

# Laser spectroscopy for nuclear structure physics

---

Ruben de Groot

[ruben.degroot@kuleuven.be](mailto:ruben.degroot@kuleuven.be)



# Outline

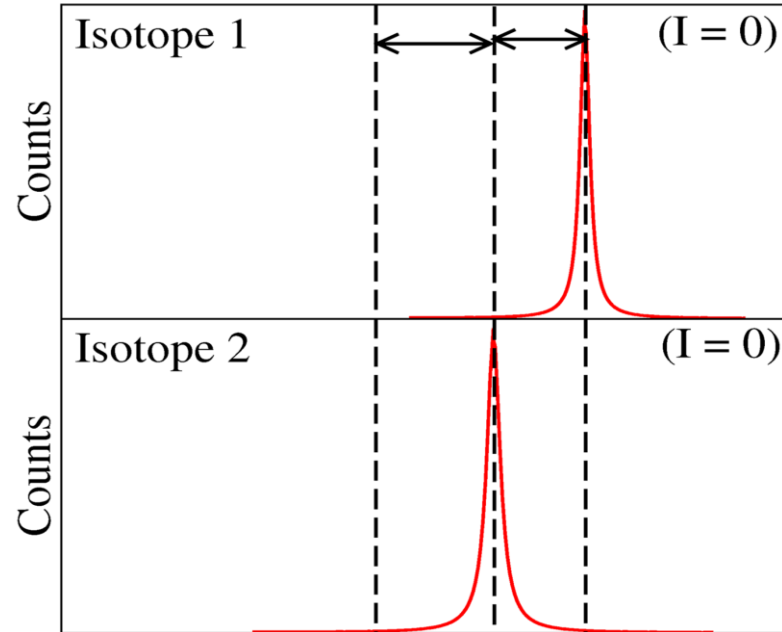
- Lecture 1: History, nuclear fingerprints, shapes and radii
- Lecture 2: Optical spectroscopy, laser ionization, Doppler-free approaches, ...
- Lecture 3: Magnetic moments as probes of nuclear structure: a case study
- Lecture 4: Super efficient, super precise: two examples!
  - Here we can talk about all the higher order things that Iain has been building up suspense for

# Let's revise some of the basics...

- Precision measurements of atomic excitations allow us to learn about nuclear structure
- Shift of a line from one isotope to the next  
= isotope shift

$$\delta\langle r^2 \rangle = \frac{1}{F} \left[ \nu^{AA'} - (K_{NMS} + K_{SMS}) \frac{m_A - m_{A'}}{(m_A + m_e)m_{A'}} \right]$$

Nuclear →  $\delta\langle r^2 \rangle$   
 Measured →  $\nu^{AA'}$   
 Atomic →  $(K_{NMS} + K_{SMS})$



# Let's revise some of the basics...

- Precision measurements of atomic excitations allow us to learn about nuclear structure
- Shift of a line from one isotope to the next = isotope shift

$$\delta\langle r^2 \rangle = \frac{1}{F} \left[ \nu^{AA'} - (K_{NMS} + K_{SMS}) \frac{m_A - m_{A'}}{(m_A + m_e)m_{A'}} \right]$$

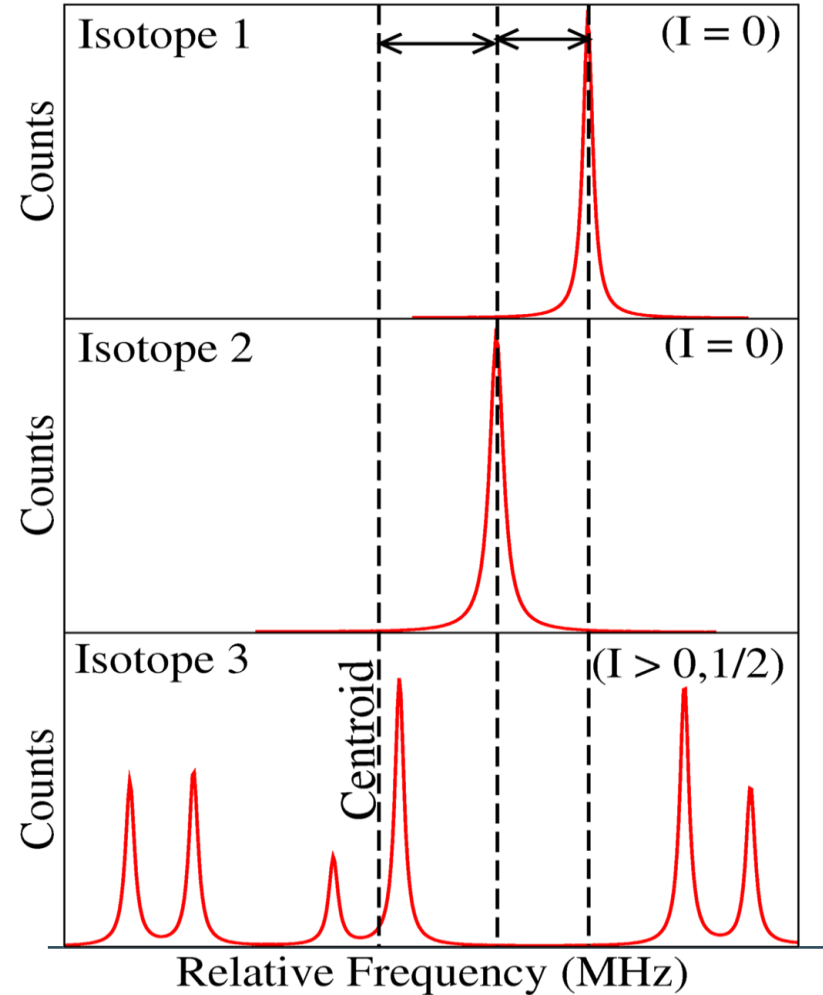
- Hyperfine interaction:

$$E(F) = \frac{A}{2} C + \frac{B}{4} \frac{C(C+1) - I(I+1)J(J+1)}{2(2I-1)(2J-1)I \cdot J}$$

where  $C = F(F+1) - I(I+1) - J(J+1)$

Measured

Nuclear \* atomic



For a nucleus with  $I > 0$ : possible values of  $F = I + J$ :  
 $I+J, |I+J-1| \dots |I-J|$

# Let's revise some of the basics...

- Precision measurements of atomic excitations allow us to learn about nuclear structure
- Shift of a line from one isotope to the next = isotope shift

$$\delta\langle r^2 \rangle = \frac{1}{F} \left[ \nu^{AA'} - (K_{NMS} + K_{SMS}) \frac{m_A - m_{A'}}{(m_A + m_e)m_{A'}} \right]$$

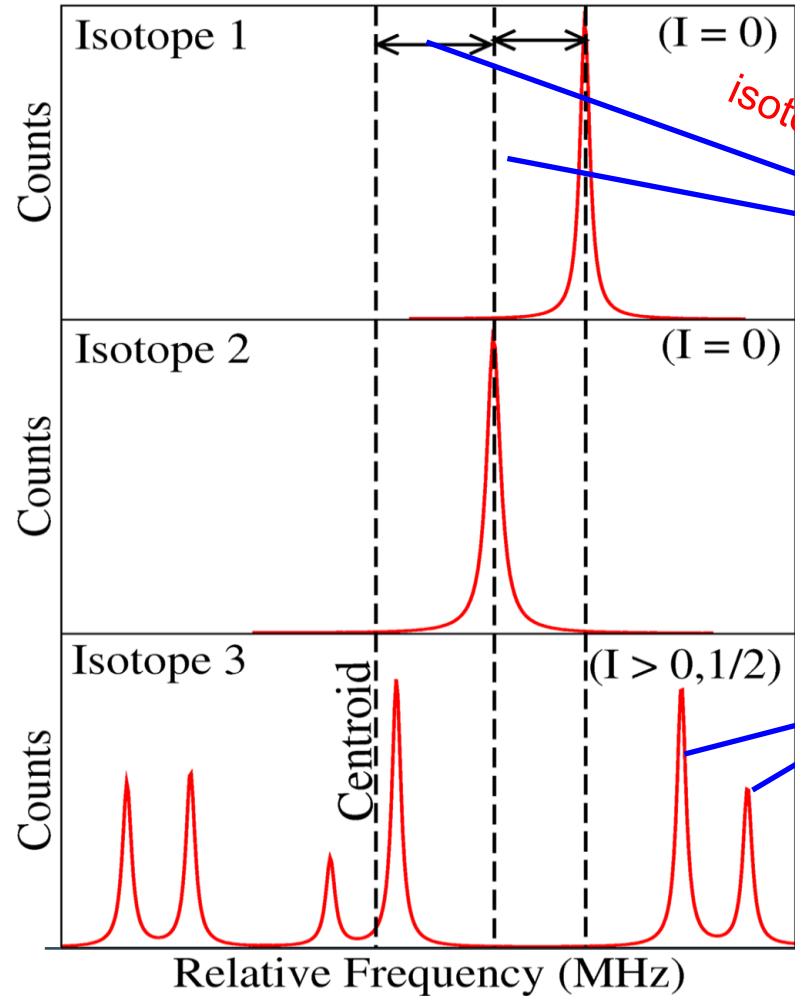
- Hyperfine interaction:

$$E(F) = \frac{A}{2} C + \frac{B}{4} \frac{C(C+1) - I(I+1)J(J+1)}{2(2I-1)(2J-1)I \cdot J}$$

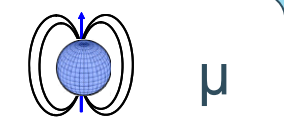
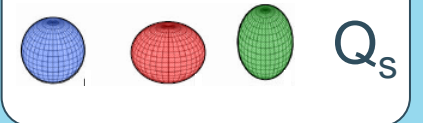
where  $C = F(F+1) - I(I+1) - J(J+1)$

Measured

Nuclear \* atomic



Model Independent (measured)



# Unit conversions...

Optical transitions: 100's of THz, a few eV, 10000s of  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , 100s of nm

Hyperfine splitting: 100's of MHz, a few  $\mu\text{eV}$ ,  $\sim 0.01 \text{ cm}^{-1}$

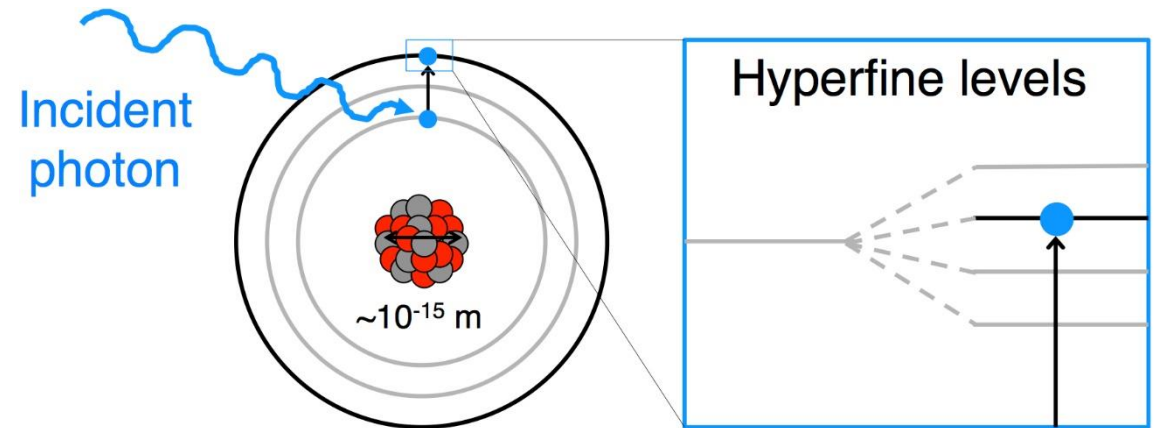
Optical linewidth: 100's of MHz, a few  $\mu\text{eV}$ ,  $\sim 0.01 \text{ cm}^{-1}$

$1 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ :  $\sim 30000 \text{ MHz}$

$1 \text{ eV}$ :  $\sim 8000 \text{ cm}^{-1}$

# Let's revise some of the basics...

- Laser spectroscopy techniques
  - use a laser to excite atoms or ions,
  - ideally with sufficient resolution to resolve the hyperfine structure and/or isotope shift,
- They differ in
  - how these optical excitations are detected
  - the conditions the atoms or ions find themselves in



## In-source techniques

- Excitation is converted into *ionization* by adding additional lasers
- Close to the site of radioactive isotope production – environment strongly affects spectroscopy!

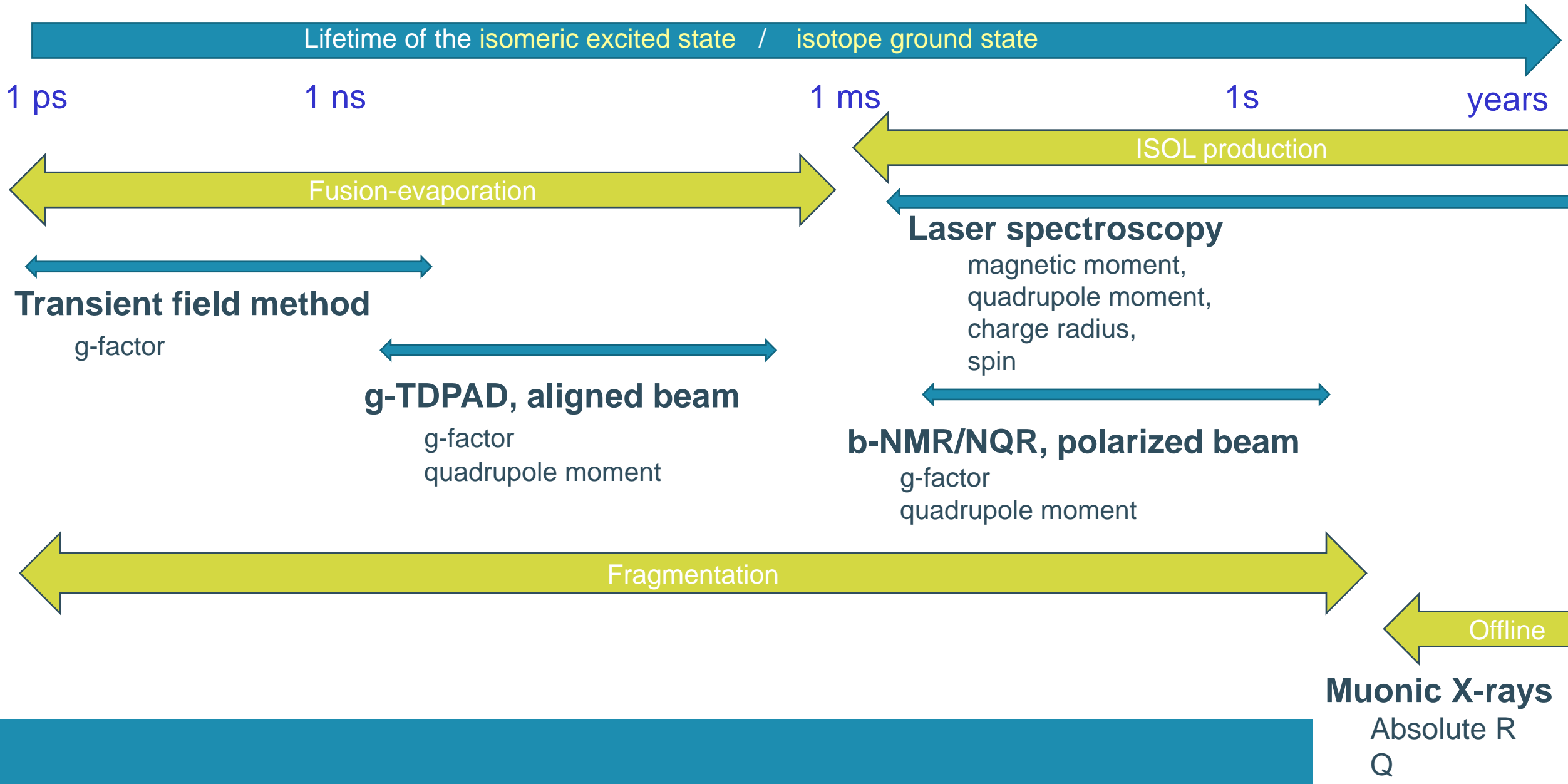
## Collinear techniques

- Isotopes are accelerated prior to the measurement to a few keV energy – doppler-free!
- Many variants exist, e.g. fluorescence detected, CRIS, using laser polarization, ...

## Trap-based techniques

- Isotopes are carefully manipulated and held 'still' inside an atom or ion trap
- At RIB facilities: predominantly used for precision experiments (parity violation, weak interaction studies, ...)

# Methods to measure moments, radii, spins: lifetime dependence / production method





# Magnetic moments – what can they tell us?

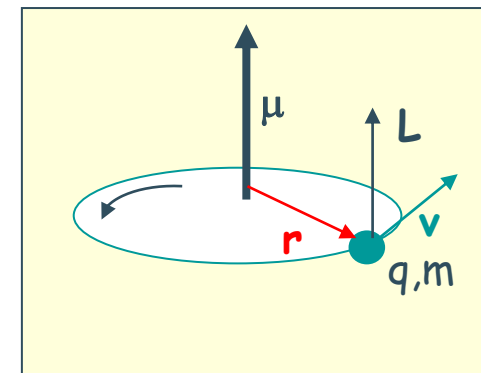
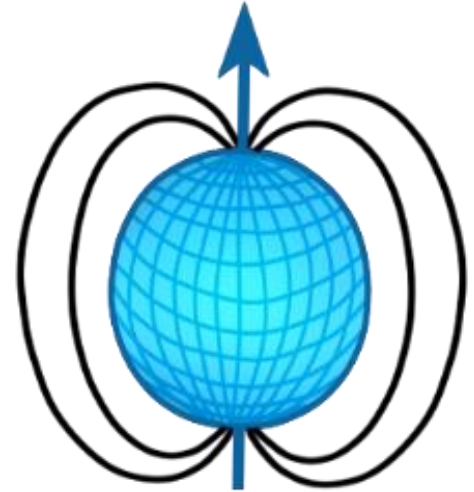
From the definition:

$$\bar{\mu}^{\pi} = g_L^{\pi} \bar{\mathbf{L}}_{\pi} + g_S^{\pi} \bar{\mathbf{S}}_{\pi} = g^{\pi} \bar{\mathbf{I}}_{\pi}$$

We can see that the magnetic moment depends on the orbital and spin angular momentum.

|   |            |                |
|---|------------|----------------|
| Protons:  | $g_l = +1$ | $g_s = +5.586$ |
| Neutrons:   | $g_l = 0$  | $g_s = -3.826$ |
| (These are values for a <i>free</i> proton/neutron) |            |                |

Measuring a magnetic moment is an excellent way to learn more about the wavefunction/configuration of the nucleus.



Magnetic dipole

$\mu$

# Magnetic moments – what can they tell us?

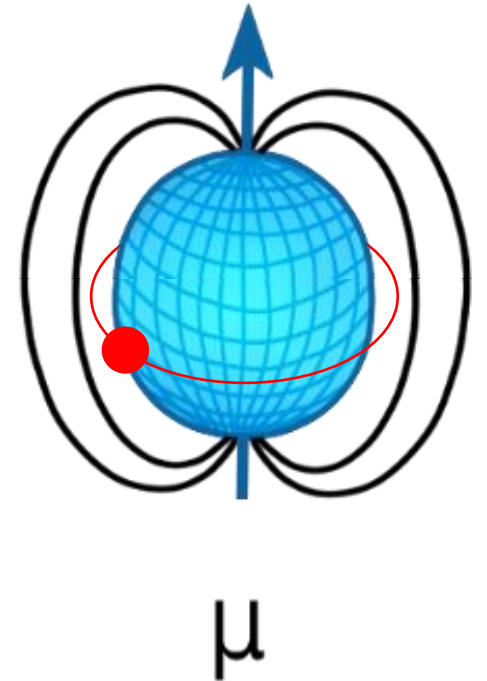
Assume a single, unpaired nucleon outside of a core that it does not interact with at all.

