

# Heavy Ion Double Charge Exchange reactions and their role in gaining information on Double Beta decay Nuclear Matrix Elements



" Giant and soft modes of excitation in nuclear structure and astrophysics "

Trento, 24-28/10/22

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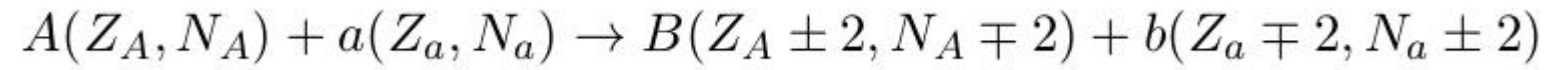
<sup>3</sup>Institut für Theoretische Physik, Justus-Liebig-Universität Giessen, D-35392  
Giessen, Germany



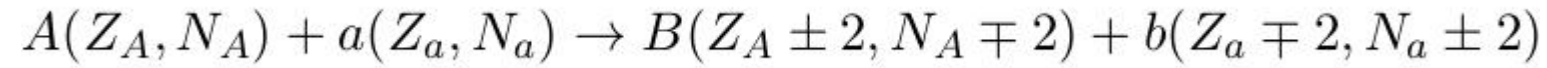
Università  
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# Heavy Ion Double Charge Exchange nuclear reactions



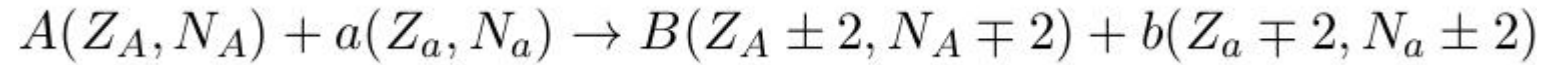
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- new powerful spectroscopic tool for study of unstable neutron-rich nuclei

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Spectroscopic Measurement in  ${}^9\text{He}$  and  ${}^{12}\text{Be}$ .  
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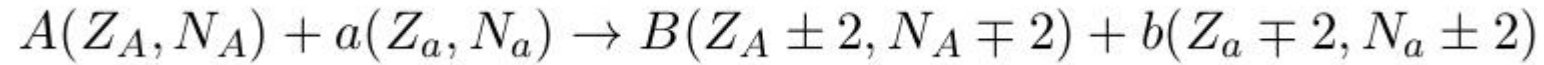
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- probes for isovector, rank-2 and higher rank isospin components of NN interaction potential  
→ probe of DGTGR collective mode, not yet observed

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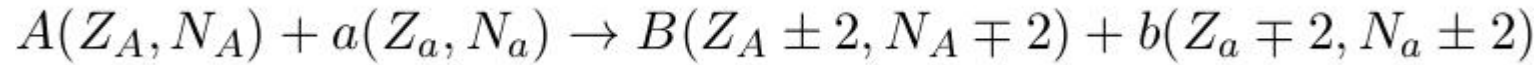
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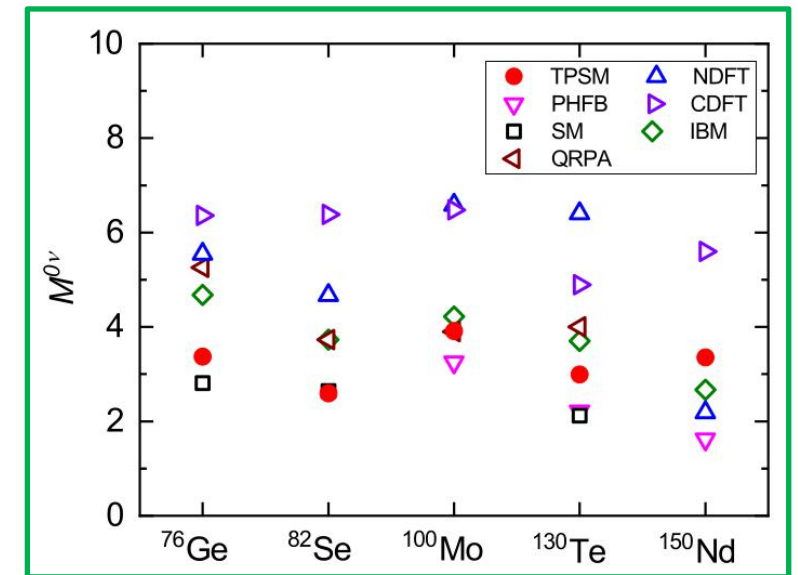
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$0\nu\beta\beta$

$$[T_{1/2}^{0\nu}(\mathcal{N})]^{-1} = G_{0\nu}^{\mathcal{N}} \mathcal{M}_{0\nu}^{\mathcal{N}} \frac{|m_{2\beta}|^2}{m_e^2}$$

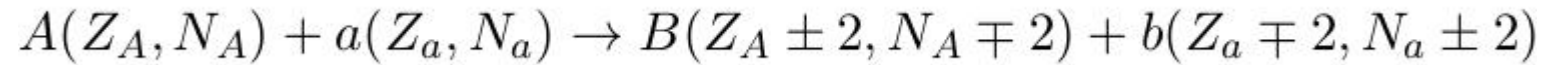
PS factor

J. Kotila, F. Iachello,  
Phys. Rev. C 85 (2012) 034316



Y.K. Wang et al., Phys. Rev. C 104, 014320 (2021)

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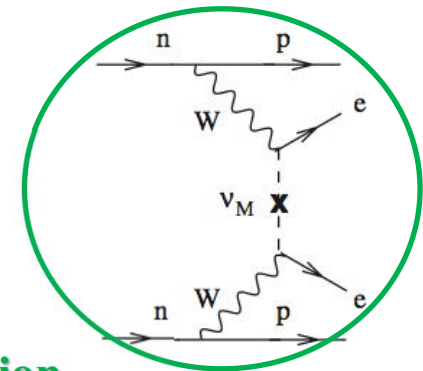
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**$0\nu\beta\beta$**

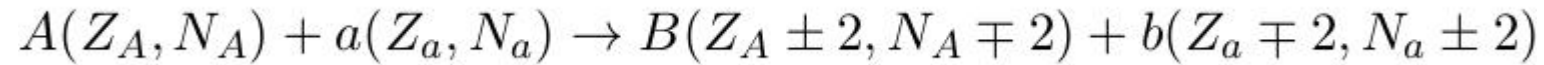
- not yet observed
- possible only if neutrinos are massive  
Majorana fermions [  $\nu \equiv \bar{\nu}$  ]

- **$\Delta L = \pm 2 \rightarrow$  total lepton number violation**
  - probe physics beyond SM
  - give insight on matter-antimatter asymmetry
- **provide information on the absolute neutrino mass**





# Heavy Ion Double Charge Exchange nuclear reactions



## collisional Heavy Ion DCE reactions

### - differences:

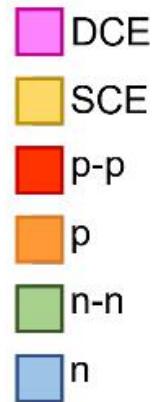
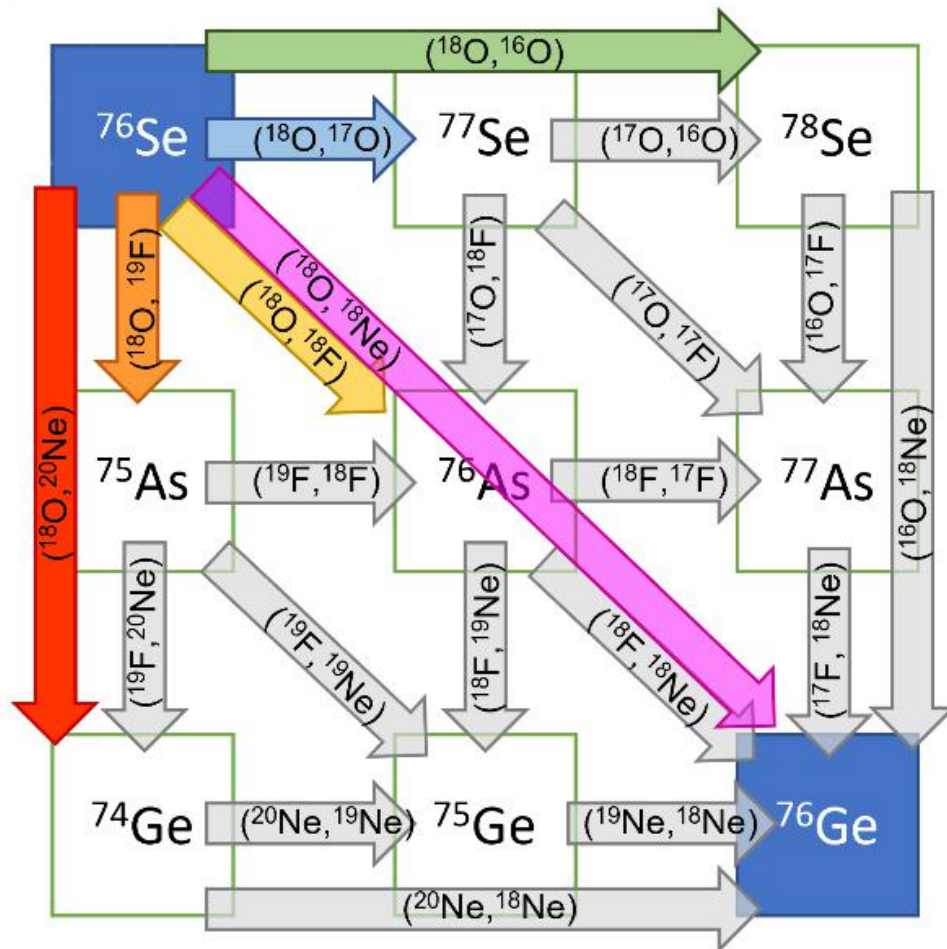
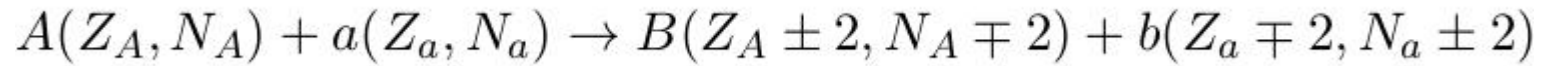
- DCE mediated by **strong interaction**,  $0\nu\beta\beta$  by **weak interaction**
- Decay vs reaction **dynamics**
- DCE includes **sequential transfer mechanism**

### - analogies:

- **Same initial and final states:** Parent/daughter states of the  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay are the same as those of the target/residual nuclei in the DCE
- **Similar operator:** Short-range Fermi, Gamow-Teller and rank-2 tensor components are present in both the transition operators, with tunable weight in DCE
- **Large linear momentum** ( $\sim 100$  MeV/c) available in the virtual intermediate channel
- **Non-local** processes: characterized by two vertices localized in a pair of nucleons
- **Same nuclear medium:** Constraint on the theoretical determination of quenching phenomena on  $0\nu\beta\beta$
- **Off-shell propagation** through virtual intermediate channels

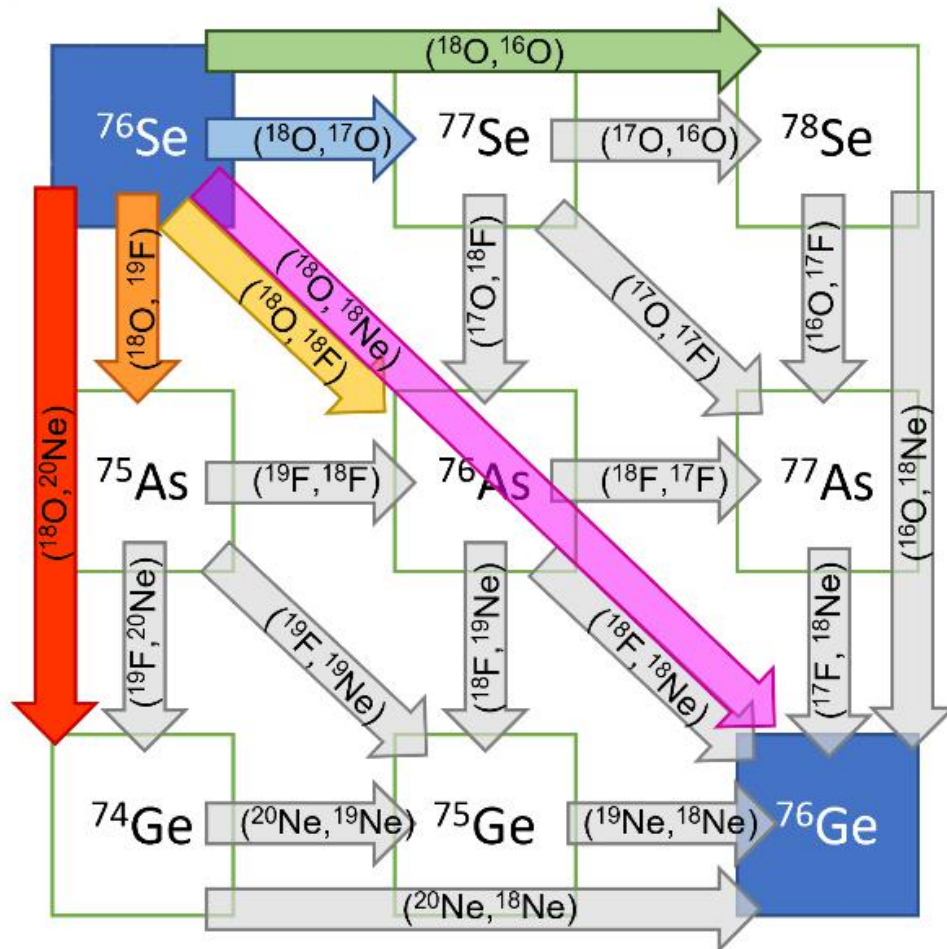
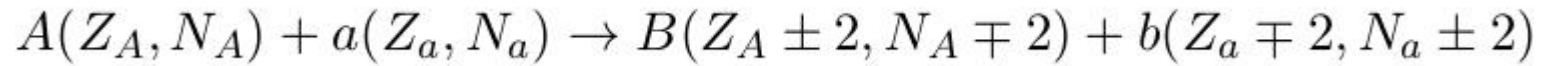


# Reaction mechanisms for describing Heavy Ion Double Charge Exchange



- 1) charged meson-induced (direct DCE)
- 2) mean field -driven  
multi-nucleon transfer reactions feeding DCE  
(transfer DCE)

