

# Isotope production in spallation reaction of $^{93}\text{Nb}$ and $^{93}\text{Zr}$ induced by proton and deuteron

Japan Atomic Energy Agency  
Keita Nakano

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Council for Science, Technology and Innovation  
(Cabinet Office, Government of Japan).

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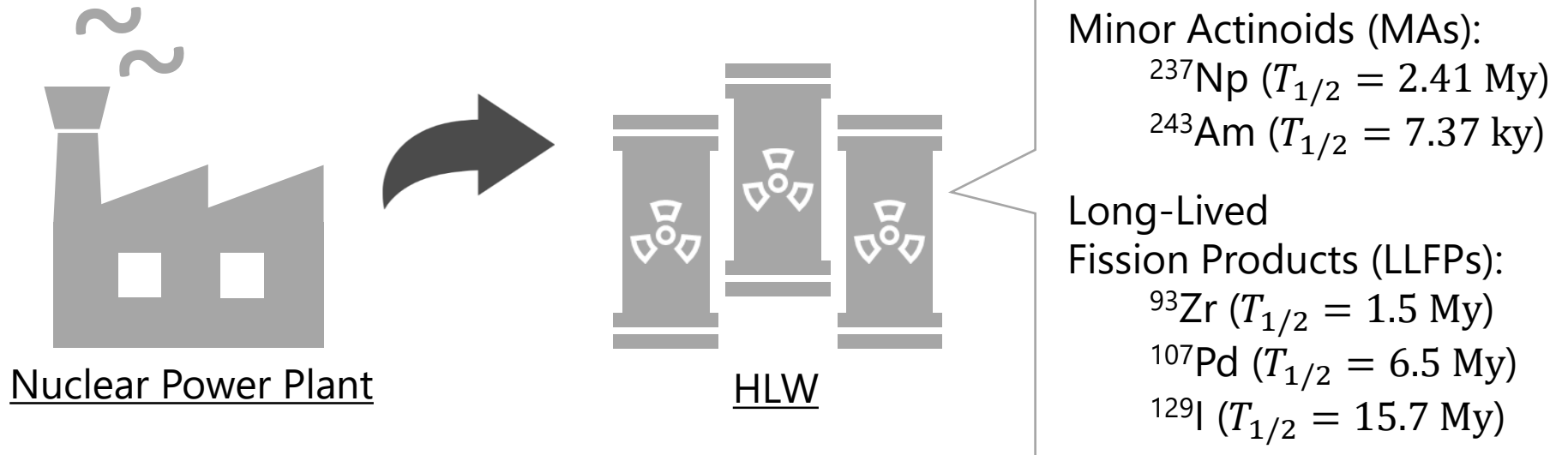
1. Introduction
2. Isotope Production in Proton- and Deuteron-Induced Reactions on  $^{93}\text{Zr}$  at 50 MeV/u
3. Isotope Production in Proton-, Deuteron-, and Carbon-Induced Reactions on  $^{93}\text{Nb}$  at 113 MeV/u
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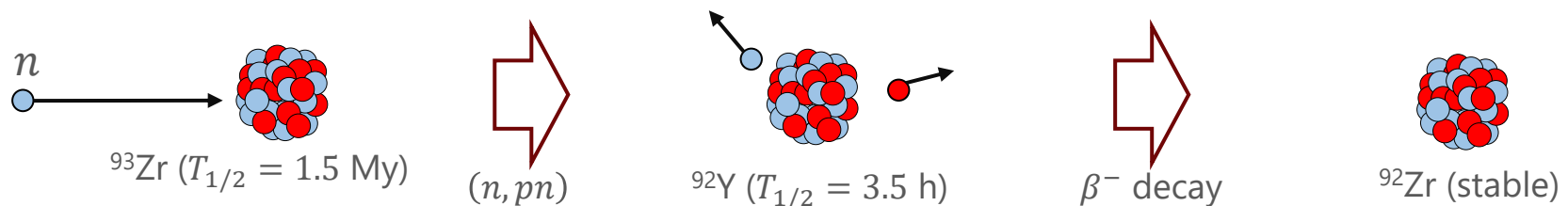
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## Issue of High-Level Radioactive Waste (HLW)



HLW will be disposed of more than 300 meters underground.  
 However, it is stagnated due to long-term radiotoxicity of **long-lived nuclides**.  
 → **Nuclear Transmutation** is proposed to be one of the technical options.  
 But, **still no effective method was found for LLFPs**.



Typical LLFPs<sup>[2]</sup>

LLFP	Half-Life	Cumulative Fission Yield from $^{235}\text{U}$	$\sigma_{n\text{-cap}}$ [b]
$^{79}\text{Se}$	300 ky	0.044%	50.04
<b><math>^{93}\text{Zr}</math></b>	1500 ky	<b>6.35%</b>	<b>2.24</b>
$^{107}\text{Pd}$	6500 ky	0.146%	9.19
$^{126}\text{Sn}$	230 ky	0.056%	0.09
$^{135}\text{Cs}$	1300 ky	<b>6.52%</b>	8.30
$^{99}\text{Tc}$	210 ky	<b>6.13%</b>	<b>23.68</b>
$^{129}\text{I}$	15700 ky	0.543%	<b>30.33</b>

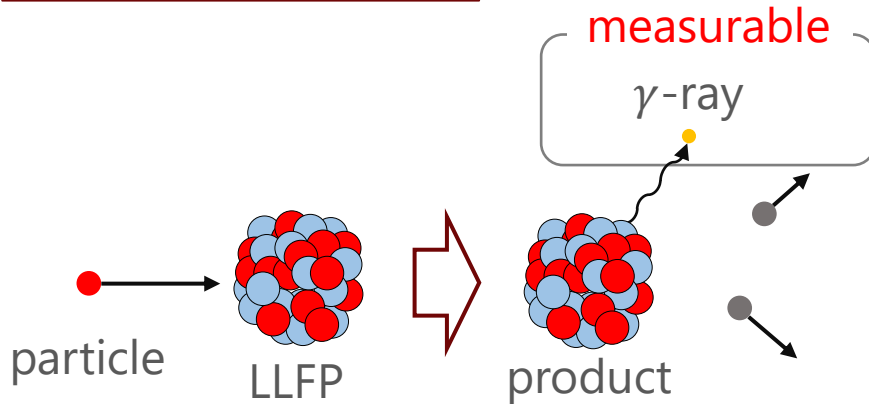
Among the LLFPs,  $^{93}\text{Zr}$ ...

- has **large fission yield**
- has relatively **small neutron capture cross section**
- can change into minor metals ( $^{90,91,92}\text{Zr}$ , etc...) through transmutation

→ We focus on the **transmutation of  $^{93}\text{Zr}$  using spallation reaction** by high-energy charged particles using an accelerator.

Activation method was conventionally used to measure the **isotope-production cross sections**. However, activation method is **NOT** suitable for measurement of LLFP data.

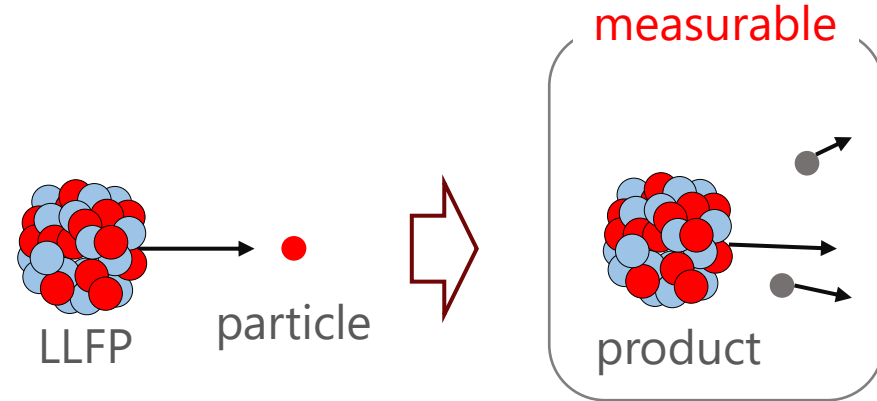
## Activation method



In the case of LLFPs,

- ✗ Radioactive target
- ✗ Very difficult to measure yields of stable and short-lived nuclides
- ✓ Simple setup

## Inverse kinematics method

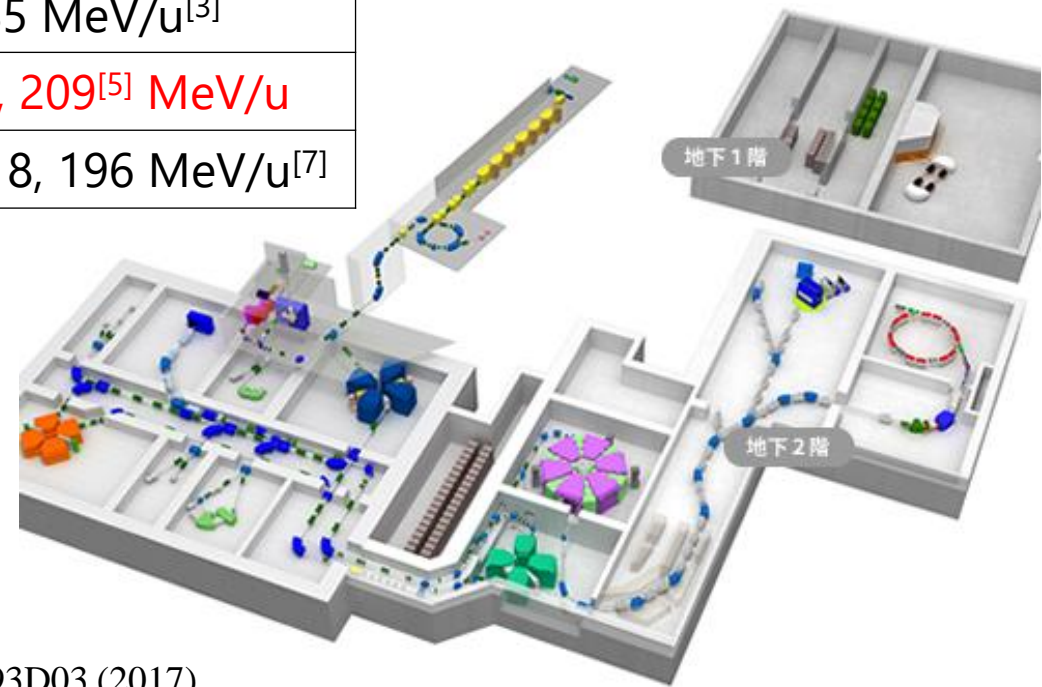


In the case of LLFPs,

- ✓ Stable target
- ✓ Stable and short-lived nuclides are also measurable
- ✗ Complicated setup

So far, isotope-production cross sections for some FPs and LLFPs were measured using **inverse kinematics method** at **RIKEN RI Beam Factory (RIBF)**.

Target	Beam (half-life $T_{1/2}$ )	Energy
$p, d$	$^{90}\text{Sr}$ (28 y)	185 MeV/u <sup>[3]</sup>
$p, d$	$^{137}\text{Cs}$ (30 y)	185 MeV/u <sup>[3]</sup>
$p, d$	$^{93}\text{Zr}$ (1.5 My)	105 <sup>[4]</sup> , 209 <sup>[5]</sup> MeV/u
$p, d$	$^{107}\text{Pd}$ (6.5 My)	50 <sup>[6]</sup> , 118, 196 MeV/u <sup>[7]</sup>



Overview of RIBF

[3] H. Wang et al., Phys. Lett. B 754, 104 (2016).

[4] S. Kawase et al., Prog. Theor. Exp. Phys. 2017, 093D03 (2017).

[5] S. Kawase et al., JAEA-Conf2018-001 2018, 111 (2018).

[6] H. Wang et al., Comm. Phys. 2, 2399 (2019).

[7] H. Wang et al., Prog. Theor. Exp. Phys. 2017, 021D01 (2017).

