



# 5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Proton-Emitting Nuclei (PROCON2015)

Lanzhou China, 6th July-10th July, 2015

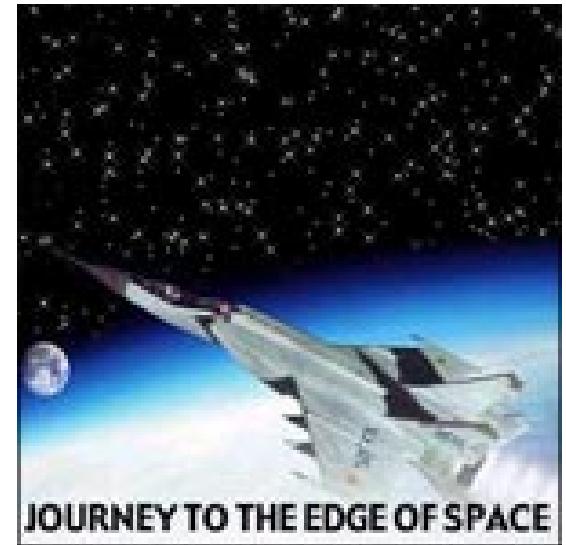
Host by Institute of Modern Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences

## Discovery of Nuclei at and beyond the proton dripline

Michael Thoennessen  
FRIB/NSCL  
Michigan State University

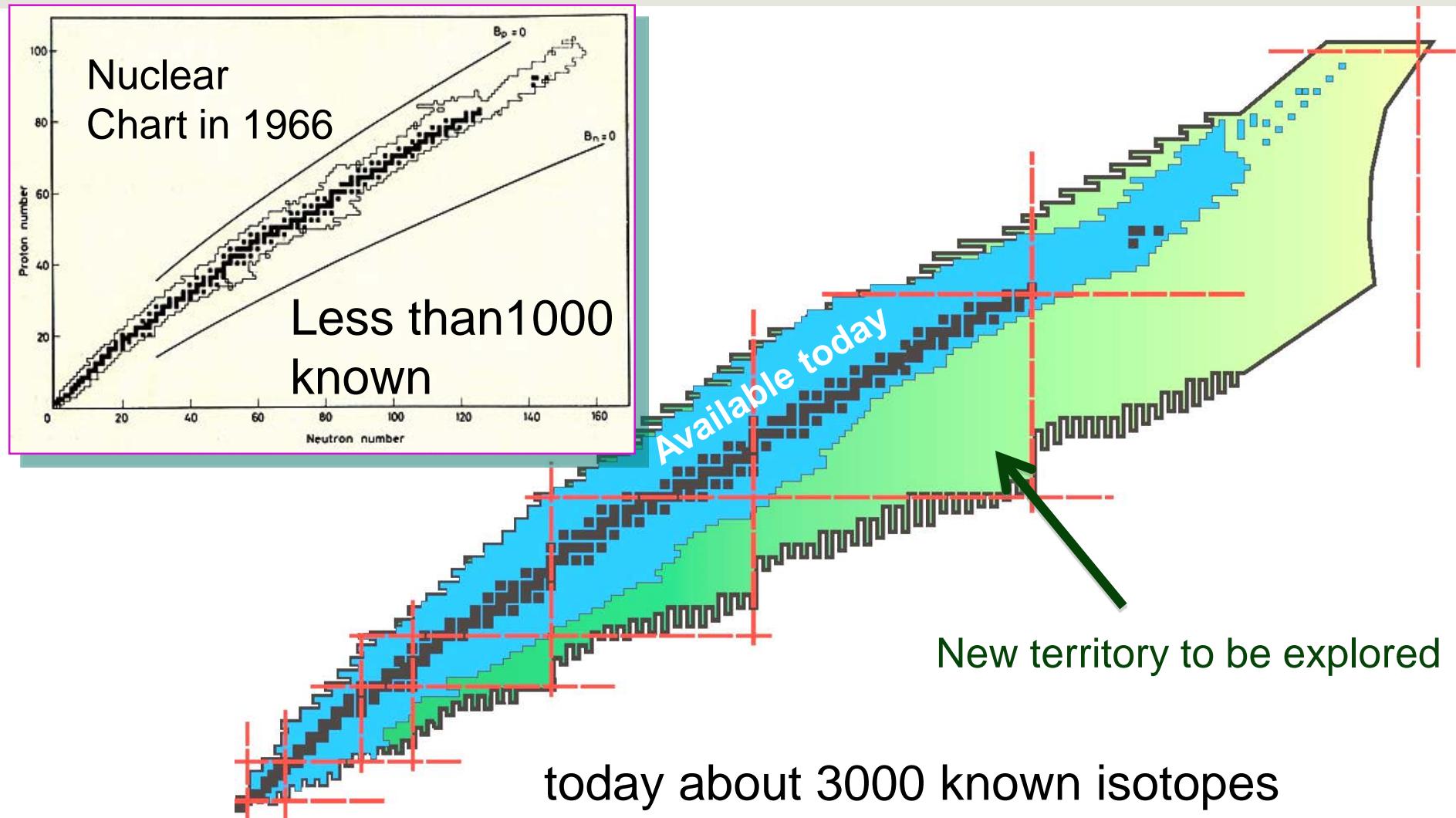
# Why search for new isotopes?

- First step is the discovery of new isotopes
- Develop new production, identification and purification techniques
- As techniques become more routine and beam intensities increase, one can start to measure nuclear properties:
  - Lifetimes
  - Masses
  - Structure



The quest for the unknown is a driving force for discovery

# Discovery potential

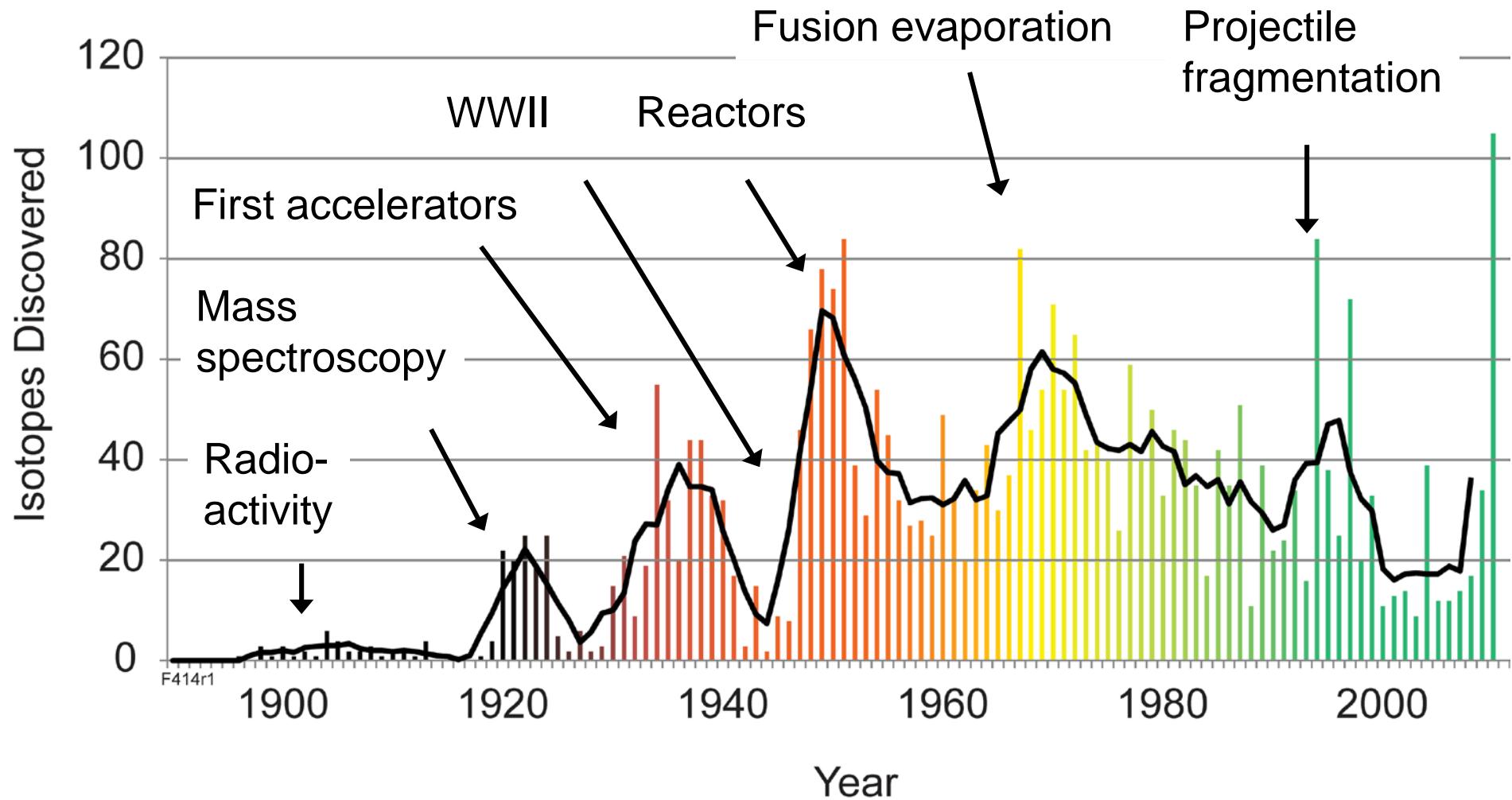


# Renaissance of the discovery of isotopes

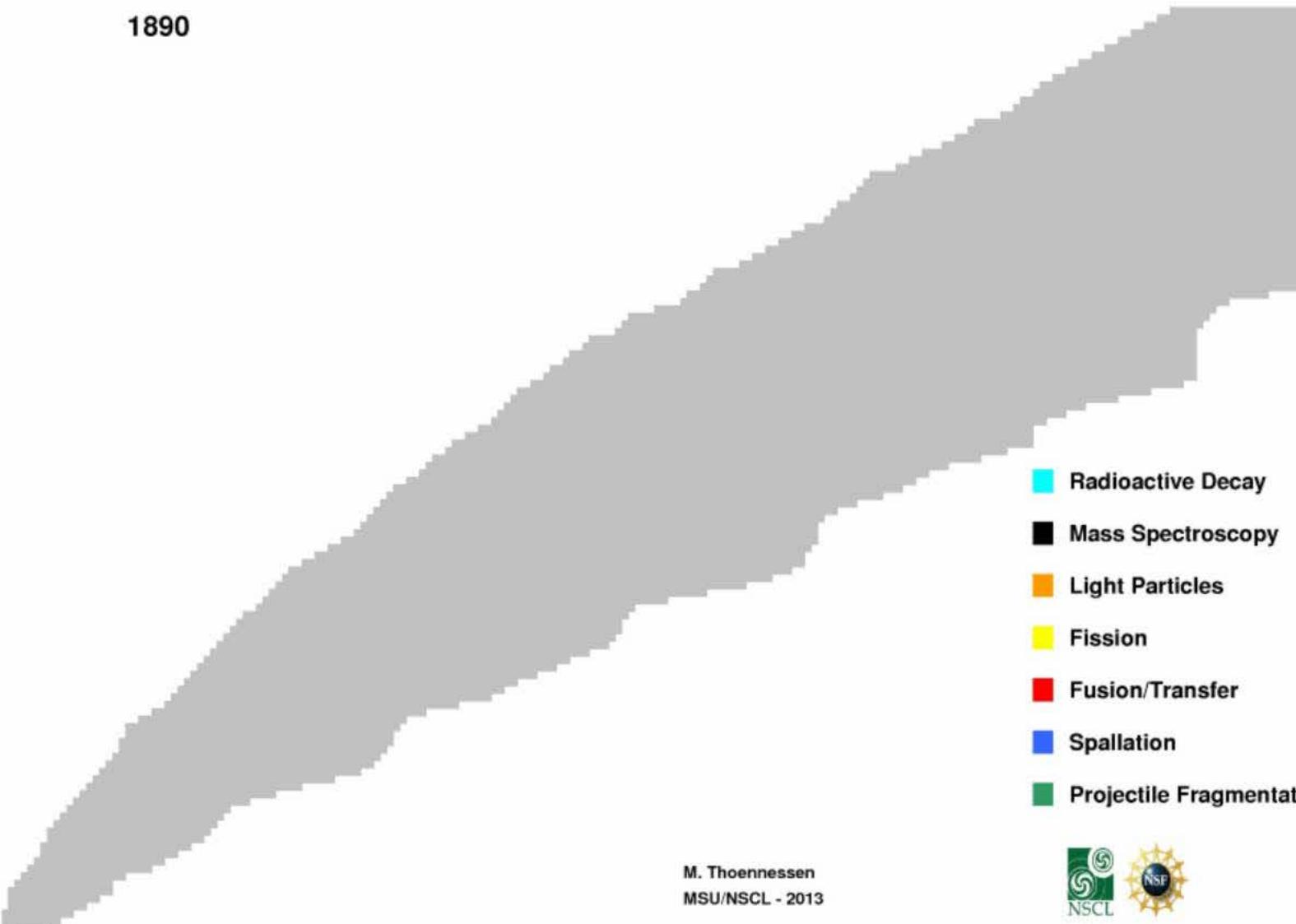
“Owing to the rapid advance in research on disintegration and the theory of nuclear structure, the existence or non-existence of rare isotopes has acquired an entirely unexpected importance and calls for a short review of their present situation.”