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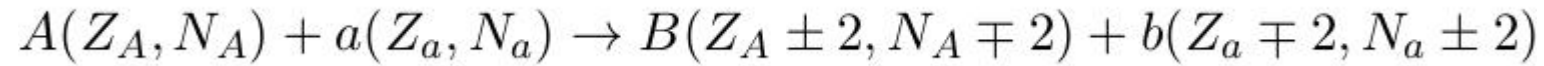
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(transfer DCE)



safely negligible for the nuclear systems studied

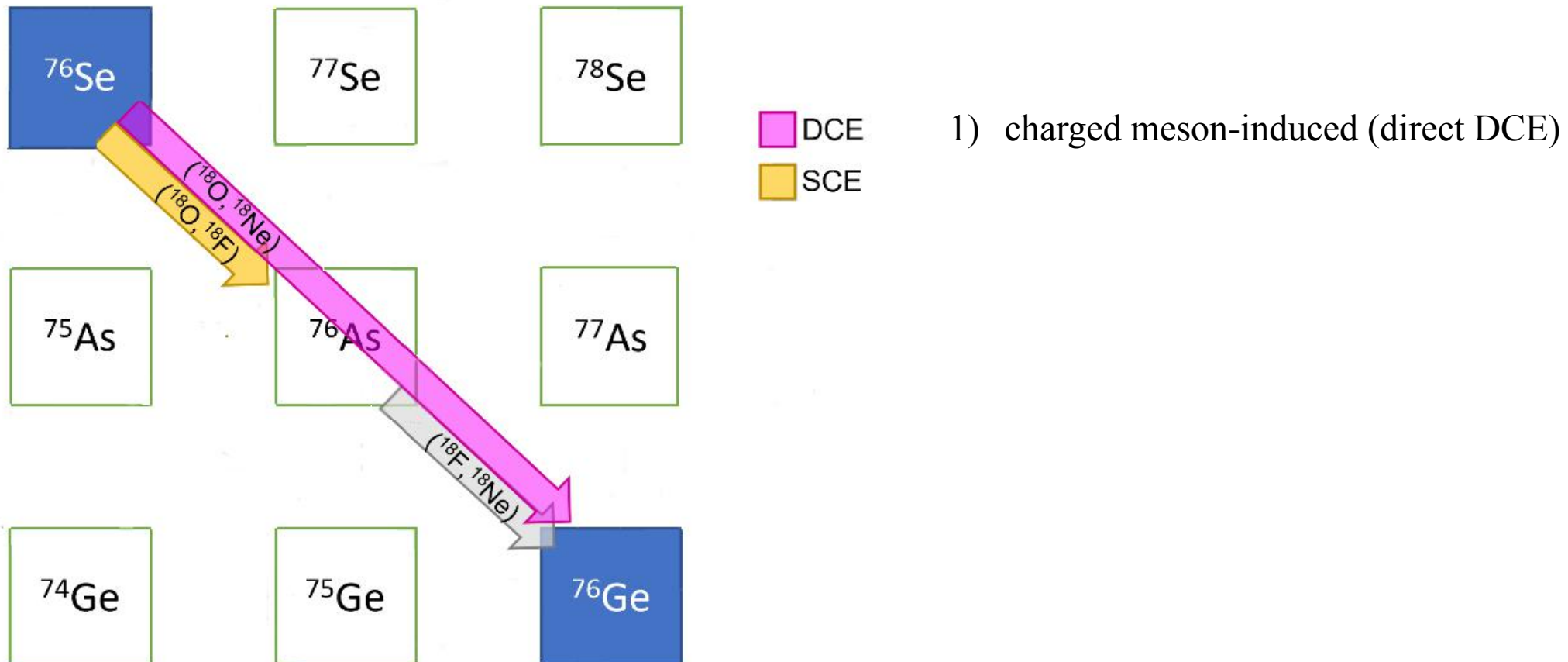
J. Ferreira et al., Phys. Rev. C 105 (2022) 014630

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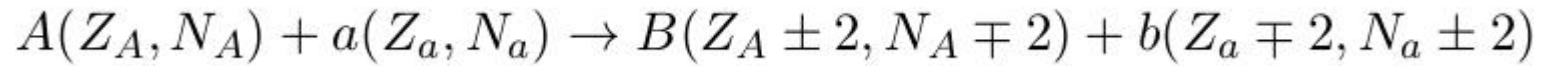


➤ Heavy Ion DCE reactions: analogies with  $0\nu\beta\beta$

F. Cappuzzello *et al.*, Eur. Phys. J. A (2018), **54**: 72

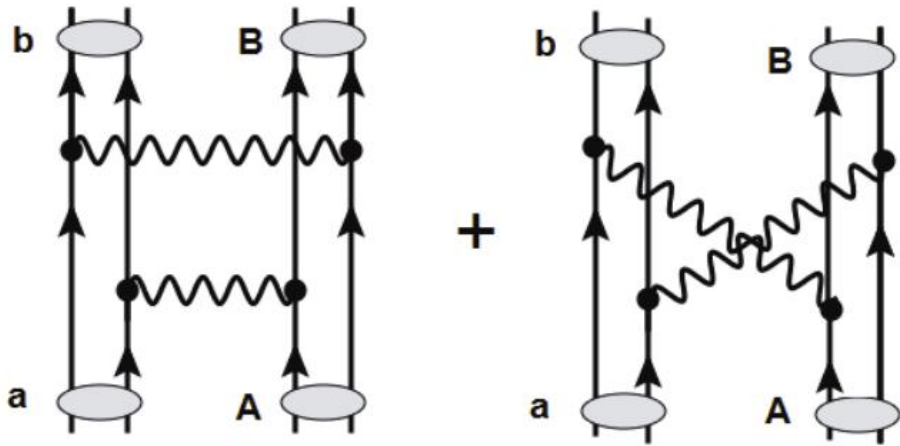


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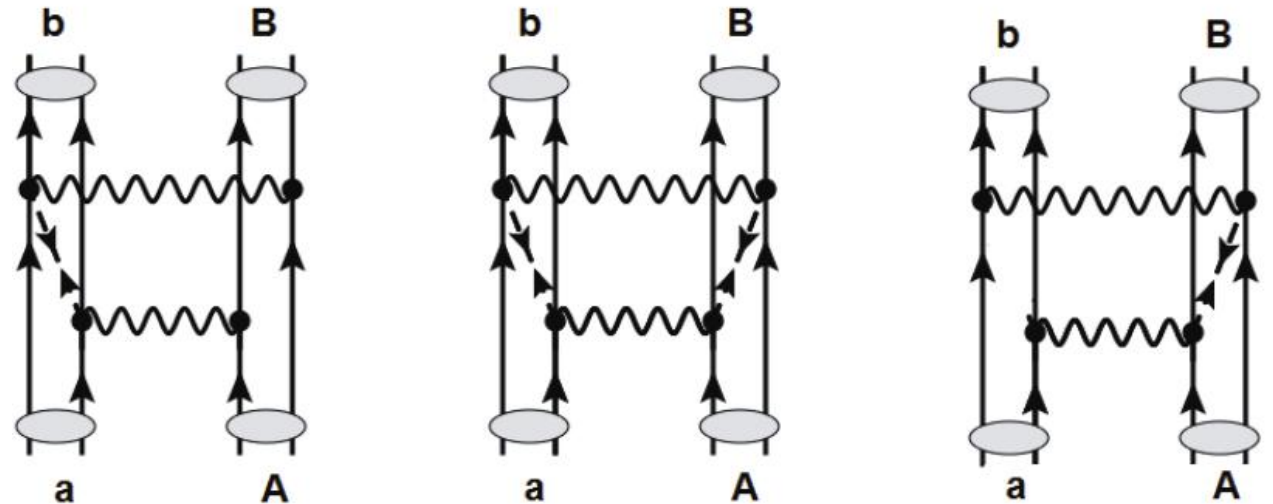
## Sequential DCE (dSCE)

sequence of two *Uncorrelated* SCE reactions  
( $2\nu\beta\beta$ -like mechanism)



## Majorana-like DCE (mDCE)

sequence of two *Correlated* SCE reactions  
( $0\nu\beta\beta$ -like mechanism)



J.I. B., S. Burrello, M. Colonna, J.A. Lay, H. Lenske, PLB 807 (2020) 135528

F. Cappuzzello et al., Progress in Particle and Nuclear Physics, submitted

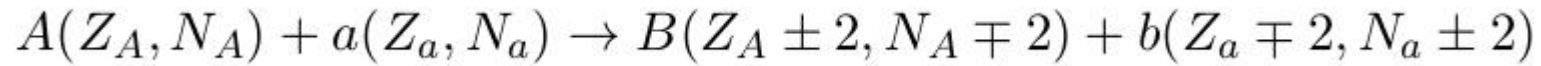
H. Lenske, IOP Conf. Series: Journal of Physics: Conf. Series **1056** (2018) 012030

E. Santopinto *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C 98 061601 (R) (2018)

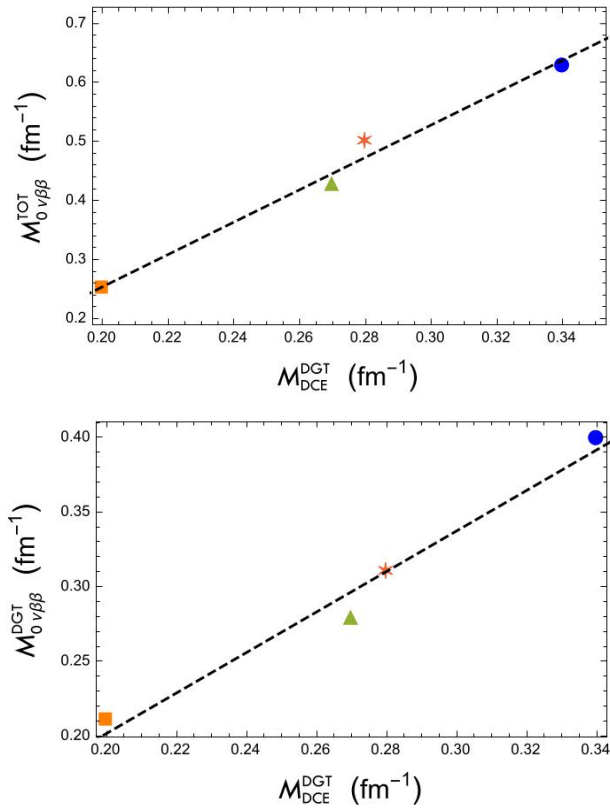
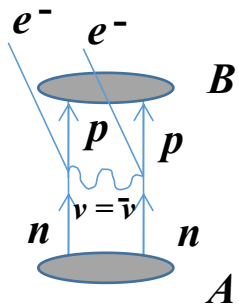
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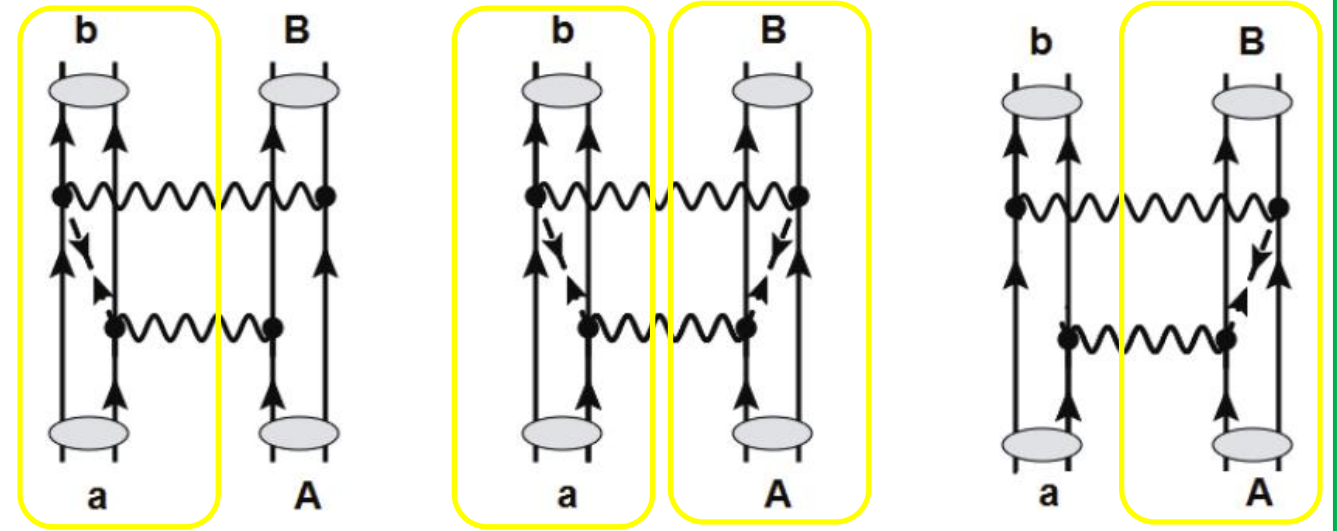


$0\nu\beta\beta$



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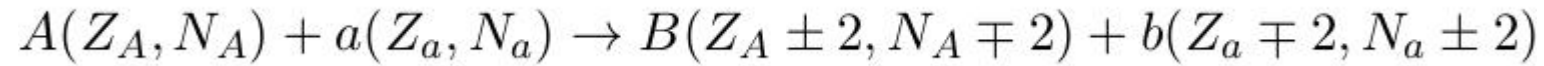


N. Shimizu et al. Phys Rev. Lett. 120, 142502 (2018)  
E. Santopinto *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C 98 061601 (R) (2018)  
→ **actually connection for NME provided at tree level**

