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IDENTIFICATION OF PARITY-DOUBLET BANDS IN ODD-Z ^{223}Pa

J. M. Keatings

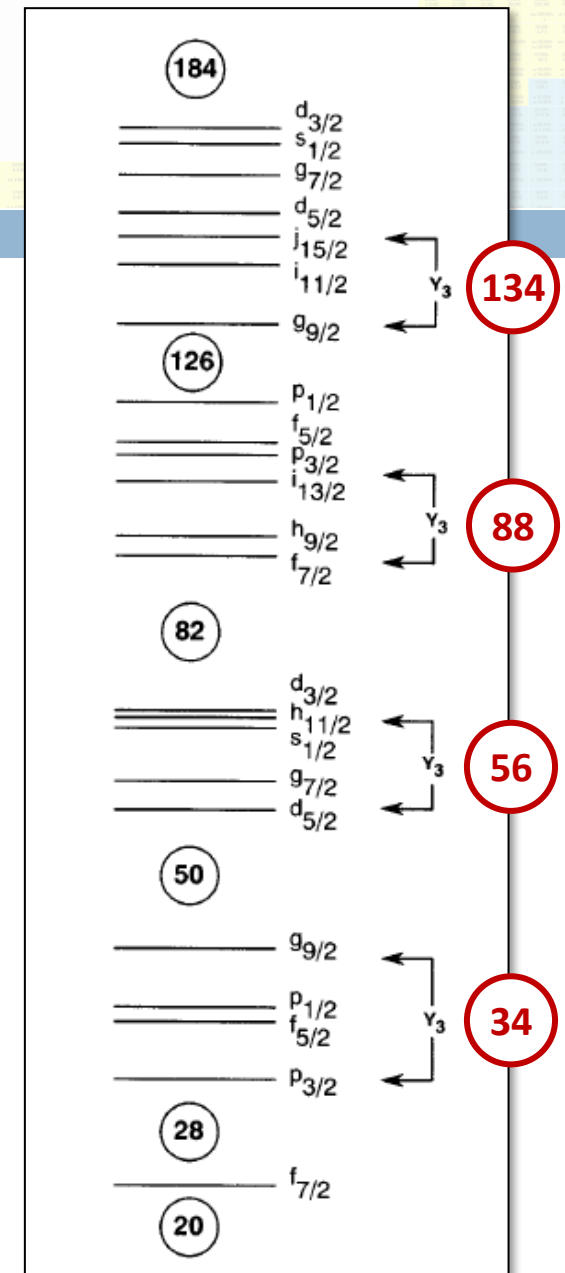
James.Keatings@uws.ac.uk

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24th April 2025

Octupole Deformation

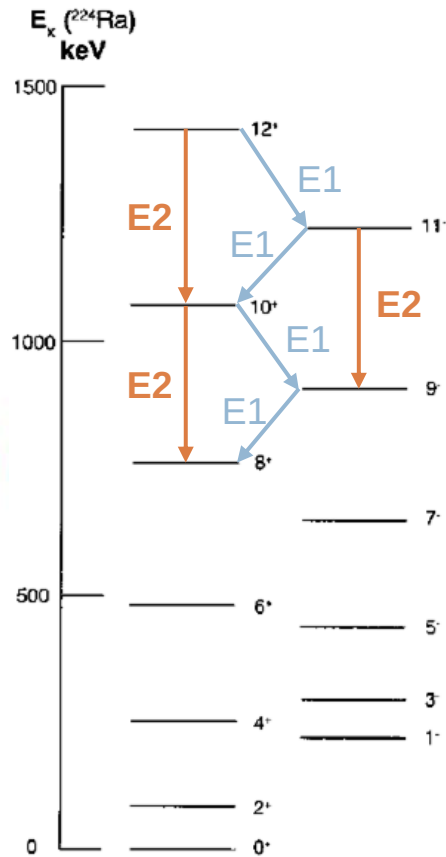
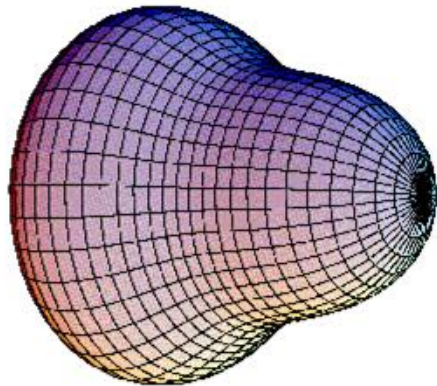
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- Requires pairs of $\Delta l = \Delta j = 3$ shells near Fermi level.
- Octupole magic numbers:
 - 34 ($g_{9/2} \otimes p_{3/2}$)
 - 56 ($h_{11/2} \otimes d_{5/2}$)
 - 88 ($i_{13/2} \otimes f_{7/2}$)
 - 134 ($j_{15/2} \otimes g_{9/2}$)
- Regions centred around doubly magic nuclei:
 - ^{112}Ba ($Z=56, N=56$)
 - ^{144}Ba ($Z=56, N=88$)
 - ^{222}Ra ($Z=88, N=134$)

