β -delayed neutron emission probability (P_{xn}) measurements as a candidate for ES

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Motivation for P_{xn} measurements

r-process nucleosynthesis¹

- Detours in β -decay chains
- More neutrons during freeze-out

• Nuclear physics models²

- Calculations of n-γ competition
- Optical models for neutron transmission in the nucleus
- Nuclear energy level schemes

• Nuclear reactor operation³

- Next generation reactors
- New fuel types
- Accelerator Driven Systems

• Worldwide βxn programs³

- Mostly using n, β , γ detectors
- Usually, no direct recoil identification

¹ R. Surman et al., JPS Conf. Proc. , 010010 (2015)

² M. R. Mumpower et al., Physical Review C 94, 064317 (2016)

³ P. Dimitriou et al., Development of a Reference Database for Beta-Delayed Neutron Emission, Nuclear Data Sheets 173, 144 (2021)



Z+1, A-1

Z+1, A-2

Z+1.A

β-decay



P_{xn} measurement at an Ion Catcher

• A novel method for measuring β -delayed single- and multi-neutron emission probabilities (P_{xn}), simultaneously with mass, $Q_{\beta xn}$, S_{xn} and $T_{1/2}$



- P_{xn} is determined by the ratios between the daughters:
- Method is **complementary** to worldwide programs
- Especially suited for <u>multi-neutron</u> emission probabilities

 $\boldsymbol{P_{xn}} = \frac{\boldsymbol{D_i}(t_s)}{\sum \boldsymbol{D_i}(t_s)}$

'Straight forward' analysis Isotopes of same element Hardly any corrections needed

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I. Miskun et al., A novel method for the measurement of half-lives and decay branching ratios of exotic nuclei, Eur. Phys. J. A (2019) 55: 148

Branching-ratio and half-life demonstration @ FRS-IC (1/2)



Repeat measurement for several CSC storage times – Extract half-life and branching ratios, reduce beam related background

Branching-ratio and half-life demonstration @ FRS-IC (2/2)



Overall fits results

²¹⁶ Po half-life [ms]		
FRS-IC	145 ± 11	
Literature	145 ± 2	
^{119m} Sb half-life [ms]		
FRS-IC	784 ± 203	
Literature	850 ± 90	
^{119m} Sb branching ratios		
IT (^{119g} Sb)	0.99 ± 0.51	

 0.00 ± 0.45

 0.01 ± 0.08

Internal Transition



 β^+ (¹¹⁹Sn)

β⁻ (¹¹⁹Te)

Proposed P_{2n} measurements at FRS-IC (2020)



Proposed P_{2n} measurements at Super-FRS-IC (ES, 2026)

Measured fission products improvement

Parameter	Factor
²³⁸ U @ production target	~3
Super-FRS transmission	~8
Super-FRS Ion Catcher	~5
Total	~120

Improved S-FRS separation reduces background by order(s) of magnitude

High-mass peak ~18 P_{2n} in ~15 shifts



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Proposed P_{2n} measurements at Super-FRS-IC (ES, 2026)

Measured fission products improvement

Parameter	Factor
²³⁸ U @ production target	~3
Super-FRS transmission	~8
Super-FRS Ion Catcher	~5
Total	~120
+	

Improved S-FRS separation reduces background by order(s) of magnitude

Low-mass peak ~18 P_{2n} in ~15 shifts



Neutron (N) #

Summary and Conclusions

- During Early Science we will be able to measure ~30-35 P_{2n} values
 - New measurements
 - Replace upper limits
 - Re-check cases where other methods reported P_{2n} = 0 for $Q_{\beta 2n}$ > 0
 - Improve uncertainties
- Data analysis is 'straight forward' for many cases, 'almost final' results will be available online
- Try to demonstrate first P_{1n} results during n-skin experiment in 2025
- Good example of utilizing the enhanced transmission and separation of Super FRS, even with similar primary beam intensity

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