H. Lenske, IOP Conf. Series: Journal of Physics: Conf. Series **1056 (2018) 012030**  
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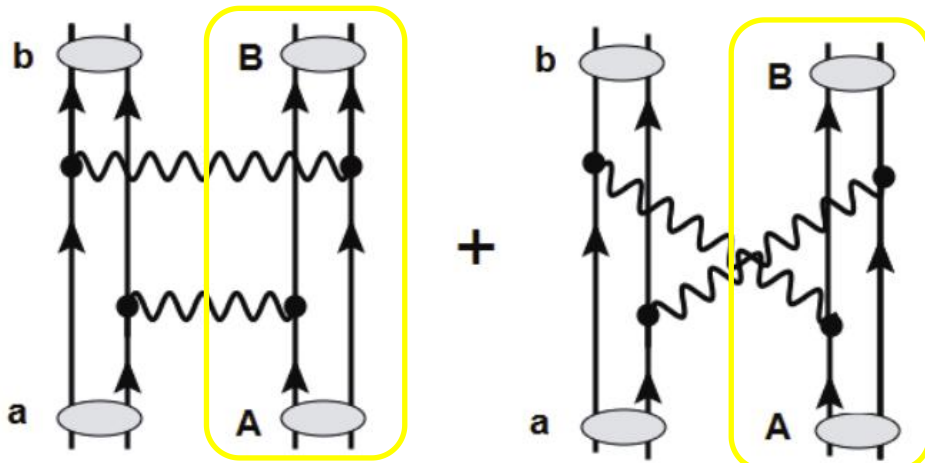


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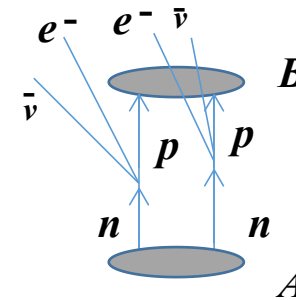


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sequence of two *Uncorrelated* SCE reactions  
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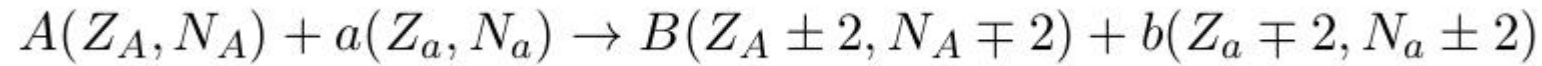
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(2020) 135528

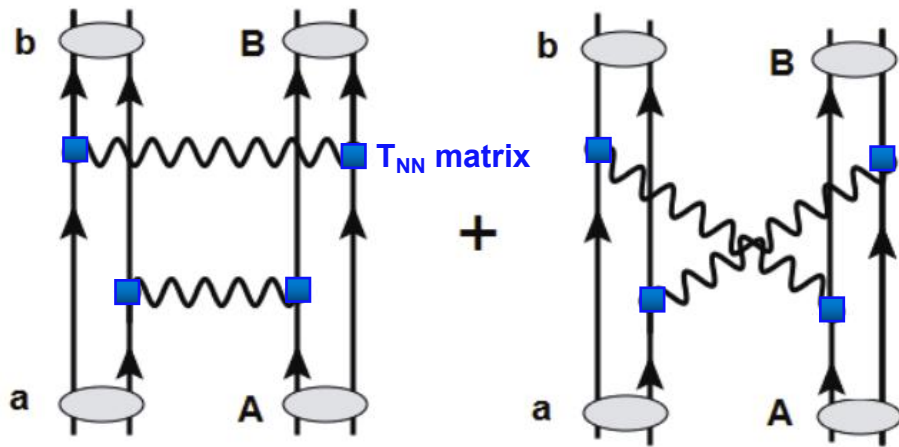
F. Cappuzzello et al., Progress in Particle and Nuclear Physics,  
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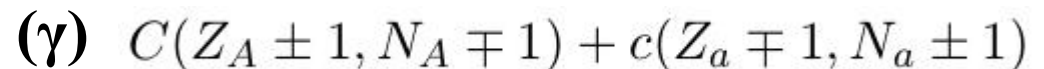
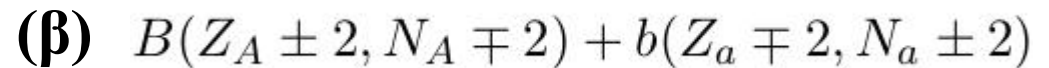
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$$T_{NN}(\mathbf{q}) = \sum_{s=0,1, T=0,1} \{V_{ST}^{(C)}(q^2)[\sigma_a \cdot \sigma_A]^S + \delta_{S1} V_T^{(Tn)}(q^2) S_{12}(\mathbf{q})\} [\tau_a \cdot \tau_A]^T$$

$$S_{12}(\mathbf{q}) = \frac{1}{q^2} (3\sigma_a \cdot \mathbf{q} \sigma_A \cdot \mathbf{q} - \sigma_a \cdot \sigma_A q^2)$$



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# focusing on sequential Heavy Ion Double Charge Exchange

dSCE  
cross section

$$d\sigma_{\alpha\beta}^{(DSCE)} = \frac{m_\alpha m_\beta}{(2\pi\hbar^2)^2} \frac{k_\beta}{k_\alpha} \frac{1}{(2J_a + 1)(2J_A + 1)} \sum_{M_a, M_A \in \alpha; M_b, M_B \in \beta} \left| M_{\alpha\beta}^{(2)}(\mathbf{k}_\alpha, \mathbf{k}_\beta) \right|^2 d\Omega$$

$$M_{\alpha\beta}^{(2)}(\mathbf{k}_\alpha, \mathbf{k}_\beta) = \sum_{\gamma=c,C} \int \frac{d^3 k_\gamma}{(2\pi)^3} \int d^3 q_1 \tilde{\rho}_{1P}(\mathbf{q}_1) \tilde{\rho}_{1T}(\mathbf{q}_1) \tilde{V}_{PT}(\mathbf{q}_1) N_{\alpha\gamma}(\mathbf{q}_1) G_\gamma(\omega_\alpha, \omega_\gamma) \int d^3 q_2 \tilde{\rho}_{2P}^*(\mathbf{q}_2) \tilde{\rho}_{2T}^*(\mathbf{q}_2) \tilde{V}_{PT}^*(\mathbf{q}_2) N_{\gamma\beta}(\mathbf{q}_2)$$

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I-step SCE TME  
 $M_{\alpha\gamma}^{(1)}(\mathbf{k}_\alpha, \mathbf{k}_\gamma)$

II-step SCE TME  
 $M_{\gamma\beta}^{(2)}(\mathbf{k}_\gamma, \mathbf{k}_\beta)$

# focusing on sequential Heavy Ion Double Charge Exchange

## dSCE cross section

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- sum and integral over the angular and linear momenta involved in the (off-shell) intermediate channel

I-step SCE TME  
 $M_{\alpha\gamma}^{(1)}(\mathbf{k}_\alpha, \mathbf{k}_\gamma)$

$$G_\gamma(\omega_\alpha, \omega_\gamma) = \frac{1}{\omega_\alpha - \omega_\gamma + i\eta}$$

II-step SCE TME  
 $M_{\gamma\beta}^{(2)}(\mathbf{k}_\gamma, \mathbf{k}_\beta)$

- Green function accounting for the propagation of the nuclear system in the (off-shell) intermediate channel

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## dSCE cross section

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## SCE One-Body Transition density

$$\tilde{\rho}_{iX}(q_i) \equiv \tilde{\rho}_{L_i S_i J_i}^{(X) J_a J_c}(q_i) = \frac{1}{\hat{J}_i} \langle J_c || T_{(L_i S_i) J_i} || J_a \rangle$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{J} &= \sqrt{2J+1} \\ X &= P, T \\ i &= 1, 2 \end{aligned}$$

$$T_{(L_i S_i) J_i M_i}(\mathbf{r}; q_i) = \sum_{m_L, m_S} [i^{L_i} j_{L_i}(r q_i) Y_{L_i, m_L}(\hat{r}) \otimes (\boldsymbol{\sigma})_{m_S}^{S_i}]_{J_i M_i} \boldsymbol{\tau}$$

## SCE Transition operator

# focusing on sequential Heavy Ion Double Charge Exchange

dSCE  
cross section

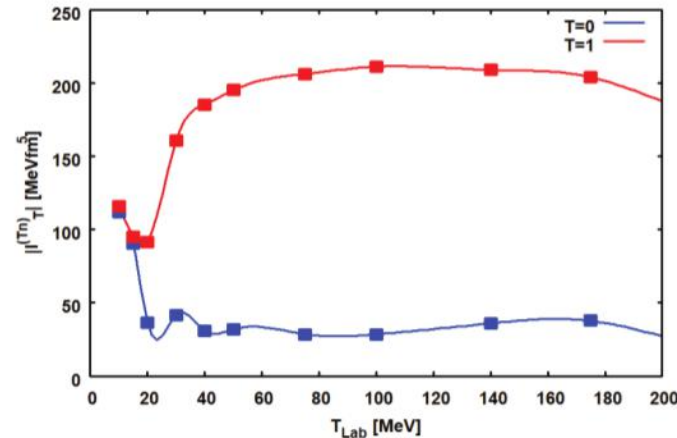
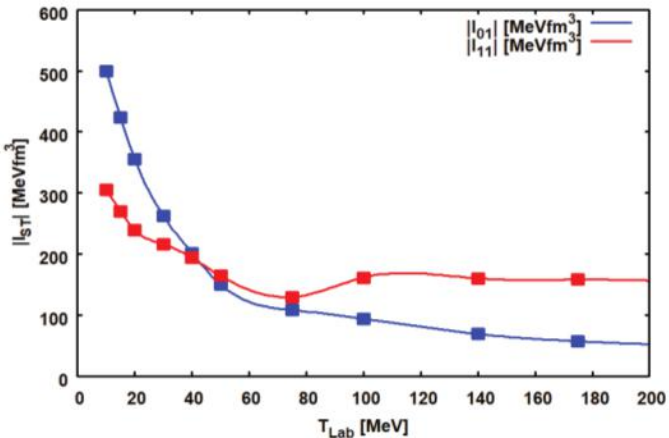
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Two-Body effective local NN interaction potential

parameterized with the sum of 3 Yukawa functions

according to [H. Lenske, Nucl. Phys. A 482 \(1988\)](#)



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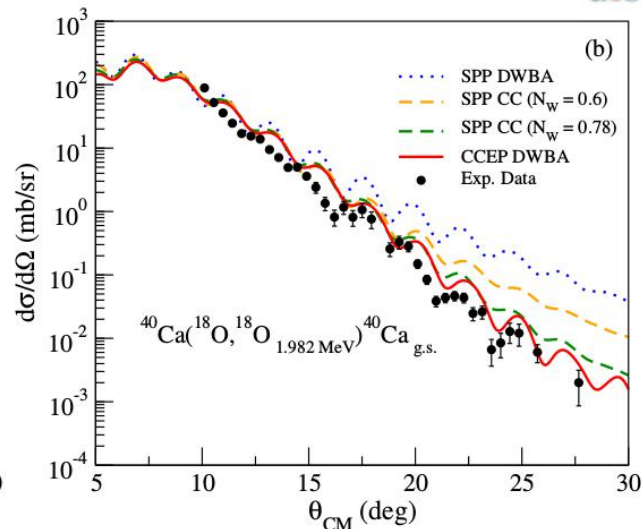
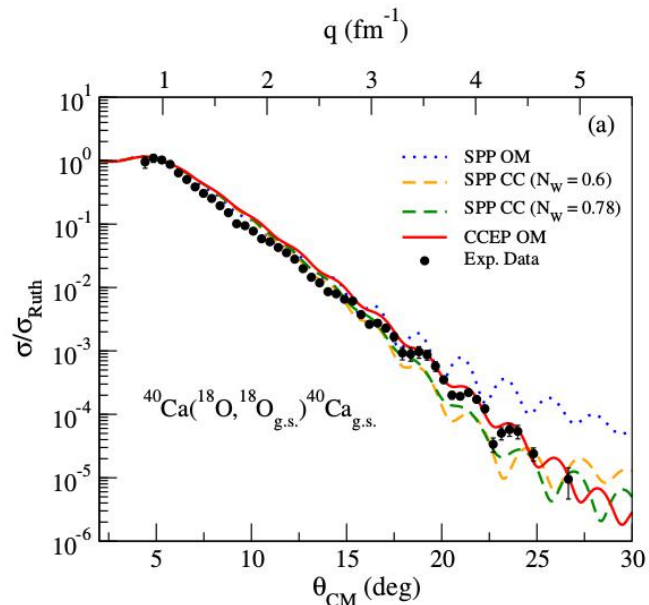
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$$M_{\alpha\beta}^{(2)}(\mathbf{k}_\alpha, \mathbf{k}_\beta) = \sum_{\gamma=c, C} \int \frac{d^3 k_\gamma}{(2\pi)^3} \int d^3 q_1 \tilde{\rho}_{1P}(\mathbf{q}_1) \tilde{\rho}_{1T}(\mathbf{q}_1) \tilde{V}_{PT}(\mathbf{q}_1) N_{\alpha\gamma}(\mathbf{q}_1) G_\gamma(\omega_\alpha, \omega_\gamma) \int d^3 q_2 \tilde{\rho}_{2P}^*(\mathbf{q}_2) \tilde{\rho}_{2T}^*(\mathbf{q}_2) \tilde{V}_{PT}^*(\mathbf{q}_2) N_{\gamma\beta}(\mathbf{q}_2)$$

SCE  
distortion factor

SCE  
distortion factor



$$N_{\gamma\beta}(\mathbf{q}_2) = \int \frac{d^3 r}{(2\pi)^3} \chi_{\mathbf{k}_\beta}^*(\mathbf{r}) \chi_{\mathbf{k}_\gamma}(\mathbf{r}) e^{-i\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{q}_2}$$

