

Nuclei at the Mass Limit: Discovery of Super Heavy Nuclei

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Joint Institute for Nuclear Research

**The seminar on Nuclear Physics of INPh (MSU)
April 04, 2017, Moscow**

For more than 22 centuries

**From Democritus (460 - 371 BC...)
to Dalton (1766 - 1844)**

**it was assumed that the objects around us are
made up of tiny indivisible particles - **atoms** interacting
with each other..**

- All atoms of one element are similar and have the same weight,
- Atoms of different elements have different weights,



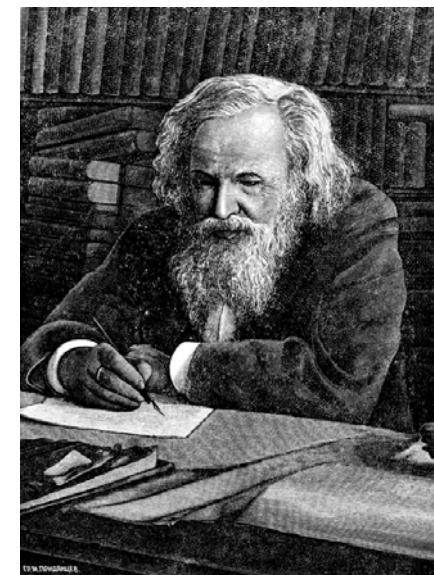
John Dalton 1808

- The building bricks – molecules – are complex compositions of different atoms in certain proportions,
- The matter is neither formed nor is disappearing in chemical reactions

36 elements were known at that time

63 elements were already known by that time

Ряды	Группы элементов								
	0	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	
0	Натрий								
1	Короний	Водород H 1,008	—	—	—	—	—	—	
2	Гелий He 4,0	Литий Li 7,03	Бериллий Be 9,1	Бор B 11,0	Углерод C 12,0	Азот N 14,01	Кислород O 16,00	Фтор F 19,0	
3	Неон Ne 19,9	Натрий Na 23,05	Магний Mg 24,36	Алюминий Al 27,1	Кремний Si 28,2	Фосфор P 31,0	Сера S 32,06	Хлор Cl 35,45	
4	Аргон Ar 38	Калий K 39,15	Кальций Ca 40,1	Силиций Si 44,1	Титан Ti 48,1	Ванадий V 51,2	Хром Cr 52,1	Марганец Mn 55,1	Железо Fe 55,9
5		Медь Cu 63,6	Цинк Zn 65,4	Галлий Ga 70,0	Германий Ge 72,5	Машник As 75	Селен Se 79,2	Бром Br 79,95	Кобальт Co 59
6	Кrypton Kr 81,8	Рубидий Rb 85,5	Стронций Sr 87,6	Иттрий Y 89,0	Цирконий Zr 90,6	Ниобий Nb 94,0	Молибден Mo 96,0	—	Рутений Ru 101,7
7		Серебро Ag 107,93	Кальций Ca 112,4	Индий In 115,0	Олово Sn 119,0	Сурьма Sb 120,2	Тантал Ta 127	Иод I 127	Родий Rh 103,0
8	Ксенон Xe 128	Цезий Cs 132,9	Берий Ba 137,4	Лантан La 138,9	Церий Ce 140,2	—	—	—	Платин Pt 106,5
9		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
10	—	—	—	Иттербий Yb 173	—	Тантал Ta 183	Вольфрам W 184	—	Остий Os 191
11									Иридий Ir 193
12	—	—	Радий Ra 225	—	Торий Th 232,5	—	Уран U 238,5		Платин Pt 194,3



Dmitri Mendeleev
1869

Genuine D.I.Mendeleev's Table

Mendeleev's Table of elements (1869) showed for the first time

that the chemical properties
(or the nature of the interaction)

are regularly repeated with increasing the weight (or atomic number) of the elements.

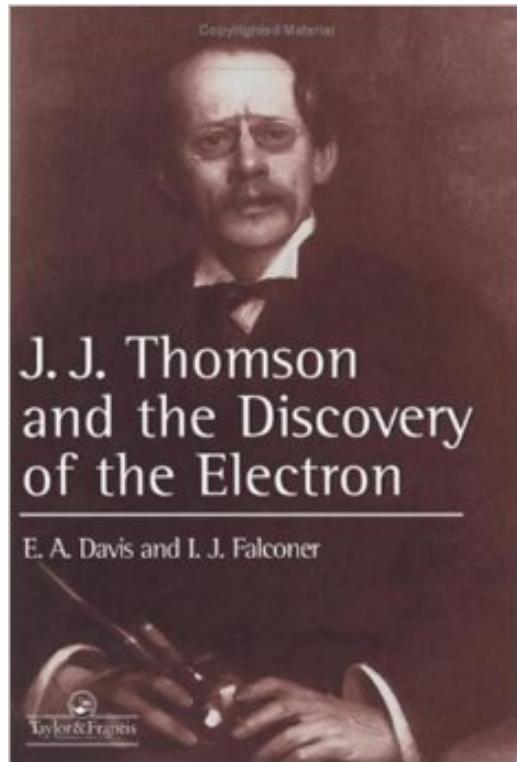
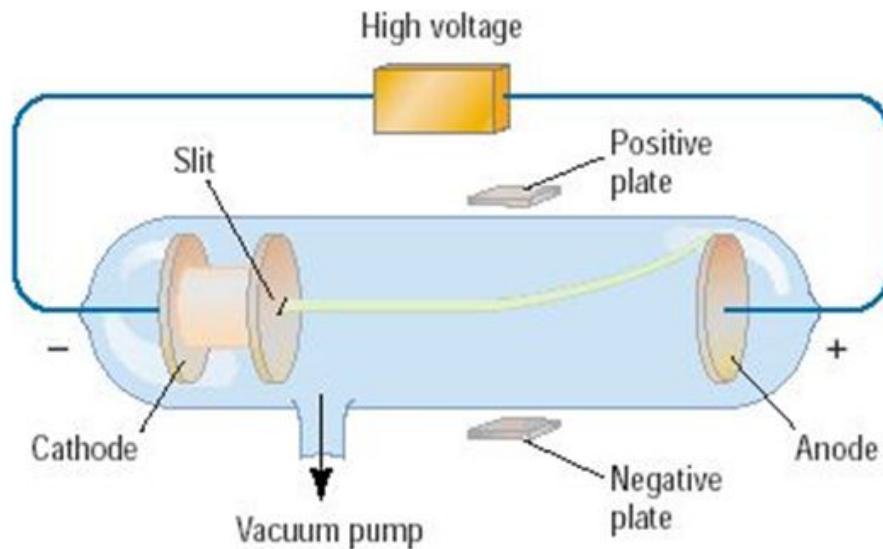
It follows that:

the atoms are not "building bricks",

They themselves are complex internal structures.

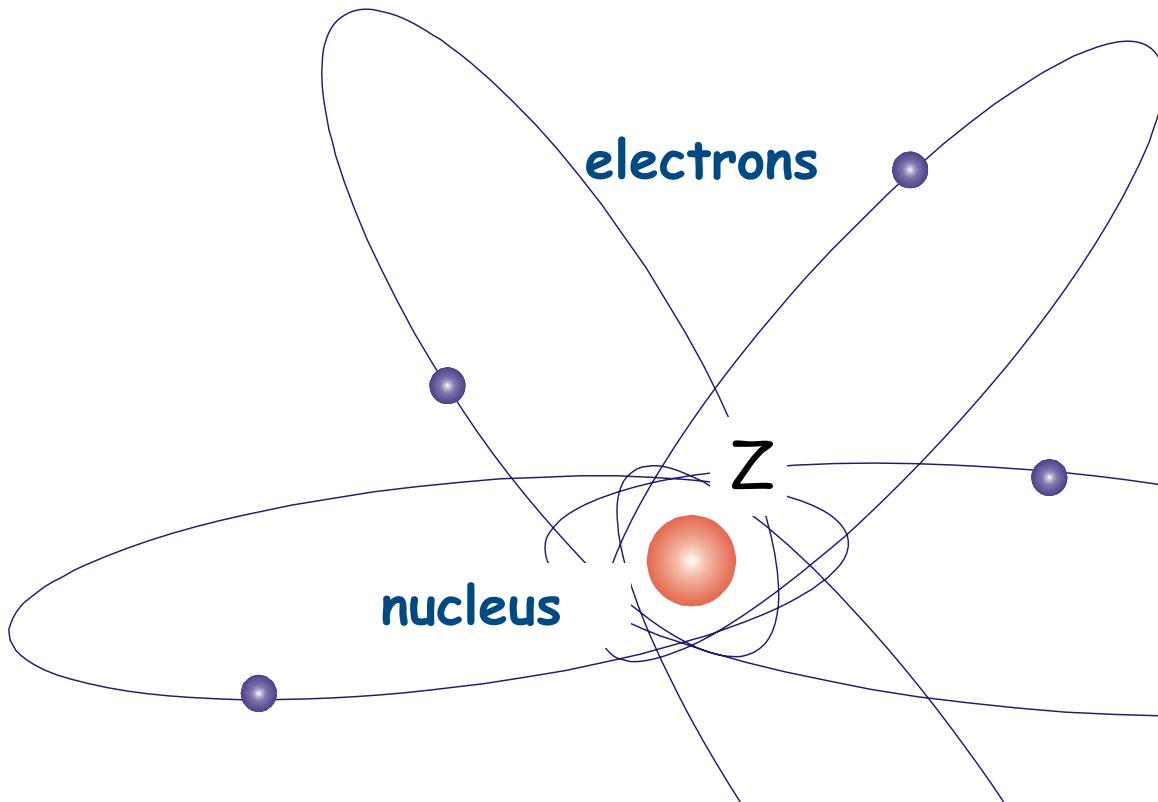
Discovery of the Electron

In 1897, J.J. Thomson used a cathode ray tube to deduce the presence of a negatively charged particle.

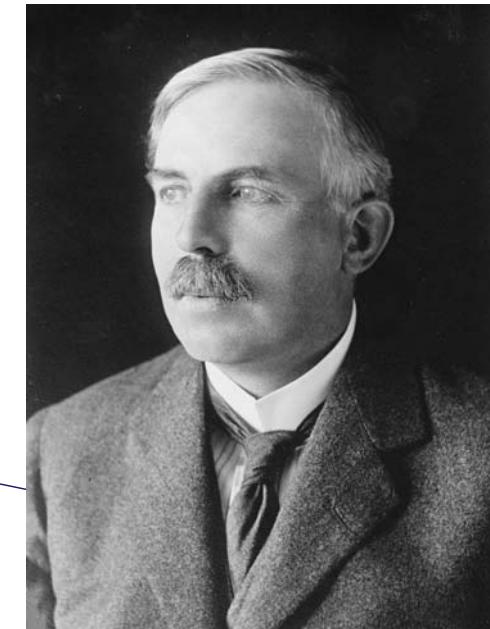


Cathode ray tubes pass electricity through a gas that is contained at a very low pressure.

86 elements were already known by that time



Planetary model of atom



Ernest Rutherford
March 7, 1911

It became clear that existence of atom
is limited by stability of its nucleus.

In attempts to describe the properties of nuclear matter, George Gamow made a daring assumption that atomic nucleus may be similar to a drop of positively charged liquid.



George Gamow 1928

In fact, the density of nuclear liquid is 10^{15} times more than that of water

Charged Liquid Drop Model
of the atomic nucleus.

G. Gamow, 1928.

With this beautiful macroscopic and, in this sense, classical model of nucleus that presents nuclei as drops of charged liquid of constant density:

G.A.Gamov -developed the theory of alpha-decay of the atomic nuclei (1928)

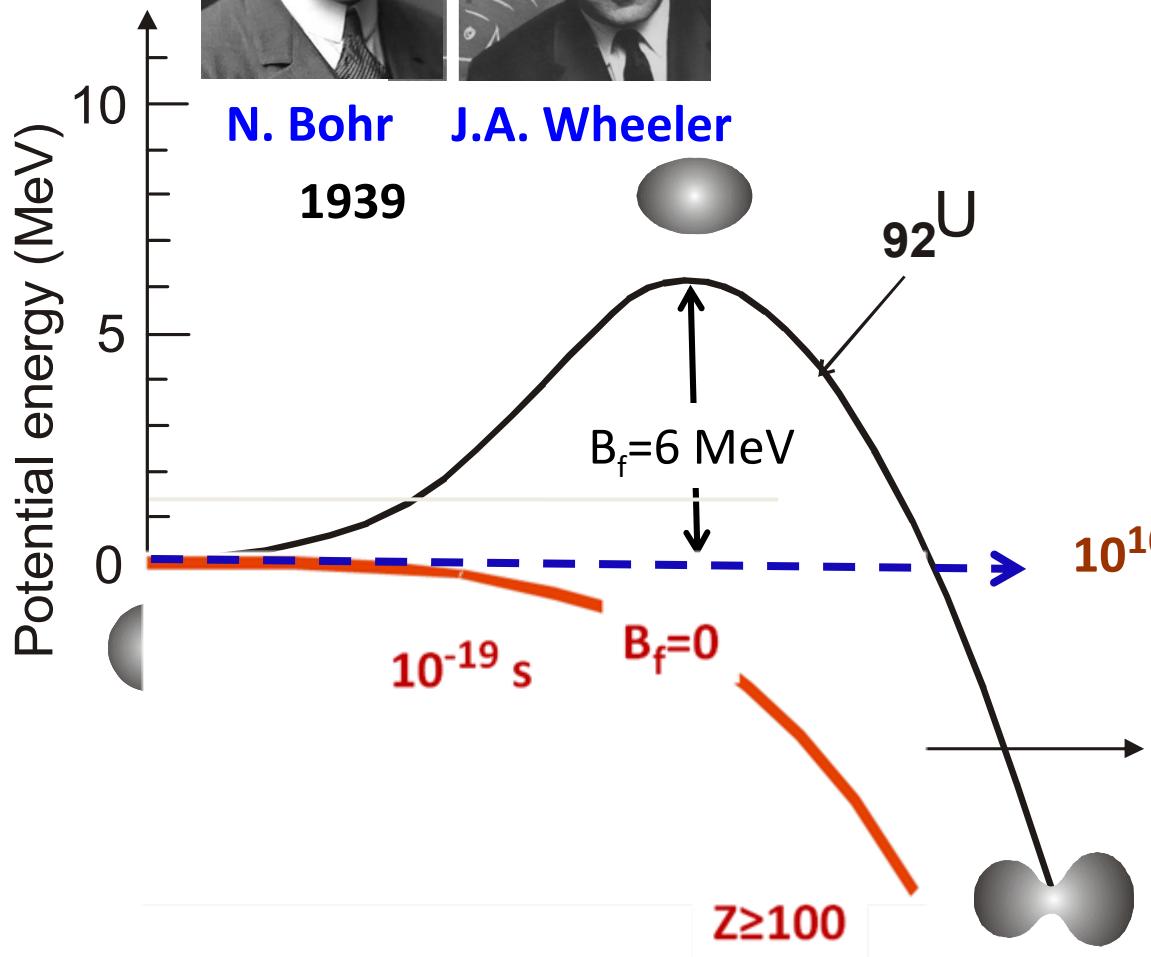
C.F. von Weizsäcker – wrote the famous formula for the binding energy of nuclei (1933)

N.Bohr and J.Wheeler – developed the theory of nuclear fission (1939)

We will be discussing today the problem of synthesis and properties of extremely heavy nuclei to get answers to questions about:

- How big the nuclei can be?
- What of proton and neutron number they may have?
- Where is the mass limit of the nuclei?
- How many chemical elements can be and what are their properties?

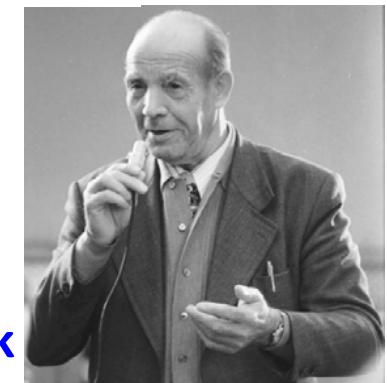
Nuclear fission



G.N. Flerov



1940



K.A. Petrzhak

Chart of the Nuclides

SF

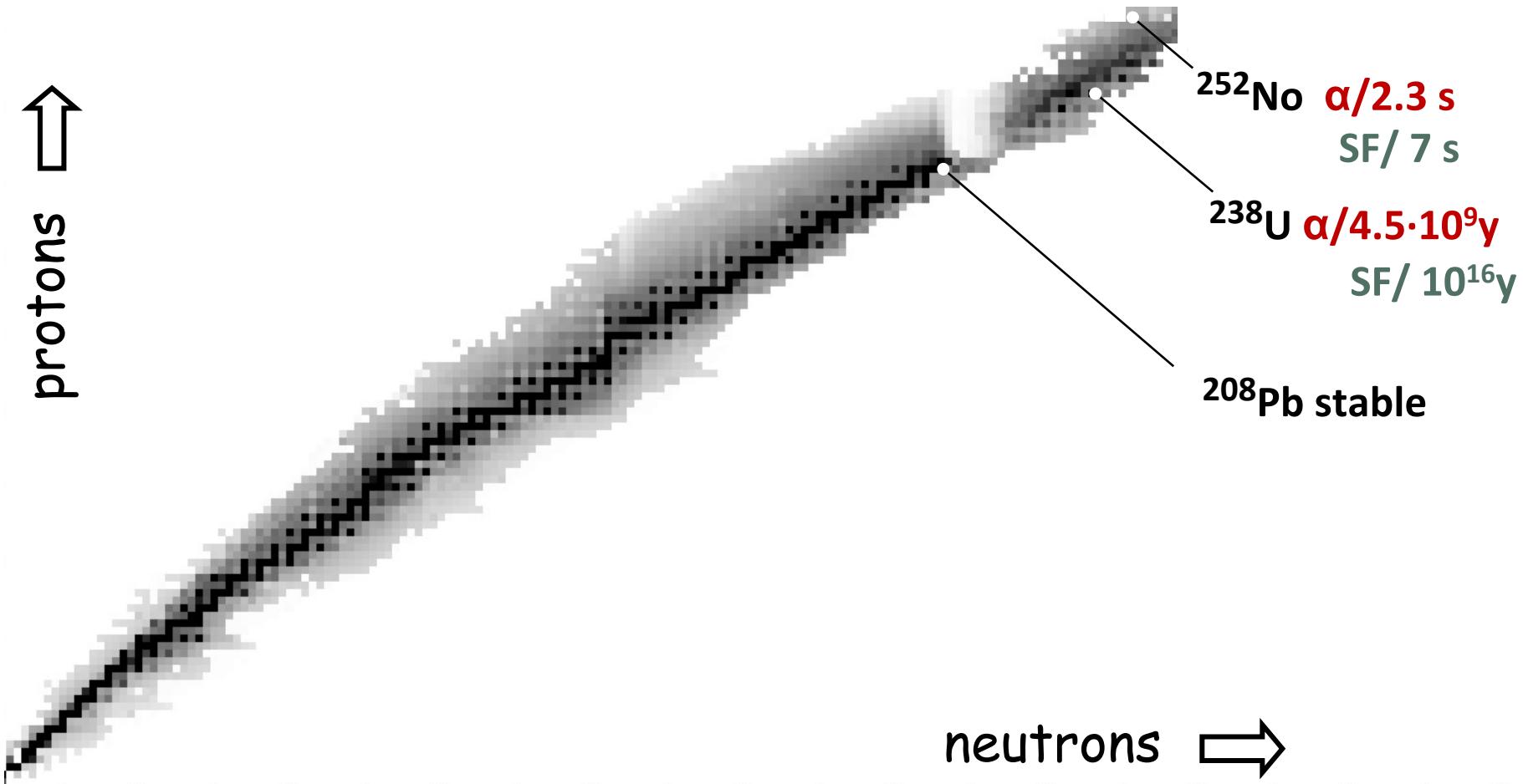
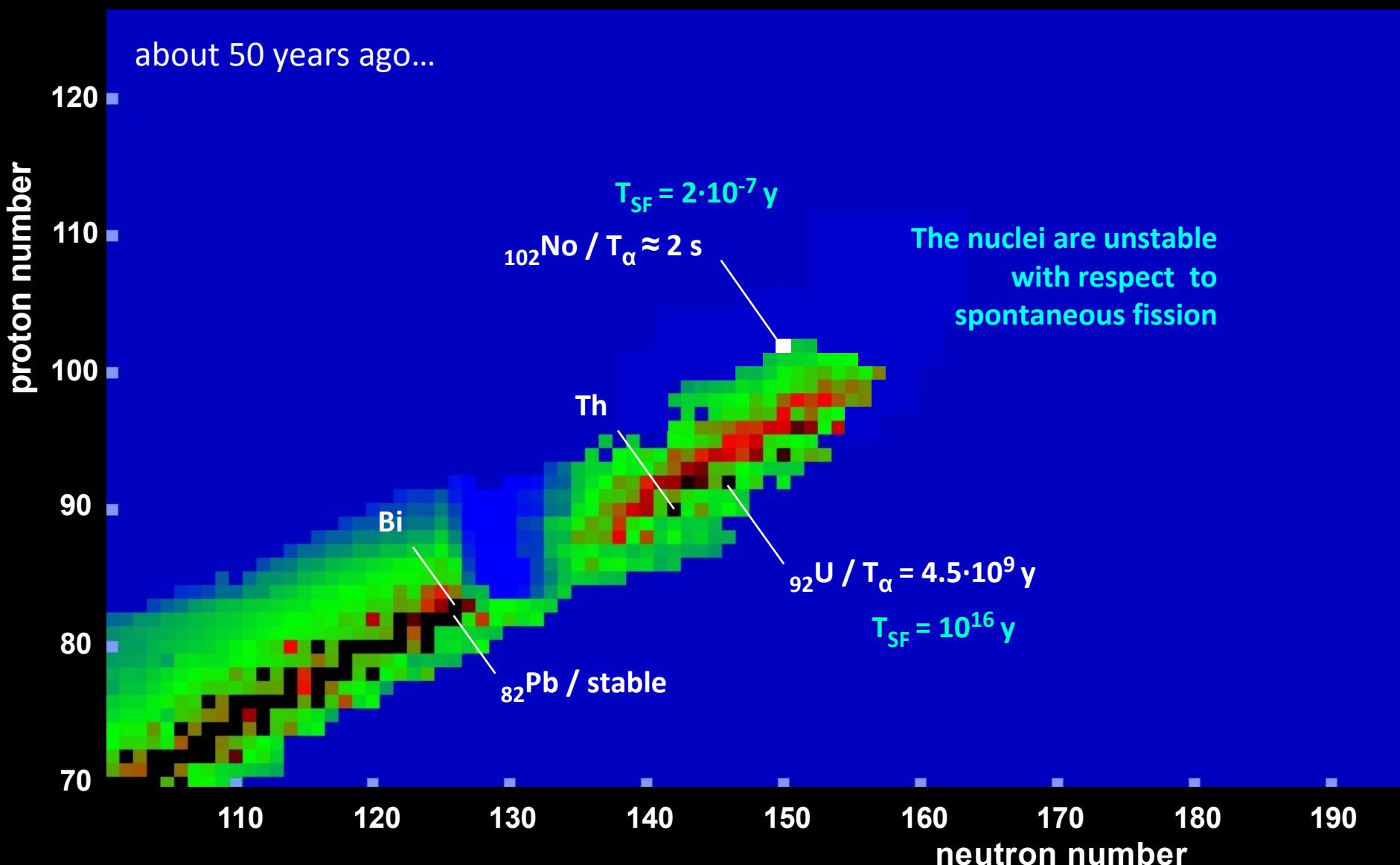
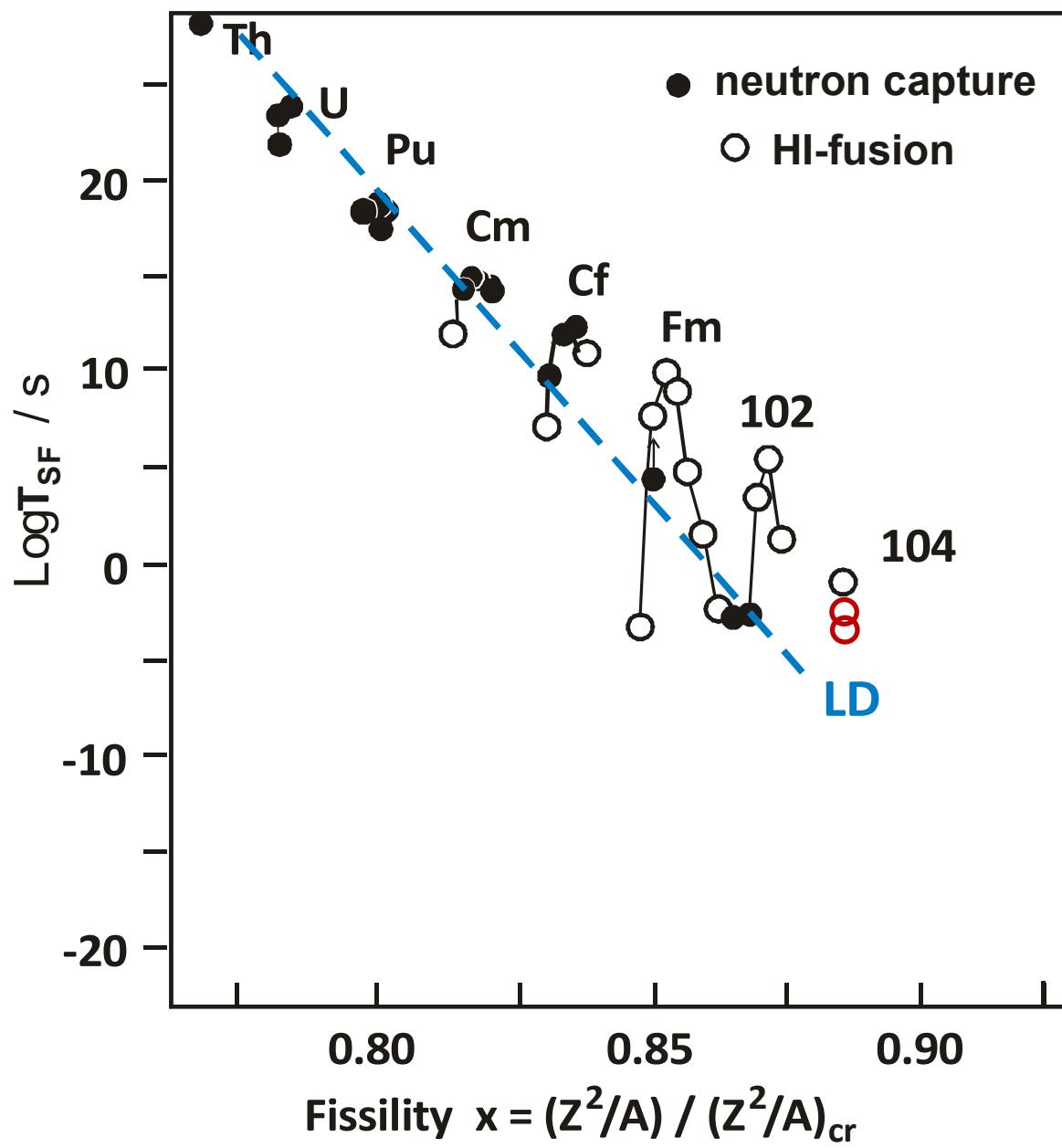