F.W. Aston, Nature 137, 613 (1936)

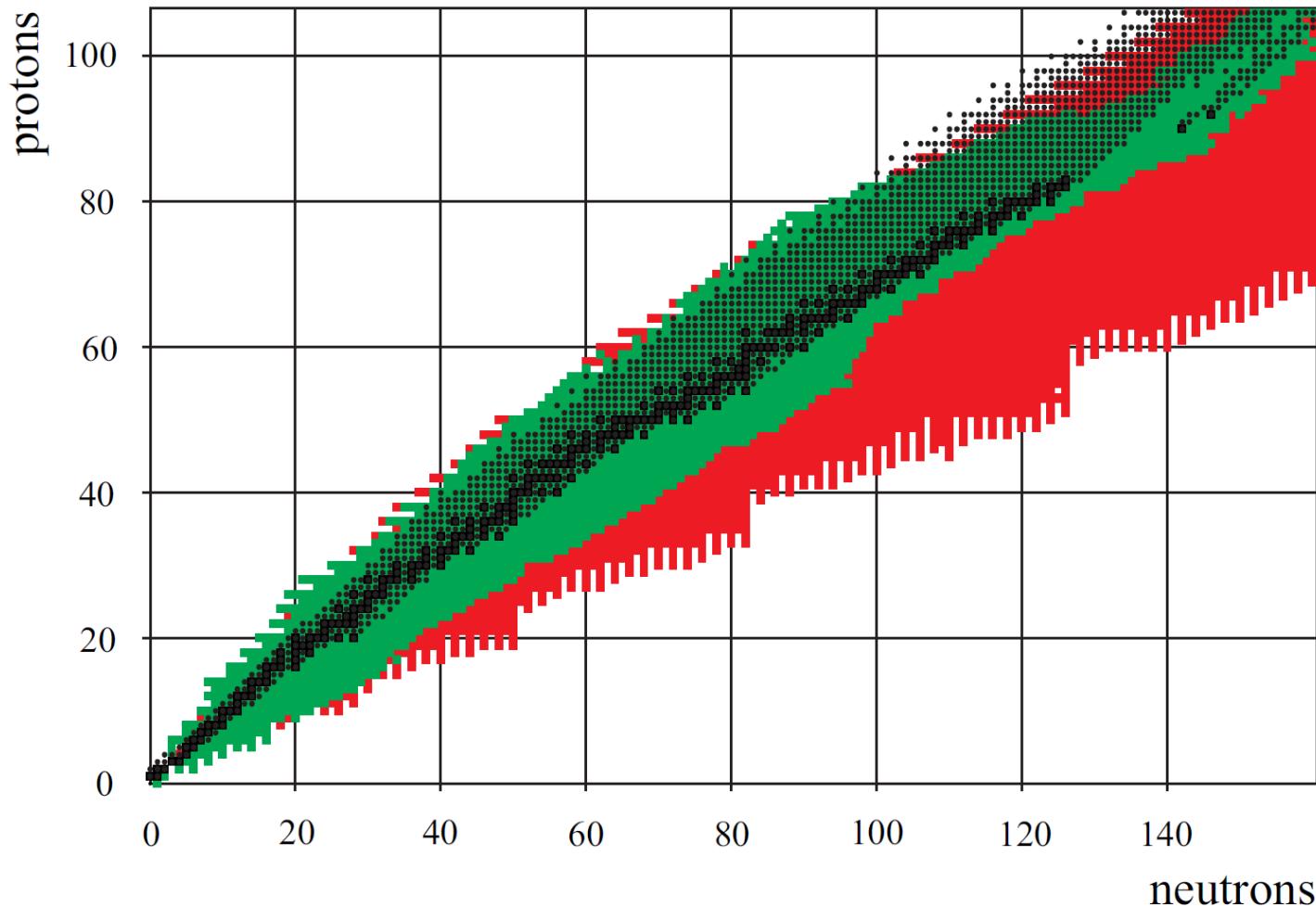
# Discoveries are driven by new technologies



1890

- 
- Radioactive Decay
  - Mass Spectroscopy
  - Light Particles
  - Fission
  - Fusion/Transfer
  - Spallation
  - Projectile Fragmentation

# Fusion evaporation reactions



# Fusion-evaporation

## Acceleration of Stripped C<sup>12</sup> and C<sup>13</sup> Nuclei in the Cyclotron\*

J. F. MILLER, J. G. HAMILTON, T. M. PURNAM,  
H. R. HAYMOND, AND G. B. ROSSI

*Crocker Laboratory, Divisions of Physics, Medical Physics,  
Medicine, and Radiology, University of California,  
Berkeley and San Francisco, California*

September 11, 1950

Phys. Rev. 80 (1950) 486

THE acceleration of stripped C<sup>12</sup> and O<sup>16</sup> nuclei in the cyclotron has been reported.<sup>1-4</sup> The significance of this feat was limited by the fact that the obtainable intensities were far too small to produce a sufficient number of nuclear reactions to permit the detection of radio-isotopes formed by the transmutation of target nuclei by these heavy ions.

## Californium Isotopes from Bombardment of Uranium with Carbon Ions\*

A. GHIORSO, S. G. THOMPSON, K. STREET, JR., AND G. T. SEABORG  
*Radiation Laboratory and Department of Chemistry, University of  
California, Berkeley, California*

November 8, 1950

THE recent production and identification<sup>1</sup> of isotopes of elements with atomic numbers up to six higher than the target element through bombardment with approximately 120-Mev carbon (+6) ions made it seem worth while to apply this technique to the transuranium region.

Phys. Rev. 81 (1951) 154

$^{238}\text{U}(\text{C}^{12}, 4n)^{246}\text{Cf}$



Facility for Rare Isotope Beams  
U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science  
Michigan State University

# Projectile fragmentation

## Observation of New Neutron-Rich Isotopes by Fragmentation of 205-MeV/Nucleon $^{40}\text{Ar}$ Ions

T. J. M. Symons, Y. P. Viyogi,<sup>(a)</sup> G. D. Westfall, P. Doll,<sup>(b)</sup> D. E. Greiner, H. Faraggi,<sup>(c)</sup> P. J. Lindstrom, and D. K. Scott

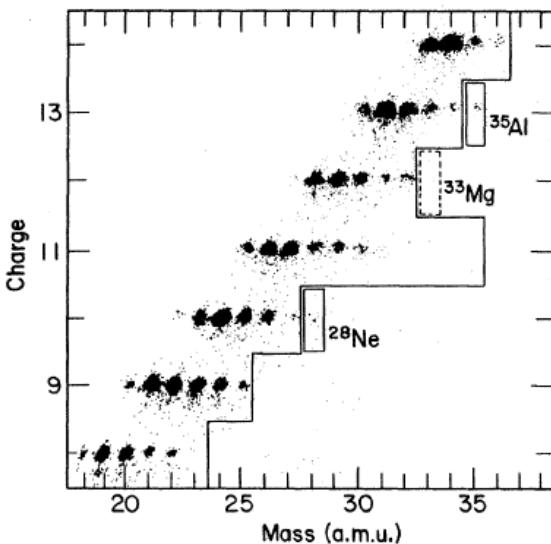
*Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720*

and

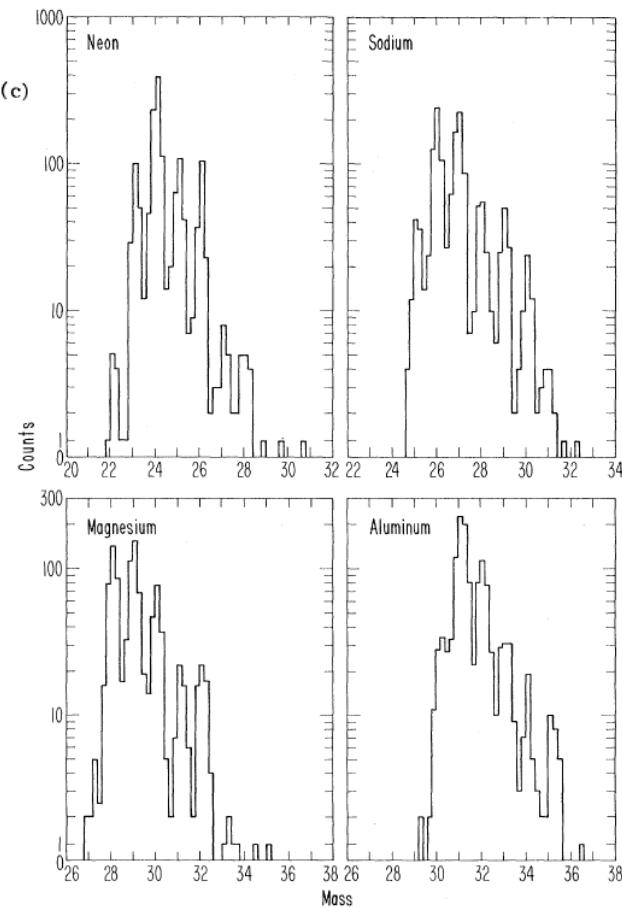
H. J. Crawford and C. McParland

*Space Sciences Laboratory, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720*

(Received 1 November 1978)



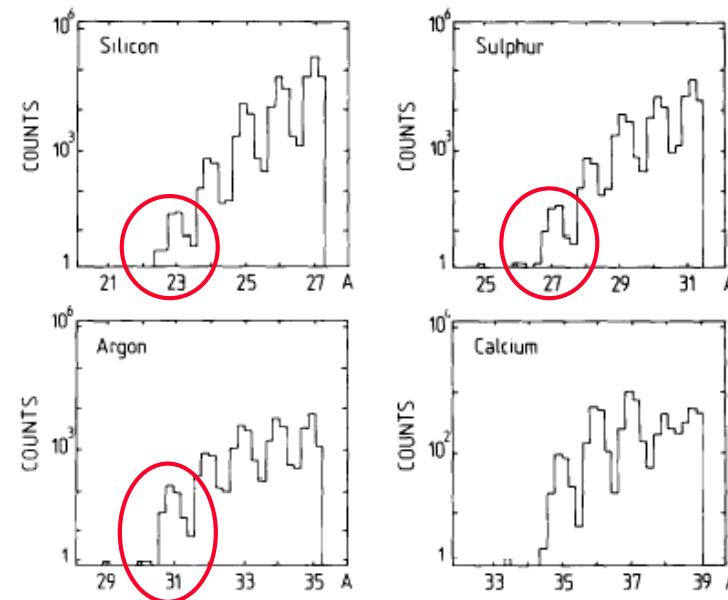
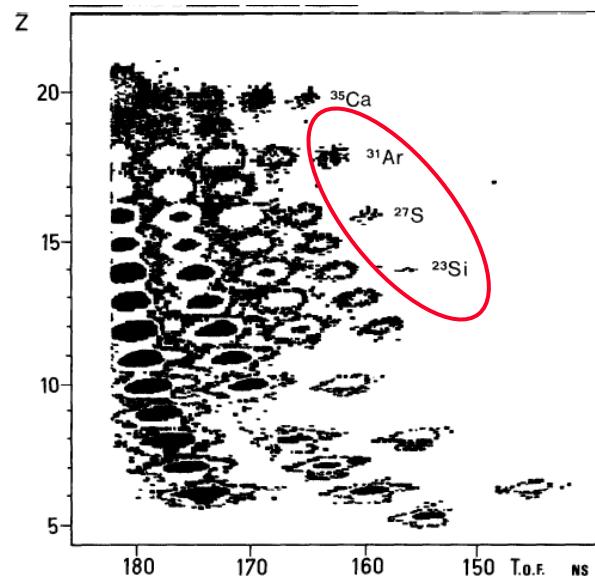
Fragments were detected in a zero-degree magnetic spectrometer and identified in a  $\Delta E$ - $E$  silicon detector telescope



# Projectile fragmentation at the proton dripline

MAPPING OF THE PROTON DRIP-LINE UP TO  $Z=20$ :  
OBSERVATION OF THE  $T_z = -\frac{5}{2}$  SERIES  $^{23}\text{Si}$ ,  $^{27}\text{S}$ ,  $^{31}\text{Ar}$  AND  $^{35}\text{Ca}^*$

M. LANGEVIN<sup>†</sup>, A. C. MUELLER<sup>2</sup>, D. GUILLEMAUD-MUELLER<sup>2</sup>, M.G. SAINT-LAURENT<sup>2</sup>,  
R. ANNE<sup>2</sup>, M. BERNAS<sup>1</sup>, J. GALIN<sup>1</sup>, D. GUERREAU<sup>2</sup>, J.C. JACMART<sup>1</sup>,  
S.D. HOATH<sup>1,3</sup>, F. NAULIN<sup>1</sup>, F. POGHEON<sup>1</sup>, E. QUINIOUT<sup>1</sup> and C. DÉTRAZ<sup>2</sup>



# First new isotope produced with an accelerator

## Disintegration of Lithium by Swift Protons

In a previous letter to this journal<sup>1</sup> we have described a method of producing a steady stream of swift protons of energies up to 600 kilovolts by the application of high potentials, and have described experiments to measure the range of travel of these protons outside the tube.



