

# Complementarity of low energy $\beta$ NMR and $\mu$ SR

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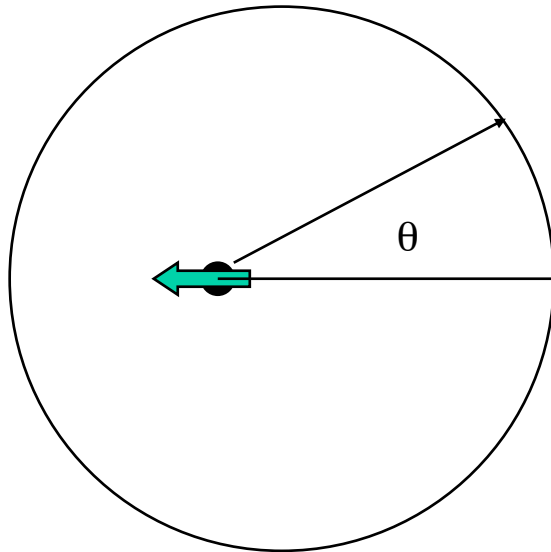
# Plan

- Similarities of  $\beta$ NMR and LE  $\mu$ SR
- Some technical differences
- Some fundamental differences
- Types of measurements in  $\beta$ NMR
- An example

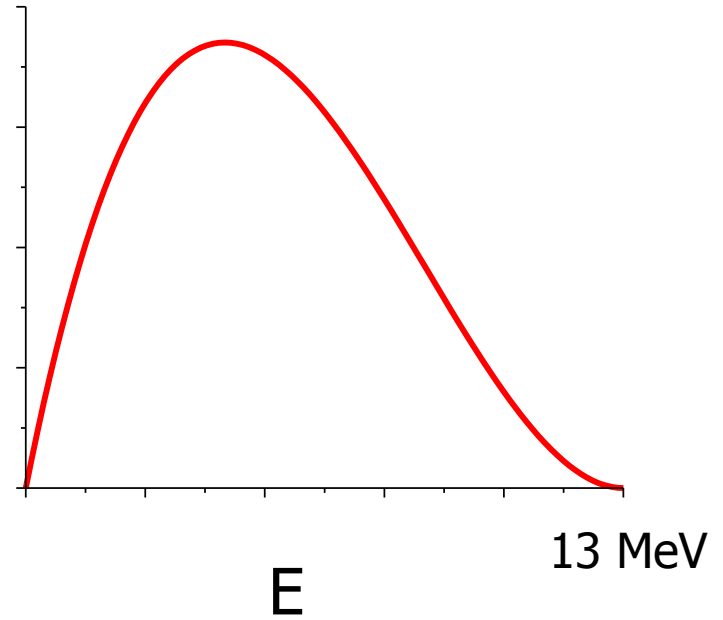
# $\beta$ NMR/ $\mu$ SR: similar basis, similar probes

- Implanted charged radioactive probes
- Parity violation of the weak decay
- observation of the asymmetry of beta particles yields local magnetic information like NMR

# $\beta$ -decay of ${}^8\text{Li}$



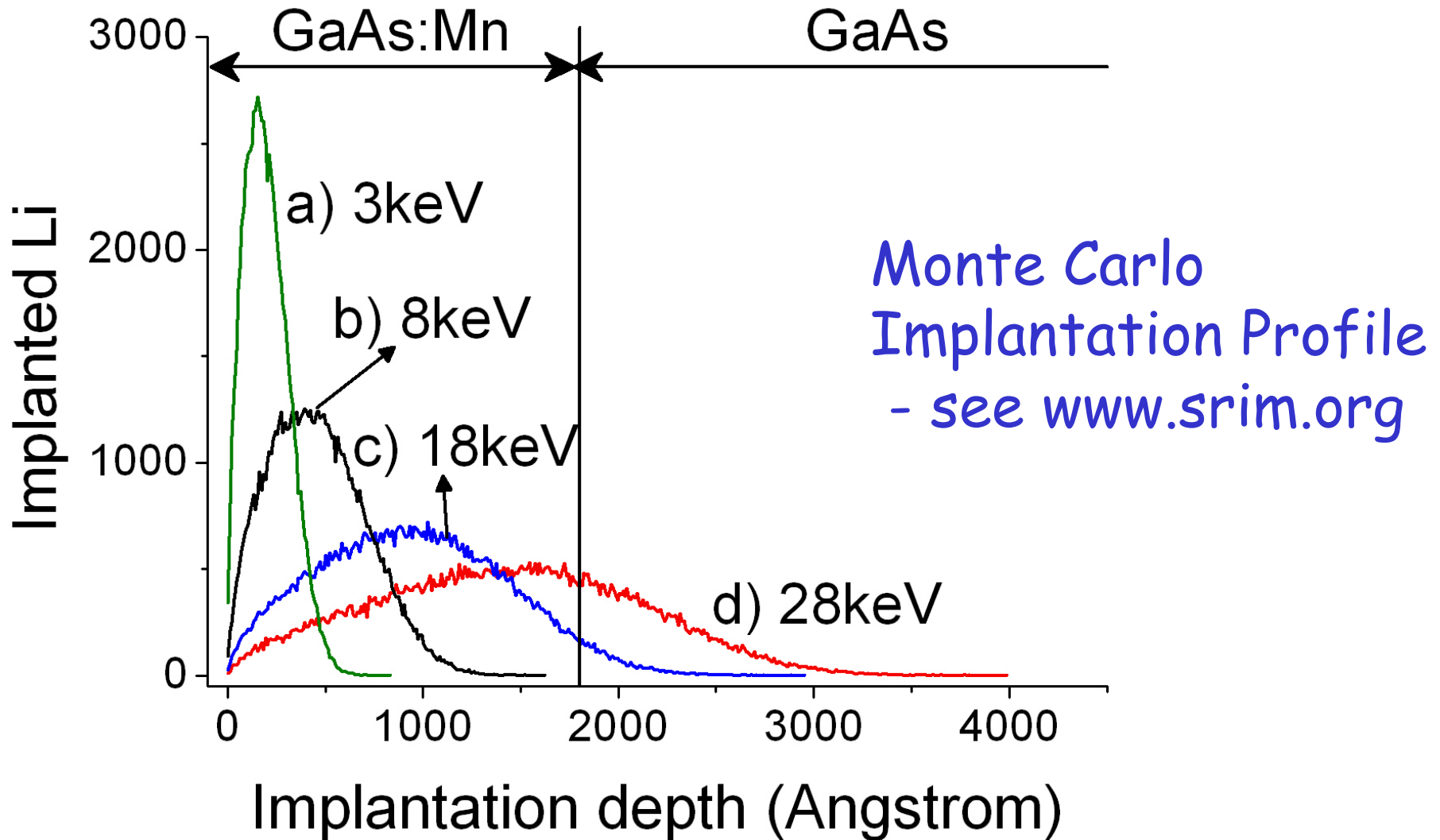
$N(E)$



# Low Energy

- Objective:  
thin films, heterostructures, near surfaces
- Electrostatic deceleration is possible
- Measurements *as a function of depth*
- Typical energy range 30 - 0.2 keV

# Depth Resolution Example



# Some Technical Differences

- Production similar:  
spallation nuclear reactions
- Beam production:  
pion decay vs. surface ionization
- Polarization:  
spontaneous vs. optical pumping

# The TRIUMF Implementation of $\beta$ NMR

see

$\beta$ NMR: [Morris et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 93, 157601 \(2004\).](#)

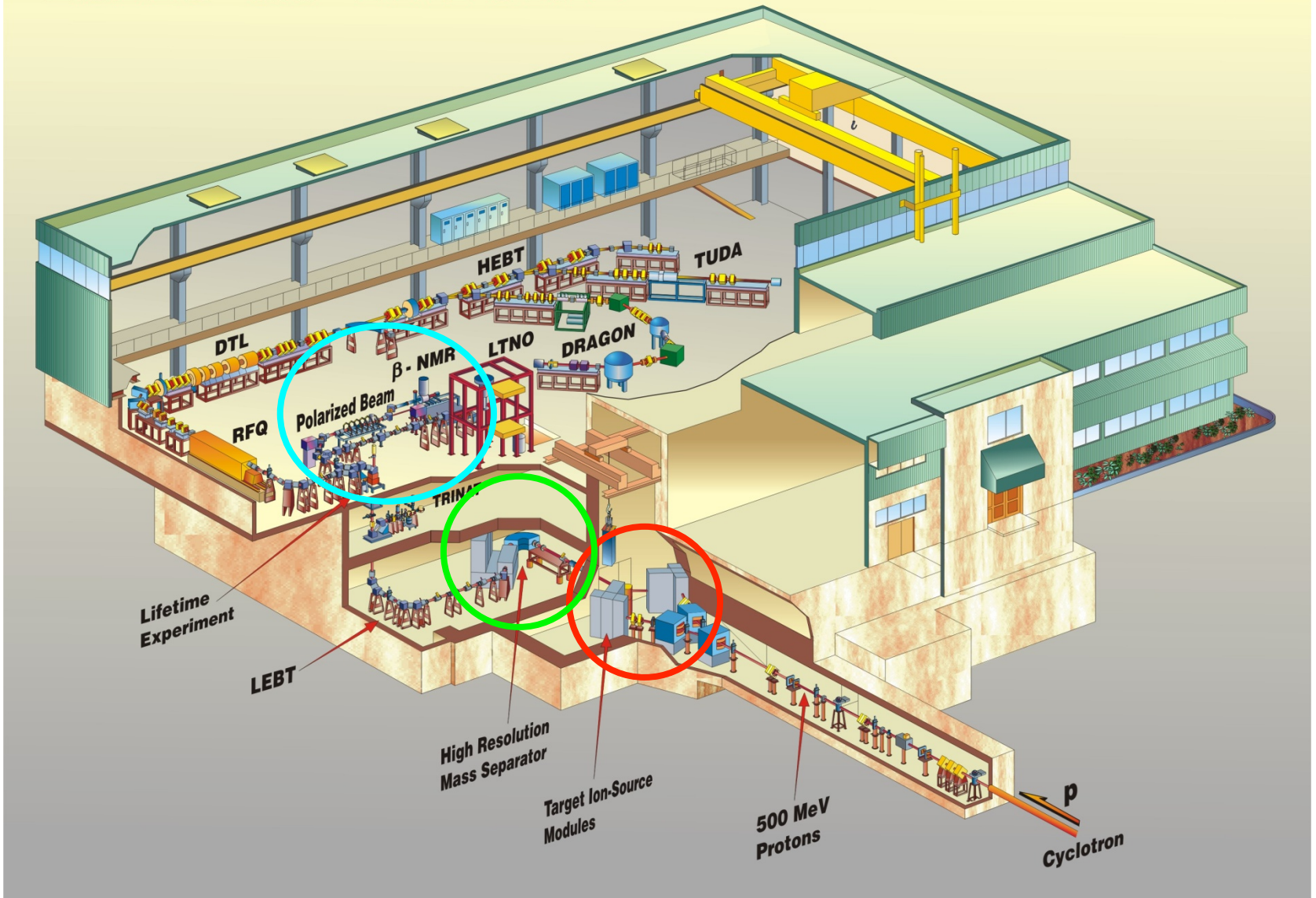
$\beta$ NQR: [Salman et al., Phys. Rev. B 70, 104404 \(2004\).](#)

facility: [Kiefl et al., Physica B 326, 189 \(2003\).](#)

polarizer: [Levy et al., NIMB 204, 689 \(2003\).](#)



