

# **Searching for collinear tripartition of heavy nuclei – status and prospects**

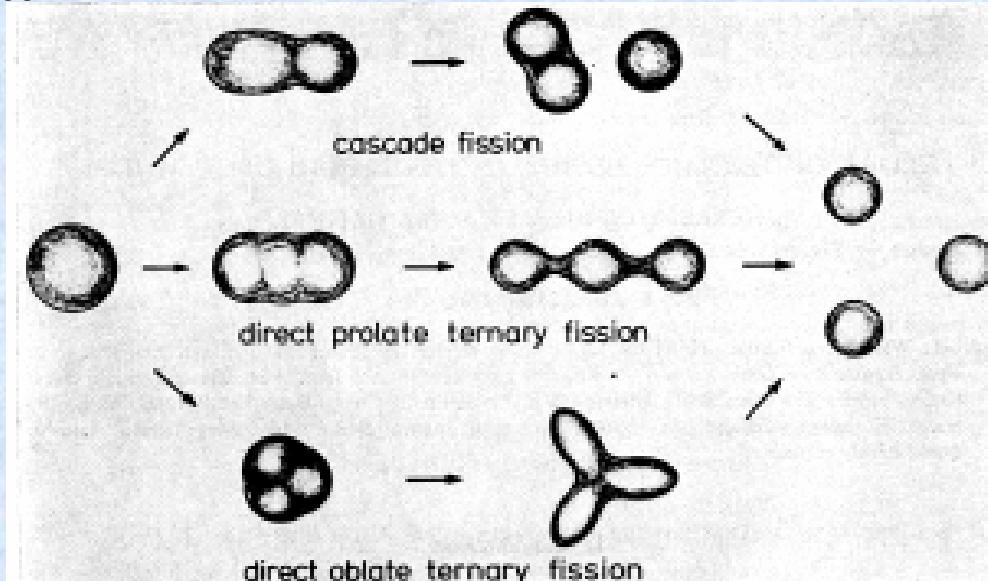
## **Collaboration**

- Moscow Engineering Physics Institute, Moscow, Russia**
- Joint Institute for Nuclear Research, Dubna, Russia**
- Department of Physics of University of Jyväskylä, Jyväskylä, Finland**
- Khlopin-Radium-Institute, St. Petersburg, Russia**
- Institute for Nuclear Research RAN, Moscow, Russia**
- Hahn-Meitner Institute, Berlin, Germany**
- Technical University, Darmstadt, Germany**

## **Our major CCT publications since 1998**

- 1. Ю.В. Пятков и др., Препринт ОИЯИ Р15-98-263, Дубна, 1998**
- 2. Yu. V. Pyatkov et al., Proc. Int. Conf. “50Years of Shells”, 21-24 April 1999, Dubna , p. 301**
- 3. Yu.V. Pyatkov et al., Proc. Int. Symp. On Exotic Nuclei (EXON-2001), Baikal Lake, July 24-28, 2001, p. 181**
- 4. Yu.V. Pyatkov et al., Physics of Atomic Nuclei, Vol. 66, No. 9, 2003, p. 1631**
- 5. D.V. Kamanin et al., Physics of Atomic Nuclei, Vol. 66, No. 9, 2003, p. 1655**
- 6. Yu.V. Pyatkov et al., preprint JINR E-15-2004-65, Dubna, 2004**
- 7. W. Trzaska et al., Proc. Seminar on Fission Pont d’Oye V, Belgium, 16-19 September 2003, p.102**
- 8. Yu.V. Pyatkov et al., Proc. Int. Symp. On Exotic Nuclei (EXON-2004), Peterhof, July 5-12, 2004, p.351**
- 9. Yu.V. Pyatkov et al., preprint JINR E-15-2005-99, Dubna, 2005**

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- 2.D. N. Poenaru, R.A. Cheghescu and W. Greiner, Proc. Symp. On Nuclear Clusters, Rausischholzhausen, Germany, 5-9 August 2002, p.283
- 3.Yu. V. Pyatkov, D. V. Kamanin, A. A. Alexandrov, I. A. Alexandrova, S.V. Khlebnokov, S.V. Mitrofanov, V. V. Pashkevich, Yu. E. Penionzhkevich, Yu.V. Ryabov, E.A. Sokol, V. G. Tishchenko, A. N. Tjukavkin, A. V. Unzhakova and S.R. Yamaletdinov, Physics of Atomic Nuclei, 66 (2003) 1631



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A.V. Kravtsov and G.E. Soljakin  
Phys. Rev. C 60 (1999) 017601-1

233U (nth, f)  
**252Cf (sf)**  
233,235U (nth, f)  
239,241Pu (nth, f)

**criticism (scattering)**

|  
| radio-chemical methods  
|  
**252Cf (sf)**  
**252Cf (sf)**

# How to find and verify the effect?

collinear fragments

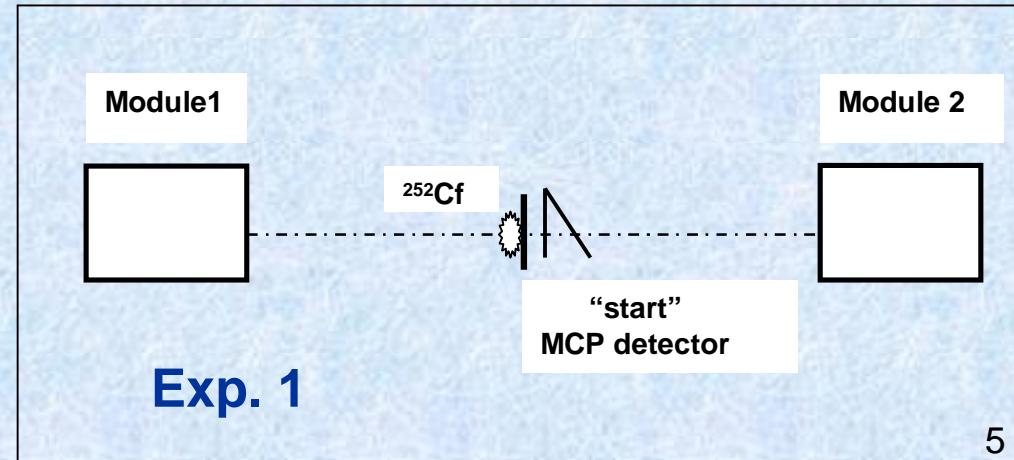
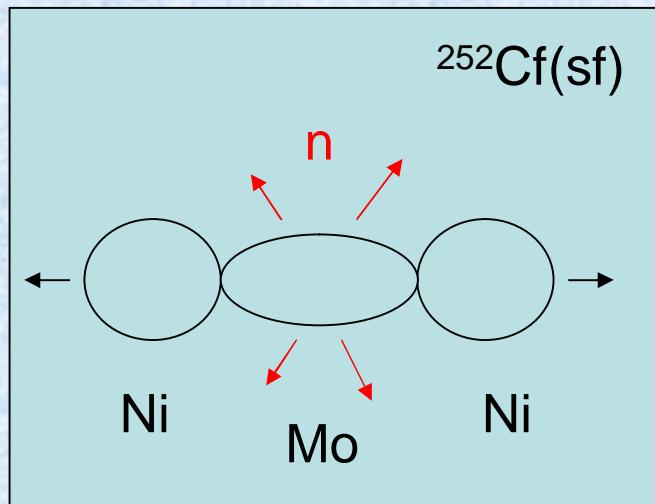
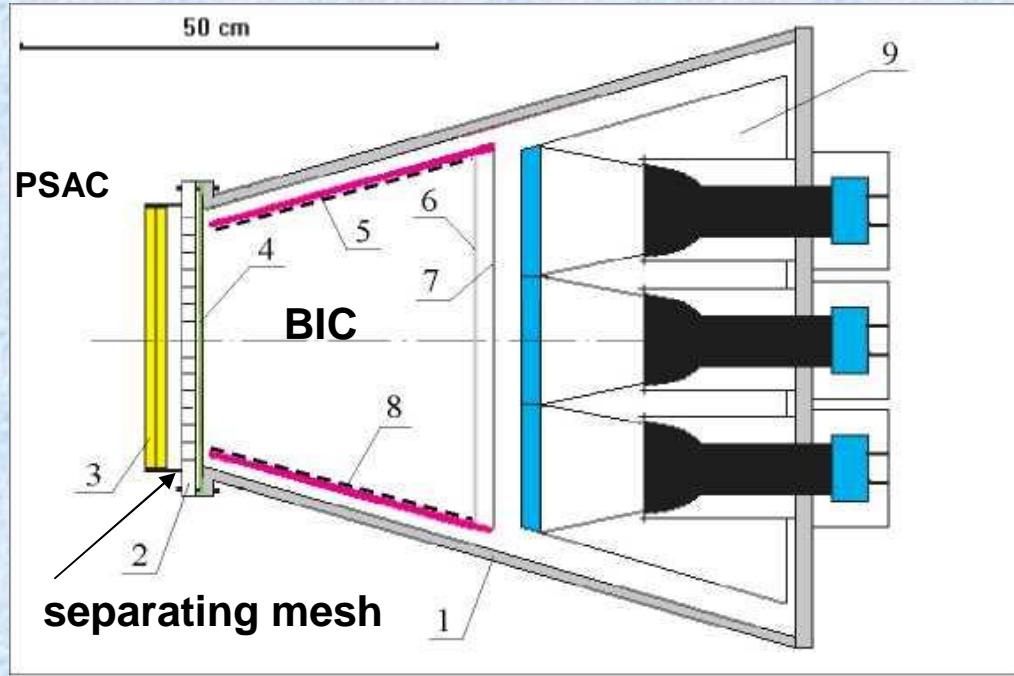
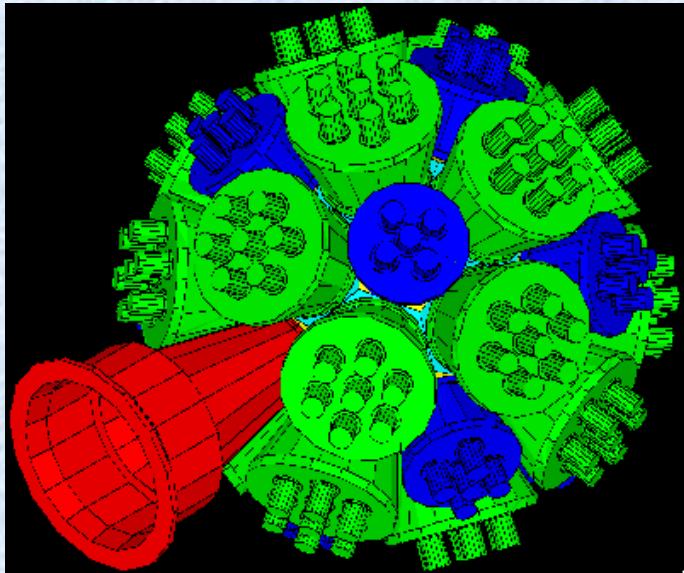
+

missing mass

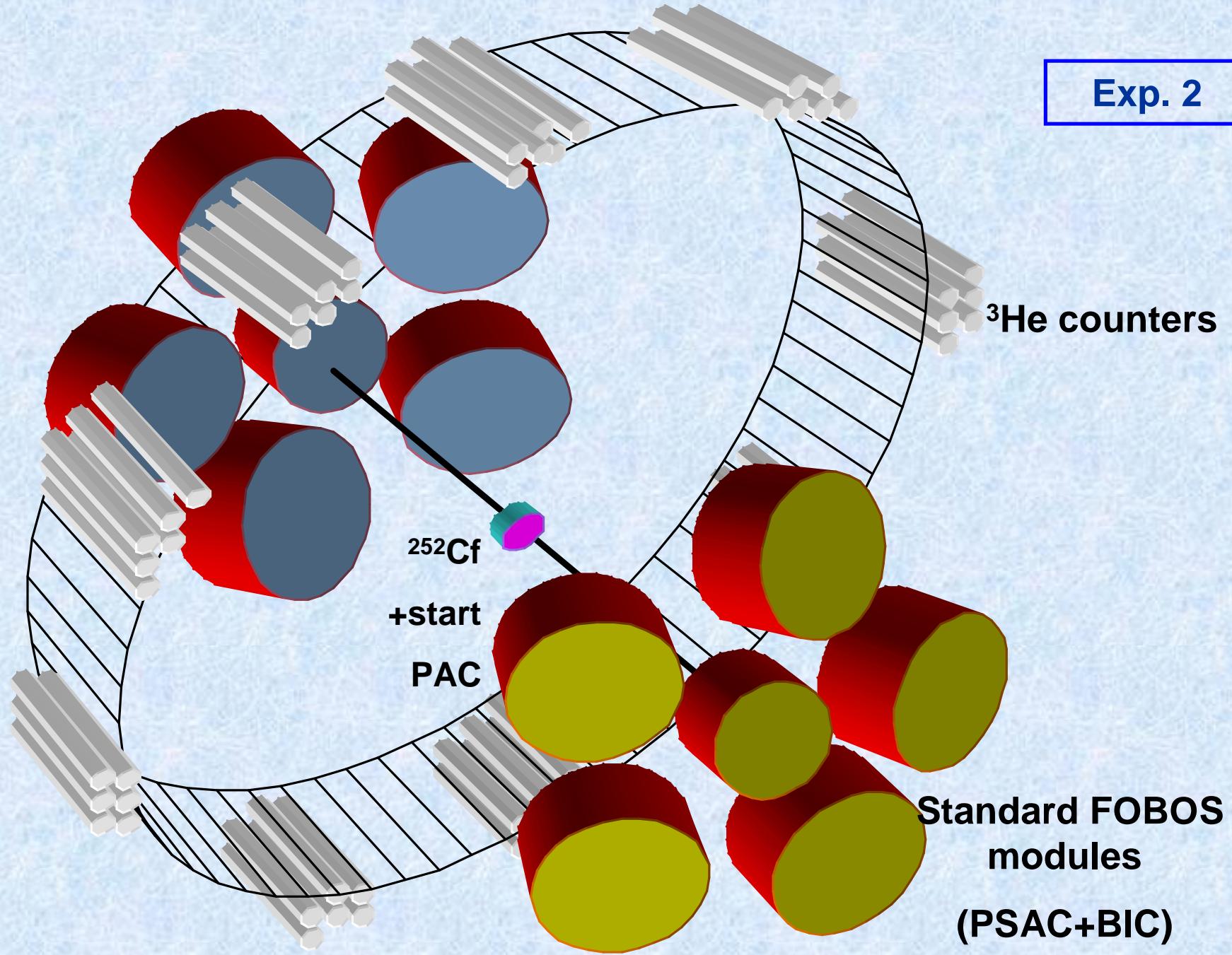
Direct registration of all decay partners

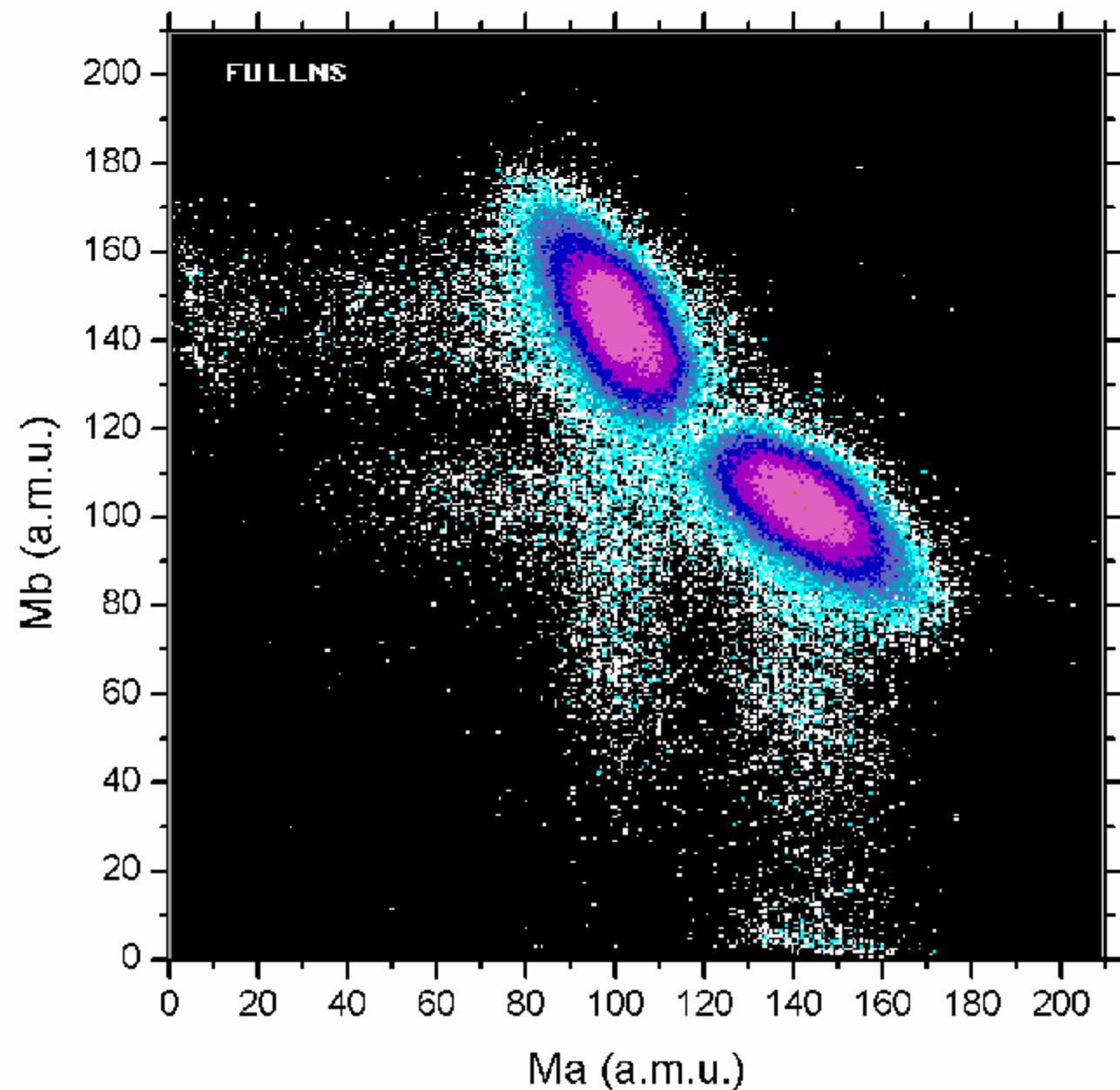
- Sophisticated analysis
  - Momentum and velocity gating
- Independent experiments using different measurement techniques
  - Modified FOBOS spectrometer at Flerov Lab in Dubna
    - Coincidences with neutrons (perpendicular to the fission axis) using  $^{140}\text{He}$  counters
  - 6 x Time + 2 x Energy using MCP spectrometer (4 MCP + 2 PIN) in Jyväskylä

