



JOHANNES GUTENBERG  
UNIVERSITÄT MAINZ



# Radioactive molecular ion beams at CERN-ISOLDE

Mia Au

CERN SY-STI | JGU Mainz FB09



**ICIS'23**  
International  
Conference  
on Ion Sources  
*Victoria, BC, Canada*

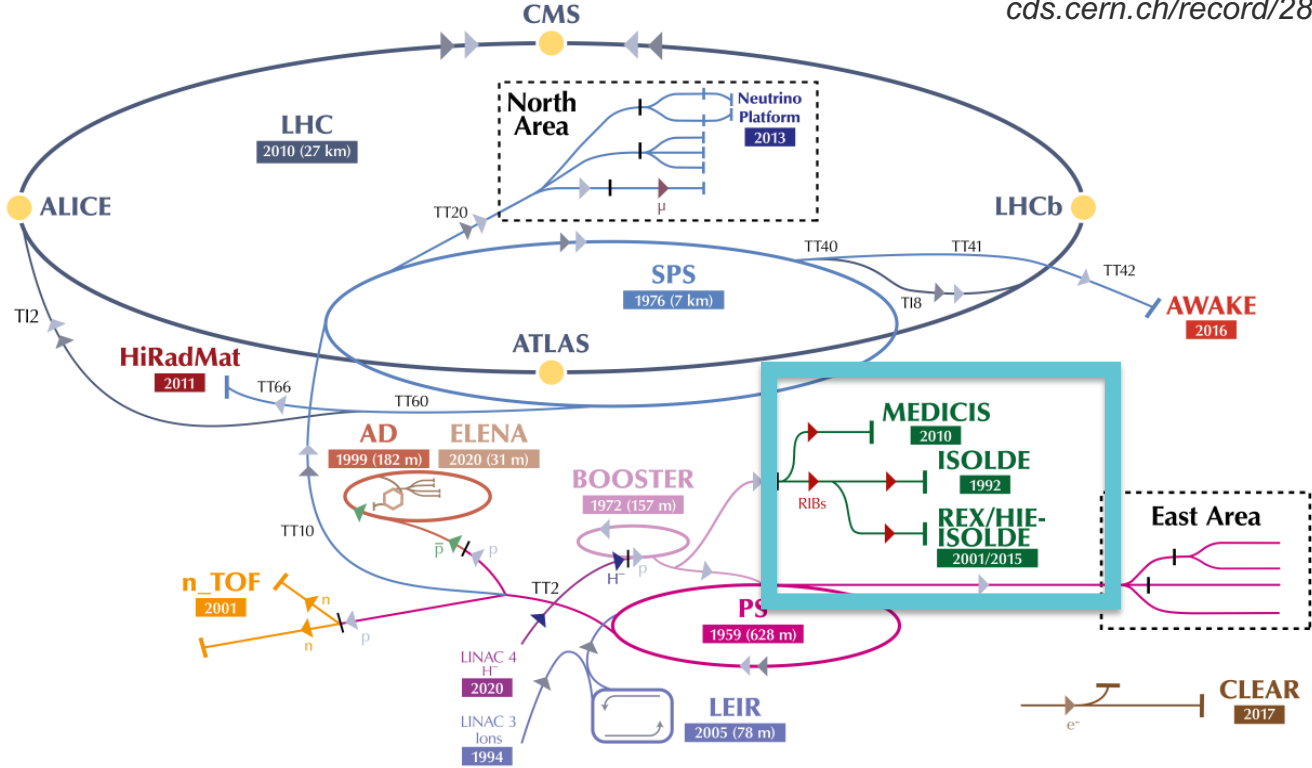
ICIS'23  
International Conference on Ion Sources

Victoria, 21 September 2023

# Outline: Radioactive molecular ion beams at CERN-ISOLDE

CERN-PHOTO-202206-116  
[cds.cern.ch/record/2813716](https://cds.cern.ch/record/2813716)

- 1 Introduction: CERN-ISOLDE
- 2 Why molecular beams?
- 3 Production and ionization
- 4 Results and conclusion



▶  $H^-$  (hydrogen anions) ▶ p (protons) ▶ ions ▶ RIBs (Radioactive Ion Beams) ▶ n (neutrons) ▶  $\bar{p}$  (antiprotons) ▶  $e^-$  (electrons) ▶  $\mu$  (muons)

LHC - Large Hadron Collider // SPS - Super Proton Synchrotron // PS - Proton Synchrotron // AD - Antiproton Decelerator // CLEAR - CERN Linear Electron Accelerator for Research // AWAKE - Advanced WAKEfield Experiment // ISOLDE - Isotope Separator OnLine // REX/HIE-ISOLDE - Radioactive Experiment/High Intensity and Energy ISOLDE // MEDICIS // LEIR - Low Energy Ion Ring // LINAC - LINear ACcelerator // n\_TOF - Neutrons Time Of Flight // HiRadMat - High-Radiation to Materials // Neutrino Platform

# CERN-ISOLDE

>1000 isotopes  
and isomers

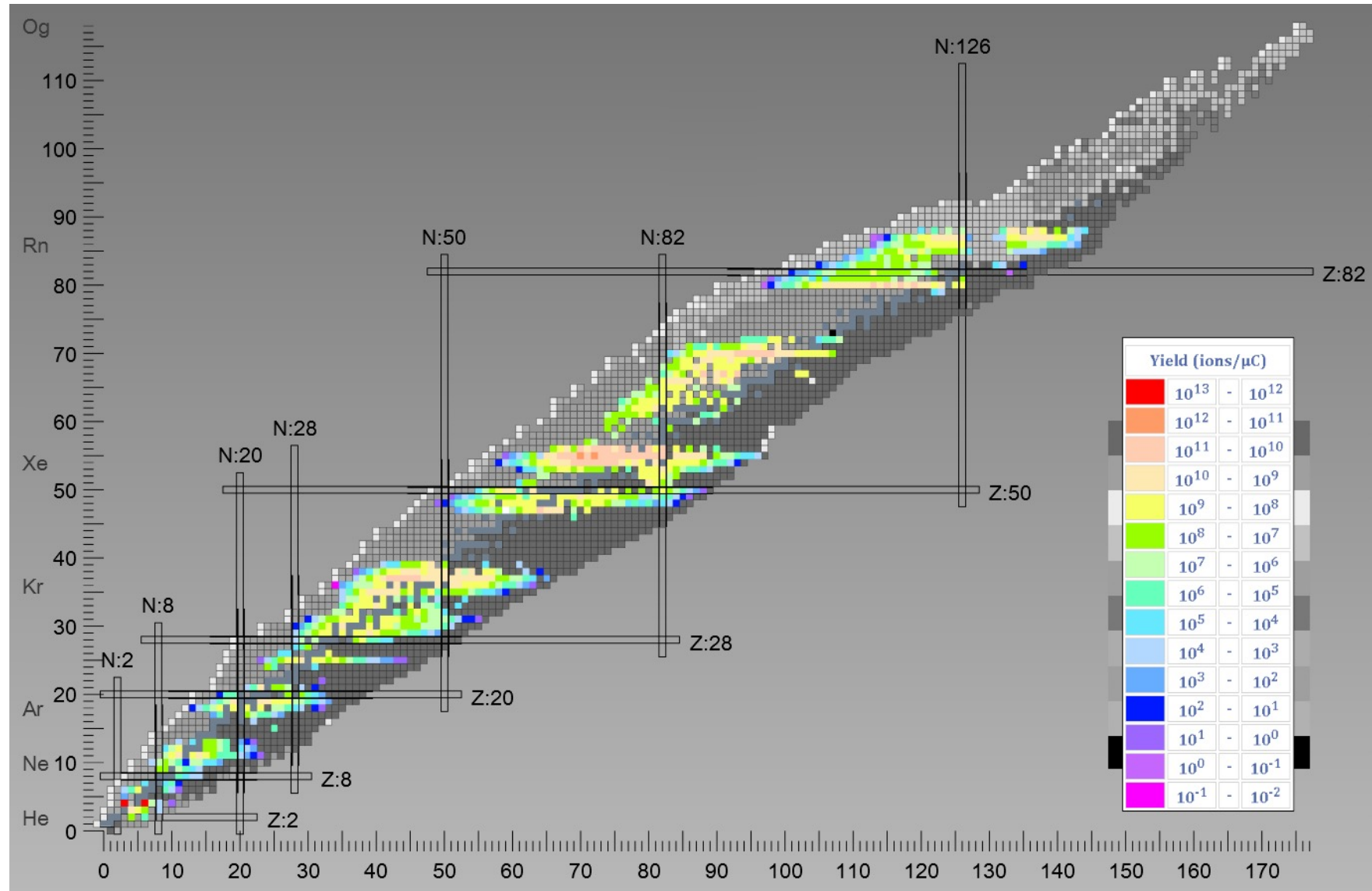
76 elements

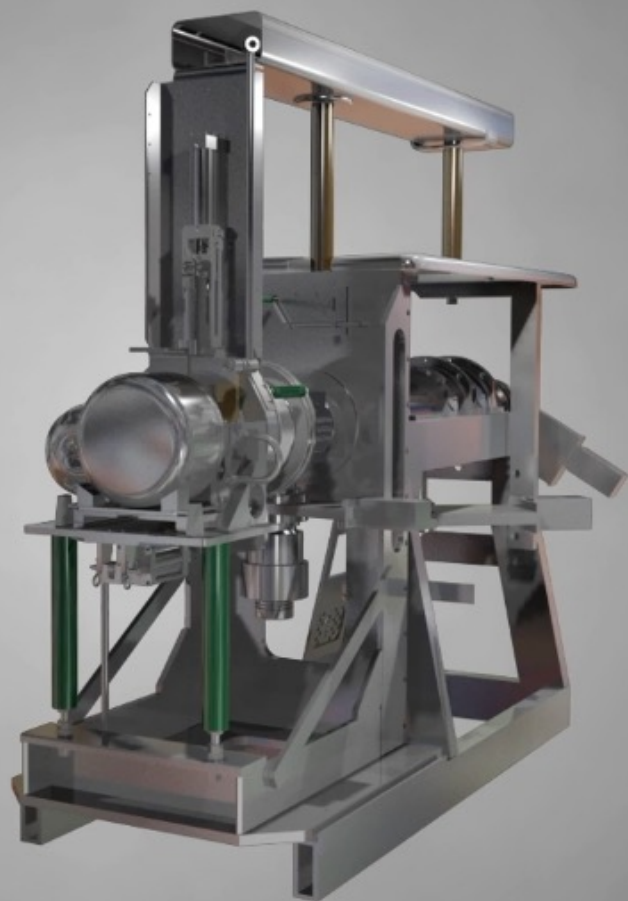
Ballof *et al.*, (2020) *NIM B* **463**, 211-215  
Stegemann *et al.*, (2023) *NIM B* **541**, 169-172  
[cern.ch/isolde-yields](http://cern.ch/isolde-yields)

3852 nuclides, 226 stable

[www.nucleonica.com](http://www.nucleonica.com)

Dataset: JEFF-3.1 Nuclear Data Library, NEA (2023)







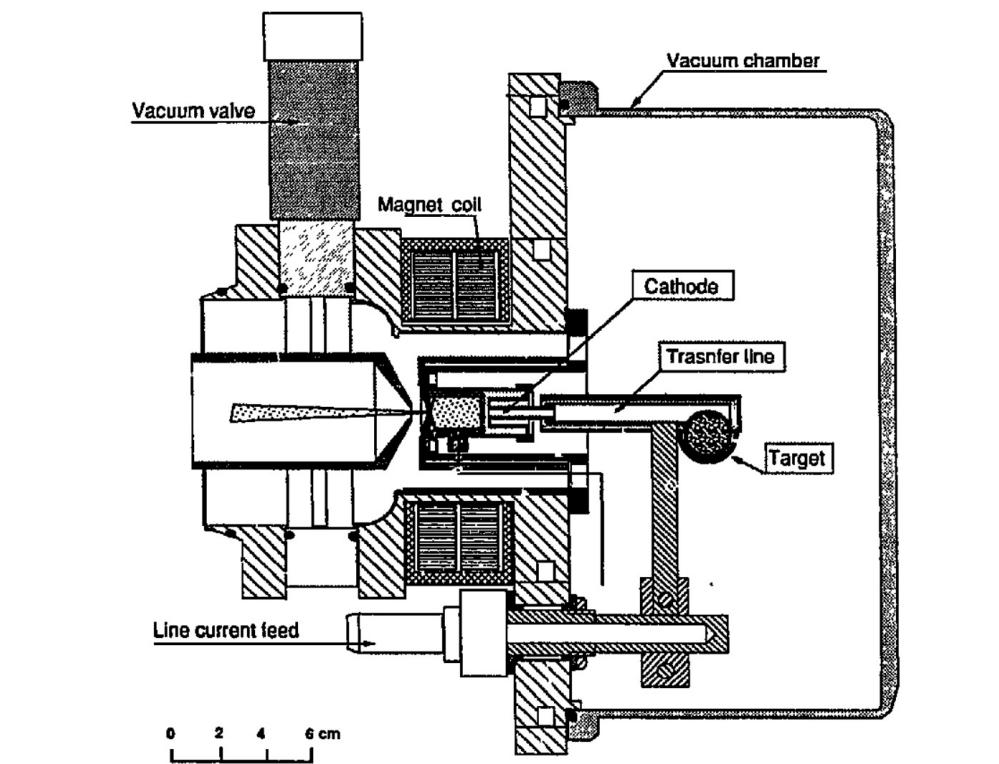
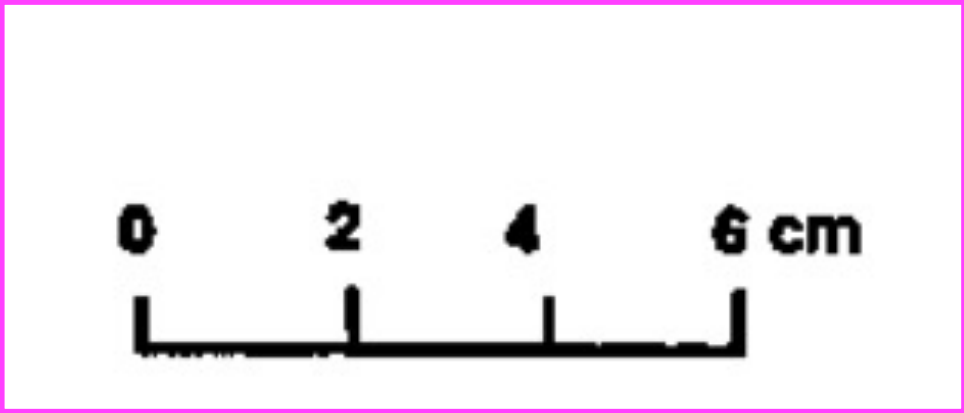
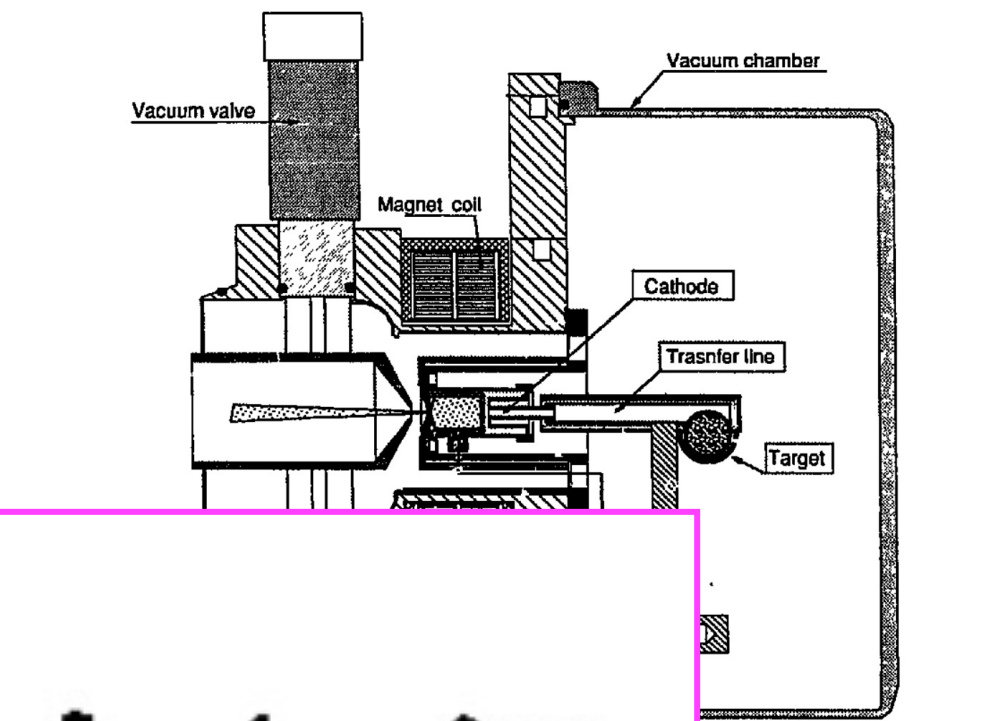
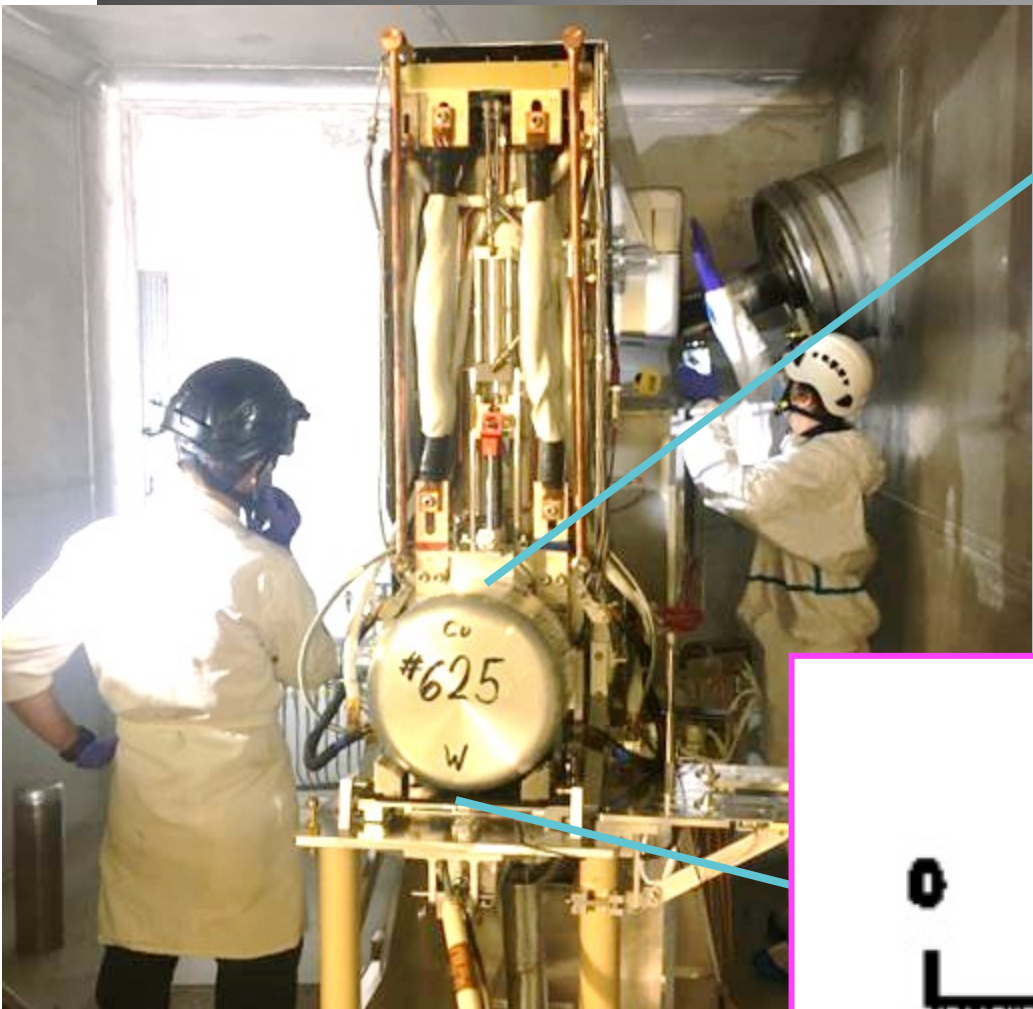