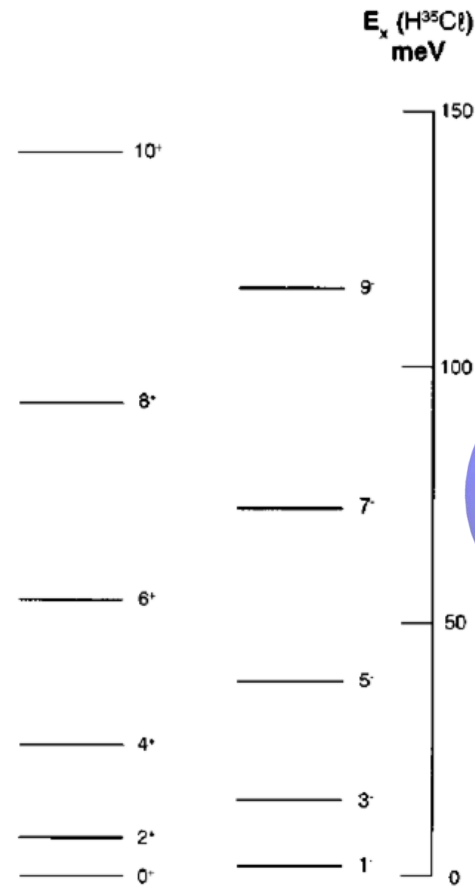


Octupole Deformation

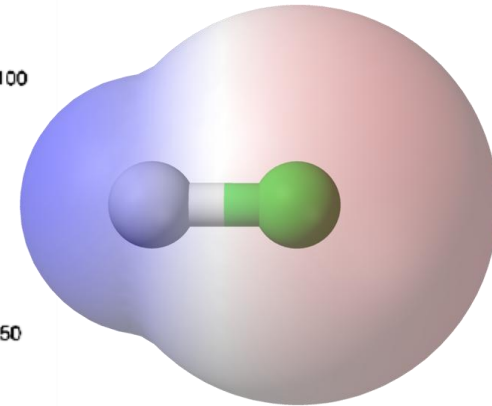
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^{224}Ra
nucleus



H^{35}Cl
molecule



[1] P. A. Butler and W. Nazarewicz, Rev. Mod. Phys. **68**, 349 (1996).

Region of Deformation

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PHYSICAL REVIEW C **102**, 024311 (2020)

Landscape of pear-shaped even-even nuclei

Yuchen Cao (曹宇晨)^{1,2}, S. E. Agbemava³, A. V. Afanasjev³, W. Nazarewicz^{2,4,*} and E. Olsen⁵

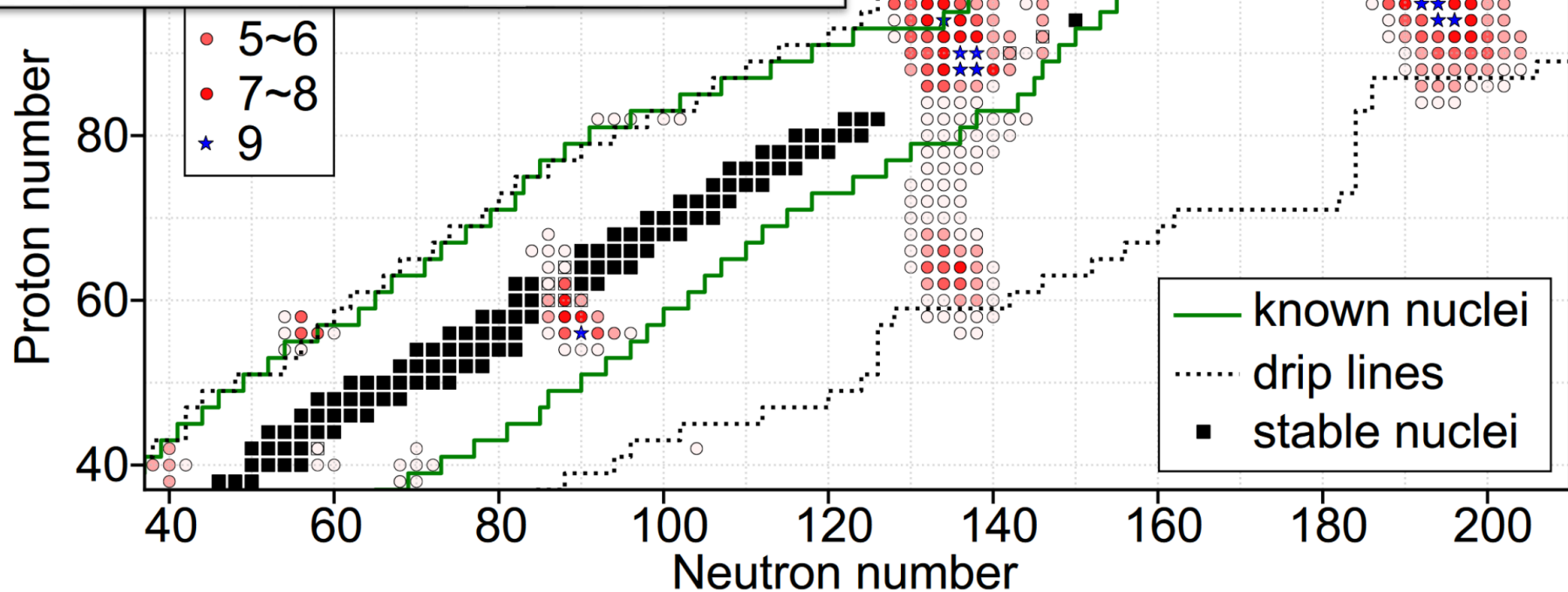
¹National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48824, USA

²Department of Physics and Astronomy, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48824, USA

³Department of Physics and Astronomy, Mississippi State University, Starkville, Mississippi 39762, USA

⁴Facility for Rare Isotope Beams, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48824, USA

