

p-n interactions

Estimating the properties of  
nuclei

and

The study of exotic nuclei

**Drivers of structural evolution, the emergence of collectivity, shape-phase transitions, and ellipsoidal shapes**

**Many ingredients but the dominant one is the valence proton-neutron interaction**

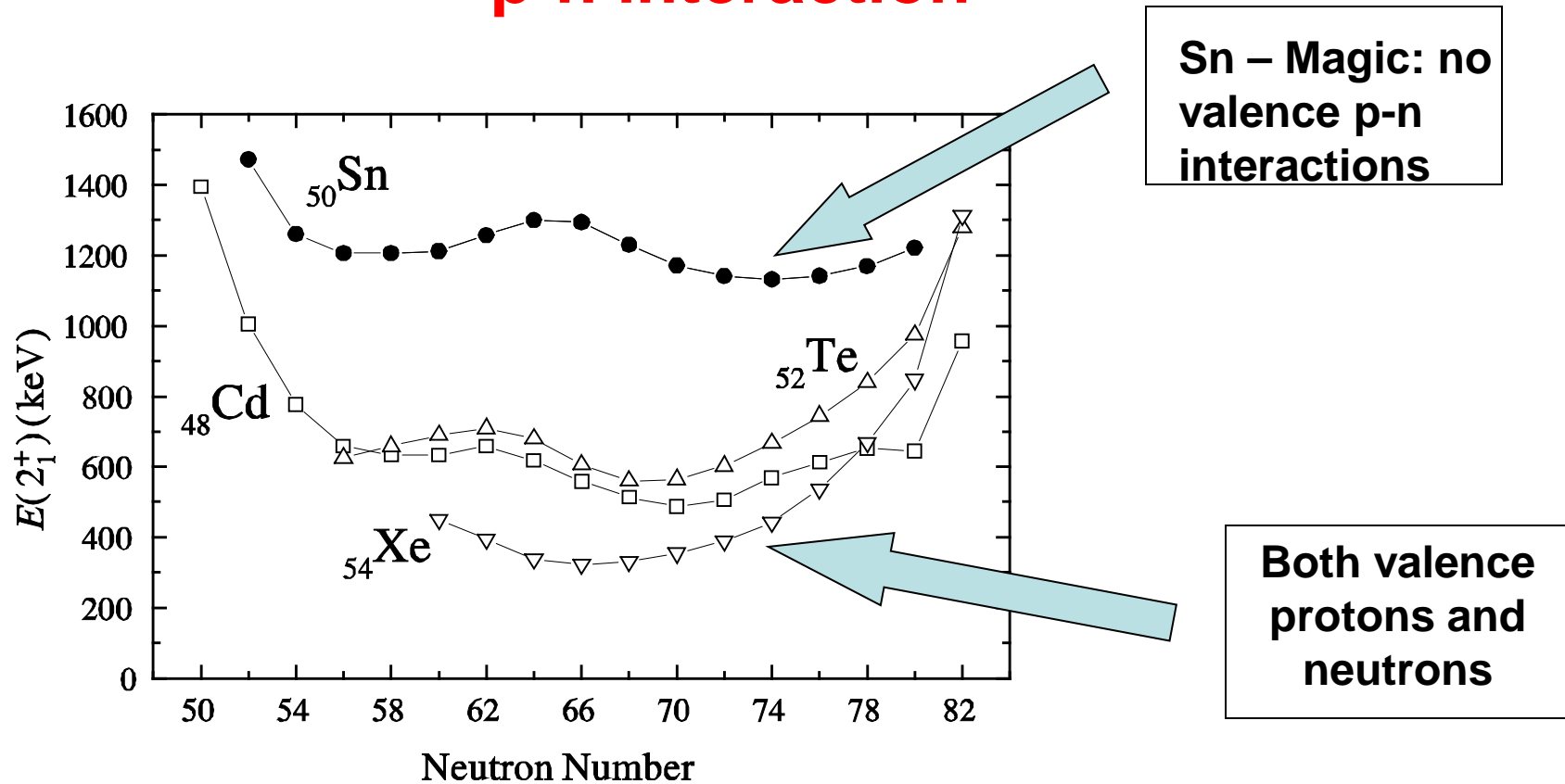
# Valence Proton-Neutron Interaction

**Development of configuration mixing,  
collectivity and deformation – competition  
with pairing**

**Changes in single particle energies and  
magic numbers**

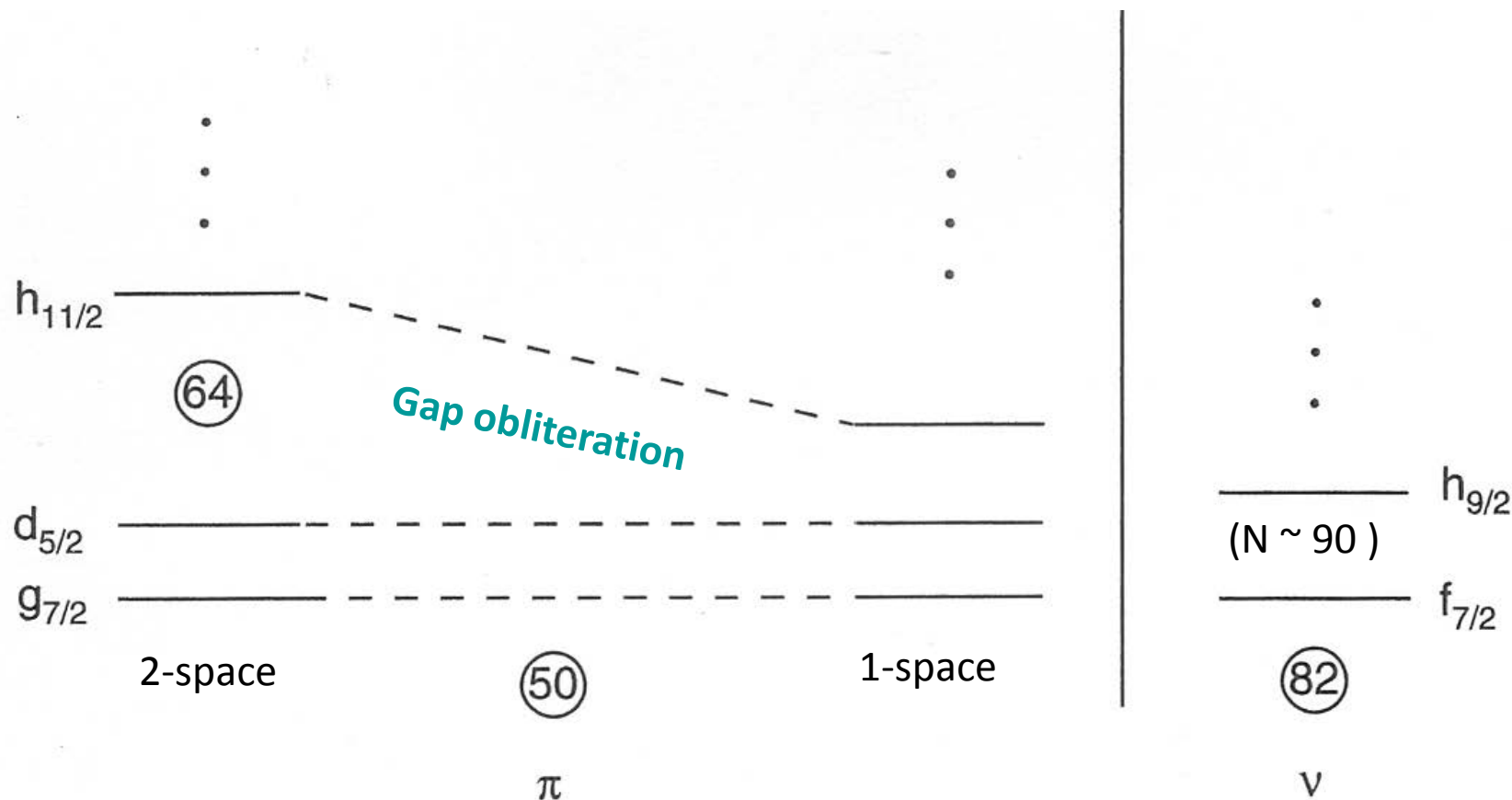
**Partial history: Goldhaber and de Shalit (1953); Talmi (1962);  
Federman and Pittel ( late 1970's); Casten et al (1981); Heyde et al  
(1980's); Nazarewicz, Dobaczewski et al (1980's); Otsuka et al( 2000's);  
Cakirli et al (2000's); and many others.**

# The idea of “both” types of nucleons – the p-n interaction



Lower energies imply correlations and collectivity – mixing of IPM wave functions due to residual interactions (esp. p-n)  
Second effect of p-n in **shifts** of single particle energies themselves. Monopole effect. Migration of magicity

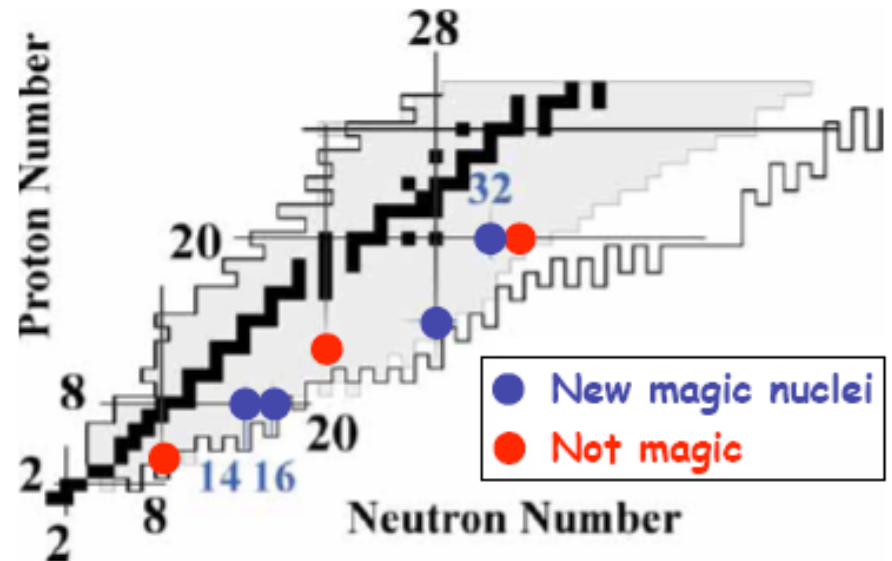
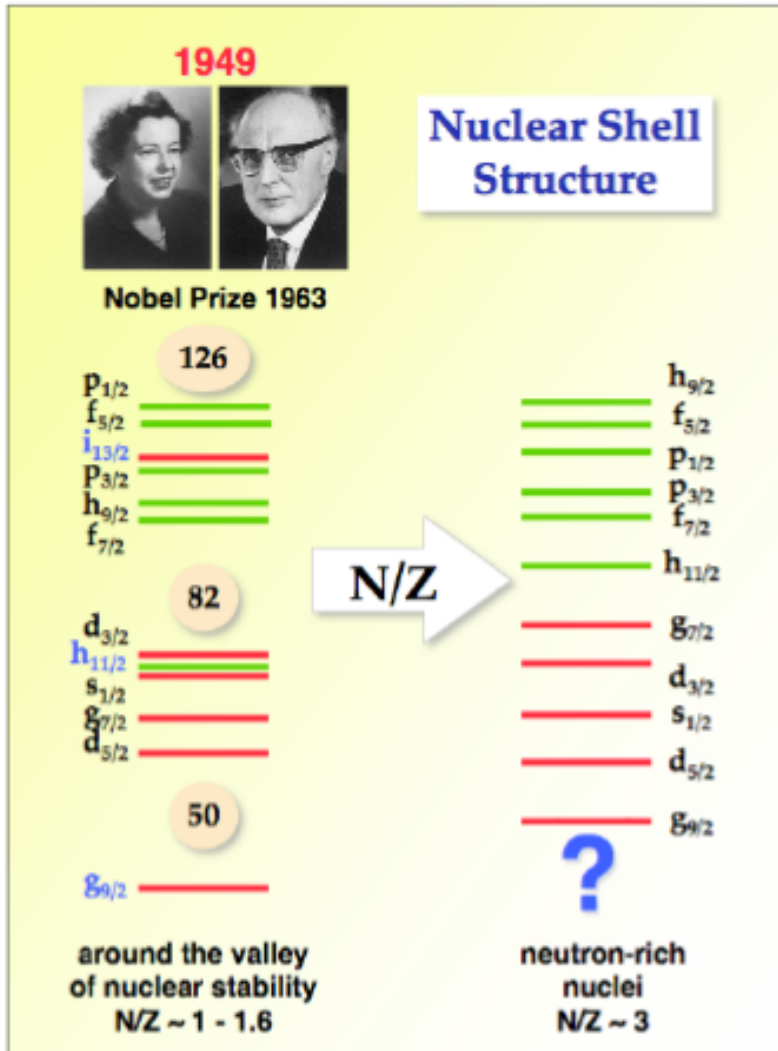
One of the most important effects of the valence p-n interaction is in shifting single particle level energies



Monopole shift of proton s.p.e. with neutron number. Tensor interactions.

Competition of the valence p-n interaction and pairing interactions drives the onset of deformation. Can we estimate this and the locus in (Z,N) of shape changing regions?

# Fragility of magicity

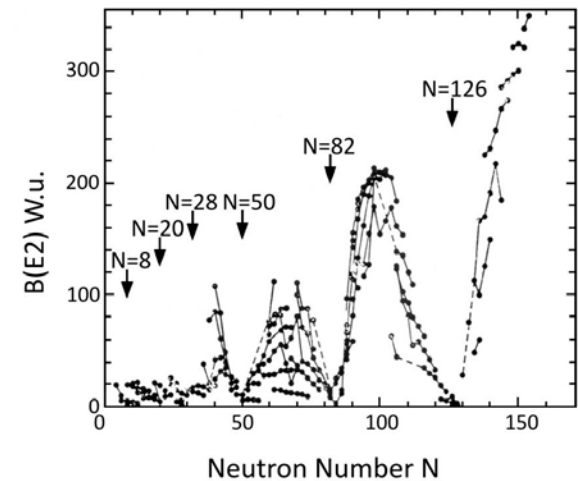
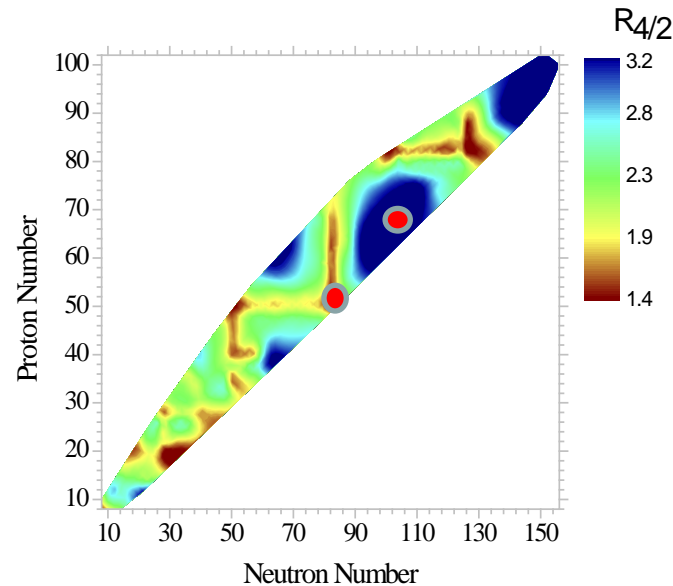
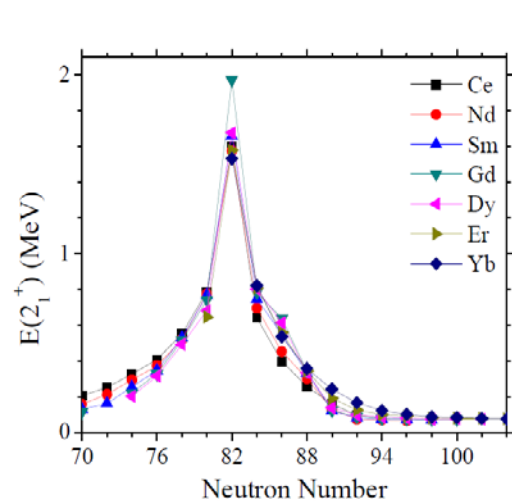


No shell closure for  $N=8$  and  $20$  for drip-line nuclei; new shells at  $14, 16, 32\dots$

# Estimating the properties of nuclei

We know that  $^{134}\text{Te}$  (52, 82) is spherical and non-collective.

