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Nuclear Physics at the extremes: exotic nuclei for research and applications.  
A glimpse of the SPES project.

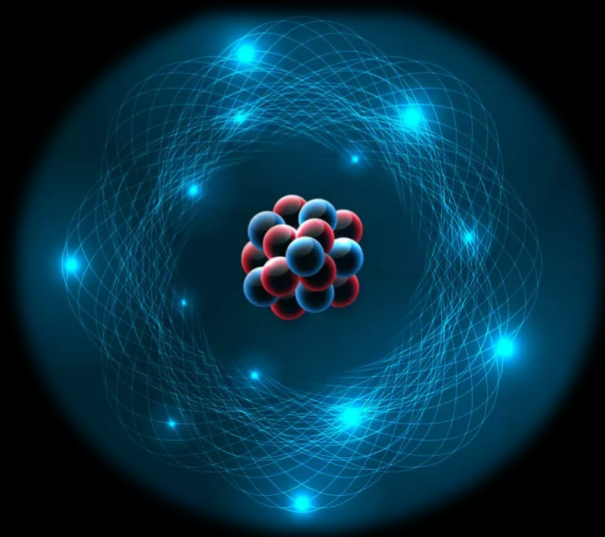
A. Gozzelino

(slides by T. Marchi)

*INFN – Laboratori Nazionali di Legnaro*

*July 21, 2023*

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## PART 1 The atomic nucleus

## PART 2 The SPES project at INFN-LNL

**SPES@LNL**  
Selective Production of Exotic Species

**SPES- $\alpha$**   
Cyclotron installation and commissioning (and related infrastructure)

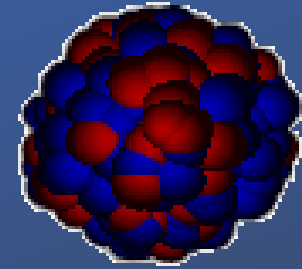
**SPES- $\beta$**   
The ISOL facility and the acceleration of neutron-rich unstable nuclei.

**SPES- $\gamma$**   
Study and production of novel radionuclides of medical interest

**SPES- $\delta$**   
Neutron sources for material study, nuclear technologies and medicine

ISOLPHARM &

PART 1:  
The atomic nucleus

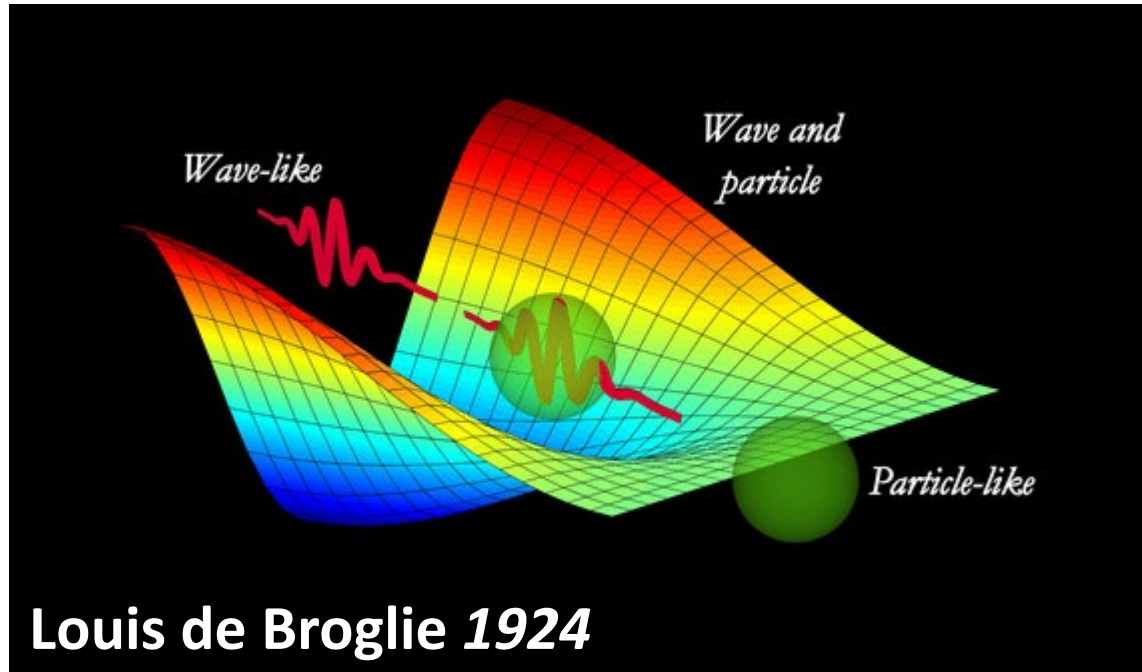


*A many-body quantum system,  
source of its binding force field*



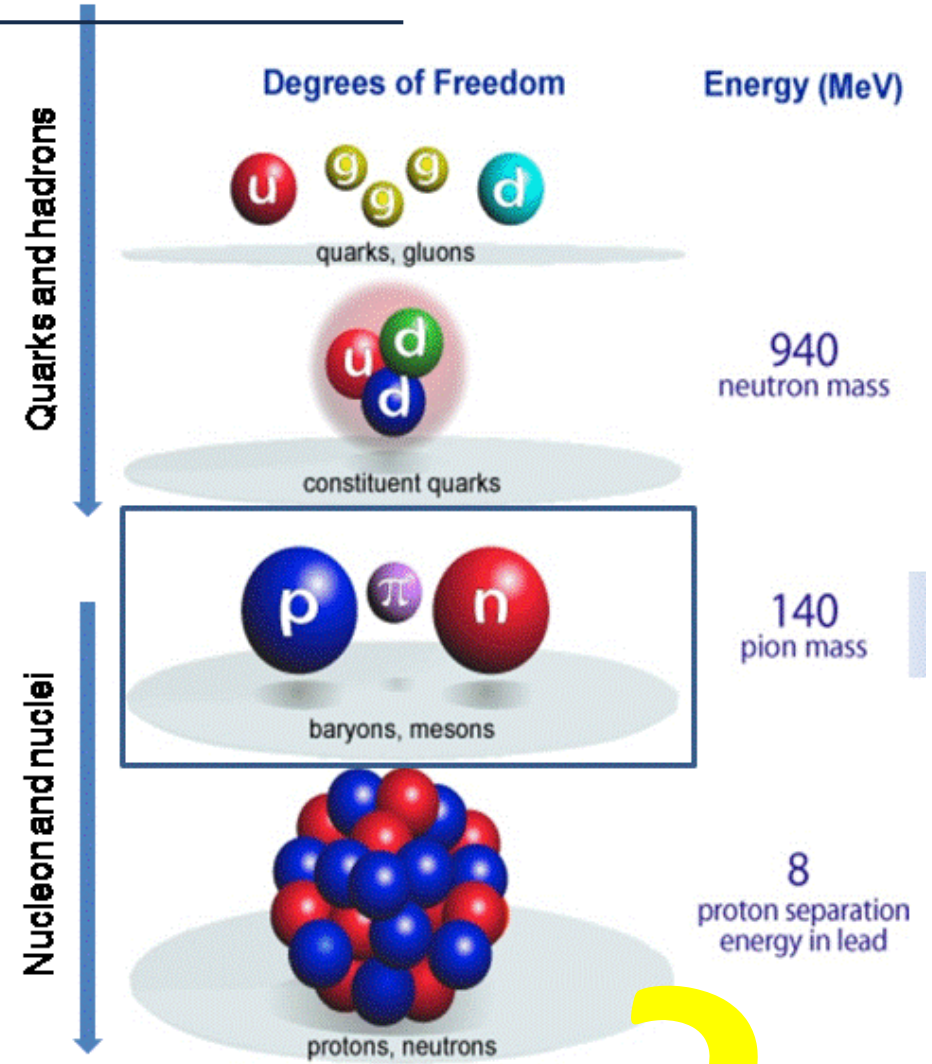
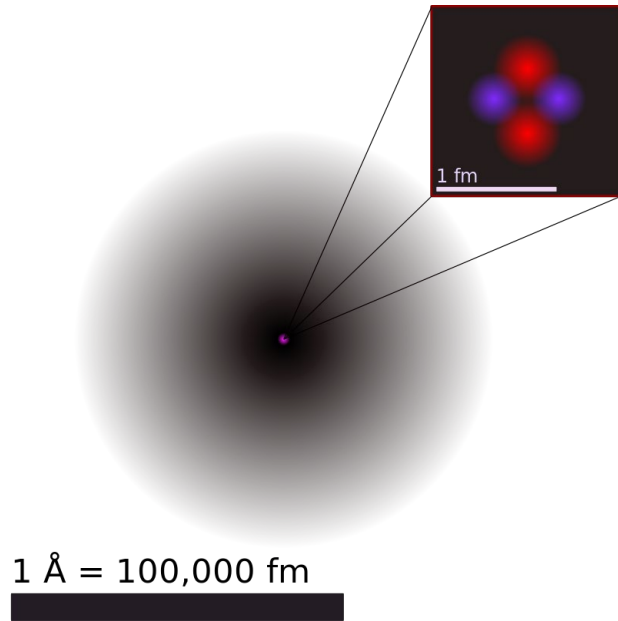
# Disclaimer: waves and particles

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$$\lambda = \frac{h}{P} = \frac{h}{mv}$$

# Size of the atomic nucleus

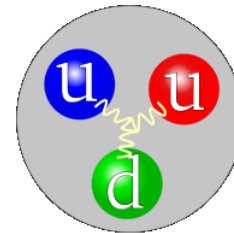


Order of magnitude: 1 fm (femtometer, Fermi)  $\sim 10^{-15}$  m

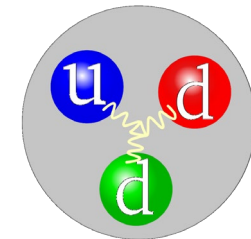
# Nucleons



Nucleone	Carica ( $Q_e$ )	Massa ( $\text{MeV}/c^2$ )	Spin	Vita media
Protone	+1	938,27	1/2	$>1,6 \times 10^{33}$ anni
Neutrone	0	939,57	1/2	880,2 s

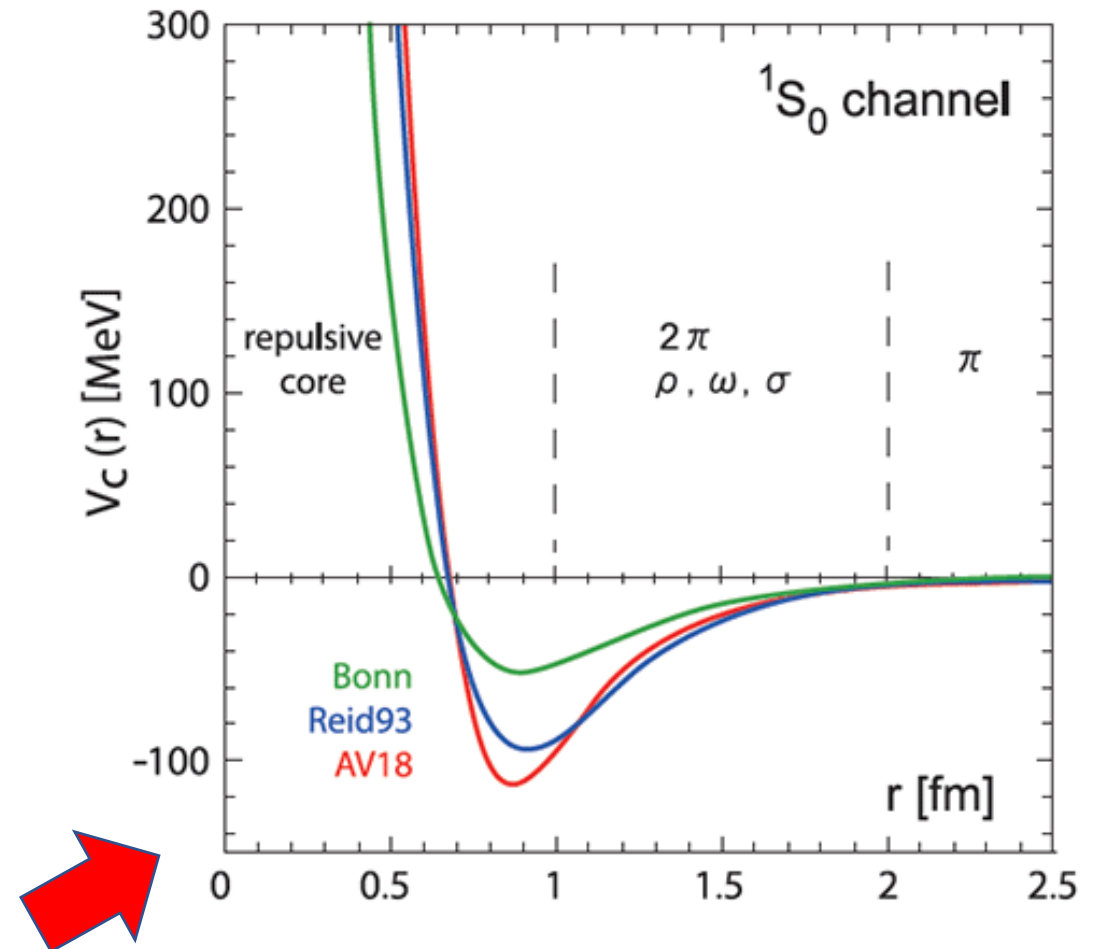
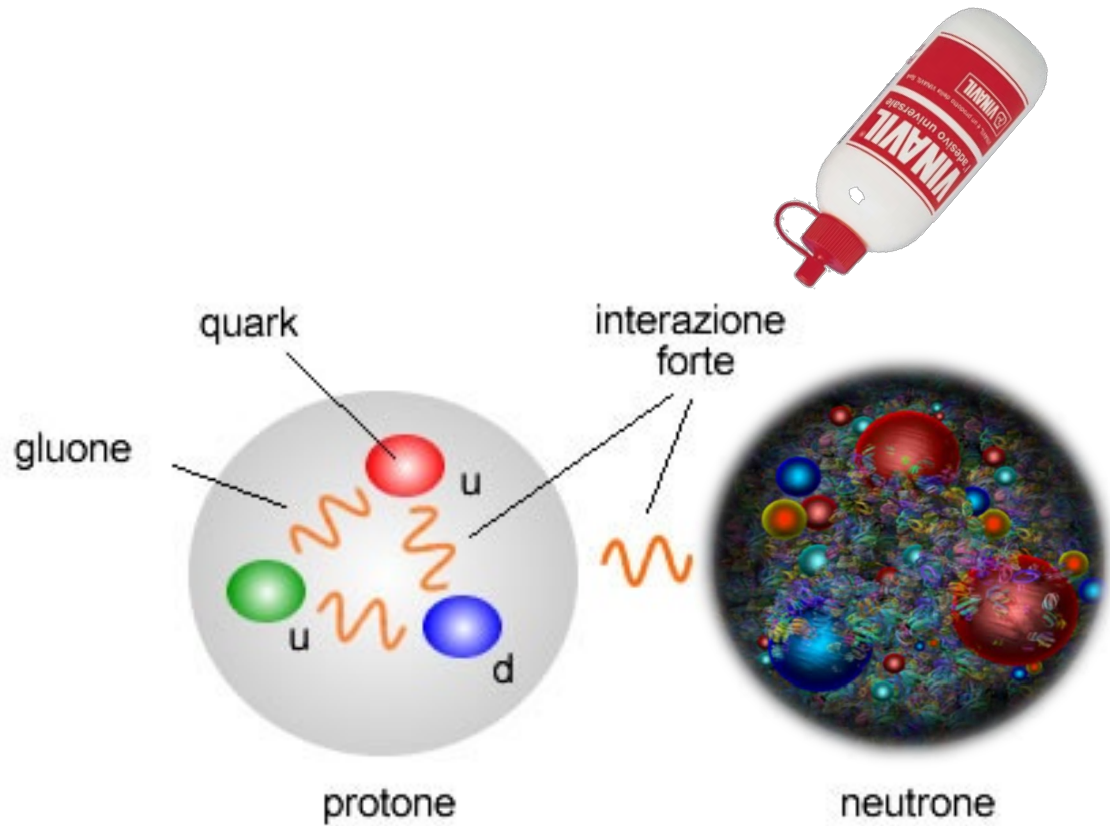


