

## Structure of $^{68}\text{Ni}$ :

New insights on the low-lying  $0^+$  and  $2^+$  states  
from two-neutron transfer on  $^{66}\text{Ni}$  and  $\beta$ -decay of  $^{68}\text{Co}$

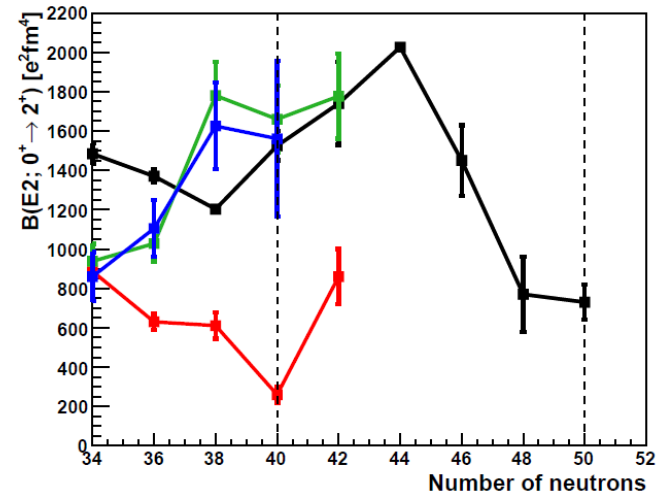
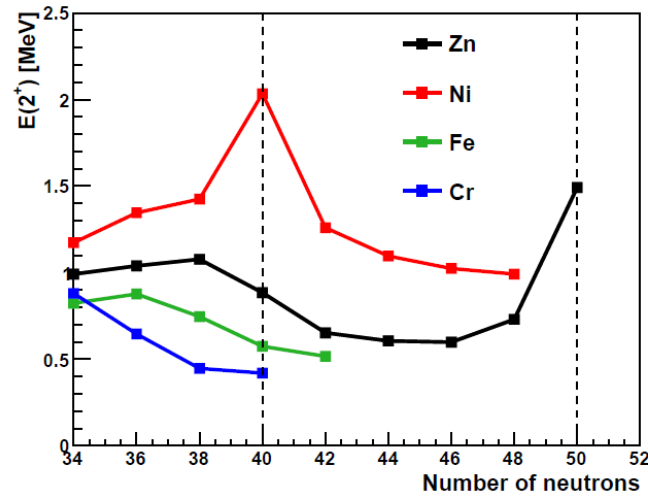
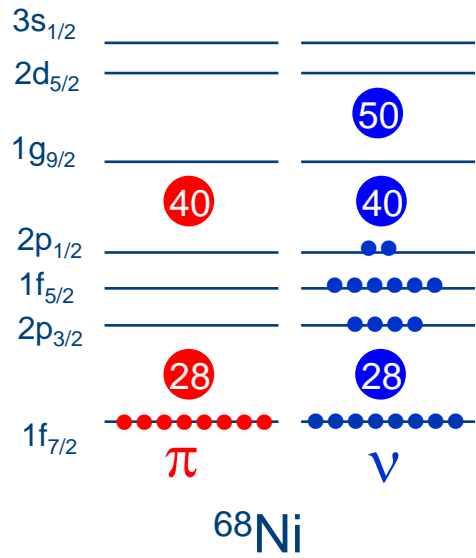
*IS467 and IS504 collaborations*

Freddy Flavigny

*KU Leuven, Instituut voor Kern- en Stralingsfysica, Belgium*



# Motivation: Shell structure at Z=28 and N=40



(See also K. Wimmer's talk on Friday, session 4A)

# Motivation: Shell structure at Z=28 and N=40

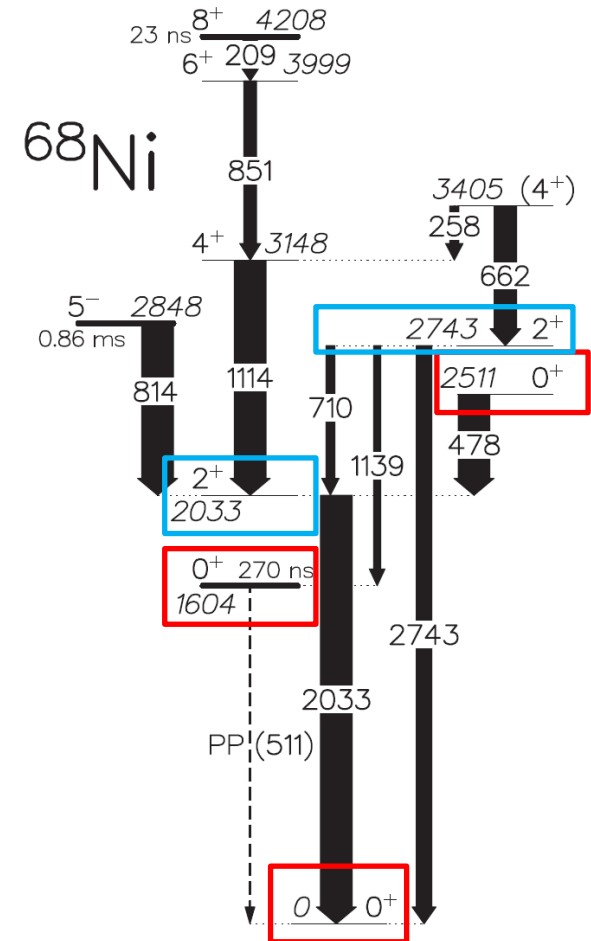
## Recent experimental work:

- J. Elseviers et al., to be submitted.
- F. Flavigny et al., to be submitted.
- S. Suchyta et al., PRC **89**, 021301R (2013)
- F. Recchia et al., PRC **88**, 041302R (2013)
- R. Broda et al., PRC **86**, 064312 (2012)
- C. J. Chiara et al., PRC **86**, 041304R (2012)
- A. Dijon et al., PRC **85**, 031301R (2012)

- Precise position and firm spin/parity assignment:



**Three 0<sup>+</sup> states and two 2<sup>+</sup> states below 2.8 MeV**



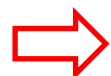
Level scheme from F. Recchia et al.  
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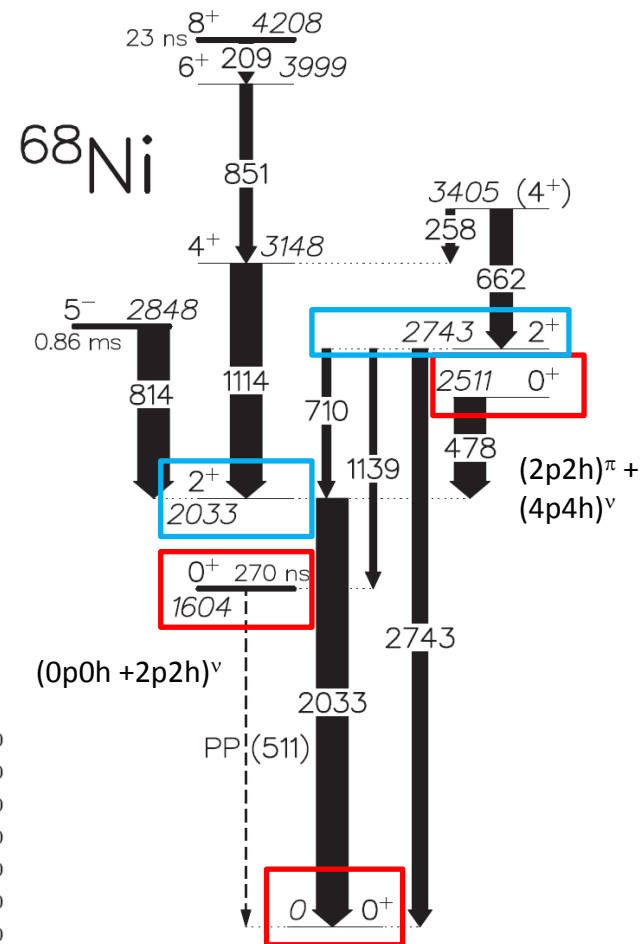
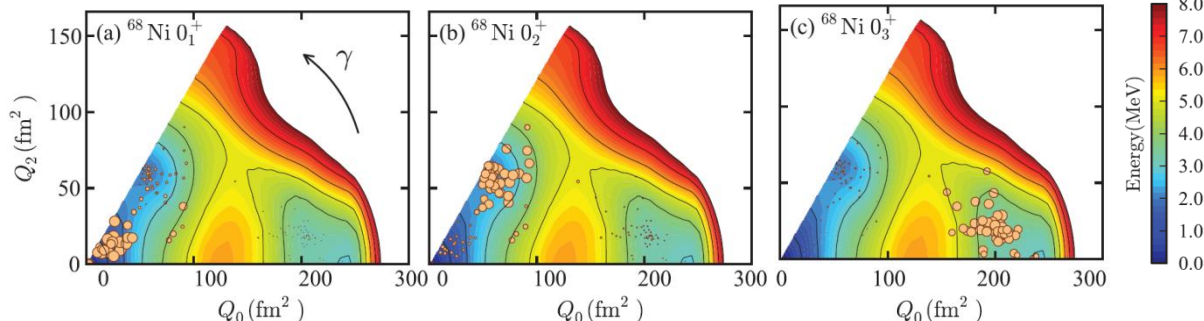
- *Precise position and firm spin/parity assignment:*



