# Nuclei at the neutron and proton drip lines



Marek Pfützner University of Warsaw Gurgen Ter-Akopian JINR

JINR in 100 years of the discovery of the atomic nucleus, Dubna, 10-11.03.2011

#### 100 years ago...



E. Rutherford (1871-1937)

Theory of structure fatim Software atan currents of + charge ne at centre + - change as dections distributed thinghout sphine for Free at P malution = Ne 2 1 - 43 . 1 7 = Net { 2 - - - - = + + Sufface charged prestiles e man me is small lat it dulance from centre = a Deflety Tree 1ª durch Franking at P = Web { 1 - - 1 } and acut it doub frokin = de = No 2/1- h) a . Where a arguind in having things along I dente 1 = dd dt = Me da. ds . = Ne<sup>2</sup>/(1 - 1) + 1 Ade my / (1 - 1) + 1 Ade  $= 2 \frac{M^2}{m_V} \begin{pmatrix} a_1 b_1^2 a_2^2 \\ a_2 b_1^2 \\ a_3 b_1^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a_1 b_1 \\ a_3 b_1^2 \\ a_1 b_1^2 \\ a_1$ 

Rutherford's first rough note on the nuclear theory of atomic structure; written, probably, in the winter of 1910-11

#### 2011 – Year of Chemistry





The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 1911 was awarded to Marie Curie "in recognition of her services to the advancement of chemistry by the discovery of the elements radium and polonium, by the isolation of radium and the study of the nature and compounds of this remarkable element".

http://nobelprize.org/nobel\_prizes/chemistry/laureates/1911/

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Paris, 11 rue Pierre-et-Marie-Curie

#### The world of nuclides, 2010



#### Nuclear valley



Masses of isobars (A = const.) lie on parabolas.
 → β-decay Q values increase toward drip-lines!

#### β-delayed particle emission

> When the decay energy is large, many exotic decay channels open



B. Blank, M. Borge, Progress in Part. Nucl. Phys. 60 (2008) 403

### β-delayed protons

#### > The first observation of $\beta$ -delayed protons was achieved by Karnaukhov in Dubna



 The first β-delayed proton precursor, <sup>25</sup>Si, was identified by R. Barton, et al., Can. J. Phys. 41 (1963) 2007
 This work is considered as the first application of Si detector in nuclear physics

#### β-delayed two protons

The β-delayed two-proton emission was predicted by Goldansky in 1980 V.I. Goldansky, Sov. Phys. JETP Lett. 32 (1980) 554

The first observation, for <sup>22</sup>AI, at Livermore Berkeley Lab. in 1983



M.D. Cable et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 50 (1983) 404

## βp spectroscopy

Projectile fragmentation at GANIL: <sup>58</sup>Ni @ 75 MeV/u + Ni → LISE spectrometer



- Today about 160 precursors known, from <sup>8</sup>B to <sup>183</sup>Hg
- βp spectroscopy provides wealth of information about nuclei far from stability, like β-decay strength distribution, level energies, widths, spins, level densities, etc.

#### **Direct particle emission**

When proton separation energy becomes negative, a proton is no more bound and can be emitted.



Proton emission always competes with β<sup>+</sup> decay!





S. Hofmann et al., Z. Phys. A305 (1981) 111

#### p radioactivity – a recent highlight



### Proton emission from deformed <sup>141</sup>Ho



M. Karny et al., Phys. Lett. B664, 52, 2008

Figures courtesy of K. Rykaczewski (Oak Ridge)

### 2p radioactivity



By radioactivity we consider processes with the half-lives longer than 10<sup>-14</sup> s.

Simultaneous 2p emission may occur also in faster processes (democratic decays, resonances)



#### Early considerations

Baz, Goldansky, Goldberg, Zeldovich, "Light and medium nuclei at the limits of stability, Moscov 1972



#### Decay of <sup>45</sup>Fe



- In the first experiments only the decay energy and time were measured!
- A lot of information is still hidden in the correlations between protons !



#### from L. Grigorenko

## **Optical Time Projection Chamber**

#### > New idea to detect charged particles: an ionization chamber with optical readout



M. Ćwiok et al., IEEE TNS, 52 (2005) 2895 K. Miernik et al., NIM A581 (2007) 194



## ACCULINNA @ FLNR, Dubna



#### Testing with decays of implanted ions

Acculinna separator, FLNR, JINR, Dubna, 2006 <sup>20</sup>Ne (50 MeV/u) + Be →...