Proton



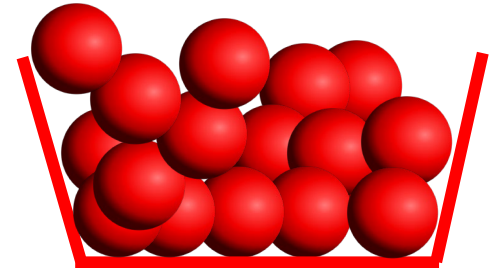
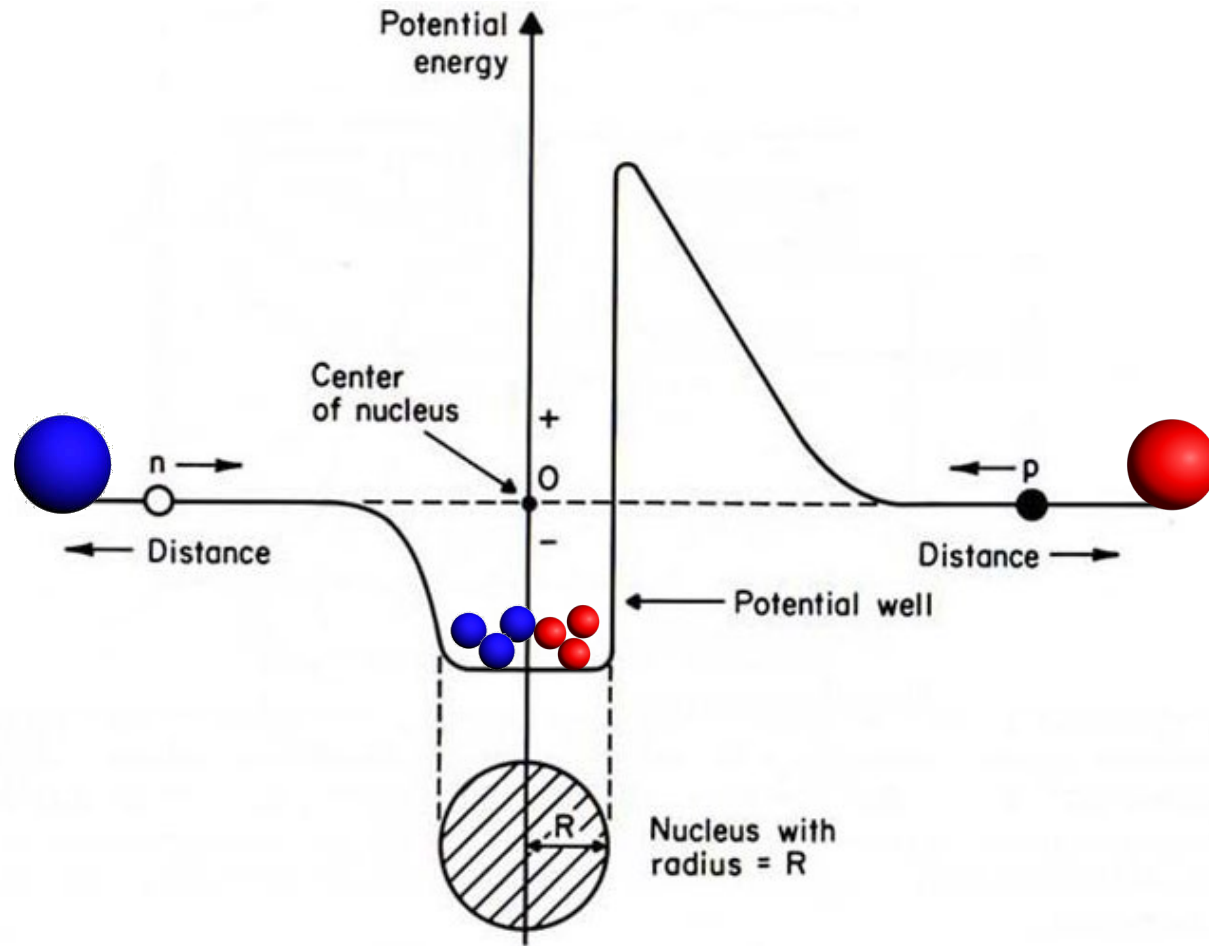
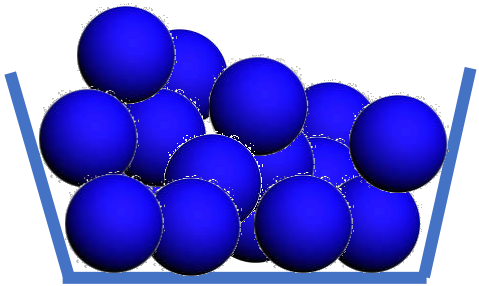
Neutron

# The strong force



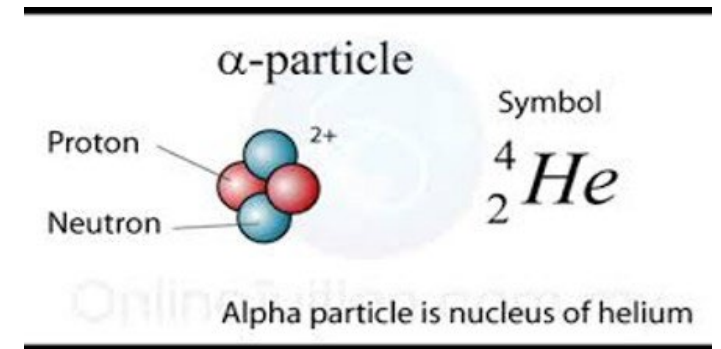
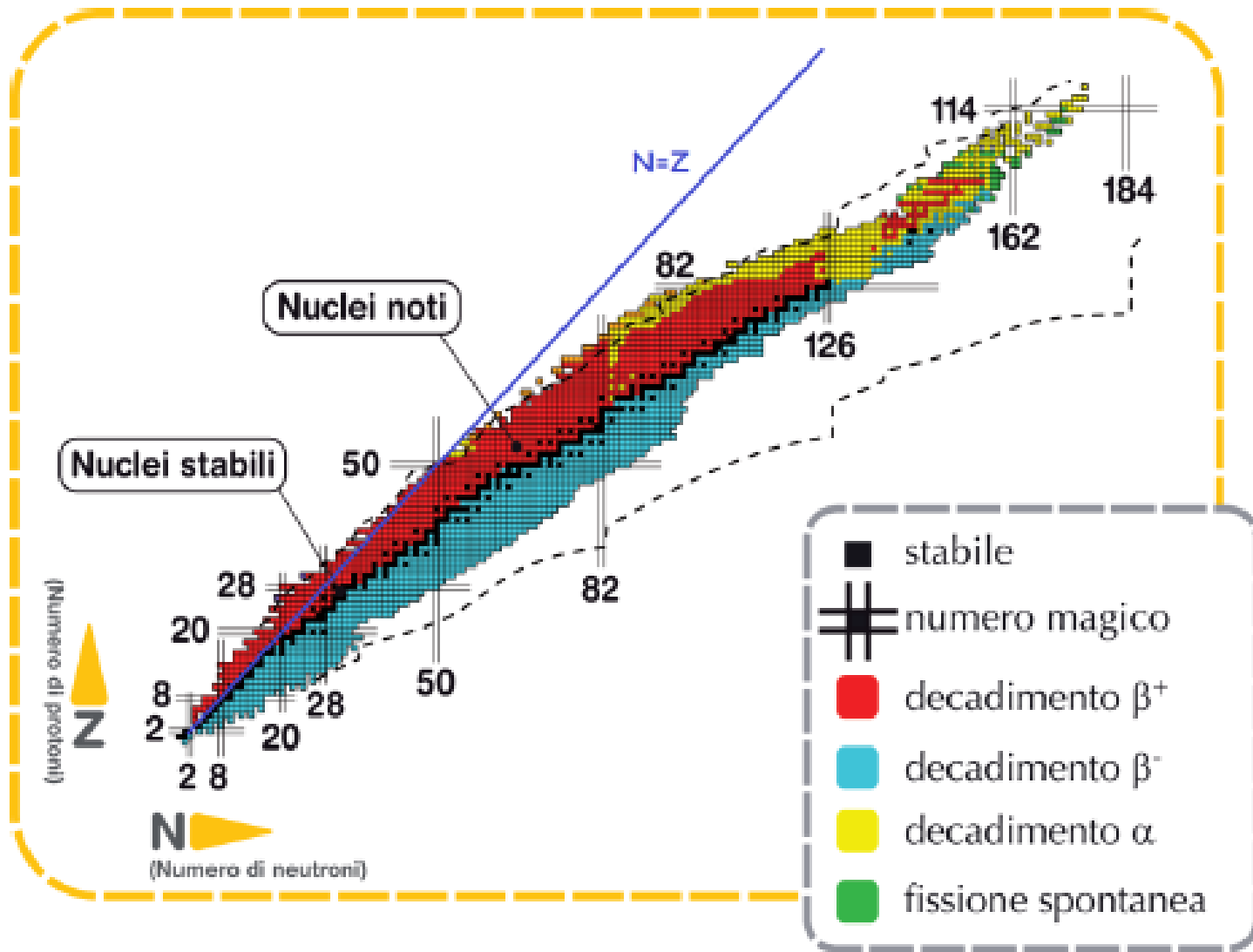
...and the *residual* interaction

# Let us build a nucleus

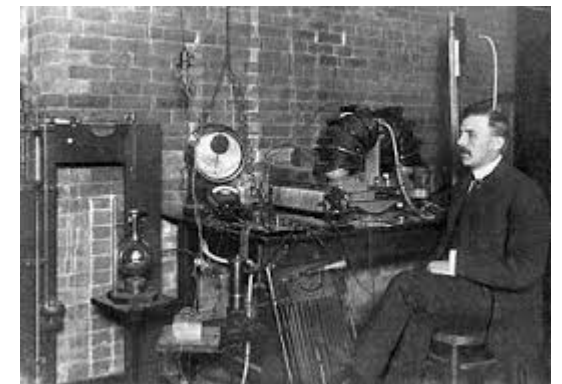
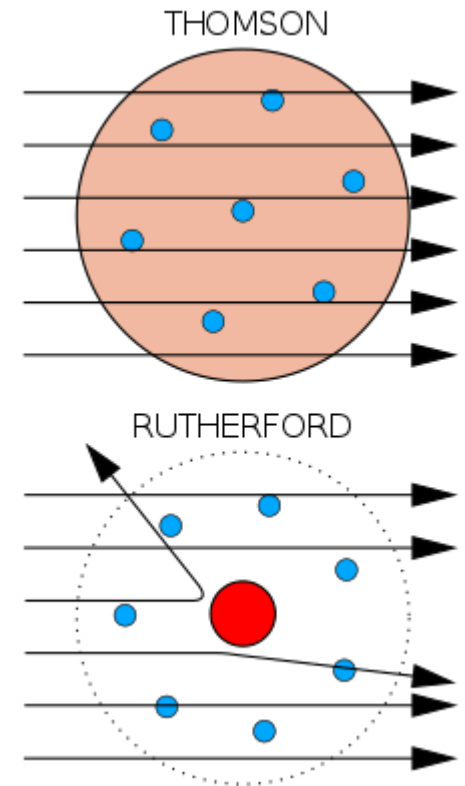
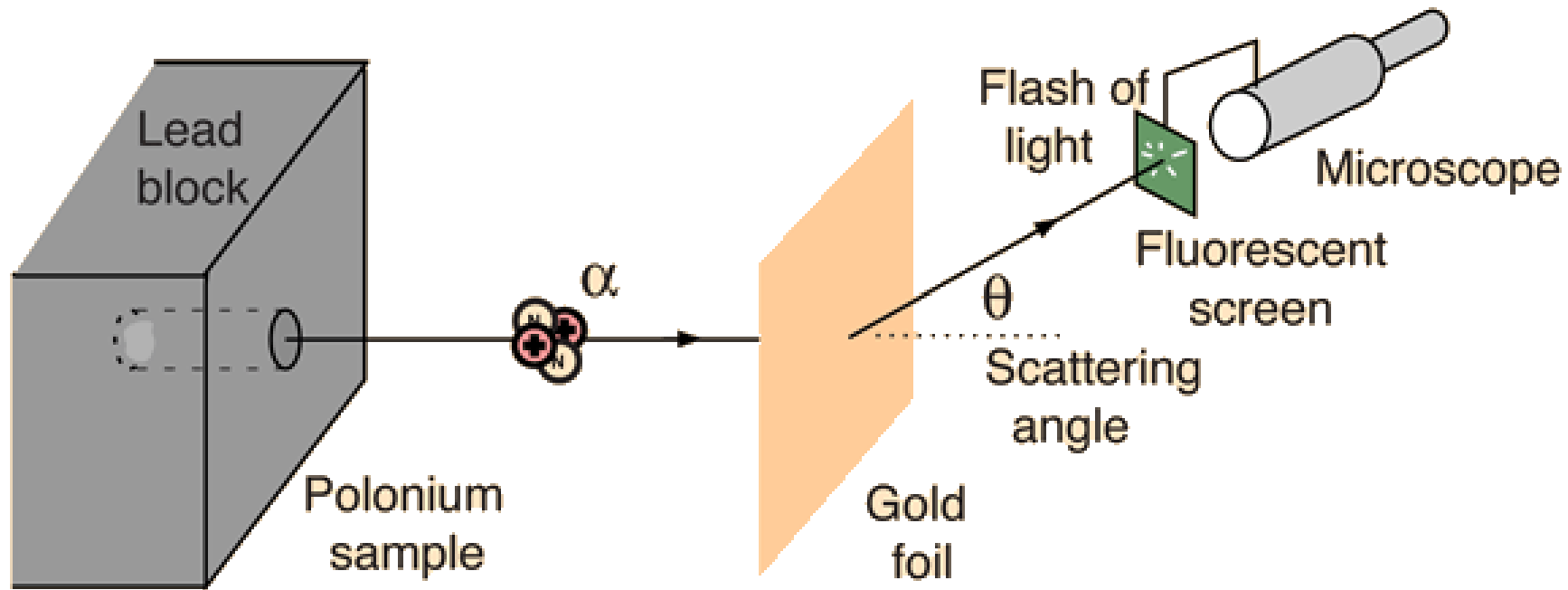




