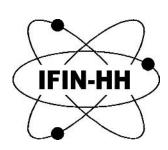


The ISOLDE Decay Station: recent activities and perspectives

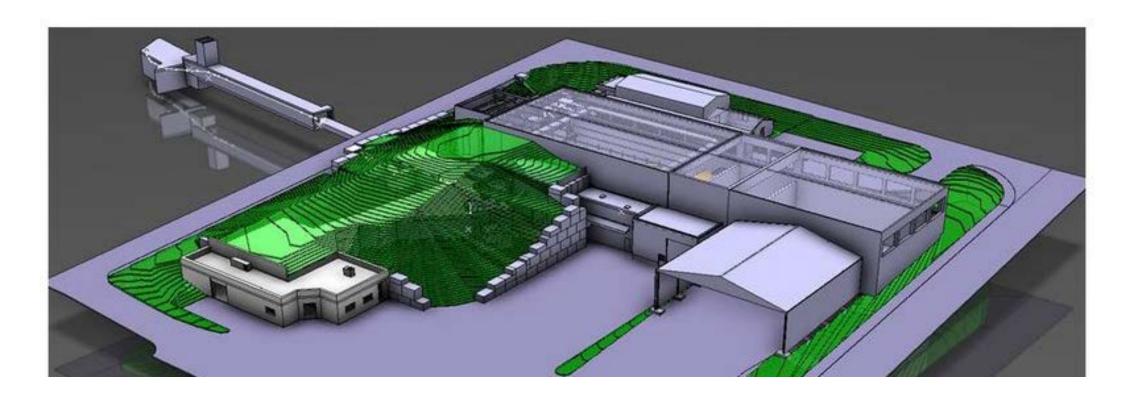
Razvan LICA

IFIN-HH, Romania







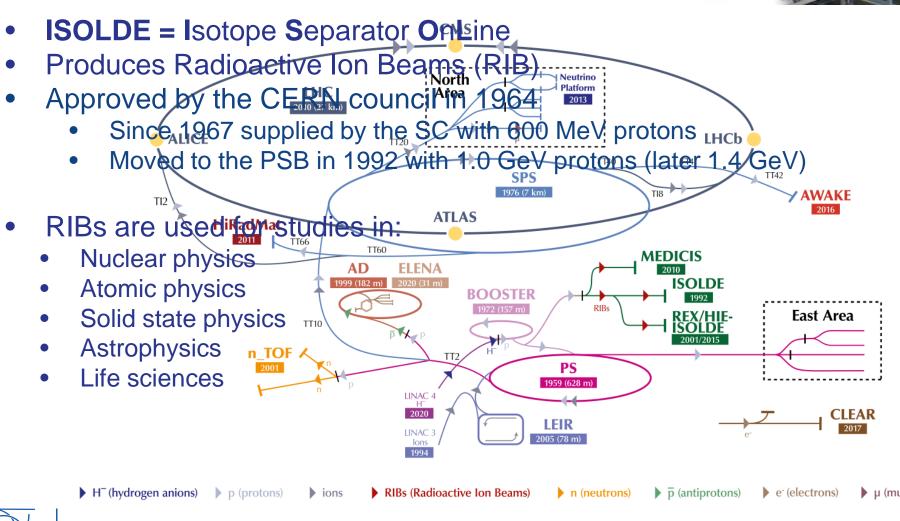


The ISOLDE-CERN Facility - a brief overview -

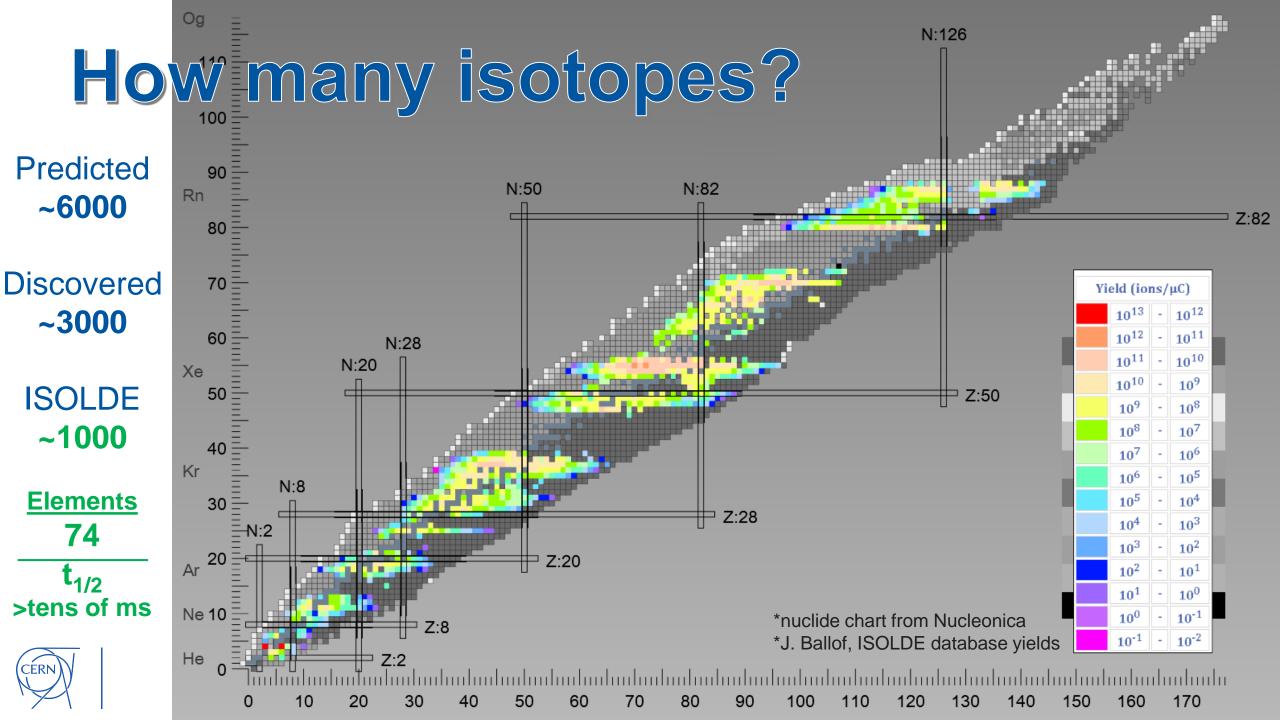




199192 CERN









Operates ~8 months/year, 24/7

ISOLDE takes ~50% of CERN protons

~50 staff – maintain/operate the facility

A few students and fellows

~450 users for physics in more than 90 experiments



19919£ Facility

Protons $(1.4 - 2.0 \text{ GeV}, < 2\mu\text{A})$

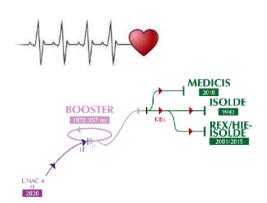
Low energy RIBs (up to 60 keV)

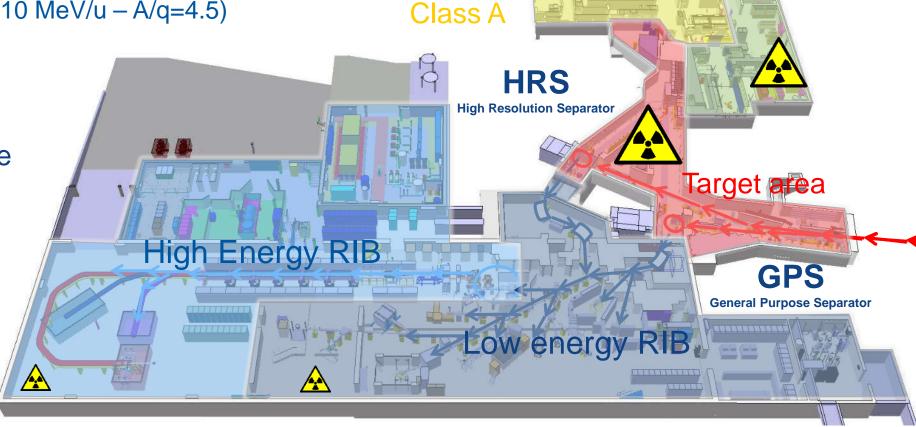
High energy RIBs (up to 10 MeV/u – A/q=4.5)

Pulsed protons (1.2 s)