K. Miernik et al., NIM A581 (2007) 194

#### Emission of 2p from <sup>45</sup>Fe



A1900 separator at NSCL/MSU <sup>58</sup>Ni at 161 MeV/u + <sup>nat</sup>Ni  $\rightarrow$  <sup>45</sup>Fe

#### Full p-p corellation pattern could be established



$\vartheta_1 = (104 \pm 2)^\circ,$	$\vartheta_1$	$= (70 \pm 3)^{\circ}$
$\Delta \phi = (142 \pm 3)^{\circ}$	→	$\theta_{pp}$ = (143 ± 5)°

## 2p events from <sup>45</sup>Fe



#### *p-p* correlations in <sup>45</sup>Fe

#### Three-body model



L.V. Grigorenko et al., Phys. Lett. B 677 (2009) 30

#### ... in <sup>19</sup>Mg,...



I. Mukha et al., Phys. Rev. C 77 (2008) 061303(R) I. Mukha et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 99 (2007) 182501

#### ...and in <sup>6</sup>Be



K. Mercurio et al., Phys. Rev. C **78** (2008) 031602(R)

L. Grigorenko et al., Phys. Lett. B **677** (2009) 30

#### Search for 2p decay of <sup>26</sup>S @ FLNR

> <sup>32</sup>S @ 50 MeV/u + Be → ACCULINNA



A.S. Fomichev et al., to be published



#### Decays of <sup>45</sup>Fe and <sup>43</sup>Cr



M. Pomorski et al., Phys. Rev. 83 (2011) 014306

K. Miernik et al., Eur. Phys. J. A 42 (2009) 431

### $\beta$ 2p from excited state – <sup>17</sup>Ne

#### COULEX of 59 AMeV <sup>17</sup>Ne on Au target (NSCL/MSU)



Sequential 2p emission from the 5/2<sup>-</sup> state was observed

No evidence for the 2p branch from the 3/2<sup>-</sup> state obtained M.J. Chromik et al., PRC 66 (2002) 024313

#### Evidence for the di-proton?

1n stripping from 36 AMeV <sup>18</sup>Ne (GANIL)  $\rightarrow$  <sup>17</sup>Ne\*  $\rightarrow$  <sup>15</sup>O + 2p



#### **Towards neutron drip-line**



N. Michel et al., J. Phys. G 36 (2009) 013101

J. Dobaczewski et al., Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 59 (2007) 432

#### **Neutron halos**





- > Neutron halos strange nuclear systems:
  - large spatial extension (more than 50% outside classical region)
  - clasterization (core  $\times$  valence neutrons)



#### <sup>6</sup>He wave function



G.M. Ter-Akopian et al,, Phys. Lett. B 426 (1998) 251

## Study of <sup>5</sup>H



 Slow protons registered in the backward direction (E<sub>5H</sub> < 5 MeV).</li>

Past tritons registered in the

forward telescope.

Threefold *t-p-n* and fourfold *t-p-n-n* coincidences provide

the complete kinematics.

## Study of <sup>5</sup>H



Correlation analysis yields following conlusions:

a) Continuum above 2.5 MeV is a mixture of energy degenerate broad 3/2<sup>+</sup> and 5/2<sup>+</sup> states.

b) Continuum below 2.5 MeV results from interference of  $3/2^+$  –  $5/2^+$  doublet and  $1/2^+$  g.s.

c) Ground-state properties of <sup>5</sup>H .:  $E_R$  = 1.8 MeV,  $\Gamma$  = 1.3 MeV.

M. Golovkov *et al.*, PRL 93 (2004) 262501 M. Golovkov *et al.*, PRC 72 (2005) 064612

## Study of <sup>9</sup>He

#### Complete kinematical study of the <sup>2</sup>H(<sup>8</sup>He,p)<sup>9</sup>He reaction at ACCULINNA



- <sup>9</sup>He spectrum shows two broad overlapping peaks at 2.0 and 4.2 MeV.
- Provide the second state of the second sta
- **3** These states are assigned as  $s_{1/2}$ ,  $p_{1/2}$ ,  $d_{5/2}$
- The data are well described in a simple single-particle potential model. The <sup>8</sup>He with the closed p<sub>3/2</sub> subshell is a "good" core for <sup>9</sup>He.

#### ... and <sup>10</sup>He

Reaction  ${}^{3}H({}^{8}He, {}^{10}He)p$  (E<sub>8He</sub> = 27.4 MeV/amu ,  $\theta_{cm}$  = 2° – 12°)



M.S. Golovkov et al., Physics Letters B 672 (2009) 22

L. Grigorenko and M. Zhukov, PRC 77, 034611 (2008)



The population cross section of the 3 MeV peak in <sup>10</sup>He  $\sigma_{10}$  = 140(30) mb/sr is consistent with the estimated resonance cross section for the population of the <sup>10</sup>He 0<sup>+</sup> state with the [p<sub>1/2</sub>]<sup>2</sup> structure.