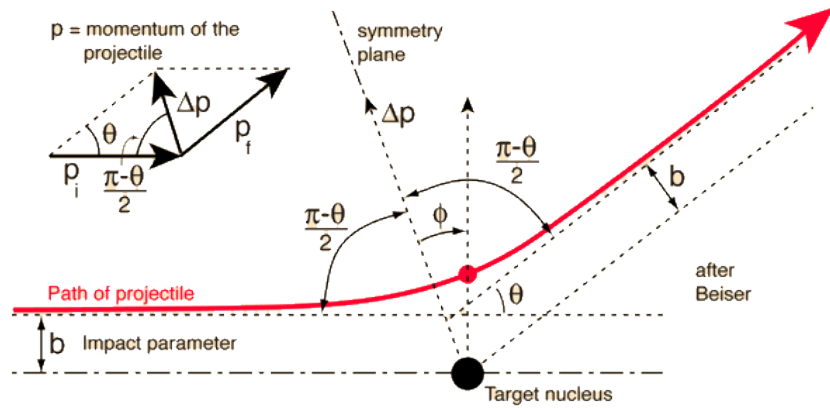
# The Nuclear Chart



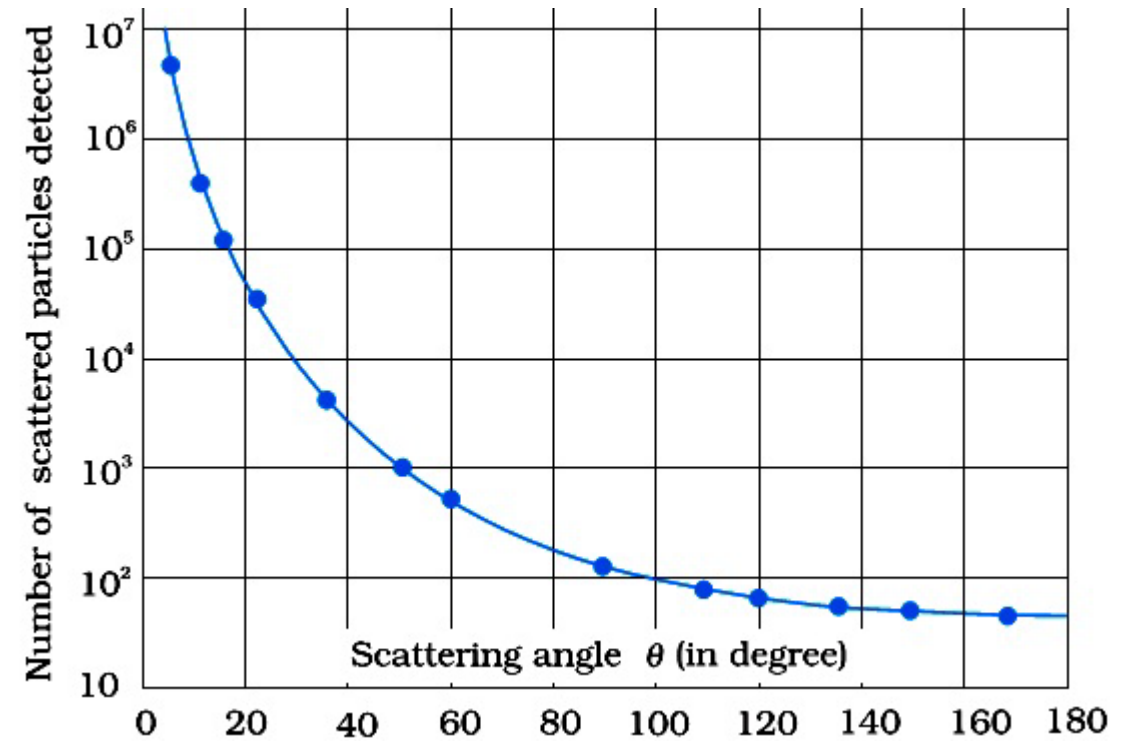
# Rutherford experiment - observation



# Rutherford experiment - model



$$N(\theta) = \frac{nt}{4r^2} \left( \frac{zZ}{2K} \right)^2 \left( \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \right)^2 \frac{1}{\sin^4\left(\frac{1}{2}\theta\right)}$$



# Rutherford experiment - publication



[ 669 ]

LXXIX. *The Scattering of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  Particles by Matter and the Structure of the Atom.* By Professor E. RUTHERFORD, F.R.S., University of Manchester\*.

§ 1. **I**T is well known that the  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  particles suffer deflexions from their rectilinear paths by encounters with atoms of matter. This scattering is far more marked for the  $\beta$  than for the  $\alpha$  particle on account of the much smaller momentum and energy of the former particle. There seems to be no doubt that such swiftly moving particles pass through the atoms in their path, and that the deflexions observed are due to the strong electric field traversed within the atomic system. It has generally been supposed that the scattering of a pencil of  $\alpha$  or  $\beta$  rays in passing through a thin plate of matter is the result of a multitude of small scatterings by the atoms of matter traversed. The observations, however, of Geiger and Marsden † on the scattering of  $\alpha$  rays indicate that some of

the  $\alpha$  particles must suffer a deflexion of more than a right angle at a single encounter. They found, for example, that a small fraction of the incident  $\alpha$  particles, about 1 in 20,000, were turned through an average angle of  $90^\circ$  in passing through a layer of gold-foil about  $\cdot 00004$  cm. thick, which was equivalent in stopping-power of the  $\alpha$  particle to 1.6 millimetres of air. Geiger ‡ showed later that the most probable angle of deflexion for a pencil of  $\alpha$  particles traversing a gold-foil of this thickness was about  $0^\circ\cdot 87$ . A simple calculation based on the theory of probability shows that the chance of an  $\alpha$  particle being deflected through  $90^\circ$  is vanishingly small. In addition, it will be seen later that the distribution of the  $\alpha$  particles for various angles of large deflexion does not follow the probability law to be expected if such large deflexions are made up of a large number of small deviations. It seems reasonable to suppose that the deflexion through a large angle is due to a single atomic encounter, for the chance of a second encounter of a kind to produce a large deflexion must in most cases be exceedingly small. A simple calculation shows that the atom must be a seat of an intense electric field in order to produce such a large deflexion at a single encounter.

Recently Sir J. J. Thomson § has put forward a theory to

\* Communicated by the Author. A brief account of this paper was communicated to the Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society in February, 1911.

† Proc. Roy. Soc. lxxxii. p. 495 (1909).

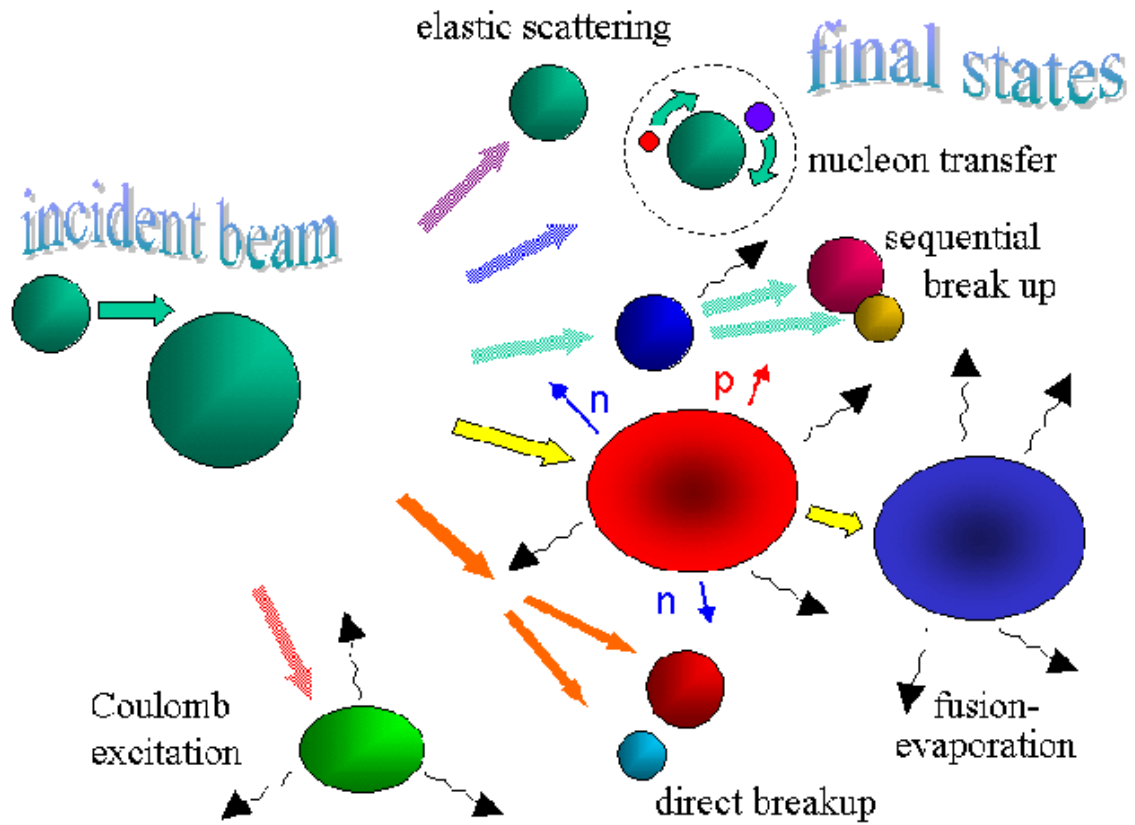
‡ Proc. Roy. Soc. lxxxiii. p. 492 (1910).

§ Camb. Lit. & Phil. Soc. xv. pt. 5 (1910).

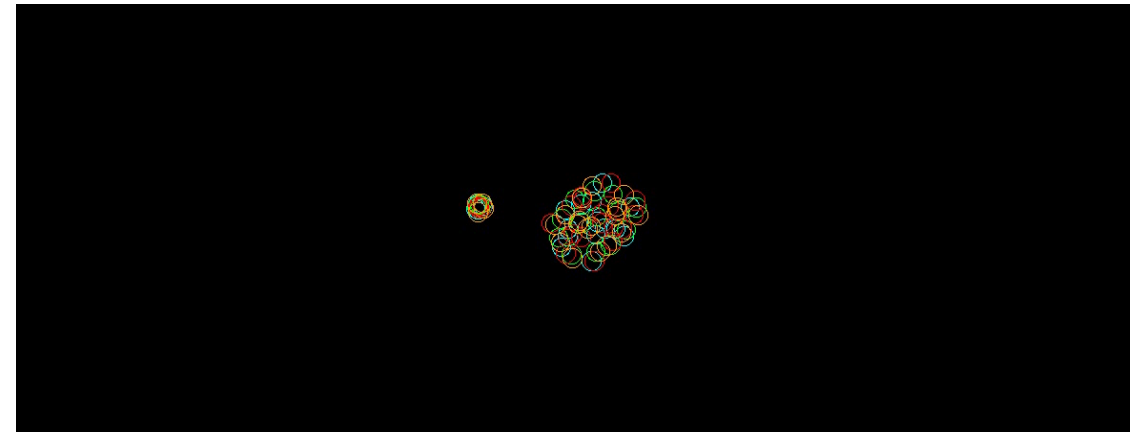
***The Rutherford experiment is the prototype of any Nuclear Physics experiment***

**Philosophical Magazine, 21 (1911) 669**

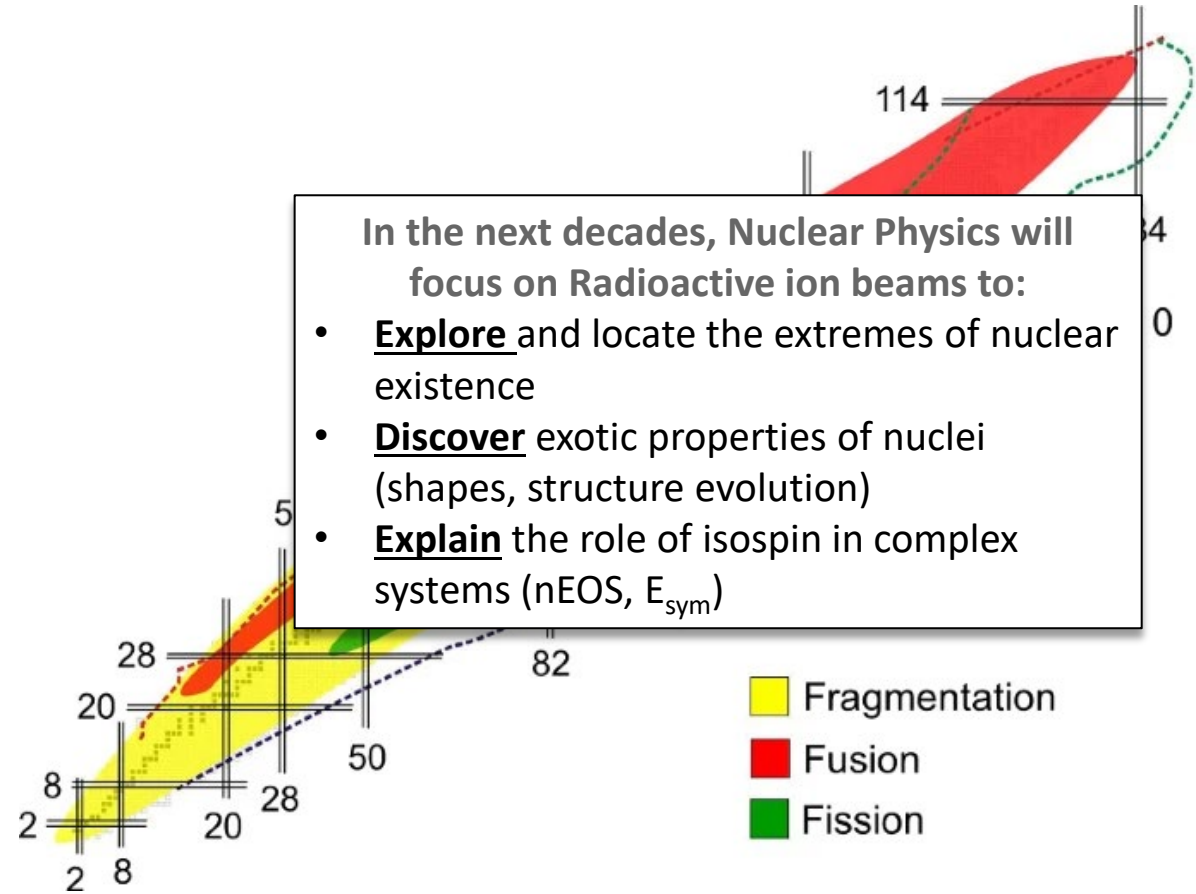
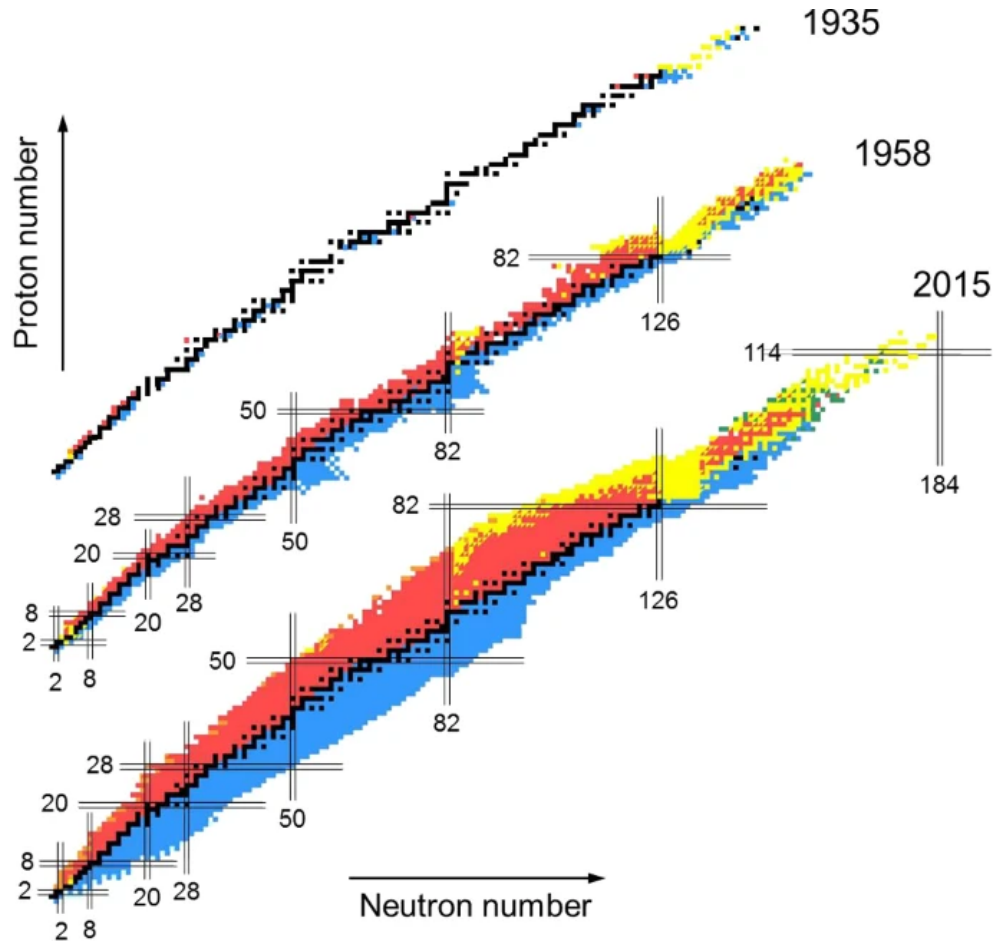
# Nuclear reactions



