

# Projectile Fragmentation at the Fragment Separator

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for the **CHARMS** Collaboration

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# CHARMS

## Collaboration for High-Accuracy Experiments on Nuclear Reaction Mechanisms with Magnetic Spectrometers

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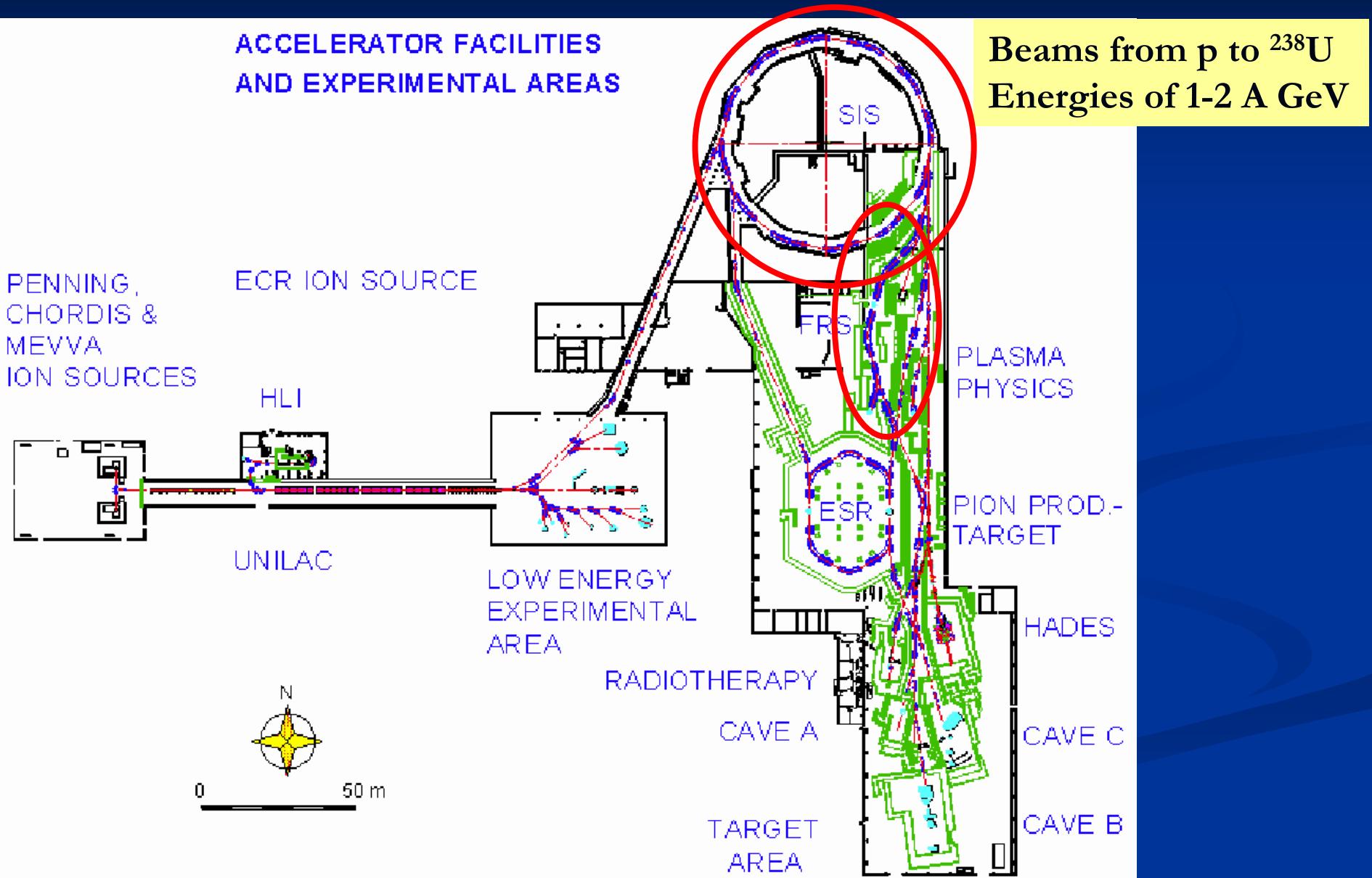
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# Topics

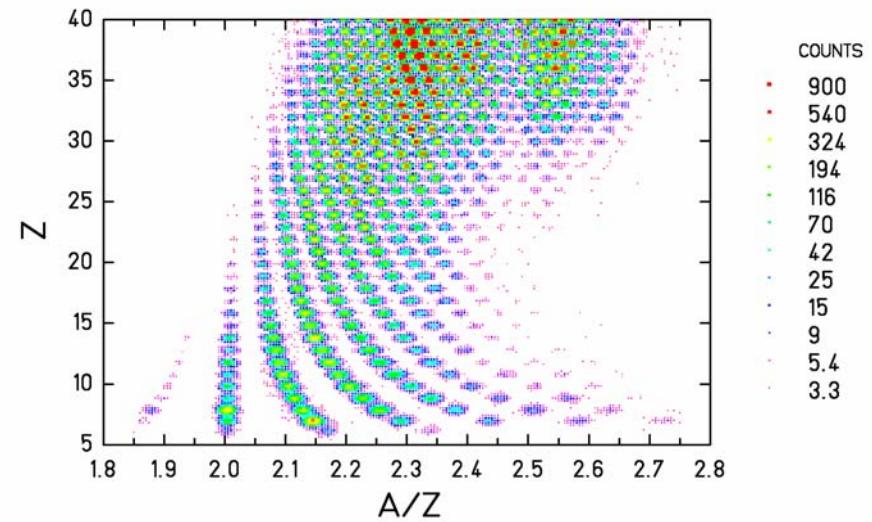
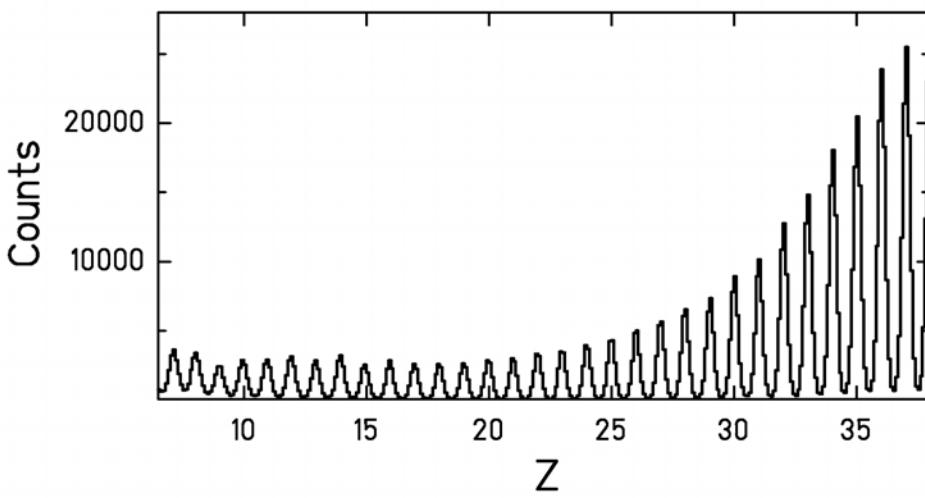
- Basic research:
  - Momentum dependence of the nuclear mean field (Talk of V. Henzl)
  - Thermal instabilities of nuclear matter (Talk of D. Henzlova)
  - Dissipation in Nuclear Matter
  - Very asymmetric fission
  - Structure effects in fission and fragmentation
  - Nuclide production in fragmentation and fission (Talk of J. Benlliure)
- Applications:
  - Nuclear astrophysics
  - Spin, alignment and polarisation in fragmentation
  - Transmutation of nuclear waste
  - Nuclear safety
  - Production of secondary beams (RIA, FAIR)

# The Heavy-Ion Synchrotron at GSI



# The FRagment Separator FRS

$^{238}\text{U} + \text{Ti}$  at 1  $A$  GeV



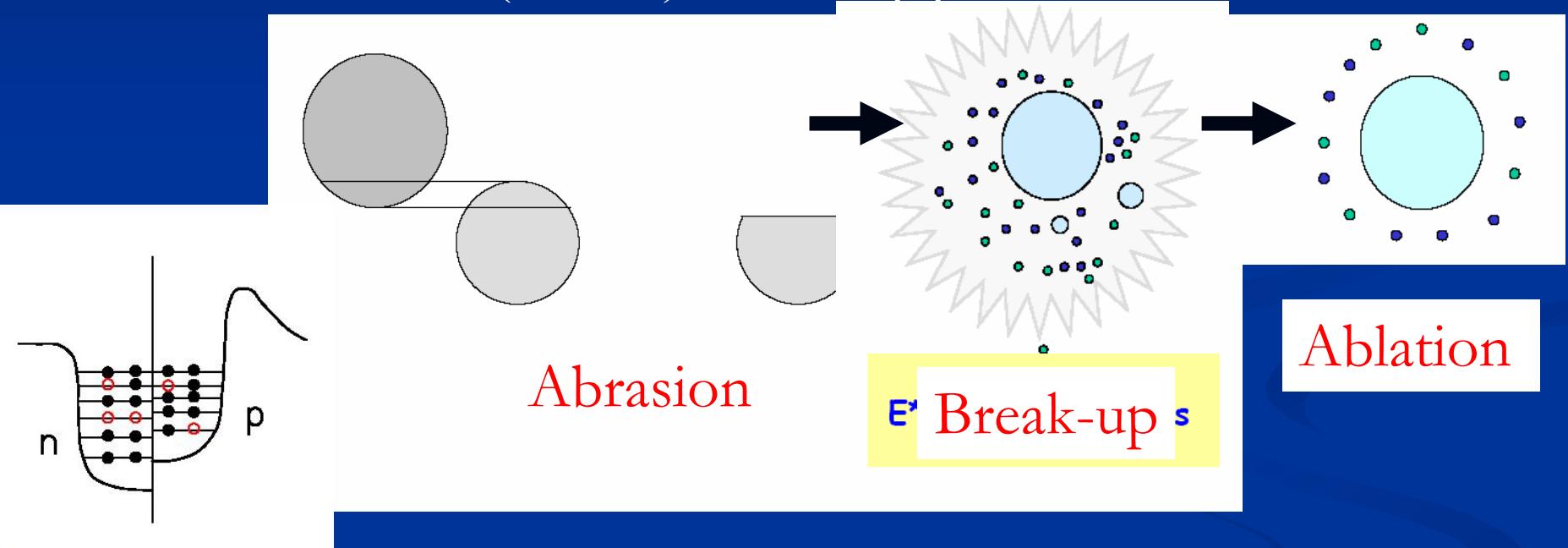
M.V. Ricciardi, PhD thesis

Two “natural” observables:

