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DIPARTIMENTO DI MATEMATICA E FISICA



# "A proton irradiation facility for radiobiological studies at CIRCE laboratory"

*Neptune Kick-off meeting*

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14 December 2018 - Catania



# CIRCE

## Center for Isotopic Research on Cultural and Environmental heritage





# CIRCE

## Center for Isotopic Research on Cultural and Environmental heritage



- Tandem Accelerator Laboratory
- IRMS & ICP - MS
- $^{14}\text{C}$  sample preparation Laboratory
- Chemical preparation Laboratory
- Environmental radioprotection
- Laser spectroscopy

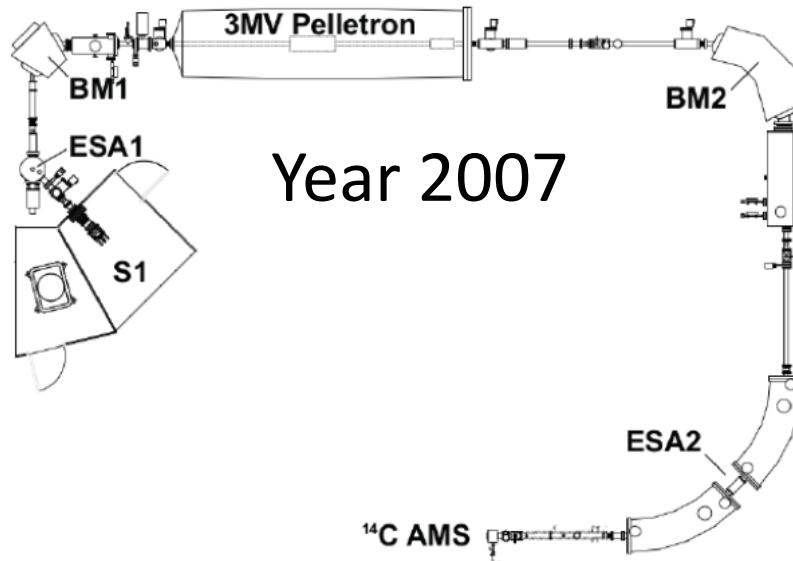


# TAL - Tandem Accelerator Laboratory





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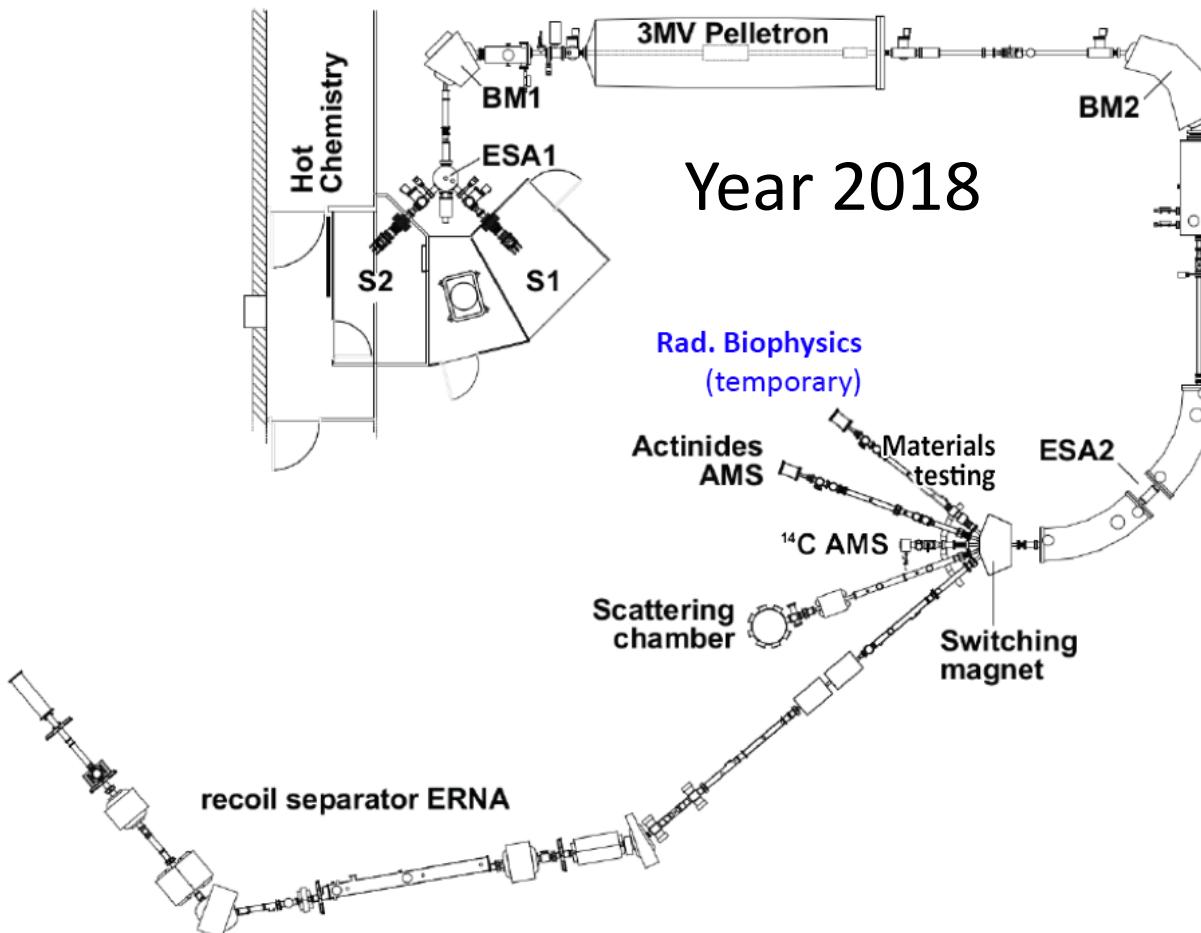
Year 2007

Ongoing research programs:

