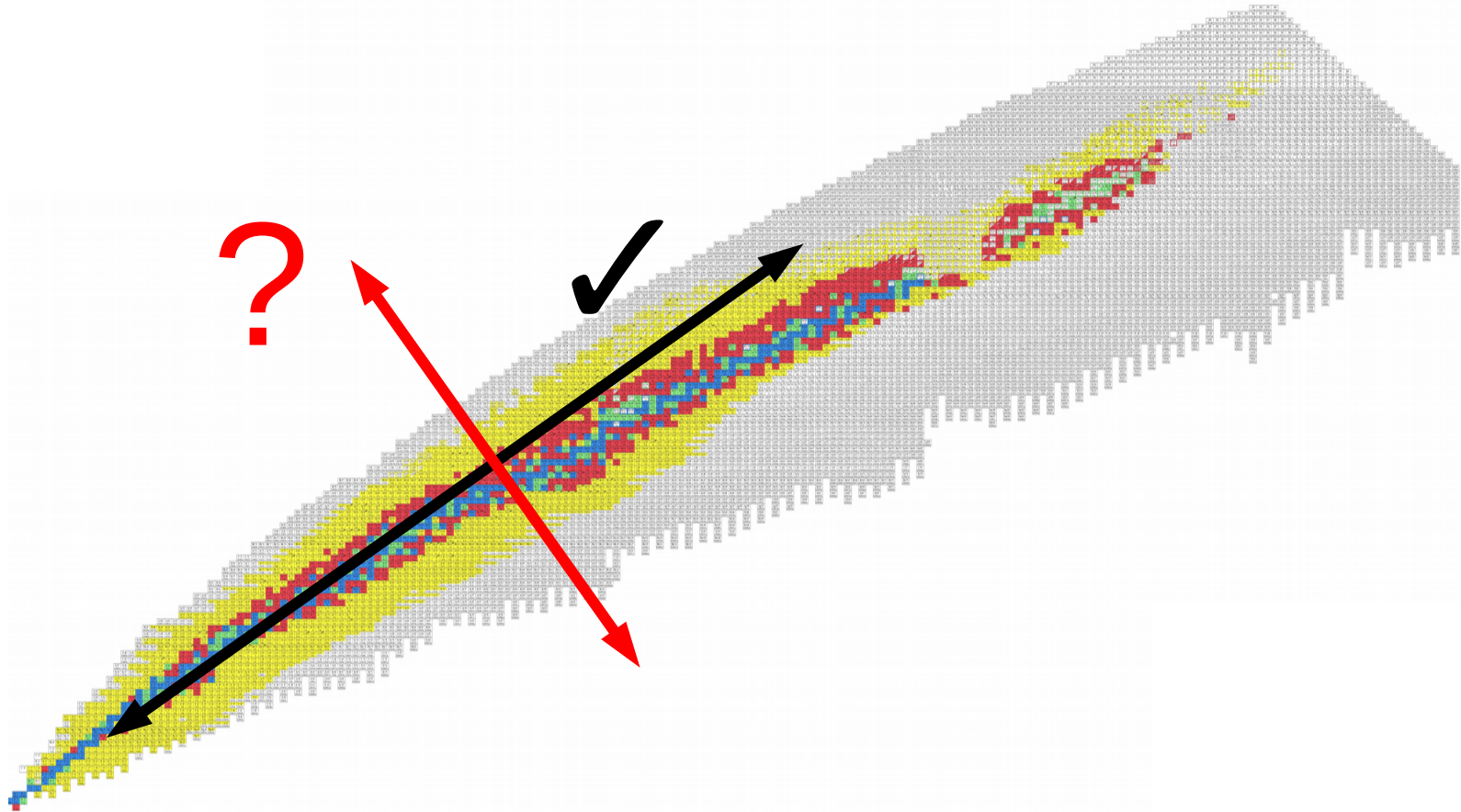


# Isotopically-separated Neutron Total Cross Sections as Probe for Nuclear Properties



**Cole D. Pruitt, PhD candidate**  
Washington University in St Louis

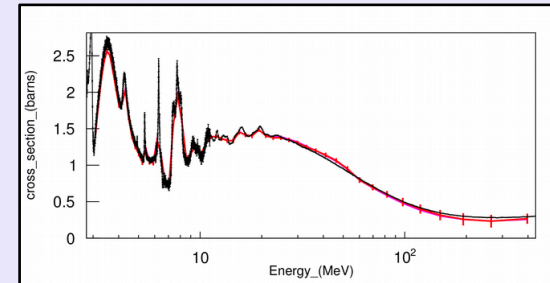
# Outline

1

The Dispersive Optical Model (DOM) and physics motivation

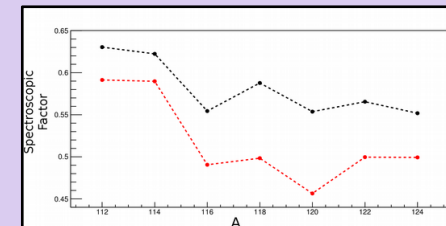
2

$^{112,124}\text{Sn}/^{16,18}\text{O}$   $\sigma_{n,\text{tot}}$   
and  $^{112,124}\text{Sn}$   $d\sigma_n/d\Omega$   
experimental results