# ISAC at TRIUMF



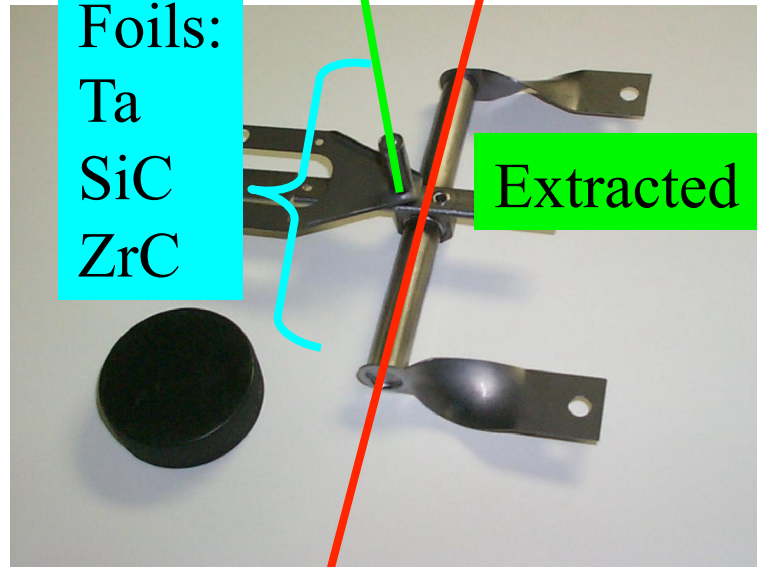
# ISAC Production Target

M. Dombisky/TRIUMF

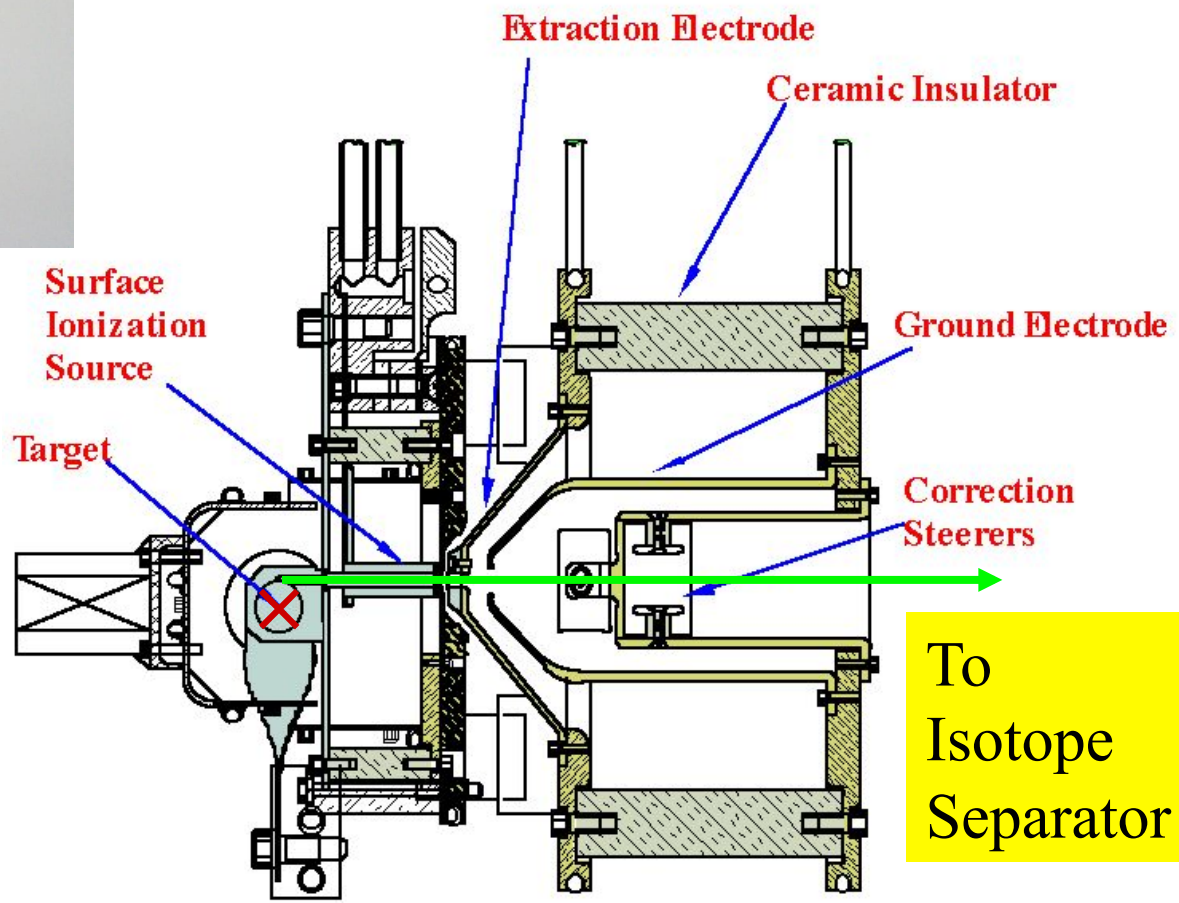
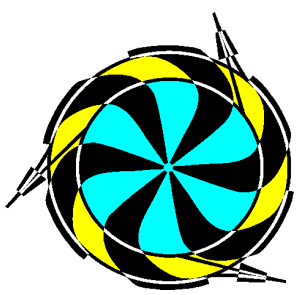
for  $\text{Li}^+$ : surface ionization

