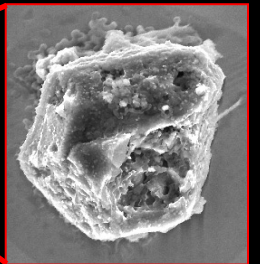
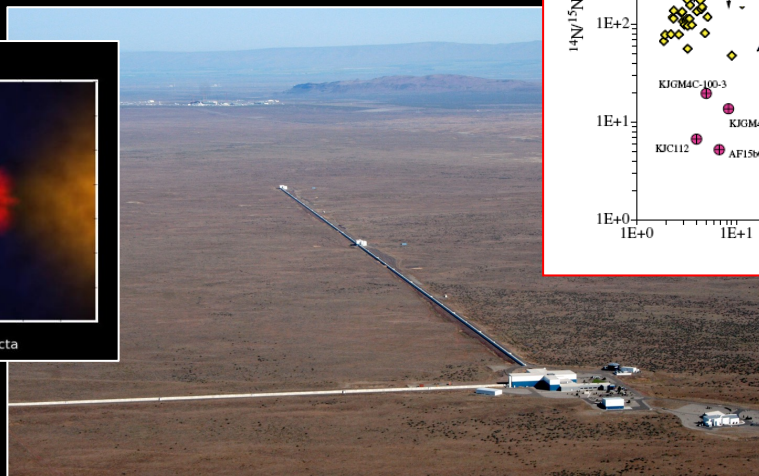
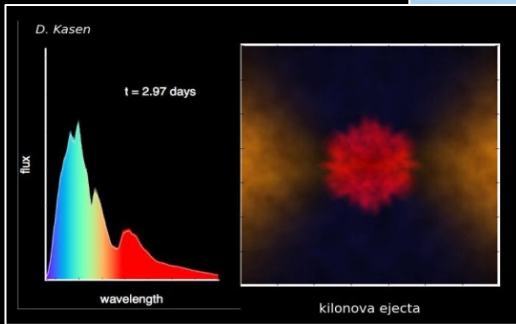
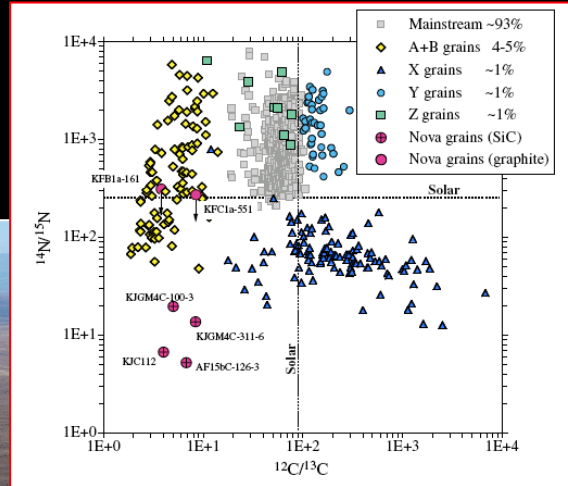
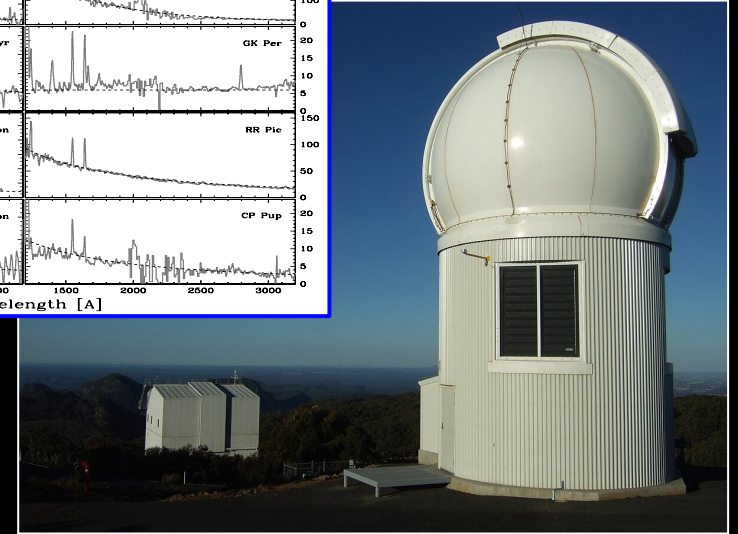
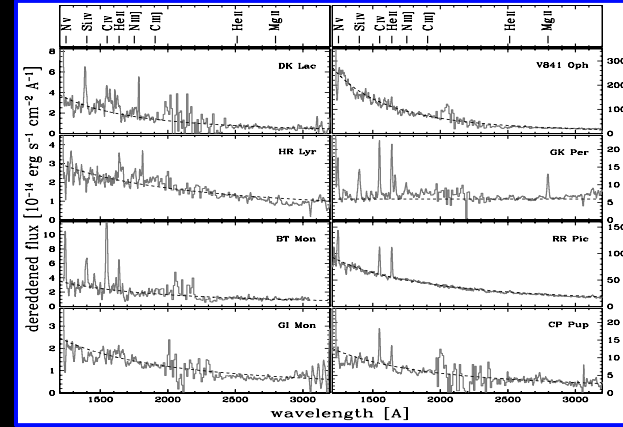
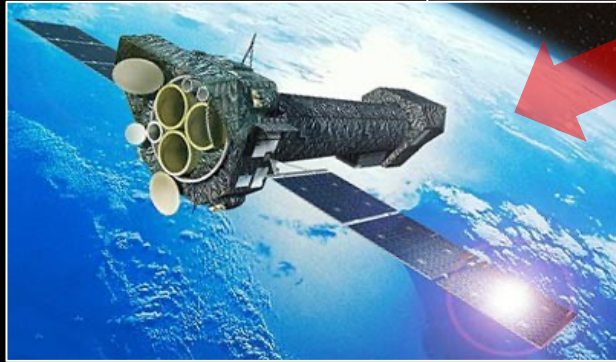
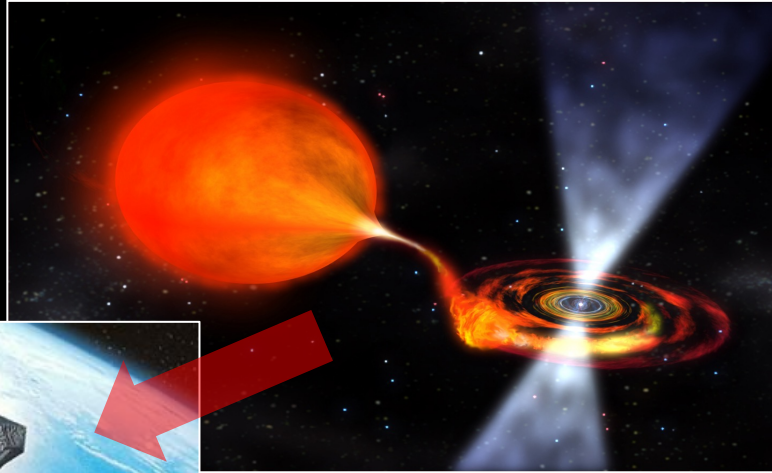
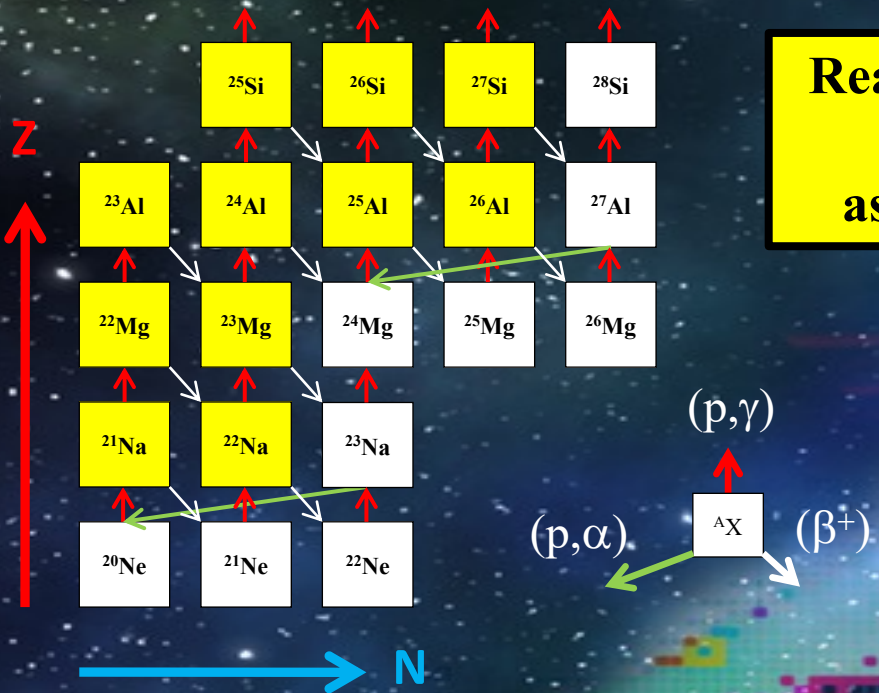


