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## New thermal neutron source at LNL

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In the framework of MUNES project, a new neutron source was developed at the CN electrostatic accelerator of Legnaro National Laboratories.

Neutrons are produced thruogh Be(p,n) reaction using a thin foil beryllium target brazed on a copper base. A 5 MeV, 3 microA proton beam is focalized onto the target so as to reach a 500  $W/cm^2$  power density on beryllium, the same as MUNES high intensity accelerator.

A heavy water-graphite moderator is used for neutrons thermalization.

Preliminary results show that a  $1.210^6 \, \text{s}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-2}$  neutron density can be generated at the extraction window with a uniformity better than 1% over a 25 cm diameter circular area.

Neutron spectrum is more than 90% thermal with a very low gamma contamination.

## If a proceedings is prepared, <br > </br > will you submit a contribution?

Yes

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