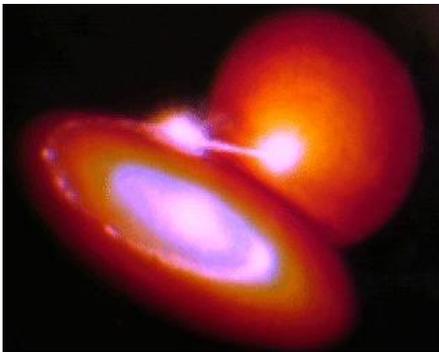
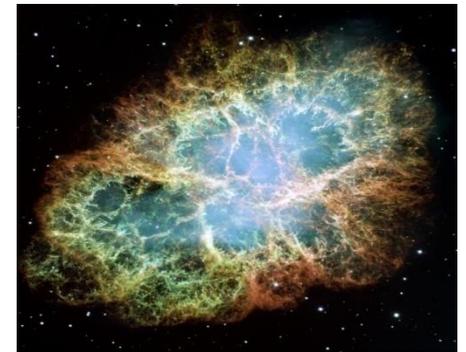


# Nuclear astrophysics projects @ ALTO facility

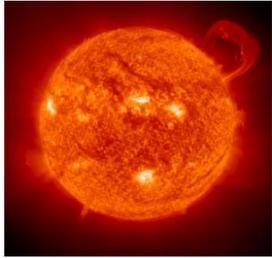


**Fairouz Hammache**  
IPN-Orsay

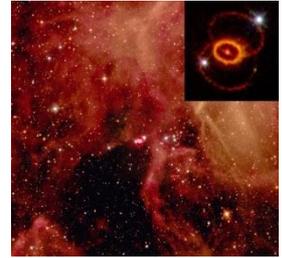
1<sup>st</sup> meeting of LIA – Subatomic Physics  
: from theory to applications  
São José Dos Campos 12-13 June 2018



# NUCLEAR ASTROPHYSICS

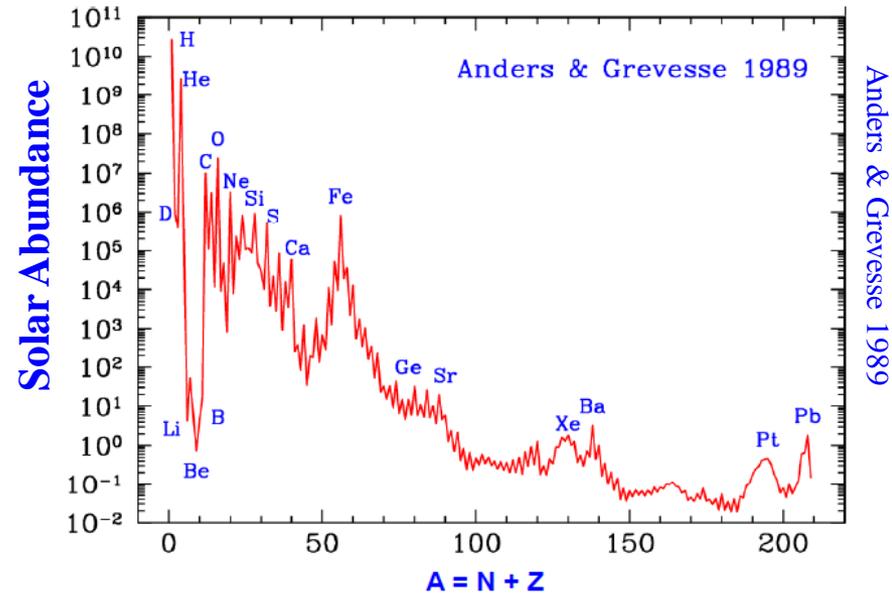


- study energy generation processes in stars
- study nucleosynthesis of the elements



- **How do stars form and evolve?**
- **What powers the stars?**
- **What is the origin of the elements?**

Which nucleosynthesis processes at work?



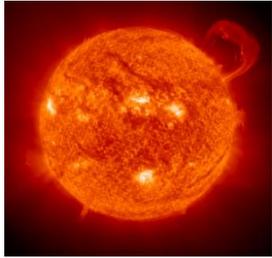
Observations (astronomy & geology),  
Modelling & **NUCLEAR PHYSICS**



