

Definition of a standard neutron field with the ${}^7\text{Li}(p,n){}^7\text{Be}$ reaction

C. Lederer¹, I. Dillmann², U. Giessen³, F. Käppeler⁴,
A. Mengoni⁵, M. Mosconi³, R. Nolte³, A. Wallner¹

¹ Faculty of Physics, University of Vienna, Vienna

² GSI and University of Giessen, Darmstadt/Giessen

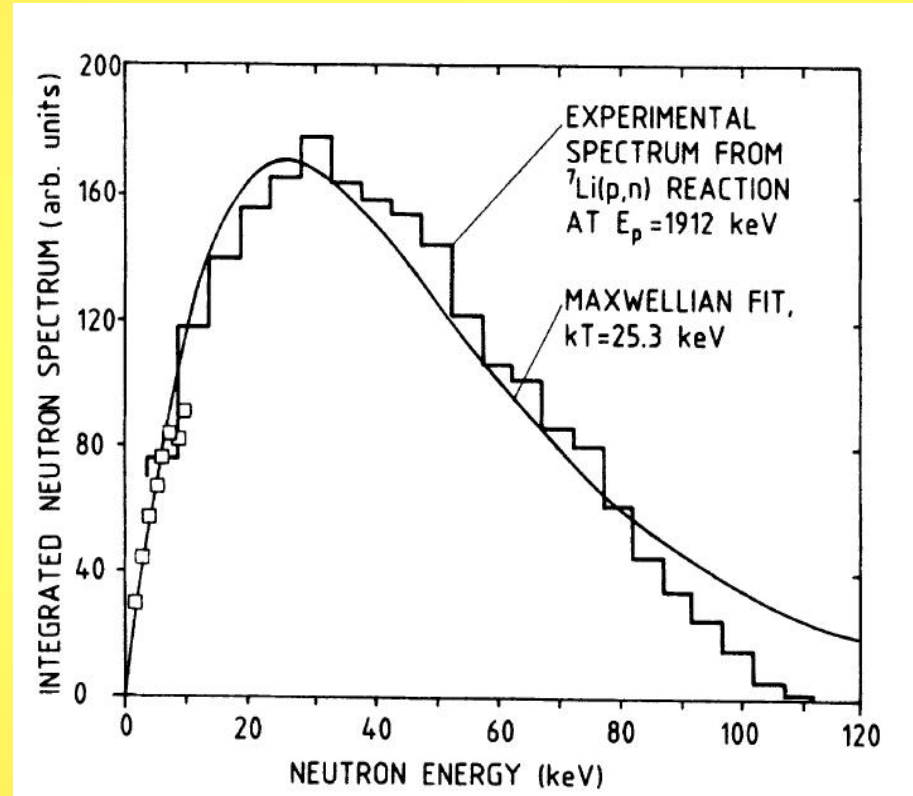
³ Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt (PTB), Braunschweig

⁴ Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT), Karlsruhe

⁵ IAEA, Nuclear Data Section, Vienna, Vienna

${}^7\text{Li}(p,n){}^7\text{Be}$ as neutron source

- for $E_p=1912$ keV \rightarrow quasi-maxwellian energy distribution with $kT=25$ keV
- neutron emission: forward peaked with 120° opening angle

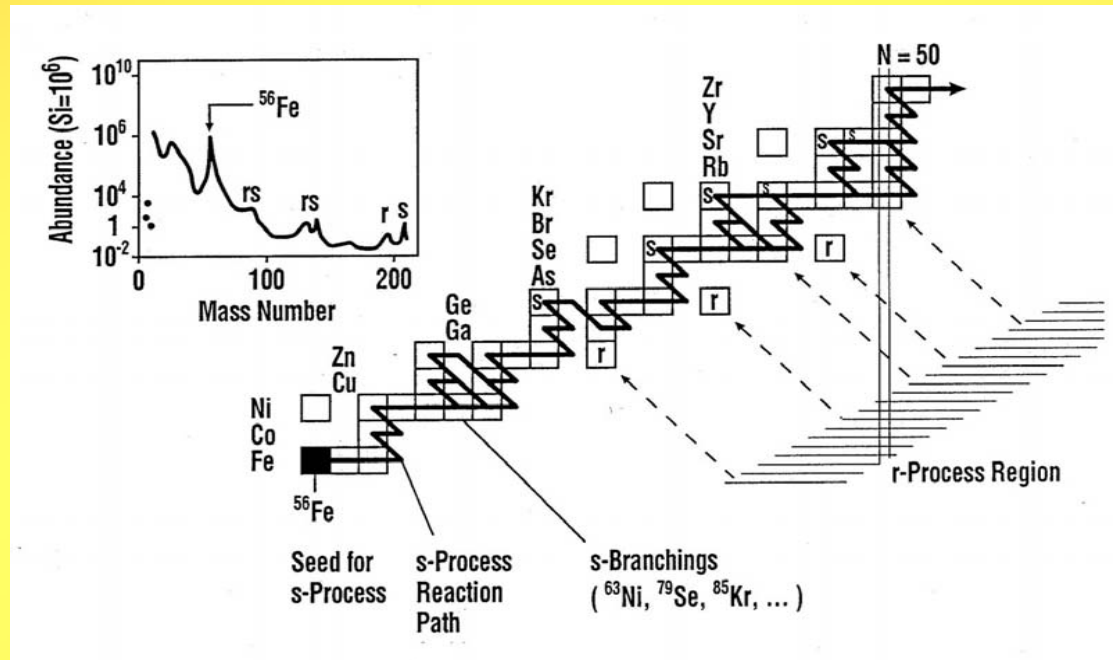


Ratynski and Käppeler, Phys. Rev. C 37 (1988)

Motivation

Nucleosynthesis in stars beyond Fe:

- s-process (slow neutron capture) responsible for 50% of abundances between Fe and Bi

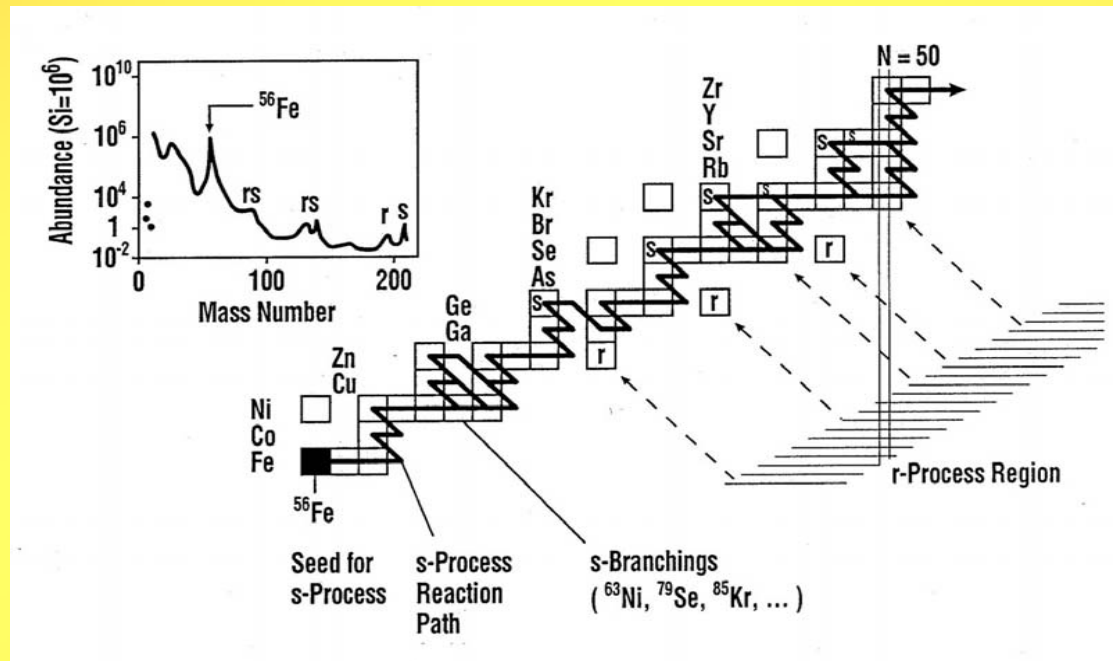


F. Käppeler, A. Mengoni, Nucl. Phys. A **777** (2006)

Motivation

Nucleosynthesis in stars beyond Fe:

- s-process (slow neutron capture) responsible for 50% of abundances between Fe and Bi
- nuclear physics input: (n,γ) cross-sections, β half-lives

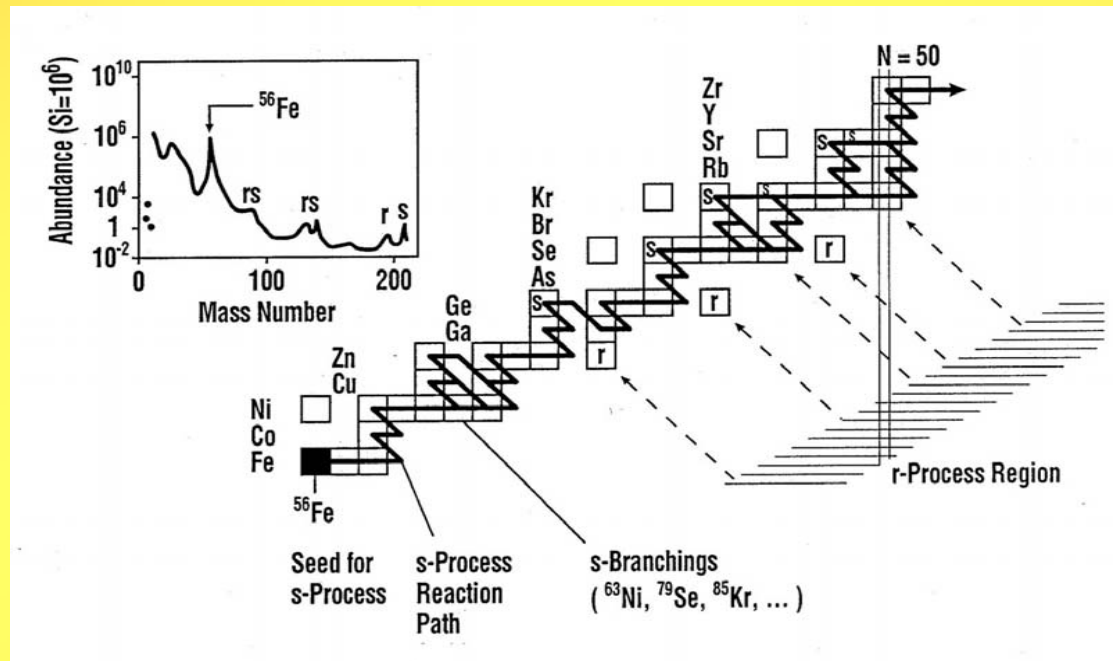


F. Käppeler, A. Mengoni, Nucl. Phys. A **777** (2006)

Motivation

Nucleosynthesis in stars beyond Fe:

- s-process (slow neutron capture) responsible for 50% of abundances between Fe and Bi
- nuclear physics input: (n,γ) cross-sections, β half-lives
- stellar environments: maxwellian neutron field, s-process sites: $kT \sim 25$ keV



F. Käppeler, A. Mengoni, Nucl. Phys. A **777** (2006)

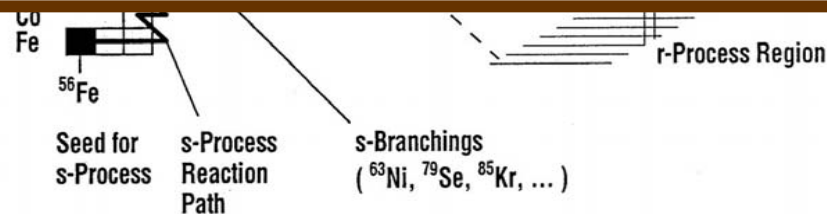
Motivation

Nucleosynthesis in stars beyond Fe:

- s-process (slow neutron capture) responsible for 50% of abundances between Fe and Bi
- nuclear physics input: (n,γ) cross-sections, β half-lives
- stellar environments: maxwellian neutron field, s-process sites: $kT \sim 25$ keV



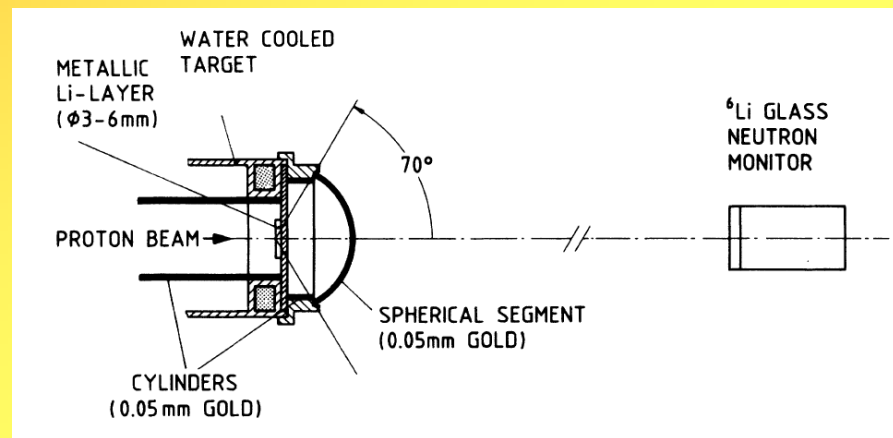
Direct measurement of Maxwellian-averaged cross-sections with $^7\text{Li}(p,n)$ source



