

# High performance ISOL systems for the production of radioactive ion beams

**Progress Report 2024** 

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## Outline

- Introduction the TIS unit
  - The SPES target
  - The SPES FEBIAD ion source
- The HISOL
  - Project Objectives
  - Research Methodology
  - Timetable and milestones
  - Some Results WP 2 Examples
- HISOL\_NEXT





### The **SPES** Target – Ion Source Unit



The Target – ion source unit is the core of an ISOL facility.

It's composed of the **production target** connected to the **ion source**. Such devices are contained in a **vacuum chamber**.

The growing demand for high intensity and pure Radioactive Ion Beams (RIBs) is pushing to improve the performance of the existing ISOL Targets and Ion Sources, since these are the objects that most of all affect the intensity and the purity of RIBs.



## **ISOL target requirements**

### **Target requirements:**

- open porosity and reduced grain size
- high thermal conductivity
- high mechanical properties
- stability at high temperature
- production of radioisotopes







**Total isotope yield** deeply affected by <u>open porosity</u> (diffusion/effusion processes)



- Diffusion paths
- ---> Effusion paths
  - Re-diffusion paths

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**BULK TARGET = BAD RELEASE!!** <u>Need of targets with regular improved microstructure</u>



## The **SPES** FEBIAD Ion Source



### The Standard FEBIAD Ion Source

- more than **20 components**
- long procedure for alignment (manual operation)
- performance variation and reduced reproducibility 🔱



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## **HISOL Objectives**

### Main goal:

Development of a new generation of High Performance ISOL Targets and Ion Sources with cutting edge technologies available within INFN and its collaboration network.

Such aim foresees three fundamental objectives:

- WP 1 
  Study and development of innovative recipes and methods to produce ISOL targets
- WP 2 Study and development of innovative methods to produce and operate ion sources
  - Characterization and multiphysics simulation of the obtained components
- **WP 3** by means of advanced techniques



### Research Methodology – AM production, Tests, & Characterization

### Work package 1: Development of High Performance ISOL Targets

Production of **TiC/SiC samples** with **regular structures** for **characterization** activities



Development of **TiC/SiC disks** with regular structures for **ISOL Targets** 



Long term **high temperature test** of a TiC/SiC ISOL Target prototype

### Aim: maximize heat transfer and release

Work package 2: Development of High Performance ISOL Ion Sources

Production and test of **W**, **Ta and Mo Ion Source components** with **complex shapes** 

#### Alternative anode-cathode interfaces



Production of ion beams with the Ion Source prototype (also molecular beams)



Aim: improve the ionization efficiency, the source stability and reproducibility

**HISOL** – 27<sup>th</sup> June 2024

### Work package 3: Materials Characterization and Multiphysics Simulation

Microstructural, thermal, electrical and structural characterization





Multiphysics Simulation of High Performance ISOL Targets and Ion Sources



Aim: component characterization



## <u>WP 1</u> – Timetable & Milestones

			Yea	r 1			Ye	ear 2	
_		M3	M6	M9	M12	M15	M18	M21	M24
WP1	Development of High Performance ISOL Targets								
T1.1	Production of TiC samples with regular structures for characterization activities		MS1.1						
T1.2	Development of TiC disks with regular structures for ISOL Targets				MS1.2				
T1.3	Production of SiC samples with regular structures for characterization activities								
T1.4	Development of SiC disks with regular structures for ISOL Targets							MS1.3	
Т1 Б	Long term high temperature test of a TiC/SiC ISOL Target coupled with a Plasma								
11.5	Ion Source								10131.4
	WP1 milestones								Date
MS1.	1 Production of TiC/SiC samples with regular structures for characterization activit	ies							M06
MS1.	2 Printing Test of TiC disks with regular structures for ISOL Targets								M12
MS1	.3 Development of TiC/SiC disks with regular structures for ISOL Targets								M21
MS1	4 Long term high temperature test of a TiC/SiC ISOL Target coupled with a Plasma	lon Sc	ource						M24



