

The background of the slide is a collage of three photographs showing different parts of the NUSTAR detector. The left photo shows a large, complex structure with many wires and a large cylindrical component. The middle photo shows a person working on a large, circular detector component with many wires. The right photo shows a close-up of a large number of cylindrical detector modules arranged in a circular pattern.

# NUSTAR Early Science - Commissioning & Plan for First Experiment

FAIR Commissioning Workshop  
7th November 2024  
*H.M. Albers*





Where are heavy  
elements created?



**NUSTAR**



What is in the  
interior of a  
neutron star?

**CBM**



**PANDA**

Glueballs:  
What are protons  
and  
neutrons made of?  
What is the structure  
of hadrons?



**APPA**

How do materials  
behave under high  
pressure?



- **NUSTAR - NUClear STructure, Astrophysics and Reactions**
- NUSTAR physics covers the entire nuclear chart!
- Complementary approaches to answer fundamental physics questions:

**What are the limits for existence of nuclei?**

Where are the proton and neutron drip lines situated?

Where does the nuclear chart end?

**How does the nuclear force depend on varying proton-to-neutron ratios?**

What is the isospin dependence of the spin-orbit force?

How does shell structure change far away from stability?

**How to explain collective phenomena from individual motion?**

What are the phases, relevant degrees of freedom, and symmetries of the nuclear many-body system?

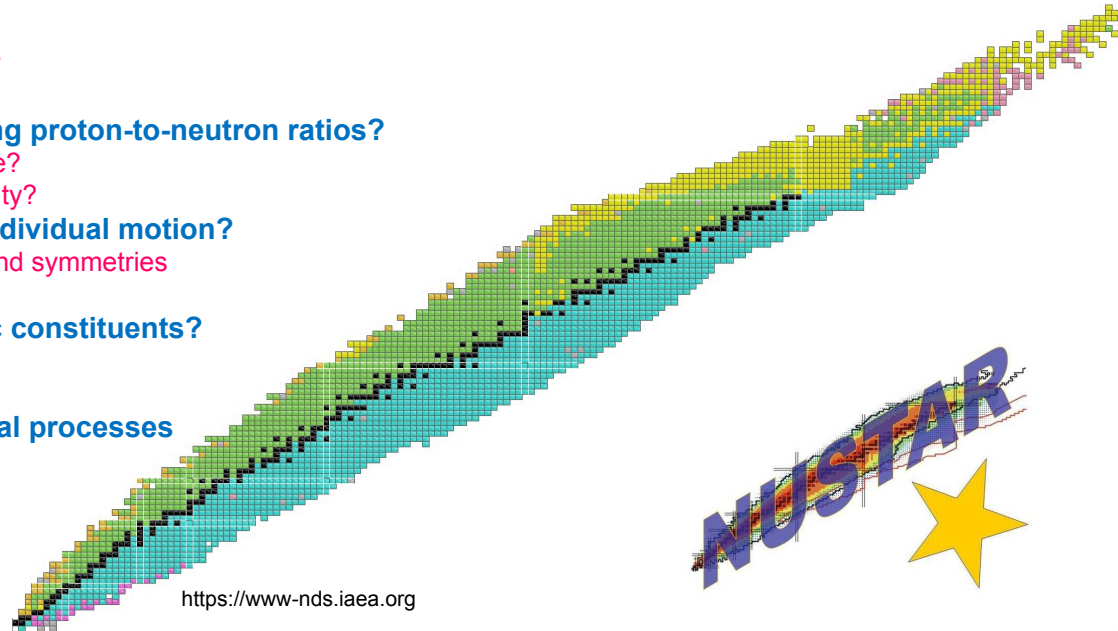
**How are complex nuclei built from their basic constituents?**

What is the effective nucleon-nucleon interaction?

How does QCD constrain its parameters?

**Which are the nuclei relevant for astrophysical processes and what are their properties?**

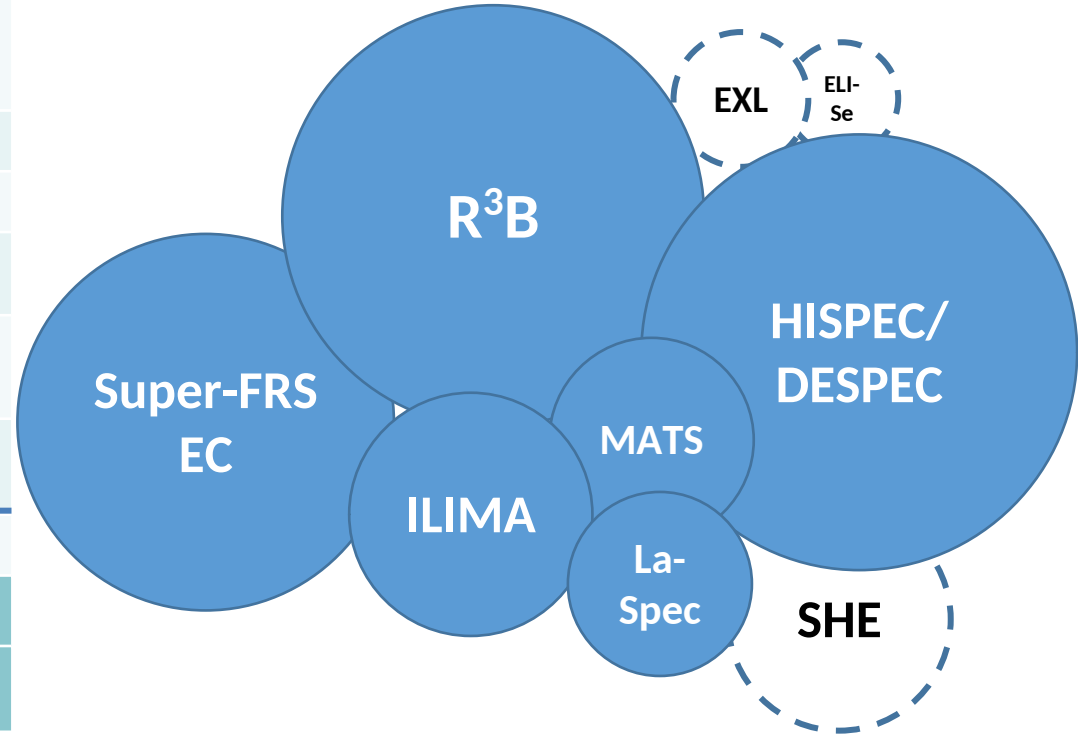
What is the origin of the heavy elements?



<https://www-nds.iaea.org>

# NUSTAR Collaboration

<b>HISPEC/ DESPEC</b>	In-beam $\gamma$ -ray spectroscopy at low and intermediate energy, n-decay, high-resolution $\gamma$ , $\alpha$ , $\beta$ , p, spectroscopy
<b>MATS</b>	In-trap mass measurements and decay studies
<b>LaSpec</b>	Laser spectroscopy
<b>R<sup>3</sup>B</b>	Kinematically-complete reactions with relativistic radioactive beams
<b>ILIMA(*)</b>	Large-scale scans of mass and lifetimes of nuclei in ground and isomeric states
<b>Super-FRS EC</b>	High-resolution spectrometer experiments
<b>SHE(**)</b>	Synthesis and study of super-heavy elements
<b>ELISe(#)</b>	Elastic, inelastic, and quasi-free e-A scattering
<b>EXL(#)</b>	Light-ion scattering reactions in inverse kinematics



