

# Measurement of cross-section of the $p + {}^7\text{Li}$ , $d + \text{Li}$ , $p + {}^{11}\text{B}$ , and $d + \text{B}$ reactions at ion energies up to 2.2 MeV

Sergey TASKAEV

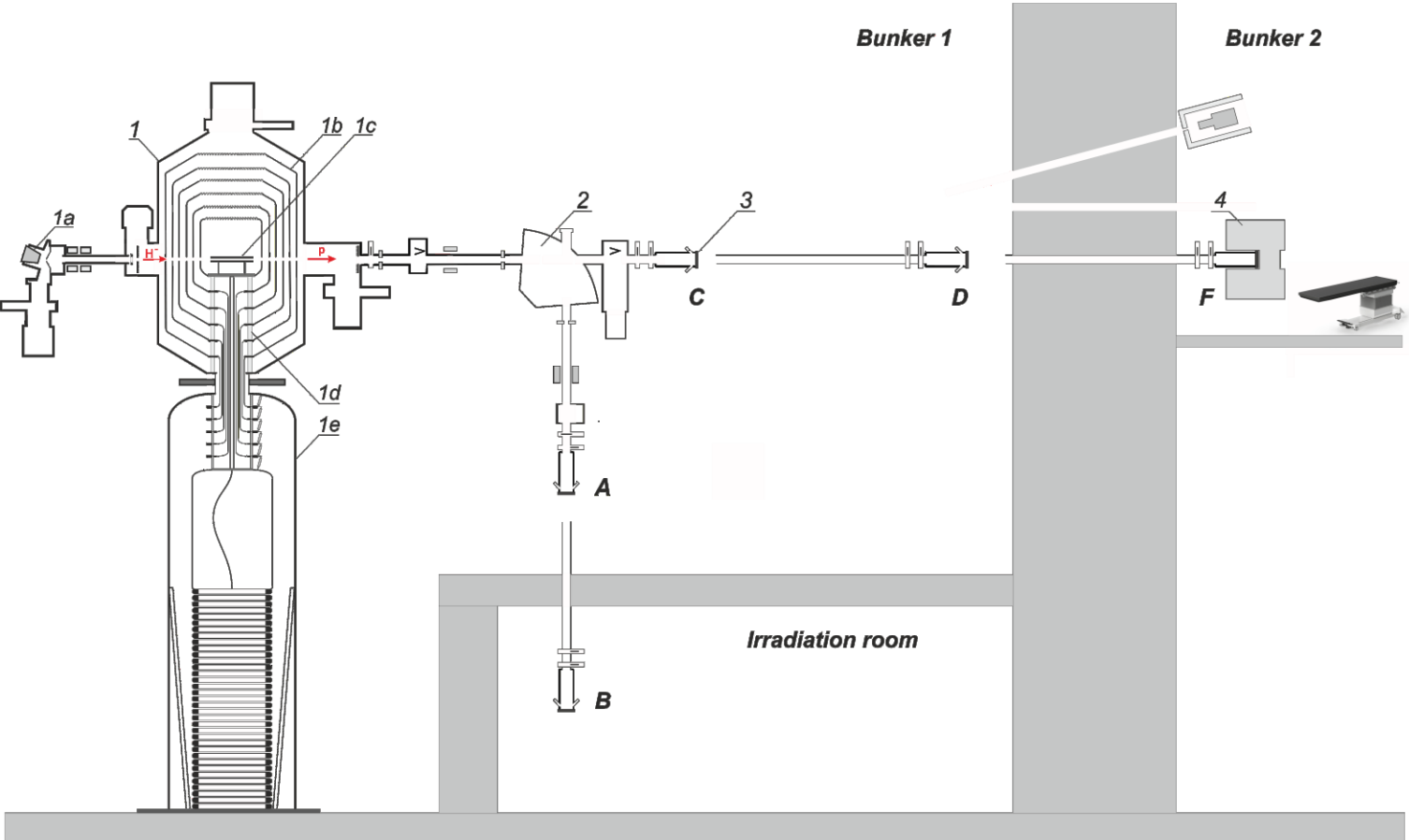
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- + ITER Center (Moscow): A. Krasilnikov, S. Meshaninov, G. Nemtsov
- + Tomsk State University (Tomsk): E. Oks
- + Institute of High Current Electronics (Tomsk): A. Nikolaev, G. Yushkov
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# Accelerator based Neutron Source VITA is hand-made state-of-art device comprising

- Vacuum Insulated Tandem Accelerator (VITA)
- solid lithium target
- beam shaping assemblies
- set of gamma, alpha and neutron spectrometers and detectors





## Accelerator based Neutron Source VITA produces:

### High power DC proton/deuteron beam (20 kW):

Energy: ranges from 0.1 MeV to 2.3 MeV

Monochromaticity and stability: 0.1%

Current: ranges from 1 nA to 10 mA

Current stability: 0.4 %

### High flux neutron beam ( $2 \cdot 10^{12} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ):

- ✓ cold ( $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  moderator @ cryo temp.)
- ✓ thermal ( $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  or Plexiglas moderator)
- ✓ epithermal ( $\text{MgF}_2$  moderator)
- ✓ exclusively epithermal (no fast and thermal)
- ✓ over-epithermal
- ✓ monoenergetic (kinematic collimation)
- ✓ fast

Bright source of photons –  ${}^7\text{Li}(p,p'\gamma){}^7\text{Li}$ ,  ${}^{19}\text{F}(p,\alpha e^+e^-){}^{16}\text{O}$

Bright source of  $\alpha$ -particles –  ${}^7\text{Li}(p,\alpha)\alpha$ ,  ${}^{11}\text{B}(p,\alpha)\alpha\alpha$

Bright source of positrons –  ${}^{19}\text{F}(p,\alpha e^+e^-){}^{16}\text{O}$

Bright source of neutrons – up to  $10^4 \text{ n/cm}^3$  (in future)

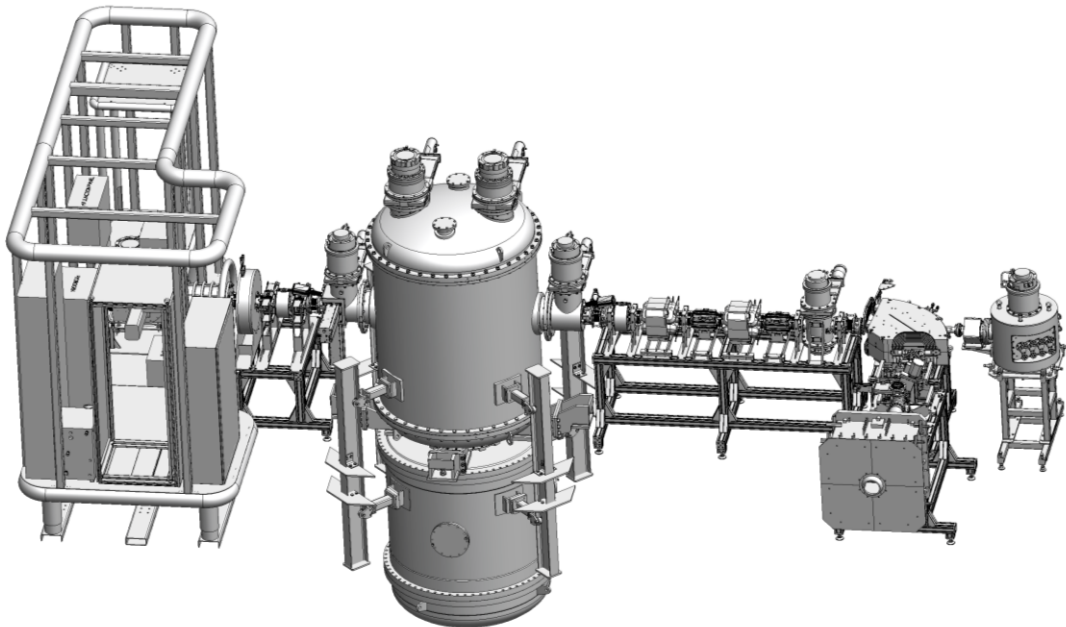




Boron Neutron Capture Therapy is a promising technique for treating malignant tumors by accumulating boron-10 in tumor cells and subsequent irradiation with neutrons. As a result of the capture of a neutron by boron, a nuclear reaction occurs with a large release of energy in the cell, which leads to its death.

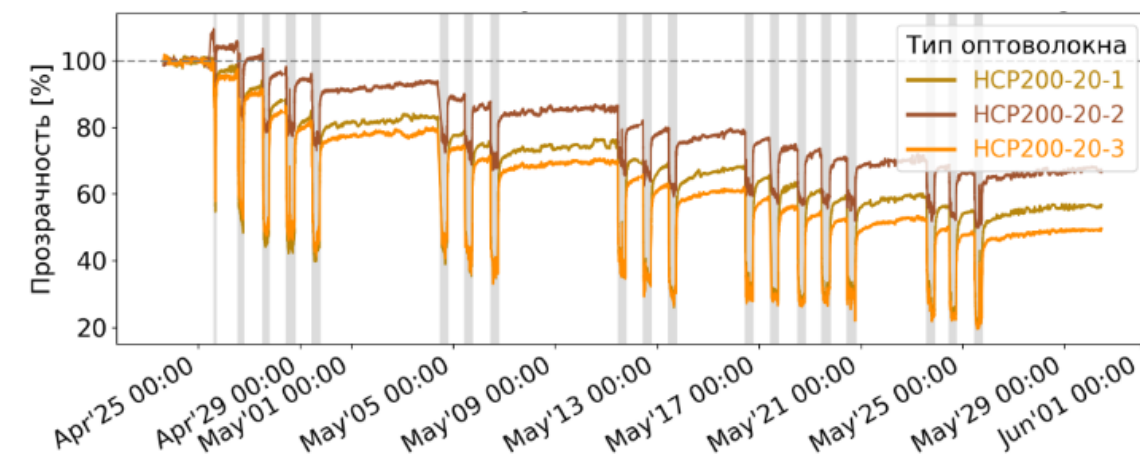
The technique is beginning to enter clinical practice:

1. Japan, 2020
2. China, 2022 (VITA)
3. South Korea, 2022
- 4 or 5 Finland, ?
- 4 or 5 Russia, 2025

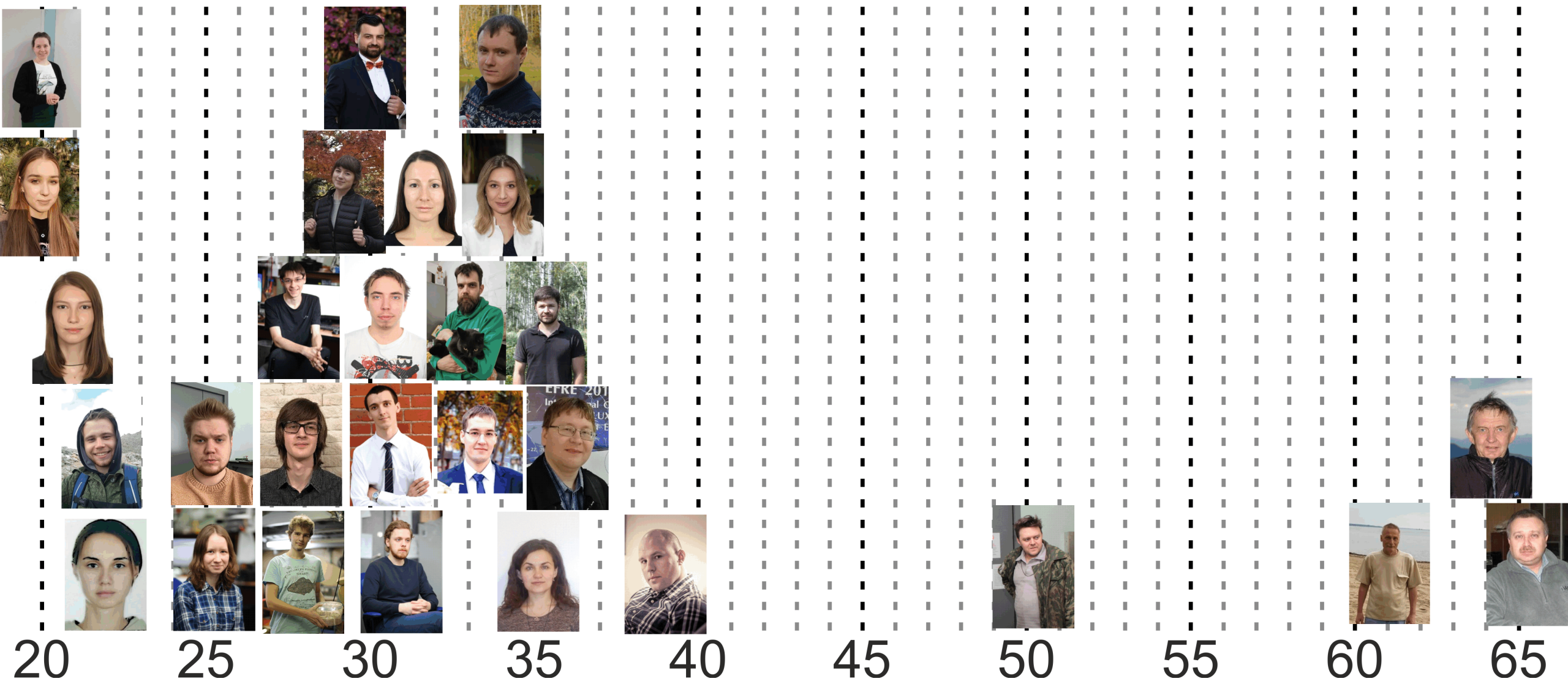




1. Development of dosimetry tools and methods for BNCT
2. Testing of new boron delivery drugs
3. Treatment of cats and dogs with spontaneous tumors
4. Development of lithium neutron capture therapy
5. Study of radiation blistering of a metal surface during proton implantation
6. Radiation testing of boron carbide and steel samples for ITER
7. Radiation testing of optical fiber for CERN





