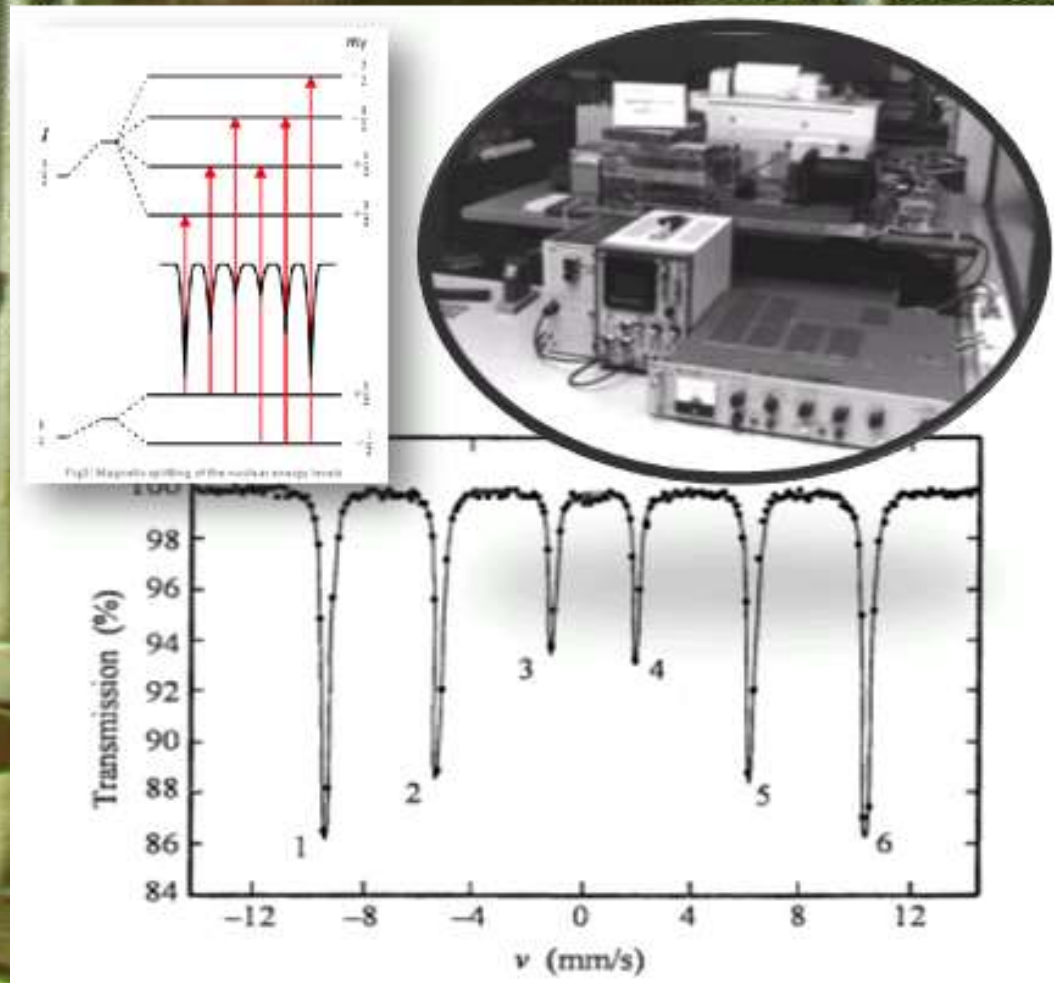


# Mössbauer Spectroscopy



# Agenda: ANSEL Mössbauer Experiment

Mössbauer (Mössbauer) Spectroscopy with **proportional counters**:

Ultra-high-precision photon energy measurement:

**Precision scanning resonant-absorption spectroscopy**

with doppler-shifted photon energy, using gas amplification counters.

➤ **Gas amplification counters, proportional counters, electronics.**

➤ **Mössbauer Principles:**

**Resonant**  $\gamma$  absorption.

**Recoil effects** in  $\gamma$  emission and absorption,

**Recoilless**  $\gamma$  absorption by macroscopic samples,

➤ **Determination of electric and magnetic HF interactions in various chemical Fe compounds**

**Reading Assignments:**

(Knoll, LN): X ray spectroscopy with proportional counters (PC),

$E_\gamma$ -dependent absorption coefficients, gas amplification counters,

Response of proportional counters to  $\gamma$  - and X rays, spurious peaks.

# The Mössbauer Effect



Rudolf Mössbauer

1961 Nobel Prize in Physics.

Discovered (1958) recoilless nuclear fluorescence of gamma rays in  $^{191}\text{Ir}$ .

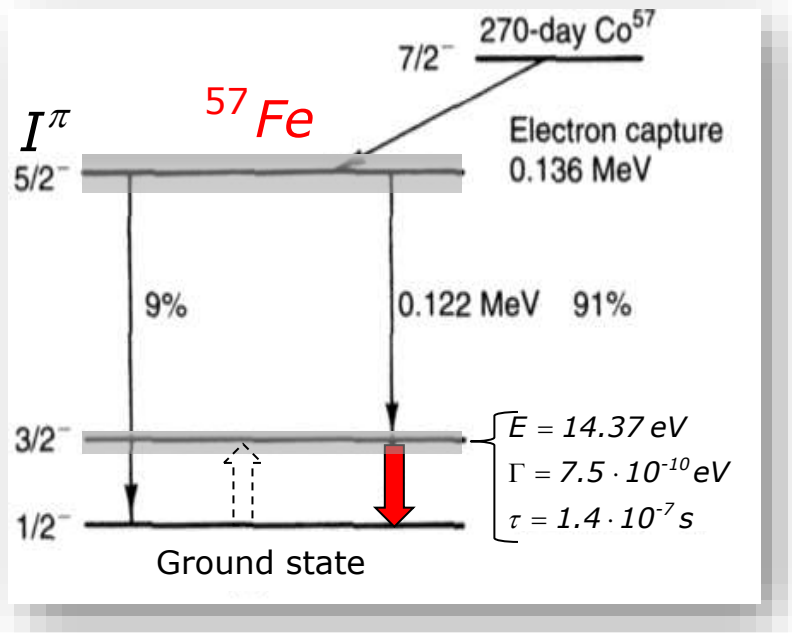
**Famous application:** proof of red shift of gamma radiation in the gravitational field of the earth (Robert Pound and Glen Rebka);

