



**KU LEUVEN**

International Workshop XLV on  
Gross Properties of Nuclei and Nuclear Excitations

Neutron star mergers: From gravitational waves to nucleosynthesis

Hirschegg, Austria

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# Quantum Self-Organization and its implication in nucleosynthesis

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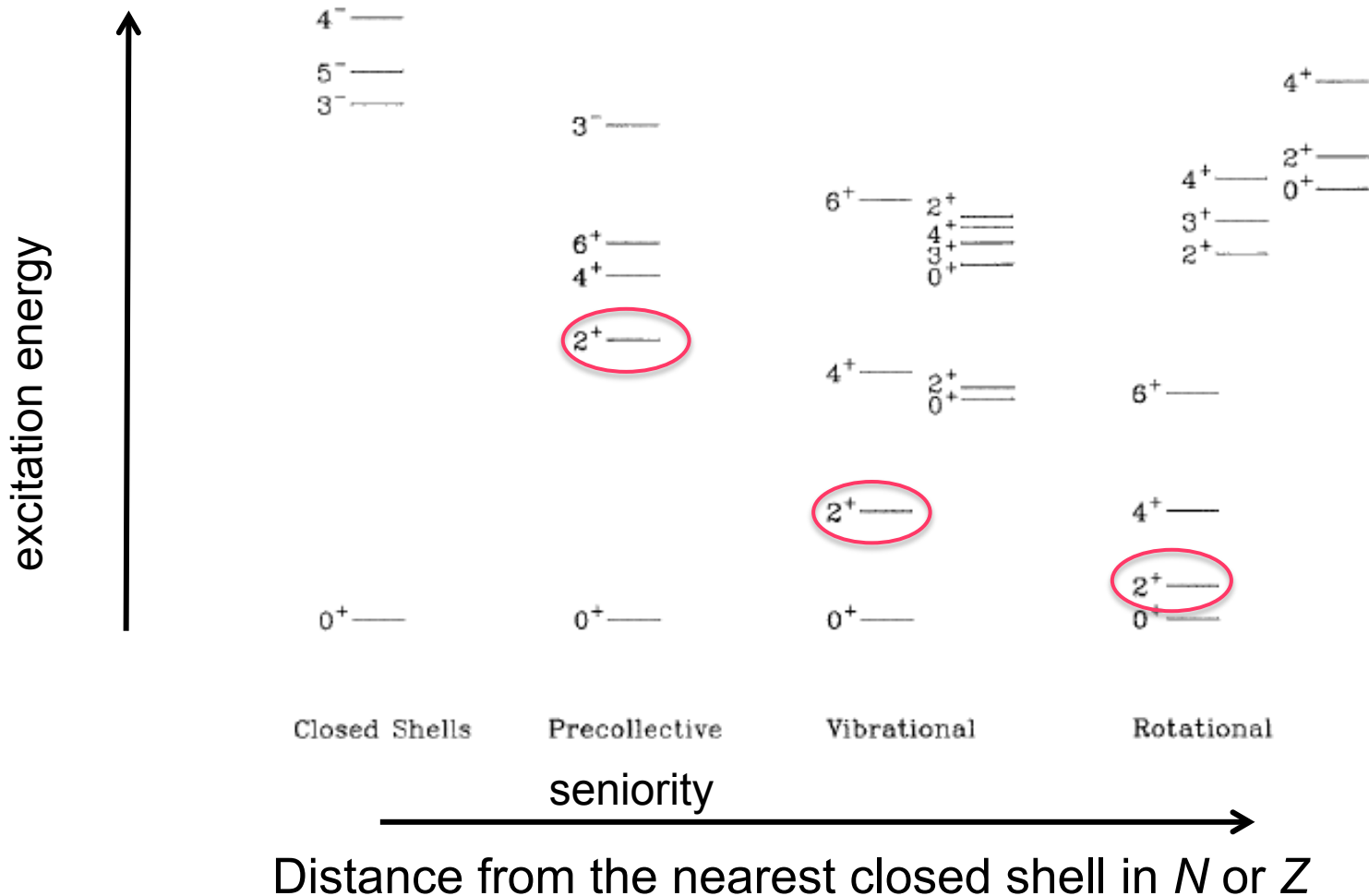
*Supported by MEXT and JICFuS as a priority issue (Elucidation of the fundamental laws and evolution of the universe) to be tackled by using Post 'K' Computer*

# Outline

- Nuclear shapes and quantum phase transition
- Phase Transition in Zr isotopes and Quantum Self-organization
- Implications to nucleosynthesis
- Summary and Perspectives

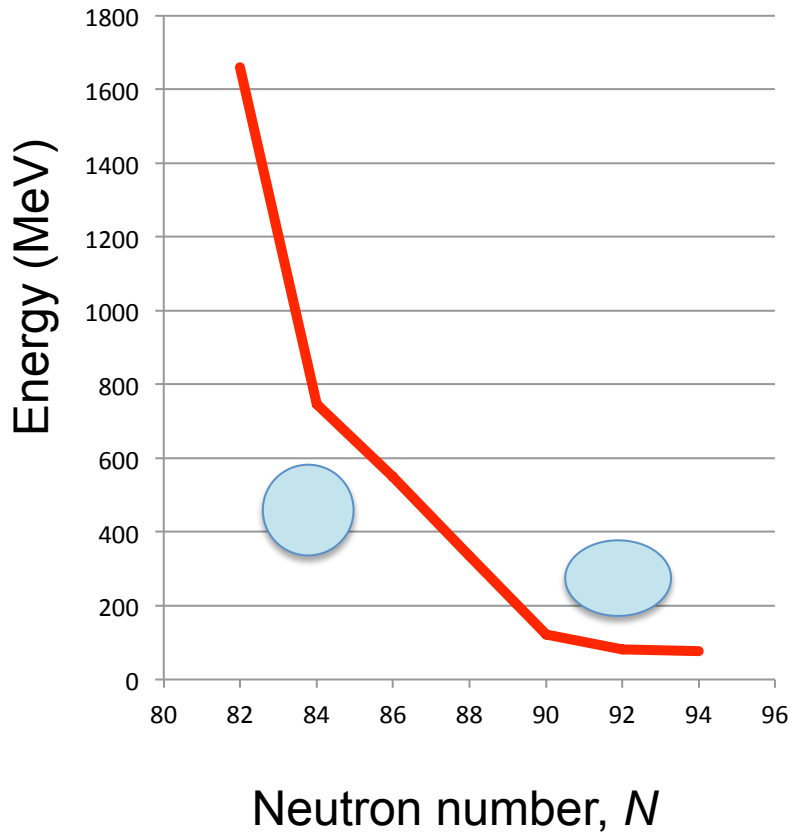
# Schematic picture of shape evolution (sphere to ellipsoid & vice versa)

- gradual changes throughout the nuclear chart –

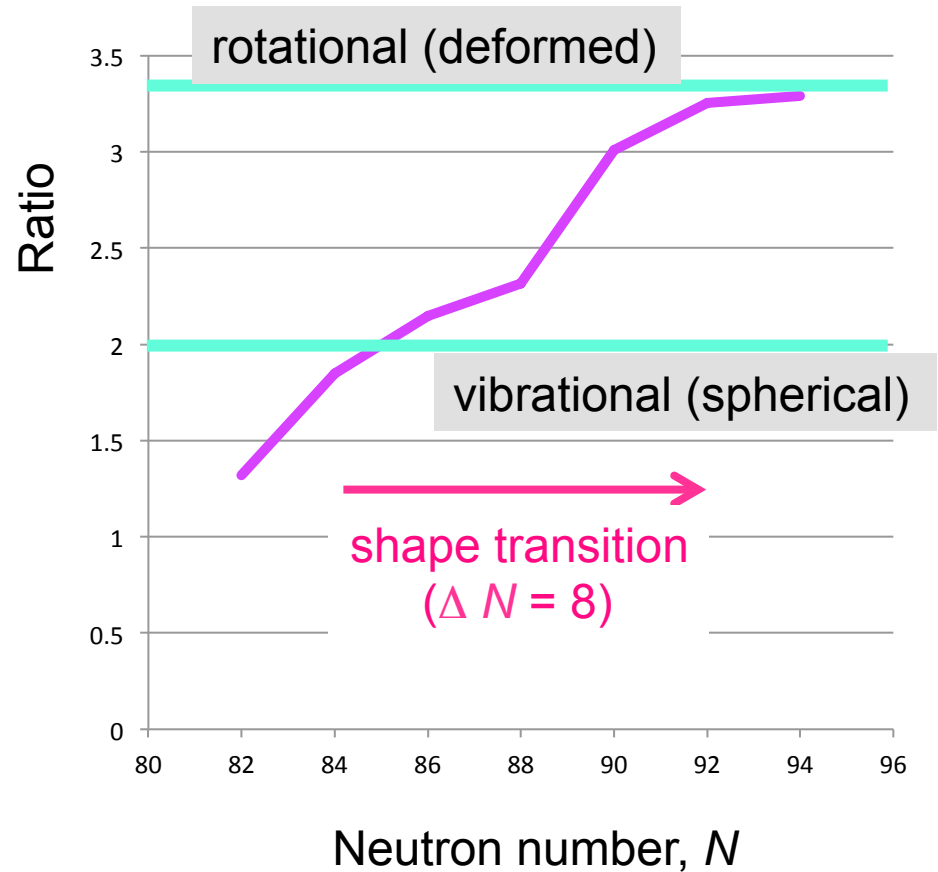


## 2<sup>+</sup> and 4<sup>+</sup> level properties of Sm isotopes

Ex (2<sup>+</sup>) :  
excitation energy of first 2<sup>+</sup> state



$$R_{4/2} = \text{Ex}(4^+) / \text{Ex}(2^+)$$



Can this be a kind of *Phase Transition* ?

*Intuitively, ...*

This effect becomes larger as the nucleus moves away from the closed shell.

$$\text{deformation} = \frac{\text{quadrupole force}}{\text{resistance power}}$$

resistance power ← for instance, pairing force  
Assumed to be a constant, for a moment.  
We come back to this point later !