- $^{14}\text{C}$  AMS



# TAL - Tandem Accelerator Laboratory

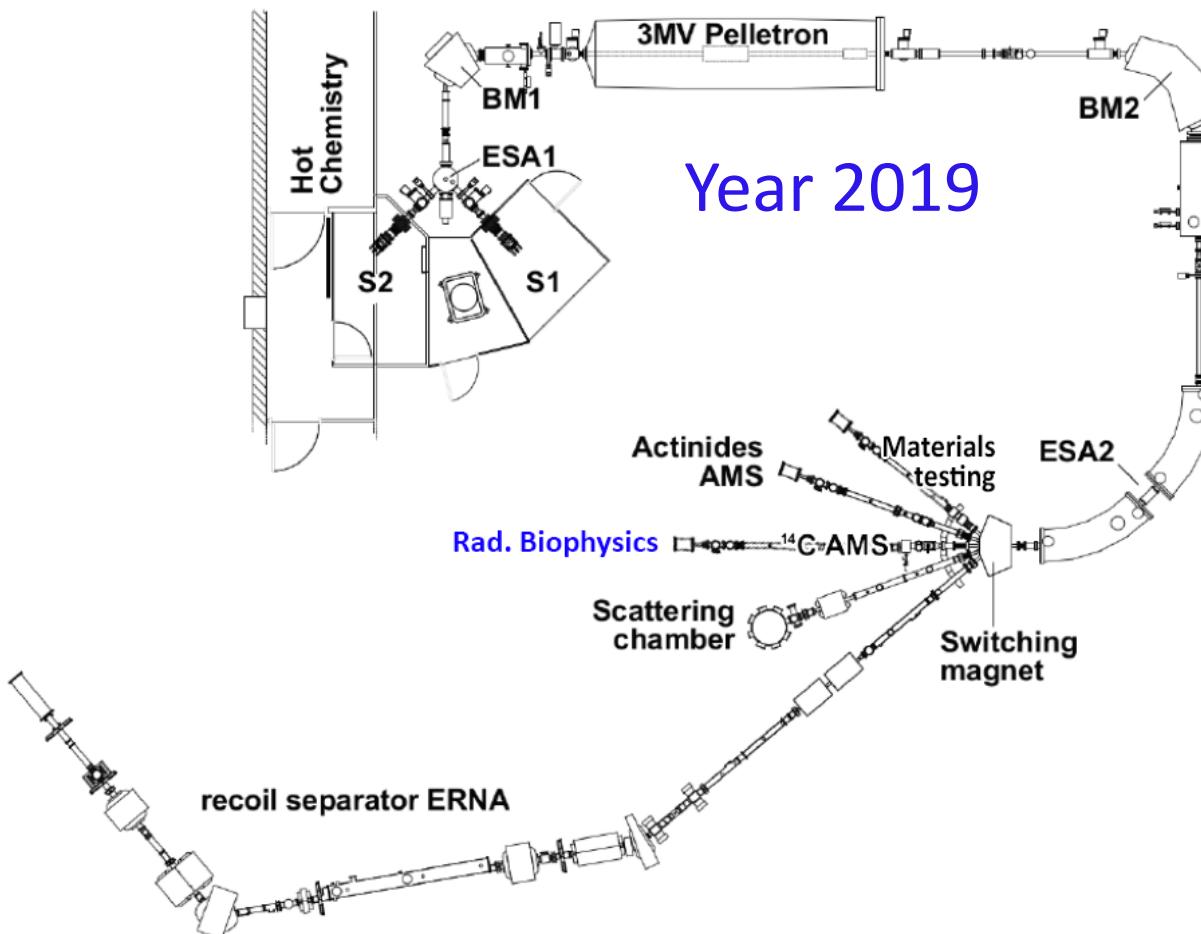


## Ongoing research programs:

- $^{14}\text{C}$  AMS
- Nuclear Astrophysics
- Actinides AMS
- Material Science
- $^7\text{Be}$  Implantation
- Radiation Biophysics



# TAL - Tandem Accelerator Laboratory



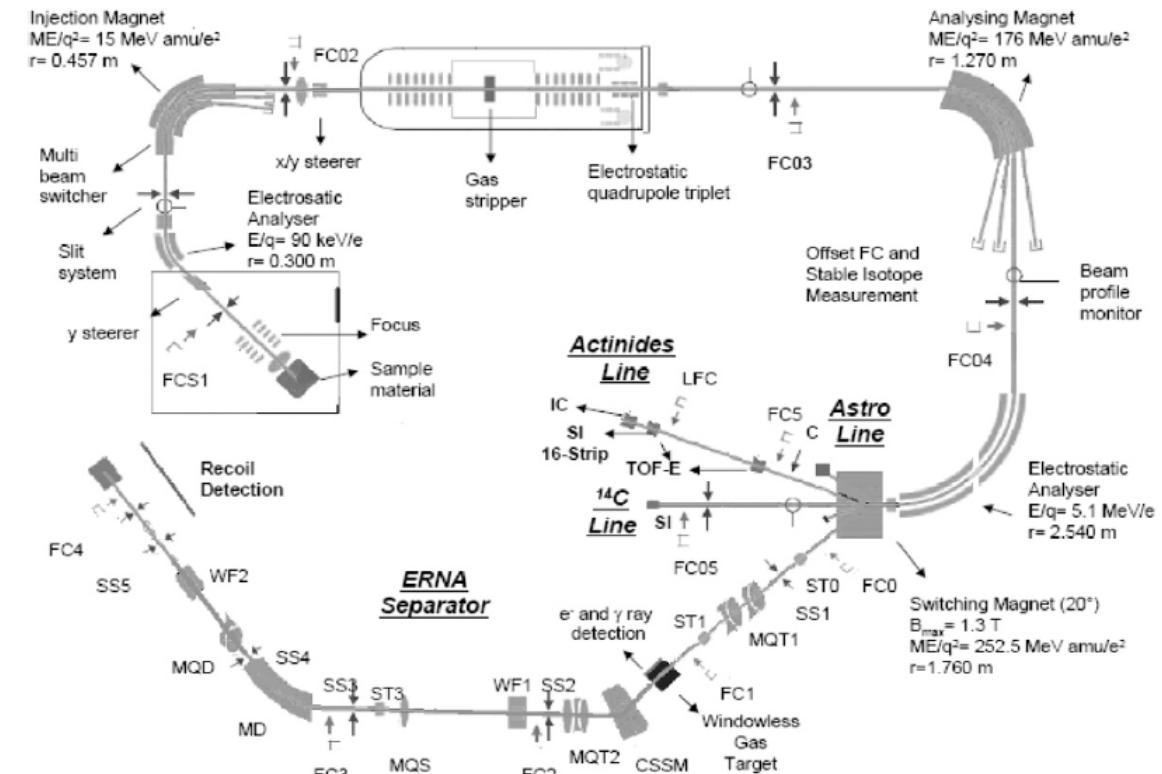
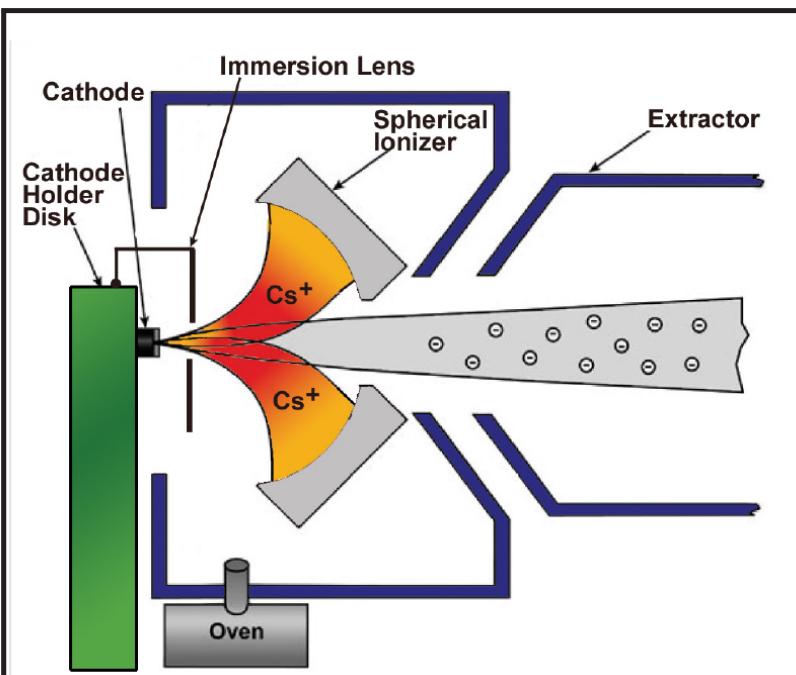
Ongoing research programs:

- <sup>14</sup>C AMS
- Nuclear Astrophysics
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- Material Science
- Radiation Biophysics

# TAL - Tandem Accelerator Laboratory

## ION SOURCE:

- MC-SNICS : Multi Cathode Source of Negative Ions by Cesium Sputtering
- H<sub>2</sub>Ti cathod for proton beam





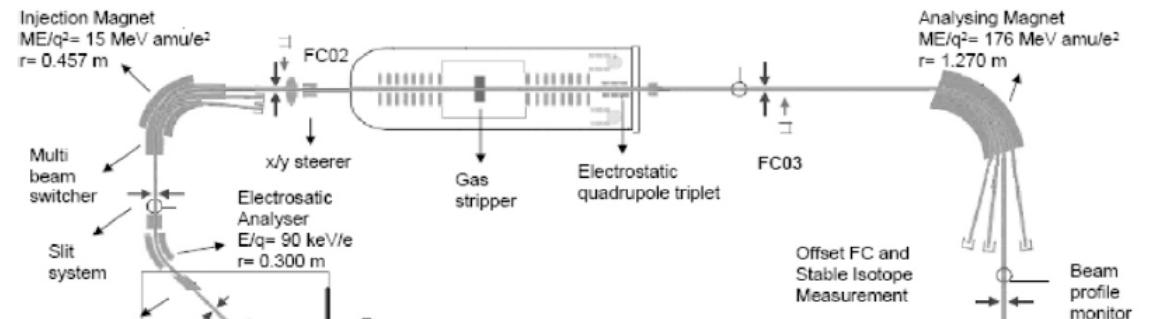
# TAL - Tandem Accelerator Laboratory

## ION SOURCE:

- MC-SNICS : Multi Cathode Source of Negative Ions by Cesium Sputtering
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## TANDEM ACCELERATOR

