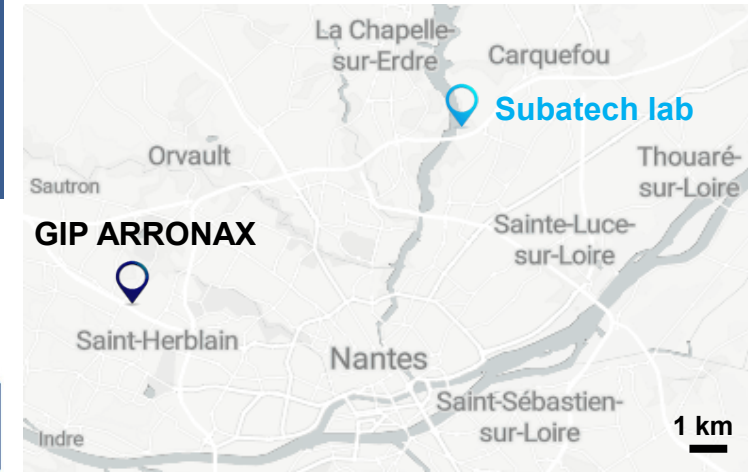


Production of Radionuclides Using Deuterons or Alpha Particles

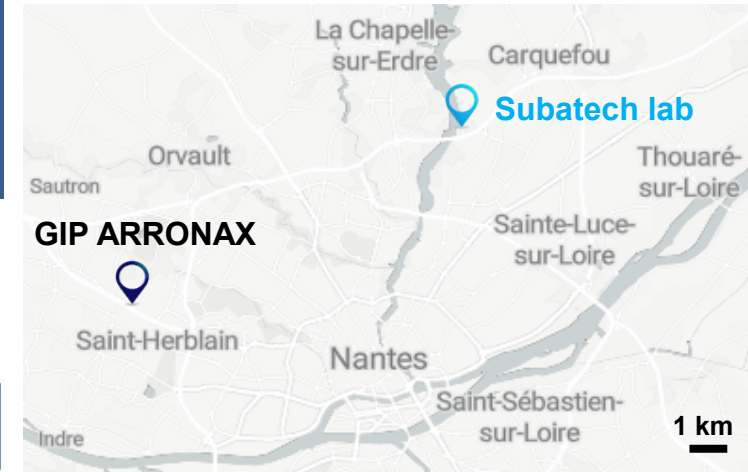
Arnaud Guertin et al. on behalf of PRISMA and GIP ARRONAX teams



21-25 Sept. 2026
Bussang
France

Production of Radionuclides Using Deuterons or Alpha Particles for Medical Applications

Arnaud Guertin et al. on behalf of PRISMA and GIP ARRONAX teams



21-25 Sept. 2026
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France

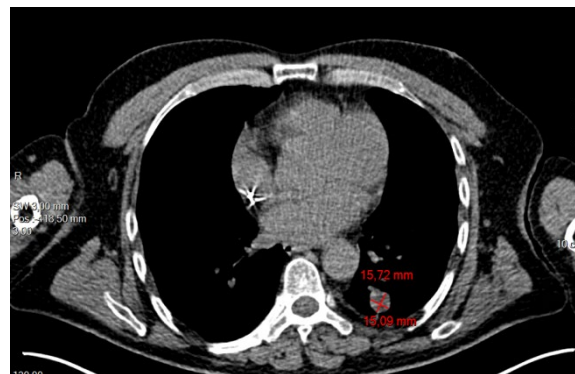


**Visualize and localize tumors, measure them
and evaluate the response to treatments**



Centre François Baclesse

Radiography



Centre René Gauducheau

Computed Tomography
Scanner



Institut Roi Albert II

Magnetic Resonance
Imaging

**These techniques allow to get accurate information on the
morphology but give limited information on the metabolism**

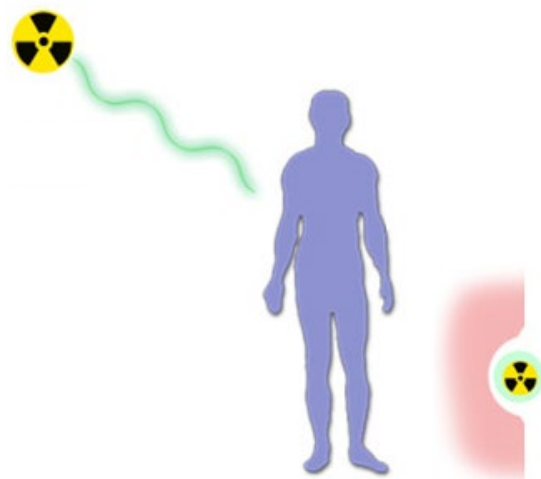
**A gain can be obtain by coupling them with nuclear medicine
technique (SPECT or PET) which gives these information**



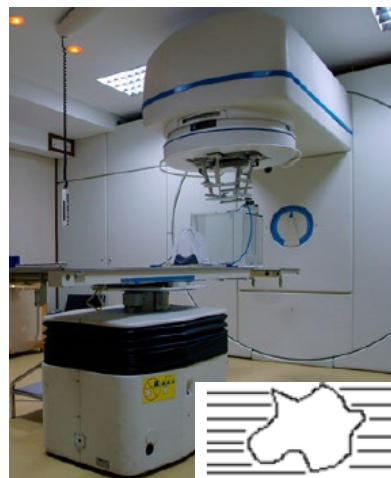
Conventional therapy

External beam radiotherapy:

- X rays, gamma, electrons
- Hadrontherapy



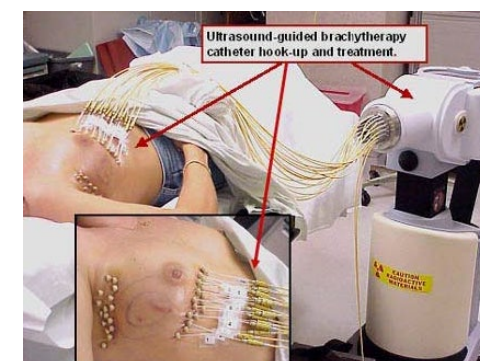
Brachytherapy
“Curietherapy”



Institut de cancérologie de l'Ouest



ProteusOne, IBA



Institut de cancérologie de l'Ouest

**These techniques are very efficient to treat a localized disease
but does not target disseminated or residual disease**

This can be address by nuclear medicine techniques (Targeted Radiotherapy)

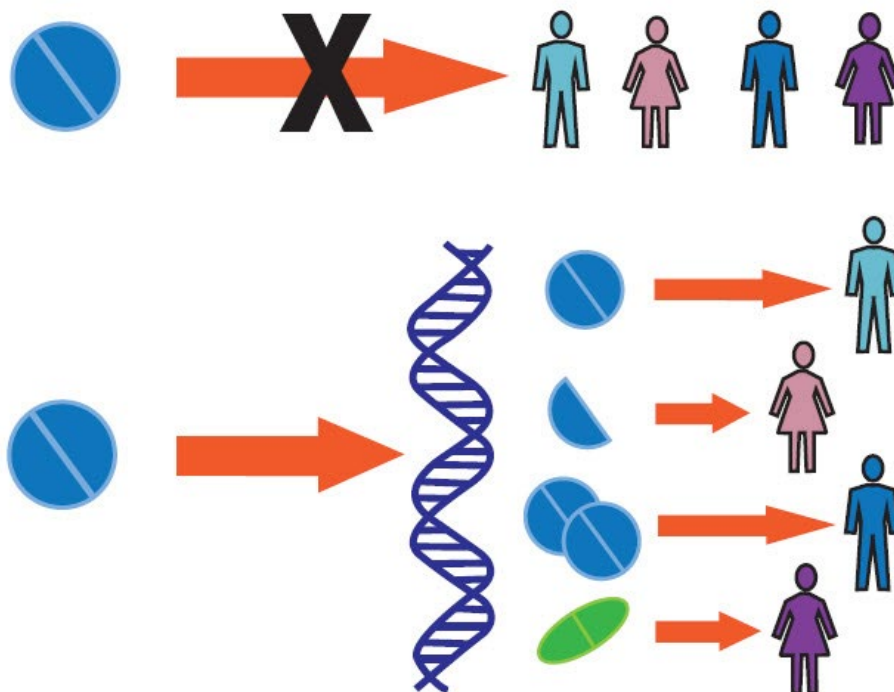


Personalized nuclear medicine

Imaging and diagnosis

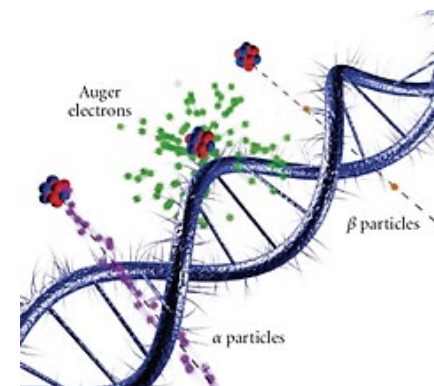
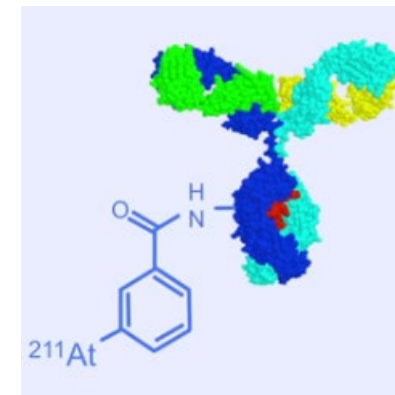
Choose the best treatment

Evaluate its efficacy



Therapy

Destroy tumor cells



The Right Drug

At The Right Time

To The Right Patient

With The Right Dosage

For The Right Disease



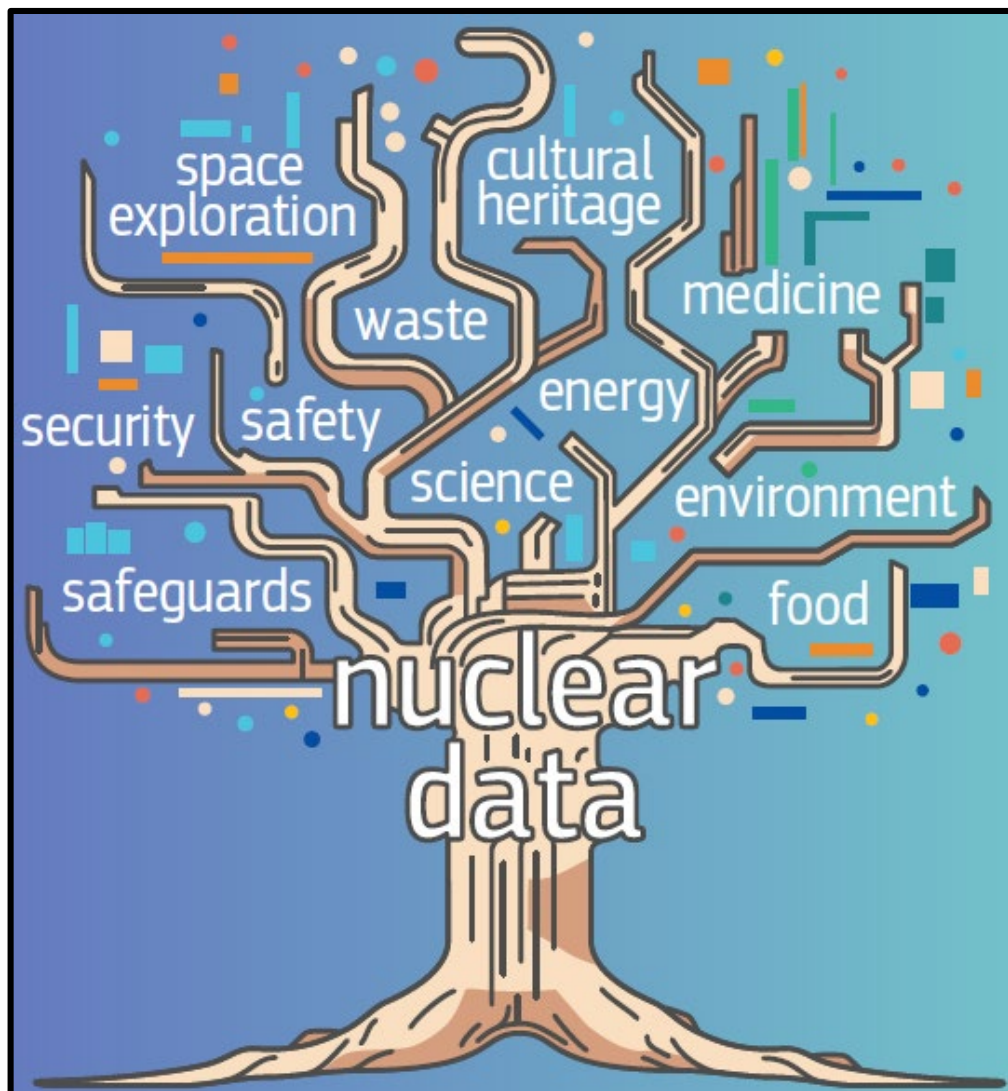
Nuclear data: cross section measurements

Requirements:

- **Accurate and reliable** data sets
- **Well-defined production pathways** and **decay properties**
- **Optimal production** of specific radionuclides, minimisation/elimination of **impurities**, **realistic dose** calculations
- Provide **a broad set of nuclear data** in terms of targets, projectiles and energy range in order **to constrain** and **develop** predictive **simulation tools** for nuclear reactions.

Outcomes:

- **Impact on production**
- **Impact on modeling nuclear reactions**



© European Atomic Energy Community, 2023 - C.L. Fontana
(JRC-Geel)



Where medical isotopes are coming from?