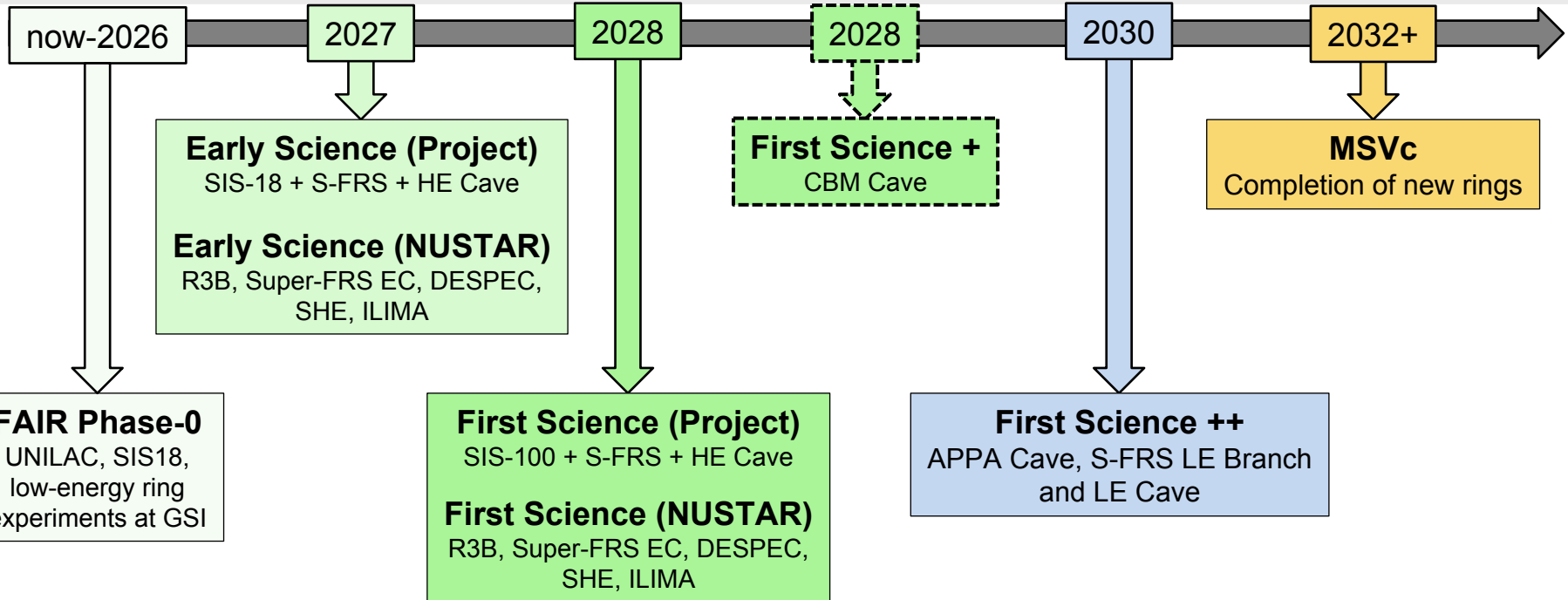
(\*) NUSTAR experiment using existing FAIR/GSI rings until FAIR rings become available

(\*\*) NUSTAR experiments using FAIR/GSI linear accelerators

(#) Experiments requiring NESR – alternative solutions within FAIR MSV under consideration



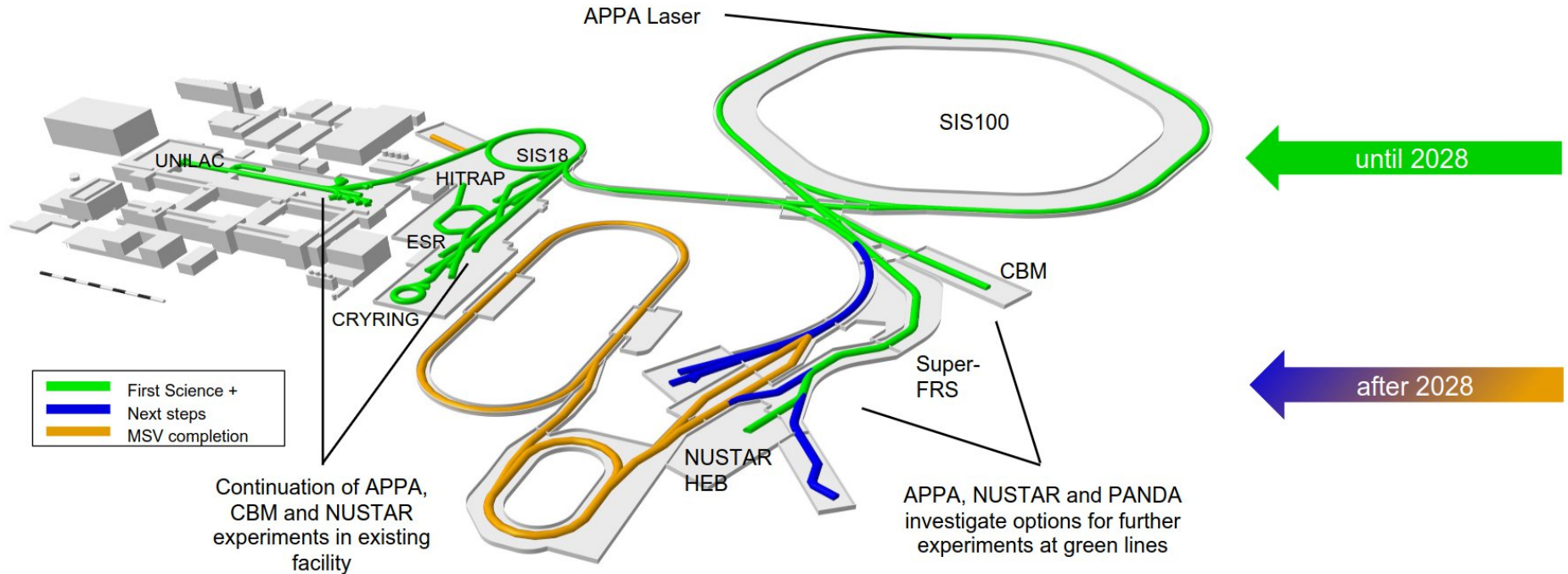
# NUSTAR timeline



**Green:** Budget available  
**Green:** Budget decision expected soon  
**Blue:** Civil construction complete  
**Orange:** Significant additional investment required

– Timeline dependent on Council decisions and timely delivery of SIS100 quadrupoles  
– Additional funding needed in 2026 for continuation of skilled workforce

# FAIR in 2028



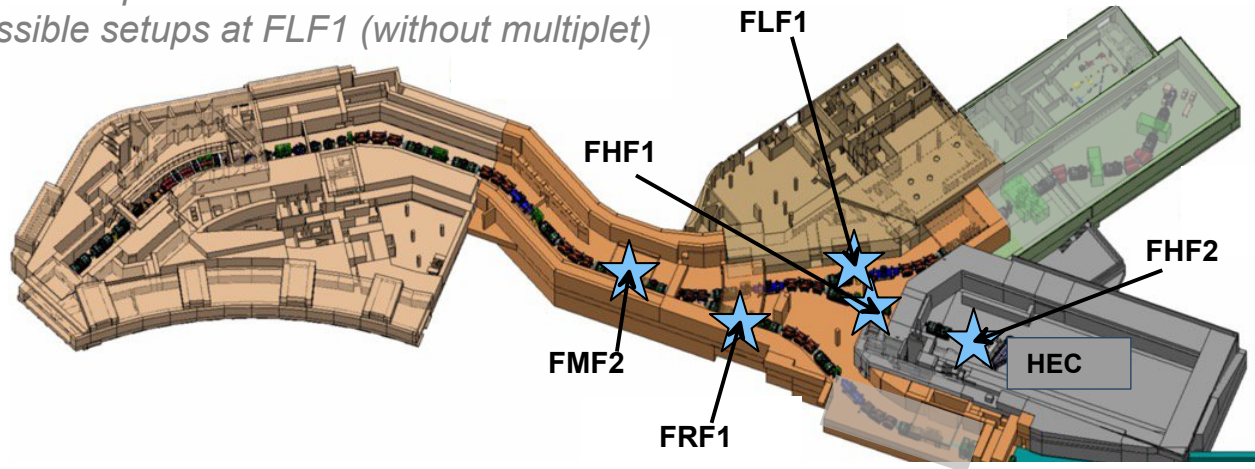
NUSTAR at the Super-FRS (**R<sup>3</sup>B**, **Super-FRS EC** and **DESPEC**) with SIS100 beams, plus **SHE** experiments at UNILAC and **ILIMA** at the low-energy rings

