### Coulomb excitation of <sup>68</sup>Ni at 600 MeV/A

- Pygmy Resonance
- Measurements in exotic nuclei
- Virtual photon scattering
- Rising preliminary data on <sup>68</sup>Ni
- Perspectives
- Conclusions

### In neutron rich nuclei some E1 strength is shifted towards low energy



# Such low lying E1 states might have either a collective or non collective nature

This low lying E1 strength is denoted as Pygmy or Soft Resonance

### **Giant Dipole Resonance**

Collective oscillation of neutrons against protons







### **Pygmy Resonance**

#### Collective oscillation of neutron skin against the core







Richter NPA 731(2004)59

#### Why Pygmy Resonance is important?

Pygmy Resonance has an important impact on the r-process nucleosynthesis



Goriely et al PLB436(1998)10

Different mean field approaches give different predictions in terms of collectivity, strength and line-shape of the pygmy resonance

Isovector properties of nuclear force

#### Pygmy/Soft Resonance in Exotic Nuclei

#### Systematic study in Oxygen neutron rich isotopes



- Part of the E1 Strength is shifted at low energy
- A clear separation into two domains (pygmy and GDR) is not observed
- Theory assign this low lying E1 strength to single neutron p-h excitations



E.Tryggestad et al. Phys. Lett. B541(2002)52

#### Pygmy/Soft Resonance in Exotic Nuclei

- Systematic study in Sn neutron rich isotopes
- Part of E1 Strength is shifted at low energy
  A clear separation into two domains (pygmy and GDR) is observed
- The nature of such low lying E1 strength is not yet clear
  - A relativistic mean field approach assign a collective nature
    - D.Vretnar et al Nucl. Phys. A692(2001)496
  - A RPA approach assign a non collective Nature
    - D.Sarchi et al. Phys. Lett. B601(2004)27



Adrich et al. PRL 95(2005)132501

### Measurement of the E1 strength in <sup>68</sup>Ni

Virtual photon scattering technique

- Peripheral heavy-ion collision on a Au target at relativistic energies
- Virtual photon excitation and decay

$$_{N}^{A}X(^{197}\mathrm{Au},^{197}\mathrm{Au})X_{N}^{A}+\gamma$$

 The measurement of the high energy γ-rays and of the elastic scattered <sup>68</sup>Ni directly provides the E1 strength distribution



#### **GDR - PYGMY Excitation**

- 400 MeV/u <sup>68</sup>Ni (2004) + <sup>197</sup>Au
- 600 MeV/u <sup>68</sup>Ni (2005) + <sup>197</sup>Au

 $\sigma(GDR) \approx +30\%$  $\sigma(2^+) \approx -20\%$ 



T.Aumann et al EPJ 26(2005)441

#### **GDR - PYGMY Decay**

GDR Ground state decay branching ratio  $\Rightarrow$  2%

- measured on <sup>208</sup>Pb - J.Beene et al PRC 41(1990)920

#### GDR low lying E1 strength expected around 10 MeV

#### Gamma sources

#### **Doppler shifted**

- Direct GDR decay from 68Ni
- Hot CN decay from <sup>68</sup>Ni

#### Non Doppler shifted

- Direct GDR decay from <sup>197</sup>Au
- Hot CN decay from <sup>197</sup>Au



D. Vretnar et al. NPA 692(2001)496



6 Days of effective beam time
400 GB of data recorded
3 10<sup>8</sup> Events recorded
1 10<sup>8</sup> <sup>68</sup>Ni recorded
3 10<sup>7</sup> 'good <sup>68</sup>Ni events 'recorded



### **Experimental details**

#### **Euroball 15 Clusters**

Located at 16.5°, 33°, 36° degrees Energetic threshold ~ 100 keV 57% of good data

#### **Hector BaF<sub>2</sub>**

Located at 142° and 90° degrees Energetic threshold ~ 1.5 MeV 6 % of good data

Miniball segmented detectors located at 46°, 60°, 80°, 90° degrees Energetic threshold ~ 100 keV 37 % of good data



New Calorimeter Telescope







#### **BaF<sub>2</sub> Spectra**



Time of flight – Gated on <sup>68</sup>Ni in incoming projectile
Time of flight -- Gated on <sup>68</sup>Ni in incoming projectile and on Ni in Cate
Time of flight -- Gated on <sup>68</sup>Ni in incoming projectile and on Ni in Cate and Mγ = 1 (+TOF in Energy spectra)
Time of flight -- Gated on 68Ni in incoming projectile and on Ni in Cate and Mγ = 1

Time of flight -- Gated on 68Ni in incoming projectile and on Ni in Cate and  $M\gamma = 1$  and PSA

### BaF<sub>2</sub> spectra measured at 90° (2 crystals) No Doppler correction



**Exponential Shape (tipycal from CN emission) – Hot 197Au** 

### BaF<sub>2</sub> spectra measured at 142° (6 crystals) No Doppler correction



**Exponential Shape (tipycal from CN emission) – Hot 197Au** 

#### **Miniball Data (preliminary)** Doppler corrected (No PSA) $\beta = 0.785$



### The work is in progress

• Data analysis is not finished yet.

- Energy spectra from cluster not yet fully analyzed
- 30% of statistics is not yet included.
- Background reduction can be improved
  - CATE data analysis must be improved.
    - Correction due to interaction positions.
    - Correction due to Beam velocity profile.
  - Measurement of Coulomb scattering angle has not yet done.
  - In BaF<sub>2</sub> spectra one must improve Fast vs Slow gates.
  - Miniball Pulse Shape Analysis is not yet done.
- Geant consistency check
- BE1 not yet extracted
- Analysis on <sup>67</sup>Ni is not yet done.

## Conclusions

- We have measured high energy  $\gamma$ -rays from the Coulomb excited <sup>68</sup>Ni at 600 MeV/u.
- Incoming and outgoing beam have been tracked on an event by event basis.
- Statistics is low but there is some evidence for  $\gamma$ -rays emission in the expected energy region of the Pygmy resonance (4-12 MeV).
- The large Doppler-shift makes the different gamma detector sensitive to different energy region, cross checks are very difficult.
- The data are very preliminary and the analysis is not yet finished.
- Still lot of work to do.

### **Perspective (new fast beam campaign)**

 Milano is planning similar measurements in Calcium and Oxygen mass region

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