

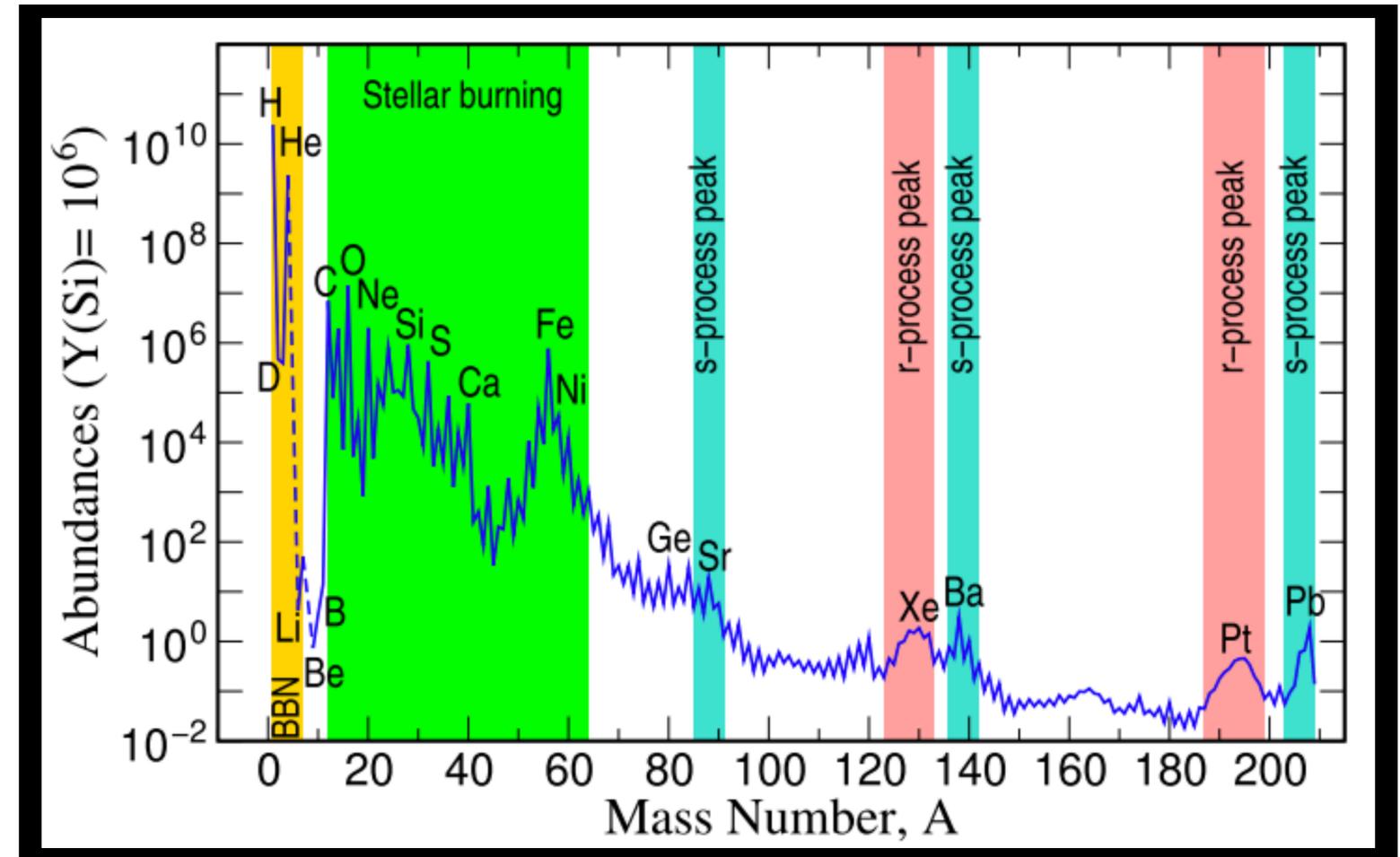
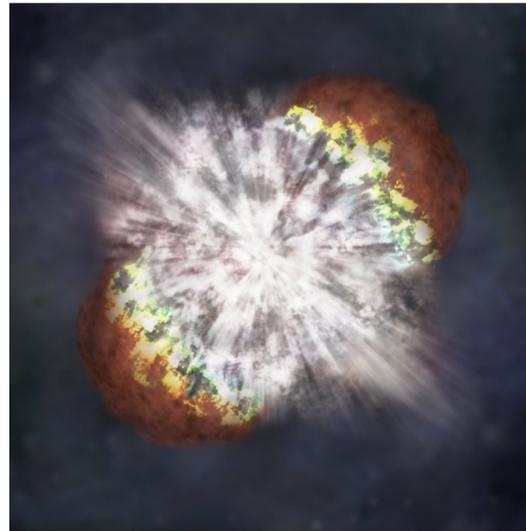
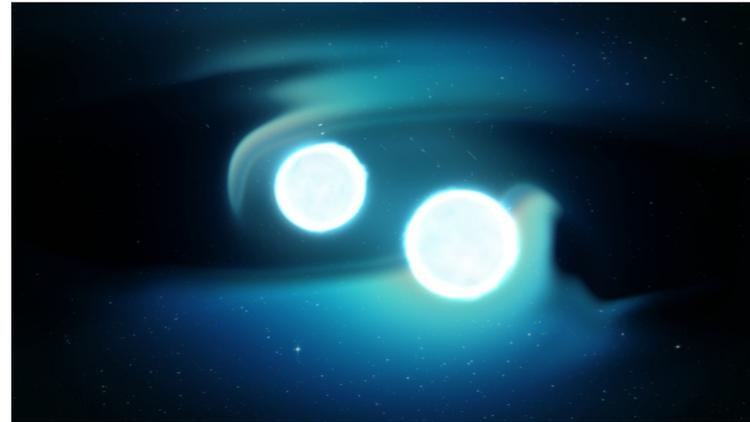
# $\beta$ -decay half-life as an indicator of shape-phase transition in neutron-rich Zr isotopes

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**RCNP, Osaka University**



# Thorough understanding of the r-process nucleosynthesis

- nuclear physics inputs
- nucleosynthesis modeling
- astrophysical conditions
- observations

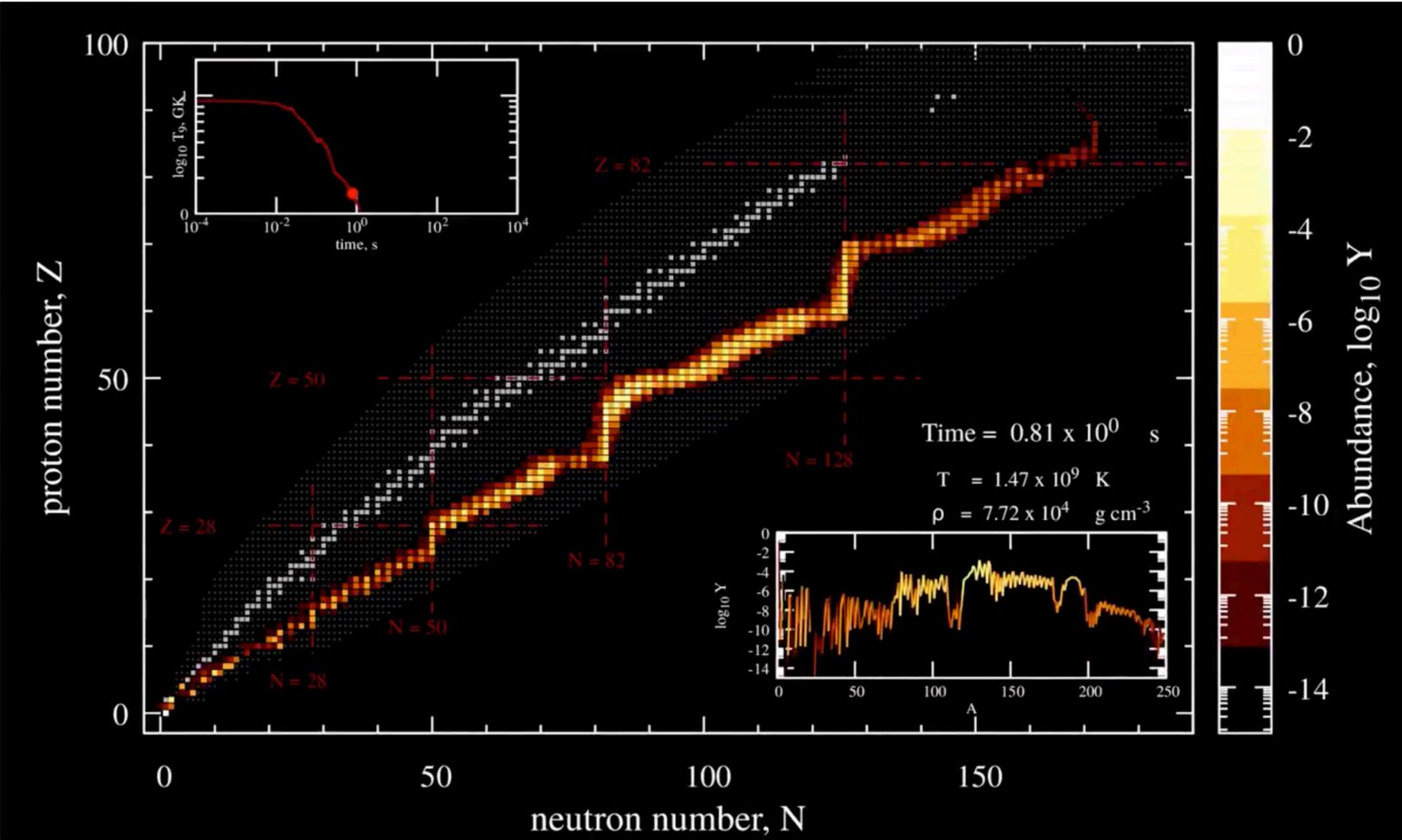


Cowan+, RMP(2021)

uncertainties both in nuclear physics and astrophysics

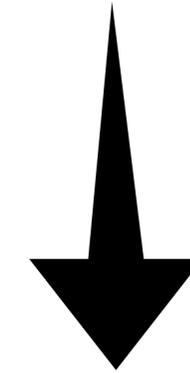
➔ enhance the reliability of nuclear physics inputs

