

The ISOLDE Decay Station: recent activities and perspectives

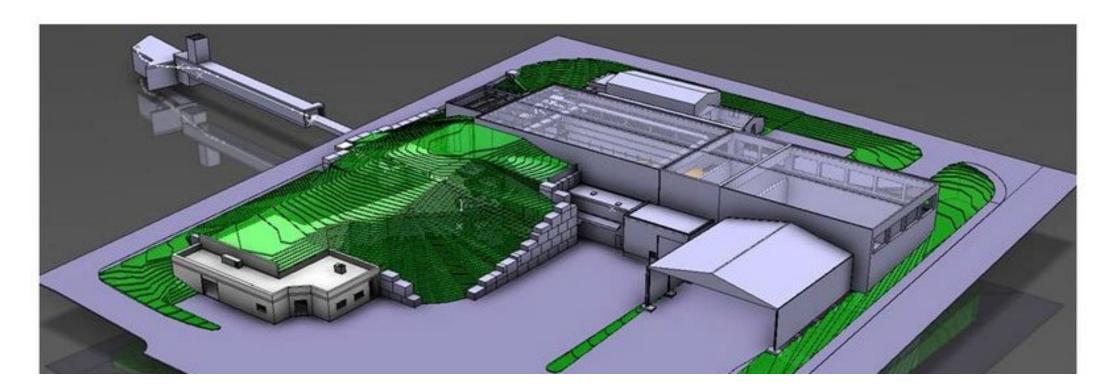
Razvan LICA IFIN-HH, Romania





13 October 2023, NUSTAR Week, Magurele, Romania





The ISOLDE-CERN Facility - a brief overview -

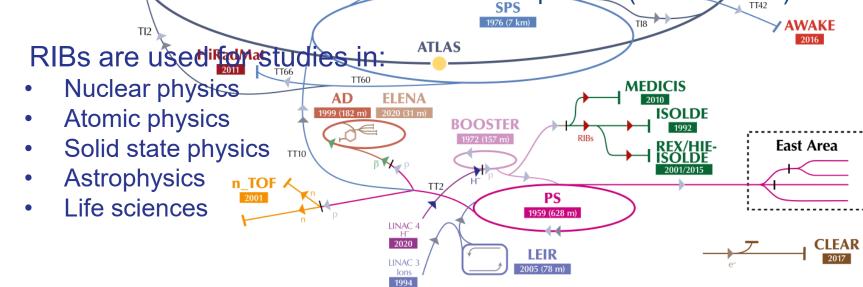




Slides courtesy of: João Pedro Ramos, CERN A&T Sector Seminar, 2017; Reinhard Heinke, ISOLDE Workshop 2022; Sean Freeman, NUPECC TWG6, 2023

199192 CERN

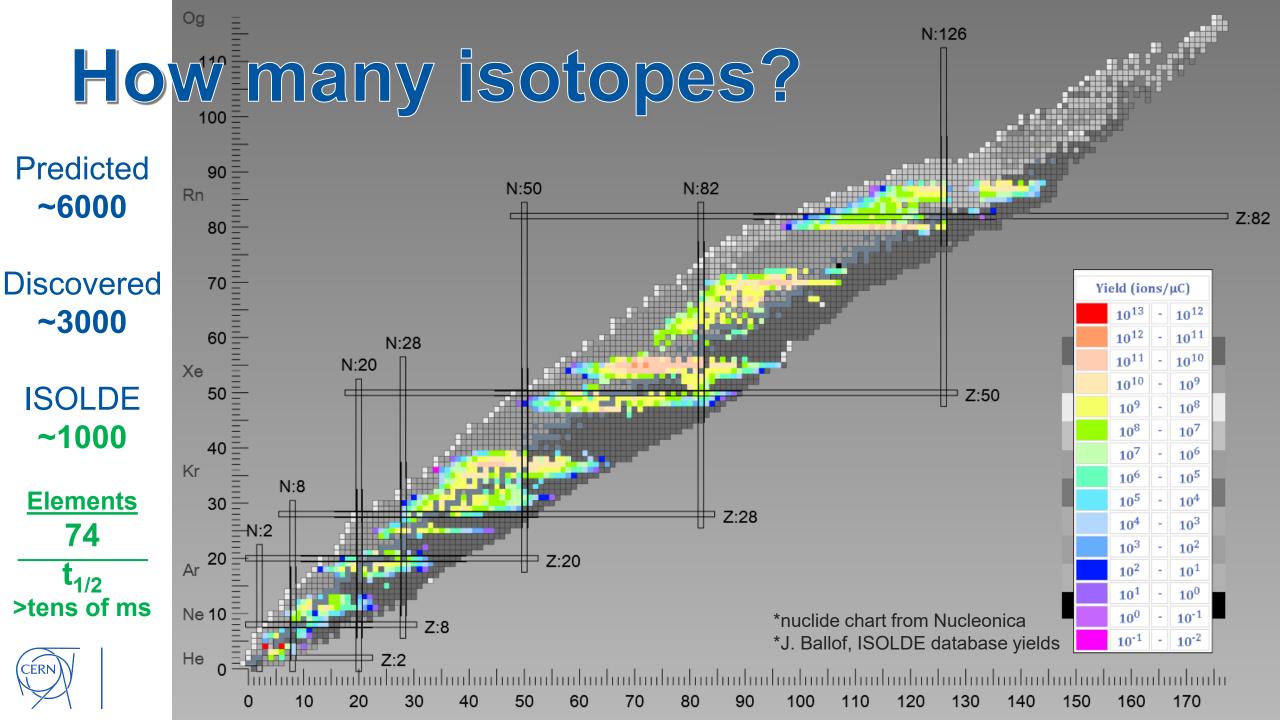
- ISOLDE = Isotope Separator On Line
- Produces Radioaetive Ion Beams (RIB)
- Approved by the CERL council 1964
 - Since 1967 supplied by the SC with 600 MeV protons LHCb
 - Moved to the PSB in 1992 with 1.0 GeV protons (later 1.4/GeV)



 $\blacksquare H^{-}(hydrogen anions) \qquad \blacksquare p (protons) \qquad \blacksquare ions \qquad \blacksquare RIBs (Radioactive Ion Beams) \qquad \blacksquare n (neutrons) \qquad \blacksquare p (antiprotons) \qquad \blacksquare e^{-} (electrons) \qquad \blacksquare \mu (muons)$



LHC - Large Hadron Collider // SPS - Super Proton Synchrotron // PS - Proton Synchrotron // AD - Antiproton Decelerator // CLEAR - CERN Linear Electron Accelerator for Research // AWAKE - Advanced WAKefield Experiment // ISOLDE - Isotope Separator OnLine // REX/HIE-ISOLDE - Radioactive



