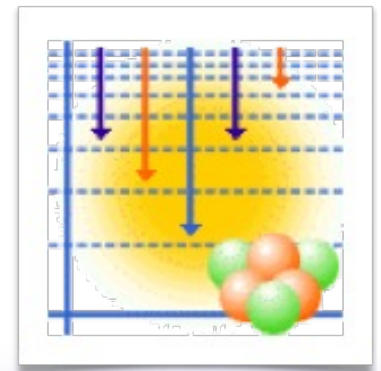


Decay Data in ENSDF

F.G. Kondev

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Introduction

- ❑ decay data are very rich source of nuclear structure information & are of importance to many other areas of science & applications
 - ✓ nuclear structure – often offer the best quantities, because the complexity of spectra is reduced
 - ✓ astrophysics – especially on the “r-process” side – neutron-rich nuclei
 - ✓ atomic masses – proton-rich (Q_α & Q_p); neutron-rich (Q_{β^-})
 - ✓ applications of nuclear science



Introduction – cont.

❑ Experimental Decay Data

- ✓ experimental results obtained following α , β^- , β^+ , EC, IT, p, cluster, etc. decay processes

❑ Evaluated Decay Data

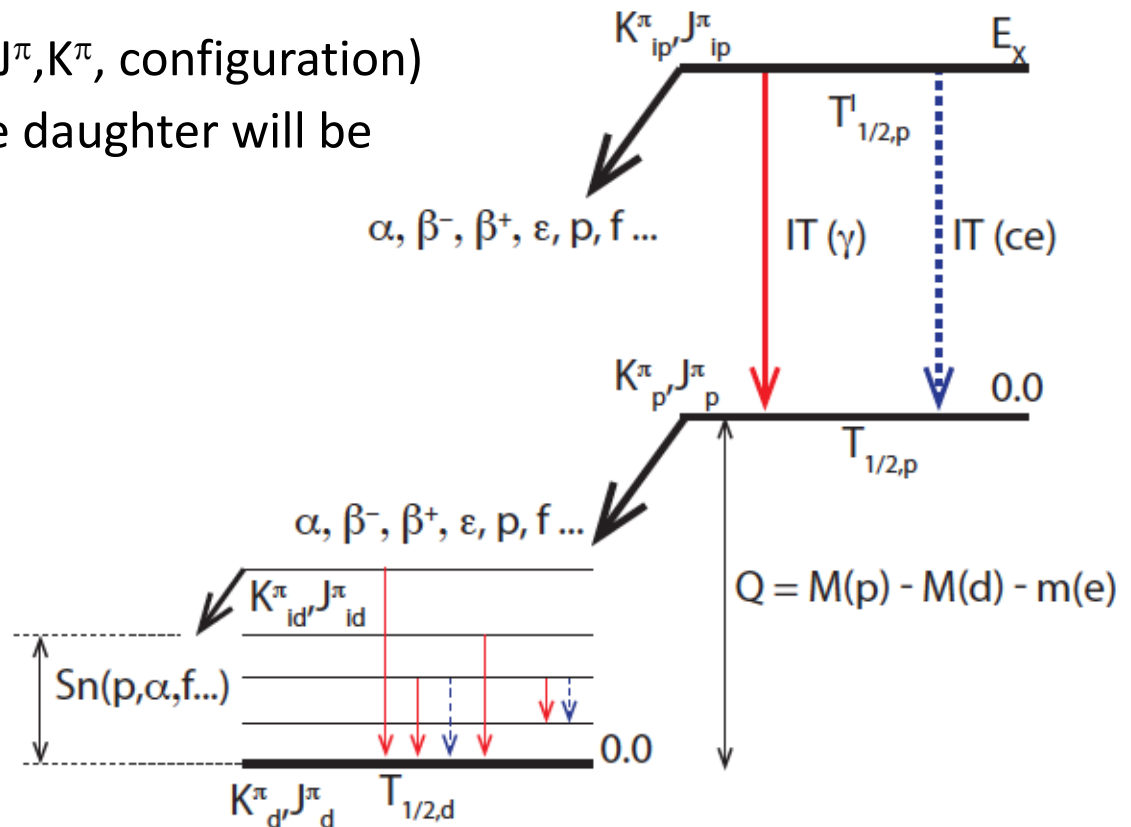
- ✓ Recommended (best) values for nuclear levels and decay radiation properties, deduced by the evaluator using all available experimental data & theoretical calculations (e.g. conv. coefficients)

Myth: decay data evaluation deals only with decay data – many properties come from other decays and reactions (adopted level properties), e.g. E_γ , I_γ , MR, ICC (expt), ...

Introduction – cont.

- ❑ structure of the parent state (J^π, K^π , configuration)
 - ✓ controls which states of the daughter will be populated

- ❑ excitation energy
- ❑ quantum numbers and their projections
- ❑ lifetime
- ❑ decay modes & branching ratios



- ❑ Q-value – defines the energetics of the decay
 - ✓ controls the lifetime of the parent
 - ✓ the window of daughter states available

Introduction – cont.

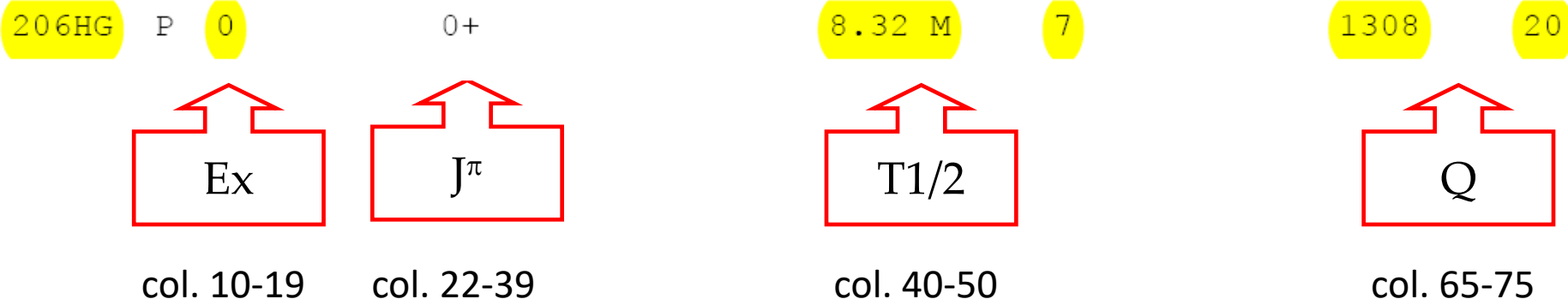
❑ every decay dataset MUST have a Parent record – P in column 8

```
206TL      206HG B- DECAY                      1970AS05,1968WO08          08NDS      200805
206TL      H TYP=FUL$AUT=F.G. KONDEV$CIT=NDS 109, 1527 (2008)$CUT=31-Jan-2008$
```

```
206TL c    1968Wo08: {+206}Hg produced by {+208}Pb(p,3p) reaction and isotope
206TL2c    separation. |b{+-} measured in proportional counter, ce in Si(Li)
206TL2c    detectors, |g singles and |g|g coincidences in NaI and Ge detector,
206TL3c    and |g|b{+-} coincidences with NaI and Si(Li) detectors.
```

```
206TL c    1970As05: {+206}Hg produced by {+208}Pb(p,3p) reaction with E(p)=600
206TL2c    MeV. |g singles measured with Ge detector, lifetime measured with
206TL3c    plastic scintillators.
```

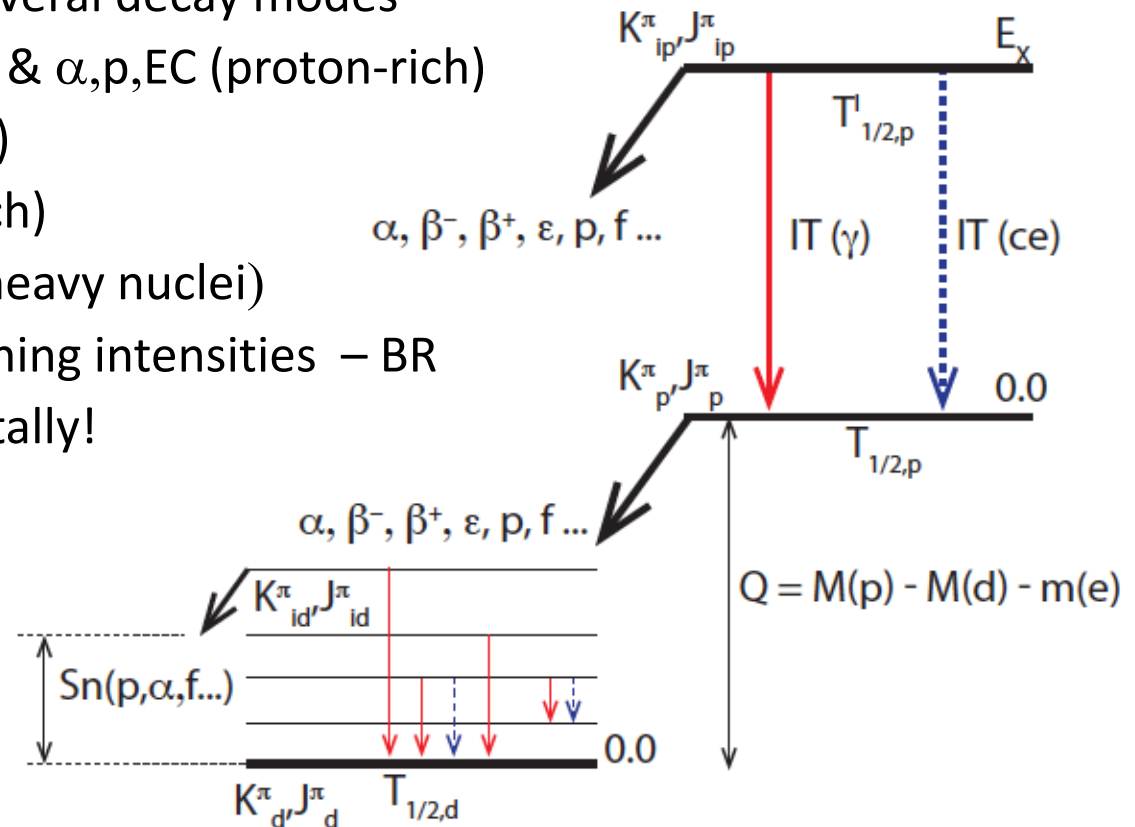
```
206TL c    Other: 1969Ha03: survey measurement of level lifetimes using 600 MeV
206TL2c    proton beam on Pb target with isotope separation. Measured limit for
206TL3c    T{-1/2}(305|g).
```



```
206HG CP T$From 1111Aayy ...
```

Introduction – cont.

- ❑ nuclear state can decay via several decay modes
 - ✓ IT & β^- (neutron-rich) or IT & α, p, EC (proton-rich)
 - ✓ β^- & EC (near the stability)
 - ✓ α & p or α & EC (proton-rich)
 - ✓ α & SF or α & β^- (^{255}Es) (heavy nuclei)
- ❑ one needs to know the branching intensities – BR
 - ✓ not a trivial job experimentally!



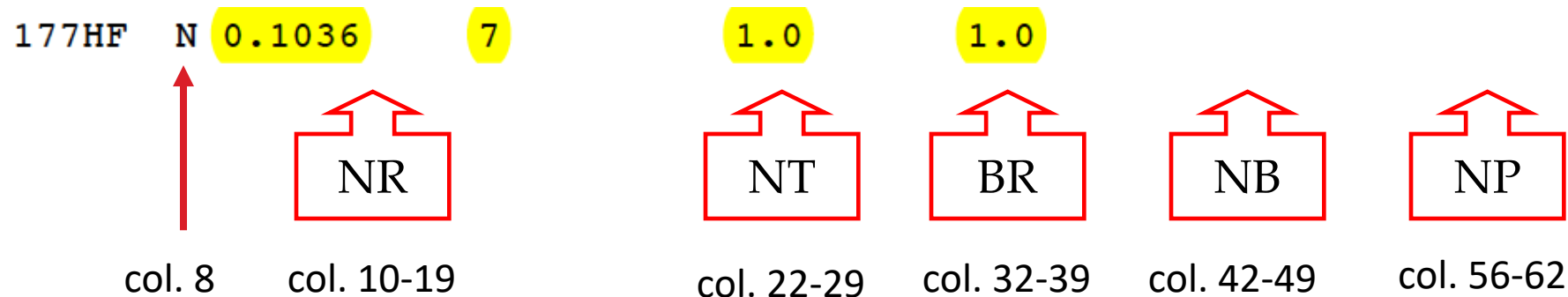
%I = Intensity/100 parent decays

- ❑ usually the experiments provide relative emission probabilities – absolute measurements are difficult & rare
 - ✓ **convert relative to absolute emission probabilities using the properties of the decay scheme – NORMALIZATION**

Introduction – cont.

❑ every decay dataset **MUST** have a Normalization record

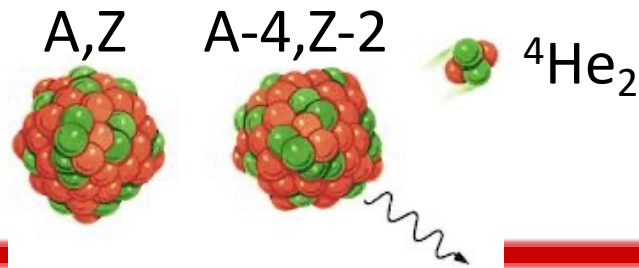
177HF 177LU B- DECAY (6.647 D) 2001Sc23 03NDS 200305



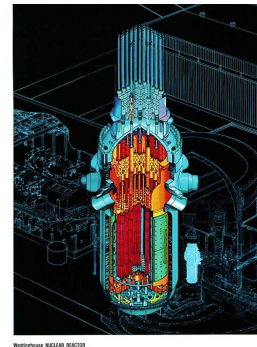
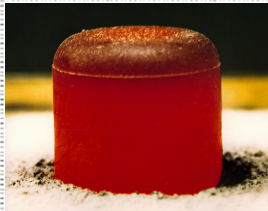
Relative Intensity	Normalization factor	Absolute Intensity
$I_\gamma \times$	NR x BR	= % I_γ
$I_\gamma \text{ (tot)} \times$	NT x BR	= % $I_\gamma \text{ (tot)}$
$I_\beta \text{ (or } \alpha \text{ or } \varepsilon) \times$	NB x BR	= % $I_\beta \text{ (or } \alpha \text{ or } \varepsilon)$
$I_{\beta n} \text{ (or } \varepsilon p \dots) \times$	NP x BR	= % $I_{\beta n} \text{ (or } \varepsilon p \dots)$

177HF cN NR\$Using absolute |g ray intensity for the 208.3662 |g of 10.36% {I7}
 177HF2cN from 2001Sc23

α -decay



- ✓ powerful spectroscopy tool
- ✓ atomic masses for proton-rich nuclei
- ✓ applications



DECAY MODES

- β^+ (EC + e^+)
- β^-
- α
- Internal Transition
- Spontaneous Fission
- p
- n
- Stable nuclide
- Unknown decay

α -decay – cont.

$$|I_i - I_f| \leq l_\alpha \leq |I_i + I_f|$$

$$\pi_i \pi_f = (-1)^{l_\alpha}$$

even-even nuclei:

