

Nuclear Responses for Double Beta Decay and Muon Capture

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Motivation

- $\beta\beta$ -decays challenging to study both experimentally and theoretically
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- Reliable description of the intermediate states essential for probing the half-lives of $0\nu\beta\beta$ -decay.
- Physics beyond the Standard Model!



Charge-Exchange Reactions as a Probe

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- Intermediate J^π states of $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay can be studied by utilising the corresponding β^- (β^+) transitions of the mother (daughter) nucleus.
- The energetics and strength distributions of these reactions were studied using pnQRPA theory with large no-core single-particle bases.

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- The energetics and strength distributions of these reactions were studied using pnQRPA theory with large no-core single-particle bases.
- The aim is to probe the particle-hole parameter g_{ph} by fitting it to experimental data.

$0\nu\beta\beta$ Decay and CEX Reactions in the $A = 76$ Triplet

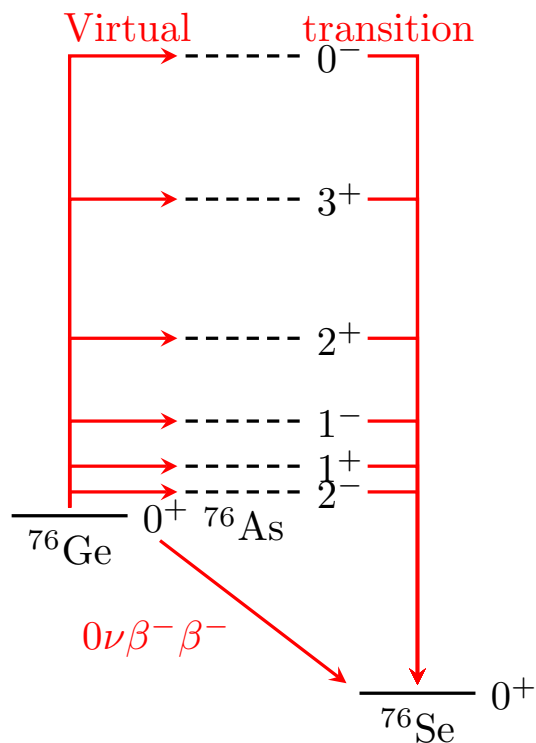


Figure 1: $0\nu\beta\beta$ transition.

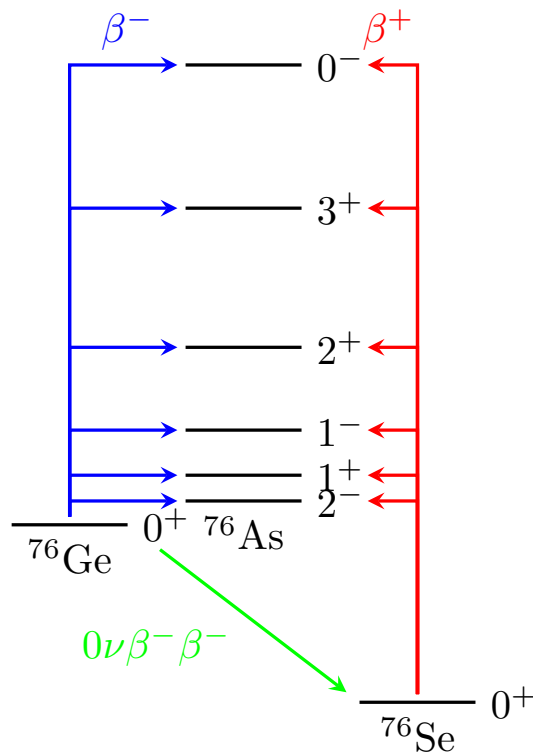


Figure 2: Charge-exchange reactions.

Results: Fitting the Particle-Hole Parameter to Experiments

- Measurements on isovector spin-dipole $J^\pi = 2^-$ transitions led by Prof. Hiro Ejiri at RCNP, University of Osaka and by Prof. Dieter Frekers at University of Muenster.

