

# **Synthesis of SH-nuclei**

**current/future experiments  
and  
strategy**

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Workshop on FUTURE SuperHeavy Element Strategy  
FUSHE 2012; May 13-16, 2012 Weilrod, Germany

# Search for Element 116 in $^{248}\text{Cm} + ^{48}\text{Ca}$ reaction

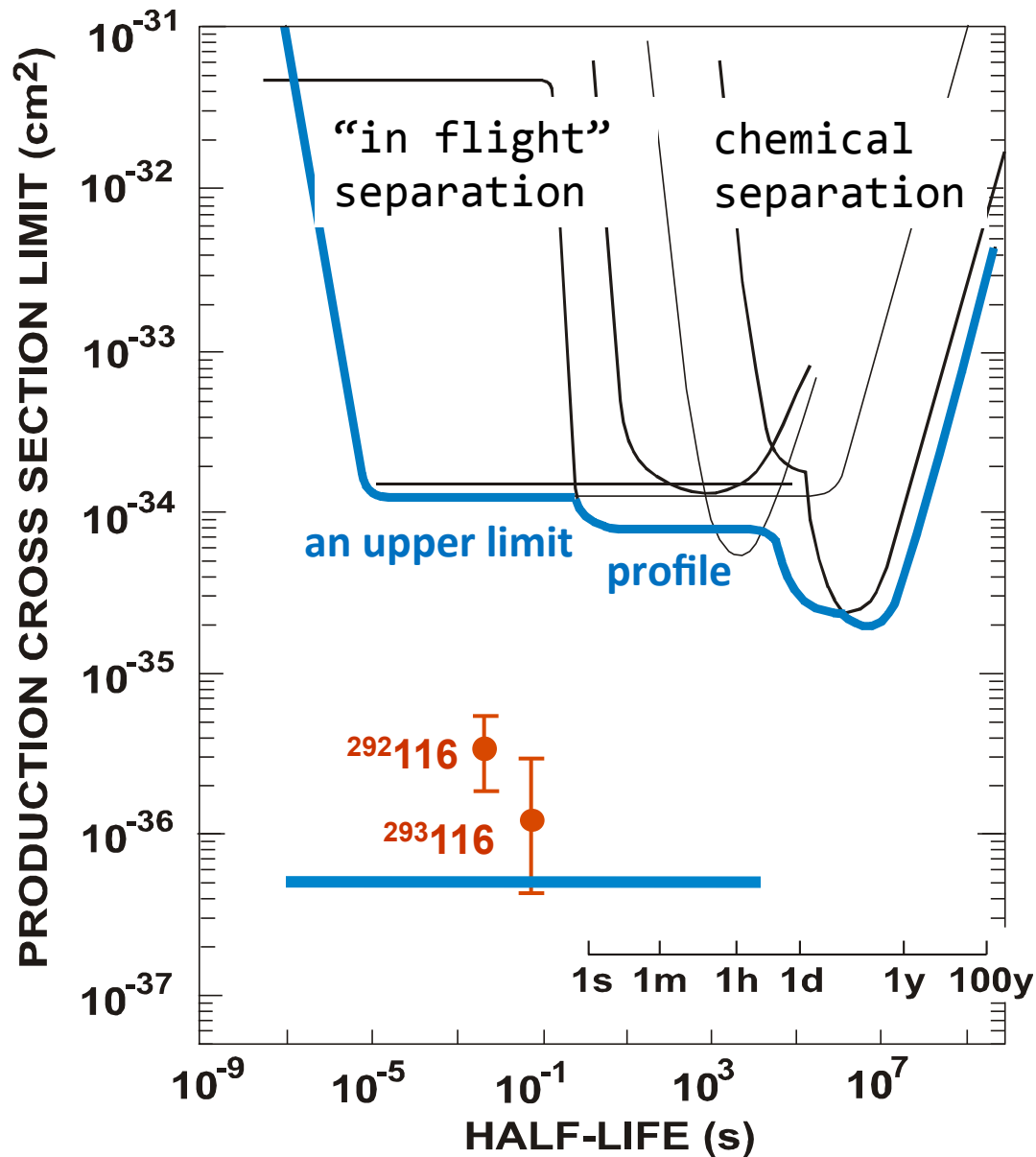
Yu. Oganessian 2012

GSI, Darmstadt, Germany\*  
LBL, UC Berkeley, CA  
Univ. of Mainz, Germany  
LANL, Los Alamos, NM  
EIR, Würenlingen, Switzerland

1985  $\Rightarrow$

FLNR, Dubna  
LLNL, Livermore

2000  $\Rightarrow$



# Decay chains

proton number

118  
116  
114

$^{244}\text{Pu}, ^{248}\text{Cm} + ^{48}\text{Ca}$

Z=116

<b>116/292</b> 18 ms 10.66	<b>116/293</b> 61 ms 10.54
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0.06 s

114

<b>114/288</b> 0.8 s 9.94	<b>114/289</b> 2.6 s 9.82
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2.5 s

114

<b>113/278</b> 0.24 ms 11.60
<b>112/277</b> 0.69 ms 11.45

0.7 ms

112

<b>112/284</b> 0.1 s 11.15	<b>112/285</b> 29 s 9.15
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0.5 min

110

<b>110/281</b> 11.1 s
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11s

184

**2000**

neutron number

160 162 164 166 168 170 172

174 176 178

Z/A

$T_{1/2}$

$E_a$  (MeV)

$\alpha$

EC

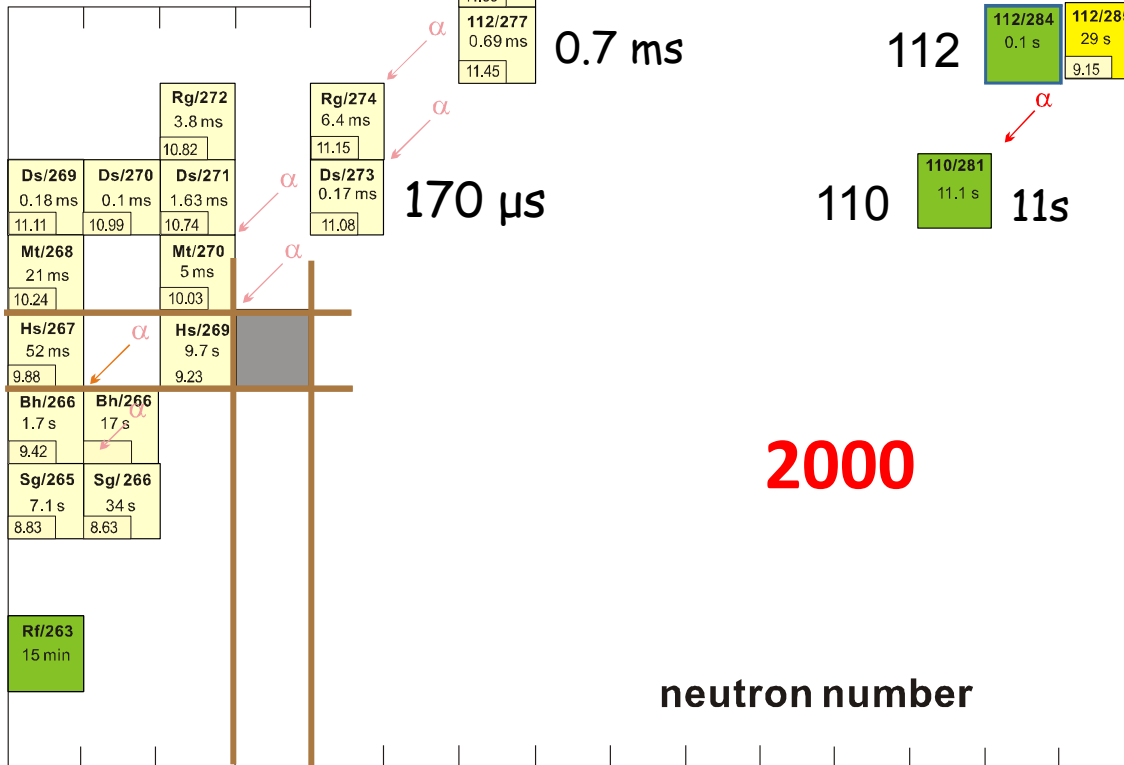
SF

110

108

106

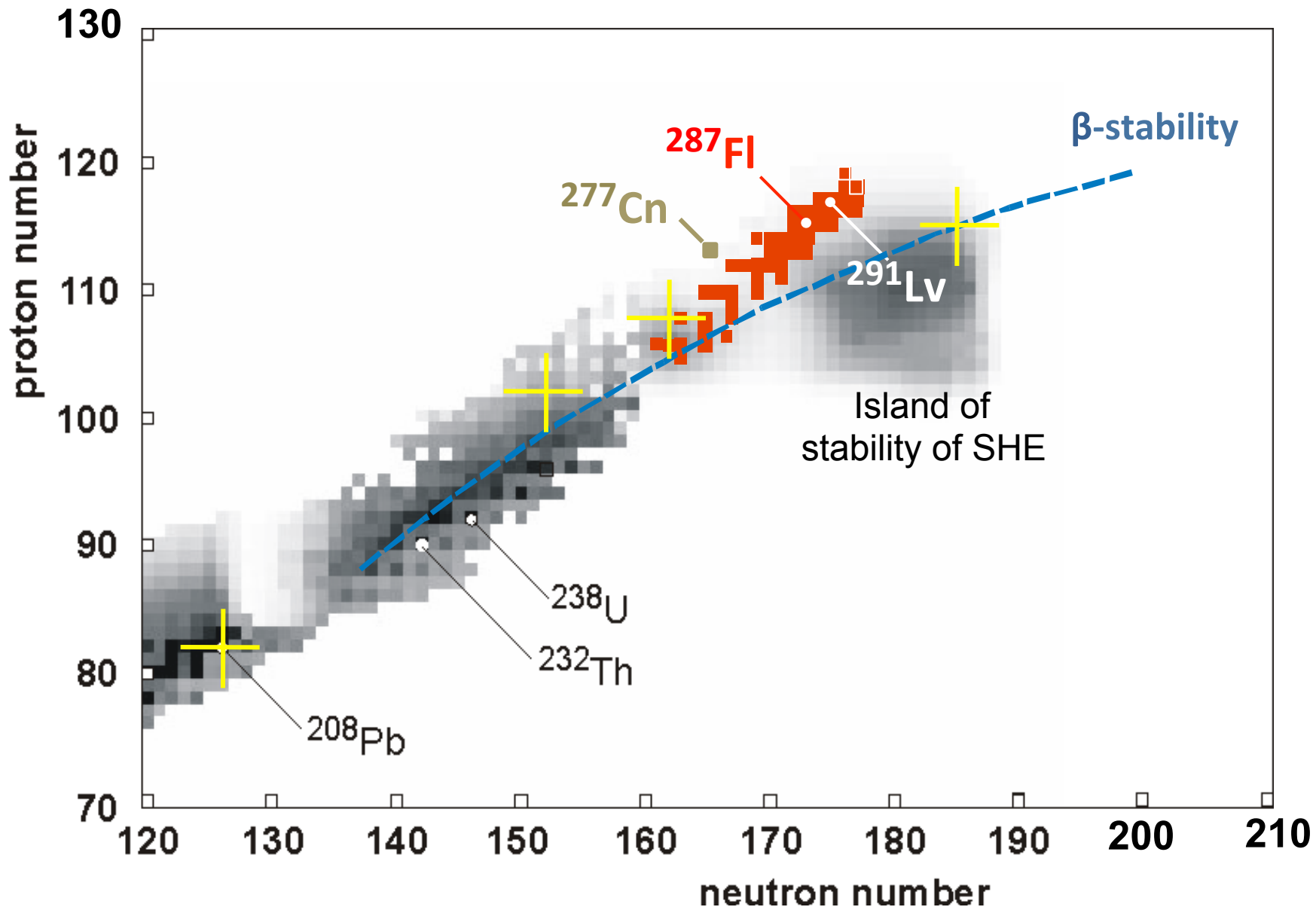
104



# Confirmations

2007-2010

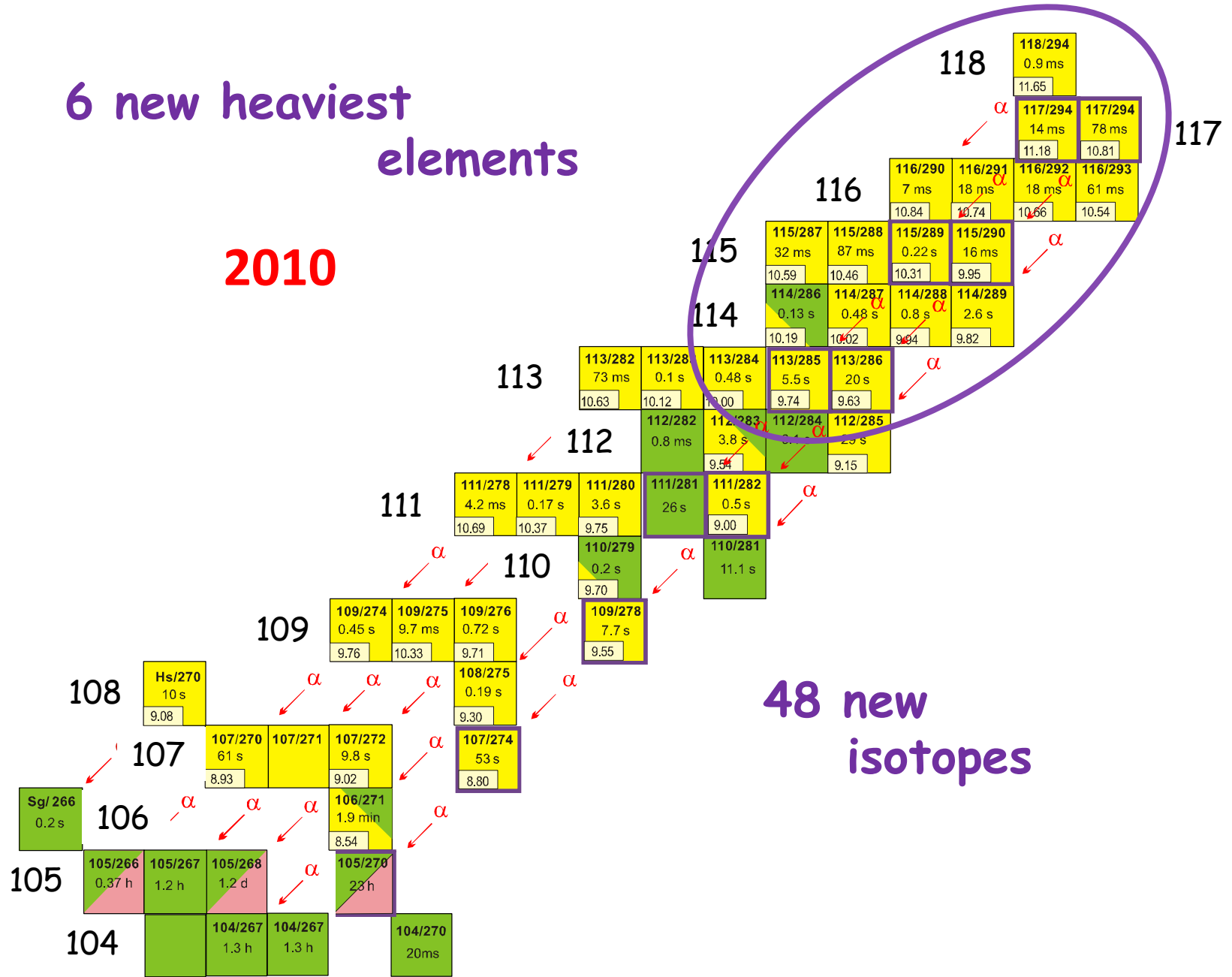
A/Z	Setup	Laboratory	Publications
$^{283}_{112}$	SHIP	GSI Darmstadt	Eur. Phys. J. A32, 251 (2007)
$^{283}_{112}$	COLD	PSI-FLNR (JINR)	NATURE 447, 72 (2007)
$^{286, 287}_{114}$	BGS	LRNL (Berkeley)	P.R. Lett. 103, 132502 (2009)
$^{288, 289}_{114}$	TASCA	GSI – Mainz	P.R. Lett. 104, 252701 (2010)
$^{292, 293}_{116}$	SHIP	GSI Darmstadt	Eur. Phys. J. A48, 62 (2012)



Yuri Oganessian. "Synthesis of SH-nuclei" FUSHE 2012, May14, 2012, Weilrod, Germany