← fixing Optical Potential by elastic and inelastic channel analysis



# focusing on sequential Heavy Ion Double Charge Exchange

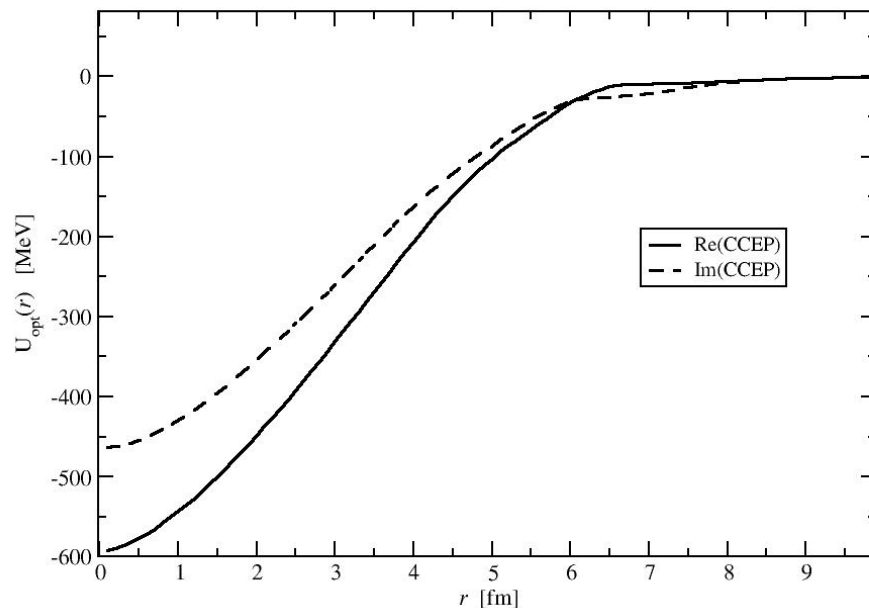
## dSCE cross section

$$d\sigma_{\alpha\beta}^{(DSCE)} = \frac{m_\alpha m_\beta}{(2\pi\hbar^2)^2} \frac{k_\beta}{k_\alpha} \frac{1}{(2J_a + 1)(2J_A + 1)} \sum_{M_a, M_A \in \alpha; M_b, M_B \in \beta} |M_{\alpha\beta}^{(2)}(\mathbf{k}_\alpha, \mathbf{k}_\beta)|^2 d\Omega$$

$$M_{\alpha\beta}^{(2)}(\mathbf{k}_\alpha, \mathbf{k}_\beta) = \sum_{\gamma=c,C} \int \frac{d^3 k_\gamma}{(2\pi)^3} \int d^3 q_1 \tilde{\rho}_{1P}(\mathbf{q}_1) \tilde{\rho}_{1T}(\mathbf{q}_1) \tilde{V}_{PT}(\mathbf{q}_1) N_{\alpha\gamma}(\mathbf{q}_1) G_\gamma(\omega_\alpha, \omega_\gamma) \int d^3 q_2 \tilde{\rho}_{2P}^*(\mathbf{q}_2) \tilde{\rho}_{2T}^*(\mathbf{q}_2) \tilde{V}_{PT}^*(\mathbf{q}_2) N_{\gamma\beta}(\mathbf{q}_2)$$

SCE  
distortion factor

SCE  
distortion factor



$$N_{\gamma\beta}(\mathbf{q}_2) = \int \frac{d^3 r}{(2\pi)^3} \chi_{\mathbf{k}_\beta}^*(\mathbf{r}) \chi_{\mathbf{k}_\gamma}(\mathbf{r}) e^{-i\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{q}_2}$$

← fixing Optical Potential by elastic and inelastic channel analysis  
(SPPotential + CC effects effectively included = CCEP)

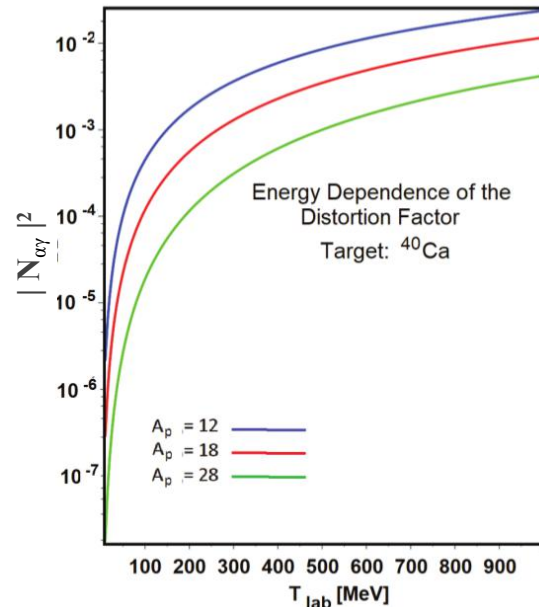
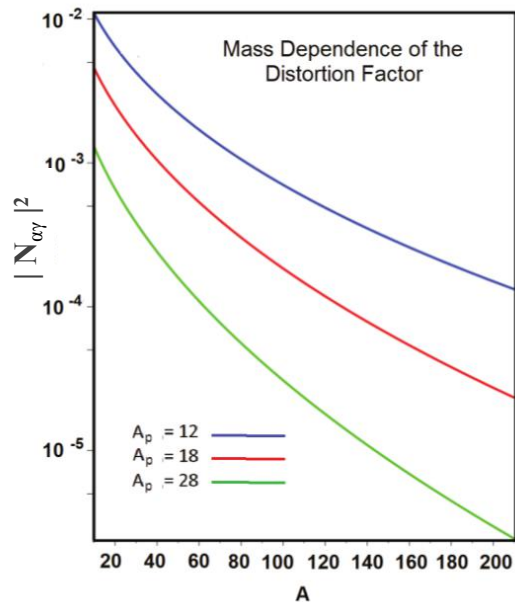


# focusing on sequential Heavy Ion Double Charge Exchange

## dSCE cross section

$$d\sigma_{\alpha\beta}^{(DSCE)} = \frac{m_\alpha m_\beta}{(2\pi\hbar^2)^2} \frac{k_\beta}{k_\alpha} \frac{1}{(2J_a + 1)(2J_A + 1)} \sum_{M_a, M_A \in \alpha; M_b, M_B \in \beta} |M_{\alpha\beta}^{(2)}(\mathbf{k}_\alpha, \mathbf{k}_\beta)|^2 d\Omega$$

$$M_{\alpha\beta}^{(2)}(\mathbf{k}_\alpha, \mathbf{k}_\beta) = \sum_{\gamma=c,C} \int \frac{d^3 k_\gamma}{(2\pi)^3} \int d^3 q_1 \tilde{\rho}_{1P}(\mathbf{q}_1) \tilde{\rho}_{1T}(\mathbf{q}_1) \tilde{V}_{PT}(\mathbf{q}_1) N_{\alpha\gamma}(\mathbf{q}_1) G_\gamma(\omega_\alpha, \omega_\gamma) \int d^3 q_2 \tilde{\rho}_{2P}^*(\mathbf{q}_2) \tilde{\rho}_{2T}^*(\mathbf{q}_2) \tilde{V}_{PT}^*(\mathbf{q}_2) N_{\gamma\beta}(\mathbf{q}_2)$$



SCE  
distortion factor

SCE  
distortion factor

→ **Black Disk Approximation** +  
**Gaussian Eikonal Approximation** =  
analytical dependence of distortion factor  
on mass and energy of the system

H. Lenske, J. I. Bellone, M. Colonna, J. A. Lay  
Phys. Rev. C (2018) 98, 044620.

# Analogies between DSCE and $2\nu\beta\beta$ NMEs

**DSCE**  
**cross section**

$$d\sigma_{\alpha\beta}^{(DSCE)} = \frac{m_\alpha m_\beta}{(2\pi\hbar^2)^2} \frac{k_\beta}{k_\alpha} \frac{1}{(2J_a + 1)(2J_A + 1)} \sum_{M_a, M_A \in \alpha; M_b, M_B \in \beta} \left| M_{\alpha\beta}^{(2)}(\mathbf{k}_\alpha, \mathbf{k}_\beta) \right|^2 d\Omega$$

**DSCE transition matrix element**

$$M_{\beta\alpha}^{(2)}(\mathbf{k}_\beta, \mathbf{k}_\alpha) = \int d^3q_1 d^3q_2 \oint_{C_+} \frac{d\nu}{2i\pi} \sum_{S_1, S_2} \Pi_{\alpha\beta}^{(S_2 S_1)}(\mathbf{q}_2, \mathbf{q}_1; \nu) \int \frac{d^3k_\gamma}{(2\pi)^3} N_{\beta\gamma}(\mathbf{q}_2) \underline{V_{S_2 T}(q_2^2)} \frac{\tilde{S}_\gamma^+}{\omega_\alpha - \nu - T_\gamma + i\eta} N_{\gamma\alpha}(\mathbf{q}_1) \underline{V_{S_1 T}(q_1^2)}.$$

$$\Pi_{\alpha\beta}^{(S_2 S_1)}(\mathbf{q}_2, \mathbf{q}_1; \nu) = \sum_{cC} \frac{F_{S_2}^{(BC)}(\mathbf{q}_2) \cdot F_{S_2}^{(bc)}(\mathbf{q}_2) F_{S_1}^{(ca)}(\mathbf{q}_1) \cdot F_{S_1}^{(CA)}(\mathbf{q}_1)}{\nu - (E_A - E_C + E_a - E_c)}$$

H. Lenske, J.I. B., M. Colonna, D. Gambacurta, Universe 7 (2021) 4, 98

$$\Pi_{(S_1 S_2) SM}^{(AB)}(\mathbf{q}_2, \mathbf{q}_1; \omega) = \sum_C \frac{\left[ F_{S_2}^{(BC)}(\mathbf{q}_2) \otimes F_{S_1}^{(CA)}(\mathbf{q}_1) \right]_{SM}}{\omega - (E_A - E_C)}$$

**DSCE NME**

J. Barea, J. Kotila, F. Iachello, Phys. Rev. C 91 034304 (2015)

$$\mathcal{M}^{(2\nu)} = g_V^2 \frac{\langle 0_F^+ | \sum_{n, n'} \tau_n^\dagger \tau_{n'}^\dagger | 0_I^+ \rangle}{\frac{1}{2}(Q_{\beta\beta} + 2m_e c^2) + \langle E_{0+, N} \rangle - E_I} - g_A^2 \frac{\langle 0_F^+ | \sum_{n, n'} \tau_n^\dagger \tau_{n'}^\dagger \boldsymbol{\sigma}_n \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{n'} | 0_I^+ \rangle}{\frac{1}{2}(Q_{\beta\beta} + 2m_e c^2) + \langle E_{1+, N} \rangle - E_I}$$

**$2\nu\beta\beta$  NME**

# How to extract information on $\beta\beta$ decay strengths from DCE cross section measurements?

## DCE cross section factorization

- Relation between Light Ion SCE reaction cross section at intermediate and high energies provided since the 80's

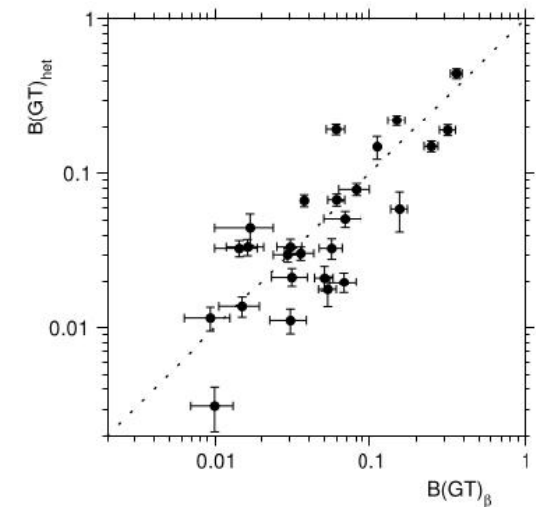
C. D. Goodman *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 44 (1980) 1755

$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{dEd\Omega} = \hat{\sigma}_X(E_b, A) F_X(q, \omega) B(X)$$

factorized expression working for  $q_{\alpha\beta} \leq 0.25 \text{ fm}^{-1}$   
for Light Ions

T. N. Taddeucci *et al.*, Nucl. Phys. A 469 (1987) 125 – 172

	SCE	$\beta$ decay
$(S = 1)$	$\sum_{ij} V_{\sigma\tau}(\mathbf{r}_{ij}) \boldsymbol{\sigma}_i \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}_j \boldsymbol{\tau}_i \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_j$	$g_A \sum_i \boldsymbol{\sigma}_i \boldsymbol{\tau}_i$
$(S = 0)$	$\sum_{ij} V_{\tau}(\mathbf{r}_{ij}) \boldsymbol{\tau}_i \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_j$	$g_V \sum_i \boldsymbol{\tau}_i$



$0^\circ$  cross section for  $({}^3\text{He}, t)$  reactions at RCNP

Y. Fujita *et al.*, PPNP 66 (2011) 549-606

# How to extract information on $\beta\beta$ decay strengths from DCE cross section measurements?

## DCE cross section factorization

$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{dEd\Omega} = \hat{\sigma}_X(E_b, A) F_X(q, \omega) B(X)$$

?

$$\frac{d\sigma^{DCE}}{d\Omega}(q, E_x) = \hat{\sigma}_\alpha^{DCE}(E_p, A) F_\alpha^{DCE}(q, E_x) B_T^{DCE}(\alpha) B_P^{DCE}(\alpha)$$

factorized expression working for  $q_{\alpha\beta} \leq 0.25 \text{ fm}^{-1}$   
for Light Ions

for Heavy Ions DCE

T. N. Taddeucci *et al.*, Nucl. Phys. A 469 (1987) 125 – 172

# How to extract information on $\beta\beta$ decay strengths from DCE cross section measurements?

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for Light Ions

T. N. Taddeucci *et al.*, Nucl. Phys. A 469 (1987) 125 – 172



?

for Heavy Ions SCE

# How to extract information on $\beta\beta$ decay strengths from DCE cross section measurements?

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for Light Ions

T. N. Taddeucci *et al.*, Nucl. Phys. A 469 (1987) 125 – 172



**Yes**

H. Lenske, J. I. Bellone, M. Colonna, J. A. Lay  
Phys. Rev. C (2018) 98, 044620.

✓ **HI SCE cross section factorization can be reached for small momentum transfer ( $q_{\alpha\beta} < 0.25 \text{ fm}^{-1}$ )**

$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{dEd\Omega} = \hat{\sigma}(T_{lab}, A, a) F(q_{\alpha\beta}, \omega) |b_{ab}^{(0,S,S)}|^2 |b_{AB}^{(0,S,S)}|^2$$

**Unit Cross Section**

$$\hat{\sigma}(T_{lab}, A, a) = K_f(T_{lab}, 0) |V_{ST}^{(C)}(0)|^2 |1 - n_{BD}|^2 (2S + 1)$$

**Shape Factor**

$$F(q_{\alpha\beta}, \omega) = \frac{K_f(T_{lab}, \omega)}{K_f(T_{lab}, 0)} e^{-\frac{1}{3}q_{\alpha\beta}^2 (\langle r^2 \rangle_a + \langle r^2 \rangle_A)} \xrightarrow{(q_{\alpha\beta}, \omega) \rightarrow (0, 0)} 1$$

