Nuclear Physics Mid Term Plan in Italy

LNF – Session

Frascati, December 1st - 2nd 2022



Innovative targets for new production facilities

Production target of the SPES ISOL facility at LNL

Secondary target for the ISOLPHARM project at LNL

LARAMED targets for direct production of medical radioisotopes at LNL

Targets for neutrons at LNL

ISAL

Target for FraIse facility at LNS

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Production target of the SPES facility at LNL





Stituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare Laboratori Nazionali di Legnaro

<u>Stefano Corradetti,</u> Alberto Andrighetto, Mattia Manzolaro, Michele Ballan, Alberto Monetti, Lisa Centofante, Giordano Lilli, Daniele Scarpa (INFN-LNL) Sara Carturan (University of Padova, DFA) Alice Zanini, Giorgia Franchin, Paolo Colombo (University of Padova, DII) Lisa Biasetto (University of Padova, DTG) Francesca Servadei, Diletta Sciti, Laura Silvestroni, Luca Zoli (CNR-ISSMC)



SPES (ISOL) target requirements

Target working conditions:

- Many days of continuous operation (10 ÷ 15)
- T = 1600 ÷ 2000 °C, even more in some cases
- 10 kW power
- High vacuum
- Radiation (p, n, g, a, b, ...)



Carbide/carbon composites (UC₂+2C, TiC+2C, ThC₂+2C, ...)



Two sets of properties to optimize: porosity and thermo-mechanical

High thermal properties to efficiently dissipate heat



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State of the art: the standard production (carbothermal reduction)



Optimization of properties by:

- Choice of carbon/metal precursors and additives
- Heat treatment parameters ٠



 $La_2O_3 + C$ after pressing





 LaC_2 + 2C after heat treatment

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Total porosity	60 %			
Porosity type	Mainly open, macro			
Specific Surface Area	Negligible			

Activity in collaboration with UNIPD: DFA, DII, DTG

 $TiO2 + 5C \longrightarrow TiC + 2C + 2CO$



Example of innovative production techniques: sol-gel and use of innovative carbon sources



Specific Surface Area

S. Corradetti et al., Ceramics International 46 (2020) 9596

- Temperature, pH of each production phase
- Heat treatments parameters



Graphene as a carbon source for U and Th carbides

 $UO_2 + 6C \rightarrow UC_2 + 2C + 2CO$ $ThO_2 + 6C \rightarrow ThC_2 + 2C + 2CO$ Use of graphene as a carbon source leads to improved thermal properties with respect to standard (graphite) in carbide/C composites



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Characterization techniques: microstructure and porosity



Helium pycnometry to characterize open-closed porosity



Scanning electron microscopy to study microstructure



Gas physisorption to calculate pore size





Gas permeability to characterize open porosity



Transmission electron microscopy to study nanostructure

Characterization techniques: thermomechanical properties





Structural characterization - Obtainable data: critical stress under irradiation, probability of survival under irradiation without undergoing failure



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New ideas for the future



Use of dispersed carbon fibers (Cf) in SPES targets leads to porosity AND good thermal properties AND improved survival under thermal induced stresses 80 •••••• SiC SA [21] 70 - - - SiC SP [21] 60 SiC-Cf (this work) [Ym/N] ⁴⁰ 30 Fiber-free SiC (this work) 20 10 600 900 1000 700 800 1100 1200 1300 1400 Temperature [°C] Dense SiC SA Porous SiC-Cf Porous fiber-free SiC

Activity in collaboration with CNR-ISSMC

L. Silvestroni et al., Journal of the European Ceramic Society 42 (2022) 6750

Optimizing porosity by using additive manufacturing



Material precursor: commercial TiC powder Fabrication process: Direct Ink Writing

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Preliminary data (AM4INFN and HISOL experiments):

- **permeability coefficients** shifted geometry > 0-90° geometry
- specific surface area < 1 m²/g → low value: to be increased to ensure good release of radioisotopes → future works will focus on the use of the sol-gel approach to tailor the textural properties of the material