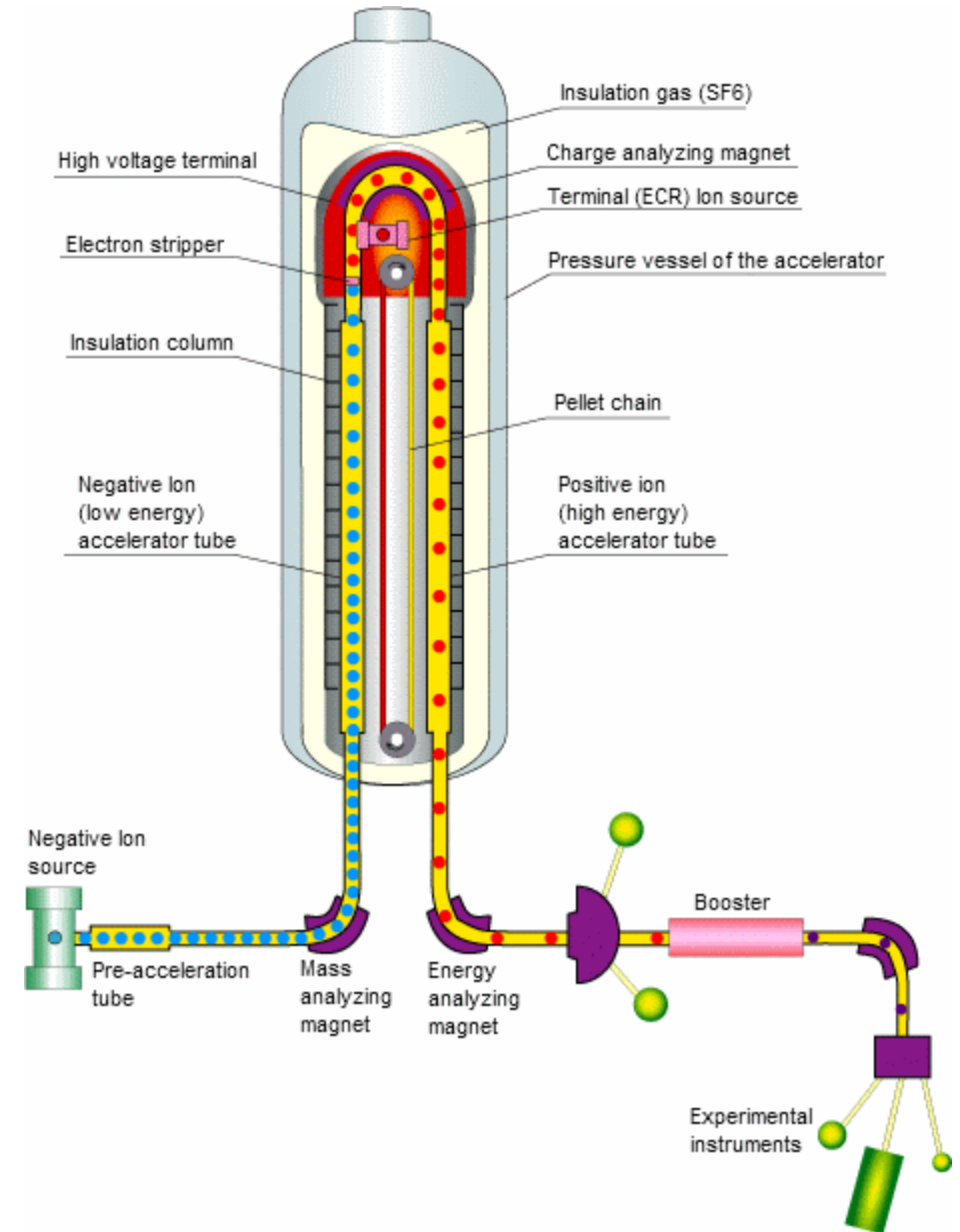
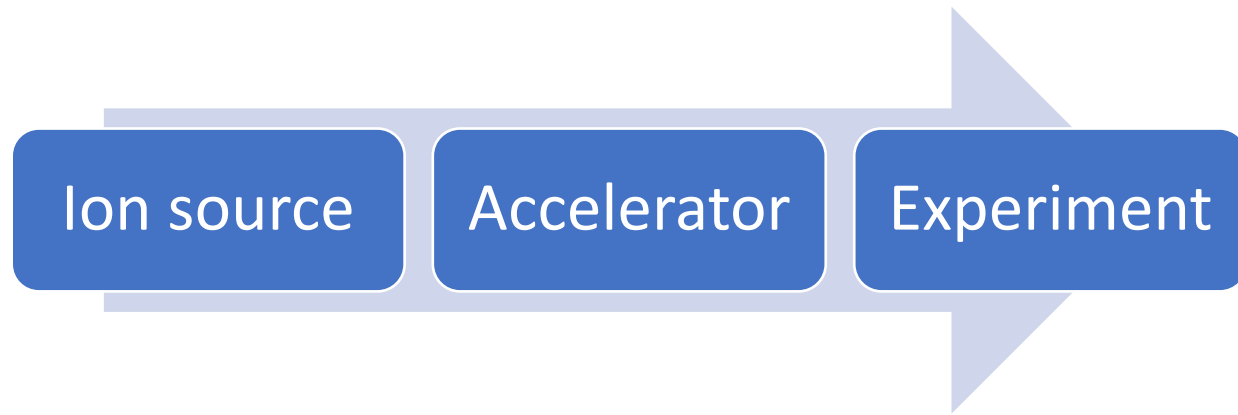
Modeling reaction dynamics



# Exploring the nuclear chart with nuclear reactions



# Nuclear Physics at particle accelerators



PART 2:  
The SPES project at  
LNL



*"A broadband facility"*



# SPES@ LNL

## Selective Production of Exotic Species

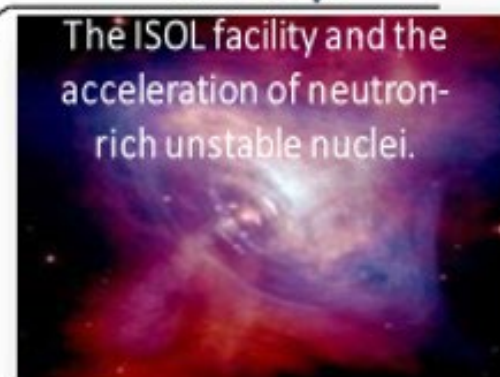
### SPES- $\alpha$

Cyclotron installation and commissioning (and related infrastructure)



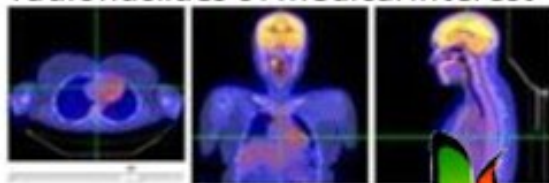
### SPES- $\beta$

The ISOL facility and the acceleration of neutron-rich unstable nuclei.



### SPES- $\gamma$

Study and production of novel radionuclides of medical interest



ISOLPHARM & LA RA MED

SPES exotic beams for medicine

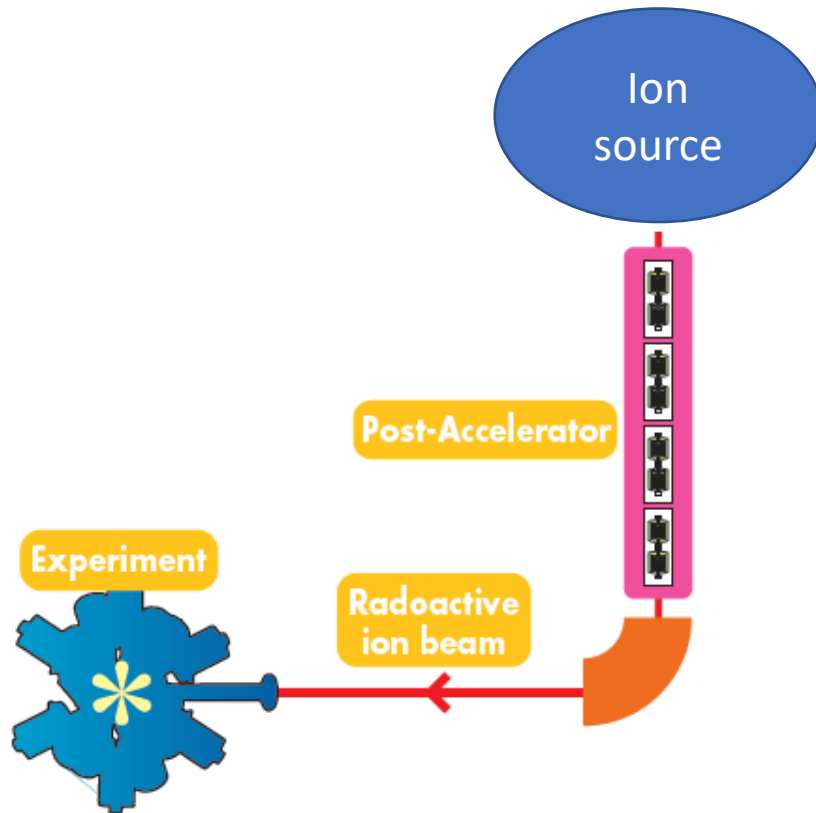


### SPES- $\delta$

Neutron sources for material study, nuclear technologies and medicine



# Stable vs Radioactive ion beams



**SPES**  
**ISOL**  
**Target:**  
UCx, SiC,...  
 $10^{13}$  fiss./s  
 $T \sim 2000^{\circ}\text{C}$   
3 sources SIS,  
LIS, PIS  
 $\sim 8$  kW power

This block contains a collage of images. On the left, a green background contains text describing the target system. To the right, there are three images: a 3D cutaway of a target chamber showing internal components, a glowing orange target being processed, and a close-up of a cylindrical component.



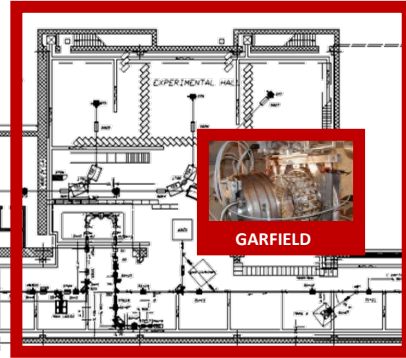
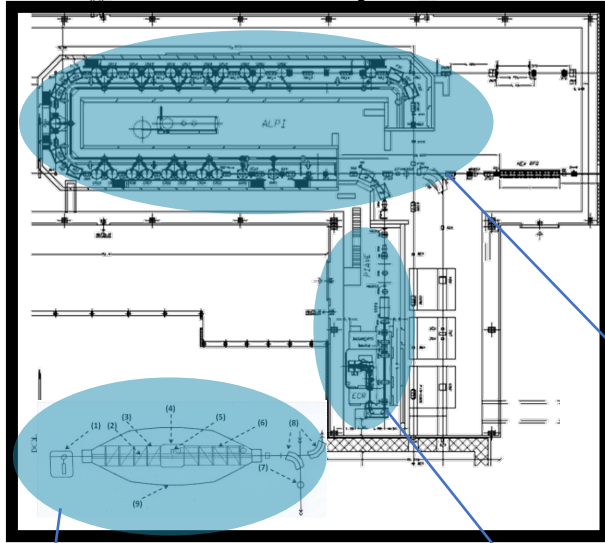


Oct 2013

28/10/2013  
13:00

# Operating facilities at LNL

## Tandem-Piave-Alpi



ALPI

SC- LINAC  
( $V_{eq} \sim 50$  MV)