$\left[ \omega = E_x - Q_{reac} \text{ energy loss} \right]$



# How to extract information on $\beta\beta$ decay strengths from DCE cross section measurements?

## DCE cross section factorization

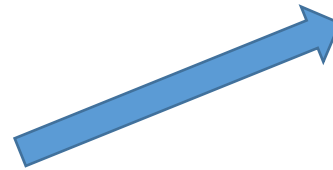
$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{dEd\Omega} = \hat{\sigma}_X(E_b, A) F_X(q, \omega) B(X)$$

factorized expression working for  $q_{\alpha\beta} \leq 0.25 \text{ fm}^{-1}$   
for Light Ions

T. N. Taddeucci *et al.*, Nucl. Phys. A 469 (1987) 125 – 172

$$\frac{d\sigma^{DCE}}{d\Omega}(q, E_x) = \hat{\sigma}_\alpha^{DCE}(E_p, A) F_\alpha^{DCE}(q, E_x) B_T^{DCE}(\alpha) B_P^{DCE}(\alpha)$$

for Heavy Ions DCE



**Yes**

H. Lenske, J. I. Bellone, M. Colonna, J. A. Lay  
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$$\left[ \omega = E_x - Q_{\text{reac}} \text{ energy loss} \right]$$

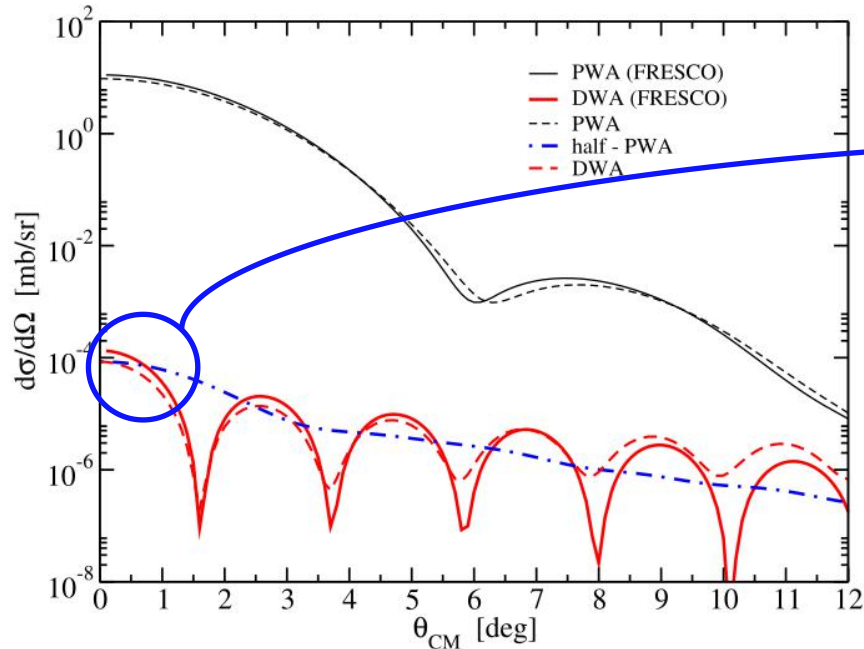


# focusing on sequential Heavy Ion Double Charge Exchange

dSCE  
cross section

$$d\sigma_{\alpha\beta}^{(DSCE)} = \frac{m_\alpha m_\beta}{(2\pi\hbar^2)^2} \frac{k_\beta}{k_\alpha} \frac{1}{(2J_a + 1)(2J_A + 1)} \sum_{M_a, M_A \in \alpha; M_b, M_B \in \beta} \left| M_{\alpha\beta}^{(2)}(\mathbf{k}_\alpha, \mathbf{k}_\beta) \right|^2 d\Omega$$

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➤ negligible net absorption effect of the intermediate channel (at forward scattering angles)

$$\mathcal{M}_{\alpha\beta}^{DSCE}(\mathbf{k}_\alpha, \mathbf{k}_\beta) \approx N_{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{k}_\alpha, \mathbf{k}_\beta) \sum_{\gamma=c,C} \int \frac{d^3 k_\gamma}{(2\pi)^3} \mathcal{U}_{\gamma\beta}^{SCE}(\mathbf{k}_\gamma - \mathbf{k}_\beta) \frac{1}{\omega_\alpha - \omega_\gamma + i\eta} \mathcal{U}_{\alpha\gamma}^{SCE}(\mathbf{k}_\alpha - \mathbf{k}_\gamma)$$

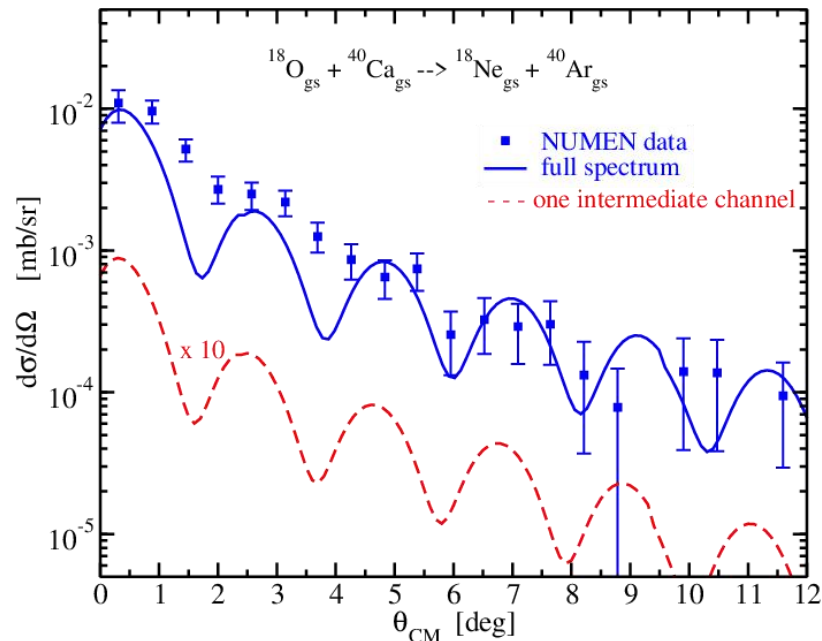
J. I. Bellone, S. Burrello, M. Colonna, J. A. Lay, H. Lenske, Phys. Lett. B 807 (2020) 135528

# focusing on sequential Heavy Ion Double Charge Exchange

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cross section

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➤ order of magnitude of the data recovered only considering several nuclear states in the intermediate channel

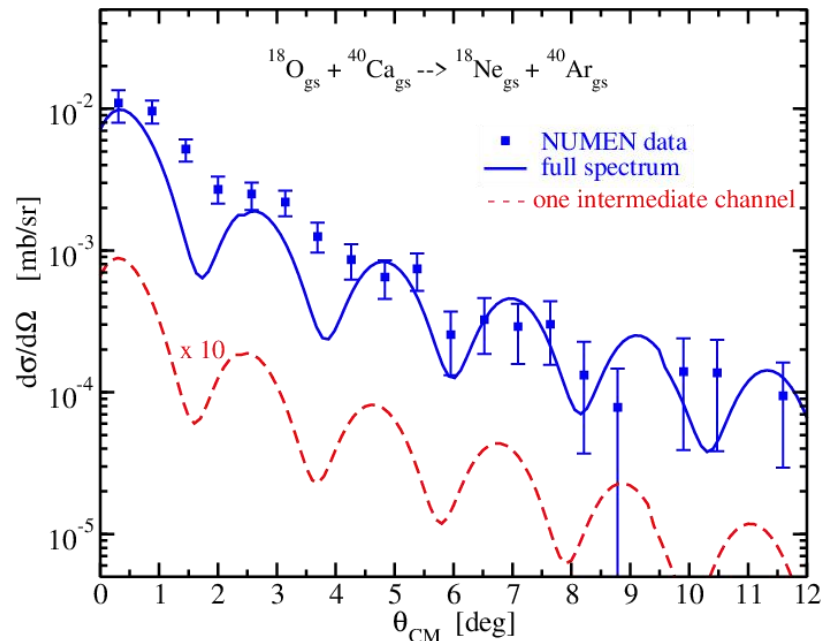
J. I. Bellone, S. Burrello, M. Colonna,  
J. A. Lay, H. Lenske,  
Phys. Lett. B 807 (2020) 135528

# focusing on sequential Heavy Ion Double Charge Exchange

dSCE  
cross section

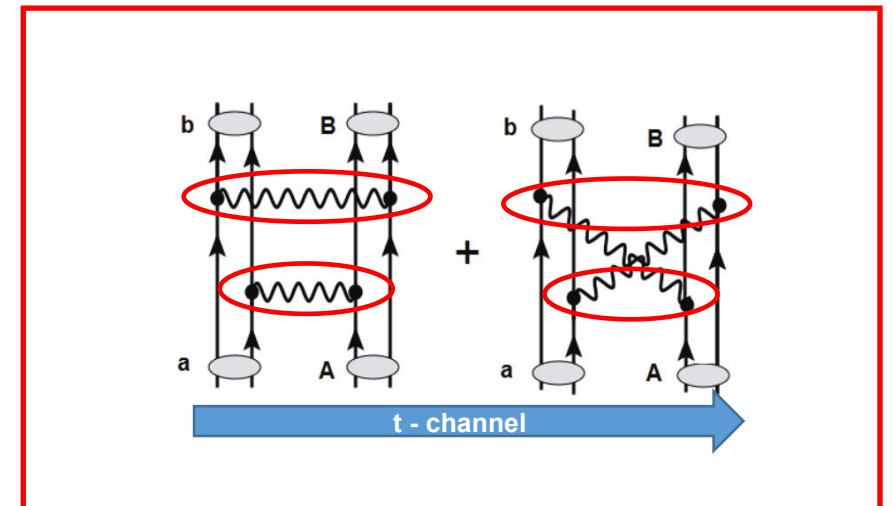
$$d\sigma_{\alpha\beta}^{(DSCE)} = \frac{m_\alpha m_\beta}{(2\pi\hbar^2)^2} \frac{k_\beta}{k_\alpha} \frac{1}{(2J_a + 1)(2J_A + 1)} \sum_{M_a, M_A \in \alpha; M_b, M_B \in \beta} \left| M_{\alpha\beta}^{(2)}(\mathbf{k}_\alpha, \mathbf{k}_\beta) \right|^2 d\Omega$$

$$M_{\alpha\beta}^{(2)}(\mathbf{k}_\alpha, \mathbf{k}_\beta) = \bar{G}_\gamma \int d^3q_1 \int d^3q_2 \tilde{\rho}_{1P}(\mathbf{q}_1) \tilde{\rho}_{1T}(\mathbf{q}_1) \tilde{V}_{PT}(\mathbf{q}_1) \tilde{\rho}_{2P}^*(\mathbf{q}_2) \tilde{\rho}_{2T}^*(\mathbf{q}_2) \tilde{V}_{PT}(\mathbf{q}_2) N_{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{q}_1 + \mathbf{q}_2)$$



➤ projectile and target NMEs still not disentangled

J. I. Bellone, S. Burrello, M. Colonna,  
J. A. Lay, H. Lenske,  
Phys. Lett. B 807 (2020) 135528

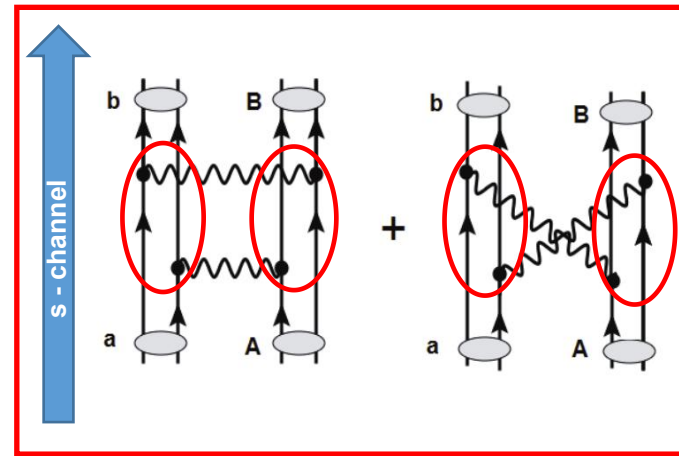
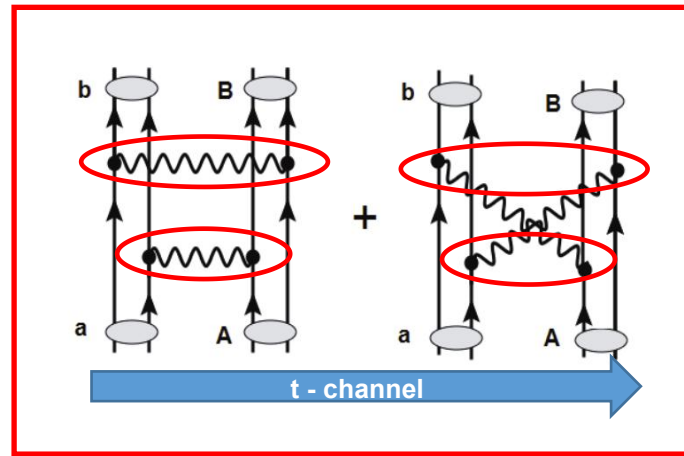


# focusing on sequential Heavy Ion Double Charge Exchange

dSCE  
cross section

$$d\sigma_{\alpha\beta}^{(DSCE)} = \frac{m_\alpha m_\beta}{(2\pi\hbar^2)^2} \frac{k_\beta}{k_\alpha} \frac{1}{(2J_a + 1)(2J_A + 1)} \sum_{M_a, M_A \in \alpha; M_b, M_B \in \beta} |M_{\alpha\beta}^{(2)}(\mathbf{k}_\alpha, \mathbf{k}_\beta)|^2 d\Omega$$

$$M_{\alpha\beta}^{(2)}(\mathbf{k}_\alpha, \mathbf{k}_\beta) = \sum_{\gamma=c,C} \int \frac{d^3 k_\gamma}{(2\pi)^3} \int d^3 q_1 \tilde{\rho}_{1P}(\mathbf{q}_1) \tilde{\rho}_{1T}(\mathbf{q}_1) \tilde{V}_{PT}(\mathbf{q}_1) N_{\alpha\gamma}(\mathbf{q}_1) G_\gamma(\omega_\alpha, \omega_\gamma) \int d^3 q_2 \tilde{\rho}_{2P}^*(\mathbf{q}_2) \tilde{\rho}_{2T}^*(\mathbf{q}_2) \tilde{V}_{PT}^*(\mathbf{q}_2) N_{\gamma\beta}(\mathbf{q}_2)$$