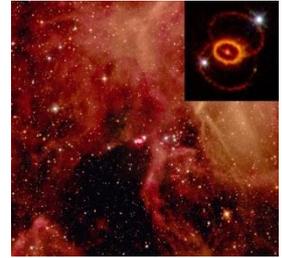
KEY for understanding



# NUCLEAR ASTROPHYSICS

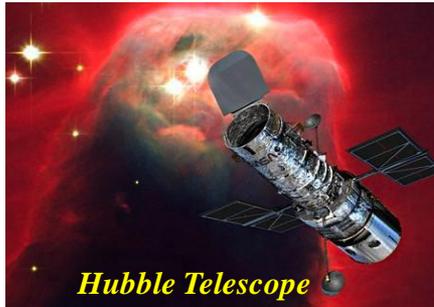
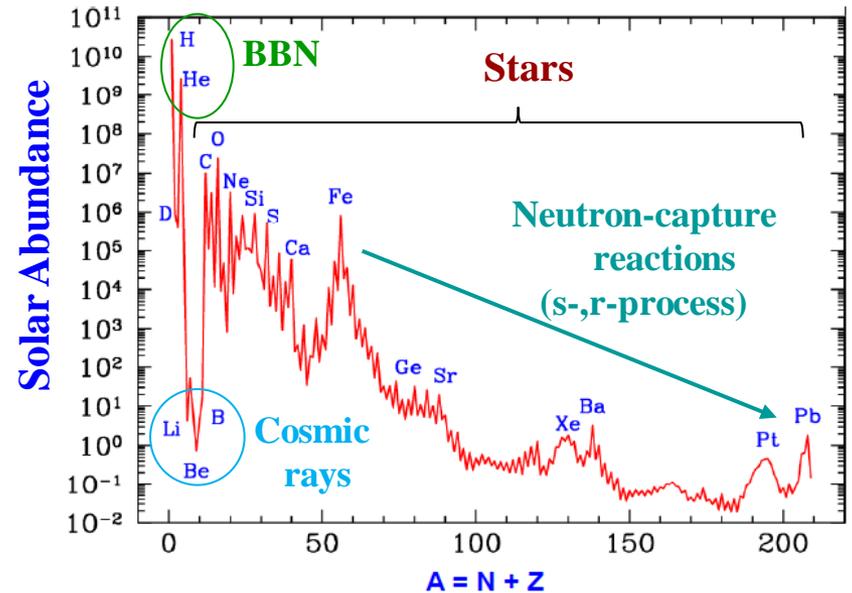


- study energy generation processes in stars
- study nucleosynthesis of the elements



- How do stars form and evolve?
- What powers the stars?
- What is the origin of the elements?

Which nucleosynthesis processes at work?



*Hubble Telescope*



*INTEGRAL Telescope*

Observations (astronomy & geology),  
Modelling & **NUCLEAR PHYSICS**



KEY for understanding



*Ensisheim meteorite*

# From nuclear physics to abundances

Improving the knowledge of the nucleosynthesis processes at work in the universe  
& the understanding of stellar evolution

**Nuclear physics** Experiments & theory

Needed inputs: cross-sections, **nuclear spectroscopic properties (Ex, J, partial decay widths)**, masses,  $\beta$ -decays, ...)



**Reaction rate**



**Astrophysics  
Modelling**

Network calculations  
(BBN & stellar evolution  
modelling, nucleosynthesis)