Chart of nuclides

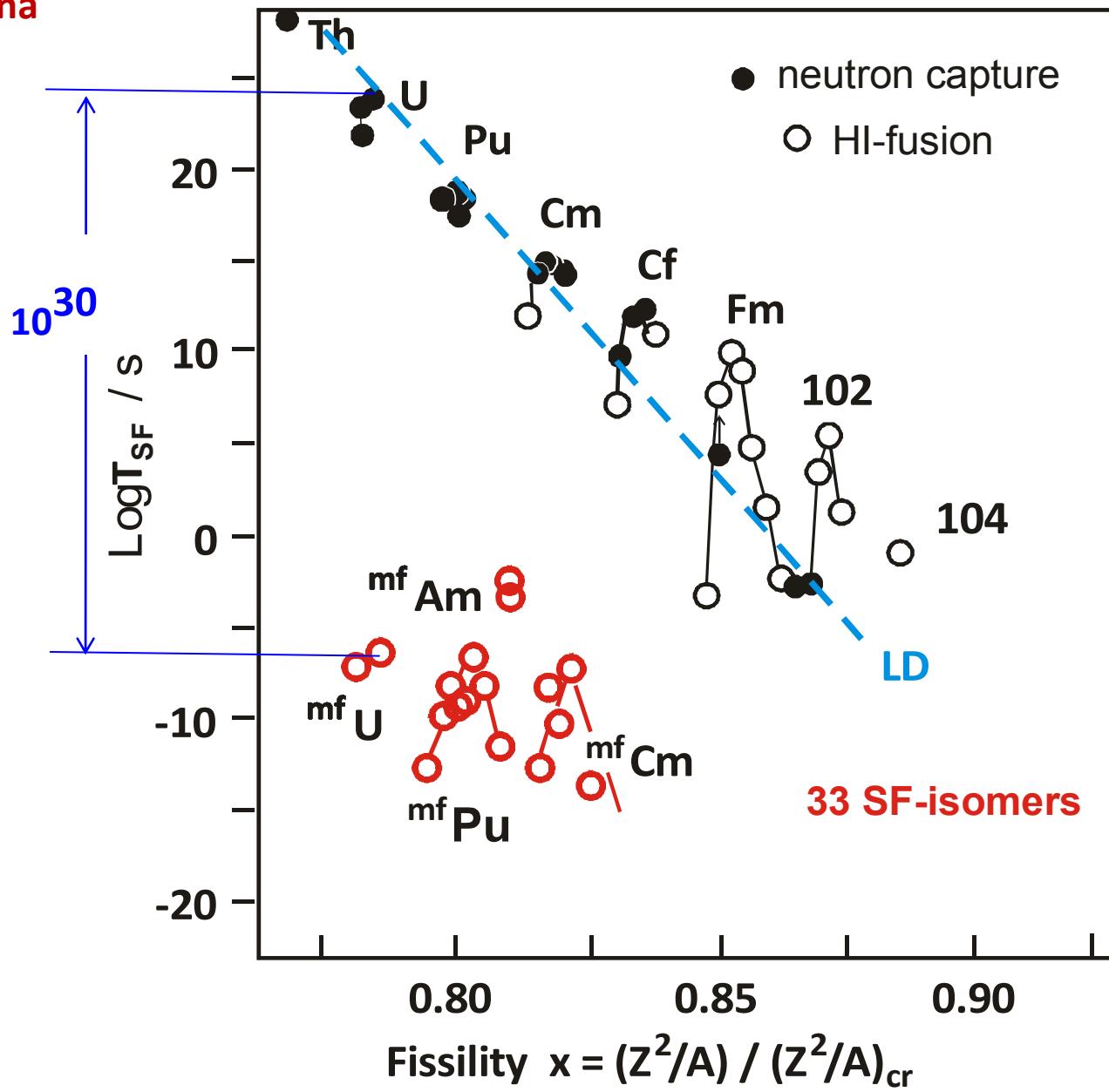
Macroscopic theory (Liquid Drop Model)



Search for Element 104
in $^{242}\text{Pu} + ^{22}\text{Ne}$ reaction

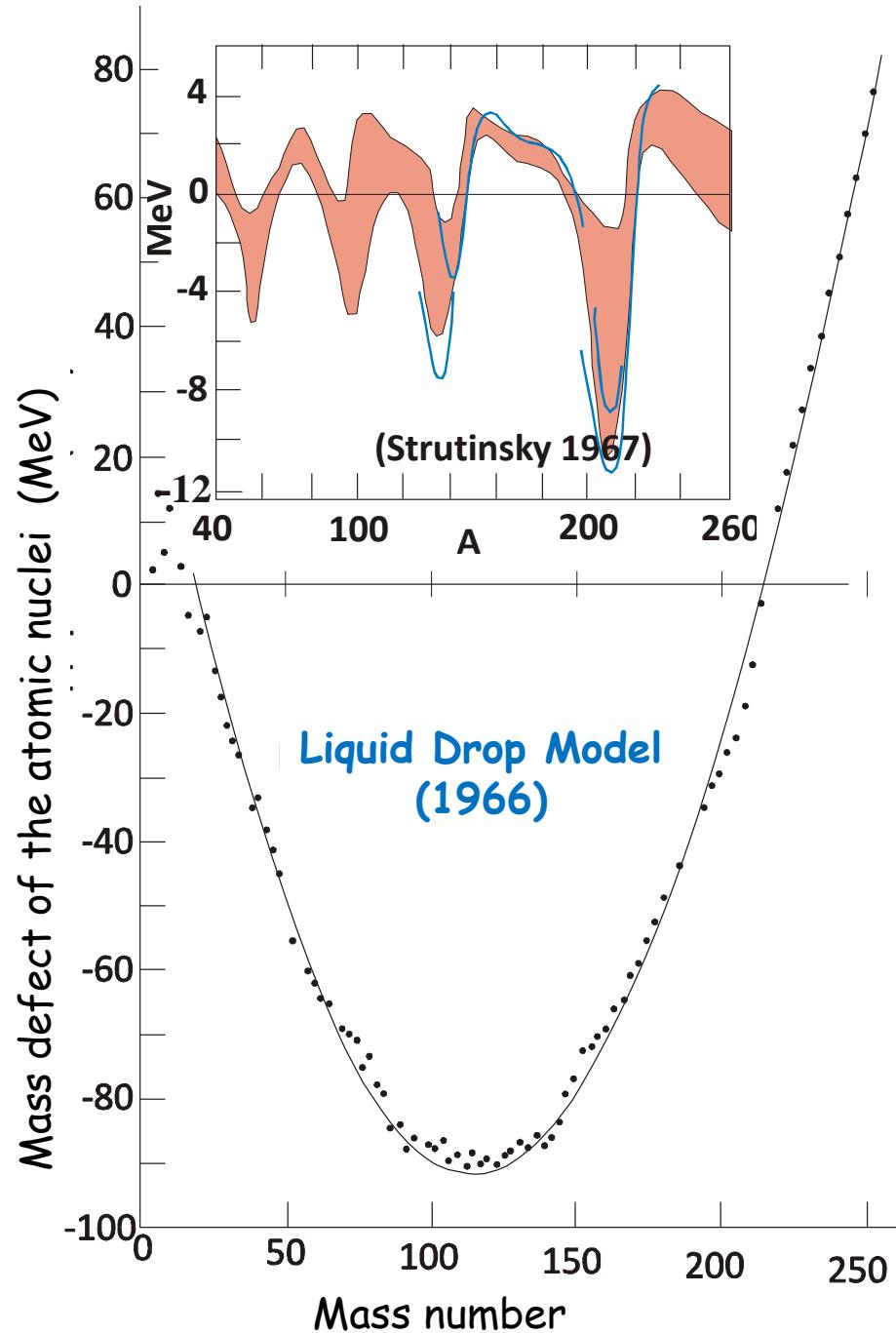
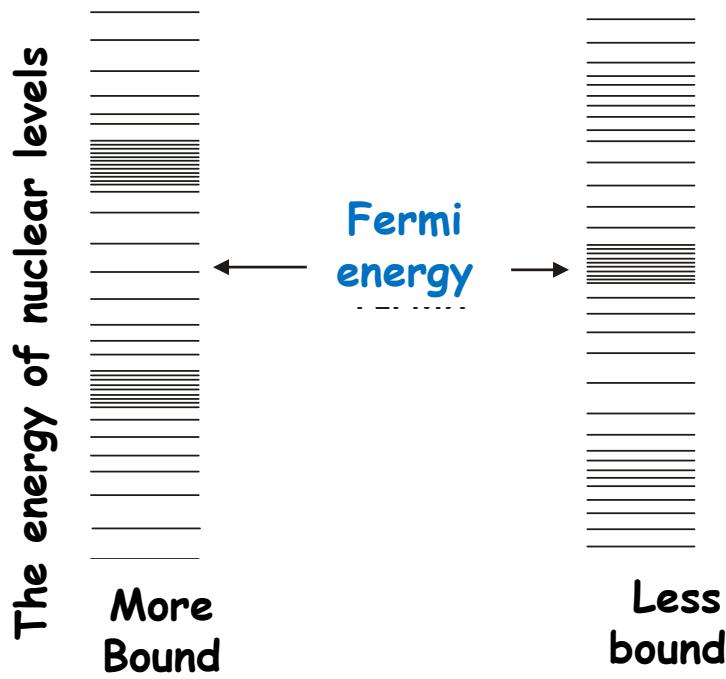


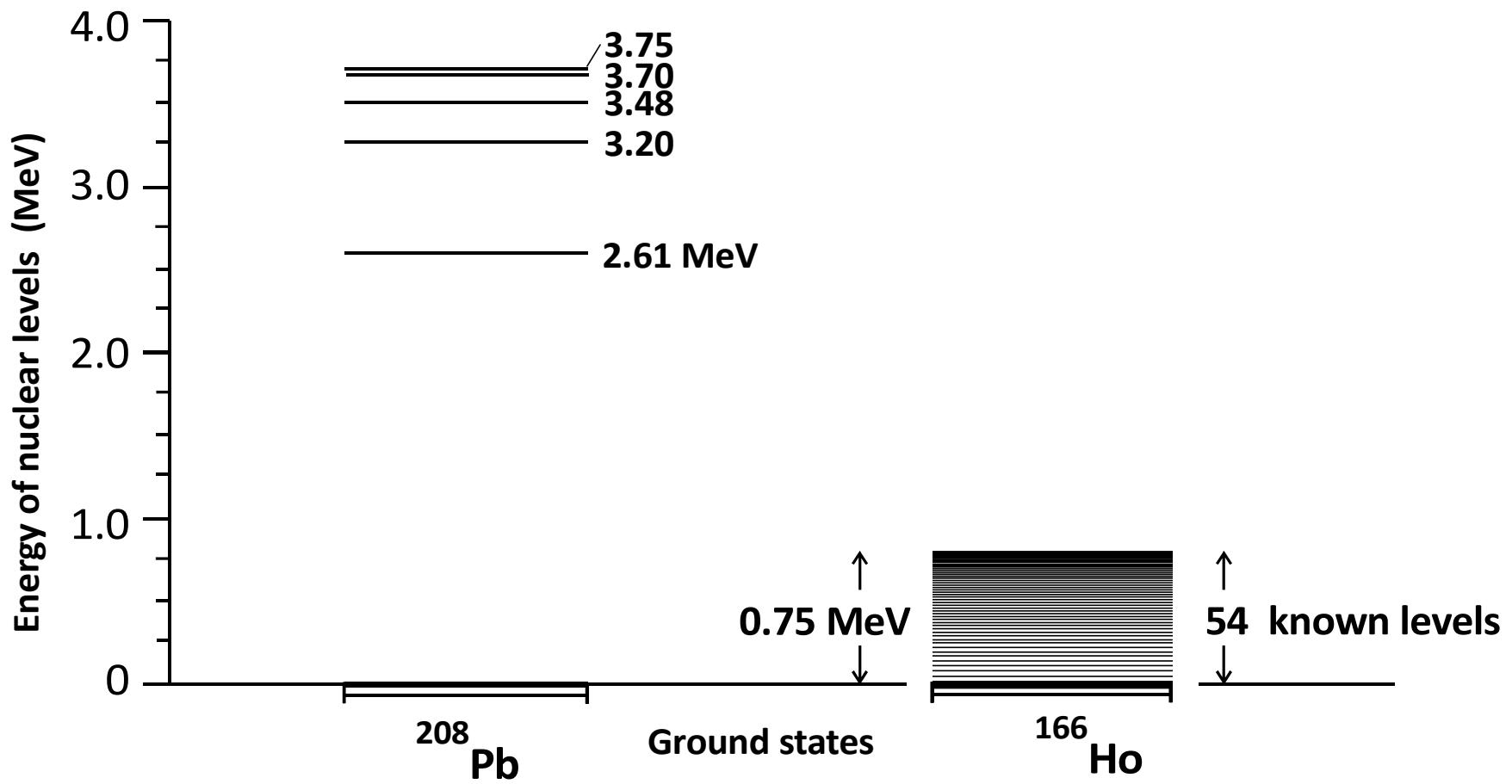
1962 JINR, Dubna



Nuclear structure and stability of the heaviest nuclei

Nuclear Shells





In this interpretation, the manifestation of the nuclear structure is similar to the effect of the electron shells closure in the atoms,—



known as “noble gases” located in the last column of the Table of Elements.

Maybe that's why the appearance of this effect in the nucleus has been called **nuclear shells closure**

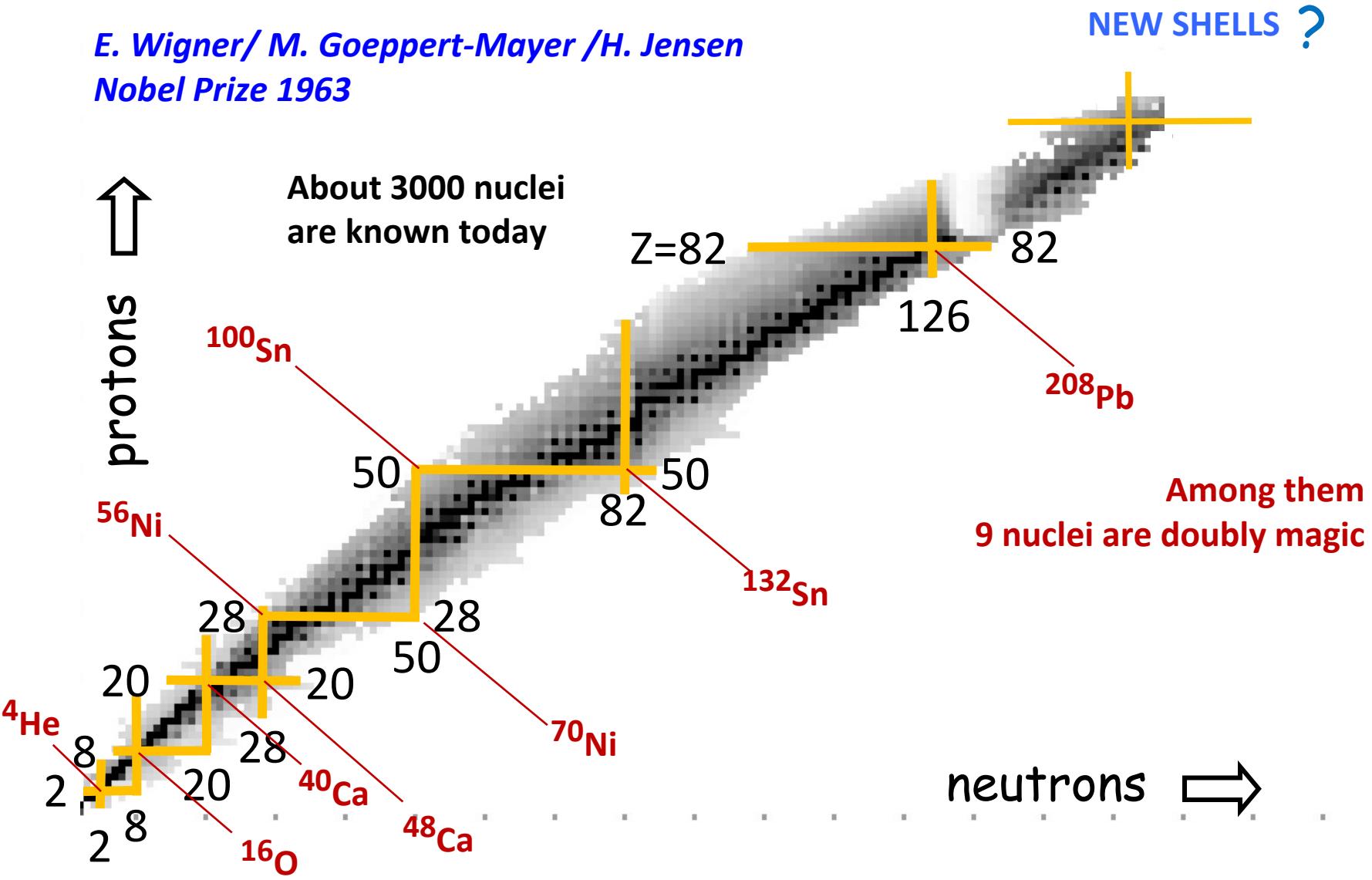
However the analogy is very conditional because of a very dense nuclear matter can not have the structure of the atom

(remember the model of atom of Rutherford - Bohr)

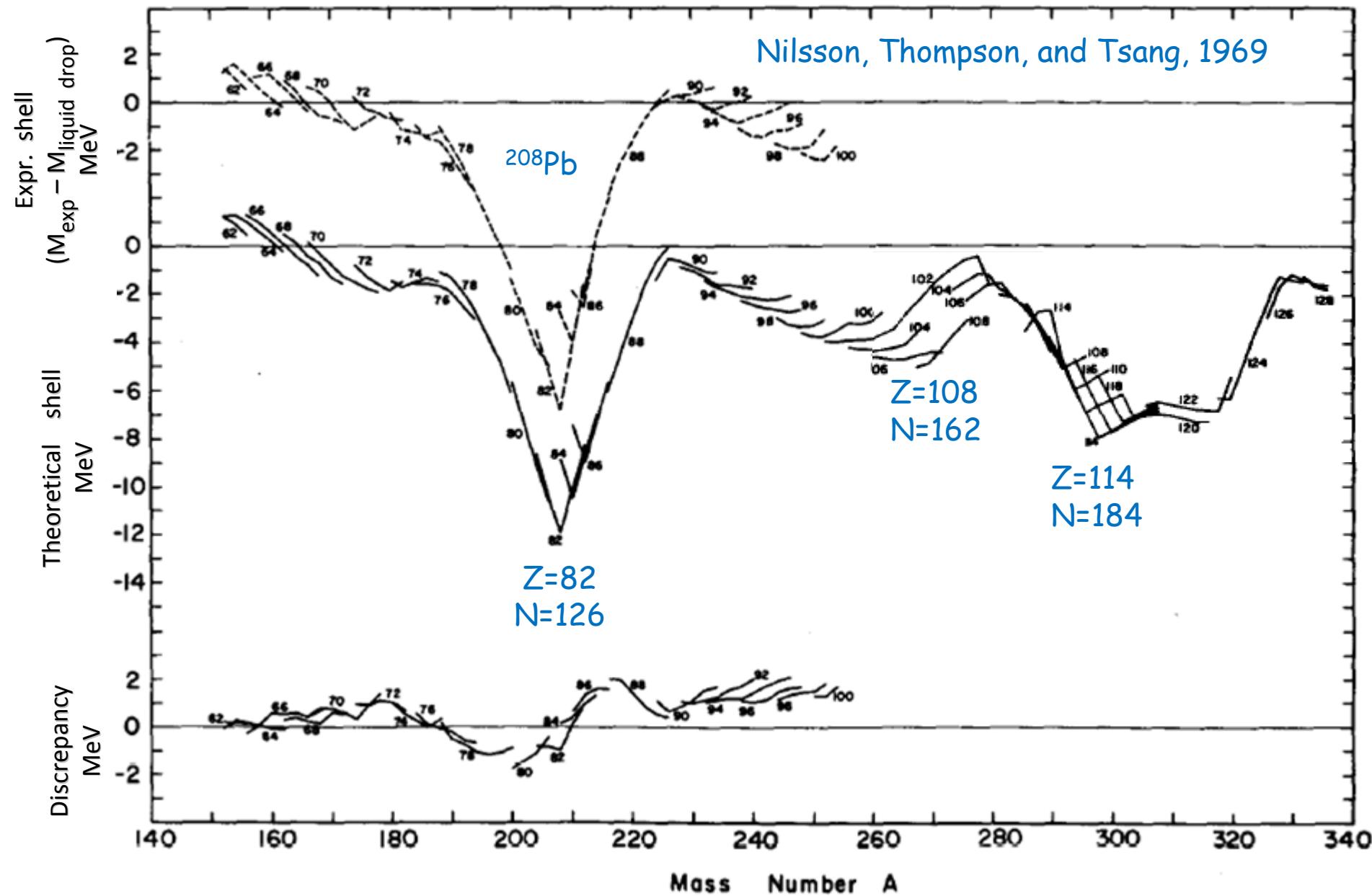
7	132.9	137.3	138.9	178.5	180.9	183.9	186.2	190.2	190.2	195.1	197.0	200.5	204.4	207.2	209.0	(210)	(210)	(222)
	87 Fr (223)	88 Ra (226)	89 Ac~ (227)	104 Rf (257)	105 Db (260)	106 Sg (263)	107 Bh (262)	108 Hs (265)	109 Mt (266)	110 --- 0	111 --- 0	112 --- 0	114 --- 0	116 --- 0	118 --- 0			

Shell and magic numbers

**E. Wigner / M. Goeppert-Mayer / H. Jensen
Nobel Prize 1963**



Shell effect in the nuclear ground states (mass defect)



Proton and neutron single particle energy spectra calculated for deform $^{270}\text{108}$ and $^{298}\text{114}$ doubly magic nuclei

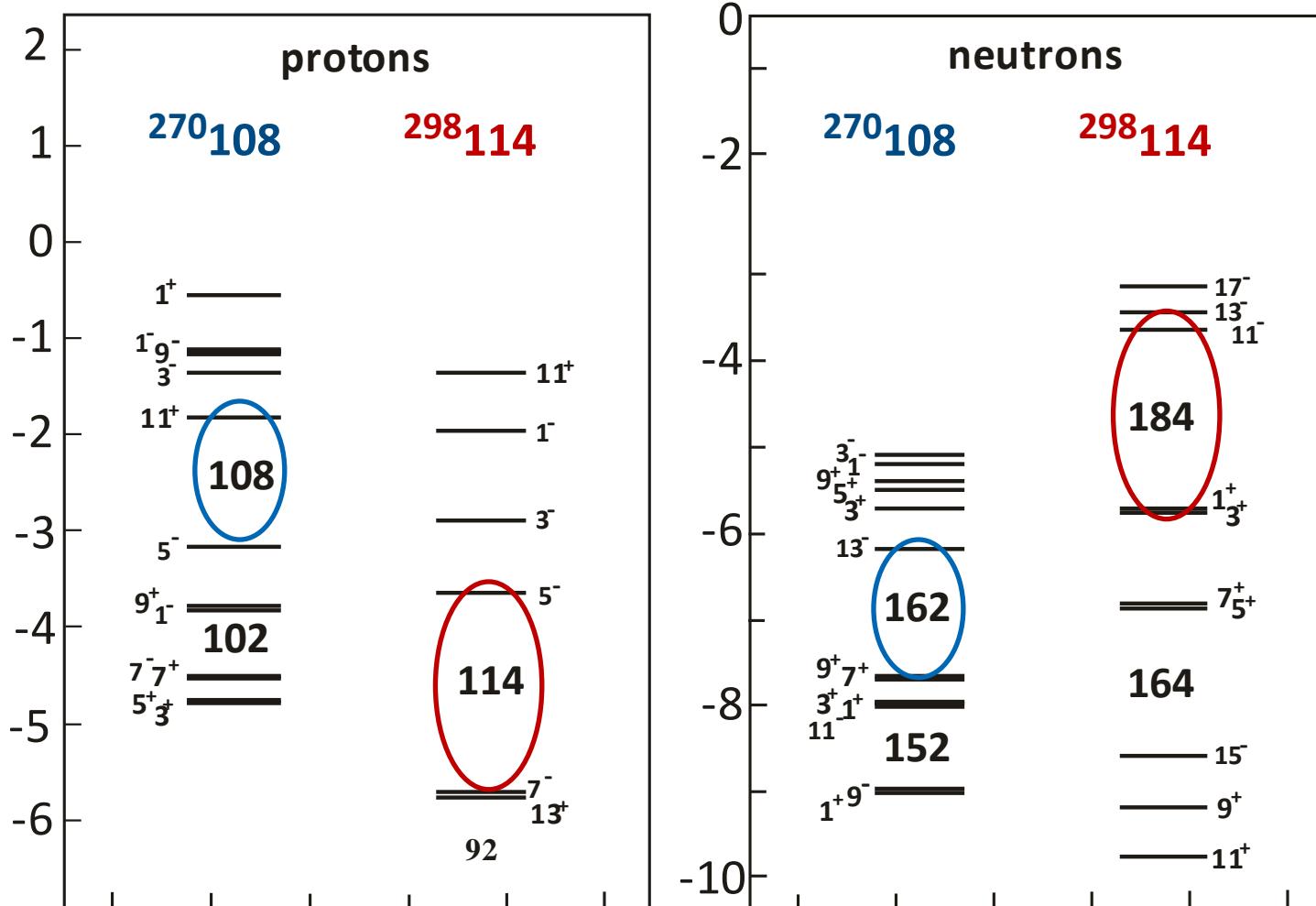
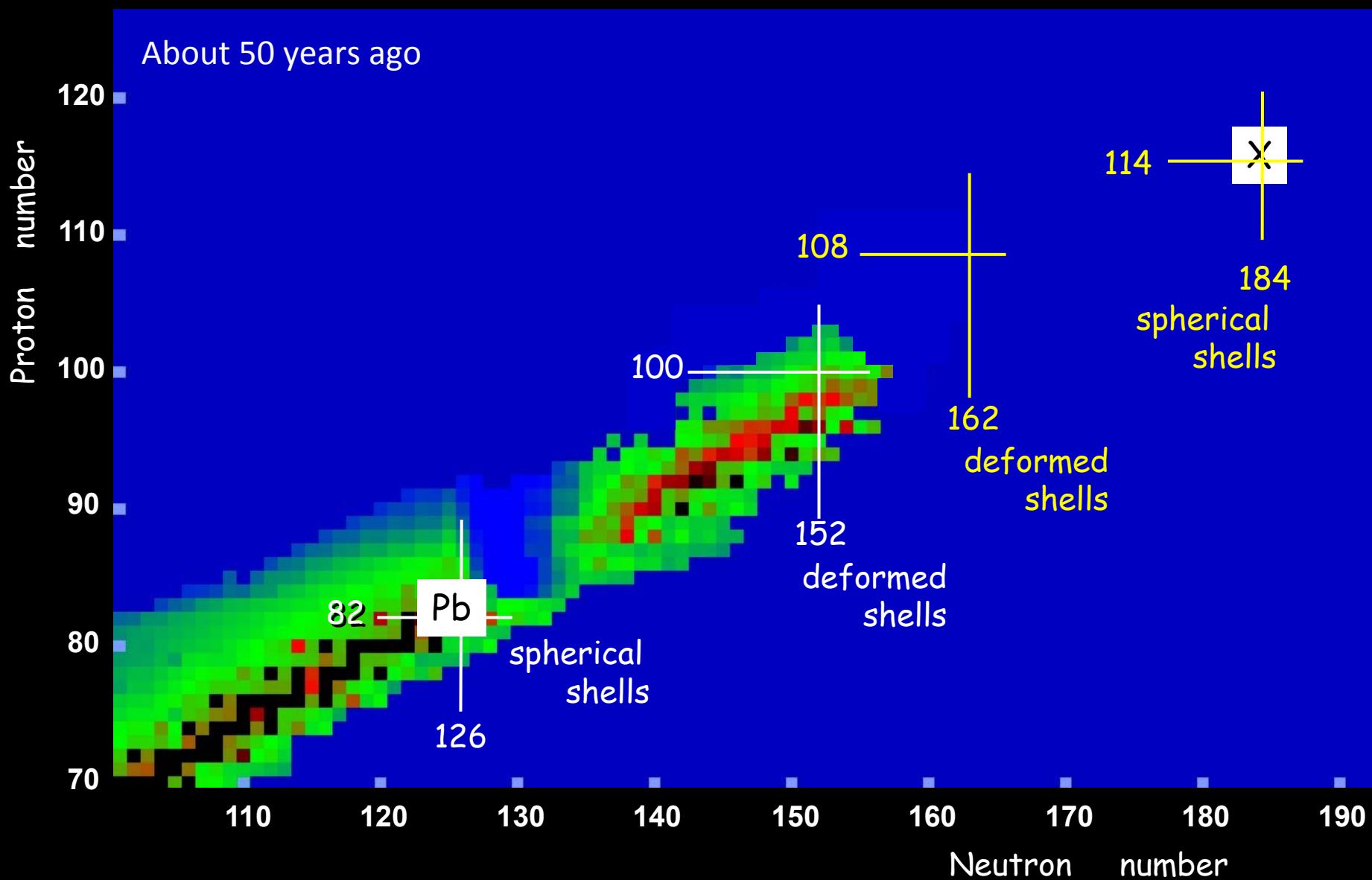
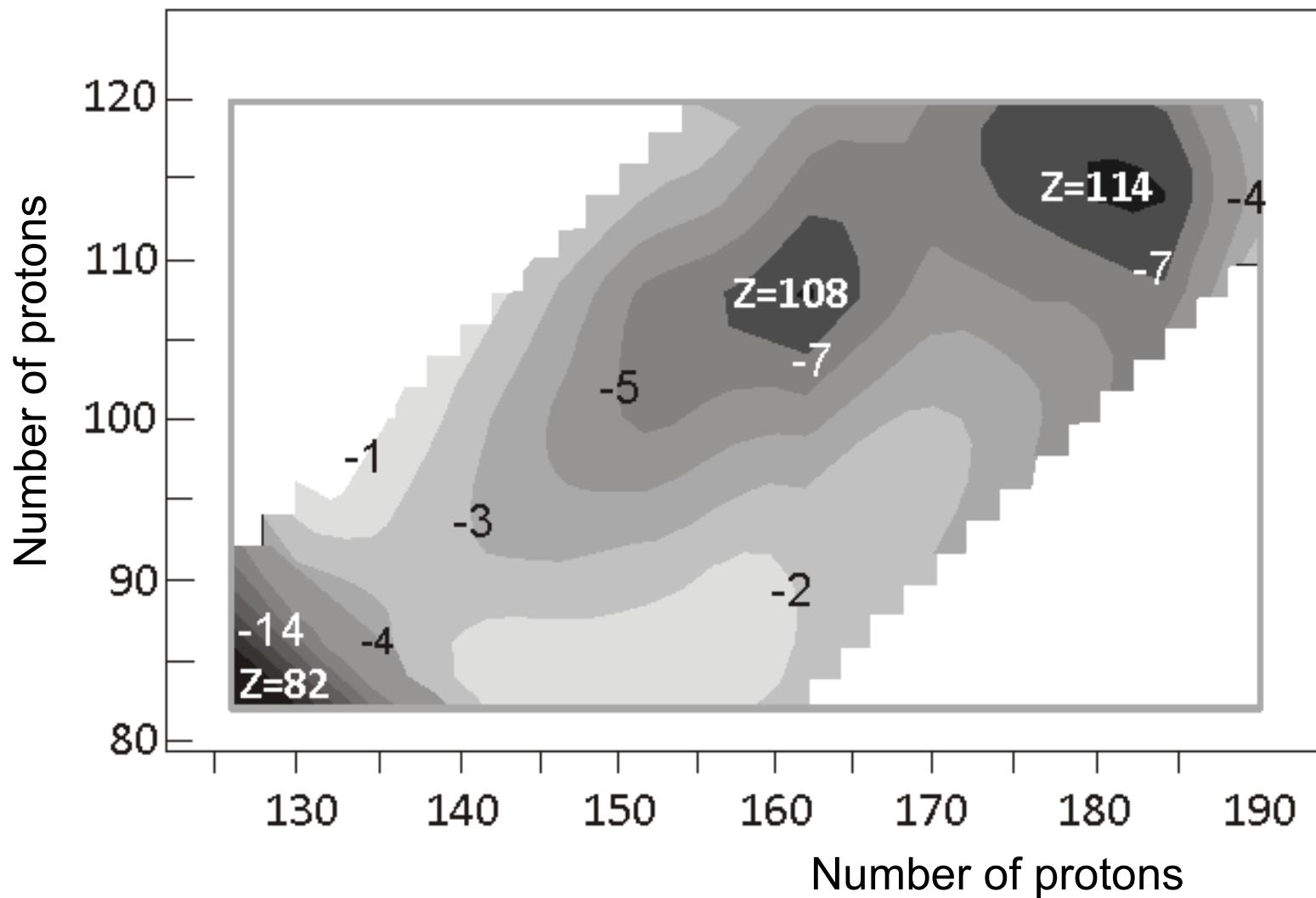