# 6 new heaviest elements

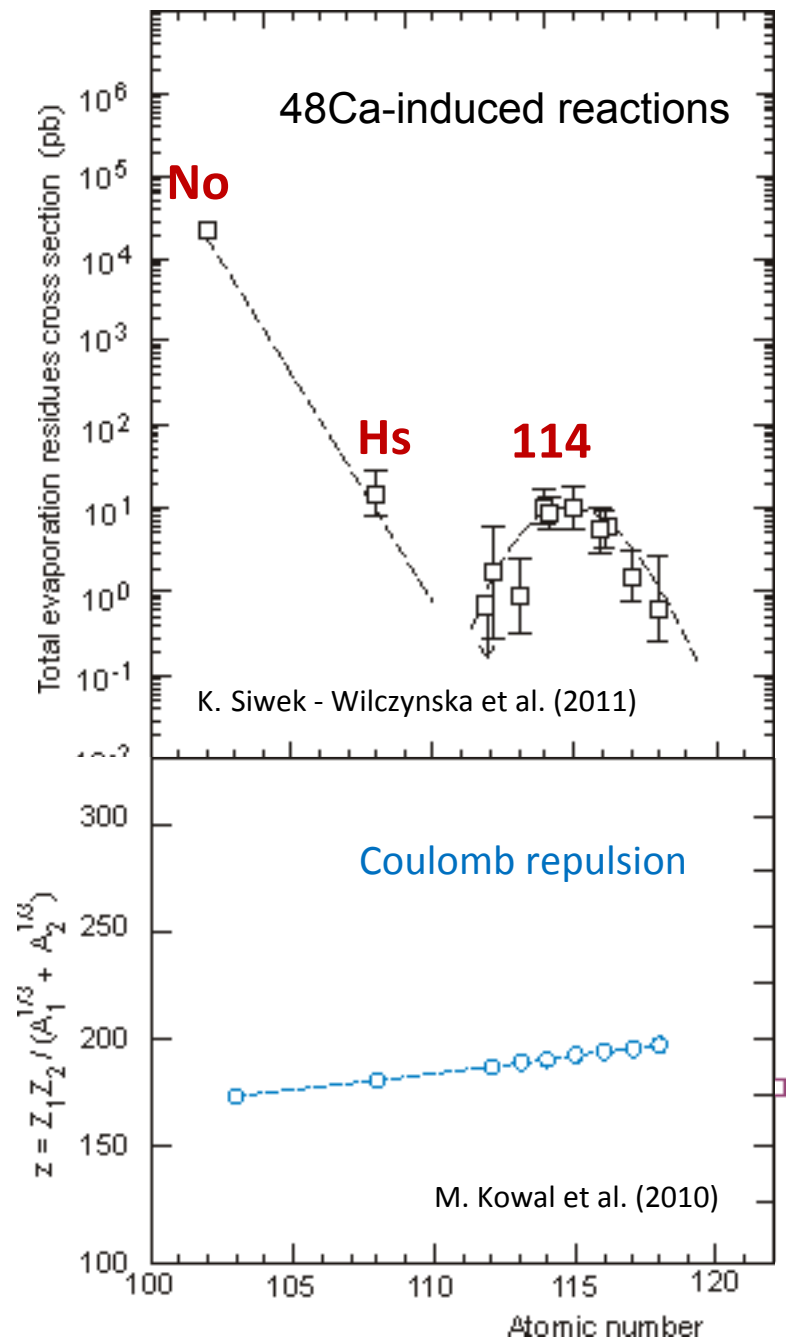
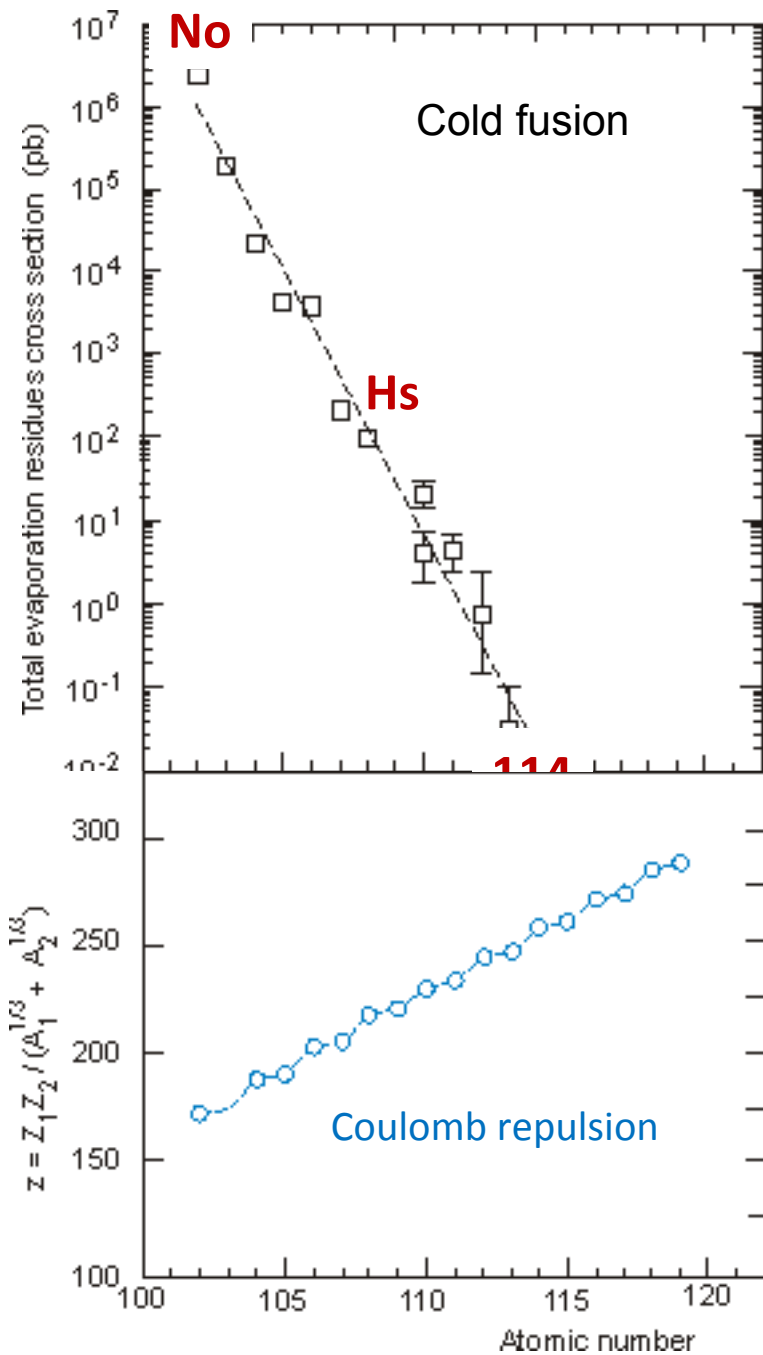
2010