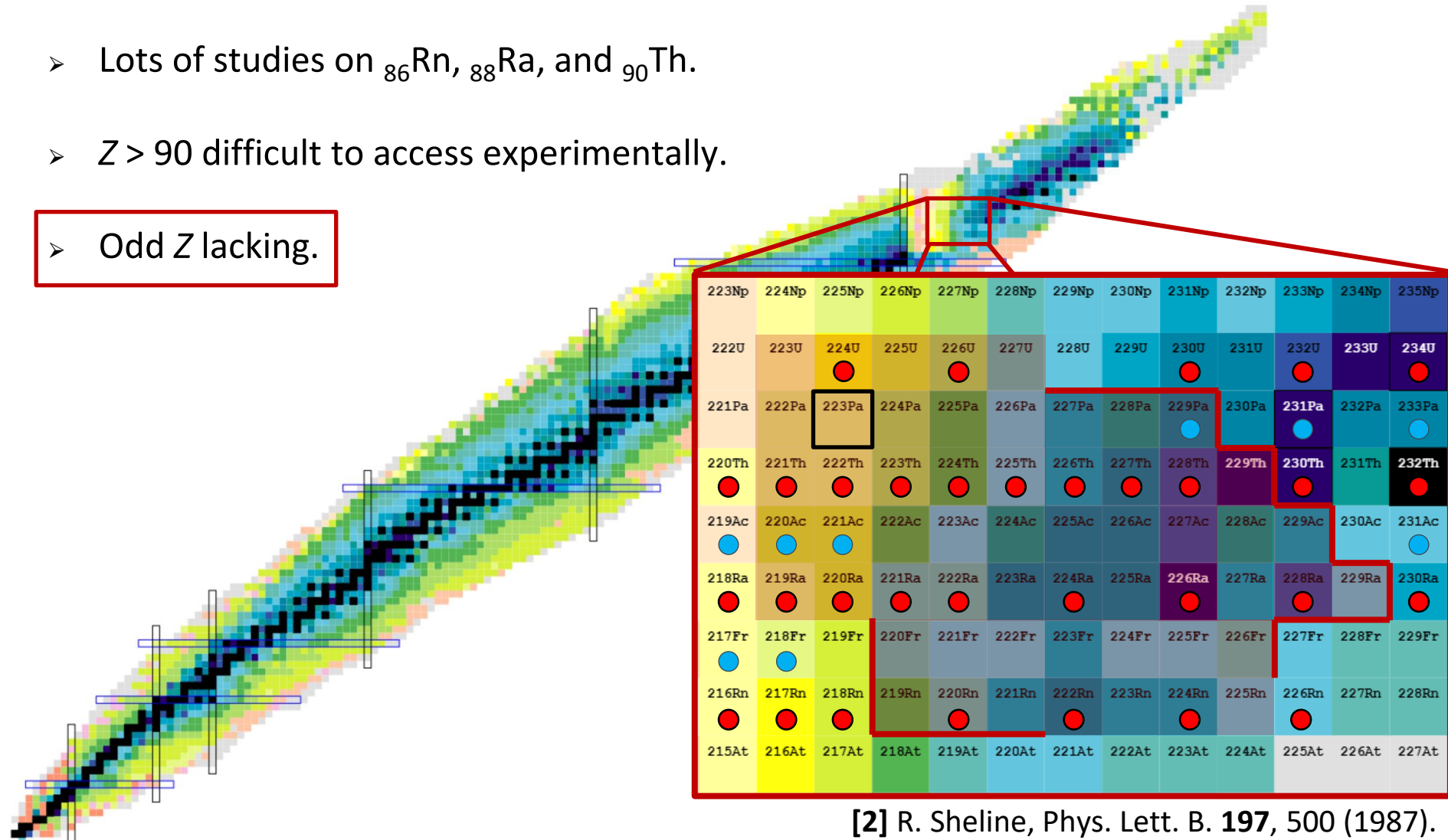
⁵Institut d'Astronomie et d'Astrophysique, Université Libre de Bruxelles, 1050 Brussels, Belgium



Region of Interest

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- Lots of studies on $_{86}\text{Rn}$, $_{88}\text{Ra}$, and $_{90}\text{Th}$.
- $Z > 90$ difficult to access experimentally.
- Odd Z lacking.



[2] R. Sheline, Phys. Lett. B. **197**, 500 (1987).

Previous Studies– ^{223}Pa

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PHYSICAL REVIEW C, VOLUME 60, 057301

Electromagnetic transitions and α decay of the ^{223}Pa nucleus

F. Hoellinger, B. J. P. Gall, and N. Schulz

Institut de Recherches Subatomiques, UMR 7500, CNRS-IN2P3 et Université Louis Pasteur, F-67037 Strasbourg Cedex 2, France

N. Amzal, P. A. Butler, P. T. Greenlees, and D. Hawcroft

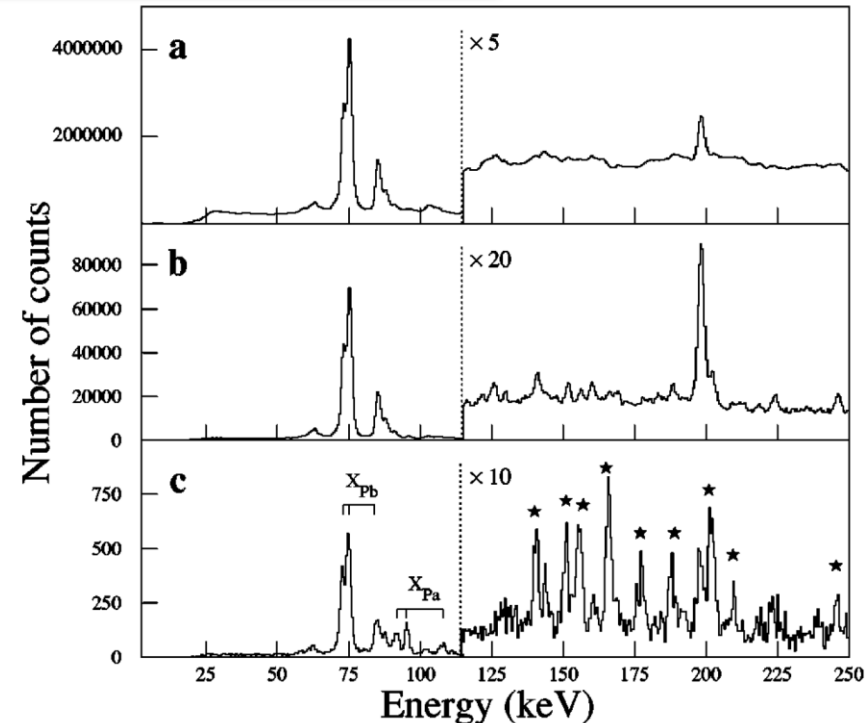
Oliver Lodge Laboratory, University of Liverpool, Liverpool L69 7ZE, United Kingdom

J. F. C. Cocks, K. Helariutta, P. M. Jones, R. Julin, S. Juutinen, H. Kankaanpää, H. Kettunen, P. Kuusiniemi, M. Leino, M. Muikku, and D. Savelius

Department of Physics, University of Jyväskylä, Jyväskylä, FIN-40351, Finland

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- Performed at JYFL with JUROSPHERE (13 EUROGAM & 10 TESSA) and RITU.
- Measuring RDT coincidences.
- $^{208}\text{Pb}(^{19}\text{F},4n)^{223}\text{Pa}$, $E = 99$ MeV.
- $500 \mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$ target.
- 9 γ rays identified, but no level scheme possible.