# $\beta$ -decay: a key in the r-process



simulation by N. Nishimura (CNS, Tokyo)

seed nuclei



neutron capture  
 $\beta$  decay

neutron-rich nuclei

reaching heavy nuclei

fission

neutron-induced fission

**$\beta$ -delayed fission**

**fission after  $\beta$ -delayed n-emission**

late phase:

abundance pattern formed by  $\beta$  decay

# Nuclear beta decay: looks simple

A semileptonic process governed by an effective Hamiltonian for a low-energy ( $\ll m_W$ ) charged current reaction:

$$H_{\text{eff}} = \frac{G_F V_{ud}}{\sqrt{2}} \int d\mathbf{x} \left[ \bar{e}(\mathbf{x}) \gamma^\mu (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_e(\mathbf{x}) J_\mu(\mathbf{x}) + \text{H.c.} \right]$$

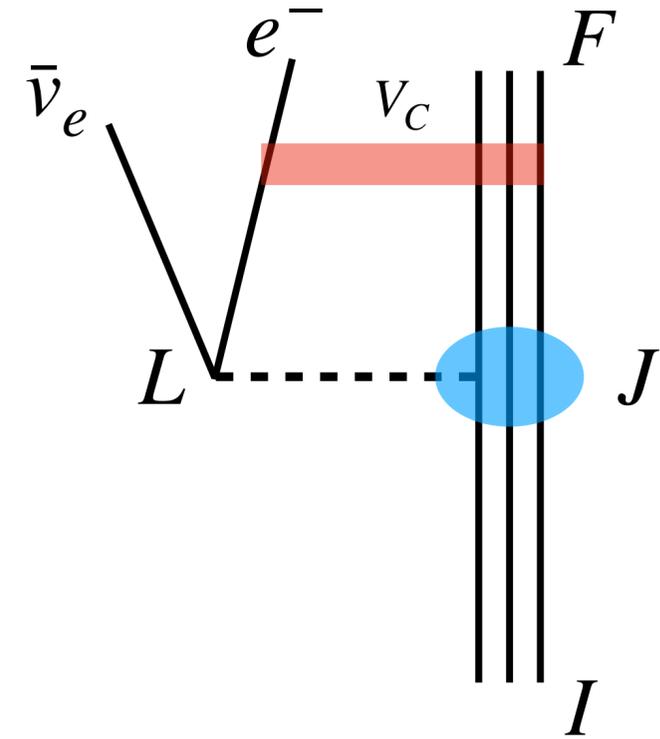
$$G_F = 1.166 \times 10^{-5} \text{ GeV}^{-2}$$

$$V_{ud} = 0.9737$$

# Nuclear beta decay: really simple?

transition matrix element:

$$T_{fi} = \frac{G_F V_{ud}}{\sqrt{2}} \int dx \bar{\psi}_{e^-}(\mathbf{x}) \gamma^\mu (1 - \gamma_5) \psi_\nu(\mathbf{x}) \langle F | \underline{J_\mu(\mathbf{x})} | I \rangle$$



Nuclear currents involving not only the nuclear many-body wave functions but the form factors and momentum transfer

$$J^\mu(\mathbf{x}) = \mathcal{V}^\mu(\mathbf{x}) - \mathcal{A}^\mu(\mathbf{x})$$

vector currents  $\mathcal{V}^\mu = (V^0, \mathbf{V})$       axial-vector currents  $\mathcal{A}^\mu = (A^0, \mathbf{A})$

decay rate: 
$$\Gamma = \frac{(G_F V_{ud})^2}{\pi^2} \int_{m_e}^{E_0} dE_e p_e E_e (E_0 - E_e)^2 \sum_{J, \kappa_e, \kappa_\nu} \frac{1}{2J_i + 1} \left| \sum_L \langle f | \underline{\Xi_{JL}(\kappa_e, \kappa_\nu)} | i \rangle \right|^2$$

multipole operator

# Nuclear transition density

transition matrix element :

$$\langle \Psi_\lambda | \hat{F}^\pm | \Psi_0 \rangle = \int d\mathbf{r} \delta\rho(\mathbf{r}; \omega_\lambda) f(\mathbf{r})$$

$$\hat{F}^\pm = \sum_{\tau, \tau'} f(\mathbf{r}) \hat{\psi}^\dagger(\mathbf{r}\tau) \hat{\psi}(\mathbf{r}\tau') \langle \tau | \tau_\pm | \tau' \rangle$$

- Ab-initio and CI methods for light nuclei and heavy nuclei near the magic number
- Linear-response TDDFT for all the nuclei cf. talk by Miyagi

$$\delta\rho(\mathbf{r}, t) \sim \delta\rho(\mathbf{r}) e^{-i\omega t} \quad e^{-i\omega t} \hat{F} = e^{-i\omega t} \int d\mathbf{r} f(\mathbf{r}) \hat{\psi}^\dagger(\mathbf{r}) \hat{\psi}(\mathbf{r})$$

$$\delta\rho(\mathbf{r}) = \int d\mathbf{r}' \chi_0(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') \left[ \frac{\delta^2 \mathcal{E}[\rho]}{\delta^2 \rho} \delta\rho(\mathbf{r}') + f(\mathbf{r}') \right] \quad \text{equivalent to (Q)RPA}$$

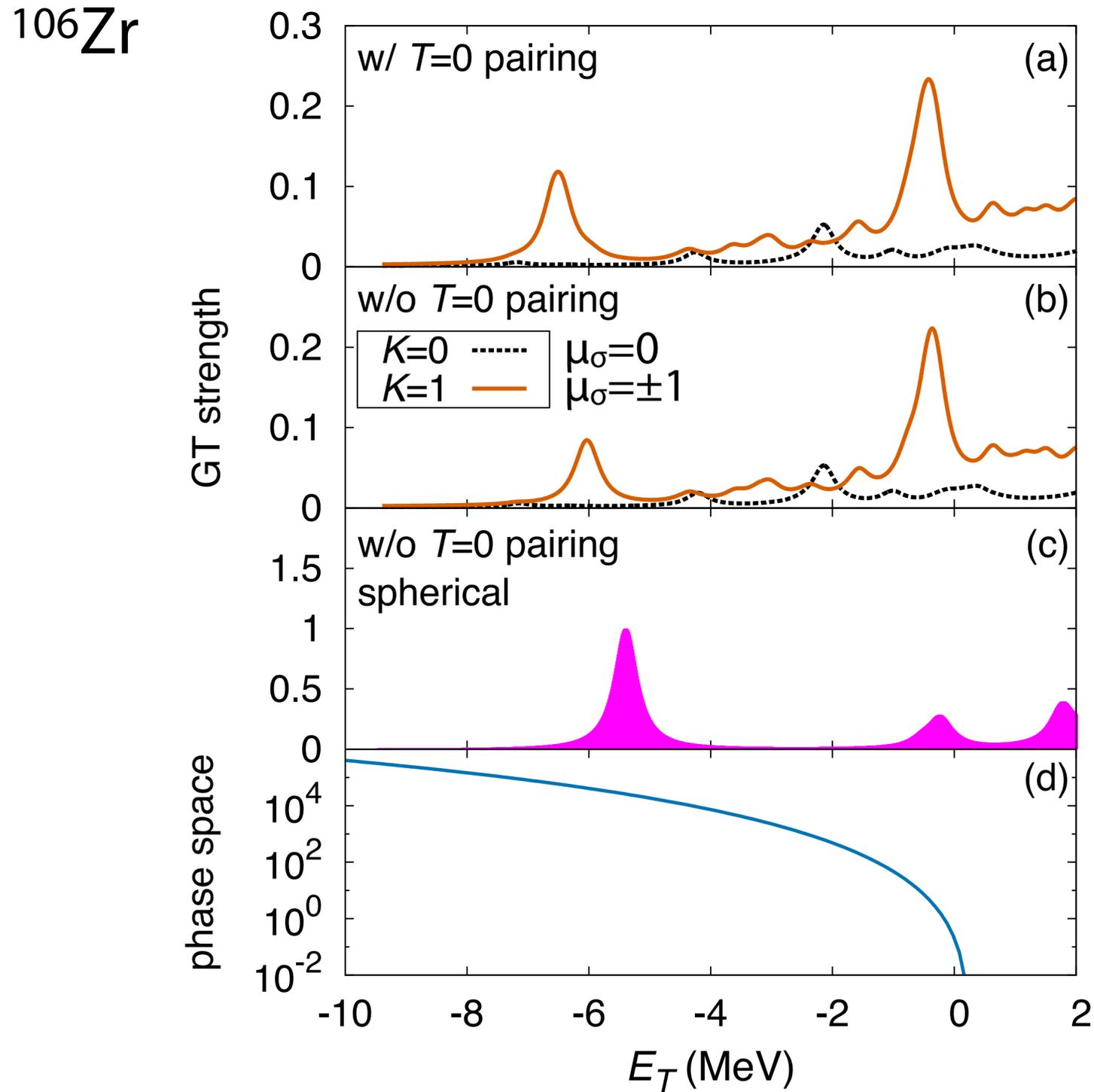
$$v_{\text{res}} = \frac{\delta^2 \mathcal{E}[\rho]}{\delta^2 \rho}$$