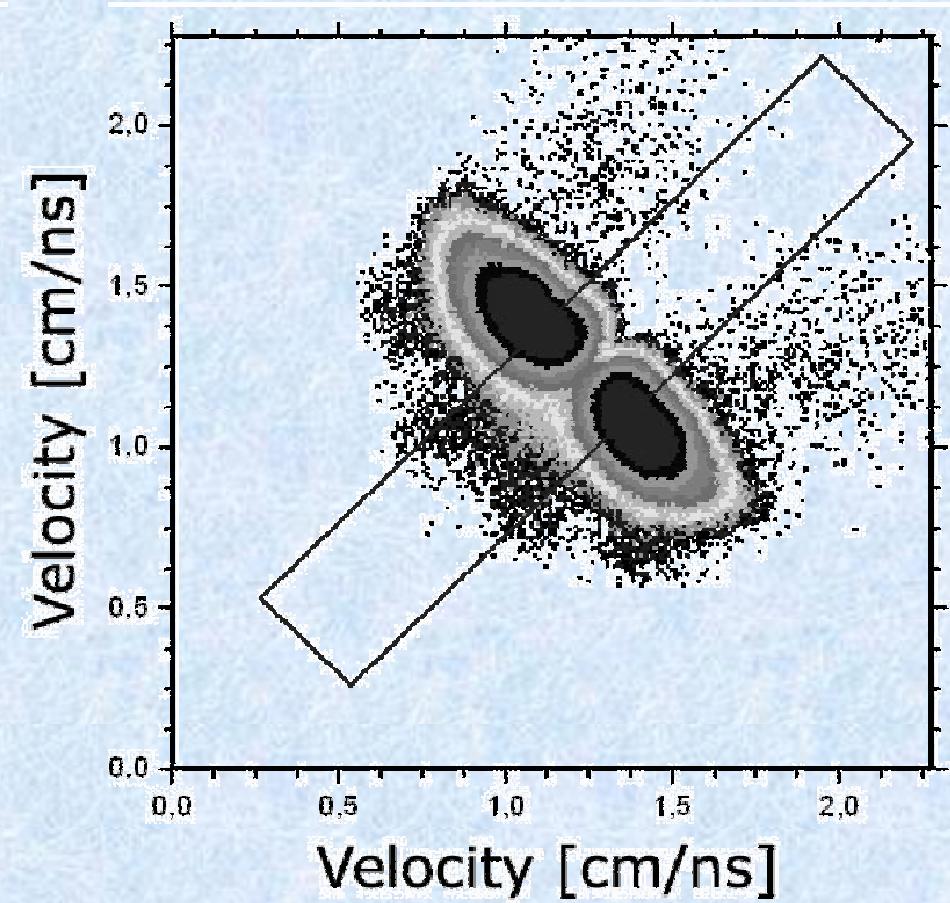
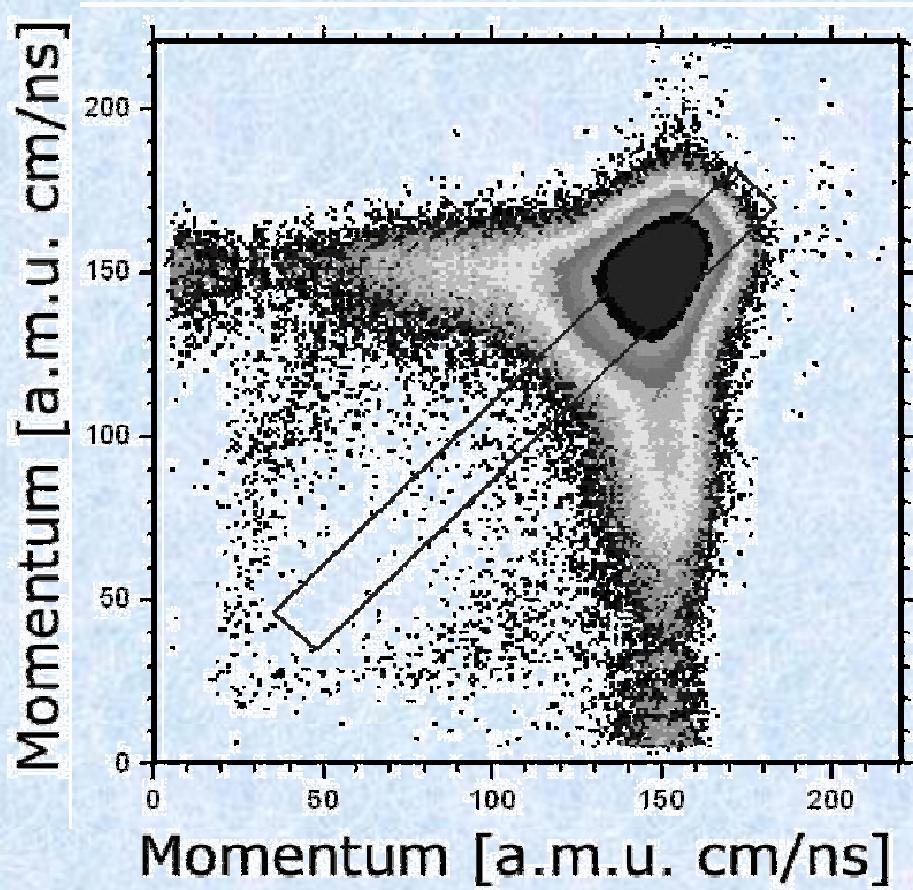
# FOBOS spectrometer