**Three 0<sup>+</sup> states and two 2<sup>+</sup> states below 2.8 MeV**

## State of the art shell model calculations (MCSM [1], SM [2], )

Suggests deformed states and shape coexistence



Level scheme from F. Recchia et al.  
PRC80, 041302R (2013)

**→ New picture : need to characterize these states**

**KU LEUVEN**

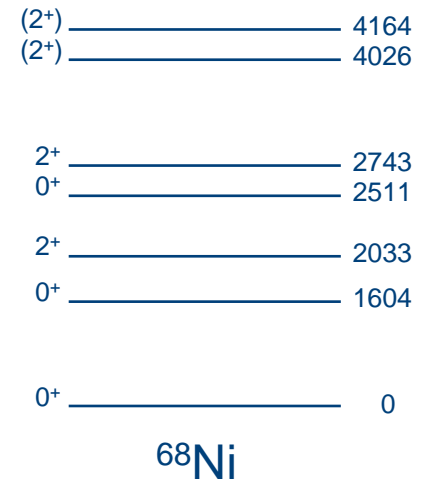
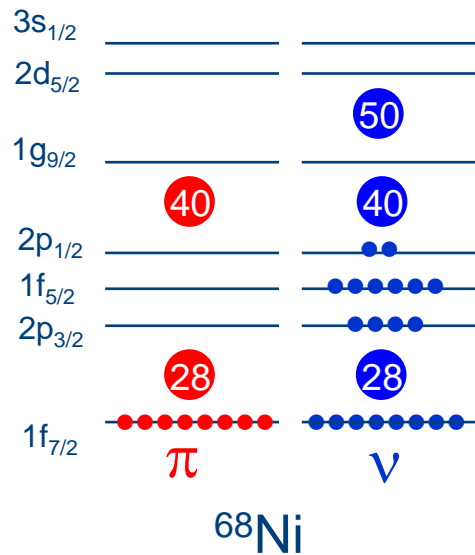
# Experimental approach: 2 complementary data sets

IS504

- Nature of  $0^+$  states in  $^{68}\text{Ni}$   
→  $2\nu-2\text{h}$
- Conf. Mixing of  $0^+_{1}$  and  $0^+_{2}$

PhD thesis, J. Elseviers

$^{66}\text{Ni}(t,p)^{68}\text{Ni}$

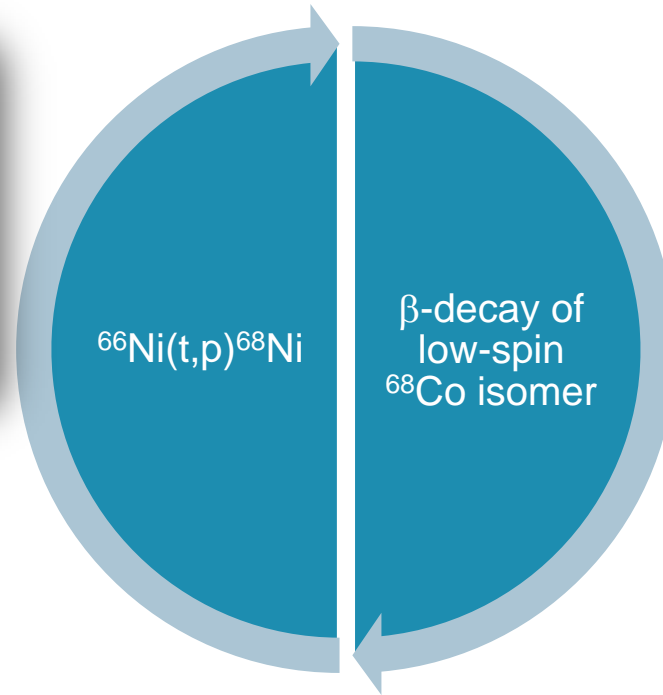
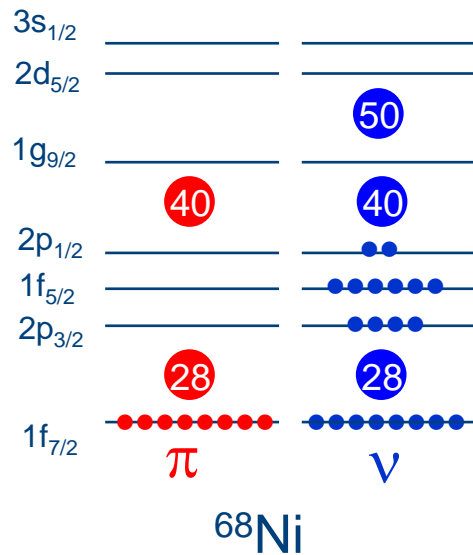


# Experimental approach: 2 complementary data sets

IS504

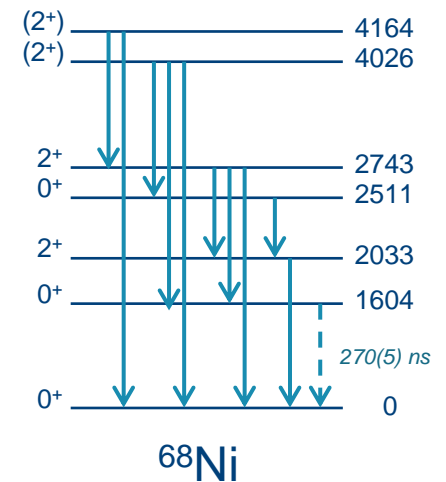
- Nature of **0<sup>+</sup> states** in <sup>68</sup>Ni  
→ 2ν-2h
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*PhD thesis, J. Elseviers*



IS467 (A=68)

- Revised decay scheme
- β-γ-E0 coincidences
- 2<sup>+</sup> to 0<sup>+</sup> connections
- Exp. **B(E2) ratios**



# $\beta$ -decay studies in the $^{68}\text{Ni}$ region using resonant laser ionization

Facility: ISOLDE (p (1.4GeV)  $\rightarrow$  UC<sub>x</sub>)  
*thick & hot target*

- **A=68**

- **Pure Mn sources**

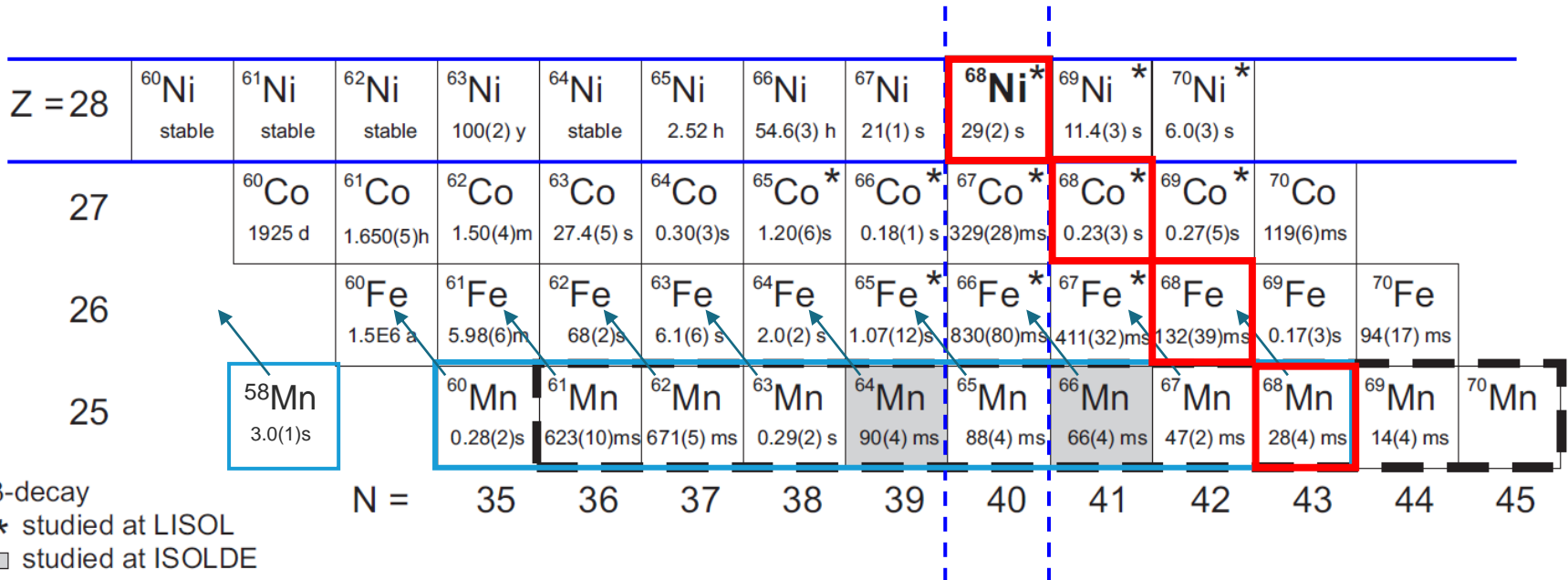
- Z selection: Laser ionisation (RILIS)
- A/Q selection: Spectrometer (HRS)