Activity in collaboration with UNIPD: DFA, DII

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SPES γ : radionuclides for nuclear medicine



https://isolpharm.pd.infn.it/web/

"Radioisotope Service for Medicine and Applications" @LNL



https://www.lnl.infn.it/en/spes-laramed-range

Functional and metabolic organ informations for

• early diagnosis

SPECT – Single Photon Emission Computed Tomography PET – Positron Emission Tomography

- specific therapies
- Theranostic

through the use of radiopharmaceutical





Secondary target for the ISOLPHARM project at LNL

<u>Michele Ballan (</u>INFN-LNL), <u>Elisa Vettorato (</u>INFN-LNL and University of Padova), Luca Morselli (INFN-LNL) Nicola Realdon, Francesca Mastrotto (University of Padova) Marcello Lunardon (INFN-PD and University of Padova)



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Radioactive ion beams



Isobaric Radioactive Ion Beam - excellent radionuclide purity - 15 - LAHARM

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Targets handling - IRIS

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IRIS (ISOLPHARM Radionuclide Implantation Station)



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Ion Recovery





107-Ag and 109-Ag

В

Different materials to get high resistance and radionuclide recovery

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Production method





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Manuscript: Ballan M, Vettorato E, et al. Appl Radiat.2021;175:109795

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Results and future works



Pharma materials are more promising→ deposition compatibility studies with different material beyond Cu and Ag



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Laboratori Nazionali di Leo

LARAMED targets for direct production of medical radioisotopes at LNL

Sara Cisternino, Juan Esposito, Gaia Pupillo, Liliana Mou, Gabriele Sciacca, Giorgio Keppel, Oscar Azzolini, Mourad El Idrissi (INFN-LNL) Alisa Kotliarenko (INFN-LNL and University of Ferrara) Lucia De Dominicis (INFN-LNL and University of Padova) Petra Martini (University of Ferrara and INFN-FE)



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Solid targets:

What is needed - absolutely necessary - for successful medical RI production or nuclear-cross section measurements?

ightarrow A target with specific requirements

• Target material

decided based on nuclear physics reaction chosen for the production of the specific radionuclide Often isotopically enriched material→ very expensive!

• Optimal thickness

estimated based on nuclear physics calculations to exploit the best energy range

Nuclear Cross-section measurements



100s µg/cm² – 10s mg/cm²







- Thermo-mechanical strenght To withstand the thermal power deposited during the irradiation
- Selected backing material based on its chemical inertness
 - thermal conductivity
 - mechanical strenght
 - activation under the beam



Dissolutin reactor with bottom opened vial (Sciacca et al., Molecules 2021)

What is needed - absolutely necessary - for a successful target?

→ Tailored manufacturing techniques



→ Target characterization, tests and simulations



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R&D on innovative target manufacturing techniques

in the framework of the LARAMED project

to overcome the limits of standard techniques



High Energy Vibrational Powder Plating (HIVIPP)

Solution for thin target for nuclear xs measurements

This deposition technique exploits the phenomenon of vibrational motion of metallic powder in a static electric field



Advantages

- Starting material → powder
- Efficiency 95-98%: no losses of material
- Two targets are deposited simultaneously
- Low amout of starting material is needed
- Thickness: 0.1-20 µm
- Glove-bag to work in protective atmosphere
- Automatic control of power supply

Requirements:

- Metal substrates
- Metal powder (irregular shape and small size $<20 \mu m$)



know-how

- **HIVIPP** apparatus
- technology available @ LNL for future target request for
- Inuclear cross-section measurements for medical RI production (Irradiation @ LNL - 2023)

and other..



