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Gamma-ray spectroscopy after slow neutron induced reactions FIPPS I

Caterina Michelagnoli

University of Warsaw – January 7<sup>th</sup> 2021







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## Outline

- Introduction –neutrons: how and why
- High resolution  $\gamma$ -ray spectroscopy after slow neutron reactions
  - $*(n,\gamma)$  reactions on stable (rare) and radioactive targets \* (n,fission) using a *fission tag*
- Present and future for (n,fission) experiments
- Concluding remarks and future possibilities



## The highest neutron flux in Western Europe

#### 1.5-10<sup>15</sup> n.cm<sup>-2</sup>s<sup>-1</sup>

- ✓ In pile irradiations of radioisotopes
- ✓ In pile target experiments
- ✓ <u>World's highest</u> <u>neutron flux for</u> <u>in-beam experiments</u>



## The lightest radioactive beam...

#### Storage (« bottle ») vs in-beam measurements





## Ultra-Cold-Neutrons experiments @ ILL

#### n lifetime

A.P. Serebrov et al., PRC97 (2018) 055503

#### Search for dark energy T. Jenke et al., Nature Phys. 13 (2017) 920

*Gravity-resonance spectroscopy with neutrons T. Jenke et al., Nature Phys. 7 (2011) 468* 

#### The neutron lifetime puzzle



#### https://www.quantamagazine.org/

M. Tanabashi et al. (Particle Data Group), Phys. Rev. D 98, 030001 (2018) and 2019 update



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# Neutron guides and the instruments @ ILL

SuperADAM





Neutrons can be guided with little losses over 100 m

Clean slow neutron beams (bent guides)

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# Why using neutrons?

#### "Slow" neutron-induced reactions



#### (n,γ) on stable (rare)/radioactive targets

- ➔ close to stability
- → structure at low spin (below n-separation energy)
- → cross-sections (applications)

```
<sup>27</sup>Al(n,γ) : \sigma=0.2 b
<sup>157</sup>Gd(n,γ) : \sigma=2.5e5 b
<sup>64</sup>Ni(n,γ) : \sigma=1.5 b
```



#### High-resultion $\gamma$ spectroscopy a n beam Rhône lipës (R)

The Fission-Product-Prompt Spectrometer (FIPPS)



1 108 n/s/cm<sup>2</sup> d=25mm n/s/cm2 d=15mm

thermal neutron beam: 10<sup>8</sup> n/s/cm<sup>2</sup>, d=15mm





Possibility of additional clover detectors+ACs (up to 16), LaBr3 (fast timing ps lifetime measurements), ...

- digital electronics, list-mode (~10kHz/cry, triggerless) - tight casemate for handling of radioactive targets



8 HPGe clovers + segmented anti-Compton shields (ACs)

## Targets for $(n,\gamma)$ experiments

 $\sigma^*N \sim 2 mmol^*barn$ 



Hold in place by PTFE wiring



Li target holder for scattered neutrons absorbtion



2 mg metal (natTi)



3 g powder (<sup>13</sup>C enriched)



120 mg powder

< 1 mg powder





## Test of realistic SM interactions

<sup>205</sup>Tl(n,γ)<sup>206</sup>Tl –first FIPPS experiment (Dec. 2016/Jan. 2017)



N. Cieplicka et al. Phys. Lett. B 802 (2020) 135222

<sup>210</sup>Bi data from EXILL campaign N. Cieplicka et al. Phys. Rev. C 93 (2016) 054302





N. Cieplicka-Orynczak et al., PRC 93 (2016) 054302

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## Nuclear shape isomerism

Pioneering evidences in light nuclei  $-(n,\gamma)$ on <u>63Ni radioactive (2GBq) target</u> @ FIPPS+IFIN-HH



# Ca isotopes: playground for many nuclear theories



#### The Hybrid Configuration Mixing Model (Milano) Particle/hole core couplings

$$H = H_0 + V,$$
  

$$H_0 = \sum_{jm} \varepsilon_j a_{jm}^{\dagger} a_{jm} + \sum_{NJM} \hbar \omega_{NJ} \Gamma_{NJM}^{\dagger} \Gamma_{NJM},$$
  

$$V = \sum_{jm} \sum_{m} h(im; i'm', NJM) a_{jm} \left[ a_{m}^{\dagger} \otimes \Gamma_{NJM}^{\dagger} \right],$$

$$V = \sum_{jmj'm'} \sum_{NJM} h(jm; j'm', NJM) a_{jm} \left[ a_{j'}^{\dagger} \otimes \Gamma_{NJ}^{\dagger} \right]_{jm}$$

