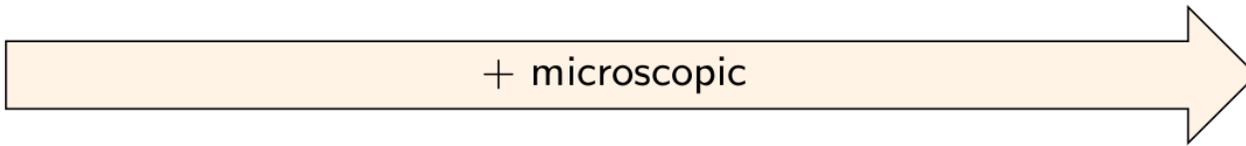
A promising framework is the *eikonal CDCC (E-CDCC)* but need suitable *structure models* (not always available!)
[Ogata and Bertulani, PTP 121, 1399 (2009)]

Core excitations reaction dynamics

Deviations from the inert-cluster model are expected to show up when cluster d.o.f. are strongly excited during the reaction.



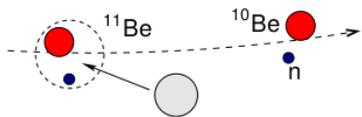
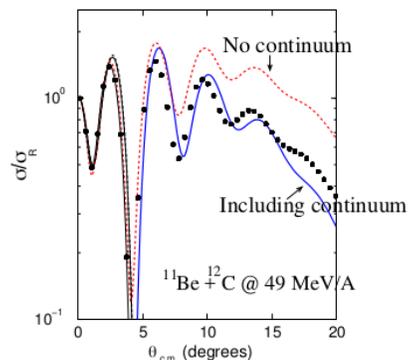
Core excitations in elastic scattering



CDCC with inert core

R.Johnson *et al*,

PRL79,2771(1997).

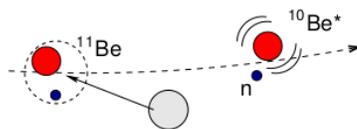
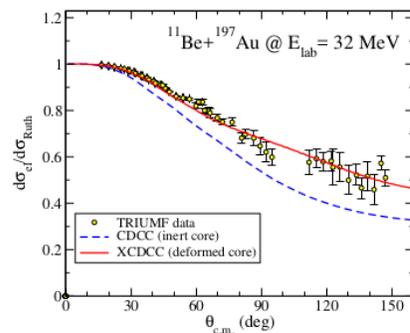


- ✓ Includes halo degree of freedom
- ✗ Clusters dynamics only through effective potentials

CDCC with deformed core

V.Pesudo *et al*,

PRL118,152502(2017)

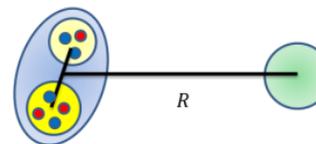
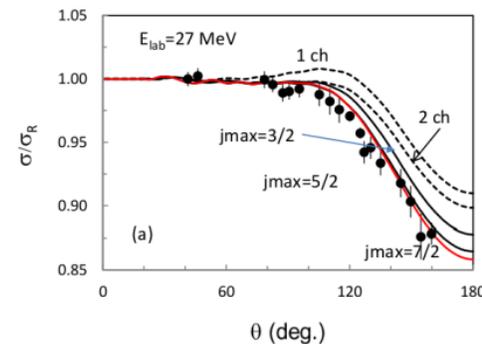


- ✓ Simple structure input (PVM, PRM, etc)
- ✗ Only collective excitations
- ✗ So far, only 2-body projectiles, could be needed for 3-body projectiles (eg. ^{11}Li , ^{14}Be)

Microscopic CDCC

P.Descouvemont,

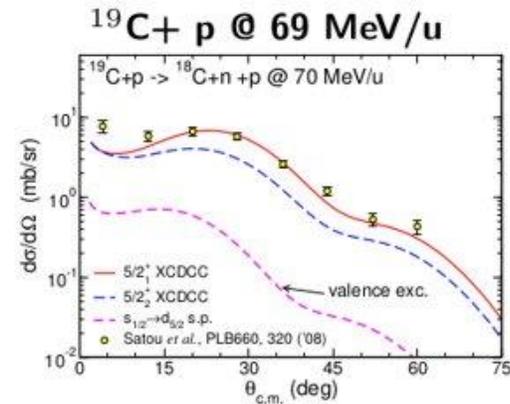
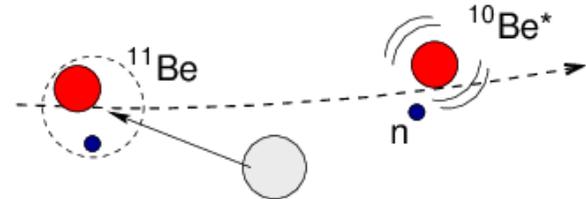
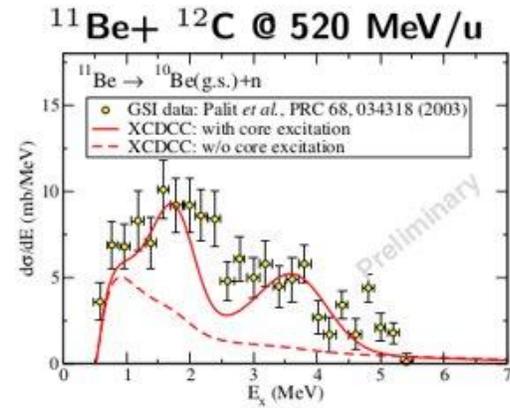
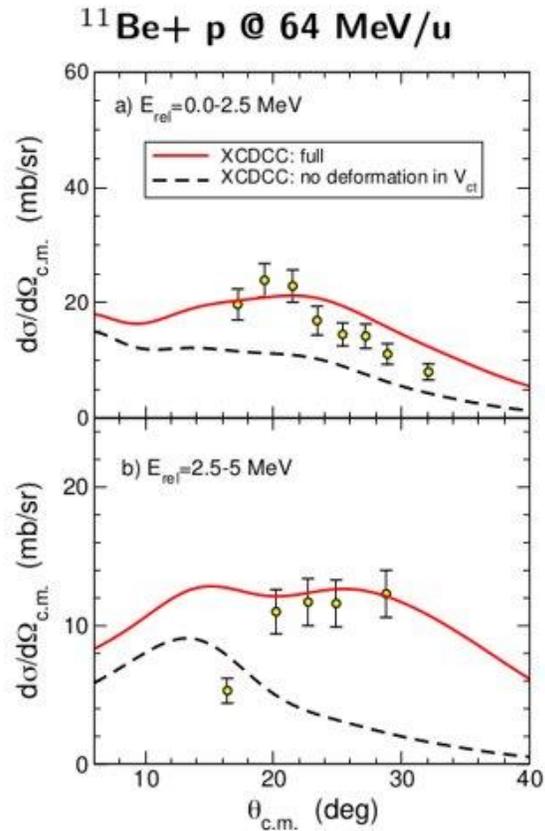
PRL111,082701(2013)



- ✓ Microscopic description of clusters.
- ✓ Core excitations "automatic"
- ✓ Collective + non-collective excitations

