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# Search of beta decays with ultra-low $Q$ value for neutrino mass determination

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# Determination of neutrino mass from single $\beta^\pm$ /EC decay



Current direct neutrino mass probes: Ground-state to ground-state (gs-to-gs) decays

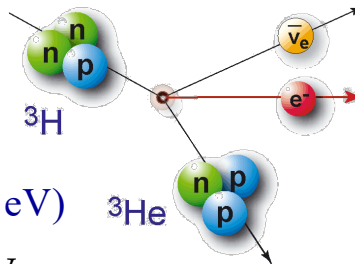
( $\beta^-$ : Tritium,  $^{187}\text{Re}$ ; EC:  $^{163}\text{Ho}$ )

- Lower Q-value, higher sensitivity to neutrino mass
- Model independent method

**Our Purpose: Search for low Q-value decays**

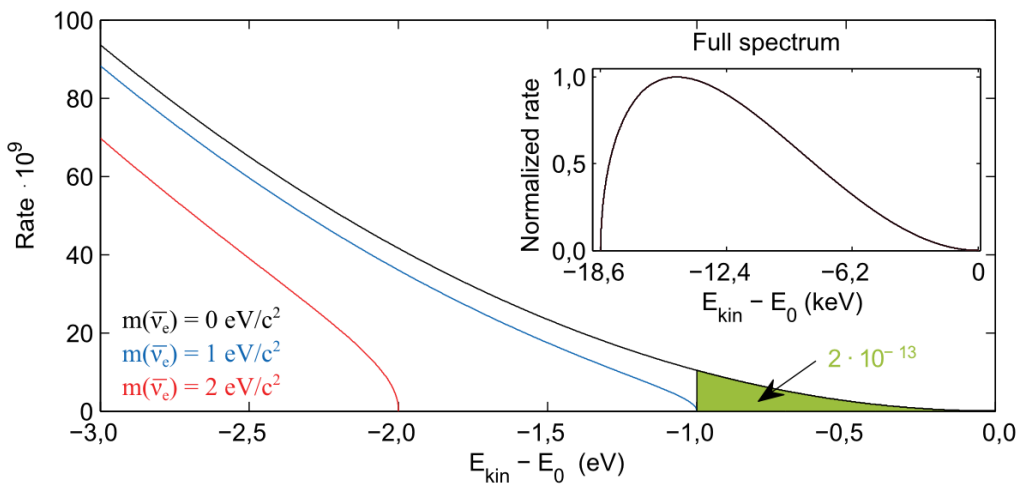
**$Q \rightarrow 0$ , and  $Q < 1$  keV (ultra-low)**

**Tritium ( $\beta^-$  decay)**



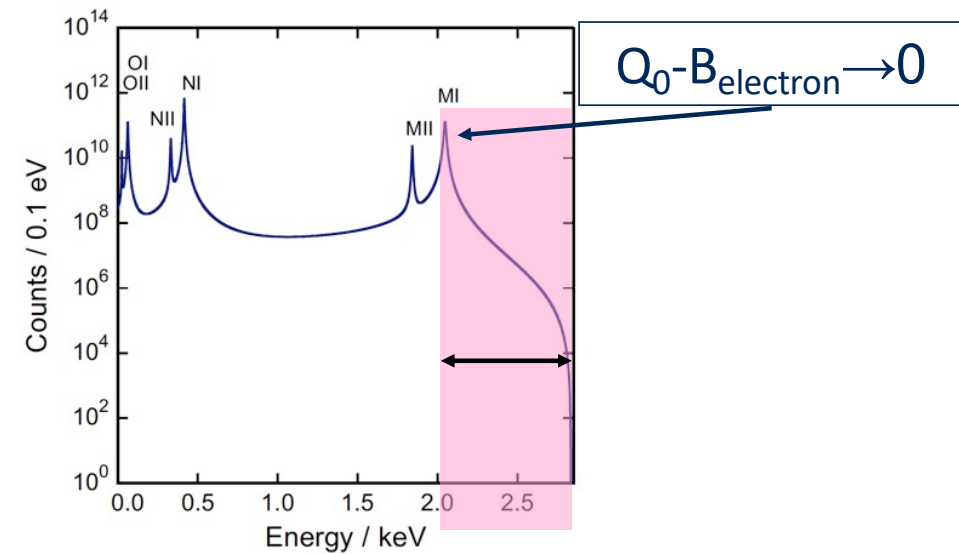
$$E_0 = Q_0 - E_{\text{rec}} \text{ (recoil corrections: 1.72 eV)}$$

Endpoint energy  $E_0 \sim 18.57$  keV



**$^{163}\text{Ho}$  (Electron Capture)**

$Q_0 \sim 2.83$  keV



# Search for slightly positive Q-value decays



## Ground-state to excited-state decay Q-value ( $Q^*$ ) for potential candidates:

*J. Suhonen, Phys. Scr. 89, 054032 (2014)*  
*N. D. Gamage et al., Hyp. Int. 240, 43 (2019)*