$$\delta\rho = \frac{\chi_0}{1 - \chi_0 v_{\text{res}}} f = \chi_{\text{RPA}} f$$

proton-neutron (Q)RPA: linear response to the charge-exchange operator

# $\beta$ -decay as a probe of nuclear structure: many-body correlations

S. Nishimura *et al.*, PRL106(2011)052502



SLy4

$$T_{1/2} = 0.21 \text{ s}$$

$$T_{1/2} = 0.41 \text{ s}$$



deformation  
superfluidity

$$T_{1/2} = 0.07 \text{ s}$$

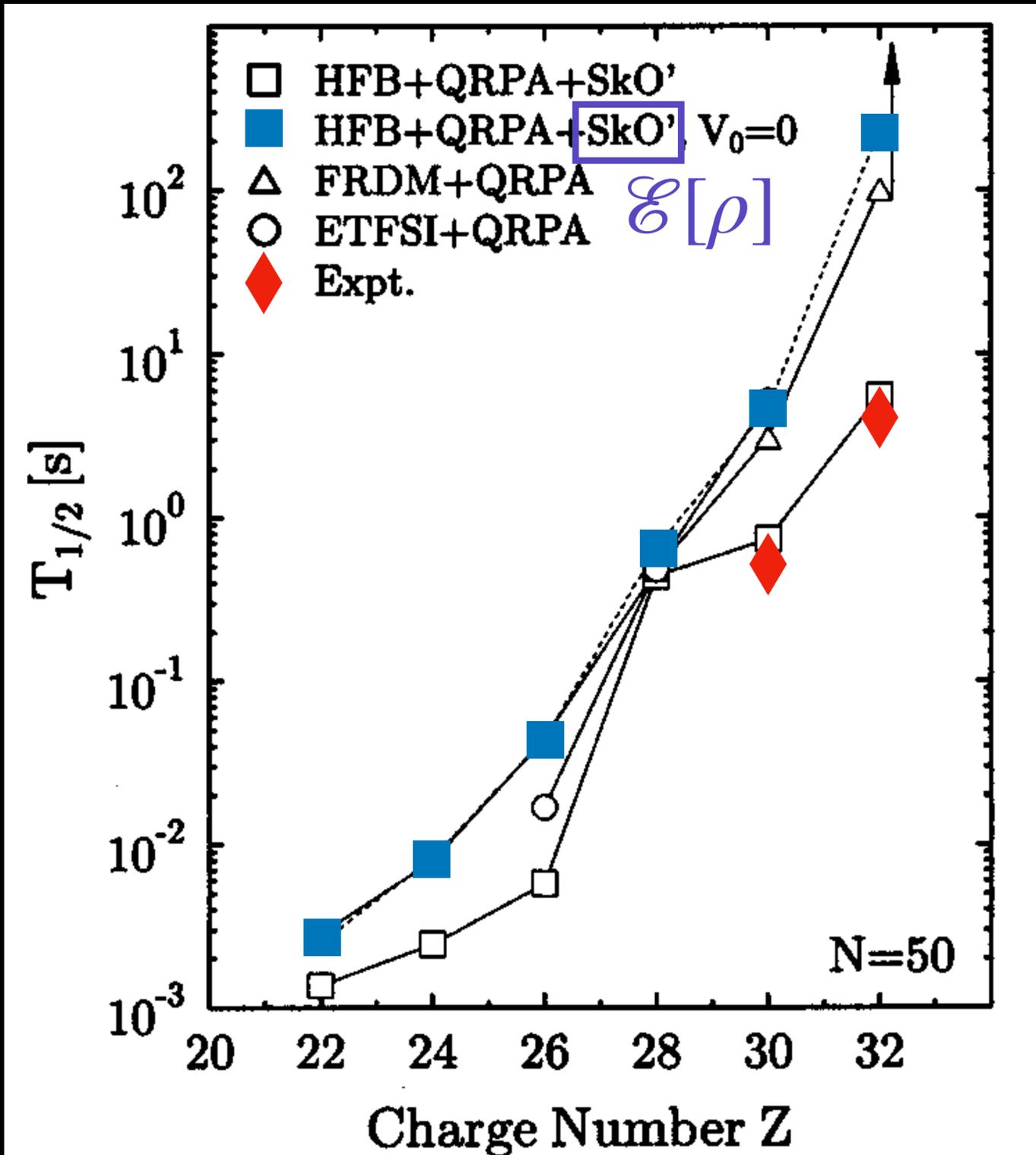
Exp.

$$T_{1/2} = 0.186(11) \text{ s}$$

**$\beta$ -decay rate is sensitive to the details of nuclear structure**

# Pioneering microscopic cal. for $\beta$ -decay based on DFT

J. Engel *et al.*, PRC60(1999)014302



Hadronic current

$$J_\mu(x) = \bar{\psi}_p(x)[V_\mu - A_\mu]\psi_n(x)$$

$$V_\mu = g_V(q^2 = 0)\gamma_\mu + \frac{ig_M(q^2)}{2m_n}\sigma_{\mu\nu}q^\nu$$

$$A_\mu = g_A(q^2 = 0)\gamma_\mu\gamma_5 + \frac{ig_P(q^2)}{1\mu^2}\gamma_5$$

quenching

$$g_A^{\text{eff}} = qg_A$$

$$q \sim 0.78$$

non-nucleonic d.o.f.

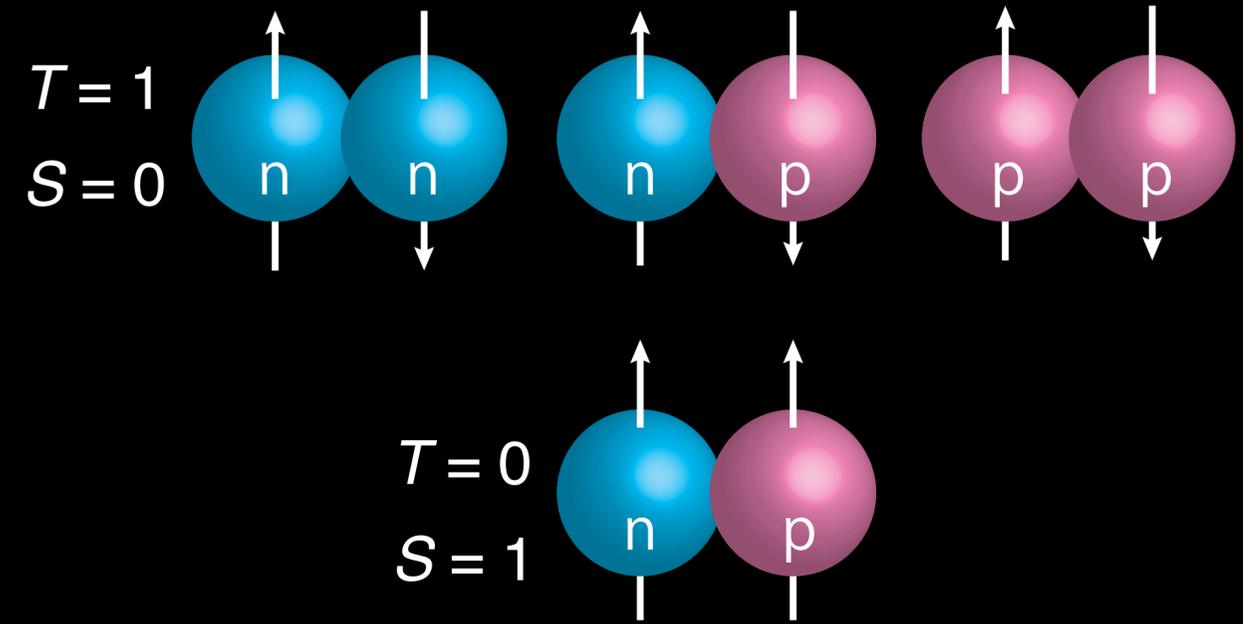
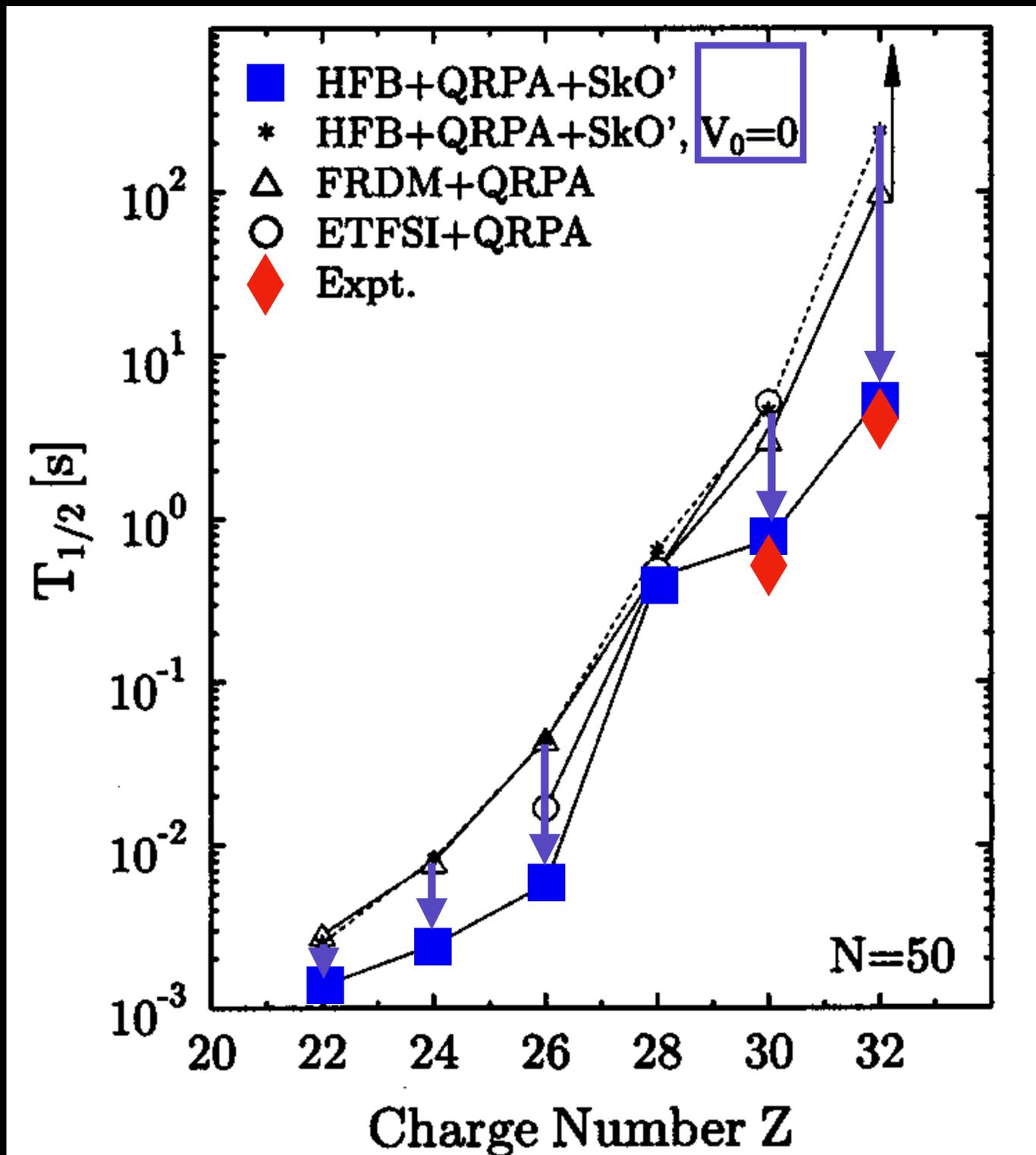
two-body currents