1.4 GeV

3.3x10¹³ protons per pulse



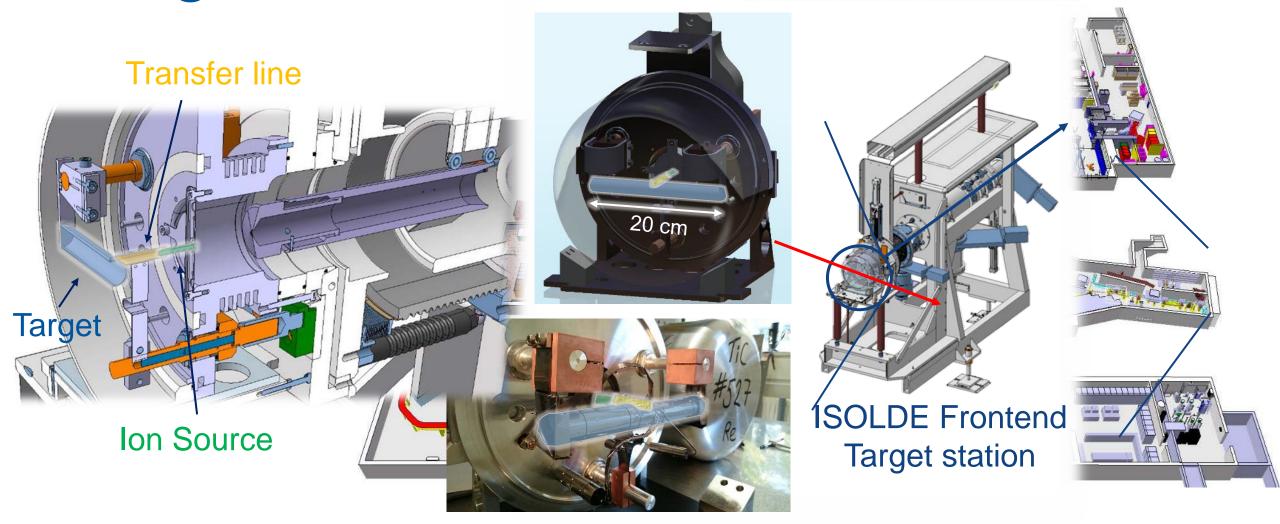


Radioactive laboratory



MEDICIS

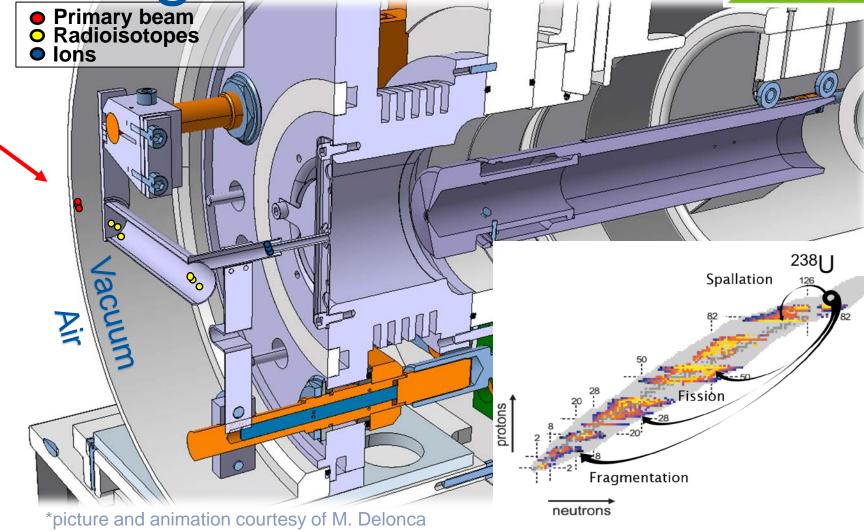
Target Unit – Heart of 19911





Target Unit - Heart of 19912

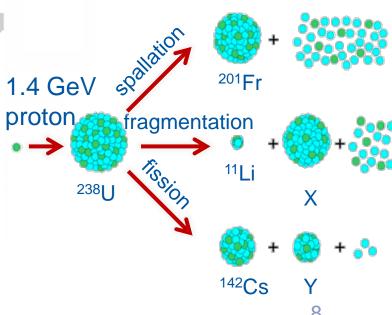




Beam power

- 2.8 kW in average
- > 1.2 GW (pulse length 2.3 μs)
 - > ~10% deposited

What is the sound of proton impact on target?





ISOLDE Consolidation, Improvements and Expansion

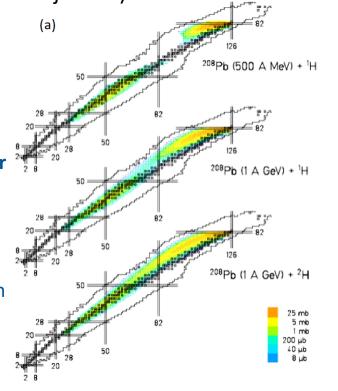
LS3 = December 2025 to Spring 2027 (for proton injectors).

Mid-term goals (up to and including LS3)

- Nanomaterial-based target lab coming online.
- Front End & RILIS laser ionisation consolidation.
- Post-accelerator consolidation and cryo improvements.
- New proton beam dumps to modern radiological standards and to receive higher energy protons at higher intensity, with several infrastructure improvements to target areas.
- Upgrade of line from PS Booster to deliver 2-GeV protons: increased yield of fission fragments by ~1.4, fragmentation products by ~ ×2 5, and exotic spallation products by >×6.
- Increased proton currents (**up to ×3**), enabled by new beam dumps, improves these factors further.
- Investigate parallel RIB operation with GPS and HRS.
- Upgrade of ventilation and improve fire safety.

Improved RIB yield:

- 1. Increased capacity more experiments.
- 2. Increased statistics more precision.
- 3. Increased capability measurements on new isotopes.



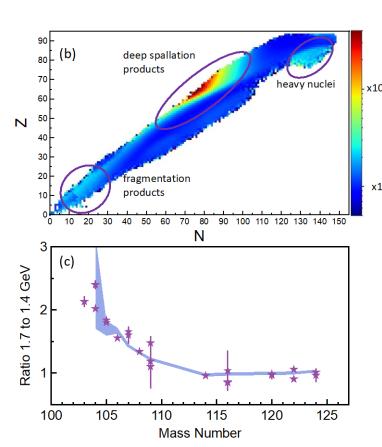
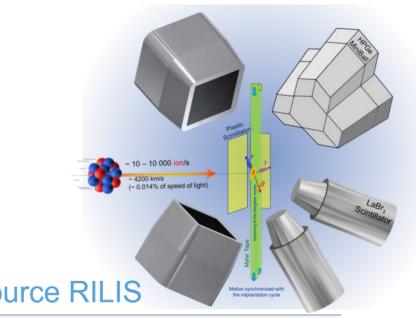


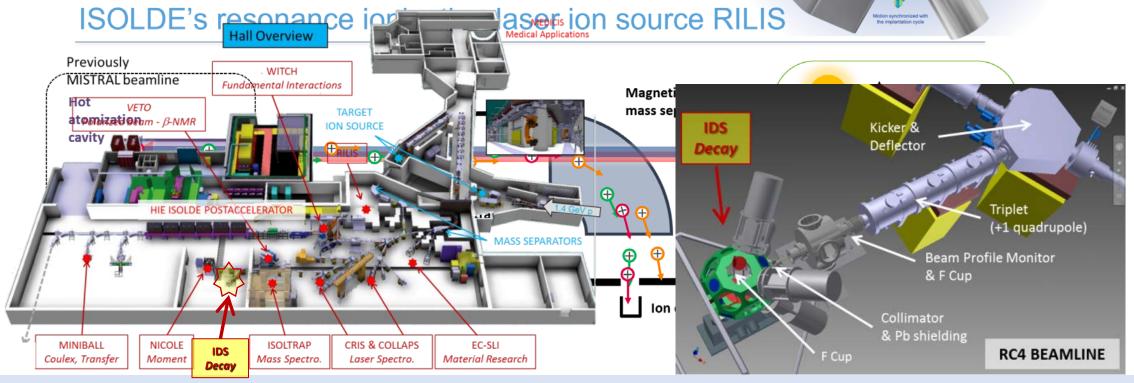
Figure 1: (a) Figure taken from Ref. 14 showing experimental cross sections in the spallation of 208Pb, (b) FLUKA simulations for a UCx target showing the ratio of production yield at 2 GeV to that at 1.4 GeV (improvements due to increased proton intensity are additional) and (c) measurements of In isotopic yield ratios at 1.7 GeV to 1.4 GeV compared to FLUKA predictions (blue band).