All nucleons inside the nucleus neatly pair up to spin zero, thus not contributing to the magnetic moment, and we find:

$$\mu_{\text{sp}} = \mu_{\text{N}} \left[ g_l j + \frac{1}{2}(g_s - g_l) \right] \quad \text{for } j = l + \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\mu_{\text{sp}} = \mu_{\text{N}} \left[ g_l j - (g_s - g_l) \frac{j}{2j + 2} \right] \quad \text{for } j = l - \frac{1}{2}$$

These expressions summarize the so-called **Schmidt moments**.

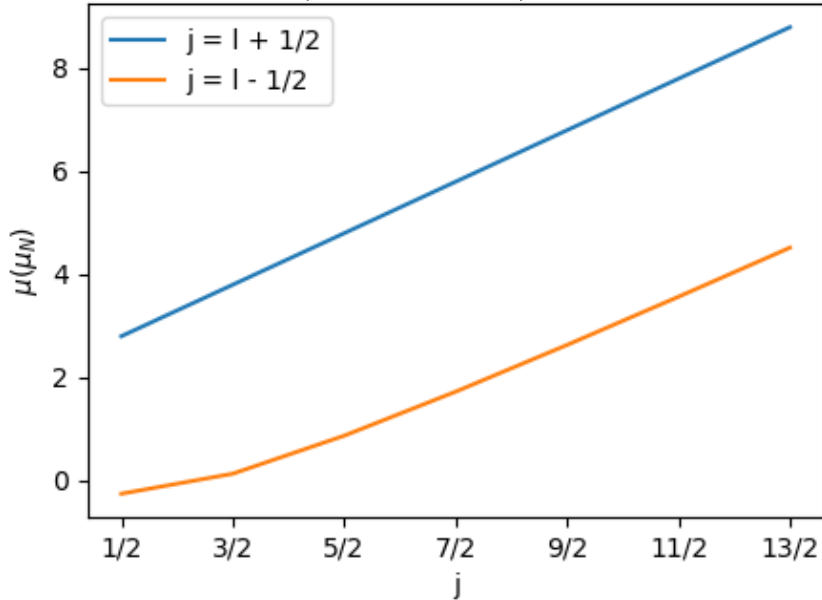


# Magnetic moments – what can they tell us?

For protons:

$$\mu = j - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{g_s^\pi}{2} \quad \text{for } j = l + \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\mu = \frac{j}{j+1} \left( j + \frac{3}{2} - \frac{g_s^\pi}{2} \right) \quad \text{for } j = l - \frac{1}{2}$$



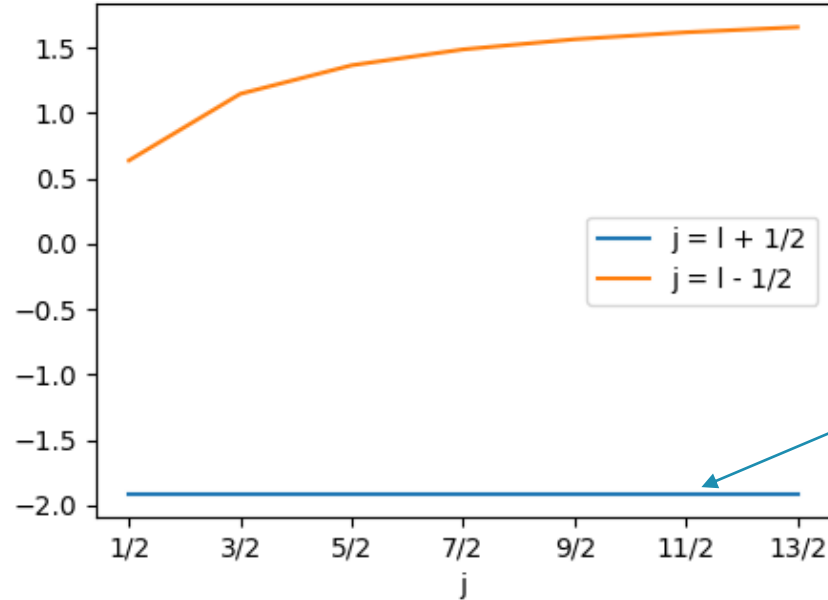
Proton moments

- increase with j
- only  $\pi p_{1/2}$  negative !

For neutrons:

$$\mu = \frac{g_s^v}{2} = -1.913 \quad \text{for } j = l + \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\mu = -\frac{j}{j+1} \frac{g_s^v}{2} \quad \text{for } j = l - \frac{1}{2}$$



Neutron moments

- constant negative value for neutron in a l+1/2 orbit
- (small) positive values for l-1/2 orbits

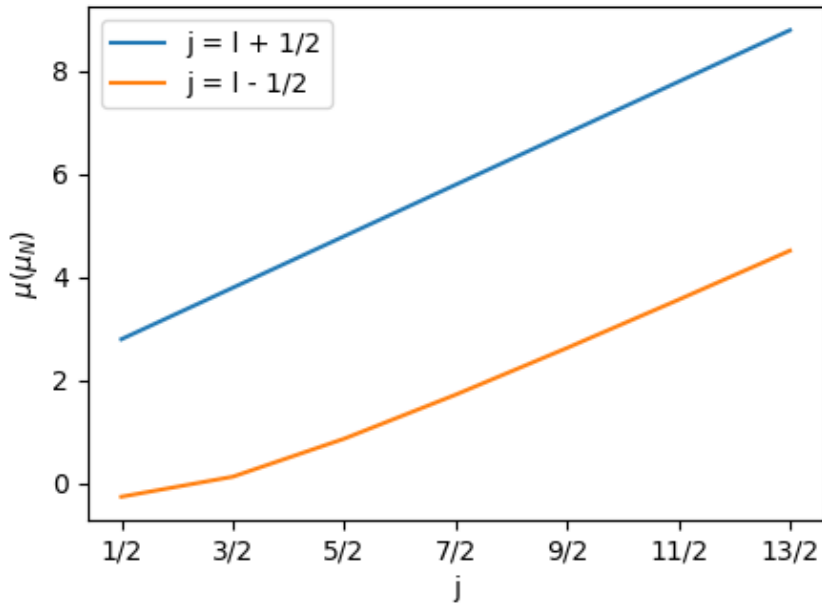
neutron has no charge  
⇒ no orbital contribution

# Magnetic moments – what can they tell us?

For protons:

$$\mu = j - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{g_s^\pi}{2} \quad \text{for } j = l + \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\mu = \frac{j}{j+1} \left( j + \frac{3}{2} - \frac{g_s^\pi}{2} \right) \quad \text{for } j = l - \frac{1}{2}$$



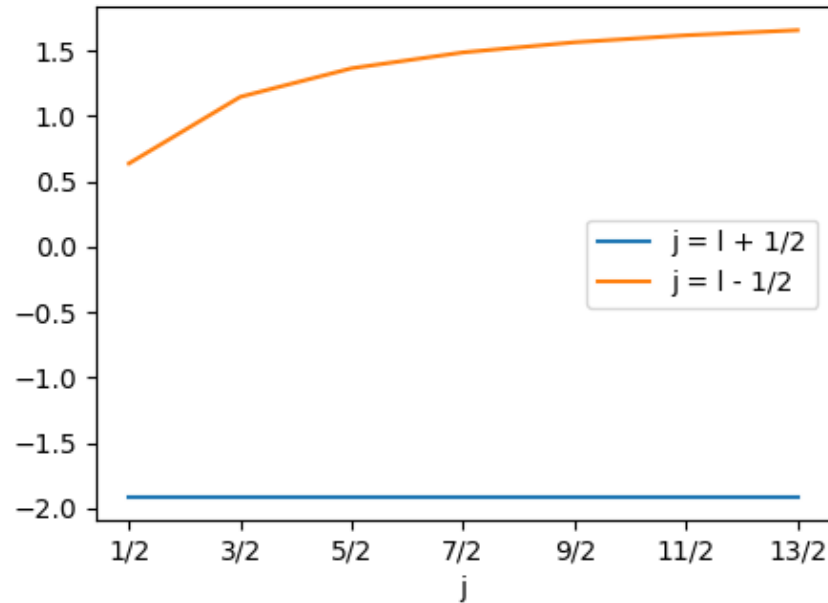
Proton moments

- increase with j
- only  $\pi p_{1/2}$  negative !

For neutrons:

$$\mu = \frac{g_s^v}{2} = -1.913 \quad \text{for } j = l + \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\mu = -\frac{j}{j+1} \frac{g_s^v}{2} \quad \text{for } j = l - \frac{1}{2}$$



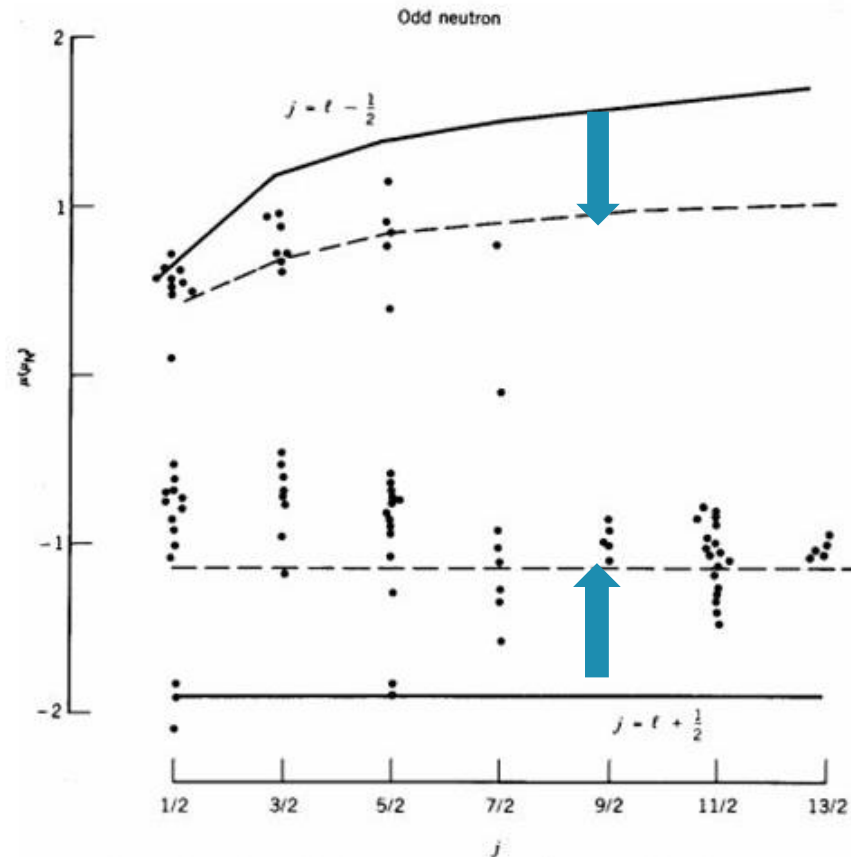
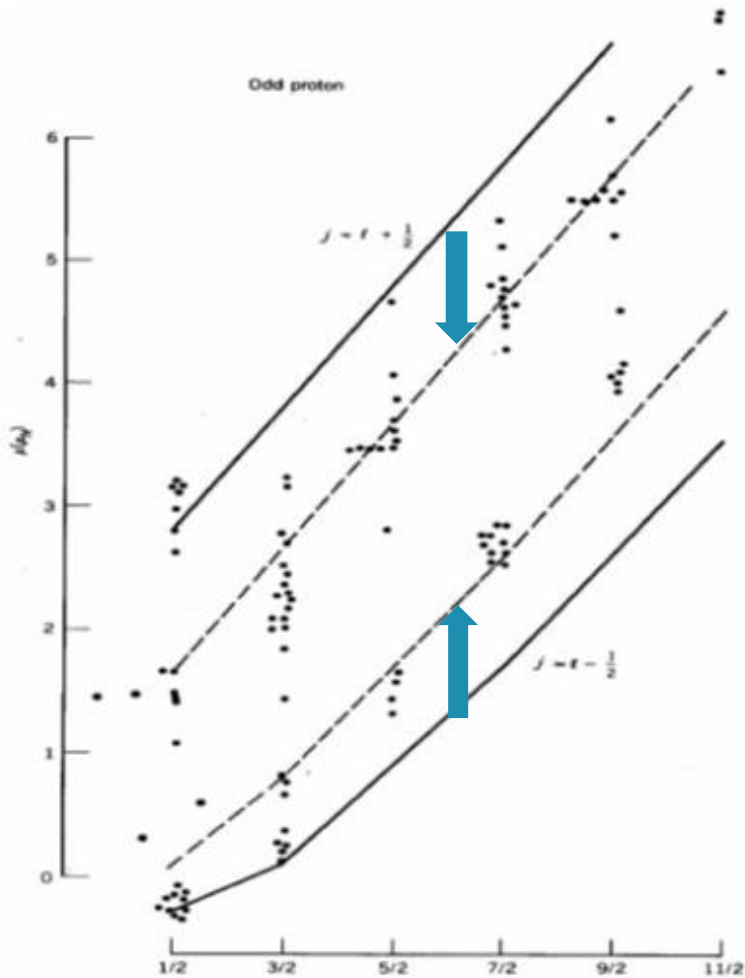
Neutron moments

- constant negative value for neutron in a l+1/2 orbit
- (small) positive values for l-1/2 orbits

Note:

- Protons: larger values
- Moment depends very strongly on the relative alignment of spin and orbital moment!
- Relative to our experimental accuracy (to be discussed next), these are **very large** differences in  $\mu$  for a given configuration

# Magnetic moments – what can they tell us?



- Experimentally, we find the general trend is correct, but there is a consistent deviation from Schmidt lines
- $g_s = 0.7 g_{s,\text{free}}$
- Cause?
  - Nucleons are not free but are embedded in nuclear medium
  - Configuration mixing: our assumption of a perfect single-particle behaviour is imperfect.

# Case study – zinc isotopes

## 0. atomic structure

- Zinc has 30 protons
- Singly-charged Zn: difficult wavelengths
- Neutral zinc therefore has 30 electrons
- Atomic structure:
  - [https://physics.nist.gov/PhysRefData/ASD/levels\\_form.html](https://physics.nist.gov/PhysRefData/ASD/levels_form.html)
  - Filled atomic d-shell
  - Two valence electrons can be placed in 4s, 4p, 5s, 5p, ... to form lowest-energy atomic states

| Configuration                    | Term | <i>J</i> | Level (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) | Uncertainty (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) |
|----------------------------------|------|----------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 3d <sup>10</sup> 4s <sup>2</sup> | 1S   | 0        | 0.0000                    | 0.0019                          |
| 3d <sup>10</sup> 4s4p            | 3P°  | 0        | 32 311.3176               | 0.0010                          |
|                                  |      | 1        | 32 501.3990               | 0.0000                          |
|                                  |      | 2        | 32 890.3267               | 0.0009                          |
| 3d <sup>10</sup> 4s4p            | 1P°  | 1        | 46 745.4032               | 0.0024                          |
| 3d <sup>10</sup> 4s5s            | 3S   | 1        | 53 672.2398               | 0.0008                          |
| 3d <sup>10</sup> 4s5s            | 1S   | 0        | 55 789.216                | 0.003                           |
| 3d <sup>10</sup> 4s5p            | 3P°  | 0        | 61 247.866                | 0.005                           |
|                                  |      | 1        | 61 274.419                | 0.004                           |
|                                  |      | 2        | 61 330.845                | 0.003                           |

# Case study – zinc isotopes

## 0. atomic structure

Spectroscopy from ground state?

- Ground state:  $J=0$   
=> no sensitivity to nuclear moments:  
there is no hyperfine splitting!

| Configuration | Term        | $J$ | Level ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) | Uncertainty ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) |
|---------------|-------------|-----|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| $3d^{10}4s^2$ | $^1S$       | 0   | 0.0000                     | 0.0019                           |
| $3d^{10}4s4p$ | $^3P^\circ$ | 0   | 32 311.3176                | 0.0010                           |
|               |             | 1   | 32 501.3990                | 0.0000                           |
|               |             | 2   | 32 890.3267                | 0.0009                           |
| $3d^{10}4s4p$ | $^1P^\circ$ | 1   | 46 745.4032                | 0.0024                           |
| $3d^{10}4s5s$ | $^3S$       | 1   | 53 672.2398                | 0.0008                           |
| $3d^{10}4s5s$ | $^1S$       | 0   | 55 789.216                 | 0.003                            |
| $3d^{10}4s5p$ | $^3P^\circ$ | 0   | 61 247.866                 | 0.005                            |
|               |             | 1   | 61 274.419                 | 0.004                            |
|               |             | 2   | 61 330.845                 | 0.003                            |

# Case study – zinc isotopes

## 0. atomic structure

Spectroscopy from ground state?

- Ground state:  $J=0$   
=> no sensitivity to nuclear moments
- Only option is a transition to  $J = 1^*$   
=>  $J = 1$ : hyperfine structure will only contain three peaks, not enough to get isotope shift, A, B and nuclear spin  
(4 parameters with only three measurable frequencies)

- So: not ideal.

| Configuration | Term        | $J$ | Level ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) | Uncertainty ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) |
|---------------|-------------|-----|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| $3d^{10}4s^2$ | $^1S$       | 0   | 0.0000                     | 0.0019                           |
| $3d^{10}4s4p$ | $^3P^\circ$ | 0   | 32 311.3176                | 0.0010                           |
|               |             | 1   | 32 501.3990                | 0.0000                           |
|               |             | 2   | 32 890.3267                | 0.0009                           |
| $3d^{10}4s4p$ | $^1P^\circ$ | 1   | 46 745.4032                | 0.0024                           |
| $3d^{10}4s5s$ | $^3S$       | 1   | 53 672.2398                | 0.0008                           |
| $3d^{10}4s5s$ | $^1S$       | 0   | 55 789.216                 | 0.003                            |
| $3d^{10}4s5p$ | $^3P^\circ$ | 0   | 61 247.866                 | 0.005                            |
|               |             | 1   | 61 274.419                 | 0.004                            |
|               |             | 2   | 61 330.845                 | 0.003                            |



# Case study – zinc isotopes

## 0. atomic structure

Spectroscopy from ground state?

- Not ideal.

