

**How Much Cooler Would It Be
With Some More Neutrons?**

Asymmetry Dependence of the Nuclear Caloric Curve

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Texas A&M University**

Asymmetry Dependence of the Nuclear Caloric Curve

- Nuclear Caloric Curve: Background & Motivation
- The Measurement: Reconstructing Highly Excited Nuclei & Extracting Their Temperatures
- Results: Temperature Decreases Linearly with Increasing Asymmetry

Nuclear Equation of State and Nuclear Phase Diagram

Temperature

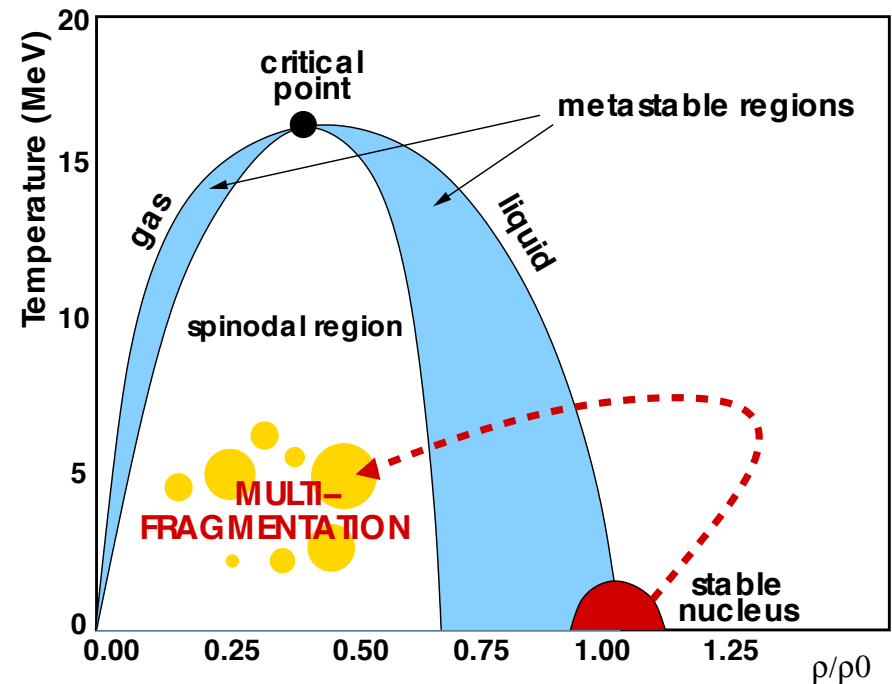
Density

Pressure

Excitation Energy

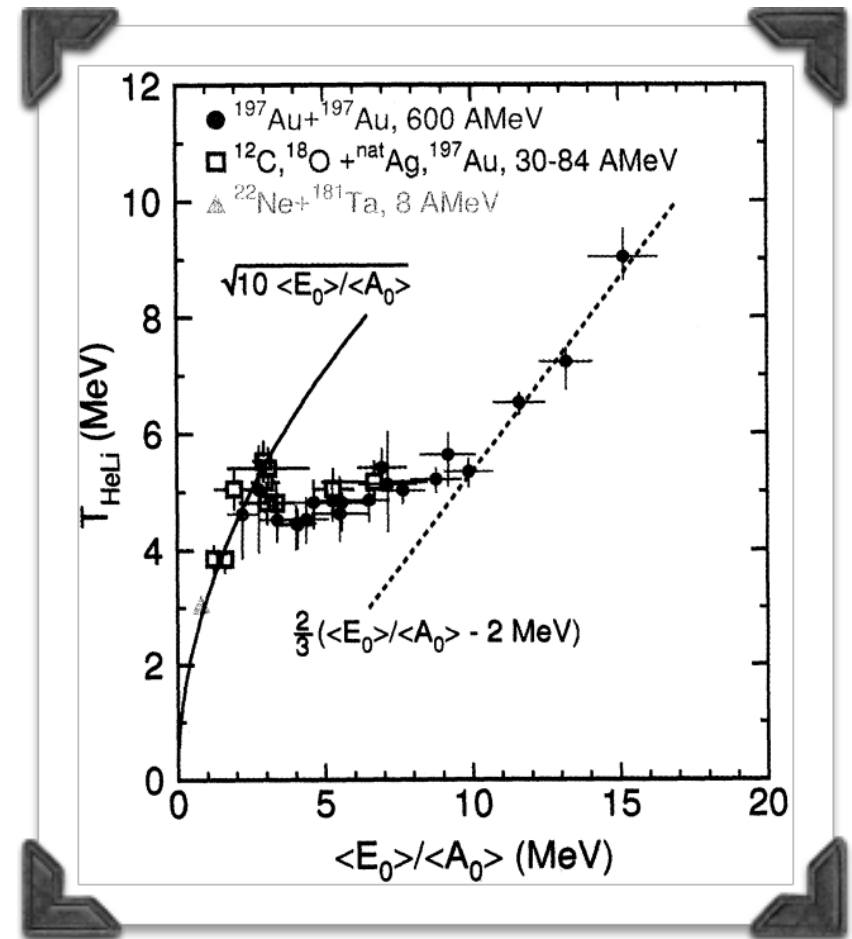
Asymmetry

- ★ Heavy Ion Collisions at All Energies
- ★ Nuclear Structure (e.g. Resonances)
- ★ Supernovae, Nucleosynthesis
- ★ Neutron Stars (Crust to Core)
 - ➡ n-p Asymmetry Crucial

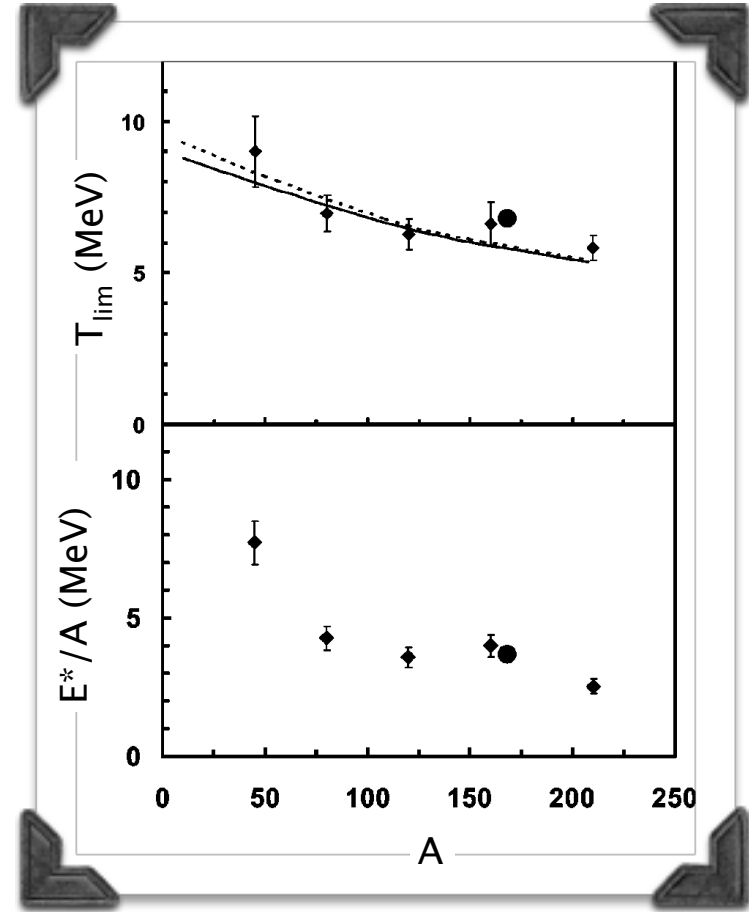
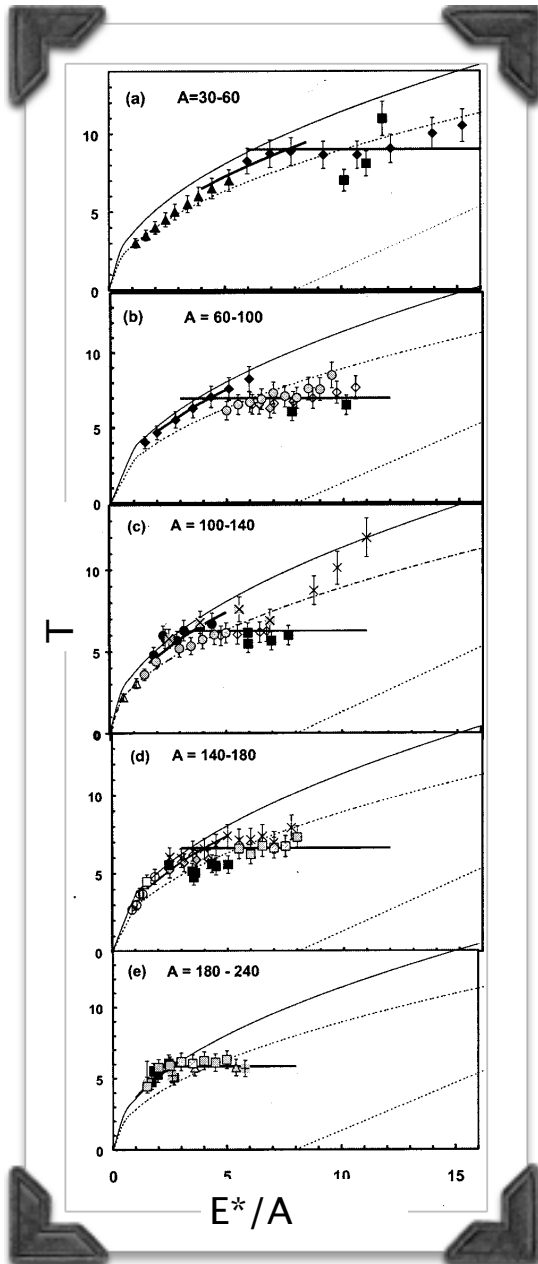


Nuclear Caloric Curve

- Essential Piece of Nuclear Equation of State: T vs E^*/A
- Search for & Study of Phase Transition
 - Liquid to Vapor
 - Evaporation to Multifragmentation



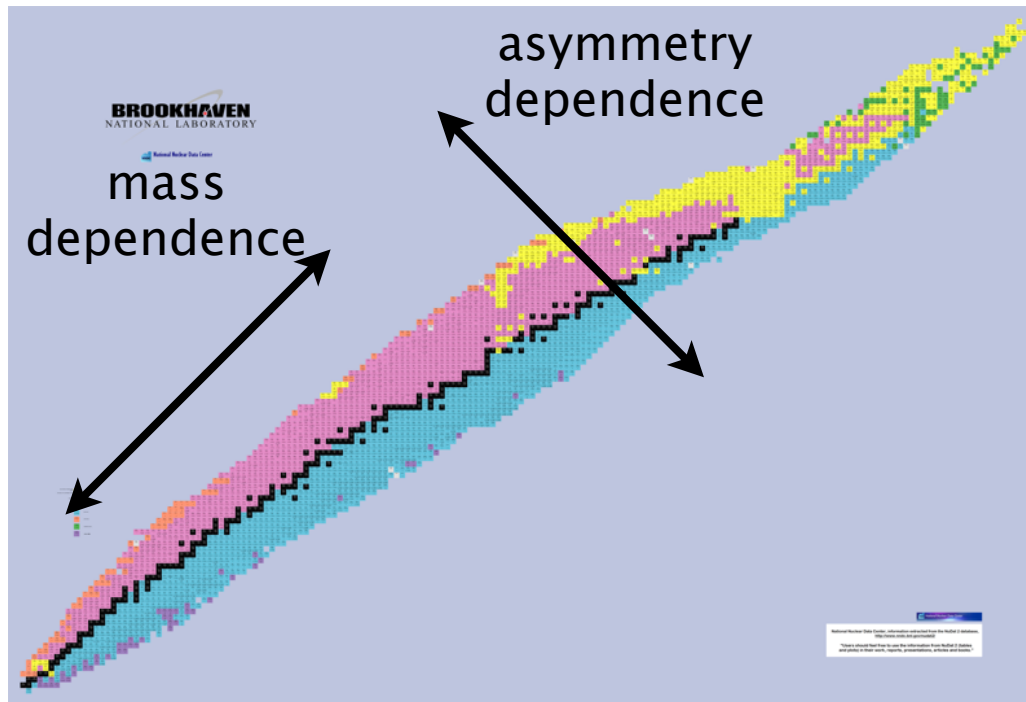
Nuclear Caloric Curve: Mass Dependence



With increasing mass:

- Limiting temperature decreases
- Onset of T_{lim} moves to lower Excitation energy

Caloric Curve: Asymmetry Dependence?



Mass Dependence of the caloric curve is measured.

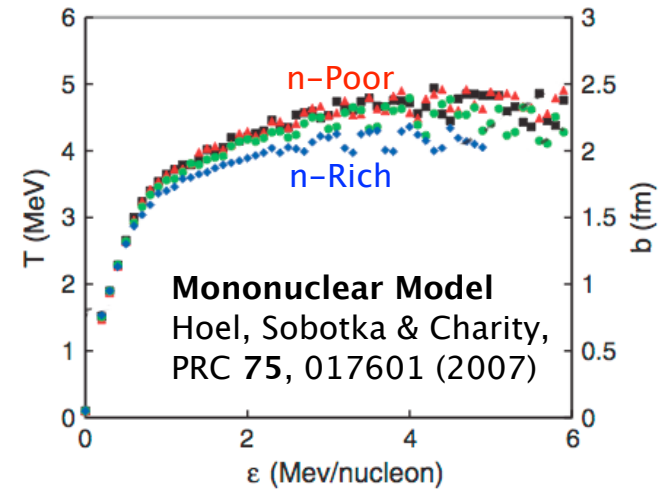
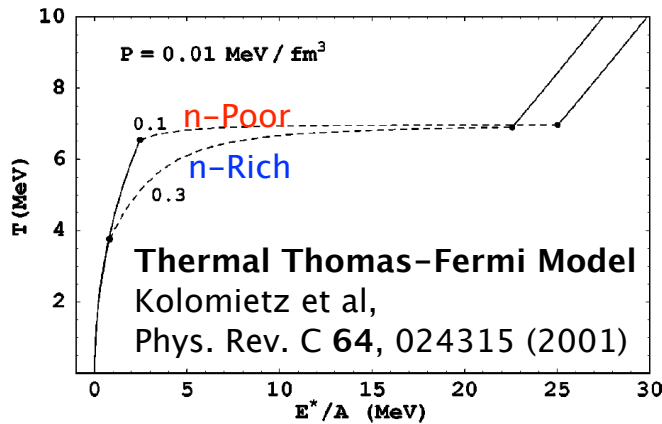
Asymmetry Dependence:

- Does it exist?
- Which way does it go?
- How strong is it?