199191 at CERN

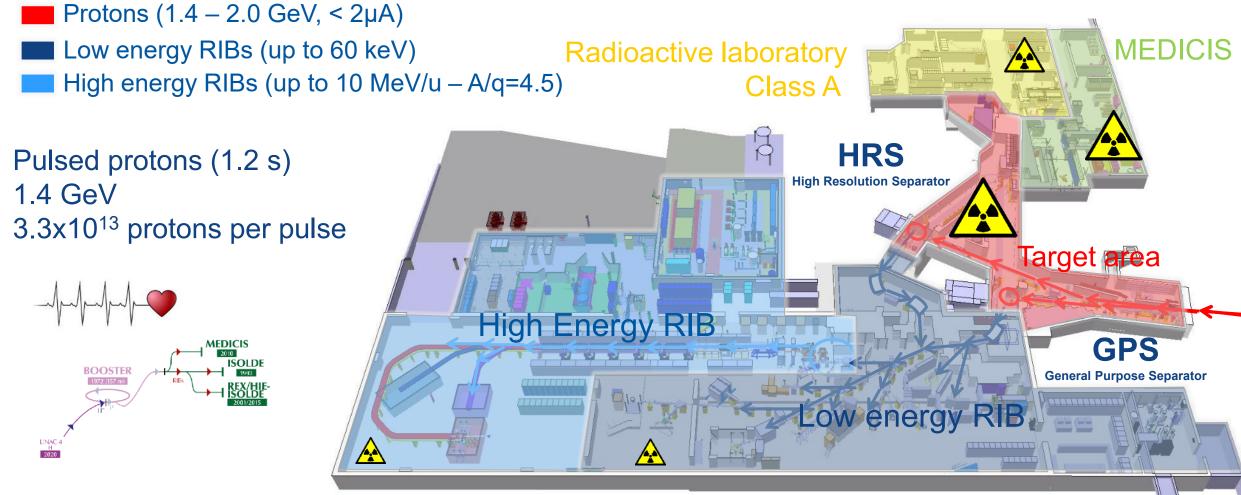
Operates ~8 months/year, 24/7

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



199192 Facility

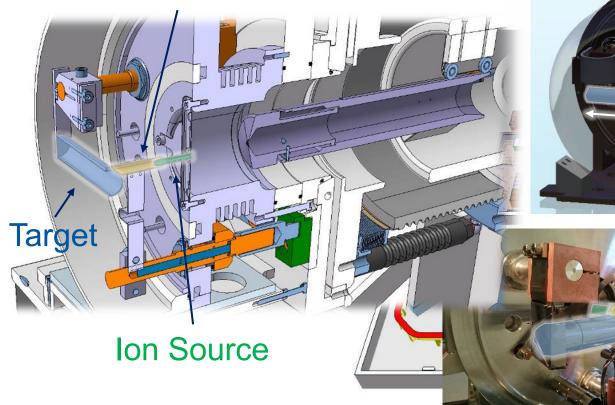


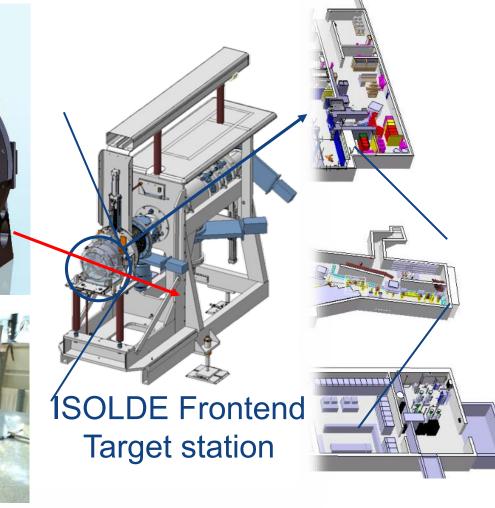


Target Unit – Heart of 199112

20 cm

Transfer line

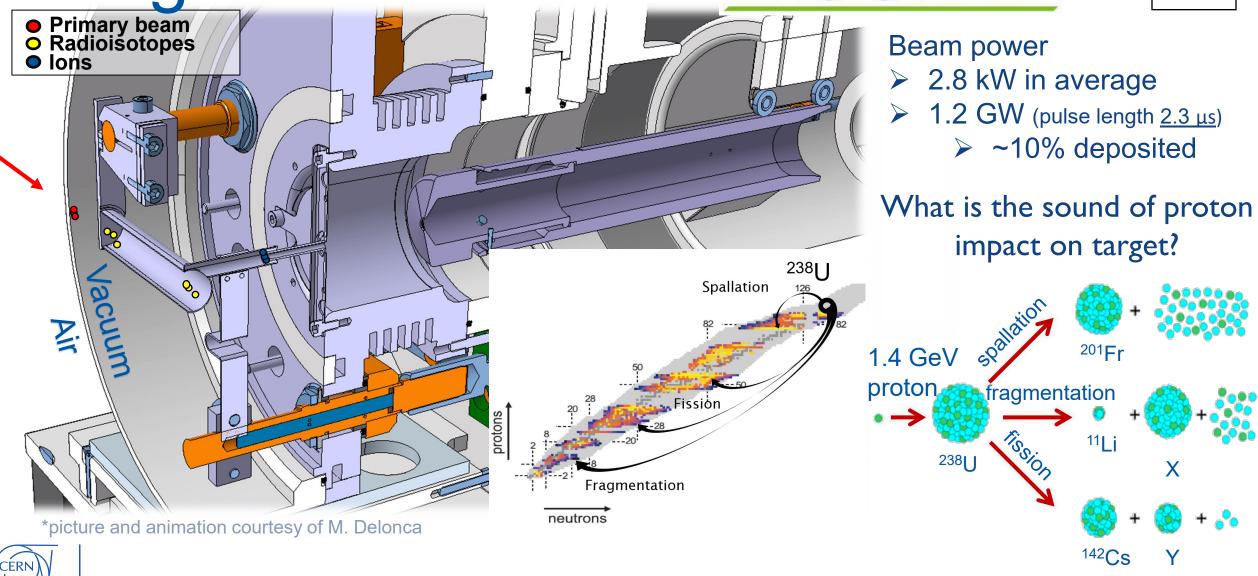




*pictures courtesy of M. Delonca and J. Montano



Target Unit – Heart of 199191



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.

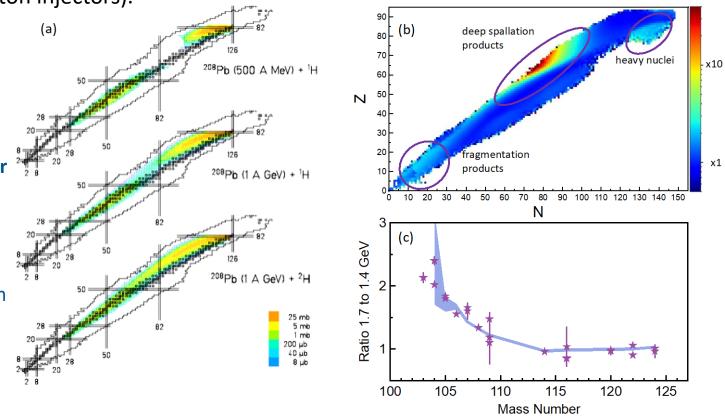


Figure 1: (a) Figure taken from Ref. 14 showing experimental cross sections in the spallation of 208Pb, (b) FLUKA simulations for a UCx target showing the ratio of production yield at 2 GeV to that at 1.4 GeV (improvements due to increased proton intensity are additional) and (c) measurements of In isotopic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

The ISOLDE. Decay Station

IDS Collaboration

KU LEUVEN

ARHUS UNIVERSIT

JYVÄSKYLÄN YLIOPISTO UNIVERSITY OF IYVÄSKY

INFN

IFIN-HH

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LUND

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Science & Technolo facilit es Council UNIVERSITY OF SURREY UNIVERSITY O LIVERPOO!

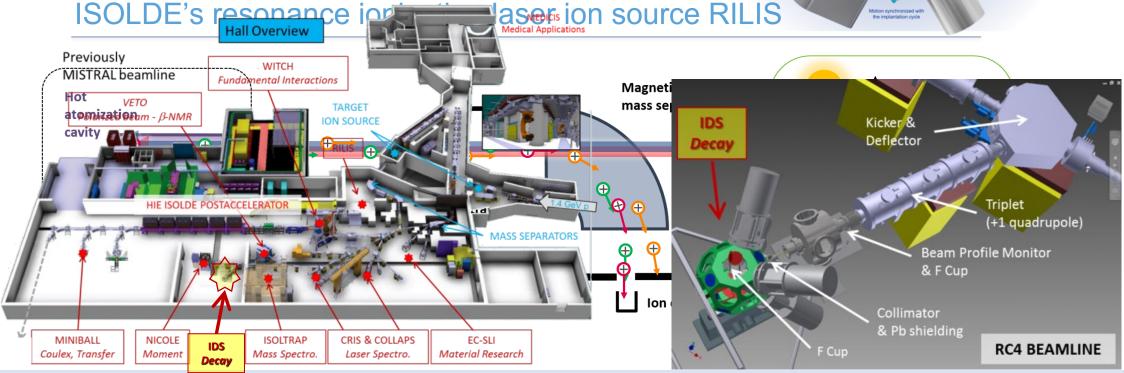
TENNESSEE

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)

be (since 2014) eutron) re 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.