short-range correlation

truncation of many-body space

# Important role of the spin-triplet pairing revealed by the microscopic cal.

J. Engel *et al.*, PRC60(1999)014302



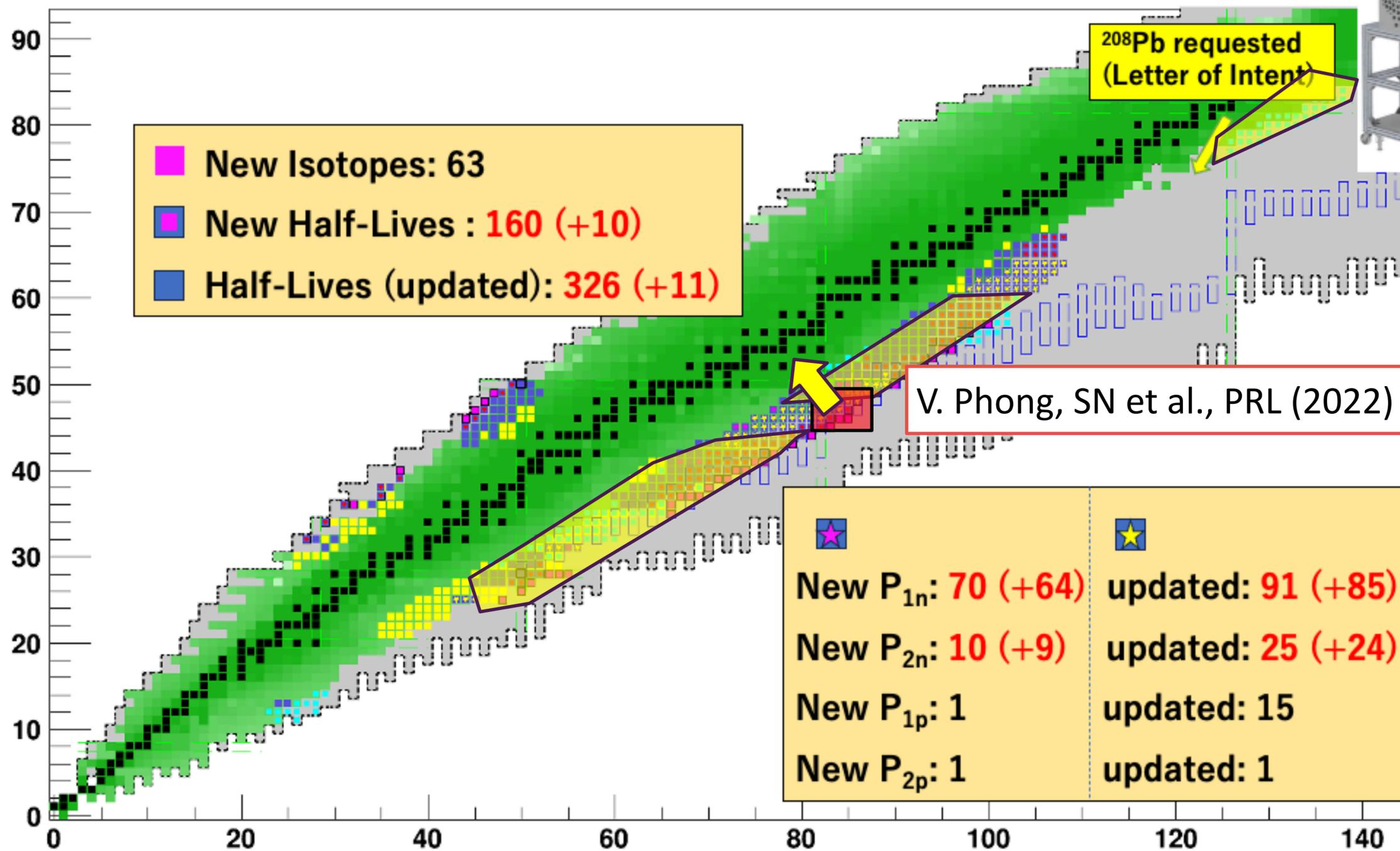
- ✓ being not included in FRDM
- ✓ shortens the half-lives
- ✓ sensitive to the shell structure

# Decay Properties Surveyed

courtesy of S. Nishimura (RIKEN)

## EURICA

+ BRIKEN (2019 ~ 2023)

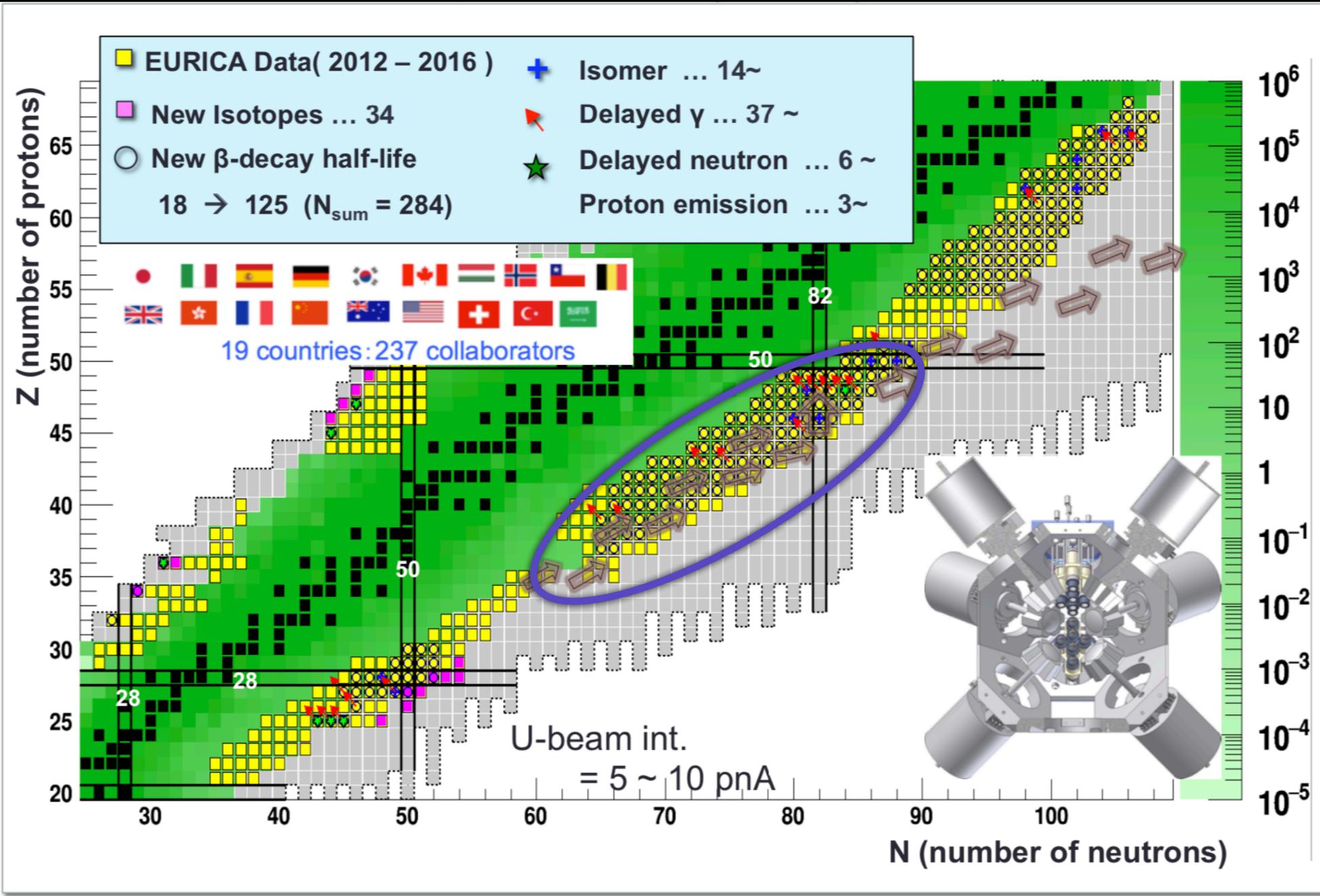


★	New $P_{1n}$ : 70 (+64)	updated: 91 (+85)
★	New $P_{2n}$ : 10 (+9)	updated: 25 (+24)
	New $P_{1p}$ : 1	updated: 15
	New $P_{2p}$ : 1	updated: 1