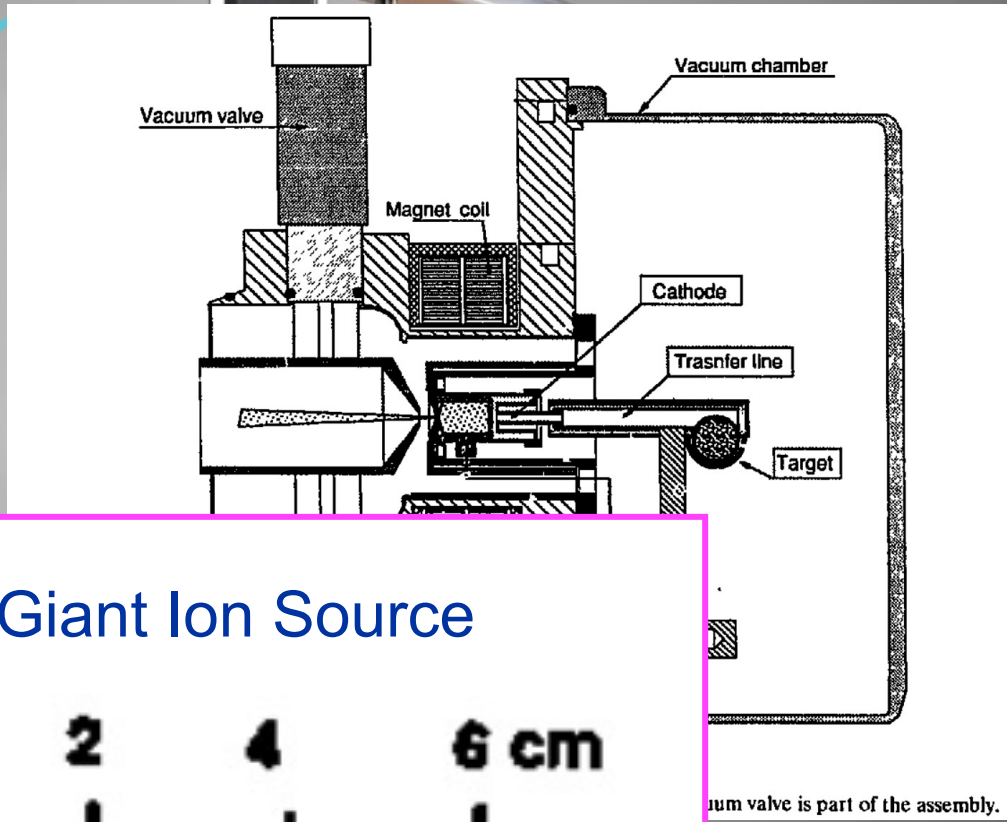
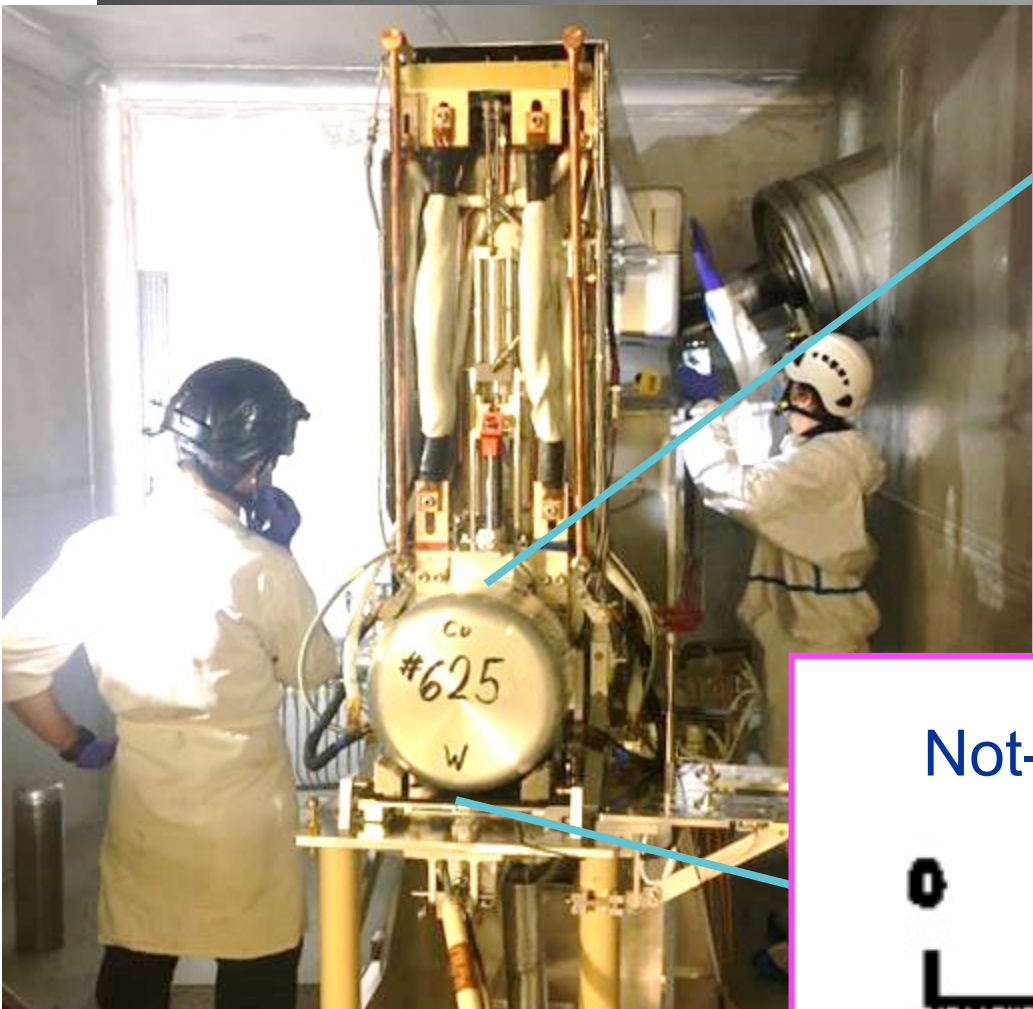
Fig. 1. Target and ion source assembly with plasma ion source MK5. The vacuum valve is part of the assembly.

Sundell, Ravn (1992) *NIM B.* 70 (160-164)



um valve is part of the assembly.

Sundell, Ravn (1992) *NIM B.* 70 (160-164)

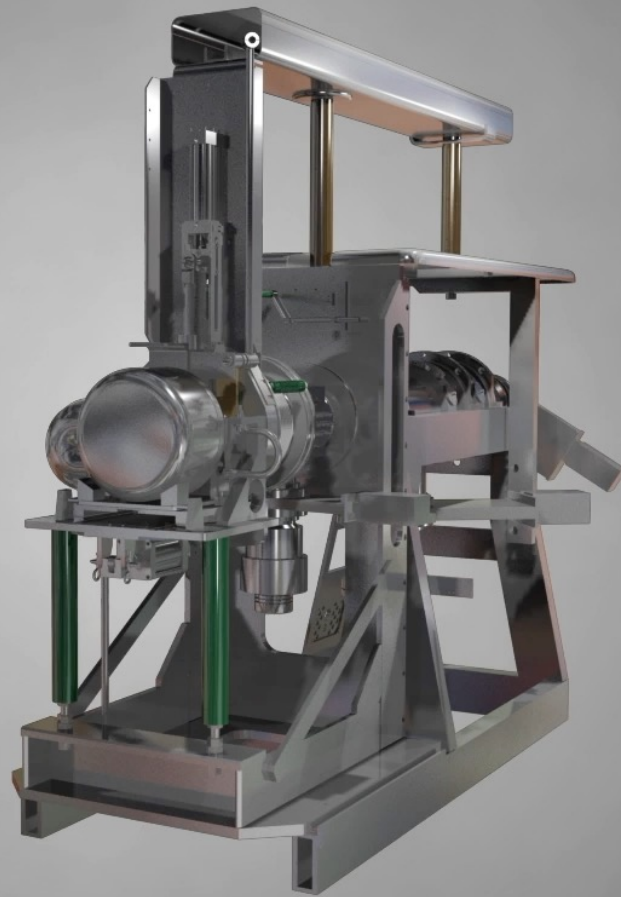


Not-Giant Ion Source

0 2 4 6 cm

Sundell, Ravn (1992) *NIM B.* 70 (160-164)





# The Isotope Separation On-Line (ISOL) method



Accelerated protons

1. Production

2. Release

3. Ionization

4. Mass separation

5. Delivery to experiments

$$\text{Beam Intensity} = \sigma \cdot j \cdot N_t \cdot \varepsilon$$

$N_t$  – Number of target atoms

$j$  – Proton flux [ $\text{cm}^{-2}$ ]

$\sigma$  – Cross section [mb]

$\varepsilon$  – Efficiency [%]

Experiment

# The Isotope Separation On-Line (ISOL) method

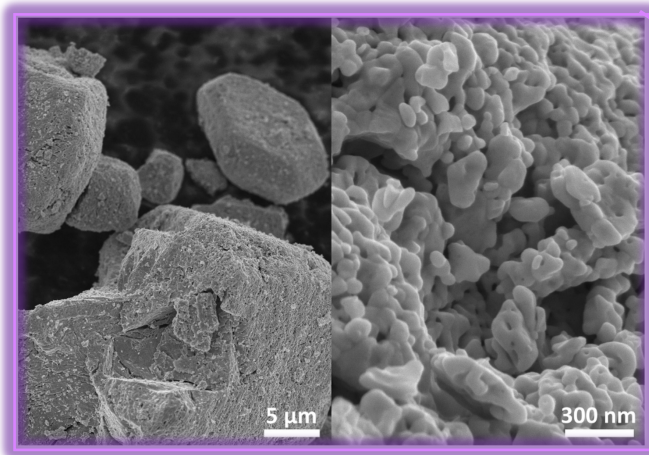
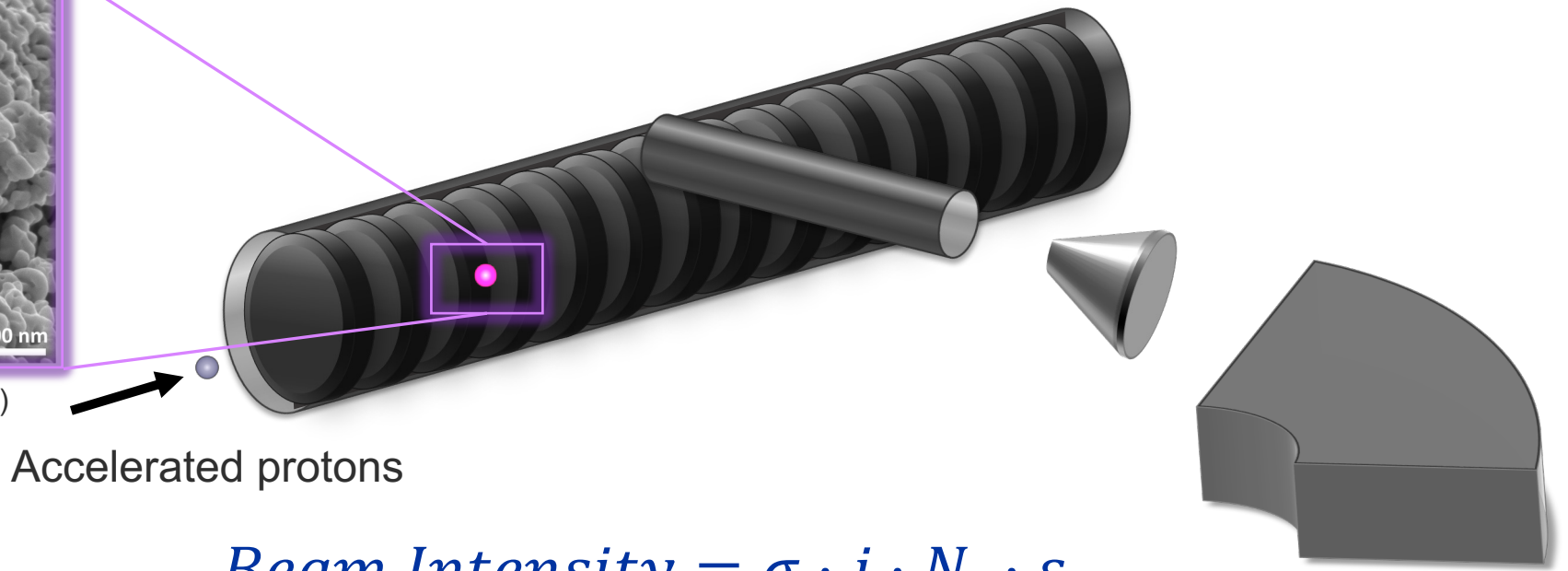


Figure published in Ramos *et al.*, (2020)  
*NIM B* 463, 201



## 1. Production

$$Beam\ Intensity = \sigma \cdot j \cdot N_t \cdot \varepsilon$$

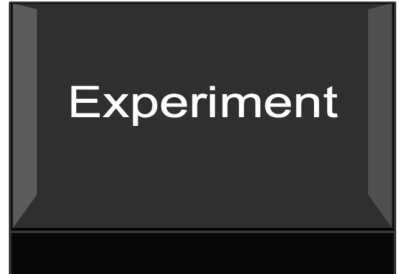
- $N_t$  – Number of target atoms
- $j$  – Proton flux [cm<sup>-2</sup>]
- $\sigma$  – Cross section [mb]
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## 2. Release

## 3. Ionization

## 4. Mass separation

## 5. Delivery to experiments



# The Isotope Separation On-Line (ISOL) method

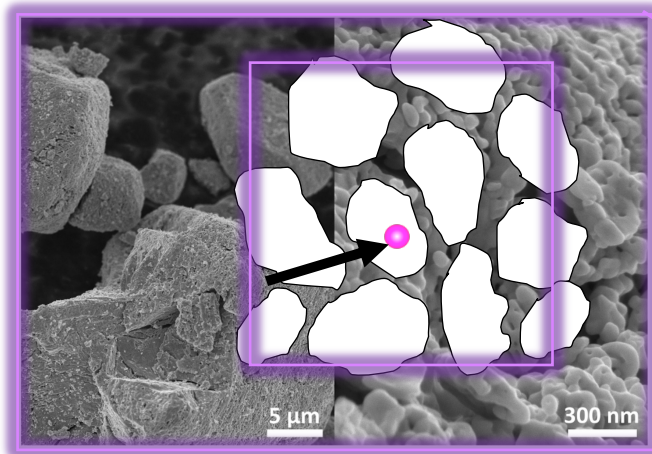
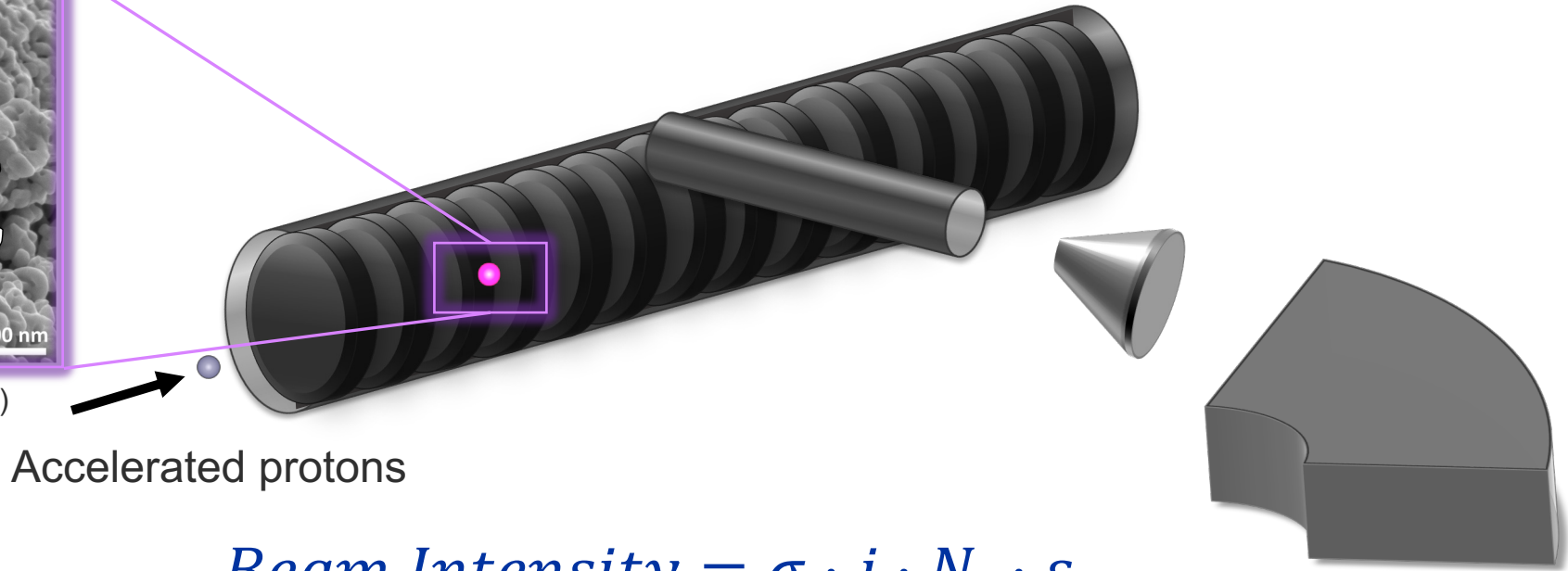
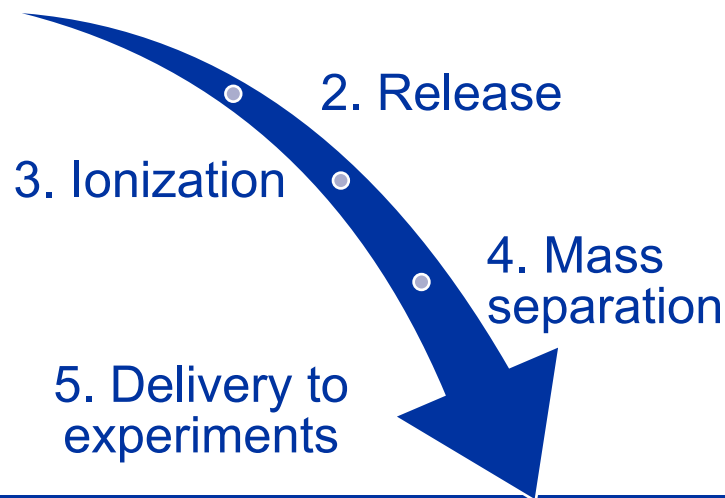


Figure published in Ramos *et al.*, (2020)  
*NIM B* 463, 201



Accelerated protons

## 1. Production



2. Release

3. Ionization

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5. Delivery to experiments

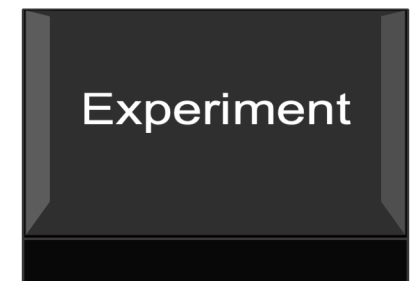
$$Beam\ Intensity = \sigma \cdot j \cdot N_t \cdot \varepsilon$$

$N_t$  – Number of target atoms

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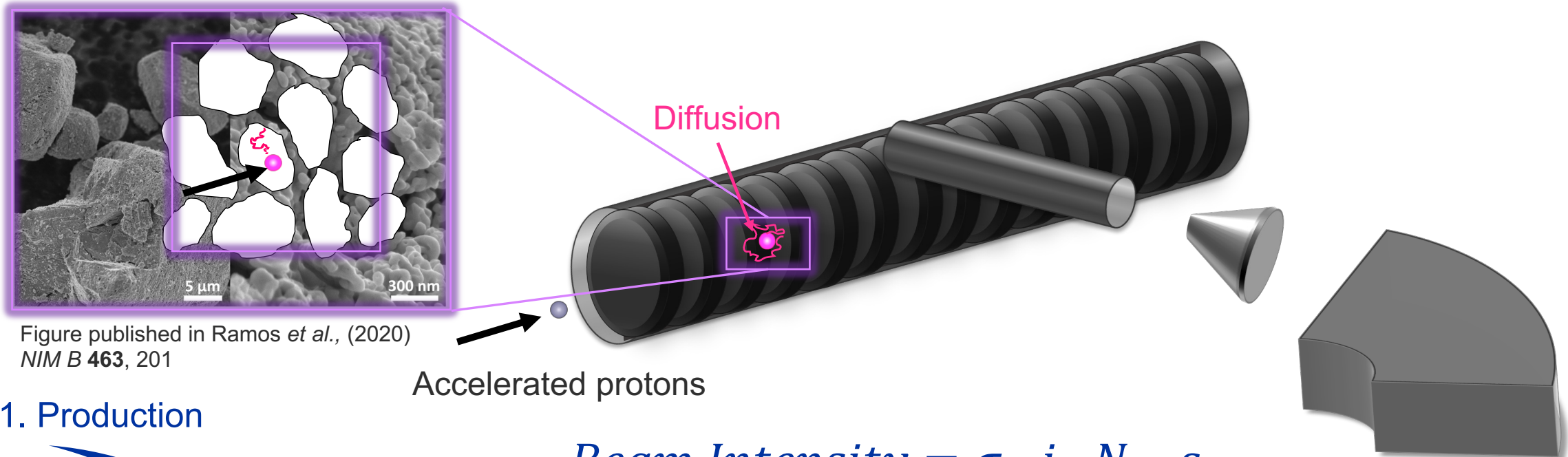
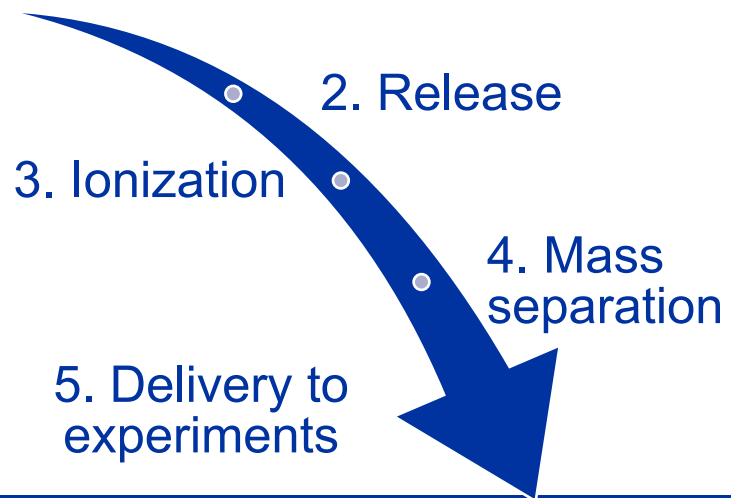