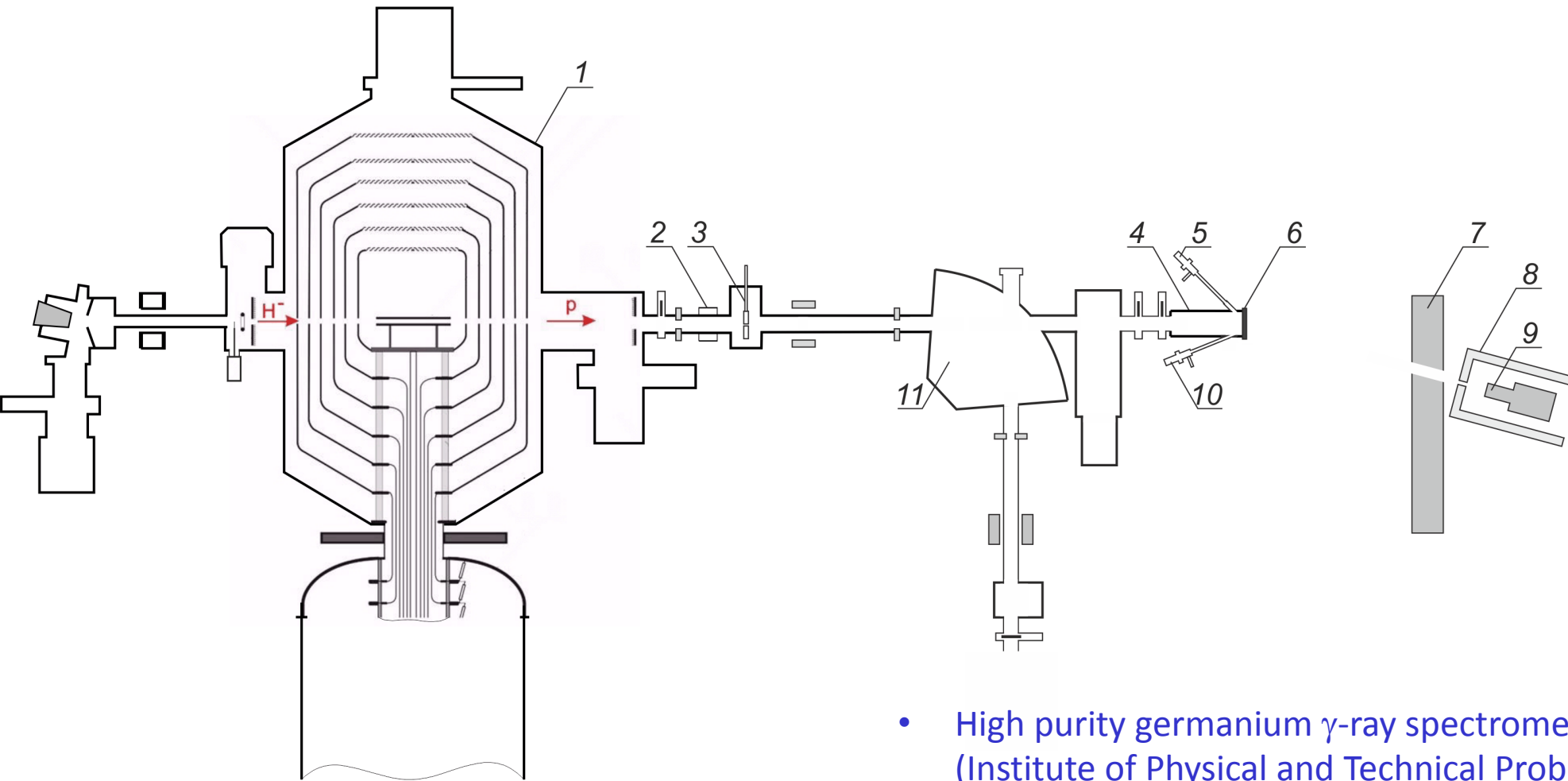






p + Li	${}^7\text{Li}(p,n){}^7\text{Be}$ , ${}^7\text{Li}(p,p'\gamma){}^7\text{Li}$ , ${}^7\text{Li}(p,\alpha){}^4\text{He}$	for BNCT
d + ${}^6\text{Li}$	${}^6\text{Li}(d,\alpha){}^4\text{He}$ , ${}^6\text{Li}(d,p){}^7\text{Li}$ , ${}^6\text{Li}(d,p){}^7\text{Li}^*$ ,	powerful source of fast neutrons
d + ${}^7\text{Li}$	${}^7\text{Li}(d,\alpha){}^5\text{He}$ , ${}^7\text{Li}(d,n\alpha){}^4\text{He}$ , ${}^7\text{Li}(d,n){}^8\text{Be}$	
p + ${}^{11}\text{B}$	${}^{11}\text{B}(p,\alpha_0){}^8\text{Be}$ , ${}^{11}\text{B}(p,\alpha_1){}^8\text{Be}^*$	3- $\alpha$ – neutron-free fusion
d + B	${}^{10}\text{B}(d,\alpha){}^8\text{Be}$ , ${}^{10}\text{B}(d,p){}^{11}\text{B}$ , ${}^{11}\text{B}(d,\alpha){}^9\text{Be}$ , ${}^{11}\text{B}(d,p){}^{12}\text{B}$	?



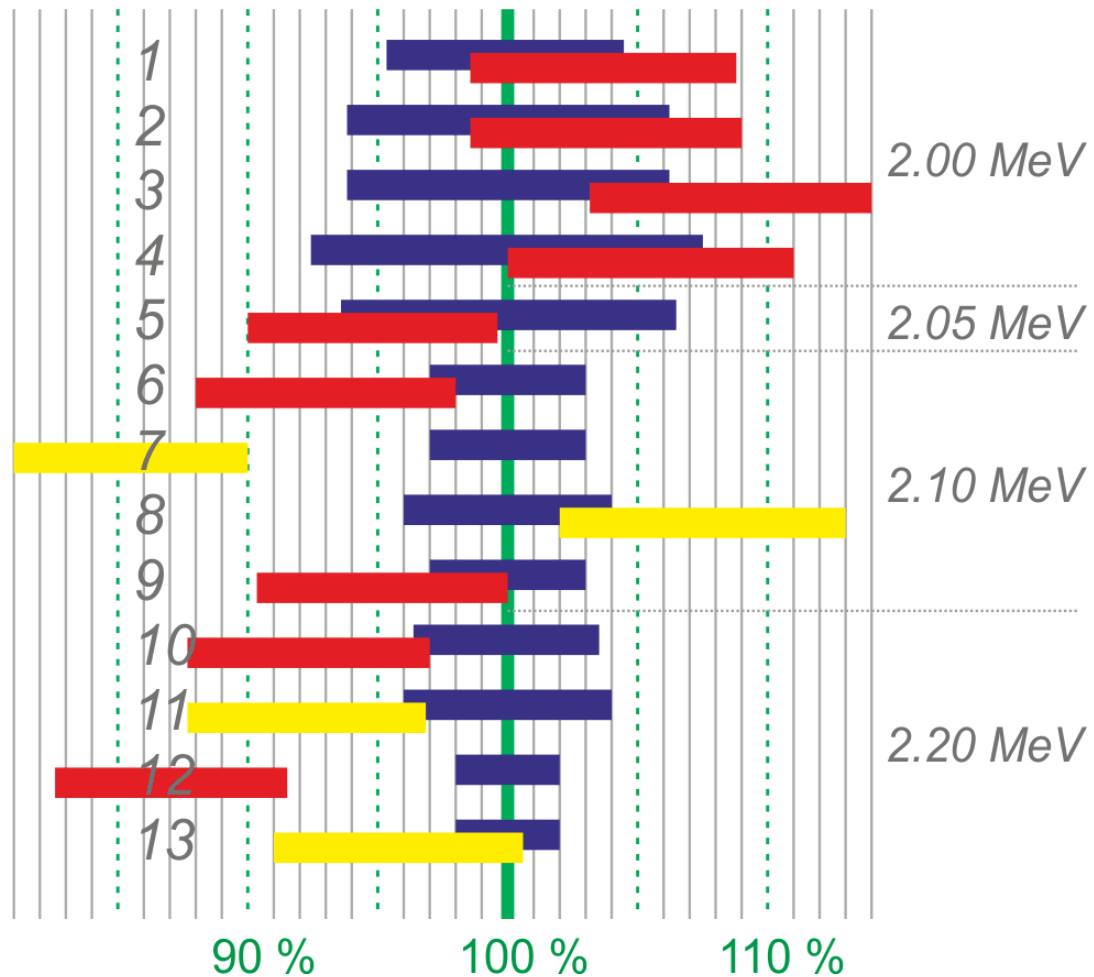


- High purity germanium  $\gamma$ -ray spectrometer SEG-1KP-IPTP 12 (Institute of Physical and Technical Problems, Dubna, Russia)
- $\alpha$ -spectrometer with silicon semiconductor detector PDPA-1K (Institute of Physical and Technical Problems, Dubna, Russia)
- Fast neutron radiometer with diamond detectors RBN-A1-001-AD-01 and B68 (ITER Project Center, Troitsk, Russia)





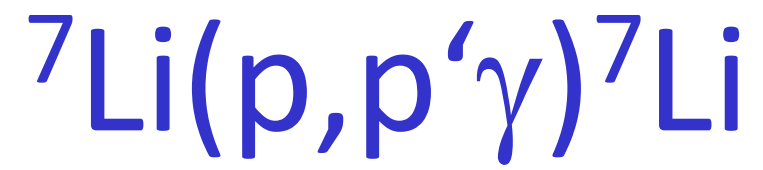
- Best reaction for BNCT is  ${}^7\text{Li}(p,n){}^7\text{Be}$
- There are calculated data on the neutron yield
- There were no measurements from lithium targets for BNCT



Neutron yield measured by  ${}^7\text{Be}$  activation.

Result: The neutron yield from the developed lithium target, measured at proton energies from 2 to 2.2 MeV, agrees with the calculated one with an accuracy of 5%.

M. Bikchurina, *et al.* The measurement of the neutron yield of the  ${}^7\text{Li}(p,n){}^7\text{Be}$  reaction in lithium targets. *Biology* 10 (2021) 824.





478 keV photon yield from thick lithium target

It is important for assessing the contribution to the  $\gamma$ -ray dose during BNCT