Data measured so far

Target	Beam (half-life $T_{1/2}$ )	Energy
$p, d$	$^{90}\text{Sr}$ (28 y)	185 MeV/u <sup>[3]</sup>
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### Purpose:

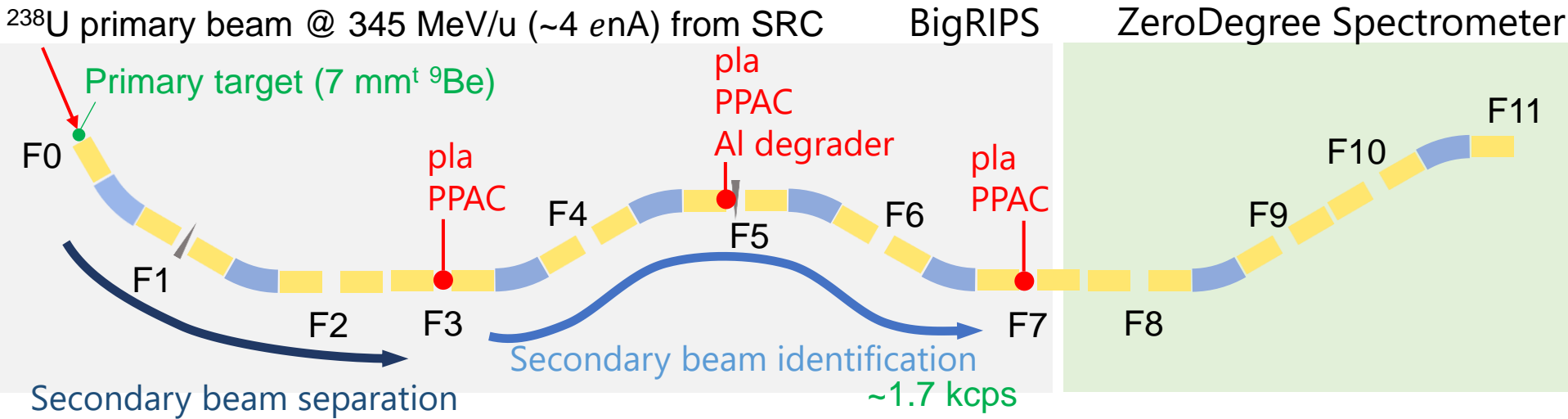
- To investigate the **energy dependence** of isotope-production cross section, and to accumulate fundamental knowledge for nuclear transmutation.  
→  $^{93}\text{Zr} + p, d @ 50 \text{ MeV/u}$  measurement
- To investigate the **target dependence** of isotope-production cross section.  
→  $^{93}\text{Nb} + p, d, C @ 113 \text{ MeV/u}$  measurement



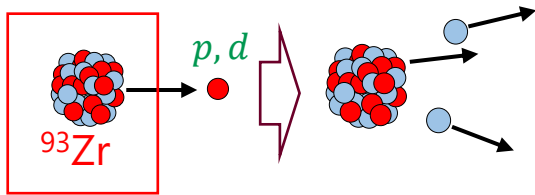
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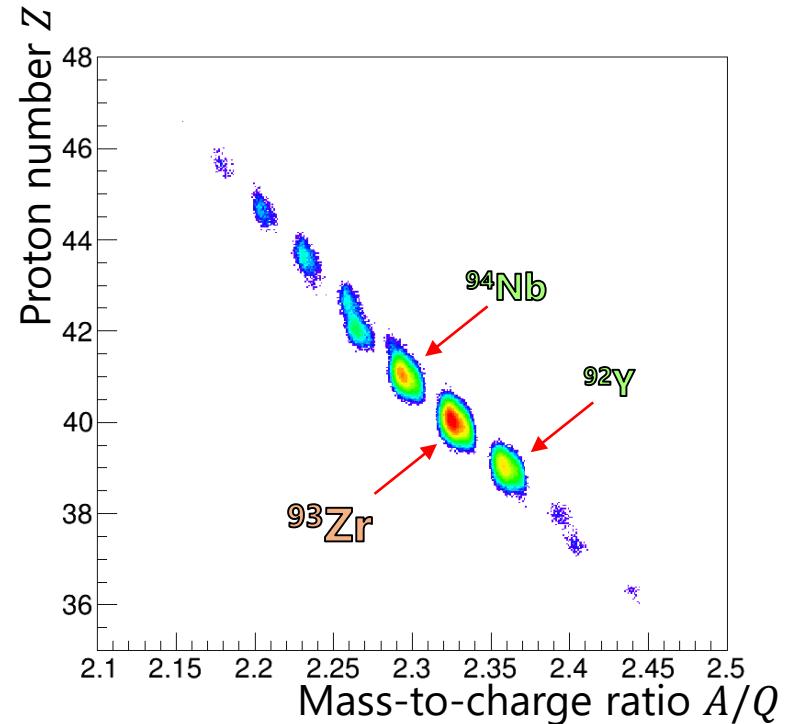
## Identification of secondary beam by $\text{TOF} - B\rho - \Delta E$ method

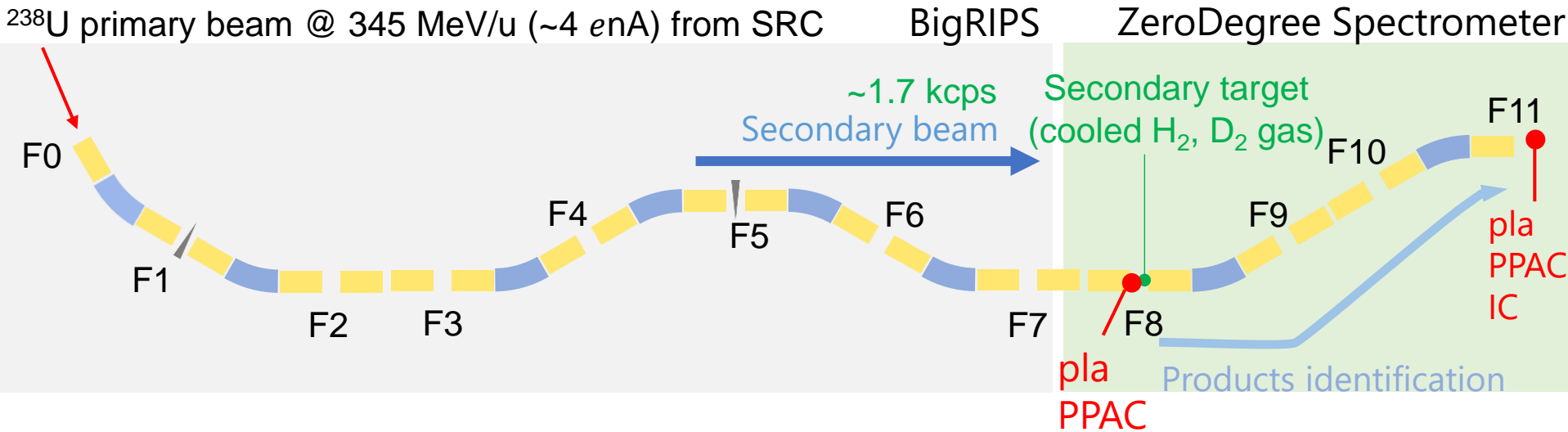


Plastic scintillator (pla)  $\rightarrow \beta, \gamma$   
 PPAC  $\rightarrow B\rho$  (magnetic rigidity)  
 Energy loss at Al degrader  $\rightarrow \Delta E$

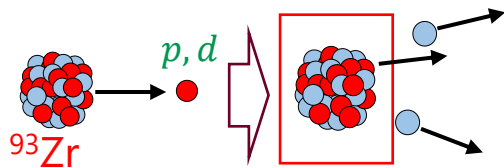
Proton number:  $Z \propto \beta \sqrt{\Delta E}$

Mass-to-charge ratio:  $A/Q \propto B\rho/\beta\gamma$





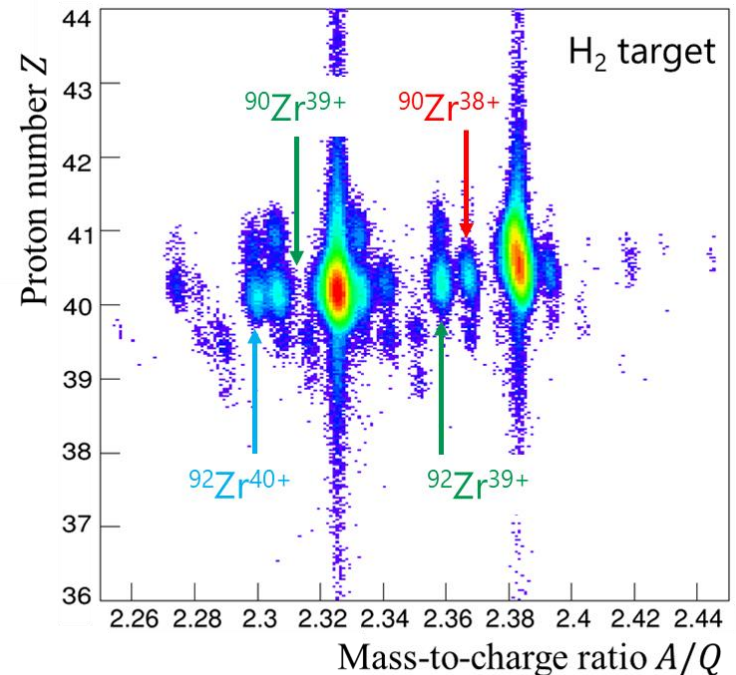
## Identification of reaction products by TOF- $B\rho$ - $\Delta E$ method

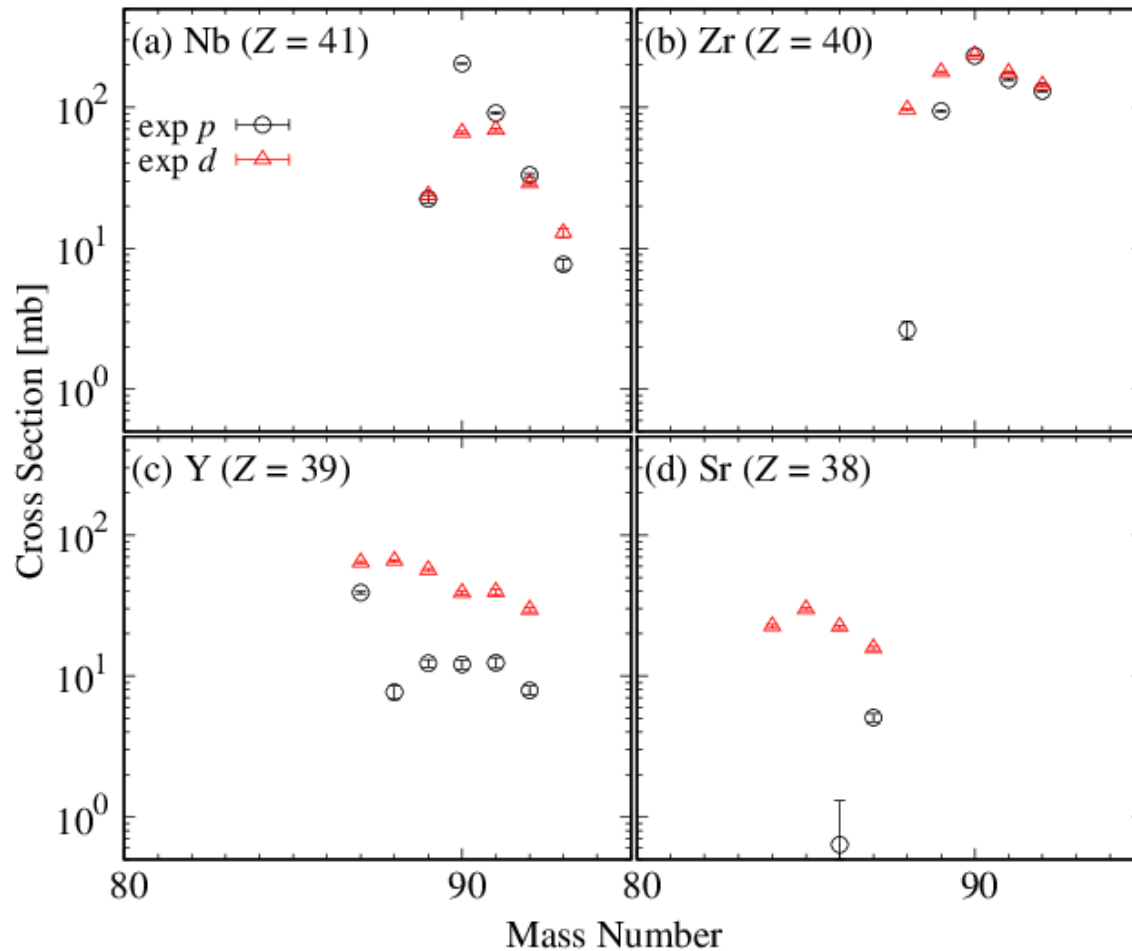


- Plastic scintillator (pla)  $\rightarrow \beta, \gamma$
- PPAC  $\rightarrow B\rho$  (magnetic rigidity)
- Ionization chamber (MUSIC)  $\rightarrow \Delta E$