# Frontiers in Explosive Nuclear Astrophysics – Gavin Lotay





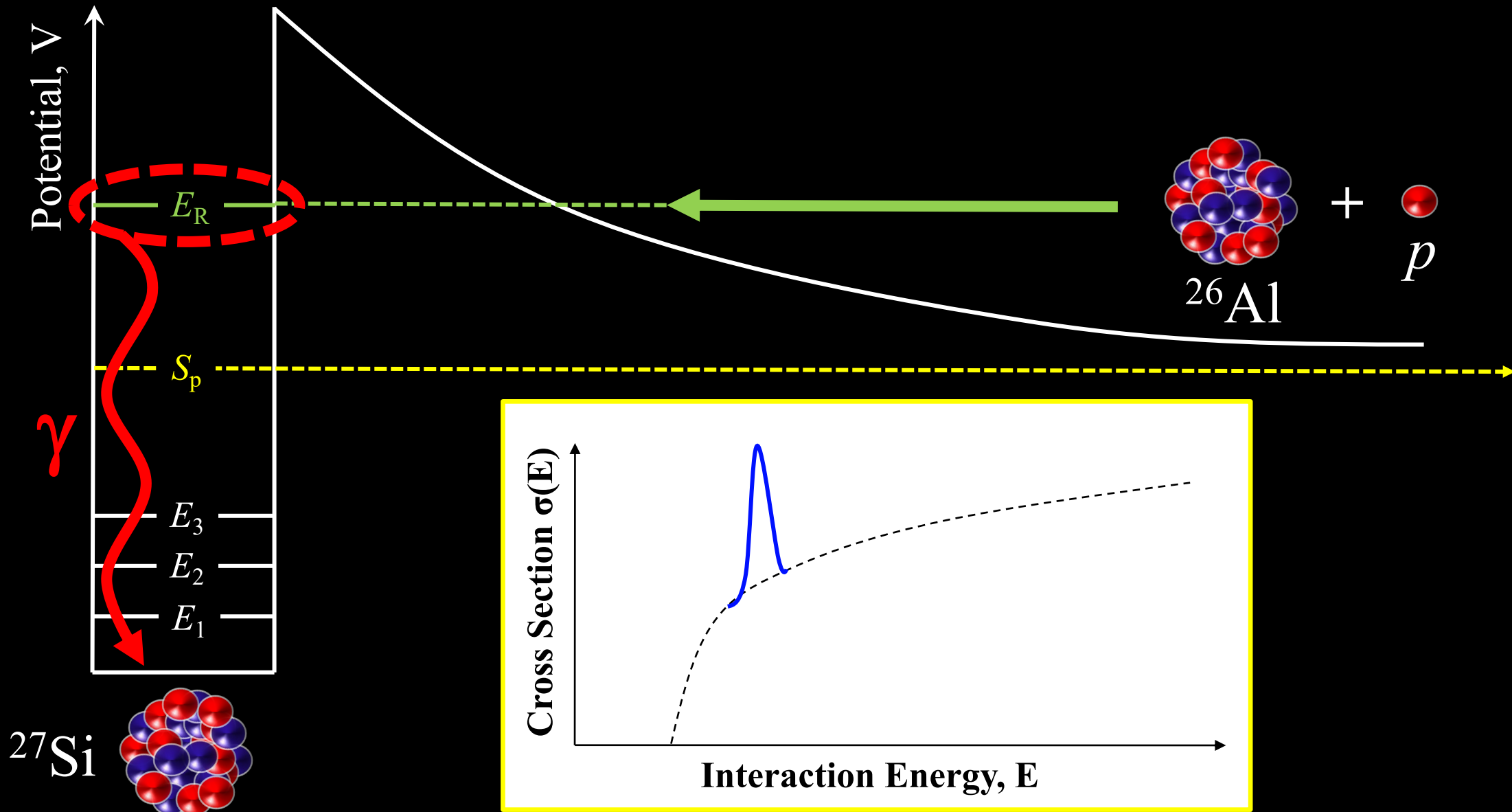
# The Need for Nuclear Physics



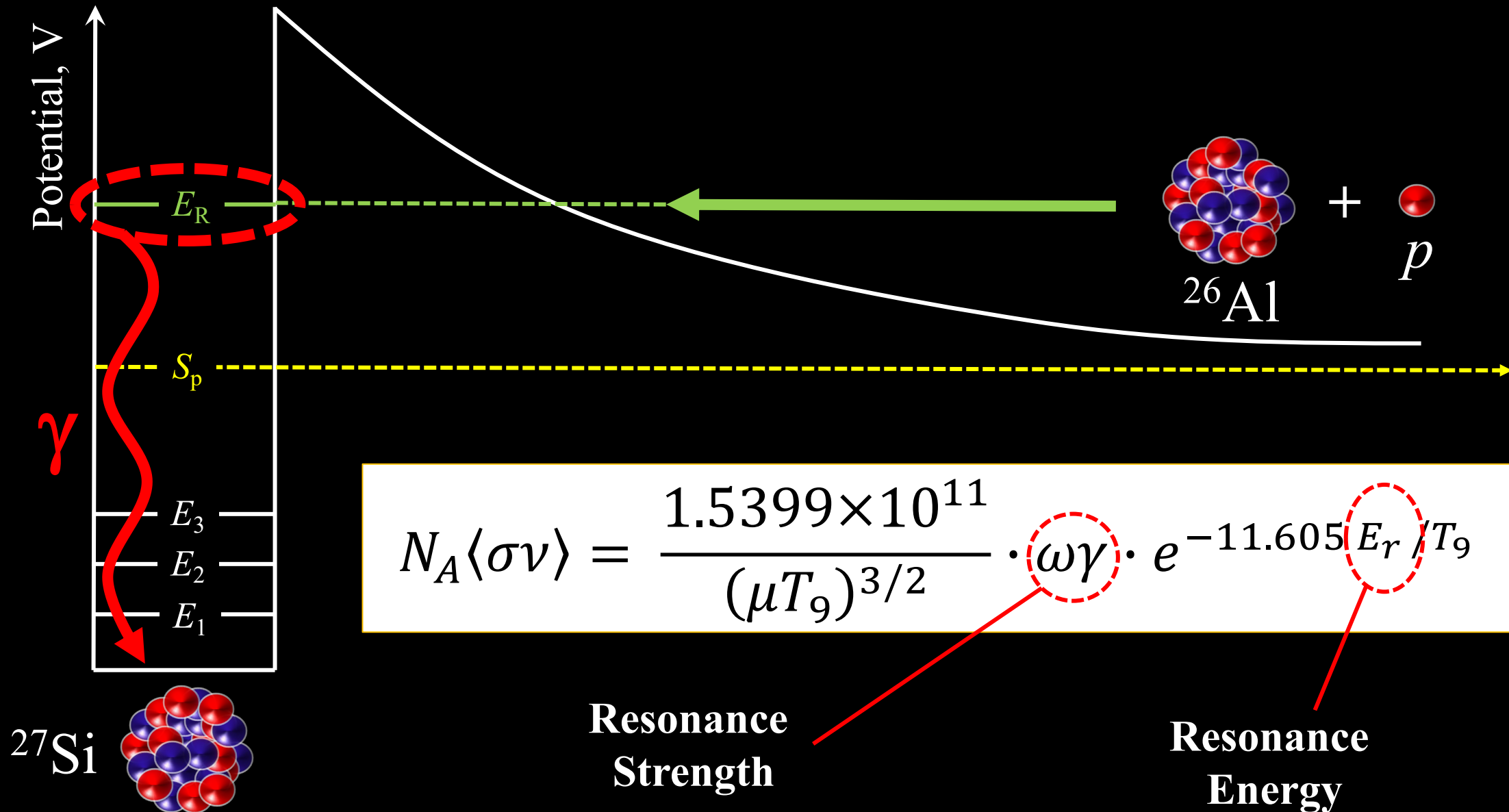
Reactions on RADIOACTIVE nuclei drive explosive astrophysical environments