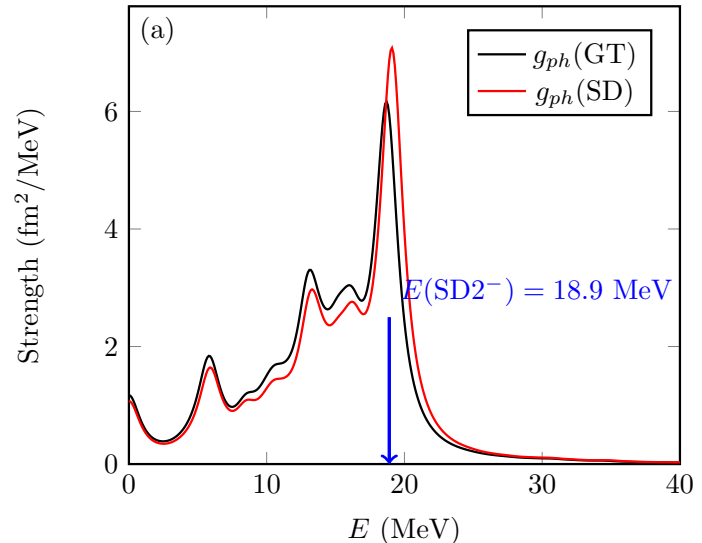


Figure 3: Isovector spin-dipole $J^\pi = 2^-$ spectra for $A = 76$ ¹.

¹L. Jokiniemi *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. C*, **98**, 024608 (2018).

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- The particle-hole parameter g_{ph} traditionally fitted to Gamow-Teller giant resonances → How about fitting g_{ph} to spin-dipole giant resonances, instead?

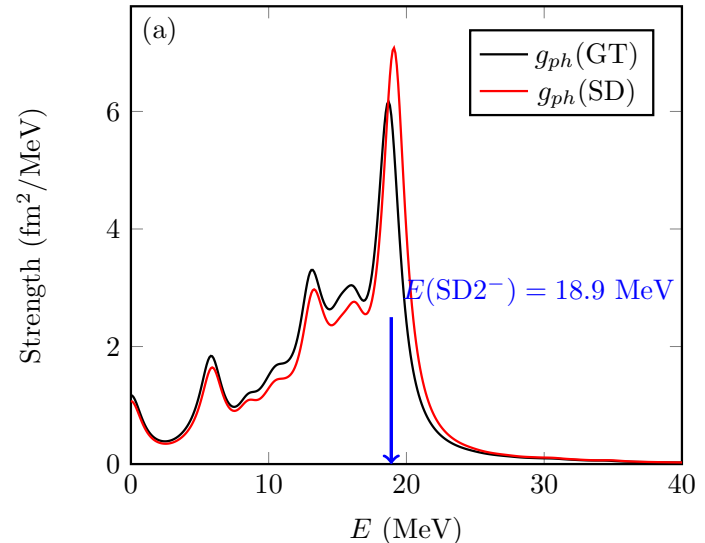


Figure 3: Isovector spin-dipole $J^\pi = 2^-$ spectra for $A = 76$ ¹.

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Results: The Values of g_{ph}

Table 1: Parameters of the pnQRPA calculations for various $0\nu\beta\beta$ decaying nuclei.

Nucleus	$E(\text{SD}2^-)$ (MeV)	$E(\text{GT})$ (MeV)	$g_{ph}(2^-)$	$g_{ph}(\text{GT})$
^{76}Ge	18.9 ± 1.0	11.4 ± 0.5	1.2 ± 0.3	1.03 ± 0.13
^{96}Zr	22 ± 1.0	12.7 ± 0.5	0.8 ± 0.2	0.84 ± 0.09
^{100}Mo	19.7 ± 1.0	12.2 ± 0.5	1.0 ± 0.2	1.19 ± 0.08
^{116}Cd	20.5 ± 1.0	13.0 ± 0.5	1.07 ± 0.09	0.85 ± 0.13
^{128}Te	21.3 ± 1.0	13.8 ± 0.5	1.9 ± 0.2	1.40 ± 0.09
^{130}Te	21.7 ± 1.0	14.2 ± 0.5	1.9 ± 0.2	1.36 ± 0.09
^{136}Xe	22.1 ± 1.0	14.6 ± 0.5	0.9 ± 0.2	1.18 ± 0.08

Results: $0\nu\beta\beta$ Matrix Elements Using Spin-Dipole Data

Different models

- 1 $g_{\text{ph}} = g_{\text{ph}}(\text{GT})$ for all J^π .²
- 2 $g_{\text{ph}} = g_{\text{ph}}(\text{SD}2^-)$ for $J^\pi = 2^-$, for the rest $g_{\text{ph}} = g_{\text{ph}}(\text{GT})$.
- 3 $g_{\text{ph}} = g_{\text{ph}}(\text{GT})$ for $J^\pi = 1^+$, for the rest $g_{\text{ph}} = g_{\text{ph}}(\text{SD}2^-)$.

