

# Nuclear structure after slow neutron reactions at ILL

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**Institut Laue-Langevin**  
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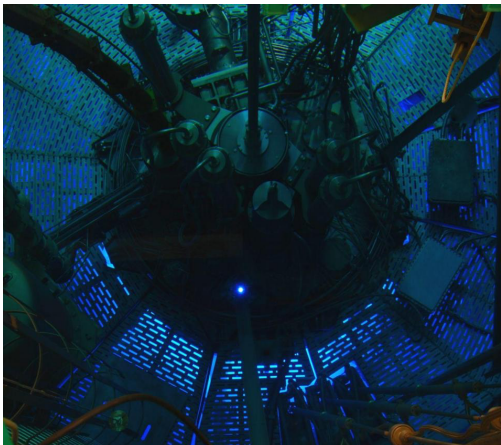


# Contents

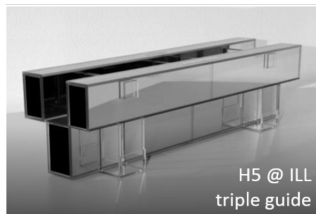
- 1 Thermal neutrons: how and why?
- 2 Fission mechanism and dynamics
- 3 Nuclear structure
- 4 Future perspectives
- 5 Conclusions

# The ILL high-flux reactor

world's highest neutron flux for in-beam experiments

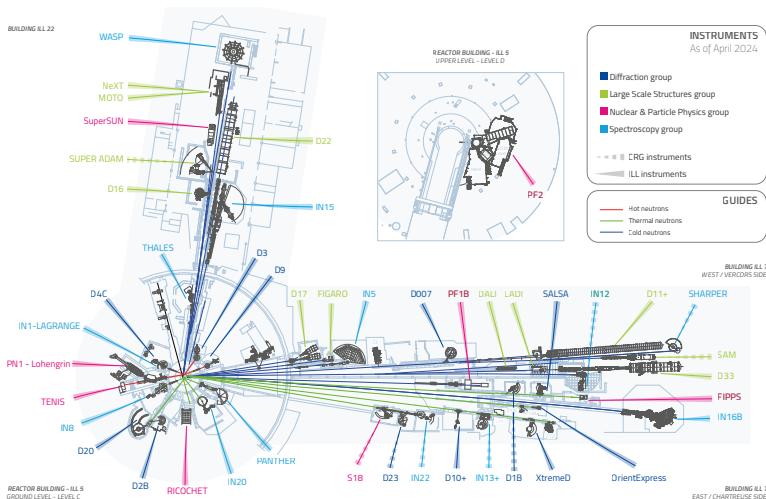


- ❑ up to  $1.5 \cdot 10^{15}$  n/s/cm<sup>2</sup>
- ❑ in-pile irradiation of radioisotopes
- ❑ guided with little losses over hundreds of meters

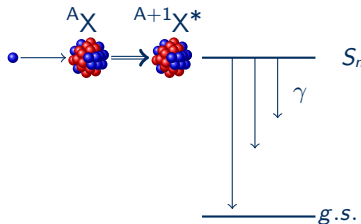


# The ILL user facility

≈40 instruments, 10 scientific areas, ≈4000 users/year

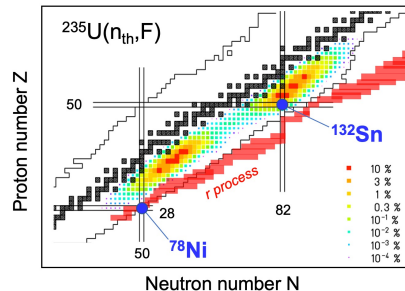


# Thermal neutron-induced reactions



## thermal-neutron capture reactions

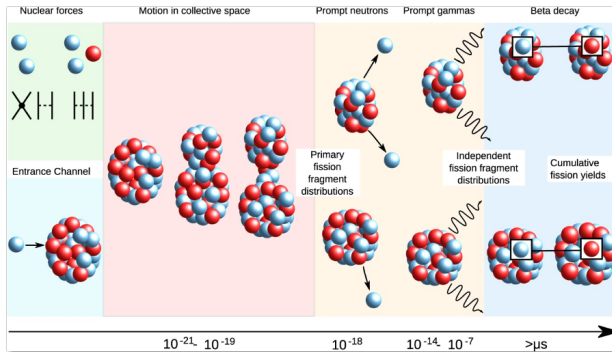
- ❑ Structure of nuclei close to stability
- ❑ Structure at low spin (below  $S_n$ )
- ❑ Cross-sections (applications)
- ❑  $^{27}\text{Al}(n,\gamma)$ :  $\sigma=0.2$  b;  
 $^{157}\text{Gd}$ :  $2.5 \cdot 10^5$  b