Foils:  
Ta  
SiC  
ZrC

Extracted ion beam  $\sim 30 \text{ keV}$



500 MeV  
Proton Beam



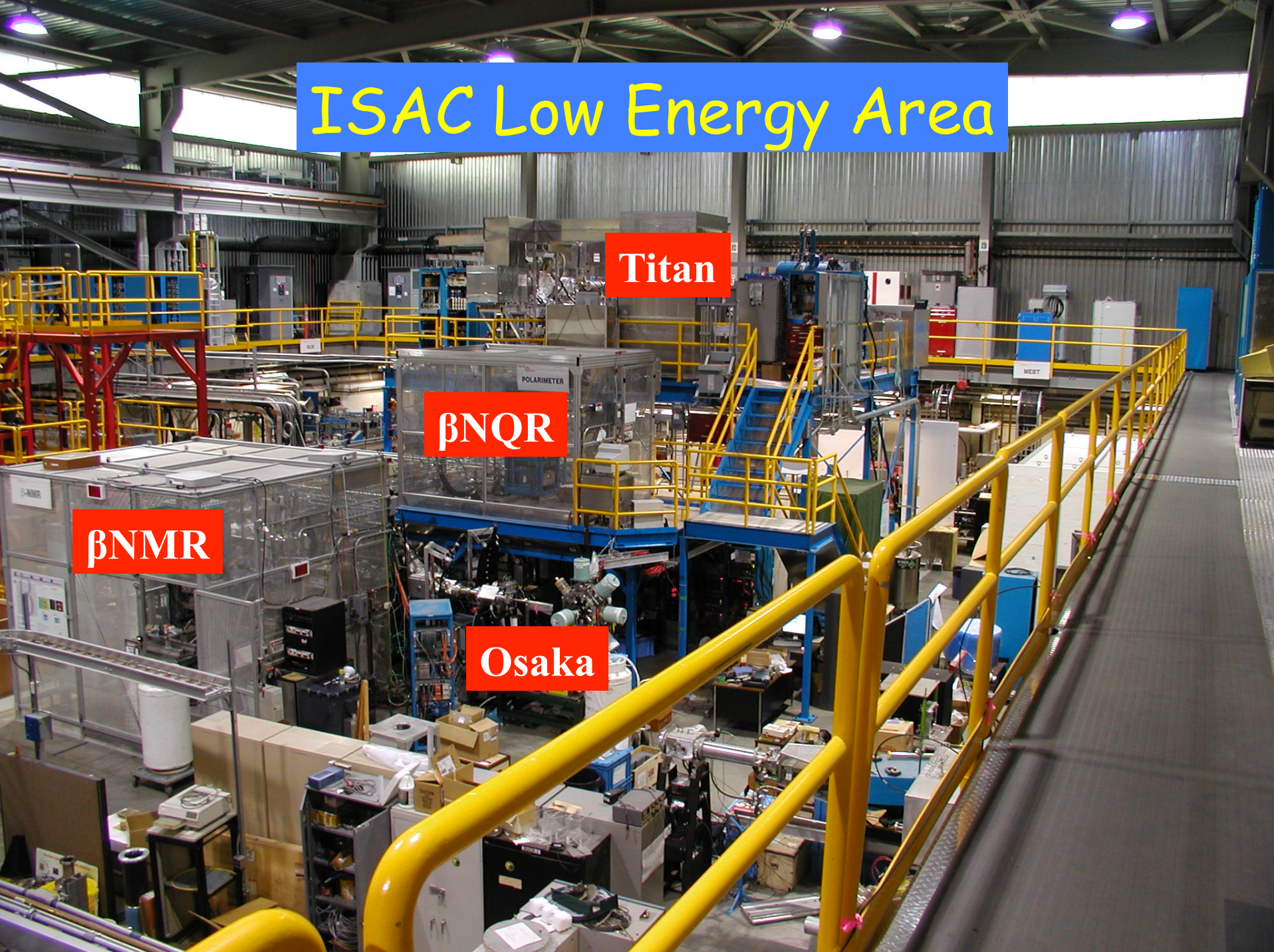
# ISAC Low Energy Area

Titan

BNQR

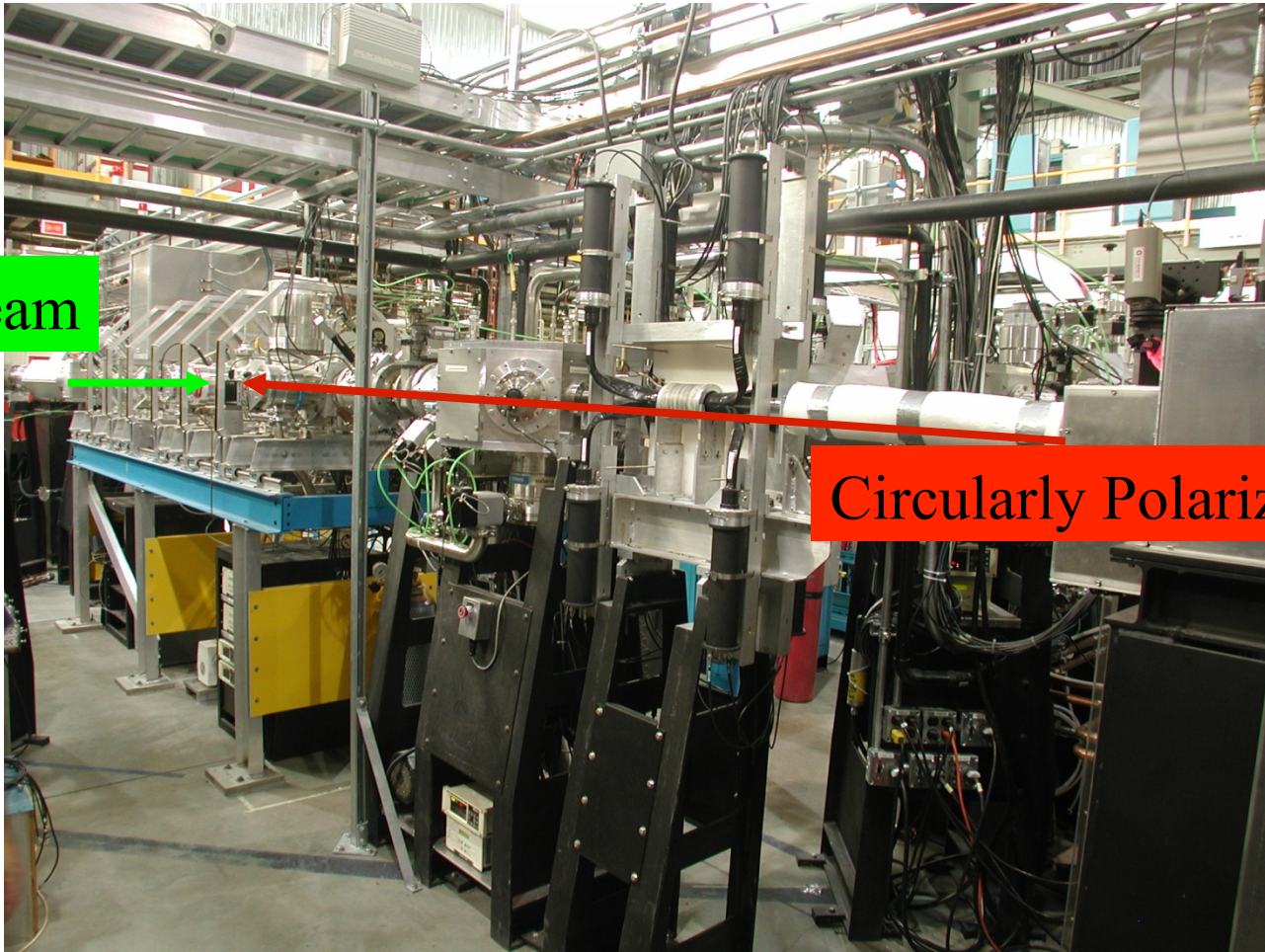
BNMR

Osaka



# Optical Polarizer

Li<sup>+</sup> ion beam

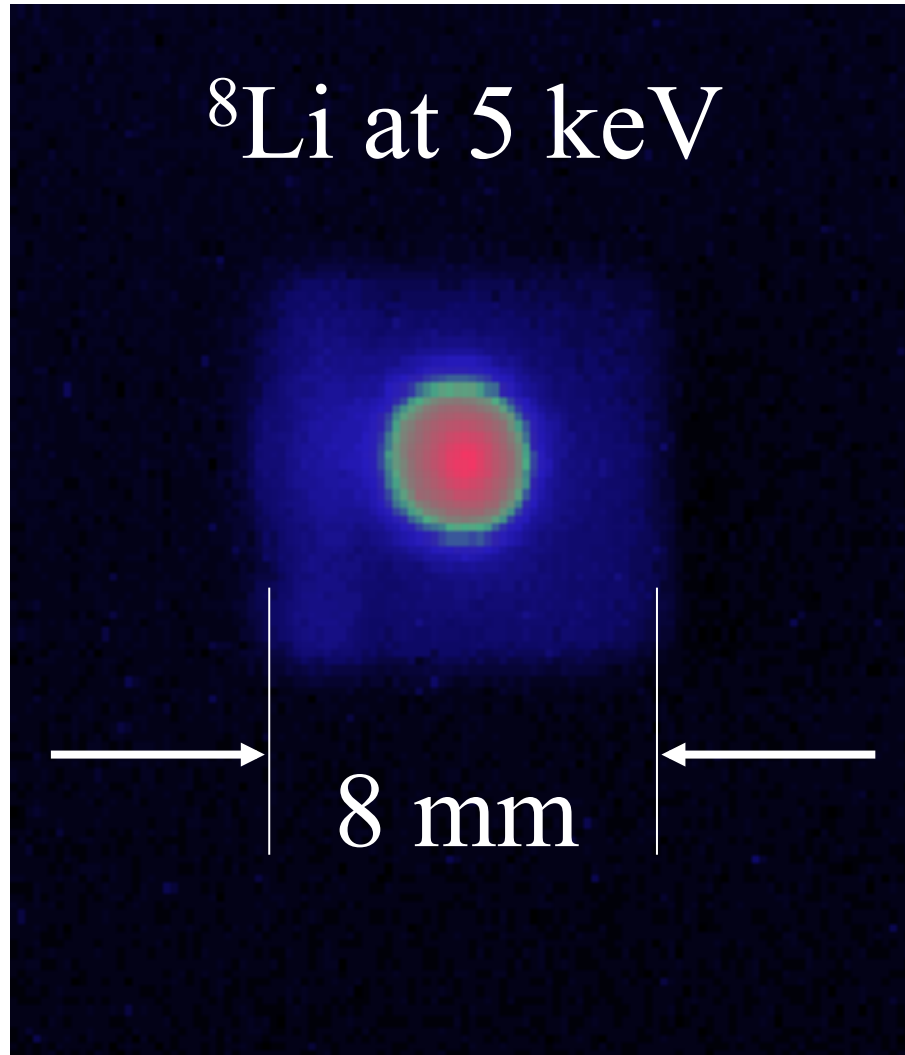


Circularly Polarized Laser

D1 in Li: 671 nm

$^8\text{Li}$  at 5 keV

beam stopped  
in scintillator,  
imaged with CCD



Typical rate:  $\sim 10^7$  spin polarized  $^8\text{Li}^+$  per second

# sample ladder



UHV

Ultra High  
Vacuum

# Fundamental Differences

- Probe Properties:

time range, fields sensed  
mass difference  $\sim 72x$

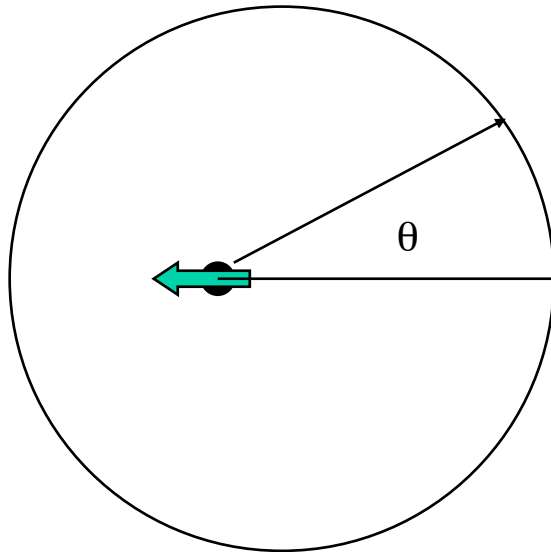
- One probe at a time:

$\beta$ NMR no TM counter, history effects

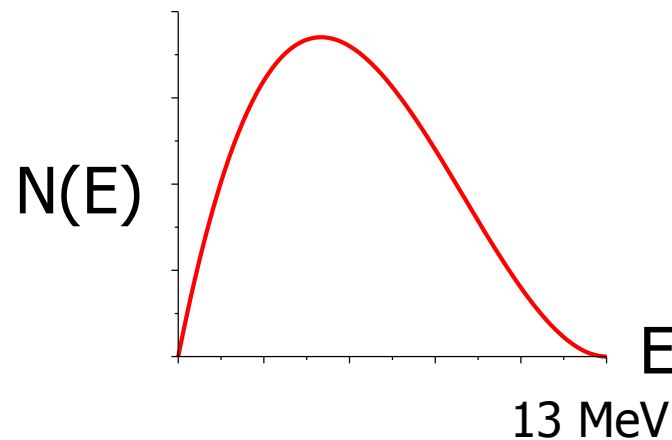
- Beam flux:

${}^8\text{Li}^+$  at TRIUMF  $\sim 10^7$  /sec typical  
systematics limited, not statistics

# $\beta$ -decay of ${}^8\text{Li}$



Spin=2,  $Q=+31$  mb  
 $\gamma = 6.3$  MHz/T  
 $\langle A \rangle = -1/3$



Radioactive lifetime: 1.2 seconds  
i.e.  $\sim 10^6$  times the  $\mu^+$



# Probe Differences

- $T_1$ :  ${}^8\text{Li}$  10 ms - 100 s,  $\mu^+$  10 ns - 100  $\mu\text{s}$
  - $\beta\text{NMR}$  timescale like conventional NMR
  - Sensitive to different phenomena
    - $\mu^+$  good for strongly magnetic systems, paramagnetic states etc.
    - ${}^8\text{Li}^+$  slower relaxing systems, narrower field distributions
  - resolution limit from probe lifetime
  - No ZF  $\beta\text{NMR}$  (Kubo-Toyabe+ too fast)
- except...

# More Probe Differences

## Quadrupolar vs. pure magnetic ( $s = \frac{1}{2}$ ) probe

- Q couples to EFG
- EFG=0 at cubic sites, so no effect
- Quadrupolar splitting and broadening can complicate data interpretation
- But EFG may be interesting (charge order...):  
    *direct coupling to the lattice*
- Pure (zero field) NQR may be possible

The Zero Field Hamiltonian for the implanted  ${}^8\text{Li}$  ( $I=2$ ) in an axially symmetric electric field gradient (EFG)  $q$  is

$$H = h\nu_q (I_z^2 - 2)$$

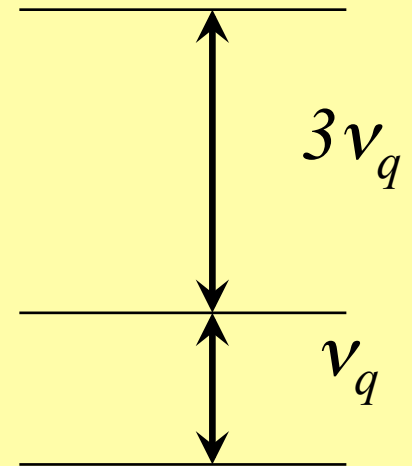
$$\nu_q = \frac{e^2 q Q}{8}$$

$$E_m = h\nu_q (m^2 - 2)$$

$m = \pm 2$

$m = \pm 1$

$m = 0$



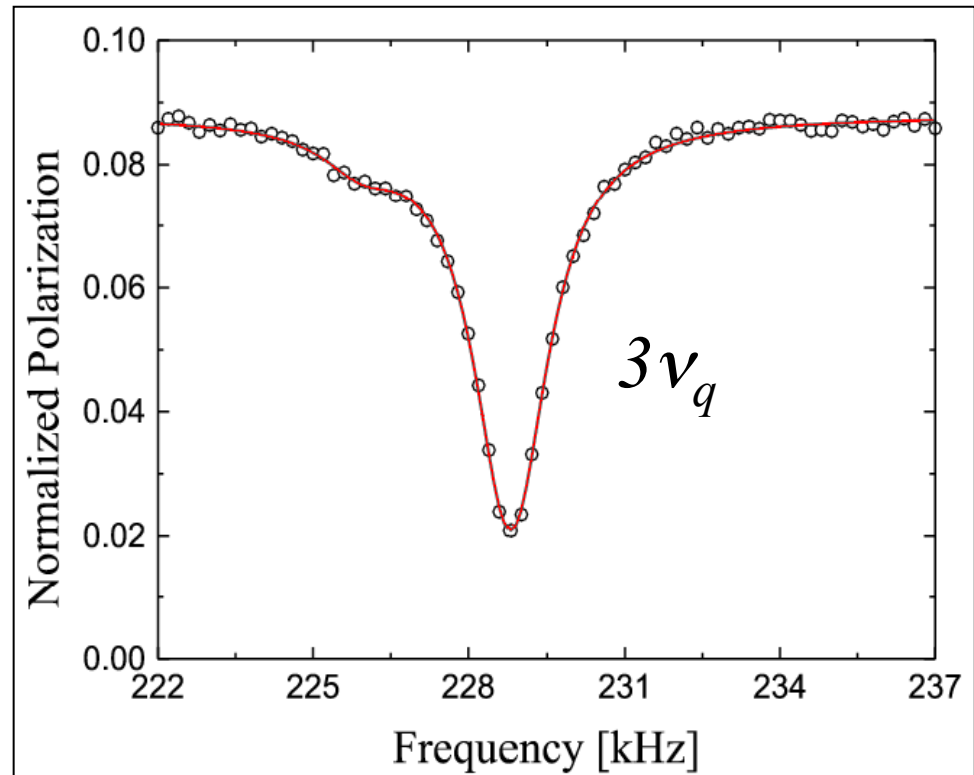
# $\beta$ -NQR **Quadrupole** R

*Phys. Rev. B* **70** 104404 (2004)

