

# Towards Complete Decay Spectroscopy of $^{152}\text{Tb}$ : a Diagnostic Component of the Terbium Theragnostic Toolbox

E.B.O'Sullivan<sup>1,2</sup>, S.M.Collins<sup>1,2</sup>, J.M.Daugas<sup>3</sup>, L.Domenichetti<sup>3</sup>, J.Heery<sup>1</sup>,  
J.Henderson<sup>1</sup>, U.Köster<sup>3</sup>, C.Michelagnoli<sup>3</sup>, T.Parry<sup>1</sup>, S.Pascu<sup>1</sup>, P.H.Regan<sup>1,2</sup>,  
R.Shearman<sup>2</sup>

1. University of Surrey, Guildford, UK

2. National Physical Laboratory, Teddington, UK

3. Institut Laue-Langevin, Grenoble, France

# $^{152}\text{Tb}$ : Medical Imaging

- $\beta^+$  / EC decay to  $^{152}\text{Gd}$  – **Positron Emitter**
- $T_{1/2} = 17.8784(95)$  h
- $Q_{\text{EC}} = 3990(40)$  keV [1]
- First-in-human trials show promise in **PET imaging**:  $^{152}\text{Tb}$ -DOTATOC and  $^{152}\text{Tb}$ -PSMA-617 used successfully in human patients [2,3]
- Terbium isotope – applications in **theragnostics**

- 1) Nuclear Data Sheets for A = 152, M.J. Martin
- 2) Preclinical investigations and first-in-human application of  $^{152}\text{Tb}$ -PSMA-617 for PET/CT imaging of prostate cancer, C. Müller et. al
- 3) Clinical evaluation of the radiolanthanide terbium-152: first-in-human PET/CT with  $^{152}\text{Tb}$ -DOTATOC, R.P. Baum et. al

# Theragnostics: Therapy + Diagnostics

- **Terbium theragnostic quartet:**  
four different medical uses
- Shared chemistry – compatible with the **same delivery mechanism**
- **Personalised medicine** –  
treatment plan tailored to individual patients

Isotope	$T_{1/2}$	Decay	Use
$^{149}\text{Tb}$	4.118(25) h [4]	Alpha	Radionuclide Therapy
$^{152}\text{Tb}$	17.8784(95) h [5]	Beta+ / EC	PET Imaging
$^{155}\text{Tb}$	5.2346(36) d [6]	EC	SPECT Imaging
$^{161}\text{Tb}$	6.9637(29) d [7]	Beta-	Radionuclide Therapy

4) PRISMAP Radionuclide Portfolio, <https://www.prismap.eu/radionuclides/portfolio/149Tb>

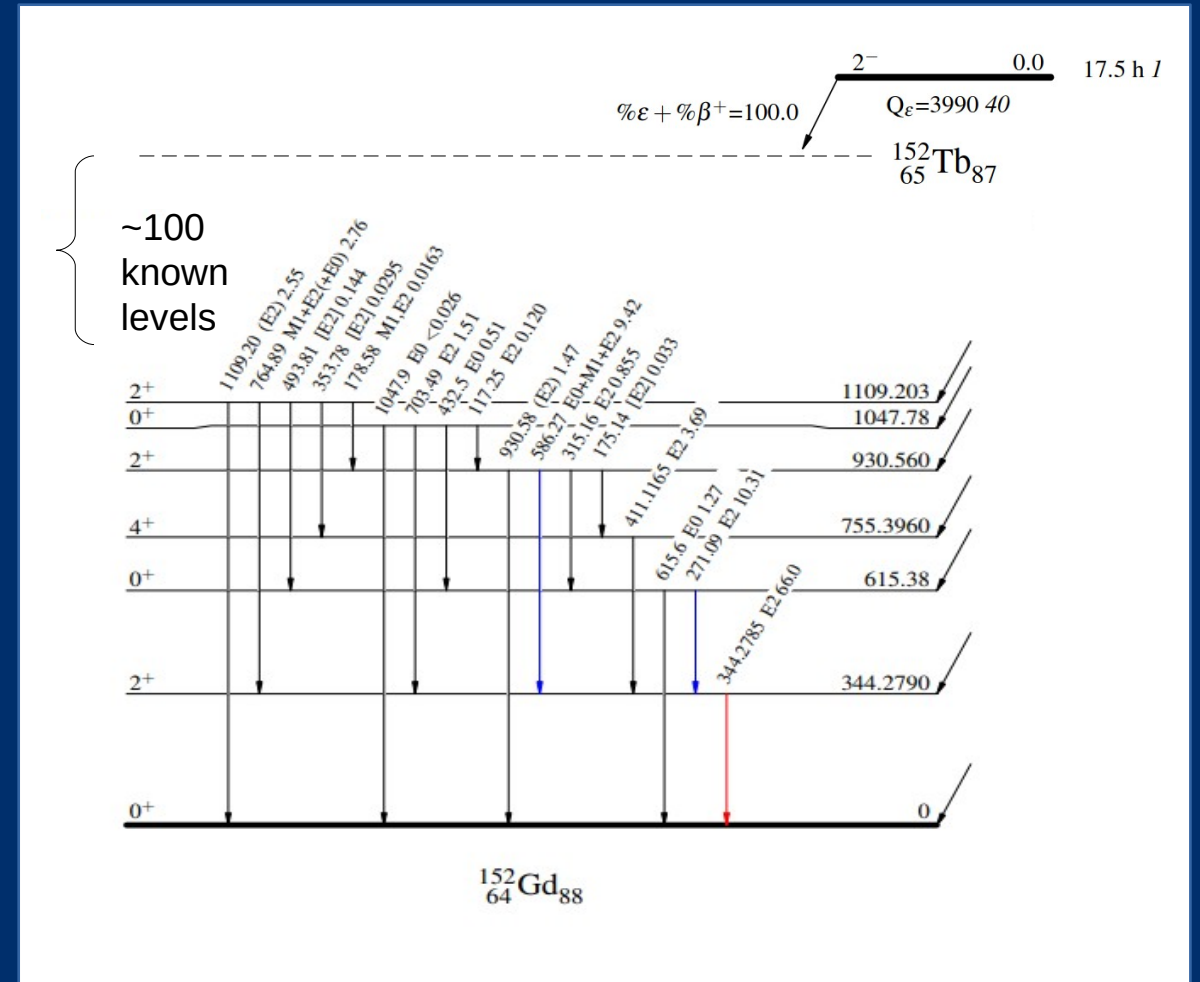
5) Determination of the Terbium-152 Half-Life from Mass-Separated Samples from CERN-ISOLDE and Assessment of the Radionuclide Purity, S.M. Collins et. al

6) Half-life determination of  $^{155}\text{Tb}$  from mass-separated samples produced at CERN-MEDICIS, S.M. Collins et. al

7) Determination of the  $^{161}\text{Tb}$  half-life, S.M. Collins et. al

# Nuclear Data: $^{152}\text{Gd}$

- $^{152}\text{Tb} \rightarrow ^{152}\text{Gd}$  decay last studied in **2003**, using a pair of HPGe detectors [8]
- Highest energy level identified at **3358 keV – 600 keV below  $Q_{\text{EC}}$**
- 248 out of 635 known transitions **unplaced**
- Pandemonium effect: unknown high energy states leads to **inaccurate beta dose**, for example in  $^{86}\text{Y}$  [9].