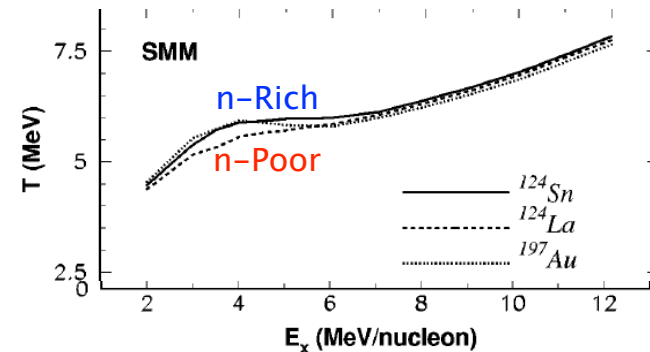
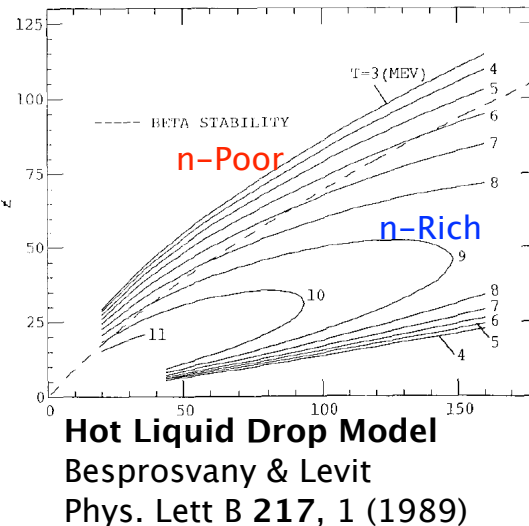
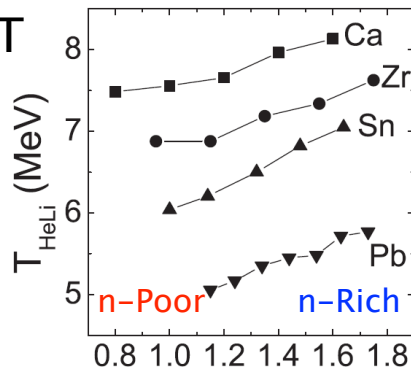
Caloric Curve: Asymmetry Dependence?

Theory Different models make very different predictions about how the caloric curve depends on neutron-proton asymmetry

Neutron-rich
→ Lower T

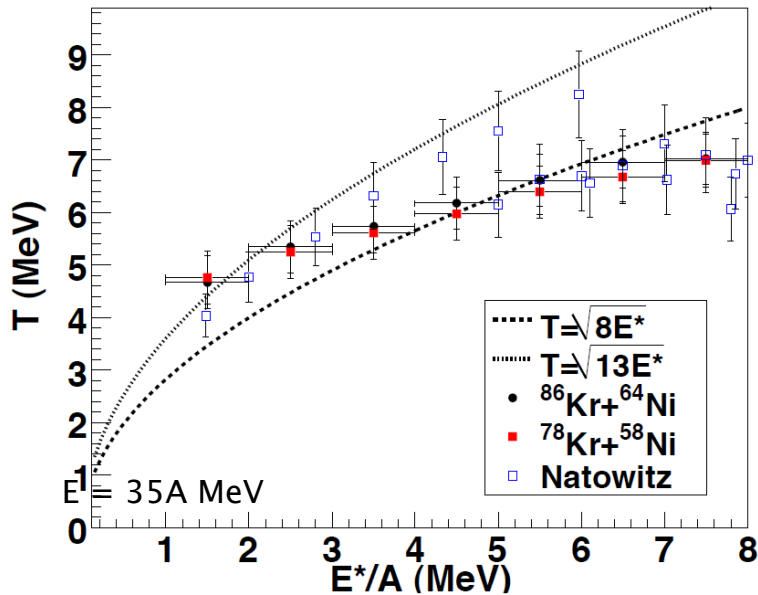


Neutron-rich
→ Higher T



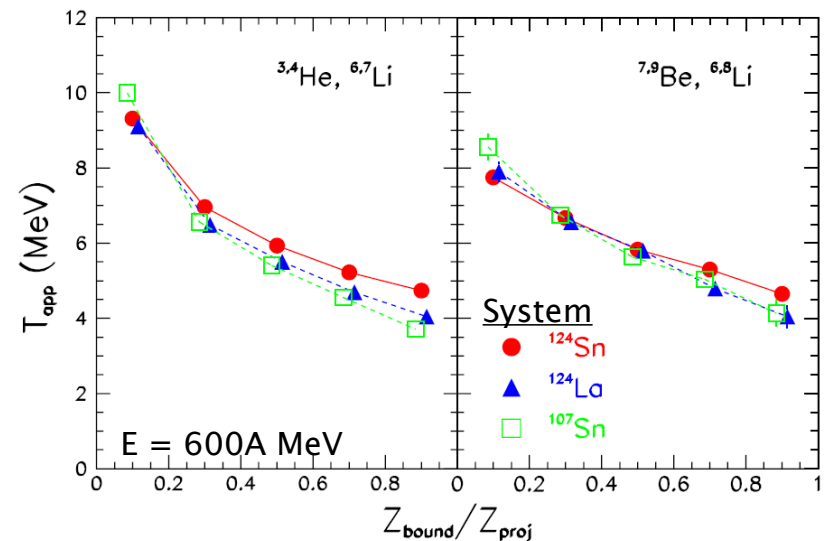
Caloric Curve: Asymmetry Dependence?

Experiment



S. Wuenschel, Ph.D. Thesis, 2009

Slight offset of neutron-rich system, but not statistically significant



Sfienti et al., PRL **102**, 152701 (2009)

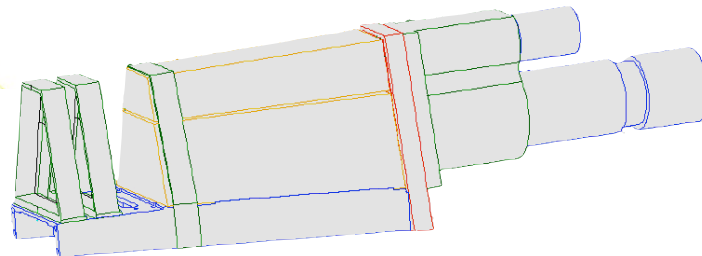
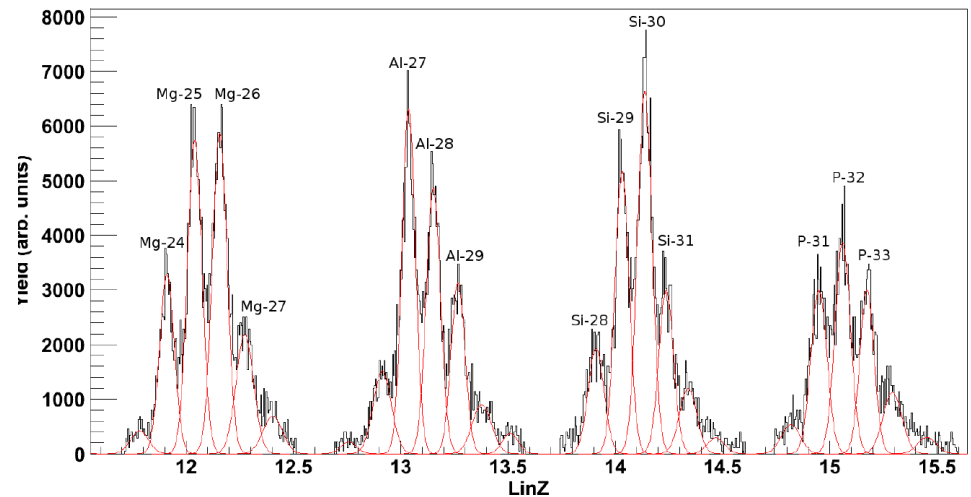
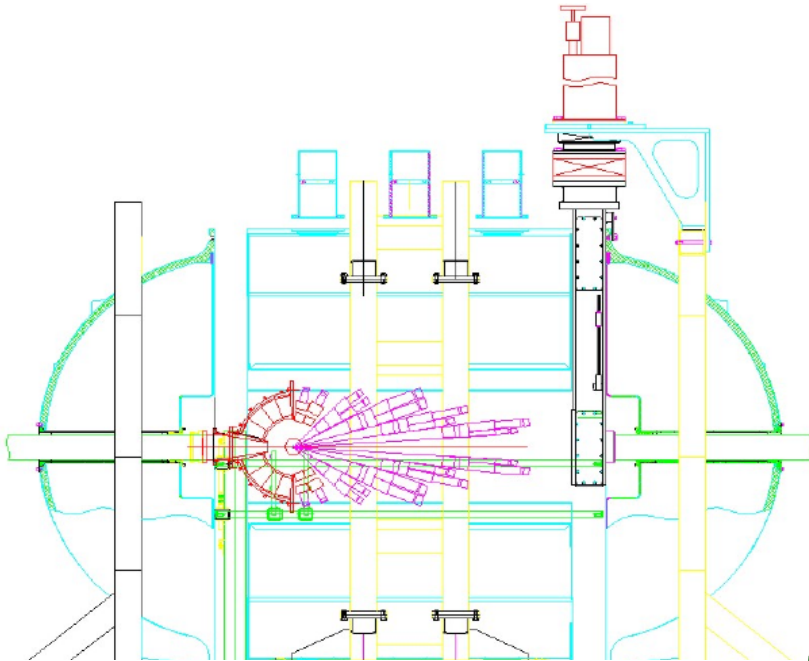
Possible dependence on asymmetry, but not for all impact parameters.

Non-observation:
Selection was on system composition.
Should use reconstructed-source composition.

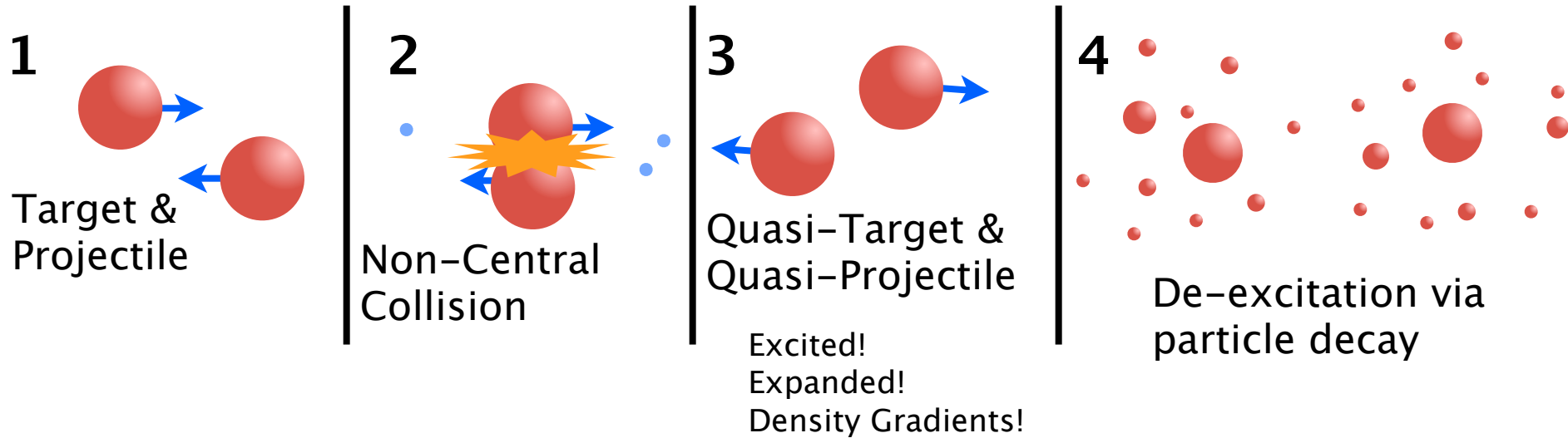
NIMROD-ISiS Array

- Full Silicon Coverage (4π)
- Isotopic Resolution to $Z=17$
- Elemental Resolution to $Z_{\text{projectile}}$
- Neutron Ball (4π)

$^{70}\text{Zn} + ^{70}\text{Zn}$
 $^{64}\text{Zn} + ^{64}\text{Zn}$
 $^{64}\text{Ni} + ^{64}\text{Ni}$
 $E = 35\text{A MeV}$



Exciting Nuclear Matter



The QP (quasi-projectile) is the primary excited fragment that exists momentarily after the nuclear collision

- We want to study the decay of excited nuclear material (the QP)
- We use heavy ion collisions to create excited nuclear material
- From the reaction products, we reconstruct the QP

QP Reconstruction

Goal: select events with an equilibrated source

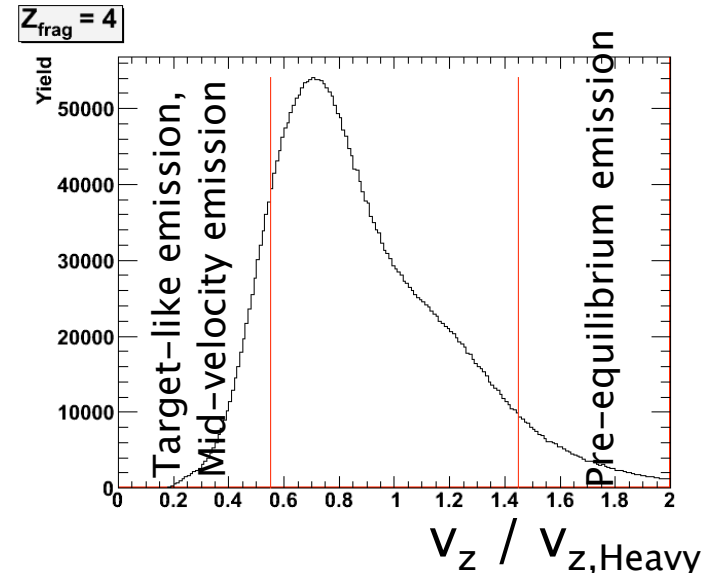
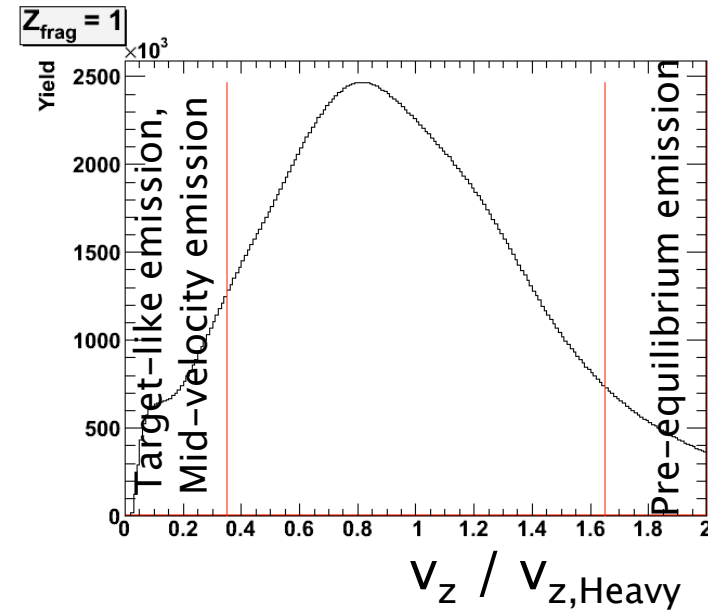
1. **Select particles** that may comprise the QP
 - ♦ Velocity selection
 - ♦ Charged particles & free neutrons
 - ♦ Calculate Z , A , p , E^* & asymmetry= $m_s=(N-Z)/A$
2. **Select mass** (range) of QP
3. **Select on-average spherical events**

QP Reconstruction

Cut 1/3:
Velocity

Remove particles that do not belong (on average) to a statistically emitting projectile-like source.