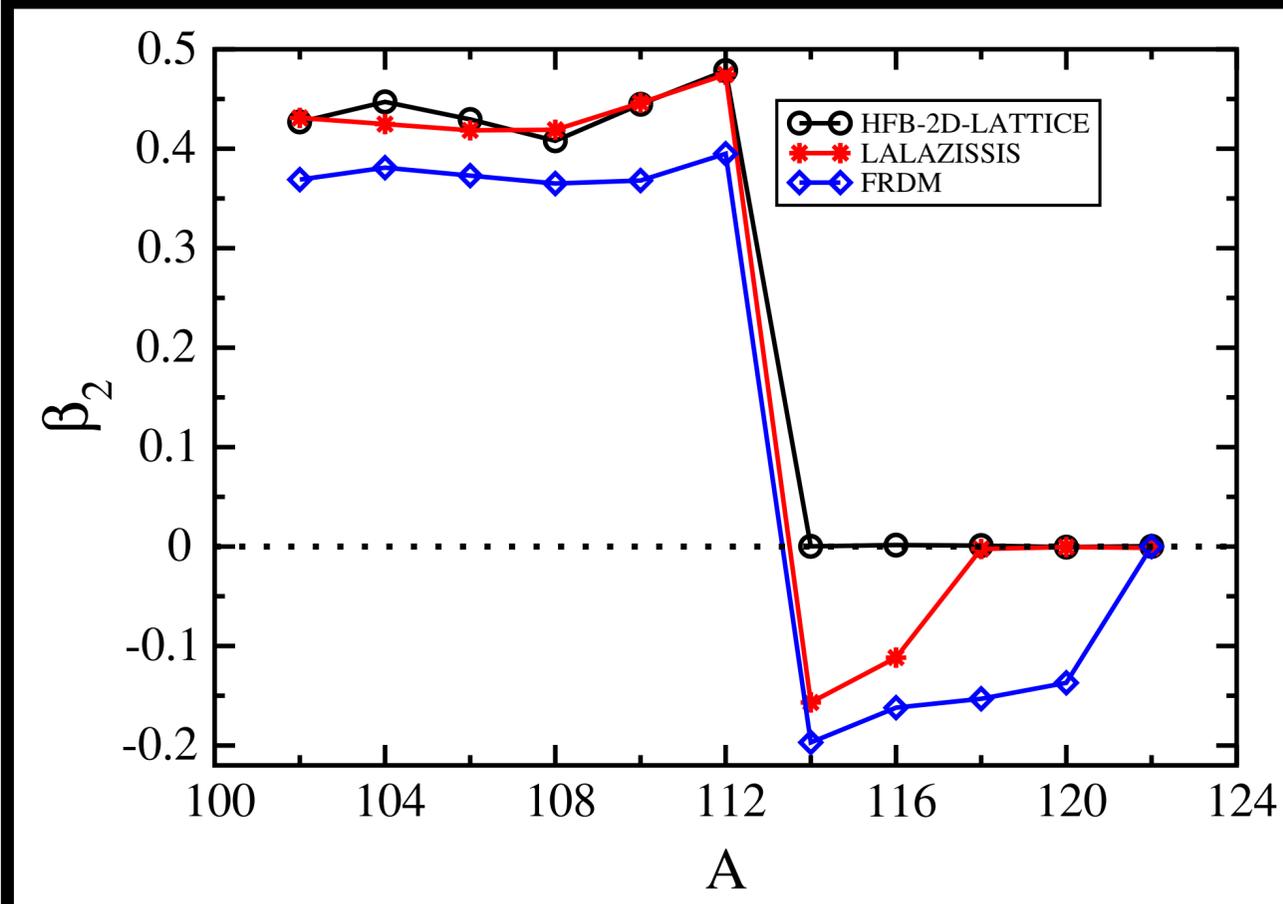
More Decay Data ( $T_{1/2}$ ,  $P_{xn}$ ) ... + ~ 200 Isotopes expected from BRIKEN

# Systematic measurement of $\beta$ -decay@RIBF

S. Nishimura *et al.*  $\beta$ -decay half-lives of r-process nuclei



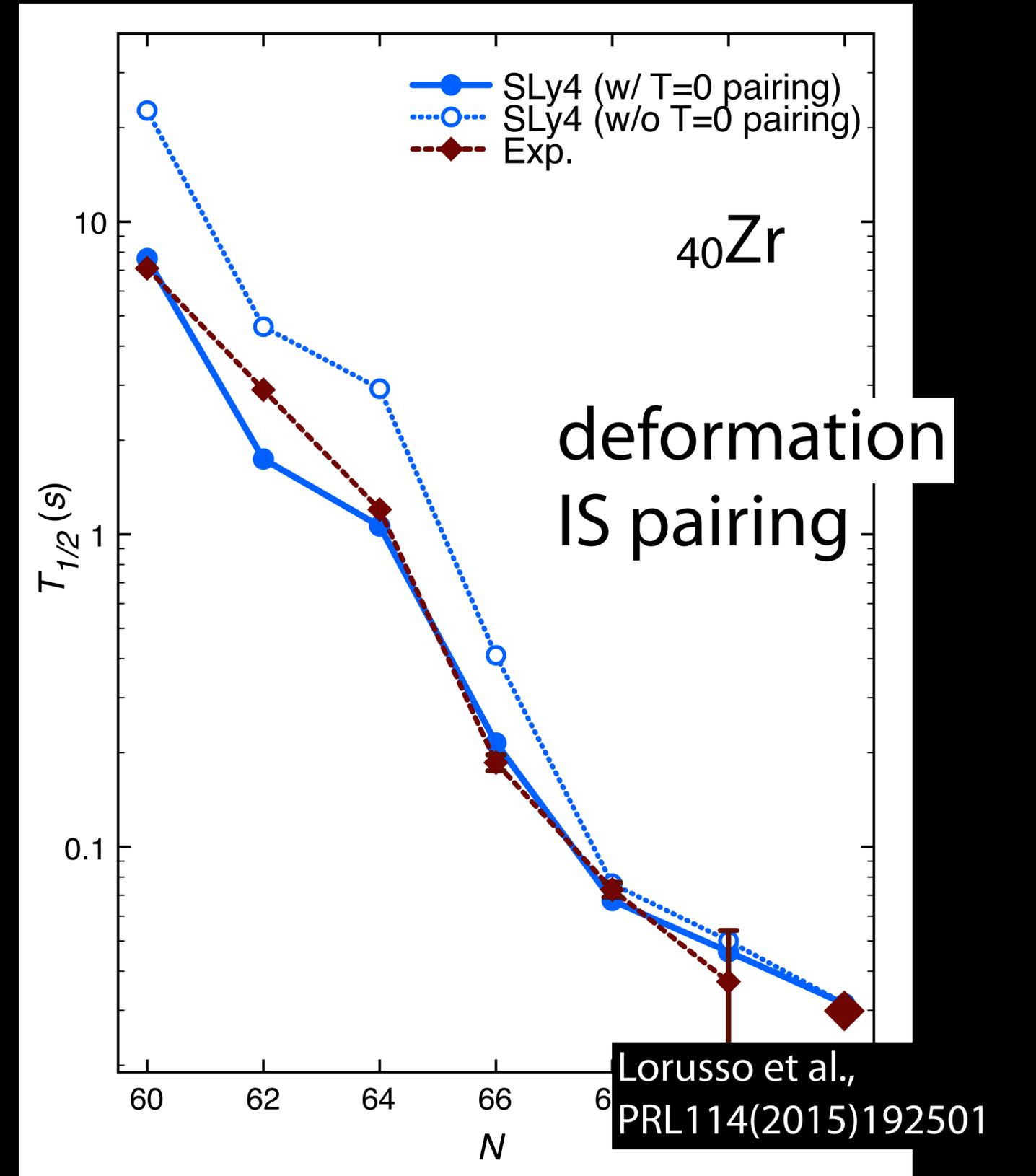
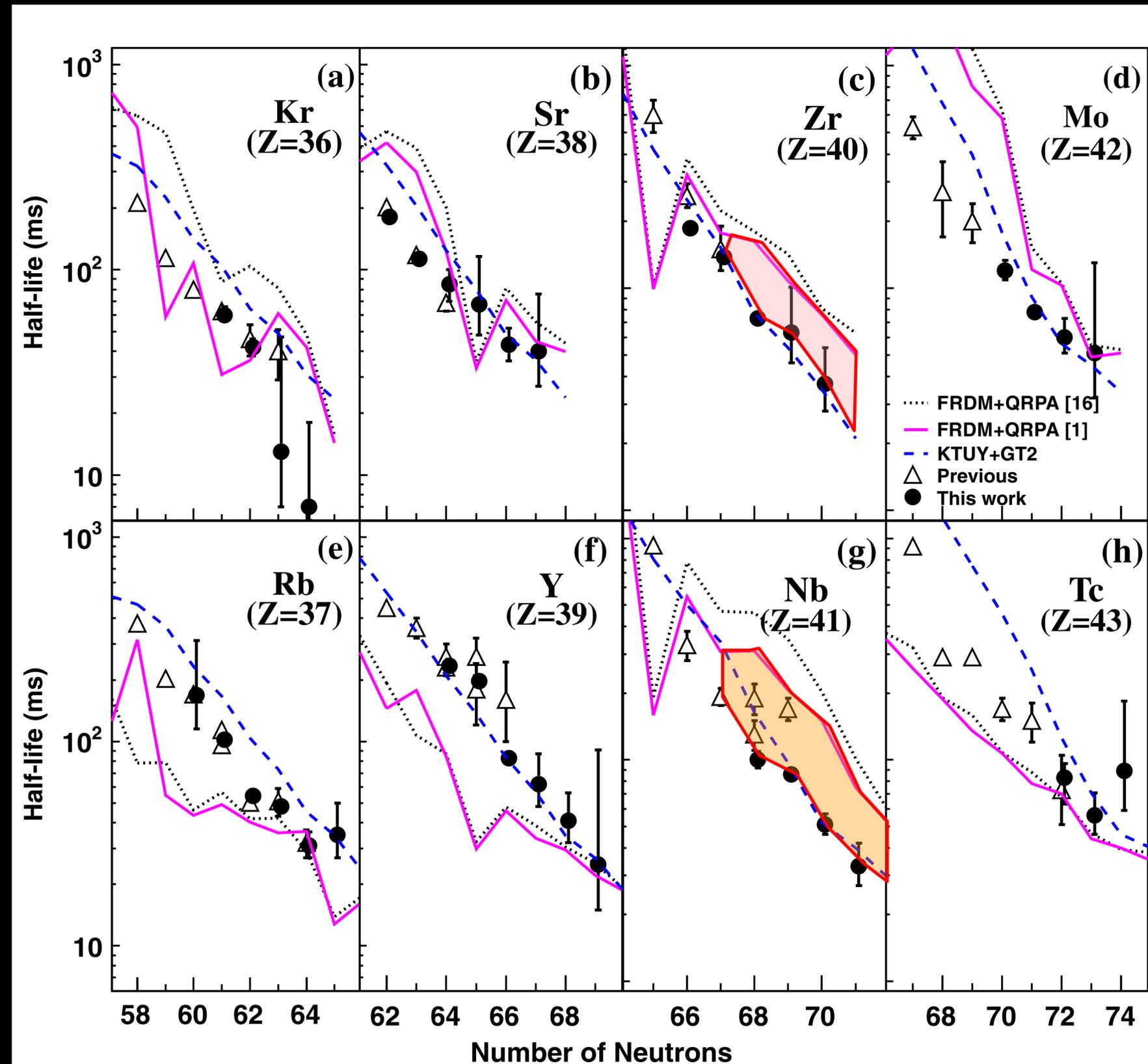
neutron-rich Zr isotopes:  
 predicted to be well deformed  
 by DFT cal.