- NEC 9SDH-2 Pelletron Accelerator
- $V_{t\ max} = 3MV$    Typical ripple < 1 kV ptp
- GVM feedback stabilizer -> Corona (2019)
- Ar stripper ( $P = 1.3 \times 10^{-2}$  mbar)



# TAL - Tandem Accelerator Laboratory

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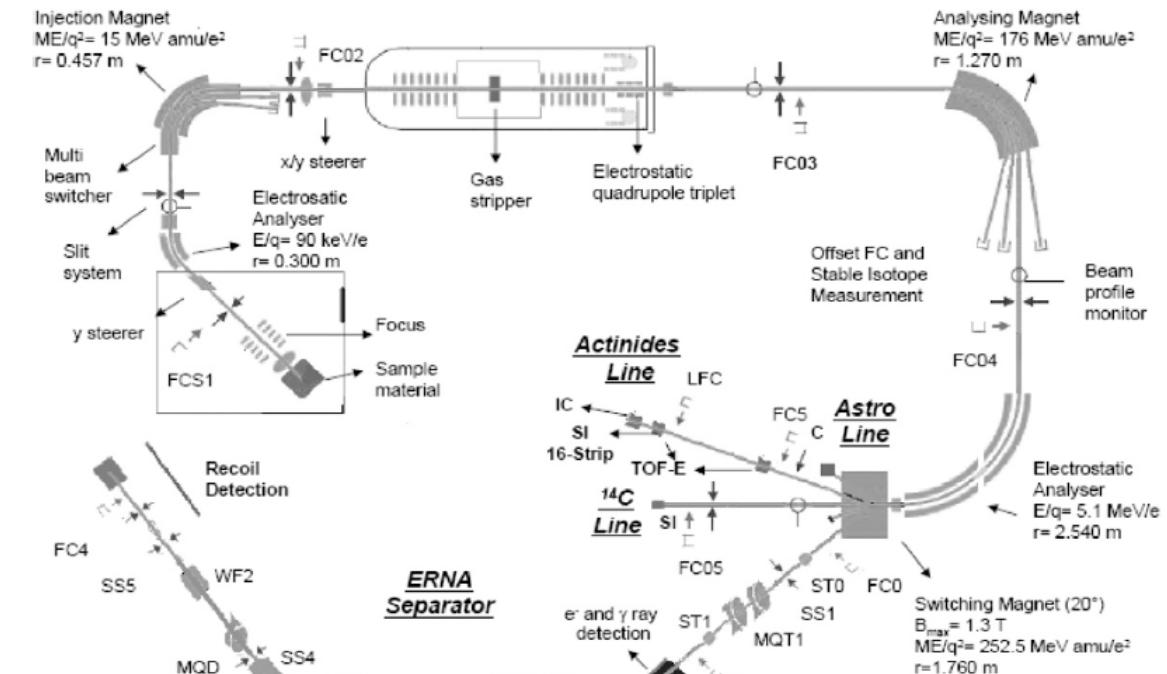
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## TANDEM ACCELERATOR

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$$V_{t\ max} = 3MV \quad \text{Typical ripple} < 1\text{ kV ptp}$$

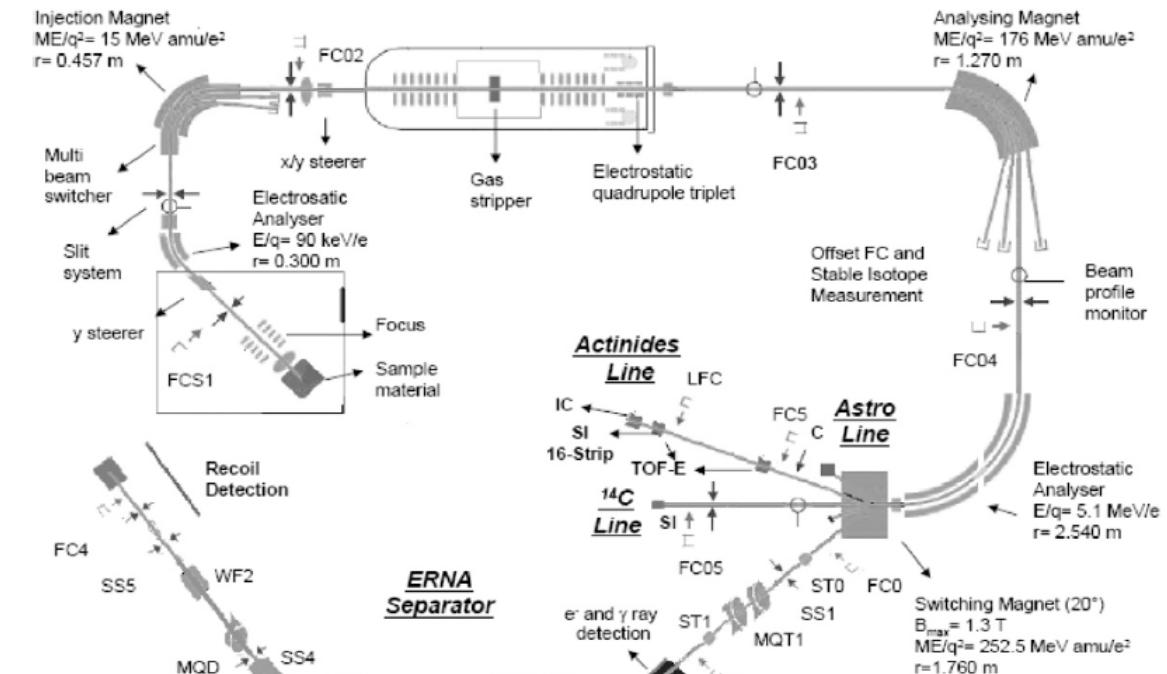
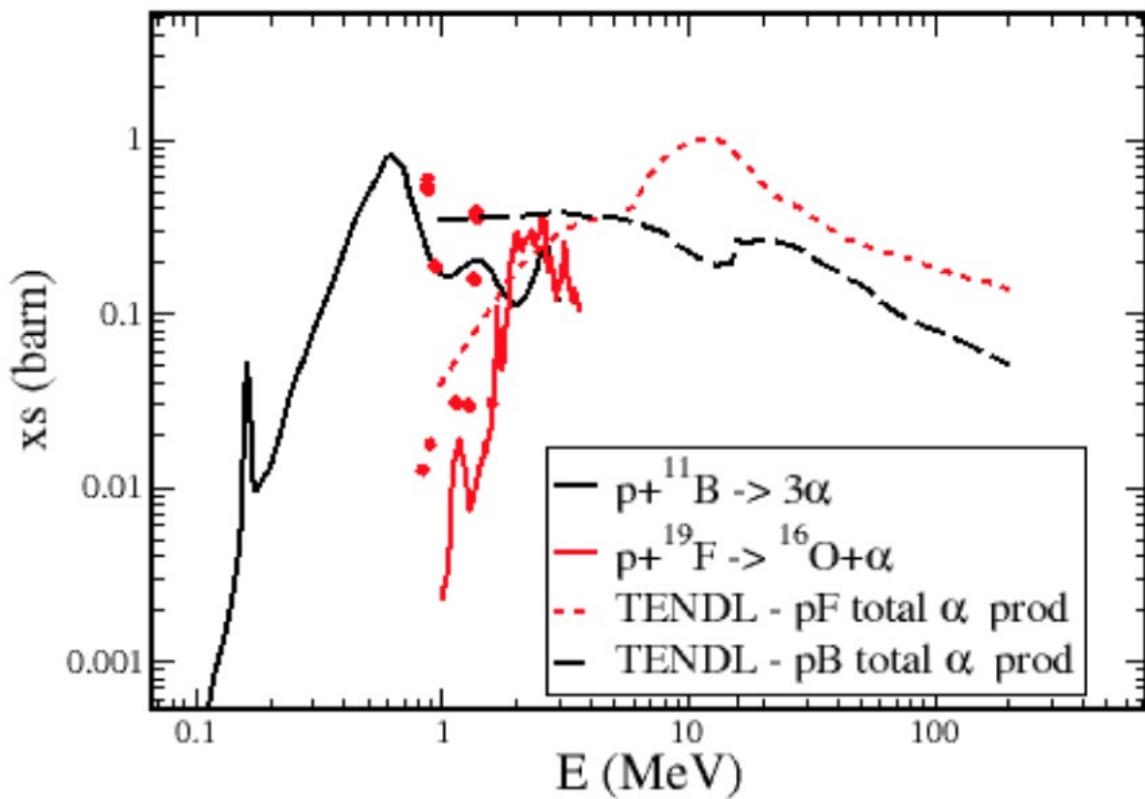
- GVM feedback stabilizer -> Corona (2019)
- Ar stripper ( $P \approx 1.3 \times 10^{-2}$  mbar)