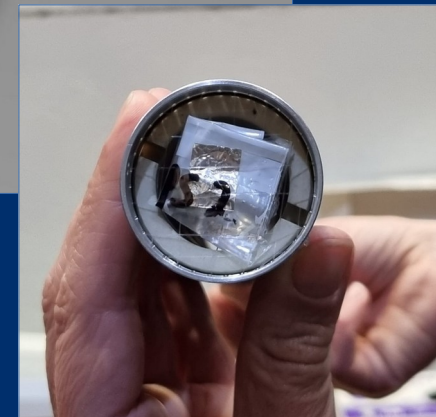


8) Properties of  $^{152}\text{Gd}$  Collective States, J. Adam et. al

9) State-of-the-art  $\gamma$ -ray assay of  $^{86}\text{Y}$  for medical imaging, A.C. Gula et. al.

# $^{152}\text{Tb}$ Decay Spectroscopy

- Sources prepared at CERN ISOLDE: **1.4 GeV proton beam** on a tantalum target
- Samples purified by **laser ionisation** and **mass separation** and implanted onto a pair of Al foils plus one Mylar foil
- Delivered to ILL Grenoble for measurement: **100 and 500 kBq** at start of experiment (3<sup>rd</sup> May 2023)





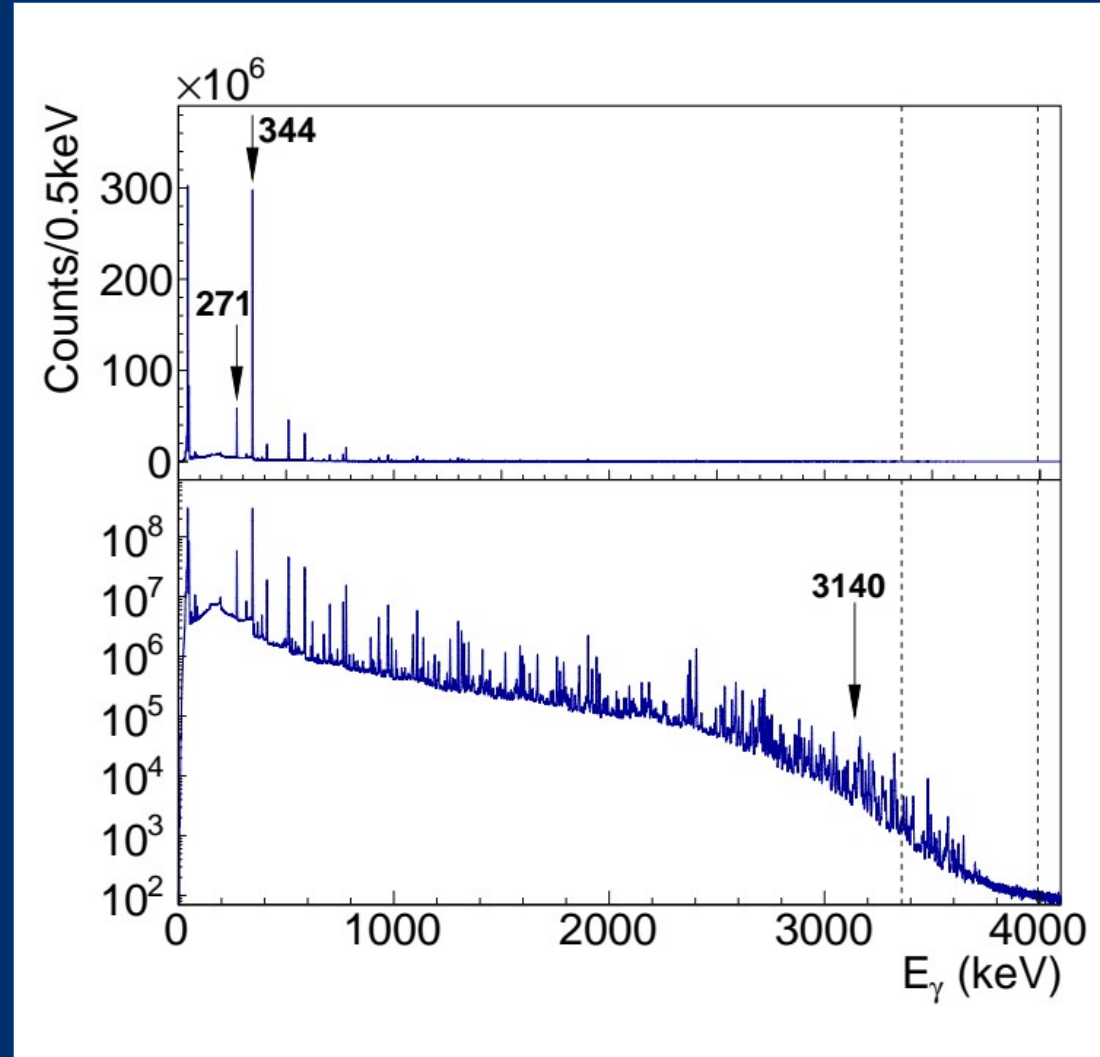
# Gamma-Gamma Spectroscopy

- Fission Product Prompt Gamma-Ray Spectrometer (FIPPS) [10]
- **64 HPGe crystals**, 16 clovers with BGO shielding (14 crystals excluded)
- Absolute efficiency  $\sim 5.6\%$  at 344 keV
- **48 hours** measurement time
- Electron-Gamma spectroscopy carried out in parallel – PN1/LOHENGRIN