PRISMA GALILEO

PIAVE

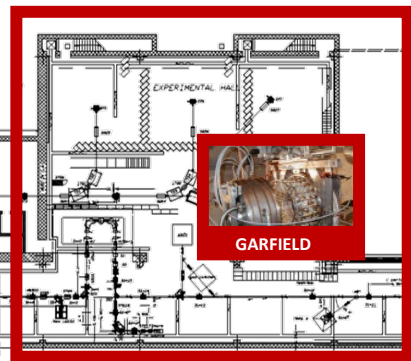
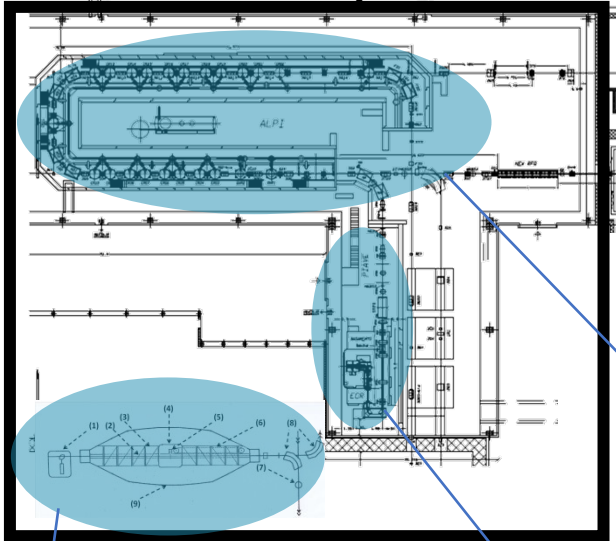
ECR Ion source + RFQ injector

TANDEM-XTU

14 MV - Tandem

# Operating facilities at LNL and SPES

## Tandem-Piave-Alpi

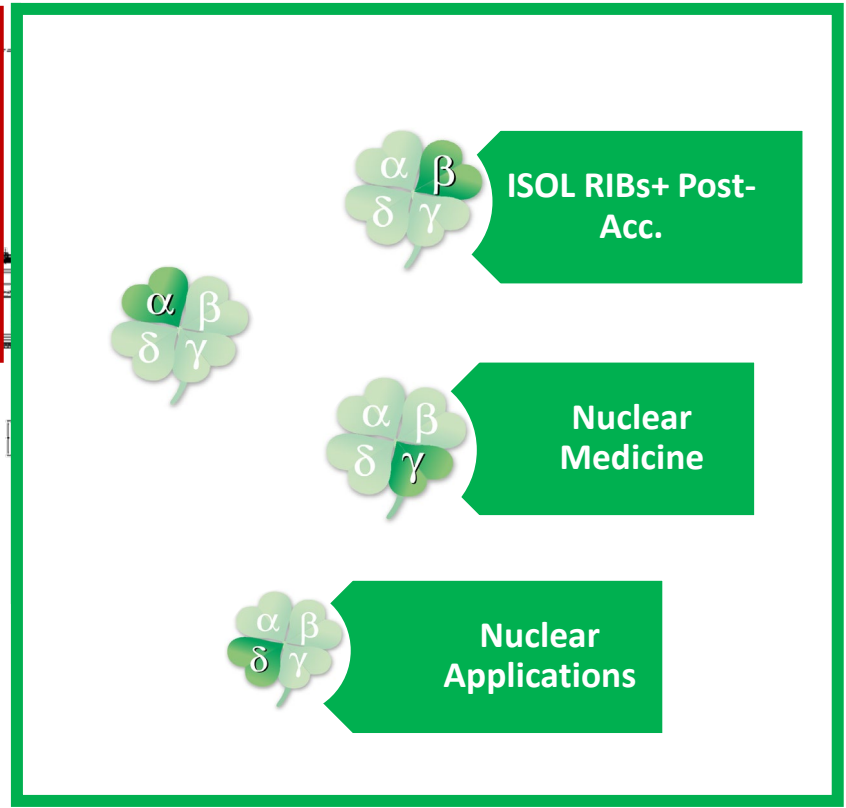


**ALPI**  
SC- LINAC  
( $V_{eq} \sim 50$  MV)

**PIAVE**  
ECR Ion source + RFQ injector

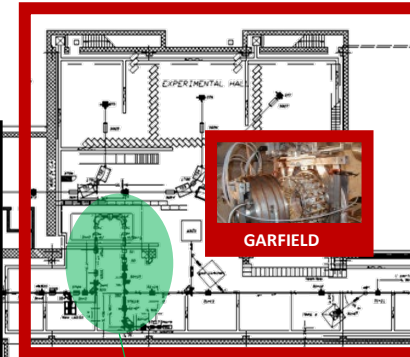
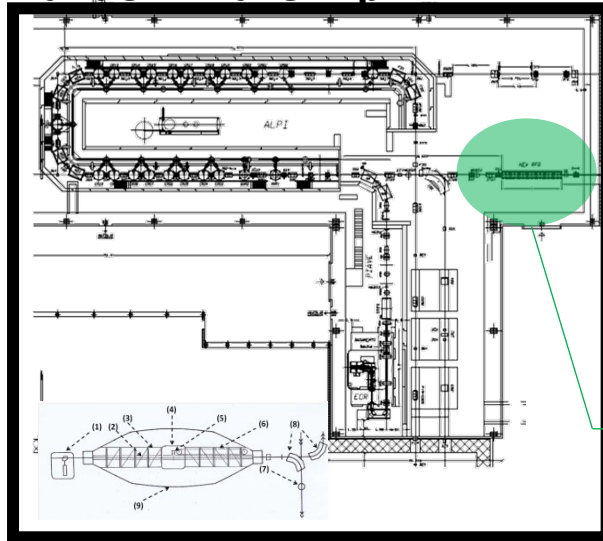
**TANDEM-XTU**

14 MV - Tandem



# The SPES project at LNL.

## Tandem-Piave-Alpi

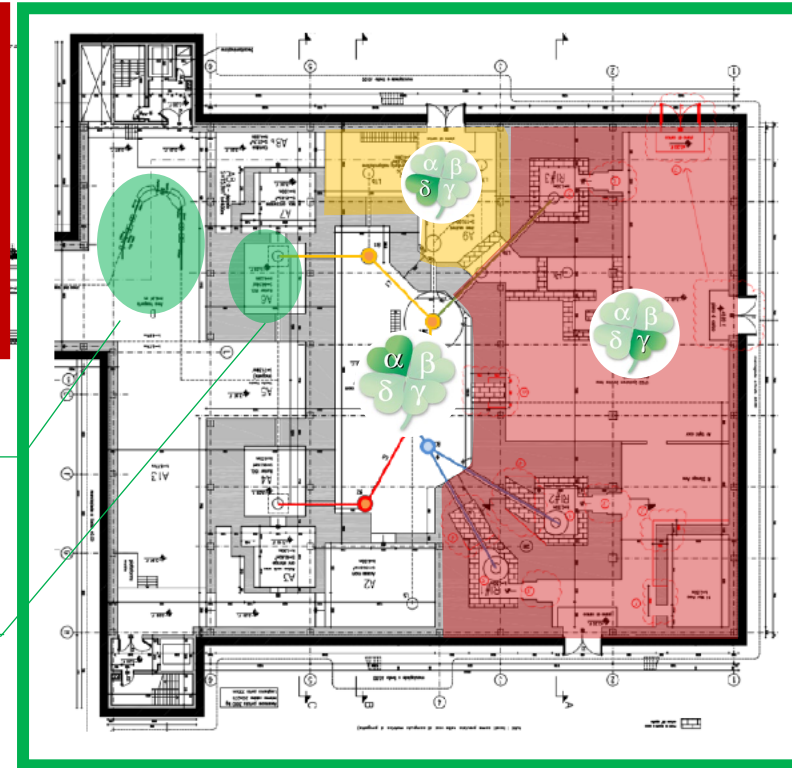


Charge Breeder

HRMS

RFQ injector

SPES ISOL source

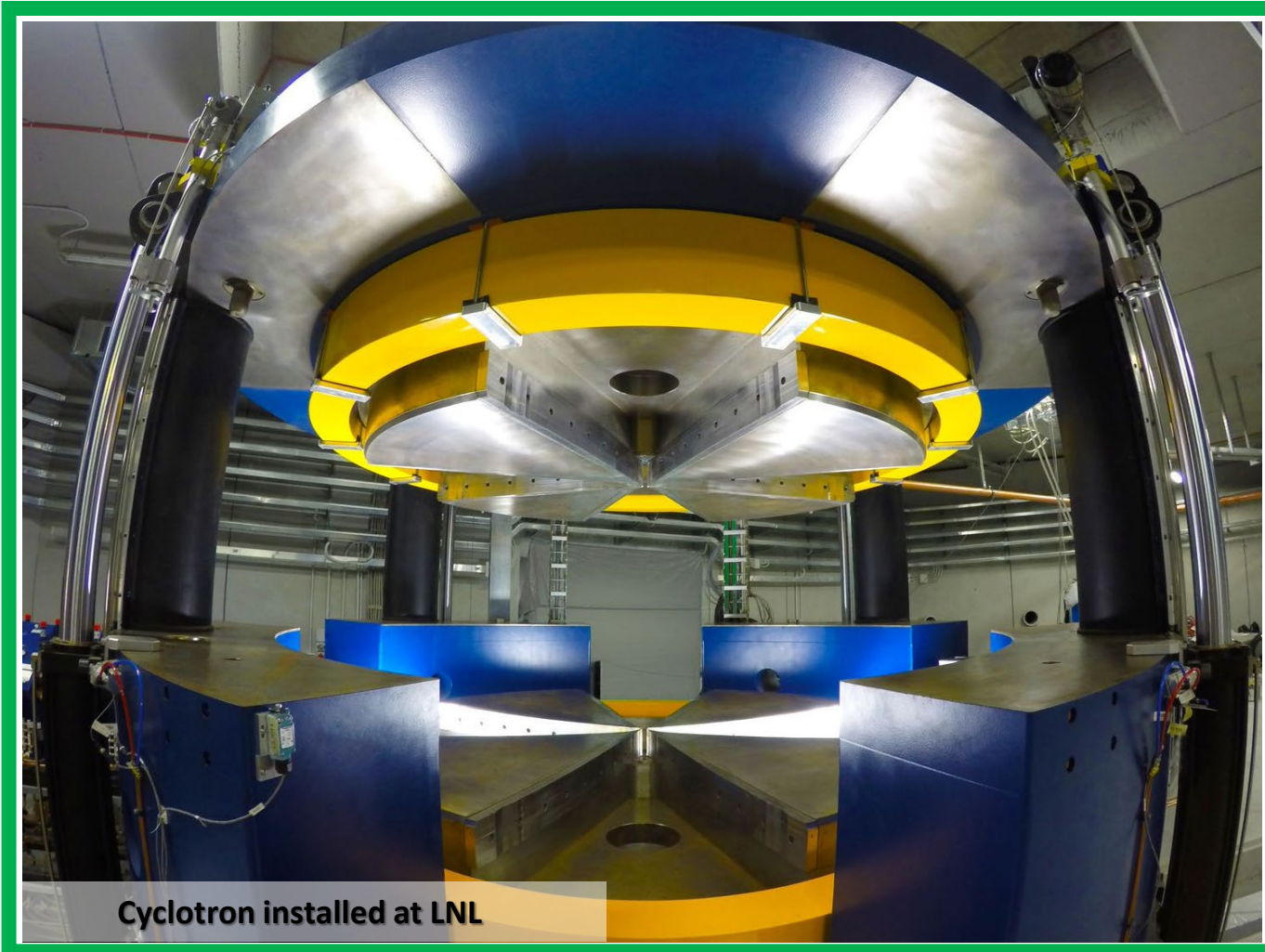


PRISMA GALILEO

# The weight of science: *déjà-vu...*

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Cyclotron installed at LNL

## Main Parameters

Accelerator Type	Cyclotron AVF 4 sectors
Particle	<b>Protons (<math>H^+</math> accelerated)</b>
Energy	<b>Variable within 30-70 MeV</b>
Max Current Accelerated	<b>750 <math>\mu A</math></b> (52 kW max beam power)
Available Beams	<b>2 beams at the same energy</b> (upgrade to different energies)
Max Magnetic Field	1.6 Tesla
RF frequency	56 MHz, 4 <sup>th</sup> harmonic mode
Ion Source	Multicusp $H^-$ I=15 mA, Axial Injection
Dimensions	$\Phi=4.5$ m, h=1.5 m
Weight	150 tons



# The core of SPES- $\beta$ : the ISOL target

**SPES  
ISOL  
Target:**  
UCx, SiC, ...  
 $10^{13}$  fiss./s  
 $T \sim 2000^\circ\text{C}$   
3 sources SIS,  
LIS, PIS  
 $\sim 8$  kW power

**HCL + ToF on Tin laser ionization**  
Double system to check laser resonant ionization:

$\text{Sn}^{4+}$   
614 nm  
286 nm

**The (new) Chamber Unit Storage**

OLD: Storage of several 700 kg of lead box  
New: Storage of the 40 kg target chamber

**CARTESIAN**  
**AGV**

Albano Andrieglotta  
SPES TACS October 2015  
WG-05

Albano Andrieglotta  
SPES TACS October 2015  
WG-04

Beam test at iThemba lab. (2014): 66MeV protons, 60  $\mu\text{A}$  on full scale SiC prototype at 1600  $^\circ\text{C}$  (FEM sim. Validation)  
Former beam tests: ORNL (2007, 2010-2011) SiC, UCx; ISOLDE(2009) UCx, IPNO (2013) UCx.  
Front End and Target System: procured.  
Target handling systems, Heat resistance tests, Nuclear Safety.