Chart of nuclides

Nuclear shells
(macro-microscopic calculations)

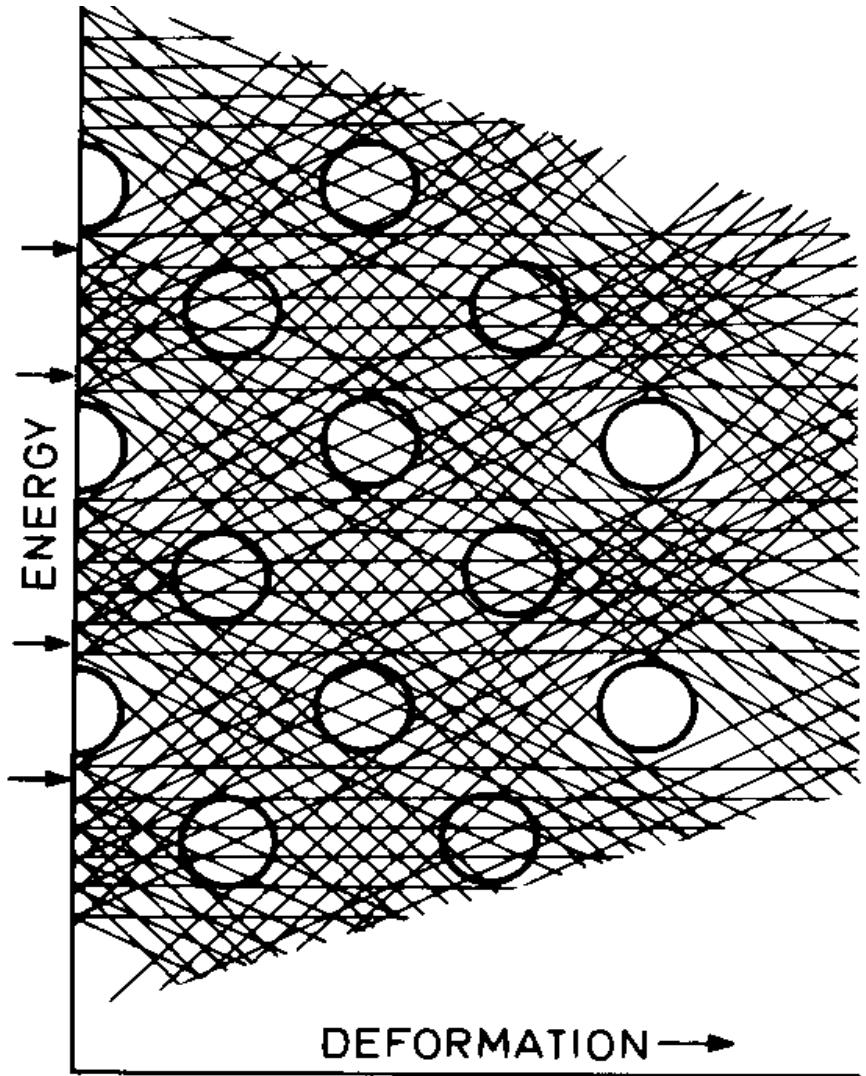
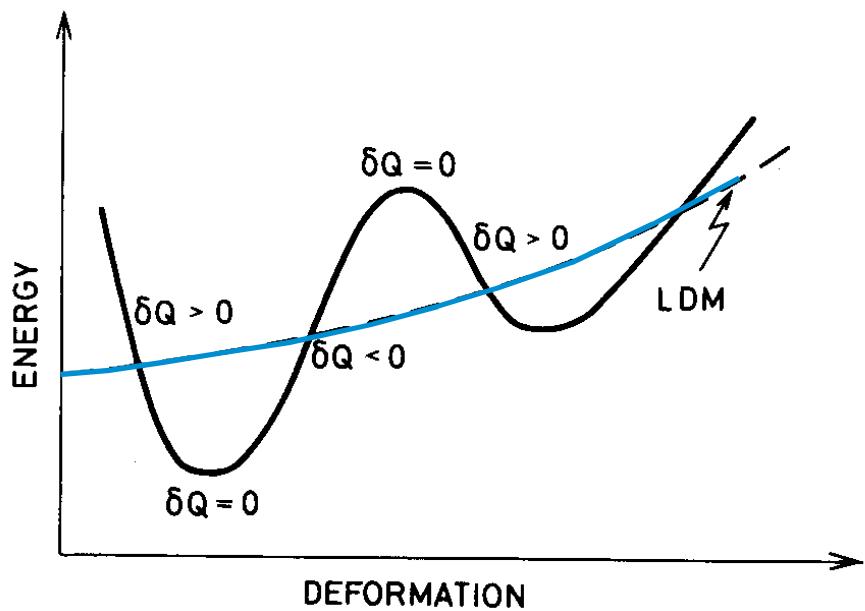


Map of the shell corrections (in MeV) to the liquid drop potential energy

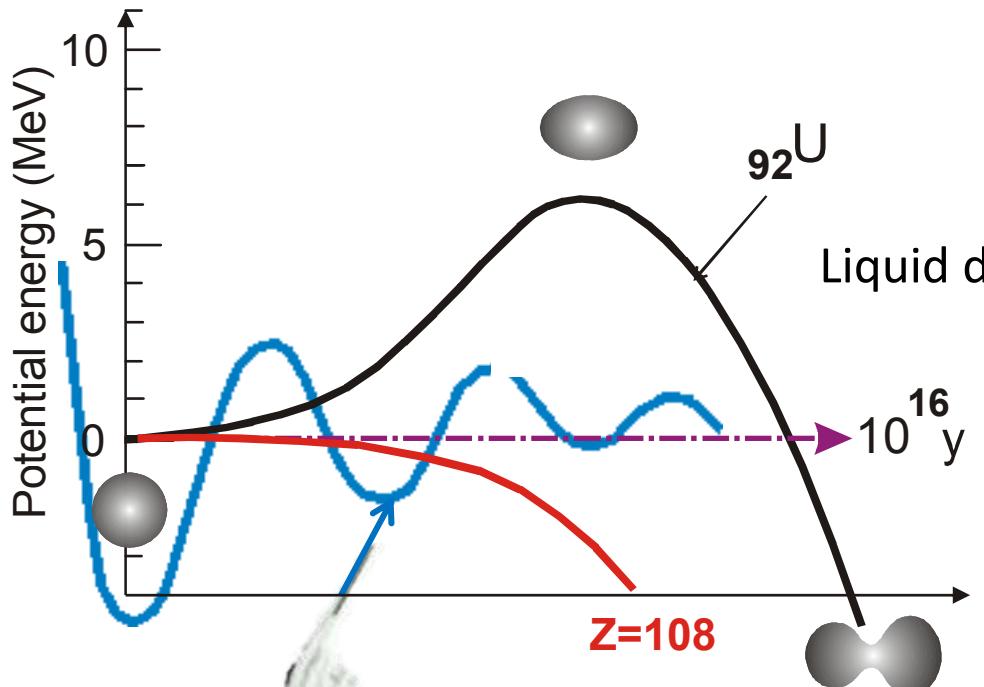


Shell effect with increasing of nuclear deformation

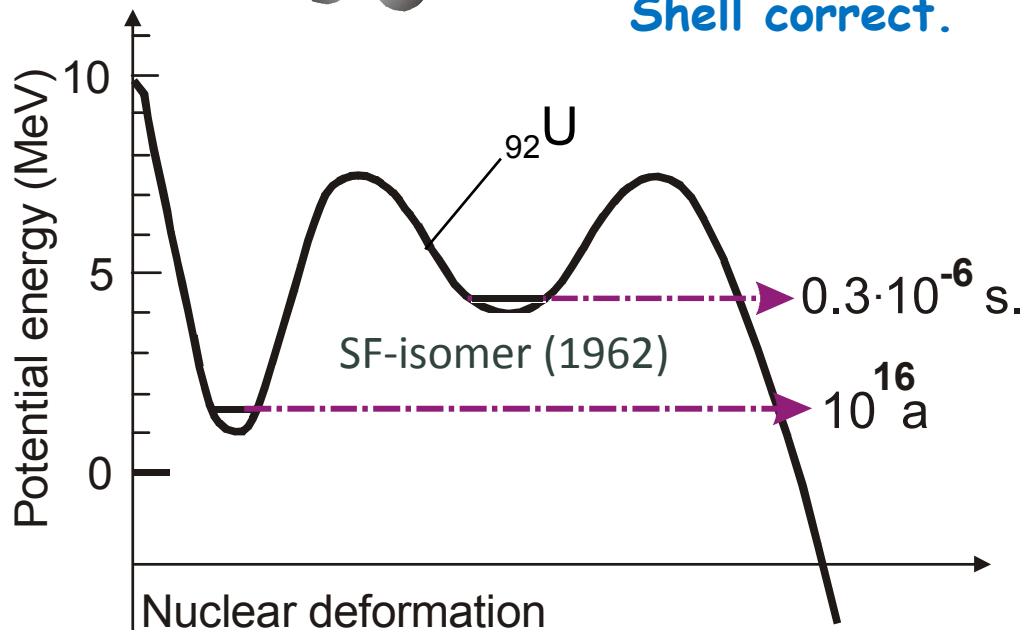
Nuclear levels
depending on
deformation



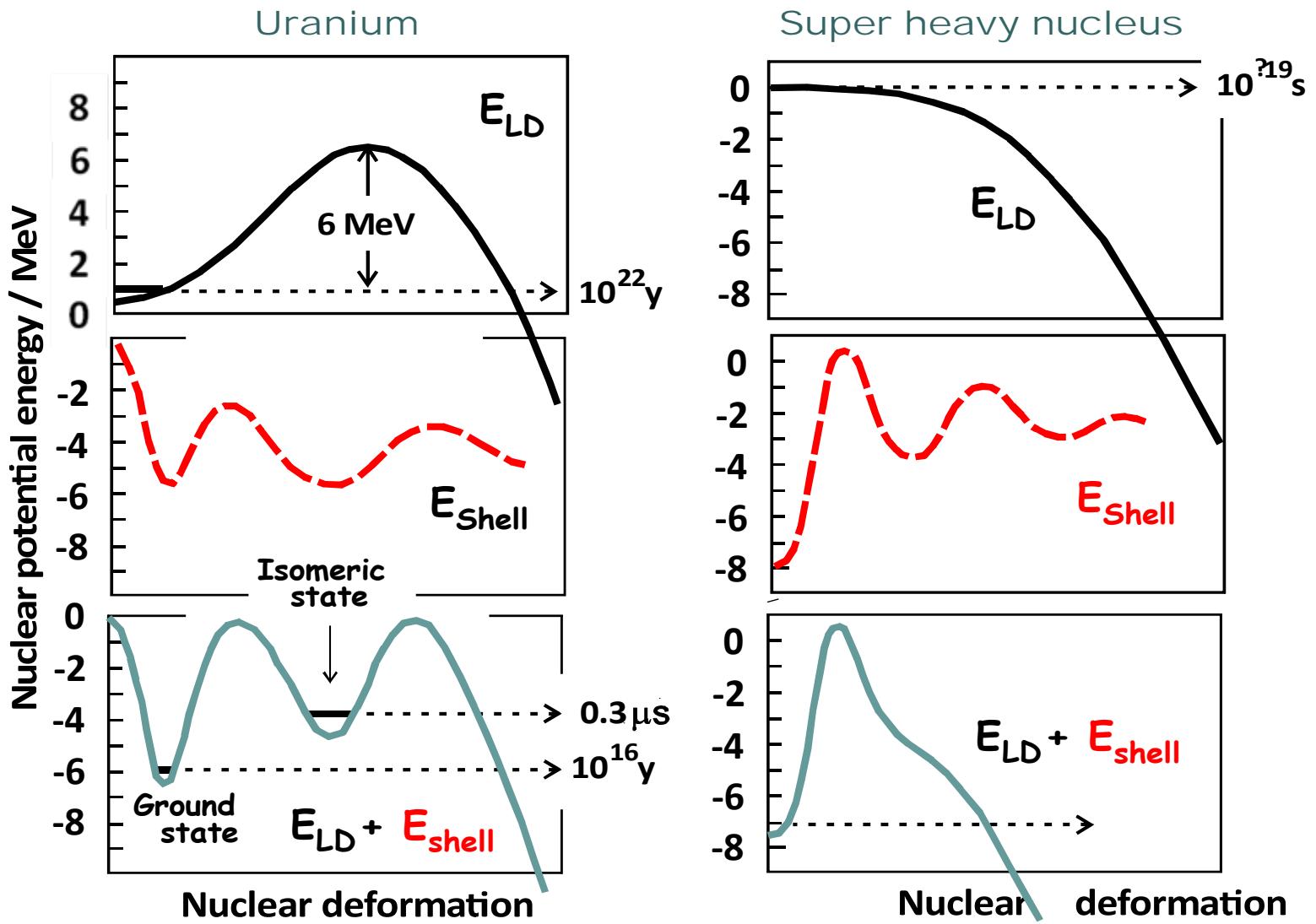
**Shell
effect**



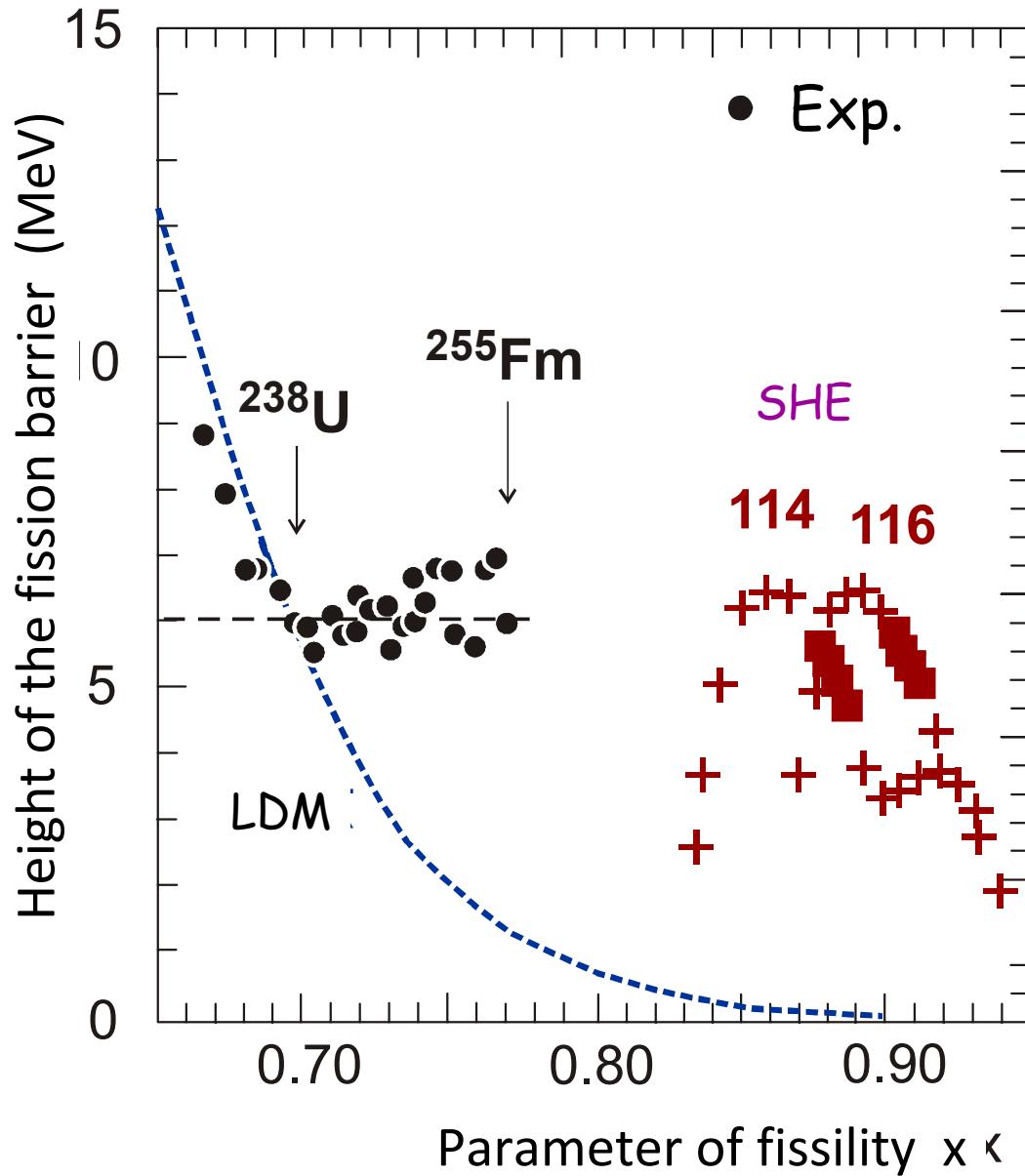
Liquid drop
+
Shell correct.



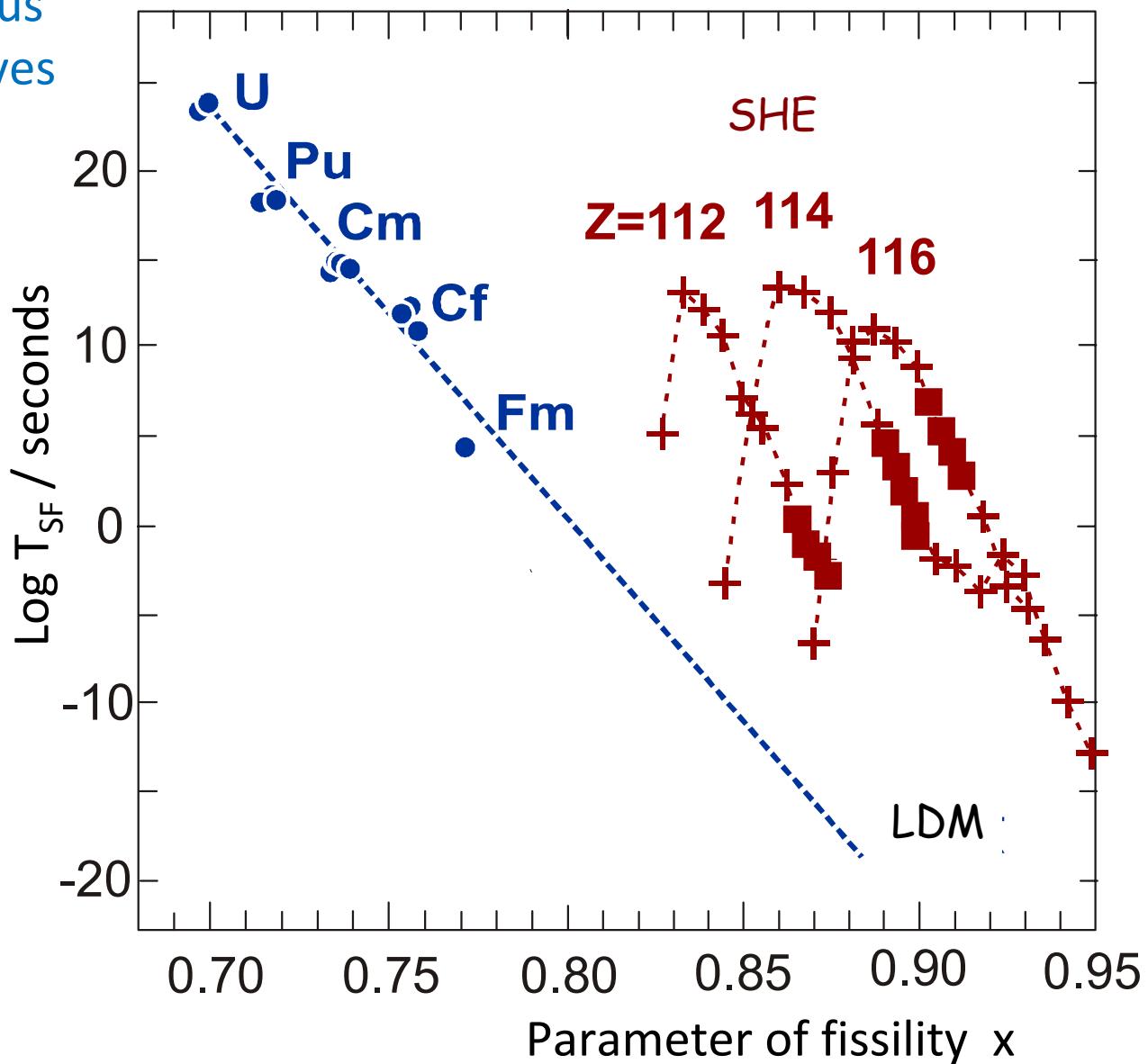
V.M. Strutinsky 1967

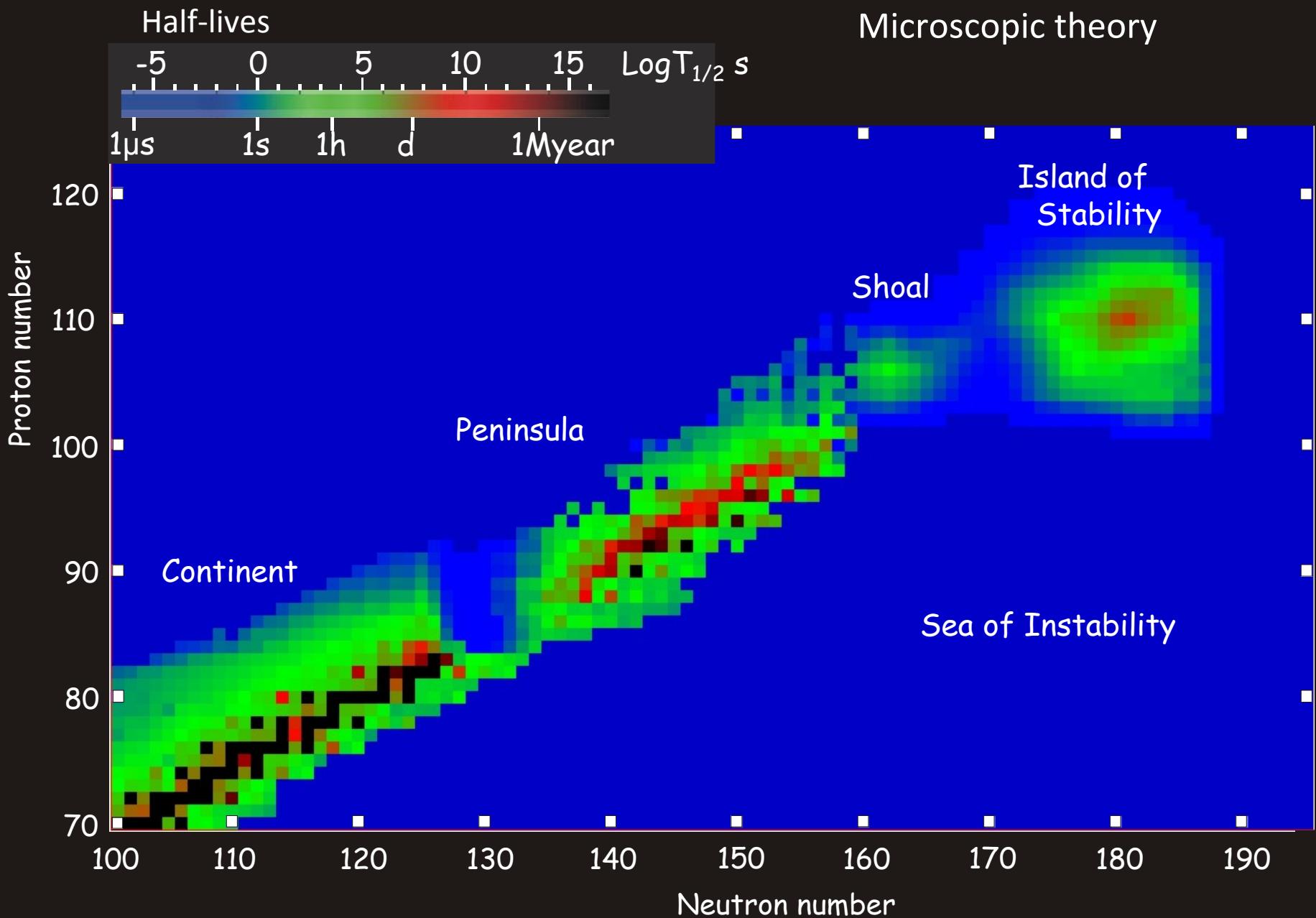


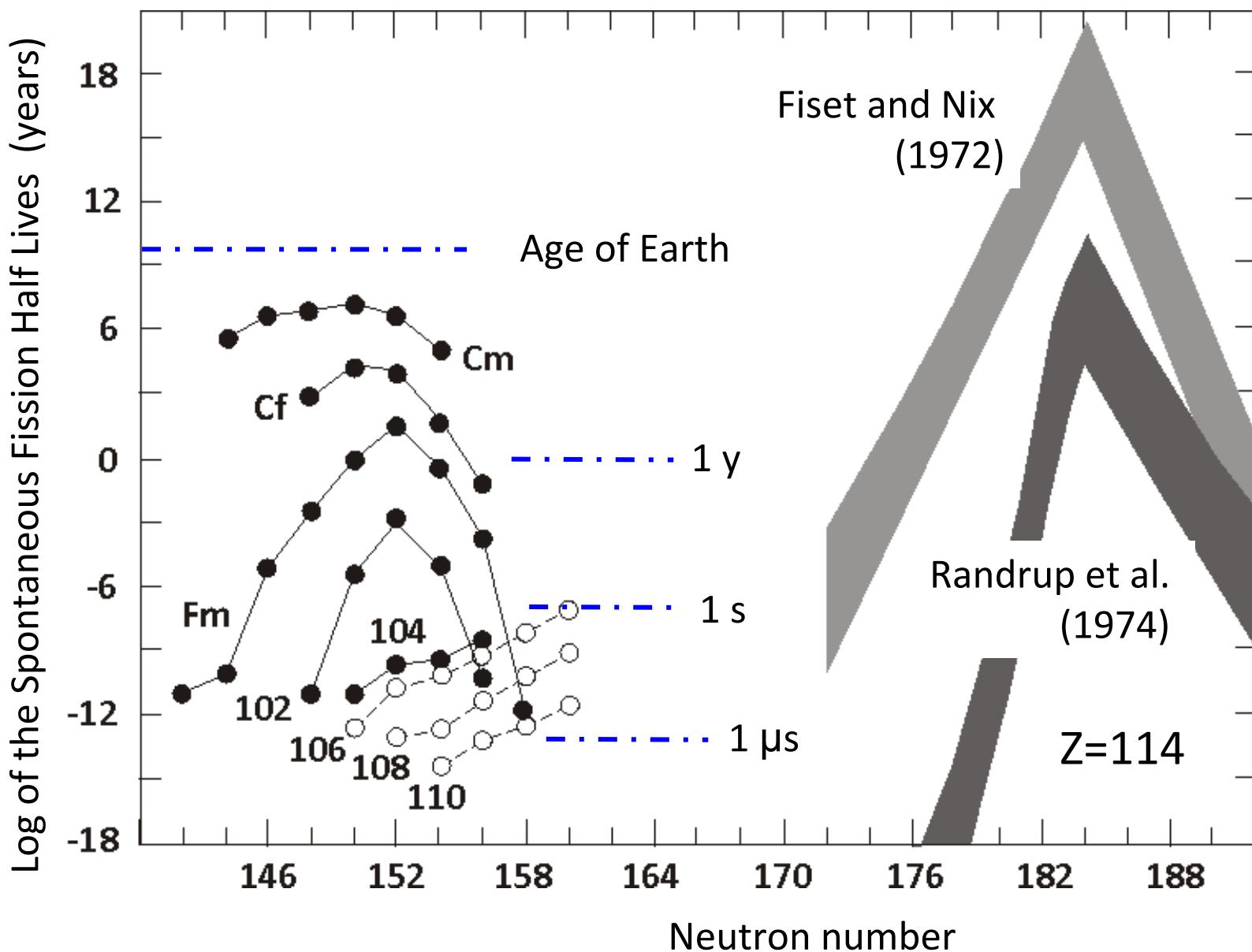
Fission barriers



Partial Spontaneous Fission Half-Lives







15-year long assault on the "Islands of Stability"