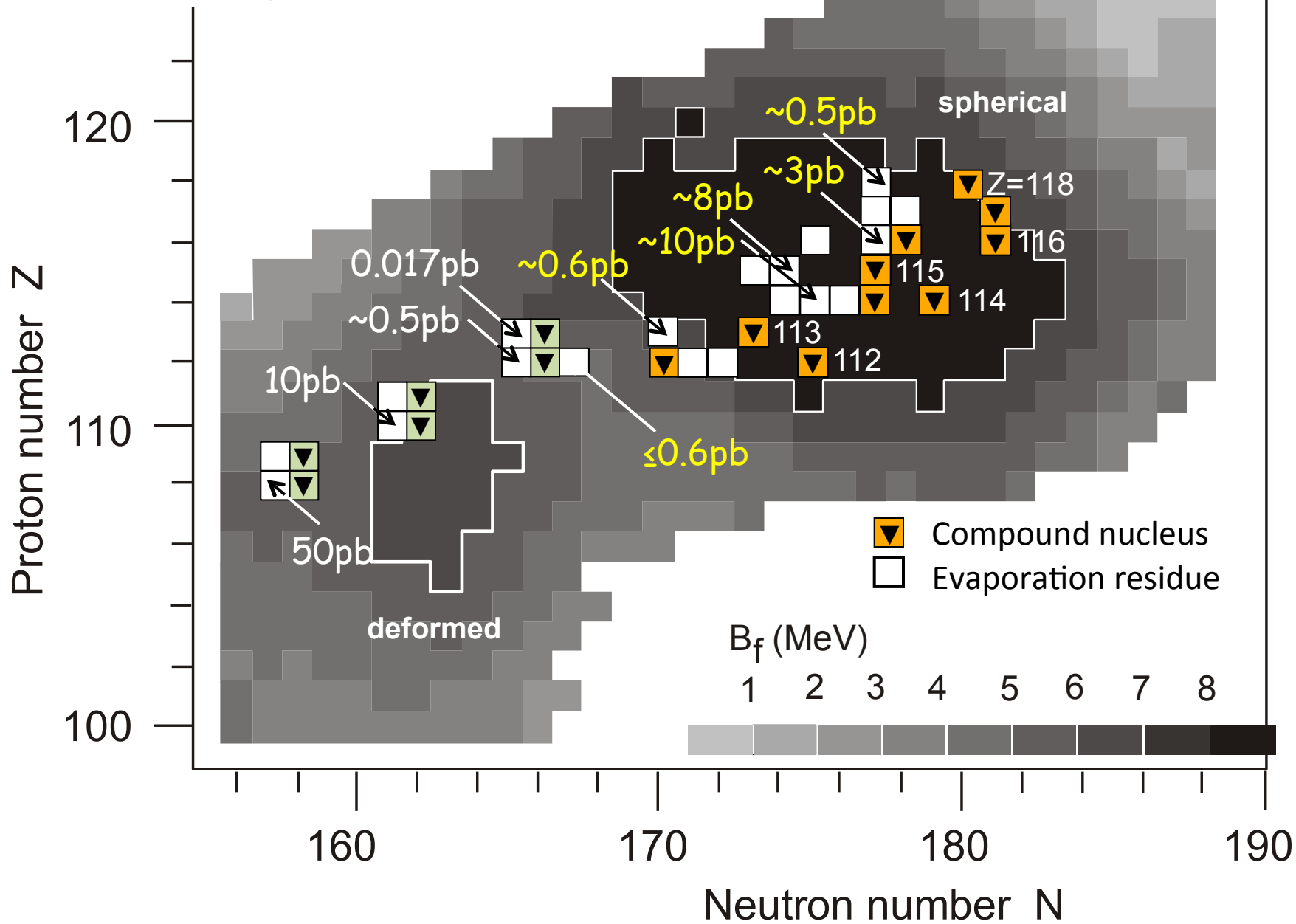
48 new isotopes

# Reactions of synthesis

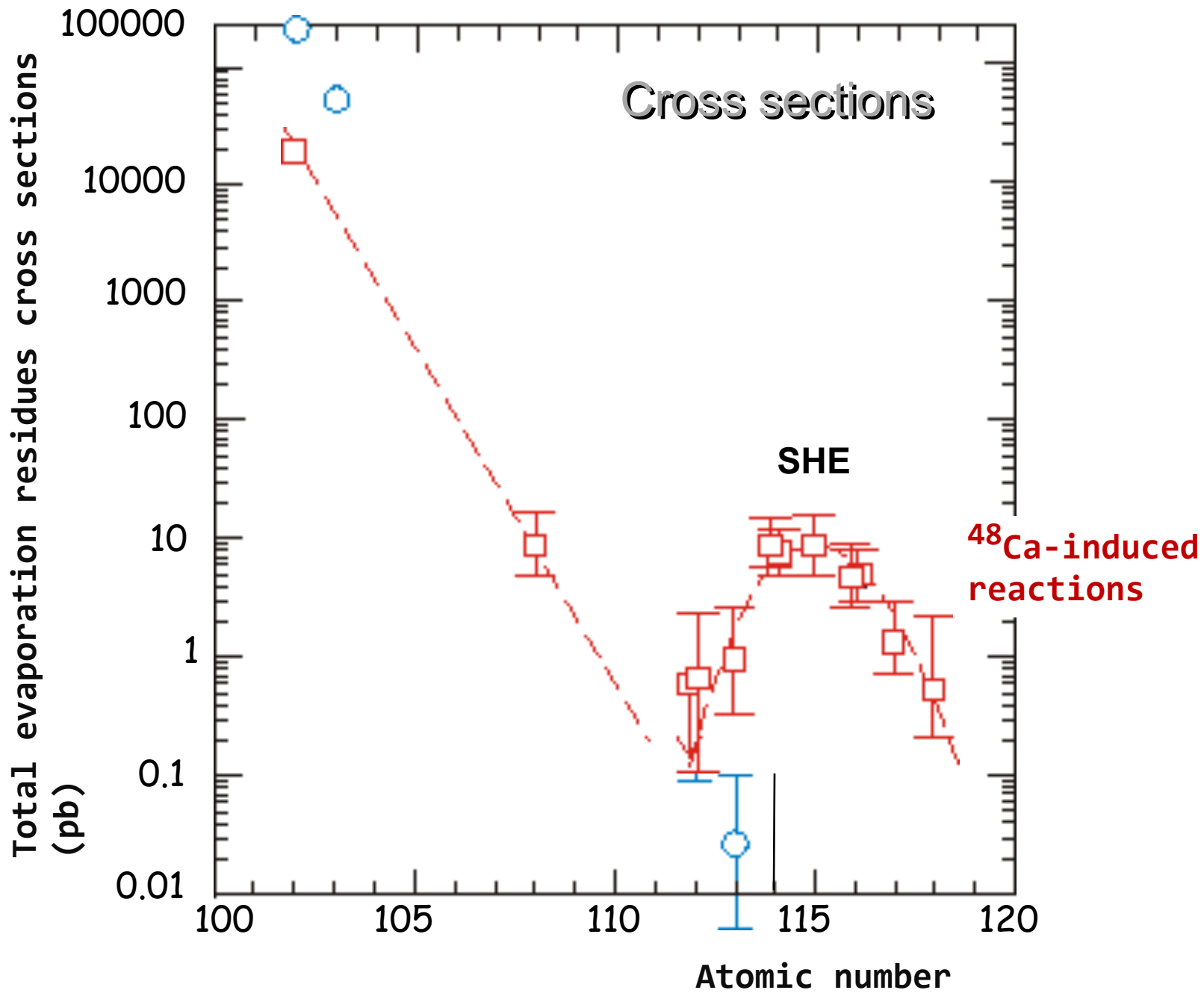
cold & hot fusion





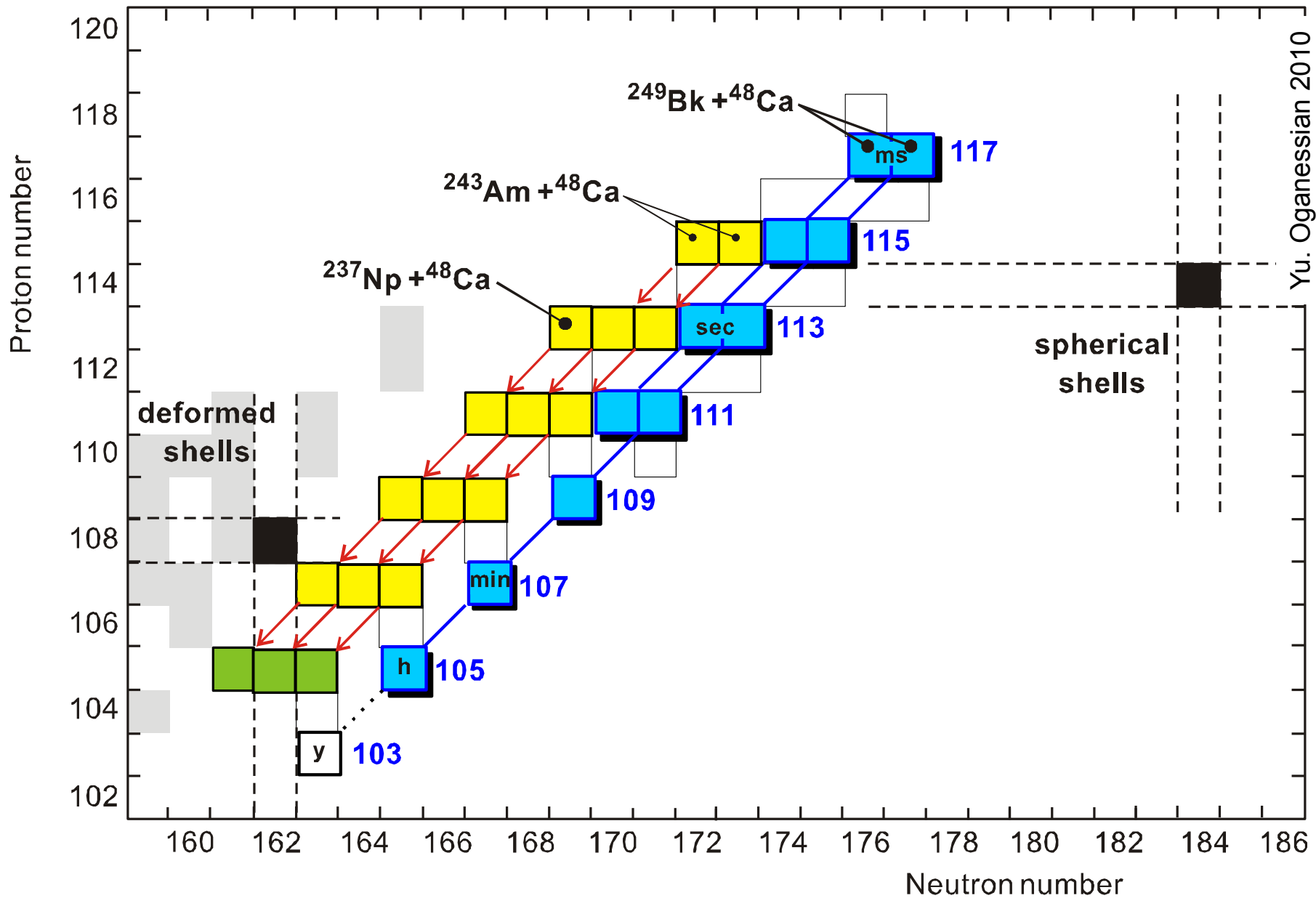


Yu. Oganessian 2011



## Current experiments 2012-2013

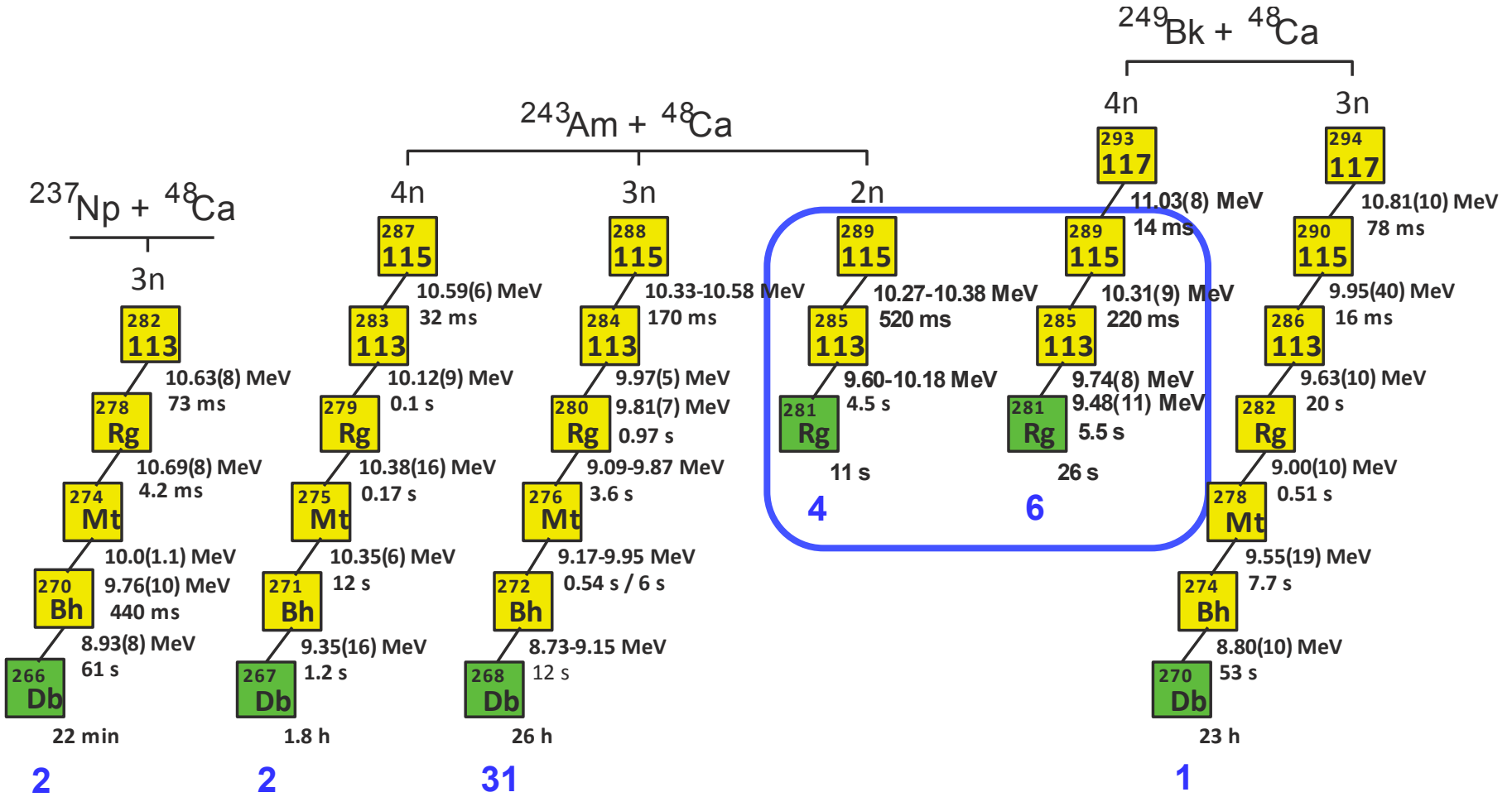
$Z = 113, 115$  and  $117$



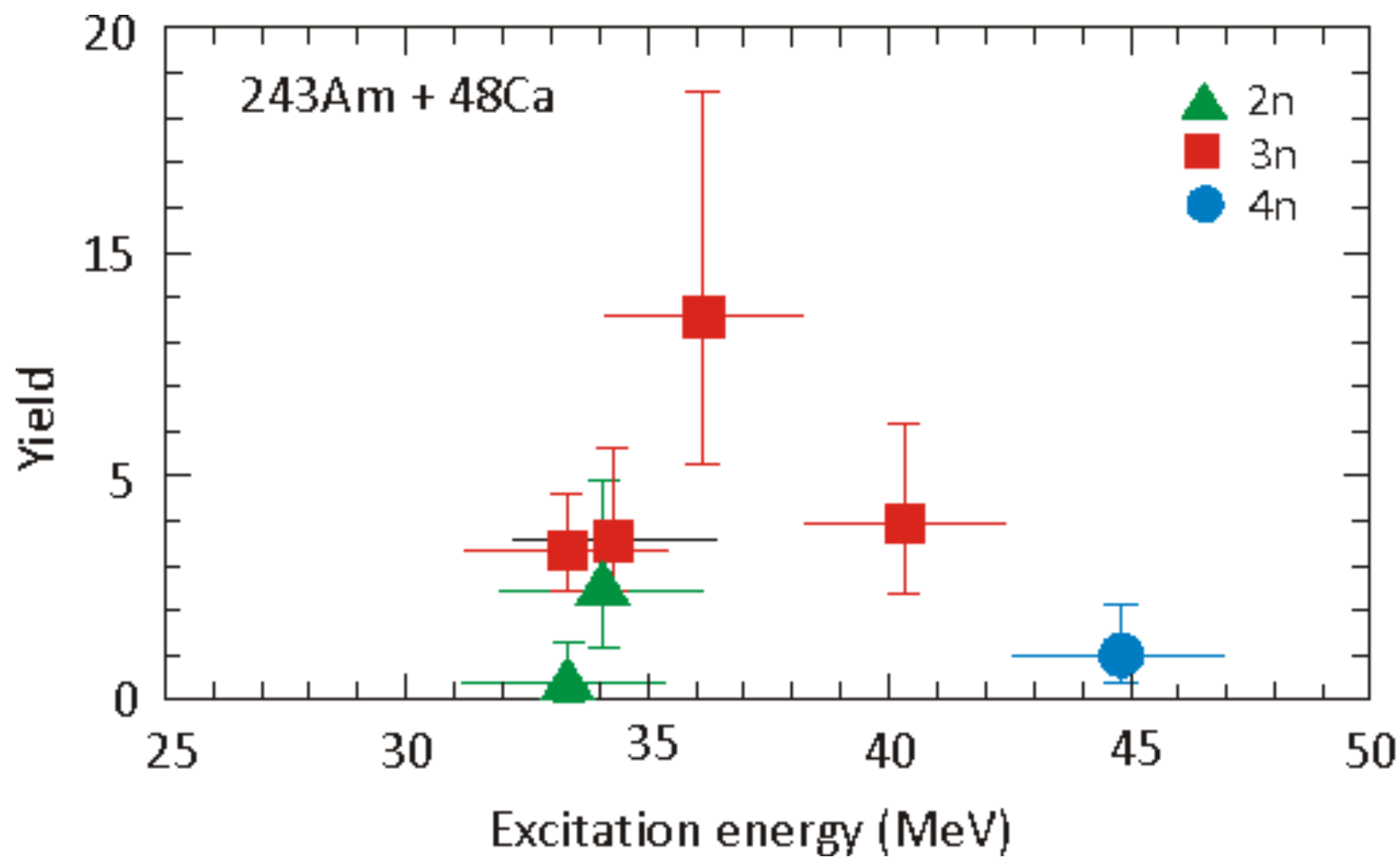
Yu. Oganessian 2010

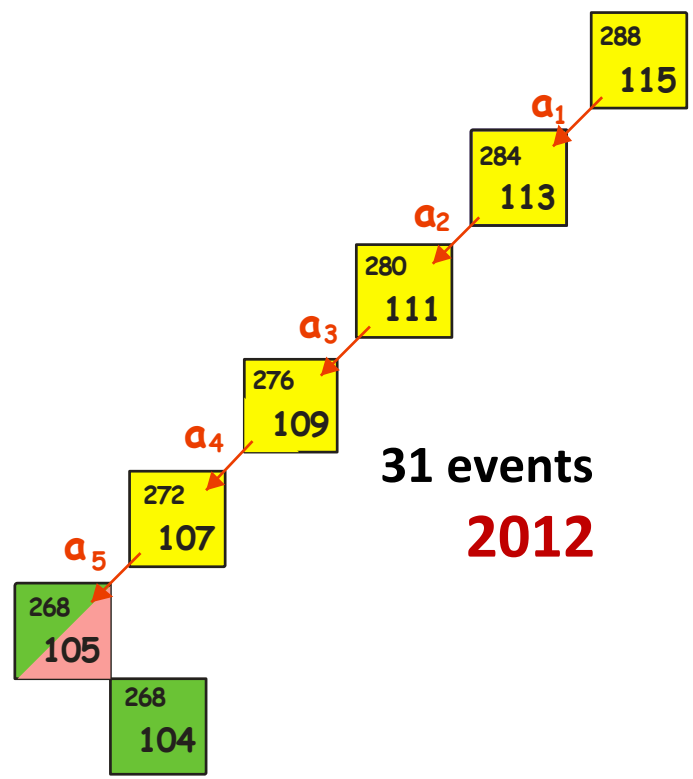
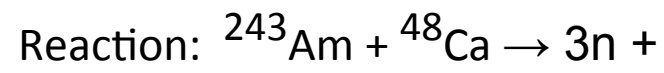
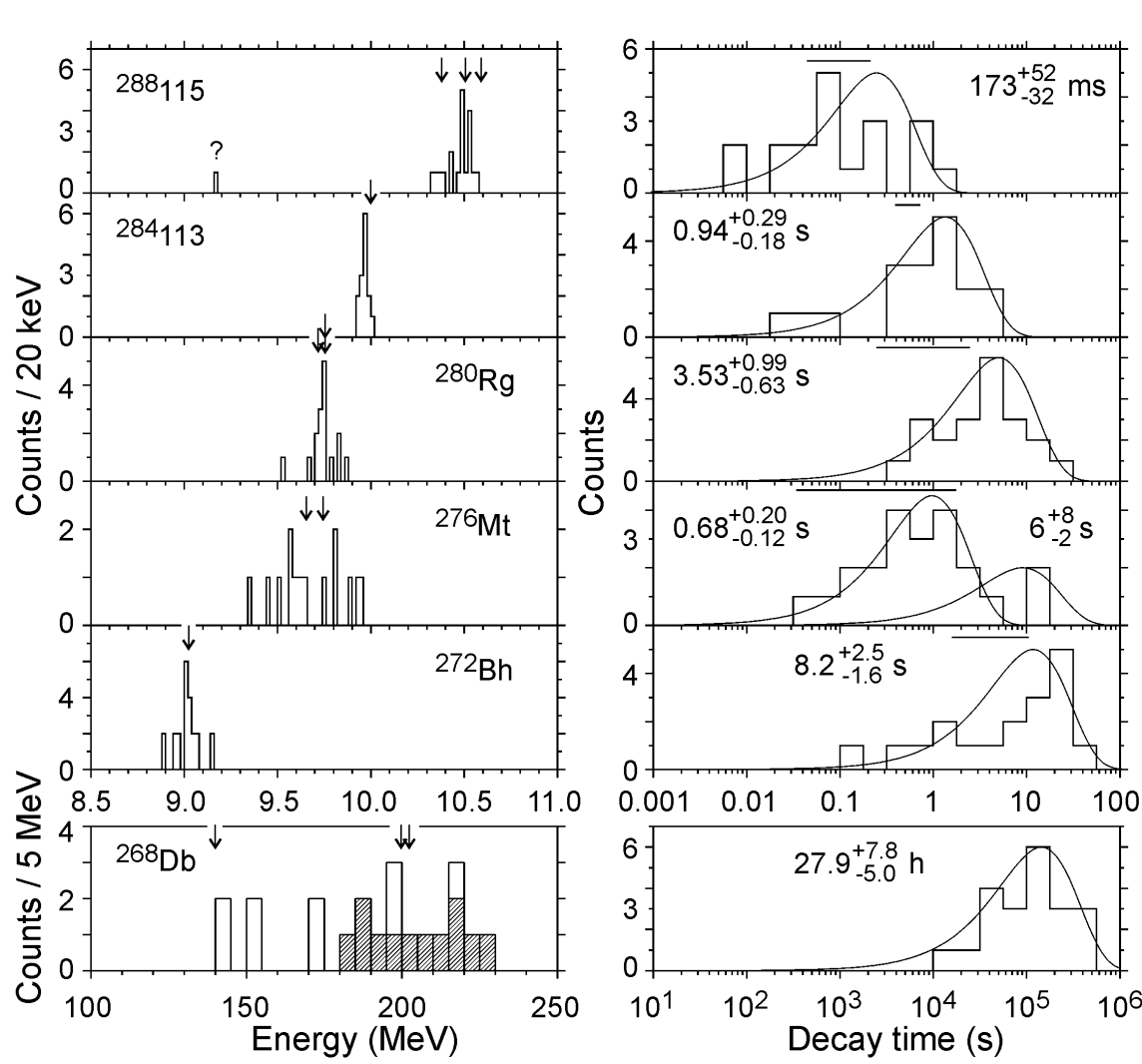
Yu. Oganessian. Synthesis of Element 117. April 14, 2010, Dubna

# odd Z nuclei

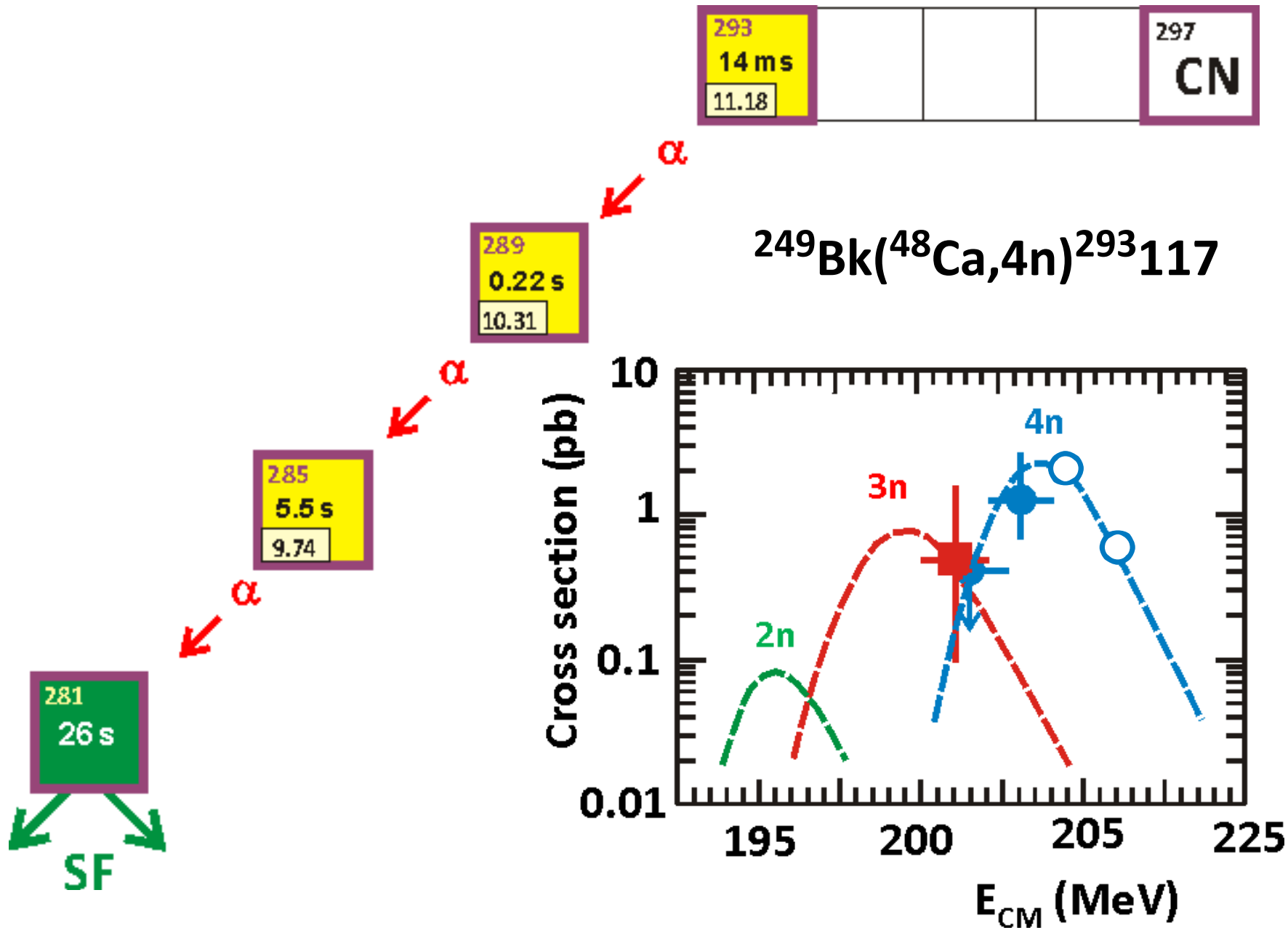


number of the detected chains





Yuri Oganessian. "Synthesis of SH-nuclei" FUSHE 2012, May14, 2012, Weilrod, Germany