Core excitations in breakup

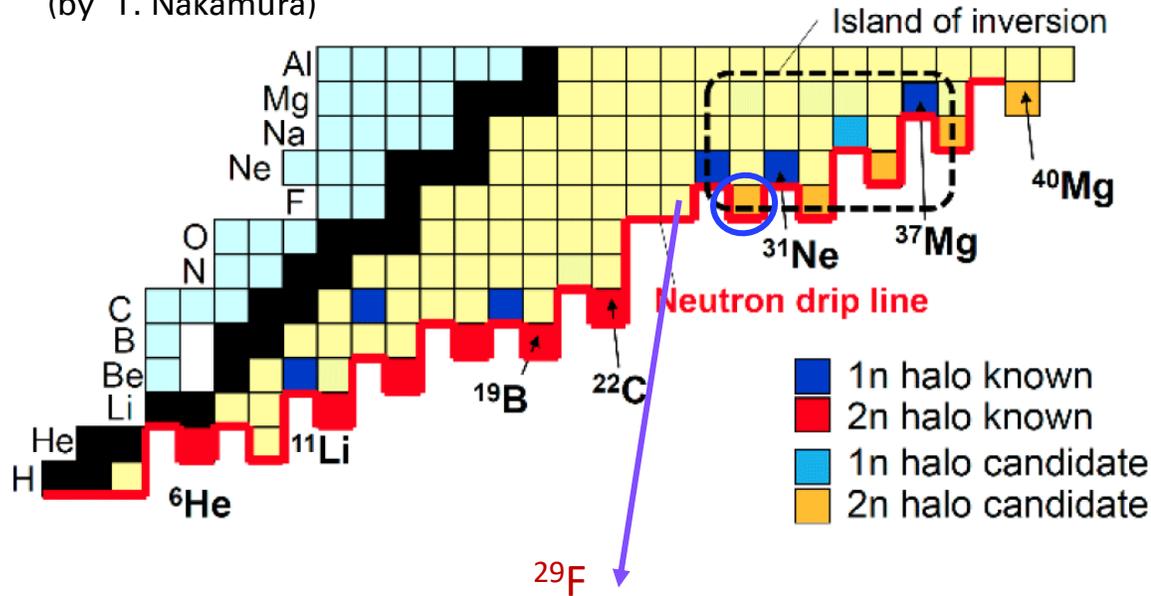
Core excitations may enhance dramatically the breakup cross sections in reactions of deformed halo nuclei with light targets



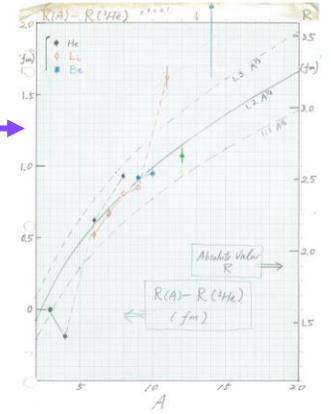
What are the limits of formation of 2n-haloes

(by I. Tanihata)

(by T. Nakamura)



- ${}^6\text{He}$, ${}^{11}\text{Li}$: Tanihata (1980s). σ_{int}
- ${}^{22}\text{C}$: Togano, PLB761,412(2016). σ_{reac}
- ${}^{19}\text{B}$: Cook, PRL 124, 212503 (2020). Coulex
- ${}^{29}\text{F}$: Baghi, PRL124, 222504 (2020). σ_{reac}
(heaviest confirmed 2n-halo)



Key open questions

- Where are the **limits of the driplines** in the island of inversion?
- What are the mechanisms leading to 2n-haloes?
(pairing, intruder states, core excitations, ...)

Opportunities at FRIB

- Reaction cross sections measurements of halo candidates
- Coulomb dissociation experiments
- One, two-particle transfer?

← lowering of intruder $2p_{3/2}$ level enhances halo formation
[Singh et al, Phys. Rev. C 101 (2020) 024310]

Baghi, PRL124, 222504 (2020)

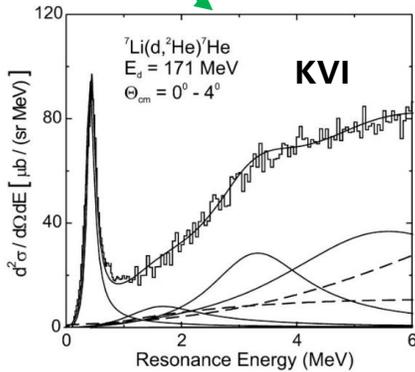
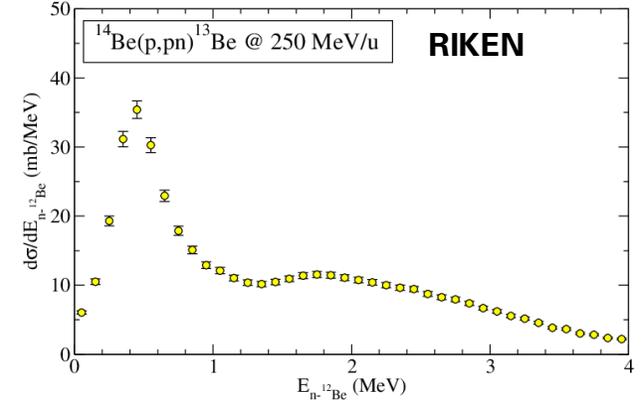
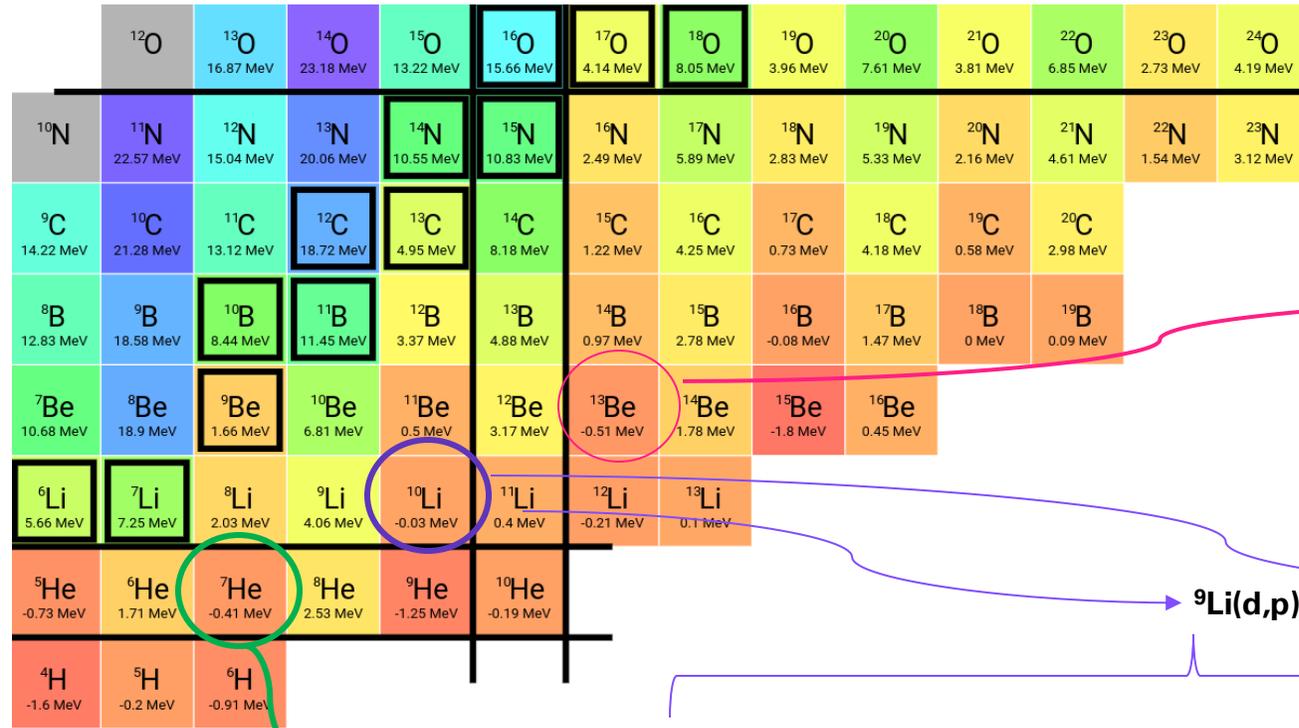
Standard ordering