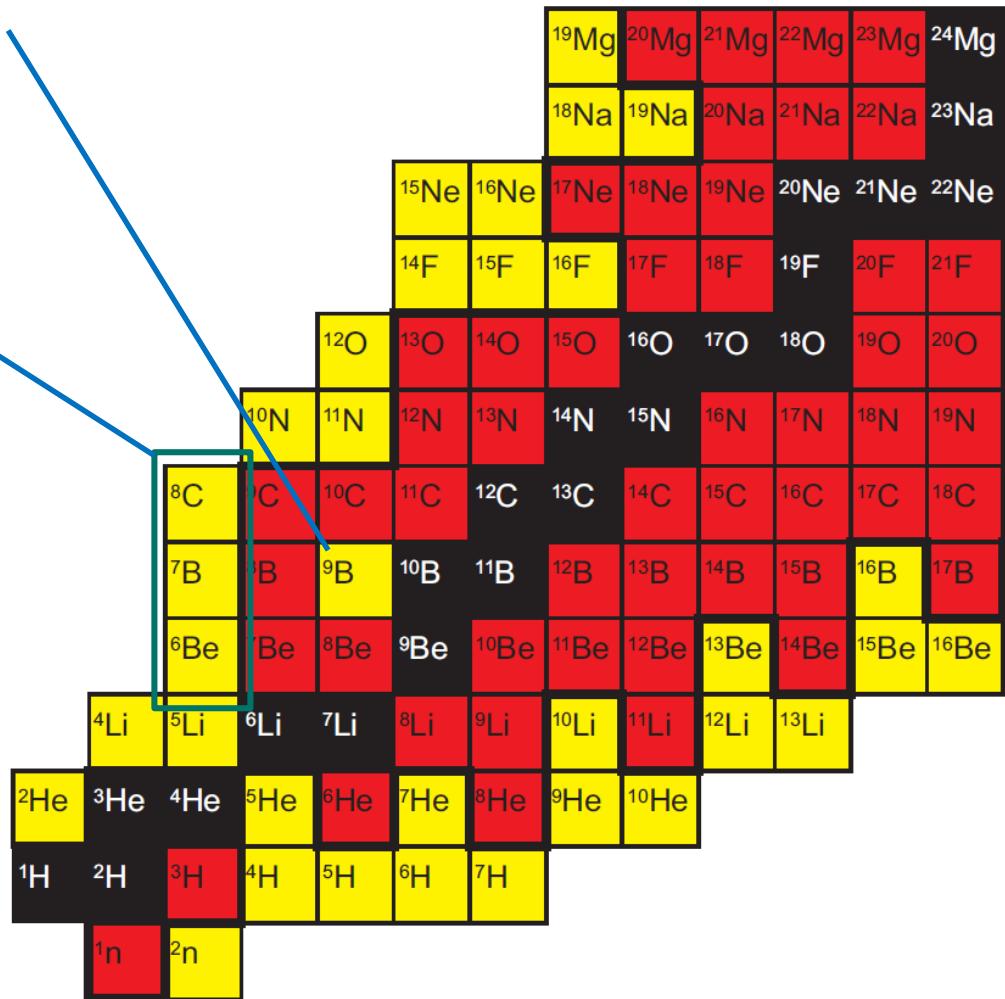
The brightness of the scintillations and the density of the tracks observed in the expansion chamber suggest that the particles are normal  $\alpha$ -particles. If this point of view turns out to be correct, it seems not unlikely that the lithium isotope of mass 7 occasionally captures a proton and the resulting nucleus of mass 8 breaks into two  $\alpha$ -particles, each of mass four and each with an energy of about eight million electron volts.

J.D. Cockcroft and E.T.S. Walton, Nature 129 (1932) 649

# Unbound nuclei

$^9\text{B}$ : First proton unbound isotope

$^6\text{Be}$ ,  $^7\text{B}$ , and  $^8\text{C}$ :  
2,3, and 4-proton  
unbound isotopes



# 1940: First proton unbound nucleus: ${}^9\text{B}$

DECEMBER 15, 1940

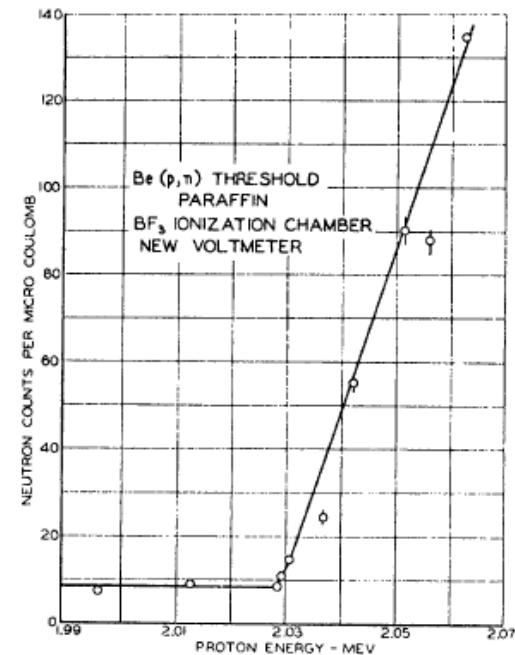
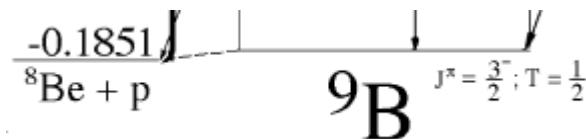
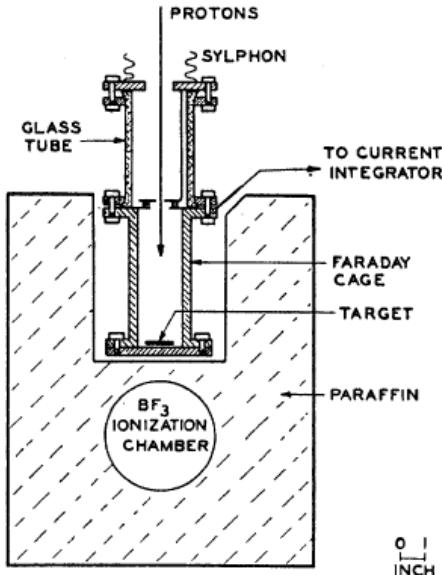
PHYSICAL REVIEW

VOLUME 58

## Thresholds for the Proton-Neutron Reactions of Lithium, Beryllium, Boron, and Carbon

R. O. HAXBY,<sup>†</sup> W. E. SHOUPP,<sup>\*</sup> W. E. STEPHENS<sup>‡</sup> AND W. H. WELLS  
*Westinghouse Research Laboratories, East Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania*

(Received August 30, 1940)



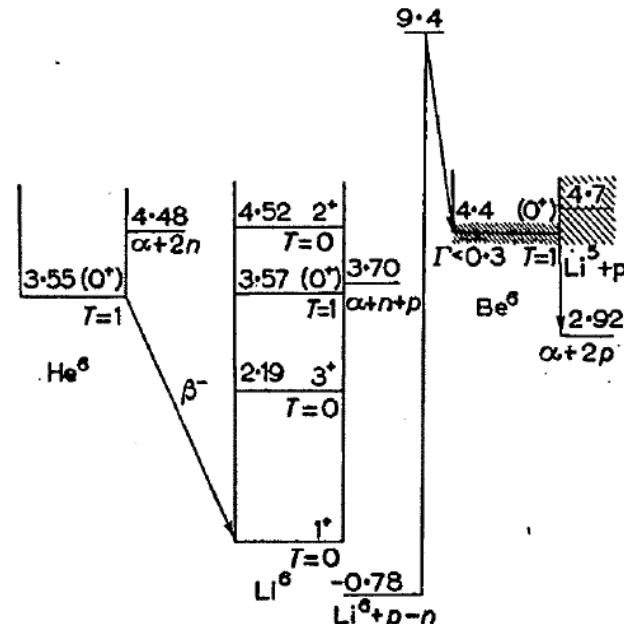
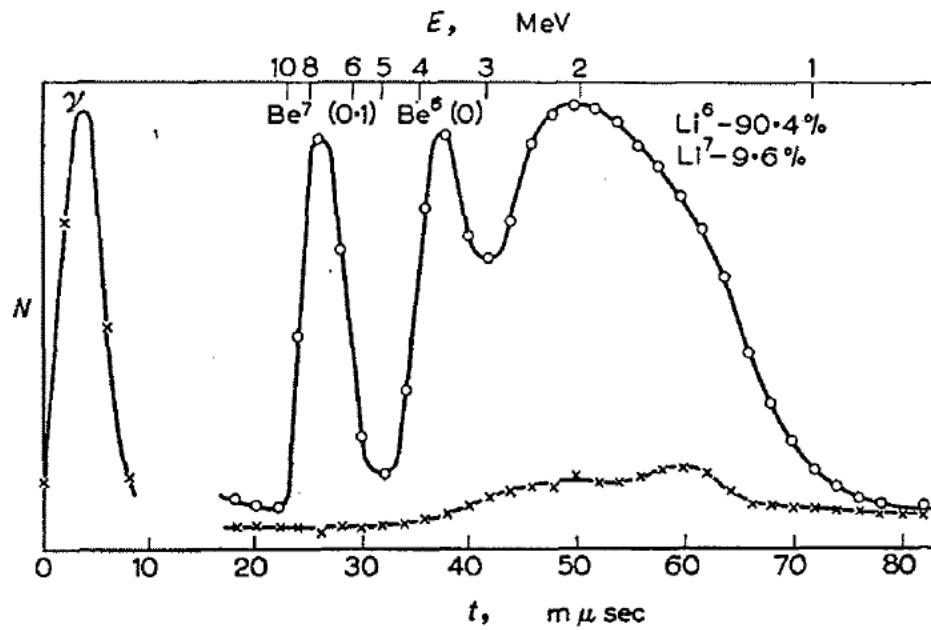
# 1957: Two-proton unbound nucleus: ${}^6\text{Be}$

THE ( $p,n$ ) REACTION ON LITHIUM AND THE  
GROUND STATE OF THE  ${}^6\text{Be}$  NUCLEUS\*

${}^6\text{Li}(p,n){}^6\text{Be}$

G. F. BOGDANOV, N. A. VLASOV, S. P. KALININ, B. V. RYBAKOV and  
V. A. SIDOROV

(Received 1 June 1957)



# 1967: Three-proton unbound nucleus: ${}^7\text{B}$

VOLUME 19, NUMBER 25

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

18 DECEMBER 1967

## UNBOUND NUCLIDE ${}^7\text{B}^\dagger$

Robert L. McGrath and Joseph Cerny

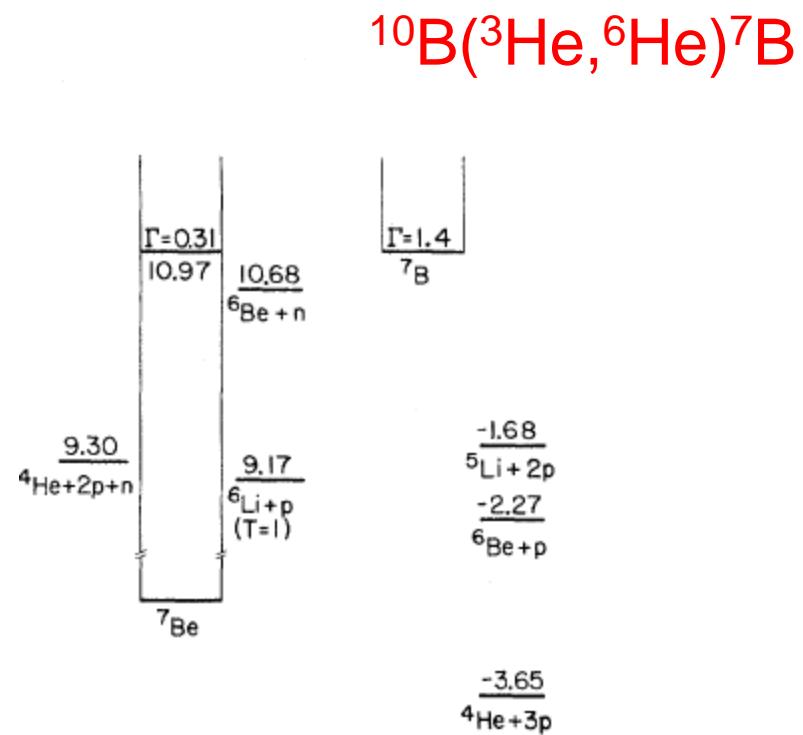
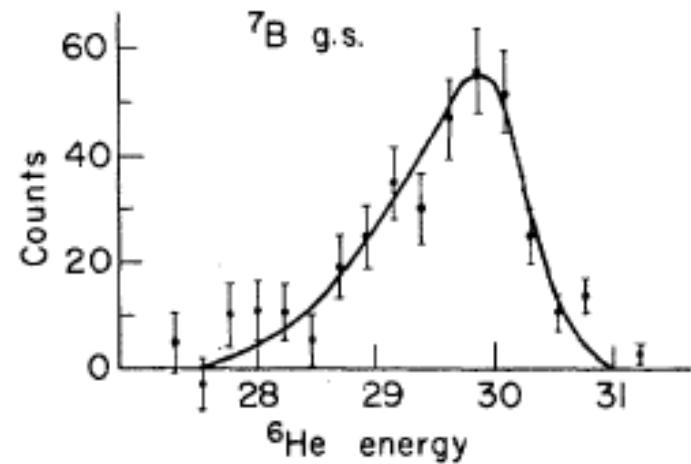
Lawrence Radiation Laboratory and Department of Chemistry, University of California, Berkeley, California

and

Edwin Norbeck\*

Department of Physics, University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa

(Received 10 November 1967)