First ever  
beta-detected  
NQR in  $\text{SrTiO}_3$

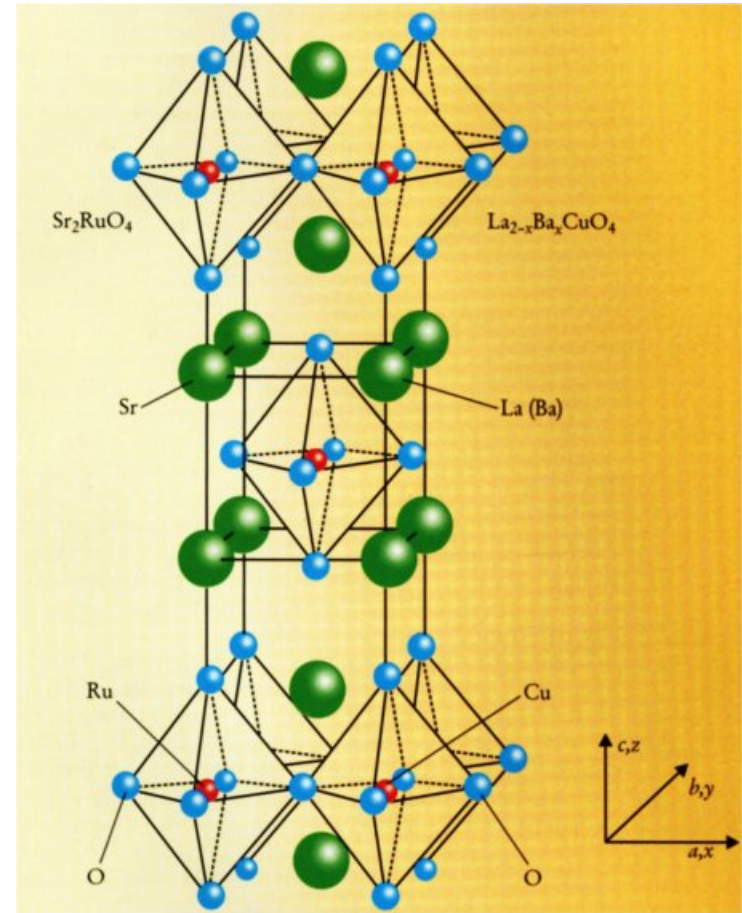
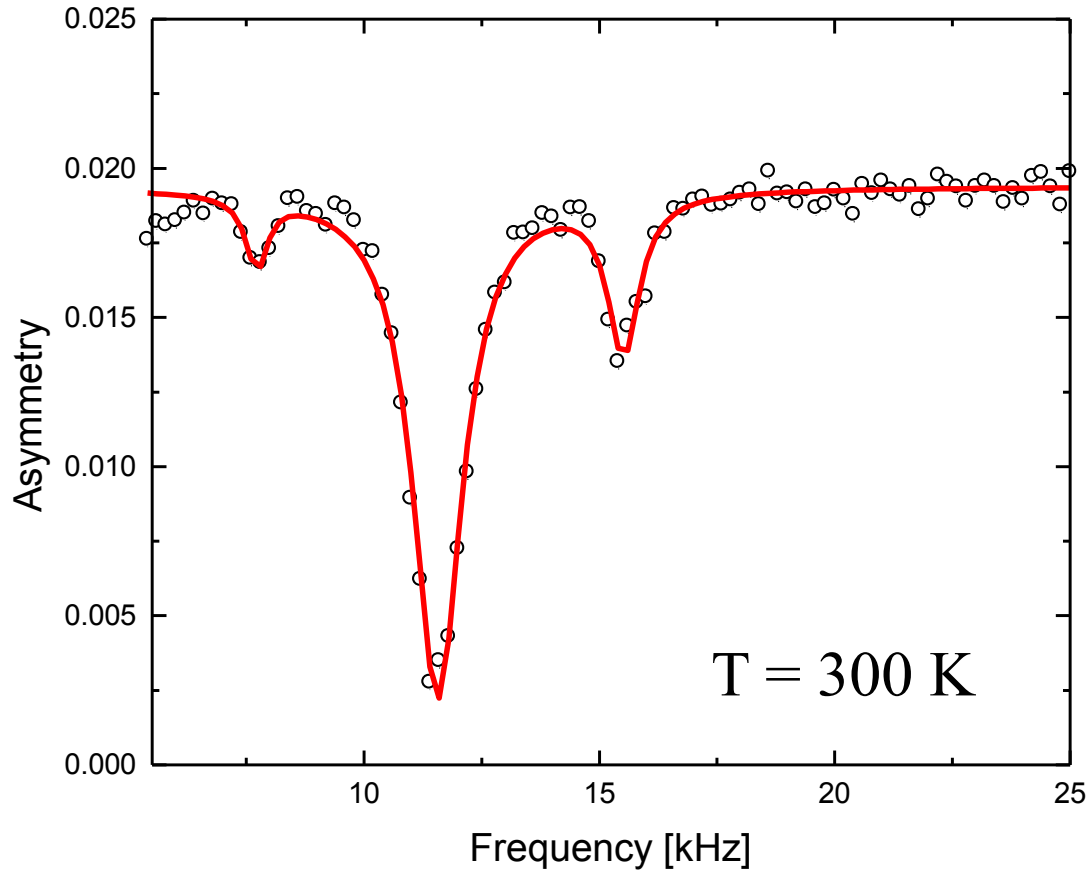
*Physica B* **374-375** (2006) 239-242

Other materials

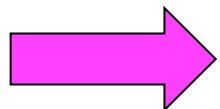


Room Temperature  $\beta$ -NQR  
Resonance in  $\text{SrTiO}_3$

# $^8\text{Li}$ $\beta\text{NQR}$ in $\text{Sr}_2\text{RuO}_4$

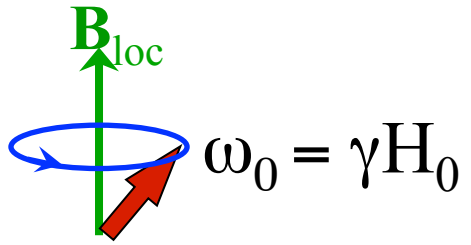
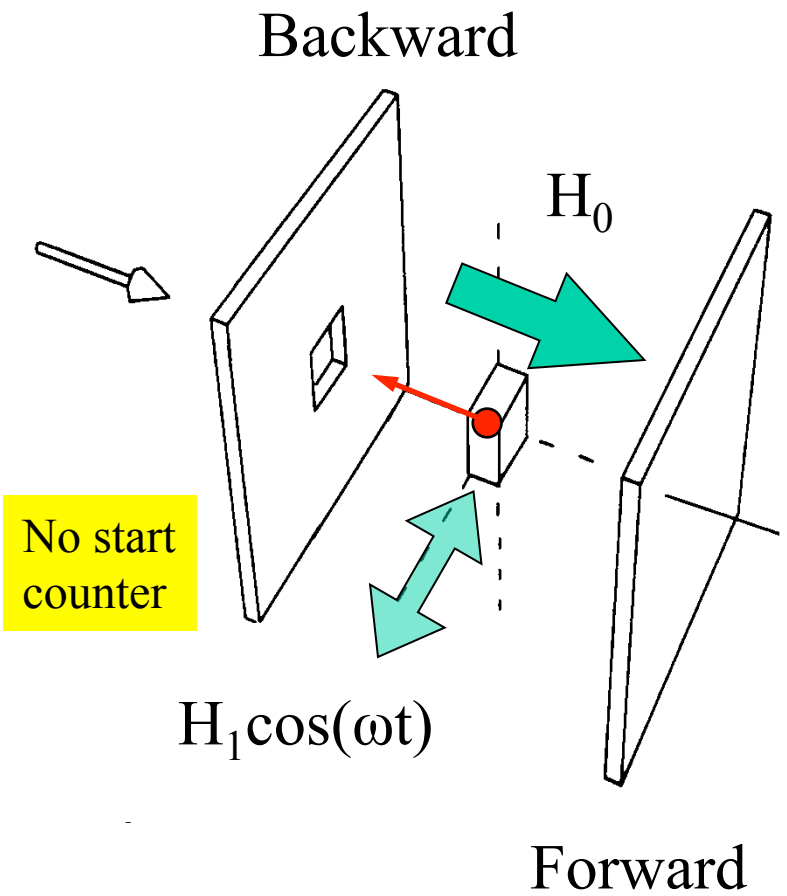


(Maeno, Kyoto)