$^{249}\text{Bk}$ -target

second round



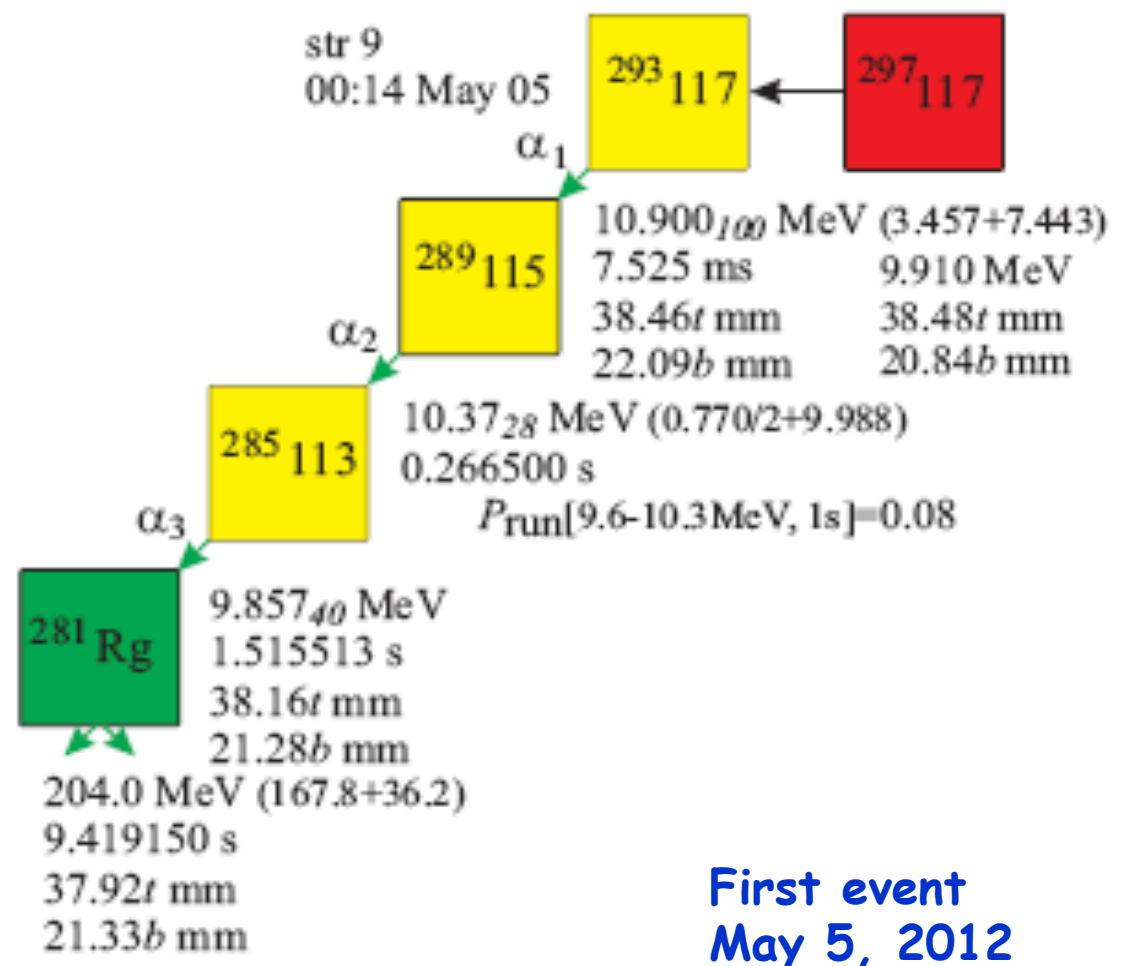
In solution

Berkelium -249 at hot cell

Feb. 5, 2012 ORNL, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, USA

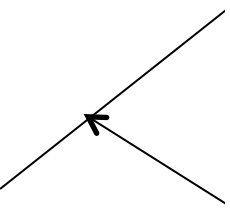
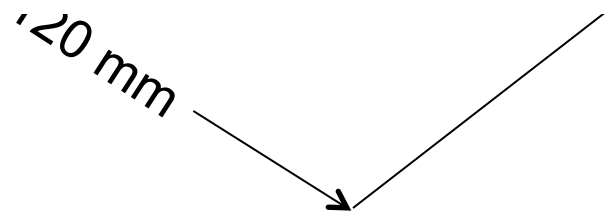
T

$\omega = 1700$

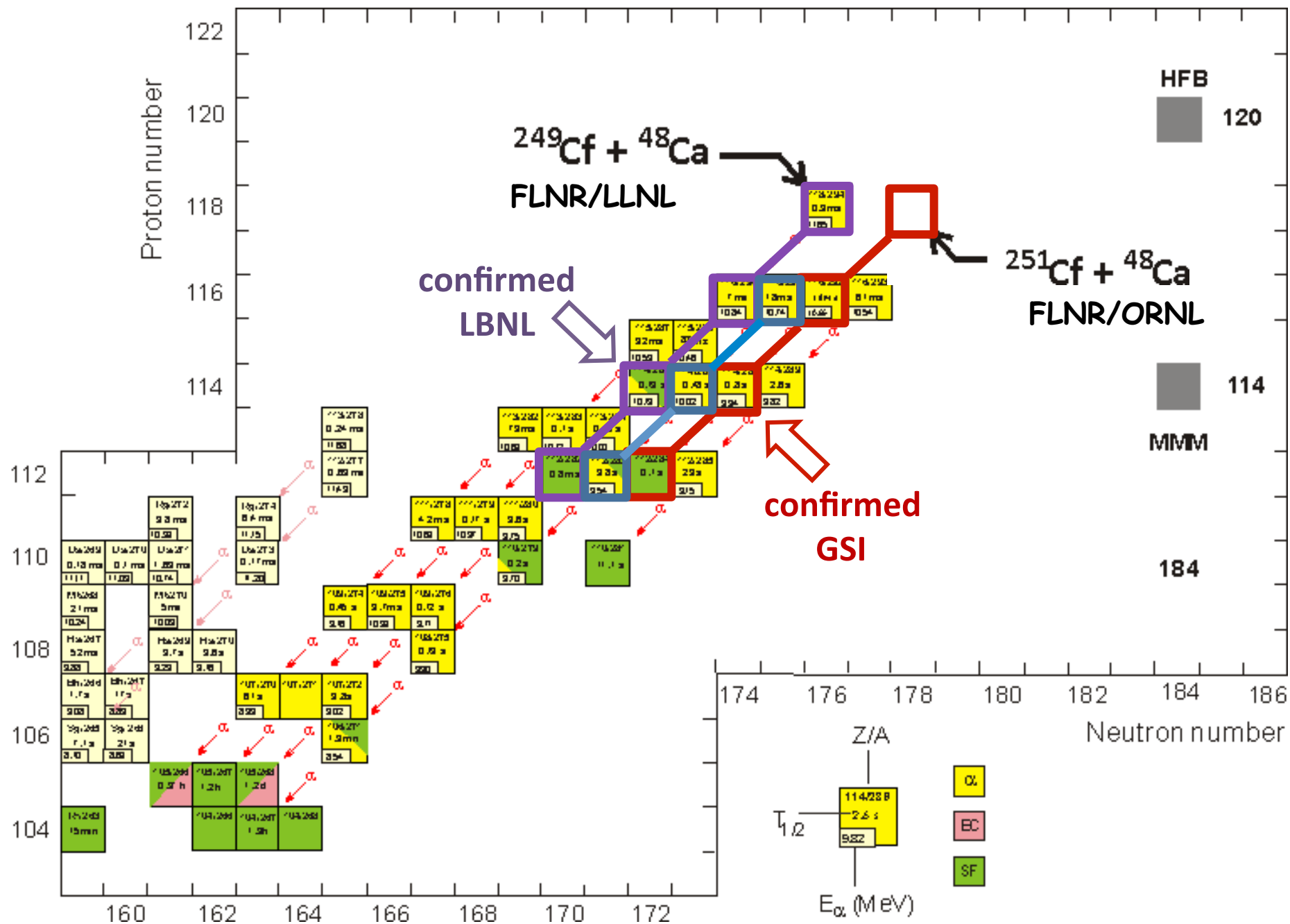


First event  
May 5, 2012

target-making  
April 20, 2012



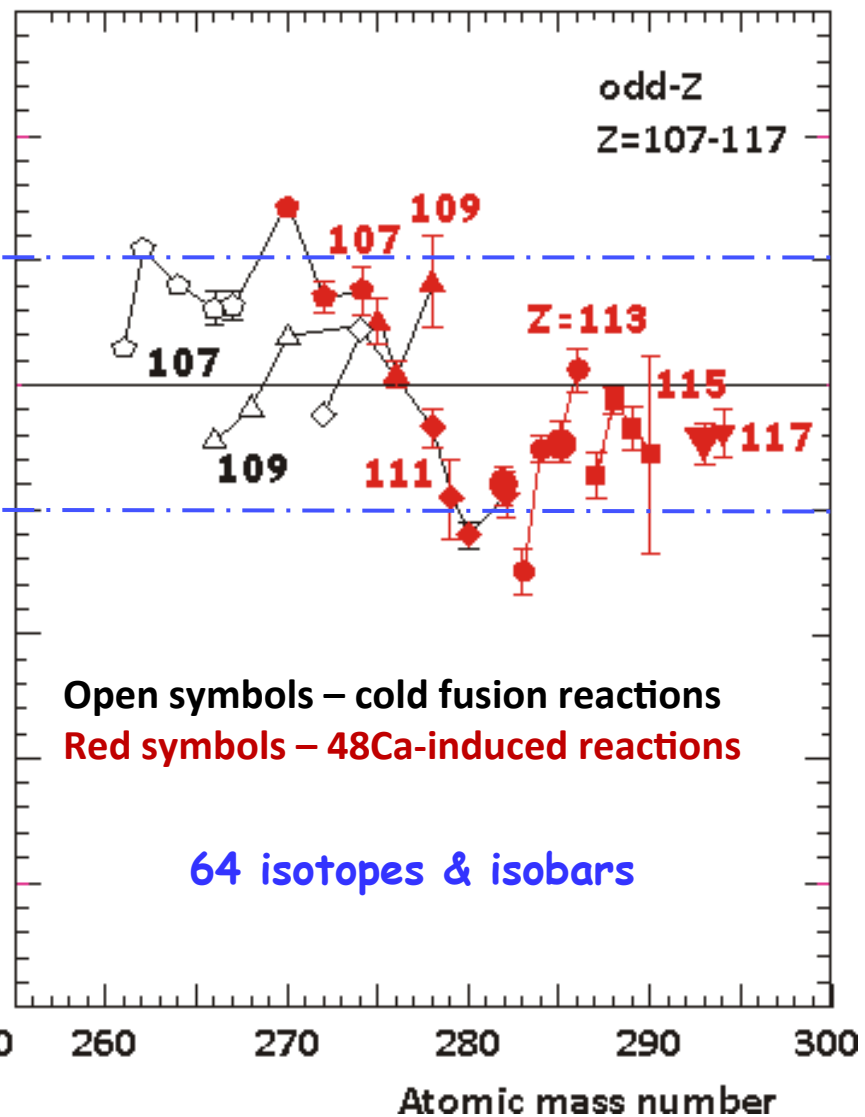
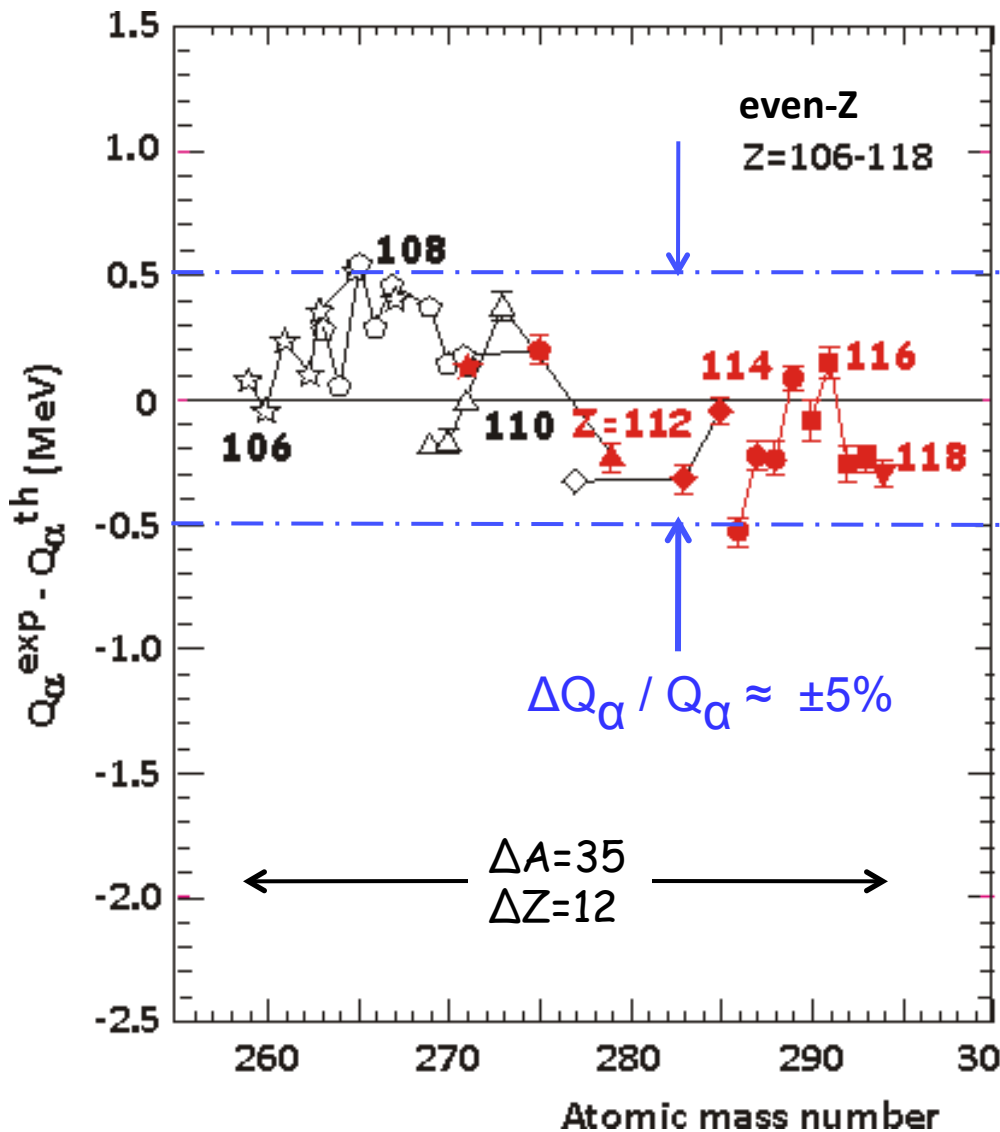
$$Z = 118$$