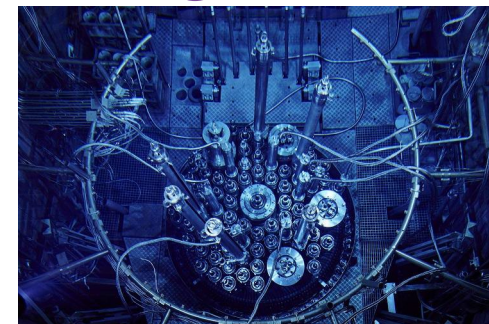
Few directly available in **nature**, belonging to radioactive chain of heavy nuclei

- **Ra-233**: belongs to the radioactive chain of U-235
Xofigo (RaCl_2) available for bone metastases
- **Pb-212/Bi-212**: belongs to the radioactive chain of ^{232}Th
2 clinical trials ongoing for NeuroEndocrine Tumors (clinical.org)
- **Ac-225** : belongs to the radioactive chain of U-233

Most of them are produced **artificially**

Many of them using neutron induced reactions in **nuclear reactors**

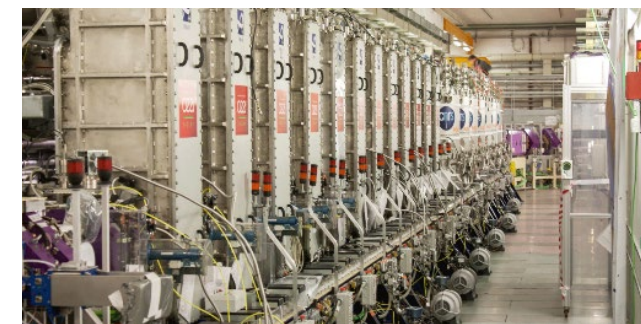
Quick progress and achievements using charged particle induced reactions in **accelerators** like **cyclotrons** and **linacs**



BR2 reactor @ SCK•CEN



C70XP @ ARRONAX

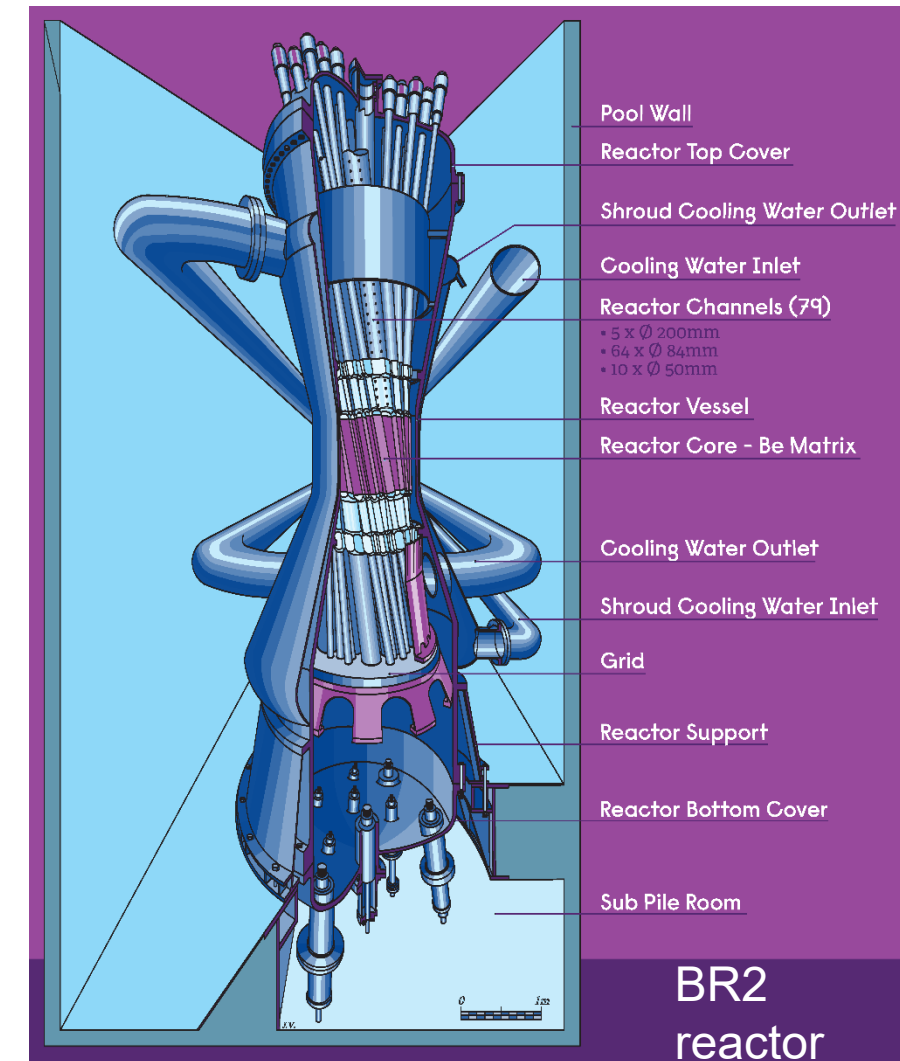


SPIRAL 2 @ GANIL



Reactors:

- variable energy [0 up to ~ 100 MeV]
- flux [0 up to 10^{15} n/cm².s]
 - ✓ BR2 SCK•CEN, Belgium
 - ✓ ILL Grenoble, France
- Single neutron capture (n,γ):
most common route, Lu-177, Re-186, Ho-166 ...
- Double neutron capture (2n,2γ):
W-188/Re-188
- Inelastic reactions (n,n'γ):
Sn-117m
- Exchange reaction (n,p):
Cu-67
- Fission reaction (n,f):
Mo-99/Tc-99m, I-131, Xe-133 ...





Cyclotrons:

- Fixed energy [0 up to ~ 100 MeV]
- Low intensity [0 up to ~ 50 μA]
 - ✓ Cyclone 30XP IBA
Polatom - CERAD, Poland – FZ Jülich, Germany
 - ✓ Cyclone 70XP IBA
GIP ARRONAX, France

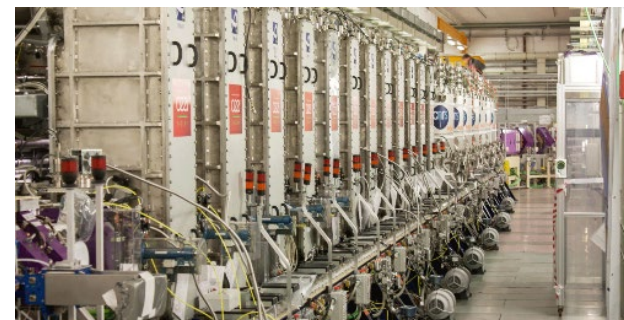


C70XP @ GIP ARRONAX

Extracted	Energy (MeV)	Max. current (μA)
H^+	30 – 70	2 x 375
D^+	15 – 35	2 x 50
He^{2+}	68	70
HH^+	17	50

LINACS:

- Variable energy [0 up to ~ 20 MeV/A]
- High intensity [0 up to ~ mA*]
 - ✓ ATLAS
Argonne National Laboratory, USA
 - ✓ SPIRAL 2
GIE GANIL, France



SPIRAL 2 @ GIE GANIL

Beam	P+	D+	Ions	Ions
A/Q	1	2	< 3	< 6 or 7
I _{max} (mA)	5	5	1	1
E _{min} (MeV/A)	2	2	2	2
E _{max} (MeV/A)	33	20	14.5	8
Max. power (kW)	165	200	44	48

*High LET and “thin targets” [~ tens of μm up to ~ hundreds of μm], ! thermal load



There is not one fit all accelerator

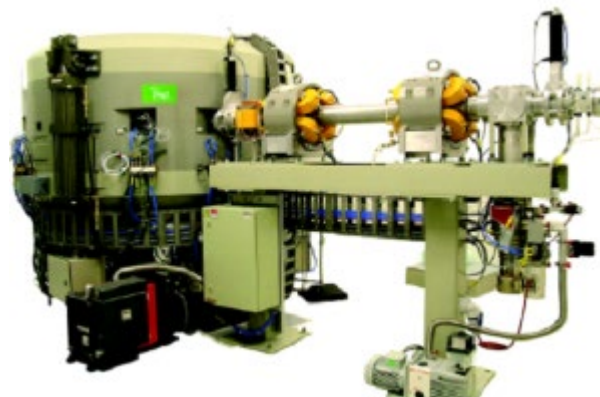
Sr-82, Sn-117m ...

C-11, N-13,
O-15, F-18,
Cu-64

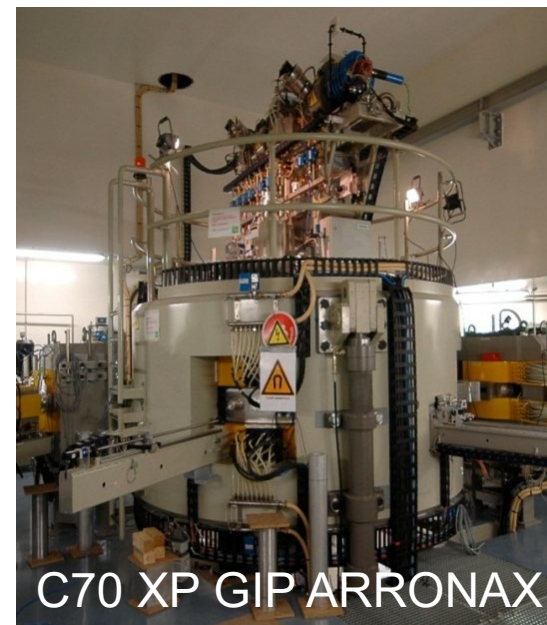


11 MeV

Ga-67, In-111, I-123,
Tl-201, Ge-68



30 MeV



C70 XP GIP ARRONAX

70 MeV

Linear Accelerator
160 MeV



INR RAS

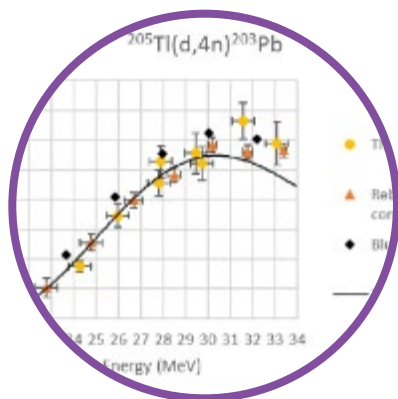
Sr-82, Sn-117m, Ac-225 ...



PRISMA @ Subatech lab

26 people including students

Isotopes for therapy
and diagnosis



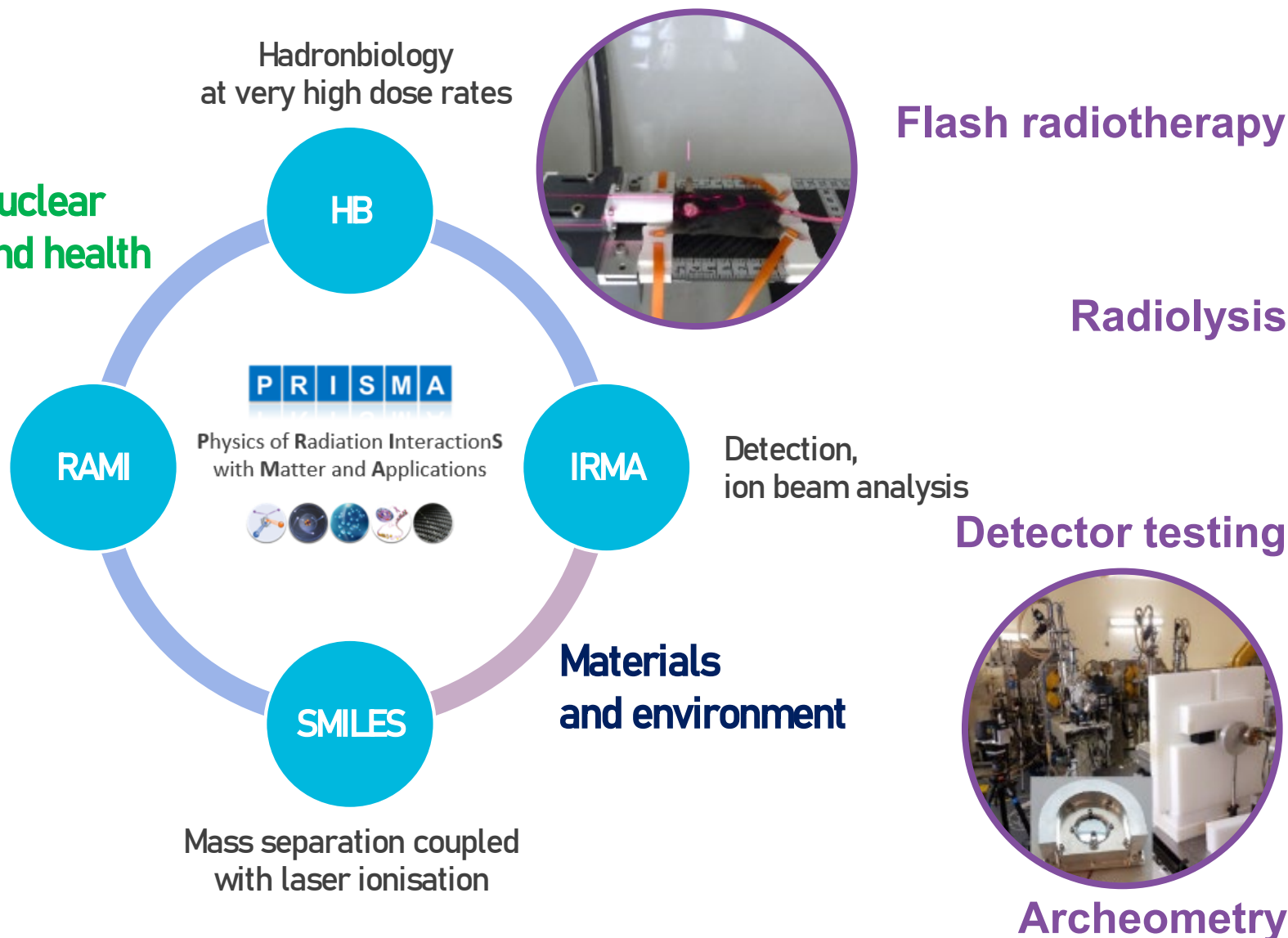
Which isotopes for
tomorrow's nuclear
medicine?

Cross section measurements



Mass separation

Nuclear
and health





Accelerator for Research in Radiochemistry and Oncology at Nantes AtlantiX

3 main fields of investigations:

Radionuclides and **radiopharmaceuticals production** for nuclear medicine

Research in related fields: radiolysis, radiobiology, nuclear physics ...

Training of students

The name ARRONAX is a tribute to **Jules Verne, born in Nantes** in 1828.