## PROTON BEAM

- $E = eV_t(q + 1)$        $E_{max} = 6\text{ MeV}$  for protons
- $I_{range} = [1\text{ pA} - 10\text{ nA}]$

# TAL - Tandem Accelerator Laboratory

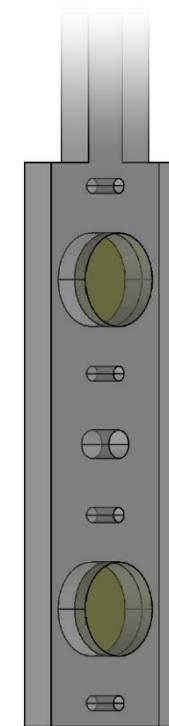
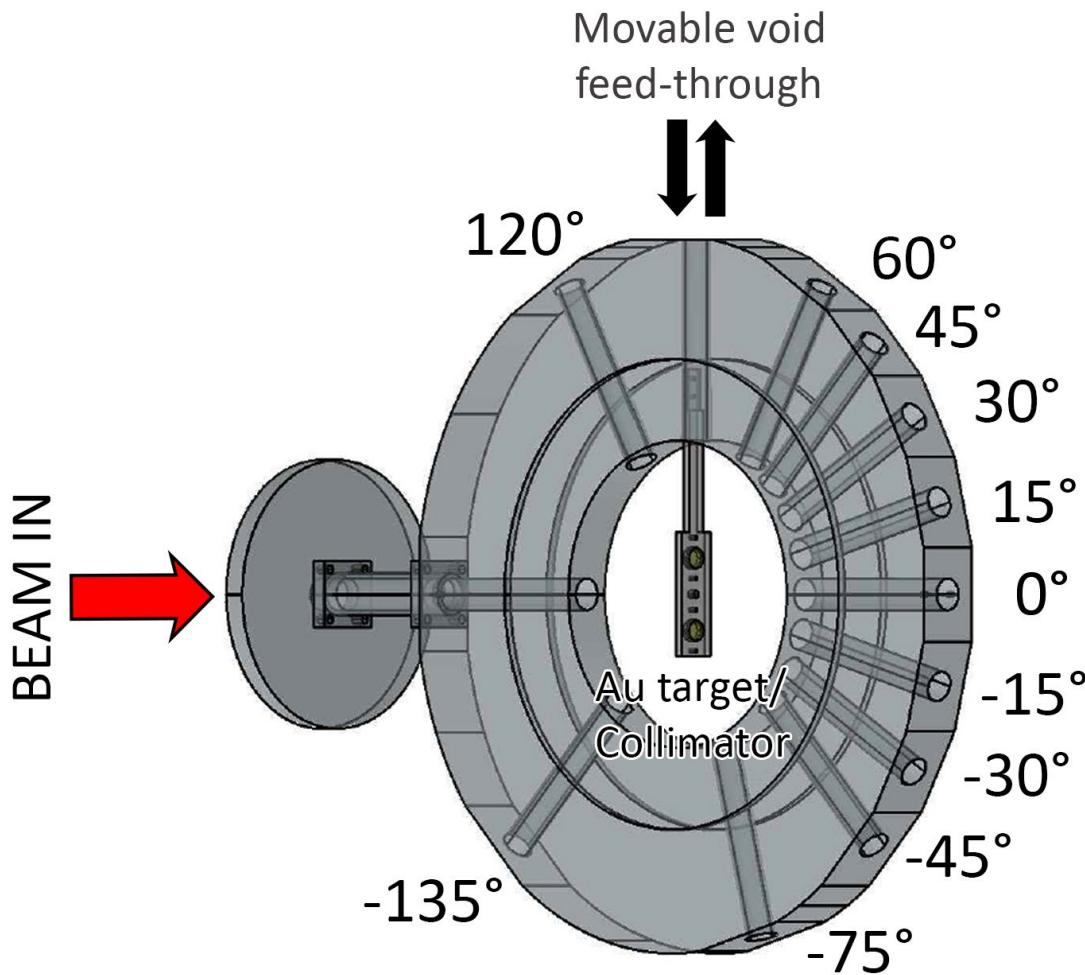


## PROTON BEAM

- $E = eV_t(q + 1)$        $E_{max} = 6 \text{ MeV}$  for protons
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# Radiation Biophysics BeamLine - Scattering chamber