Figure published in Ramos *et al.*, (2020)  
*NIM B* 463, 201

## 1. Production



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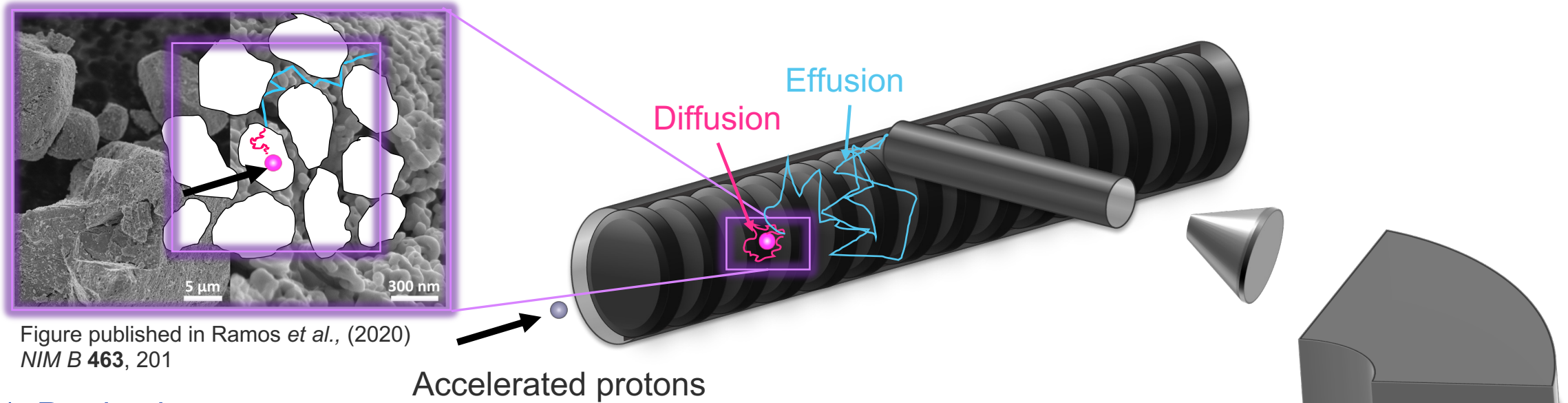
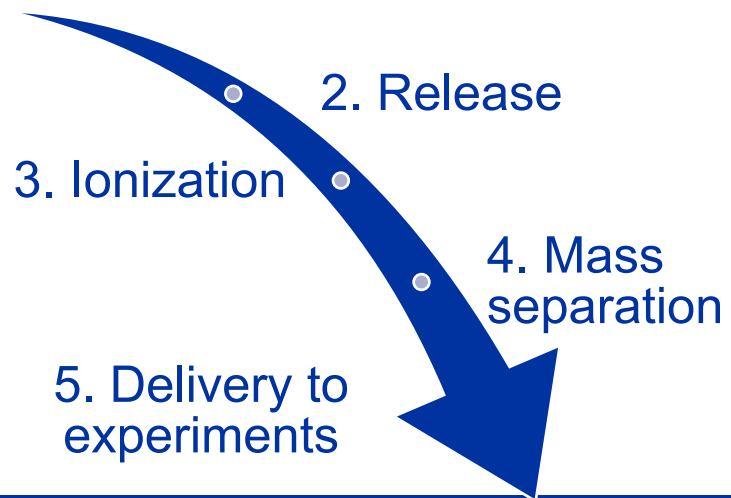


Figure published in Ramos *et al.*, (2020)  
*NIM B* 463, 201

## 1. Production

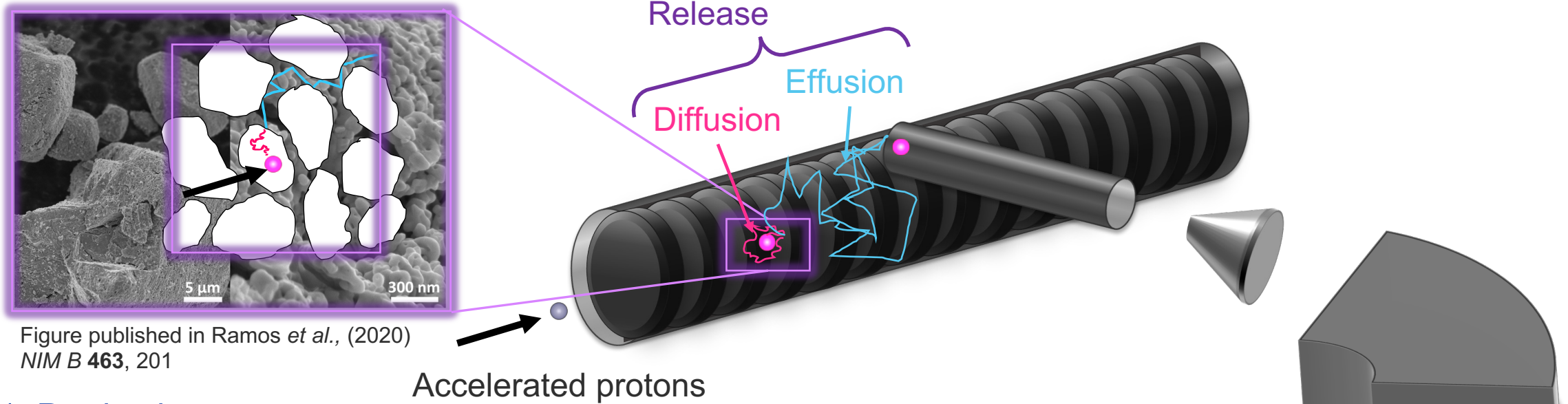


$$Beam\ Intensity = \sigma \cdot j \cdot N_t \cdot \varepsilon$$

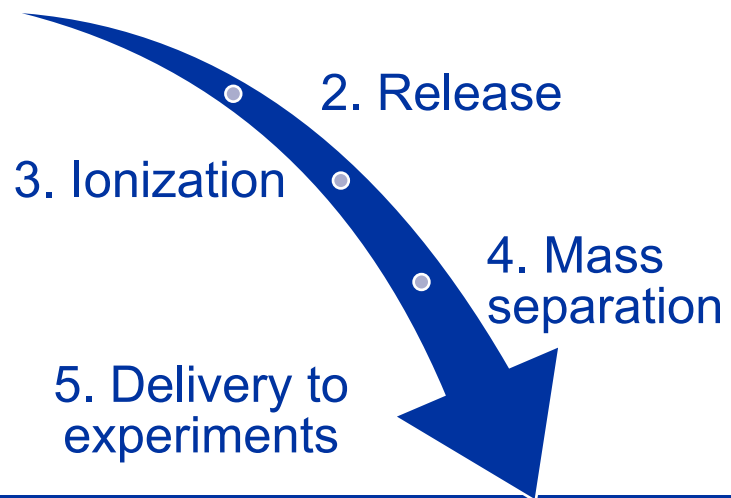
$N_t$  – Number of target atoms  
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$$Beam\ Intensity = \sigma \cdot j \cdot N_t \cdot \varepsilon$$

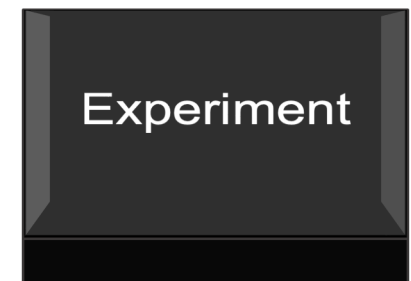
$N_t$  – Number of target atoms

$j$  – Proton flux [ $cm^{-2}$ ]

$\sigma$  – Cross section [mb]

$\varepsilon$  – Efficiency [%]

$$\varepsilon = \varepsilon_{diff} \varepsilon_{eff}$$



# The Isotope Separation On-Line (ISOL) method

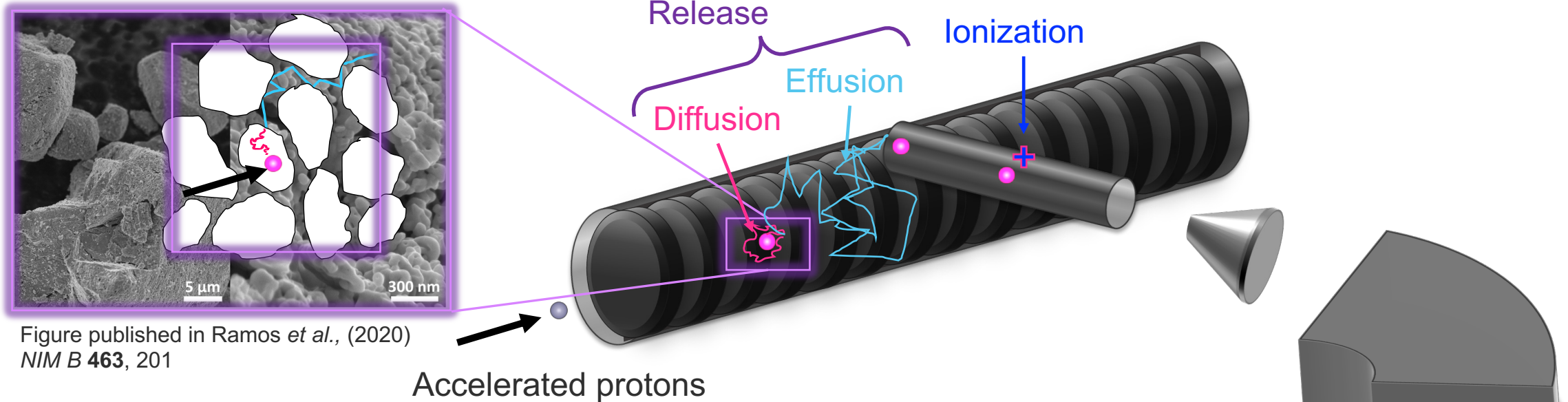
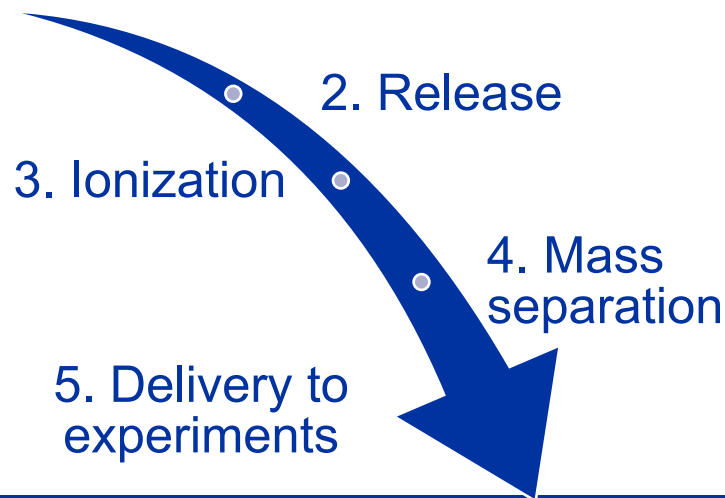


Figure published in Ramos *et al.*, (2020)  
*NIM B* 463, 201

## 1. Production



$$Beam\ Intensity = \sigma \cdot j \cdot N_t \cdot \varepsilon$$

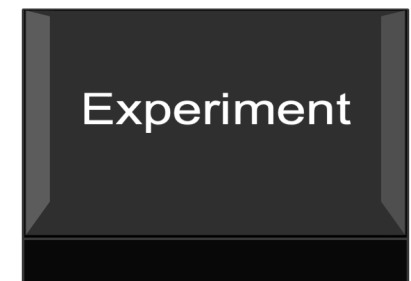
$N_t$  – Number of target atoms

$j$  – Proton flux [cm<sup>-2</sup>]

$\sigma$  – Cross section [mb]

$\varepsilon$  – Efficiency [%]

$$\varepsilon = \varepsilon_{diff} \varepsilon_{eff} \varepsilon_{is}$$





# The Isotope Separation On-Line (ISOL) method

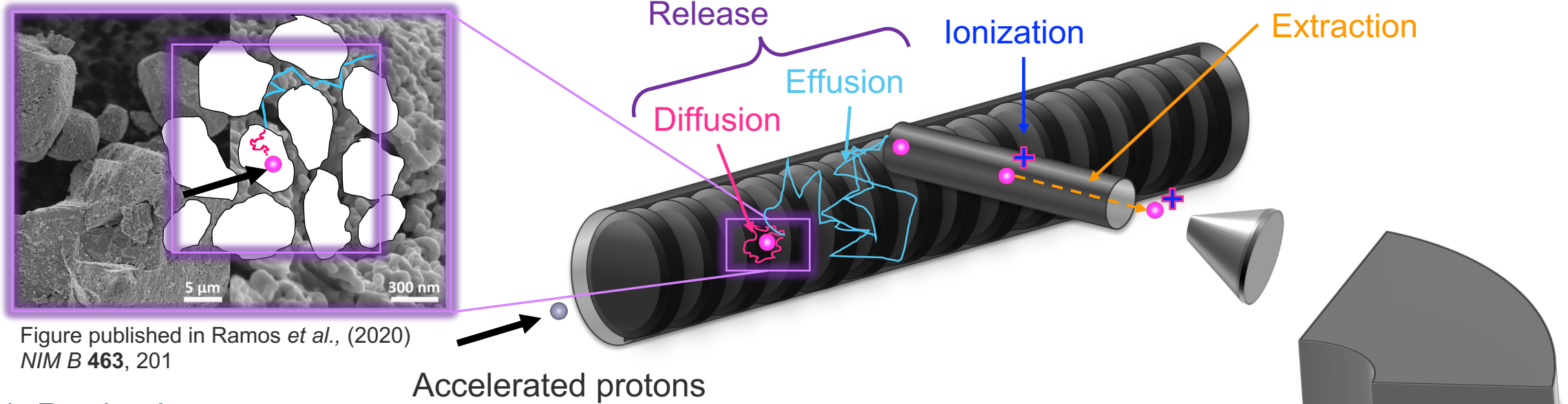
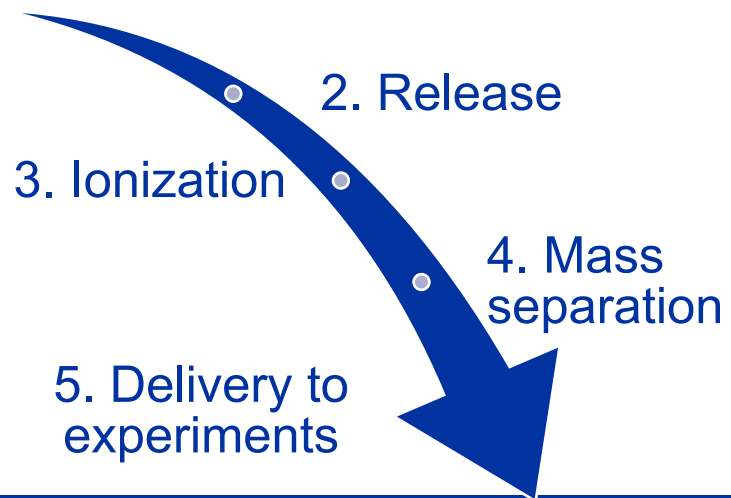


Figure published in Ramos *et al.*, (2020)  
*NIM B* 463, 201

## 1. Production



$$Beam\ Intensity = \sigma \cdot j \cdot N_t \cdot \varepsilon$$

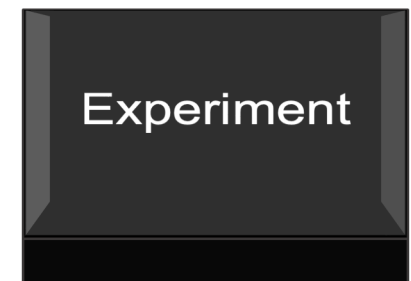
$N_t$  – Number of target atoms

$j$  – Proton flux [cm<sup>-2</sup>]

$\sigma$  – Cross section [mb]

$\varepsilon$  – Efficiency [%]

$$\varepsilon = \varepsilon_{diff} \varepsilon_{eff} \varepsilon_{is} \varepsilon_{ext}$$



# The Isotope Separation On-Line (ISOL) method

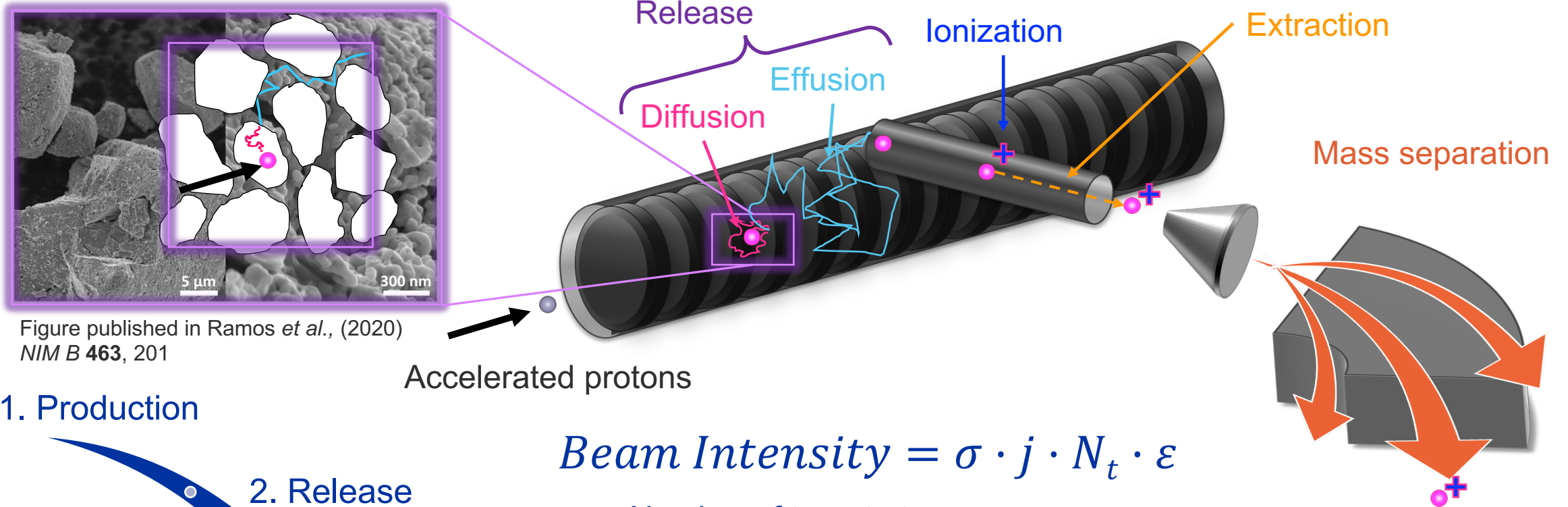
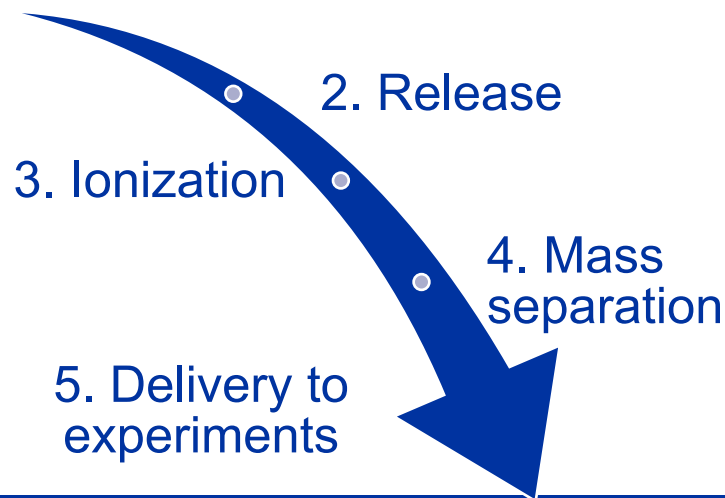