Aronnax is the name of the main character of the novel «Twenty thousands leagues under the sea » published in 1870

Nautilus



Professor ARONNAX

Jules Verne



Key numbers:

- Creation **2008**, commissioned **2010**
- **70 people** including students
- **C70XP** and **Kiube 180** coming soon

Key features:

- **Multi-particles**
- **High energy**
- **High intensity**

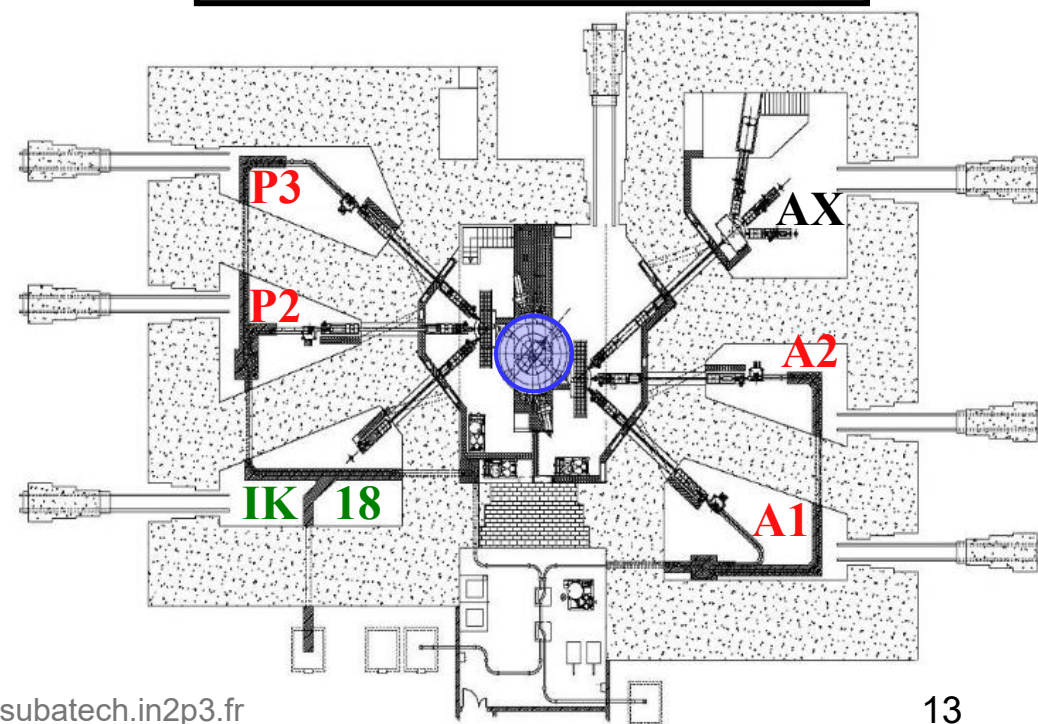
	Beam	Accelerated ions	Energy (MeV)	Intensity (eμA)	Dual beam
C70XP	Proton	H-	30- 70	< 375	Yes
		HH+	17	< 50	No
	Deuteron	D-	15-35	< 50	Yes
	Alpha	He++	68	< 70	No
IK18	Proton	H-	18	180	Yes

A range of associated laboratories, 2000 m²:

- radiochemistry, biochemistry, radiolabelling,
- cell culture, chemical analyses,
- nuclear metrology, quality control, etc.



C70XP cyclotron
@ GIP ARRONAX



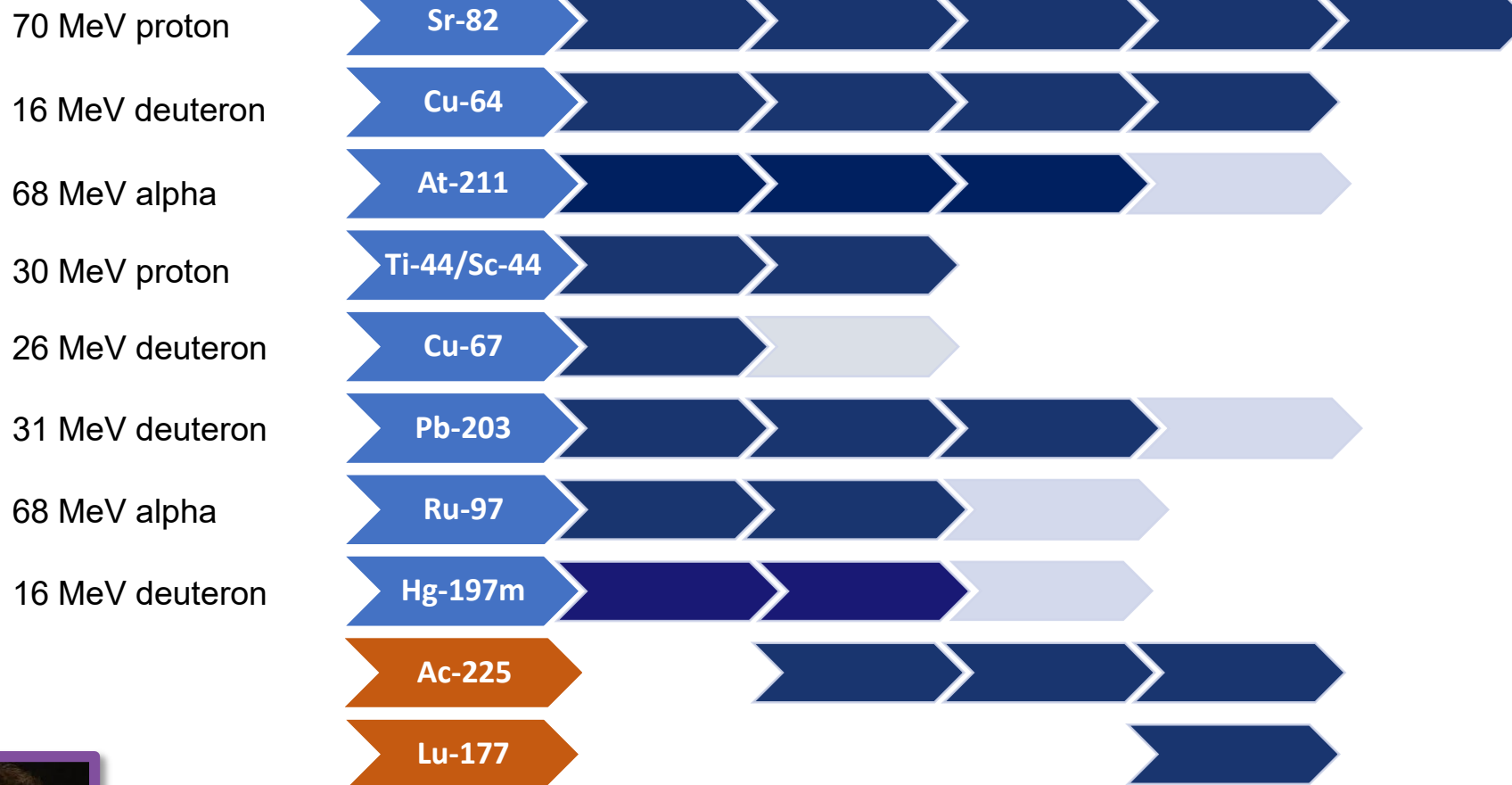
Cross-section view of the reaction casemates
located around the C70XP



Pipeline ARRONAX

Taking advantages of all beams available

Physics Chemistry Pre clinical Clinical trials Clinical routine



New developments on Auger emitters

Taking advantage of the radiopharmacy



Adapted from F. Haddad

Guertin Arnaud - Arnaud.Guertin@subatech.in2p3.fr



Wide use of available beams:
explore the realm of possibilities

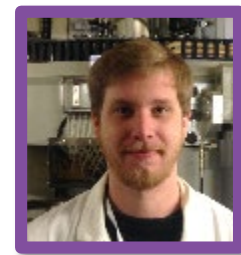
1 1A 1A H Hydrogen 1.008	2 2A 2A He Helium 4.003	Periodic Table of the Elements																13 3A 3A B Boron 10.811	14 4A 4A C Carbon 12.011	15 5A 5A N Nitrogen 14.007	16 6A 6A O Oxygen 15.999	17 7A 7A F Fluorine 18.998	18 8A 8A Ne Neon 20.180												
3 Li Lithium 6.941	4 Be Beryllium 9.012																	5 B Boron 10.811	6 C Carbon 12.011	7 N Nitrogen 14.007	8 O Oxygen 15.999	9 F Fluorine 18.998	10 Ne Neon 20.180												
11 Na Sodium 22.990	12 Mg Magnesium 24.305	3 Al Aluminum 26.982	14 Si Silicon 28.086	15 P Phosphorus 30.974	16 S Sulfur 32.066	17 Cl Chlorine 35.453	18 Ar Argon 39.948											19 K Potassium 39.098	20 Ca Calcium 40.078	21 Sc Scandium 44.956	22 Ti Titanium 47.867	23 V Vanadium 50.942	24 Cr Chromium 51.996	25 Mn Manganese 54.938	26 Fe Iron 55.845	27 Co Cobalt 58.933	28 Ni Nickel 58.693	29 Cu Copper 63.546	30 Zn Zinc 65.38	31 Ga Gallium 69.723	32 Ge Germanium 72.631	33 As Arsenic 74.922	34 Se Selenium 78.971	35 Br Bromine 79.904	36 Kr Krypton 83.798
37 Rb Rubidium 85.468	38 Sr Strontium 87.62	39 Y Yttrium 88.906	40 Zr Zirconium 91.224	41 Nb Niobium 92.906	42 Mo Molybdenum 95.94	43 Tc Technetium 98.907	44 Ru Ruthenium 101.07	45 Rh Rhodium 102.906	46 Pd Palladium 106.42	47 Ag Silver 107.868	48 Cd Cadmium 112.414	49 In Indium 114.818	50 Sn Tin 118.711	51 Sb Antimony 121.760	52 Te Tellurium 127.6	53 I Iodine 126.904	54 Xe Xenon 131.294	55 Cs Cesium 132.905	56 Ba Barium 137.328	57-71 Lanthanide Series	72 Hf Hafnium 178.49	73 Ta Tantalum 180.948	74 W Tungsten 183.84	75 Re Rhenium 186.207	76 Os Osmium 190.23	77 Ir Iridium 192.217	78 Pt Platinum 195.085	79 Au Gold 196.967	80 Hg Mercury 200.592	81 Tl Thallium 204.383	82 Pb Lead 207.2	83 Bi Bismuth 208.980	84 Po Polonium [209]	85 At Astatine 209.987	86 Rn Radon 222.018
87 Fr Francium 223.020	88 Ra Radium 226.025	89-103 Actinide Series	104 Rf Rutherfordium [261]	105 Db Dubnium [262]	106 Sg Seaborgium [266]	107 Bh Bohrium [264]	108 Hs Hassium [269]	109 Mt Meitnerium [278]	110 Ds Darmstadtium [281]	111 Rg Roentgenium [280]	112 Cn Copernicium [285]	113 Nh Nihonium [286]	114 Fl Flerovium [289]	115 Mc Moscovium [289]	116 Lv Livermorium [293]	117 Ts Tennessine [294]	118 Og Oganesson [294]																		
																		119 Ac Actinium 227.028	120 Th Thorium 232.038	121 Pa Protactinium 231.036	122 U Uranium 238.029	123 Np Neptunium 237.048	124 Pu Plutonium 244.064	125 Am Americium 243.061	126 Cm Curium 247.070	127 Bk Berkelium 247.070	128 Cf Californium 251.080	129 Es Einsteinium [254]	130 Fm Fermium 257.095	131 Md Mendelevium 258.1	132 No Nobelium 259.101	133 Lr Lawrencium [262]			

 Alpha beam

And more :

★ Enriched target investigated

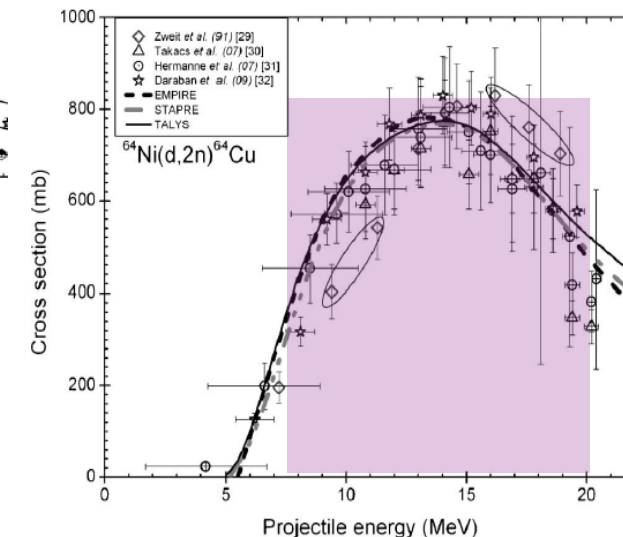
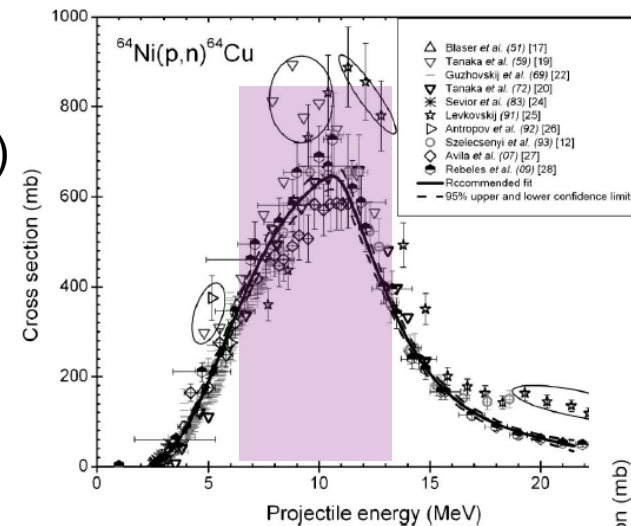
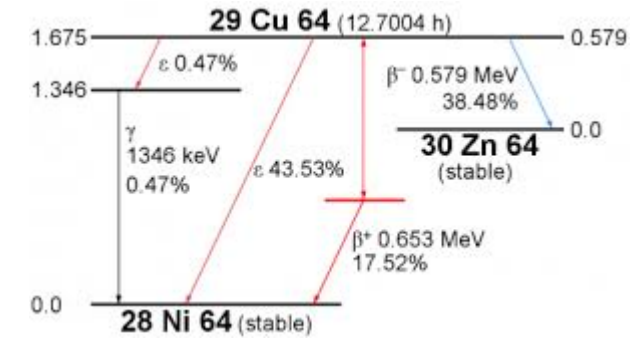
Chemical separation studies





Cu-64, what is it for?