- Momentum distributions
- Cross sections

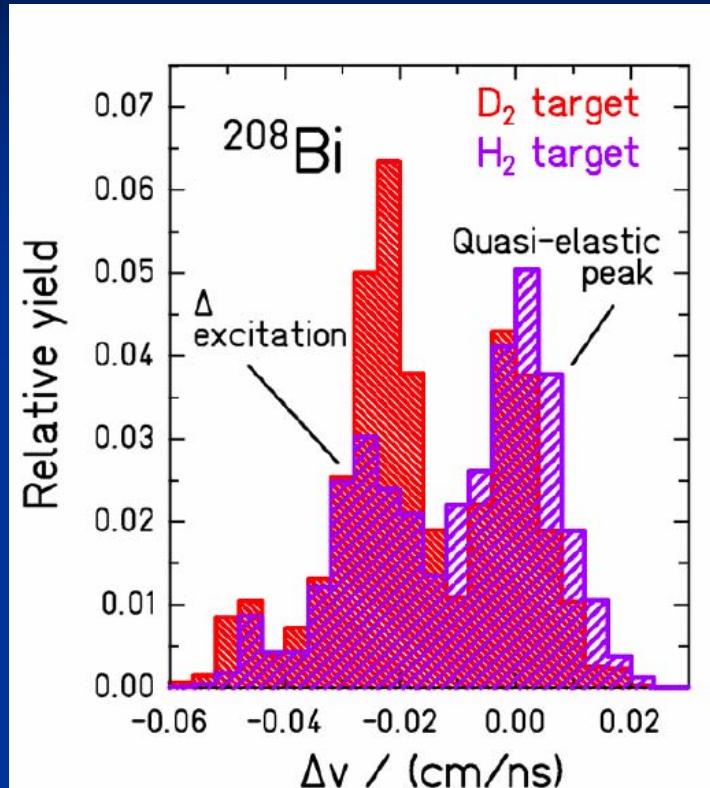
# Projectile Fragmentation

Two different time scales for abrasion and ablation →  
(at least) a two-step process!



- Abrasion of nucleons in a peripheral collision produces excited CN (prefragment).
  - high  $\langle E^* \rangle \approx 27$  MeV per abraded nucleon
- De-excitation through particle evaporation ( $n, p, \alpha$ ) or fission
- (relatively) low angular momenta (listen tomorrow to Z. Podolyak)

# Momentum Distributions



Nucleon excitation in projectile fragmentation

$^1\text{H}(^{208}\text{Pb}, ^{208}\text{Bi})\text{x}$  at 1 A GeV

$^2\text{H}(^{208}\text{Pb}, ^{208}\text{Bi})\text{x}$  at 1 A GeV

Velocity of  $^{208}\text{Bi}$  in the frame of the  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  projectile.

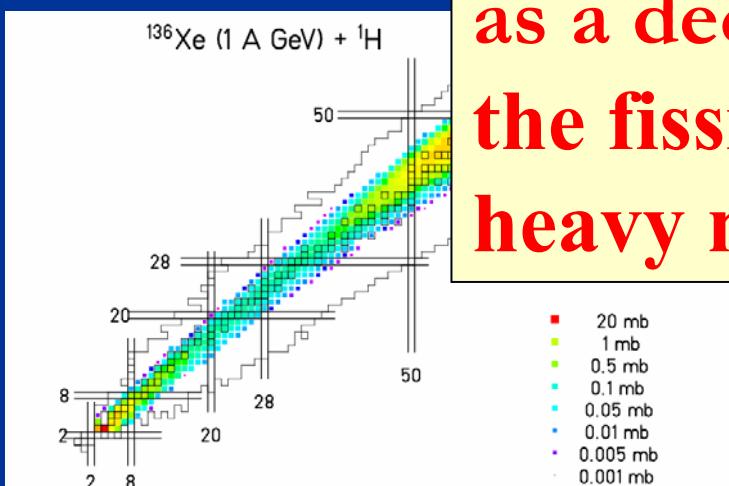
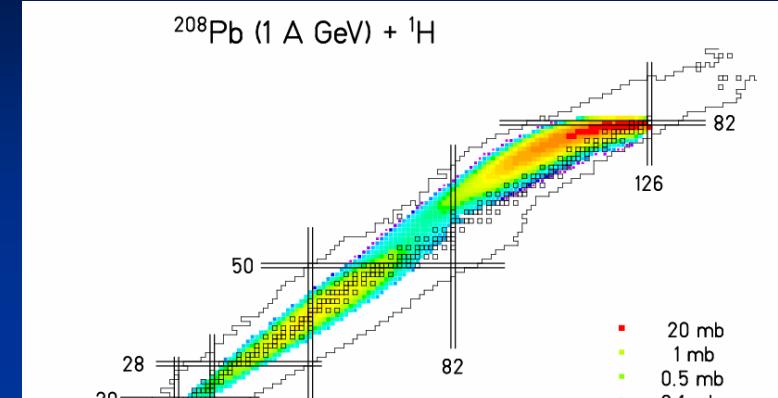
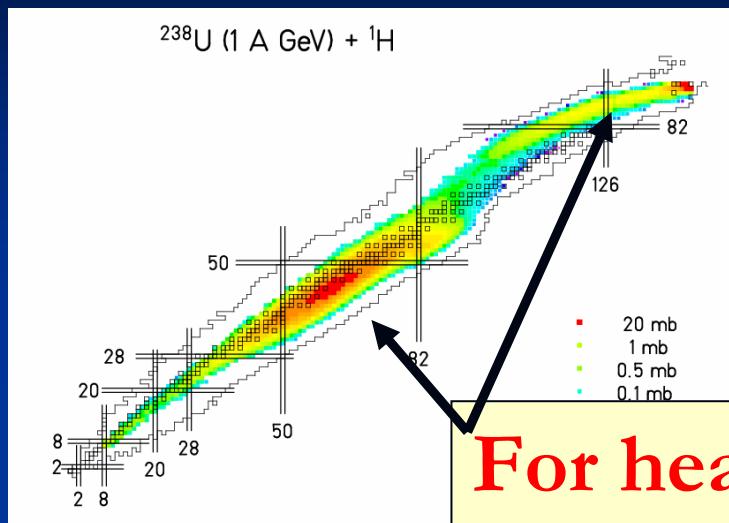
A. Kelić et al., PRC 70, 064608 (2004)

Two components can be distinguished:

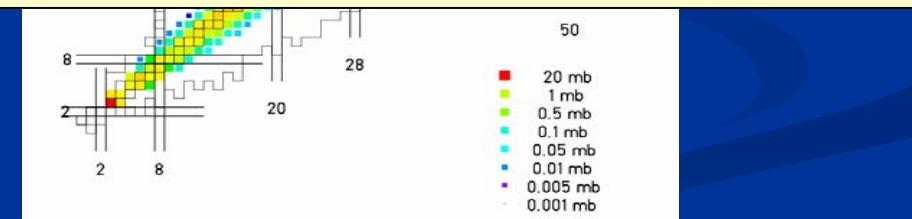
- Quasi-elastic scattering ( $p$  replaces  $n$  in  $^{208}\text{Pb}$ )
- $\Delta(1232)$  excitation (e.g.  $n \rightarrow \Delta^0 \rightarrow p + \pi^-$ )

Probability for  $\Delta$  excitation and energy in the nuclear medium can be deduced.