Figure published in Ramos *et al.*, (2020)  
*NIM B* 463, 201

Accelerated protons

## 1. Production



$$Beam\ Intensity = \sigma \cdot j \cdot N_t \cdot \varepsilon$$

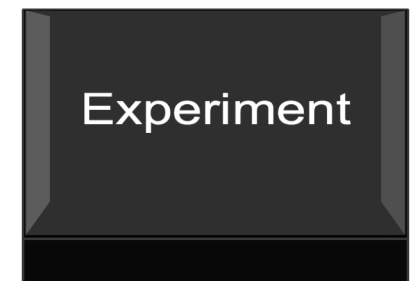
$N_t$  – Number of target atoms

$j$  – Proton flux [cm<sup>-2</sup>]

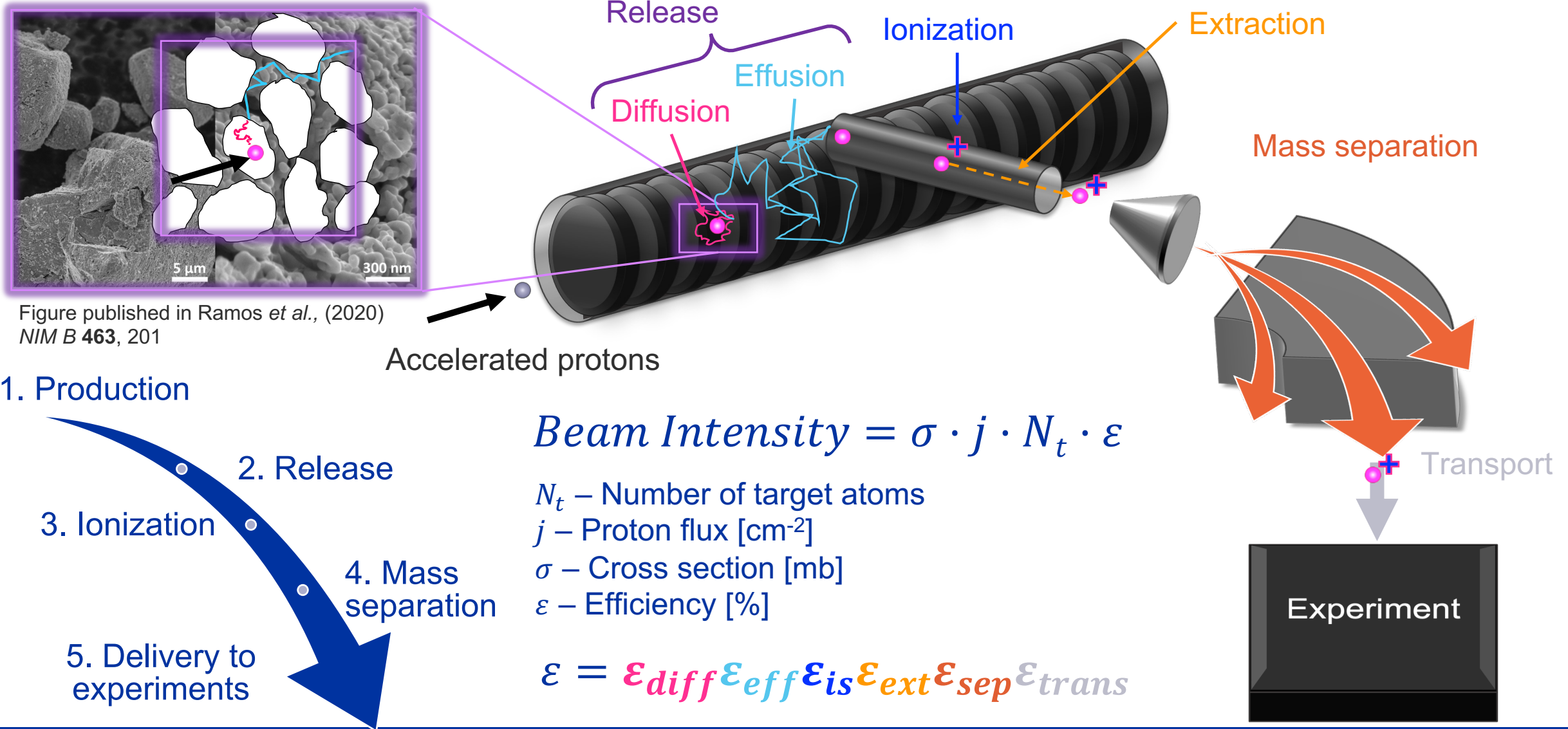
$\sigma$  – Cross section [mb]

$\varepsilon$  – Efficiency [%]

$$\varepsilon = \varepsilon_{diff} \varepsilon_{eff} \varepsilon_{is} \varepsilon_{ext} \varepsilon_{sep}$$



# The Isotope Separation On-Line (ISOL) method



$$Beam\ Intensity = \sigma \cdot j \cdot N_t \cdot \varepsilon$$

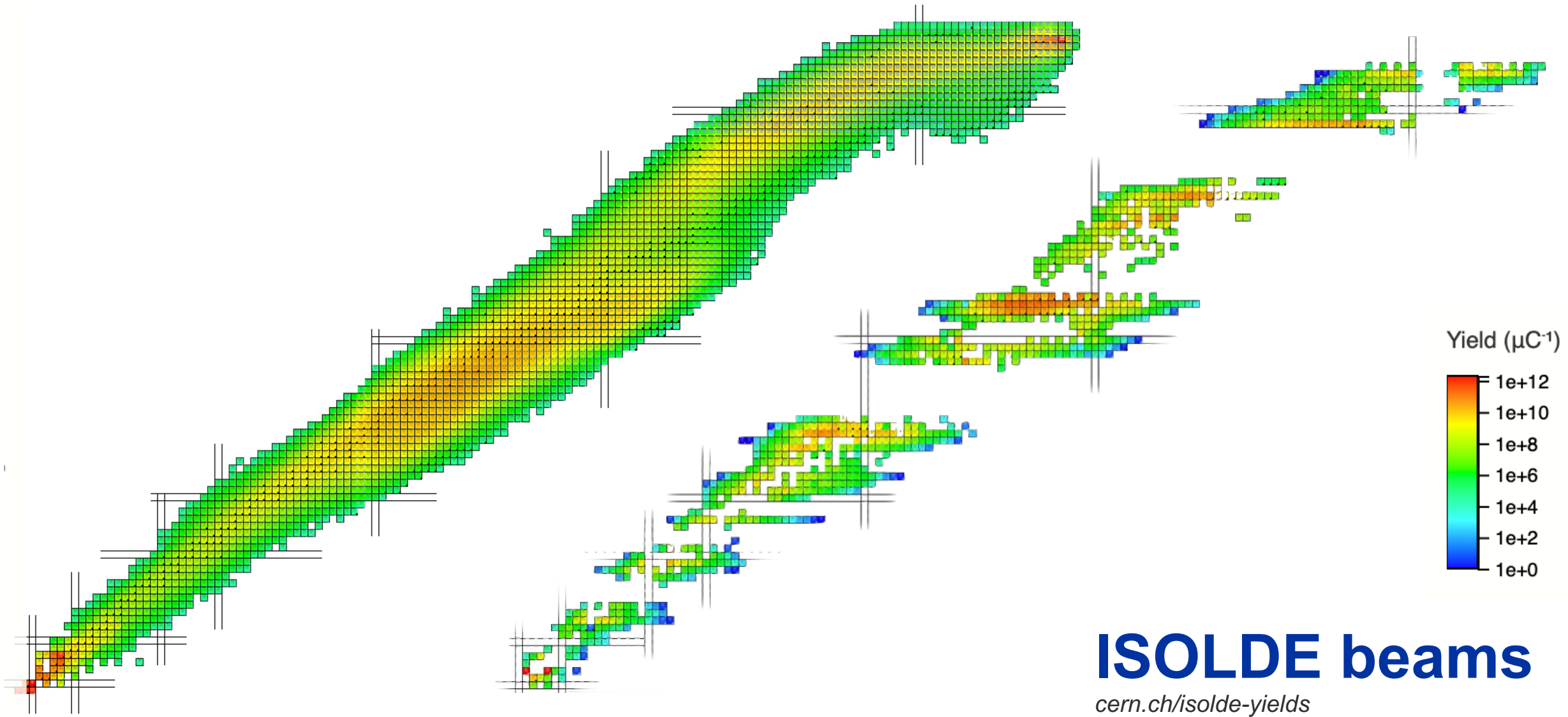
$N_t$  – Number of target atoms

$j$  – Proton flux [cm<sup>-2</sup>]

$\sigma$  – Cross section [mb]

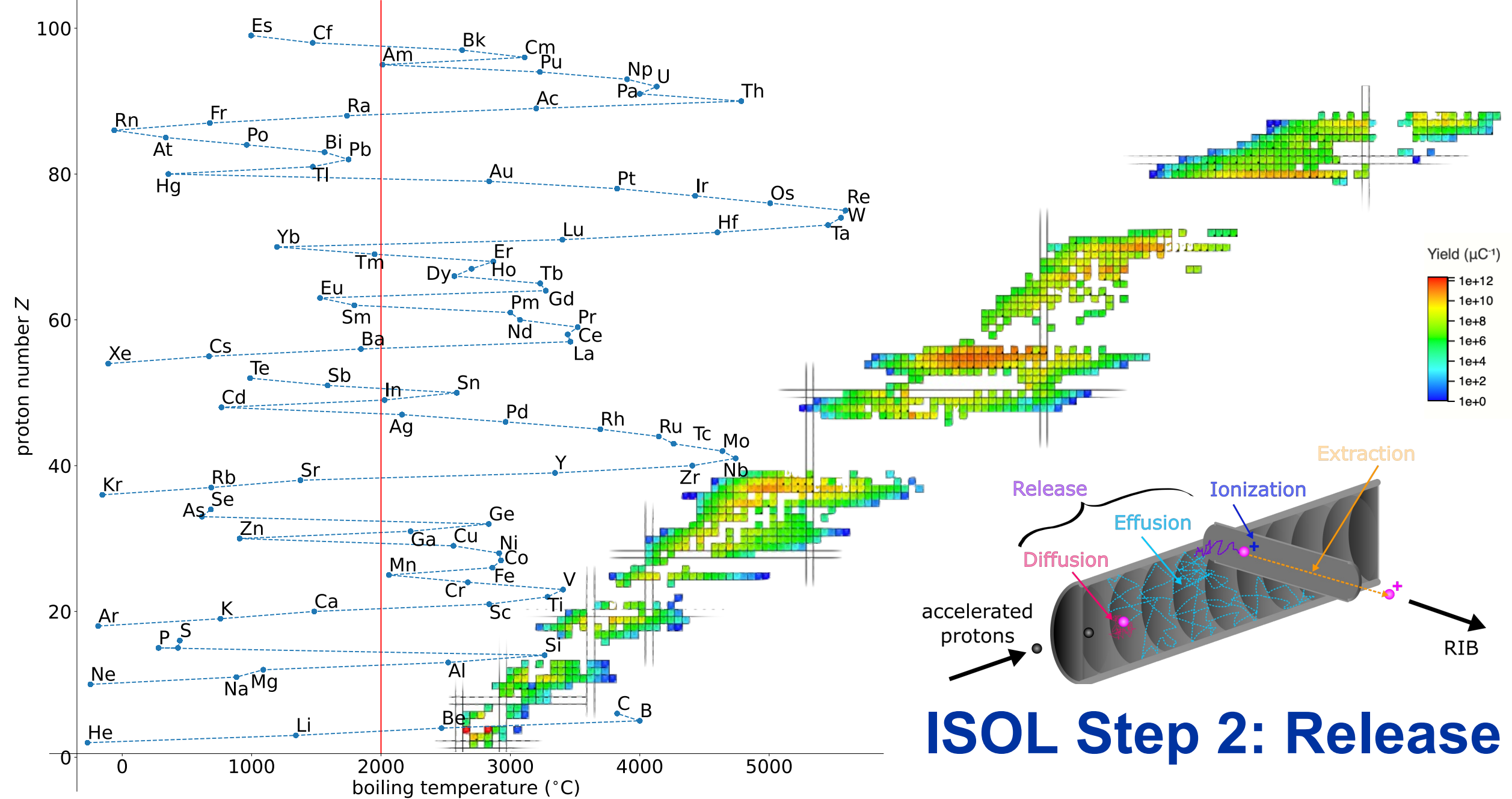
$\varepsilon$  – Efficiency [%]

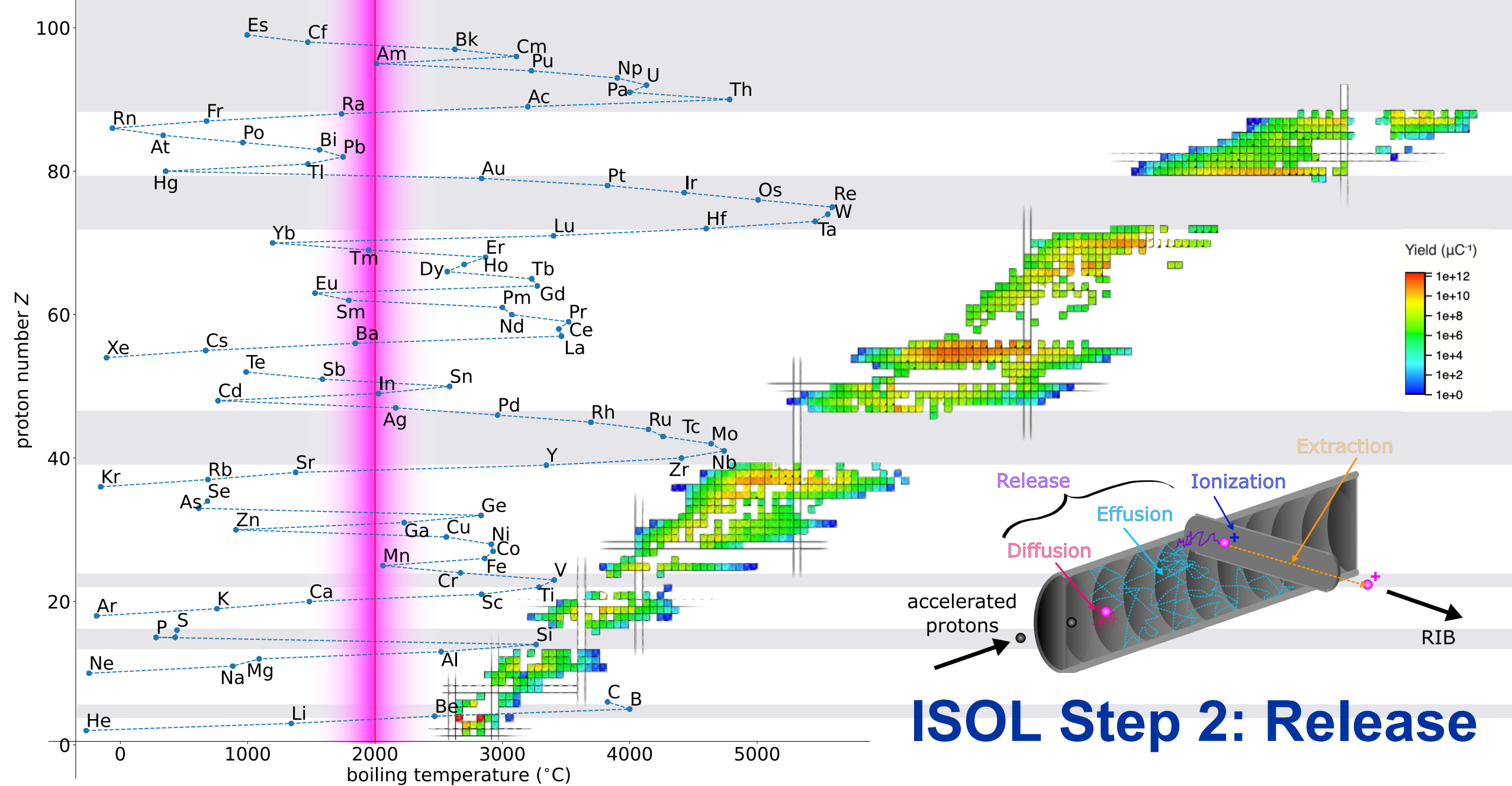
$$\varepsilon = \varepsilon_{diff} \varepsilon_{eff} \varepsilon_{is} \varepsilon_{ext} \varepsilon_{sep} \varepsilon_{trans}$$



# ISOLDE beams

[cern.ch/isolde-yields](http://cern.ch/isolde-yields)





# ISOL Step 3: Ionization

1		Ion source																2					
H		Surface																He					
		hot																					
		FEBIAD																					
		cold																					
		Laser																					
3	4																	5	6	7	8	9	10
Li	Be																	B	C	N	O	F	Ne
11	12																	13	14	15	16	17	18
Na	Mg																	Al	Si	P	S	Cl	Ar
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36						
K	Ca	Sc	Ti	V	Cr	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn	Ga	Ge	As	Se	Br	Kr						
37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54						
Rb	Sr	Y	Zr	Nb	Mo	Tc	Ru	Rh	Pd	Ag	Cd	In	Sn	Sb	Te	I	Xe						
55	56	*	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86					
Cs	Ba		Lu	Hf	Ta	W	Re	Os	Ir	Pt	Au	Hg	Tl	Pb	Bi	Po	At	Rn					
87	88	**	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118					
Fr	Ra		Lr	Rf	Db	Sg	Bh	Hs	Mt	Ds	Rg	Cn	Nh	Fl	Mc	Lv	Ts	Og					
		*	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70							
			La	Ce	Pr	Nd	Pm	Sm	Eu	Gd	Tb	Dy	Ho	Er	Tm	Yb							
		**	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102							
			Ac	Th	Pa	U	Np	Pu	Am	Cm	Bk	Cf	Es	Fm	Md	No							

[cern.ch/isolde-yields](http://cern.ch/isolde-yields)

## Ion sources

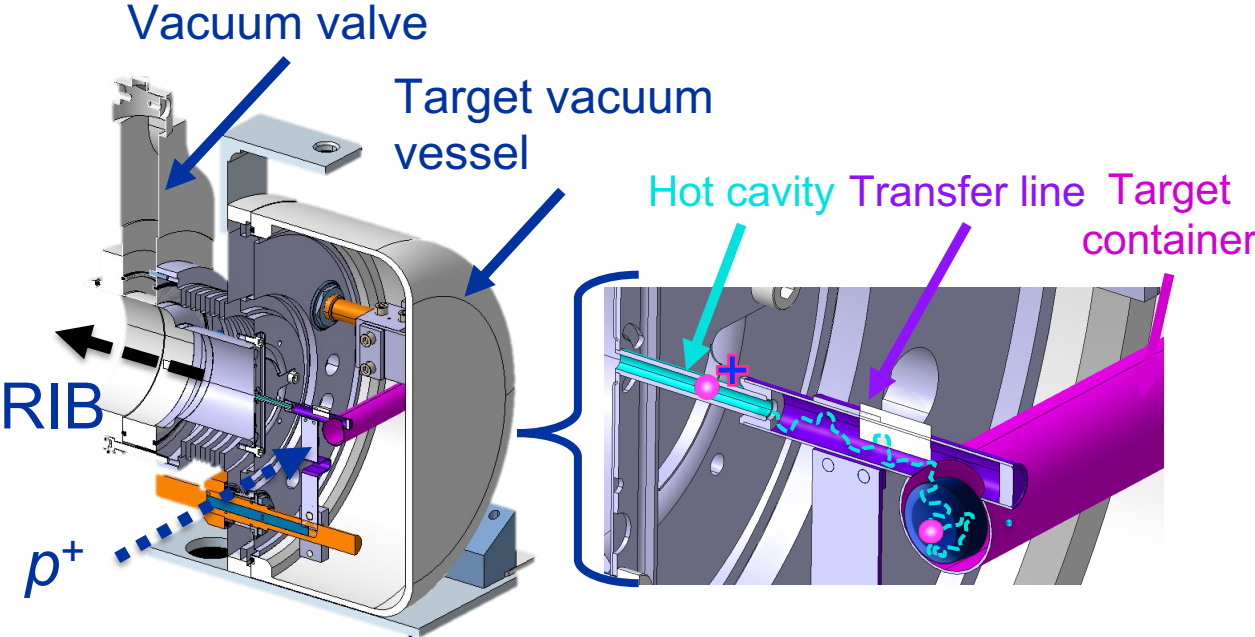
- Surface ionization
- Electron impact ionization
- Resonance laser ionization