- **Cu-64, main interests:**
 - **Half-life: 12.7 hours** - not too short, not too long
 - Suitable for **P**ositron **E**mission **T**omography
 - **Theranostic pair** with Cu-67
 - **What you see is what you treat**
 - **Applications**
 - PET imaging of NET - Detectnet (Curium Pharma)
 - FDA approval date: September 3, 2020
- **Production routes:**
 - **Main:** $\text{Ni-64} + p \rightarrow \text{Cu-64} + n$
 - **Alternative:** $\text{Ni-64} + d \rightarrow \text{Cu-64} + 2n$
- **Production scheme:**
 - **Enriched Ni-64** electroplated on Au backing
 - Monthly production of CuCl_2



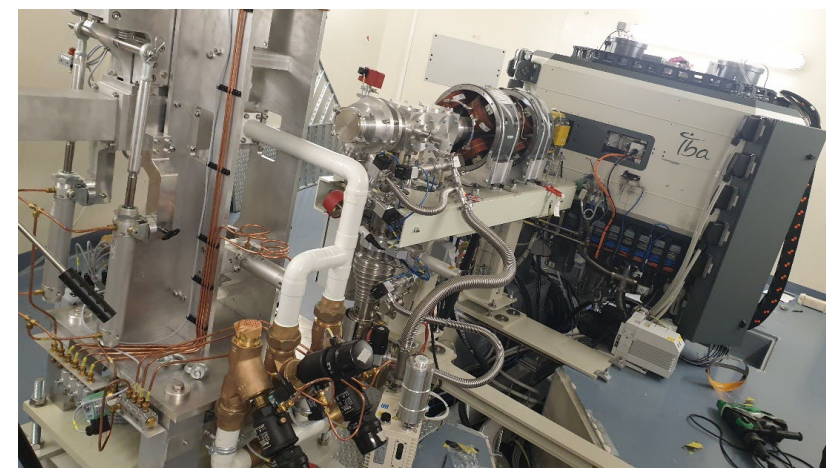
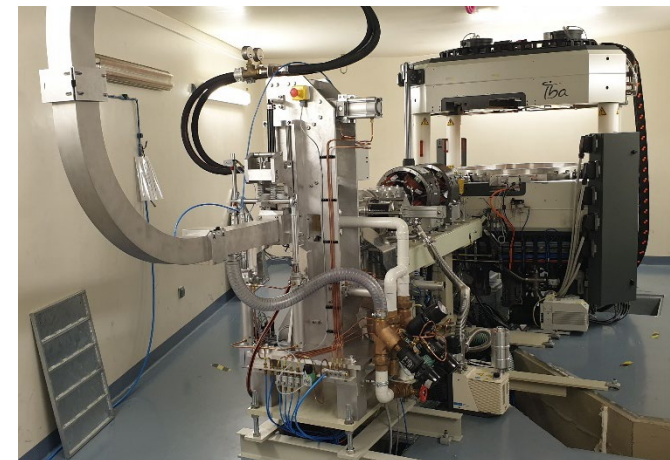
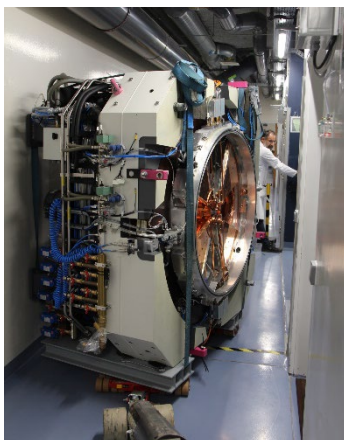
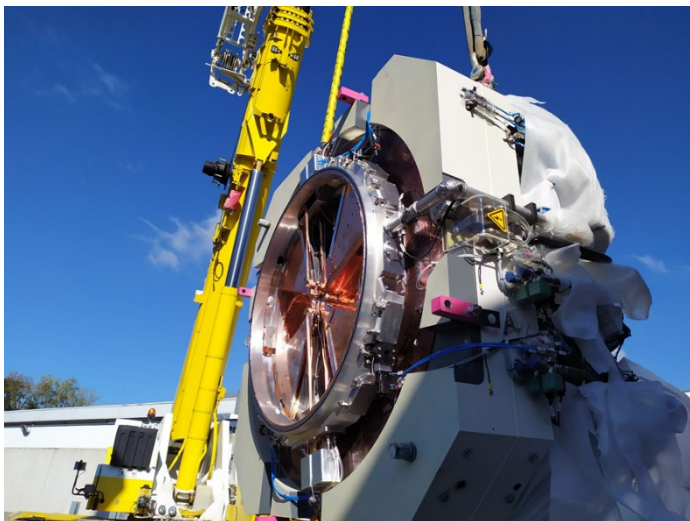
⇒ **To develop theranostic approach**



Kiube 180 for Cu-64 (F-18)

How to improve Cu-64 availability in France and neighbouring countries (current partners) ?

- Installation of a 18 MeV cyclotron, IK18, IBA Kiube 180, with a solid target system customized connected to the existing one for C70XP
- Still leave room for research with deuteron beam





Objectives: explore alternative production route of Lu-177 from Yb-nat - $T_{1/2} = 6.7$ d
Suitable for **β -targeted therapy**

Outcomes:

- Extend the cross section at higher energy
- Measure the ratio Lu-177m/Lu-177g

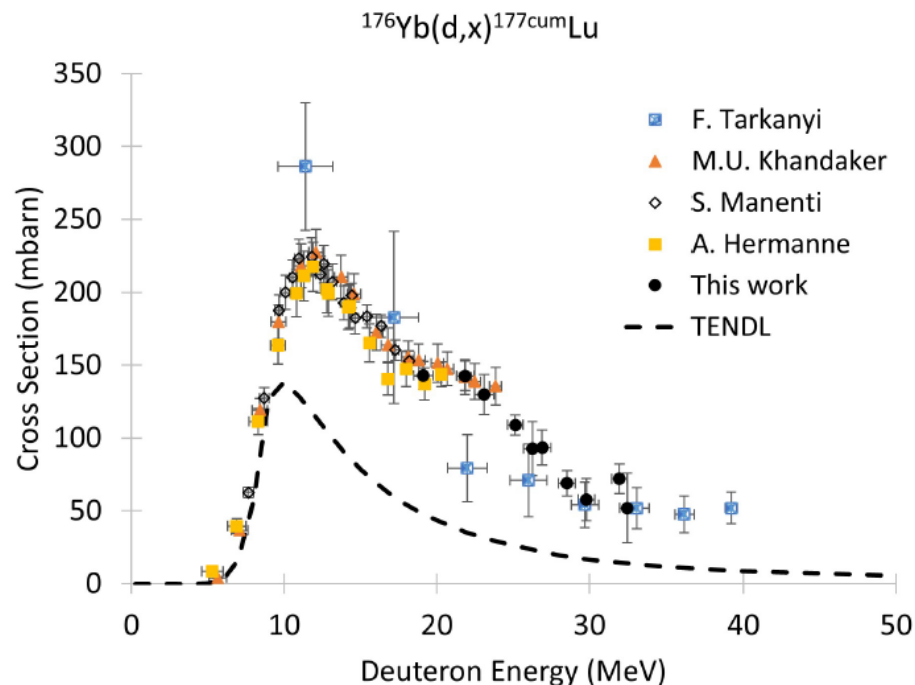


Figure 3: Excitation function of $^{176}\text{Yb}(d,x)^{177\text{cum}}\text{Lu}$ nuclear reaction compared to other published data and TENDL (2023).



Deuteron-induced nuclear reactions to produce ^{177}Lu : Extension of cross-sections data up to 33 MeV and impact on purity

E. López-Melero ^a , E. Nigron ^b, F. Haddad ^{b,c}, J. Praena ^a

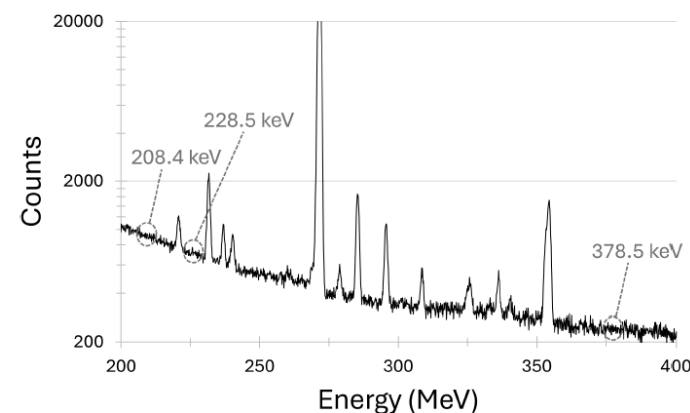


Figure 2: HPGe spectrum acquired six months after EOB with a counting time of 13 days. The marked regions indicate the most relevant γ -lines associated with the decay of $^{177\text{m}}\text{Lu}$

- Define the lowest detection limit for Lu-177m measurement ($T_{1/2} = 160.44$ d)





Some interesting considerations for production of medical isotopes

- Access to a **higher cross section**: 700 mb Ca-40[96.941%](α ,x)Sc-43 – 350 mb Ca-43[0.135%](p,n)Sc-43
- Reuse **existing process** in targetry, chemistry: Cu-64 target, chemistry and recycling of Ni-64 for Cu-67 prod.
- Facilitate **target manufacturing**, irradiation and enhanced specific activity: use of Cd/Cd-116 for Sn-117m prod
- Use a **monoisotopic target**: Cs-133 [alkaline !] for La-135 instead of Ba-nat [low thermal conductivity]
Non-standard positron emitters, Auger-based targeted internal radiotherapy ...
- Avoid **radioactive target material**: Tc target for Ru-97, Po target for At-211

Z 84 83	207At 1.81 H ϵ : 91.40% α : 8.60%	208At 1.63 H ϵ : 99.45% α : 0.55%	209At 5.42 H ϵ : 95.90% α : 4.10%	210At 8.1 H ϵ : 99.82% α : 0.18%	211At 7.214 H ϵ : 58.20% α : 41.80%	212At 0.314 S α : 100.00% ϵ : < 0.03%	213At 125 NS α : 100.00%	214At 558 NS α : 100.00%	215At 0.10 MS α : 100.00%
	206Po 8.8 D ϵ : 94.55% α : 5.45%	207Po 5.80 H ϵ : 99.98% α : 0.02%	208Po 2.898 Y ϵ : 100.00% α : 4.0E-3%	209Po 124 Y ϵ : 99.55% α : 0.45%	210Po 138.376 D α : 100.00%	211Po 0.516 S α : 100.00%	212Po 0.299 μ S α : 100.00%	213Po 3.72 μ S α : 100.00%	214Po 163.6 μ S α : 100.00%
	205Bi 15.31 D ϵ : 100.00%	206Bi 6.243 D ϵ : 100.00%	207Bi 31.55 Y ϵ : 100.00%	208Bi 3.68E+5 Y ϵ : 100.00%	209Bi 2.01E19 Y 100% α : 100.0%	210Bi 5.012 D β^- : 100.00% α : 1.3E-4%	211Bi 2.14 M α : 99.72% β^- : 0.28%	212Bi 60.55 M β^- : 64.06% α : 35.94%	213Bi 45.61 M β^- : 97.80% α : 2.20%

Spallation reaction

- lower yield
- higher level of impurity

Bi-209(α ,2n)At-211

- monoisotopic target
- high radionuclidic purity
- GBq quantities

A limited number of alpha emitter candidates

Radionuclide	Half life	# α / decay	E_{γ} (keV)
Tb-149	4,1 h	0,17 (β et ε)	165
At-211	7,2 h	1	79
Bi-212	1 h	1 (β)	727
Bi-213	45 m	1 (2β)	440
Ra-223	11,4 d	4 (2β)	269
Ac-225	10 d	4 (2β)	100
Th-226	31 m	4	111
Th-227	18,7 d	5 (2β)	256

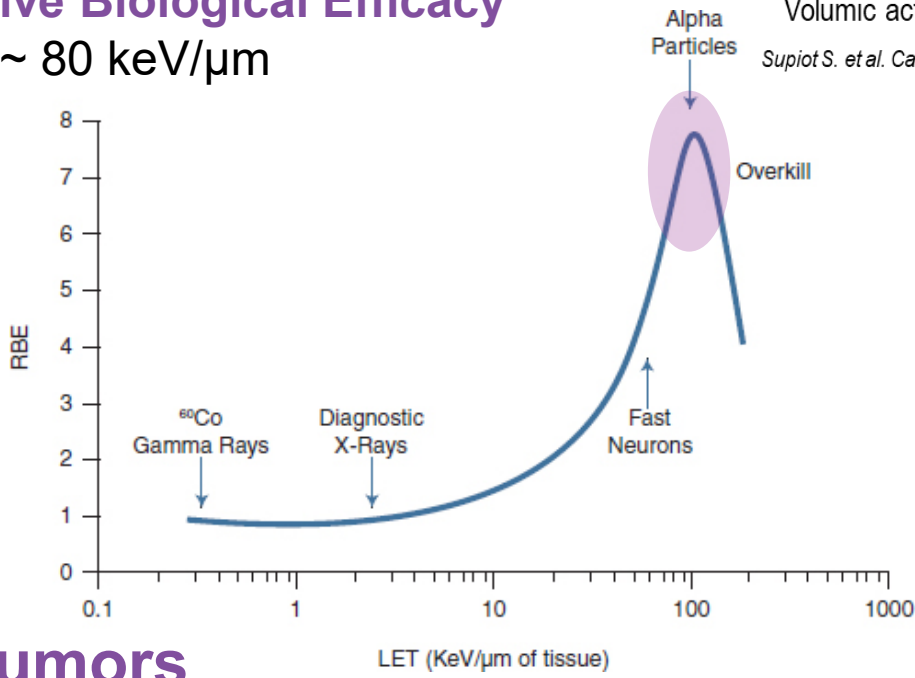
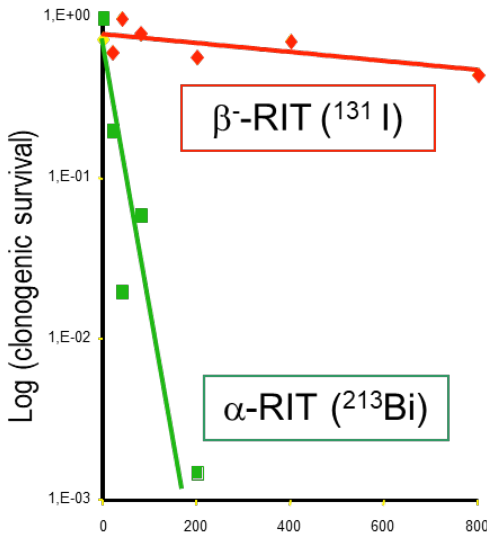
⇒ To eradicate tumors

At-211, what is it for ?