Compare laboratory parallel velocity of each particle to that of the heaviest charged particle measured in the event.



$$Z = 1 : 0.35 \leq \frac{v_z}{v_{z,\text{PLF}}} \leq 1.65$$

$$Z = 2 : 0.40 \leq \frac{v_z}{v_{z,\text{PLF}}} \leq 1.60$$

$$Z \geq 3 : 0.55 \leq \frac{v_z}{v_{z,\text{PLF}}} \leq 1.45$$

Steckmeyer et al., NPA **686**, 537 (2001)

Mass Selection Considerations

- Mass close to beam – well defined system
- Not too close to beam: significant E^* , overlap of target and projectile
- Sufficient statistics

$$48 \leq A_{QP} \leq 52$$

$$m_{\text{source}} = \frac{N_{QP} - Z_{QP}}{A_{QP}}$$

Largest uncertainty in A_{QP} : free neutron multiplicity

- Uncertainty in excitation
 - ▶ relatively small (compared to results)
- Uncertainty in asymmetry $(N-Z)/A$
 - ▶ relatively small (compared to results)

Marini et al., NIMA 707, 80 (2013)

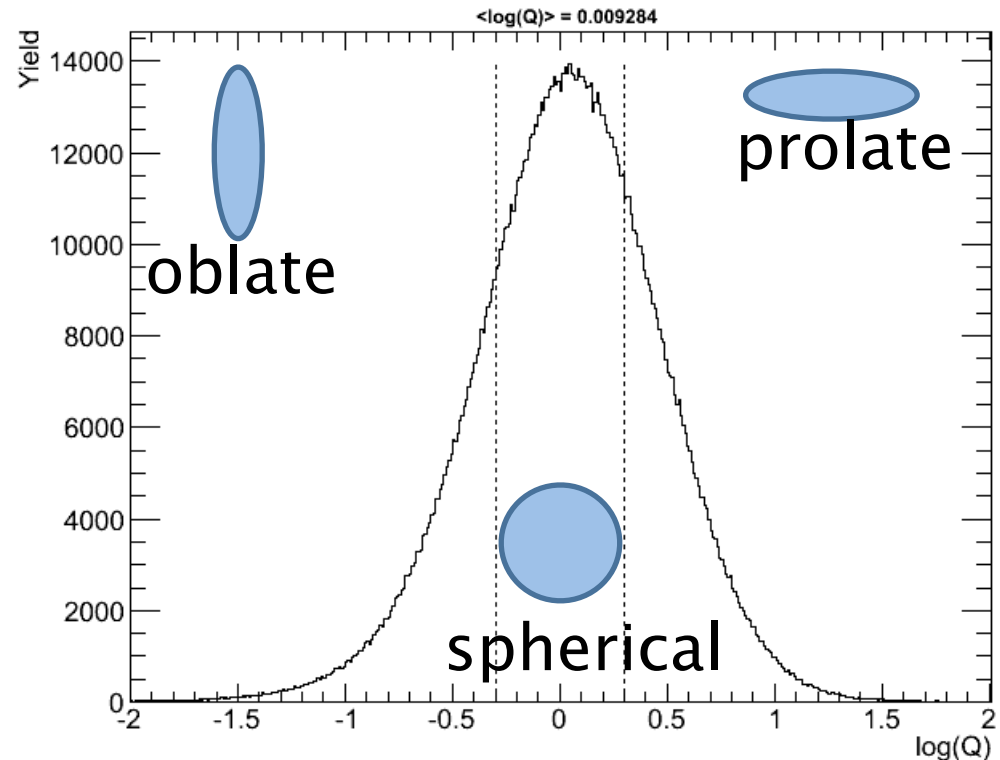
QP Reconstruction

Cut 3/3: Sphericity

$$Q = \frac{\sum p_{z,i}^2}{\frac{1}{2} \sum p_{T,i}^2}$$

$$-0.3 \leq \log Q \leq 0.3$$

Select events with near-zero average momentum quadrupole.



(Velocity cut and Mass cut imposed)

Concept to select thermally equilibrated events:
Shape equilibration is slow relative to thermal equilibration.

Neutron Measurement

$$M_{\text{meas}} = (\epsilon_{\text{QP}} M_{\text{QP}} + \epsilon_{\text{QT}} M_{\text{QT}}) \left(\frac{\epsilon_{\text{lab}}}{\epsilon_{\text{sim}}} \right) + M_{\text{bkg}}$$

Efficiency ϵ_{lab} measured with a calibrated Cf source.

Simulations to determine efficiency ϵ_{QP} , ϵ_{QT} , ϵ_{sim} .

Efficiencies are model-independent (CoMD, HIPSE-SIMON).

Efficiencies are system-independent.

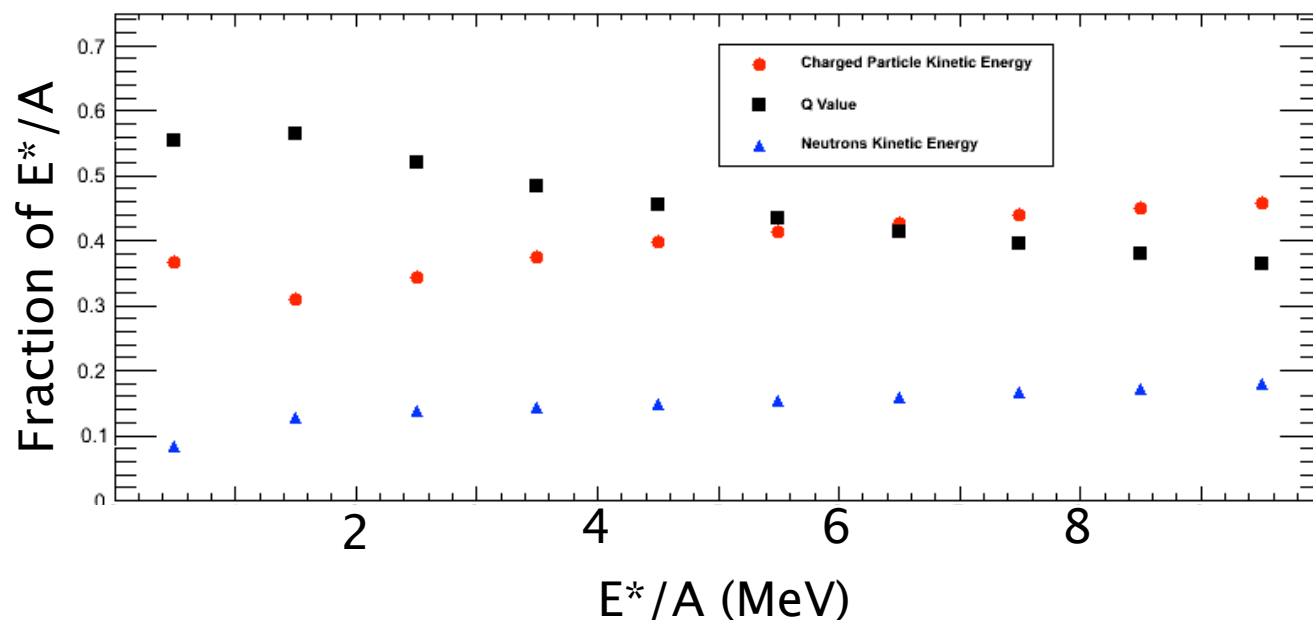
$$M_{\text{n}} = \frac{M_{\text{meas}} - M_{\text{bkg}}}{\left(\epsilon_{\text{QP}} + \frac{N_{\text{T}}}{N_{\text{P}}} \epsilon_{\text{QT}} \right) \left(\frac{\epsilon_{\text{lab}}}{\epsilon_{\text{sim}}} \right)}$$

QP Identity

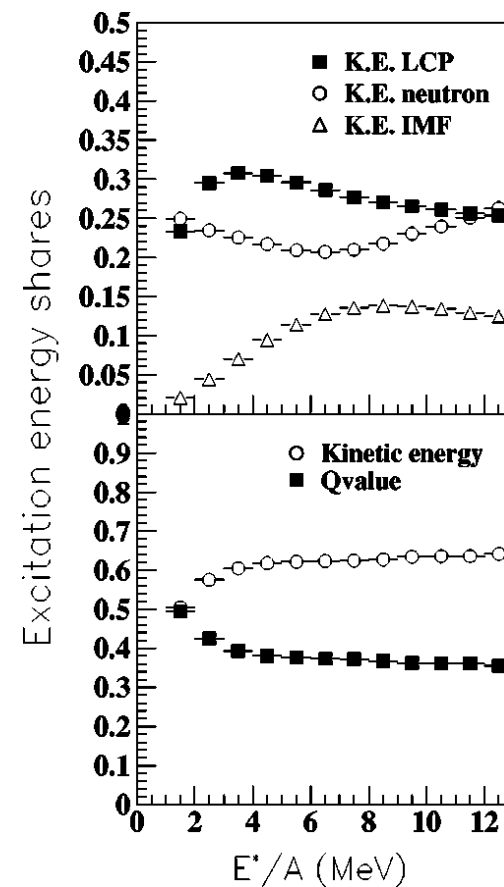
$$Z_{QP} = \sum_i^{CP} Z_i \quad A_{QP} = \sum_i^{CP} A_i + M_n \quad \vec{v}_{QP} m_{QP} = \sum_i^{CP} \vec{v}_i m_i \quad E_{QP}^* = \sum_i^{CP} \frac{3}{2} K_{\perp,i} + M_n \langle K_n \rangle - Q$$

QP Identity

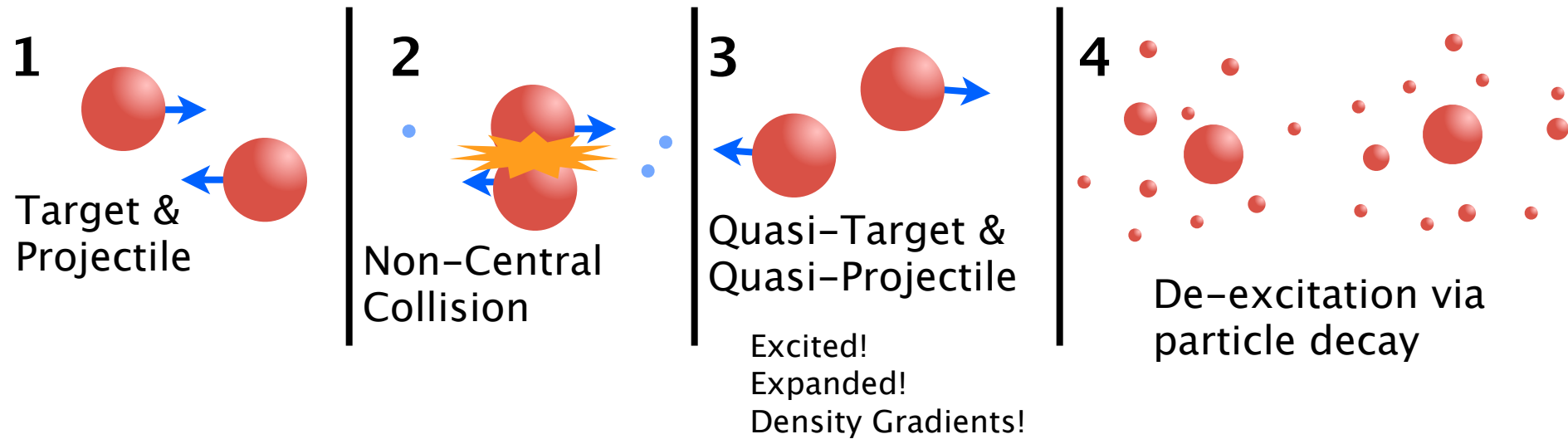
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Excitation energy sharing is in reasonable agreement with previously published data:
 ~ 40% Charged particle KE
 ~ 40% Q value
 ~ 20% Neutrons

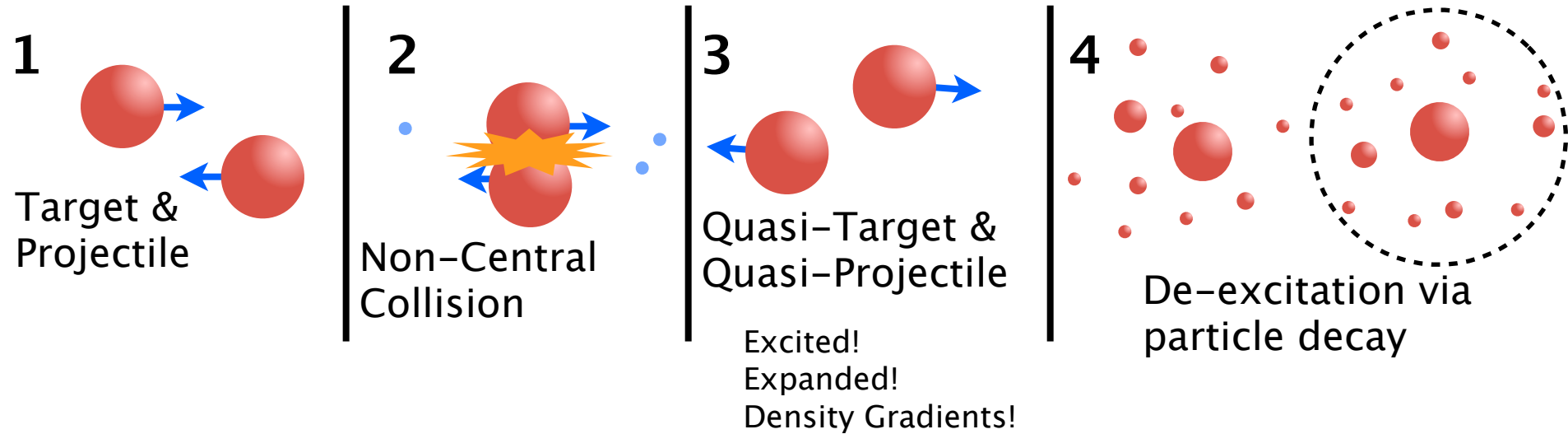


Reconstructed QP



- We have reconstructed the QP
 - E^*/A , Asymmetry (n-p)
- We have thermometers to measure its temperature
- What can we learn?

