41st Symposium on Nuclear Physics
Cocoyoc 2018

Helium Decays of the ^{17,18}O Excited States and Clustering in Oxygen Nuclei

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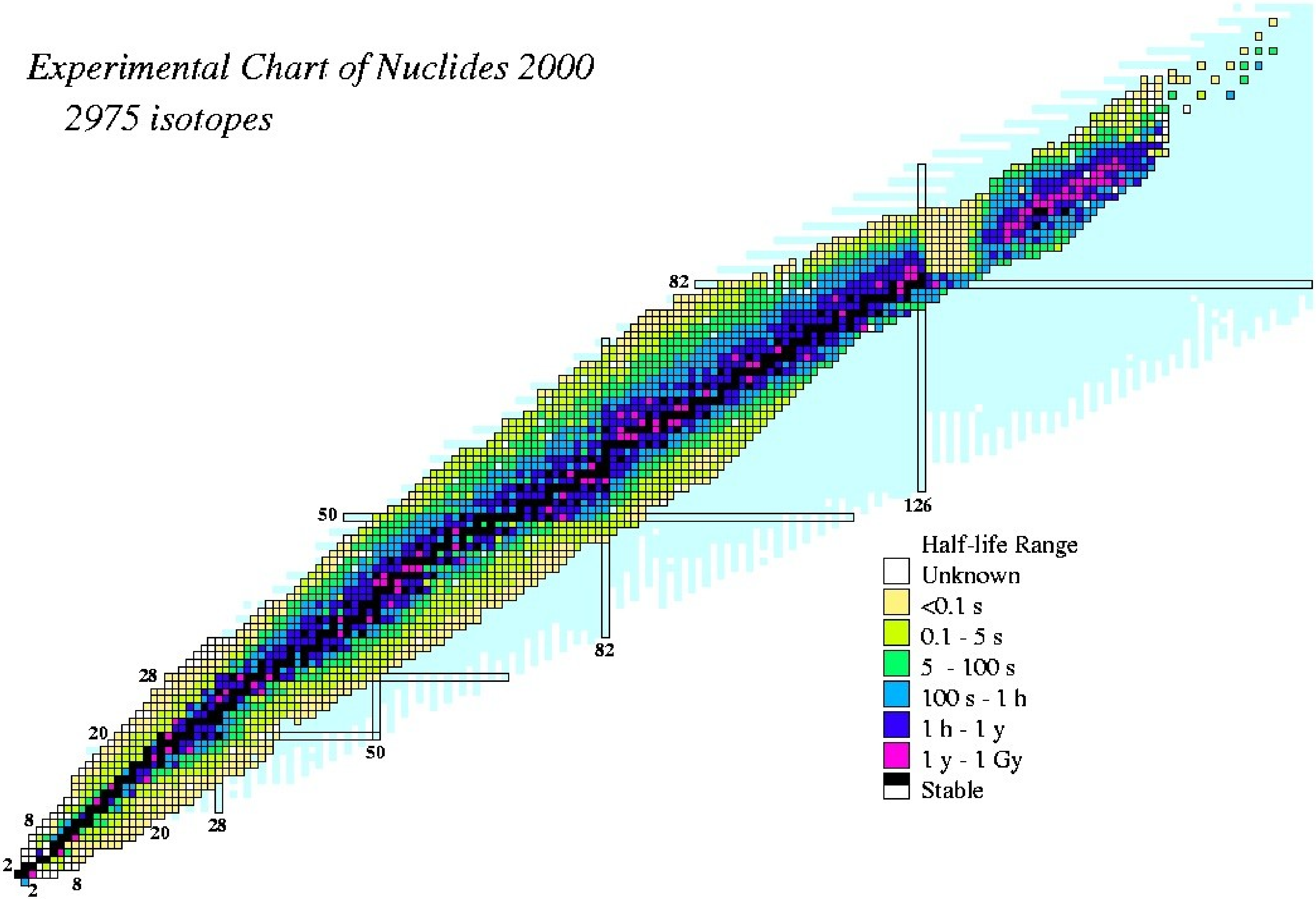
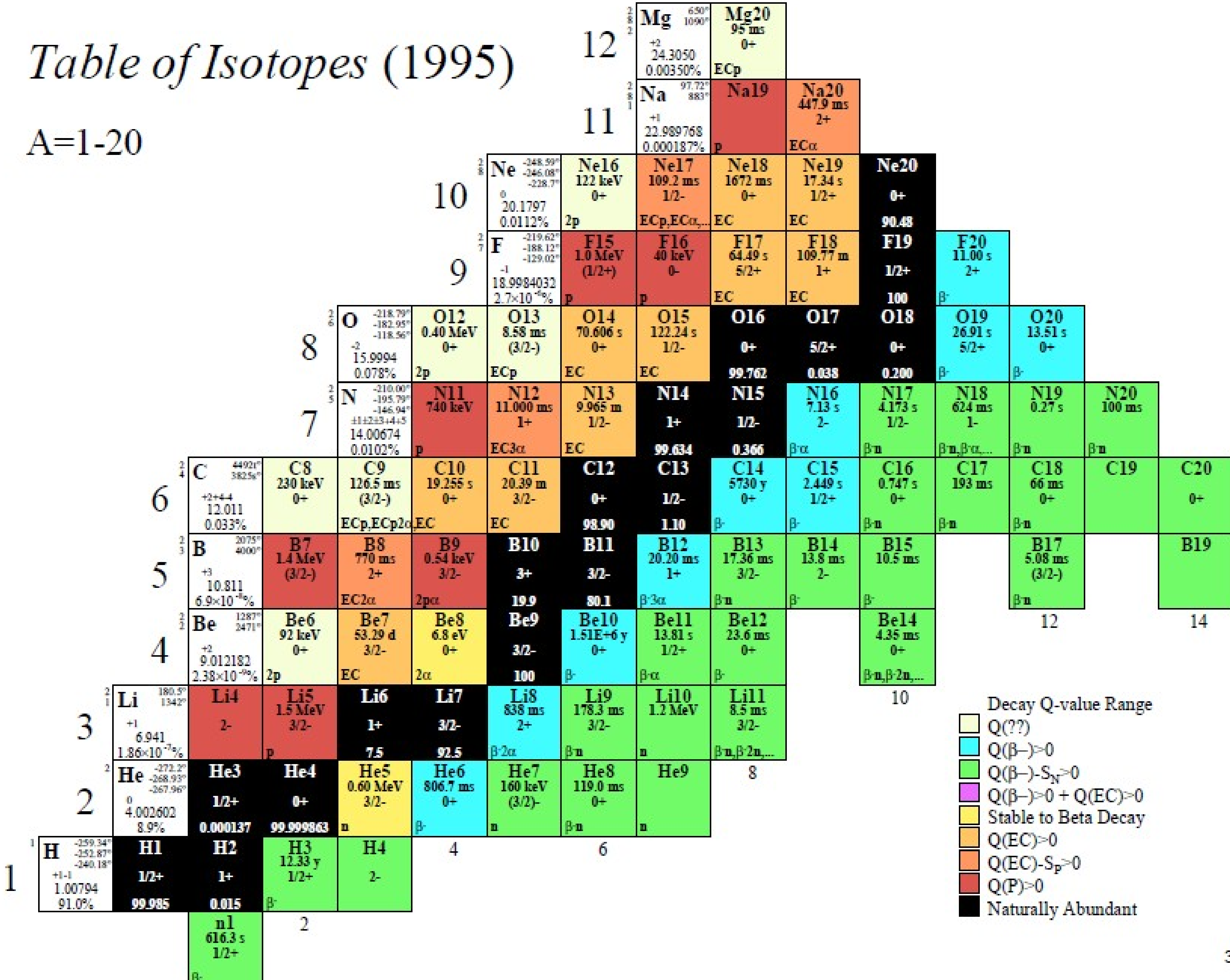


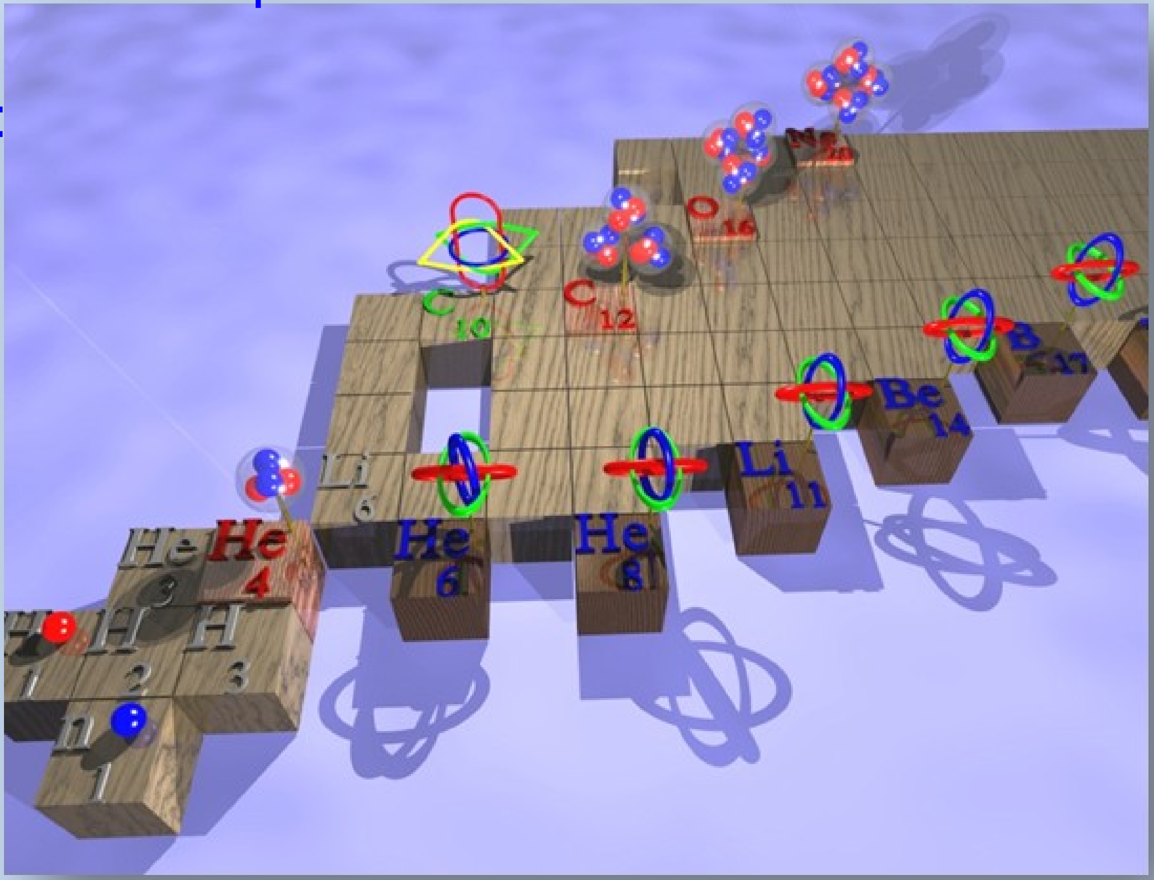
Experimental Chart of Nuclides 2000
2975 isotopes
Half-life Range
Unknown
<0.1 s
0.1 - 5 s
5 - 100 s
100 s - 1 h
1 h - 1 y
1 y - 1 Gy
Stable
2
2
8
8
20
20
28
28
50
50
82
82
126

Table of Isotopes (1995)

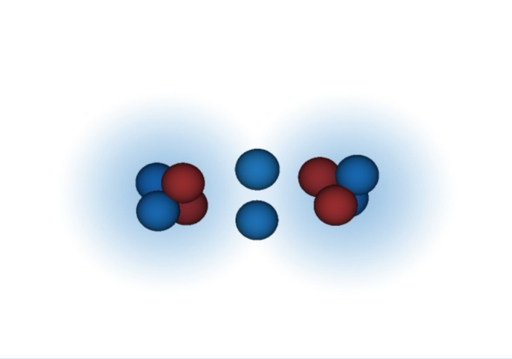
A=1-20



- Light nuclei
- small number of degrees of freedom
- low density of states at moderate excitations
- tests of basic principles of nuclear structure and interaction starting from individual nucleons
- structure & reactions: single particle – correlated pairs – clusters
- experimentally found p and n drip lines
- reachness of unusall nuclear configurations: Borromean, skin, halo, clusters, molecules

