## COMPETITION BETWEEN FUSION AND QUASIFISSION IN THE FORMATION OF SUPERHEAVY ELEMENTS

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INPC 2016 Adelaide

15 MV NEC 14UD tandem electrostatic accelerator (David Weisser, Trevor Ophel)

Superconducting Linac (6 MV) (Nikolai Lobanov, Tibor Kibedi)

FUSION17 Conference 20-24 Feb 2017 Hobart, Tasmania, Australia (summer) http://fusion17.anu.edu.au/ (Nanda Dasgupta)





Australian National **Jniversity** 



SOLITAIRE 8T superconducting solenoid





RIB: SOLEROO 6.5T s/c solenoid and tracking detectors



CUBE

36 x 28 cm MWPC detector

2

**Reaction products** 

0

**Photon detectors** 

100

Target

Beam 1mm diameter

0

36 x 28 cm MWPC detector

all the



## Nuclear fusion forming superheavy elements



## Nuclear fusion forming superheavy elements



# Reaction to form element 112 (Copernicium) 238 J <sup>40</sup>Ca

TDHF calculation of <sup>40</sup>Ca+<sup>238</sup>U reaction (Cedric Simenel, Aditya Wakhle) A. Wakhle et al., PRL **113** (2014) 182502

 $P_{CN} + P_{QF} = 1$ 

PSHE=Pcapture. PCN . P fission survival





## Quasifission: non-equilibrium process Sticking time: a key characteristic

Dependence of quasifission probability and characteristics (time scale) on collision variables (related to  $P_{CN}$ ):

- Compound nucleus fissility (Z<sup>2</sup>/A);
- Entrance channel Coulomb repulsion (Z<sub>1</sub>Z<sub>2</sub>);
- Angular momentum;
- Nuclear structure of the colliding nuclei:
- static deformation
- closed shells (magic numbers)

Many variables! Dependence of quasifission probability and characteristics (time scale) on collision variables (related to P<sub>CN</sub>):

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- Coulomb repulsion (Z<sub>1</sub>Z<sub>2</sub>);
- Angular momentum;
- Nuclear structure of the colliding nuclei:
  - o deformation
  - closed shells (magic numbers)



Analogy between QF dynamics and nuclear masses

- Smooth liquid drop dynamics (Coulomb, nuclear, viscosity)
- Modification of dynamics due to shell structure (PES and viscosity)

Ultimate goal: reliable model including all relevant physics to predict  $P_{CN}$ Model should predict QF characteristics, as QF is most likely outcome

## MAD – time scales of mass-equilibration and rotation (GSI)

 $\mathbf{\Lambda}$ 



R. Bock et al., NP A388 (1982) 334
J. Toke et al., NP A440 (1985) 327
W.Q. Shen at al., PRC 36 (1987) 115
B.B. Back et al., PRC 53 (1996) 1734

Miminal mass-angle correlation

Strong mass-angle correlation

## Mass-angle distributions – MAD







#### Experimental MAD



Counts/pixel

R. du Rietz et al. PRL **106** (2011) 052701

## Defining smooth liquid drop QF dynamics

- minimise shell effects high Ex high E/V<sub>b</sub>
- minimise effects of angular momentum low E/V<sub>b</sub>
- Compromise: choose  $E/V_b = 1.05-1.10$ 
  - effects of spherical magic numbers attenuated by Ex
  - effects of deformation alignment averaged out
  - in angular momentum regime relevant to SHE production

## Defining smooth liquid drop QF dynamics



R. du Rietz et al., PRC 88 (2013) 054618



## Nuclear structure effects: (i) deformation alignment



Consistent with measurements showing no/small ER  $\sigma$  sub-barrier

Nuclear structure effects: (i) deformation alignment Static deformation alignment



Hinde et al., PRL **74** (1995) 1295; Hinde et al., PRC **53** (1996) 1290



A. Wakhle et al., PRL **113** (2014) 182502

## Deformation alignment



TDHF calculation of <sup>40</sup>Ca+<sup>238</sup>U reaction (Cedric Simenel, Aditya Wakhle) A. Wakhle et al., PRL **113** (2014) 182502



A. Wakhle et al., PRL **113** (2014) 182502



+ other measurements with <sup>48</sup>Ca, <sup>50</sup>Ti, <sup>54</sup>Cr, <sup>58</sup>Fe and <sup>64</sup>Ni beams bombarding <sup>232</sup>Th, <sup>238</sup>U, <sup>244</sup>Pu, <sup>248</sup>Cm, <sup>249</sup>Cf targets forming Z up to 120 (thanks to Mainz radiochem., GSI targetlab)

<u>2016-2017</u>

## Nuclear structure effects: (ii) magic numbers



C.J. Lin et al., PRC 85 (2012) 014611

## Spherical magic nuclei – multiple magic numbers

C. Simenel et al., PLB710 (2012) 607

E. Prokhorova et al., NPA802(2008)45



O <sub>MR</sub>	0.081	0.237	0.120	0.114	0.084	0.126	0.068
err	0.001	0.018	0.003	0.002	0.006	0.004	0.002
N <sub>magic</sub>	2	0	2	2	3	4	4

## Entrance channel closed shells and N/Z mismatch

N/Z equilibration will cause early energy damping as nuclei overlap: - more elongated "entry point" to diffusive motion





C. Simenel et al., PLB 710 (2012) 607

G. Mohanto et al., ANU, in preparation





Energy well above-barrier: magic numbers, N/Z matching – little effect



Sub-barrier energy: magic numbers, adequate N/Z matching – fusion-fission?