Highly cytotoxic, E_{α} [5-9] MeV
potentially more than β radiation

Better preservation of healthy tissue,
range of 40 to 100 μm in water,
a few cell's length

High Relative Biological Efficacy
High LET, $\sim 80 \text{ keV}/\mu\text{m}$



The essential Physics of Medical Imaging,
Book, Bushberg et al., 2002



At-211 interests and production

■ At-211, main interests:

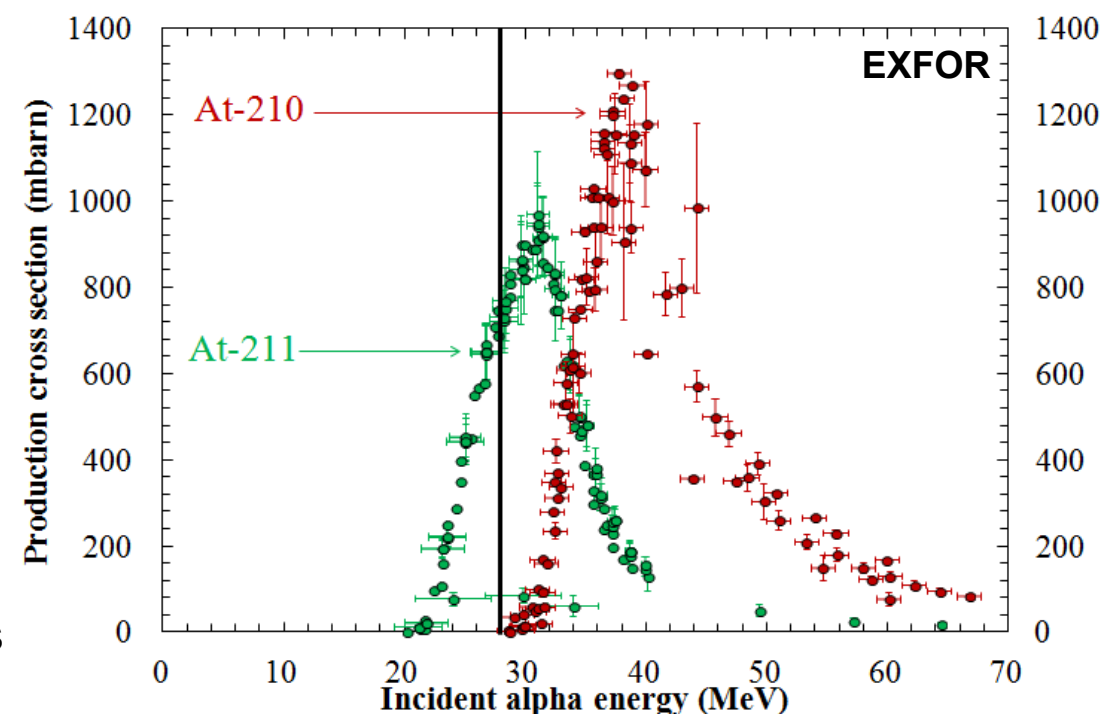
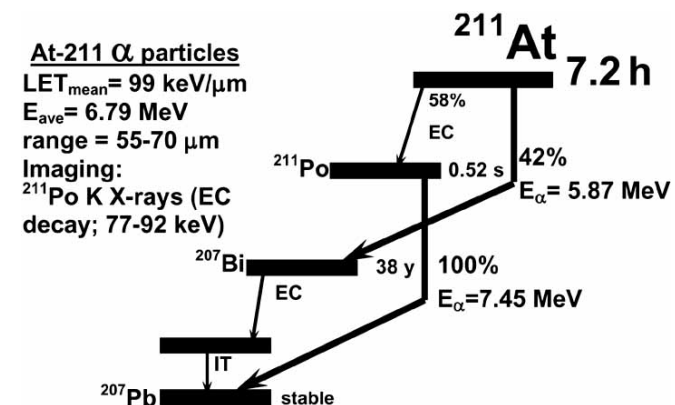
- **Half-life: 7.2 hours** - not too short, not too long
 - Suitable for **RadioPharmaceutical Therapy**
- **One alpha particle** per decay
 - Better **control of the deposited dose**
- **Accelerator** production
 - IBA : C30XP, multi-particules
 - ACSI : TR-ALPHA, 30 MeV "only alpha"

■ Production route: $\text{Bi-209} + \alpha \rightarrow \text{At-211} + 2n$

■ Keep in mind:

- **Precise beam energy** adjustment
 - **Avoiding the production of At-210 - ($\alpha, 3n$) reaction**
- The At-210 begins to be produced above 28.613 MeV
 - Half-life 8.1 hours
 - 99.8% CE towards **Po-210** with a half-life of 138.4 days

■ Production scheme: **energy degrader**, home made target, dry extraction



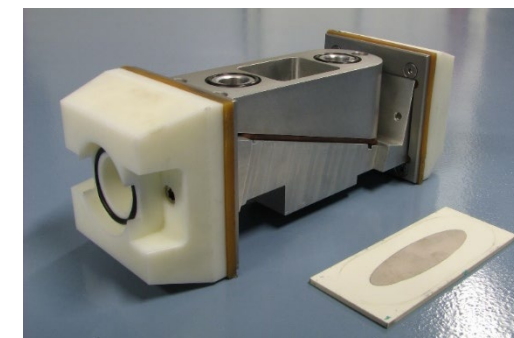


At-211 production: C70XP ARRONAX

Production route: $^{209}\text{Bi} + \alpha \rightarrow ^{211}\text{At} + 2n$

Production scheme:

- 68 MeV alpha particle beam
- Energy degrader in Al or graphite to reach 28 MeV**
- Target material evaporated under vacuum
- Irradiated in an IBA rabbit system
- At-211 extraction using dry chemistry
- At-211 recovered in chloroform



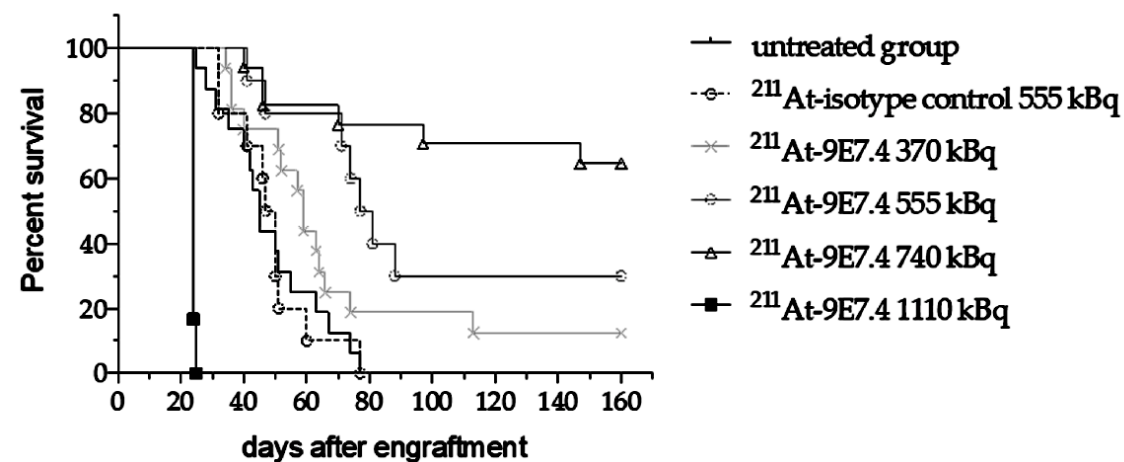
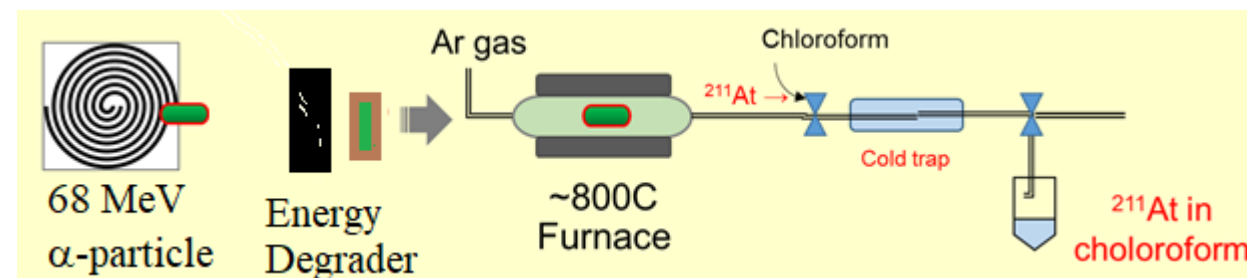
The IBA rabbit system (left) and a target for astatine production (right)

In vivo application:

- At-211-labelled anti-mCD138 in mouse syngeneic multiple myeloma

Production capacity:

- 3-4 batches/month
- Between 0.9 and 1.2 GBq EOB



Gouard S et al. Cancers (Basel). 2020 Sep 22;12(9):2721



Optimizing ^{211}At production SPIRAL 2

Alpha beams available at GIE GANIL

- SPIRAL2 : He^{2+} 80 MeV to 8 MeV
- ^{209}Bi irradiation possible

Bi-209(α ,3n)At-210 until 35 MeV

- Experiment carried out in late September 2022

Energies around the threshold

- Measurement techniques for the isotopes of interest

Gamma spectroscopy

Analysis of the experience and publication

- S. Ansari-Chauveau, A-M. Frelin Labalme
- Publication in Physics in Medicine and Biology in 2025

Applied Radiation and Isotopes 225 (2025) 112061



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journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/apradiso



Optimizing ^{211}At production cross section by studying the rise of ^{210}At cross section: First measurement using Linac SPIRAL2

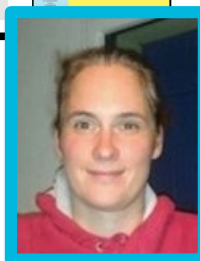
S. Ansari-Chauveau ^a, A-M. Frelin ^a, G. de France ^a, A. Guertin ^b, F. Haddad ^{b,c}, X. Ledoux ^a, J. Mrázek ^d, E. Šimečková ^d

^a GANIL, Grand Accélérateur National d'Ions Lourds (GANIL), CEA/DSM-CNRS/IN2P3, Boulevard H. Becquerel, Caen 14076, France

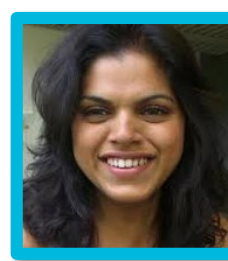
^b SUBATECH, Nantes Université, IMT Atlantique, CNRS/IN2P3, 3 Rue Alfred Kastler, Nantes 44300, France

^c GIP ARRONAX, 1 rue Aronnax, Saint-Herblain 44817, France

^d Nuclear Physics Institute CAS, Řež 25068, Czech Republic

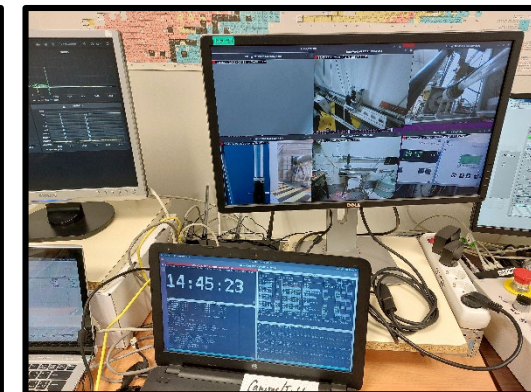


A.M. Frelin

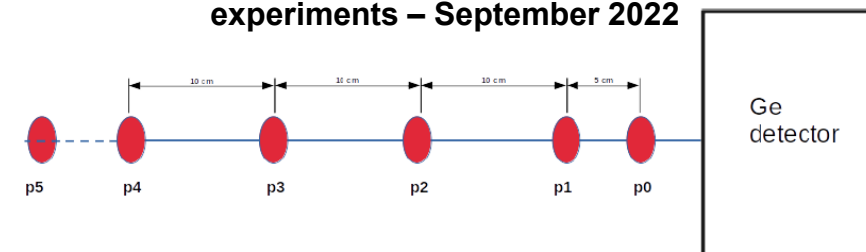


S. Ansari-Chaveau

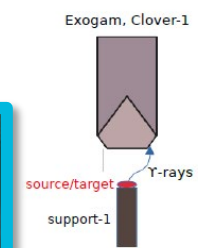
.Guertin@subatech.in2p3.fr



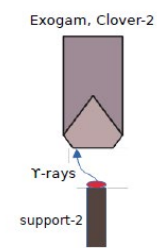
SPIRAL2 building and data acquisition room dedicated to experiments – September 2022



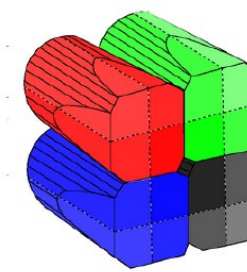
Device for the 'on-line' measurement of gamma radiation



a)



b)



c)

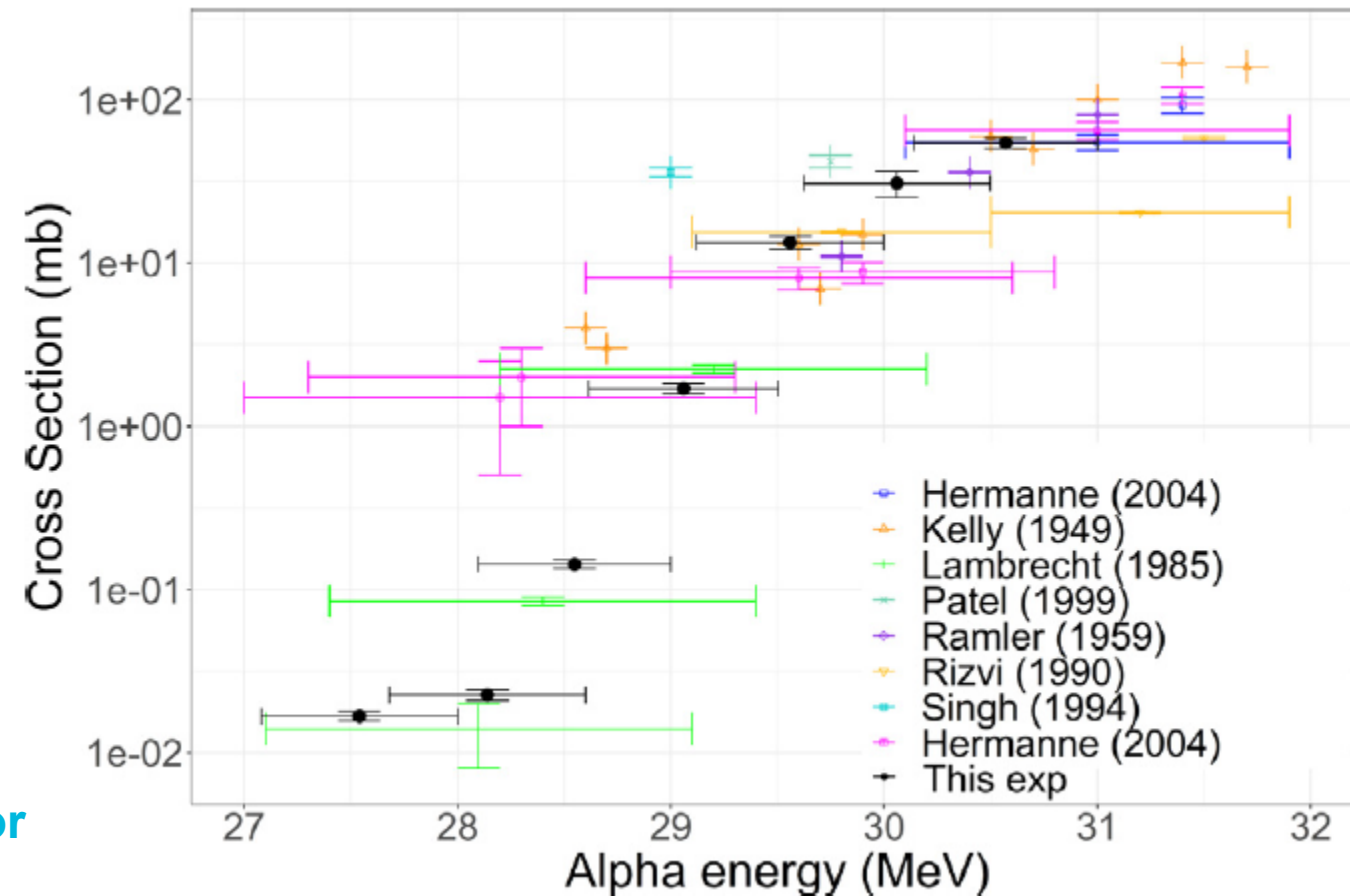
'Offline' gamma radiation measurement device