Inversion occurs!

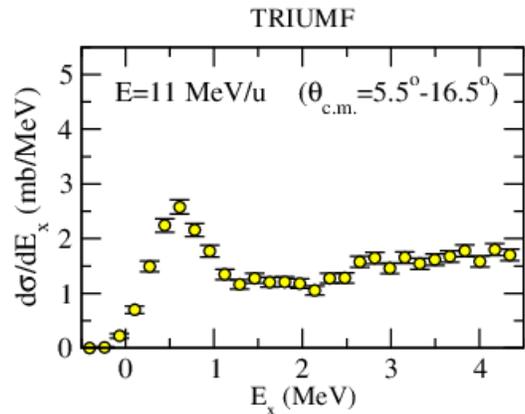
The shell gap, ΔE , associated with the filling of 20 neutrons, disappears and one level (or more) of the $N=3$ pf -shell gets lower than one (or more) of the levels of the $N=2$ sd -shell.

(Figure by L. Fortunato)

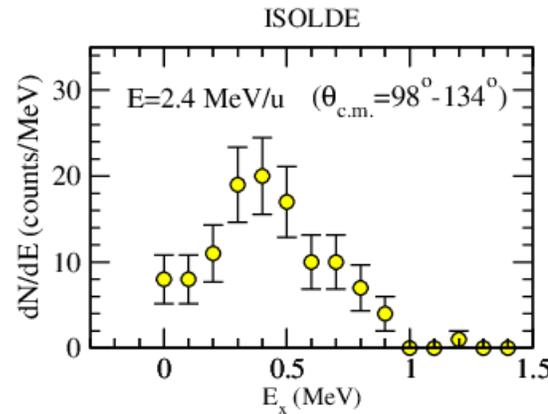
Spectroscopy of unbound systems



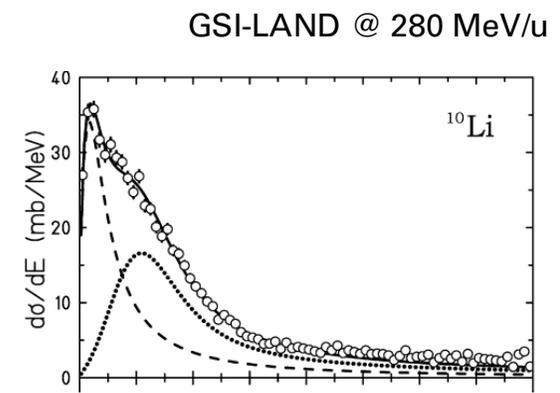
Beck, PLB 645(2007)128



Cavallaro, PRL 118 (2017) 012701



Jeppesen, PLB 642 (2006) 449



Aksytina, PLB 666,430('08)

Spectroscopy of unbound systems: from cross sections to structure



Using a single probe can lead to misleading or even contradictory information

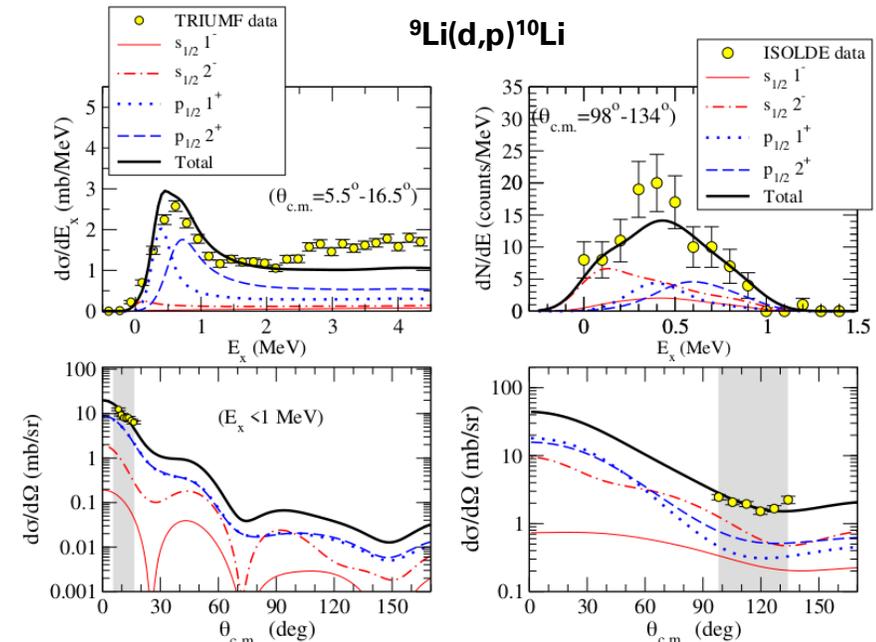


Example: The ${}^9\text{Li}(d,p){}^{10}\text{Li}$ transfer reaction:

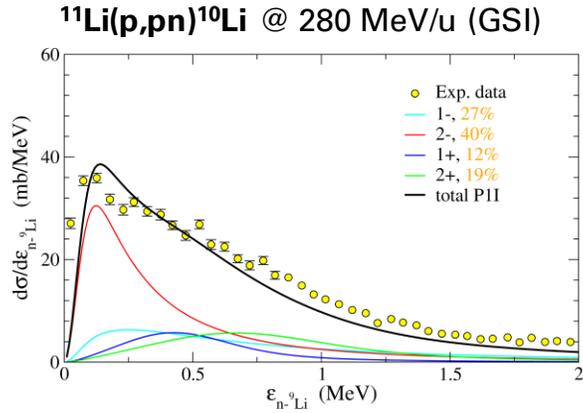
- ISOLDE ($E=2.4\text{ MeV/u}$)
 \Rightarrow large s-wave near-threshold strength (virtual state)
- TRIUMF ($E\sim 11\text{ MeV/u}$)
 \Rightarrow cross section dominated by p-wave resonance
 \Rightarrow no apparent evidence of near-threshold virtual state