NUCLEAR ASTROPHYSICS LINKS MICROSCOPIC TO MACROSCOPIC

# Stellar Reaction Rates

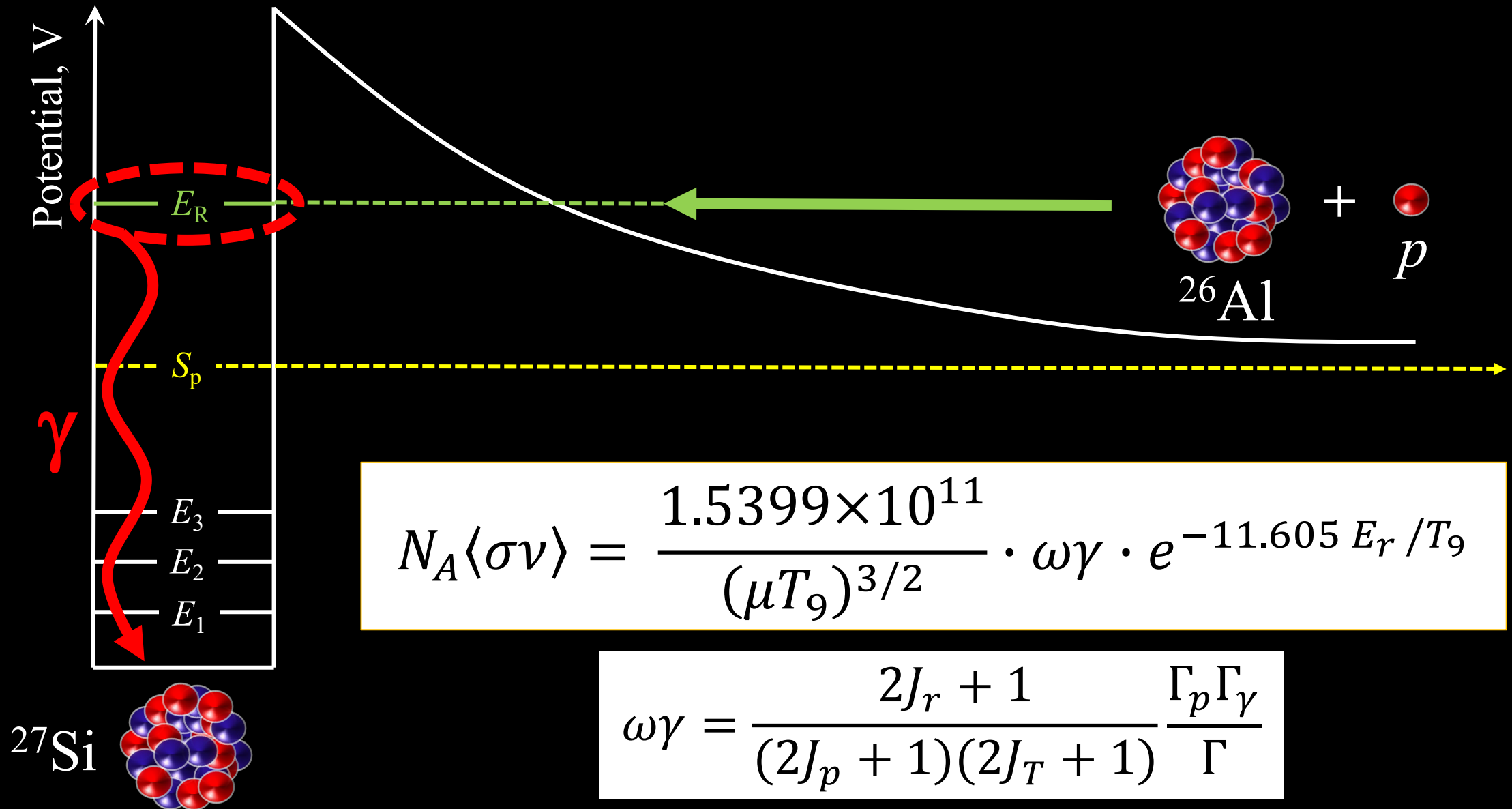


# Stellar Reaction Rates

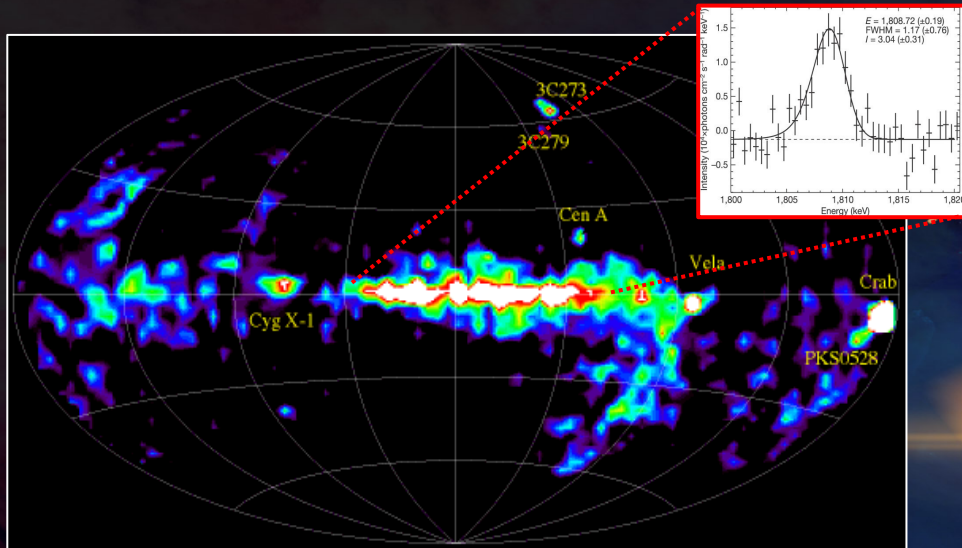




# Stellar Reaction Rates



# The Origin of Cosmic $\gamma$ -ray Emitters



$^{26}\text{Al}$

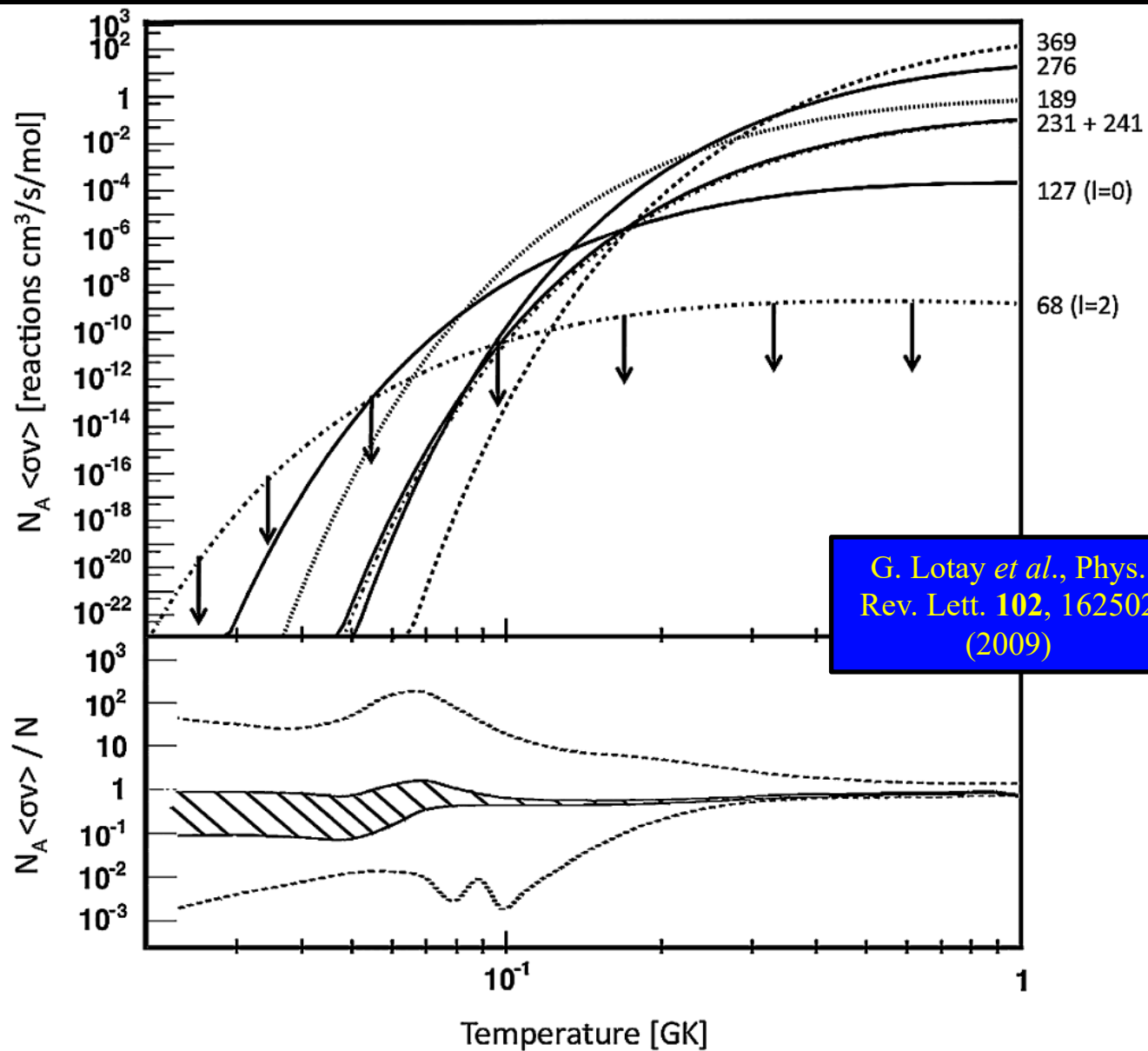
$\gamma$

$\gamma$

$\gamma$

**$^{26}\text{Al}(p,\gamma)^{27}\text{Si}$  REACTION**

# Outside the Reach of Direct Measurements – Energies



$$\underline{7832} \quad 9/2^+ \quad [E_r = 369 \text{ keV}]$$

$$\underline{7739} \quad 9/2^- \quad [E_r = 276 \text{ keV}]$$

$$\underline{7652} \quad 11/2^- \quad [E_r = 189 \text{ keV}]$$

$$\underline{7590} \quad 9/2^+ \quad [E_r = 127 \text{ keV}]$$

$$\underline{7557} \quad 3/2^+ \quad T = 3/2$$

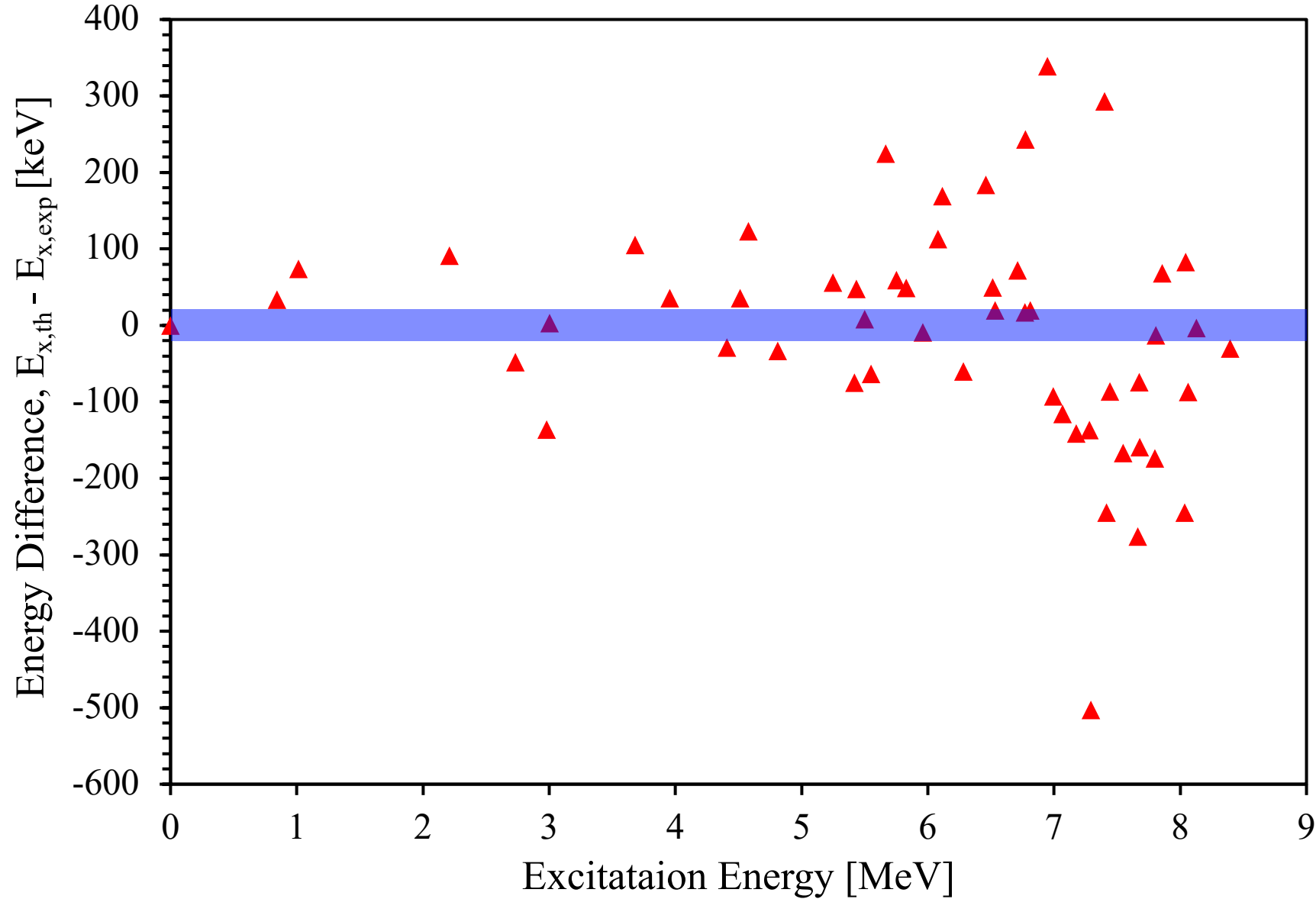
$$\underline{7531} \quad 5/2^+ \quad [E_r = 68 \text{ keV}]$$

$$\underline{7469} \quad (1/2, 5/2)^+ \quad [E_r = 6 \text{ keV}]$$



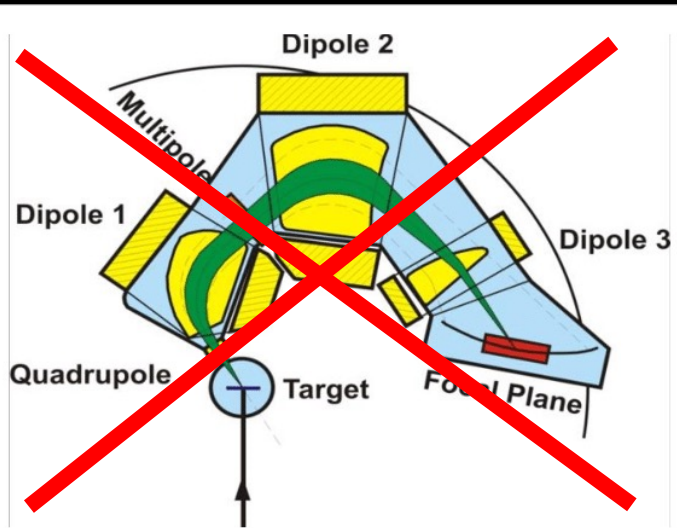
# Comparison with the USD Shell Model Energies