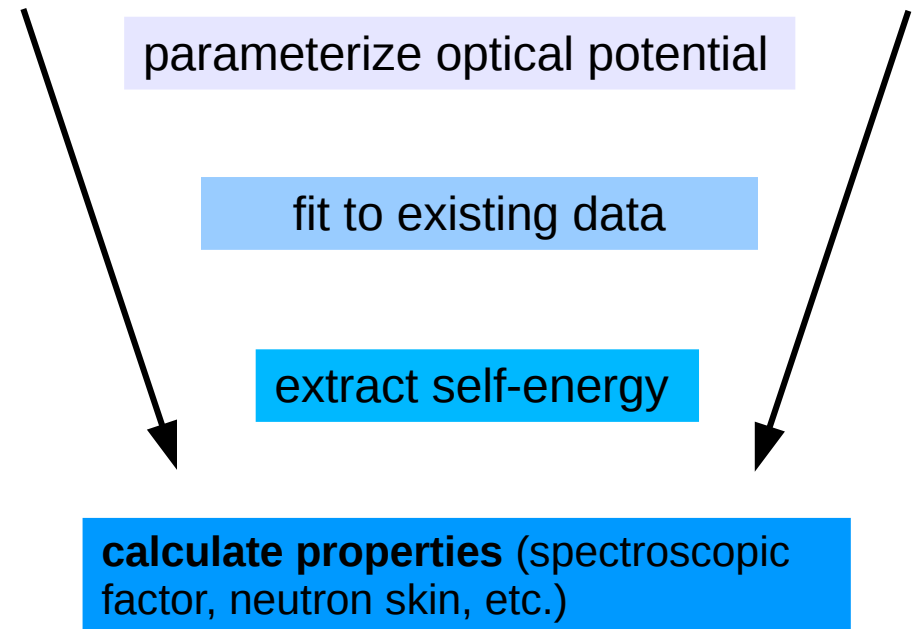
3

DOM fit status and  
next steps: Ni  $\sigma_{n,\text{tot}}$



# The Dispersive Optical Model

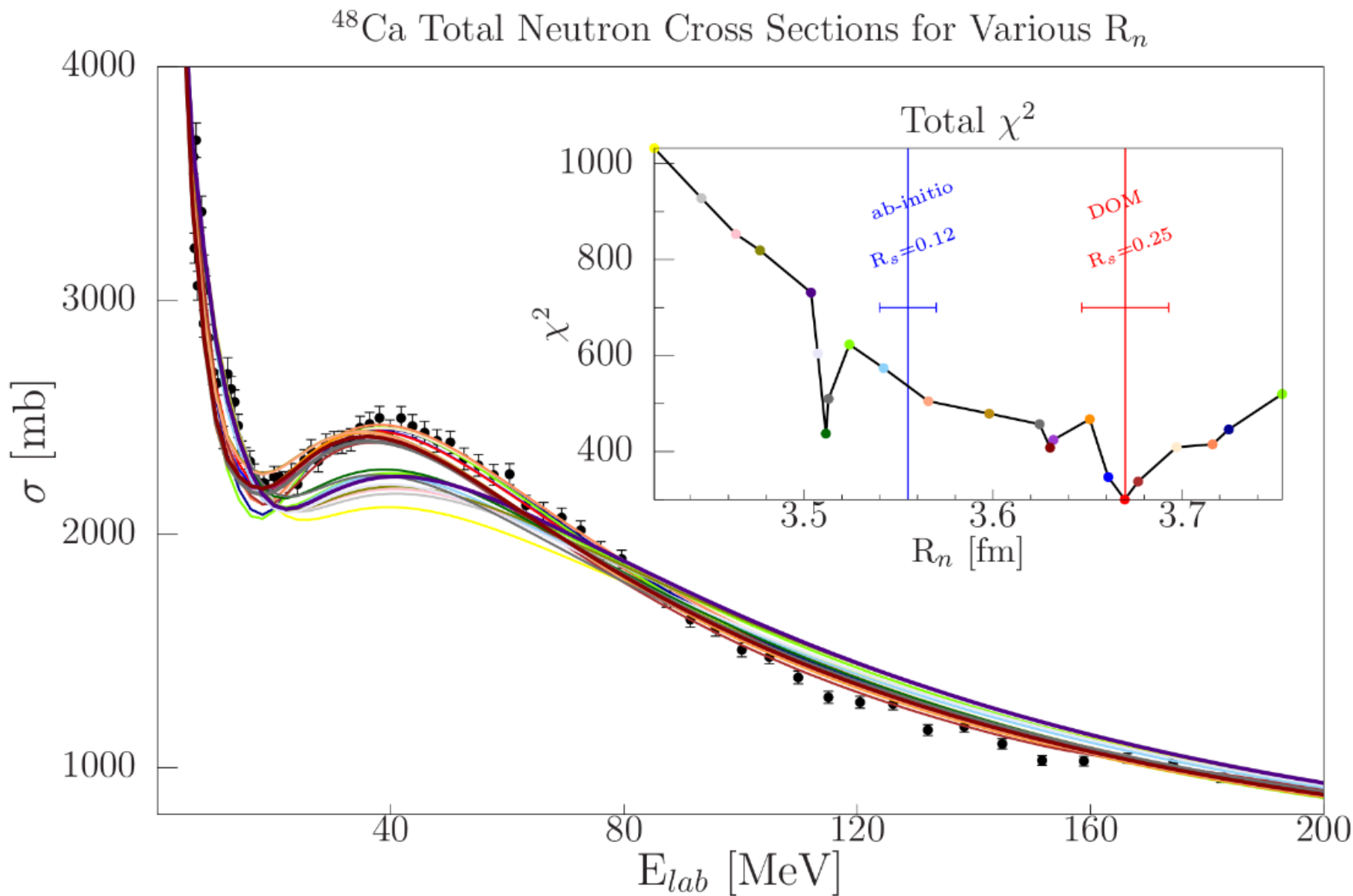
- Construct a **complex optical potential** for nucleon-nucleus interaction (with analogy to optical scattering).
- In the DOM, **real part** (*elastic scattering*) and **imaginary part** (*inelastic scattering*) of potential **are inextricably coupled**, via Kramers-Kronig relations, just as in optical case.
- Generating a good DOM fit potential requires both scattering *and* bound state information.



$$\underbrace{G(\alpha, \beta; E)}_{\text{propagator}} = \underbrace{G^{(0)}(\alpha, \beta; E)}_{\text{Non-interacting propagator}} + \sum_{\gamma, \delta} G^{(0)}(\alpha, \gamma; E) \underbrace{\Sigma(\gamma, \delta; E)}_{\text{self-energy}} G(\delta, \beta; E).$$

“Novel Applications of the Dispersive Optical Model”: Dickhoff, Charity, Mahzoon (2016)