# Measured Nuclide Production in Fragmentation and In-flight Fission



For heavy projectile fission opens up as a decay channel → knowledge of the fission properties of unstable heavy nuclei is necessary



Excellent basis for model development

# Experiment

$^{238}\text{U}$  at  
1.0 A\*GeV

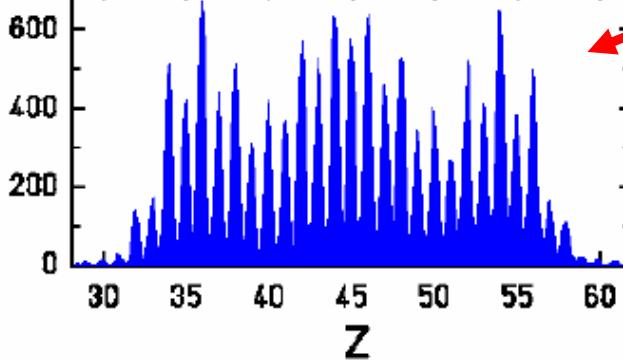
Be-Target  
Fragments  
 $X_1$

TOF  
Degrader  
 $X_2$

Secondary  
beam  
experiment

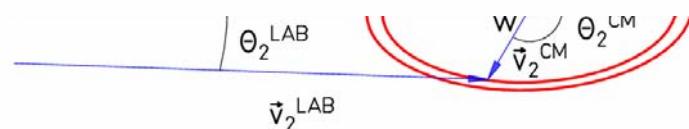
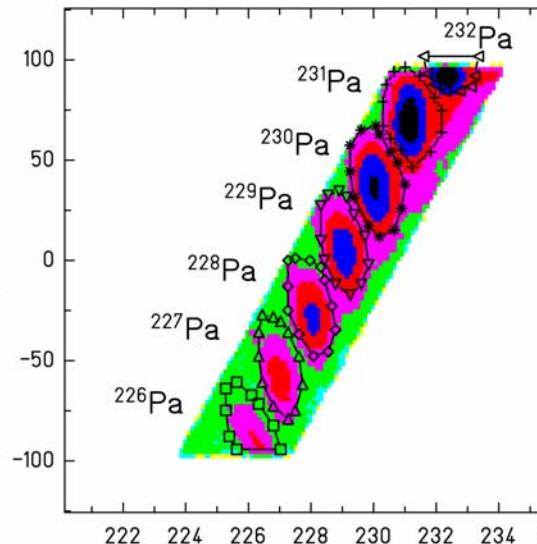
Counts / channel

$^{226}\text{Th}$



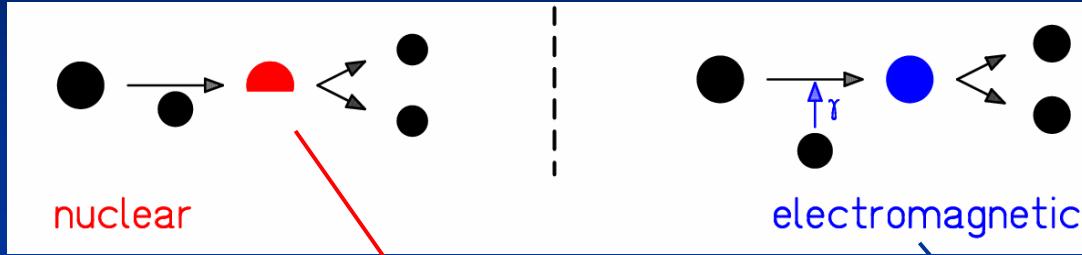
Charge distribution

$\text{TOF}_{1,2}$



Total Kinetic Energy (TKE) distribution

# Two Reaction Mechanisms



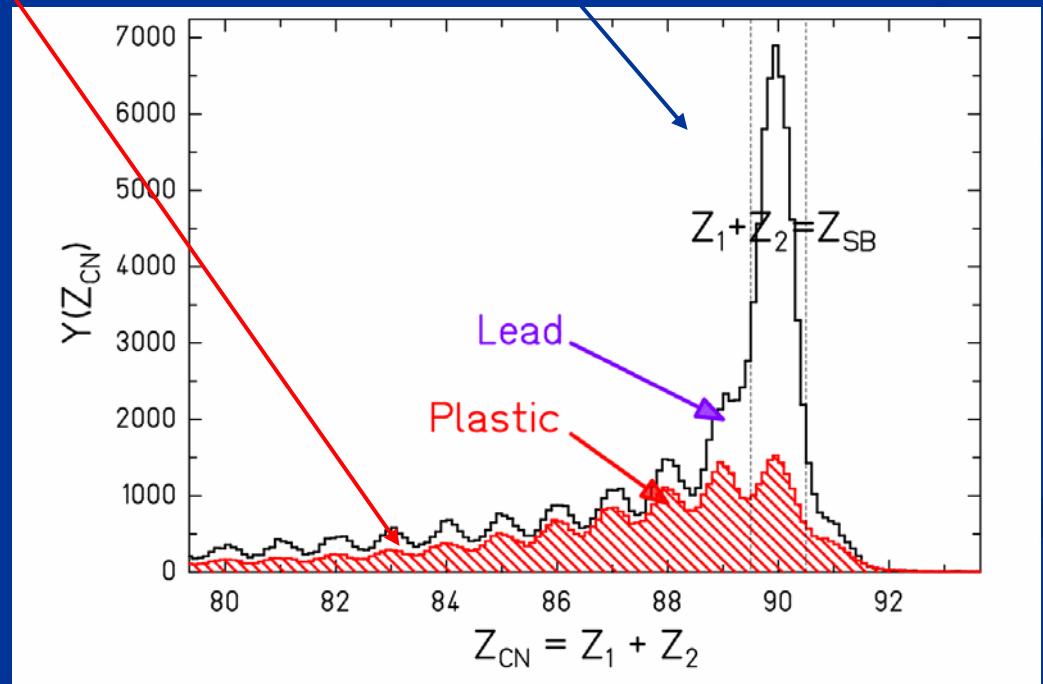
Plastic: only nuclear-induced fission

Pb: nuclear and electromagnetic-induced fission

Nuclear:  $Z_{CN} = Z_1 + Z_2$

Electromagnetic:  $Z_{CN} = Z_1 + Z_2$

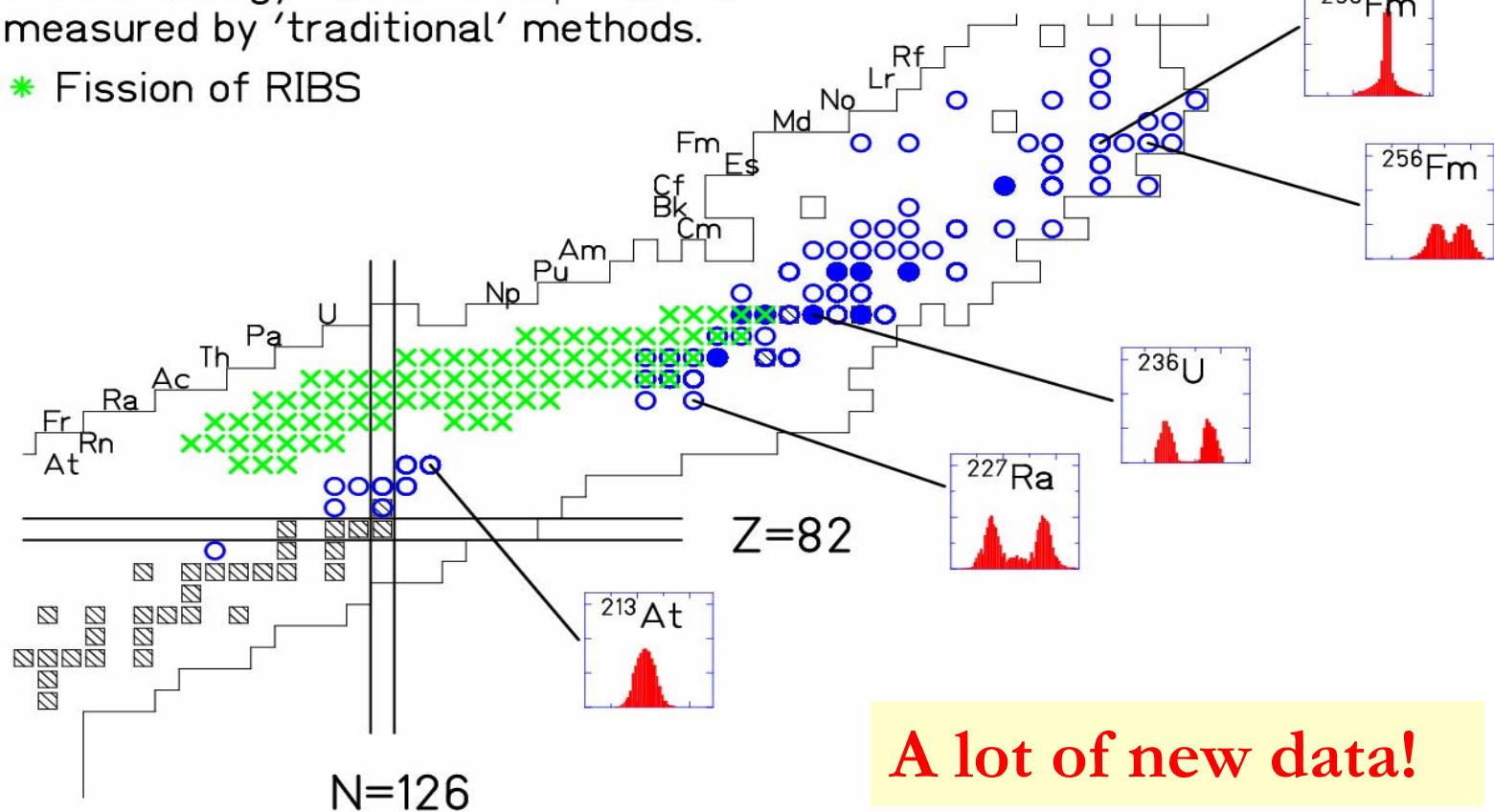
→ trigger for low excitation energies!



# Experimental Information on Fission at low E\*

○ Low-energy fission  $E^*-B_f < 10$  MeV  
measured by 'traditional' methods.