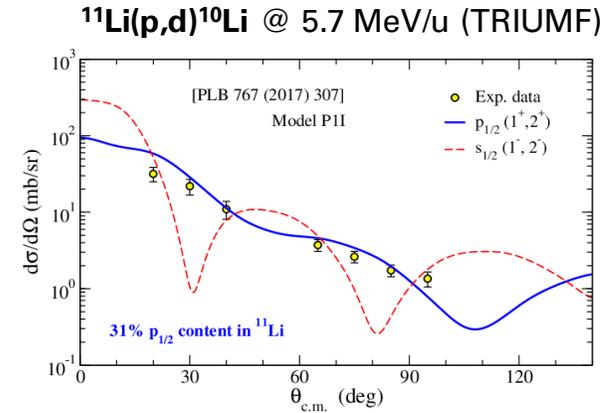
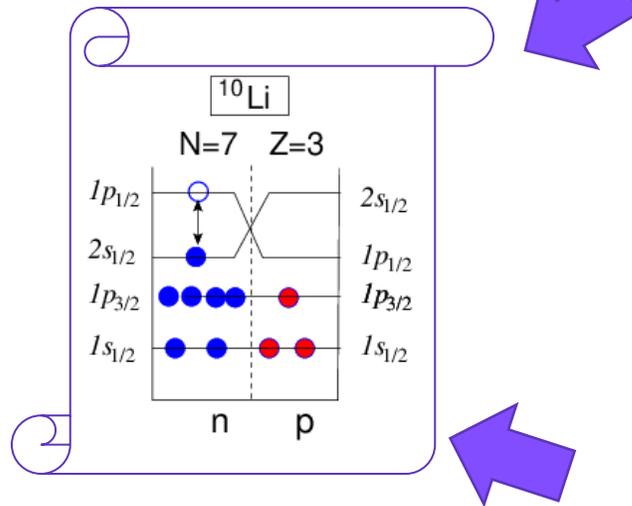
- The two sets of cross sections can be reproduced with the same reaction theory (transfer to continuum) and structure model (with both s-wave v.s. and p-wave resonances)
- These **structure** properties manifest themselves very differently in the **reaction observables** depending on the experimental probe and conditions (incident energy, angular range).



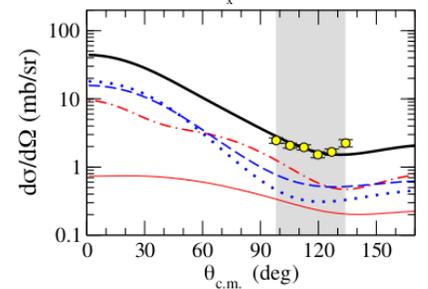
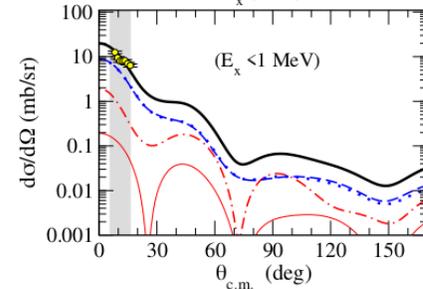
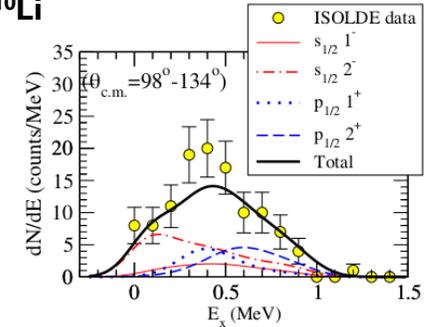
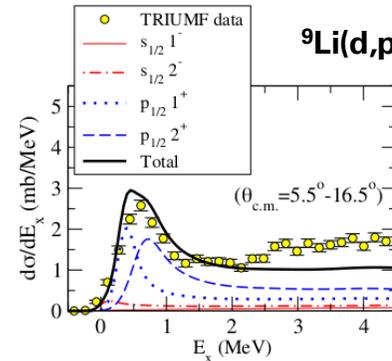
Complementing different mechanisms: the ^{10}Li case



Gomez-Ramos et al, PLB772, 115 (2017)

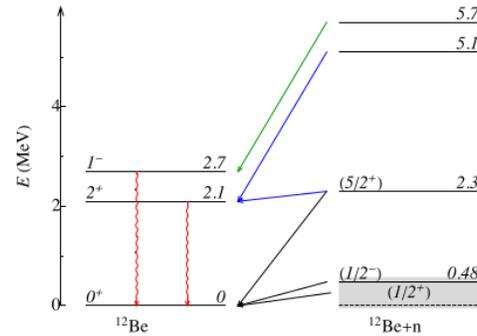
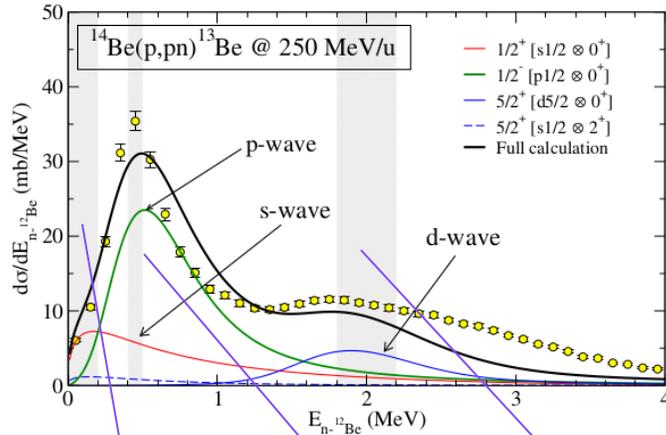


Casal et al, PLB767, 307 (2017)

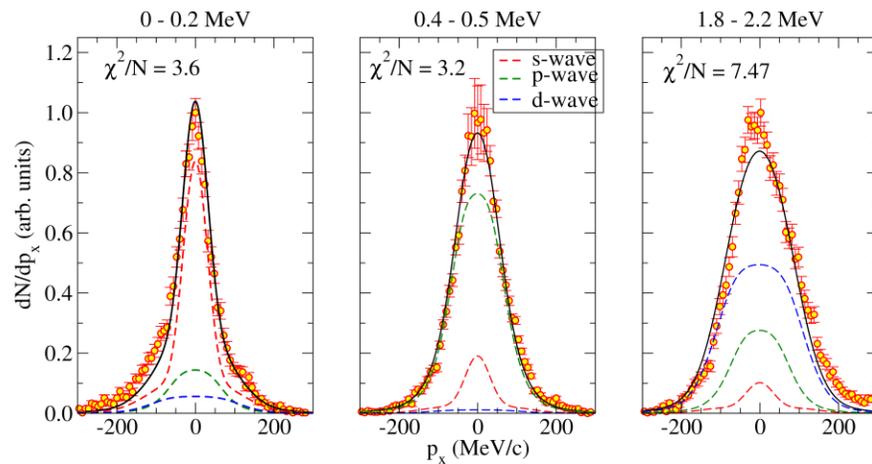


FRIB can provide unique possibilities combining information from low-energy reactions (eg. transfer) with fast beams (eg. (p,pn))