# Extracting a neutron skin using $\sigma_{\text{tot}}(^{48}\text{Ca})$

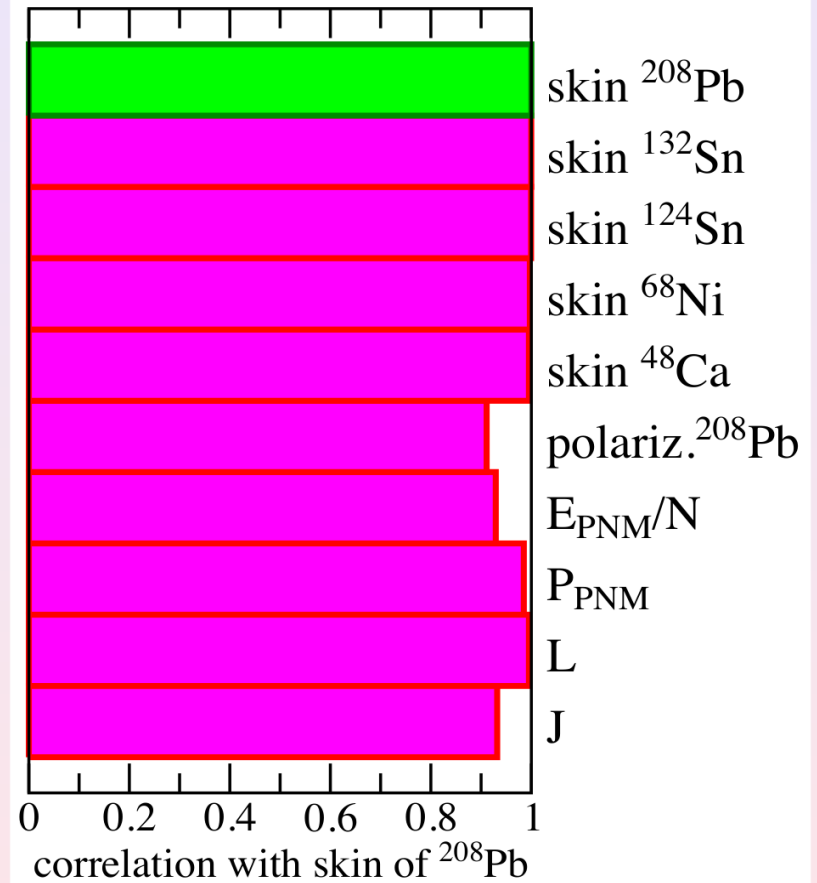
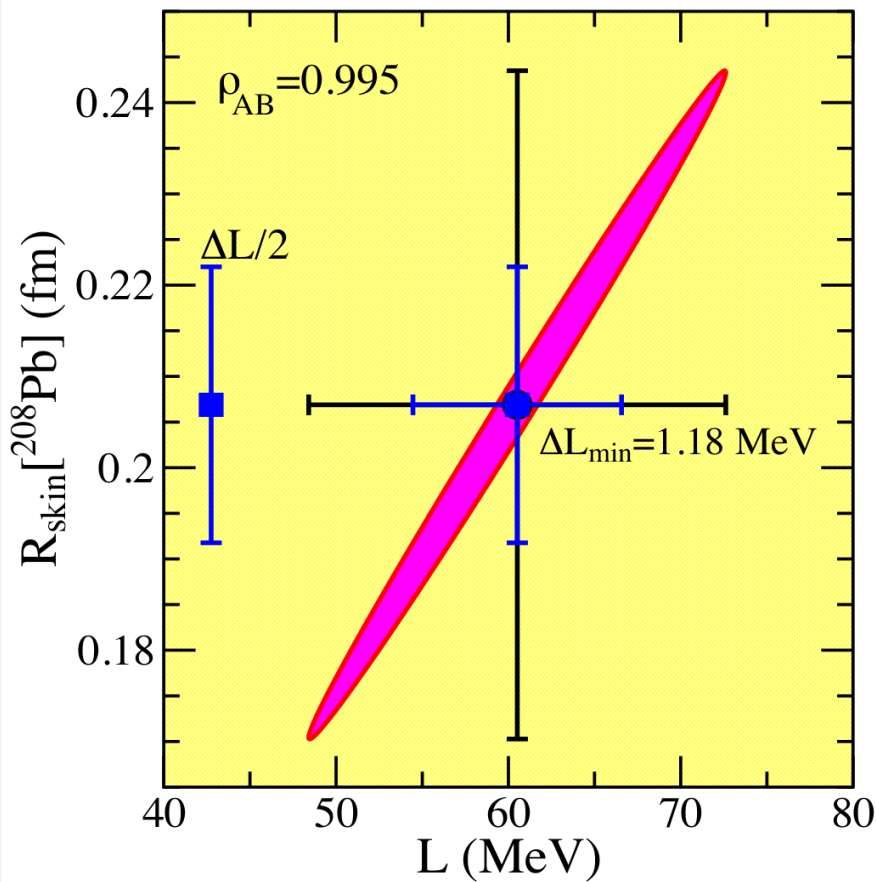


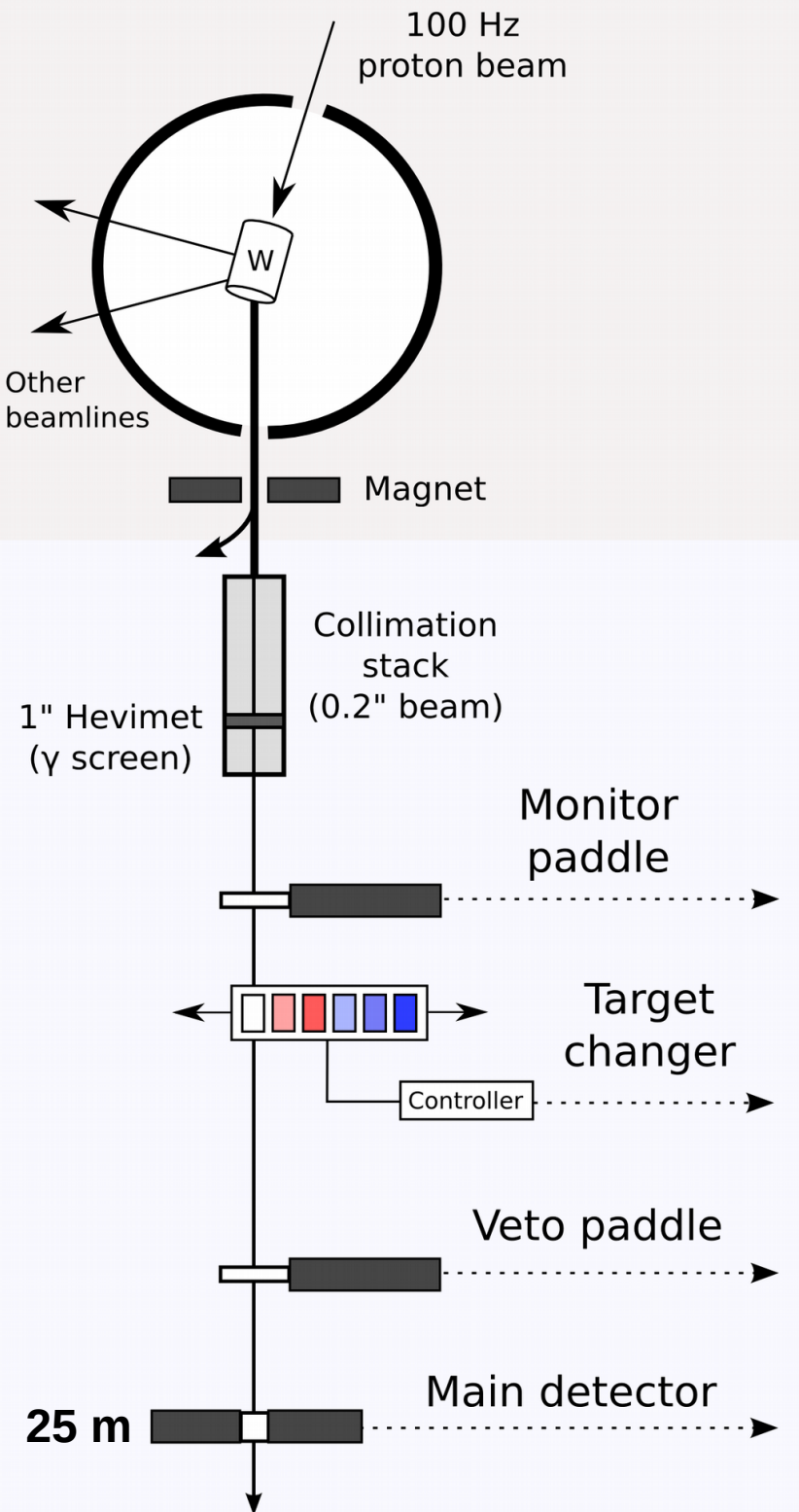
Neutron star  
EOS

$$\Leftrightarrow S(\rho) \simeq S(\rho_0) - L \left( \frac{\rho_0 - \rho}{3\rho_0} \right) + \frac{1}{2} K_{\text{sym}} \left( \left( \frac{\rho_0 - \rho}{3\rho_0} \right)^2 \right)$$