Nuclear transition	Model	$M^{(0\nu)}$
$^{76}\text{Ge} \rightarrow ^{76}\text{Se}$	1	6.9 ± 0.3
	2	6.8 ± 0.3
	3	6.6 ± 0.4
	1,small ²	6.54
$^{96}\text{Zr} \rightarrow ^{96}\text{Mo}$	1	5.3 ± 0.2
	2	5.3 ± 0.2
	3	5.5 ± 0.4
	1,small ²	4.47
$^{100}\text{Mo} \rightarrow ^{100}\text{Ru}$	1	5.54 ± 0.10
	2	5.55 ± 0.11
	3	5.9 ± 0.4
	1,small ²	4.98
$^{116}\text{Cd} \rightarrow ^{116}\text{Sn}$	1	5.7 ± 0.2
	2	5.7 ± 0.2
	3	5.39 ± 0.13
	1,small ²	4.93
$^{128}\text{Te} \rightarrow ^{128}\text{Xe}$	1	5.52 ± 0.15
	2	5.47 ± 0.15
	3	4.9 ± 0.3
	1,small ²	5.74
$^{130}\text{Te} \rightarrow ^{130}\text{Xe}$	1	4.77 ± 0.12
	2	4.72 ± 0.12
	3	4.1 ± 0.2
	1,small ²	5.27
$^{136}\text{Xe} \rightarrow ^{136}\text{Ba}$	1	3.72 ± 0.09
	2	3.76 ± 0.10
	3	4.1 ± 0.3
	1,small ²	3.50

²J. Hyvärinen and J. Suhonen, *Phys. Rev. C*, **91**, 024613 (2015).

Muon Capture as a Probe

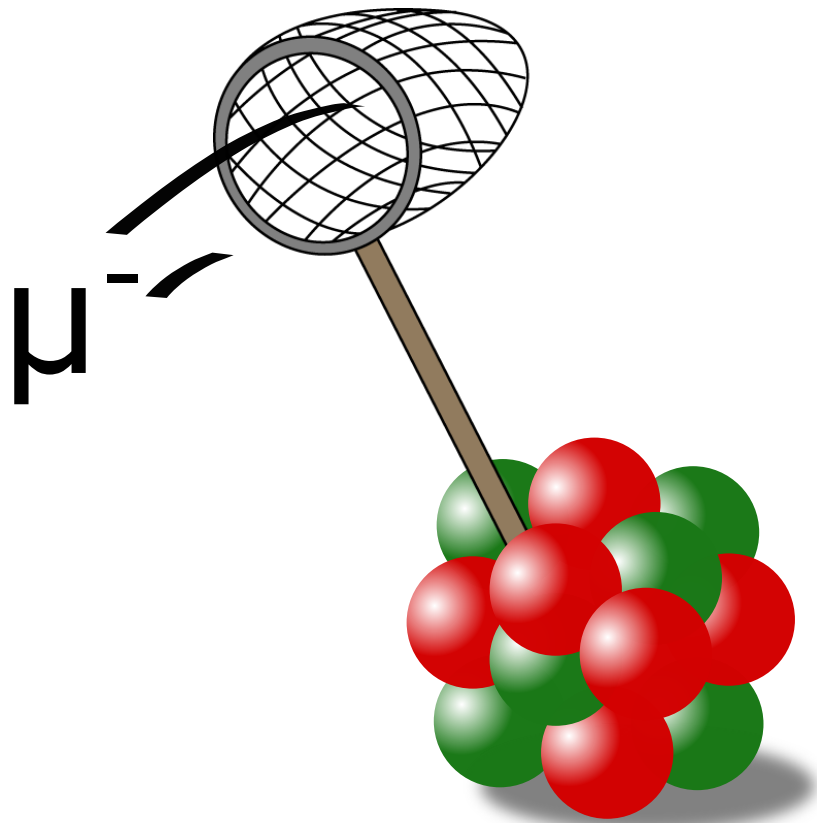
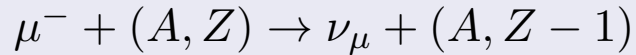


Figure 4: Very schematic figure of a muon capture.

Ordinary Muon Capture (OMC)

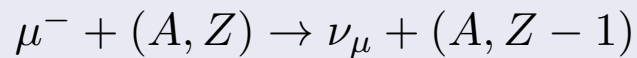
OMC



- Weak interaction process with high energy release and large momentum transfer.

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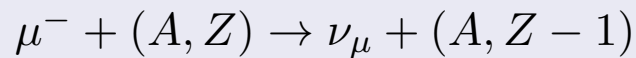
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- Energy release is about 100 MeV, of which the largest fraction is donated to the neutrino.

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- Energy release is about 100 MeV, of which the largest fraction is donated to the neutrino.
- Large mass of the captured muon allows forbidden transitions and high excitation energies of the final state.

Muon Capture Formalism

- OMC rates based on Morita-Fujii formalism ³.

³M. Morita, and A. Fujii, Phys. Rev. **118**, 606 (1960).