# 1974: Four-proton unbound nucleus: ${}^9\text{C}$

VOLUME 32, NUMBER 21

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

27 MAY 1974

## Highly Proton-Rich $T_z = -2$ Nuclides: ${}^8\text{C}$ and ${}^{20}\text{Mg}$

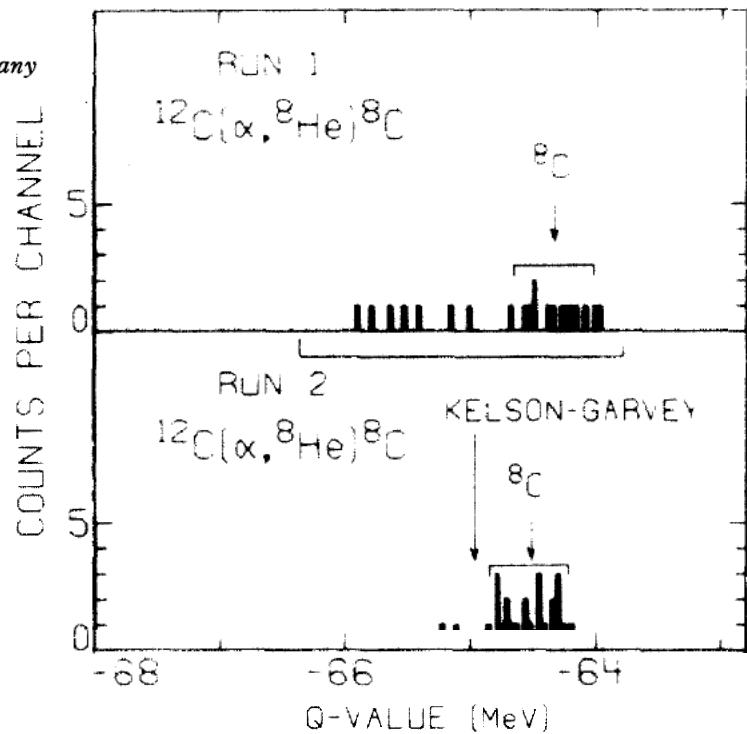
R. G. H. Robertson

Cyclotron Laboratory\* and Physics Department, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48824

and

S. Martin, W. R. Falk, † D. Ingham, and A. Djalois  
Institut für Kernphysik, Kernforschungsanlage, 517 Jülich, West Germany  
(Received 8 April 1974)

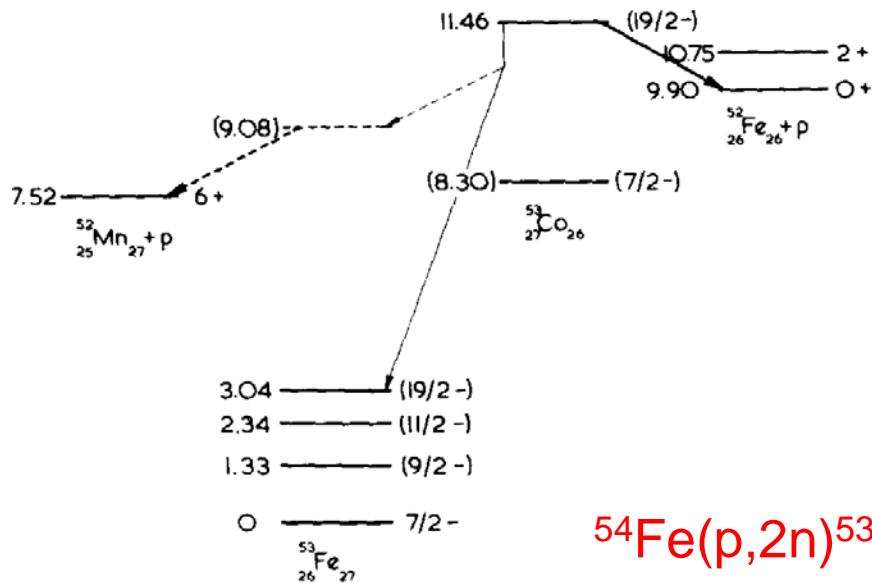
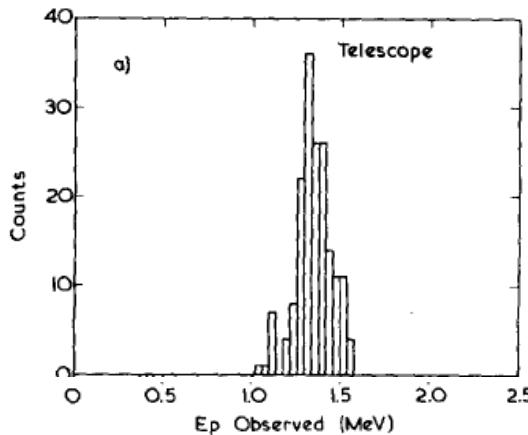
${}^{12}\text{C}(\alpha, {}^8\text{He}){}^8\text{C}$



Facility for Rare Isotope Beams  
U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science  
Michigan State University

R.G.H. Robertson et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 32 (1974) 1207

# 1970: Proton radioactivity



$^{53}\text{Co}^m$ : A PROTON-UNSTABLE ISOMER†

K. P. JACKSON \*, C. U. CARDINAL \*\*, H. C. EVANS ‡ and N. A. JELLEY  
Nuclear Physics Laboratory, University of Oxford, England

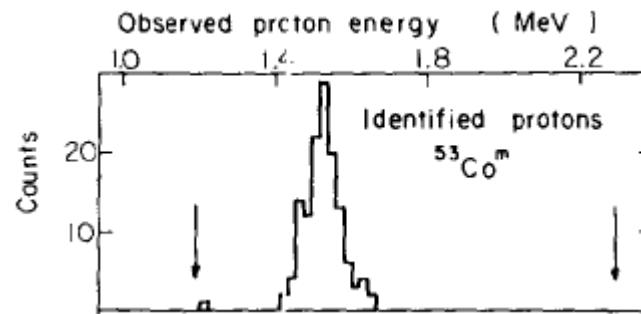
J. CERNY §§  
Nuclear Physics Laboratory, University of Oxford, England; and  
Lawrence Radiation Laboratory and Department of Chemistry,  
University of California, Berkeley, California 94720, USA.

Received 23 September 1970

CONFIRMED PROTON RADIOACTIVITY‡ OF  $^{53}\text{Co}^m$

J. CERNY, J. E. ESTERL, R. A. GOUGH\* and R. G. SEXTRO  
Department of Chemistry and Lawrence Radiation Laboratory  
University of California, Berkeley, California 94720, USA

Received 23 September 1970



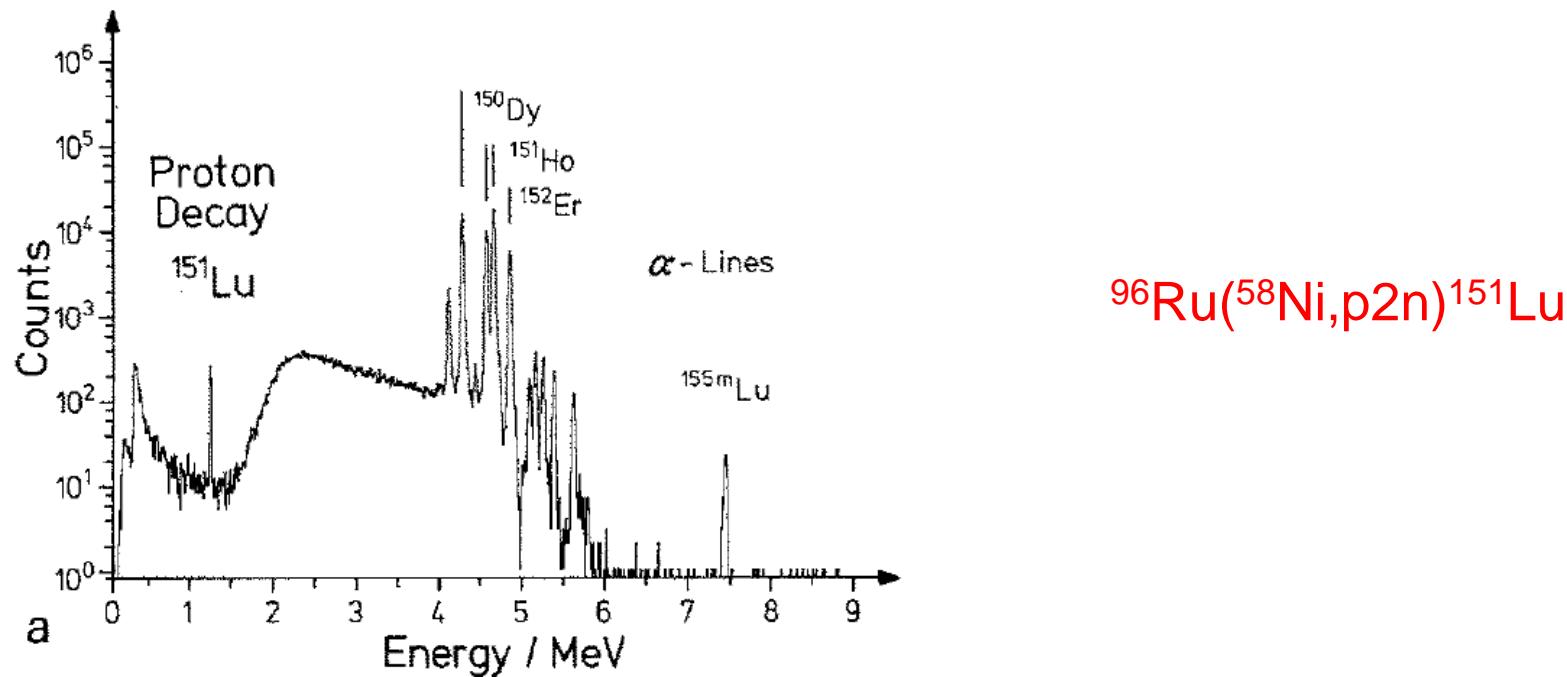
Facility for Rare Isotope Beams  
U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science  
Michigan State University

K.P. Jackson et al., Phys. Lett. 33B (1970) 281  
J. Cerny et al., Phys. Lett. 33B (1970) 284

# 1982: Ground-state proton radioactivity

## Proton Radioactivity of $^{151}\text{Lu}$

S. Hofmann, W. Reisdorf, G. Münzenberg, F.P. Heßberger, J.R.H. Schneider,  
and P. Armbruster  
Gesellschaft für Schwerionenforschung mbH, Darmstadt,  
Federal Republic of Germany



# 2002: Two-proton radioactivity

## First evidence for the two-proton decay of $^{45}\text{Fe}$

M. Pfützner<sup>1,a</sup>, E. Badura<sup>2</sup>, C. Bingham<sup>3</sup>, B. Blank<sup>4</sup>, M. Chartier<sup>5</sup>, H. Geissel<sup>2</sup>, J. Giovinazzo<sup>4</sup>, L.V. Grigorenko<sup>2</sup>, R. Grzywacz<sup>1</sup>, M. Hellström<sup>2</sup>, Z. Janas<sup>1</sup>, J. Kurcewicz<sup>1</sup>, A.S. Lallement<sup>4</sup>, C. Mazzocchi<sup>2</sup>, I. Mukha<sup>2</sup>, G. Minzenberg<sup>2</sup>, C. Plettner<sup>2</sup>, E. Roeckl<sup>2</sup>, K.P. Rykaczewski<sup>6,1</sup>, K. Schmidt<sup>7</sup>, R.S. Simon<sup>2</sup>, M. Stanoiu<sup>8</sup>, and J.-C. Thomas<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Institute of Experimental Physics, Warsaw University, PL-00-681 Warsaw, Poland

<sup>2</sup> GSI, Planckstrasse 1, D-64291 Darmstadt, Germany

<sup>3</sup> Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Tennessee, Knoxville 37996 TN, USA

<sup>4</sup> CEN Bordeaux-Gradignan, F-33175 Gradignan Cedex, France

<sup>5</sup> Oliver Lodge Laboratory, Department of Physics, University of Liverpool, Liverpool, L69 3BX, UK

<sup>6</sup> Physics Division, ORNL, Oak Ridge, TN 37831-6371, USA

<sup>7</sup> Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh EH9 3JZ, UK

<sup>8</sup> GANIL, BP 5027, F-14021 Caen Cedex, France

Received: 17 May 2002  
Communicated by J. Åystö

## 600 MeV/A $^{58}\text{Ni}$ fragmentation

VOLUME 89, NUMBER 10

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

2 SEPTEMBER 2002

### Two-Proton Radioactivity of $^{45}\text{Fe}$

J. Giovinazzo, B. Blank, M. Chartier,\* S. Czajkowski, A. Fleury, M. J. Lopez Jimenez,<sup>†</sup> M. S. Pravikoff, and J.-C. Thomas  
*CEN Bordeaux-Gradignan, Le Haut-Vigneau, F-33175 Gradignan Cedex, France*