Pound-Rebka experiment was one of the first experimental precision tests of Albert Einstein's theory of general relativity.

**Long-term importance:**

Use of Mössbauer effect in "Mössbauer spectroscopy" testing solid-state and chemical environments via electric and magnetic hyperfine interactions between atomic electrons and nuclear charge and magnetization distributions.

# Precision Absorption Spectroscopy with $^{57}\text{Fe}$

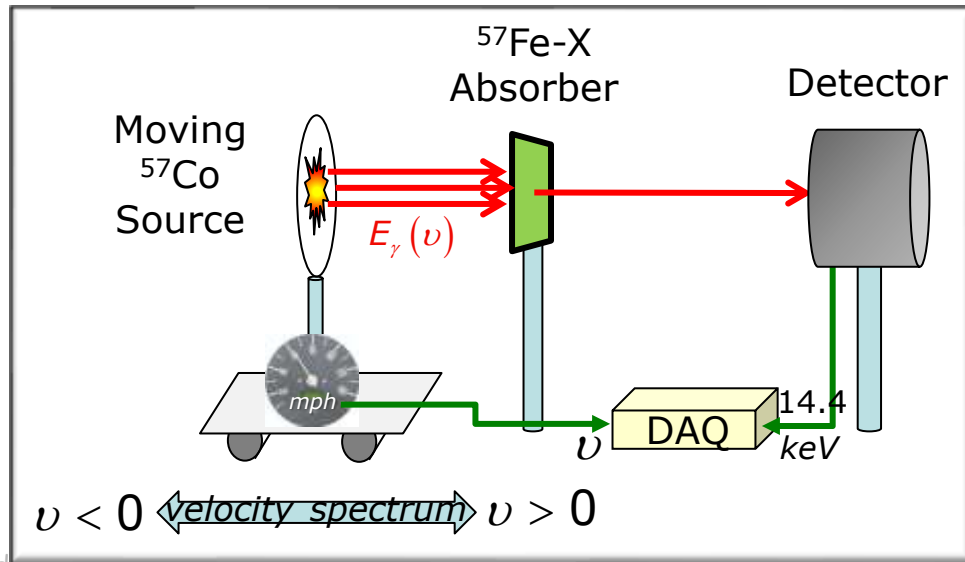


$^{57}\text{Co}$  source emits 14.4 – keV  $\gamma$  – rays  
 Measure *scanning resonance absorption*  
 with *Doppler – tunable  $\gamma$  – ray energies*  
 → *chemical compounds  $^{57}\text{Fe} - X(t)$*

→ "Tunable"  $\gamma$  – rays

$$E_\gamma(v) \approx 14.4(1 \pm v/c) \text{ keV}$$

$^{57}\text{Co}$   $\gamma$  – source  
 moving with velocity  $v$   
 emits *precisely controlled*  
 Doppler – shifted  $E_\gamma(v)$



Resolving power  $\Gamma/E_\gamma = 3 \cdot 10^{-13}$   
 $\gamma$  detectors :  $\Gamma_{FWHM}/E_\gamma \sim 10^{-3} - 10^{-2}$

# Resonant $\gamma$ Absorption

Absorption of radiation = competition of various interactions of photons with (atomic, nuclear) constituents of structured material ("absorbers")  $\rightarrow$

**Absorbance ( $\ln I_0/I_x$ ) = sum of statistical probabilities per constituent.**

$\rightarrow$  Mass absorption coefficient (photons):  $\mu(E_\gamma) = \sum_n \mu_n(E_\gamma)$   $\leftarrow$