New set-up apparatus and deposition procedure





Realization and characterization of enriched Ti targets



Uniform thickness ≈500 µg/cm²

and







S. Cisternino et al. Instruments, 3,3, 23, 2022; H. Skliarova et al. Nucl. Inst. Met. A, 2020,164371; H. Skliarova et al. Journal of Physics: Conference Series1548 (2020) 012022

LARAMED targets for direct production of medical radioisotopes at LNL

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S. Cisternino et al., Nuclear Medicine and Biology, 104-105, 38-46, 2022; G. Sciacca et al., Molecules 2021; H. Skliarova et al., J. Phys.: Conf. Ser., 1548, 012022, 2020



Physical Vapor Deposition plasma-based coating process



H. Skliarova et al., Molecules, 24, 1, 25, 2018; A. Kotliarenko et al., Applied Science, 11, 19, 9219, 2021

Material saving approach:

Advantages to the standard MS:

Reduced material losses during the deposition

nat-Cr target

Possible facilitation in the reactive sputtering deposition

and

Possible more efficient cathode utilization

Recovering shield

Inverted magnetron



allows to collect 55% of the sputtered material

Sample holder with **Recovering shield**





natZnO



TOTEM

Preliminary thermo-mechanical resistivity test As prepared After irradiation



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R&D on different target configurations with SPS and MS techniques (national and internation collaborations)

test under high energy cyclotron – @ ARRONAX facility, others in Europe or worldwide;
 @ LNL – SPES (2025) –









<u>Pierfrancesco Mastinu</u>, Alberto Monetti, Elizabeth Musacchio-Gonzalez (INFN-LNL) Jeffery Wyss (University of Cassino and Southern Lazio) Luca Silvestrin (UNIPD) Gianfranco Prete (INFN-LNL)

Targets development for neutrons at LNL

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LENOS Layout: for astrophysics experiments

SPES/LENOS: Energy Shaper

Target development for neutrons at LNL

Rotating target

Energy straggling and stopping power of charge particles when interact with a thin foil of material. General method: **multilayer energy shaper.**

LENOS foil material requirements :

- low atomic number, low density, high melting point, high emissivity, high thermal conductivity, high tensile strength.

\rightarrow GRAPHITE foil

- Graphite disk 70 µm thickness.
- Power to be dissipated about 50 kW, mainly by radiation.
- Working temperature <2000°C
- Construction material Al Ergal alloy



Proton

Shaper

160 kW

250 kW

Protons

Ep>1.88 MeV

micro-channel targets





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Sample

Possibility

SPES RIB

Li target

NEUTRONS

90 120 150 180 2 Neutron Energy (keV)

4 kW

Expected Neutron Flux = $5 \cdot 10^{10} \text{ n/s} \cdot \text{cm}^2$



New version of micro-channel targets

Micro-channels are produced through micro-tubes INFN international

Grooves are produced in the target backing (one or both faces)



Micro-tubes are then inserted in the grooves



Interference is produced in order to have a full thermal contact



- tubes:
- 0.6 mm internal diameter - 0.8 mm external diameter Cu substrate 1.2 mm thickness, 2x2 cm Wall thickness tube distance 0.5 mm Number of tubes: 13

patent APPLICATION n.

PCT/IB2014/067156

- Validation of the target with metal Li layer
- Other improvement using different materials for tubes and backing (Poly Crystalline Diamond)
- Wide range of **applications**: SPES beam dump (50kW)
 - radioisotope production BNCT CPU heat sink etc

Tomography



Certified an almost perfect contact: no defect at the 1 µm level precision



Target : beam tests at Birmingham University



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NEPIR: neutron irradiation facility at SPES for studing Single Event Effect in microelectronics



NEPIR Initial Phase-0 with "CoolGal" target

A novel liquid GALINSTAN cooled target: COOLGAL



- 30 mm thick Be cylinder is immersed in a bath of GALINSTAN contained by an outer **copper cladding**.
 - The *liquid metal* ensures a good *thermal contact* with the external area of the cladding, where the water cooling circuit is used.
- A thin havar membrane separates the liquid metal from the beamline ٠ vacuum.



- The contaiment cladding is made of Cu ٠ with Au layer deposited to prevent corrosion and erosion effects from the liquid metal.
- The machined copper includes a closed circuit water-cooling sustem and cooling fins.