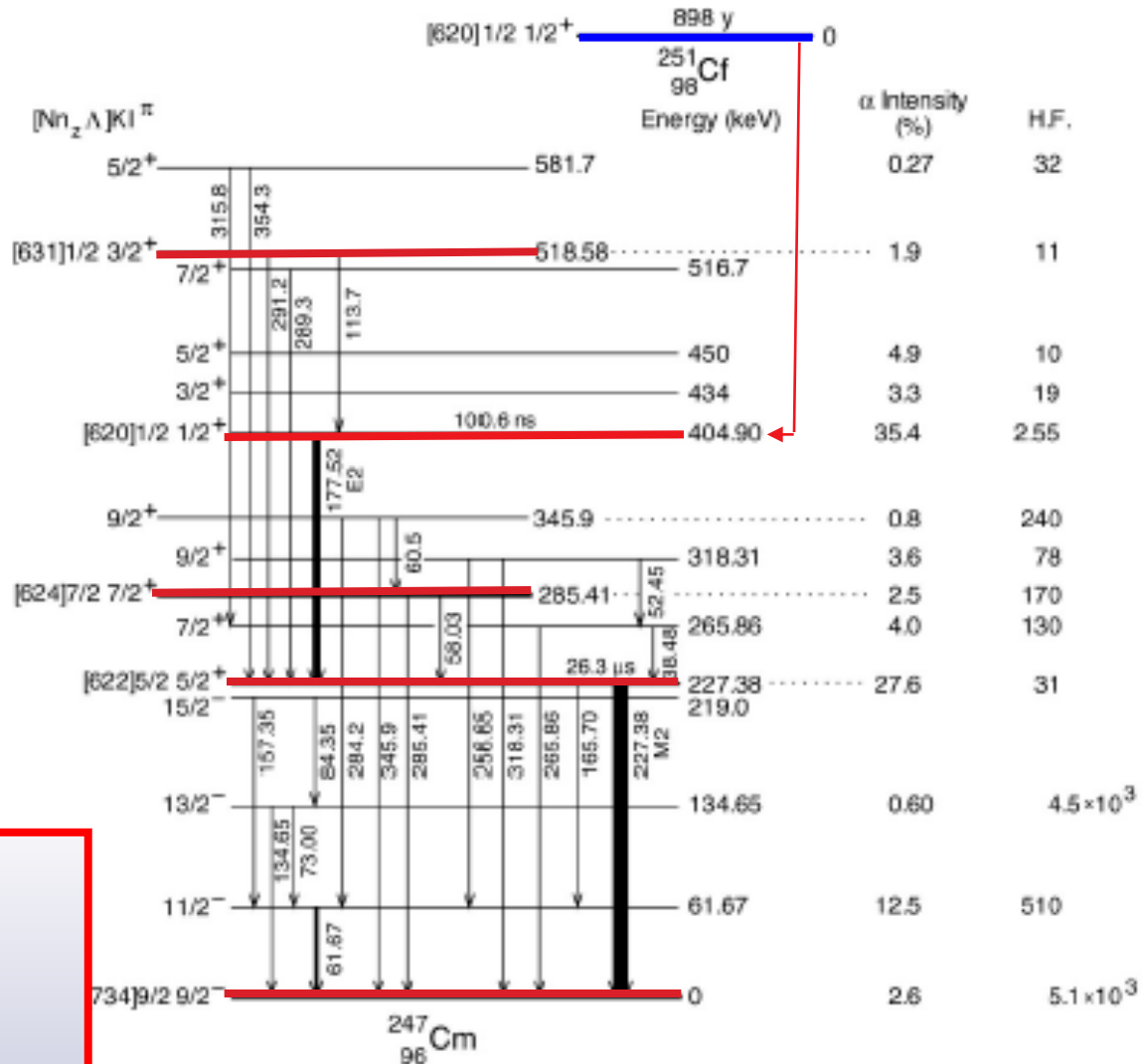
$$0+ \rightarrow 0+; l_\alpha=0$$

odd-A:

$$1/2+ \rightarrow 1/2+; l_\alpha=0,1$$

$$1/2+ \rightarrow 3/2+; l_\alpha=1,2$$

$$1/2+ \rightarrow 9/2-; l_\alpha=4,5$$



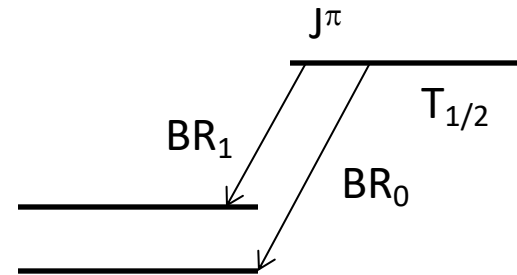
- ☐ Strong dependence on l_α
- ☒ fastest decay for $l_\alpha=0$
- ☐ Configuration dependence
- ☒ fastest for the same configurations

I. Ahmad et al., Phys. Rev. **C68** (2003) 044306

Hindrance Factor in α -decay

HF < 4 – favored decay (fast)

$$HF_i = \frac{t_{1/2}^{\alpha_i}(\text{exp})}{t_{1/2}^{\alpha_i}(\text{th})} = \frac{T_{1/2}(\text{exp}) / BR_i}{t_{1/2}^{\alpha_i}(\text{th})}$$



$$t_{1/2}^{\alpha_i}(\text{th}) \quad \text{M.A. Preston, Phys. Rev. 71 (1947) 865} \quad t_{1/2}^{\alpha} = \ln 2 \frac{r_0}{2v} \frac{\mu^2(H_I^2 + K_I^2) + \tan^2 \alpha_0 (C_I^2 + S_I^2) + 2\mu \tan \alpha_0 (C_I K_I - S_I H_I)}{\mu^2 \tan \alpha_0 (H_I C_I + K_I S_I) Q_I} e^{+2\alpha_0}$$

✓ depends on r_0 and $Q(\alpha)$ - nuclear radius: $R = r_0 \times A^{1/3}$

$$v = \sqrt{2E_{\alpha} / m_{\alpha}}$$

$$Q_{\alpha} = (m(A, Z) - m_{\alpha}) - \sqrt{(m(A, Z) - m_{\alpha})^2 - 2 \times m(A, Z) \times E_{\alpha} + B_{e, \alpha}} \quad B_{e, \alpha} = 78.6 \text{ [eV]}$$

relativistic formula

since AME16

$$Q_{\alpha} \approx E_{\alpha} \times \frac{m(A, Z)}{m(A - 4, Z - 2)} = E_{\alpha} \times \left(1 + \frac{4}{A - 4} \right)$$

205PO H TYP=FUL\$AUT=F.G. KONDEV\$CIT=NDS 101. 521 (2004)\$CUT=1-Feb-2004\$

205PO cA HF\$Using r(-0){(+205)Po}=1.462 {I8}, weighted average value deduced
 205PO2cA from values for neighboring even-even (+204)Po (r(-0)=1.476 {I6}) and
 205PO3cA (+206)Po (r(-0)=1.4571 {I33}) nuclei (1998Ak04).

205PO cA E,IA\$From 1971Go35, unless otherwise specified.

205PO cL E\$From the measured E|a.

205PO cL J,T\$From adopted levels, unless otherwise specified.

205PO cL E(A)\$Configuration=(|p h(-9/2)){++2}{-0+}{|n f(-5/2)}{+-1})

205PO cL E(B)\$Configuration=(|p h(-9/2)){++2}{-0+}{|n p(-1/2)}{+-1})

205PO cL E(C)\$Configuration=(|p h(-9/2)){++2}{-0+}{|n p(-3/2)}{+-1})

209RN P 0.0 5/2- 28.8 M 9 6155.5 20

209RN cP \$1971Go35: Mass separated source was produced in bombardment of a
 209RN2cP metallic thorium target with 660 MeV proton beams. Detectors: magnetic
 209RN3cP spectrograph with energy resolution of 4-6 keV; Measured: E|a, I|a,
 209RN4cP T(-1/2), and %|a. Others: 1955Mo68, 1955Mo69 and 1971Jo19.
 209RN cP \$T(-1/2): Weighted average of 28.5 min {I10} (1971Go35) and 30 min
 209RN2cP {I2} (1955Mo68); ; %|a from 1971Go17. Other %|a=17 (1955Mo68);

205PO N 1.0 1.0 0.17 2

205PO PN 1

205PO L 0.0 5/2- 1.74 H 8 A

205PO A 6039 3 99.617 20 1.17 15

205PO cA E\$Other: 6037 keV {I3} (1955Mo69).

205PO L 144 4 1/2- 310 NS 60 B

205PO cL T\$From |a|g(t) (1971Jo19).

205PO A 5898 3 0.139 20 187 36

205PO L 155 4 3/2- C

205PO A 5887 3 0.219 20 105 17

205PO L 386 4 (3/2-)

205PO A 5660 3 0.0239 20 77 12

²⁰⁹Rn α Decay 1971Go35

Parent ²⁰⁹Rn: E=0.0; Jπ=5/2-; T_{1/2}=28.8 min 9; Q(g.s.)=6155.5 20; %α decay=17 2.

²⁰⁹Rn: 1971Go35: Mass separated source was produced in bombardment of a metallic thorium target with 660 MeV proton beams. Detectors: magnetic spectrograph with energy resolution of 4-6 keV; Measured: Eα, Iα, T_{1/2}, and %α. Others: 1955Mo68, 1955Mo69 and 1971Jo19.

²⁰⁹Rn: T_{1/2}: Weighted average of 28.5 min 10 (1971Go35) and 30 min 2 (1955Mo68); ; %α from 1971Go17. Other %α=17 (1955Mo68).

alphad.rpt

²⁰⁵Po Levels

E(level) [†]	Jπ [‡]	T _{1/2} [‡]	
0.0 [§]	5/2-	1.74 h 8	
144 [#] 4	1/2-	310 ns 60	T _{1/2} : From αγ(t)
155 [@] 4	3/2-		
386 4	(3/2-)		

[†] From the measured Eα.

[‡] From adopted levels, unless otherwise specified.

[§] Configuration=((π h_{9/2})⁺²₀₊(ν f_{5/2})⁻¹).

[#] Configuration=((π h_{9/2})⁺²₀₊(ν p_{1/2})⁻¹).

[@] Configuration=((π h_{9/2})⁺²₀₊(ν p_{3/2})⁻¹).

=====					
Z: 86. A: 209. ALPHAD Version 1.6 [7-FEB-2001]					

Q ALPHA	E TOTAL	ALPHA HALF LIFE	RADIUS (1E-13 cm)	RZERO	
6.1555 20	6.1884 20	0.118 D 15	8.62 5	1.4620	80
TOTAL HALF LIFE		ALPHA BRANCH			
28.8 M 9		0.170 20			
K					
ENERGY LEVEL	ALPHA ENERGY	ABUNDANCE	CALC. HALF LIFE	HINDRANCE FACTOR	
K					
0.000	6039 3	0.99617 20	0.101 3	1.17 15	
144 4	5898 3	0.00139 20	0.452 16	187 36	
155 4	5887 3	0.00219 20	0.508 18	106 17	
386 4	5660 3	0.000239 20	6.39 23	77 12	

α radiations

Eα [‡]	E(level)	Iα ^{‡§}	HF [†]	Comments
5660 3	386	0.0239 20	77 12	
5887 3	155	0.219 20	105 17	
5898 3	144	0.139 20	187 36	
6039 3	0.0	99.617 20	1.17 15	Eα: Other: 6037 keV 3 (1955Mo69).

same Jπ and configuration

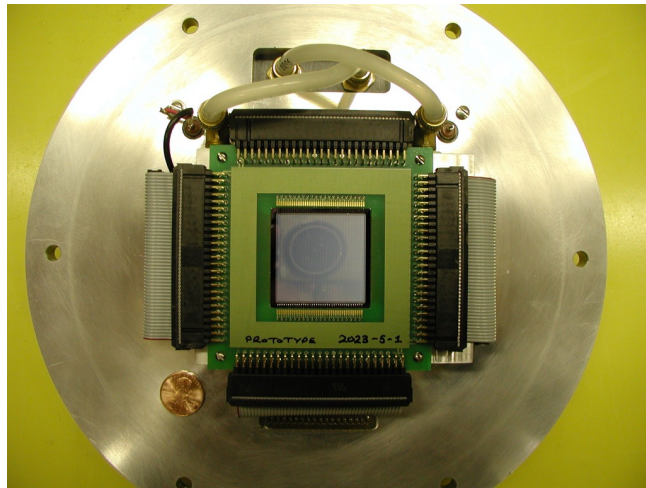
[†] Using r₀(²⁰⁵Po)=1.462 8, weighted average value deduced from values for neighboring even-even ²⁰⁴Po (r₀=1.476 6) and ²⁰⁶Po (r₀=1.4571 33) nuclei (1998Ak04).

[‡] From 1971Go35, unless otherwise specified.

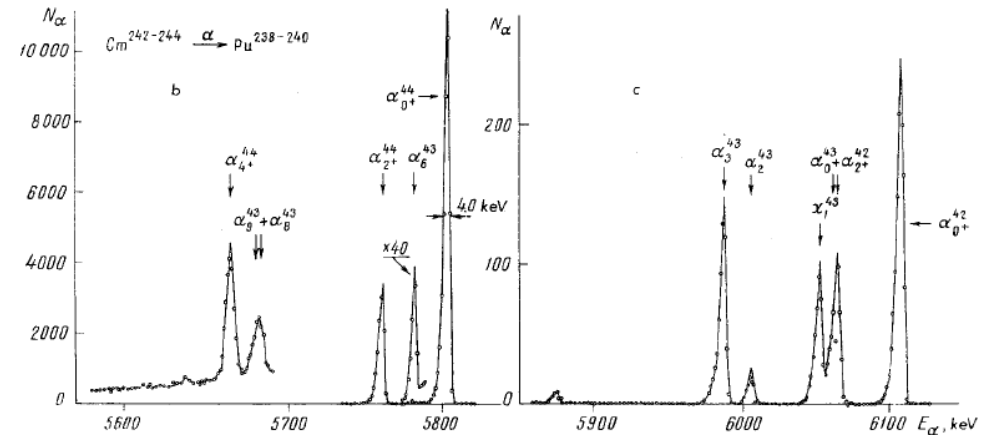
[§] For α intensity per 100 decays, multiply by 0.17 2.

Experimental techniques

- ☐ magnetic spectrometers
- ☐ ionization chambers
- ☐ semiconductor detectors
 - ✓ Si(Au), PIPS, DSSD, ...