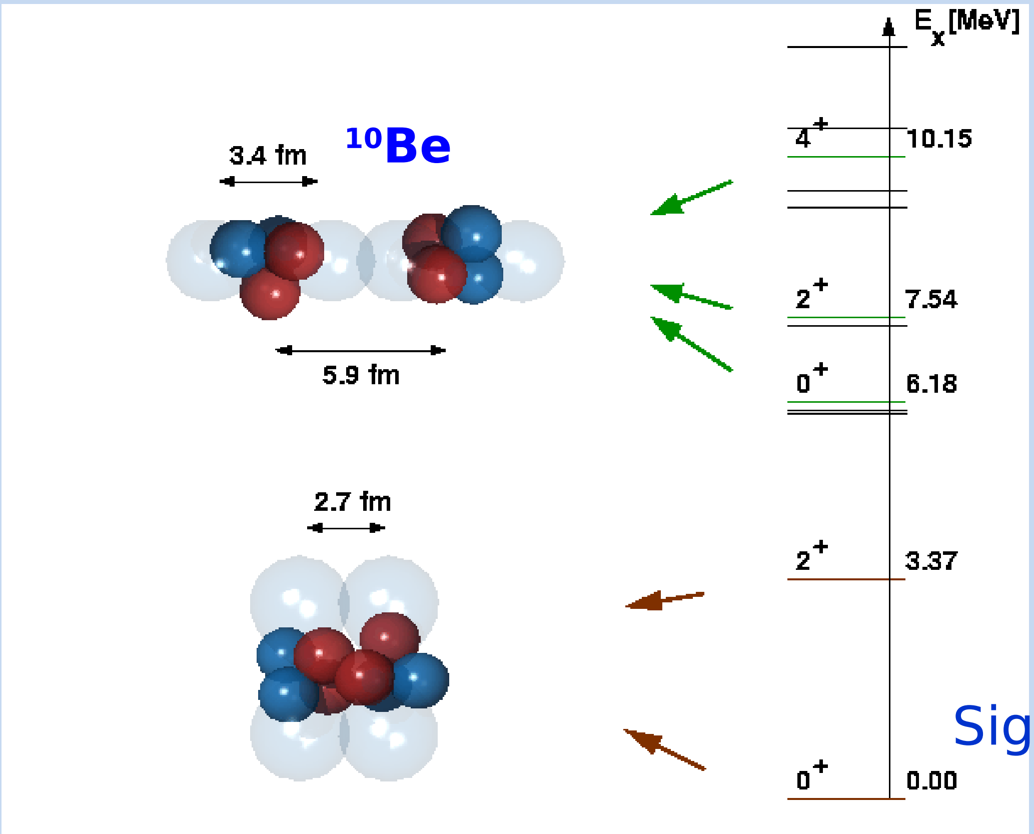


Nuclear molecules



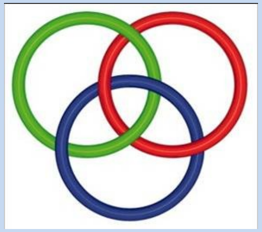
valence neutrons exchanged between the cores

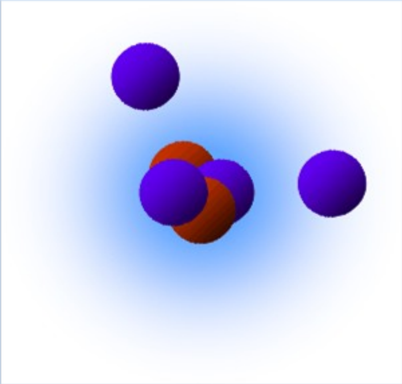
9,10,12Be, 14,16C, 18,20,22O, 22,24,26Ne



Decay by 6He emission:

10,12Be





Borromean system

Signature of exotic structure

molecular structure

N.Soić *et al*, Europhys.Lett. (1995)

M.Milin *et al*, Europhys.Lett. (1999)

M.Milin *et al*, Nucl.Phys. (2005)

M.Freer *et al*, Phys.Rev.Lett. (2006)

Oxygen isotopes

^{16}O: double magic ground state, 1st excited state ^{12}C+α cluster

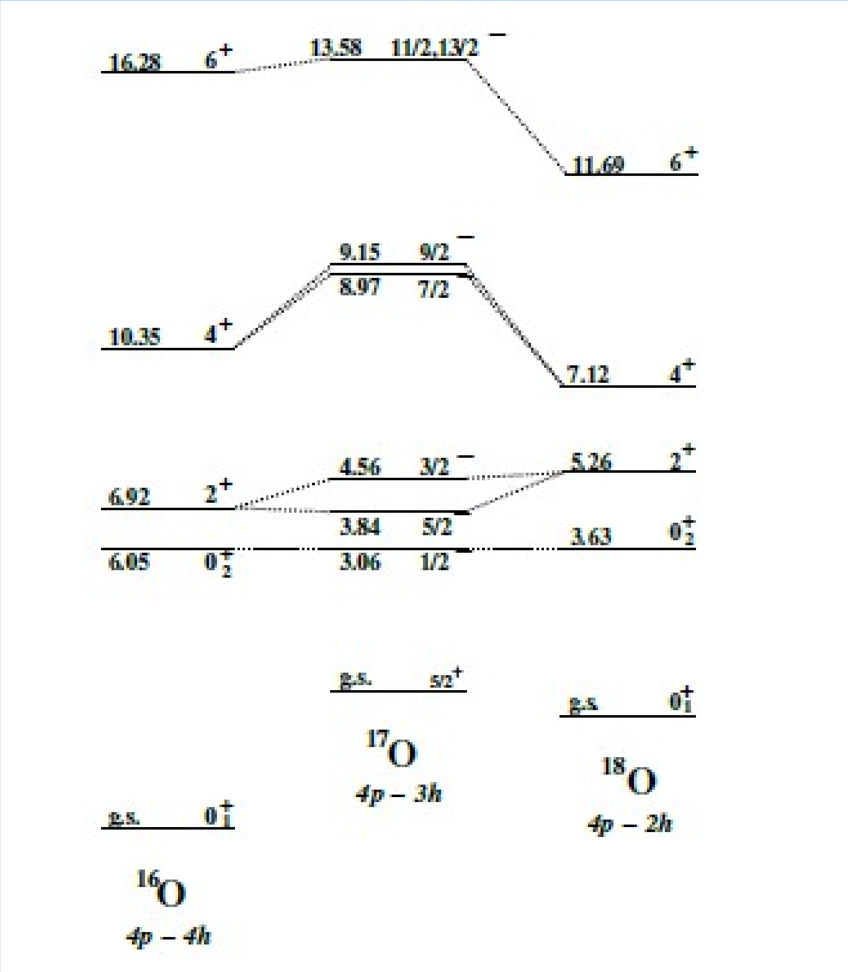
$K_\pi = 0^+$ rotational band

J_π	E_x MeV
0^+	6.05
2^+	6.92
4^+	10.36
6^+	16.28

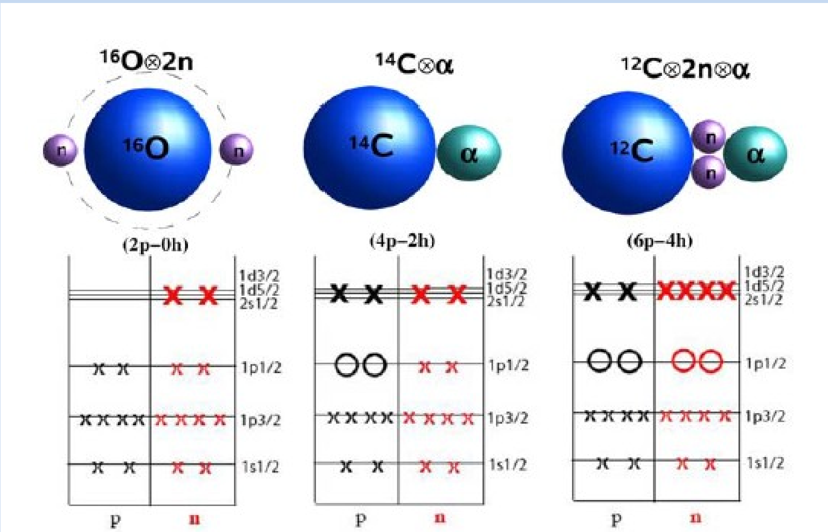
$K_\pi = 0^-$ rotational band

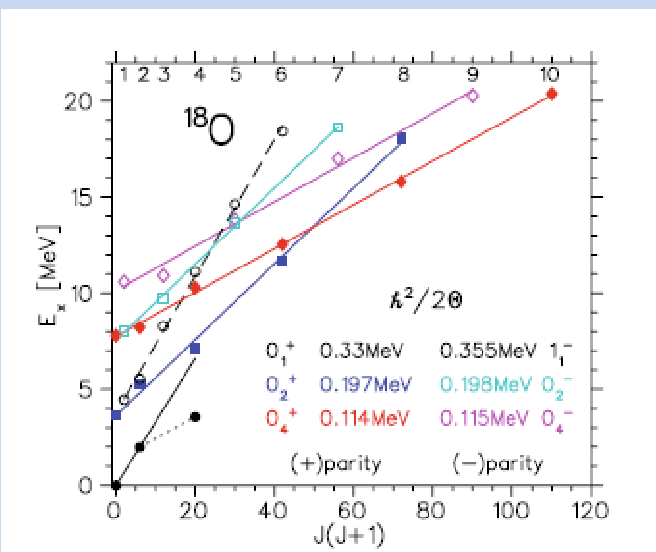
J_π	E_x MeV
1^-	9.59
3^-	11.60
5^-	14.66
7^-	20.86

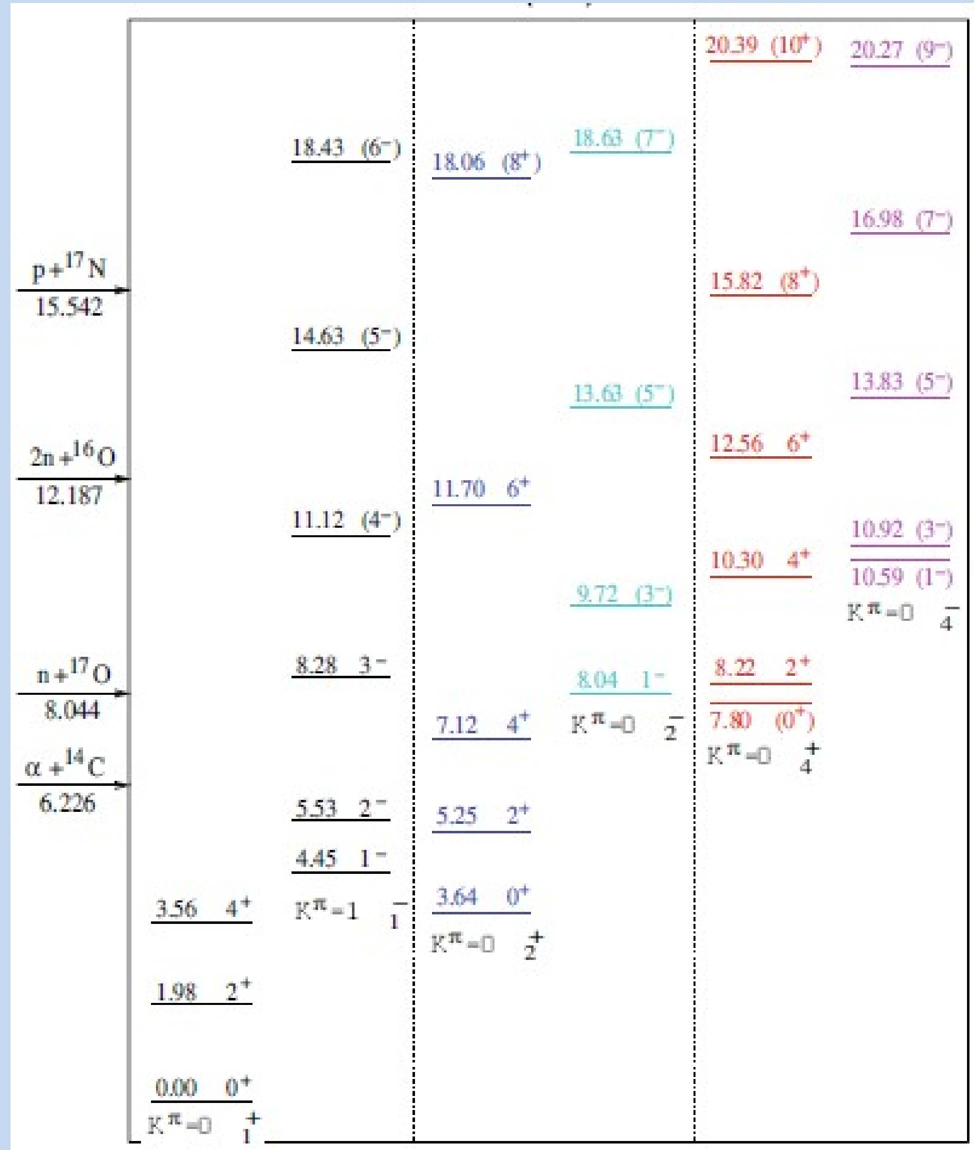
Plot of the 4p-nh states for the $^{16-18}$O