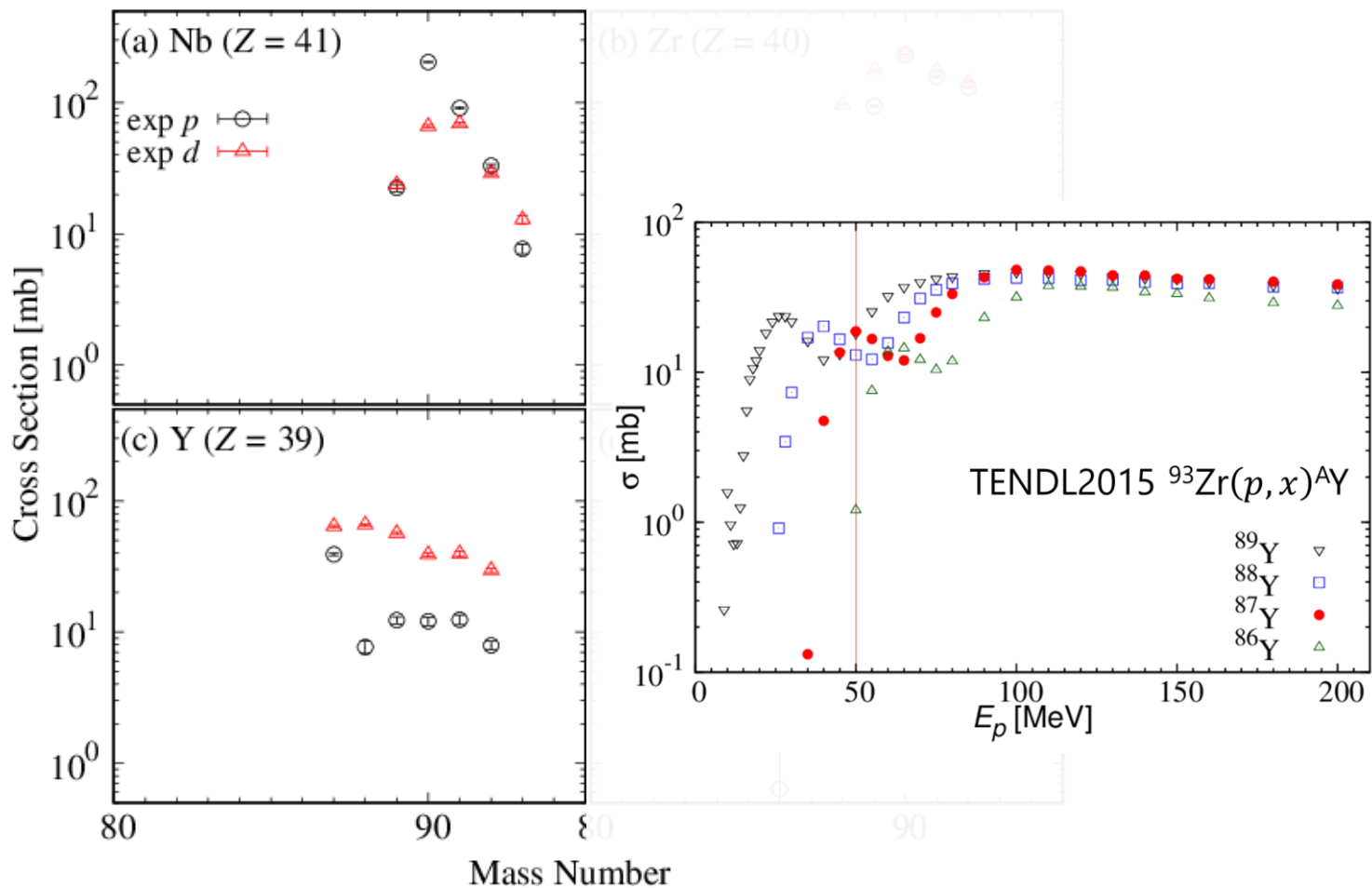
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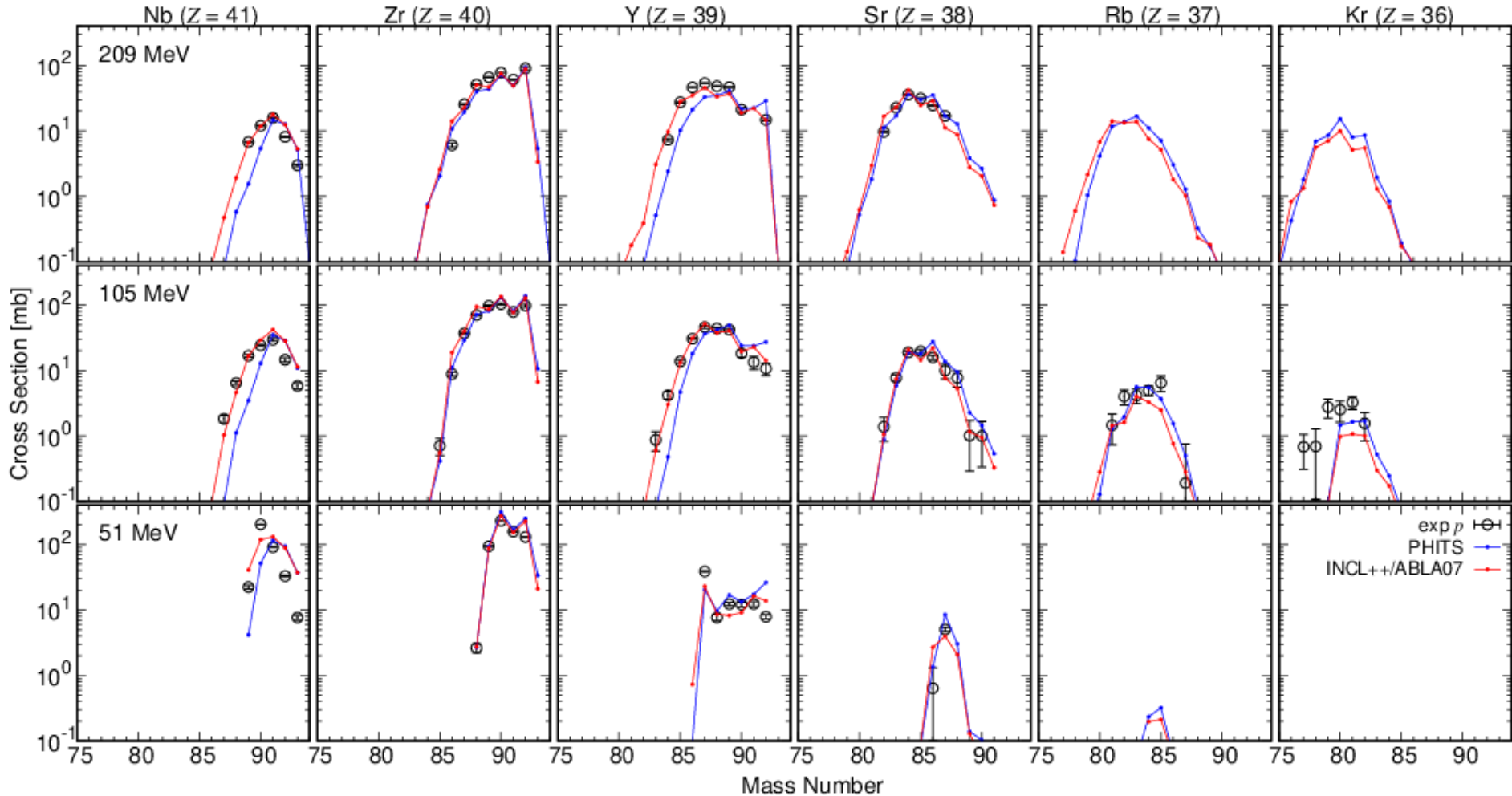




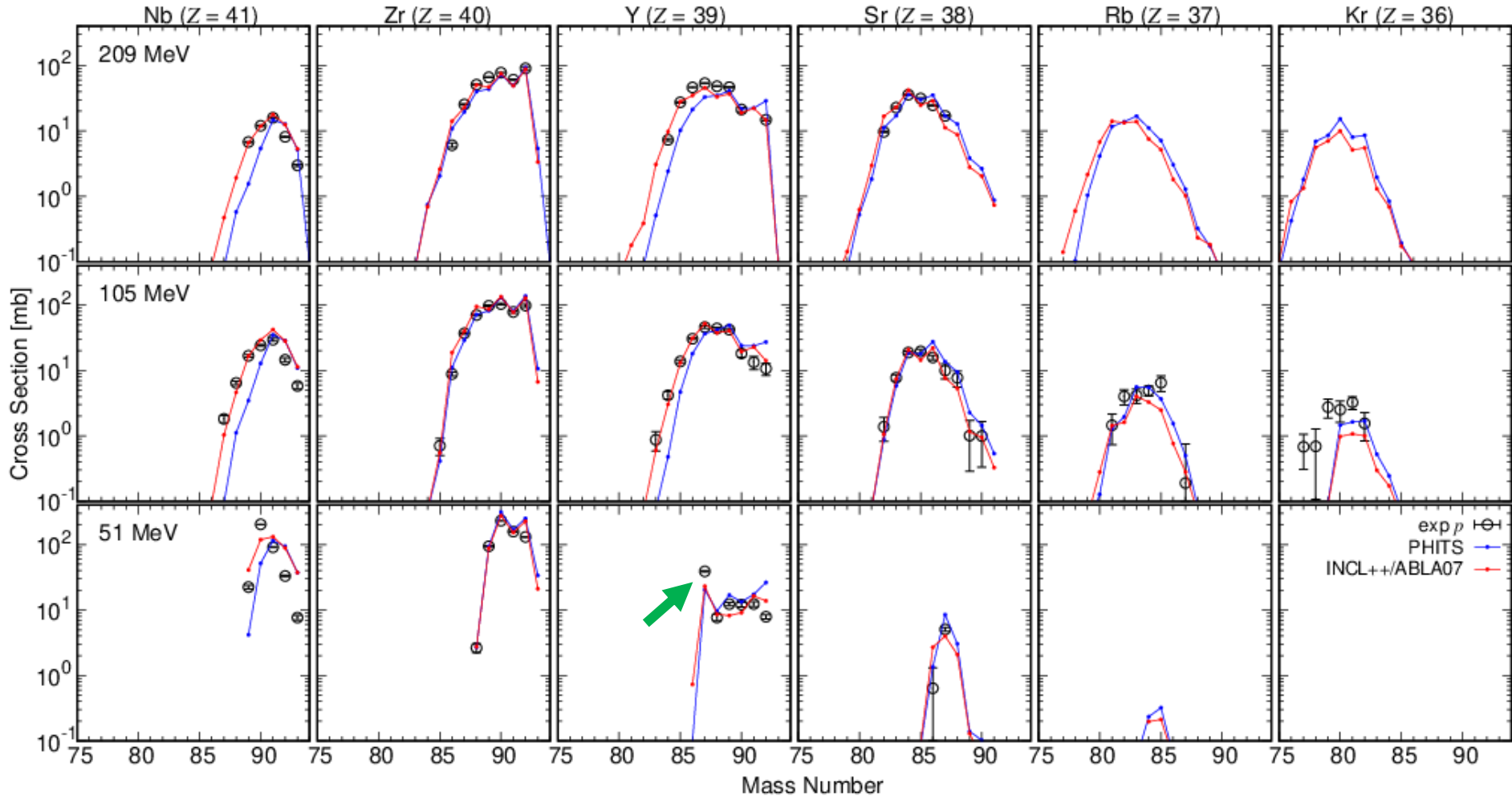
- We obtained  $\sigma_p$  and  $\sigma_d$  for 18 and 20 isotopes, respectively.  
→ Advantage of the inverse kinematics method.