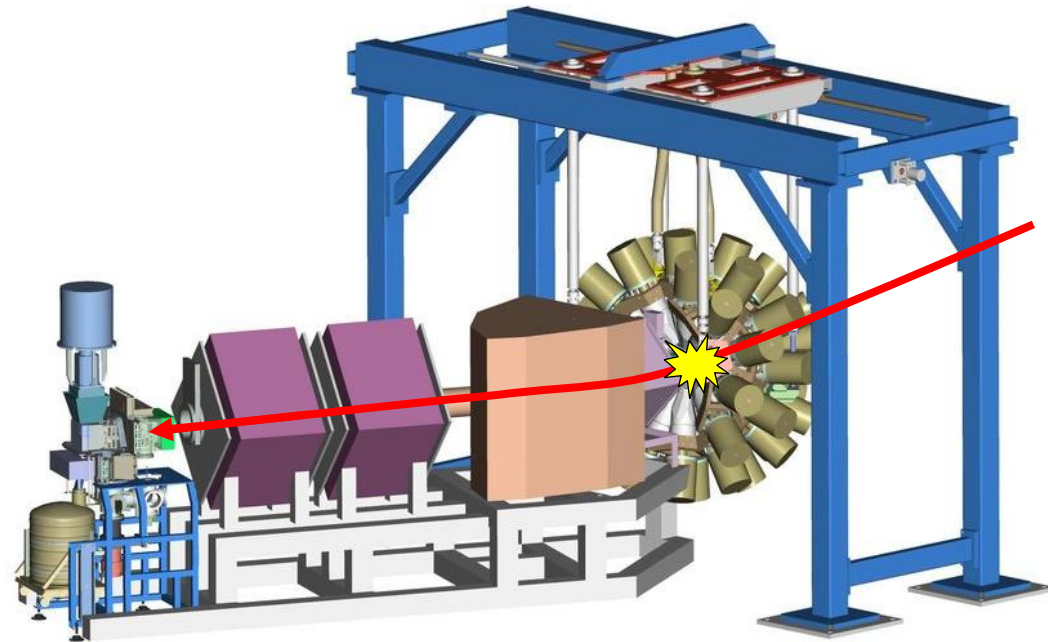


Experiment Details

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- JUROGAM-3, RITU, & FP array.
- ^{19}F beam, $E = 99 \text{ MeV}$, 45 pA .
- $\sim 250 \mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$ ^{208}Pb target, $40 \mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$ C backing.
- 99% fission, $\sim 100 \mu\text{b}$.
- ^{223}Pa RDT γ -ray spectra.



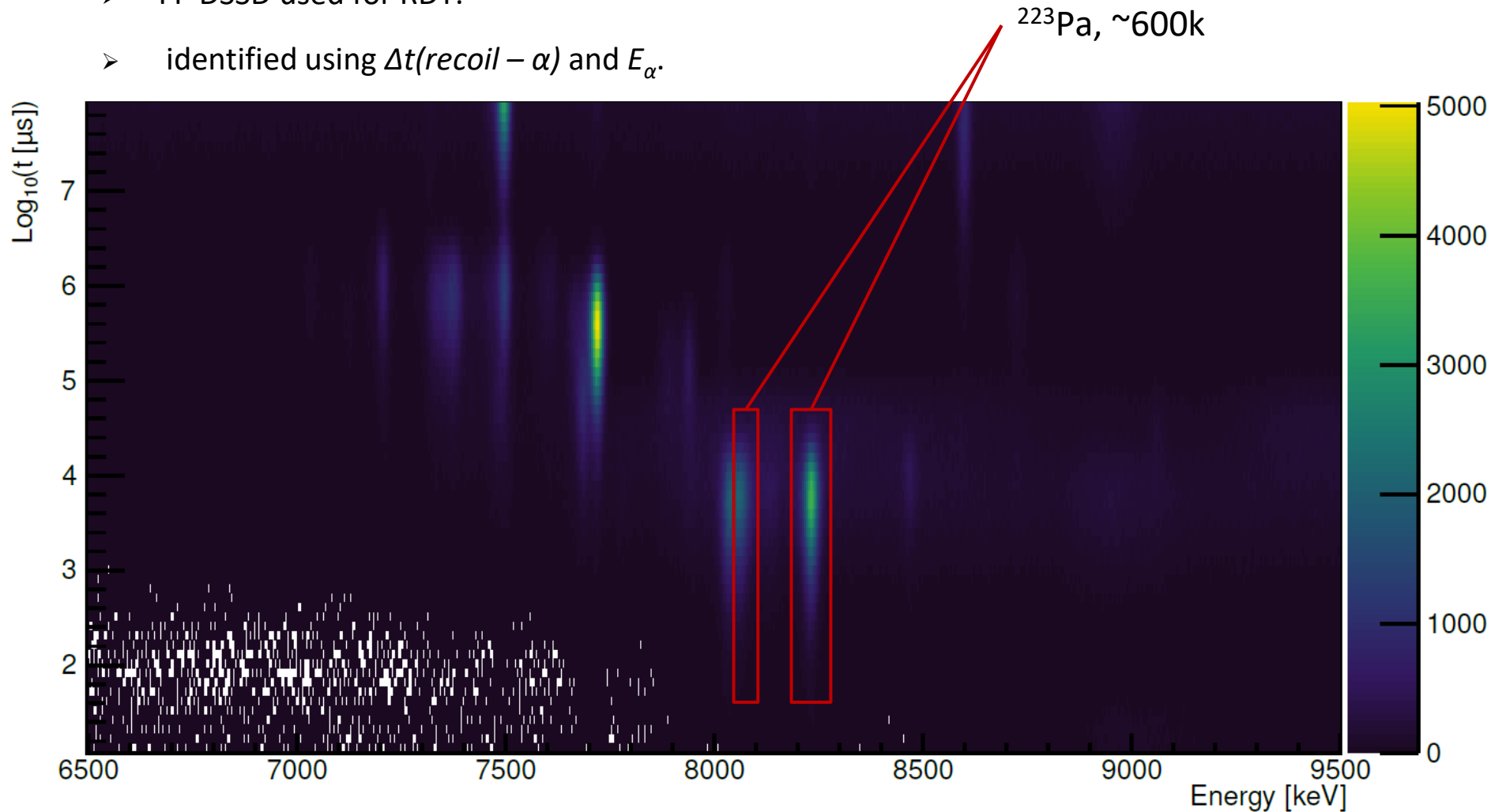
[5] J. Pakarinen *et al.*, Eur. Phys. J. A **56**, 149 (2020).