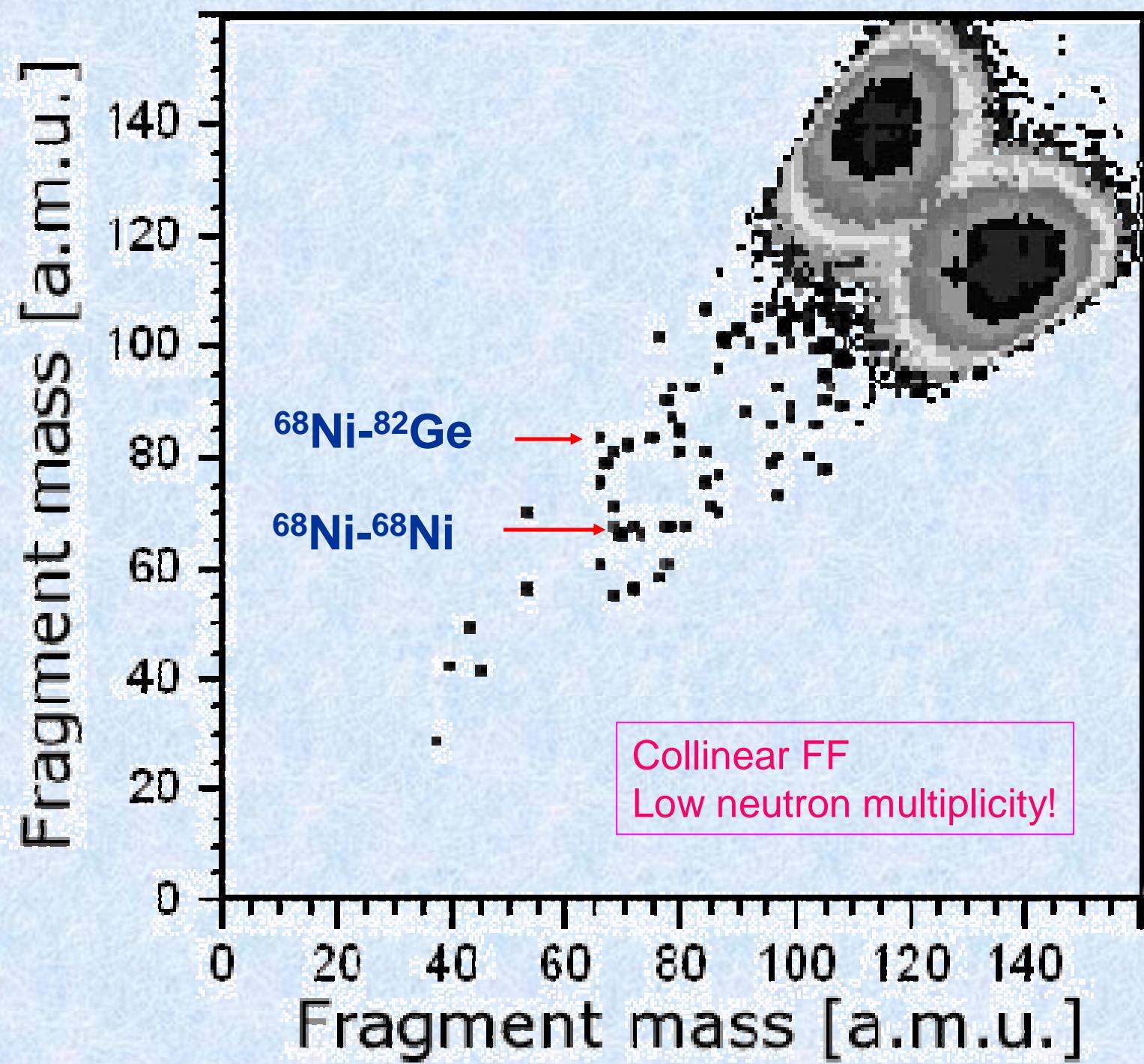


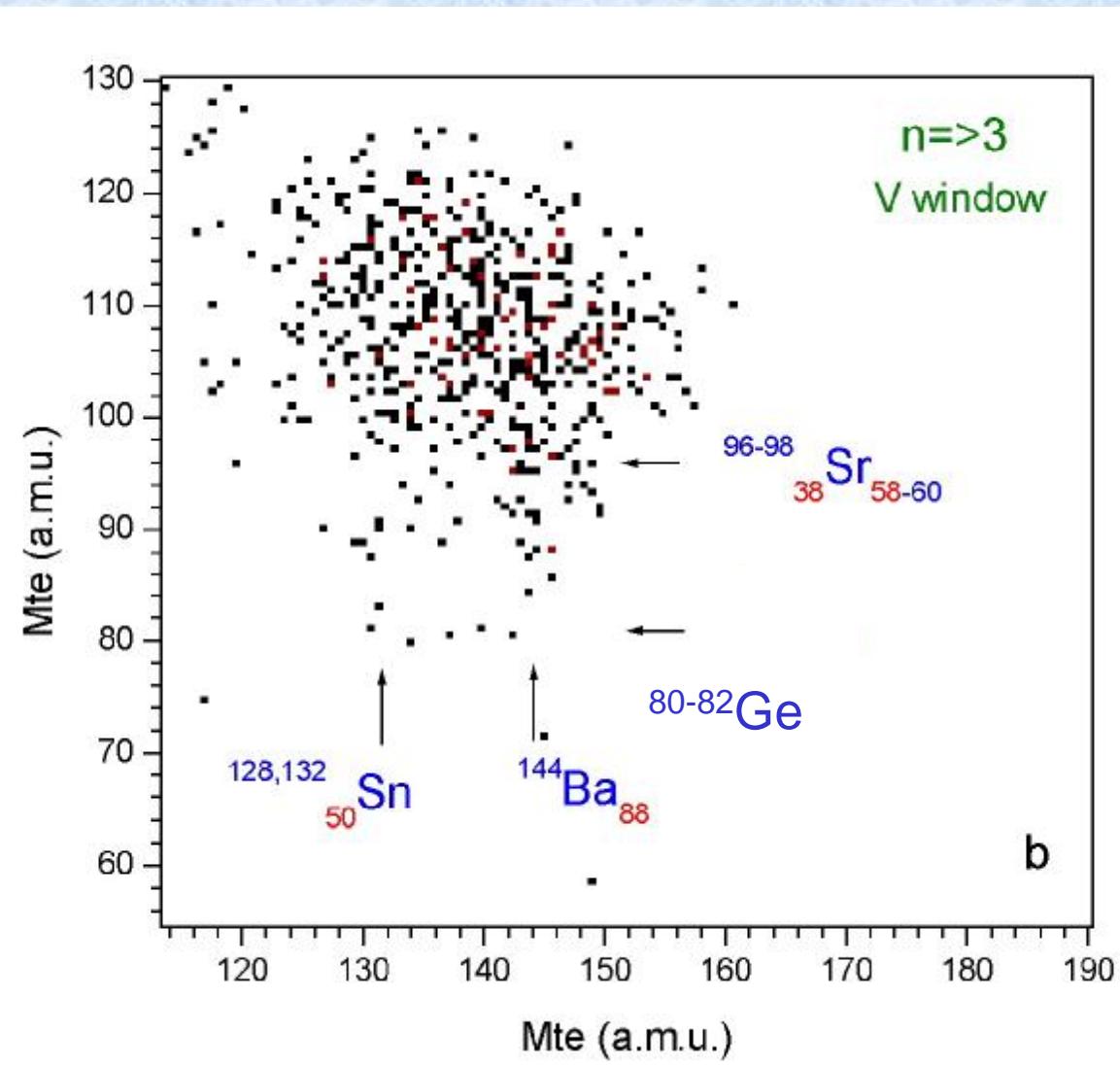
Exp. 2



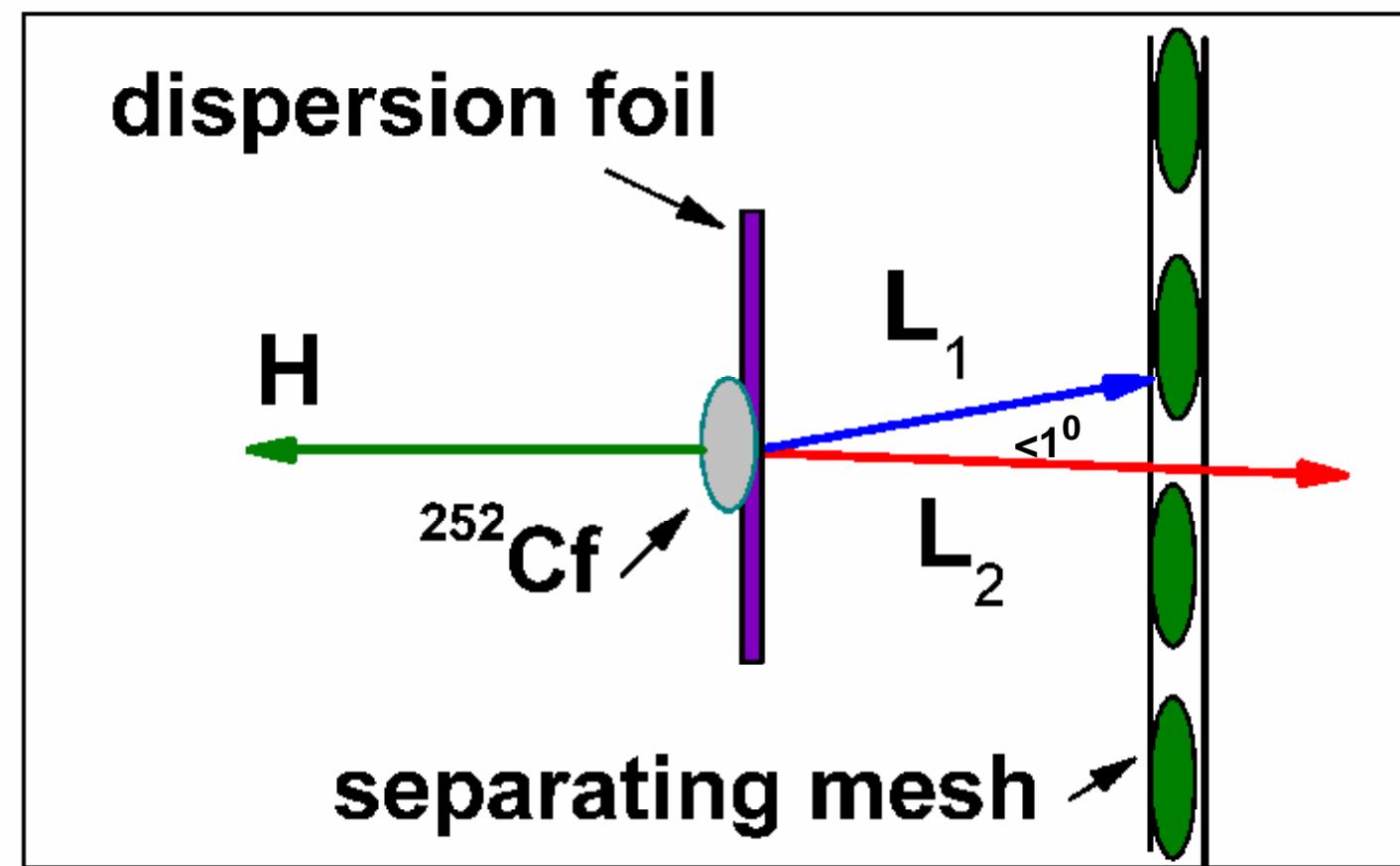


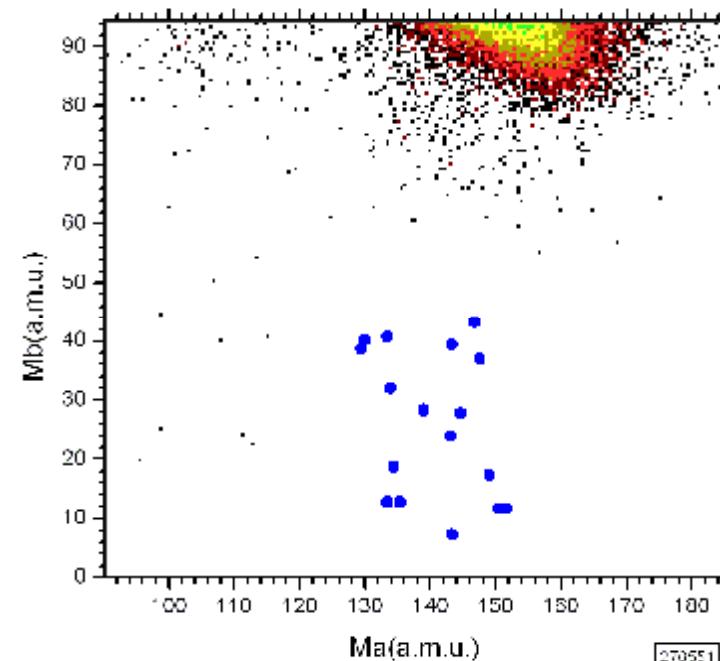
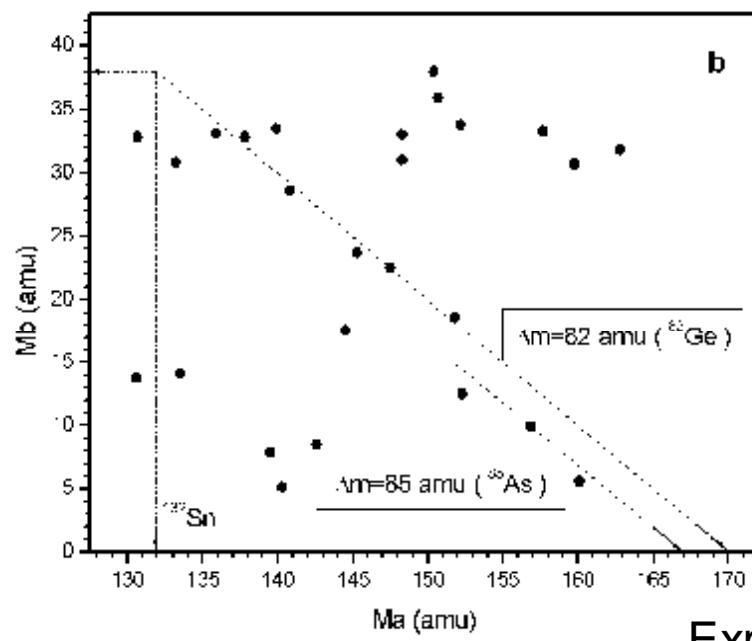
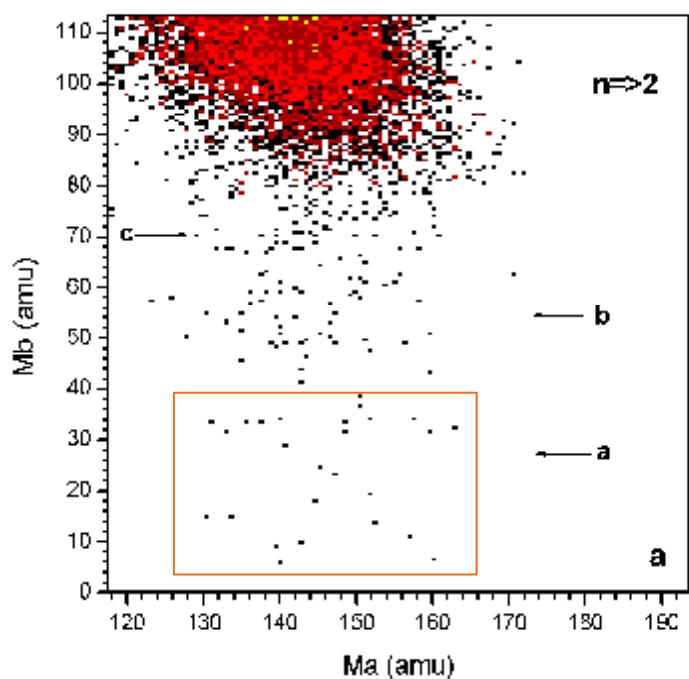






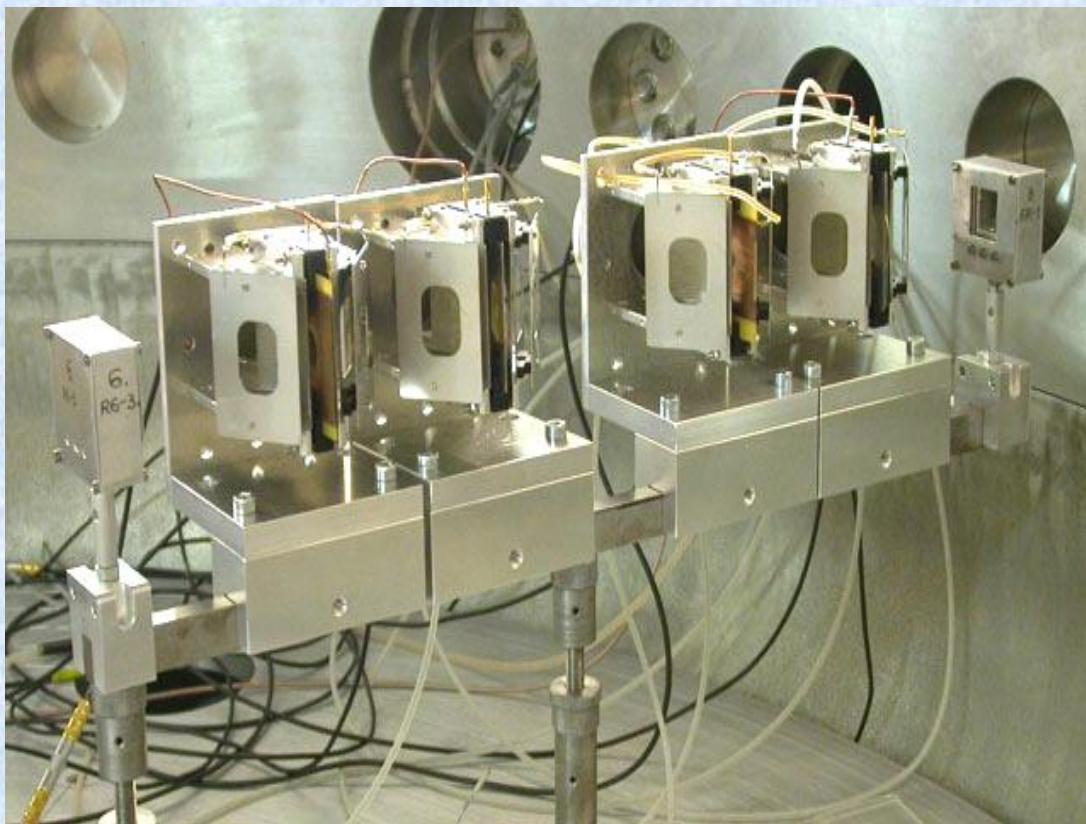
## Scheme of detecting of the CCT partners