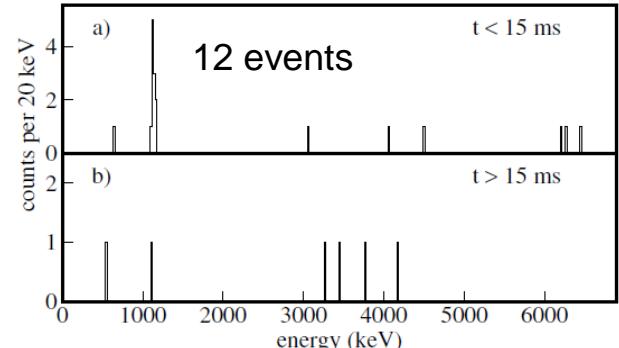
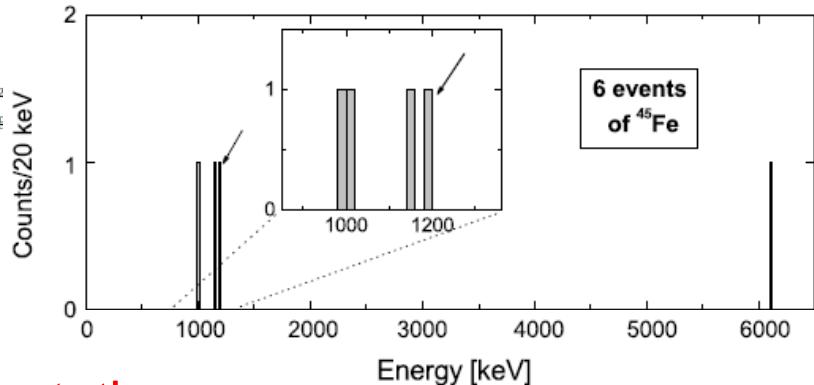
F. de Oliveira Santos, M. Lewitowicz, V. Maslov,<sup>‡</sup> and M. Stanoiu  
*Grand Accélérateur National d'Ions Lourds, B.P. 5027, F-14076 Caen Cedex, France*

R. Grzywacz<sup>§</sup> and M. Pfützner  
*Institute of Experimental Physics, University of Warsaw, PL-00-681 Warsaw, Poland*

C. Borcea  
*IAP, Bucharest-Magurele, P.O. Box MG6, Romania*

B. A. Brown

*Department of Physics and Astronomy and National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory,  
Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48824-1321*  
(Received 21 May 2002; published 19 August 2002)



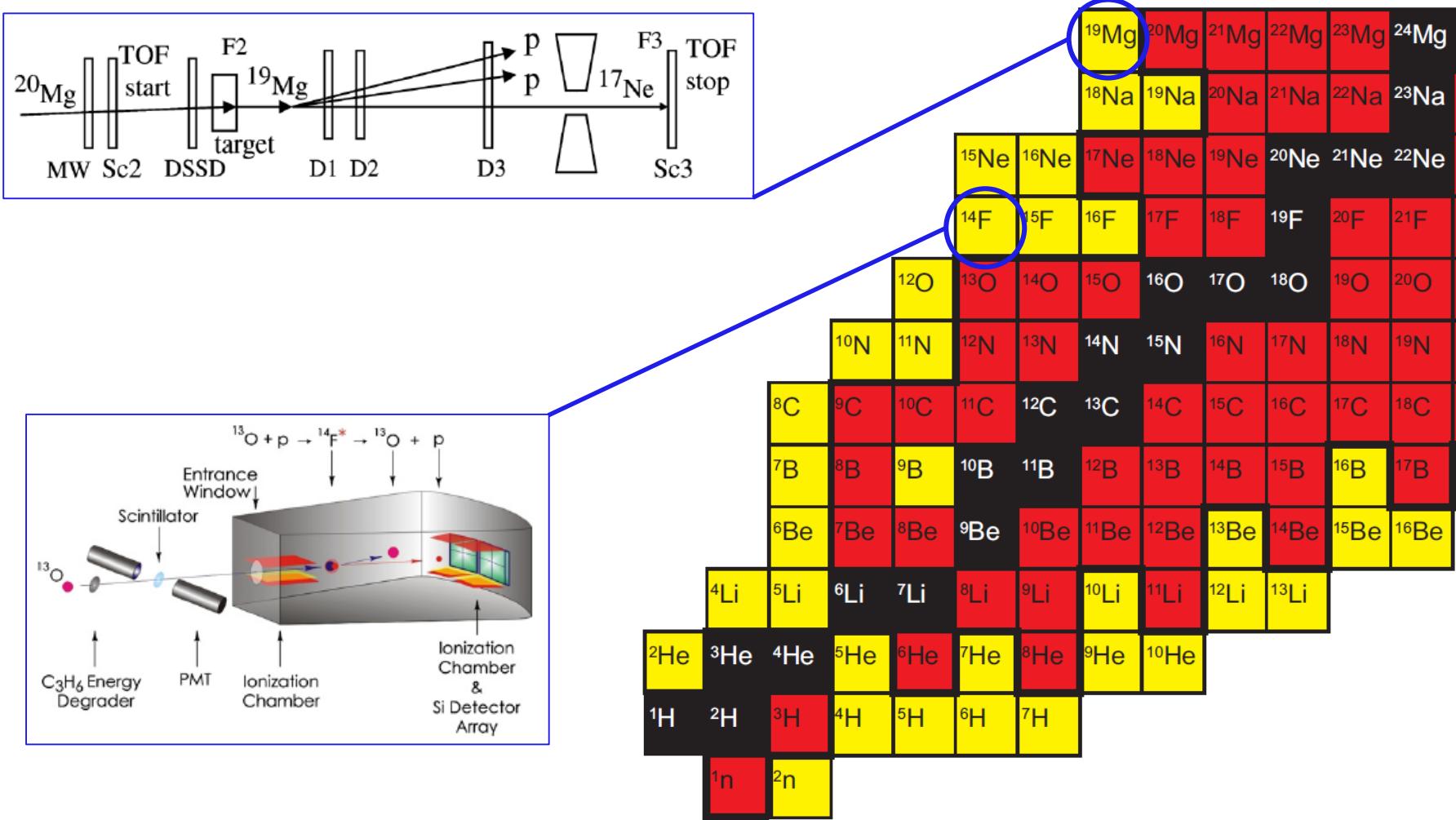
## 75 MeV/A $^{58}\text{Ni}$ fragmentation



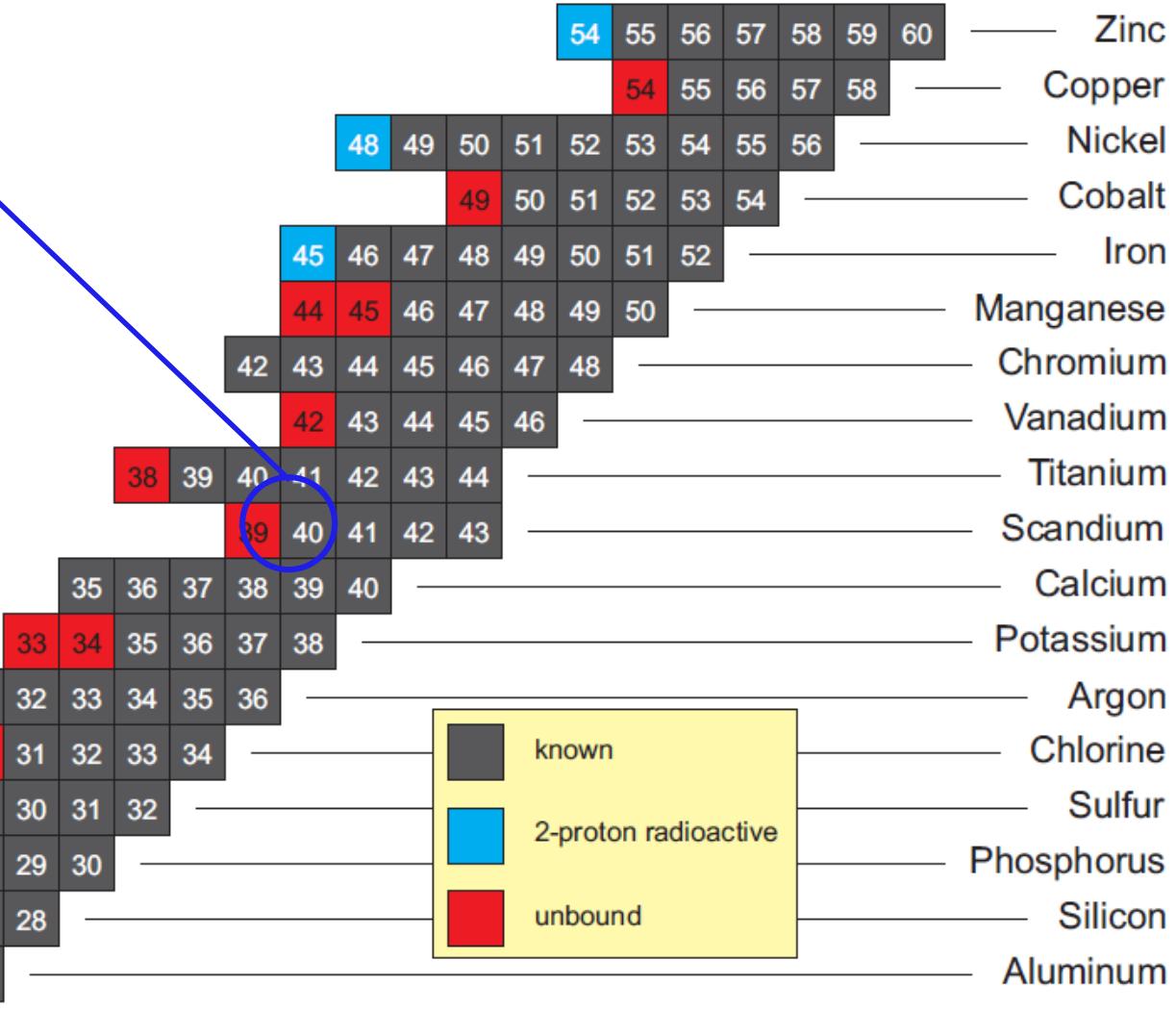
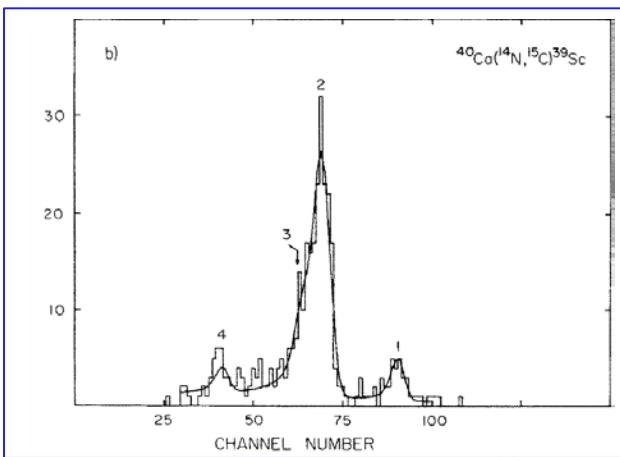
Facility for Rare Isotope Beams  
U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science  
Michigan State University

M. Pfuetzner et al., Eur. Phys. J. A 14 (2002) 279  
J. Giovinazzo et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 89 (2002) 102501