Luckily, there is a long-lived metastable state!

| Configuration | Term        | $J$ | Level (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) | Uncertainty (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) |
|---------------|-------------|-----|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| $3d^{10}4s^2$ | $^1S$       | 0   | 0.0000                    | 0.0019                          |
| $3d^{10}4s4p$ | $^3P^\circ$ | 0   | 32 311.3176               | 0.0010                          |
|               |             | 1   | 32 501.3990               | 0.0000                          |
|               |             | 2   | 32 890.3267               | 0.0009                          |
| $3d^{10}4s4p$ | $^1P^\circ$ | 1   | 46 745.4032               | 0.0024                          |
| $3d^{10}4s5s$ | $^3S$       | 1   | 53 672.2398               | 0.0008                          |
| $3d^{10}4s5s$ | $^1S$       | 0   | 55 789.216                | 0.003                           |
| $3d^{10}4s5p$ | $^3P^\circ$ | 0   | 61 247.866                | 0.005                           |
|               |             | 1   | 61 274.419                | 0.004                           |
|               |             | 2   | 61 330.845                | 0.003                           |

# Case study – zinc isotopes

## 0. atomic structure

Luckily, there is a **long-lived metastable state!**

Furthermore, convenient optical transition



### Pro:

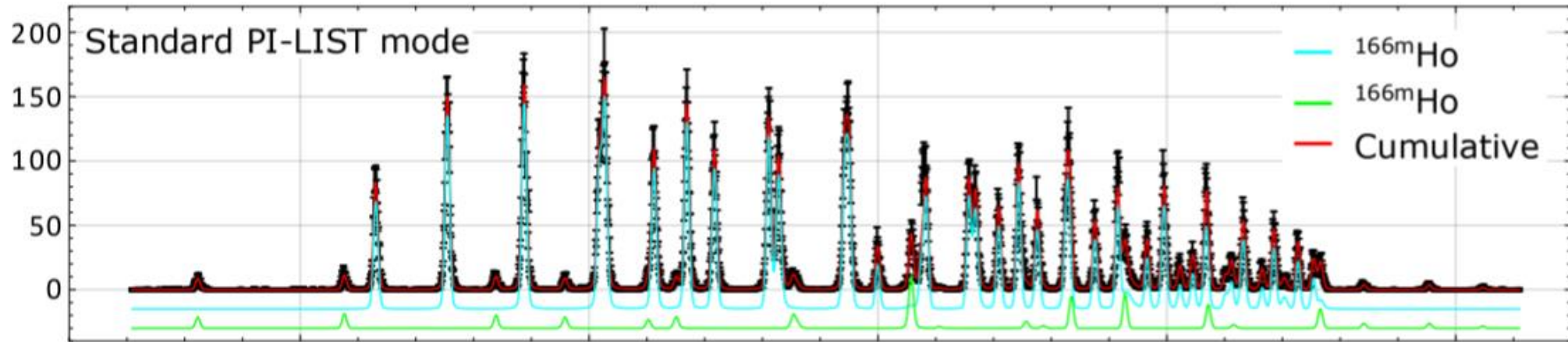
- 418 nm: easy wavelength with modern Ti:sapphire laser systems
- $J = 2$  to  $J = 1$ : measuring all observables a priori possible
- Transition excites a 4p electron to 5s: expect large field shift

### Con:

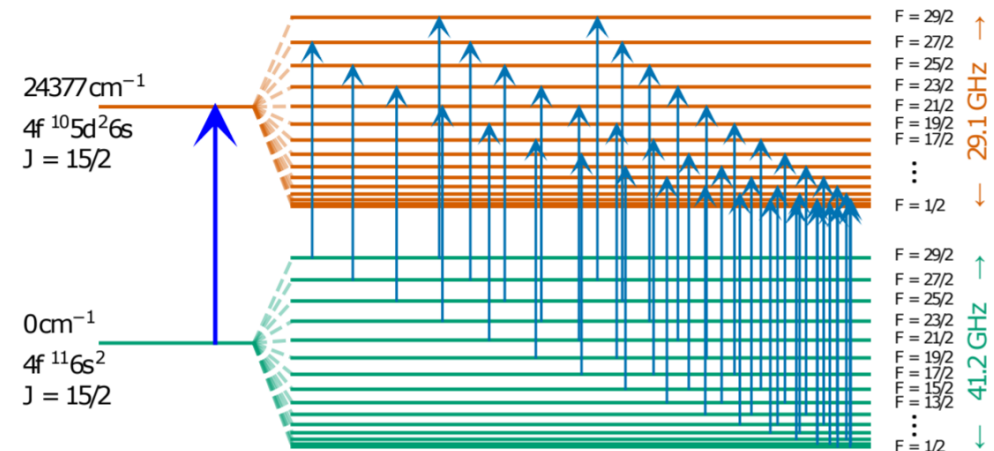
- Producing atoms in a metastable state?

| Configuration | Term    | $J$ | Level (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) | Uncertainty (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) |
|---------------|---------|-----|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| $3d^{10}4s^2$ | $^1S$   | 0   | 0.0000                    | 0.0019                          |
| $3d^{10}4s4p$ | $^3P^o$ | 0   | 32 311.3176               | 0.0010                          |
|               |         | 1   | 32 501.3990               | 0.0000                          |
|               |         | 2   | 32 890.3267               | 0.0009                          |
| $3d^{10}4s4p$ | $^1P^o$ | 1   | 46 745.4032               | 0.0024                          |
| $3d^{10}4s5s$ | $^3S$   | 1   | 53 672.2398               | 0.0008                          |
| $3d^{10}4s5s$ | $^1S$   | 0   | 55 789.216                | 0.003                           |
|               |         |     |                           |                                 |
| $3d^{10}4s5p$ | $^3P^o$ | 0   | 61 247.866                | 0.005                           |
|               |         | 1   | 61 274.419                | 0.004                           |
|               |         | 2   | 61 330.845                | 0.003                           |

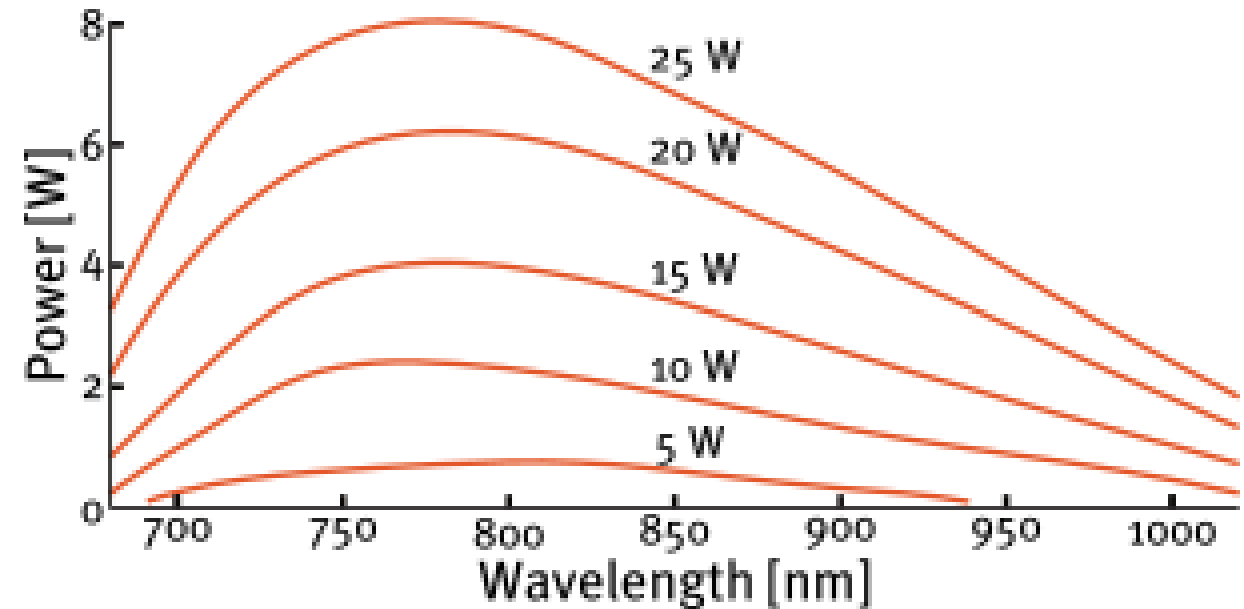
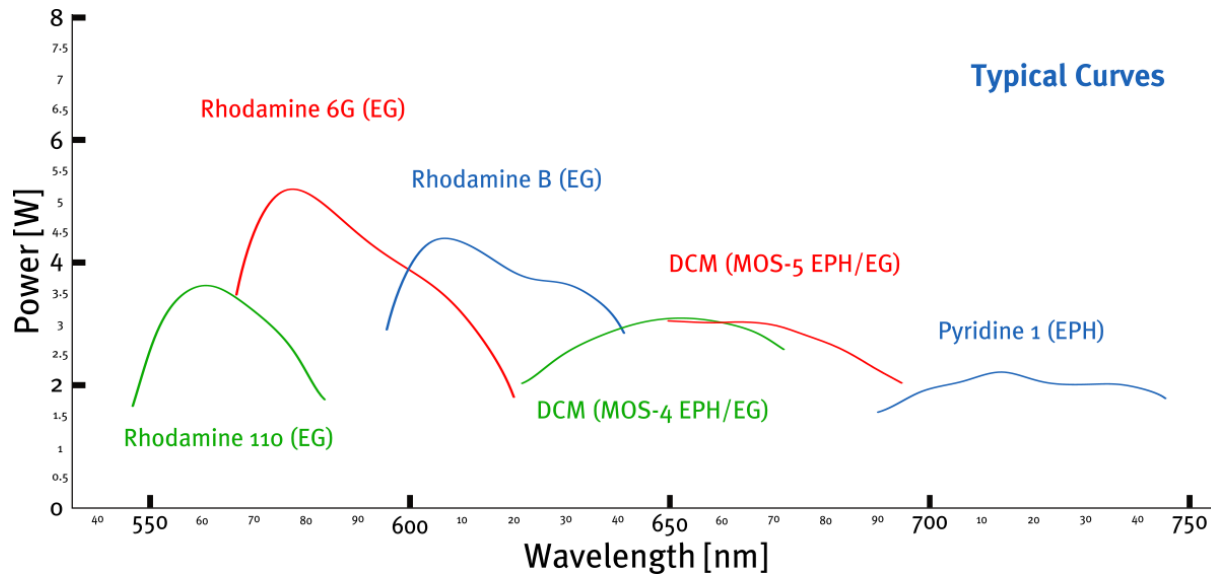
# A note on high angular momenta...



- A transition involving high angular momenta is good for sensitivity to spins and moments
- But it comes at a cost! Signal strength is spread over many peaks.
- Even with super high production rates, these kinds of measurements on radioactive isotopes are simply not feasible.



# Brief aside about tunable cw lasers...



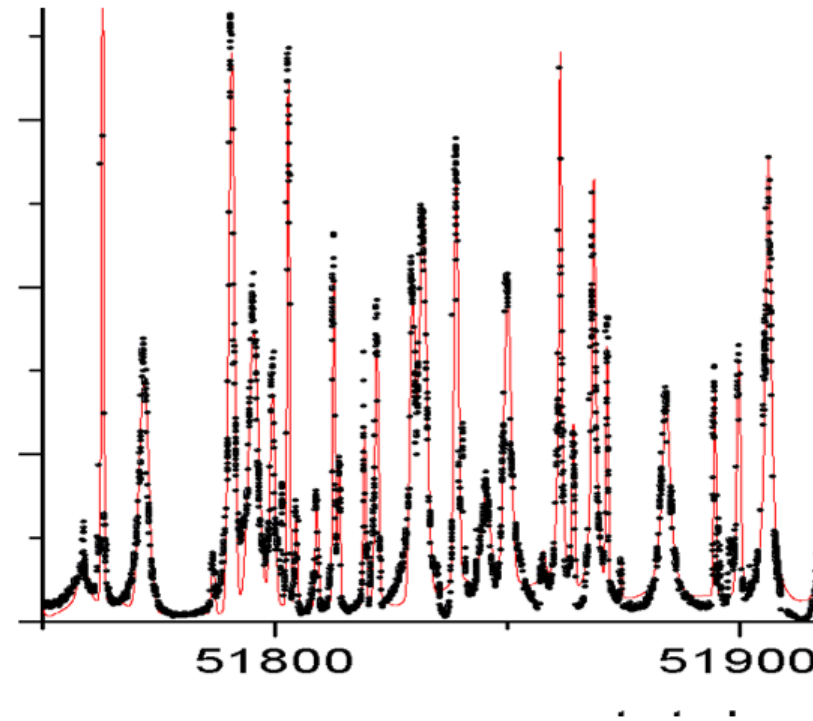
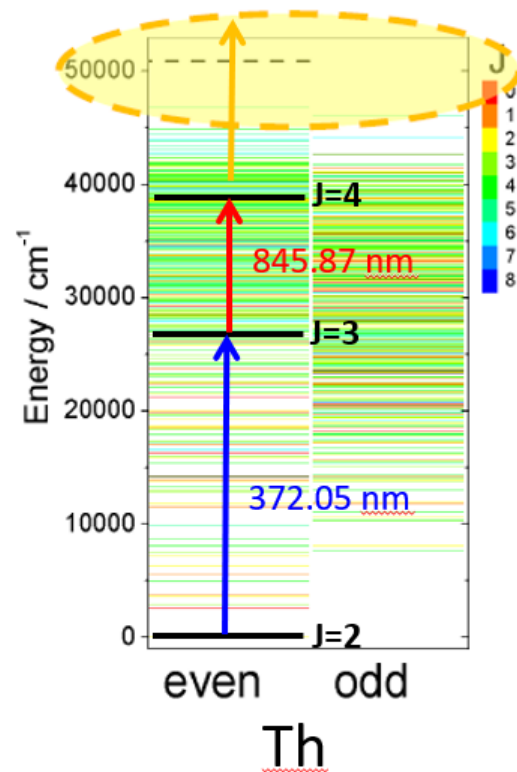
- We want to match the Doppler width of the resonance (few MHz), so we use lasers with a similar bandwidth (<MHz for ring cavity continuous-wave lasers)
- Depending on the wavelength we need different laser gain mediums
- Frequency doubling and even quadrupling is used to make blue and UV wavelengths as well

# How do we develop the ionization scheme

## Literature Search

On-line atomic spectral line databases, published spectroscopy work.

- R.L. Kurucz' CD-ROM 23 Atomic Line Database: <http://www.pmp.uni-hannover.de/cgi-bin/ssi/test/kurucz/sekur.html>
- NIST atomic spectral line database: <http://www.nist.gov/pml/data/asd.cfm>
- Blaise and Wyart (actinides): <http://web2.lac.u-psud.fr/lac/Database/Contents.html>

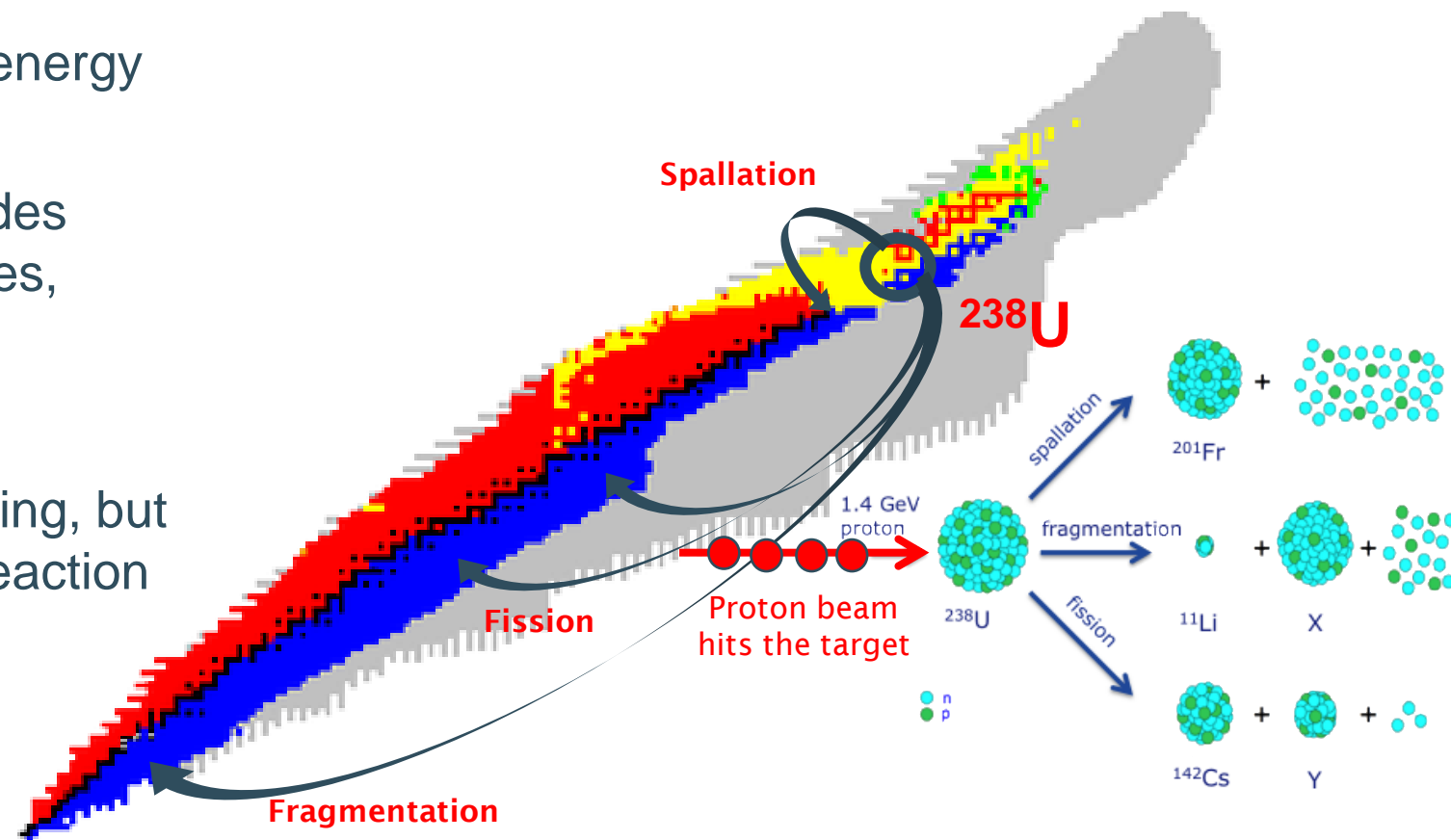


*V. Sommenschein, I.D. Moore et al., EPJ A 48 (2012) 52*

# Case study – zinc isotopes

## 1. production

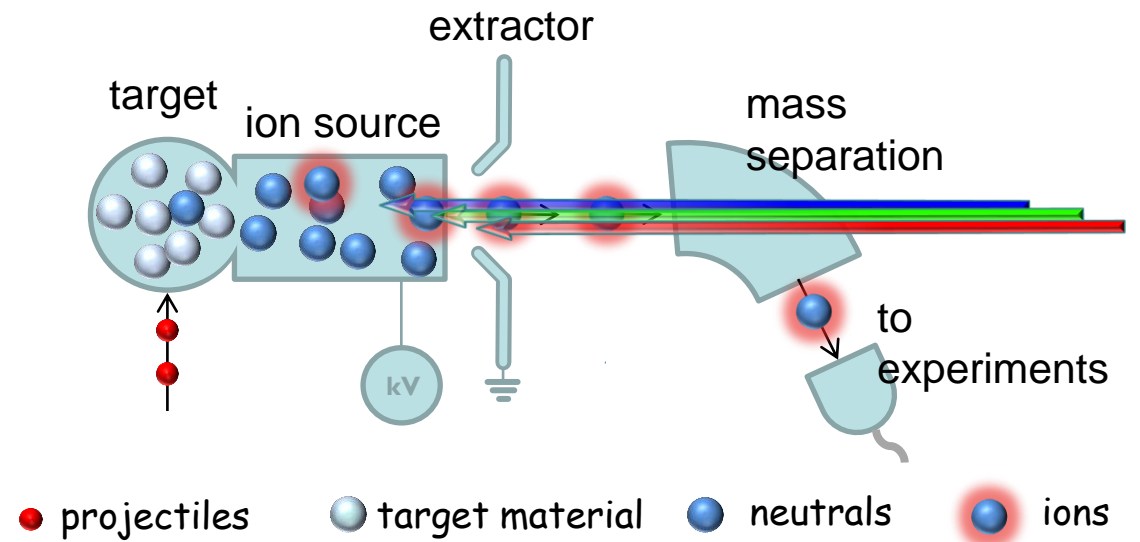
- Nuclear reactions induced by high-energy beam hitting a target
- Fission of uranium or thorium provides access to many neutron-rich isotopes, including e.g. Zn!
- Picking a suitable reaction is one thing, but the next issue is how to get those reaction products from the target to the experimental setup quickly