**our result**

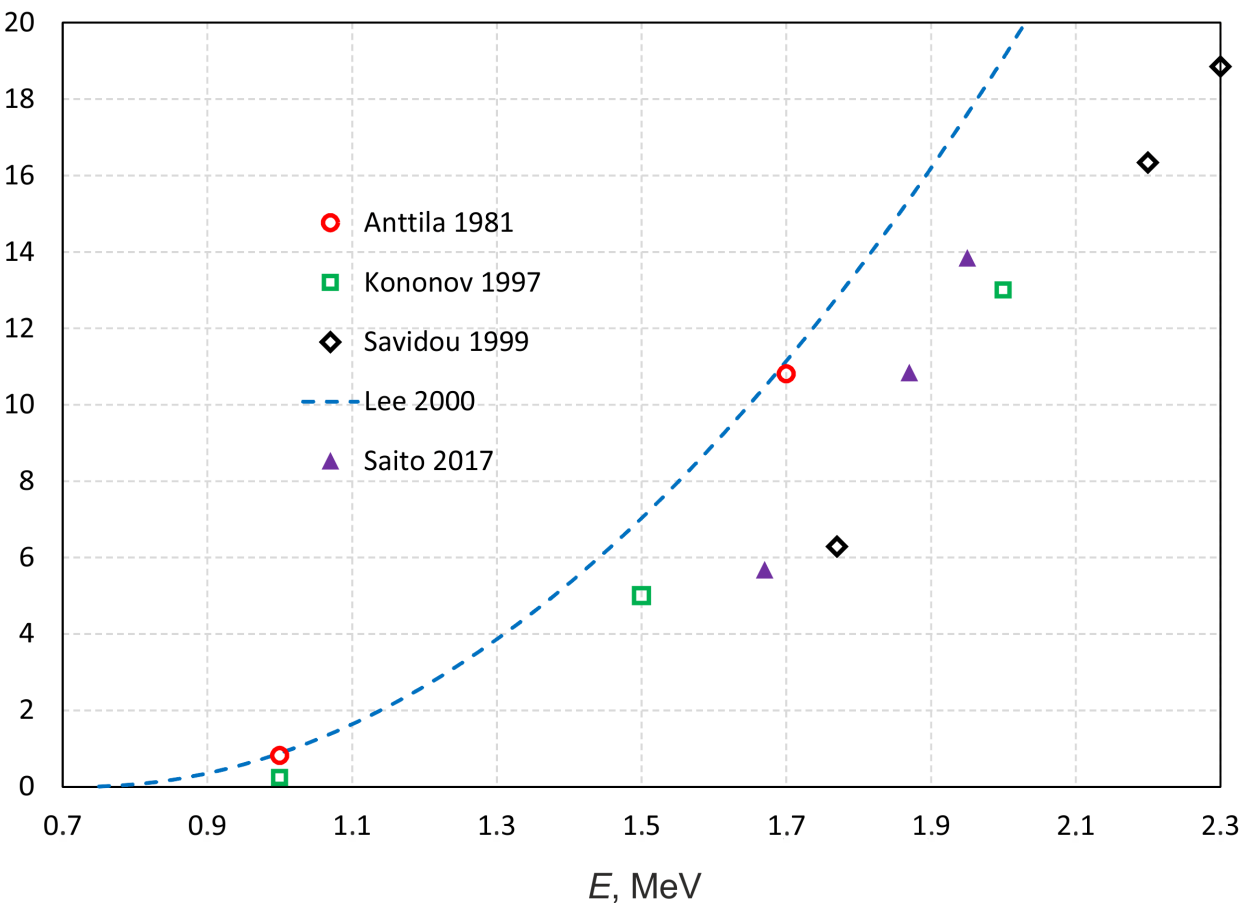
NIM B 502 (2021) 85

IBANDL

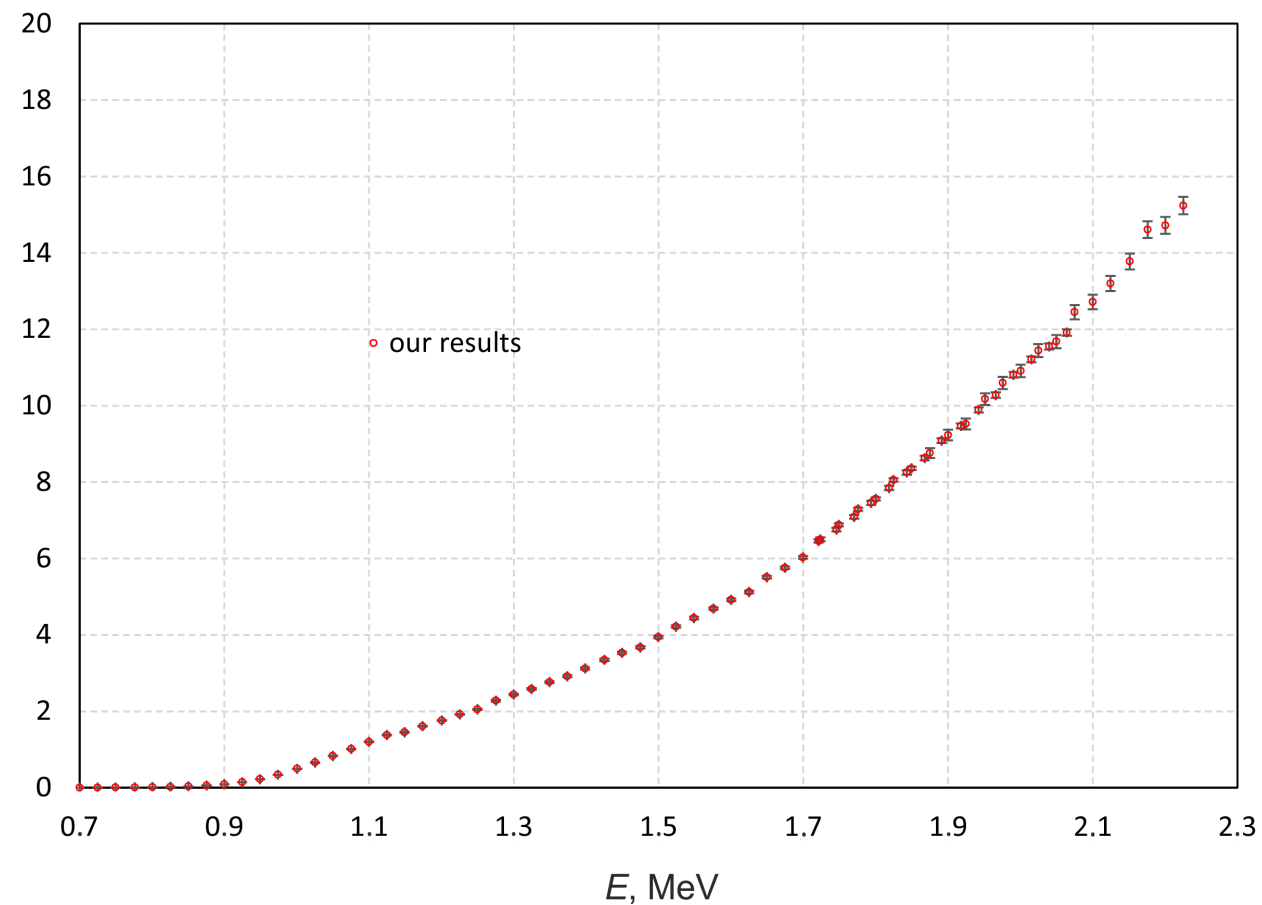
EXFOR



$Y, 10^7 1/\mu\text{C}$

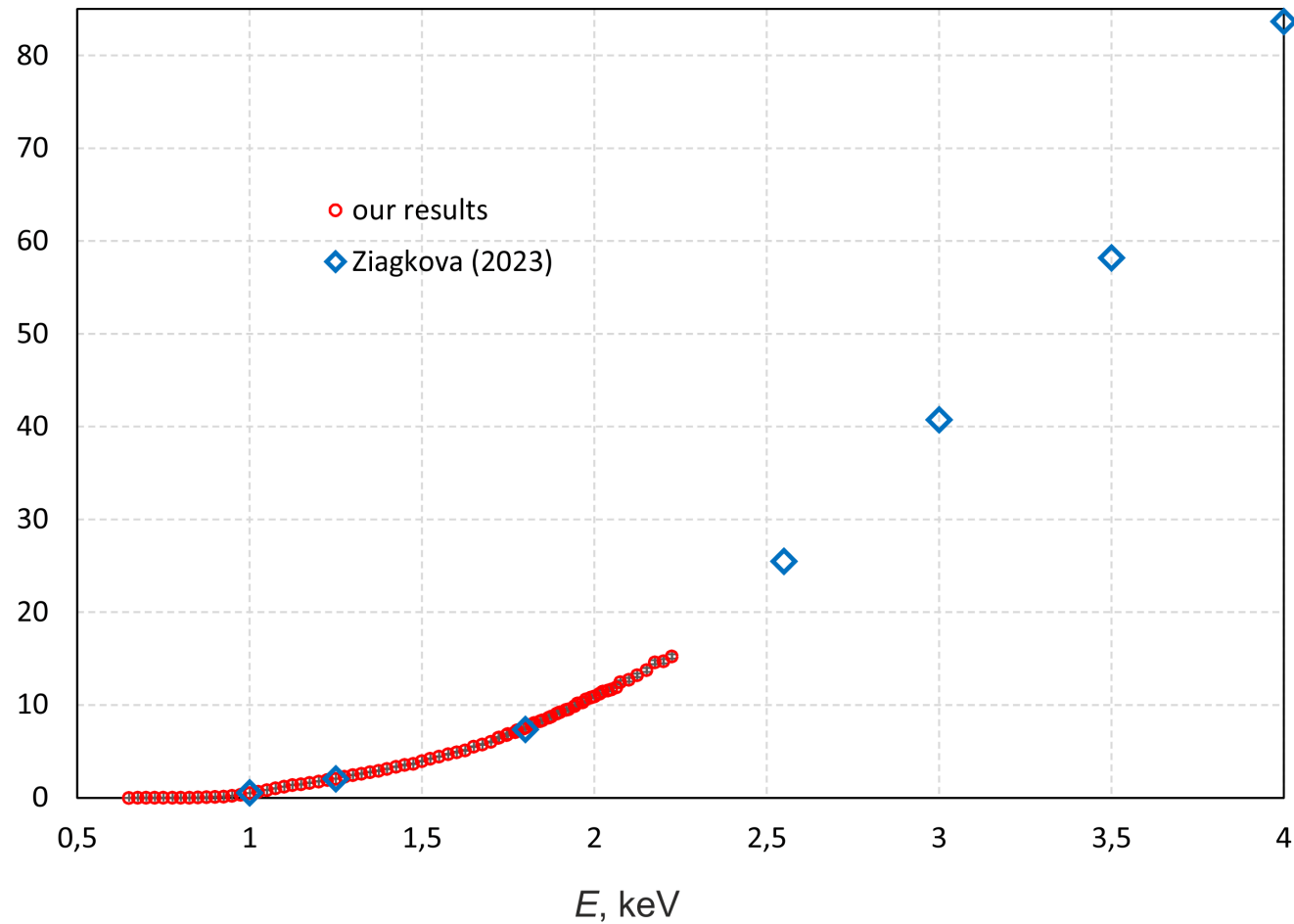


$Y, 10^7 1/\mu\text{C}$



Our data is confirmed by the Greek group:  
A. Ziagkova et al. NIM B 539 (2023) 113-119

$Y, 10^7 \text{ 1}/\mu\text{C}$



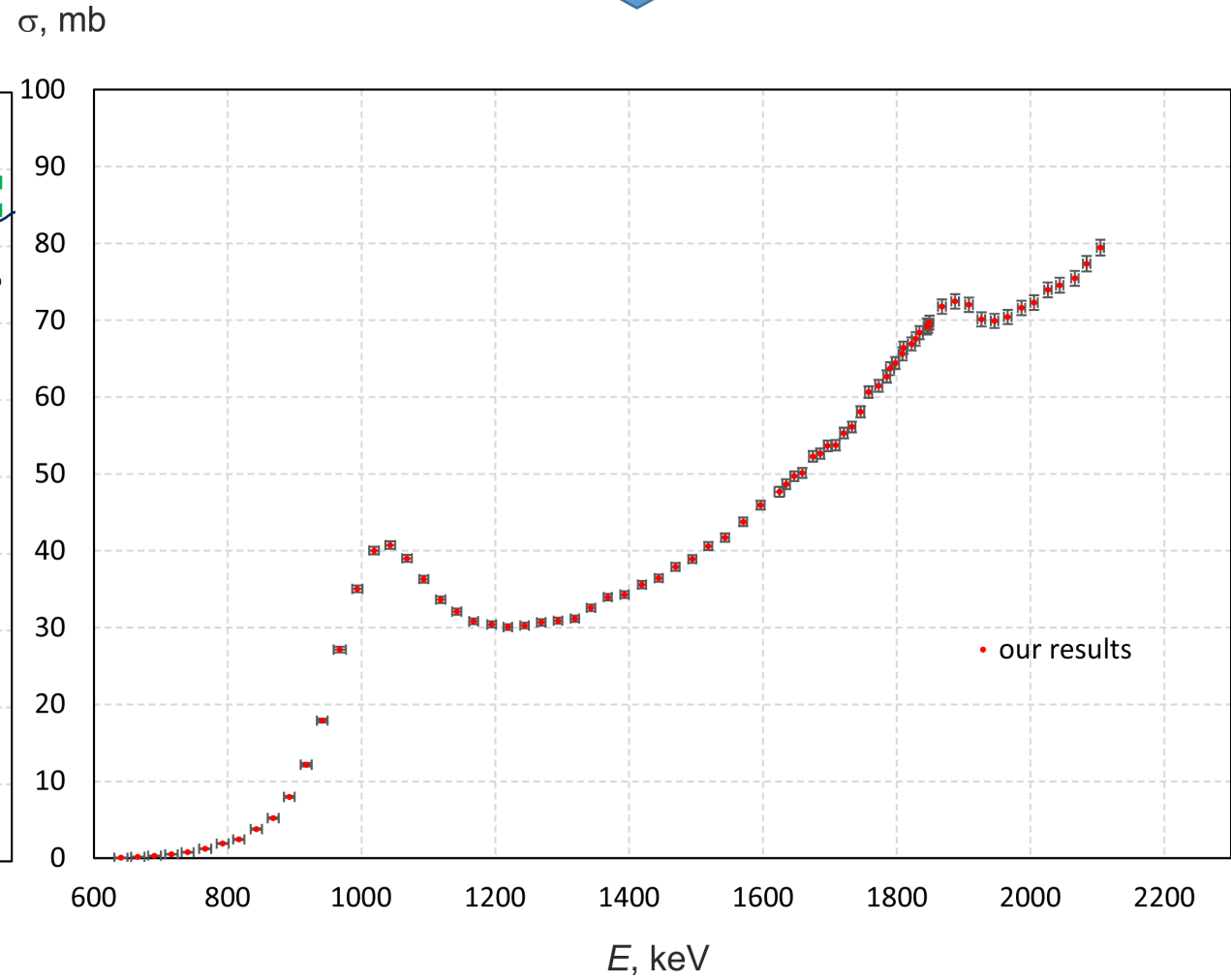
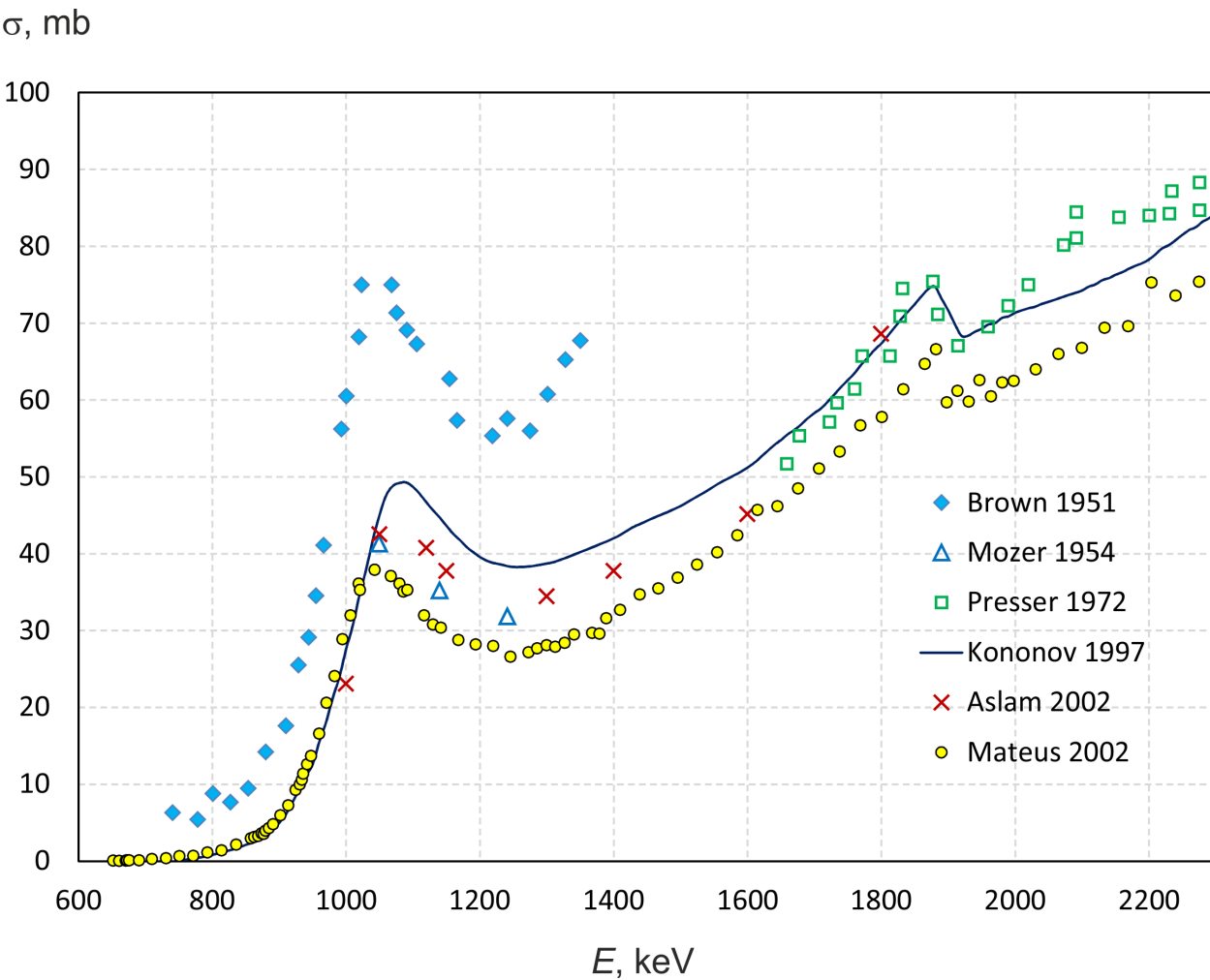


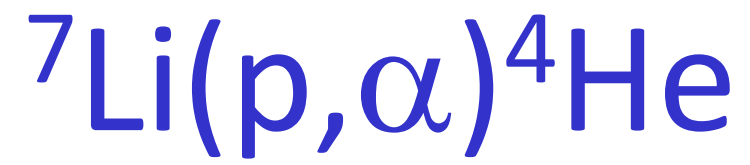
Cross-section of the  ${}^7\text{Li}(p,p'\gamma){}^7\text{Li}$  reaction**our result**

NIM B 502 (2021) 85

IBANDL

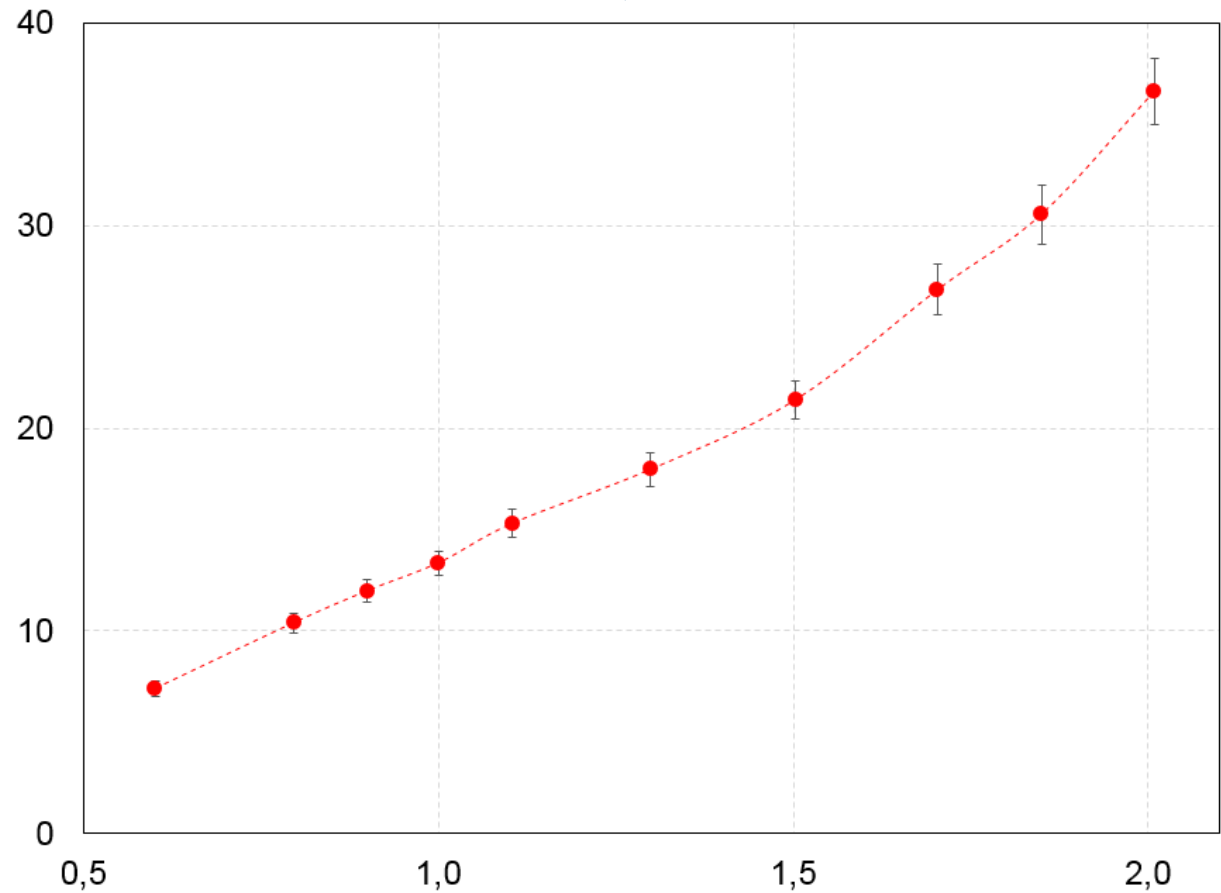
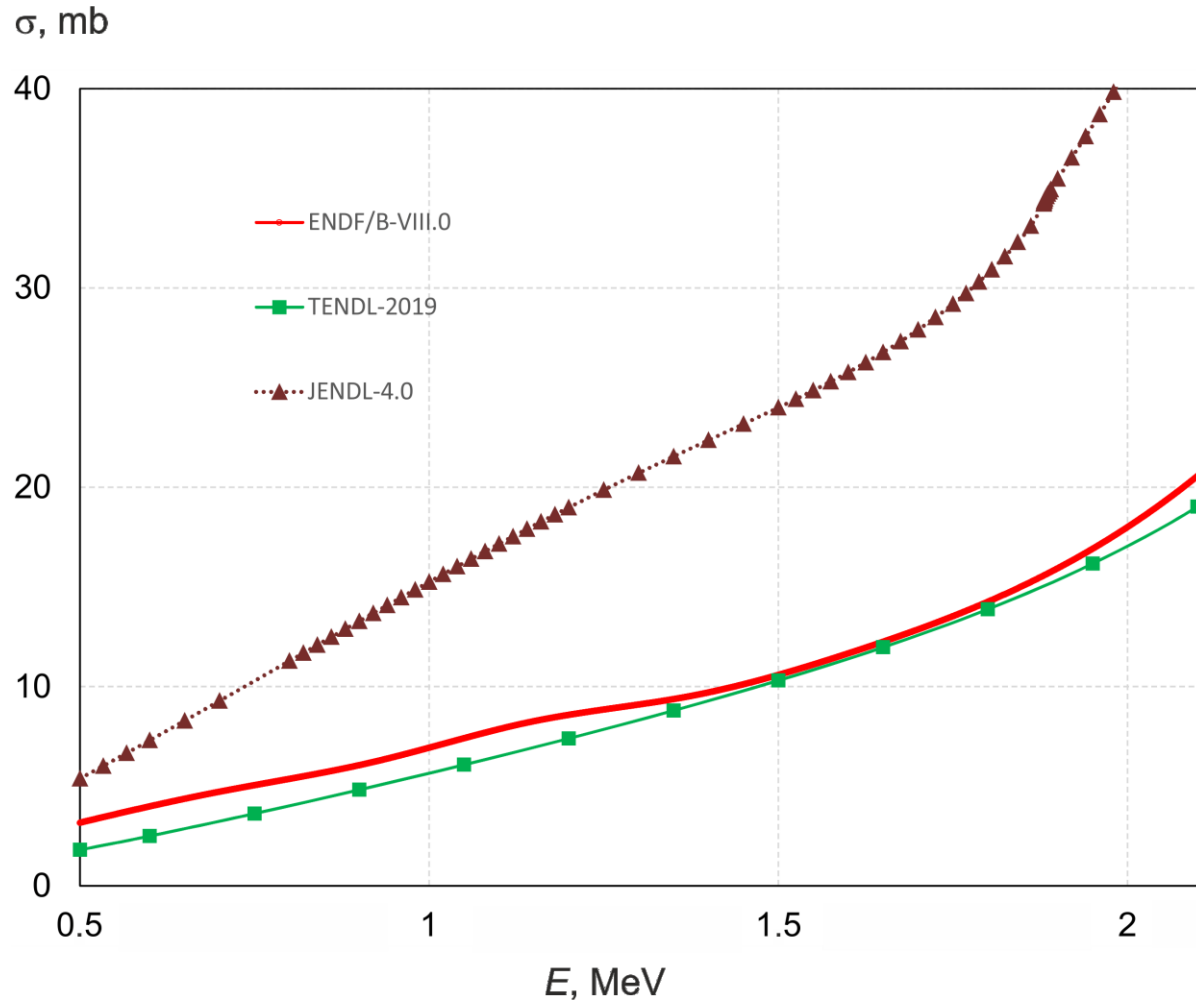
EXFOR





