

**Heavy-ion fusion reactions:
quantum tunneling with many degrees of freedom
and superheavy elements**

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TOHOKU
UNIVERSITY



Sendai
→ Roma
(1613-1615)

Tsunenaga Hasekura



4 Japanese boys came to **Padova** from Kyushu in 1585 (after Roma and Firenze).

Heavy-ion fusion reactions: quantum tunneling with many degrees of freedom and superheavy elements

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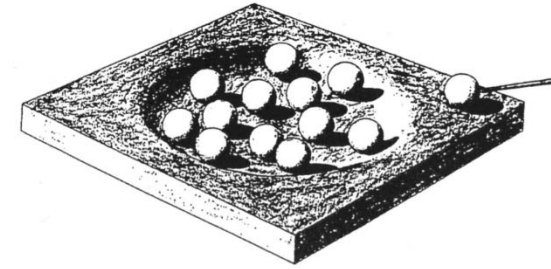
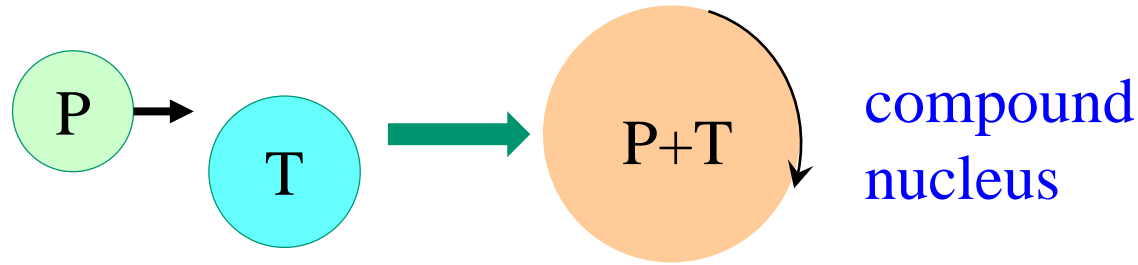


1. H.I. fusion reactions: why are they interesting?
2. Coupled-channels approach
3. Future perspectives: superheavy elements

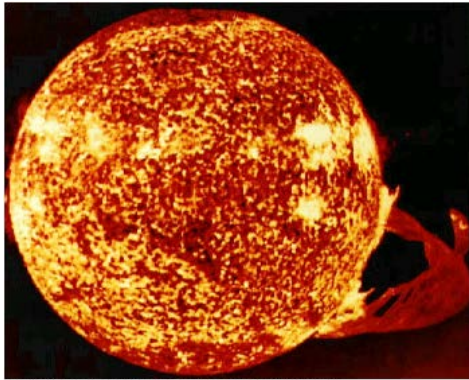
Recent review article:

K. Hagino and N. Takigawa, Prog. Theo. Phys.128 ('12)1061.

Fusion reactions: compound nucleus formation

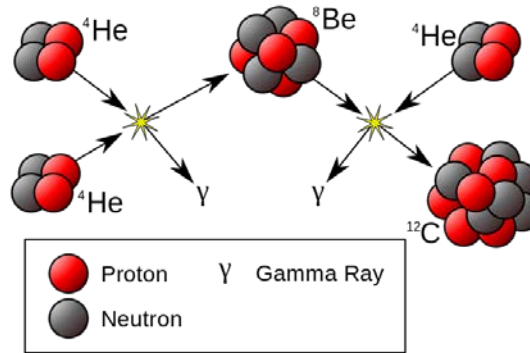


cf. Bohr '36

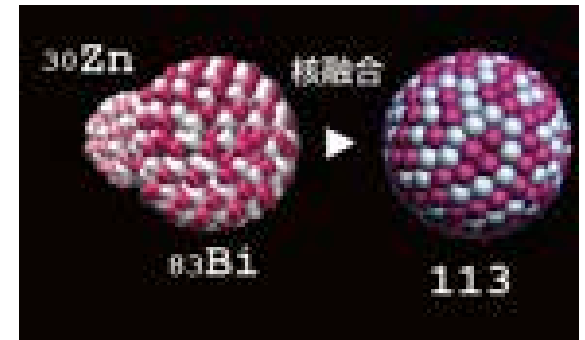


NASA, Skylab space station on December 19, 1973, solar flare reaching 588 000 km off solar surface

energy production
in stars (Bethe '39)



nucleosynthesis

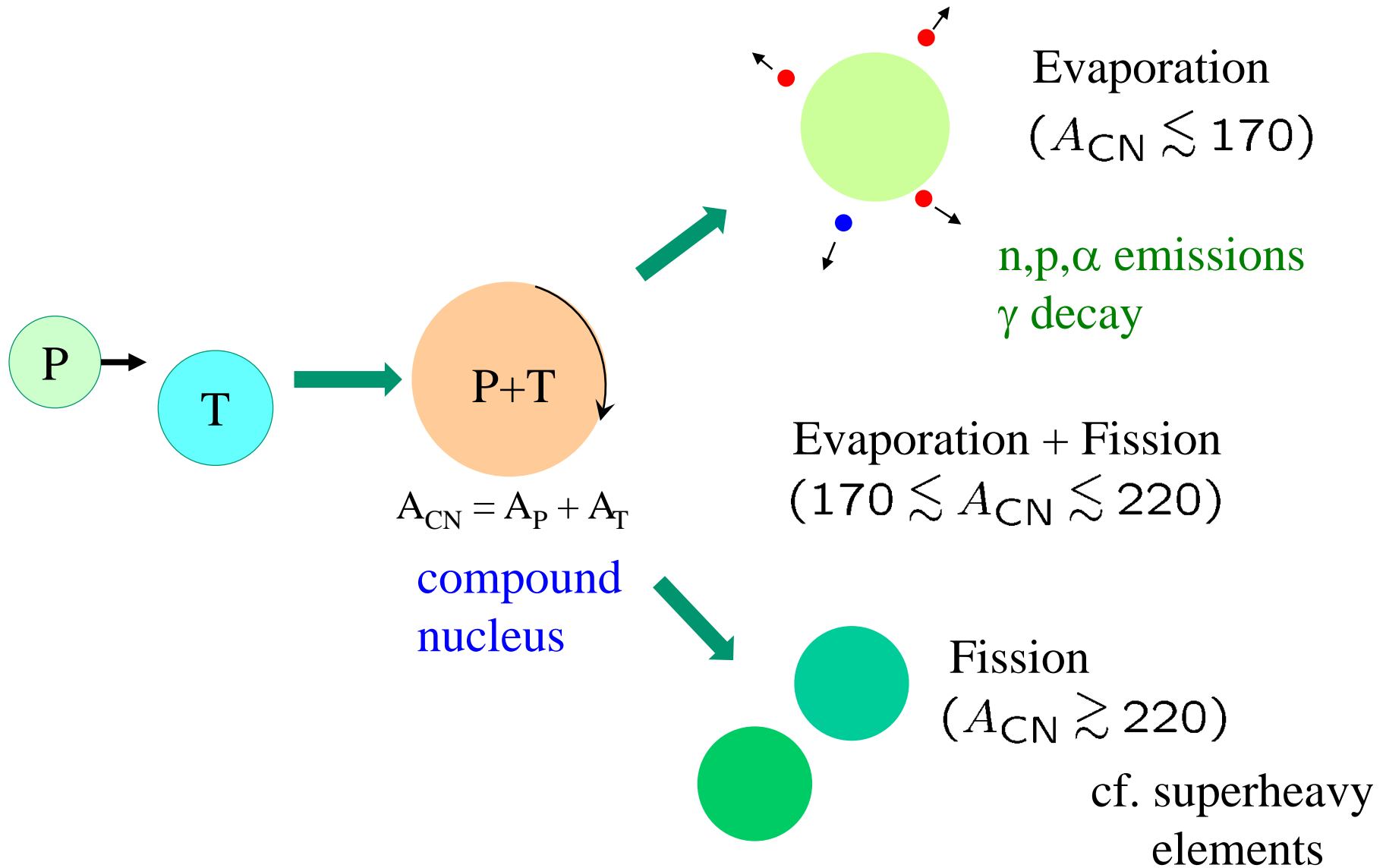


superheavy elements

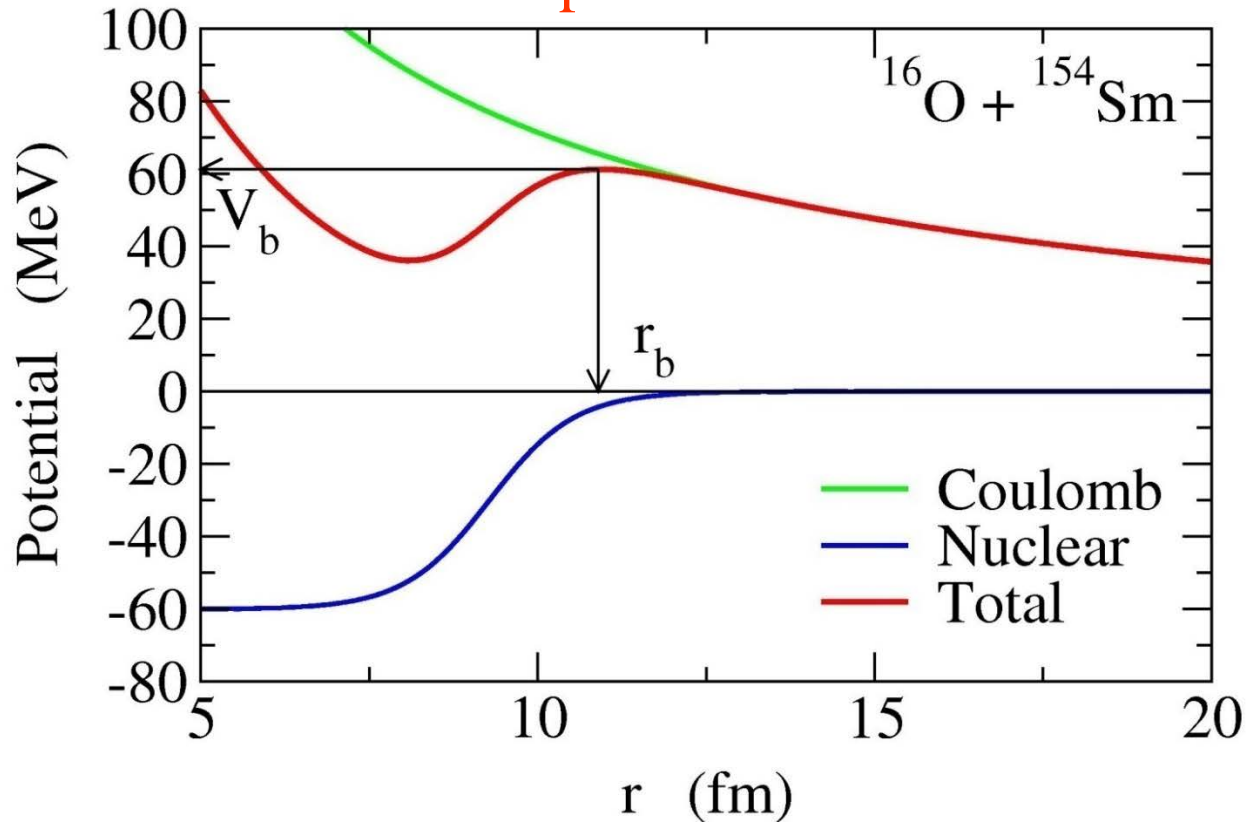
Fusion and fission: large amplitude motions of quantum many-body systems with strong interaction

← microscopic understanding: an ultimate goal of nuclear physics

Fusion reactions: compound nucleus formation



Inter-nucleus potential



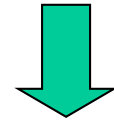
Two interactions:

1. Coulomb force

long range repulsion

2. Nuclear force

short range attraction



potential barrier
due to a cancellation
between the two
(Coulomb barrier)

• Above-barrier energies



• Sub-barrier energies

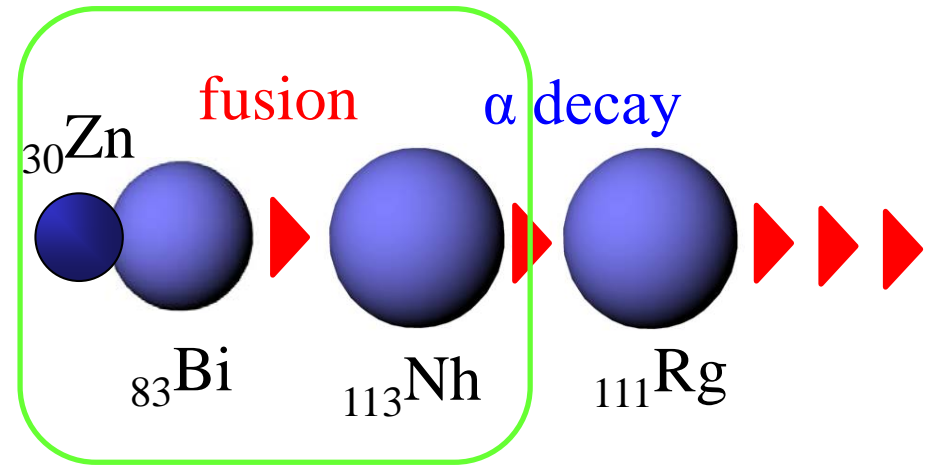
(energies around the Coulomb barrier)

• Deep sub-barrier energies

Why sub-barrier fusion?

two obvious reasons:

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 113 Nh nihonium | 115 Mc moscovium |
| 117 Ts tennessine | 118 Og oganesson |



superheavy elements

cf. $^{209}\text{Bi} (^{70}\text{Zn}, n) ^{278}\text{Nh}$

$V_B \sim 260 \text{ MeV}$

$E_{\text{cm}}^{(\text{exp})} \sim 262 \text{ MeV}$

Why sub-barrier fusion?

two obvious reasons:

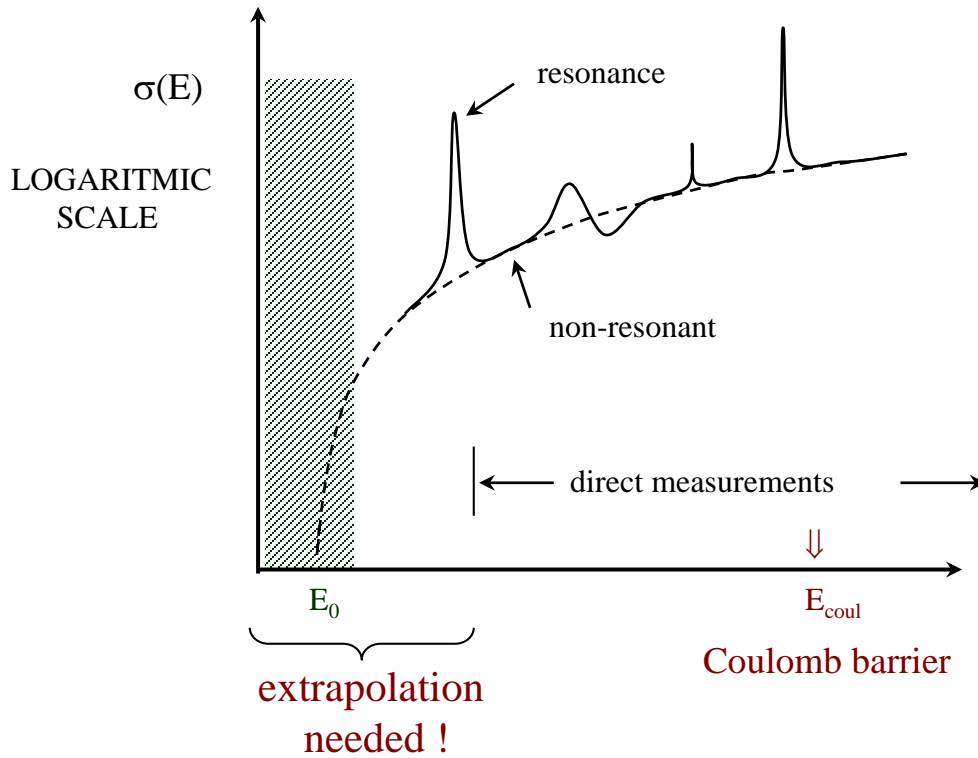
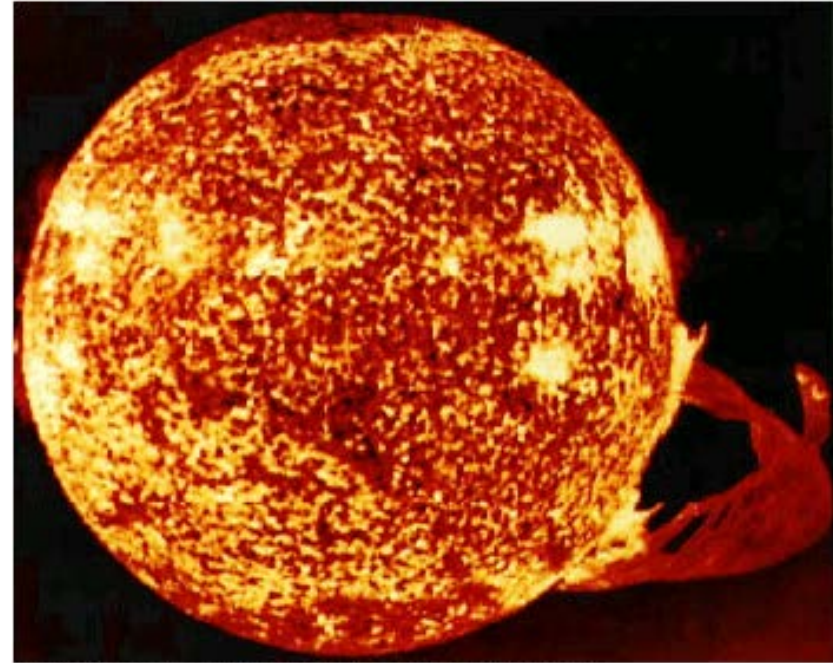


figure: M. Aliotta



NASA, Skylab space station December 19, 1973, solar flare reaching 588 000 km off solar surface

nuclear astrophysics
(nuclear fusion in stars)

cf. extrapolation of data

Why sub-barrier fusion?

two obvious reasons:

- ✓ superheavy elements
- ✓ nuclear astrophysics

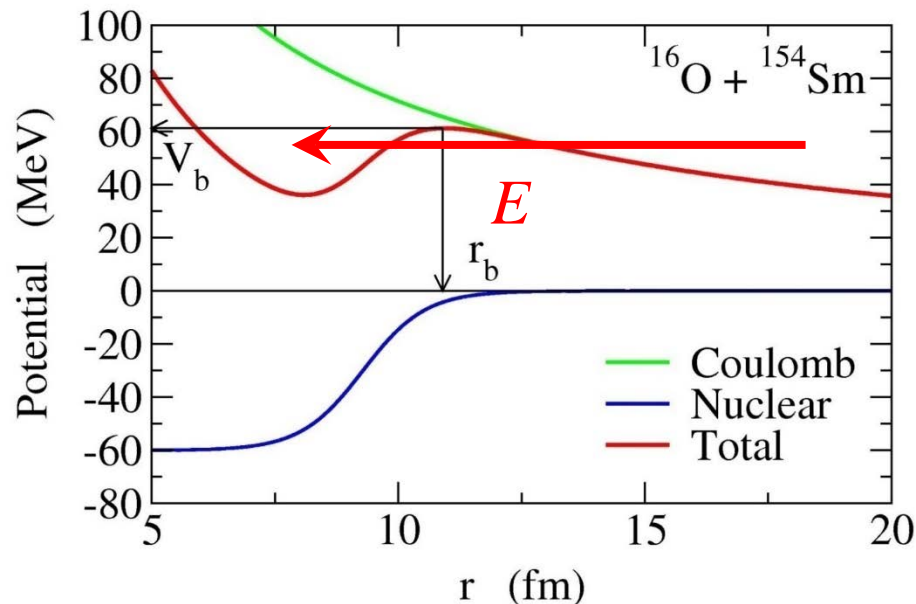
other reasons:

- ✓ reaction dynamics

strong interplay between reaction and structure

cf. high E reactions: much simpler reaction mechanisms

- ✓ many-particle tunneling



Why sub-barrier fusion?

two obvious reasons:

- ✓ superheavy elements
- ✓ nuclear astrophysics

other reasons:

- ✓ reaction dynamics

strong interplay between reaction and structure

cf. high E reactions: much simpler reaction mechanisms

- ✓ many-particle tunneling

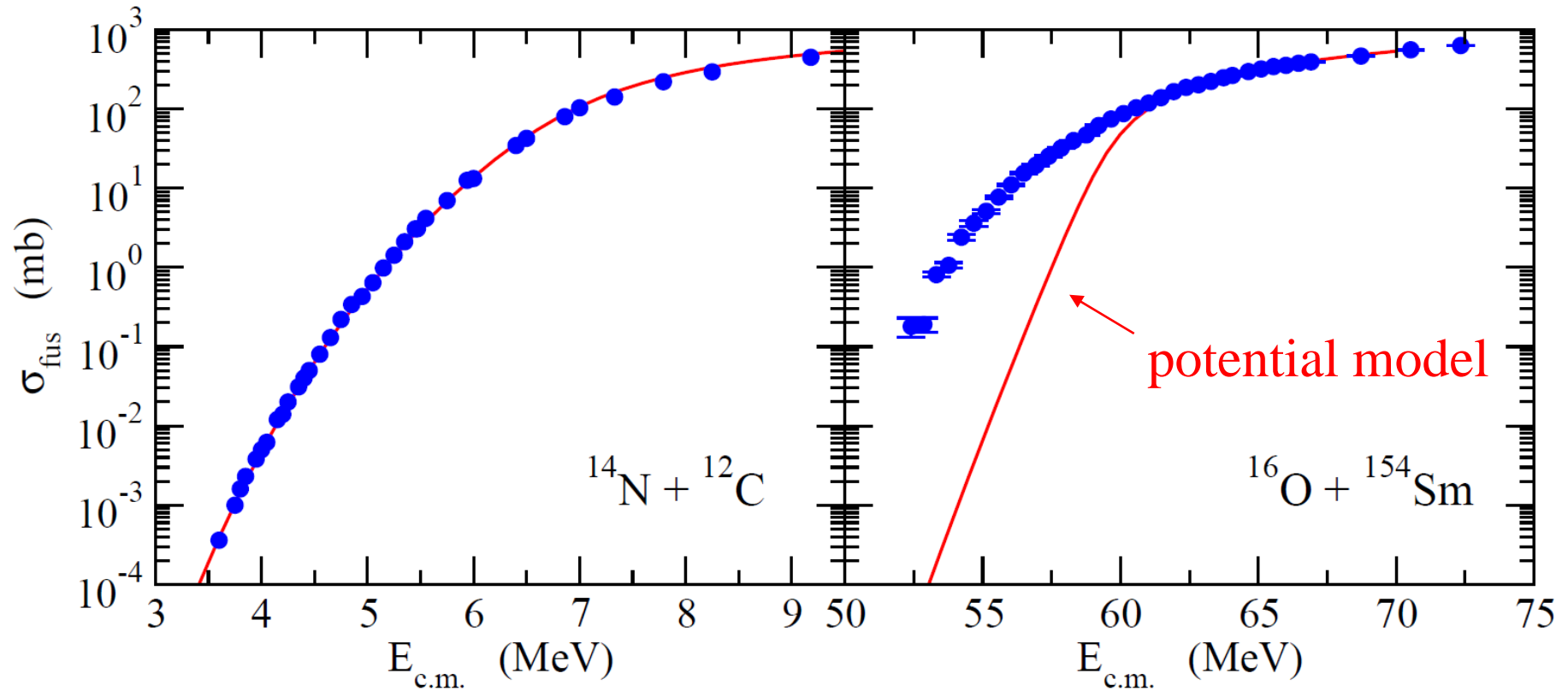
- many types of intrinsic degrees of freedom
(several types of collective vibrations,
deformation with several multipolarities)
- energy dependence of tunneling probability
cf. alpha decay: fixed energy

H.I. fusion reaction = an ideal playground to study quantum tunneling with many degrees of freedom

Large enhancement of fusion cross sections

Potential model: $V(r) + \text{absorption}$

$$\sigma_{\text{fus}} = \frac{\pi}{k^2} \sum_l (2l + 1)(1 - |S_l|^2)$$

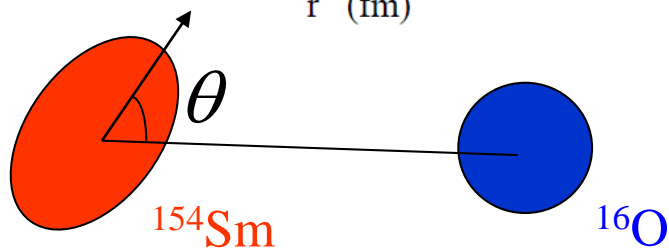
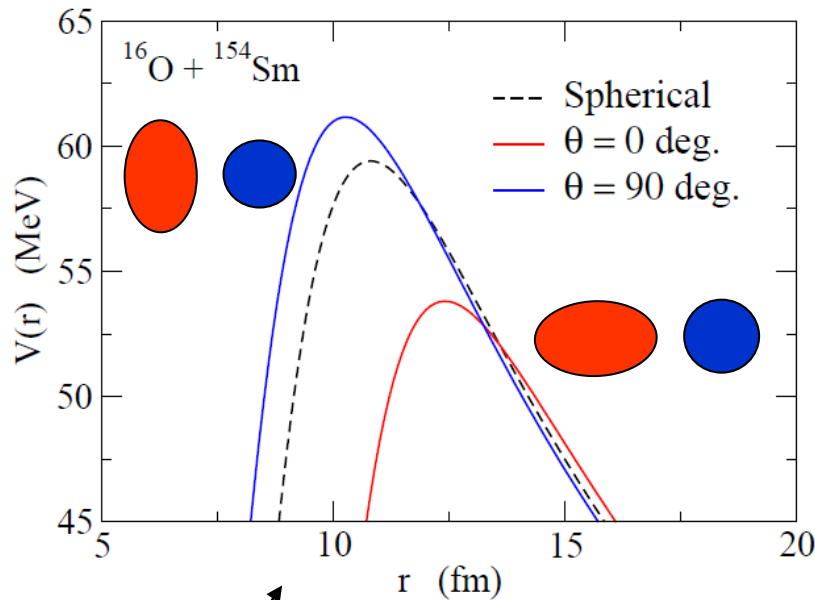


cf. seminal work:

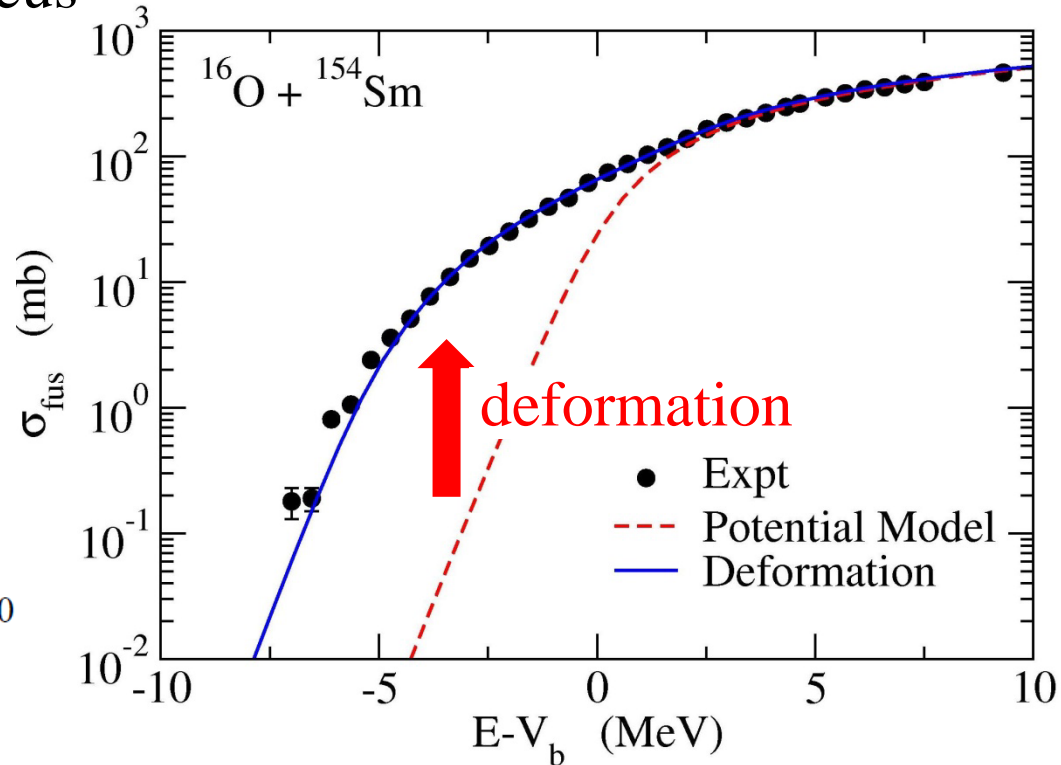
R.G. Stokstad et al., PRL41('78) 465

Effects of nuclear deformation

^{154}Sm : a typical deformed nucleus



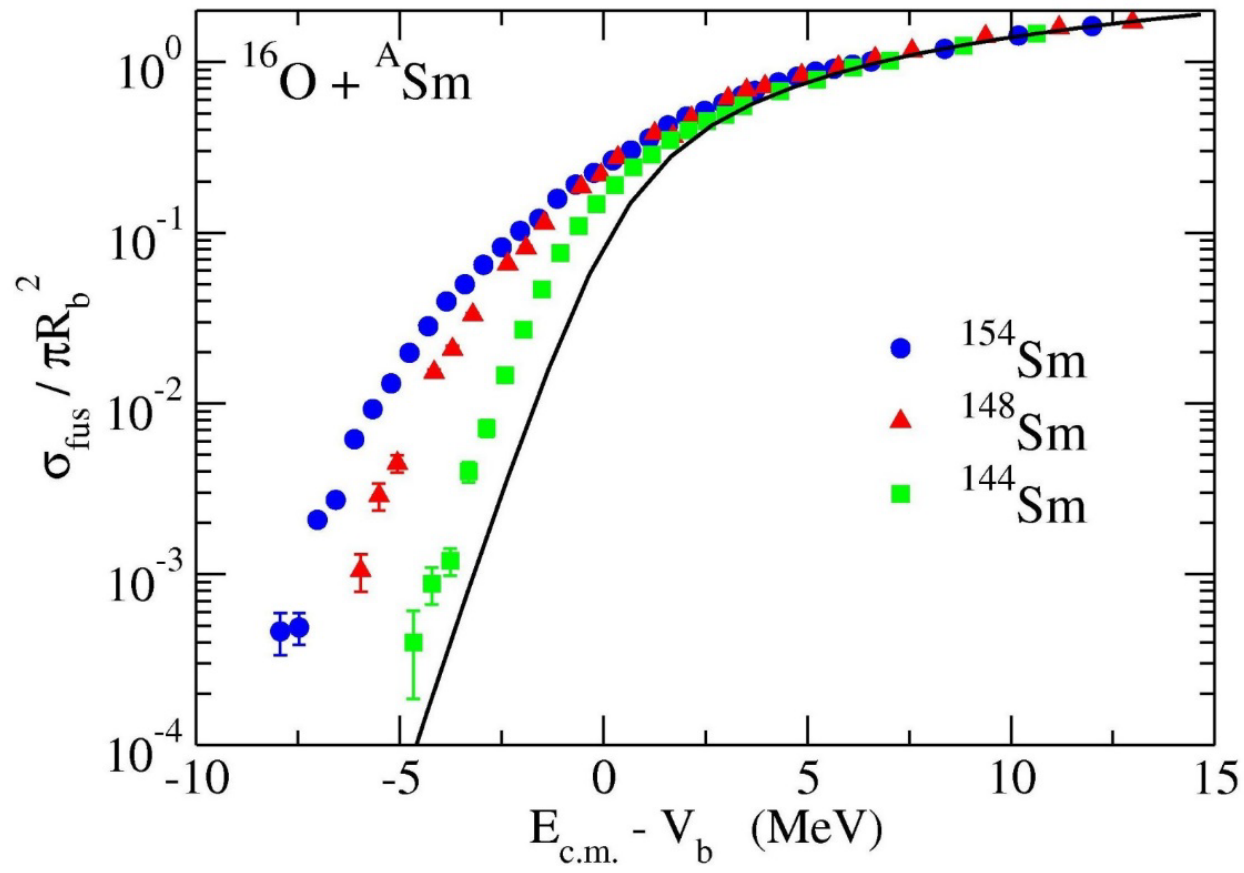
$$\sigma_{\text{fus}}(E) = \int_0^1 d(\cos \theta) \sigma_{\text{fus}}(E; \theta)$$