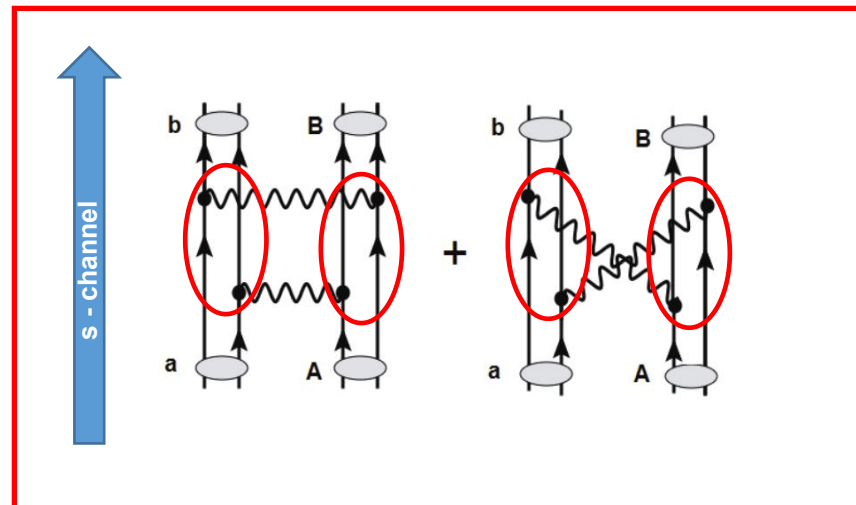
- ✓ **t- and s- channel** formulations analytically equivalent, because simply related by unitary transformation in angular momentum space

# focusing on sequential Heavy Ion Double Charge Exchange

dSCE  
cross section

$$d\sigma_{\alpha\beta}^{(DSCE)} = \frac{m_\alpha m_\beta}{(2\pi\hbar^2)^2} \frac{k_\beta}{k_\alpha} \frac{1}{(2J_a + 1)(2J_A + 1)} \sum_{M_a, M_A \in \alpha; M_b, M_B \in \beta} |M_{\alpha\beta}^{(2)}(\mathbf{k}_\alpha, \mathbf{k}_\beta)|^2 d\Omega$$

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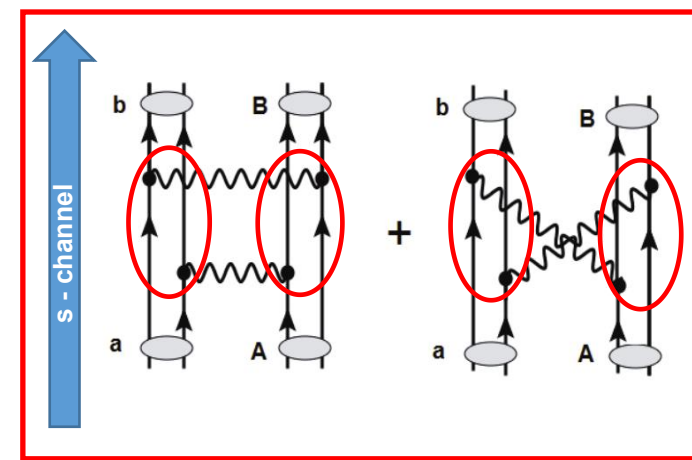
- ✓ **Advantage :**  
get information on projectile and target DCE NMEs separately, from cross section measurements

# Towards dSCE separation of projectile and target NMEs: the s-channel formalism (1)

- ⊙ fixing the dependence on  $k_\gamma$  within the reaction kernels and thus exploiting bi-orthonormality of the distorted waves describing the intermediate channel
  - ⊙ summing over all intermediate nuclear states
  - ⊙ fixing average value of intermediate channel energy within the propagator
- } ~ Closure Approximation

$$\odot \begin{cases} \mathbf{q}_1 - \mathbf{q}_2 = \xi \\ \mathbf{q}_1 + \mathbf{q}_2 = \eta \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} \mathbf{q}_1 = \frac{\xi + \eta}{2} \\ \mathbf{q}_2 = \frac{\eta - \xi}{2} \end{cases}$$

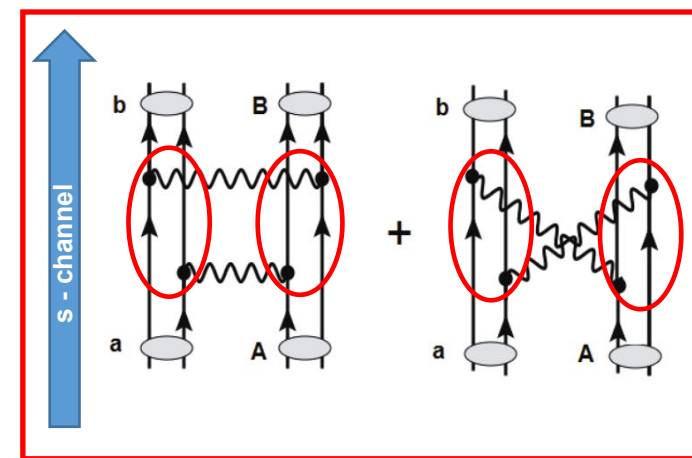
$$M_{\alpha\beta}^{(2)}(\mathbf{k}_\alpha, \mathbf{k}_\beta) \sim \int d^3\xi d^3\eta \tilde{\rho}_{1P}\left(\frac{\xi + \eta}{2}\right) \tilde{\rho}_{1T}\left(\frac{\xi + \eta}{2}\right) \tilde{V}_{PT}\left(\frac{\xi + \eta}{2}\right) \tilde{\rho}_{2P}^*\left(\frac{\eta - \xi}{2}\right) \tilde{\rho}_{2T}^*\left(\frac{\eta - \xi}{2}\right) \tilde{V}_{PT}^*\left(\frac{\eta - \xi}{2}\right) N_{\alpha\beta}(\eta)$$





# Towards dSCE separation of projectile and target NMEs: the s-channel formalism (1)

- fixing the dependence on  $k_\gamma$  within the reaction kernels and thus exploiting bi-orthonormality of the distorted waves describing the intermediate channel
  - summing over all intermediate nuclear states
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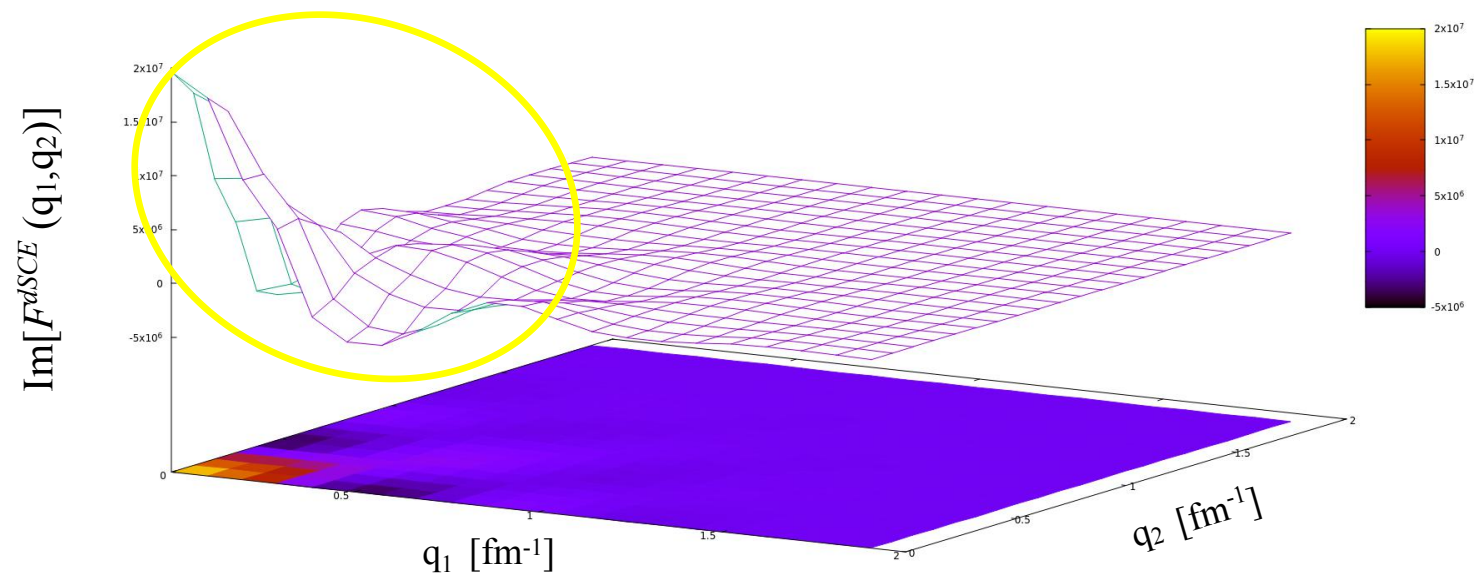
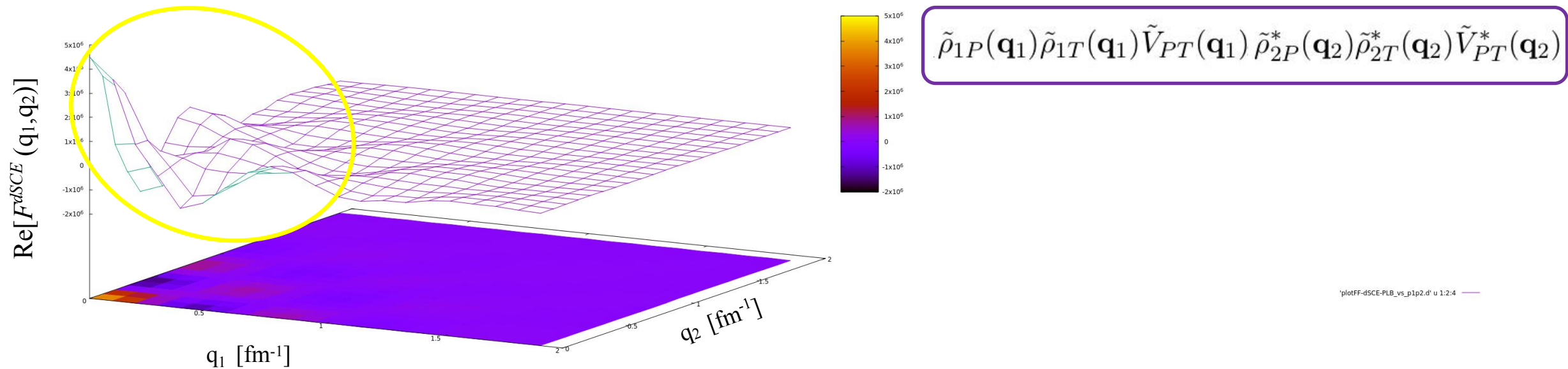
- $$\begin{cases} \mathbf{q}_1 - \mathbf{q}_2 = \xi \\ \mathbf{q}_1 + \mathbf{q}_2 = \eta \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} \mathbf{q}_1 = \frac{\xi + \eta}{2} \\ \mathbf{q}_2 = \frac{\eta - \xi}{2} \end{cases}$$

$$M_{\alpha\beta}^{(2)}(\mathbf{k}_\alpha, \mathbf{k}_\beta) \sim \int d^3\xi d^3\eta \tilde{\rho}_{1P}\left(\frac{\xi + \eta}{2}\right) \tilde{\rho}_{1T}\left(\frac{\xi + \eta}{2}\right) \tilde{V}_{PT}\left(\frac{\xi + \eta}{2}\right) \tilde{\rho}_{2P}^*\left(\frac{\eta - \xi}{2}\right) \tilde{\rho}_{2T}^*\left(\frac{\eta - \xi}{2}\right) \tilde{V}_{PT}^*\left(\frac{\eta - \xi}{2}\right) N_{\alpha\beta}(\eta)$$

- to extract dSCE NMEs proper recoupling of all angular momenta + need no  $\xi$  dependence



# Sequential DCE Cross Section: the t-channel formalism $\rightarrow$ dSCE transition Form Factor



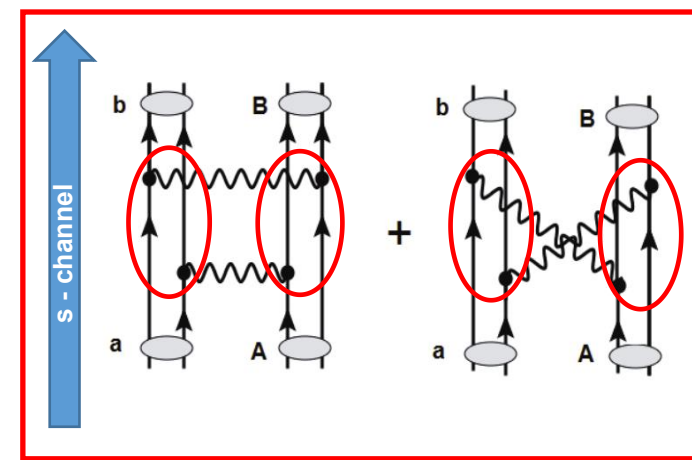
## Sequential DCE Cross Section: the s-channel formalism (2)

- one can take into account only the contribution for  $\mathbf{q}_1 = \mathbf{q}_2 = \mathbf{0}$  in dSCE transition Form Factor ( $\Leftrightarrow \xi = 0$ )  
 → particular case of *collinear approximation*

- $$\tilde{\rho}_{1P}\left(\frac{\eta}{2}\right)\tilde{\rho}_{2P}^*\left(\frac{\eta}{2}\right) \equiv \tilde{\rho}_P^{2BTD}\left(\frac{\eta}{2}\right) \sim \text{2-body dSCE transition density (2BTD)}$$

### Four-Body NN effective local interaction potential

- $$(2\pi)^3 \int d^3r e^{i\boldsymbol{\eta}\cdot\mathbf{r}} |V(\mathbf{r})|^2 \equiv \tilde{V}_{NN}^{dSCE}(\boldsymbol{\eta})$$