We know that  $^{170}\text{Dy}$  (66, 104) is doubly mid-shell, very collective.



What about:  $^{156}\text{Te}$  (52, 104)     $^{156}\text{Gd}$  (64, 92)     $^{184}\text{Pt}$  (78, 106)  
???

All have 24 valence nucleons. What are their relative structures??

If p-n interactions drive configuration mixing, collectivity and deformation, perhaps they can be exploited to understand the evolution of structure.

**A simple toy model of the evolution of structure (including predictions of behavior far from stability). Hundreds of supercomputer hours or multiplying two small integers.**

Lets assume that all p-n interactions have the same strength. This is not realistic, since the interaction strengths are orbit-dependent but, maybe, on average, OK

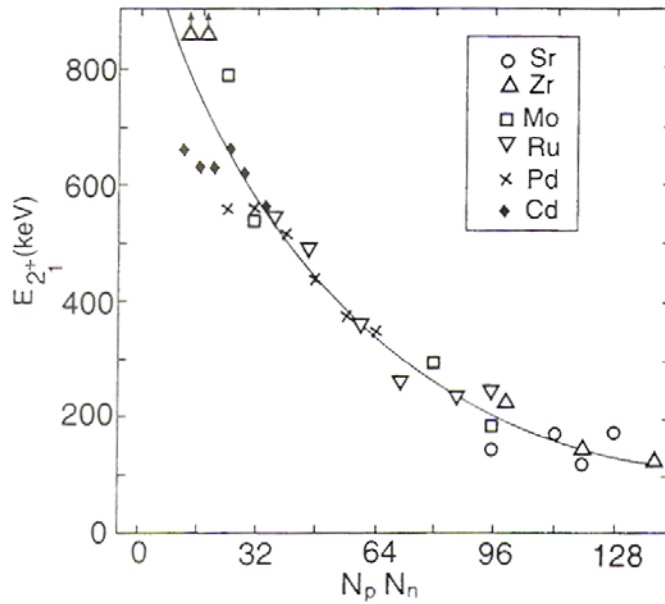
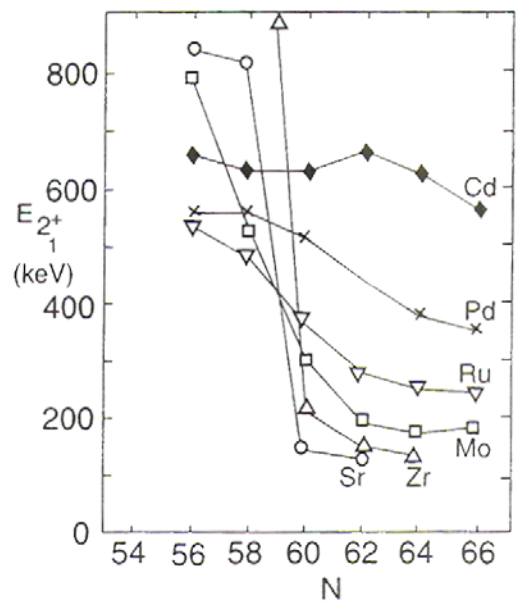
How many valence p-n interactions are there?  $N_p \times N_n$ . If all are equal then integrated p-n strength should scale with  $N_p N_n$

***The  $N_p N_n$  Scheme***

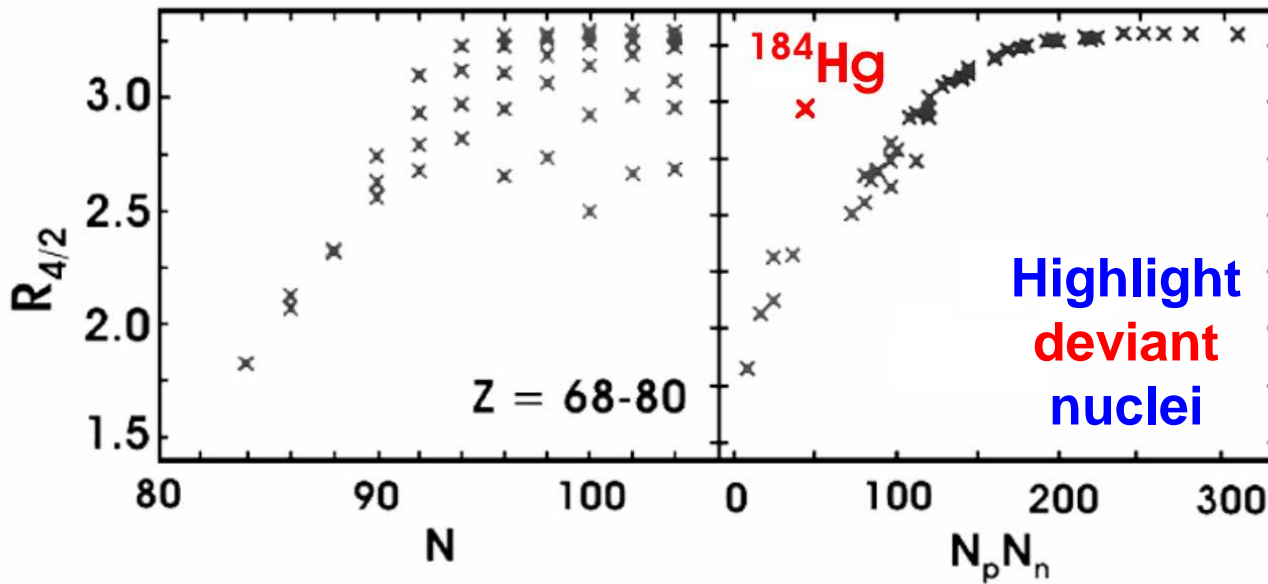


# Valence Proton-Neutron Interactions

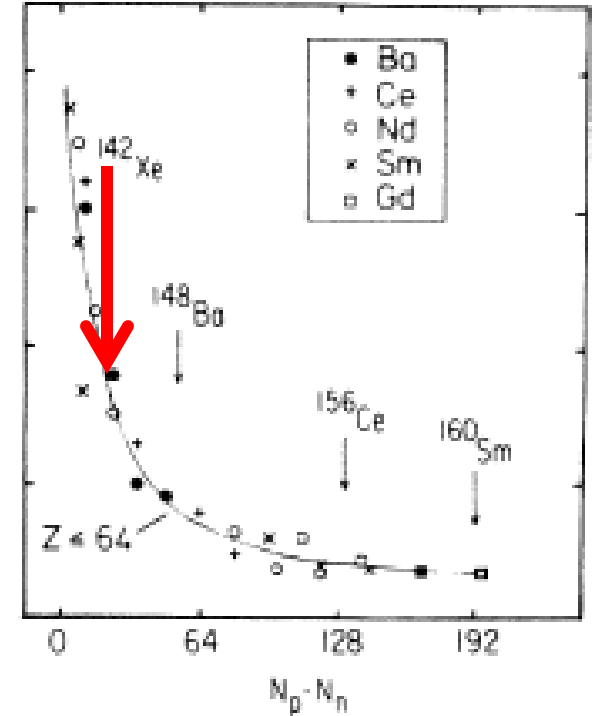
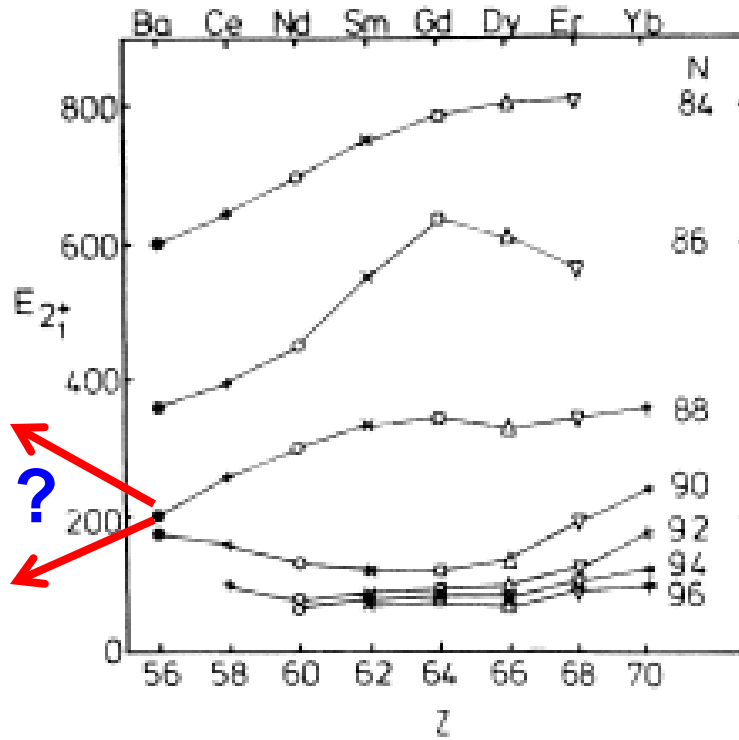
Correlations, collectivity, deformation. Sensitive to magic numbers.



$N_p N_n$   
Scheme



# The $N_p N_n$ scheme: Interpolation vs. Extrapolation



$$N_p N_p = 4 \times 6 = 24$$

- $^{156}\text{Te} (52, 104)$        $^{156}\text{Gd} (64, 92)$        $^{184}\text{Pt} (78, 106)$ .
- $N_p N_n$  :       $2 \times 22 = 44$        $14 \times 10 = 140$        $4 \times 20 = 80$