Measurement of $^{197}\text{Au}(n,\gamma)$ at KIT*

Ratynski and Käppeler (Phys. Rev. C **37**, 1988)

- spherical Au sample covering whole beam
- absolute flux determination by ^7Be activity of Li target

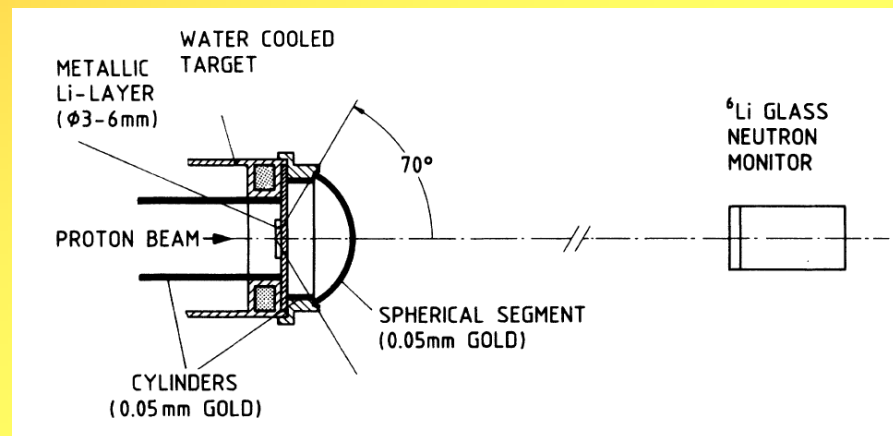


* former FZK

Measurement of $^{197}\text{Au}(n,\gamma)$ at KIT*

Ratynski and Käppeler (Phys. Rev. C **37**, 1988)

- spherical Au sample covering whole beam
- absolute flux determination by ^7Be activity of Li target



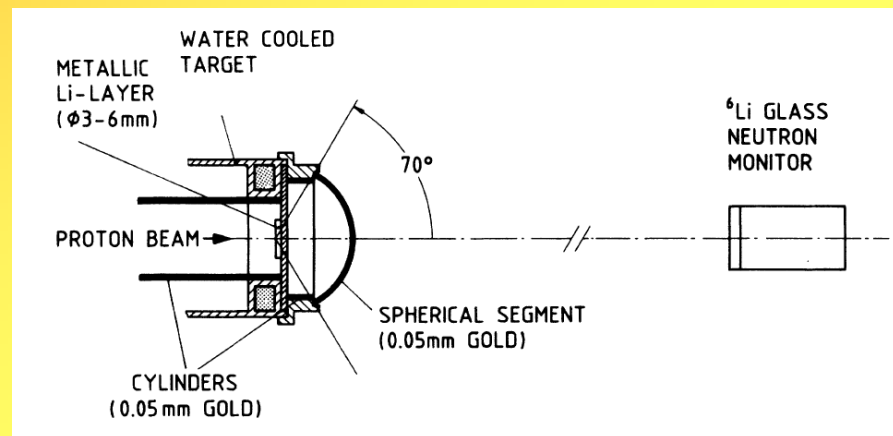
$$\sigma(25\text{keV})_{\text{EXP}} = 586 \text{ mb} \pm 1.4\%$$

* former FZK

Measurement of $^{197}\text{Au}(n,\gamma)$ at KIT*

Ratynski and Käppeler (Phys. Rev. C **37**, 1988)

- spherical Au sample covering whole beam
- absolute flux determination by ^7Be activity of Li target



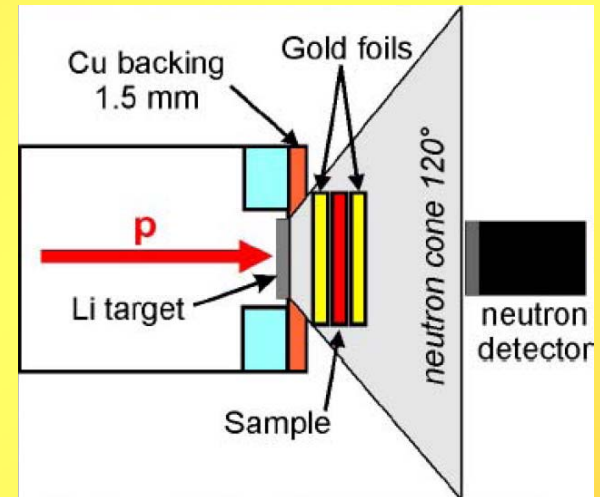
$$\sigma(25\text{keV})_{\text{EXP}} = 586 \text{ mb} \pm 1.4\%$$

for transformation to Maxwellian-averaged cross-section (MACS):

- energy dependence of cross-section
- neutron spectrum

* former FZK

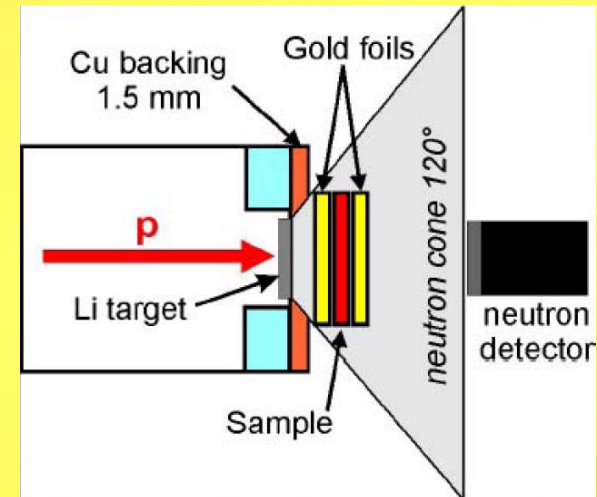
Other measurements of MACS at KIT



Other measurements of MACS at KIT

Short-lived radioisotopes:

- Activation + decay counting
- ^{58}Fe , ^{59}Co , ^{87}Rb , ^{88}Sr , ^{89}Y , ^{139}La , etc. (Heil et al., Dillmann et al., Käppeler et al., O'Brien et al.....)



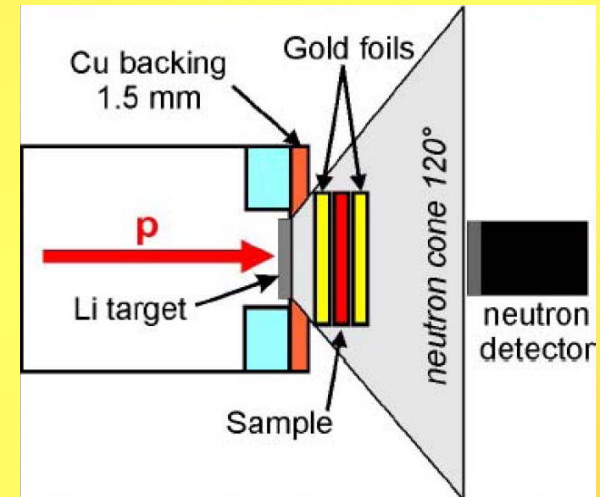
Long-lived radioisotopes:

- Activation + Accelerator Mass Spectrometry (AMS)
- AMS labs: ATLAS (Argonne), GAMS (Munich), VERA (Vienna)
- ^9Be , ^{13}C , ^{40}Ca , ^{54}Fe , $^{58,62}\text{Ni}$, ^{78}Se , ^{209}Bi , etc. (Coquard et al., Dillmann et al., Nassar et al., Rugel et al., Wallner et al.)

Other measurements of MACS at KIT

Short-lived radioisotopes:

- Activation + decay counting
- ^{58}Fe , ^{59}Co , ^{87}Rb , ^{88}Sr , ^{89}Y , ^{139}La , etc. (Heil et al., Dillmann et al., Käppeler et al., O'Brien et al.....)



Long-lived radioisotopes:

- Activation + Accelerator Mass Spectrometry (AMS)
- AMS labs: ATLAS (Argonne), GAMS (Munich), VERA (Vienna)
- ^9Be , ^{13}C , ^{40}Ca , ^{54}Fe , $^{58,62}\text{Ni}$, ^{78}Se , ^{209}Bi , etc. (Coquard et al., Dillmann et al., Nassar et al., Rugel et al., Wallner et al.)

All relative to $^{197}\text{Au}(n,\gamma)$ cross-section!

$^{197}\text{Au}(n,\gamma)$ as standard cross-section

- recommended standard for thermal and from 0.2-2.8 MeV
- 3-200 keV: 6-8 % discrepancy between Ratynski-Käppeler evaluation and standard evaluation

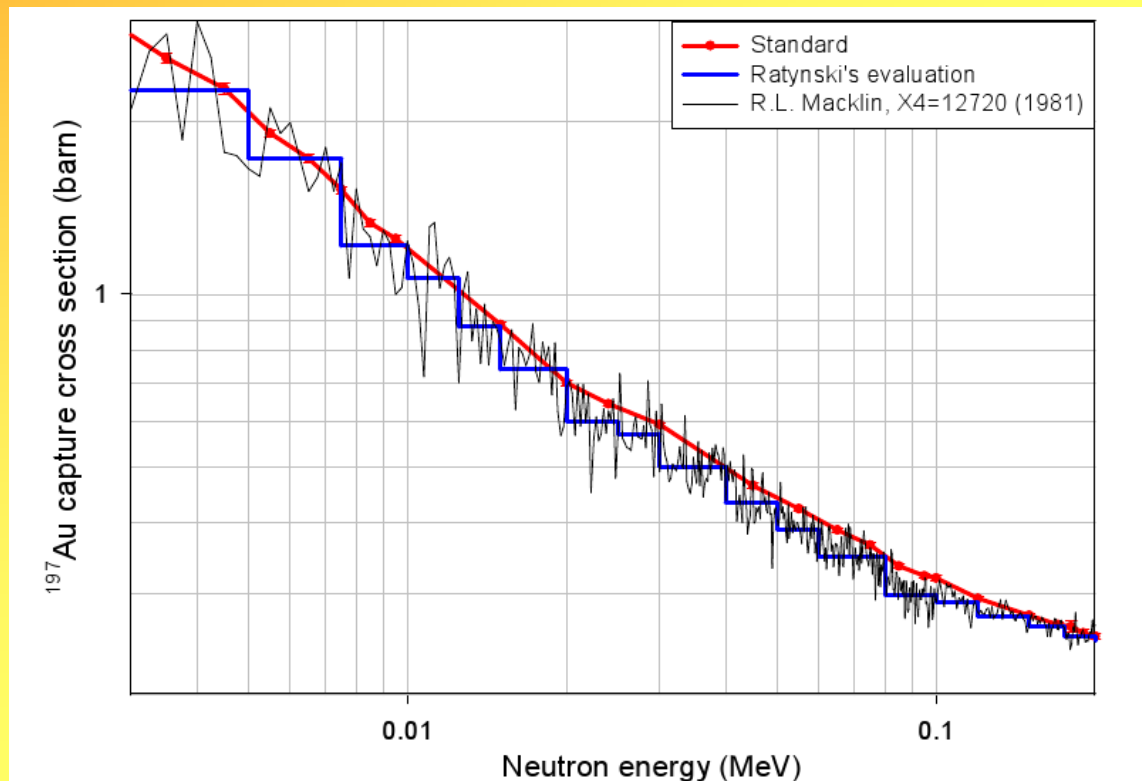
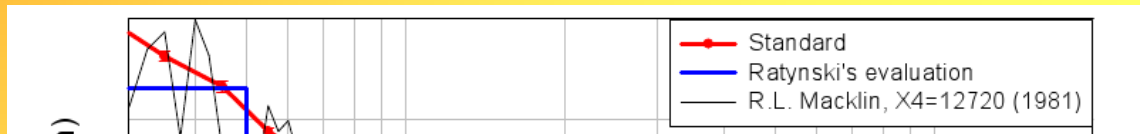


Figure by V.G. Pronyaev

$^{197}\text{Au}(n,\gamma)$ as standard cross-section

- recommended standard for thermal and from 0.2-2.8 MeV
- 3-200 keV: 6-8 % discrepancy between Ratynski-Käppeler evaluation and standard evaluation



- new measurement of $^{197}\text{Au}(n,\gamma)$ with TOF technique (n_TOF, GELINA)
- **EFNUDAT project: new, detailed measurement of $^7\text{Li}(p,n)$ spectrum at PTB**