# Case study – zinc isotopes

## 1. production

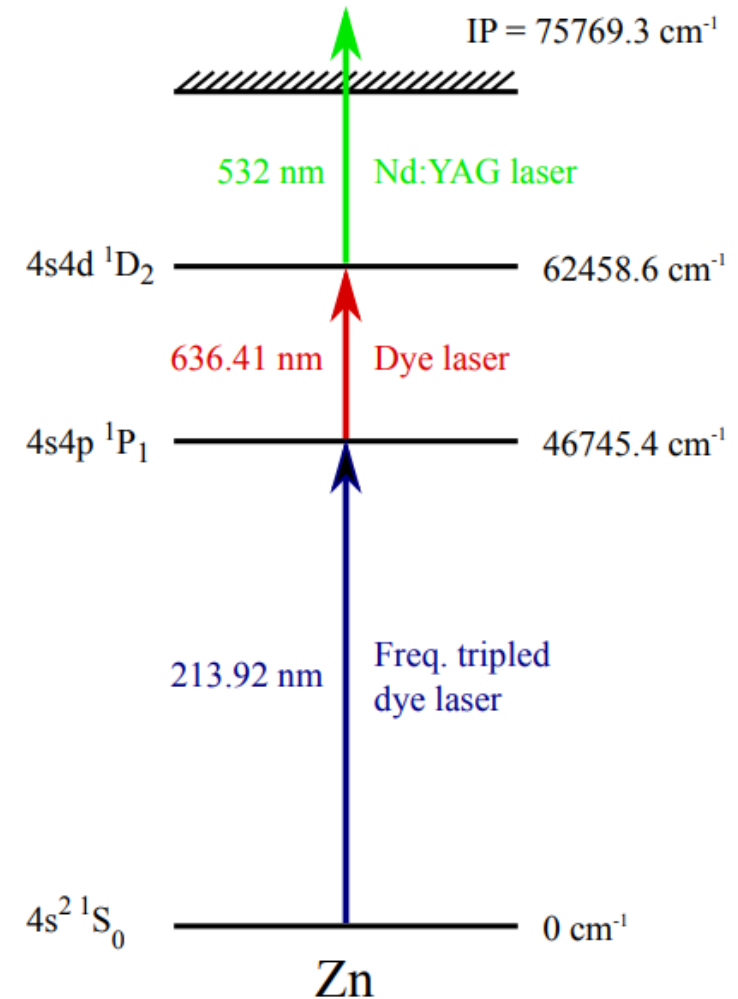
- Nuclear reactions induced by high-energy beam hitting a target
- Fission of uranium or thorium provides access to many neutron-rich isotopes, including e.g. Zn!
- Laser ionization and mass separation is used to only select the isotope of interest, and reduce the amount of unwanted isotopes, molecules,... in the beam



# Case study – zinc isotopes

## 1. production

- Nuclear reactions induced by high-energy beam hitting a target
- Fission of uranium or thorium provides access to many neutron-rich isotopes, including e.g. Zn!
- Laser ionization and mass separation is used to only select the isotope of interest, and reduce the amount of unwanted isotopes, molecules,... in the beam
- Laser ionization is an important tool in an RIB lab's toolbox

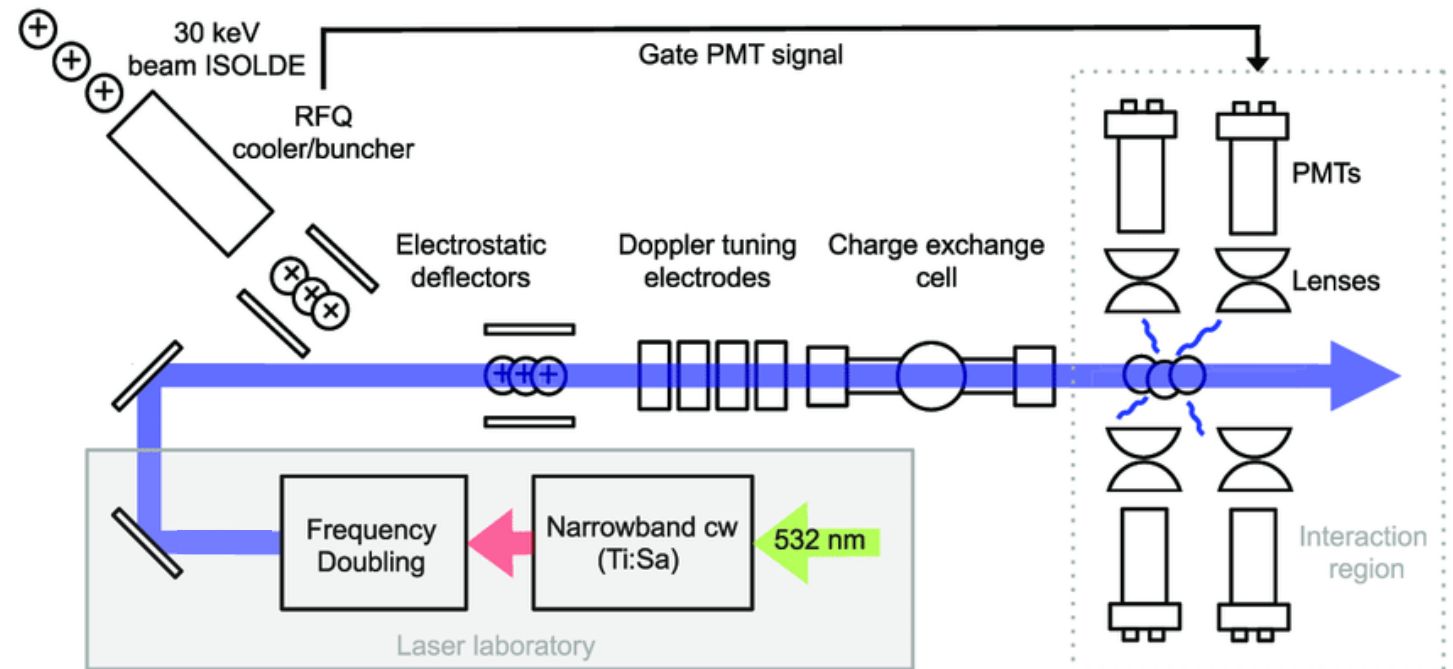
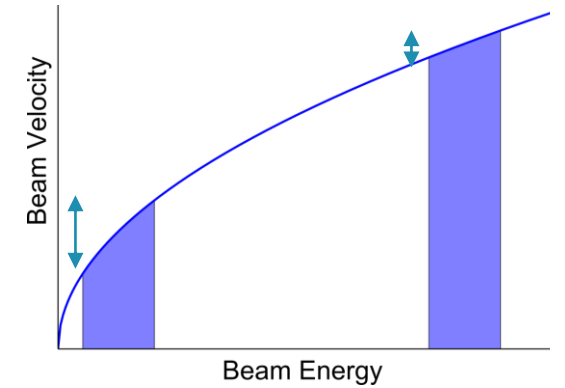


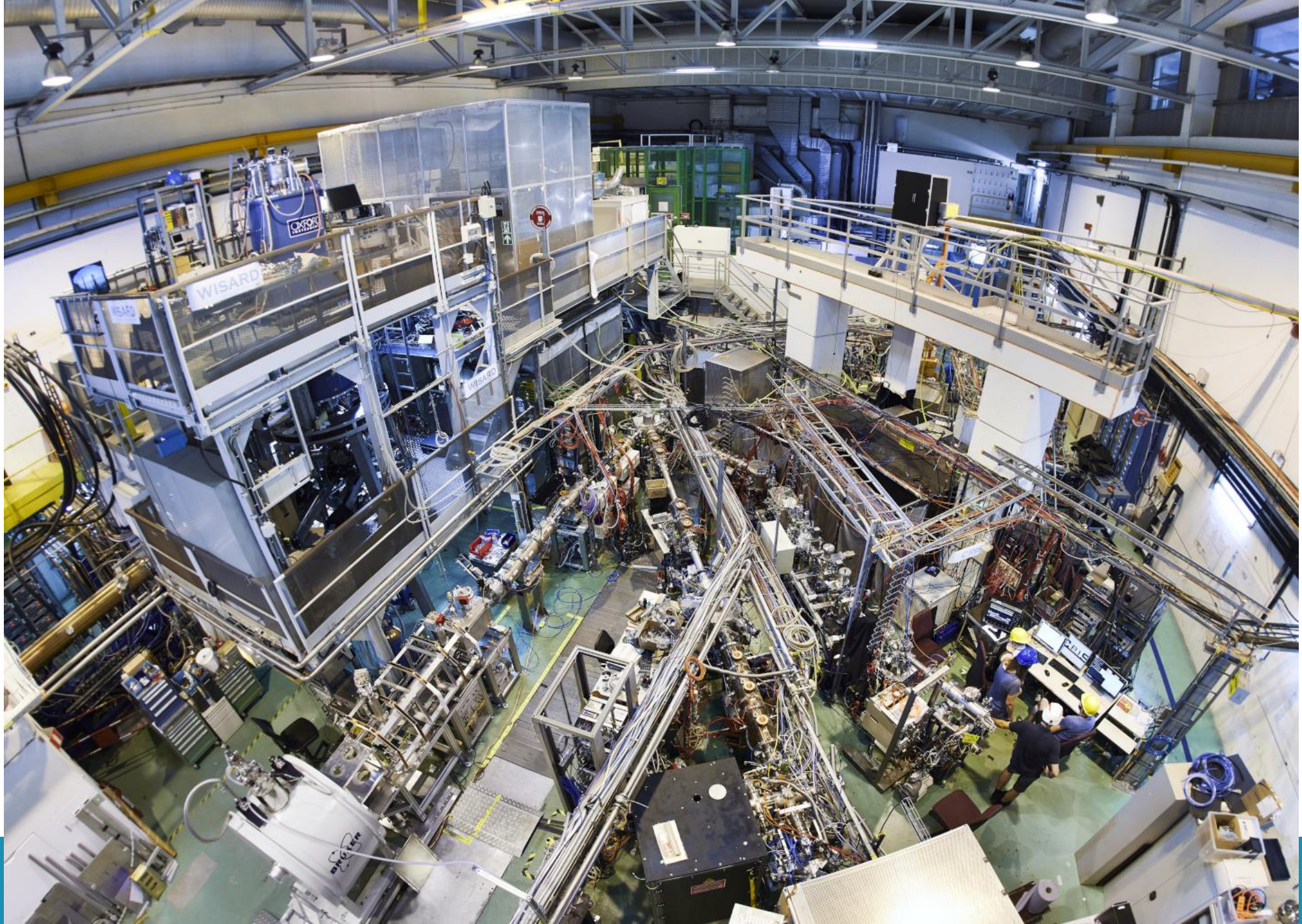


# Case study – zinc isotopes

## 2. spectroscopy

- Collinear laser spectroscopy
- Charge exchange:  
cell which is filled with e.g.  
sodium and heated to produce  
a vapour
- At beam energies of a few keV,  
large cross section for:  
 $\text{Zn}^+ + \text{Na} \rightarrow \text{Zn} + \text{Na}^+$

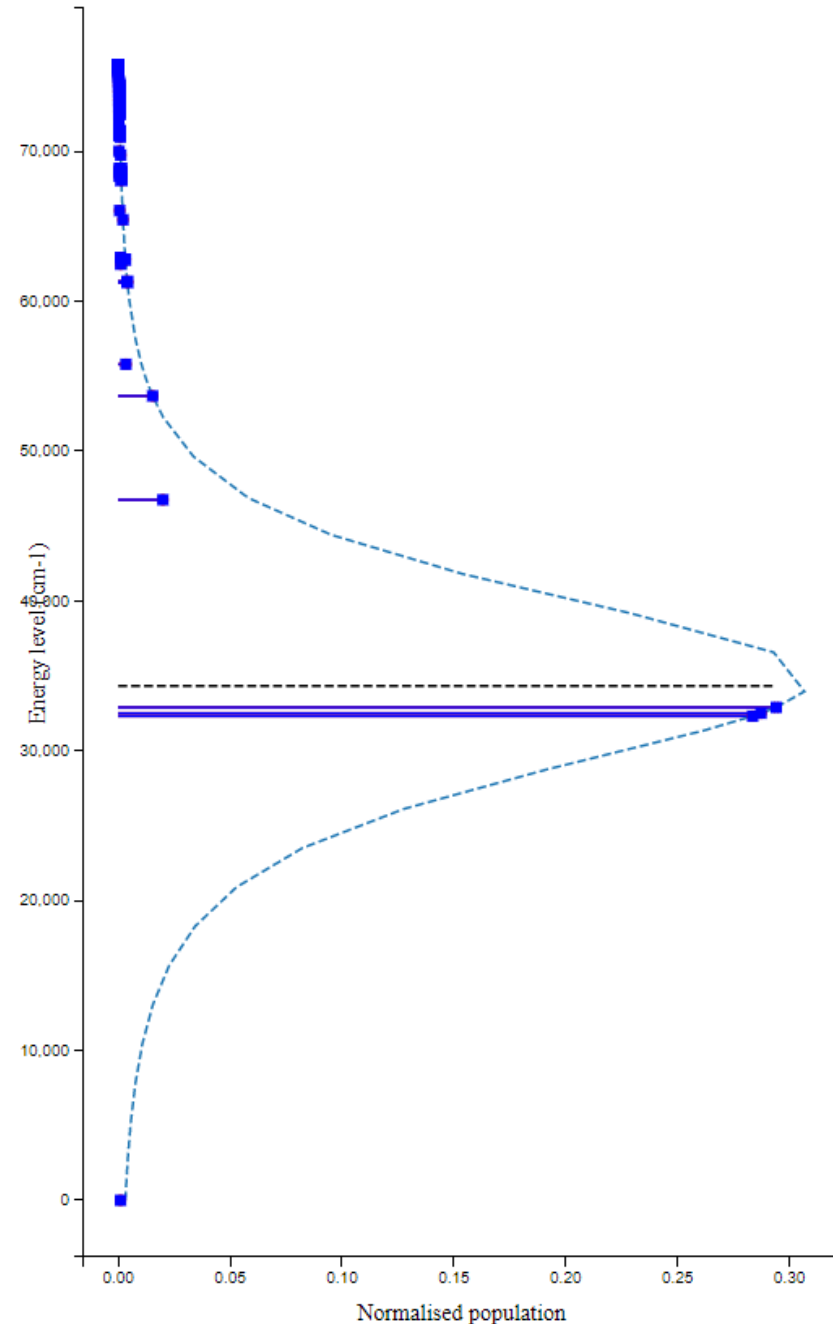




# Case study – zinc isotopes

## 2. spectroscopy

- Collinear laser spectroscopy
- Charge exchange:  
cell which is filled with e.g.  
sodium and heated to  
produce a vapour
- At beam energies of a few  
keV, large cross section for:  
 $\text{Zn}^+ + \text{Na} \rightarrow \text{Zn} + \text{Na}^+$

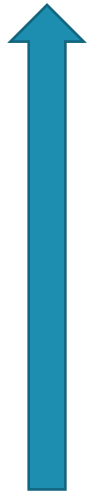


# Case study – zinc isotopes

## 2. spectroscopy

$$I = 9/2$$

$$J = 1$$



$$J = 2$$

# Case study – zinc isotopes

## 2. spectroscopy

$$I = 9/2$$

$$J = 1$$



$$J = 2$$



# Case study – zinc isotopes

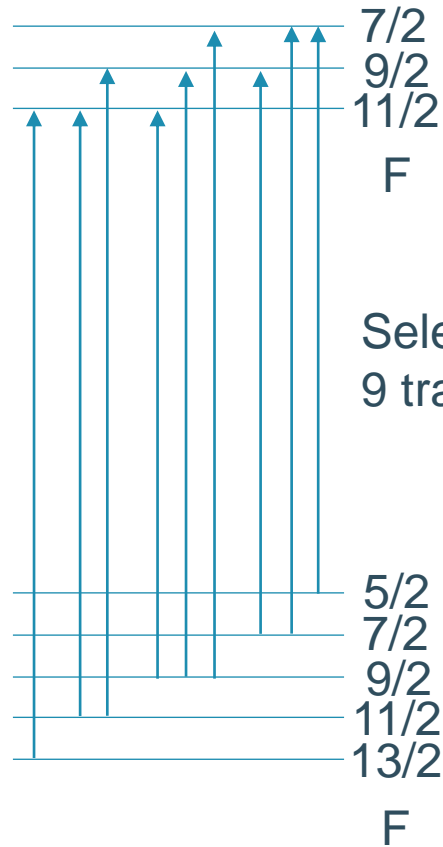
## 2. spectroscopy

$$I = 9/2$$

$$J = 1$$



$$J = 2$$



Selection rules:  
9 transitions!

# Case study – zinc isotopes

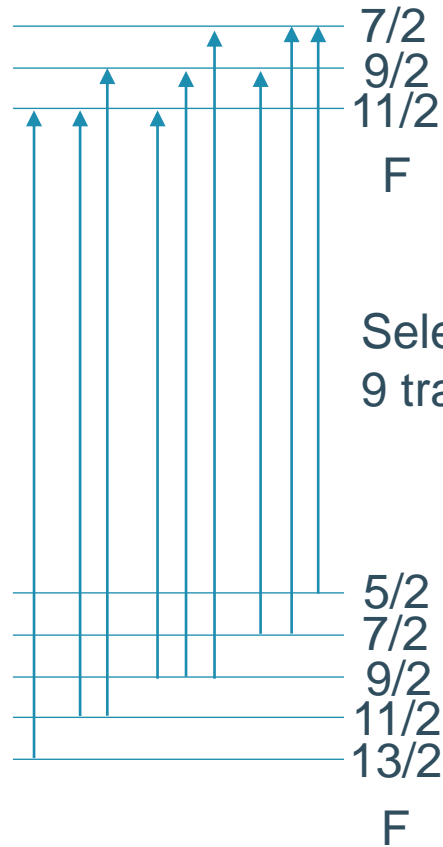
## 2. spectroscopy

$I = 9/2$

$J = 1$



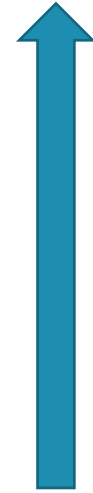
$J = 2$



Selection rules:  
9 transitions!

$I = 1/2$

$J = 1$



$J = 2$

How many transitions  
are there in this case?

# Case study – zinc isotopes

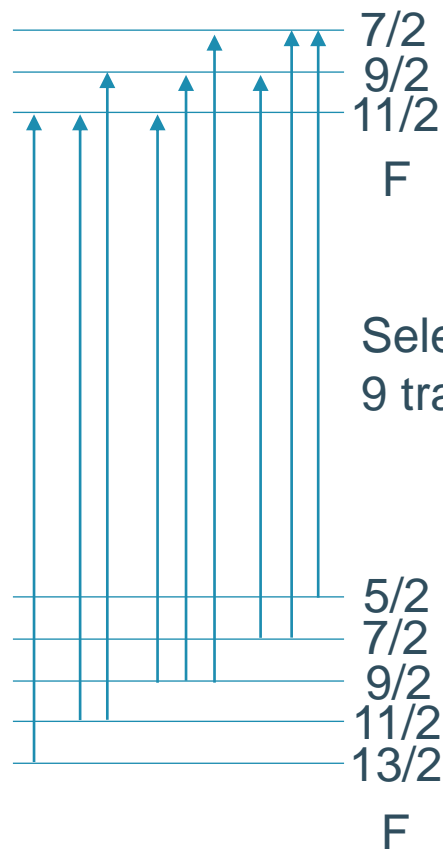
## 2. spectroscopy

$I = 9/2$

$J = 1$



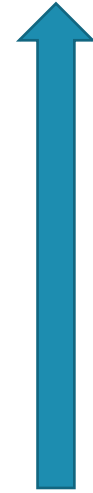
$J = 2$



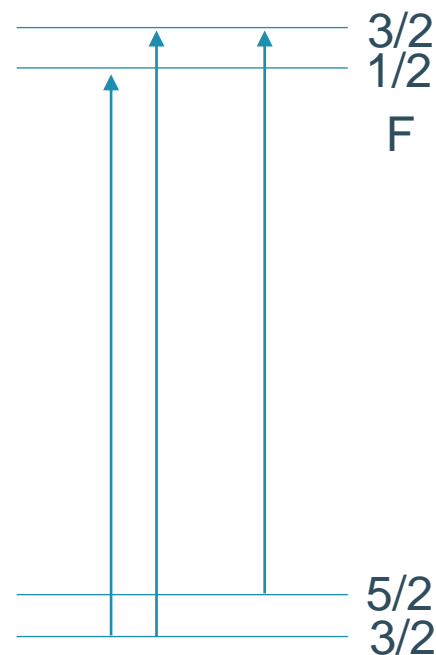
Selection rules:  
9 transitions!