# Competition of p-n interaction with pairing: simple estimate of evolution of structure with N and Z

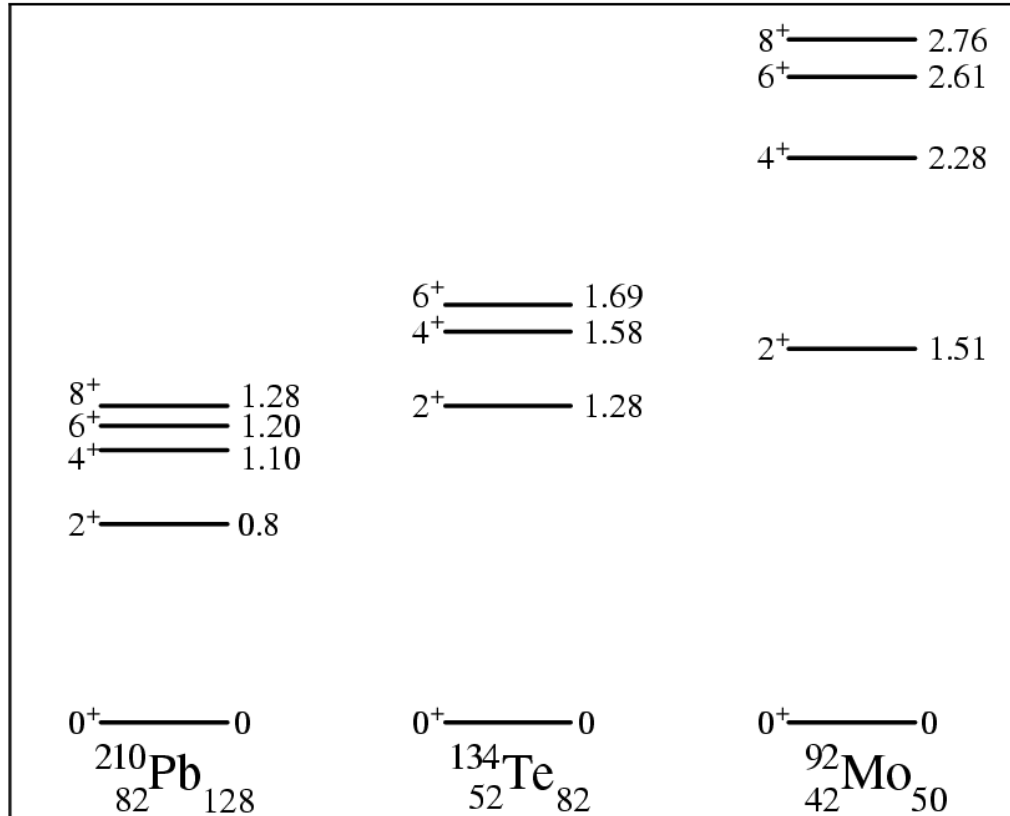
**p-n / pairing**

$$P = \frac{N_p N_n}{N_p + N_n} \sim \frac{p - n}{\text{pairing}}$$

p-n interactions per  
pairing interaction

p-n ~ 200 - 300 keV,

pairing int. ~ 1 - 1.5 MeV



# Competition of p-n interaction with pairing: simple estimate of evolution of structure with N and Z

**p-n / pairing**

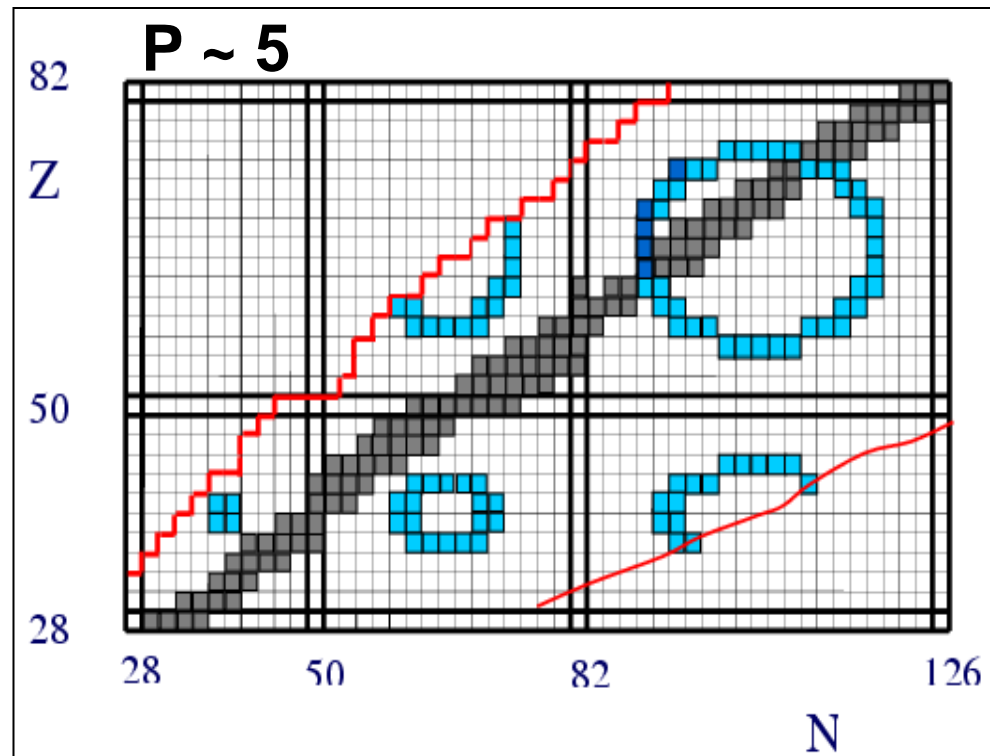
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p-n interactions per  
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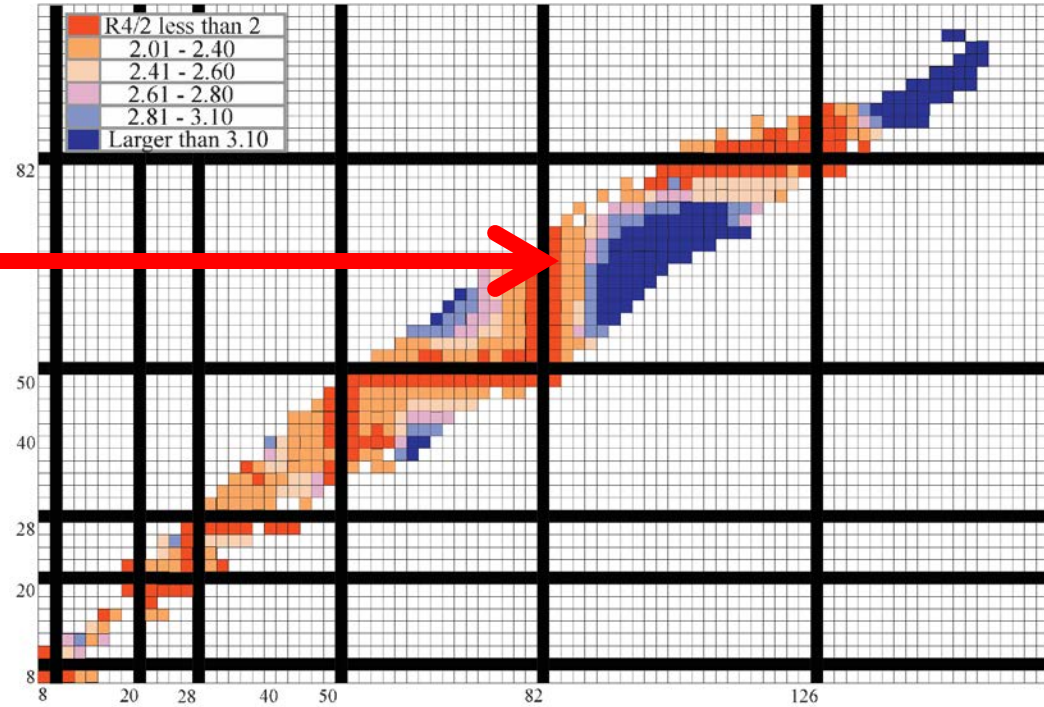
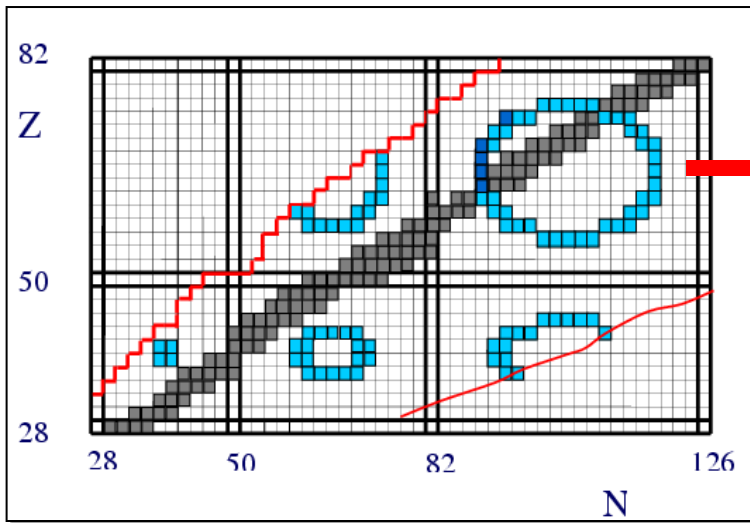
p-n ~ 200 - 300 keV,

pairing int. ~ 1 - 1.5 MeV

Hence takes ~ 5 p-n int. to compete with one pairing int.



# Comparing with the data



# Masses Reflect Nucleonic Interactions

Mass differences; interaction filters (double differences)

**Total mass/binding energy:** Sum of all interactions

**Mass differences:** Separation energies,  
shell structure, phase transitions,  
collectivity

**Double differences of masses:** Interaction filters

<b>Macro</b> →	• Shell structure:	~ 1 MeV
	• Quantum phase transitions:	~ 100s keV
	• Collective effects:	~ 100s keV
<b>Micro</b> →	• Interaction filters (e.g., p-n)	~ 10-15 keV
	• Fundamental Interactions	< 1 keV

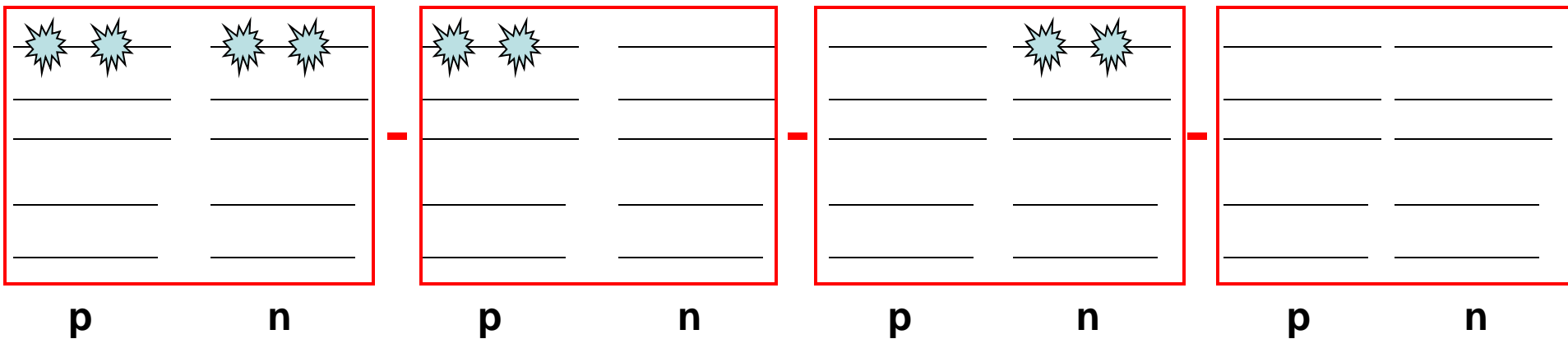
We will look at a specific double difference of masses that gives the p-n interaction below. First some remarks on its importance.

# Valence p-n interaction: Can we measure it?

## Use nuclear masses which reflect all interactions

$$\delta V_{pn}(Z,N) =$$

$$-\frac{1}{4} [ \{B(Z,N) - B(Z, N-2)\} - \{B(Z-2, N) - B(Z-2, N-2)\} ]$$



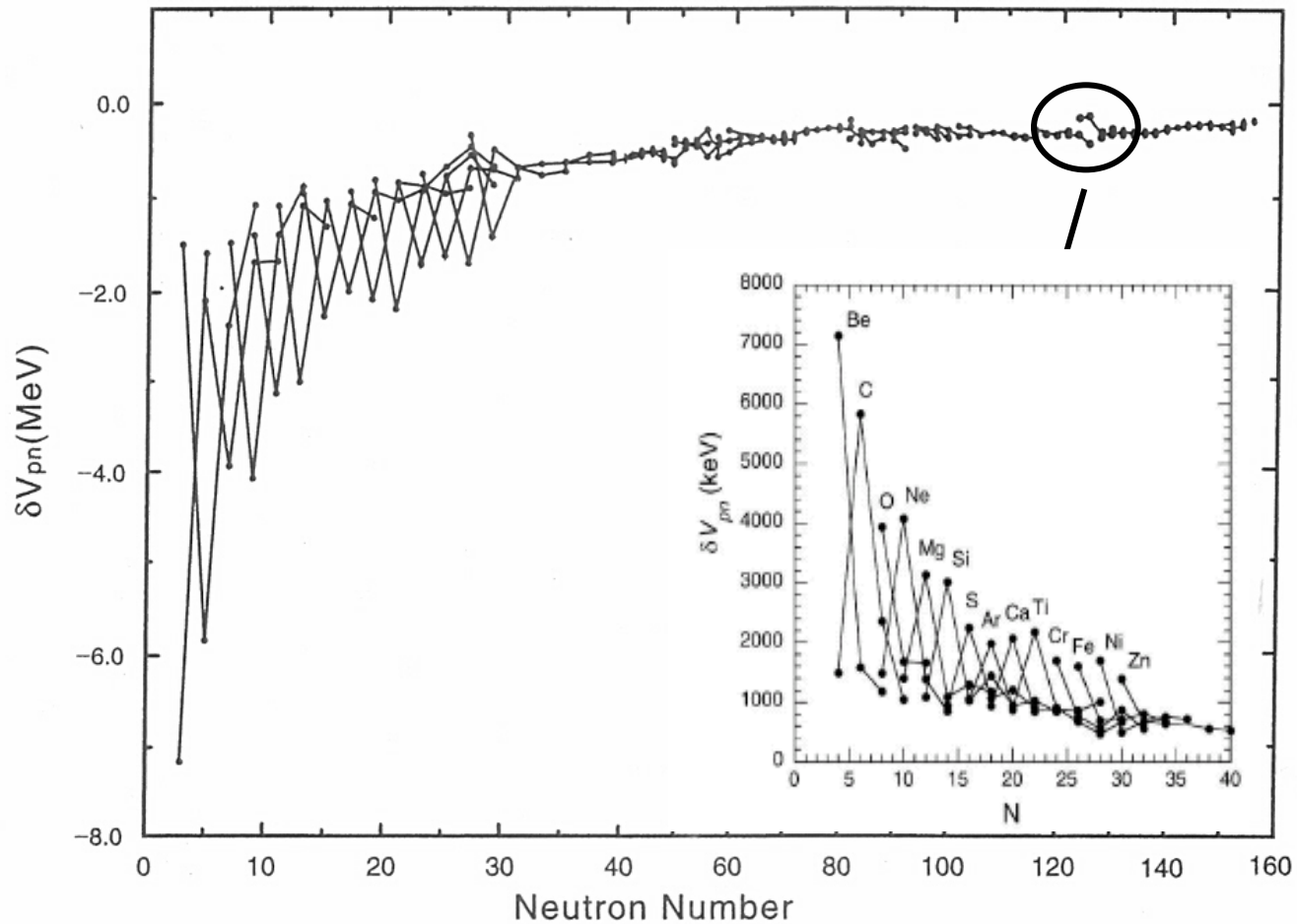
Int. of last two n with Z protons,  
N-2 neutrons and with each other

- Int. of last two n with Z-2 protons,  
N-2 neutrons and with each other

## Empirical average interaction of last two neutrons with last two protons

# Empirical interactions of the last proton with the last neutron

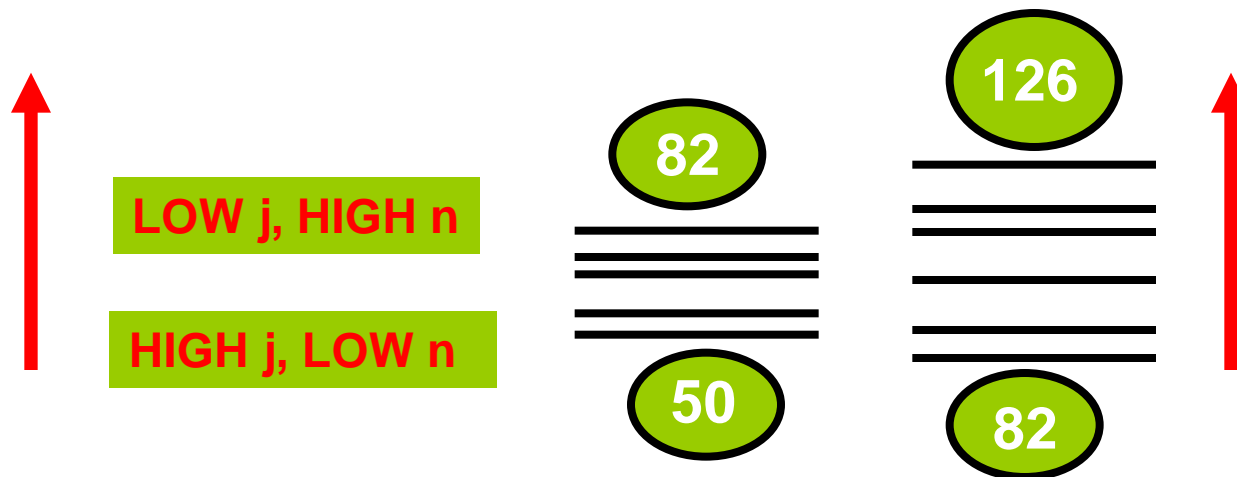
$$\Delta V_{pn}(Z, N) = \frac{1}{4} \{ [B(Z, N) - B(Z, N - 2)] \\ - [B(Z - 2, N) - B(Z - 2, N - 2)] \}$$