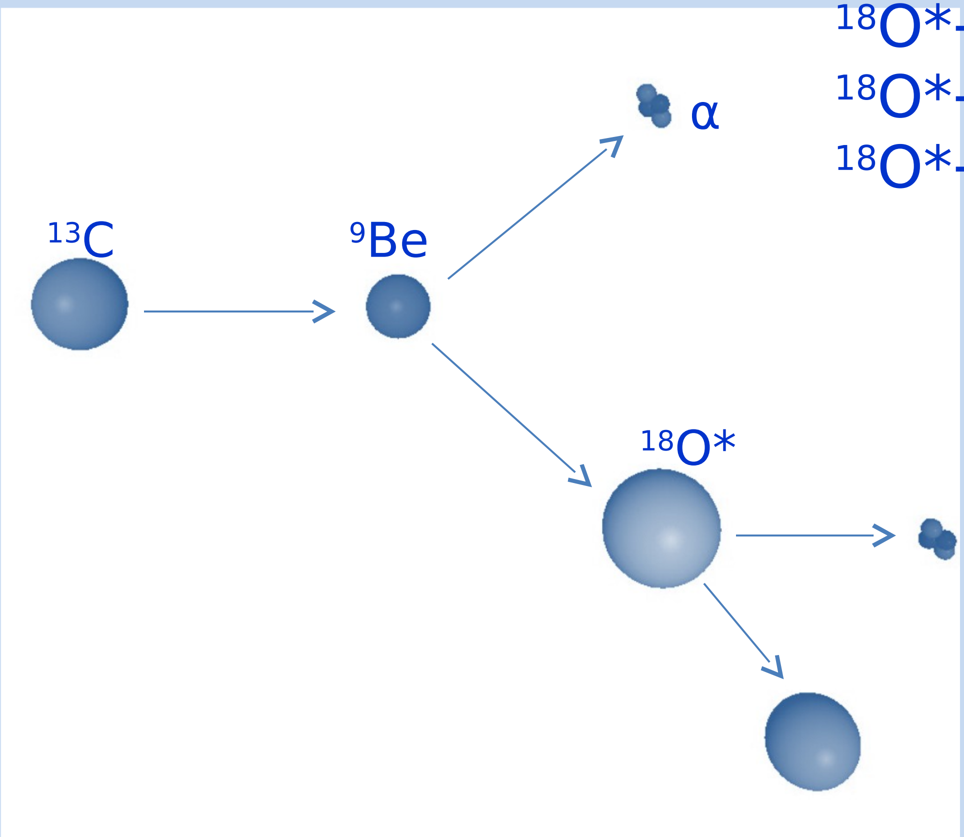
^{18}O proposed cluster configurations
W. von Oertzen et al, Eur. Phys. J. A 43 (2010) 17







Experiment: Tandem IPN Orsay France



$^{13}C + ^{9}Be \rightarrow \alpha + ^{18}O^*$

$^{18}O^* \rightarrow \alpha + ^{14}C$, Q = 6.604 MeV

$^{18}O^* \rightarrow ^{6}He + ^{12}C$, Q = -5.549 MeV

$^{18}O^* \rightarrow ^{8}Be + ^{10}Be$, Q = -5.500 MeV

Kinematically complete measurements
coincidences $\alpha + \alpha/^{6}He/^{8}Be$
or both decay products

$E_{thr}(\alpha + ^{14}C) = 6.228$ MeV

$E_{thr}(^{6}He + ^{12}C) = 18.380$ MeV

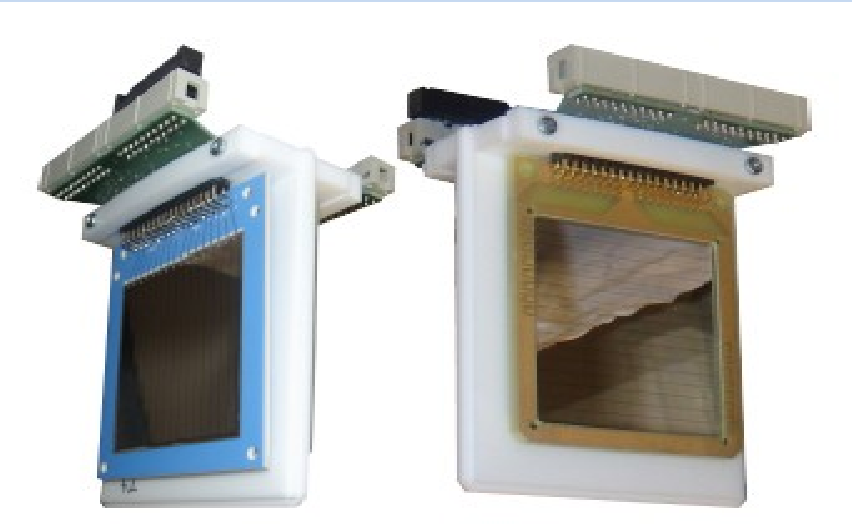
$E_{thr}(^{8}Be + ^{10}Be) = 18.332$ MeV

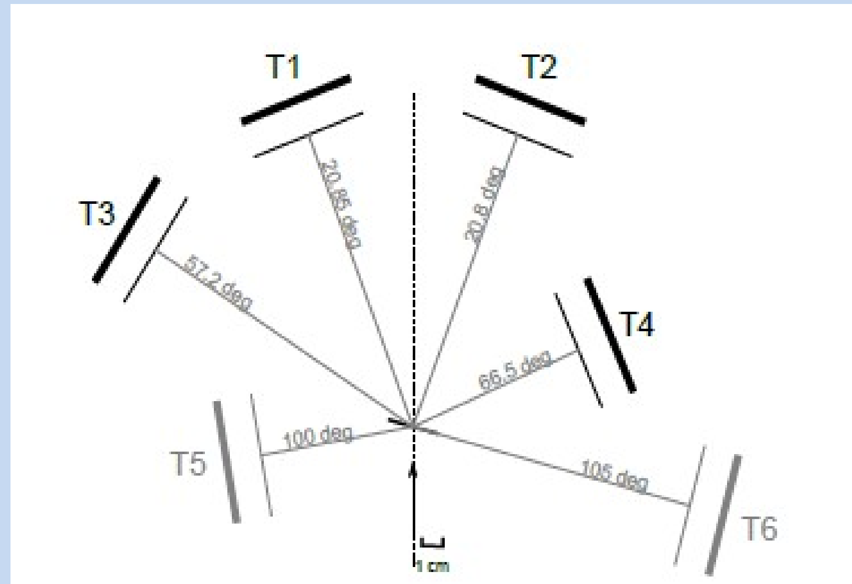
Goal: characterization of the ^{18}O resonances decaying by helium emission in excitation energy range 7 - 25 MeV: excitation energy, width, partial widths

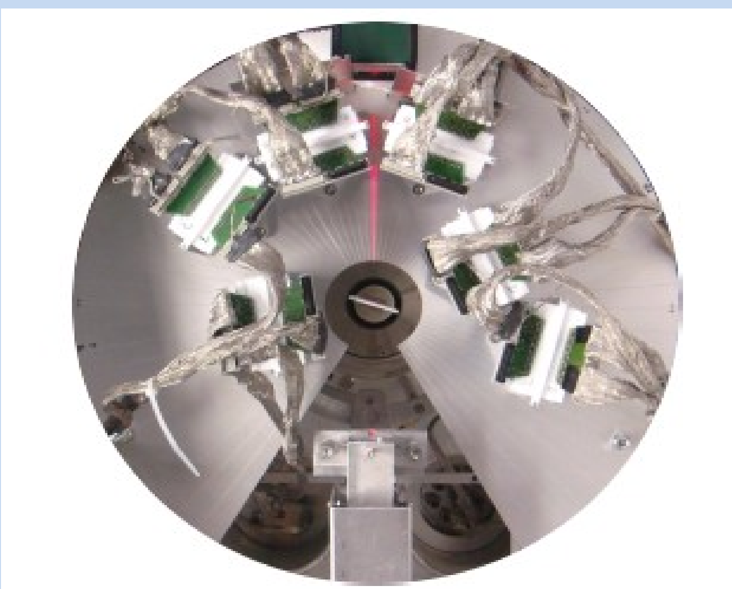
E(^{13}C)$_{beam}$=72 MeV, ^{9}Be target thickness 100 μg/cm^2

6 telescopes 20 μm SSSD + 1000 DSSSD μm, 50x50 mm^2

Micron Semiconductor type W1

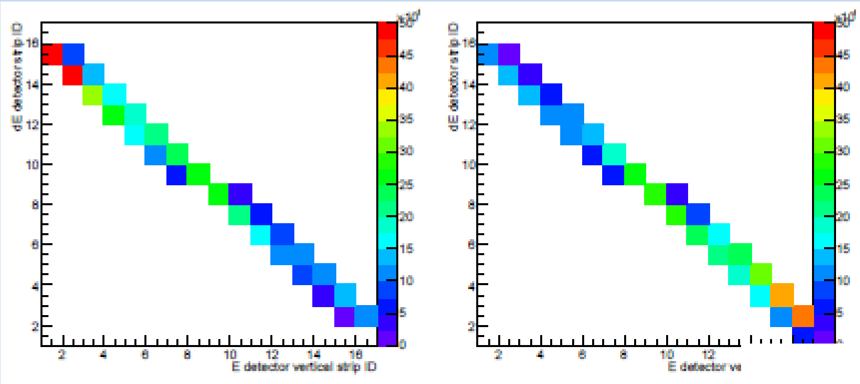




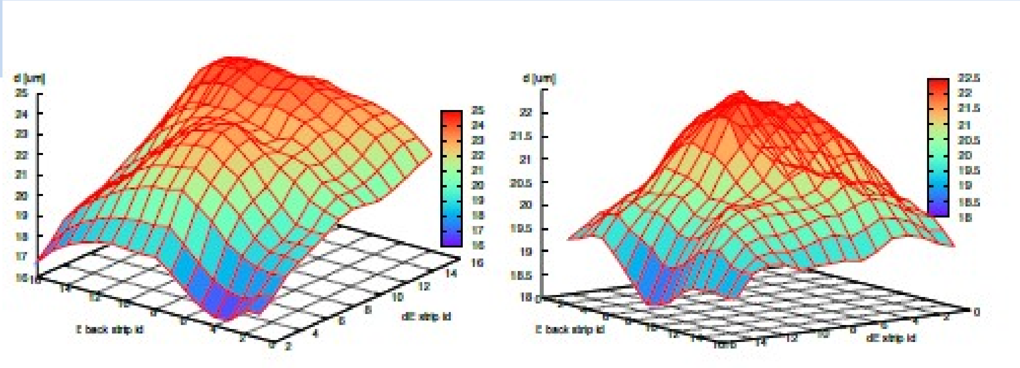


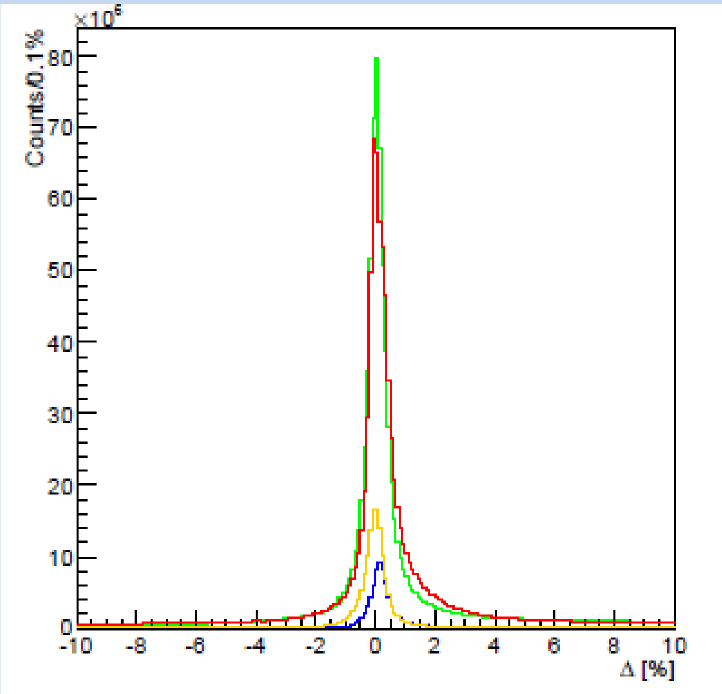
Detector telescope	$\vartheta_{min}^{in\,plane}$ [°]	$\vartheta_{max}^{in\,plane}$ [°]	$\Delta\vartheta$ [°]
T1	11.43	30.30	18.9
T2	11.38	30.24	18.9
T3	48.10	66.31	18.2
T4	52.48	80.53	28.1
T5	83.90	116.10	32.2
T6	95.49	114.76	18.8