1.5 keV energy resolution



- ☐ using radioactive sources (off-line)
 - ✓ when lifetimes are sufficiently long
- ☐ using nuclear reactions (on-line)
 - ✓ implanting on a catcher foil
 - ✓ implanting directly on the DSSD

Energy Calibration

absolute determinations of α energies **using the BIPM magnetic spectrometer with a semi-circle focusing of alpha-particles**. These measurements were performed in the 70's - 80's for the **most intense alpha-transitions**

ATOMIC DATA AND NUCLEAR DATA TABLES 47, 205–239 (1991)
**RECOMMENDED ENERGY AND INTENSITY VALUES
OF ALPHA PARTICLES FROM RADIOACTIVE DECAY**

A. RYTZ*

Bureau International des Poids et Mesures
F-92312 Sèvres Cedex, France

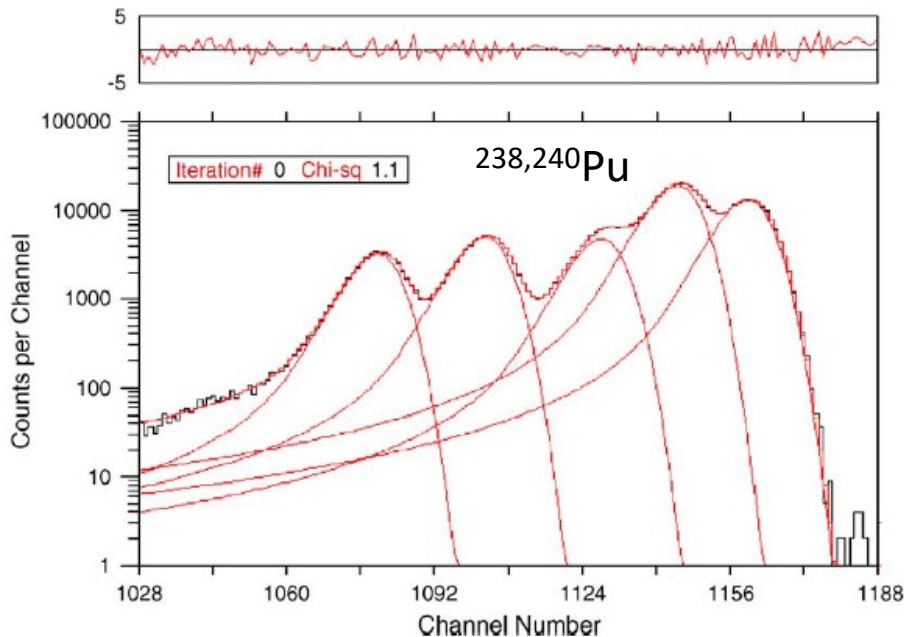


Long-lived radioactive sources

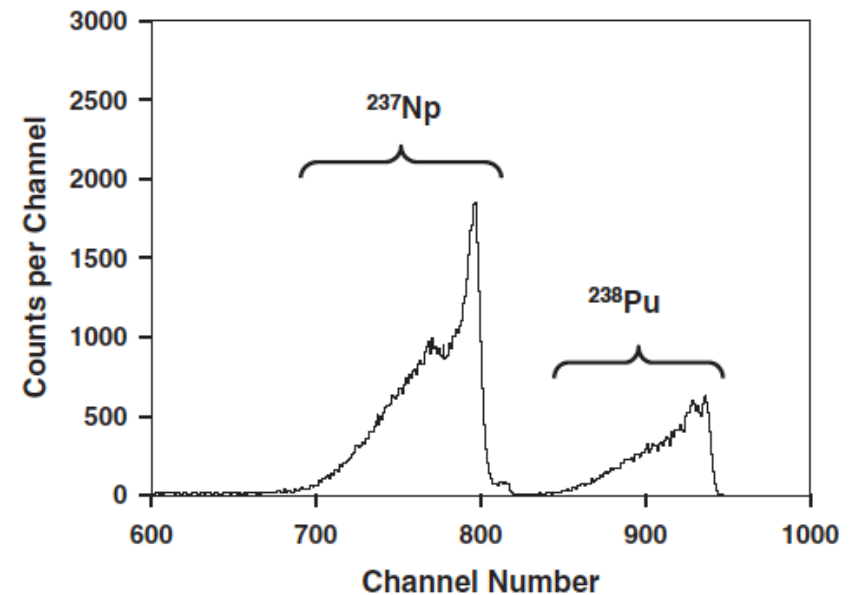
❑ semiconductor detectors: Passivated Implanted Planar Silicon (PIPS)

- ✓ energy resolution (FWHM) of 9-12 keV
- ✓ small geometrical efficiency (Ω) in order to minimize α -e-coincidence summing effects

✓ sophisticated data analysis



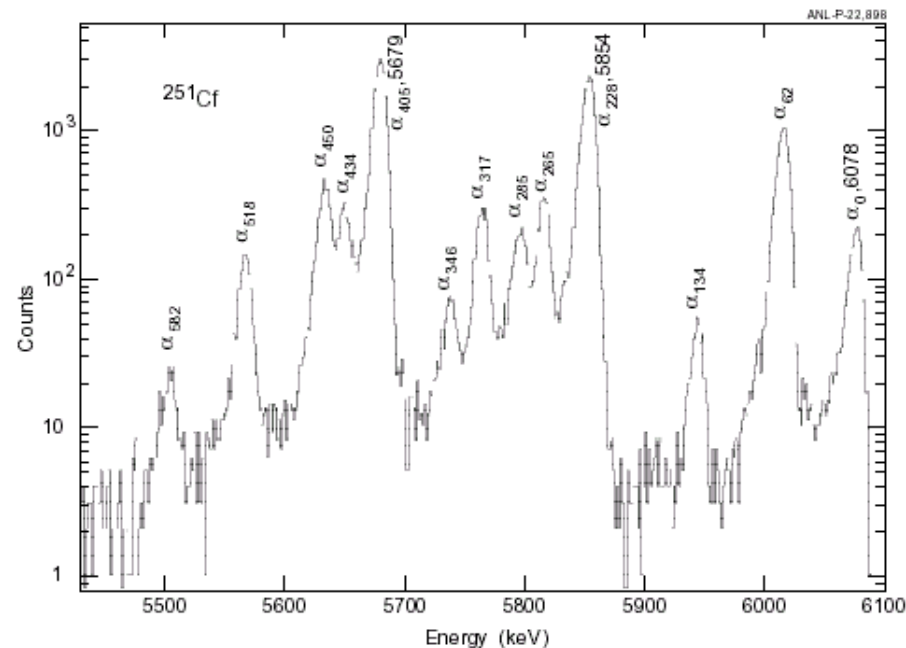
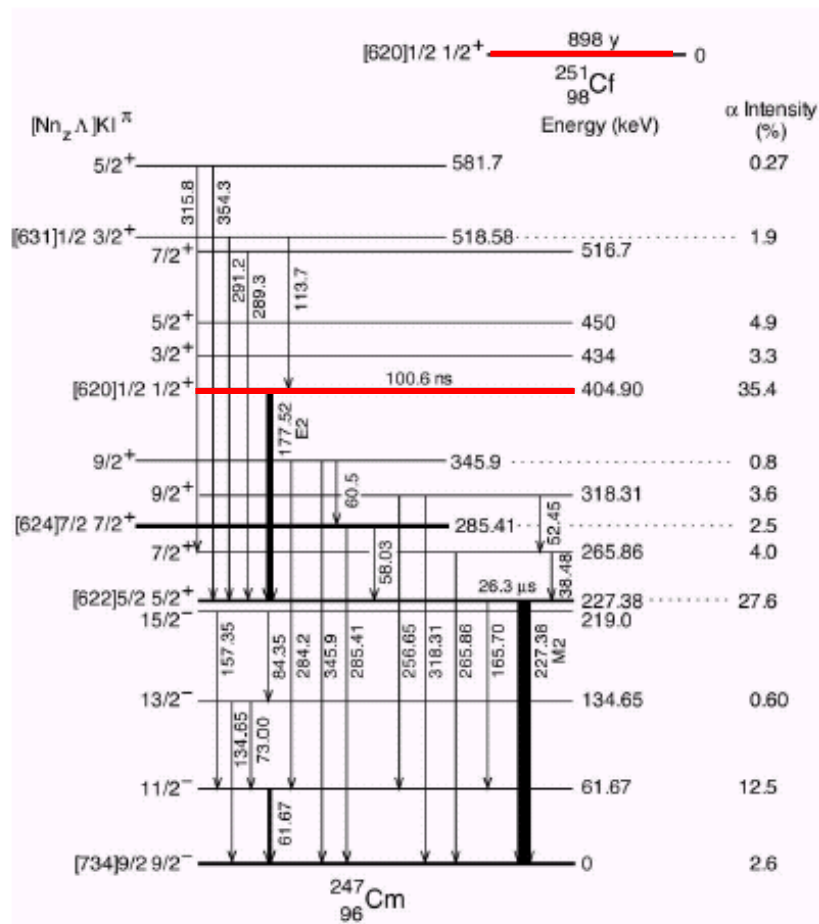
✓ thin and isotopically pure sources



^{251}Cf α -decay

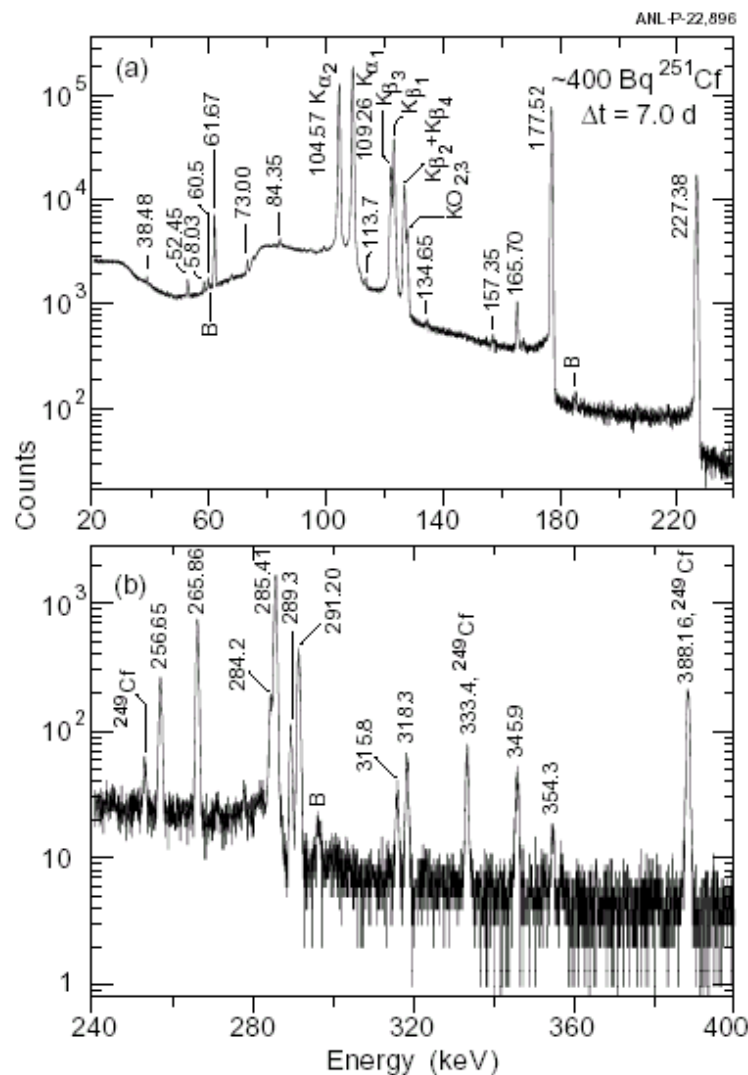
PHYSICAL REVIEW C **68**, 044306 (2003)

Energy levels of ^{247}Cm populated in the α decay of ^{251}Cf



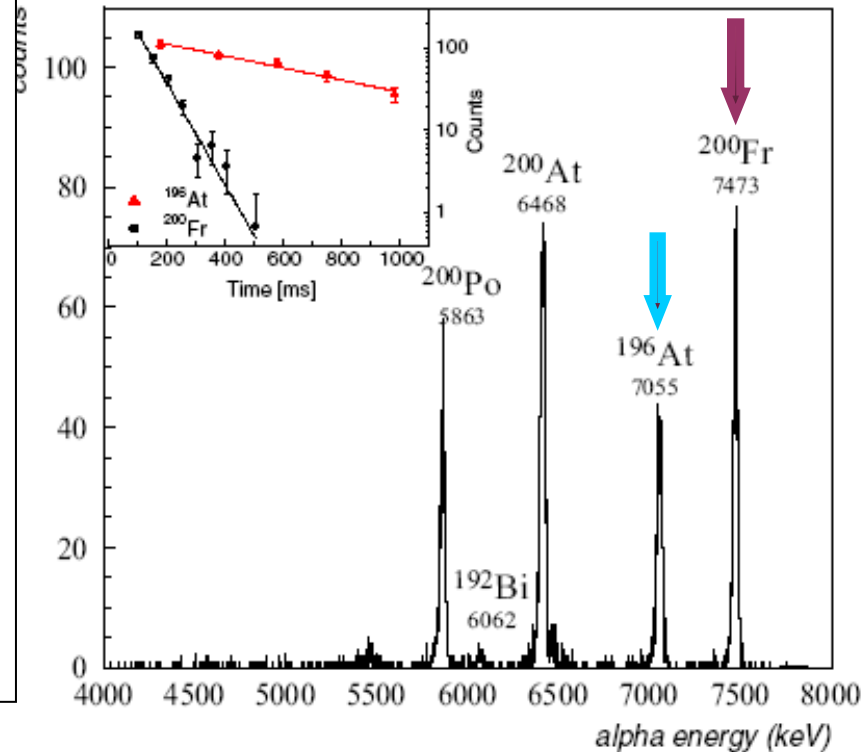
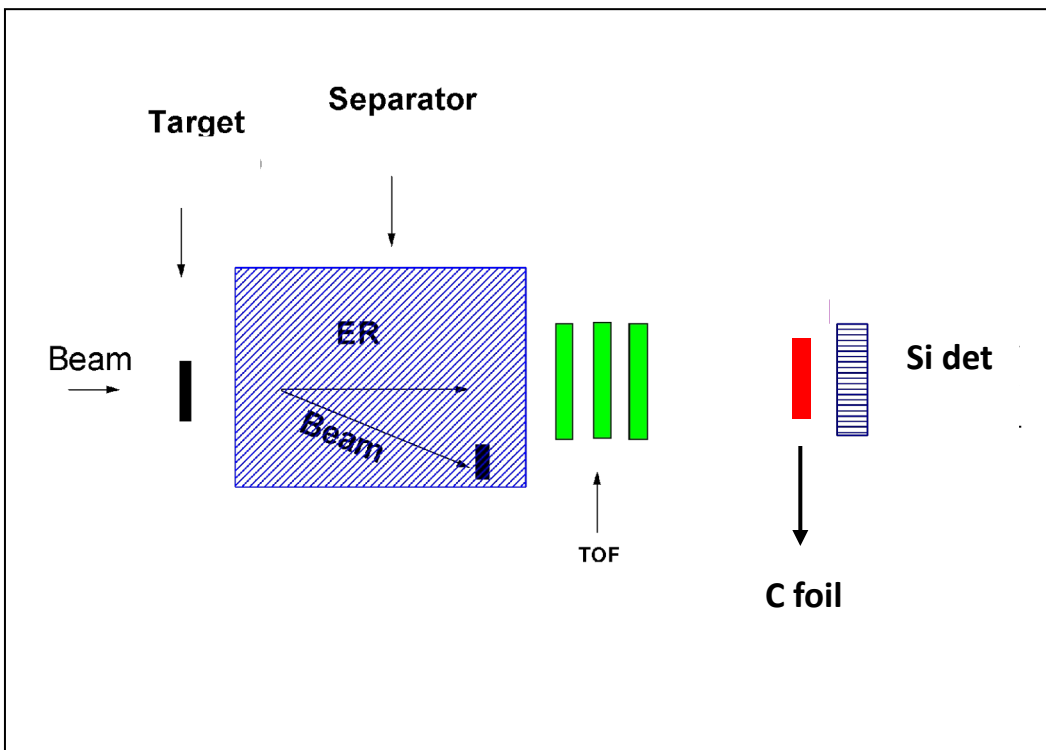
Energy (MeV)	Excited state energy (keV)	Intensity (%)	Hindrance factor ^a
6.078±0.002	0	2.6±0.1	5.1×10 ³
6.017±0.002	62	12.5±0.3	5.1×10 ²
5.946±0.002	134	0.60±0.06	4.5×10 ³
5.854±0.002	228	27.6±0.5	31
5.817±0.002	265	4.0±0.2	1.3×10 ²
5.798±0.002	285	2.5±0.2	1.7×10 ²
5.766±0.002	317	3.6±0.2	78
5.738±0.002	346	0.8±0.1	2.4×10 ²
5.679±0.002	405	35.4±0.5	2.55
5.651±0.002	434	3.3±0.2	19
5.635±0.002	450	4.9±0.2	10
5.568±0.002	518	1.9±0.1	11
5.505±0.002	582	0.27±0.05	32

^{251}Cf α -decay – cont.