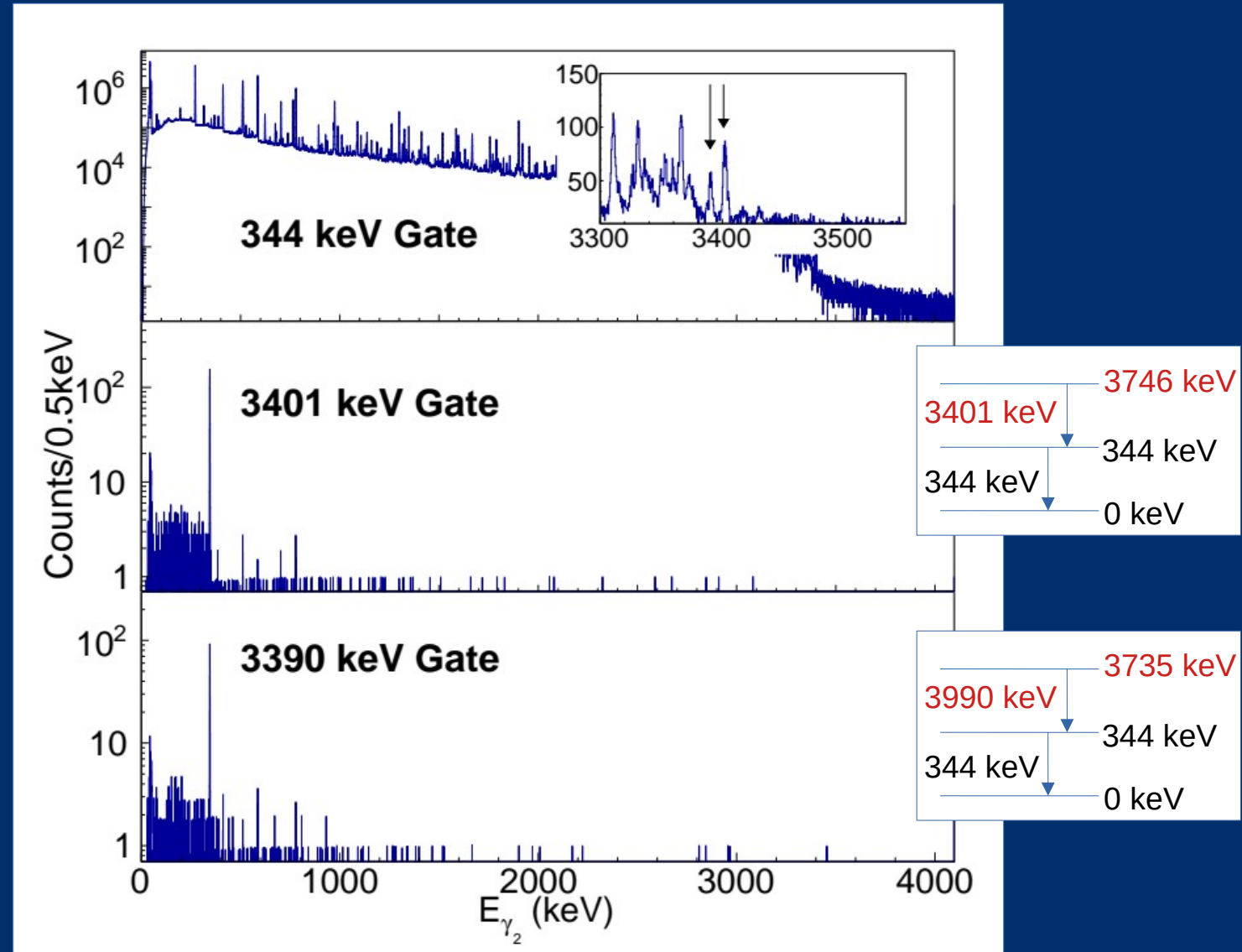
# Singles Spectra

- **1.5e10 single events** collected from source 2 (~70% of the total)
- Highest energy gamma previously placed: **3140 keV**
- Highest energy state previously identified: **3358 keV**
- $Q_{EC} =$  **3990 keV**



# Placing New Transitions

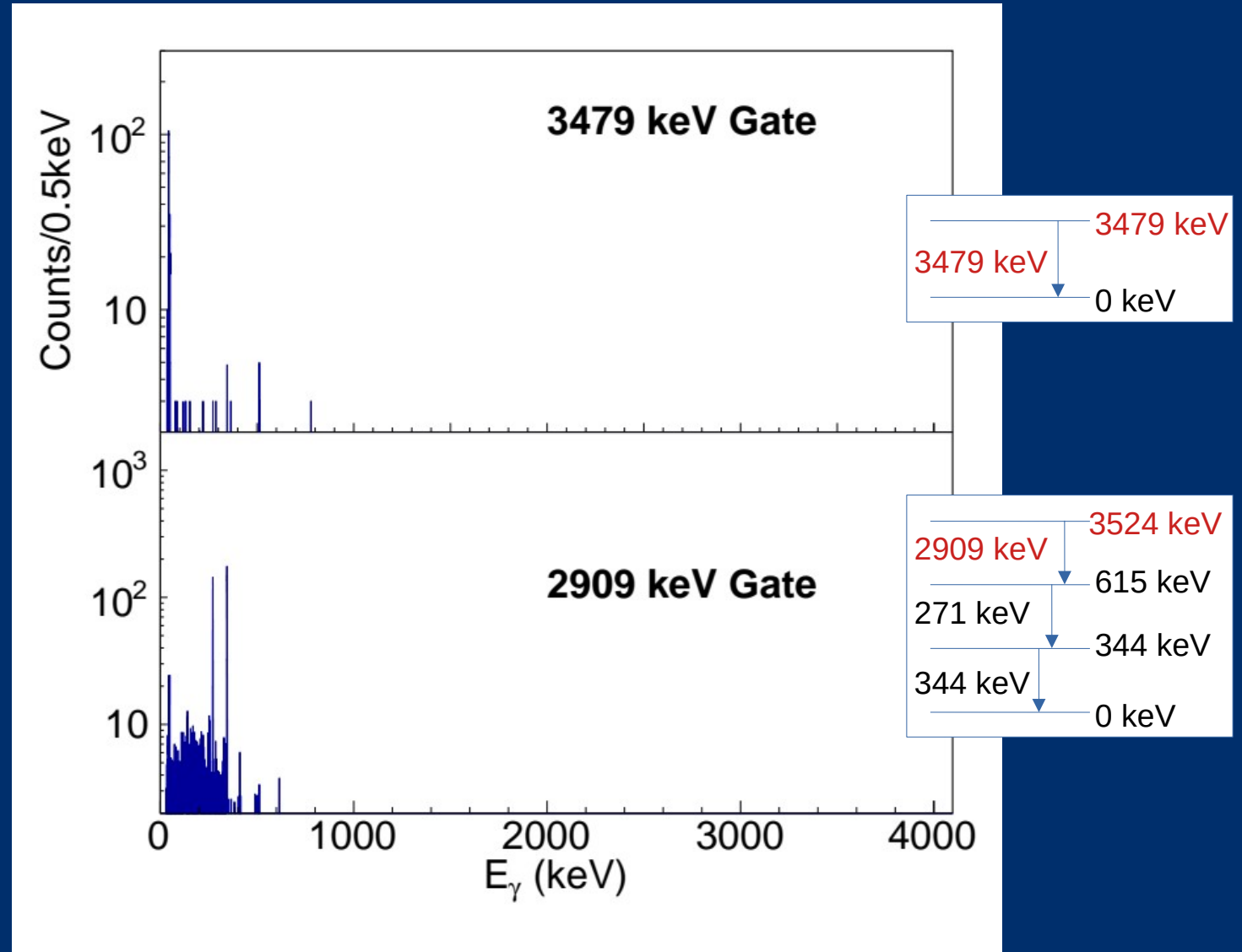
- Verify placement of previously unidentified transitions by reversing the gating
- The entire de-excitation cascade should appear in the coincidence gate
- Highest energy state previously identified: 3358 keV





