

# $^{57}\text{Fe}(n,\alpha)^{54}\text{Cr}$ and $^{63}\text{Cu}(n,\alpha)^{60}\text{Co}$ cross sections in the MeV region

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# Outline



- Introduction
- Measurements
- Results

# I. Introduction

## JINR-PKU Protocol



北京大学  
PEKING UNIVERSITY

**Memorandum between  
the Joint Institute for Nuclear Research and Peking University**

**Protocol**

of the collaboration on carrying out joint studies on the mechanism of interaction of neutrons with nuclei and on the properties of high excited nuclear states between the Joint Institute for Nuclear Research, Dubna, Russia and Peking University, Beijing, China.

**As of 15.03.2005**

The collaboration between the two institutions has been fruitful and successful, and the period of validity of the Protocol is extended once for four years until December 31, 2012. At present, both sides would like to continue the collaboration and to extend the period of validity of the above Protocol for another four years until December 31, 2016.

Director of the Joint Institute  
for Nuclear Research

Prof. V.A. Matveev

  
Dec. 20, 2012



President of  
Peking University

Prof. ZHOU Qifeng

  
Nov. 22, 2012





# Results of cooperation



□ (n,α) reactions measured:

**Light**

**Medium**

**Heavy**

${}^6\text{Li}$   ${}^{10}\text{B}$   ${}^{35}\text{Cl}$   ${}^{40}\text{Ca}$   ${}^{54,57}\text{Fe}$   ${}^{58}\text{Ni}$   ${}^{63}\text{Cu}$   ${}^{64,66,67}\text{Zn}$   ${}^{95}\text{Mo}$   ${}^{143}\text{Nd}$   ${}^{147,149}\text{Sm}$

triton  
production    Reactor  
control

Structural materials  
Fast reactor, Fusion reactor, ADS

Fission products

**Nuclear energy**

**Nuclear physics  
nuclear astrophysics**

□ Combined with theoretical calculations, systematic results are obtained.



# $^{57}\text{Fe}(n,\alpha)^{54}\text{Cr}$



- ❑ No measurement data exist
- ❑ Data exist in all evaluated data libraries with significant discrepancies
- ❑  $^{57}\text{Fe}$  abundance in natural iron: 2.119%
- ❑ Cross section is small, and in MeV region increase rapidly
- ❑  $^{54}\text{Cr}$  stable, so activation method unavailable
- ❑  $^{54}\text{Cr}$  separate levels:  
0,  $0^+$ ; 834.855,  $2^+$ ; 1823.93,  $4^+$  ; 2619.68  $2^+$ ;...keV



# $^{63}\text{Cu}(n,\alpha)^{60}\text{Co}$



- 19 measurement data, in 40+ years
- In MeV region mainly two measurements, with discrepancy
- $^{63}\text{Cu}$  abundance in natural copper: 63.17%
- Cross section is small, and in MeV region increase rapidly
- $^{60}\text{Co}$  is radioactive, activation method available
- $^{60}\text{Co}$  levels are **dense**:  
0, 5<sup>+</sup>; 58.59, 2<sup>+</sup>; 277.2, 4<sup>+</sup>; 288.4, 3<sup>+</sup>; 435.7, 5<sup>+</sup>... keV



# $^{57}\text{Fe}$ & $^{63}\text{Cu}(n,\alpha)$ comparison



	$^{57}\text{Fe}(n,\alpha)$	$^{63}\text{Cu}(n,\alpha)$
Exp. data	No data	19 measurements
Activation method	unavailable	available
Natural abundance	2.119%	63.17%
obtained results	$(n,\alpha)(n,\alpha_0)(n,\alpha_1)$	only $(n,\alpha)$





# II. Measurements.



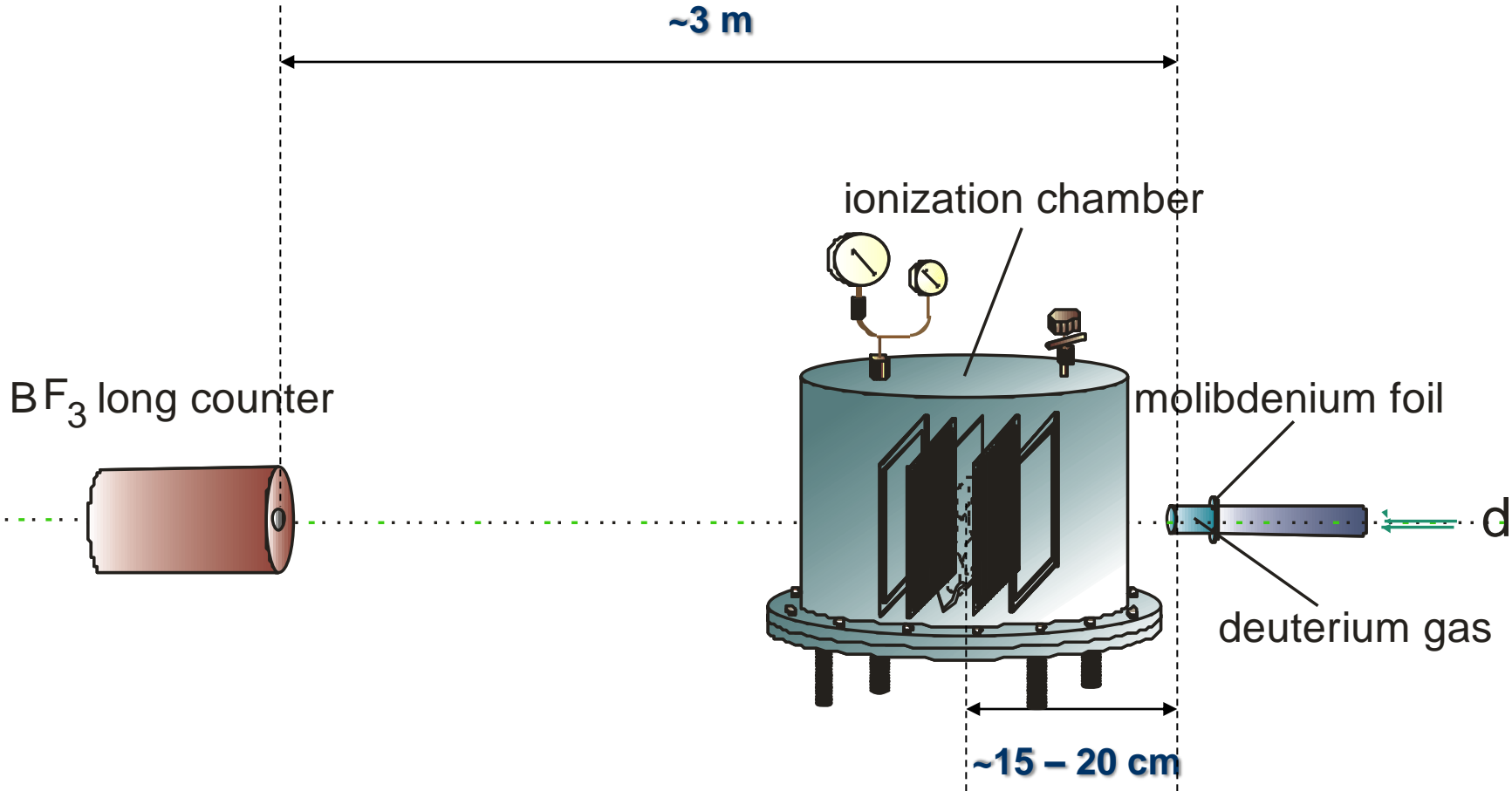
**4.5 MV Van de Graaff Accelerator**  
**Institute of Heavy Ion Physics in Peking University**