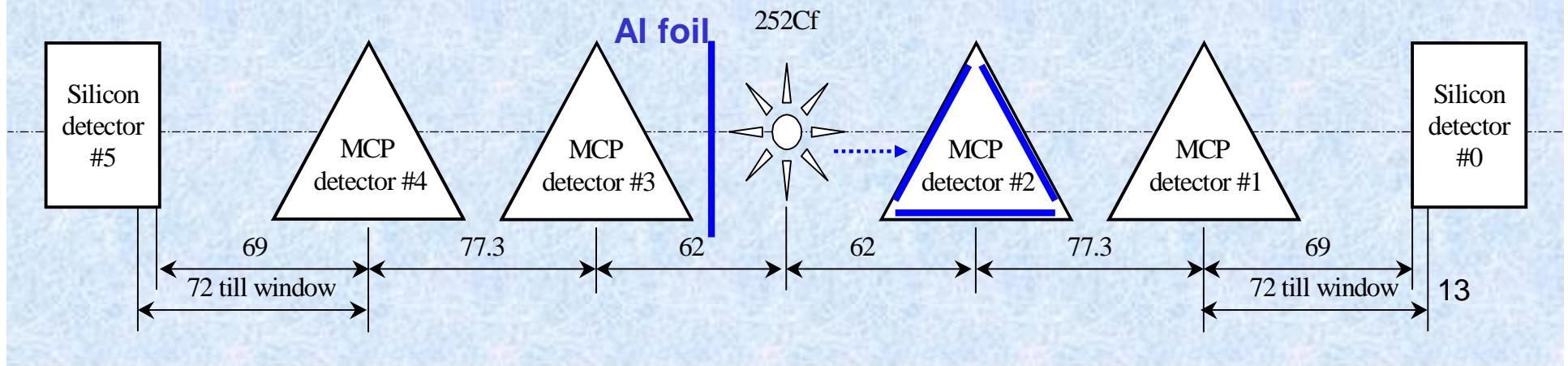


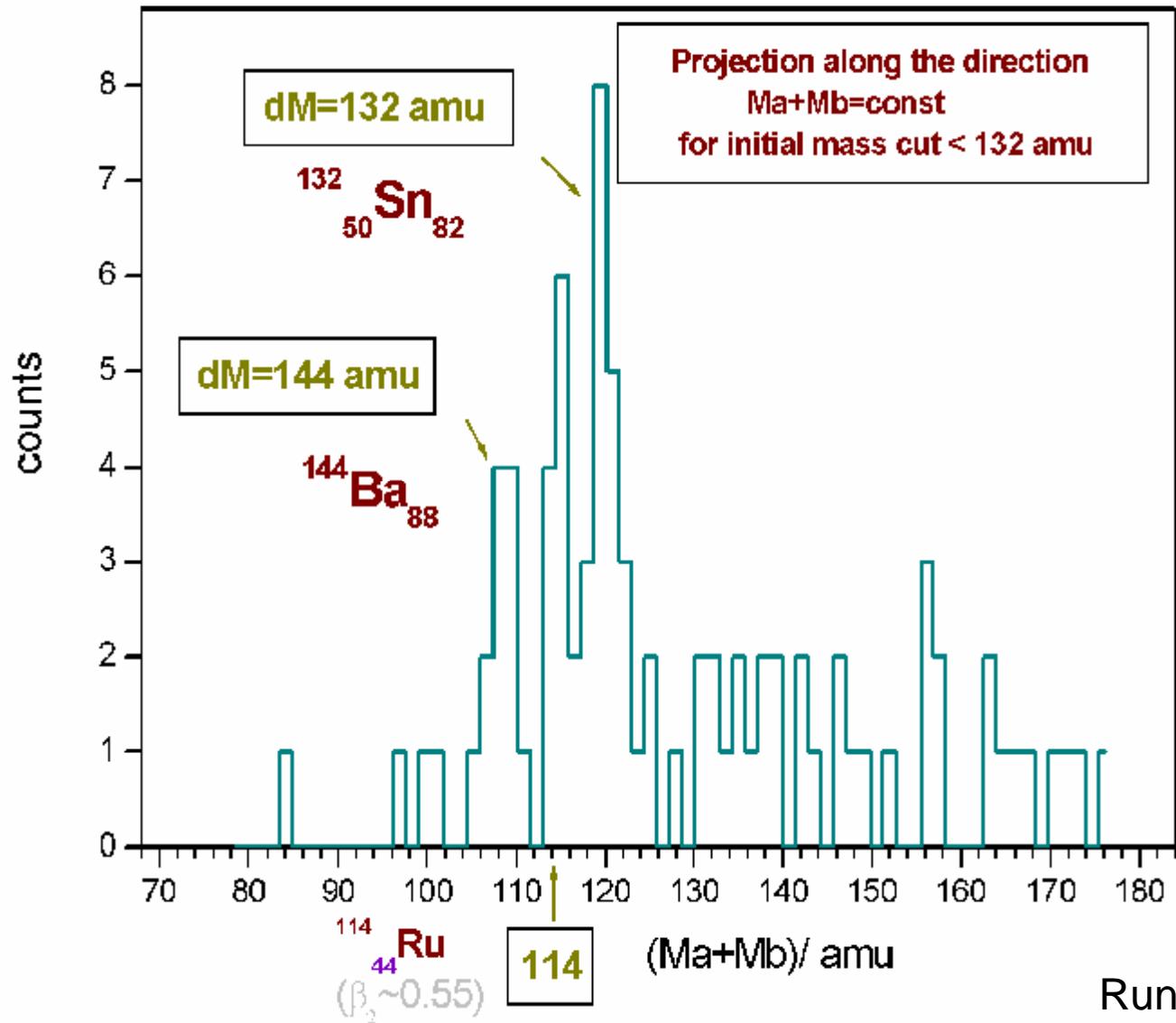
Exp. 3

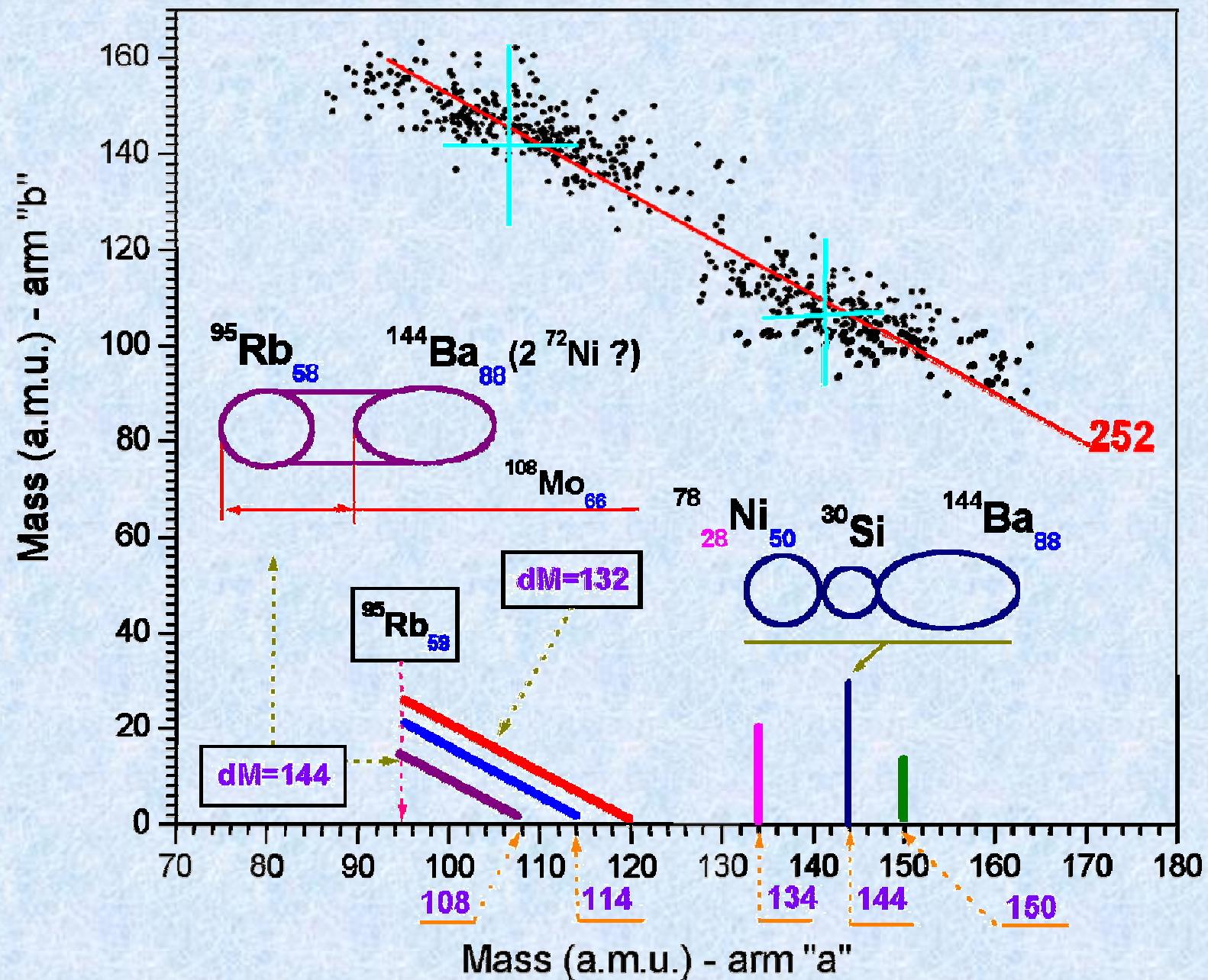
# JYFL spectrometer



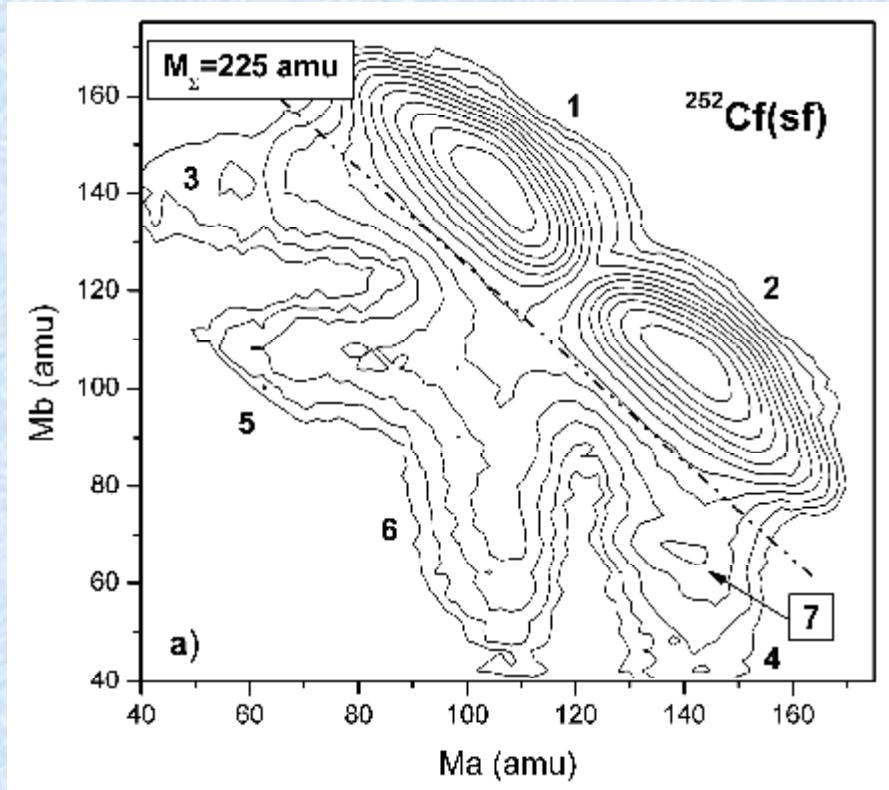
— Exp. 3





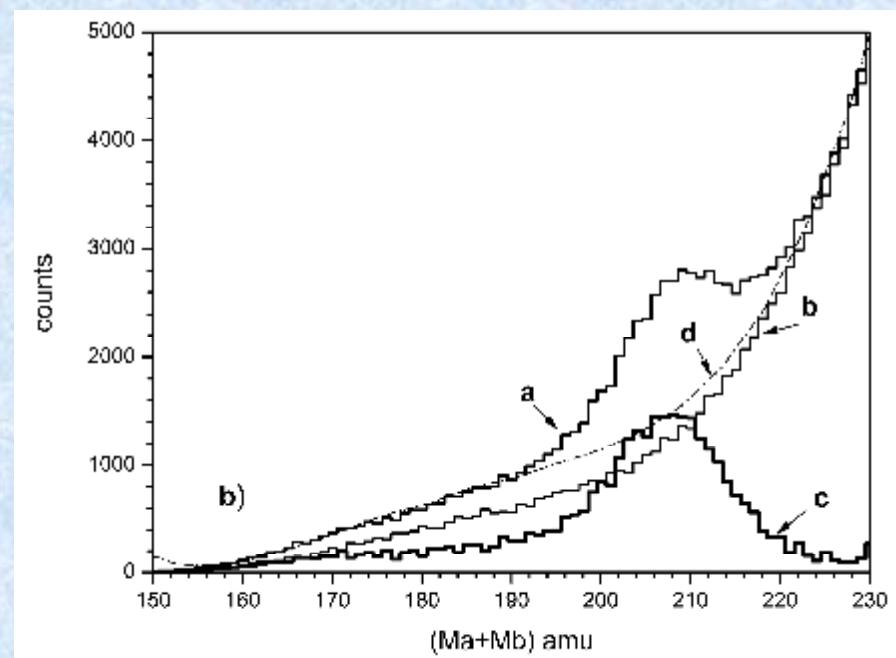


# Experimental evidence of the collinear tripartition of the $^{252}\text{Cf}$ nucleus 1 obtained at the FOBOS setup (Exp. 1)



**Fig.1** Contour map (in logarithmic scale) of the mass-mass distribution of the complimentary collinear fragments detected in the opposite arms of the spectrometer

**Fig.2** The spectrum of total masse of two registered fragments for the “tail” 4 is marked as “a”, the same for the “tail” 3 is marked by “b”, their difference is marked by “c”. Curve “d” is a polynomial fit via the points outside of the gross peak on curve “a”. The area of spectrum “c” is  $4.7 \cdot 10^{-3}$  with respect to the conventional fission events contained in the locus 2 (fig.1).



## Experimental evidence of the collinear tripartition of the $^{252}\text{Cf}$ nucleus obtained at the FOBOS setup

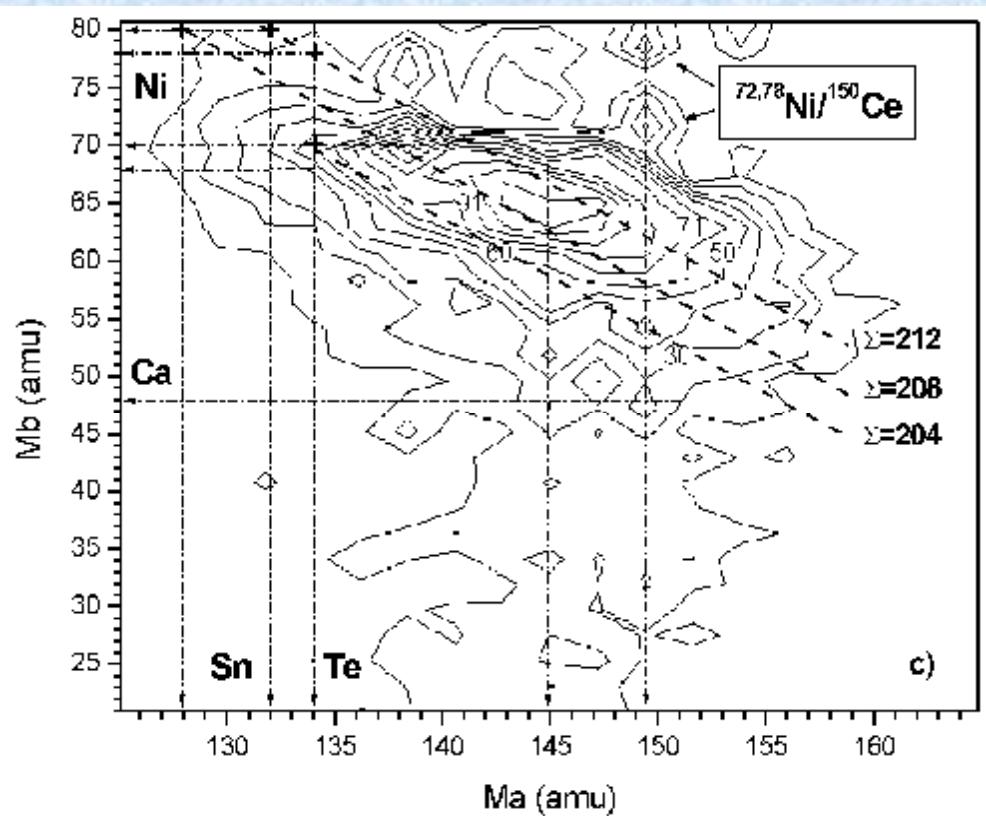
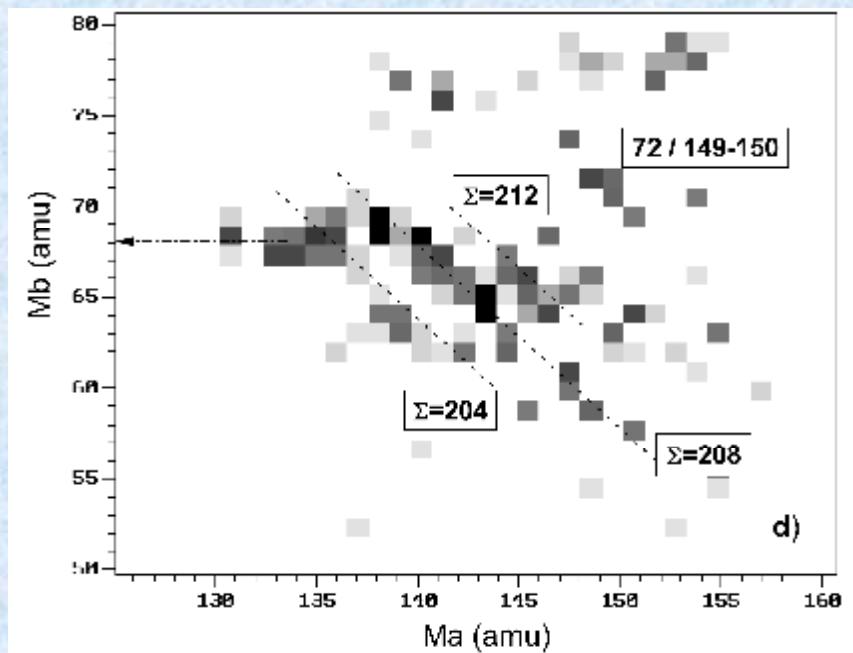
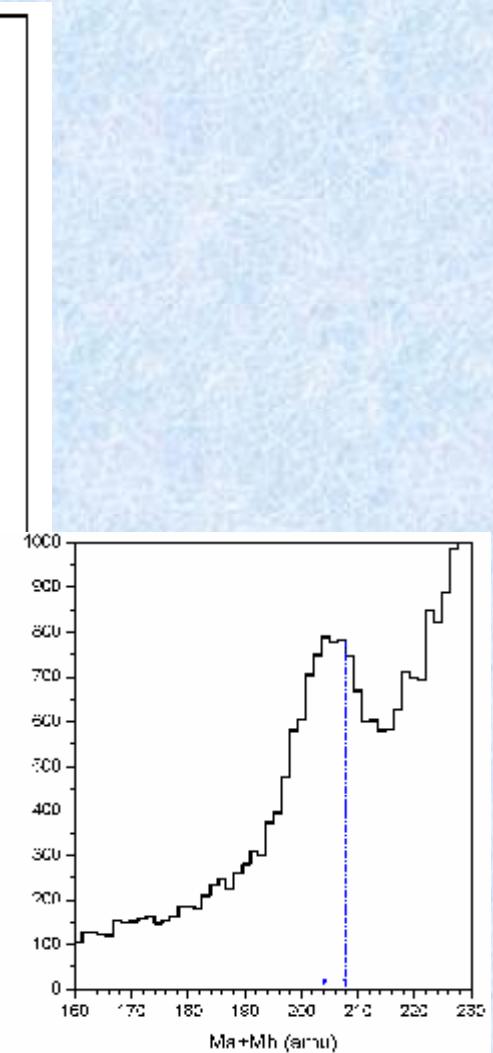
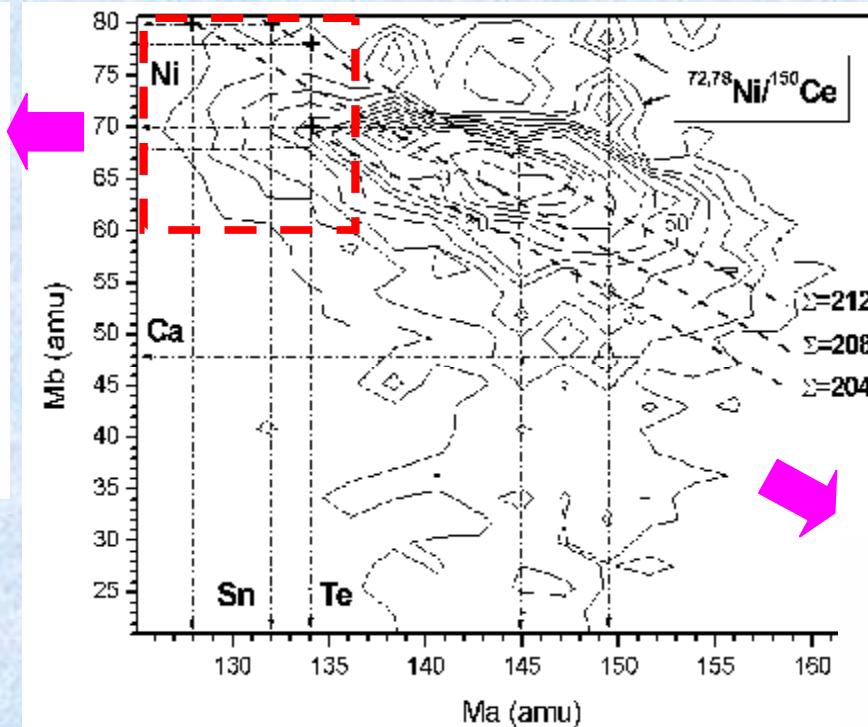
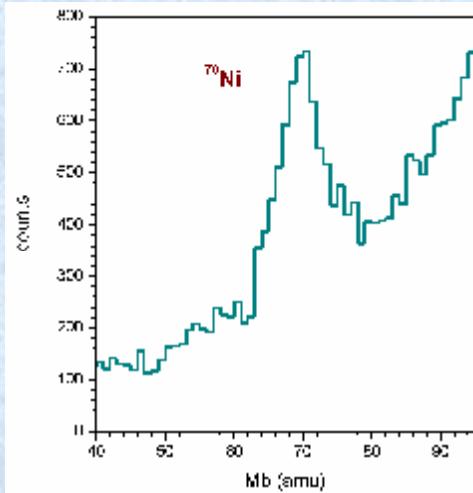


Fig.3 depicts as a contour map the difference between the “tailes” 4 and 3, i.d. shows bump 7 with out the background.

Fig. 4 presents a result of processing of the distribution from fig 3 with a second derivative filter.



## Experimental evidence of the collinear tripartition of the $^{252}\text{Cf}$ nucleus obtained at the FOBOS setup.



$204 \rightarrow ^{70}\text{Ni} + ^{134}\text{Te};$   
 $208 \rightarrow ^{80}\text{Ge} + ^{128}\text{Sn}$

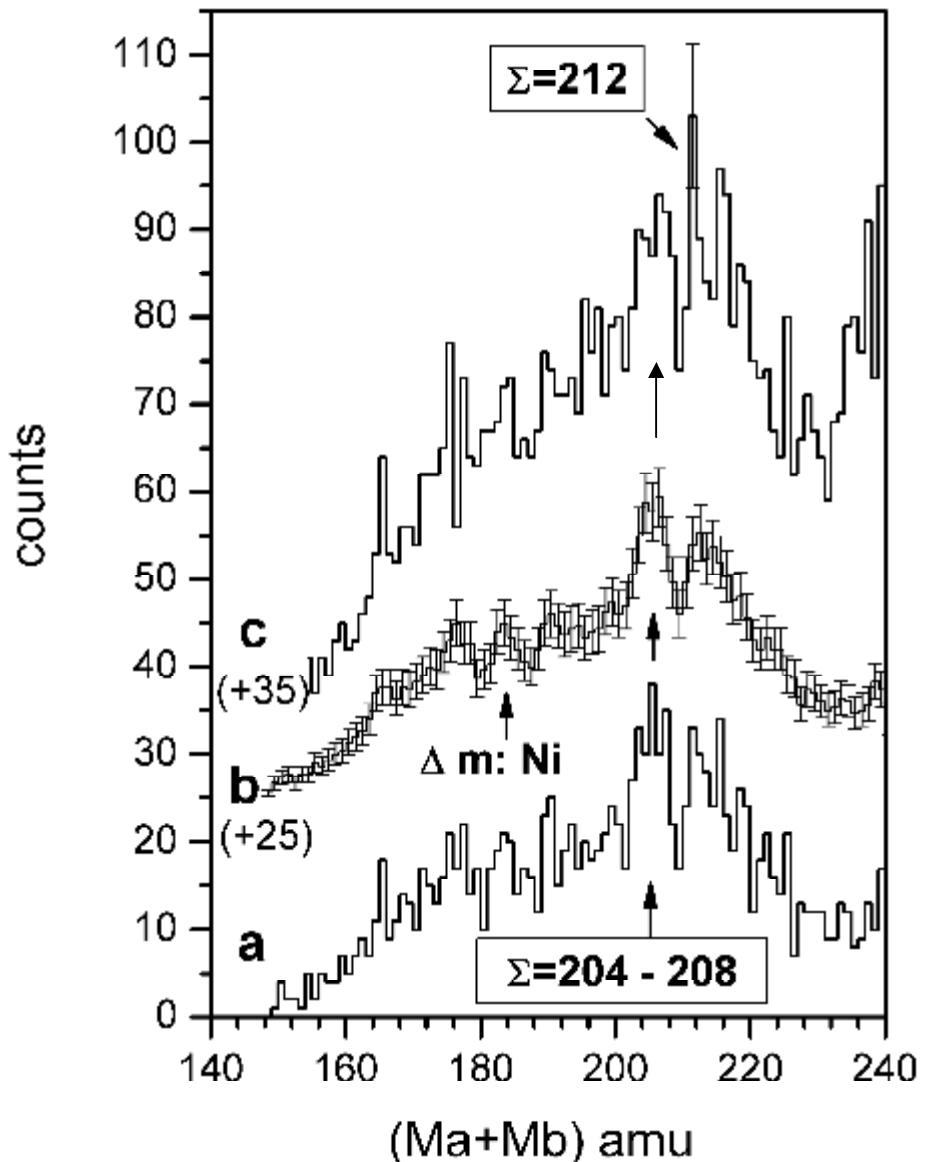
$212 \rightarrow ^{80}\text{Ge} + ^{132}\text{Sn}$  or/and  
 $^{78}\text{Ni} + ^{134}\text{Te}$   
 or/and  $^{68}\text{Ni} + ^{144}\text{Ba}$