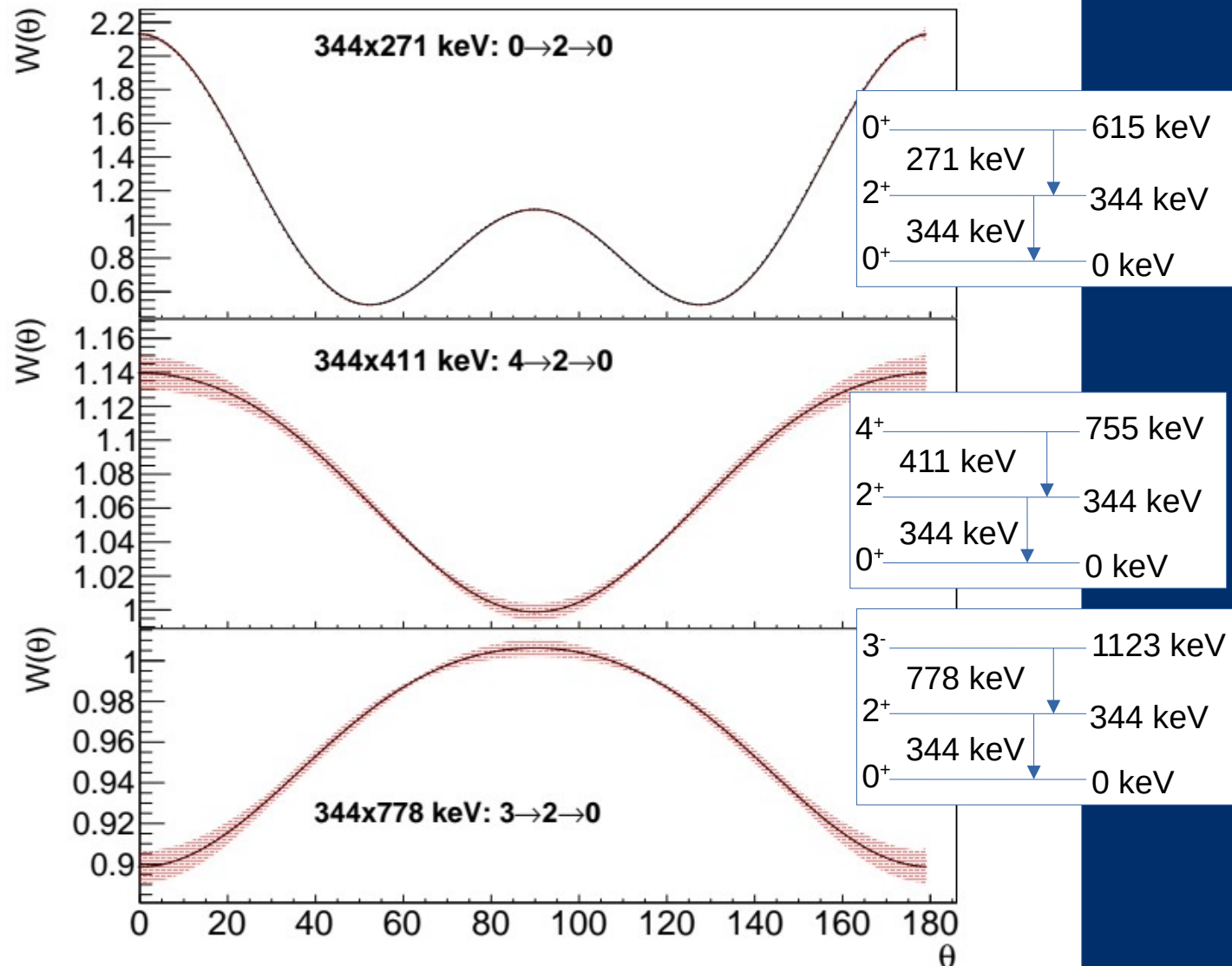
# Placing New Transitions

- Straight to ground transitions only in coincidence with x-rays
- Cascades may involve intermediate levels



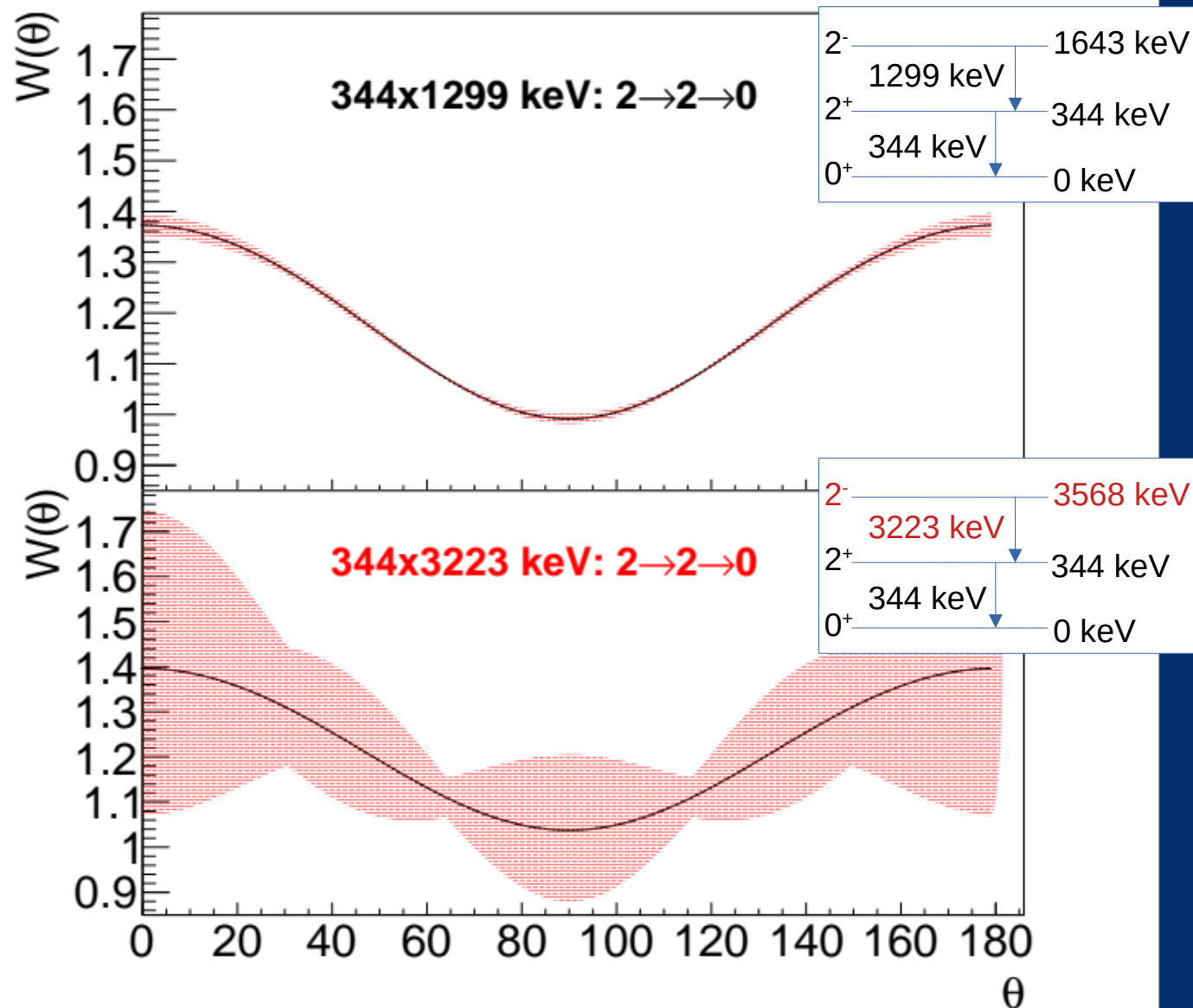
# Angular Correlation Analysis

- Use angular correlations to **assign spin** to previously unidentified levels
- Angular momentum transfer in the decay determines **angular distribution** of emitted gamma rays
- Probe this distribution using coincidences between **different detector pairs**