Reconstructed QP



- We have reconstructed the QP
 - E^*/A , Asymmetry (n-p)
- We have thermometers to measure its temperature
- What can we learn?

Thermometer: MQF

Momentum Quadrupole Fluctuation Temperature

The quadrupole momentum distribution

$$Q_{xy} = p_x^2 - p_y^2$$

Contains information on the
temperature through its fluctuations

$$\sigma_{xy}^2 = \int d^3p (p_x^2 - p_y^2)^2 f(p)$$

If $f(p)$ is a Maxwell–Boltzmann distribution

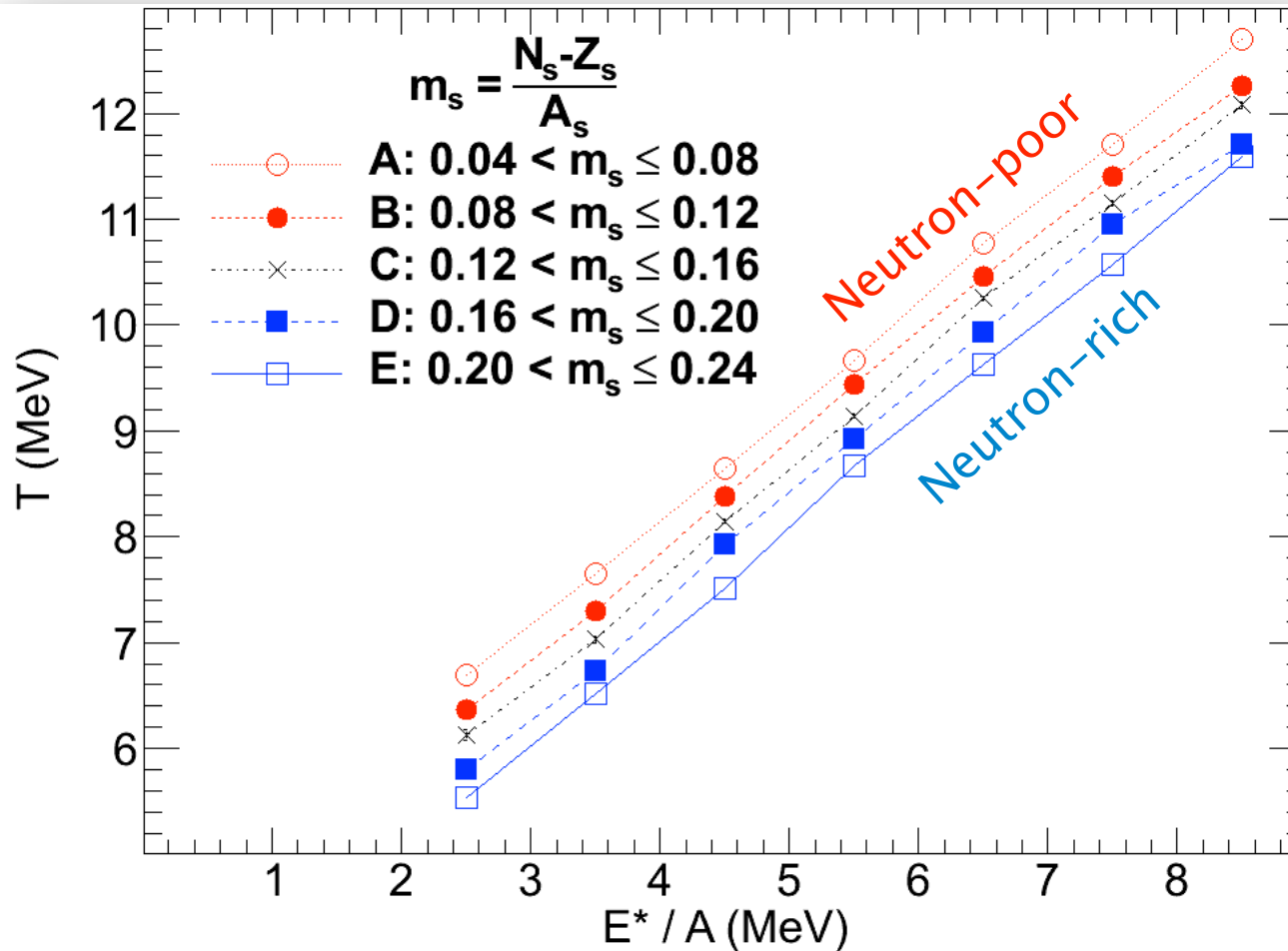
$$\sigma_{xy}^2 = 4m^2T^2$$

H. Zheng & A. Bonasera, PLB **696**, 178 (2011)
S. Wuenschel, NPA 843, 1 (2010)
S. Wuenschel Ph.D. Thesis, TAMU (2009)

Asymmetry Dependent Temperature

MQF Thermometer, Protons as Probe

- $48 \leq A_{QP} \leq 52$
- 5 narrow asymmetry bins



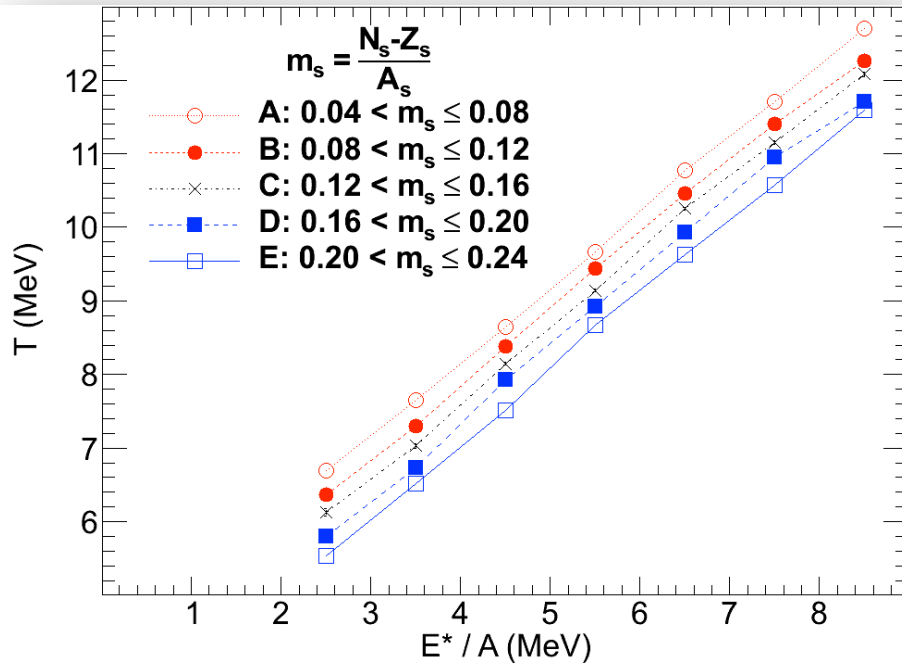
Larger Asymmetry
→ Lower
Temperature

> 1 MeV shift!

Evenly Spaced

Importance of Reconstruction

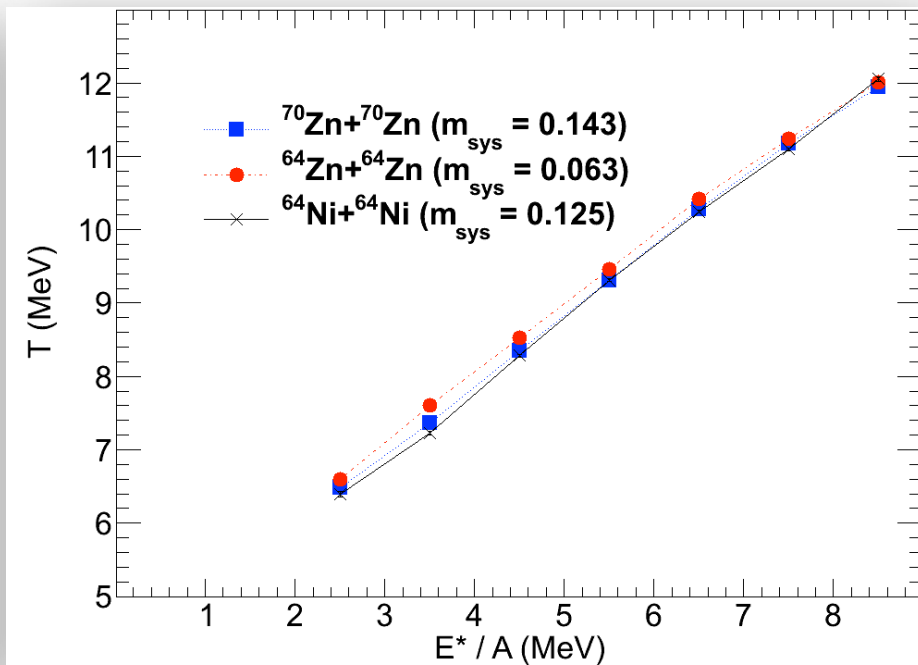
Asymmetry of Isotopically Reconstructed Source



Larger Asymmetry
→ Lower Temperature
Observed either way, but...

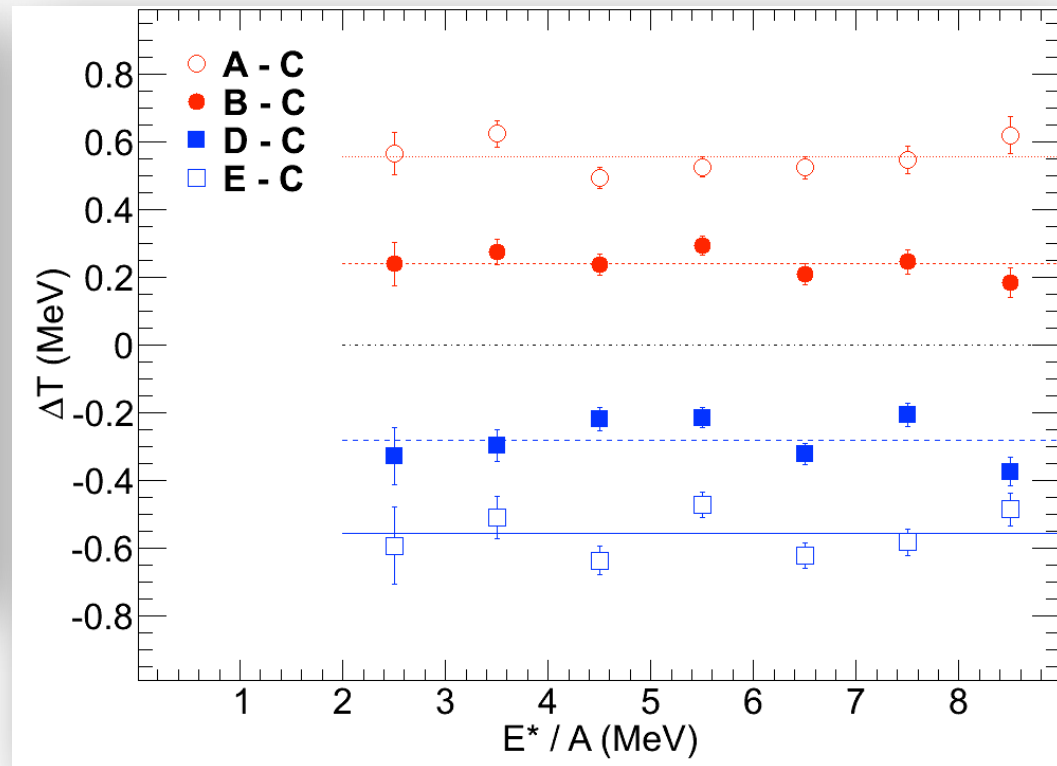
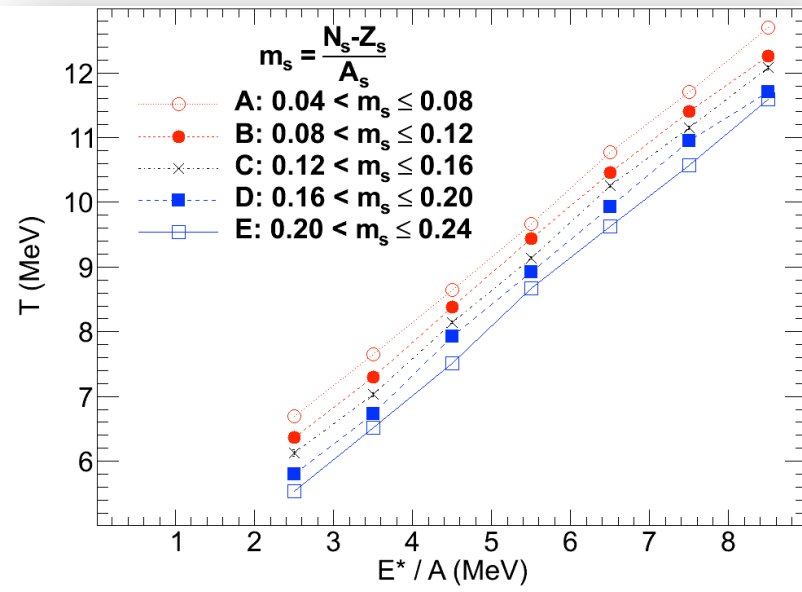
Asymmetry of Initial System