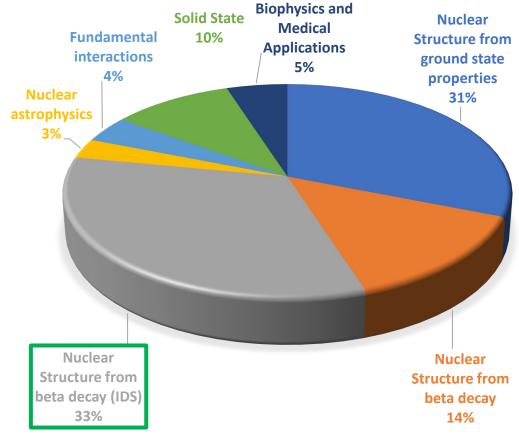
Spokespersons:

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









Core configuration of IDS (2014 – 2018)

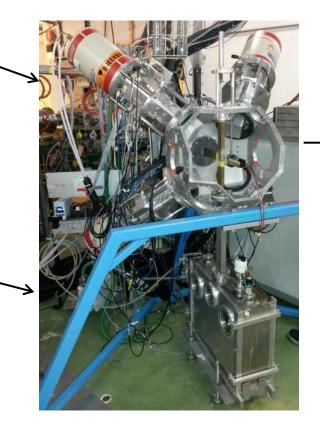
4 HPGe clover detectors (IFIN-HH + KU Leuven)

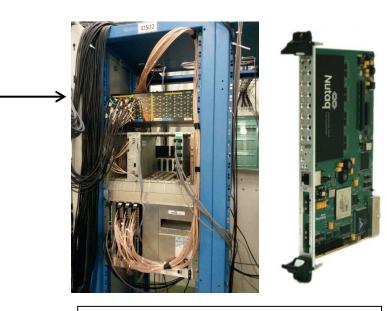
- 4 clovers with 4 crystals
- Two thin-window detectors
- 20% relative efficiency per crystal
- 120% relative efficiency with addback

Tape station (KU Leuven)

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







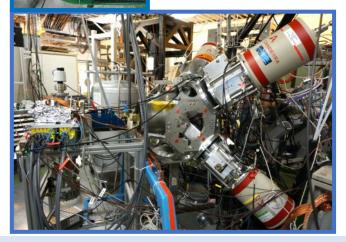
Digital DAQ NUTAQ VHS-ADC (STFC, JYFL)

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

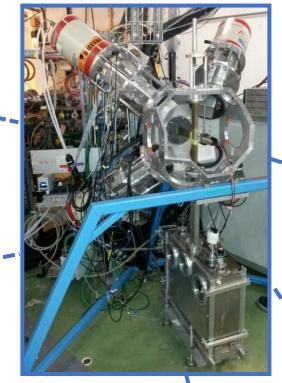
Neutron Spectroscopy



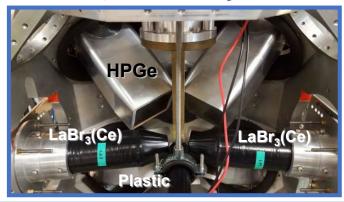
Particle Spectroscopy



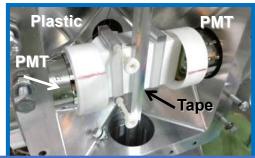


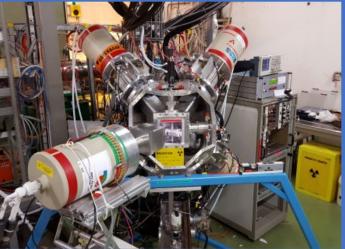


Fast-timing studies

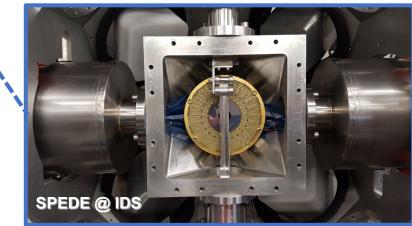


High beta-gamma efficiency





Conversion Electron Spectroscopy



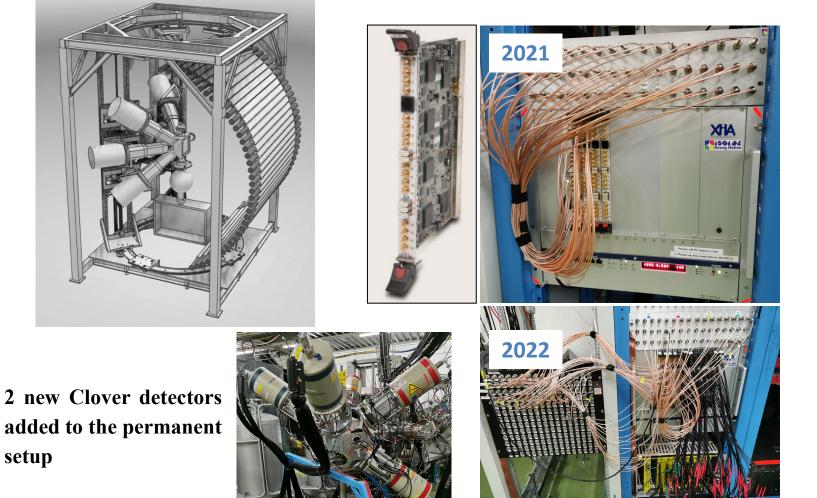
IDS Upgrades during CERN LS2 (2019 – 2021)

New Support structure

- 2021: finalized the design
- December 2022: installation

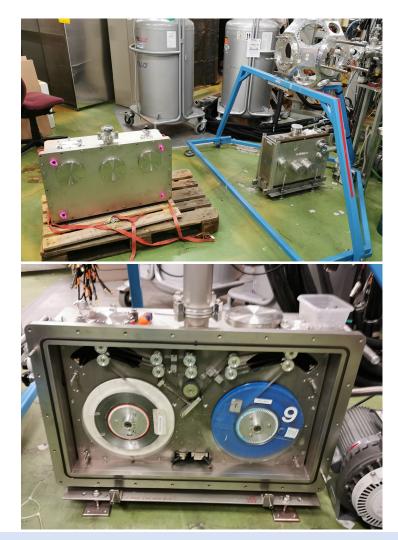
New DAQ

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



New Tapestation

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

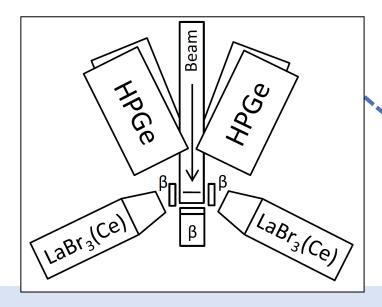


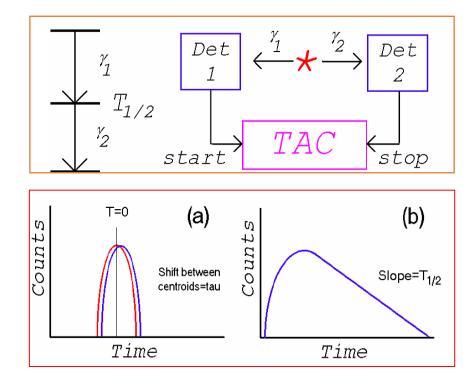
1. Fast-timing studies

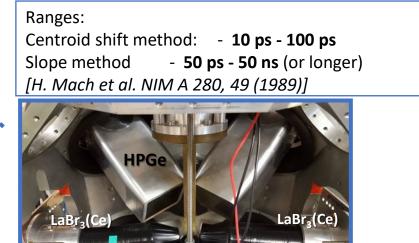
- Well established technique at IDS since 2014 [1,2,3,4, ...]
- Detection system comprising of:
 - 4 Clover HPGe 7% abs. eff. at 500keV
 - 2 LaBr₃(Ce) 3% abs. eff. at 500keV
 - 1 Plastic Scintillator 20% abs. eff.

[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).