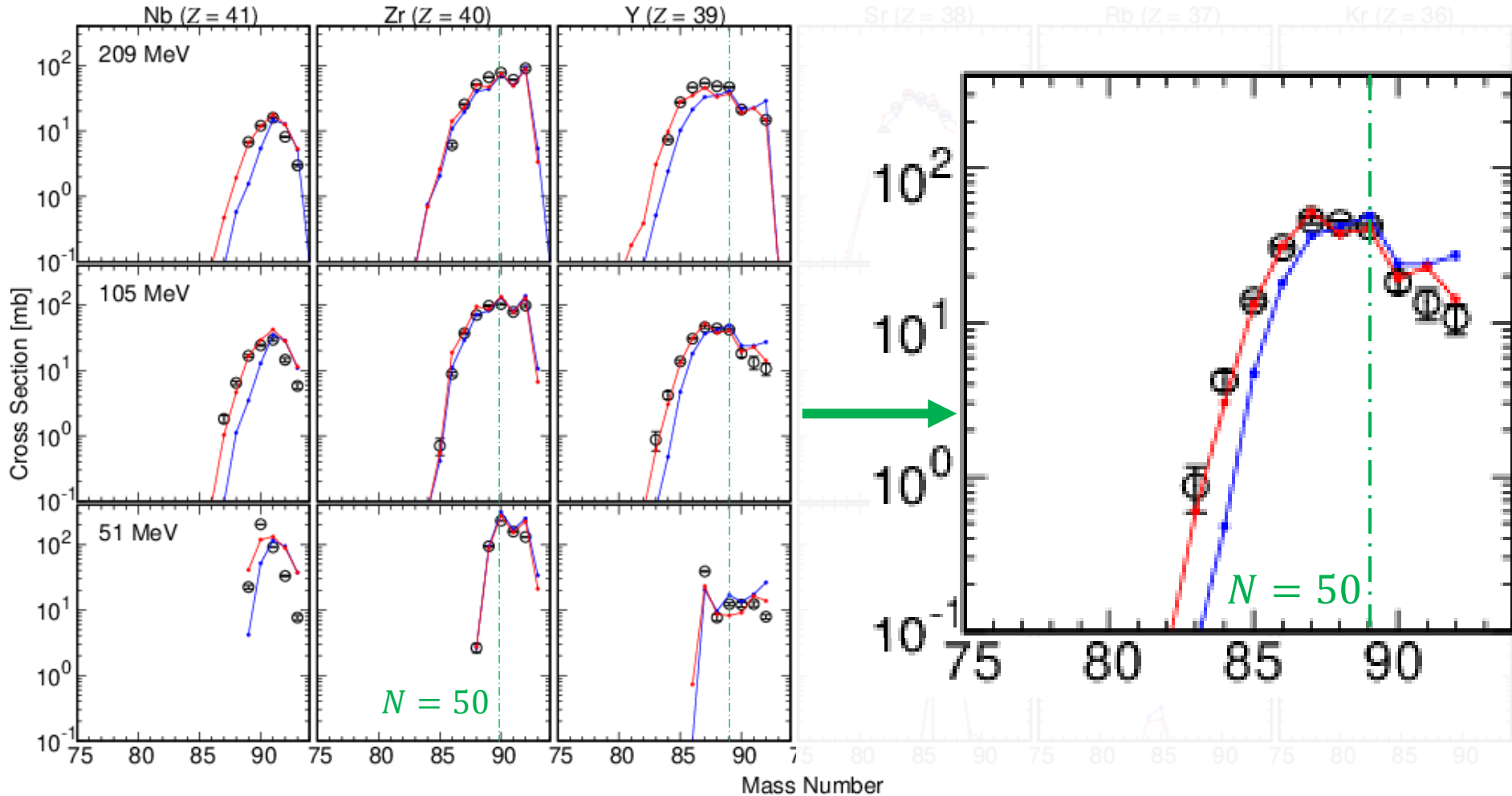
- $^{87}\text{Y}$  has noticeable large production cross section.  
 → Incident energy of 50 MeV corresponds to the first peak.



- Shapes and quantities are well reproduced by PHITS and INCL++/ABLA07
  - Peak at  $^{87}\text{Y}$  in  $\sigma_{p51}$
  - Jumps at  $N = 50$  originated from neutron magic number