# Early Science Locations

## Key focal planes of the S-FRS:

- **FMF2** mid-point of main separator
- **FHF1** (tunnel)
- and **FHF2** (HEC) along high-energy branch
- *Some basic infrastructure planned for LEC to supply HEC, but no full TBI/beamline*
- *No ring branch; possible BIOMAT setup at the beginning of the ring branch (NUSTAR-BIOMAT MoU ready to sign)*
- *EXPERT neutron detectors NEURAD possible at FRF1*
- *Ongoing discussions about possible setups at FLF1 (without multiplet)*

NUSTAR Early/First science technical plans (FMF2, FHF1 and FHF2) **fully endorsed** by ECE/ECSG in the November 2023 meeting





# Early Science Setups: R<sup>3</sup>B in the HEC

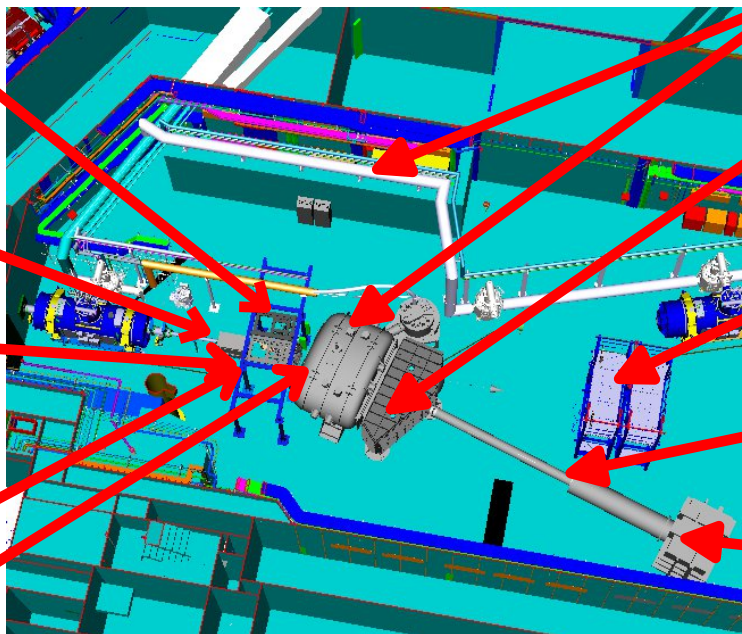
CALIFA with 832 new crystals in the Backward Barrel

New beam diagnostic

LH<sub>2</sub>-target with different piping and safety system

TRT with new barrel geometry and 4 x more acceptance

FOOT in-beam tracker with new electronics



GLAD with new control system

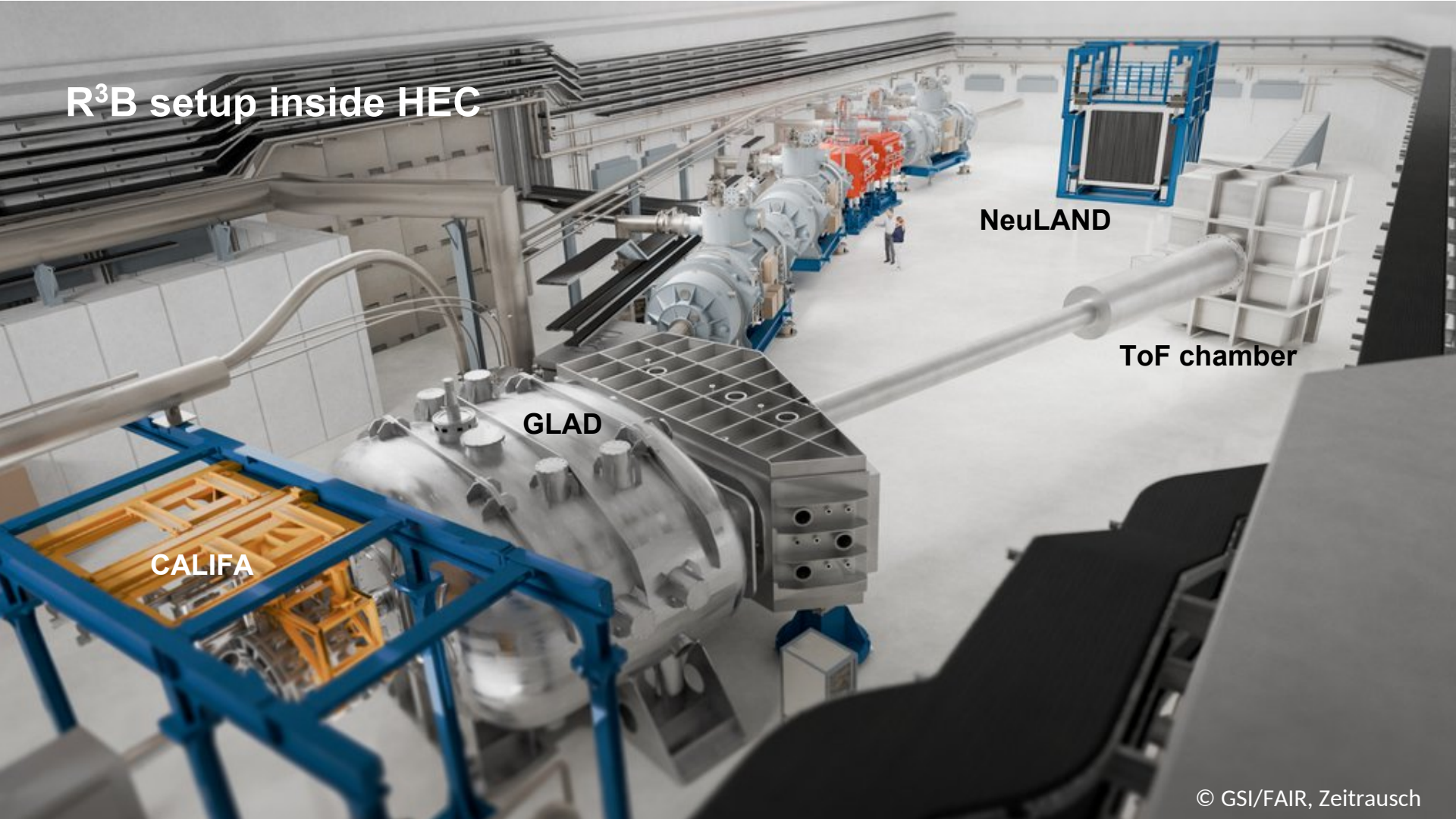
PAS with full angular coverage and operation in vacuum