- Ground-state to Ground-state (GS-to-GS) decay Q-value

→ mass difference

typical uncertainty > 1 keV

gs-to-gs decay  
Project:

1.  $\beta$ -decay of  $^3\text{H}$ : Q-value = 18.59201(7) keV

*E. G. Myers et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 114 (2015)*

KATRIN,  
Project8

2.  $\beta$ -decay of  $^{187}\text{Re}$ : Q-value = 2.492(30)(15) keV

*D. A. Nesterenko, et al., Phys. Rev. C 90, 042501(R) (2014).*

MARE

3. EC in  $^{163}\text{Ho}$ : Q-value = 2.858(10)(50) keV

*S. Eliseev et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 115, 62501 (2015)*

ECHO,  
HOLMES,  
NuMECS

- Excitation energy of daughter excited state

→ From gamma spectroscopy

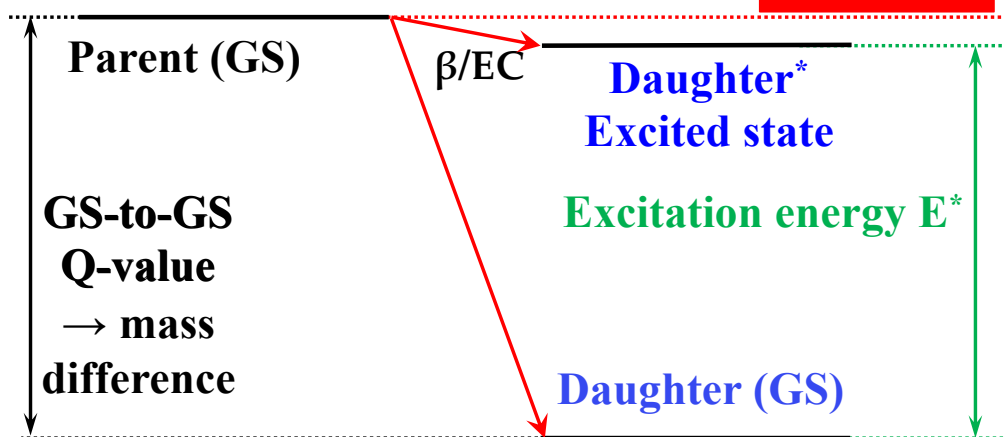
typical uncertainty ~100 eV

1.  $\beta$ -decay of  $^{115}\text{In}(9/2^+) \rightarrow ^{115}\text{Sn}^*(9/2^+)$ :  $Q^*$ -value = 0.147(10) keV

*V. A. Zheltonozhsky et al. 2018 EPL 121 12001*

2.  $\beta$ -decay of  $^{135}\text{Cs}(7/2^-) \rightarrow ^{135}\text{Ba}^*(11/2^+)$ :  $Q^*$ -value = 0.44(31) keV

*A. De Roubin, J. Kostensalo, T. Eronen et al., Phys. Rev. Lett., 124 (22), 222503.*



To search for other low Q-value decay candidates  
(especially ultra-low, <1 keV)

Ground-state to excited-state decay Q-value ( $Q^*$ ) needed  
to be measured with a precision of ~100 eV



Relys on Penning trap spectrometer: JYFLTRAP

# Summary of measured Q-values of potential candidates at JYFLTRAP



- List of measured promising low Q-value decay candidates for neutrino mass determination