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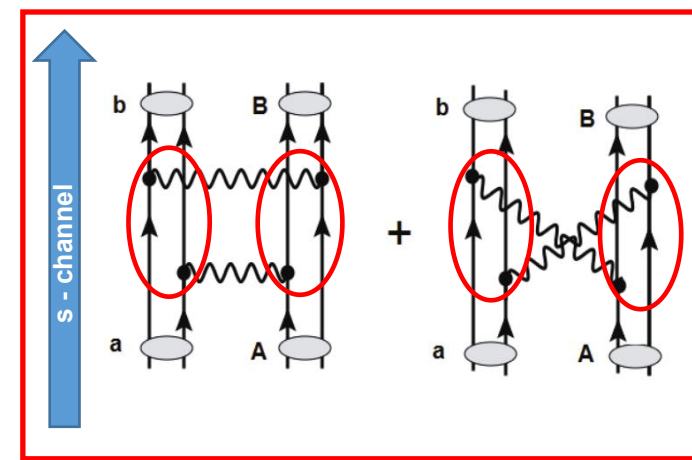
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**dSCE  
TME**

$$M_{\alpha\beta}^{(2)}(\mathbf{k}_\alpha, \mathbf{k}_\beta) \simeq \int d^3\eta \tilde{\rho}_P^{2BTD}(\frac{\boldsymbol{\eta}}{2}) \tilde{\rho}_T^{2BTD}(\frac{\boldsymbol{\eta}}{2}) \tilde{V}_{NN}^{dSCE}(\boldsymbol{\eta}) N_{\alpha\beta}(\boldsymbol{\eta})$$



like a single-step formalism  
 → factorization at low  
 momentum transfer

H. Lenske, J. I. B., M. Colonna, J. A. Lay  
 Phys. Rev. C (2018) 98, 044620.

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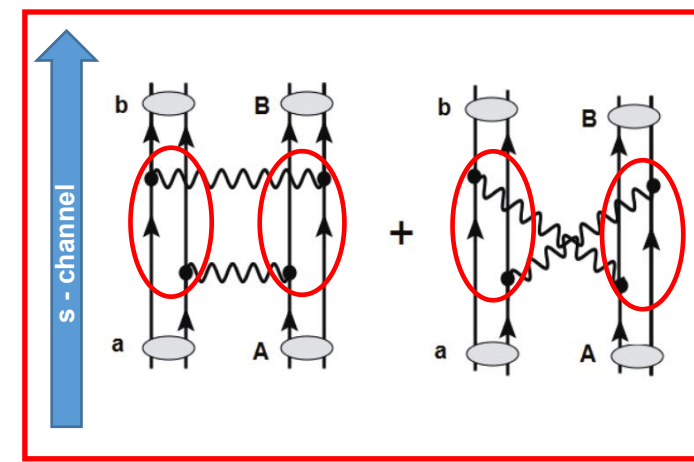
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## Four-Body NN effective local interaction potential

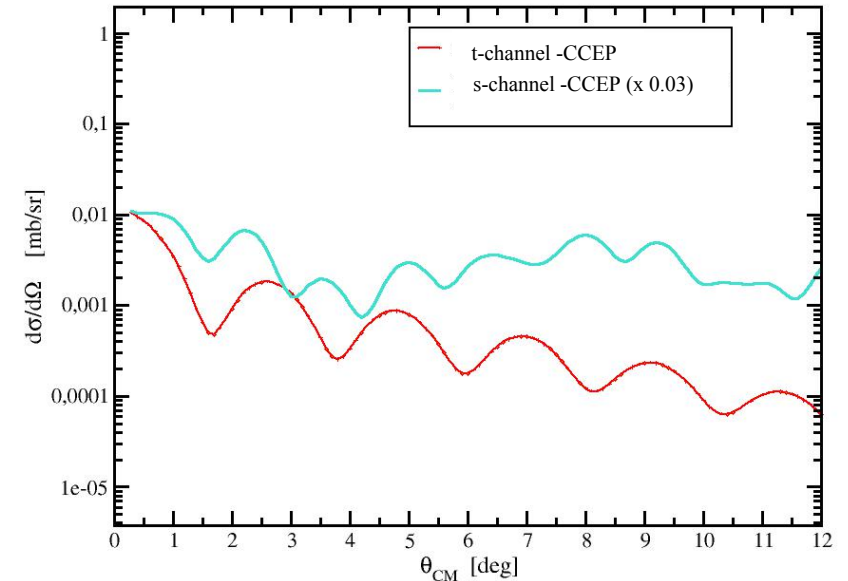
- $$(2\pi)^3 \int d^3r e^{i\boldsymbol{\eta}\cdot\mathbf{r}} |V(\mathbf{r})|^2 \equiv \tilde{V}_{NN}^{dSCE}(\boldsymbol{\eta})$$

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$^{40}\text{Ca} (^{18}\text{O}, ^{18}\text{Ne}) ^{40}\text{Ar}$  at  $E_{\text{lab}} = 275$  MeV

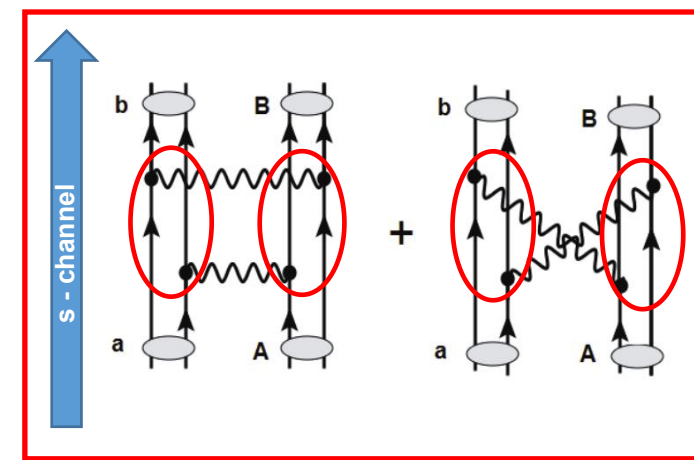


- but neither the diffraction pattern nor the order of magnitude of t-channel calculations are recovered  
 → other values of  $\xi$  play non-negligible role

# Sequential DCE Cross Section: the s-channel formalism (3)

- ⊙ averaging over the half-off-shell  $\xi$  linear relative momentum

$$\frac{(2\pi)^3}{N} \int d^3r e^{i\boldsymbol{\eta}\cdot\mathbf{r}} \rho_{1P}(\mathbf{r}) \rho_{2P}^*(\mathbf{r}) \equiv \tilde{\rho}_P^{2BTD}(\boldsymbol{\eta}) \quad \sim \text{average 2-body dSCE transition density (2BTD)}$$



## Four-Body NN effective local interaction potential

$$\frac{(2\pi)^3}{N} \int d^3r e^{i\boldsymbol{\eta}\cdot\mathbf{r}} |V(\mathbf{r})|^2 \equiv \tilde{V}_{NN}^{dSCE}(\boldsymbol{\eta})$$

**dSCE  
TME**

$$M_{\alpha\beta}^{(2)}(\mathbf{k}_\alpha, \mathbf{k}_\beta) \simeq \int d^3\eta \tilde{\rho}_P^{2BTD}(\boldsymbol{\eta}) \tilde{\rho}_T^{2BTD}(\boldsymbol{\eta}) \tilde{V}_{NN}^{dSCE}(\boldsymbol{\eta}) N_{\alpha\beta}(\boldsymbol{\eta})$$

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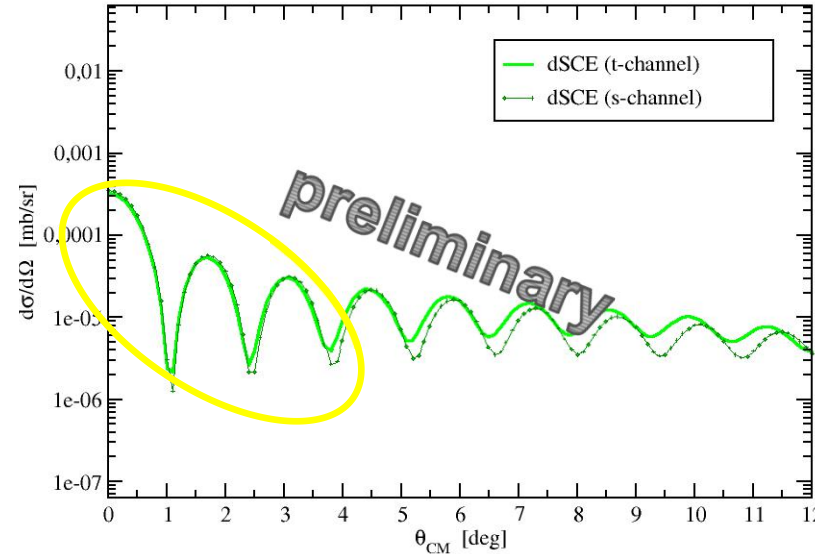
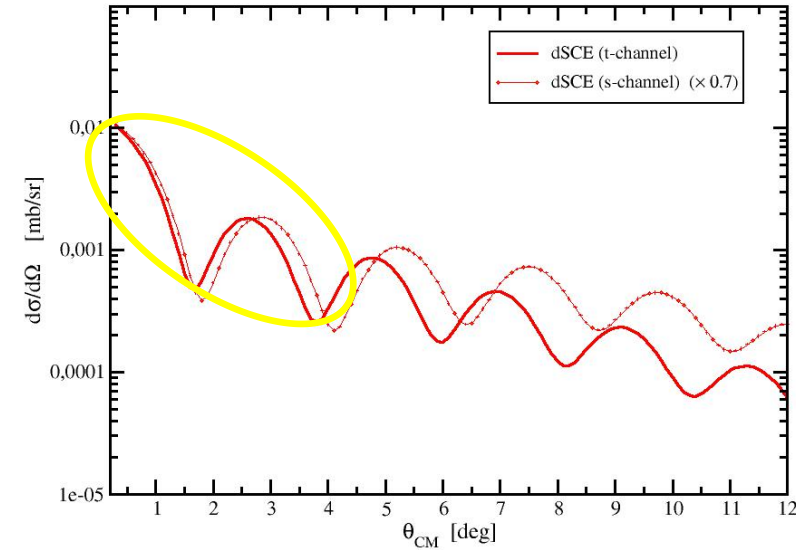


# Sequential DCE Cross Section: t-channel vs s-channel formalism

$^{40}\text{Ca} (^{18}\text{O}, ^{18}\text{Ne}) ^{40}\text{Ar}$  @  $E_{\text{lab}} = 15.3$  AMeV

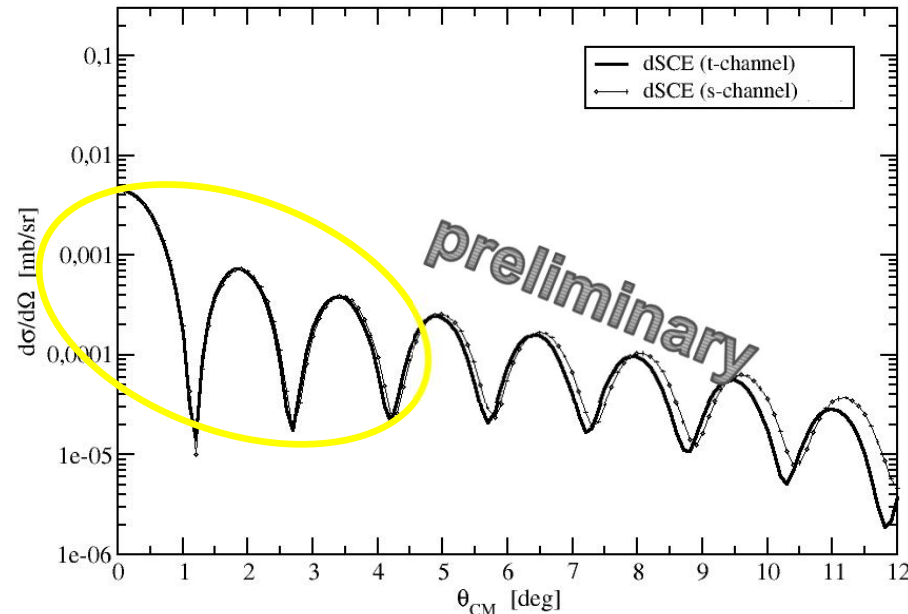
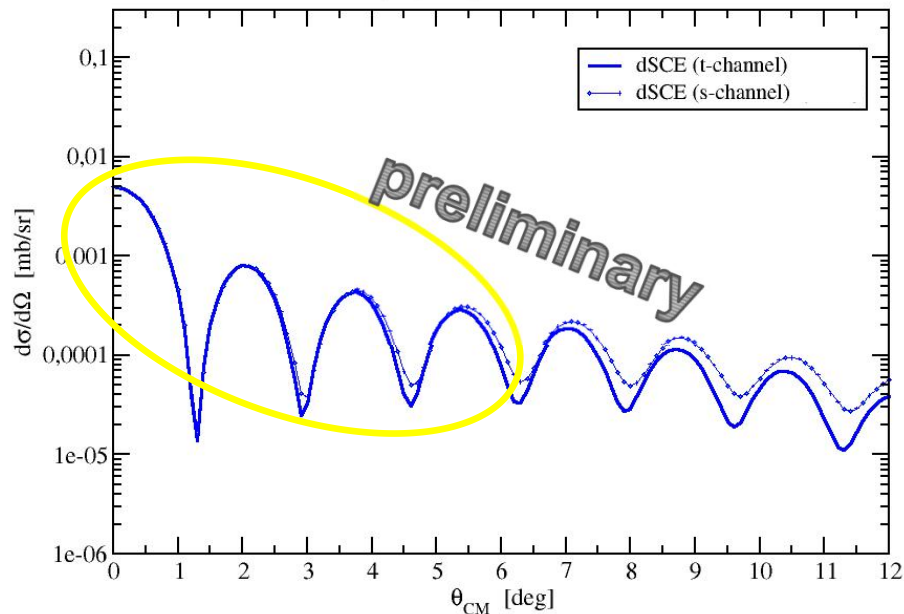
$^{116}\text{Cd} (^{20}\text{Ne}, ^{20}\text{O}) ^{116}\text{Sn}$  @ 15.3 AMeV

- ✓ the diffraction pattern (at very small scattering angles) recovered for all the nuclear dSCE reaction cross sections studied
- checks in progress for better reproducing the order of magnitude together with trend and diffraction pattern for larger scattering angles
- current results show that s-channel formalism represents a promising tool to get separate information on projectile and target dSCE NMEs.