# Comparison with the USD Shell Model Energies



The Shell Model may not (currently) be the best tool to determine resonance energies

# Outside the Reach of Direct Measurements – Resonance Strengths



Not the most experimentally favourable reaction for RIBs

<u>7832</u>	$9/2^+$	$[E_r = 369 \text{ keV}]$
<u>7739</u>	$9/2^-$	$[E_r = 276 \text{ keV}]$
<u>7652</u>	$11/2^-$	$[E_r = 189 \text{ keV}]$
<u>7590</u>	$9/2^+$	$[E_r = 127 \text{ keV}]$
<u>7557</u>	$3/2^+$	$T = 3/2$
<u>7531</u>	$5/2^+$	$[E_r = 68 \text{ keV}]$
<u>7469</u>	$(1/2, 5/2)^+$	$[E_r = 6 \text{ keV}]$

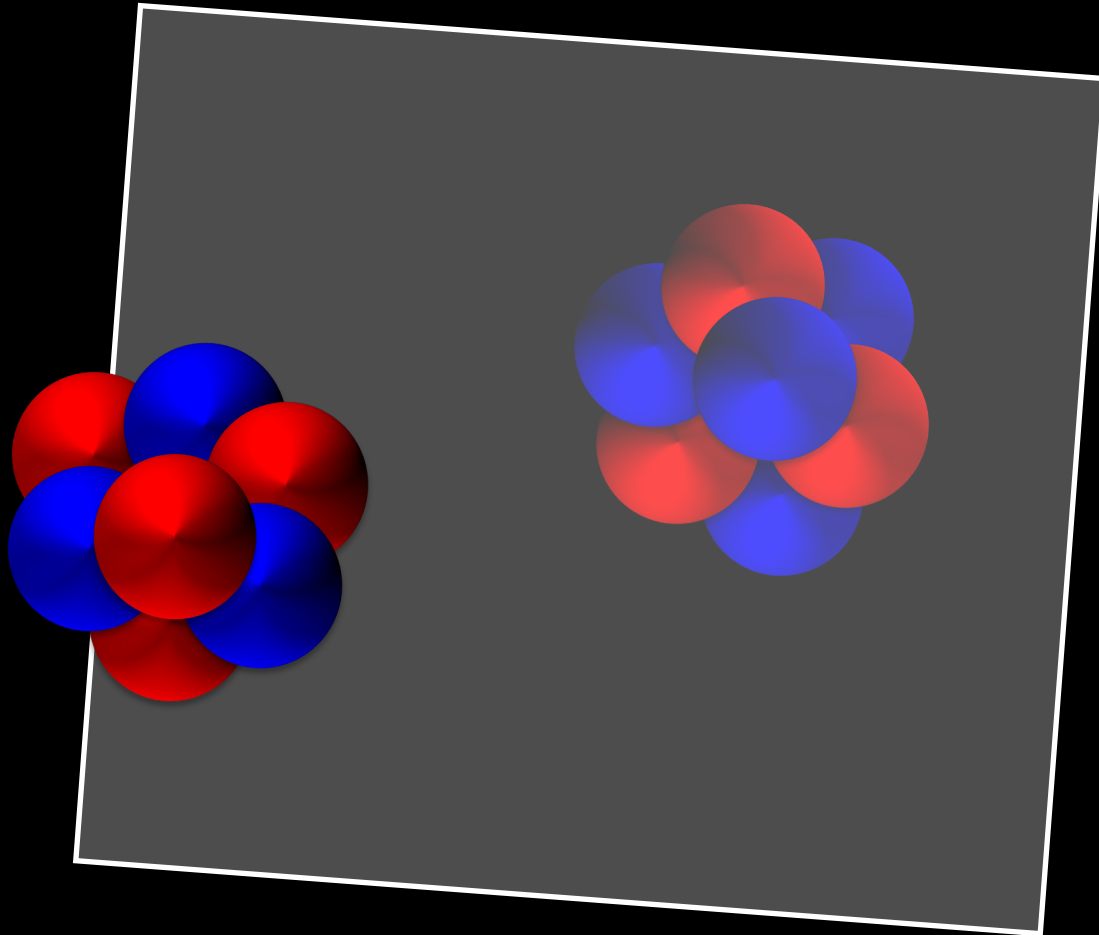
$$\omega\gamma = \frac{2J_r + 1}{(2J_p + 1)(2J_T + 1)} \frac{\Gamma_p \Gamma_\gamma}{\Gamma}$$

$$\omega\gamma \sim \omega\Gamma_p$$

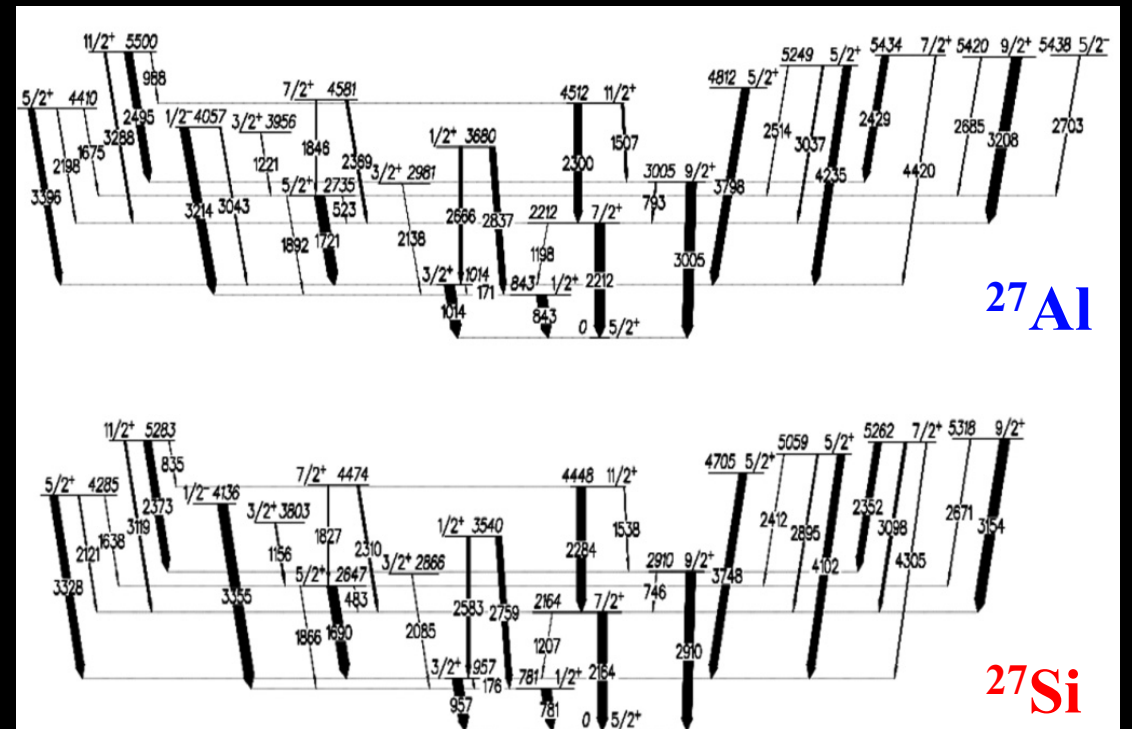
$$\Gamma_p \sim P_l \cdot C^2 S \cdot \theta_p^2$$



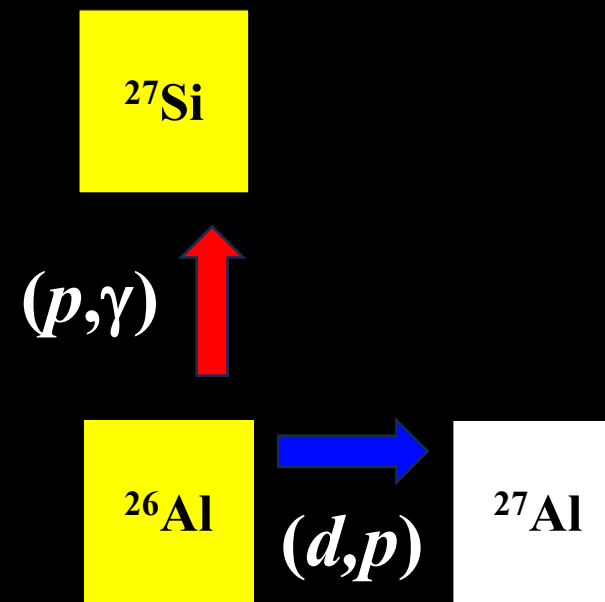
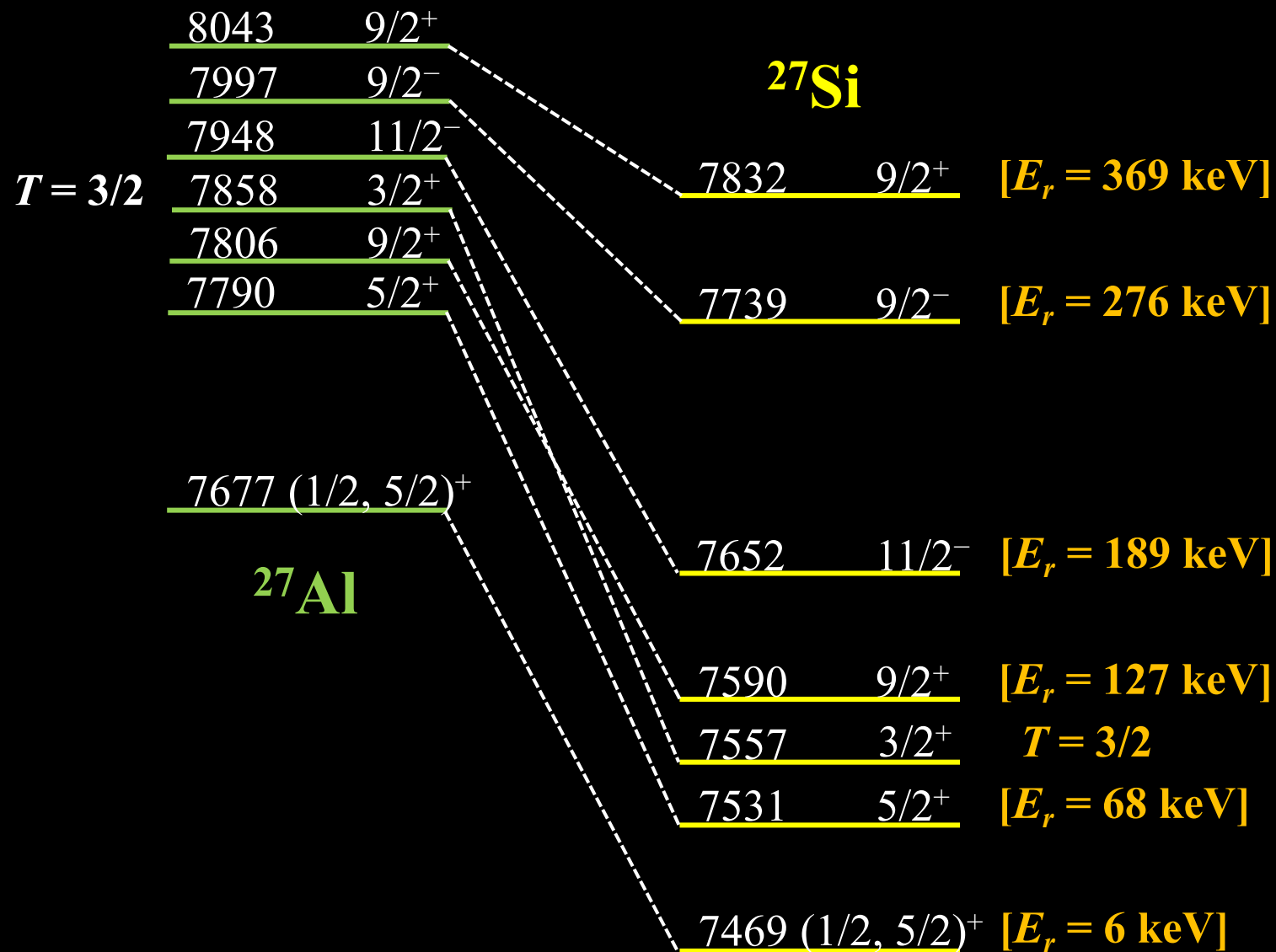
# The Use of Mirror Symmetry