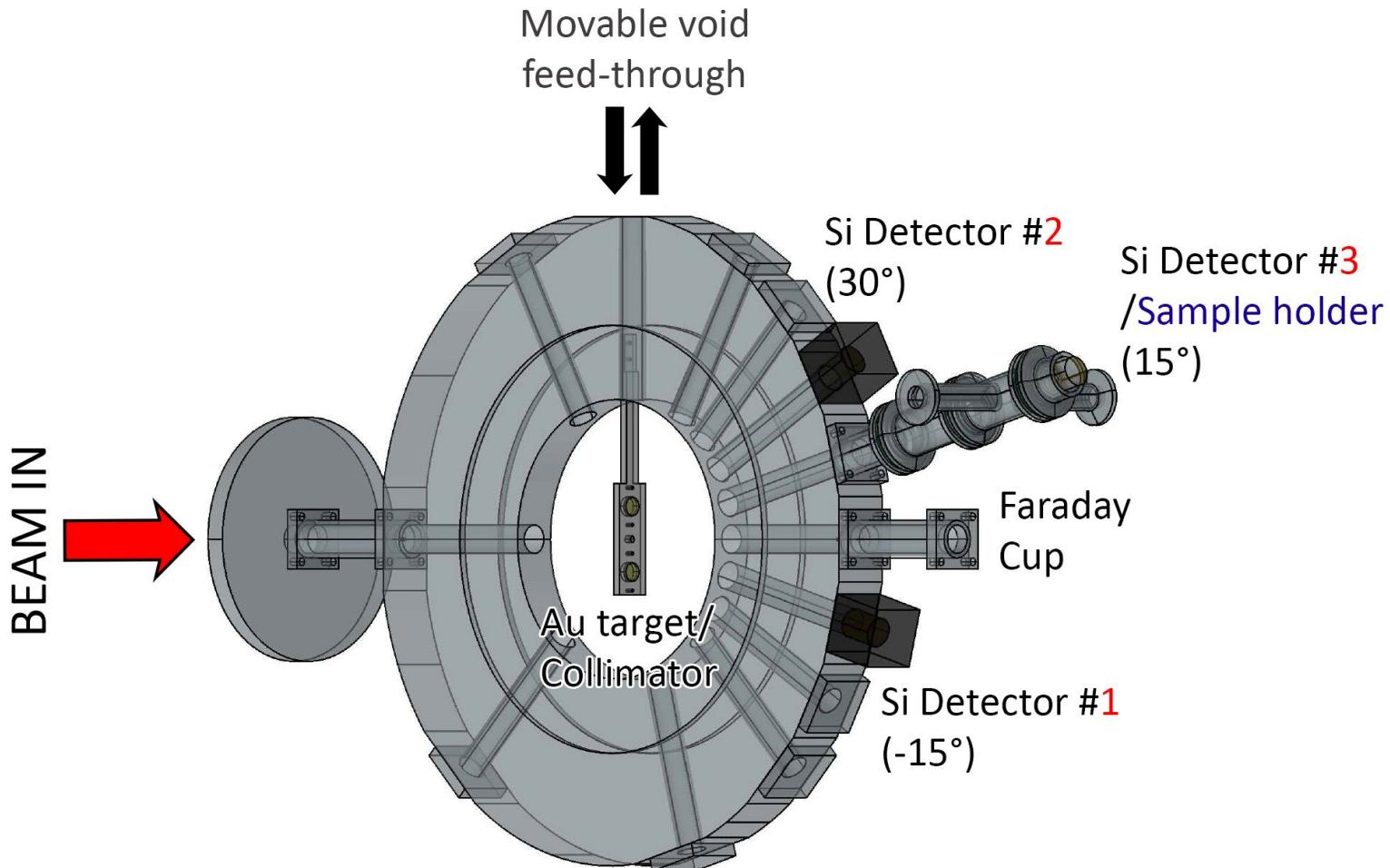
TARGET HOLDER

Collimator  
Diameter = 3.0 mm

2x Au Target  
Diameter = 10.0 mm  
Thickness = 1  $\mu\text{m}$

Connected to a  
current digitizer for  
beam focusing and  
control

# Radiation Biophysics BeamLine - Scattering chamber



## DETECTOR POSITIONS

Si #1

$\theta = -15^\circ$  ; dist =  $173,5 \pm 0,1$  mm

Si #2

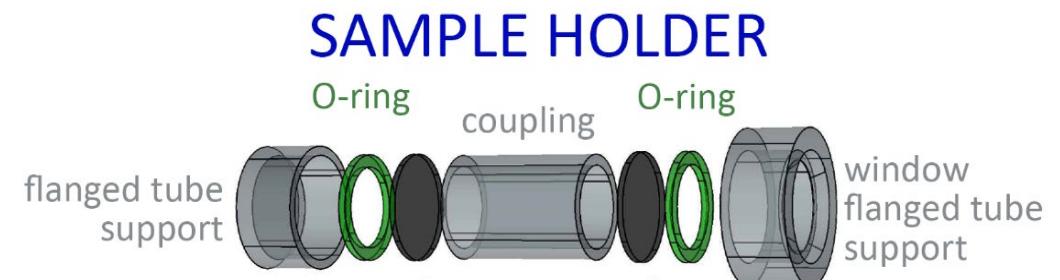
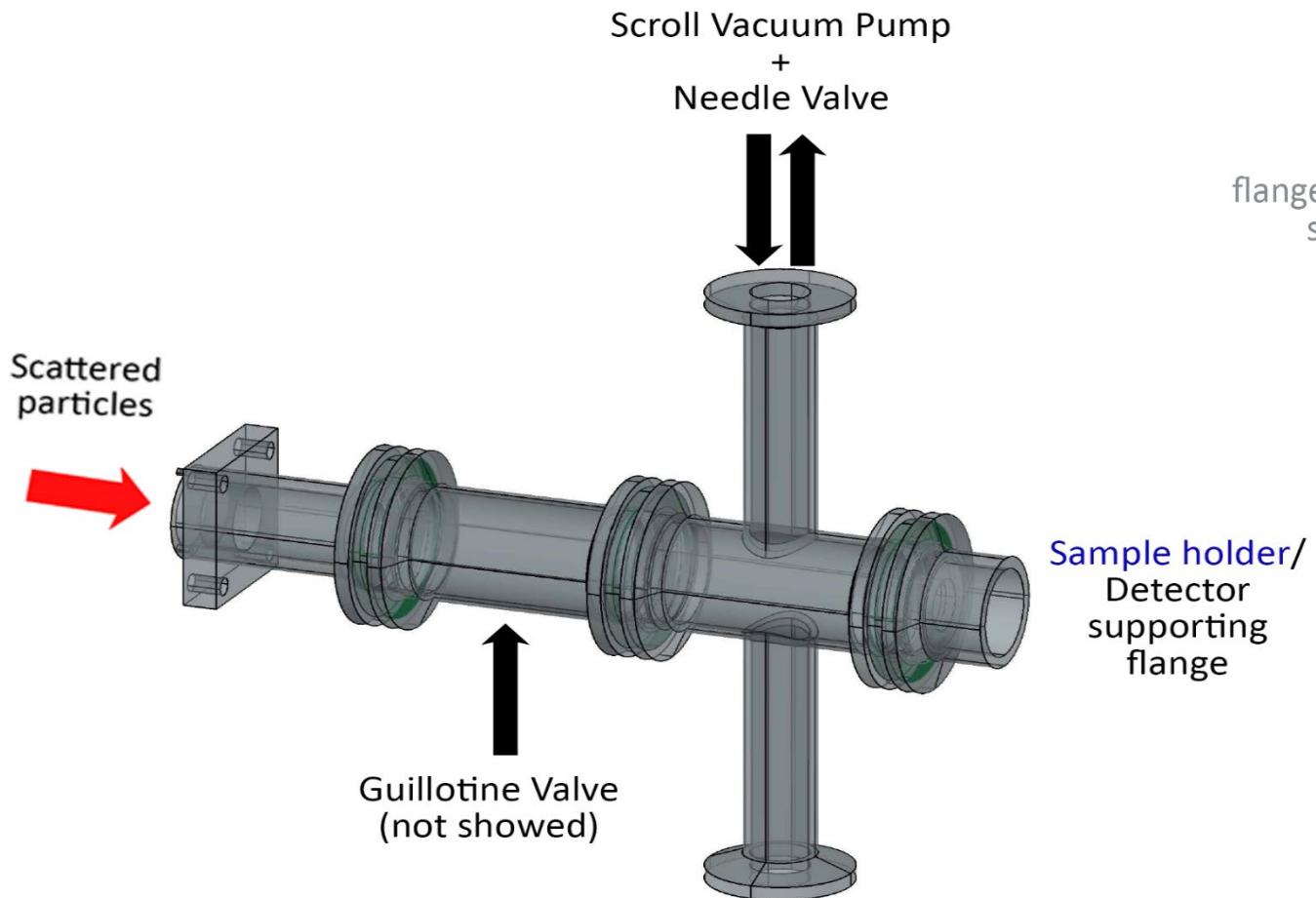
$\theta = 30^\circ$  ; dist =  $173,5 \pm 0,1$  mm