# Setup of experiment



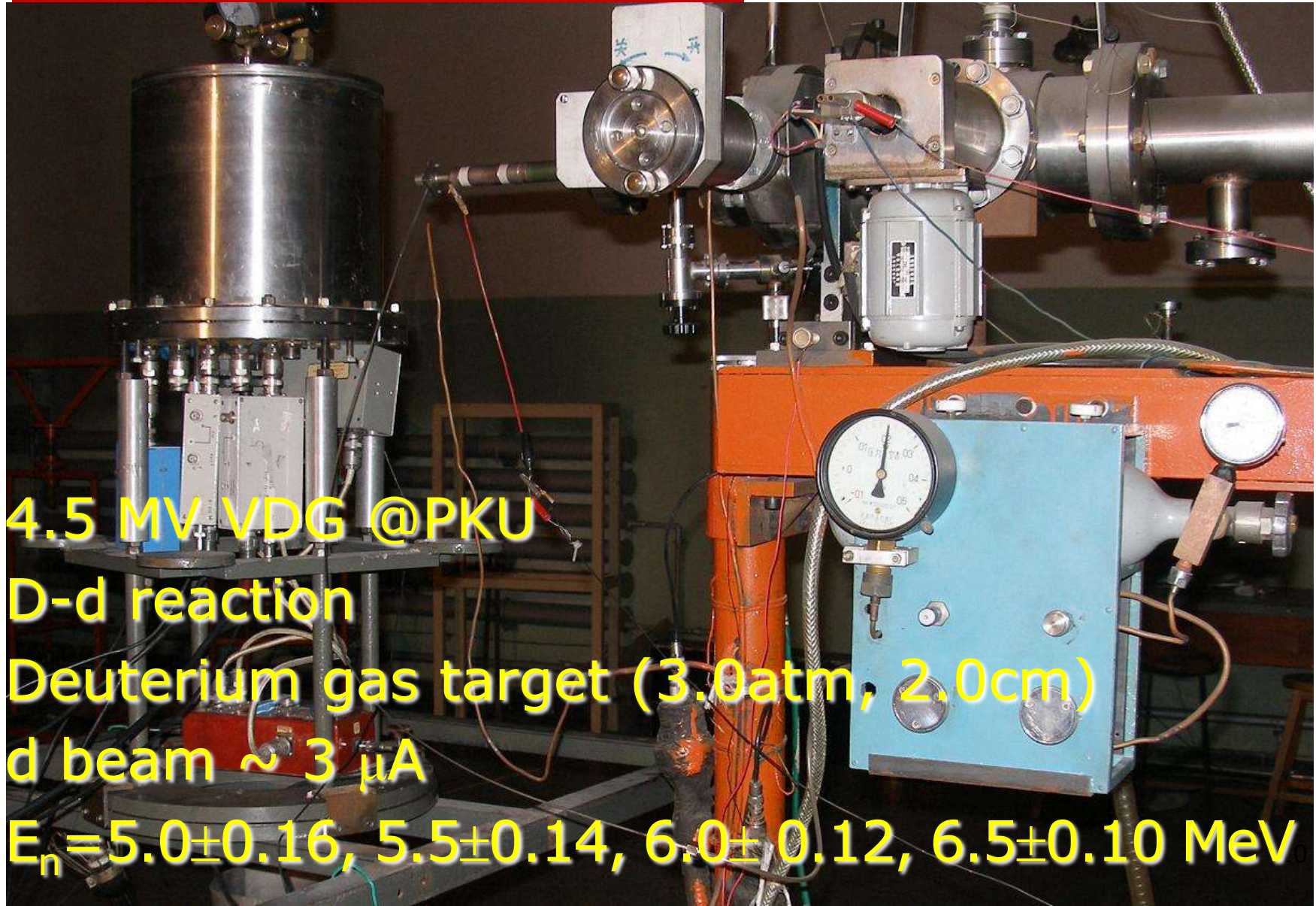
**3 parts:** ③  
**flux measurement**  
 $\text{BF}_3 + {}^{238}\text{U}(n,f)$

②  
**particle detector**  
GIC

①  
**neutron source**  
d-d



# Neutron source



- 4.5 MV VDG @PKU
- D-d reaction
- Deuterium gas target (3.0atm, 2.0cm)
- d beam  $\sim 3 \mu\text{A}$
- $E_n = 5.0 \pm 0.16, 5.5 \pm 0.14, 6.0 \pm 0.12, 6.5 \pm 0.10 \text{ MeV}$





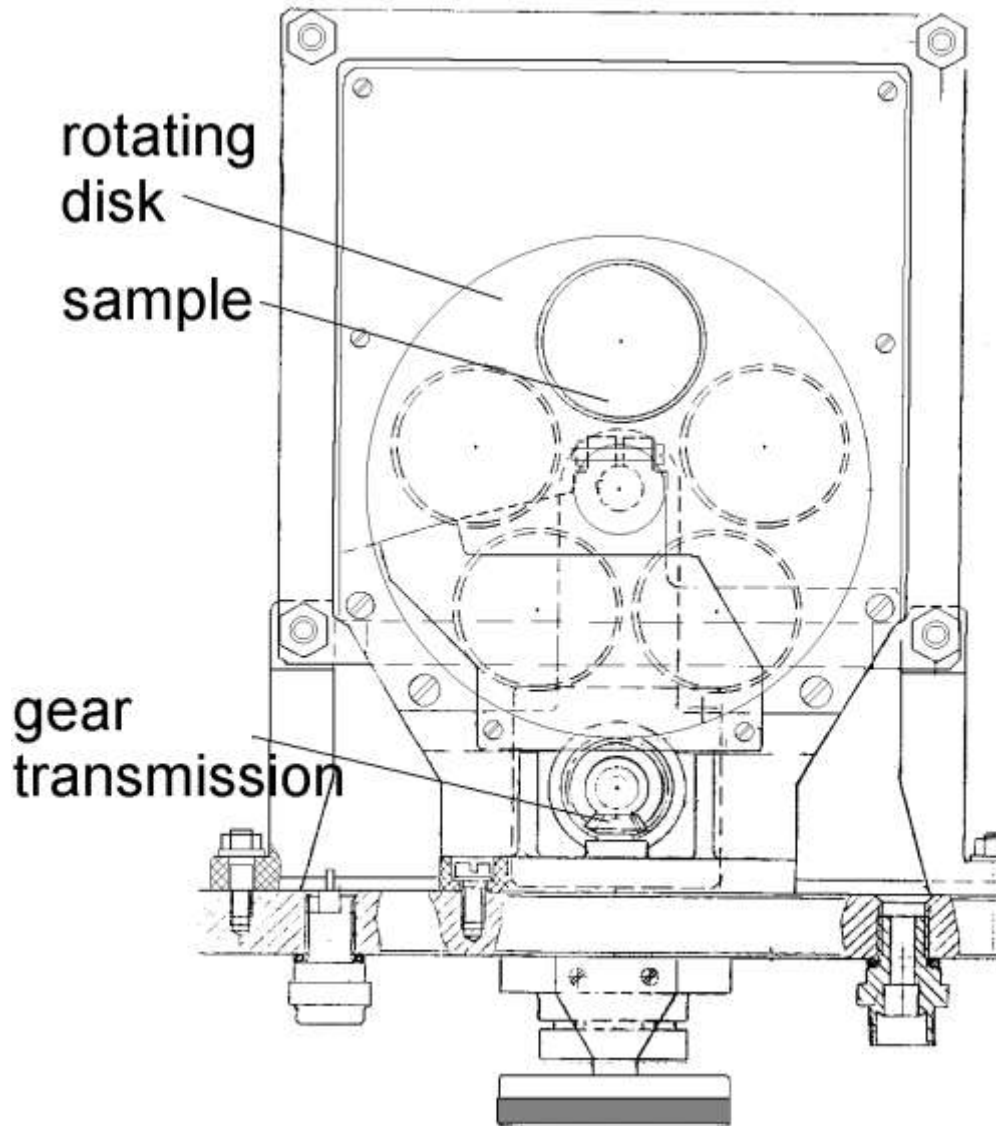
# GIC

- Twin GIC
  - back to back:  $\sim 4\pi$
- 5 back-to-back sample positions
- Working gas:  
Kr+2.82%CO<sub>2</sub>, 1 atm
- distances:
  - cathode-grid 61.0 mm
  - grid-anode 15.0 mm
  - anode-shield 9.0 mm
- $V_a = +750$ ,  $V_g = 0$ ,  
 $V_c = -1500$  V