Challenges for future spectroscopic studies in the continuum

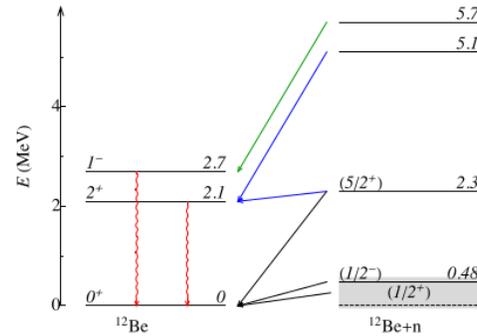
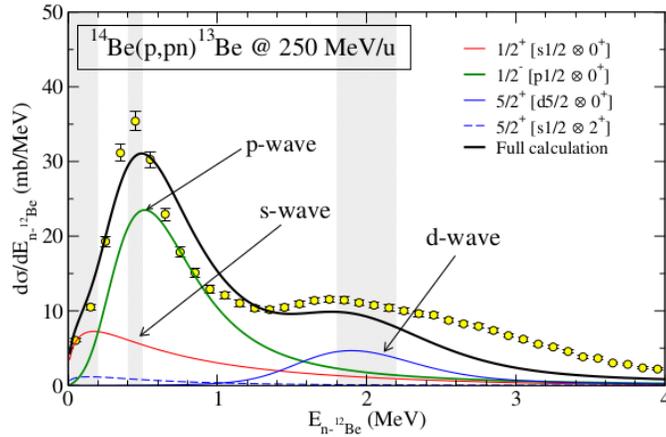


Corsi et al, PLB797(2019) (SAMURAI)



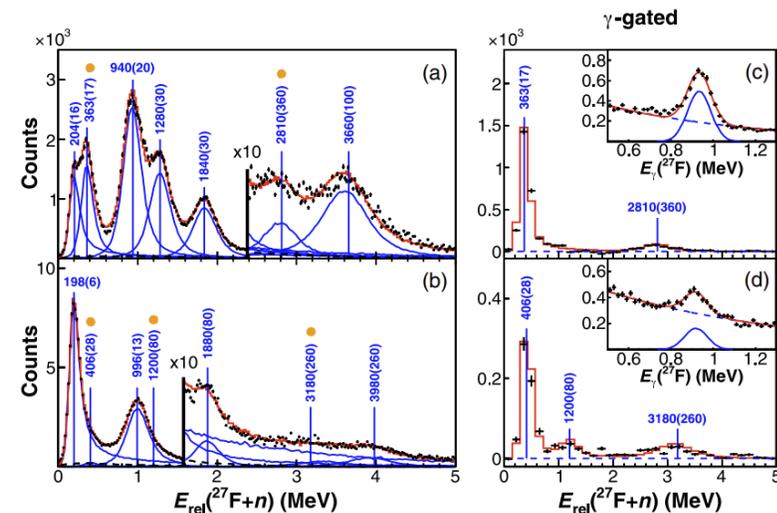
- Open-shell cores produce complex $n+\text{core}$ spectra (eg. $^{13}\text{Be} = ^{12}\text{Be} + n$)
- Experimentally, the interpretation can be assisted by:
 - γ -ray coincidences.
 - momentum distributions.
- **Theoretically**, usual "Breit-Wigner" fitting may become impractical and should be better replaced by a proper modeling of the **reaction dynamics** and **structure overlaps**.
- **Eg.:** $^{14}\text{Be}(p,pn)^{13}\text{Be}$ analysed with TC method and 3-body model of ^{14}Be with $^{12}\text{Be}(0^+, 2^+)$ core excitations

Challenges for future spectroscopic studies in the continuum



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- **Eg.:** $^{14}\text{Be}(p,pn)^{13}\text{Be}$ analysed with TC method and 3-body model of ^{14}Be with $^{12}\text{Be}(0^+, 2^+)$ core excitations

- More complicated spectra observed around the islands of inversion
- Not simple "collective" excitations expected
- May need core+4n models:
 - $^8\text{He} = ^4\text{He} + 4n$ instead of $^6\text{He} + 2n$?
 - $^{19}\text{B} = ^{15}\text{B} + 4n$ instead of $^{17}\text{B} + 2n$?



(a) $^{29}\text{Ne}(-1p)$
(b) $^{29}\text{F}(-1n)$

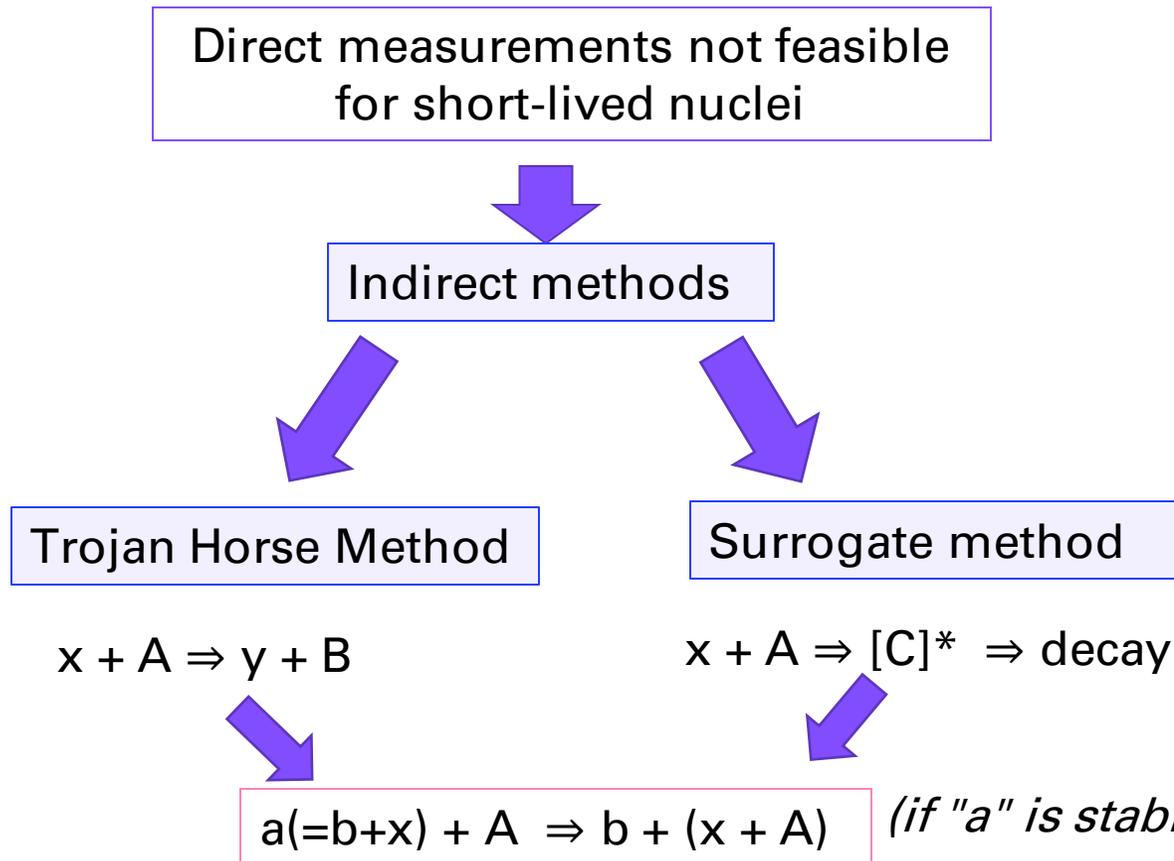
Eg.: ^{28}F populated via $^{29}\text{Ne}(-1p)$, $^{29}\text{F}(-1n)$