[6] J. Uusitalo *et al.*, NIM B **204**, 638 (2003).

Recoil Decay Tagging

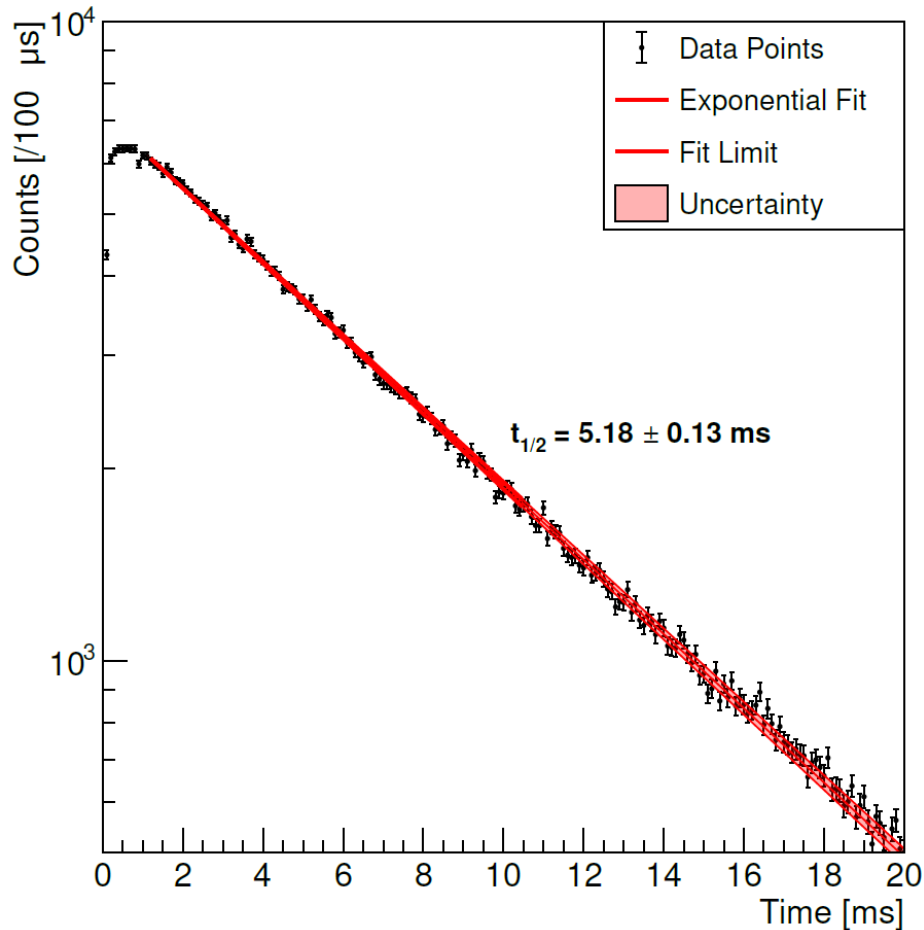
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- FP DSSD used for RDT.
- identified using $\Delta t(\text{recoil} - \alpha)$ and E_α .

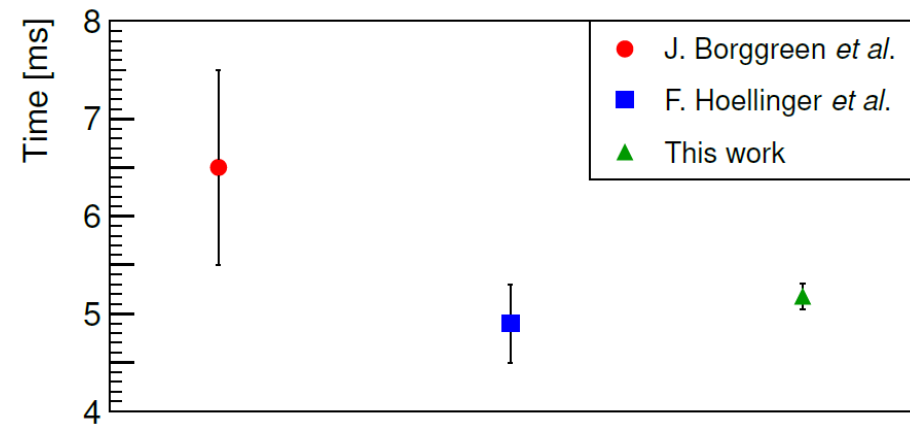


Half-Life Measurement

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- Slightly disagreement with two previous measurements.
- Our new value consistent with F. Hoellinger *et al.*