The cross section we measured is consistent with that given in JENDL and is 2 times larger than those given in ENDF/B and TENDL

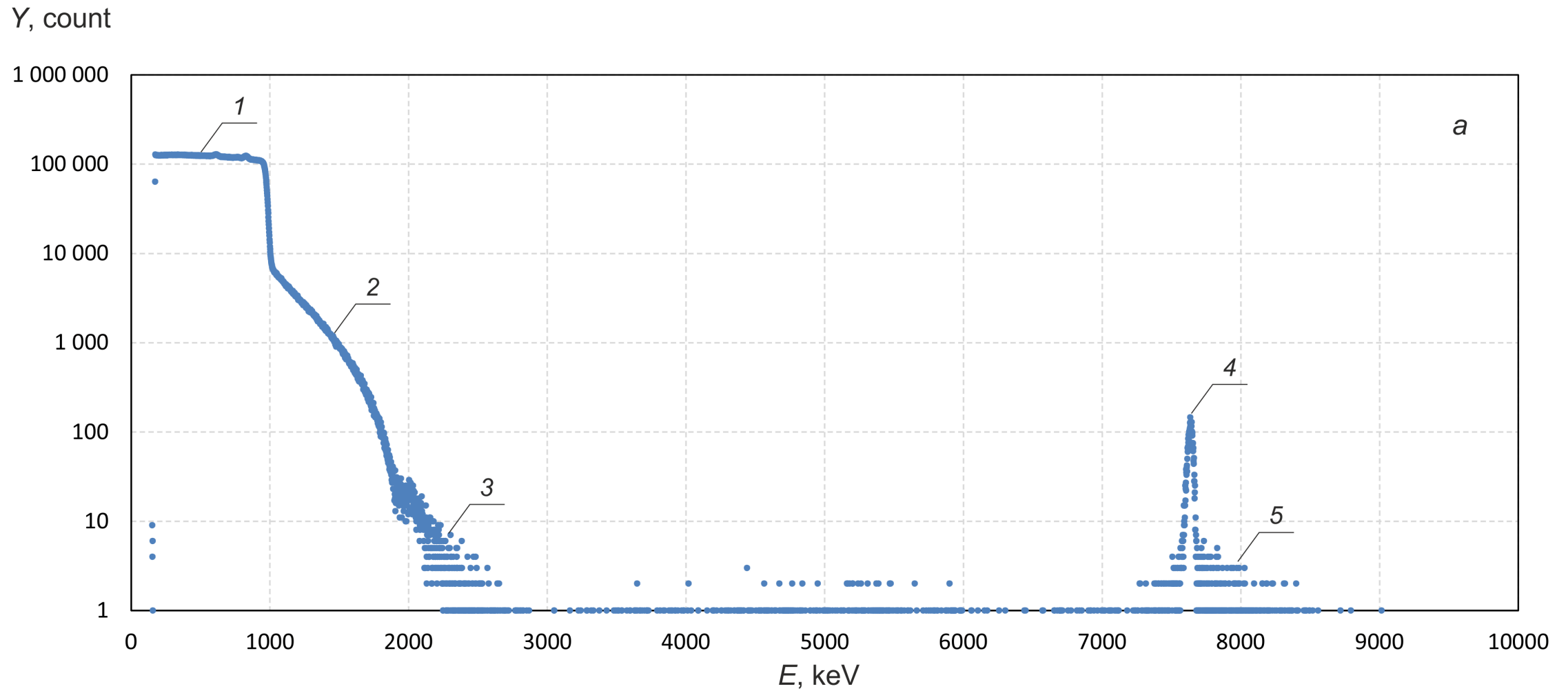
**our result** NIM B 525 (2022) 55  
IBANDL  
EXFOR





2- $\alpha$  reaction

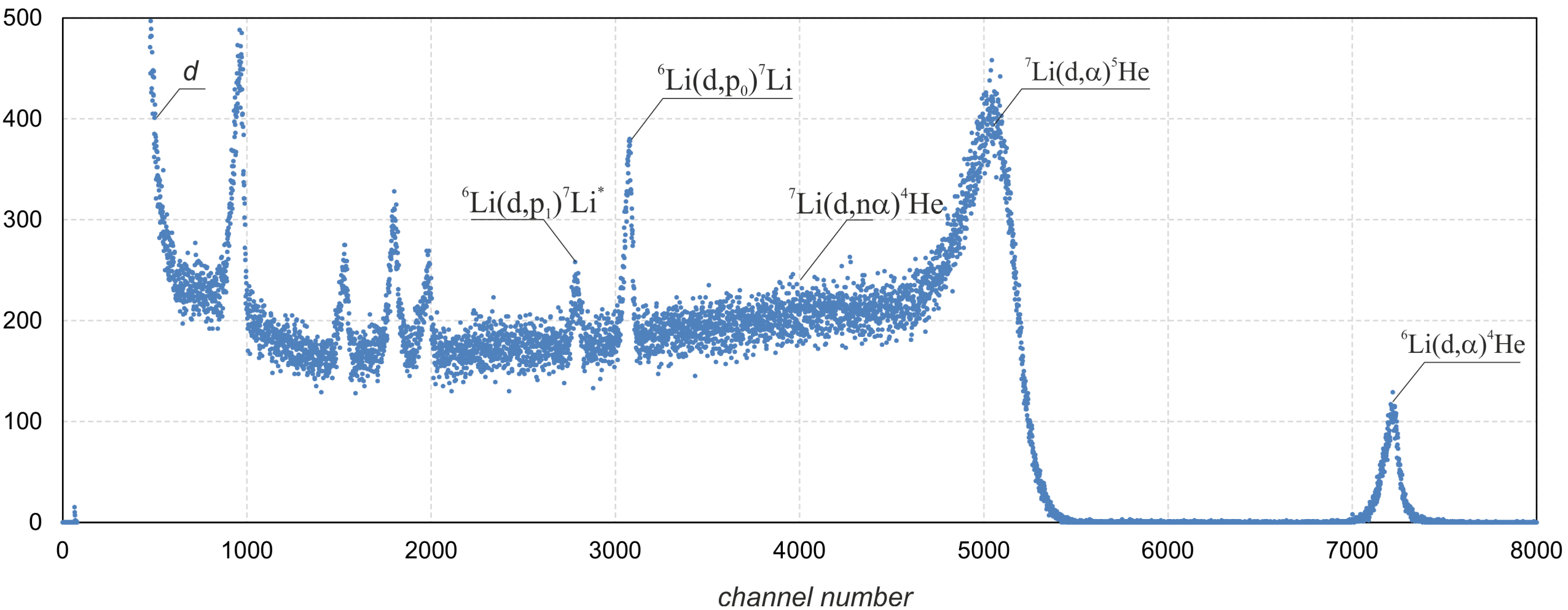
Reliability – 6 methods for measuring lithium thickness!



d + Li

		IBANDL	ENDF/B	TENDL	JENDL	our	
		dσ/dΩ	σ			dσ/dΩ	σ
1	${}^7\text{Li} + \text{d} = \text{n} + {}^8\text{Be} + 15.028 \text{ MeV}$ ${}^8\text{Be} \rightarrow 2 \alpha + 0.094 \text{ MeV}$	-	-	-	-	☑	☑
2	${}^7\text{Li} + \text{d} = \text{n} + \alpha + \alpha + 15.121 \text{ MeV}$	-	-	-	-	☑	
3	${}^7\text{Li} + \text{d} = \alpha + {}^5\text{He} + 14.162 \text{ MeV}$ ${}^5\text{He} \rightarrow \text{n} + \alpha + 0.957 \text{ MeV}$	2	-	-	-	☑	☑
4	${}^6\text{Li} + \text{d} = \alpha + \alpha + 22.38 \text{ MeV}$	10	-	+	-	☑	☑
5	${}^6\text{Li} + \text{d} = \text{n} + {}^7\text{Be} + 3.385 \text{ MeV}$	-	-	-	-		
6	${}^6\text{Li} + \text{d} = \text{p} + {}^7\text{Li} + 5.028 \text{ MeV}$	4	-	+	-	☑	☑
7	${}^6\text{Li} + \text{d} = \text{p} + {}^7\text{Li}^* + 4.550 \text{ MeV}$	4	-	-	-	☑	☑
8	${}^6\text{Li} + \text{d} = \text{t} + \text{p} + \alpha + 2.6 \text{ MeV}$	-	-	-	-		
9	${}^6\text{Li} + \text{d} = \text{t} + {}^5\text{Li} + 0.595 \text{ MeV}$ ${}^5\text{Li} \rightarrow \alpha + \text{p} + 1.965 \text{ MeV}$	-	-	-	-		
10	${}^6\text{Li} + \text{d} = {}^3\text{He} + {}^5\text{He} + 0.840 \text{ MeV}$ ${}^5\text{He} \rightarrow \text{n} + \alpha + 0.957 \text{ MeV}$	-	-	-	-		



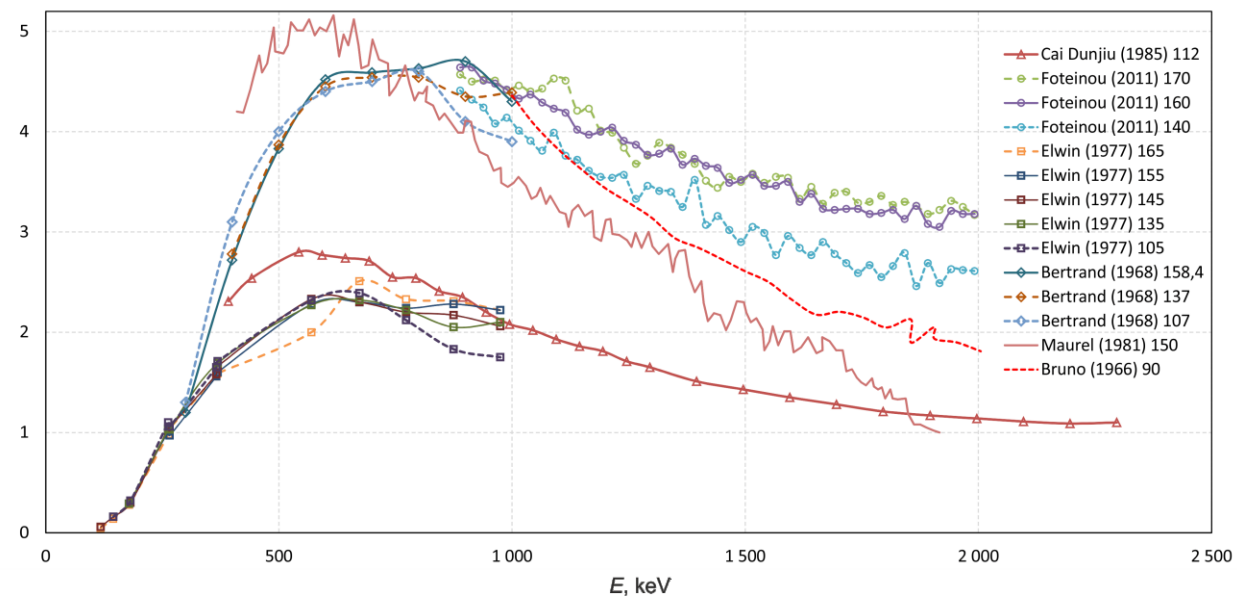
$N$ , counts

${}^6\text{Li}(d,\alpha)\alpha$ 

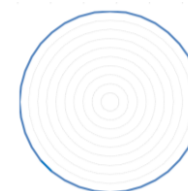
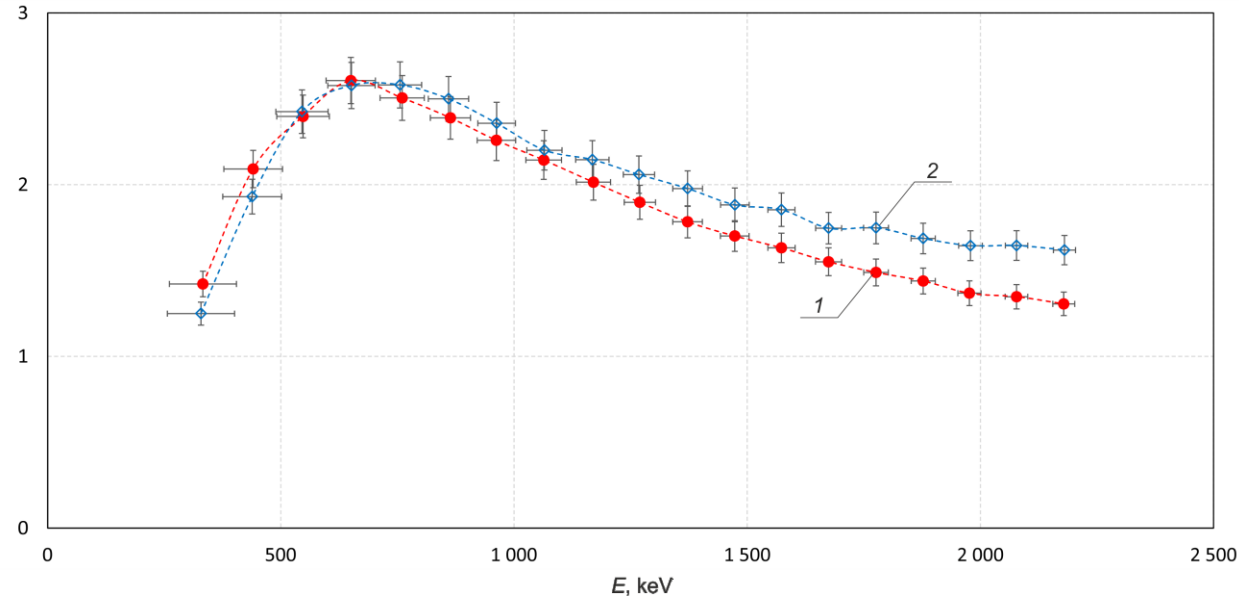
**our result** NIM B (2024)  
sent in January