The **quadrupole force** is a part of nuclear forces.

Its effect is expressed, for example, in Casten's  $N_p N_n$  model, as

$$\langle \text{quadrupole force} \rangle = \alpha N_p N_n$$

$\alpha$  : parameter

$N_p$  : number of valence protons

$N_n$  : number of valence neutrons

# Outline

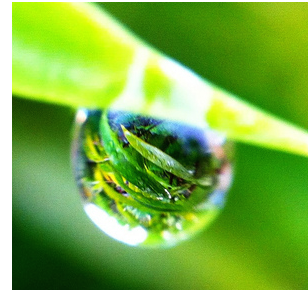
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## Can the **shape transition** be a “Phase Transition” ?

### *Phase Transition* :

A **macroscopic** system can change qualitatively from a stable state (e.g. ice for  $H_2O$ ) to another stable state (e.g., water for  $H_2O$ ) as a function of a certain parameter (e.g., temperature).

The phase transition implies this kind of phenomena of macroscopic systems consisting of **almost infinite number of molecules**, where thermodynamics can be applied.



### *Quantum Phase Transition (QPT)*

The concept of the phase transition cannot be applied to microscopic systems as it is. In the QPT, the **ground state** of a **quantum (microscopic)** system undergoes **abrupt** and **qualitative change** (of order parameter) as a (control) parameter changes.

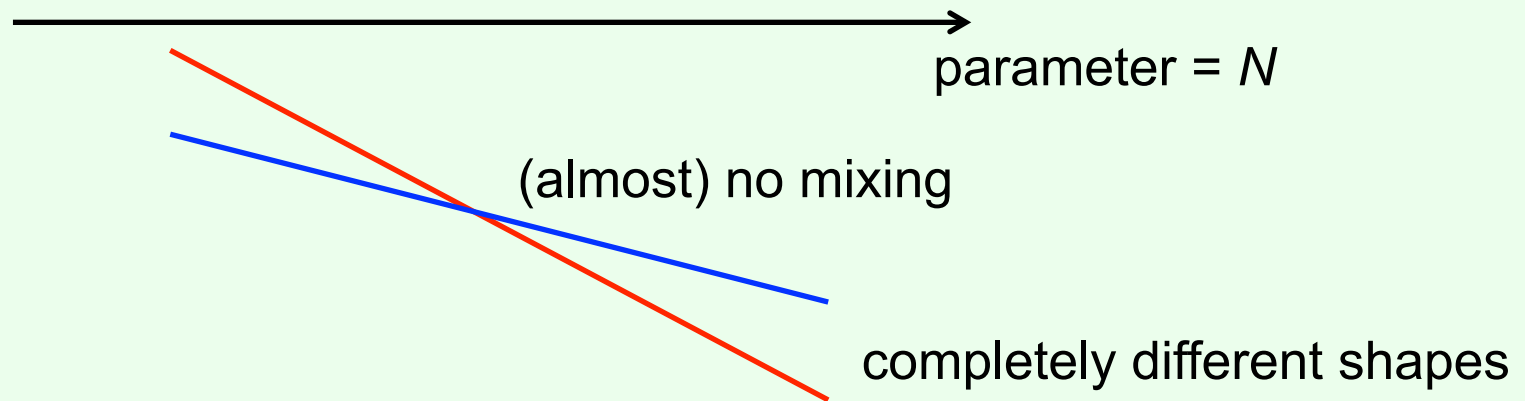
The shape transition occurs rather gradually.

The usual shape transition may not fulfill the condition being *abrupt*.

Where can we see it ?

If it occurs in atomic nuclei, what is the underlying mechanism ?

possible scenario



*Note that sizable mixing occurs usually in finite quantum systems.*

*The definition of Quantum Phase Transition :*

*an abrupt change in the ground state of a many-body system*

*by varying a physical parameter at zero temperature. (cf., Wikipedia)*



# Numerical part of the present work : Monte Carlo Shell Model calculation

- Effective interaction:

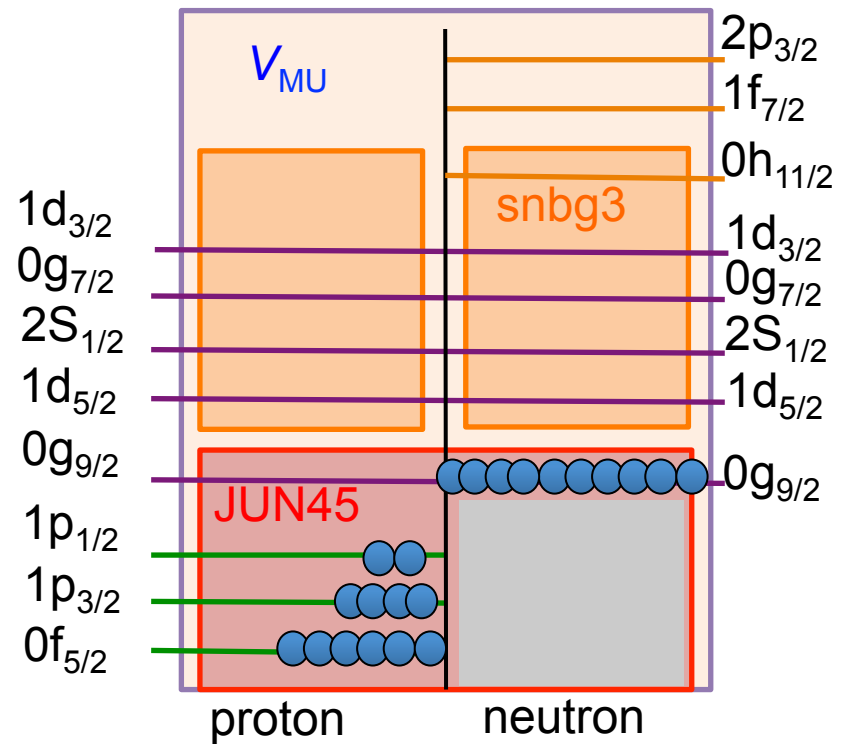
$$\text{JUN45} + \text{snbg3} + V_{\text{MU}}$$

*known effective interactions*

+ minor fit for a part of  
T=1 TBME's

Nucleons are excited fully  
within this model space  
(no truncation)

We performed **Monte Carlo Shell Model (MCSM)** calculations, where the largest case corresponds to the diagonalization of  $3.7 \times 10^{23}$  **dimension** matrix.