“The correlation between **neutron radius of  $^{208}\text{Pb}$**  and the **slope of the symmetry energy  $L$**  is by now very well established...”

- F. J. Fattoyev and J. Piekarewicz, PRC 86 015802 (2012)





# Measuring $\sigma_{\text{tot}}$ on a budget

- LANSCE WNR at Los Alamos:
  - i. W-spallated broad-spectrum neutrons (up to 650 MeV)
  - ii. intricate beam pulse structure (needed for TOF)
- Experimental details:
  - i. Neutron energies calculated by TOF
  - ii. location of stopping detector create a tradeoff between determines minimum energy and pile-up at high energies
  - iii. high instantaneous flux at the start of a new neutron pulse is 90% of the difficulty
  - iv. waveform digitizer used instead of traditional analog approach

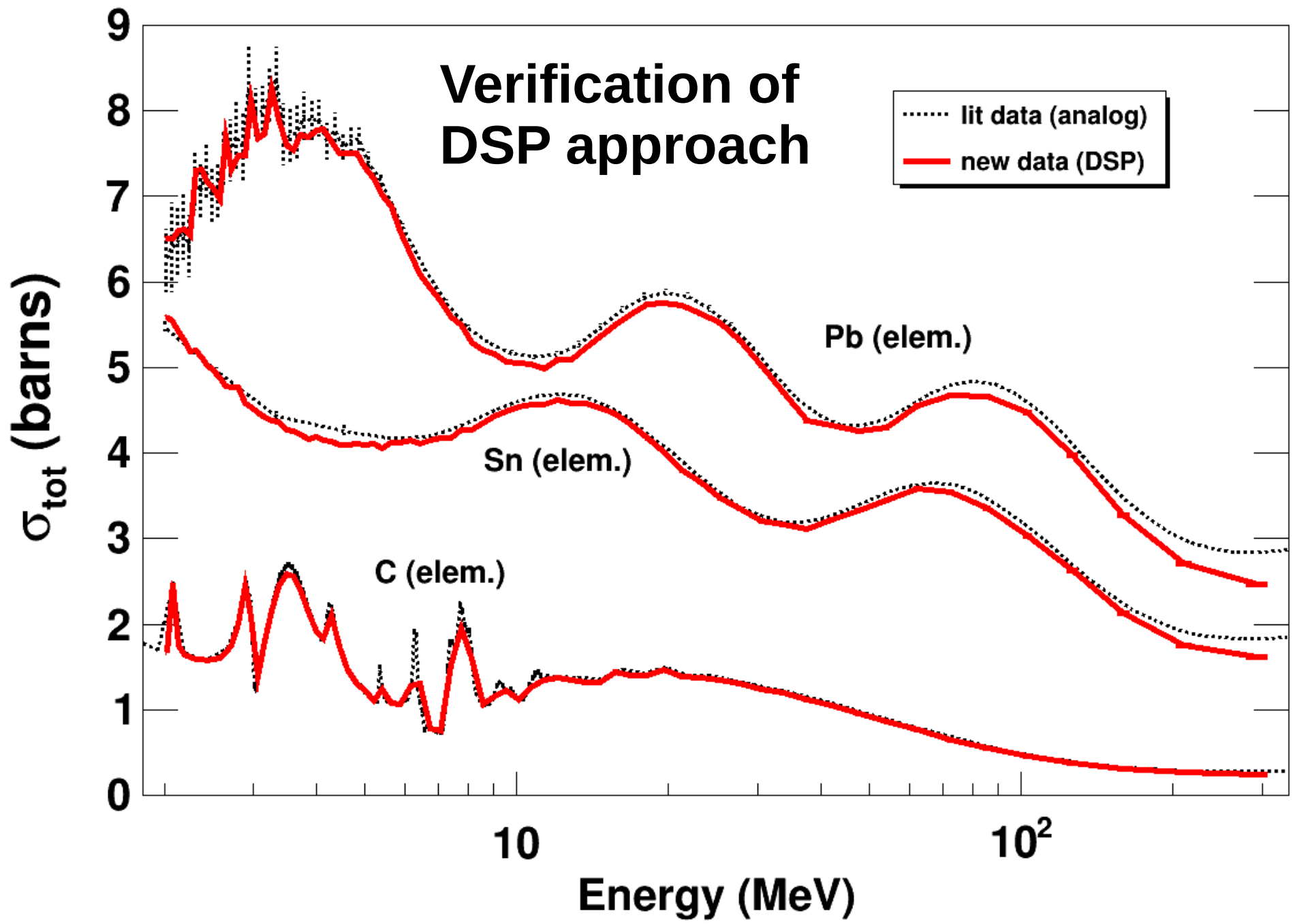
**DSP has 20x deadtime advantage**

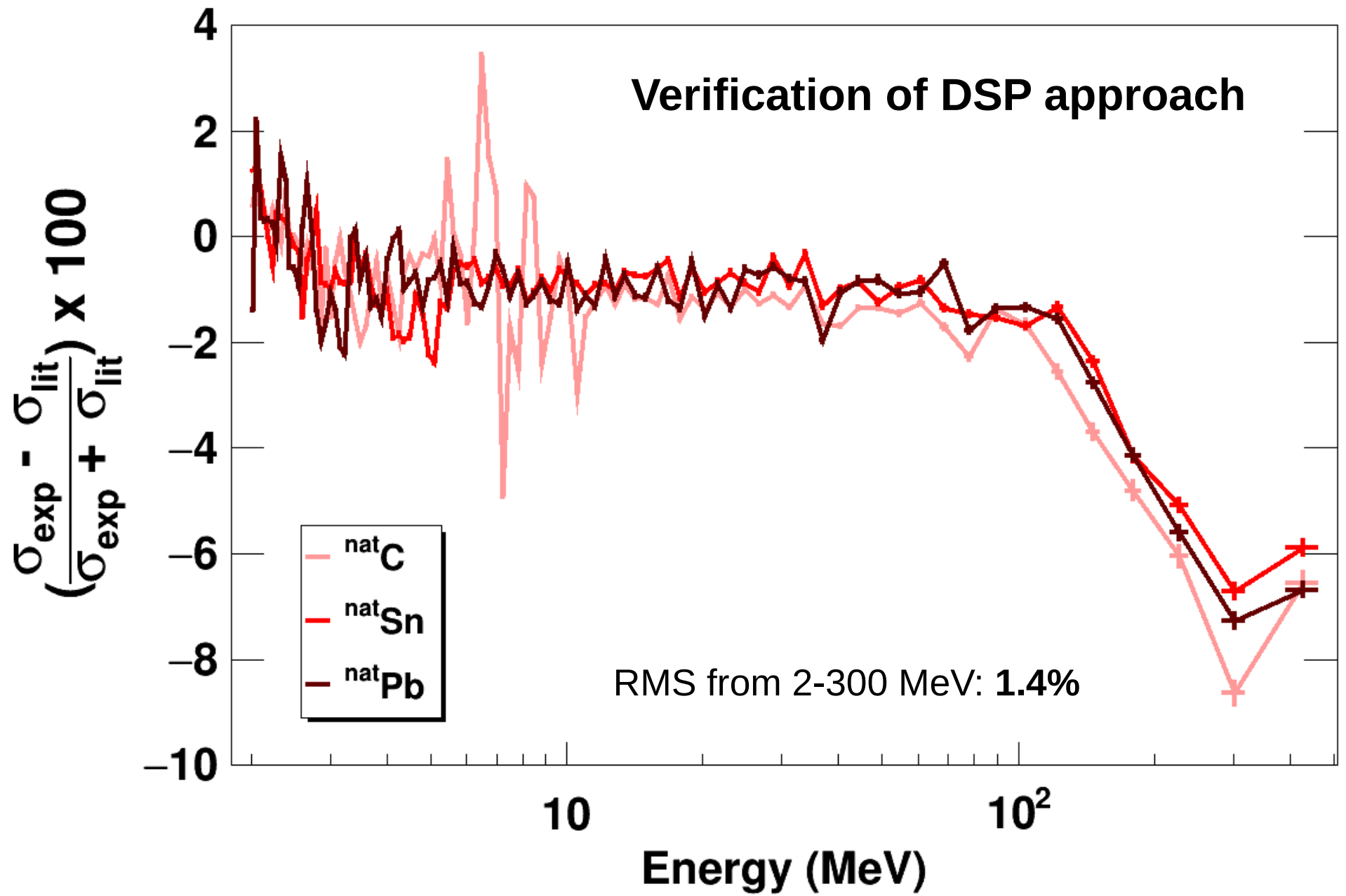


**20x reduction in target size**

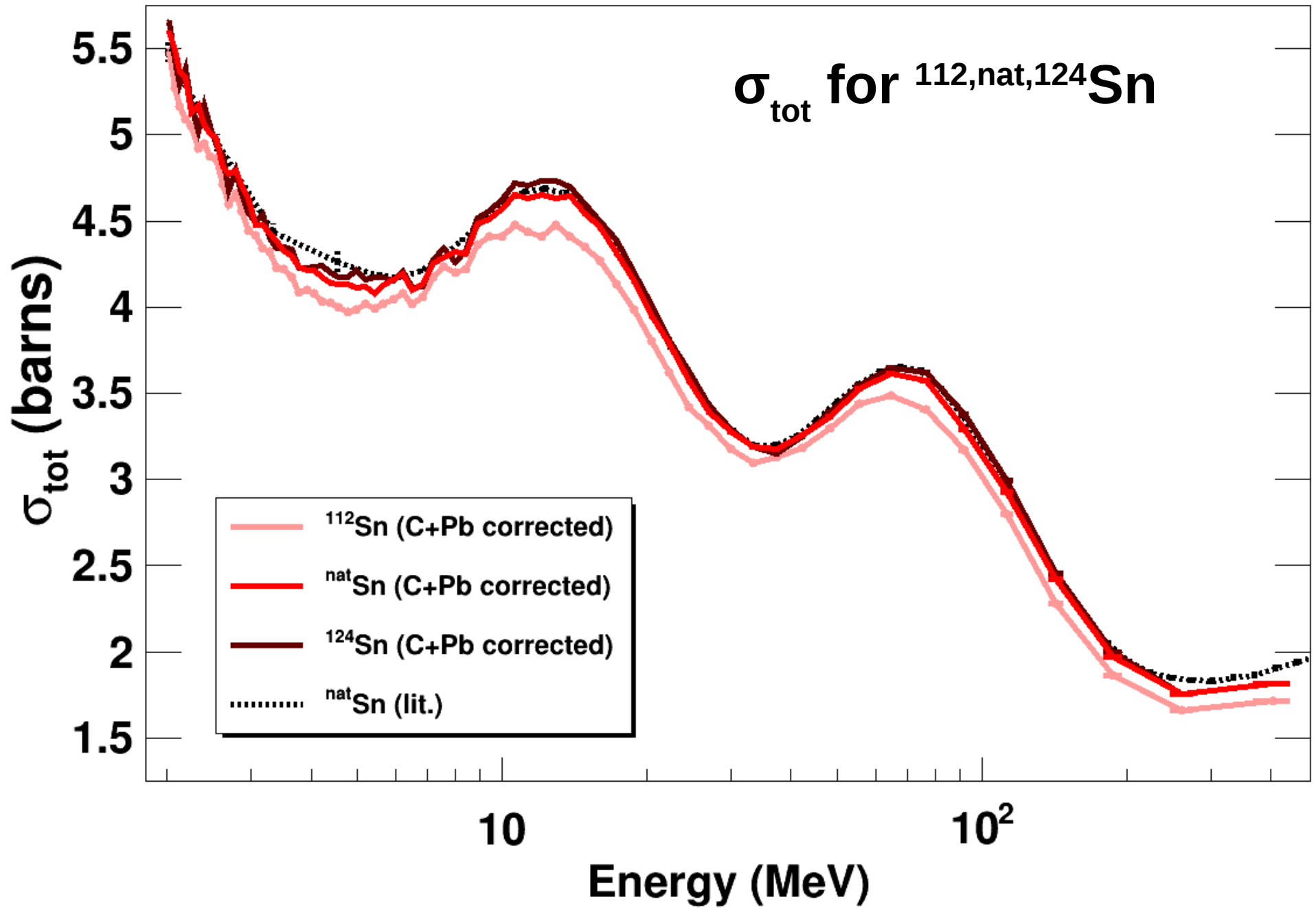


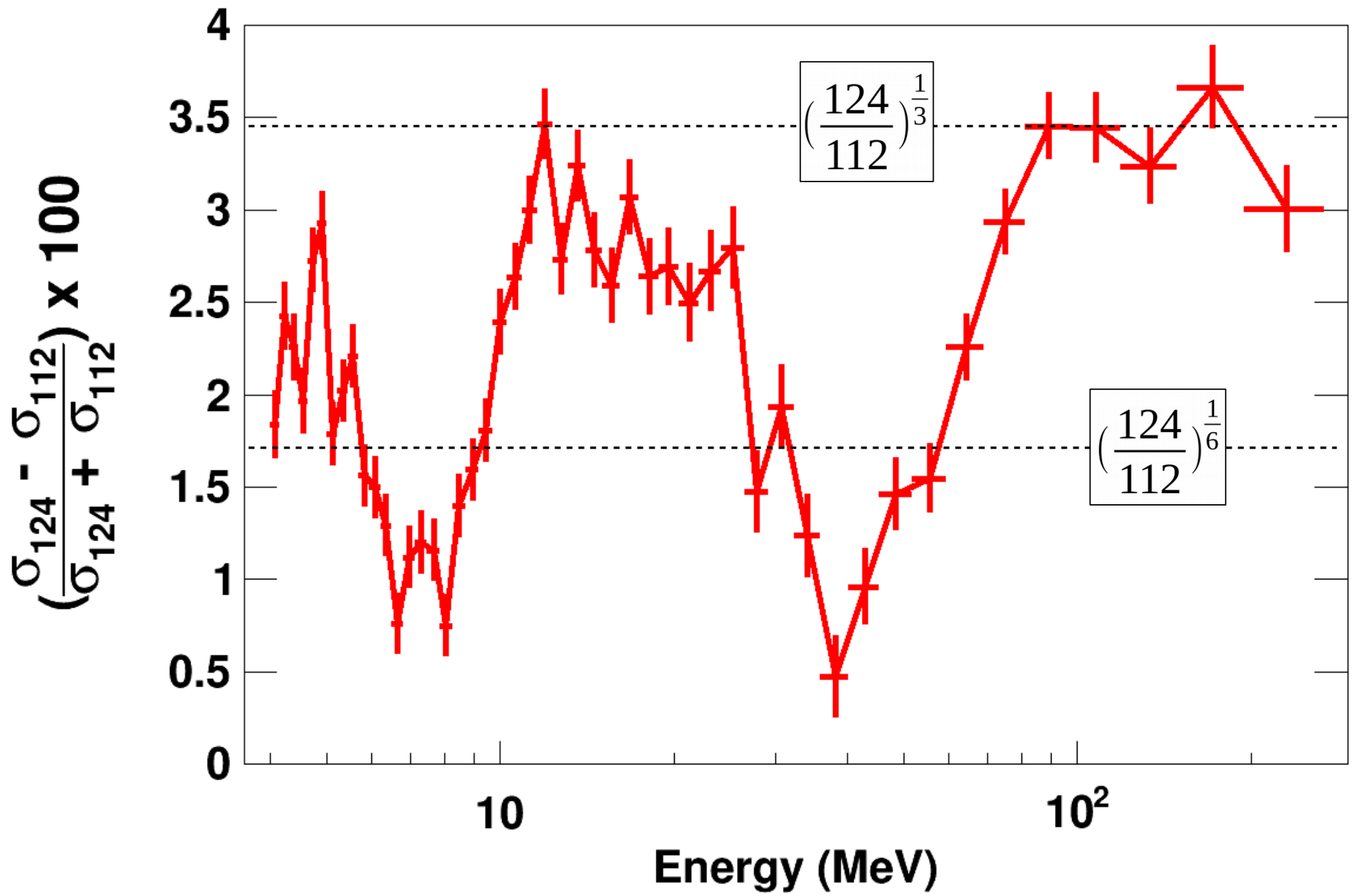
**experiment is affordable**

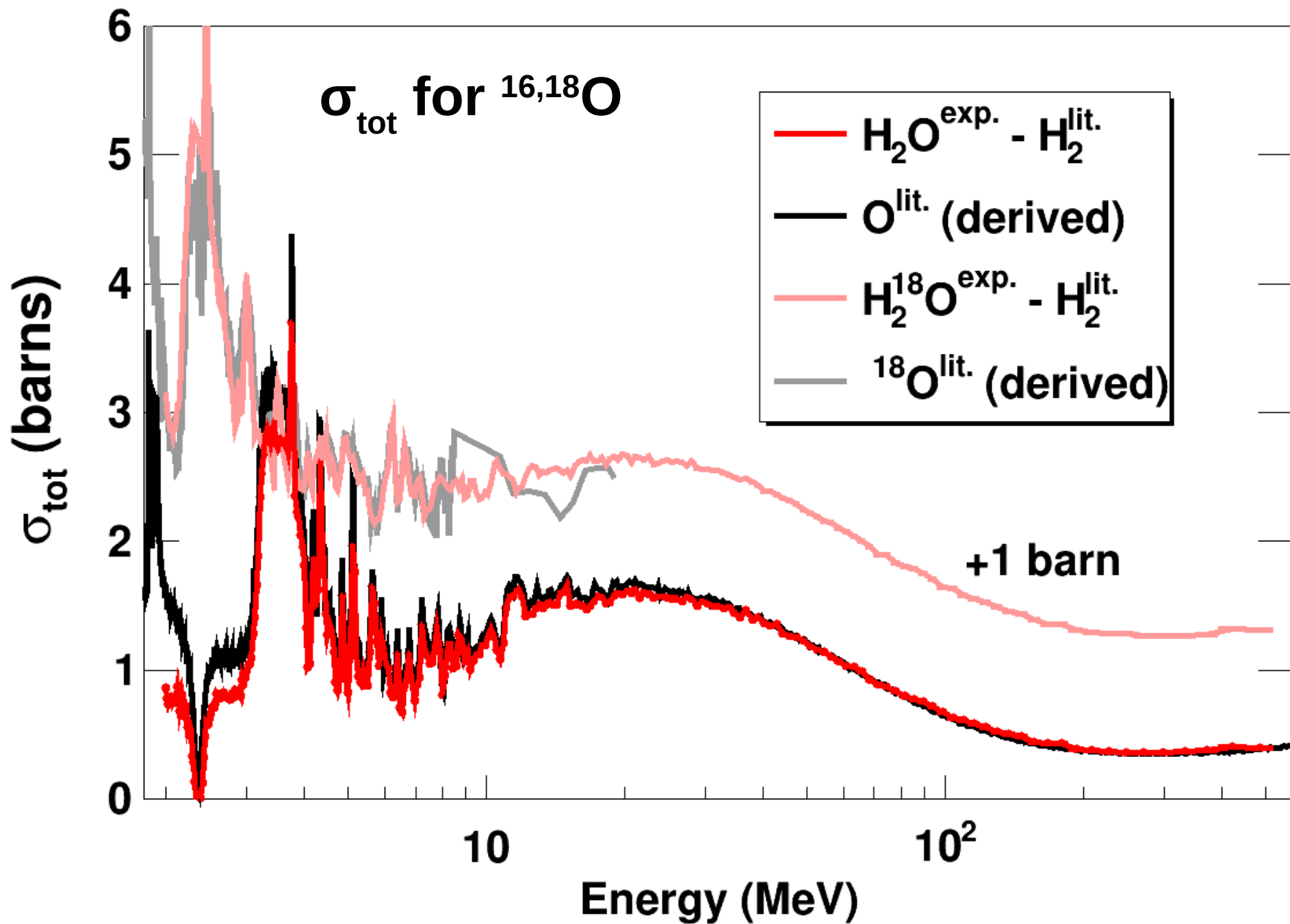