Trajectory bifurcation – slow mass-symmetric and fast mass-asymmetric



Nuclear structure of the projectile and target can play a very significant role

C. Simenel et al., PLB 710 (2012) 607

G. Mohanto et al., ANU, in preparation

#### M. Dasgupta

- C. Simenel
- E. Williams
- D.Y. Jeung
- E. Prasad
- R. Rafiei
- A. Wakhle (ANU, MSU)
- R.G. Thomas (ANU, BARC)
- R. du Rietz (ANU, Malmo)
- C.J. Lin (ANU, CIAE)
- G. Mohanto (ANU, BARC)
- J. Khuyagbaatar (GSI)
- Ch.E. Düllmann (GSI/Mainz)
- H. David (GSI) .....
- Z. Kohley (MSU)
- K. Hammerton (MSU) .....
- M. Morjean (GANIL)
- D. Jacquet (Orsay) .....

+ many ANU students and postdocs running the ANU accelerator

## Conclusions

Determination of smooth trends of Mass-Angle Distributions allows to quantify the effects on sticking times of:

deformation alignment

entrance channel closed shells, N/Z matching

Deformation alignment – "tip collisions" - short sticking times

fast QF below-barrier (agrees with small  $P_{CN}$  from  $\sigma_{xn}$ )

- Magic numbers, N/Z matching important in cold fusion reactions more magic numbers are better – <sup>48</sup>Ca+<sup>208</sup>Pb – sub-barrier F-F trajectory bifurcation <sup>52,54</sup>Cr + <sup>206,208</sup>Pb – fast QF + F-F
- Actinide collisions (U, Pu, Cm)

New systematic MAD measurements for <sup>48</sup>Ca, <sup>50</sup>Ti, <sup>54</sup>Cr, <sup>64</sup>Ni Sticking times; mass evolution towards symmetry, fusion-fission

Challenge for models: reproduce quasifission observables!









<sup>48</sup>Ca+<sup>238</sup>U

<sup>50</sup>Ti+<sup>238</sup>U <sup>54</sup>Cr+<sup>238</sup>U

<sup>58</sup>Fe+<sup>238</sup>U





0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 M<sub>B</sub>



+ measurements with <sup>244</sup>Pu, <sup>248</sup>Cm targets (thanks to Mainz radiochemistry, GSI targetlab)



High  $P_{CN}$  for <sup>48</sup>Ca+<sup>208</sup>Pb







Hinde, Dasgupta, Mukherjee Phys. Rev. Lett. 89 (2002) 272701







Different mean fissility X<sub>m</sub> for P<sub>CN</sub> compared with QF mass-angle distribution







Projectile





ANU, to be published





### Mass-symmetric fragment angular anisotropies



 Mass-symmetric component shows large angular anisotropies – QF! Supports previous interpretation of deformation alignment effect on dynamics deduced from similar anisotropy results for <sup>16</sup>O + <sup>238</sup>U Hinde et al., PRL 74 (1995) 1295; Hinde et al., PRC 53 (1996) 1290









C. Simenel et al., PLB **710** (2012) 607

K. Hammerton et al., PRC 91 (2015) 041602

G. Mohanto et al., ANU, in preparation





Smooth change in mass width with neutron number



C. Simenel et al., PLB **710** (2012) 607

K. Hammerton et al., PRC 91 (2015) 041602

G. Mohanto et al., ANU, in preparation



## Collisions of magic nuclei



## Collisions of magic nuclei





Systematic difference - largest saturated ER yield for the lightest projectile

Unexpected: P<sub>xn</sub><1 for asymmetric reactions forming Ra

## Towards a true understanding of superheavy element synthesis:

- Make unambiguous measurements of P<sub>CN</sub> from xn ERs X-bomb.
- Measurements of all observables for selected systems:

Resolve discrepancies between different observables

MAD, crystal blocking, CN X-rays,  $\nu_{\text{pre}}$ 

Include important degrees of freedom in models

and calculate all observables:

Fission Mass-Angle-Distributions (MAD)

Fission Mass-TKE-Distributions (MED)

- Scission time distributions, n angular correlations
- Heavy element yields





 $\mathsf{M}_\mathsf{R}$ 



#### Sum CC calculations of I-distributions for each classical orientation angle









Fig. 1 Differences between experimental masses and a recent macroscopic (semiempirical) mass model as a function of neutron number (top section). Isotopes are connected by lines. The large

80 Years of the liquid drop—50 years of the macroscopic–microscopic model

P. Möller , A.J. Sierk International Journal of Mass Spectrometry, Volumes 349–350, 2013, 19 - 25