1970-1985

Los Alamos (USA)

Berkeley (USA)

Dubna (JINR)

Oak Ridge (USA)

Mainz (Germany)

Darmstadt (Germany)

Orsay (France)

Würenlingen (Switzerland)

Tokyo (Japan) some later

The task of every laboratory was:

To find the method of producing/detecting of superheavy elements

Search in nature: earth/lunar objects, cosmic rays,

artificial synthesis of superheavy elements

Use and develop a setup for synthesizing SHE

High-flux reactor, even nuclear explosion, powerful
accelerator of heavy ions,

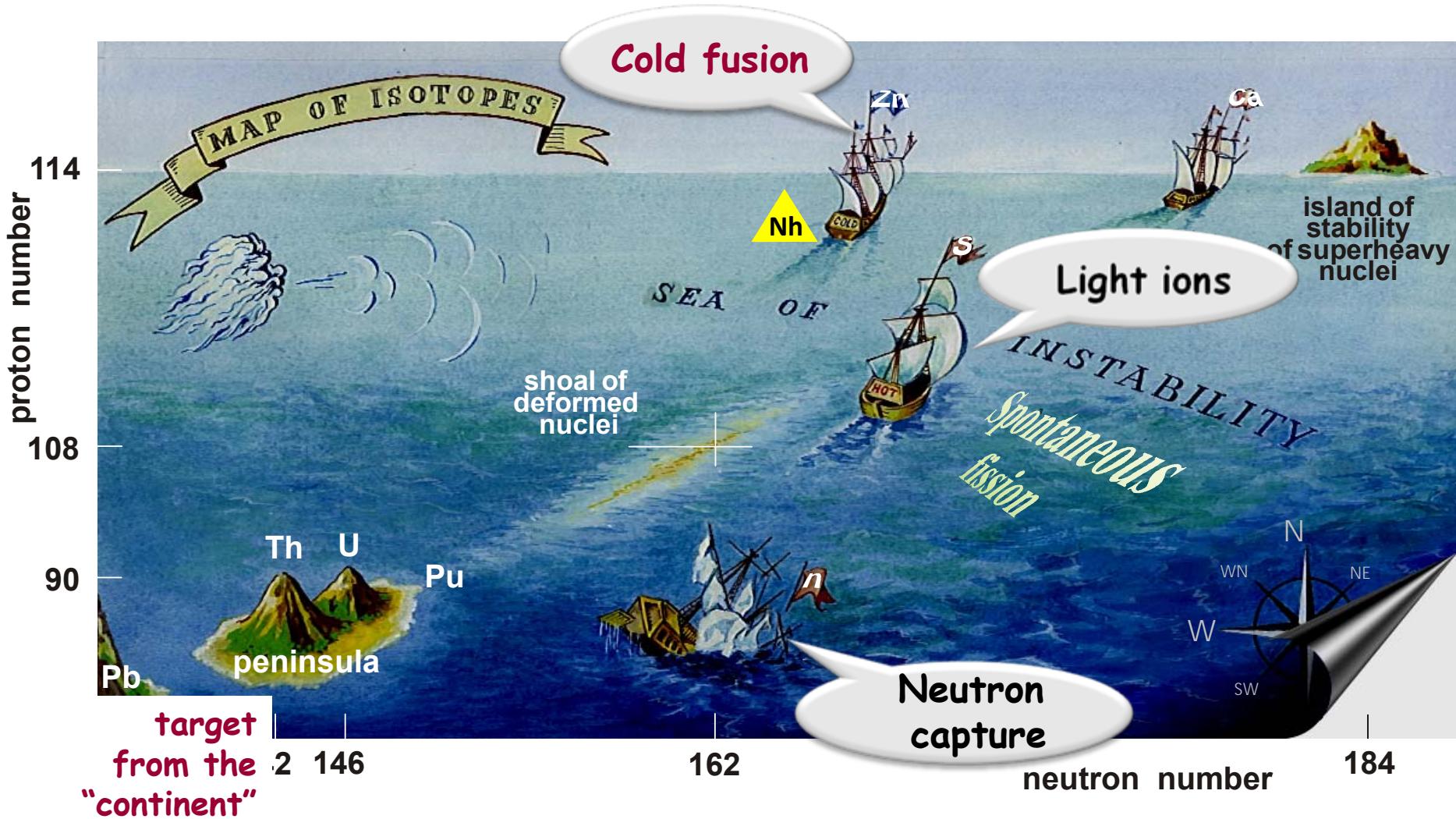
To develop setups and detectors for separating and registering the
rarest events of formation and decay of superheavy nuclei

separator/detector, spectrometer, chemical methods, etc.

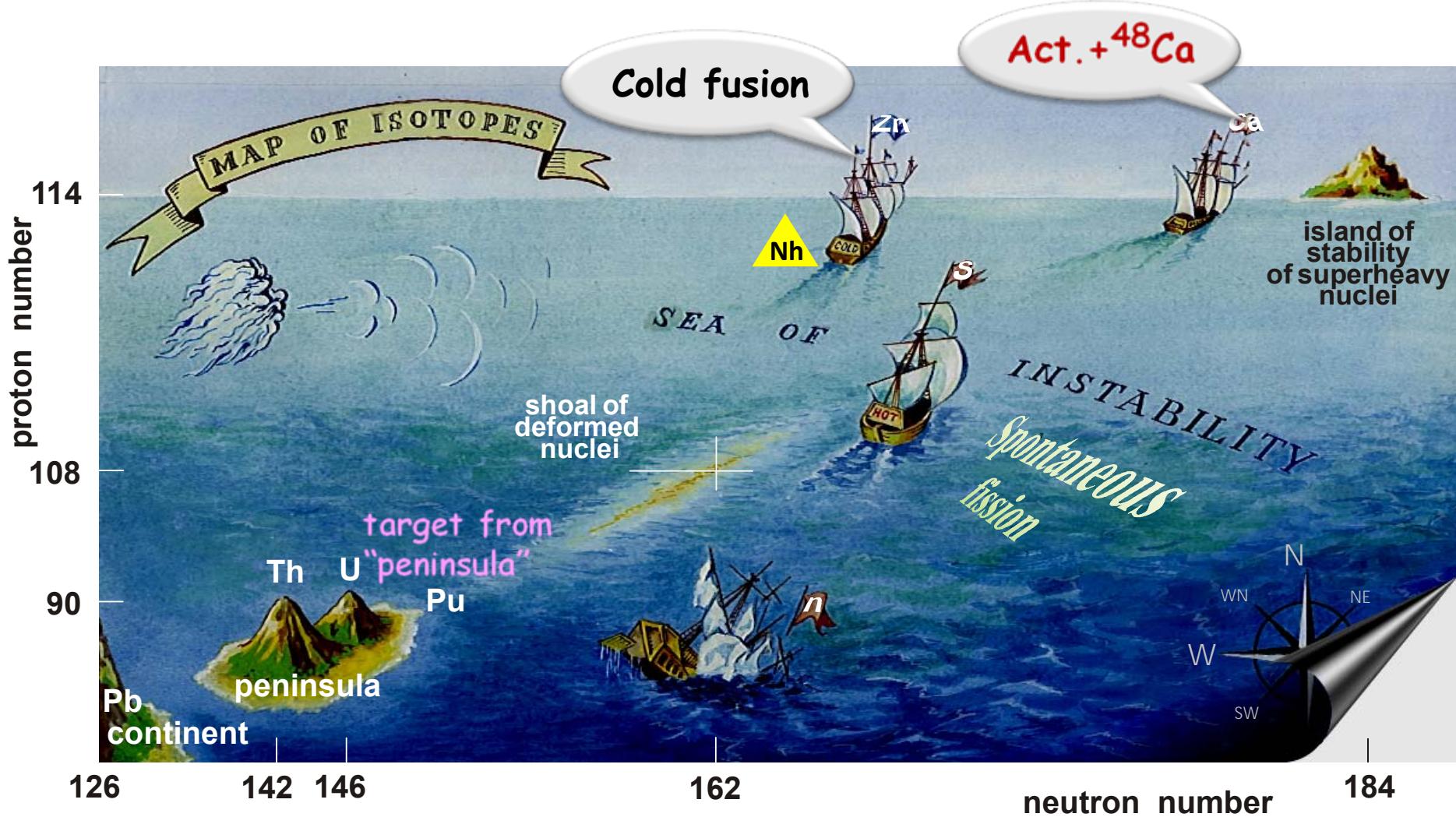
To have much patience

To work for many years, being ready to rearrange on the way and improve
the experimental technique

Reactions of synthesis

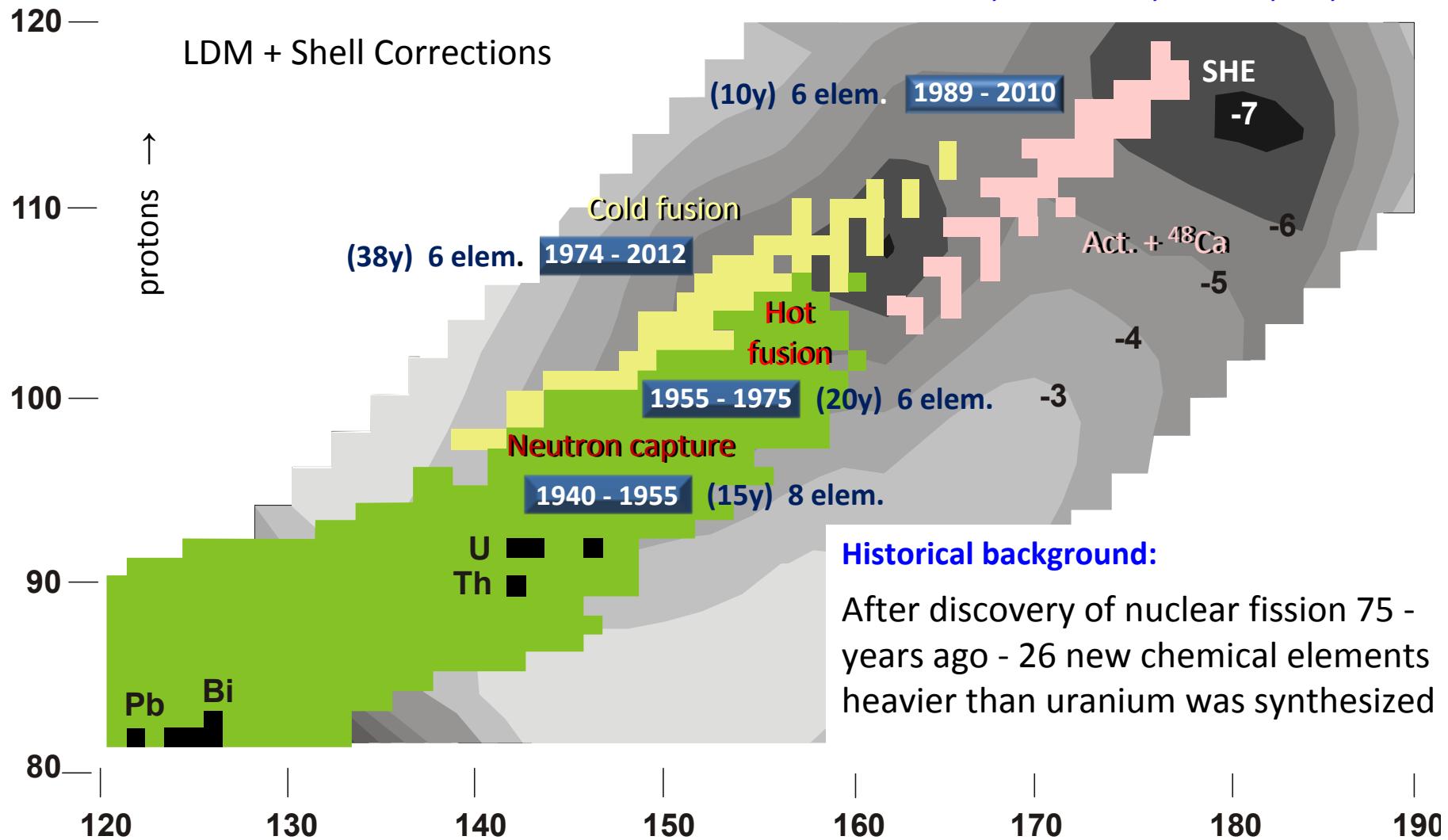


Reactions of synthesis



Reactions of Synthesis

A. Sobiczewski, K. Pomorski, PPNP 58, 292, 2007



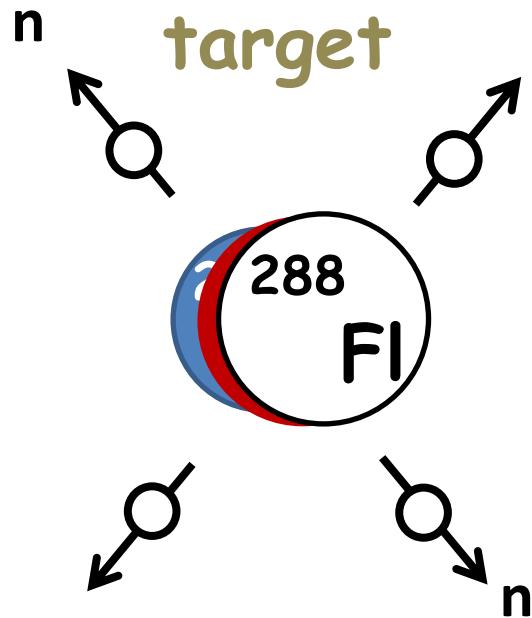
from
accelerator



projectiles

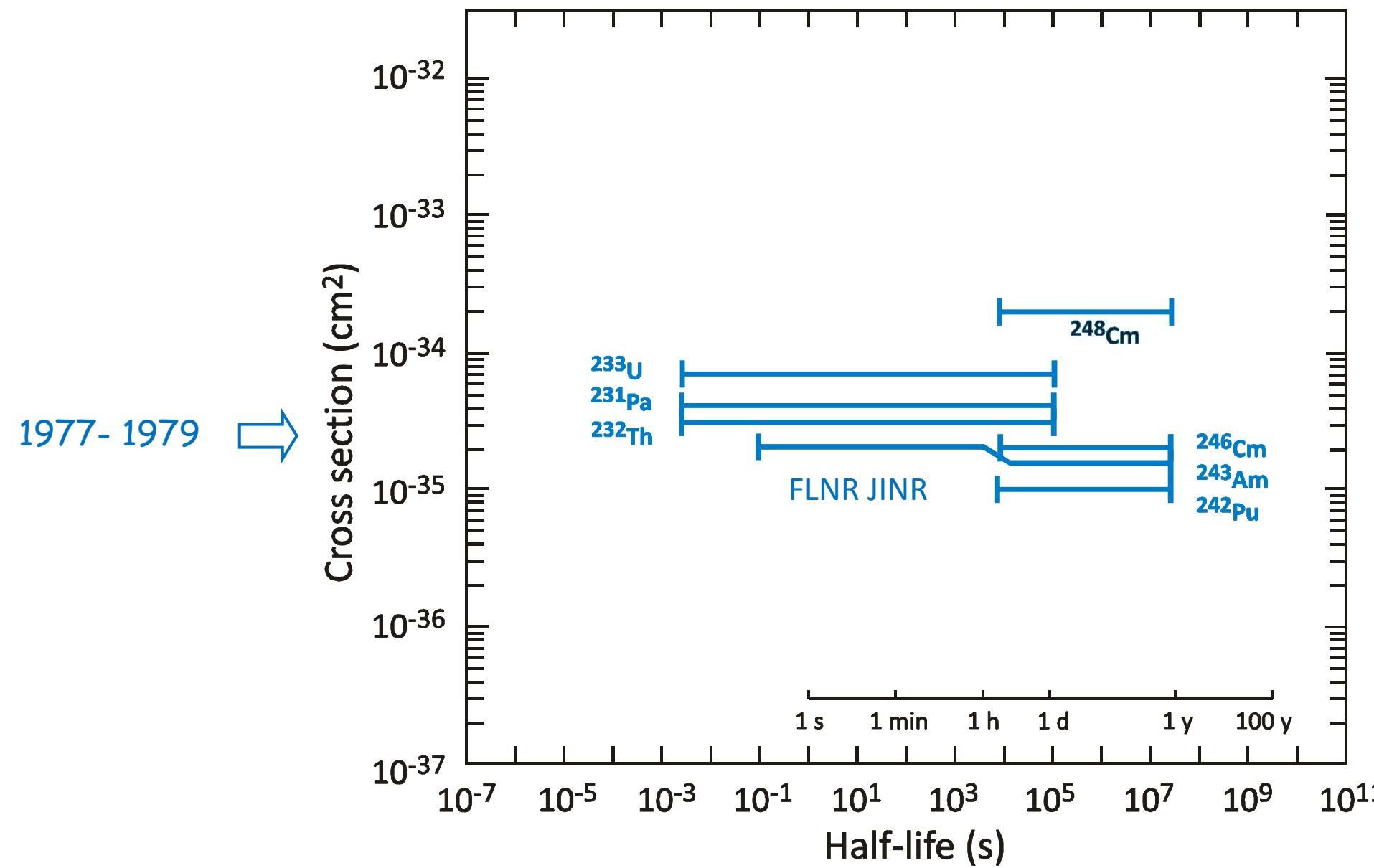
rare and very
expensive isotope of Ca

artificial element from
flux nuclear reactor



to separator

Experiments on the synthesis of SHE with ^{48}Ca -beam at FLNR (JINR)

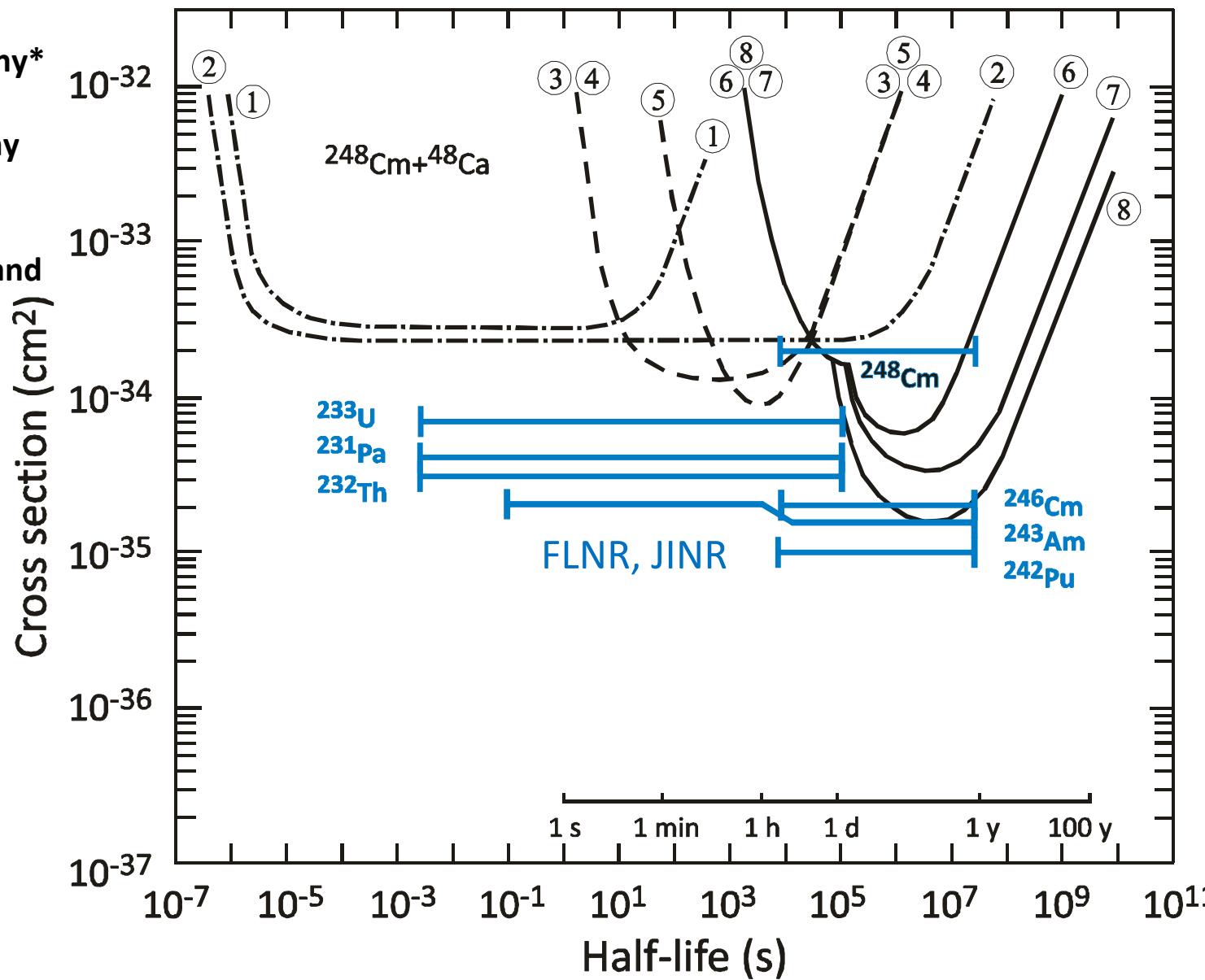


Experiments on the synthesis of Z=116 nuclei in the reaction $^{248}\text{Cm}+^{48}\text{Ca}$

GSI, Darmstadt, Germany*
 LBL, UC Berkeley, CA
 Univ. of Mainz, Germany
 LANL, Los Alamos, NM
 EIR, Würenlingen,
 Switzerland

1985 \Rightarrow

1977- 1979 \Rightarrow



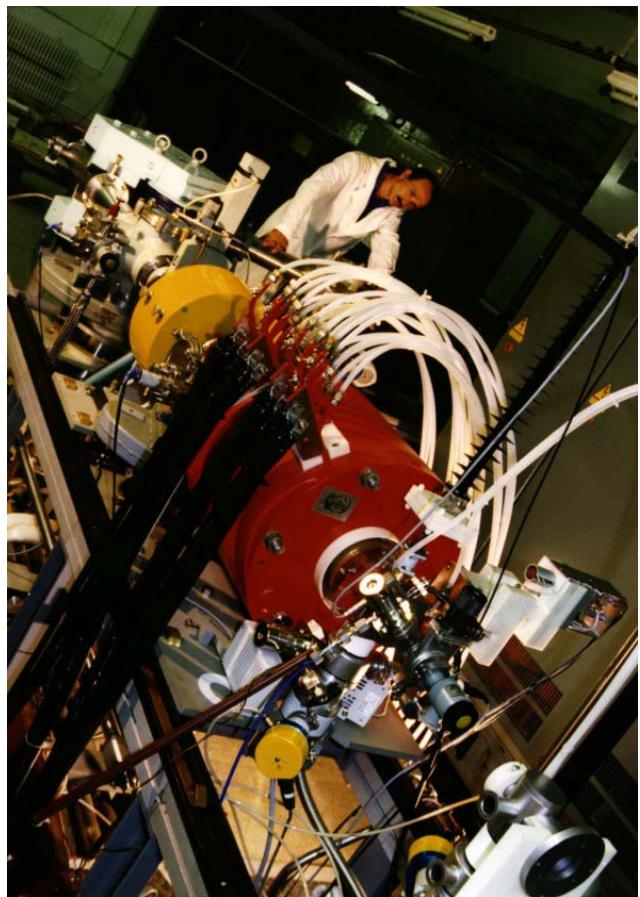
After this, an opinion arose that the “Stability Island” may exist but this cannot be verified...

Here our opinions have diverged

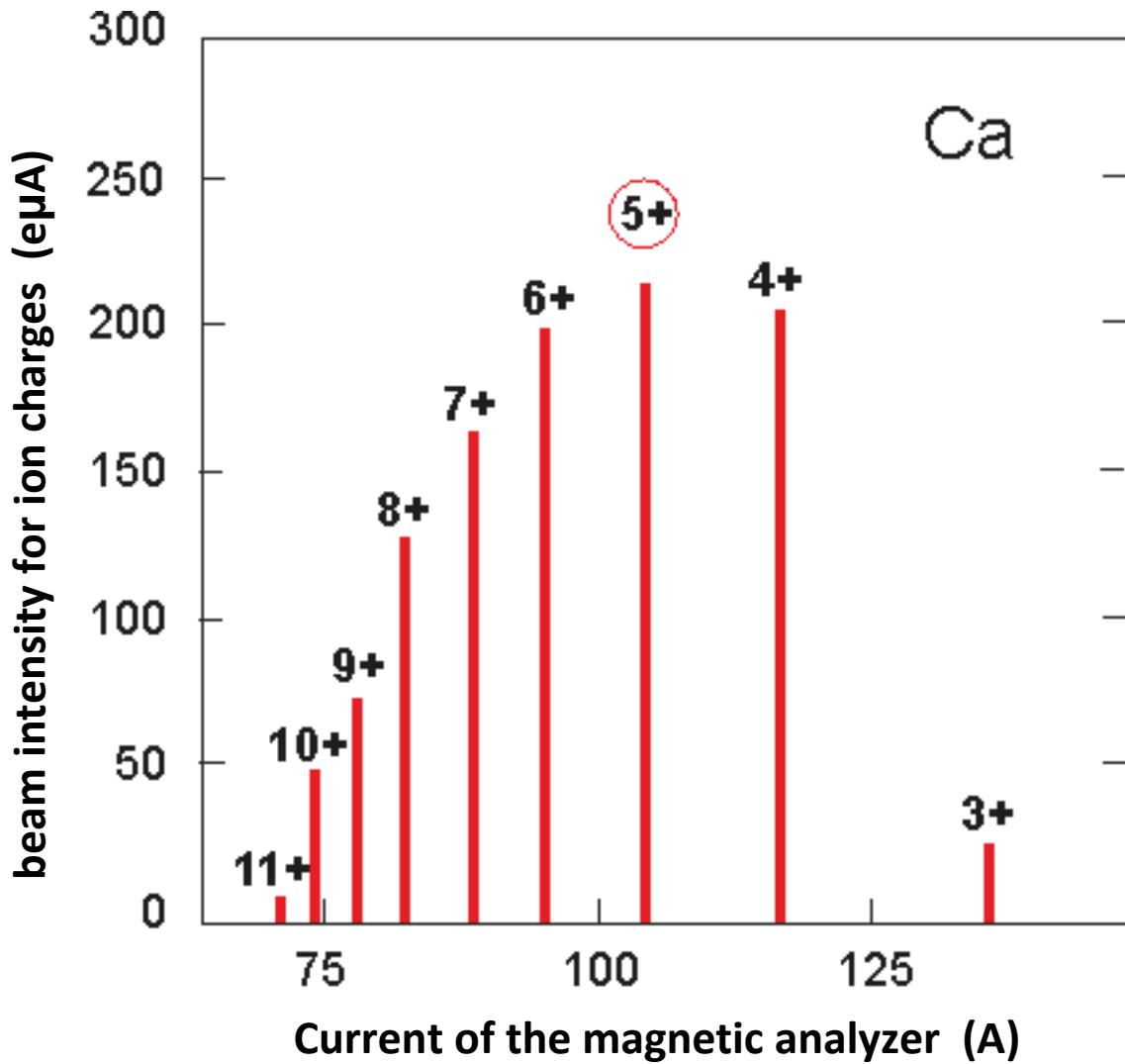
We did not share this view and, since the beginning of 1990, we started preparing:

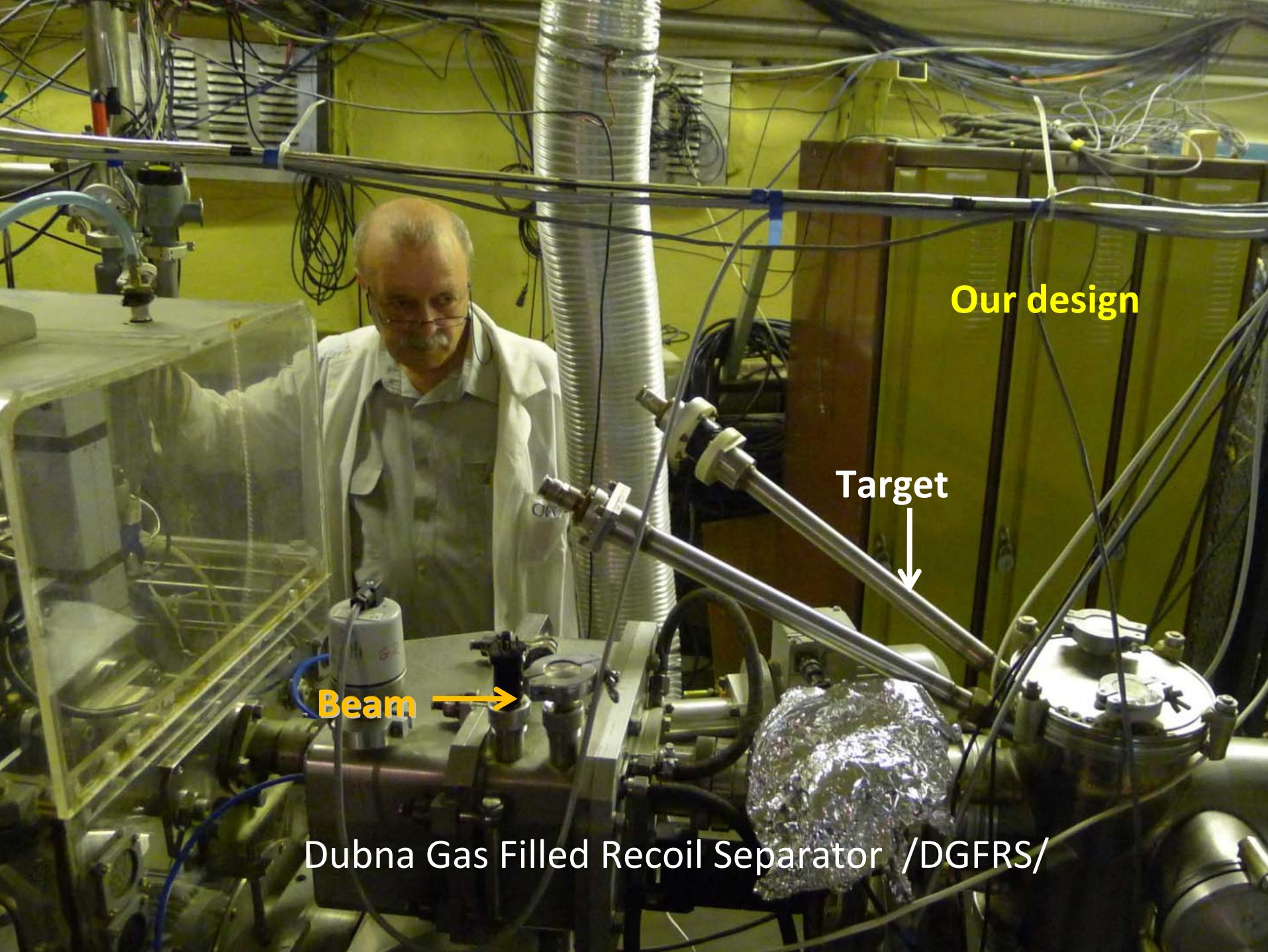
- development of a separator of superheavy nuclei in 1989
(gas-filled separator of recoil nuclei)
- search for the target materials and manufacturing targets, 1990
(collaboration with nuclear centers of Russia and USA)
- production of intense beam of Ca-48 in 1996
(new type of ion source ECR-4M)
- getting ready to long-term experiments, 1990-97.