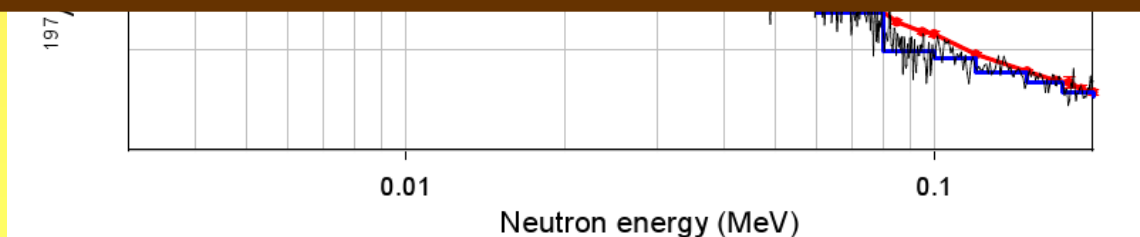
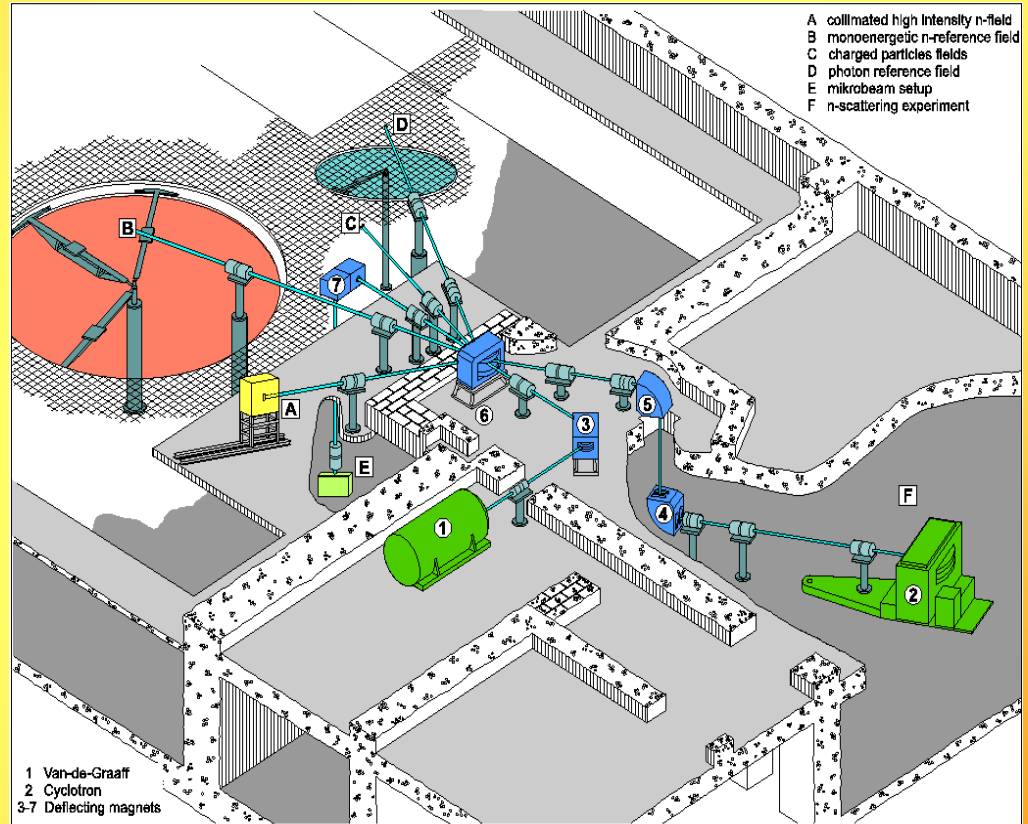


Figure by V.G. Pronyaev

Experimental setup at PTB

- calibrated setup for angular distribution measurements
- Proton source: 3.75 MV Van de Graaff
- $E_p = 1912 \pm 1$ keV
- Repetition Rate: 0.625 MHz
- Pulse width (FWHM): 3ns
- Average proton current: 0.5-0.8 μ A

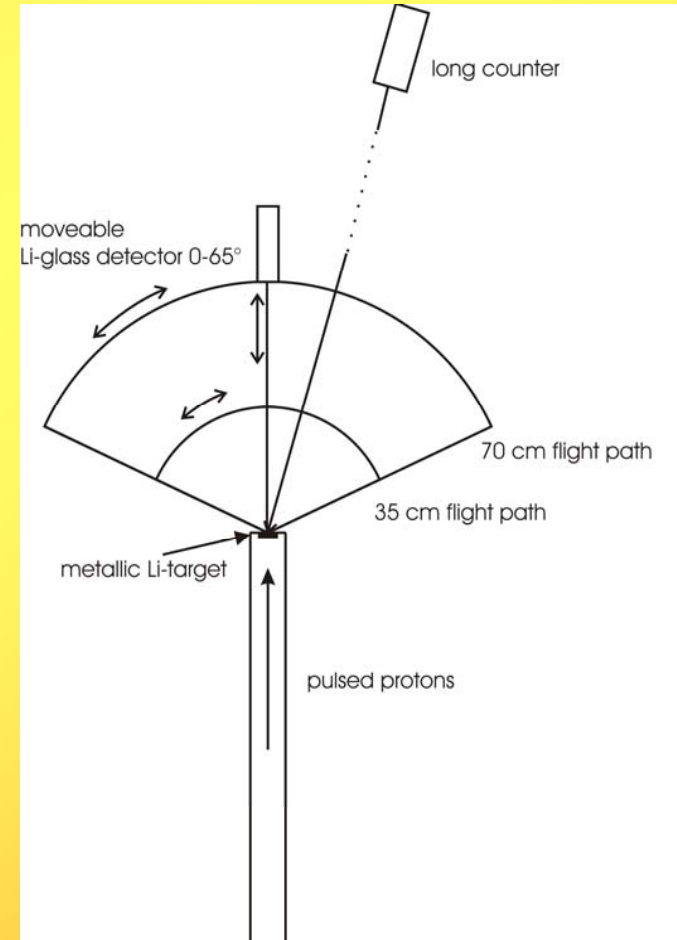


Experimental setup at PTB



Target:

- Metallic Li evaporated on Ta
- 10 μm thickness ($565 \mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$) \rightarrow protons slowed down below reaction threshold ($E_{\text{thres}}=1881 \text{ keV}$)



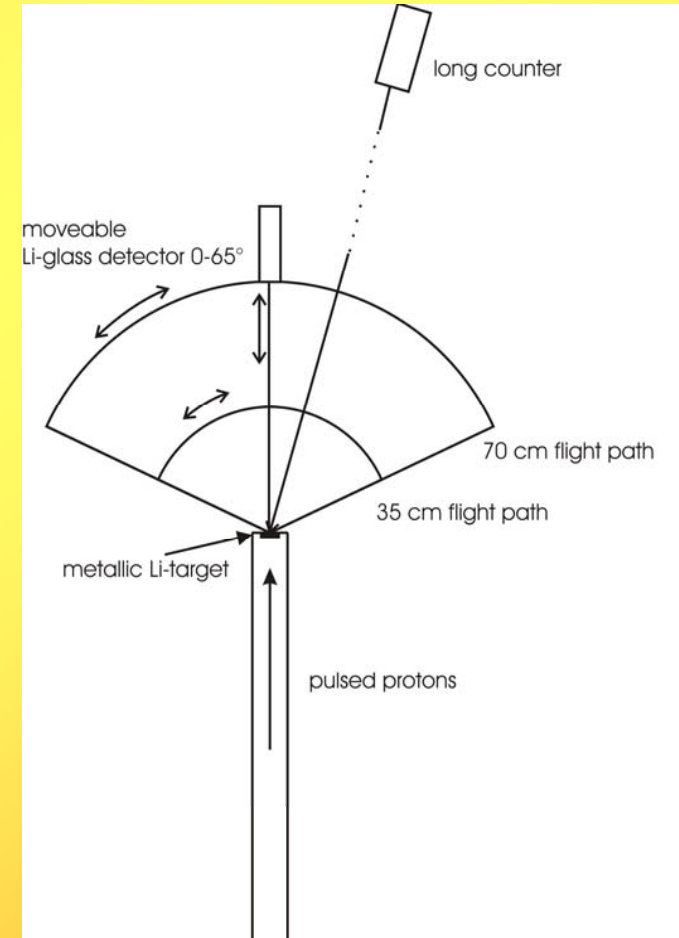
Experimental setup at PTB

Target:

- Metallic Li evaporated on Ta
- 10 μm thickness ($565 \mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$) \rightarrow protons slowed down below reaction threshold ($E_{\text{thres}}=1881 \text{ keV}$)

Positions:

- two flight paths: 35 cm and 70 cm
- angles: 0-65 deg, steps of 5 deg



Experimental setup at PTB

Target:

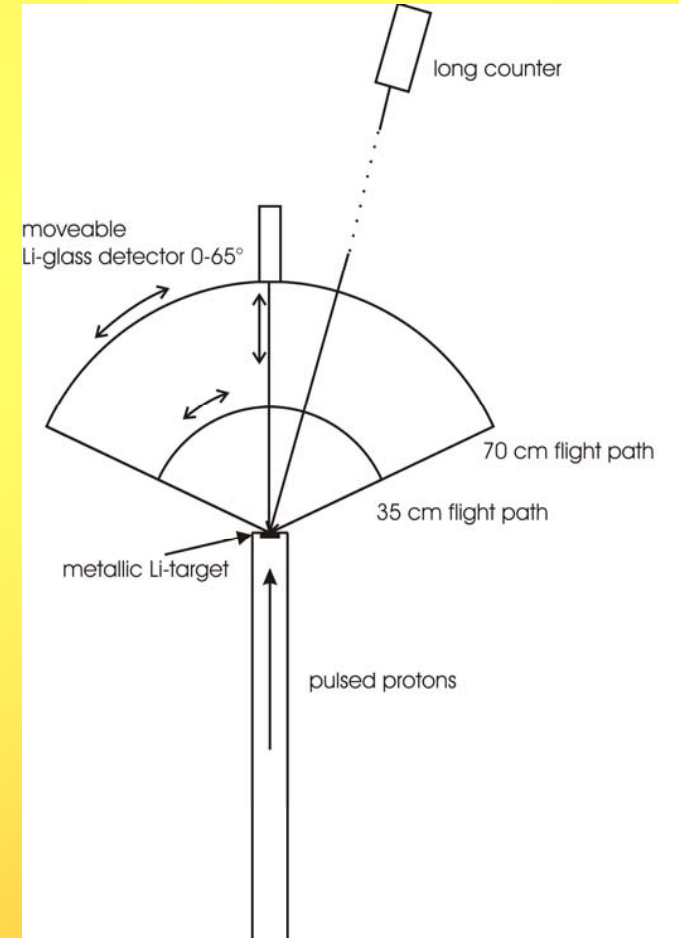
- Metallic Li evaporated on Ta
- 10 μm thickness ($565 \mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$) \rightarrow protons slowed down below reaction threshold ($E_{\text{thres}}=1881 \text{ keV}$)

Positions:

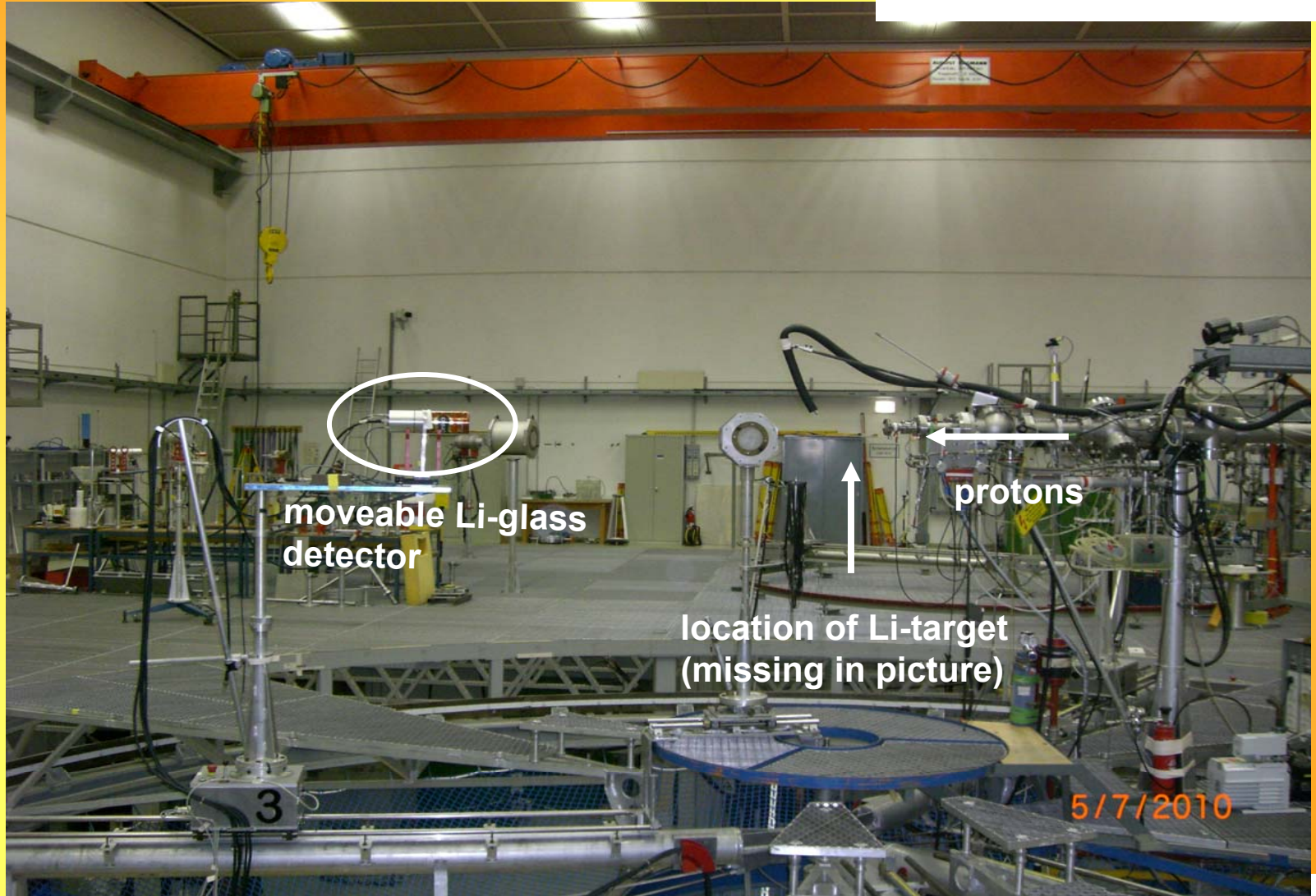
- two flight paths: 35 cm and 70 cm
- angles: 0-65 deg, steps of 5 deg