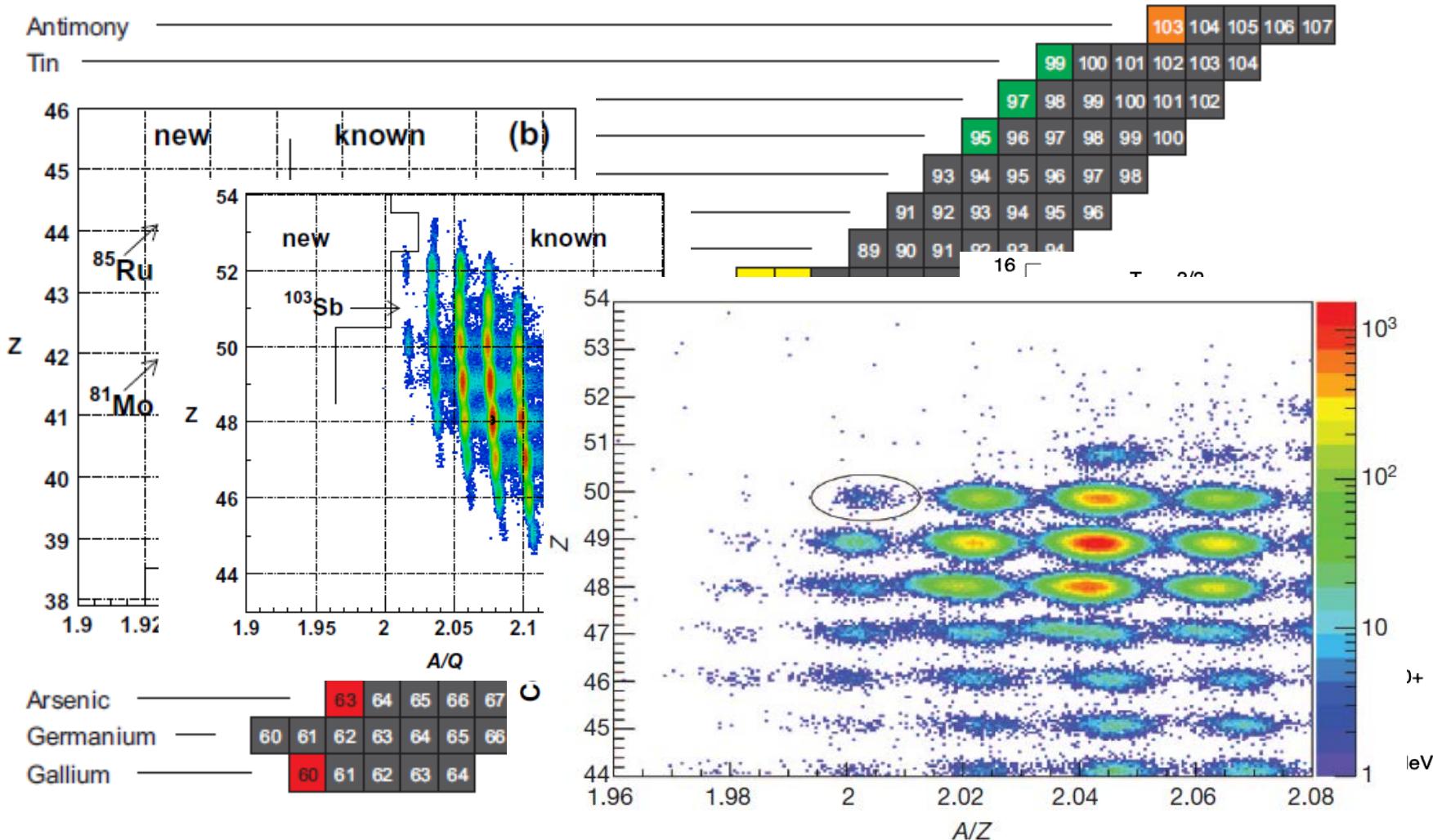
# Mapping the proton dripline: Z<13



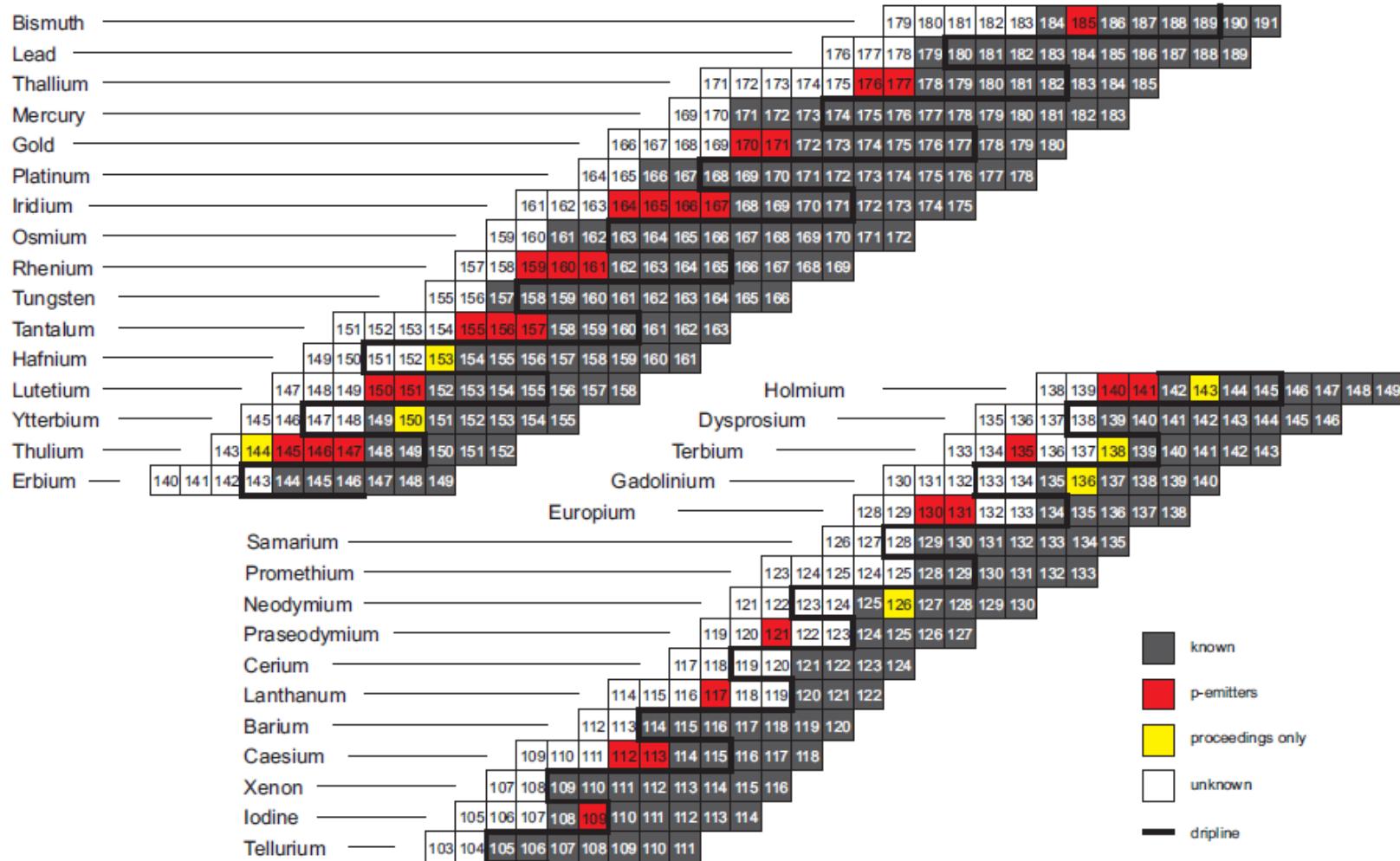
# 12<Z<31



# 30<Z<52



# 51<Z<84



Facility for Rare Isotope Beams

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

# No conference proceedings

Physica Scripta. Vol. T88, 153–156, 2000

## Formation and Studies of New Proton Emitters via Intermediate-Energy Fragmentation of Heavy-Element Beams

G. A. Souliotis\*

Institute of Nuclear Physics, NCSR Demokritos, Athens, Greece.

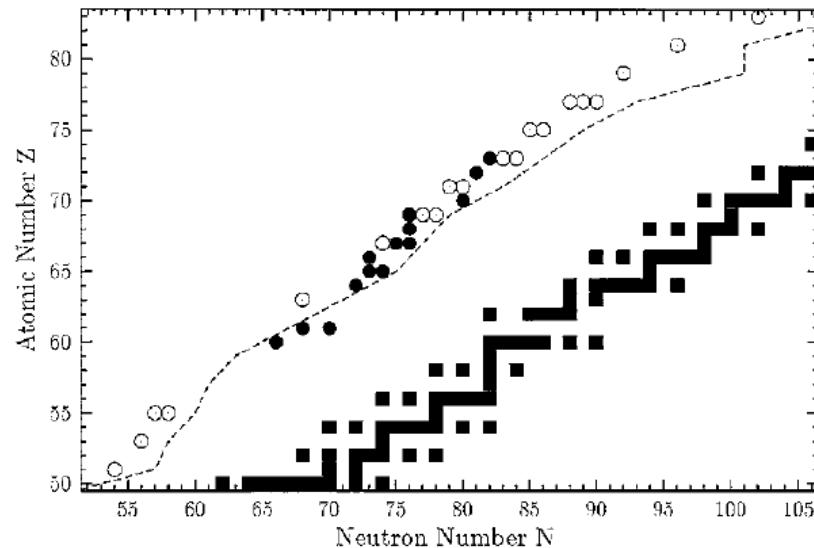
NCSR Demokritos, Athens, Greece

Received October 15, 1999

### Abstract

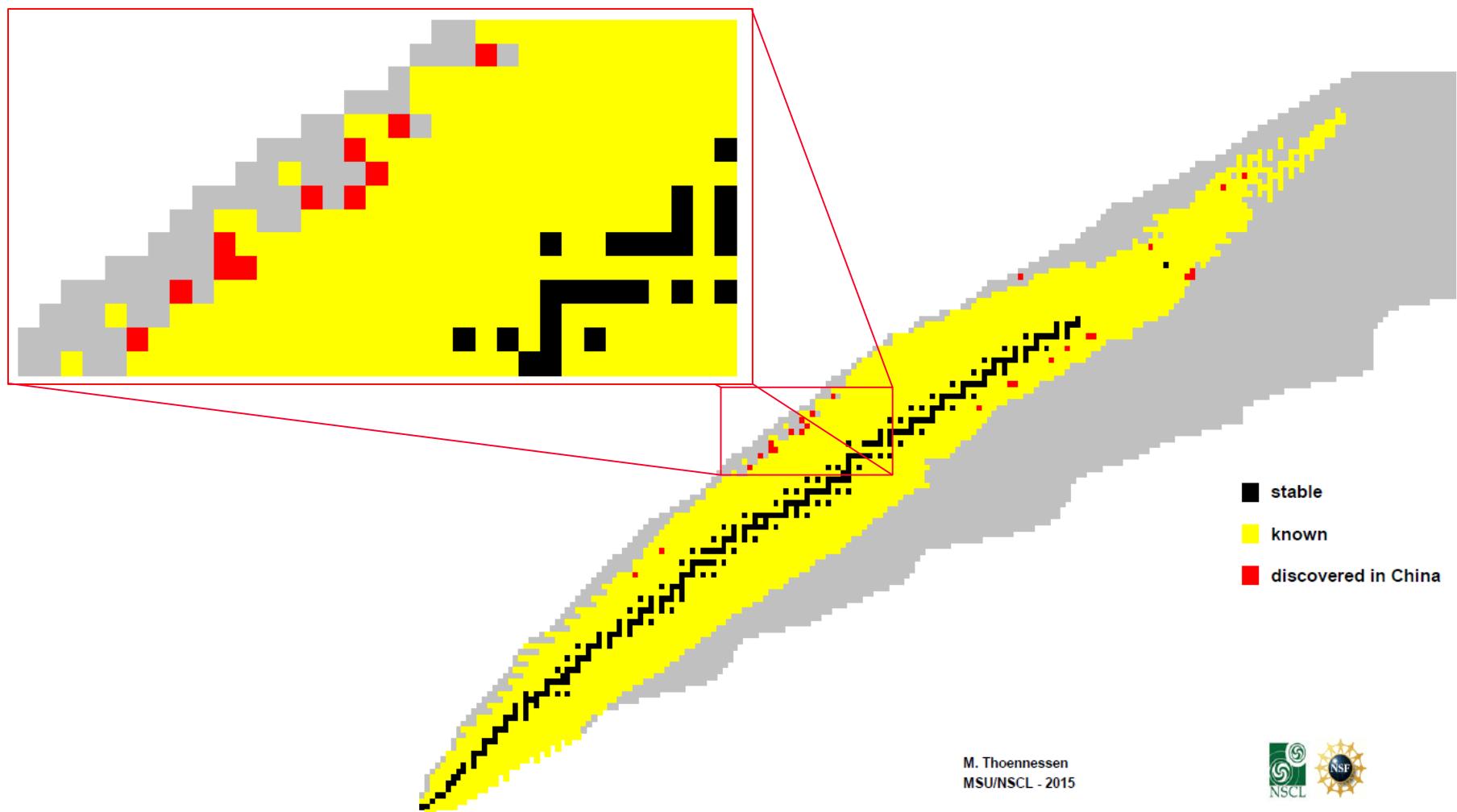
The possibility of generating and studying new proton-emitting nuclei using projectile fragmentation of very-heavy beams is investigated in this work. The charge, mass and velocity distributions of heavy residues from the interaction of 30 MeV/nucleon  $^{197}\text{Au}$  projectiles with  $^{90}\text{Zr}$  have been measured with high-resolution using the MSU A1200 fragment separator. A broad range of proton-rich nuclei are produced in this reaction. A number of new p-rich nuclei (14, of which 6 are expected to be proton emitters) are observed in the region  $Z = 60 - 73$ . The opportunity of studying proton rich nuclei produced by this approach is discussed.