Energy (keV)	Intensity (%)	Transitions Initial \rightarrow Final
38.48 ± 0.05	0.038 ± 0.006	$265.86 \rightarrow 227.38$
52.45 ± 0.05	0.048 ± 0.005	$318.31 \rightarrow 265.86$
58.03 ± 0.05	0.024 ± 0.005	$285.41 \rightarrow 227.38$
60.5 ± 0.1	0.010 ± 0.003	$345.9 \rightarrow 285.41$
61.67 ± 0.05	0.40 ± 0.03	$61.67 \rightarrow 0$
73.00 ± 0.08	0.040 ± 0.005	$134.65 \rightarrow 61.67$
84.35 ± 0.08	0.040 ± 0.005	$219.0 \rightarrow 134.65$
104.57 ± 0.02	12.6 ± 0.7	$\text{Cm } K\alpha_2$
109.26 ± 0.02	19.8 ± 1.0	$\text{Cm } K\alpha_1$
113.7 ± 0.1	0.024 ± 0.005	$518.58 \rightarrow 404.90$
122.31 ± 0.02		$\text{Cm } K\beta_3$
123.40 ± 0.02	7.7 ± 0.5	$\text{Cm } K\beta_1$
127.01 ± 0.04		$\text{Cm } K\beta_2 + K\beta_4$
128.00 ± 0.05	2.6 ± 0.2	$\text{Cm } KO_{2,3}$
134.65 ± 0.08	0.014 ± 0.003	$134.65 \rightarrow 0$
157.35 ± 0.08	0.020 ± 0.004	$219.0 \rightarrow 61.67$
165.70 ± 0.05	0.12 ± 0.01	$227.38 \rightarrow 61.67$
177.52 ± 0.02	17.3 ± 0.9	$404.90 \rightarrow 227.38$
227.38 ± 0.02	6.8 ± 0.3	$227.38 \rightarrow 0$
256.65 ± 0.08	0.13 ± 0.01	$318.31 \rightarrow 61.67$
265.86 ± 0.08	0.43 ± 0.03	$265.86 \rightarrow 0$
284.2 ± 0.1	0.12 ± 0.01	$345.9 \rightarrow 61.67$
285.41 ± 0.08	1.13 ± 0.09	$285.41 \rightarrow 0$
289.3 ± 0.1	0.070 ± 0.007	$516.7 \rightarrow 227.38$
291.20 ± 0.08	0.30 ± 0.03	$518.58 \rightarrow 227.38$
315.8 ± 0.1	0.024 ± 0.003	$581.7 \rightarrow 265.86$
318.3 ± 0.1	0.050 ± 0.005	$318.31 \rightarrow 0$
345.9 ± 0.1	0.043 ± 0.004	$345.9 \rightarrow 0$
354.3 ± 0.1	0.013 ± 0.002	$581.7 \rightarrow 227.38$

No direct detector implantation

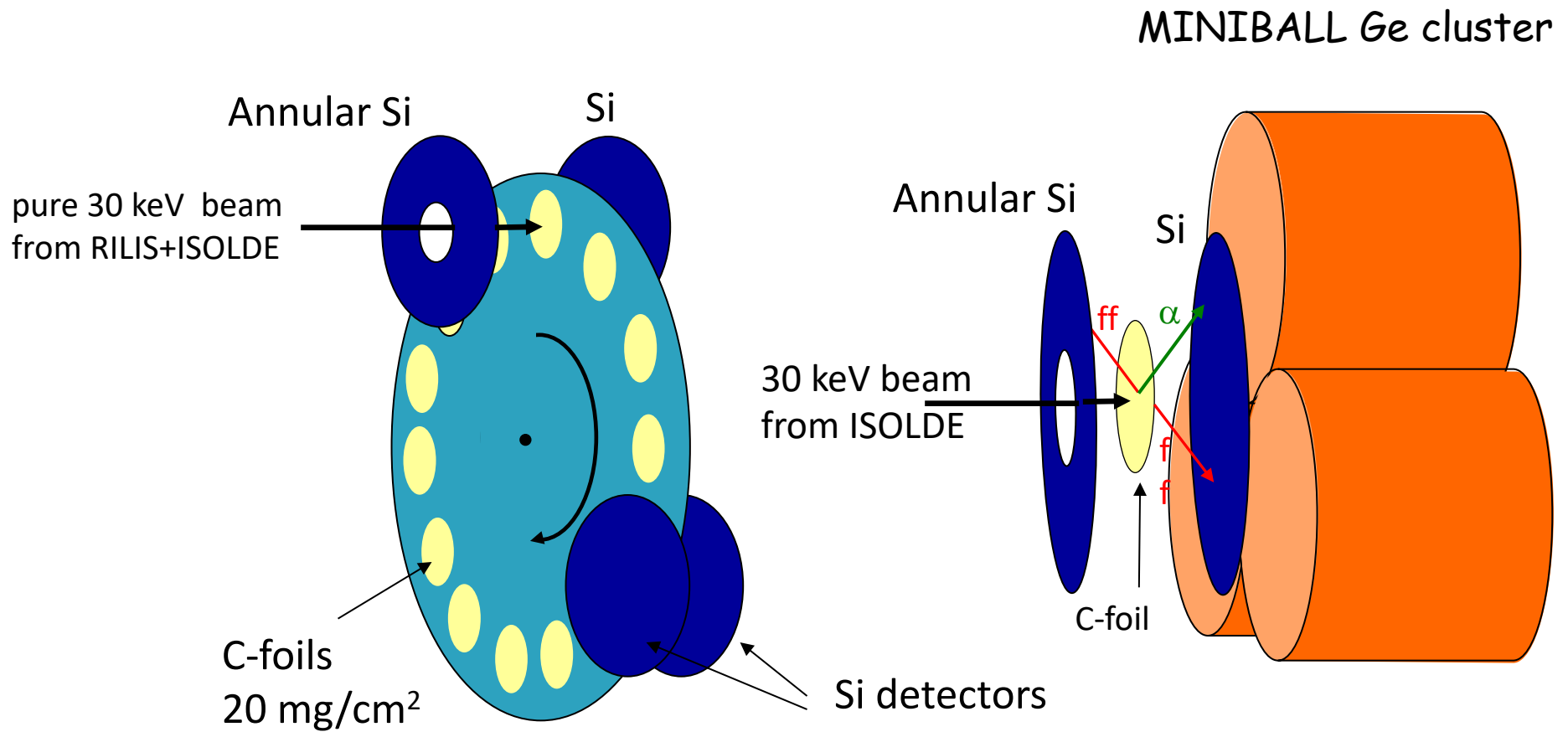


**1 GeV pulsed proton beam on 51 g/cm² ThCx target
on-line mass separation (ISOLDE)/CERN**

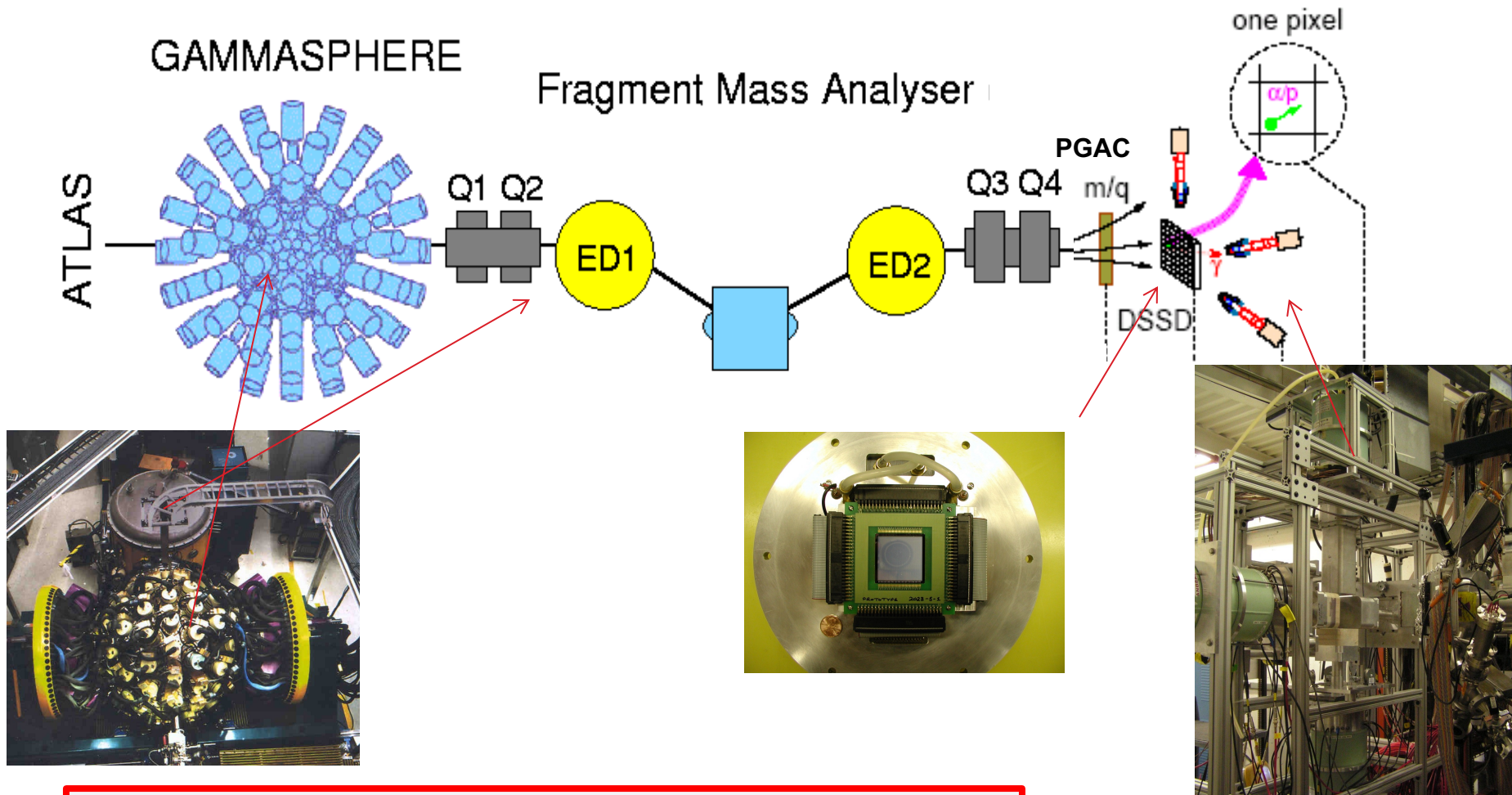
H. De Witte et al., EPJ A23 (2005) 243

Isotope	Energy (keV)	$T_{1/2}$	Reference
^{200}Fr	7473(12)	49(4) ms	this work
	7500(30)	570^{+270}_{-140} ms	[4]
	7468(9)	19^{+13}_{-6} ms	[5]

Windmill System (WM) at ISOLDE



Direct implantation on the detector



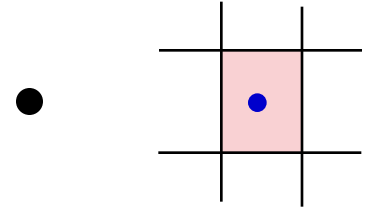
- ✓ spectroscopy of proton-rich nuclei far from stability
- ✓ studies of heavy and super-heavy nuclei

X-array

one "Super-Clover" &
four 70 X 70 mm Clovers

Direct implantation on the detector

Implantation - Decay within a single pixel



$$Q\alpha = E\alpha \times \left(1 + \frac{4}{A-4}\right) = E\alpha + E\alpha \frac{4}{A-4}$$

Important: how calibration was made?

- ✓ external source, e.g. ^{252}Cf – needs correction
- ✓ internally, but when $A(\text{cal})$ is very different need to be corrected

EPJ Web of Conferences 146, 10007 (2017)
ND2016

DOI: 10.1051/epjconf/201714610007

**Corrections of alpha- and proton-decay energies
in implantation experiments**

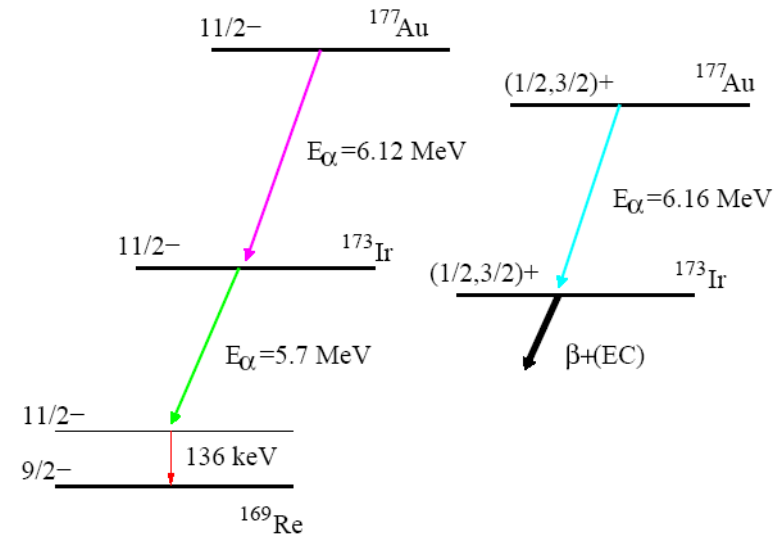
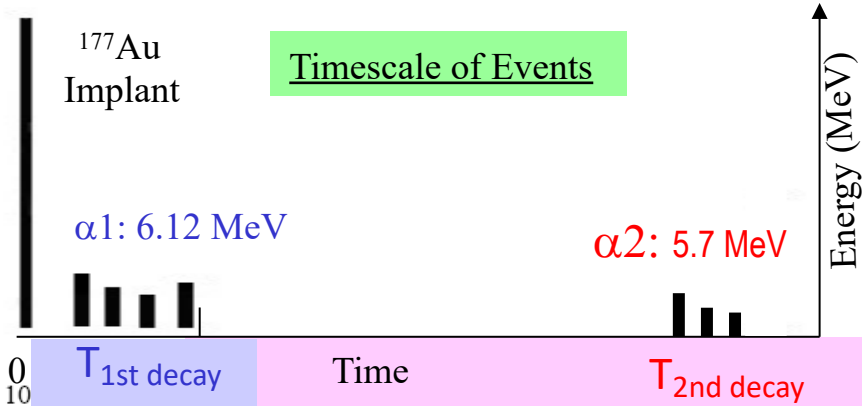
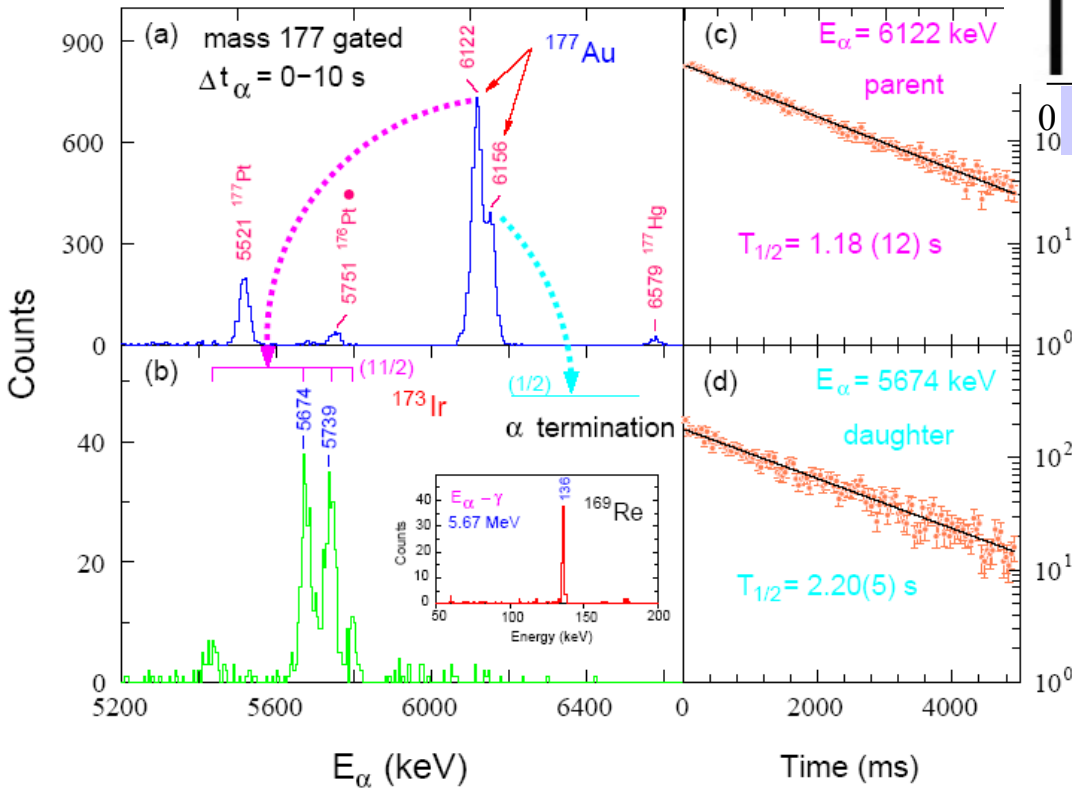
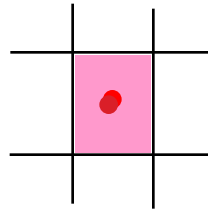
W.J. Huang^a and G. Audi