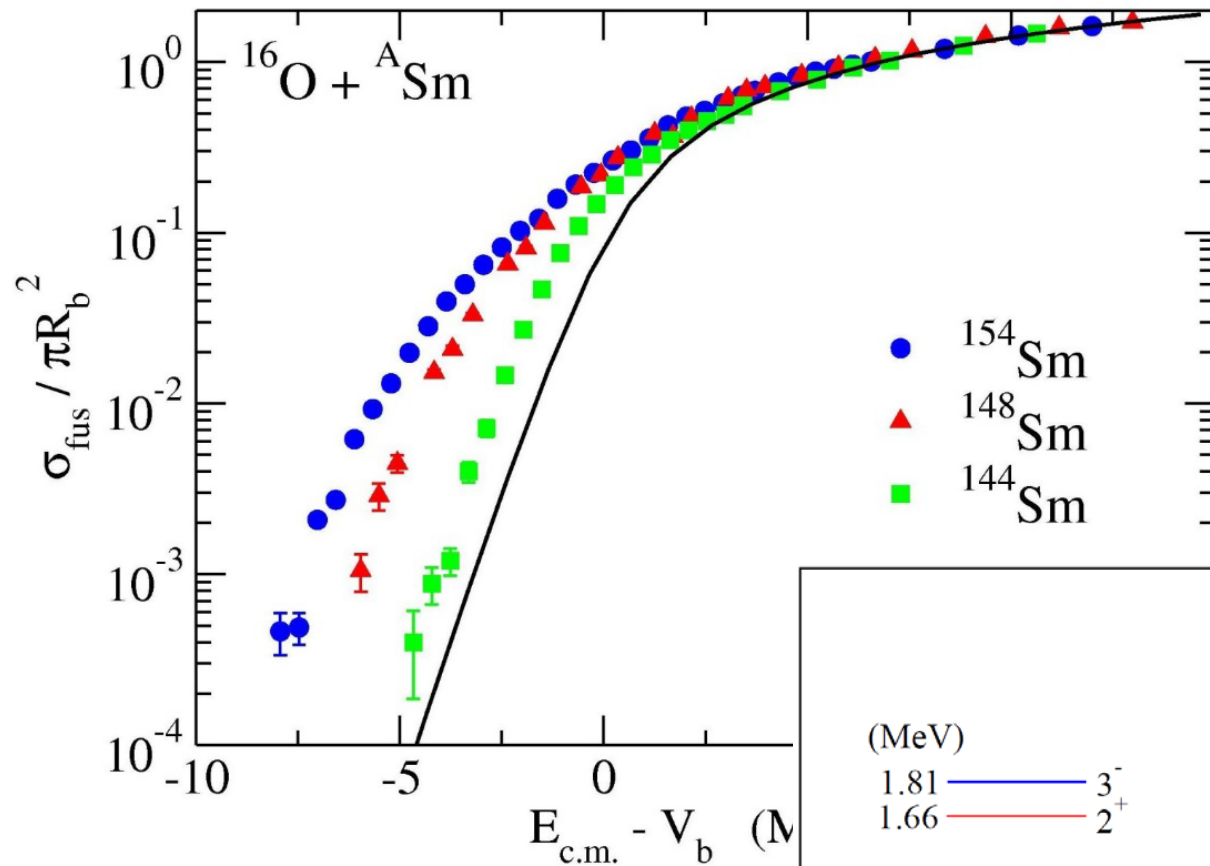


Fusion: strong interplay between nuclear structure and reaction

* Sub-barrier enhancement also for non-deformed targets:

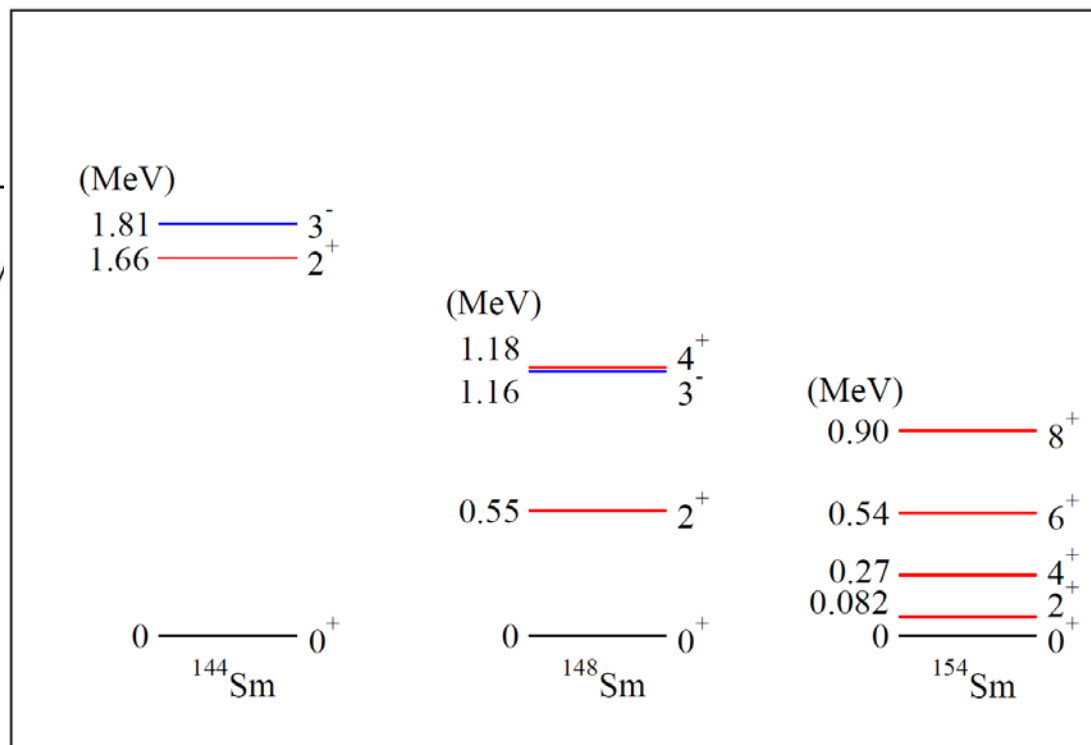
couplings to low-lying collective excitations \rightarrow coupling assisted tunneling



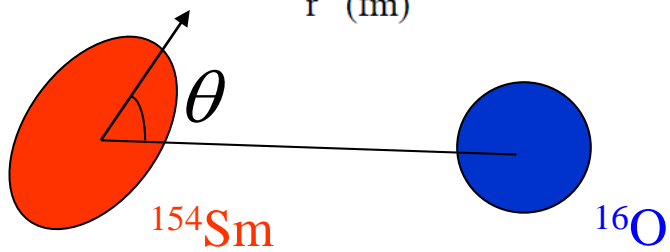
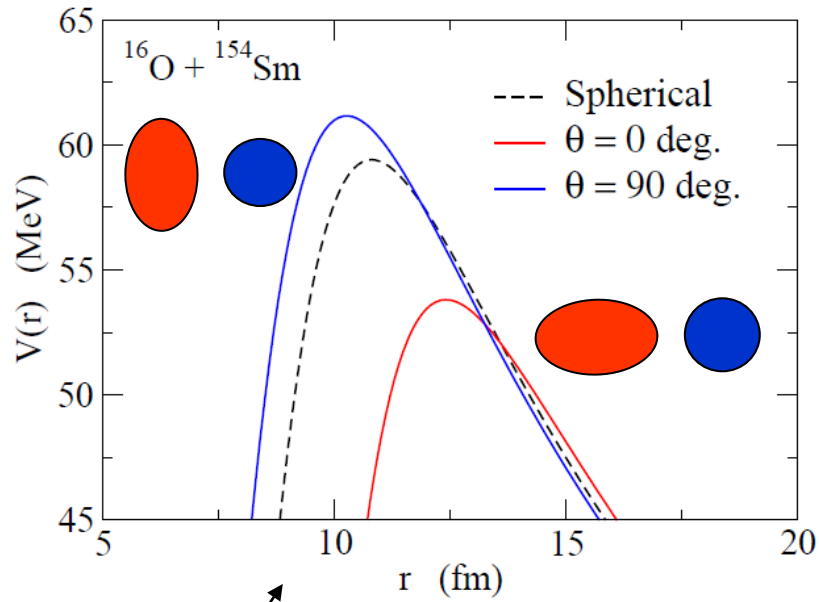


Strong target dependence
at $E < V_b$

→ couplings to
low-lying collective
excitations

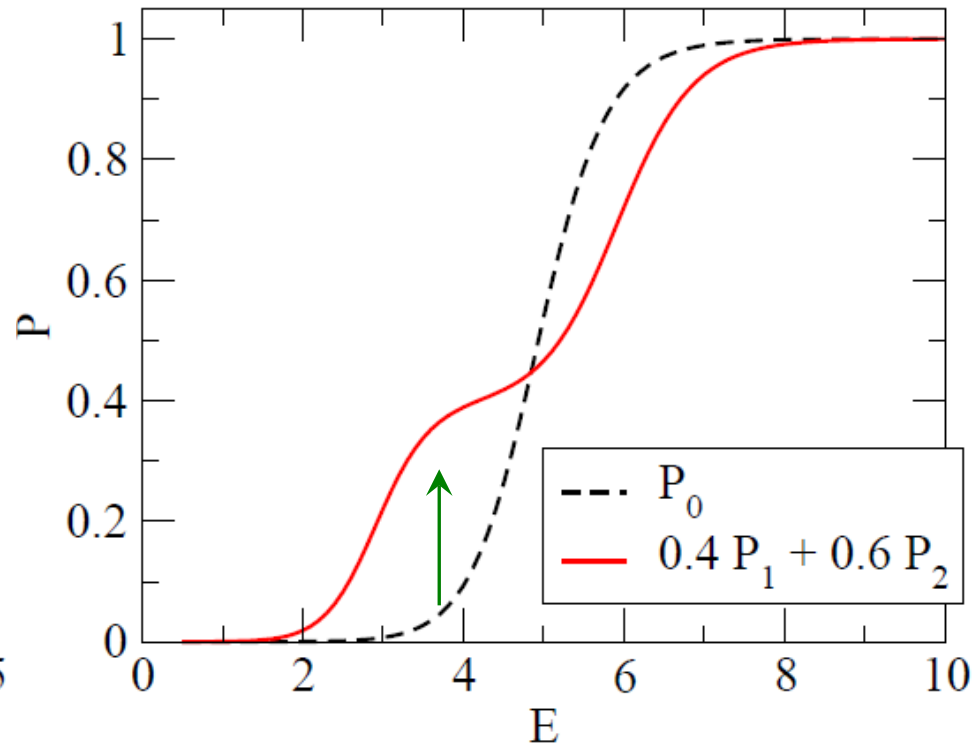
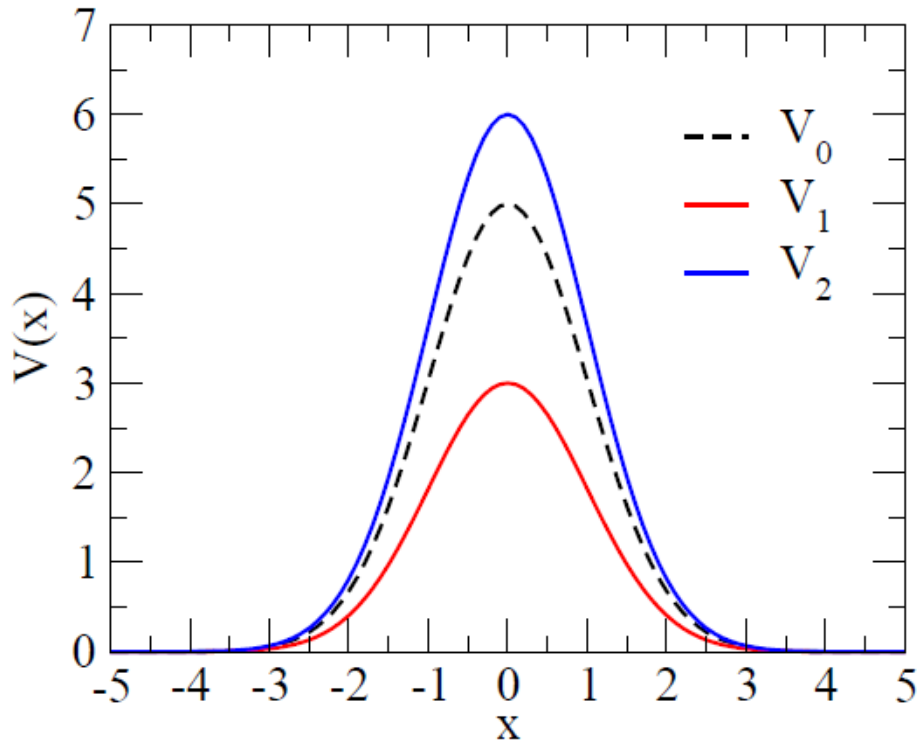


Enhancement of tunneling probability



Enhancement of tunneling probability : a problem of two potential barriers

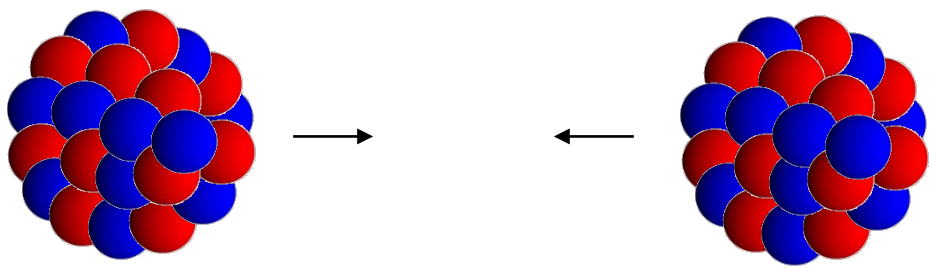
$$P(E) = P(E; V_0) \rightarrow w_1 P(E; V_1) + w_2 P(E; V_2)$$