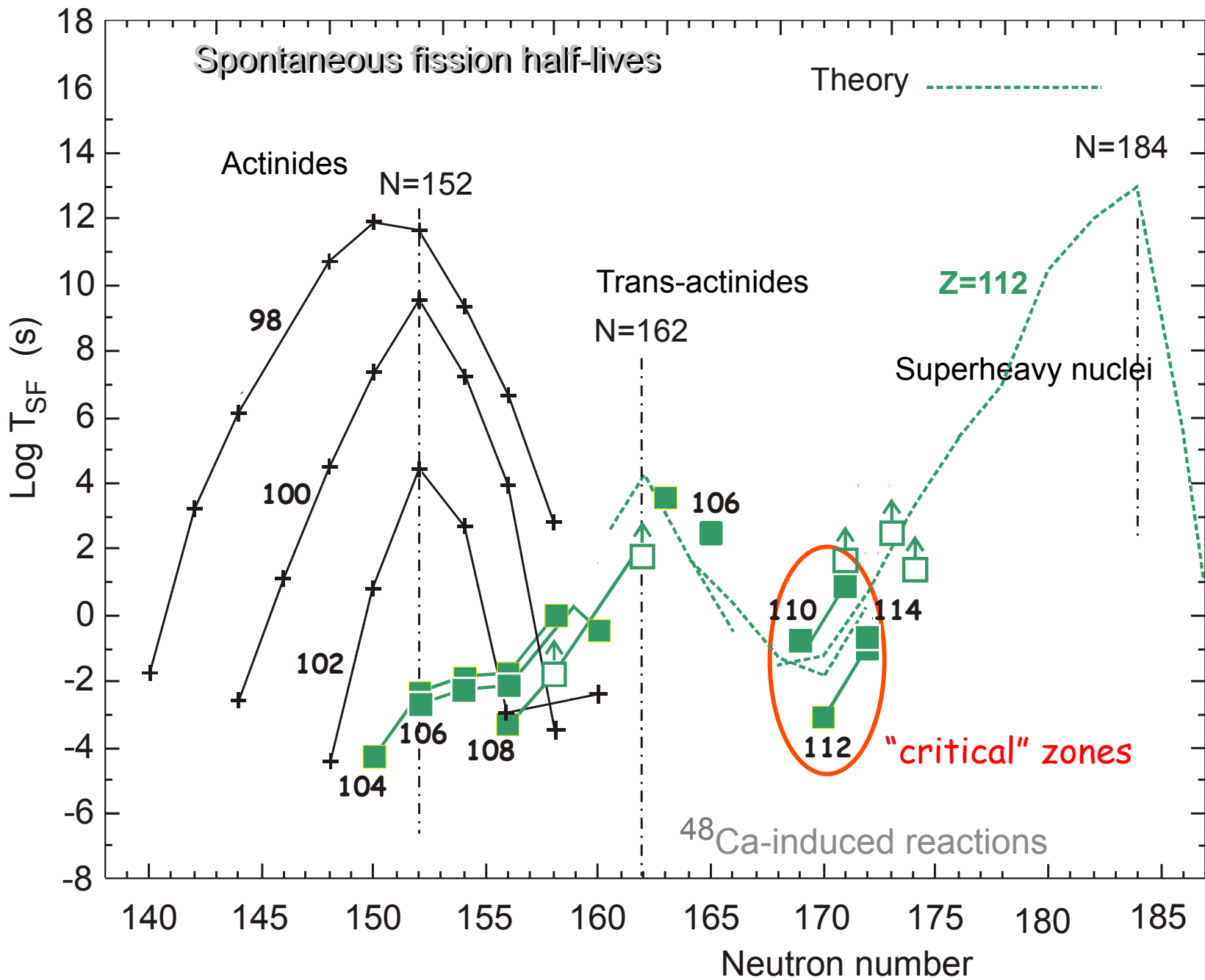


# Decay properties of SH-nuclei

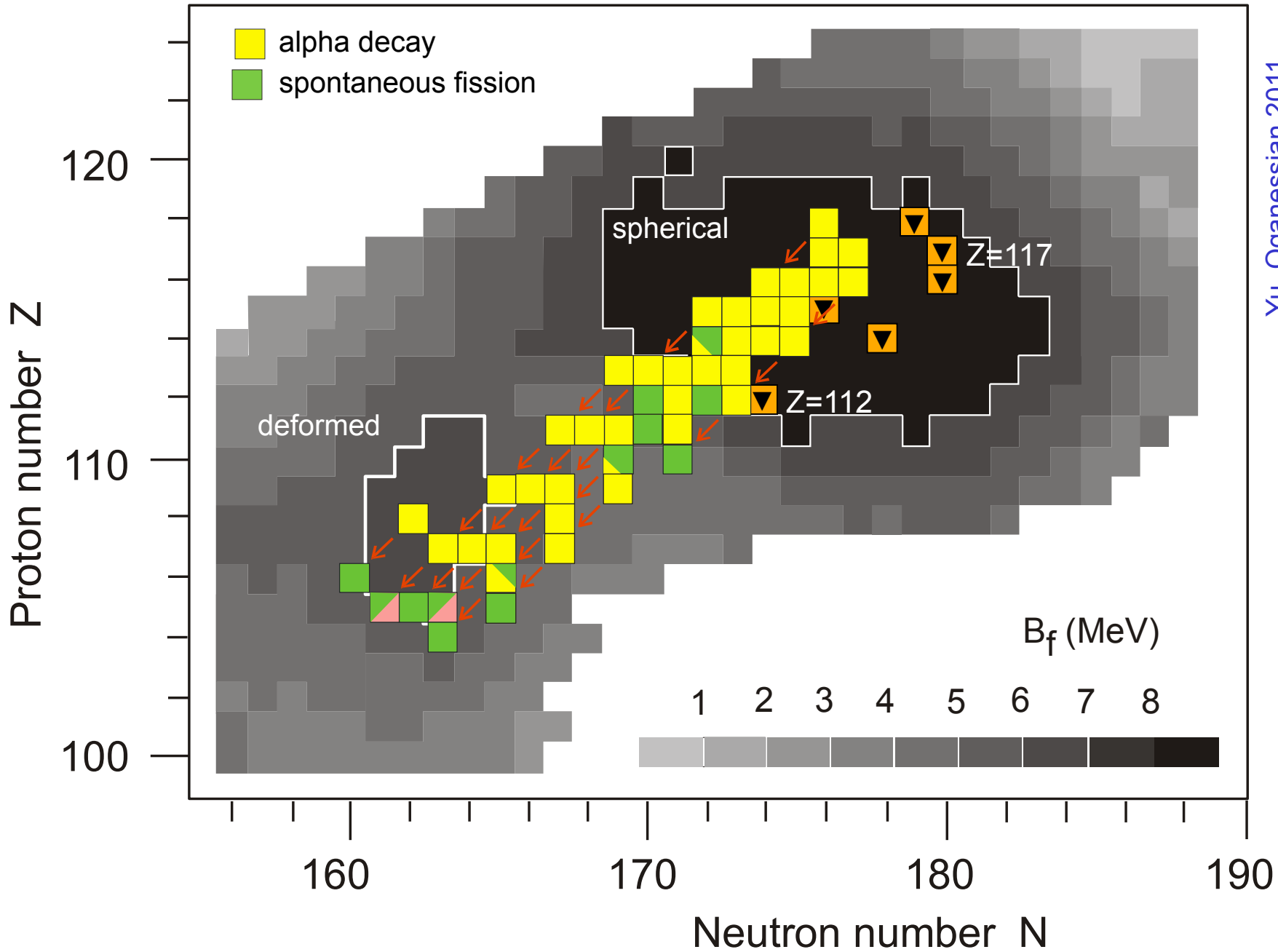
# Alpha decay energy of the heaviest nuclei

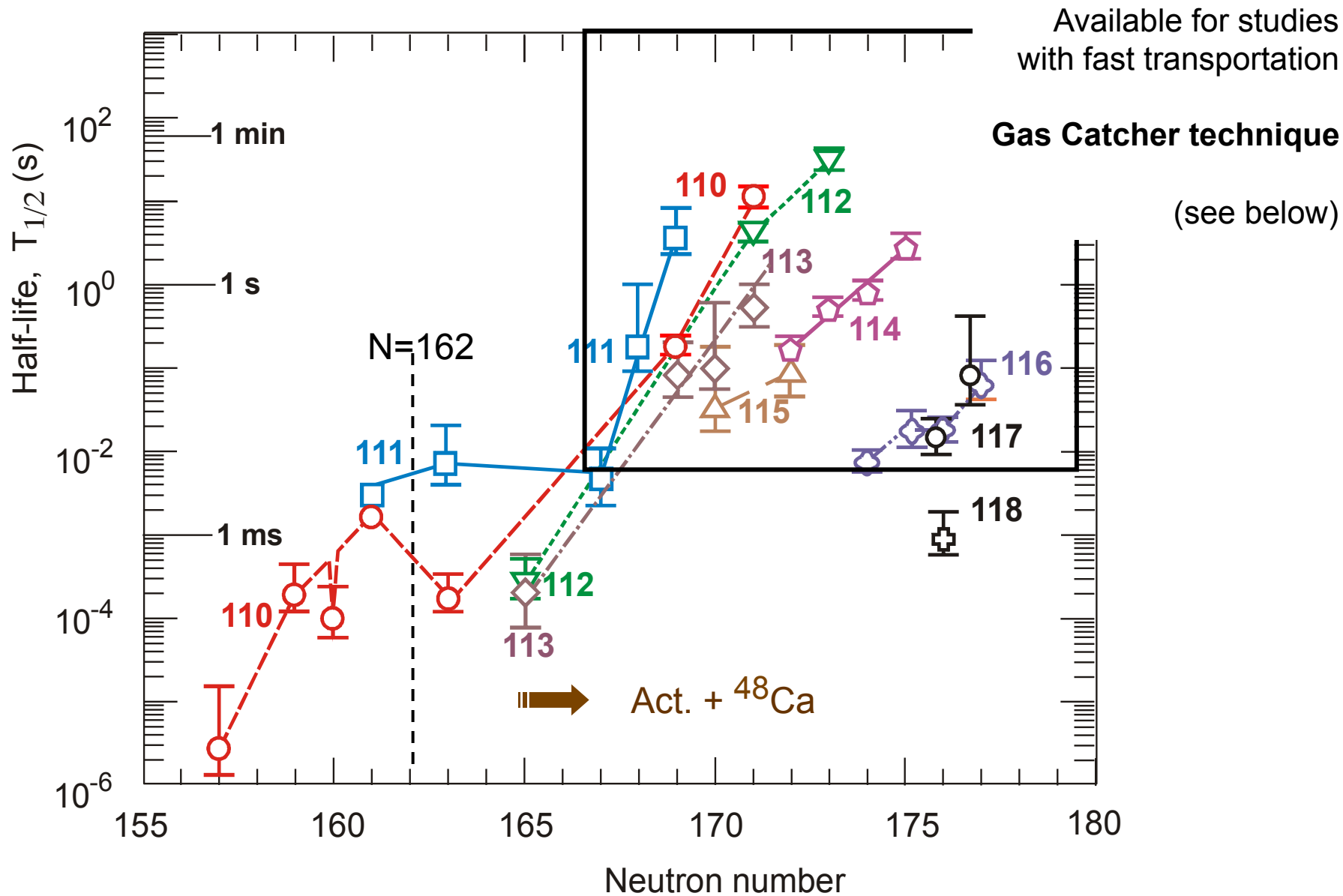
## Theory and experiment





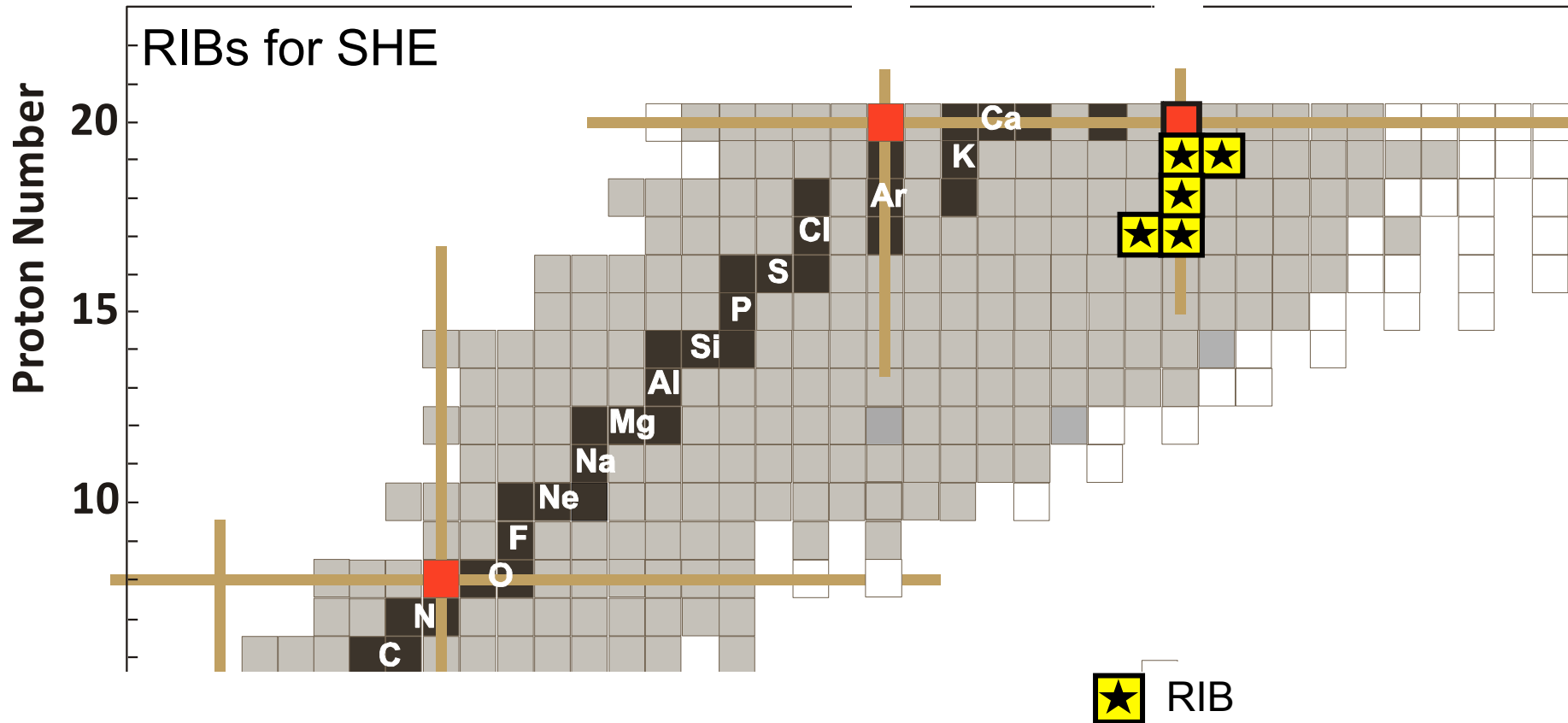






Towards closed shell N=184

Synthesis SHE with RIB



Realistic RIB intensities for the synthesis of SHE could be obtained for the isotopes close to  $^{48}\text{Ca}$  produced in simplest reaction - like stripping, nucleon transfer, knock-out, charge exchange etc.

an example:

One proton stripping  
reaction:

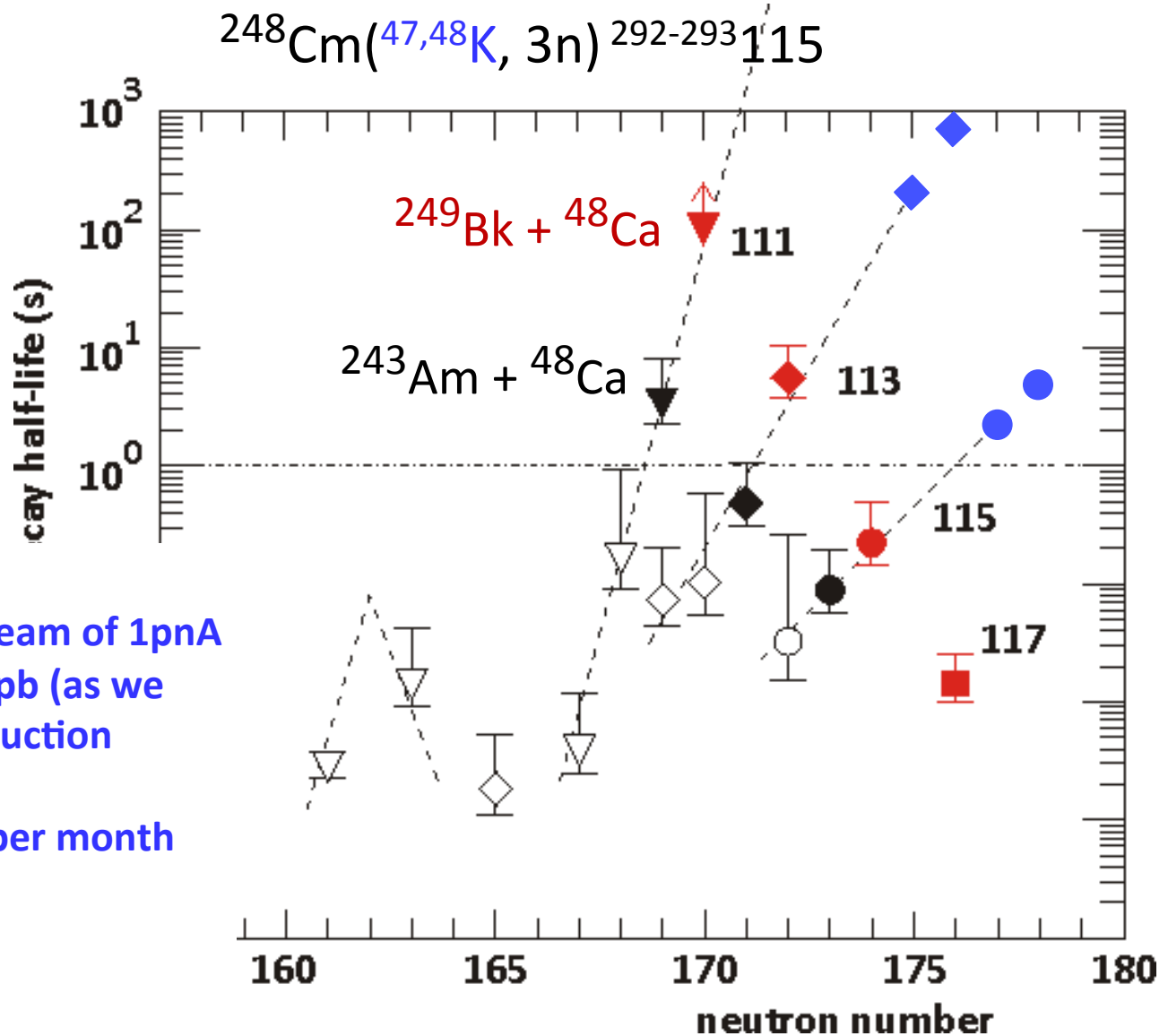


or

Charge exchange  
reaction:



At the intensity of  $^{47-48}\text{K}$ -beam of 1pnA  
and 3n-cross section of 10 pb (as we  
have today) expected production  
rate of  $^{292-293}\text{115}$  nuclei  
is about 1 per month