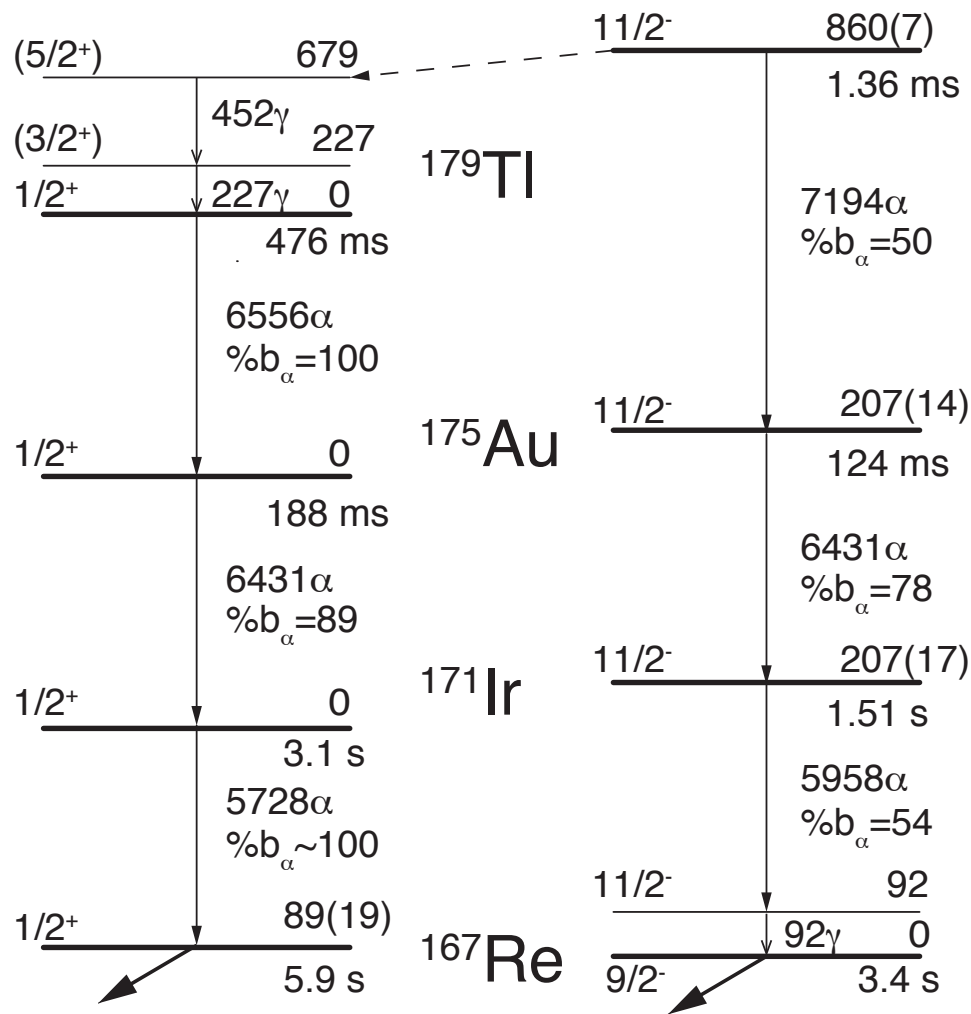
$\alpha 1-\alpha 2$ (parent-daughter) correlations

$^{84}\text{Sr} + ^{92-96}\text{Mo} @ ^{176-180}\text{Hg}$

Implantation \rightarrow Decay 1 \rightarrow Decay 2
within a single pixel



$$HF_i = \frac{T_{1/2}^{Exp}(\alpha_i)}{T_{1/2}^{Theory}} = \frac{T_{1/2}^{Exp} / BR_i}{T_{1/2}^{Theory}}$$



HF < 4 favored ($\Delta L=0$) decay

1/2+

11/2-

1.12 (6)

0.50 (3)

2.16 (17)

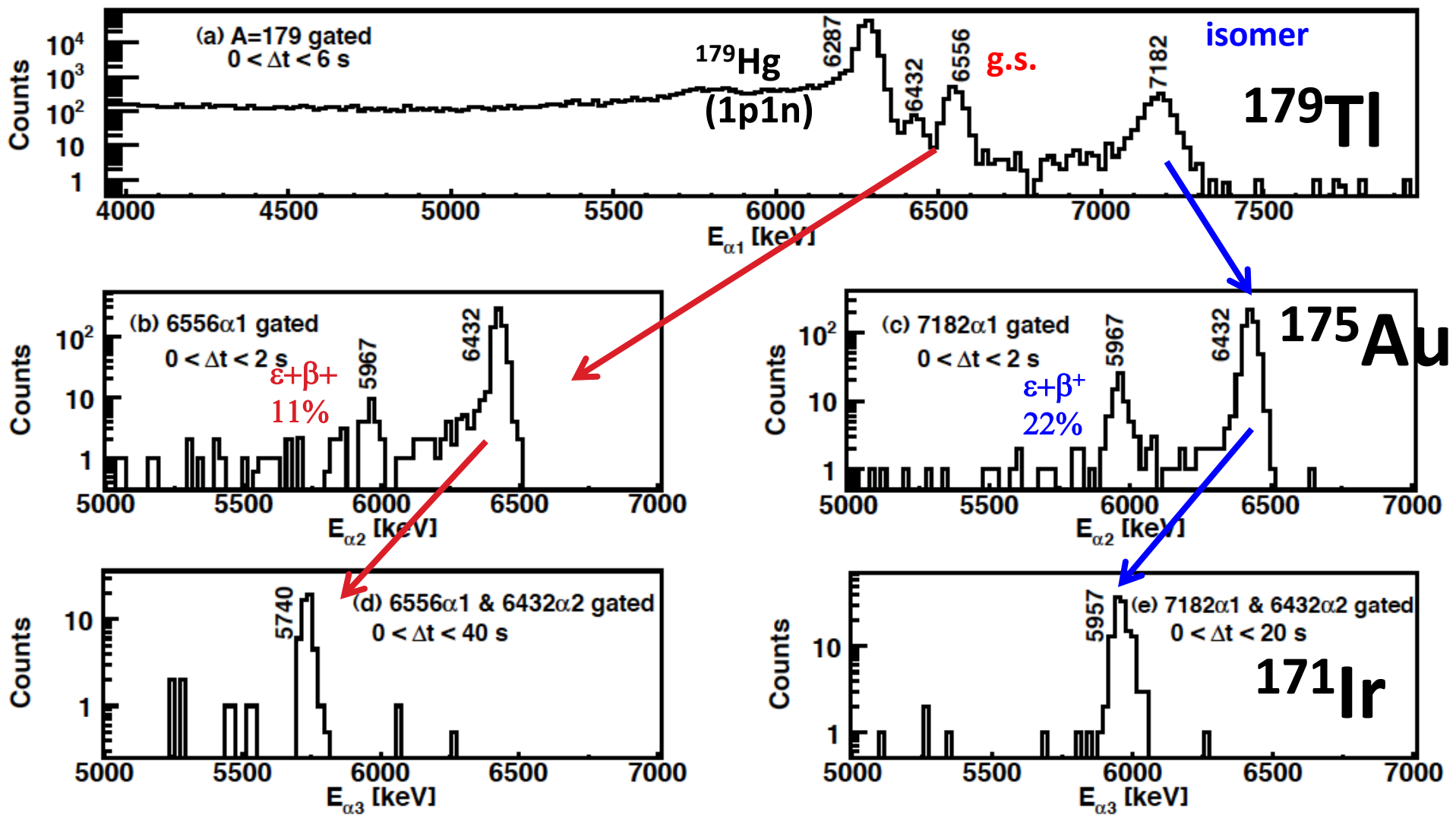
1.63 (19)

0.36 (6)
%b_α~15%

2.2 (4)



^{179}Tl : α -decay properties $^{89}\text{Y} + ^{92}\text{Mo} @ ^{181}\text{Tl} @ 375 \text{ MeV}$



Guidelines for evaluators

- ❑ Start with a collection of all references – NSR is very useful!
- ❑ Complete the ID record – provide information about the key references
 - ✓ how the parent nuclide was produced, which techniques and equipment were used; what was the energy resolution of the spectrometer and what was actually measured
 - ✓ mention other relevant references only by the NSR key number (for the benefit of the reader)
- ❑ Complete the Parent record
 - ✓ E_x , J^π and $T_{1/2}$ from “Adopted Levels” of the parent nuclide, BUT check for new data and reevaluate, if needed
 - ✓ Q_α from AME20 (2021Wa16)
- ❑ Deduce r_0 (if not an even-even nuclide) and include it in the HF record – the new alphad program also provides it



Guidelines for evaluators – cont.

NO GAMMA RAYS WERE MEASURED

- ☐ **Include measured E_α and I_α with the corresponding level**
 - ✓ if there is more than one reference you may use averages, BUT be careful – need to compare oranges with oranges, e.g. magnetic spectrometer ($\Delta E \sim 4$ keV) vs Si ($\Delta E \sim 20$ keV)
 - ✓ most measurements are relative to E_α from a standard radionuclide. If available, include this information in a comment.
 - ✓ use Ritz' s (At. Data and Nucl. Data Tables 47, 205 (1991)) - evaluated E_α and I_α - when no new values are available.
 - ✓ renormalize I_α , so that $\text{SUM } I_{\alpha_i} = 100 \%$ - have a simple spreadsheet handy
 - ✓ provide comments on E_α and I_α , where appropriate
- ☐ **Complete the Normalization record – BR**
 - ✓ BR from Adopted levels of the parent, BUT check for new data are reevaluate, if needed



Guidelines for evaluators – cont.

GAMMA RAYS WERE MEASURED

- ☐ Include measured $E\alpha$ and $I\alpha$ (as in the earlier slide)
- ☐ Include measured $E\gamma$ and $I\gamma$
 - ✓ if there is more than one reference you may use averages, BUT be careful – need to compare oranges with oranges
 - ✓ include Mult. & MR – use “Adopted gammas” or J^π differences if not available
 - ✓ include measured ICC and/or sub-shell ratios to support Mult. assignment or to deduce MR as a comment record to a corresponding G record
 - ✓ include T1/2 available for a particular level – usually $\alpha\gamma(t)$ coincidence data
- ☐ Run BrICC to deduce conversion electron coefficients
- ☐ Run GTOL – determine level energies and intensity balances
- ☐ Complete the Normalization record – NR and BR
 - ✓ NR - need to convert to $\%I\gamma$
 - ✓ BR from Adopted levels of the parent, BUT check for new data are reevaluate, if needed

Guideline for evaluators-cont.

- ❑ Run FMTCHK – check that everything is OK
- ❑ Run ALPHAD - calculate HF
- ❑ Run RADLIST - check the decay scheme for consistency

$$Q_{eff} = \sum_{i=1}^{allBF} Q_i B F_i; Q_{calc} = \sum_{j=1}^{all\gamma} E_{\gamma} P_{\gamma} + \sum_{k=1}^{all\beta} E_{\beta k} P_{\beta k} + \sum_{l=1}^{all\alpha} E_{\alpha l} P_{\alpha l} + etc. \quad Consistency = \left[\frac{Q_{eff} - Q_{calc}}{Q_{eff}} \right] \times 100\%$$

Beta decay - Introduction

Beta Decay: universal term for all weak-interaction transitions between two neighboring isobars

Takes place in 3 different forms

β^- , β^+ & **EC** (capture of an atomic electron)

β^+ : $p \rightarrow n + e^+ + \nu$

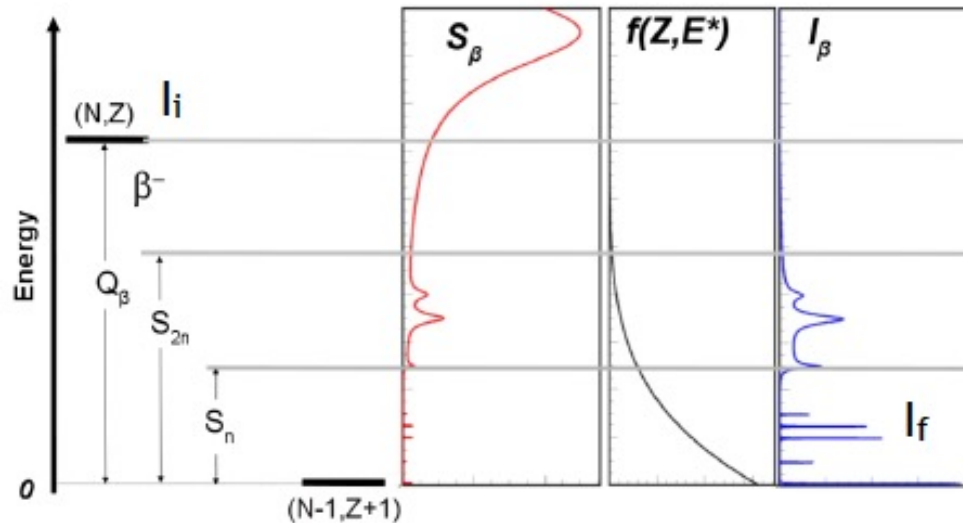
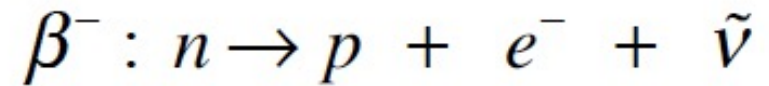
EC: $p + e^- \rightarrow n + \nu$

^{185}Os 93.1 d β^+	^{186}Os 1.59	^{187}Os 1.6
^{184}Re 38.00 d β^+	^{185}Re 37.4	^{186}Re 3.72 d β^-
^{183}W 14.31	^{184}W 30.64	^{185}W 75.9 d β^-

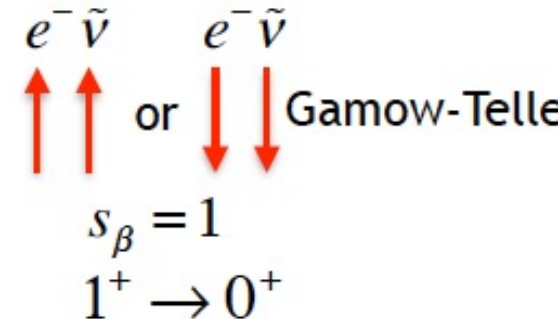
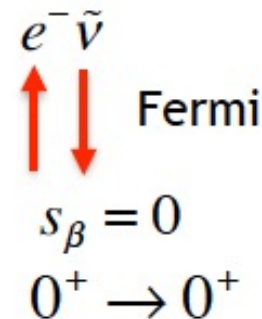
β^- : $n \rightarrow p + e^- + \bar{\nu}$

a nucleon inside the nucleus is transformed into another

Beta decay - Introduction: cont.



$$\Delta I = |I_i - I_f| = L_\beta + s_\beta$$



transition probability

$$B_{if} \approx \frac{|\langle \psi_f | \tau_k^\pm \text{ or } \sigma \tau^\pm | \psi_i \rangle|^2}{2J_i + 1} = \text{Const} \frac{I_{\beta_{if}}}{f(Z, Q_\beta - E_f) \times T_{1/2}} = \text{Const} \frac{1}{ft}$$

S_{if} - strength function

Classification of β decay transitions

Type of transition	Order of forbiddenness	ΔI	$\pi_i \pi_f$
Allowed		0,+1	+1
Forbidden unique	1	∓ 2	-1
	2	∓ 3	+1
	3	∓ 4	-1
	4	∓ 5	+1
	.	.	.
Forbidden	1	0, ∓ 1	-1
	2	∓ 2	+1
	3	∓ 3	-1
	4	∓ 4	+1
	.	.	.