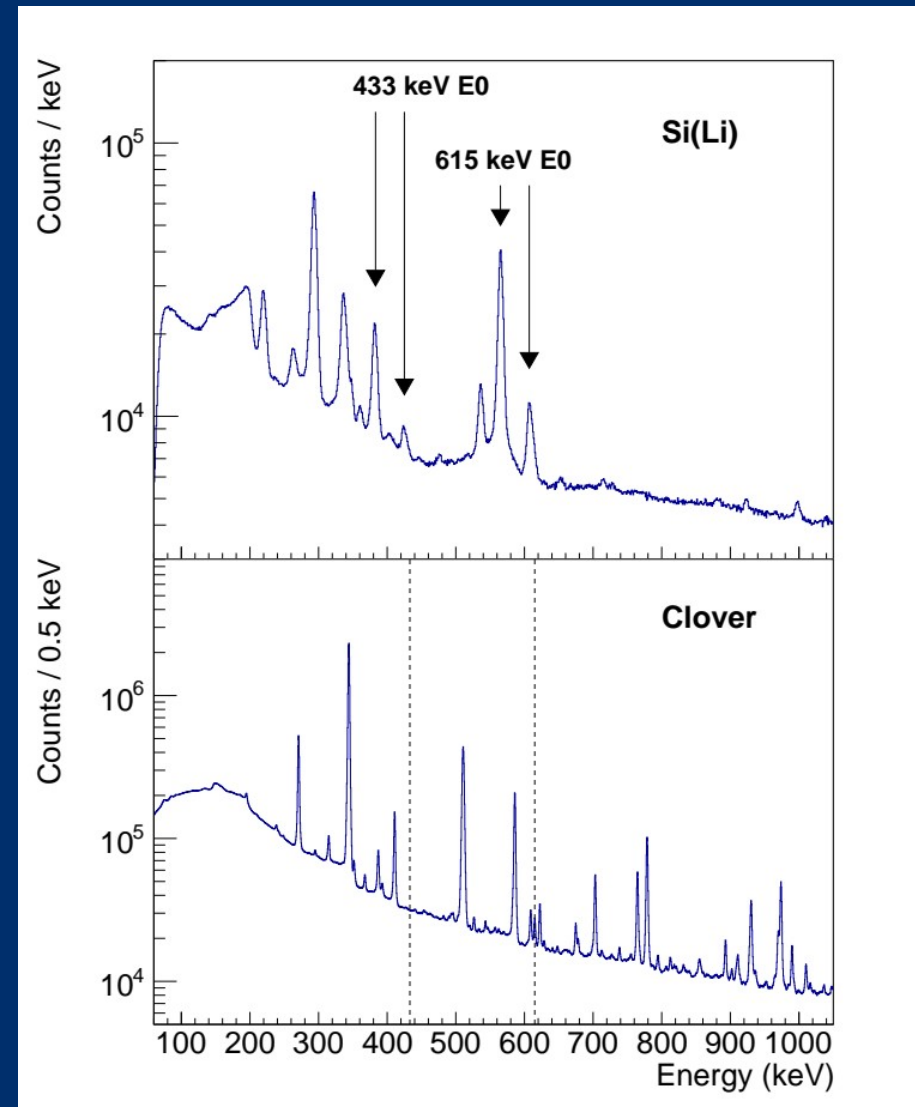
# Spin/Parity of New States

- $^{152}\text{Tb}$  ground state has  $J^\pi=2^-$
- “Allowed” beta decays populate  $1^-, 2^-, 3^-$  in  $^{152}\text{Gd}$
- $2^-$  to  $0^+$  ground state **M2**
- $2^+$  to  $0^+$  **E2**
- **No ground state transition (3568 keV) seen: assign negative parity**



# Electron-Gamma Spectroscopy

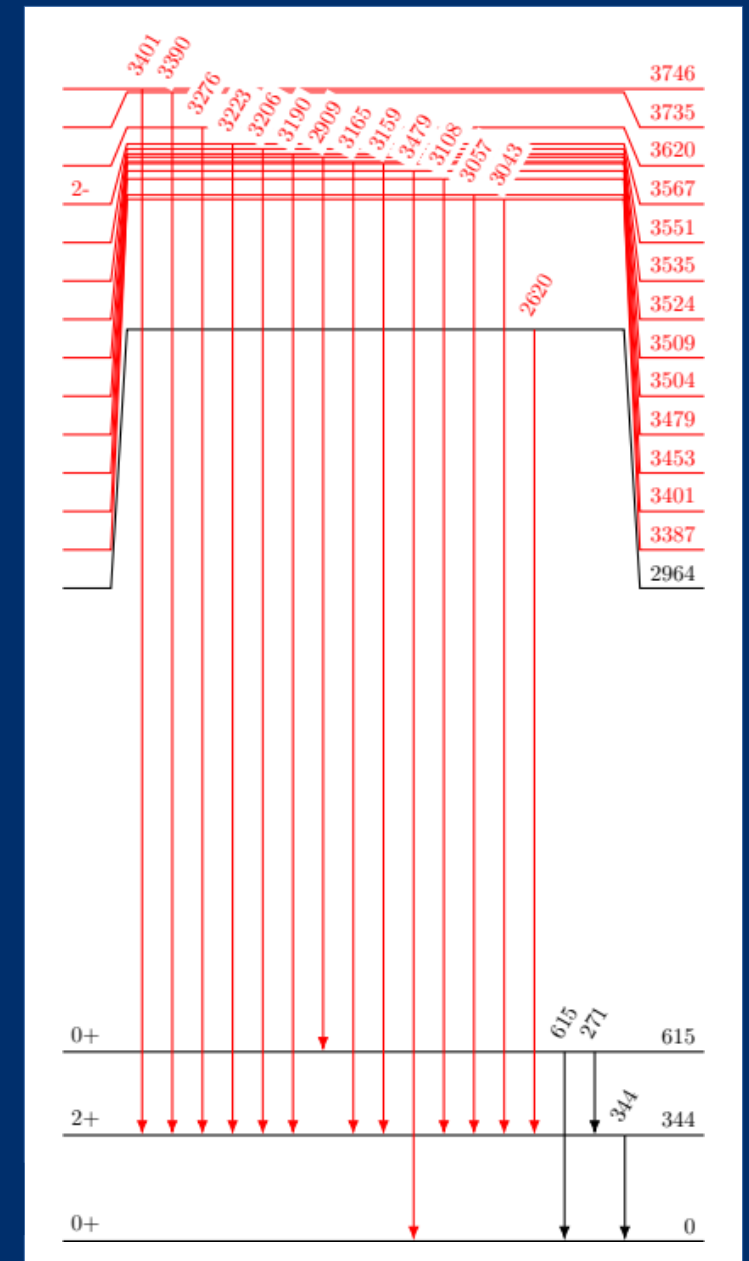
- Internal conversion – electrons emitted instead of gammas
- Invisible to HPGe array
- Electron energy depends on orbital – K & L peaks
- $0^+$  to  $0^+$  transitions – no single-gamma decay mode, E0 transitions only emit electrons