Detectors:

- moveable Li-glass
- Long counter (fluence determination)

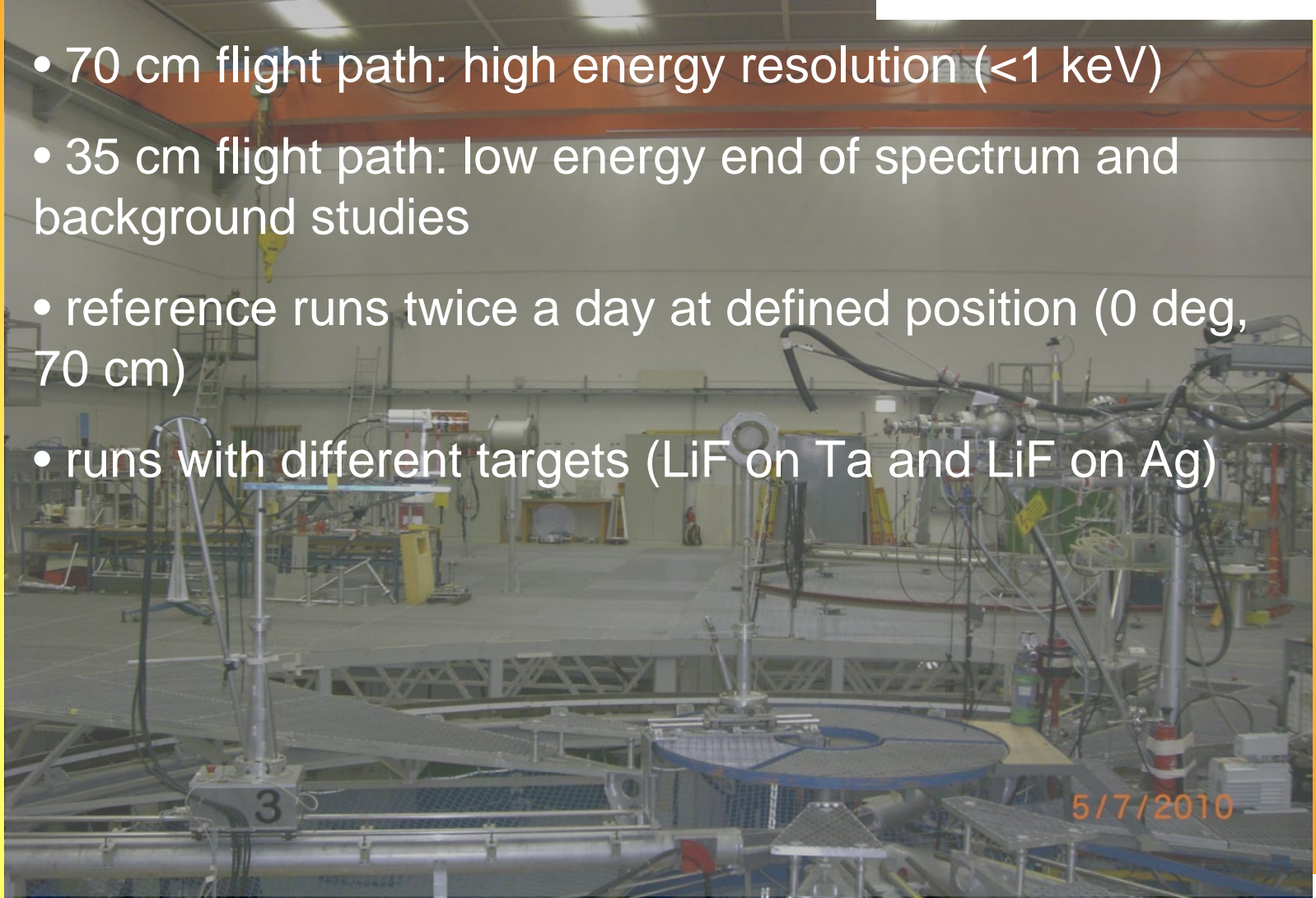


Experimental setup at PTB



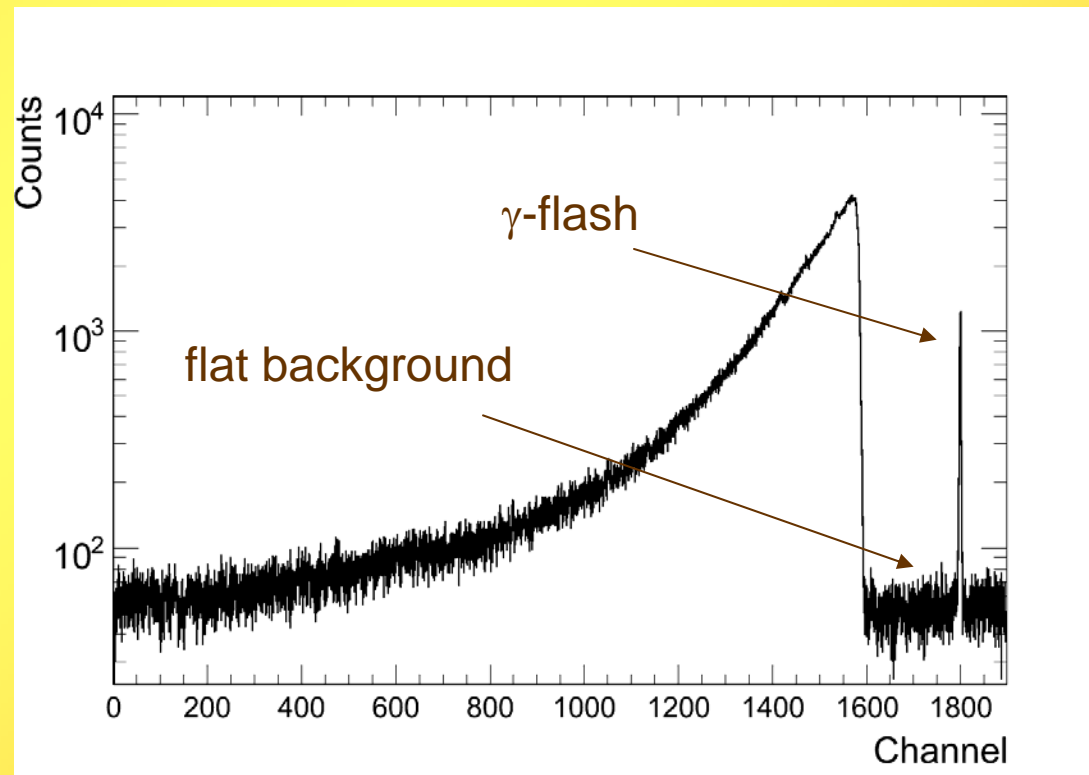
Experimental setup at PTB

- 70 cm flight path: high energy resolution (<1 keV)
- 35 cm flight path: low energy end of spectrum and background studies
- reference runs twice a day at defined position (0 deg, 70 cm)
- runs with different targets (LiF on Ta and LiF on Ag)



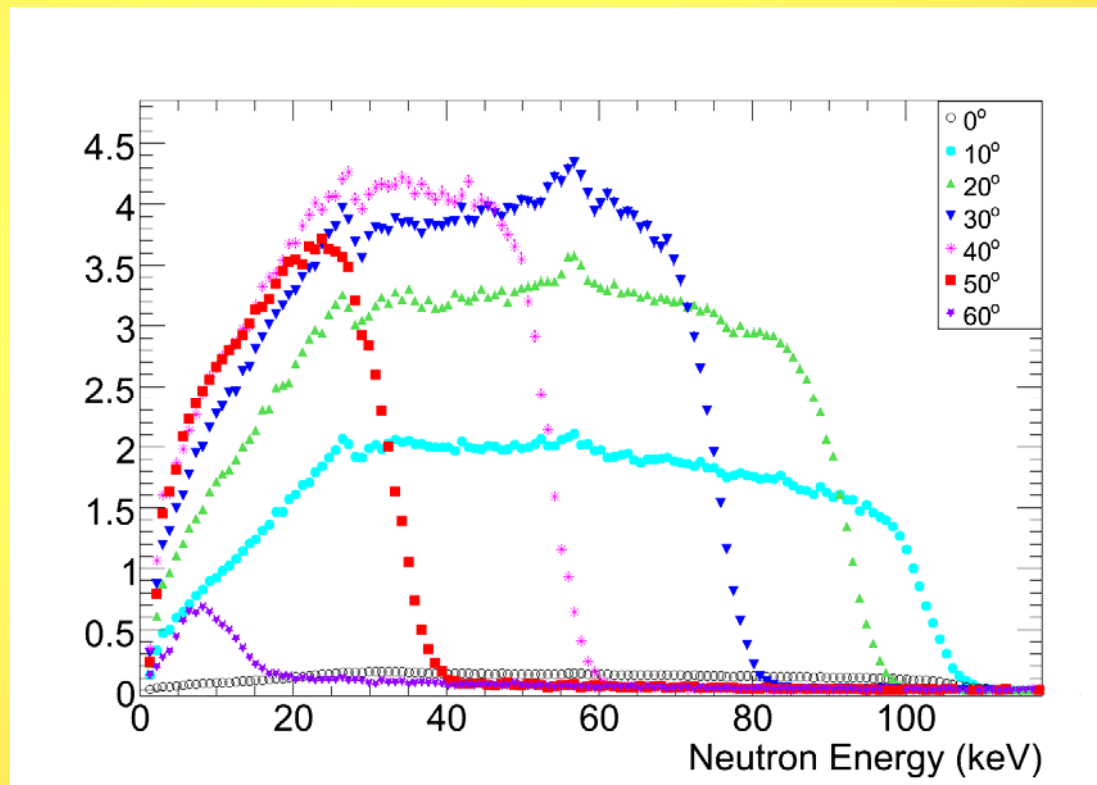
Data reduction

- dead-time correction and background subtraction
- time-of-flight to neutron energy conversion
- detection efficiency: ${}^6\text{Li}(n,t){}^4\text{He}$ cross-section (standard!)
- neutron fluence: long-counter
- solid angle correction



Data reduction

- dead-time correction and background subtraction
- time-of-flight to neutron energy conversion
- detection efficiency: ${}^6\text{Li}(n,t){}^4\text{He}$ cross-section (standard!)
- neutron fluence: long-counter
- solid angle correction



70 cm flight path

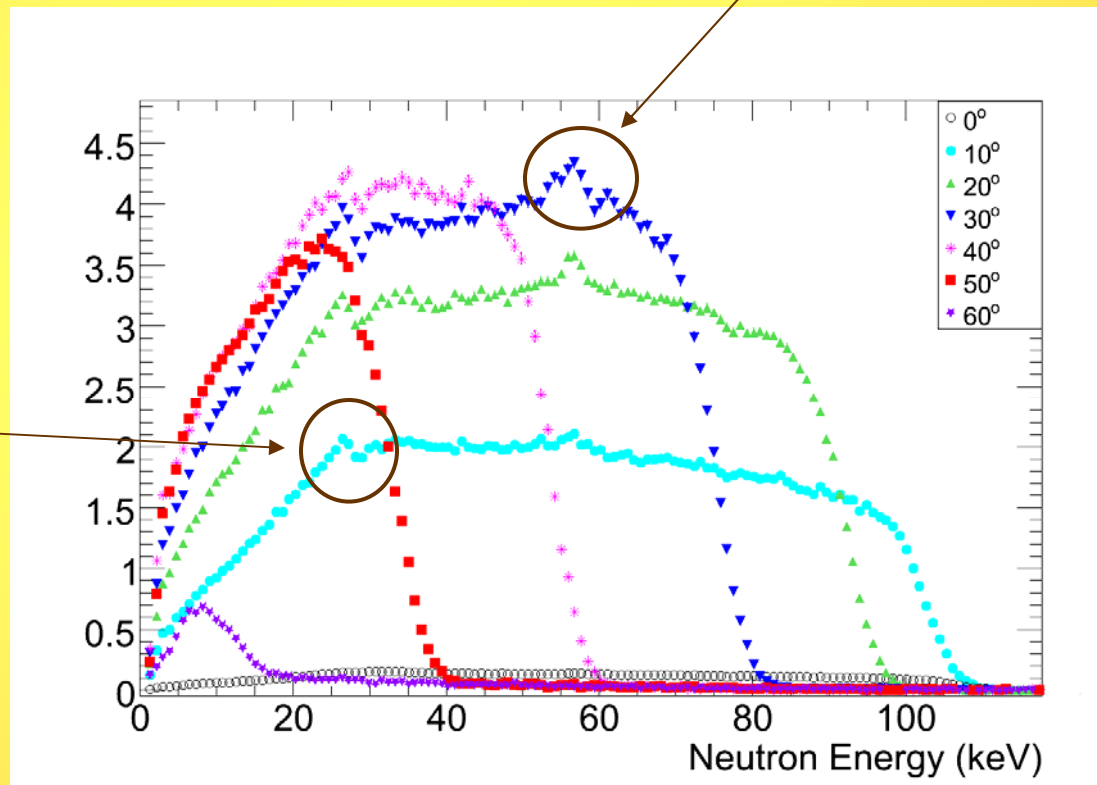
Data reduction

- dead-time correction and background subtraction
- time-of-flight to neutron energy conversion
- detection efficiency: ${}^6\text{Li}(n,t){}^4\text{He}$ cross-section (standard!)
- neutron fluence: long-counter
- solid angle correction