$I = 1/2$

$J = 1$



$J = 2$



Selection rules:  
3 transitions



# Case study – zinc isotopes

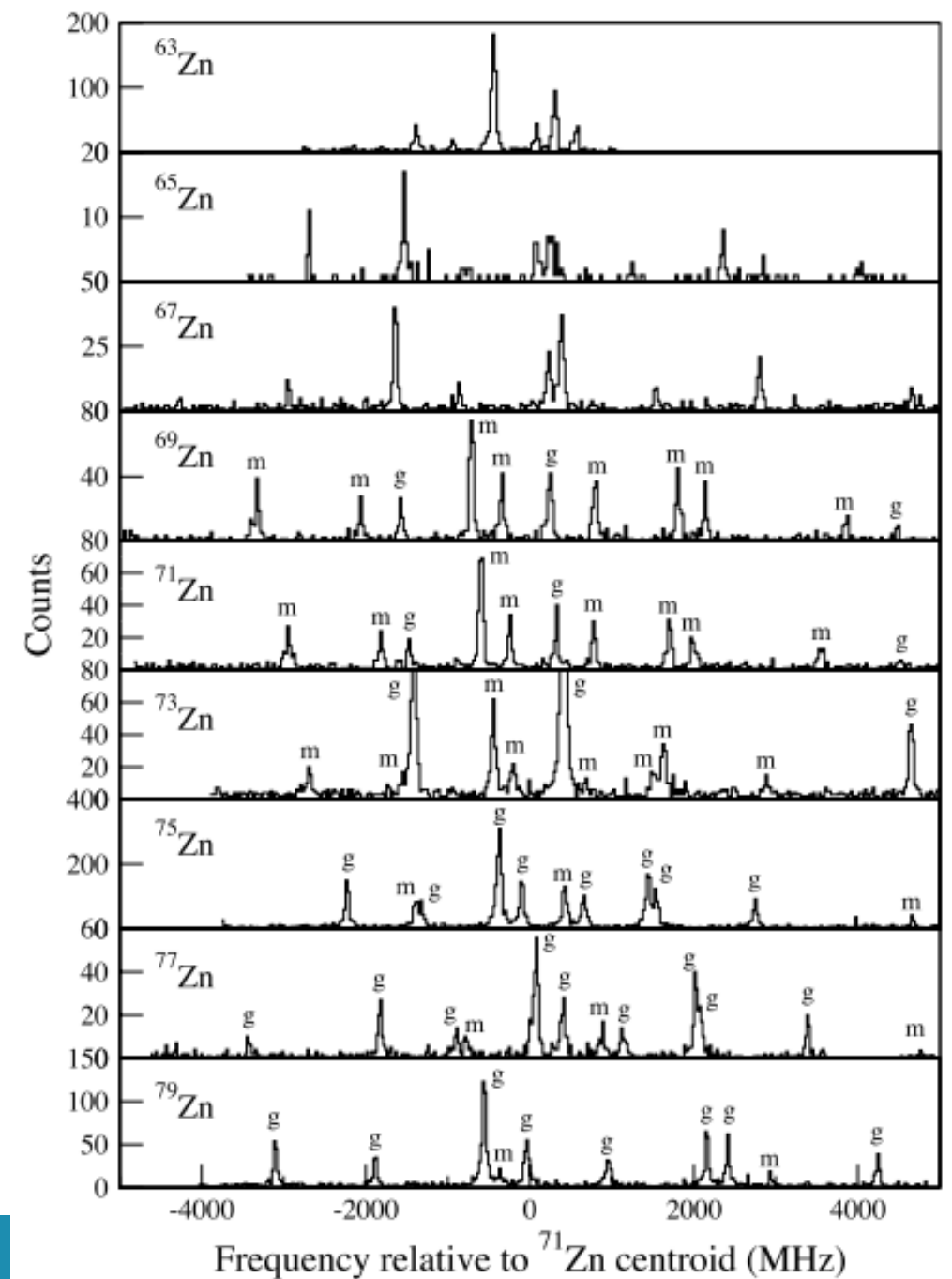
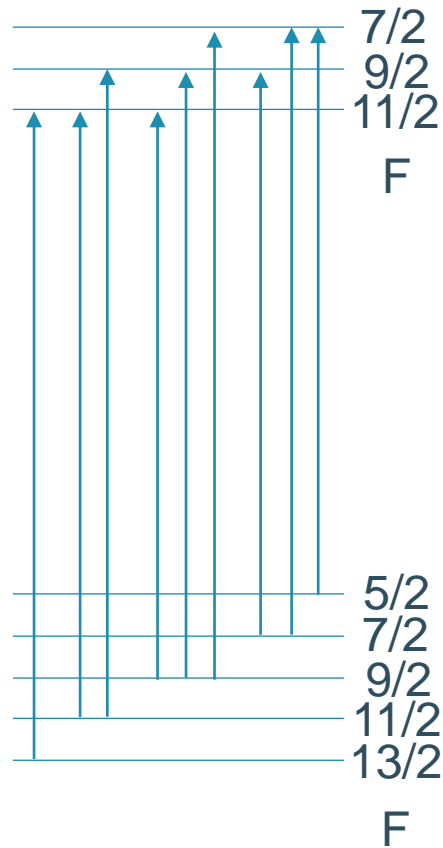
## 2. spectroscopy

$$I = 9/2$$

$$J = 1$$



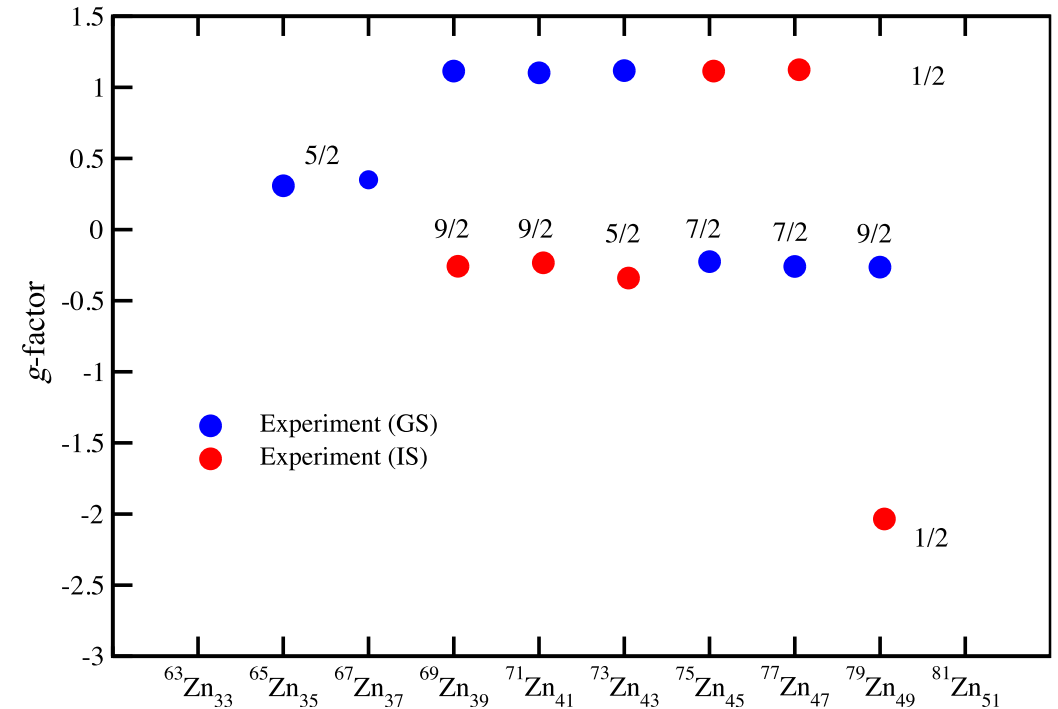
$$J = 2$$



# Case study – zinc isotopes

## 3. physics discussion

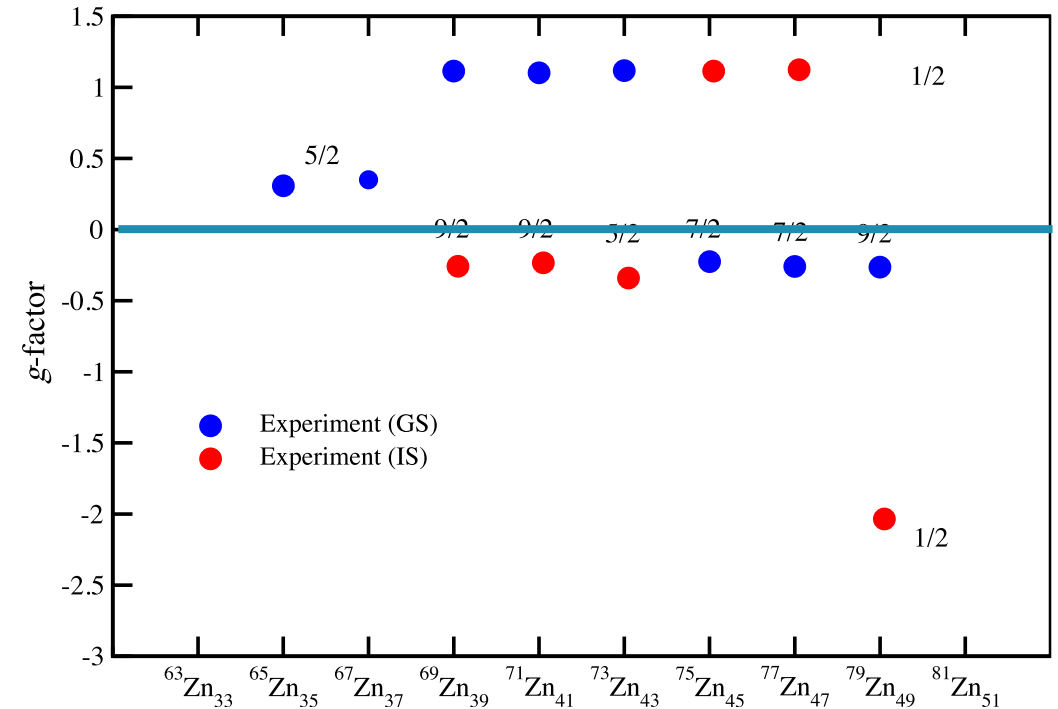
- In nearly all isotopes, two long-lived states were found in the spectra
  - Recall: laser spectroscopy is possible down to lifetimes of a few ms
- The plot on the right summarizes the g-factors  $g = \mu/I$  and the nuclear spins
- Observations?



# Case study – zinc isotopes

## 3. physics discussion

- In nearly all isotopes, two long-lived states were found in the spectra
  - Recall: laser spectroscopy is possible down to lifetimes of a few ms
- The plot on the right summarizes the g-factors
$$g = \mu/I$$
and the nuclear spins
- Observations?

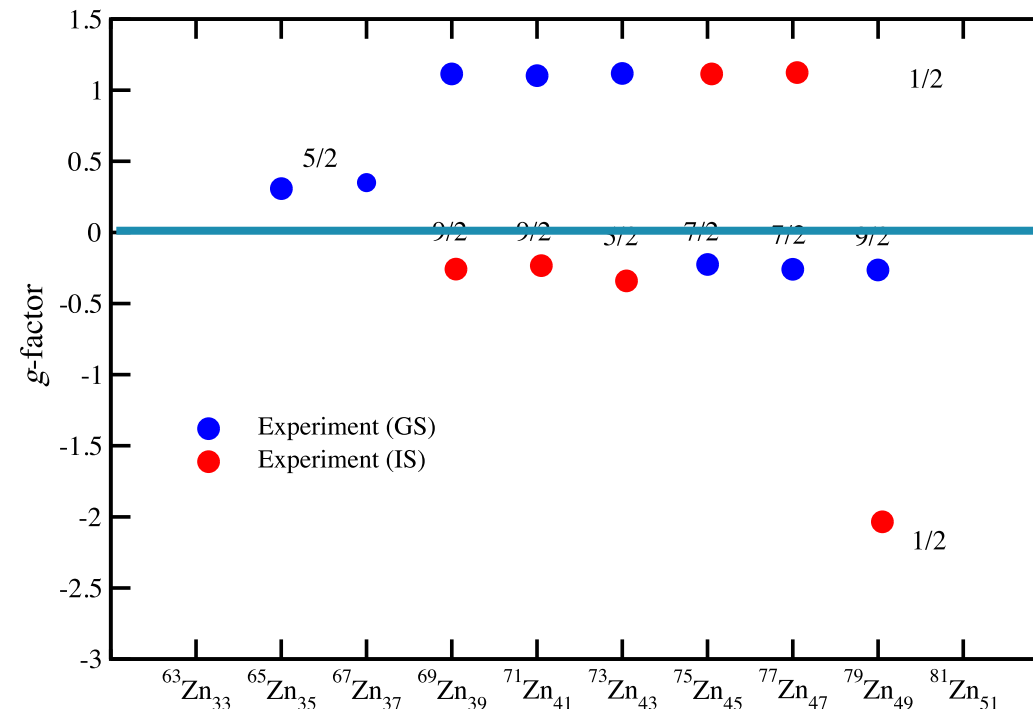
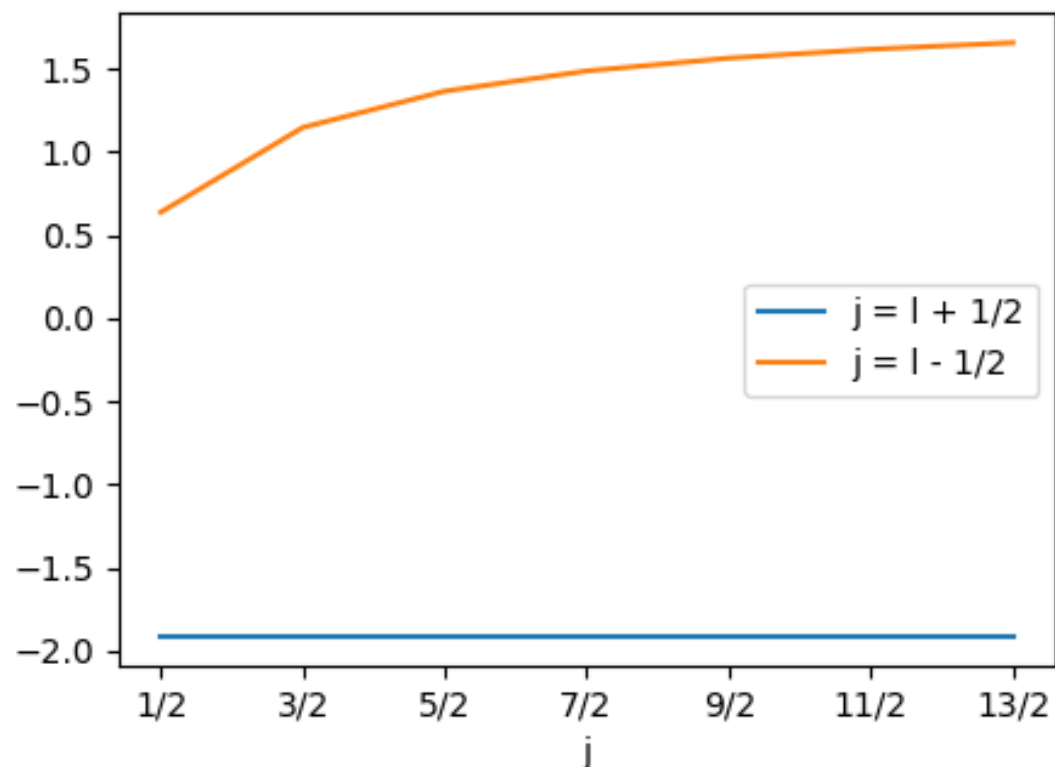


# Case study – zinc isotopes

## 3. physics discussion

Observations?

- Some g-factors positive, some negative  
=> relative alignment of l and s

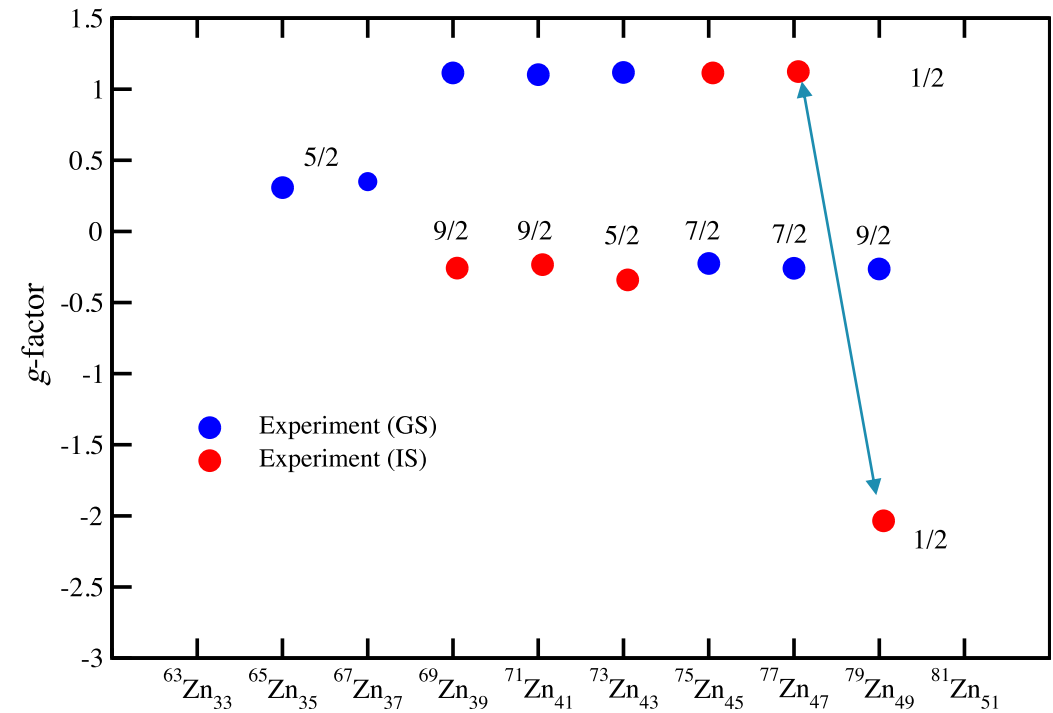


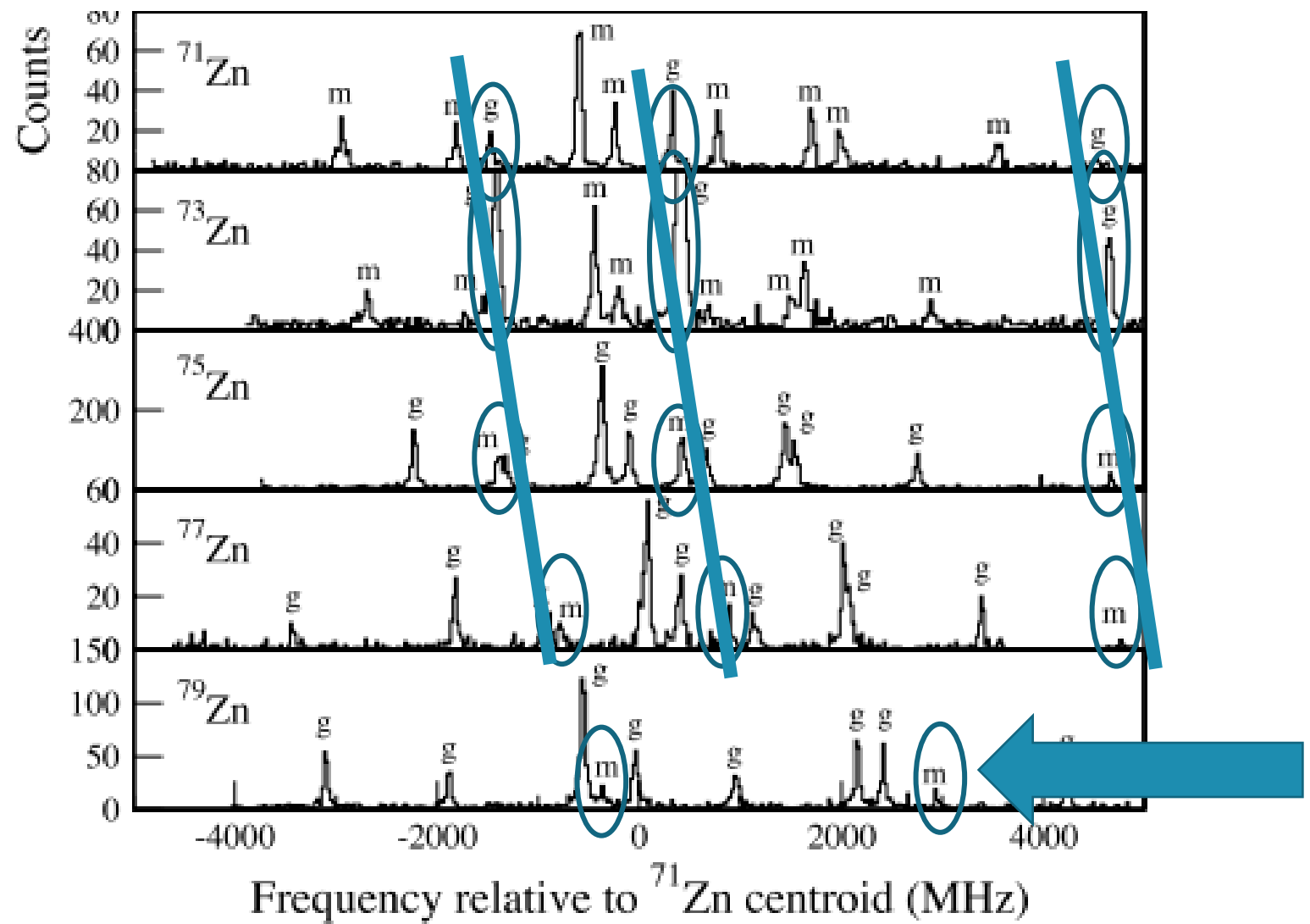
# Case study – zinc isotopes

## 3. physics discussion

Observations?