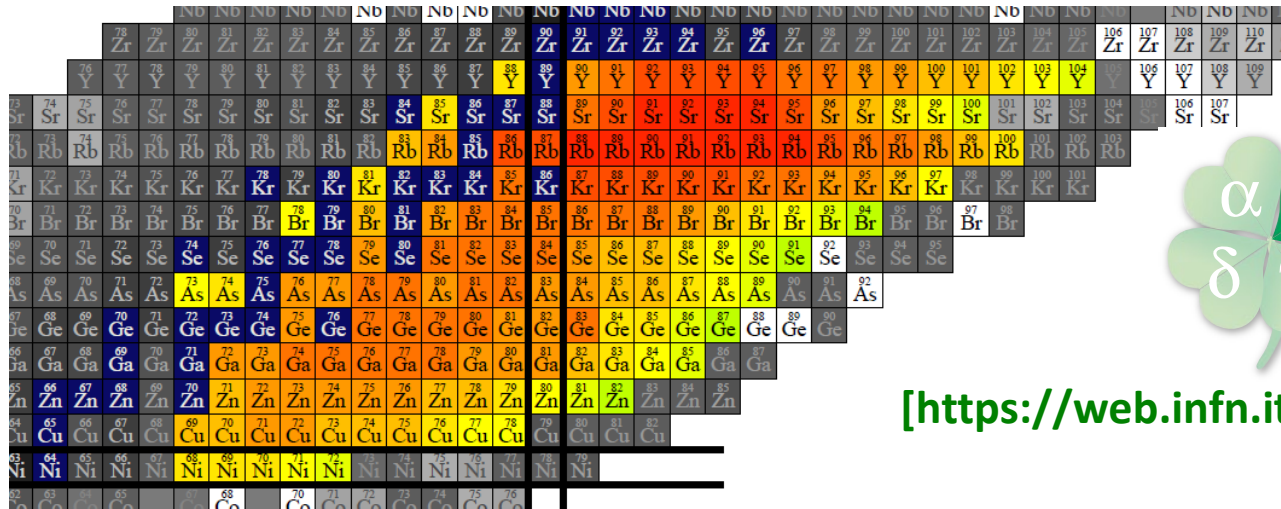
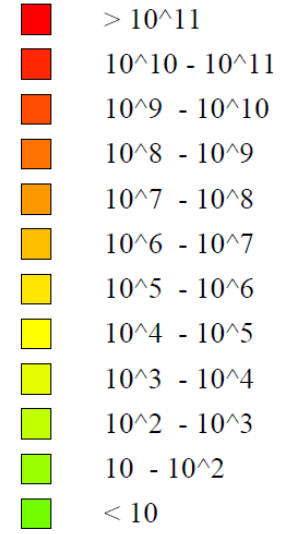
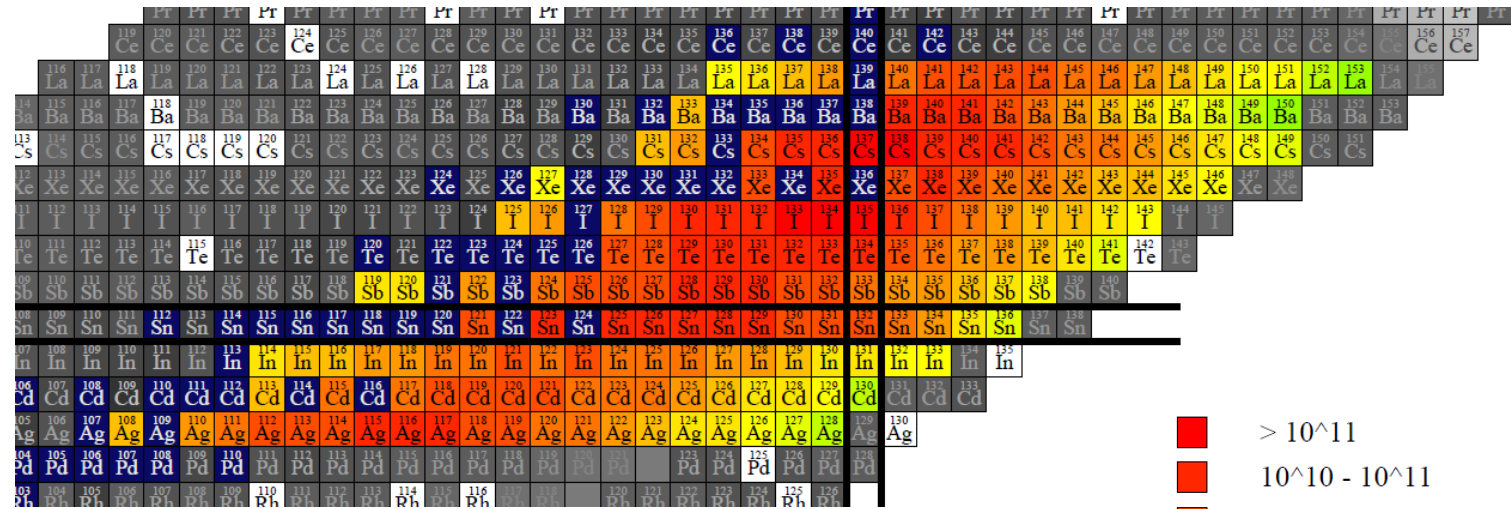


Protonic beam line

TIS unit

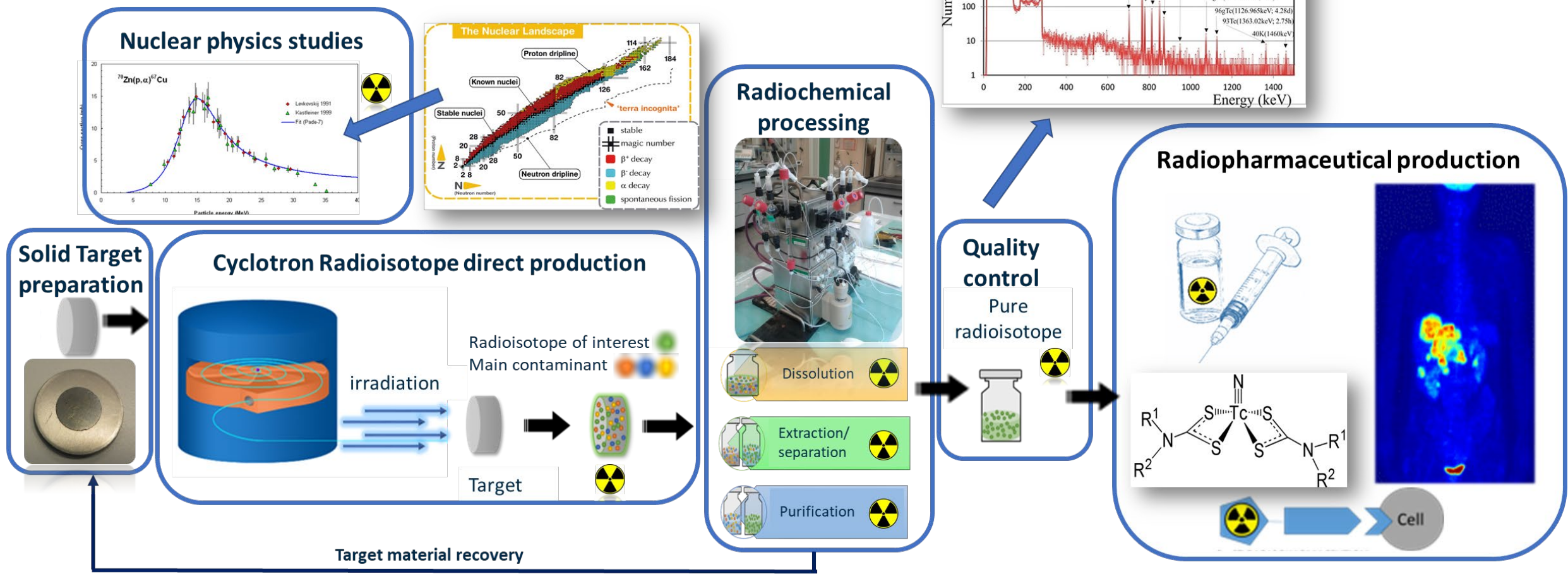
Radioactive beam line

# SPES beams "menu"

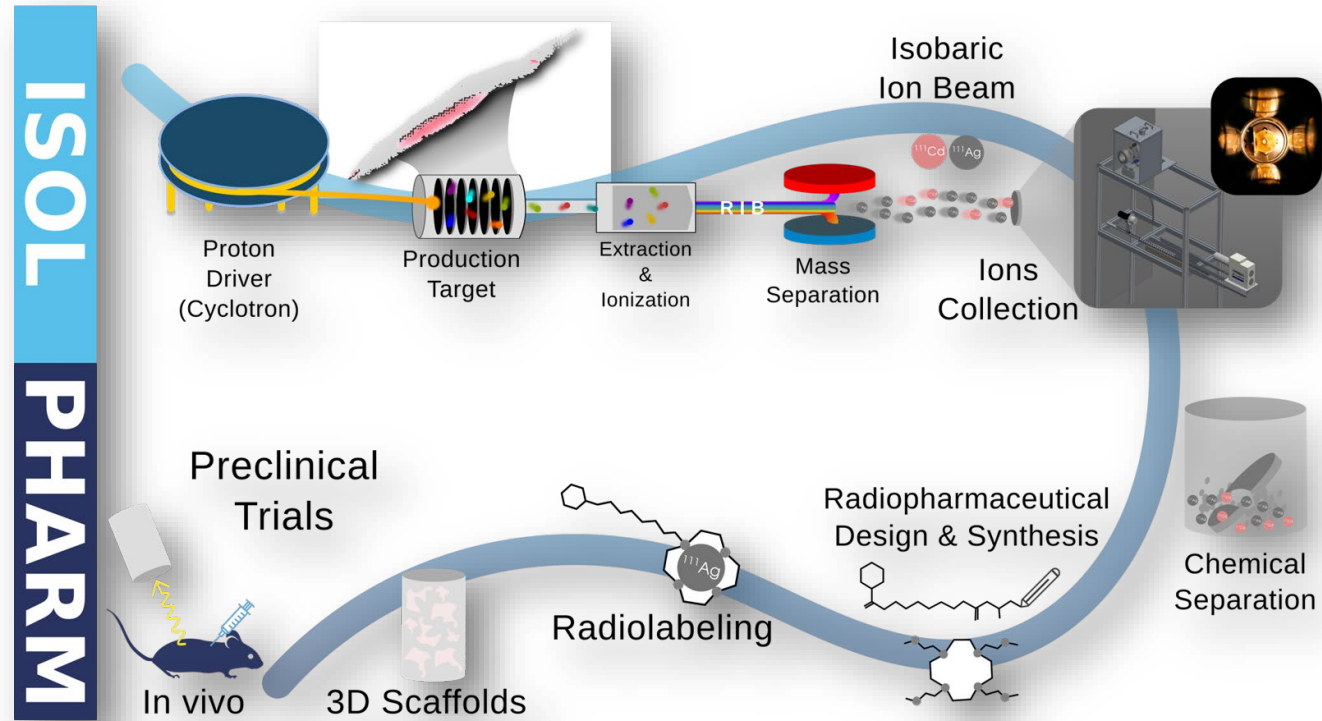


<https://web.infn.it/spes/>

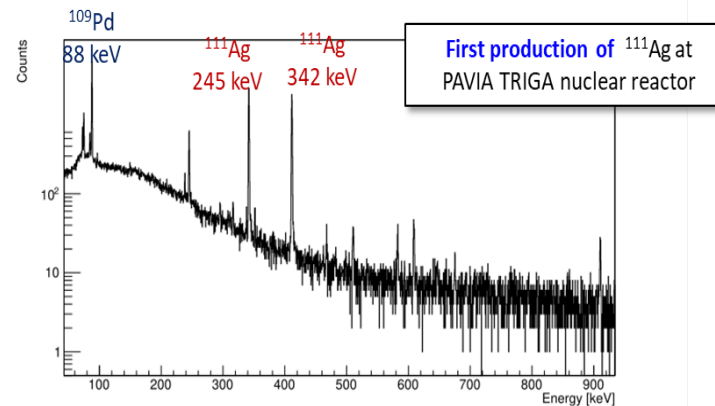
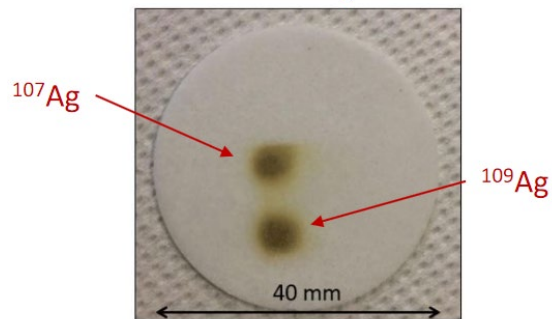
# SPES- $\gamma$ : the LARAMED project



# SPES- $\gamma$ : the ISOLPHARM project



Collection on  $\text{NaNO}_3$  substrate



Capable of selecting and isolating  
a SINGLE RADIO-ISOTOPE

- high Specific Activity
- high Radionuclide Purity

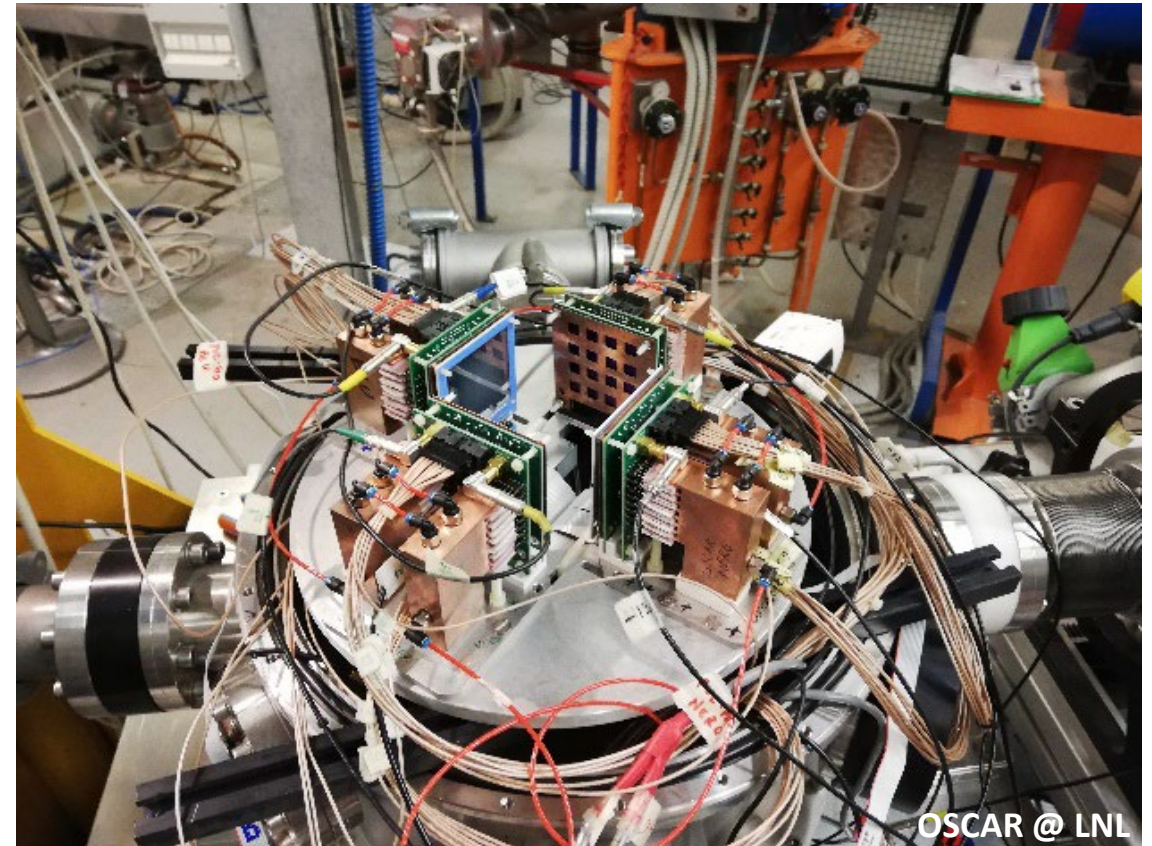
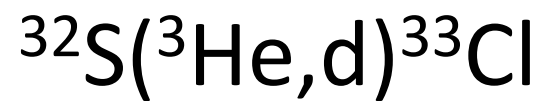
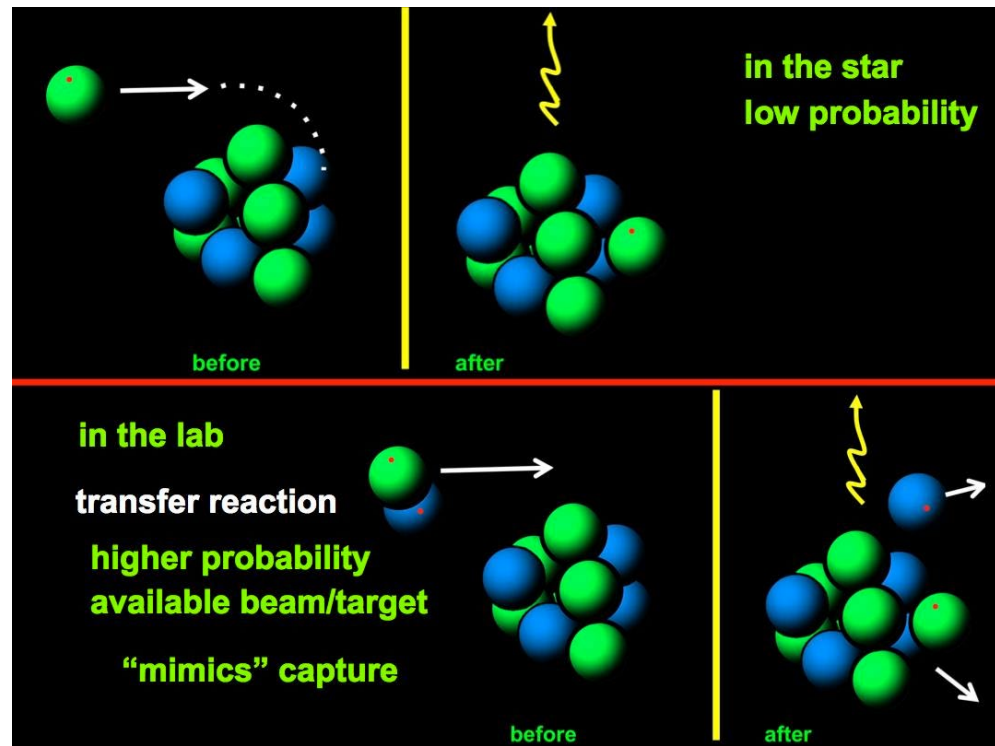
**ISOLPHARM** allows to produce  
unconventional medical radionuclides