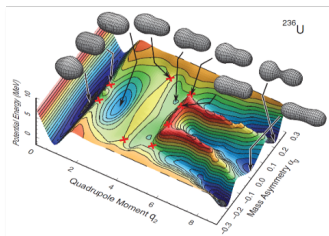
## neutron-induced fission

- ❑ Structure of n-rich nuclei  
abel=(far from stability)
- ❑ Fission yields and dynamics
- ❑  $^{235}\text{U}$ :  $\sigma_f=585$  b;  
 $^{245}\text{Cm}$ :  $\sigma_f=2141$  b

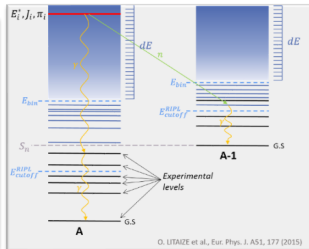
# Nuclear Fission: how does it work?



M. Bender et al., *J. Phys. G* 47 113002 (2020)

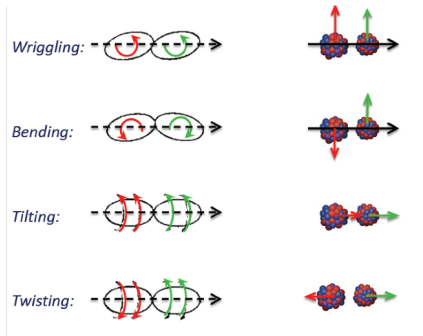


Ichikawa et al, *Phys. Rev. C* 40, 770 (1989)

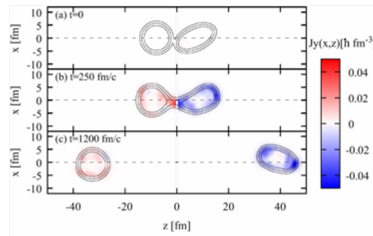


O. UTAIZE et al., *Eur. Phys. J. A* 51, 177 (2015)

# Fission: generation of angular momentum

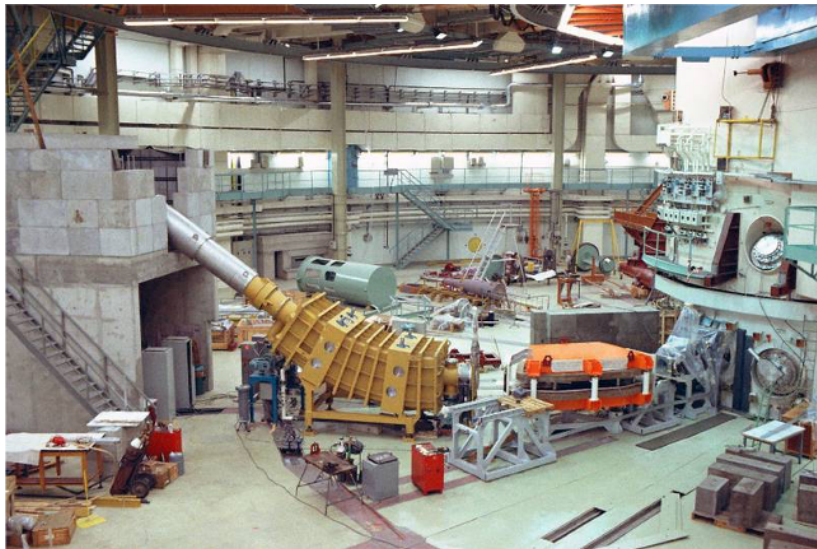


J. Randrup et al., EPJ WoC, 284,04004 (2023)



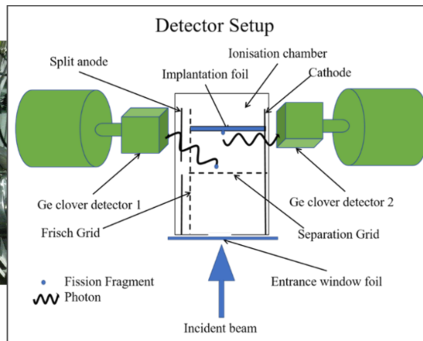
G. Scamps, Phys. Rev. C 106, 054614 (2022)