$\Delta m = 48$  amu

$\Delta m = 44$  amu

$\Delta m = 40$  amu

# JIFL- spectrometer (Exp. 3: 4 MCP- detectors, 72% transparency )

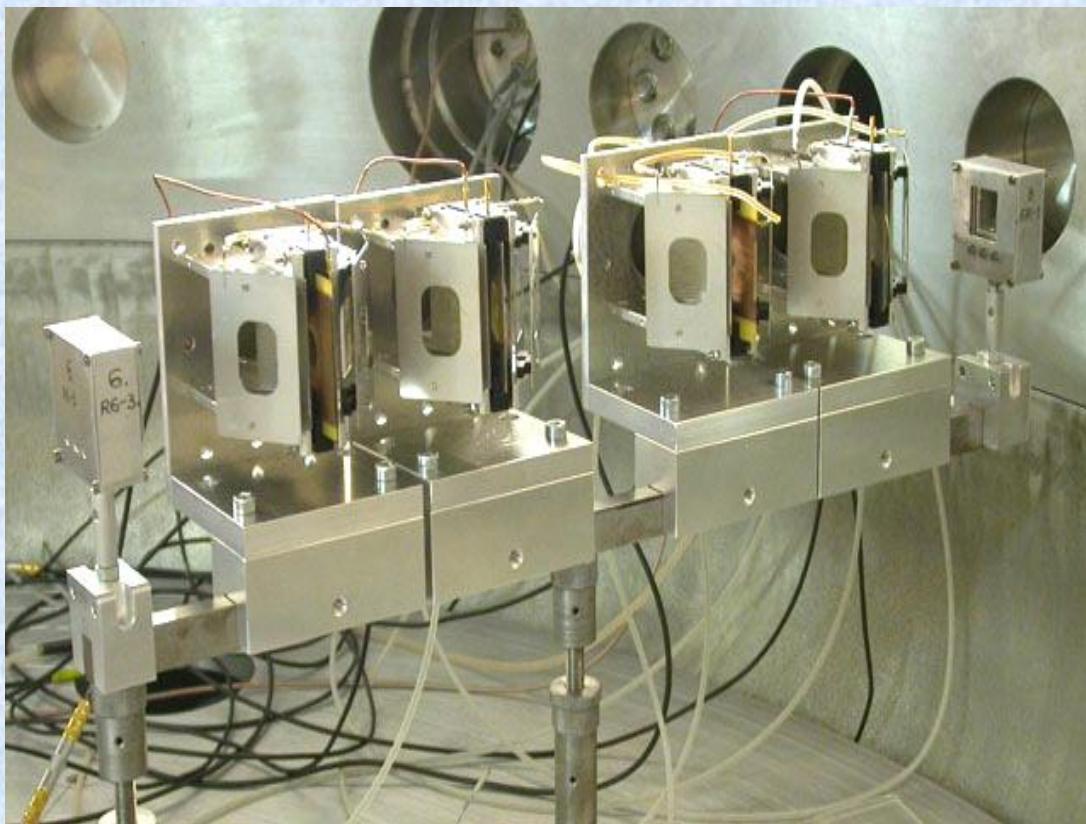


The sum of spectrum "a" and the complementary one obtained in the second arm of the spectrometer.

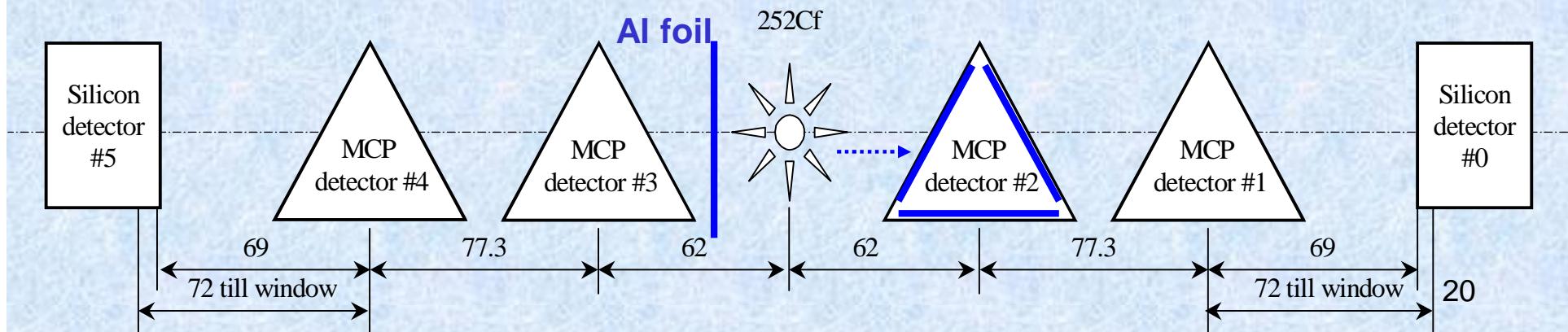
Averaging of counts in three adjacent channels of spectrum "a"

Spectrum "a" corresponds to the arm facing the source backing. Its relative yield amounts to  $2.7 \times 10^{-3}$ .

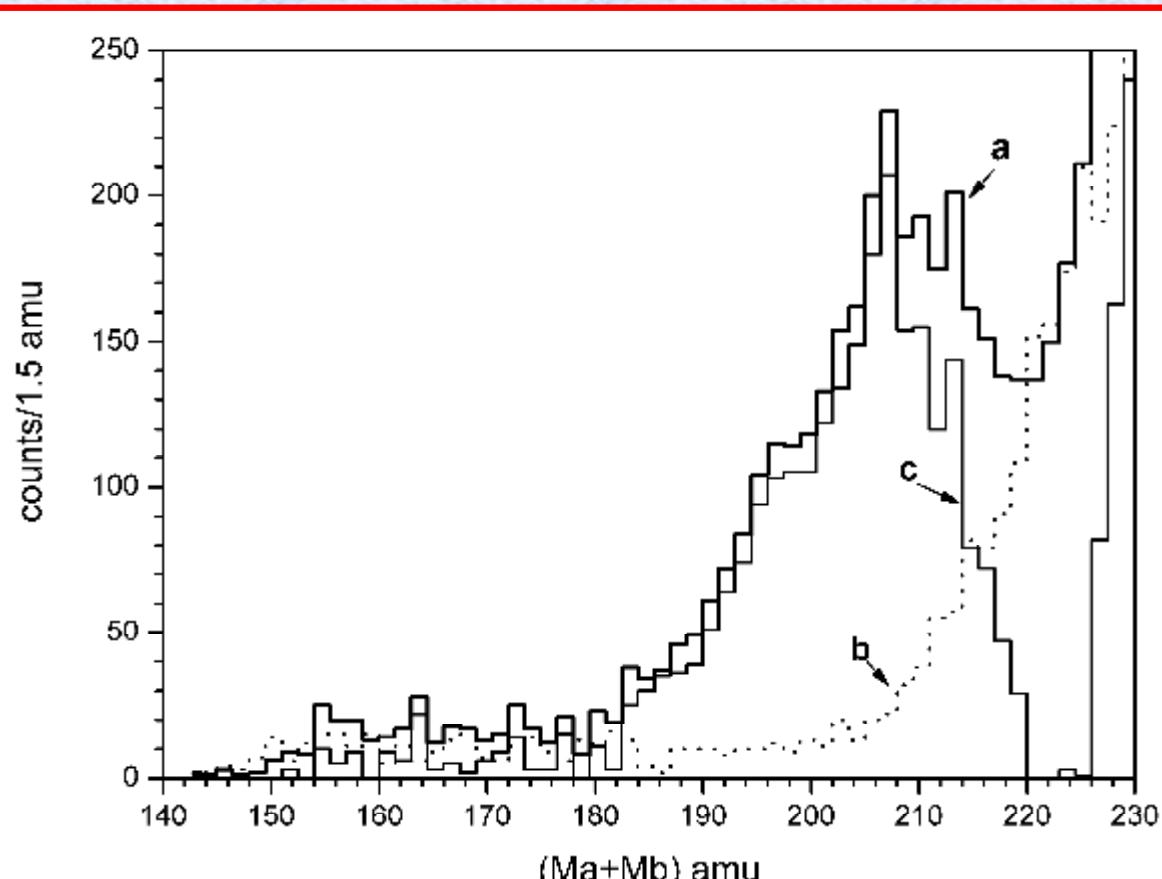
# JYFL spectrometer



— Exp. 4

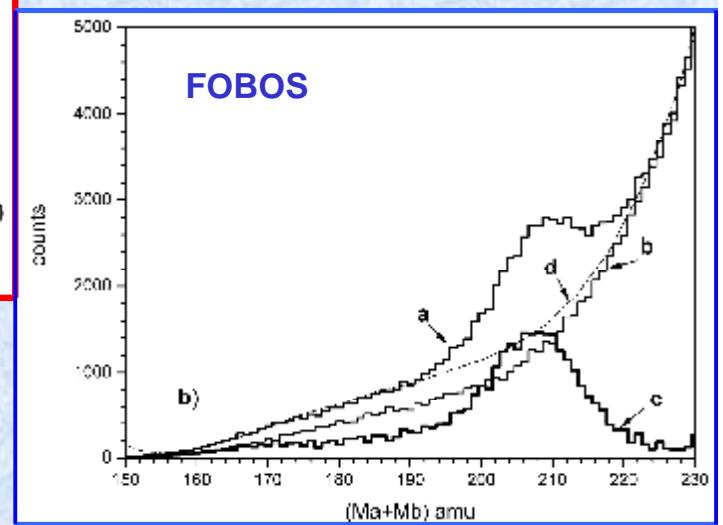


## JIFL- spectrometer (Exp. 4, Al foil)



Al foil ~ 0.5 of full heavy  
fragment range

Thin source backing



# **Exp. 5: $^{238}\text{U} + ^4\text{He}$ (40 MeV) reaction, JYFL, summer 2005**

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**JYFL, Jyväskylä, Finland**

**M. Mutterer**

**Technical University, Darmstadt, Germany**

**Yu. V. Pyatkov**

**MEPhI, Moscow, Russia**

**V.G. Tishchenko, Yu. N. Kopach**

**JINR, Dubna, Russia**

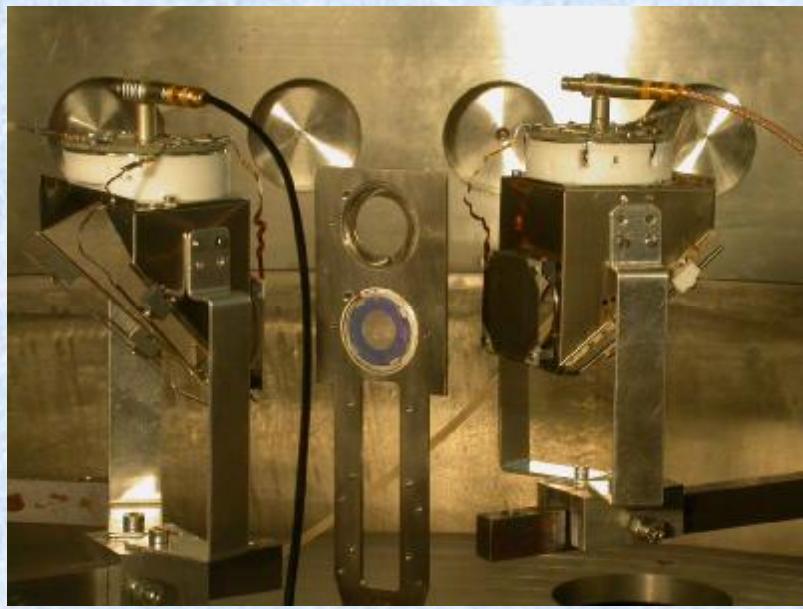
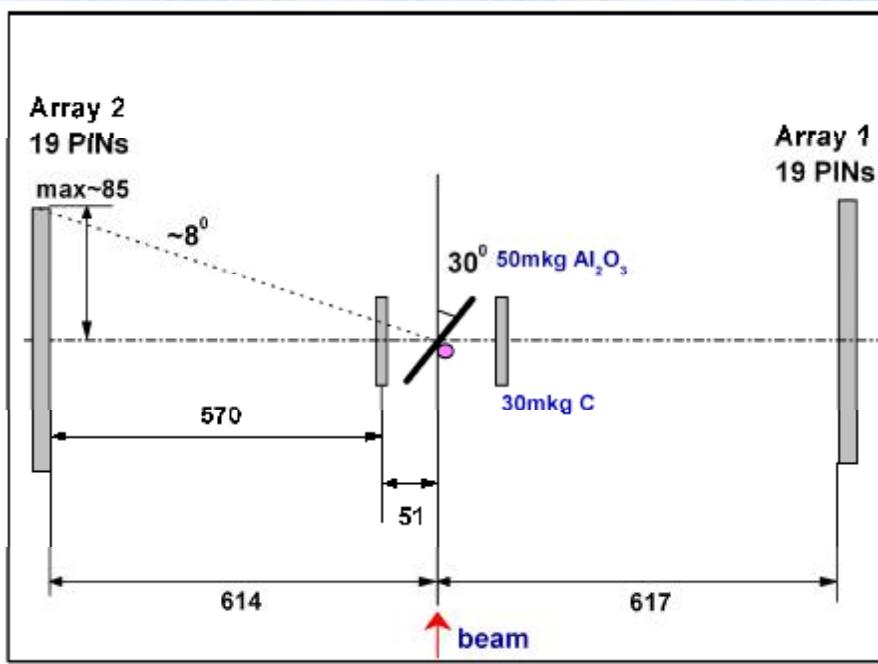
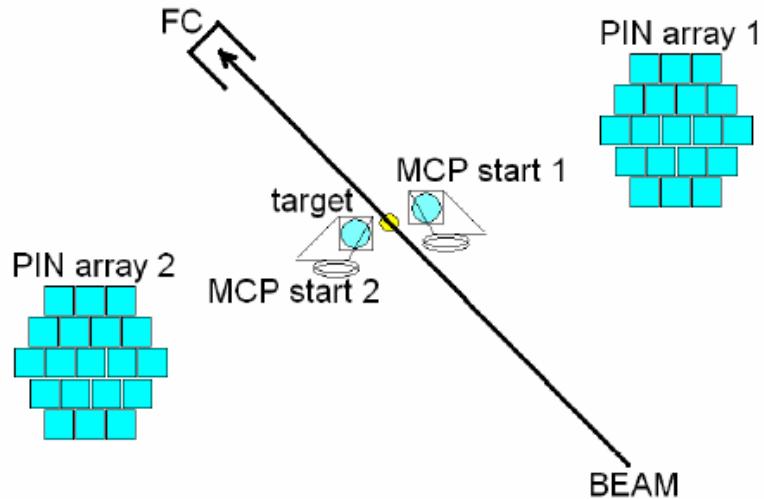
**S. V. Khlebnikov, G. P. Tyurin**

**KRI, Sankt-Peterburg, Russia**

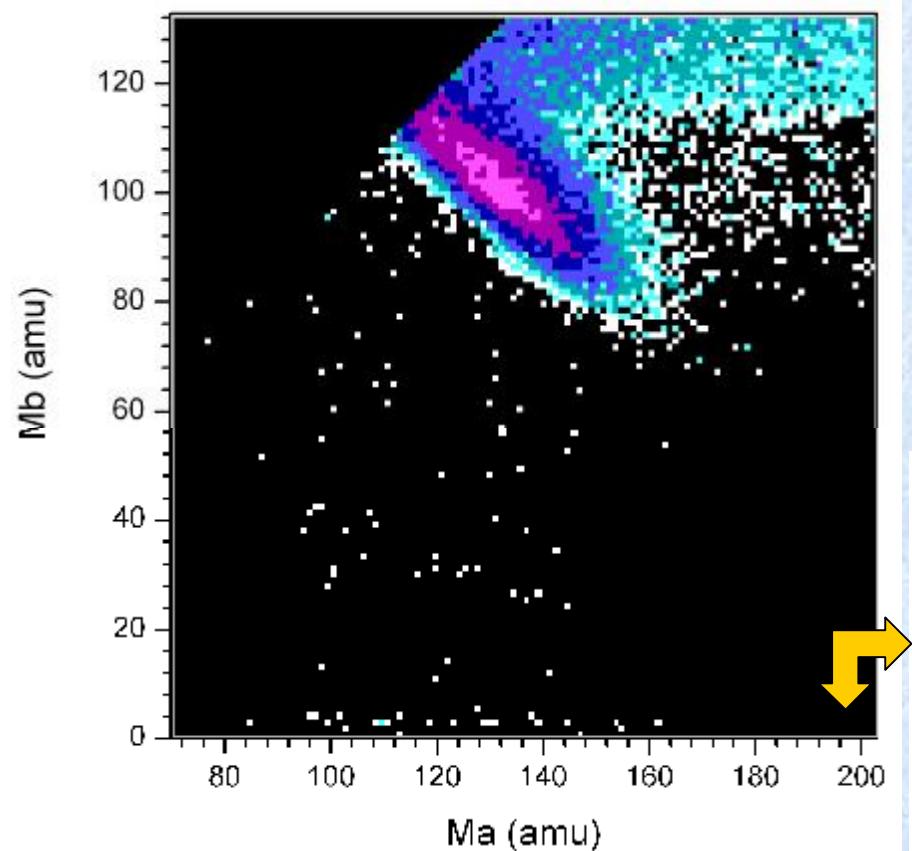
**+ involved in data processing : A. Tyukavkin, D. Kamanin, E. Kuznetsova, D. Bolgov**