⁴H. Primakoff, Rev. Mod. Phys. **31**, 802 (1959).

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Muon Capture Formalism

- OMC rates based on Morita-Fujii formalism ³.
- Muonic screening is taken into account by the Primakoff method ⁴.
- Capture rate to a J^π final state can be written as

$$W = 8 \left(\frac{Z_{\text{eff}}}{Z} \right)^4 P(\alpha Z m'_\mu)^3 \frac{2J_f + 1}{2J_i + 1} \left(1 - \frac{q}{m_\mu + AM} \right) q^2, \quad (1)$$

where

- A is the mass number of the nuclei,
- $Z(Z_{\text{eff}})$ the (effective) atomic number of the initial nucleus,
- $J_i(J_f)$ the angular momentum of the initial (final) nucleus,
- M the average nucleon mass,
- m_μ the bound muon mass,
- α the fine-structure constant, and
- q the Q value of the OMC.

³M. Morita, and A. Fujii, Phys. Rev. **118**, 606 (1960).

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- The Q value of the OMC can be written as

$$q = (m_\mu - W_0) \left(1 - \frac{m_\mu - W_0}{2(M_f + m_\mu)} \right), \quad (2)$$

where $W_0 = M_f - M_i + m_e + E_X$, and

- $M_f(M_i)$ is the mass of the final(initial) nucleus,
- m_e the electron mass, and
- E_X the excitation energy of the final state.

OMC Formalism: P Term

- The term P in Eq. (1) can be written as

$$\begin{aligned}
 P = & \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\kappa u} \left| g_V [0 l u] S_{0u}(\kappa) \delta_{lu} + g_A [1 l u] S_{1u}(\kappa) - \frac{g_V}{M} [1 \bar{l} u p] S'_{1u}(-\kappa) \right. \\
 & + \sqrt{3} \frac{g_V q}{2M} \left(\sqrt{\frac{\bar{l}+1}{2\bar{l}+3}} [0 \bar{l}+1 u +] \delta_{\bar{l}+1, u} + \sqrt{\frac{\bar{l}}{2\bar{l}-1}} [0 \bar{l}-1 u -] \delta_{\bar{l}-1, u} \right) S'_{1u}(-\kappa) \\
 & + \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} \left(\frac{g_V q}{M} \right) (1 + \mu_p - \mu_n) \left(\sqrt{\bar{l}+1} W(1 1 u \bar{l}; 1 \bar{l}+1) [1 \bar{l}+1 u +] \right. \\
 & + \left. \sqrt{\bar{l}} W(1 1 u \bar{l}; 1 \bar{l}-1) [1 \bar{l}-1 u -] \right) S'_{1u}(-\kappa) \\
 & - \left(\frac{g_A}{M} \right) [0 \bar{l} u p] S'_{0u}(-\kappa) \delta_{\bar{l}u} + \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}} (g_P - g_A) \left(\frac{q}{2M} \right) \\
 & \times \left(\sqrt{\frac{\bar{l}+1}{2\bar{l}+1}} [1 \bar{l}+1 u +] + \sqrt{\frac{\bar{l}}{2\bar{l}+1}} [1 \bar{l}-1 u -] \right) \\
 & \times \left. S'_{0u}(-\kappa) \delta_{\bar{l}u} \right|^2, \tag{3}
 \end{aligned}$$

where we abbreviate $[k w u \left(\frac{\pm}{p}\right)] := \mathcal{M}[k w u \left(\frac{\pm}{p}\right)]$.

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- Original Morita-Fujii formalism included only the leading-order P_0 term
 - This can lead to unphysical results for some weak transitions to high-lying states
- We extended the formalism by adding the P_1 term in the calculations.

OMC Formalism: P_0 Term for n th Forbidden Transition:

$$\begin{aligned}
 P_0 = & g_V^2 [0 n n]^2 + \frac{1}{3} g_A^2 \left([1 n n]^2 + [1 n n+1]^2 + [1 n+2 n+1]^2 \right) + \frac{1}{2n+1} g_V^2 \frac{q}{M} [0 n n] \left(n [0 n n+] \right. \\
 & + (n+1) [0 n n-] \left. \right) + \sqrt{\frac{n(n+1)}{3}} \frac{1}{2n+1} g_V^2 \frac{q}{M} (1 + \mu_p - \mu_n) [0 n n] \left(- [1 n n-] + [1 n n+] \right) \\
 & - \sqrt{\frac{n(n+1)}{3}} \frac{1}{2n+1} g_A g_V \frac{q}{M} [1 n n] \left([0 n n-] - [0 n n+] \right) \\
 & + \frac{1}{3} g_A g_V \frac{q}{M} (1 + \mu_p - \mu_n) \left\{ \frac{1}{2n+1} [1 n n] \left(n [1 n n-] + (n+1) [1 n n+] \right) \right. \\
 & + \frac{1}{2n+3} \left(\sqrt{n+2} [1 n n+1] - \sqrt{n+1} [1 n+2 n+1] \right) \left(\sqrt{n+2} [1 n n+1-] - \sqrt{n+1} [1 n+2 n+1+] \right) \left. \right\} \\
 & + \frac{1}{3(2n+3)} g_A (g_A - g_P) \frac{q}{M} \left(\sqrt{n+1} [1 n n+1] + \sqrt{n+2} [1 n+2 n+1] \right) \left(\sqrt{n+1} [1 n n+1-] \right. \\
 & + \left. \sqrt{n+2} [1 n+2 n+1+] \right) - \frac{2}{\sqrt{3(2n+1)}} g_V^2 \frac{1}{M} [0 n n] \left(\sqrt{n} [1 n-1 n p] + \sqrt{n+1} [1 n+1 n p] \right) \\
 & - \frac{2}{3} g_A g_V \frac{1}{M} \left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2n+3}} \left(-\sqrt{n+2} [1 n n+1] + \sqrt{n+1} [1 n+2 n+1] \right) [1 n+1 n+1 p] \right. \\
 & + \left. \frac{1}{\sqrt{2n+1}} [1 n n] \left(\sqrt{n+1} [1 n-1 n p] - \sqrt{n} [1 n+1 n p] \right) \right\} \\
 & + \frac{2}{\sqrt{3(2n+3)}} g_A^2 \frac{1}{M} \left(\sqrt{n+1} [1 n n+1] + \sqrt{n+2} [1 n+2 n+1] \right) [0 n+1 n+1 p] \\
 & + \frac{1}{12(2n+3)} \left(\frac{g_P q}{M} \right)^2 \left(\sqrt{n+1} [1 n n+1-] + \sqrt{n+2} [1 n+2 n+1+] \right)^2
 \end{aligned}$$

(4)

OMC Formalism: Added P_1 Term:

$$\begin{aligned}
 P_1 = & \left(\frac{g_A}{M}\right)^2 [0n+1n+1]^2 + g_V^2 \left(\frac{q}{2M}\right)^2 \frac{1}{2n+1} \left(n[0nn+]^2 + (n+1)[0nn-]^2 \right) \\
 & + \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{g_V}{M}\right)^2 \left([1n-1np]^2 + [1n+1np]^2 + [1n+1n+1p]^2 \right) \\
 & + \frac{1}{12} (g_A^2 - 2g_A g_P) \left(\frac{q}{M}\right)^2 \frac{1}{2n+3} \left(\sqrt{n+2}[1n+2n+1+] + \sqrt{n+1}[1nn+1-] \right)^2 \\
 & + \frac{1}{12} \left(\frac{g_V q}{2M}\right)^2 (1 + \mu_p - \mu_n) \left\{ \frac{1}{2n+1} \left((n+1)[1nn+]^2 + n[1nn-]^2 \right) \right. \\
 & \left. + \frac{1}{2n+3} \left(\sqrt{n+1}[1n+2n+1+] - \sqrt{n+2}[1nn+1-] \right)^2 \right\} \\
 & - \frac{1}{\sqrt{3(2n+1)}} \left(\frac{g_V}{M}\right)^2 q \left(\sqrt{n}[1n-1np][0nn+] + \sqrt{n+1}[1n+1np][0nn-] \right) \\
 & + \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{g_V}{M}\right)^2 q (1 + \mu_p - \mu_n) \left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2n+1}} \left(\sqrt{n}[1n+1np][1nn-] - \sqrt{n+1}[1n-1np][1nn+] \right) \right. \\
 & \left. + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2n+3}} \left(\sqrt{n+2}[1n+1n+1p][1nn+1-] - \sqrt{n+1}[1n+1n+1p][1n+2n+1+] \right) \right\} \\
 & + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}} \left(\frac{g_V q}{M}\right)^2 (1 + \mu_p - \mu_n) \frac{\sqrt{n(n+1)}}{2n+1} \left([0nn+][1nn+] - [0nn-][1nn-] \right) \\
 & + \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} g_A (g_A - g_P) \frac{q}{M^2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2n+3}} [0n+1n+1p] \left(\sqrt{n+2}[1n+2n+1+] + \sqrt{n+1}[1nn+1-] \right)
 \end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

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- 1 Muon capture rate distribution on ^{100}Mo computed with pnQRPA, and compared with experimental data.

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- 3 OMC rates compared with $0\nu\beta\beta$ matrix elements.