# Measurement of isomeric fission yields: the Lohengrin fission fragment separator





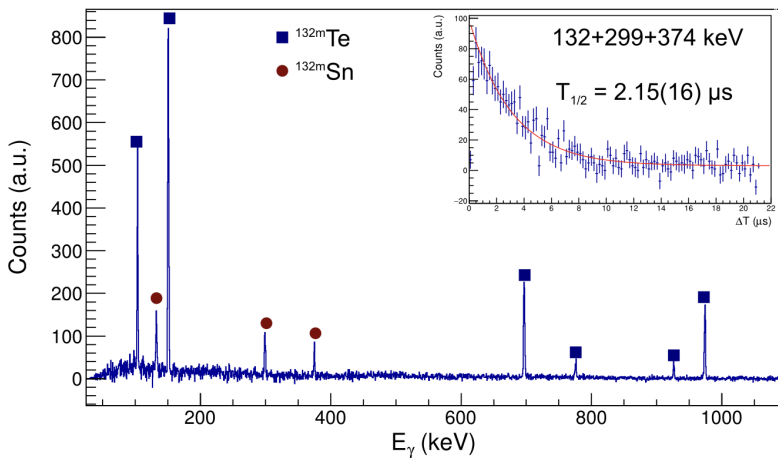
# Measurement of isomeric fission yields: experimental setup



Courtesy of A. Chebboubi

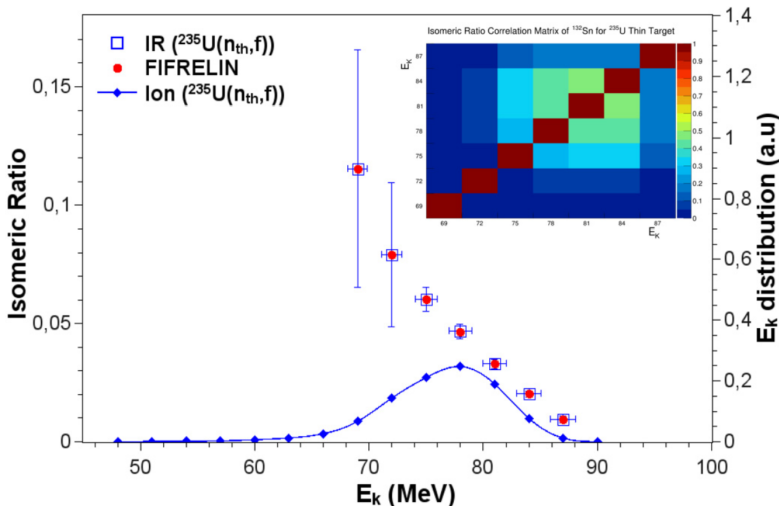
# Kinetic energy dependence of fission fragment isomeric ratios for spherical nuclei $^{132}\text{Sn}$

Gated  $\gamma$  spectrum @  $E_k=81$  MeV



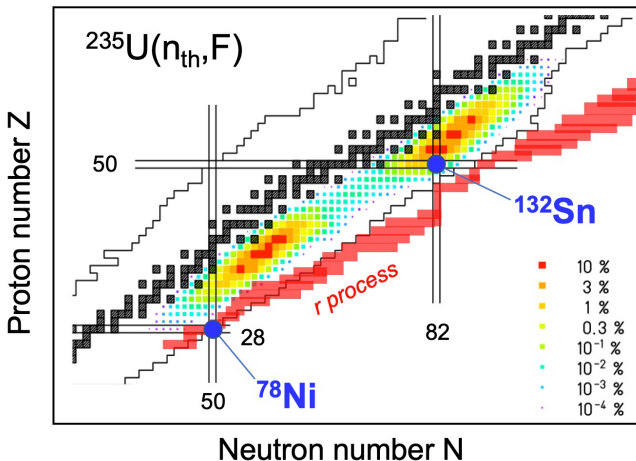
A. Chebboubi et al., Phys. Lett. B 775 (2017) 190