PART 3:  
experiments



*...BONUS track...*

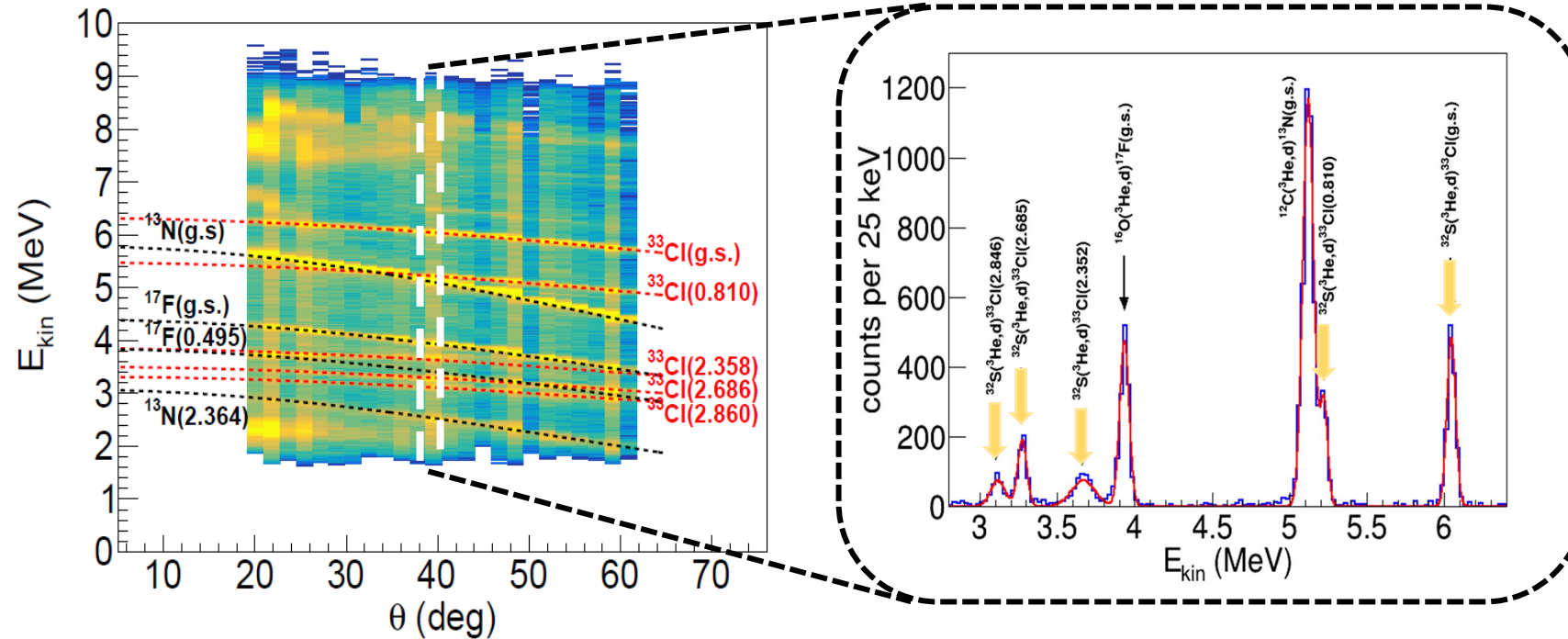
# Stars in the lab: direct reactions



OSCAR @ LNL

Courtesy of the NUCLEX collaboration

# Kinematics and energy levels

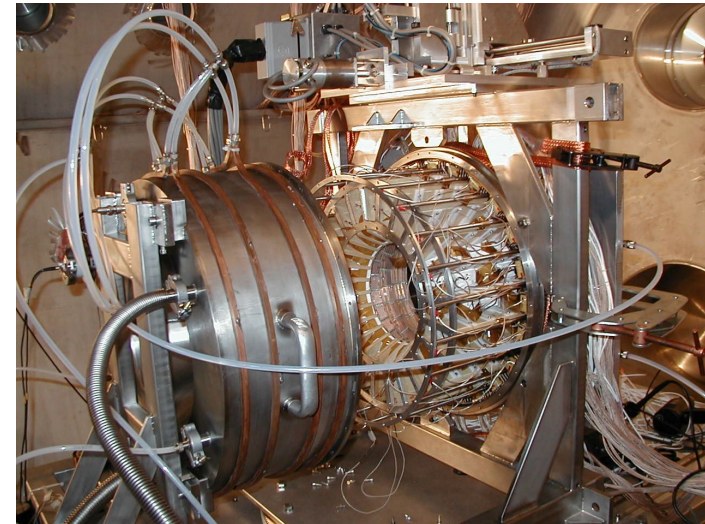
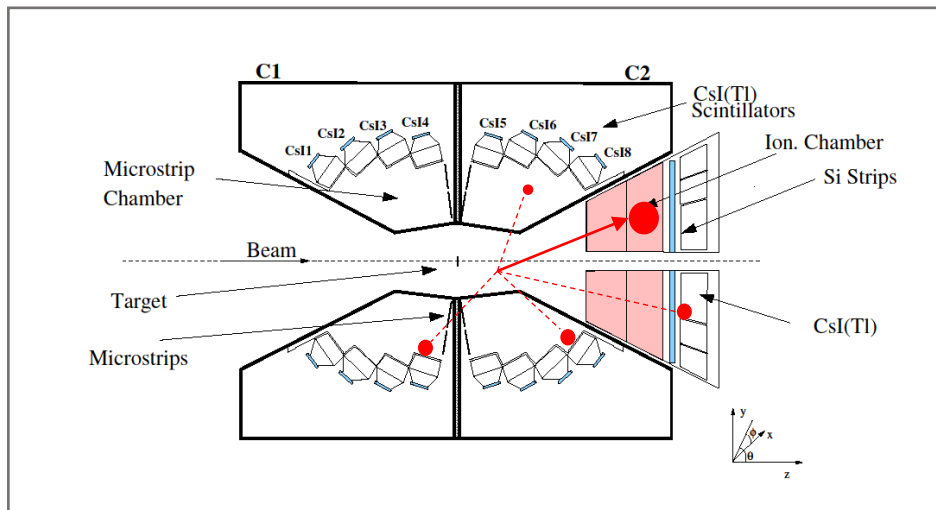
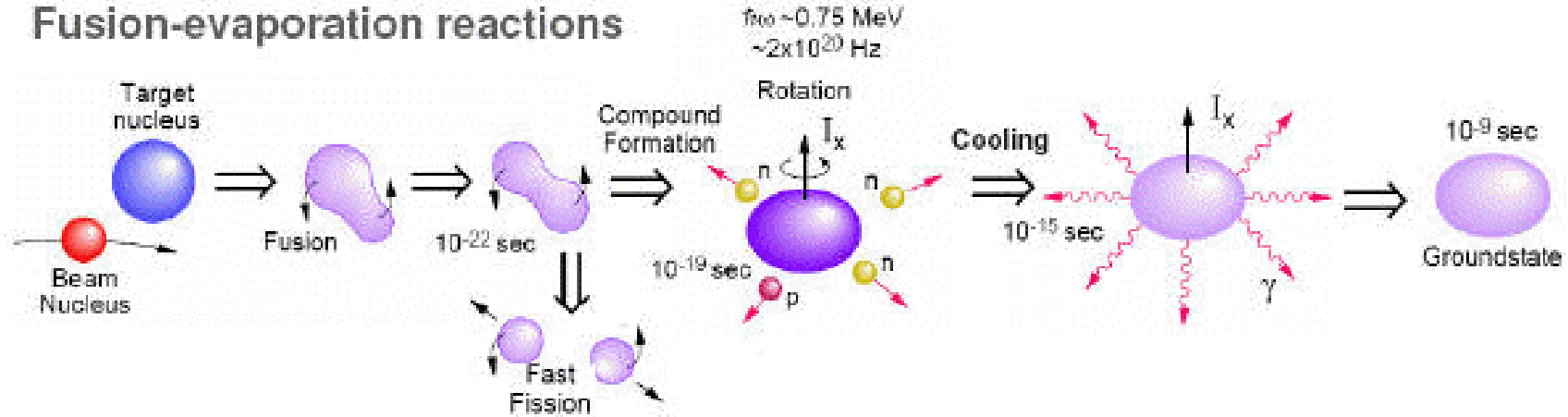




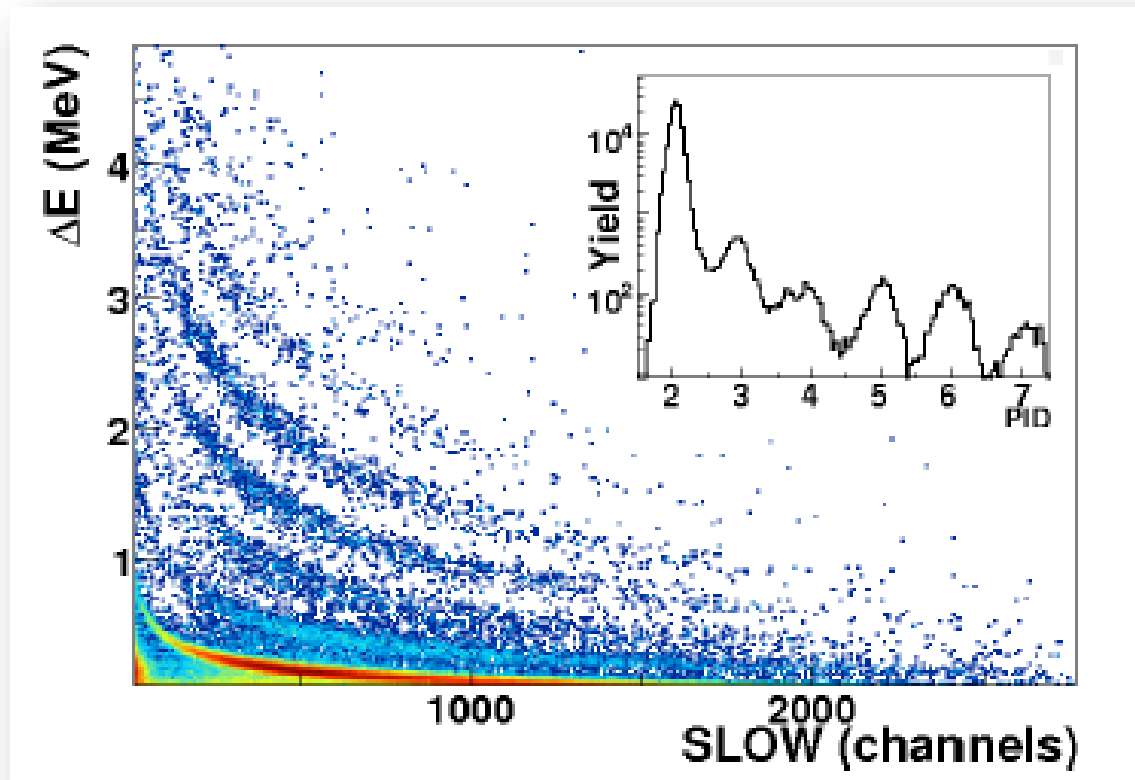
# Fusion-evaporation reactions with the GARFIELD setup