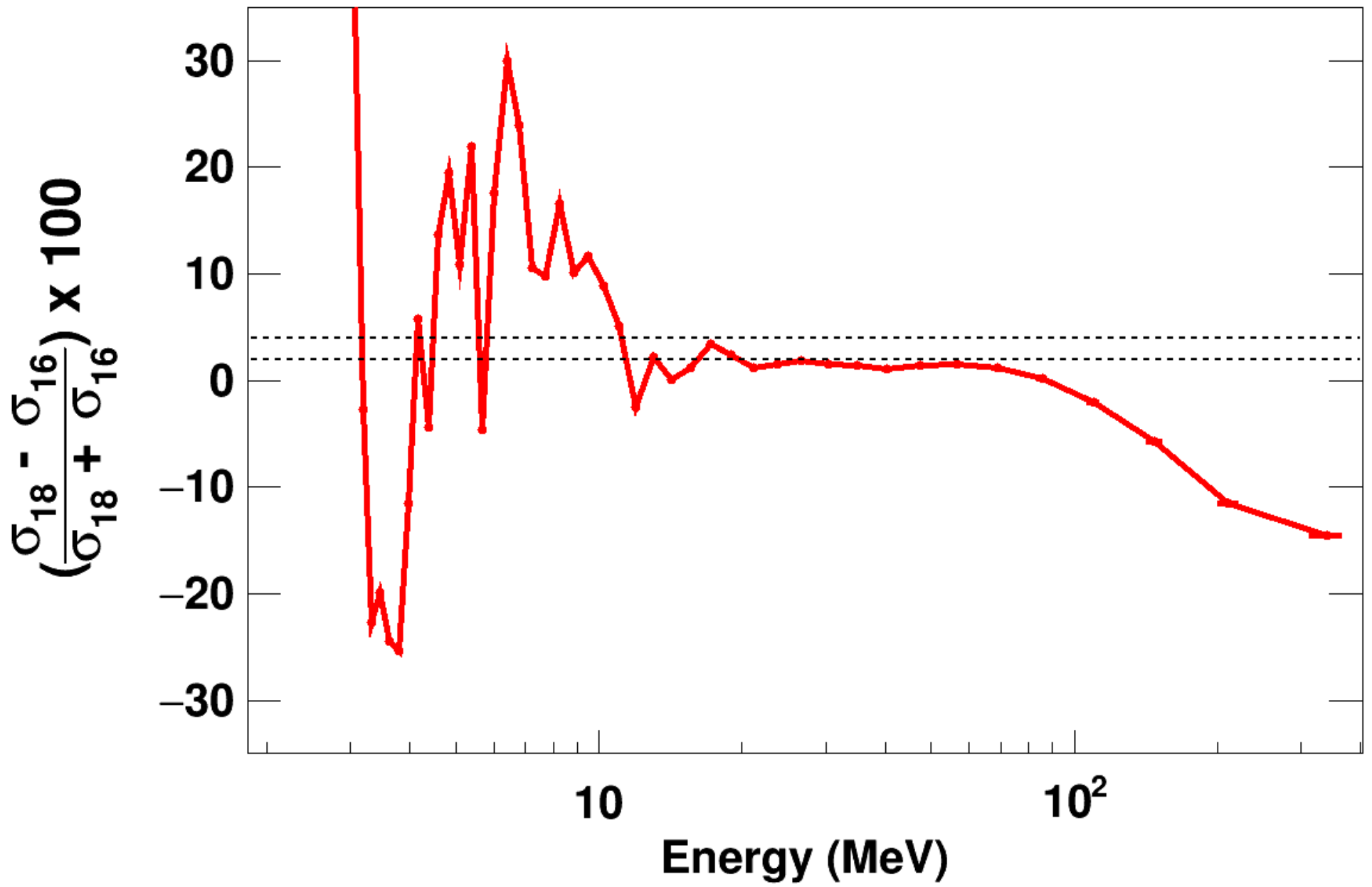


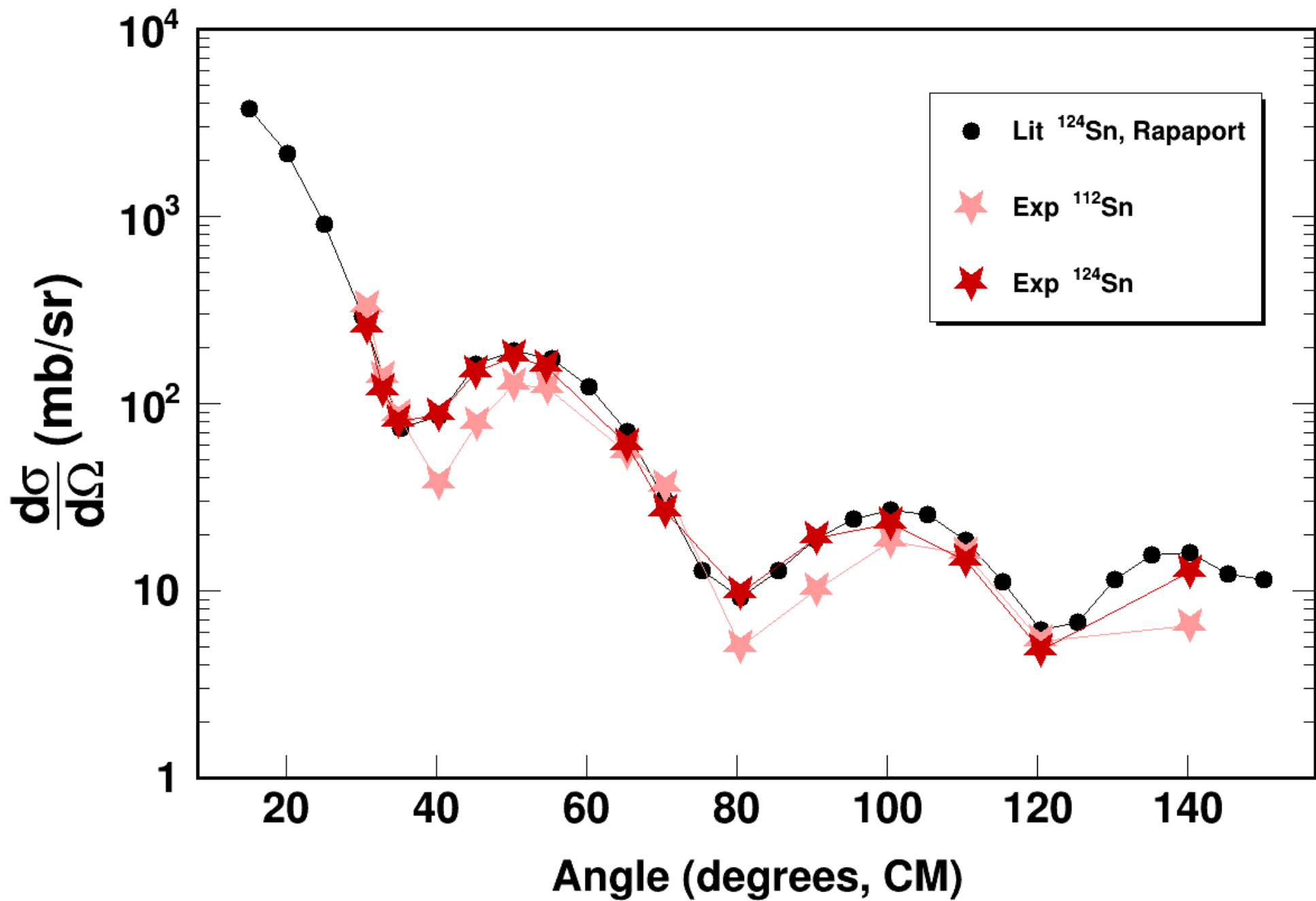


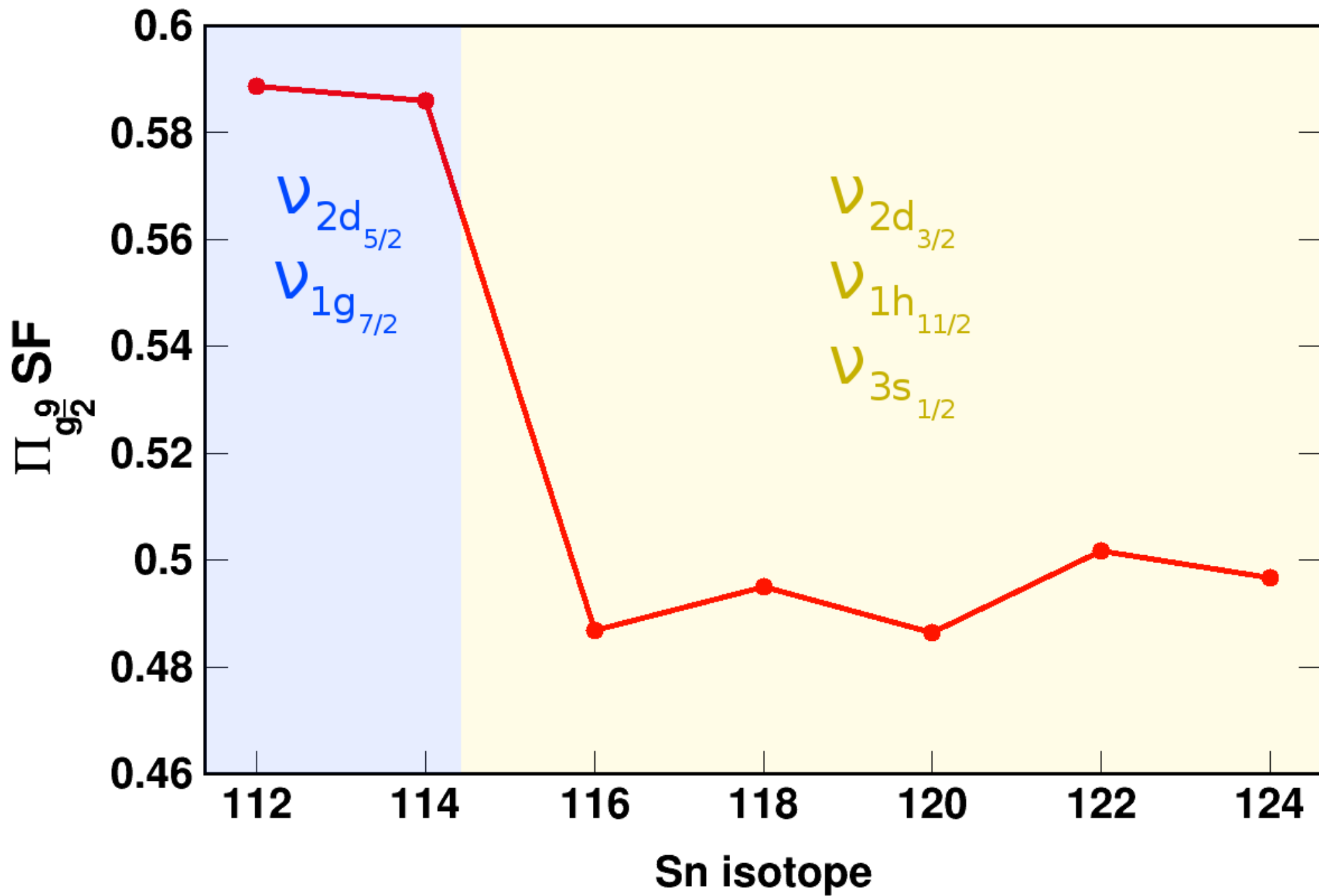












# Next steps

- New experiment:  $^{58,64}\text{Ni}$  at LANSCE (*in Sept*)
- Adapt  $^{40}\text{Ca}$  DOM code for O, Ni, and Sn (*ongoing*)
  - first bring symmetric version online, then introduce asymmetry parameters
- Last, “tune in” a good DOM fit for each nucleus
  - extracting neutron skins  $\rightarrow L$ ; cf. \*REX measurements, (motivating SREX?)
  - extract spectroscopic factors; cf. (e,e'p) experiment comparison for O.

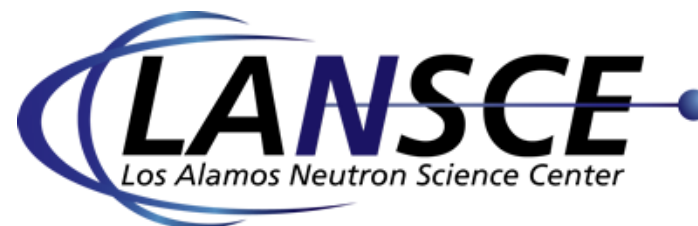


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