NeuLAND significantly more double-planes

New HI Fiber tracker

TOF-D with a new in vacuum operation

**R<sup>3</sup>B setup inside HEC**



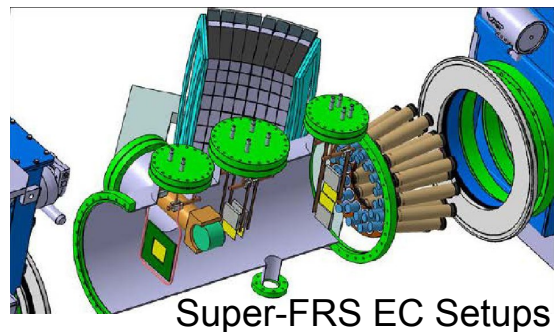
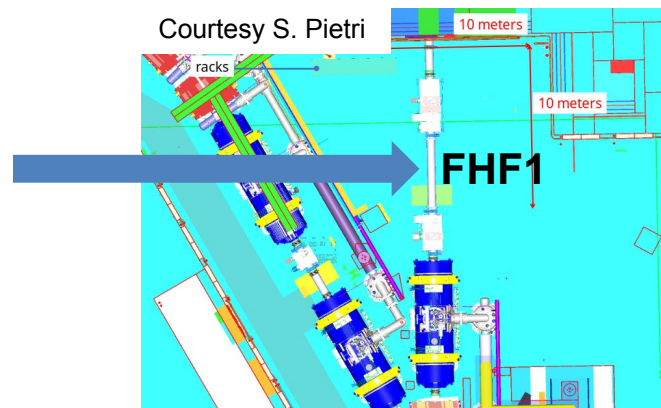
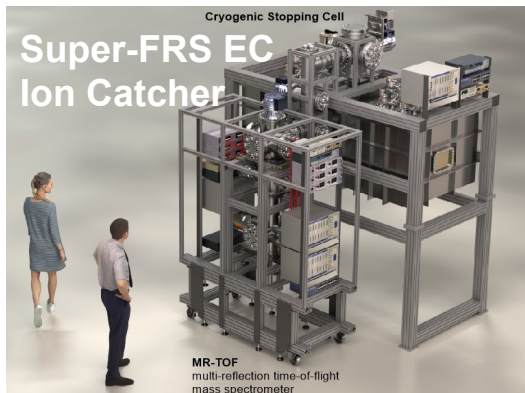
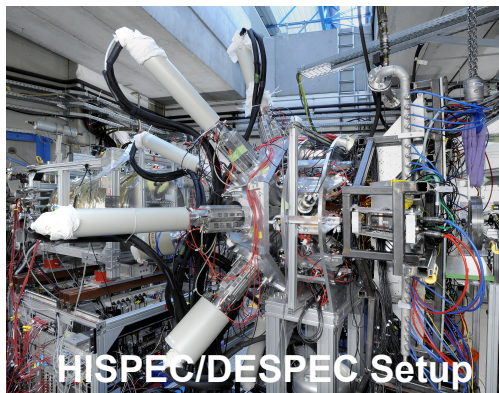
**NeuLAND**

**ToF chamber**

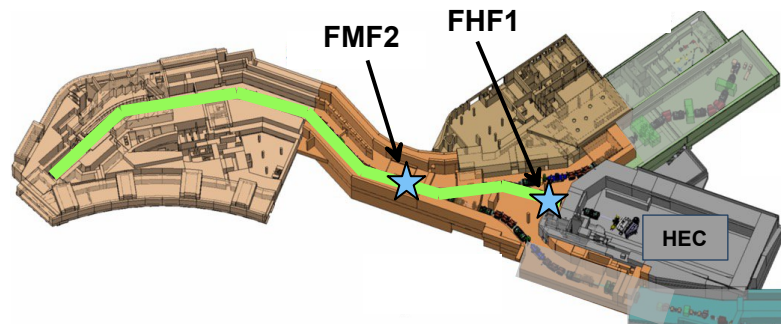
**GLAD**

**CALIFA**

# Early Science Setups: Compact setups FHF1/FMF2



FMF2





# NUSTAR Strategy towards Early Science



Handover “cave  
ready for  
installation”



As soon as building is ready for  
installation, some infrastructure  
items can be installed (limited due  
to work on Super-FRS)

# NUSTAR Strategy towards Early Science

06/26

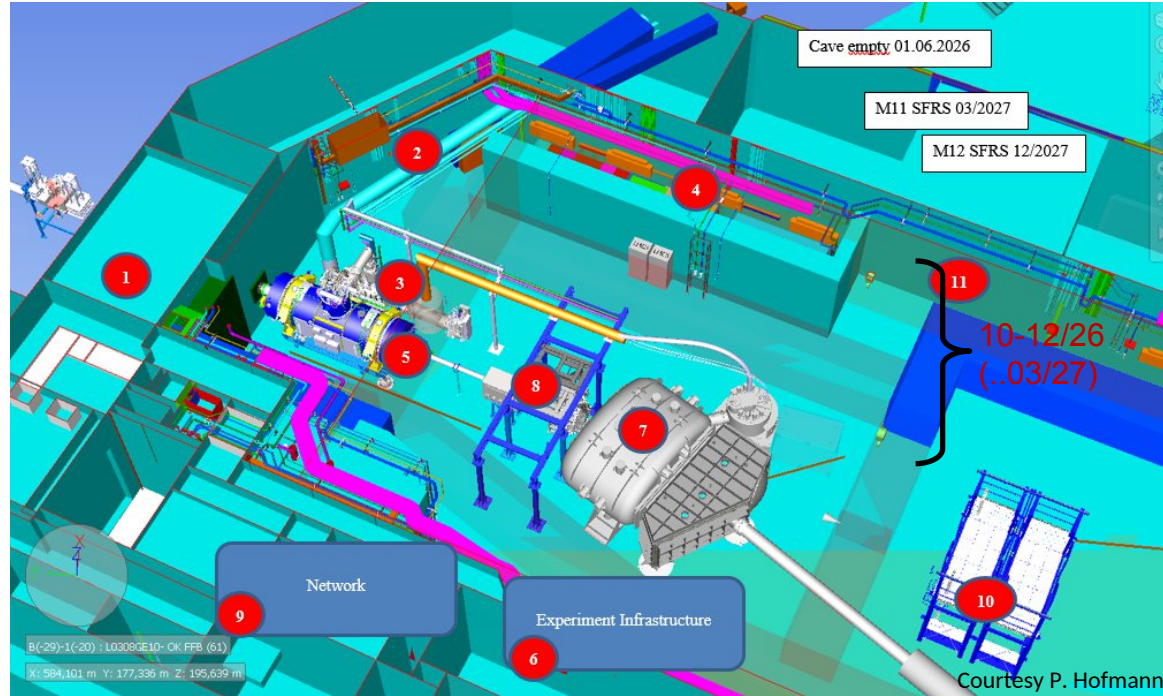
Handover “cave  
ready for  
installation”

HE Cave  
Handover from  
Super-FRS

As soon as HEB cave is  
“empty”, handover MS from  
Super-FRS, installation of  
R3B can start