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

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

Confirmed at IDS (Nov 2022)

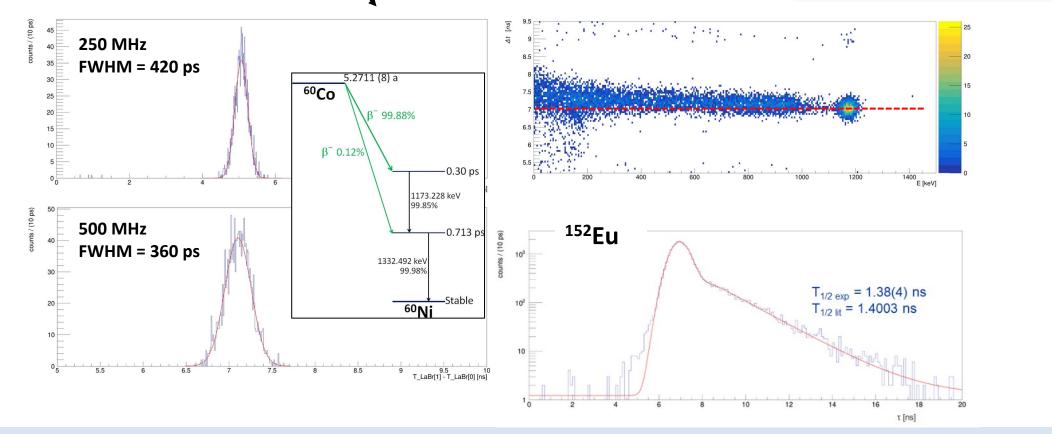
- Current limit of an **analog** system for 1.5" LaBr₃(Ce) detectors: FWHM = 155 ps
- Best result achieved offline by a **digital** system (2 GHz): FWHM = 140 ps V. Sanchez-Tembleque, V. Vedia, L.M. Fraile, S. Ritt, J.M. Udias, NIM A 927 54-62 (2019)
- Online digital fast-timing for 2" LaBr₃(Ce) with a 500MHz module: FWHM = 320 400 ps <u>L. Msebi, V.W. Ingeberg, P. Jones et al., NIM A 1026 166195 (2022)</u>

<u>A 927 54-62 (2019)</u> FWHM = 320 - 400 ps



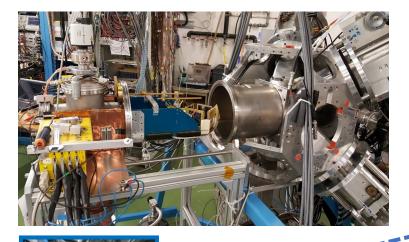
A fast-timing array of 2" x 2" LaBr₃:Ce detectors for lifetime measurements of excited nuclear states

L. Msebi ^{a, b} $\overset{\circ}{\sim}$ $\overset{\circ}{\sim}$, 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}

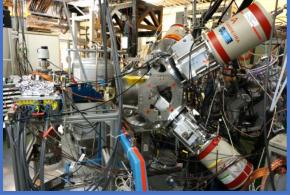


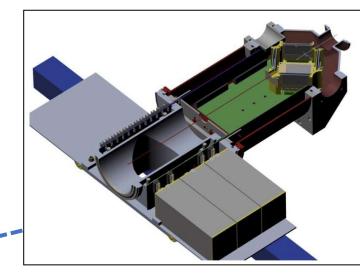
2. Particle Spectroscopy

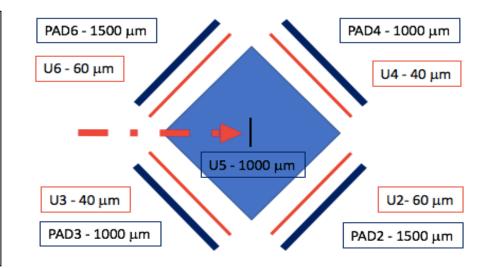












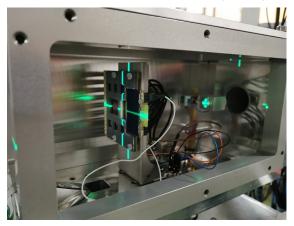
- 4 HPGe Clover detectors + Si box (5 DSSSD's, 4 Pad's)
- Beam implanted on ¹²C foil or tape

(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)

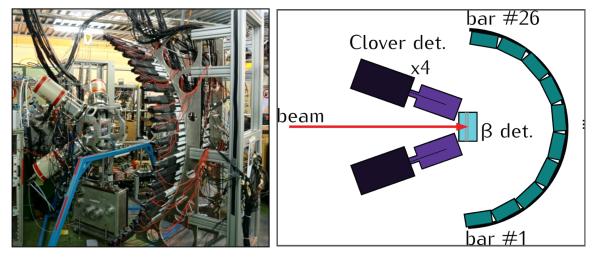
(2021) XIA Pixie-16 handling both particle and gamma detectors

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

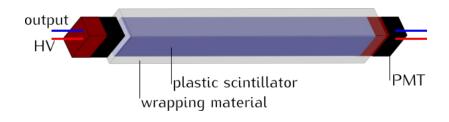


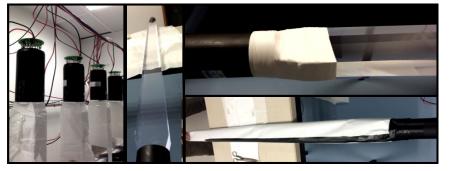
[1] Fynbo, Tengblad, Kirsebom, J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys. 44 (2017) 044005

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

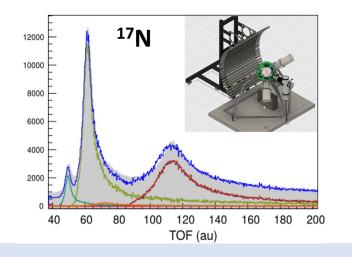


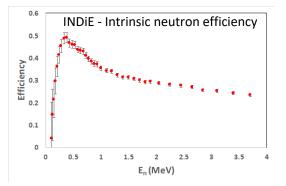


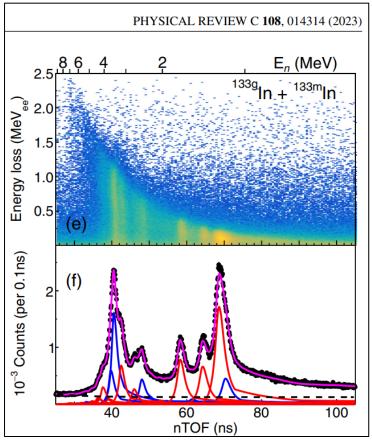
INDiE (IDS Neutron Detector)

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

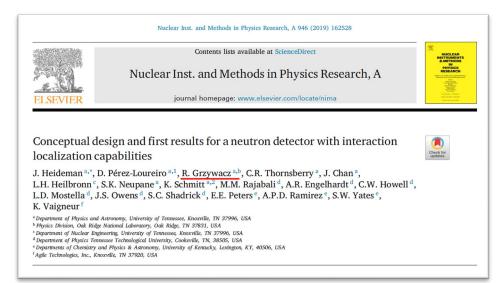
- Calibrations: ¹⁷N isotopes from
 CaO target
- Instrument response simulation (Geant4)
 - Scattering in steel frame/floor
 - Resonance widths
 from literature







Future neutron spectroscopy at IDS



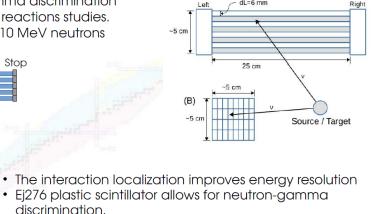
NEXT concept: tiled thin scintillator with the side light readout.

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

Start

Stop

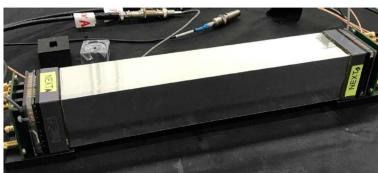
Stop

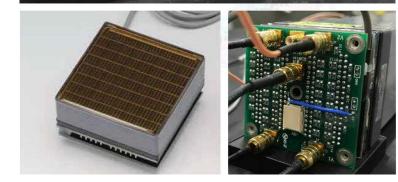


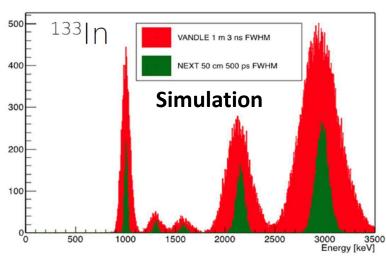
(A)

• Light readout with segmented photomultipliers (or silicon photomultipliers)

Segmented scintillator with multianode PMT J. Heideman, D. Pérez-Louretro, R. Greywace et al. position sensitive light readout.