Si #3 - Cell Sample position

$\theta = 15^\circ$  ; dist =  $329,4 \pm 0,1$  mm



# Radiation Biophysics BeamLine - Scattering chamber





# Radiation Biophysics BeamLine – Beam monitoring / Dosimetry

## Silicon detectors

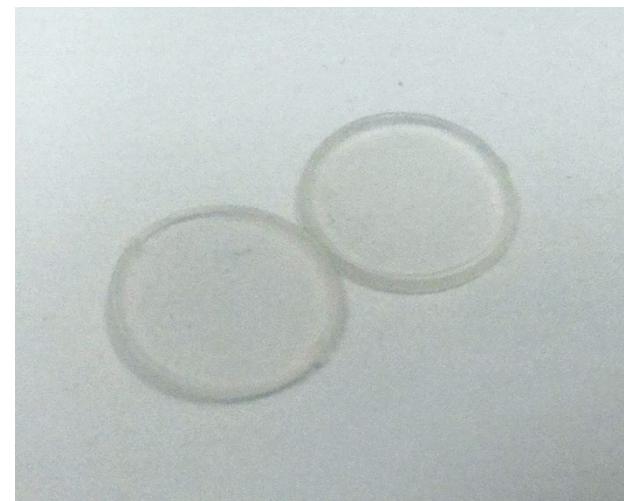


Thickness = 300 µm

A = 154 mm<sup>2</sup>

Resolution ≈ 25 keV

## CR39 Solid State Track Detectors



Plastic polymer  
(C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>7</sub>)  
A = 100 mm<sup>2</sup>  
Beam **fluence** and  
**uniformity** measurements

Charged particle leave a  
track visible  
after **etching** process

$$D [Gy] = 1.6 \times 10^{-9} \cdot LET \left[ \frac{keV}{\mu m} \right] \cdot Fluence [cm^{-2}]$$

LET values are derived from software SRIM

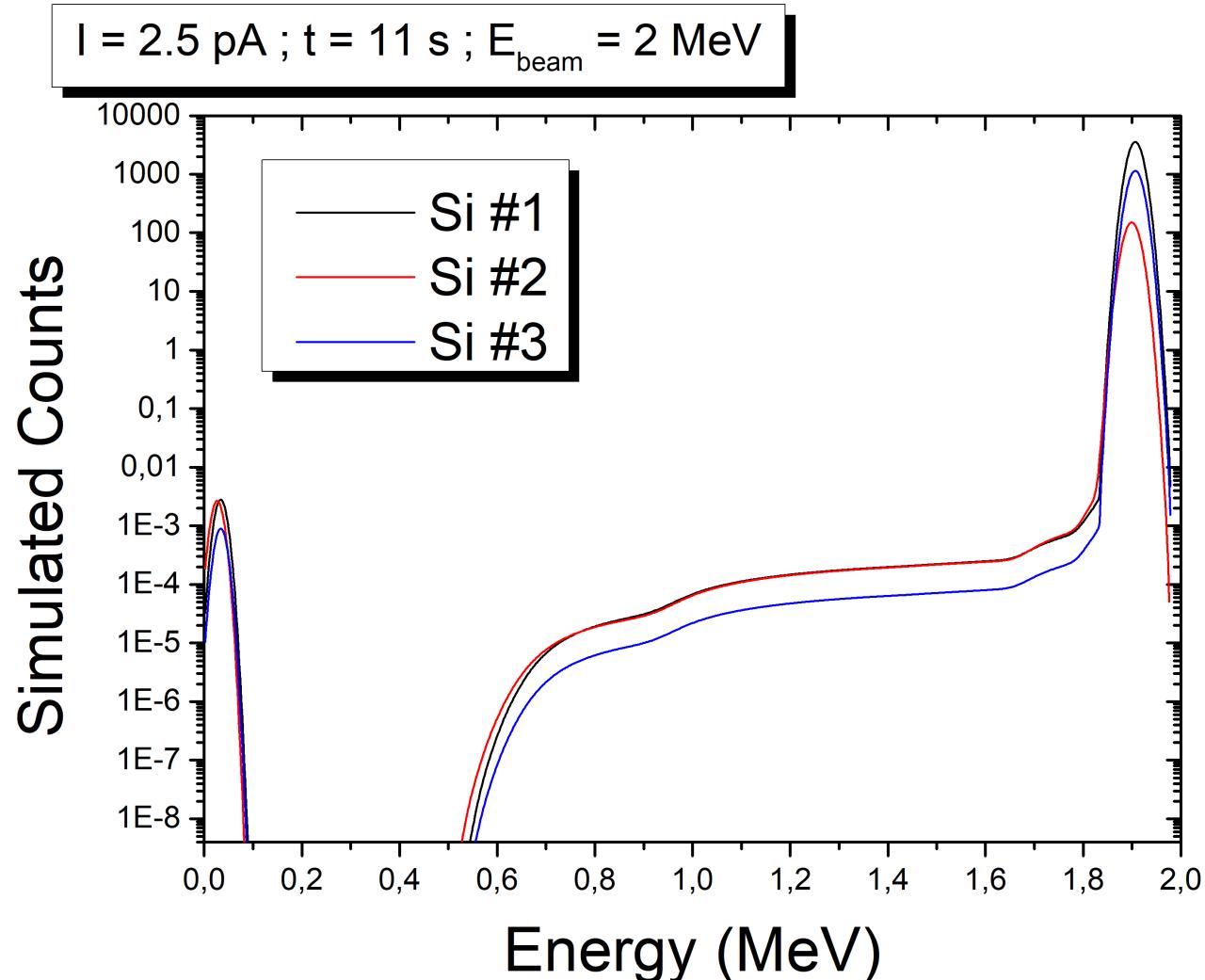
# Simulations and Preliminary results

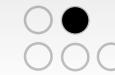
| #Si         | $\theta$ (°) | $\sigma_{\text{diff}}$ (barn) | $\epsilon_g$                  | $E_{\text{peak}}$ (MeV) | Counts              |
|-------------|--------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 1           | -15          | $6,98 \cdot 10^3$             | $(7.3 \pm 0.9) \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 1,906                   | $62704,9 \pm 0,9$   |
| 2           | 30           | $4,52 \cdot 10^2$             | $(4.9 \pm 0.6) \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 1,899                   | $2807,6 \pm 0,3$    |
| 3 (Cellule) | 15           | $6,98 \cdot 10^3$             | $(2.3 \pm 0.3) \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 1,906                   | $20204,93 \pm 0,12$ |

$\epsilon_g$  = Calculated with  $^{239}\text{Pu}/^{241}\text{Am}$   $\alpha$  source