**Abundances**



**Observations**  
(On earth, meteorites,  
satellites, ...)

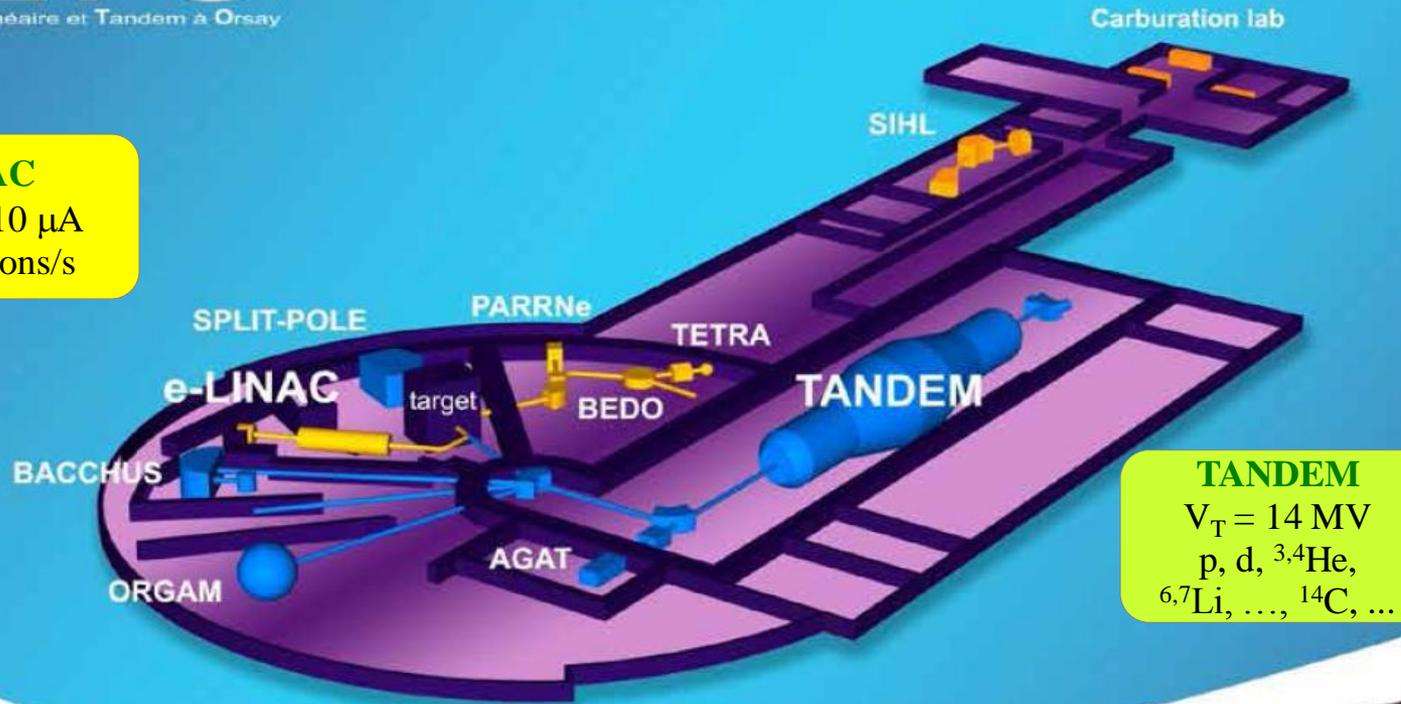


**Abundances**

# The ALTO facility

**ALTO**  
Accélérateur Linéaire et Tandem à Orsay

**e-LINAC**  
50 MeV / 10  $\mu$ A  
 $\sim 10^{11}$  fissions/s



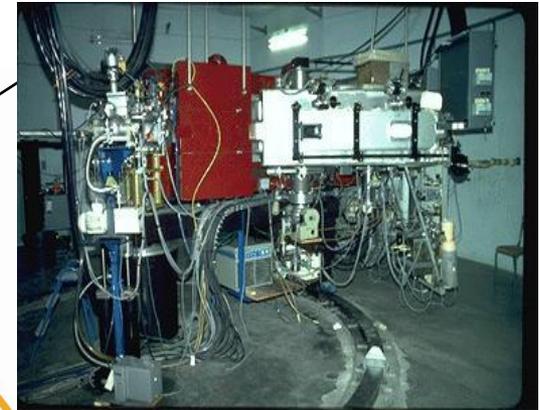
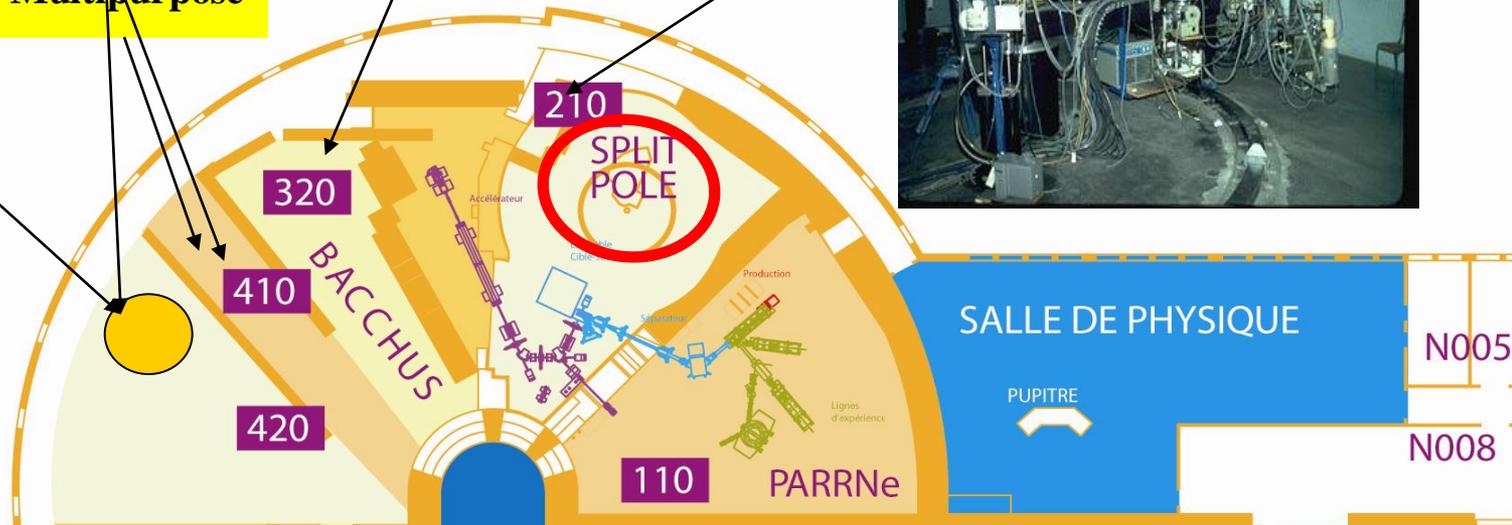
**TANDEM**  
 $V_T = 14$  MV  
p, d,  $^3\text{He}$ ,  
 $^6,7\text{Li}$ , ...,  $^{14}\text{C}$ , ...