- Previous exp. : 2 isomers in  $^{68}\text{Co}$

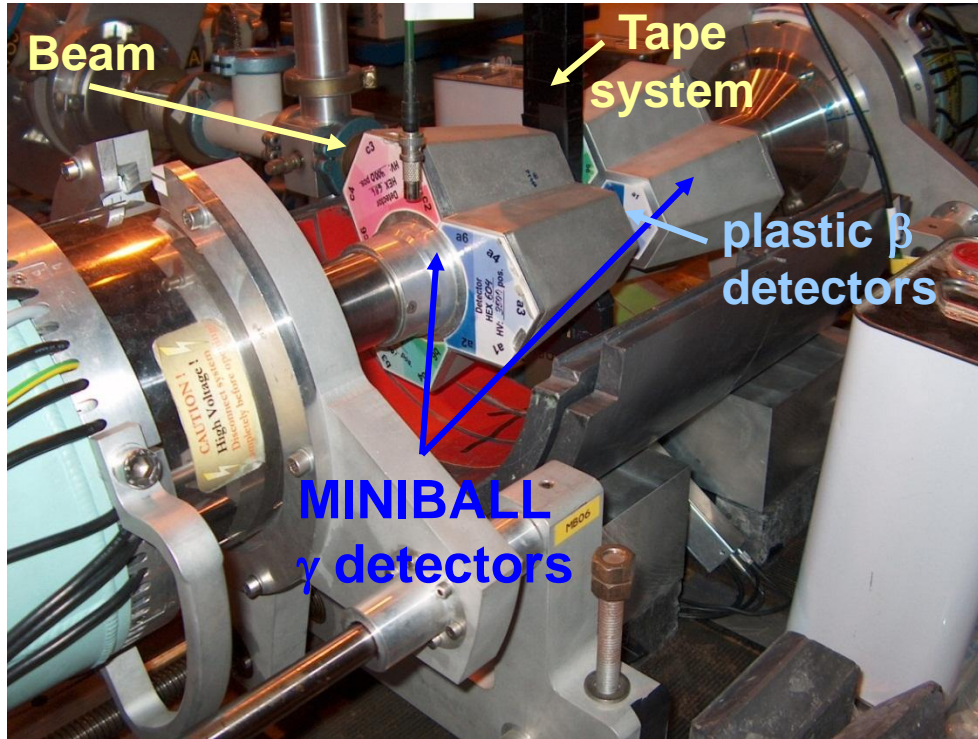
- (7<sup>-</sup>)  $T_{1/2} = 0,23(3)$  s

- **(1<sup>+</sup>,3<sup>+</sup>)  $T_{1/2} = 1,6(3)$  s**

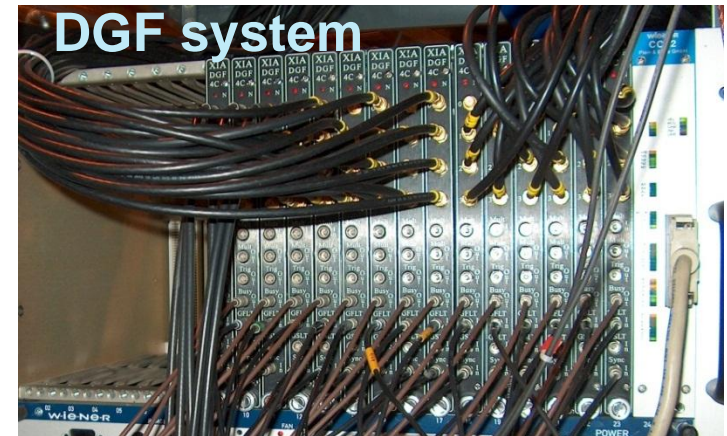
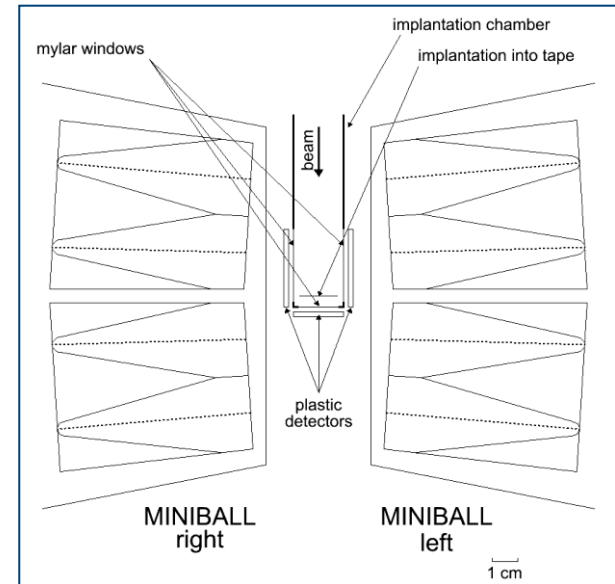
- ISOLDE: **Selectivity of  $^{68}\text{Fe}_{gs}$  (0<sup>+</sup>) decay**



# LISOL $\beta$ - $\gamma$ detection setup at ISOLDE



## Top view



**MINIBALL:** 5.8% photo-peak efficiency at 1.332 MeV

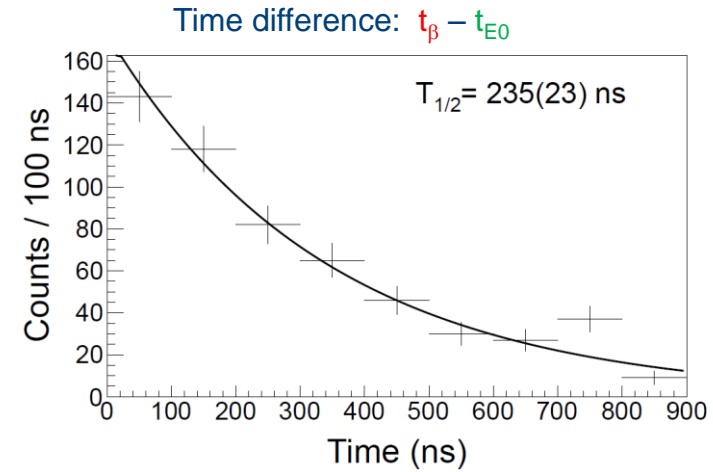
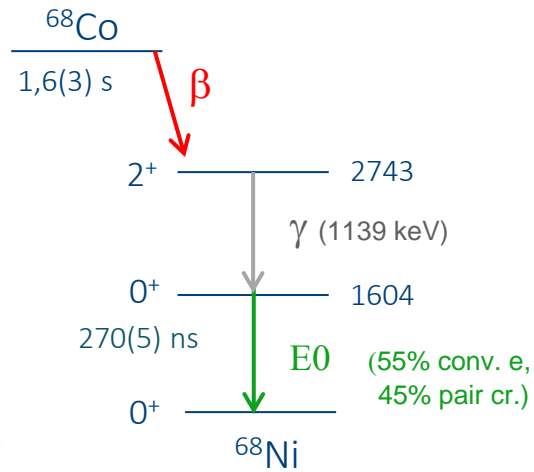
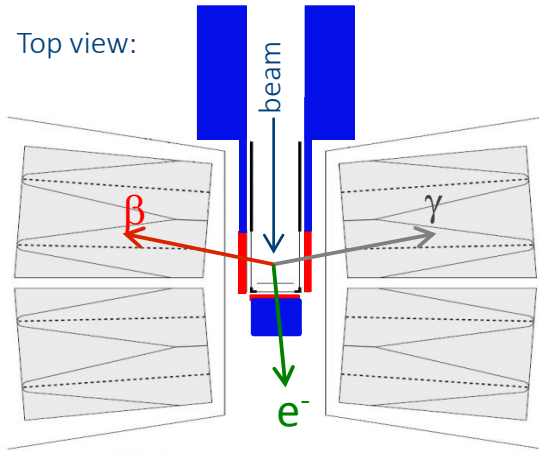
**3 plastic detectors:** 50% beta efficiency