At-210 production near the threshold

- **Alpha beams available at GIE GANIL**
 - Measurement of the reaction threshold
 - In particular, with regard to contaminants
 - **Improved purity**
- **High-efficiency γ -spectrometry device**
 - Accuracy
 - Statistics
 - **Lower production cross-section values**
- **Analysis of the experience and publication**
 - Confirmation of Lambrecht's work
 - **Target thickness** affects the energy error
- **Perspectives**
 - Measurements of cross-sections for the **monitor reactions**
 - Exploring the **different mass regions**
 - Setting up **a current measurement device**

Bi-209(α ,3n)At-210

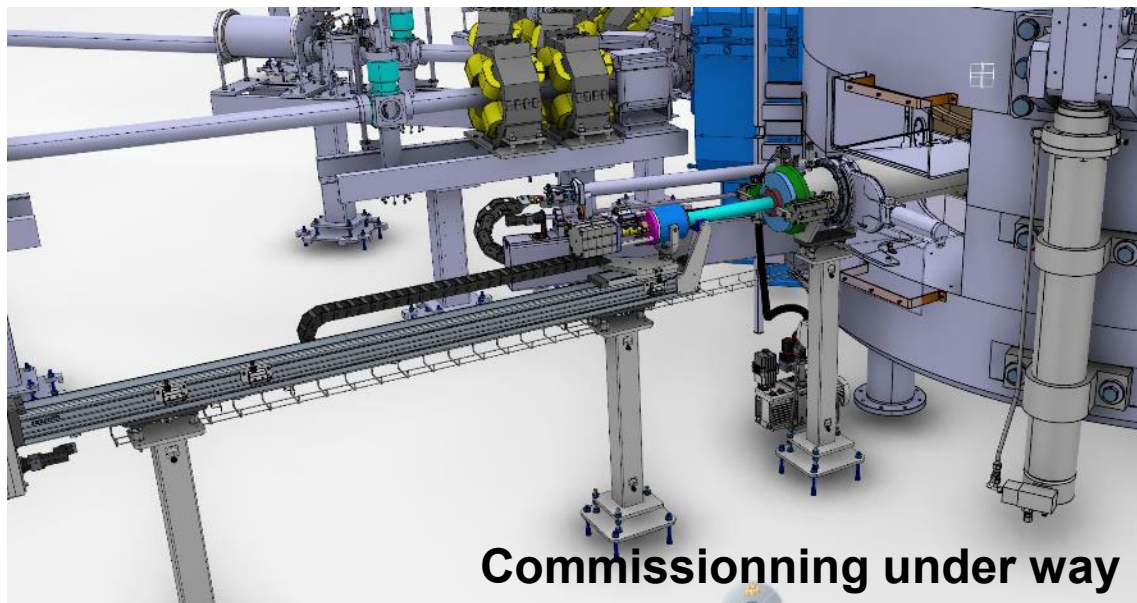




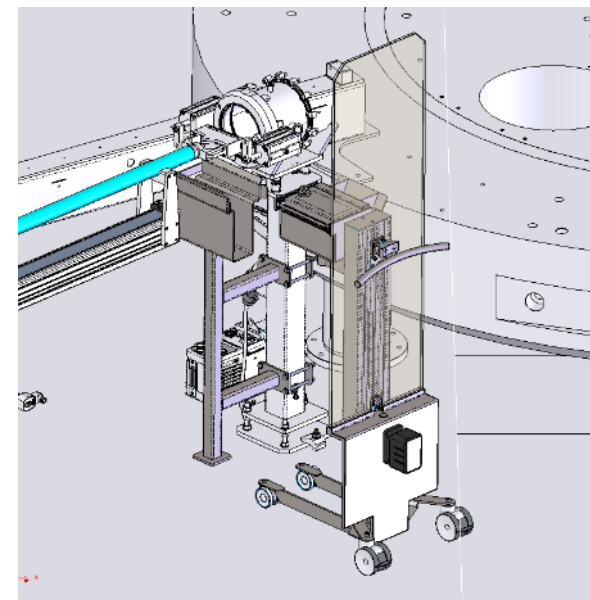
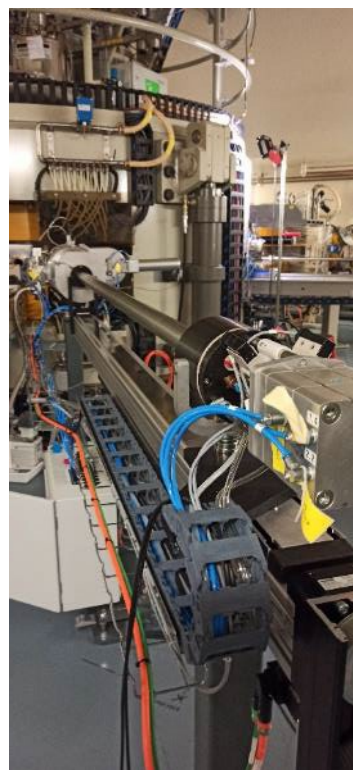
How to improve the availability of At-211@ARRONAX?

Upgrade of the machine: development of an internal target to intercept the beam at the right energy (28-29 MeV)

- No more need to degrade the beam energy and better control of At-210 production
- Limitation will be now the target itself



Commissioning under way



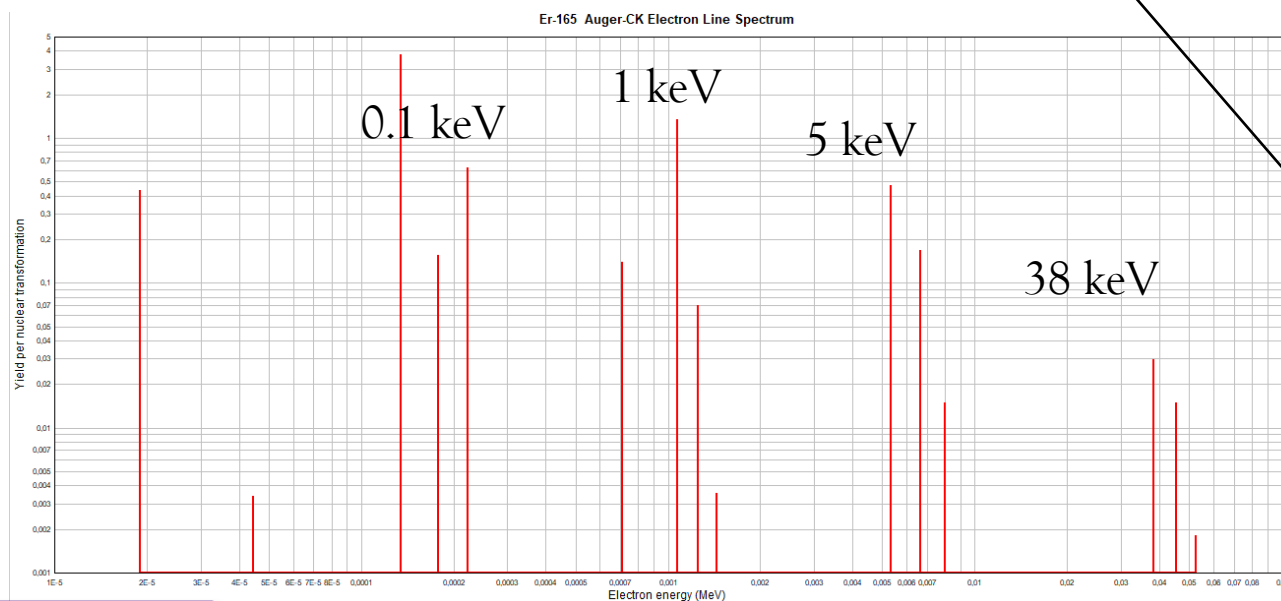
Target handling after irradiation

Our goals: improve both the quality and the quantities of the final product – participation to 

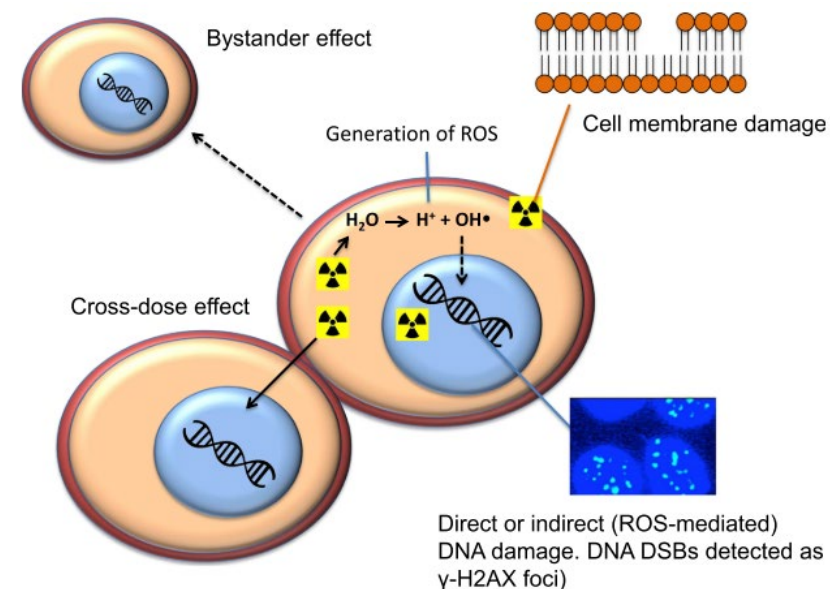


Er-165 ID card and interests

- $T_{1/2} = 10.36$ h
- Er-165 decays at 100% to Ho-165 (stable)
- **Pur Auger electron (AE) and X emitter. 7 AEs/decay**
- **No gamma emissions.**

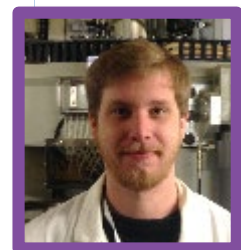


0.5 AE at 20 eV
4 AE at 100 eV
1.5 AE at 1 keV
0.5 AE at 5 keV



Ku et al. EJNMMI Radiopharmacy and Chemistry, 2019

→ Ideal for **Auger electron dosimetry studies.**





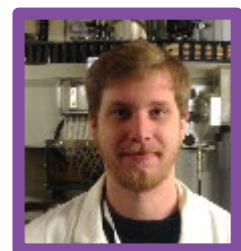
It can be produced directly → but the decay time must be managed.

Route identified

163Tm 1.81 h $\epsilon+\beta^+=100\%$	164Tm 1.95 min $\epsilon+\beta^+=100\%$	165Tm 30.06 h $\epsilon+\beta^+=100\%$	166Tm 7.7 h $\epsilon+\beta^+=100\%$	167Tm 9.28 d $\epsilon=100\%$	168Tm 93.1 d $\epsilon+\beta^+=99.99\%$ $\beta^-=0.01\%$	169Tm STABLE 100%	170Tm 128.4 d $\beta^-=99.9\%$ $\epsilon=0.1\%$
162Er STABLE 0.139%	163Er 75 min $\epsilon+\beta^+=100\%$	164Er STABLE 1.601%	165Er 10.36 h $\epsilon=100\%$	166Er STABLE 33.503%	167Er STABLE 22.869%	168Er STABLE 26.978%	169Er 9.39 d $\beta^-=100\%$
161Ho 2.48 h $\epsilon=100\%$	162Ho 15 min $\epsilon+\beta^+=100\%$	163Ho 4570 y $\epsilon=100\%$	164Ho 28.8 min $\epsilon+\beta^+=60\%$ $\beta^-=40\%$	165Ho STABLE 100%	166Ho 26.808 h $\beta^-=100\%$	167Ho 2.97 h $\beta^-=100\%$	168Ho 2.99 h $\beta^-=100\%$