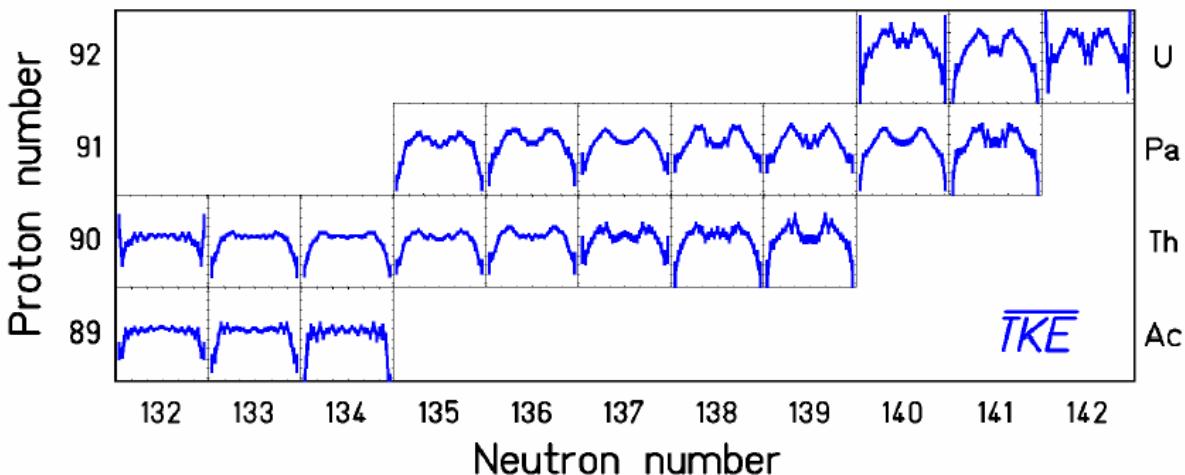
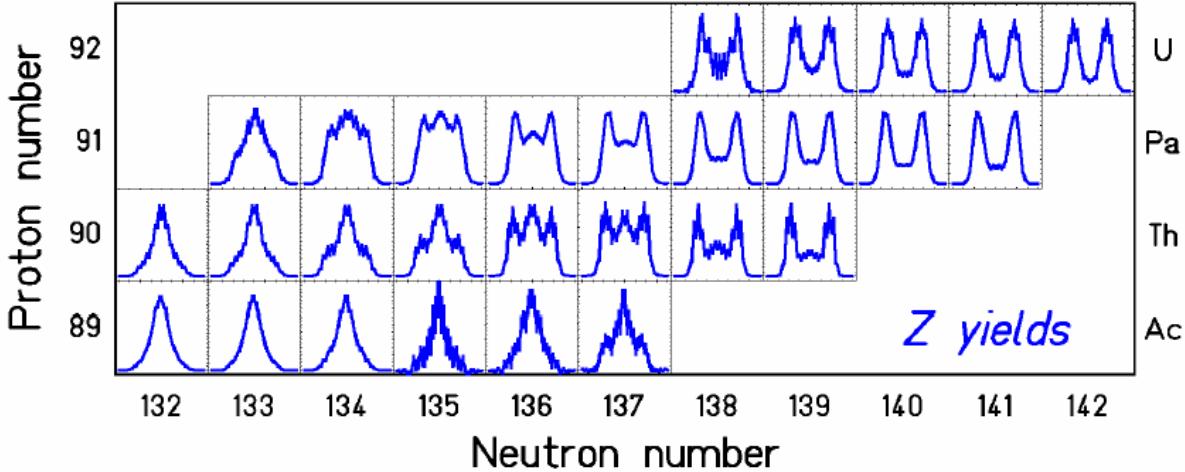
\* Fission of RIBS



N=126

A lot of new data!

# Transition from Symmetric to Asymmetric Fission

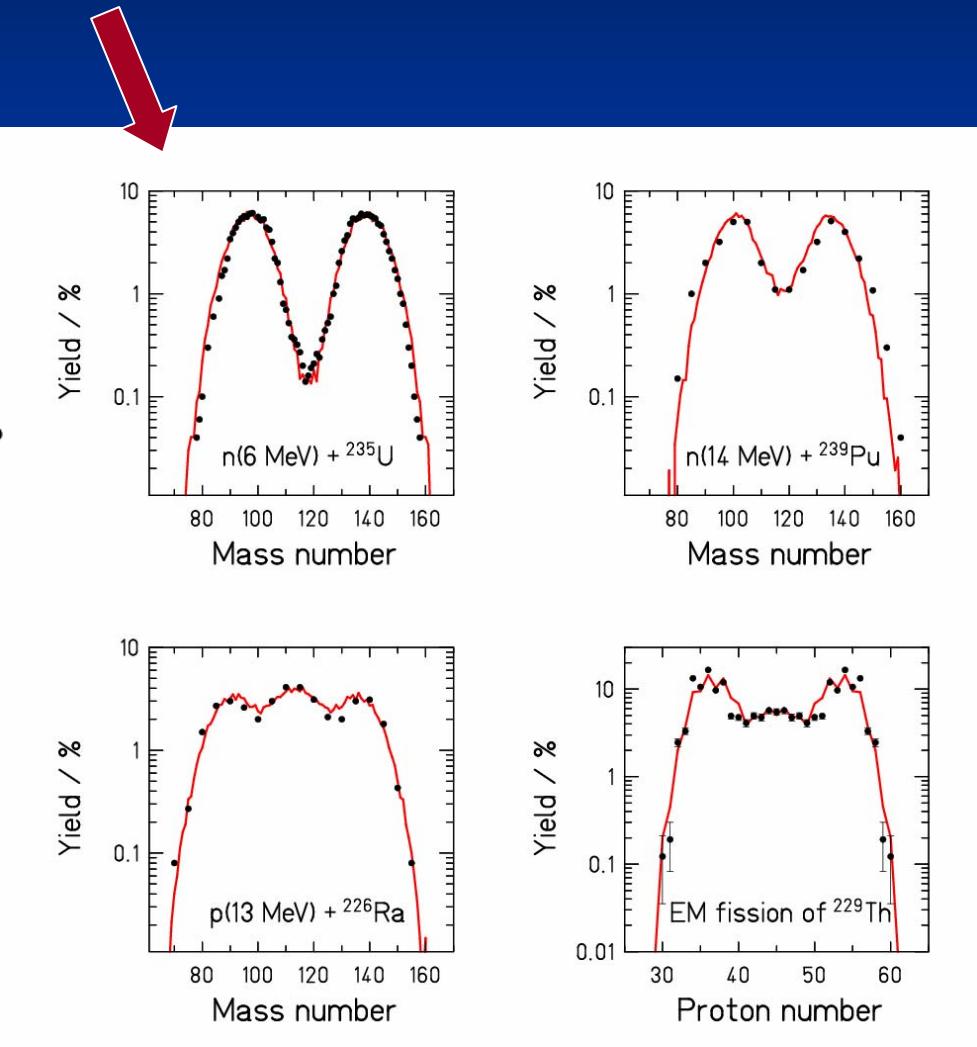
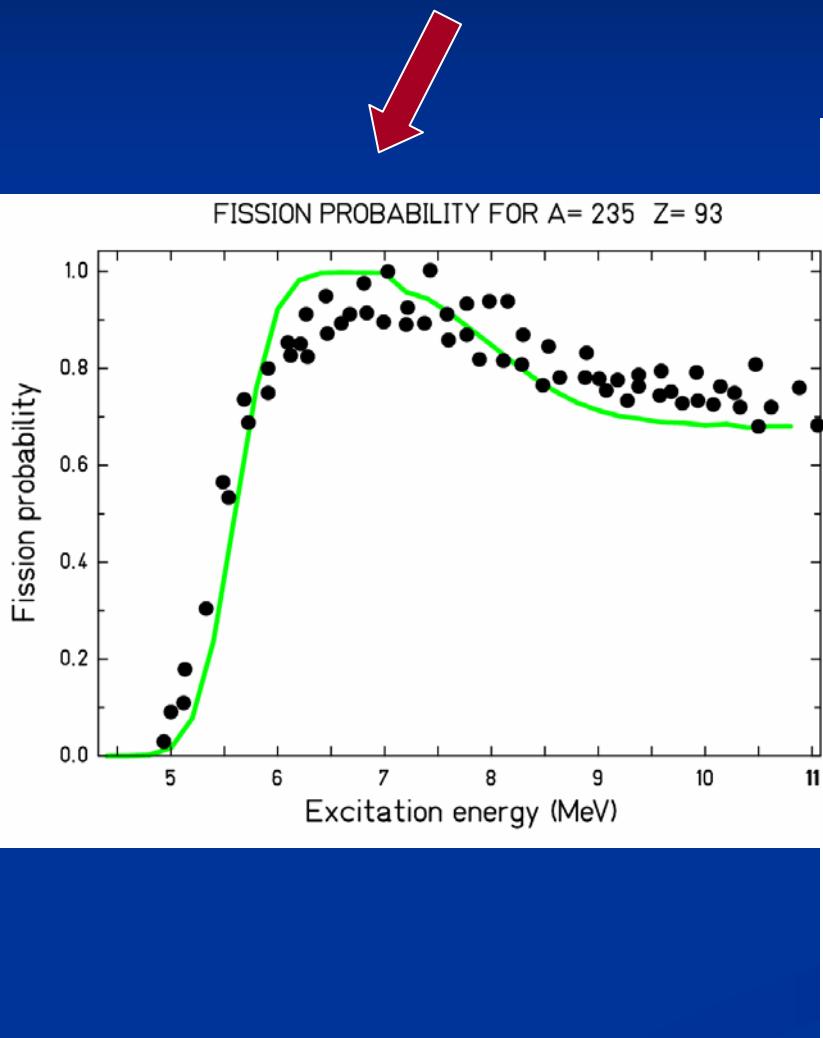