**DGF system:** digital read-out on event-by-event basis

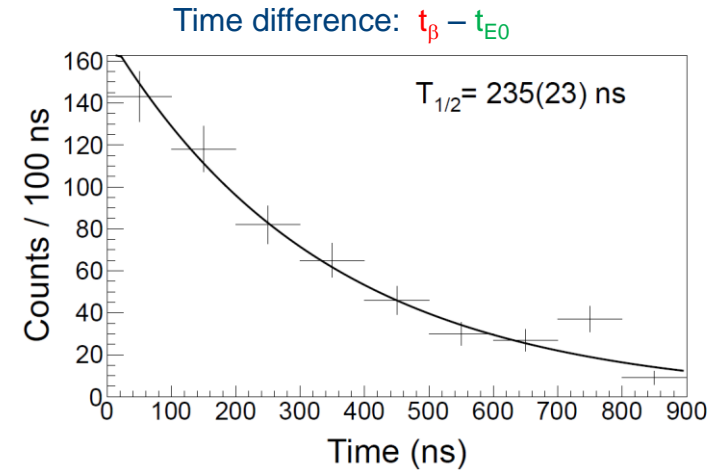
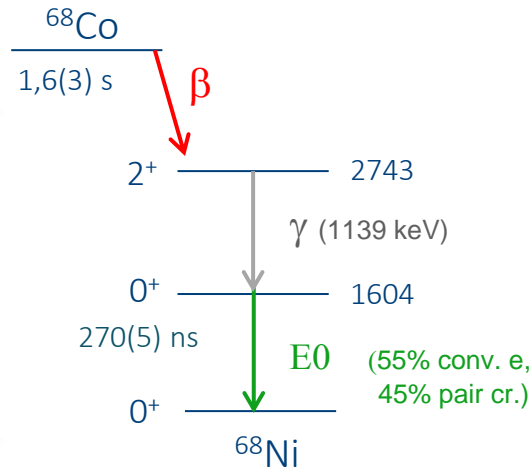
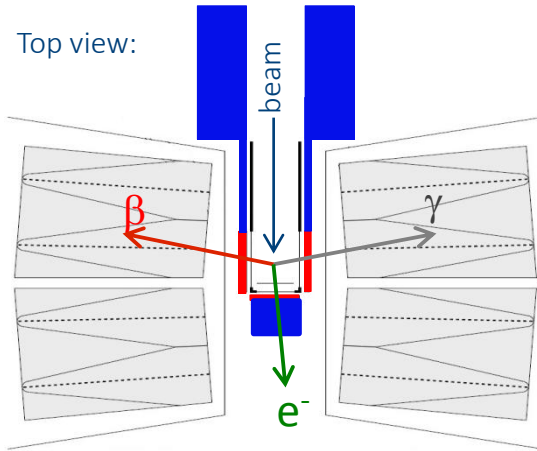
**Polyethylene-borax-lead-brass shielding**



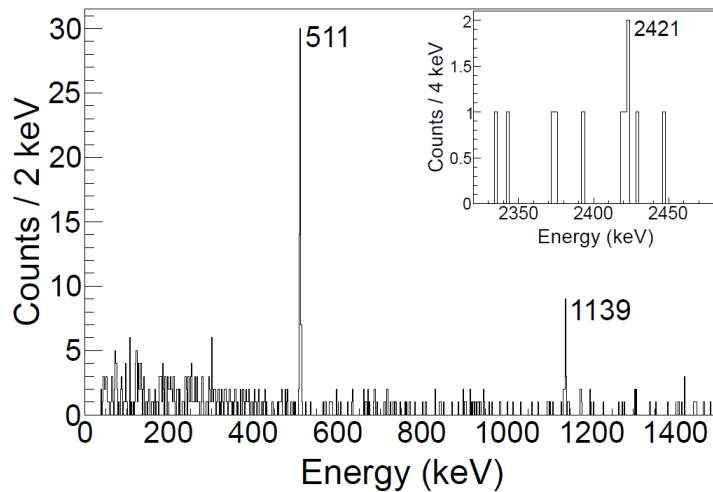
# Feeding of $0^+_2$ state in $^{68}\text{Ni}$ : $\beta$ - $\gamma$ -E0 coincidences



# Feeding of $0^+_2$ state in $^{68}\text{Ni}$ : $\beta$ - $\gamma$ -E0 coincidences



Coincident  $\gamma$  rays



## $\beta$ - $\gamma$ -E0 coincidences (590 events) :

- Highly selective signal
- 1139 and 2421 keV feeding  $0^+_2$
- $E(0^+_2) = 1603,6(6)$  keV in agreement

1603,5(3) in [1].

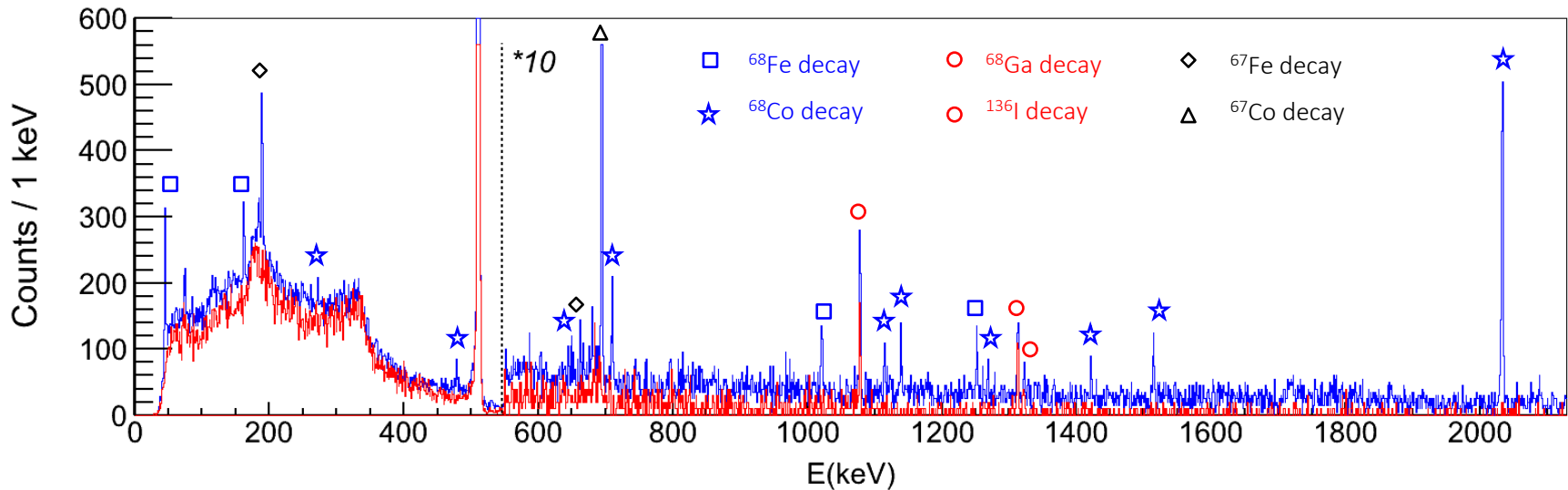
1605(3) in [2]

- $I_{\text{rel}}(0^+_2 \rightarrow 0^+_1) = 19(8) \%$

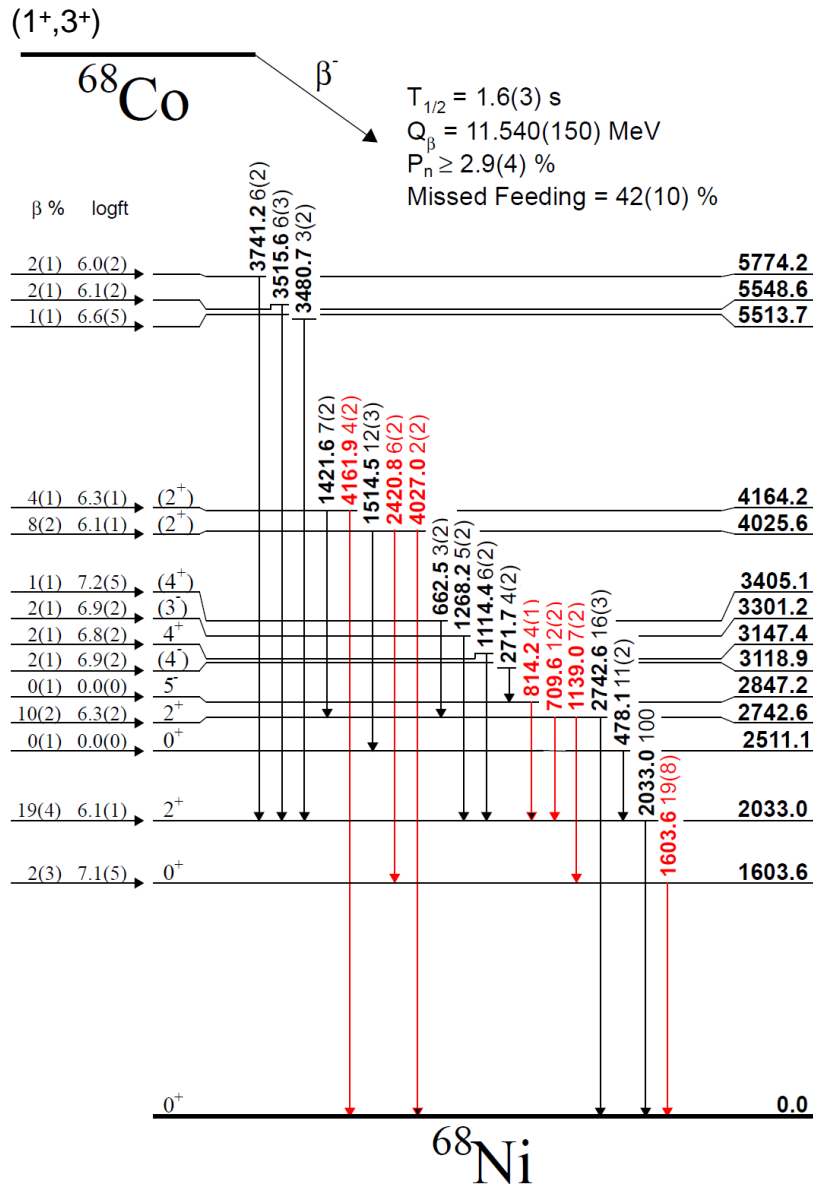
# $\beta$ - $\gamma$ coincidences

- Time condition:  $t_\beta - t_{pp}$  in [350,2200] ms  
→ to avoid  $^{68}\text{Mn}$  decay ( $T_{1/2} = 28(3)$  ms)