β decay Hindrance Factor

$$HF_{\beta}^n = \frac{T_{1/2}^{\beta_i}}{T_{1/2}^n} = \left(\frac{g^2 \eta^2}{2\pi^3 \ln 2} \right) f_n t$$

$$f_n = \int_1^W p_e W_e (W_0 - W_e)^2 F(Z, W_e) (C_n / \eta^2) dW_e$$

statistical rate function (phase-space factor): **the energy & nuclear structure** dependences of the decay transition

η^2 contains the nuclear matrix elements

Log ft values

$$\log ft = \log f + \log t$$

coming from calculations

coming from experiment

Decay Mode	Type	$\Delta I (\pi_i \pi_f)$	$\log f$
β^- EC + β^+	allowed	0, +1 (+)	$\log f_0^-$ $\log(f_0^{EC} + f_0^+)$
β^- EC + β^+	1 st -forb unique	∓ 2 (-)	$\log f_0^- + \log(f_1^- / f_0^-)$ $\log[(f_1^{EC} + f_1^+) / (f_0^{EC} + f_0^+)]$

N.B. Gove and M. Martin, Nuclear Data Tables **10** (1971) 205

improved values from the BETASHAPE code – see X. Mougeot presentation

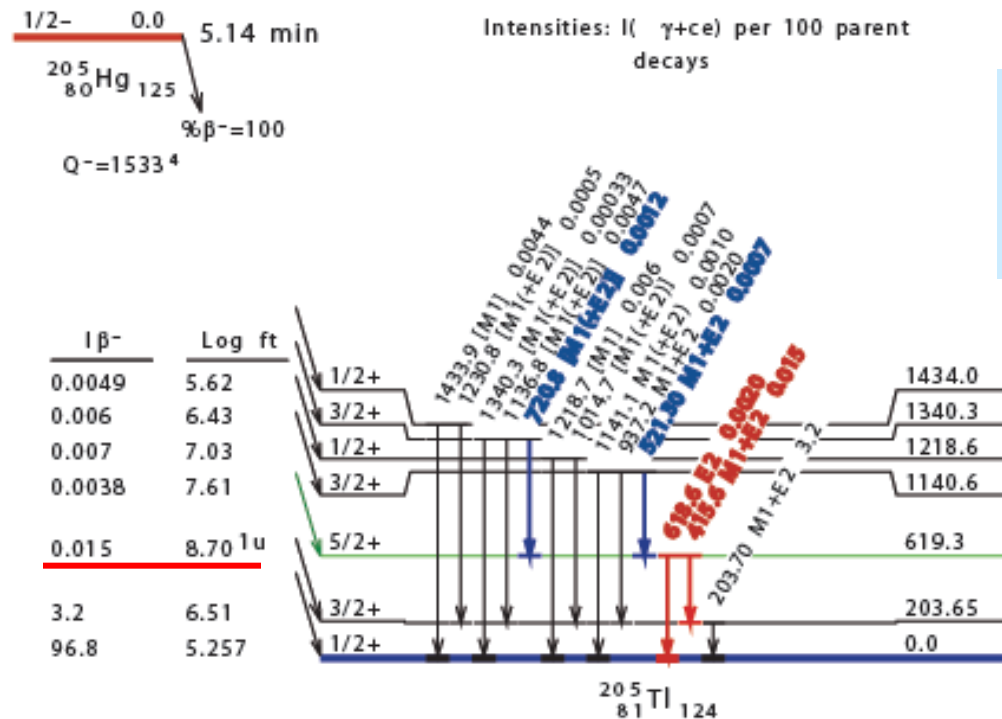
Log t

$$t \equiv T_{1/2}^{\beta_i} = \frac{T_{1/2}^{\text{exp}}}{P_{\beta_i}}$$

$$P_{\beta_i} = \eta [I^{\text{tot}}(\text{out}) - I^{\text{tot}}(\text{in})]$$

$$I^{\text{tot}}(\text{out} / \text{in}) = \sum_i I_{\gamma_i} (1 + \alpha_{T_i})$$

$$\alpha_T(M1 + E2) = \frac{\alpha_T(M1) + \delta^2 \alpha_T(E2)}{1 + \delta^2}$$



□ What we want to know accurately

✓ $T_{1/2}$, I_γ , α_T & δ

In

$$\frac{I^{\text{tot}}(521 + 721) = 0.086(16)}{I^{\text{tot}}(416 + 619) = 0.78(10)} = 0.69(10)$$

(net)

Out

$$\eta = 0.0022 \rightarrow t = 2.056 \times 10^6 [\text{s}] \rightarrow \log t = 6.31 \rightarrow \log f = 2.386 \rightarrow \log ft = 8.7$$



Rules for Spin/Parity Assignments

PHYSICAL REVIEW C

VOLUME 7, NUMBER 5

MAY 1973

Rules for Spin and Parity Assignments Based on $\log ft$ Values*

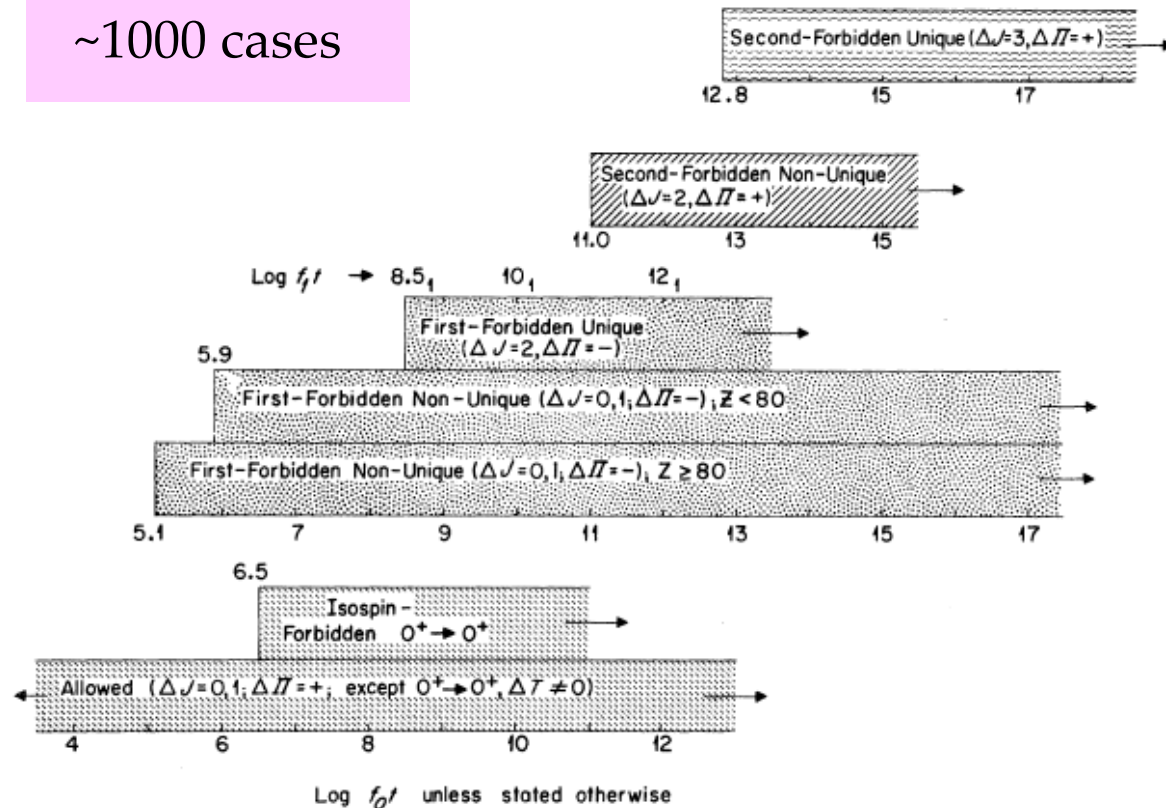
S. Raman and N. B. Gove

Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830

(Received 25 October 1972)

- ❑ There are only a few cases where **unambiguous assignment** can be made
- ❑ “**pandemonium effect**” – neutron rich nuclei – $\log ft$ is a just lower limit!
- ❑ needs to know the decay scheme and its properties **accurately!**

~1000 cases



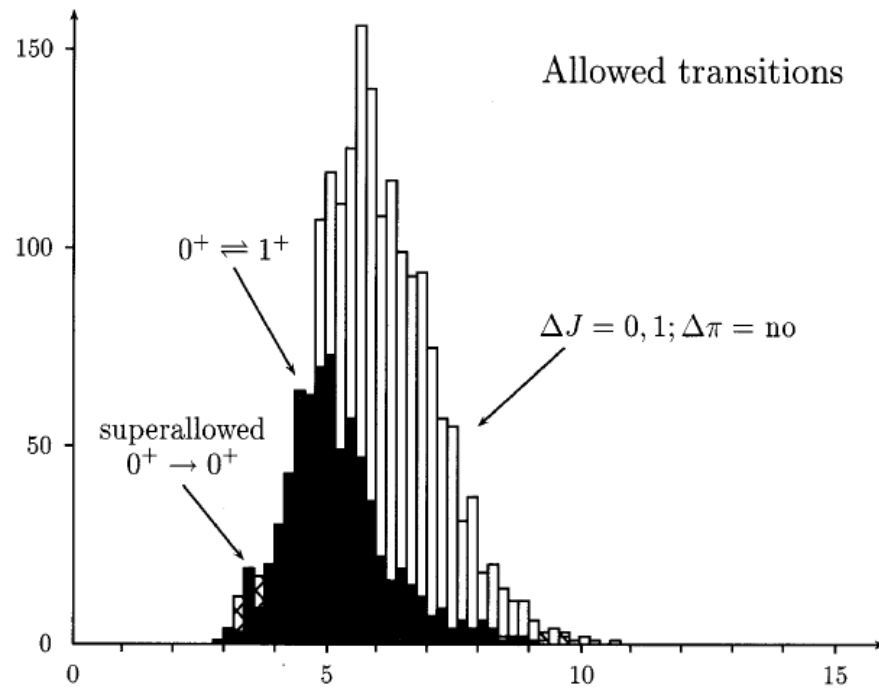
Log ft values – latest review

Nuclear Data Sheets 84, 487 (1998)
Article No. DS980015

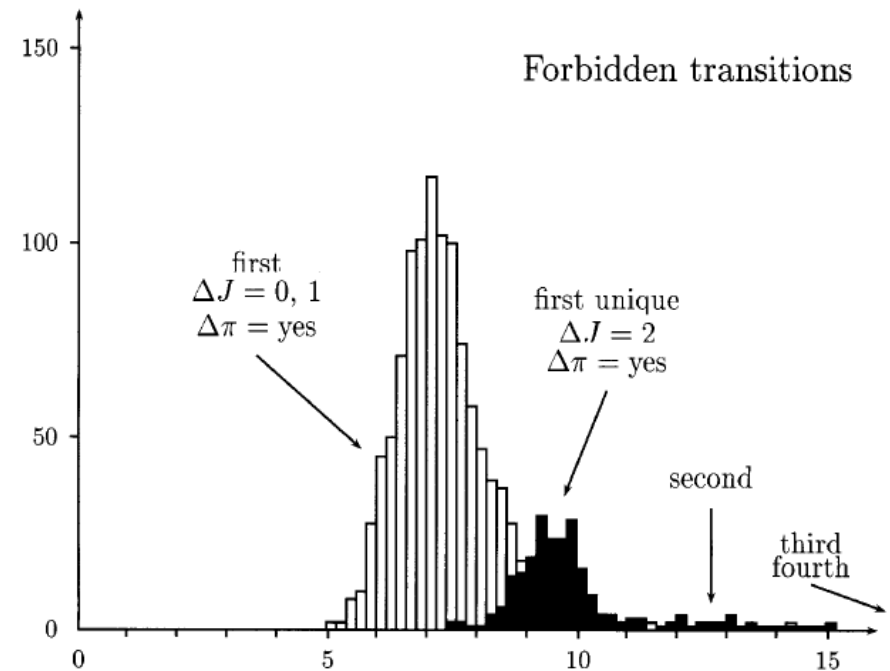
~3900 cases -> gives
centroids and widths

Review Of Log ft Values In β Decay*

B. Singh, J.L. Rodriguez, S.S.M. Wong & J.K. Tuli

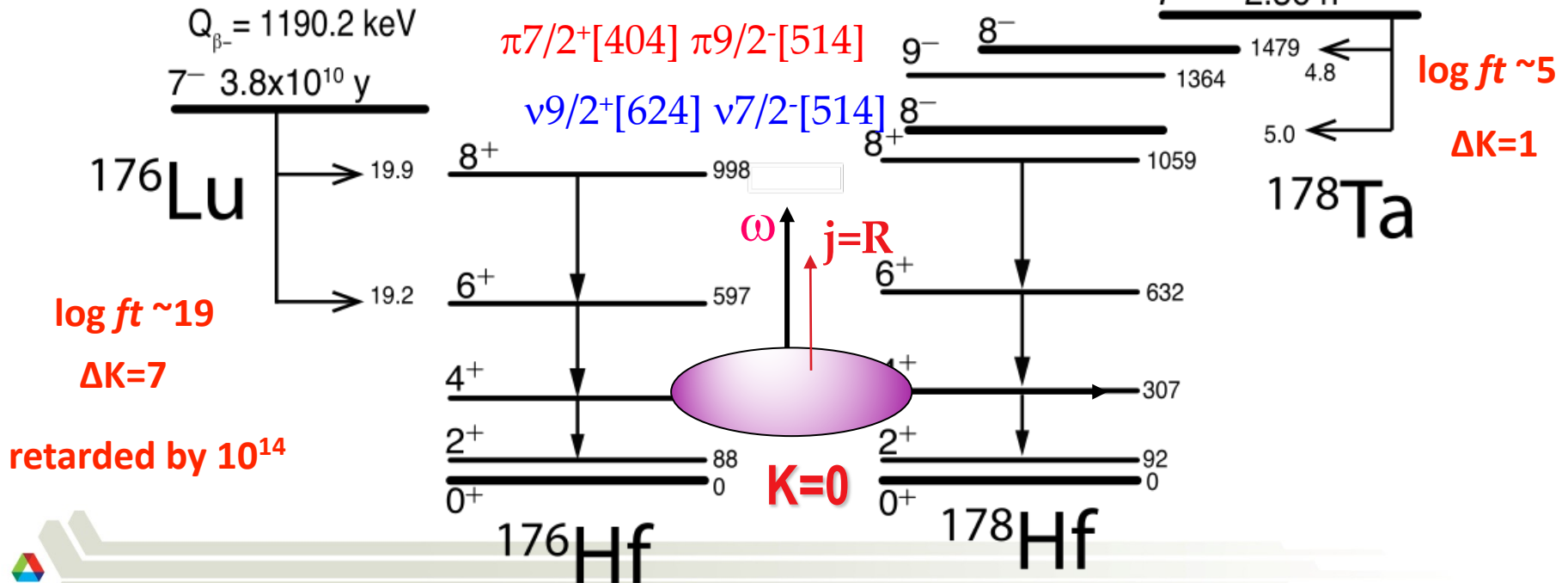
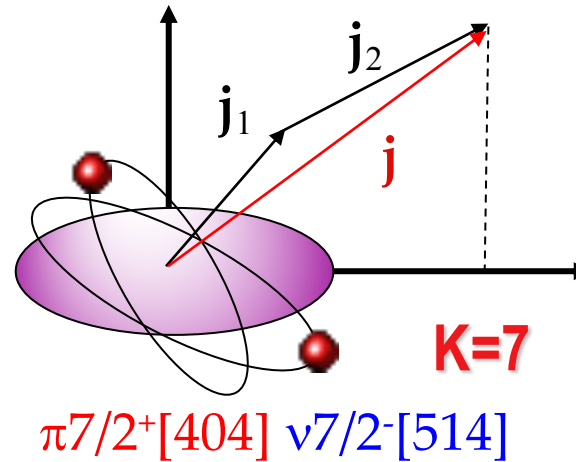