# ISOL Step 3: Ionization

1 H																	2 He				
3 Li	4 Be															5 B	6 C	7 N	8 O	9 F	10 Ne
11 Na	12 Mg															13 Al	14 Si	15 P	16 S	17 Cl	18 Ar
19 K	20 Ca	21 Sc	22 Ti	23 V	24 Cr	25 Mn	26 Fe	27 Co	28 Ni	29 Cu	30 Zn	31 Ga	32 Ge	33 As	34 Se	35 Br	36 Kr				
37 Rb	38 Sr	39 Y	40 Zr	41 Nb	42 Mo	43 Tc	44 Ru	45 Rh	46 Pd	47 Ag	48 Cd	49 In	50 Sn	51 Sb	52 Te	53 I	54 Xe				
55 Cs	56 Ba	* 71 Lu	72 Hf	73 Ta	74 W	75 Re	76 Os	77 Ir	78 Pt	79 Au	80 Hg	81 Tl	82 Pb	83 Bi	84 Po	85 At	86 Rn				
87 Fr	88 Ra	** 103 Lr	104 Rf	105 Db	106 Sg	107 Bh	108 Hs	109 Mt	110 Ds	111 Rg	112 Cn	113 Nh	114 Fl	115 Mc	116 Lv	117 Ts	118 Og				
		* 57 La	58 Ce	59 Pr	60 Nd	61 Pm	62 Sm	63 Eu	64 Gd	65 Tb	66 Dy	67 Ho	68 Er	69 Tm	70 Yb						
		** 89 Ac	90 Th	91 Pa	92 U	93 Np	94 Pu	95 Am	96 Cm	97 Bk	98 Cf	99 Es	100 Fm	101 Md	102 No						

Ion source

+	Surface	-
hot	FEBIAD	cold
	Laser	



cern.ch/isolde-yields

## Ion sources

- Surface ionization
- Electron impact ionization
- Resonance ionization

**First Ion Source at ISOL@MYRRHA with an Improved Thermal Profile - From Prototype to the First Experimental Validati...**  
*Sophie Hurier*



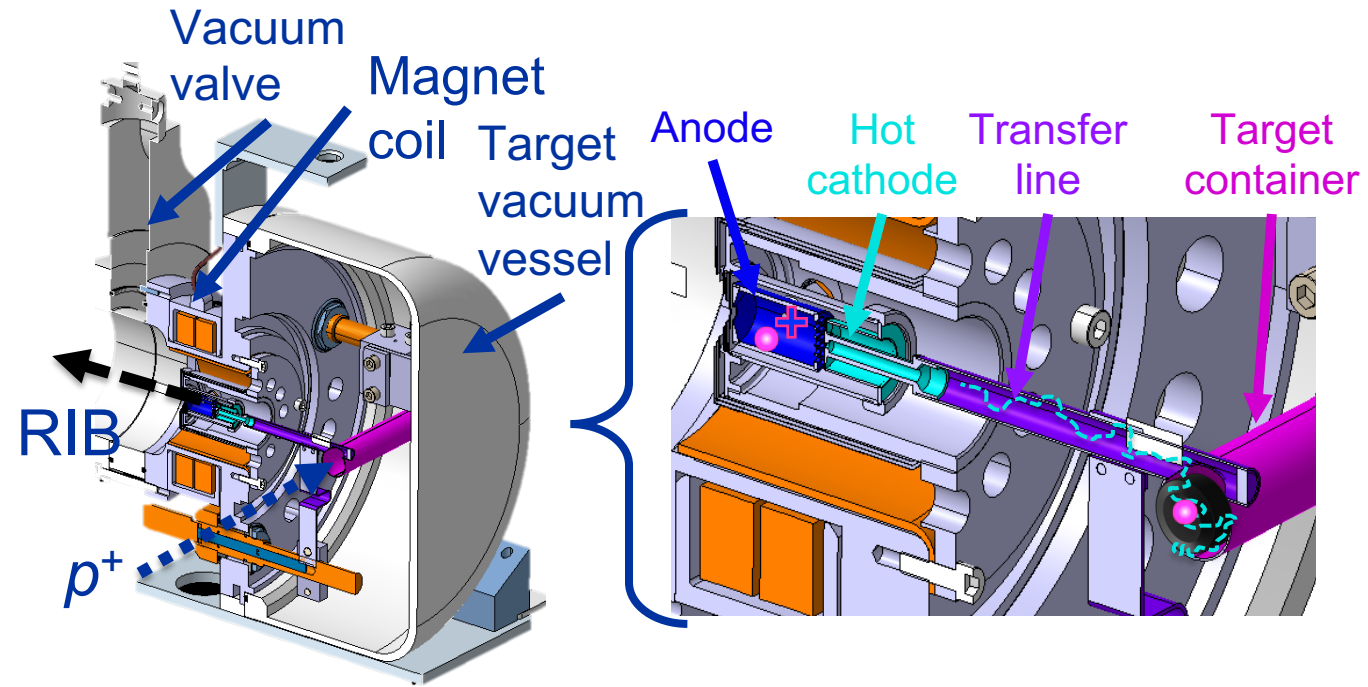
# ISOL Step 3: Ionization

1 H																	2 He	
3 Li	4 Be																	10 Ne
11 Na	12 Mg																	18 Ar
19 K	20 Ca	21 Sc	22 Ti	23 V	24 Cr	25 Mn	26 Fe	27 Co	28 Ni	29 Cu	30 Zn	31 Ga	32 Ge	33 As	34 Se	35 Br	36 Kr	
37 Rb	38 Sr	39 Y	40 Zr	41 Nb	42 Mo	43 Tc	44 Ru	45 Rh	46 Pd	47 Ag	48 Cd	49 In	50 Sn	51 Sb	52 Te	53 I	54 Xe	
55 Cs	56 Ba	* 71 Lu	72 Hf	73 Ta	74 W	75 Re	76 Os	77 Ir	78 Pt	79 Au	80 Hg	81 Tl	82 Pb	83 Bi	84 Po	85 At	86 Rn	
87 Fr	88 Ra	** 103 Lr	104 Rf	105 Db	106 Sg	107 Bh	108 Hs	109 Mt	110 Ds	111 Rg	112 Cn	113 Nh	114 Fl	115 Mc	116 Lv	117 Ts	118 Og	
		* 57 La	58 Ce	59 Pr	60 Nd	61 Pm	62 Sm	63 Eu	64 Gd	65 Tb	66 Dy	67 Ho	68 Er	69 Tm	70 Yb			
		** 89 Ac	90 Th	91 Pa	92 U	93 Np	94 Pu	95 Am	96 Cm	97 Bk	98 Cf	99 Es	100 Fm	101 Md	102 No			

cern.ch/isolde-yields

## Ion sources

- Surface ionization
- Electron impact ionization
- Resonance laser ionization



Poster 64,66. F. Maldonado:  
The FEBIAD at TRIUMF



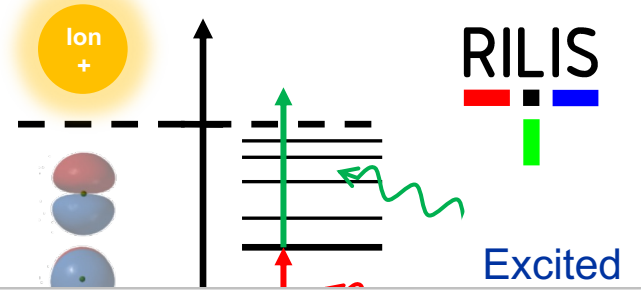
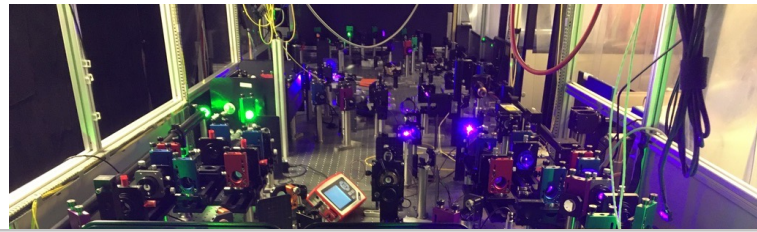
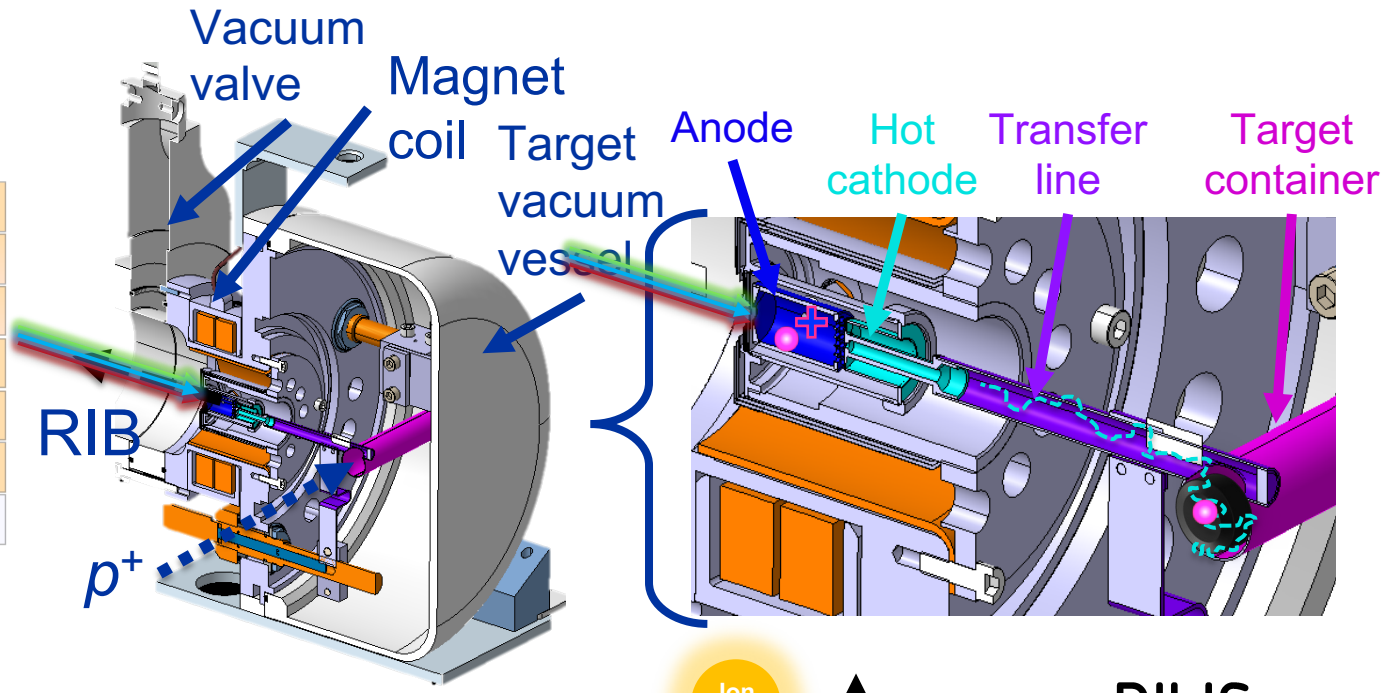
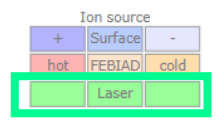
# ISOL Step 3: Ionization

1 H																	2 He
3 Li	4 Be															10 Ne	
11 Na	12 Mg															18 Ar	
19 K	20 Ca	21 Sc	22 Ti	23 V	24 Cr	25 Mn	26 Fe	27 Co	28 Ni	29 Cu	30 Zn	31 Ga	32 Ge	33 As	34 Se	35 Br	36 Kr
37 Rb	38 Sr	39 Y	40 Zr	41 Nb	42 Mo	43 Tc	44 Ru	45 Rh	46 Pd	47 Ag	48 Cd	49 In	50 Sn	51 Sb	52 Te	53 I	54 Xe
55 Cs	56 Ba	* 71 Lu	72 Hf	73 Ta	74 W	75 Re	76 Os	77 Ir	78 Pt	79 Au	80 Hg	81 Tl	82 Pb	83 Bi	84 Po	85 At	86 Rn
87 Fr	88 Ra	** 103 Lr	104 Rf	105 Db	106 Sg	107 Bh	108 Hs	109 Mt	110 Ds	111 Rg	112 Cn	113 Nh	114 Fl	115 Mc	116 Lv	117 Ts	118 Og
		* 57 La	58 Ce	59 Pr	60 Nd	61 Pm	62 Sm	63 Eu	64 Gd	65 Tb	66 Dy	67 Ho	68 Er	69 Tm	70 Yb		
		** 89 Ac	90 Th	91 Pa	92 U	93 Np	94 Pu	95 Am	96 Cm	97 Bk	98 Cf	99 Es	100 Fm	101 Md	102 No		

cern.ch/isolde-yields

## Ion sources

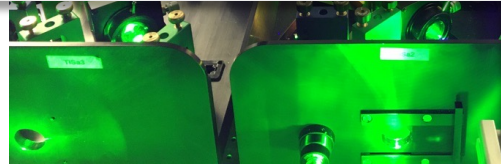
- Surface ionization
- Electro
- Resonance



**The PI-LIST: High-Resolution Crossed-Beams Laser Spectroscopy inside the ISOLDE Laser Ion Source** Asar AH Jaradat

Victoria Conference Centre

15:20 - 15:40



Poster 49. R. Heinke: The RILIS at CERN ISOLDE

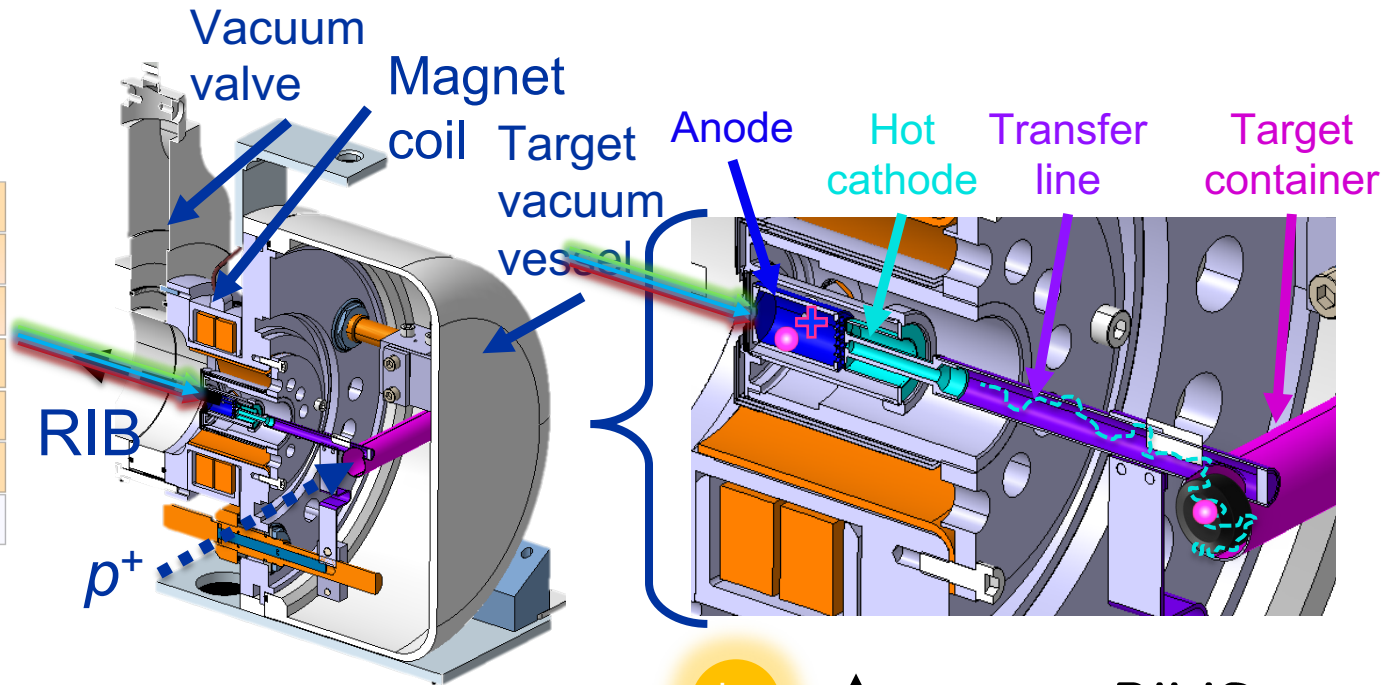
bound state

# ISOL Step 3: Ionization

1 H																	2 He	
3 Li	4 Be																	10 Ne
11 Na	12 Mg																	18 Ar
19 K	20 Ca	21 Sc	22 Ti	23 V	24 Cr	25 Mn	26 Fe	27 Co	28 Ni	29 Cu	30 Zn	31 Ga	32 Ge	33 As	34 Se	35 Br	36 Kr	
37 Rb	38 Sr	39 Y	40 Zr	41 Nb	42 Mo	43 Tc	44 Ru	45 Rh	46 Pd	47 Ag	48 Cd	49 In	50 Sn	51 Sb	52 Te	53 I	54 Xe	
55 Cs	56 Ba	* 71 Lu	72 Hf	73 Ta	74 W	75 Re	76 Os	77 Ir	78 Pt	79 Au	80 Hg	81 Tl	82 Pb	83 Bi	84 Po	85 At	86 Rn	
87 Fr	88 Ra	** 103 Lr	104 Rf	105 Db	106 Sg	107 Bh	108 Hs	109 Mt	110 Ds	111 Rg	112 Cn	113 Nh	114 Fl	115 Mc	116 Lv	117 Ts	118 Og	
		* 57 La	58 Ce	59 Pr	60 Nd	61 Pm	62 Sm	63 Eu	64 Gd	65 Tb	66 Dy	67 Ho	68 Er	69 Tm	70 Yb			
		** 89 Ac	90 Th	91 Pa	92 U	93 Np	94 Pu	95 Am	96 Cm	97 Bk	98 Cf	99 Es	100 Fm	101 Md	102 No			

Ion source

+	Surface	-
hot	FEBIAD	cold
Laser		



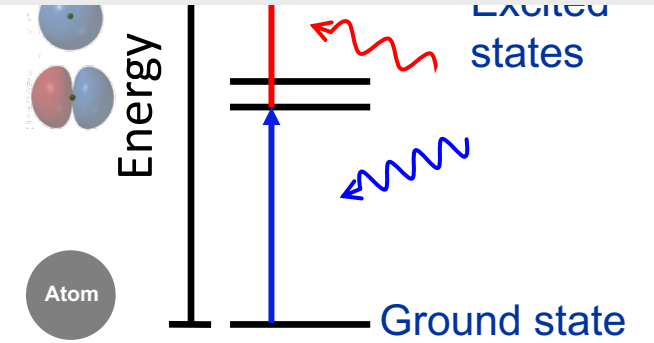
## Ion Sources for Radioactive Ion Beam Delivery at CERN-ISOLDE