Ion charge distribution of Ca-48 extracted from 14 GHz ECR-ion source



Our modification of
GANIL source



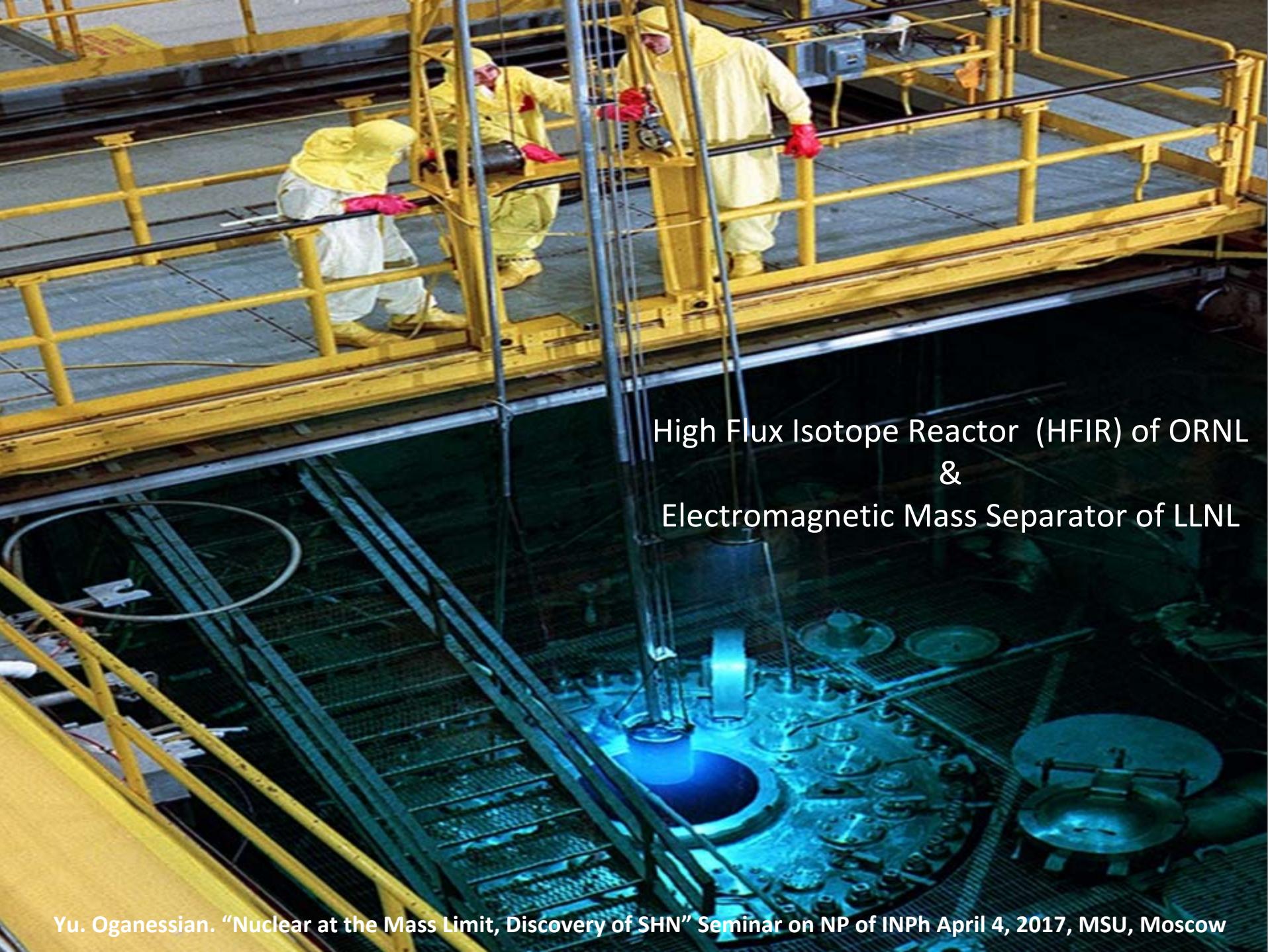


Our design

Target

Beam →

Dubna Gas Filled Recoil Separator /DGFRS/

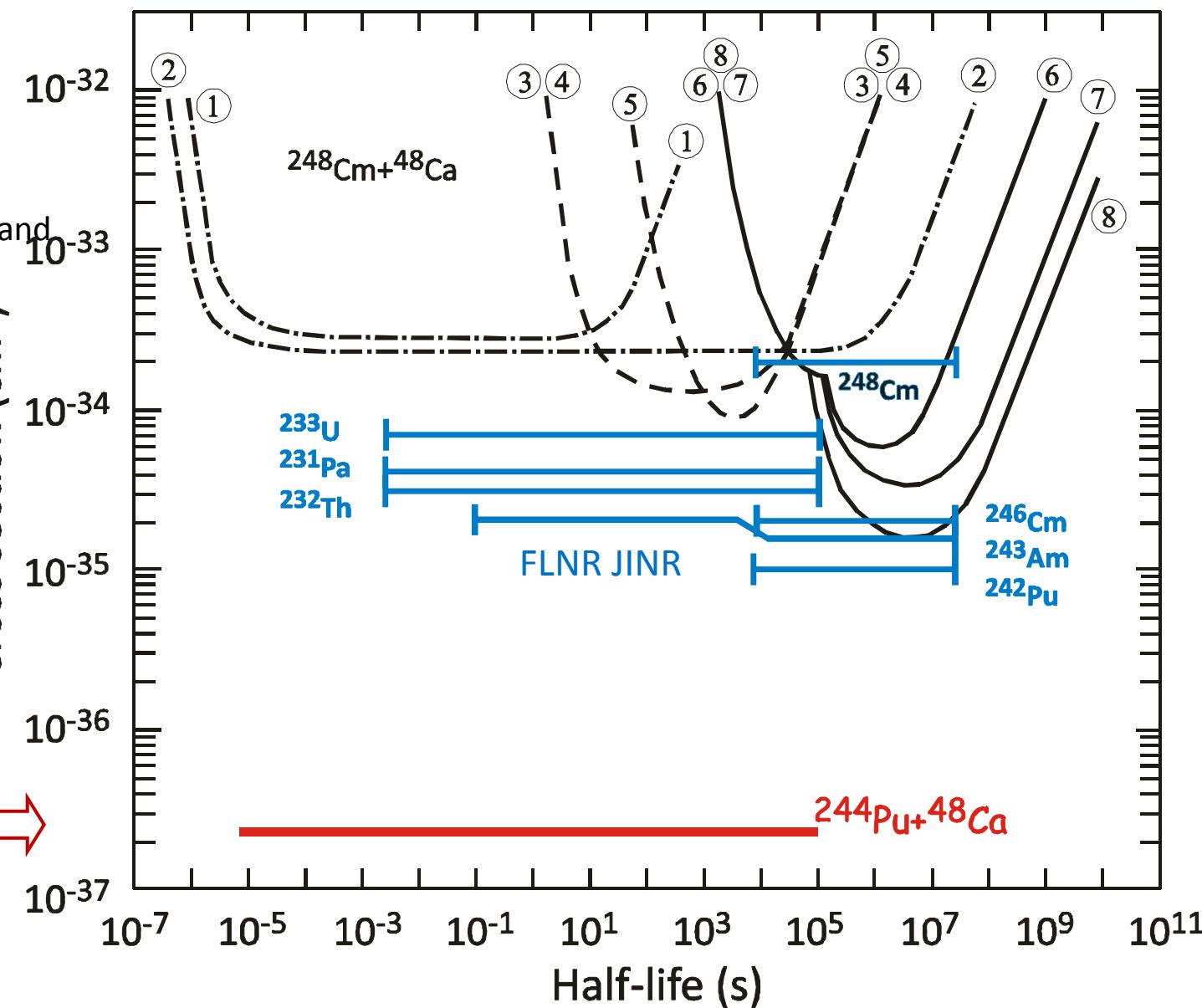


High Flux Isotope Reactor (HFIR) of ORNL
&
Electromagnetic Mass Separator of LLNL

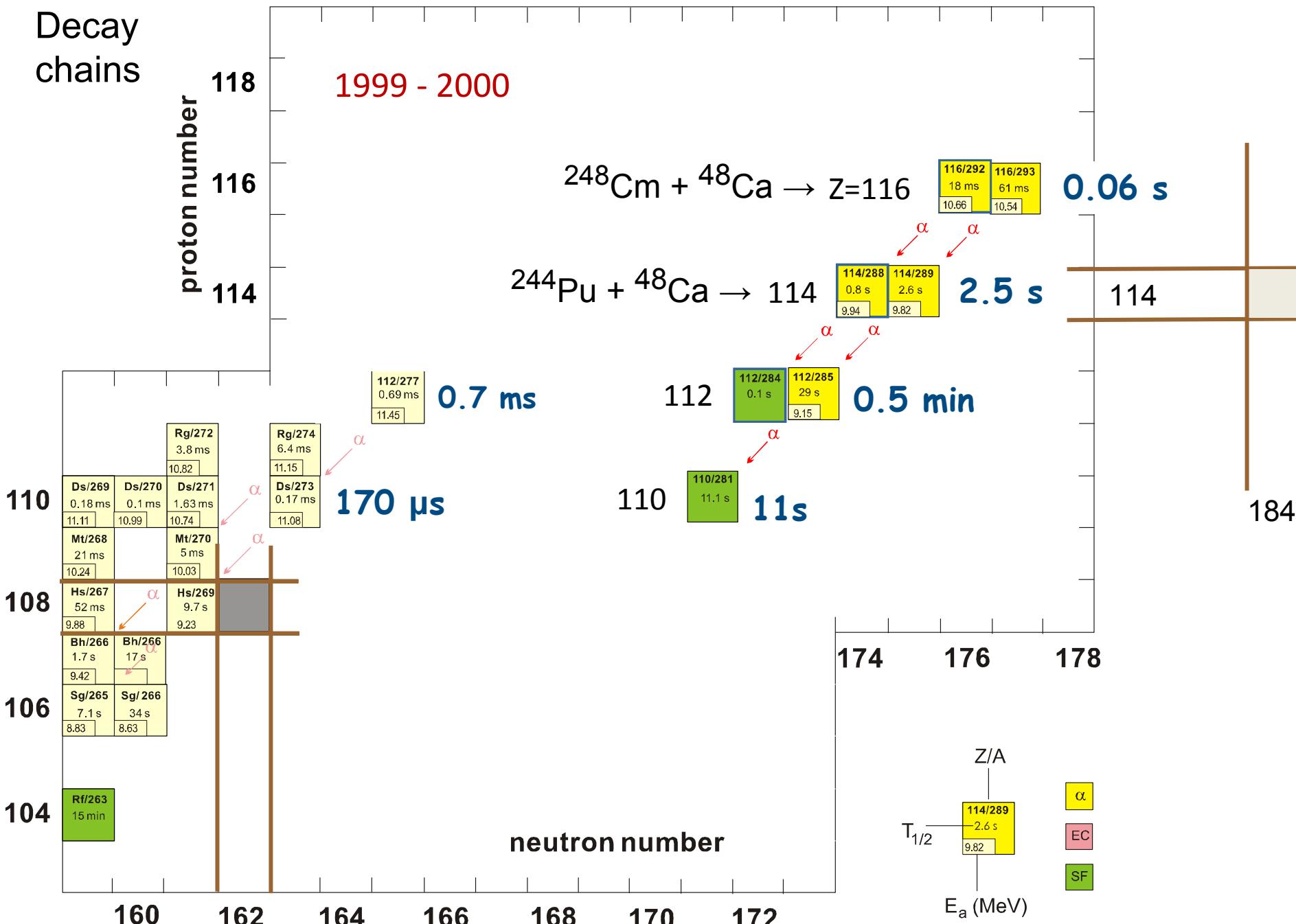
Experiments on the synthesis of SHE in ^{48}Ca induced reaction

GSI, Darmstadt, Germany*
LBL, UC Berkeley, CA
Univ. of Mainz, Germany
LANL, Los Alamos, NM
EIR, Würenlingen, Switzerland

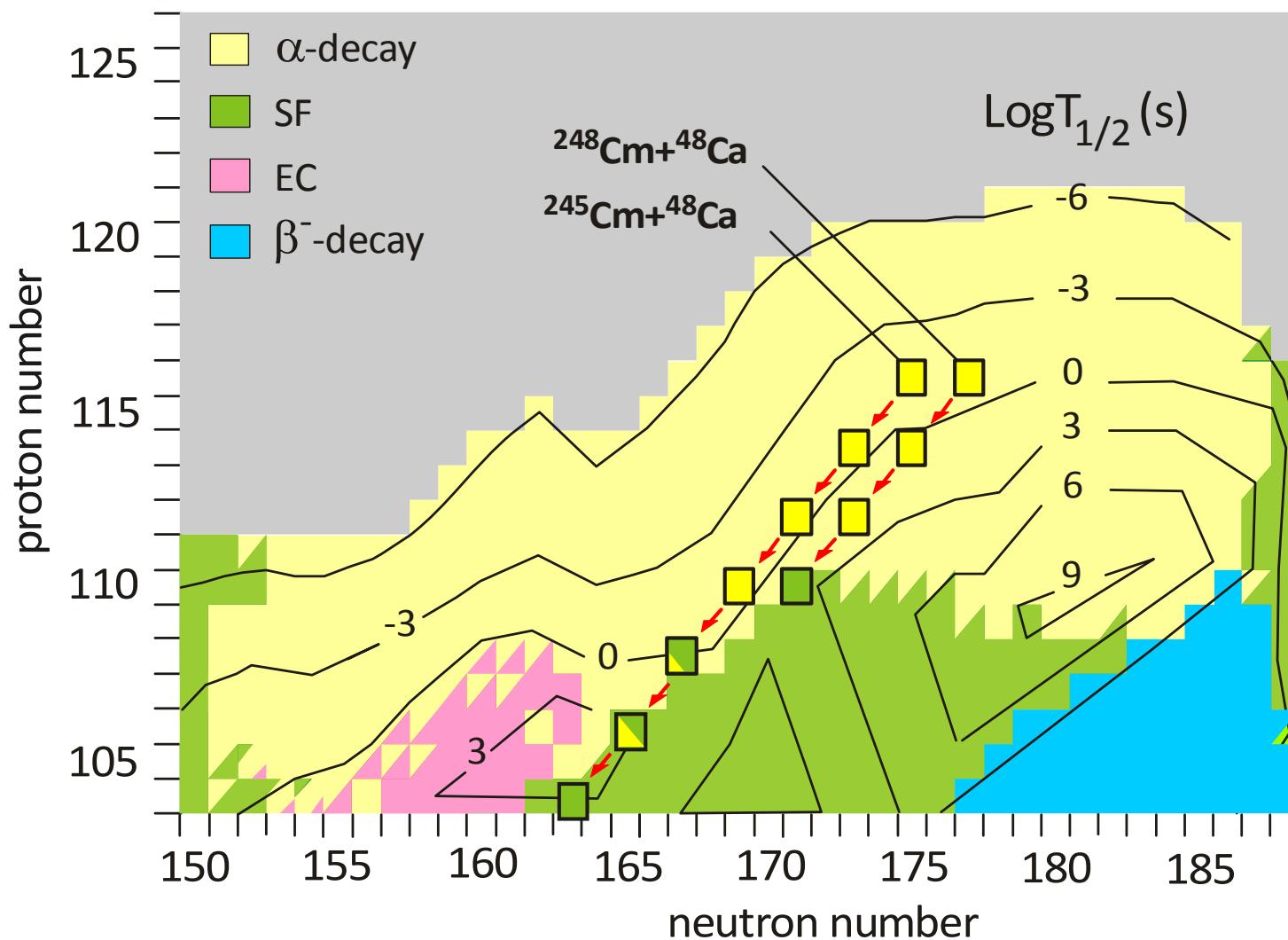
1985 Cross section (cm^2)
1977- 1979 $248\text{Cm} + ^{48}\text{Ca}$
1999 $244\text{Pu} + ^{48}\text{Ca}$



Decay chains



Decay chains of the isotopes of Element 116: ^{291}Lv and ^{293}Lv

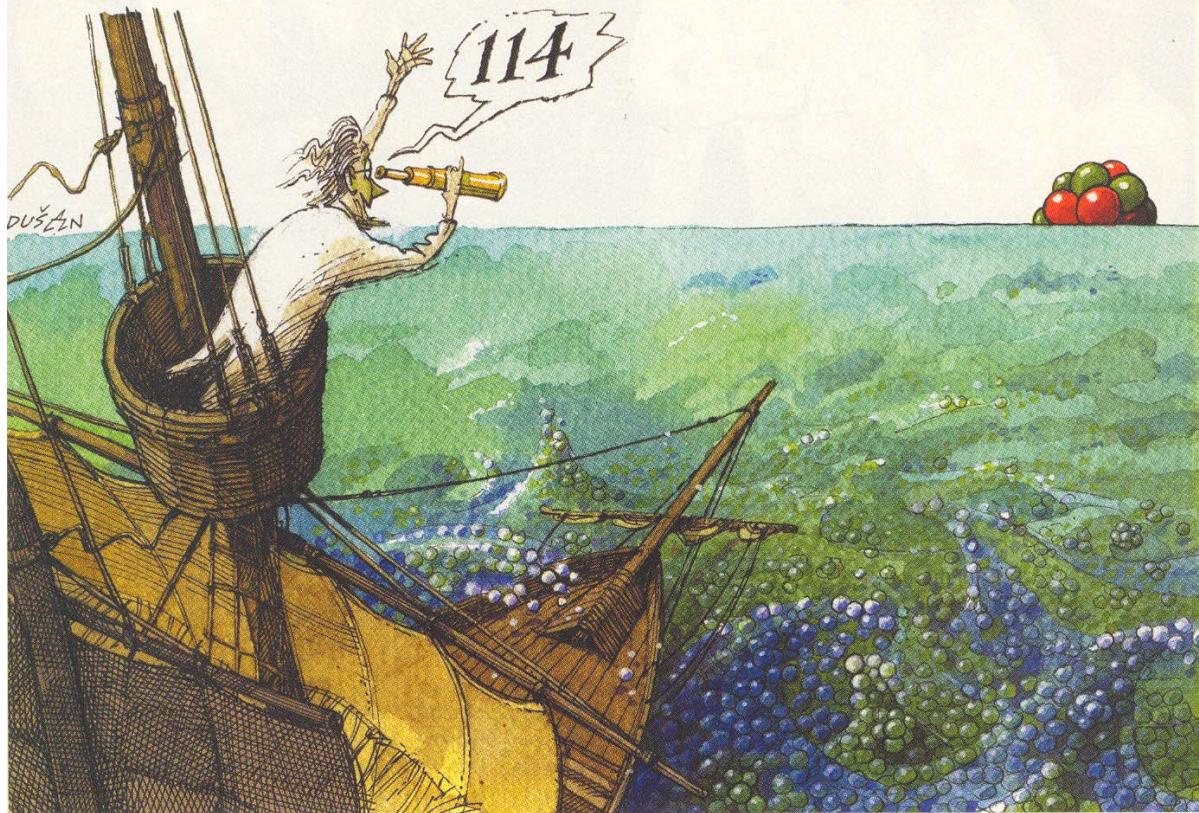


an Article from

SCIENTIFIC
AMERICAN

JANUARY 2000 VOL. 282 NO. 1

Voyage to SUPERHEAVY Island

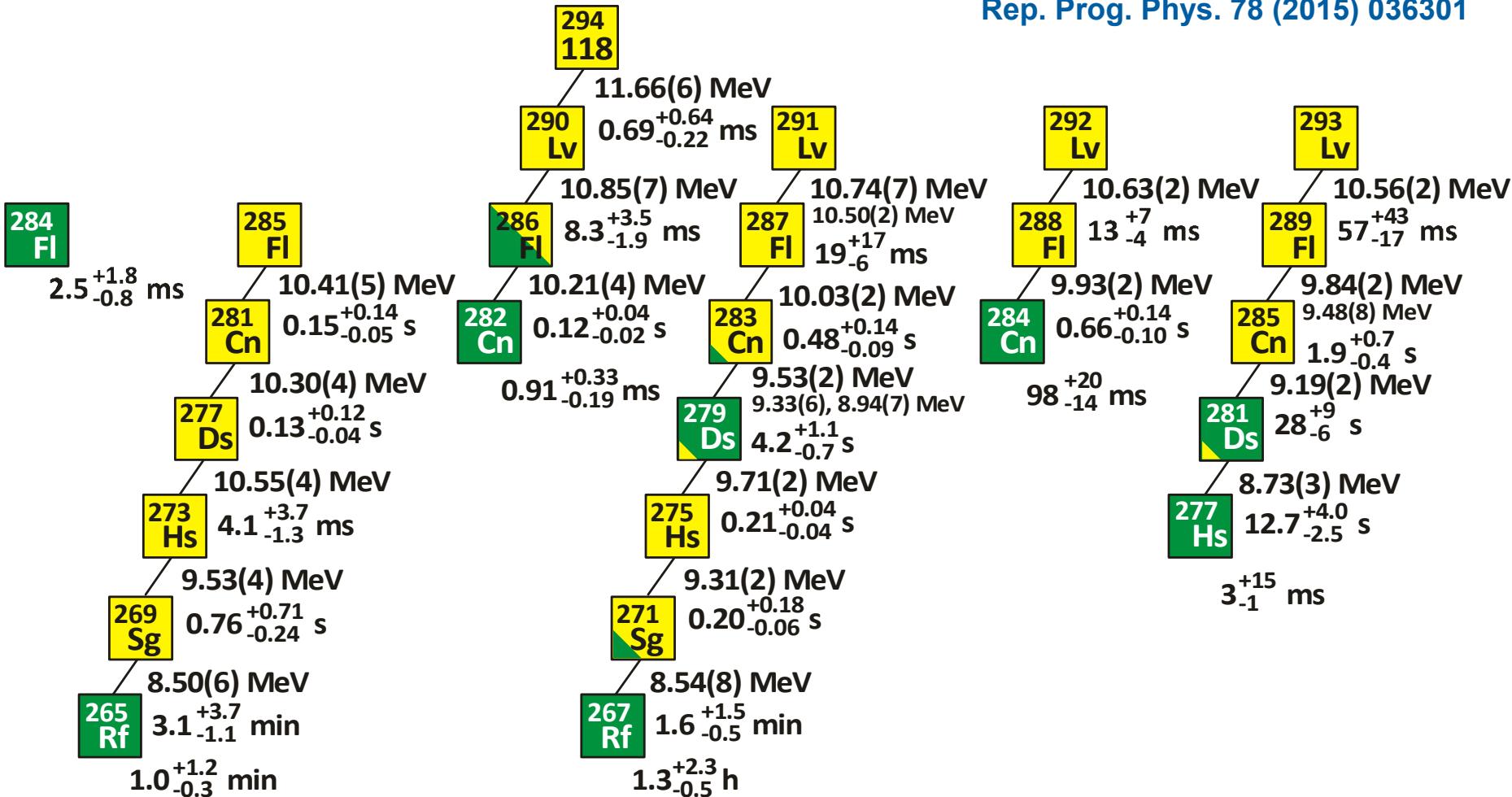


The synthesis of element 114 confirmed decades-old theoretical predictions of a little patch of nuclear stability in a sea of short-lived superheavy nuclei