BACCHUS  
Spectrometer

SPLIT-POLE Spectrometer



## Standard Tandem beams

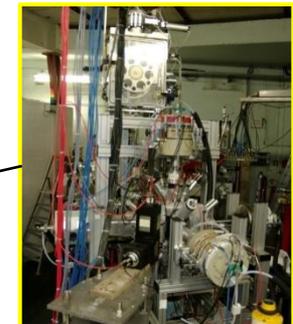
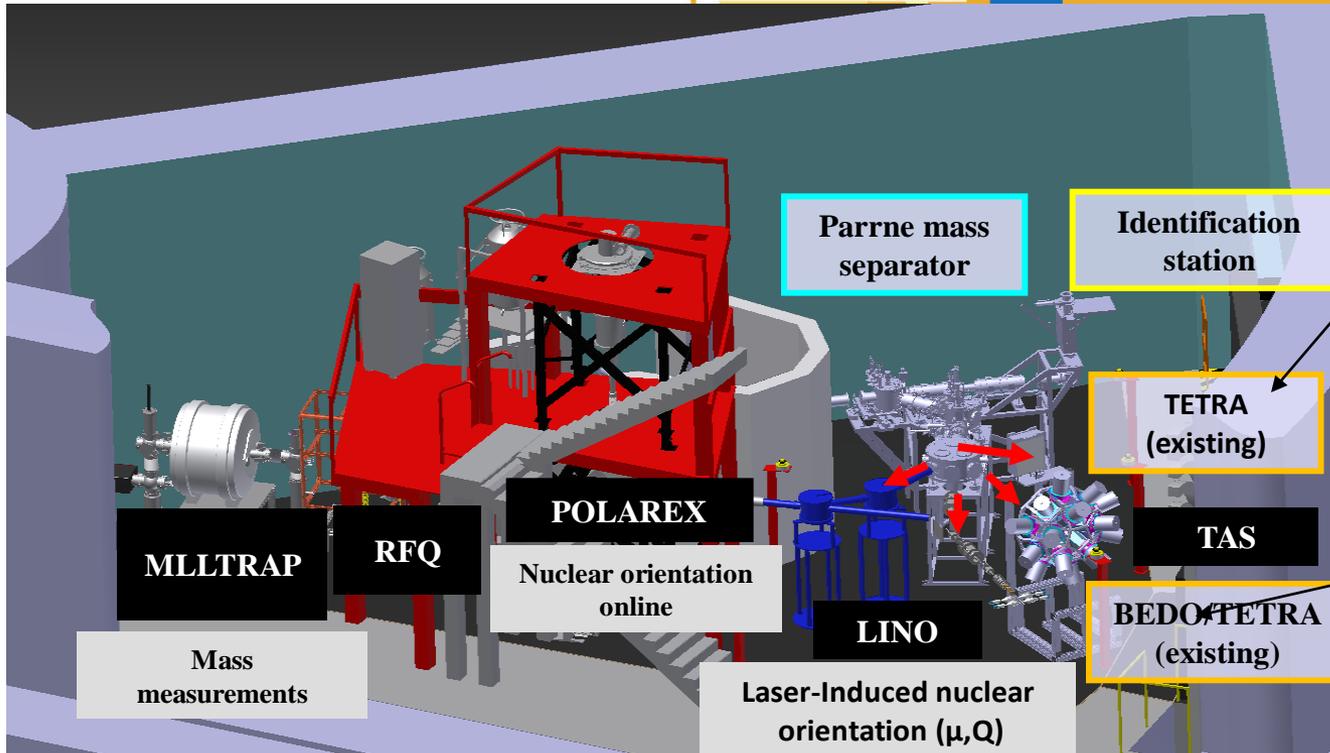
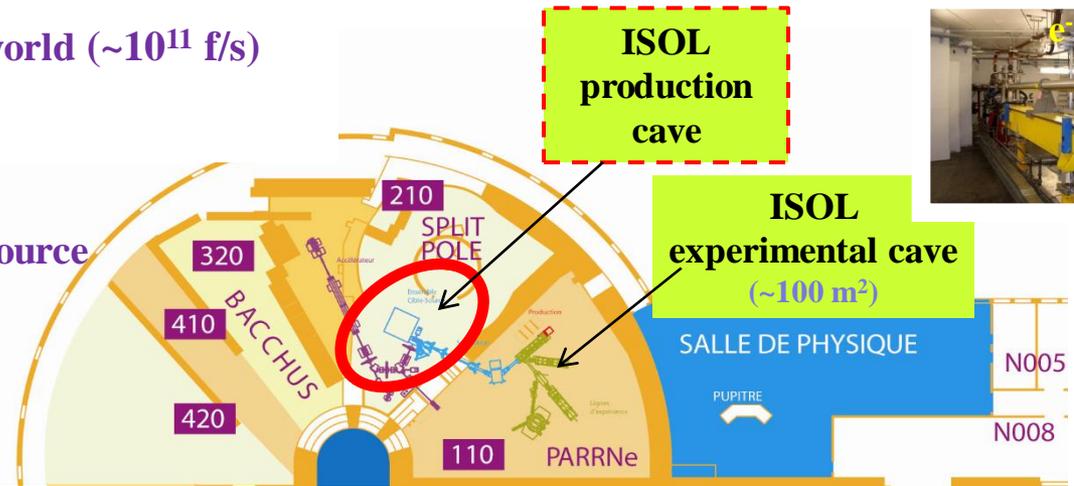
- from  $\text{H}$ ,  $^3\text{He}$ ,  $^4\text{He}$ , ...,  $^{14}\text{C}$ , ... up to  $^{127}\text{I}$
- terminal voltage: from  $< 1 \text{ MV}$  up to  $14.5 \text{ MV}$
- beam pulsing: pulse width  $1 - 2 \text{ ns}$ ; repetition rate –  $200 \text{ ns}$  or more
- **new ions source** purchased for higher intensity of difficult beams (Mg, Ca)

# The Alto facility:

# radioactive beams

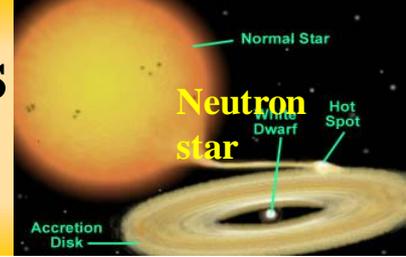
First photofission ISOL facility in the world ( $\sim 10^{11}$  f/s)

- 50 MeV & 10  $\mu$ A  $e^-$  beam
- UCx target ( $\sim 70$ g,  $\sim 140$  pellets)
- Z selection with: **Surface/LASER ion source**
- Mass Selection with PARRNe magnet