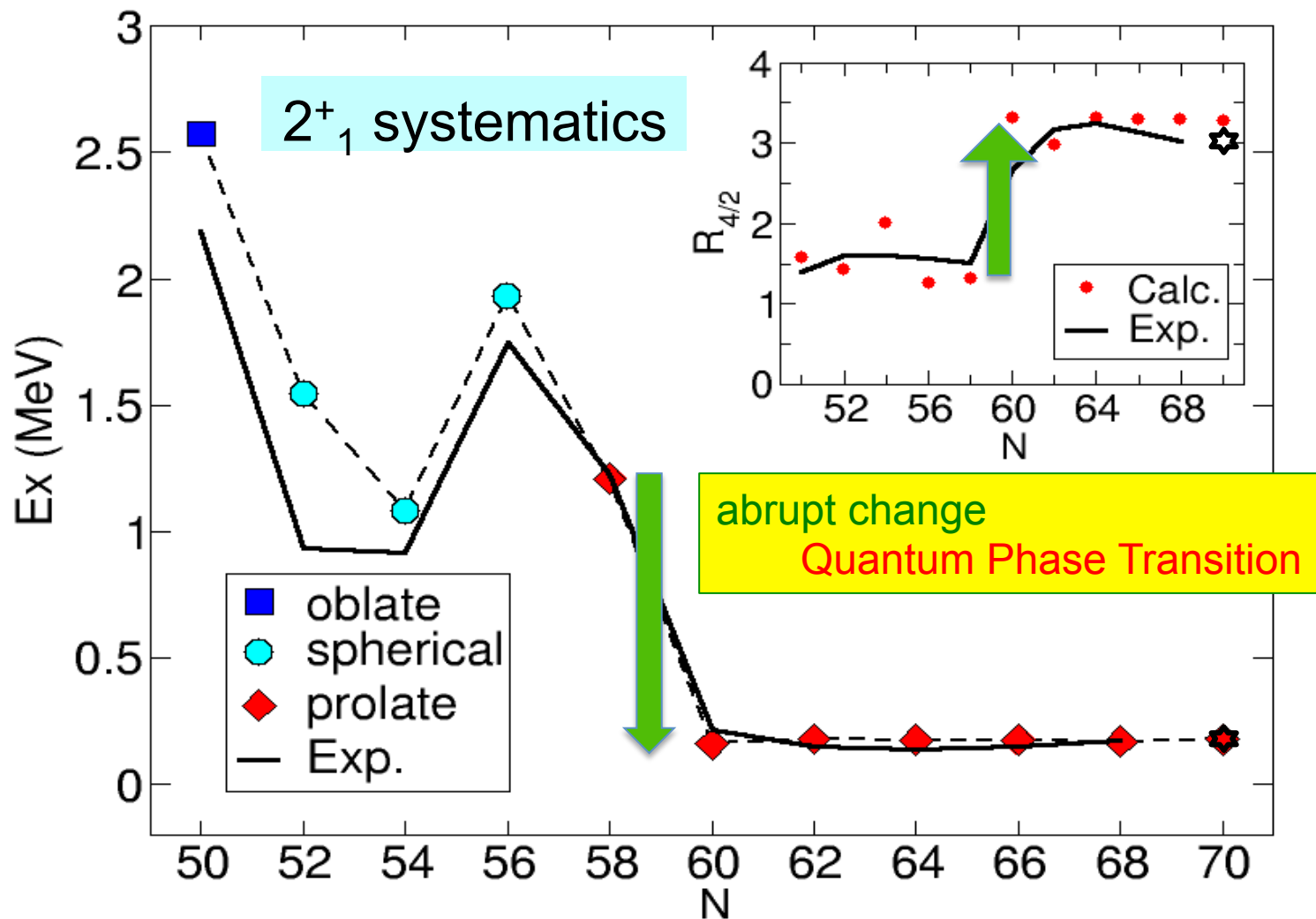


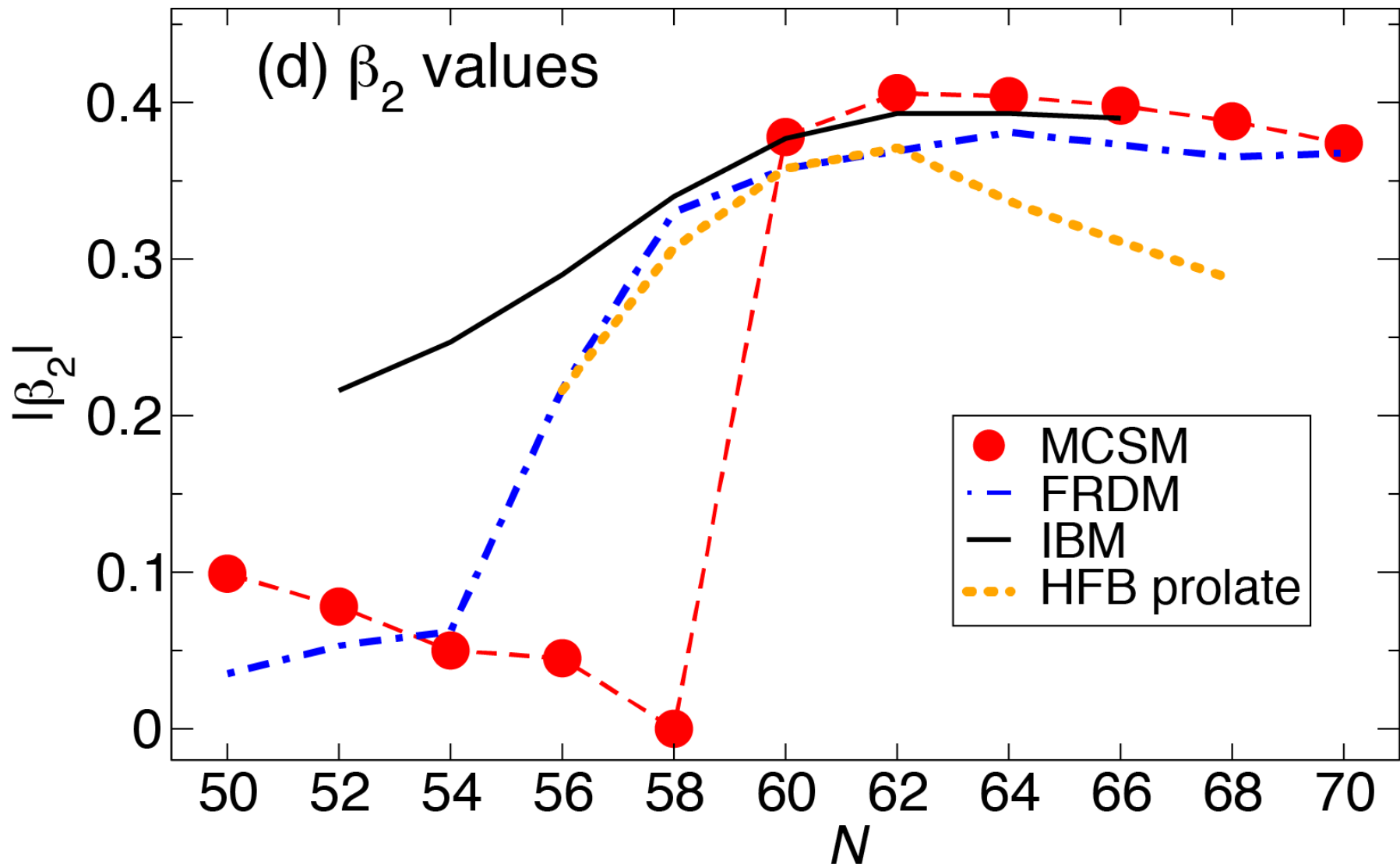
Togashi, Tsunoda, TO *et al.* PRL  
117, 172502 (2016)



# Quantum Phase Transition in the Shape of Zr isotopes

Tomoaki Togashi,<sup>1</sup> Yusuke Tsunoda,<sup>1</sup> Takaharu Otsuka,<sup>1,2,3,4</sup> and Noritaka Shimizu<sup>1</sup>

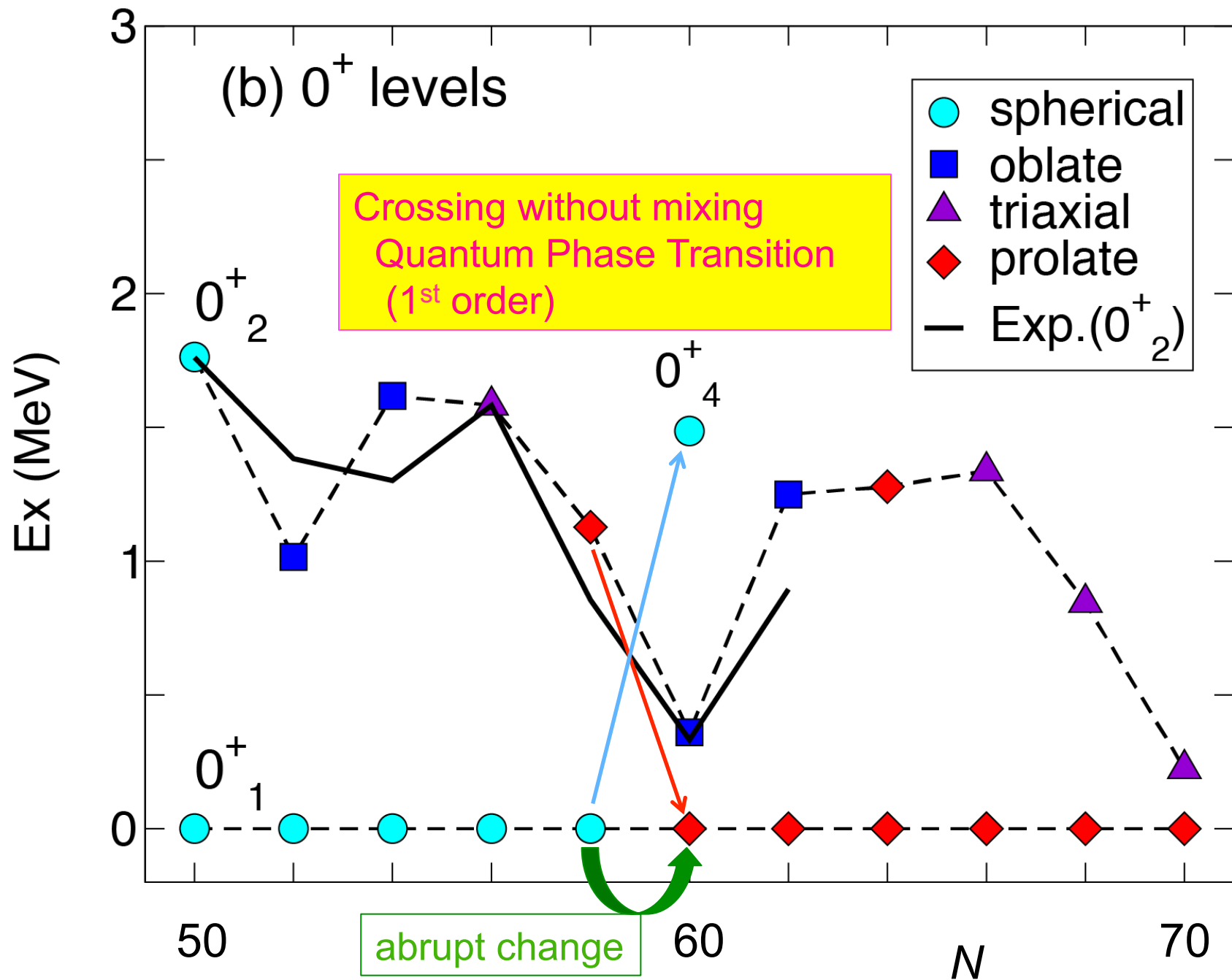




FRDM: S. Moeller et al. At. Data Nucl. Data Tables 59, 185 (1995).

IBM: M. Boyukata et al. J. Phys. G 37, 105102 (2010).

HFB: R. Rodriguez-Guzman et al. Phys. Lett. B 691, 202 (2010).