- Clean  $^{68}\text{Co}$  low-spin spectrum
  - Low bkg (shielding)
  - Laser ionisation (RILIS)
  - Mass separation (HRS)
  - Selectivity of the  $^{68}\text{Fe}_{gs}$  (0+) decay
- Grand daughter decay
  - 1/3 statistics previous LISOL studies [1]
- Beta-delayed n branches

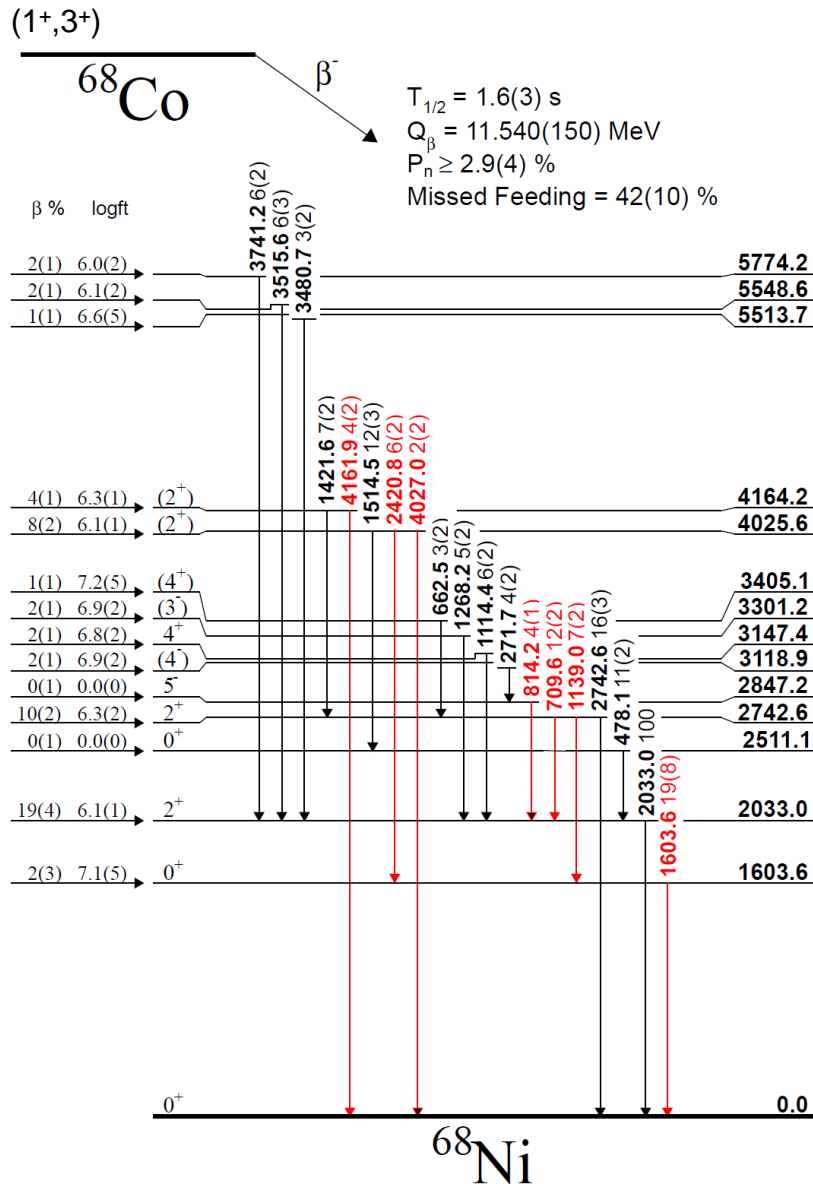


# Revised decay scheme



- **New:**
  - 710 keV intensity (clean, no high spin)
  - 1139 and 2421 keV placement
  - Removed 694 keV (after  $\beta$ -delayed n)
  - 814 keV intensity -  $5^-$  isomer
  - $I_{\text{rel}}(0^+_2 \rightarrow 0^+_1) = 19(8) \%$
- **Upper limits:**
  - $I_{\text{rel}}(0^+_3 \rightarrow 0^+_2) < 2(1) \%$
  - $I_{\text{rel}}(0^+_3 \rightarrow 0^+_2)$
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## Int. balance: test of completeness in the full $A=68$ chain

- Determination of missed feeding:
  - Direct  $\beta$  feeding of gs
  - Direct  $\beta$ -del.n feeding to gs or isomeric state
  - Missed E0 decay
  - Missed  $\gamma$  ray feeding to gs or isomeric states

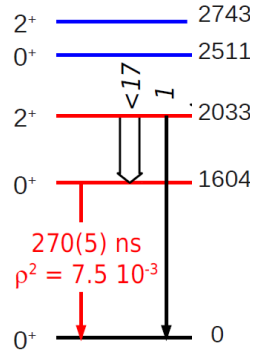
Missed feeding: 42(10)%

-> No conclusion on spin assignment from  $\beta$ -feeding

# B(E2) ratios

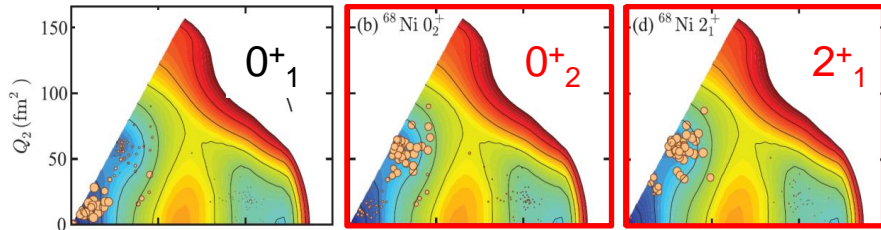
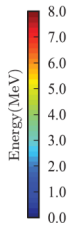
From experiment:

(2<sup>+</sup>) — 4164  
(2<sup>+</sup>) — 4026



<sup>68</sup>Ni

MCSM [2]



## Exp. VS SM calculations:

1 – Using the LNPS interaction [1]

2 – Monte-Carlo shell model calculations [2]

$$R = \frac{B(E2, 2_i^+ \rightarrow I^+)}{B(E2, 2_i^+ \rightarrow 0_1^+)}$$

## Main results:

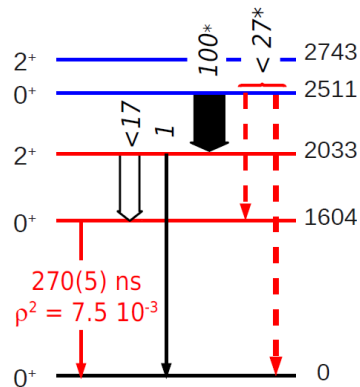
• 2<sup>+</sup><sub>1</sub> → 0<sup>+</sup><sub>2</sub>

$I_{\text{rel}} < 0.7(2) \% \rightarrow R < 17$  Th: R=12 (MCSM), 4 (LNPS)

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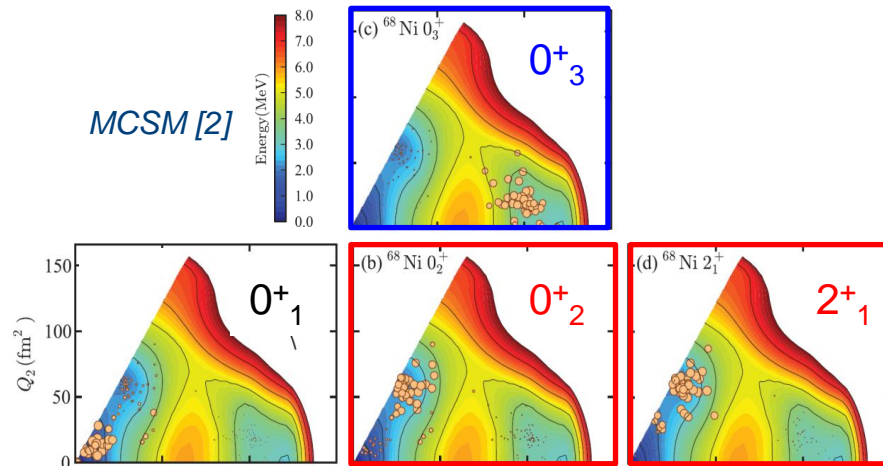
•  $2_1^+ \rightarrow 0_2^+$

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Th. partial  $T_{1/2}$  of **108 and 1.5 ns** (MSCM, LNPS)

Big difference : lifetime measurement needed.