The ISOLDE Decay Station (IDS) project aims to provide:

- •Permanent Setup for beta-decay studies using the beams from ISOLDE (since 2014)
- •Flexible approach (for several decay types and studies)
 - **HPGe detectors** (6 permanent Clovers + others)
 - Ancillary detectors (LaBr₃, plastic scintillator, silicon, neutron)
 - Tape station
 - In-Source Laser Spectroscopy Studies using RILIS (since 2017)











ISOLDE Decay Station Collaboration

Collaborating institutes

- Belgium (KU Leuven)
- Denmark (Aarhus University, Department of Physics and Astronomy)
- Finland (University of Jyväskylä)
- Germany (Institut für Kernphysik Universität zu Köln)
- Italy (Università degli Studi e INFN Milano)
- Poland (Faculty of Physics, University of Warsaw)
- Romania (IFIN-HH Bucharest)
- South Africa (iThemba LABS)
- Spain (IEM-CSIC Madrid; IFIC-CSIC Valencia; UCM Madrid)
- Sweden (Lund University)
- Switzerland (CERN ISOLDE)
- UK (STFC Daresbury Laboratory; University of Liverpool; University of York; University of Surrey)
- USA (University of Tennessee)

IDS is supported by 18 institutes across the world, and used by many more globally.

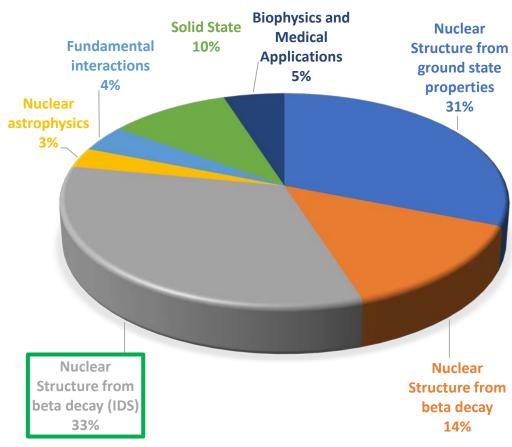
Spokespersons:

Piet Van Duppen, KU Leuven, Belgium (2013 – 2018) Razvan Lica, IFIN-HH, Romania (2018 – 2022) James Cubiss, Uni. York, UK (2022 – present)

FIRST INSTALLATION OF IDS 2014



ISOLDE BEAMTIME DISTRIBUTION 2015





Core configuration of IDS (2014 – 2018)

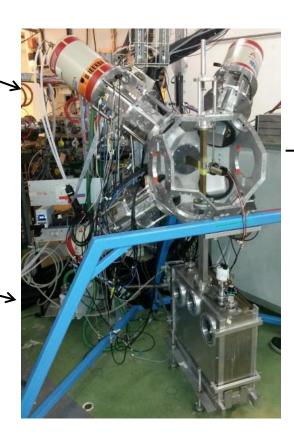
4 HPGe clover detectors (IFIN-HH + KU Leuven)

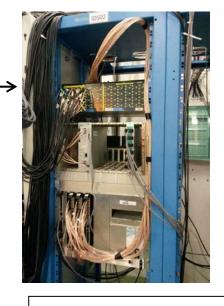
- 4 clovers with 4 crystals
- Two thin-window detectors
- 20% relative efficiency per crystal
- 120% relative efficiency with addback

Tape station (KU Leuven)

- Aluminized mylar tape
- Fully automated system
- Can be integrated with ISOLDE









Digital DAQ

NUTAQ VHS-ADC (STFC, JYFL)

- 3 x 16 channels, 100 MHz, 14-bit ADC (virtex4 FPGA)
- MIDAS acquisition software

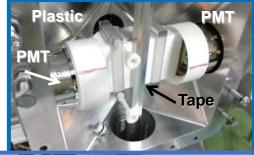
Neutron Spectroscopy

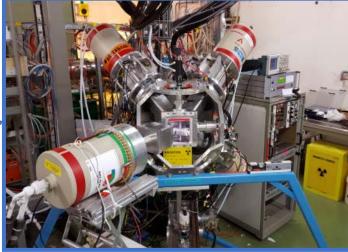




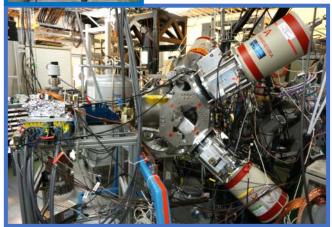


High beta-gamma efficiency

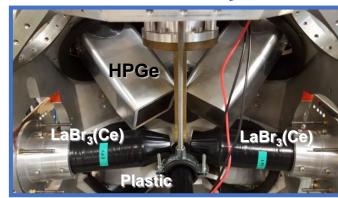




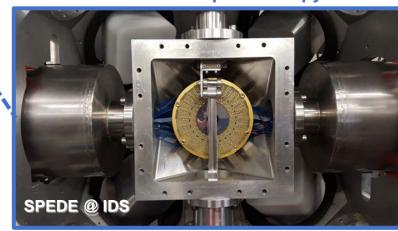
Particle Spectroscopy



Fast-timing studies



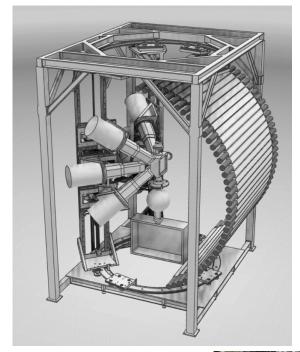
Conversion Electron Spectroscopy



IDS Upgrades during CERN LS2 (2019 - 2021)

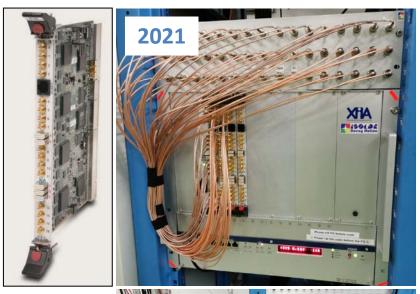
New Support structure

- 2021: finalized the design
- December 2022: installation



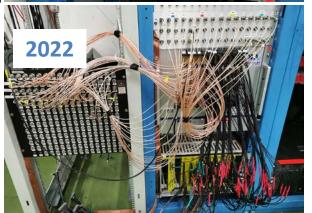
New DAQ

XIA PIXIE-16, 250 MHz, 12-16 bit ADC, 208 ch/crate (13 x 16)



2 new Clover detectors added to the permanent setup





New Tapestation

- 2021: finalized manufacturing
- Jan 2022: installed at IDS





1. Fast-timing studies

- Well established technique at IDS since 2014 [1,2,3,4, ...]
- Detection system comprising of:
 - 4 Clover HPGe 7% abs. eff. at 500keV
 - 2 LaBr₃(Ce) 3% abs. eff. at 500keV
 - 1 Plastic Scintillator 20% abs. eff.

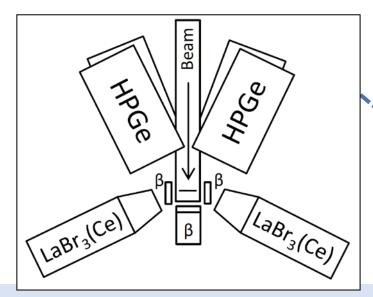
[1] R. Lica et al., Phys. Rev. C 93, 044303 (2016).

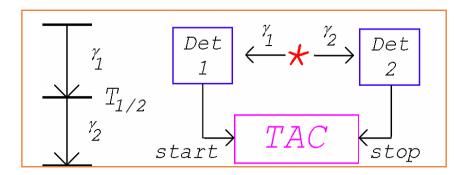
[2] R. Lica et al., J. Phys. G 44, 054002 (2017).

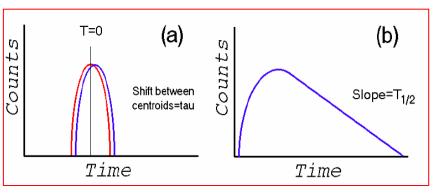
[3] L.M. Fraile, J. Phys. G 44, 094004 (2017).

[4] R. Lica et al., Phys. Rev. C 97, 024305 (2018).