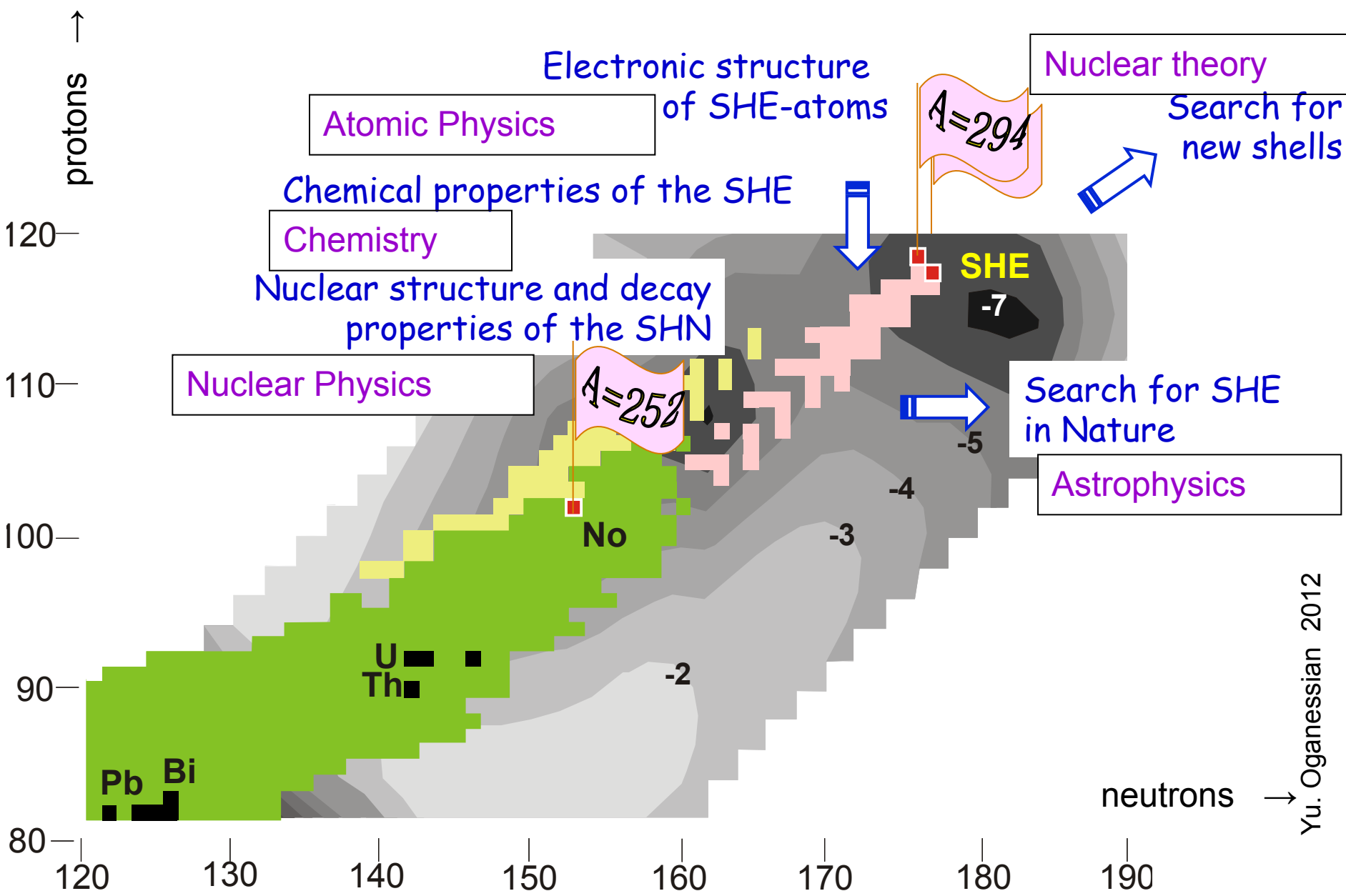
With  $Z > 40\%$  larger than that of Bi, the heaviest stable element, we see an impressive extension in nuclear survival.

Although SHN are at the limits of Coulomb stability,

- shell stabilization lowers ground-state energy,
- creates a fission barrier,
- and thereby enables SHN to exist.

The fundamentals of the modern theory  
for mass limits of nuclear matter  
were given experimental verification.

# Consequences



Yu. Oganessian 2012

Yuri Oganessian. "Synthesis of SH-nuclei" FUSHE 2012, May14, 2012, Weilrod, Germany



I would like to stop here and make a short conclusion:

- we have received an evidence  
that superheavy elements exist
- moreover we know how to produce them
- we know also roughly their decay properties

All this allows us to consider different approaches to study the detailed properties of SHE

However, we produce them in very small quantities, much less than could be reached with modern experimental technique

So I shall talk more about these opportunities and on our plans for the near and distant future.

# Production

today:  $4.5 \cdot 10^{19}$

with factory:  $1.3 \cdot 10^{21}$

**factor: 30**

Increase a beam dose

it requires to Increase:

**beam intensity**

and

**beam time**



**New accelerator**

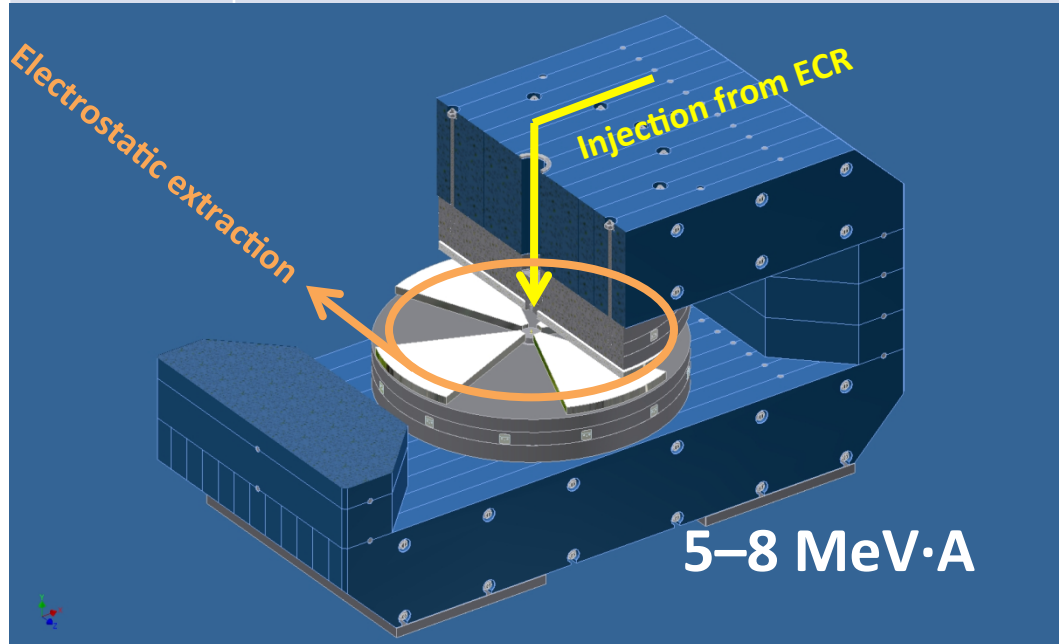
**SHE-Factory**



**~ 7000 h/year**



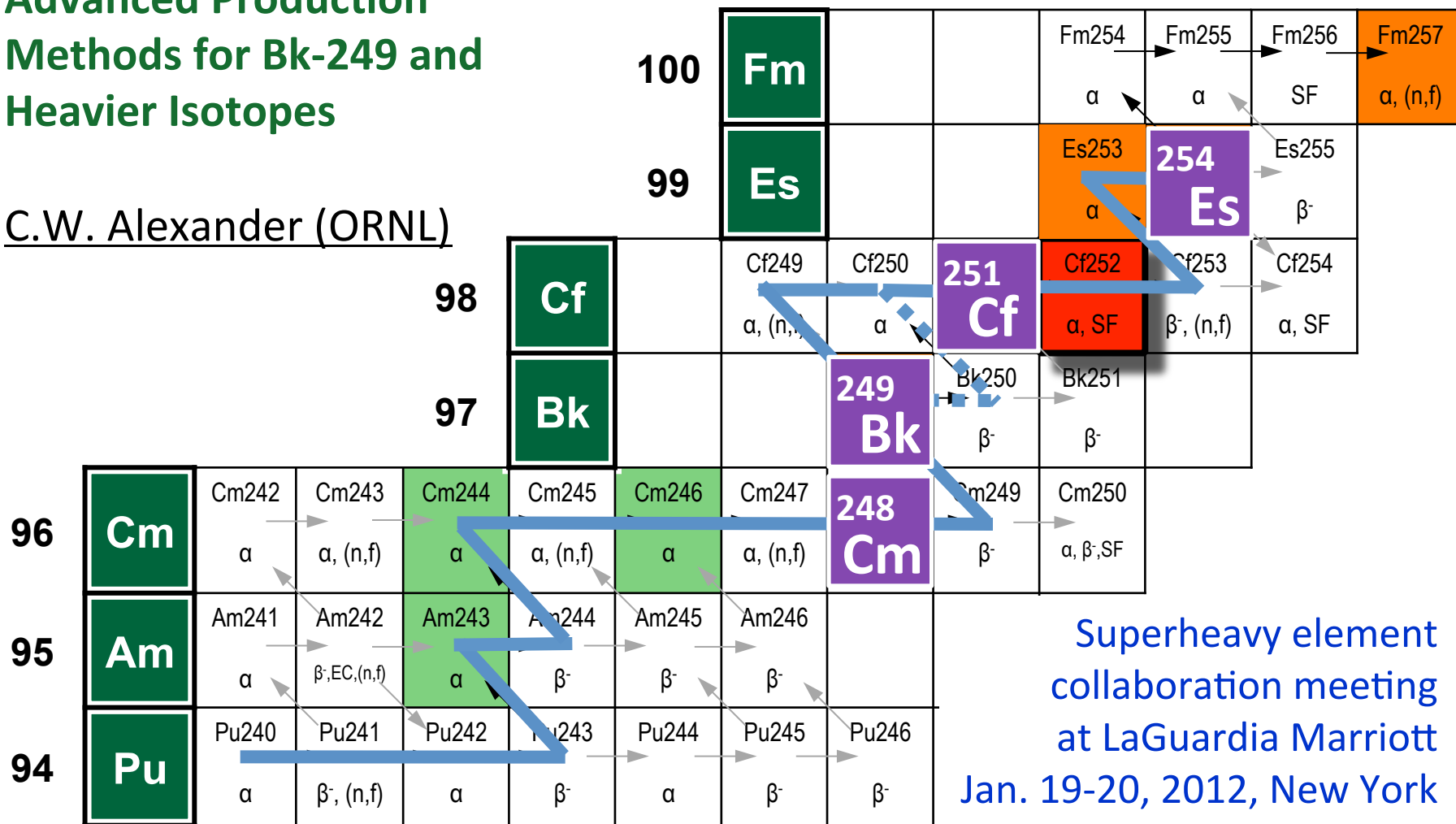
**new laboratory**



# Transuranium Nuclide Production Paths

## Advanced Production Methods for Bk-249 and Heavier Isotopes

C.W. Alexander (ORNL)



## Bk-249 Production

- Routinely produced from a mix of Cm isotopes (**Cm-244 to Cm-248**) but production rate can be increased by irradiating a **Cm-248 target**
- **Thermal neutron filtering** may lead to large and more efficient Bk-249 production gains
- With a perfect Cd cutoff of the thermal neutron flux and target material consisting of **1.0 g of Cm-248** (97%) and a HFIR cycle time of 23 days:
  - **Seven HFIR cycles yields: 82.8 mg Bk-249**

Along with the Bk-249 production the isotope **Cf-251: 8.77 mg** is also produced.

# Enrichment of Cf-251 from the “old Cf-252 sources” using an electromagnetic separator at ORNL

Yu. Oganessian (FLNR) / J. Roberto (ORNL)



**A new 10 mA Stable Electromagnetic Isotope Separator is operational at ORNL**

Presented by [Brian J. Egle](#)  
Super heavy element  
collaboration meeting  
at LaGuardia Marriott  
Jan. 19-20, 2012, New York

Prototype for a stable isotope  
enrichment facility comprised  
of multiple 100 mA devices



**Kr separation, December 16, 2011**

# EMIS Design Parameters

**\$10.5 M**  
**2014 - 2015**

Parameter	Stable (current)	Actinide (goal)
Mass Range	20 to 208 amu	50 to 260 amu
Gas Efficiency	up to 10%	20 to 30%
Filament lifetime	20 to 40 hrs	> 100 hrs
Resolution	~500	~750
Feed rate [mg/hr]		5 mg/hr <sup>all</sup> Cf
Collector [mA]	10 mA	0.5 to 1 mA or greater
<sup>251</sup> Cf separation		<b>1 mg/h</b>

## Es-254 Production

- LEAP was based on a complex series of unfiltered and filtered irradiations of **1.0 g of Cf-252**
- Predicted yields of Es-254, at reactor discharge, were 80 micrograms
- As a result, the useable yield was estimated to be **40 µg of Es-254** (Es-253 has gone through over 10 half-lives)

**Element 119 could be produced with projectile  
heavier than Ca-48!**



## Identification

- Decay into known daughters
- X-ray technique
- Collinear laser spectroscopy
- Mass measurement\*
- Precise mass measurement (isotope / isobar separation)
- Chemistry

etc.

## But for the specific CN-reaction:

- Excitation energies of the SH-compound nuclei are 35-50 MeV only,
- Maximum cross section of EVR's is reached close to the Coulomb barrier
- Cooling process takes place by emission of 3-5 neutrons
- Evaporation of charged particle (p,  $\alpha$ , ..) is strongly suppressed ...

**The mass measurement of the recoiling nuclei or its daughters seems to be essential and sufficient for the identification of the new isotopes.**

# Gas catcher for SHE

Transmission for:

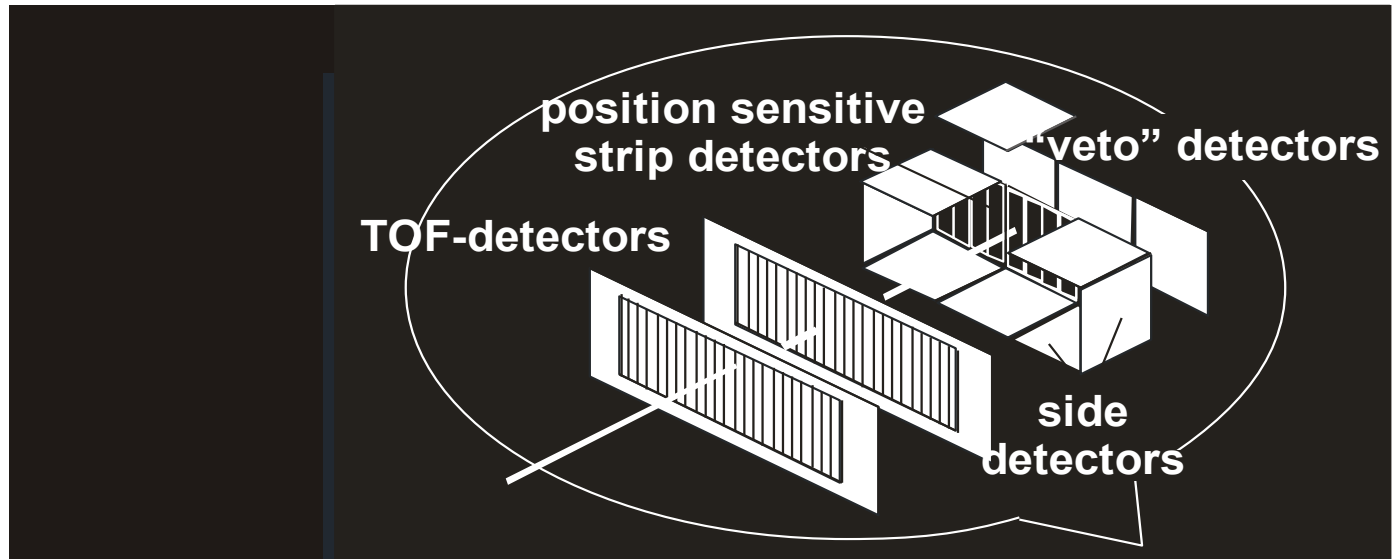
EVR 35-40%

target-like

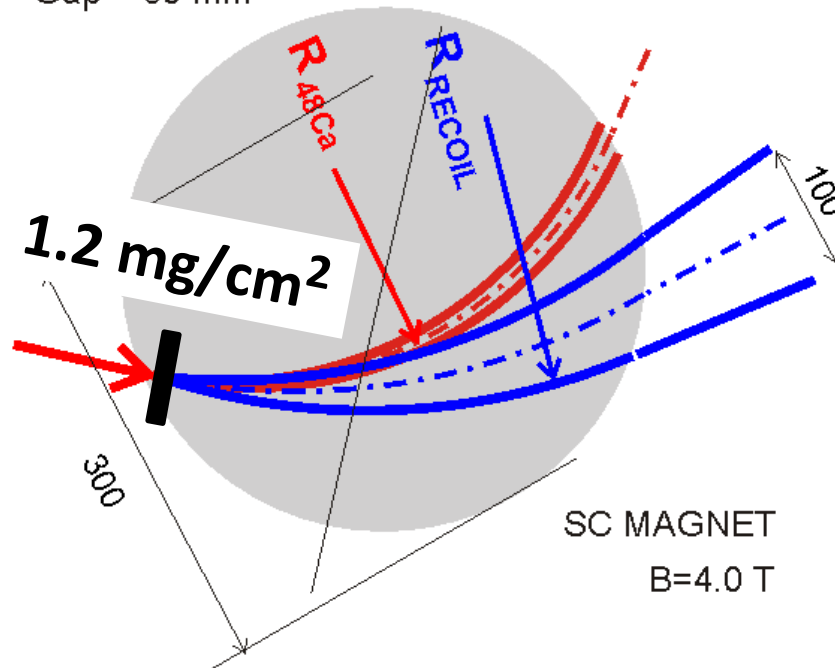
$10^{-7}$  (1)

beam-like

$10^{-17}$  ( $10^{-7}$ )