Parent	T1/2	Daughter	E* (keV)	decay type	Q* (keV)	Decay	Q <sub>0</sub> (keV)	dQ <sub>0</sub> (keV)
146Pm(3-)	5.53(5) y	146Nd(2+)	1470.63(6)	1st FNU	1.3(4.2)	EC	1472.000	4.000
149Gd(7/2-)	9.28(10) dy	149Eu(5/2+)	1312(4)	1st FNU	2(6.4)	EC	1314.100	4.000
155Tb(3/2+)	5.32(6) dy	155Gd{3/2+}	815.731(3)	Allowed{?}	4.2(10.1)	EC	820.000	10.000
159Dy(3/2-)	144.4(2) dy	159Tb(5/2-)	363.5449(14)	Allowed	1.7(1.2)	EC	365.200	1.200
		159Tb(11/2+)	362.050(40)	3rd FU	3.2(1.2)	EC	365.200	1.200
161Ho(5/2-)	18.479(4) hr	161Dy{7/2+}	858.502(7)	1st FNU	1.0(2.2)	EC	858.500	2.200
		161Dy{3/2-}	858.7919(18)	Allowed	-0.3(2.2)	EC	858.500	2.200
72As(2-)	26.0(1)h	72Ge{1}	4358.7(3)	Allowed{?}	-2.8(4.0)	EC	4356.000	4.000
		72Ge(3-)	3325.01(3)	Allowed	8.9(4.0)	β+	4356.000	4.000
		72Ge(2+)	3327(3)	1st FNU	6.9(5.0)	β+	4356.000	4.000
		72Ge{1+}	3338.0(3)	1st FNU{?}	-4.1(4.0)	β+	4356.000	4.000
		72Ge{2-}	3341.76(4)	Allowed{?}	-7.9(4.0)	β+	4356.000	4.000
159Gd(3/2-)	26.24(9) h	159Tb{1/2+}	971	1st FNU{?}	0.0(1.8)	β-	970.900	0.800
77As(3/2-)	38.79(5) h	77Se(5/2+)	680.1035(17)	1st FNU	3.1(1.7)	β-	683.200	1.700
76As(2-)	26.24(9) h	76Se{2-}	2968.4(7)	Allowed{?}	-7.8(1.1)	β-	2960.600	0.900
153Tb(5/2+)	2.34(1)dy	153Gd(5/2-)	548.7645(18)	1st FNU	-1.2(4.0)	β+	1569.000	4.000
		153Gd{5/2}	551.092(19)	Allowed{?}	-3.5(4.0)	β+	1569.000	4.000
111In(9/2+)	3dy	111Cd(3/2+)	864.8(3)	2nd FU	-6.6(3.0)	EC	860.2	3.4
		111Cd(3/2+)	864.8(3)	2nd FU	-4.6(3.0)	EC	860.2	3.4
		111Cd(3/2+)	855.6(1.0)	2nd FU	4.6(3.2)	EC	860.2	3.4
		111Cd(7/2+)	853.94(7)	Allowed	6.3(3.0)	EC	860.2	3.4
131I(7/2+)	8dy	131Xe{9/2+}	971.22(13)	Allowed{?}	-0.42(0.61)	β-	970.80	0.60
		131Xe(7/2+)	973.11(14)	Allowed	-2.31(0.62)	β-	970.80	0.60
155Eu(5/2+)	5yr	155Gd(9/2-)	251.7056(10)	1st FU	0.1(1.8)	β-	252.00	2.40

Submitted case:

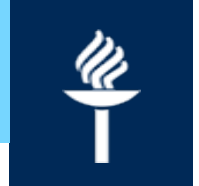
[arXiv:2103.08729](https://arxiv.org/abs/2103.08729) [nucl-ex]

Q<sub>0</sub> from: M. Wang et al., Chinese Physics C 45, 030003 (2021)