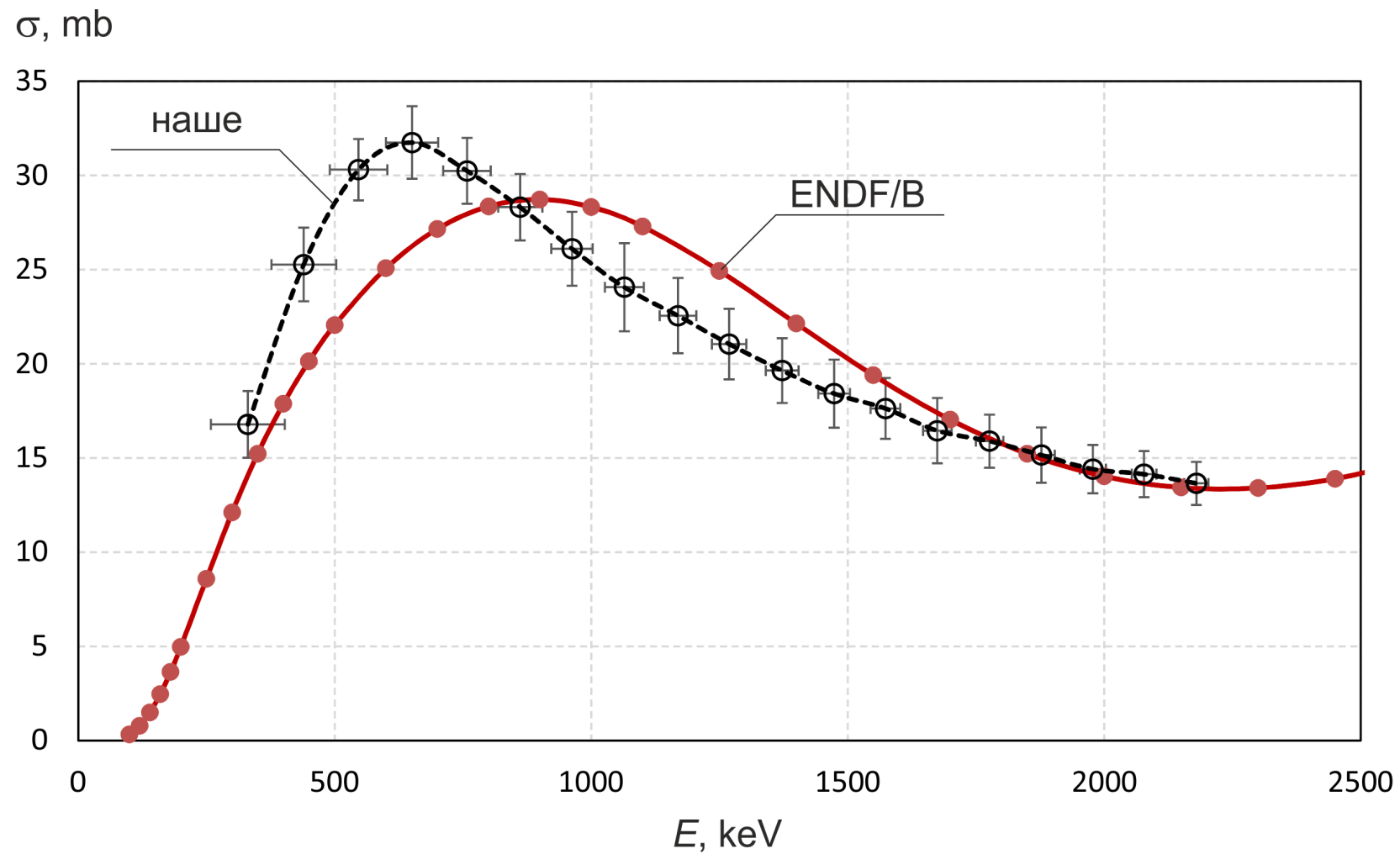


cross-section, mb/sr



cross-section, mb/sr

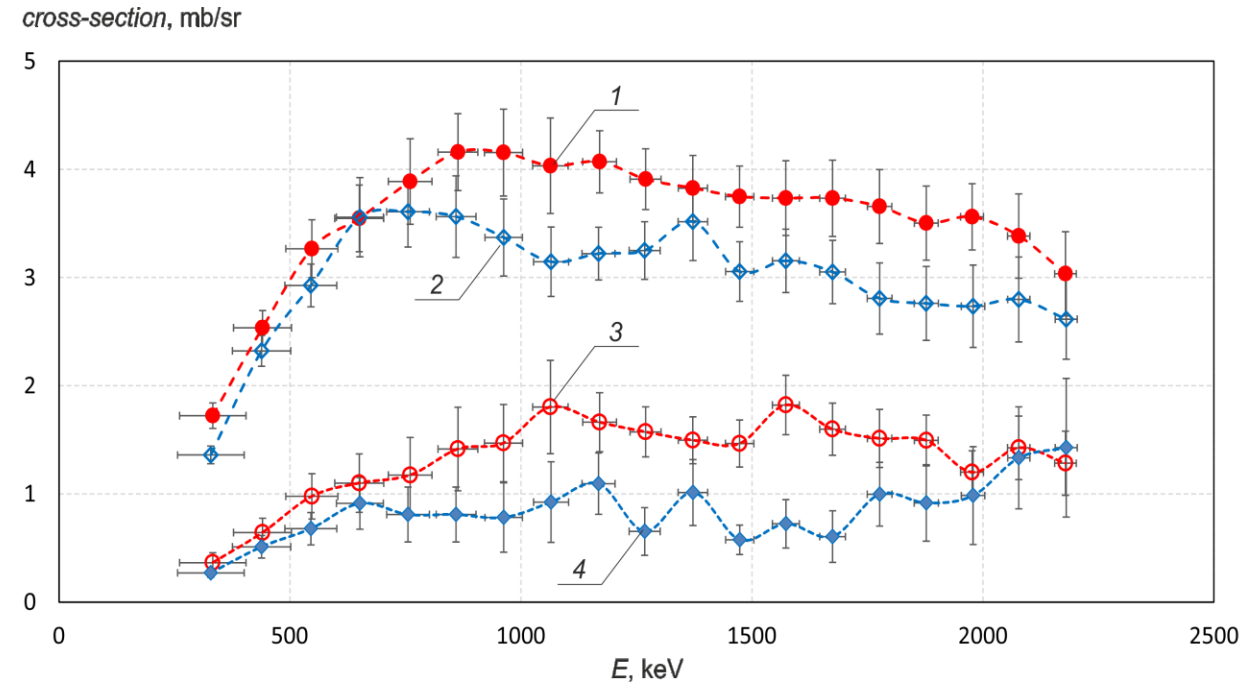
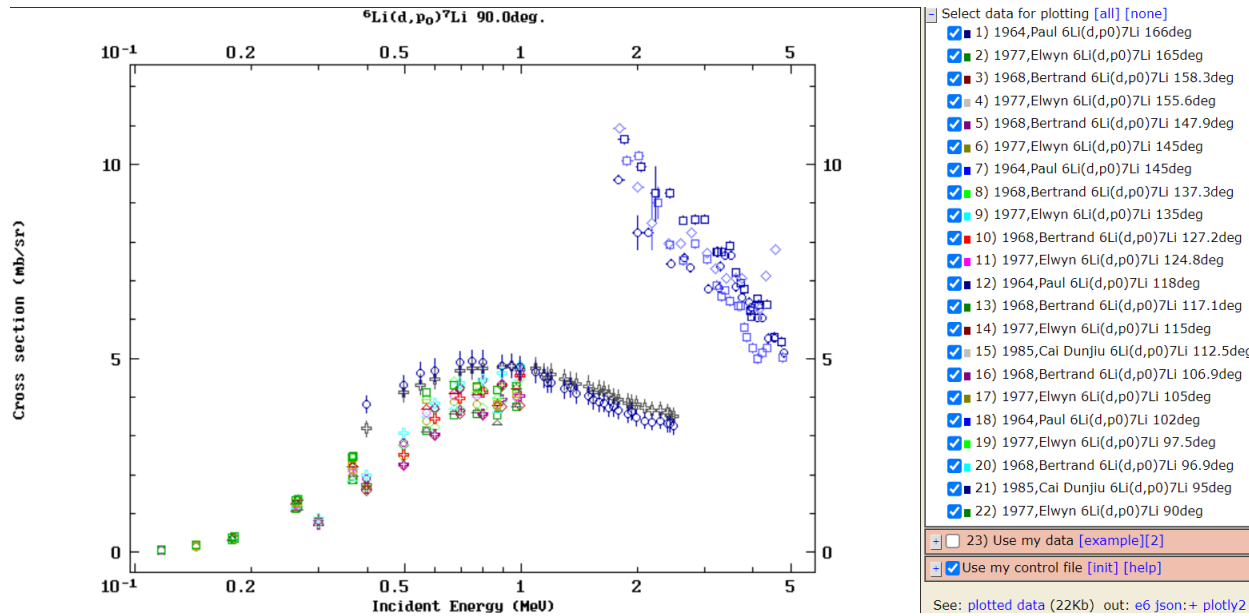


${}^6\text{Li}(d,\alpha)\alpha$ 



${}^6\text{Li}(d,p_0){}^7\text{Li}$ ,  ${}^6\text{Li}(d,p_1){}^7\text{Li}^*$

**our result** NIM B (2024)  
sent in January

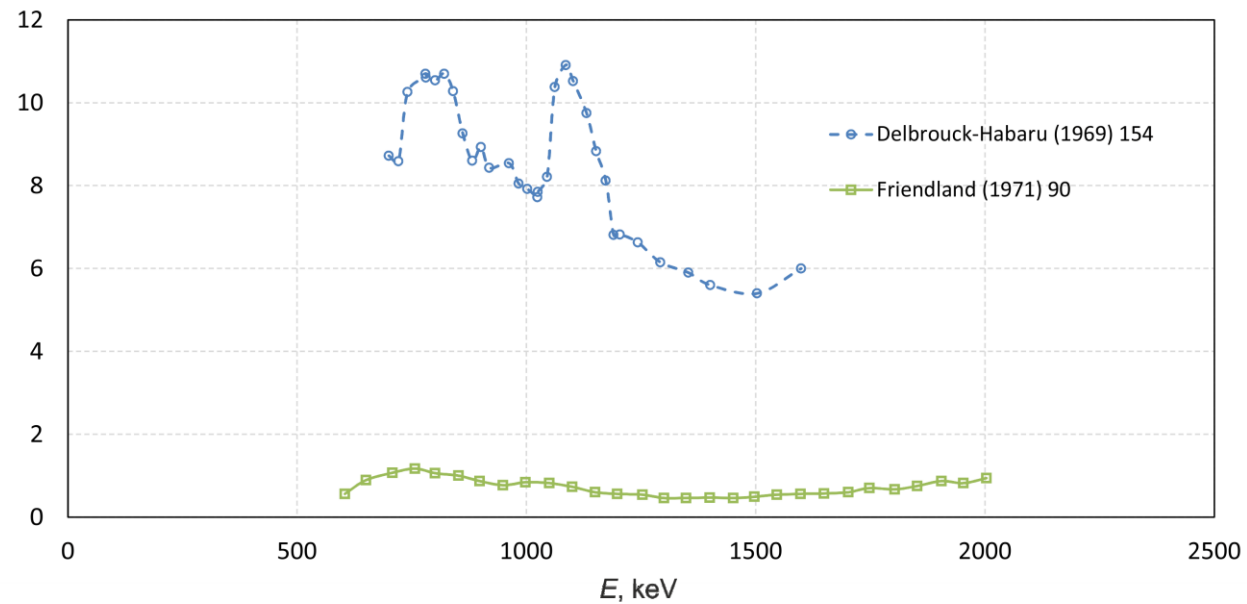


${}^7\text{Li}(d,\alpha){}^5\text{He}$ 

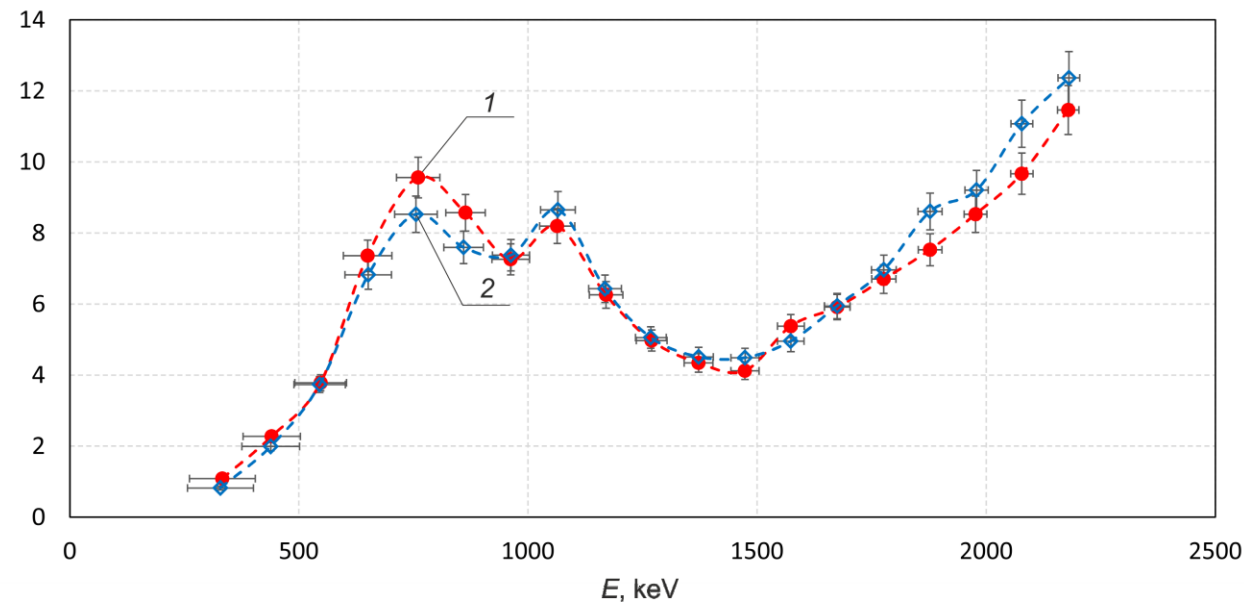
**our result** NIM B (2024)  
sent in January