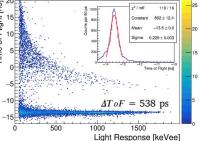
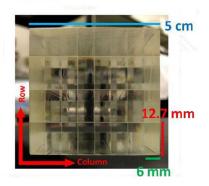


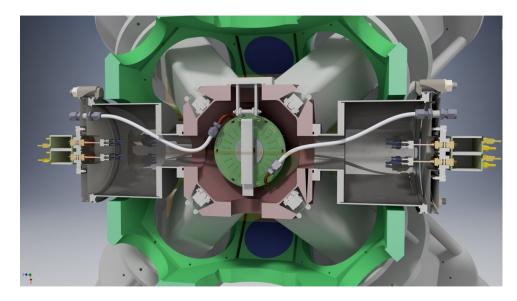
Fig. 14. Two-dimensional histogram of 252Cf neutron ToF versus light response in the ESR-covered EJ-276 stop detector. The inset is a projection of the gamma-ray peak in the ToF spectrum and has AToF=538 ps (50 keVee threshold). The ToF data are shown here with no offset to account for inherent timestamp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



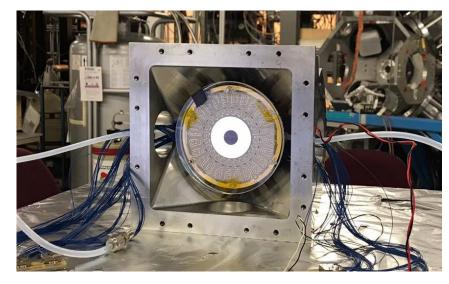
Design parameters (cost and technical feasibility)

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

4. Conversion Electron Spectroscopy



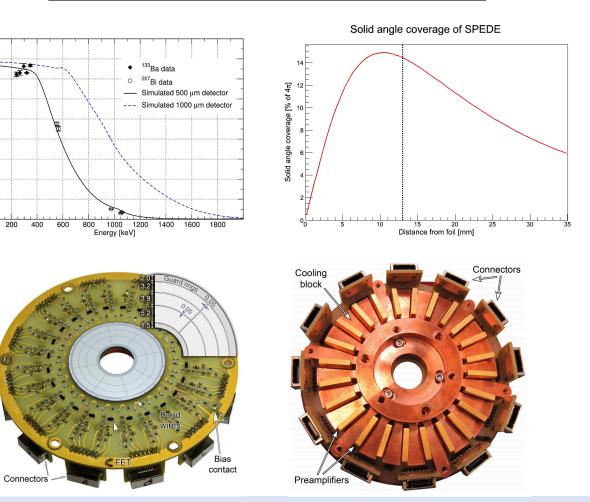
Had to adapt current IDS setup to accommodate SPEDE detector, ٠ electronics and cooling system designed initially for MINIBALL.



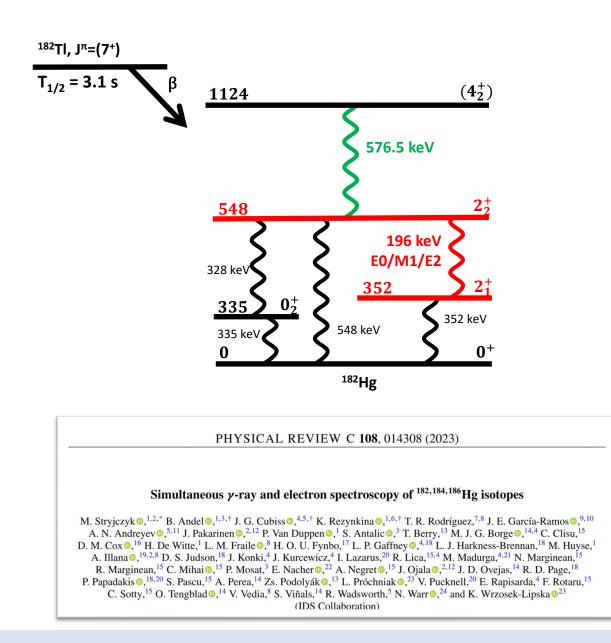
- Annular Si detector with 24 segments.
- Ethanol cooled to -20°C

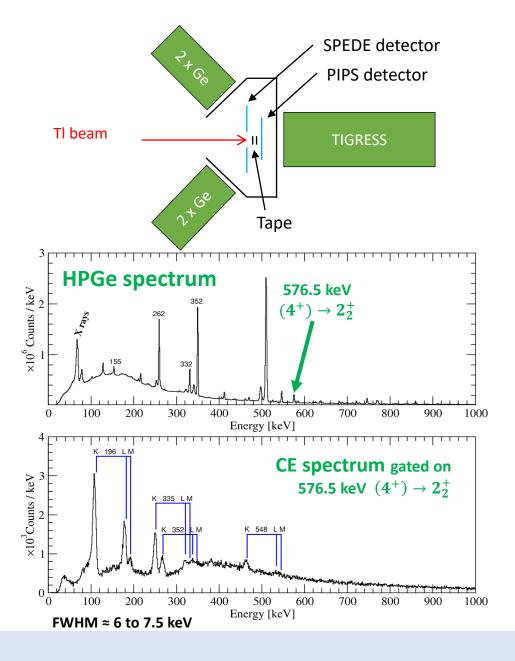
Conne

- 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

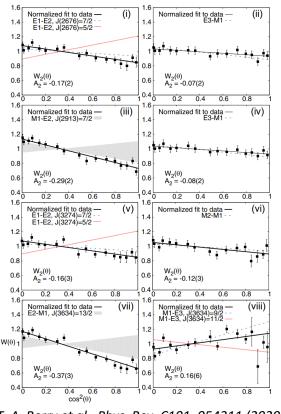




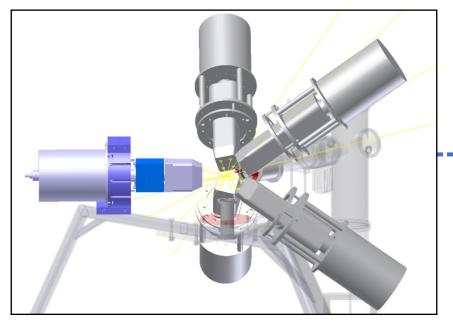
5. High beta-gamma efficiency

Detection setup

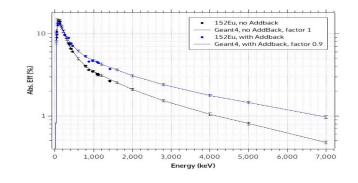
- 5 Clover detectors
- ${\sim}4\pi$ plastic scintillator around the implantation point
- 5th Clover can be placed at a specific angle to perform <u>angular</u> <u>correlation studies [1]</u>.

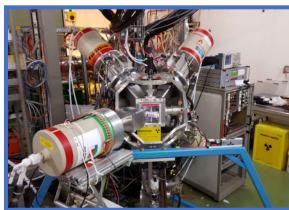


[1] T. A. Berry et al., Phys. Rev. C101, 054311 (2020)

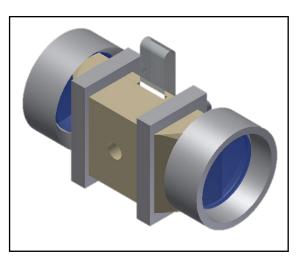


- Absolute β efficiency 90(5) % (single/beta gated ratios)
- Absolute γ efficiency 4% @1MeV Using GEANT4 to extrapolate