E\* from: National nuclear data center, Available at <https://www.nndc.bnl.gov>

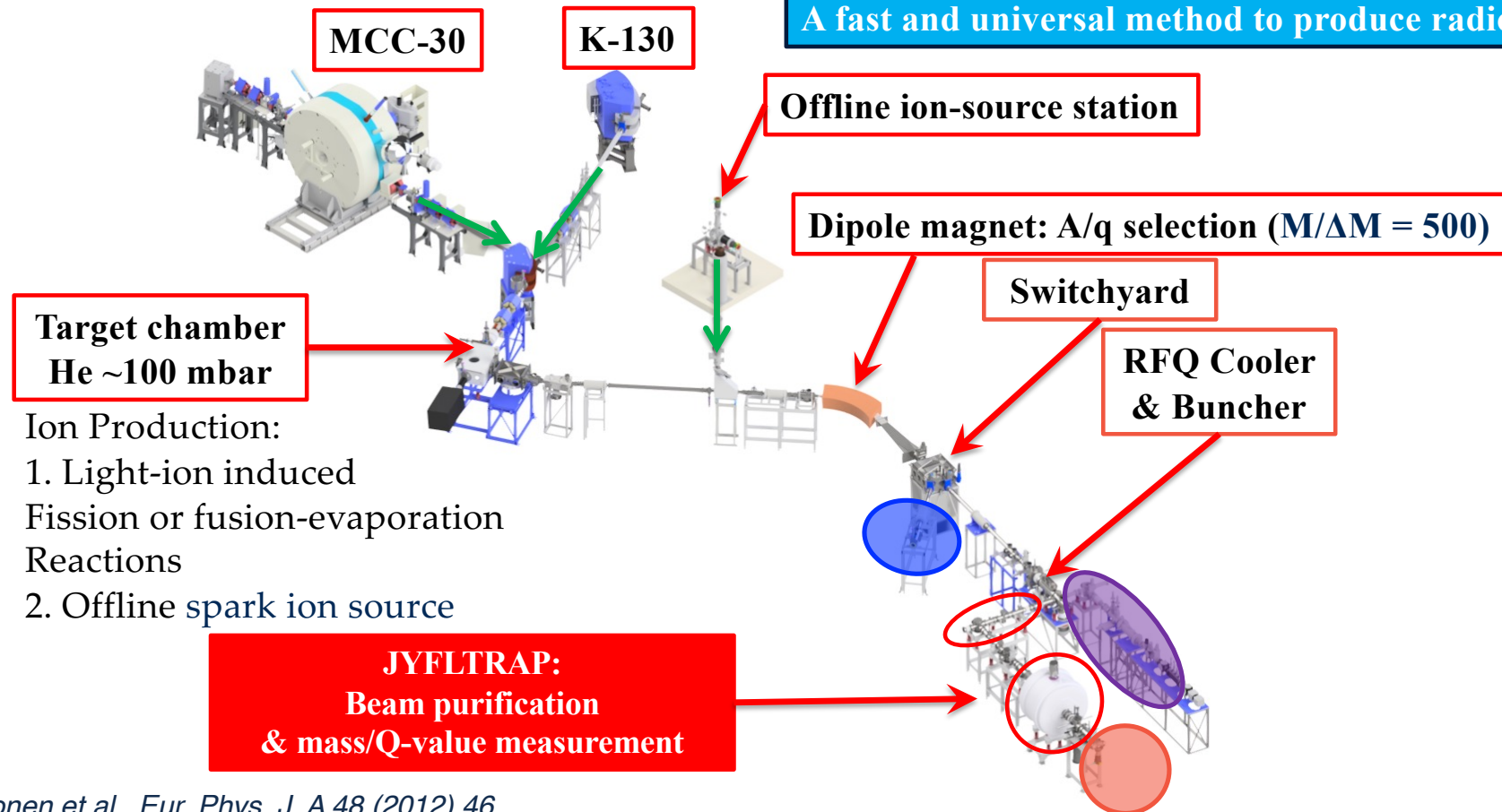


# The Ion Guide Isotope Separator On-Line facility (IGISOL)



*J. Ärje, J. Äystö et al., PRL 54 (1985) 99*

A fast and universal method to produce radioactive beams

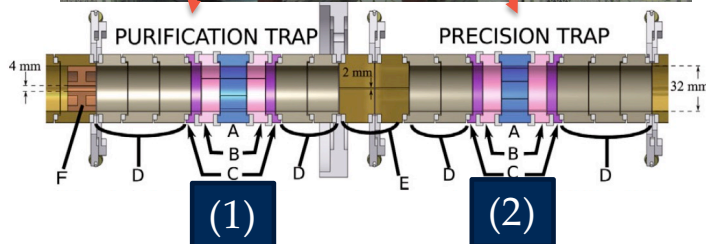
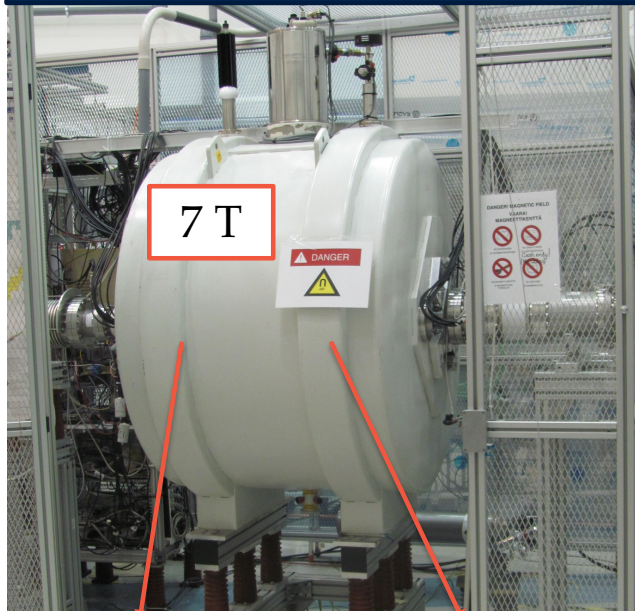