# Sample changer





# Samples



$^{63}\text{Cu}$

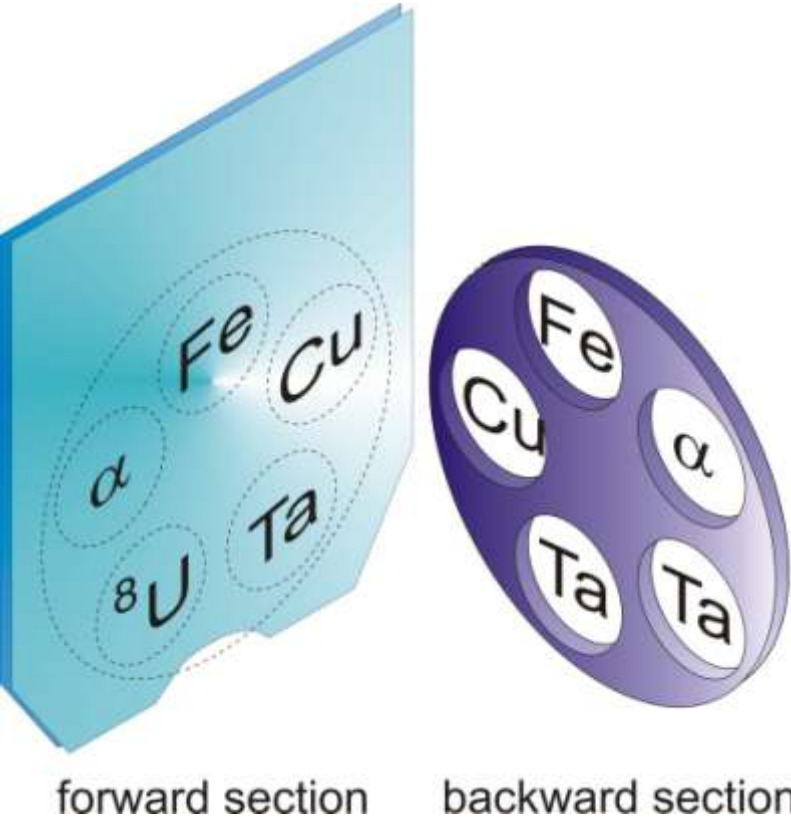


$^{57}\text{Fe}$





# Sample positions



Sample position	Forward direction	Backward direction	Utility
I	$^{57}\text{Fe}$ sample #2	$^{57}\text{Fe}$ sample #1	② Foreground measurement
II	$^{63}\text{Cu}$ sample #2	$^{63}\text{Cu}$ sample #1	③ Foreground measurement
III	Ta sheet	Ta sheet	④ Background measurement
IV	$^{238}\text{U}$	Ta sheet	⑤ Neutron flux calibration
V	compound $\alpha$ source	compound $\alpha$ source	① Electronics adjustment and energy calibration

$^{57}\text{Fe}$ : Event ~10h, background ~6h, flux ~4-6h. 20h for each energy point

$^{63}\text{Cu}$ : Event 10--20h



# Sample data



	<b><math>^{57}\text{Fe}</math> Samples</b>	<b><math>^{63}\text{Cu}</math> Samples</b>	<b><math>^{238}\text{U}</math> Sample</b>
<b>Sample material</b>	Enriched $^{57}\text{Fe}$	Enriched $^{63}\text{Cu}$	$^{238}\text{U}_3\text{O}_8$
<b>Isotopic abundance</b>	$^{57}\text{Fe}$ <b>95.9%</b>	$^{63}\text{Cu}$ <b>99.8%</b>	$^{238}\text{U}$ <b>99.999%</b>
<b>Sample thickness</b>	<b>582.5<sup>a</sup> and 599.1<sup>b</sup> <math>\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2</math></b>	<b>770<sup>a</sup> and 781<sup>b</sup> <math>\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2</math></b>	<b>493.6 <math>\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2</math> (<math>^{238}\text{U}</math> only)</b>
<b>Sample diameter</b>	<b>45.0<sup>a</sup> and 41.0<sup>b</sup> mm</b>	<b>48.0<sup>a</sup> and 43.5<sup>b</sup> mm</b>	<b>45.0 mm</b>
<b>Backing</b>	<b>Ta sheet</b>	<b>Ta sheet</b>	<b>Ta sheet</b>