Beta decay spectroscopy

# Projects with stable beams: $\gamma$ -ray measurements for hydrogen burning in novae/X-ray bursts

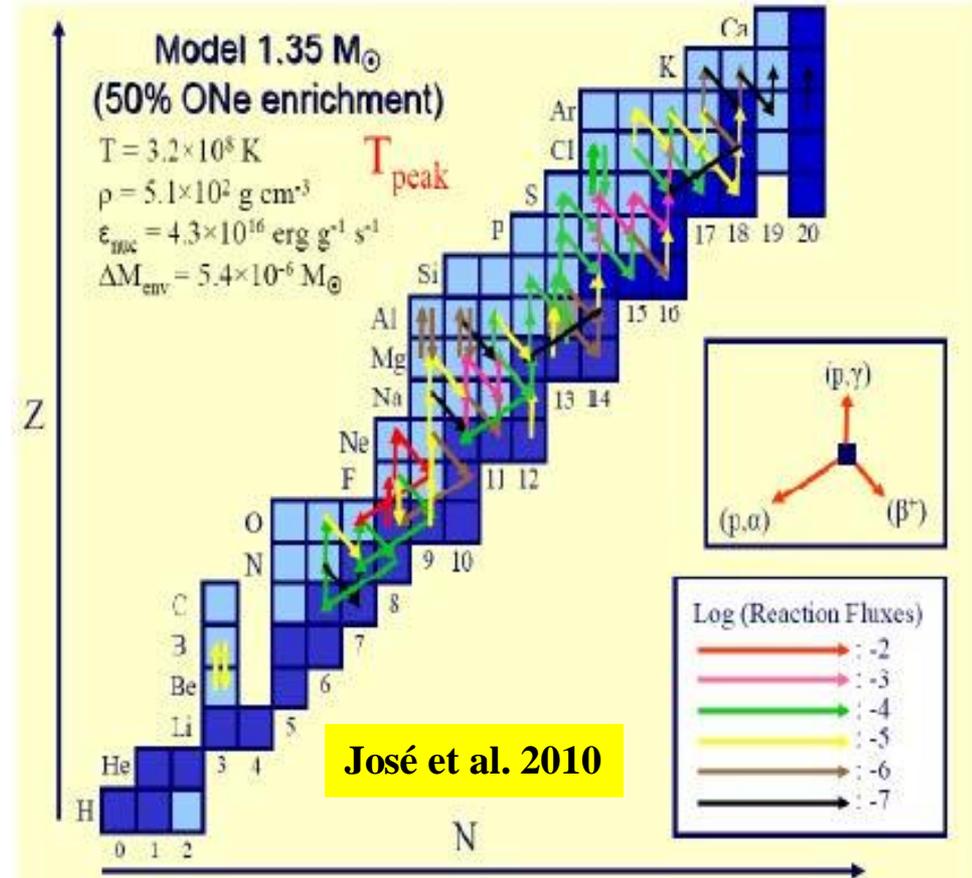


Hydrogen-burning in **novae/**  
**X-ray bursts** scenarios - **rates** dominated  
by **narrow resonances** typically within a  
**few 100s of keV** above the threshold

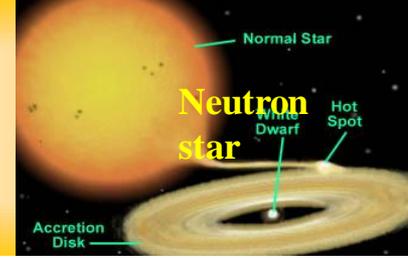
$\gamma$  widths dominate due to low energy for  
Coulomb-barrier penetration

Need information on the energies, spins  
& parities of these states to work out  
which ones are potentially important

$\gamma$ -ray decay information is one of the best  
ways to do this



# Projects with stable beams: $\gamma$ -ray measurements for hydrogen burning in novae/X-ray bursts



Hydrogen-burning in **novae/X-ray bursts** scenarios - **rates** dominated by **narrow resonances** typically within a **few 100s of keV** above the threshold

$\gamma$  widths dominate due to low energy for Coulomb-barrier penetration

Need information on **the energies, spins & parities** of these states to work out which ones are potentially important

**$\gamma$ -ray decay** information is one of the best ways to do this

$$N_A \langle \sigma v \rangle \propto \omega \Gamma_p \Gamma_\gamma / \Gamma * \exp(-11.605 E_r / T_9)$$

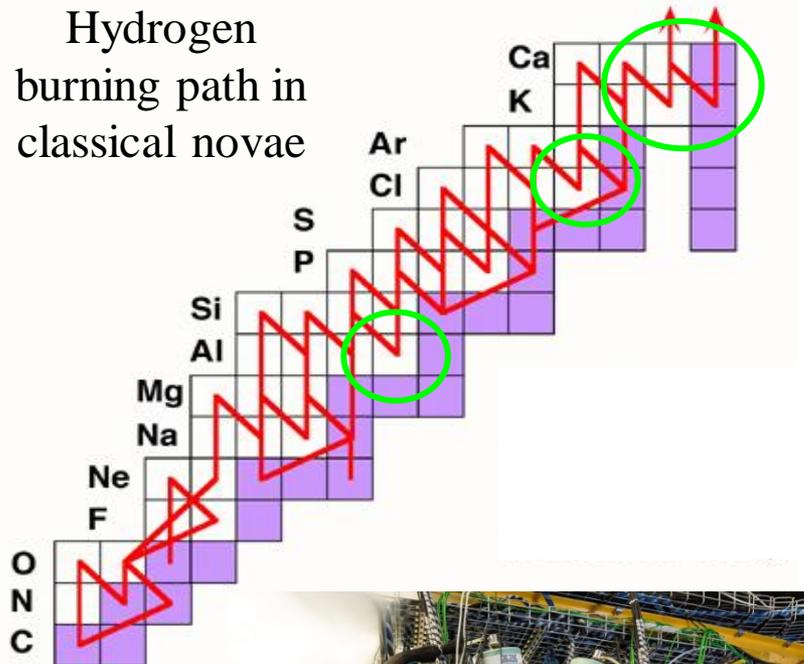
Spin factor =  $(2J+1)/((2j_1+1)(2j_2+1))$

$$\Gamma_p = 2 \gamma^2 P_L(E),$$

$P_L$  is the penetrability for orbital angular momentum,  $L$ , and varies strongly with the orbital angular momentum – only **low  $L$**  are **astrophysically important**