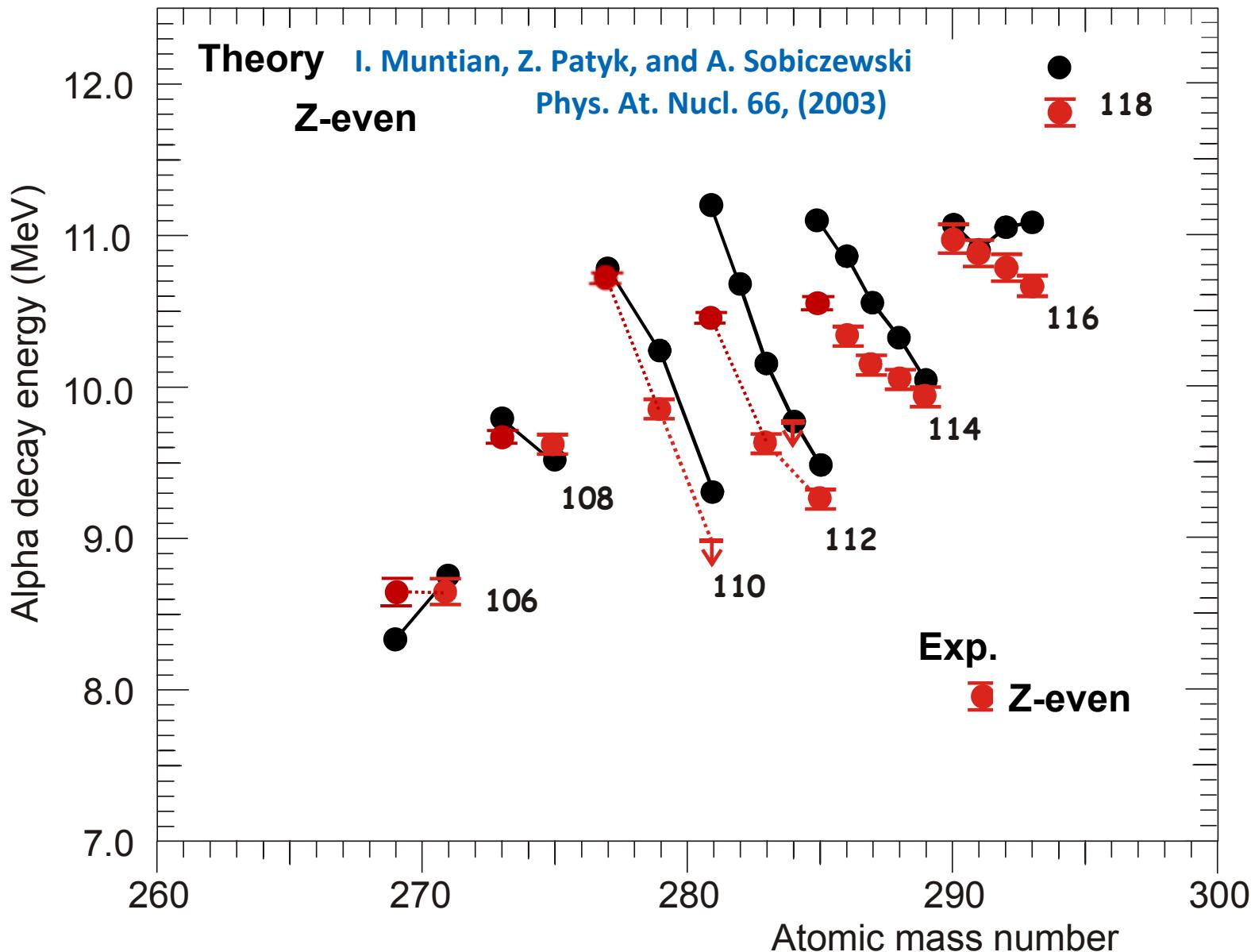
Summary decay properties of the isotopes of elements 112, 114, 116 and 118 observed in ^{238}U , $^{240,242,244}\text{Pu}$, $^{245,248}\text{Cm}$ and $^{249}\text{Cf} + ^{48}\text{Ca}$ reactions

2015

Yu Ts Oganessian and V K Utyonkov,
Rep. Prog. Phys. 78 (2015) 036301

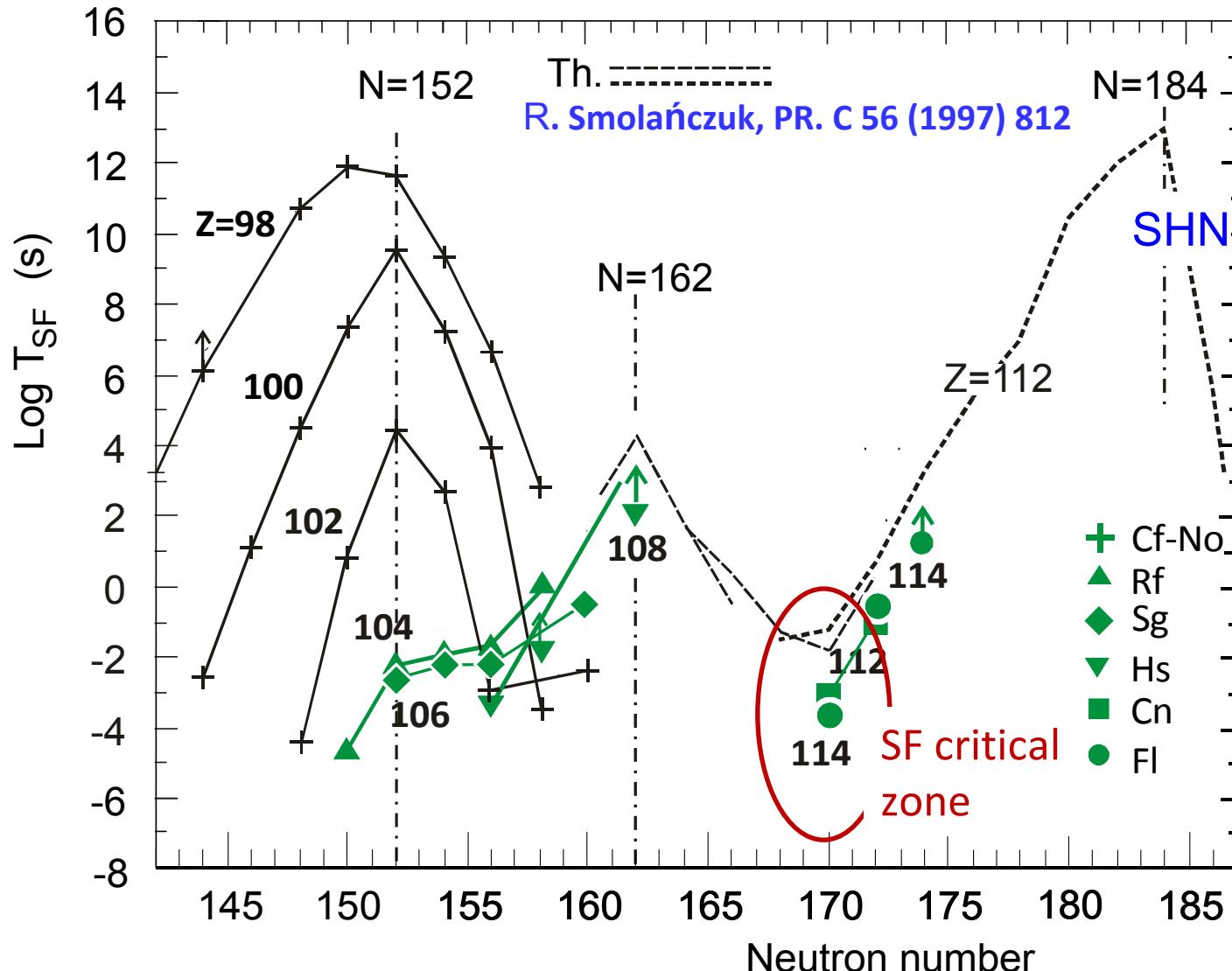


Alpha - decay



Spontaneous fission

even-even isotopes



Cross sections

hot fusion

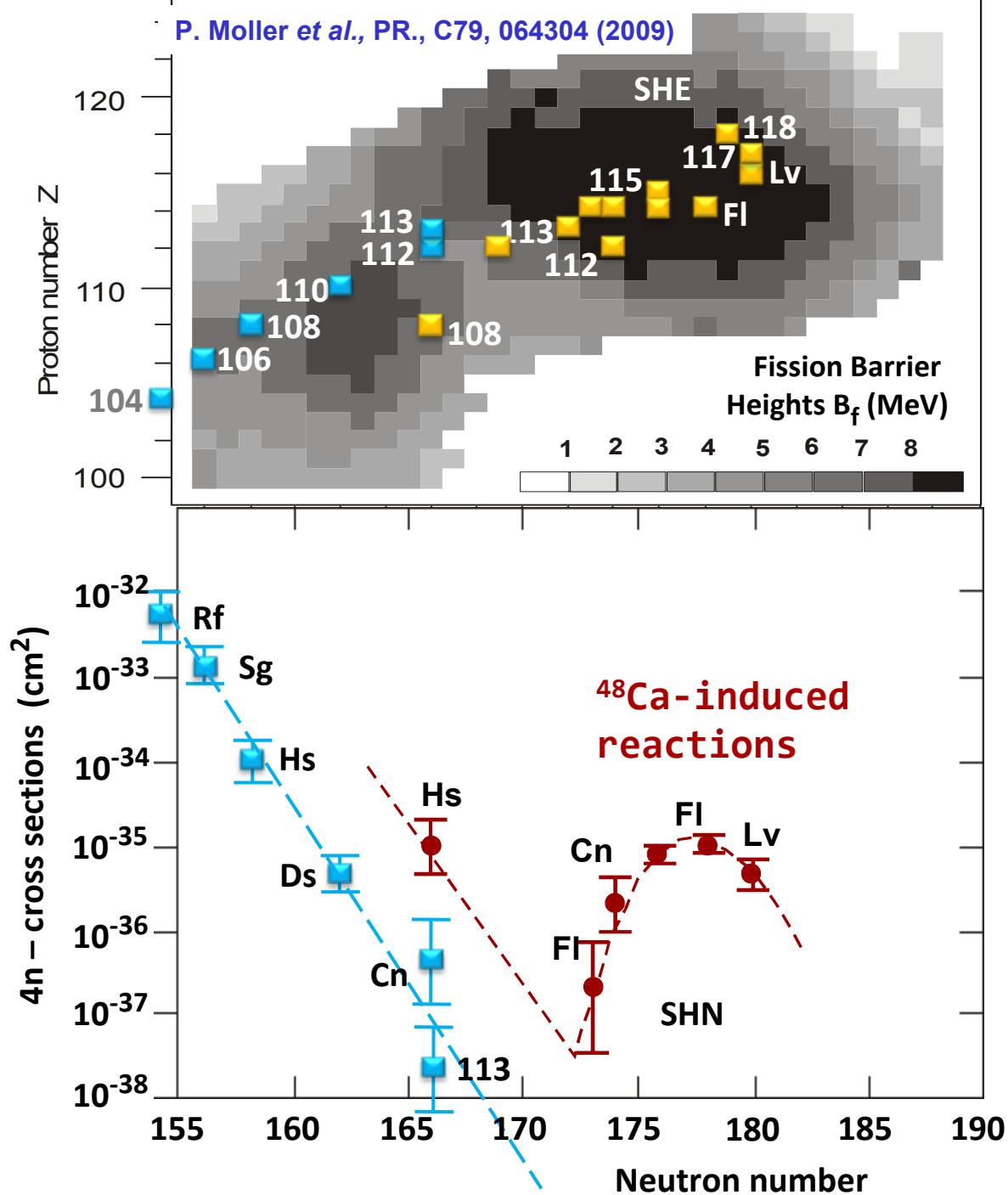
$^{48}\text{Ca} + ^{238}\text{U}, \dots, ^{249}\text{Cf}$

$E_x = 40 - 45 \text{ MeV}$
 $x = 4 - 5$

cold fusion

$^{208}\text{Pb}, ^{209}\text{Bi} + ^{50}\text{Ti}, \dots, ^{70}\text{Zn}$

$E_x = 12 - 15 \text{ MeV}$
 $x = 1$



Odd-Z Superheavy Nuclei

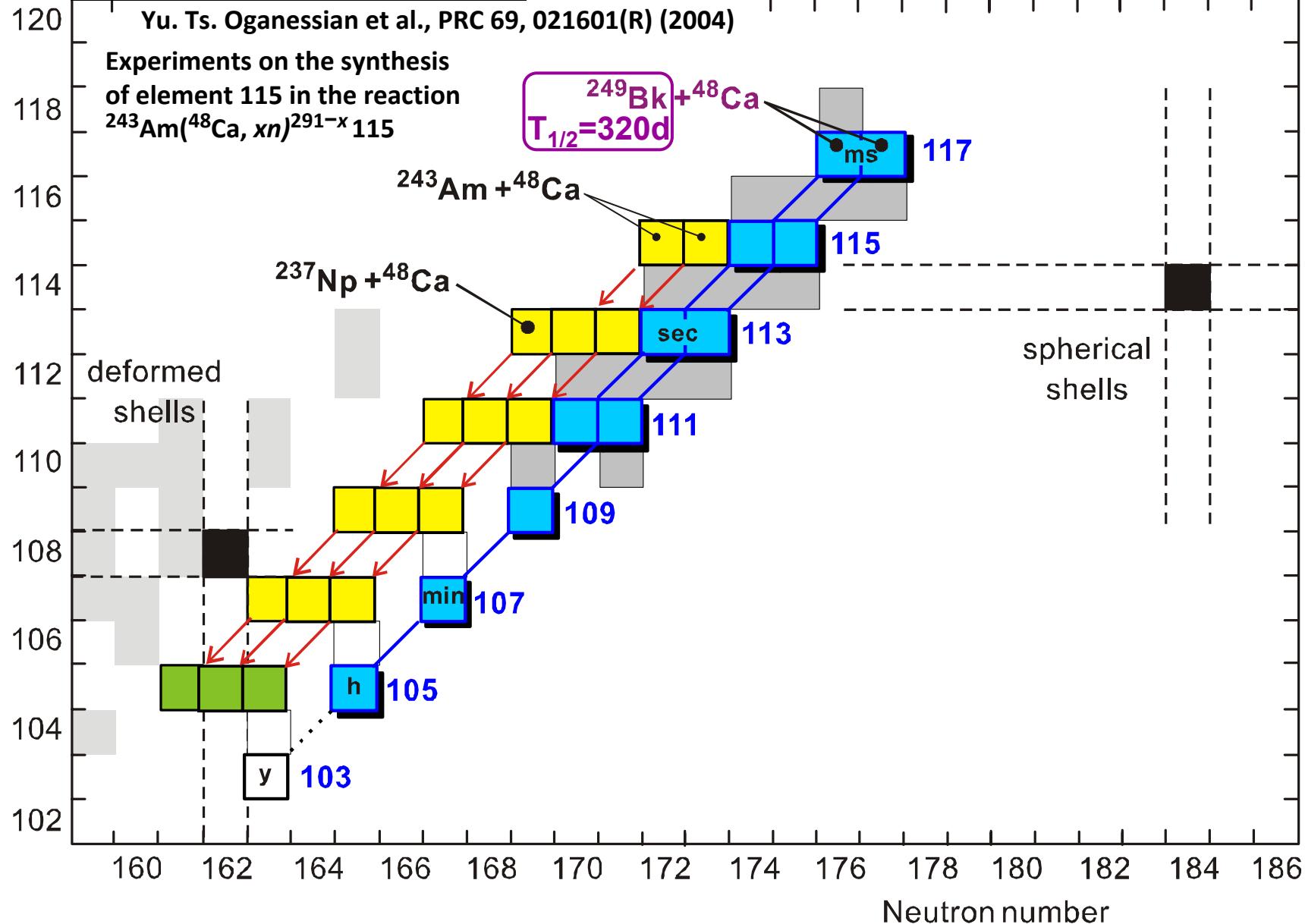
**Synthesis of the Isotopes
with Z =113, 115 and 117**

RAPID COMMUNICATIONS

Yu. Ts. Oganessian et al., PRC 69, 021601(R) (2004)

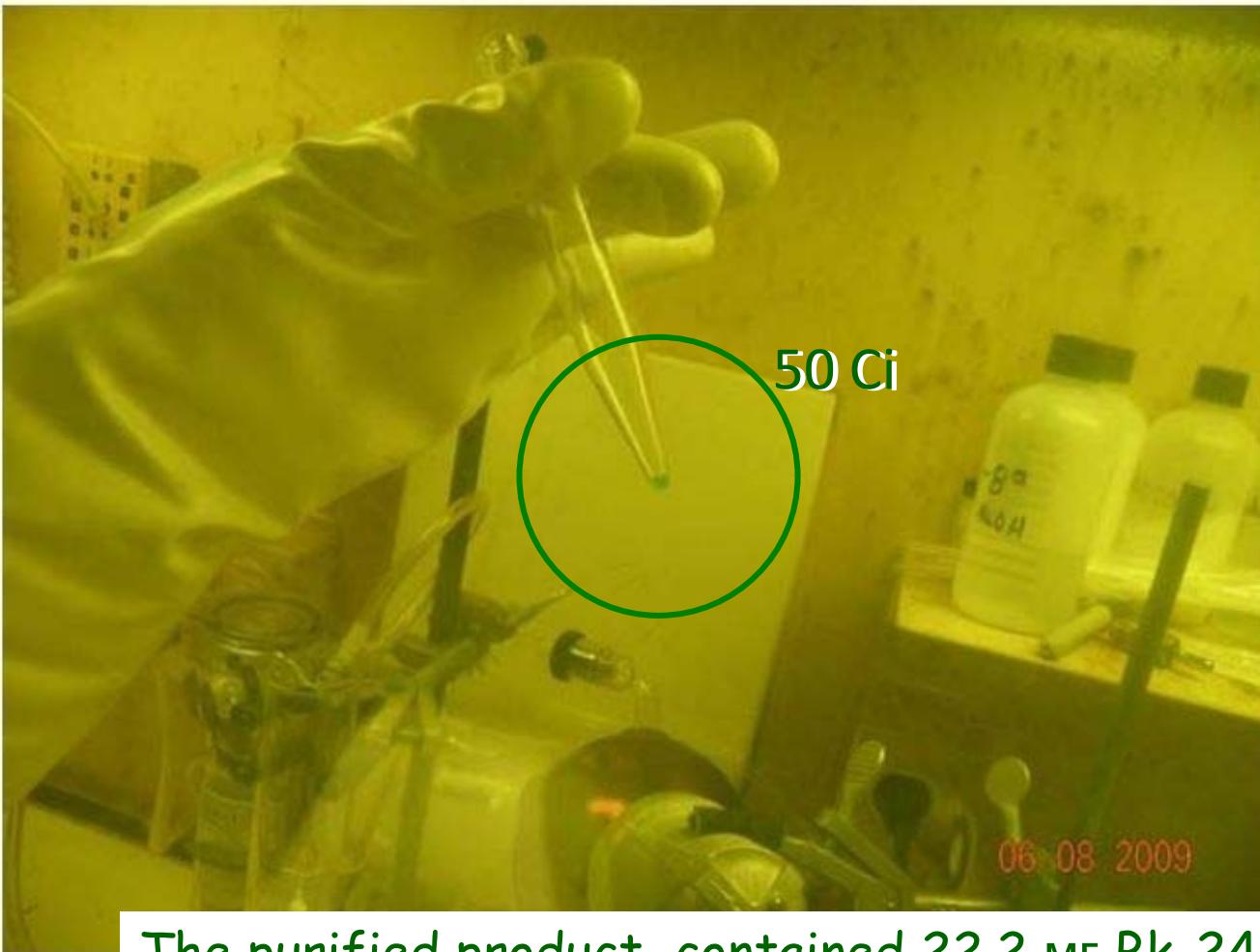
Experiments on the synthesis
of element 115 in the reaction
 $^{243}\text{Am}(^{48}\text{Ca}, xn)^{291-x} 115$

Proton number





Yu. Oganessian. "Nuclear at the Mass Limit, Discovery of SHN" Seminar on NP of INPh April 4, 2017, MSU, Moscow



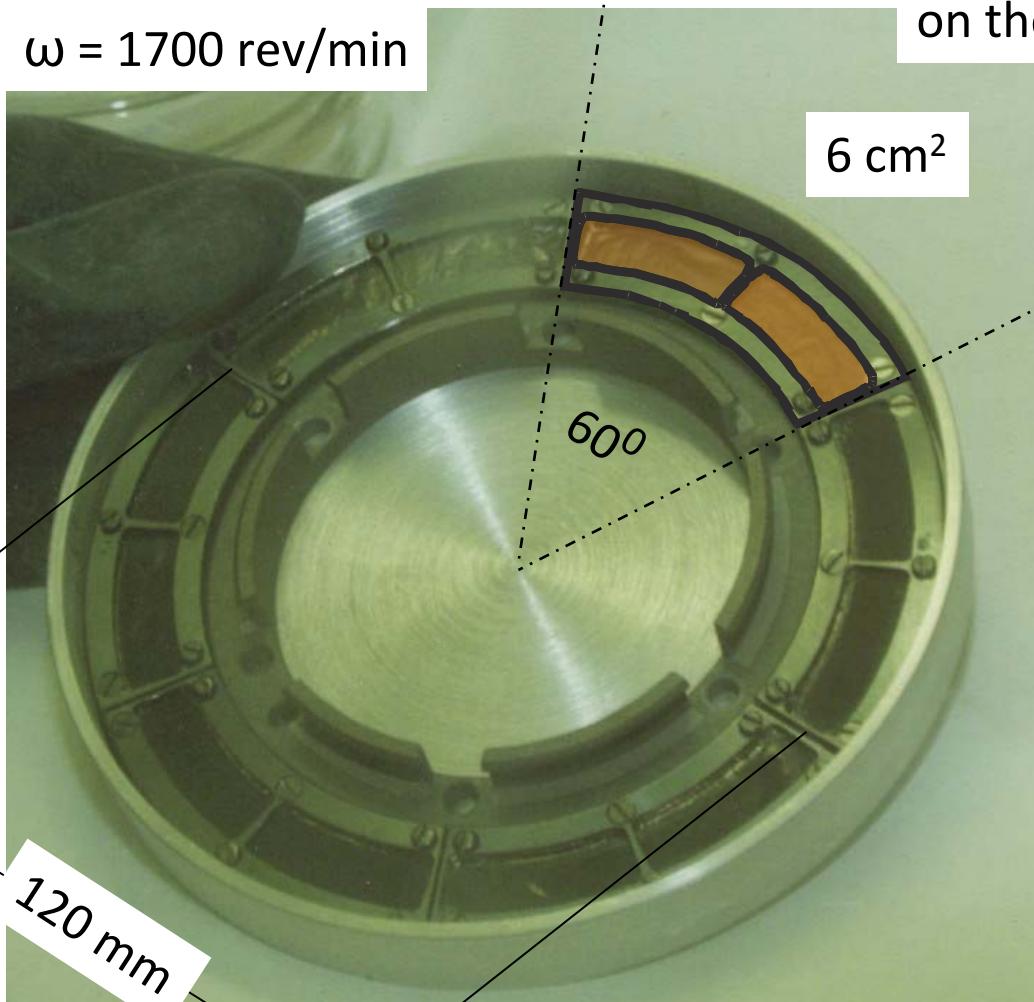
The purified product contained 22.2 мг Bk-249

$\text{Bk}(\text{NO}_3)_3$ Product

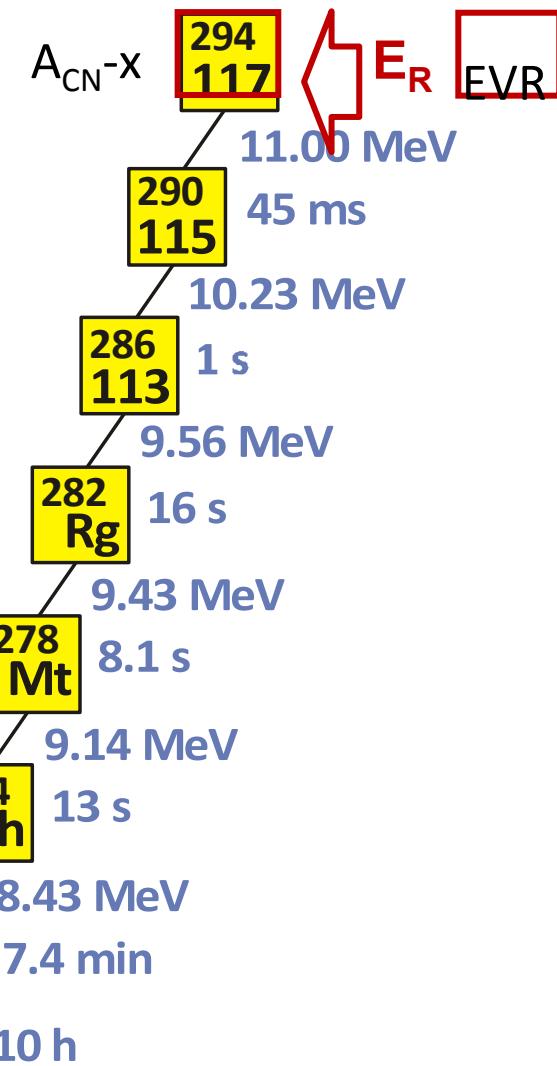
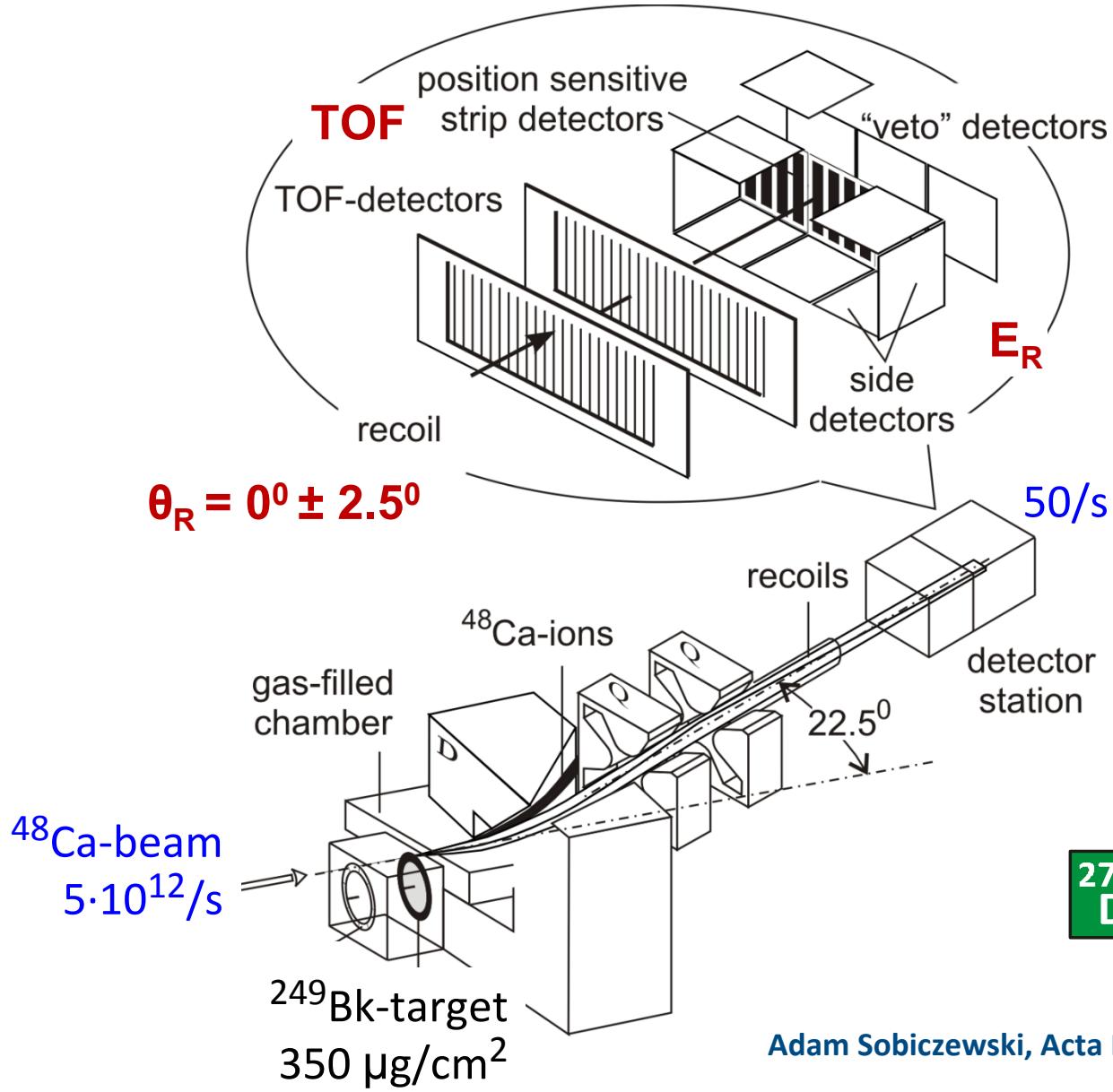
Target