# Kinetic energy dependence of fission fragment isomeric ratios for spherical nuclei $^{132}\text{Sn}$



A. Chebboubi et al., Phys. Lett. B 775 (2017) 190

# Neutron-rich nuclei produced in fission

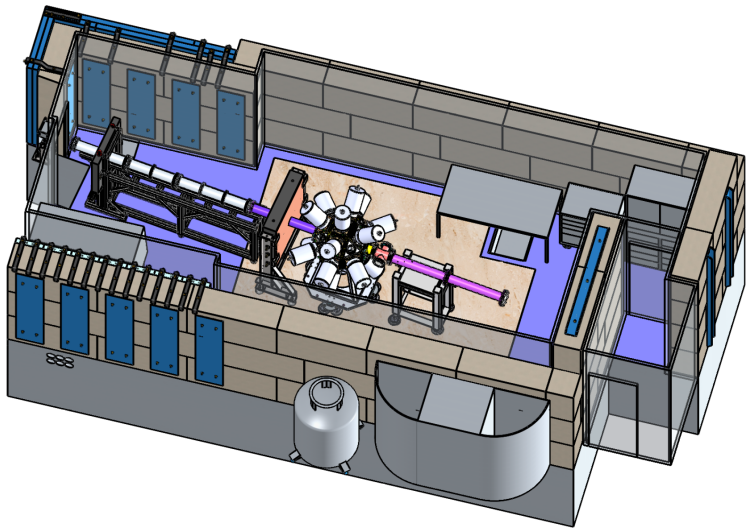


C. Freiburghaus et al., *Astrophys. J.* 516 (1999) 381

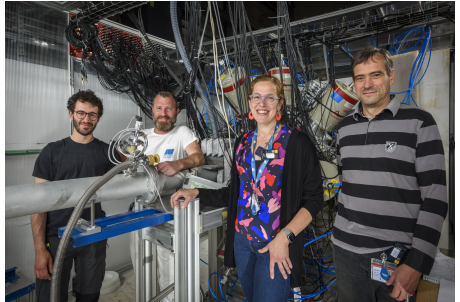
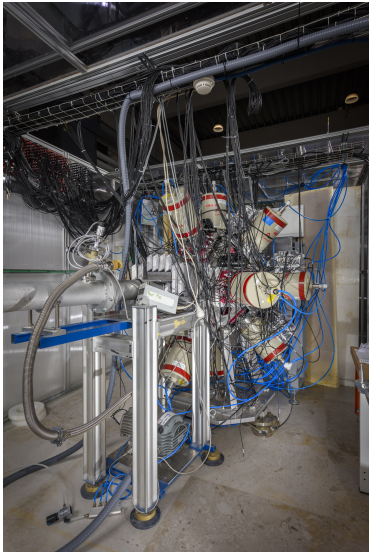
$\gamma$ -ray spectroscopy is a challenge!

S. Leoni, C. Michelagnoli and J. Wilson, *Riv. Nuovo Cim.* 45 (2022) 461

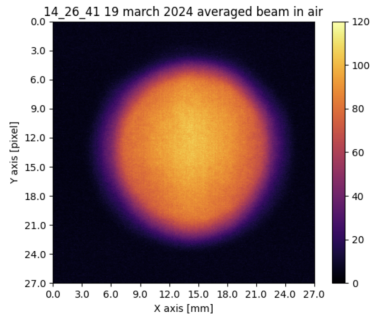
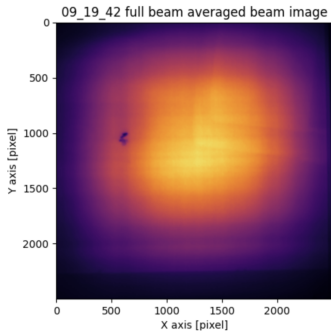
# In n-beam $\gamma$ -ray spectroscopy at ILL: FIPPS