# Preliminary Results + Future Work

- Over **50 new transitions** placed so far, including to **19 previously unidentified levels**
- Supported by conversion electron spectroscopy – E0 transitions and internal conversion represent “**missing**” intensity
- Transition intensities require **Monte Carlo simulations** to validate efficiency curve
- **Balancing of gamma feeding** in and out of levels to estimate beta feeding intensity
- Calculation of the **overall beta strength** function from the finalised level scheme



11) Electron-Gamma Decay Spectroscopy of  $^{152}\text{Tb}$ , E.B. O’Sullivan et al, submitted  
12) Towards Complete Decay Spectroscopy of  $^{152}\text{Tb}$ , E.B. O’Sullivan et al, submitted

References:

1. Nuclear Data Sheets for A = 152, M.J. Martin, Nuclear Data Sheets 114 (2013) 11
2. Preclinical investigations and first-in-human application of  $^{152}\text{Tb}$ -PSMA-617 for PET/CT imaging of prostate cancer, C. Müller et al, EJNMMI Research 9 (2019) 68
3. Clinical evaluation of the radiolanthanide terbium-152: first-in-human PET/CT with  $^{152}\text{Tb}$ -DOTATOC, R.P. Baum et al, J. Nucl. Med. 53 (2012) 12
4. PRISMAP Radionuclide Portfolio, <https://www.prismap.eu/radionuclides/portfolio/149Tb>
5. Determination of the Terbium-152 Half-Life from Mass-Separated Samples from CERN-ISOLDE and Assessment of the Radionuclide Purity, S.M. Collins et al, Appl. Radiat. Isot. 202 (2023) 111044
6. Half-life determination of  $^{155}\text{Tb}$  from mass-separated samples produced at CERN-MEDICIS, S.M. Collins et al, Appl. Radiat. Isot. 190 (2022) 110480
7. Determination of the  $^{161}\text{Tb}$  half-life, S.M. Collins et al, Appl. Radiat. Isot. 182 (2022) 110140
8. Properties of  $^{152}\text{Gd}$  Collective States, J. Adam et al, EPJA 18 (2003) 65
9. State-of-the-art  $\gamma$ -ray assay of  $^{86}\text{Y}$  for medical imaging, A.C. Gula et al. Phys. Rev. C 102 (2003) 034316
10. FIPPS (Fission Product Prompt  $\gamma$ -ray Spectrometer) and its first experimental campaign, C. Michelagnoli et al, EPJ Web Conf. 193, (2018) 04009
11. Electron-gamma spectroscopy of  $^{152}\text{Tb}$ , E.B. O'Sullivan et al, Physica Scripta, submitted
12. Towards complete decay spectroscopy of  $^{152}\text{Tb}$ , E.B. O'Sullivan et al, Radiation Physics and Chemistry, submitted

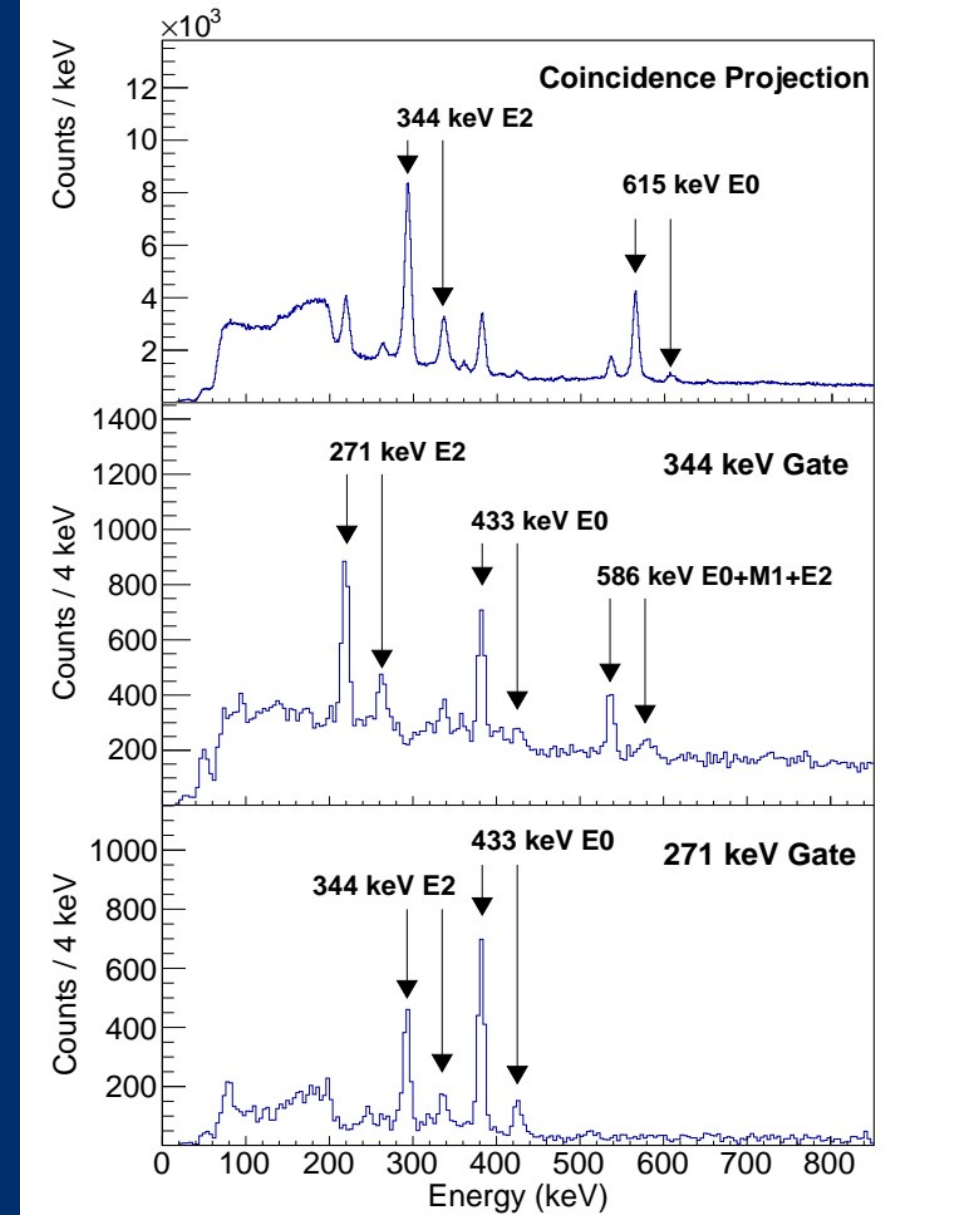
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# K/L Ratios