# MCSM wave function on Potential Energy Surface (*T*-plot)

eigenstate

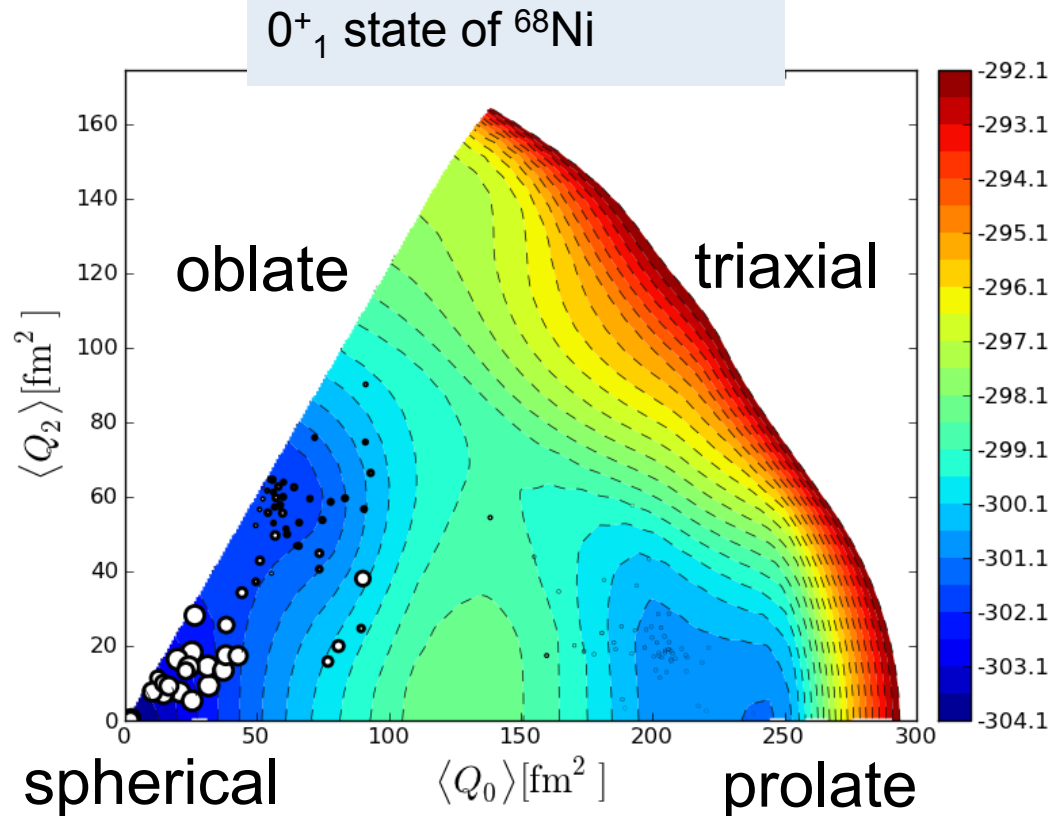
$$\Psi = \sum_i c_i P[J^\pi] \Phi_i$$

Slater determinant  
→ intrinsic deformation

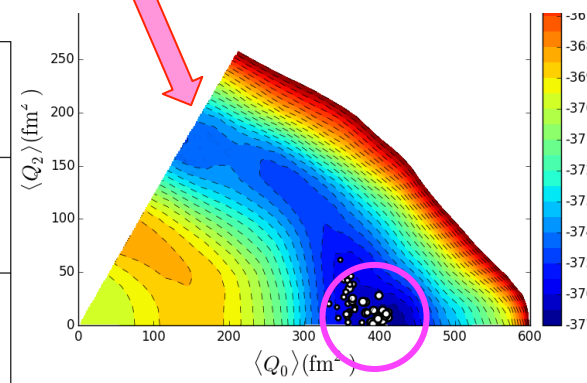
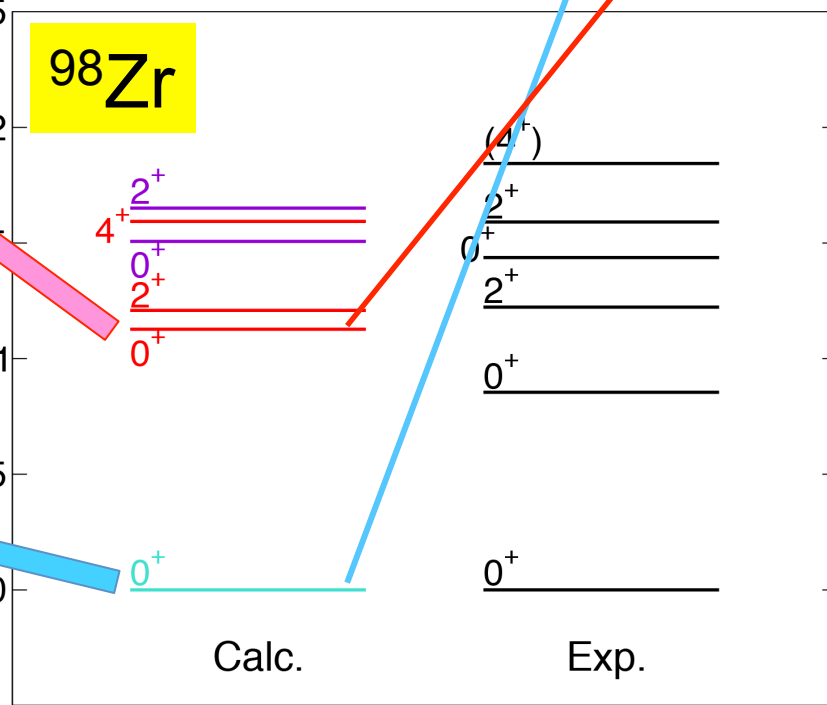
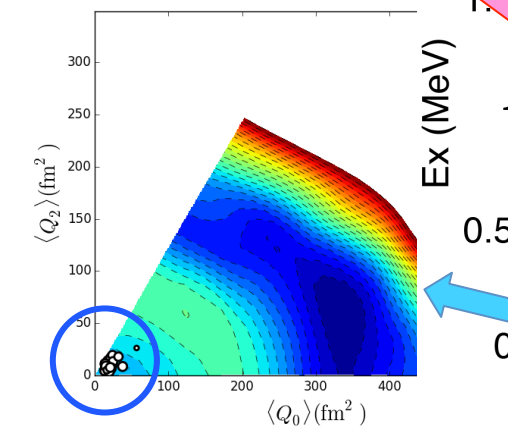
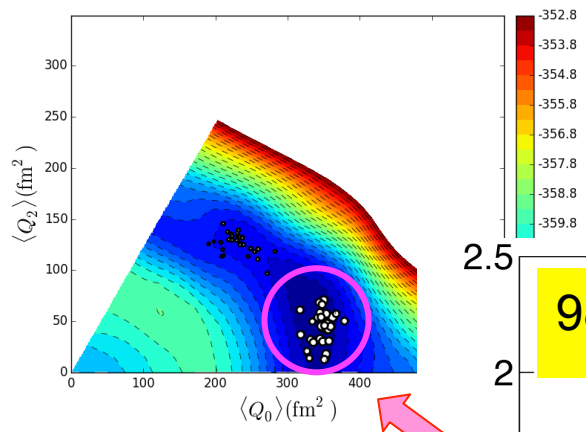
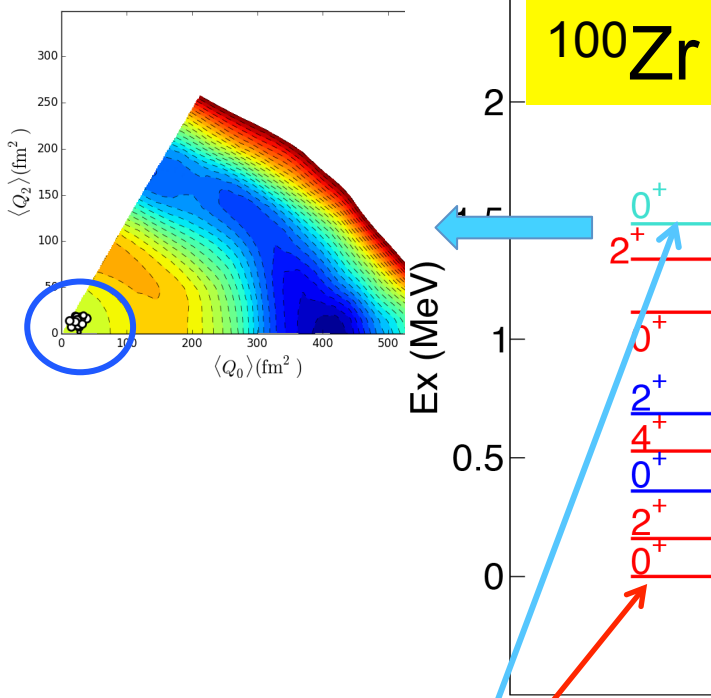
amplitude