G. Colò et al., Phys. Rev. C. 95, 034303 (2017)

S. Bottoni et al., in preparation



2 MBq radioactive target (13% of the enriched <sup>41</sup>Ca existing on earth)



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## <sup>161</sup>Gd spectroscopy @ FIPPS

Common interest for fundamental research and radioisotope production



C. Michelagnoli et al.

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# Collectivity of the 2p-2n intruder band in <sup>116</sup>Sn

Lifetime of the 4<sup>+</sup>, state measured with the fast-timing technique at FIPPS



Strong mixing, intrinsic excitations of both configurations coexist at comparably low excitation energies in <sup>116</sup>Sn

2112

2p-2h Band

C. Petrache et al., Phys. Rev. C 99 (2019) 024303 CSNSM, Univ. of Guelph, IKP Cologne collab.

 $^{116}Sn$ 

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#### Gamma-ray Induced DSAM

#### GRIDSA : Femtosecond Lifetime Measurements with Germanium Detector Arrays @ n beam





femtosecond lifetimes from two-step γ-ray cascades

Results for different <sup>36</sup>Cl transitions



Test on different targets (nuclei): NaCl (<sup>36</sup>Cl), Ti<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (<sup>49</sup>Ti), Ti metallic (<sup>49</sup>Ti), NiF<sub>2</sub> (<sup>59</sup>Ni), Ni metallic (<sup>59</sup>Ni)



## Gas target @ FIPPS

September 2020



F. Kandzia, M. Jentschel et al., Courtesy of F. Kandzia

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There's not a nuclear model that explains everything!

Need to collect good data to benchmark different regions of the nuclear chart



### Spectroscopy of fission fragments: a challenge!

More than 150 nuclei emitting  $\gamma$  rays at the same time (excited fission fragments and  $\beta$ -decay products)



Fission populates exotic nuclei with an « excess » of neutrons important for:

- understanding of nuclear structure far from stabilit
- modeling of the fission mechanism
- nuclear properties along *r-process* path

First <sup>235</sup>U(n,f) campaign at FIPPS+IFIN-HH



## Active fission target

#### FILL2030 postdoc project @ ILL



#### F. Kandzia, G. Bélier, et al. EPJA 56 (2020) 207



# Example of β-induced background suppression

 $\gamma$ – $\gamma$ – $\gamma$  analysis (double coincidence gate on <sup>132</sup>Te)





Also: increased sensitivity for prompt-delayed coincidence analysis

L. Iskra et al. PRC 102 (2020) 054324



September-October 2018

#### Diamond-based fission tag

- Single crystal CVD diamond detector ( $4.5 \times 4.5 \times 0.517$  mm<sup>3</sup>)
- Radiation hardness, temperature insensitivity, high mobility and lifetime for electrons and holes
- Ability to detect fission fragments verified at the LOHENGRIN mass spectrometer at ILL





#### FIPPS test

Important development for **heavier actinide** targets (e.g. <sup>245</sup>Cm, not applicable in solutions due to radioprotection safety rules)



G. Colombi, Master Thesis, Univ. Milano and ILL (2020) Collaboration to develop a fission trigger for FIPPS (LPSC / ILL / IFJ Krakow / INFN Milano)

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# First test of a diamond-based fission tag @ FIPPS





## Going more and more exotic...

Gain of order of magnitudes in sensitivity for fission studies and spectroscopy of n-rich nuclei using a **Gas-Filled-Magnet (GFM) separator** HPGe array + fission fragment separator

Special geometry: large acceptance and horizontal focusing indipendent from the ion trajectory

- $\rightarrow$  Structure of very neutron rich nuclei
- → Understanding of generation of angular momentum and excitation energy in fission





- ✓ Pre-design studies
- ✓ Instrument review(s)



# Concluding remarks

- Rich Nuclear Physics program at ILL using FIPPS+IFIN-HH/LaBr<sub>3</sub> using slow-neutron induced reactions
- <sup>235</sup>U(n,f) and <sup>233</sup>U(n,f) with *fission tag*: new spectroscopic info on n-rich fission fragments is now available trough multiple gamma-ray coincidences analysis (data are open for LoI)

 $\rightarrow$  bridge for the science program at FIPPS phase 2 (FIPPS+GFM)

• Next ILL proposal submission deadline: February 2021

 $\rightarrow$  "all targets can be used at FIPPS" (or, at least, many...)