## Fusion-evaporation reactions



# Fusion-evaporation reactions with the GARFIELD setup



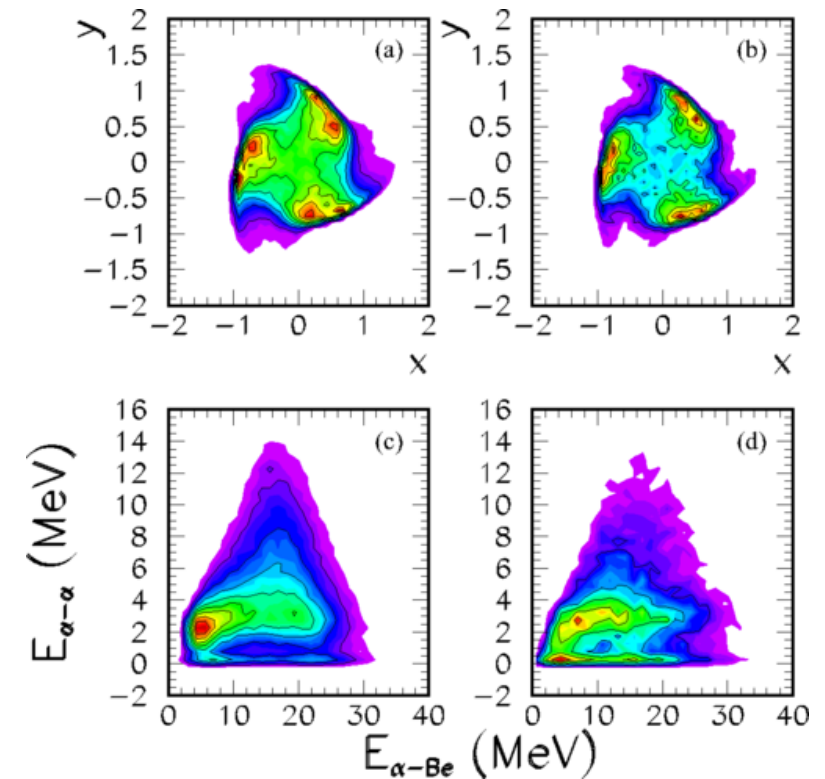
## PHYSICAL REVIEW C

covering nuclear physics

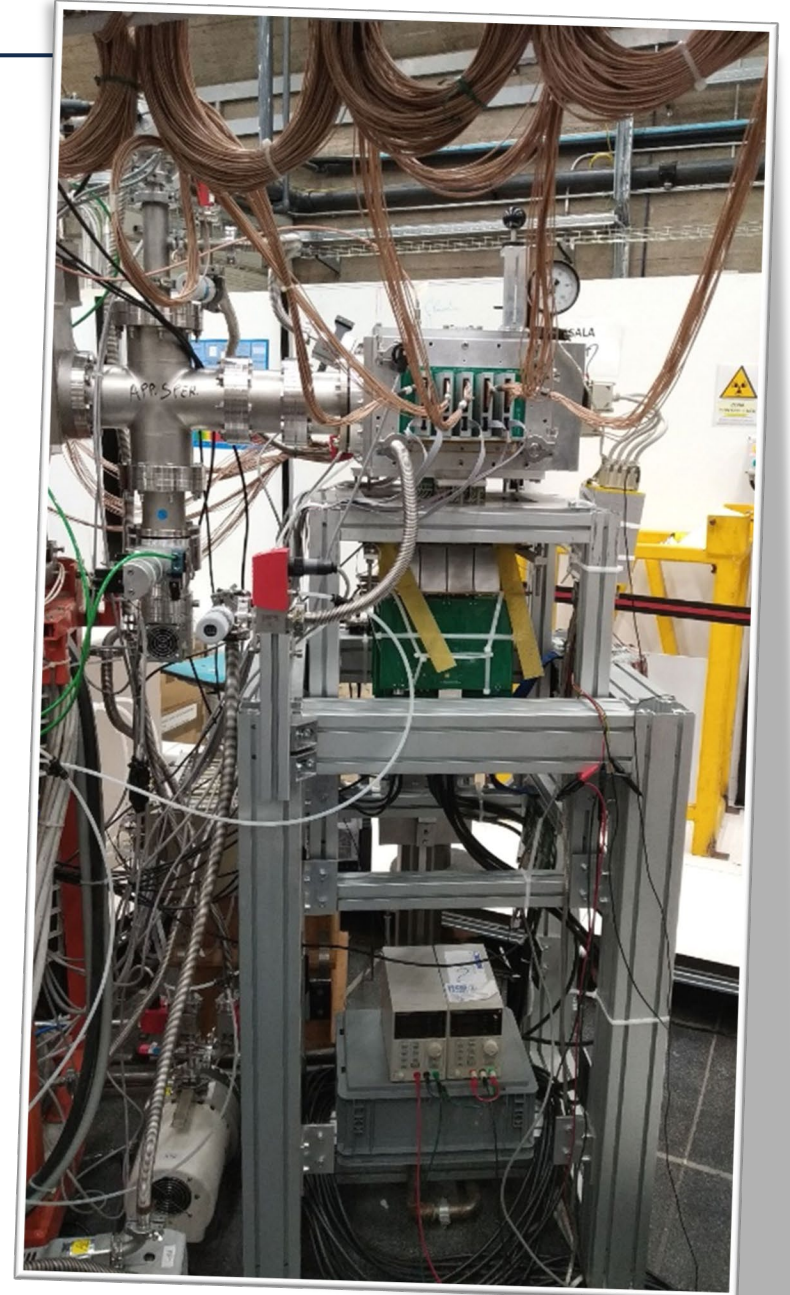
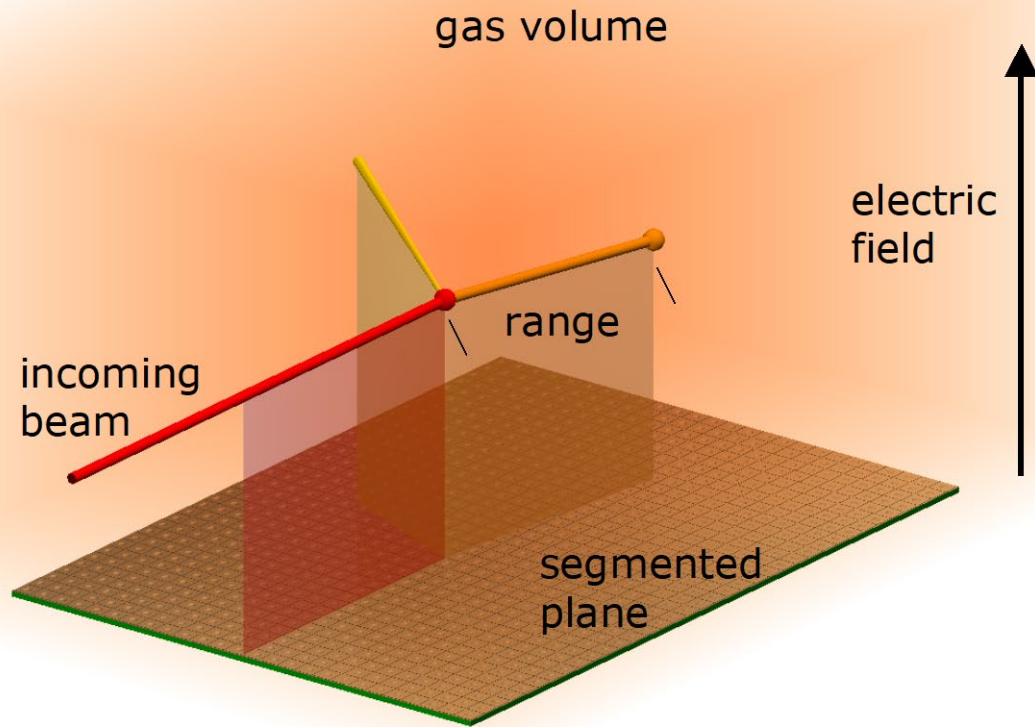
Highlights Recent Accepted Authors Referees Search Press About

### Full disassembly of excited $^{24}\text{Mg}$ into six $\alpha$ particles

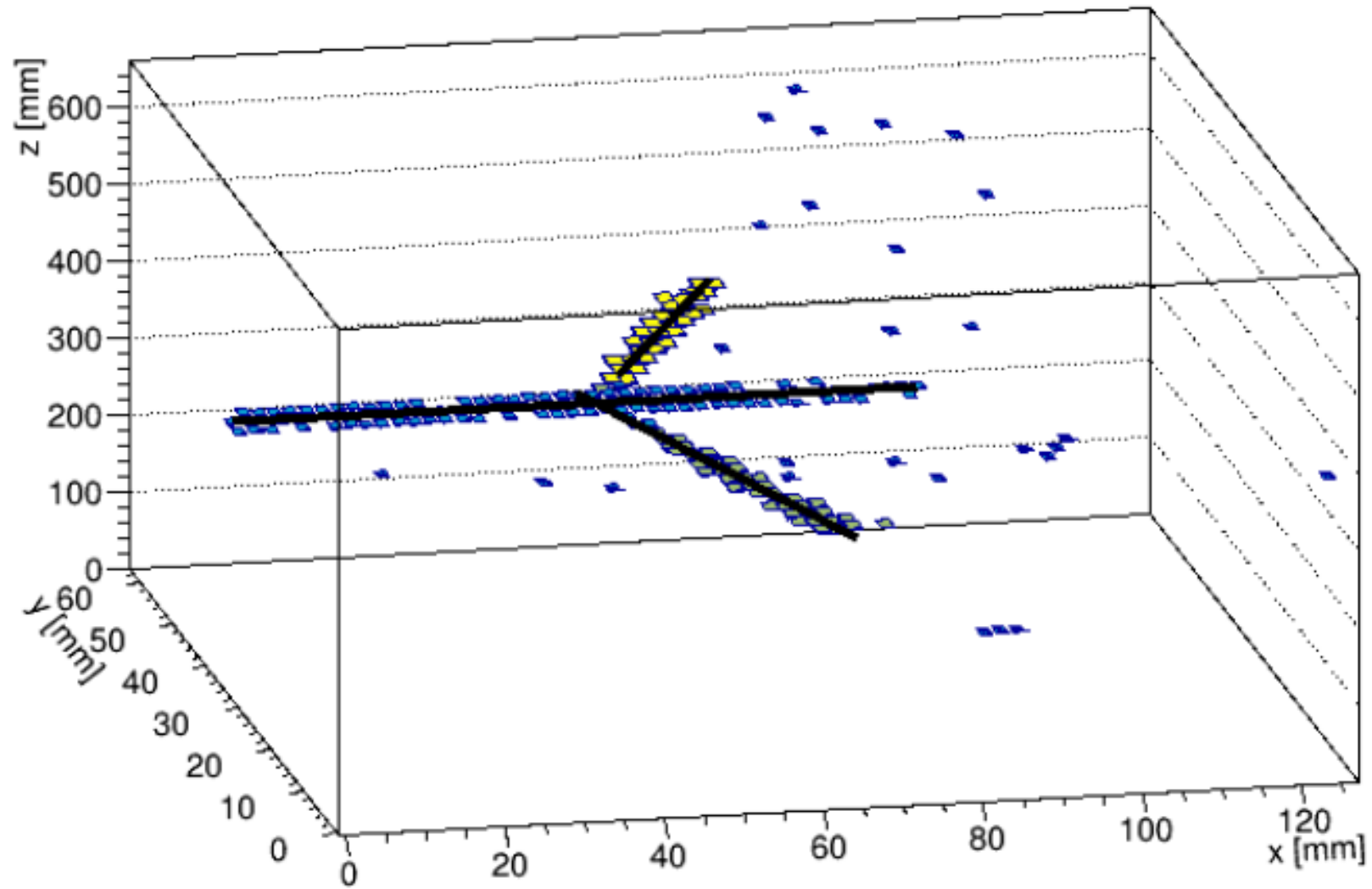
L. Morelli, M. Bruno, M. D'Agostino, G. Baiocco, F. Gulminelli, S. Barlini, A. Buccola, A. Camaiani, G. Casini, C. Ciampi, C. Frosin, N. Gelli, A. Olmi, P. Ottanelli, G. Pasquali, S. Piantelli, S. Valdré, M. Cicerchia, M. Cinausero, F. Gramegna, G. Mantovani, T. Marchi, M. Degerlier, D. Fabris, and V. L. Kravchuk  
Phys. Rev. C **99**, 054610 – Published 9 May 2019



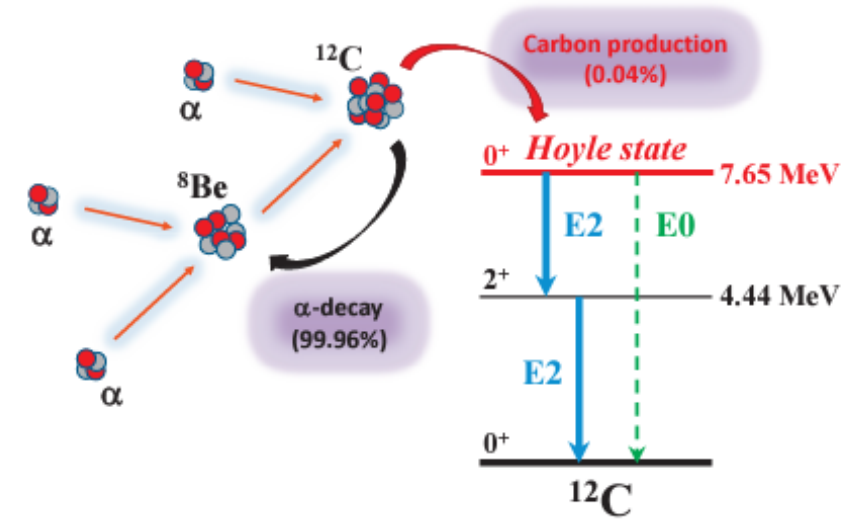
# Novel detectors for new experiments



# Novel detectors for new experiments



$$^{11}\text{B} + \text{p} \rightarrow ^{12}\text{C} \rightarrow \alpha + \alpha + \alpha$$



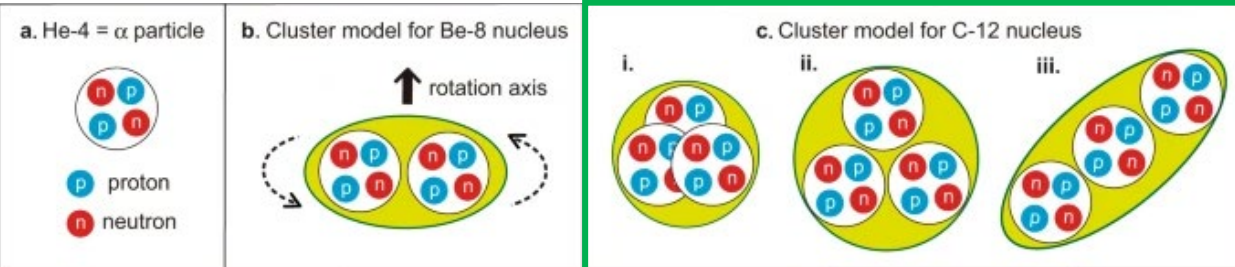
1953 – Fred Hoyle’s hypothesis to explain the  $^{12}\text{C}$  abundance in the universe.

## $\alpha$ -Clustering in atomic nuclei from first principles with statistical learning and the Hoyle state character

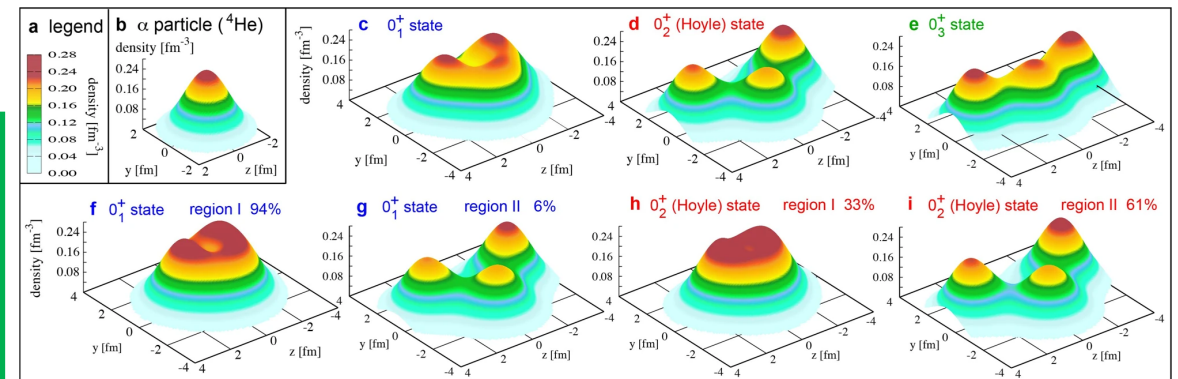
T. Otsuka , T. Abe, T. Yoshida, Y. Tsunoda, N. Shimizu, N. Itagaki, Y. Utsuno, J. Vary, P. Maris & H. Ueno

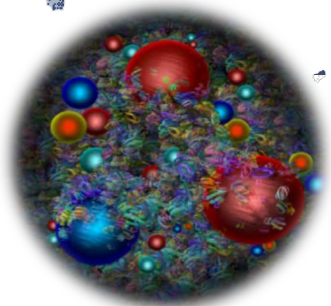
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Thank you !!!