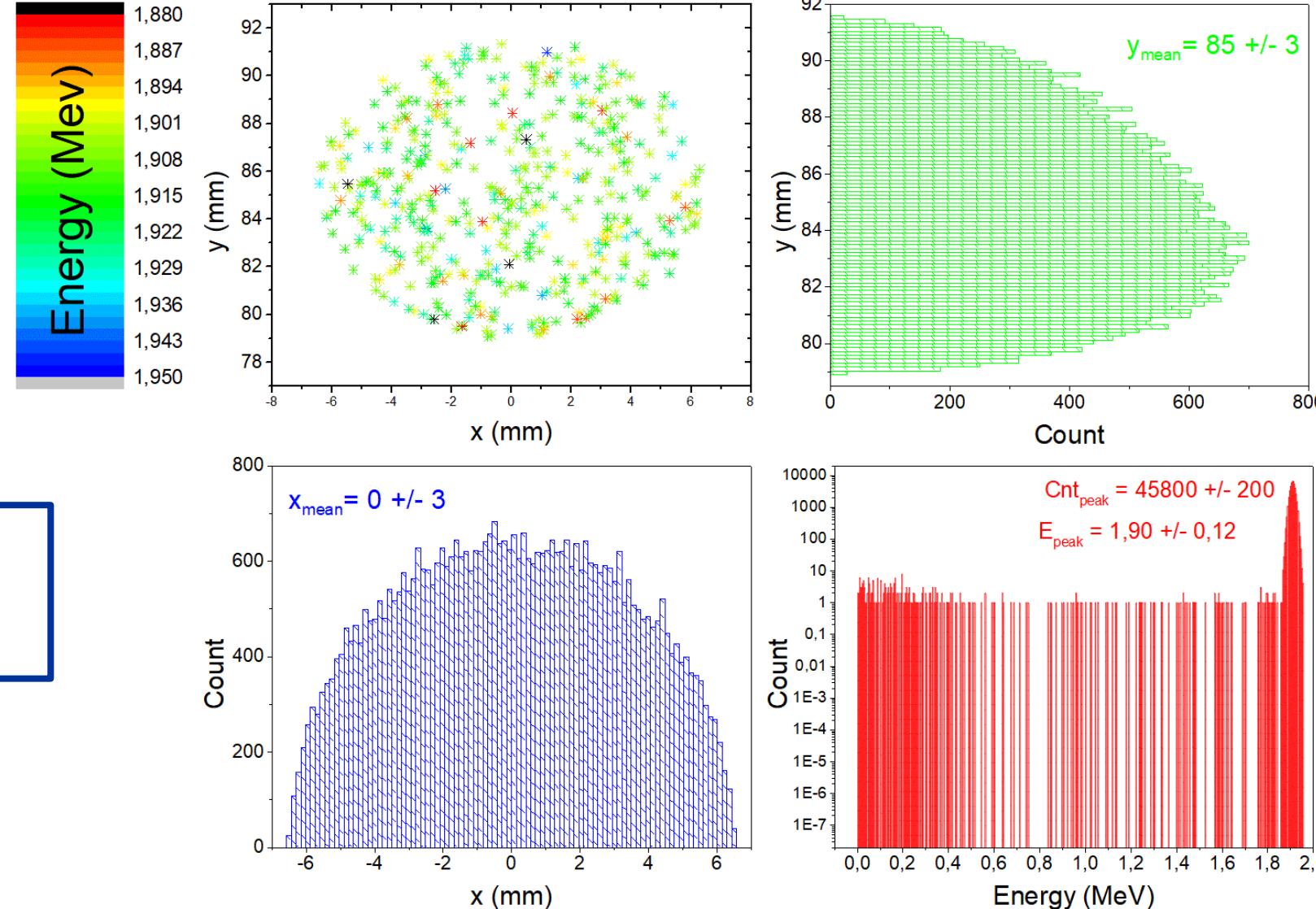
From simulations

$$\frac{\text{Counts}_{\text{Si}\#3}}{\text{Counts}_{\text{Si}\#1}} = 0,3222 \pm 0,0002$$





# Simulations and Preliminary results



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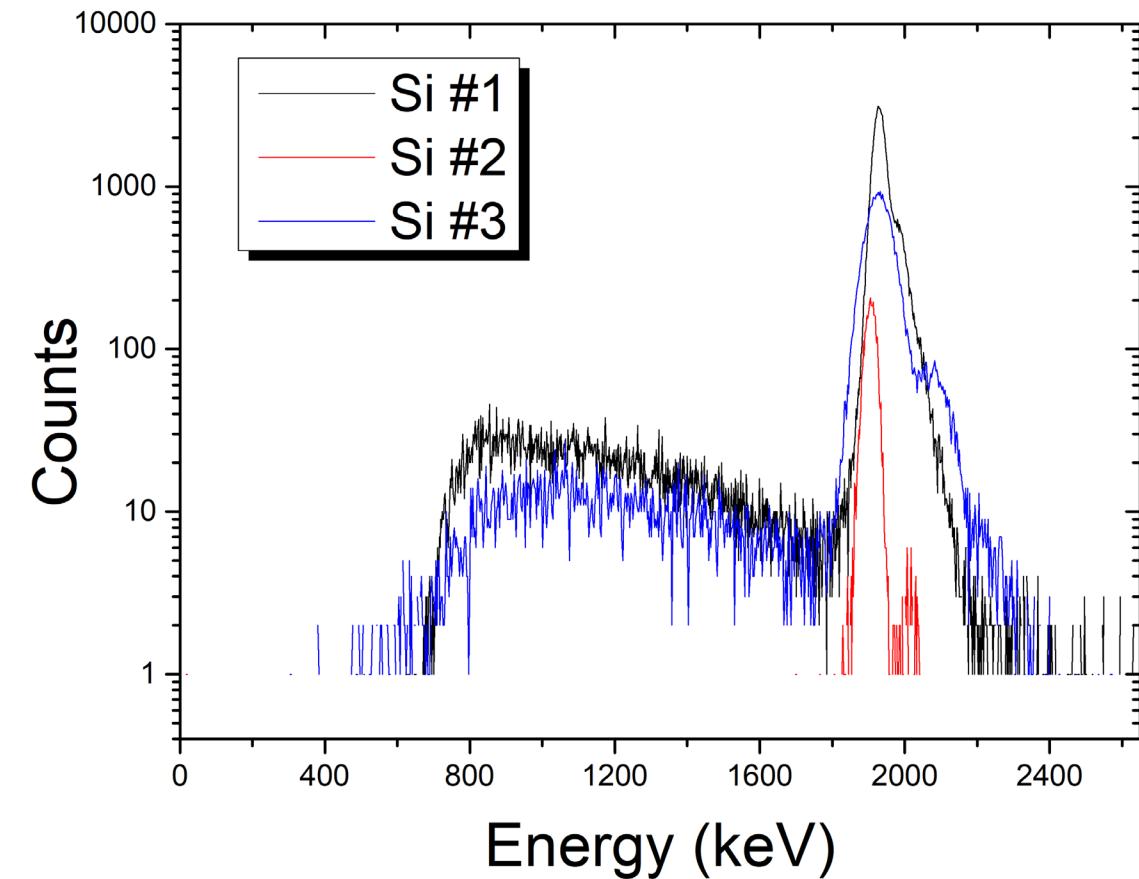
| I (pA)      | $3,4 \pm 0,4$ |              |                |                         |                            |
|-------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| #Si         | Dist. (mm)    | $\theta$ (°) | Live Time (s)  | $E_{\text{peak}}$ (keV) | $C_{\text{Total}}$         |
| 1           | 173.4         | -15°         | $10,7 \pm 0,3$ | $1901 \pm 3$            | $(9.9 \pm 1.1) \cdot 10^4$ |
| 2           | 173.4         | 30°          | $11,4 \pm 0,3$ | $1896,2 \pm 1,3$        | $(4.2 \pm 0.6) \cdot 10^3$ |
| 3 (Cellule) | 329.4         | 15°          | $11,1 \pm 0,4$ | $1902 \pm 3$            | $(3.8 \pm 0.5) \cdot 10^4$ |

| #Si         | $C_{\text{peak}}$          | $C_{\text{tail}}$            | Ratio $C_{\text{tail}}/C_{\text{peak}}$ |
|-------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| 1           | $(8.9 \pm 1,1) \cdot 10^4$ | $(1,02 \pm 0,13) \cdot 10^3$ | $0,11 \pm 0,02$                         |
| 2           | $(4.2 \pm 0,6) \cdot 10^3$ | -                            | -                                       |
| 3 (Cellule) | $(3,4 \pm 0,5) \cdot 10^3$ | $(3,9 \pm 0,5) \cdot 10^3$   | $0,11 \pm 0,02$                         |

$$\text{Mean } \frac{\text{Counts}_{\text{Si}\#3}}{\text{Counts}_{\text{Si}\#1}} = 0,31 \pm 0,02$$