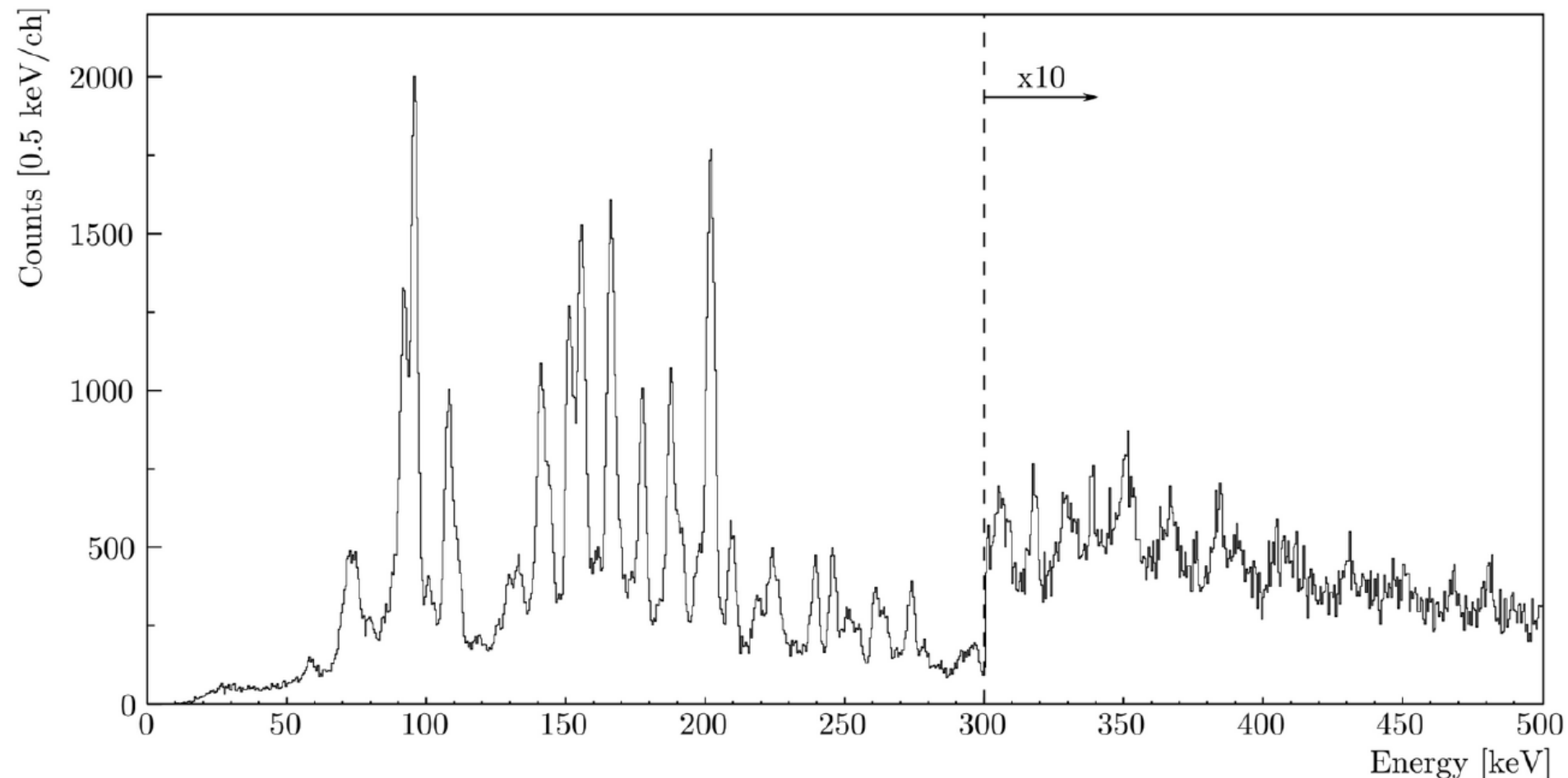
[7] J. Borggreen *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C **2**, 1841 (1970).

[4] F. Hoellinger *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C **60**, 057301 (1999).