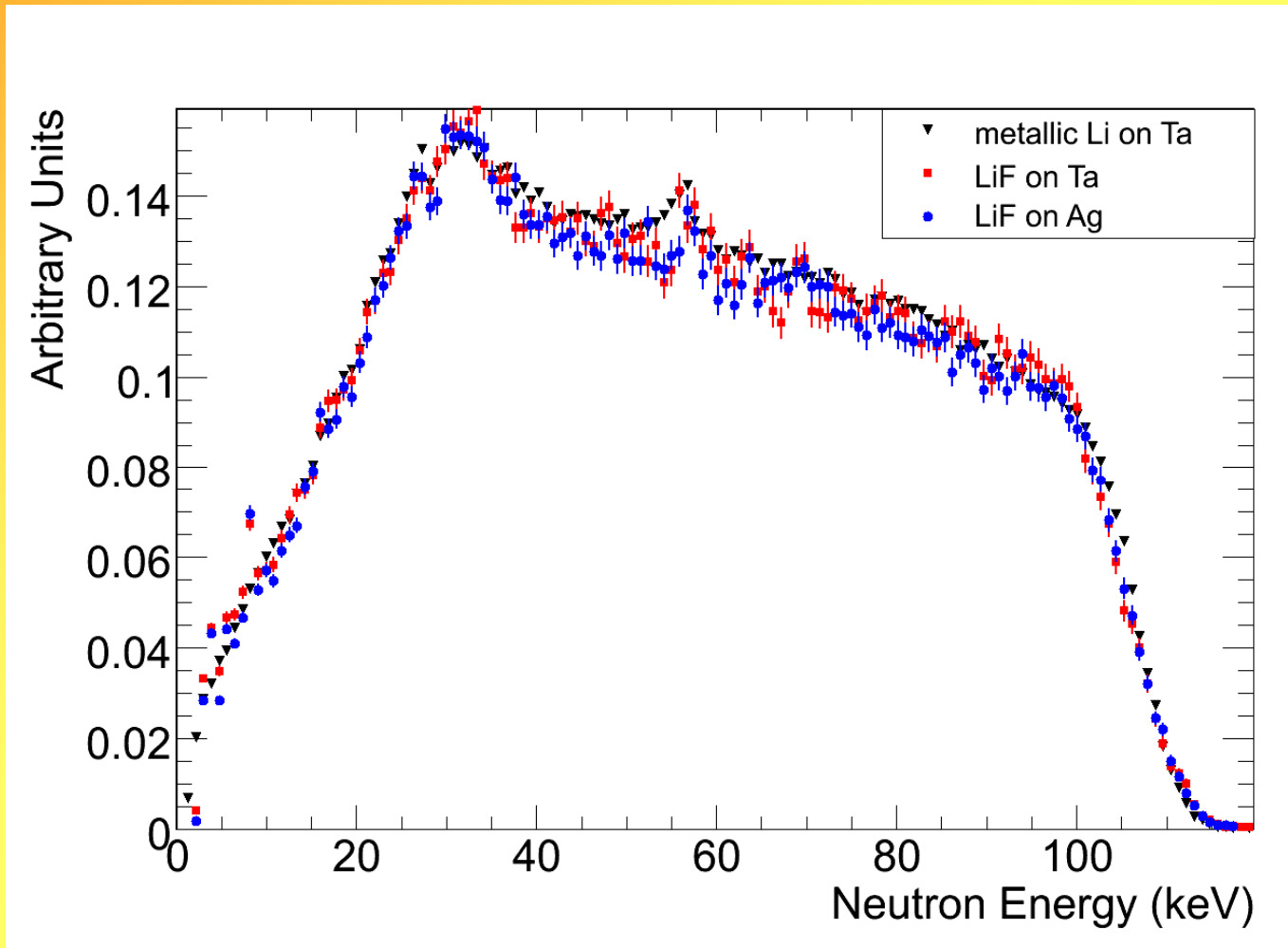
${}^{56}\text{Fe}$ -resonance
("coffee-resonance")

70 cm flight path

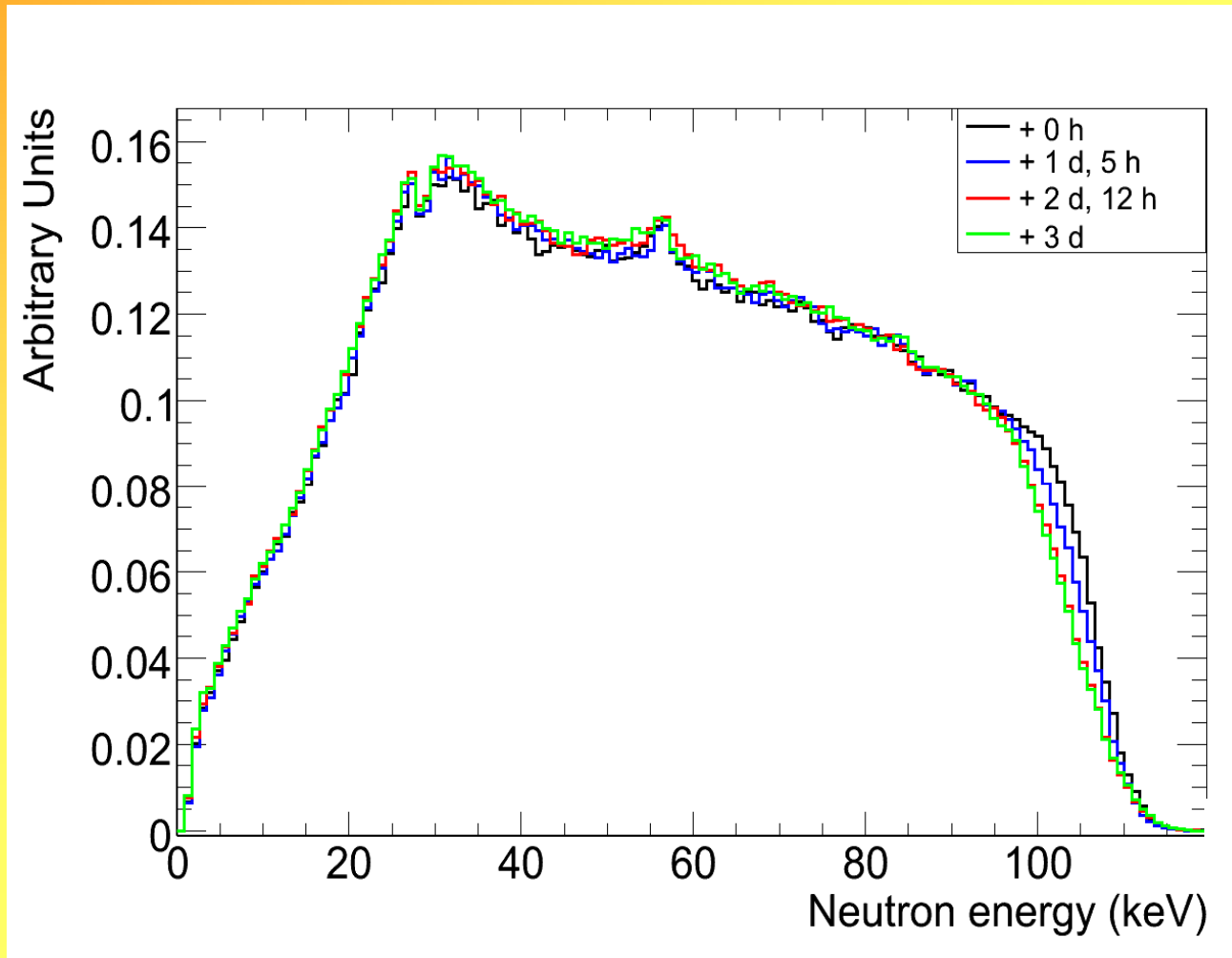
${}^{28}\text{Si}$ -resonance
(Li-glass)