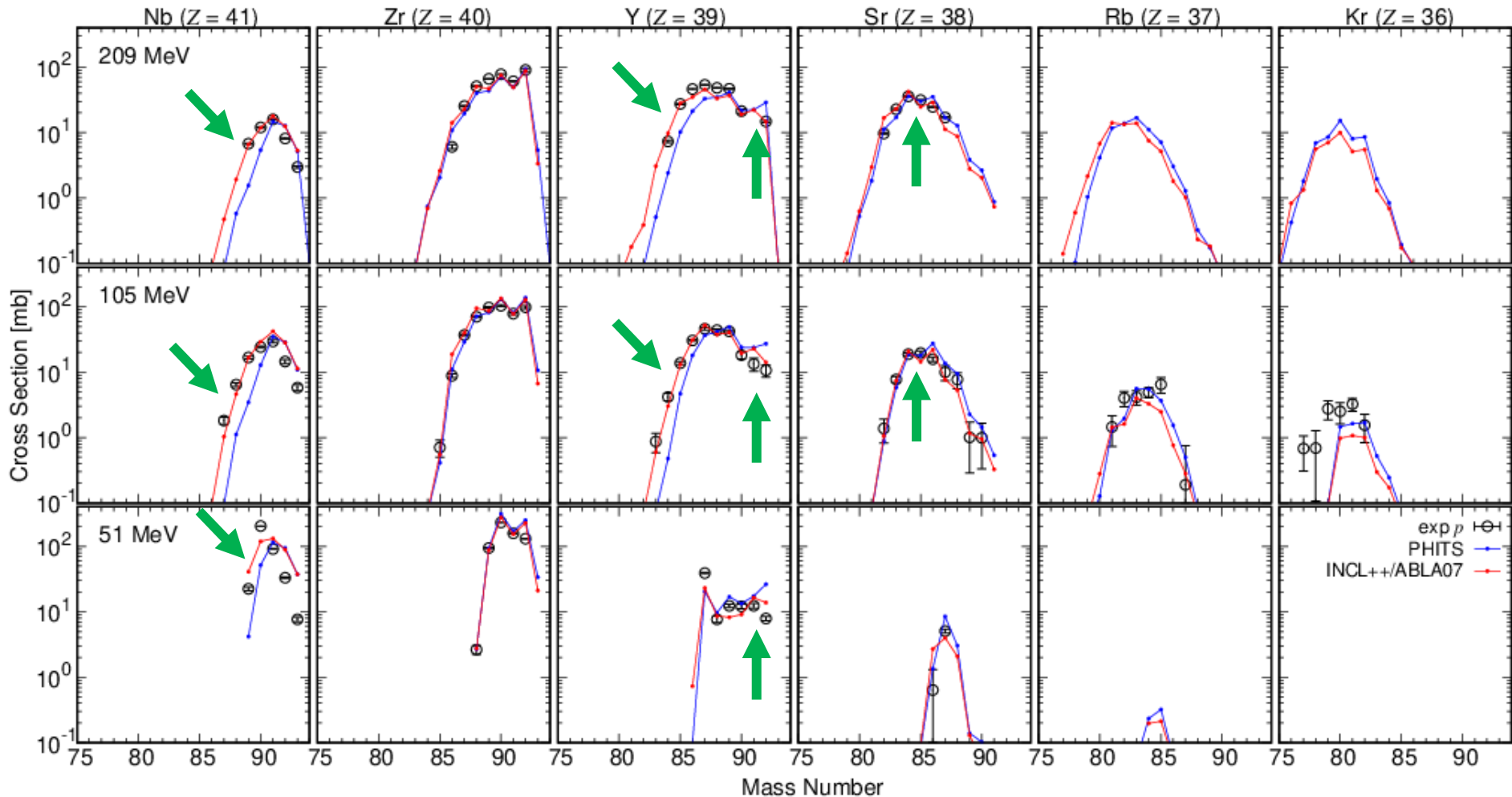


- Shapes and quantities are well reproduced by PHITS and INCL++/ABLA07
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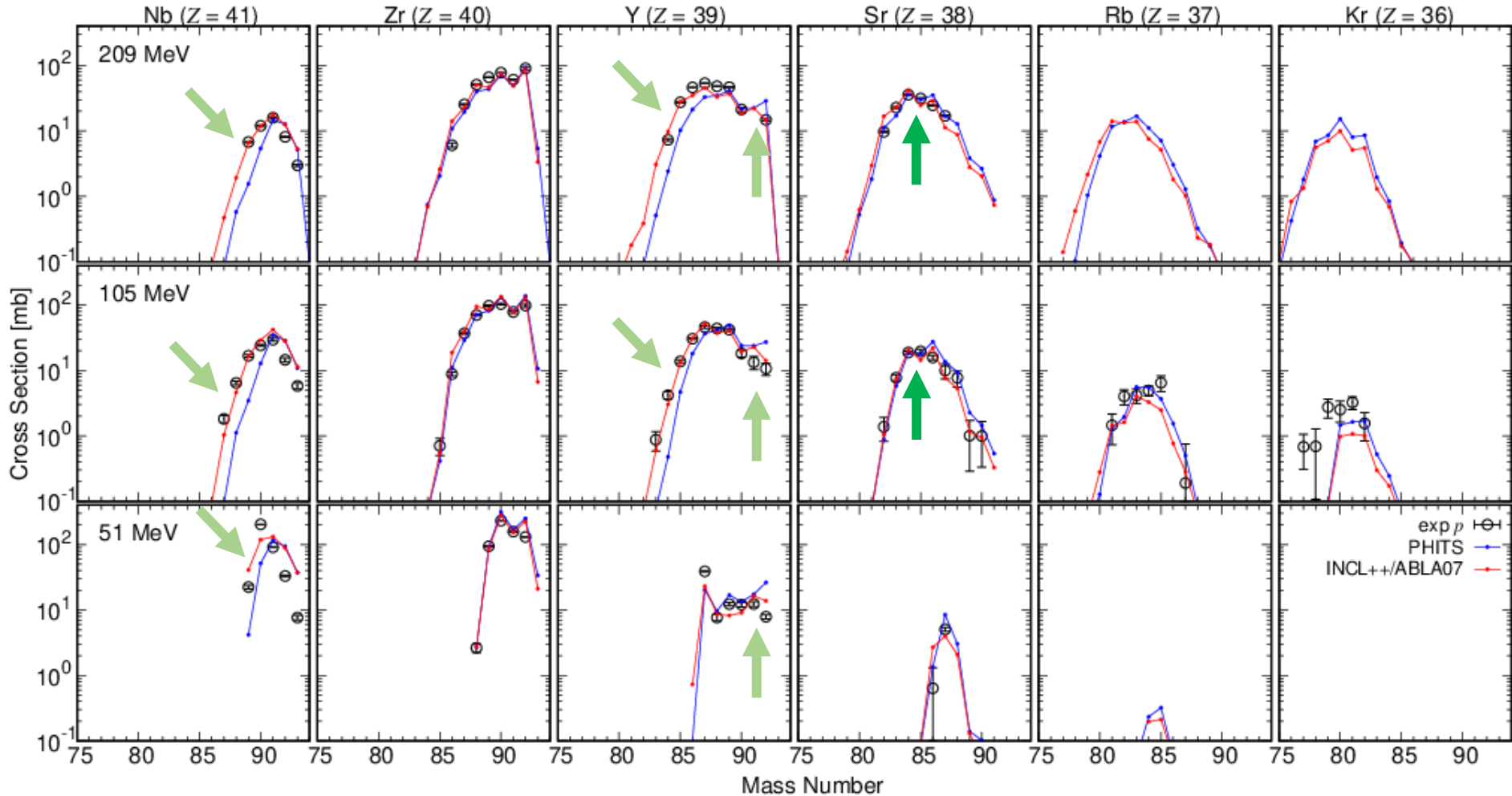
- Shapes and quantities are well reproduced by PHITS and INCL++/ABLA07
  - Peak at  $^{87}\text{Y}$  in  $\sigma_{p51}$
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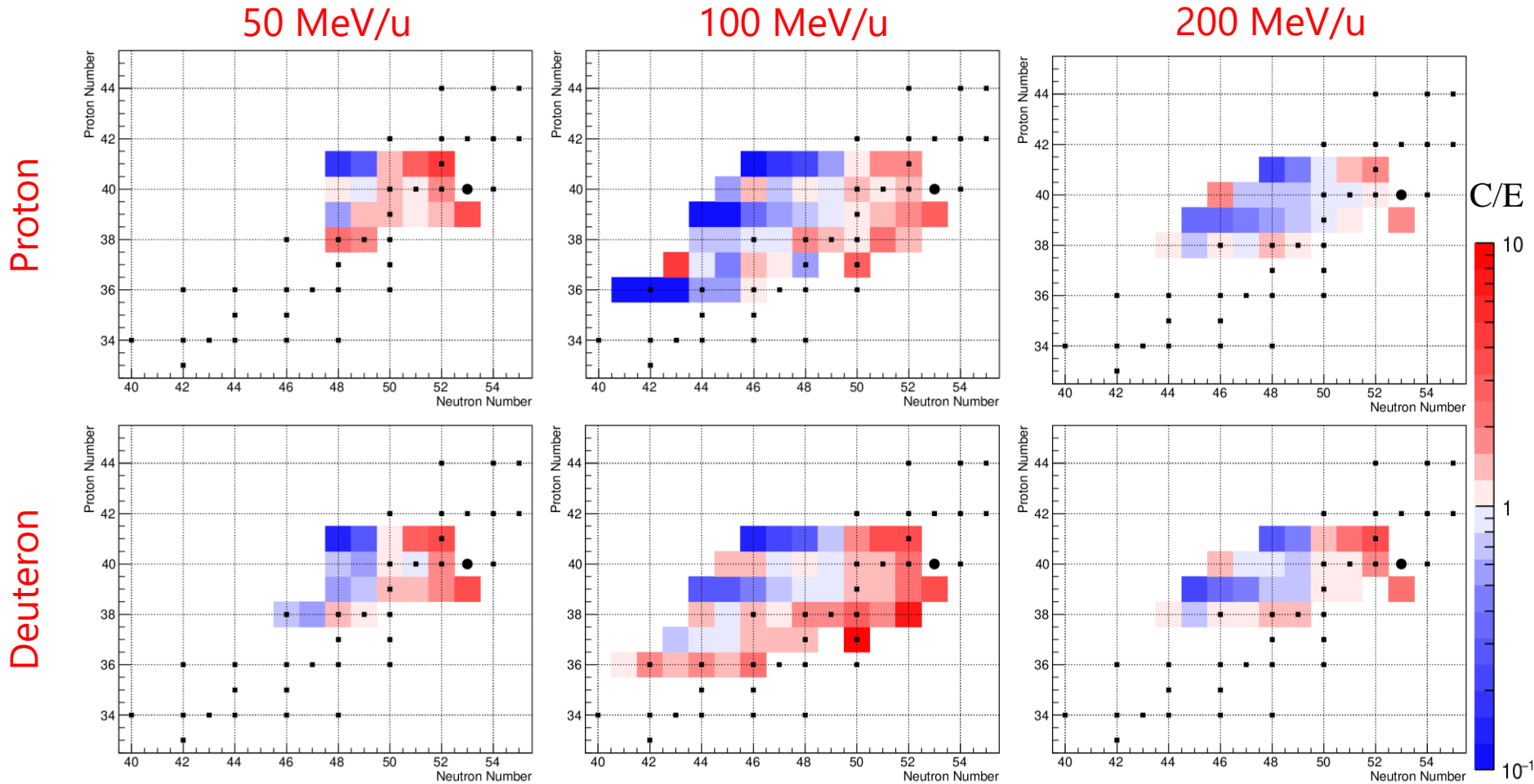
In PHITS calculation,

- underestimation in  $n$ -deficient region in odd- $Z$ .
- overestimation in isotope near the target nucleus  $^{93}\text{Zr}$ .
- exaggerated even-odd staggering.



### INCL++/ABLA07 calculation

- well reproduces  $\sigma_p$  in  $n$ -deficient region in odd- $Z$  and  $(p, 2p)$  reactions
- overestimate even-odd staggering and  $\sigma_p$  in  $(p, pn)$  and  $(p, n)$  reactions



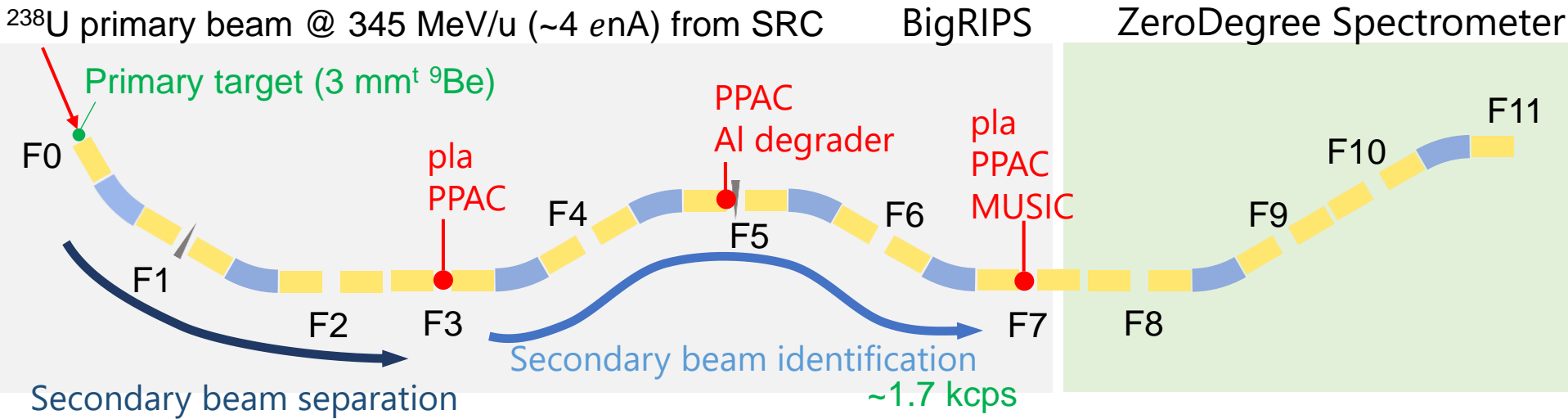
C/E plot of PHITS calculation on nuclear chart

- underestimation in *n*-deficient region in odd-Z.
- overestimation in isotope near the target nucleus  $^{93}\text{Zr}$ .
- exaggerated even-odd staggering.

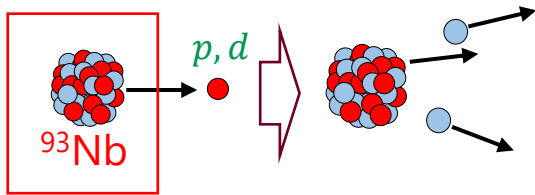
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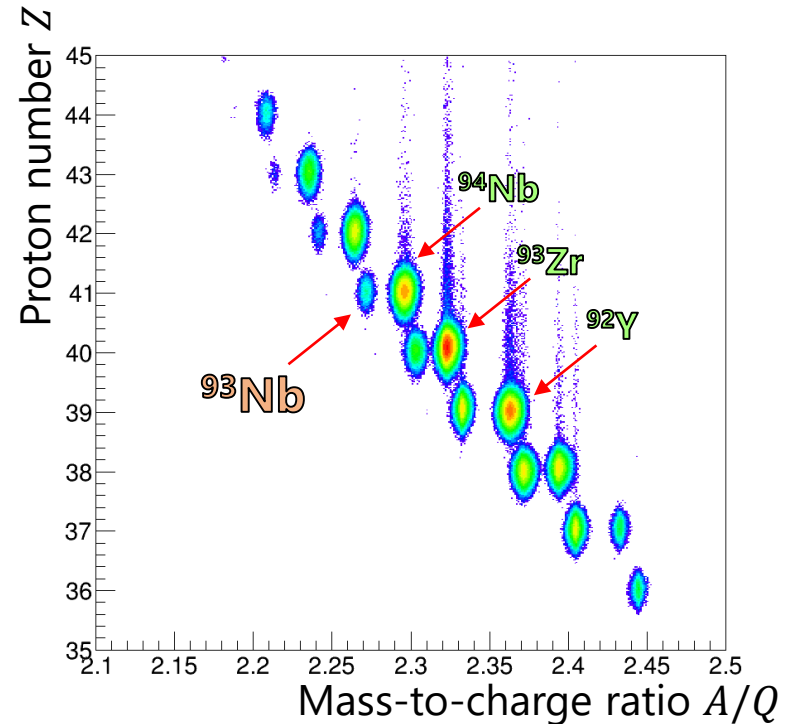
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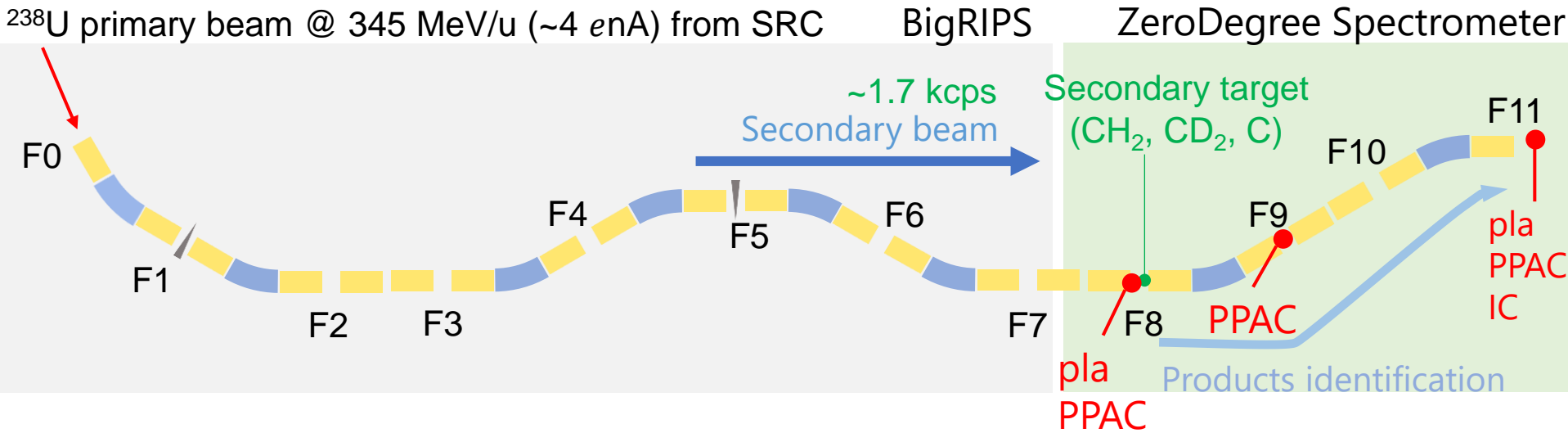


- Plastic scintillator (pla)  $\rightarrow \beta, \gamma$
- PPAC  $\rightarrow B\rho$  (magnetic rigidity)
- Ionization chamber (MUSIC)  $\rightarrow \Delta E$

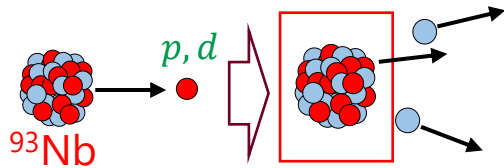
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Mass-to-charge ratio:  $A/Q \propto B\rho/\beta\gamma$