*T. Eronen et al., Eur. Phys. J. A 48 (2012) 46*

# JYFLTRAP double Penning trap



## JYFLTRAP double Penning trap

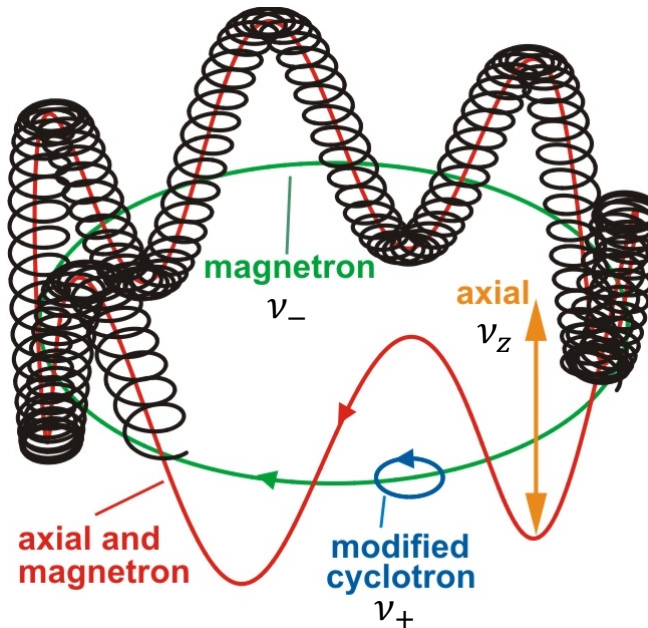


Eronen et al., EPJA 48 (2012) 46

## Q-value measurements

### Phase-imaging Ion Cyclotron Resonance (PI-ICR) technique

S. Eliseev et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **110**, 082501 (2013).



### Cyclotron frequency:

$$\nu_c = \nu_+ + \nu_- = \frac{qB}{2\pi m}$$

### Frequency ratio:

$$r = \frac{\nu_{c,d}}{\nu_{c,p}}$$

### Q-value:

$$Q = M_p - M_d = (r - 1)(M_d - m_e)c^2$$

parent daughter

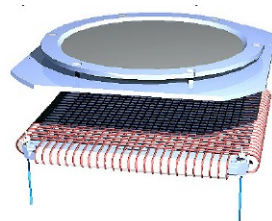
# Phase-imaging Ion Cyclotron Resonance (PI-ICR)



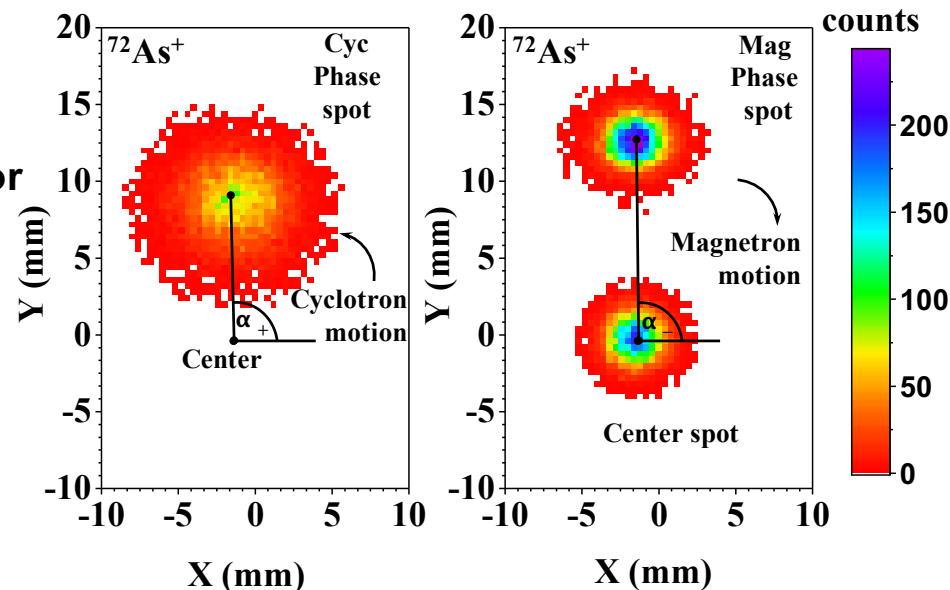
*S. Eliseev et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 110, 082501 (2013).*

*D. A. Nesterenko, et al., European Physical Journal A 54, 0 (2018).*

Delay-Line Microchannel Channel Plate (MCP) Detector from Roentdek GmbH



Position sensitive detector

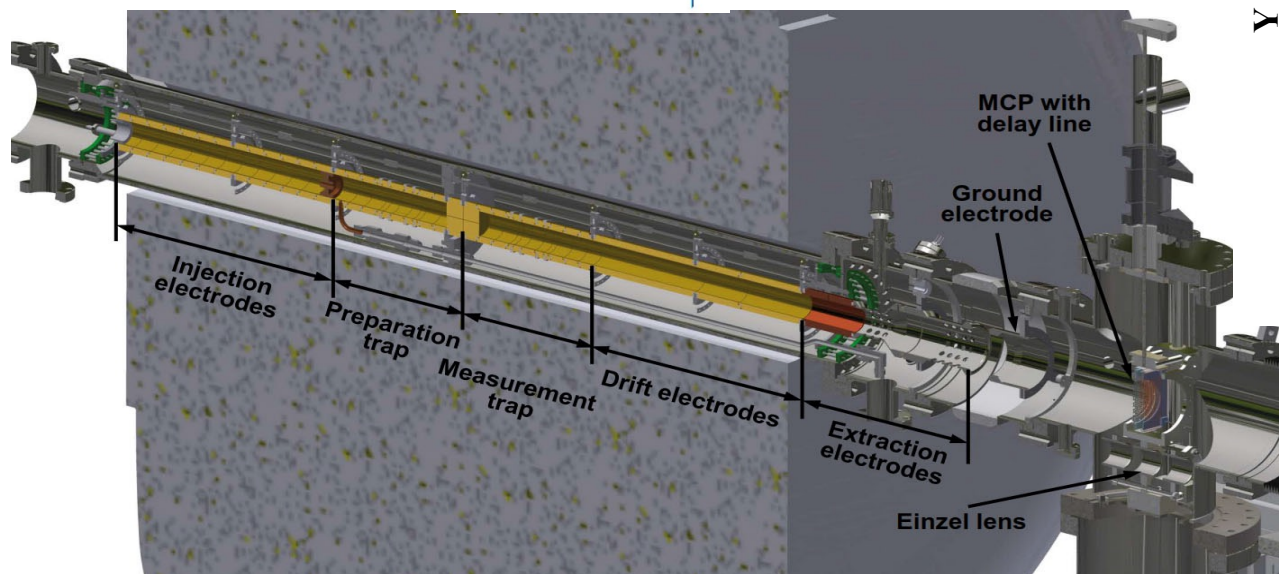


Angle between cyclotron and magnetron motion phases with respect to the center spot:

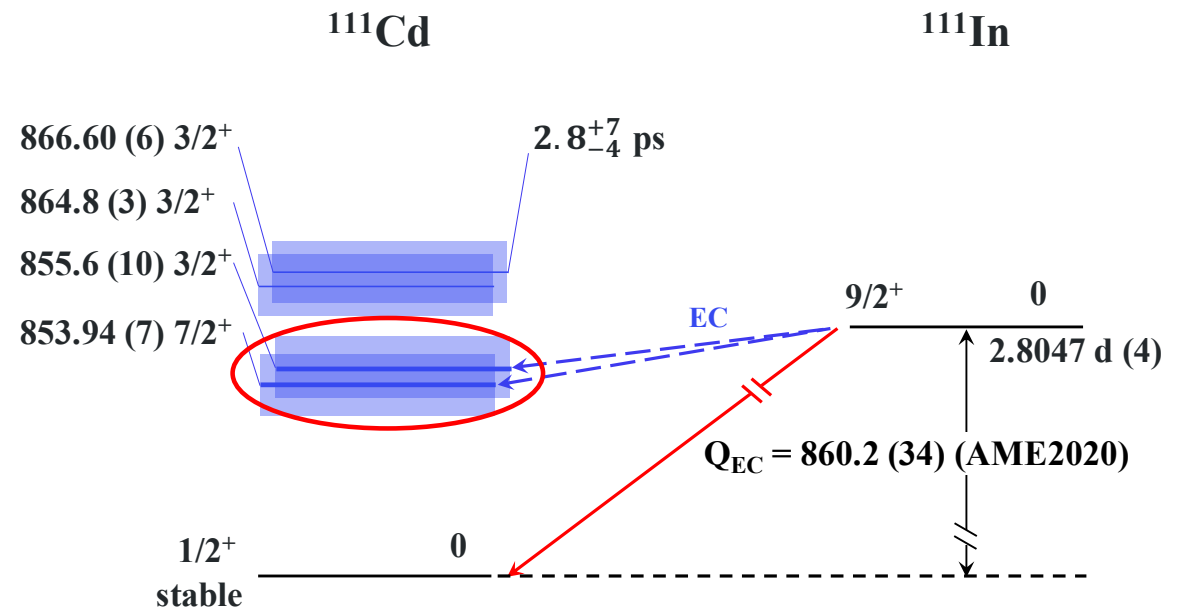
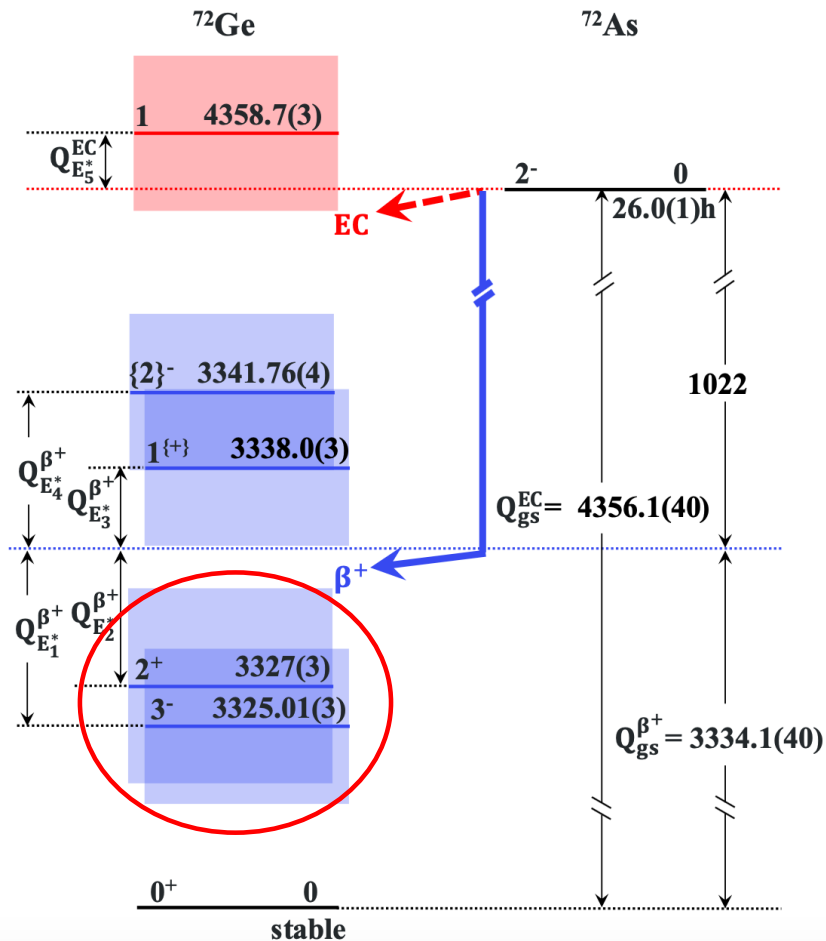
$$\alpha_c = \alpha_- + \alpha_+$$