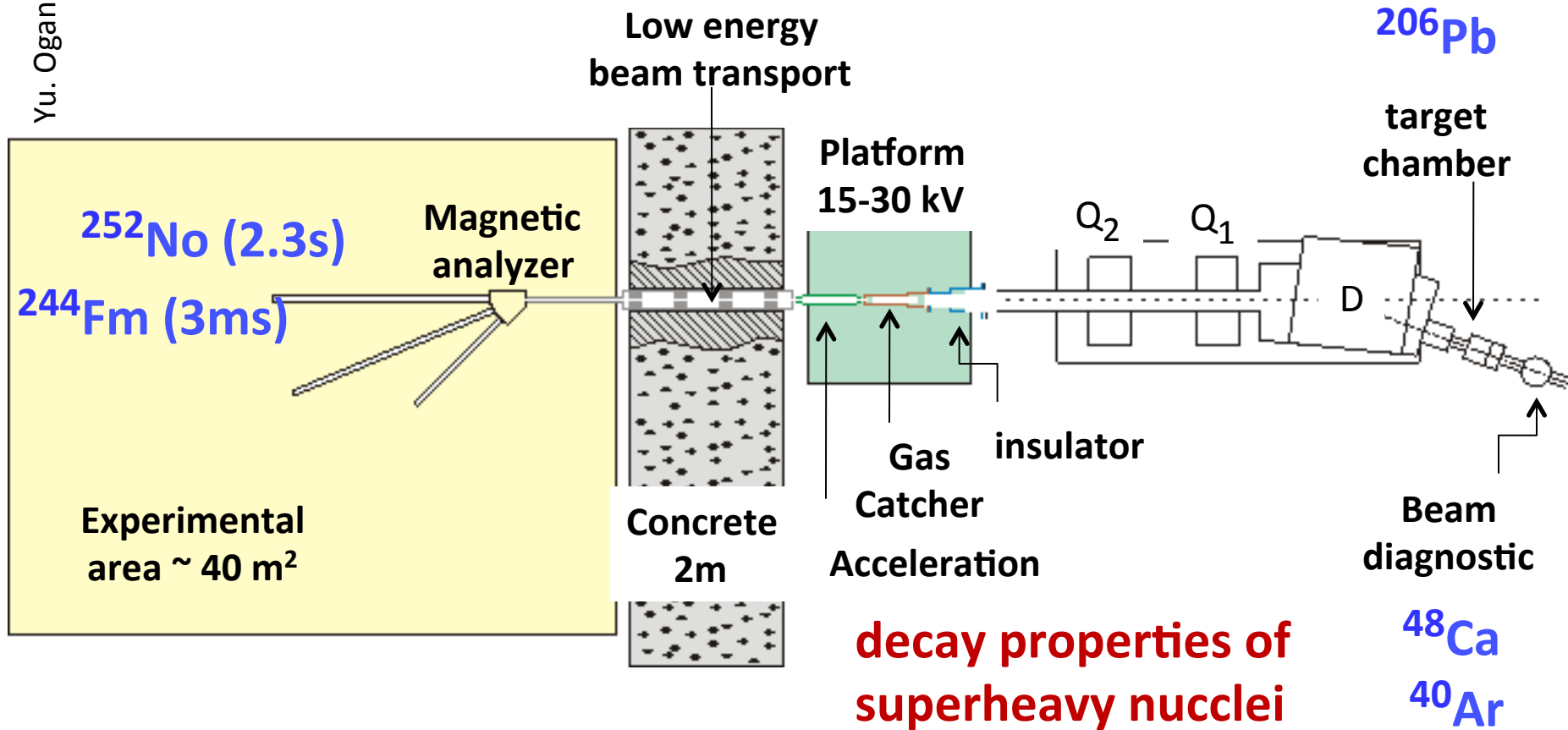
$2R=0.25$  m  
Gap = 50 mm



Gas Catcher

target  
 $0.3$  mg/cm<sup>2</sup>

# Gas Catcher at DGFRS (2012)



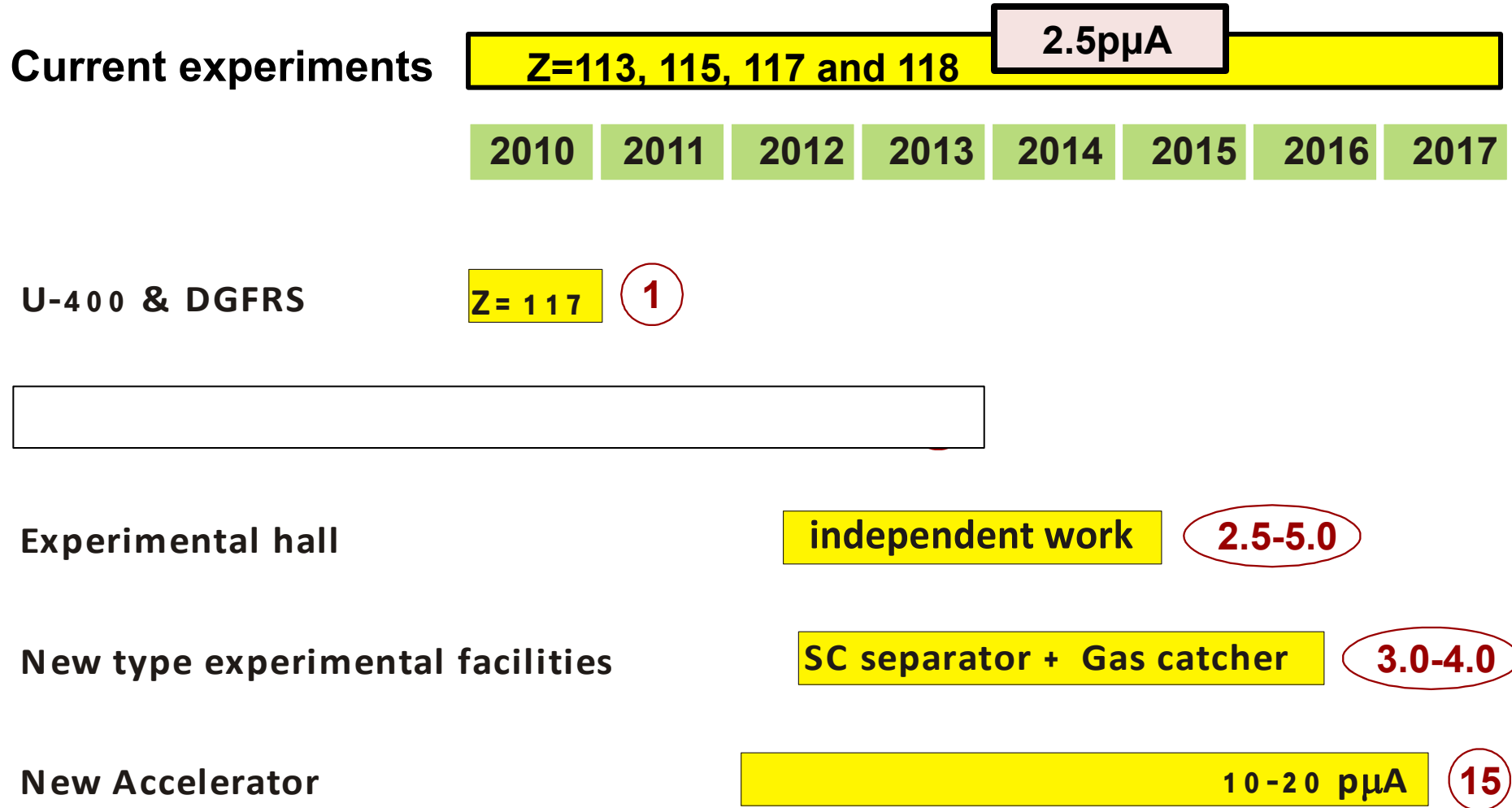
## On line studies of SHE with Gas Catcher

# SHE in Dubna

2012 – 2016

and after...

# Gain factors for the production of Superheavy nuclei



# ACCELERATORS

Beam parameters	HI-Physics U-400R	SHE-Factory DC-280
Projectiles	Stable and RIB ( $T_{1/2} > 0.1s$ )	Stable only
Projectile masses	4He – 238U	40Ar – 86Kr
Energy range	0.5 – 27.0 MeV/n	5 – 8 MeV/n
Energy resolution	0.5%	1.5%
Beam intensity (for 48Ca)	2.5 pμA	10-20 pμA
SHE-research program	≤30%	~100%
Registered decay chains of SHN (per year)	120 (now <b>30</b> )	<b>3000 - 5000</b>
State of readiness	75%	In course of design