<sup>a</sup> forward sample, <sup>b</sup> backward sample

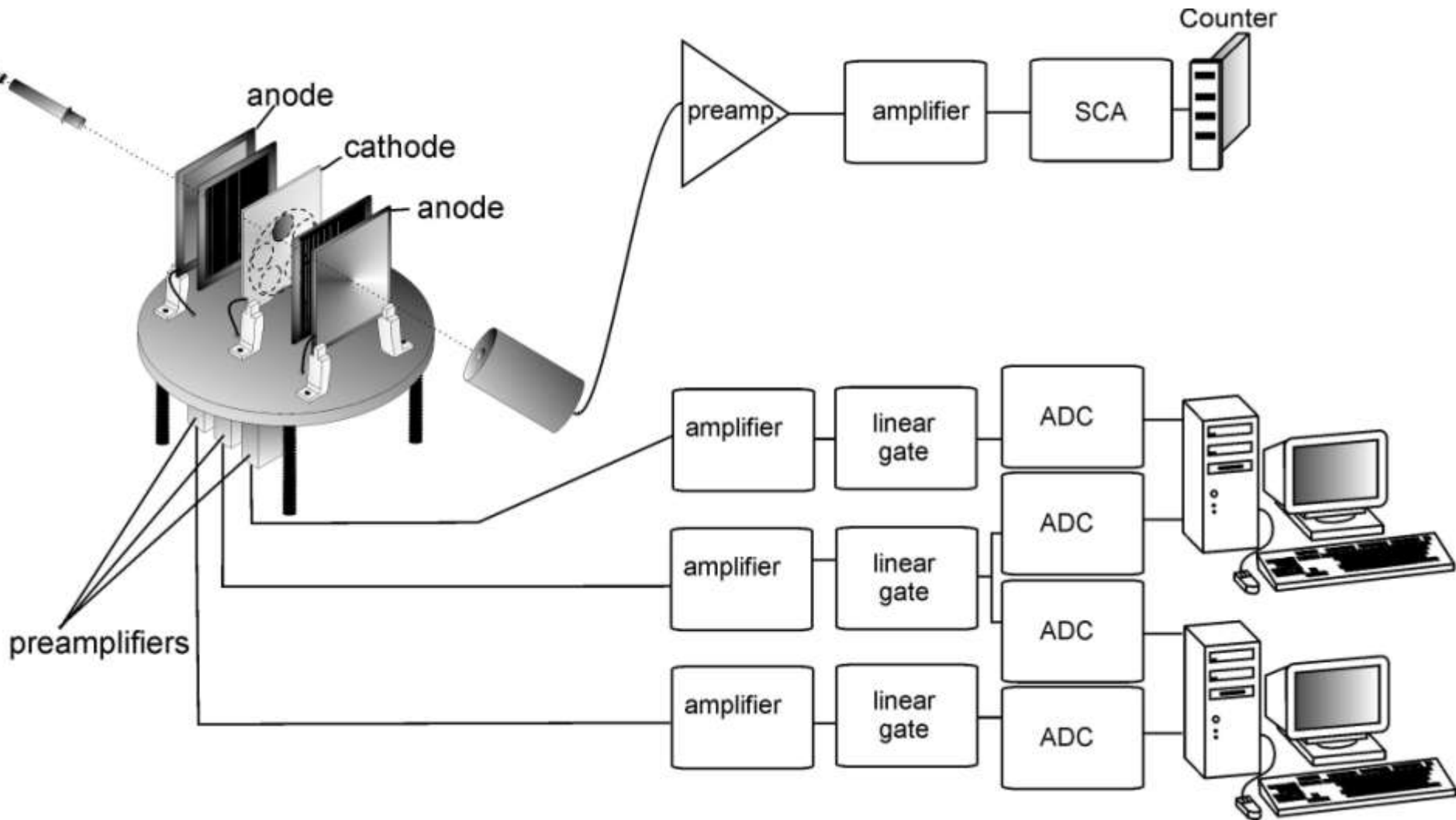
**Sample preparation method: press**

**Russian material, China CIAE preparation**





# Electronics



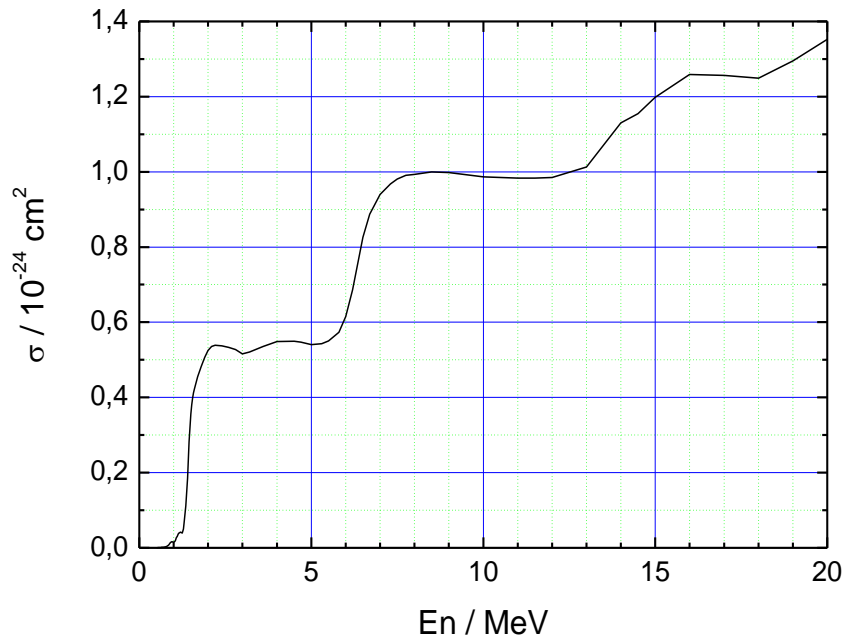
Block diagrams of the electronics.



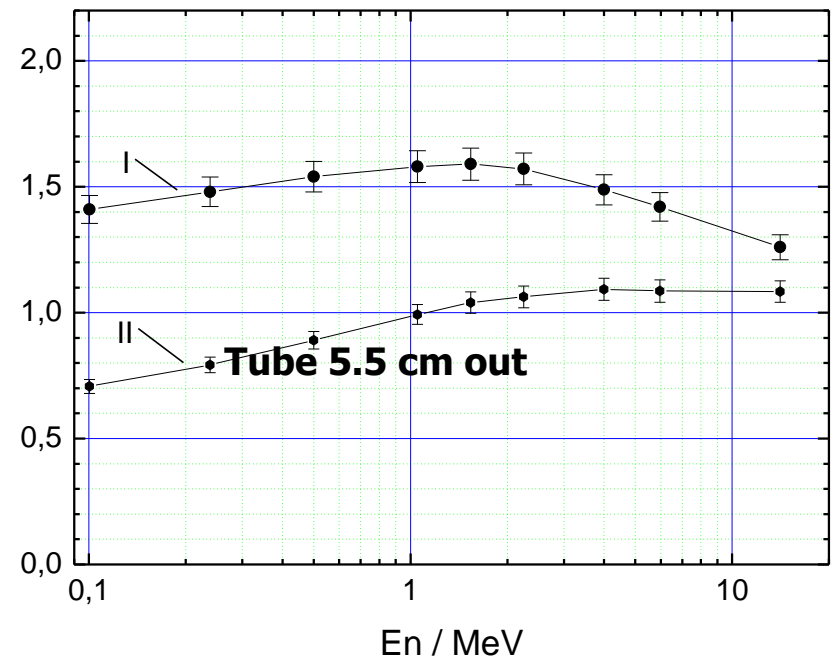
# Flux calibration



□  $^{238}\text{U}$  fission &  $\text{BF}_3$  long counter  
ENDF/B-VII



**$^{238}\text{U}$  fission cross section  
as a function of the neutron energy.**



**Relative efficiency  
of the  $\text{BF}_3$  long counter.**



# Data Processing



- ❑ Energy calibration
- ❑ 0/180°, 90° line determination
- ❑ Background subtraction (E loss correction)
- ❑ Spectrum projection
- ❑ Counts determination
- ❑ Flux determination
- ❑ Theoretical and Monte Carlo calculations
- ❑ Self absorption and threshold loss correction (fission & alpha counts)
- ❑ Correction for alpha loss from higher excited states (R)

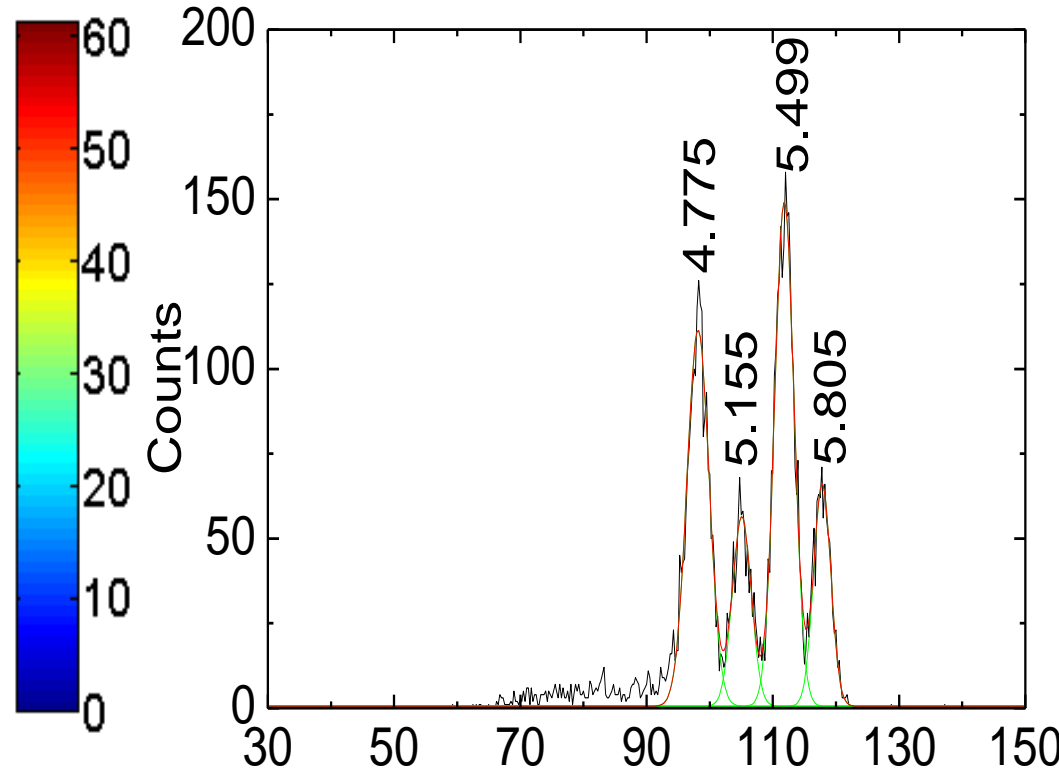
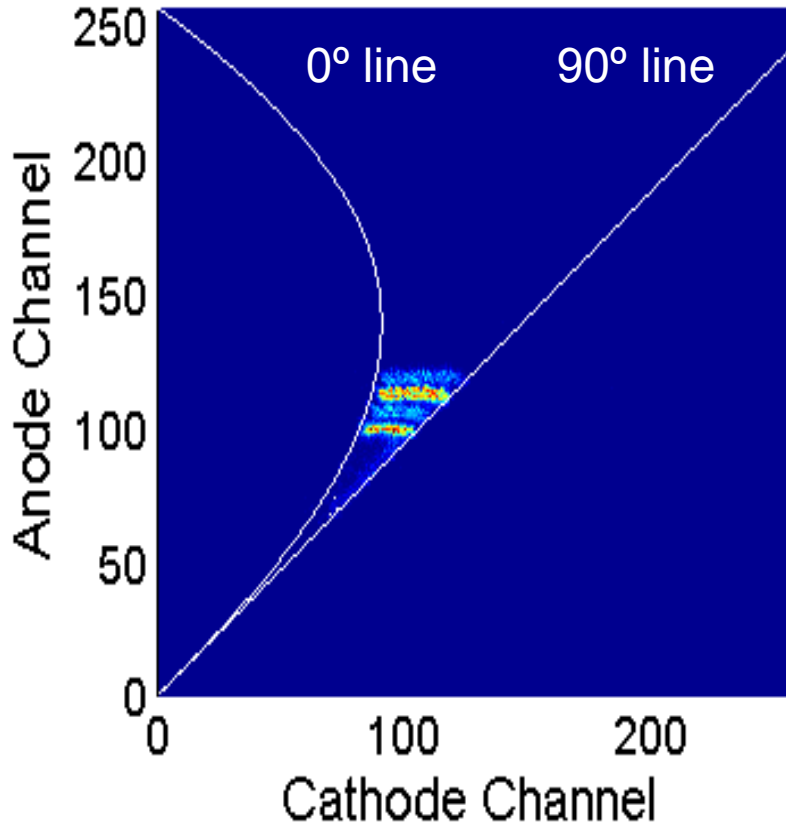