cross-section, mb/sr



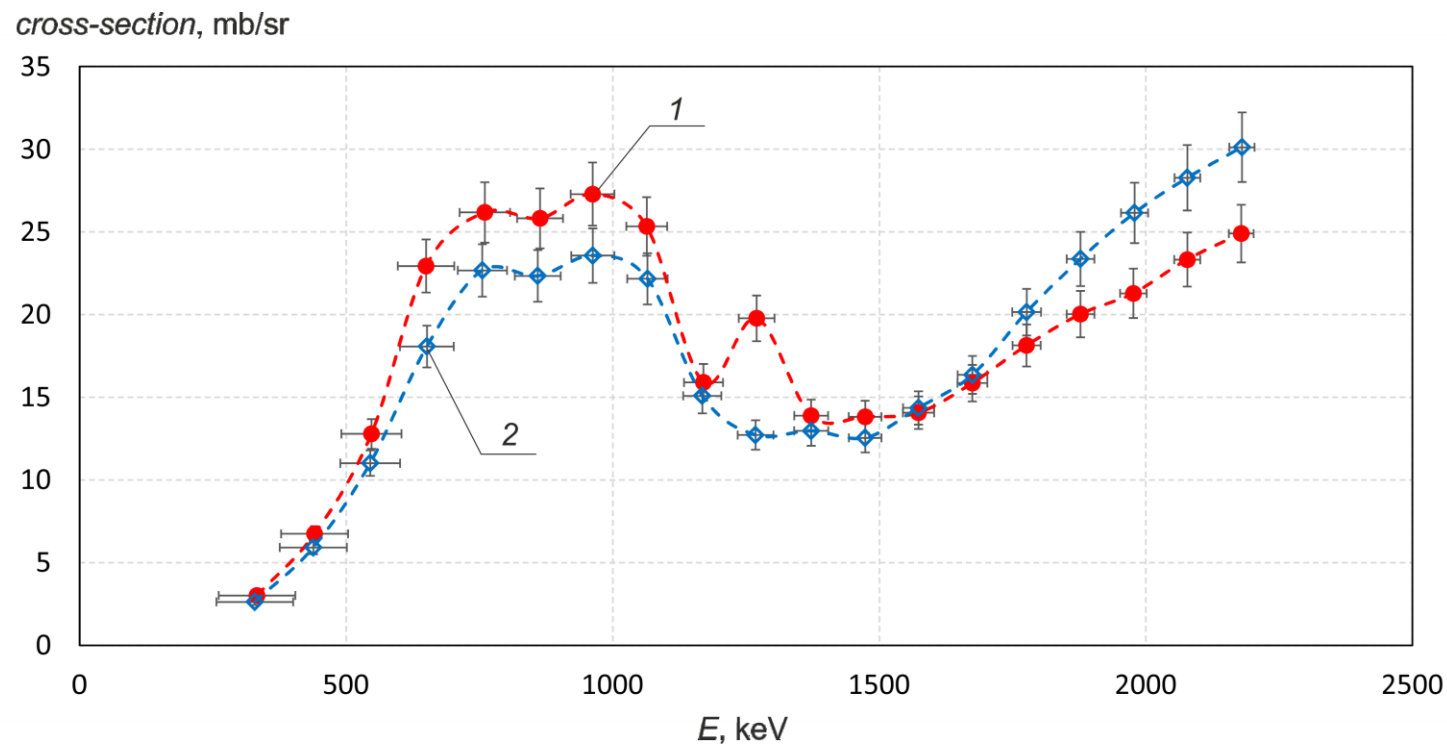
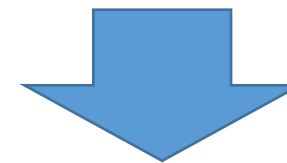
cross-section, mb/sr



${}^7\text{Li}(d,n\alpha)\alpha$ 

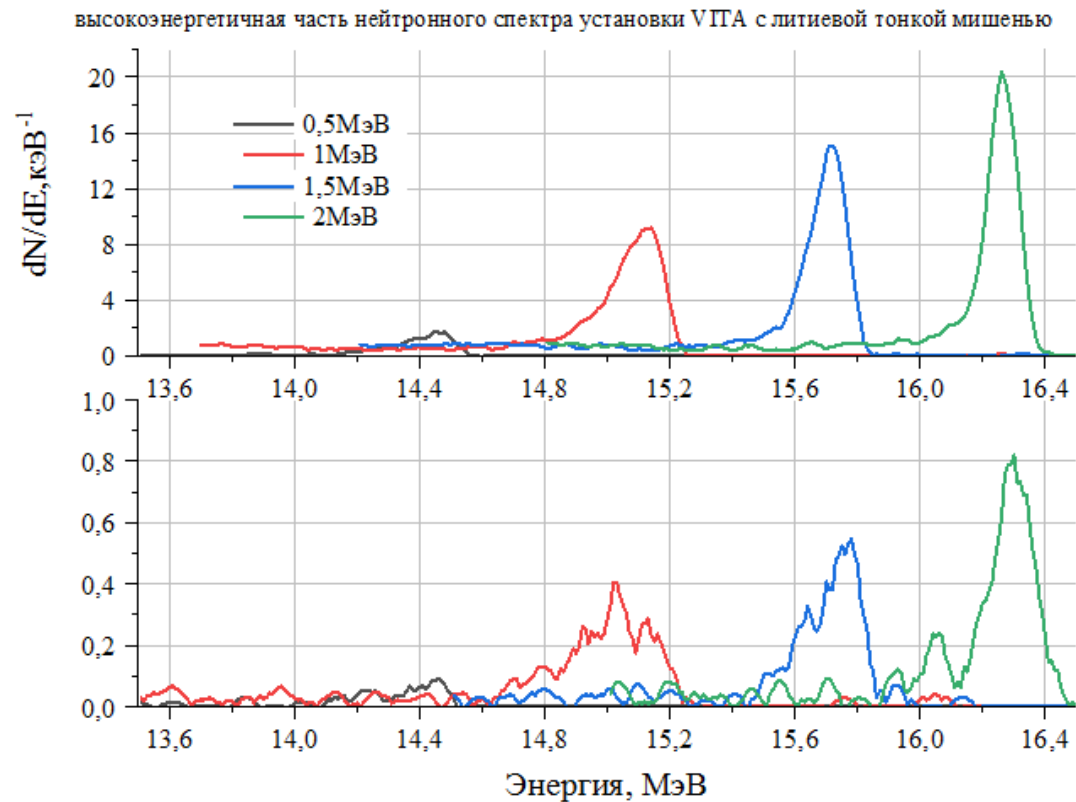
There are no data on the  ${}^7\text{Li}(d,n\alpha){}^4\text{He}$  reaction in the literature or databases

**our result** NIM B (2024)  
sent in January



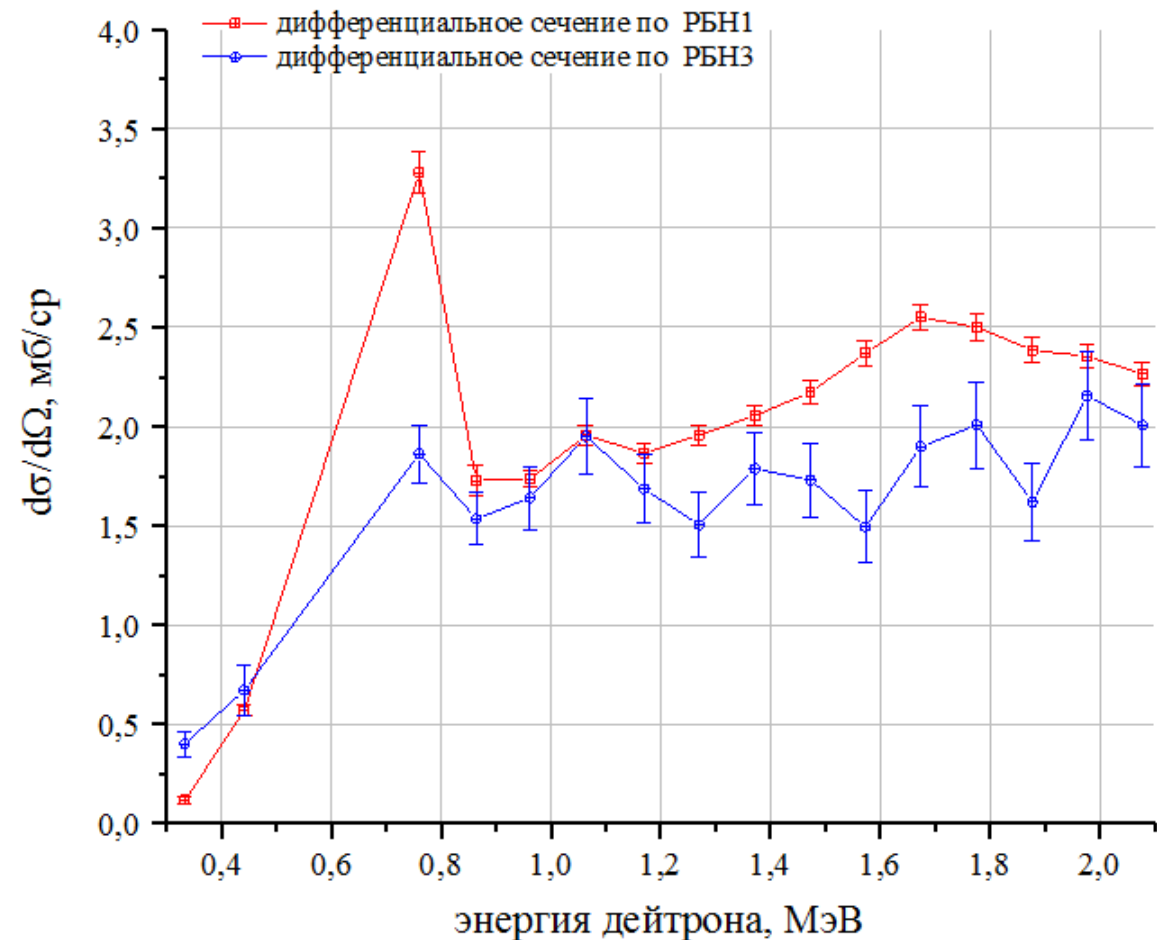
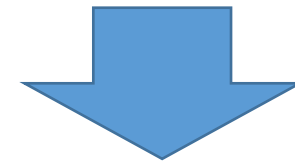
${}^7\text{Li}(d,n){}^8\text{Be}$ 

There are no data on the  ${}^7\text{Li}(d,n){}^8\text{Be}$  reaction in the literature or databases



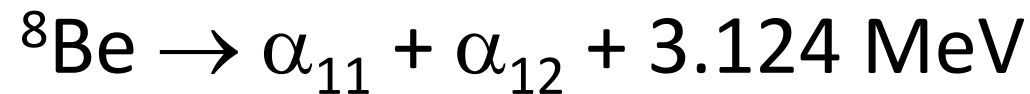
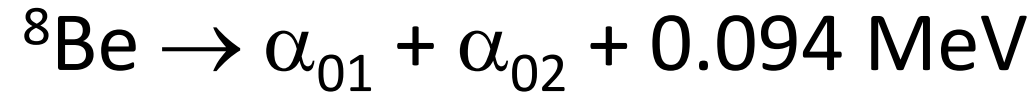
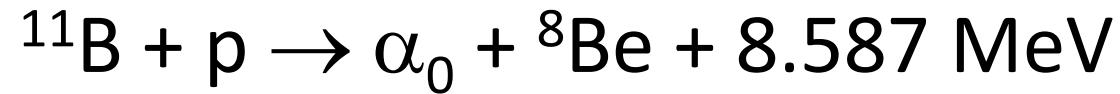
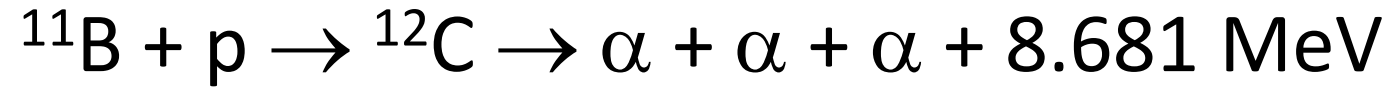
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soon