The matching of the ΔE (vertical) strips to the E-detector vertical (front) strips



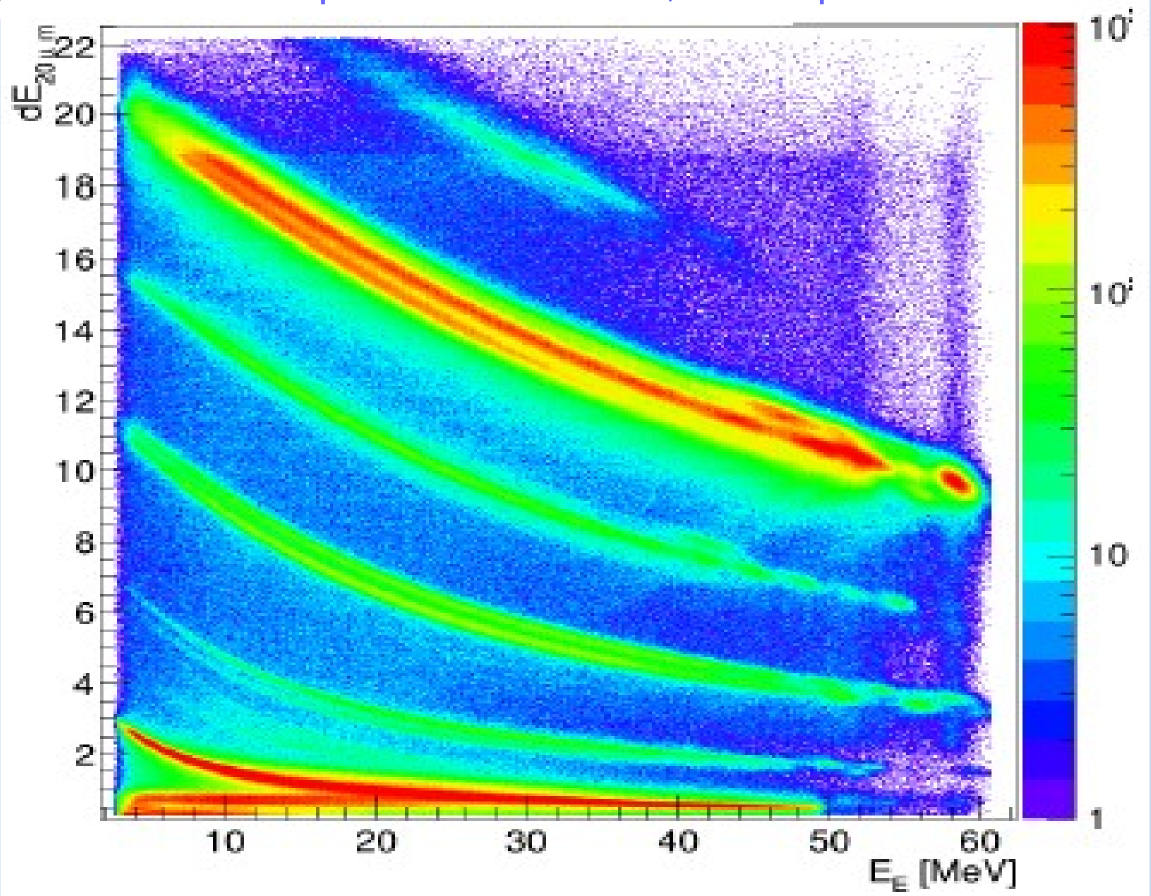
The ΔE-detector profiles for the T1 and T2.





The front-strip vs back-strip energy difference relative to the average. Red line T1, green T2, blue T3, orange T4.

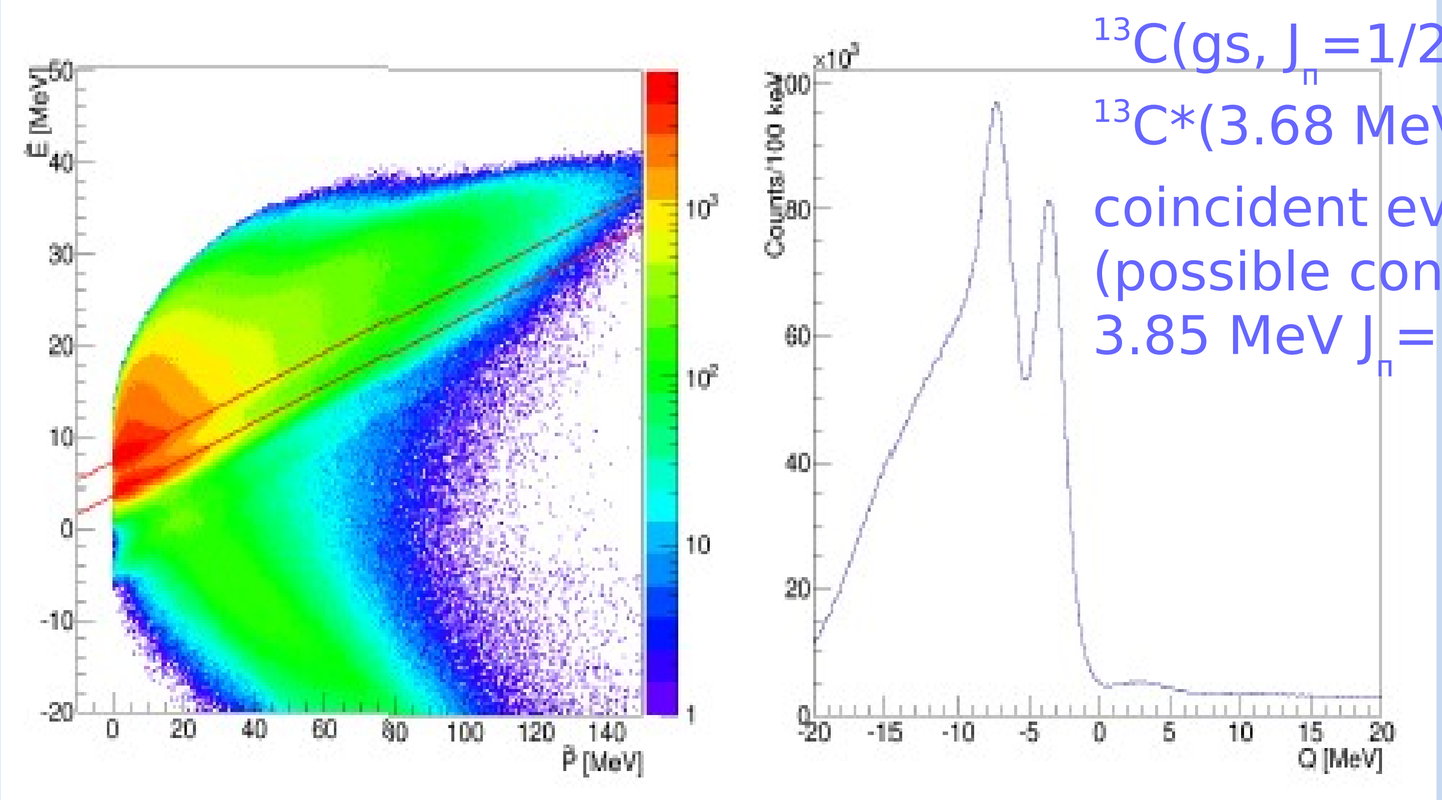
ΔE-E spectrum for the T1, ΔE-strip 13.



^{17}O results

^{9}Be+^{13}C→^{13}C+^{4}He+^{5}He reaction

^{13}C(T1)-^{4}He(T2), ^{13}C(T2)-^{4}He(T1), ^{13}C(T1)-^{4}He(T4) and ^{13}C(T2)-^{4}He(T3) coincident events



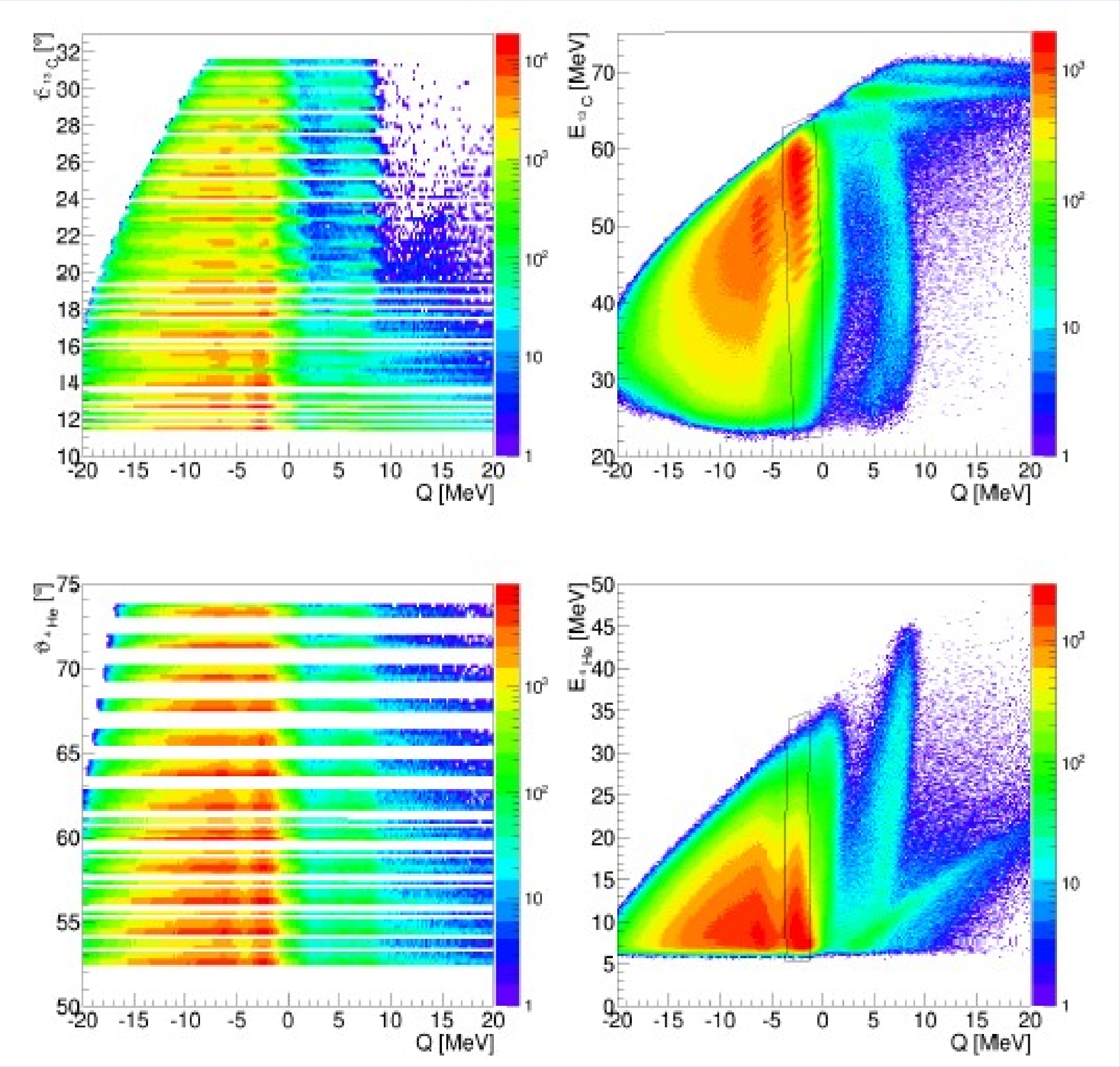
^{13}C(gs, J_π=1/2$^-$)+^{4}He and ^{13}C*(3.68 MeV, J_π=3/2$^-$)+^{4}He coincident events in T1-T2. (possible contribution of 3.85 MeV J_π=5/2$^+$)