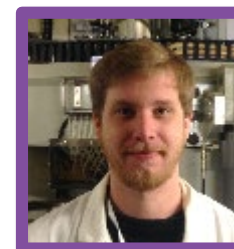
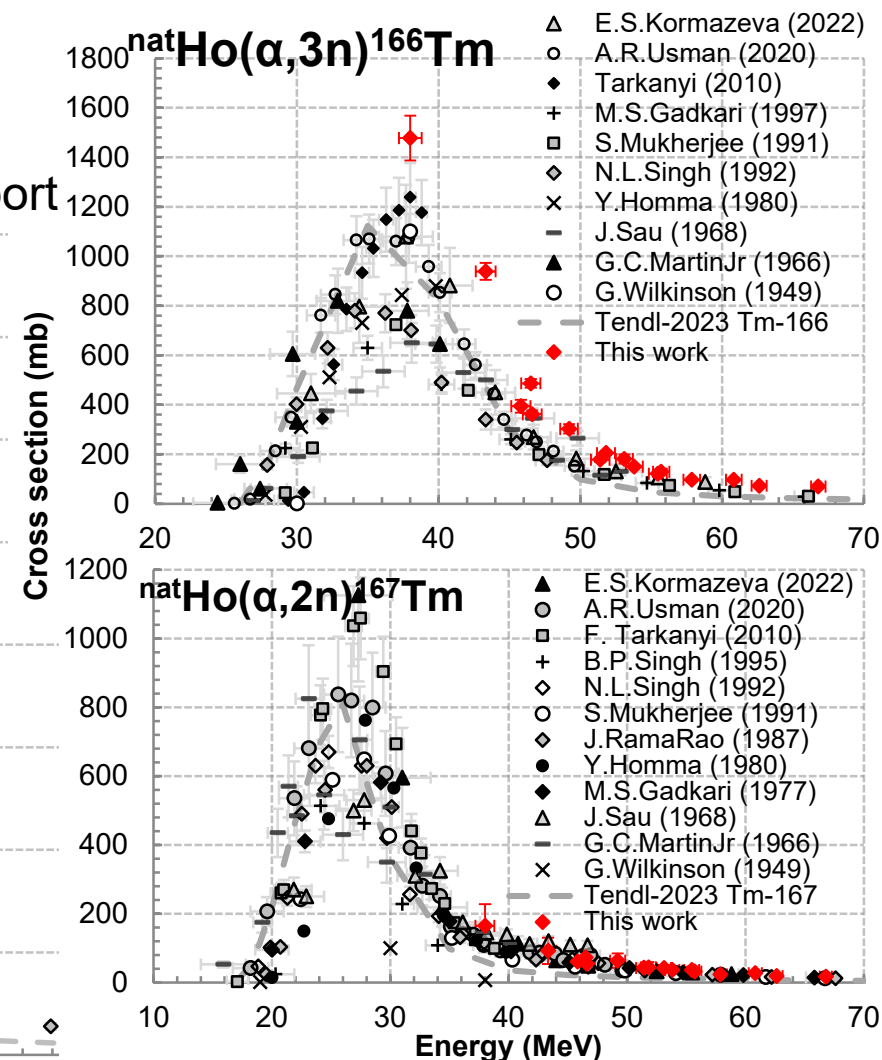
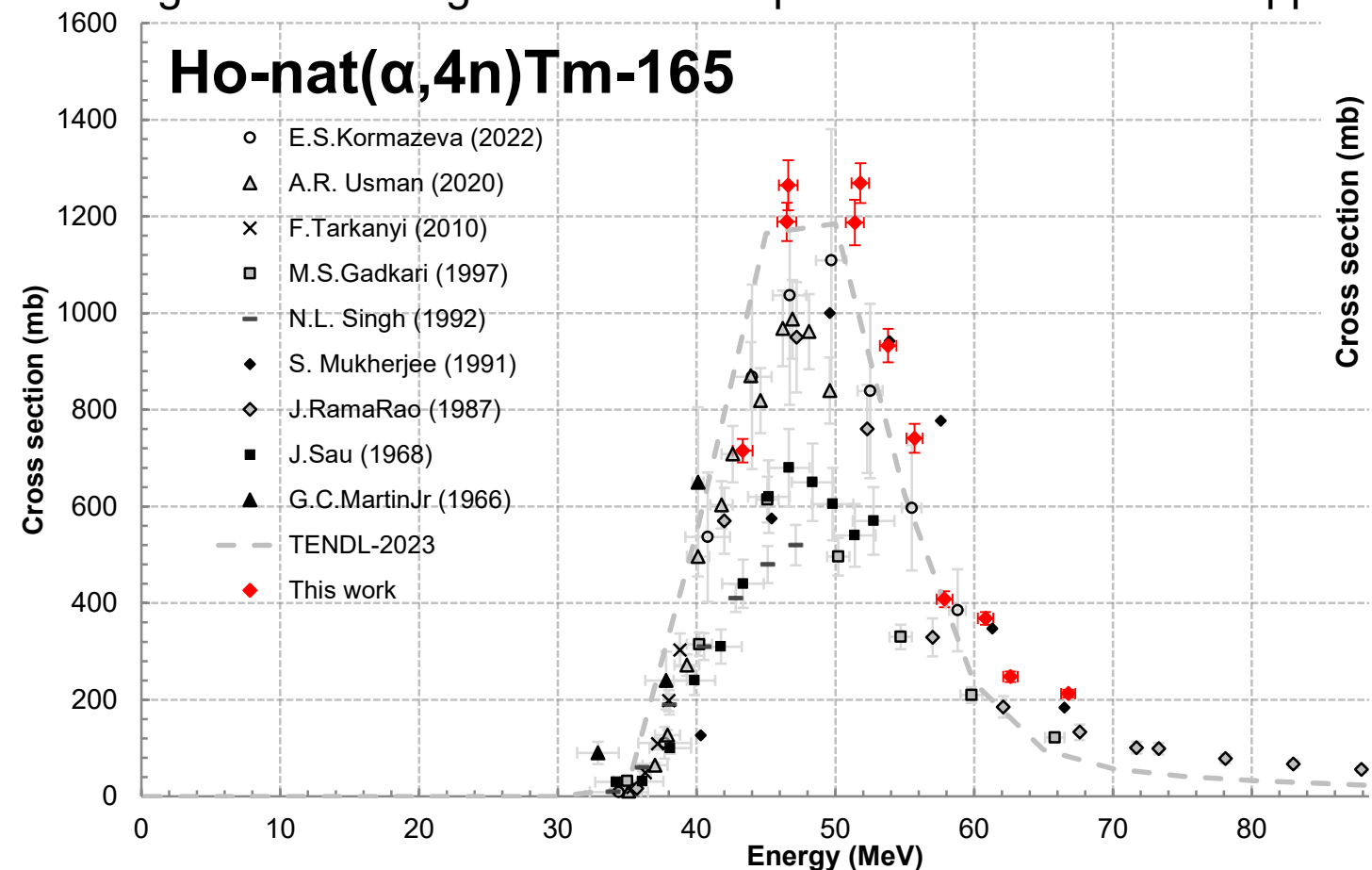
- Tm-165 (30h)/ Er-165 (10h)
- Ho mono-isotopic target
- Close Tm contaminants decay into stable nuclei
 - High **Radionuclidic purity**
- Requests a high-energy alpha beam (~60 MeV)





Tm-165/Er-165 generator

Objective: production of Er-165, a pure AE-emitting radionuclide chemically matched to clinical therapeutic radionuclide Lu-177, from a generator using functionalized porous materials as a support



E. Nigron
and
A.C. Bonraisin



Outcomes: setup of Tm-165 production of 100 MBq for research in radiochemistry and Er-165 radiolabeling. The establishment of **thick-target production** has **confirmed production yields**.

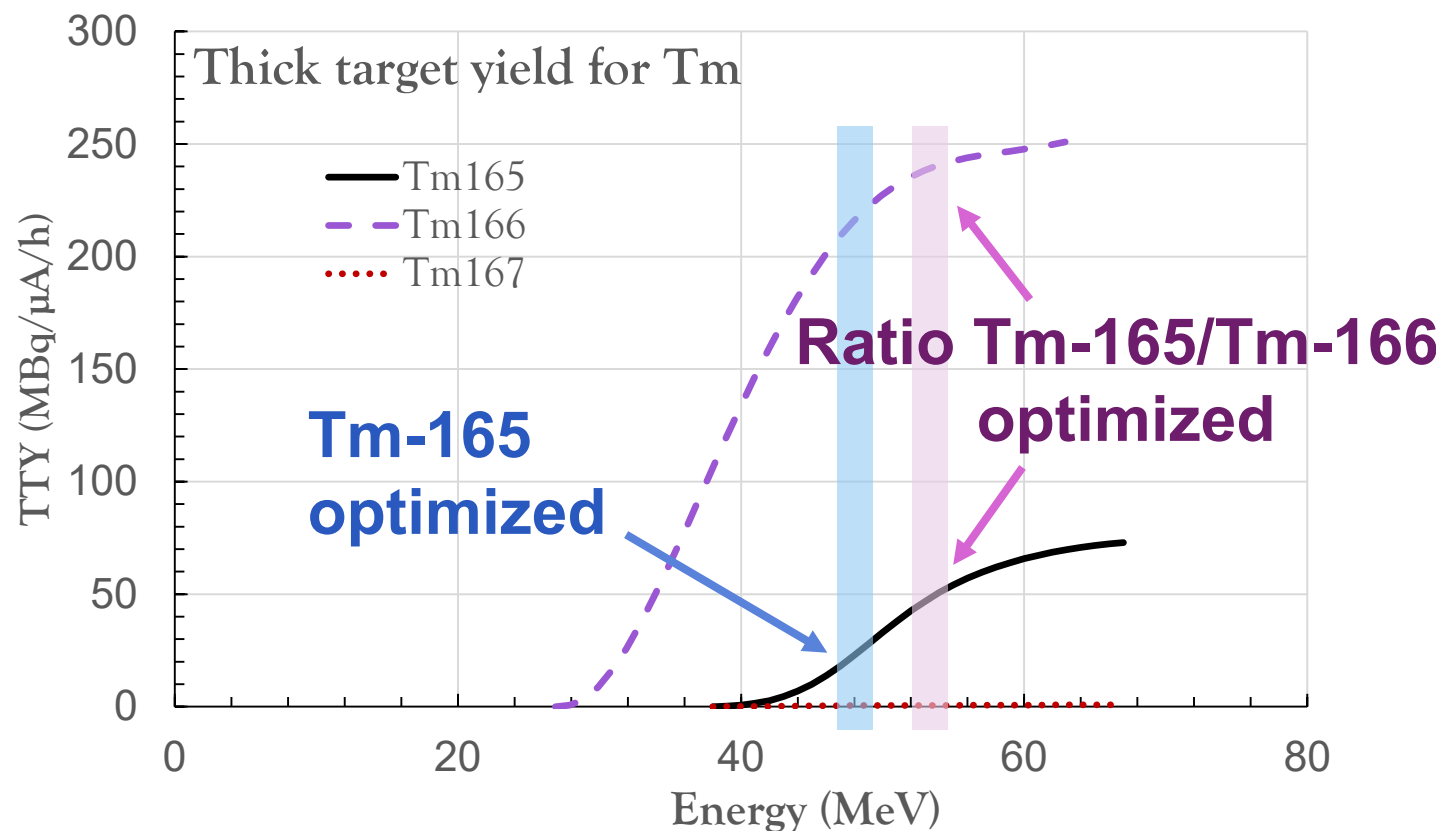


Tm-165 Thick Target Yield

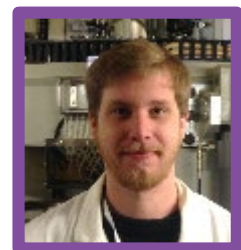
- A range around 50 MeV optimize the production of Tm-165.
- Another range around 56 MeV limit the production of Tm-166.

Post-production scenario defined with a chemical separation EOB +2h.

180% of Tm-165 activity is recovered as Er-165 after 3 days with an 8-hour elution cycle.



What are **the purity and molar activity**? How does it compare to the direct route?



Comparison of production routes

Calculations for a 50 µm target at 100% Ho-165 at 7 µA for 2 h (production characteristics used at GIP ARRONAX).

Route	Energy range (MeV)	Activity (MBq)		Molar activity (GBq/nmol)
Ho-165(p,n)Er-165	9.9 – 9	146		1.8
Ho-165(d,2n)Er-165	13.2 – 12.0	524		2.9
Ho-165(α,4n)Tm-165	49.8 – 46.7	204 of Tm-165	367 of Er-165	1.9* – 3.9
	57.8 – 55.0	101 of Tm-165	182 of Er-165	2.5* – 3.9

Target purity not taken into account

*for 1st elution

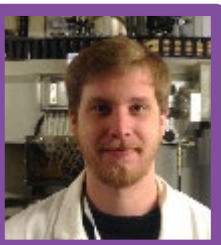
- The deuteron pathway has the **highest production yield**.
- The alpha route has **the highest molar activity**.
- And the alpha route, Er is **available over a longer period of time**.



Prepared by E. Nigrón



A dynamic collaborative network



E. Nigron

Publications since 2025 :

INFN Milano

INFN Legnaro

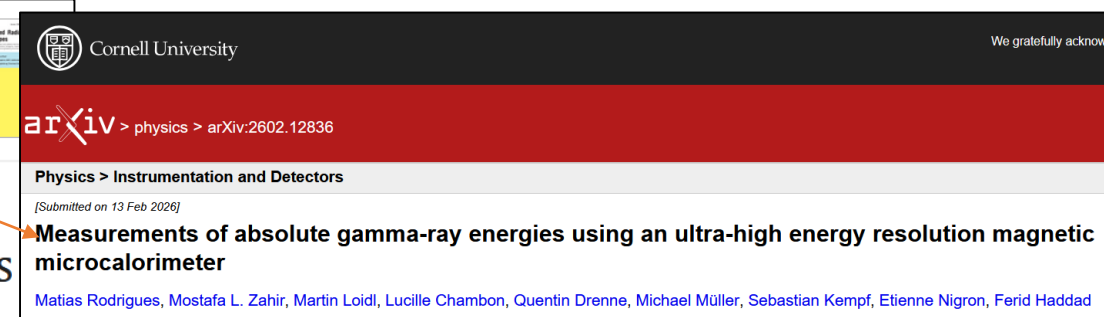
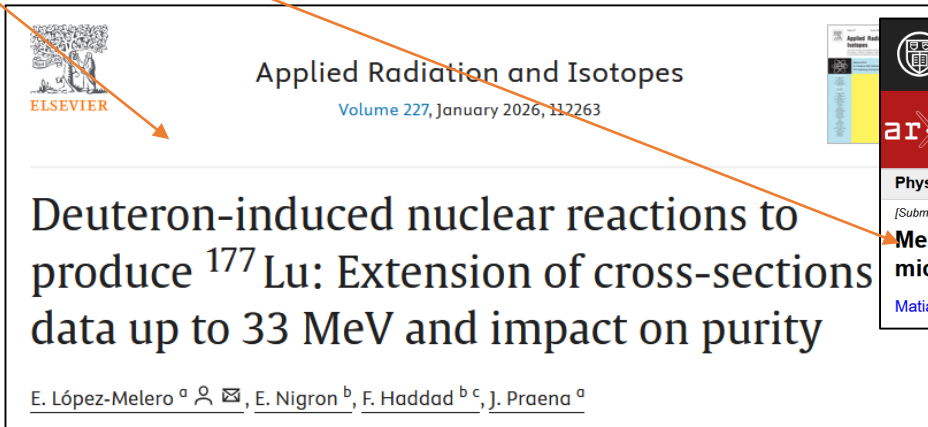
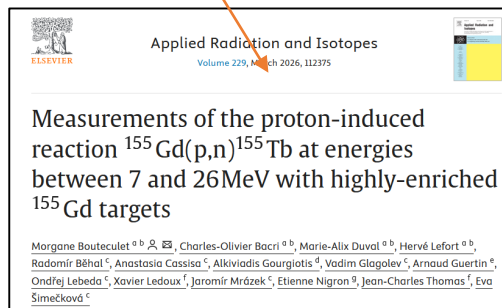
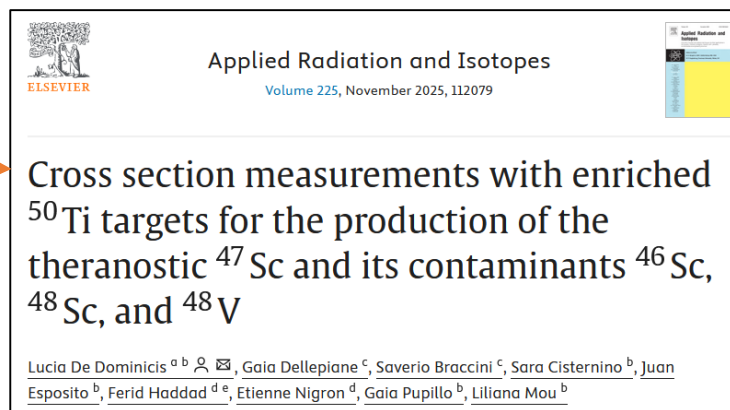
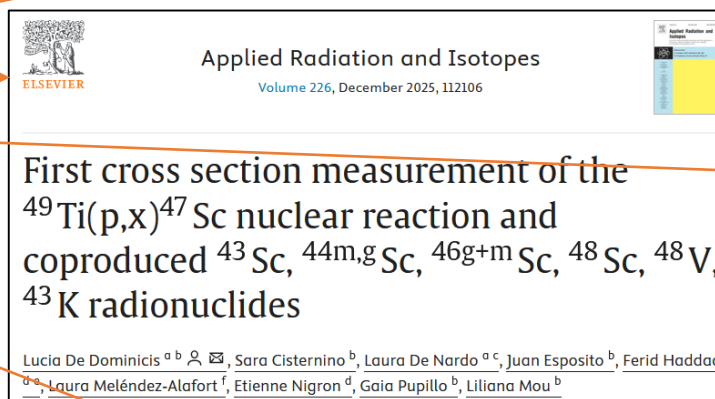
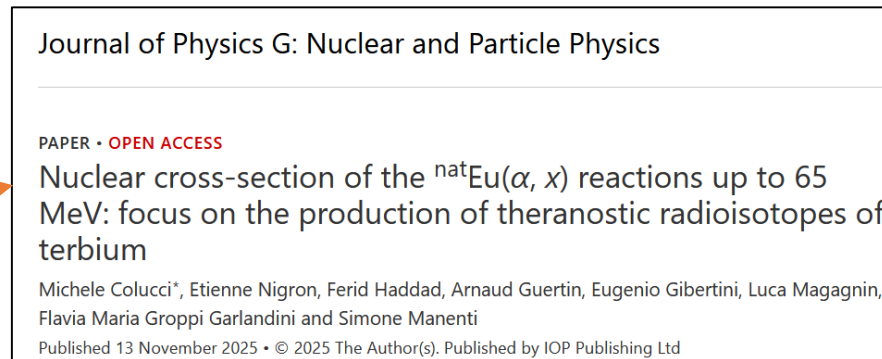
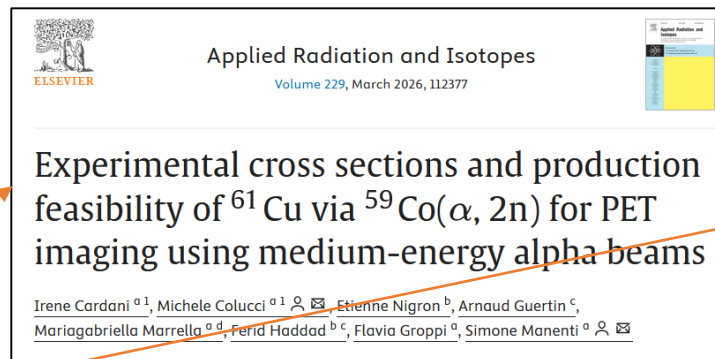
CEA