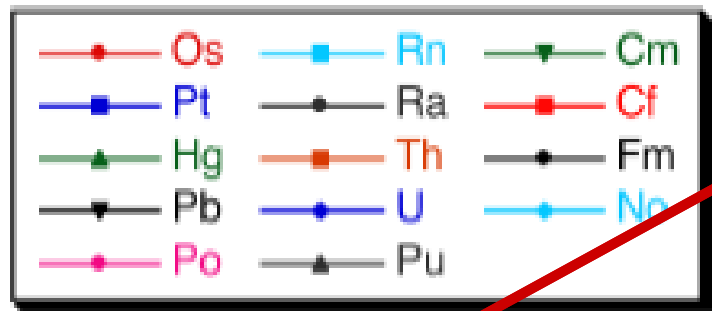


# In terms of proton and neutron orbit filling, p-n interaction

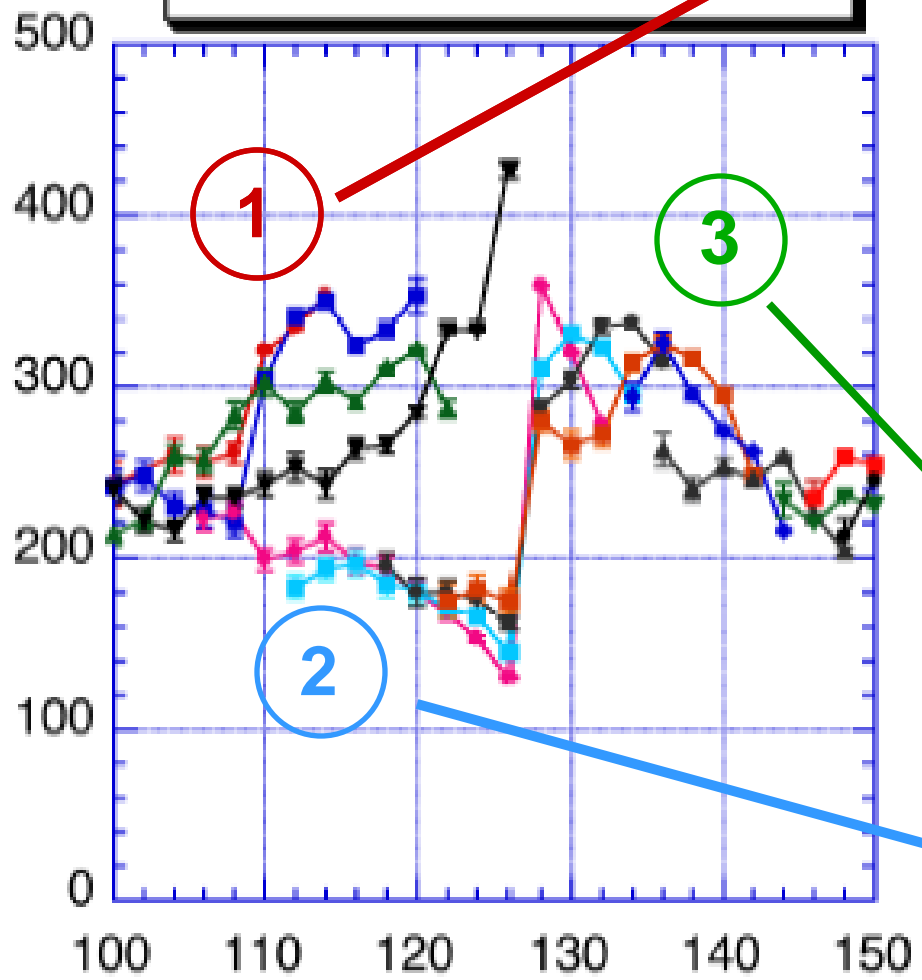
p-n interaction is short range  
similar orbits give largest p-n interaction



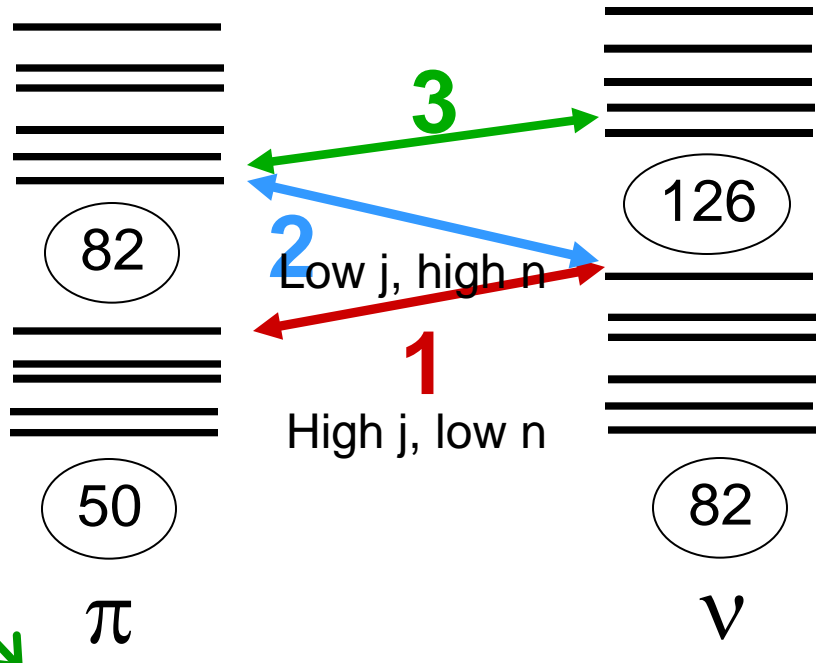
**Largest p-n interactions if proton and neutron shells are filling similar orbits**



$\delta V_{pn}$   
(keV)

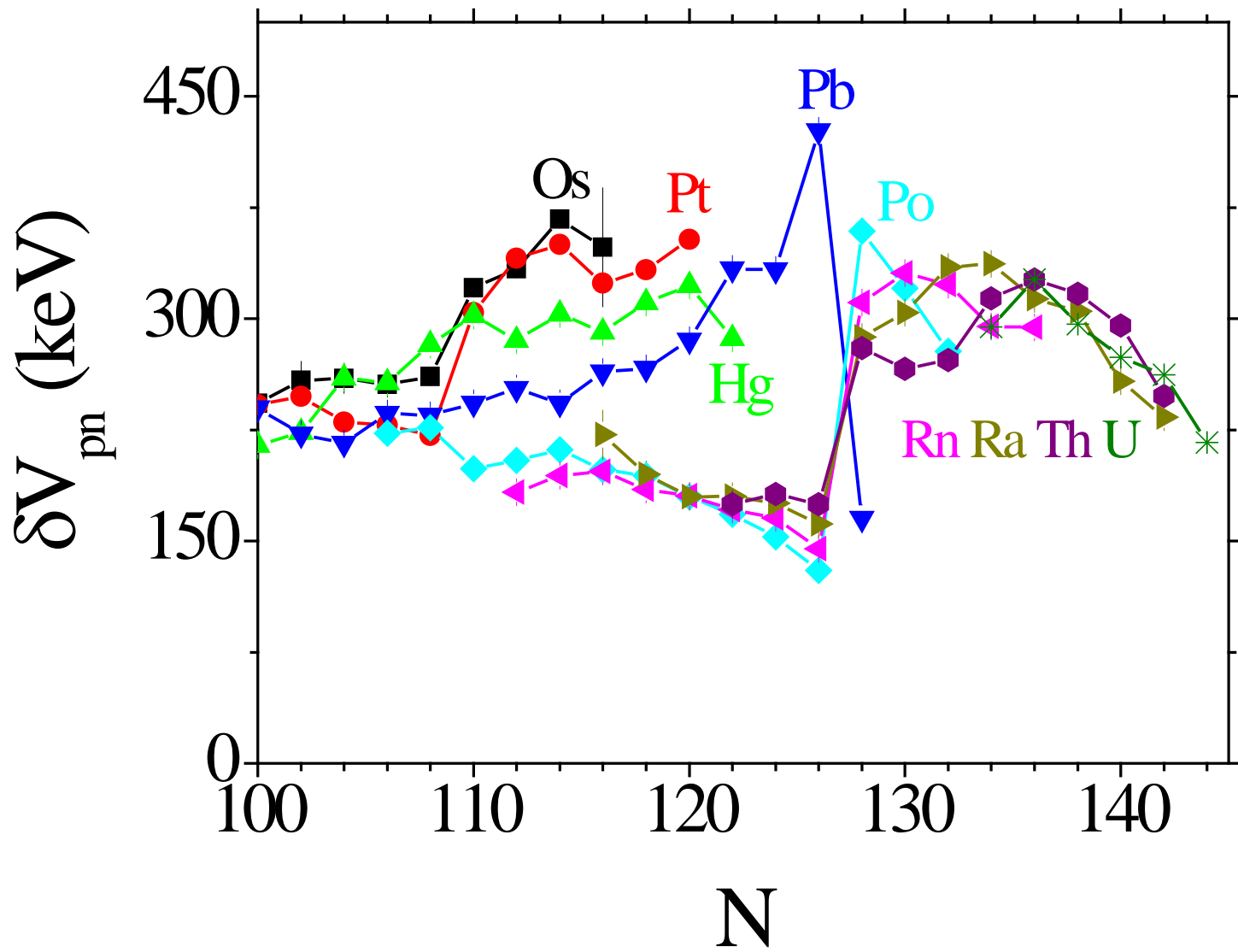


$Z \leq 82, N < 126$



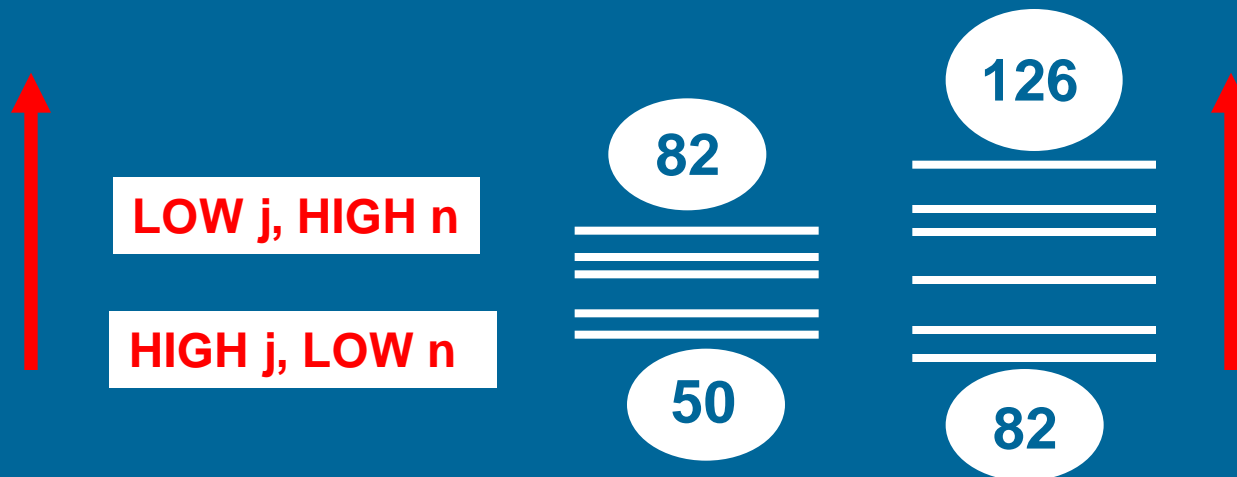
$Z > 82, N > 126$

$Z > 82, N < 126$

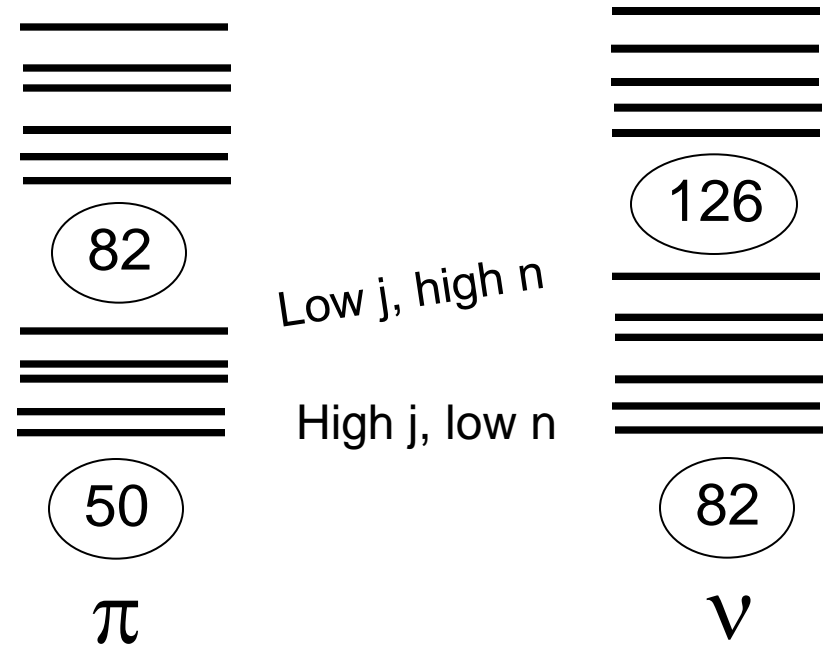
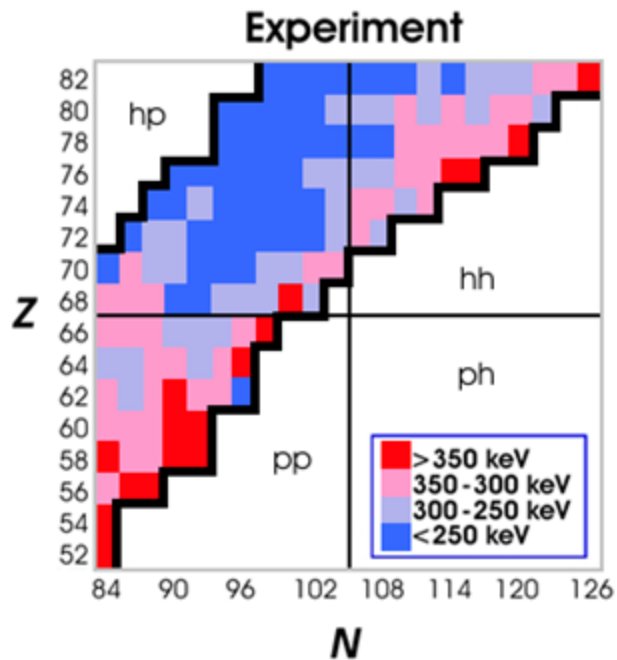


Away from closed shells, these simple arguments are too crude. But some general predictions can be made

p-n interaction is short range  
similar orbits give largest p-n interaction



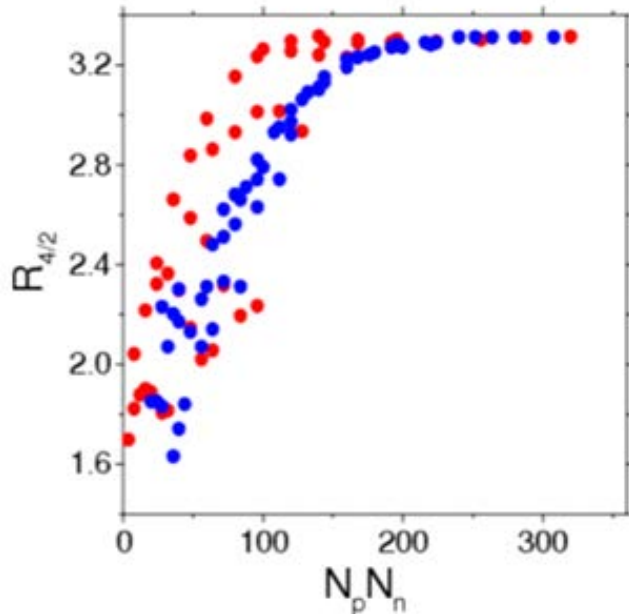
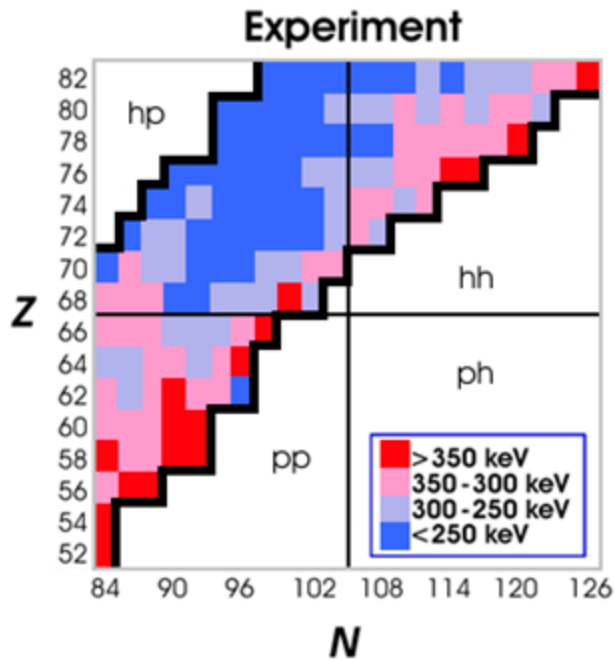
Largest p-n interactions if proton and neutron shells are filling similar orbits