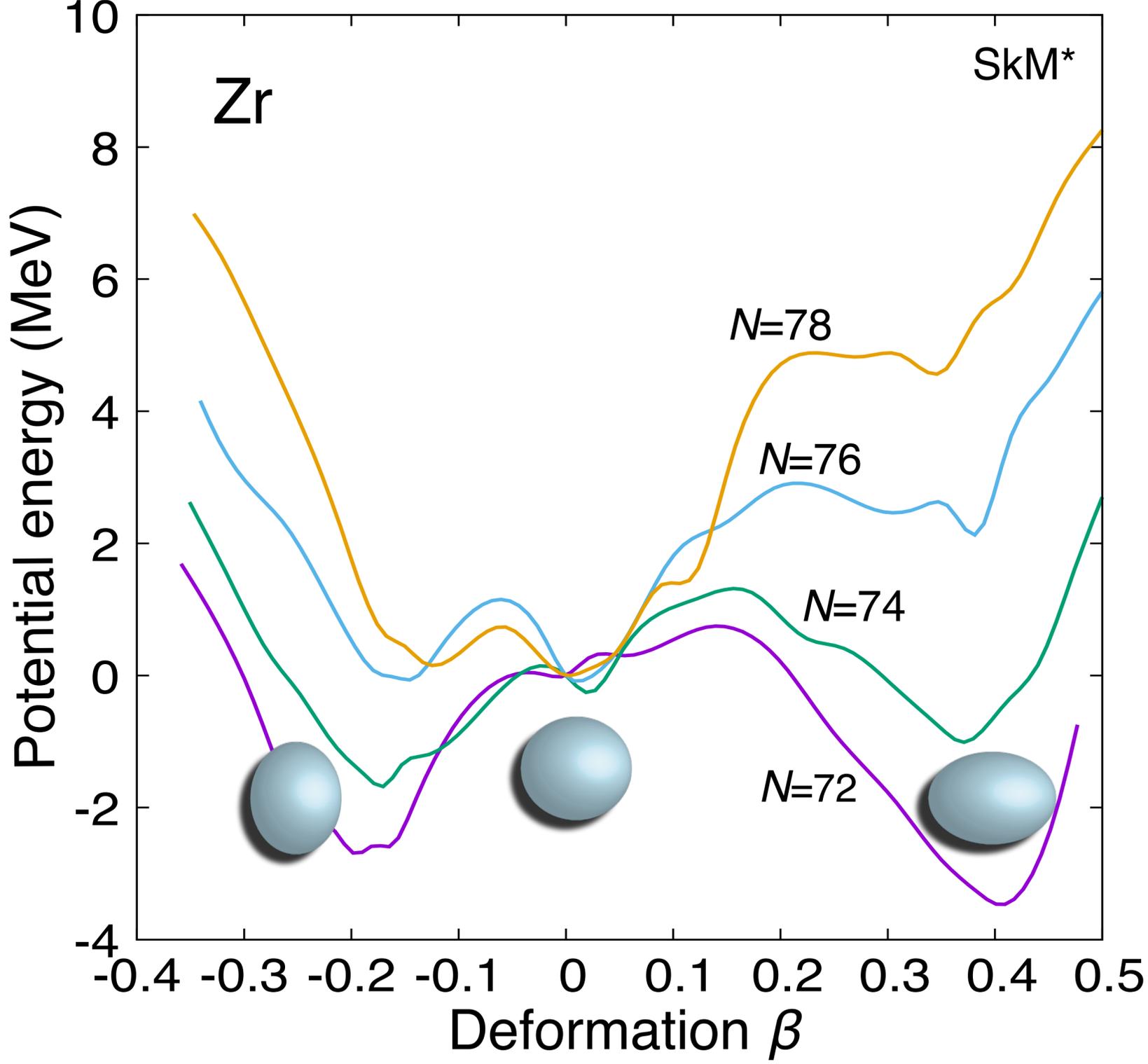
A. Blazkiewicz+, PRC71(2005)054321

# Short half-lives in the Zr region

KY, PTEP(2013)113D02



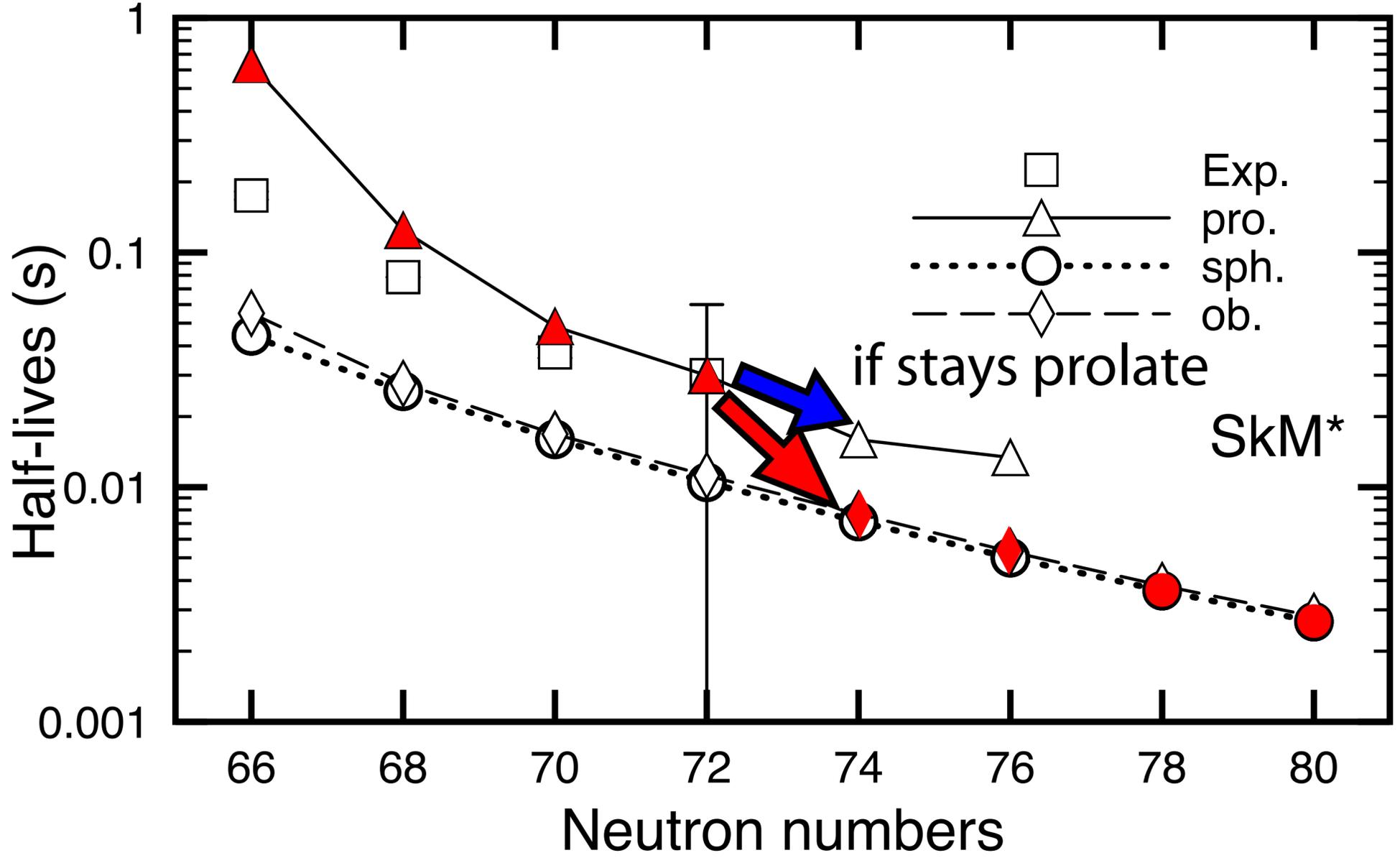
# Neutron-rich Zr isotopes: shape phase transition