 $\rightarrow$  a fission run with <sup>245</sup>Cm is foreseen for April-May 2021

- The physics program and detector developments at FIPPS depend on your input! Hope to see you all soon at ILL...
- ... or at least in Grenoble for the CGS17 or in Avignon for ARIS2020





#### Advances in Radioactive Isotope Science 2021





5 – 10 September 2021 in "Palais des Papes", Avignon, France www.aris2020.eu





17<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Capture Gamma-Ray Spectroscopy and Related Topics - CGS17



#### August 23 – August 27, 2021 Grenoble, France



#### Deadlines:

- Abstract: 31/03/2021
- Registration: 30/06/2021

#### Contact:

https://workshops.ill.fr/event/188/ Email: <u>CGS17@ill.fr</u>

- Nuclear Structure
- Nuclear Reactions
- Nuclear Astrophysics
- Fundamental Interactions and Symmetries
- Nuclear Data
- Experimental Techniques and Facilities
- Interdisciplinary Studies and Applications







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G. Colombi (PhD st.)



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### Future of FIPPS with gas filled magnet: FIPPSII





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### Overview



- Motivation of FIPPS phase II
- Conventional methods to separate n-induced fission fragment
- Concept & design process of FIPPS GFM
- Simulated performance of FIPPS GFM



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# **Objective of FIPPS phase2**

• Study more exotic part of nuclear chart



Rare shape

- Rarely populated
  - -> **Better selectivity** of fission fragment needed



### Nuclear fission needs more study



- 80 year since discovery
- Source of electric power
- Access to very neutron rich nuclei
- No consistent model description of fission
  - How angular momentum is generated?
  - How nuclear structure affects in fission dynamics?



## **Objective of FIPPS phase2**

- Study more exotic part of nuclear chart
  - -> Better selectivity of fission fragment
- New physics capability

e.g. Fission dynamics: how angular momentum is generated?

->Kinetic energy of fission fragment

Complementary device





## FIPPS fission tag

- Fission rate 12 kHz
- Coincidences PMT-  $\gamma \gamma$ : 10 kHz
- Total: 1.5E11 fission tagged  $\gamma \gamma$  coinc. (36 days, Sep-Oct 2018)
- Fission detection efficiency: 85% (preliminiary)





# How to distinguish different nuclei?












#### How to distinguish different nuclei?





#### Separate by mass of fission fragment!



## **Objective of FIPPS phase2**

- Study more exotic part of nuclear chart
  - -> Better selectivity of fission fragment
- New physics capability

e.g. Fission dynamics: how angular momentum is generated?

->**Initial energy** of fission fragment

• List of requirements

 $\Box$ Large acceptance (>50 msr & dp/p>10%)  $\Box$ Good mass resolution (<4 amu @ A=150)  $\Box$ Kinetice energy detection (dE > several MeV) $\Box$ Easy operation



THE EU



#### What solution is suitable for FIPPS II ?



- How to select mass of low energy fission fragments?
- v-E spectrometer Tstart Tstop (A,Z,v)
  - E & v measurement
  - M from simple principle kE=(γ-1)Mc<sup>2</sup>, v=L/t



How to select mass of low energy fission fragments?



- E & v measurement
- M from simple principle kE=(γ-1)Mc<sup>2</sup>, v=L/t

- Electro-Magnetic  $B\Gamma = \frac{M}{\Omega} bg$ Vacuum (A,Z,v)D+1 **B**-field Gas (A,Z,v) $Br = \frac{M}{O}bg \sim \frac{M}{Z^a}$ **B**-field
- Q & V independent
  ->,Large, efficiency! source



## Separating fission fragments by its Mass using v-E spectrometer



- First sucessful type Cosi-fan-Tutte from ILL dA=0.64 (acceptance 0.07 msr)
- Direct measurement of kE and ToF (simple principle & less cost) A=2kE/v (v=L/ToF)