$^{76}\text{Se} (^{18}\text{O}, ^{18}\text{Ne}) ^{76}\text{Ge}$  @ 15.3 AMeV

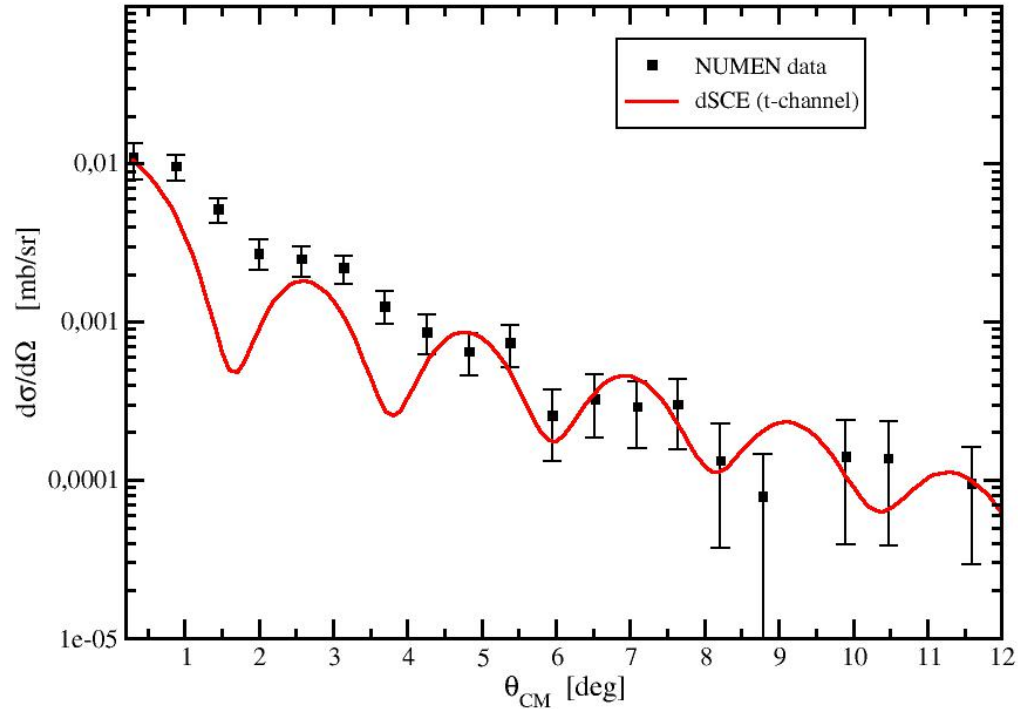
$^{76}\text{Ge} (^{20}\text{Ne}, ^{20}\text{O}) ^{76}\text{Se}$  @ 15.3 AMeV





# Sequential DCE Cross Section calculations compared to the data

$^{40}\text{Ca} (^{18}\text{O}, ^{18}\text{Ne}) ^{40}\text{Ar}$  @  $E_{\text{lab}} = 15.3$  AMeV



J.I. B., S. Burrello, M. Colonna, J.A. Lay, H. Lenske, PLB 807 (2020) 135528  
F. Cappuzzello et al., Progress in Particle and Nuclear Physics, submitted

**Integral xsec (nb) in  $3^\circ < \theta_{\text{lab}} < 13^\circ$**

$^{116}\text{Cd}(^{20}\text{Ne}, ^{20}\text{O})^{116}\text{Sn}$

**Exp.**

**Theo.**

**$13 \pm 2$**

**1.4**

**Integrated  $\sigma$  [nb] in  $0^\circ < \theta_{\text{lab}} < 8^\circ$**

$^{76}\text{Se}(^{18}\text{O}, ^{18}\text{Ne})^{76}\text{Ge}$

$^{76}\text{Ge}(^{20}\text{Ne}, ^{20}\text{O})^{76}\text{Se}$

**exp.**

**theo.**

**exp.**

**theo.**

**$29 \pm 6$**

**14.6**

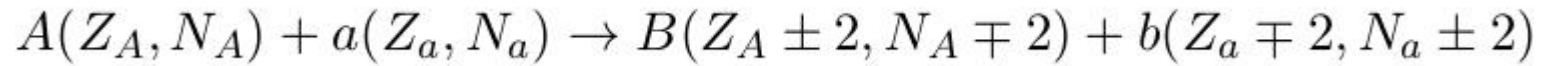
**$30 \pm 6$**

**11.3**

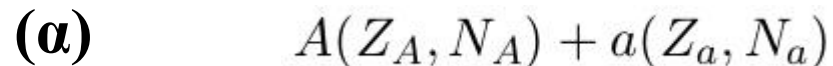
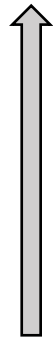
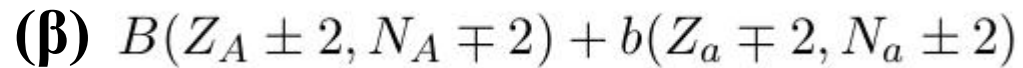
Discrepancies with the data could be related to:

- effect of nuclear structure deformations (affecting also SCE calculations)
- contribution of Majorana-like mechanism

# ..some hint on Majorana-like HIDCE reaction mechanism...

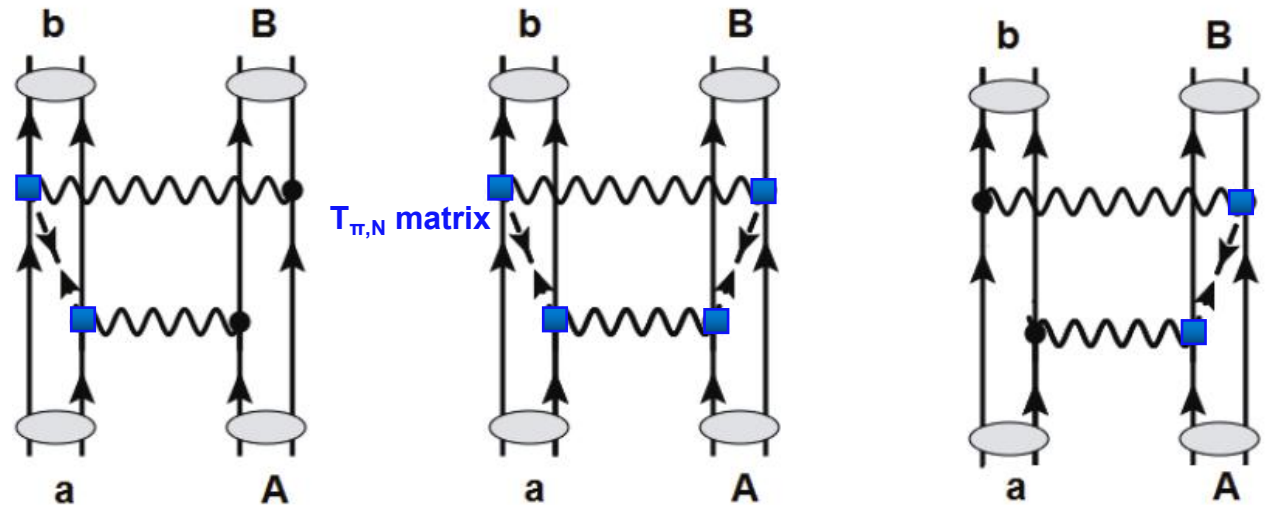


$$\mathcal{T}_{\pi N} = (T_0 + T_1 \mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{p}' + iT_2 \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot (\mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{p}')) \mathbf{T} \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}$$



## Majorana-like DCE (mDCE)

sequence of two *Correlated* SCE reactions  
( $0\nu\beta\beta$ -like mechanism)

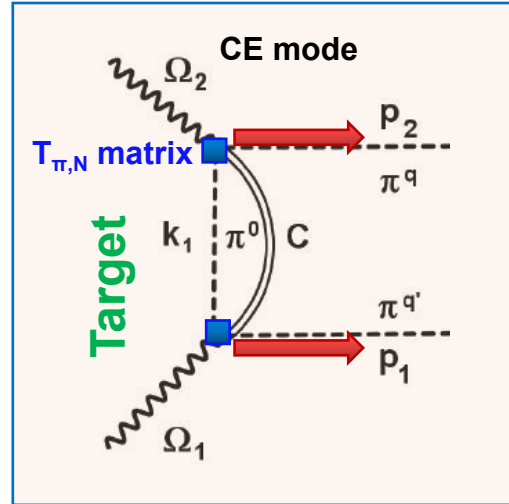


H. Lenske, IOP Conf. Series: Journal of Physics: Conf. Series **1056** (2018) 012030  
 E. Santopinto *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C 98 061601 (R) (2018)  
 H. Lenske *et al.*, Progress in Particle and Nuclear Physics 109 (2019) 103716  
 F. Cappuzzello *et al.*, Progress in Particle and Nuclear Physics, submitted

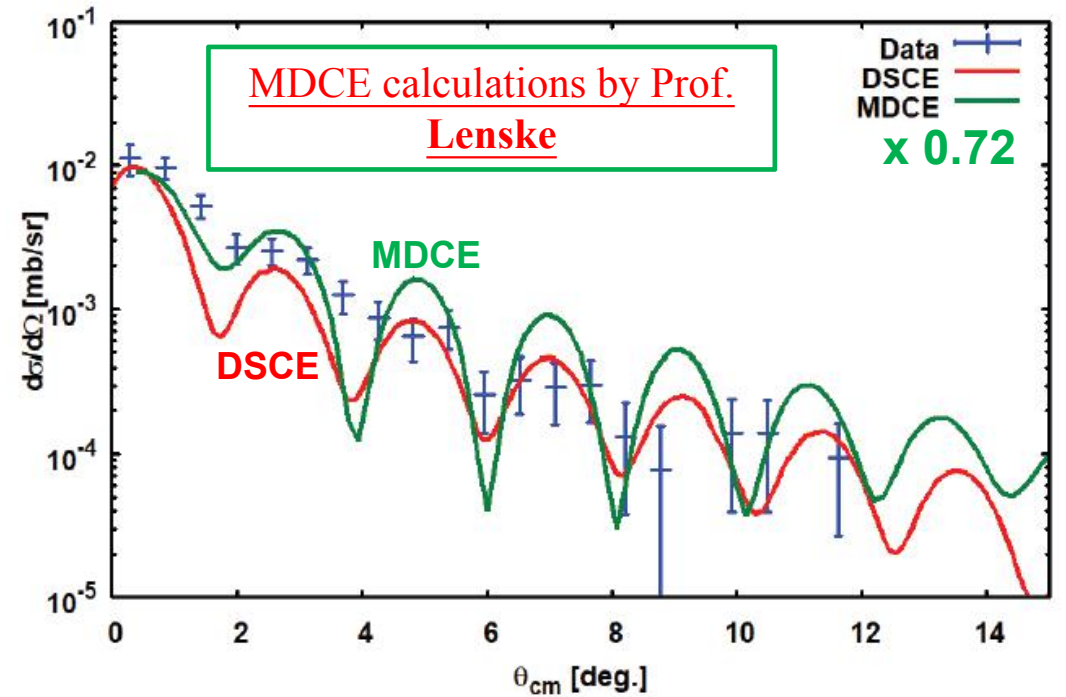
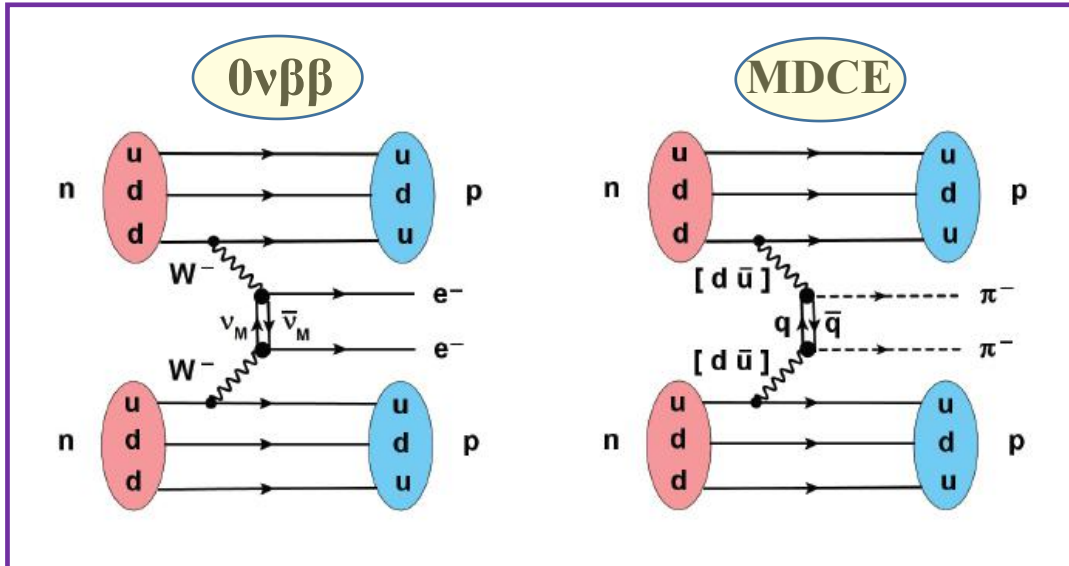
# DCE reactions by double meson exchange: MDCE

- Analogies with  $0\nu\beta\beta$  matrix elements  
 → Majorana-like DCE (MDCE)

H. Lenske et al., Progr. in Part. and Nucl. Phys. 109 (2019) 103716  
 F. Cappuzzello et al., PPNP (2022), submitted



- MDCE differential cross section  
 (*diagonal s-wave and p-wave  $T_{\pi,N}$  contributions in NMEs*)



$^{40}\text{Ca}(^{18}\text{O}, ^{18}\text{Ne}_{g.s.})^{40}\text{Ar}_{g.s.}$  @ 15.3 MeV/u

# SUMMARY and OUTLOOK

- Sequential DCE (dSCE) cross section calculations progressively underestimate data for increasingly heavier nuclear systems:
  - contribution of Majorana-like DCE reaction mechanism, which should be coherently added to the sequential one
  - possible effect of nuclear deformation not properly treated (already affecting SCE)
  - > further improvement of nuclear structure inputs → testing new QRPA code
    - check the effect of nuclear deformations
    - try to establish a protocol allowing to better reproduce experimental energy spectra
- to refine dSCE - s-channel formalism in order to be able to extract separately projectile and target nuclear matrix elements from DCE cross section measurements
- calculations already performed for g.s. → g.s. DCE transitions : extension to g.s. → (excited states) DCE



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THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR KIND ATTENTION !