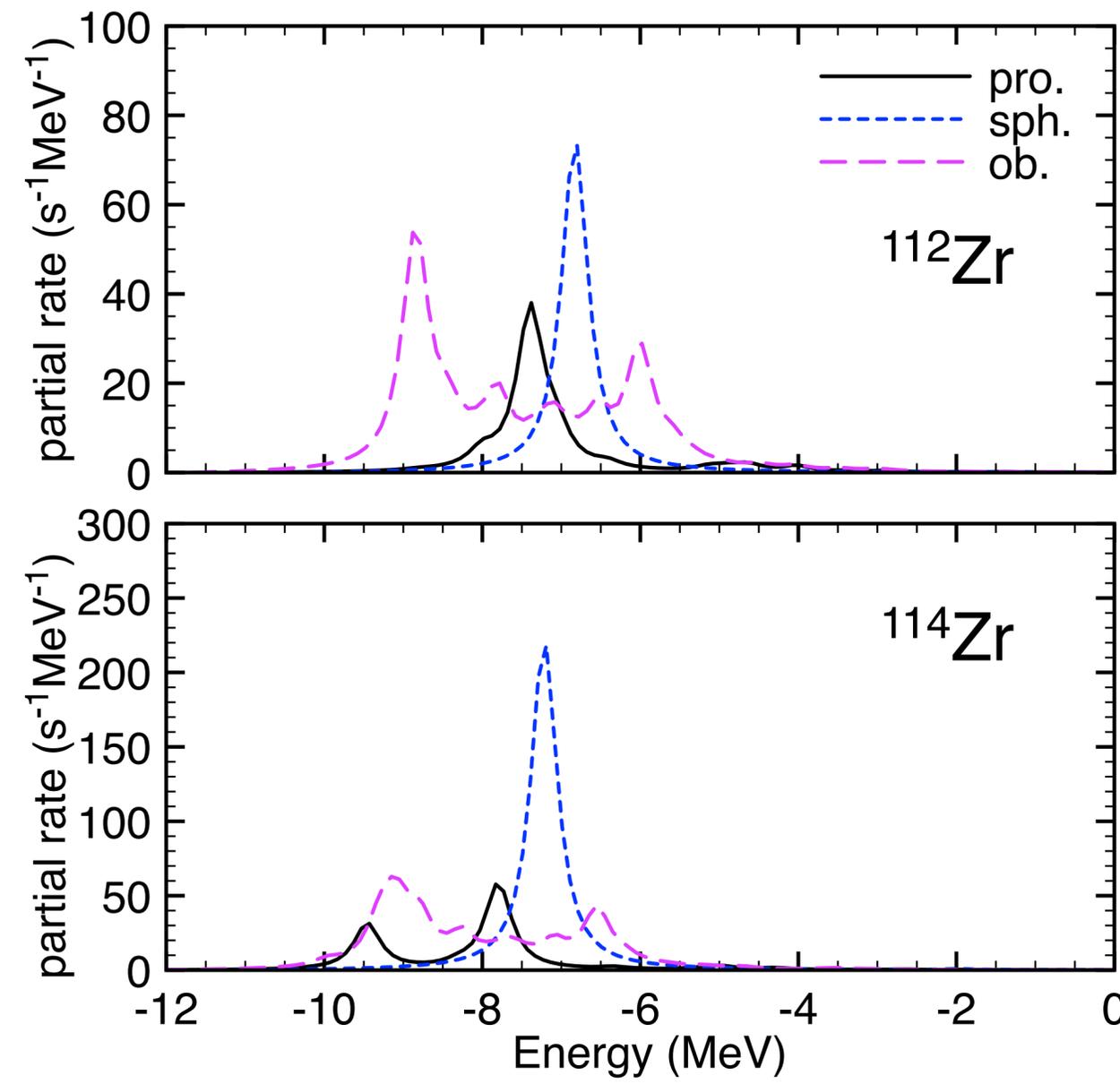
shape changes can be seen in  $\beta$ -decay?

# A drop with the shape-phase transition at $N=74$

KY, Y. Niu, F. Minato, PRC(2023)



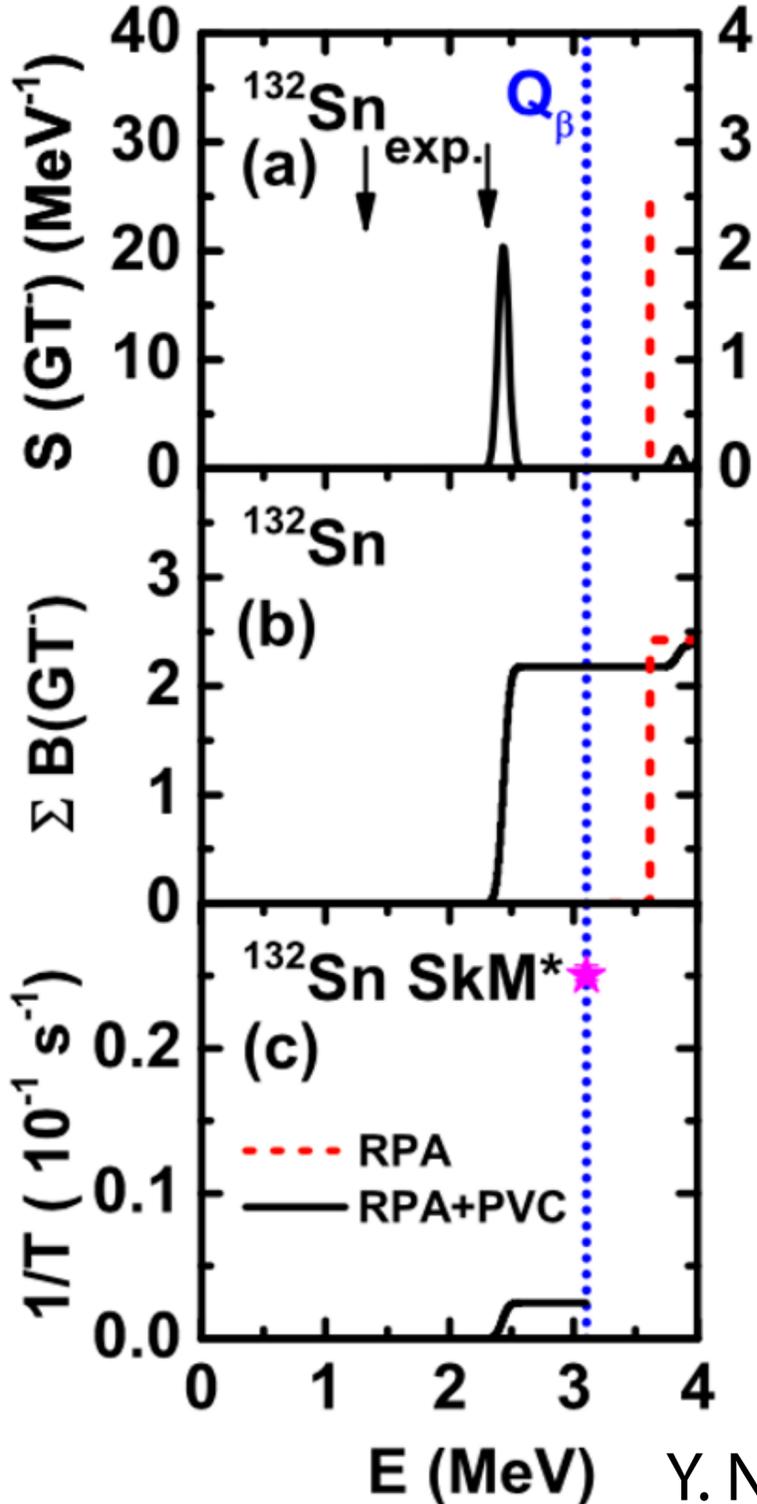
$(-E)^5$   
~strength  $\times$  phase space



wrt mother nucleus

# Consideration going beyond the RPA

fragmentation of the strengths



**RPA**  
 single peak above  $Q_\beta$

$T_{1/2} = \infty$   
 ↓  
 beyond RPA (1p1h)