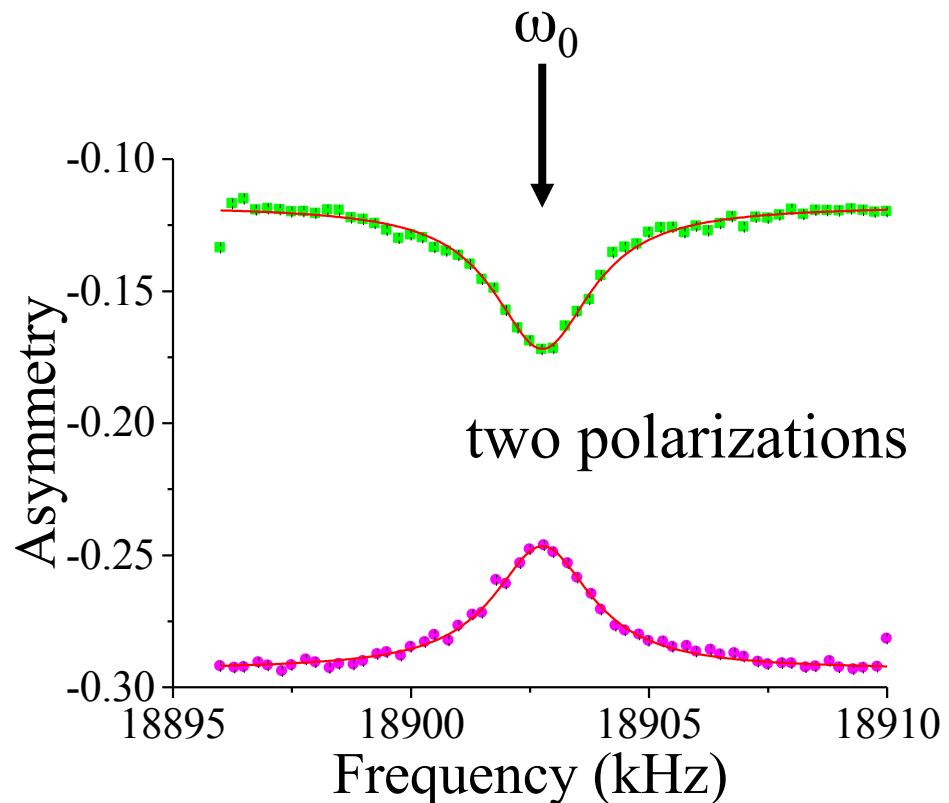


Low T (300 mK) capability funded and in design

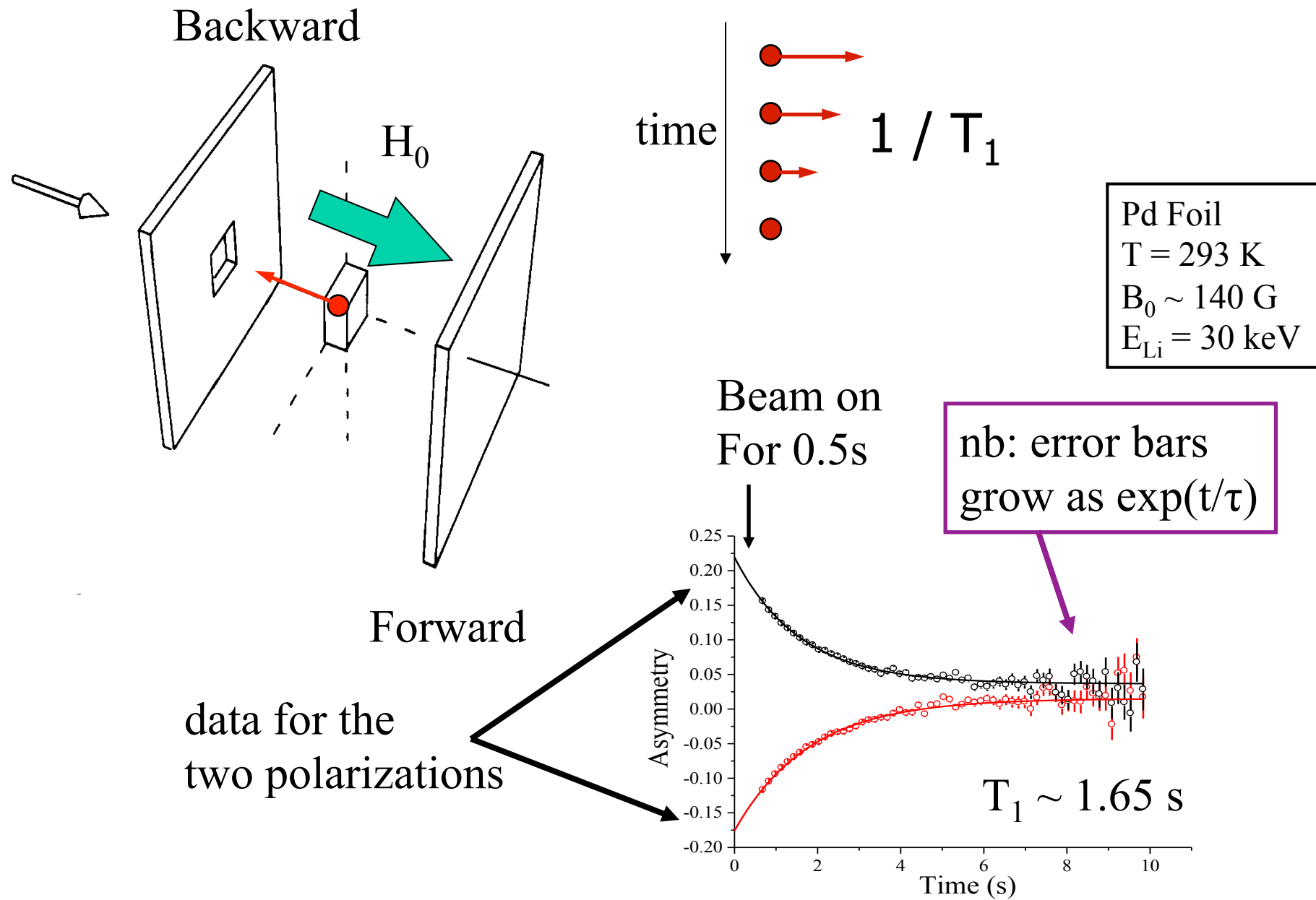
# $\beta$ NMR: Types of Measurements



measure directly in the frequency domain  
no FFT, no apodization



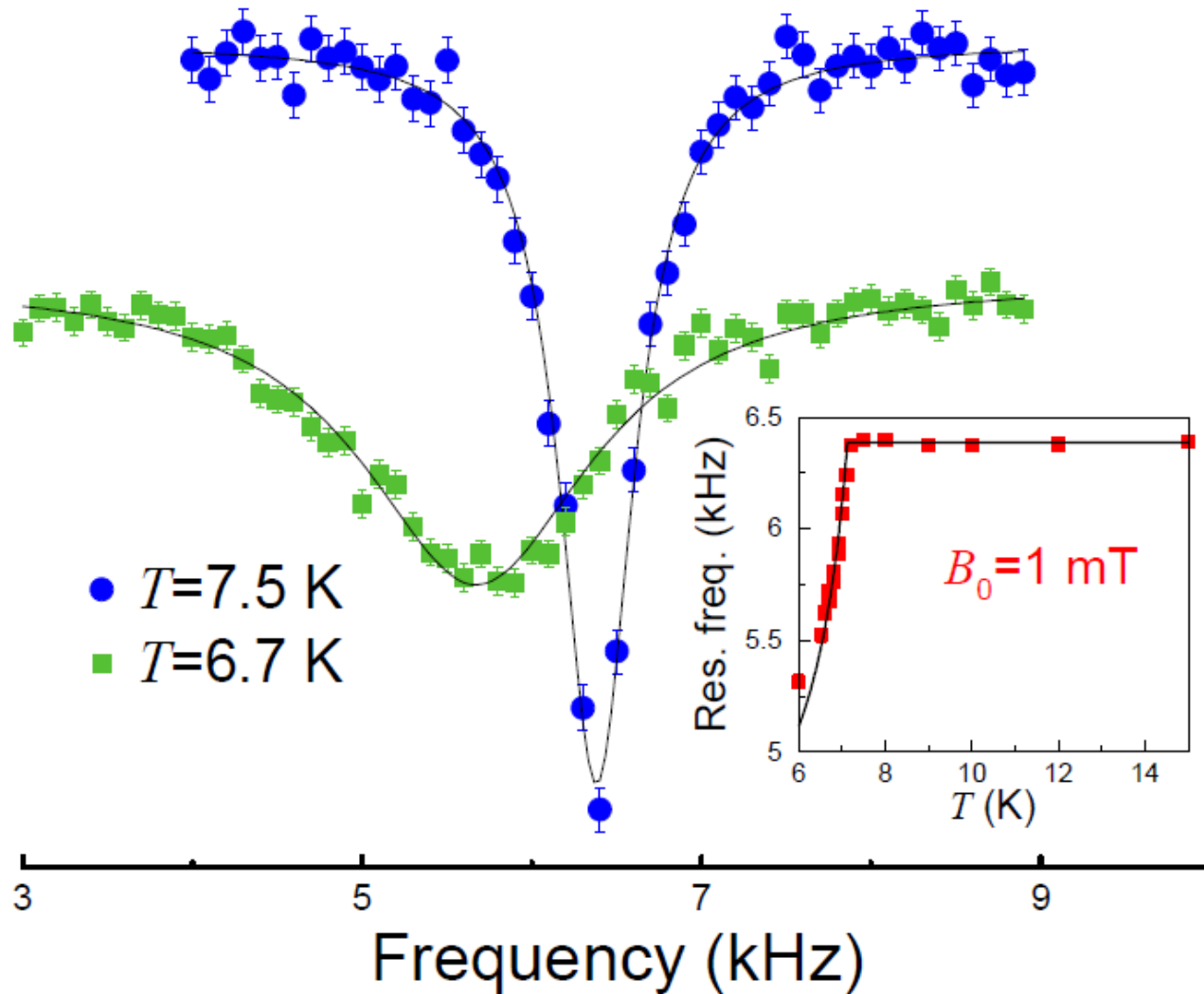
# $\beta$ NMR Measurement of the Spin Lattice Relaxation Rate



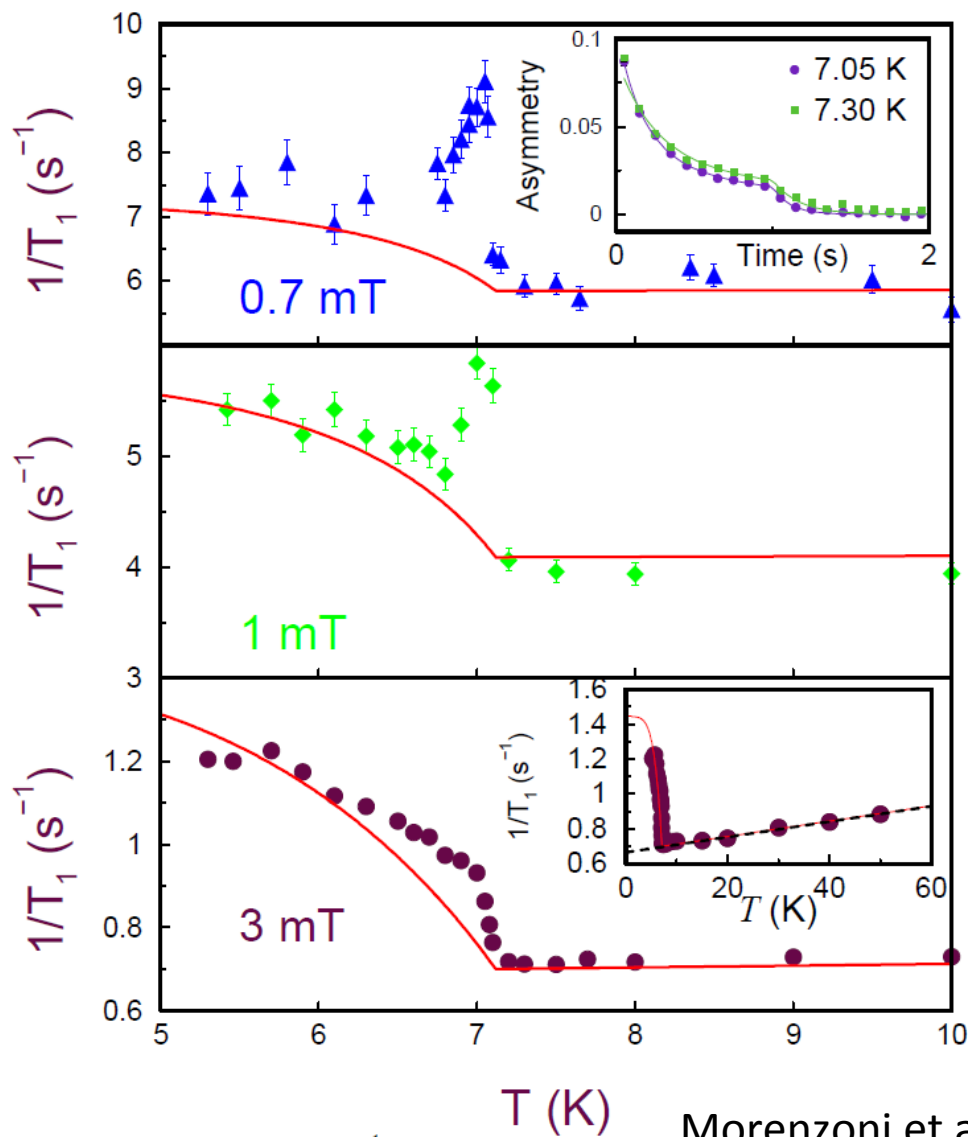


One Example

# Meissner Effect in a Pb film



# Superconducting Fluctuations in Pb



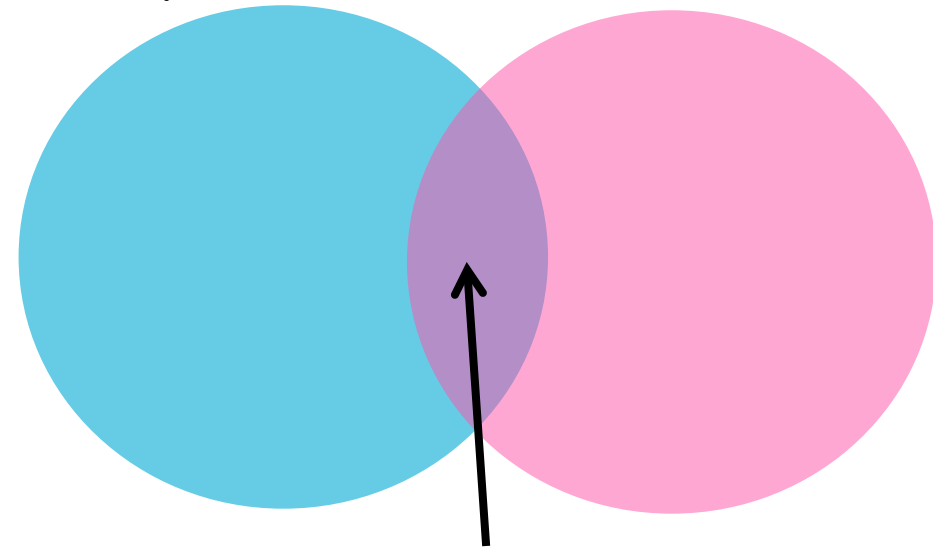
A BIG Difference

Experience

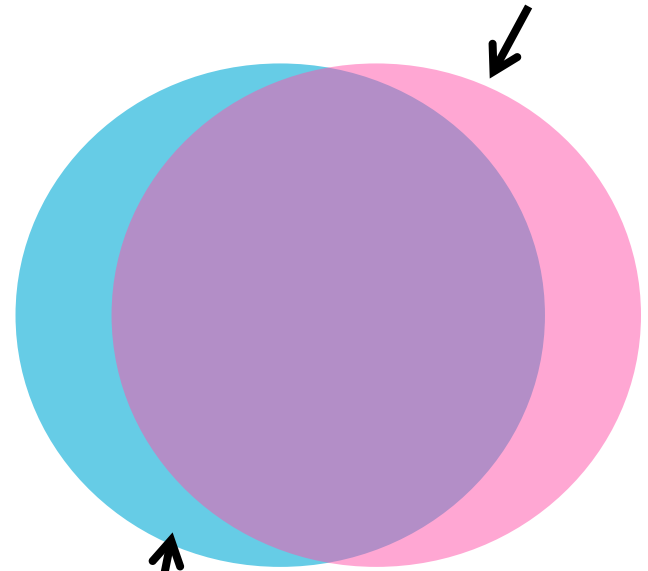
Interesting Experiments for  $\beta$ NMR