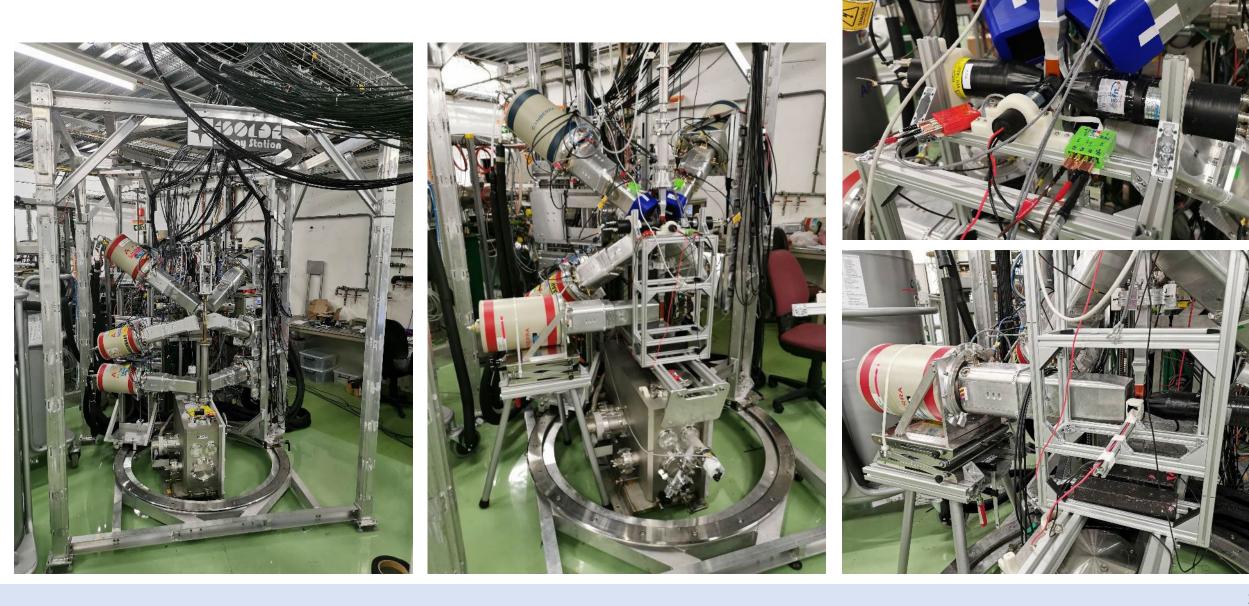








New structure – 2023 campaign







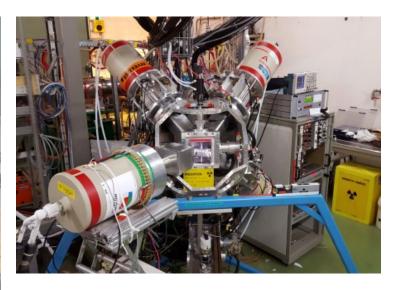
>15 Available HPGE detectors

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)

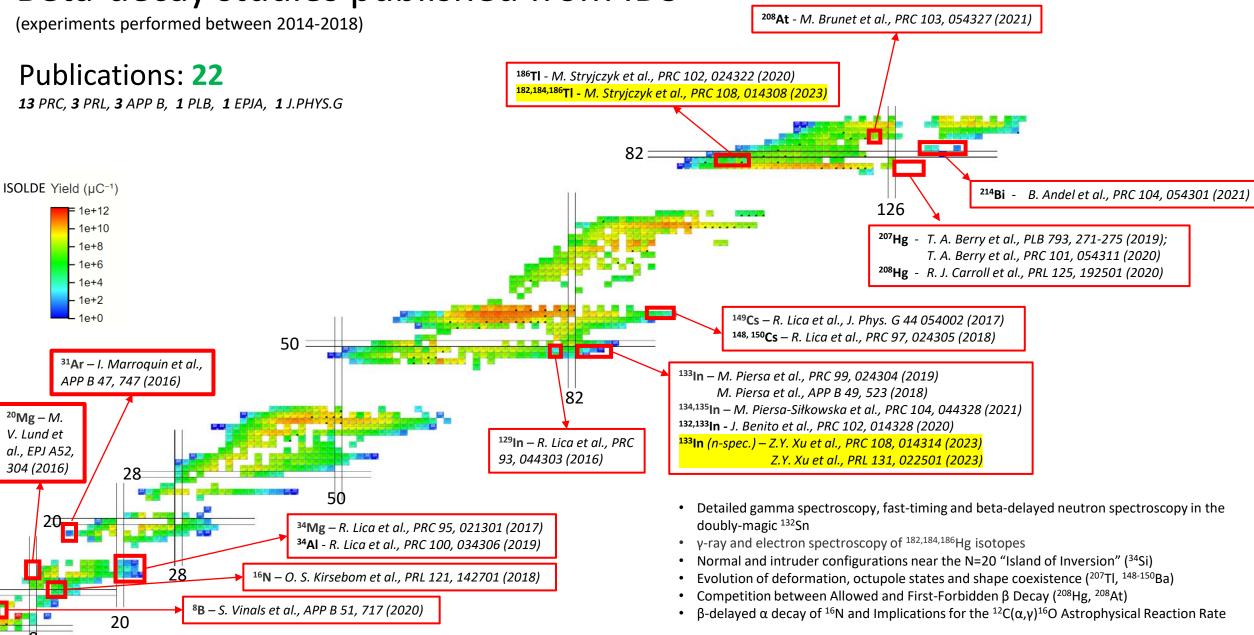




+ 1 Tigress type HPGe Clover (already used at IDS)

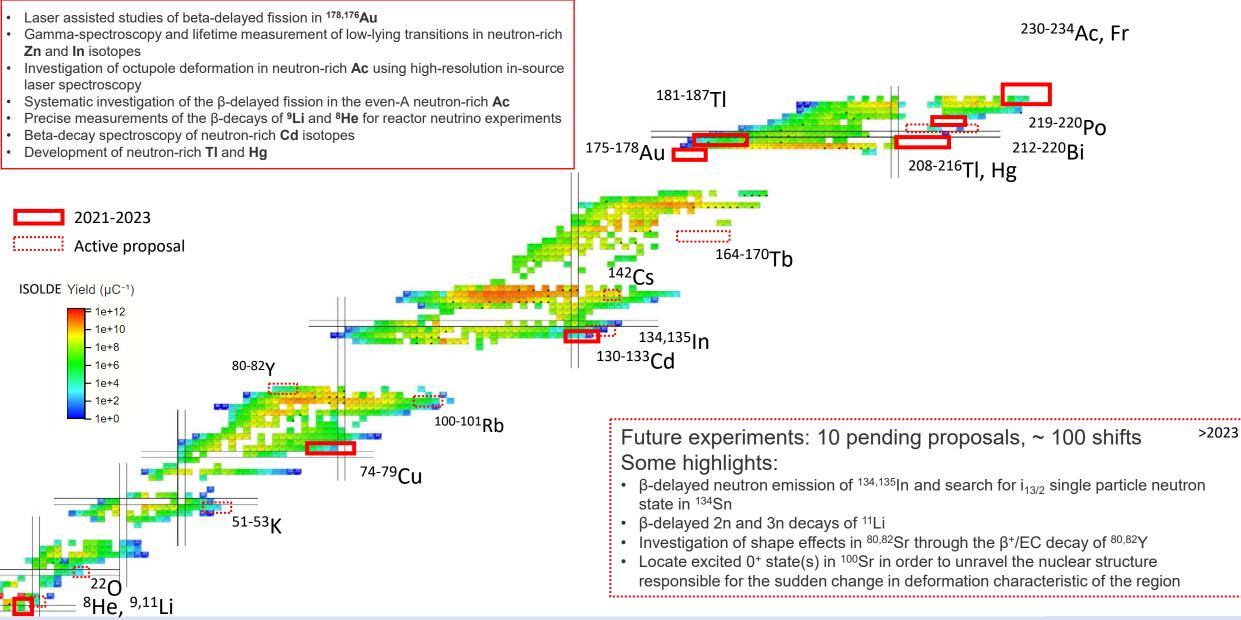
+ Others (coaxial, x-ray, etc.)