Reaction identification: Catania plot

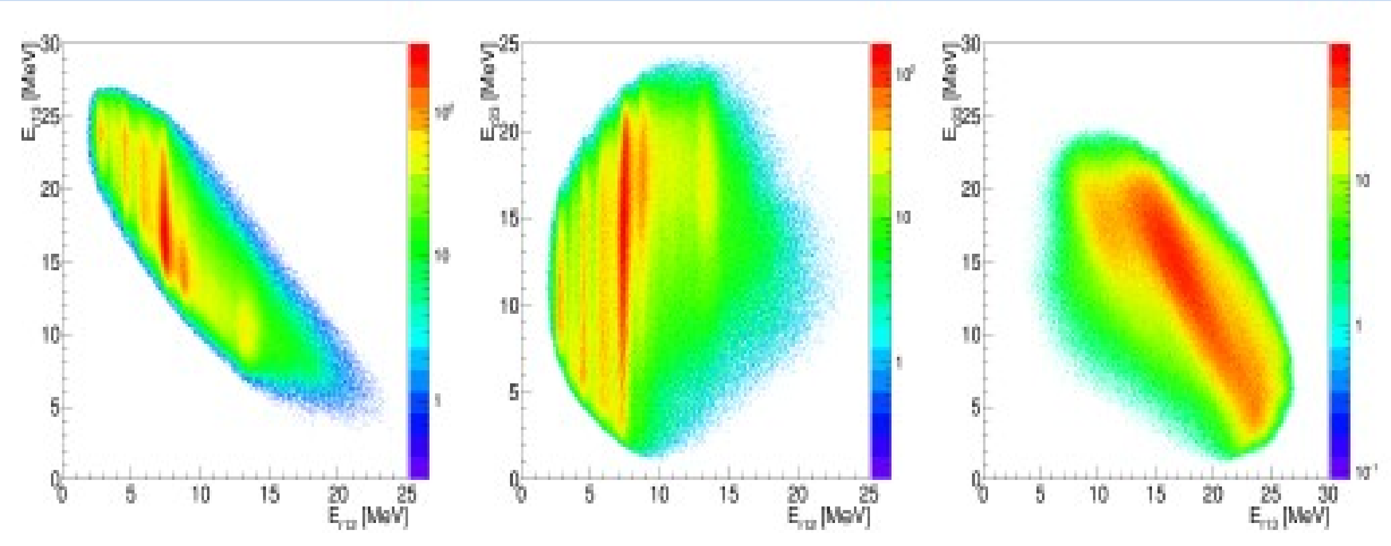
$\hat{E} = \mathcal{P}/A_3 - Q$, A_3 mass of undetected product

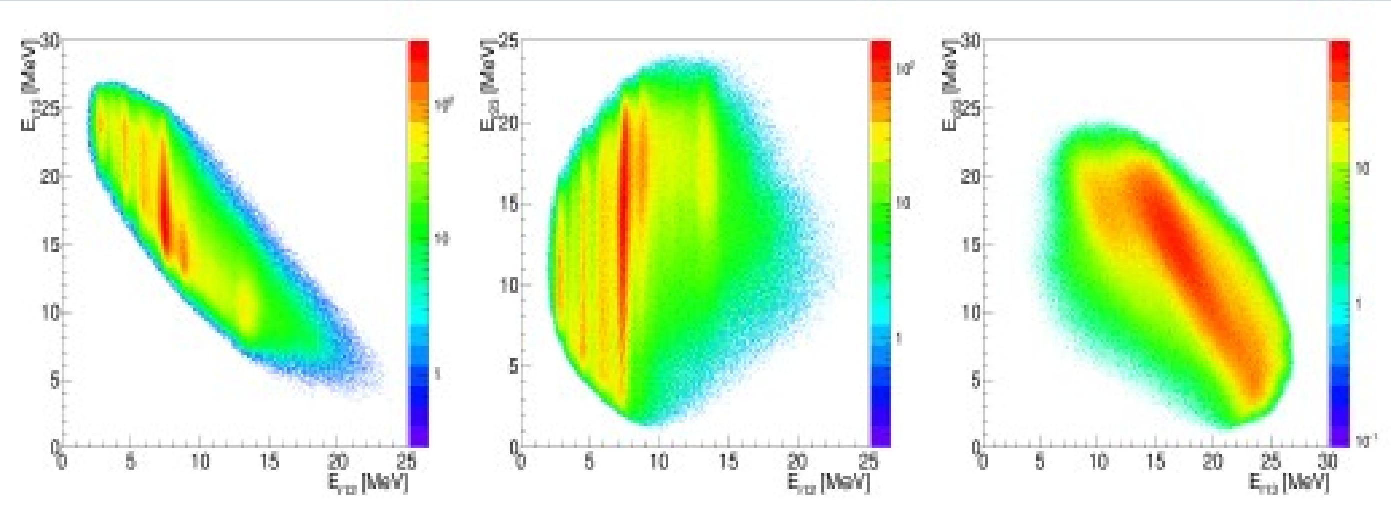
$\hat{E} = E_p - E_1 - E_2$

$\mathcal{P} = p_3^2/(2m_n)$



The Θ_{det}-Q and E_{det}-Q spectra for the ^{13}C(T1)-^{4}He(T4) coincident events. The black line denotes the graphical cuts used to select the ground state reaction channel.





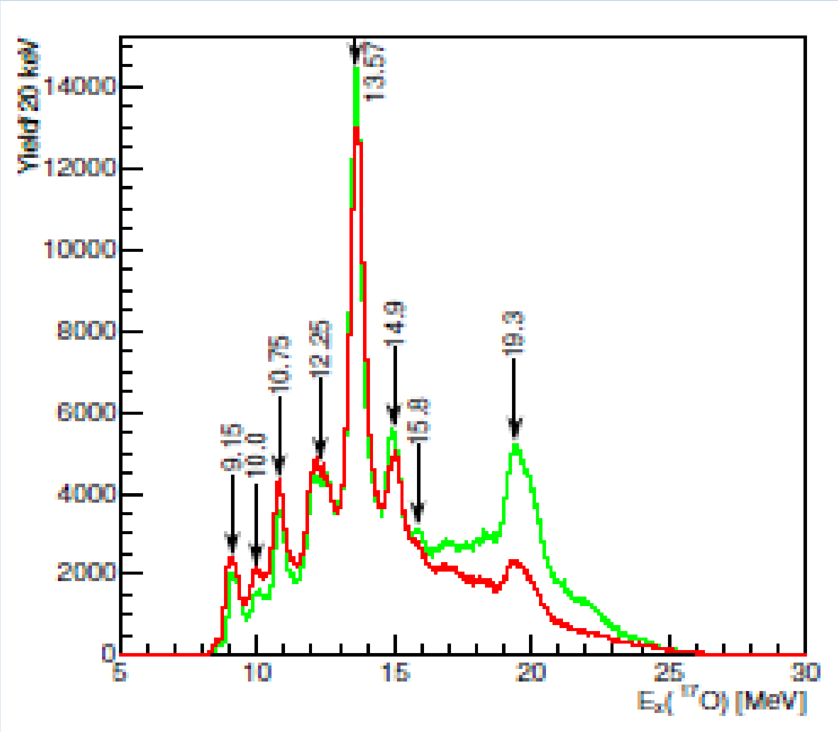
Exit channel $^{13}C+^{4}He+^{5}He$

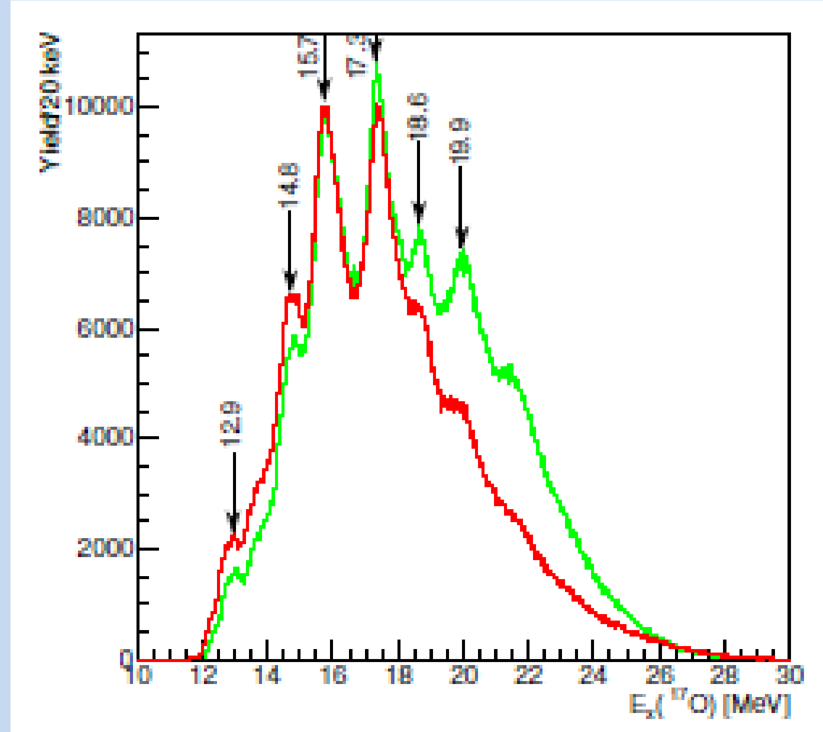
$^{17}O=^{13}C+^{4}He$
T1-T2 events

$^{9}Be=^{4}He+^{5}He$
T1-T4, T2-T3 events

$^{18}O=^{13}C+^{5}He$
not observed

Relative-energy plots for the $^{9}Be(^{13}C,^{13}C^{4}He)^{5}He$ reaction. The ^{13}C(T1/T2), ^{4}He(T2/T1) and ^{5}He (undetected) are labeled by numbers 1, 2 and 3.





The ^{17}O excitation energy spectrum reconstructed from the $^{13}C(gs, J_{\pi}=1/2^{-})+^{4}He$ coincident events in T1-T2 (red) and T2-T1 (green).

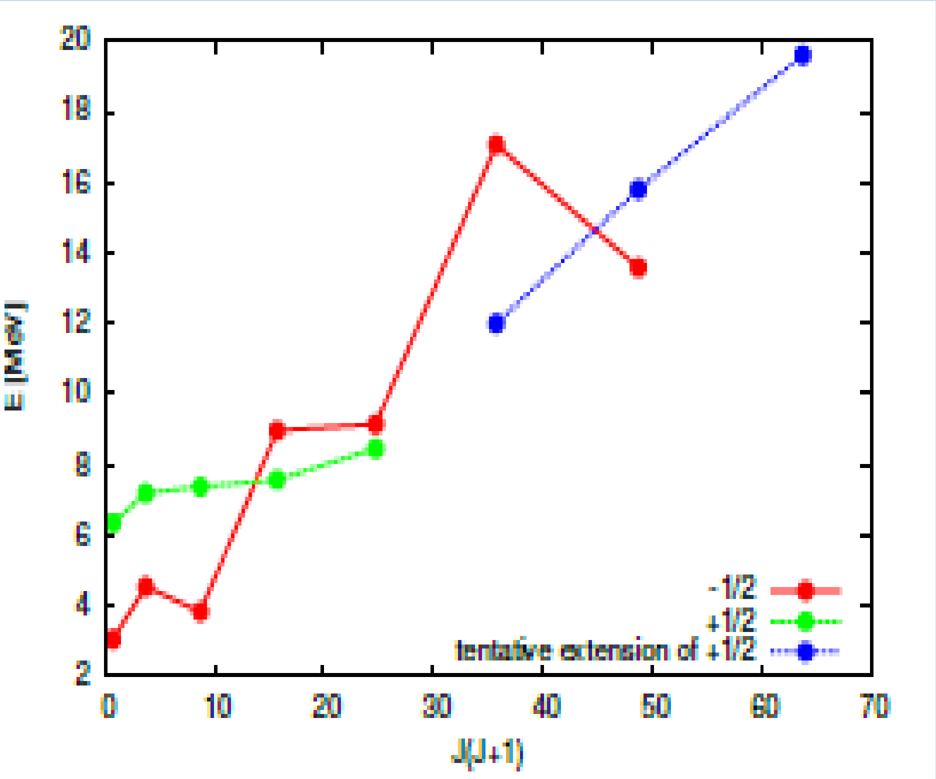
The ^{17}O excitation energy spectrum reconstructed from the $^{13}C^{*}(3.68\ MeV, J_{\pi}=3/2^{-})+^{4}He$ coincident events in T1-T2 (red) and T2-T1 (green). (possible contribution 3.85 MeV $J_{\pi}=5/2^{+}$)