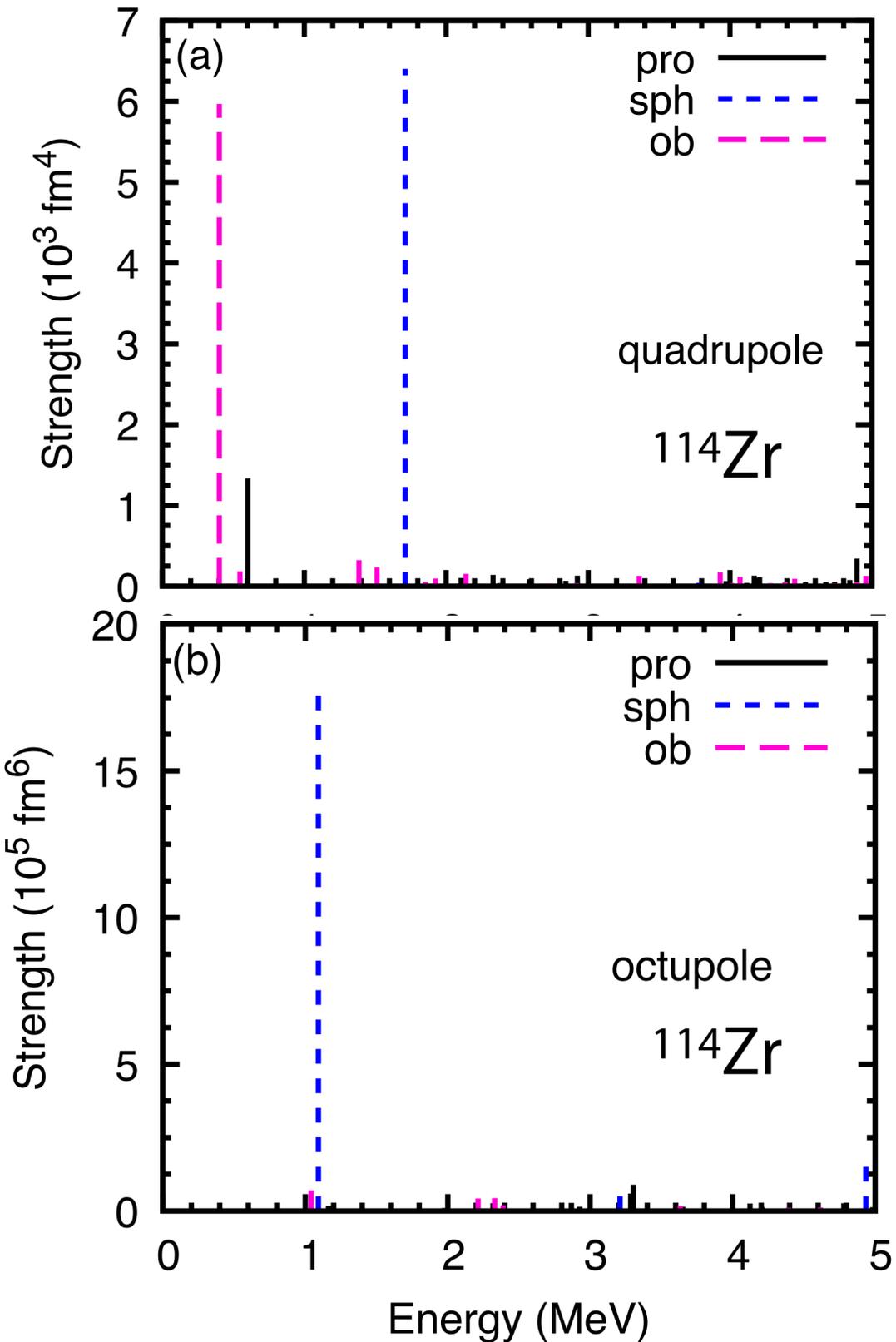
**particle-vibration coupling (PVC)**

spreading  
 lowering

low-energy collective states  
 strongly affect the PVC effect

Y. Niu+, PRL(2015)

# Consideration going beyond the RPA



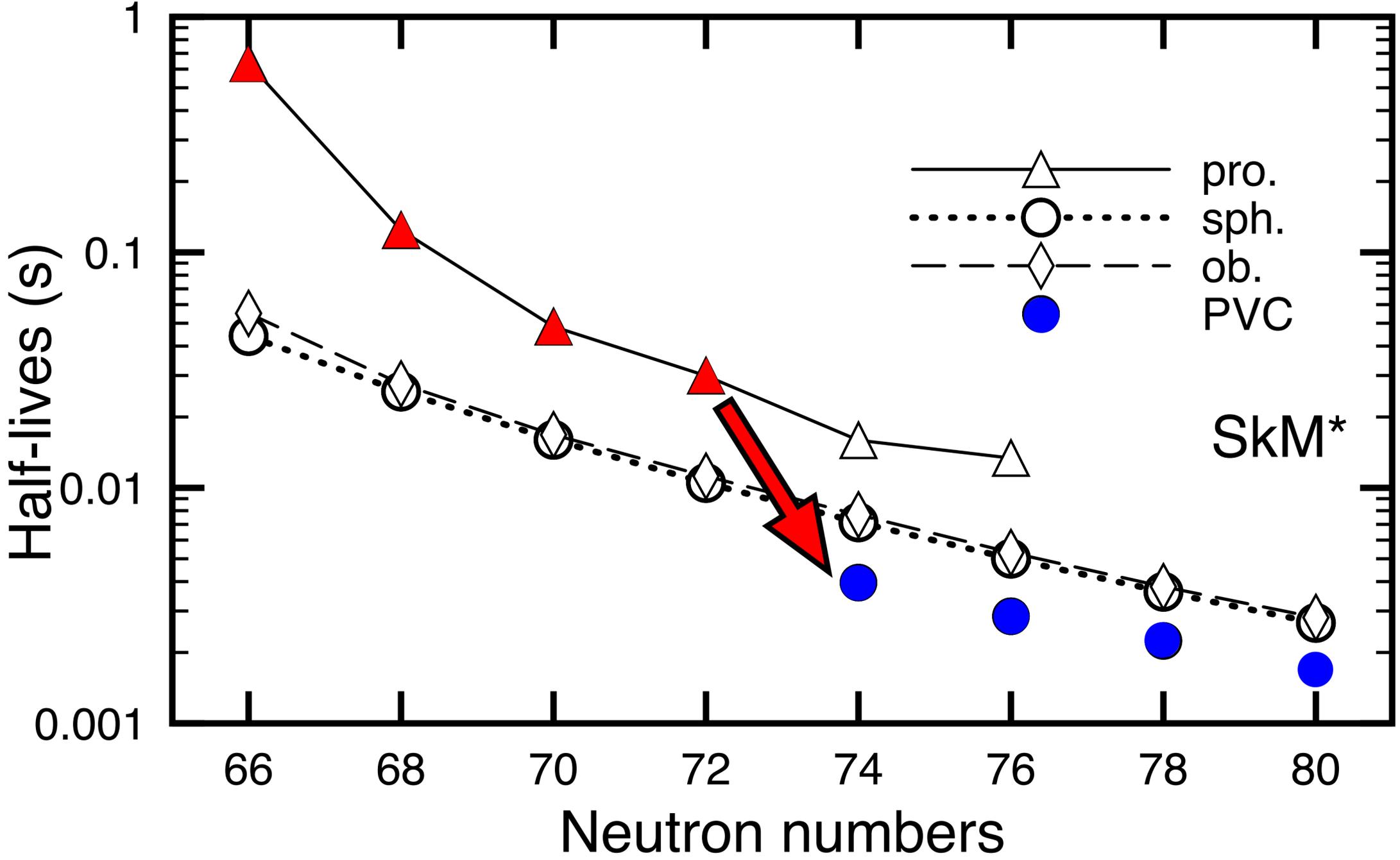
appearance of the collective states

quadrupole state in the oblate config.

octupole state in the spherical config.

		$T_{1/2}$ (ms)		$T_{1/2}$ (ms)
<b>RPA</b>	sph	6.4		
<b>PVC(q)</b>	sph	3.9	obl	2.6
<b>PVC(o)</b>	sph	1.1	obl	5.4
<b>PVC(q+o)</b>	sph	0.9	obl	2.4

# Further shortening in the shape transition to spherical



# Summary

We need a theoretical framework to provide nuclear data involved in the r-process.

DFT for entire region of nuclear chart in a single framework

**reliability and accuracy**

development of EDF (input of cal.) and many-body techniques

We need experimental data in n-rich nuclei to verify the framework.

beta-decay half-life in the Zr region undergoing the shape phase transition

first order

# One-body charged-current operators: Impulse Approx.

Gamow–Teller type  
spatial component

$$\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{j=1}^A \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_j) g_A \boldsymbol{\sigma}_j \tau_j^\pm$$

momentum transfer:  
 $\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{p}'_j - \mathbf{p}_j$

$$\langle f || \sum_L \Xi_{JL}(\kappa_e, \kappa_\nu) || i \rangle = \text{sign}(\kappa_e) \int_0^\infty dr r^2 [\rho_{J-1J}^\sigma(r) \phi_a(r) + \rho_{J+1J}^\sigma(r) \phi_b(r)]$$

$$g_A(q^2 = 0) = g_A$$

$$g_V(q^2 = 0) = g_V$$

leptons wfs

nuclear transition density:

$$\rho_{LJ}^\sigma(r) = \langle f || \sum_{j=1}^A \int d\Omega_r \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_j) \tau_j^\pm [Y_L(\hat{r}) \otimes \boldsymbol{\sigma}_j]_J || i \rangle$$

usually  $J = 1, L = 0$  is only considered

**“allowed”**

Fermi type  
time component

$$V^0(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{j=1}^A \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_j) g_V \tau_j^\pm$$

$$\langle f || \sum_L \Xi_{JL}(\kappa_e, \kappa_\nu) || i \rangle = \text{sign}(\kappa_e) \int_0^\infty dr r^2 \rho_J(r) \phi_A(r)$$

$$\rho_J(r) = \langle f || \sum_{j=1}^A \int d\Omega_r \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_j) \tau_j^\pm Y_J(\hat{r}) || i \rangle$$

usually  $J = L = 0$  is only considered