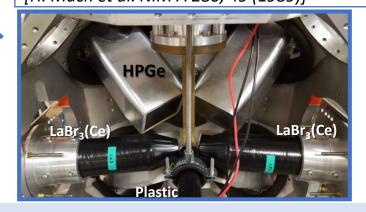






Ranges:

Centroid shift method: - 10 ps - 100 ps Slope method - 50 ps - 50 ns (or longer) [H. Mach et al. NIM A 280, 49 (1989)]



XIA Pixie-16 500MHz digital fast-timing tests at IDS

(expand the current analog fast-timing system to accommodate more detectors)

- Current limit of an analog system for 1.5" LaBr₃(Ce) detectors: FWHM = 155 ps
- Best result achieved offline by a digital system (2 GHz): FWHM = 140 ps

V. Sanchez-Tembleque, V. Vedia, L.M. Fraile, S. Ritt, J.M. Udias, NIM A 927 54-62 (2019)

• Online digital fast-timing for 2" LaBr₃(Ce) with a 500MHz module: FWHM = 320 - 400 ps

L. Msebi, V.W. Ingeberg, P. Jones et al., NIM A 1026 166195 (2022)





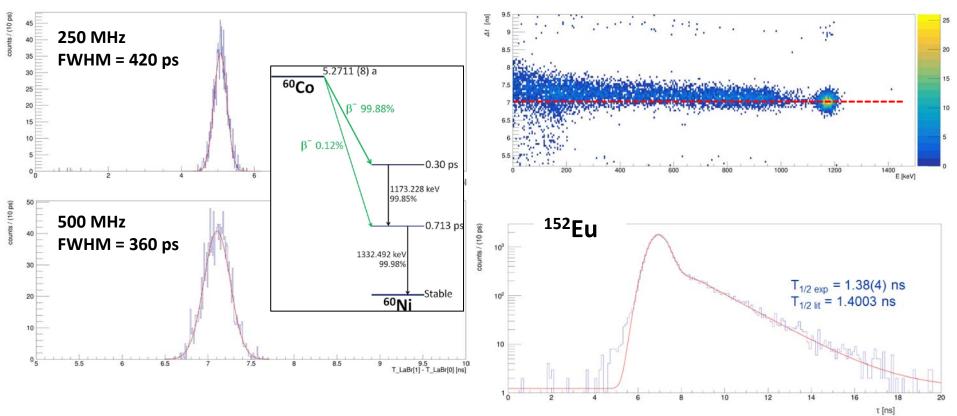
Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research Section A: Accelerators, Spectrometers, Detectors and Associated Equipment



Volume 1026, 1 March 2022, 166195

A fast-timing array of 2" x 2" LaBr₃:Ce detectors for lifetime measurements of excited nuclear states

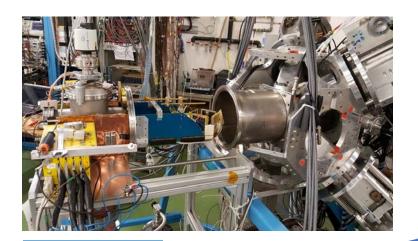
L. Msebi ^{a, b} \nearrow \bowtie V.W. Ingeberg ^c, P. Jones ^b, J.F. Sharpey-Schafer ^f, A.A. Avaa ^{b, e}, T.D. Bucher ^a, C.P. Brits ^{b, d}, M.V. Chisapi ^{b, d}, D.J.C. Kenfack ^{b, d}, E.A. Lawrie ^b, K.L. Malatji ^{b, d}, B. Maqabuka ^{a, b}, L. Makhathini ^b, S.P. Noncolela ^{a, b}, J. Ndayishimye ^b, A. Netshiya ^b, O. Shrinda ^g, M. Wiedeking ^{b, e}, B.R. Zikhali ^{a, b}

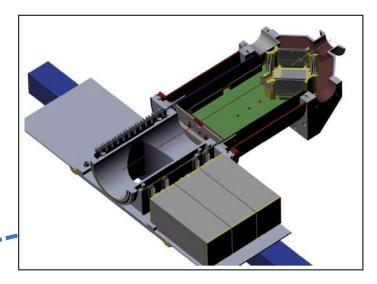


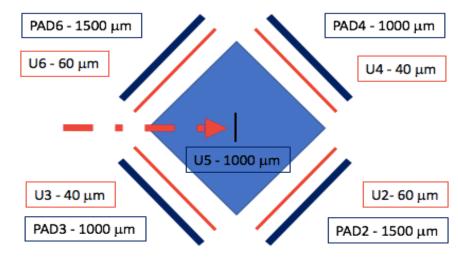


2. Particle Spectroscopy

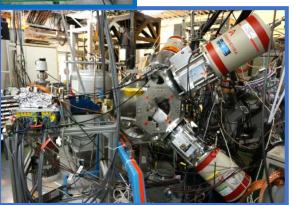












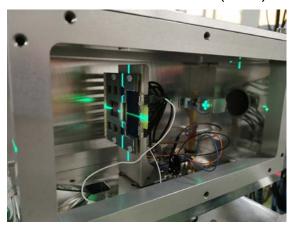
- 4 HPGe Clover detectors + Si box (5 DSSSD's, 4 Pad's)
- Beam implanted on ¹²C foil or tape

(2014-2018) Using MAGISOL detectors, electronics and DAQ [1]

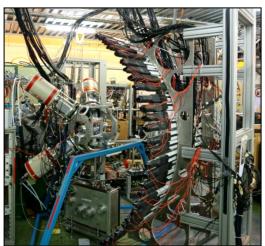
- 165 ch: Mesytec preamplifiers (2xMPR64, 2xMPR32)
- Mesytec STM16+ shapers
- ISOLDE MBS and IDS Nutaq use in parallel (synchronized)

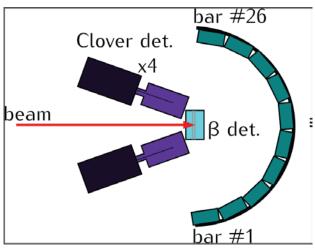
(2021) XIA Pixie-16 handling both particle and gamma detectors

(2021) New cubic chamber employed with SiPIN and Solar Cells (York)

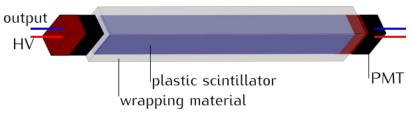


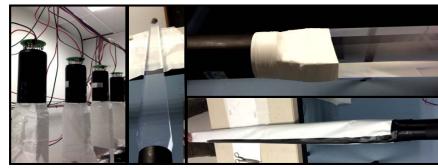
3. Neutron Spectroscopy at IDS





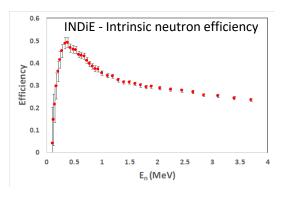
- TOF detector, inspired from the VANDLE medium bar design (UTK, USA)
- INDiE build in 2016 by the IDS local group



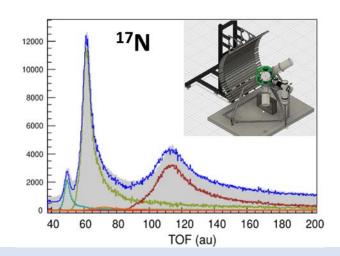


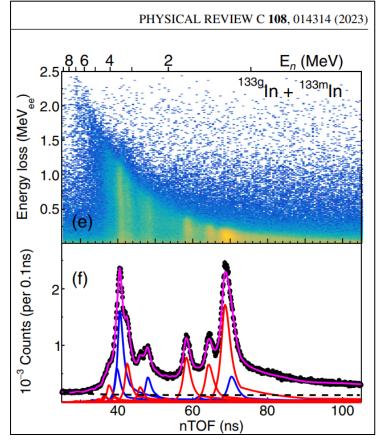
INDiE (IDS Neutron Detector)

- 26 x 3x6x120 cm³ bars
- Ω =14.9% of 4π
- Intrinsic neutron efficiency 25%-50%
- ϵ (neutron) = 3.7%-7.5%

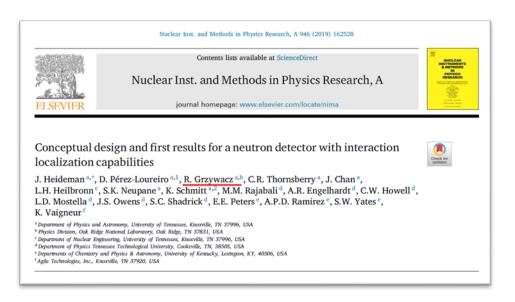


- Calibrations: ¹⁷N isotopes from CaO target
- Instrument response simulation (Geant4)
 - Scattering in steel frame/floor
 - Resonance widths from literature



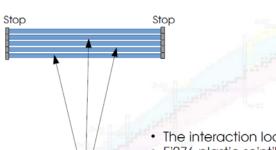


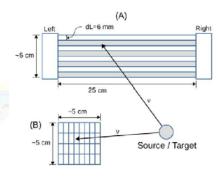
Future neutron spectroscopy at IDS



NEXT concept: tiled thin scintillator with the side light readout.