“barrier distribution” due to couplings to excited states
in projectile/target nuclei

Coupled-channels method: a quantal scattering theory with excitations

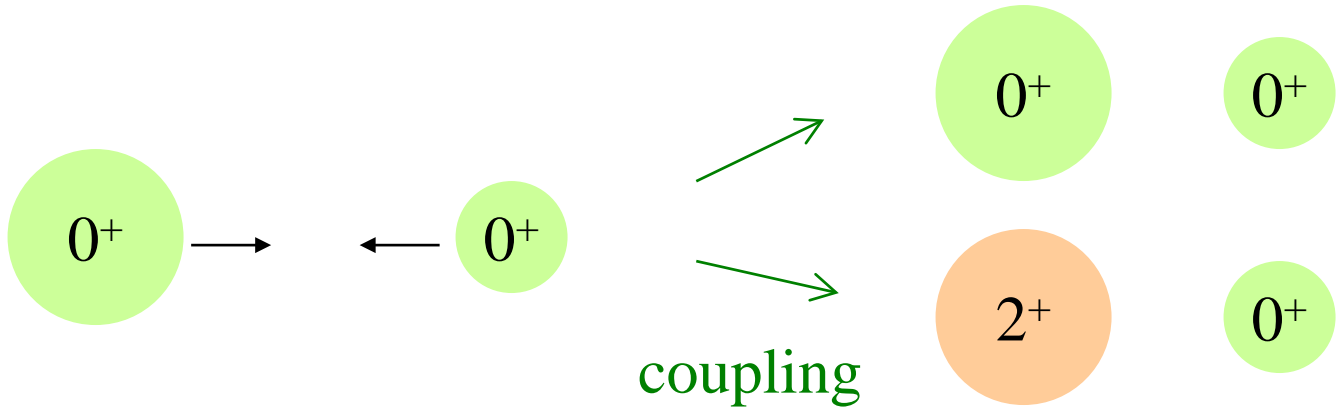
many-body problem



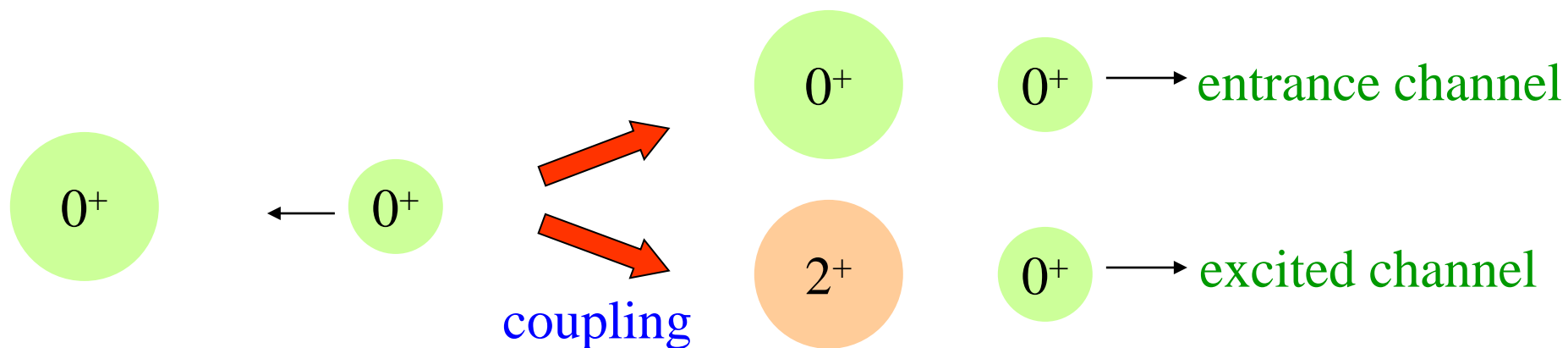
still very challenging



two-body problem, but with excitations
(coupled-channels approach)



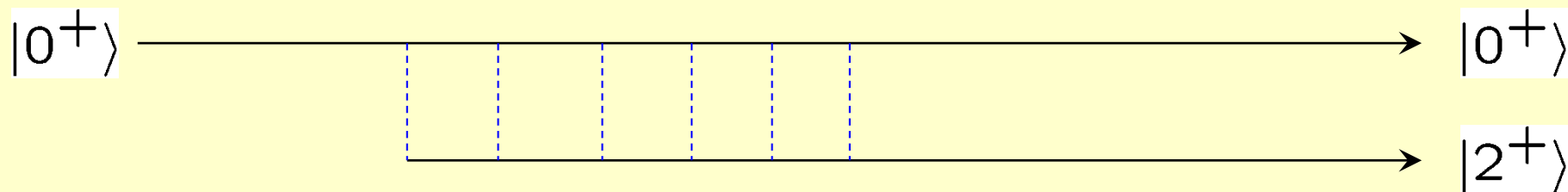
Coupled-channels method: a quantal scattering theory with excitations



$$\left[-\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \nabla^2 + V_0(r) + \epsilon_k - E \right] \psi_k(\mathbf{r}) + \sum_{k'} \langle \phi_k | V_{\text{coup}} | \phi_{k'} \rangle \psi_{k'}(\mathbf{r}) = 0$$

excitation energy

excitation operator



full order treatment of excitation/de-excitation dynamics during reaction

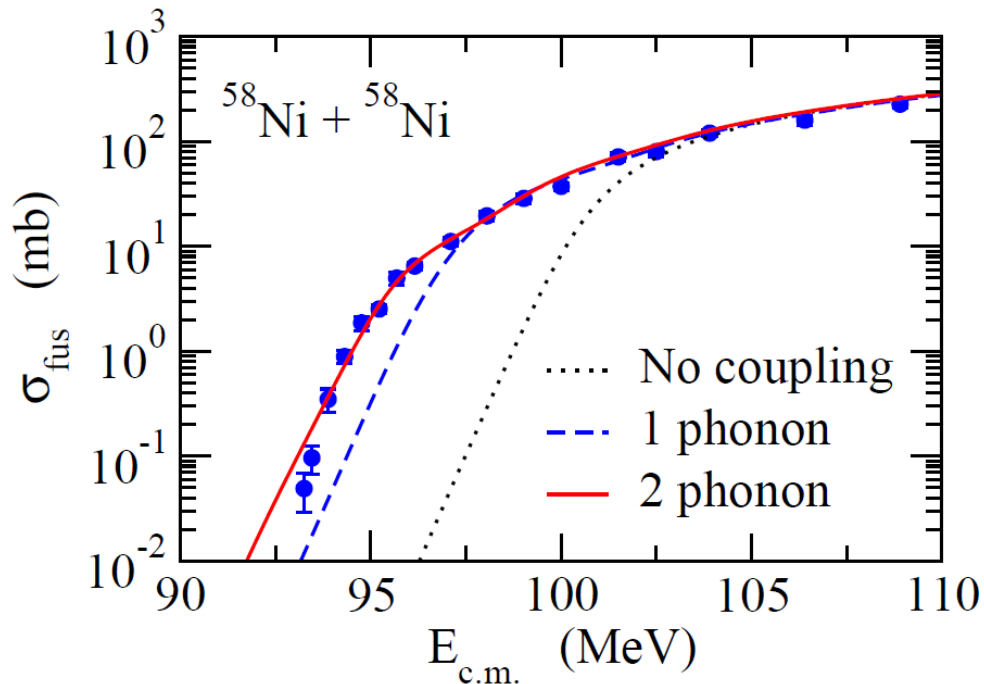
Inputs for C.C. calculations

i) Inter-nuclear potential

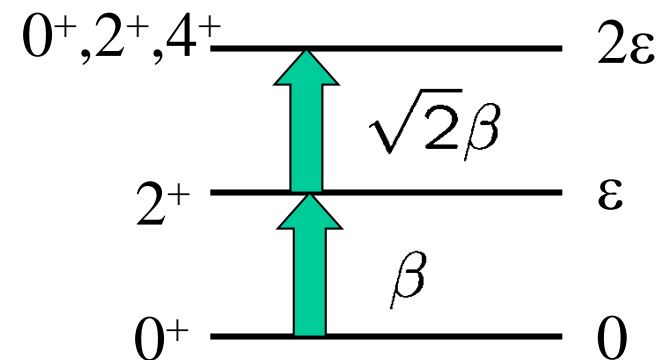
a fit to experimental data at above barrier energies

ii) Intrinsic degrees of freedom

in most of cases, (macroscopic) collective model
(rigid rotor / harmonic oscillator)



simple harmonic oscillator



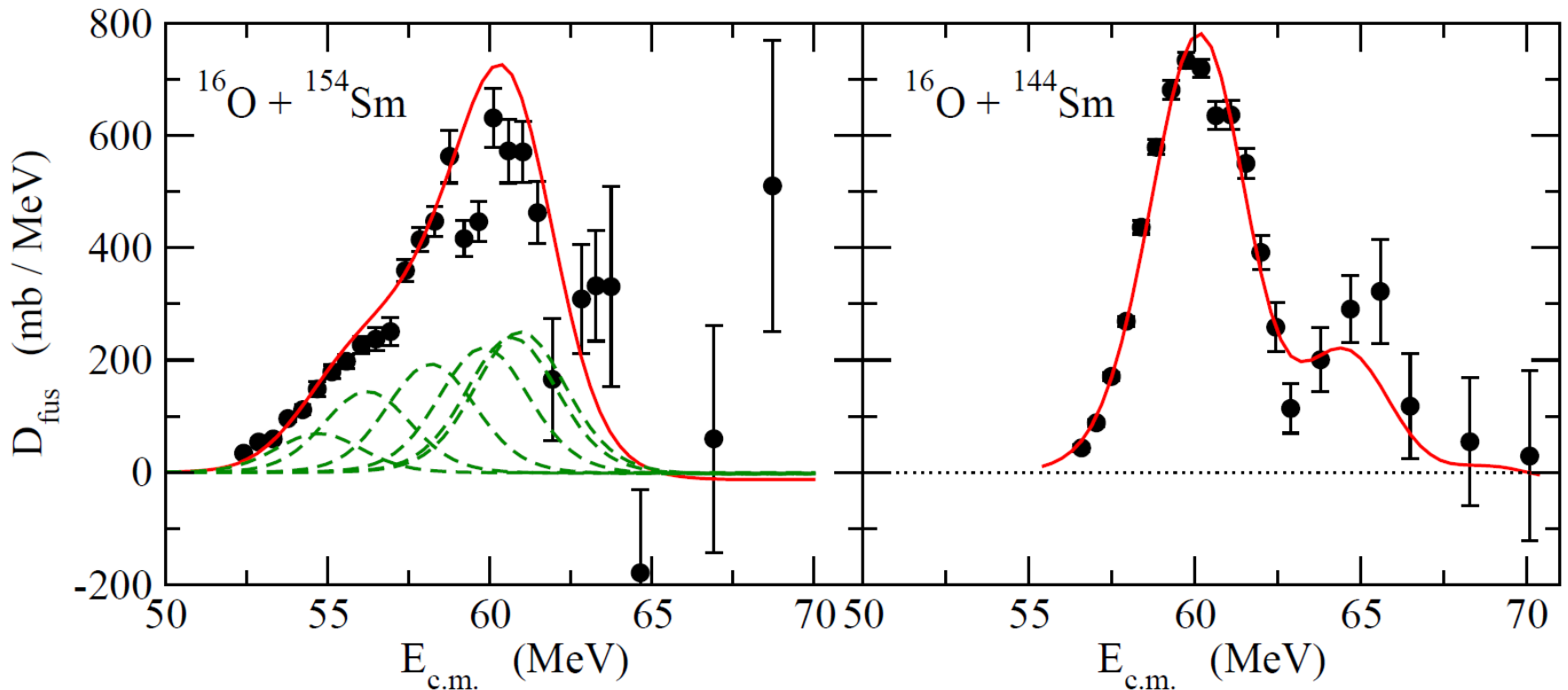
C.C. approach: a standard tool for sub-barrier fusion reactions

cf. CCFULL (K.H., N. Rowley, A.T. Kruppa, CPC123 ('99) 143)

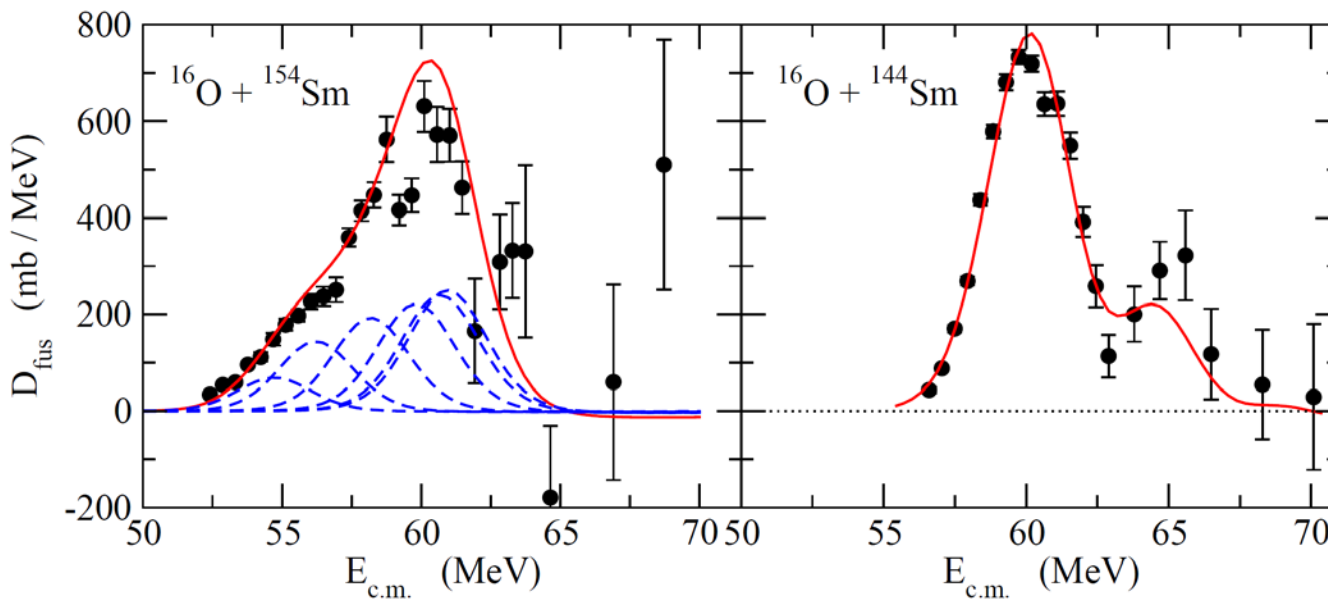
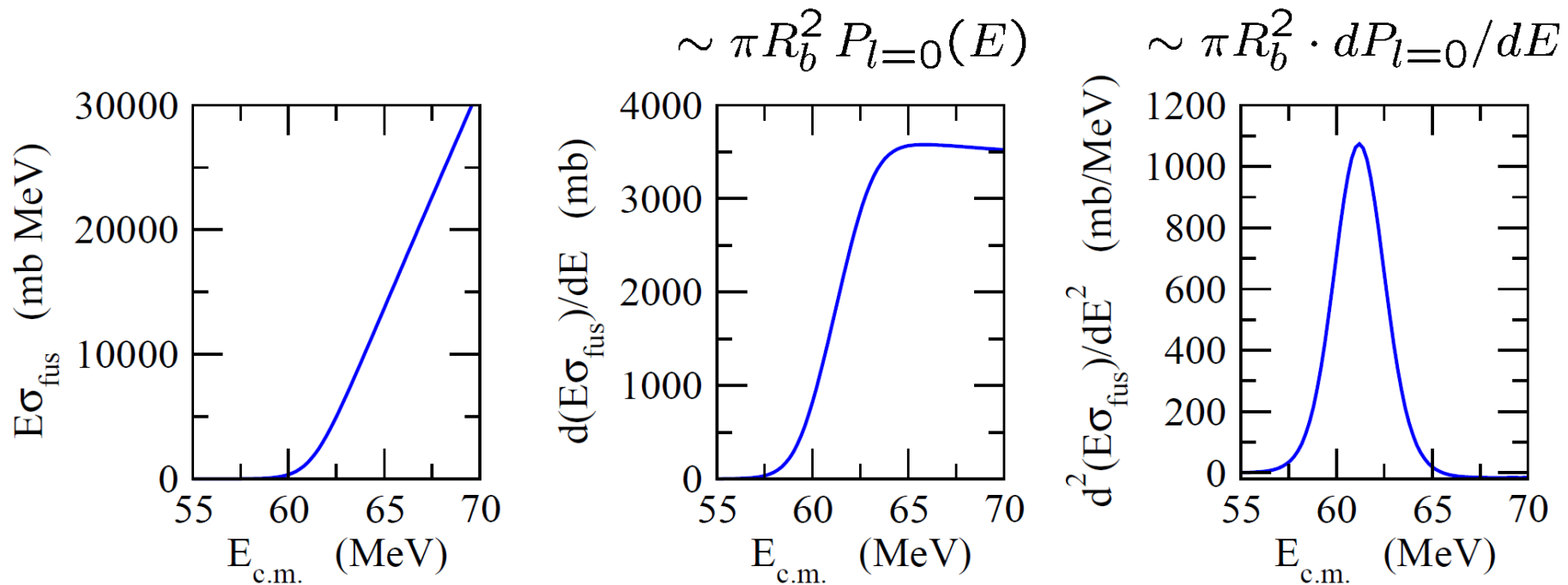
✓ Fusion barrier distribution (Rowley, Satchler, Stelson, PLB254('91))