Special case: Nuclear Resonant Absorption

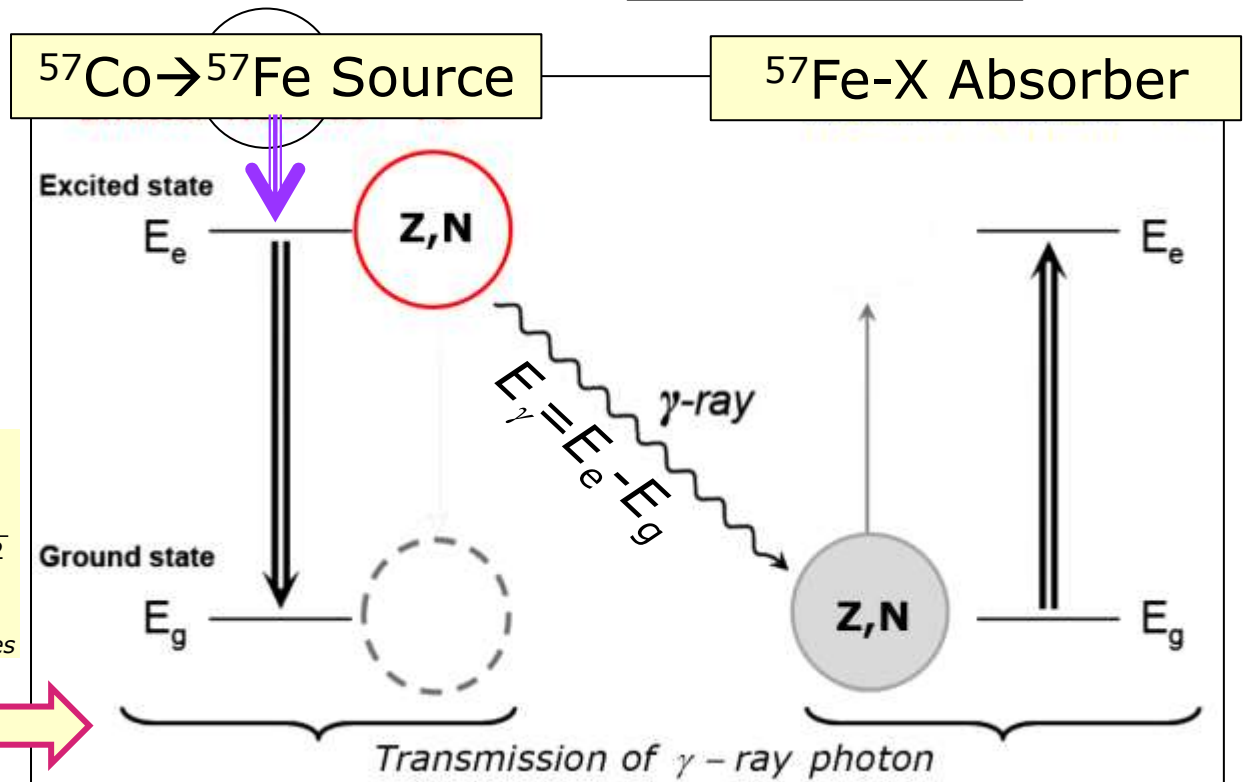
$$\mu_\nu(E_\gamma) = \mu_{res}(E_\gamma)$$

Breit - Wigner Resonance

$$\mu_{res}(E_\gamma) \propto \frac{(\Gamma_{res}/2)^2}{(\Gamma_{res}/2)^2 + (E_\gamma - E_{res})^2}$$

Resonance parameters  $E_{res}, \Gamma_{res}$

Here:  $E_{res} = E_e - E_g$   $\rightarrow$



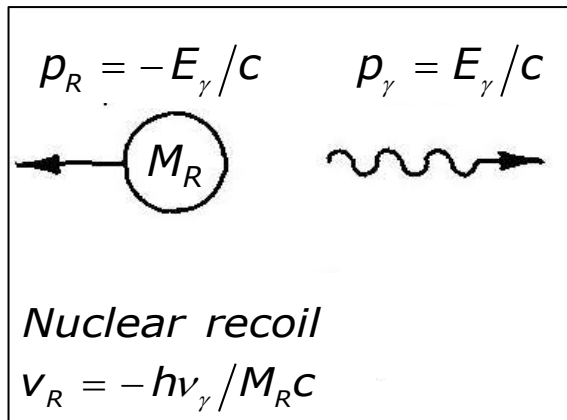
$\rightarrow$  Free nucleus:  $E_\gamma \neq E_e - E_g$  Recoil effects

# Spectroscopy Challenge: $\gamma$ Energy Shift due to Nuclear Recoil

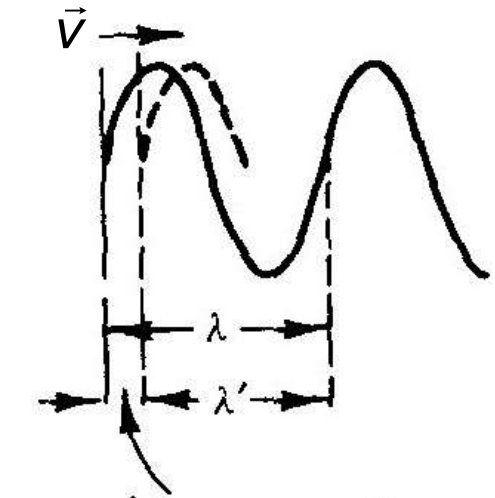
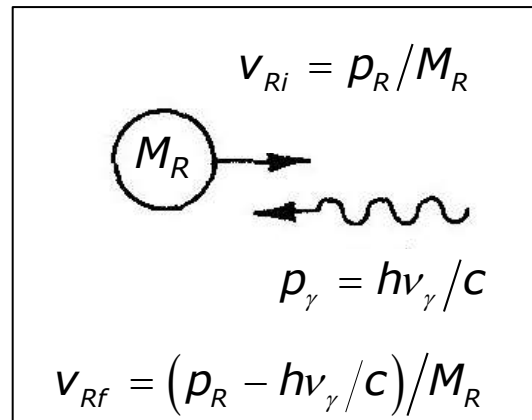
Emission and absorption of  $\gamma$ -rays by nuclei in motion (thermal lattice vibrations, recoil effects due to  $\gamma$  emission)  $\rightarrow$  **Doppler effect** both in emission and absorption.