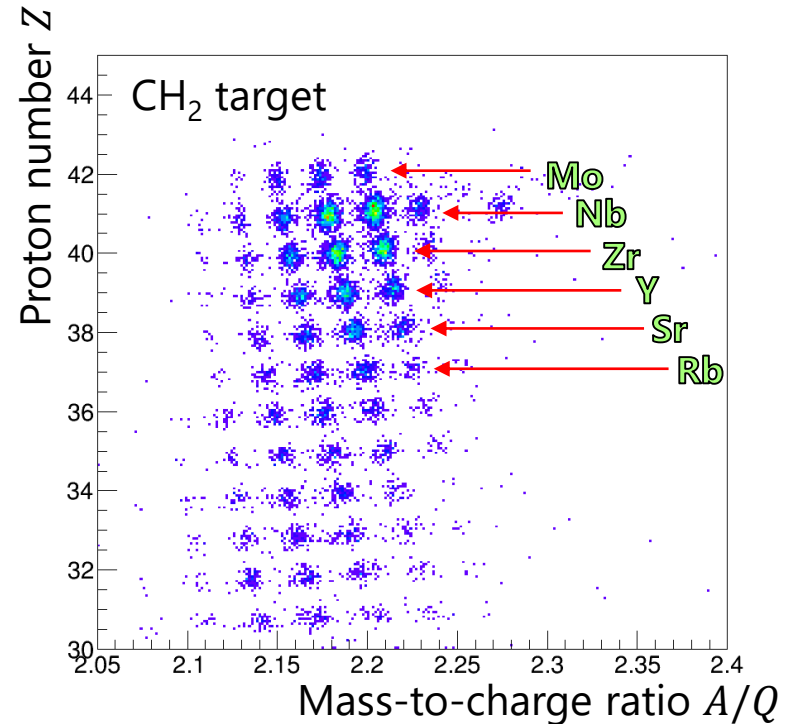
## Identification of reaction products by TOF-B $\rho$ - $\Delta E$ method

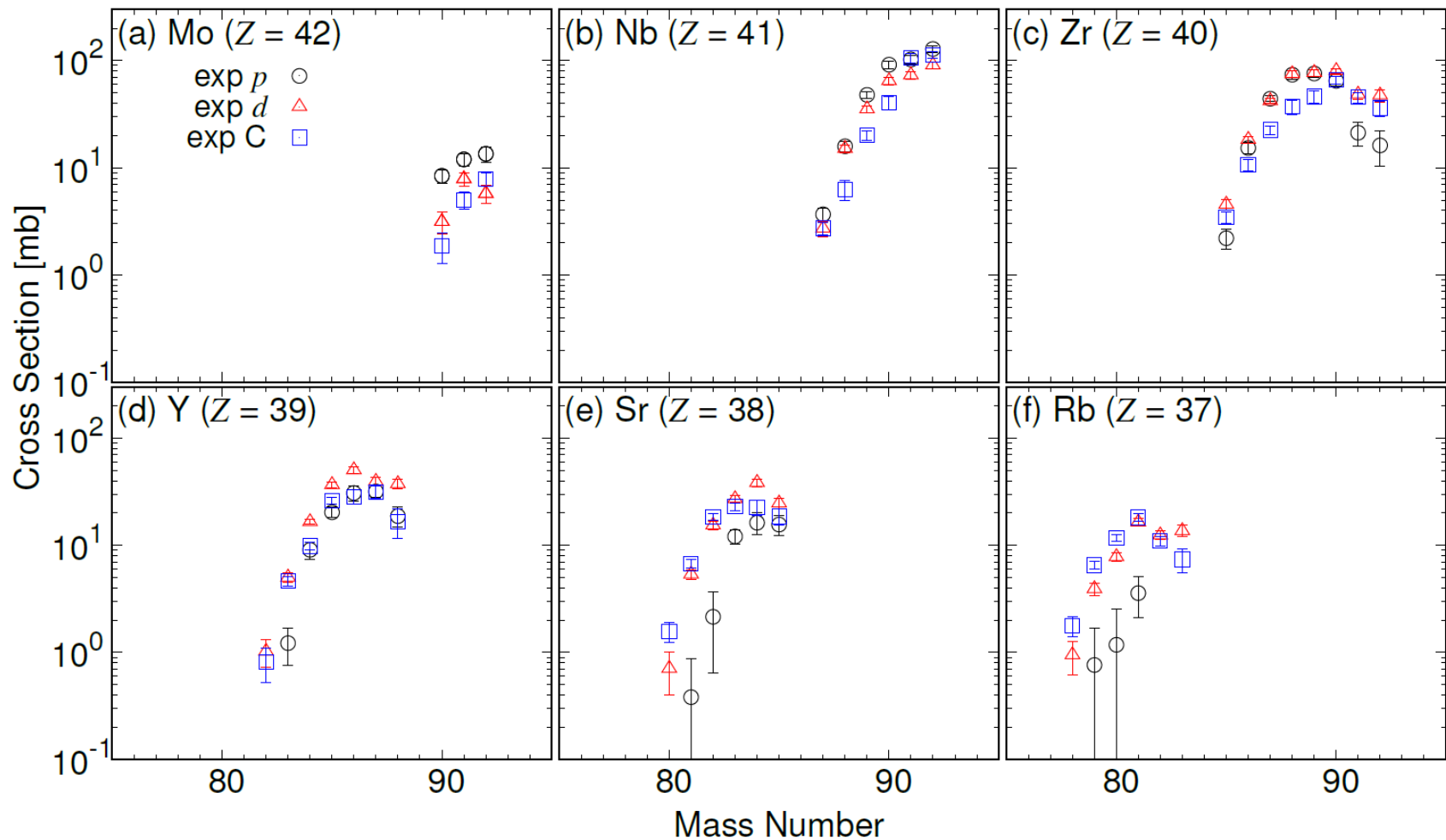


Plastic scintillator (pla)  $\rightarrow \beta, \gamma$   
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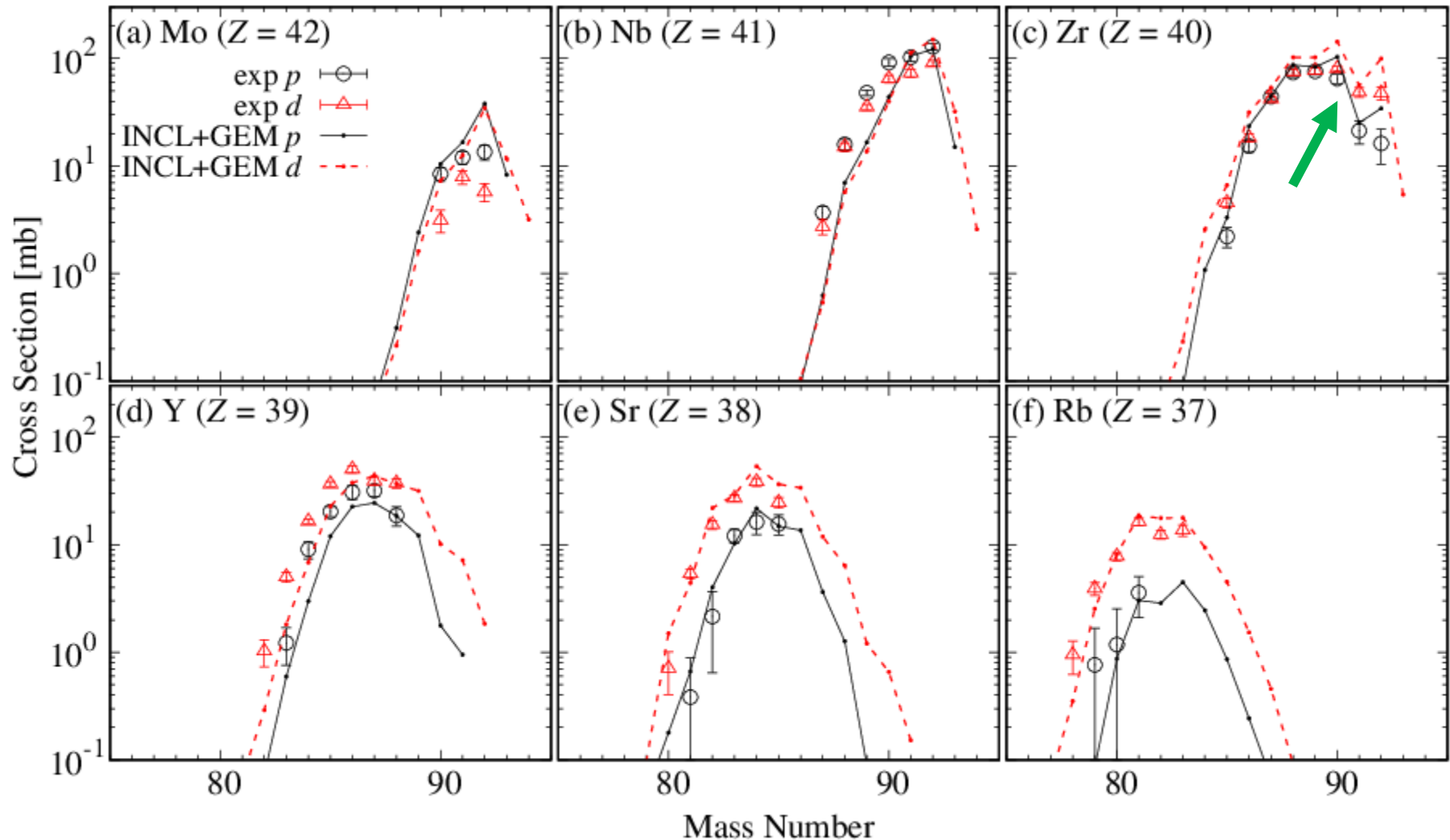
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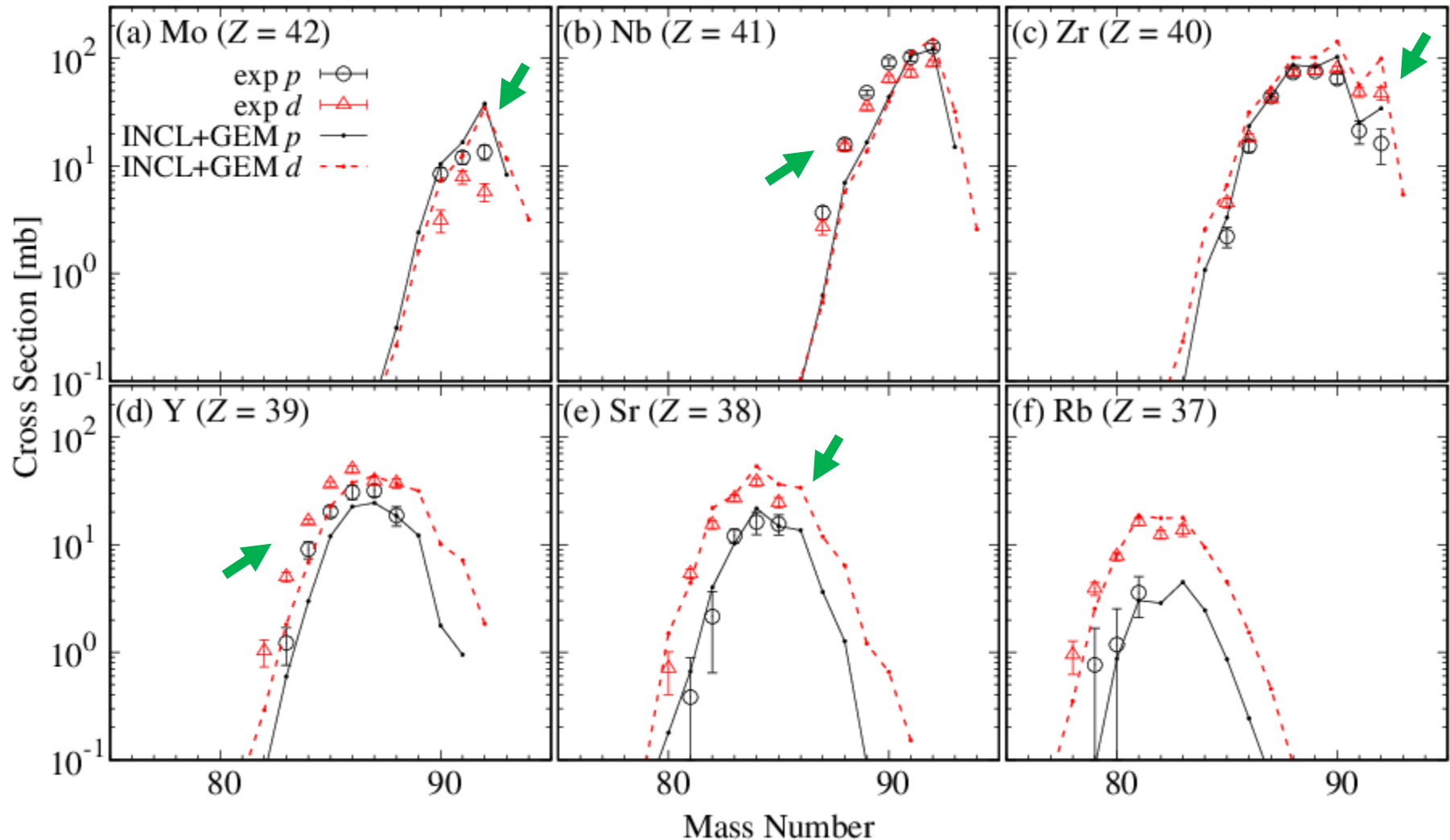


- We obtained  $\sigma_p$ ,  $\sigma_d$ , and  $\sigma_C$  for 33, 36, and 36 isotopes, respectively.  
→ Advantage of the inverse kinematics method.