IFMIF-Dones

CEMHTI (soon)

IJClab

New collaborations under discussion





Data collected: proton beam

Ac-225 from Th-232(p,x)

Ra-223 from Th-232(p,x)

Fission fragment distribution from Th-232(p,x)

Dy-155/Tb-155 from Tb-159

Dy-157,159, Gd-151,153, Tb-153,154m1,154m2,156

Tb-155 new data set for $h.e.^{155}\text{Gd}(p,x)$

Tb-149 from Gd-nat(p,x)

Tb-150,151,152,153,154,154m2,155,156

Cu-67 from Zn-68(p,2p)

Ga-67 from (p,2n), Ga-66 from (p,3n)

Cu-67 and Cu-64 from Zn-70(p,x)

Ga-67, Ga-66, Zn-65 and Zn-69m

Sc-47, Sc-44m, Sc-44 from V-nat(p,x)

Sc-48,46,43, K-43,42, V-48, Cr-51,49,48

Sc-47, Sc-44m, Sc-44 from Ti-48(p,x)

Sc-47, Sc-46, Sc-44m, Sc-44g, Sc-43, V-48

Sc-47 first set of data from Ti-49(p,x)

Sc-43,44m,44g,46g,46m,48, V-48, K-43

Sc-47 from enriched Ti-48,49,50

Sc-43 from V(p,x)

Monitor reactions on Ti, Ni and Cu

C. Duchemin et al, Phys Med Biol **60** (2015) **931-946**

C. Duchemin et al, Phys Med Biol **60** (2015) **931-946**

V. Métivier et al, EPJ Web of Conf. **146** (2017) **08008**

R. Formento Cavaier, Radiat Phys and Chem **224** (2024) 112069

M. Boutecculet et al, Appl Radiat Isot **213** (2024) **111485**

M. Boutecculet et al, Appl Radiat Isot **229** (2026) **112375**

R. Formento Cavaier, PhD thesis (2019)

Nucl Instr Meth Phys Rev B **478** (2020) **174-181**

G. Pupillo et al., Nucl Instr Meth Phys Res B **415** (2018) **41-47**

G. Pupillo et al., Radiochimica Acta **108** (2020) **593-602**

G. Pupillo et al., Il Nuovo Cimnto **42 C** (2019) **139**

G. Pupillo et al., J Radioanal Nucl Chem **322** (2019) **1711**

F. Barbaro et al., Phys. Rev. C **104** (2021) **044619**

L. Mou et al., Pharmaceuticals **17** (2024) **26**

L. de Dominis et al., Appl Radiat Isot **226** (2025) **112106**

L. de Dominis et al., ND2025 oral presentation (2025)

G. Pupillo et al., Nucl Instr Meth Phys Res B **464** (2020) **32-35**

E. Garrido et al., Nucl Instr Meth Phys Res B **383** (2016) **191-212**



Pa-230 for U-230/Th-226 New data set for Th-232(d,x)

Fission fragment distribution from Th-232(d,x)

Pb-203 from Tl-205(d,4n)

Hg-197m New data set for Au-197(d,x)

Re-186g New data set for W-186(d,x)

Lu-177cum,g+m from Yb-nat(d,x)

Lu-176cum,175cum,174g+m,m,g,173,172g+m,171g+m,170g+m,169cum,g+m,Tm-167,168

Tb-161 from Gd-160(d,n)

Tb-155 New data set for Gd-nat(d,x)

Tb-155,156,160,161 from Dy-nat(d,x)

Tb-155 from Gd-155(d,2n)

Rh-105 New data set for Ru-104(d,x)

Cu-67 New data set for Zn-70(d,x)

Cu-61 from Ni-nat(d,x)

Mn-52g from Cr-nat(d,x)

Sc-44 New data set for Ca-44(d,x)

Monitor reactions on Ti, Ni

C. Duchemin et al., Nucl Med Biol **41** (2013) **19-22**

V. Métivier et al, EPJ Web of Conf. **146** (2017) **08008**

T. Sounalet et al., Appl Radiat Iso **205** (2024) **111190**

E. Nigron, PhD thesis 2019, to be published

C. Duchemin et al, Appl Radiat Isot **97** (2015) **52-58**

M. E. Lopez Melero, Appl Radiat Isot **227** (2026) **112263**

E. Nigron et al., Appl Radiat Iso **200** (2023) **110927**

C. Duchemin et al, Appl Radiat Isot **118** (2016) **281-289**

M. Colucci et al., Eur Phys Jour Plus **137** (2022) **1180**

Y. Wang et al. Appl Radiat Isot **201** (2023) **110996**

V. Rhoden et al. **WTTC19** (2024)

M. Sitarz, PhD thesis 2019

E. Nigron, PhD thesis 2019 and Front. Med. **8** (2021) **674617**

L. Puren et al., Proceedings ND2025 (2025) **in review**

F. Bianchi et al., Appl Radiat Isot **166** (2020) **109329**

C. Duchemin et al, Phys Med Biol **60** (2015) **6847-6864**

C. Duchemin et al, Appl Radiat Isot **103** (2015) **160-165**



Tm-165/**Er-165** from Ho-165
Tm-166,167

Tb-155 from Eu-nat(α ,x)
Tb-156,154,153,**152**,151,150,**149**

Sn-117m New data set from Cd-116(α ,x)
Sn-110,113, In-109,110g,111,114m1+m2 Cd-115g

Ag-111 from Pd-nat(α ,x)
Ag-105,106,110m

Mo-99 New data set from Zr-96(α ,n)

Ru-97 New data set from Mo-nat(α ,x)
Zr-89, Tc-95g,96, Mo-99

Cu-61 from Co-59(α ,2n)
Cu-60, Co-61

Monitor reactions on Cu, Ti, Ni

E. Nigron et al. , CYCLEUR oral pres. (2025) article **in preparation**

M. Colucci et al., Journal of Physics G **52** (2025) **115102**

C. Duchemin et al, Appl. Radiat. Isot. **115** (2016) **113-124**

L. Puren et al., Proceedings ND2025 **in review**

G. Pupillo et al., J. Radioanal. Nucl. Chem. **302** (2014), 2, **911-917**

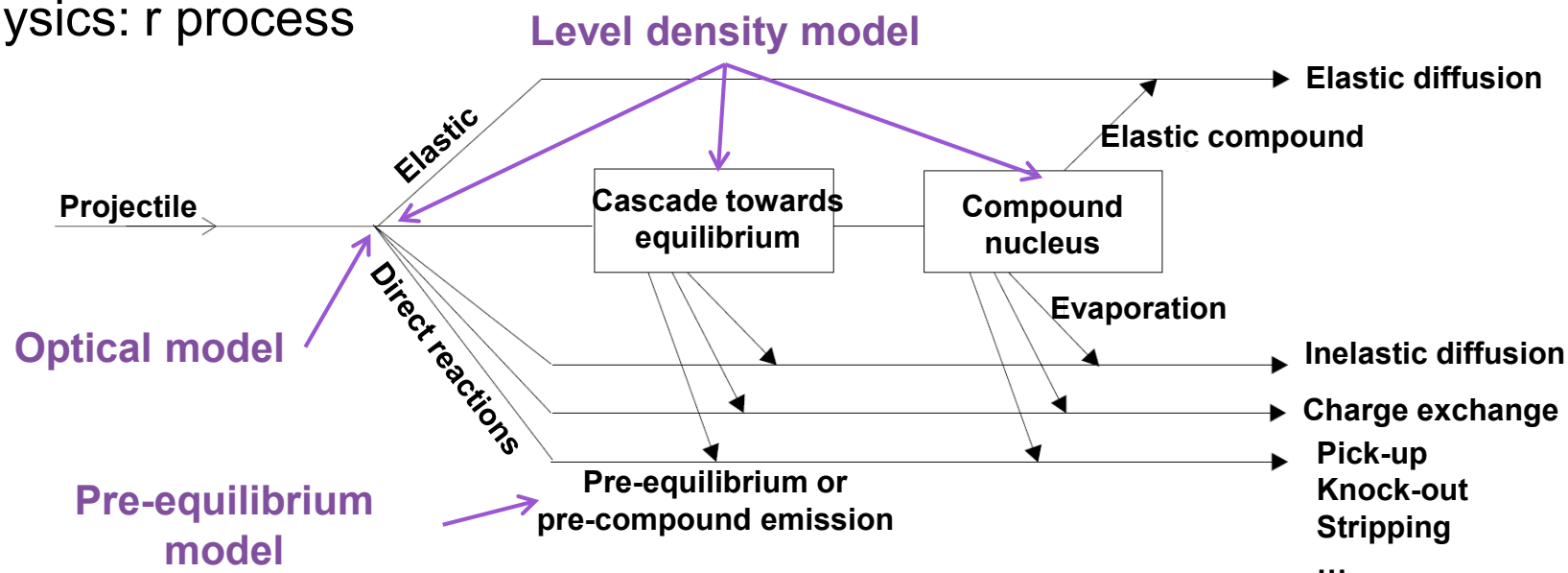
M. Sitarz et al, Instruments **3** (2019) **7**

M. Colucci et al., Appl. Radiat. Isot. **229** (2026) **112377**



Activation of materials for both applied and basic research, especially with alpha particles

- ✓ Nuclear data: cross section measurements, comparison with nuclear model calculations
 - Reaction mechanism, excitation function, isomeric cross section
- ✓ Radioisotope production
 - Optimum production, minimization of impurities
 - Realistic dose calculation
- ✓ Nuclear structure data: high-spin level
- ✓ Astrophysics: r process



Adapted from S. Benck, PhD thesis, 1999

⇒ Influence on the calculated production cross section values



GIP ARRONAX possesses 2 cyclotrons:

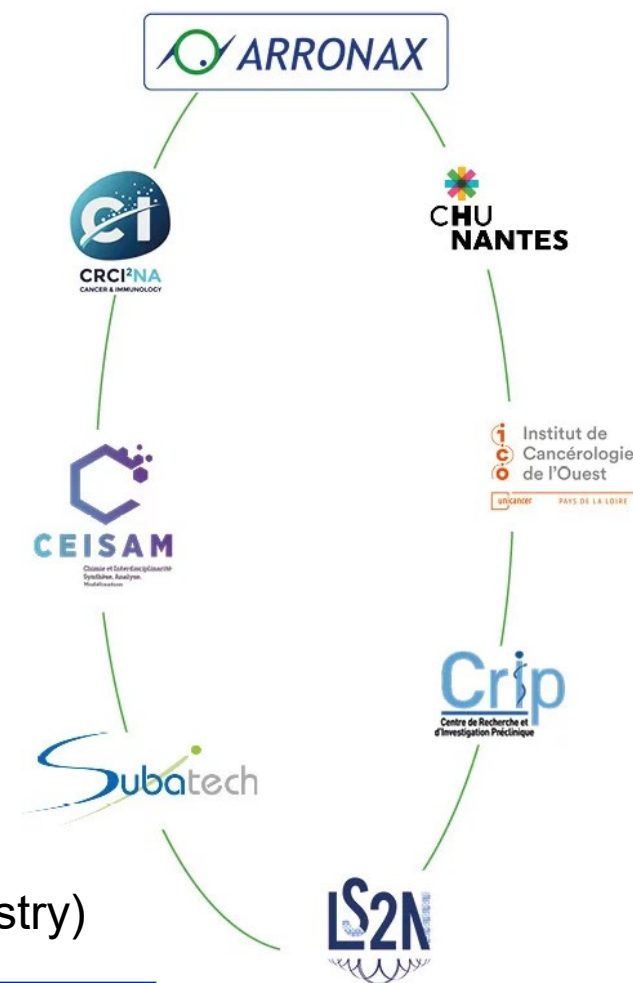
- a versatile C70XP cyclotron allowing a wide range of radionuclide production as well as irradiation research.
- a Kiube-180 cyclotron, IK18, under final commissioning

GIP ARRONAX and PRISMA are developing and producing radionuclides but also radiopharmaceuticals for research in nuclear medicine

PRISMA is also working on:

- Which isotopes for tomorrow's nuclear medicine?
 - Systematic cross section measurements => impact on modeling
- Hadronbiology at very high dose rates
- Detection, ion beam analysis
- Mass separation coupled with laser ionisation

These work can only be achieved through **collective work**
at all scales (local, national and international) and with all partners (academia and industry)





Thank you

Thank you for your attention

The **ARRONAX** project is supported by:
Regional Council of Pays de la Loire
Nantes Université
French government (CNRS, INSERM)
European Union.

Subatech laboratory is supported by:
CNRS Nucléaire et Particules
Nantes Université
IMT Atlantique

This work has been, in part, supported by a grant from the French National Agency for Research called "Investissements d'Avenir", Equipex Arronax-Plus noANR-11-EQPX-0004, Labex IRON no ANR-11-LABX-18-01, ISITE NExT no ANR-16-IDEX-007, EU Horizon 2020 PRISMAP program n° 101008571, Accelerate.EU program n° 101173001.