Data resulted in:

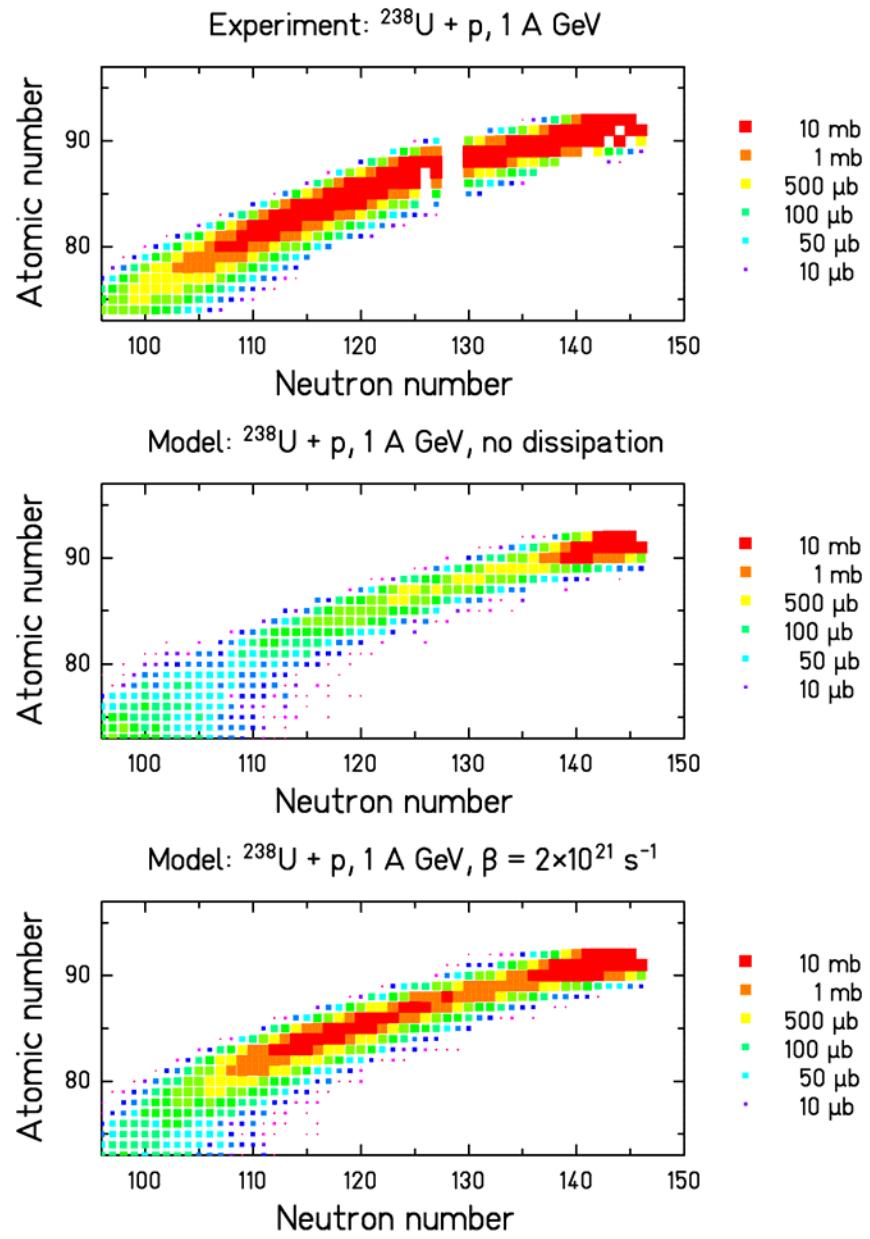
- o improved models for yield calculations
- o better understanding of low-energy fission: evolution of fission channels, influence of pairing, ...

# GSI code ABLA - Examples low-energy reactions

Excitation function and  $A$ - and  $Z$ - distributions:

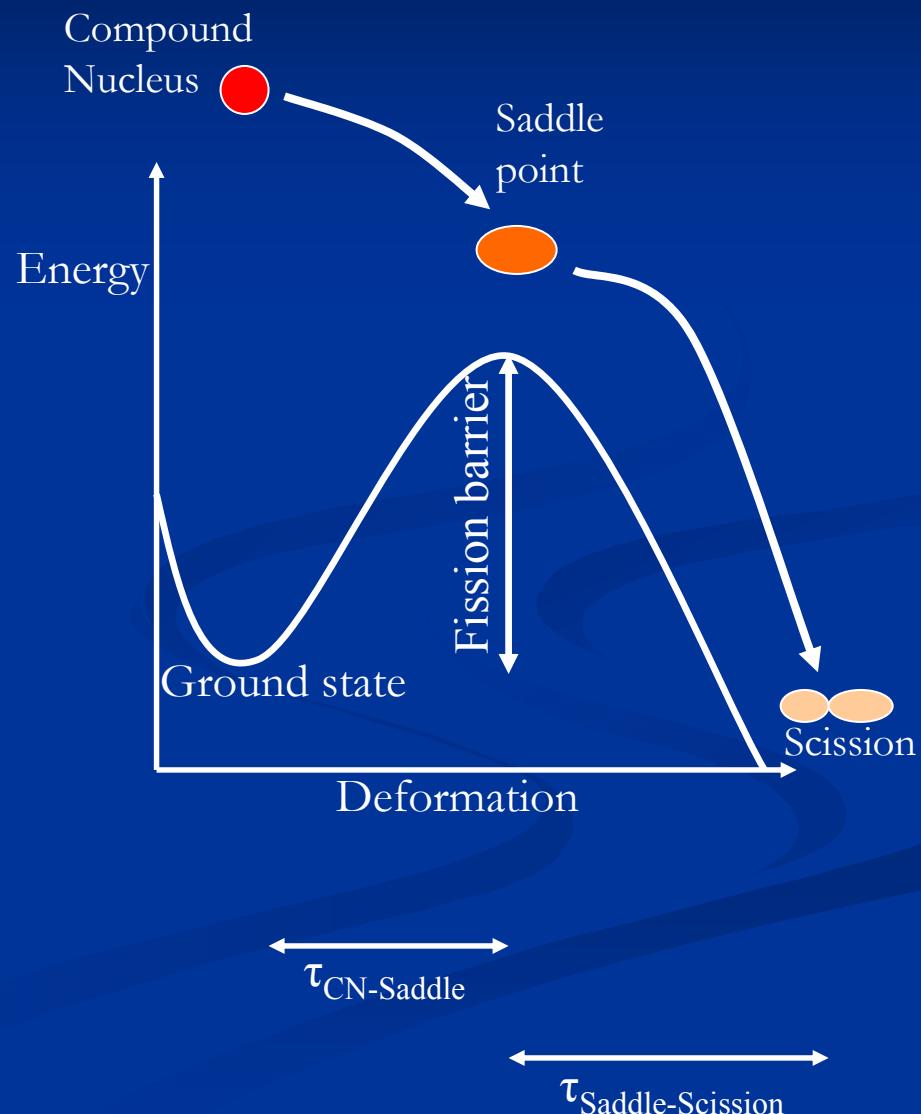
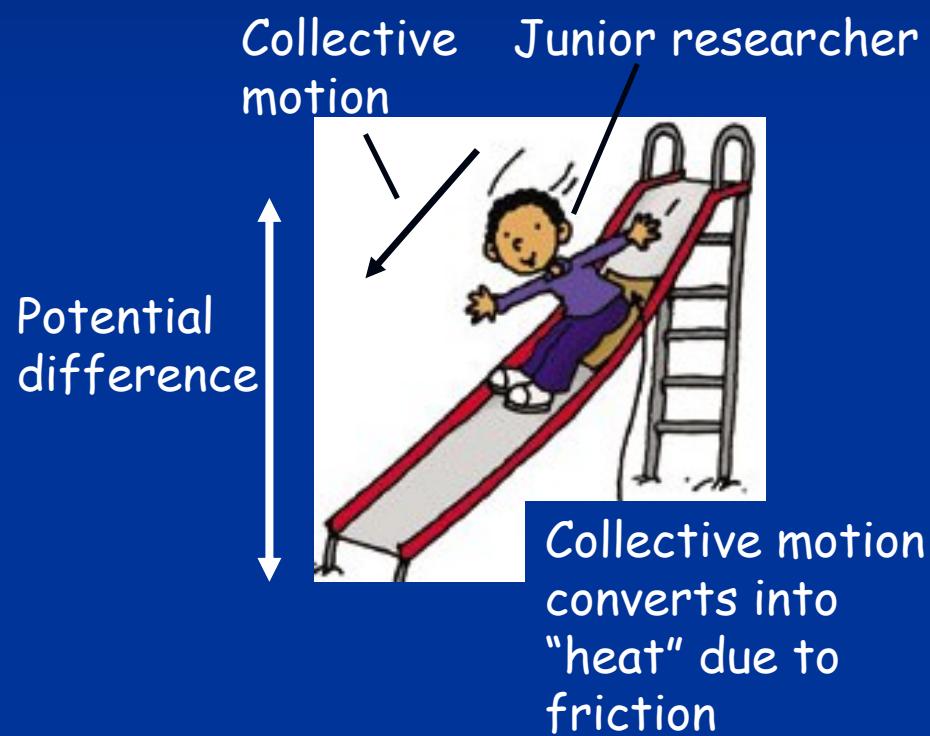