Neutron time-of-flight detector with good timing (~0.5 ns) and neutron/gamma discrimination capabilities for decay and reactions studies. should measure 100 keV to 10 MeV neutrons

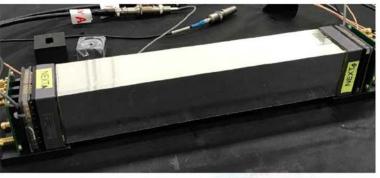


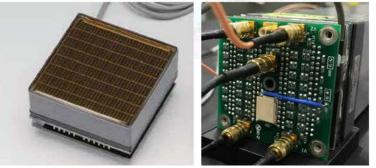


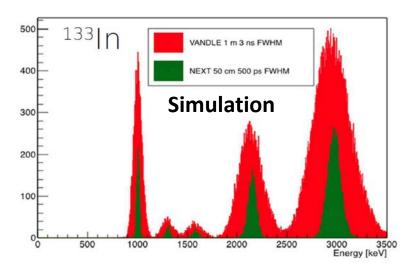
- The interaction localization improves energy resolution
- Ej276 plastic scintillator allows for neutron-gamma discrimination.
- Light readout with segmented photomultipliers (or silicon photomultipliers)

Segmented scintillator with multianode PMT J. Heideman, D. Pérez-Loureiro, R. Greywecz et al.

position sensitive light readout.







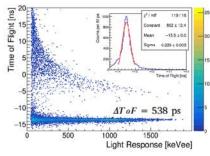
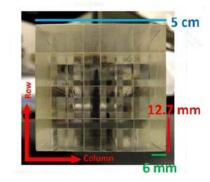


Fig. 14. Two-dimensional histogram of 252Cf neutron ToF versus light response in the ESR-covered EJ-276 stop detector. The inset is a projection of the gamma-ray peak in the ToF spectrum and has \(\delta ToF = 538\) ps (50 keVee threshold). The ToF data are shown here with no offset to account for inherent timestamn differences between START and

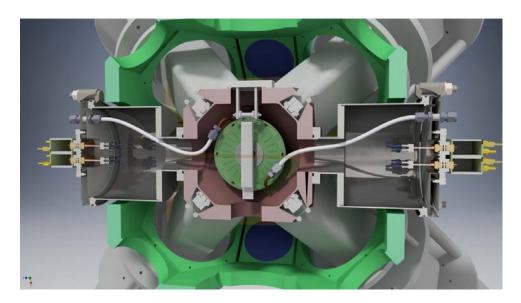


$$\left(\frac{\Delta T}{T}\right) \sim \left(\frac{2\Delta L}{L}\right)$$

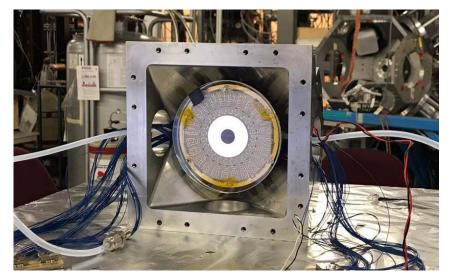
Design parameters (cost and technical feasibility)

- reduce TOF length (L)
- optimal segmentation
- best timing resolution
- electronic readout

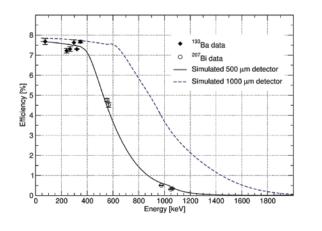
4. Conversion Electron Spectroscopy

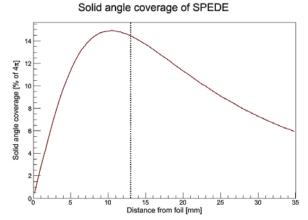


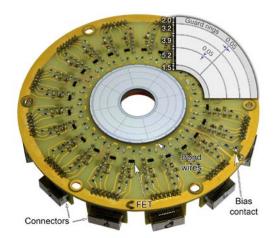
 Had to adapt current IDS setup to accommodate SPEDE detector, electronics and cooling system designed initially for MINIBALL.

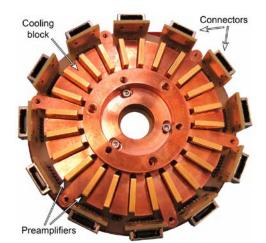


- Annular Si detector with 24 segments.
- Ethanol cooled to -20°C
- FWHM at 320 keV in the region of 6-8 keV.
- P. Papadakis et al., Eur. Phys. J. A. 54:42, 2018

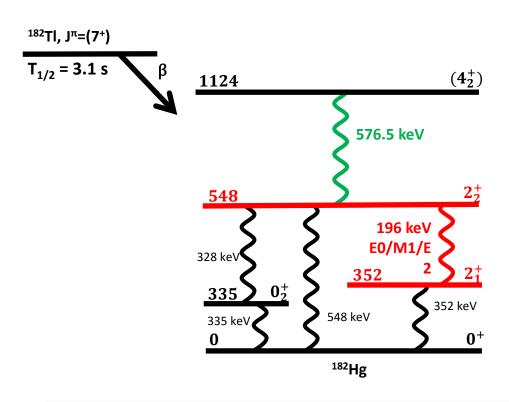


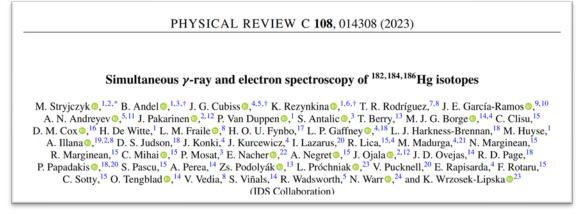


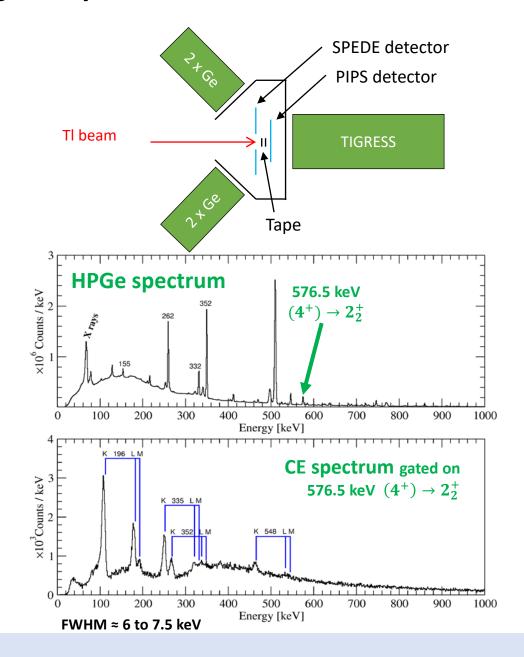




IS641 – Conversion electron spec. of ^{182,184,186}Hg isotopes



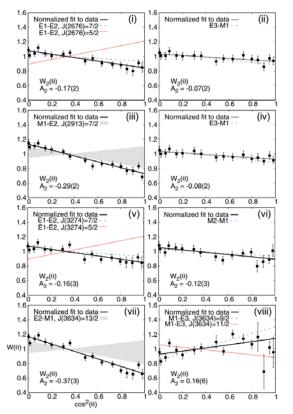




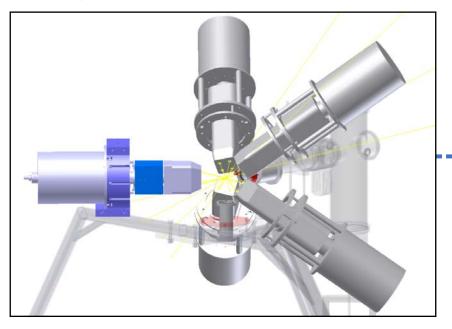
5. High beta-gamma efficiency

Detection setup

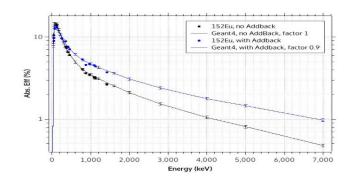
- 5 Clover detectors
- ~4 π plastic scintillator around the implantation point
- 5th Clover can be placed at a specific angle to perform <u>angular</u> correlation studies [1].