# III. Results



Energy calibration

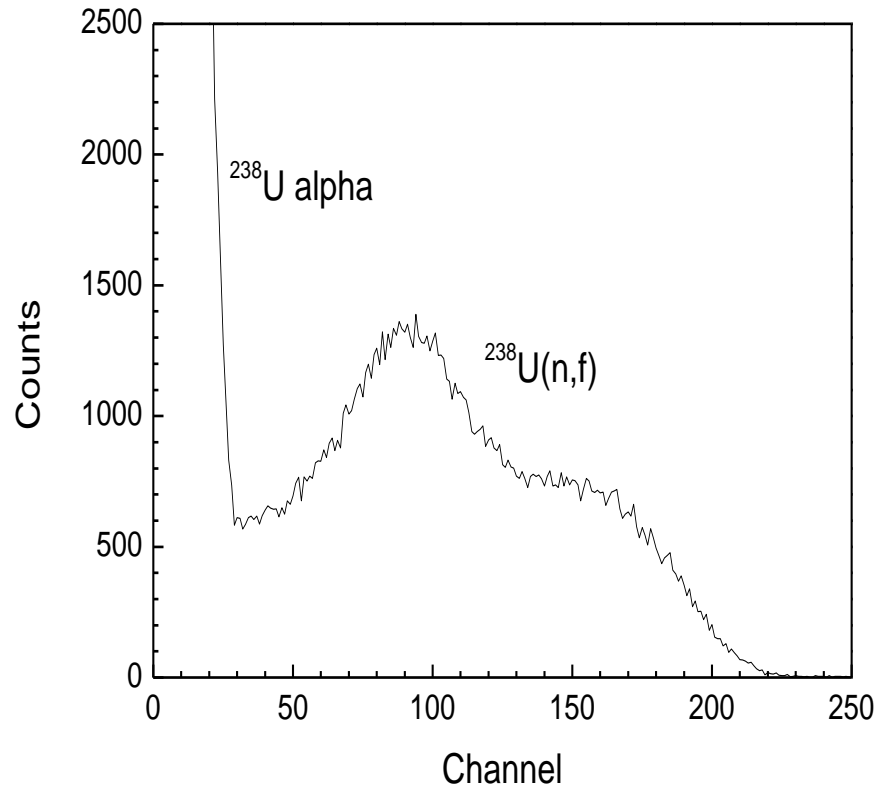
0/180°, 90° line determination



Spectrum of alpha sources.



## Flux determination



$^{238}\text{U}$  Fission spectrum at  $E_n = 6.5$  MeV.

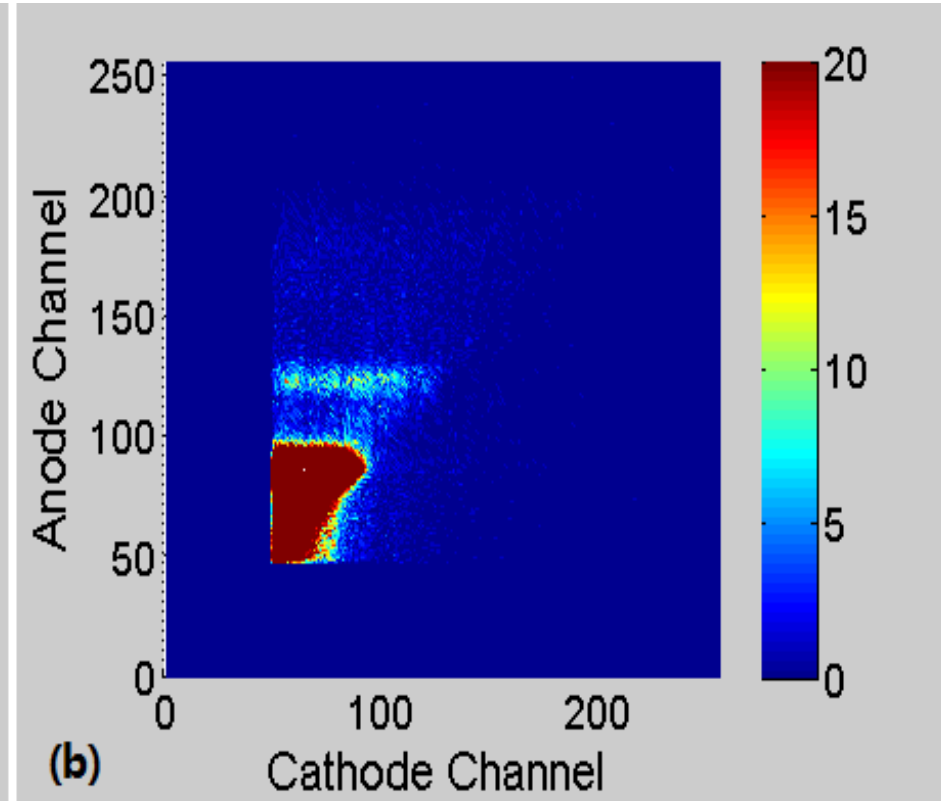
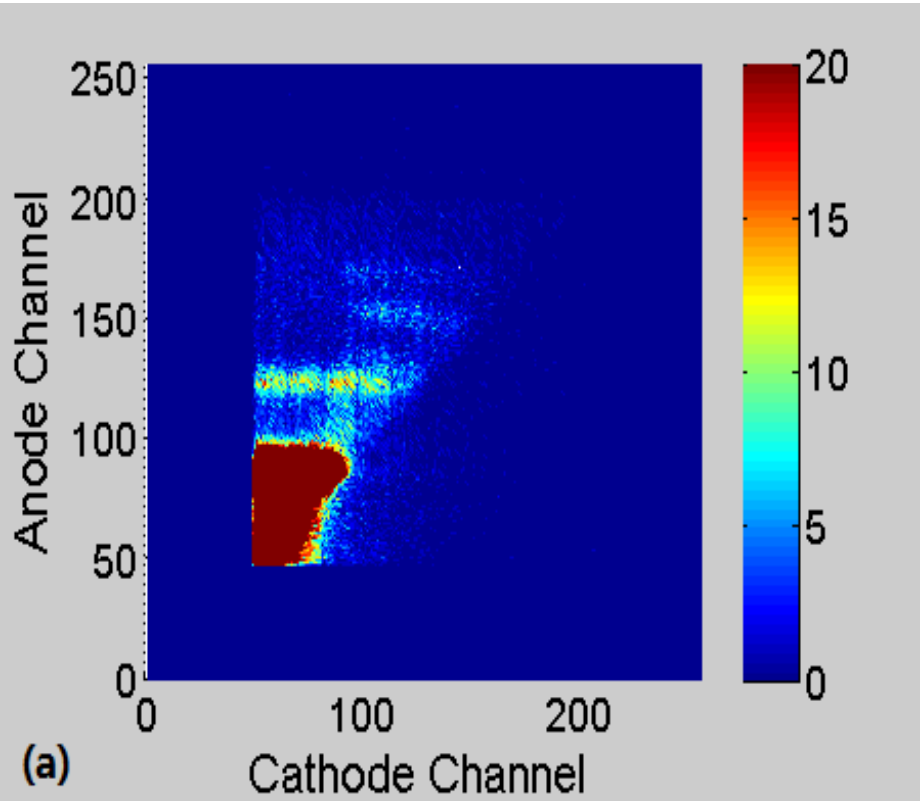