# Dissipation and Nuclide Production



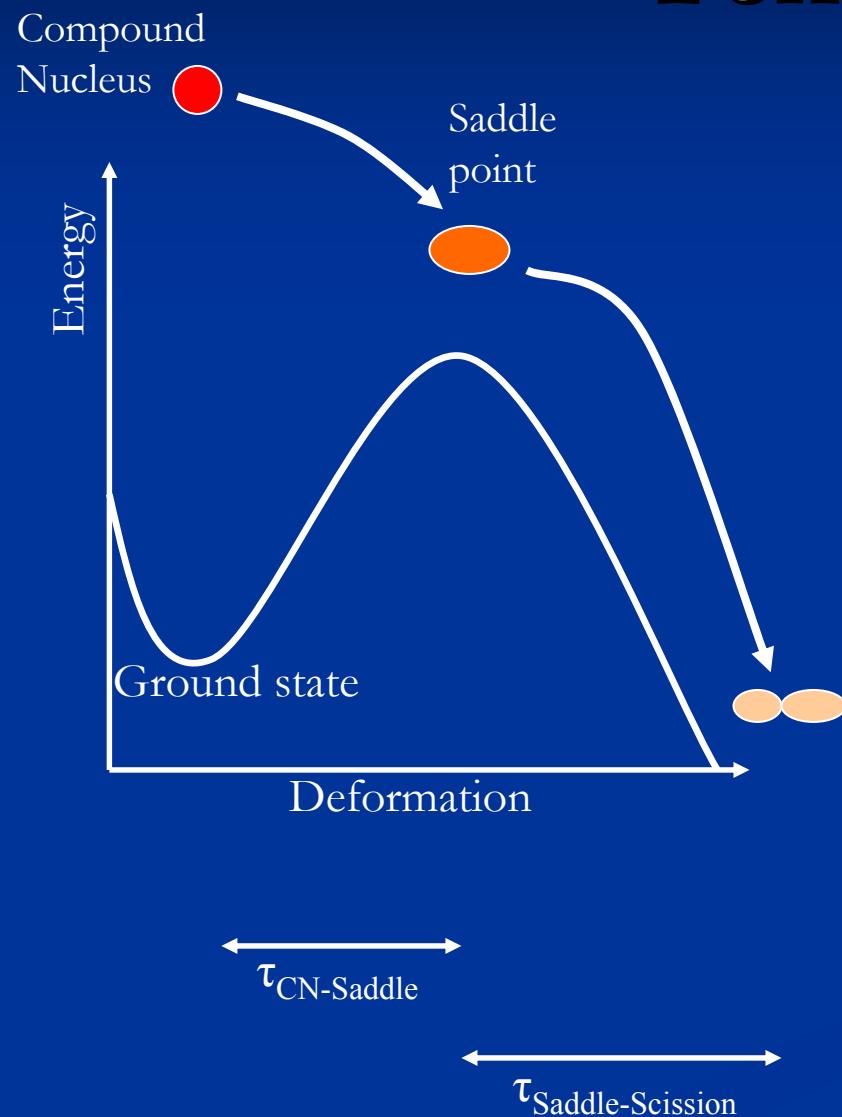
J. Taïeb et al.

# Dissipation and Nuclear Fission



What does this have to do with nuclear fission?

# Dissipation and the Saddle Point Temperature



$$\Delta E$$

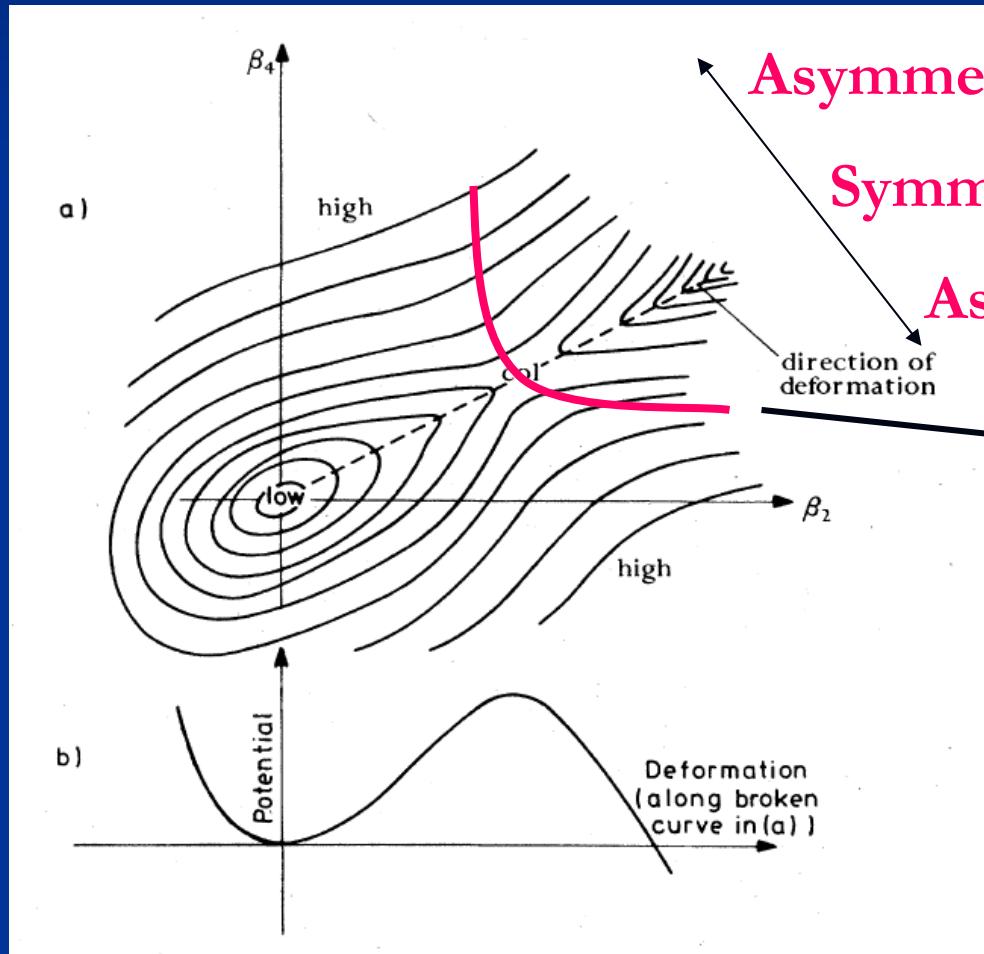
If there is any dissipation  $\tau_{\text{neutron}} < \tau_{\text{fission}}$   
→  $m_{\text{neutron}}$  and  $\Delta E$  get larger  
→  $T_{\text{saddle}}$  is smaller