cyclotron frequency:

$$\nu_c = \nu_+ + \nu_- = \frac{\alpha_c + 2\pi n}{2\pi t}$$



# Puzzles in potential candidates $^{72}\text{As}$ , $^{111}\text{In}$



$Q_0$  from: M. Wang et al. , Chinese Physics C 45, 030003 (2021)

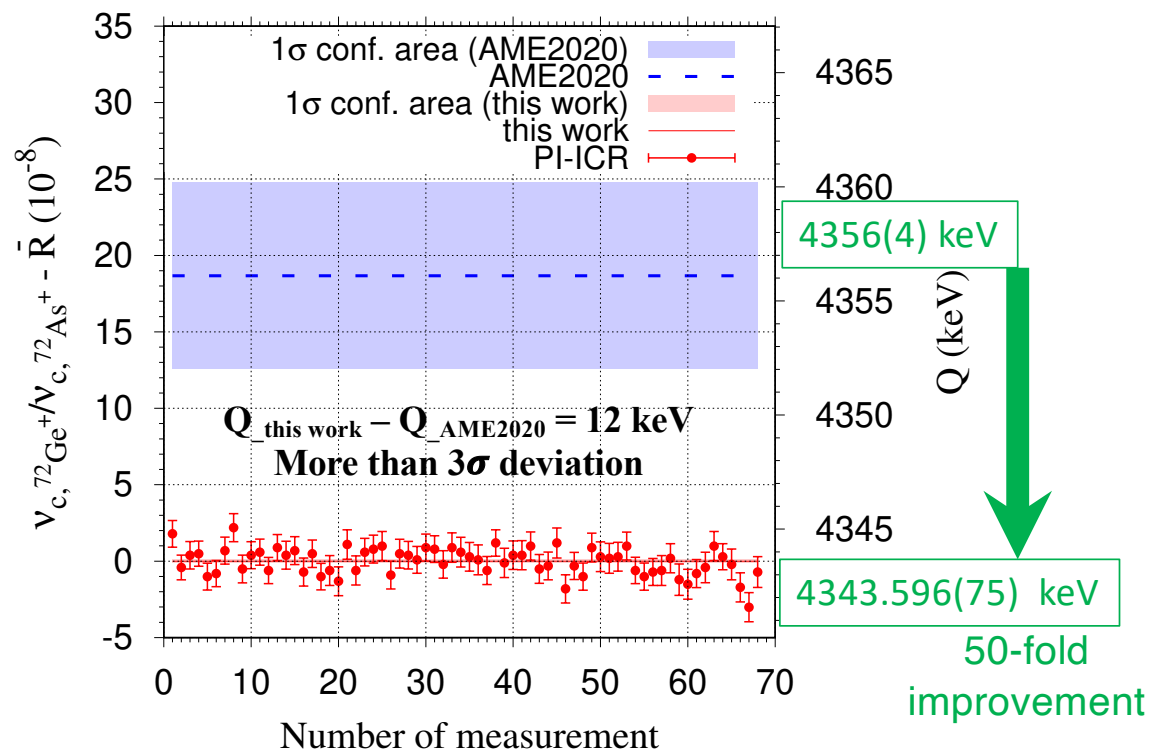
$E^*$  from: National nuclear data center, Available at <https://www.nndc.bnl.gov>