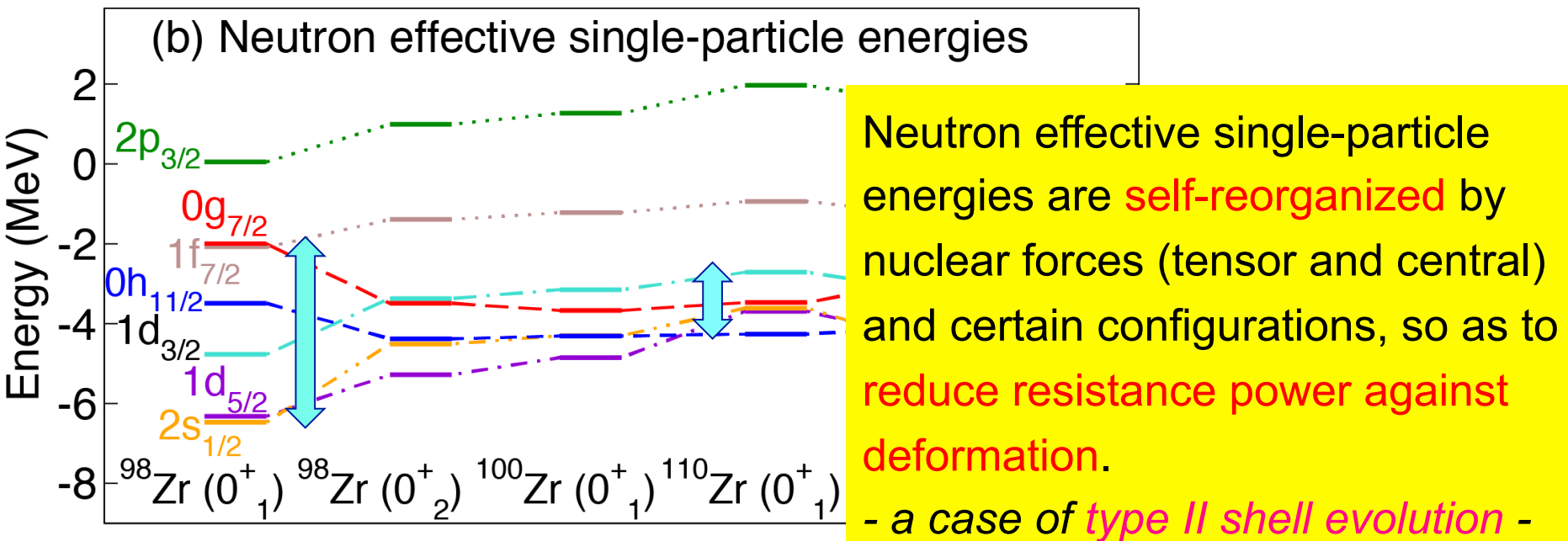
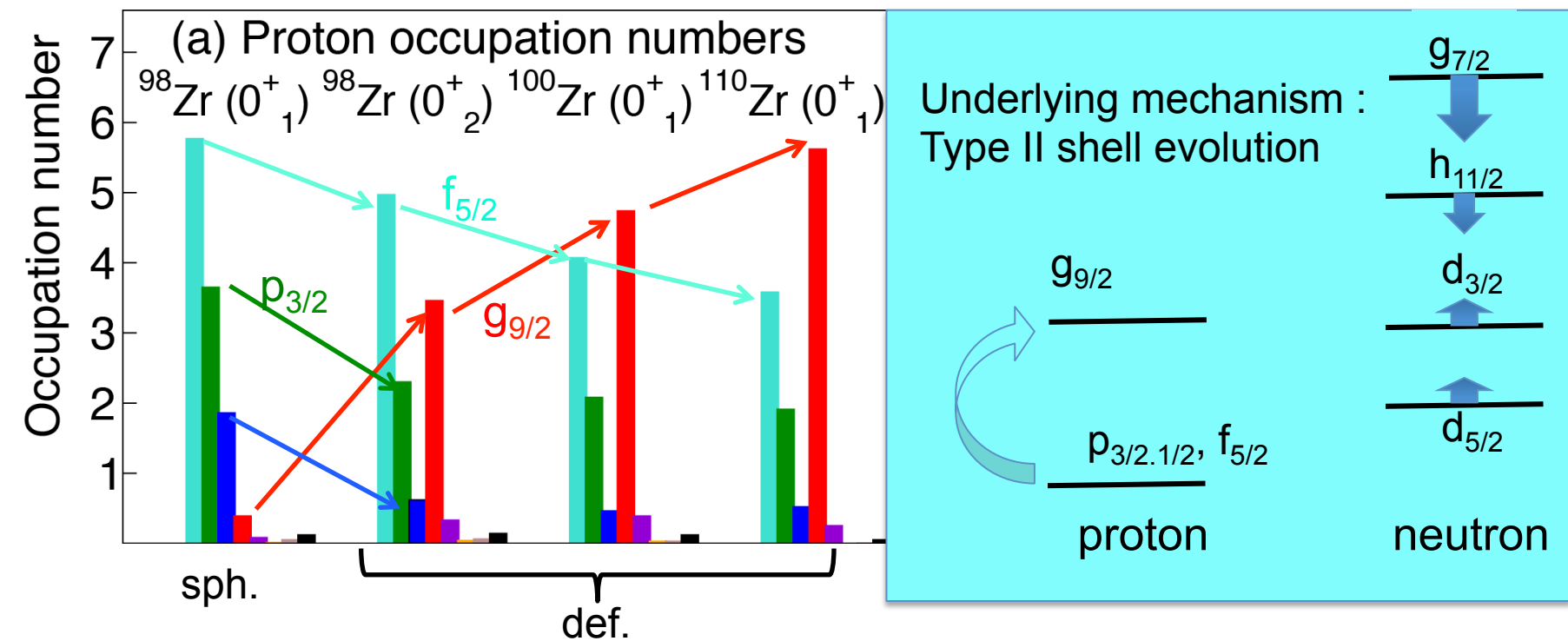
projection on  $J^\pi$

- PES is calculated by CHF
- Location of circle : quadrupole deformation of unprojected MCSM basis vectors
- Area of circle : overlap probability between each projected basis and eigen wave function

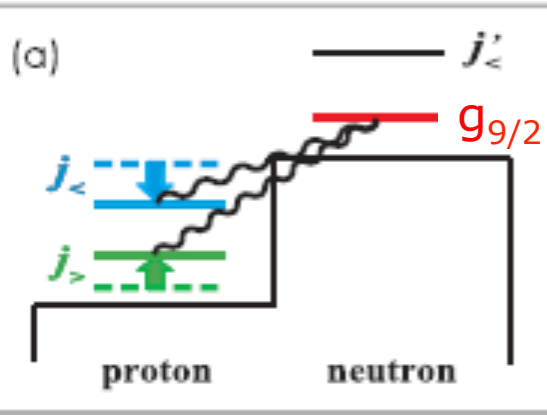


Quantum Phase Transition  
(1<sup>st</sup> order)  
due to crossing  
without mixing

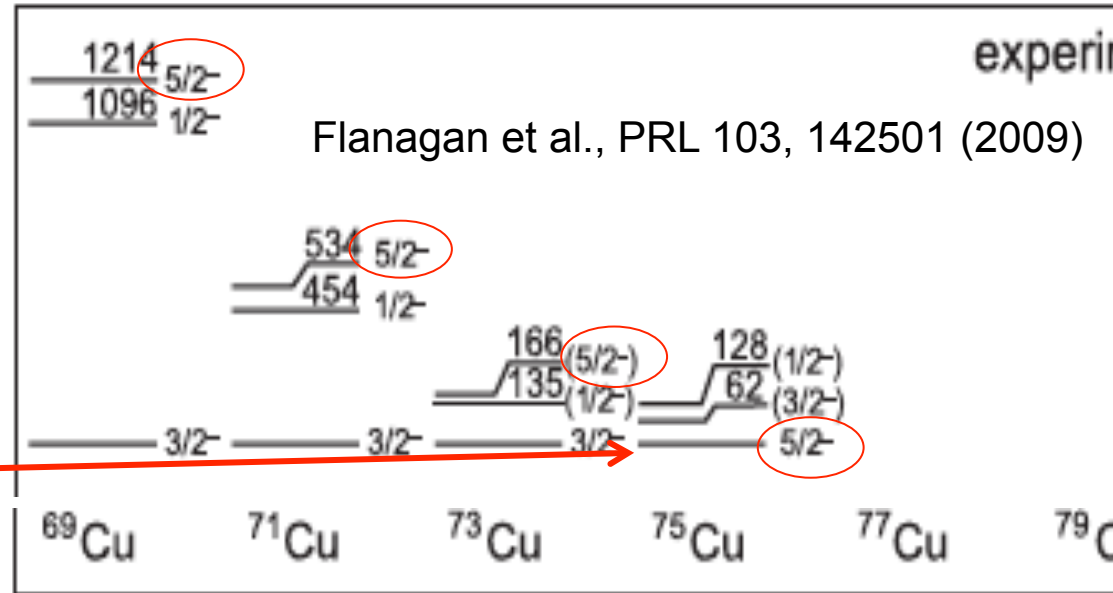
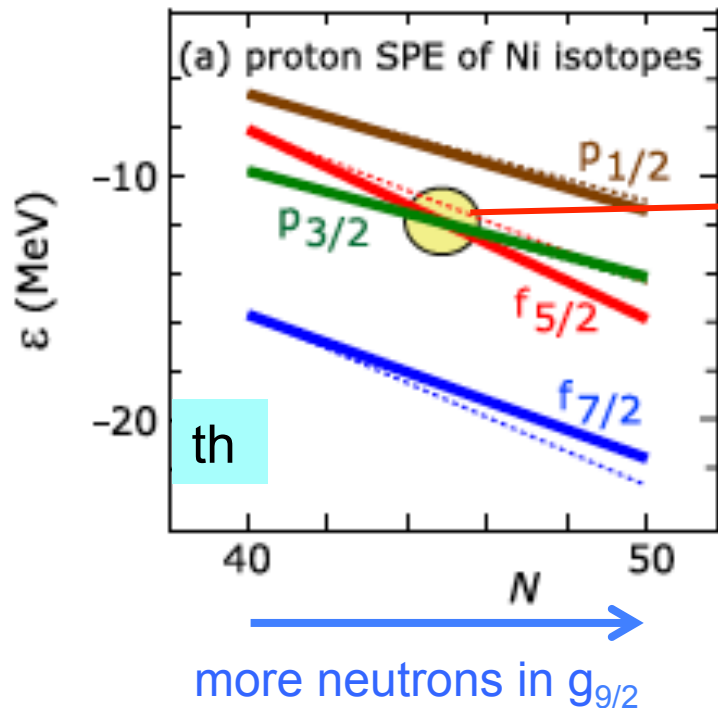




# A clean example of tensor-force driven shell evolution



Proton  $f_{5/2} - p_{3/2}$  inversion in Cu due to neutron occupancy of  $g_{9/2}$



Flanagan et al., PRL 103, 142501 (2009)

Franchoo et al., PRC 64, 054308 (2001)

“level scheme ... newly established for  $^{71,73}\text{Cu}$ ”

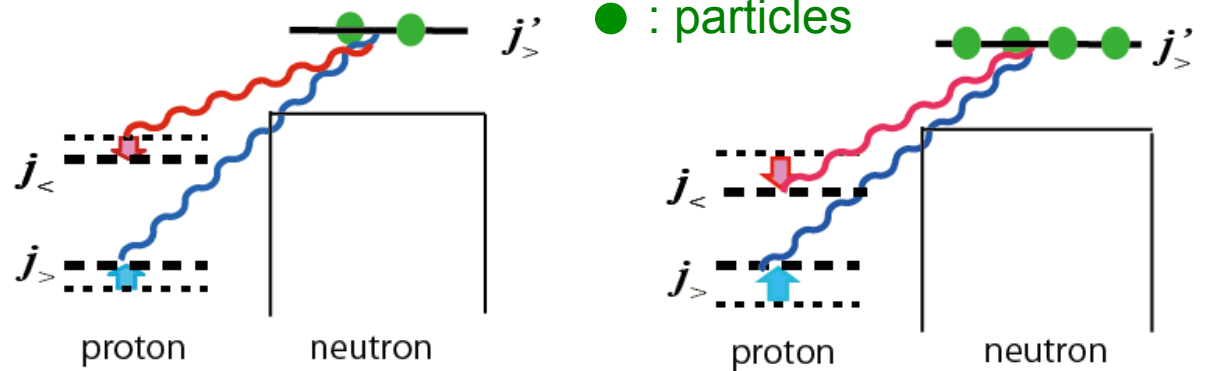
“... unexpected and sharp lowering of the  $\pi f_{5/2}$  orbital”

“... ascribed to the monopole term of the residual int. ...”