Log ft



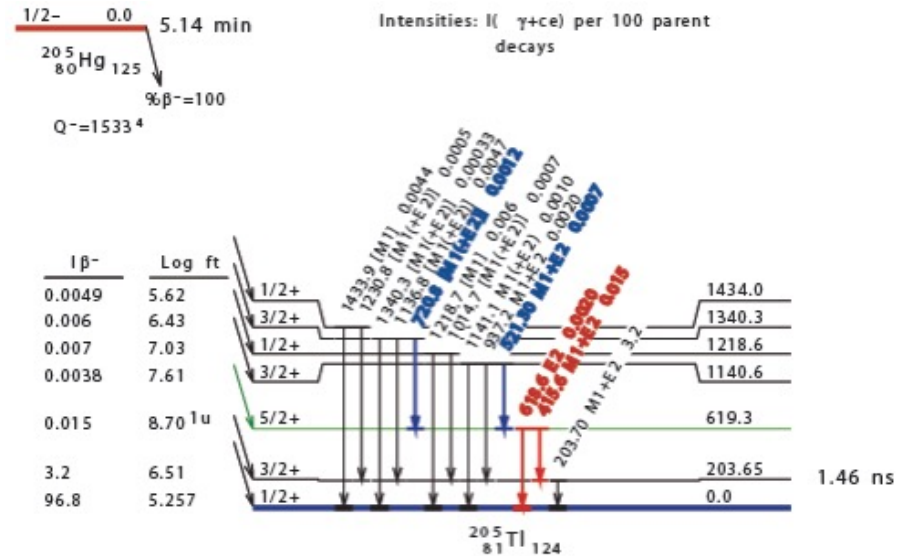
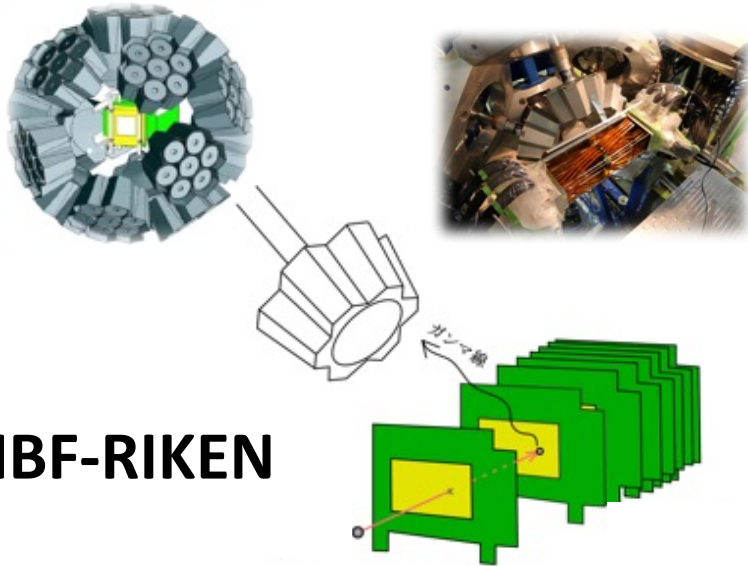
Beta decay of odd-odd nuclei

$^{177}_{73}\text{Ta}$ 104 410 ns 9/2- Ex=73.36 IT=100%	$^{178}_{73}\text{Ta}$ 105 56.56 h 7/2+ Ex=51717 (4) $\beta=100\%$	$^{179}_{73}\text{Ta}$ 106 9.31 m 1+ Ex=100# (50#) $\beta=100\%$
$^{176}_{72}\text{Hf}$ 104 9.6 μ s 6+ Ex=1333.07 IT=100%	$^{177}_{72}\text{Hf}$ 105 Stable 0+ Ex=1315.4504 IT=100%	$^{178}_{72}\text{Hf}$ 106 2.36 h 7- Ex=50600# (50#) $\beta=100\%$
$^{175}_{71}\text{Lu}$ 104 1.49 μ s 5/2- Ex=353.48 IT=100%	$^{176}_{71}\text{Lu}$ 105 3.664 h 1- Ex=122.845 $\beta=100\%$	$^{177}_{71}\text{Lu}$ 106 37.6 Gy 7- Ex=53384.2 (1.9) $\beta=100\%$



Experimental Approaches

Discrete β - γ - γ Coincidence Spectroscopy



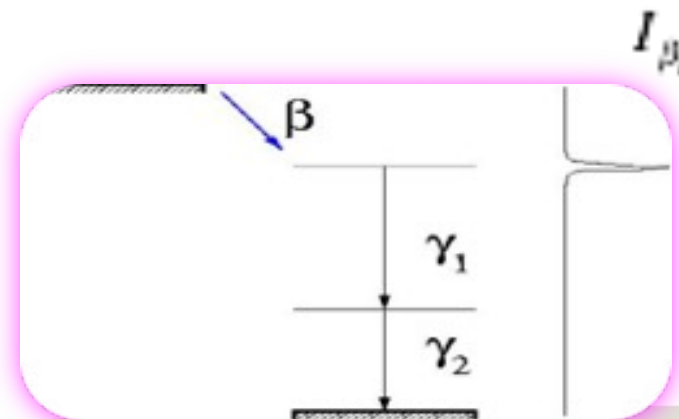
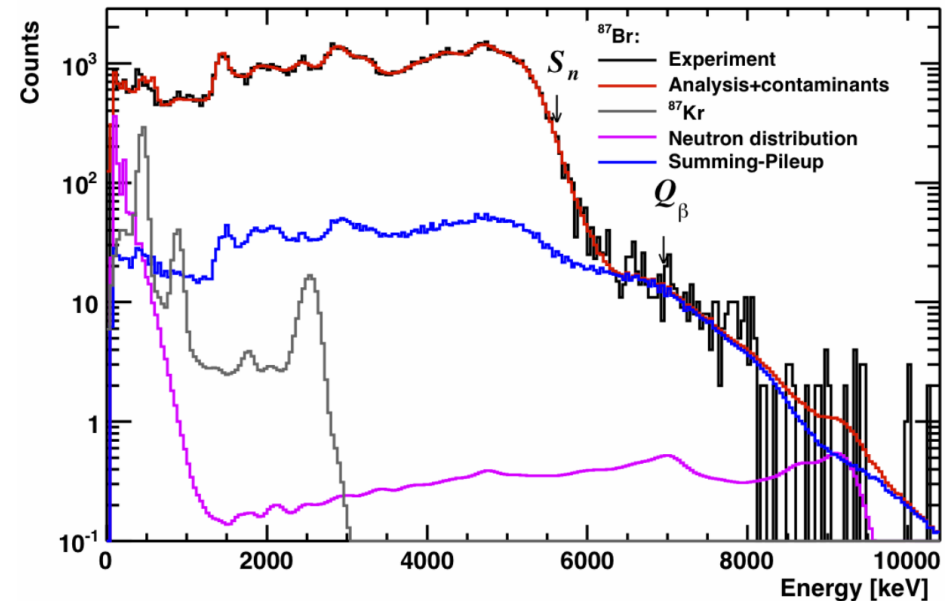
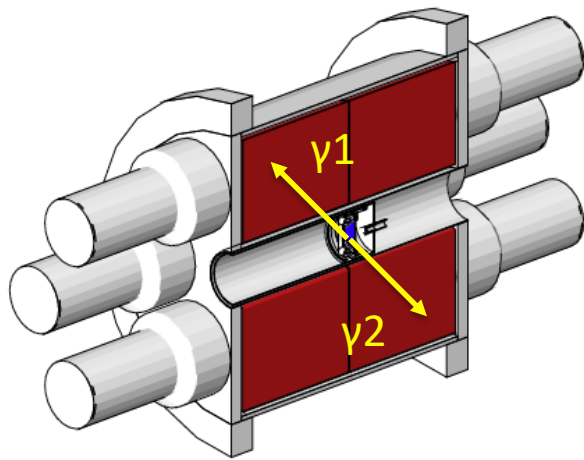
- need a complete knowledge of the decay scheme & detailed nuclear structure information -> intensity balances to determine I_β
- complications when far from stability & when g.s to g.s decay information is needed
- state-of-the-art detector equipment

$$I_{\beta_i} = \sum I_{\gamma_i}^{\text{out}} - \sum I_{\gamma_i}^{\text{in}}$$

- most studies in the past involved a single HpGe detector - lack of γ - γ coincidences - incomplete decay schemes - www.nndc.bnl.gov/ENSDF

Experimental Approaches - cont.

Total Gamma-ray Absorption Spectroscopy



- large γ -ray efficiency (GOOD!), but low energy resolution & resolving power
- must know the details of the decay scheme - often not the case and relies on simulations
complications when isomers are presented
- complicated unfolding procedure - often non-unique solutions - unreliable uncertainties

Beta Decay (β^- , β^+ and EC)



Energy (keV)

- ✓ Give $E_\beta(\text{max})$ *only* if experimental value is so accurate that it could be used as input to mass adjustment
- ✓ Do not give $E_\beta(\text{avg.})$, program LOGFT calculates its value



Absolute intensity ($\%I_\beta$, per 100 decays of the parent nucleus)

- ✓ Give experimental value, if used for normalizing the decay scheme
- ✓ Give absolute value deduced from γ -ray transition intensity balance (Program GTOL)



Log ft

- ✓ Usually authors assign spins and parities. Nevertheless, verify that the relevant $\log ft$ values are consistent with their assignments
- ✓ Give $(I_{\text{ec}} + I_{\beta^+})$ feedings deduced from γ -ray transition intensity balances. Program LOGFT calculates (from theory) ec and β^+ probabilities as well sub-shell (P_K , P_L , P_M , ...) probabilities



Give (in comments) x-ray intensities. These are useful for normalizing or testing the decay scheme

Guidelines for evaluators

- ❑ Start with a collection of all references – NSR is very useful!
- ❑ Complete the ID record – provide information about the key references
 - ✓ how the parent nuclide was produced, which techniques and equipment were used; what was the energy resolution of the spectrometer and what was actually measured
 - ✓ mention other relevant references only by the NSR key number (for the benefit of the reader)
- ❑ Complete the Parent record
 - ✓ E_x , J^π and $T_{1/2}$ from “Adopted Levels” of the parent nuclide, BUT check for new data and reevaluate, if needed
 - ✓ Q_β from AME20 mass evaluation (2021Wa16)



205TL 205HG B- DECAY 1971HI01 93NDS 200310
 205TL H TYP=FUL\$AUT=F. G. KONDEV\$CIT=NDS 69,679 (1993)\$CUT=1-Nov-2002\$
 205BI c 1971HI01: Mass-separated source; Detectors: NaI(Tl), two Ge(Li), 2 mm
 205BI2c thick Si(Li) with energy resolution of about 4 keV, a double focusing
 205BI3c magnetic spectrometer; Measured: |g, |g|g coin, NaI |g(t), ce.
 205BI c Others: 1971Sh35.
 205TL CG E,RI\$From 1971Hi01, unless otherwise specified.
 205TL CG M,MR\$From adopted gammas, unless otherwise specified.
 205TL CL E\$From a least-squares fit to EG.
 205TL CL J\$From adopted levels.
 205HG P 0.0 1/2- 5.14 M 9 1533 4

Guidelines for evaluators – cont.

❑ Include measured E_γ and I_γ

- ✓ if there is more than one reference you may use averages (avetools program), BUT be careful – need to compare oranges with oranges
- ✓ include Mult. & MR – use “Adopted gammas” – if Mult. is not known, but initial and final J^π are – use [], e.g. [E2], so ICC can be calculated
- ✓ include measured ICC and/or sub-shell ratios to support Mult. assignment or to deduce MR – use BrIccMixing program
- ✓ include $T_{1/2}$ available for a particular level – usually $\beta\gamma(t)$ coincidence data

❑ Run BrICC to deduce conversion electron coefficients

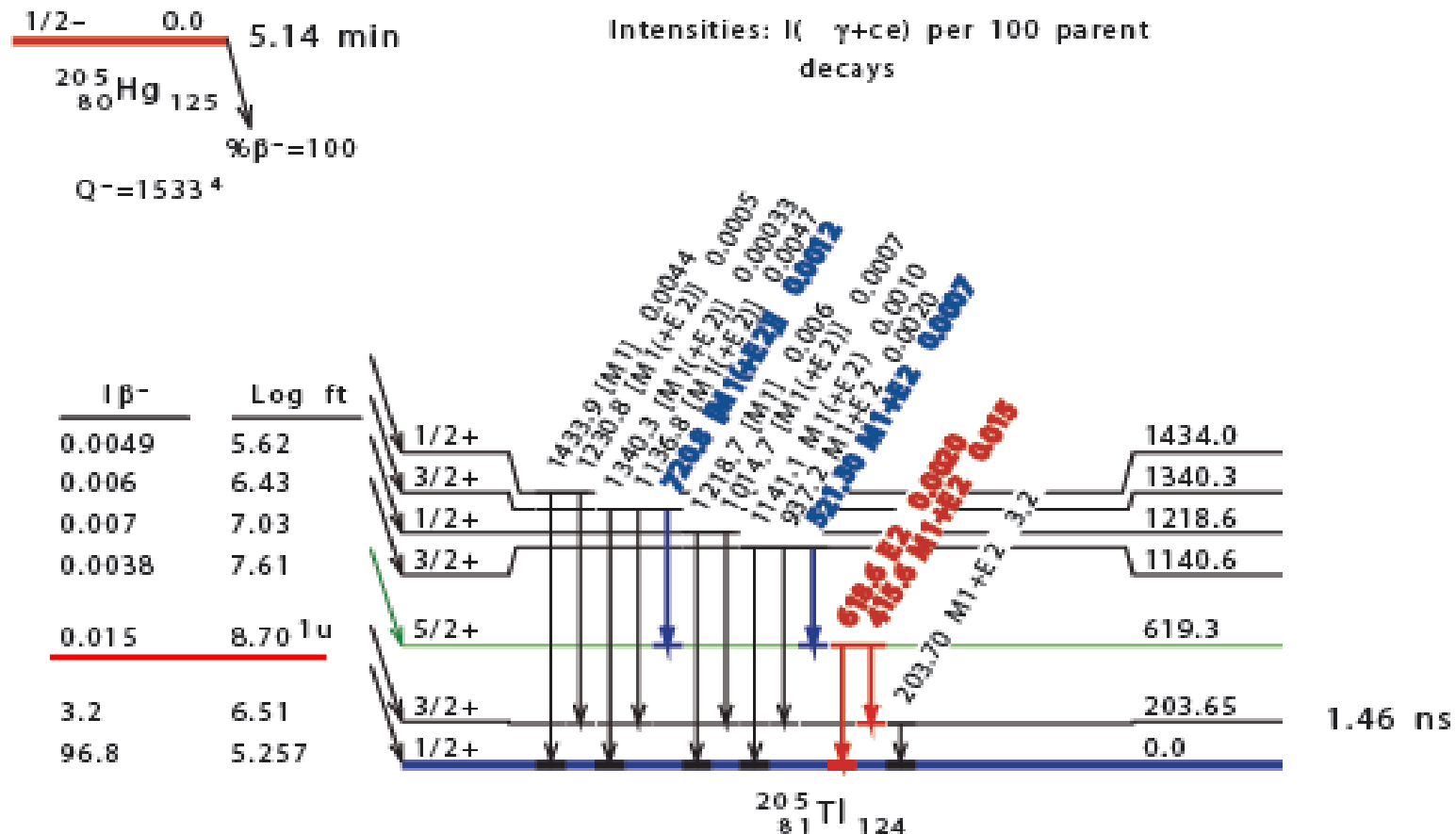
- ✓ be careful when dealing with transitions containing $E0$ admixtures (mostly J to J) or those with anomalous ICC (penetration) – use experimental ICC

205TL	L	0.0		1/2+						
205TL	B			96.8	15					
205TL	L	203.6519		3/2+		1.46	NS	8		
205TL	CL	T\$ From 1971Sh35.								
205TL	G	203.70	20	100	M1+E2	+1.18	20		0.46 4	
205TL	CG	CC\$ From adopted gammas.								
205TL3	G	EKC=0.29	4	\$	ELC=0.132	6	\$	EMC+=0.040	3	
205TLS	G	KC=0.50	8	\$	LC=0.167	\$	MC=0.0415	5	\$	NC+=0.0133 2
205TL	L	619.3	3	5/2+						
205TL	G	415.6	3	0.59	8	M1+E2	-0.069	10	0.168	
205TLS	G	KC=0.138	\$	LC=0.0232	\$	MC=0.00541	\$	NC+=0.00174		
205TL	G	618.6	7	0.090	20	E2			0.0173	
205TLS	G	KC=0.0130	4	\$	LC=0.00328	10				
205TL	L	1140.6	3	3/2+						
205TL	G	521.30	5	0.033	3	M1+E2	2.2	GE	0.031 6	
205TL	CG	RI\$ From adopted gammas.								
205TLS	G	KC=0.023	5	\$	LC=0.0060	7				
205TL	G	937.2	6	0.093	20	M1+E2	4	GE		
205TLS	G	CC=0.0077	4	\$	KC=0.0061	4	\$	LC=0.00118	5	
205TL	G	1141.1	15	0.045	20	M1(+E2)	-0.25	25	0.012011	
205TLS	G	KC=0.0098	9	\$	LC=0.00160	14				

Guidelines for evaluators – cont.