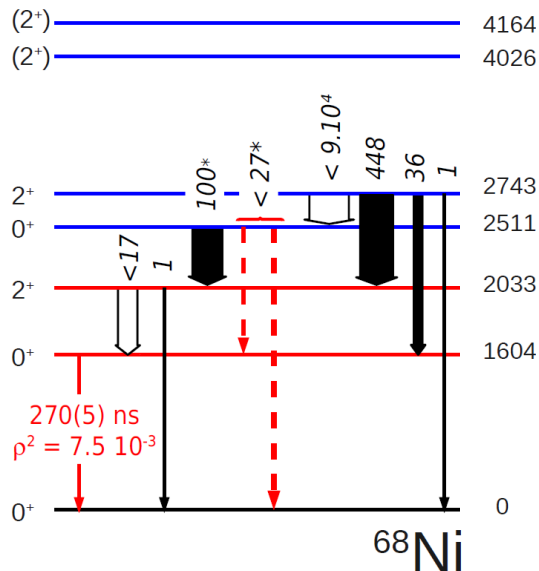
[1] S. Lenzi et al., PRC82 054301 (2010)

[2] Y. Tsunoda et al., PRC89 031301R (2014)

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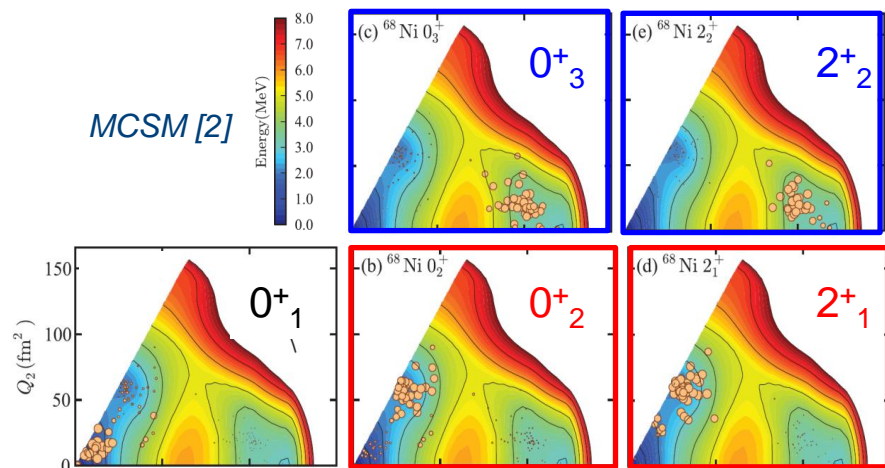
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- $2_2^+ \rightarrow 2_1^+$

$I_{rel} = 11(2)\% \rightarrow R = 448^{+185}_{-311}$  using [3]

Higher than published values [4]

R = 29 and 278 (MCSM, LNPS)



[1] S. Lenzi et al., PRC82 054301 (2010)

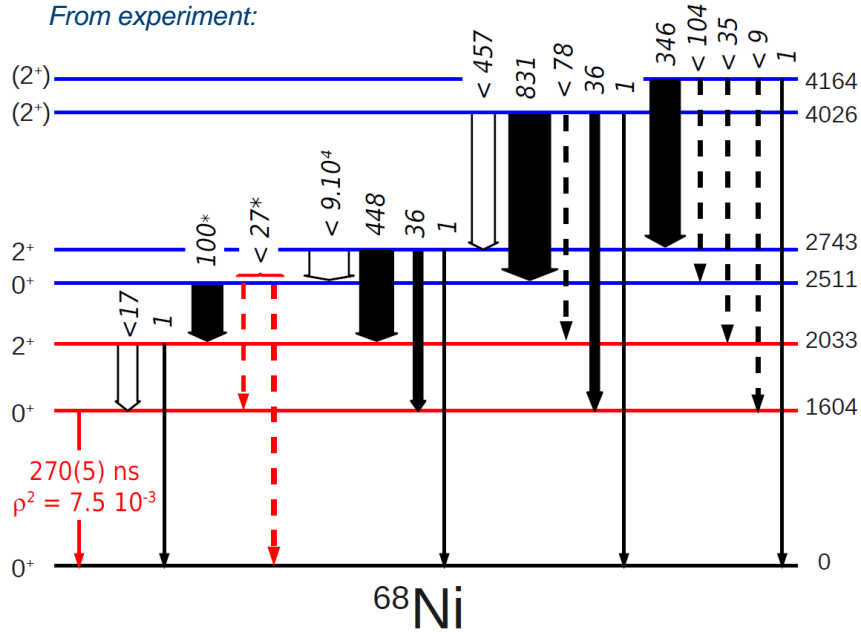
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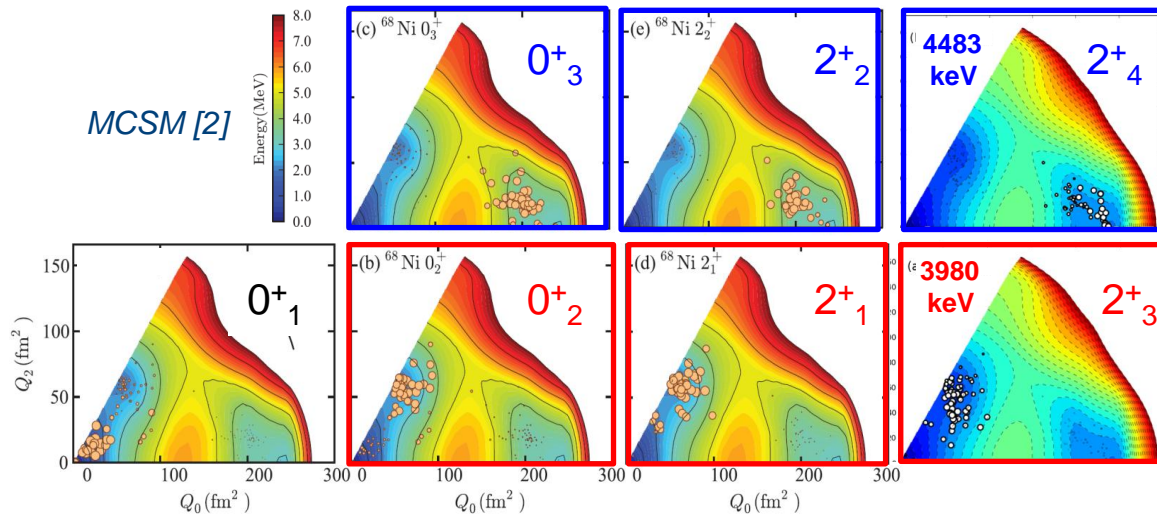
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$R = 29$  and  $278$  (MSCM, LNPS)

- $2_3^+$  and  $2_4^+$

Qualitative **agreement** for  $(2_4^+)$

Significant **discrepancies** for  $(2_3^+)$



[1] S. Lenzi et al., PRC82 054301 (2010)

[2] Y. Tsunoda et al., PRC89 031301R (2014)

Two-neutron transfer reaction:  $^{66}\text{Ni}(t,p)^{68}\text{Ni}$

# $^{66}\text{Ni}(t,p)^{68}\text{Ni}$ : Experimental Setup



Resonant Laser Ion Source

- Z-selectivity

Mass separation

- A/Q-selectivity

Post-acceleration (REX-ISOLDE)

## $^{66}\text{Ni}(t,p)^{68}\text{Ni}$

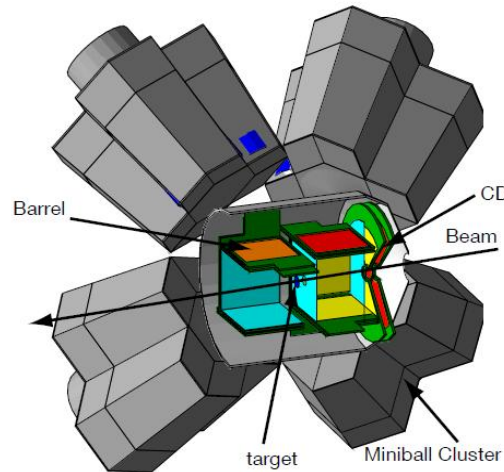
- Beam energy: 2.6 MeV/u
- Intensity  $\sim 2.0 \times 10^6$  pps
- Beam purity >86%
- Target : 500 mg/cm<sup>2</sup>  
<sup>3</sup>H loaded Ti (40 mg/cm<sup>2</sup> <sup>3</sup>H)
- Measurement time:  $\sim 100$ h

### • Proton detection in T-REX:

- Identification
- Energy
- Angular distribution

### • $\gamma$ detection in Miniball:

- Energy
- Angular distribution  
(Doppler correction)