$\rightarrow$   $\gamma$  emission or absorption energy is different from nominal transition energy!  $E_\gamma \neq E_i - E_f$   
**Nominal transition energy**  $h\nu_{if} = (E_i - E_f) = E_\gamma + E_R$  (photon and nuclear recoil)

## Recoil in $\gamma$ emission



## Recoil in $\gamma$ absorption



$$vt = v \frac{\lambda}{c}; \lambda' = \lambda \left(1 - \frac{v}{c}\right)$$

*Emitter velocity  $v$*   
 $\rightarrow \lambda$  red(blue) shift  
 for stationary observer

Typical recoil velocities  $v_R \sim (10^3 - 10^5) \text{ cm/s}$

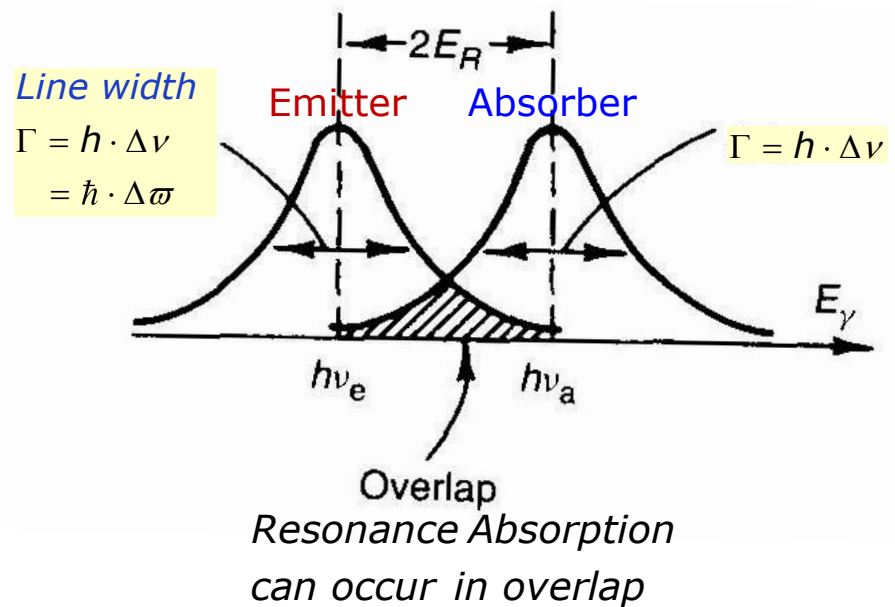
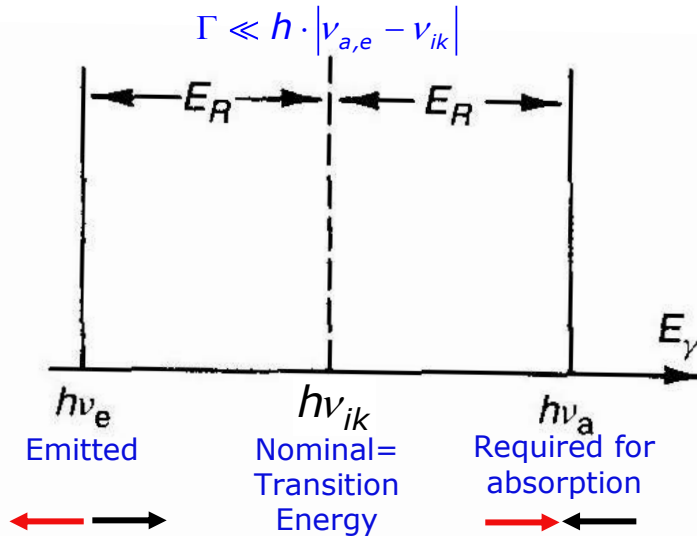
**Doppler Shift :  $E_\gamma(v) \approx h\nu_{ik} \cdot (1 \pm v/c)$**

$\rightarrow$   $\pm$  sign :  $v$  blue or red shift

# Resonant Emission/Absorption of $\gamma$ -Rays

Quantum Effect: System absorbs electromagnetic radiation strongly if  $\gamma$  energy  $h\nu_{ik}$  equals a system energy level difference:  $h\nu_{ik} = (E_i - E_k)$  For absorption, the lower level ( $i, k$ ) must be occupied, the other empty.

→ Use for scanning level scheme  $\{E_n\}$



Always present thermal motion: Large velocities of emitters and absorbers, broad line shapes destroy resonance requirement, → absorption patterns are washed out at large  $T$ .

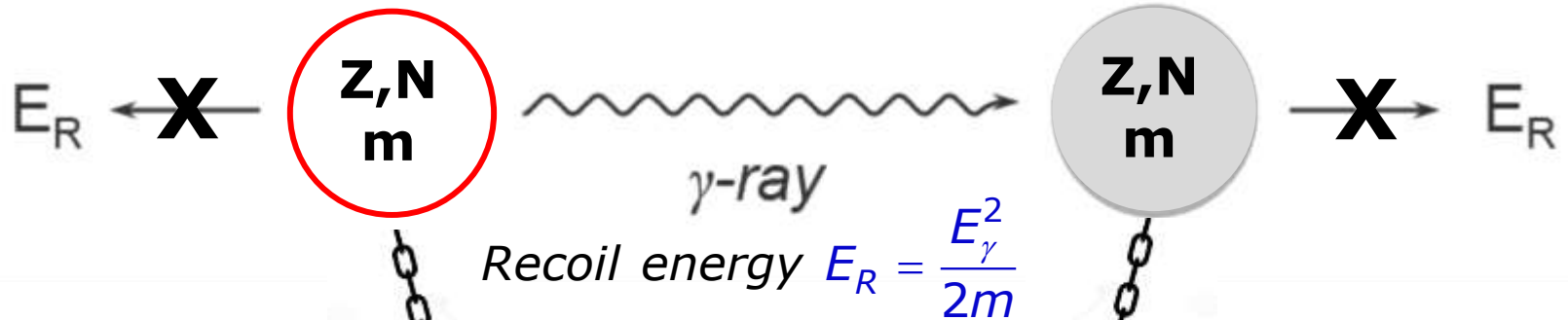
7 Moessbauer

# Recoilless Emission/Absorption

Momentum-energy transfer to nucleus (mass  $m$ ) changes effective  $\gamma$  energy  $\rightarrow$  Loss of resonance condition