**FLNR, JINR**

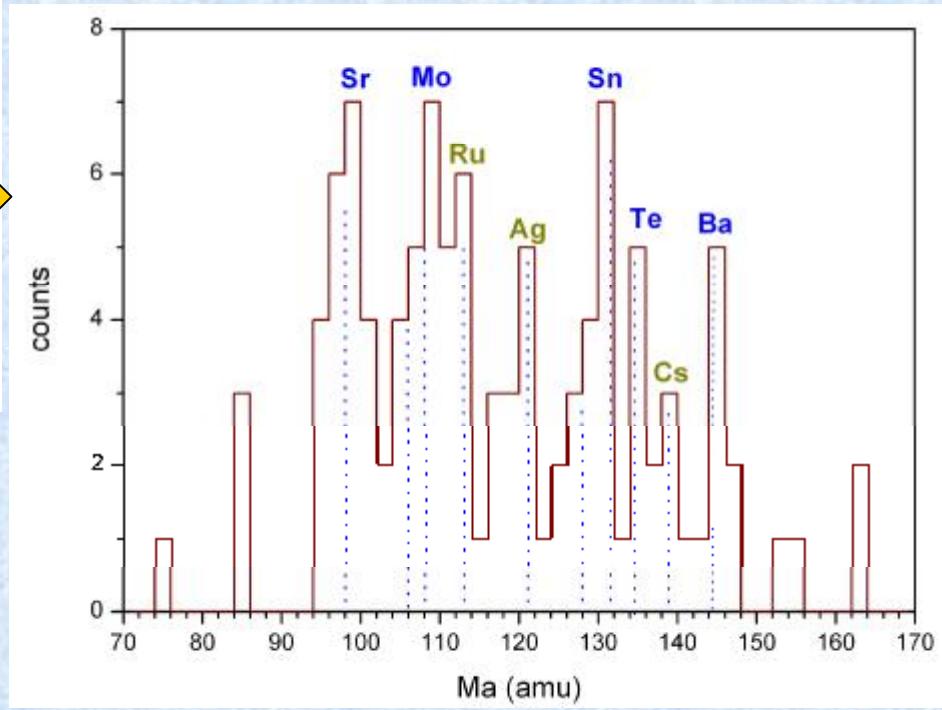
# Experimental setup



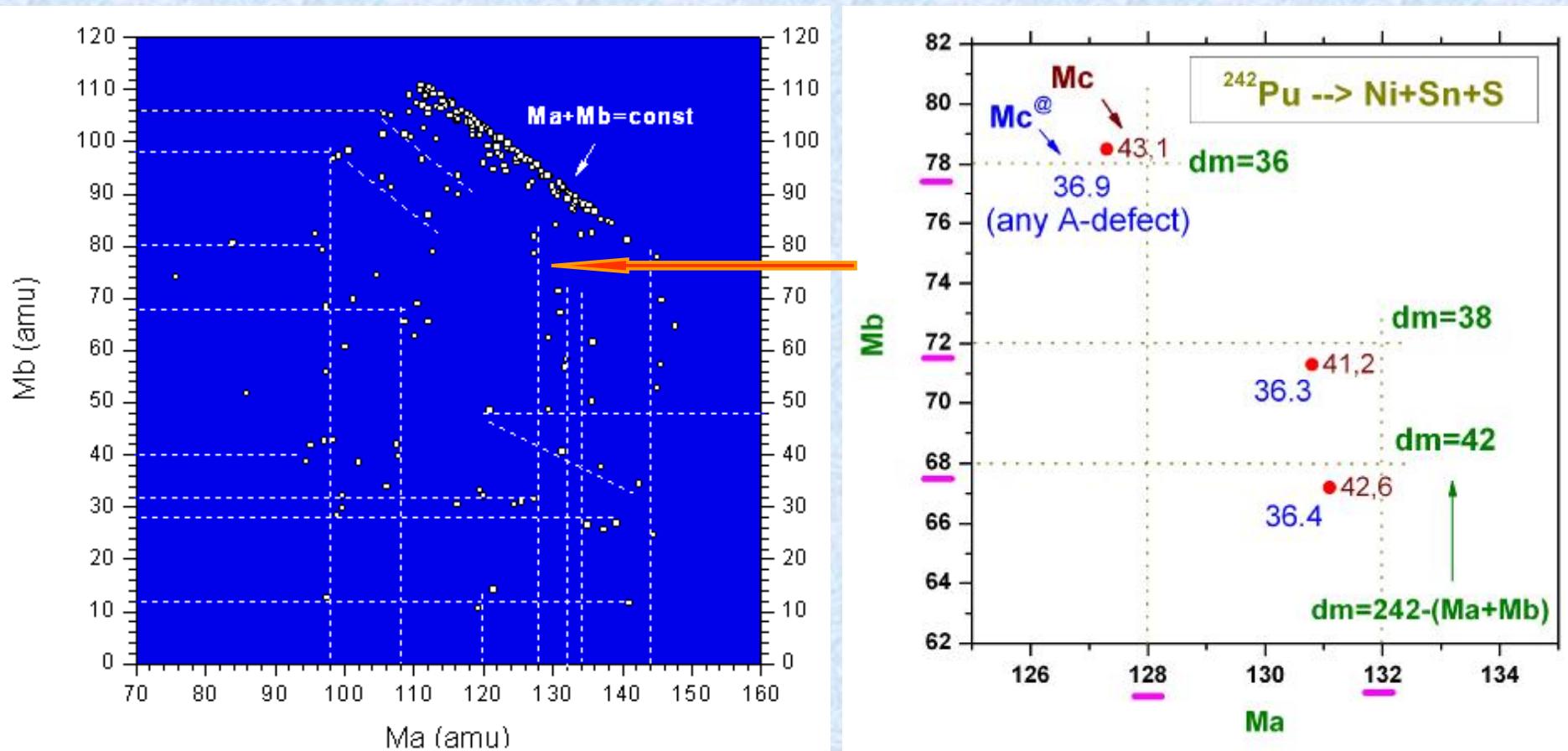
## Preliminary results, fragment multiplicity 3.



Projection onto Ma-axis

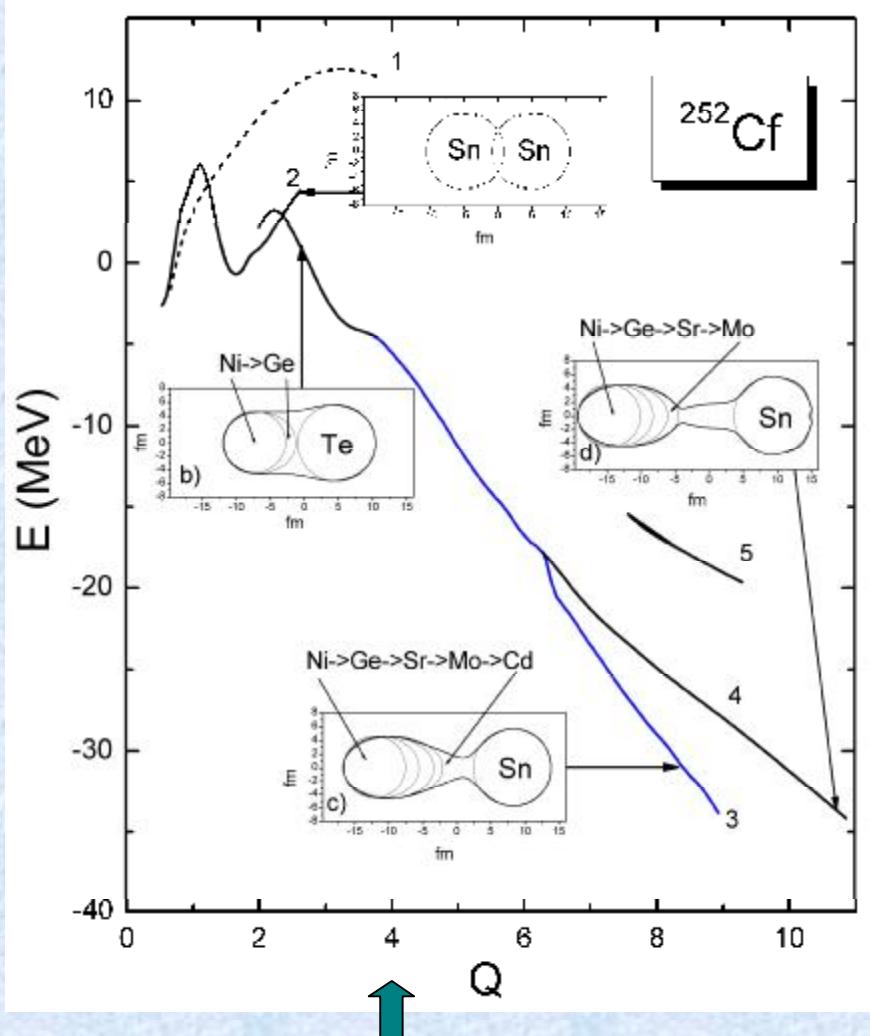


# Clustering in ternary collinear fragmentation of $^{242}\text{Pu}^*$



Position of magic fragments  
are marked by the dot lines.  
Tilted lines correspond to  $\text{Ma}+\text{Mb}=\text{const}$

# Physics : what is already seen?



Yu.V. Pyatkov, V.V. Pashkevich,  
Yu.E. Penionzhkevich et al.,  
Nucl. Phys. A 624 (1997) 140

## Double-cluster structure of the fissioning system

V.V. Vladimirski, JETP (USSR) 5  
(1957) 673

S.L. Whetstone, Phys. Rev. 114  
(1959) 581

...

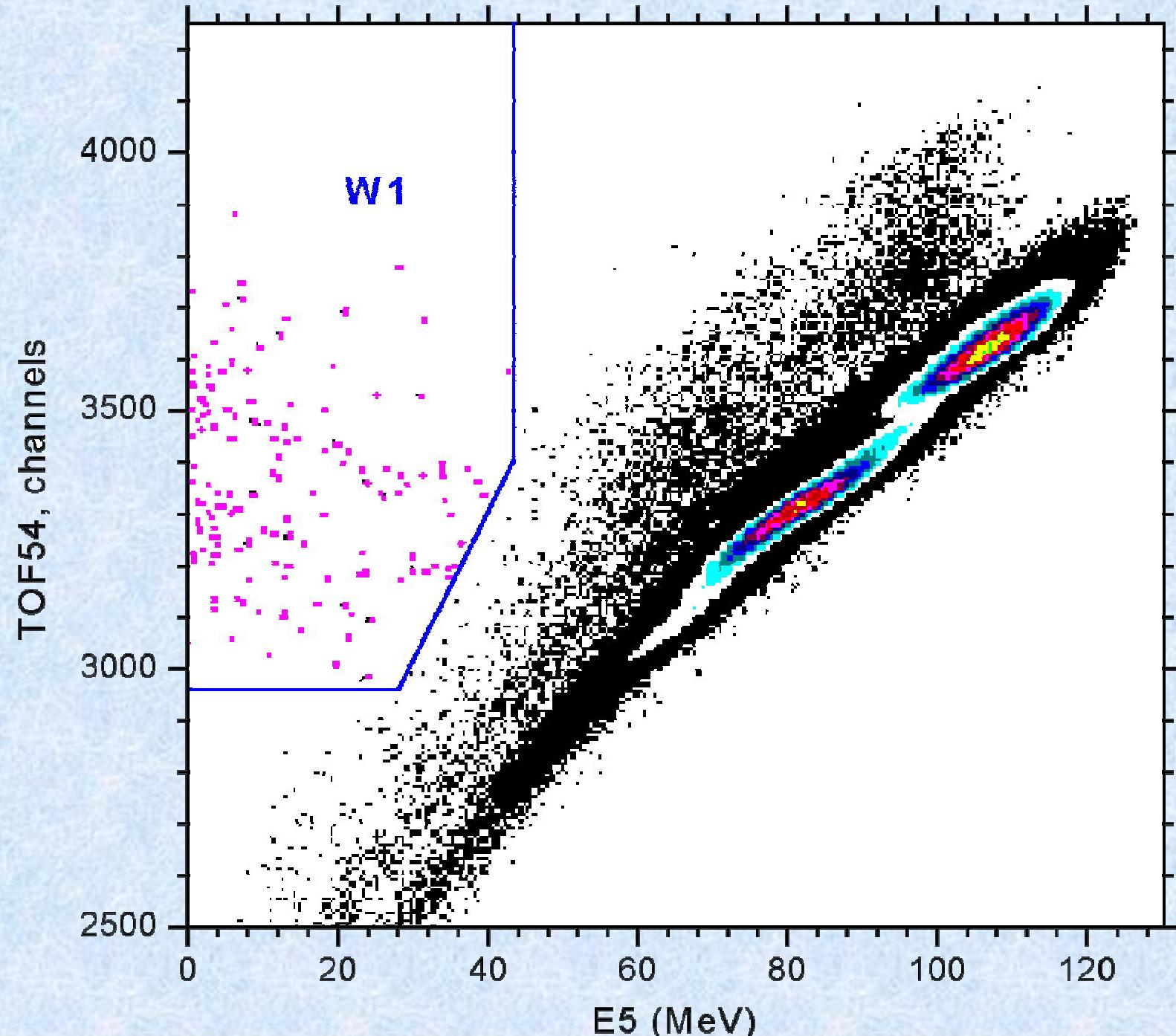
I.Tsekanovich,  
H.-O.Denschlag, M.Davi,  
Z. Büyükmumcu,  
F. Gönnenwein, S Oberstedt,  
H.R. Faust  
Nucl. Phys. A 688 (2001) 633

## Conclusions

- In the independent experiments we observe new at least ternary, almost collinear decay, named by us “collinear cluster tripartition” (CCT).
- Collected data let us to suppose a preformation of two magic constituents in the body of the fissioning system before scission.
- A scattering medium in the vicinity of the decay point enhances visible effect presumably due to multiple scattering of the CCT partners flying apart in the same direction.
- Maximum observed yield of the effect is about  $10^{-3}$  per binary fission.