Sebastian Rothe

Victoria Conference Centre

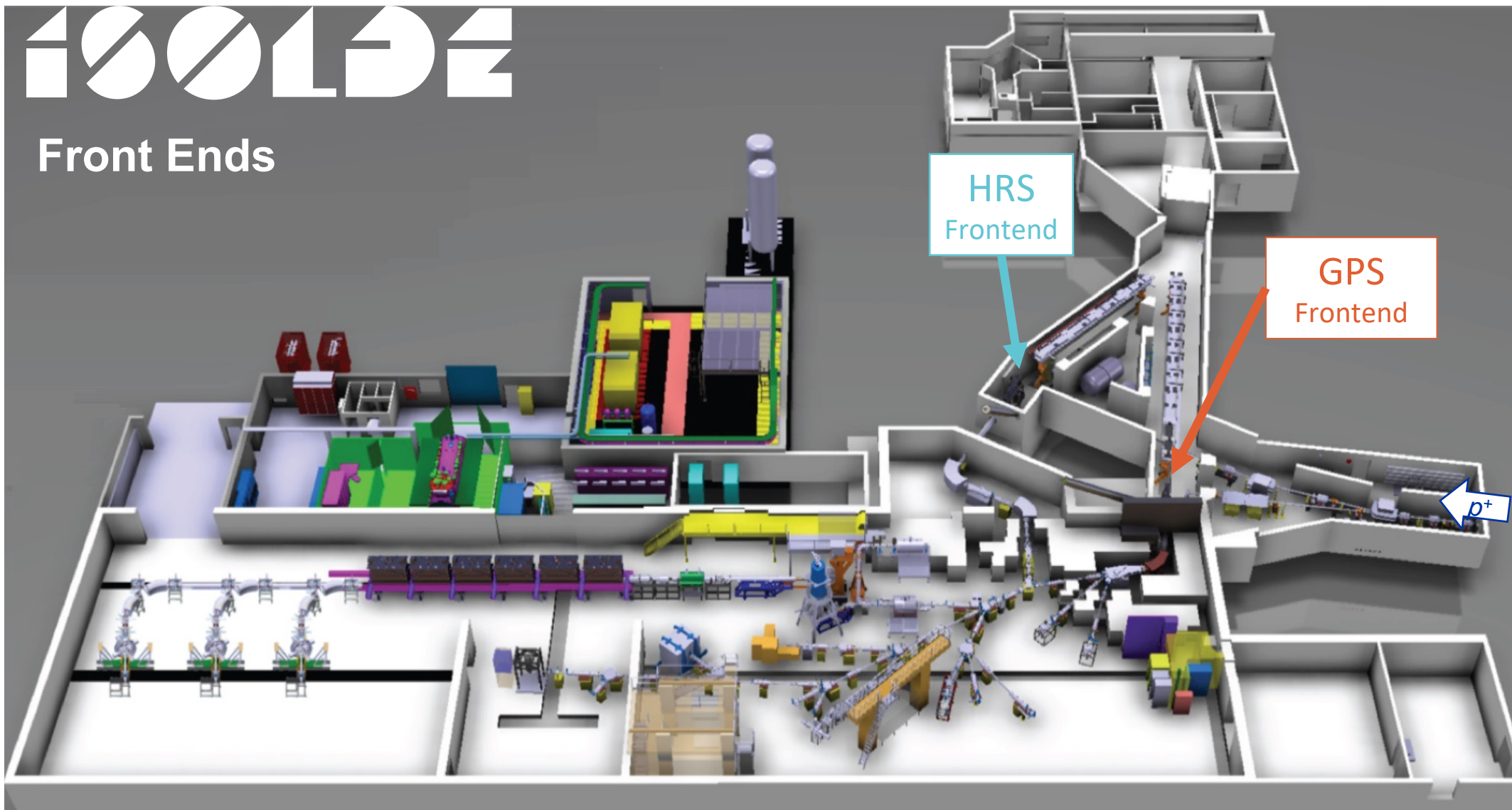
11:30 - 12:00

- Surface ionization
- Electron impact ionization
- Resonance laser ionization



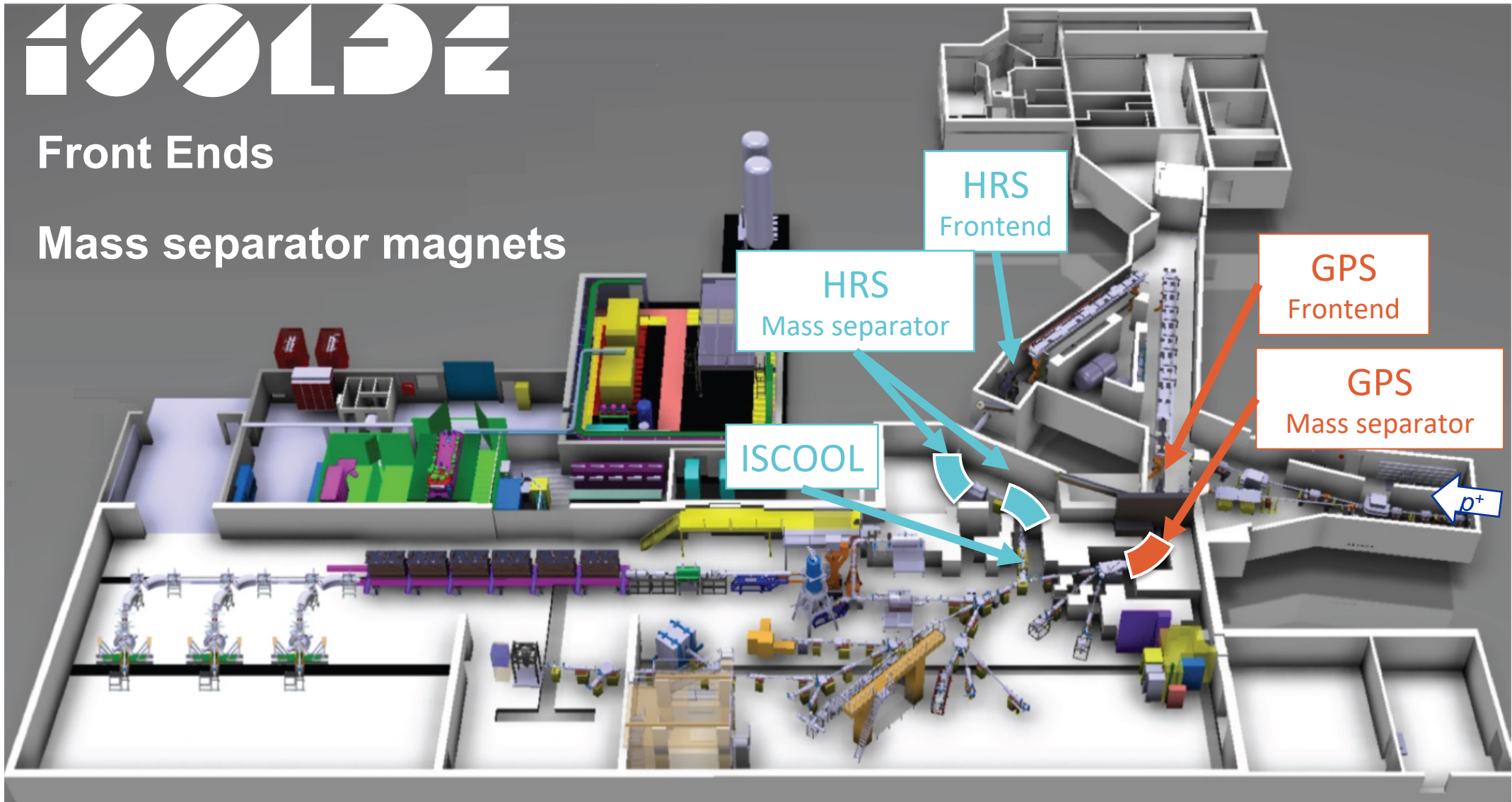
# ISOL Step 4: Mass separation

Catherall et al. (2017) *J. Phys G* **44**, 094002  
[isolde.web.cern.ch](http://isolde.web.cern.ch)



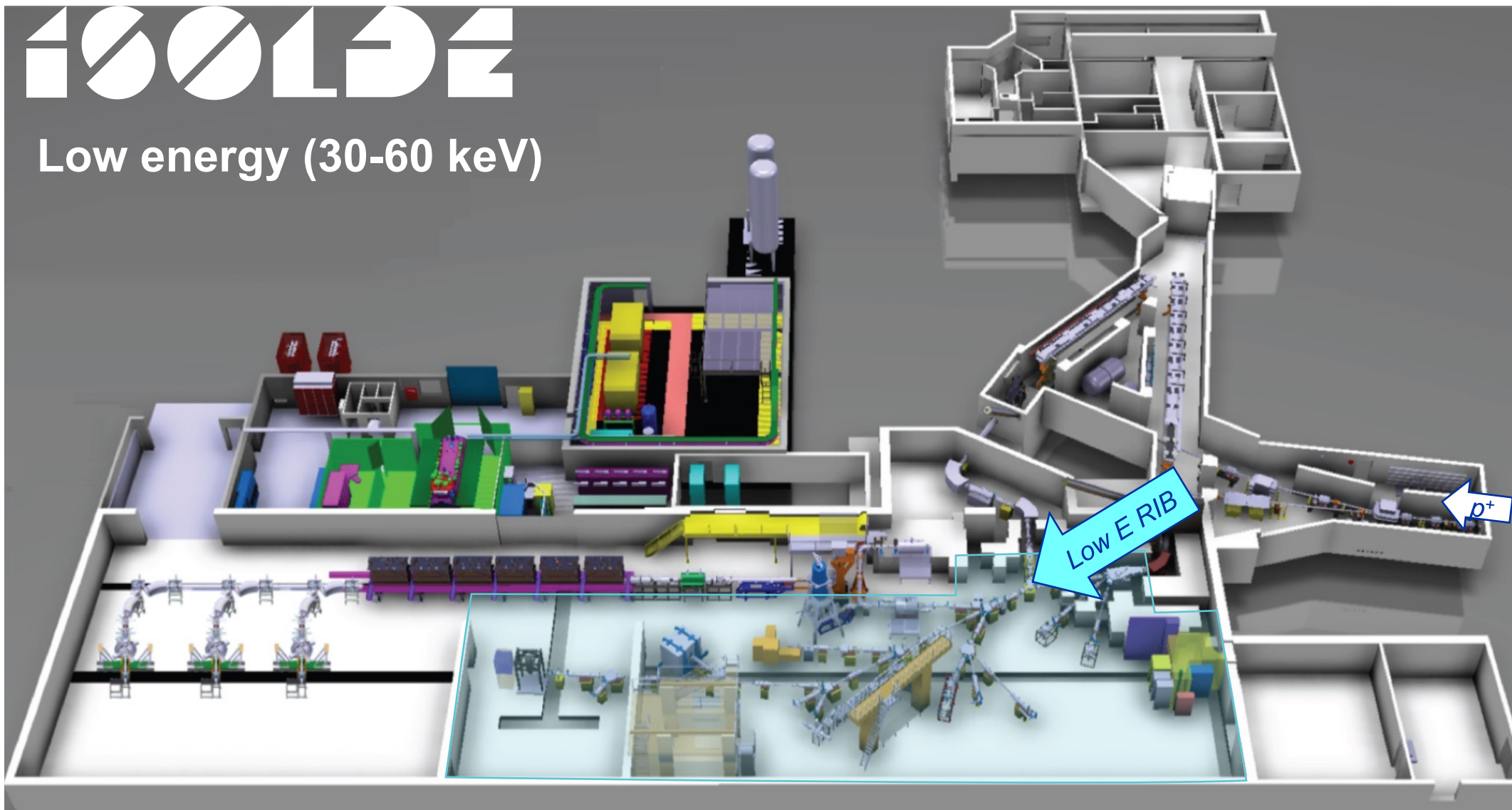
# ISOL Step 4: Mass separation

Catherall et al. (2017) *J. Phys G* **44**, 094002  
[isolde.web.cern.ch](http://isolde.web.cern.ch)



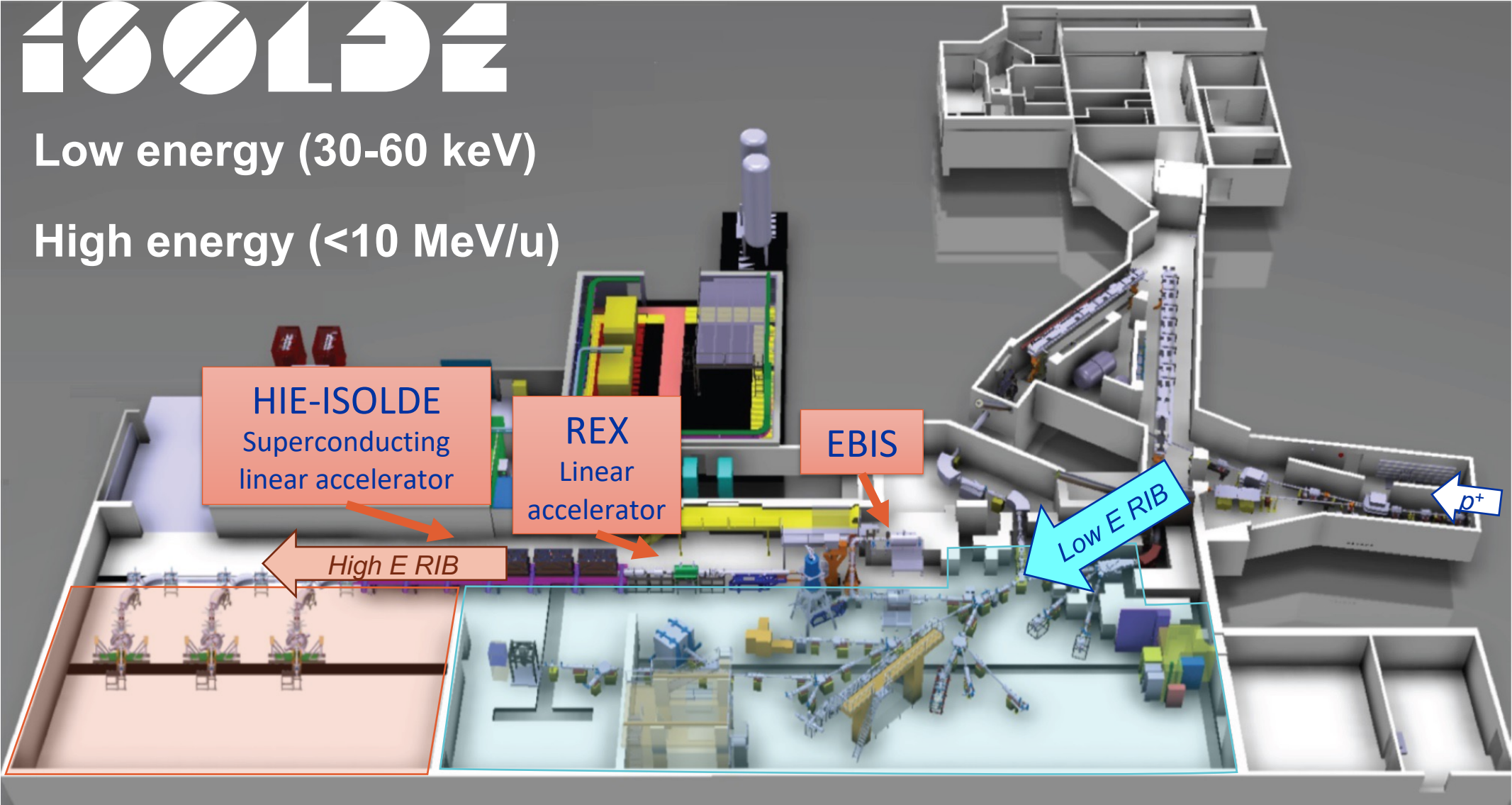
# ISOL Step 5: Delivery to Experiments

Catherall et al. (2017) *J. Phys G* **44**, 094002  
[isolde.web.cern.ch](http://isolde.web.cern.ch)



# ISOL Step 5: Delivery to Experiments

Catherall et al. (2017) *J. Phys G* **44**, 094002  
[isolde.web.cern.ch](http://isolde.web.cern.ch)





# ISOL Step 5: Delivery to Experiments

Catherall et al. (2017) *J. Phys G* **44**, 094002  
[isolde.web.cern.ch](http://isolde.web.cern.ch)



experimental hall

**Nuclear excited states**

astrophysics, fission barriers, transfer reactions, kinematics

**Nuclear ground state properties**

masses, spin, size, shape, decay

**Fundamental symmetries**  
weak interaction

**Condensed matter and biophysics**

structural, electrical, optical, magnetic, transport properties in materials, (semiconductors, metals, high-temperature superconductors, ceramic oxides) structural, bonding, transport properties in biological materials, (proteins, amino acids)

**Atomic properties**

hyperfine interactions, electron correlation, electron affinities, ionization potentials

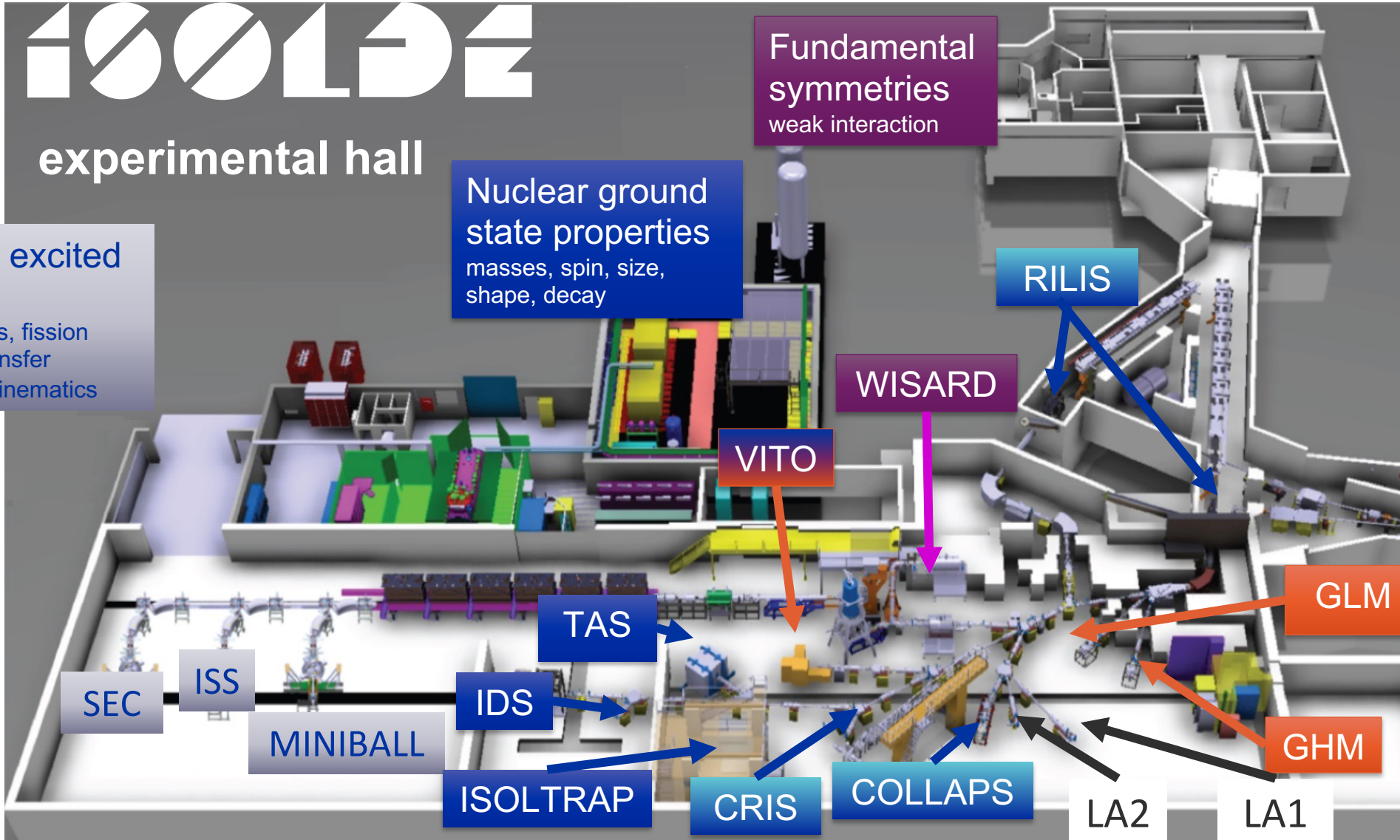




Image published in EP Newsletter, CERN (2020)