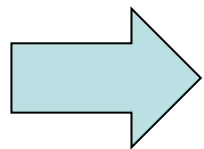
Emitter Nucleus  $^{57}\text{Fe}$

Receiver Nucleus  $^{57}\text{Fe}$



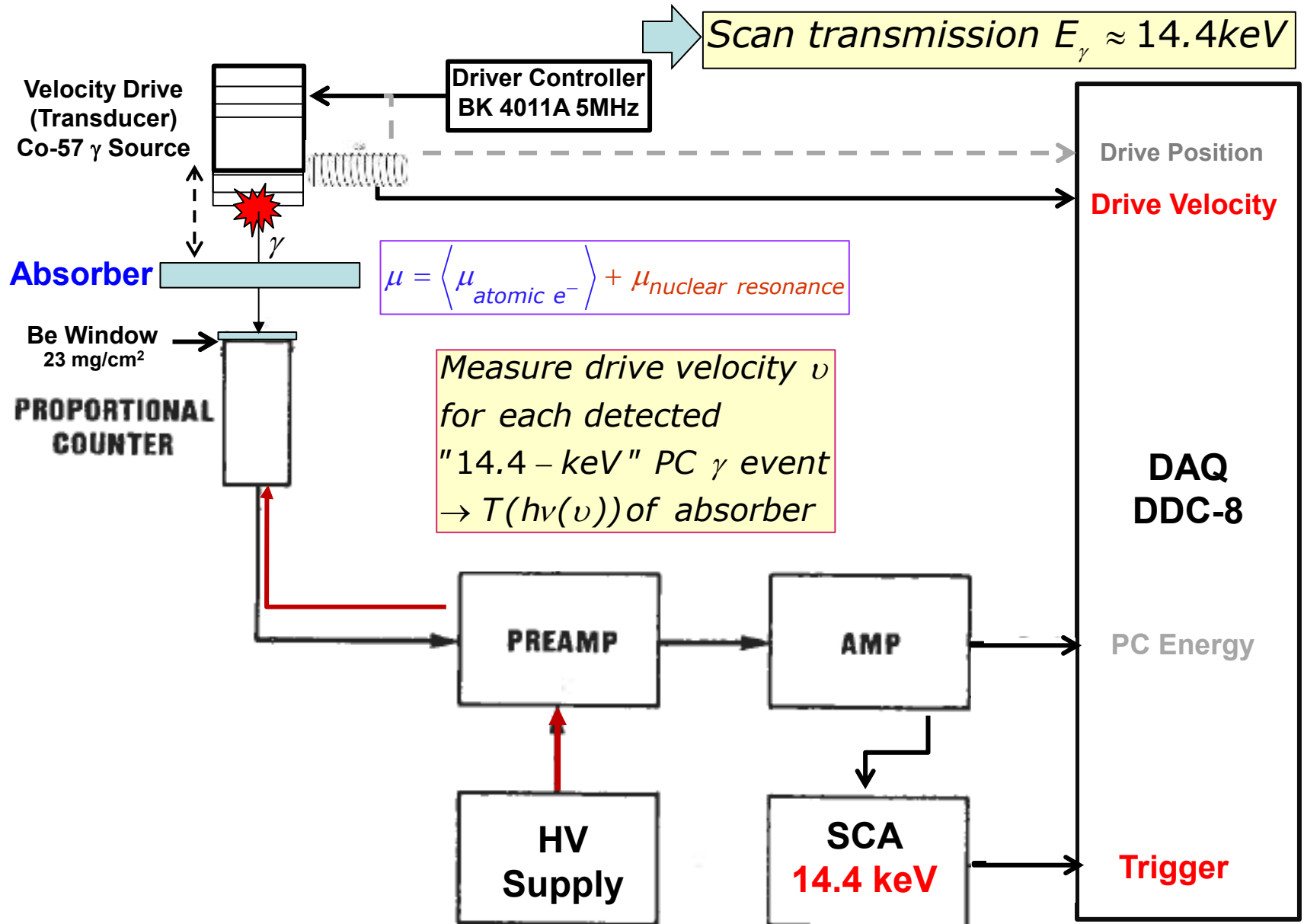
Anchored to macro crystal

Recoil energy  $E_R = \frac{E_\gamma^2}{2M} \approx 0$



Momentum-energy transfer to nucleus embedded in macro crystal lattice is negligible  $\rightarrow$  Resonance condition retained