$\omega = 1700 \text{ rev/min}$

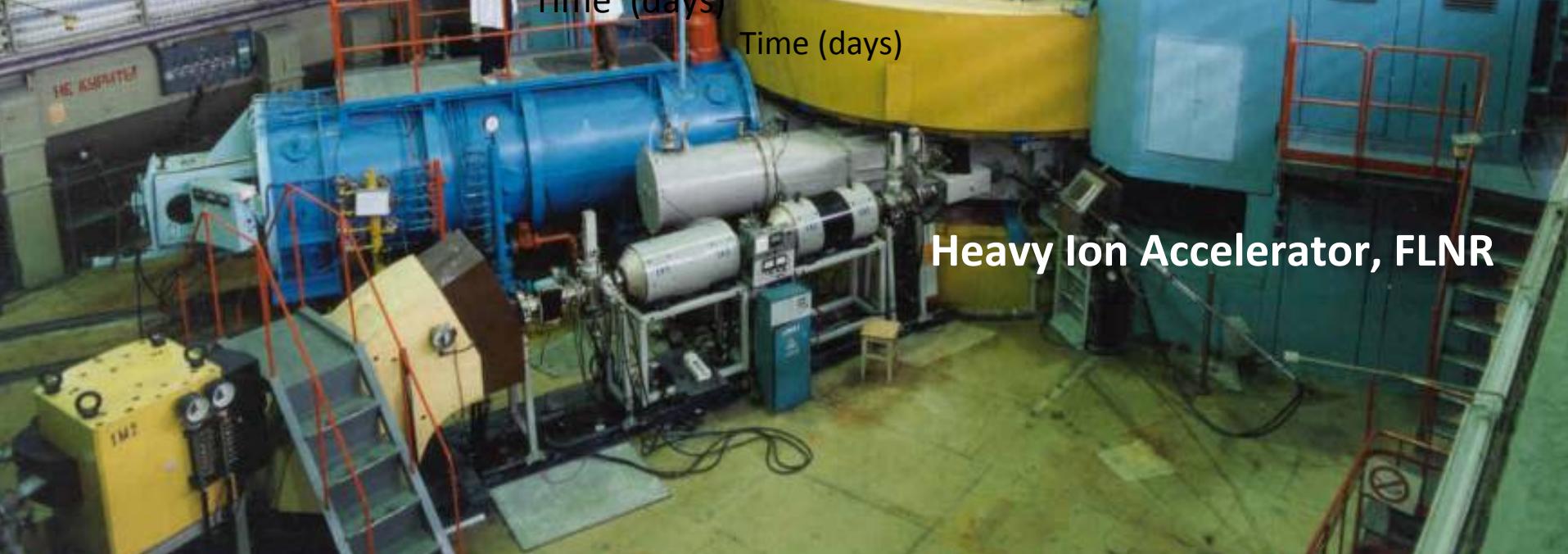
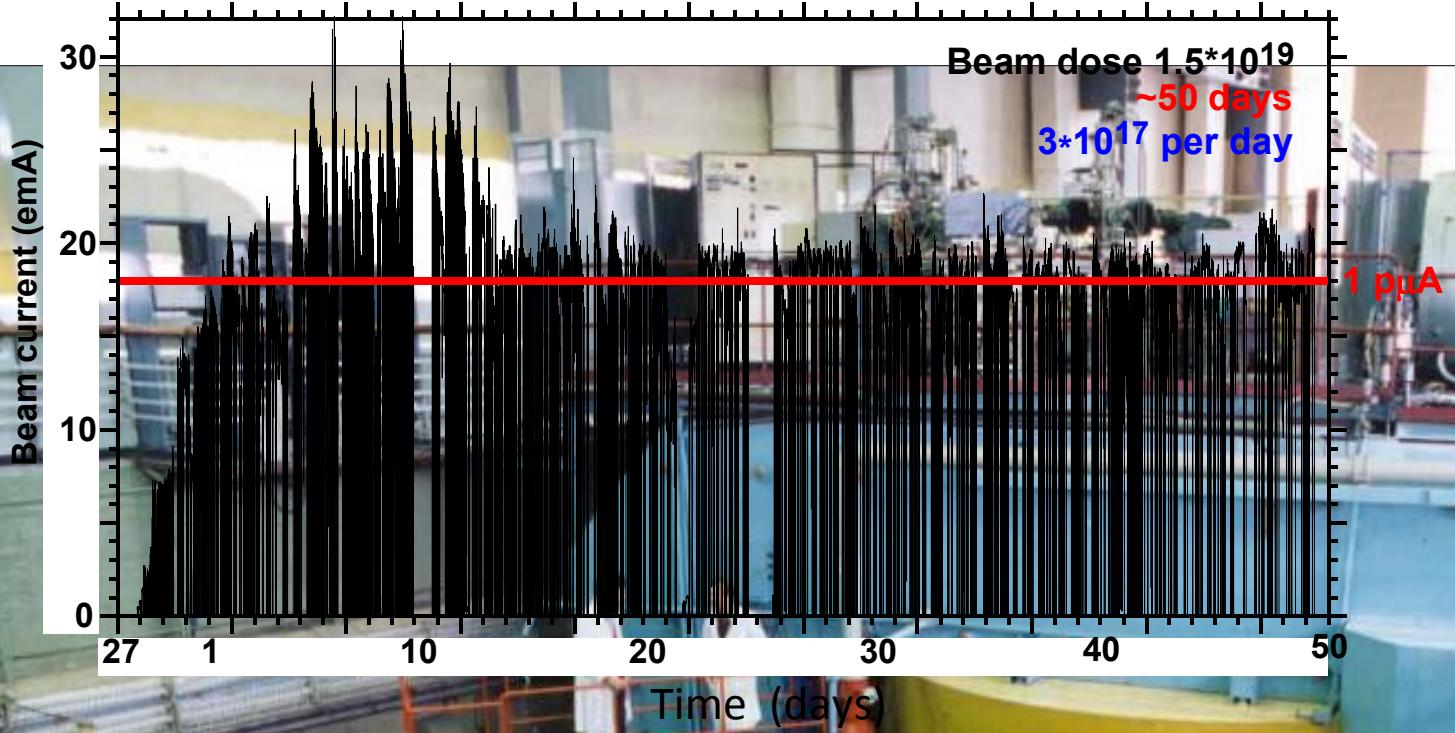
350 mg/cm² deposited
on the 1.5 μm -Ti foil



Dubna Gas-Filled Recoil Separator DGFRS



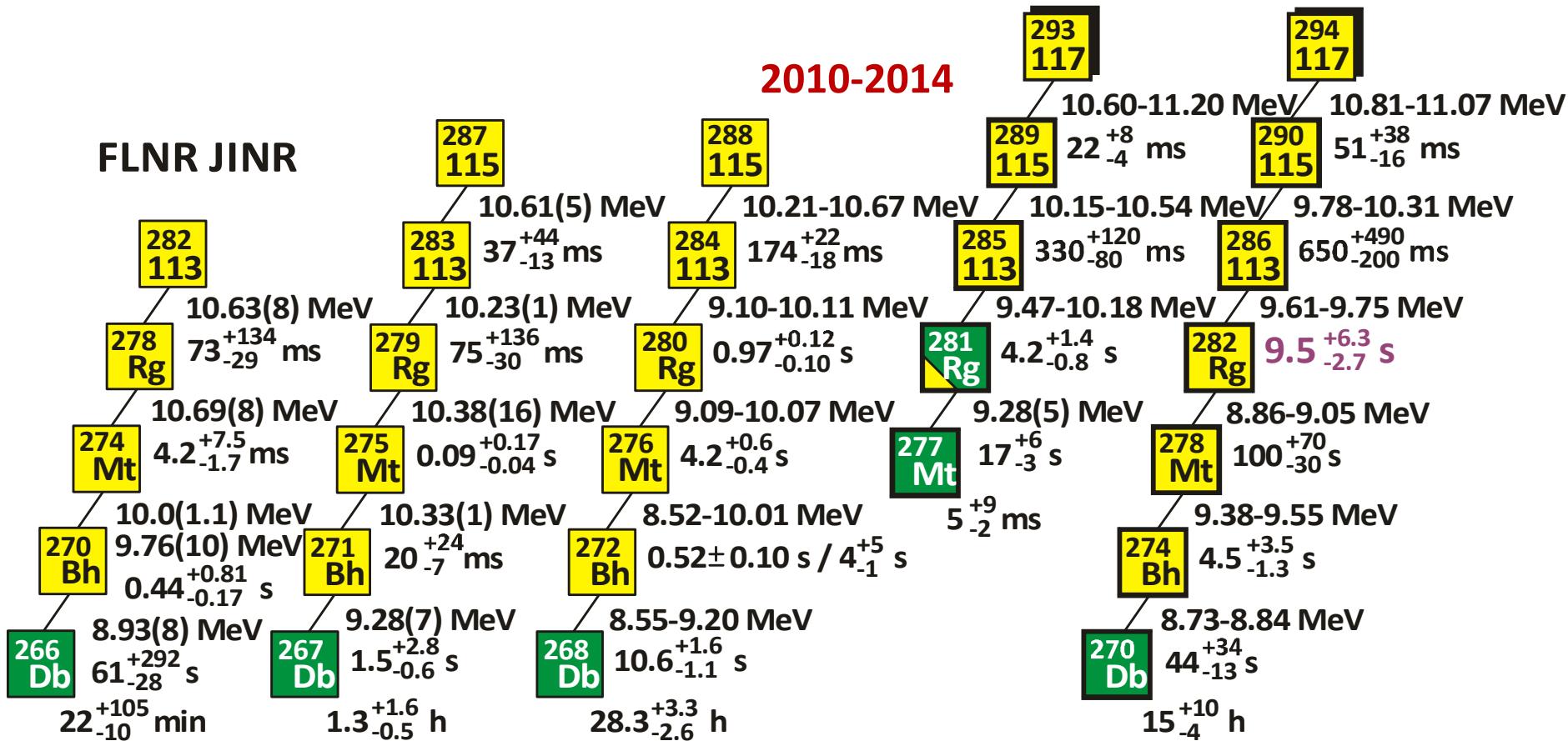
Adam Sobiczewski, Acta Phys. Pol. B 41, 157 (2010).



Summary decay properties of the isotopes of elements 113, 115, and 117
 observed in ^{237}Np , ^{243}Am and $^{249}\text{Bk} + ^{48}\text{Ca}$ reactions

FLNR JINR

2010-2014



Confirmations of DGFRS data 2007 - 2014

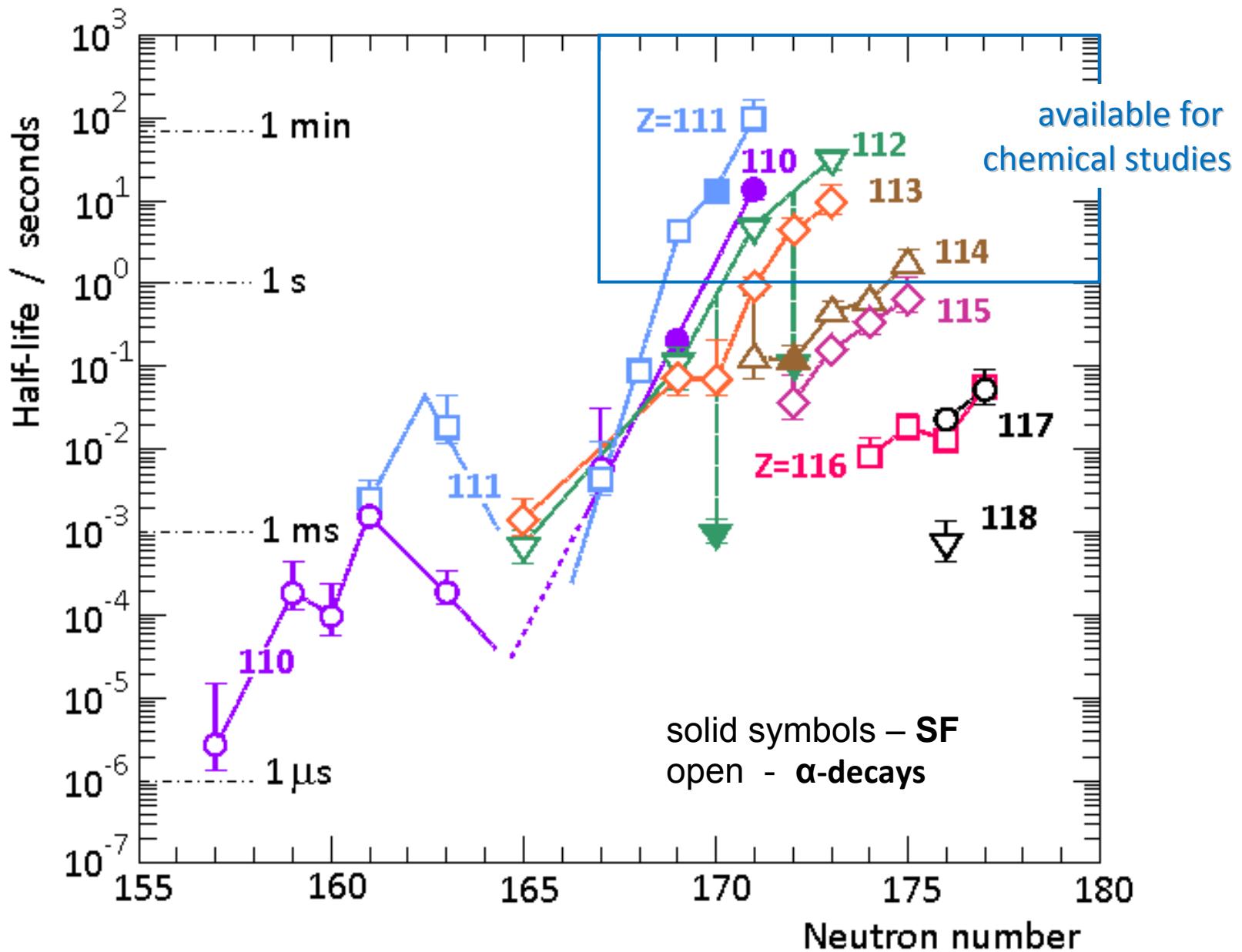
A/Z	Setup	Laboratory	Publications
$^{283}\text{112}$	SHIP	GSI Darmstadt	Eur. Phys. J. A32, 251 (2007)
$^{283}\text{112}$	COLD	PSI-FLNR (JINR)	NATURE 447, 72 (2007)
$^{286, 287}\text{114}$	BGS	BNL (Berkeley)	P.R. Lett. 103, 132502 (2009)
$^{288, 289}\text{114}$	TASCA	GSI – Mainz	P.R. Lett. 104, 252701 (2010)
$^{292, 293}\text{116}$	SHIP	GSI Darmstadt	Eur. Phys. J. A48, 62 (2012)
$^{287, 288}\text{115}$	TASCA	GSI – Mainz	P.R. Lett. 111, 112502 (2013)
$^{293, 294}\text{117}$	TASCA	GSI – Mainz	P.R. Lett. 112, 172501 (2014)
$^{292, 293}\text{116}$	GARIS	RIKEN Tokyo	Accelerator Progress Rep. (2013)

With $Z > 40\%$ larger than that of Bi, the heaviest stable element we see an impressive extension in nuclear survivability.

Although SHN are at the limits of Coulomb stability,

- shell stabilization lowers ground-state energy,
- creates a fission barrier,
- and thereby enables SHN to exist.

The fundamentals of the modern theory concerning the mass limits of nuclear matter have obtained experimental verification



Super Heavy Atoms

Chemistry of the SHE

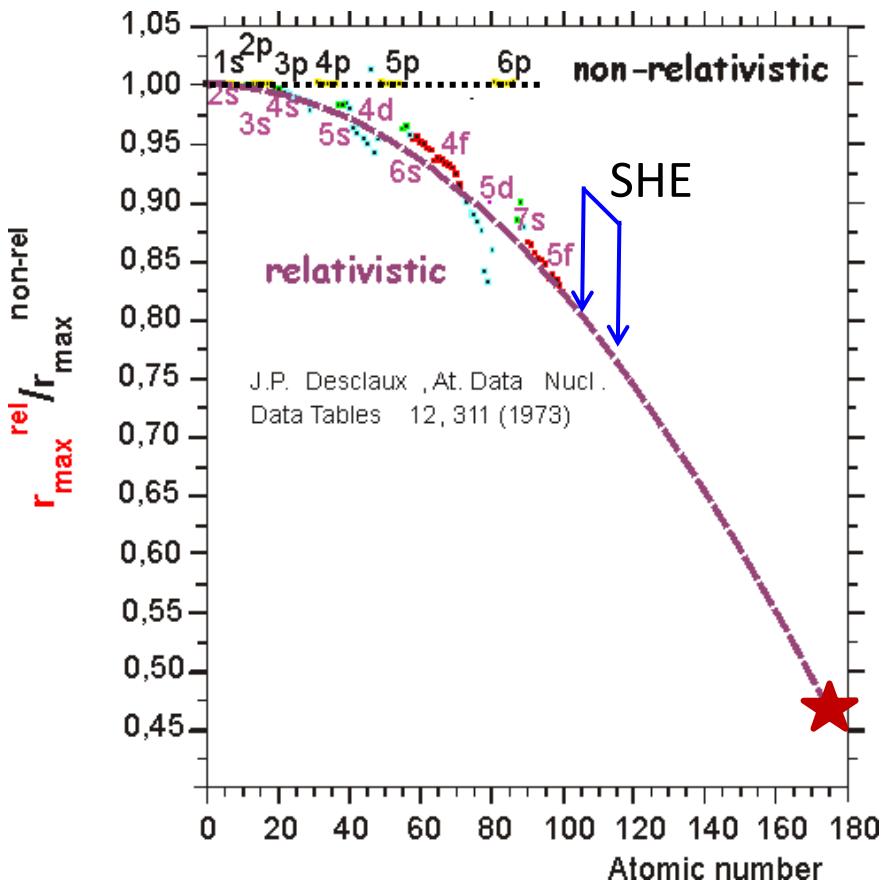


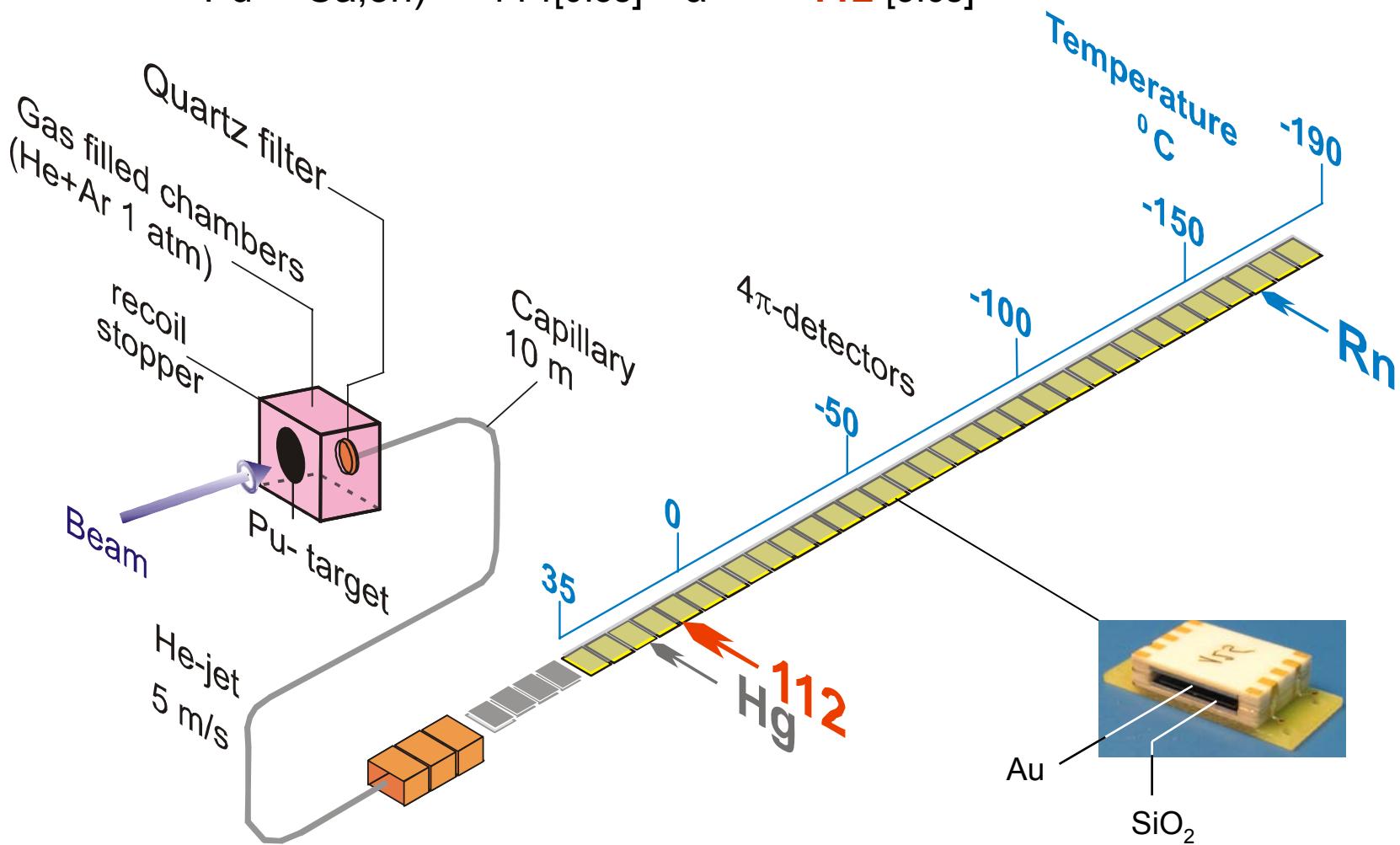
Table of Elements
от Z=1 до Z=172

18 Orbitals																	
1	H	2															
2	Li	Be															
3	Na	Mg															
4	K	Ca	Sc	Ti	V	Cr	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn	Ga	In	Sn	Ge	He
5	Rb	Sr	Y	Zr	Nb	Mo	Tc	Ru	Rh	Pd	Ag	Cd	Ge	Sn	Ge	Ar	
6	Cs	Ba	57-71	Hf	Ta	W	Re	Os	Ir	Pt	Au	Hg	Tl	Pb	Fr	At	Rn
7	87	88	89-103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111						
8	119	120	121	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	139	140	169	170	172
9	165	166											167	168	9s9p		

6	LANTANIDES														4f	
7	ACTINIDES														5f	
8	141 142 143 144 145 146 147 148 149 150 151 152 153 154 155															6f
8	121 122 123 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138															5g

Calculated by P. Dirac and V. Fock
in non-relativistic approximation

Reaction:

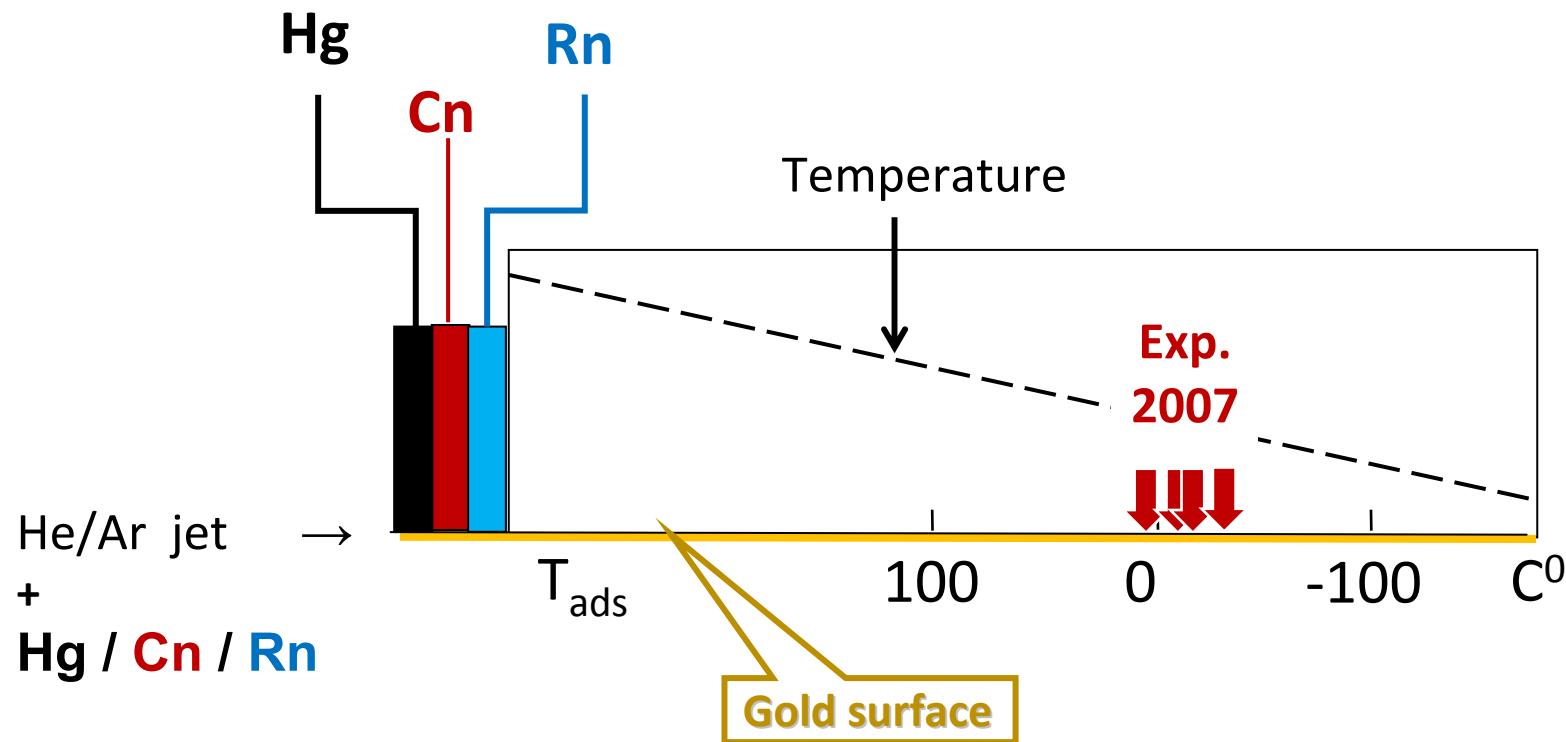
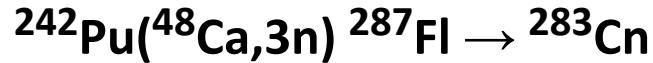


Relativistic Effect in Chemistry of the Element 112

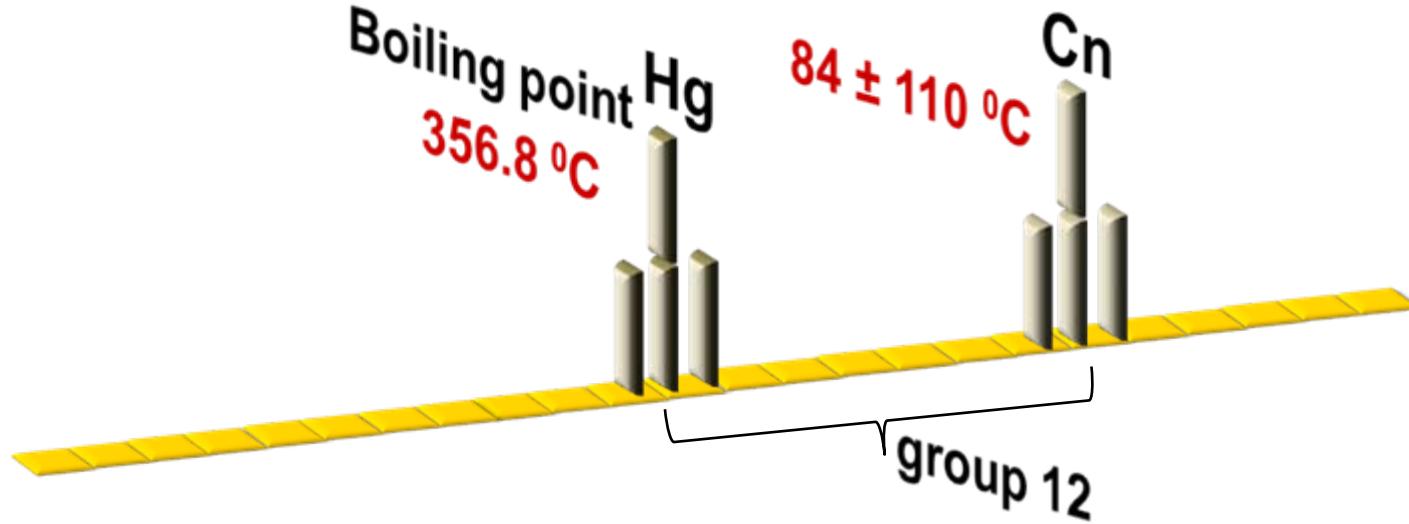
FLNR, JINR 2007

Adsorption of Hg and Cn (Z=112) on the Gold Surface

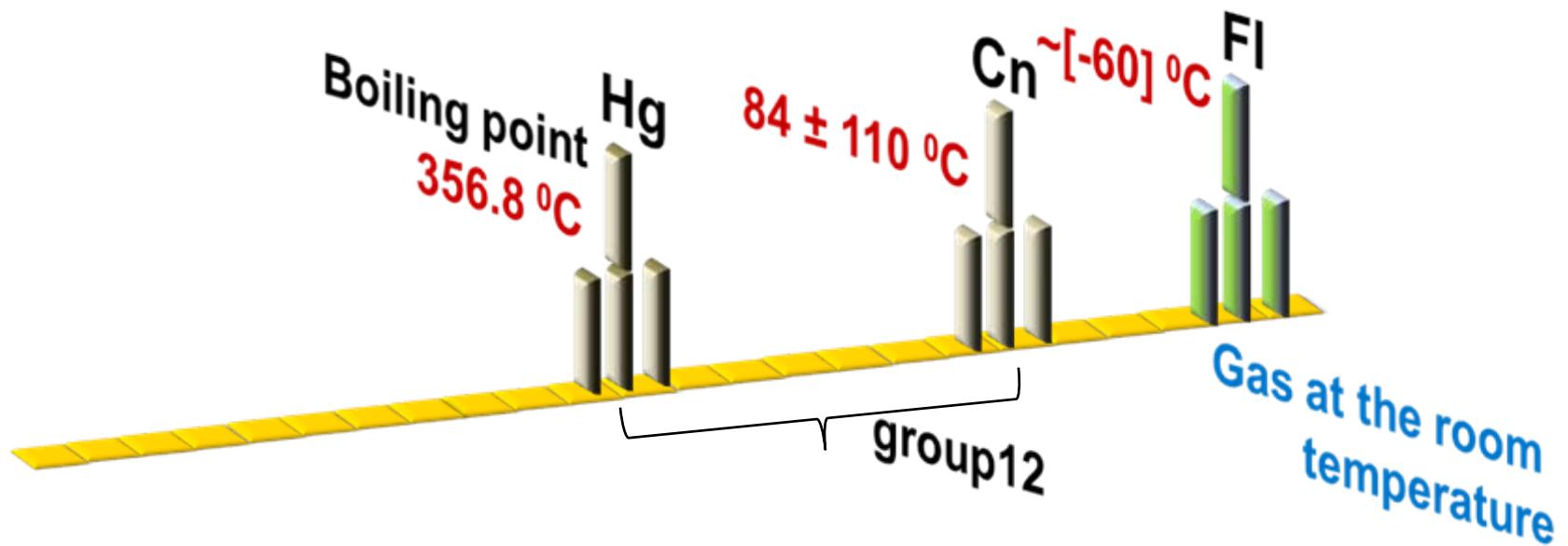
V. Pershina, 2006 (theory)