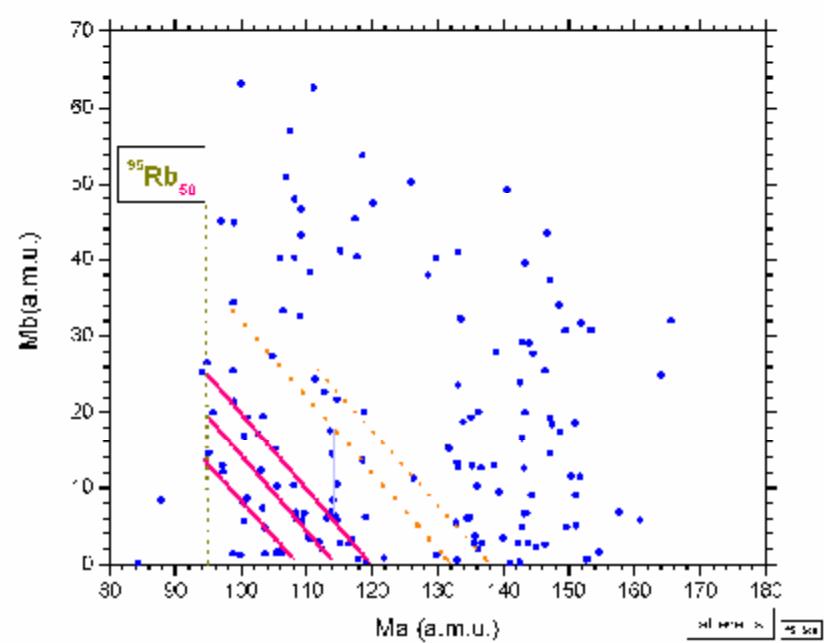
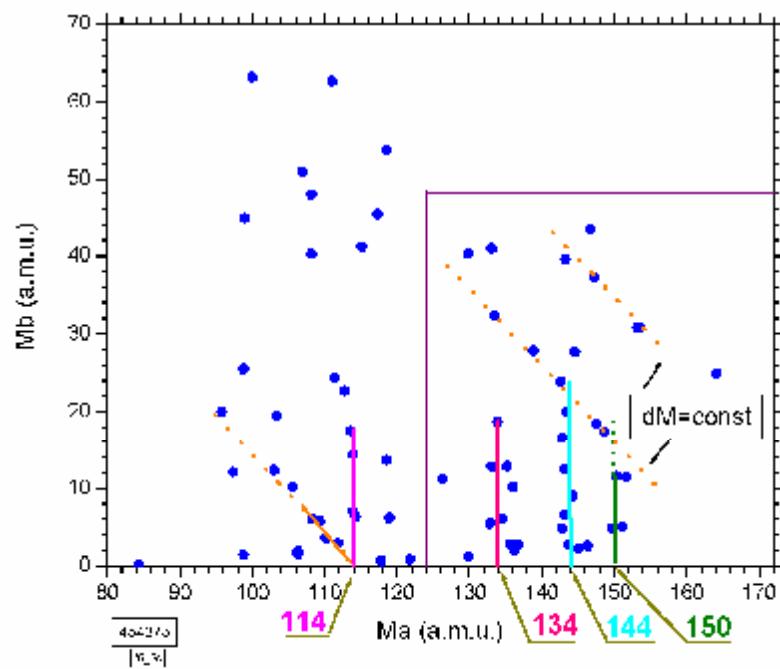
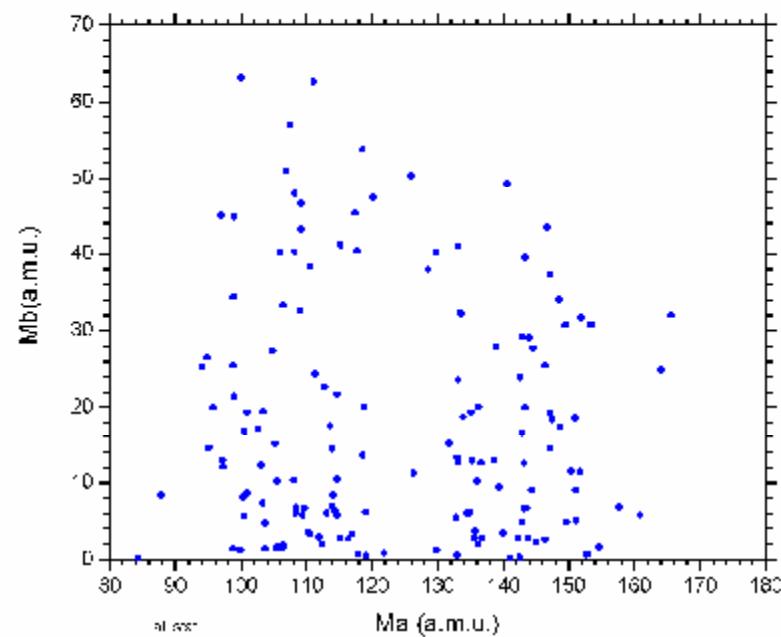
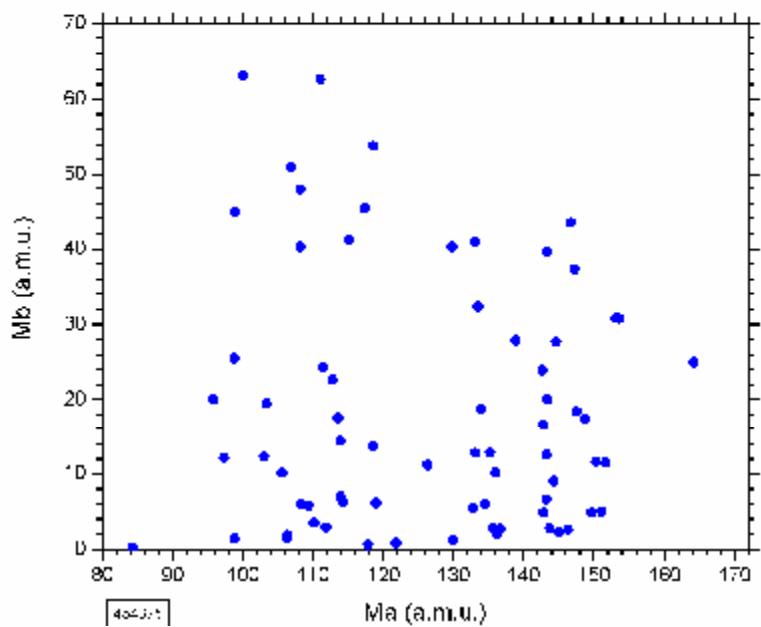


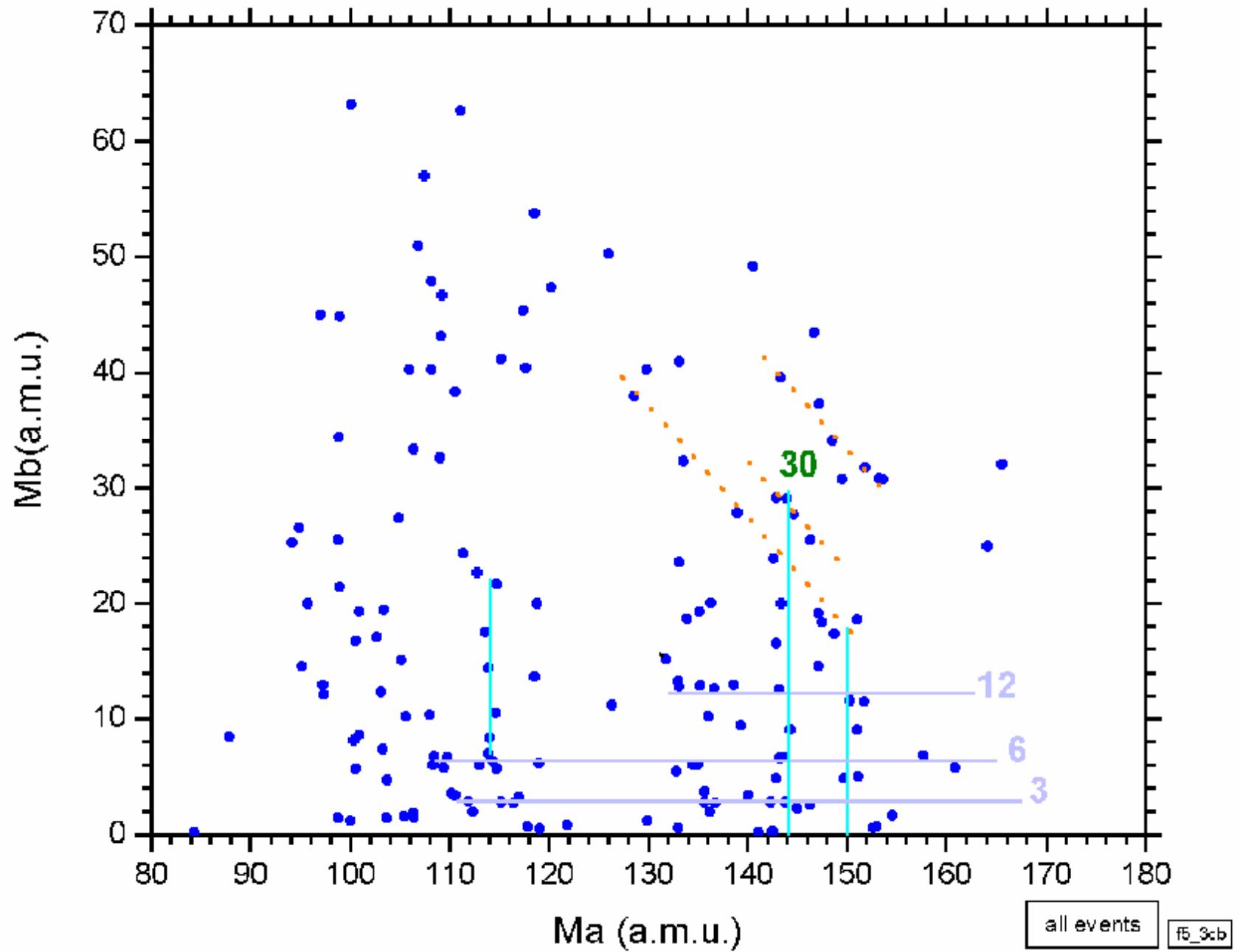


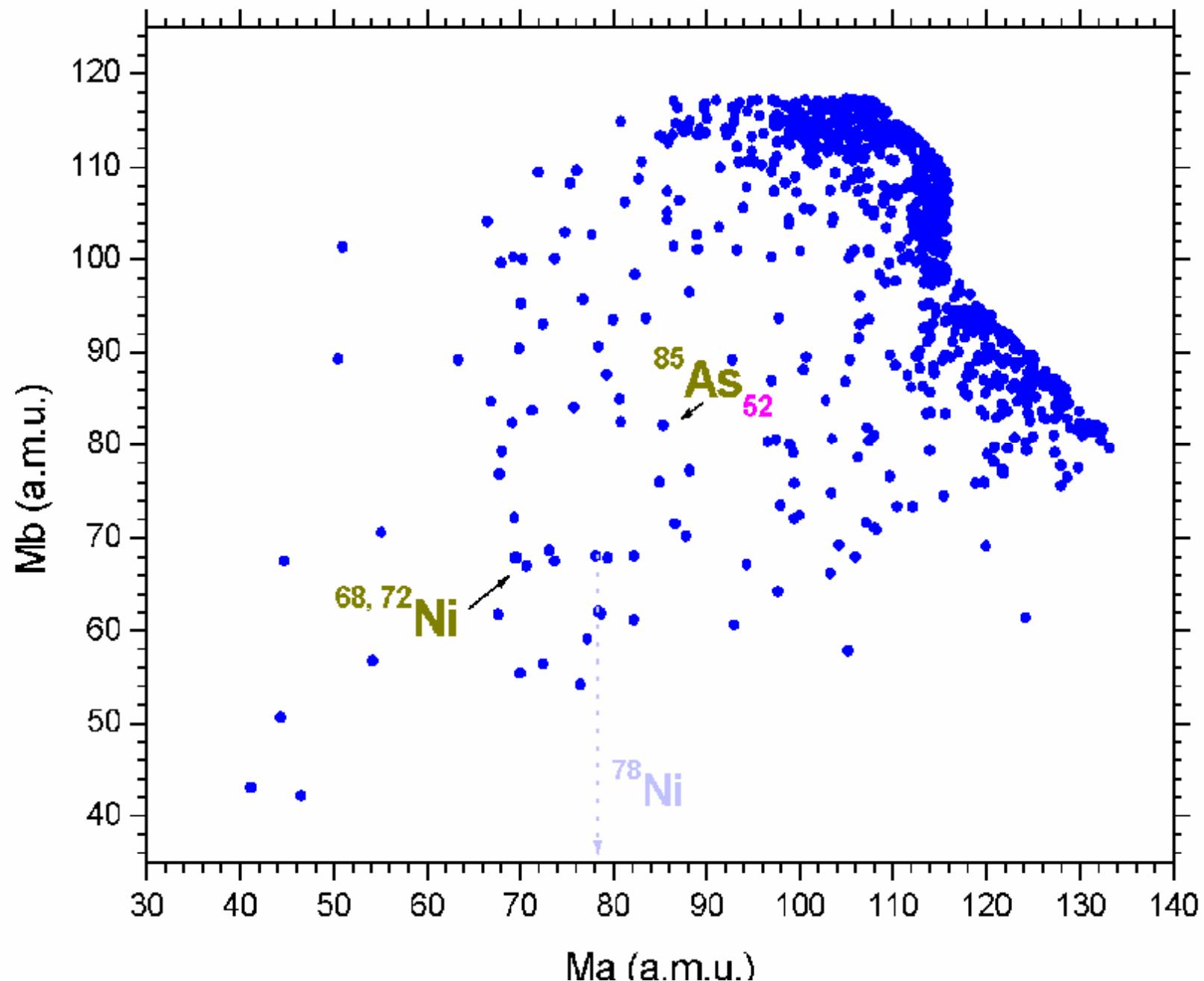


# Conclusions

- 1. Experimental confirmation of a new type of spontaneous decay, namely, collinear cluster tripartition (CCT) is obtained at the total yield level of  $\sim 10^{-4}$  with respect to conventional binary fission.**
- 2. Clustering of the decaying system (preformation of at least two magic constituents in its body) gives rise to the effect observed.**
- 3. Studying of the CCT of low and middle excited nuclei seems to be very actual task, among other things as a possible source of exotic ions for RIB facilities.**



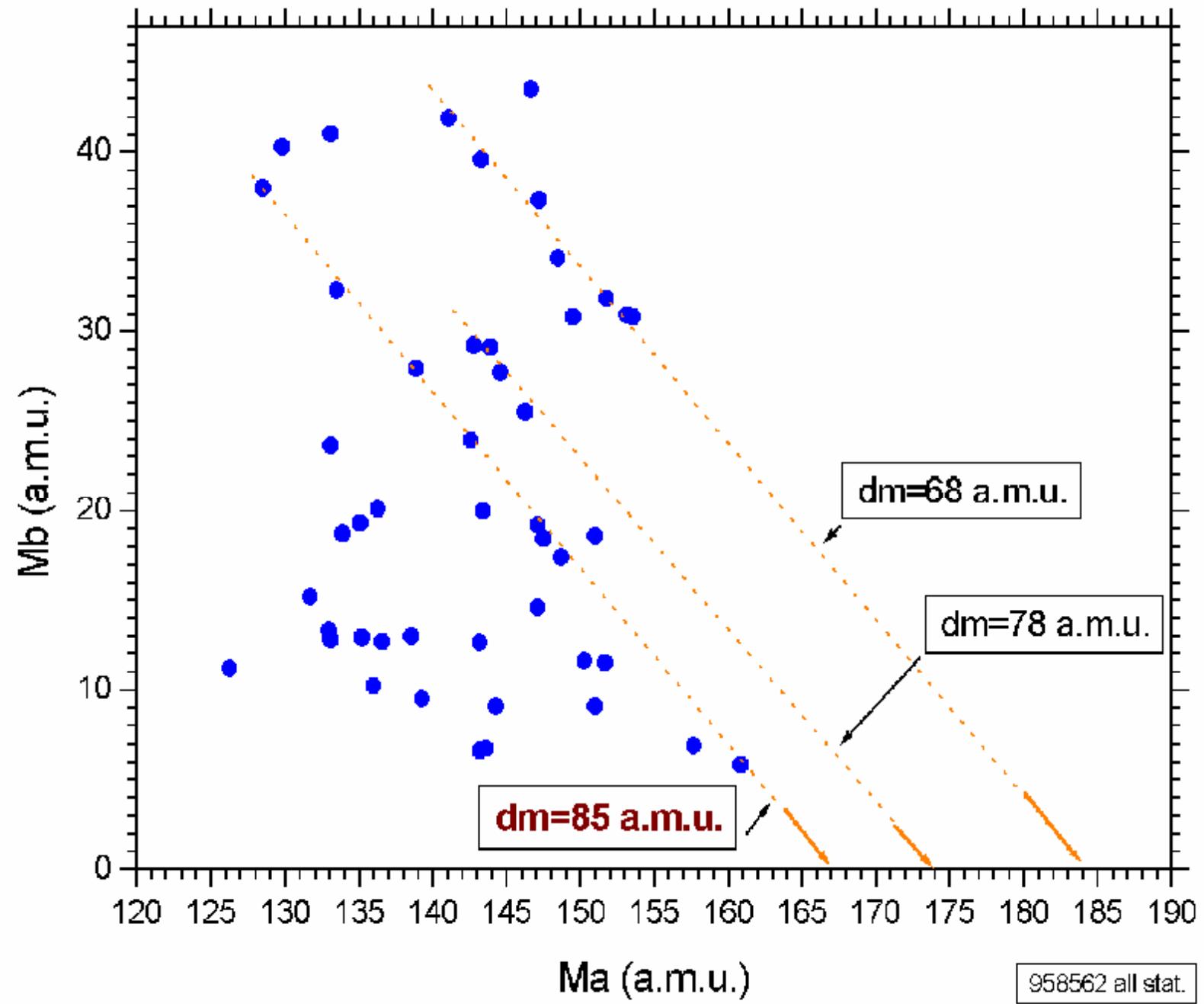


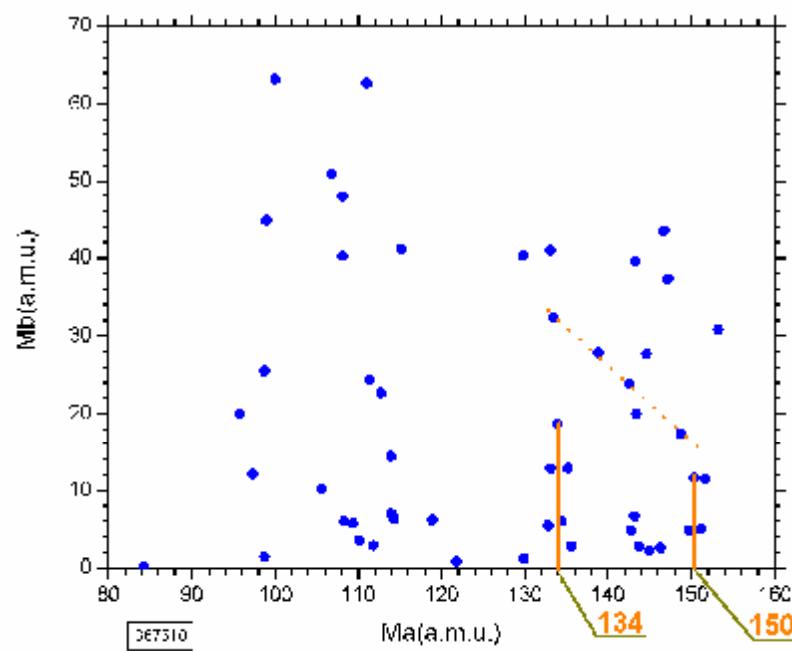
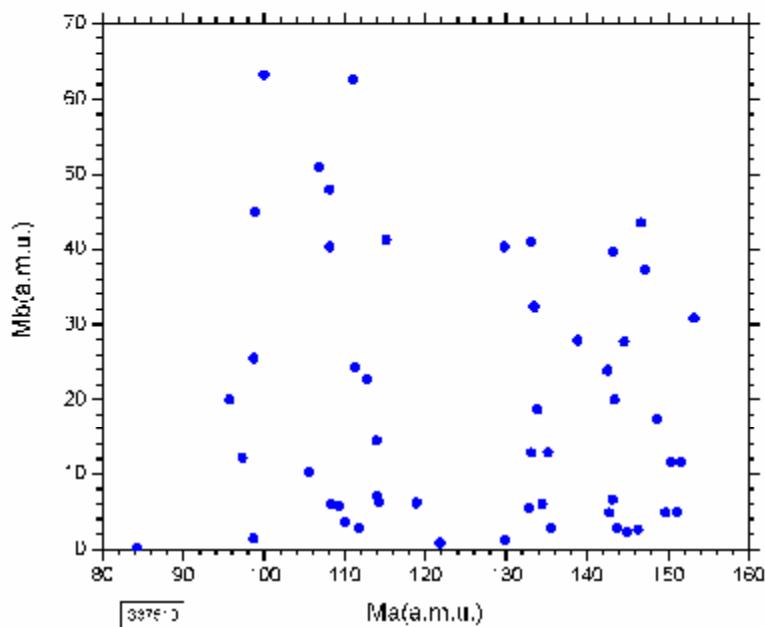