Results 1/3: Theoretical vs. Experimental Muon Capture Spectra in ^{100}Nb

- For the first time, OMC giant resonance was observed in ^{100}Nb ⁵.

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- OMC rate distribution to the excited states of ^{100}Nb computed and compared with the experimental strength distribution.
- Involved nuclear wave functions computed with pnQRPA with large no-core single-particle bases.
- Obtained giant resonance compared with the experimental one
→ Both distributions show giant resonance at around 12 MeV!

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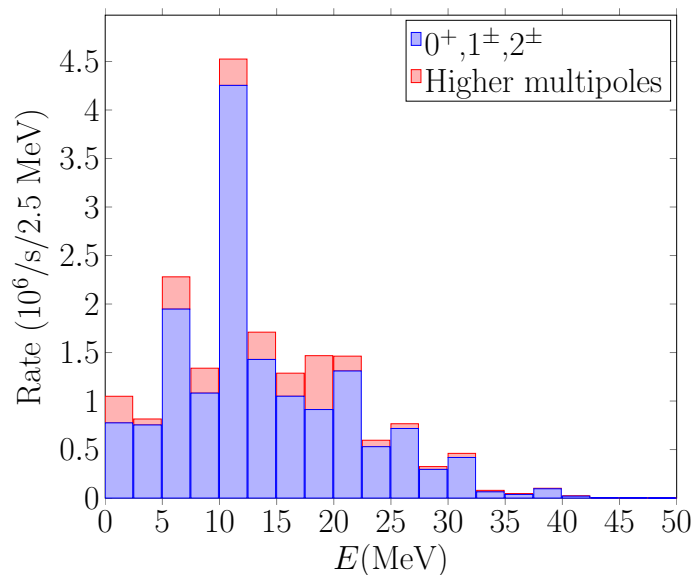


Figure 5: Theoretical muon capture rate distribution to ^{100}Nb .

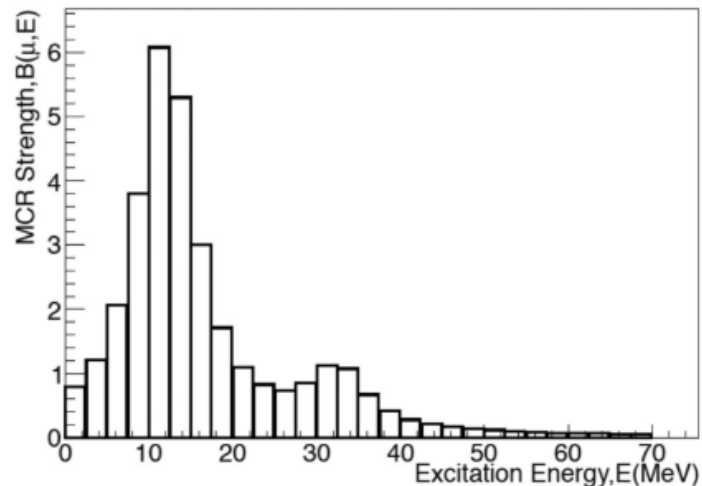


Figure 6: Experimental muon capture strength distribution to ^{100}Nb .⁶

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Results 1/3: Theoretical vs. Experimental Muon Capture Spectra in ^{100}Nb

- Primakoff estimate for the total muon capture rate

$$W_{\text{Pr.}}(A, Z) = Z_{\text{eff}}^4 X_1 \left[1 - X_2 \left(\frac{A - Z}{2A} \right) \right], \quad (6)$$

where $X_1 = 170$ 1/s and $X_2 = 3.125$, gives
 $W_{\text{Pr.}}(^{100}\text{Mo}) = 7.7 \times 10^6$ 1/s.

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$$W_{\text{Pr.}}(^{100}\text{Mo}) = 7.7 \times 10^6 \text{ 1/s.}$$

- Total OMC rate value obtained from pnQRPA calculations (with $g_A = 0.8$ and $g_P = 10$) was $W_{\text{tot}} = 17.7 \times 10^6$ 1/s
→ This suggests for quenched $g_A \approx 0.5$!

Results 2/3: OMC Strength Functions in Intermediate Nuclei of $0\nu\beta\beta$ Decays

- OMC rates to the intermediate nuclei of neutrinoless double beta ($0\nu\beta\beta$) decays of current experimental interest are computed in the pnQRPA framework.

⁷D. Zinatulina *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C **99**, 024327 (2019).