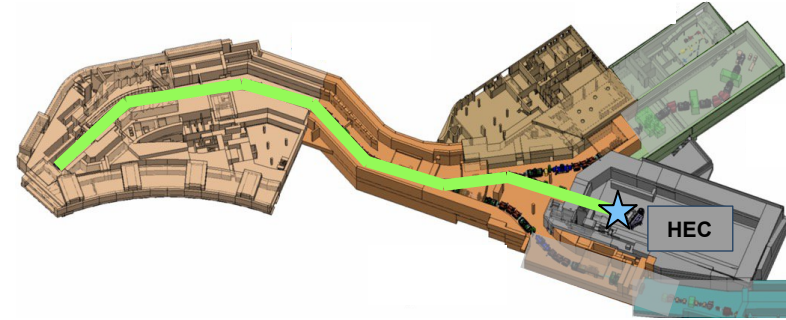
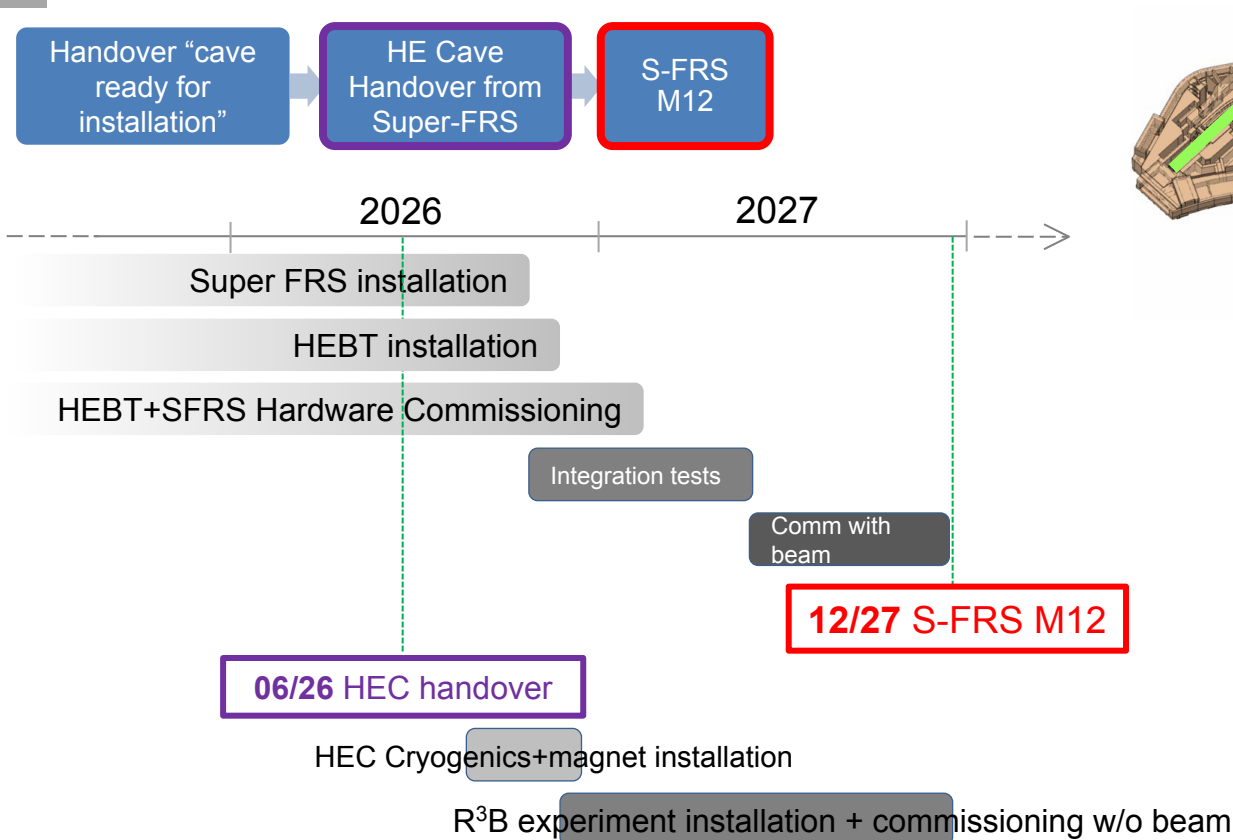
- 1) Mobile wall
- 2) Cryo Distribution Line
- 3) Local Cryo
- 4) Racks and cables (machine)
- 5) Multiplet (inc. connections to media)
- 6) Experiment Infrastructure
- 7) GLAD
- 8) CALIFA
- 9) Network
- 10) NEULAND
- 11) Closing of outside wall 03/27

Q3 2026 \* Q3-Q4 2026 \*



*\*Estimated dates - details being worked out in LCM Workshops*

# NUSTAR Strategy towards Early Science



- Super-FRS will be commissioned through to the final focal plane of the **high-energy branch FHF2**
- Super-FRS commissioning in **parallel to R<sup>3</sup>B installation** and commissioning without beam
- Possible **synergies** between Super-FRS and R<sup>3</sup>B commissioning
- **No access to HEC** once beam is beyond last branching dipoles before HEC



# NUSTAR Strategy towards Early Science

Handover “cave  
ready for  
installation”

HE Cave  
Handover from  
Super-FRS

S-FRS  
M12

NUSTAR  
Commissioning

## Separate commissioning phases:

1. End of the Super-FRS commissioning - verification of particle identification (PID) with simple (compact) setup at FHF2
2. Physics run at FHF2, expansion of existing setup at FHF2
3. Full in-beam commissioning of R<sup>3</sup>B for ‘First’ experiment

**Problem** - *no interface* between ACC (magnets, drives) and NUSTAR (Super-FRS detector + NUSTAR detector readout) planned

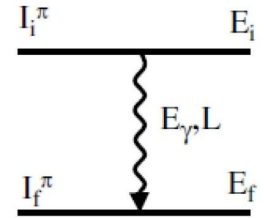
- **Lead by Super-FRS**  
NUSTAR support (e.g. detector setup, maintenance, operation,...)
- Commission Super-FRS/NUSTAR DAQ coupling

- **Lead by NUSTAR**  
Super-FRS support (machine settings, implantation profile, ...)
- Production of more exotic nuclei
- Provide physics results for fast publication

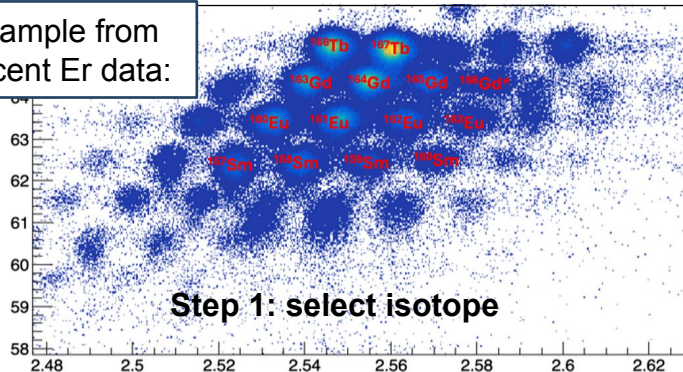
- **Lead by NUSTAR**  
Super-FRS support (machine settings, implantation profile, ...)
- Removal of compact setup
- In-beam commissioning of full R<sup>3</sup>B instrumentation inside HEC

# HPGe detectors for fast PID verification

- Gamma decay is a **(simple!) electromagnetic process** wherein a nucleus decays from an excited state to a state with lower energy via the emission of a photon, i.e the number of protons and neutrons remains the same
  - ✓ (quite) easily observed
  - ✓ difficult to block
  - ✓ EM interaction well-understood
- HPGe detectors have **excellent energy resolution** and allow **fast observation** of peaks
- Typical nuclear states only live for a very short time (~femtoseconds)
- Isomeric states** are those states where the decay is hindered for some reason
- Isotopes can stay in those states until the **end of the Super-FRS** where they can be stopped
- There is a wealth of data on known isomeric states spanning the nuclear chart



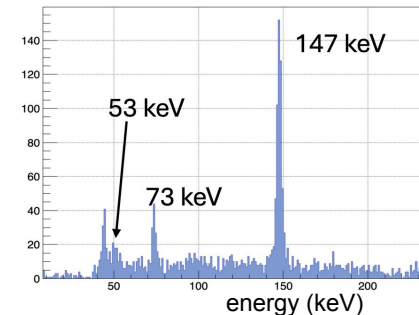
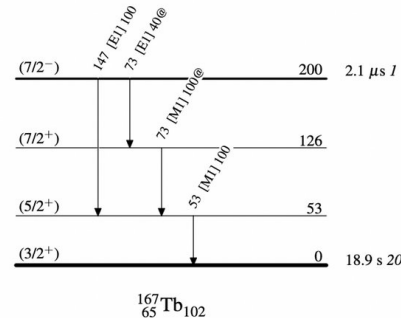
Example from recent Er data:



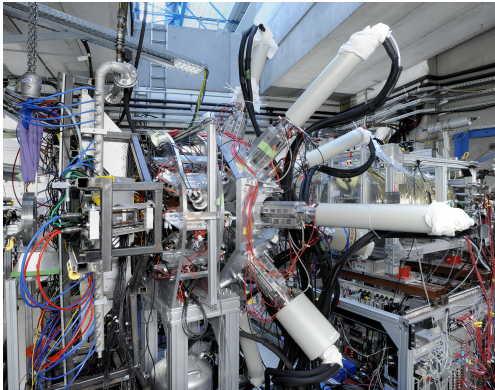
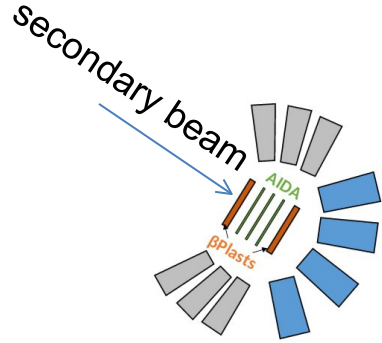
Step 1: select isotope

Step 2: stop isotope close to HPGe detectors

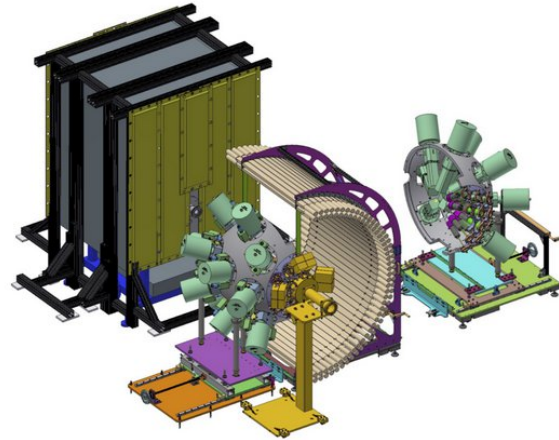
Step 3: observe gamma-rays emitted from isomeric states