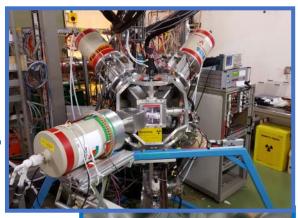


[1] T. A. Berry et al., Phys. Rev. C101, 054311 (2020)

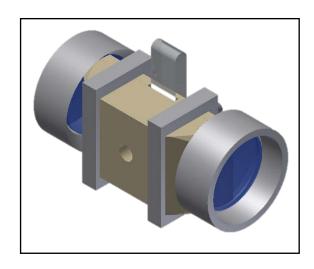


- Absolute β efficiency 90(5) % (single/beta gated ratios)
- Absolute γ efficiency 4% @1MeV
 Using GEANT4 to extrapolate



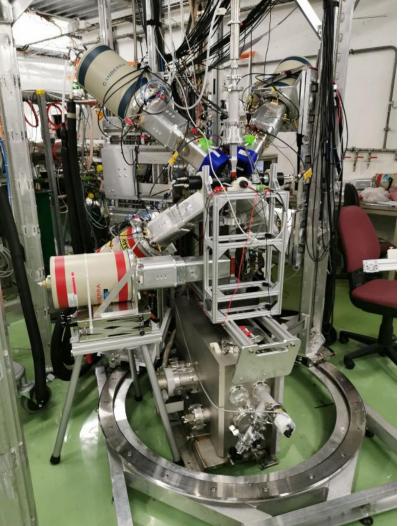


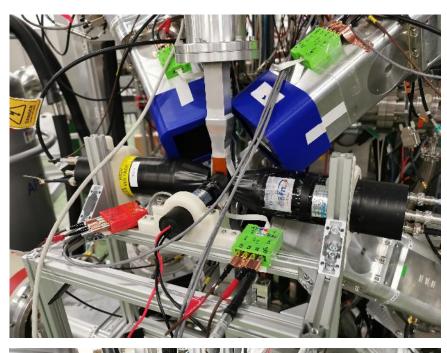


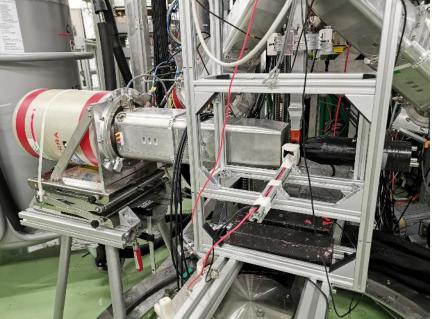


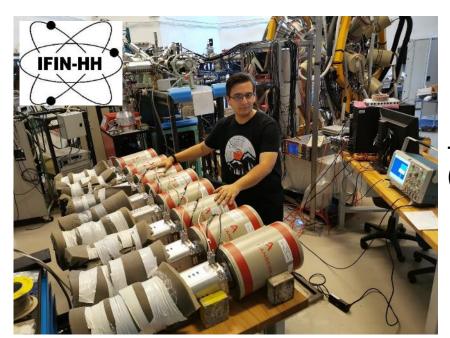
New structure – 2023 campaign













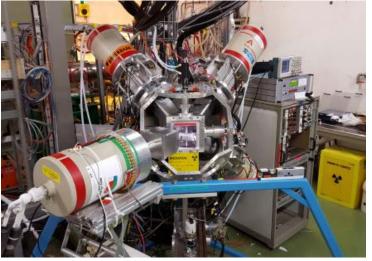
>15 Available HPGE detectors

Permanent at IDS: 6 HPGe Clover detectors
2 standard window (IFIN-HH), 4 thin window (KUL)

+ 8 HPGe Clover detectors (IFIN-HH)

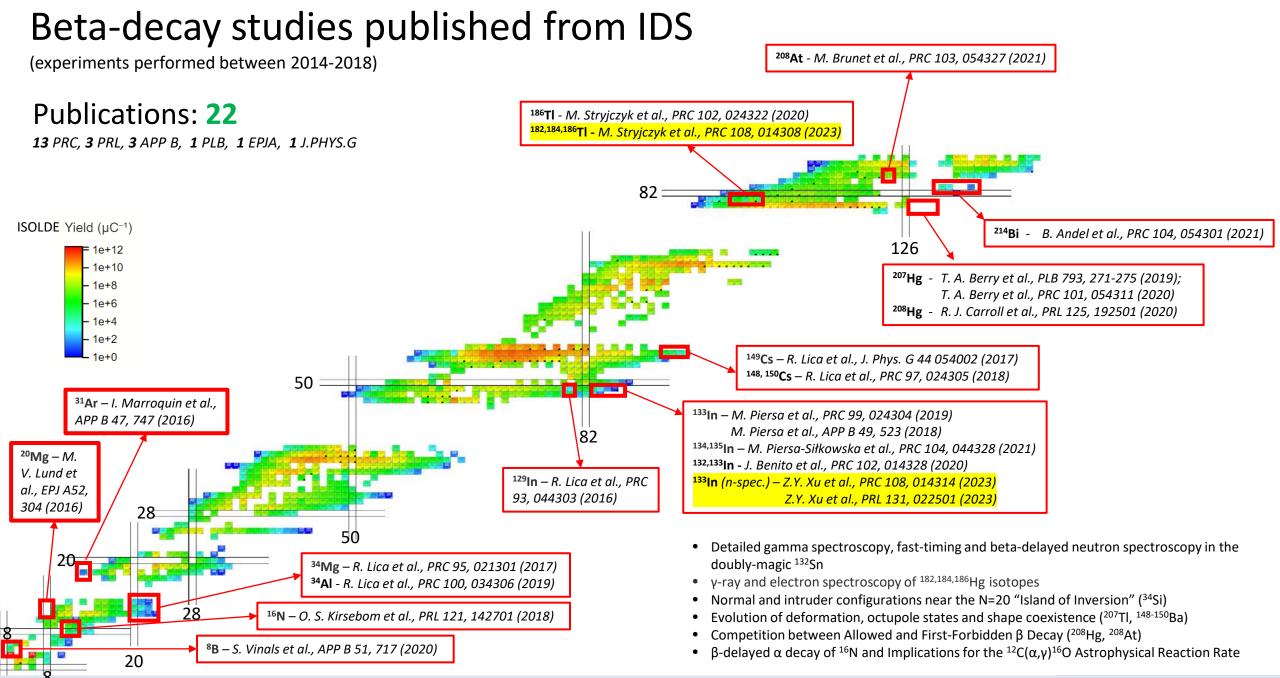
(to be shared with the FIPPS setup - ILL, Grenoble)



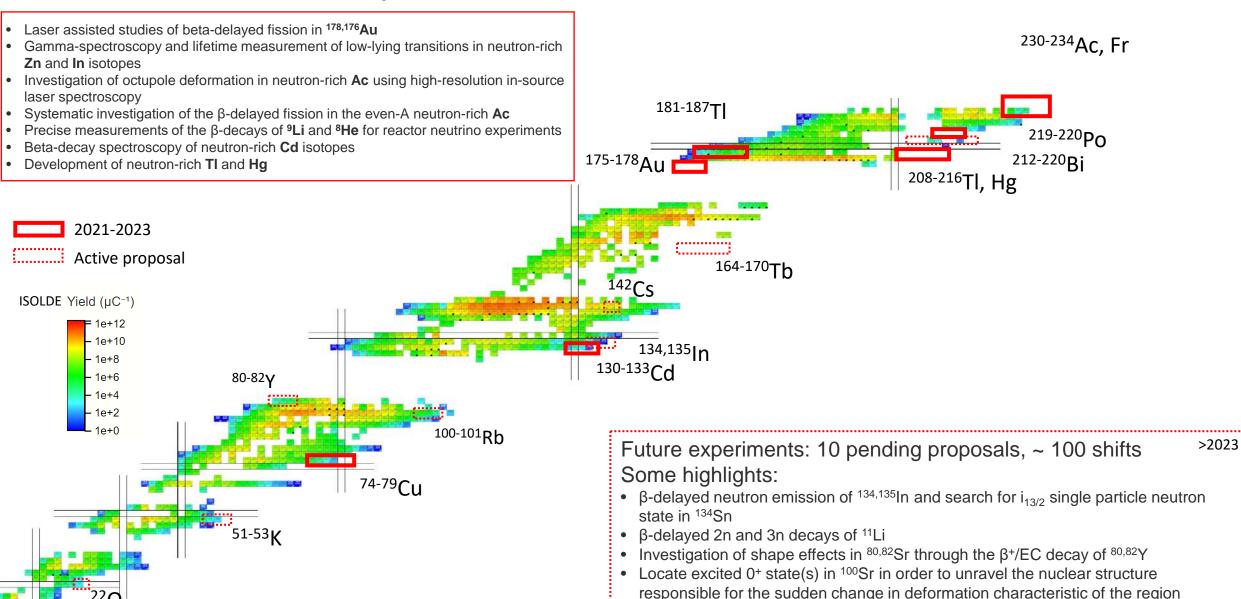


+ 1 Tigress type HPGe Clover (already used at IDS)

+ Others (coaxial, x-ray, etc.)