# More beam and more space

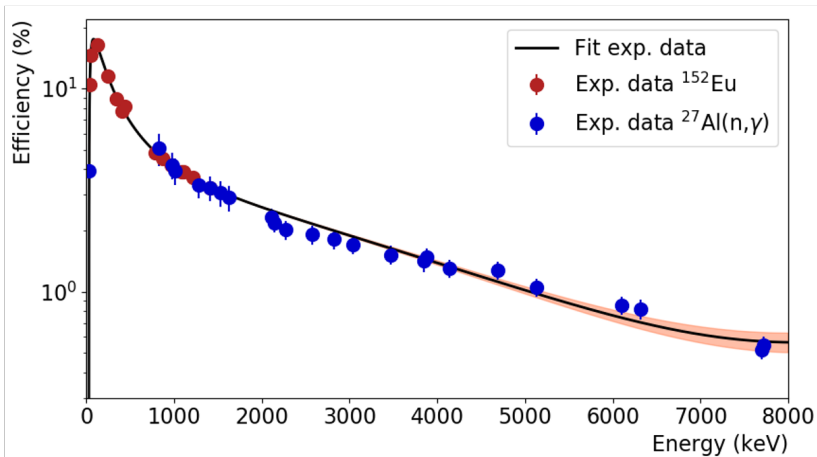


# Neutron beam characterization



*L. Domenichetti, ILL*

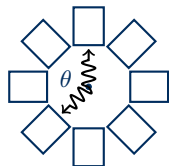
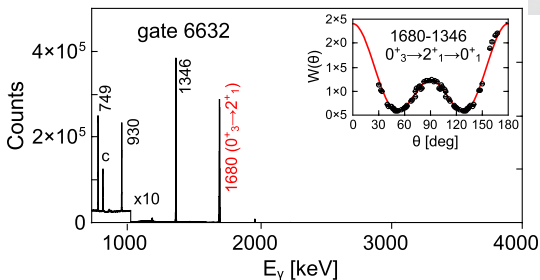
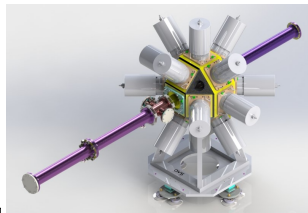
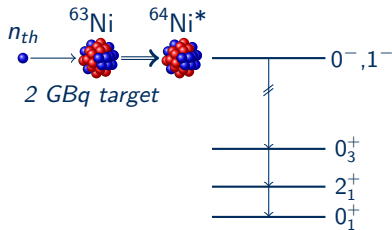
# FIPPS HPGe array efficiency



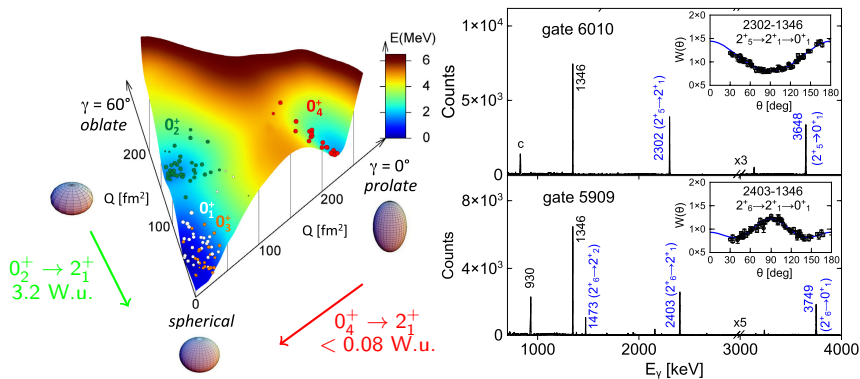
*G. Colombi et al., in preparation*



# Angular correlation analysis + radioactive target

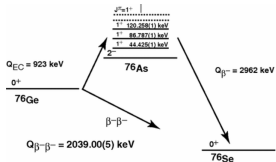


# Shape coexistence at zero spin in Ni isotopes

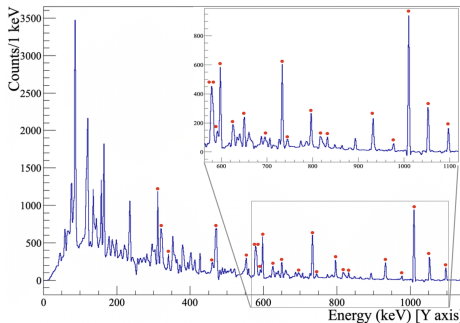
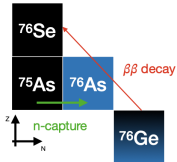


Adapted from N. Marginean et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 118 (2017) 162502

# Nuclear structure input for $\beta\beta$ studies

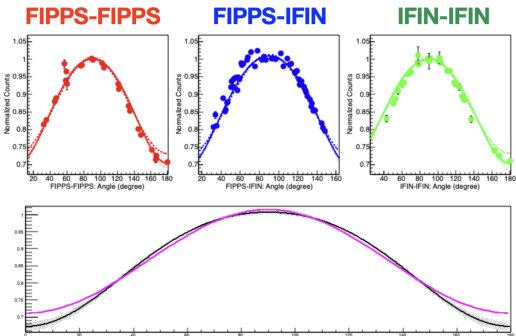
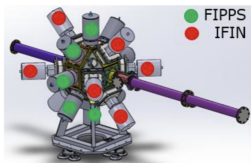