# Physics cases for hydrogen burning

Hydrogen burning path in classical novae

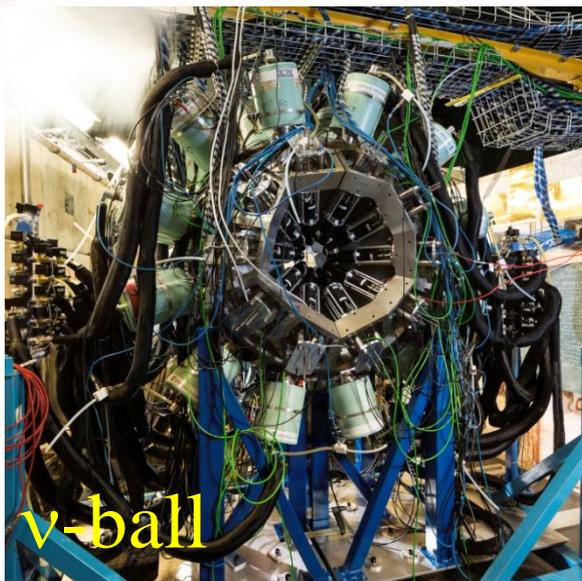


Resonances in  $^{38}\text{K}$ ,  $^{39}\text{K}$ ,  $^{39}\text{Ca}$  which contribute to burning in massive stars/novae (e.g. globular cluster pollution scenarios) - all accessible via  $^{39}\text{K}+p$  reactions (e.g. (p,d), (p,p'), (p,pn), (p,n))

**P.Adsley et al.**

Low-lying/isomeric state to and from which capture can take place **c.f.  $^{34}\text{Cl}$  and  $^{26}\text{Al}$**

States relevant for rp-process in X-ray bursts also accessible for some cases - e.g.  $^{59}\text{Cu}(p,\gamma)^{60}\text{Zn}$  by  $^{58}\text{Ni}(^3\text{He},n)^{60}\text{Zn}$



**v-ball**

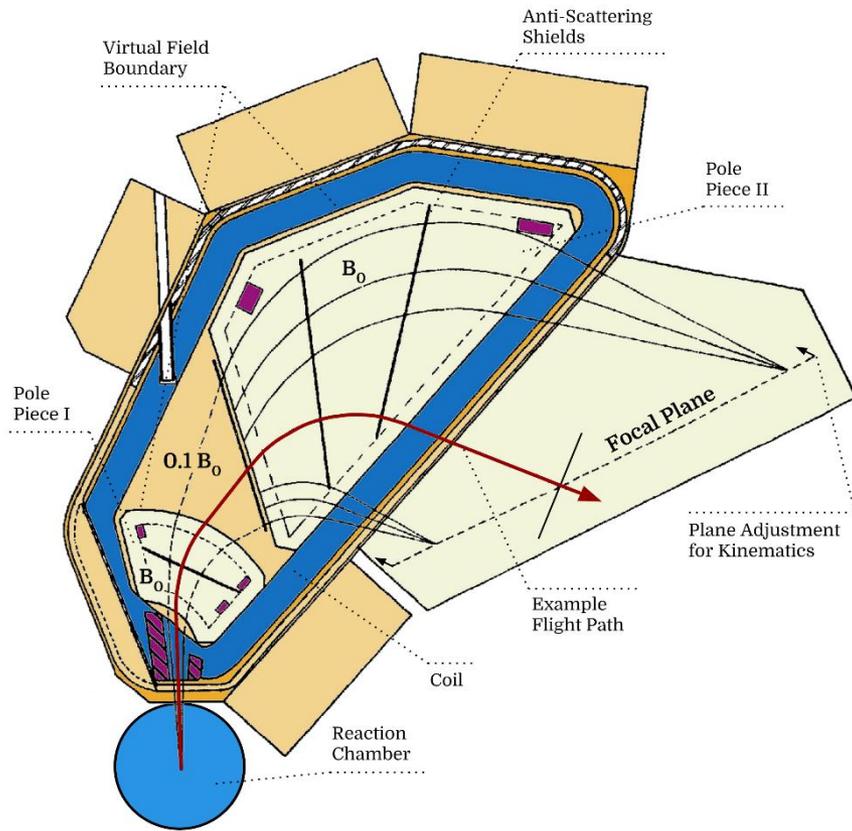
→  $\gamma$ -ray measurements using **v-ball** setup-like (34 Ge detectors+ 36 LaBr<sub>3</sub>) actually available at ALTO

# Projects with stable beams:

# Split-Pole measurements

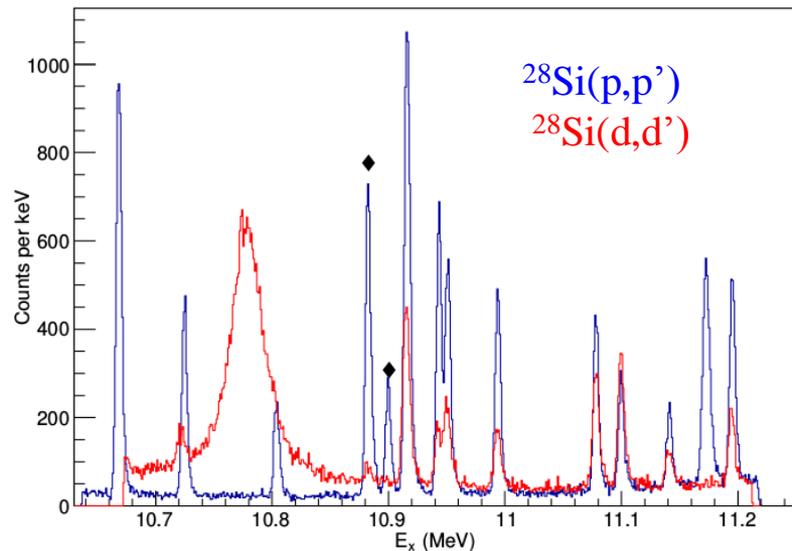
## Split-Pole spectrometer

- $\Delta\Omega \sim 1.7 \text{ msr}$
- $\Delta E/E \sim 5 \times 10^{-4}$



Most of the nuclear astrophysics projects performed these last 10 years at ALTO used Split-Pole spectrometer (see [N. de Séréville talk](#))

