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ALTO – a facility for stable and radioactive beam studies

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The ALTO facility in Orsay consists of two accelerators within the same installation. A Tandem accelerator (15 MV) is dedicated to the production of stable beams (ions and cluster) for nuclear- and atomic-physics studies. A linear electron accelerator (50 MeV) is dedicated to the production of radioactive beams using the photo-fission on UCx targets. The provided stable and radioactive ions beams and clusters allow covering a large physics case from nuclear structure to atomic physics, cluster physics, biology and nano-technology. Nuclear structure studies far from stability are performed at the ISOL facility. The Split-Pole and the Bacchus spectrometers are used for nuclear reaction studies, both from astrophysical and nuclear structure interest. Gamma-ray spectroscopy has traditionally been an important part of the scientific program with the use of different high-efficiency spectrometers (ORGAM, MINORCA and PARIS in near future). The recent development of LICORNE fast-neutron source has boosted the fission studies at ALTO. A brief description of the facility will be given and the on-going research program and future developments will be presented.

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