- ☐ **Complete the Normalization record – NR and BR**
 - ✓ NR - need to convert to %I γ
 - ✓ BR from Adopted levels of the parent, BUT check for new data are reevaluate, if needed
- ☐ **Run GTOL – determine level energies and intensity balances**

^{205}Hg β^- decay as an example



205HG P 0.0 1/2- 5.14 M 9 1533 4
 205TL N 0.022 10 1 1.0
 205TL CN NR\$ based on IB-=3.2% 15 to the 203.7 level.
 205TL2CN The total energy realized in B- decay of 205HG is calculated
 205TL3CN using RADLST as
 205TL4CN 1532 KEV 22. This value is in a very good agreement with
 205TL5CN QP =1531 KEV 4, thus suggesting that the decay scheme
 205TL6CN is complete.
 205TL L 0.0 1/2+
 205TL B 96.8 15
 205TL L 203.6519 3/2+ 1.46 NS 8
 205TL CL T\$ From 1971Sh35.
 205TL G 203.70 20 100 M1+E2 +1.18 20 0.46 4



program GTOL

LEVEL	RI (OUT)		RI (IN)		RI (NET)		TI (OUT)		TI (IN)		TI (NET)		NET FEEDING		
													(CALC)	(INPUT)	
0.0	0.000		100.63	8	-100.63	8	0.000		147	4	-147	4	96.8	15	96.8 15
203.65 19	100.0		0.95	10	99.05	10	146	4	1.05	11	145	4	3.2	15	3.2 15
Upper limit (90% C.L.) estimates:															
Method 1:		5.07													
Method 2:		5.05													
619.3 3	0.68	9	0.084	16	0.60	9	0.78	10	0.086	16	0.69	10	0.015	8	0.015 7
1140.6 3	0.17	3	0.000		0.17	3	0.17	3	0.000		0.17	3	0.0038	19	0.0038 19
1218.6 4	0.31	5	0.000		0.31	5	0.31	6	0.000		0.31	6	0.0007	4	0.0007 4
1340.3 5	0.28	6	0.000		0.28	6	0.28	6	0.000		0.28	6	0.0006	3	0.0006 3
1434.0 5	0.22	5	0.000		0.22	5	0.22	6	0.000		0.22	6	0.0049	25	0.0049 25

NET FEEDING TO G.S. IS 96.77+-1.47

Before running the LOGFT program

```

205HG  P 0.0          1/2+          5.14 M      9          1533      4
205TL  N 0.022        10          1          1.0
205TL CN NR$ based on IB-=3.2% 15 to the 203.7 level.
205TL2CN The total energy realized in B- decay of 205HG is calculated
205TL3cN using RADLST as
205TL4CN 1532 KEV 22. T1/2 value is in a very good agreement with
205TL5CN QP =1531 KEV 4+ suggesting that the decay scheme
205TL6CN is complete.
205TL  L 0.0          1/2+
205TL  B 96.8 15
205TL  L 203.6519 3/2+          1.46 NS      8
205TL CL T$ From 1971Sh35.
205TL  B 3.2 15
205TL CB IB$ 3.7% 15 from 1971Hi01 based on CC(203.7G)=0.62; but IB=3.2% 15 if
205TL2CB CC(203.7G)=0.46.
205TL  G 203.70      20 100          M1+E2      +1.18      20          0.46      4

```

LEVEL	RI (OUT)	RI (IN)	RI (NET)	TI (OUT)	TI (IN)	TI (NET)	NET FEEDING (CALC)			(INPUT)		
0.0	0.000	100.63 8	-100.63 8	0.000	147 4	-147 4	96.8 15			96.8		15
203.65 19	100.0	0.95 10	99.05 10	146 4	1.05 11	145 4	3.2 15			3.2		15
Upper limit (90% C.L.) estimates:												
Method 1:		5.07										
Method 2:		5.05										
619.3 3	0.68 9	0.084 16	0.60 9	0.78 10	0.086 16	0.69 10	0.015 8			0.015		7
1140.6 3	0.17 3	0.000	0.17 3	0.17 3	0.000	0.17 3	0.0038 19			0.0038		19
1218.6 4	0.31 5	0.000	0.31 5	0.31 6	0.000	0.31 6	0.007 4			0.007		4
1340.3 5	0.28 6	0.000	0.28 6	0.28 6	0.000	0.28 6	0.006 3			0.006		3
1434.0 5	0.22 5	0.000	0.22 5	0.22 6	0.000	0.22 6	0.0049 25			0.0049		25

NET FEEDING TO G.S. IS 96.77+-1.47



205TL L 0.0 1/2+
 205TL B 96.8 15 5.257 11 □ Run LOGFT
 205TLS B EAV=539.6 17
 205TL L 203.6519 3/2+ 1.46 NS 8
 205TL CL T\$ From 1971Sh35.
 205TL B 3.2 15 6.51 21
 205TLS B EAV=457.2 16
 205TL CB IB\$ 3.7% 15 from 1971Hi01 based on CC(203.7G)=0.62; but IB=3.2% 15 if
 205TL2CB CC(203.7G)=0.46.
 205TL G 203.70 20 100 M1+E2 +1.18 20 0.46 4
 205TL CG CC\$ From adopted gammas.
 205TL3 G EKC=0.29 4 \$ ELC=0.132 6 \$ EMC+=0.040 3
 205TLS G KC=0.50 8\$LC=0.167\$MC=0.0415 5\$NC+=0.0133 2
 205TL L 619.3 3 5/2+
 205TL B 0.015 7 8.70 21 1U
 205TLS B EAV=296.5 15

0
 0 TRANSITION(KEV)= 1533 4, T1/2(SEC)= 308 6, BRANCHING(%)= 96.8 15, PARTIAL T1/2(SEC)= 319 8
 LOG PARTIAL T1/2 = 2.503 11
 E= 1533.00 LOG FO= 2.754+- 0.004
 LOG FOT = 5.257+- 0.011 FOT= 0.18078E+06
 + AVERAGE BETA(+-) ENERGY= 540.39+- 1.634 EBAR/E = 0.3525

205TL L 203.6519 3/2+ 1.46 NS 8
 0
 0 TRANSITION(KEV)= 1329 4, T1/2(SEC)= 308 6, BRANCHING(%)= 3.2 15, PARTIAL T1/2(SEC)= 1.0E4 5
 LOG PARTIAL T1/2 = 3.98 21
 E= 1329.35 LOG FO= 2.525+- 0.005
 LOG FOT = 6.509+- 0.204 FOT= 0.32315E+07
 + AVERAGE BETA(+-) ENERGY= 458.00+- 1.604 EBAR/E = 0.3445

205TL L 619.3 3 5/2+
 0
 0 TRANSITION(KEV)= 914 4, T1/2(SEC)= 308 6, BRANCHING(%)= 0.015 7, PARTIAL T1/2(SEC)= 2.1E6 10
 LOG PARTIAL T1/2 = 6.31 21
 FIRST-FORBIDDEN-UNIQUE
 LOG(F1/FO) = 0.445 FOR BETAS, + OR -
 E= 913.70 LOG F1= 2.386+- 0.010
 LOG F1T = 8.699+- 0.203 F1T= 0.50018E+09
 + AVERAGE BETA(+-) ENERGY= 297.18+- 1.416 EBAR/E = 0.3253

Guideline for evaluators-cont.

❑ Check the decay scheme for consistency (using RADLST)

$$Q_{eff} = \sum_{i=1}^{allBF} Q_i B F_i; Q_{calc} = \sum_{j=1}^{all\gamma} E_{\gamma} P_{\gamma} + \sum_{k=1}^{all\beta} E_{\beta k} P_{\beta k} + \sum_{l=1}^{all\alpha} E_{\alpha l} P_{\alpha l} + etc. \quad Consistency = \left[\frac{Q_{eff} - Q_{calc}}{Q_{eff}} \right] \times 100\%$$

```

205HG  P 0.0          1/2-          5.14 M      9          1533      4
205TL  N 0.022        10          1          1.0
205TL CN NR$ based on IB-=3.2% 15 to the 203.7 level.
205TL2CN The total energy realized in B- decay of 205HG is calculated
205TL3cN using RADLST as
205TL4CN 1532 KEV 22. This value is in a very good agreement with
205TL5CN QP =1531 KEV 4, thus suggesting that the decay scheme
205TL6CN is complete.
    
```

$\gamma(^{205}\text{Tl})$

If normalization: based on $I_{\beta^-}=3.2\%$ 15 to the 203.7 level. The total energy realized in β^- decay of ^{205}Hg is calculated using RADLST as 1532 keV 22. This value is in a very good agreement with $Q(\text{g.s.})=1531$ keV 4, thus suggesting that the decay scheme is complete.



β^- radiations

$E\beta^-$	E(level)	$I\beta^-^\dagger$	Log ft	Comments
(99 4)	1434.0	0.0049 25	5.62 23	av $E\beta=25.2$ 11.
(193 4)	1340.3	0.006 3	6.43 22	av $E\beta=51.4$ 12.
(314 4)	1218.6	0.007 4	7.03 25	av $E\beta=87.8$ 13.
(392 4)	1140.6	0.0038 19	7.61 22	av $E\beta=112.4$ 13.
(914 4)	619.3	0.015 7	8.70 ^{1u} 21	av $E\beta=296.5$ 15.
(1329 4)	203.65	3.2 15	6.51 21	av $E\beta=457.2$ 16. $I\beta^-$: 3.7% 15 from 1971Hi01 based on $\alpha(203.7\gamma)=0.62$; but $I\beta=3.2\%$ 15 if $\alpha(203.7\gamma)=0.46$.
(1533 4)	0.0	96.8 15	5.257 11	av $E\beta=539.6$ 17.

† Absolute intensity per 100 decays.

$\gamma(^{205}\text{Tl})$

$I\gamma$ normalization: based on $I\beta^-=3.2\%$ 15 to the 203.7 level. The total energy realized in β^- decay of ^{205}Hg is calculated using RADLST as 1532 keV 22. This value is in a very good agreement with $Q(\text{g.s.})=1531$ keV 4, thus suggesting that the decay scheme is complete.

$E\gamma^\dagger$	E(level)	$I\gamma^\dagger\%$	Mult. ‡	δ^\ddagger	α	Comments
203.70 20	203.65	100	M1+E2	+1.18 20	0.46 4	α : From adopted gammas. $\alpha(\text{K})_{\text{exp}}=0.29$ 4; $\alpha(\text{L})_{\text{exp}}=0.132$ 6; $\alpha(\text{M}+\dots)_{\text{exp}}=0.040$ 3. $\alpha(\text{K})=0.50$ 8; $\alpha(\text{L})=0.167$; $\alpha(\text{M})=0.0415$ 5; $\alpha(\text{M}+\dots)=0.0415$ 5.



Decay Data – What is evaluated?

- ❑ **Q values** - AME2020 – surprises driven by new measurements – don't use end-point energies!

- ❑ **Level Properties:** E (ΔE), J^π , $T_{1/2}$ ($\Delta T_{1/2}$), BR(Decay mode(s))
 - ✓ E (ΔE) – least-squares fit procedure to ALL available data (not only decay – high-precision reaction data) -> should be used to determine signature radiations, e.g. E_γ , E_β , E_α , ...
 - ✓ J^π – important when dealing with large decay data schemes -> defines transition multipolarities and ICC
 - ✓ $T_{1/2}$ ($\Delta T_{1/2}$)
 - ✓ BR – in many cases only one mode measured, but the second inferred from 100-%BR1; lack of separating EC from β^+ :
%EC+%B=100 -> what is measured and what is deduced?



Decay Data – What is evaluated-cont.?

- ❑ **Gamma Radiation Properties:** E_γ (ΔE_γ), I_γ (ΔI_γ), Mult., δ ($\Delta\delta$)
 - ✓ E_γ (ΔE_γ) – need to be evaluated in a relation to a particular nuclear level (not only decay – high-precision reaction data, e.g. bent-curve spectrometers); the recommended ones determined from lsq-fit level energies
 - ✓ I_γ (ΔI_γ) – MUST be evaluated. One must consider BR from reactions for weakly populated levels in β/α decay
 - ✓ Mult. – sometime inferred from the decay scheme and from reactions data – important to deduce ICC
 - ✓ δ ($\Delta\delta$) – Must be evaluated. Frequently reactions data must be consulted
 - ✓ careful when dealing with E0 or mixed E0+M1+E2 transitions: simplified approaches use experimental ICC and $I_\gamma(\text{tot})$; or penetration effect for ICC (mostly for heavy nuclei)

Decay Data – What is evaluated-cont.?

- ❑ **Beta Radiation Properties:** E_β (ΔE_β), I_β (ΔI_β)
 - ✓ E_β (ΔE_β) – it is not discrete, usually maximum and mean energies are deduced from the known decay scheme and decay Q value
 - ✓ I_β (ΔI_β) – deduced from intensity balances - > need to look carefully if $I_{\beta+}$ has been measured, usually deduced from the (calculated) $I_{\beta+}/EC$ ratio
- ❑ **Alpha Radiation Properties:** E_α (ΔE_α), I_α (ΔI_α)
 - ✓ E_α (ΔE_α) – from level energy differences & Q_α values; directly measured ones are usually with low uncertainties
 - ✓ I_α (ΔI_α) – both directly and indirectly (from I_γ)
- ❑ **Atomic Radiation:**
 - ✓ CE, X-rays, Auger and Coster-Kronig are derived quantities, except ICC for mixed $E0+M1+E2$ transitions and those affected by penetration



Some personal notes ...

☐ Be critical to the experimental data you are dealing with!

✓ as all nuclei are different, so are the experiments

☐ A good evaluation is not just simply averaging numbers!

✓ sometime the most accurate value quoted in the literature is not the best one!

☐ Enjoy what you are doing!