Gamma-Ray Spectra

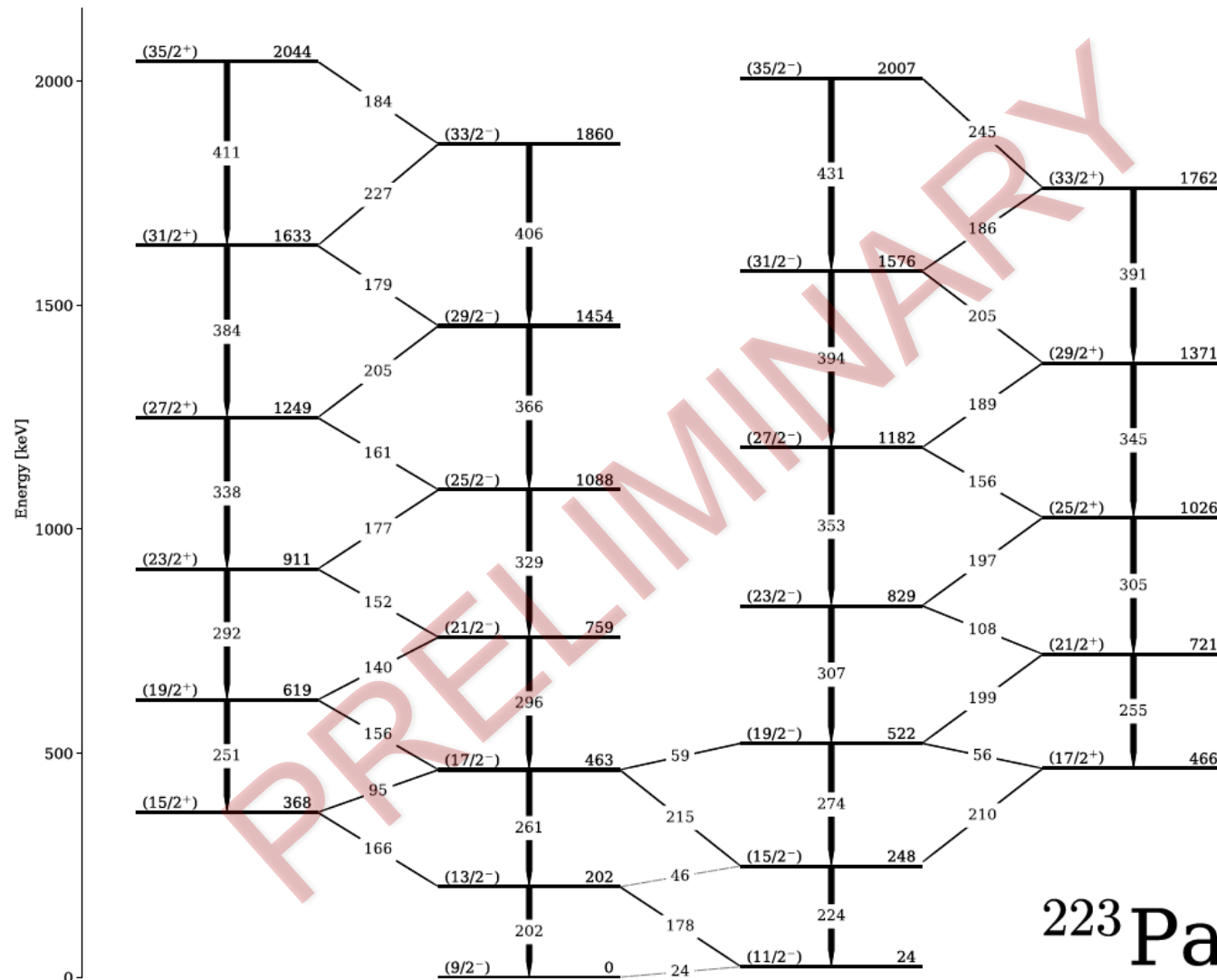
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- ~600k ^{223}Pa - γ events.
- ~225k ^{223}Pa - γ - γ events.
- ~60 γ rays observed.
- ~25x data as F. Hoelinger *et al.*



Level Scheme

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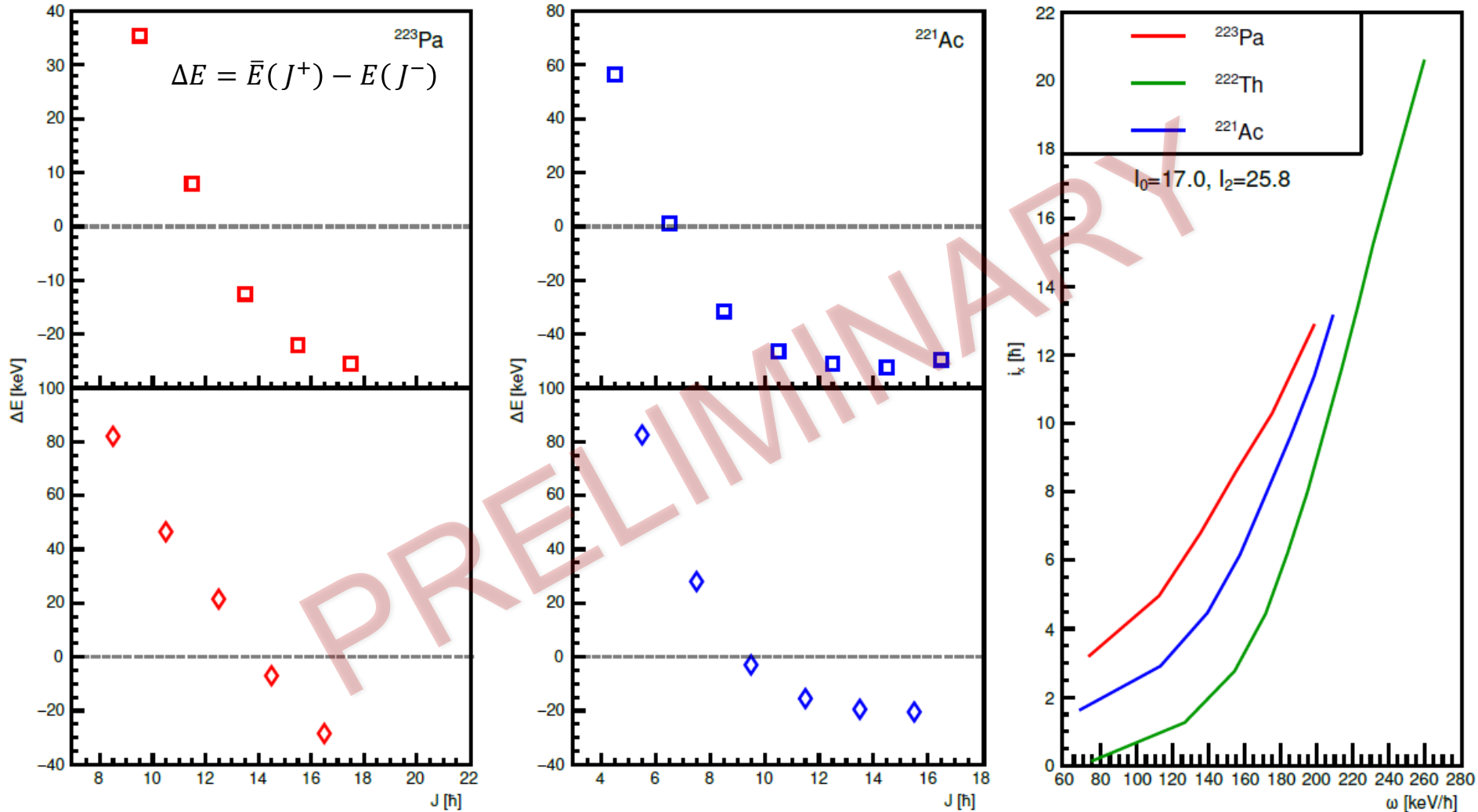


^{223}Pa

- First high-spin levels scheme for Pa in octupole region.
- Angular correlations not measured.
- J^π assignments (very) tentative.
- Parity doublet band structure.
- Work in progress.

