





# High acceptance Silicon Detector for (n,cp) measurements

GEANT4 SIMULATIONS ON THE PHYSICS CASE

Bologna 2024- Meeting Nazionale n\_TOF

Giulio Perfetto

## The High Acceptance Detector

This Silicon based apparatus is composed by two double sided annular detectors and four squares, arranged in a cylindrical geometry to maximize the efficiency.



- nTD Silicon
- Based on SAD results: suitable for PSD
   with digital PSA
- Expected efficiency  $\approx$  35/40 %
- Highly segmented:
  - 32 channels on annular detectors (16 front and 16 back)
  - 16 channels on the square detectors (8 front and 8 back)



## Geometry



**Detector thickness:** 400 µm (7 MeV protons PT)

**Al Dead Layer thickness**: 500 nm

Relative distances between detectors can be adjusted.

### Choice of the sample

The High acceptance Si Detector was designed to measure (n,cp) reactions.

Different possible samples are now being studied for nuclear fusion applications. Main candidates for **plasma facing parts**:

- ▶ W it is the main component of the ITER divertor and First Wall, thanks to the high melting point  $\rightarrow$  Hard to fabricate.
- Mo is an attractive alternative to Tungsten  $\rightarrow$  Easier to fabricate, but significant radioactivity after neutron exposure.
- Cu is a component of the divertor with W-CU monoblocks

TEM image of He bubbles in various metals. From Li,S. et al "Radiation-Induced Helium Bubbles in Metals"

In these materials (n,cp) reactions cause the formation of bubbles, that severely alter the thermomechanical properties of hypothetical nuclear fusion reactors.





#### 🔶 2003 Rapp **(n**, α) <sup>95</sup>*Mo* 🔫 1986 Szarka 10-3 $10^{-3}$ (barns) Section 10-4 10-4 Cross 10-5 10-5 10-6 10-6 10-6 10-4 $10^{-2}$ 1 Incident Energy (MeV)

# State of the data

- In the nuclear data libraries, there is a scarcity in (n,cp) cross sections for these elements, as well as several inconsistencies.
- The evaluated cross sections are relatively small.



## GEANT4 Simulations

- <sup>184</sup>W, <sup>95</sup>Mo, <sup>63</sup>Cu samples tested
- 10<sup>7</sup> neutrons with a cross-section bias of 10<sup>3</sup> for all the interactions: equivalent to 10<sup>10</sup> neutrons
- EAR2 flux with neutron energy between 1 and 20 MeV
- Results reported considering a month of irradiation



## W simulations

- Produced Particles
- ► Test on <sup>184</sup>W
- Sample thickness = 7  $\mu$ m
  - 6 MeV Alpha range in Tungsten: 10.4 µm
- Results for a month in EAR2
- ▶  $1 \text{MeV} < E_n < 20 \text{MeV}$

Produced Particle	Counts
α	1998
р	5920
d	851
†	37



lsotope	Reaction	Q-value (MeV)	Threshold (MeV)
<sup>184</sup> W	(n,p)	-2.08	2.10
	(n,d)	-5.48	5.50
	(n, α)	7.34	0
	(n,t)	-6.15	6.2

## W simulations

Detected Particles in the whole detector

Counts vs Neutron Energy in a month E\_dep > 2 MeV



10<sup>4</sup> Counts Counts 10<sup>5</sup> Ð — Total  $10^{3}$ — Alpha 104 Proton 10<sup>2</sup> 10<sup>3</sup> E 10 10<sup>2</sup> 1 E F 0 10-1 <sup>10</sup>Neutron Energy (MeV) -1



1036  $\alpha$  were detected in the forward annular

## Mo Simulation

- Produced Particles
- ▶ Test on <sup>95</sup>Mo
- Sample thickness =  $7 \, \mu m$ 
  - 6 MeV Alpha range in Molybdenum: 12.4µm
- Results for a month in EAR2
- ▶  $1 \text{MeV} < E_n < 20 \text{MeV}$

Produced Particle	Counts
α	19684
р	55611
d	0
†	0



lsotope	Reactio n	Q-value (MeV)	Threshold (MeV)
<sup>95</sup> Mo	(n,p)	-0.14	0.14
	(n,d)	-6.41	6.48
	(n, a)	6.39	0
	(n,t)	-11.02	11.15

An order of magnitude higher than W

## Mo simulations

Detected Particles in the whole detector

Detected Particle	Counts	3	1
α	7844	0.40	
р	21978	0.40	



Energy deposited total detector

Alpha and Total are superimposed at lower energies

## Mo simulations



Detected Particle	Counts	3
α	1887	0.10
p	5735	0.10

### 

Proton Counts vs Neutron Energy in a month Forward annular

## Cu simulation

- ▶ Test on <sup>63</sup>Cu
- Sample thickness =  $5 \, \mu m$ 
  - 6 MeV Alpha range
  - ▶ in Copper: 12.7 µm
- Results for a month in EAR2
- ▶  $1 \text{MeV} < E_n < 20 \text{MeV}$

Produced Particle	Counts
α	62752
р	523143
d	31931
†	629



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Isotope	Reaction	Q-value (MeV)	Threshol d
<sup>63</sup> Cu	(n,p)	0.71	0
	(n,d)	-3.90	3.96
	(n, a)	1.71	0
	(n,t)	-8.63	8.76

### About:

3 times more than Mo case for  $\alpha$  9 times more than Mo case for p

## Cu simulations

Detected Particles in the whole detector

Detecte d Particle	Counts	3
α	24938	0.40
p	182928	0.35
d	13431	0.42
t	148	0.23

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Counts vs Neutron Energy in a month E\_dep > 2 MeV

Proton and Total are superimposed at lower energies

## Cu simulations

#### **Detected Particles** in the Forward annular



Detected Particle	Counts	3
α	6216	0.10
р	36445	0.07
d	4144	0.13
†	37	0.06





Neutron Energy (MeV)

# Comparison between samples

Isotope	Results
<sup>184</sup> W	<ul><li>Very small Yield</li><li>Higher Z</li></ul>
<sup>95</sup> Mo	<ul> <li>Higher Yield</li> <li>Very High Q-value</li> </ul>
<sup>63</sup> Cu	<ul> <li>Highest Yield</li> <li>Smaller Q-value</li> <li>Smallest Z</li> <li>Available</li> </ul>

We have considered reactions as candidate

- Relevant for nuclear fusion
- Should Have a High Yield
- (n,a) has a better PSD performance







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# Thanks for the attention!

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## **Reactions involved**

Isotope	Reaction	Q-value (MeV)	Threshold
<sup>184</sup> W	(n,p)	-2.08	2.10
	(n,d)	-5.48	5.50
	(n, α)	7.34	0
<sup>95</sup> Mo	(n,p)	-0.14	0.144.8
	(n,d)	-6.41	6.48
	(n, α)	6.39	0
<sup>63</sup> Cu	(n,p)	0.71	0
	(n,d)	-3.90	3.96
	(n, α)	1.71	0

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### Total detected 95 Mo