#### Decay of <sup>8</sup>He

<sup>8</sup>He – the most neutron-rich, particle-stable nucleus, attracts lot of interest (NNDC/NSR Data Base shows 225 papers!)



β-delayed t emission measured <sup>8</sup>He → <sup>8</sup>Li<sup>\*</sup> → t + α + n  $b_t = (8.0 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{-3}$ → B<sub>GT</sub> ≥ 5.2, log ft = 2.9 !

ISOLDE (1992) M. Borge et al., NP A 560 (1993) 664

#### <sup>8</sup>He decay study @ JINR, Dubna

#### We see the tritium channel

$$^{8}\text{He} \rightarrow ~^{8}\text{Li}^{*} \rightarrow ~\alpha ~+~ n + ~t$$





but also the recoil of 7Li !

$$^{8}\text{He} \rightarrow ~^{8}\text{Li}^{*} \rightarrow ~^{7}\text{Li} + n$$



S. Mianowski et al., Acta. Phys.Pol. B41 (2010) 449

#### A new decay branch

preliminary!



#### New project: ACCULINNA-2



#### **Research plans at ACCULINNA-2**



#### Further dreams: DRIBS-3

RIB products from ACCULINNA-2 can be stopped and thermalized in a gas catcher, to form a high-quality, low-energy RI beam to be injected into U400R for the reacceleration.



#### Exotic nuclei accesible at the DRIB-3



#### Summary

- There is a continuous progress in reaching nuclei far from β stability.
  In the last three decades the number of known nuclides increased
  from about 2200 in 1981 to about 3000 in 2006 → 32 new nuclei/year!
- Proton drip-line reached up to Z = 91 except for even  $Z \in (32,64)$  and Z > 82Neutron drip-line reached up to N = 27 except for N=10, 14 and even N>21
- New phenomena at the limits of stability: β-delayed (multi)particle emission,
  *p* and 2*p* radioactivity, neutron halo, shell migration,...
- New technique employing digital photograpy provides complementary data to classical methods based on Si detectors (angular correlations, branching ratios)
- Separator ACCULINNA @ FLNR offers first-class conditions for studies of light nuclei at the limits of stability. Its particular feature is a cryogenic tritium target.
- Proposed upgrade ACCULINNA-2 will largely increase the experimental possibilities and represent the key facility worldwide for light and medium mass RIB.

#### Mazurian Lakes Conference on Physics

Legacy of Maria Skłodowska-Curie – 100 years after discovery of atomic nucleus, September 11 – 18, 2011, Piaski, POLAND

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#### > www.mazurian.fuw.edu.pl

## Thank you for attention!





#### Search for $\beta$ 3p in <sup>27</sup>S @ FLNR

#### > $^{32}S @ 50 \text{ MeV/u} + \text{Be} \rightarrow \text{ACCULINNA} \rightarrow ^{27}S$ (December 2010)



### The scattering of the $\alpha$ rays...

The first public announcement of the atomic nucleus:



Fig1. Marsden-Geiger experiment.



The Scattering of the  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  Rays and the Structure of the Atom by Professor E. Rutherford, F.R.S. Proc. of the Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society, IV, 55, pp.18-20. presented on March 7, 1911

$$P( heta \ ) \ \mu \ \ rac{1}{\sin^4 heta \ /2}$$

[ 669 ]

LXXIX. The Scattering of α and β Particles by Matter and the Structure of the Atom. By Professor E. RUTHERFORD, F.R.S., University of Manchester \*.

§ 1.  $\prod$  is well known that the  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  particles suffer deflexions from their rectilinear paths by encounters with atoms of matter. This scattering is far more marked for the  $\beta$  than for the  $\alpha$  particle on account of the much smaller momentum and energy of the former particle.

#### Philosophical Magazine, May 1911, ser.6, xxi, pp.669-88

## **Drip lines**



#### **Three lifetime regimes**



### β-delayed *d* emission from <sup>11</sup>Li



K. Riisager et al., NPA 616 (1997) 169c



 $B.R. = 1.30(13) \times 10^{-4}$ "large" value only possible if core has a small contribution  $\Rightarrow$  decay essentially in the halo

#### Jeroen Büscher at ENAM'08

R. Raabe et al., PRL 101 (2008) 212501