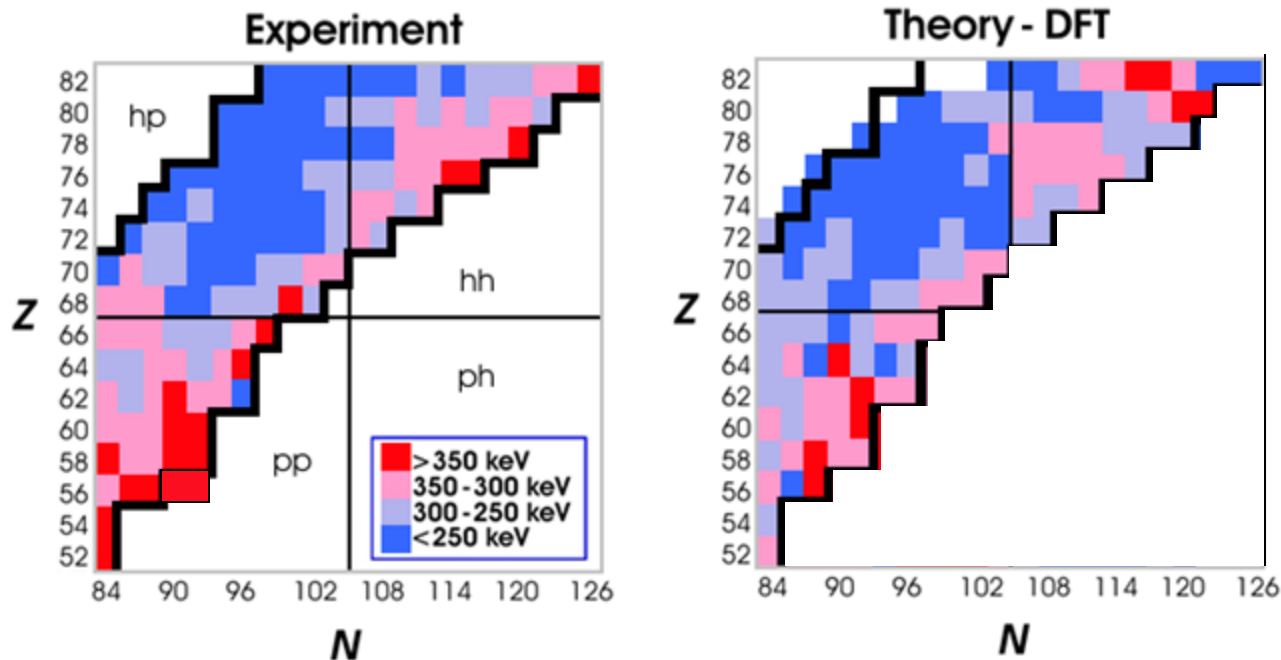
Empirical p-n interaction strengths stronger in like regions than unlike regions.

Empirical p-n interaction strengths indeed strongest along diagonal.

**p-n interactions  
and the evolution  
of structure**



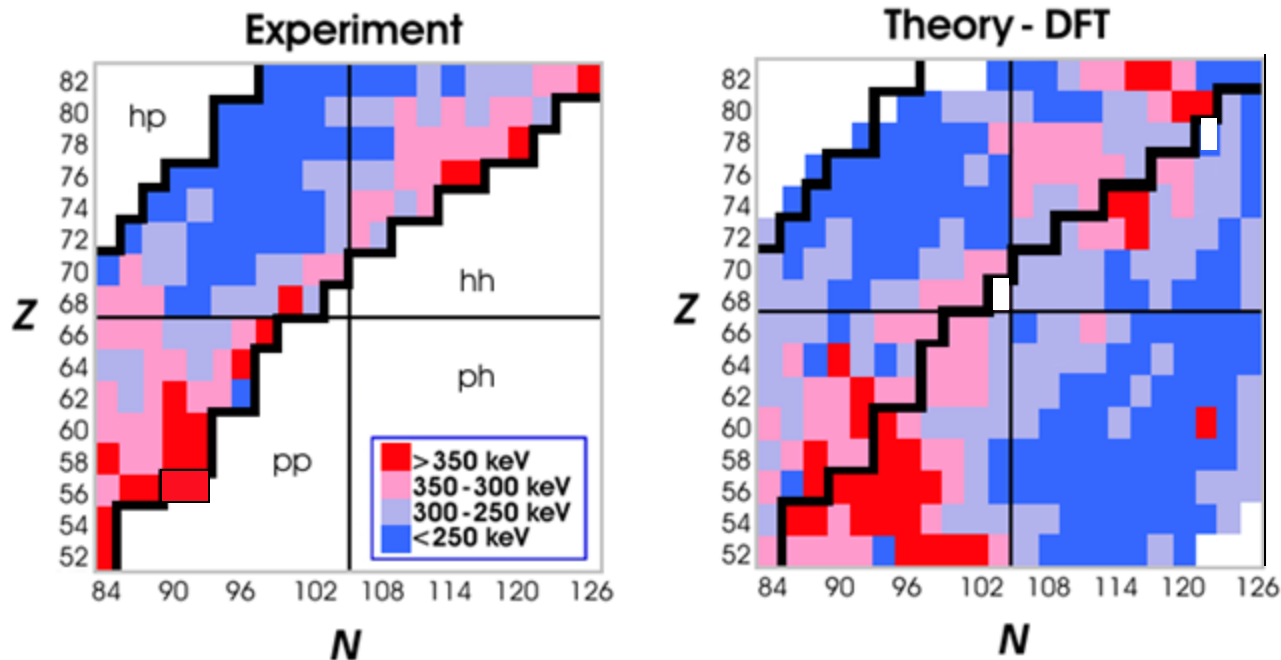
Direct correlation of observed growth rates of collectivity with empirical p-n interaction strengths



## Comparison of empirical p-n interactions with the DFT

These DFT calculations accurate only to  $\sim 1$  MeV.  
 $\delta V_{pn}$  allows one to focus on specific correlations.

**New measurements at ISOLTRAP/ISOLDE test DFT**



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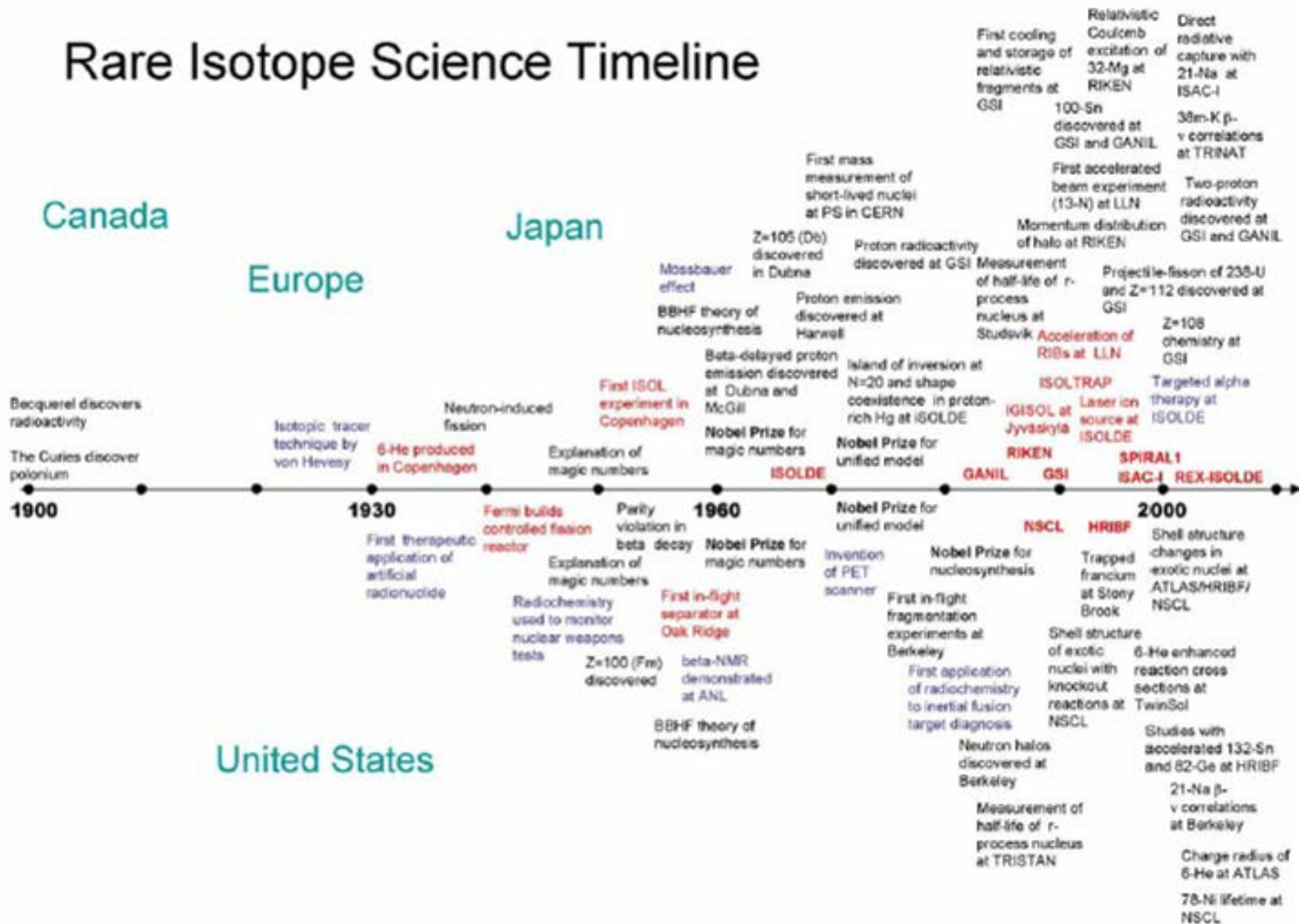