Each system:
Broad range of asymmetry



Much more pronounced
for selection on
source composition

Excitation Independence



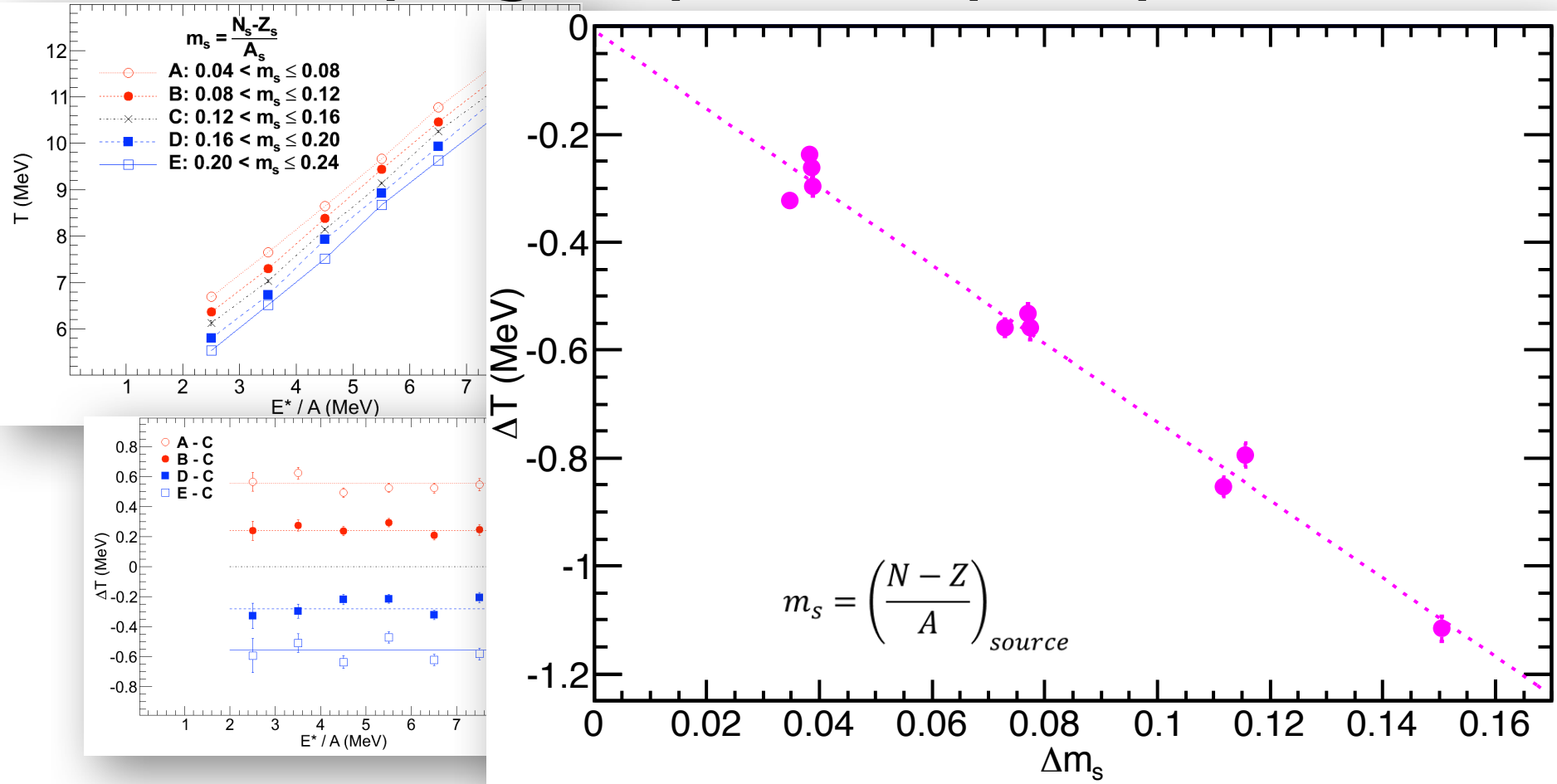
Larger Asymmetry
→ Lower Temperature

Temperature shift does
not show a trend
with excitation.

Horizontal lines indicate averages

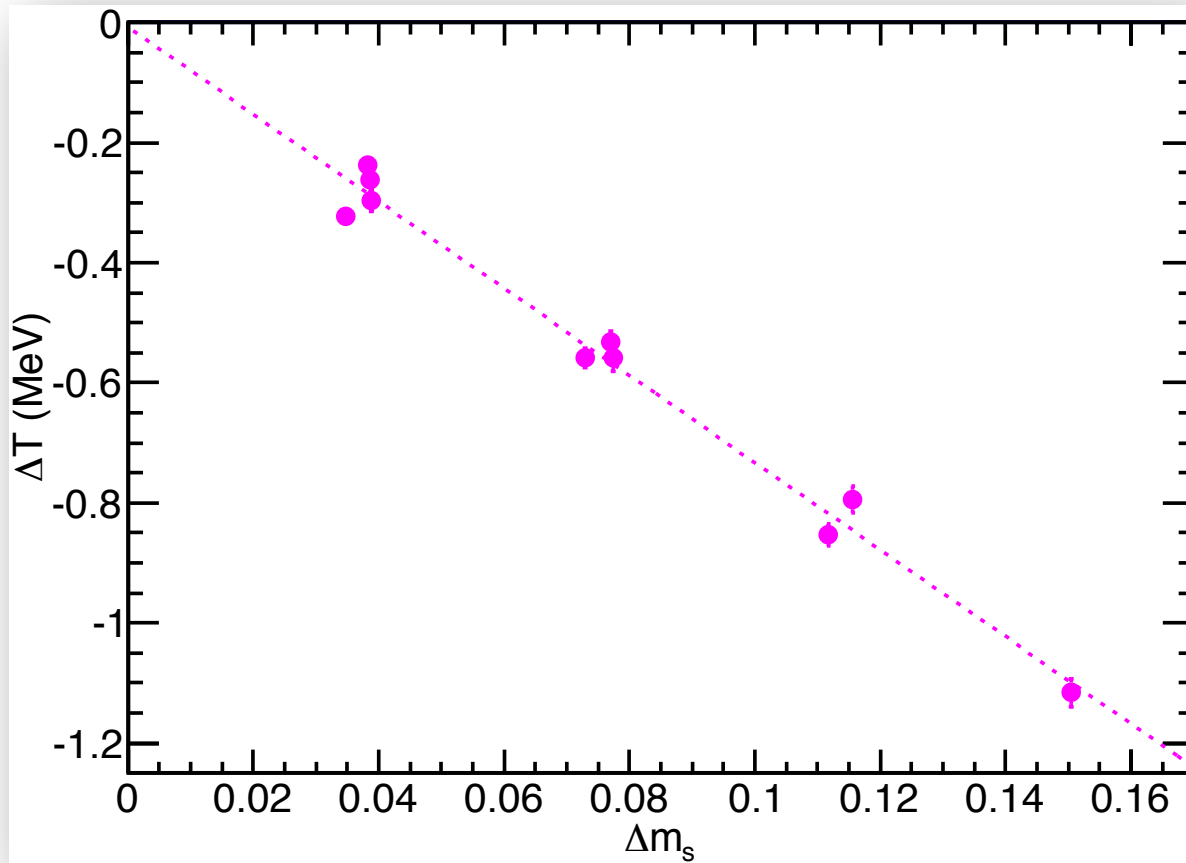
4 of 10 pairwise
differences
shown

Quantifying Asymmetry Dependence



- Increasing m_s
 \rightarrow lower temperature
- Linear relationship
- Quantitative: change of 0.15 units of m_s
corresponds to a temperature decreased by 1.1 MeV

Robust Asymmetry Dependence



We vary the neutron kinetic energy to physically unrealistic extremes:

- Neutron KE to 50%: slope $\Delta T/\Delta m_s$ decreases only to 75%
- Neutron KE to 150%: slope $\Delta T/\Delta m_s$ increases only to 125%

➡ Some uncertainty in magnitude of the correlation, but not in its existence



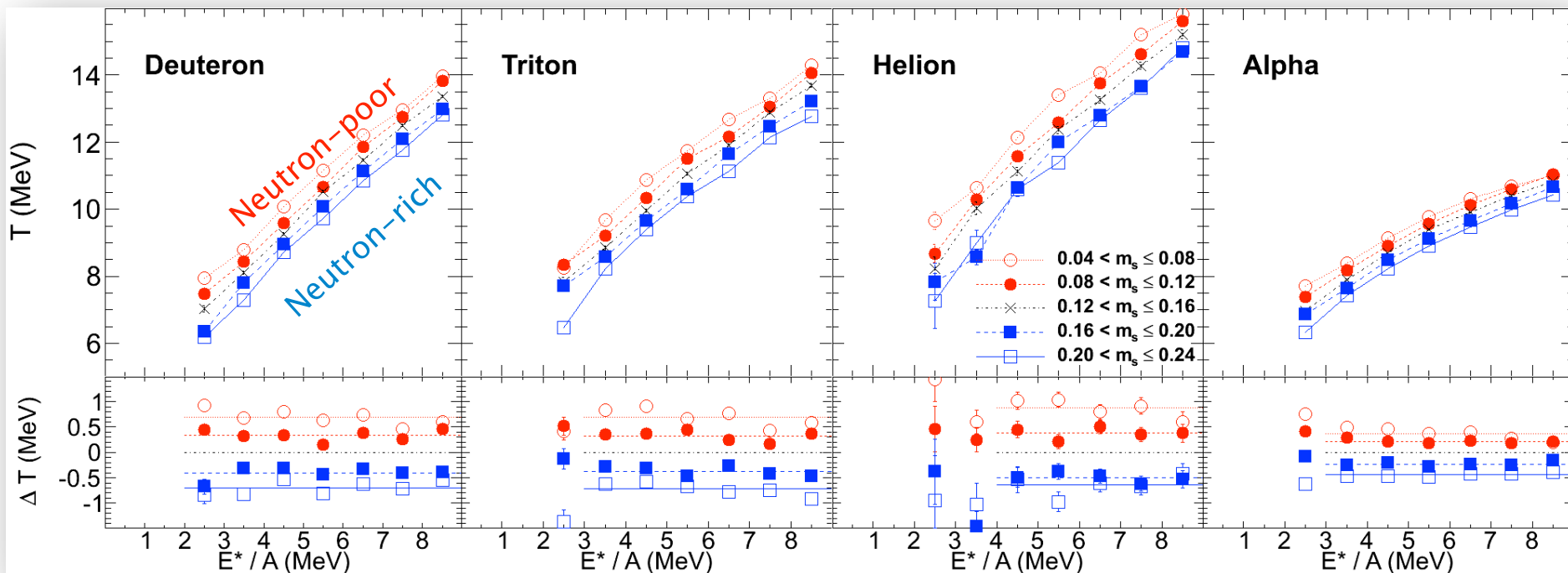
Asymmetry Dependence
☒ MQF Protons

Do other probes of the temperature measure an asymmetry dependence?