# Example implantation-decay setups



DESPEC setup at the FRS

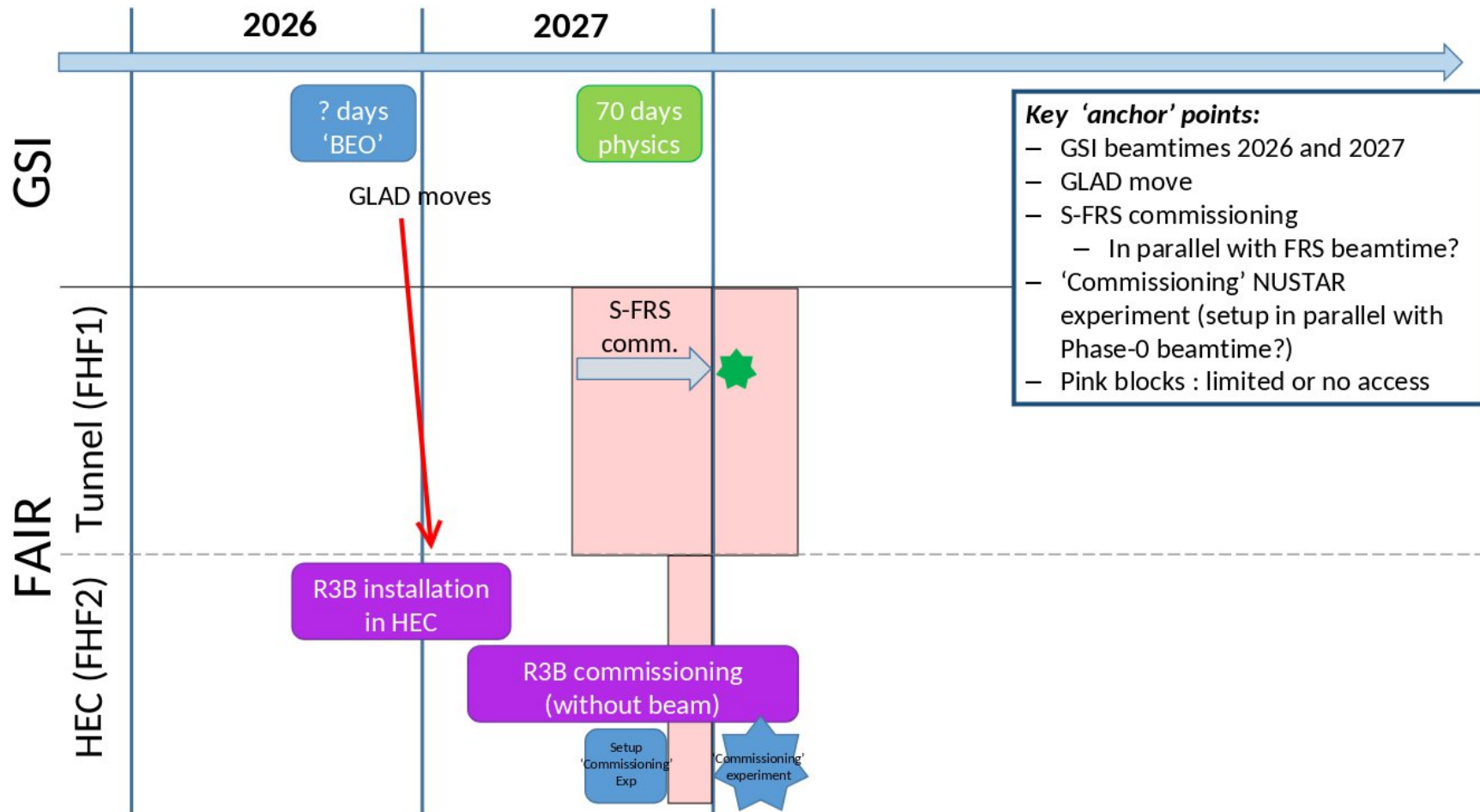


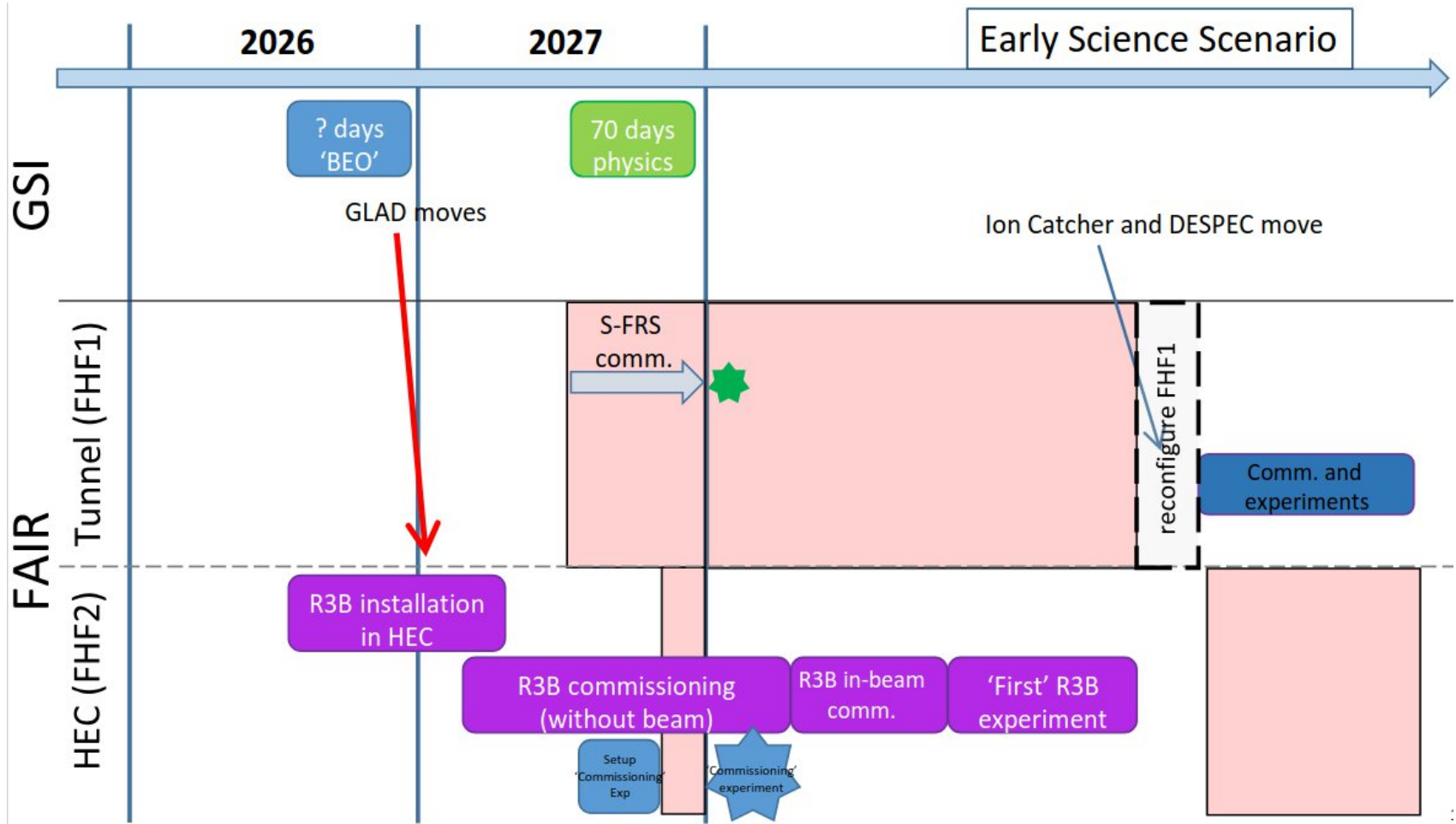
FRIB Decay Station Initiator (FDSi,  
<https://fds.ornl.gov/initiator/>)

Timeline from FRIB:

- May 2022 first experiment
- PRL on new lifetimes  $N > 28$  (published Nov. 2022)
- PRL on unexpected isomer  $^{32}\text{Na}$  (June 2023)
- PRL on new isotopes  $^{198}\text{Pt}$  beam (Feb. 2024; exp Feb. 2023)







# 'First' experiment

- Question asked by Joint Scientific Council - what will be the '**First**' experiment to yield extremely high-impact scientific results?
- Full R<sup>3</sup>B setup inside HEC focussing on **neutron skin measurements or fission**

## Why?

- Improved **transmission** with Super-FRS
- Maximum **gain** for medium-heavy (Ca-Sn) nuclei
- **Cleaner** beams
- **Longer Time-Of-Flight** within HEC compared to Cave C at GSI (i.e. improved identification and angular resolution of R3B setup)
- Successful preparatory experiments already carried in Phase-0

**Unique** → no other place with high-energy fragmentation beam

Beam requirements for both choices are in line with expected parameters:

<sup>73+</sup>U via process chain

**Source - UNILAC - TK - SIS18 - S-FRS - Exp**

- NUSTAR requirements are outlined in the FAIR Operating Modes document
- Detailed input also given to the Performance Committee

Top priority for NUSTAR Early Science: **high-intensity U beams**

Requirements for the 'First' experiment are in line with projected availability  
Scientific potential of 'decay station' experiments scale with intensity

**BUT** the NUSTAR science program needs a variety of beams (and even sometimes new ones!)

- Any stable (including enriched) isotope from H to U might be required
- Preference for heavy ions,  $Z > 50$
- Others: U, Bi, Pb, Au, Er, Xe, Kr, Ar, protons



# R<sup>3</sup>B Commissioning Plans



Detector	Version	Cave-C 2026	Cave-C 2027	HEC-offline	HEC -beam
CALIFA	forward		<sup>1</sup> H(p,p)		
	Full		<sup>1</sup> H(p,p)	2028	2028, <sup>1</sup> H(p,p), <sup>12</sup> C(p,2p)
TRT	Stage1	<sup>238</sup> U	<sup>1</sup> H(p,p)		
	Stage2			2028	2028, <sup>1</sup> H(p,p), <sup>50</sup> X(p,2p)
GLAD	full			2027	2028, <sup>1</sup> H(p,p), <sup>50</sup> X(p,2p)
TOF-D	Full/50%	Frag	<sup>1</sup> H(p,p)	2027	2028, <sup>50</sup> X(p,2p)
PAS	prototype		<sup>1</sup> H(p,p)	2028	2028, <sup>1</sup> H(p,p)
	full			2028	2028, <sup>1</sup> H(p,p)
DAQ	full	<sup>197</sup> Au	<sup>1</sup> H(p,p)	2027	2028, <sup>1</sup> H(p,p), <sup>50</sup> X(p,2p)
NeuLAND	14 – 20 DP			2027	2028, <sup>2</sup> H(p,2p)
ACTAF1	new		<sup>1</sup> H(p,p)		2029, <sup>1</sup> H(p,p), <sup>50</sup> X(p,2p)
LH <sub>2</sub> Target	10 cm		<sup>1</sup> H(p,p)	2028	2028, <sup>1</sup> H(p,p)
HI Fibers	0.5/0.2 mm			2027	2028, <sup>1</sup> H(p,p), <sup>50</sup> X(p,2p)
Sofia				2027	2028, <sup>238</sup> U