**Reminder:** the connection  
between temperature and  
excitation energy

$$T_{nuc} = \sqrt{\frac{E^*}{a}}$$

Level density  
parameter

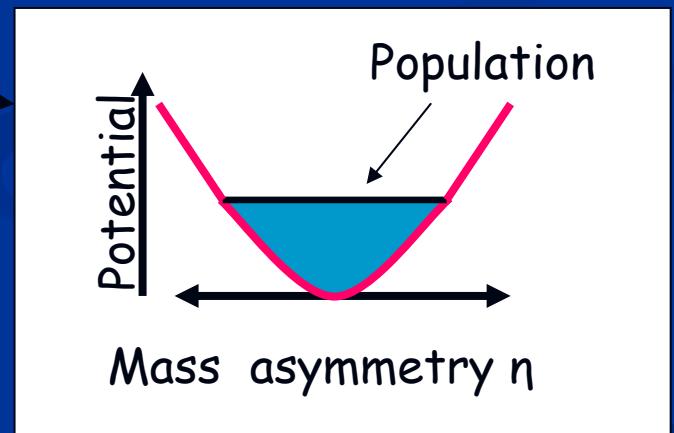
# Charge Width as a Thermometer



Asymmetric mass split

Symmetric mass split

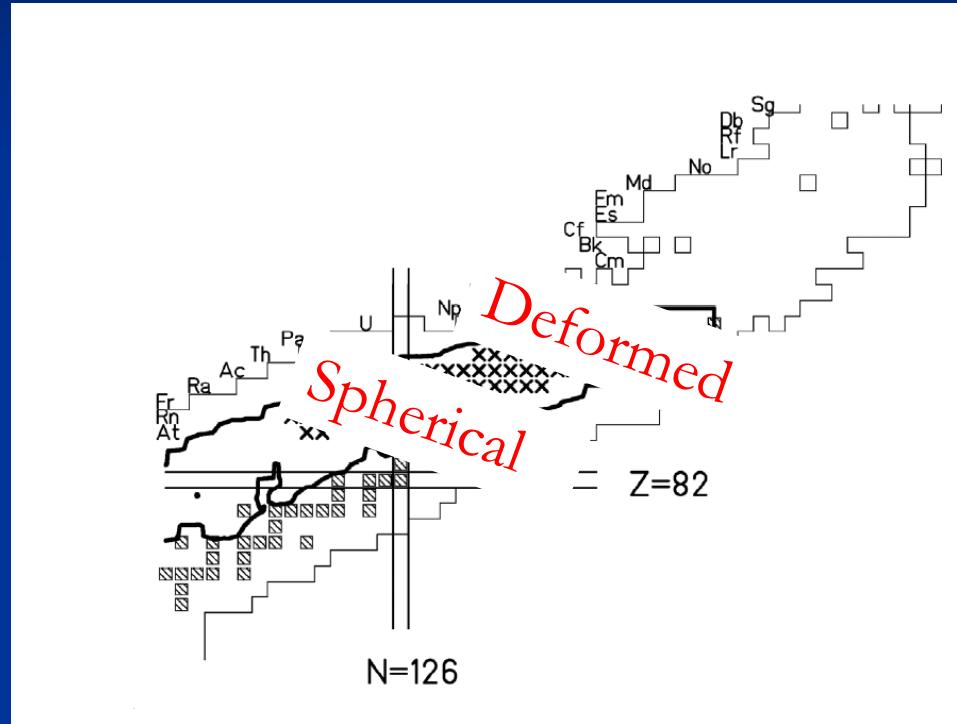
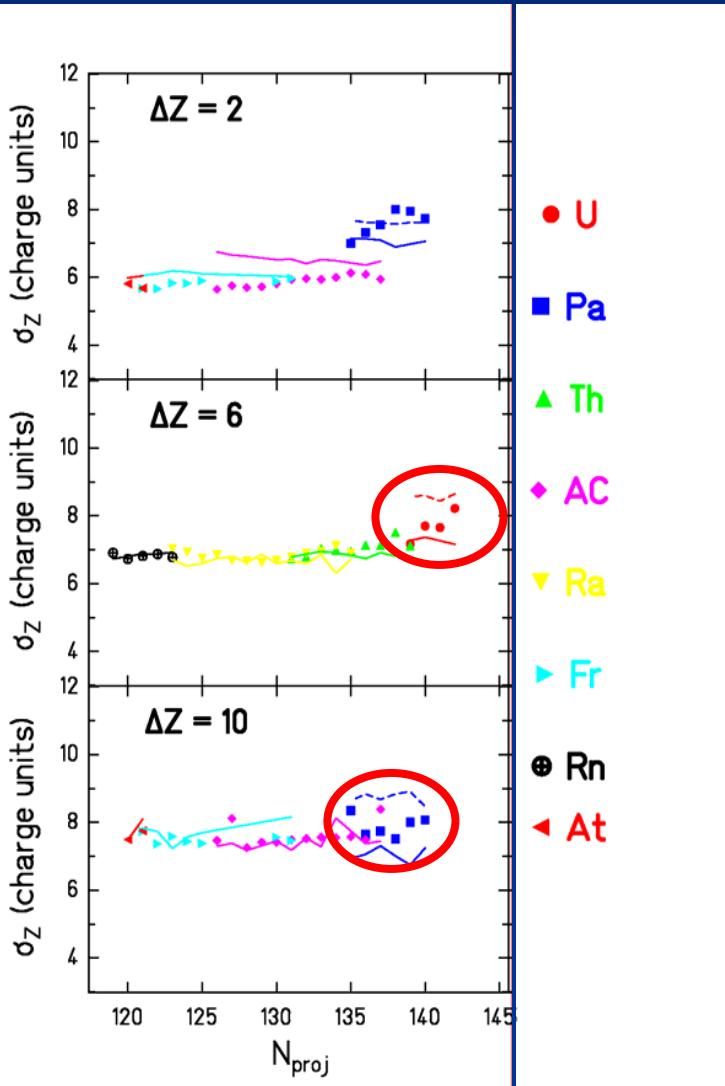
Asymmetric mass split



$$\sigma_Z^2 = \left( \frac{Z_{fiss}}{A_{fiss}} \right)^2 \frac{T_{saddle}}{\left. \frac{d^2 V}{d\eta^2} \right|_{\frac{A_{fiss}}{2}}}$$

# First Results

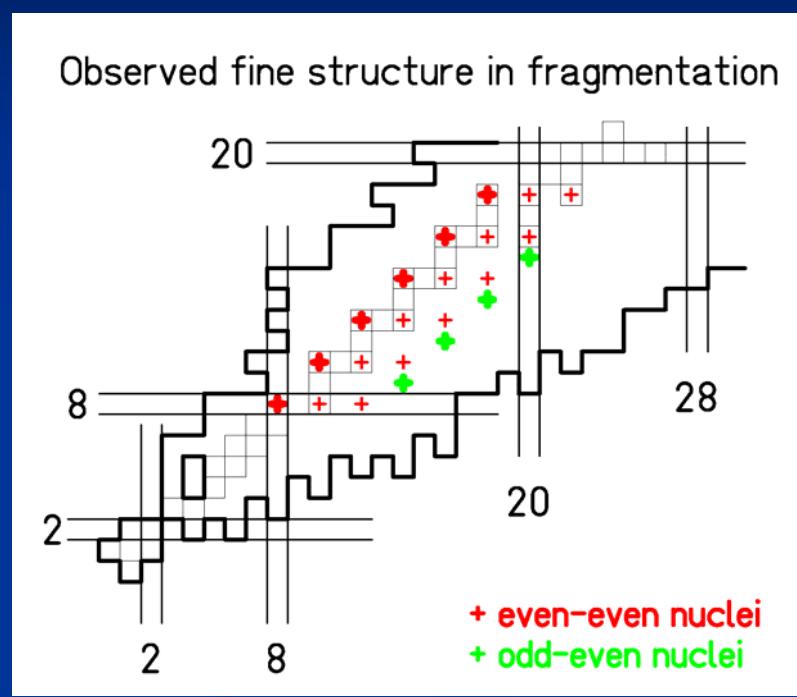
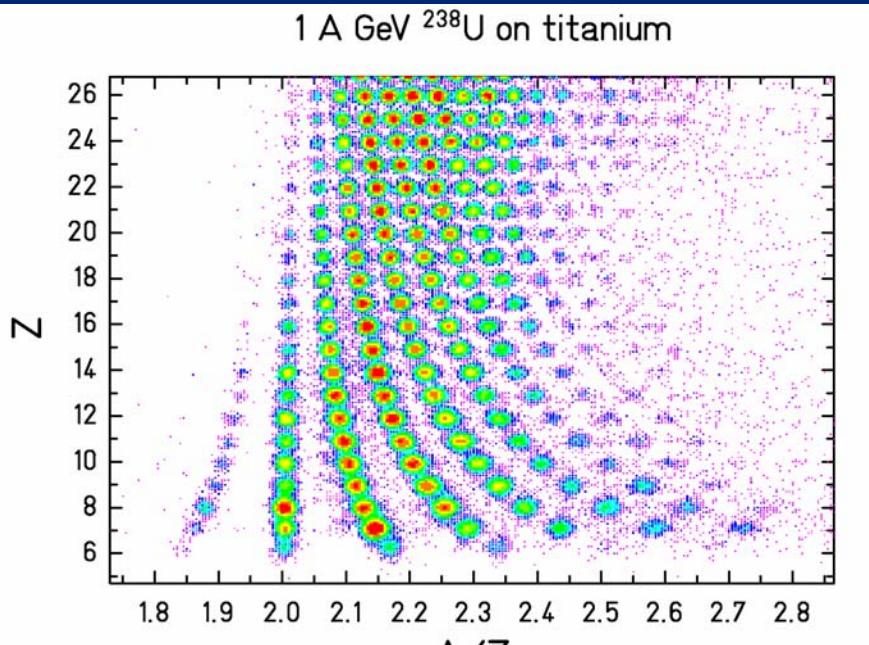
$^{238}\text{U}$  @ 1 A GeV on  $^9\text{Be}$