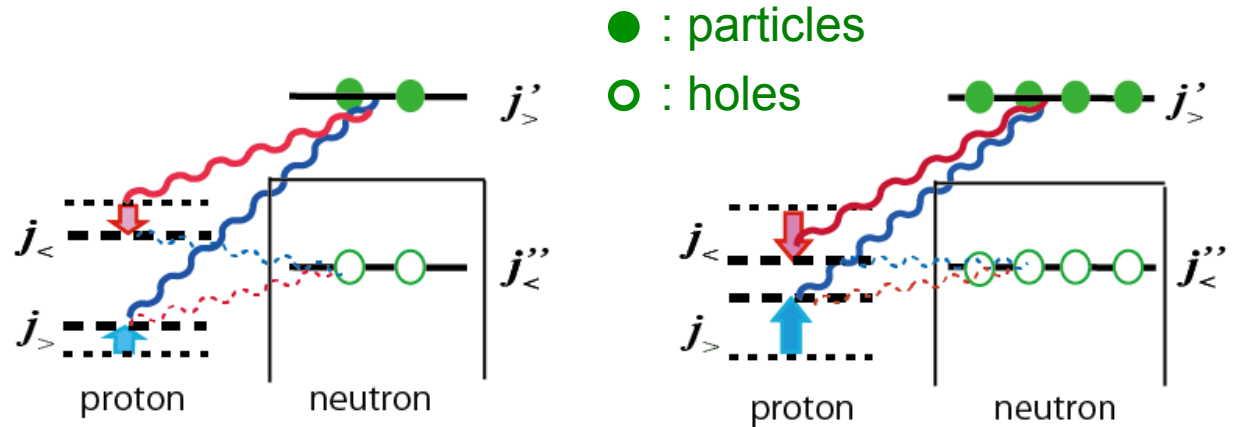


# Shell Evolution - from Type I to Type II -

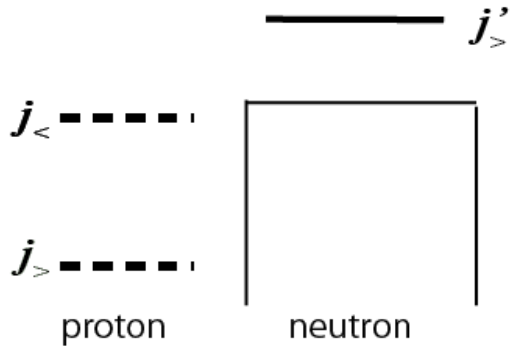
## Type I Shell Evolution : different isotopes

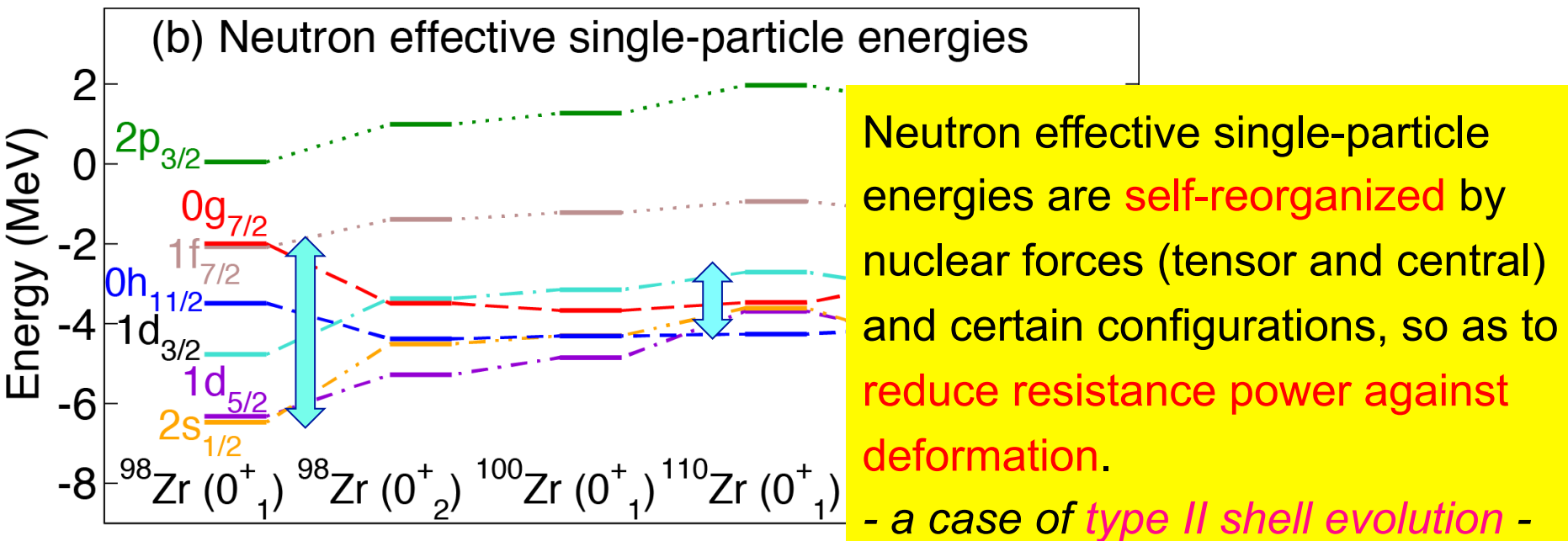
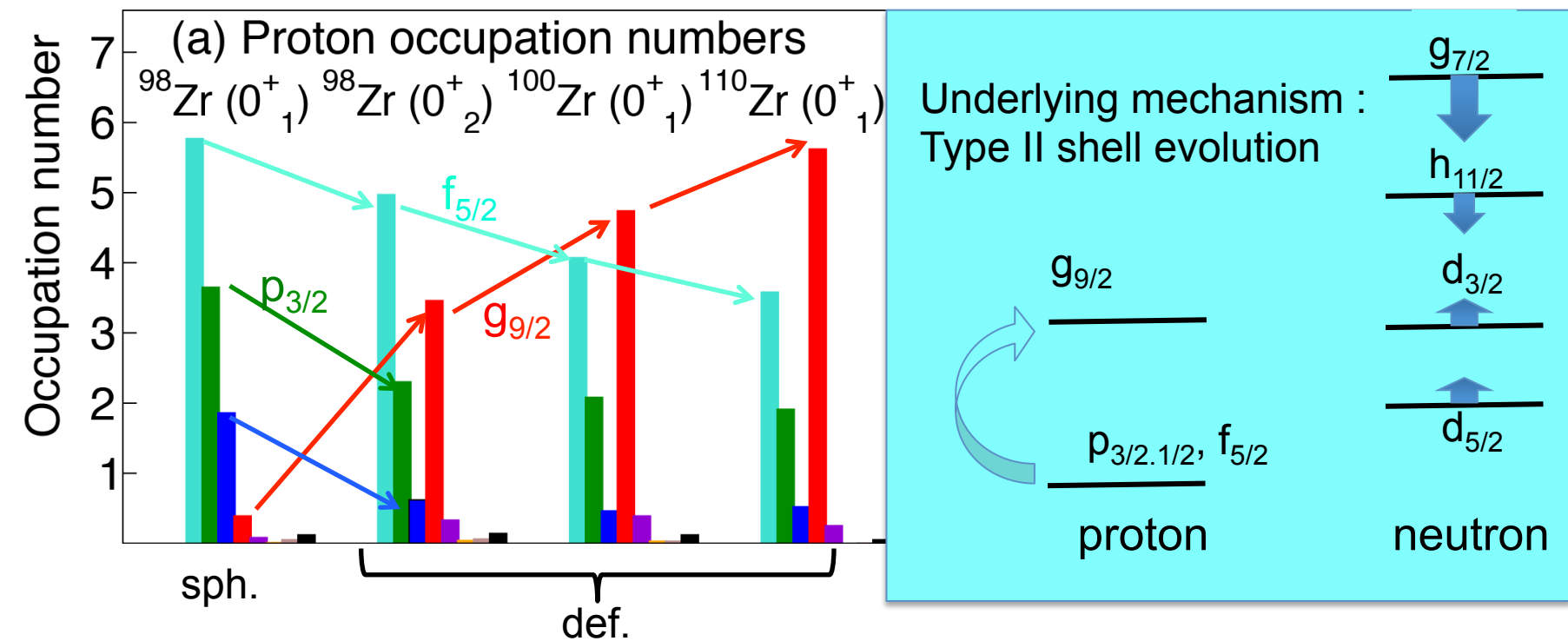


## Type II Shell Evolution : within the same nucleus



(a)





$$\text{deformation} = \frac{\text{quadrupole force}}{\text{resistance power}}$$

resistance power ← pairing force

↑  
single-particle energies

Atomic nuclei can “organize” their single-particle energies by taking particular configurations of protons and neutrons optimized for each eigenstate, thanks to orbit-dependences of monopole components of nuclear forces (e.g., tensor force).