- Some g-factors positive, some negative  
=> relative alignment of l and s
- Two l=1/2 states have very different g-factor



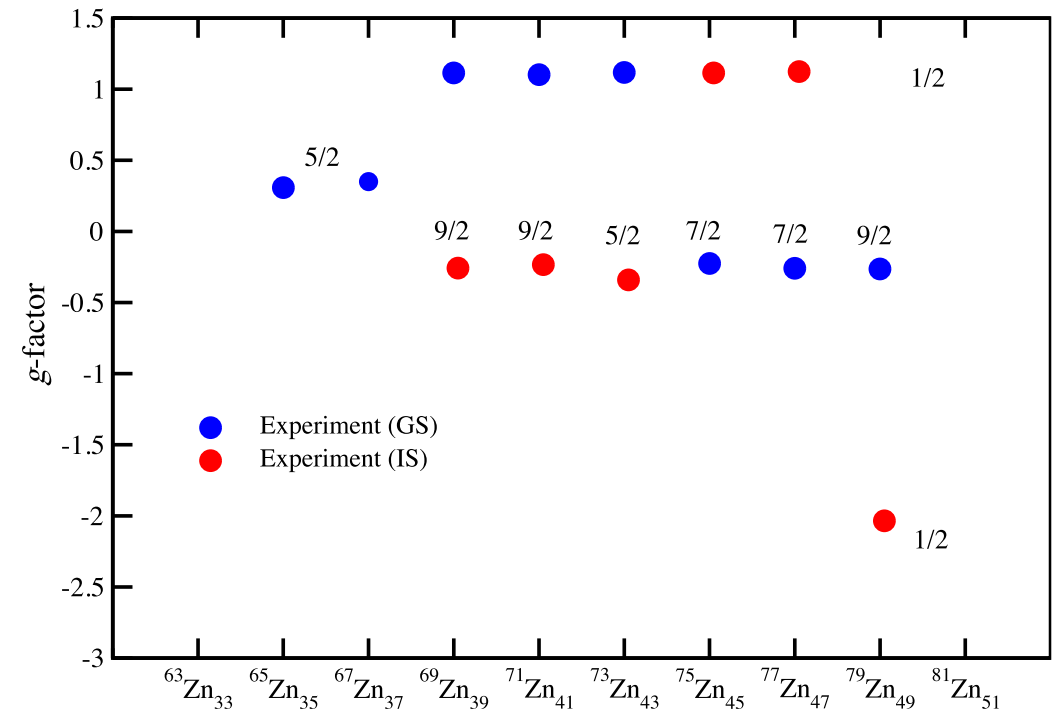


# Case study – zinc isotopes

## 3. physics discussion

### Observations?

- Some g-factors positive, some negative  
=> relative alignment of l and s
- Two l=1/2 states have very different g-factor
- g-factors line up very nicely  $^{69-79}\text{Zn}$

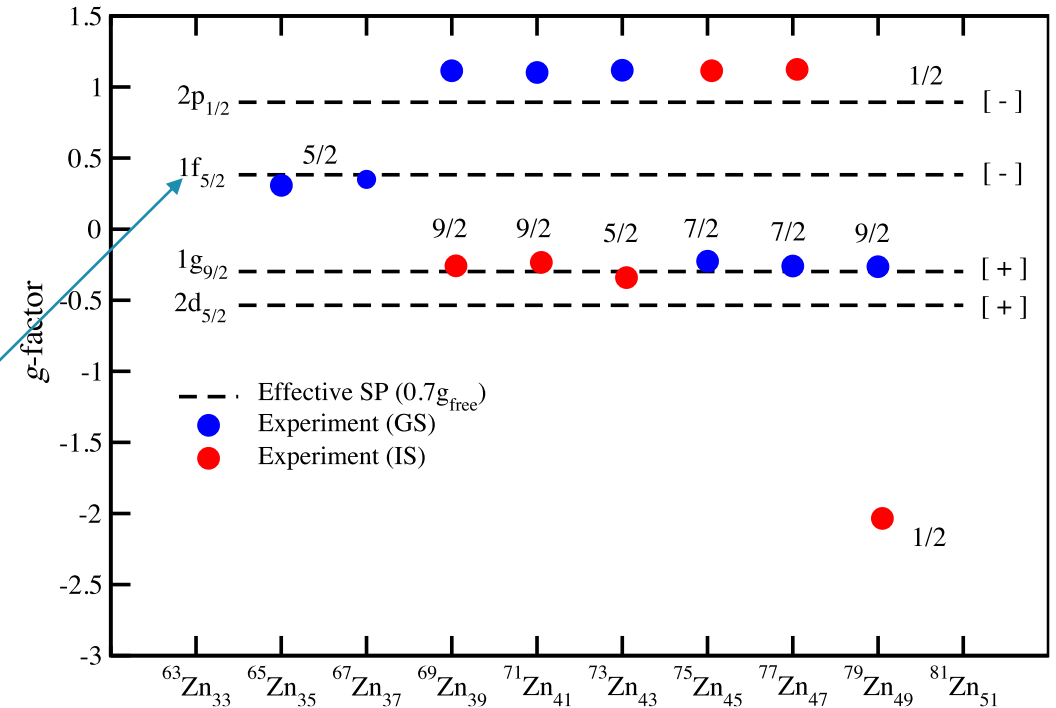
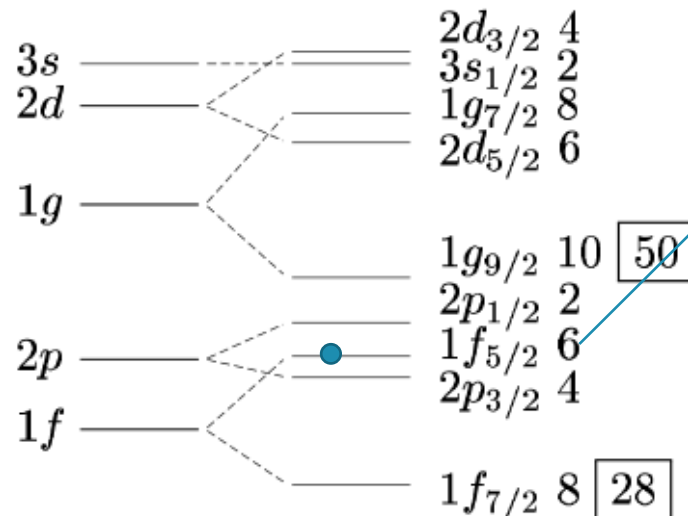


# Case study – zinc isotopes

## 3. physics discussion

### Observations?

- Some g-factors positive, some negative  
=> relative alignment of l and s
- Two l=1/2 states have very different g-factor
- g-factors line up very nicely <sup>69-79</sup>Zn
- We can now easily suggest some configurations



dashed line: single-particle magnetic moment with  $g_s = 0.7g_{s,free}$

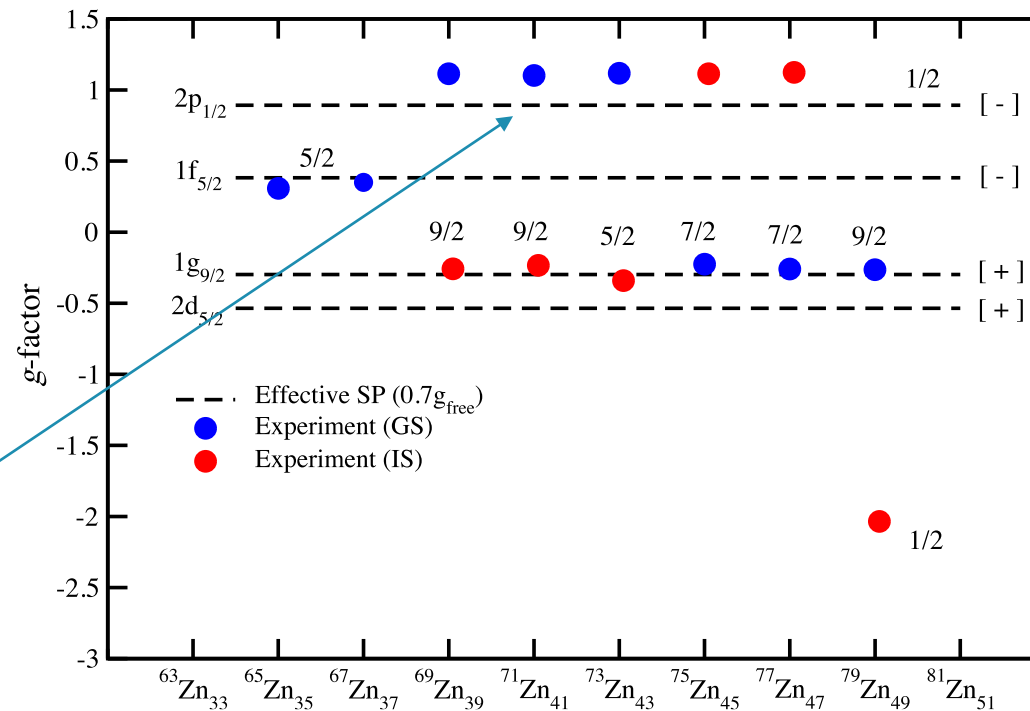
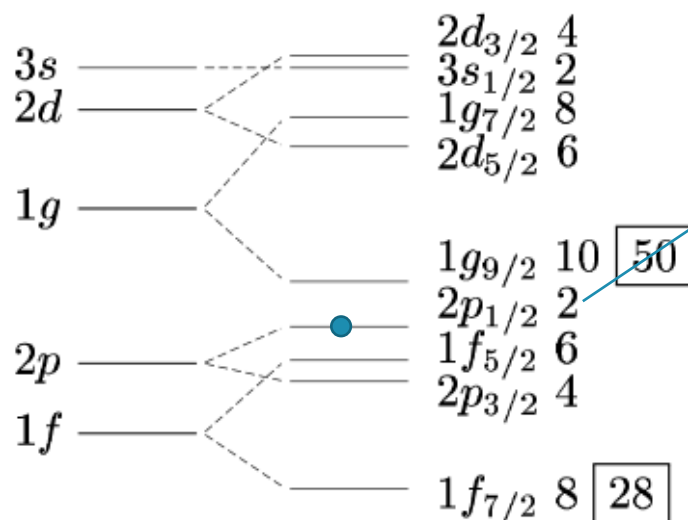


# Case study – zinc isotopes

## 3. physics discussion

### Observations?

- Some g-factors positive, some negative  
=> relative alignment of  $l$  and  $s$
- g-factors line up very nicely  $^{69-79}\text{Zn}$
- Two  $l=1/2$  states have very different g-factor
- What configurations would you suggest?



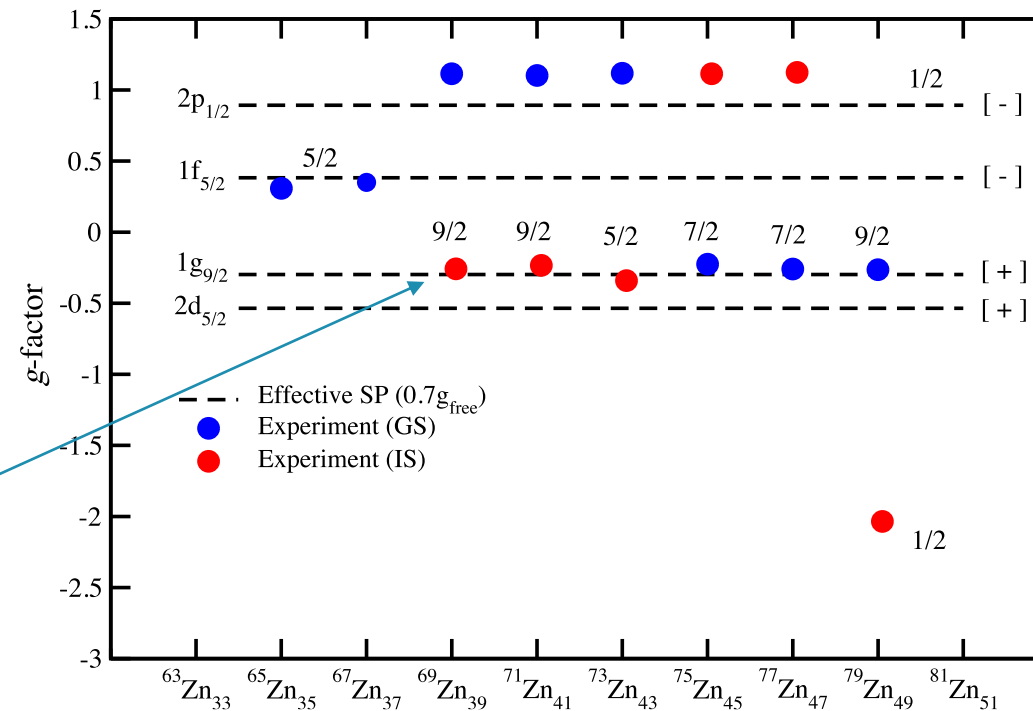
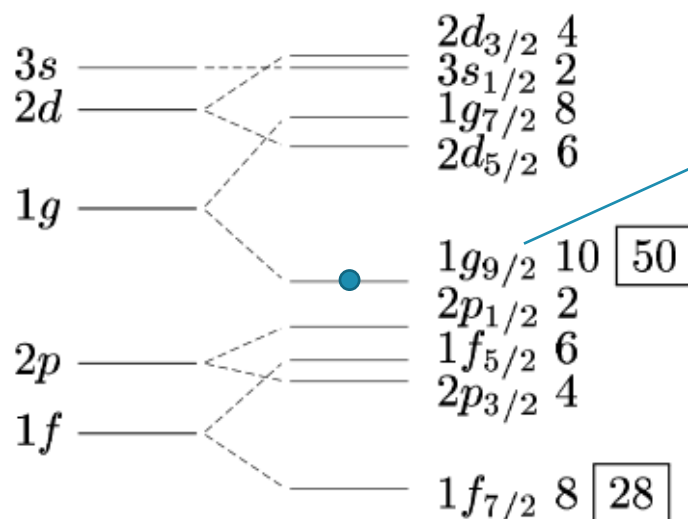
dashed line: single-particle magnetic moment with  $g_s = 0.7g_{s,\text{free}}$

# Case study – zinc isotopes

## 3. physics discussion

### Observations?

- Some g-factors positive, some negative  
=> relative alignment of  $l$  and  $s$
- g-factors line up very nicely  $^{69-79}\text{Zn}$
- Two  $l=1/2$  states have very different g-factor
- What configurations would you suggest?



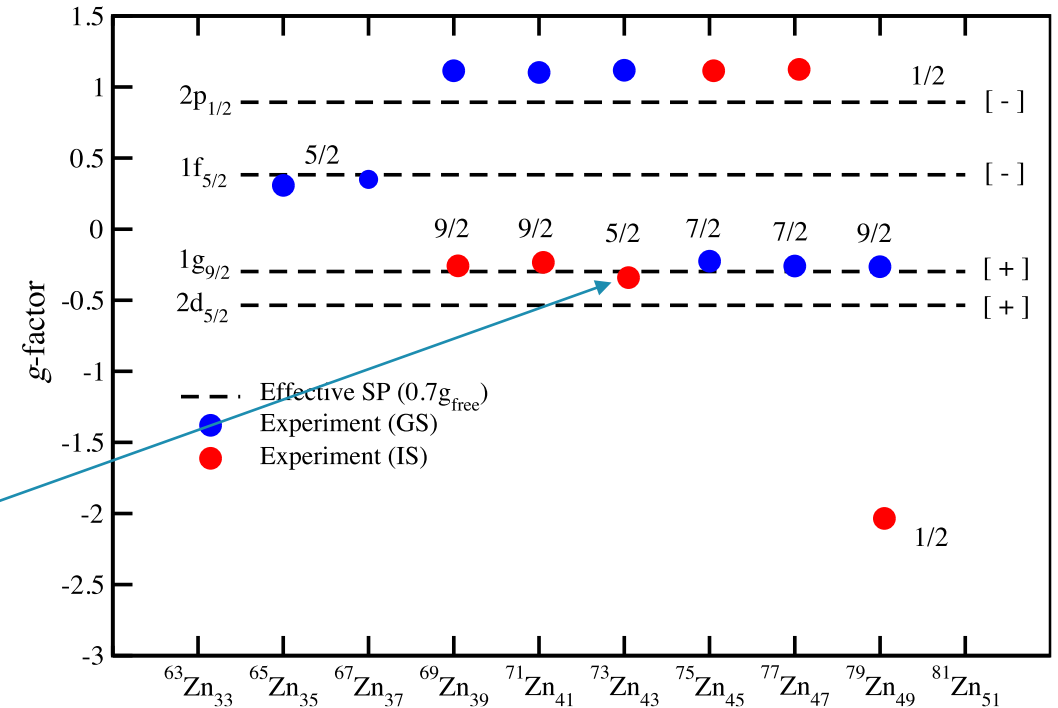
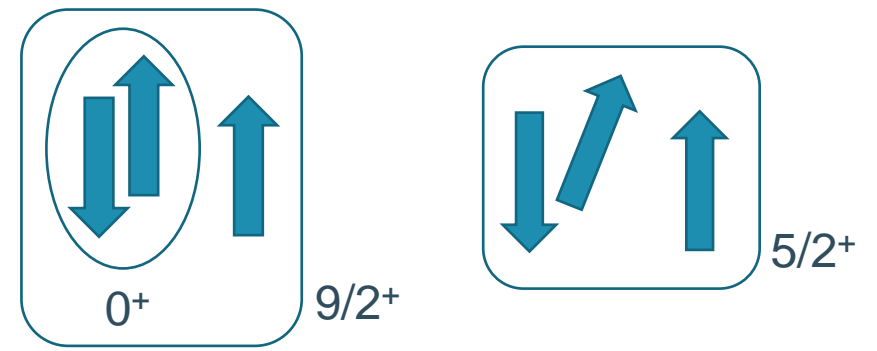
dashed line: single-particle magnetic moment with  $g_s = 0.7g_{s,\text{free}}$

# Case study – zinc isotopes

## 3. physics discussion

Observations?