No.	$^{13}C+^{4}He$ res. el.		$^{13}C+^{9}Be$ reactions		References	Tilley *et. al.* [50]	
	E_x [MeV]	J^π	$^{13}C+^{4}He$ coinc.	$^{13}C^{*}+^{4}He$ coinc.		E_x [MeV]	J^π
1	8.9	$\left(\frac{7}{2}^-\right)$ or $\left(\frac{9}{2}^-\right)$			[7]		
2	9.2	$\left(\frac{7}{2}^-\right)$ or $\left(\frac{9}{2}^-\right)$	9.15		[5], [7], [98], [101], [102]	9.147	$\frac{1}{2}^-$
3	$10.0^\dagger$		10.0		[7]	9.976	$\frac{5}{2}^-$
4	$10.75^\dagger$		10.75		[6], [100], [101]	10.777	$\frac{1}{2}^+, \frac{7}{2}^-$
5	12.0	$\left(\frac{11}{2}^+\right)$ or $\left(\frac{13}{2}^-\right)$	12.25 (wide)		[61], [96], [97], [98]	12.005 ± 15	$> \frac{3}{2}$
6	12.8			12.9	[100]	12.93	
7	13.6	$\left(\frac{11}{2}^-\right)$	**13.57**		[4], [5], [98], [100]	13.58	$(\frac{11}{2}, \frac{13}{2})^-$
8			14.9	14.8	[4], [6], [100]	15.1 ± 0.1	$\left(\frac{9}{2}^+, \frac{11}{2}^+\right)$
9			15.8	**15.7**	[4], [6]*, [100], [103],	15.95	$\left(\frac{9}{2}^+, \frac{11}{2}^+\right)$
10			(weak peak)	**17.3**	[3], [6]*, [98], [105]	17.06	$\frac{11}{2}^-$
11			(weak peak)	18.6	[6]*	18.72	
12			19.3		[6], [4], [104]		
13				19.6	[3], [6]*	19.6	$\left(\frac{13}{2}^+, \frac{15}{2}^+\right)$

Published results:

(6) M. Milin et al, EPJ A 41 (2009) 335, the same reaction

(7) M. Heil et al, PRC 78 (2008) 025803, the $^{13}C+^{4}He$ thick target resonant scattering up to excitation 11.1 MeV



A tentative extension of the proposed ^{17}O positive-parity rotational band and the negative-parity rotational band [6].

^{18}O results

$^{9}Be+^{13}C \rightarrow ^{4}He+^{18}O^{*} \Rightarrow$

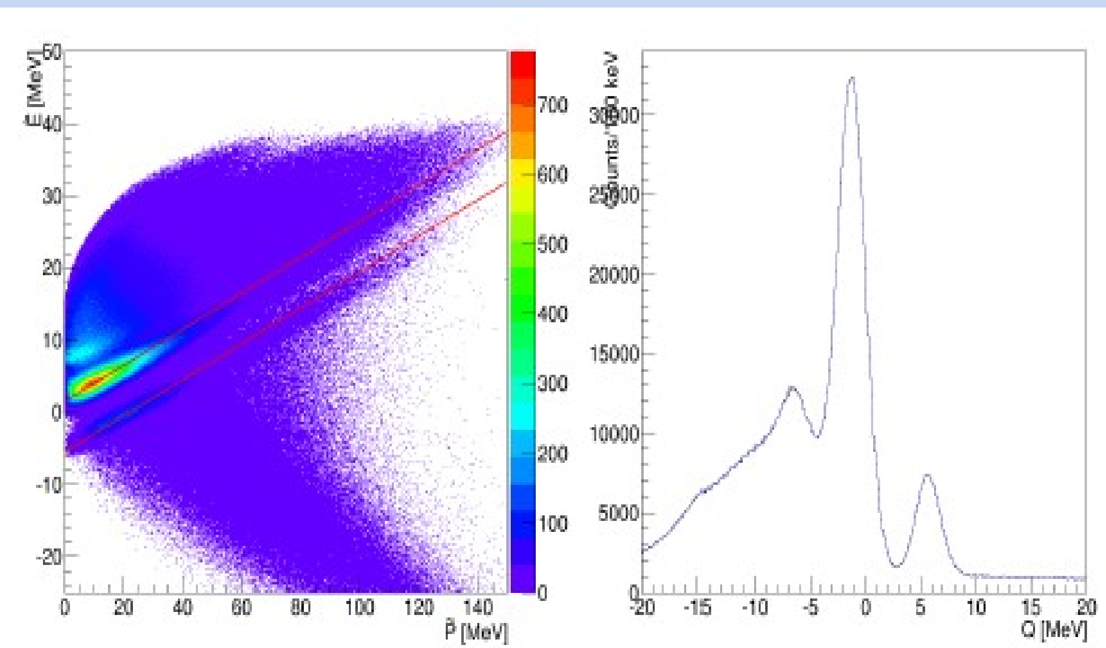
$^{14}C+^{4}He+^{4}He$, $^{14}C^{*}(E_{x} \approx 7$ MeV $0^{-},2^{+},2^{-})+^{4}He+^{4}He$

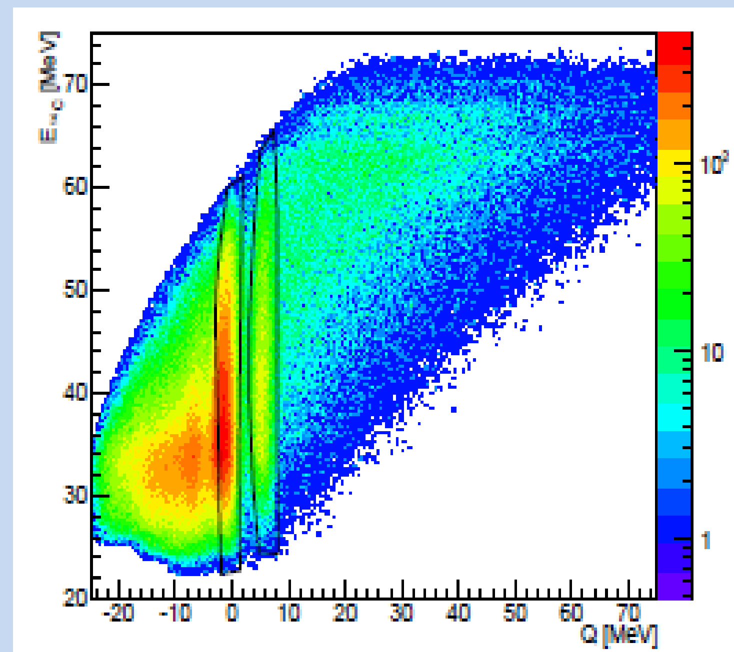
$^{12}C+^{6}He+^{4}He$, $^{12}C^{*}(E^{x}=4.4$MeV $2^{+})+^{6}He+^{4}He$

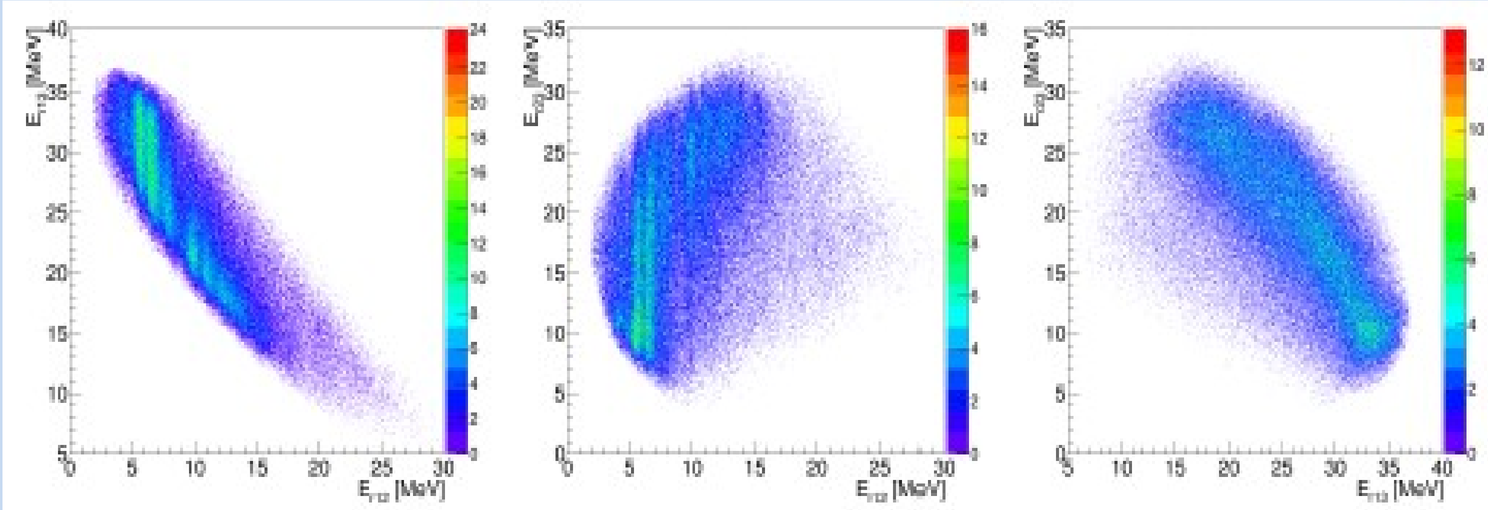
$^{10}Be+^{8}Be+^{4}He$, $^{10}Be^{*}+^{8}Be+^{4}He$, $E_{x}=3.37$MeV 2^{+};≈ 6.2 MeV $2^{+},1^{-},0^{+},2^{-}$

Events for all possible telescope combinations

$^{14}C(T1)-^{4}He(T2)$ $^{14}C(gs, J_{\pi}=0^{+})+^{4}He$ and $^{14}C^{*}(7$ MeV$)+^{4}He$ in T1-T2