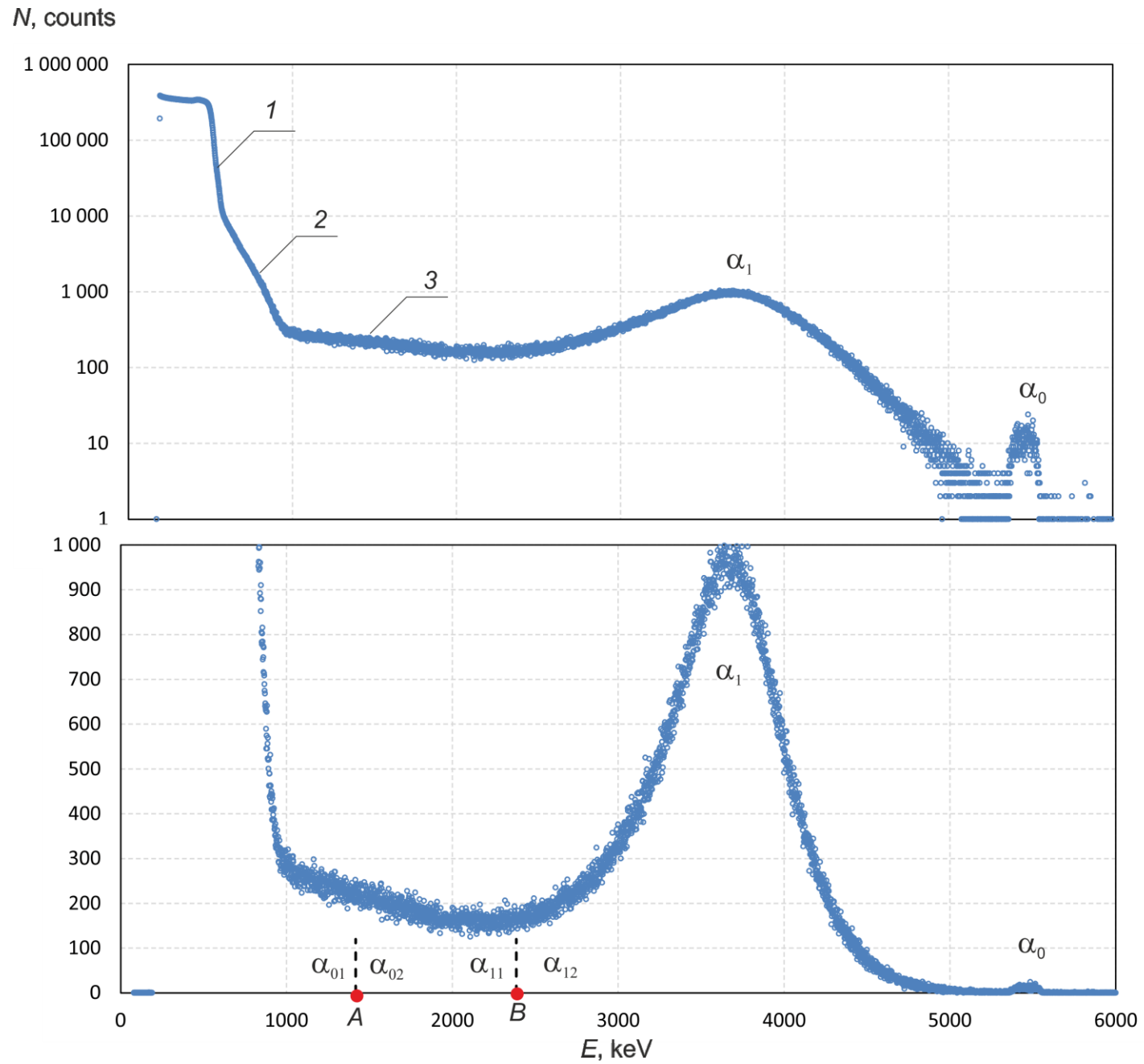


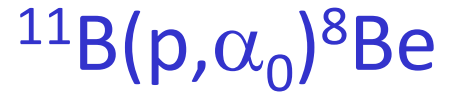
$p + {}^{11}\text{B}$  $3\alpha$



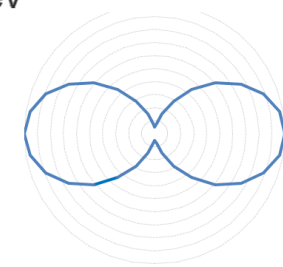
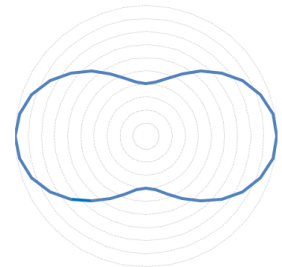
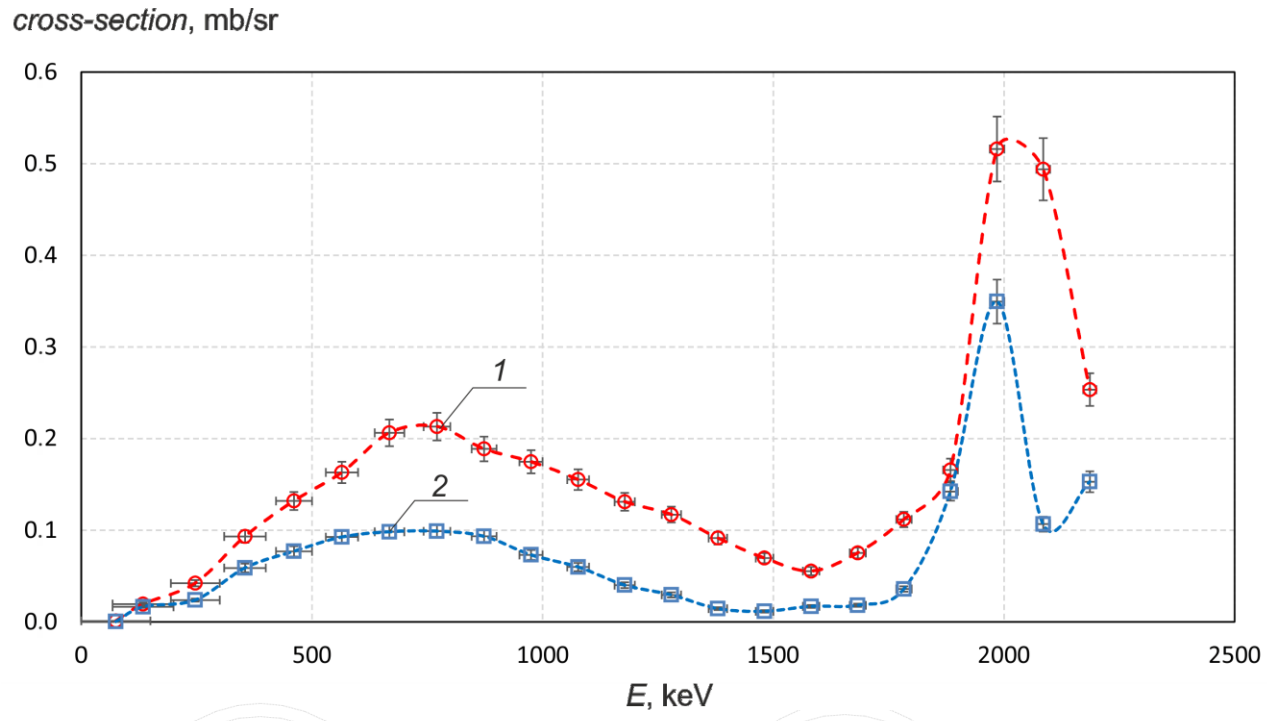
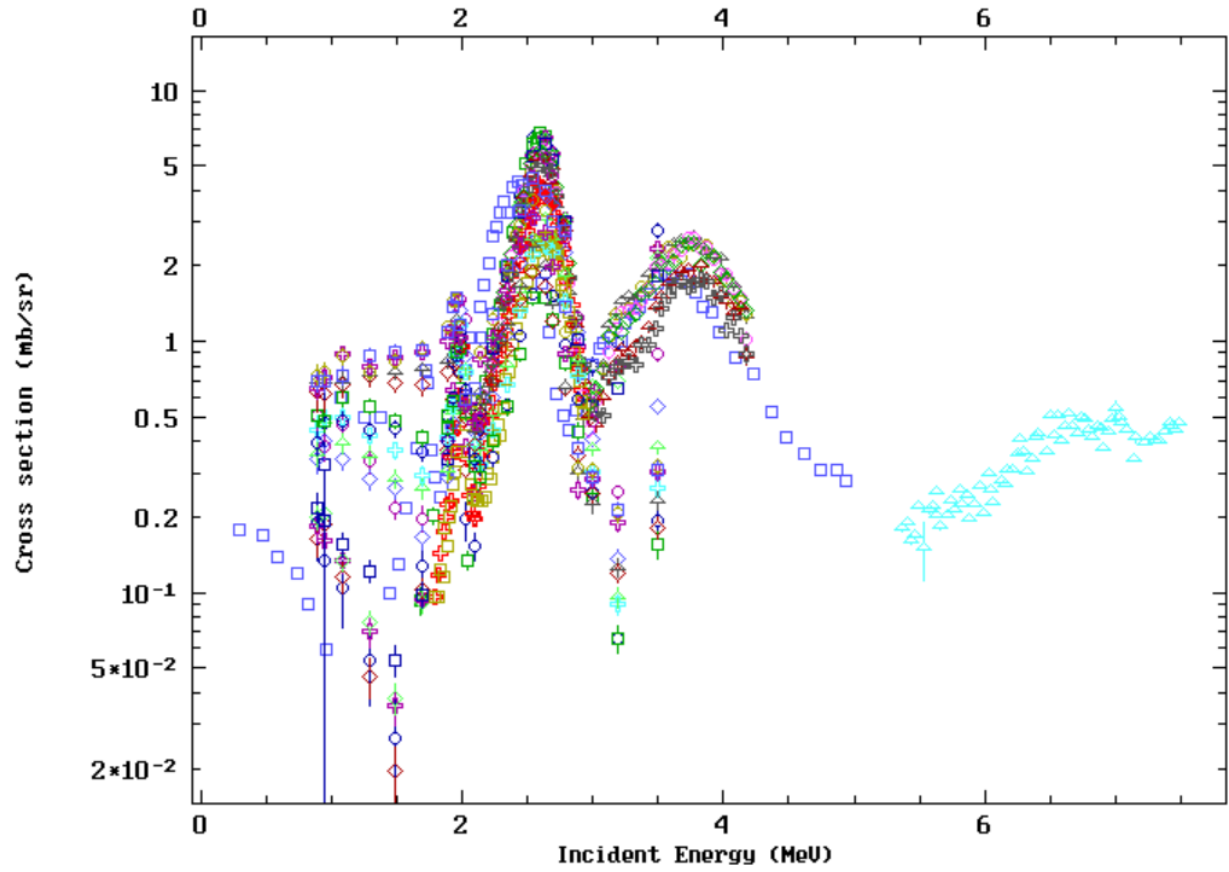


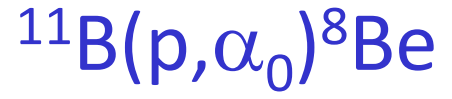
1. → M. Oliphant, L. Rutherford, Experiments on the transmutation of elements by protons, *Proc. R. Soc. Lond. A* 141 (1933) 259-181, <https://doi.org/10.1098/rspa.1933.0117>.<sup>¶</sup>
2. → P.I. Dee, C.W. Gilbert, The disintegration of boron into three  $\alpha$ -particles, *Proc. R. Soc. Lond. A* 154 (1936) 279-296, <https://doi.org/10.1098/rspa.1936.0051>.<sup>¶</sup>
3. → O. Beckman, T. Huus, A. Zupancic, Excitation curves for  $\alpha$ -particles from <sup>11</sup>B-bombarded with protons, *Phys. Rev.* 91 (1953) 606, <https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRev.91.606>.<sup>¶</sup>
4. → G. Dearnaley, G. Dissanaiké, A. French, G. Lindsay-Jones, Study of the <sup>11</sup>B(p, $\alpha$ ) reaction, *Phys. Rev.* 108 (1957) 743-753, <https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRev.108.743>.<sup>¶</sup>
5. → G.D. Symons, P.B. Treacy, The <sup>11</sup>B(p, $\alpha$ )<sup>8</sup>Be reaction and C<sup>12</sup> states between 15 and 20 MeV, *Nucl. Phys.* 46 (1963) 93-107, [https://doi.org/10.1016/0029-5582\(63\)90567-4](https://doi.org/10.1016/0029-5582(63)90567-4).<sup>¶</sup>
6. → D. Dehnhard, D. Kamke, P. Kramer, Der Zerfall von Kohlenstoff-12 in drei  $\alpha$ -Teilchen bei der Kernreaktion <sup>11</sup>B(p, $\alpha$ )2 $\alpha$ , *Ann. Phys.* 469(3-4) (1964) 201-220, <https://doi.org/10.1002/andp.19644690311>.<sup>¶</sup>
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8. → J.D. Bronson, W.D. Simpson, W.R. Jackson, G.C. Phillips, Three  $\alpha$ -particle decay of C<sup>12</sup>, *Nucl. Phys.* 68(2) (1965) 241-269, [https://doi.org/10.1016/0029-5582\(65\)90643-7](https://doi.org/10.1016/0029-5582(65)90643-7).<sup>¶</sup>
9. → R.E. Segel, S.S. Hanna, R.G. Allas, States in C<sup>12</sup> between 16.4 and 19.6 MeV, *Phys. Rev.* 139 (1965) B818, <https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRev.139.B818>.<sup>¶</sup>
10. → D. Kamke, J. Krug, Experimente zum Ablauf der Kernreaktion <sup>11</sup>B(p,3 $\alpha$ ) in der 675-keV-Resonanz, *Zeitschrift für Phys.* 201 (1967) 301-322, <https://doi.org/10.1007/BF01326819>.<sup>¶</sup>
11. → A. Giorni, D. Engelhardt, J.F. Cavaignac, J.P. Longueue, R. Bouchez, Etude de la réaction a trois corps <sup>11</sup>B(p, $\alpha$ ) $\alpha$  de 150 keV a 2 MeV, *J. Phys.* 29 (1968) 4-8, <https://doi.org/10.1051/jphys:019680029010400>.<sup>¶</sup>
12. → J. Quebert, L. Marquez, Effets des résonances de <sup>12</sup>C sur l'émission de particules alpha dans la réaction <sup>11</sup>B(p,3 $\alpha$ ), *Nucl. Phys. A* 126 (1969) 646-670, [https://doi.org/10.1016/0375-9474\(69\)90854-9](https://doi.org/10.1016/0375-9474(69)90854-9).<sup>¶</sup>
13. → Y. Chanut, J.N. Scheurer, R. Ballini, J.L. Quebert, Y. Flamant, C. Perrin, Effets des spin et parité 3- de <sup>12</sup>C (18.36-MeV) sur la repartition des energies dans l'état final de la réaction <sup>11</sup>B(p,3 $\alpha$ ), *Nucl. Physics, Sect. A* 194(3) (1972) 523-534, [https://doi.org/10.1016/0375-9474\(72\)90999-2](https://doi.org/10.1016/0375-9474(72)90999-2).<sup>¶</sup>
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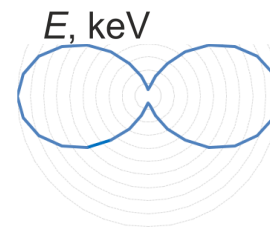
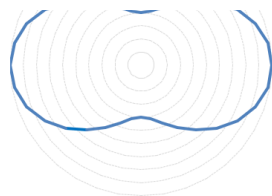
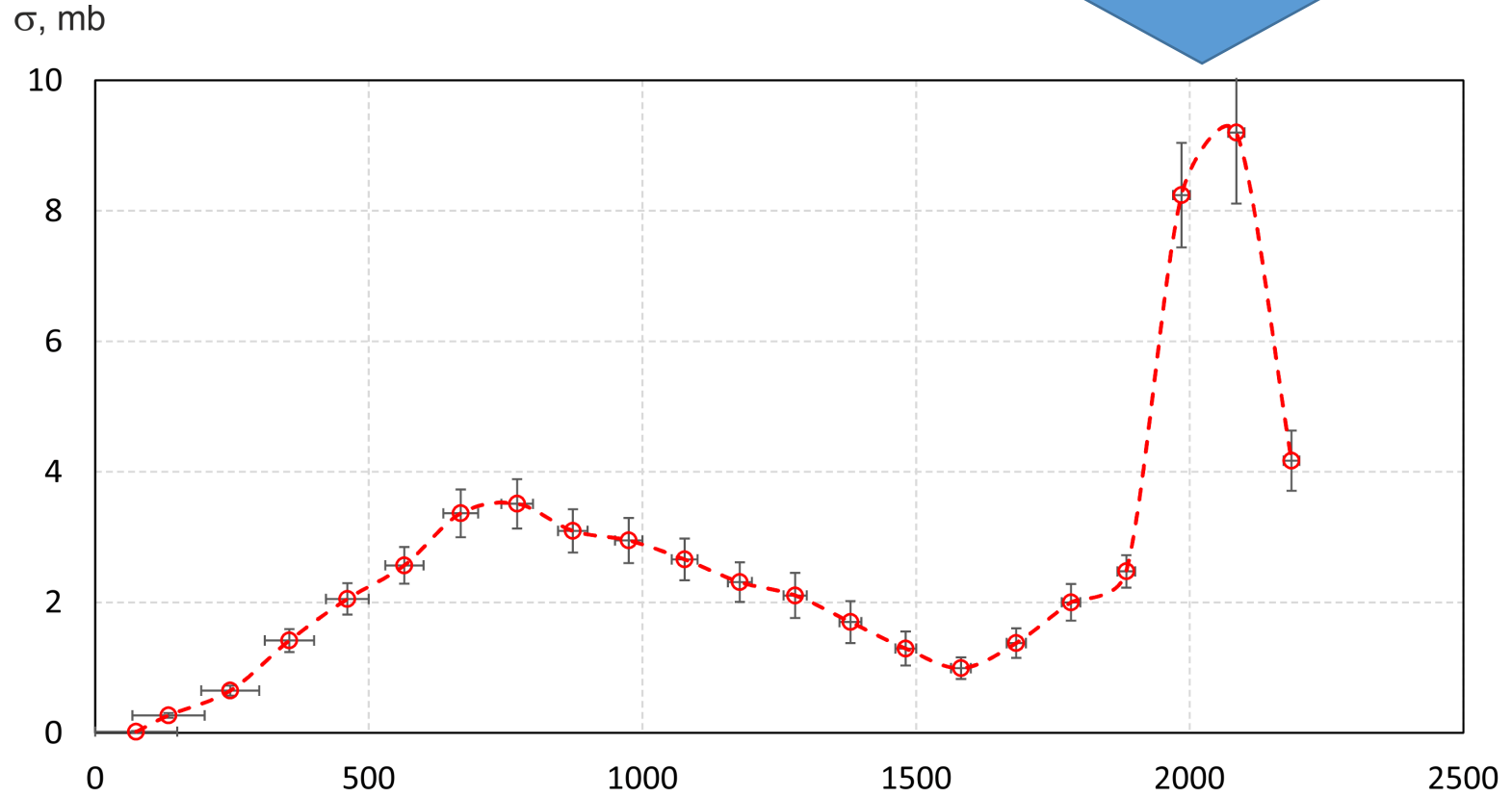


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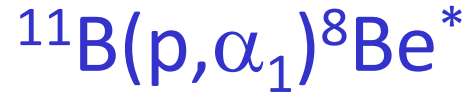