# $^{57}\text{Fe}(n,\alpha)^{54}\text{Cr}$



foreground

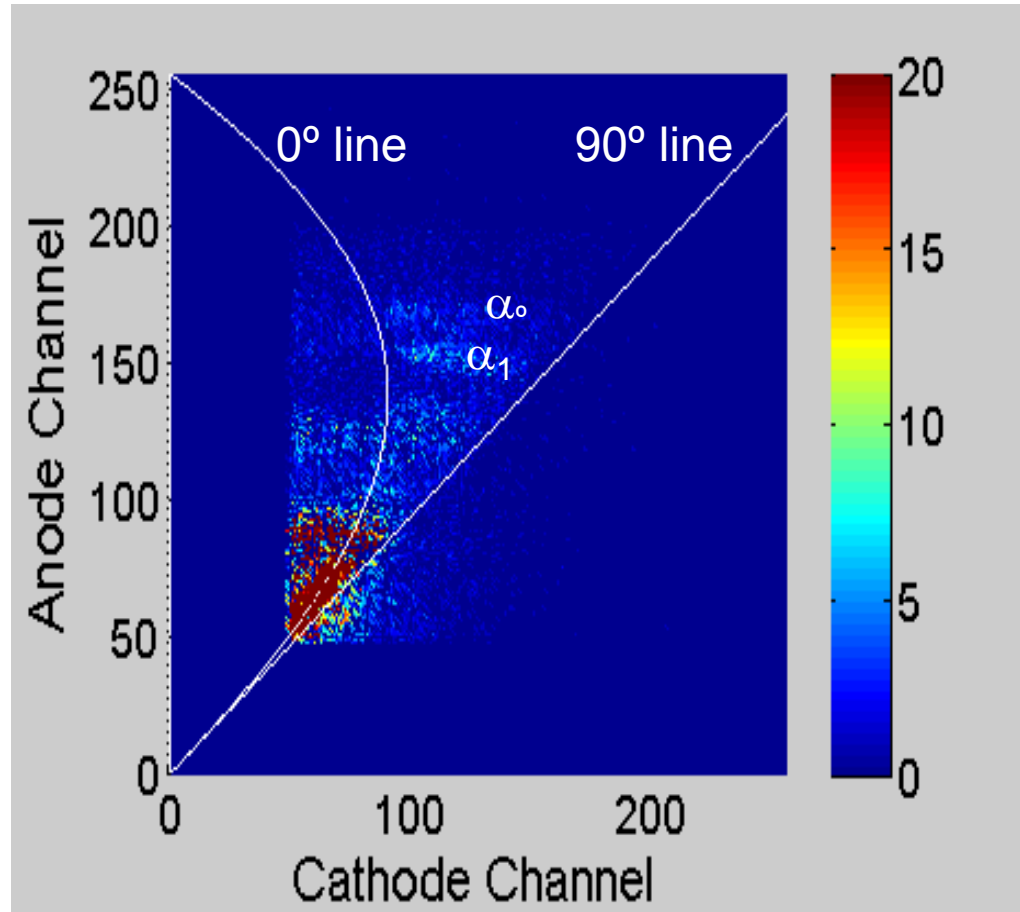
background



Cathode-anode two dimensional spectrum for the forward direction at  $E_n = 6.5$  MeV.



# $^{57}\text{Fe}(n,\alpha)^{54}\text{Cr}$

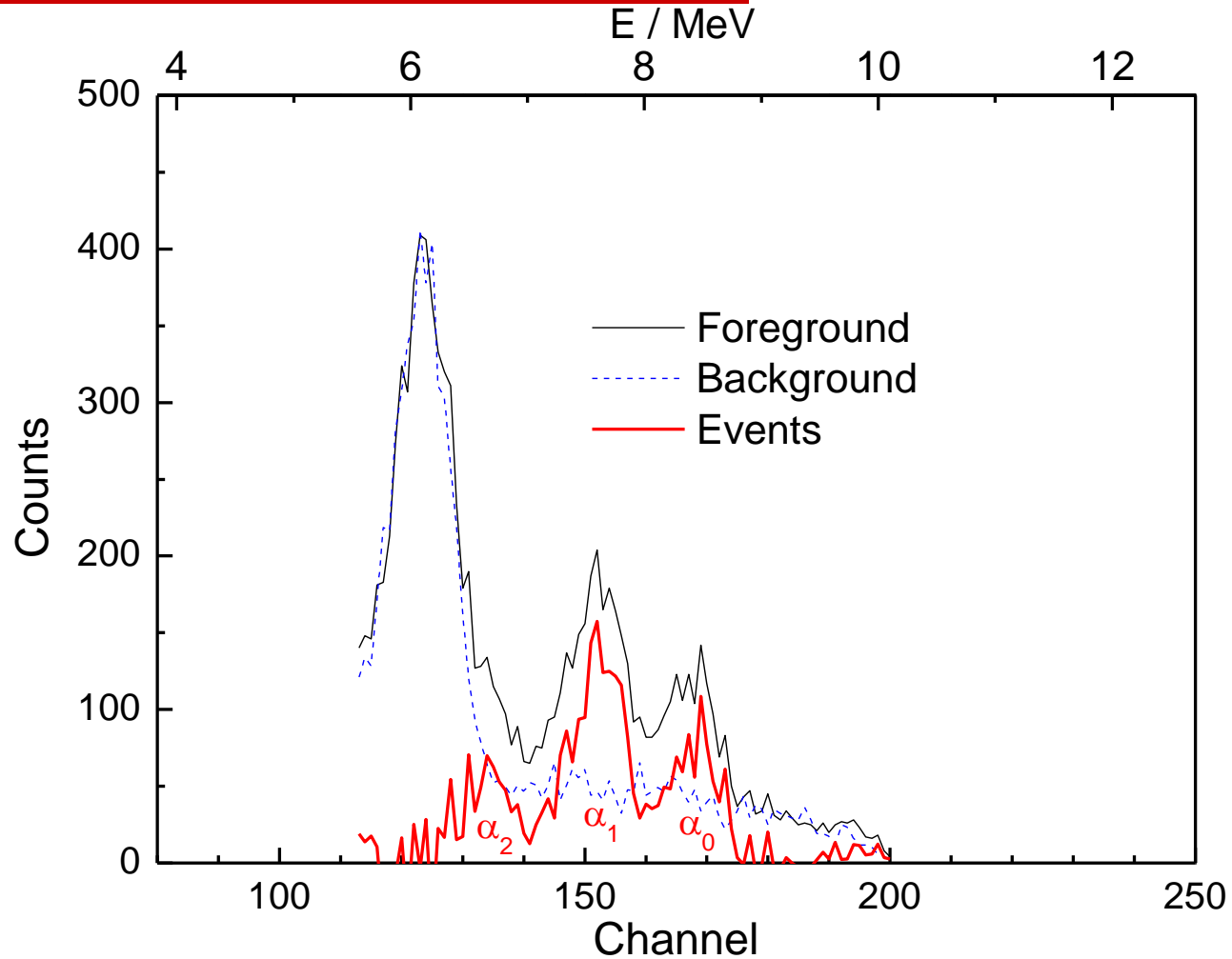


Two dimensional spectrum after background subtraction for the forward direction at  $E_n = 6.5$  MeV.