$$D_{\text{fus}}(E) = \frac{d^2(E\sigma_{\text{fus}})}{dE^2}$$

— c.c. calculations

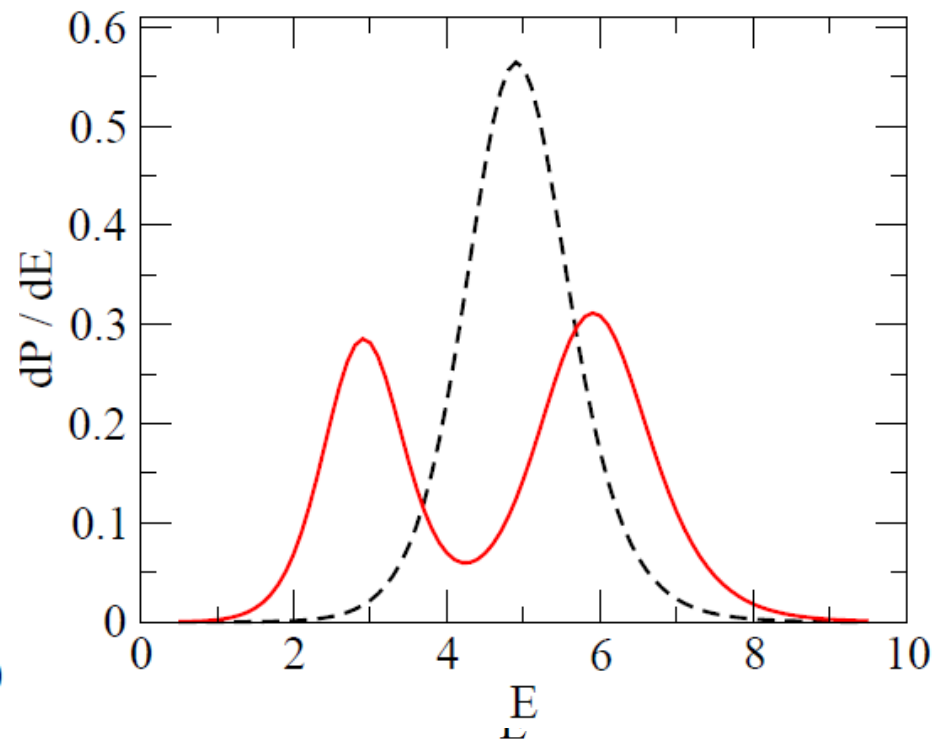
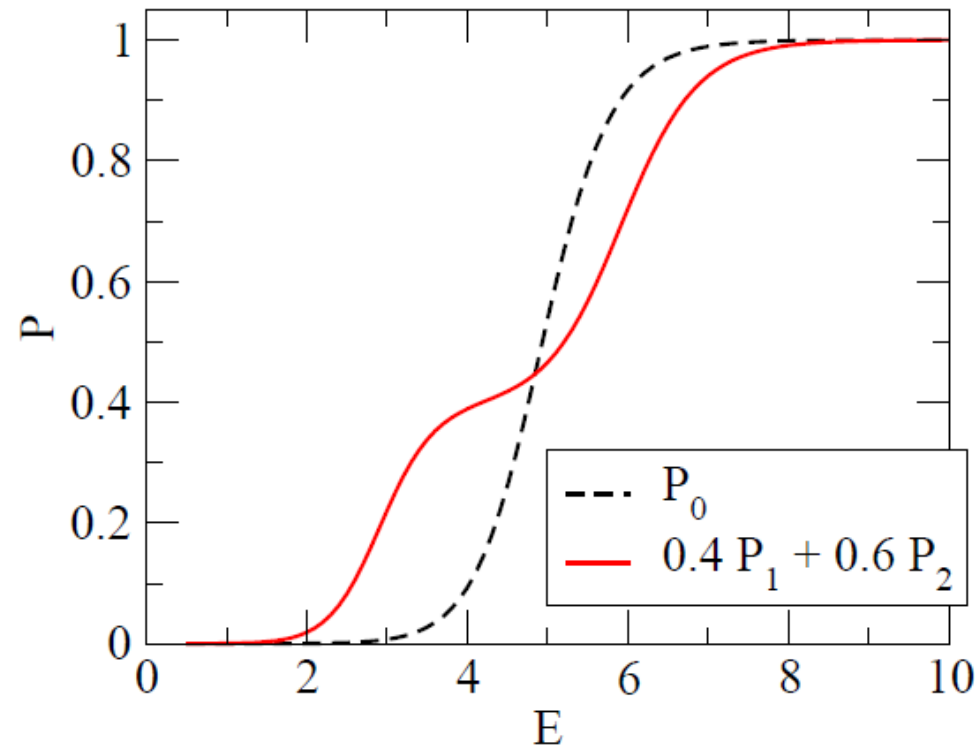


K.H., N. Takigawa, PTP128 ('12) 1061



barrier distribution: a problem of two potential barriers

$$P(E) = P(E; V_0) \rightarrow w_1 P(E; V_1) + w_2 P(E; V_2)$$



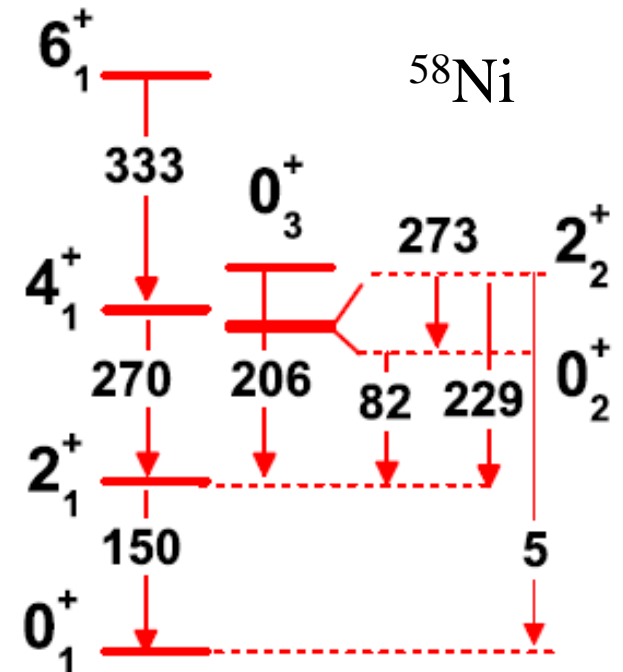
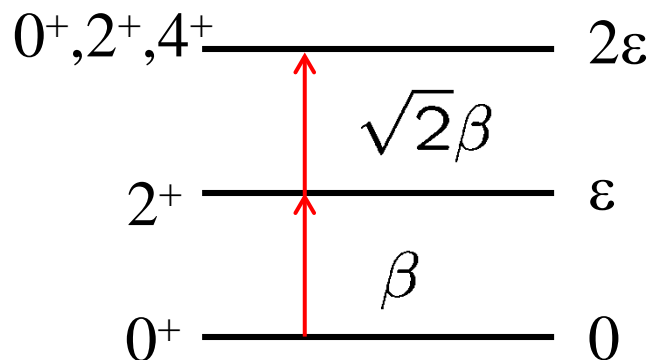
Further development: semi-microscopic modelling

K.H. and J.M. Yao, PRC91('15) 064606

CCFULL

+ microscopic nuclear structure calculations
(GCM, Shell Model, IBM.....)

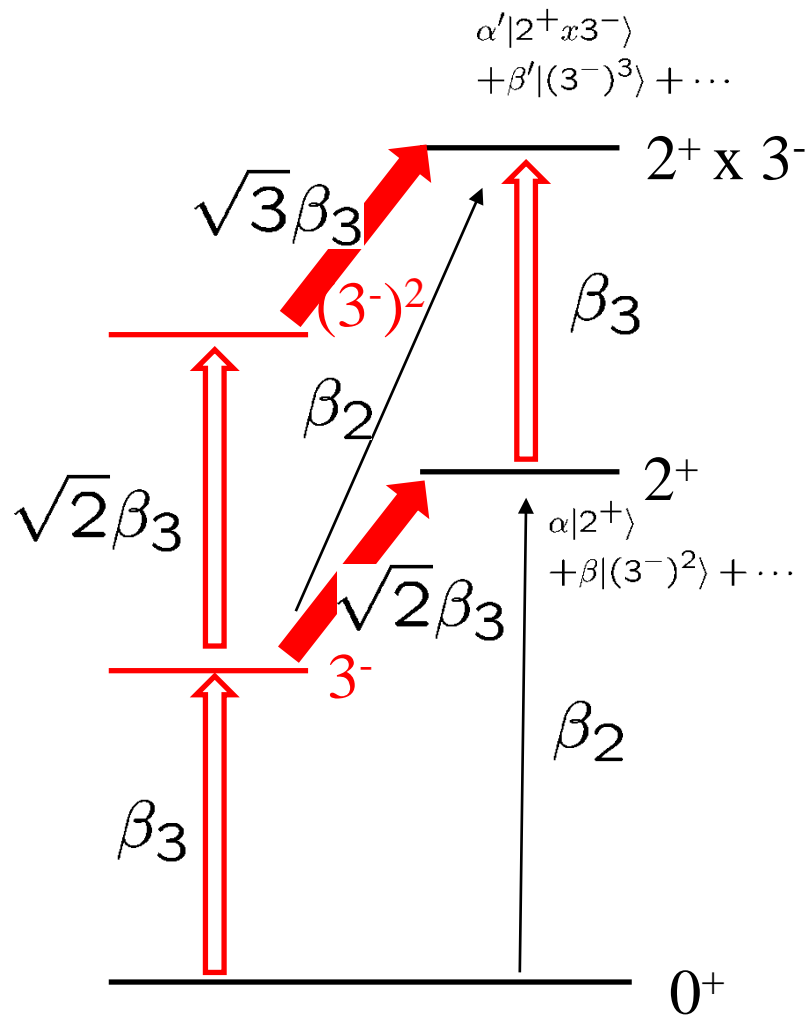
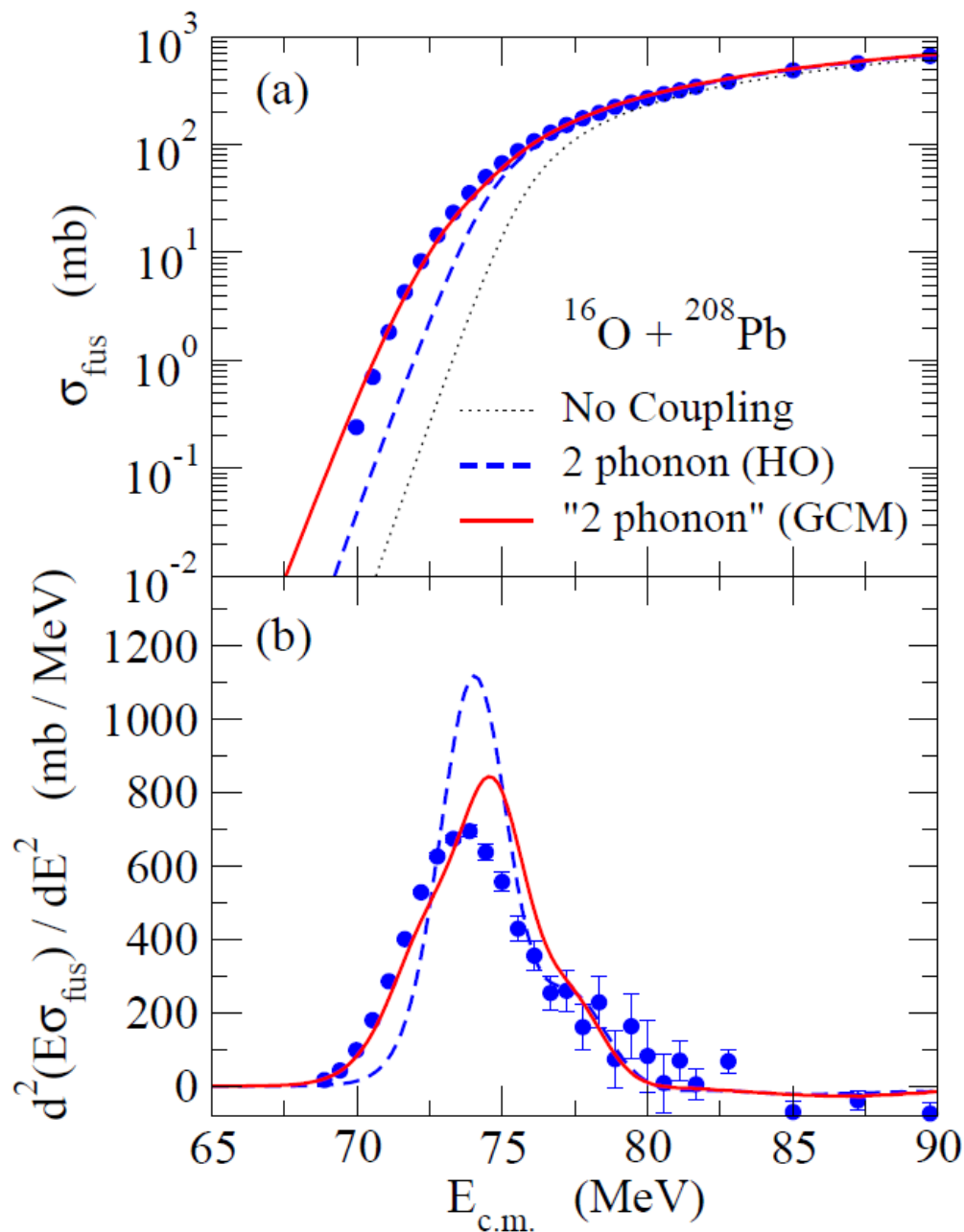
simple harmonic oscillator