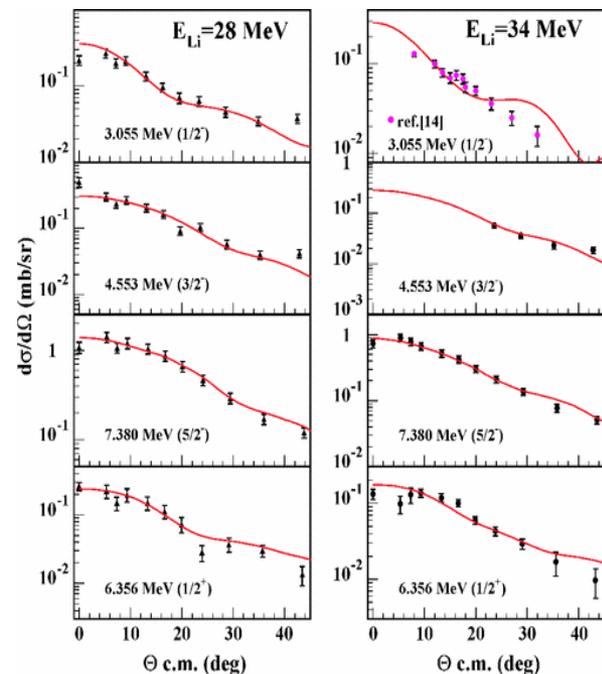
Combination of tandem+magnetic spectrograph  $\Rightarrow$  **high-energy resolution measurement** of a state



Two main ways - **inelastic scattering** and **charge-exchange** to find states and energies, and **transfer reactions** for spectroscopic factors (and therefore partial widths)

# Transfer reaction measurements projects with Split-Pole

Pellegriti *et al.* PRC (R) (2008)



$^{13}\text{C}(^7\text{Li},t)^{17}\text{O}$   
transfer  
reaction  
↓  
 $^{13}\text{C}(\alpha,n)^{16}\text{O}$ :  
s-process  
neutron source  
in low mass  
AGB stars

For alpha capture & proton capture reactions:  
( $^6/7\text{Li},d/t$ ) & ( $^3\text{He},d$ ) are the most interesting  
options

➤ ( $^3\text{He},d$ ) gives access to proton widths

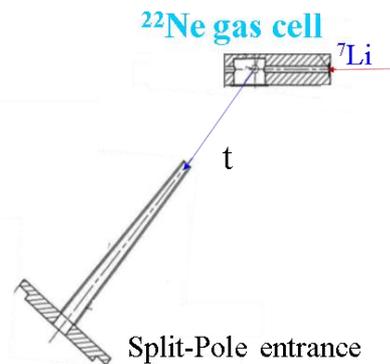
➤ ( $^6/7\text{Li},d/t$ ) gives access to  $\alpha$ -particle widths

Projects: Study of  $^{18}\text{O}(\alpha,n)$  in CCSNe relevant to  
 $^{15}\text{N}$  production & neon-burning reaction like  
 $^{20}\text{Ne}(\alpha,\gamma)^{24}\text{Mg}$

➤ Coupling the magnet with **gas cell** makes reactions involving e.g. **oxygen** & **neon** possible.

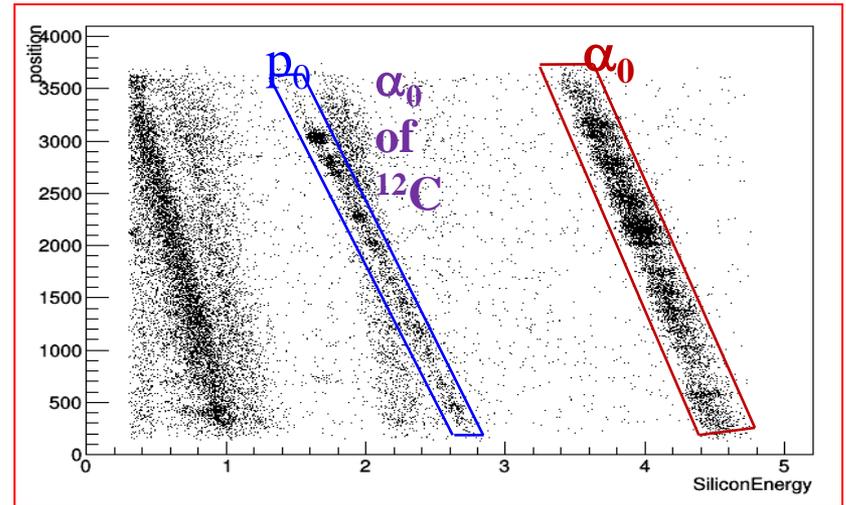
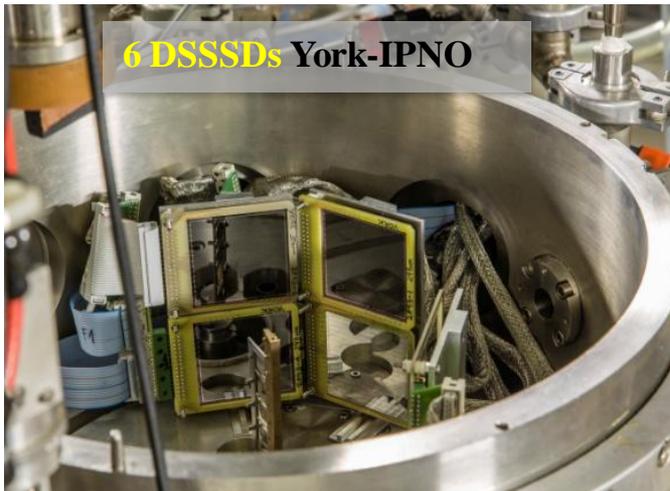
Accepted project in Orsay PAC 2018:

- Study of  $^{22}\text{Ne}(\alpha,n)$  reaction: main neutron source for the s-process in massive stars (**very high priority in nuclear astrophysics**) (spokesperson: **F. Hammache et al.**)



# Split-Pole-DSSSD coincidence measurements

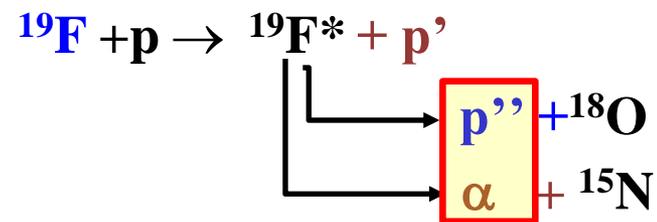
- Coincidence measurements is a useful method for getting charged-particle branching ratios for important astrophysical reactions
- Angular distributions of decaying particles for spin-parities
- Recent studies using Split-pole spectrometer coupled with an array of DSSSD in the reaction chamber include  $^{27}\text{Al}$ ,  $^{19}\text{F}$ ,  $^{19}\text{Ne}$ ,  $^{31}\text{S}$  (see **N. de Séréville talk**)



Coincidence plot from the experiment:

- Important cases :

- Hydrogen burning → proton decay branching ratio of  $^{38,39}\text{K}$ ,  $^{39}\text{Ca}$
- $^{12}\text{C}+^{12}\text{C}$  fusion in massive stars →  $^{24}\text{Mg}$  state decay channels

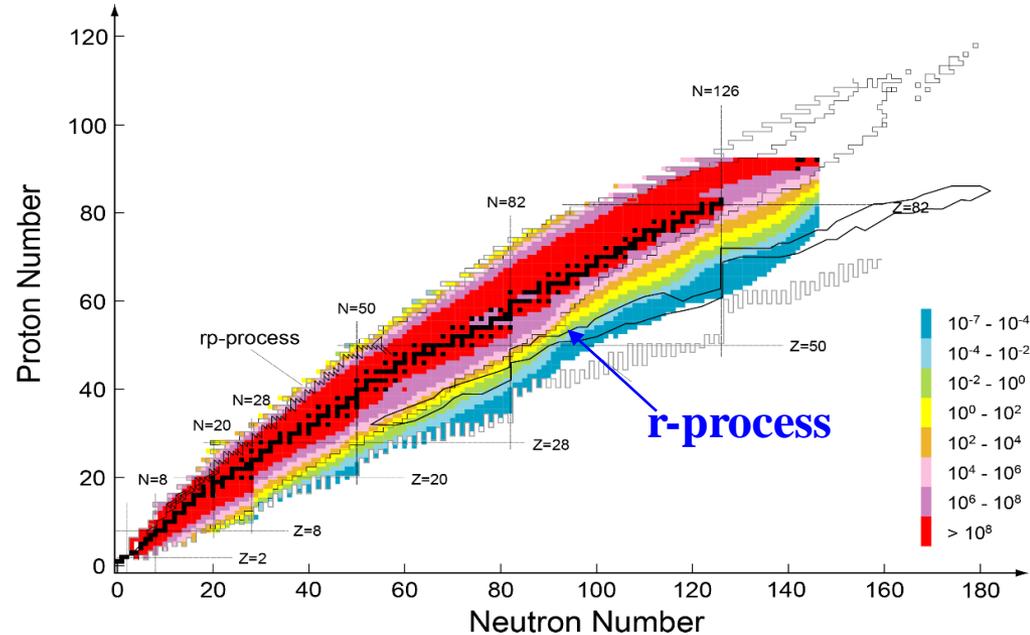


# Projects with radioactive beams: Study of the rapid neutron capture process



➤ Production of the half of the abundance of heavy elements

temperature  **$1-2 \times 10^9$  K**  
 /timescale **~ seconds**  
 neutron density  **$10^{20}-10^{24}$  cm<sup>-3</sup>**  
 Possible stellar sites **type II supernovae**  
**neutron star mergers**



- **Individual measurements will not affect the scenario**  
 => need significant set of new inputs: masses,  $\beta$ -decays, capture cross-sections  
 → constrain the nuclear theoretical predictions

- **Example of projects:**

- Mass-program (Ag) **E. Minaya et al.**
- Measurements of the decay characteristics of  $^{90}\text{Se}$  ( $T_{1/2}$ ,  $\beta$ -delayed neutron emission...) **T. Kurtukian et al.**

**Experimental measurements using MLLtrap, BEDO, TETRA**

...

# Conclusions

- ALTO – a **small-scale facility** for **stable** and **radioactive** beams that can provide **physics results** with considerable **impact on nuclear astrophysics**
- Stable beams:
  - Various key reactions can be studied via **gamma-ray spectroscopy** using  $\gamma$ -array setups such as **v-ball**
  - **Coupling** a **gas cell** to the **Split-Pole** magnetic spectrometer will open opportunities for measurements of key  **$(\alpha,\gamma)$  &  $(\alpha,n)$**  reactions involving **oxygen, neon, argon,...**
- ISOL- Radioactive beams
  - **Mass** and  **$\beta$ -decay** measurements,... for the r-process studies can be performed with **MLLTRAP, BEDO-TETRA** setups