The structures of mirror nuclei are found to be nearly identical



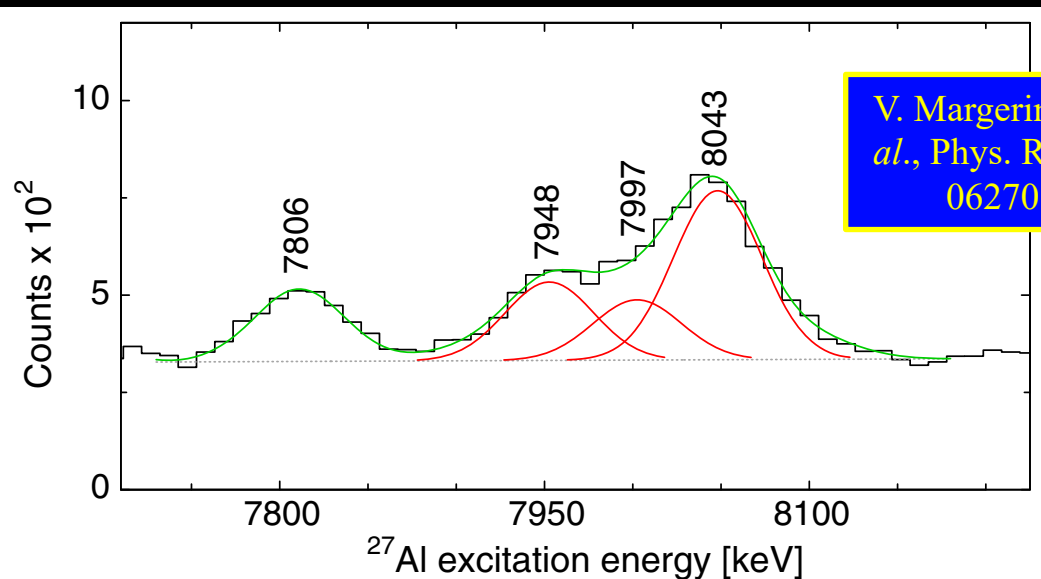
# The Use of Mirror Symmetry



# The $^{26}\text{Al}(d,p)^{27}\text{Al}$ transfer reaction at TRIUMF

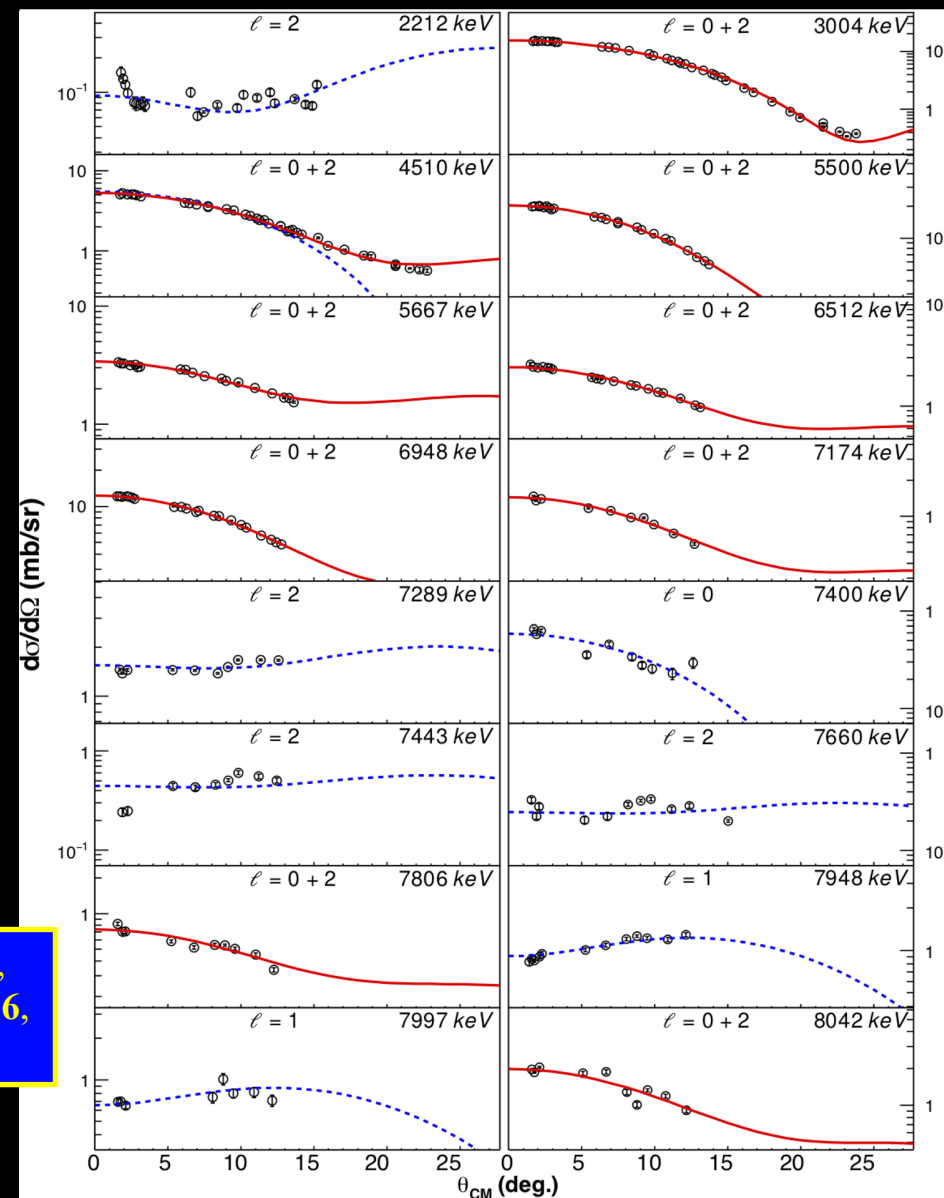
$E_x$ [keV]	$E_r$ [keV]	$\omega\gamma_{(d,p)}$ [meV]	$\omega\gamma_{(p,\gamma)}$ [meV]
8043	369	45(22)	69(7)
7997	276	2.3(11)	2.9(3)
7948	189	0.026(12)	0.035(7)

$^{27}\text{Al}$  excitation energy [keV]



V. Margerin, G. Lotay *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **115**, 062701 (2015)

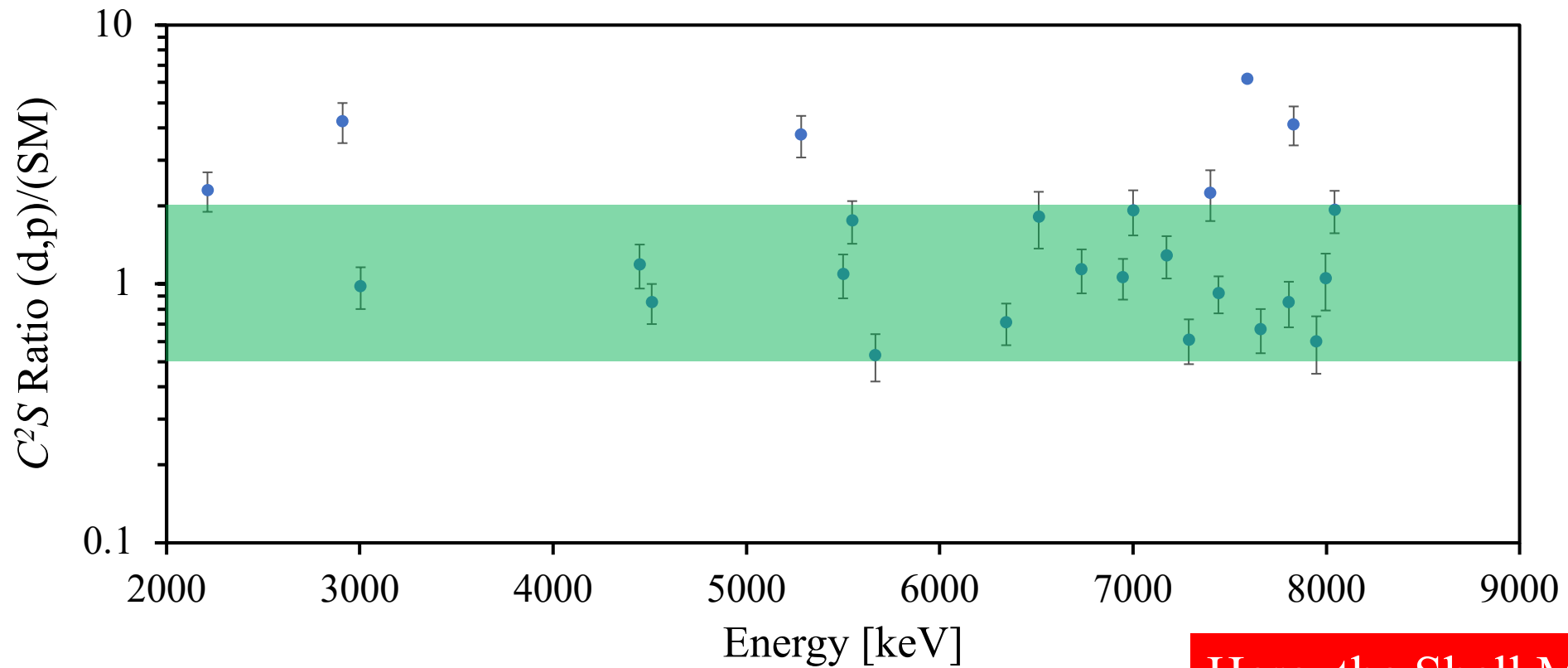
G. Lotay *et al.*, *Eur. Phys. J. A* **56**, 3 (2020)