J. H. Thies et al., Phys. Rev. C 86, 014304 (2012)



L. Domenichetti, ILL

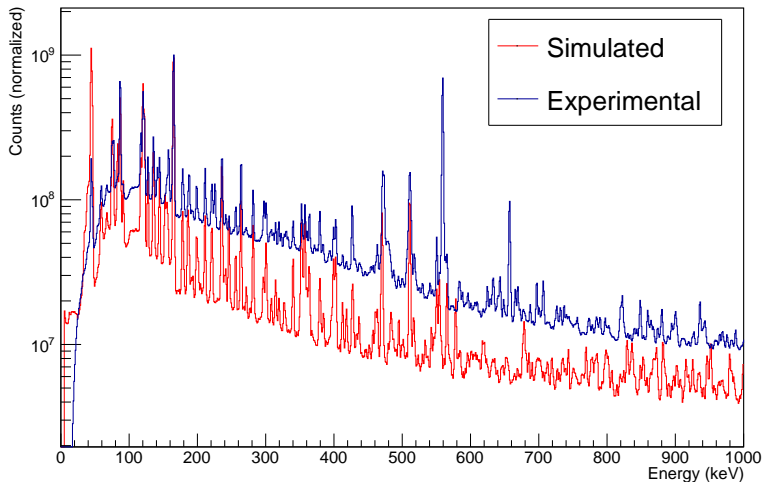
# Nuclear structure input for $\beta\beta$ studies



*L. Domenichetti, ILL*

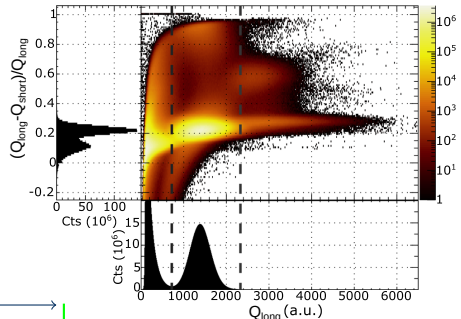
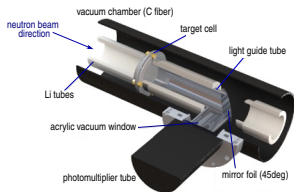
# Statistical analysis of $^{75}\text{As}(n,\gamma)^{76}\text{As}$ data

Full Geant4 simulation including DICEBOX input

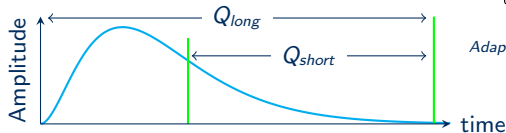


*L. Domenichetti, ILL*

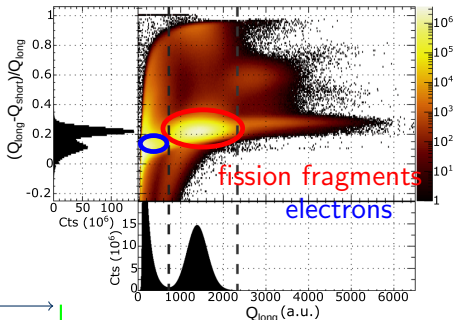
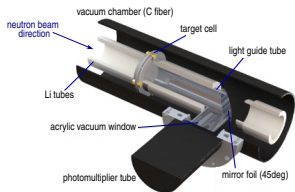
# Selection of fission events using an active target



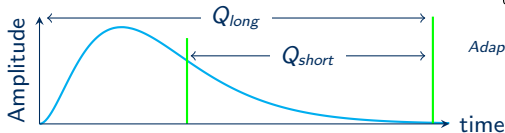
Adapted from F. Kandzia et al., EPJA56(2020)207



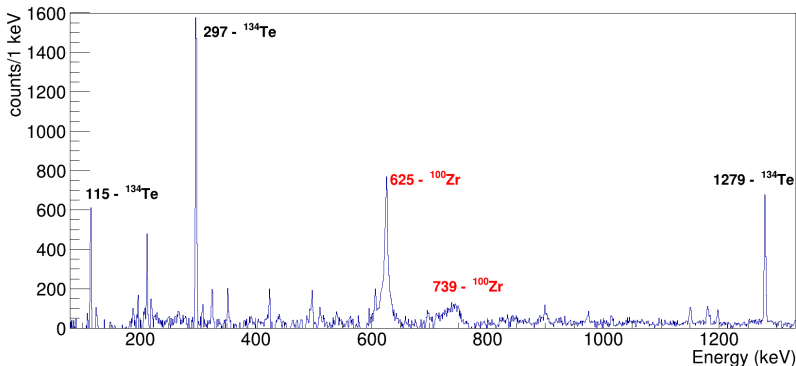
# Selection of fission events using an active target