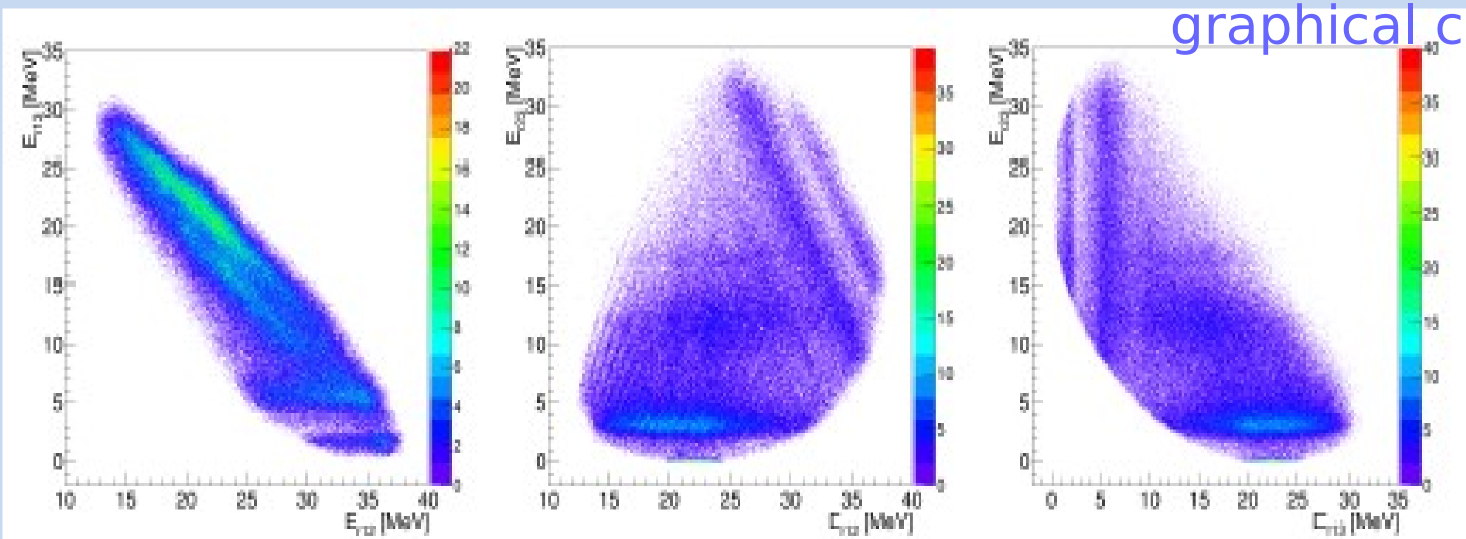




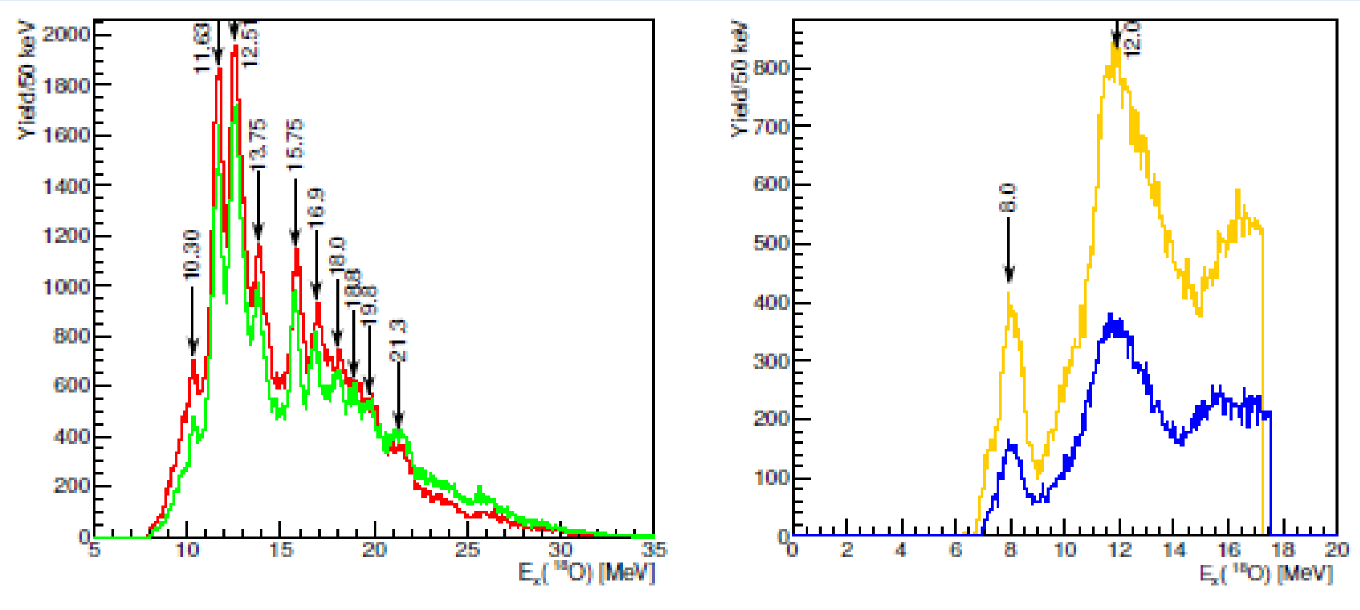


Relative-energy plots for the $^{9}Be(^{13}C,^{14}C^{4}He)^{4}He$ reaction. The ^{14}C(T1), ^{4}He(T2) and ^{4}He (undetected) are labeled by numbers 1, 2 and 3.

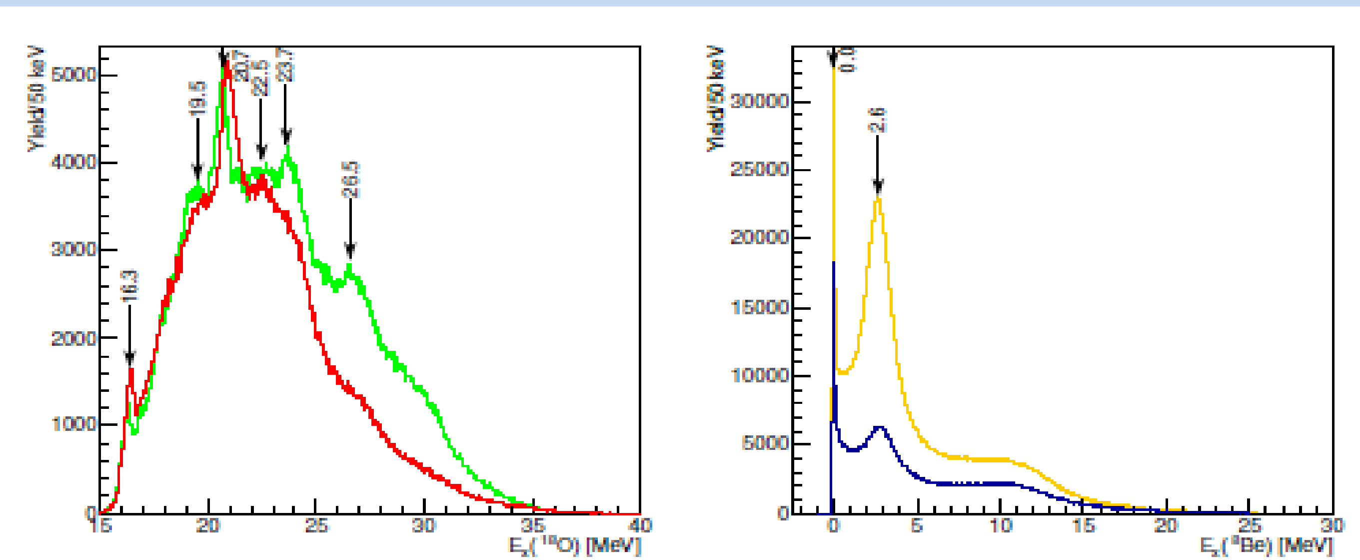
graphical cuts



Relative-energy plots for the $^{9}Be(^{13}C,^{14}C^{4}He)^{4}He$ reaction. The ^{14}C(T1), ^{4}He(T4) and ^{4}He (undetected) are labeled by numbers 1, 2 and 3.

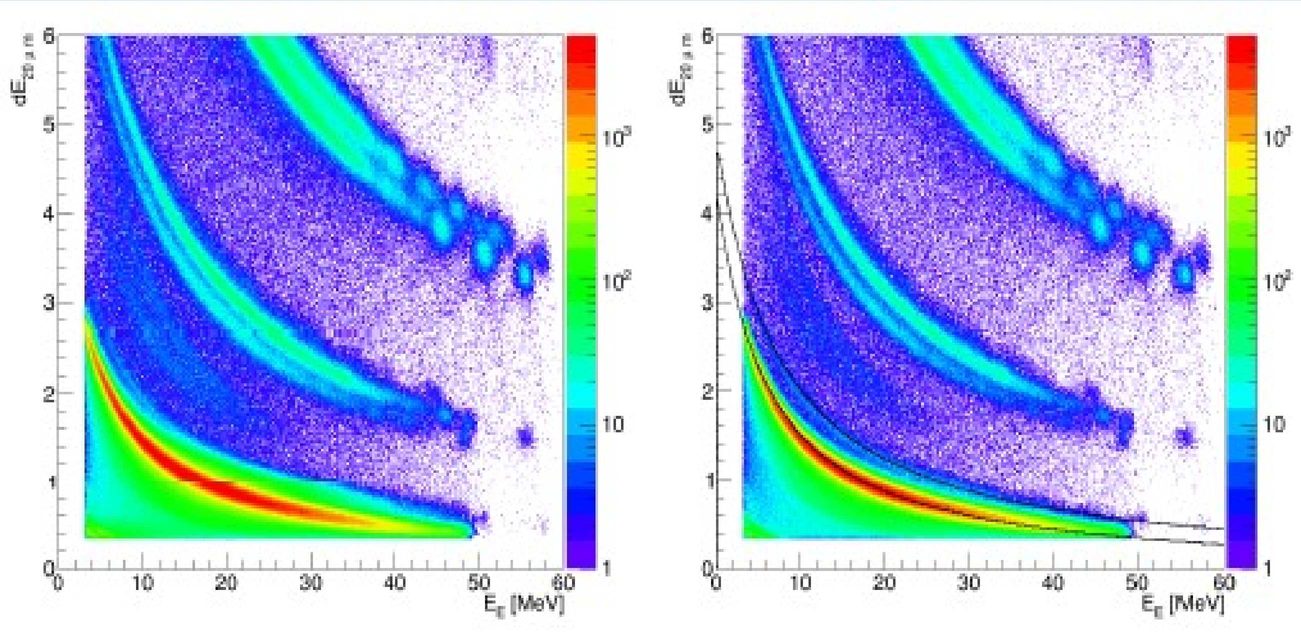


The ^{18}O excitation energy spectrum for the $^{14}C(gs)+^{4}He$ coincident events in T1-T2 (red), T2-T1 (green), T1-T4 (orange) and T2-T3 (blue).

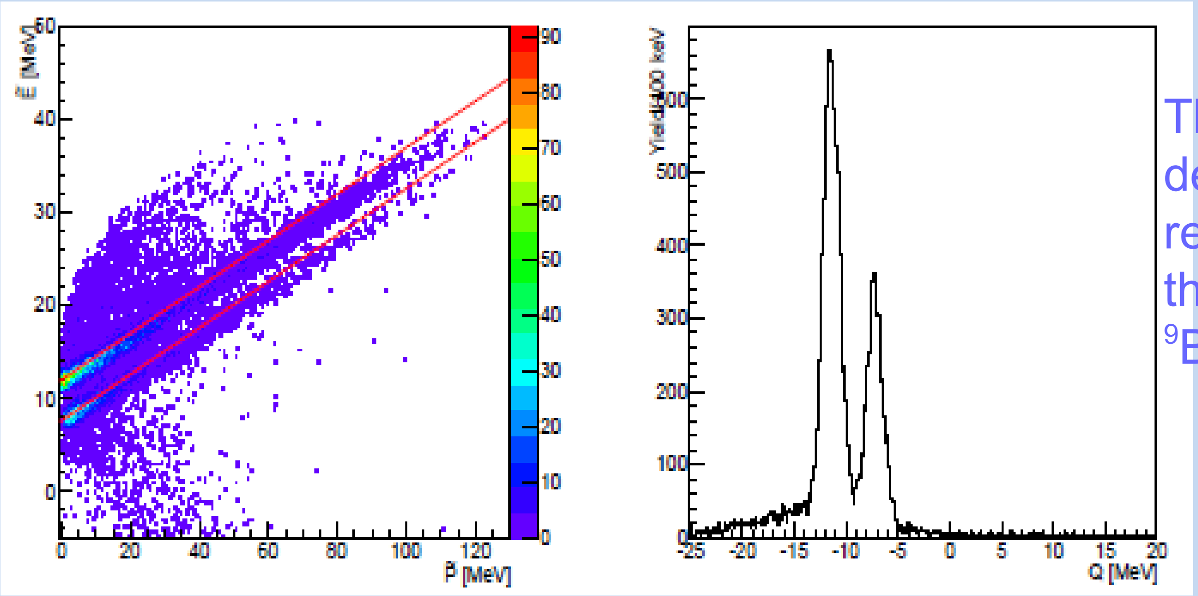


The ^{18}O excitation energy spectrum for the $^{14}C^{*}(4.4\ MeV)+^{4}He$ events in T1-T2 (red) and T2-T1 (green); ^{8}Be spectrum for T1-T4 (orange) and T2-T3 (blue).