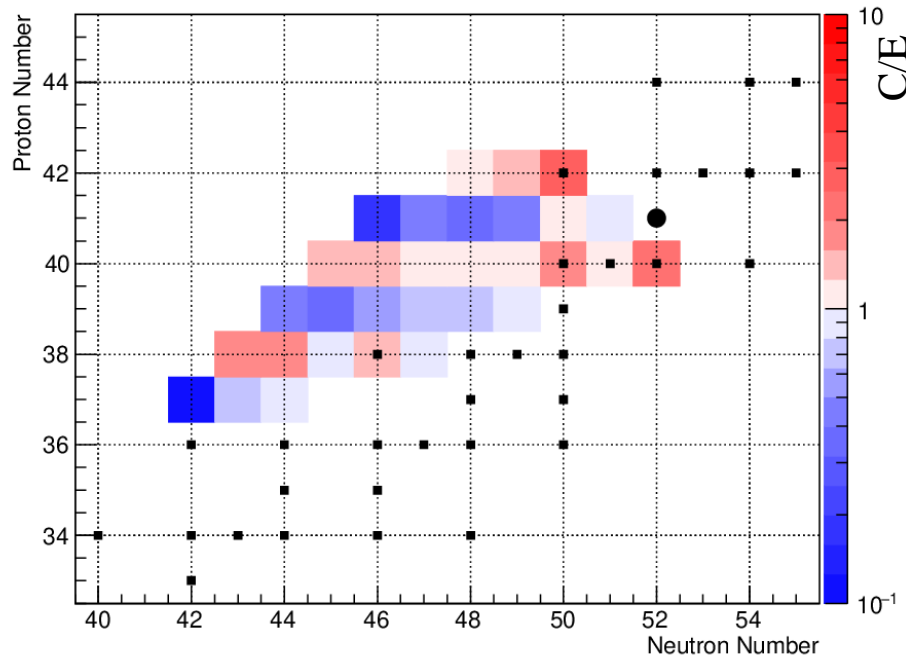
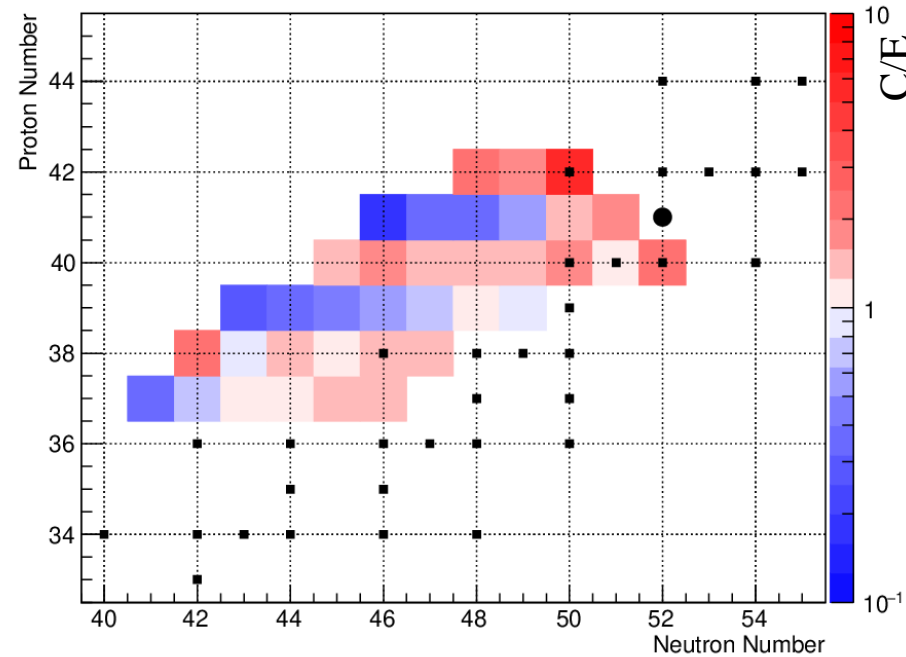


- PHITS calculations show generally good agreement.
- Jump at  $N = 50$  is reproduced reasonably well.

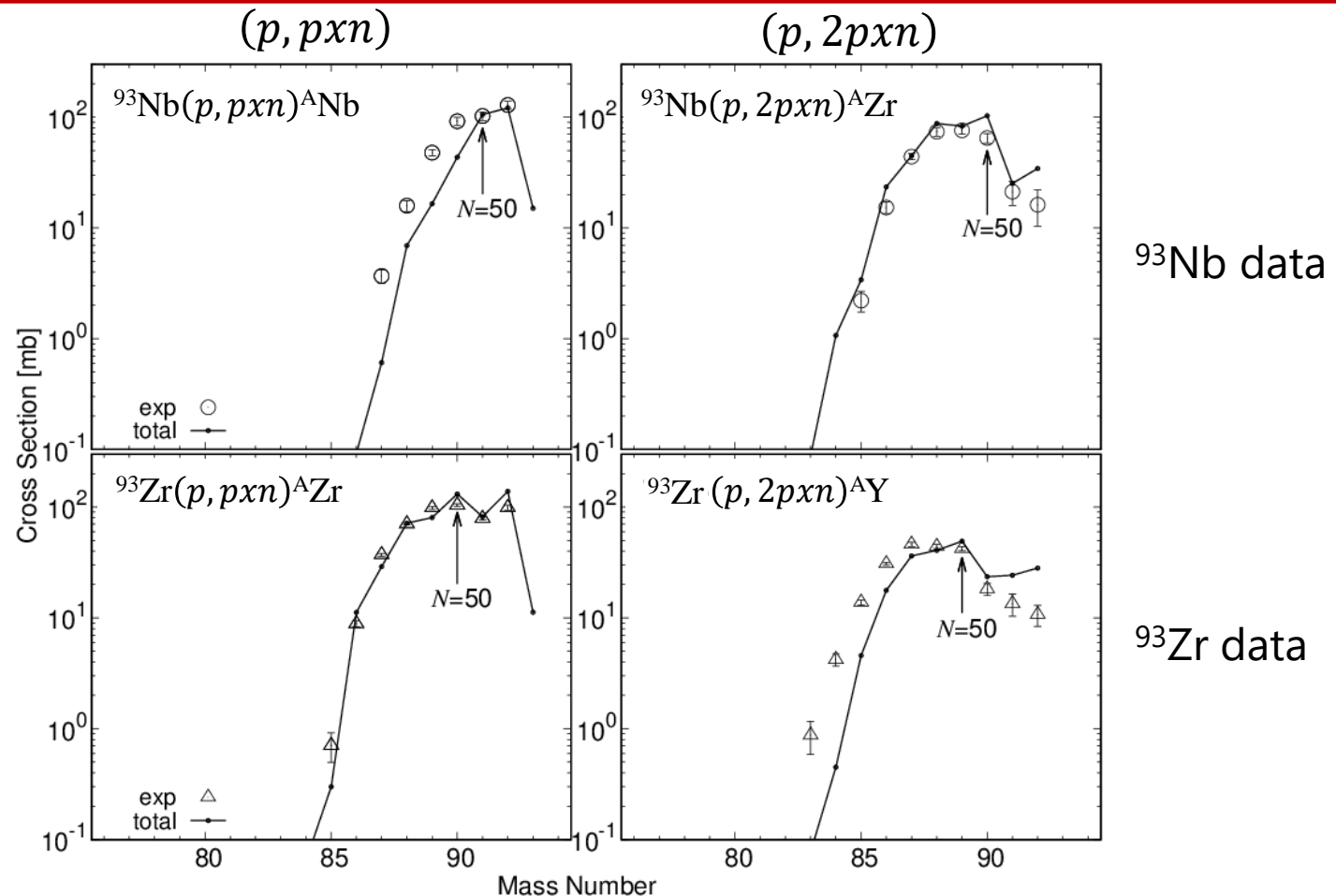




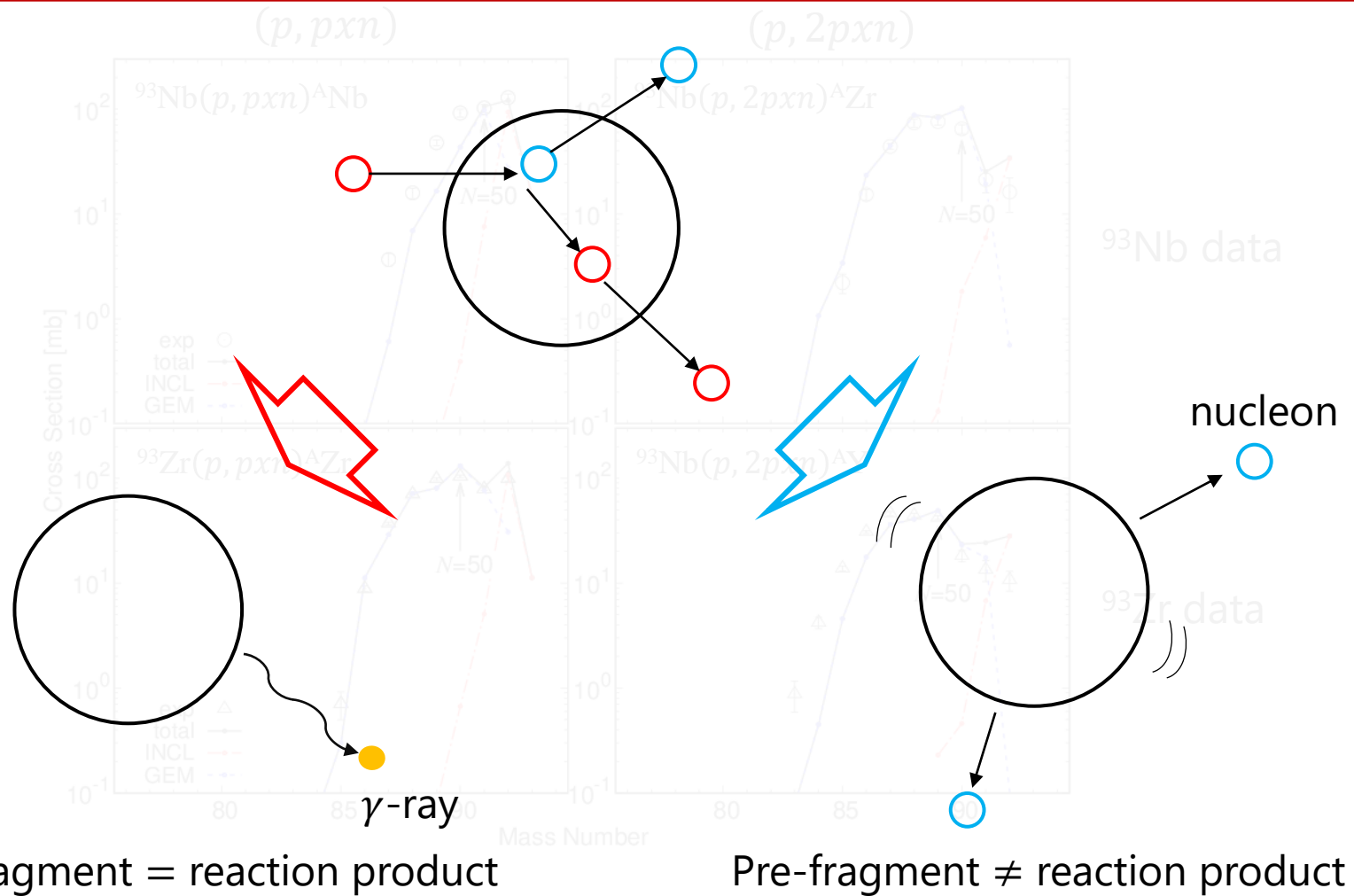
- Overestimation in isotopes near the target nucleus
- Exaggerated even-odd staggering
- Underestimation in neutron-deficient region in odd- $Z$  isotopes