Energy Splitting

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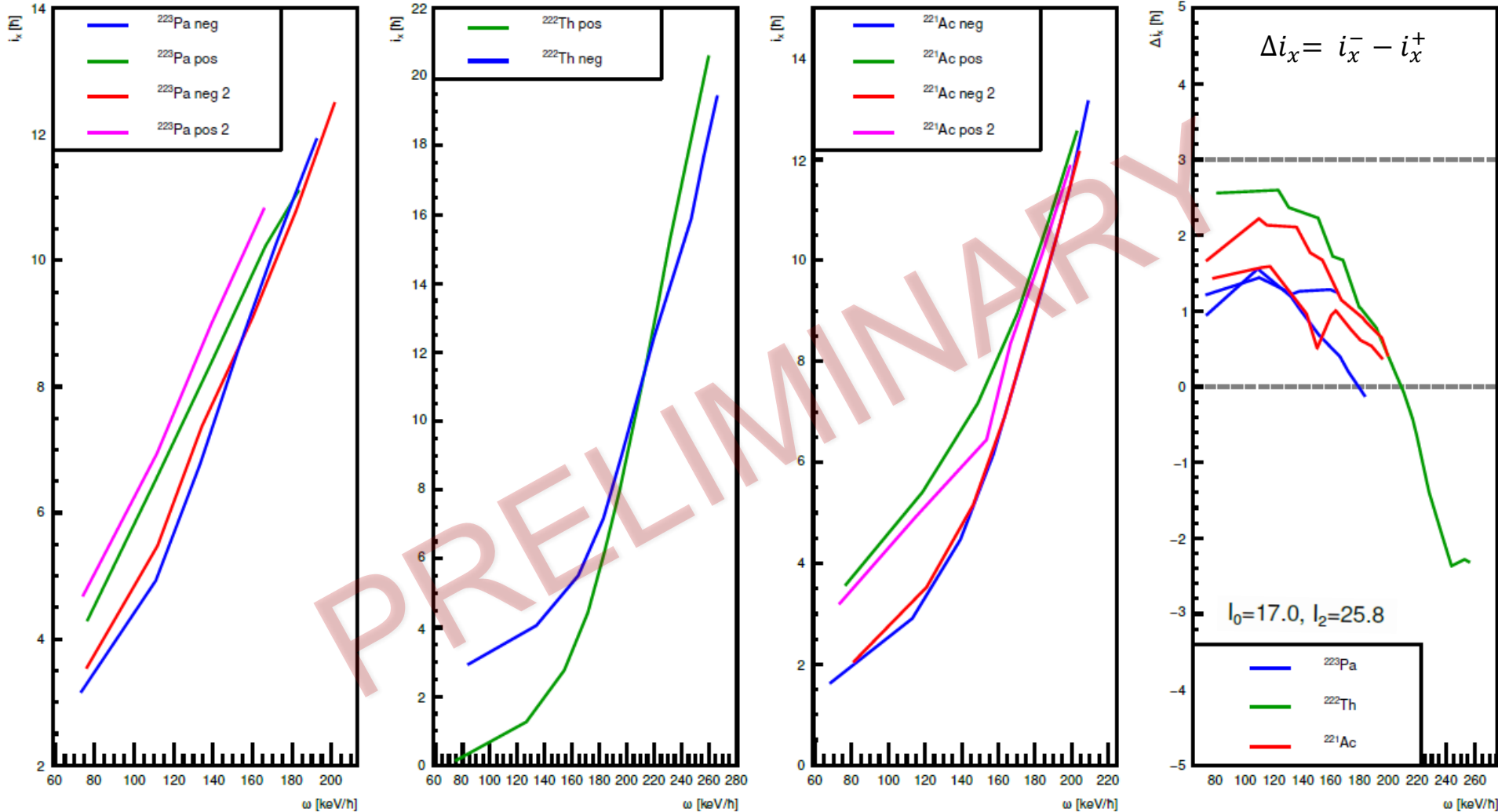


[8] M. Aiche *et al.*, Nucl. Phys. A **567**, 685 (1994).

[9] J. F. Smith *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **75**, 1050 (1995).

Alignment

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[8] M. Aiche *et al.*, Nucl. Phys. A **567**, 685 (1994).

[9] J. F. Smith *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **75**, 1050 (1995).

Acknowledgements & Summary

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Summary:

- There is a lack of experimental evidence for octupole deformation for $Z > 90$.
- First excited states in ^{223}Pa observed, shows parity doublet octupole bands.
- Performed $^{208}\text{Pb}(^{19}\text{F}, 4n)^{223}\text{Pa}$ experiment at JYFL with JUROGAM3 & RITU.
- Collectivity appears comparable to ^{222}Th , analysis is still ongoing.

Collaborators:

J. F. Smith¹, P.-A. Aden³, N. Alwadie², K. Auranen³, H. Ayatollahzadeh¹, M. Bowry¹, A. D. Briscoe², P. A. Butler², J. Chadderton², R. Chapman¹, L. P. Gaffney², P. T. Greenlees³, T. Grahn³, B. J. M. Hogg¹, D. T. Joss², H. Joukainen³, R. Julin³, H. Jutila³, M. Leino³, J. Louko³, M. Luoma³, A. McCarter², B. S. Nara Singh¹, D. O'Donnell¹, J. Ojala², R. D. Page², J. Pakarinen³, P. Rahkila³, P. Ruotsalainen³, J. Sarén³, M. Scheck¹, C.M. Sullivan², A. Tolosa³, J. Uusitalo³

¹ University of the West of Scotland, Paisley, PA1 2BE, UK

² University of Liverpool, Oxford Street, Liverpool, L69 7ZE, UK

³ University of Jyväskylä, Jyväskylä, 40351, Finland