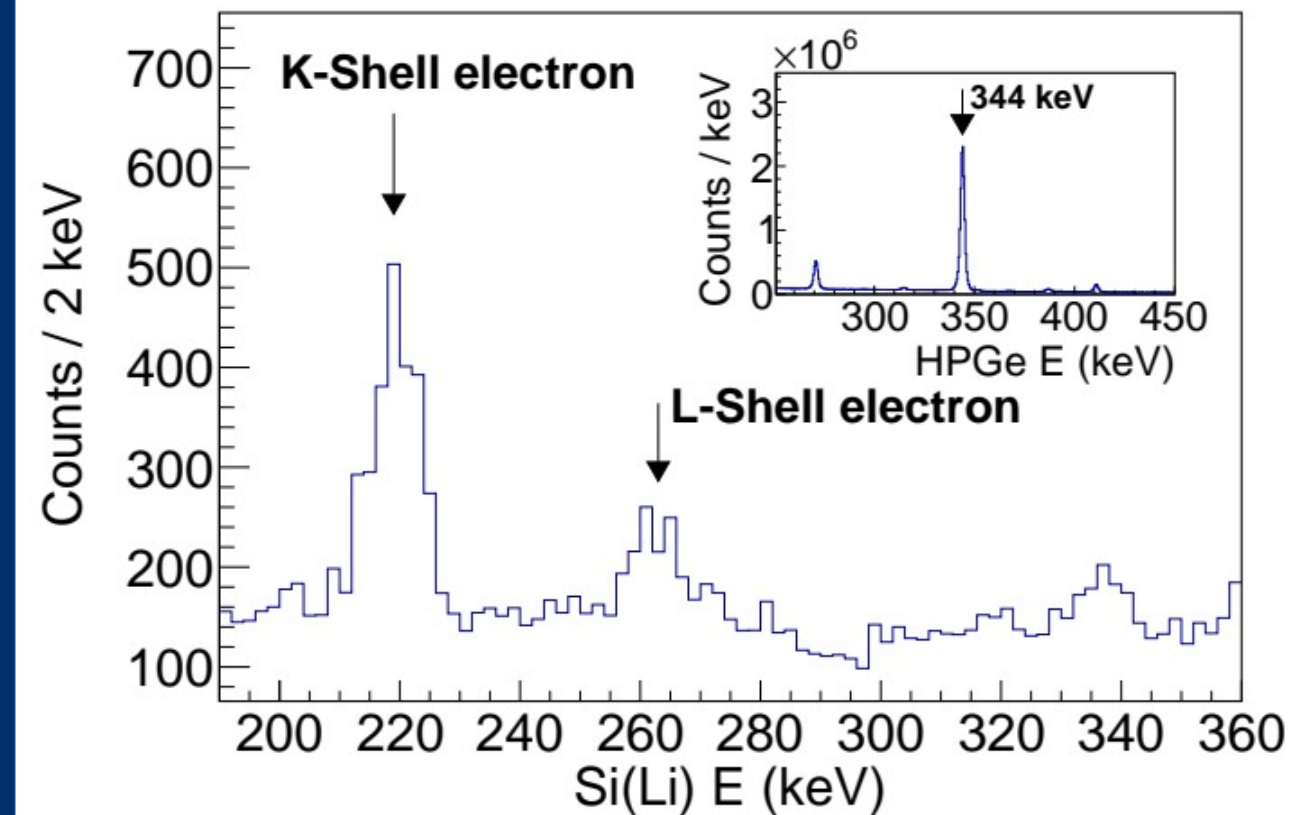
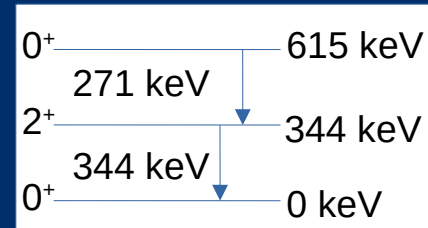
- Use gamma-ray gate on HPGe for selectivity of electron peaks
- K/L ratio depends on transition multipolarity

E (keV)	Multipolarity	Measured K/L	Predicted K/L
271	E2	3.8(4)	3.87(8)
344	E2	5.5(7)	4.58(9)
586	E2+M1+E0	4.0(12)	6.13(14)



# Internal Conversion

- Gate on gamma peaks to **investigate conversion electrons**
- Further “**missing**” intensity from gamma spectra
- K/L ratio provide **support for multipolarity assignments**
- 271 keV: measured **K/L 4.17(36)**, vs BRICC theoretical value of **3.87(8)** for E2 [11]
- Preliminary efficiency correction from GEANT4 simulation of the setup



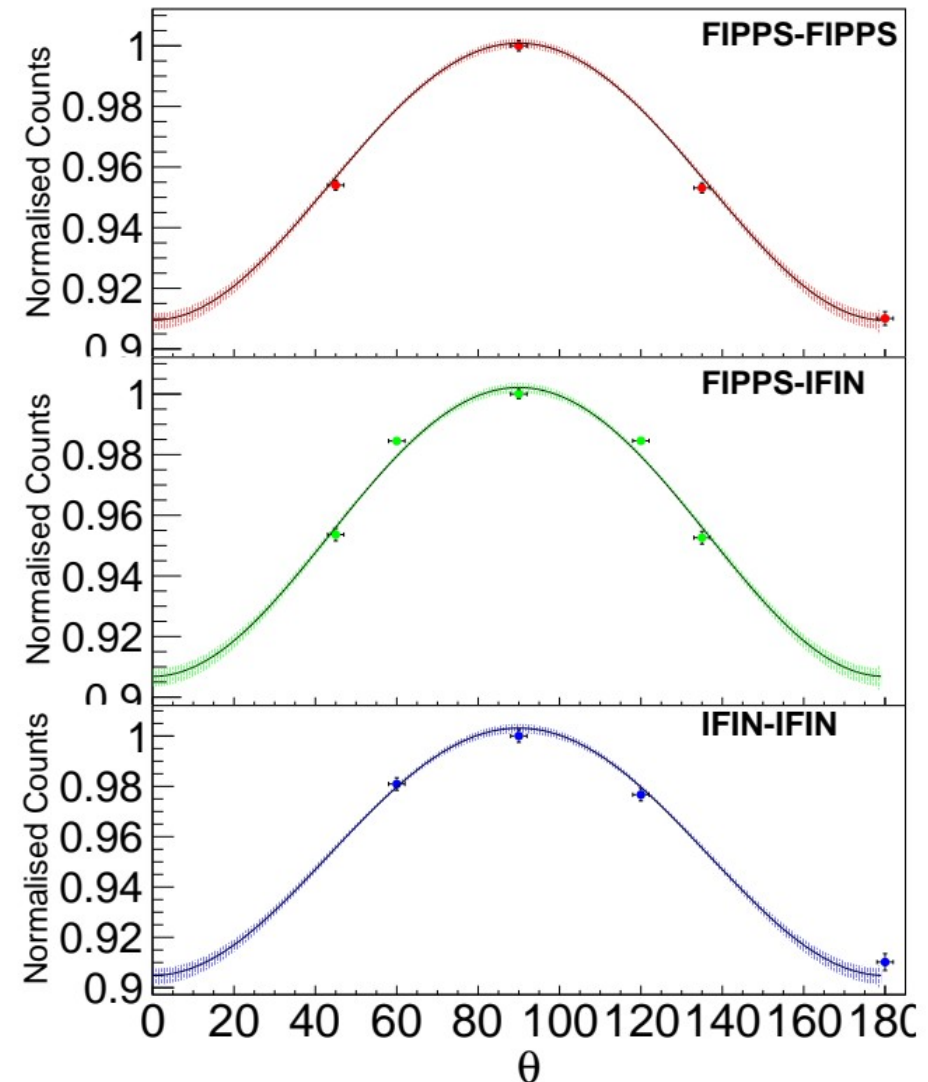
11) Evaluation of theoretical conversion coefficients using BrIcc, T. Kibédi et al