- Some g-factors positive, some negative  
=> relative alignment of  $l$  and  $s$
- g-factors line up very nicely  $^{69-79}\text{Zn}$
- Two  $l=1/2$  states have very different g-factor
- What configurations would you suggest?
- Note that  $g((j^n) l) = g(j)$
- Thus, suggestion is that e.g.  $^{73m}\text{Zn}$  has a  $(g_{9/2})^{-3}_{5/2}$  configuration



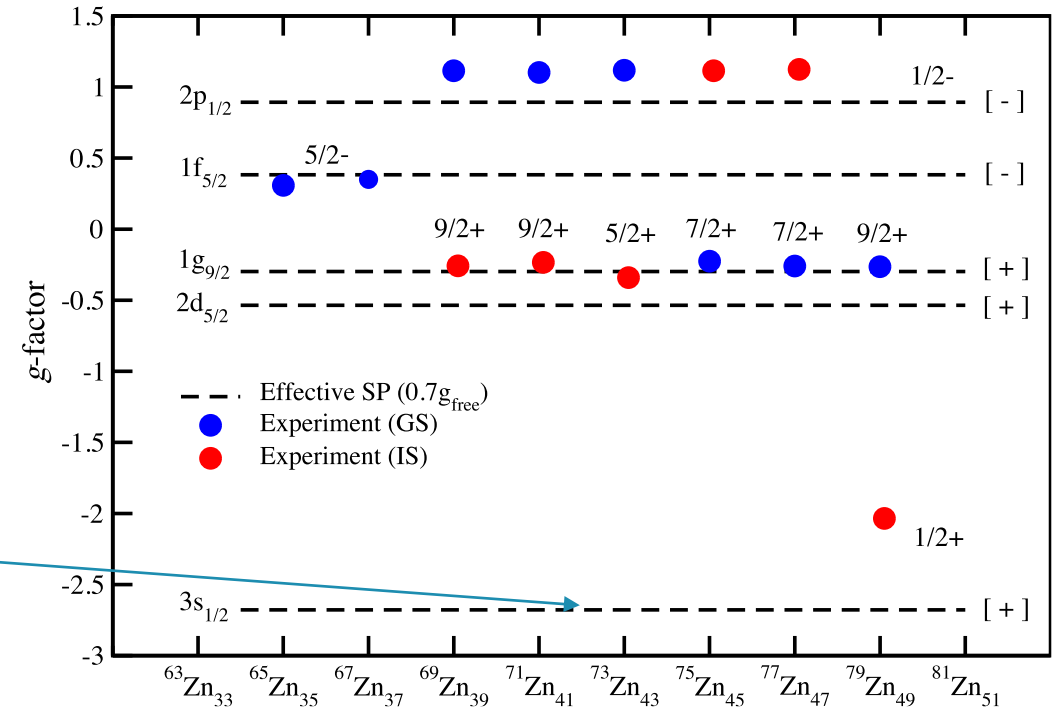
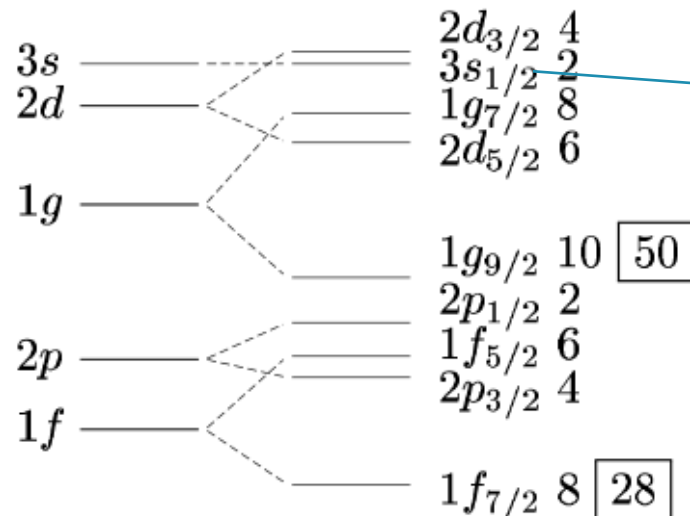
dashed line: single-particle magnetic moment with  $g_s = 0.7g_{s,\text{free}}$

# Case study – zinc isotopes

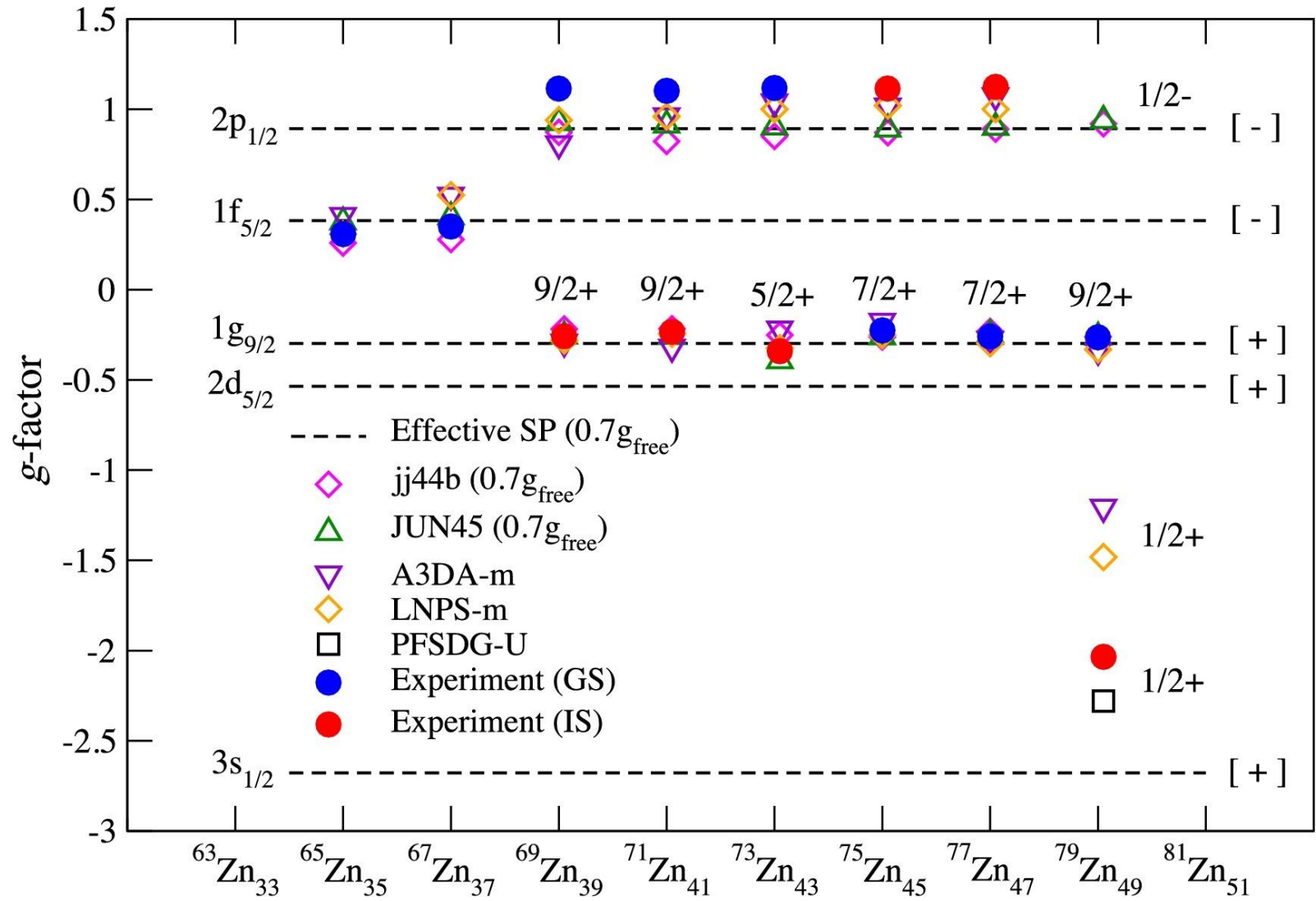
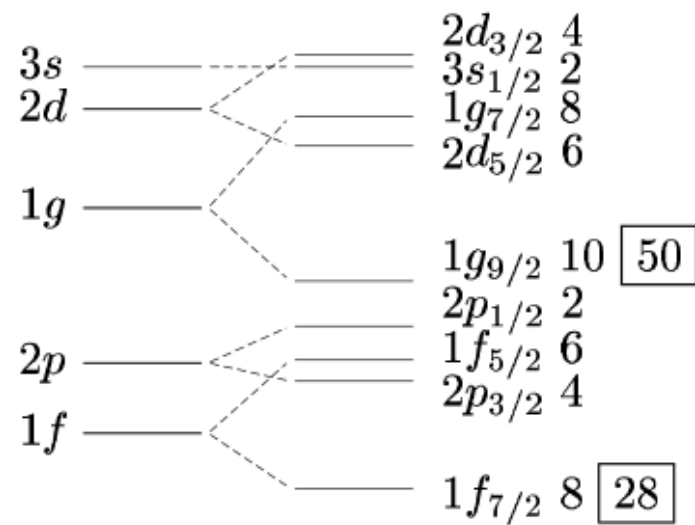
## 3. physics discussion

Observations?

- Two  $I=1/2$  states have very different g-factor
- g-factors line up very nicely  $^{69-79}\text{Zn}$
- What configurations would you suggest?

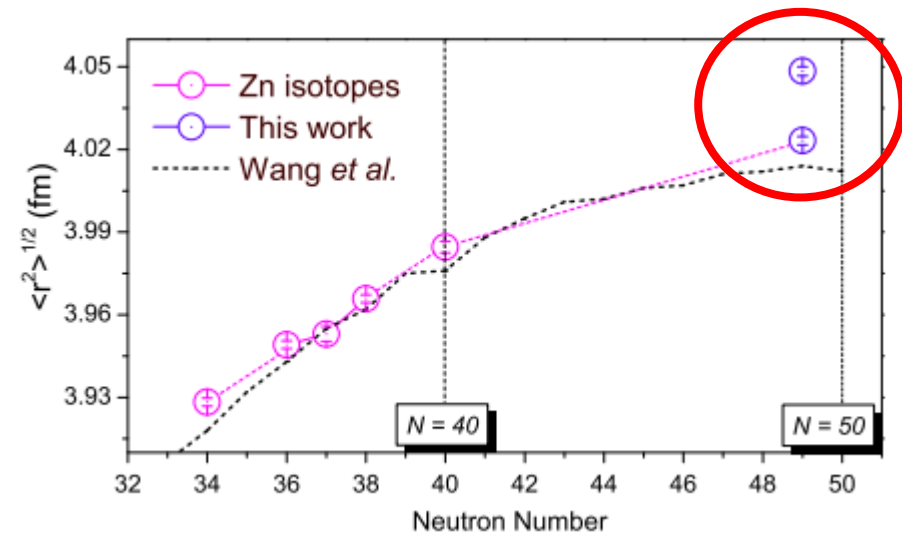
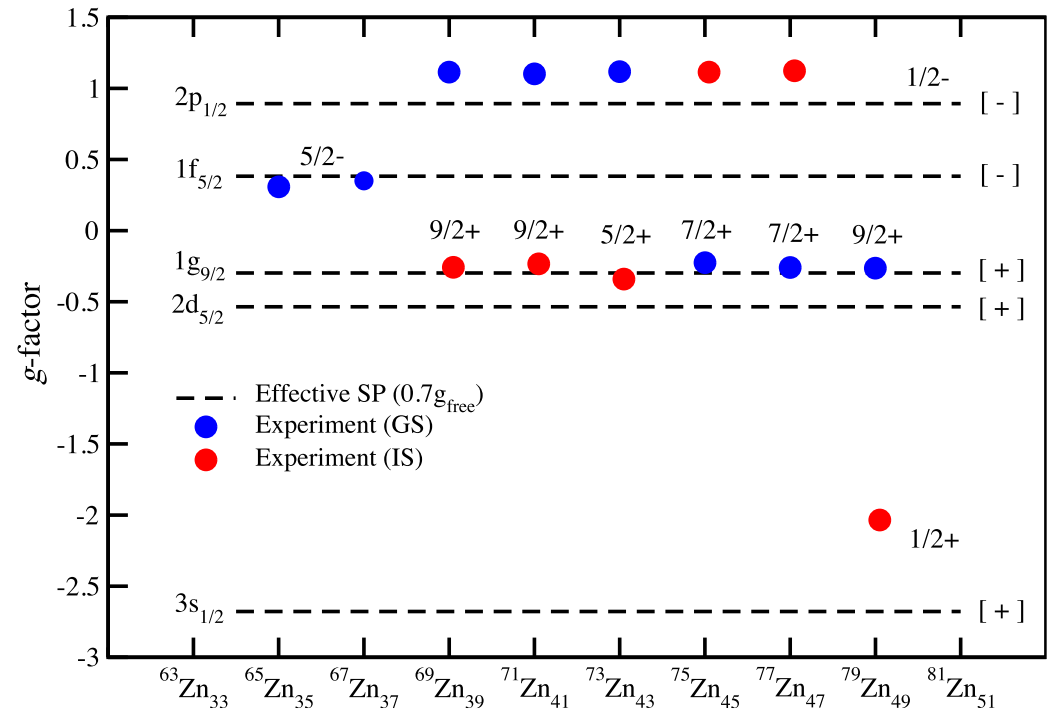
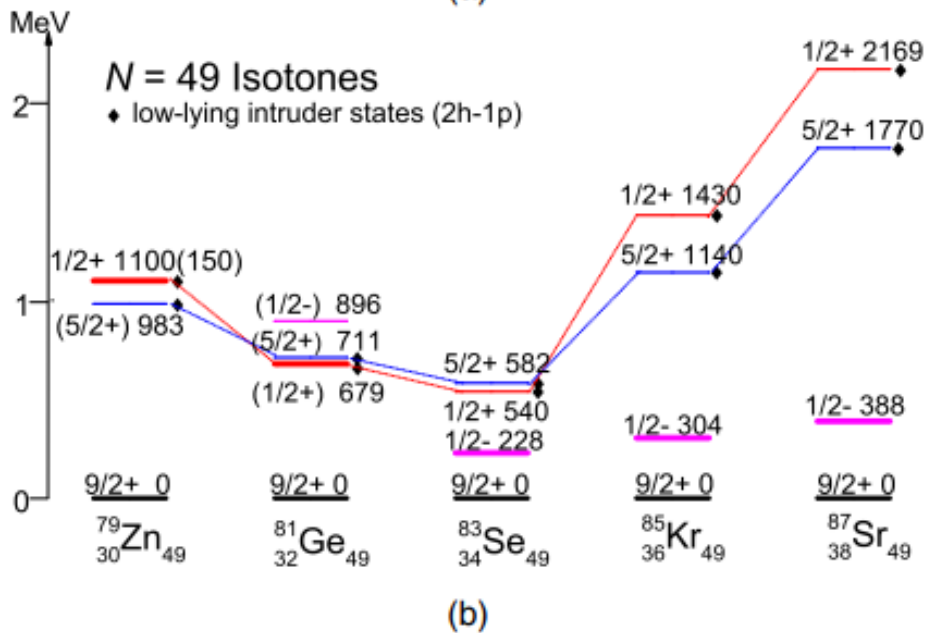
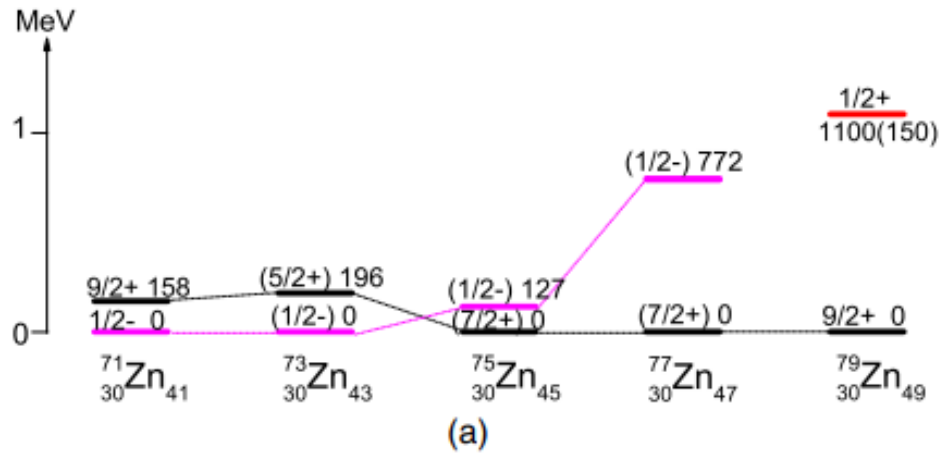


dashed line: single-particle magnetic moment with  $g_s = 0.7g_{s,\text{free}}$



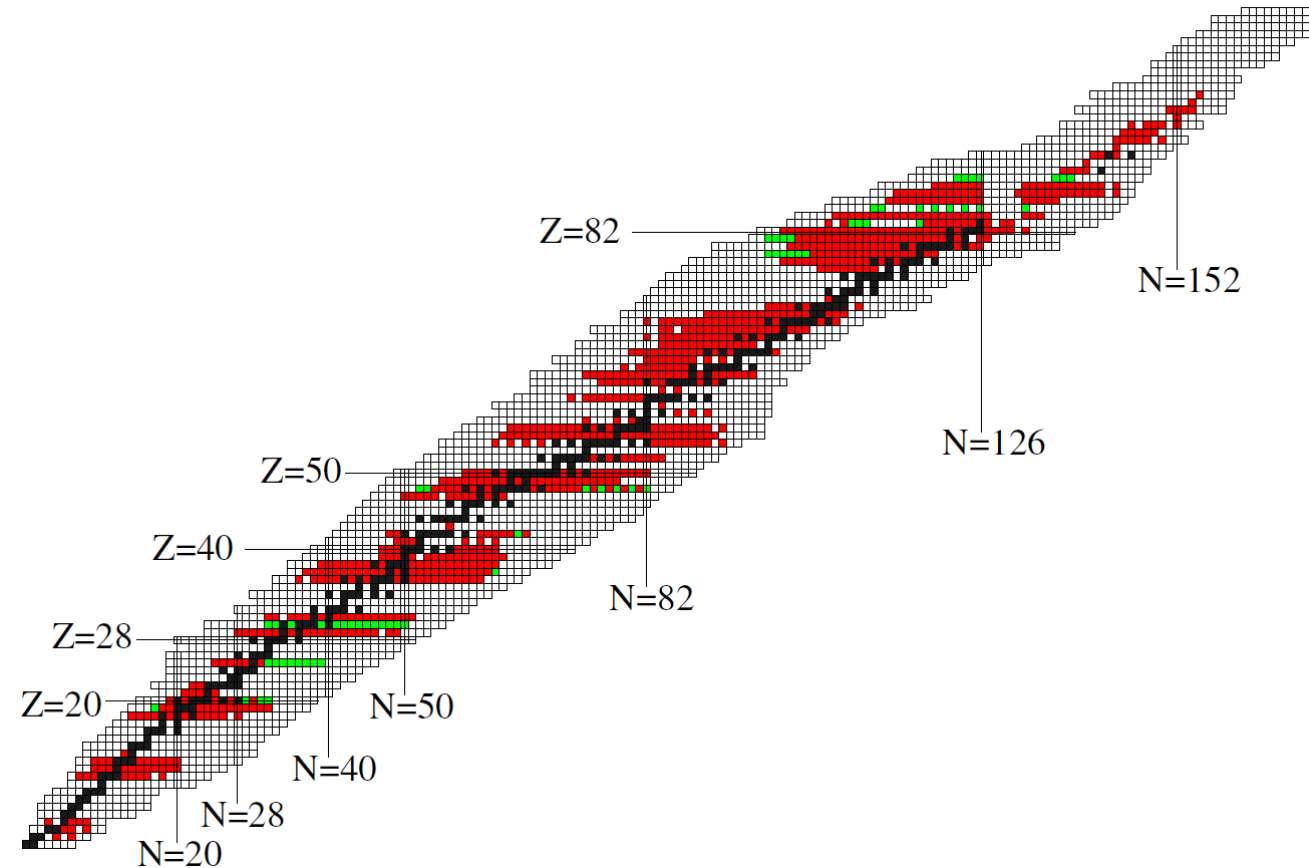
# Case study – zinc isotopes

## 3. physics discussion

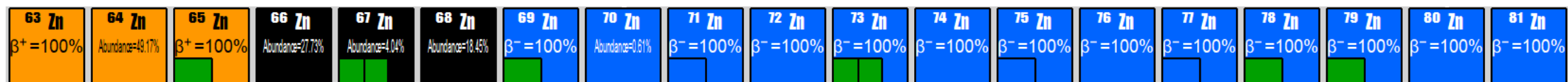


# What did we learn here?

- Magnetic moments are very sensitive to the configuration of unpaired nucleons
  - They can be used to identify ordering of single particle levels
  - More in-depth comparisons with nuclear theory can be used to learn more about rigidity of shell closures, role of collective excitations, ...
- BUT! be careful when dealing with strongly deformed systems. In this case the assumptions made to derive the simple Schmidt limit are absolutely not valid.
- Laser spectroscopy is one of the few techniques that can be used to measure magnetic moments close to stability as well as for very exotic isotopes.