Model description fails for  
deformed projectiles

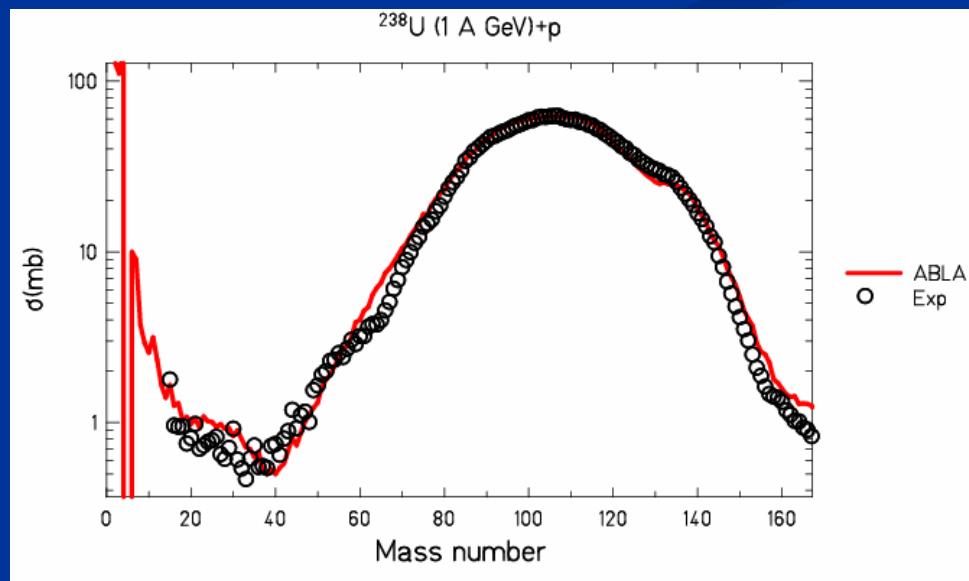
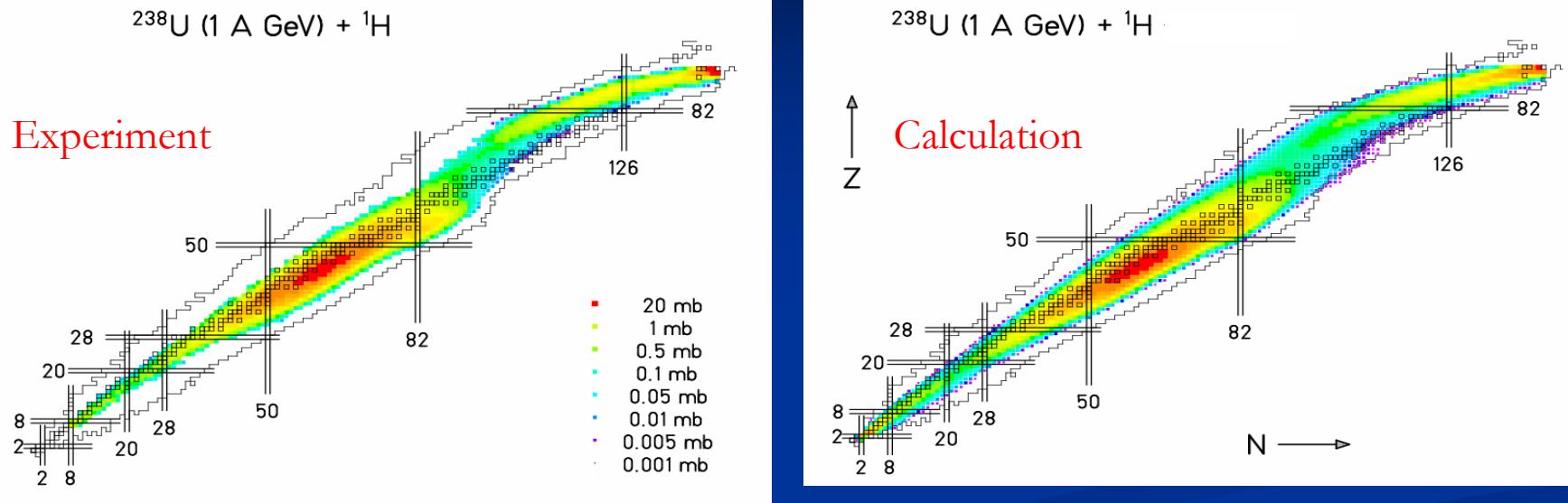
→ influence of “initial” deformation  
on dissipation in nuclear fission

# Fine structure in residue yields after violent nuclear collisions

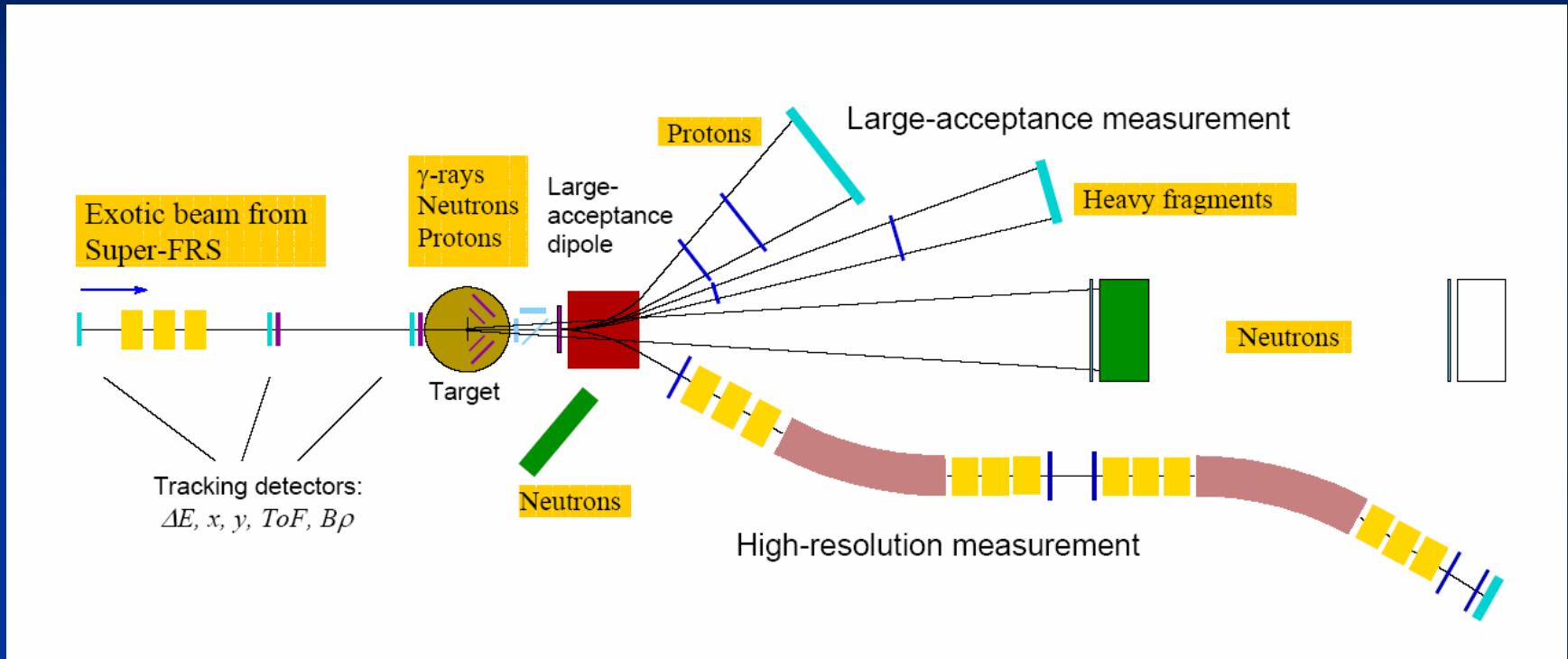


Caution when interpreting nuclide yields with thermodynamic approaches without nuclear structure!

# GSI code ABLA – Examples for high-energy reactions



# The Future: R<sup>3</sup>B

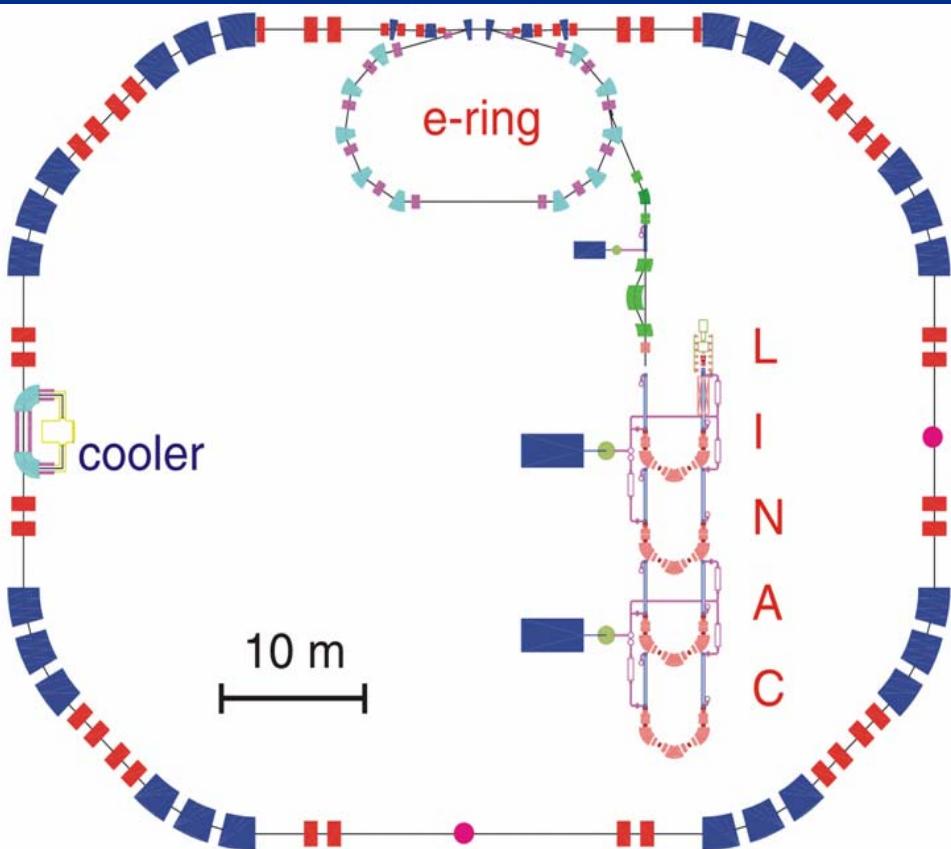


Measure:

- Charge AND Mass of projectile and fission fragments
- Neutrons
- Gammas
- Cross sections

**Exclusive experiments AND  
high resolution**

# Future (Part II): Electron-Ion scattering in a Storage Ring (eA Collider) **ELISe**



- 125-500 MeV electrons
- 200-740 MeV/u RIBs
- achievable luminosity:  
 $10^{25}$ - $10^{29} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$   
depending on ion species
  - spectrometer setup at the interaction zone
  - detection system for RI in the arcs of the NESR  
(see EXL)

# Conclusions

- A lot of progress in the understanding of projectile fragmentation.
- Heavy beams and high resolution spectrometers are excellent tools.
- Don't forget the influence of nuclear structure and nucleonic excitations.
- A wealth of new data from projectile fragmentation, spallation, in-flight fission and fission of secondary beams allowed for the development of realistic models with predictive power.
- Applications in accelerator driven systems, nuclear astrophysics,  
...
- The future looks bright!