### *Quantum Self Organization*

Type I and II shell evolutions are simpler examples

Next page : spherical single-particle energies are often treated being constant

# Woods-Saxon potential

Parameters are **constant** within a given nucleus

## Nilsson model Hamiltonian

“Nuclear structure II” by Bohr and Mottelson

deformed nuclei, is obtained by a simple modification of the harmonic oscillator (Nilsson, 1955; Gustafson *et al.*, 1967),

$$H = \frac{\mathbf{p}^2}{2M} + \frac{1}{2}M(\omega_3^2 x_3^2 + \omega_\perp^2(x_1^2 + x_2^2)) + v_{ll}\hbar\omega_0(l^2 - \langle l^2 \rangle_N) + v_{ls}\hbar\omega_0(\mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}) \quad (5-10)$$

quadrupole deformed field

$$\langle l^2 \rangle_N = \frac{1}{2}N(N+3)$$

spherical field

**constant** within a region

| Figure | Region           | $-v_{ls}$ | $-v_{ll}$ |
|--------|------------------|-----------|-----------|
| 5-1    | $N$ and $Z < 20$ | 0.16      | 0         |
| 5-2    | $50 < Z < 82$    | 0.127     | 0.0382    |
| 5-3    | $82 < N < 126$   | 0.127     | 0.0268    |
| 5-4    | $82 < Z < 126$   | 0.115     | 0.0375    |
| 5-5    | $126 < N$        | 0.127     | 0.0206    |

**Table 5-1** Parameters used in the single-particle potentials of Figs. 5-1 to 5-5.

Spin-orbit force

|       |      |   |                                 |
|-------|------|---|---------------------------------|
| A= 68 | 1.28 | } | $(\mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s})$ |
| A=100 | 1.12 |   |                                 |
| A=186 | 0.91 |   |                                 |

Intuitively speaking,

$$\text{deformation} = \frac{\text{quadrupole force}}{\text{resistance power}}$$

resistance power ← pairing force

↙ single-particle energies

Analogy to electric current,

$$\text{current} = \frac{\text{voltage}}{\text{resistance}}$$

# Outline

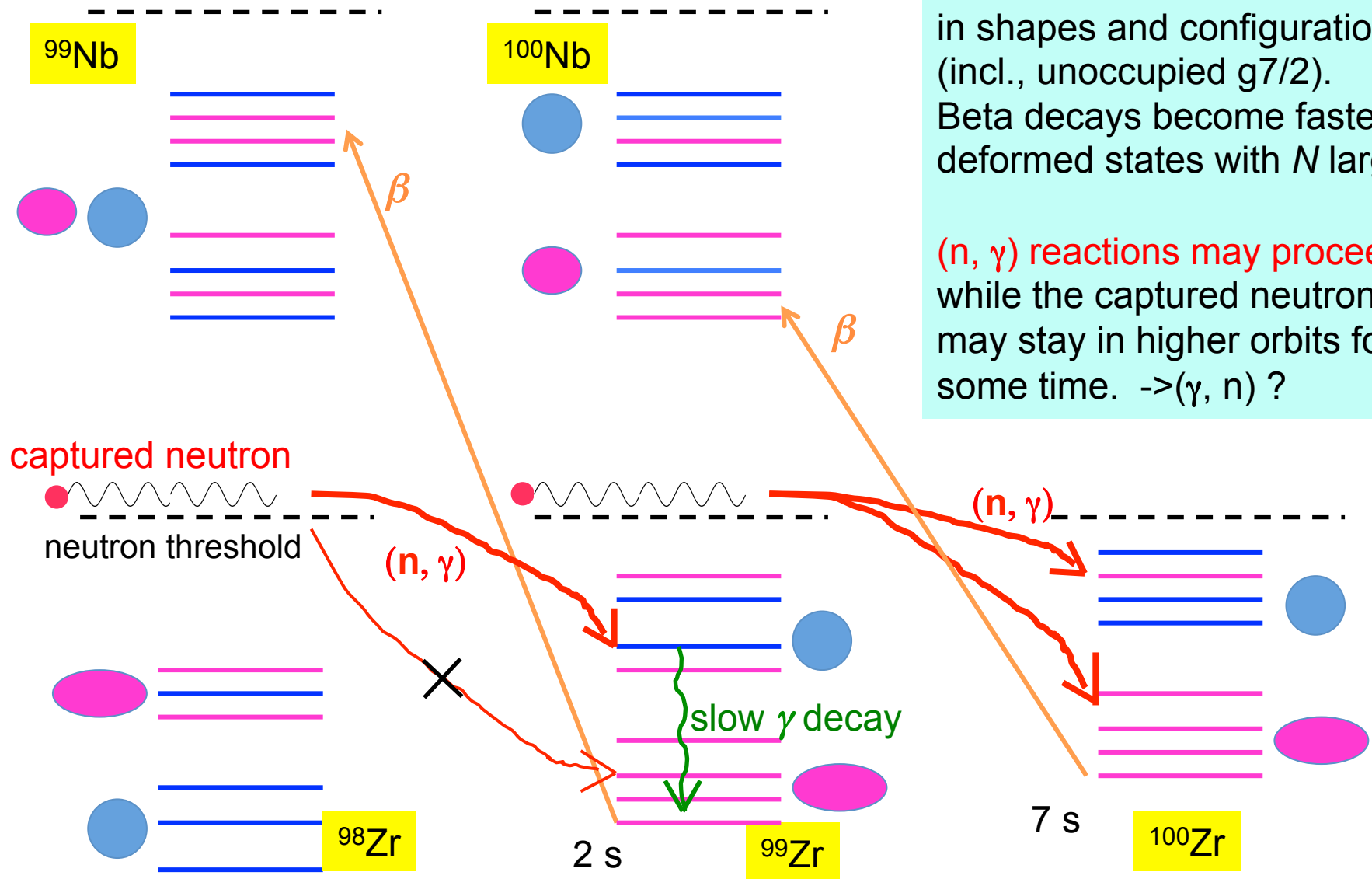
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# What are the possible implications to nucleosynthesis ?

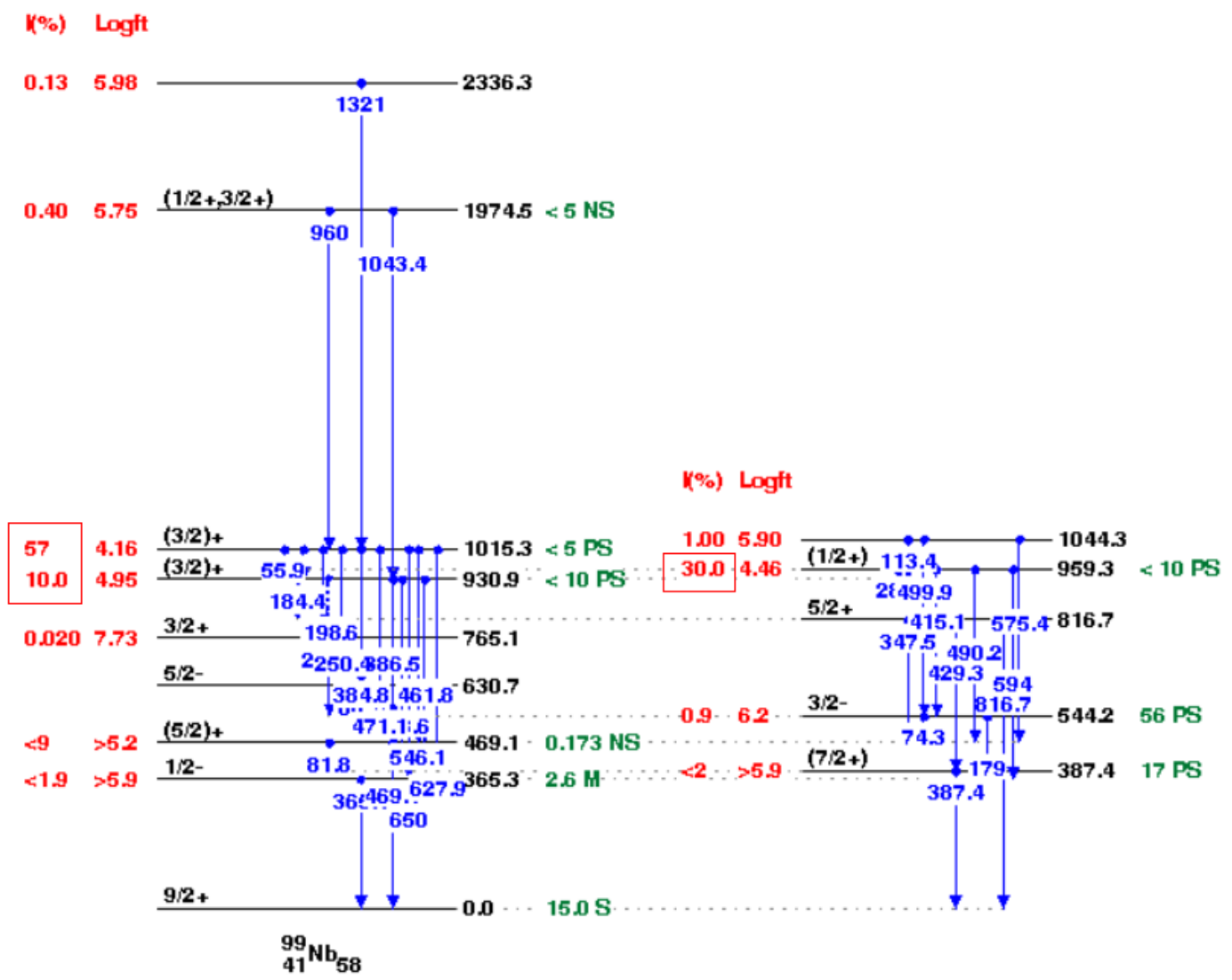
A preliminary conceptual scheme.

**Beta decays** can be **delayed** due to differences in shapes and configurations (incl., unoccupied  $g_{7/2}$ ). Beta decays become faster for deformed states with  $N$  larger.