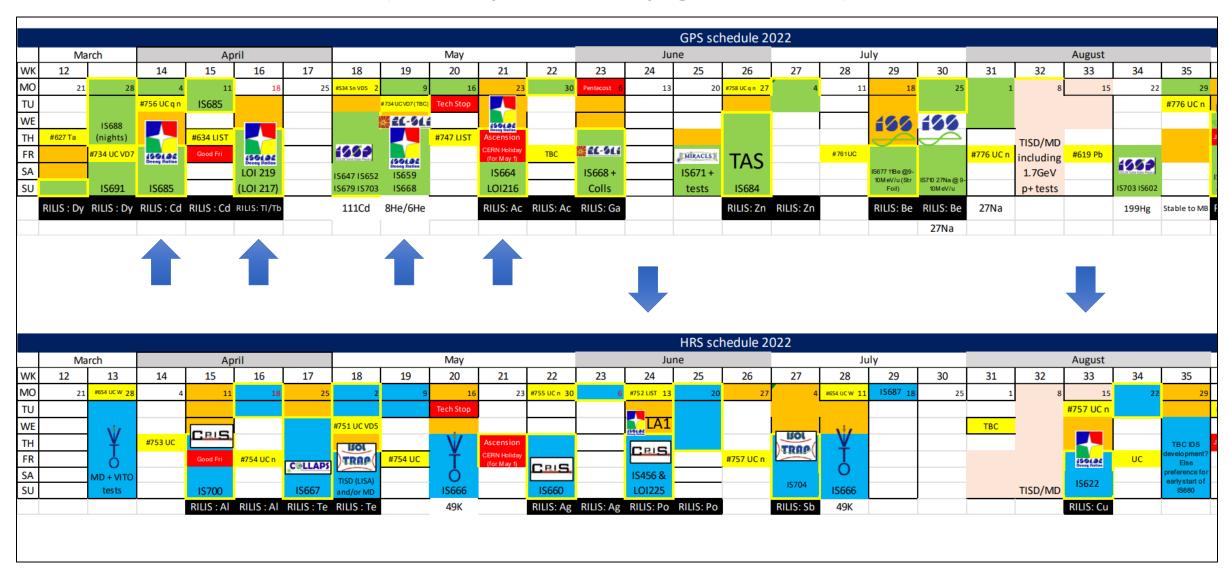


Recent and future experiments at IDS



ISOLDE Schedule March – August 2022

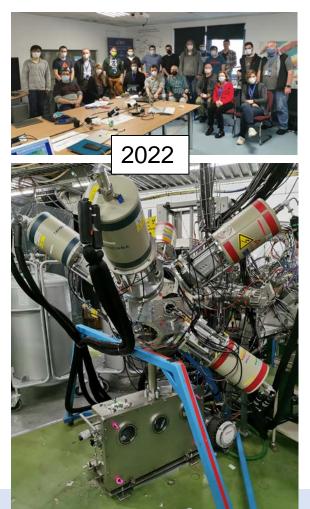
(busiest experimental campaign for IDS so far!)

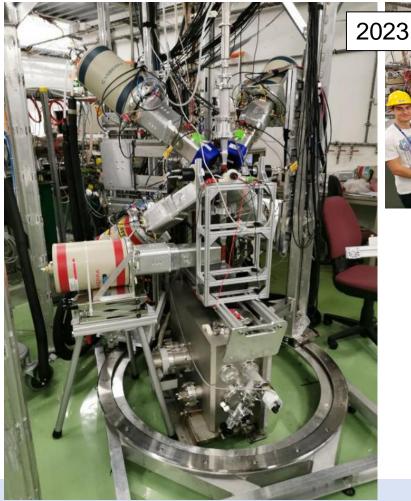


IS685: Beta-decay spectroscopy of neutron-rich **Cd** isotopes (L.M. Fraile, A. Korgul)

- Investigate the β decay of ¹³⁰⁻¹³³Cd at ISOLDE using high-resolution gamma spectroscopy and fast timing.
- Evolution of shell structure in the vicinity of ¹³²Sn: Single particle states, Core excited configurations, proton-neutron couplings, Electromagnetic transition probabilities

β-	β-	β-	β-	β-	β-	β-	β-	
⁸⁰ Sn β-	¹³¹ Sn β-	¹³² Sn β-	¹³³ Sn β-	134 Sn β-	¹³⁵ Sn β-	¹³⁶ Sn β-	¹³⁷ Sn β-	200)
²⁹ In β-	¹³⁰ In β-	¹³¹ In β-	¹³² In β-	¹³³ In β-	¹³⁴ In β-	¹³⁵ In β-	¹³⁶ In β-	
⁸ Cd	¹²⁹ Сd β-	¹³⁰ Сd	¹³¹ Сd	132 Cd	¹³³ Cd β-	¹³⁴ Cd β-		
⁷ Ag	¹²⁸ Аg	¹²⁹ Аg	¹³⁰ Аg	¹³¹ Аg	¹³² Ад			



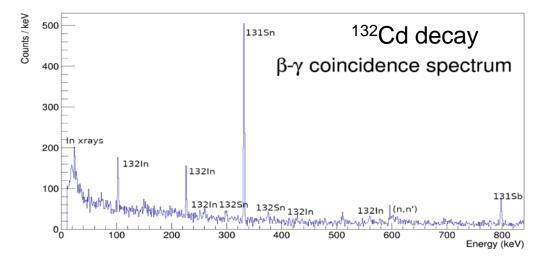




Good production in 2023:

¹³⁰Cd: ~3000 ions/uC ¹³¹Cd: ~30 ions/uC; ^{132,133}Cd: few ions/uC

(UCx Target + Quartz line + Neutron Converter + RILIS)



IS659: Precise measurements of the β-decays of ⁹Li and ⁸He for reactor neutrino experiments (H.O.U. Fynbo)

- ⁹Li and ⁸He -> some of largest cosmogenic background sources for reactor neutrino experiments
- Need to extract more precise energy levels and branching ratios for ⁹Li and ⁸He and decay products.
- 2022: intense production of ⁸He (UC target)





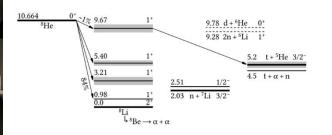
New IDS configuration: Neutron+Particle spectroscopy

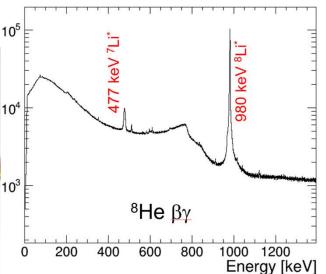
2022

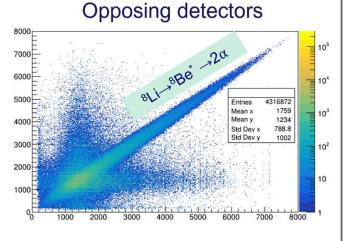


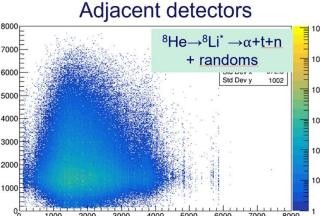
Preliminary data analysis

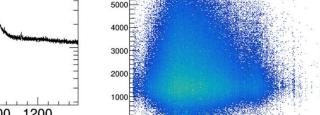
Measured spectra







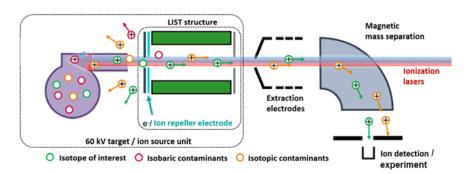




LOI219: Development of neutron-rich Tl beams for nuclear structure studies beyond ²⁰⁸**Pb** (A. Gottardo, R. Lica, R. Heinke, A. Andreyev et al.)