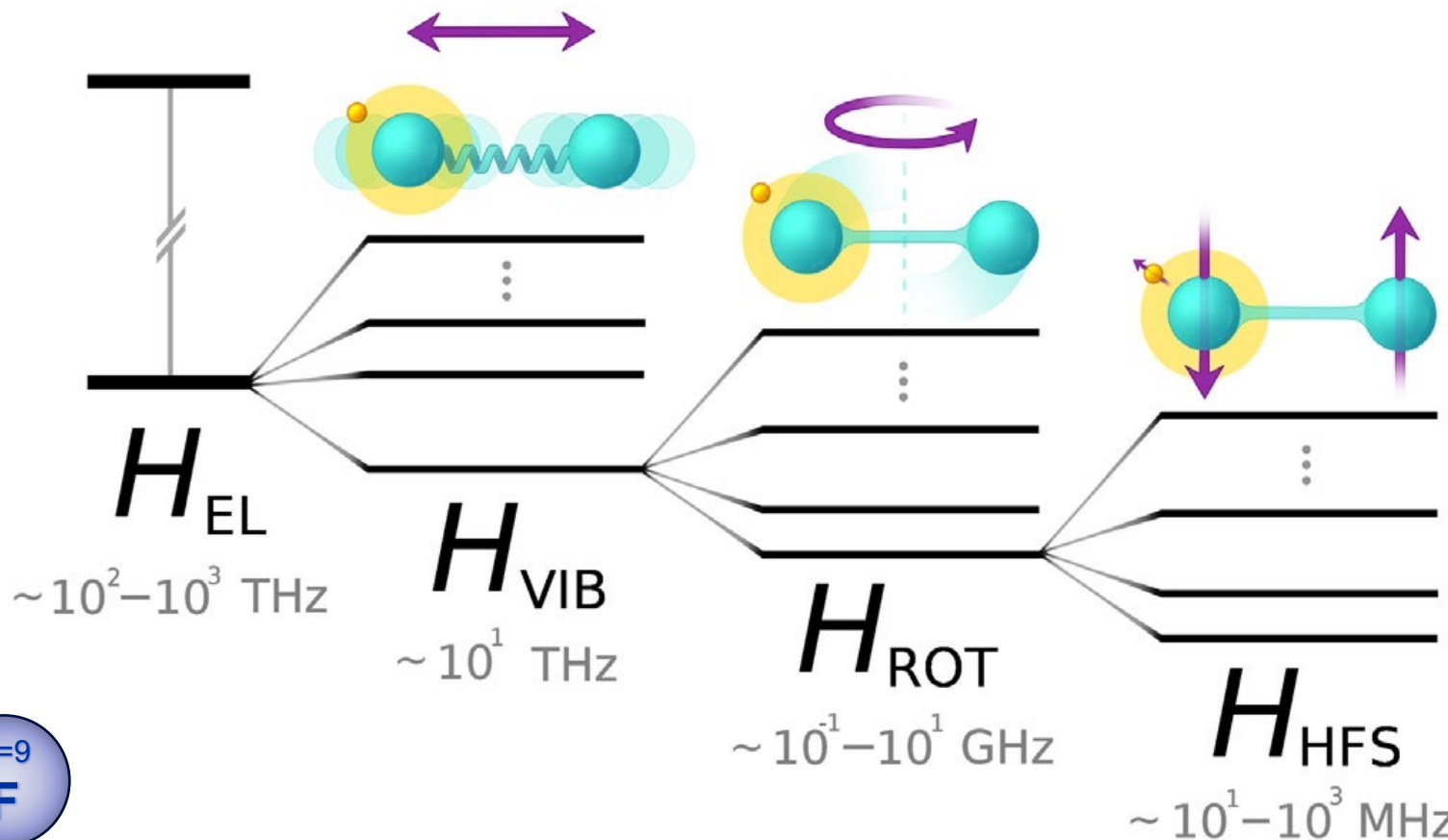
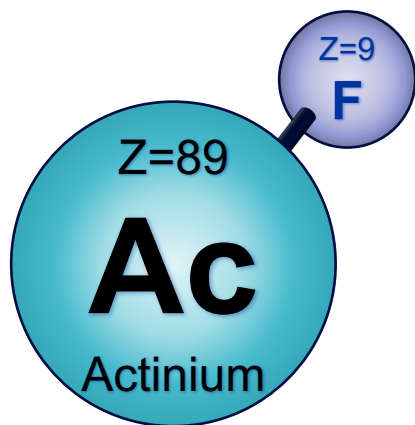
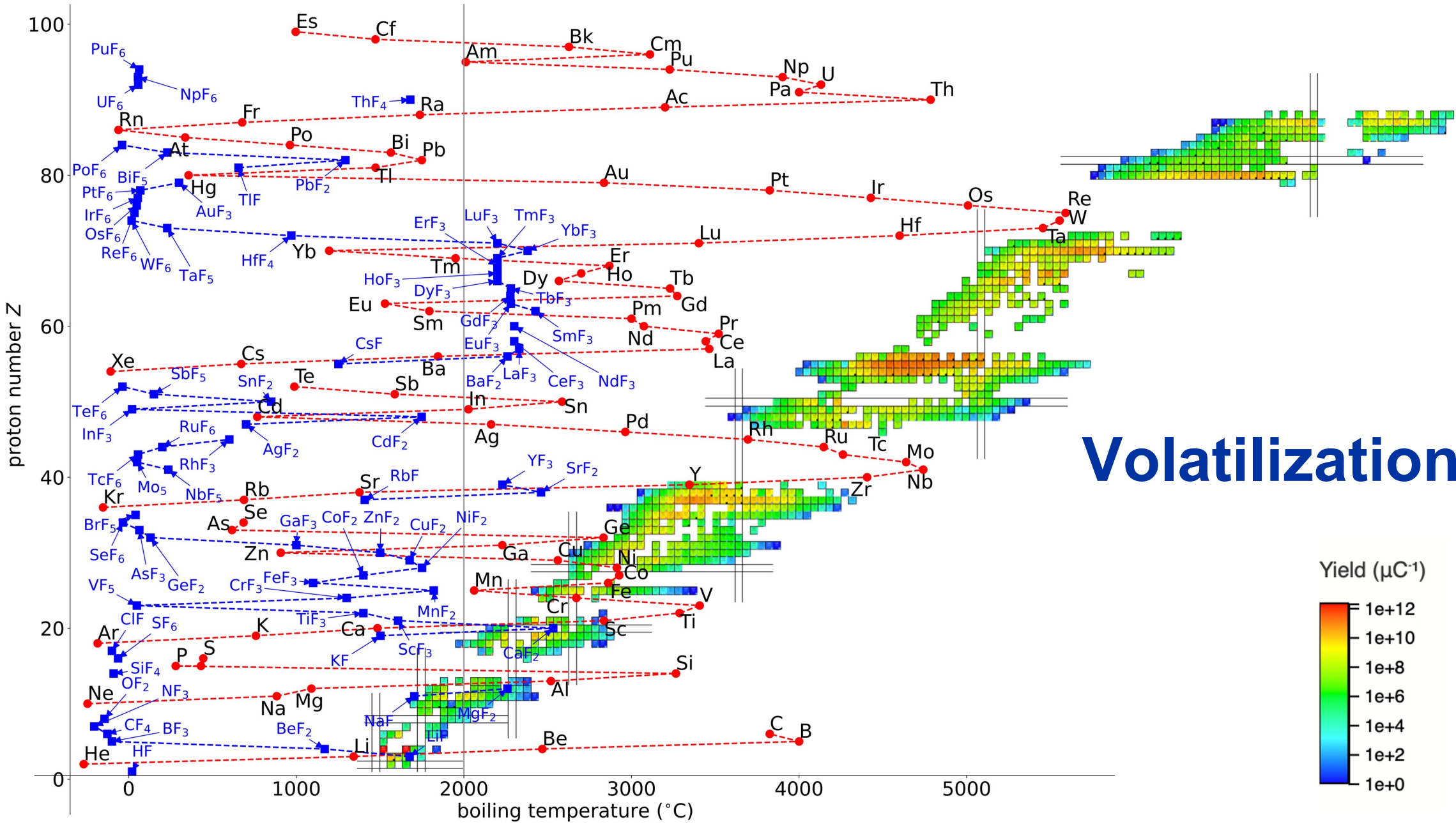
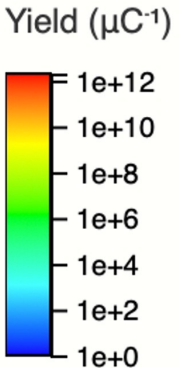


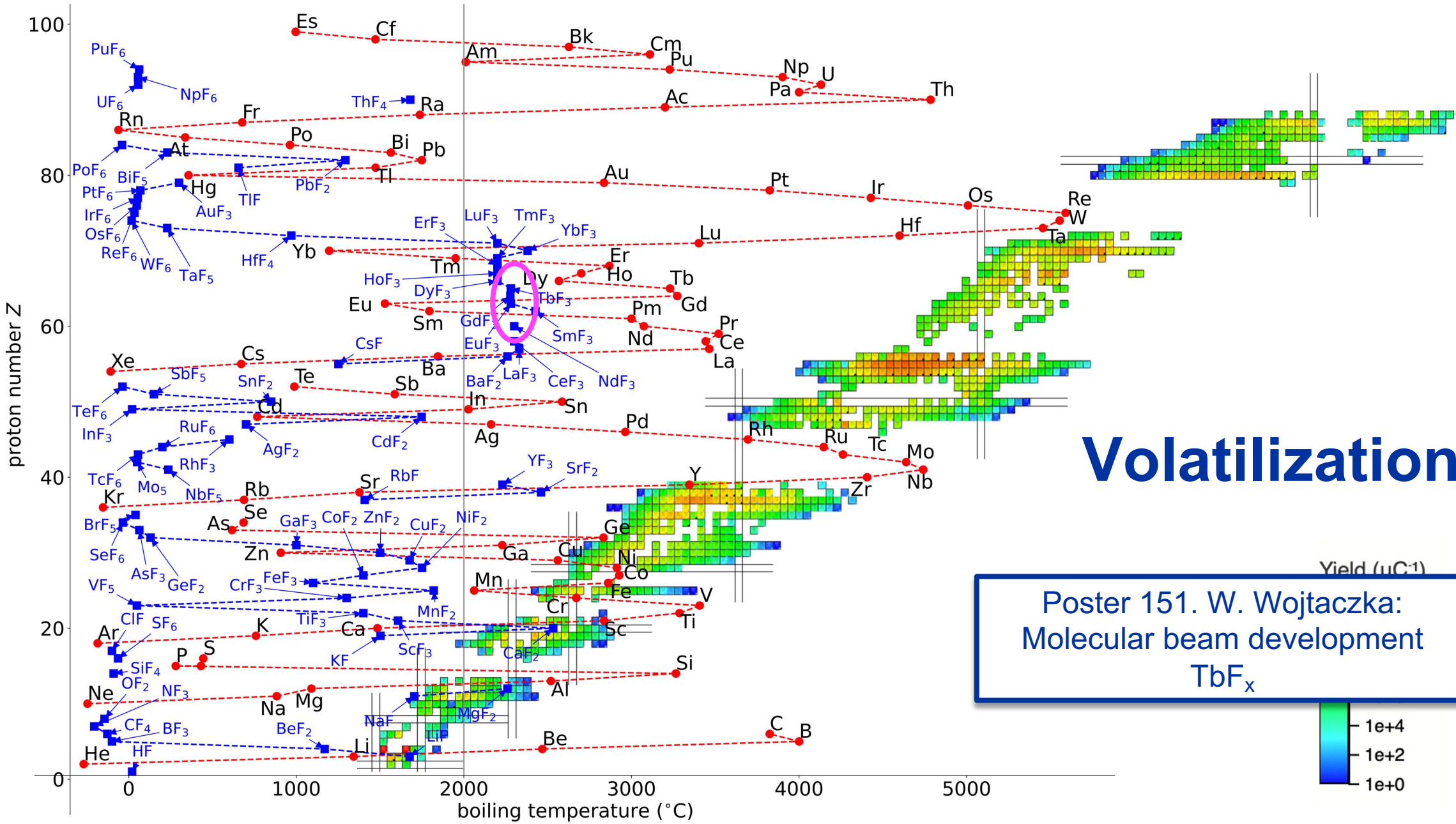
Image published in Athanasakis-Kaklamanakis *et al.*, PRX **13** 011015 (2023)

# Radioactive molecular beams



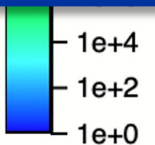
# Volatilization

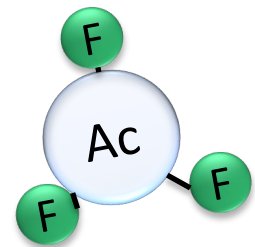




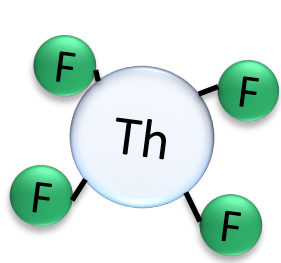
# Volatilization

Poster 151. W. Wojtaczka:  
Molecular beam development  
TbF<sub>x</sub>

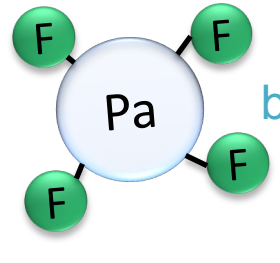




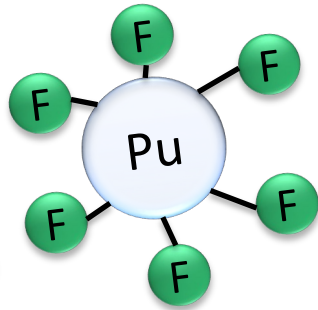
bp 3250°C



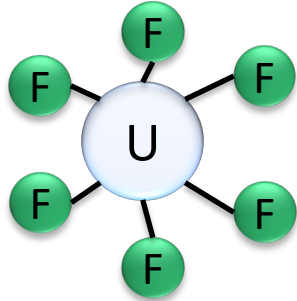
bp 1680°C



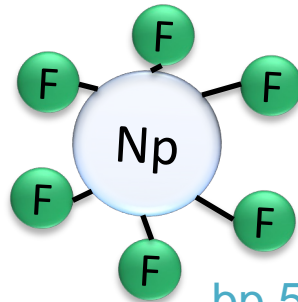
bp ?



bp 62°C

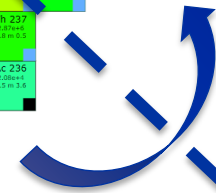


bp 56.5°C



bp 55°C

+ 19F



Target nucleus  
<sup>238</sup>U

# Molecular beams

1. Volatilization
2. Sideband extraction
3. Research opportunities



# A small detour: Why is there more matter than antimatter?

## Matter-antimatter asymmetry

- Initial conditions of expanding universe

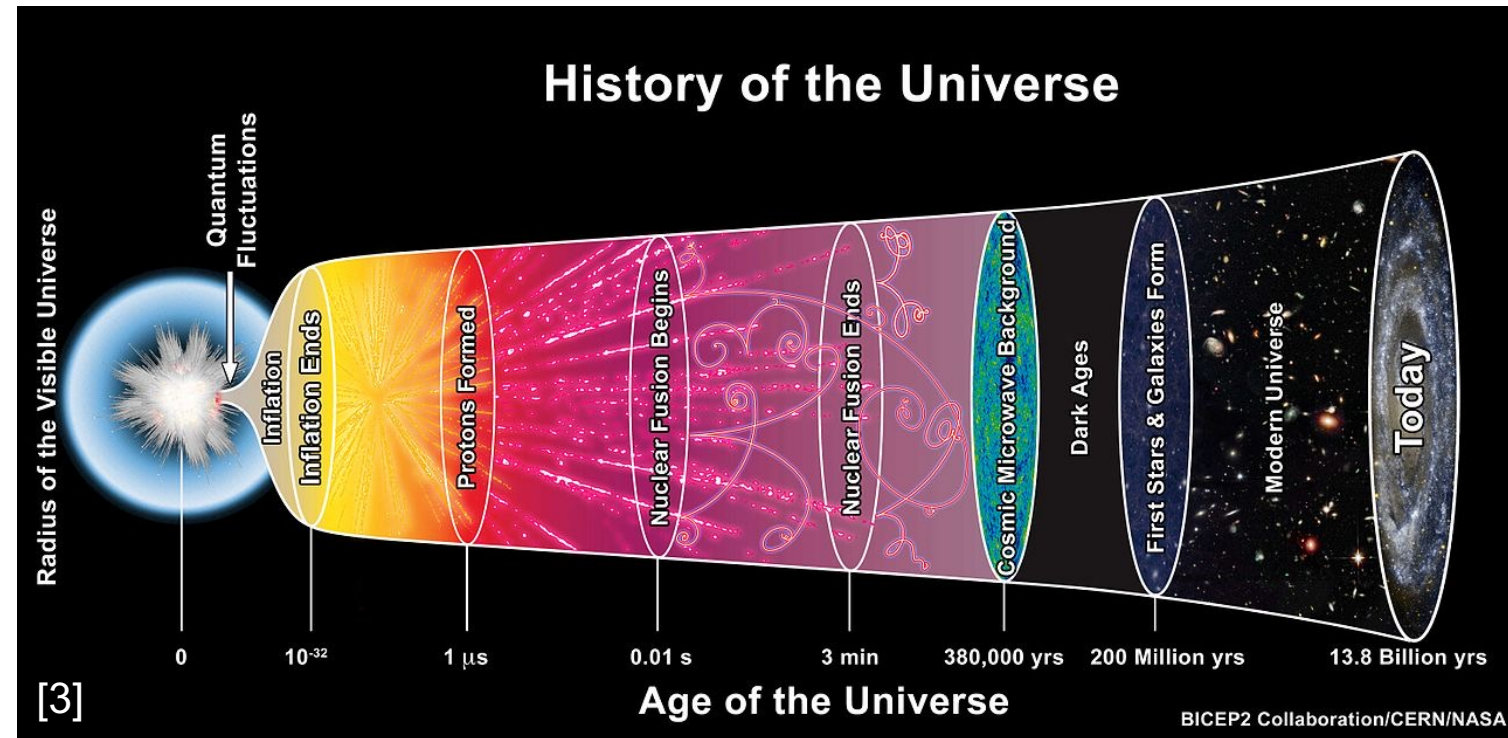
## Sakharov's conditions

- $CP$  violation for baryogenesis [1]

## $CPV$ in the Standard Model

- CKM phase  $\delta_{CKM}$  (order 1)
- Strong  $CP$ -phase  $\bar{\theta}$  (tiny)
- BSM?

*Required: Evaluation from complementary sources [2]*



“... the occurrence of  $C$  asymmetry is the consequence of violation of  $CP$  invariance in the nonstationary expansion of the hot universe during the superdense stage, as manifest in the difference between the partial probabilities of the charge-conjugate reactions. This effect has not yet been observed experimentally, but its existence is theoretically undisputed” – [1]

[1] Sakharov (1991) *Sov. Phys. Usp.* **34** 392

[2] Alarcon *et al.*, (2022) *arXiv* 2203.08103

[3] The BICEP2 Collaboration CERN-NASA (1991) <https://home.cern/news/series/lhc-physics-ten/recreating-big-bang-matter-earth>

# EDM searches

The existence of a finite permanent EDM of a particle or atom would violate time reversal (T) and parity (P) symmetry, or equivalently charge conjugation and parity symmetry (CP), needed to solve baryon asymmetry

July 2023  
 Roussy et al., Science 381,  
 6653, pp. 46-59 (2023)  
 Scale:  $\sim 10^{13}$  eV

## nEDM $|d_n|$

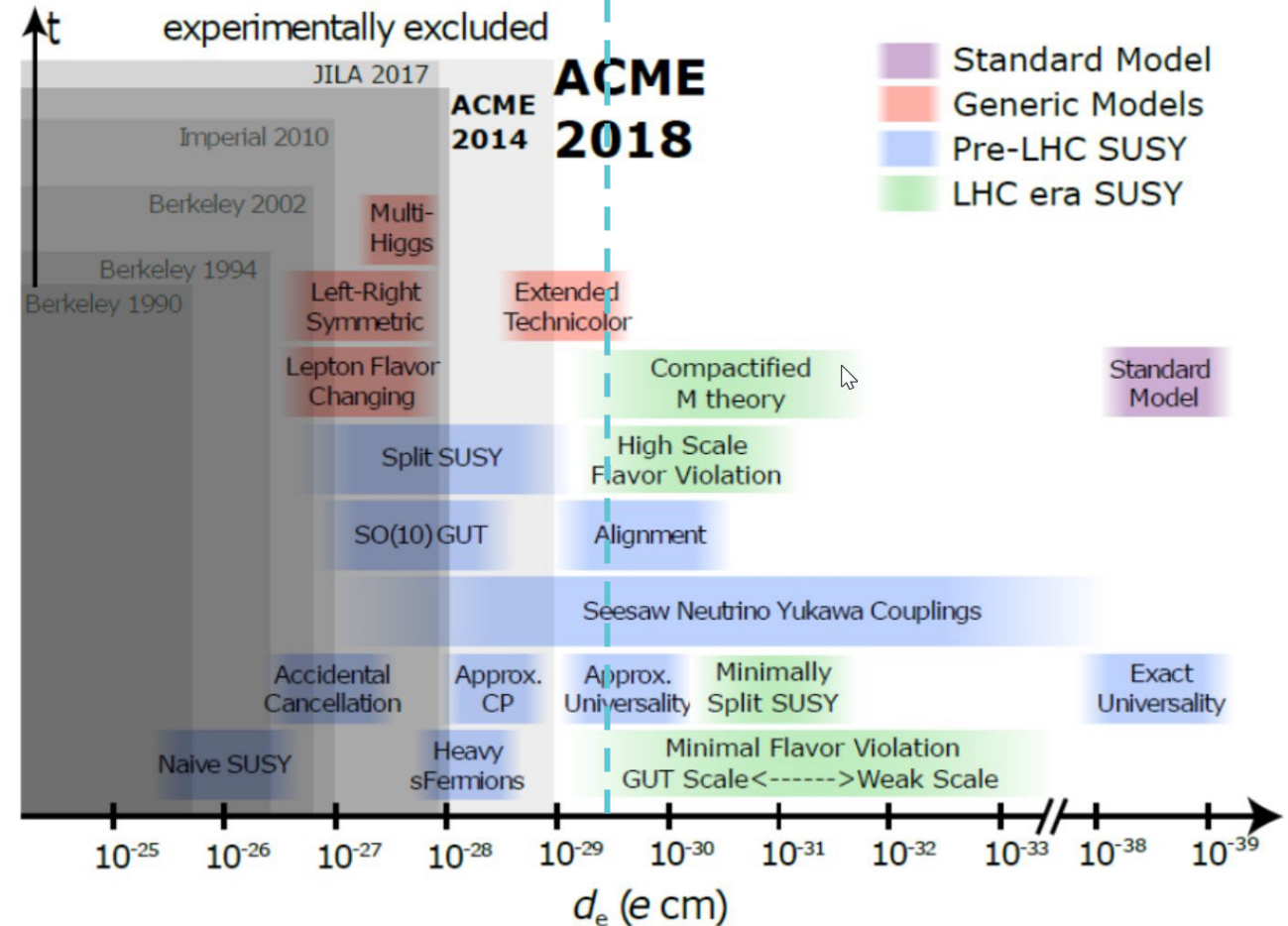
- 2006 ILL UCNs:  $|d_n| < 2.9 \times 10^{-26}$  e cm

## eEDM $|d_e|$

- 2011 Imperial  $^{174}\text{Yb}^{19}\text{F}$ :  $|d_e| < 2 \times 10^{-28}$  e cm
- 2018, 2013 ACME  $^{232}\text{Th}^{16}\text{O}$ :  $|d_e| < 1 \times 10^{-29}$  e cm
- 2023, 2017 JILA  $^{180}\text{Hf}^{19}\text{F}^+$ :  $|d_e| < 4.1 \times 10^{-30}$  e cm

## Atomic EDM

- 2009,  $^{199}\text{Hg}$ :  $|d| < 3.1 \times 10^{-29}$  e cm
- 2015,  $^{225}\text{Ra}$ :  $|d| < 5 \times 10^{-22}$  e cm