# Exotic Nuclei

**A new era in nuclear structure,  
reaction, and astrophysics**

**Science, Production, Recent results,  
and Facilities**

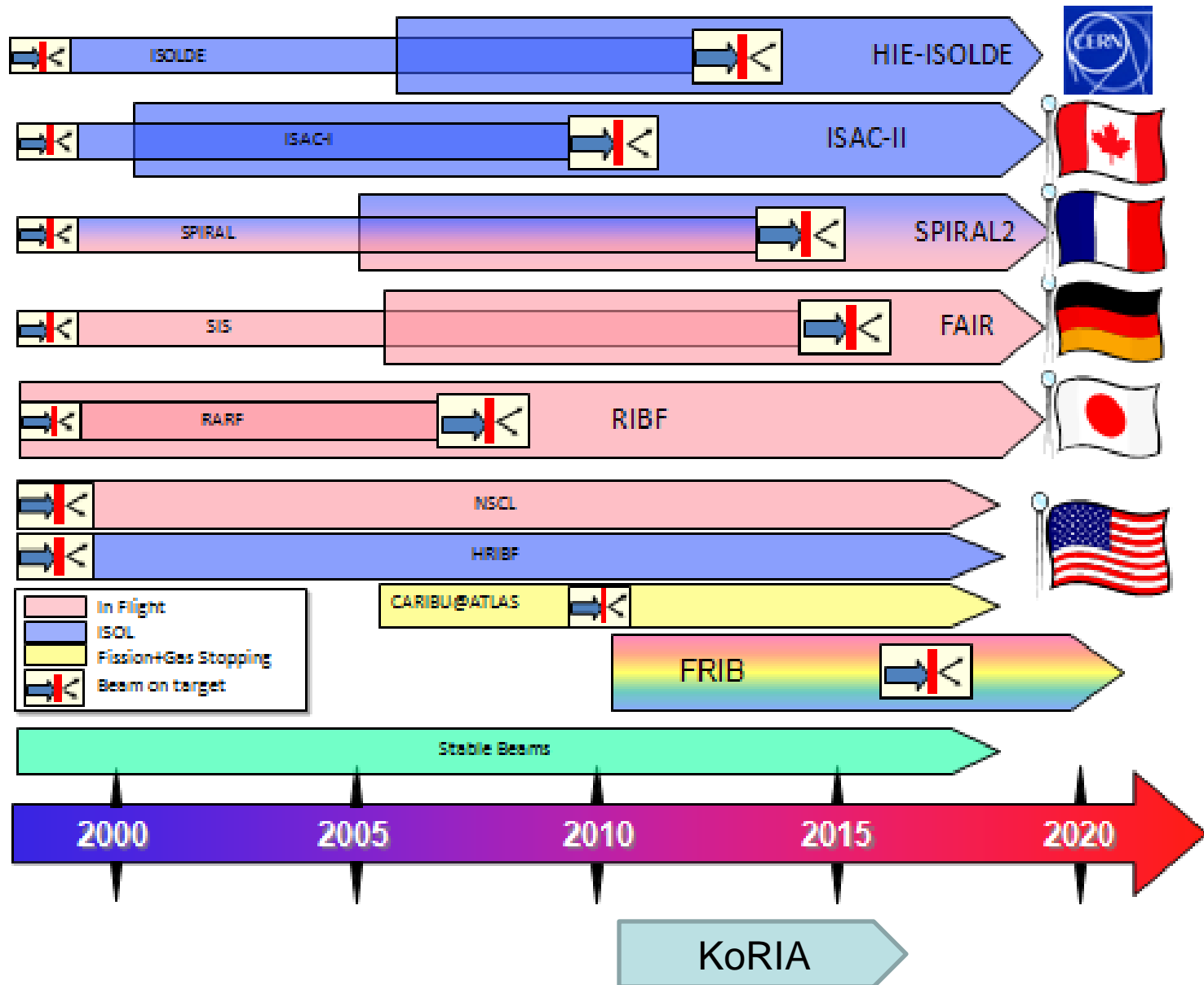
# Rare Isotope Science Timeline



# Major Exotic Beam Facilities Worldwide

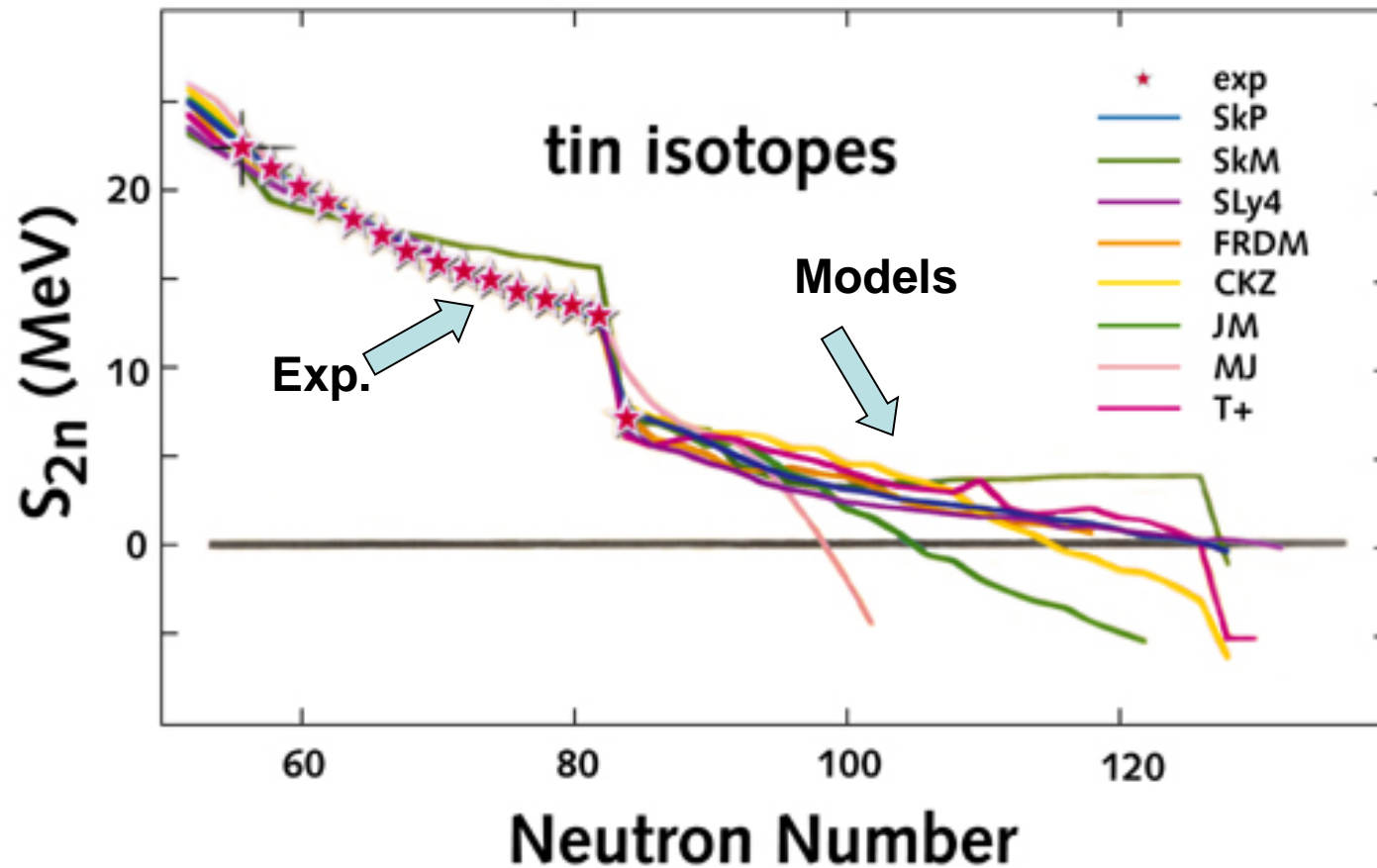


# A field that is energized worldwide



# **Some themes in the science of exotic nuclei**

## Physics of exotic, weakly bound nuclei



**The ultimate goal of the physics of nuclei is to develop a unified, predictive theory of nucleonic matter**

# New Features in Exotic Nuclei

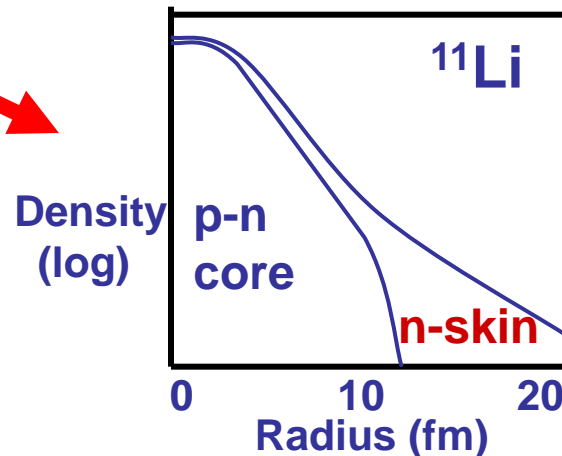
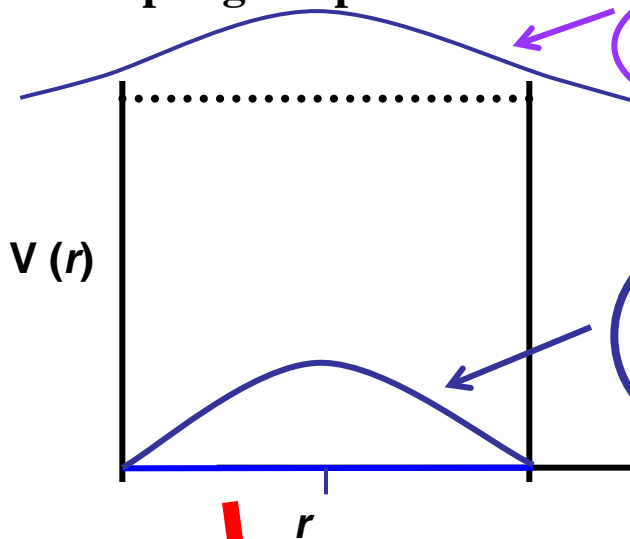
Coupling to open channels

Spatially extended wave functions

Localized nuclear density

## Halo/Skin Nuclei

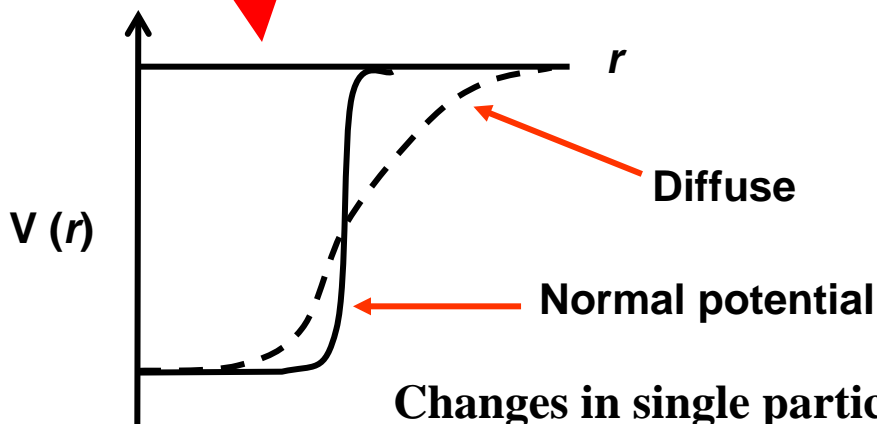
Low density, diffuse, extended, nearly pure neutron amplitudes



## Weak Binding

Altered Shell Structure

## New $N/Z$ ranges



Changes in single particle energies, magic numbers

Interaction-induced changes in SPEs

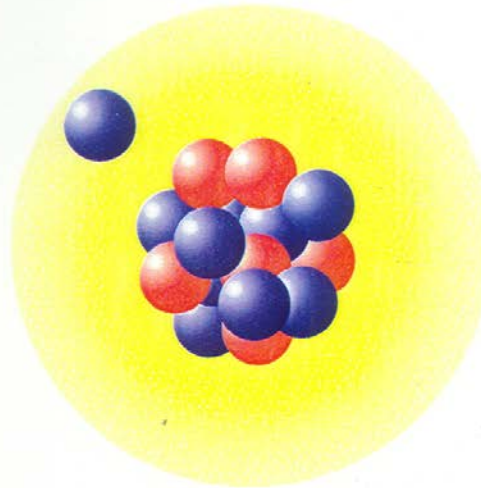




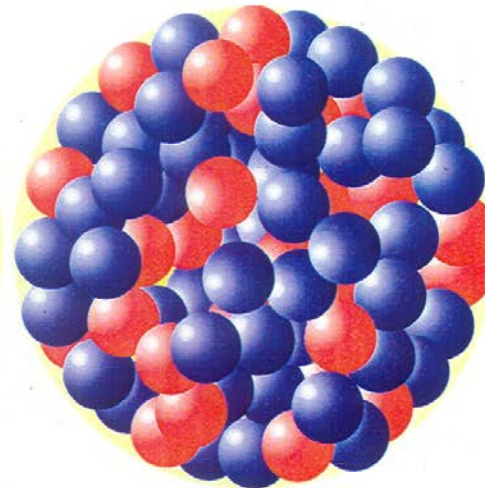
$^{11}\text{Li}$ : Borromean  
Halo Nucleus



The Borromean  
Rings



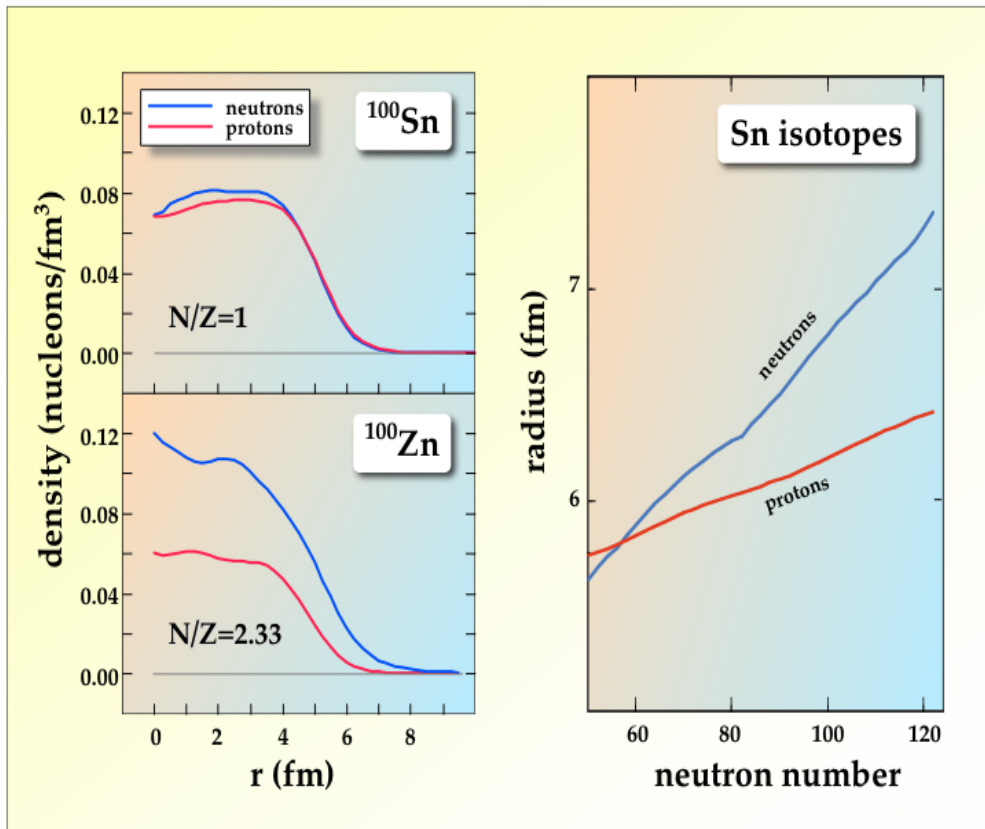
$^{19}\text{C}$ : The Heaviest  
Known Halo Nucleus



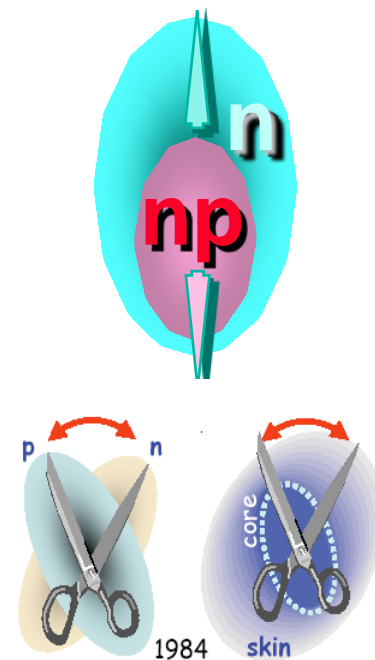
$^{208}\text{Pb}$ : Well Bound  
Heavy Nucleus



# Neutron "skins" near the neutron drip line



## Skins and Skin Modes

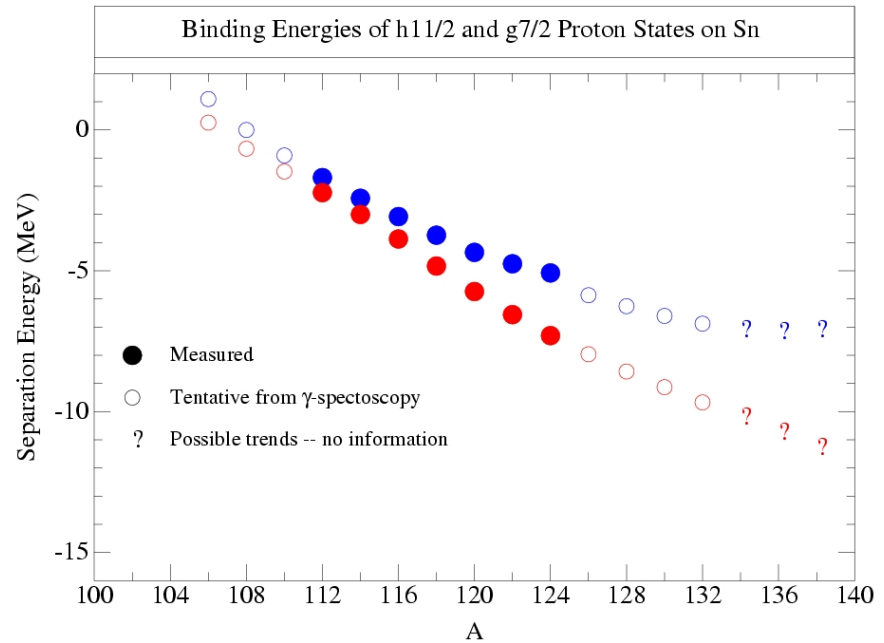
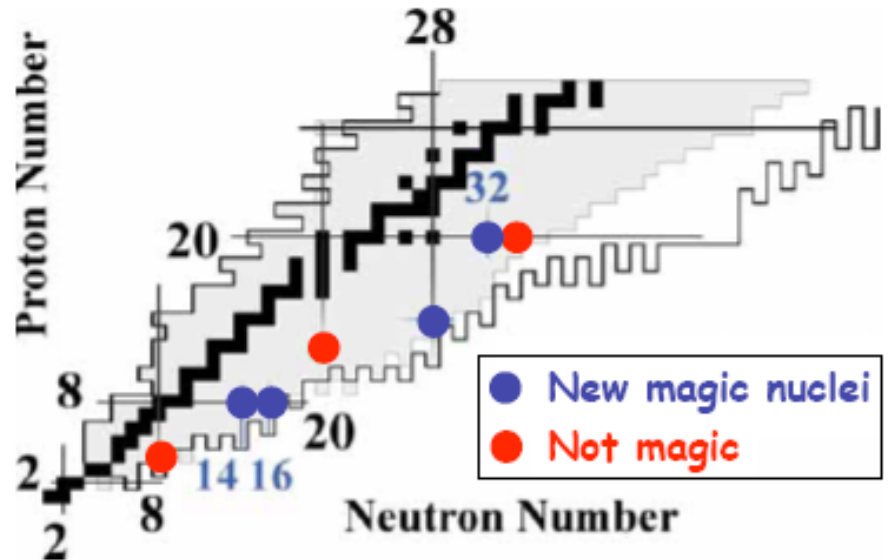
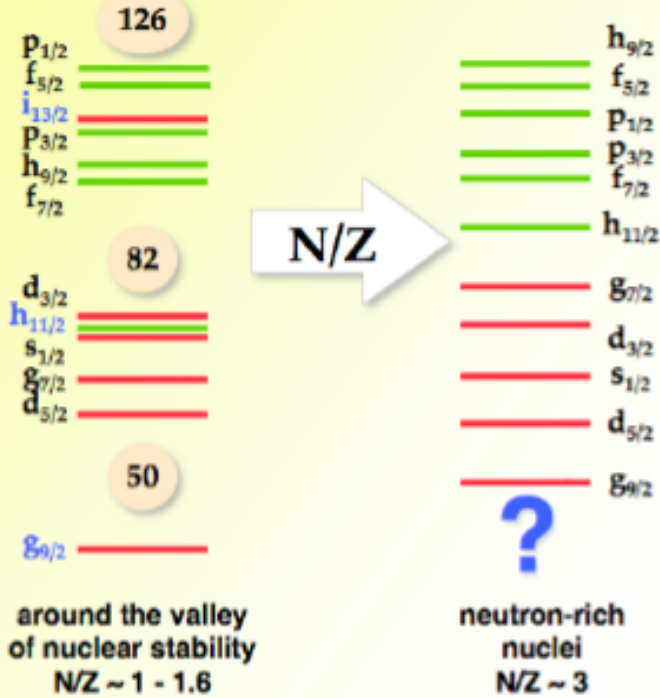