Adapted from F. Kandzia et al., EPJA56(2020)207



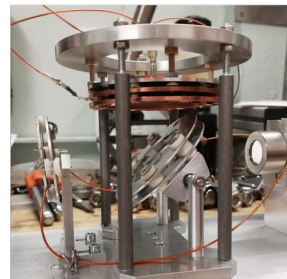
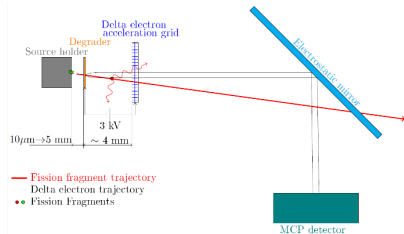
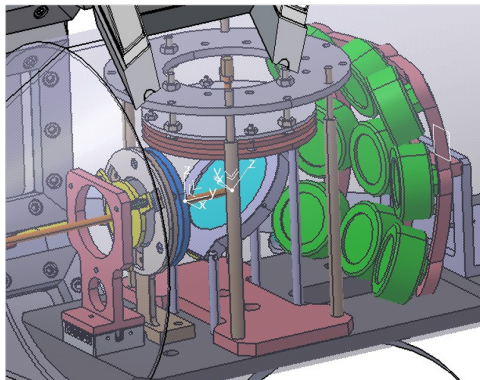
# Lifetime determination via *lineshape* analysis



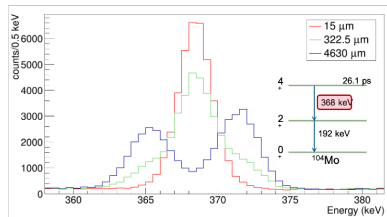
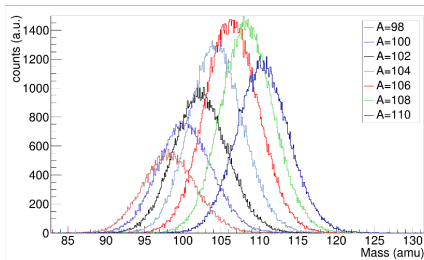
G. Colombi, PhD Thesis, Univ. Grenoble-Alpes, ILL and Univ. Milan, 2023



# A plunger setup for a neutron beam

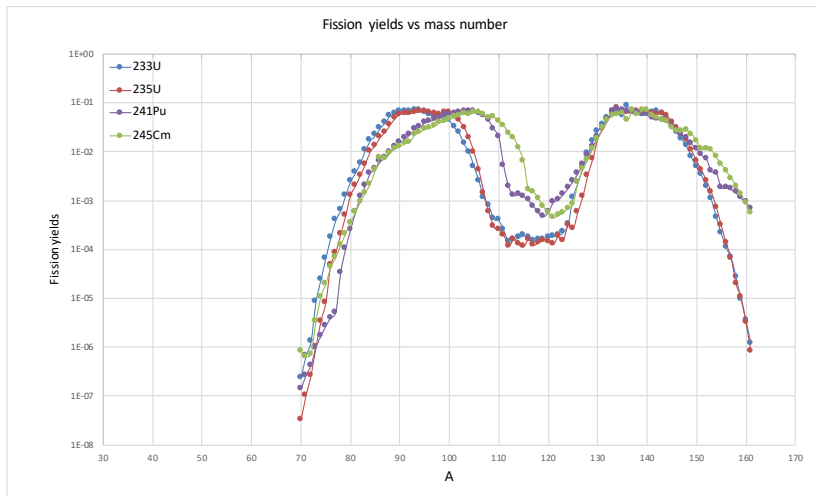


# Simulations for the plunger setup at FIPPS

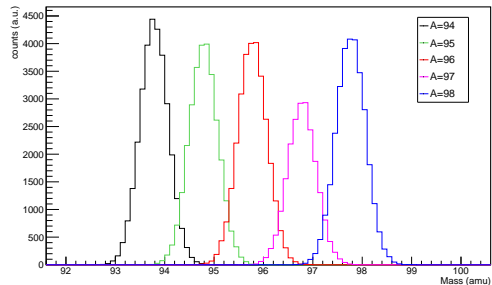
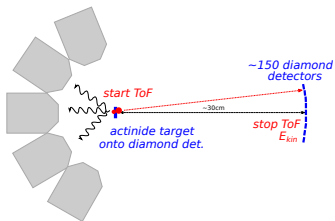