Beta-decay studies published from IDS



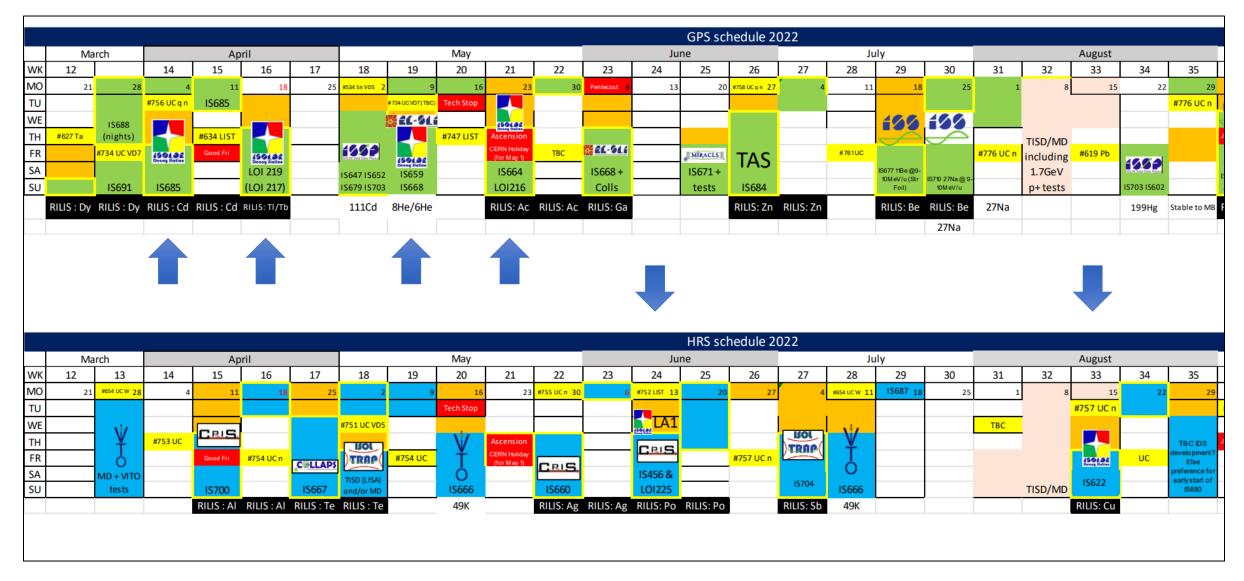
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Recent and future experiments at IDS



ISOLDE Schedule March – August 2022

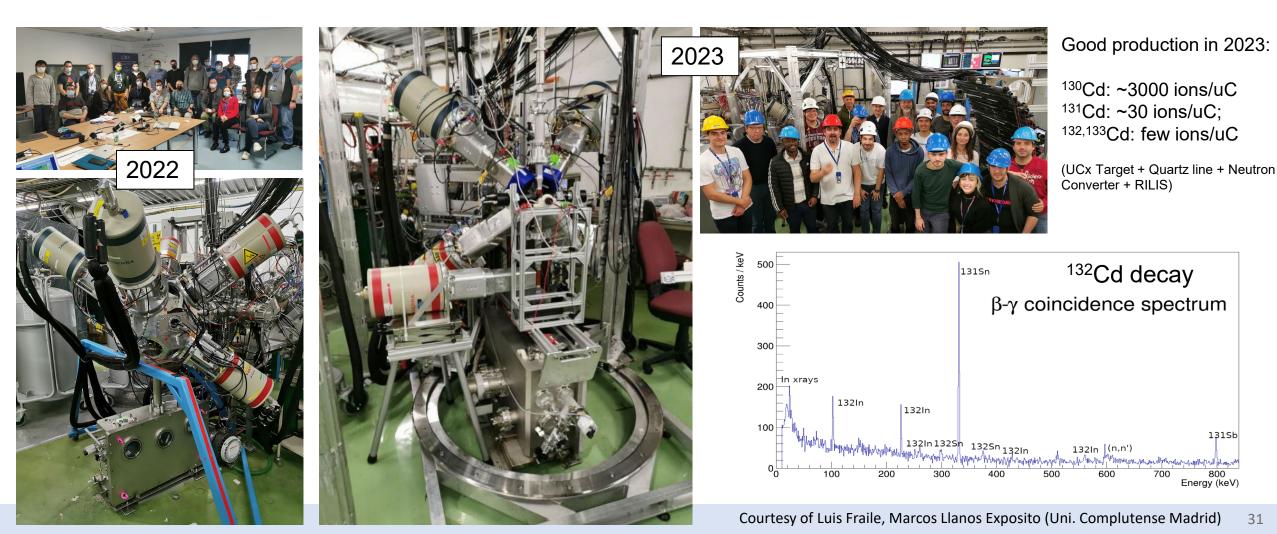
(busiest experimental campaign for IDS so far!)



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

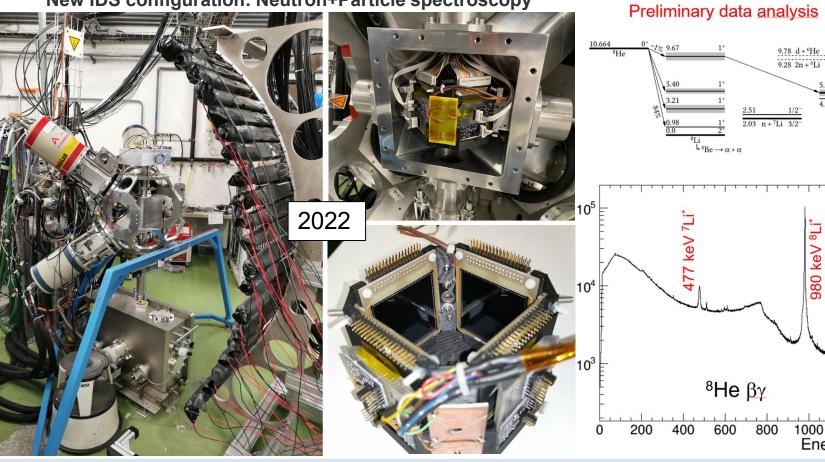
β-	β-	β-	β-	β-	β-	β-	β-	
¹³⁰ Sn β-	¹³¹ Sn β-	¹³² Sn β-	¹³³ Sn β-	¹³⁴ Sn β-	¹³⁵ Sn β-	¹³⁶ Sn β-	¹³⁷ Sn β-	1
¹²⁹ In β-	¹³⁰ In β-	¹³¹ In β-	¹³² In β-	¹³³ In β-	¹³⁴ In β-	¹³⁵ In β-	¹³⁶ In β-	
$^{^{128}}Cd_{^{\beta-}}$	$^{129}_{\beta}Cd$	¹³⁰ Cd β-	$^{131}_{\beta}Cd$	¹³² Cd β-	¹³³ Cd β-	¹³⁴ Cd β-		



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





5.2 t + ⁵He 3/2

ke<

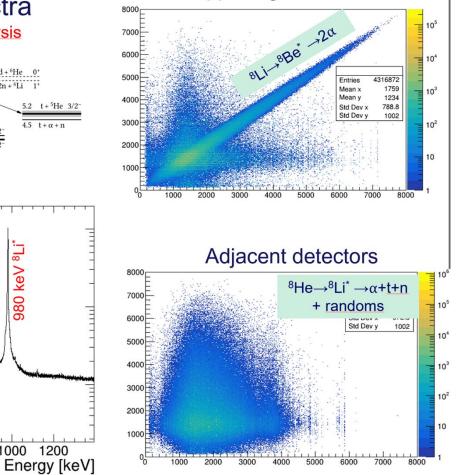
980

1000 1200

Measured spectra



Opposing detectors

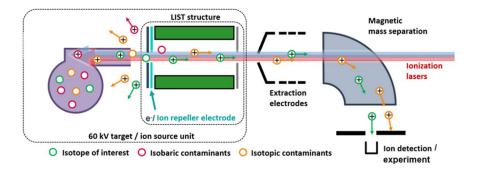


Courtesy of Erik Jensen, Hans Fynbo (Uni. Aarhus)

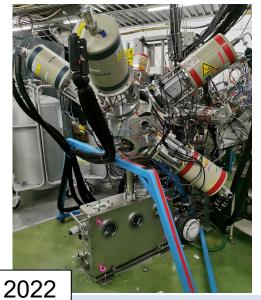
LOI219: Development of neutron-rich Tl beams for nuclear structure studies beyond ²⁰⁸Pb (A. Gottardo, R. Lica, R. Heinke, A. Andreyev et al.)