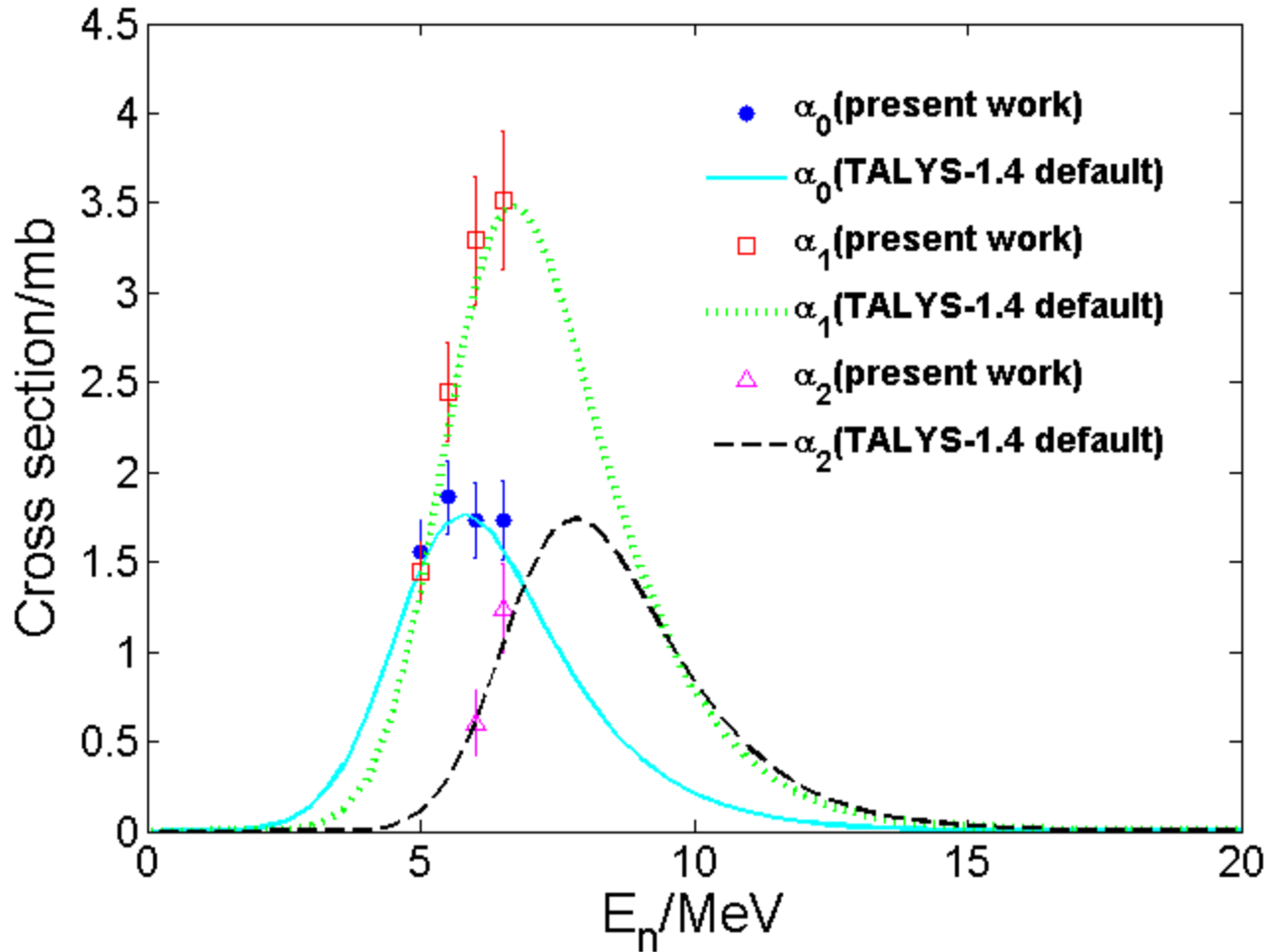
# $^{57}\text{Fe}(n,\alpha)^{54}\text{Cr}$



Anode spectrum for the forward direction at  $E_n = 6.5$  MeV.



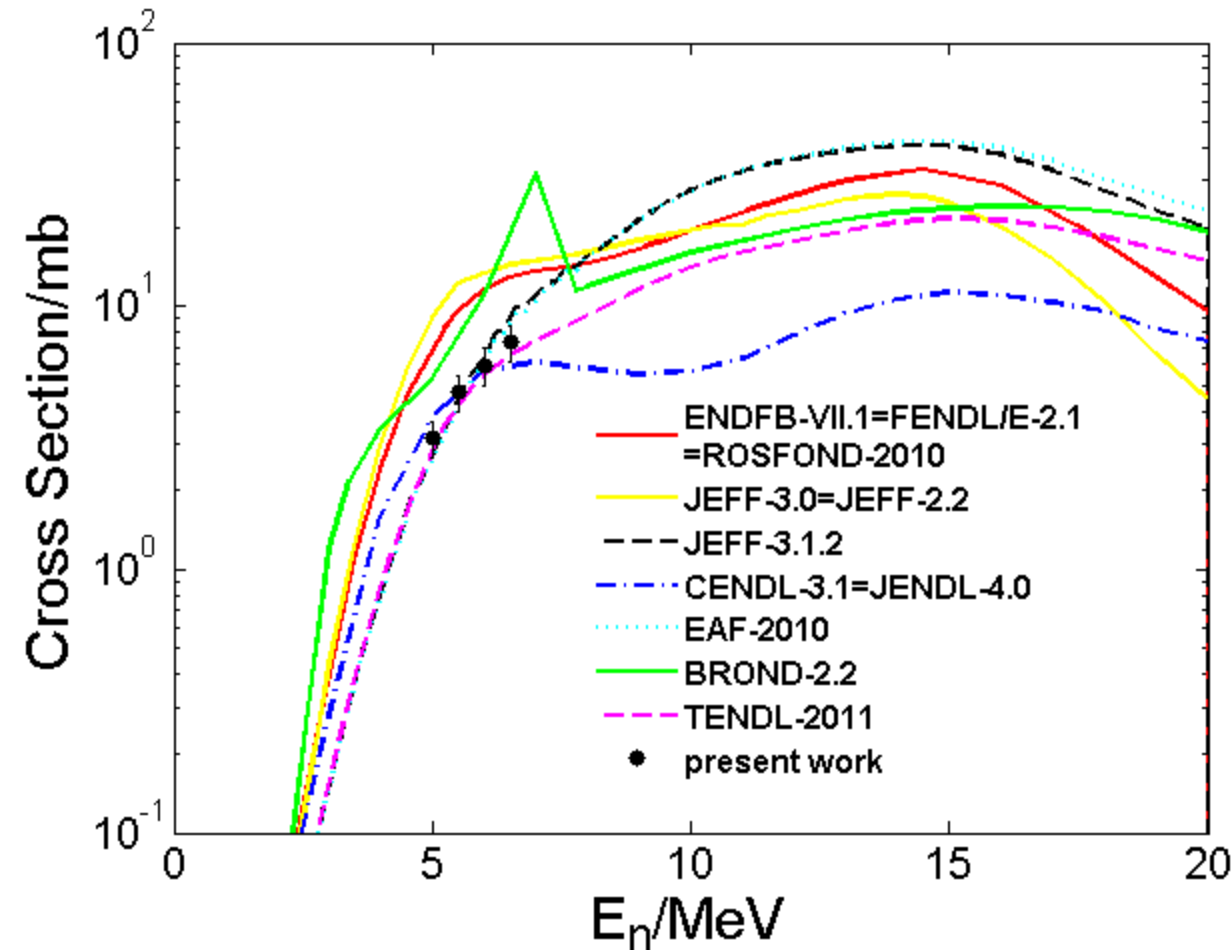
# $^{57}\text{Fe}(n, \alpha_0), (n, \alpha_1), (n, \alpha_2)$



Present results compared with TALYS-1.4 calculations.