G. Colombi, PhD Thesis, Univ. Grenoble-Alpes, ILL and Univ. Milan, 2023

# $^{245}\text{Cm}$ fission campaign



# Diamond-based FF identification setup



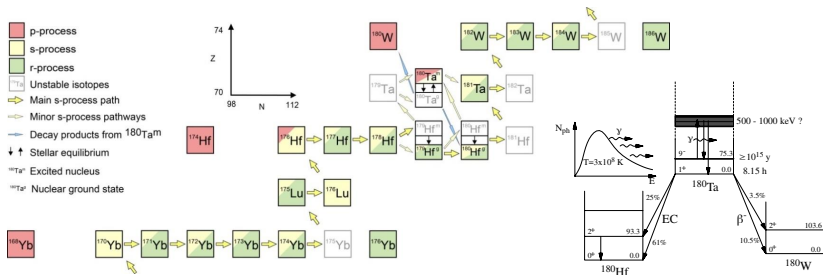
# The puzzle of the astrophysical origin of $^{180}\text{Ta}$

the rarest isotope found in the solar system

0.012% abundance;  $J^\pi = 9^-$  isomeric state at 77 keV,  $t_{1/2} = 10^{15}\text{y}$

Possible s-process scenario:

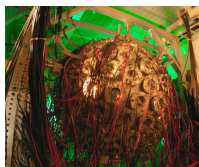
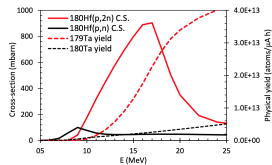
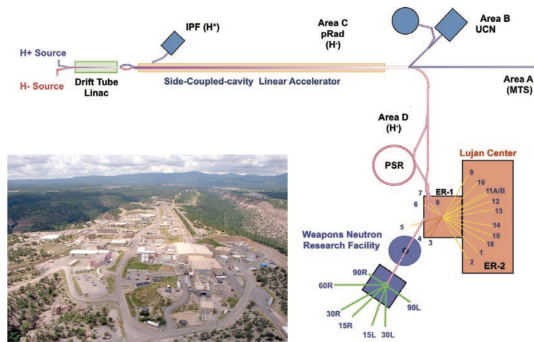
missing information on  $^{180}\text{Ta}$  *intermediate states*



Phys. Rev. Lett. 83 (1999) 5242, Phys. Rev. C 75 (2007) 015804

# A multi-messenger approach using a $^{179}\text{Ta}$ radioactive target

Production via the  $^{180}\text{Hf}(p,2n)^{179}\text{Ta}$  reaction + radioch. Hf/Ta sep.  
 Thermal neutron capture reactions at FIPPS+fast neutron capture reactions at DANCE  $\Rightarrow$  intermediate states  
 new s-process cross-section measurements at nTOF



Project in collaboration with LANSCE and CERN

# Conclusions

- ❑ Many activities and projects are going on at ILL to study fission and nuclear structure:
  - ❑  $(n,\gamma)$  reactions (stable and radioactive targets)
  - ❑ data available from n-induced fission on  $^{233,235}\text{U}$
  - ❑ plunger setup, commissioning soon with Cf source
  - ❑ project for a diamond-based fission fragment separator
  
- ❑ Possibility to handle "all targets"
  
- ❑ Next ILL proposal deadline on September 15<sup>th</sup>

# Acknowledgements

G. Colombi, L. Domenichetti, A. Saracino, M. Zanol, D. Reygadas, J.-M. Daugas, R. Pommier, M. Jenstchel, U. Köster, H. Faust, F. Kandzia, et al. ILL

J. Dudouet et al. IP2I Lyon

N. Marginean, C. Mihai, A. Turturica et al., IFIN-HH Bucharest

S. Leoni, S. Bottoni et al., University and INFN Milan

O. Serot, A. Chebboubi et al., CEA Cadarache

B. Fornal, N. Cieplicka et al., PAN Krakow

J.M. Regis, L. Knafla et al., IKP Cologne

H.Y. Lee, A.J. Couture, LANL

and many many other collaborators!!!



Merci ! Thanks! Grazie! Danke! ¡Gracias! Dziękuję! ...