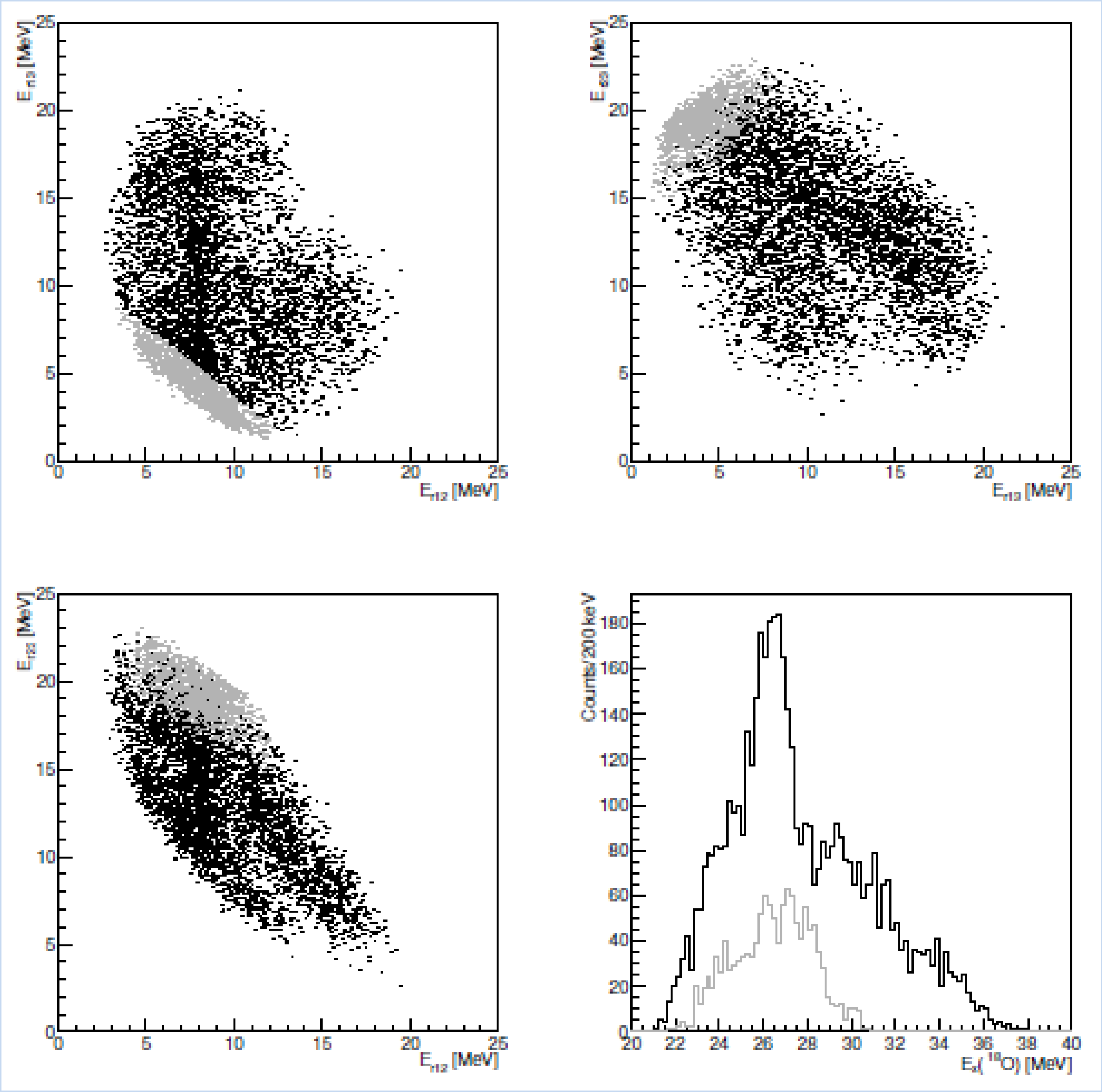
$^{9}Be+^{13}C \rightarrow ^{12}C+^{6}He+^{4}He$ reaction



Additional ΔE-E spectra filtering to separate ^{6}He from ^{4}He for the T1, ΔE-strip 8. Black lines show results of simulations for $^{4,6}He$ in T1



The Catania plot for the ^{6}He detected in T1 and ^{12}C in T2. The red lines are predicted loci for the $^{9}Be(^{13}C,^{6}He^{12}C(gs))^{4}He$ and $^{9}Be(^{13}C,^{6}He^{12}C^{*}(4.4\ MeV))^{4}He$.



broad peak at 26.5 MeV, indications of peaks at 29.5 MeV and around 23.5 MeV.

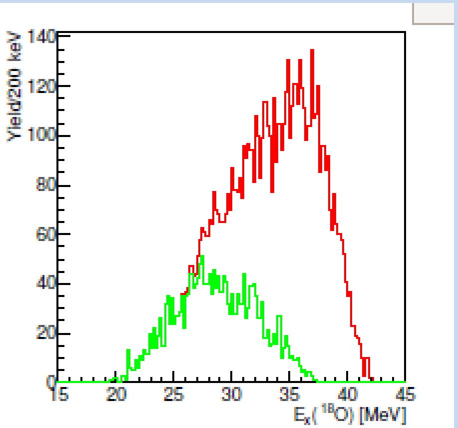
E_r-E_r plots for ^{6}He and ^{12}C(gs) detected in T1 and T2, labelled as 1 and 2. The last plot is the ^{18}O excitation energy spectrum for events selected via graphical cut (black dots). The grey dots correspond to events from the ^{16}O decay. For the ^{12}C*(4.4 MeV) +^{6}He events excitation spectrum is structureless.

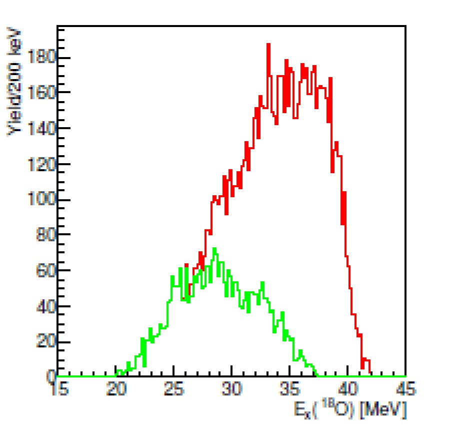
$^{9}Be+^{13}C \rightarrow ^{10}Be+^{8}Be+^{4}He$ reaction

Possible $^{10}Be+^{8}Be$ decay would indicate three-cluster structure similar to one in ^{12}C, not the molecular structure

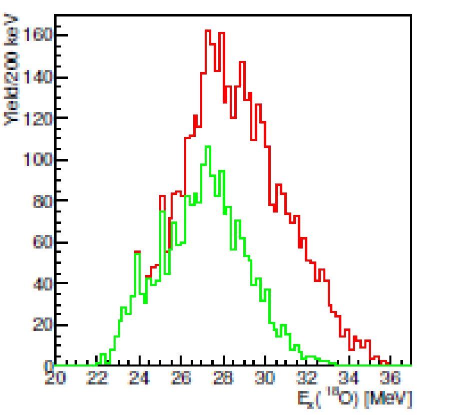
Analyzed all possible pairs of detected nuclei in all possible telescope combinations, additional filtering of data

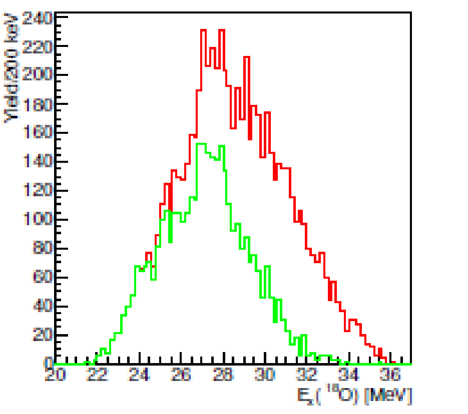
Only weak indications for the ^{18}O state(s) were observed, many $^{12,14}C$ states





the $^{8}Be+^{4}He$ events for ^{10}Be(gs) in T1-T2; possible peaks at 24.5 and 32 MeV





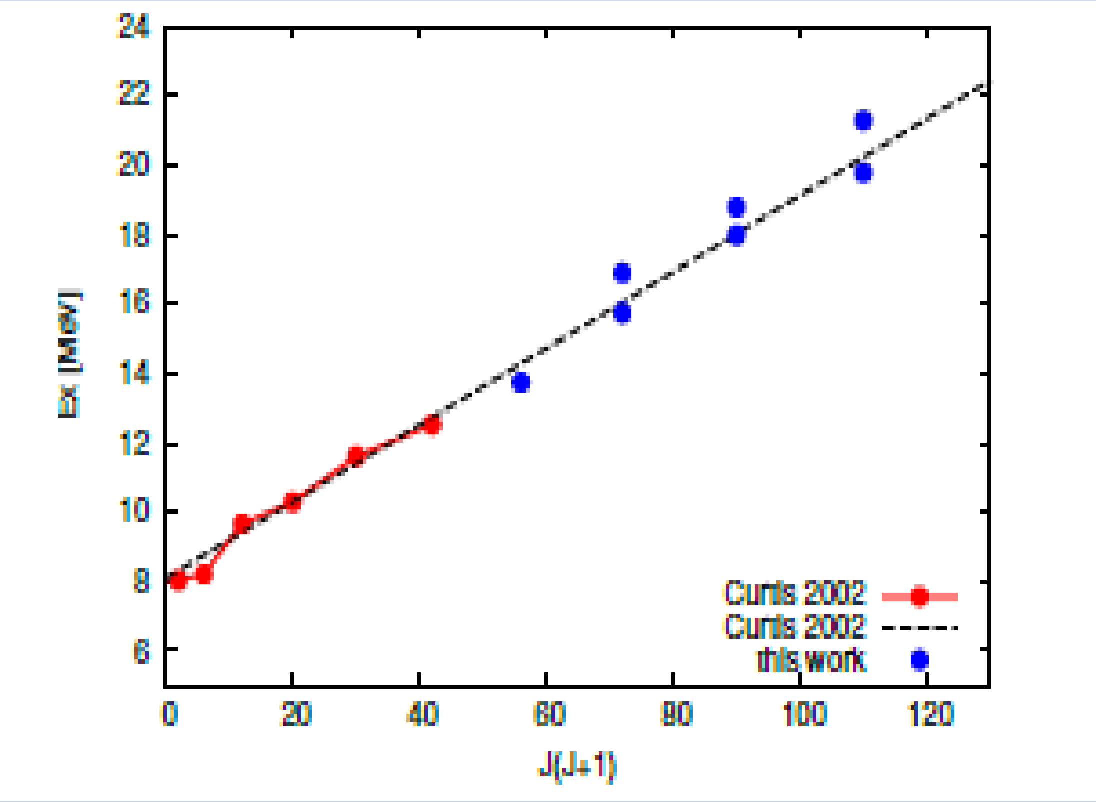
the $^{8}Be+^{10}Be$(gs) events in T1-T2; possible peak at 24 MeV

No.	$E_x(^{18}O)$ from the $^{13}C+^{9}Be$ reactions			References	Tilley *et. al.* [87]	
1	$^{14}C+^{4}He$	$^{14}C^{*}+^{4}He$	$^{12}C+^{6}He$		E_x [MeV]	J^{π}
2	10.30 MeV			[12], [13], [14], [106], [107], [108], [109], [110], [111], [112], [113], [114]	10.290 MeV	4^+
3	**11.63 MeV**			[12], [13], [14], [101], [106], [107], [108], [109], [111], [113]	11.62 MeV	5^-
4	**12.51 MeV**			[12], [13], [14], [106], [107], [108], [109], [111]	12.53 MeV	6^+
5	**13.75 MeV**			[111]	13.8	1^-
6				[13], [14]	13.82	5^-
7	15.75 MeV			[111]	15.8	1^-
8		**16.1 MeV**		[12]	16.315	$(3,2)^-$
9	16.9 MeV			[107], [109]	16.948	$(2,3)^-$
10	18.0 MeV			[115]	18.049	
11	18.8 MeV			[110], [115]	18.68	(4^-)
12		19.3 MeV				
13	19.8 MeV					
14		**20.5 MeV**		[110]	20.86	
15	21.3 MeV			[110], [117]	21.42	(4^-)
16		22.3 MeV		[110]	22.4	4^-
17		23.5 MeV	23.5 MeV	[110], [116]	23.8	1^-
18		26.3 MeV	26.5 MeV	[116]	27	1^-
19			29.5 MeV	[116]	30	

Published many results, some recent:

(14) M. L. Avila et al, PRC 90 (2014) 024327, the $^{14}C+^{4}He$ thick target resonant scattering

(12) N. Curtis et al, PRC 66 (2002) 024315, $^{14}C(^{18}O,^{14}C\,^{4}He)^{14}C$



A tentative extension of the proposed ^{18}O rotational band [12].
In agreement with proposed rotational bands in W. von Oertzen et al, EPJ A 43 (2009) 17

Conclusion of Ref. [14]. is that the α-strength is typically not concentrated in one state, but spread among multiple states, making such rotational bands unlikely.

Summary & outlook

- the resonant particle spectroscopy experiment with the ^{13}C+^{9}Be reaction populated excited states with cluster structure in the $^{17,18}O$
- existing results on the ^{4}He decays confirmed and extended
- the ^{6}He decaying states in ^{18}O have been observed for the first time – indication of the molecular structure
- these measurements should be complemented with for example thick target resonant scattering measurements
- further measurements using different techniques are needed to determine the exact value of spin and parity, with higher resolution and statistics to separate nearby states
- there are strong indications that molecular structure exist in oxygen isotopes but much more experimental dana are required

Thank you !