Interesting Experiments for LE  $\mu$ SR

Interesting Samples for LE  $\mu$ SR



Some could be done equally well by either



Interesting Samples for  $\beta$ NMR

End

more info: [bnmr.triumf.ca](http://bnmr.triumf.ca)

# Collaboration

**R.F. Kiefl** (UBC, Phys), **K.H. Chow** (Alberta, Phys) S.R. Dunsiger (TU Munich), Z. Yamani (NRC-CINS, Chalk River), E. Morenzoni, Z. Salman (PSI)

Students: T. Parolin, **H. Saadaoui**, M.D. Hossain, **Q. Song**, A. Mansour, **D. Wang**, M. Smadella, T. Keeler, I. Fan, and many undergrads

TRIUMF: G.D. Morris, C.D.P. Levy, M.R. Pearson, A. Hatakeyama (Tokyo), S. Daviel, R. Poutissou, D. Arseneau, R. Baartman, M. Olivo, S.R. Kreitzman

SAMPLES: L.H. Greene (Urbana), T. Hibma, S. Hak (Groningen), B. Heinrich (SFU), Y. Maeno (Kyoto), P. Fournier (Sherbrooke), J.Y.T. Wei (Toronto), J.W. Brill (Kentucky), J. Chakhalian (MPI-Stuttgart, Arkansas), G. Condorelli, R. Sessoli (Florence), C. Ferdeghini (Genoa), J.K. Furdyna (Notre Dame), K.M. Yu (LBL), N.J.C. Ingle (UBC), R. Liang, D.A. Bonn, W.N. Hardy (UBC), E. Katz (Beer Sheva), F. Fujara (TU Darmstadt), R. Neumann (GSI), T. Tiedje (UBC, UVic)



# “Hyperfine” Local Probes

$$M = \chi H$$

Magnetic Susceptibility

$$\chi = \chi' - i\chi''$$

Shift:  $\delta = A\chi'(0,0)$  ← can be multicomponent and/or inhomogeneous

Relaxation:

$$\frac{1}{T_1} \propto kT \sum_{\vec{q}} A^2(\vec{q}) \frac{\chi''_{\perp}(\vec{q}, \omega_0)}{\omega_0}$$

Moriya Expression

← In the RF ( $\mu\text{eV}$  to zero)

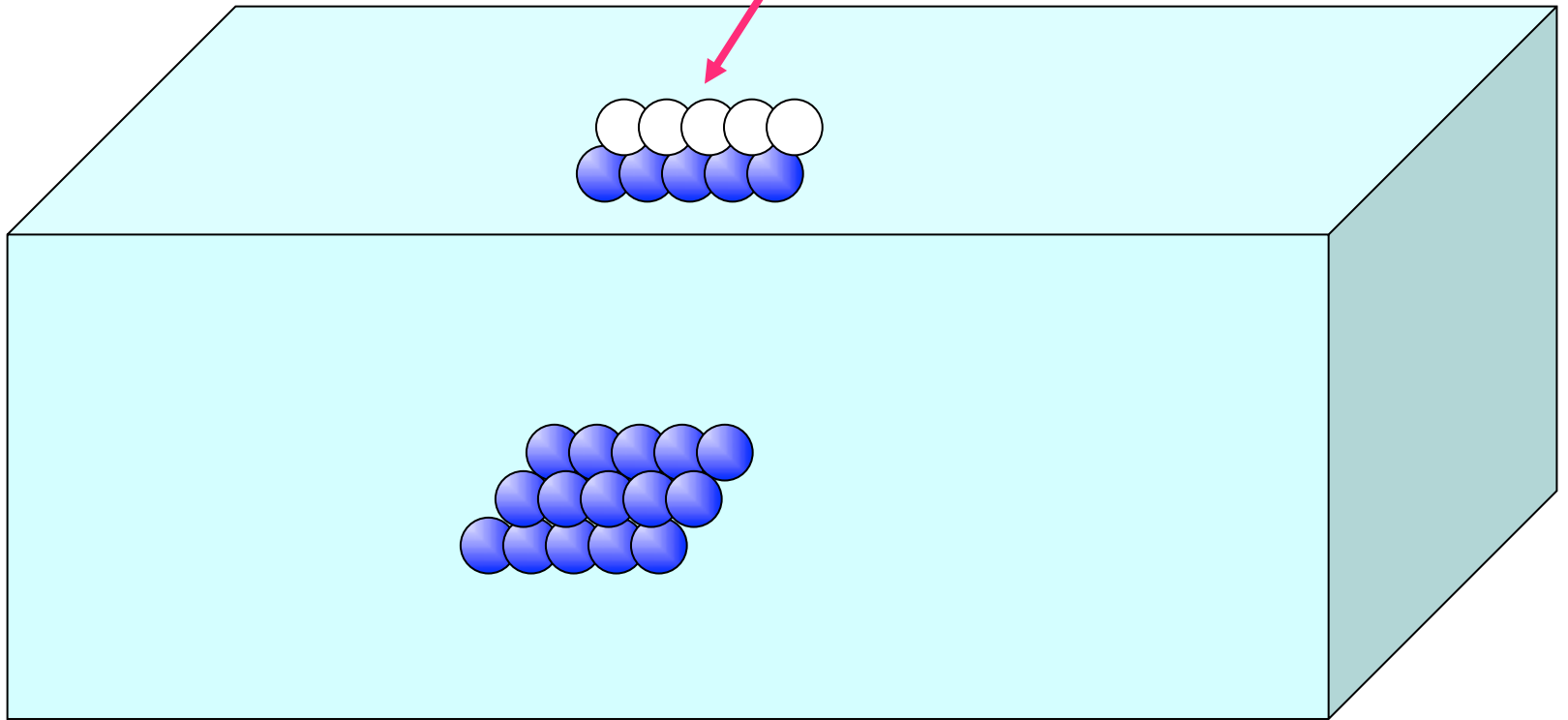
also: quadrupolar effects, diamagnetic shielding, ...



# Structural Phase Transitions near a Free Surface: SrTiO<sub>3</sub>

# Free Surface: Breaks Symmetry

Missing neighbours



# Phase Transitions at Surfaces and Interfaces

Original theory:

Binder and Hohenberg, PRB **9** 2194 (1974)

Mills, PRB **3**, 3887 (1971)

Recent review:

M. Pleimling, J. Phys. A **37**, R79 (2004)

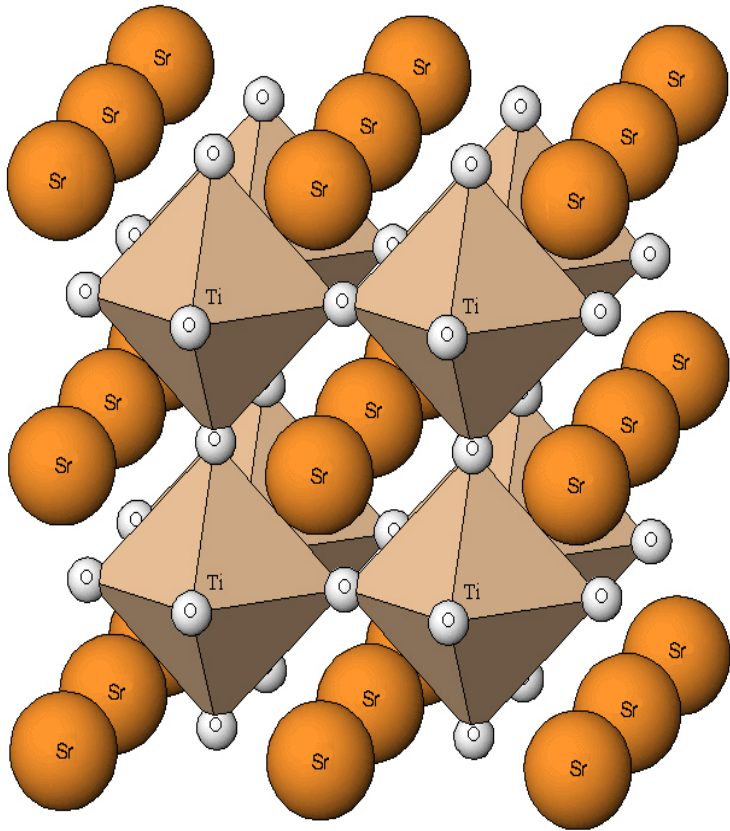
Experiments: see, e.g., H. Dosch

# SrTiO<sub>3</sub>

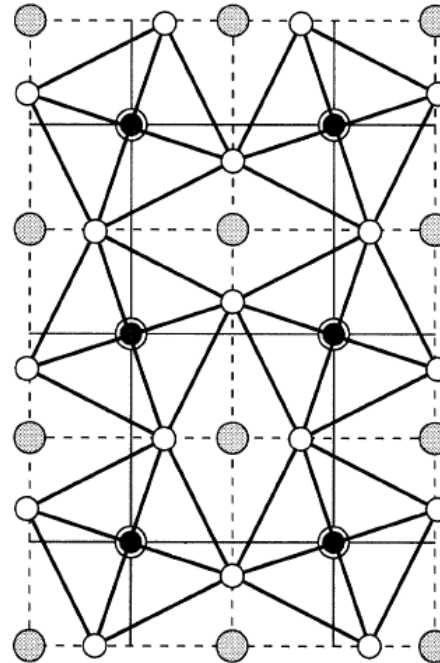
Cubic to tetragonal (105 K)

## Soft Mode Phase Transition

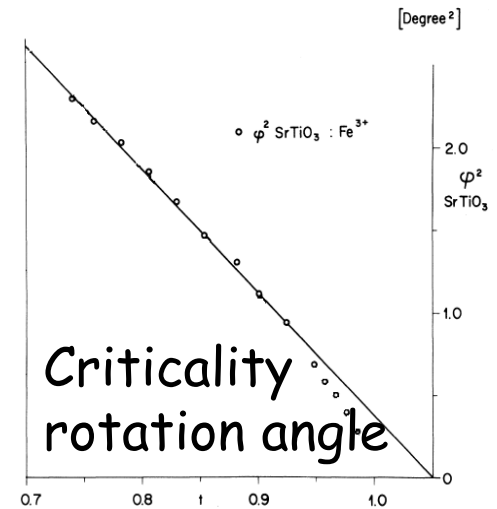
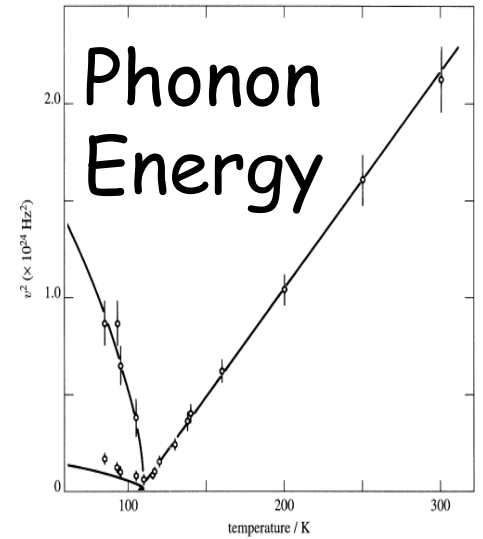
- Cubic Perovskite structure