Caloric Curves for LCPs: Dependence on Asymmetry

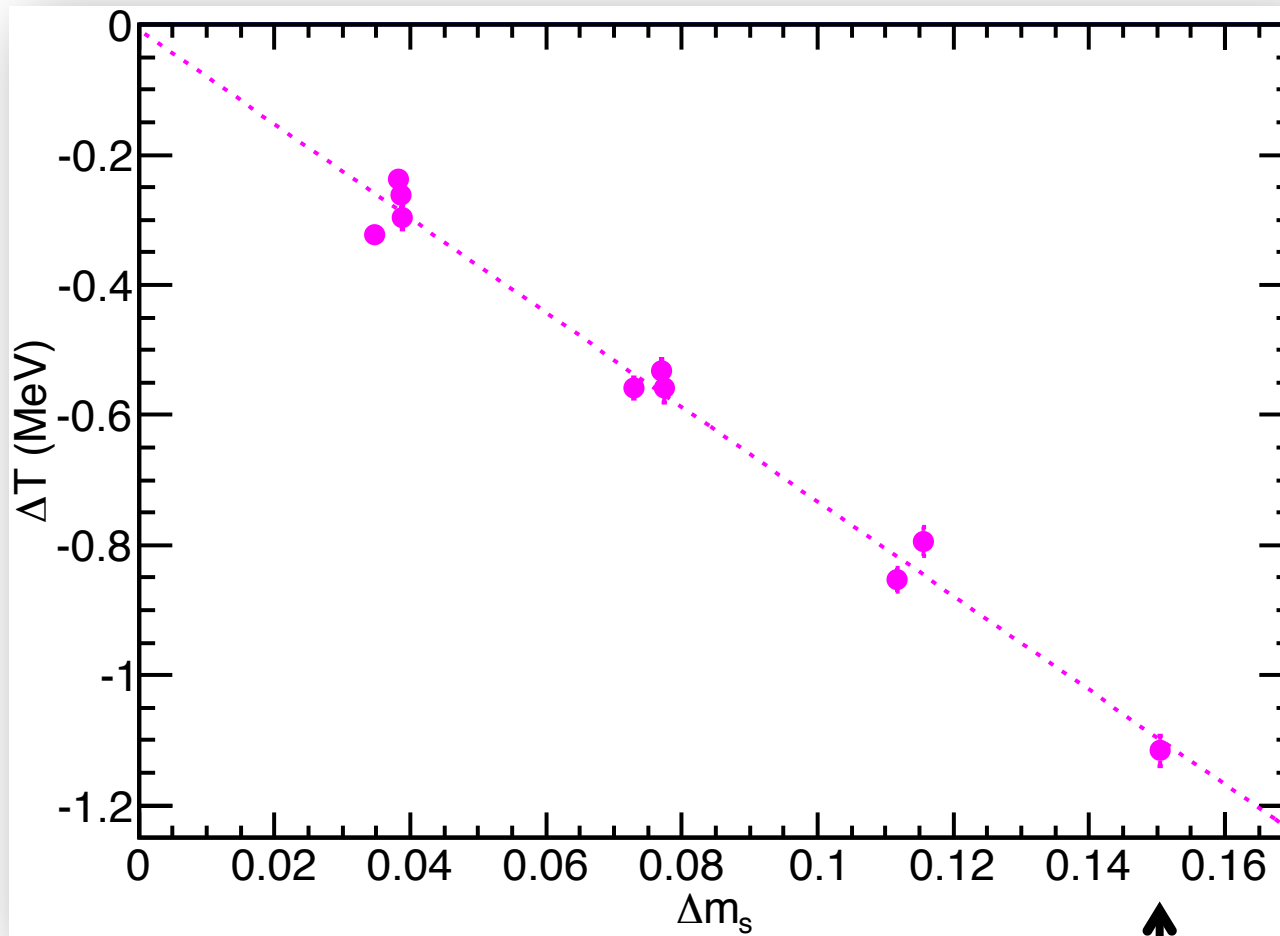
$$\sigma_{xy}^2 = 4m^2T^2$$



For All LCPs:
Larger Asymmetry
→ Lower Temperature

Temperature shift
does not show a trend
with excitation

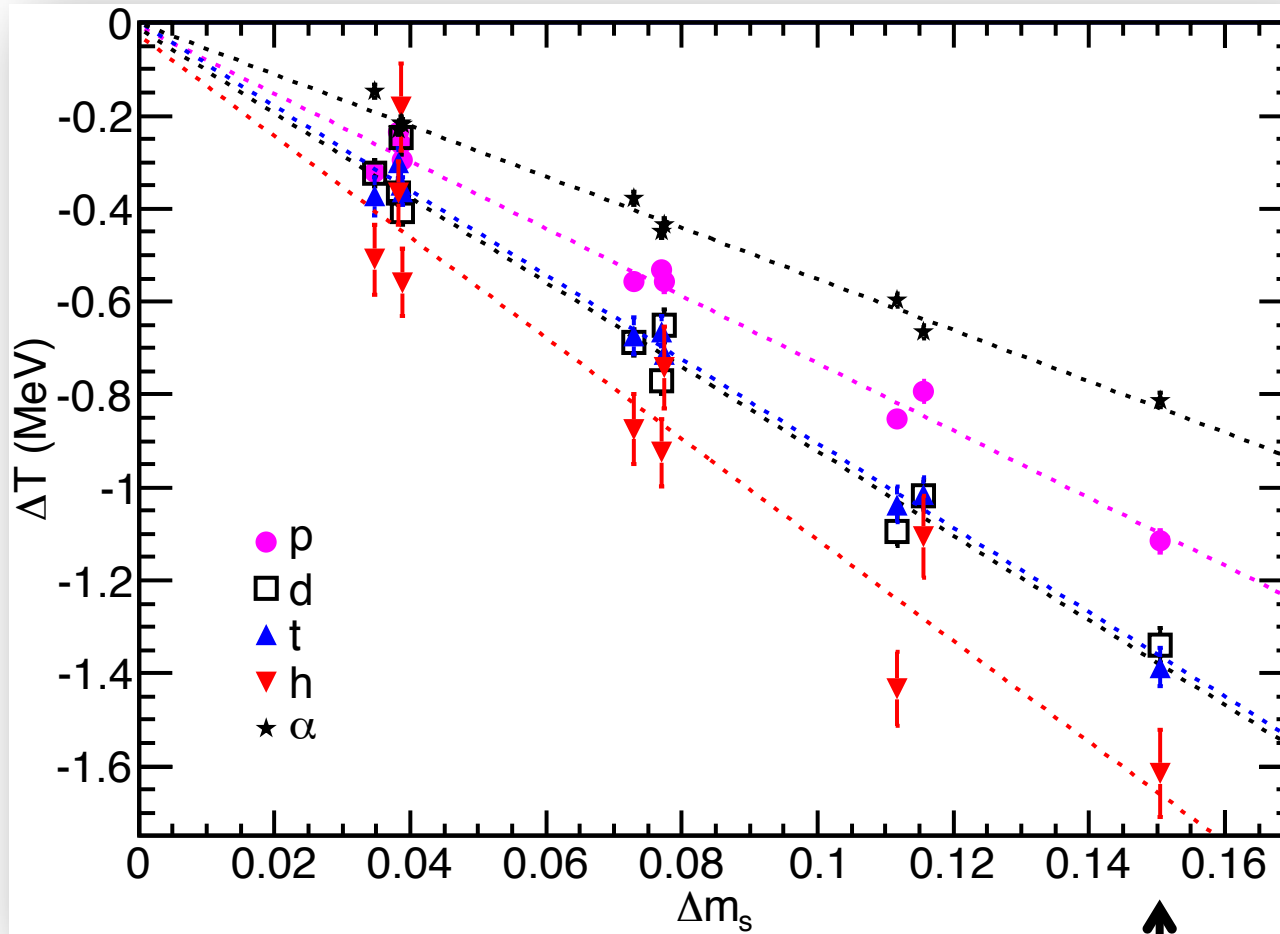
Asymmetry Dependence of Temperature



Change of 4 protons at $A \approx 50$



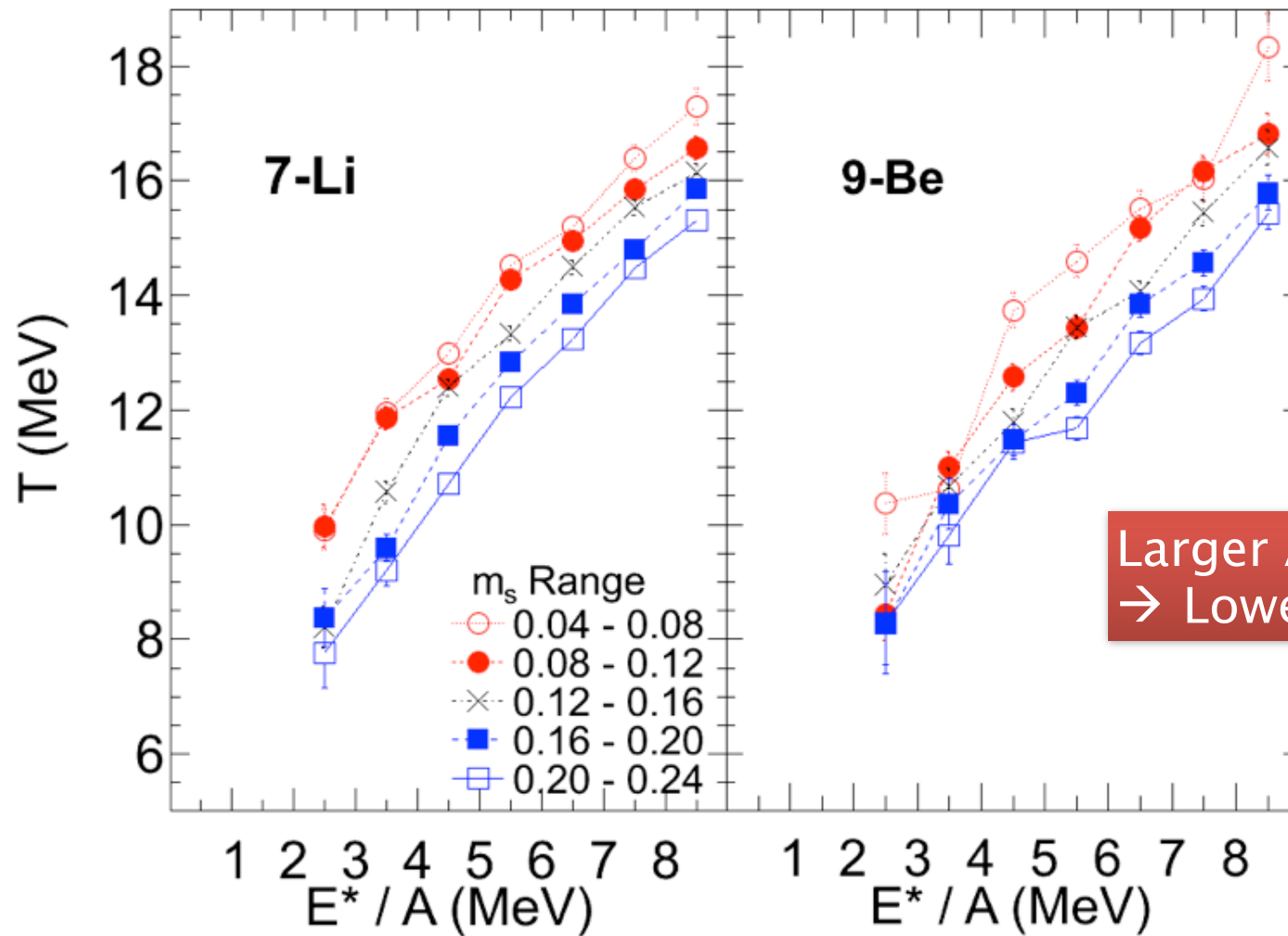
Asymmetry Dependence of Temperature



$\Delta T / \Delta m_s$	
α :	-5.5
p:	-7.3
d:	-9.2
t:	-9.3
h:	-10.9

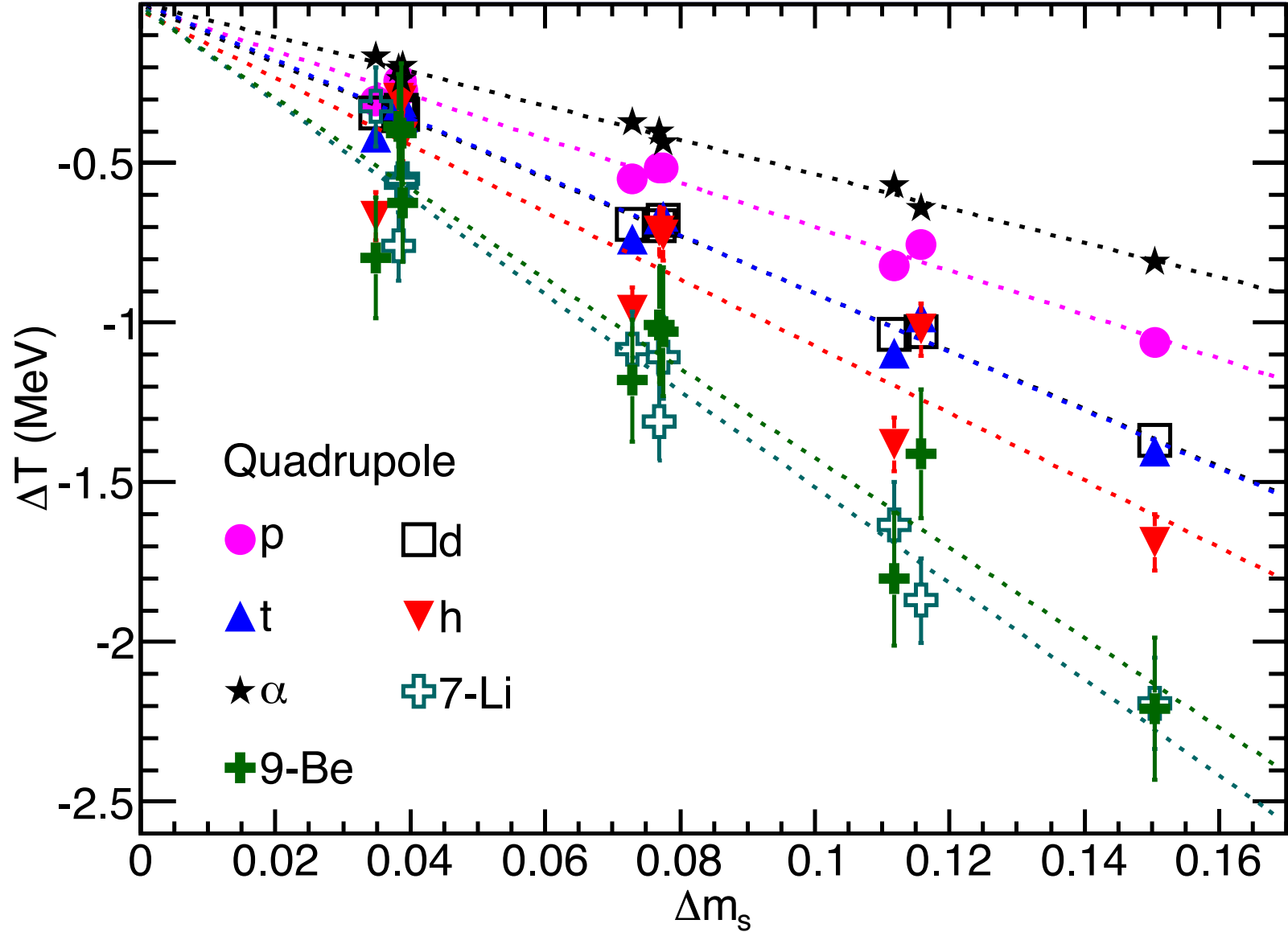
Change of 4 protons at $A \approx 50$

Temperatures Using Heavier Probes

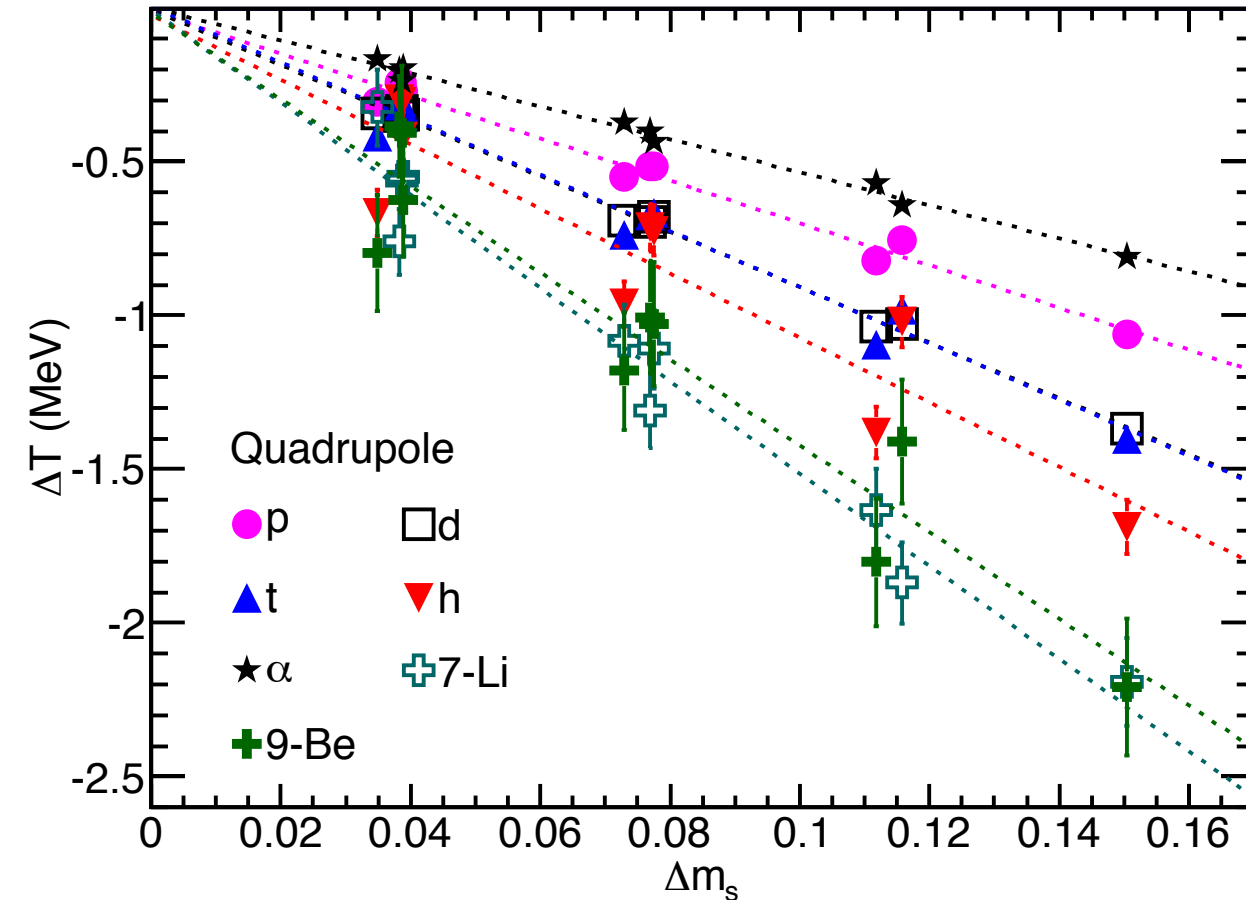


Larger Asymmetry
 \rightarrow Lower Temperature

Asymmetry Dependence of Temperature



Asymmetry Dependence of Temperature



$m_s(^{112}\text{Sn}) = 0.107$
 $m_s(^{124}\text{Sn}) = 0.194$
 $\Delta m_s(\text{Sn}) = 0.087$
 $\rightarrow \Delta T = 0.5 - 1.5 \text{ MeV}$

$$\alpha = \frac{4C_{\text{sym}}(\rho)}{T} \left[\left(\frac{Z}{A} \right)_1^2 - \left(\frac{Z}{A} \right)_2^2 \right]$$

Access to C_{sym} through isoscaling: what is T ?