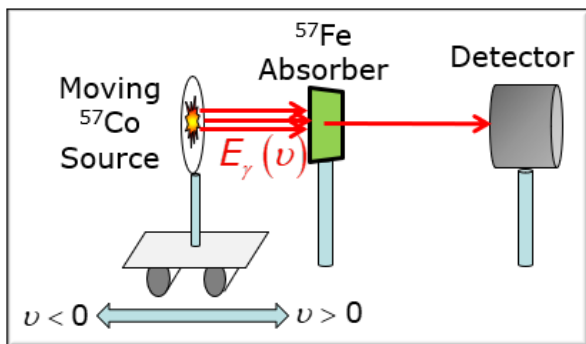
# Mössbauer Experiment DAQ Setup



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Moessbauer Spctr

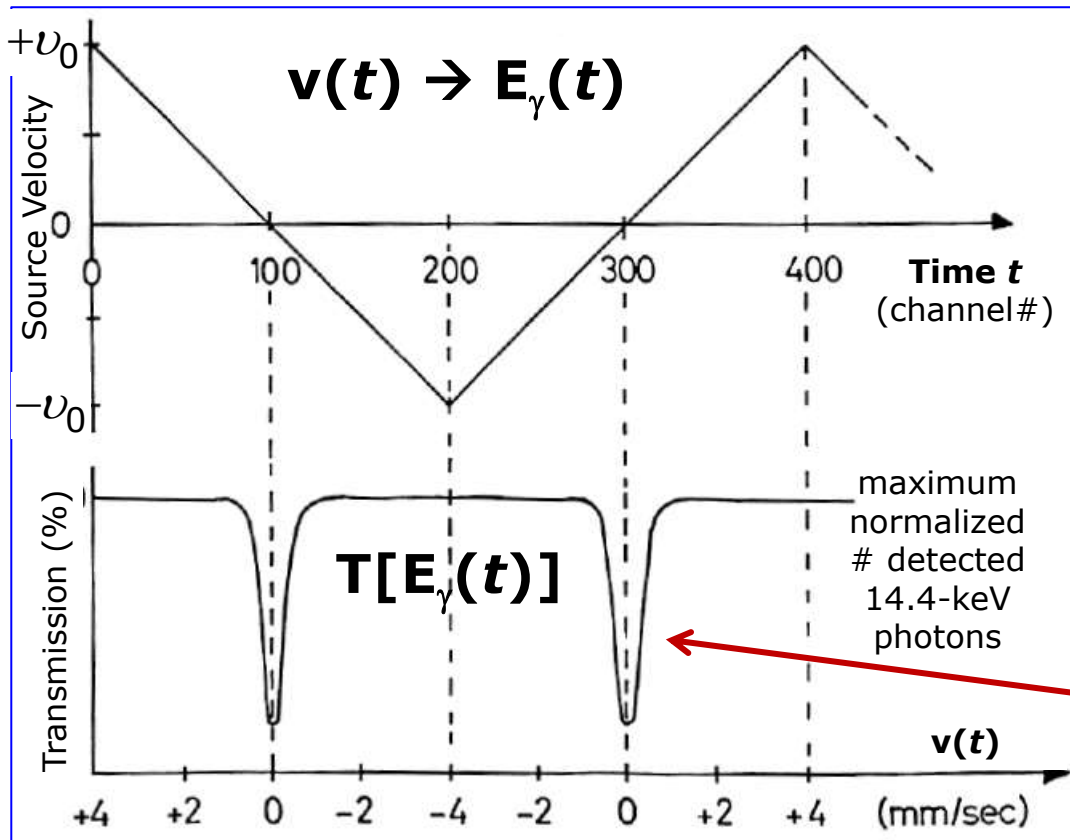
# Precision Absorption Spectroscopy



$$\text{Tunable } E_\gamma(v) = 14.4(1 \pm v/c) \text{ keV}$$

Lower transmission for  $E_\gamma(v) = E(\langle {}^{57}\text{Fe} \rangle)$

$\langle {}^{57}\text{Fe} \rangle = {}^{57}\text{Fe} \in \text{Absorber lattice}$



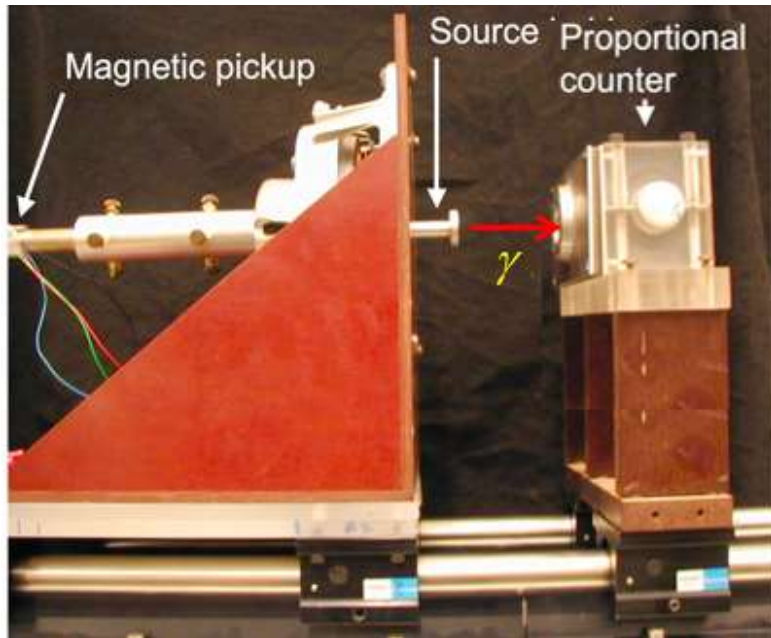
Example *linear velocity* drive:  
**Identical source & absorber**  
 Phases (crystal lattices) and  
 no external electric or  
 magnetic fields

$$v(t) = v_0 \cdot (t_0 \pm t); \quad t \in [nT, (n+1)T]$$

$$\rightarrow dN/dt \propto dN/dv$$

Minimum transmission =  
 Maximum (resonant)  
 no - field *absorption* at  
 $E(\langle {}^{57}\text{Fe} \rangle) = E_\gamma(v=0)$