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

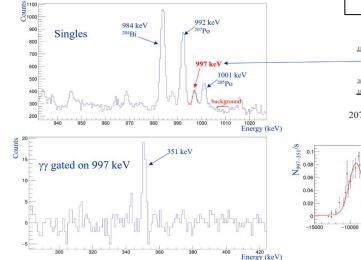
LIST Ion source was used to overcome the isobaric Fr contamination (easily surface ionized)



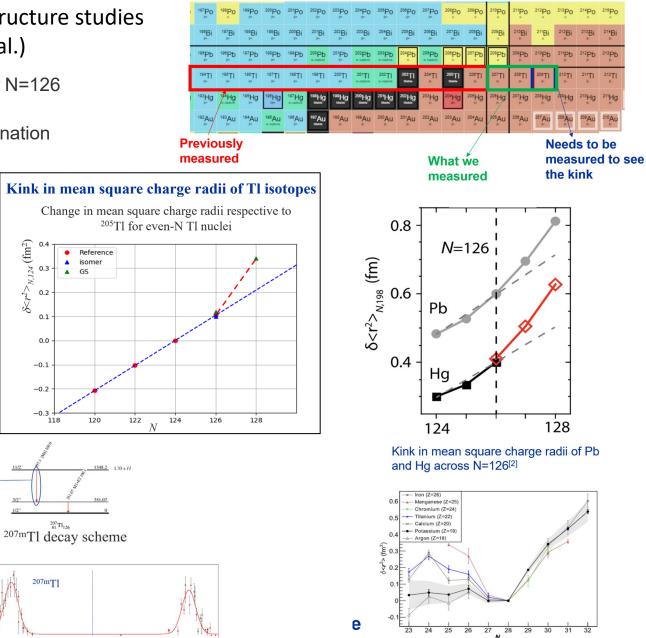
IDS Fast-timing setup



^{207m}Tl hfs measurement



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



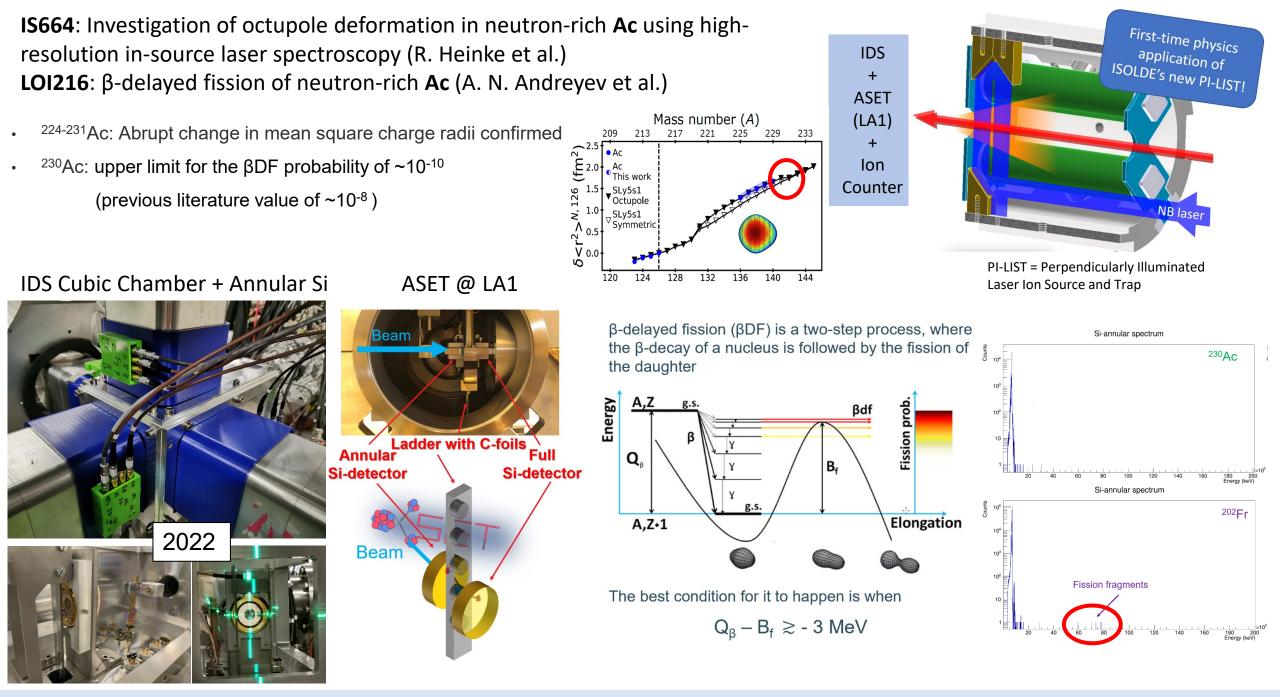
20000

15000

^{207m}Tl hfs

Frequency (MHz)

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



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!

199192

Decay Station















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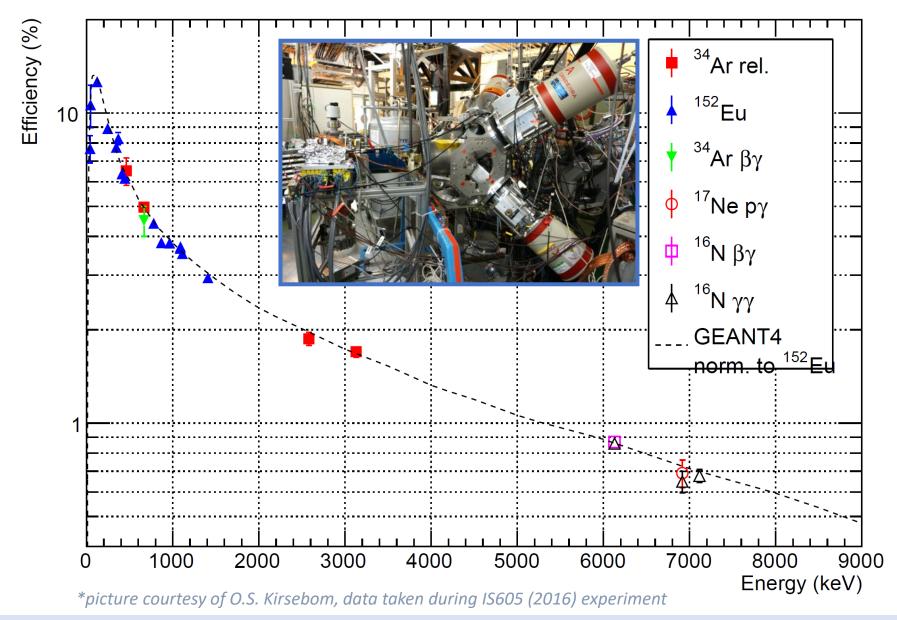




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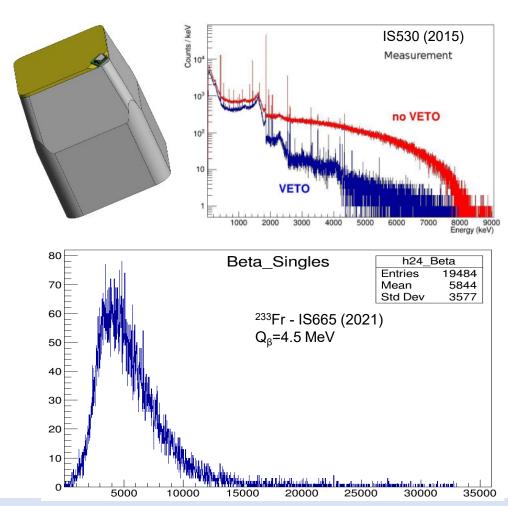
Razvan Lica, 3 Jul 2023 CSSP23

Absolute γ -ray peak detection efficiency (with addback)

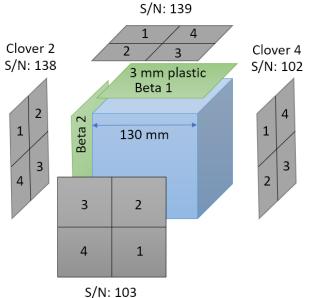


VETO detectors for HPGe

- 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







Clover 3





Razvan Lica, 3 Jul 2023 CSSP23