Revel, PRL124, 152502 (2020)

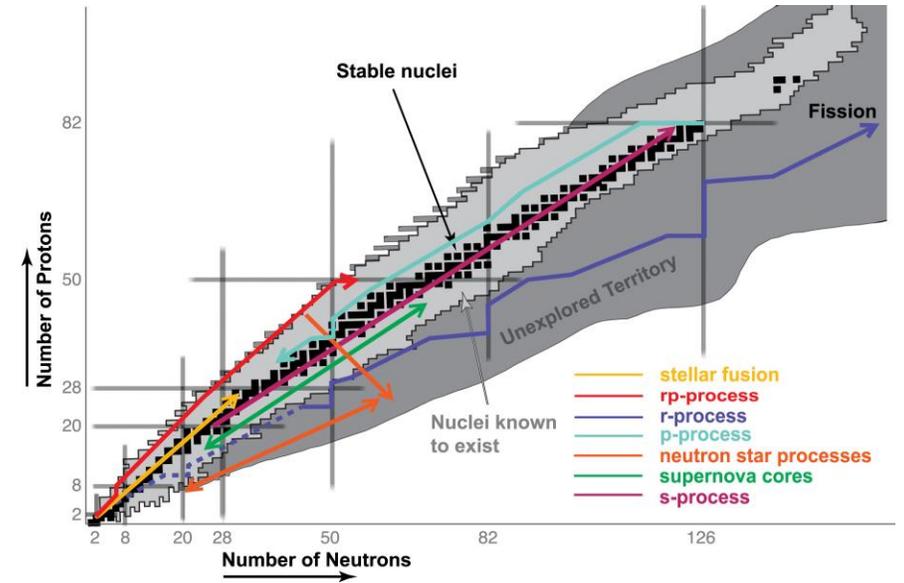
Indirect methods for neutron-induced reactions

Neutron-induced cross sections on unstable nuclei needed for:

- Nuclear astrophysics (e.g. s-and r-processes)
- Nuclear reactors for transmutation of nuclear waste
- New generation of reactors based on Th/U cycle



Arcones et al, PNP 94, (2017)

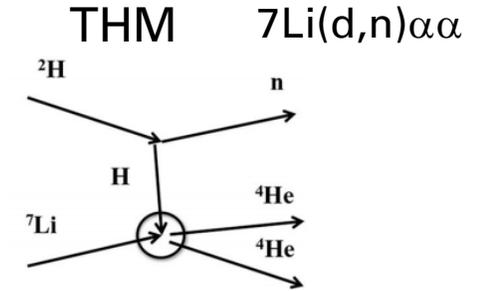
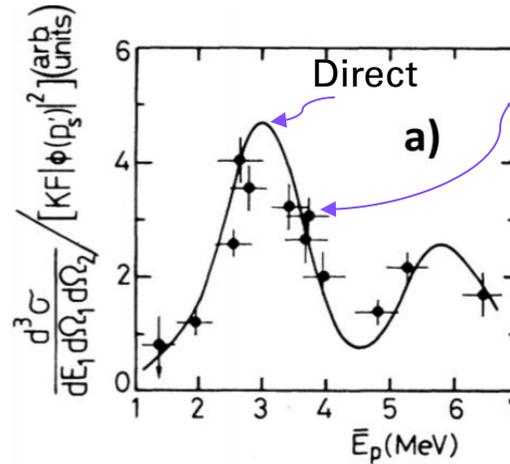


J.E. Escher, LLNL - FRIB Day 1 – 5/8/2020

THM: successes and limitations

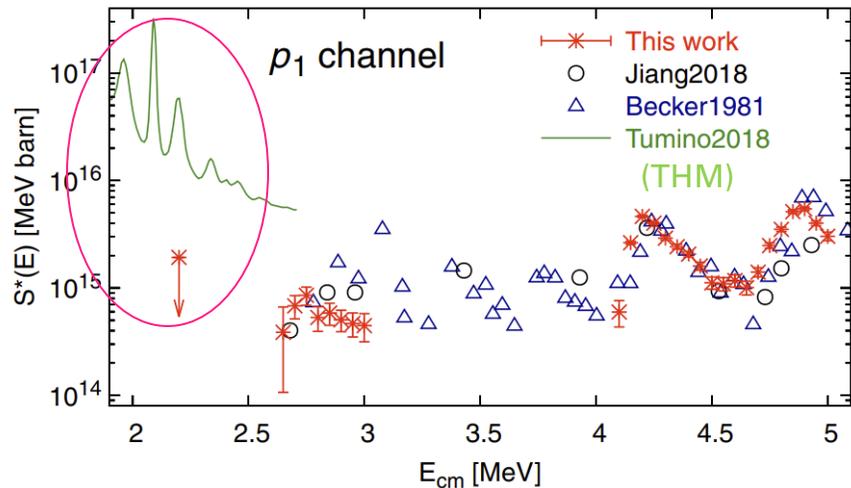
A successful application: ${}^7\text{Li}(p,\alpha)\alpha$

$$\underbrace{\frac{d^3\sigma}{dE_y d\Omega_y d\Omega_B}}_{\text{measured}} \propto KF |\Phi(p_{bx})|^2 \underbrace{\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)}_{\text{extracted}} \Big|_{A-x}$$



Possible limitations of the THM:

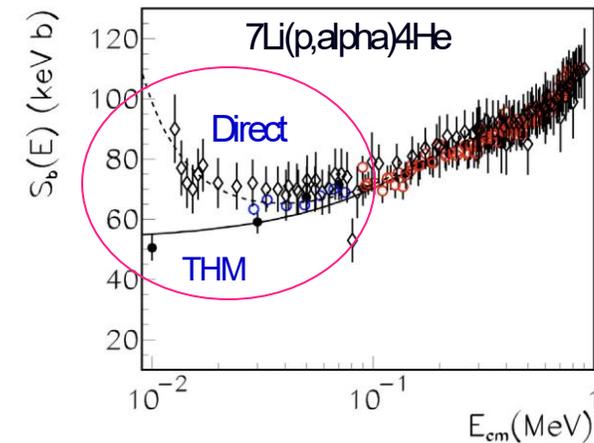
Possible failure of PWIA approximation?