relativistic MF + GCM

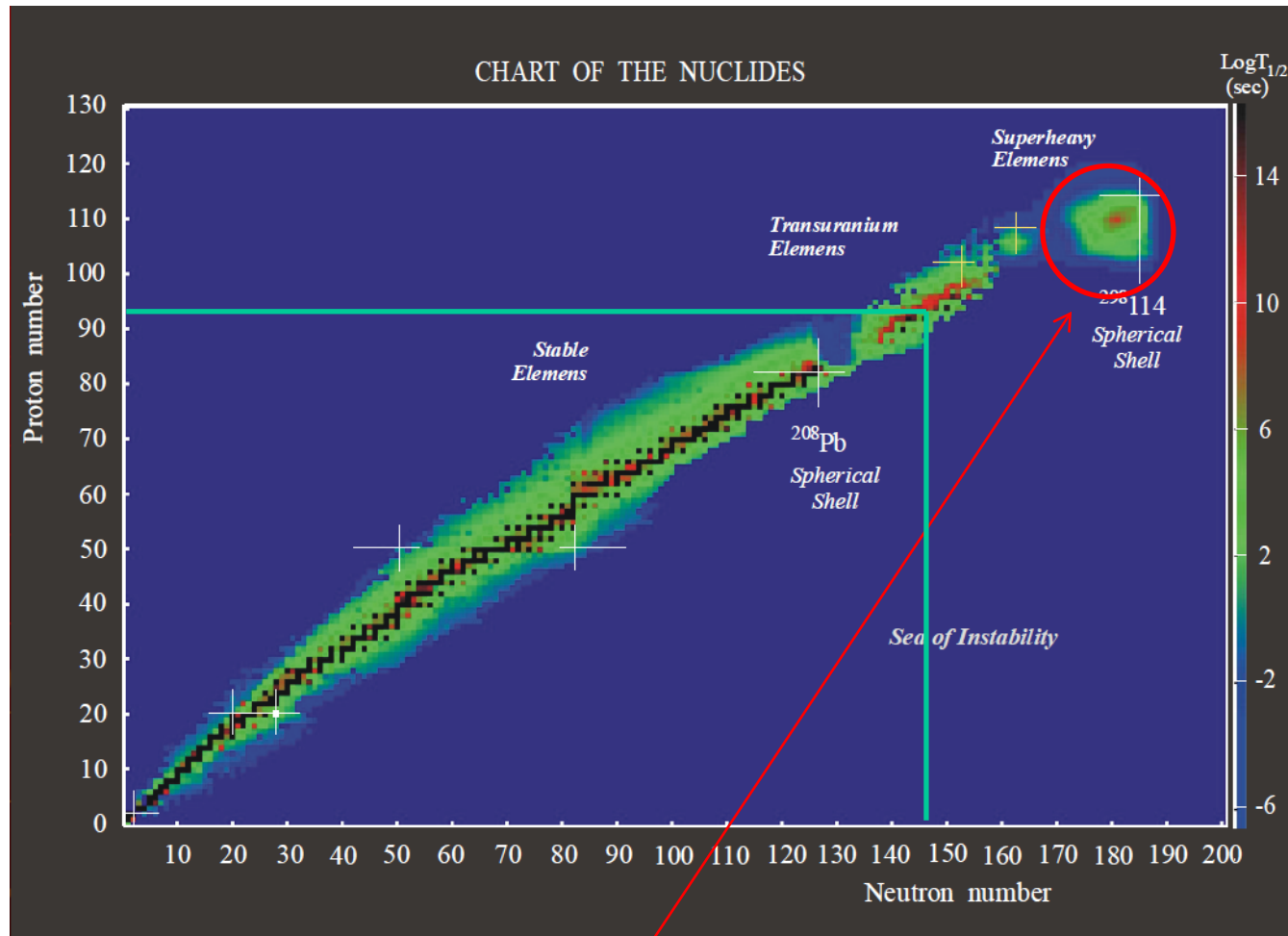
anharmonicity of phonon spectra

CCFULL with RMF+GCM



J.M. Yao and K.H.,
PRC94 ('16) 11303(R)

Future perspectives: Superheavy elements



island of stability around $Z=114$, $N=184$

Yuri Oganessian

W.D. Myers and W.J. Swiatecki (1966), A. Sobiczewski et al. (1966)

who is she?

7

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 87 | 88 | 104 | 105 | 106 | 107 | 108 | 109 | 110 | 111 | 112 | 113 | 114 | 115 | 116 | 117 | 118 |
| Fr | Ra | Rf | Db | Sg | Bh | Hs | Mt | Ds | Rg | Cn | Uut | Fl | Uup | Lv | Uus | Uuo |

| | | | |
|-------|------------------------|------|---------------------|
| Z=110 | Darmstadtium (Ds) | 1994 | Germany |
| Z=111 | Roentgenium (Rg) | 1994 | Germany |
| Z=112 | Copernicium (Cn) | 1996 | Germany |
| Z=113 | Nihonium (Nh) | 2003 | Russia / 2004 Japan |
| Z=114 | Flerovium (Fl) | 1999 | Russia |
| Z=115 | Moscovium (Mc) | 2003 | Russia |
| Z=116 | Livermorium (Lv) | 2000 | Russia |
| Z=117 | Tennessine (Ts) | 2010 | Russia |
| Z=118 | Oganesson (Og) | 2002 | Russia |

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 113 Nh nihonium | 115 Mc moscovium |
| 117 Ts tennessine | 118 Og oganeson |

Z=113: Nihonium (Nh)

Ni

ppon

日

本

Ni

hon



Nihonium

Ancient Chinese: “Jippon”
→ Japan (Giappone)

cf.

日

本

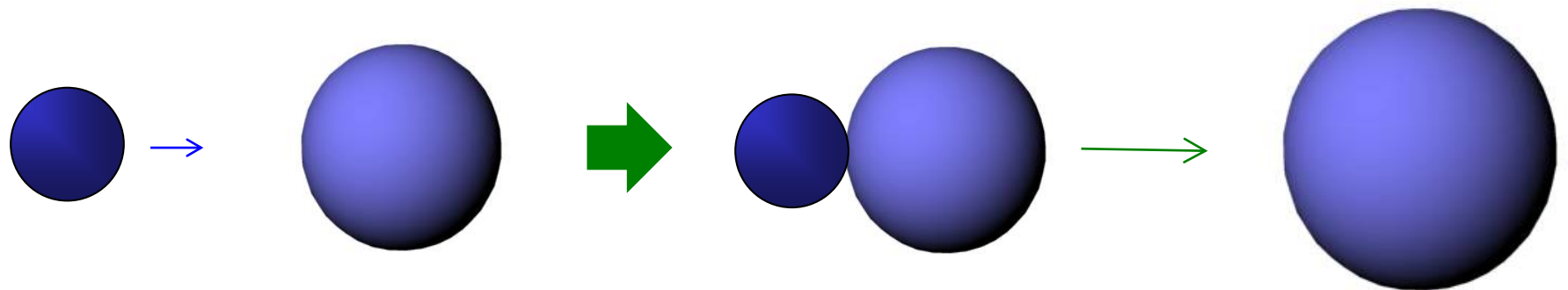
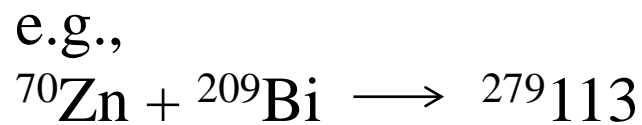
sole

origine



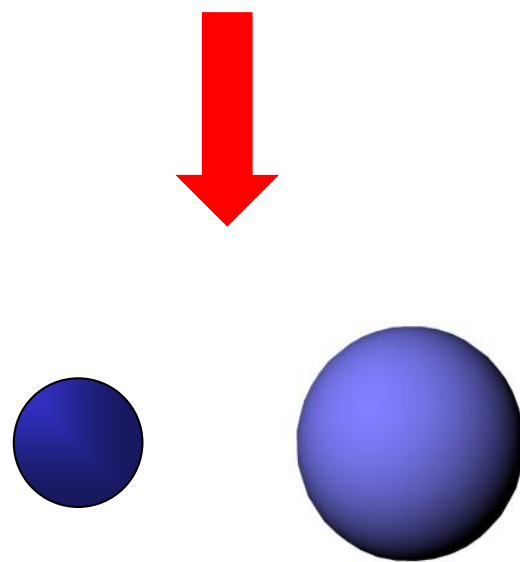
How to synthesize SHE?