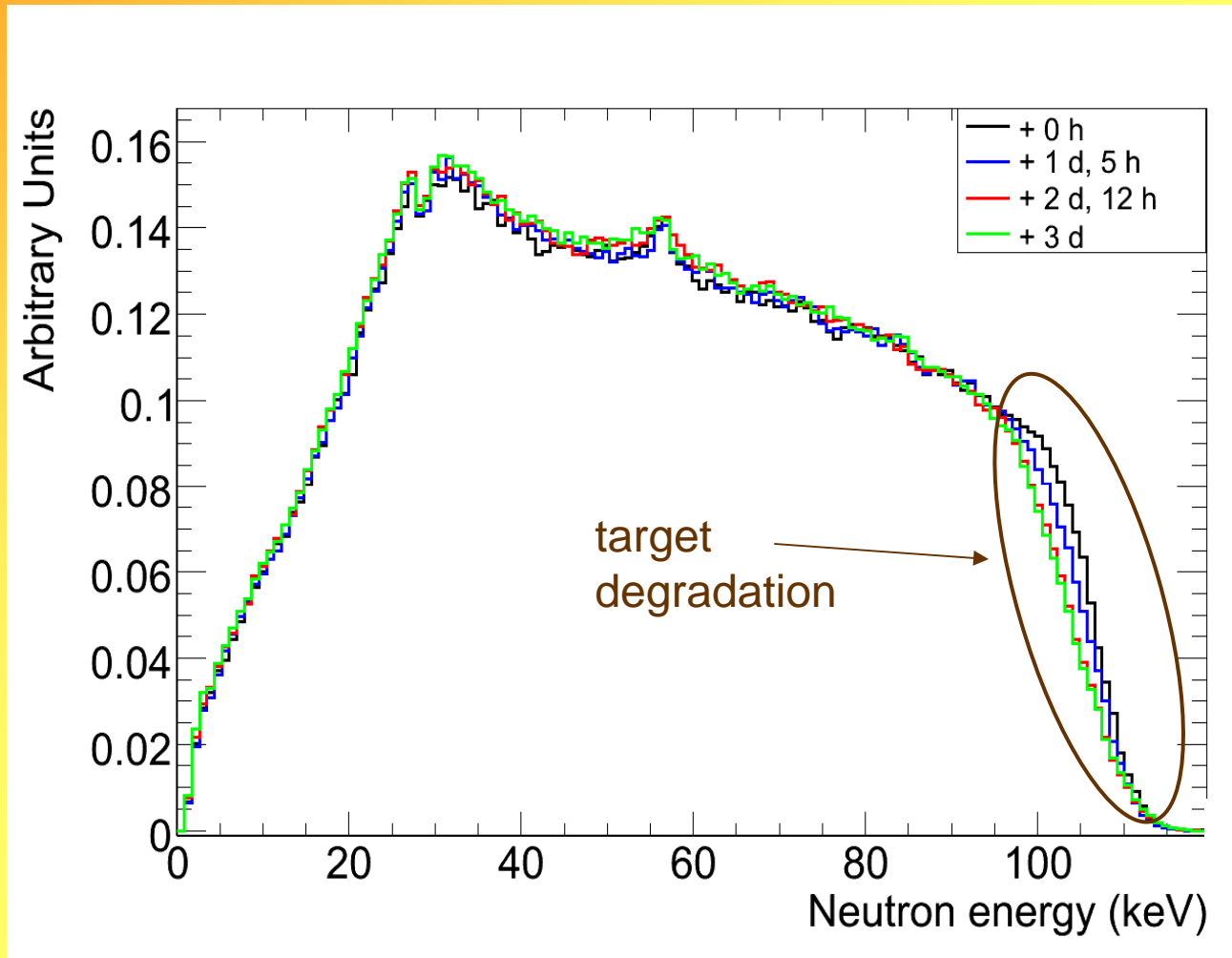
Reference Runs: different targets



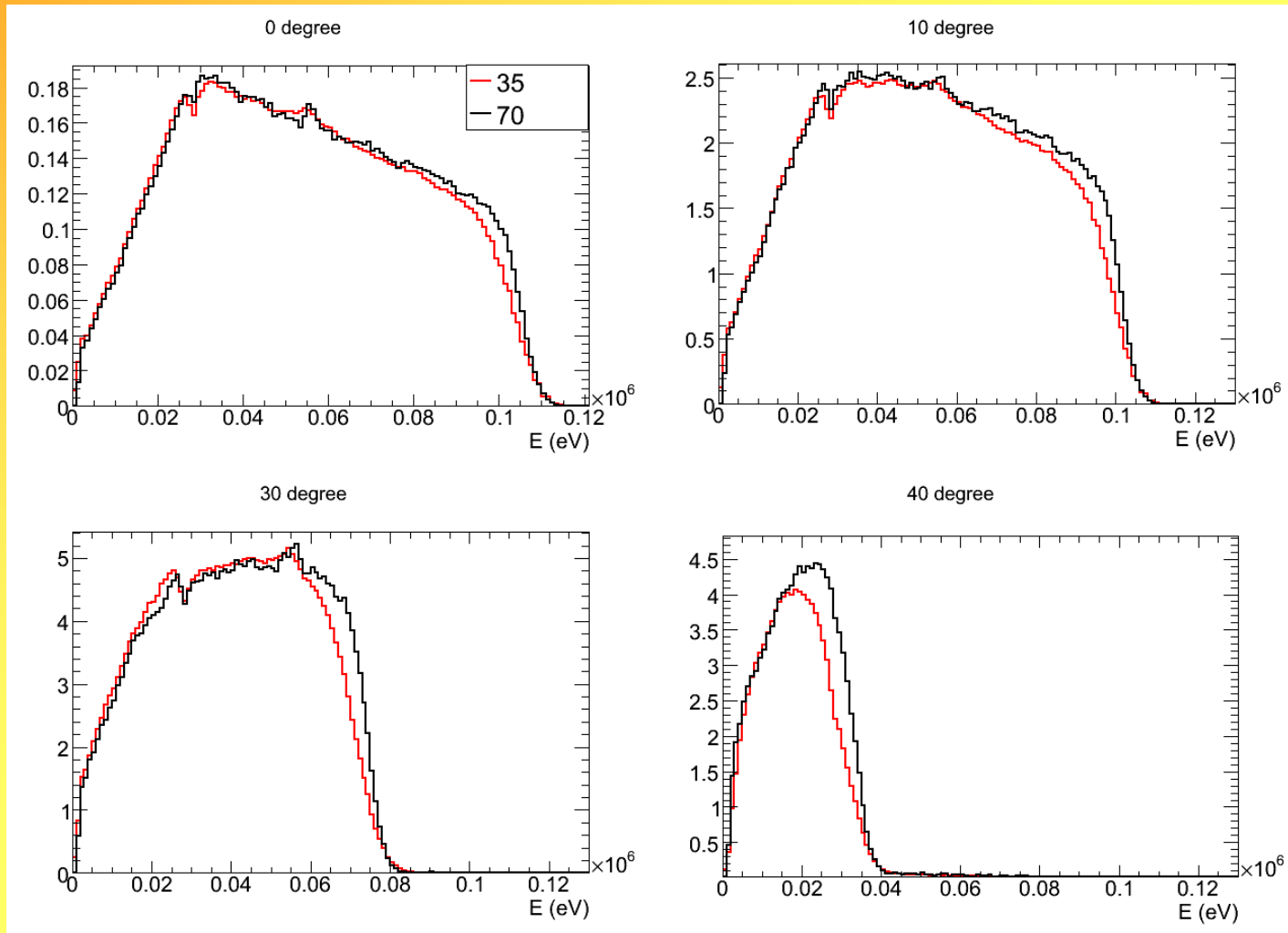
Reference Runs: target stability



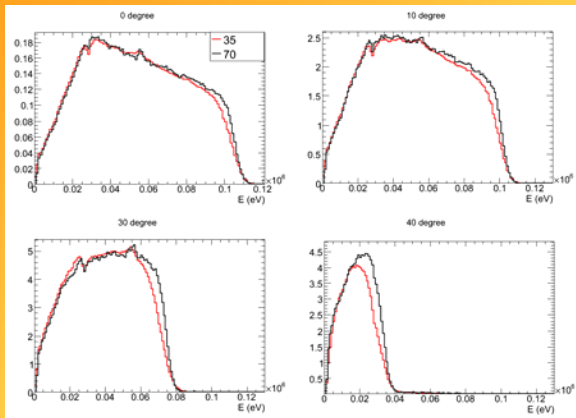
Reference Runs: target stability



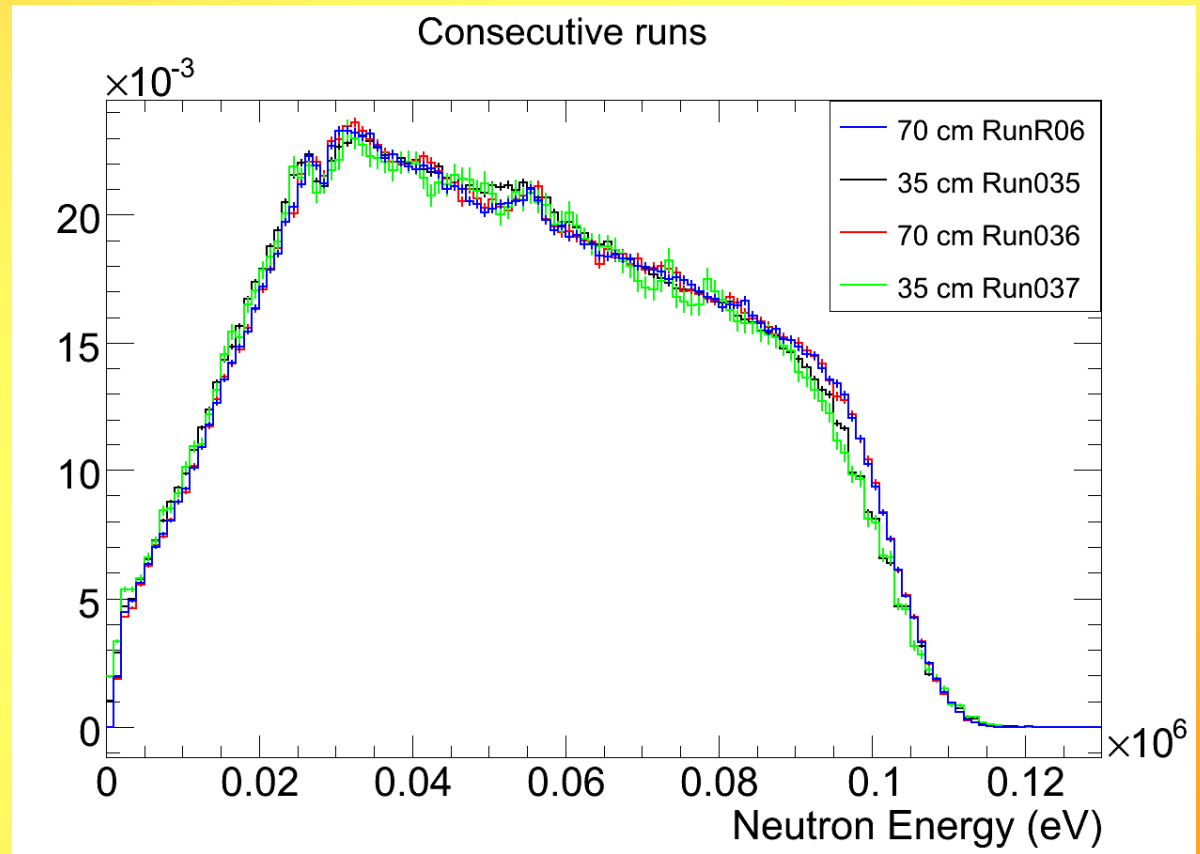
Different angles: 35 cm vs. 70 cm



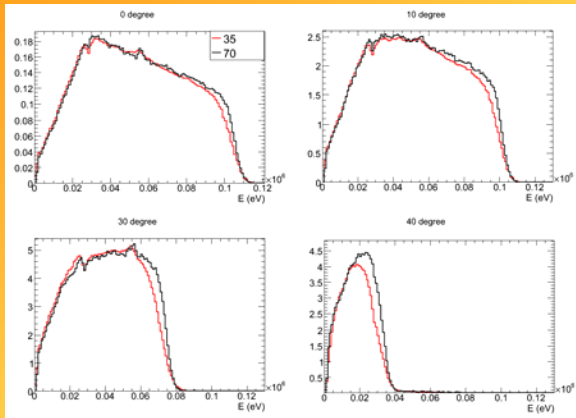
Different angles: 35 cm vs. 70 cm



no target aging effect because:

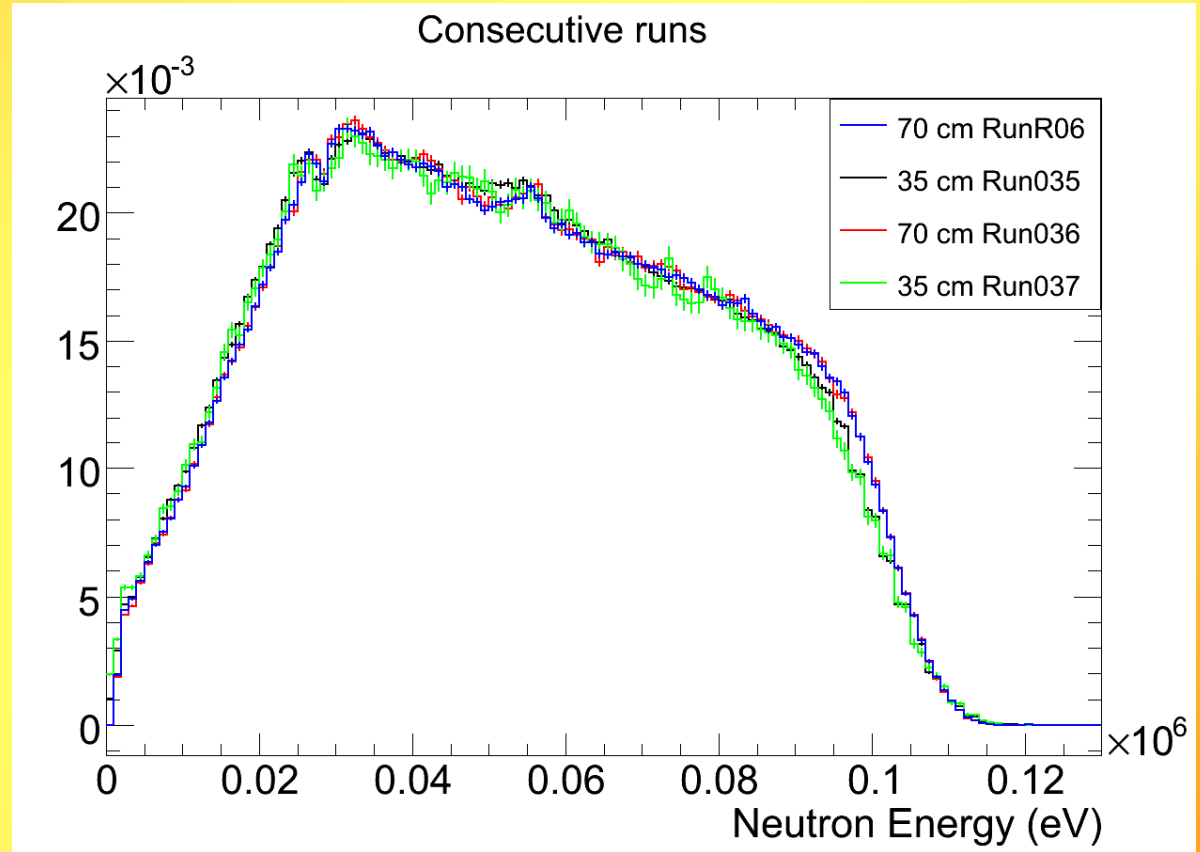


Different angles: 35 cm vs. 70 cm

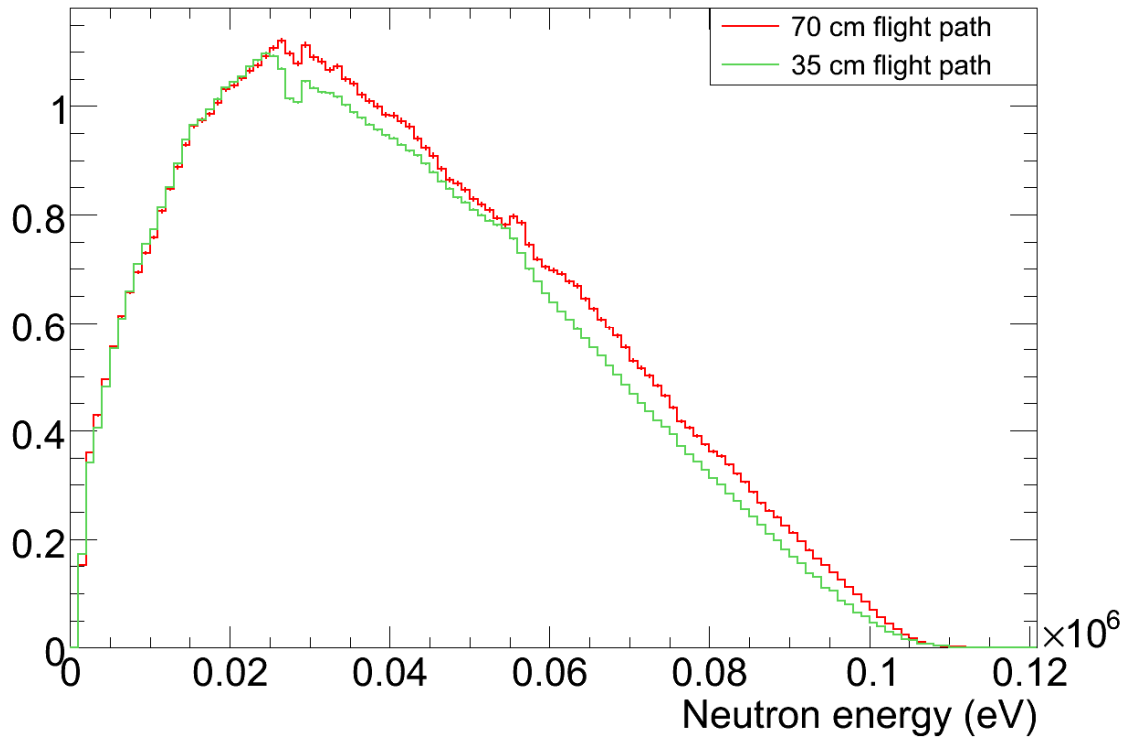


- closer look to kinematics → different angle covered at different flight paths

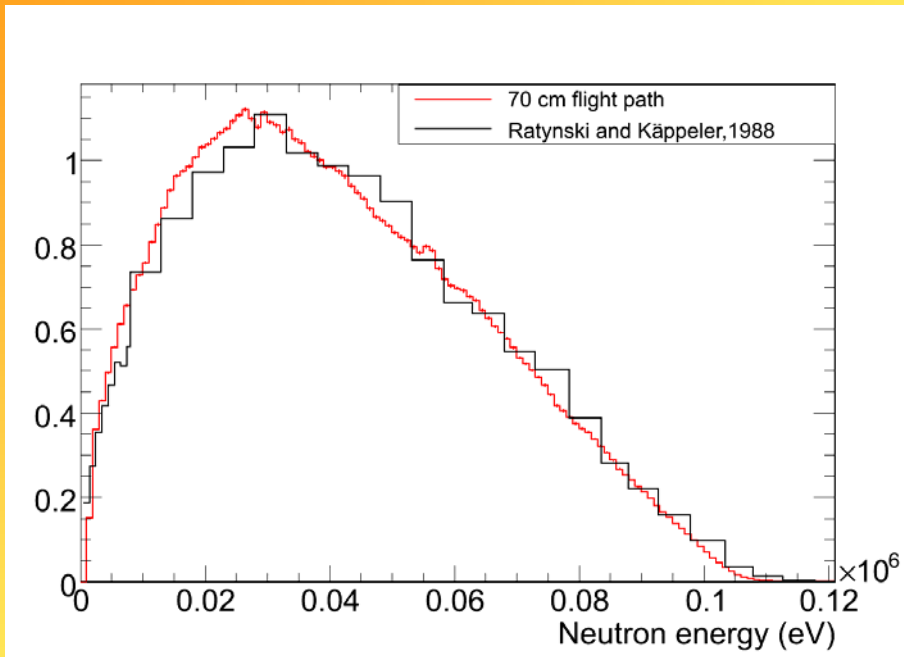
no target aging effect because:



Summed spectra

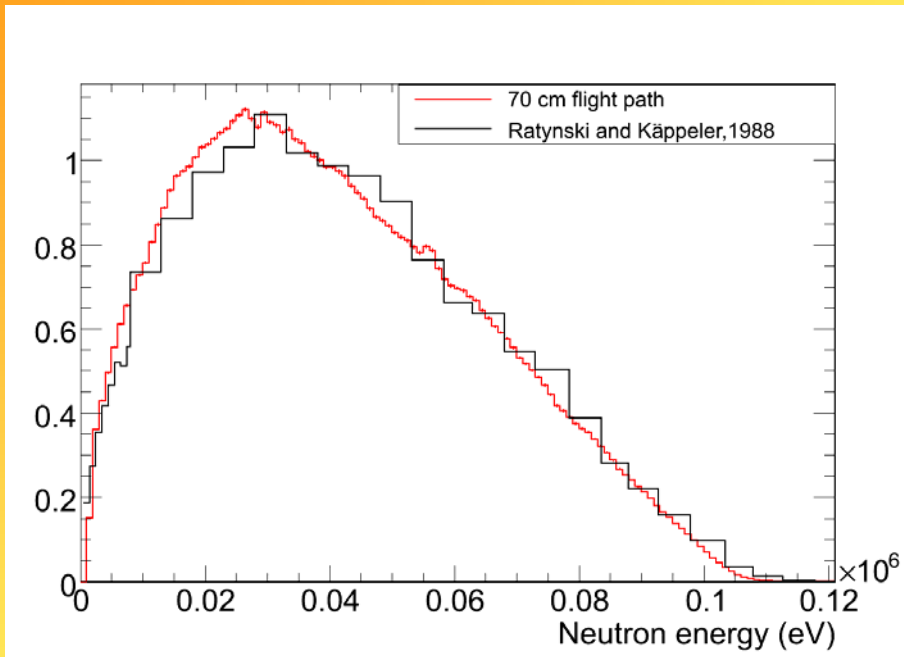


Summed spectra



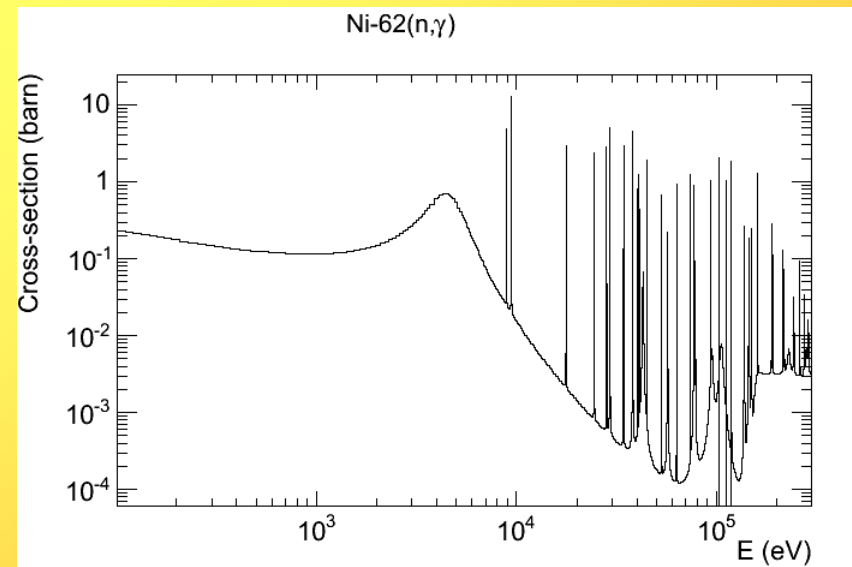
- W. Ratynski and F. Käppeler, Phys. Rev. C **37**, 595 (1988)

Summed spectra

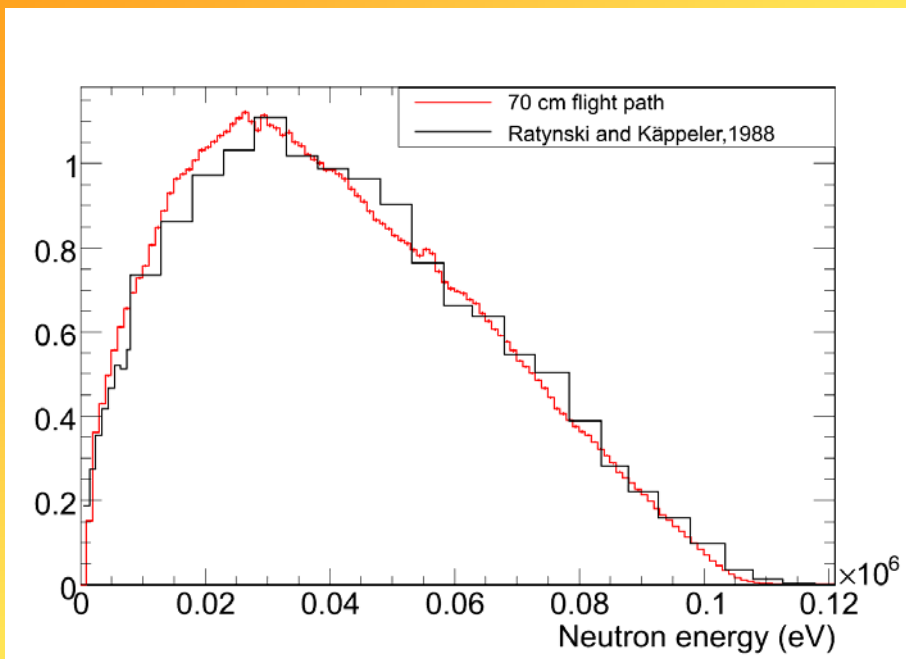


- W. Ratynski and F. Käppeler, Phys. Rev. C **37**, 595 (1988)

effect on averaged cross-section:
example: $^{62}\text{Ni}(n,\gamma)$ (JENDL library)



Summed spectra

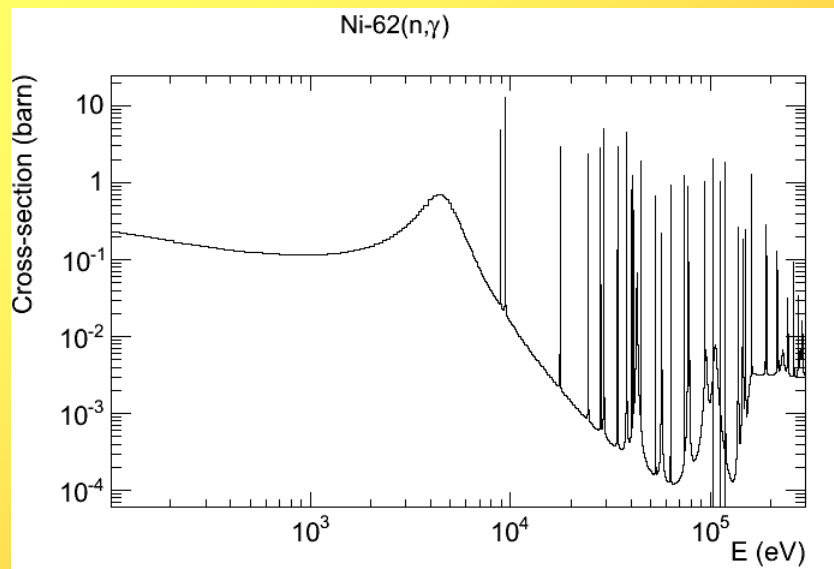


- W. Ratynski and F. Käppeler, Phys. Rev. C **37**, 595 (1988)

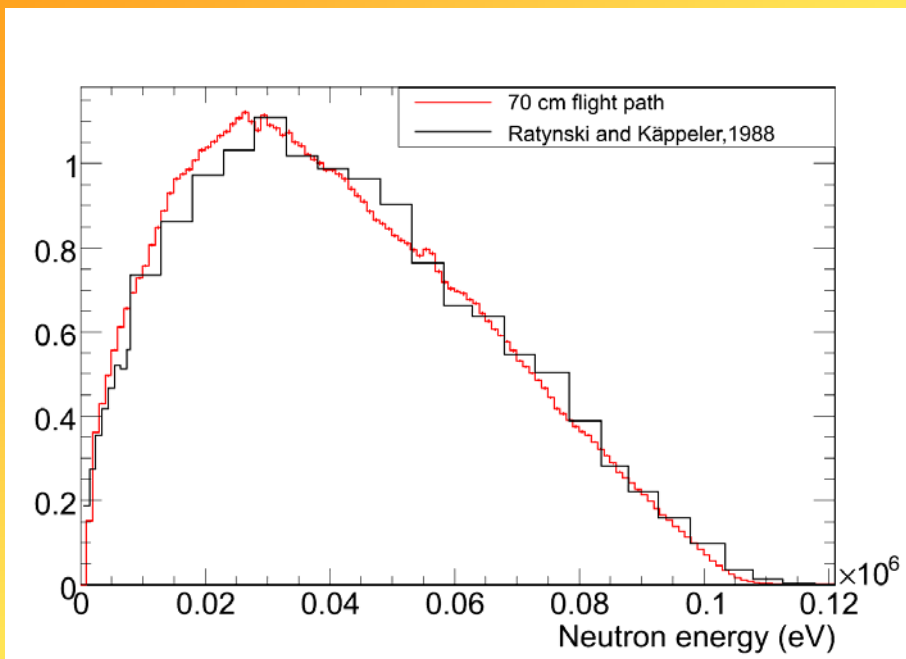
effect on averaged cross-section:

example: $^{62}\text{Ni}(n,\gamma)$ (JENDL library)