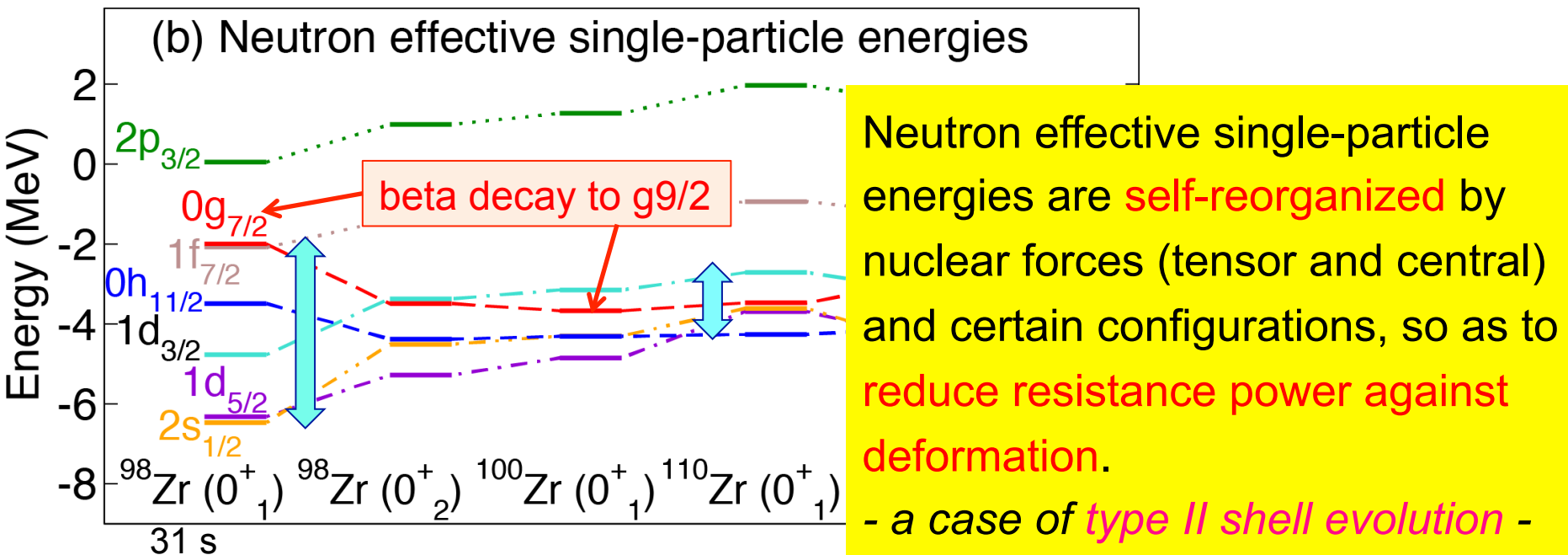
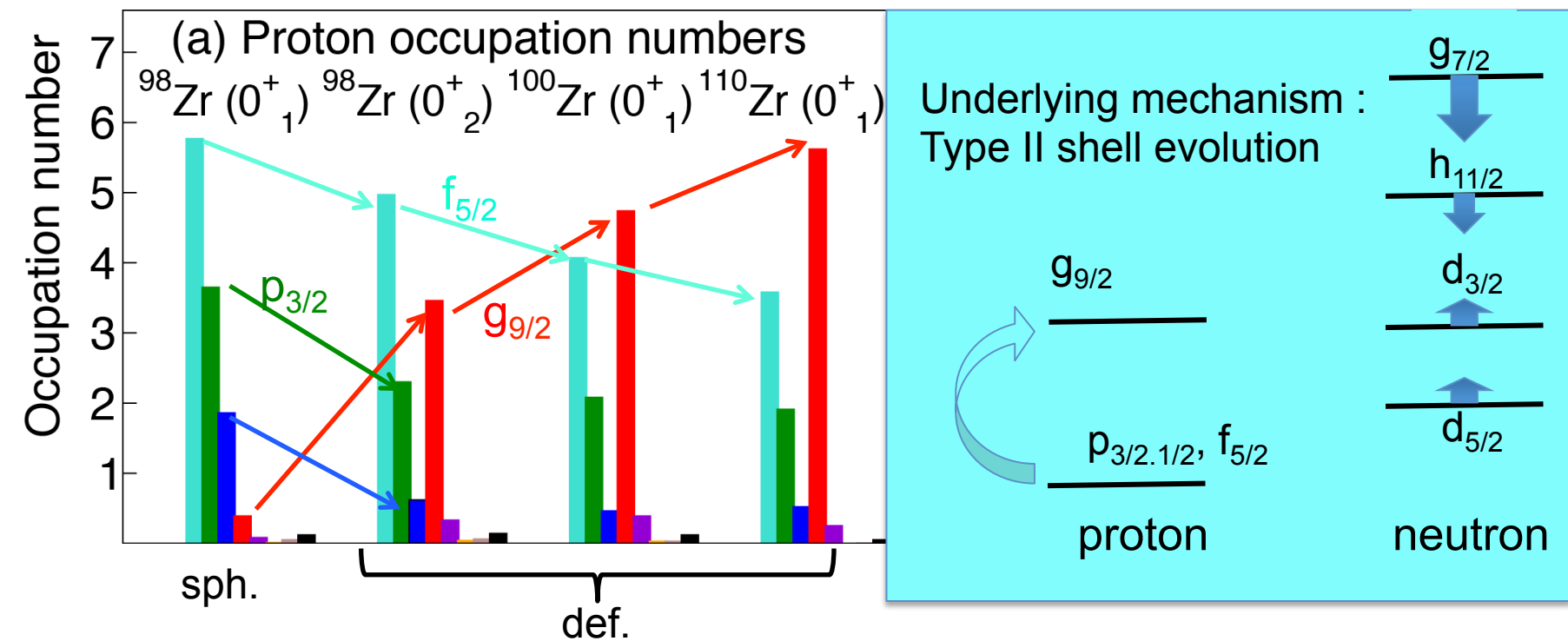
**(n,  $\gamma$ )** reactions may proceed, while the captured neutron may stay in higher orbits for some time.  $\rightarrow (\gamma, n)$  ?

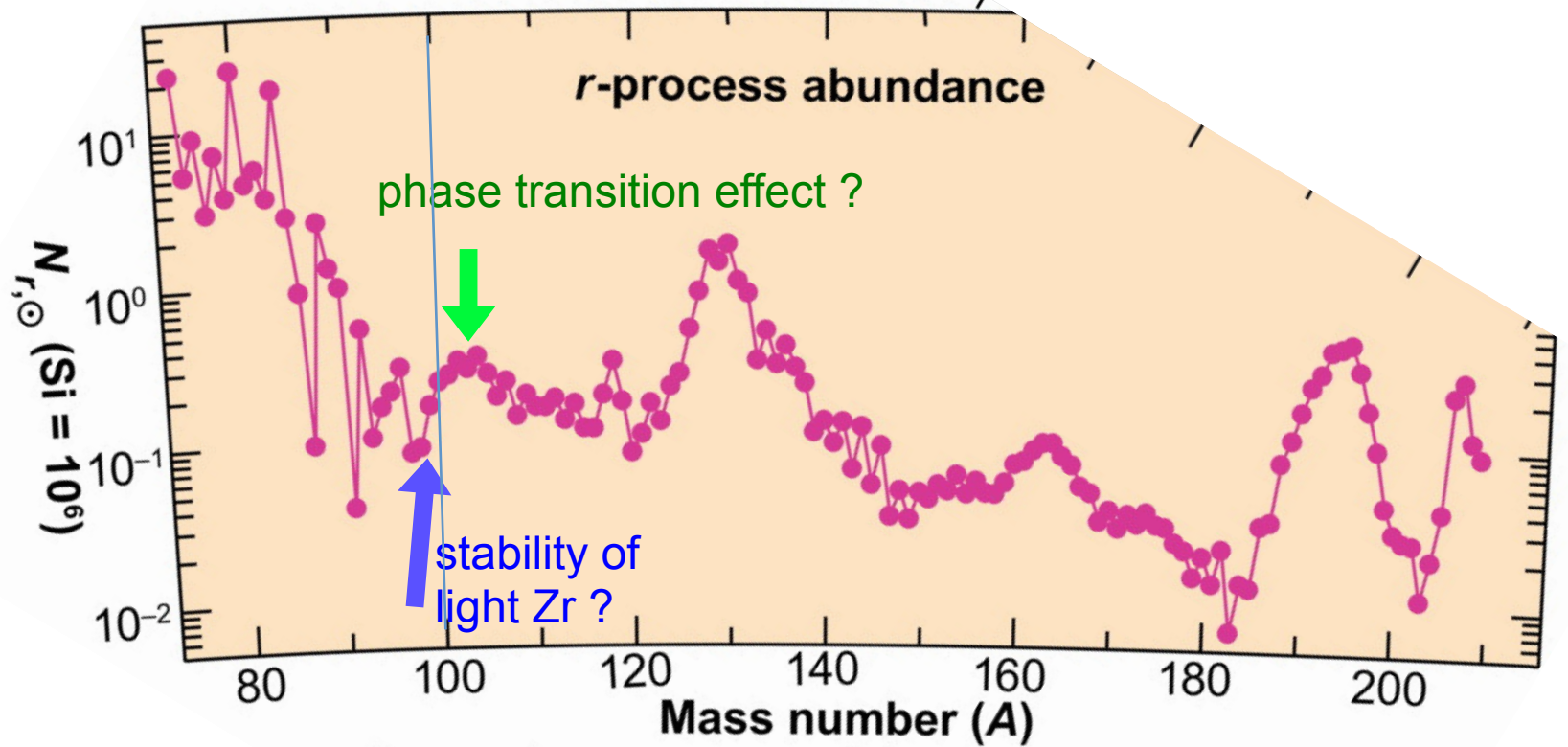


$(1/2+)$  ————— 0.0 **2.1 S 1**  
 $^{99}_{40}\text{Zr}_{59}$   
 $Q(\text{gs})=4704 \text{ keV } 17$   
 $\beta^-: 100\%$









## Summary and Perspectives

- The atomic nuclei are not like a simple rigid vase containing almost free nucleons.
- Nuclear forces are rich enough to change single-particle energies for each eigenstate. Type I and II shell evolutions are simple cases.
  - shape coexistence, quantum phase transition in shapes, *super def*, *octupole excitations*, *fission*, *etc.*
- More generally, single particle energies can be self-organized, because of (i) two quantum liquids (protons and neutrons),
  - (ii) two major force components :
    - e.g., quadrupole interaction : to drive deformation
    - monopole interaction : to control resistance
- Nucleosynthesis can be affected around the phase transition
  - example : certain shift of abundance to higher A ?
  - (n,  $\gamma$ ) populates higher levels but not lowest states,
  - beta decay from higher levels, more delay in beta decay, ...