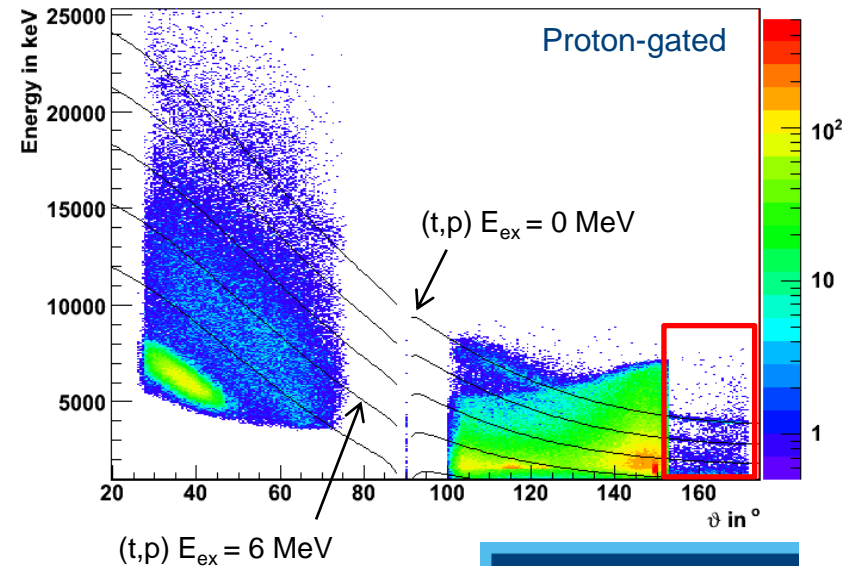
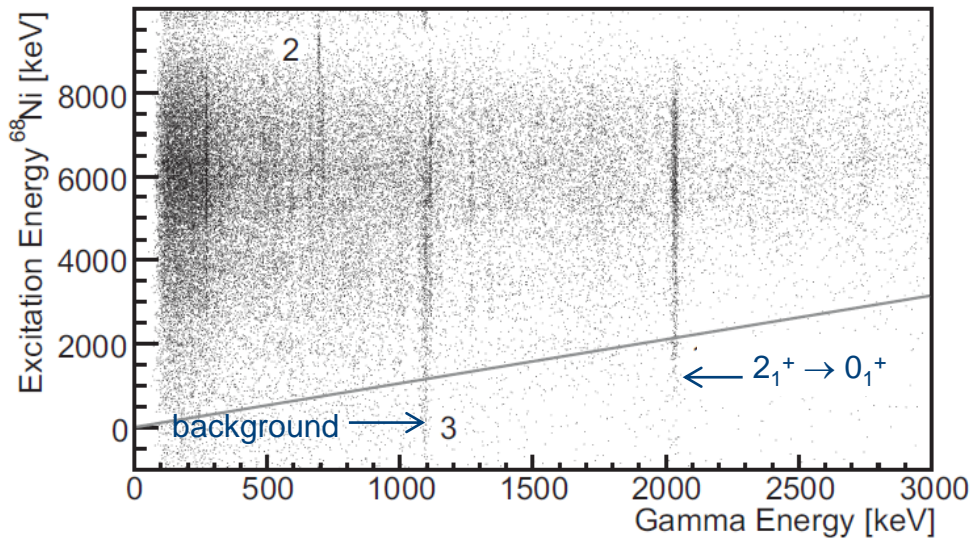
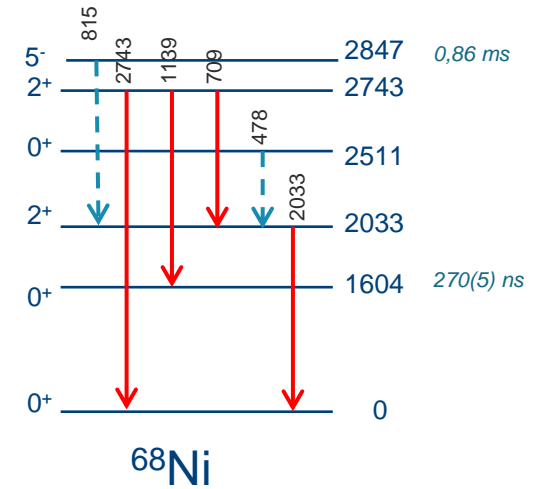
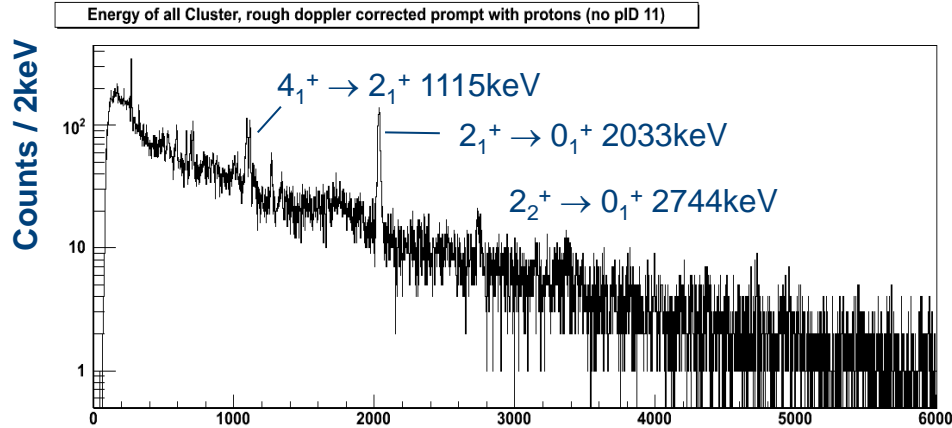
- 8 DE-E<sub>rest</sub> Barrel det.
- 1 DE-E<sub>rest</sub> CD detectors
- 8 Miniball triple (HPGe) clusters
- Crystals: 6-fold segmented
- 5% efficiency at 1.33 MeV

# ${}^3\text{H}({}^{66}\text{Ni},\text{p}){}^{68}\text{Ni}$ : Results

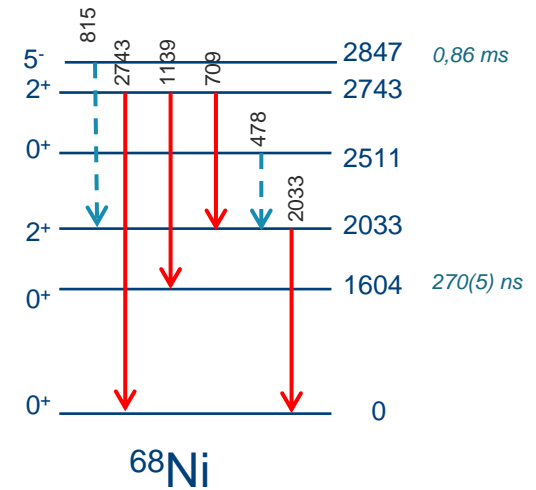
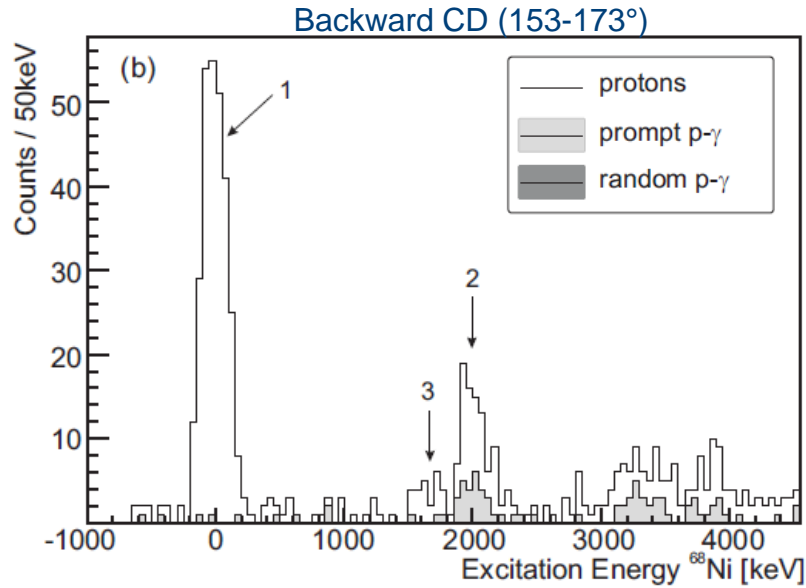
${}^{66}\text{Ni}({}^3\text{H},1\text{H}){}^{68}\text{Ni}$

$Q = 5.12$  MeV

## Proton - gamma coincidences



# $^3\text{H}(^{66}\text{Ni},\text{p})^{68}\text{Ni}$ : Backward CD



## CD data only

- Population of  $0_2^+$  and  $2_1^+$  states

$E = 1621(28)$  keV - **4.8(16) % of gs**

$E = 2033(10)$  keV - **28(4) % of gs**

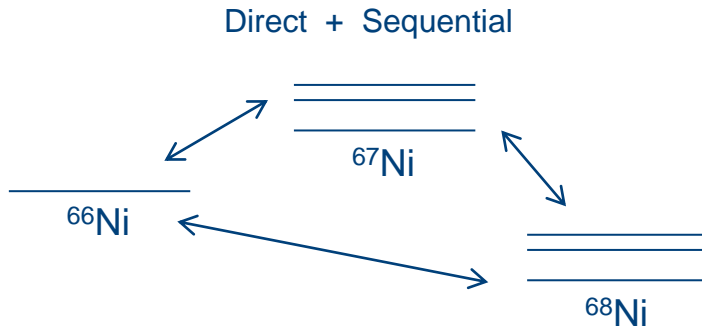
- Non-observed direct population of  $0_3^+$ ,  $2_2^+$  and  $2_3^+$  states

$0_3^+$  (2512 keV) < 2% based on 478 keV transition

$2_2^+$  (2744 keV) < 4% based on 709 keV transition

$2_3^+$  (4026 keV) < 3% based on 1515 keV transition

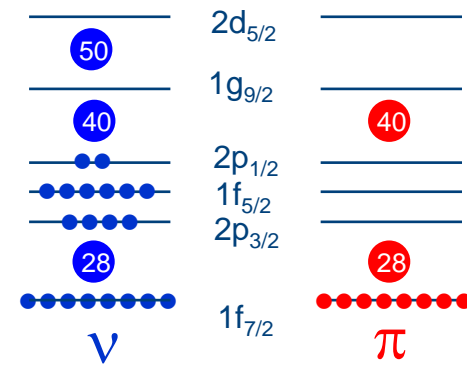
## Two-neutron transfer :