- 22.7 mb for Ratynski and Käppeler spectrum
 - 23.7 mb for PTB spectrum
- 4% effect



Summed spectra

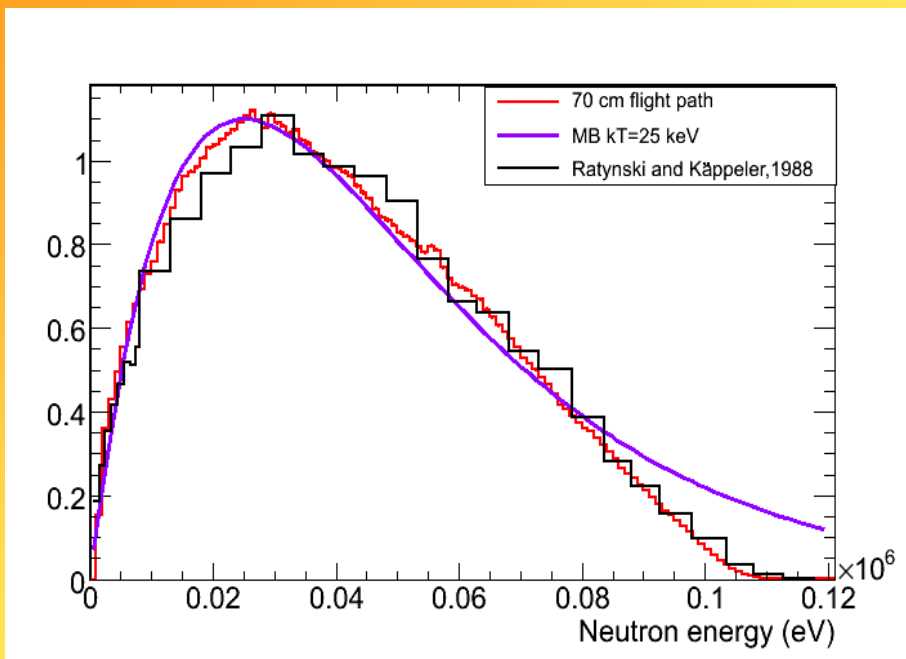


$^{197}\text{Au}(n,\gamma)$ (ENDF-B7 library)

- 633 mb for Ratynski and Käppeler spectrum
 - 630 mb for PTB spectrum
- only 0.5 % difference !

- W. Ratynski and F. Käppeler, Phys. Rev. C **37**, 595 (1988)

Summed spectra



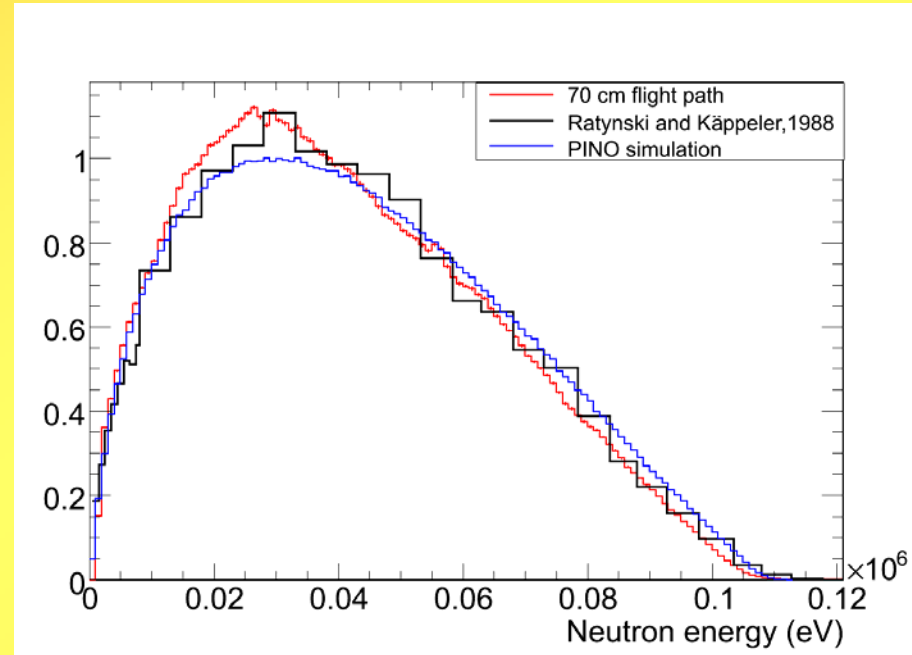
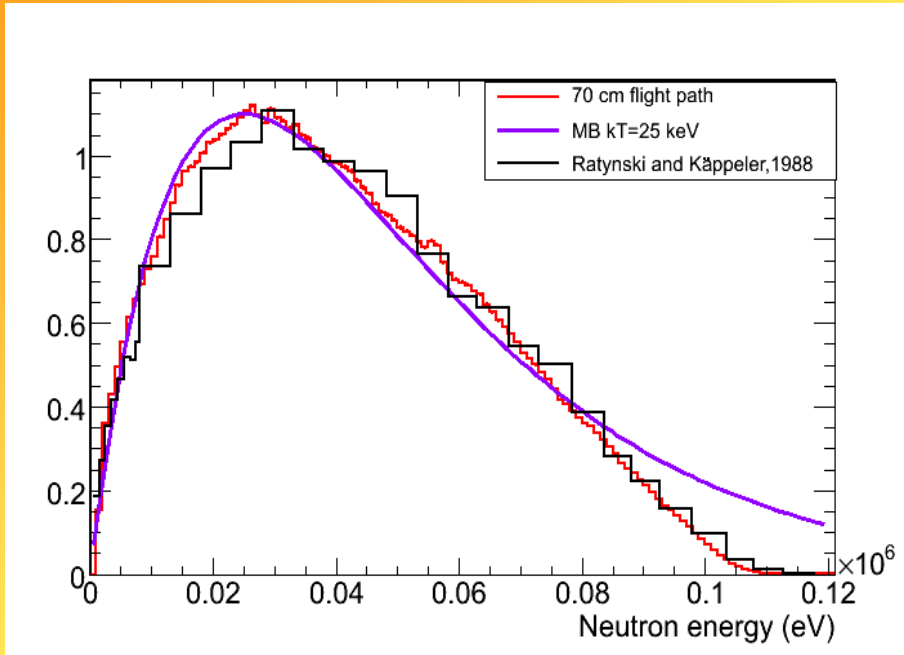
$^{197}\text{Au}(n,\gamma)$ (ENDF-B7 library)

- 633 mb for Ratynski and Käppeler spectrum
 - 630 mb for PTB spectrum
- only 0.5 % difference !

• W. Ratynski and F. Käppeler, Phys. Rev. C **37**, 595 (1988)

• Fit from 0-90 keV of $a \cdot E \cdot \exp(-E/kT)$
with $kT = 25$ keV

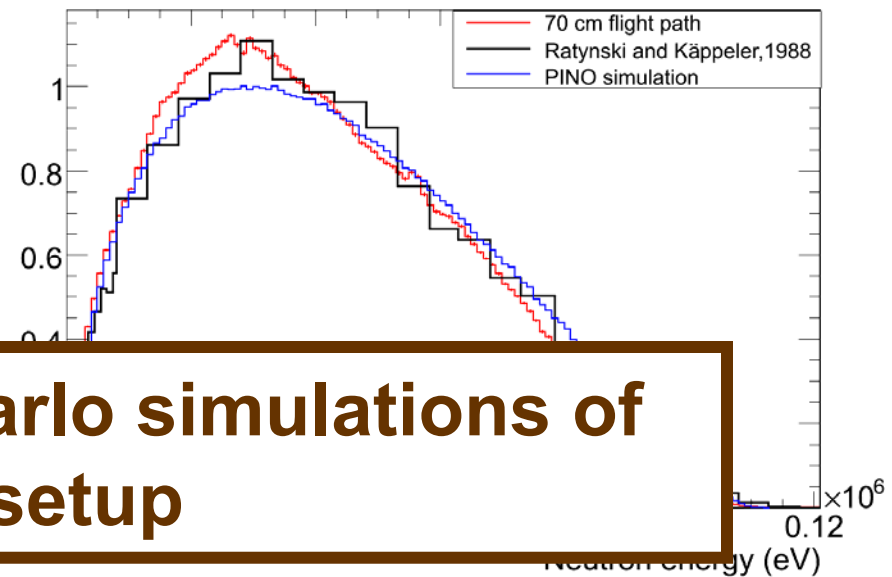
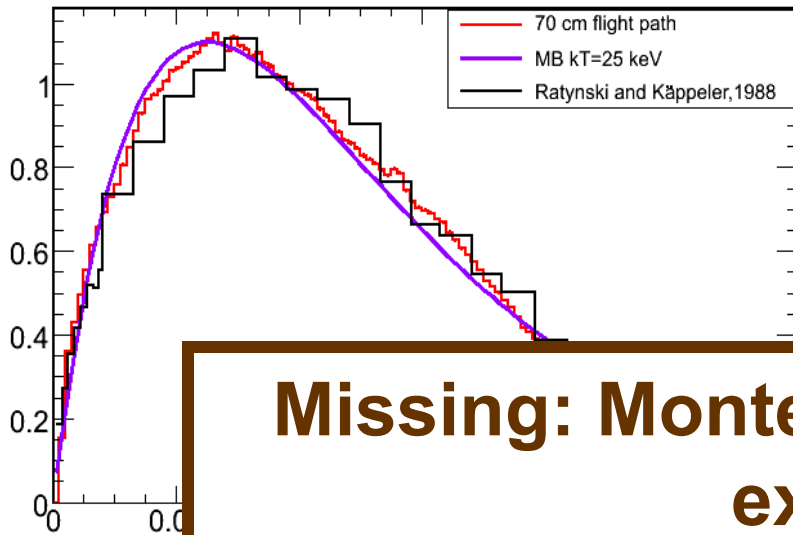
Summed spectra



- W. Ratynski and F. Käppeler, Phys. Rev. C **37**, 595 (1988)
- Fit from 0-90 keV of $a \cdot E \cdot \exp(-E/kT)$ with $kT = 25$ keV

- PINO- a tool for simulating neutron spectra resulting from the ${}^7\text{Li}(p,n)$ reaction, R. Reifarth et al. , Nucl. Instr. Meth. A **608**, 139 (2009)

Summed spectra



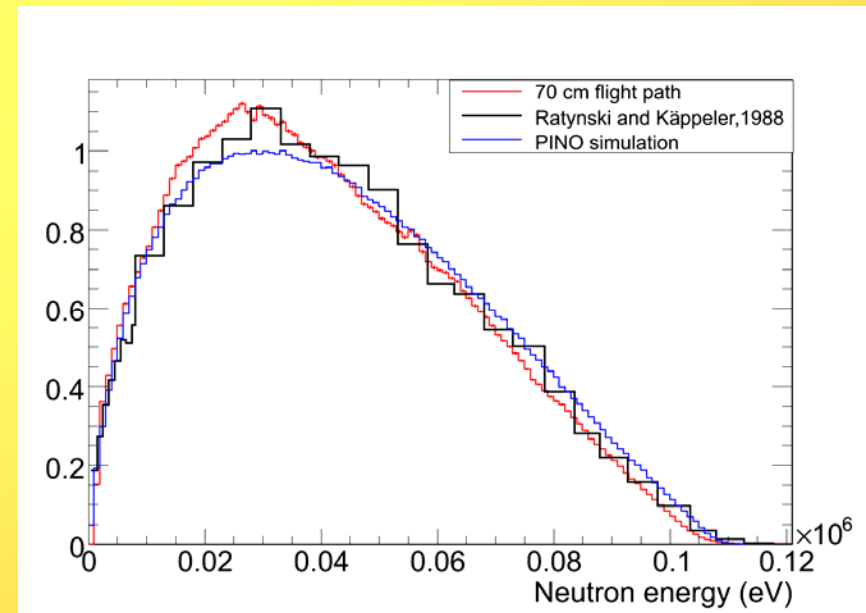
Missing: Monte-Carlo simulations of exp. setup

- W. Ratynski and F. Käppeler, Phys. Rev. C **37**, 595 (1988)
- Fit from 0-90 keV of $a \cdot E \cdot \exp(-E/kT)$ with $kT = 25$ keV

- PINO- a tool for simulating neutron spectra resulting from the ${}^7\text{Li}(p,n)$ reaction, R. Reifarh et al. , Nucl. Instr. Meth. A **608**, 139 (2009)

Conclusions

- “aging-effect” of target causing shift to lower energies but cannot explain differences in different flight paths
- neutron spectrum not sensitive to different targets
- low and high energy-end of spectrum comparable to Ratynski and Käppeler measurement
- differences to Ratynski and Käppeler between 10-60 keV
- good agreement to PINO simulation up to 15 keV
- MC-simulations of various experimental effects underway



Thank you for your attention!