N. Boucheneb et al., Nucl. Phys A, 502 (1989) 261-270

# Separating fission fragments by its Mass using v-E spectrometer





A.J. Pollitt PhD thesis (2013), S. G. Warren PhD thesis (2016)

#### LARGE ACCEPTANCE?

STEFF, FiFi used in ILL for fission but dA>4 amu (FiFI dA>8)

- Uncertainty from energy loss, angular straggling.
- Difficult to have large acceptance with Ge-detector array



#### Separating fission fragments by its Mass using v-E spectrometer





A.J. Pollitt PhD thesis (2013), S. G. Warren PhD thesis (2016) LARGE ACCEPTANCE? STEFF, FiFi used in ILL for fission but dA>4 amu (FiFI dA>8)

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# Separating fission fragments by its Mass using v-E spectrometer



A.J. Pollitt PhD thesis (2013), S. G. Warren PhD thesis (2016) LARGE ACCEPTANCE?

@ MARK ANDERSON, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED WWW.ANDERTOONS.COM View 0: Spectrun 76 سندد والدرار السريان View 1: Spectru 116 SDETZSON "I'm here about the details."

STEFF, FiFi used in ILL for fission but dA>4 amu (FiFI dA>8)

- Uncertainty from energy loss, angular straggling.
- Difficult to have large acceptance with Ge-detector array



How to select mass of low energy fission fragments?



- E & v measurement
- M from simple principle kE=(γ-1)Mc<sup>2</sup>, v=L/t
- Not easy to make large acceptance





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### LOHENGRIN spectrometer





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#### Conventional large acceptance spectrometer





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- Tracking of ions inside using detecors
- Need simple magnet+complex detector & software
- Tracking of ions at n induced fission? : « Windowless » tracking detector at low pressure He X THE EUROPEAN NEUTRON SOURCE

How to select mass of low energy fission fragments?



- E & v measurement
- M from simple principle kE=(γ-1)Mc<sup>2</sup>, v=L/t
- Not easy to make large acceptance



### Gas Filled Magnet for fission fragment: JOSEF spectrometer



Mass  $\approx Const * (B\rho Z^{1/3})$ 

- Gas filled magnet for fission fragment
- 1/r-field: high separation power (dispersion:)
- Can separate only ion with straight direction ->
   Small acceptance (0.022 msr)
- Good mass resolution ~1.3 amu



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Conventional gas filled magnet design Needs
 Reaction fragment are forward focused: Fission products X
 Clear separation of products & beam : Fission products X





## No existing solution... New method needed ?





#### New Concept- 1/r +Thales circle



- Fragment trajectory vertical to the radial direction of magnet center
- 1/R field ->Same Bp in all region
   ->Automatic
   Focusing!



## **Objective of FIPPS phase2**

- Study more exotic part of nuclear chart
  - -> Better selectivity of fission fragment
- New physics capability

e.g. Fission dynamics: how angular momentum is generated?

- ->Initial energy of fission fragment
- List of requirements  $\Box$ Large acceptance (>50 msr & dp/p>10%)  $\Box$ Good mass resolution (4 amu @ A=150)  $\Box$ Kinetice energy detection (dE > several MeV)**GAS FILLED**  $\Box$ Easy operation MAGNET

#### FIPPS-PHASE2 GEANT4 simulation

52 cr

ISSUE in the concept

- Ideal field (No fringing field)
- Initial geometry study of the magnet (radius, good field region, target position)
- List of requirements
  Large acceptance

   (>50 msr & dp/p>10%)
   Good mass resolution
   (4 amu @ A=150)
   Kinetice energy detection
   (dE > several MeV)
   Easy operation
  - Magnet with 1/r field & circle shaped out of 80 cm width never made before
    Effect from gase is not considered

simulated ion

Fission trajectory

80 cm

Ideal 97 cm<sub>Focal plane</sub>



#### Realistic field: previous case





- No one made 1/R field with large width
- Modern computation simulation might give better result?