SrTiO<sub>3</sub> Cubic Perovskite Lattice Structure

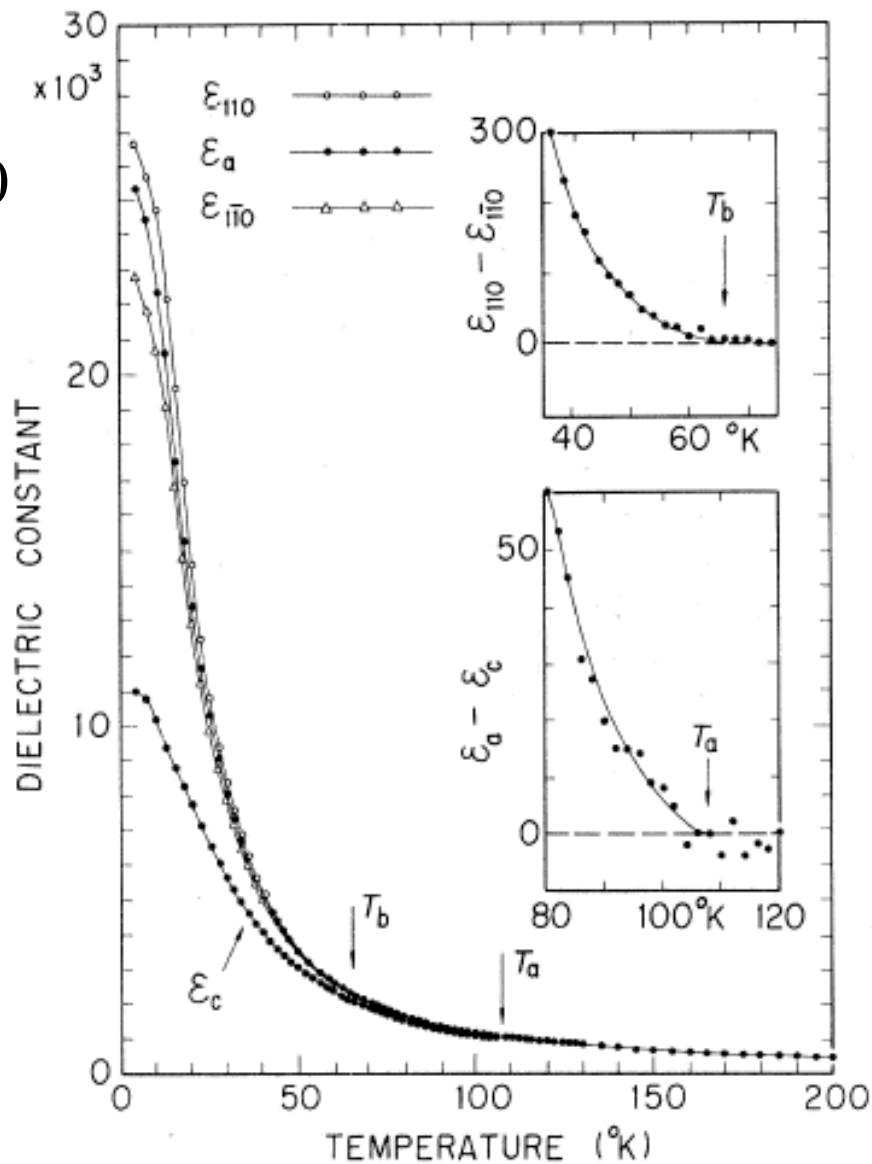


TiO<sub>6</sub> Octahedra Rotation,  $T$  dependence of the phonon frequencies, and  $T$  dependence of the order parameter



# Dielectric Constant of SrTiO<sub>3</sub>

25000

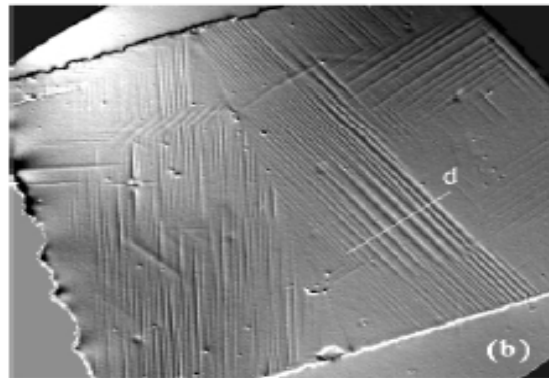
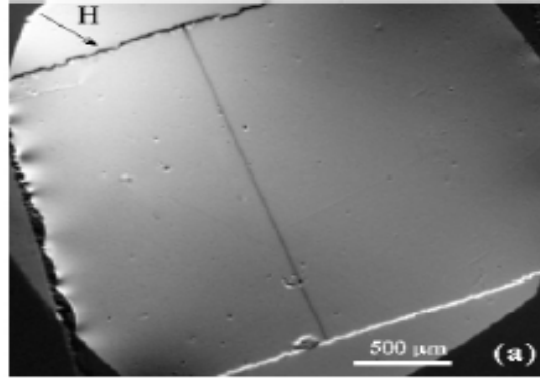


A quantum  
paraelectric

Sakudo and Unoki  
PRL 26, 851 (1971)

# STO substrate:

## transition affects overlayers

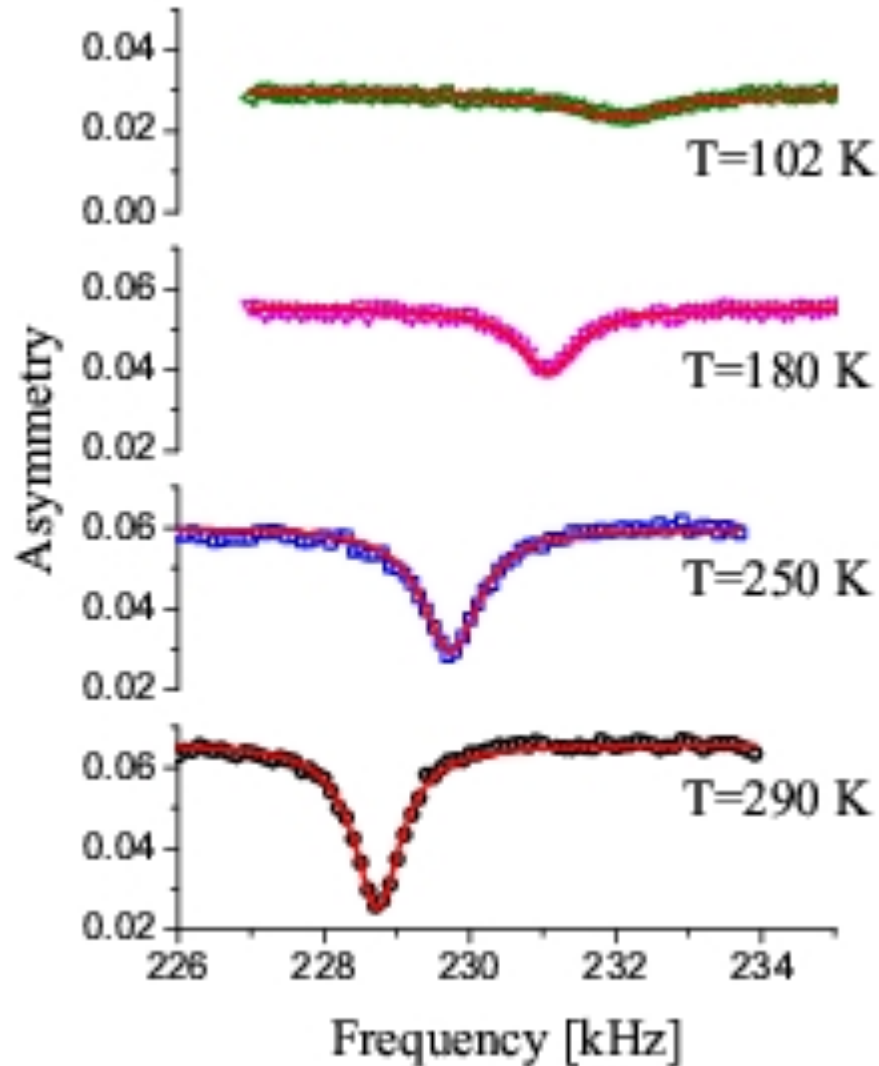


1000Å LCMO film on SrTiO<sub>3</sub>

a)  $T > 105\text{K}$     b)  $T < 105\text{K}$

Glasko-Vlasov et al. PRL 84, 2239 (2000)

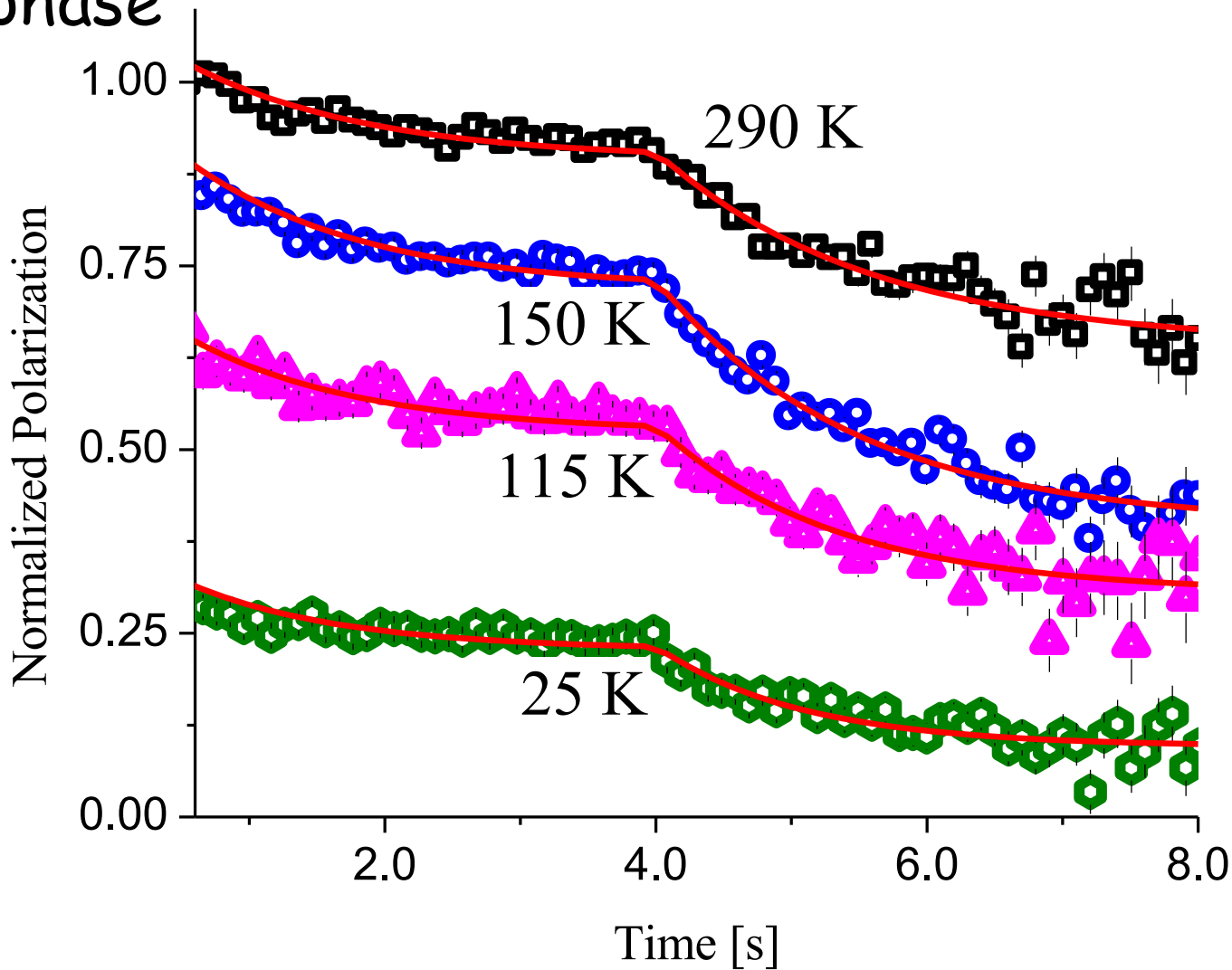
# Temperature Dependence of the $\beta$ NQR