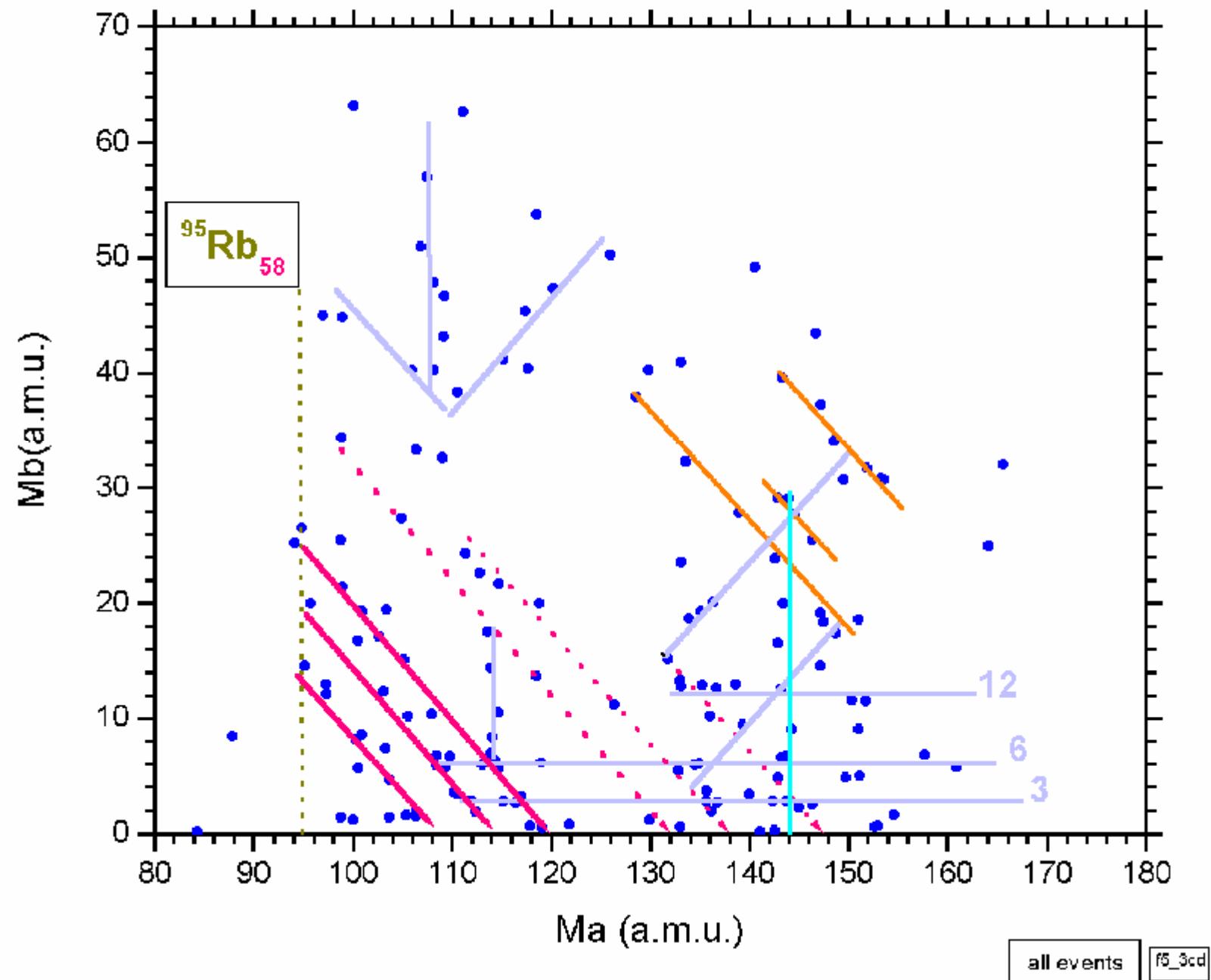
## Background

Cluster radioactivity	
$^{222-226}\text{Ra} \rightarrow ^{14}\text{C}$ H.J. Rose and G.A. Jones, Nature 307 (1984) $^{245}$	$^{221}\text{Fr} \div ^{242}\text{Cm} \rightarrow ^{14}\text{C} \div ^{34}\text{Si}$ $(10^{-10} \div 10^{-17}) \text{ P}_\alpha$ “Lead radioactivity”
Cold fission	
“Tin radioactivity” ...	

Light $\alpha$ – cluster nuclei	
“Ikeda et al. [Suppl. Prog. Phys. (Japan) Extra (1969) 464] speculated a range of different cluster structures might occur in $^{24}\text{Mg}$ nucleus: $\alpha + ^{20}\text{Ne}$ , $^8\text{Be} + ^{16}\text{O}$ , $^{12}\text{C} + ^{12}\text{C}$ , $^{12}\text{C} + ^{12}\text{C}_{\text{chain}}$ and a <b>6<math>\alpha</math> chain state</b> . There is now evidence for all these different structures [B.R. Fulton, Z. Phys A349 (1994) 227]”	Multicomponent nuclear molecules







**Table 2. Experimental parameters of three a most symmetrical events.**

Parameter		Event №1	№2	№3
<b>Number of tripped neutron counters</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Velocity in the arm "a" (Va)</b> cm/ns		<b>1,147</b>	<b>1,102</b>	<b>1,135</b>
<b>Velocity in the arm "b" (Vb)</b> cm/ns		<b>1,173</b>	<b>1,141</b>	<b>1,23</b>
<b>TOF-TOF mass (Mtta)</b> a.m.u.		<b>127,4</b>	<b>128,2</b>	<b>131,1</b>
<b>TOF-TOF mass (Mttb)</b> a.m.u.		<b>124,6</b>	<b>123,8</b>	<b>120,9</b>
<b>Momentum (Pa) (cm/ns)* (a.m.u.)</b>		<b>79,6</b>	<b>80,7</b>	<b>7,8</b>
<b>Momentum (Pb) (cm/ns)* (a.m.u.)</b>		<b>84,7</b>	<b>78,3</b>	<b>83,4</b>
<b>TOF-E mass (Mtea)</b> a.m.u.		<b>69,4</b>	<b>73,2</b>	<b>69,4</b>
<b>TOF-E mass (Mteb)</b> a.m.u.		<b>72,2</b>	<b>68,6</b>	<b>67,8</b>
<b>Etea (emission energy)</b> MeV		<b>47.5</b>	<b>46.3</b>	<b>46.5</b>
<b>Eteb</b> MeV		<b>51.7</b>	<b>46.5</b>	<b>53.4</b>
<b>TKEte (total kinetic energy)</b> MeV		<b>99,1</b>	<b>92,7</b>	<b>99,9</b>

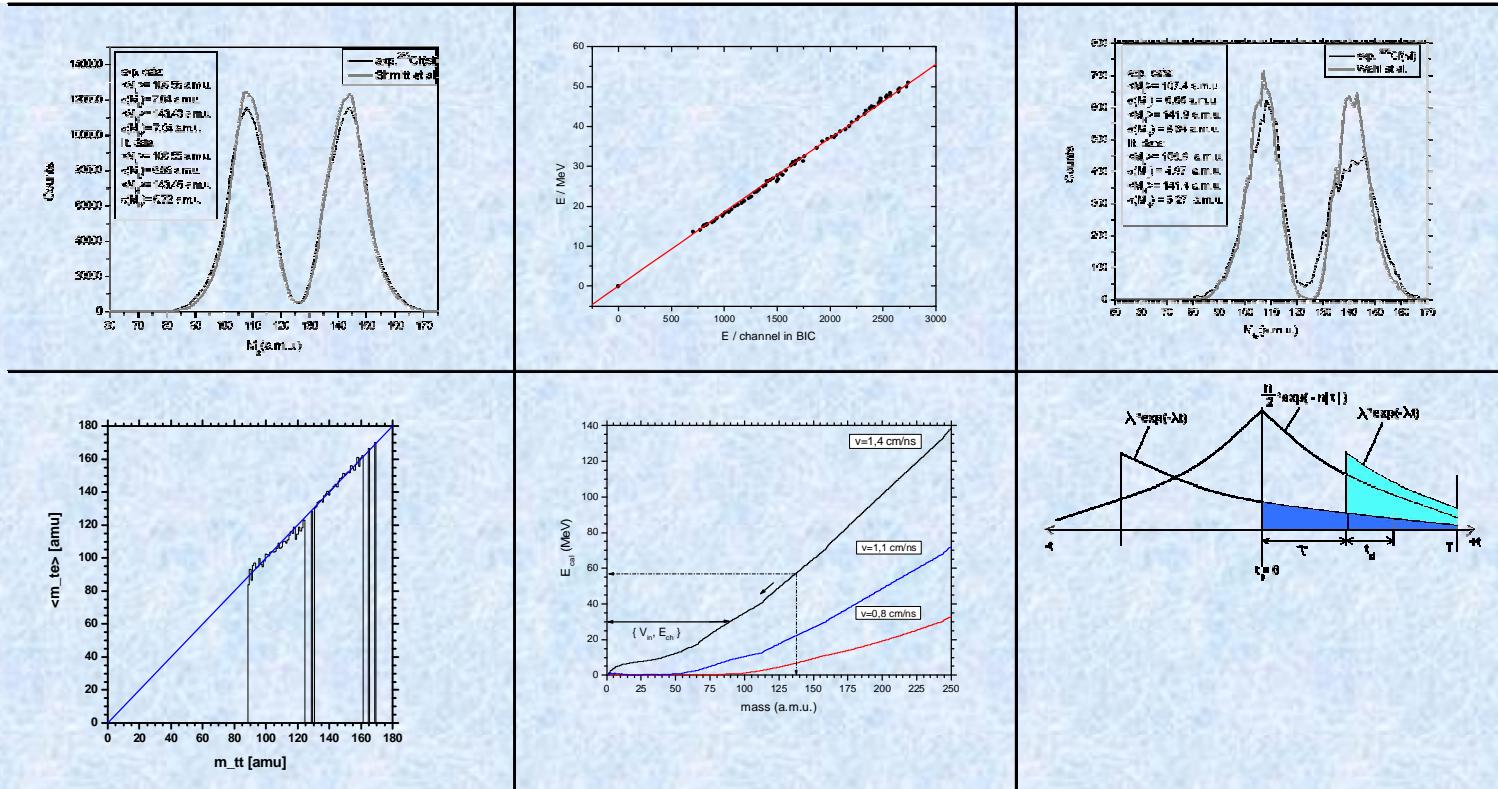
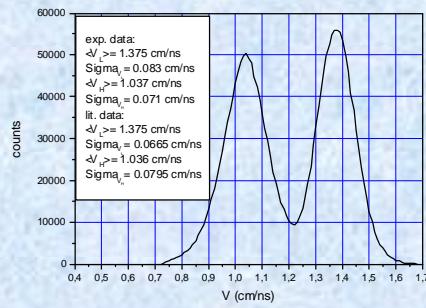


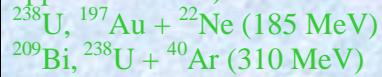
Table 1. Probability of emission of  $k$  neutrons from  $^{252}\text{Cf}(\text{sf})$  [16]

<b>K</b>	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
$j_k$	0.002	0.024	0.123	0.271	0.306	0.188	0.066	0.0163



**Sequential (cascade) ternary fission**

(excitation energy of a heavy fragment is enough for the second scission appears to occur).



Karamian S.A., Kuznetsov I.V., Oganessian Yu.Ts. and Penionzkevich Yu.E.,

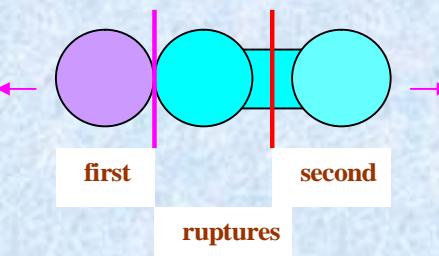
Jadernaja Fizika 5 (1963) 959

Two and three-body exit channels in the reactions



“A fast two-step mechanism where a sequential fission-like process follows a deep inelastic collision with very large energy losses. **An orientation of the fission axis is approximately collinear with the axis of the first fission.** All the properties observed present consistent evidence for a new phenomenon of non-equilibrium fission”

P.Glässel et al., Z. Phys. A310 (1983) 189

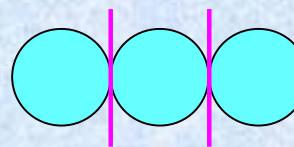


“Besides the already observed sequential binary process, **the presence of prompt ternary break-up of the composite system is revealed in**



reactions at 5.6 MeV/u. **The decay appears to occur in a collinear configuration.** In spite of the large energy dissipation some events show structure effects, i.e. the possible **presence of slustering phenomena** in the reaction (at least one fragment is an  $\alpha$ -like nucleus) ”

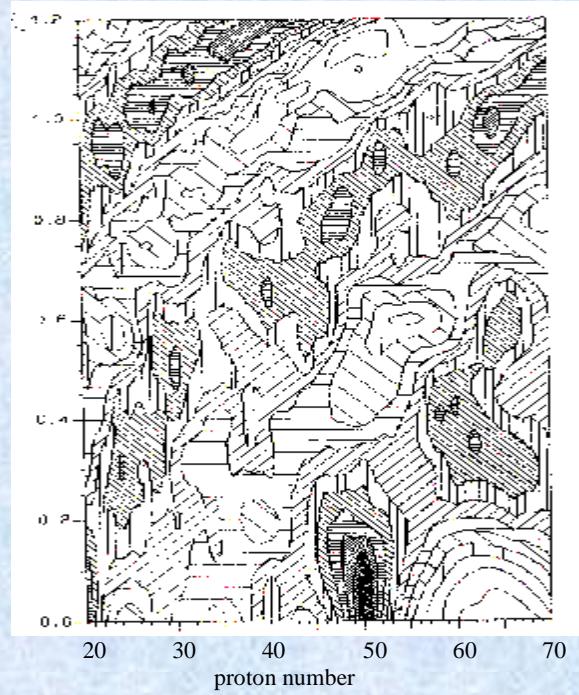
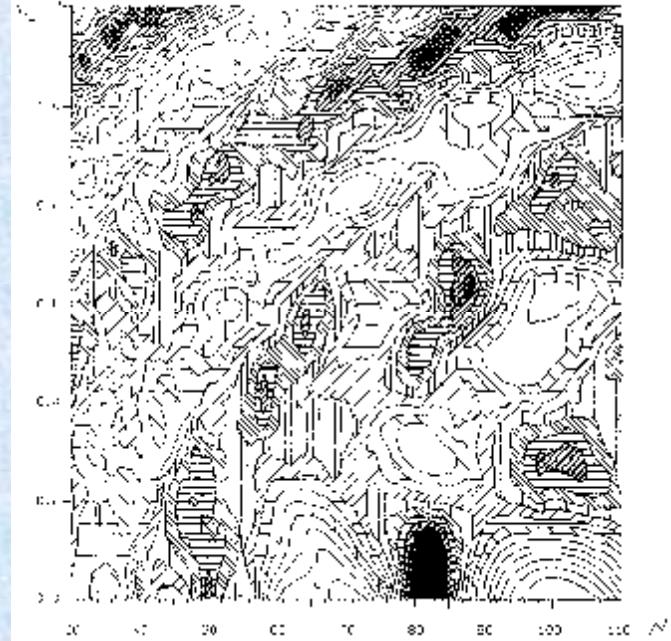
L.Vannuci et al., Eur.Phys. J. A 7 (2000) 65



## Background

Cluster radioactivity		Binary decays
$^{222-226}\text{Ra} \rightarrow ^{14}\text{C}$	$^{221}\text{Fr} \div ^{242}\text{Cm} \rightarrow ^{14}\text{C} \div$	
H.J. Rose and G.A. Jones, Nature 307 (1984) $^{245}$	$^{34}\text{Si}$ $(10^{-10} \div 10^{-17}) \text{ Pa}$ “Lead radioactivity”	
Cold fission		
	“Tin radioactivity” ...	

Light $\alpha$ – cluster nuclei	Multicomponent nuclear molecules
“Ikeda et al. [Suppl. Prog. Phys. (Japan) Extra (1969) 464] speculated a range of different cluster structures might occur in $^{24}\text{Mg}$ nucleus: $\alpha + ^{20}\text{Ne}$ , $^8\text{Be} + ^{16}\text{O}$ , $^{12}\text{C} + ^{12}\text{C}$ , $^{12}\text{C} + ^{12}\text{C}_{\text{chain}}$ and a <b>6<math>\alpha</math> chain state</b> . There is now evidence for all these different structures [B.R. Fulton, Z. Phys A349 (1994) 227]”	



(H.Märton, private communication)  
 $\varepsilon_2=0.95\beta_2$