1949



Nobel Prize 1963

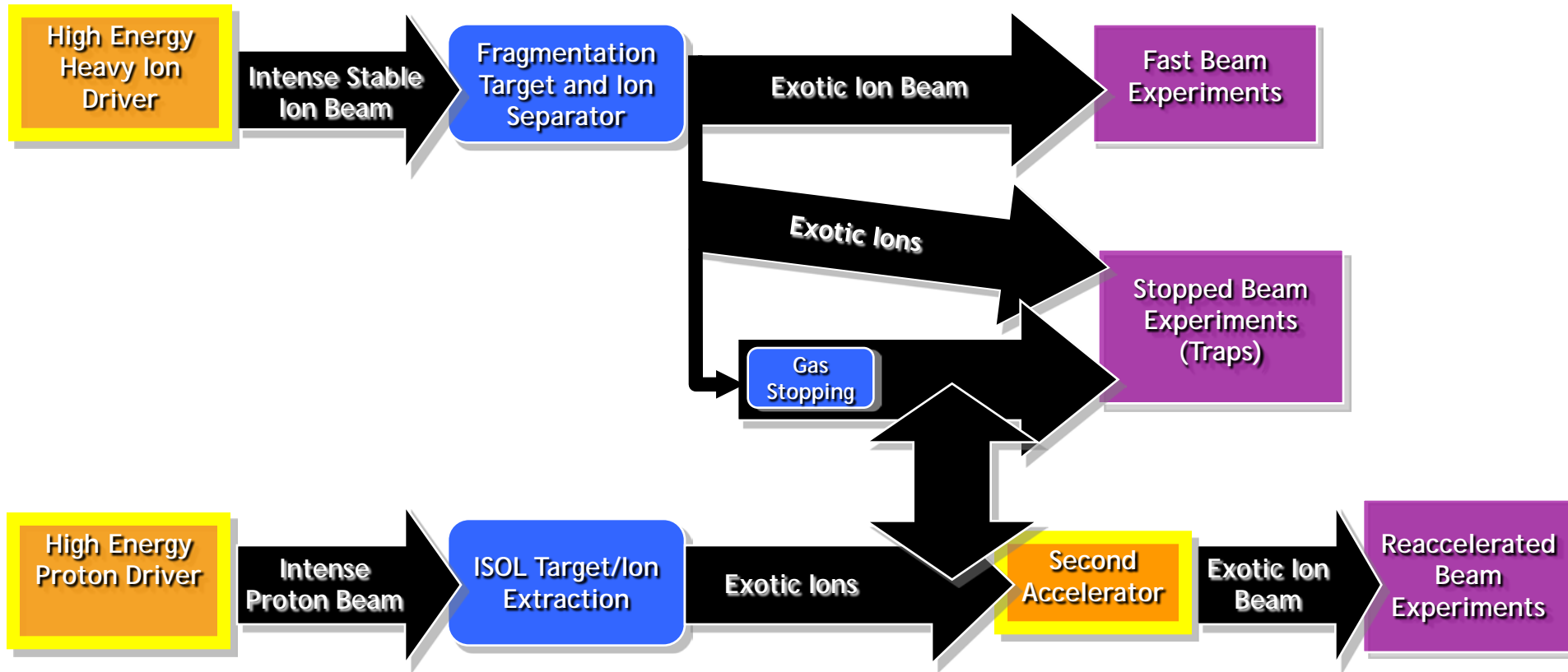
# Nuclear Shell Structure



# Themes in the new era of Nuclear Structure

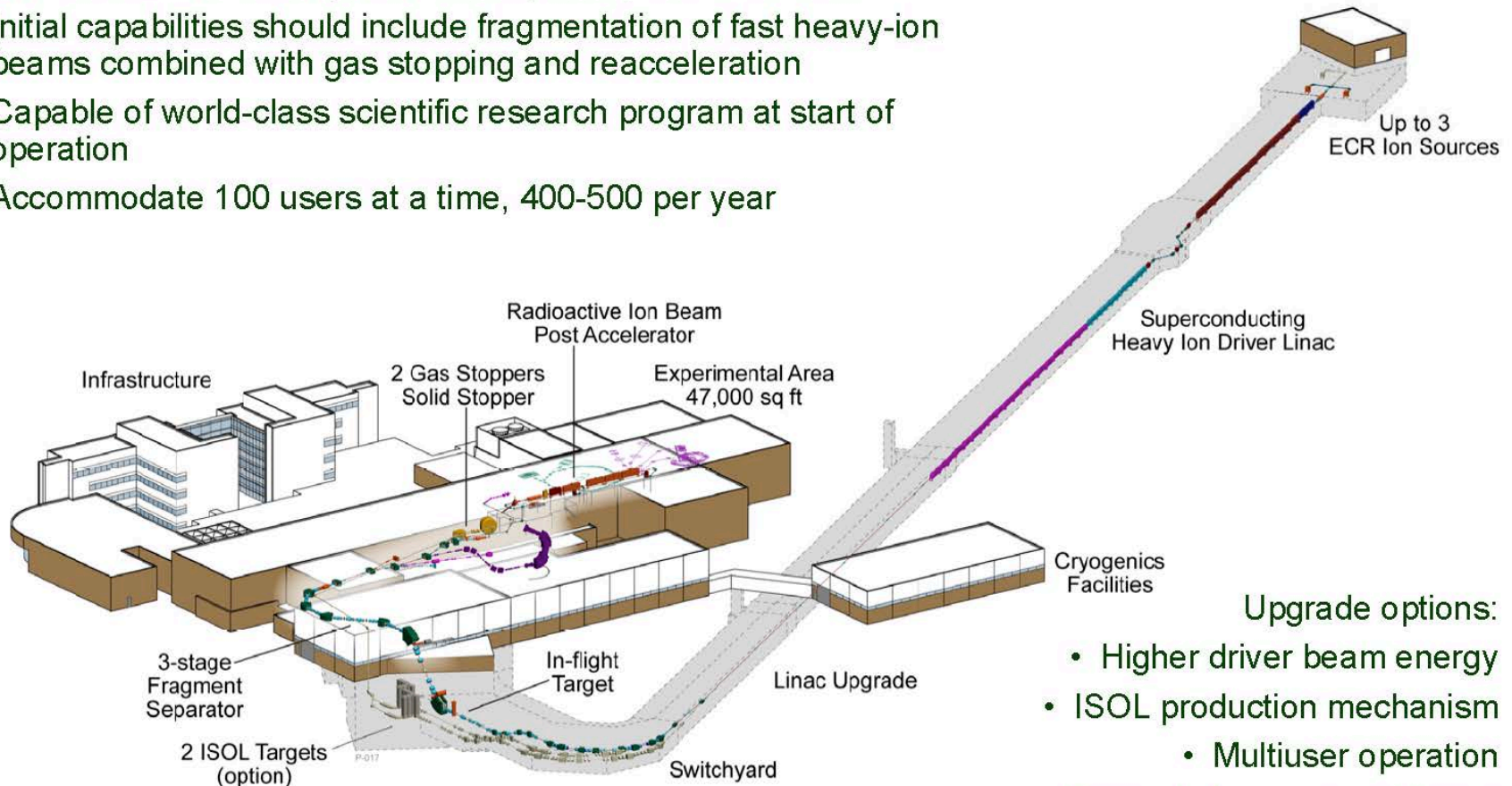
- **Changing Shell Structure – The nucleonic foundation of nuclear behavior – changing paradigms after half a century**
- **Nucleonic interactions – Pairing and p-n: new density regimes and the effects of the continuum.**
- **The evolution of structure – Symmetries, phase transitions, and critical points in complex nuclei**
- **The heaviest nuclei – Quantal binding**
- **The limits of nuclear existence**
- **The links to Astrophysics, and opportunities to test fundamental symmetries**

# Production and use of Exotic Isotopes



# Facility for Rare Isotope Beams

- 200 MeV/u, 400 kW superconducting heavy-ion driver linac
- Initial capabilities should include fragmentation of fast heavy-ion beams combined with gas stopping and reacceleration
- Capable of world-class scientific research program at start of operation
- Accommodate 100 users at a time, 400-500 per year



- Upgrade options:
- Higher driver beam energy
  - ISOL production mechanism
    - Multiuser operation
  - Expanded experimental area

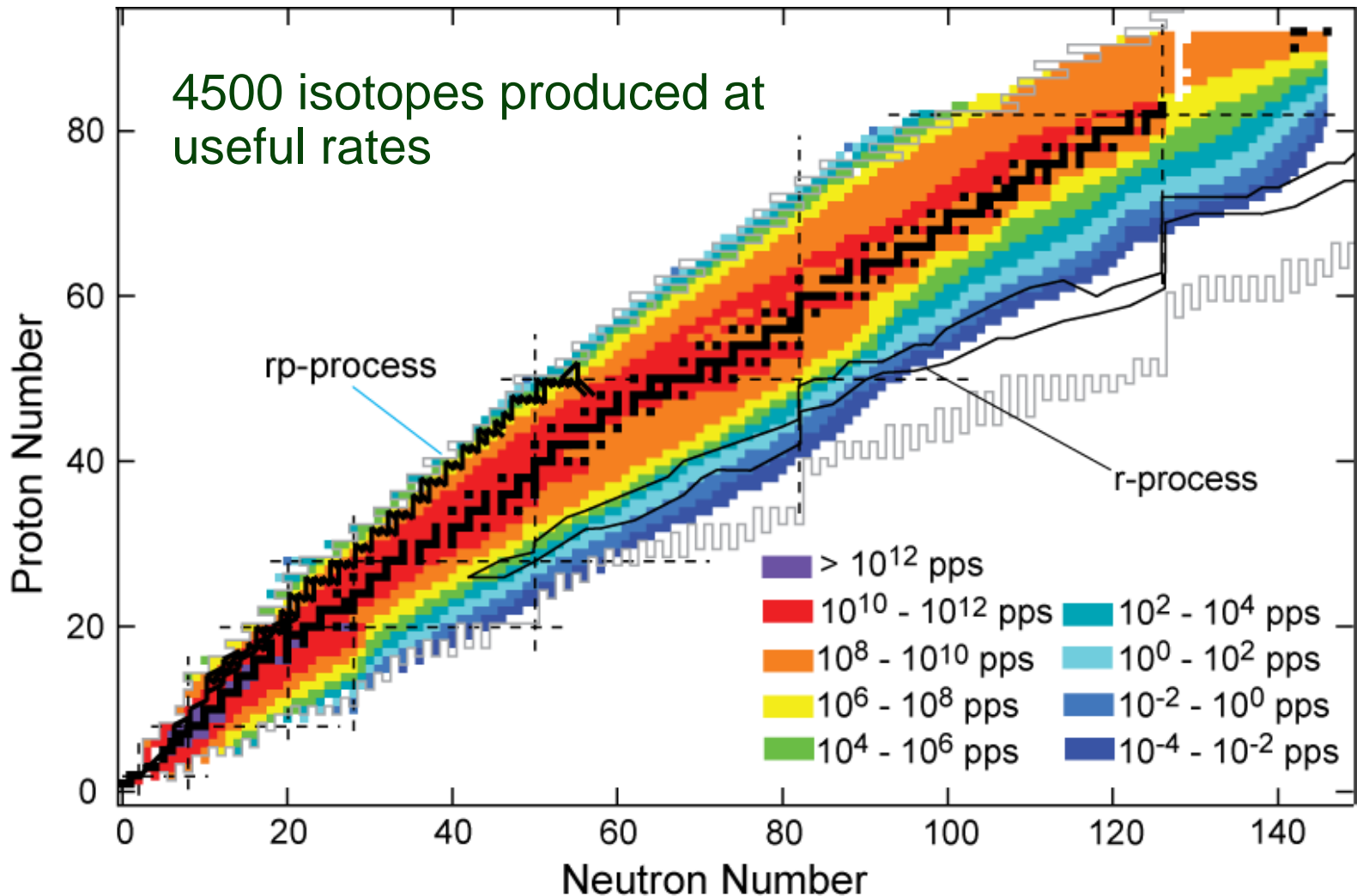


U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science  
National Science Foundation  
Michigan State University