Partly commissioned, requires modification or extension



New devices that need full commissioning

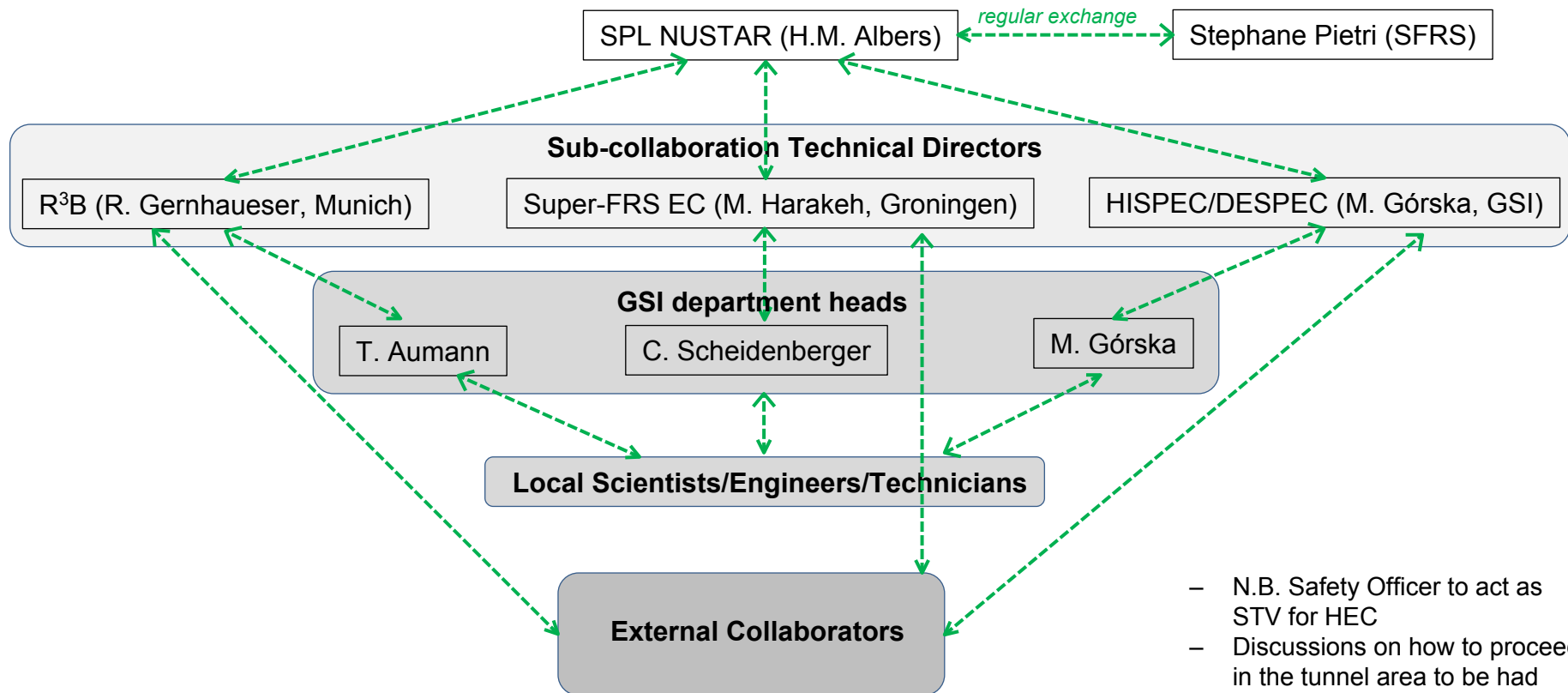
# Commissioning resource planning

**DRAFT**

ROLE	DESCRIPTION	2025	2026	Type
<b>NUSTAR Safety Officer</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Verification of procedures related to safety in NUSTAR areas (e.g. GBUs)</li> <li>- Ensure that NUSTAR components are compliant to proper safety standards, and that appropriate safety documentation is available</li> <li>- Ensure safety protocols are in place for in-beam commissioning of NUSTAR components</li> <li>- Take the role of STVp (eventually STV) for the High-Energy Cave</li> </ul>			<b>NEW</b> , permanent
<b>NUSTAR DAQ Specialist/ Coordinator</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ensure that all NUSTAR DAQ infrastructure is properly installed ready for in-beam commissioning</li> <li>- Conduct final tests to ensure proper integration of NUSTAR DAQ with other FAIR DAQ systems</li> <li>- Coordination between NUSTAR sub-collaborations and S-FRS DAQ team</li> <li>- Maintenance and development (if required) of NUSTAR DAQ systems during all commissioning phases</li> </ul>			<b>NEW</b> , permanent
<b>Detector Specialist (1)</b>	- System integration, verification and commissioning of NUSTAR ES detectors (HISPEC/DESPEC DEGAS)			<b>NEW</b> , temp (tbc)
<b>Detector Specialist (2)</b>	- System integration, verification and commissioning of NUSTAR ES detectors (Super-FRS Experiment Collaboration)			<b>NEW</b> , permanent
<b>Engineer (1)</b>	- Integration, verification and commissioning of R3B setups in the High-Energy Cave			<b>NEW</b> , permanent
<b>Detector Specialist (3)</b>	- System integration, verification and commissioning of NUSTAR ES detectors (R3B)			<b>NEW</b> , permanent
<b>Engineer (2)</b>	- Support with NUSTAR integration/commissioning			<b>EXISTING</b> , permanent
<b>Engineer (3)</b>	- Support with NUSTAR integration/commissioning			<b>EXISTING</b> , permanent

- First plan for manpower 2025 developed
- Top priorities covered (Safety Office, DAQ specialist, R<sup>3</sup>B engineer,...)

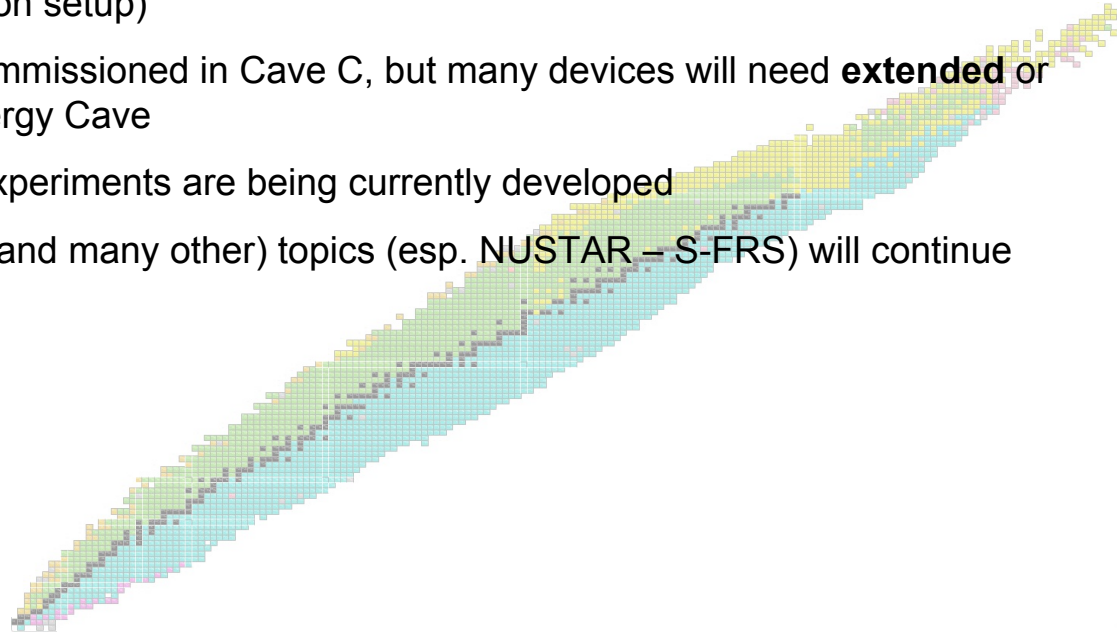
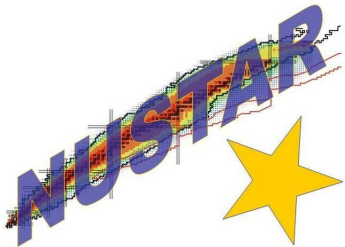
# Comissioning roles and responsibilities (draft)



- N.B. Safety Officer to act as STV for HEC
- Discussions on how to proceed in the tunnel area to be had

# Summary

- The NUSTAR sub-collaborations have a **large variety** of experimental setups (and therefore commissioning requirements)
- Is it important to distinguish between the **‘First’ experiment** (full R<sup>3</sup>B) and experiments that will be carried out **earlier in time** (e.g. simple implantation setup)
- Part of the R<sup>3</sup>B setup has been/will be commissioned in Cave C, but many devices will need **extended** or even **new** commissioning in the High-Energy Cave
- Further details of the ‘First’ and earliest experiments are being currently developed
- Regular exchange on all commissioning (and many other) topics (esp. NUSTAR – S-FRS) will continue







- **Intense primary beam**
  - **Already needed now for Phase-0. The first experiments at FAIR (Early Science) will need large gains in intensities for new physics!**
- Beam spot size matching the emittance requirements of the separators (FRS and Super-FRS) (especially for high-intensity beams where emittance may grow)
- Any stable (including enriched) isotope from H to U might be required
  - preference for heavy ions,  $Z > 50$
  - often-used projectiles U, Bi, Pb, Au, Xe, Kr, Ar and protons
- Uniform spill structure: non-stochastic beam intensity spikes overload the experiments leading to severe data losses
- Fast and reliable switching from high intensity to a few kHz and vice versa

- Parallel operation, fast switching between experiments: parasitic startup commissioning, typical running times in order of  $\sim 1$  wk, optimised scientific output
- Shorter off-spill periods for slow extraction: increased integrated number of ions on target – allows for more exotic nuclei or shorter experiments
- Very short spills: 5-15 ms spill lengths important for Cryogenic Stopping Cell experiments (achieved in 2014 and 2016)
- Optimised transmission between FRS and ESR