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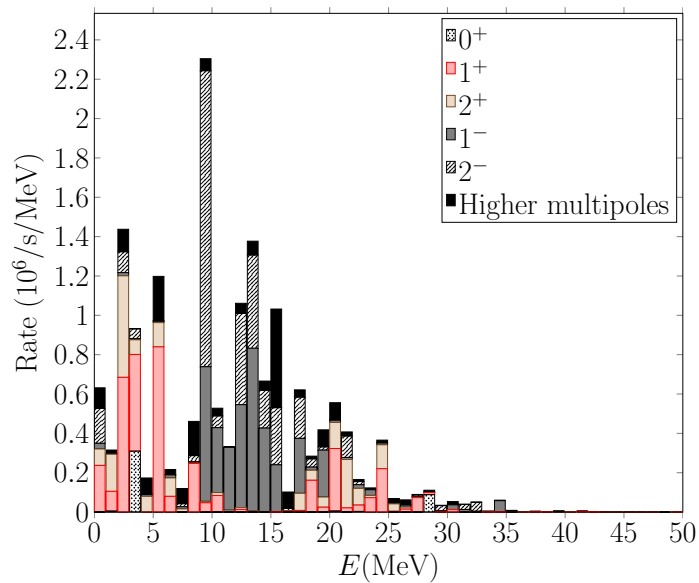


Figure 7: OMC rate distribution for $^{76}\text{Se}(0_{\text{g.s.}}^+) + \mu^- \rightarrow ^{76}\text{As}(J^\pi) + \nu_\mu$.

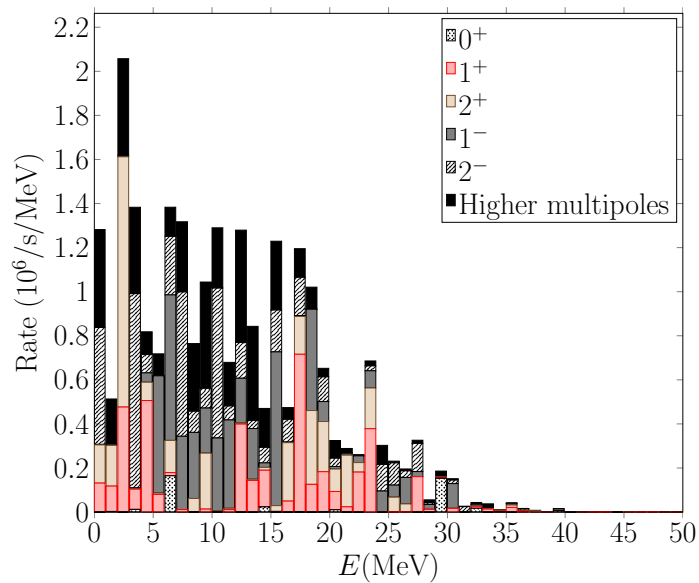


Figure 8: OMC rate distribution for $^{130}\text{Xe}(0_{\text{g.s.}}^+) + \mu^- \rightarrow ^{130}\text{I}(J^\pi) + \nu_\mu$.

Results 2/3: OMC Strength Functions in Intermediate Nuclei of $0\nu\beta\beta$ Decays

Table 2: The “most probable” experimental OMC strength distribution below 1.1 MeV in $^{76}\text{As}^8$ compared with the corresponding pnQRPA-computed distribution. ‘g.s.’ means transitions to the ground state that could not be measured.

J^π	OMC rate (1/s)	
	Exp.	pnQRPA
0^+	5120	414
1^+	218 240	236 595
1^-	31 360	28 991
2^+	120 960	114 016
2^-	145 920 + g.s.	177 802
3^+	60 160	55 355
3^-	53 120	34 836
4^+	-	2797
4^-	30 080	23 897

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Results 3/3: OMC vs. $0\nu\beta\beta$ in ^{76}As