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NEPIR Initial Phase-0 with "CoolGal" target

A novel liquid GALINSTAN cooled target: COOLGAL

Safety requirement

- The liquid metal alloy has a reservoir tank which works as expansion volume. The temperature of the liquid, the pressure of the reservoir and the level of the liquid is monitored and the data used to interlock the beam.
- The liquid metal provide:

700 W

7.932e+0

6.901e+0

5.871e+

- To cool down the Havar window
- To ensure a good thermal contact and heat transfer to the cladding for conduction
- To keep the debris of beryllium if/when blistering occurs because no pressure difference is present
- Allow thermal dilatation of the beryllium
- Thanks to natural convection, distribute the heat on the whole surface of the cladding.



Temperature map of the Be and Galinstan of a preliminary ANSYS model of CoolGal with water coolant (v=2m/s) for 700 W (10 uA current of 70 MeV protons).

The maximum temperature of the Be component is 100°C.





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NEPIR: neutron irradiation facility at SPES for studing Single Event Effect in microelectronics



SPES/ANEM: a continuous energy neutron production target

The ANEM target is designed to handle a maximum current I_{beam} = 30 μA (**2.1 kW**)

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reference atmospheric neutron spectrum

(JEDEQ89A) × 109

neutron energy (MeV)

A novel rotating composite target made of thick Be and W

A W disk and a Be circular sector rotate on a common water-cooled hub and alternatively intercept a 70 MeV proton beam



Thickness → Be: 24 mm (*) W: 5 mm

(*) The Be sector does not stop the protons (to avoid damage); most of the protons pass through without causing nuclear reactions. The emerging low energy protons are stopped by the W disk.



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- Water inlet temperature : 18°C;
- Water inlet velocity 1m/s
- rotating beam (10 rev/sec)



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Target for FralSe facility at LNS

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FRIBs facility

At INFN-LNS RIBs were produced, <u>since 2001</u>, using the FRIBs (in Flight Radioactive Ion Beams at LNS) facility through the In-Flight fragmentation method (primary beam accelerated by CS + ⁹Be target), employing a maximum beam power of 100 W



G. D'Agostino, et al., J. Phys. Conf. Ser. 1350 (2019) 1, 012099; *L. Calabretta* et al., Mod.Phys.Lett.A 32 (2017) 17, 1740009; *D.J. Morrissey*, et al., Lect. Notes Phys. 651, 113–135 (2004).



Future development: FralSe



Main features:

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4 dipoles, 6 quadrupoles and 2 sextupoles, arranged in two symmetric branches, to ensure optimal achromatic condition
maximum magnetic rigidity 3.2 *Tm*momentum acceptance ±1.2%
solid angle acceptance ±2.5 *msr*

5 m dispersion at symmetry plane, energy resolving power

$$RP = \left| \frac{R_{16}}{2x_0 R_{11}} \right| = 2600$$
(beam spot ±1 mm)

 thanks to high energy dispersion value at the symmetry plane, it will allow to deliver stable beams with an energy spread of 0.1 %

New production target able to work at higher intensity

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FralSe beams

Primary CS beams

lon	Energy (MeV/u)	
¹² C	30	
¹² C	45	
¹² C	60	
¹⁸ O	20	
¹⁸ O	29	
¹⁸ O	45	· ·
¹⁸ O	60	
¹⁸ O	70	
²⁰ Ne	28	
²⁰ Ne	70	
⁴⁰ Ar	60	

Expectation using 2kW primary beams and an Al 100 µm homogenous degrader on the symmetry plane