Calibration with  $^{239}\text{Pu}/^{241}\text{Am}$   $\alpha$  source

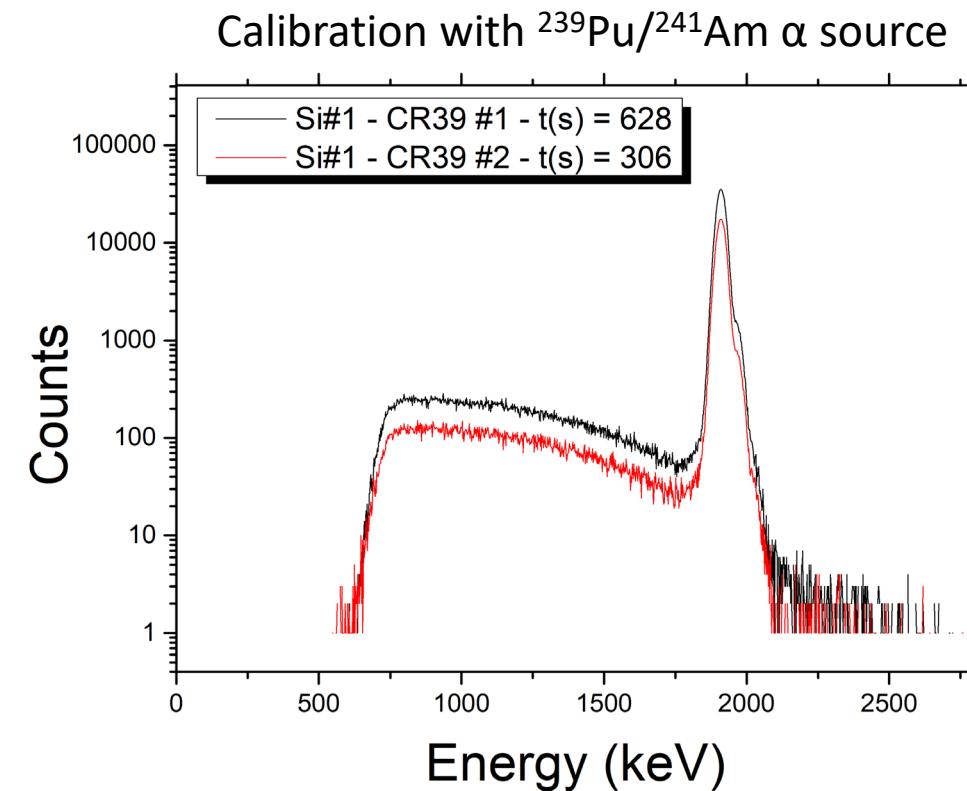
# 1 : I (pA) =  $2.82 \pm 0.03$  ; t (s) = 11.680



# Simulations and Preliminary results

| #CR39 | #Si 1 C <sub>peak</sub>     | CR39 expected C <sub>peak</sub> | #Si 1 C <sub>tail</sub>   | CR39 expected C <sub>tail</sub> | CR39 expected C <sub>total</sub> |
|-------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1     | (7781 ± 9)·10 <sup>2</sup>  | (2399 ± 8)·10 <sup>2</sup>      | (943 ± 3)·10 <sup>2</sup> | (281 ± 2)·10 <sup>2</sup>       | (2680 ± 7)·10 <sup>2</sup>       |
| 2     | (3904 ± 6) ·10 <sup>2</sup> | (1206 ± 4)·10 <sup>2</sup>      | (475 ± 2)·10 <sup>2</sup> | (141,7 ± 1,3)·10 <sup>2</sup>   | (1345 ± 4)·10 <sup>2</sup>       |

$$\text{Mean } \frac{\text{Counts}_{\text{Si}\#3}}{\text{Counts}_{\text{Si}\#1}} = 0,31 \pm 0,02$$



# Simulations and Preliminary results

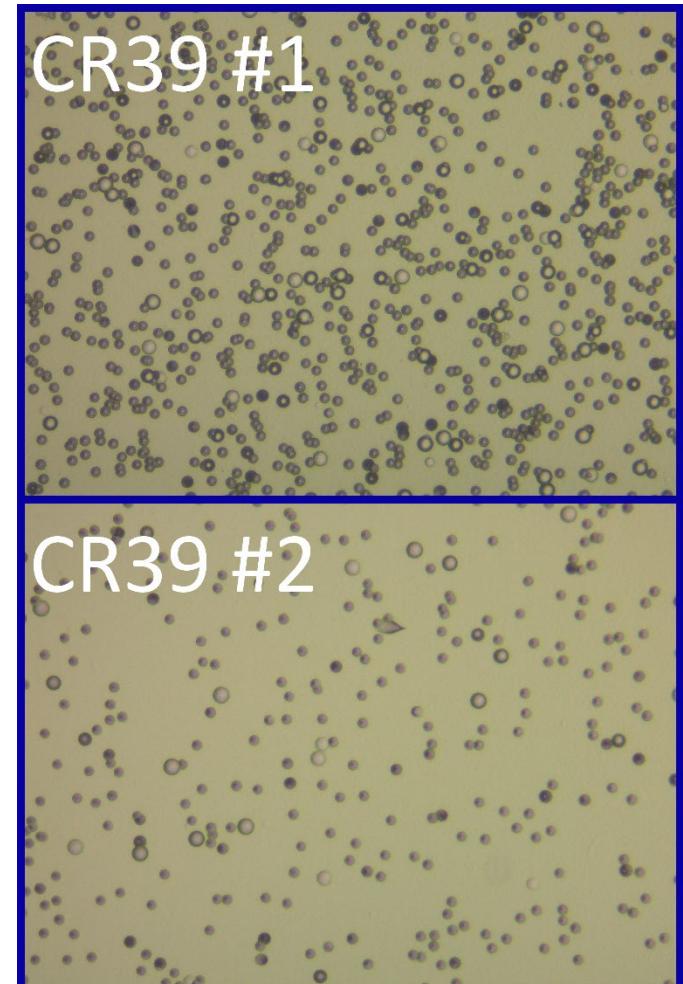
| #CR39 | #Si 1 C <sub>peak</sub>      | CR39<br>expected C <sub>peak</sub> | #Si 1 C <sub>tail</sub>     | CR39<br>expected C <sub>tail</sub> | CR39<br>expected C <sub>total</sub> |
|-------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1     | (7781 ± 9) · 10 <sup>2</sup> | (2399 ± 8) · 10 <sup>2</sup>       | (943 ± 3) · 10 <sup>2</sup> | (281 ± 2) · 10 <sup>2</sup>        | (2680 ± 7) · 10 <sup>2</sup>        |
| 2     | (3904 ± 6) · 10 <sup>2</sup> | (1206 ± 4) · 10 <sup>2</sup>       | (475 ± 2) · 10 <sup>2</sup> | (141,7 ± 1,3) · 10 <sup>2</sup>    | (1345 ± 4) · 10 <sup>2</sup>        |

| #CR39 | C <sub>peak</sub>              | expected C <sub>peak</sub>   | C <sub>tail</sub>               | expected C <sub>tail</sub>      |
|-------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1     | (23 ± 4) · 10 <sup>4</sup>     | (2399 ± 8) · 10 <sup>2</sup> | (4,4 ± 1,2) · 10 <sup>4</sup> * | (281 ± 2) · 10 <sup>2</sup>     |
| 2     | (10,1 ± 1,5) · 10 <sup>4</sup> | (1206 ± 4) · 10 <sup>2</sup> | (1,6 ± 0,5) · 10 <sup>4</sup>   | (141,7 ± 1,3) · 10 <sup>2</sup> |

| #CR39 | C <sub>total</sub>             | expected C <sub>total</sub>  | C <sub>tail</sub> / C <sub>peak</sub> | expected C <sub>tail</sub> / C <sub>peak</sub> |
|-------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1     | (27 ± 4) · 10 <sup>4</sup>     | (2680 ± 7) · 10 <sup>2</sup> | 0,20 ± 0,06                           | 0,1050 ± 0,0010                                |
| 2     | (11,7 ± 1,6) · 10 <sup>4</sup> | (1345 ± 4) · 10 <sup>2</sup> | 0,16 ± 0,06                           | 0,1053 ± 0,0010                                |

$$\text{Mean } \frac{\text{Counts}_{\text{Si}\#3}}{\text{Counts}_{\text{Si}\#1}} = 0,31 \pm 0,02$$



20X magnification



## Next steps

- Collimator system on scattering chamber channels and mylar thickness simulation for beam degradation (January 2019);
- Simulation and calculation of beam transport for the new beamline ( $0^\circ$ ) with COSY Infinity software (already in progress)
  - Magnetic quadrupole doublet for beam focusing and shaping before scattering chamber;
- Cells sample irradiation (Spring 2019)



# Thanks for your attention