Nuclear fusion reactions

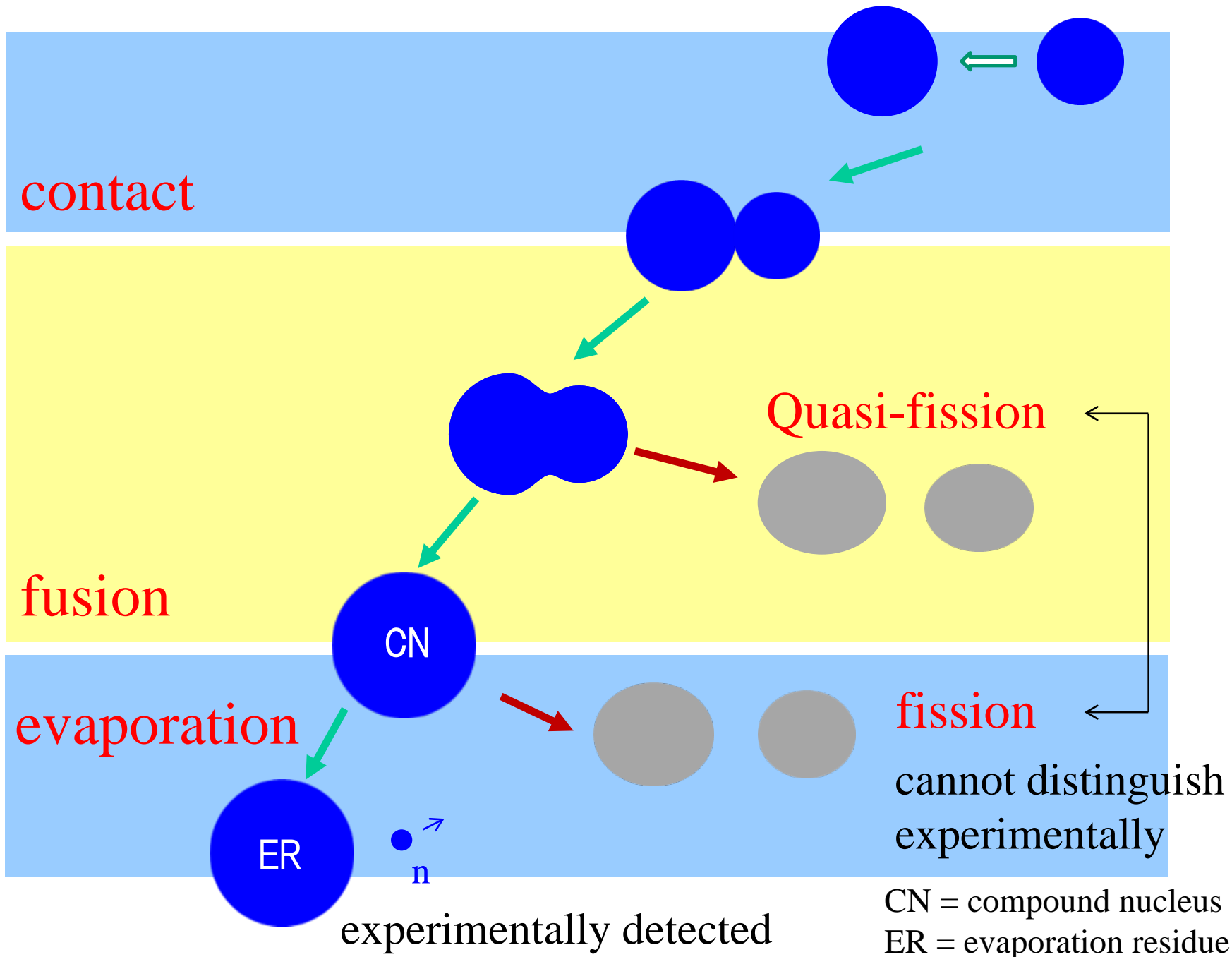


two positive charges
repel each other

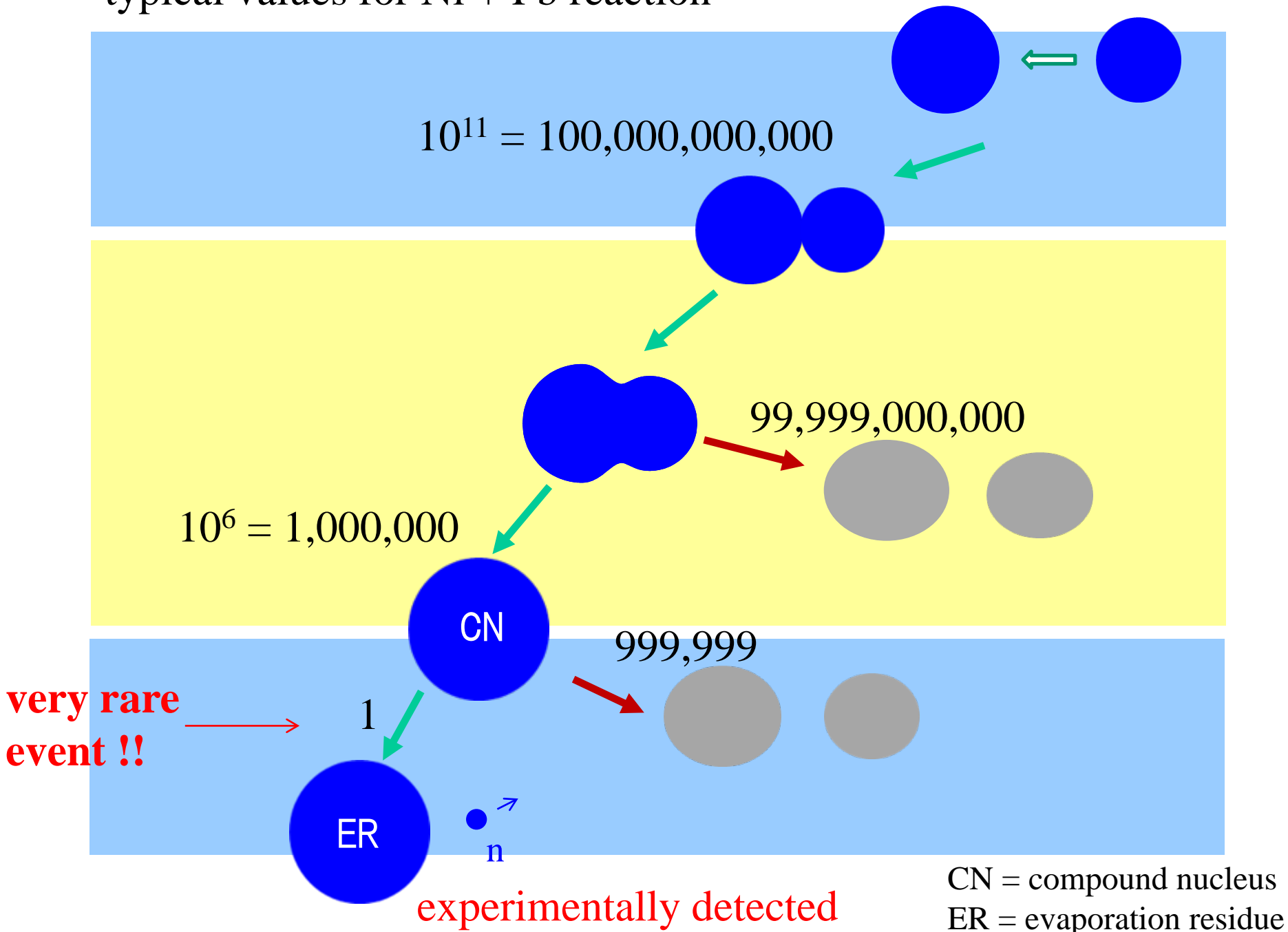
compound
nucleus

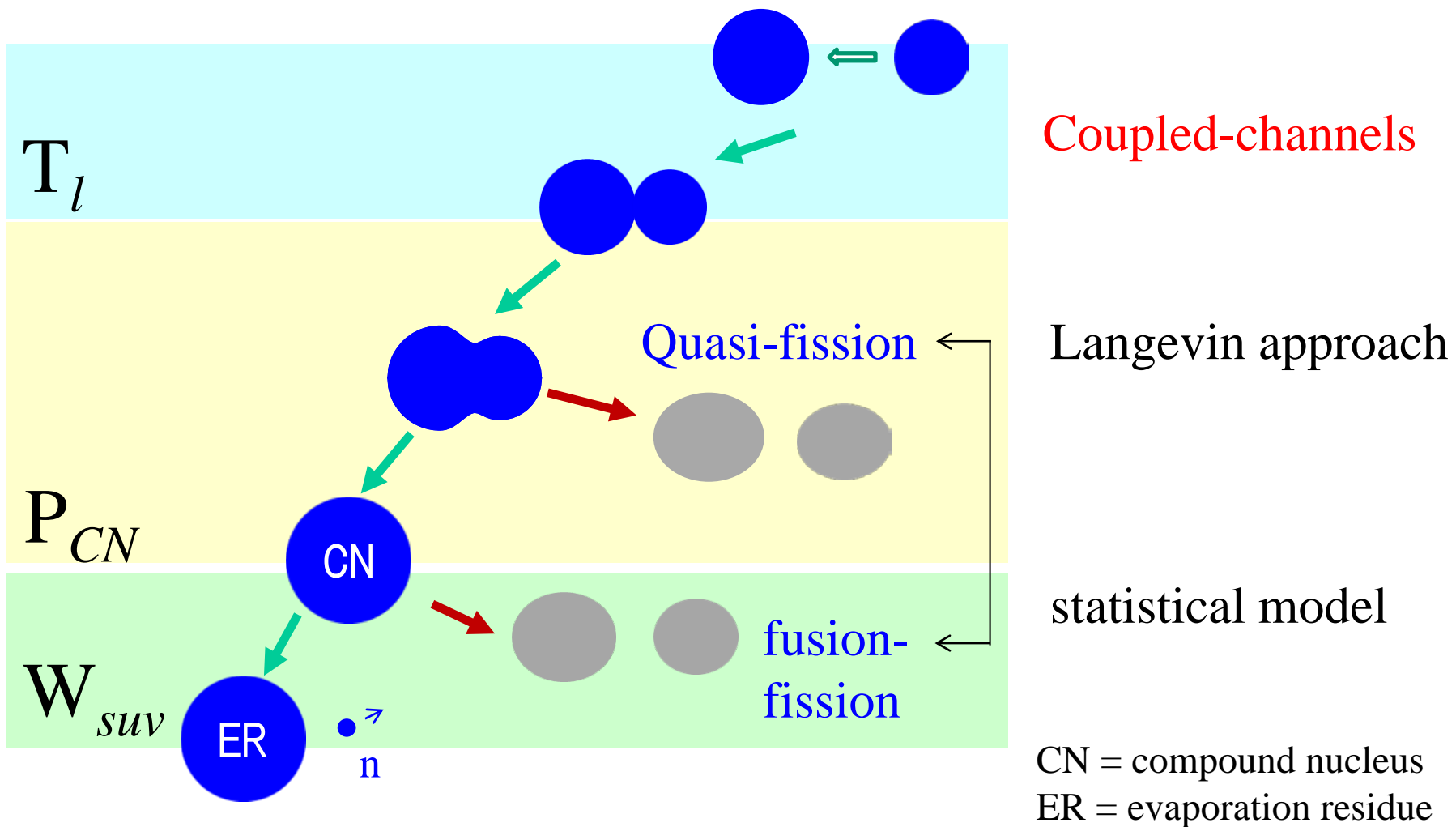


re-separation

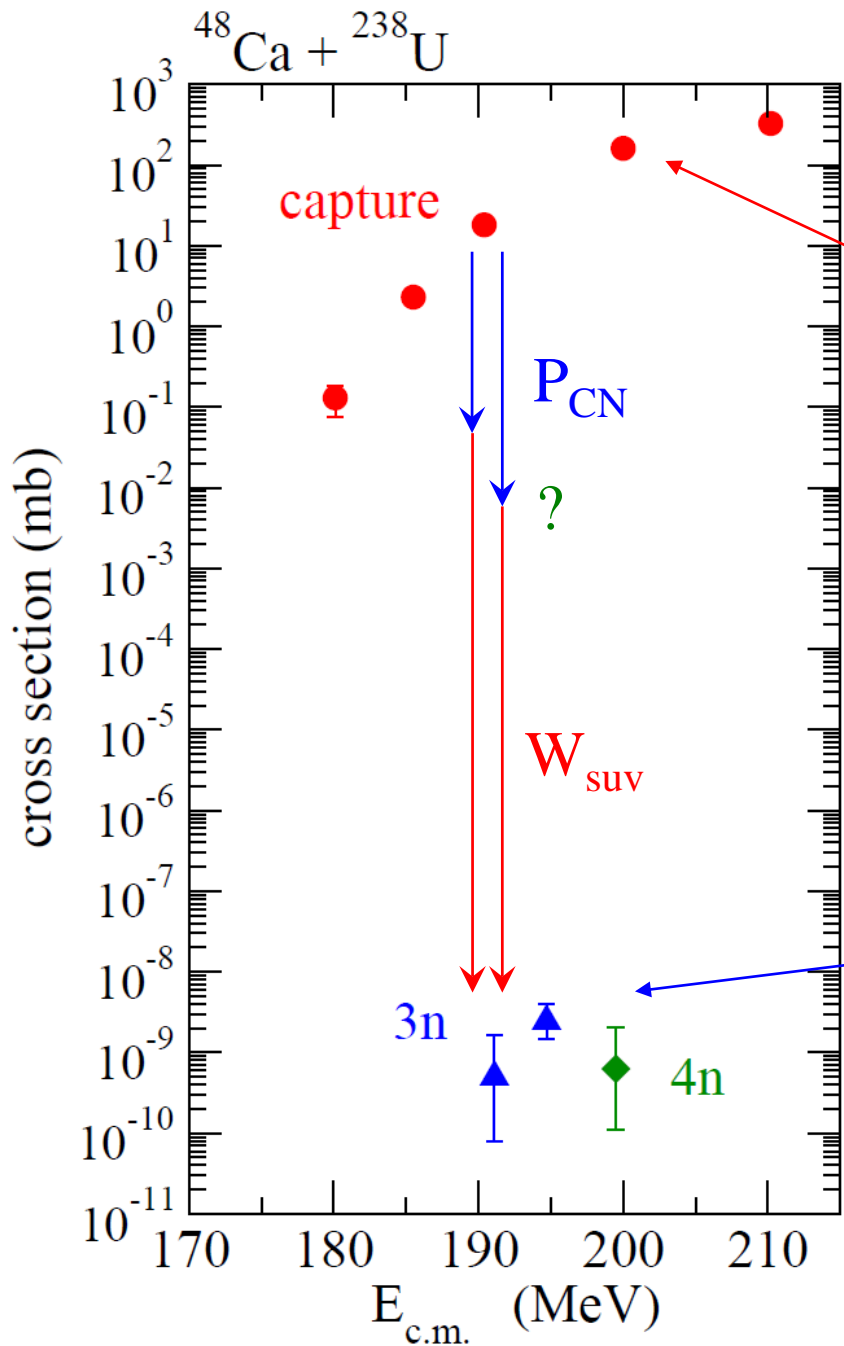


typical values for Ni + Pb reaction





$$\sigma_{ER}(E) = \frac{\pi}{k^2} \sum_l (2l + 1) T_l(E) P_{CN}(E, l) W_{suv}(E^*, l)$$



no experimental data for P_{CN}

$$\sigma_{\text{cap}}(E) = \frac{\pi}{k^2} \sum_l (2l + 1) T_l(E)$$

~~$$\sigma_{\text{CN}}(E) = \frac{\pi}{k^2} \sum_l (2l + 1) T_l(E) \times P_{\text{CN}}$$~~

not available

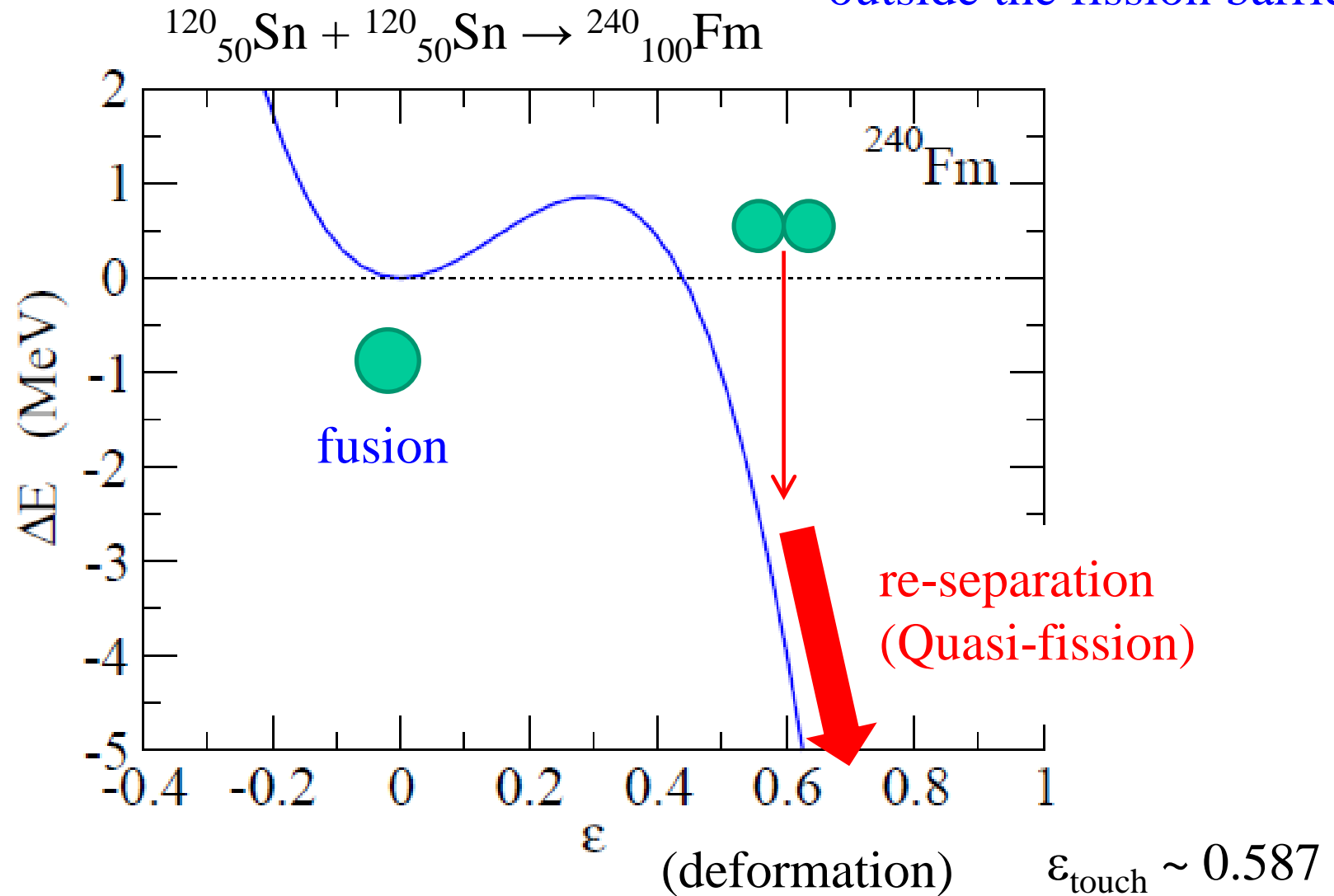
$$\sigma_{\text{ER}}(E) = \frac{\pi}{k^2} \sum_l (2l + 1) T_l(E) \times P_{\text{CN}} \cdot W_{\text{suv}}$$

large uncertainties

Formation phase: Langevin approach

Fission barrier (Liquid Drop Model)

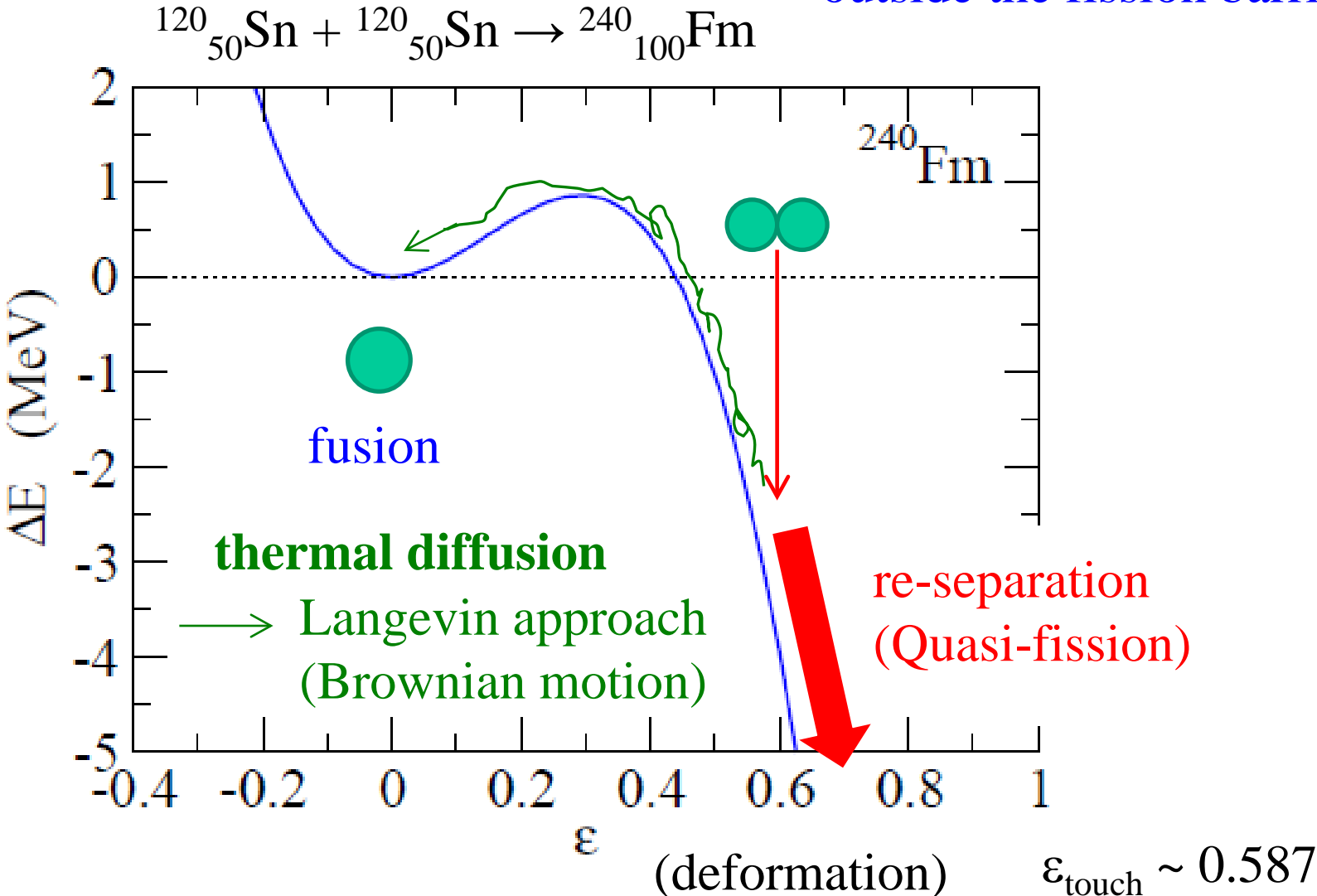
touching point:
outside the fission barrier