In the interpretation of isoscaling, understanding the asymmetry dependence of nuclear temperatures should be another consideration in addition to secondary decay, and definition of Δ .



Asymmetry Dependence

- ☒ MQF Protons
- ☒ MQF Deuterons
- ☒ MQF Tritons
- ☒ MQF Helion
- ☒ MQF Alphas
- ☒ MQF 7-Li
- ☒ MQF 9-Be

Do other thermometers measure an asymmetry dependence?



Albergo Thermometer

H/He

Li/He

Double
yield ratio

$$R = \frac{Y(d)/Y(t)}{Y(h)/Y(\alpha)}$$

$$R = \frac{Y(^6\text{Li})/Y(^7\text{Li})}{Y(h)/Y(\alpha)}$$

Account for
binding energy
differences
and spin-
degeneracies

$$T_{\text{raw}} = \frac{14.3\text{MeV}}{\ln(1.59R)}$$

$$T_{\text{raw}} = \frac{13.3\text{MeV}}{\ln(2.18R)}$$

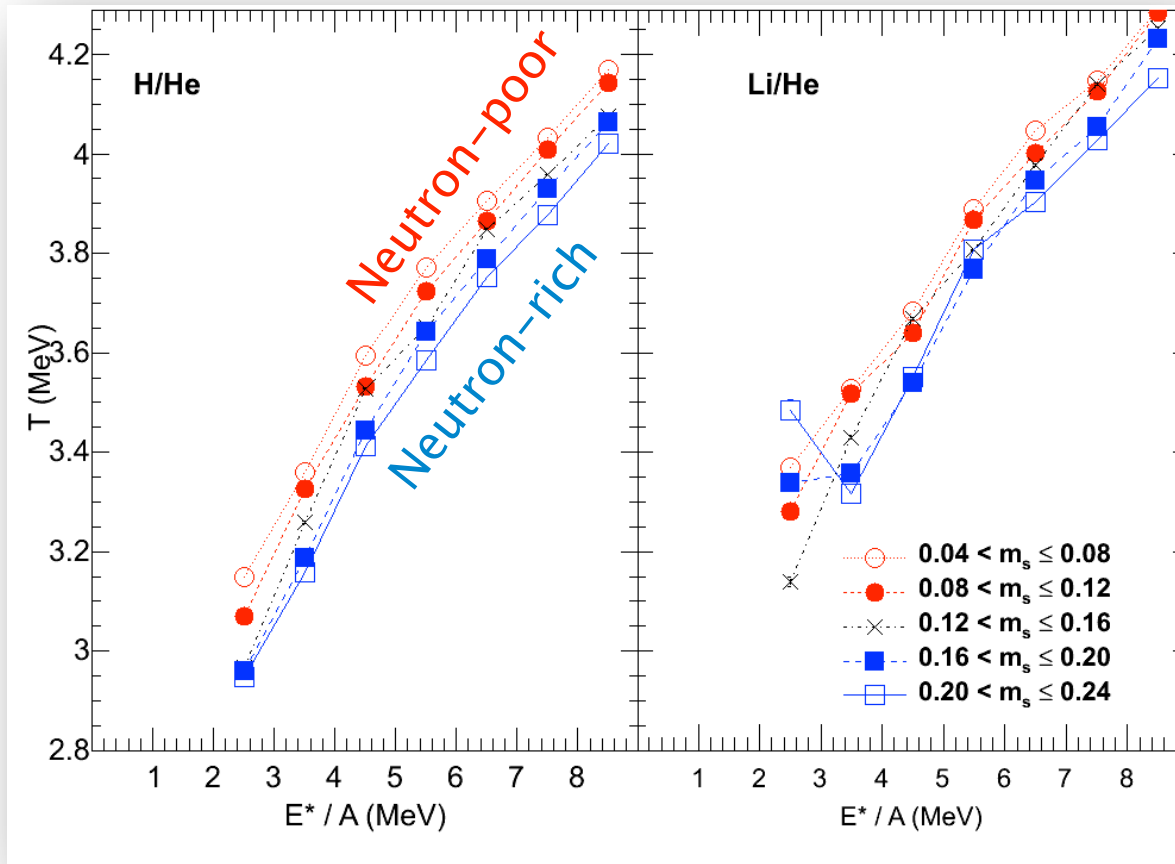
~3% correction
for secondary
decay

$$T = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{T_{\text{raw}}} - 0.0097}$$

$$T = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{T_{\text{raw}}} + 0.0051}$$

Albergo et al., Il Nuovo Cimento **89**, 1 (1985)
Xi et al. PRC **59**, 1567 (1999)

Albergo Temperature: Asymmetry Dependent



Temperature is smaller than for MQF.
(Chemical vs Kinetic)

Asymmetry dependence is smaller than MQF.
(Lower Temperatures)

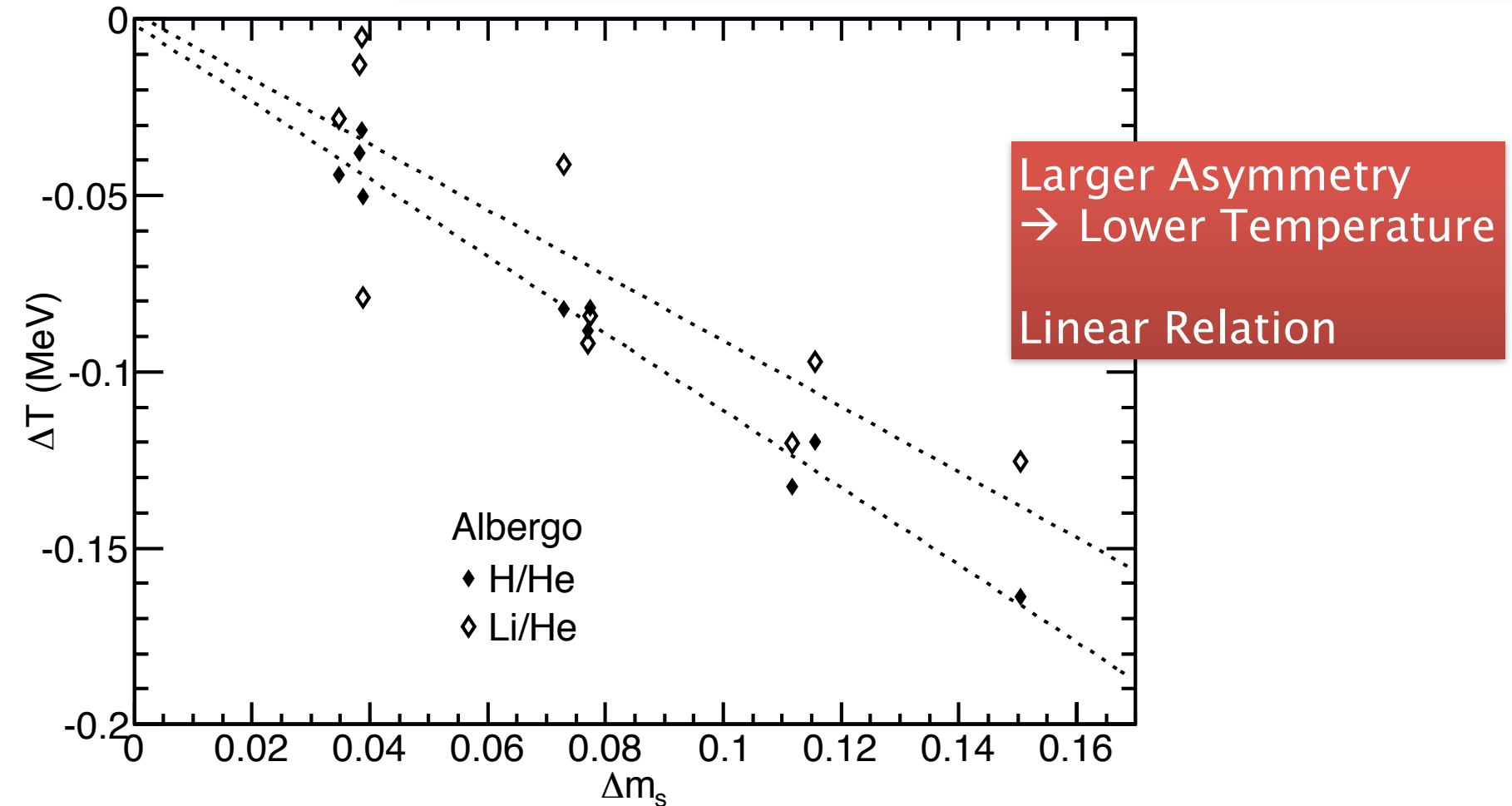
Key point:
Asymmetry dependence is clearly observed

Larger Asymmetry
→ Lower Temperature

Albergo: Asymmetry Dependence of T

Stronger dependence for MQF than for Albergo

- Smaller value of temperature for Albergo than MQF
- Different methods (chemical vs kinetic)





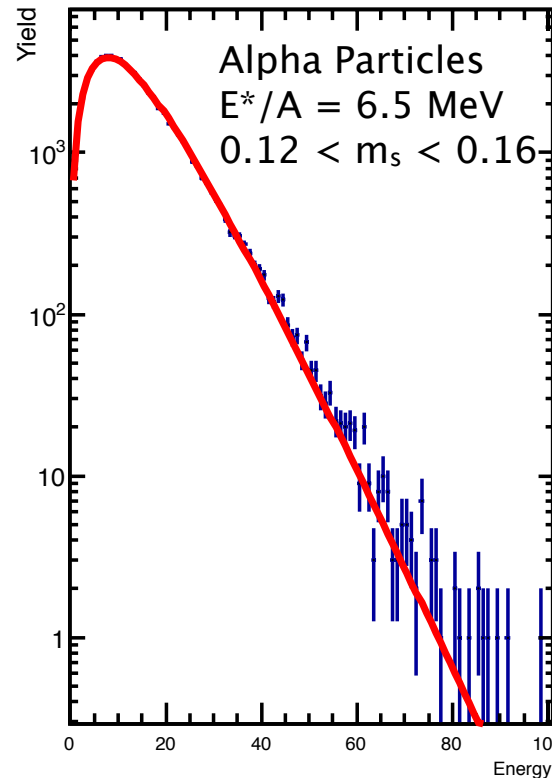
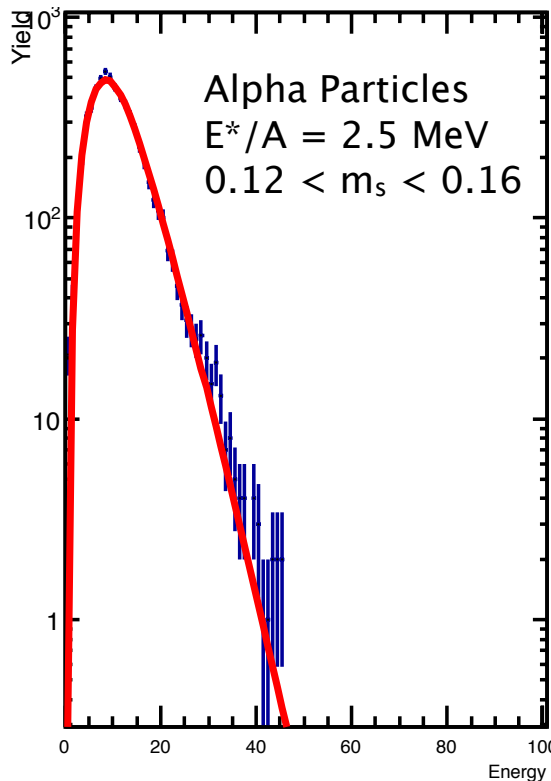
Asymmetry Dependence

- ☒ MQF Protons
- ☒ MQF Deuterons
- ☒ MQF Tritons
- ☒ MQF Helion
- ☒ MQF Alphas
- ☒ MQF 7-Li
- ☒ MQF 9-Be
- ☒ Albergo H/He
- ☒ Albergo Li/He

Do any other thermometers measure an asymmetry dependence?