MSU A1200 fragment separator



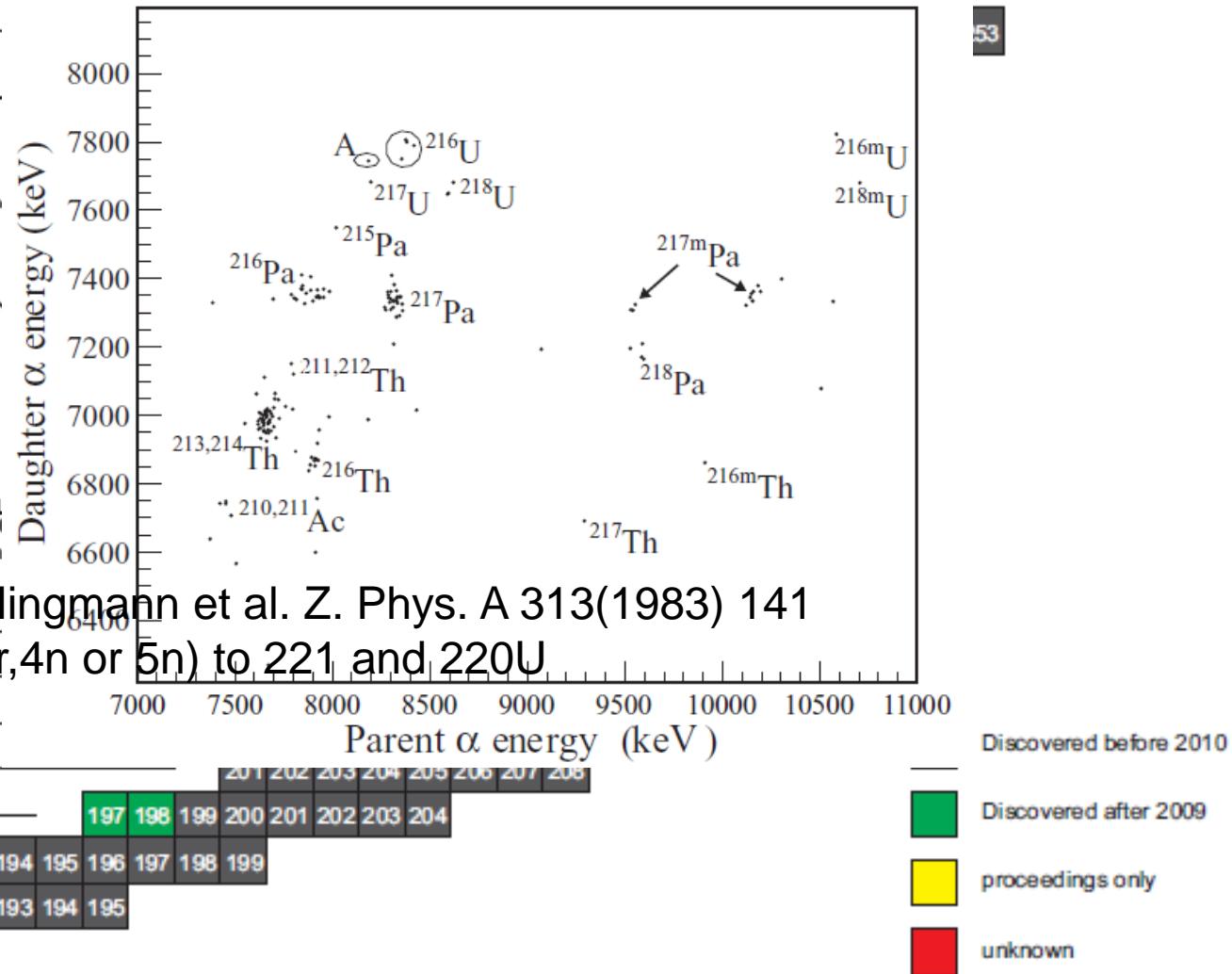
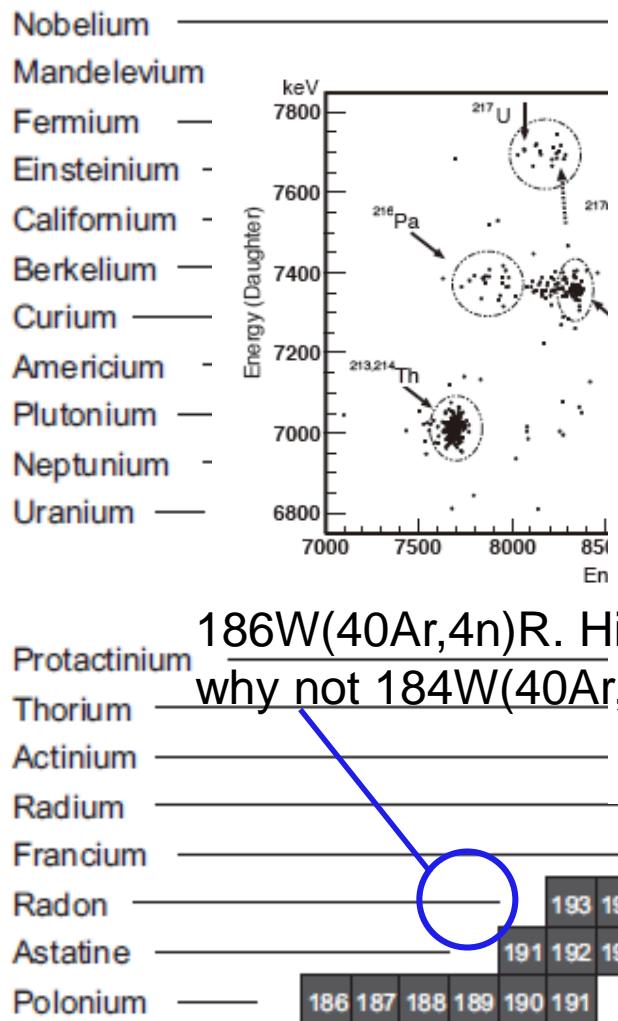
Facility for Rare Isotope Beams  
U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science  
Michigan State University