Formation phase: Langevin approach

Fission barrier (Liquid Drop Model)

touching point:
outside the fission barrier



Langevin approach

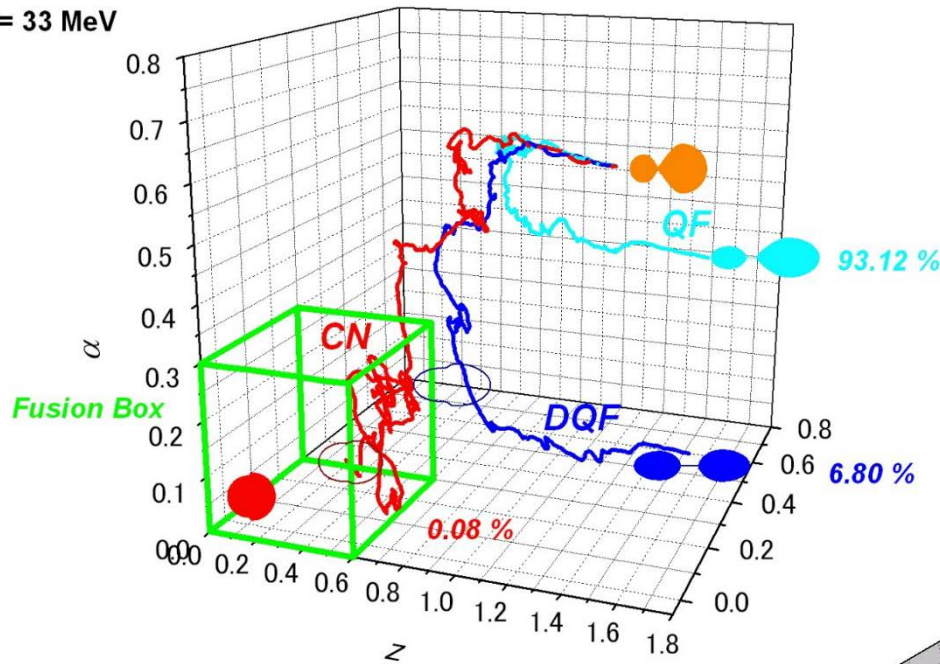
multi-dimensional extension of:

$$m \frac{d^2 q}{dt^2} = - \frac{dV(q)}{dq} - \gamma \frac{dq}{dt} + R(t)$$

γ : friction coefficient
 $R(t)$: random force

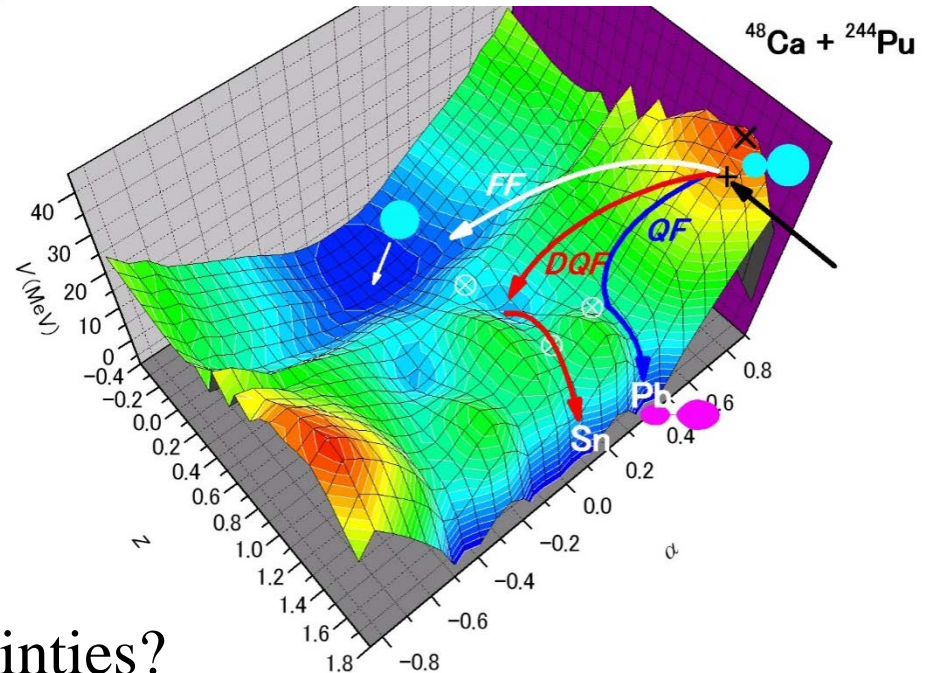


$E^* = 33 \text{ MeV}$



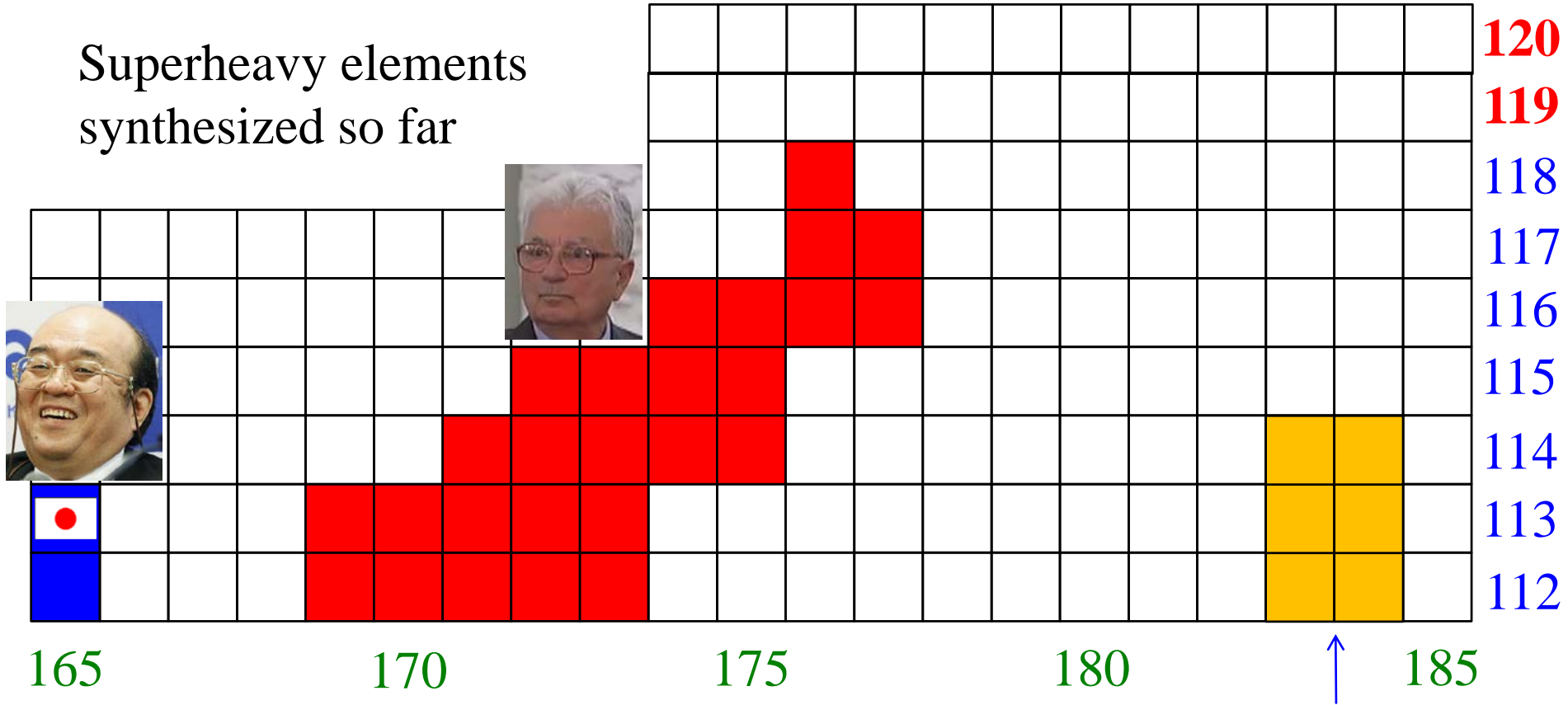
- q : ▪ internuclear separation (z)
- deformation (δ)
- mass asymmetry (α) of the two fragments

a challenge: how to reduce theoretical uncertainties?



Future directions

Superheavy elements synthesized so far



➤ Towards Z=119 and 120 nuclei

the island of stability?

reaction dynamics? reliable prediction of fusion cross sections?

➤ Towards the island of stability

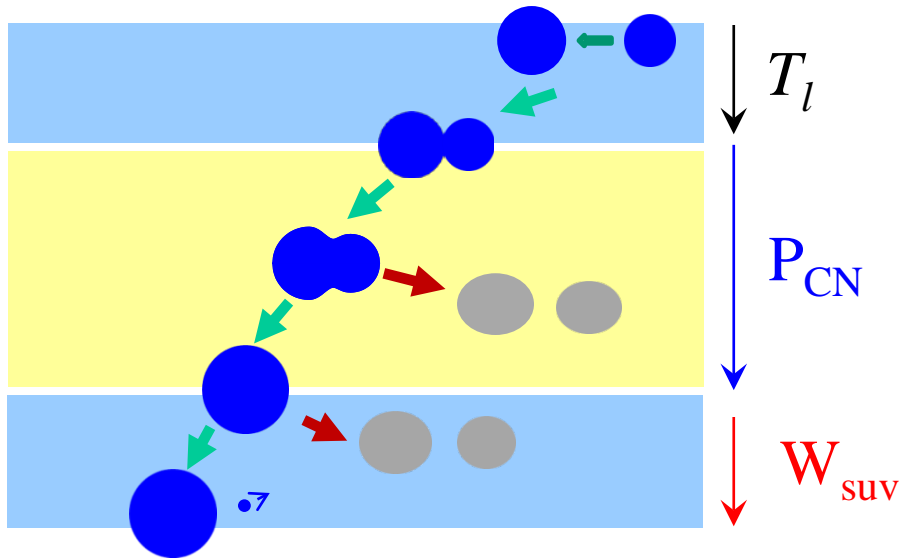
neutron-rich beams: indispensable

Future directions -1

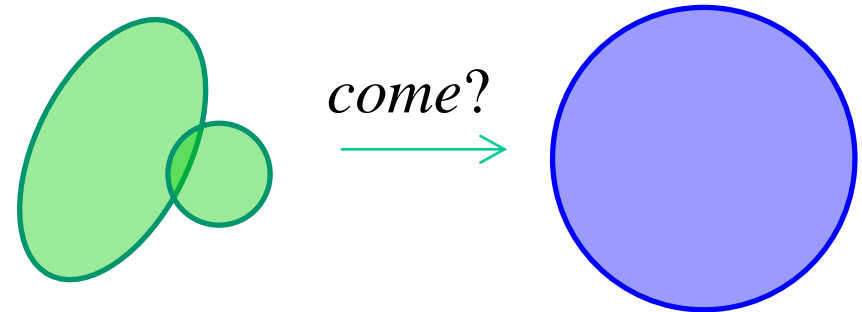
➤ Towards Z=119 and 120 nuclei

^{48}Ca projectile (hot fusion) \rightarrow $^{50}_{22}\text{Ti}$, $^{51}_{23}\text{V}$, $^{54}_{24}\text{Cr}$ projectile
+ **deformed** target nucleus

needs a proper understanding of deformation effects
on SHE synthesis reactions

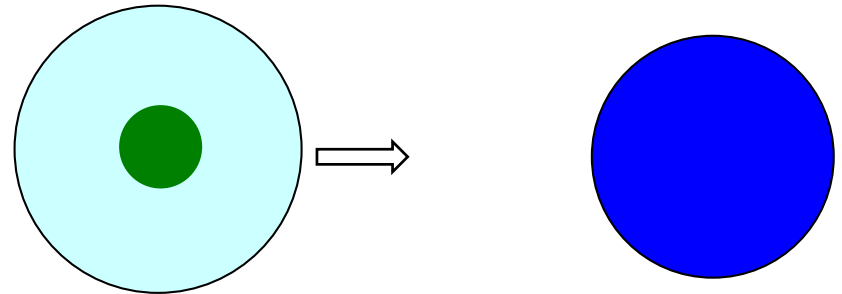
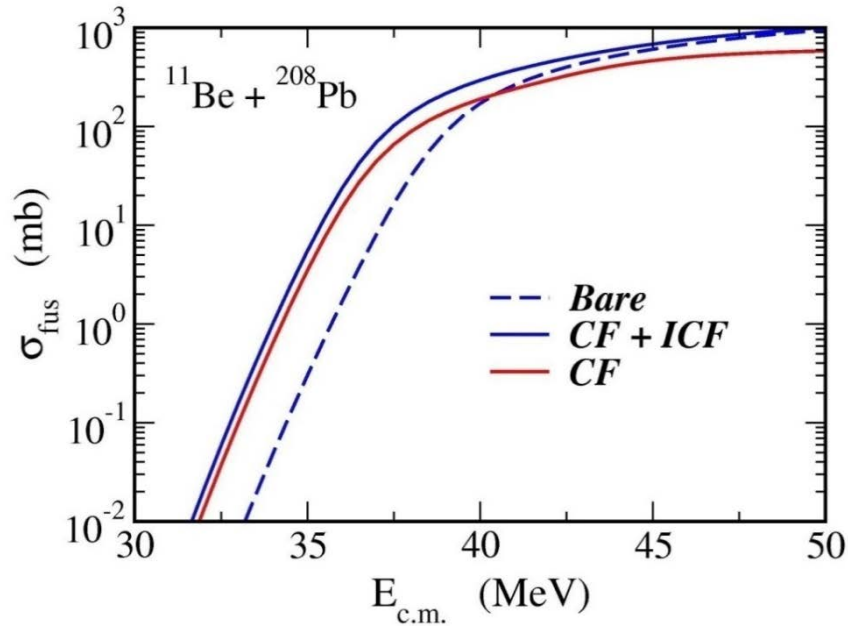


deformation effects on P_{CN} ?



Future directions - 2

- Towards the island of stability
neutron-rich beams: indispensable



simultaneous treatment
of **breakup** and **transfer**

→ an important future problem

K. Hagino, A. Vitturi, C.H. Dasso,
and S.M. Lenzi, Phys. Rev. C61 ('00) 037602

Summary

Heavy-ion fusion reactions around the Coulomb barrier

- ✓ Strong interplay between nuclear structure and reaction
- ✓ Quantum tunneling with various intrinsic degrees of freedom
- ✓ coupled-channels approach

Remaining challenges

- ✓ microscopic understanding of heavy-ion fusion reactions

Future perspectives: superheavy elements

- ✓ how to reduce theoretical uncertainties?
- ✓ Towards heavier SHE ($Z = 119, 120$)
- ✓ Towards the island of stability

investigations of physics of SHE with neutron-rich nuclei as a keyword