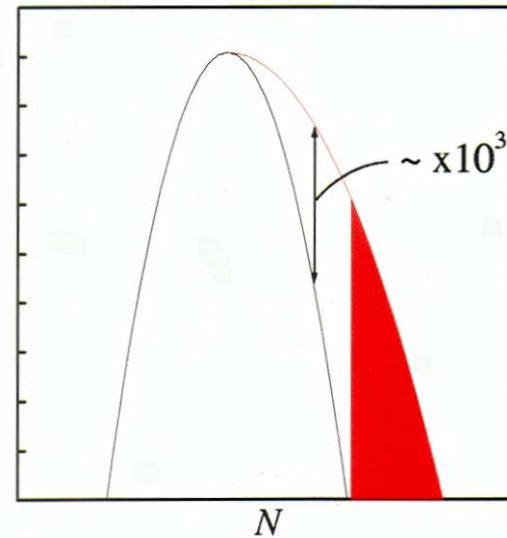
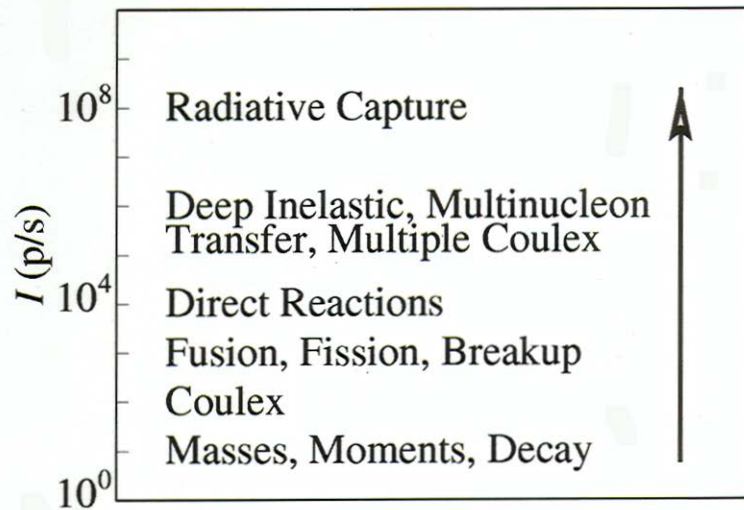
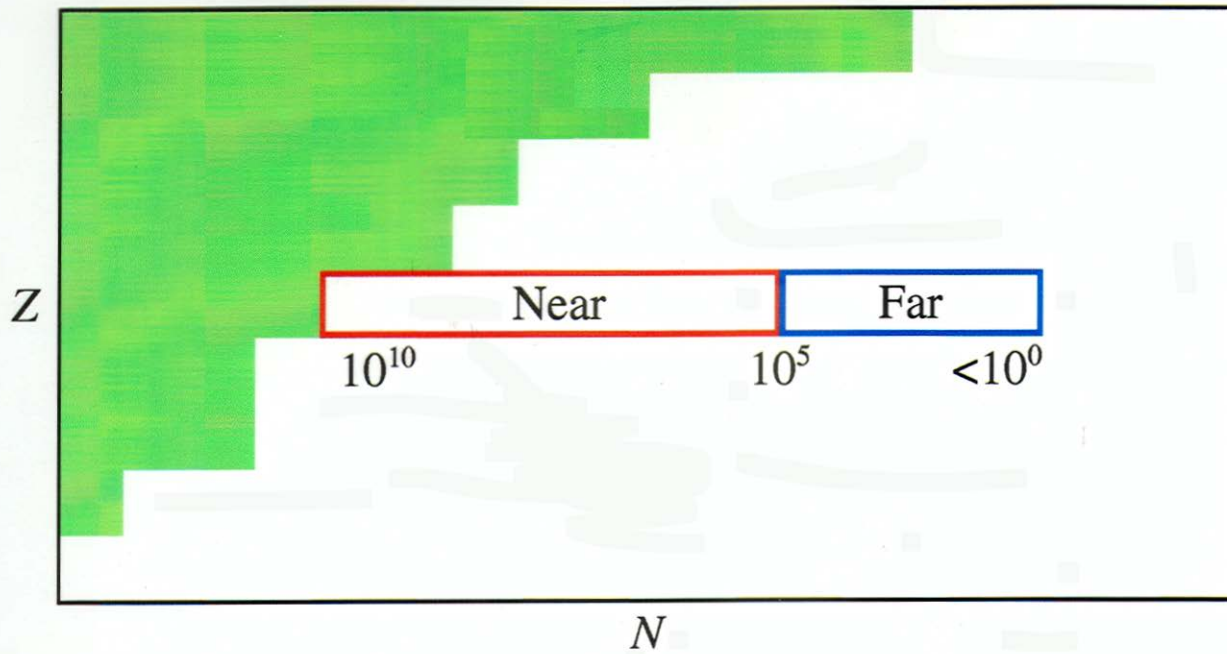
M. Thoennessen  
REB Discussion Meeting  
MSU, Feb. 20, 2010

# The Reach of FRIB

Rates are available at <http://groups.nsl.msu.edu/frib/rates/>







# Physics with rare isotopes – Physics vs. Intensity

With new technology we can now do experiments with orders of magnitude weaker beams than ever before.

## Particles/sec

## Physics of Nuclei

$10^{-5}$

Existence; perhaps half life, decay modes

$10^{-4}$  to  $10^{-3}$

Half life, mass, min. structural information

$10^{-2}$  to  $10^{-1}$

Some detailed structural information

$10^3$

Full details of structure

$>10^5$

Astrophysical reaction rates

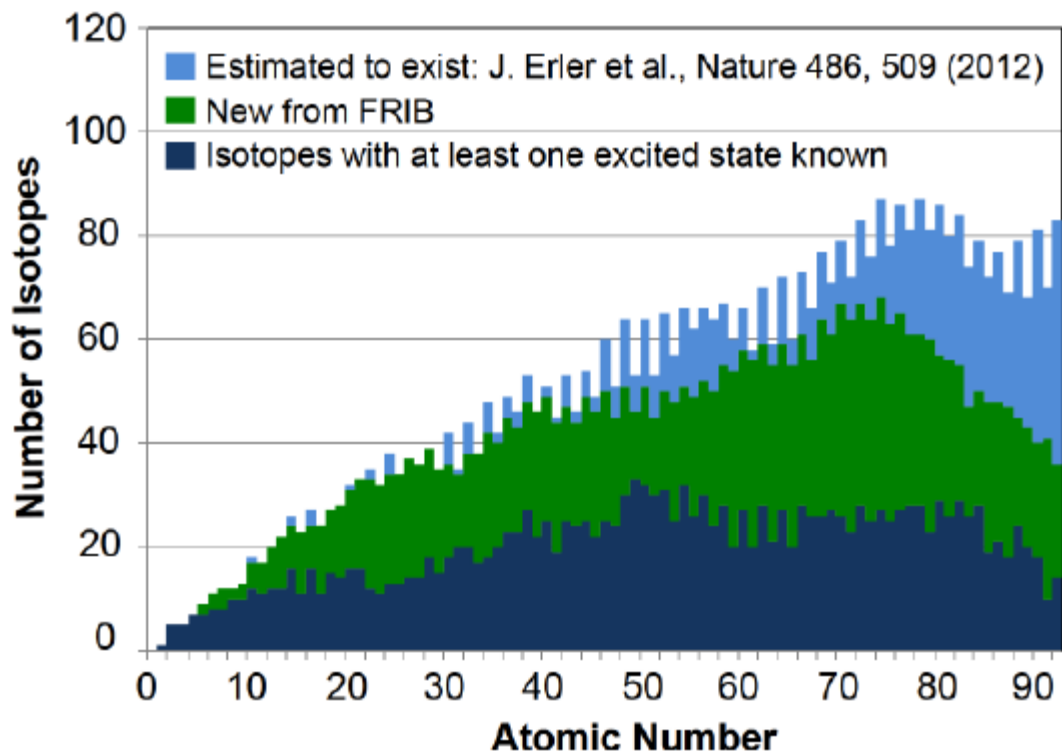
$10^6$

Weak interaction strengths

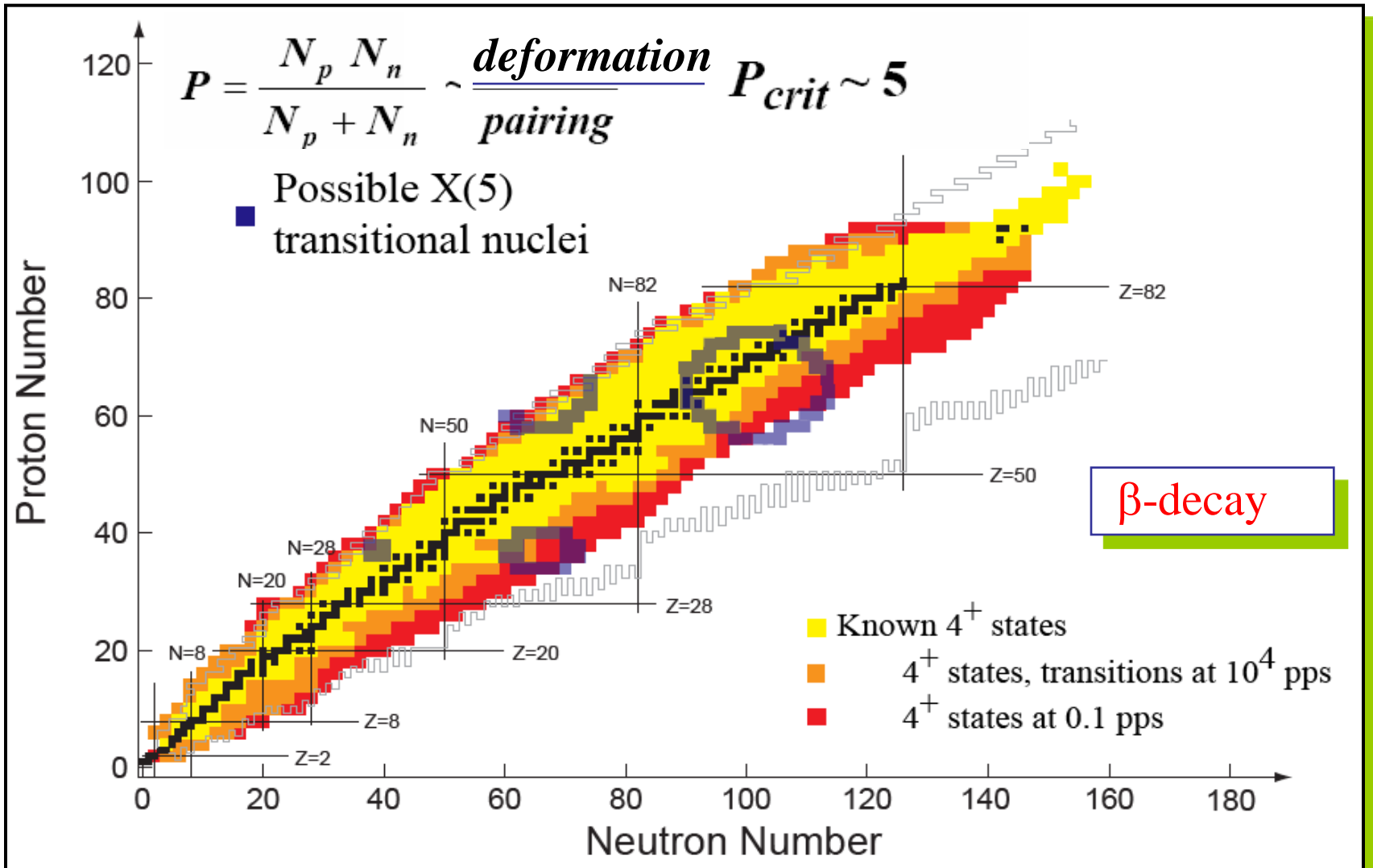
$10^8$  to  $10^{12}$

Production of superheavy elements

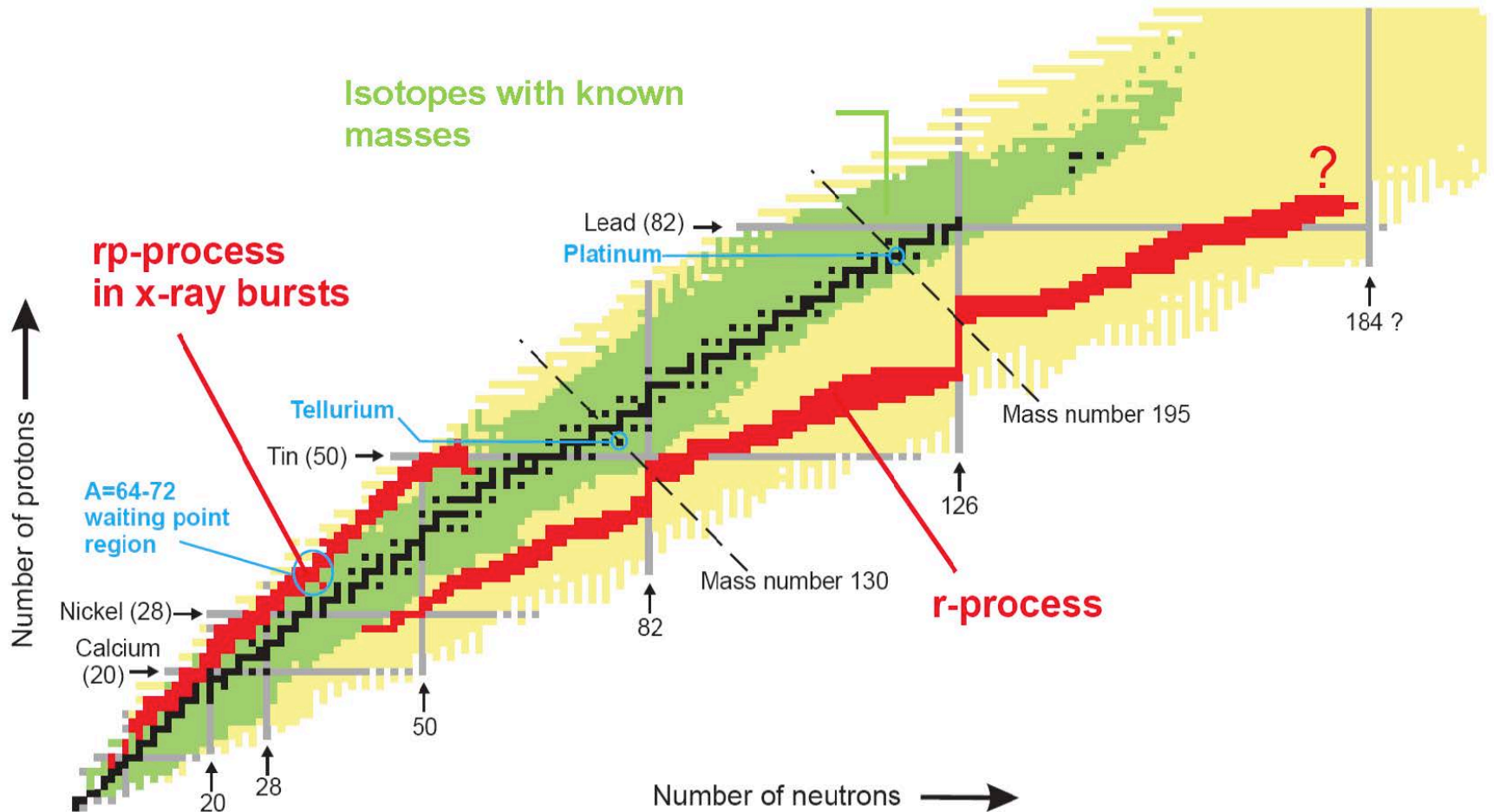




# Study of symmetry phases



# Explosive Nucleo-Synthesis Paths r and rp-processes



U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science  
National Science Foundation  
Michigan State University

M. Thoennessen  
REB Discussion Meeting  
MSU, Feb. 20, 2010

# “Back to the Future”

↳ Exotic nuclei

↳ Similar techniques (as in “the old days”):  
single particle transfer, beta decay, gamma ray  
spectroscopy, mass measurements, reaction rates  
— on new nuclei

New challenges—”10” vs.  $10^9$  p/s

# Exotic Nuclei Discovery Potential

- Comprehensive nuclear theory
  - Reaching the limits of nuclear binding
  - Discovery/study of exotic nuclear topologies
  - Discovery of new structural symmetries
  - Study of phases of nuclei and nuclear matter
  - Crucial ingredients for astrophysics
  - Tests of fundamental symmetries
  - Unforeseen Discoveries
- 

## “Spin-offs”

- Applications to medicine, national security,
- Training the next generation of scientists who know and can exploit the atomic nucleus

# Thank you

Special thanks to Brad Sherrill, Witek Nazarewicz,  
Robert Janssens

And to Dave Warner, Ole Hansen, Stu Pittel, Kris Heyde,  
Victor Zamfir, Jolie Cizewski, Ani Aprahamian, Peter von  
Brentano, Jan Jolie, Daeg Brenner, Hans Borner, Burcu  
Cakirli, Jackie Mooney, Paula Farnsworth, and many  
others