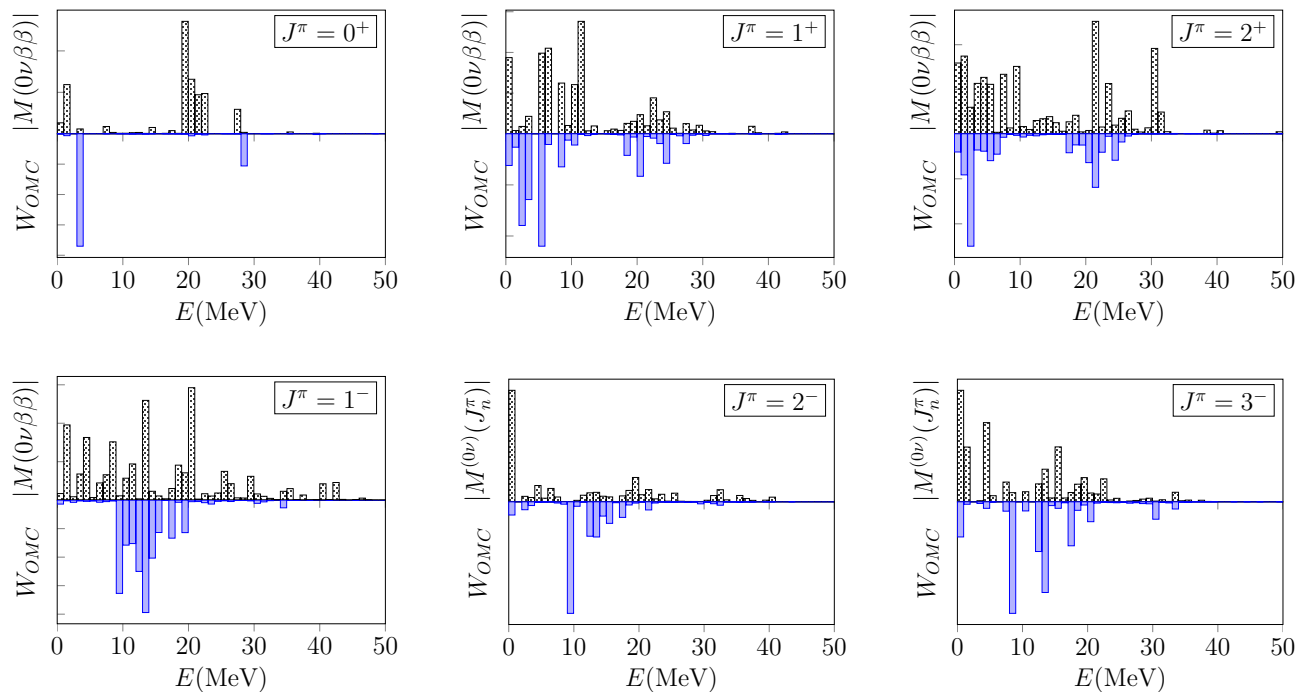


Figure 9: $0\nu\beta\beta$ matrix elements vs. OMC rates to the daughter nucleus of $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay in the $A=76$ system. J^π refers to the angular momentum of the virtual states of the intermediate nucleus of $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay.

To Be Continued: Muon Capture Rates to the Lowest States of Shell Model Nuclei ^{24}Na , ^{32}P , and ^{56}Mn

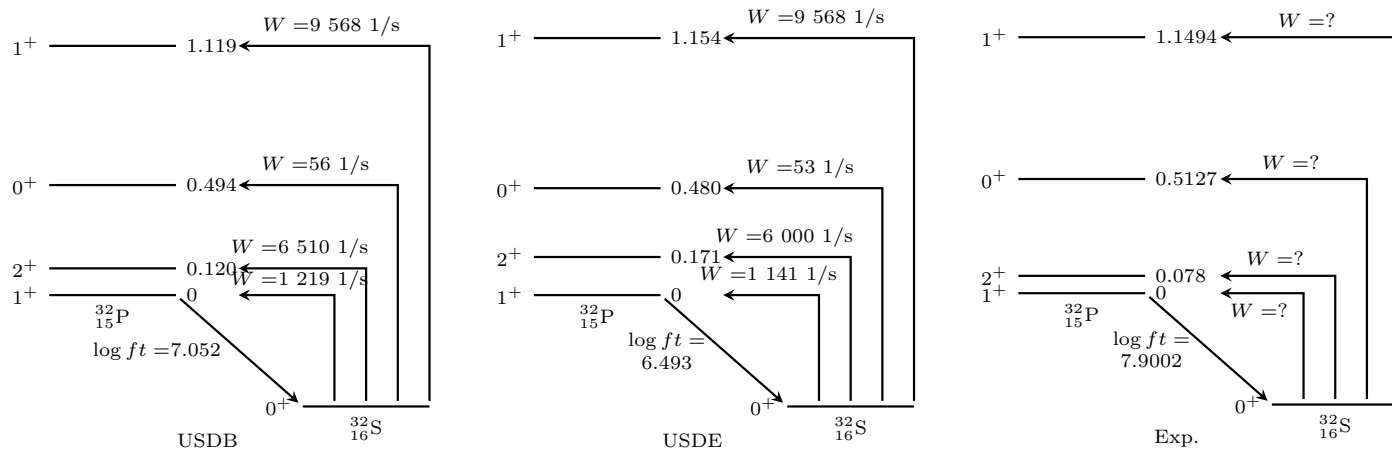


Figure 10: Muon capture rates to the lowest states of ^{32}P computed with two different interactions.

→ Experiment under planning. → g_A , g_P ?

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- Comparing the total capture rates with Primakoff estimates suggests for strongly quenched g_A value.
- We still need more data to be able to fit the parameters g_A and g_P using muon capture results.

Thank you for your attention!