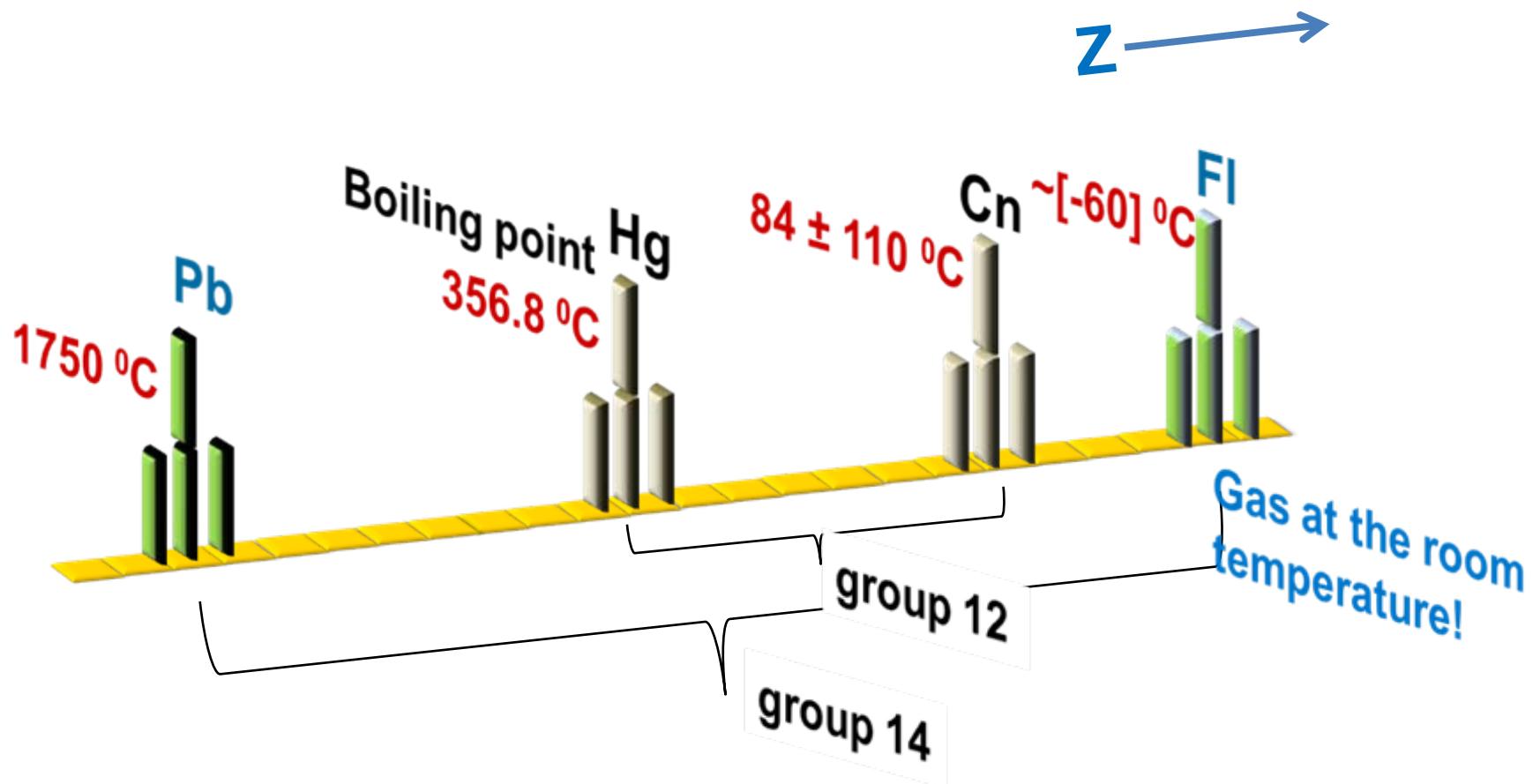
Thermo chromatography of the SHE and its light homologues on the gold surface



Thermo chromatography of the SHE and its light homologues on the gold surface



Thermo chromatography of the SHE and its light homologues on the gold surface



Period 1

1 H	2
3 Li	4 Be
11 Na	12 Mg
19 K	20 Ca
37 Rb	38 Sr
55 Cs	56 Ba
87 Fr	88 Ra
119 120	

Periodic Table Z=1-138

Calculated in non-relativistic approximation of Dirac - Fok

13 Al	14 Si	15 P	16 S	17 Cl	18 Ar
5 B	6 C	7 N	8 O	9 F	10 Ne
21 Sc	22 Ti	23 V	24 Cr	25 Mn	26 Fe
39 Y	40 Zr	41 Nb	42 Mo	43 Tc	44 Ru
72 Hf	73 Ta	74 W	75 Re	76 Os	77 Ir
104 Rf	105 Db	106 Sg	107 Bh	108 Hs	109 Mt
110 Ds	111 Rg	112 Cn	113 Nh	114 Fl	115 Ms
116 Lv	117 Ts	118 Og			

1s s

2s2p

3s3p

4s3d4p

5s4d5p

6s5d6p

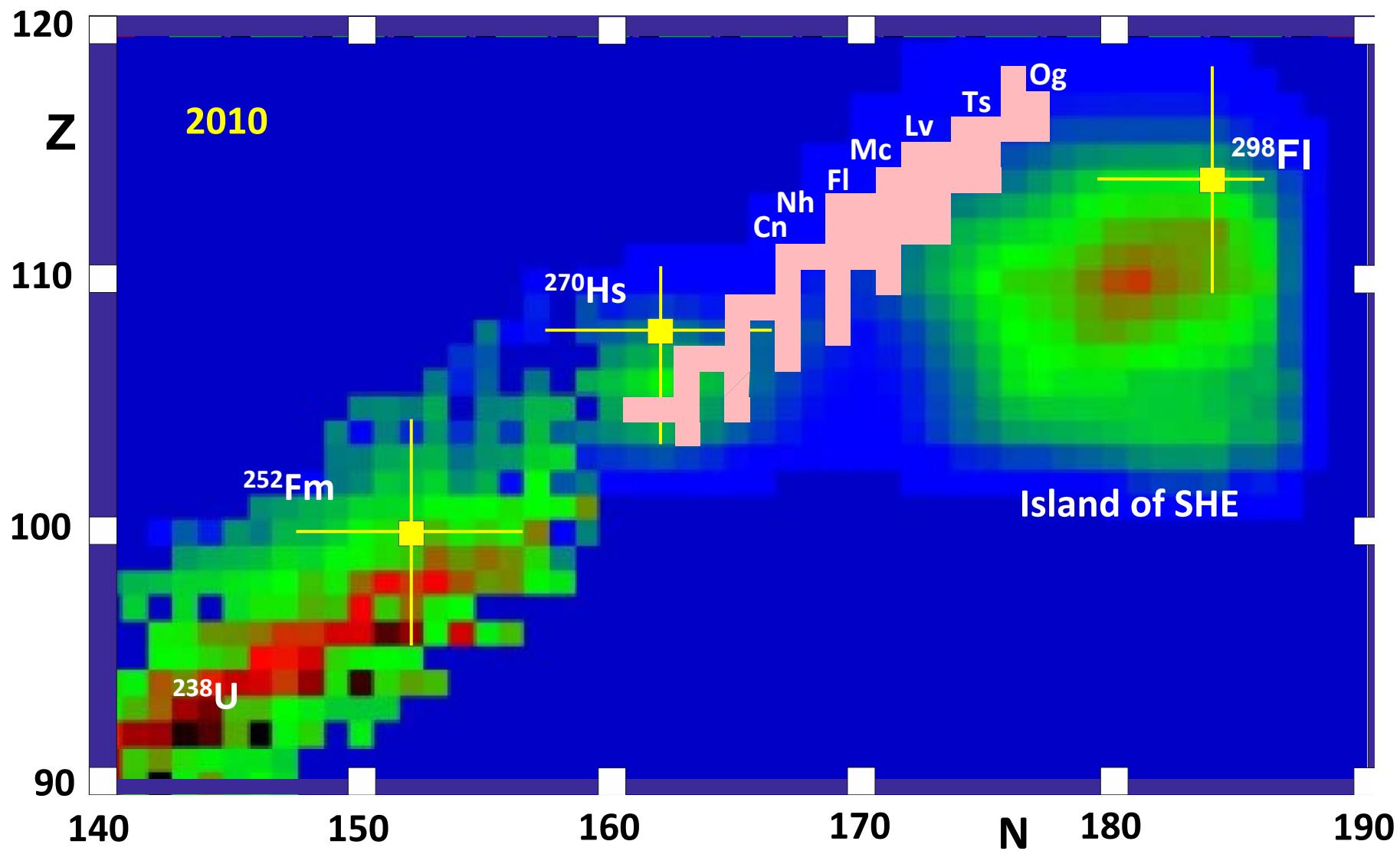
7s6d7p

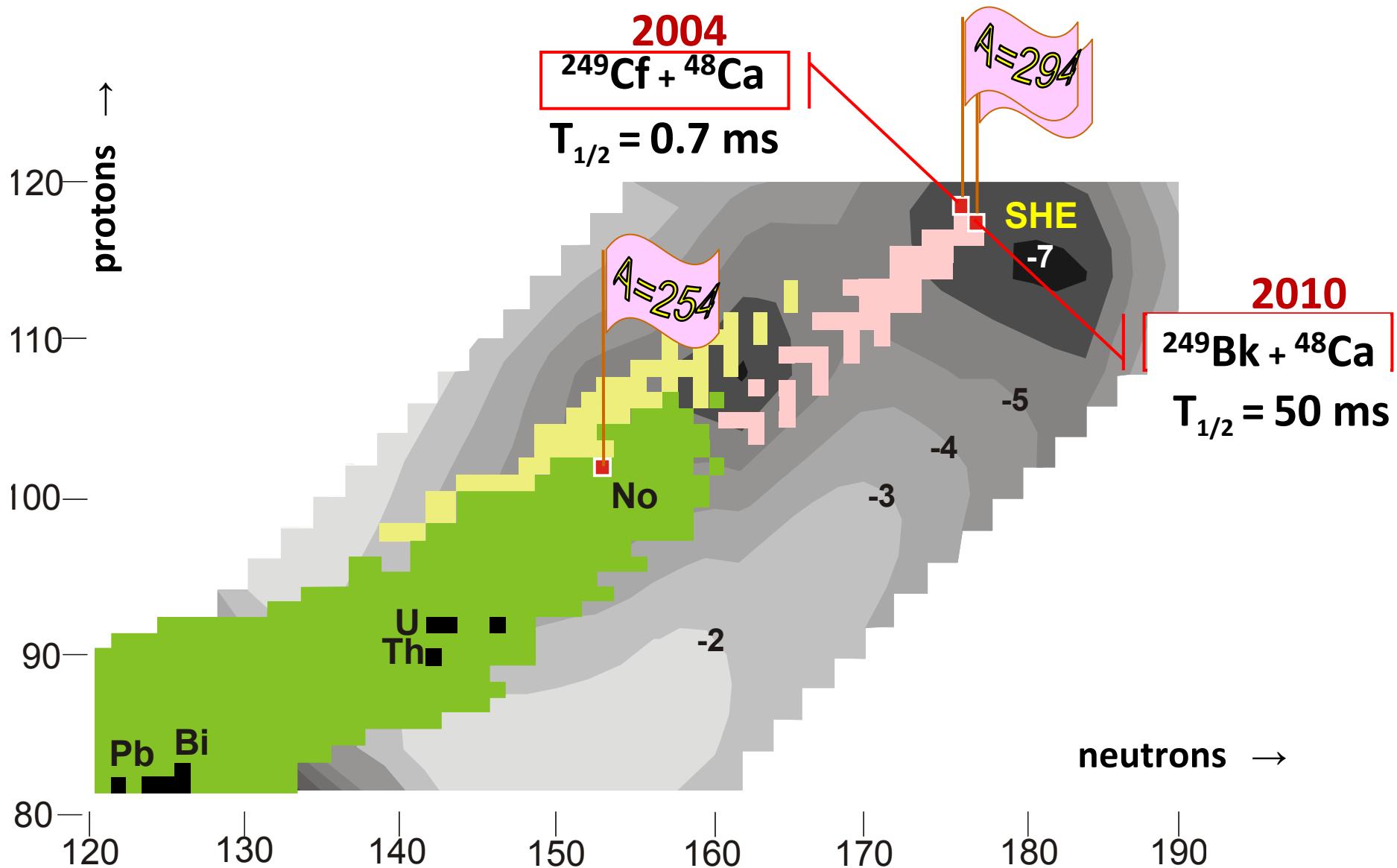
Completion of the 7-th row

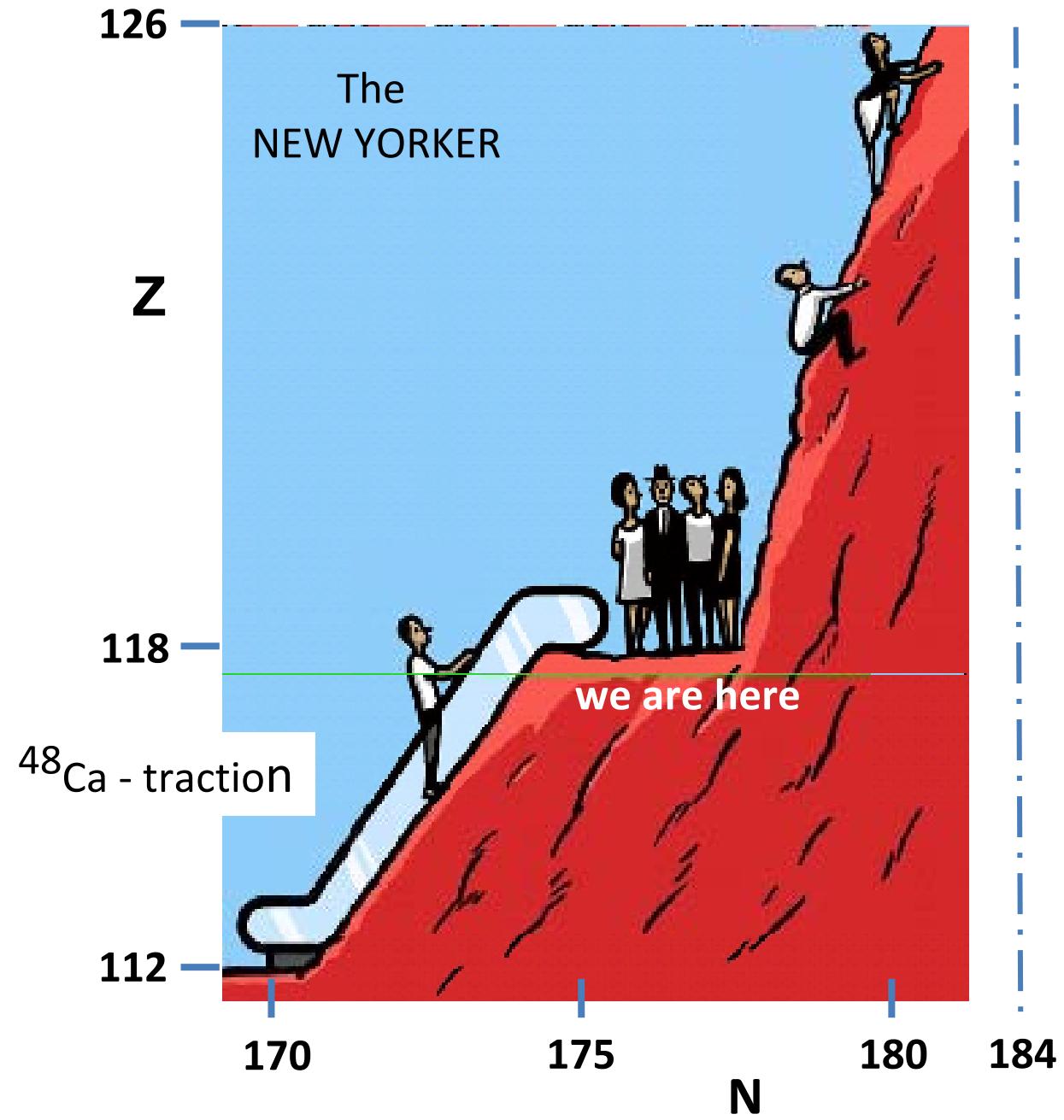
Is Element 118 – noble gas?

6	LANTANIDES												4f						
7	ACTINIDES												5f						
8	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	5g

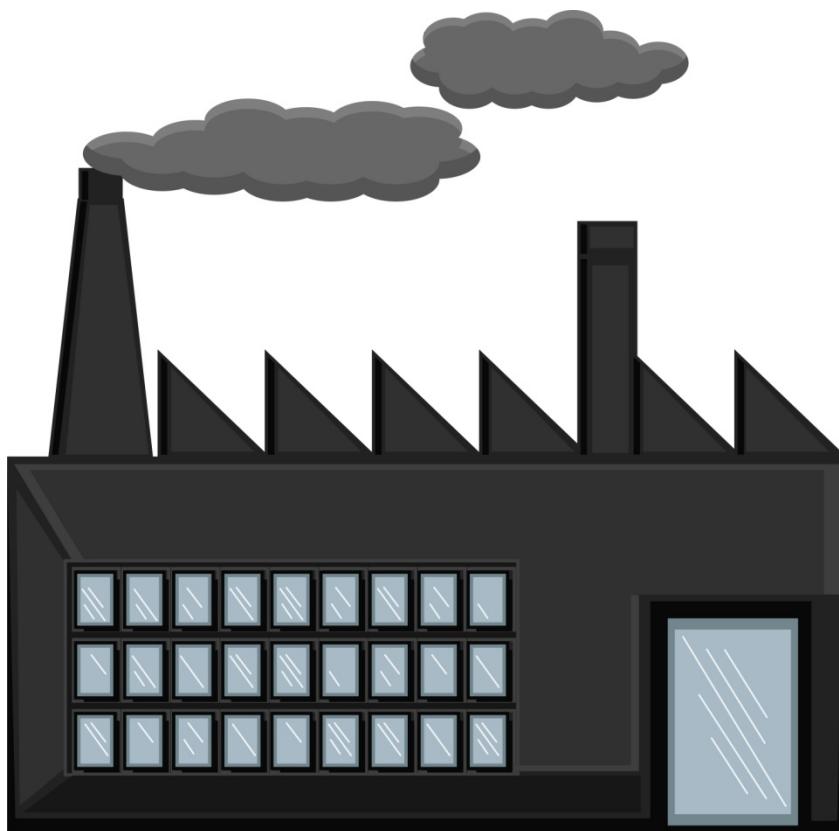
52 neutron-rich isotopes of the 15 heaviest elements
were synthesized in ^{48}Ca -induced reactions







Outcomes and the future



SHE-Factory

SHE-Factory joining of efforts

Isotope production:
Cm-248
Bk-249
Cf-251

To be increased
10 times

New accelerator
High beam
dose of : Ca-48
Factor 10-20 Ti-50
Ni-64

Depend of
target durability

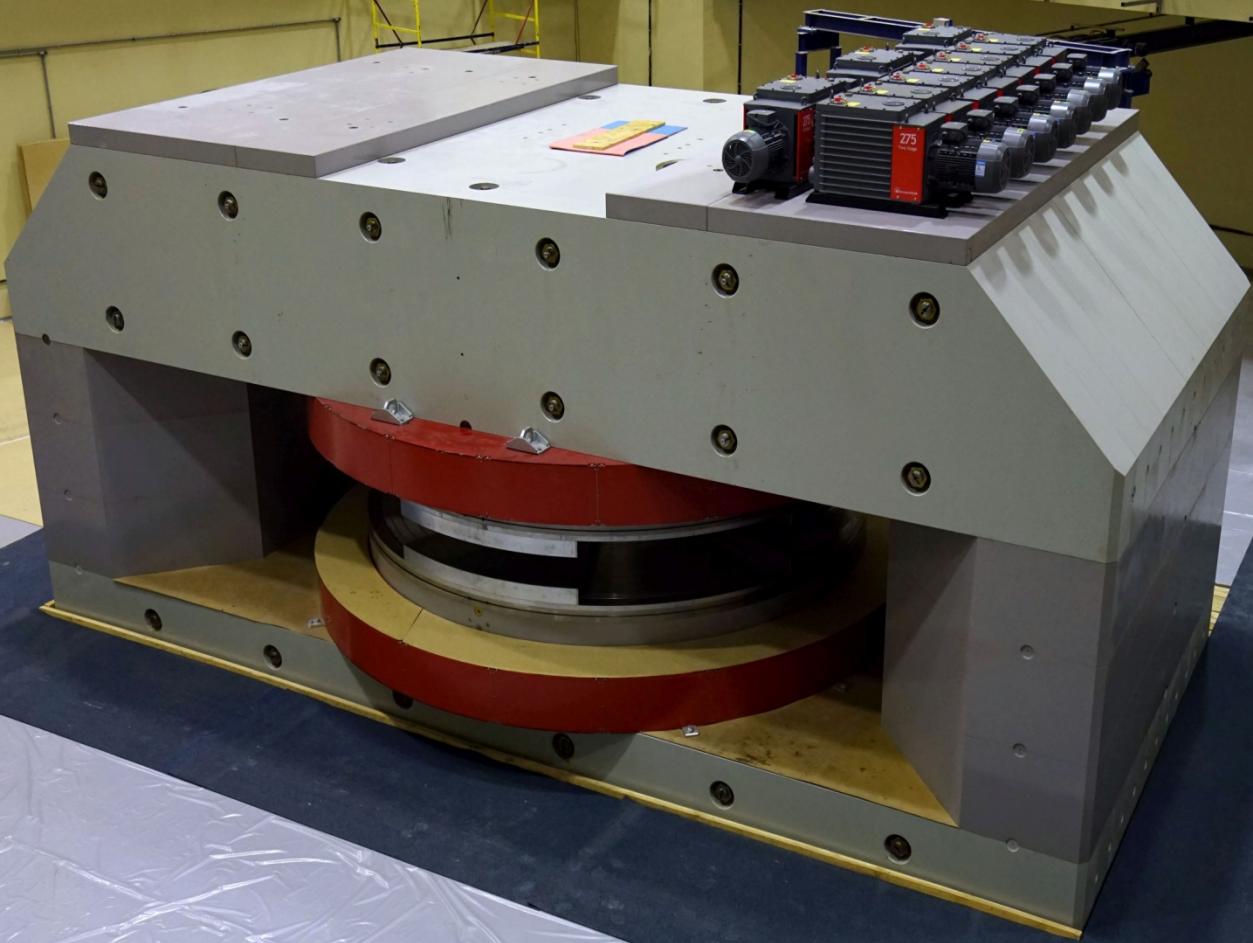
SC- recoil separator
equipped with
Gas Catcher
On-line separator
& sophisticated
Detectors

Factor 3-5

is closely linked
to the intellect

August 2014, Dubna





Projec tile	Intensi ty Ion/s
^{20}Ne	$1 \cdot 10^{14}$
^{48}Ca	$6 \cdot 10^{13}$
^{50}Ti	$3 \cdot 10^{13}$
^{70}Zn	$2 \cdot 10^{13}$
^{86}Kr	$3 \cdot 10^{13}$
^{100}Mo	$2 \cdot 10^{12}$
^{124}Sn	$2 \cdot 10^{12}$
^{136}Xe	$2 \cdot 10^{13}$
^{208}Pb	$1 \cdot 10^{12}$
^{238}U	$1 \cdot 10^{11}$

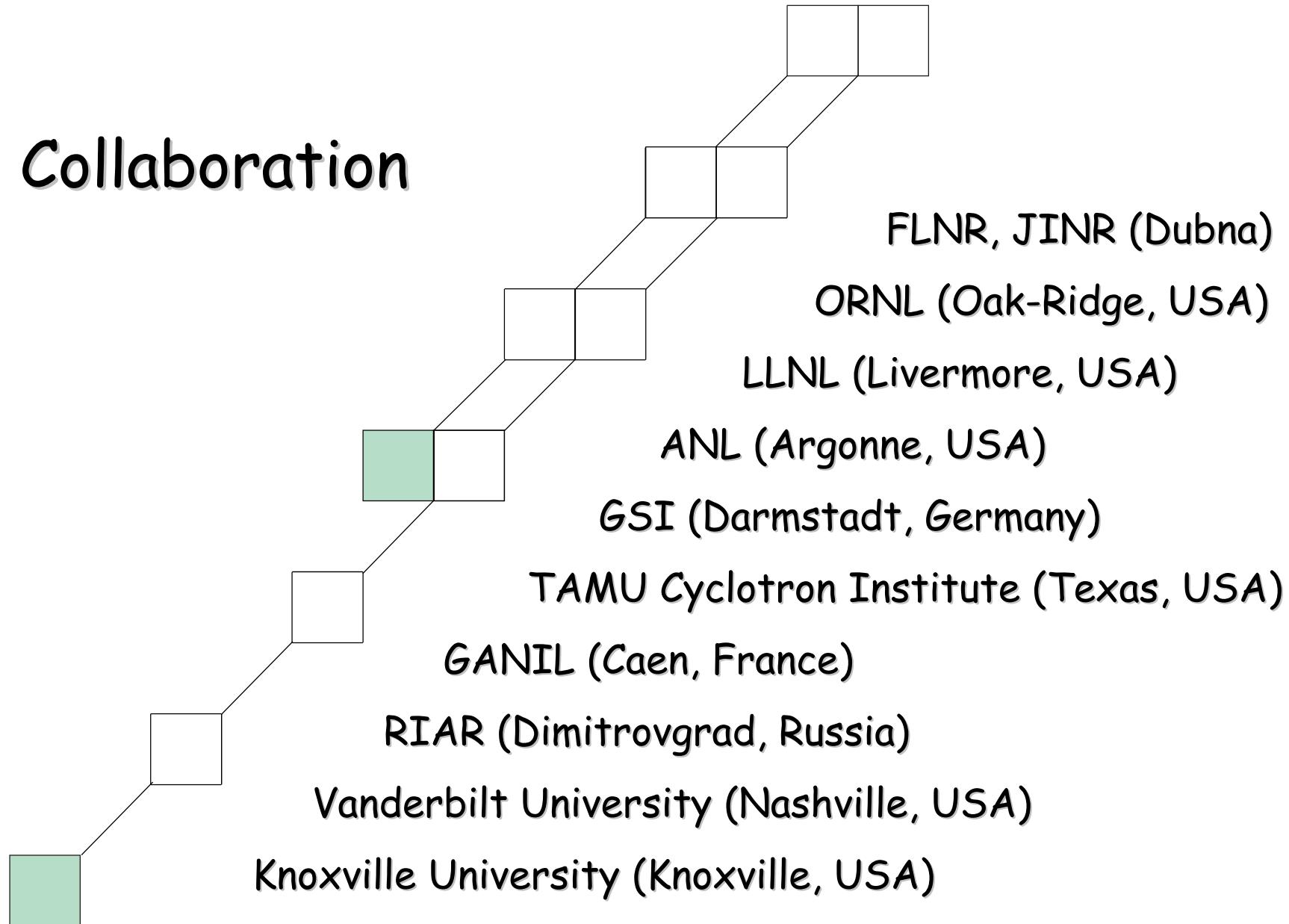
1. Radiochemical Engineering Development Center
2. High-Flux Isotope Reactor
3. Nuclear Science and Technology Division
4. Chemical Sciences Division
5. Transportation and
6. Packaging Division

Target Team at Oak Ridge

More than 50 ORNL staff contributed to
the Bk-Cf production and separation



Collaboration



Cd	In	Ge	S	Cl	N
Tl	Pb	Sn	As	Br	Ar
Th	Platinum 204.380	Tl	Sb	Te	Kr
Hg	Lead 207.2	Bi	I	Xe	Xe
Nh	Fl	Po	At	Rn	Rn
Nihonium (284)	Flerovium (289)	Bismuth 208.980	Polonium (209)	Astatine (210)	Radon (222)
Mc	Lv	At	Ts	Og	Og
Moscovium (288)	Livermorium (293)	Livermorium (293)	Tennessine (294)	Oganesson (294)	Oganesson (294)
Ho	Er	Er	Ho	Ho	Ho

Thank you!