 $^{93}\text{Nb} + p @ 113 \text{ MeV}$  $^{93}\text{Nb} + d @ 113 \text{ MeV/u}$ 

- Exaggerated even-odd staggering both along  $Z$  and  $N$  are clearly seen in C/E plot in chart of the nuclides



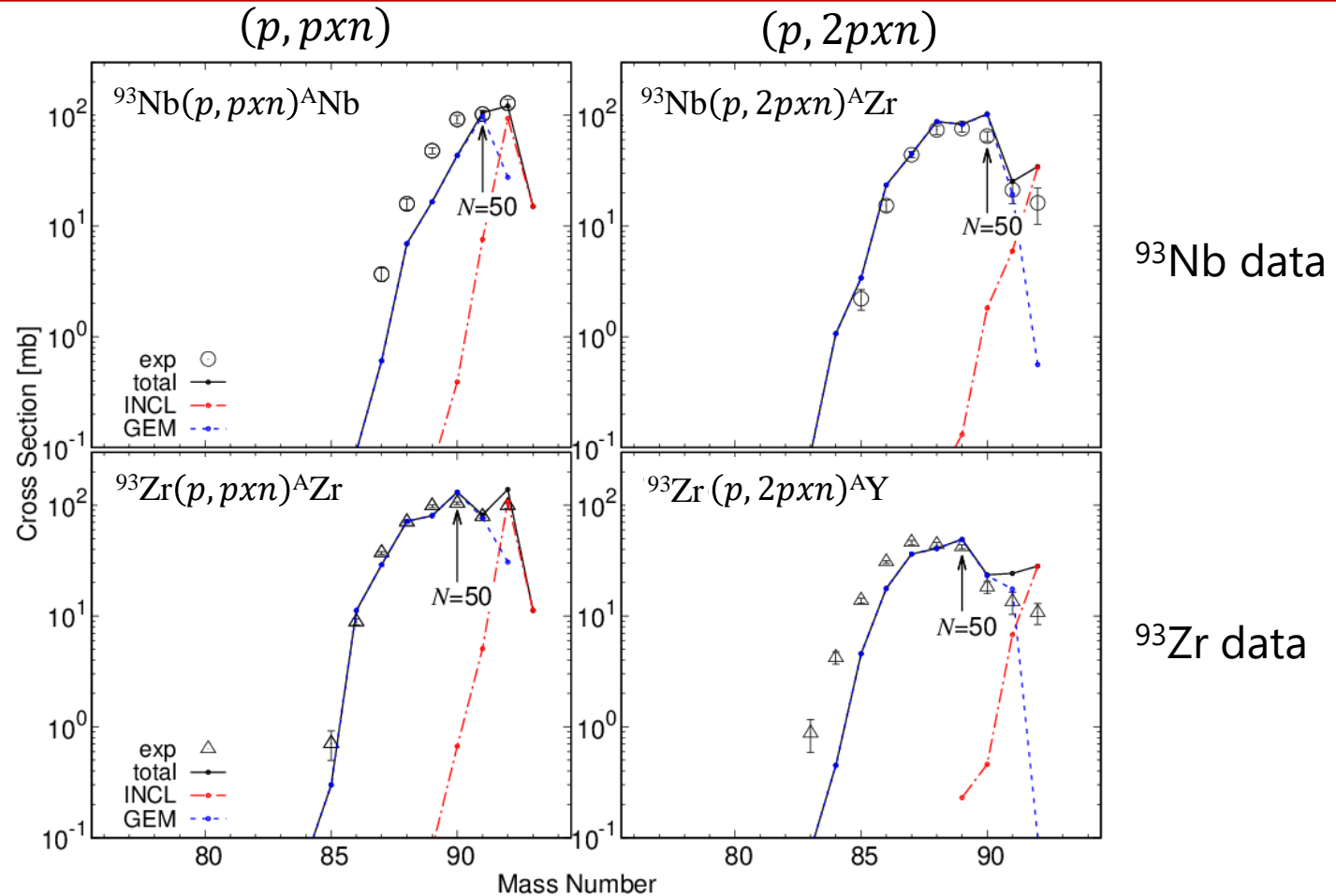
- Jumps are seen at  $N = 50$  except for  $^{93}\text{Nb}(p, pxn)^A\text{Nb}$  reactions.
- PHITS calculations show generally good agreement with experimental data  
 → discuss the **reason why the jump disappears** on the basis of calculation



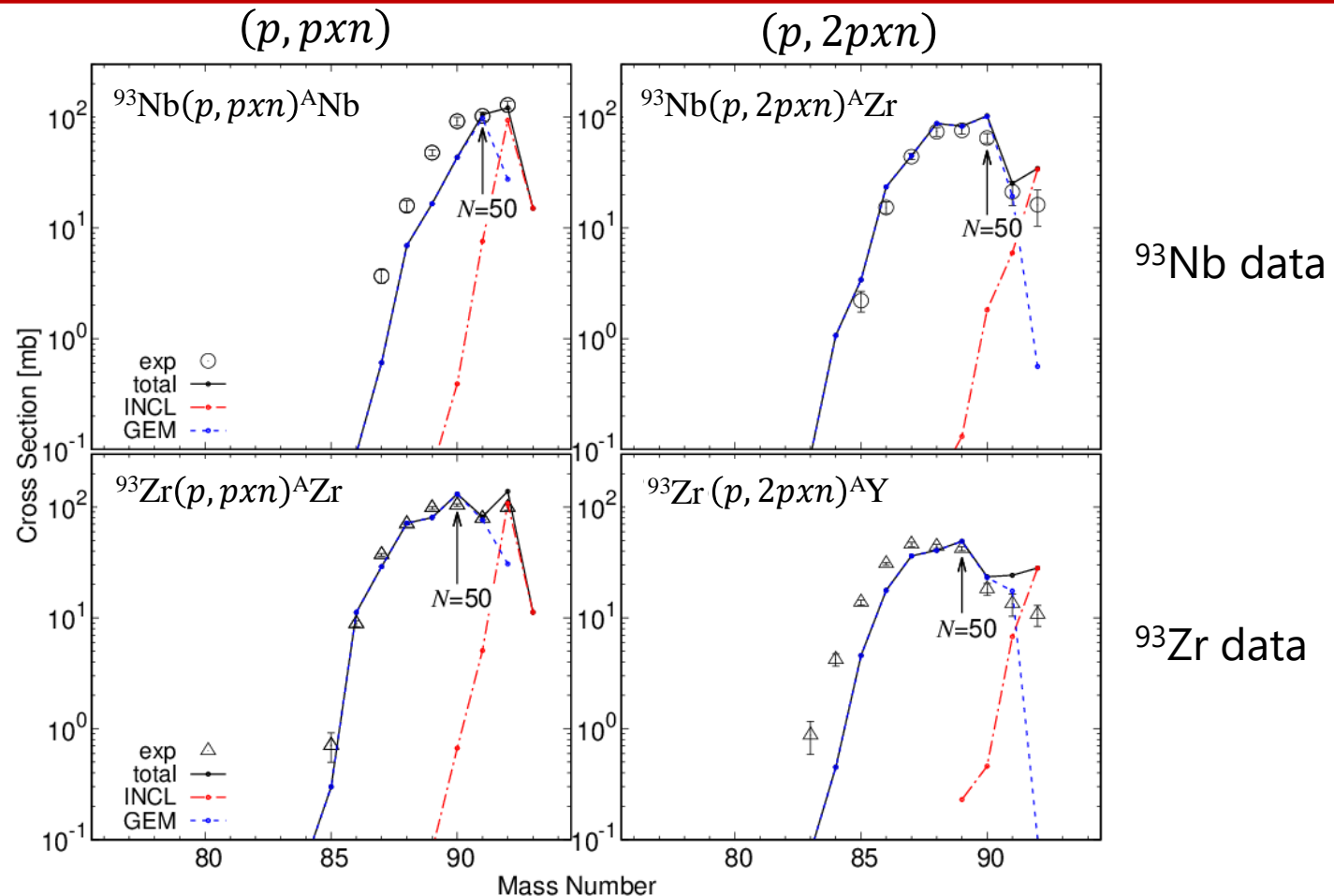
Pre-fragment = reaction product

Pre-fragment  $\neq$  reaction product

- Cross sections by PHITS are decomposed into two components:
  - INCL**: direct production yield via INC process
  - GEM**: production by particle evaporation from highly excited pre-fragments



- Cross sections by PHITS are decomposed into two components:
  - INCL**: direct production yield via INC process
  - GEM**: production by particle evaporation from highly excited pre-fragments



- **INCL**: maximum values at  $A = 92$
- **GEM**: maximum values at  $N = 50$  and jumps appears in all the panels
  - $^{93}\text{Nb}(p, pxn)^A\text{Nb}$ : jump by GEM is **smeared out by INCL**
  - others: INCL **DO NOT** disturb the jumps seen in GEM components

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4. Summary

- Isotope-production cross sections for proton- and deuteron-induced reactions on  $^{93}\text{Zr}$  and  $^{93}\text{Nb}$  were obtained at RIKEN RIBF using inverse kinematics method.
- The calculations by PHITS reproduce the measured data **generally well**.
- But, **further improvement of theoretical models is needed**:
  - underestimation in  $n$ -deficient region in odd- $Z$
  - overestimation in isotope near the target nucleus
  - Exaggerated even-odd staggering
- **The magic number is reflected** in the isotope-production cross sections.
- The appearance of the jump at  $N = 50$  depends on the relative fractions of the INC and evaporation components.



# Collaborators ( $^{93}\text{Zr} + p,d @ 50 \text{ MeV/u exp.}$ )

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Kyushu University	S. Kawase, K. Nakano, Yu. Watanabe, J. Suwa
RIKEN Nishina Center	H. Wang, H. Otsu, N. Chiga, T. Sumikama, H. Sakurai, D.S. Ahn, H. Baba, S.D. Chen, M.L. Cortes, P. Doornenbal, N. Fukuda, T. Isobe, S. Kubono, I. Murray, H. Sato, Y. Shimizu, P.-A. Söderström, X.H. Sun, D. Suzuki, H. Suzuki, H. Takeda, K. Yoshida
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University of Tokyo	S. Koyama, M. Niikura, T. Saito
CNS, University of Tokyo	S. Masuoka, S. Michimasa, R. Nakajima, S. Shimoura
Niigata University	K. Chikaato, R. Hosoda, M. Takechi

# Collaborators ( $^{93}\text{Nb} + p,d @ 113 \text{ MeV/u exp.}$ )

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Kyushu University	S. Kawase, K. Nakano, Yu. Watanabe, S. Araki, T. Kin
RIKEN Nishina Center	H. Wang, H. Otsu, H. Sakurai, D.S. Ahn, S. Chen, N. Chiga, P. Doornenbal, N. Fukuda, T. Isobe, T. Kubo, S. Kubono, M. Kurokawa, T. Matsuzaki, Y. Shimizu, T. Sumikama, P.-A. Söderström, H. Suzuki, H. Takeda, Ya. Watanabe, K. Yoshida
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University of Miyazaki	Y. Maeda, S. Kawakami, T. Yamamoto
University of Tokyo	S. Koyama, S. Momiyama, S. Nagamine, M. Niikura, T. Saito, K. Wimmer
CNS, University of Tokyo	M. Matsushita, S. Michimasa, S. Shimoura
Hokkaido University	M. Aikawa, A. Makinaga
Rikkyo University	Y. Shiga