# $^{57}\text{Fe}(n,\alpha)^{54}\text{Cr}$

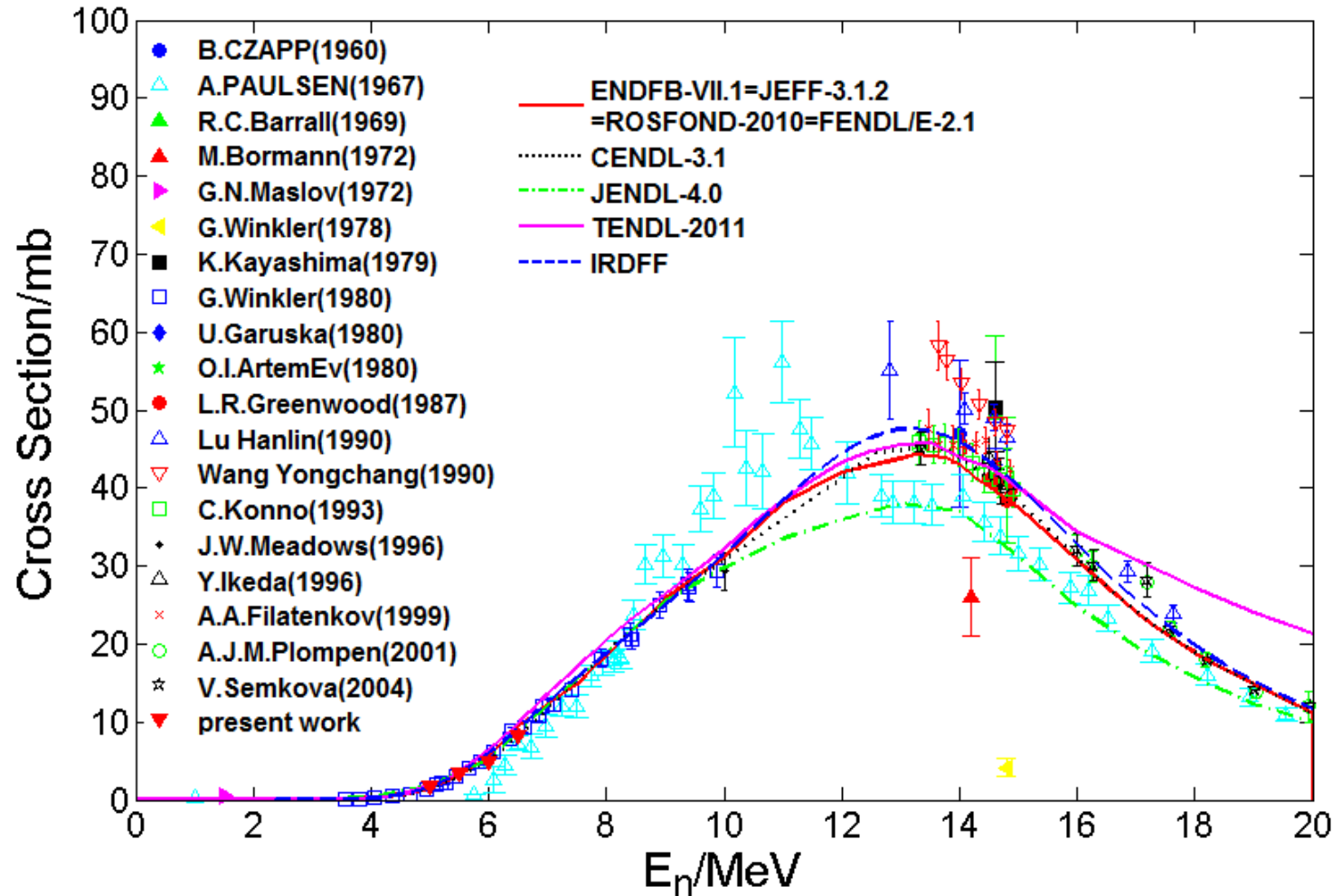


<b>E (MeV)</b>	<b><math>\sigma</math> (mb)</b>
5.0	3.1
5.5	4.7
6.0	5.8
6.5	7.2

Present results compared with existing evaluations. 25



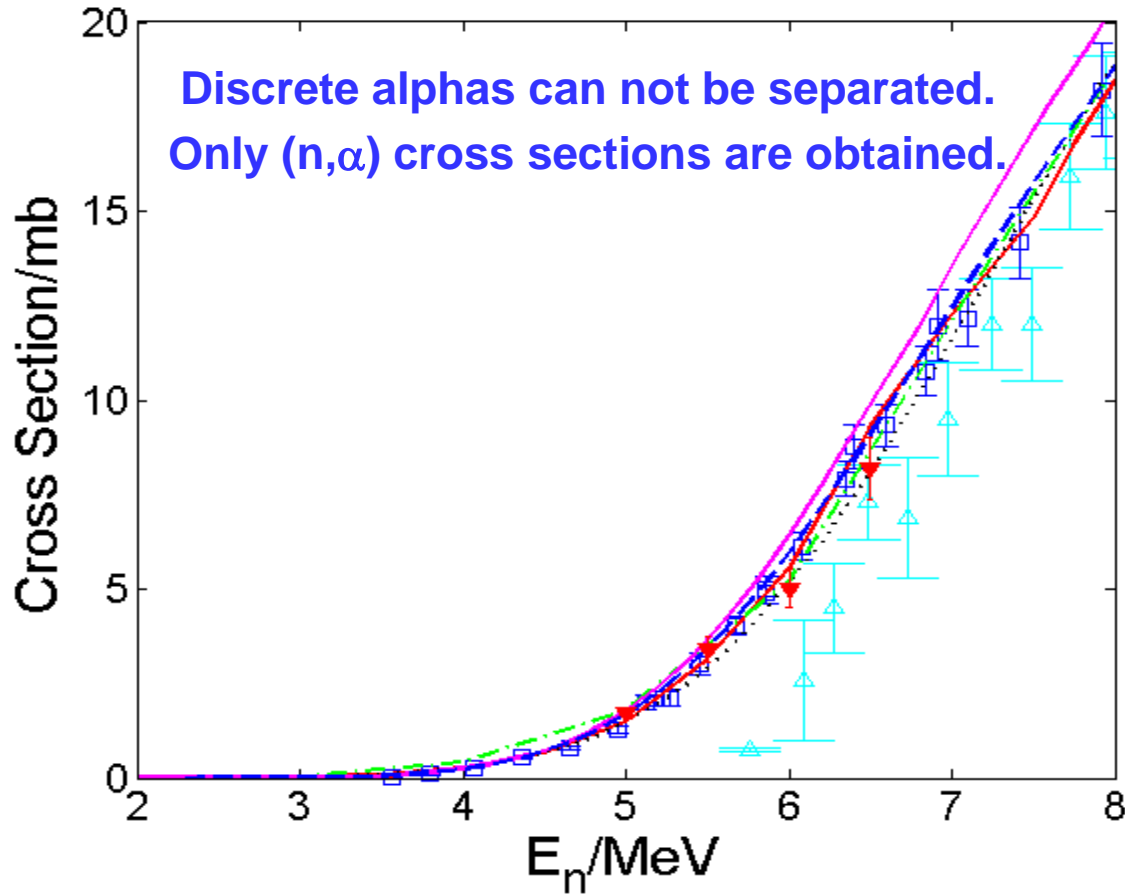
# $^{63}\text{Cu}(n,\alpha)^{60}\text{Co}$



Present results compared with other measurements and evaluations.



# $^{63}\text{Cu}(n,\alpha)^{60}\text{Co}$



<b>E (MeV)</b>	<b><math>\sigma</math> (mb)</b>
5.0	1.7
5.5	3.4
6.0	5.0
6.5	8.2

Present results compared with other measurements and evaluations.



# Summary



- $^{57}\text{Fe}/^{63}\text{Cu}$  samples are prepared
- $^{57}\text{Fe}(n,\alpha)$ ,  $(n,\alpha_0)$ ,  $(n,\alpha_1)$ ,  $(n,\alpha_2)$  cross sections and  $^{63}\text{Cu}(n,\alpha)$  cross sections are measured @4.5MV VDG PKU
- at  $E_n = 5.0, 5.5, 6.0, 6.5$  MeV
- Data are compared with existing evaluations and TALYS-1.4 calculations
- Results are preliminary, further check, and measurements are needed

**Thank you!**