${}^{12}\text{C}+{}^{12}\text{C}$

Tan et al,
PRL124, 192702 (2020)

The electron screening puzzle



Lamia, A&A 541, A158 (2012)

Surrogate method: the $A(d,p\chi)$ case

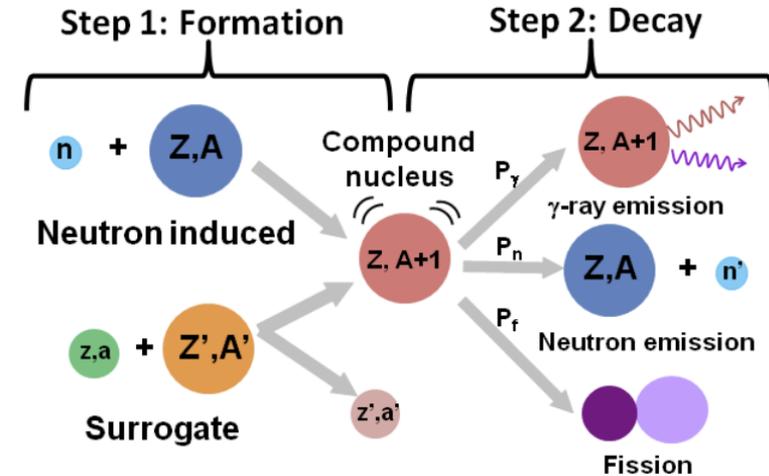
Goal:

- Determine the $A(n,\chi)$ cross section from $A(d,p\chi)$ cross section

(aimed)
$$\sigma_{(n,\chi)} = \sum_{J,\pi} \sigma_{n+A}^{\text{CN}}(E, J, \pi) G_{\chi}^{\text{CN}}(E, J, \pi)$$

(measured)
$$P_{(d,p\chi)}(E) = \sum_{J,\pi} F_{(d,p)}^{\text{CN}}(E, J, \pi) G_{\chi}^{\text{CN}}(E, J, \pi)$$

(figure by B. Jurado)



Theory requirements:

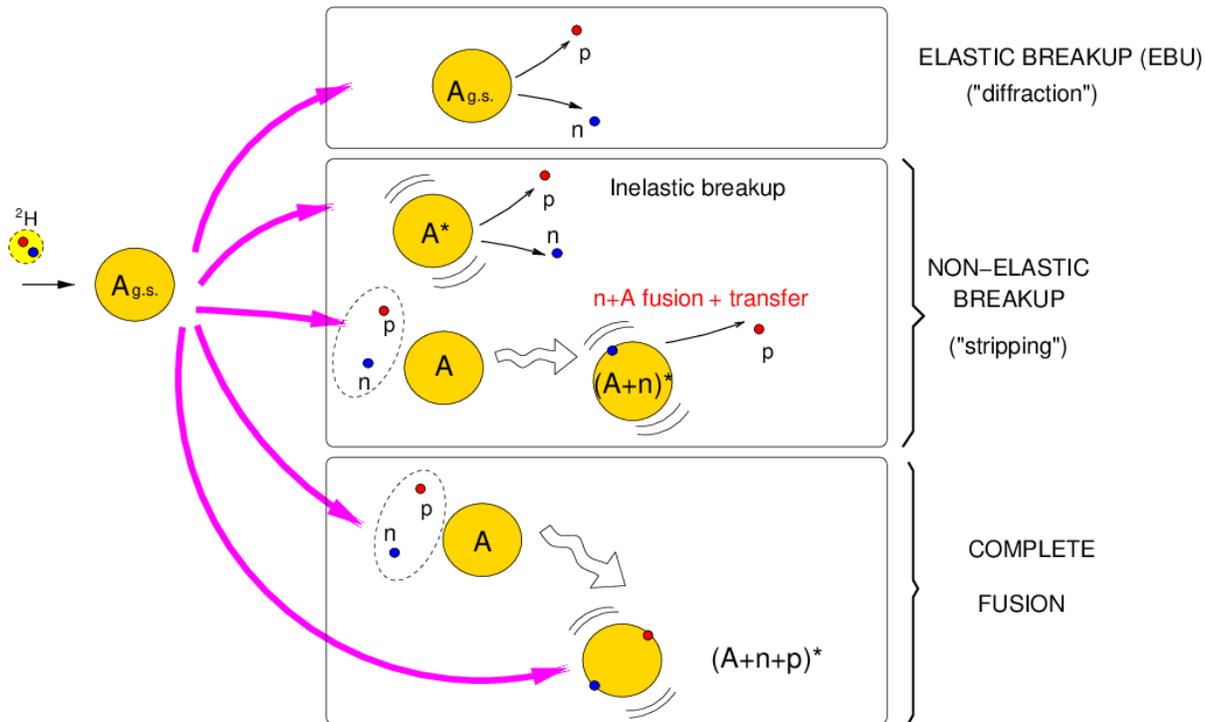
- A reaction model for the formation process: $d+A \Rightarrow p+B^*$, encoded in the function $F_{(d,p)}^{\text{CN}}(E, J, \pi)$
 - Angular/energy distribution of "p" fragments
 - Spin distribution of $(n+A)=B^*$ compound
 - Understanding of competing channels not leading to CN (e.g. deuteron breakup)
- A realistic OMP for relevant range of $n+A$ energies

Ichimura-Austern-Vincent (IAV) model [PRC32, 431 ('85)]
(recently implemented by Lei et al, Potel et al, Carlson et al)

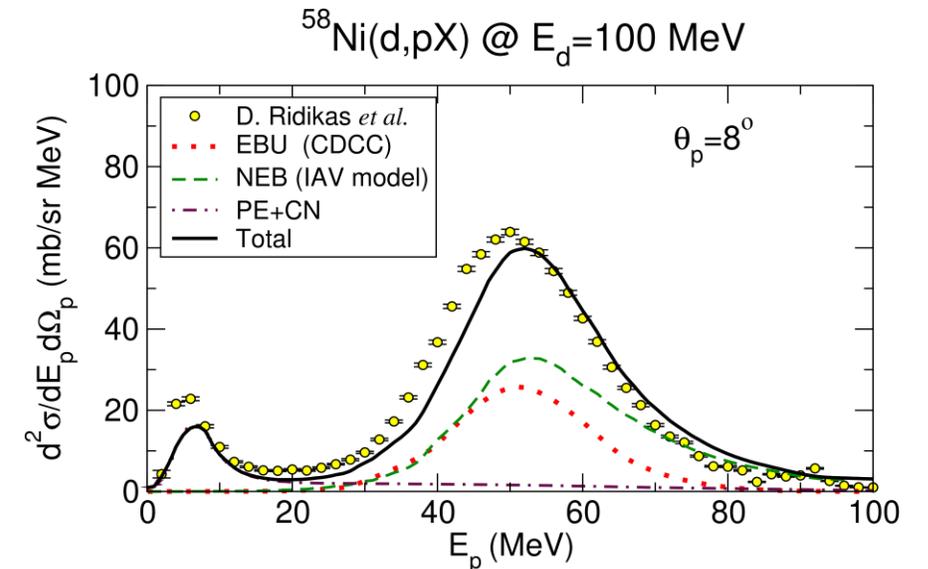
Dispersive optical model (Mahaux & Sartor, 1991)
(and modern implementations: Dickhoff, Charity, etc)

Difficulties and challenges of SRM

The $A(d,p\chi)$ as surrogate reaction



- Not all produced protons are associated with the desired $(n+A)^*$ CN channel:
 - Elastic breakup: $A(d,pn)A(gs)$
 - Inelastic breakup: $A(d,pn)A^*$
 - PE + CF
- The IAV theory provides the total "nonelastic breakup", rather than $n+A$ CN
- Extension of IAV to (p,d) and other reactions theoretically feasible but not implemented yet.