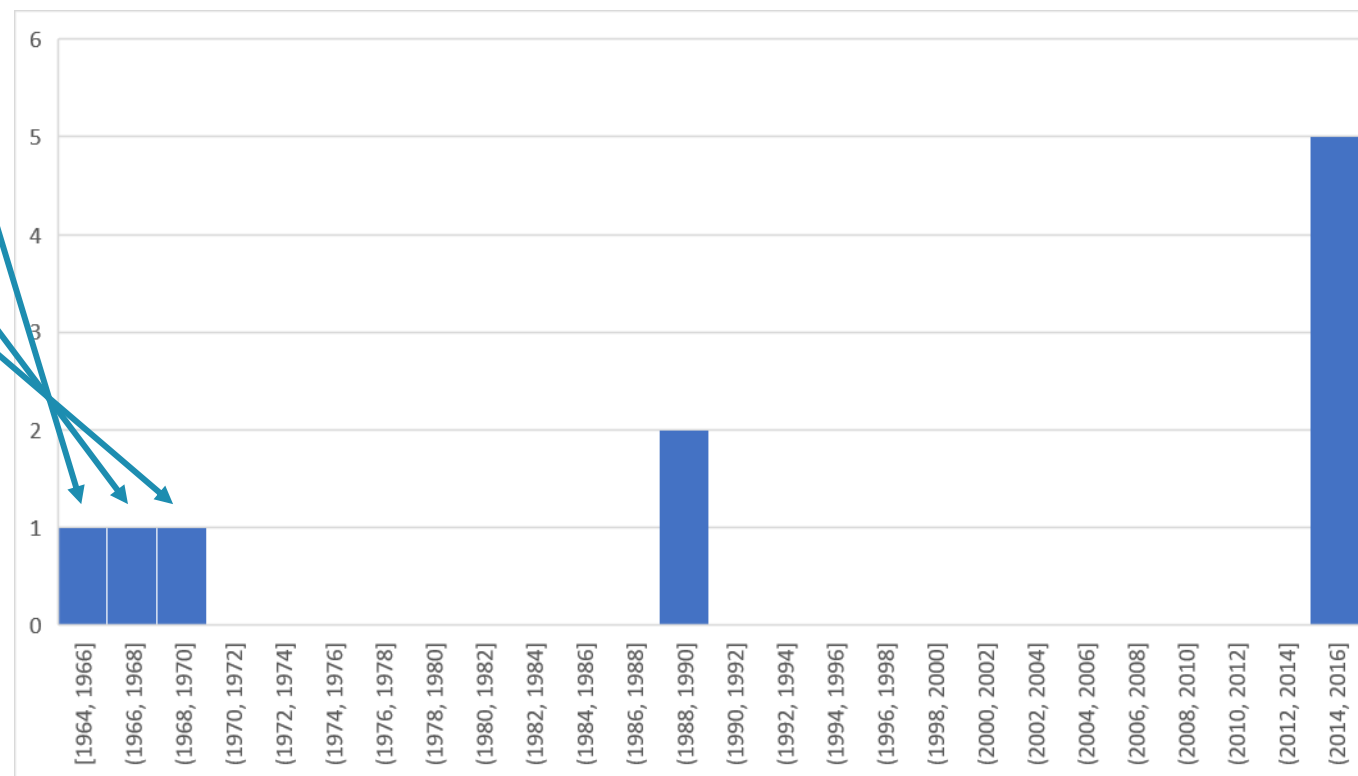


# Example for zinc



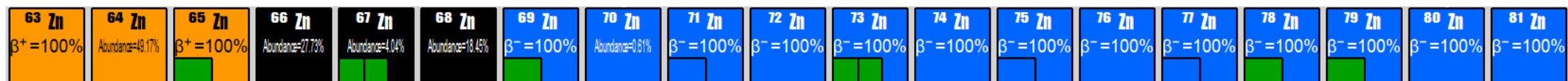
## 'Offline' measurements

- Stable isotopes, long-lived
- <sup>63</sup>Zn: 38 min half life, 8 Curie source was made.....!

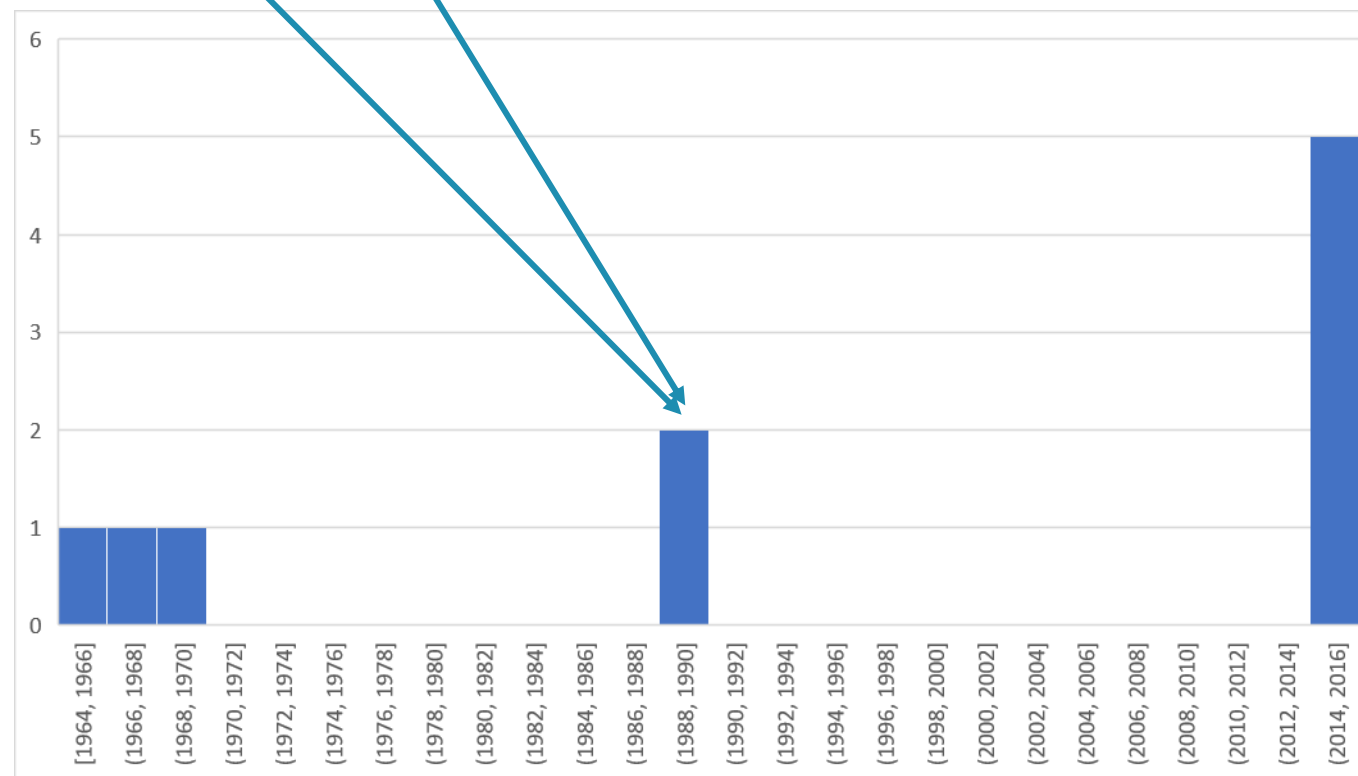




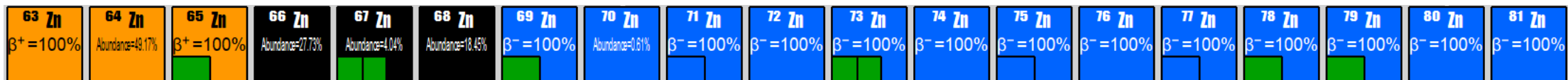
# Example for zinc



- 'Online' measurements
- Shorter half-lives become possible
  - Non-laser technique

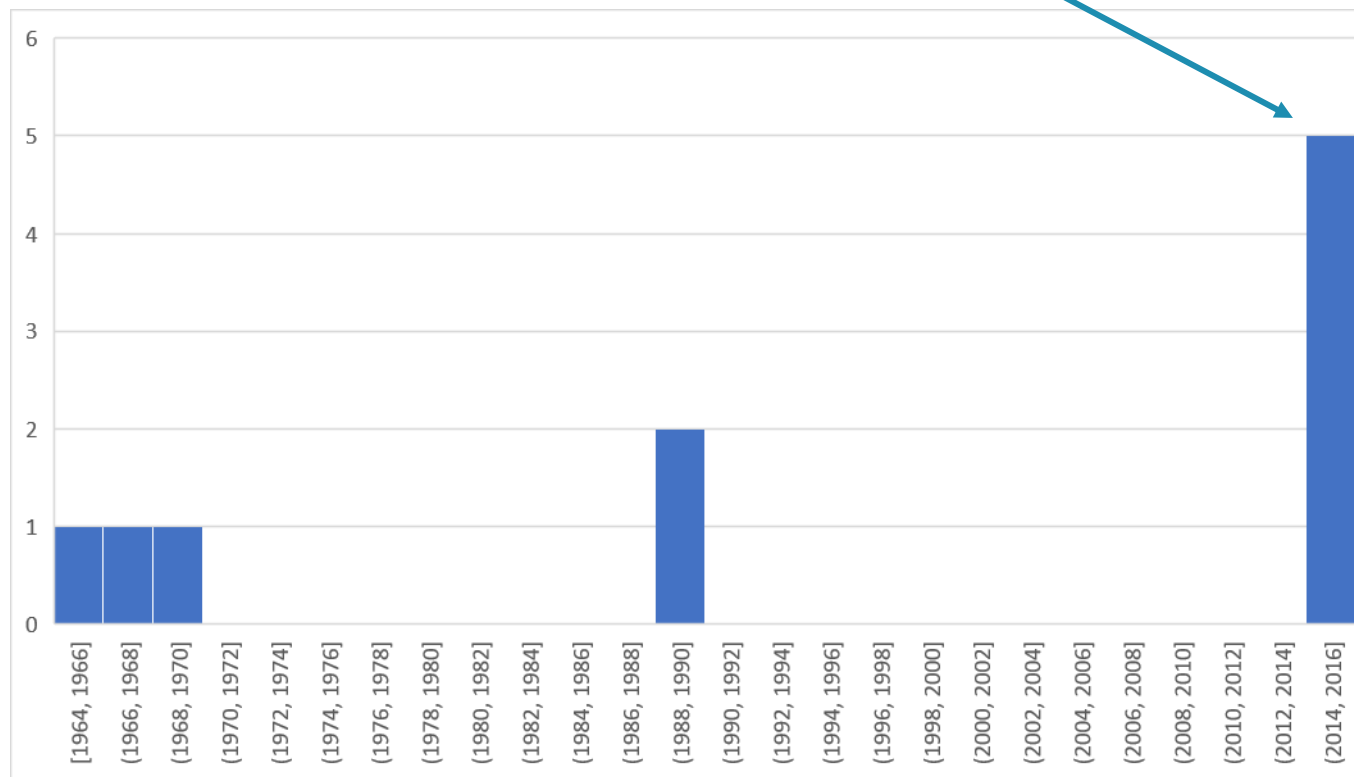


# Example for zinc



- 'Online' measurements
- Shorter half-lives become possible
  - Laser spectroscopy technique

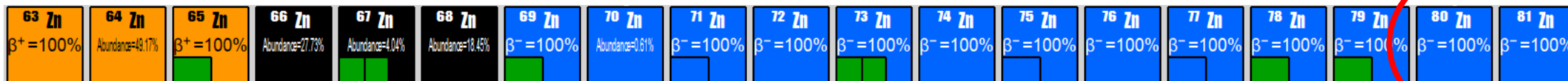
=> suddenly a lot of isotopes can be studied in a few days!  
Lifetimes  $\ll$  1s



# In summary...

- Magnetic moments are very sensitive to the configuration of unpaired nucleons
  - They can be used to identify ordering of single particle levels
  - More in-depth comparisons with nuclear theory can be used to learn more about rigidity of shell closures, role of collective excitations, ...
- Laser spectroscopy techniques provide a convenient way to measure magnetic moments, as well as the other observables discussed by Iain
- We studied the Zn isotopic chain as an example, but the lessons generalize to isotopic chains throughout the chart
- In particular: we leverage the richness of atomic structure to optimize our experiments so we can study the most exotic and short-lived isotopes
- It is at this interface of atomic physics, nuclear physics and ever-evolving technology that we perform our work!

# Example for zinc

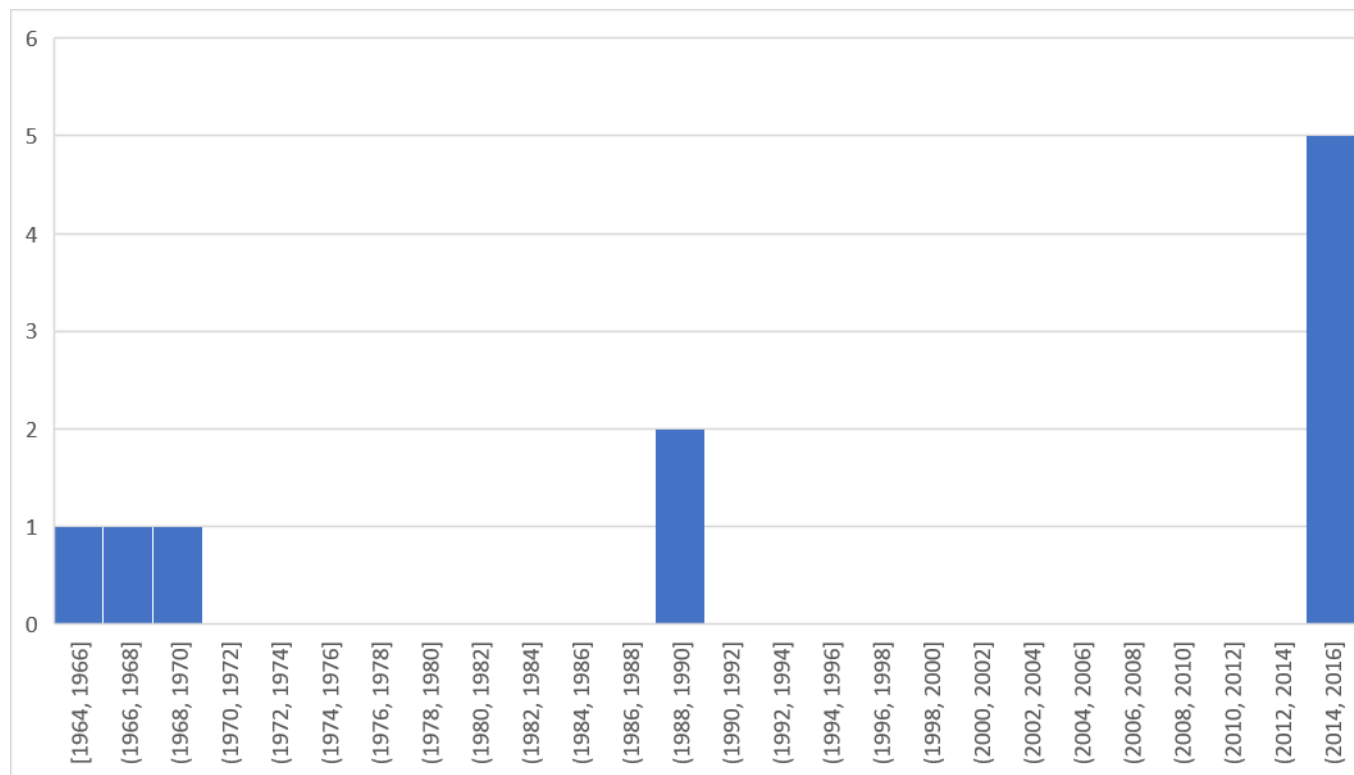


Accepted proposal!

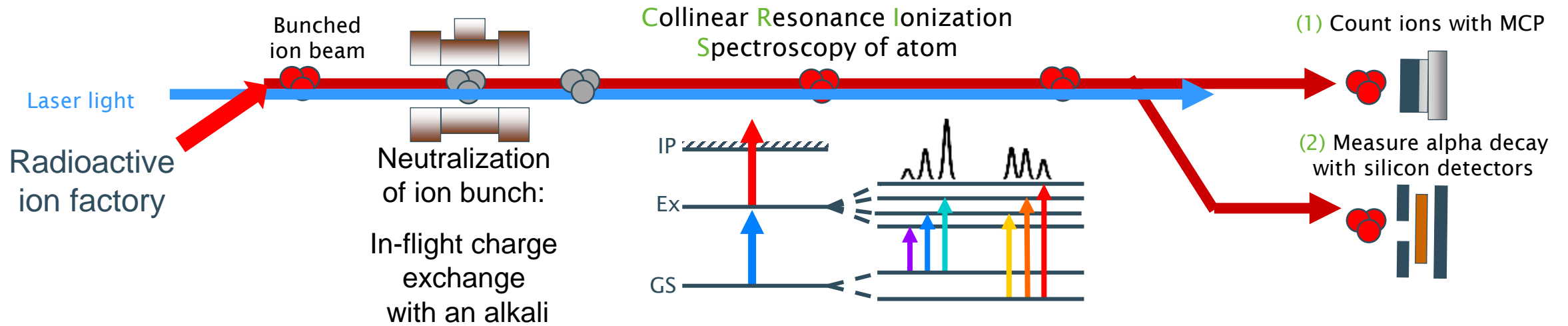
‘Online’ measurements

- Shorter half-lives become possible
- Laser spectroscopy technique

=> suddenly a lot of isotopes can be studied in a few days!  
Lifetimes  $\ll 1$  s



# Collinear resonance ionization spectroscopy



- Use of laser ionization enables measurements with lower backgrounds and higher efficiency
- Since the atoms get ionized, we can send them to a decay station for further spectroscopy
  - !!! We can produce isomerically pure beams!
  - Thus, we can gather complimentary decay data to really help understand e.g.  $^{79m}\text{Zn}$  and the isotopes  $N=50, 51$