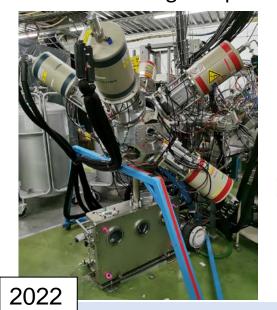
Preliminary results from laser spectroscopy of Thallium isotopes near N=126

 LIST Ion source was used to overcome the isobaric Fr contamination (easily surface ionized)



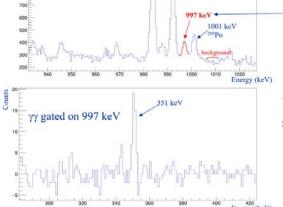
Singles

IDS Fast-timing setup



^{207m}Tl hfs measurement

992 keV



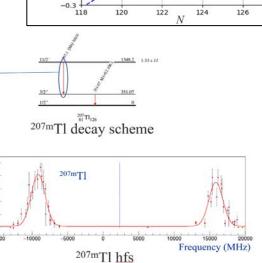
 $\delta < r^2 >_{N,124} (fm^2)$

0.2

0.0

-0.1

-0.2



Previously measured

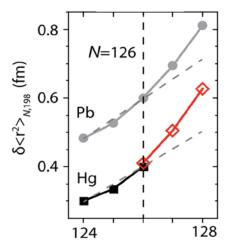
128

Kink in mean square charge radii of Tl isotopes

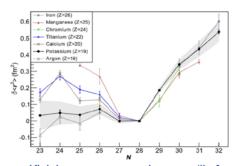
Change in mean square charge radii respective to ²⁰⁵Tl for even-N Tl nuclei



Needs to be measured to see the kink



Kink in mean square charge radii of Pb and Hg across N=126^[2]



Kink in mean square charge radii of different isotopes across N=28 [1]

IS664: Investigation of octupole deformation in neutron-rich **Ac** using high-resolution in-source laser spectroscopy (R. Heinke et al.)

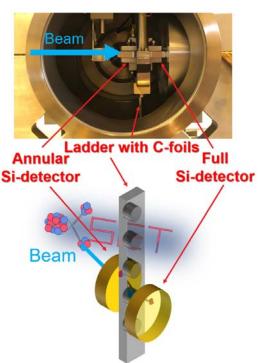
LOI216: β-delayed fission of neutron-rich **Ac** (A. N. Andreyev et al.)

- 224-231 Ac: Abrupt change in mean square charge radii confirmed
- ²³⁰Ac: upper limit for the βDF probability of ~10⁻¹⁰
 (previous literature value of ~10⁻⁸)

IDS Cubic Chamber + Annular Si

2022

ASET @ LA1

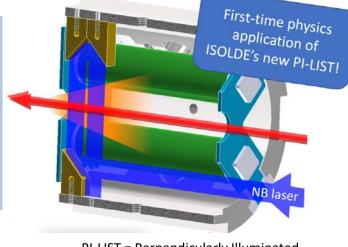


Mass number (A)
209 213 217 221 225 229 233

2.5 Ac
Ac
This work
SLy5s1
Octupole
SLy5s1
V 0.0

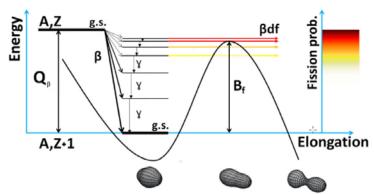
120 124 128 132 136 140 144





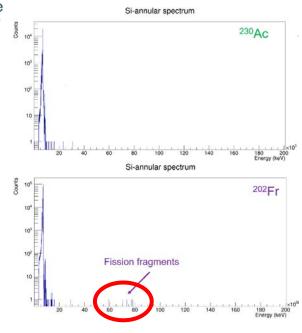
PI-LIST = Perpendicularly Illuminated Laser Ion Source and Trap

 $\beta\text{-delayed}$ fission (βDF) is a two-step process, where the $\beta\text{-decay}$ of a nucleus is followed by the fission of the daughter



The best condition for it to happen is when

$$Q_{\beta} - B_{f} \gtrsim$$
 - 3 MeV



Conclusions

- **ISOLDE** is the 1st ISOL-type facility and can provide ~1000 radioactive nuclides to various experiments
- Physics interest: nuclear physics, via astrophysics and fundamental studies to applications
- A dozen fixed setups cover above topics (and many travelling experiments)

- High demand for decay spectroscopy studies at ISOLDE-CERN
- **IDS** is continuously growing and developing a variety of techniques applicable in nuclear spectroscopy
- Strong support from the IDS Collaboration new contributing members are welcome to join













Thank you for your attention!

199132 Decay Station





















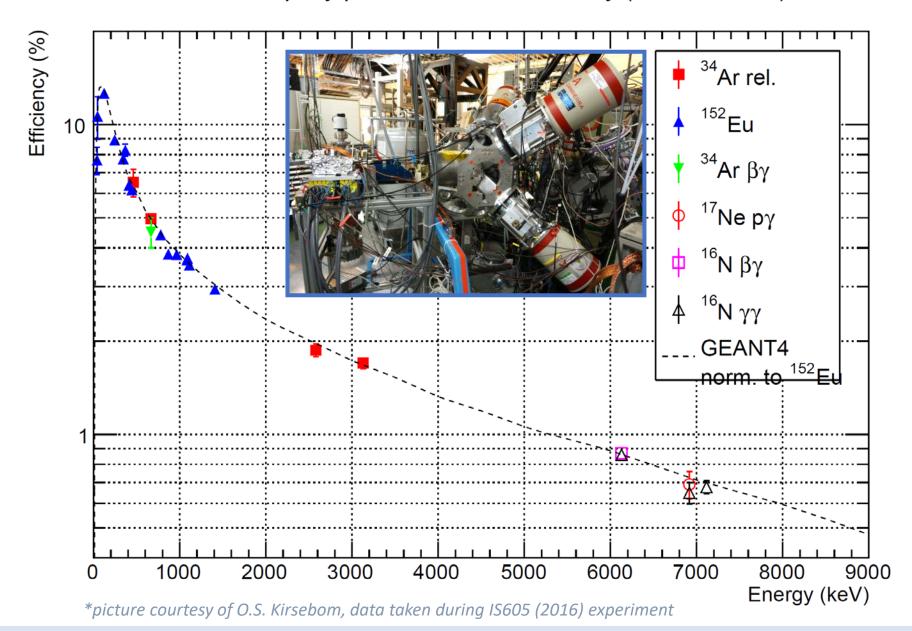






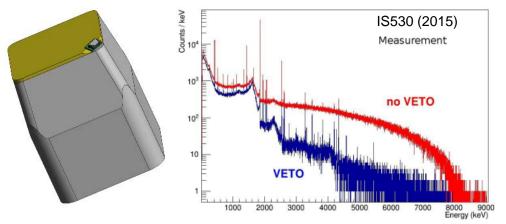
Razvan Lica, 3 Jul 2023 CSSP23

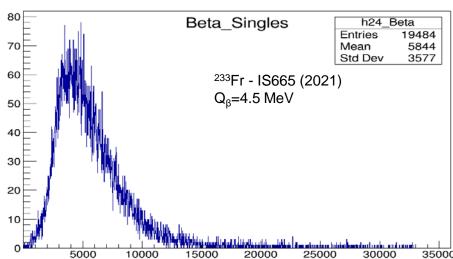
Absolute γ -ray peak detection efficiency (with addback)



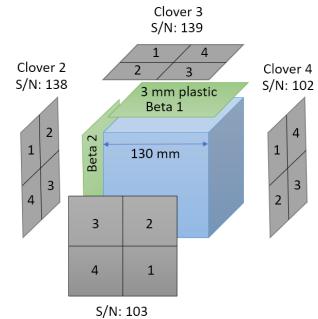
VETO detectors for HPGe

- Plastic scincillators read via SiPM as β-VETO detectors to be placed in front of each HPGe Clover. 20 detectors already ordered.
- (2021) 6 final detectors built, 2 installed during the IS665 experiment and used as both veto and beta detection









S/N: 103 Clover 1



Razvan Lica, 3 Jul 2023 CSSP23