The (long-standing) problem of quenching of spectroscopic factors

knockout, transfer and proton knockout SFs

- Agreement theory vs experiment quantified in reduction factor:

$$R_s = \frac{\sigma_{\text{theor}}}{\sigma_{\text{exp}}}$$

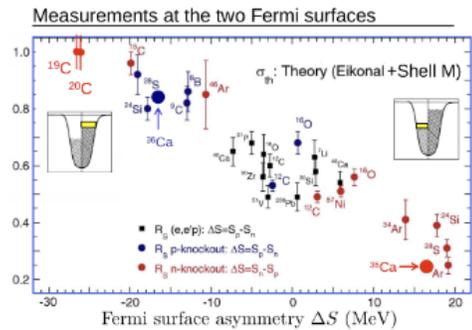
- $R_s < 1 \Rightarrow$ correlations (long-range, short-range, tensor,...) not included in σ_{theor} ?

FRIB opportunities

- Systematic studies with the same projectile and different probes: knockout, (p,pN) , transfer
- Extend "Gade plot" to more exotic (larger $|\Delta S|$) cases.

HI knockout (~ 100 MeV/u)

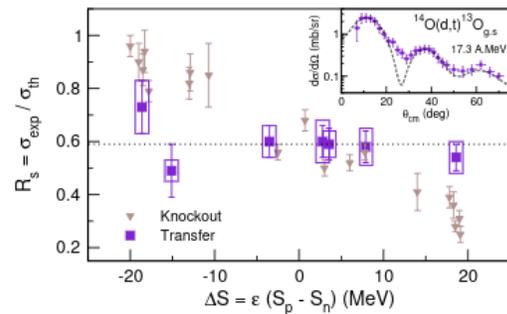
Tostevin, PRC90,057602(2014)



- Reaction model: eikonal + adiabatic
- R_s strongly dependent on $S_p - S_n$.

Low-energy transfer

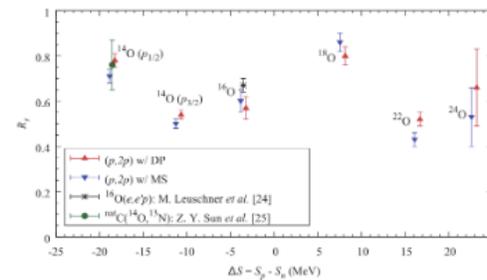
Flavigny, PRL110, 122503(2013)



- Reaction model: ADWA, DWBA, CRC
- $R_s \sim$ constant.

(p,pN) @ 200-250 MeV/u

Wakase, PTEP 021D01 (2018)



- Reaction model: DWIA
- $R_s \sim$ constant.
- Similar results from GSI: Atar *et al.*, PRL120, 052501 (2018).

R_s from knockout disagree with those from transfer and (p,pN)

Searches for the elusive n-p pairing

Isvector T=1 (p-p and n-n) pairing well understood

⇒ Can be probed via 2n transfer reactions

Isoscalar T=0 (p-n) predicted but not clearly identified

⇒ Can be in principle be probed via np-transfer reactions. Eg: (${}^3\text{He},p$), (${}^6\text{Li},\alpha$)

⇒ Expected to dominate for N~Z nuclei (departs from stability valley as A increases)

Theory requirements:

- Second order DWBA (at least)
- Reliable structure inputs (e.g. shell-model) for two-nucleon amplitudes

Eg.: Pioneering study for ${}^{26}\text{Mg}({}^3\text{He},p){}^{27}\text{Al}$ @ RCNP suggests T=0 pairing strength underestimated by available SM calculations.

More exotic candidates predicted near driplines for large A (reachable at FRIB?):

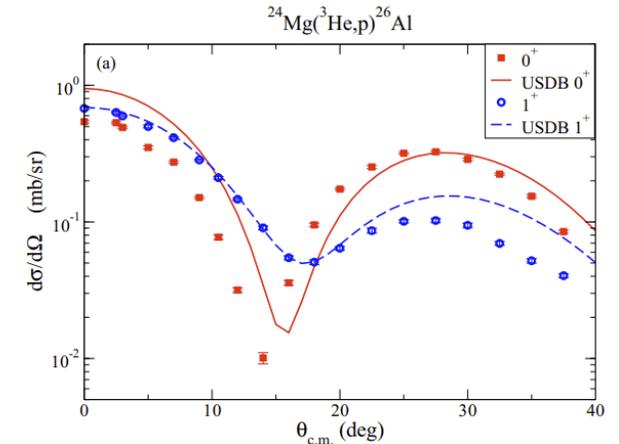
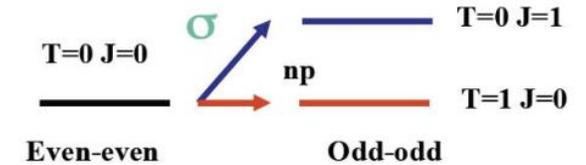
PHYSICAL REVIEW C **81**, 064320 (2010)

Spin-triplet pairing in large nuclei

G. F. Bertsch and Y. Luo

The candidate for the smallest nuclei with a well-developed condensate, $A \sim 130\text{--}140$, is tantalizingly close to the region of physical nuclei defined by the single-nucleon driplines.

T=0 (T=1) pairing:
enhanced transfer probabilities
 $0^+ \rightarrow 1^+$ ($0^+ \rightarrow 0^+$) levels



Ayyad, PRC 96, 021303(R) (2017)

Conclusions

- FRIB promises to provide unique opportunities for a wide range of physics cases, extending our present knowledge to unexplored areas of nuclear chart and tackling unsolved problems.
- Isotopes can be studied at different energy regimes and using different probes:
 - Some features may show up in specific observables, but not in others
 - Coulomb dissociation, quasi-free (p,pN).. more suited at intermediate energies (100-200 MeV/u).
 - Transfer reactions better suited a few MeV/u

Many other interesting topics not covered here:

- fusion (complete & incomplete, interplay with transfer, competition with quasifission, role of dissipation...)
- multinucleon transfer and DIC (production of new isotopes, EOS studies...)
- fission (shell effects, similarities with quasifission...)
- $(p,3p)$ reactions and relation to short-range correlations
- charge-exchange
- ... and many other

Special thanks to:

- Jesús Casal (U. Padova)
- José Antonio Lay (U. Sevilla)
- Mario Gómez-Ramos (TU Darmstadt)
- Joaquín Gómez-Camacho (U. Sevilla)
- Alexandre Obertelli (CEA, TU Darmstadt)
- Cedric Simenel (ANU)
- Kaitlin Cook (MSU)

*And to the **FRIB Theory Alliance** for the invitation
and the initiative!*

Nuclear charts credits: Ed Simpson (ANU)

(<https://people.physics.anu.edu.au/~ecs103/chart/>)