# ANSEL Mössbauer Drive/Setup

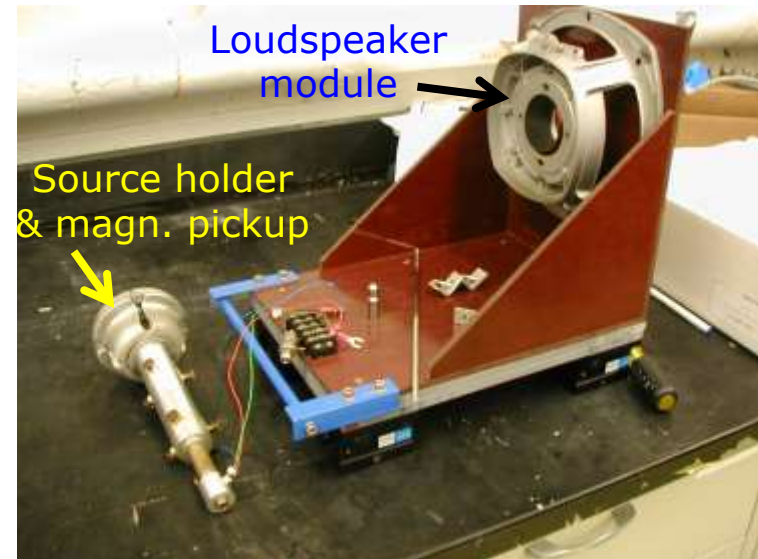


ANSEL drive has non-linear, sinus-type velocity profile defined by function generator controlling electro-magnet

$$v(t) = v_0 \sin(2\pi t/T) \rightarrow dN/dt \propto dN/dv$$

*Velocity signal 1mm/s  $\hat{=}$  16mV*

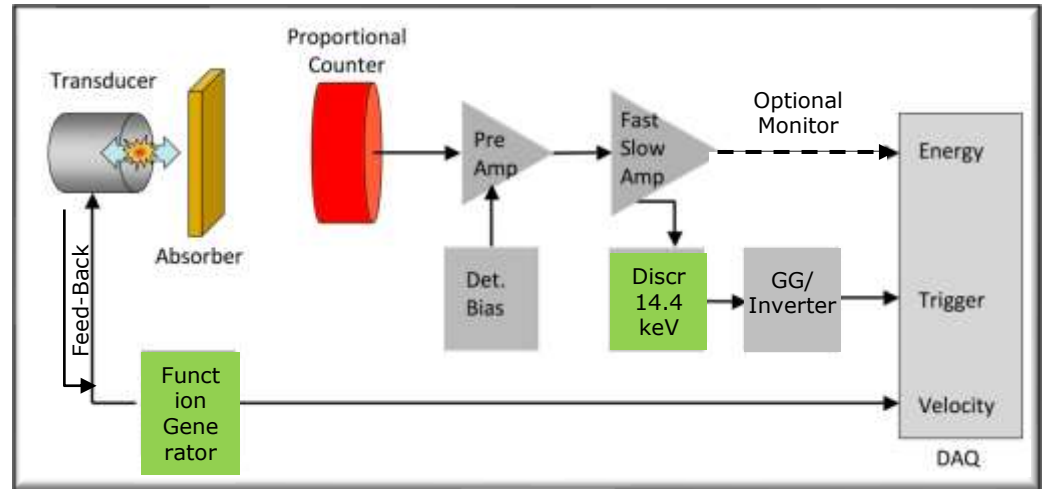
Drive velocity profile is highly stable and precise. Auto-correction via electronic feedback to function generator from magnetic induction pickup.



# ANSEL Mössbauer Experiment

Ultra-sensitive, **scanning  $\gamma$  absorption spectroscopy**  $\rightarrow$  measuring precisely energy levels of nuclei in the fields of atomic electrons/lattice.

Scanning of Doppler-shifted  $\gamma$ -ray absorption energies using a moving  $^{57}\text{Co} \rightarrow ^{57}\text{Fe}$  14.4-keV  $\gamma$  source.  
 $^{57}\text{Fe}$ -XX absorbers = samples studied.

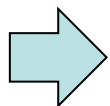


*Precision (resolving power) of audio drives*

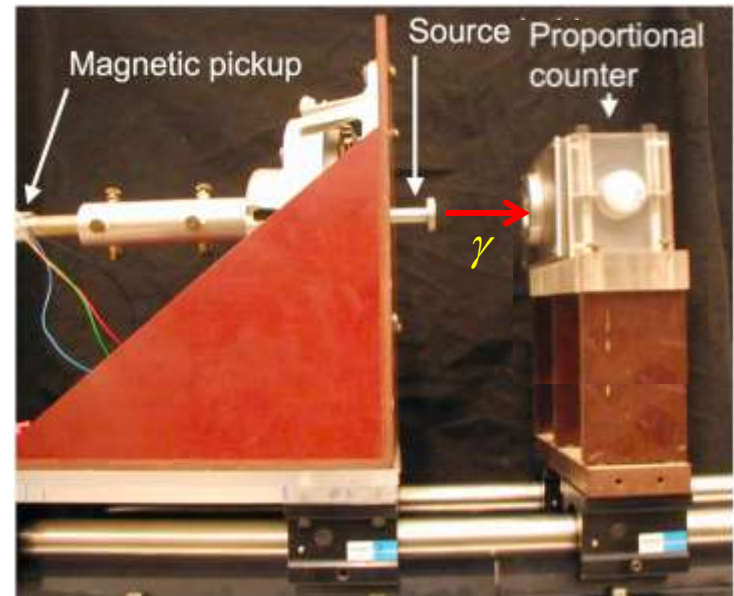
$$\frac{\Delta E_\gamma(v)}{E_\gamma} = \frac{\Delta v}{c} \sim \frac{\text{mm}}{\text{s}} \cdot \left(3 \cdot 10^8 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}\right)^{-1} \sim 10^{-12}$$