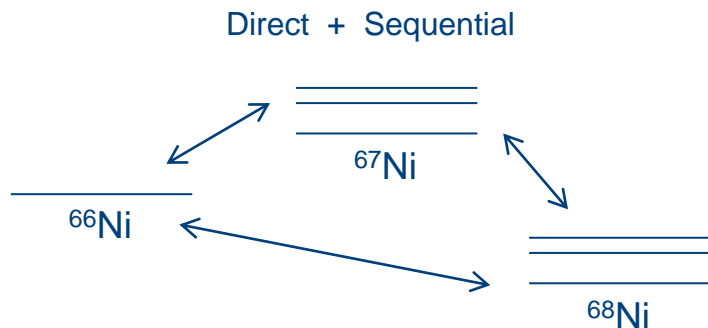
## Parameters of our calculations:

- Finite-range DWBA (code FRESCO<sup>[1]</sup>)
- Glob. Pot. :  $^3\text{H}+^{66}\text{Ni}$  and  $^1\text{H}+^{68}\text{Ni}$
- **Two nucleon overlap amplitudes (TNA's)**
  - Code: NUSHELL (A. Brown, MSU) [2]
  - Interaction jj44pna from [3]
  - Model space:  $f_{5/2}, p_{3/2}, p_{1/2}, g_{9/2}$
  - Calculated  $^{68}\text{Ni}$  energies

$$E(0^+_2) = 1593 \text{ keV}, E(2^+_1) = 2077 \text{ keV}$$



## Two-neutron transfer :

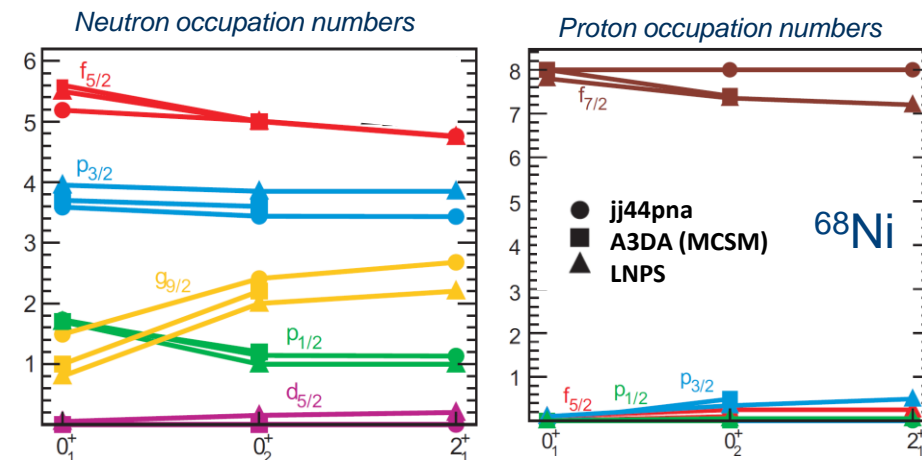
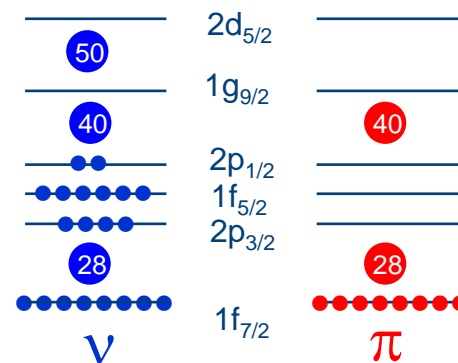


### Parameters of our calculations:

- Finite-range DWBA (code FRESCO<sup>[1]</sup>)
- Glob. Pot. :  $^3\text{H}+^{66}\text{Ni}$  and  $^1\text{H}+^{68}\text{Ni}$
- Two nucleon overlap amplitudes (TNA's)

- Code: NUSHELL (A. Brown, MSU) [2]
- Interaction jj44pna from [3]
- Model space:  $f_{5/2}, p_{3/2}, p_{1/2}, g_{9/2}$
- Calculated  $^{68}\text{Ni}$  energies

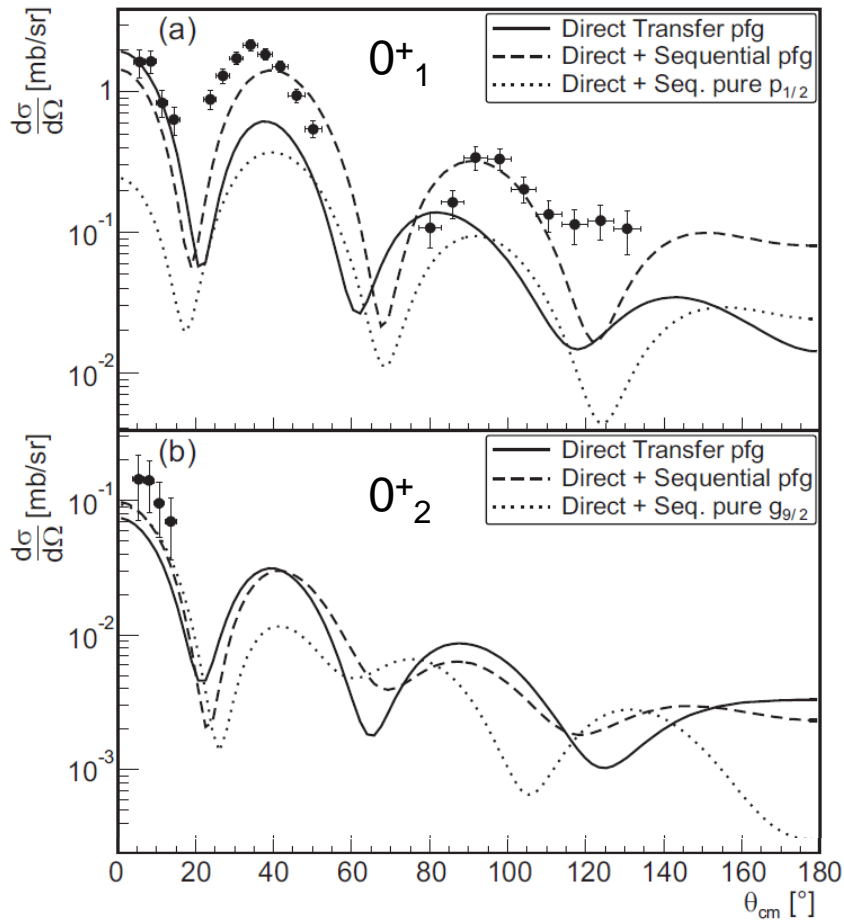
$$E(0^+_2) = 1593 \text{ keV}, E(2^+_1) = 2077 \text{ keV}$$



Average number of neutrons in a given state:

jj44pna	$f_{5/2}$	$p_{3/2}$	$p_{1/2}$	$g_{9/2}$				
$^{66}\text{Ni}$ gs	4,53	3,34	1,07	1,06				
$^{68}\text{Ni}$ gs	5,19	+0,66	3,59	+0,25	1,73	<b>+0,66</b>	1,49	+0,43
$^{68}\text{Ni}$ $0^+_2$	5,01	+0,48	3,44	+0,10	1,14	+0,07	2,41	<b>+1,35</b>

# $^{66}\text{Ni}(^3\text{H},p)^{68}\text{Ni}$ : Angular distributions



## Conclusions:

- Reasonable agreement th/exp for  $0^+_{1,2}$  states

Small CM angles

Th:  $\sigma(0^+_{2}) / \sigma(0^+_{1})$  in [3 ; 7] %

Exp:  $\sigma(0^+_{2}) / \sigma(0^+_{1}) = 4.8(16)$  %

→ Validation of structure input

- No scaling of theory to experiment
- Shape very sensitive to intermediate state properties

- First exp. evidence that  $0^+_{2}$  in  $^{68}\text{Ni}$  is a neutron excitation above N=40**



- **Future experiments at HIE-ISOLDE in the region of  $^{68}\text{Ni}$ :**
  - $^{80}\text{Zn}(d,p)^{81}\text{Zn}$ , [R. Orlandi *et al.*, INTC-2012-051 P-352]
  - $^{70}\text{Ni}(d,p)^{71}\text{Ni}$ , [J.J Valiente Dobon *et al.*, INTC-2012-050 P-351]
  - $^{68}\text{Ni}(d,p)^{69}\text{Ni}$ , [accepted]
    - $d_{5/2}$  single particle strength above  $N=50$
  - **Coulomb excitation of  $^{68}\text{Ni}$ ,  $^{70}\text{Ni}$** 
    - Absolute  $B(E2)$  values
  - **Decay of  $^{68}\text{Mn}$  with the new ISOLDE Decay Station** [accepted]
    - Lifetime of  $0^+_{3} \rightarrow 2^+_{1}$  transition (478 keV)