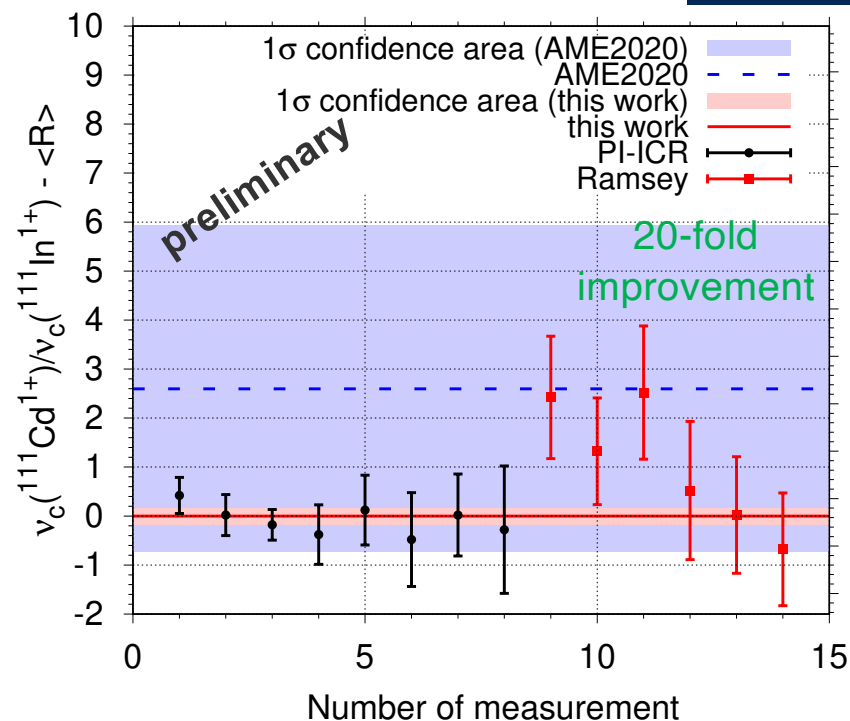
# Q-value of potential candidate $^{72}\text{As}$ , $^{111}\text{In}$



arXiv:2103.08729 [nucl-ex]



Large discrepancy from the AME2020

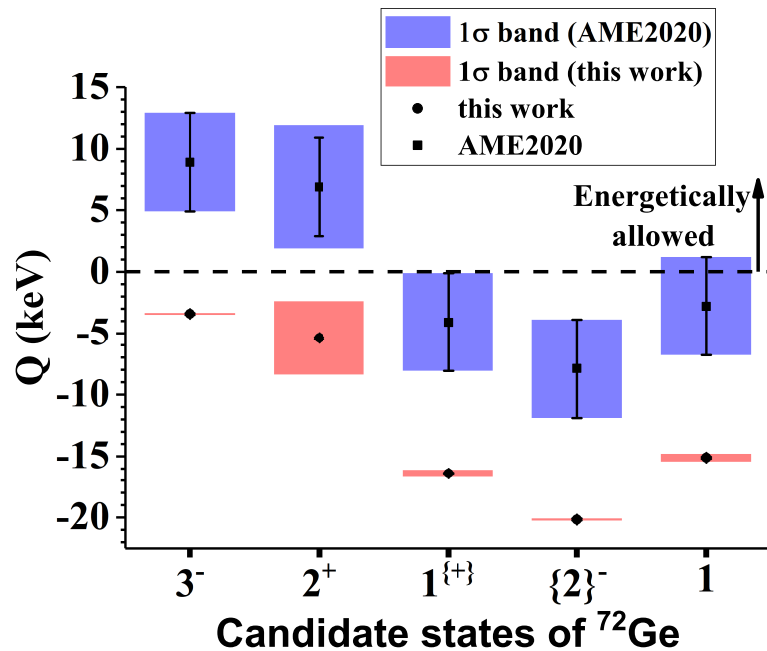


Good agreement with the AME2020

GS-to-GS Q-values to  $\sim 100 \text{ eV}$  precision to determine whether the cases are suitable for neutrino mass determination

Required to be measured directly with high accuracy and precision

# Results and conclusion



**Q-values (in keV) for the decay candidate to the excited states of the daughter nucleus  $^{72}\text{Ge}$**

$E^*$	Q-value (AME2020)	Q-value (This work)	$Q/\delta Q$ (This work)
3325.01(3)	8.9(40)	-3.42(8)	43
3327(3)	6.9(50)	-5.4(30)	1.8
3338.0(3)	-4.1(40)	-16.41(31)	53
3341.76(4)	-7.9(40)	-20.17(8)	238
4358.7(3)	-2.8(40)	-15.11(31)	49

Ruling out  $^{72}\text{As}$  as potential candidate

Confidence of being negative

five potential ultra-low Q-value  $\beta^+$ -decay or electron capture transitions are energetically forbidden, precluding all the transitions as possible candidates for the electron neutrino mass determination



However, the discovery of small negative Q-values opens up the possibility to use  $^{72}\text{As}$  for the study of virtual  $\beta$ - $\gamma$  transitions.



## Collaboration list

T. Eronen,<sup>1</sup> Z. Ge,<sup>1</sup> A. de Roubin,<sup>2</sup> J. Kostensalo,<sup>1</sup> J. Kotila,<sup>3, 4</sup> J. Suhonen,<sup>1</sup> D. A. Nesterenko,<sup>1</sup> M. Hukkanen,<sup>1, 2</sup>

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Thank you for your attention

## Financial Support

Academy of Finland projects No. 306980, 312544, 275389, 284516, 295207, 314733 and 320062.  
EU Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under grant No. 771036 (ERC CoG MAIDEN)

## Acknowledgements

the staff of the accelerator laboratory of University of Jyväskylä (JYFL-ACCLAB)  
J. Jaatinen and R. Seppälä, for preparing the production target