Здание 131

**Upgraded U-400R**

**Low Energy RI beams  
from U-400M Cyclotron**

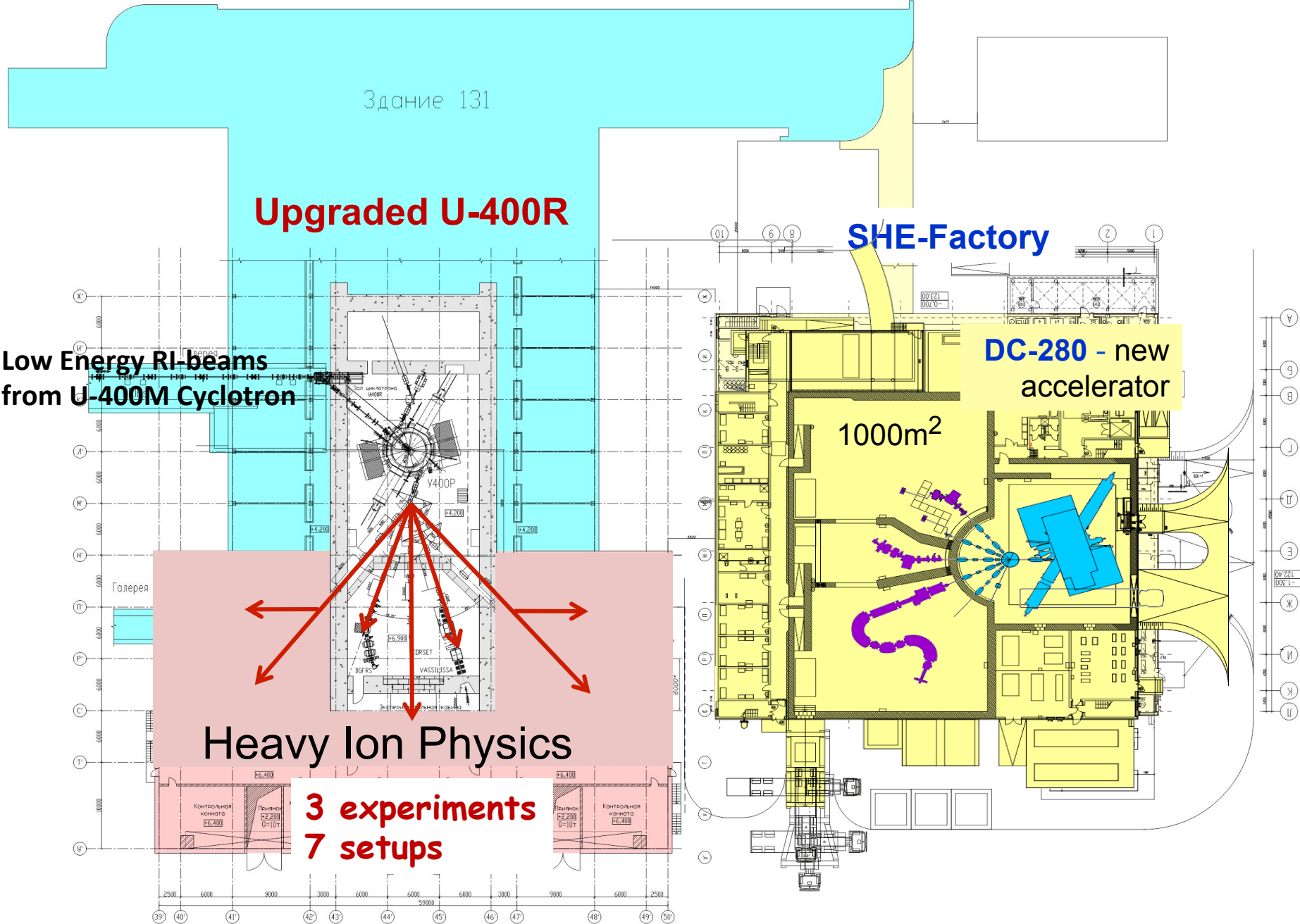
**SHE-Factory**

**DC-280 - new  
accelerator**

1000m<sup>2</sup>

**Heavy Ion Physics**

**3 experiments  
7 setups**



## FLNR backside in January 2012

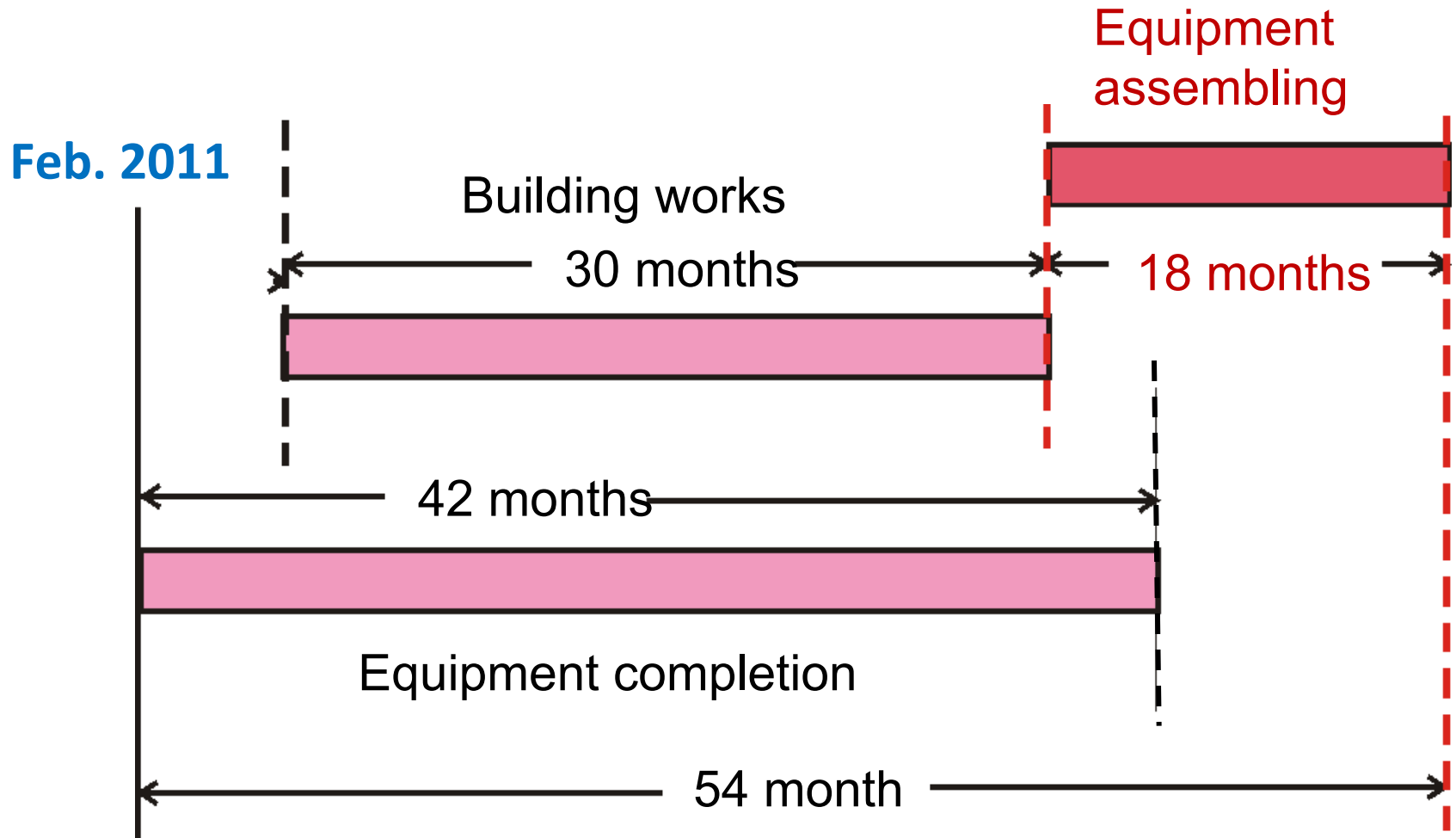


*SHE-Factory*

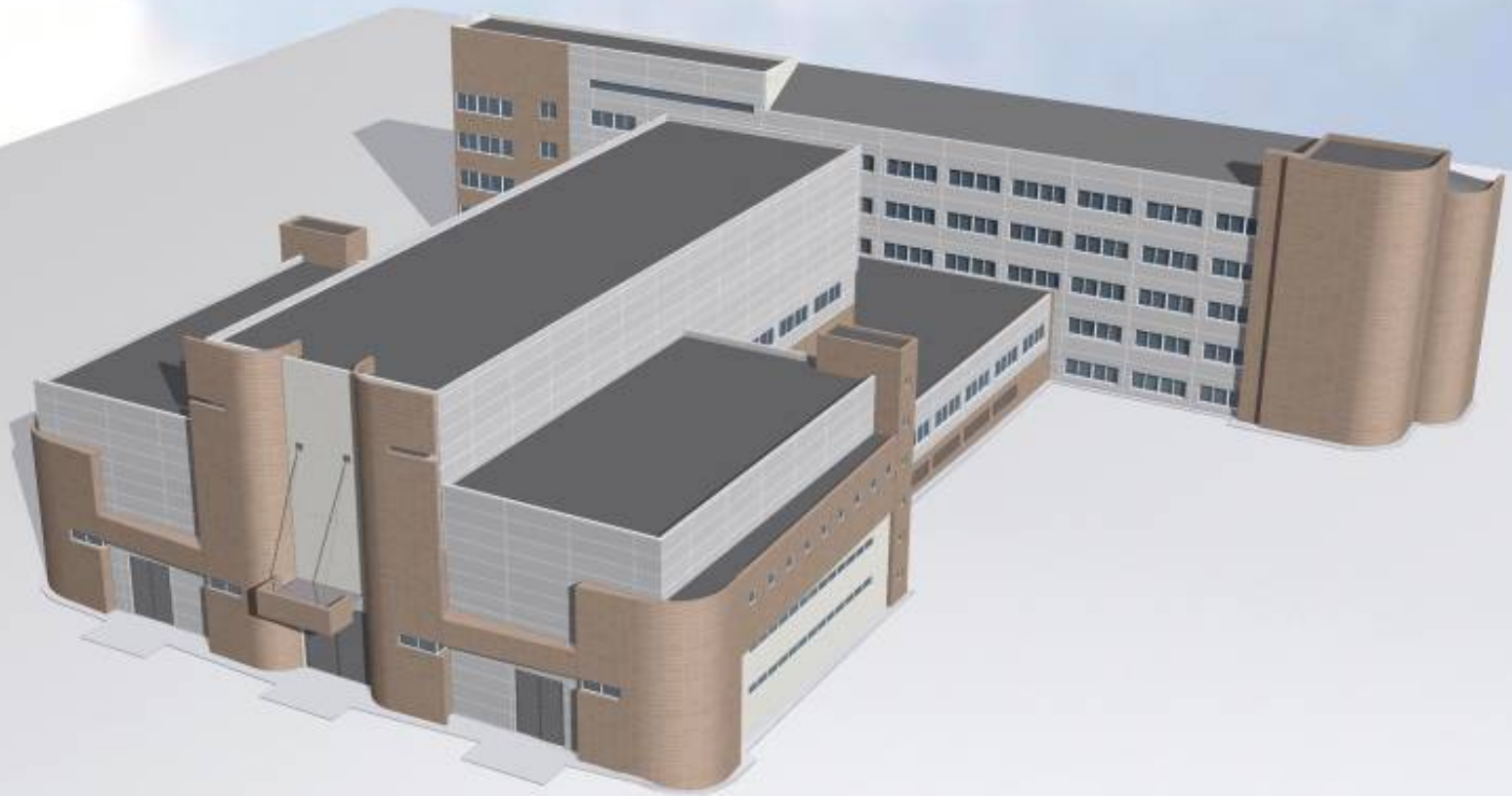
April 16, 2012



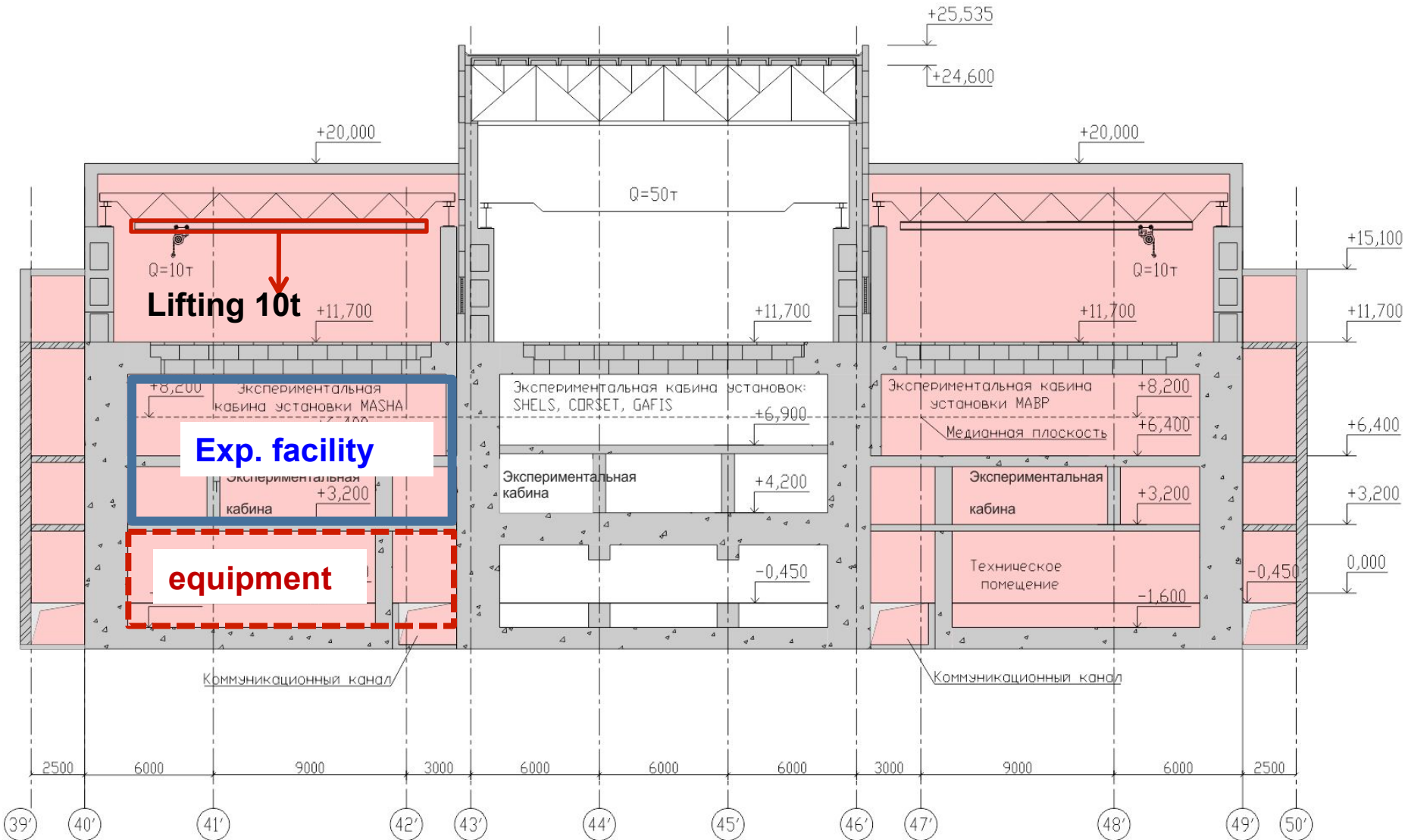
# Schedule for SHE-Factory



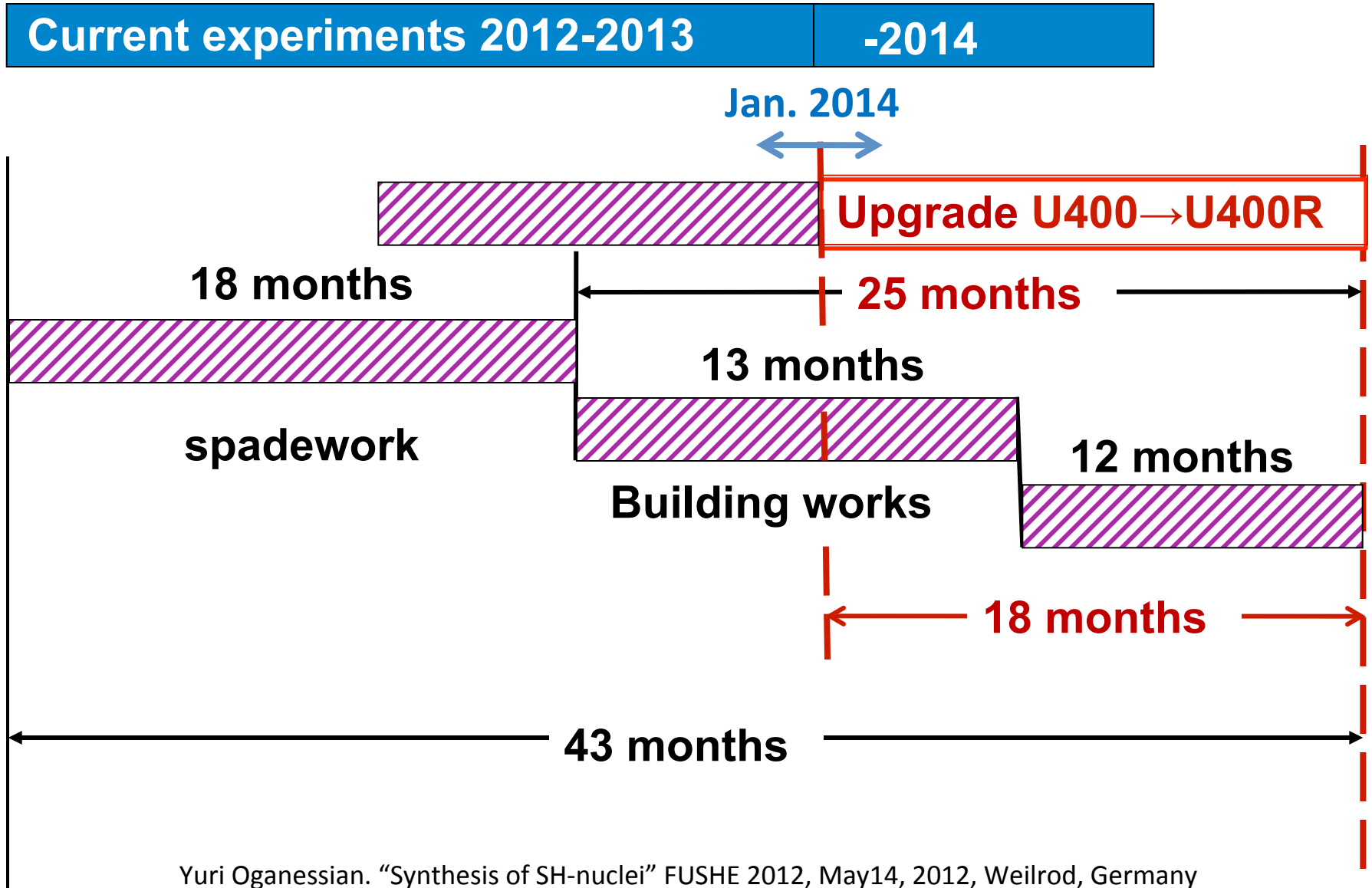
# Building 131 of FLNR (JINR) after renovation



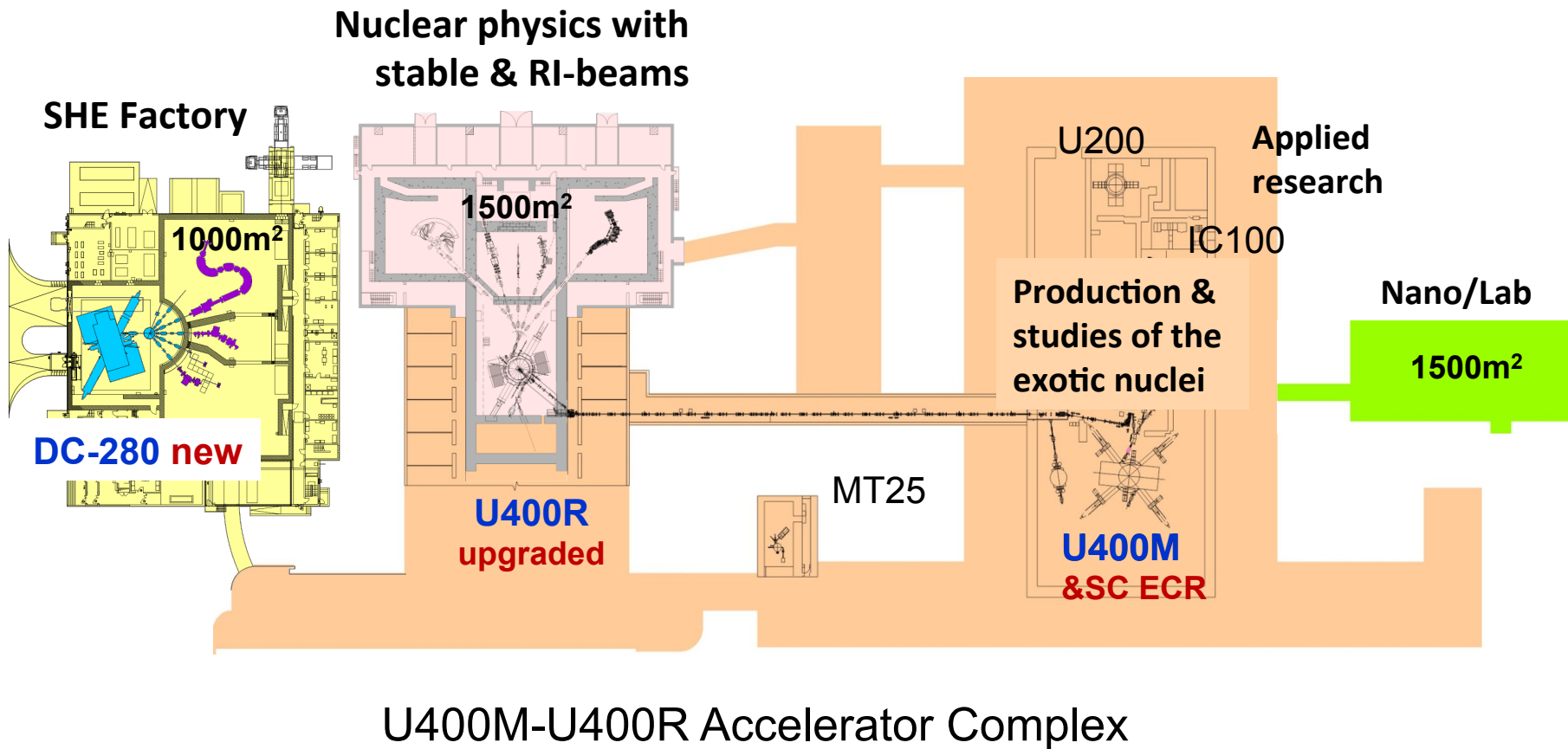
# Cross section of the building 131 (FLND) after renovation



# Schedule for U400R



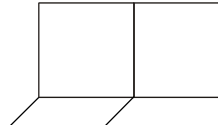
# FLNR (JINR) – 2016





Collaboration

Thank you



FLNR, JINR (Dubna)

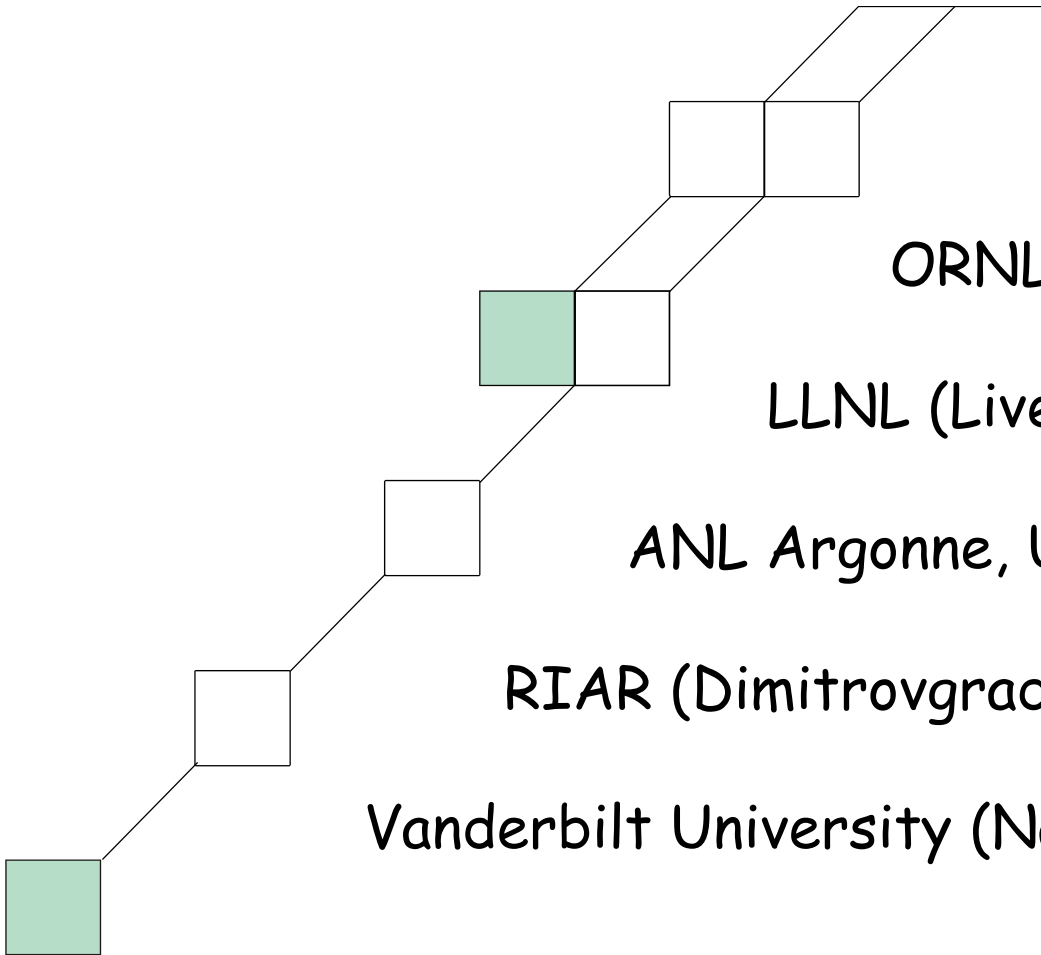
ORNL (Oak-Ridge, USA)

LLNL (Livermore, USA)

ANL Argonne, USA

RIAR (Dimitrovgrad, Russia)

Vanderbilt University (Nashville, USA)





# xn @ p,xn cross sections with $^{18}\text{O}$ and $^{22}\text{Ne}$ projectiles