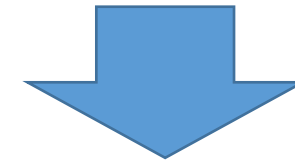
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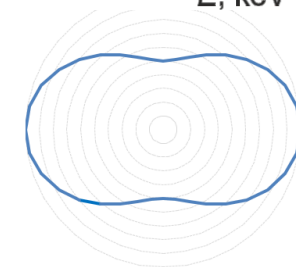
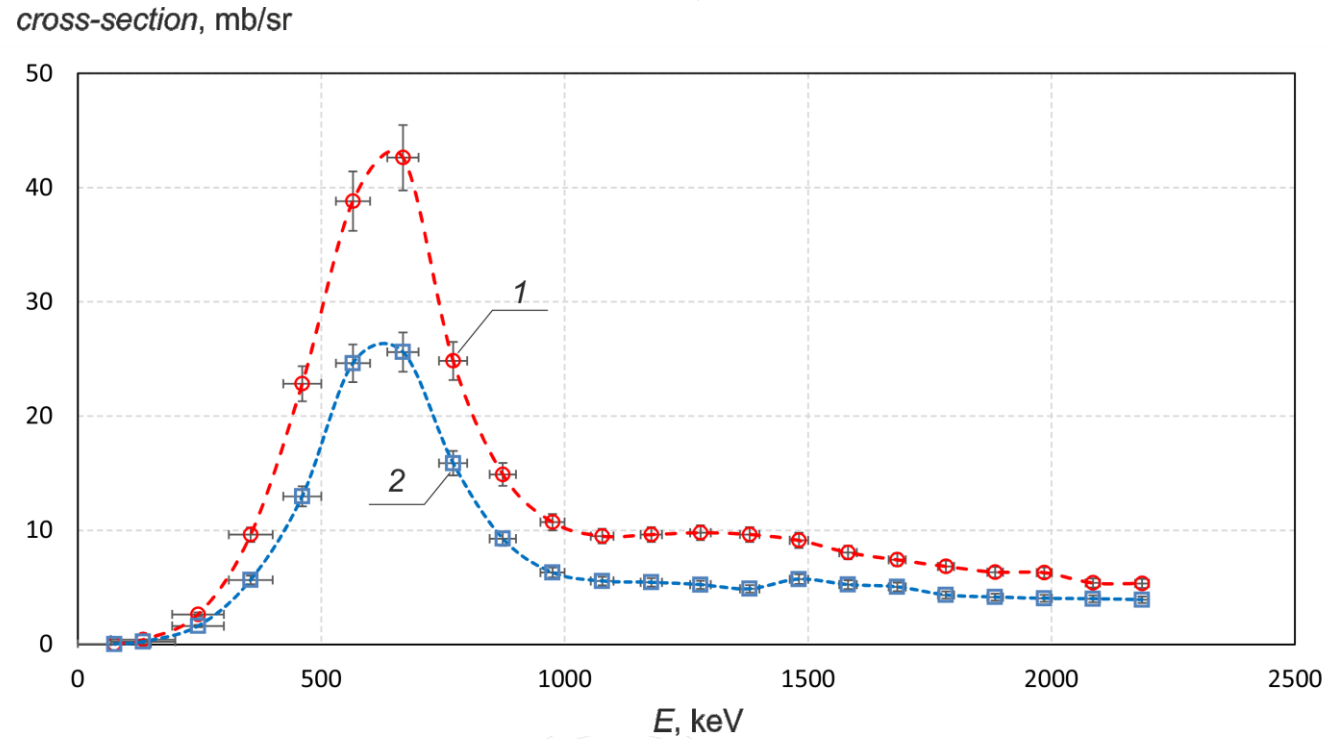
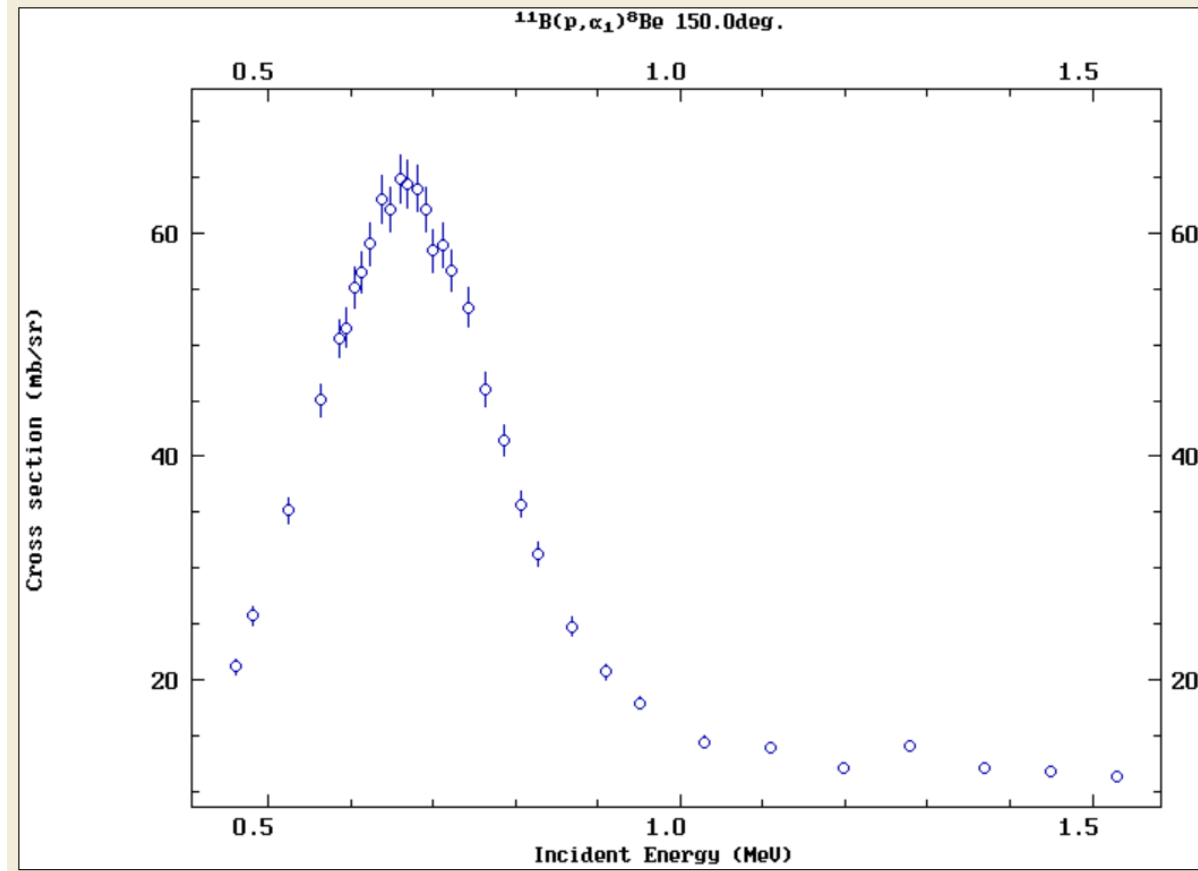


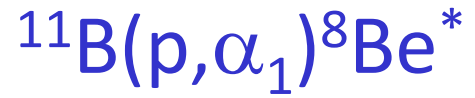


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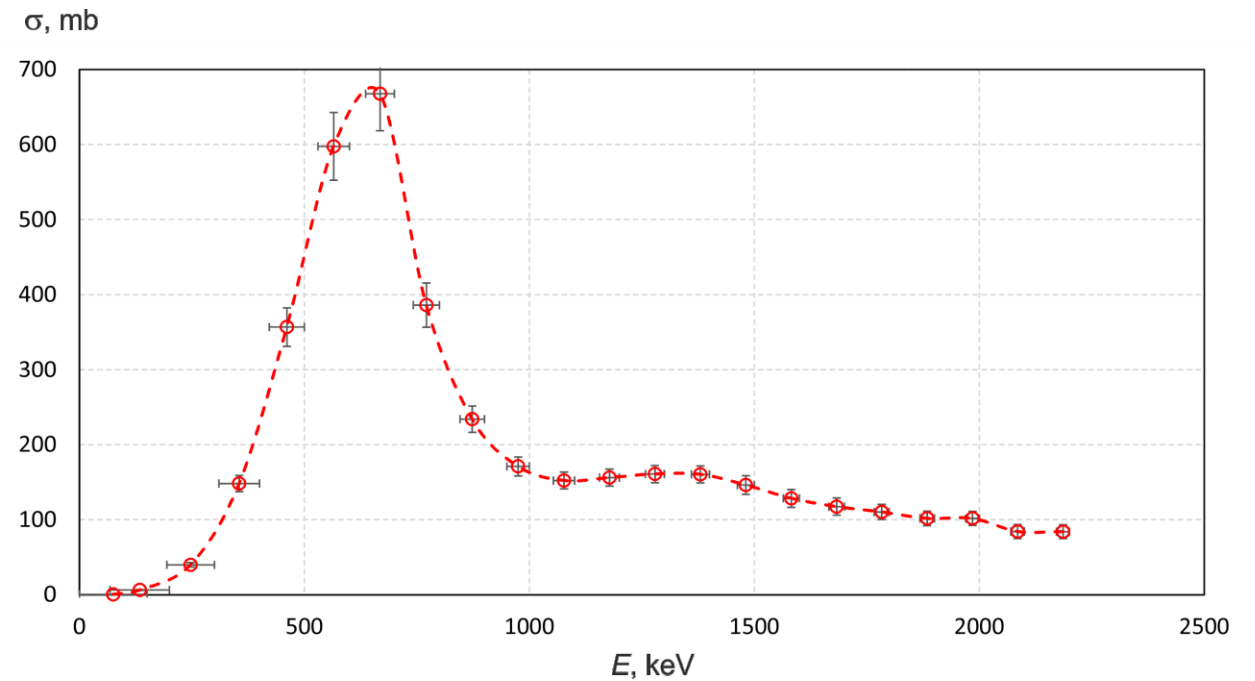
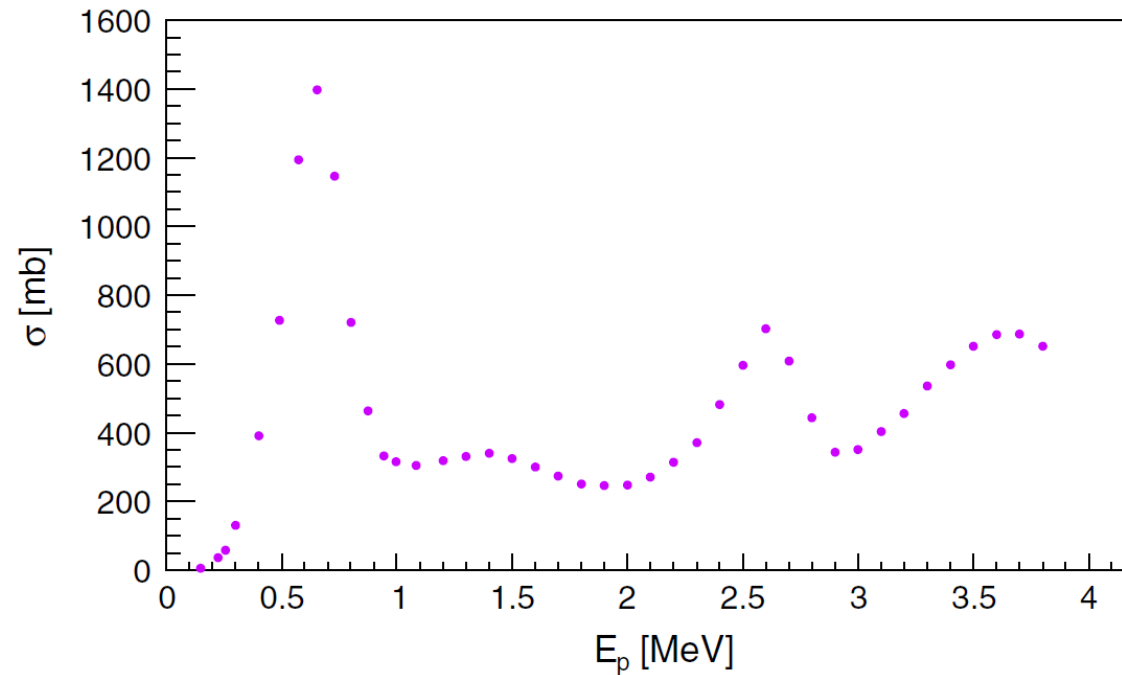
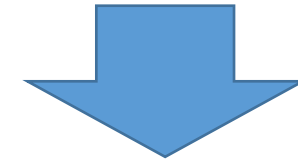


1)  $\theta=150^\circ$   $E_1=0.5-1.5\text{MeV}$  Source: J.Liu+(2002), Jour. Nucl. Instrum. Methods in Physics Res., Sect.B, Vol.190, p.107

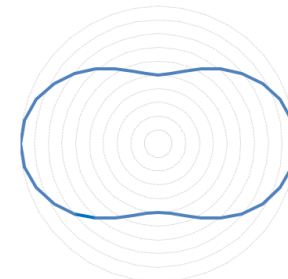




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**Fig. 4** The total cross section of the  $^{11}\text{B}(p, \alpha)\alpha$  as a function of  $E_p$ . The *error bars* are smaller than the size of the points



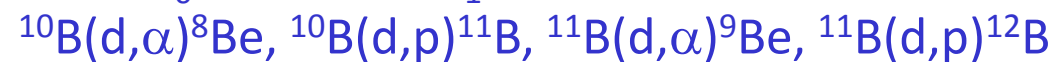
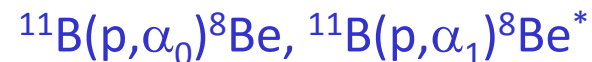
$d + \text{B}$

${}^{10}\text{B}(d,\alpha){}^8\text{Be}$ ,  ${}^{10}\text{B}(d,p){}^{11}\text{B}$ ,  ${}^{11}\text{B}(d,\alpha){}^9\text{Be}$ ,  ${}^{11}\text{B}(d,p){}^{12}\text{B}$

We will submit the article to NIM B soon

The BINP proposed and created the accelerator based neutron source VITA, which is in demand for boron-neutron capture therapy, radiation testing of promising materials, etc.

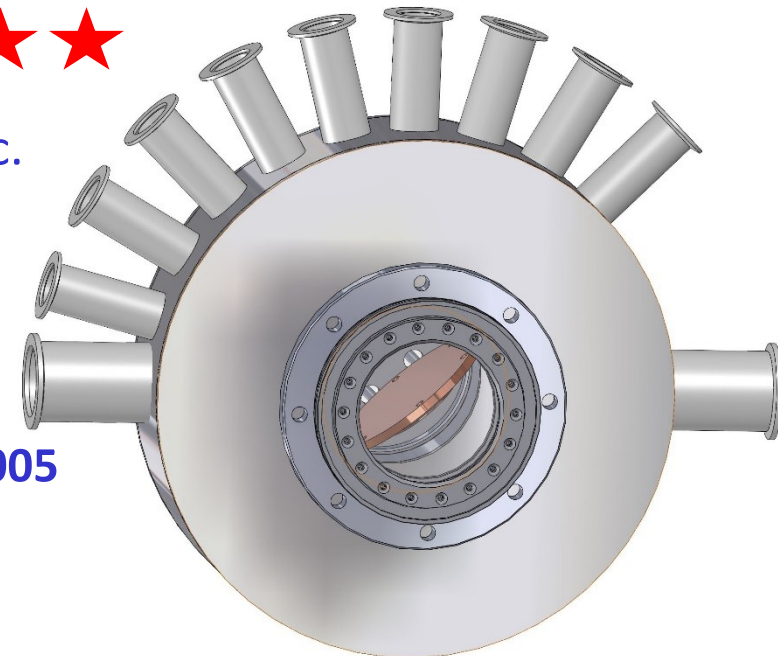
A number of nuclear reaction parameters were measured at the accelerator based neutron source VITA



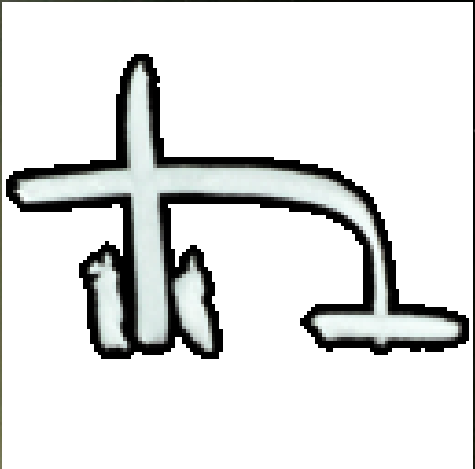
There are plans to measure the cross section of the  ${}^{19}\text{F}(p,\alpha e^+e^-){}^{16}\text{O}$  reaction, etc.

We are open for cooperation.

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# Thank you for your attention!



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