Slope Temperatures

Kinetic Energies in the QP frame
 $\theta < 90$ degrees



Maxwell-Boltzmann with
 Diffuse Barrier

$$Y(E) \propto (E - B) \exp\left(-\frac{E}{T}\right);$$

$$E \geq B + T$$

$$Y(E) \propto C' (E - B')^D \exp\left(-\frac{E}{T}\right)$$

$$B' < E < B + T$$

$$Y(E) = 0$$

$$E \leq B'$$

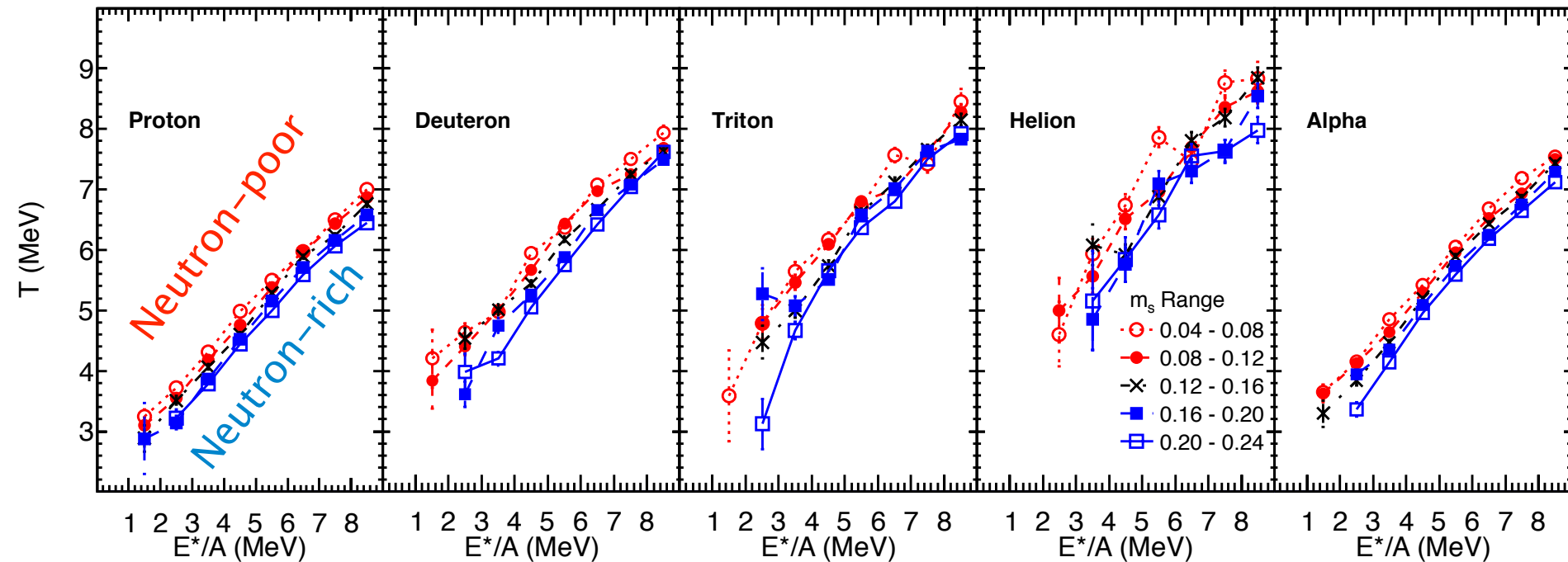
$$C' = \frac{T}{(DT)^D} \quad B' = (1 - D)T + B$$

B: barrier parameter

D: diffuseness parameter

Yanez, Phys. Rev. C 68, 011602(R) (2003)

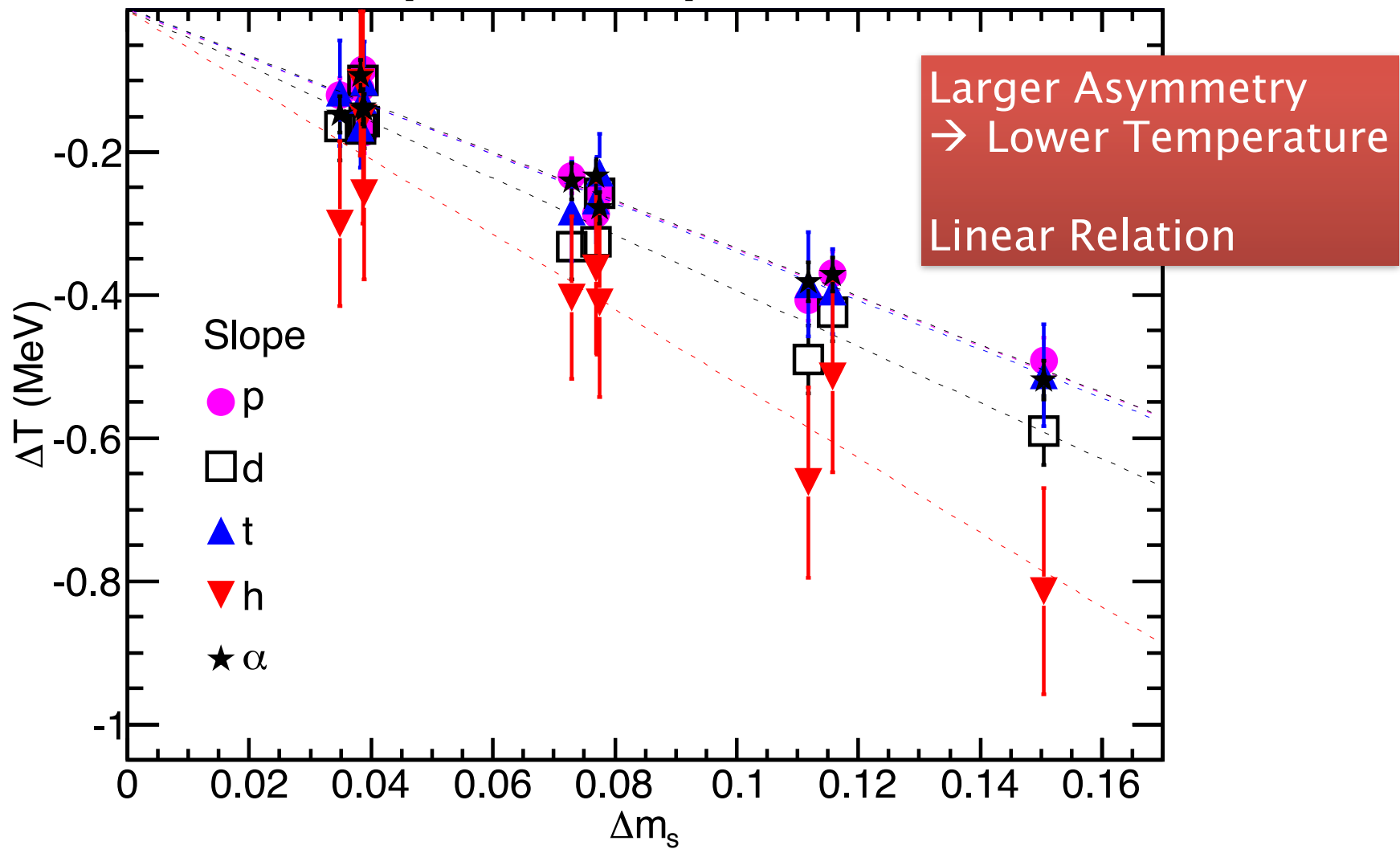
Slope Temperature: Asymmetry Dependent



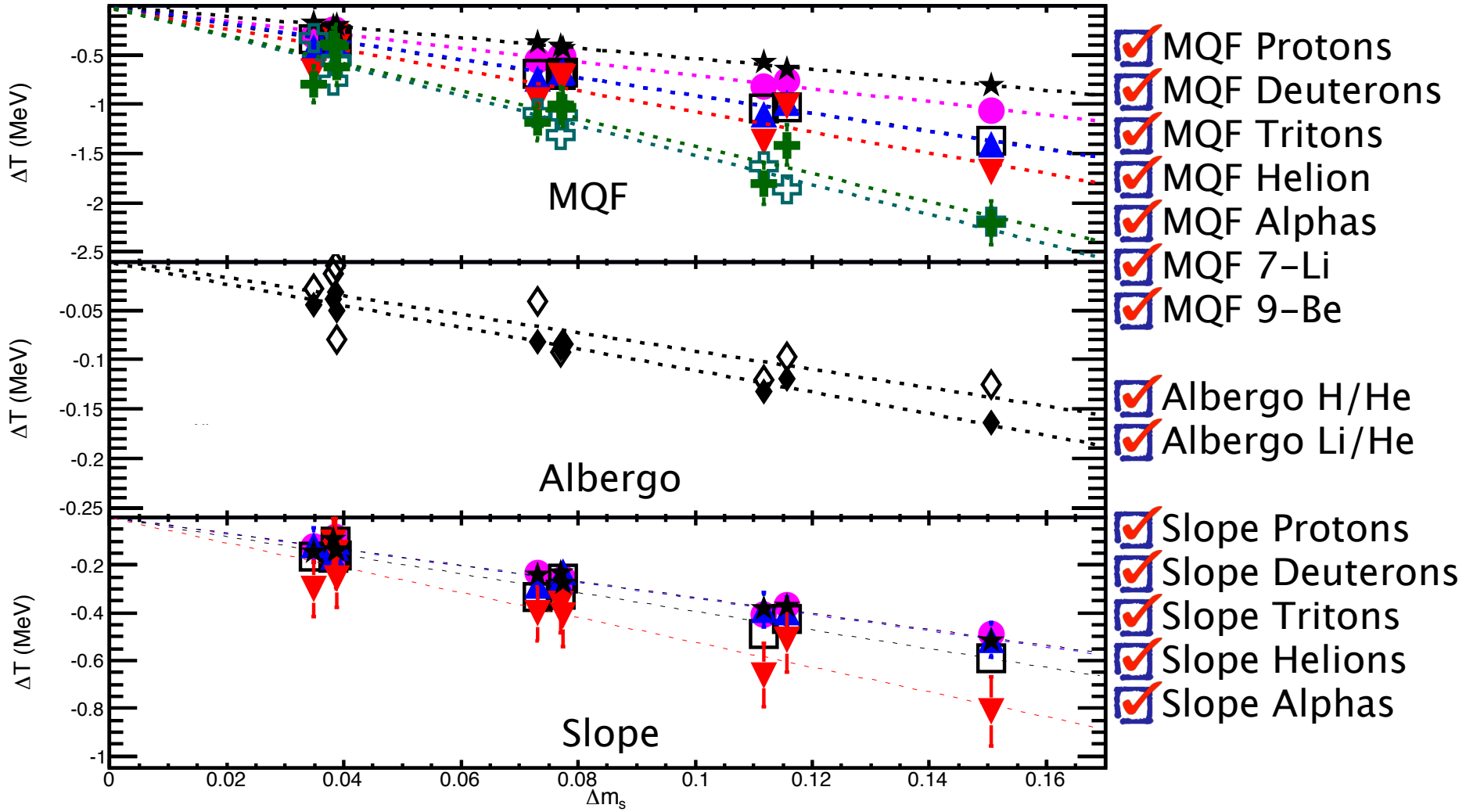
Key point:
Asymmetry dependence
is clearly observed

Larger Asymmetry
→ Lower Temperature

Asymmetry Dependence of Slope Temperature



Q: How Much Cooler Would It Be With Some More Neutrons?



A: Depends on the thermometer, but it would be cooler.

SUMMARY & OUTLOOK

- Isotopically reconstructed QP sources
- Three methods, multiple probes
 - 14 ways total to extract temperature
- All 14 temperature probes show a dependence of the caloric curve on the asymmetry
- **Neutron Rich → Lower Temperature**
 - **Linear relationship**
- Source composition matters, not system
- High-statistics CoMD calculation underway
- 3 equations of state (asy-soft, -stiff, -superstiff)
- Investigate sensitivity of the caloric curve to the EOS in the model calculations.

Acknowledgements

Collaborators

A.B. McIntosh, A. Bonasera, P. Cammarata, K. Hagel,
L. Heilborn, Z. Kohley, J. Mabilia, L.W. May, P. Marini,
A. Raphelt, G.A. Souliotis, S. Wuenschel, A. Zarrella,
H. Zheng, S.J. Yennello



Funding

Department of Energy DE-FG03-93ER40773
Welch Foundation A-1266



Neutron Uncertainty

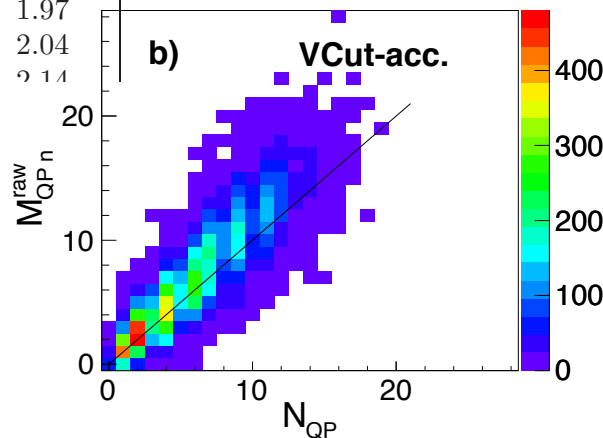
$$\sigma_{\text{raw}}^2 = \sigma_{\text{true}}^2 + \sigma_{\text{eff}}^2 + \sigma_{\text{bkg}}^2$$

N_{QP}	$\langle M_{QP_n}^{\text{raw}} \rangle$	$\sigma(M_{QP_n}^{\text{raw}})$
HIPSE		
0	1.46	1.10
1	2.13	1.21
2	3.02	1.64
3	3.67	1.68
4	4.06	1.75
5	4.72	1.88
6	5.28	1.97
7	5.94	2.04
8	6.50	2.14

raw width: 5.36

width due to efficiency: < 2.1 (worst case)

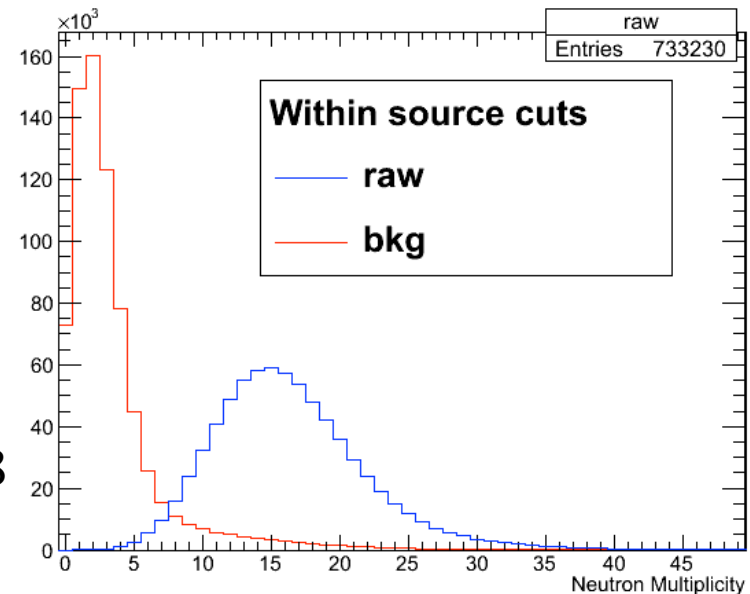
efficiency: 9% effect



raw width: 5.36

width due to background: 1.8

efficiency: 6% effect



Net effect: we know the QP neutron multiplicity to within 11% (1σ).

Calculation of Neutron Uncertainty

We know the QP neutron multiplicity to within 11% (1σ).

How big is this?

excitation

For a source of 50 nucleons where 5 become free neutrons, the free neutrons contribute 0.97 MeV/nucleon to the excitation energy.

An uncertainty of 11% on the free neutron multiplicity corresponds to an uncertainty of 0.11 MeV/nucleon.

This uncertainty of 0.11 MeV/nucleon is significantly smaller than the spacing between even the closest caloric curves.

asymmetry

For a source of 50 nucleons where 5 become free neutrons, an error of 1 neutron corresponds to a 2σ variation. It would require an error of 4σ to shift from one asymmetry bin to another.