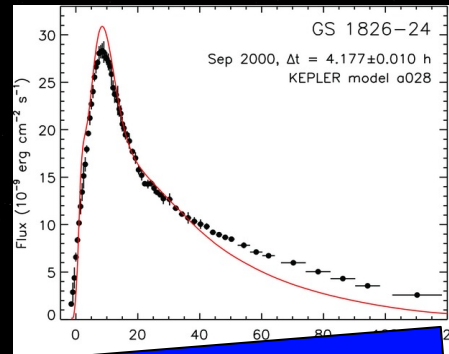
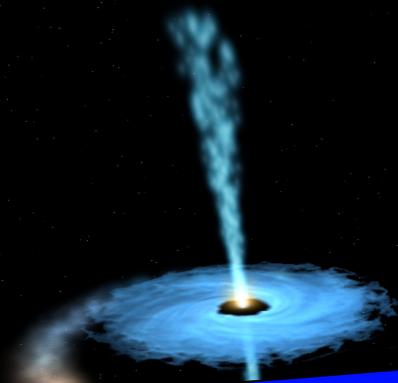
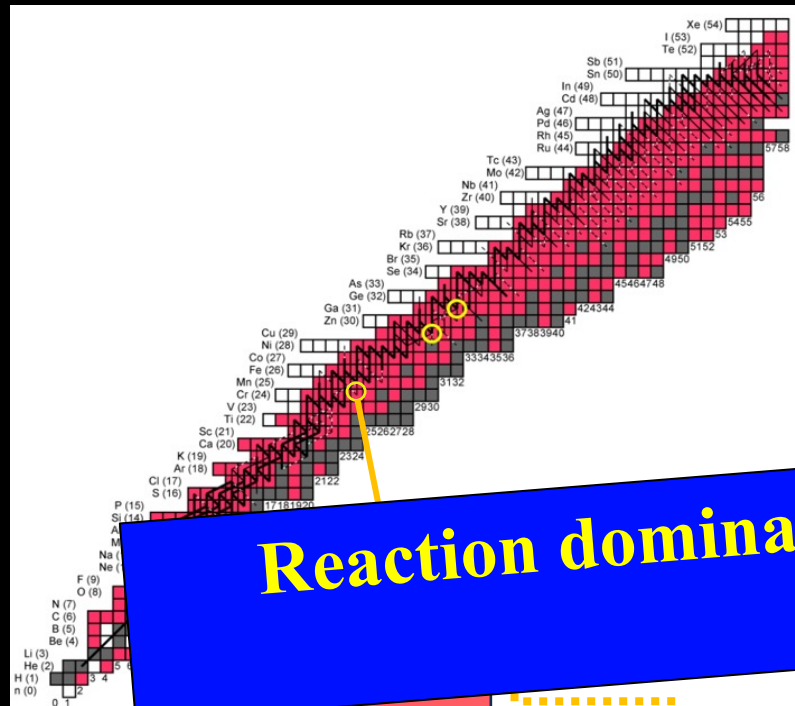
# Comparison with USD Shell Model Spectroscopic Factors

# Comparison with USD Shell Model Spectroscopic Factors

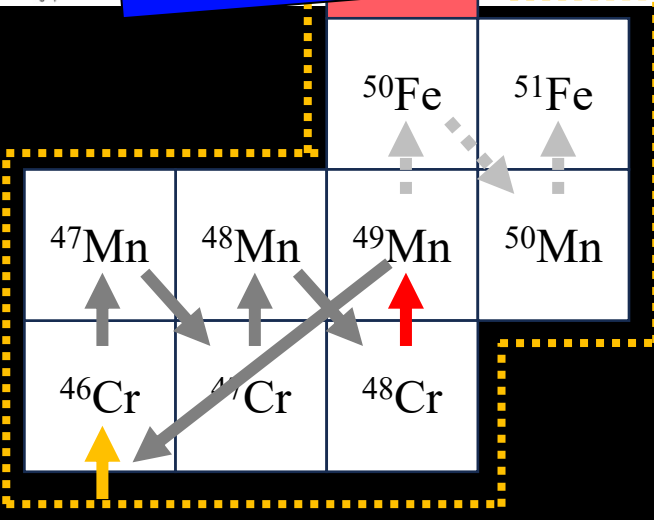


Here, the Shell Model seems to be good at predicting the spectroscopic factors once the states have been identified

# Understanding the Light Curves of Type-I X-ray Bursts



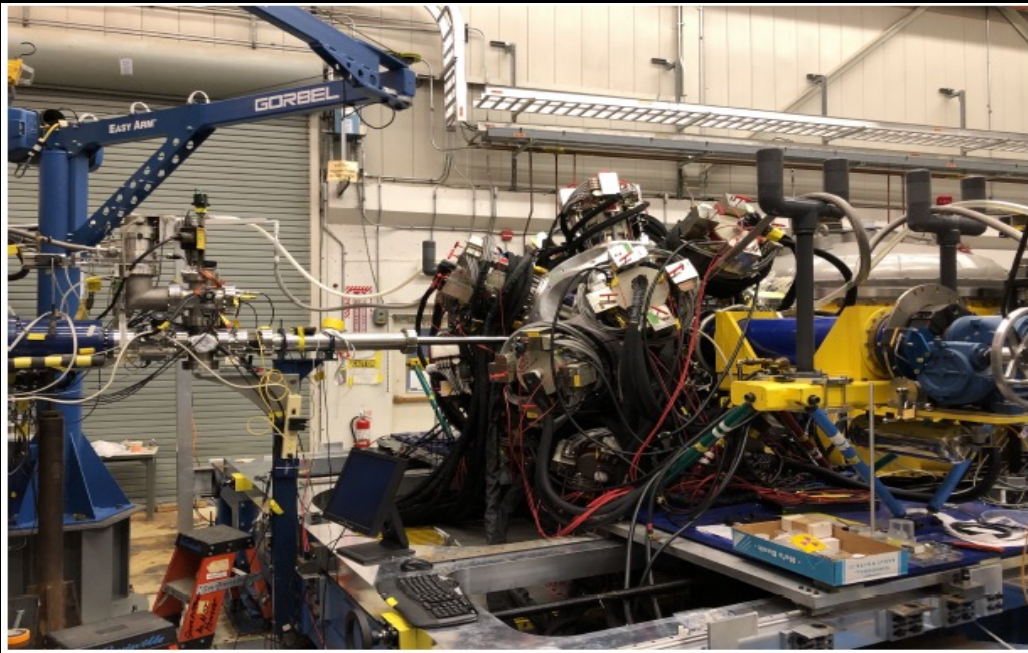
**Reaction dominated by resonant capture to proton unbound excited states in  $^{49}\text{Mn}$**



- Detailed models of X-ray burst nucleosynthesis indicate reactions around key waiting points strongly influence the resulting light curves
- In particular, the  $^{48}\text{Cr}(p,\gamma)^{49}\text{Mn}$  reaction has been highlighted as key [R.H. Cyburt et al., ApJ 830, 55 (2016)]

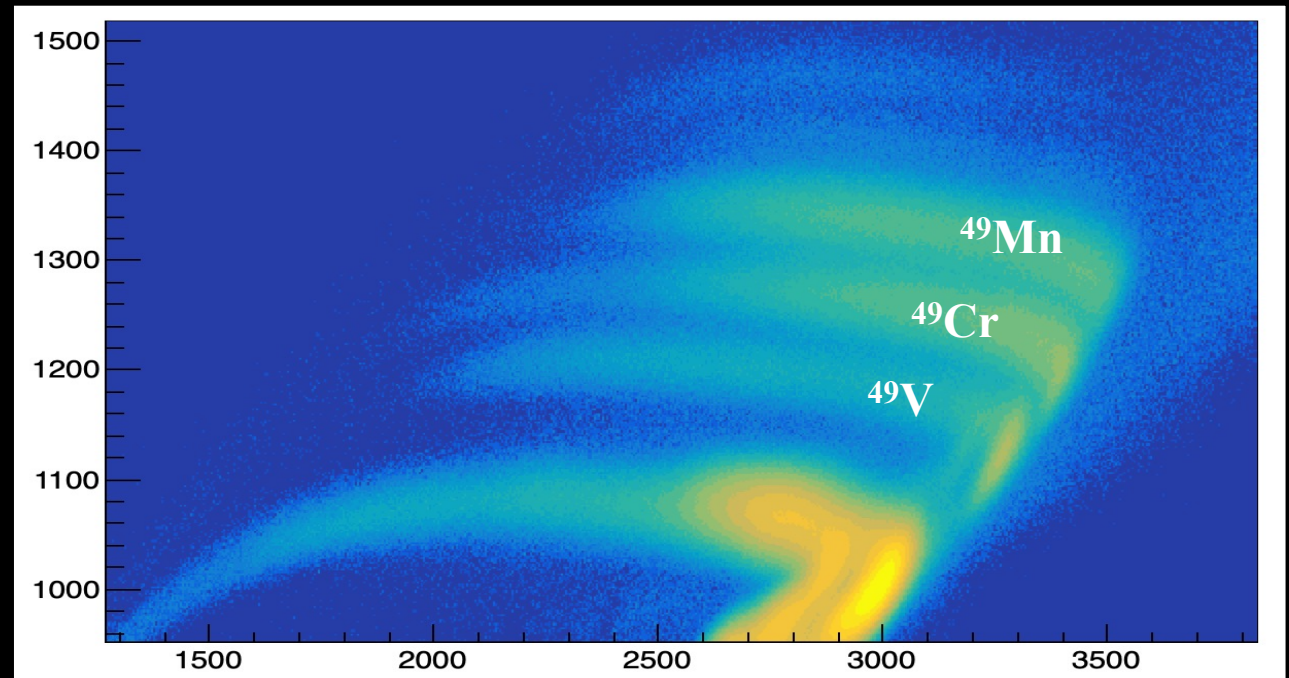
# Gamma-ray Spectroscopy Study of $^{49}\text{Mn}$ @ ANL