				¹⁷ Ne	¹⁸ Ne	¹⁹ Ne	²⁰ Ne	²¹ Ne	²² Ne
				8.7E5	3.1E7	6.0E8			
				53	51	52			
					¹⁷ F	¹⁸ F	¹⁹ F	$^{20}\mathrm{F}$	²¹ F
					1.7E8			9.5E6	
					50			55	
		¹³ O	¹⁴ O	¹⁵ O	¹⁶ O	¹⁷ O	¹⁸ O	¹⁹ O	$^{20}\mathbf{O}$
		7.2E4	1.4E6	2.8E7				2.3E6	
		54	40	54				39	
		^{12}N	^{13}N	^{14}N	^{15}N	^{16}N	^{17}N	^{18}N	¹⁹ N
		1.2E6	2.3E7			6.9E8	3.2E8	3.7E6	
		49	50			53	57	57	
°C	¹⁰ C	¹¹ C	¹² C	¹³ C	¹⁴ C	¹⁵ C	¹⁶ C	¹⁷ C	¹⁸ C
4.0E5	1.1E7	2.2E8			1.1E8	4.0E7	1.4E7	1.2E5	4.8E2
45	43	44			59	59	60	58	55
⁸ B		¹⁰ B	¹¹ B	¹² B	¹³ B	¹⁴ B	^{15}B		$^{17}\mathbf{B}$
3.1E6				2.6E7	7.5E6	1.4E6	2.6E5		
42				57	58	60	51		
⁷ Be		⁹ Be	¹⁰ Be	¹¹ Be	¹² Be		¹⁴ Be		
1.5E7			1.6E7	1.5E6	2.8E5		3.0E3		
43			50	58	60		63		
⁶ Li	⁷ Li	⁸ Li	⁹ Li		¹¹ Li				
		4.2E6	8.9E5		3.3E3	Expected vield (pps)			
		50	51		60	60 Energy at the exit			
	⁶ He		⁸ He			slit (AMeV)			
	2.1E6		1.8E4					· , 	l
	E1		51				1	/	

N.S. Martorana et al., Frontiers, in press (2022); Martorana NS, et al. Il Nuovo Cimento 45 C (2022)390 63.; Risitano F. Il Nuovo Cimento 45 C (2022) 68.;

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CLIM target (from GANIL)

Specifications

- Material target: Beryllium or Carbon ;
- Thickness : 100 to 1500 μm ;
- Max beam power : 3kW ;
- Max beam power deposited in target : **500 W** ;
- Beam spot size : σ = 0.5 mm ; \rightarrow Ø beam at ± 3 σ = 3mm.
- Ø target 150mm
- Ø impact of the beam on the target : Ø 136mm (nominal)
 (Ø 130mm to Ø 147mm).
- Target rotation speed :2000tr/min
- Vacuum level : 10⁻⁶ mbar
- Tilting angle from 0° to 40°.



TimeLine

1 st test at LNS	Mounting and set-up in FraiSe line	Commsioning with upagred CS beams		
≈ March 2023	≈ Jun 2023	≈ Jan 2024		



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R. Anne et al., NIM A257, 215 (1987); *R. Anne and A.C. Mueller*, NIM B70, 276 (1992); *S. Grévy et al.*, INTDS2008, Sep 2008, Caen, France

Automatized system for targets storage and change





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WG: Innovative targets for new production facilities

<u>Stefano Corradetti,</u> Alberto Andrighetto, Mattia Manzolaro, Michele Ballan, Alberto Monetti, Lisa Centofante, Giordano Lilli, Daniele Scarpa (INFN-LNL) Sara Carturan (University of Padova, DFA) Alice Zanini, Giorgia Franchin, Paolo Colombo (University of Padova, DII) Lisa Biasetto (University of Padova, DTG) Francesca Servadei, Diletta Sciti, Laura Silvestroni, Luca

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Carbon Nicrochannel Porosity Solubility POROSITY POROSITY



Paolo Russotto, Antonio Domenico Russo, S. Cavallaro, M. Costa, Emanuele Vincenzo Pagano, S. Passarello, S. Pulvirenti (INFN-LNS) Nunzia Simona Martorana (INFN-LNS, University of Catania) <u>Sara Cisternino</u>, Juan Esposito, Gaia Pupillo, Liliana Mou, Gabriele Sciacca, Giorgio Keppel, Oscar Azzolini, Mourad El Idrissi (INFN-LNL) Alisa Kotliarenko (INFN-LNL and University of Ferrara)

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Thanks for your attention



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