## Accessible effects:

- **Isomer shift** (el. monopole interaction)
- **Quadrupole splitting** (el. dipole interaction)
- **Magnetic hyper-fine splitting** (magnetic dipole interaction)



**Nuclear diagnostic instrument**



# Suitable X Ray Calibration Sources

$^{133}\text{Ba}$ atomic X rays		Energy keV	Photons per 100 disint.	
XL	(Cs)	3,8 — 5,7	16,0 (8)	
XK $\alpha_2$	(Cs)	30,625	34,0 (4)	} K $\alpha$
XK $\alpha_1$	(Cs)	30,973	62,8 (7)	
XK $\beta_3$	(Cs)	34,92	} 18,2 (2)	} K' $\beta_1$
XK $\beta_1$	(Cs)	34,987		
XK $\beta_5''$	(Cs)	35,245	}	
XK $\beta_5'$	(Cs)	35,259		

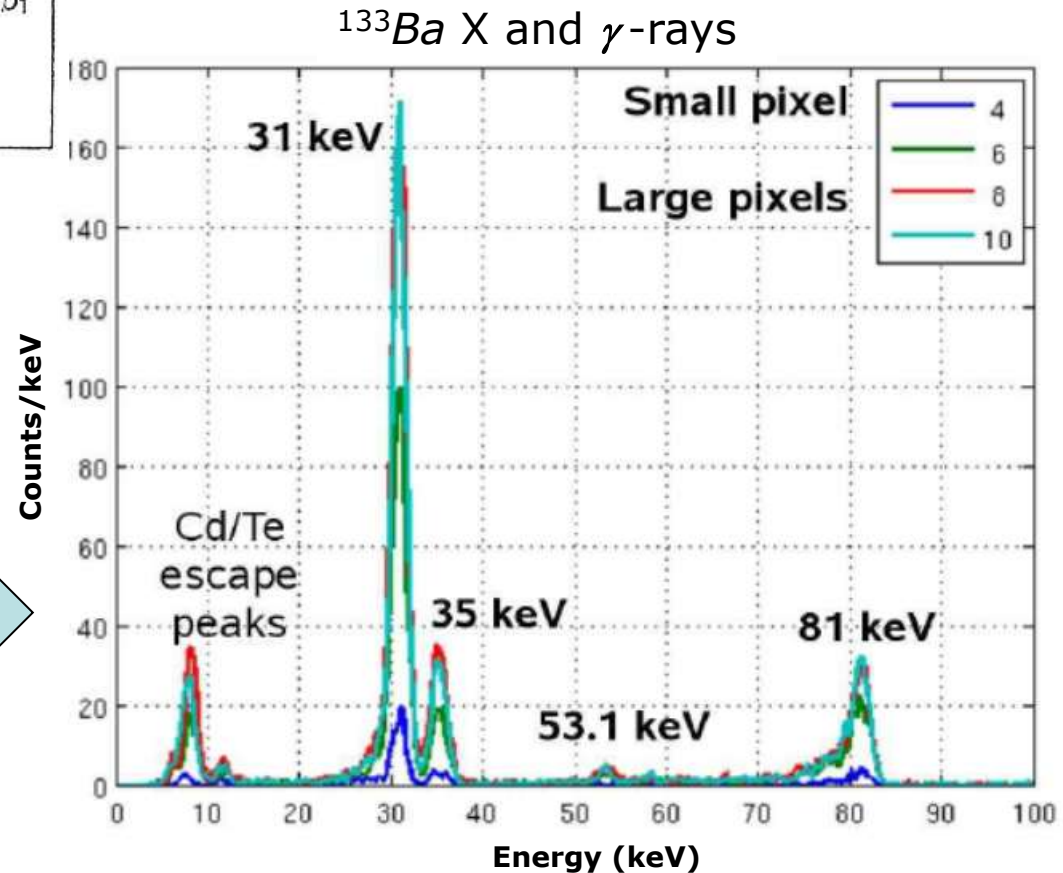
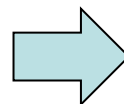
Calibration needed in the *l.e.* range  
 $0 \text{ keV} \leq E_\gamma < 100 \text{ keV} \rightarrow \text{X rays}$

E.g. use  $^{133}\text{Ba}$ ,  $^{109}\text{Cd}$ ,  $^{241}\text{Am}$ , K $\alpha$  and K $\beta$  X ray energies/intensities

Find  $^{60}\text{Co}$   $\gamma$ , X – rays a on data sneets (Internet)

Barium-133 photon spectrum, low-energy region, obtained with a solid-state detector

(patterned CdTe crystal, used on ESA Solar Orbiter). O. Grimm et al. J. Instr. 7. C12015. 10.1088/1748-0221/7/12/C12015.



# Intro to MB Principles/ANSEL Setup/Tasks

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## Experimental and analytical tasks

- Set up electronics for PC
  - Calibrate PC for very low  $\gamma$  energies (absorber method)
  - Identify characteristic spectral features of PC
- 
- Adjust transducer frequency to mechanical drive resonance
  - Measure transducer velocity (interpret spectral features, absorber method)
- 
- **Goals/Theory:** Hyperfine interactions  $\rightarrow$  Lifting of level degeneracy through interaction with external fields
  - Functionality of ANSEL setup for scanning absorption spectroscopy
  - Explain/interpret shape and specific **features of velocity spectra**:
    - 1) no absorbers or **non-resonant** ("background") absorption,
    - 2) **resonant absorption** for specific Fe compound absorbers,
    - 3) method of background correction.
  - Deduce isomer shift, electric quadrupole and magnetic HF interaction energies and related nuclear electric/magnetic moments for given chemical Fe environments.