- A 75 MeV beam of  $^{40}\text{Ca}$  ions ( $\sim 20$  pA) produced by the Argonne ATLAS accelerator was used to bombard a  $\sim 200$   $\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$  thick target of  $^{11}\text{B}$  target to populate excited states in  $^{49}\text{Mn}$  via  $^{11}\text{B}(^{40}\text{Ca}, 2n)$  and  $^{49}\text{Cr}$  via  $^{11}\text{B}(^{40}\text{Ca}, 1p1n)$

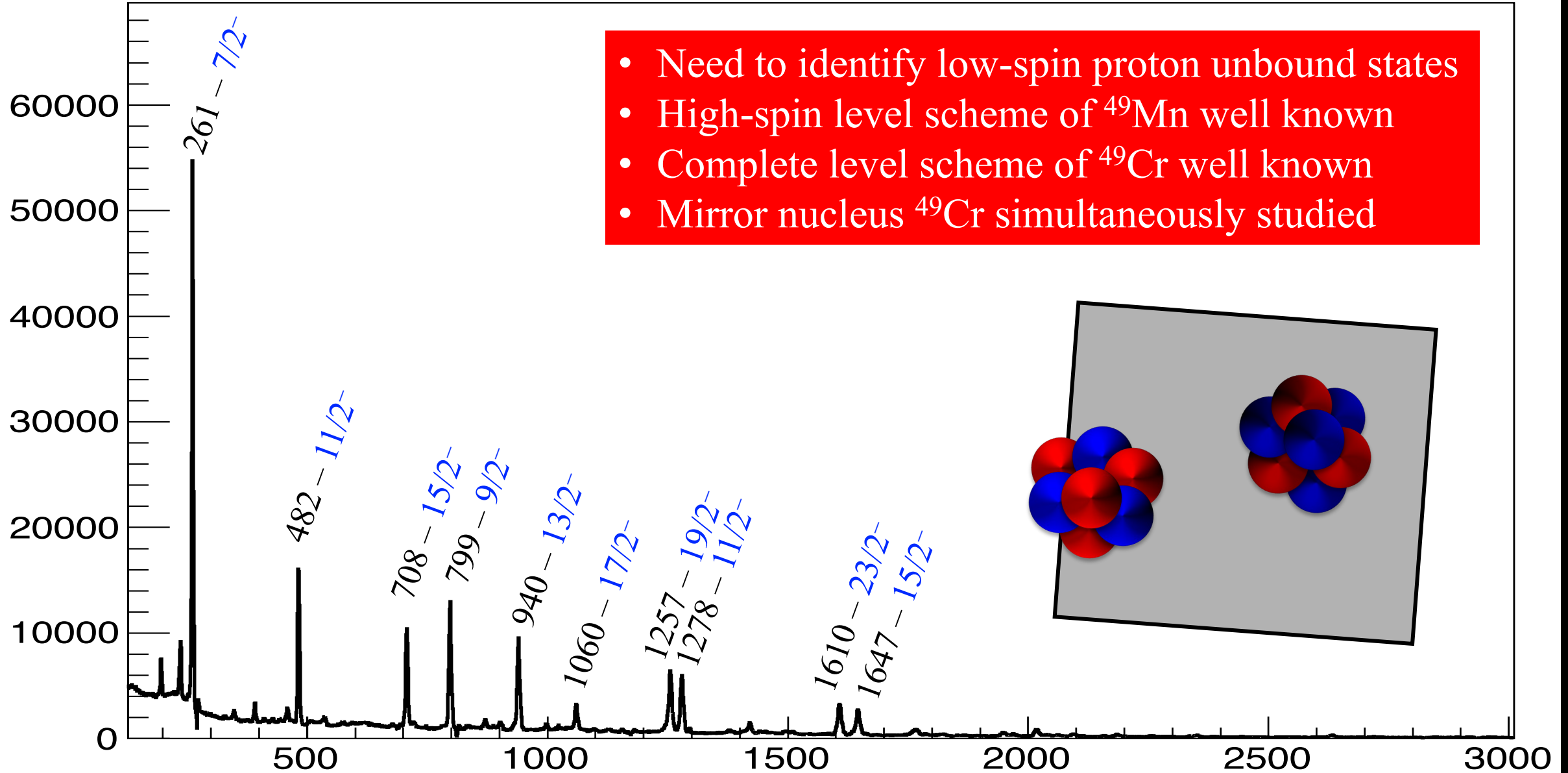


**The Argonne Fragment Mass Analyser used to Transmit  $A=49$  recoils**

**GRETINA  $\gamma$ -ray tracking array used to detect prompt  $\gamma$  rays at the target position**



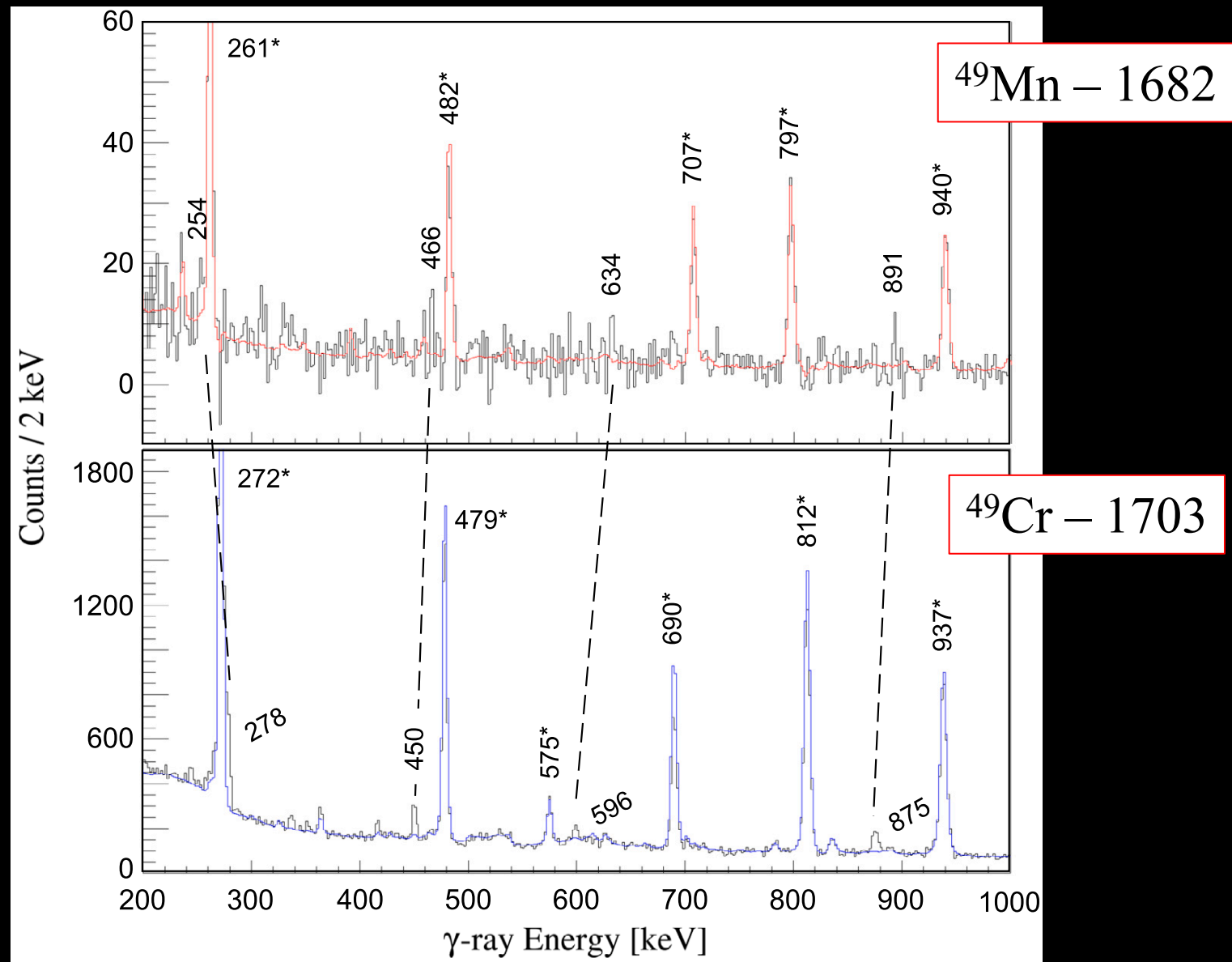
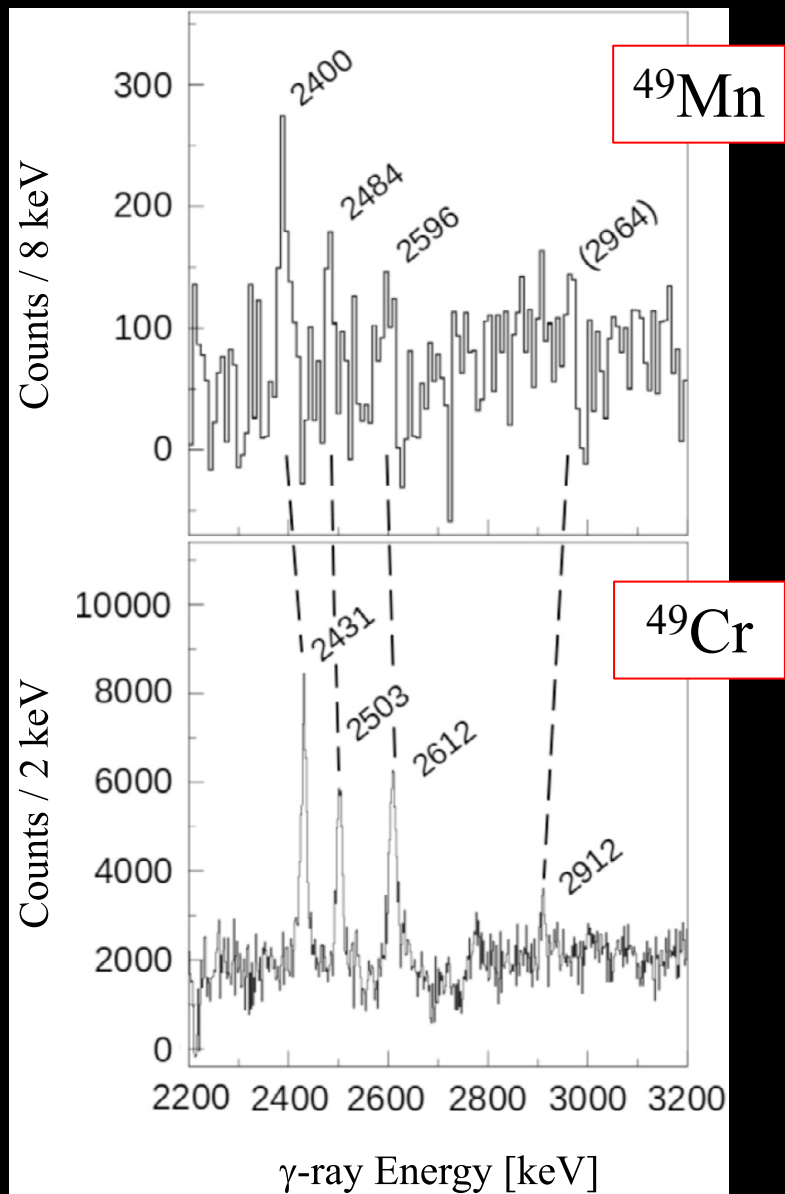
# Gamma-ray Spectroscopy Study of $^{49}\text{Mn}$ @ ANL