12) Initial Electron-Gamma Spectroscopy of  $^{152}\text{Tb}$ , E.B. O'Sullivan et al, in preparation

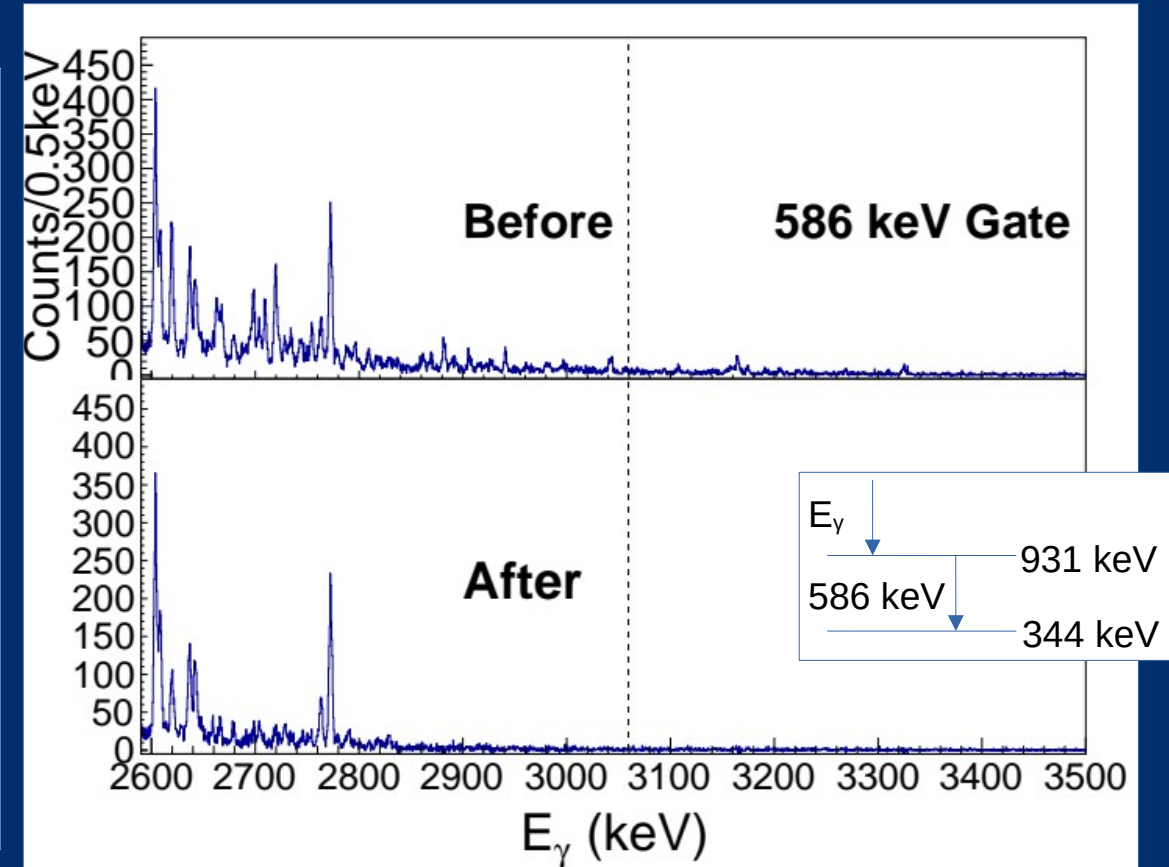
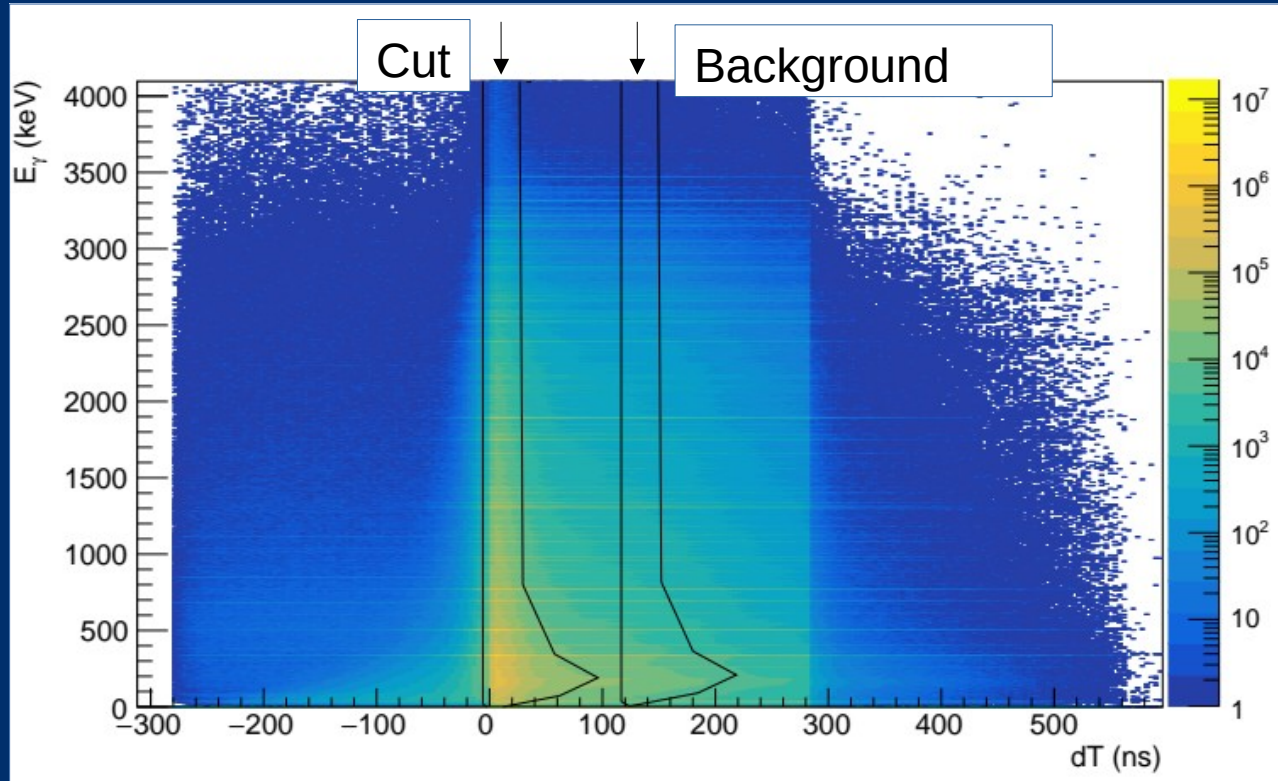


# Angular Correlation Minimisation

- Two HPGe detector types – three possible pairings, 6 possible angles
- Fit overall angular correlation function by simultaneously minimising three distributions



# Prompt Time Cut



- Select only gammas within 40 ns window – emitted from same nucleus
- Offset window 100 ns to **sample background** for subtraction
- **Random coincidences removed**