H. Lawin et al., NIM 137 (1976) 103

#### Realistic field : New Methods



AGFA recoil separator



- Accuracy computational field improved.
- Simulation of ions track inside field with gas possible.
- -> non-uniform magnetic fields & complicated edge design becomes possibile EUROPEAN NEUTRON SOURCE



#### Effect of gas on fission fragment?

$$B \Gamma = \frac{M}{Q} bg \sim \frac{M}{Z^a}$$



Mean free path He gas 1 mbar 180 um 10 mbar 18 um

Test experiment @ Lohengrin Gas filled magnet Ion separated A/Q & kE/Q

- Test of ion separation
- Test of <Q> &  $\sigma_Q$  from different gas pressure
- <sup>98</sup>Y as referece



## Test experiment @ Lohengrin

Experimental spectrum at the exit of the GFM at 40 mbar of He



separated in GFM by M/Z<sup>a</sup>

A. Cheboubbi PhD thesis



Magnetic dispersion with energy



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#### FIPPS GFM simulation-focus size

- Realistic field calculation from ANSYS
- Charge exchange model from previous test experiment at Lohengrin (adjusted for <sup>98</sup>Y ions)

neutron

- Simulation result with Thales geometry
- Large shift of focal plane from intended position & events at the edge not focused



#### **Optimization?**



- Aberration cause focus position & focus size change
- Optimization->M/∆M↑



#### Design spectrometer

#### Abberation correction in optical lense





OR



### Optimisation using field integral



- Optimization with which value?
  - Need to be simple
  - Can be easily calculated in magnetic field simulation
- Field integral ~how much ion is bent through trajectory



 $\int \vec{B} \times d\vec{x} = \frac{\Delta P}{O}$ 



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08/01/2021

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### **Optimization process**

#### Iterative method






## Optimisation: preliminary Result



### Optimisation with two cutting circle



• Almost Perfect focus size same as ideal case N NEUTRON SOURCE NEUTRONS

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### Optimisation with two cutting circle



• Almost Perfect focus size same as ideal case N NEUTRON SOURCE NEUTRONS

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## FIPPS GFM simulation

- Realistic field calculation from ANSYS
- Charge exchange model from previous test experiment at Lohengrin (adjusted for <sup>98</sup>Y ions)

neutron

- Simulation result
  - Easy to operate
    - · Point to line focusing





# FIPPS GFM simulation

- Realistic field calculation from ANSYS
- Charge exchange model from previous test experiment at Lohengrin (adjusted for <sup>98</sup>Y ions)

tai



- Simulation result
  - Easy to operate
    - · Point to line focusing





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## FIPPS GFM simulation-Mass separation R= 97 cm

- Realistic field calculation from ANSYS
- Charge exchange model from previous test experiment at Lohengrin (adjusted for <sup>98</sup>Y ions)



- Simulation result
  - Easy to operate
    - · Point to line focusing
  - Performance

Acceptance = 54.5 msr

Mass Resolution  $\Delta A=1.3$  amu (FWHM) @ A=100 (Z=39)



# FIPPS GFM simulatic 70

- Realistic field calculation from AN
- Charge exchange model from predet test experiment at Lohengrin (adjusted for <sup>98</sup>Y ions)

neutron

- Simulation result
  - Easy to operate
    - · Point to line focusing
  - Performance

Acceptance = 54.5 msrMass Resolution  $\Lambda A = 1.3 \text{ amu}$ 

Mass Resolution  $\Delta A=1.3$  amu (FWHM) @ A=100 (Z=39) Initial energy & trajectory reconstruction without tracking



#### FIPPS GFM simulation-Summary

Central Radius	137 [cm]	
Central Bending Angle	80 [deg]	
Width good field region	80 [cm]	
Maximum magnetic rigidity	1.3 [Tm]	
1/r Field accuracy	1 [%]	simulated ion
Yoke Weight	51 [ton]	Fission trajectory
Dispersion	1.8 [cm/%]	
Geometrical Acceptance	54.5 [msr]	



### Comparison of GFM with v-E spectrometer





### Separation meth.: GFM vs v-E spectrometer



- Mass distribution based on JEFF database
- Different way of selection -> Effect in purity



### Separation power: GFM vs v-E spectrometer



- Similar  $\Delta A$ ,  $\Delta Z$  resolution
- Purity of <sup>98-101</sup>Y GFM 2-3 greater in case of v-E



### Separation power: GFM vs v-E spectrometer



- Similar  $\Delta A$ ,  $\Delta Z$  resolution
- Purity of <sup>98</sup>Y GFM x2 greater in case of v-E