## <u>WP 2</u> – Timetable & Milestones

		Year 1			Year 2				
		M3	M6	M9	M12	M15	M18	M21	M24
WP2	Development of High Performance ISOL Ion Sources								
T2.1	Study, optimization and production of W, Ta and Mo Ion Source Components with Complex Shapes				MS2.1				
T2.2	Thermionic emission tests with Ta cathodes specifically designed for high electron fluxes								
T2.3	Production of stable ion beams with the High Performance Plasma Ion Source prototype				MS2.2				MS2.2
T2.4	Production of molecular beams with the Plasma Ion Source prototype				MS2.4				MS2.5

	WP2 milestones	Date
MS2.1	Production of W, Ta and Mo Ion Source Components with Complex Shapes: first prototype	M12
MS2.2	Preparation of the Front-End for stable ion beam production	M12
MS2.3	Production of stable ion beams with the High Performance Plasma Ion Source prototype	M24
MS2.4	Preparation of the Auxiliary Components for the production of molecular beams	M12
MS2.5	Production of molecular beams with the Plasma Ion Source prototype	M24



## <u>WP 3</u> – Timetable & Milestones

		Year 1			Year 2				
		M3	M6	M9	M12	M15	M18	M21	M24
WP3	Materials Characterization and Multiphysics Simulation								
T3.1	Microstructural Characterization				MS3.1				
T3.2	Thermal and Electrical Characterization								
Т3.3	Mechanical Characterization						MS3.2		
Т3.4	Multiphysics Simulation of High Performance ISOL Targets								MS3.3
T3.5	Multiphysics Simulation of High Performance ISOL Ion Sources				MS3.4				MS3.5

	WP3 milestones	Date
<u>MS3.1</u>	Microstructural Characterization	<u>M12</u>
<u>MS3.2</u>	Thermal, Electrical and Mechanical Characterization	<u>M18</u>
MS3.3	Multiphysics Simulation of High Performance ISOL Targets	M24
MS3.4	Definition of the Multiphysics Simulation strategy for High Performance ISOL Ion Sources	<u>M12</u>
MS3.5	Multiphysics Simulation of High Performance ISOL Ion Sources	M24



### T2.1 & T3.5: Study, optimization and production of W, Ta and Mo Ion Source Components with Complex Shapes



Edoardo Bonigolo, Master thesis in Products Innovation Engineering, UNIPD, Supervisor S. Carmignato - to be defended March 2024



# **T2.2:** Thermionic emission tests with Ta cathodes specifically designed for high electron fluxes



A **dedicated set-up** for the evaluation of the thermionic effect and the high temperature deformation measurement was developed.

### **Possible observations:**

- Effect of the component surface finishing
- Effect of different anode grid geometries
- High temperature deformation during long term operation







# **T2.3:** Production of stable ion beams with the High Performance Plasma Ion Source prototype



#### ISOLDE offline 1: ion source reference test facility





## **Research Group – for INFN PD**

INFN-PD						
Name	Expertise – Activity in the project	WP	FTE			
Adriano Pepato (PD local resp.)	AM of metallic components	2, 3	0.3			
Pietro Rebesan	design of components/parts for AM	2, 3	0.1			
Massimiliano Bonesso	AM of metallic components	2, 3	0.1			
Razvan Dima	design of components/parts for AM	1, 2	0.1			
Simone Mancin	thermal characterization	2, 3	0.5			
Lisa Biasetto	microstructural characterization	2, 3	0.5			
Paolo Gragori	AM of metallic components and	2.2	0.5			
radio Gregori	microstructural characterization	2, 3	0.5			
Mattao Parini	AM of metallic components and	2.2	0.5			
	microstructural characterization	2, 3	0.5			
Total INFN-PD FTE						

INFN PD

UniPd

ProM



## HISOL\_NEXT 2025 - 2028

Development of **H**igh performance **ISOL** target – ion source systems for the **NEXT** on-line operation at SPES

→ The HISOL\_NEXT experiment is designed to continue and finalize the development of ISOL target – ion source systems that began with the HISOL experiment. The goal is to make these systems available for the online commissioning campaign of the ISOL SPES facility.