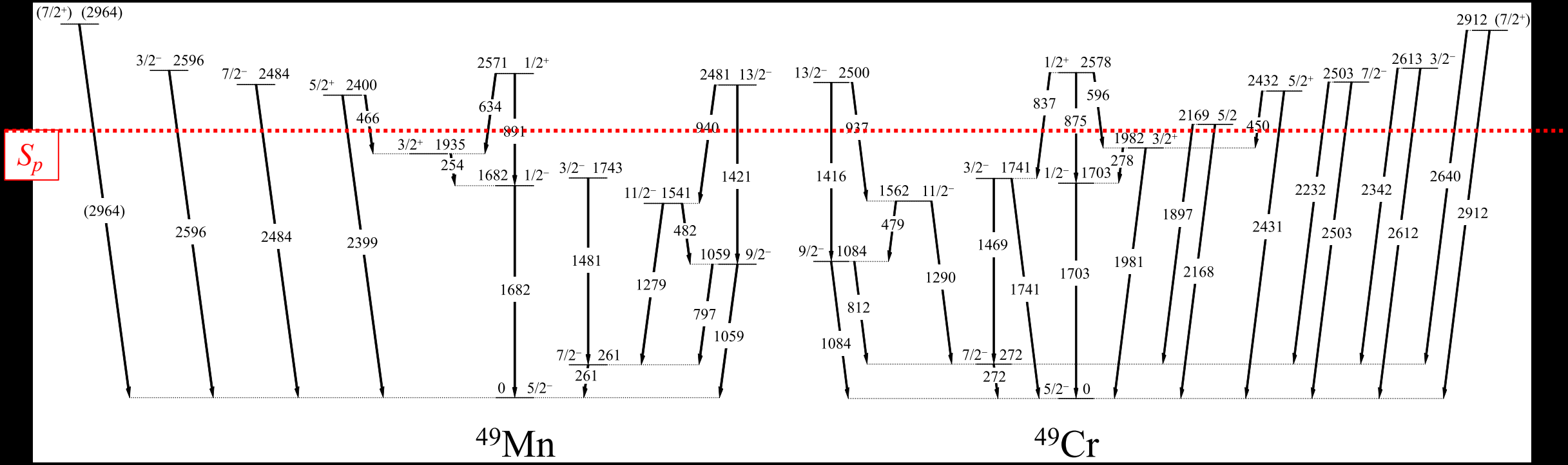
- Need to identify low-spin proton unbound states
- High-spin level scheme of  $^{49}\text{Mn}$  well known
- Complete level scheme of  $^{49}\text{Cr}$  well known
- Mirror nucleus  $^{49}\text{Cr}$  simultaneously studied



# Gamma-ray Spectroscopy Study of $^{49}\text{Mn}$ @ ANL



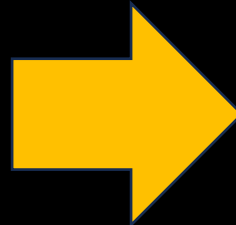
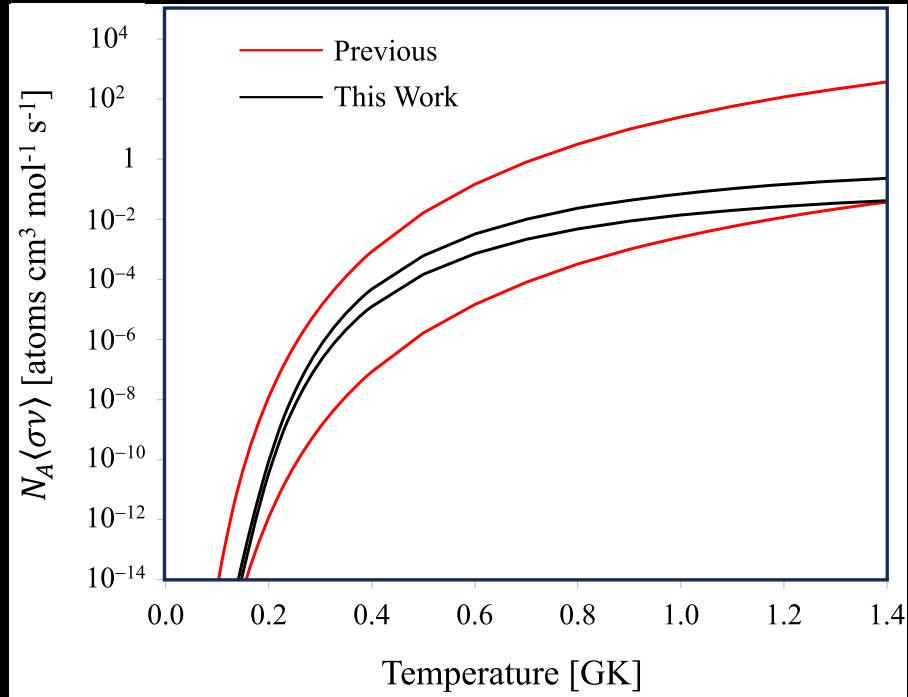
# Gamma-ray Spectroscopy Study of $^{49}\text{Mn}$ @ ANL



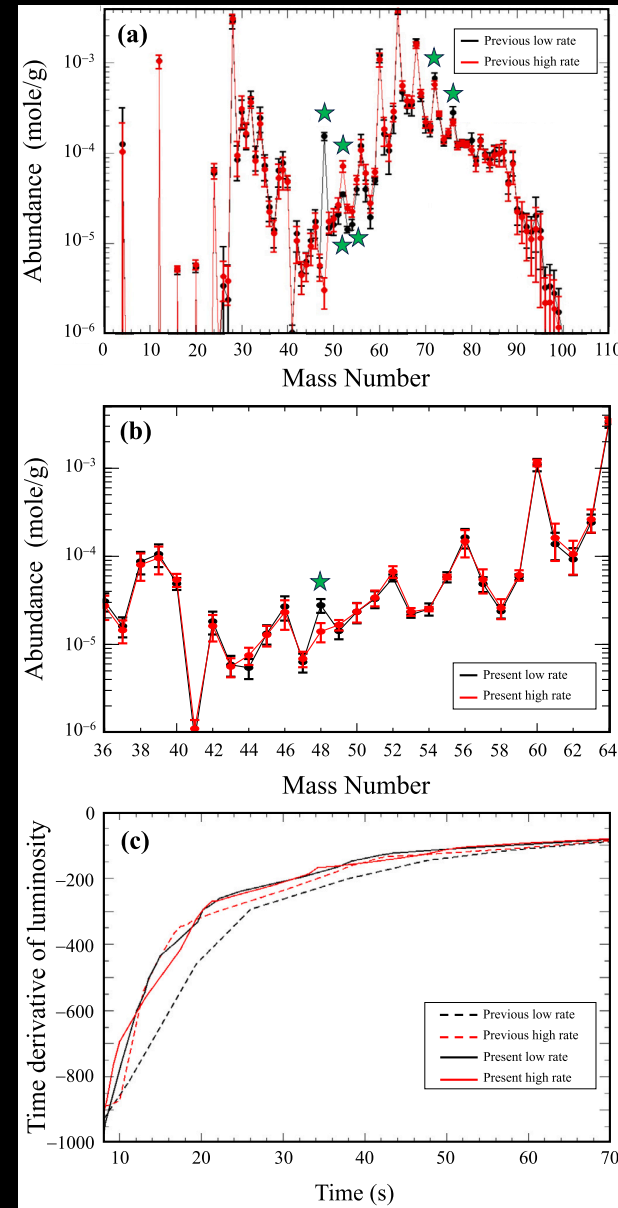
$E_x$ (keV)	$E_r$ (keV)	$J^\pi$	$C^2S$	$\Gamma_p$ (eV)	$\Gamma_\gamma$ (eV)	$\omega\gamma$ (eV)
2400.3(29)	312.3(85)	$5/2^+$	0.01	$7.90 \times 10^{-11}$	$6.91 \times 10^{-4}$	$2.37 \times 10^{-10}$
2484.4(19)	396.4(82)	$7/2^-$	0.01	$3.71 \times 10^{-10}$	$5.70 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.48 \times 10^{-9}$
2570.9(26)	482.9(84)	$1/2^+$	0.03	$3.89 \times 10^{-5}$	$5.70 \times 10^{-4}$	$3.64 \times 10^{-5}$
2595.9(21)	507.9(83)	$3/2^-$	0.01	$1.24 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.01 \times 10^{-2}$	$2.48 \times 10^{-5}$
2964.4(28)	876.4(85)	$7/2^+$	0.01	$3.35 \times 10^{-6}$	$8.77 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.34 \times 10^{-5}$

Spectroscopic factors adopted from shell-model calculations and from comparison with  $^{51}\text{Mn}$

# Gamma-ray Spectroscopy Study of $^{49}\text{Mn}$ @ ANL



- The nominal rate is found to be lower than previously expected
- However, newly constrained uncertainties have removed the possibility of a waiting point at  $A = 48$  in the  $rp$  process



C. O'Shea, G. Lotay *et al.*, Phys. Lett. B **854**, 138740 062701 (2024)