# Isotopes discovered in China

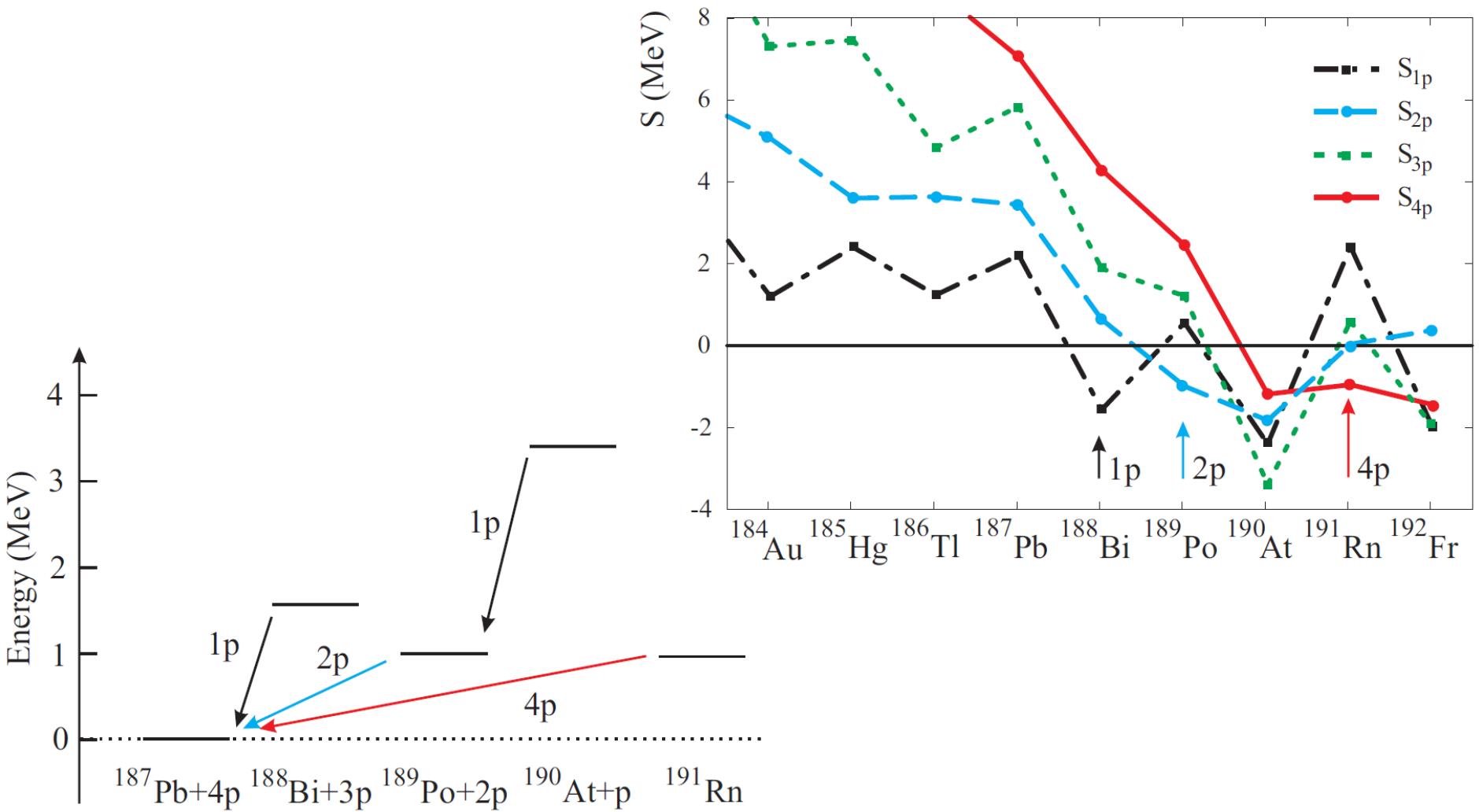


# 83<Z<103

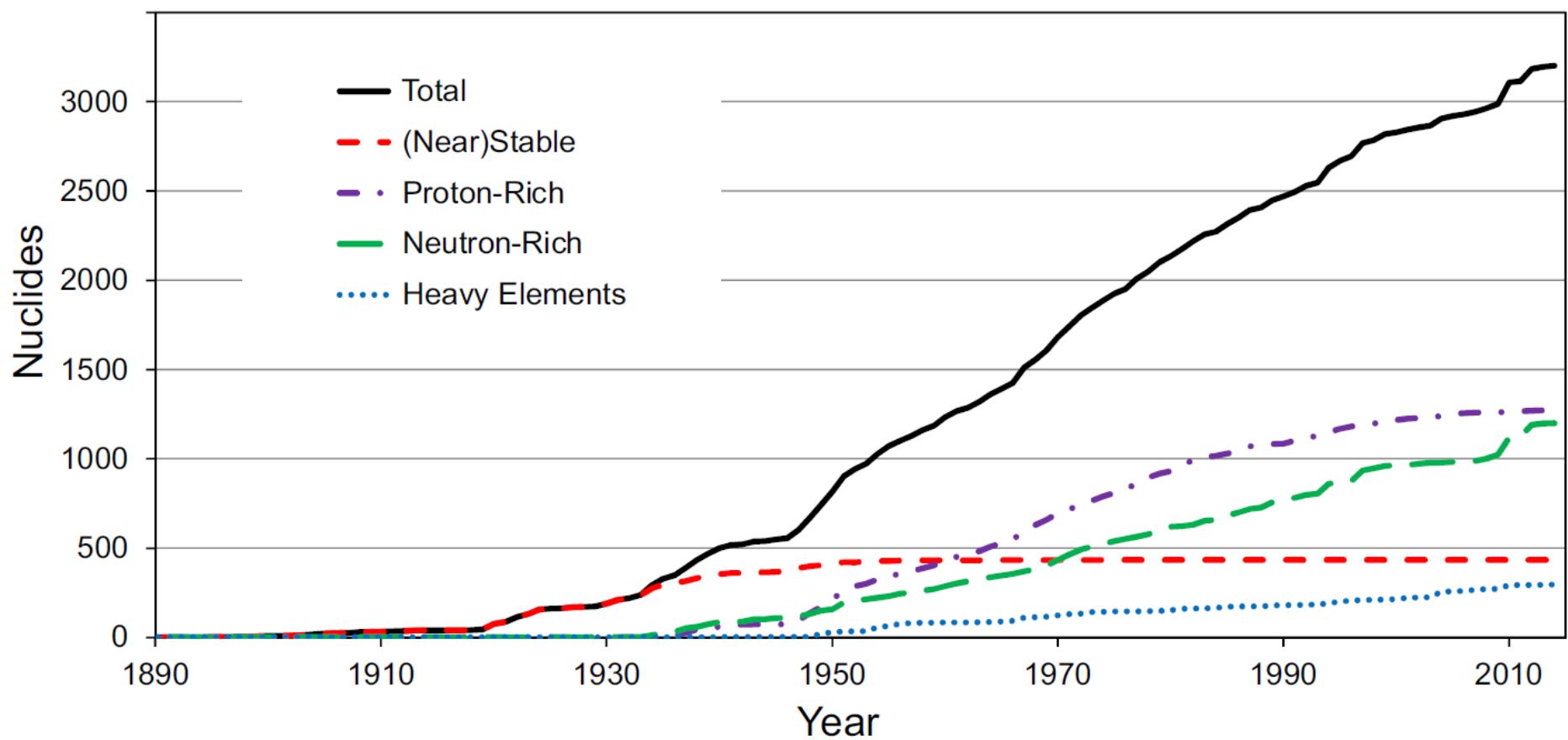
53



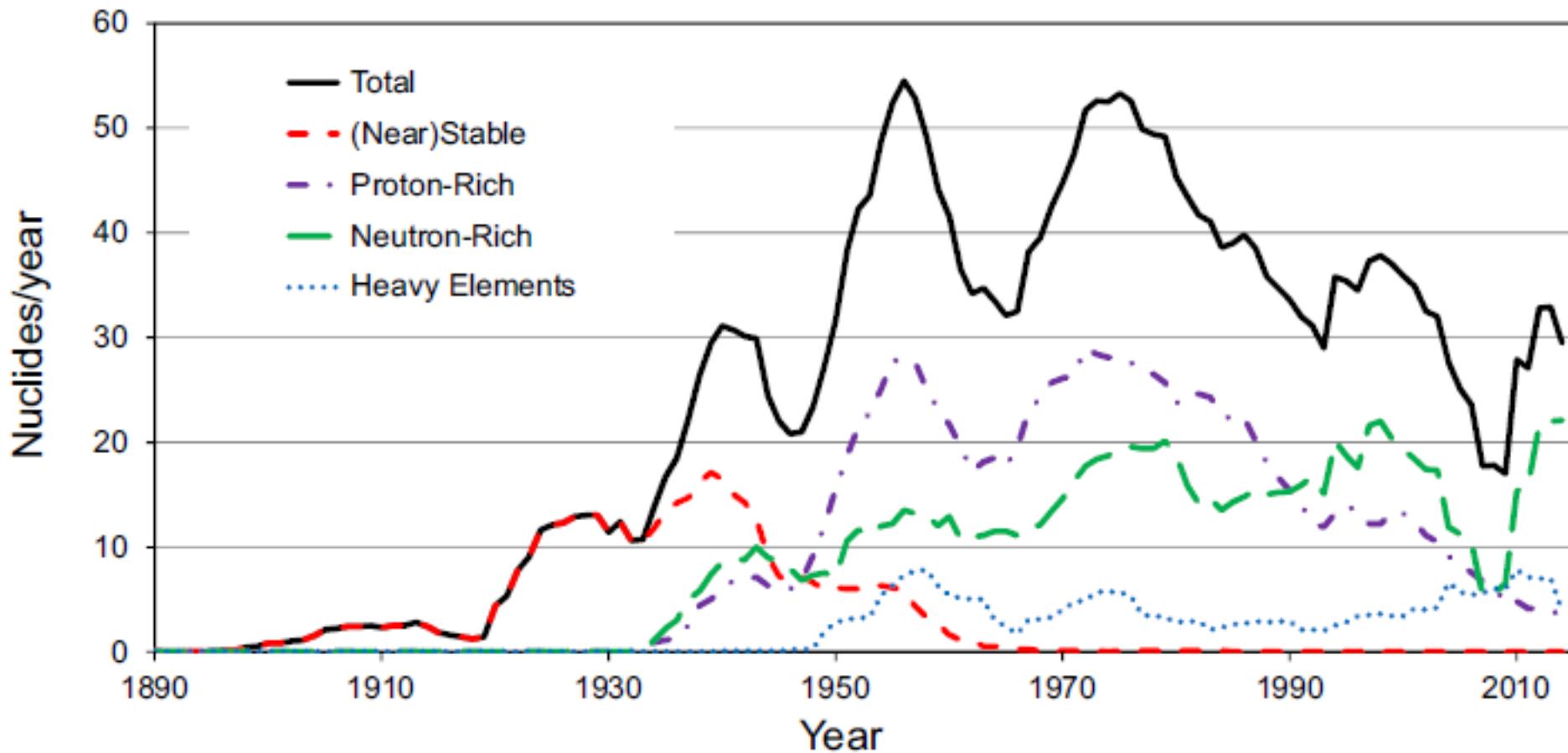
# Four-proton radioactivity



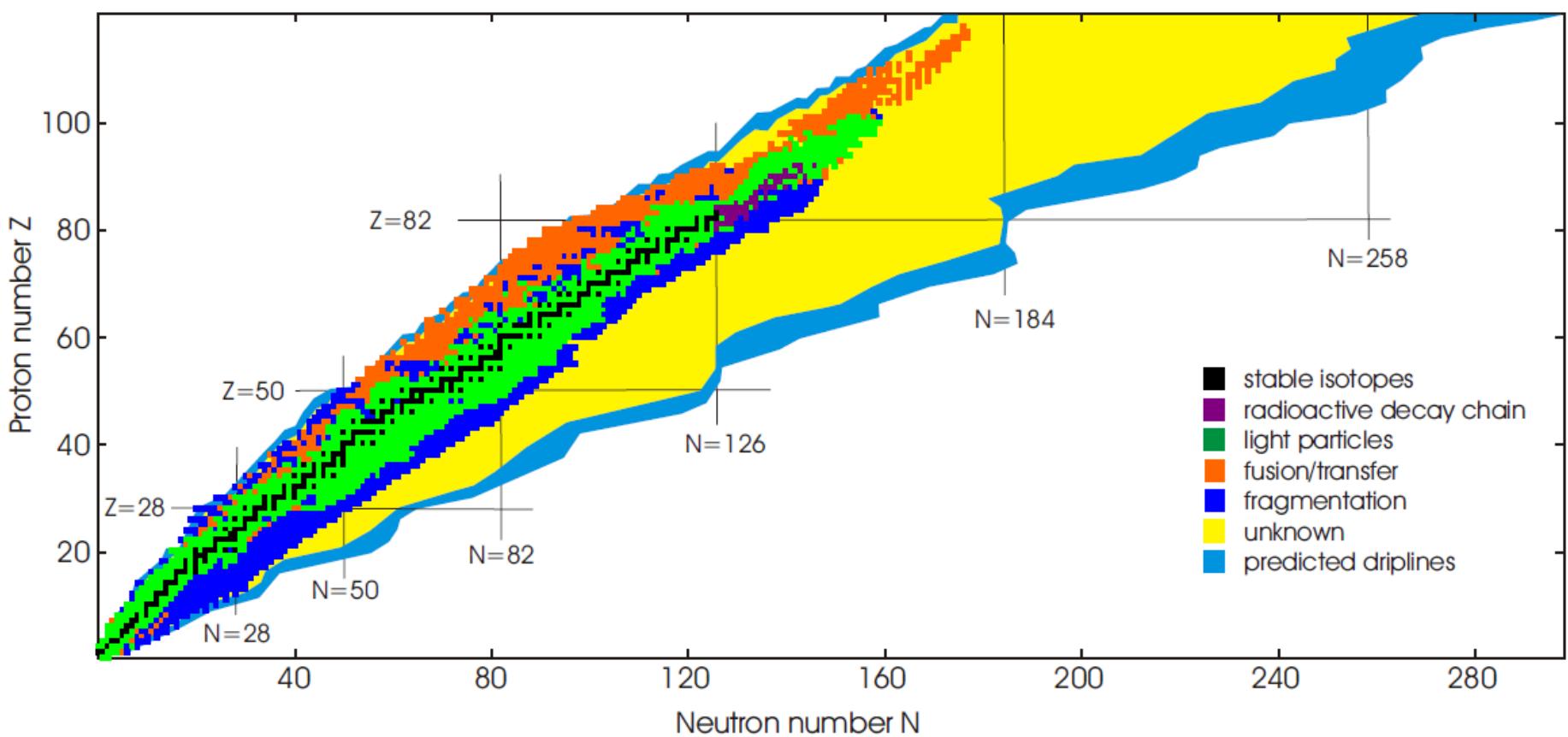
# Known isotopes



# Five-year running average

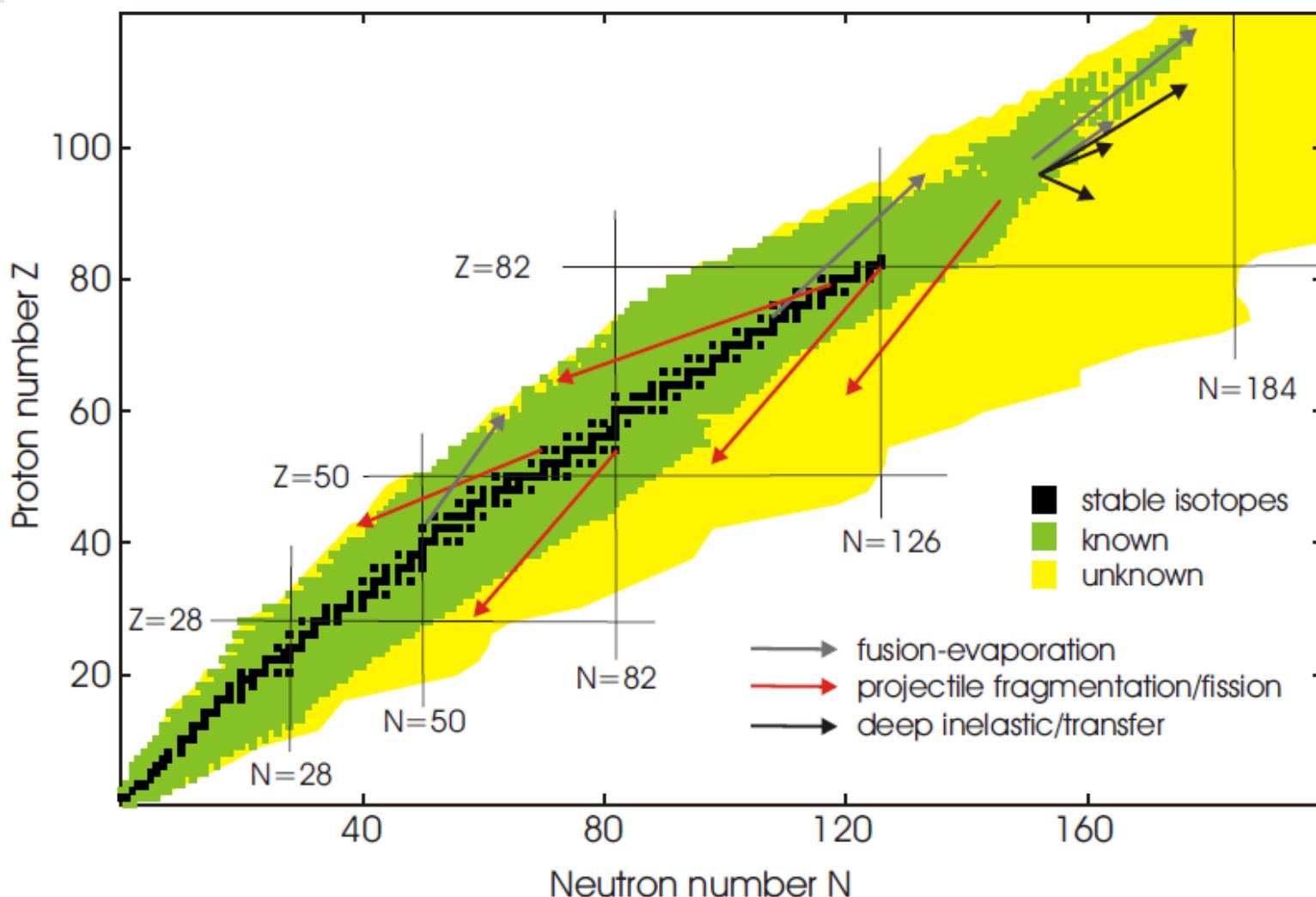


# How many more nuclides are there?

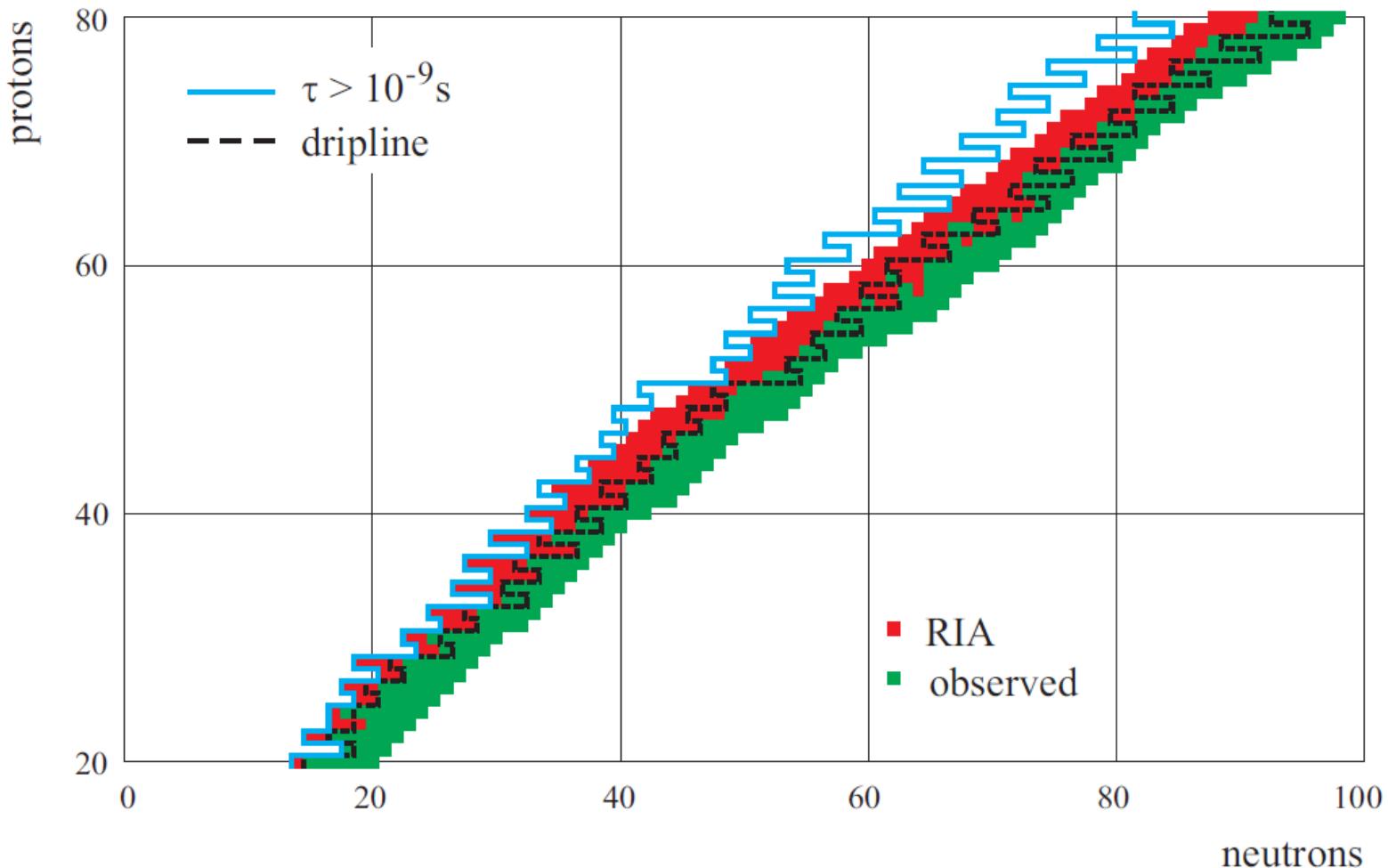


7000 bound nuclide should exist (Erler *et al.*, Nature 486 (2012) 509)

# How can new nuclides be discovered?



# Discovery potential



# Summary and outlook

- FRIB construction is on schedule:
  - Project completion June 2022
  - Early completion in December 2020
- FRIB will most likely not discover new elements
- But FRIB could reach neutron-rich isotopes of superheavy elements towards N =184
- Research program is user driven
- Users are organized as part of the independent FRIB Users Organization with over 1400 members
- Please join at [www.fribusers.org](http://www.fribusers.org)

