

# Complete decay spectroscopy of neutron-rich Cl isotopes with FDSi

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Nucleon-nucleon correlations lead to changes in shell structure, such as the islands of inversion. The  $N=28$  shell gap has been frequently probed in nuclei south of  $^{48}\text{Ca}$ , finding that intruder configurations, which correspond to neutron excitations across the gap, play an important role in those neutron-rich isotopes at low energy. The location of the states is related to the neutron shell structure, and has been studied as a driver for the deformation of  $^{44}\text{S}$  and  $^{42}\text{Si}$ . On the other hand, higher-lying states corresponding to proton excitation across the  $Z=20$  shell gap have been unchecked. Conventionally, in nuclei with  $N\sim 28$  and  $Z<20$ , the Fermi surfaces for neutrons and protons are located within the pf and sd shells, respectively. The selectivity of beta-decay motivates decay strength measurements to probe the nuclear shell effects of the parent and daughter nucleus. States populated by the conversion from a pf neutron to a pf proton in the Gamow-Teller transitions give good insight into the  $Z=20$  shell gap, while also playing a crucial role in determining fundamental beta-decay properties.

In this contribution, I will present the first complete measurement of the beta-decay strength distribution of chlorine isotopes performed at FRIB. The measurements utilized the two focal plane system of the FRIB Decay Station Inhibitor (FDSi<sup>[1]</sup>), with a combination of high-resolution neutron (NEXTi) and gamma-ray (DEGAi) spectroscopy data alongside total absorption spectroscopy data (MTAS). The complete decay strength is extracted for argon isotopes and compared to large-scale shell model calculations using the SDPF-MU interaction. In the decay of  $^{45}\text{Cl}$ , this sensitive approach found that a reduced  $Z=20$  shell gap best reproduced the data. The experimental findings exemplify the ability of Gamow-Teller transitions to populate states associated with proton excitation across major shells, allowing for the first benchmark of the  $Z=20$  shell gap along  $N=28$  below  $^{48}\text{Ca}$ .

[1] <https://fds.ornl.gov/inhibitor/>

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