Participants: INFN-LNL, INFN-PD, INFN-PV → 3 years project



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# Backup





## **WP 1 - Developments in HISOL**

T1.1 & T1.2: Production of TiC disks with regular structures for characterization activities and long-term high temperature tests

• Production and microstructural, thermal and mechanical characterization of TiC disks via Direct Ink Writing



5 mm



Alessandro Breda's master thesis in Materials Engineering, UNIPD, Supervisor M. Manzolaro - defended April 2023

Gabriele Sala's master thesis in Materials Engineering, UNIPD, Supervisor M. Manzolaro - defended October 2023

 Production, characterization and long-term high temperature tests of TiC samples produced via Digital Light Processing







More details in Alice Zanini's presentation



## **WP 1 - Developments in HISOL**

**T1.3:** Production of SiC samples with regular structures for characterization activities

Preliminary assessment of the production of SiC samples via Digital Light Processing



More details in Alice Zanini's presentation

**EXTRA:** Production and characterization of Oxide insulators with Additive Manufacturing via Fused Filament Fabrication (WP1-WP2 transversal activity)







Alessandro Testolin's master thesis in Materials Engineering, UNIPD, Supervisor G. Franchin - defended October 2023

More details in Giorgia Franchin's presentation

EXTRA: LaCx and UCx sample production with Digital Light Processing (activity performed at JRC-Karlsruhe)





- La source: lanthanum nitrate
- Complexing agent: citric acid
- Polymerization agent: PEG 400 + sucrose
- Photopolymer: Pegda M<sub>n</sub> 575



CERAM

La:CA:PEG 400:sucrose = 1:2:2:0.79 -> photocurable sol-gel formulation for DLP







Uranyl cations exhibit high photosensitivity -> photoexcitation of uranyl cation under UV-vis light leads to the formation of uranyl radical species that can act as photoinitiator for photopolymerization processes







U:CA:sucrose = 1:2:0.5

- U source: uranyl nitrate
- complexing agent: citric acid
- polymerization agent: sucrose
- photopolymer: Pegda M<sub>n</sub> 575

### -> photocurable sol-gel formulation for DLP





as printed



as printed + photoabsorber to improve printing quality



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• thermal treatment in Ar at 1700°C, different dwelling times tested



- disappearance of UO<sub>2</sub> peaks at 24 h
- graphite free carbon peak

- G band > D band -> ordered graphite domains at 24 h
- noisy signal but relevant peaks for carbon phase



## Work package 3 organization

<u>main</u> suppo

### Work package 3: Materials Characterization and Multiphysics Simulation



### 

emissivity and thermal conductivity measurements

#### microstructural characterization





electrical resistivity measurements





Reliable Material PropertyData at High Temperature are<br/>required for RobustMultiphysics Simulation ofISOL Targets and Ion Sources

**HISOL** – 27<sup>th</sup> June 2024

thermionic emission measurements



multiphysics simulations



### T3.1: Material development and microstructural characterization

### PhD Candidate Leoanrdo Salvò training in ProM, Trento Luca Da Tos's master thesis DTG, UNIPD, Supervisor S. Carmignato - defended 2024 First LPBF Nb samples produced at ProM



Surface treatment on Ta sample to decrease roughness (collaboration with Surface Technologies and Superconductivity Service at INFN-LNL)

**Buffered Chemical Polishing (BCP)** 



Plasma Electrolytic Polishing (PEP)



**Electropolishing (EP)** 













### **T3.2: Thermal and Electrical Characterization**



Davide Cester, Master thesis in Materials Engineering, UNIPD, Supervisor M. Manzolaro - defended July 2023



## **T3.3: Mechanical Characterization**



Davide Cester, Master thesis in Materials Engineering, UNIPD, Supervisor M. Manzolaro - defended July 2023 Leonardo Salvò, Master thesis in Materials Engineering, UNIPD, Supervisor M. Manzolaro - defended October 2023



### **T3.4: Multiphysics Simulation of High Performance ISOL Targets**

### A complex multistep simulation process



### **T3.5:** Multiphysics Simulation of High **Performance ISOL Ion Sources**

A path towards a FEBIAD ion source with enhanced performances benefitting of the flexibility of the LPBF technology