Z. Salman et al. PRL **96**, 147601 (2006)

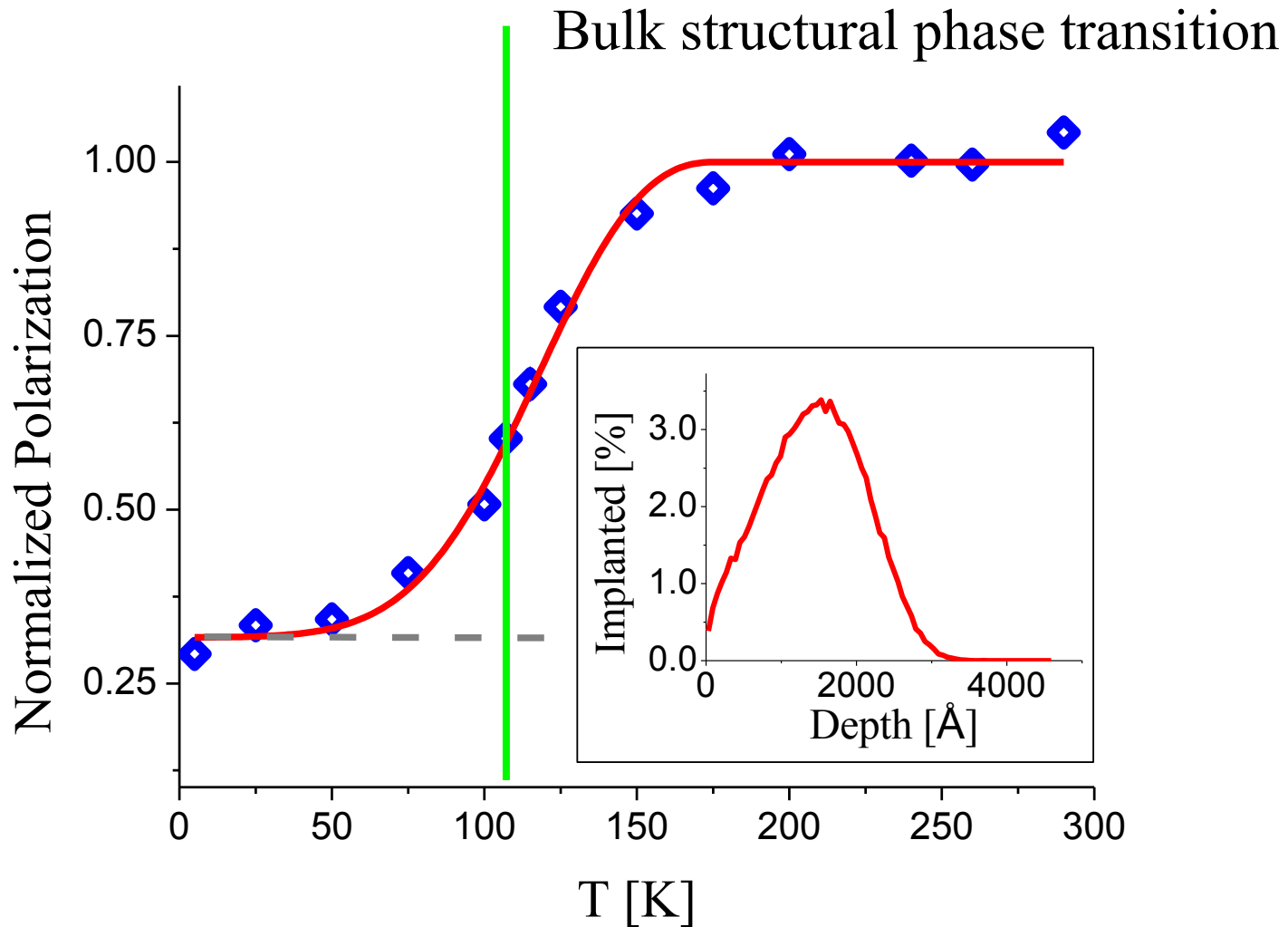
# Spin Relaxation “ $T_1$ ”

Cubic phase

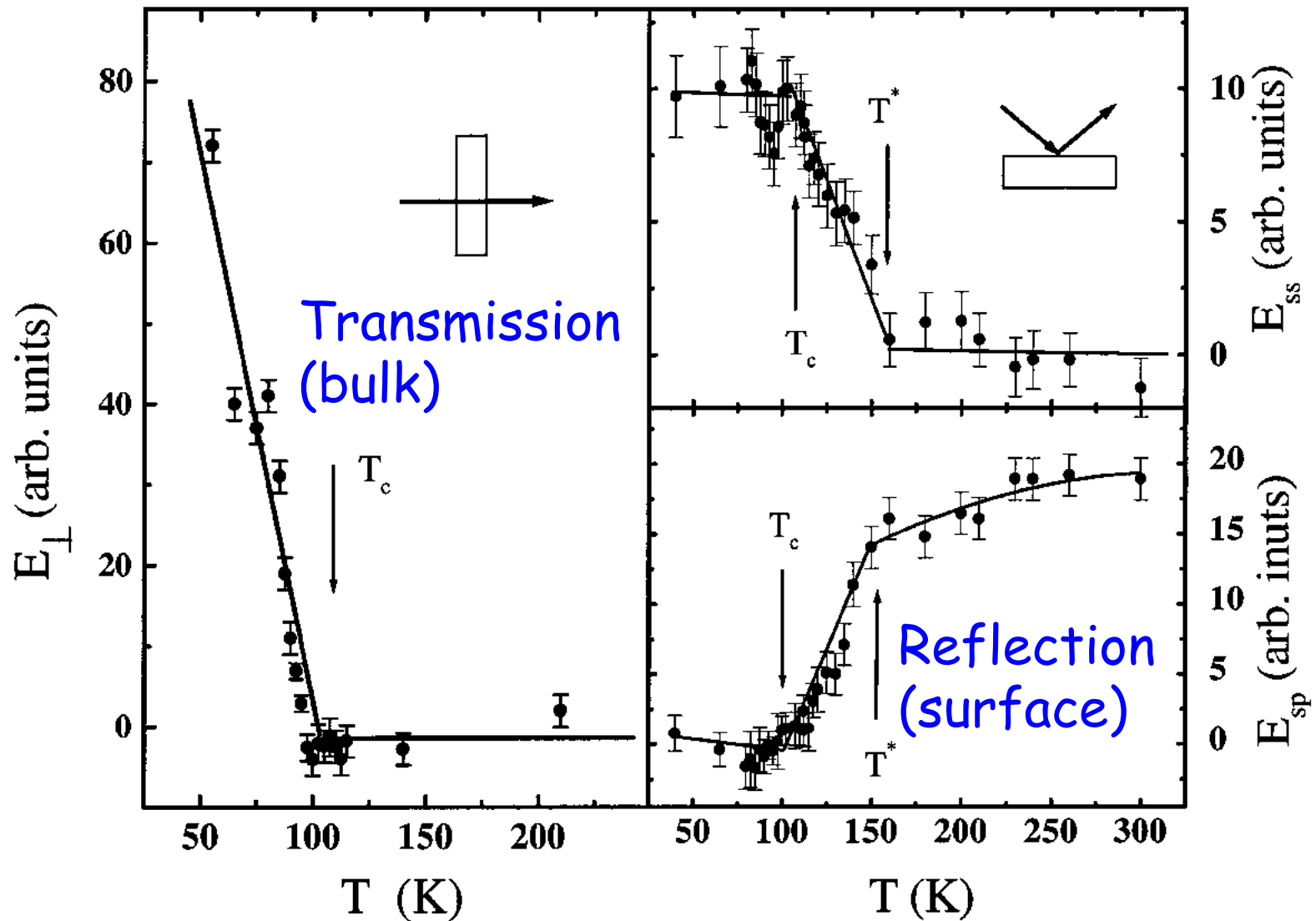




# Temperature Dependence of the Amplitude

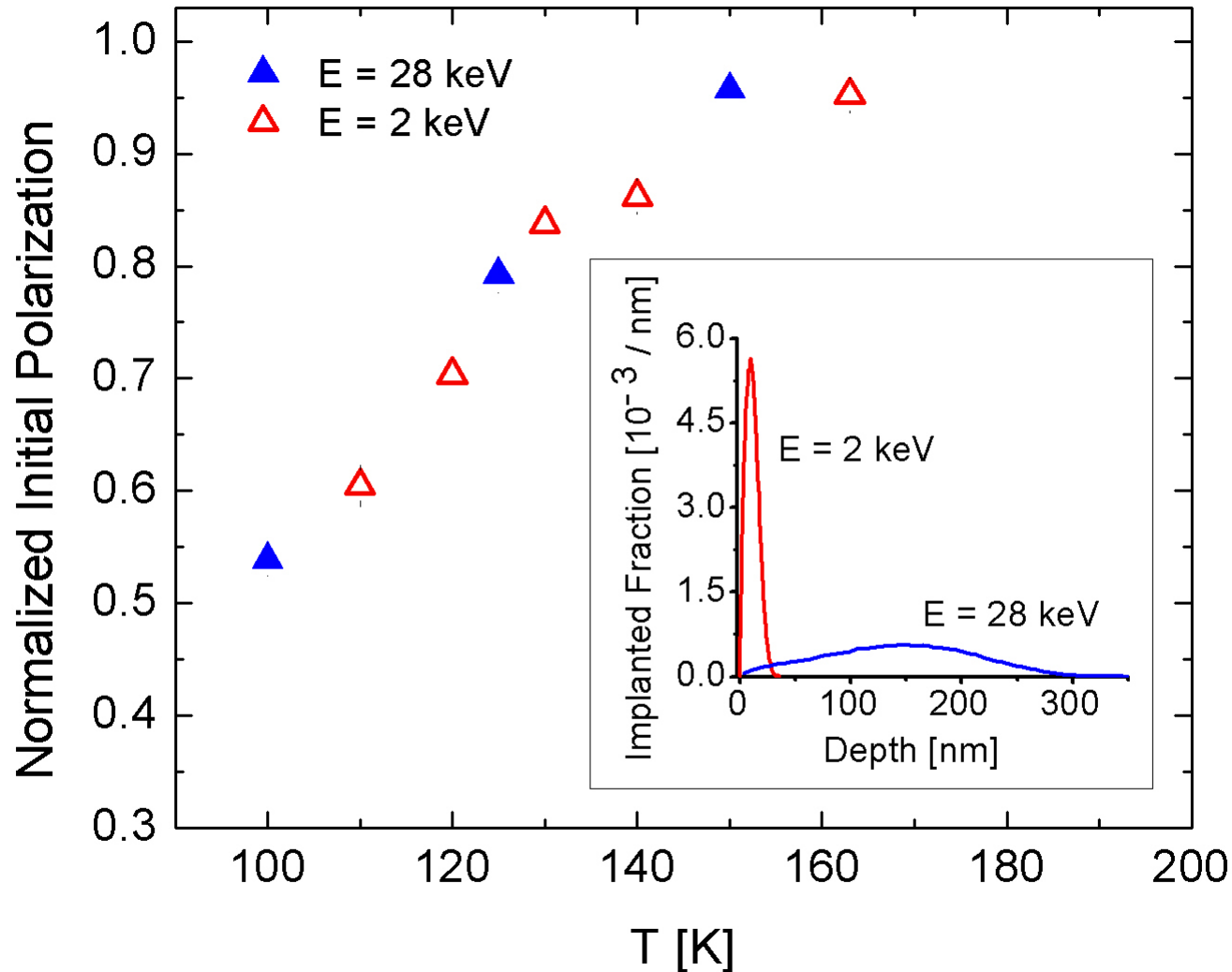


# Surface SHG



Depth sampling  $\sim \exp(-z/40 \text{ nm})$

# Depth Independence below 200 nm



# STO Transition at the Surface

Surface transition onset at  $\sim 150$  K

50  $\mu\text{m}$  (XRD) > crossover depth > 200 nm ( $\beta\text{NMR}$ )



Sharp bulk phase transition at 105 K

# The Effect of Surface Preparation