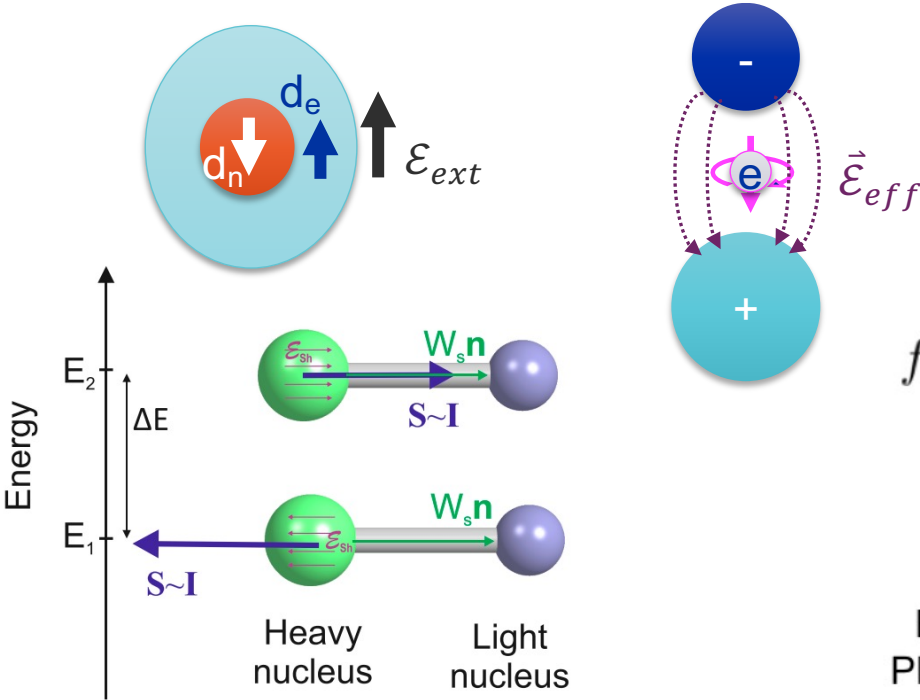
D. DeMille, The ACME Experiment, (2023)  
<https://cfp.physics.northwestern.edu/gabrielse-group/acme-electron-edm.html>



# Sources of BSM physics in radioactive molecules

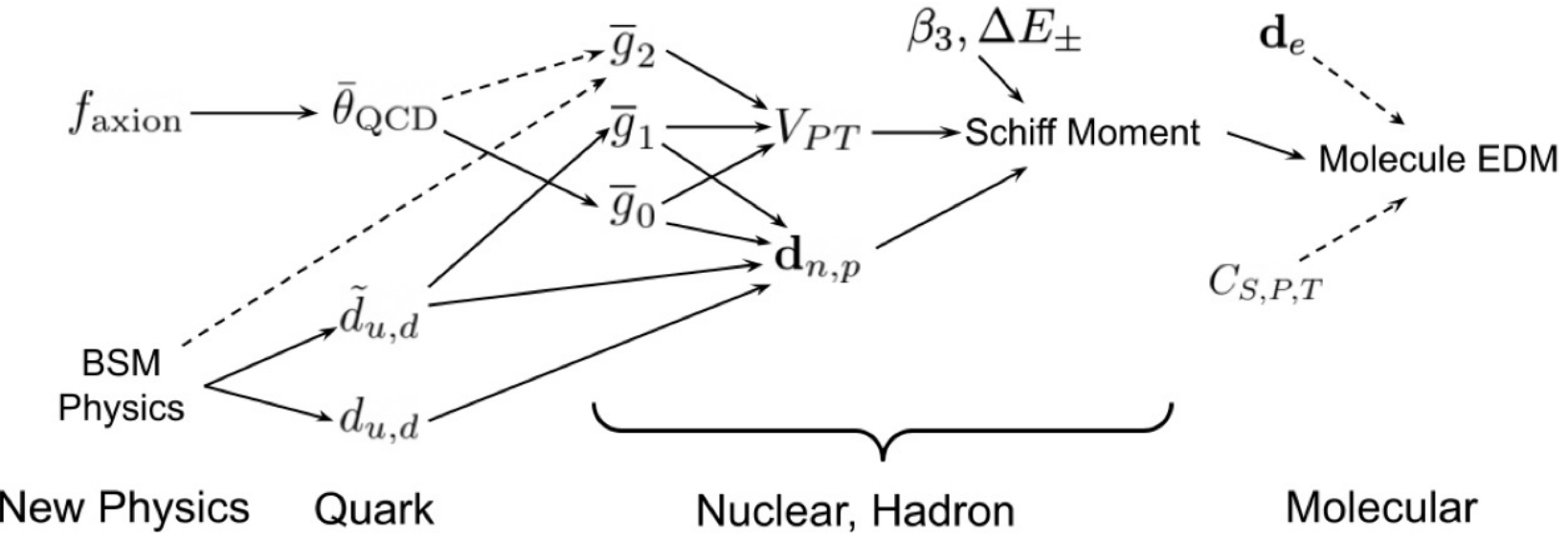
## Schiff screening

- non-relativistic, point-like constituents in a bound, neutral system interacting only electrostatically



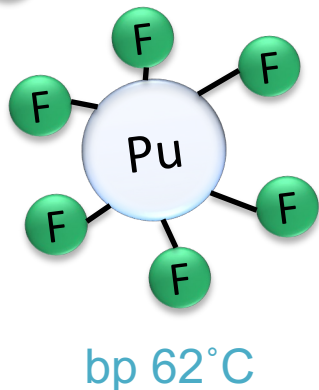
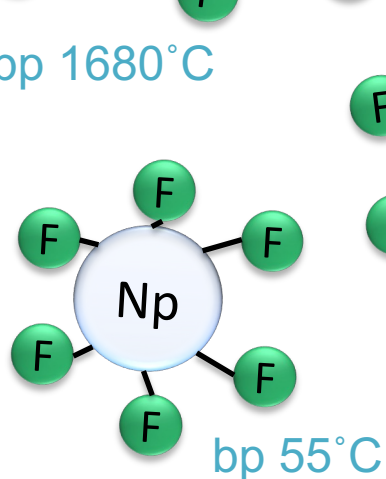
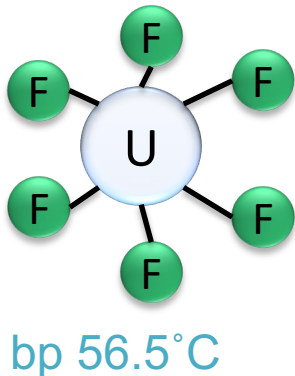
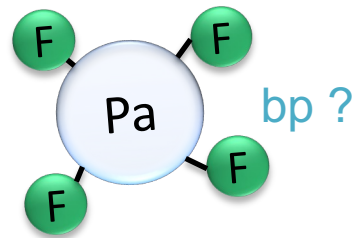
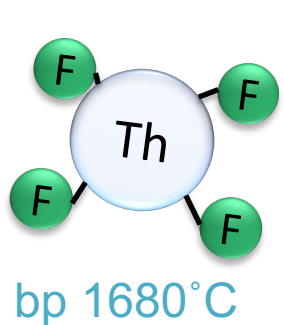
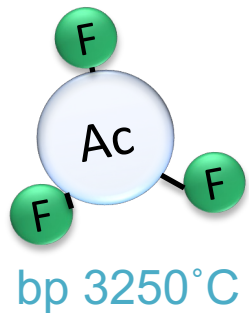
## CPV

- Imperfect screening
- Relativistic effects,  $\vec{\epsilon}_{eff}$
- Finite-size nucleus:  $S \propto \frac{\beta_2 \beta_3^2 Z A^{2/3}}{\Delta E_{\pm}}$ , MQM ( $I \geq 1$ )



[1] Alarcon et al., (2022) arXiv 2203.08103  
 [2] Safronova et al. (2018) Rev. Mod. Phys. 90. 2,  
 [3] Skripnikov et al. (2020) Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys. 22. 33, 18374

Opportunities for Fundamental Physics Research with Radioactive Molecules, arXiv 2302.02165 (2023)



		Ion source																																		
		+								-																										
		hot				cold				hot				cold																						
		Surface				FEBIAD				Surface				FEBIAD																						
		Laser				Laser				Laser				Laser																						
1	H																	2	He																	
3	Li	4	Be																	10	Ne															
11	Na	12	Mg																	18	Ar															
19	K	20	Ca	21	Sc	22	Ti	23	V	24	Cr	25	Mn	26	Fe	27	Co	28	Ni	29	Cu	30	Zn	31	Ga	32	Ge	33	As	34	Se	35	Br	36	Kr	
37	Rb	38	Sr	39	Y	40	Zr	41	Nb	42	Mo	43	Tc	44	Ru	45	Rh	46	Pd	47	Ag	48	Cd	49	In	50	Sn	51	Sb	52	Te	53	I	54	Xe	
55	Cs	56	Ba	*	71	Lu	72	Hf	73	Ta	74	W	75	Re	76	Os	77	Ir	78	Pt	79	Au	80	Hg	81	Tl	82	Pb	83	Bi	84	Po	85	At	86	Rn
87	Fr	88	Ra	**	103	Lr	104	Rf	105	Db	106	Sg	107	Bh	108	Hs	109	Mt	110	Ds	111	Rg	112	Cn	113	Nh	114	Fl	115	Mc	116	Lv	117	Ts	118	Og
				*	57	La	58	Ce	59	Pr	60	Nd	61	Pm	62	Sm	63	Eu	64	Gd	65	Tb	66	Dy	67	Ho	68	Er	69	Tm	70	Yb				
				**	89	Ac	90	Th	91	Pa	92	U	93	Np	94	Pu	95	Am	96	Cm	97	Bk	98	Cf	99	Es	100	Fm	101	Md	102	No				

1	H																	2	He																
3	Li	4	Be																	10	Ne														
11	Na	12	Mg																	18	Ar														
19	K	20	Ca	21	Sc	22	Ti	23	V	24	Cr	25	Mn	26	Fe	27	Co	28	Ni	29	Cu	30	Zn	31	Ga	32	Ge	33	As	34	Se	35	Br	36	Kr
37	Rb	38	Sr	39	Y	40	Zr	41	Nb	42	Mo	43	Tc	44	Ru	45	Rh	46	Pd	47	Ag	48	Cd	49	In	50	Sn	51	Sb	52	Te	53	I	54	Xe
55	Cs	56	Ba	57-71	Lanthanides	72	Hf	73	Ta	74	W	75	Re	76	Os	77	Ir	78	Pt	79	Au	80	Hg	81	Tl	82	Pb	83	Bi	84	Po	85	At	86	Rn
87	Fr	88	Ra	89-103	Actinides	104	Rf	105	Db	106	Sg	107	Bh	108	Hs	109	Mt	110	Ds	111	Rg	112	Cn	113	Nh	114	Fl	115	Mc	116	Lv	117	Ts	118	Og

57	La	58	Ce	59	Pr	60	Nd	61	Pm	62	Sm	63	Eu	64	Gd	65	Tb	66	Dy	67	Ho	68	Er	69	Tm	70	Yb	71	Lu
89	Ac	90	Th	91	Pa	92	U	93	Np	94	Pu	95	Am	96	Cm	97	Bk	98	Cf	99	Es	100	Fm	101	Md	102	No	103	Lr

HX <sup>+</sup>	BeX <sup>+</sup>	AlX <sup>+</sup>	SiX <sup>+</sup>	NX <sup>+</sup>	XO <sup>+</sup>	XCO <sup>+</sup>	XS <sup>+</sup>	XF <sup>+</sup>	XCl <sup>+</sup>
NaX <sup>+</sup>	MgX <sup>+</sup>				XO <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup>	XF <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup>			XBr <sup>+</sup>
KX <sup>+</sup>	CaX <sup>+</sup>				XO <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup>	XF <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup>			
		SrX <sup>+</sup>				XF <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup>			
		BaX <sup>+</sup>				XF <sub>5</sub> <sup>+</sup>			

# Molecular beams

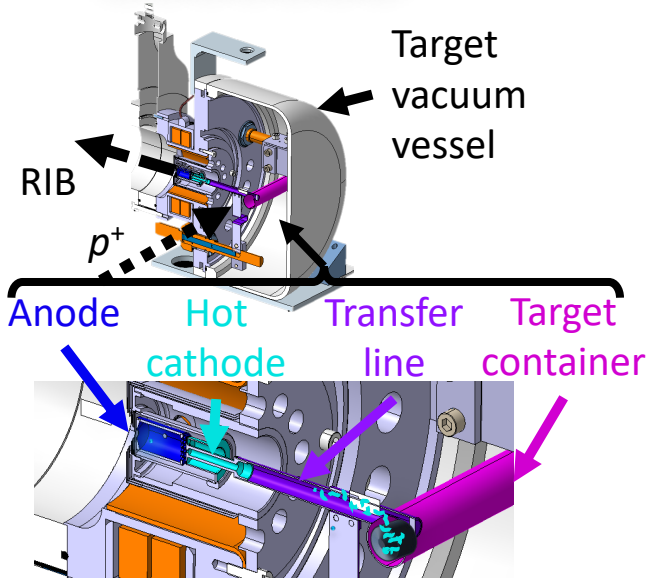
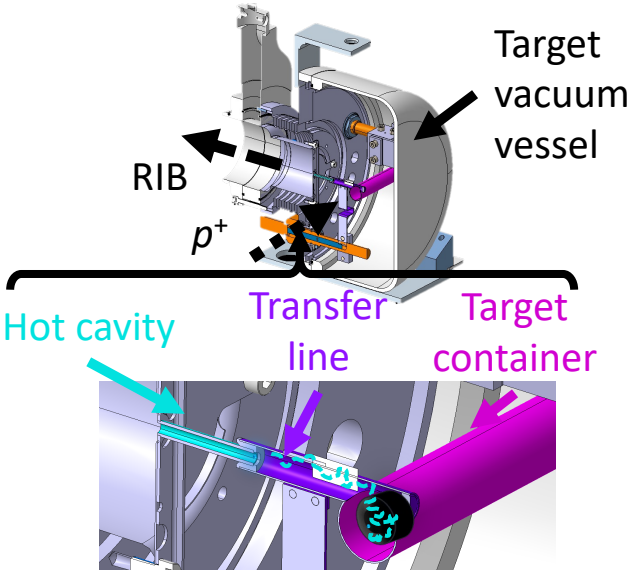
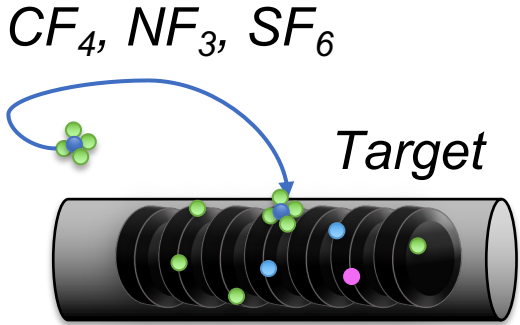
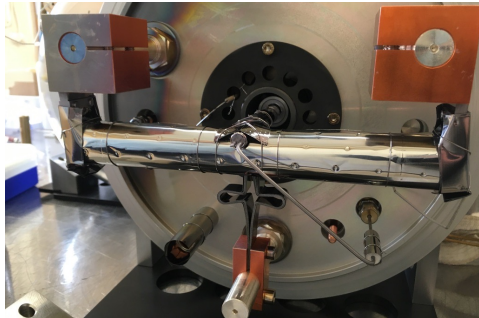
1. Formation and ionization
2. Detection and identification
3. Characterization

Au and Ballof, (2022) Zenodo 10.5281/zenodo.6884293 DOI 10.5281/zenodo.6884293

# Formation: how do we make the molecules?

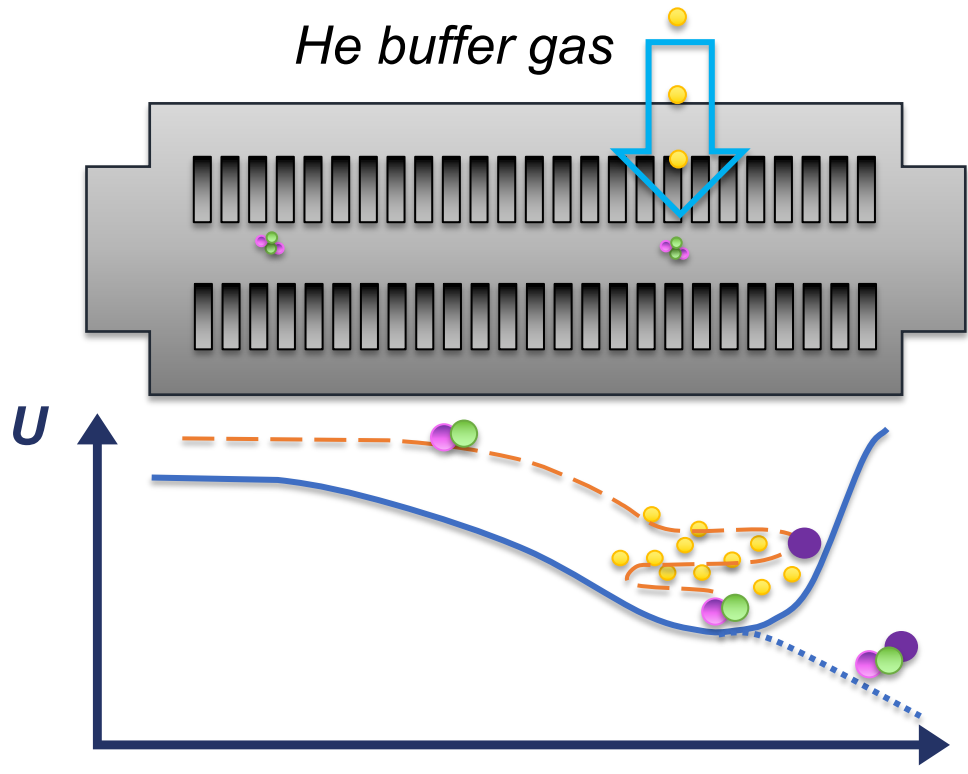
## In-source

- Reactive gas



## In-trap

- Radio-frequency quadrupole cooler-buncher (RFQ-cb)

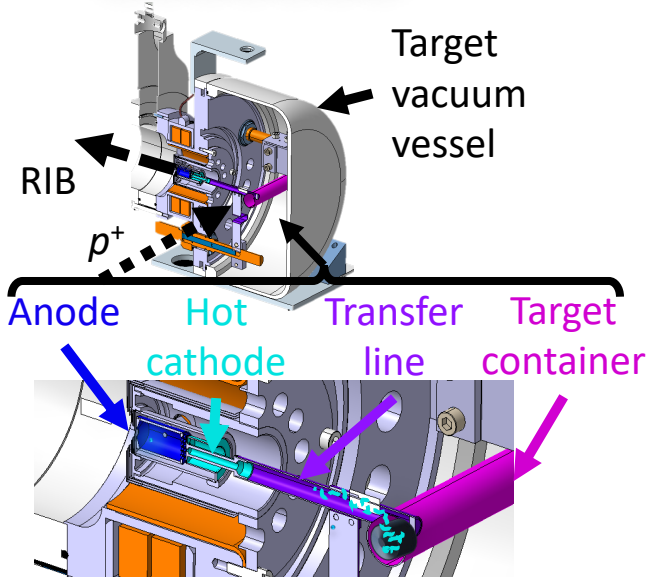
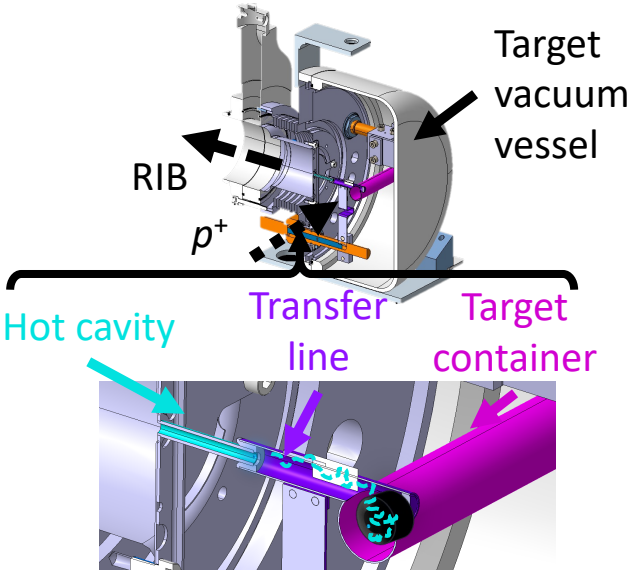
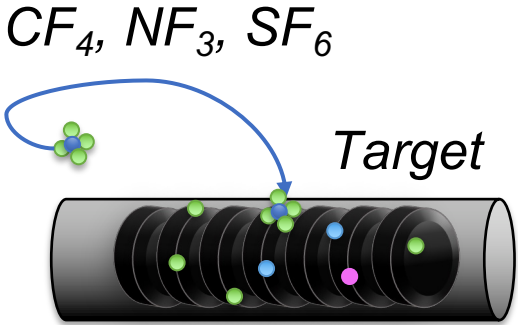
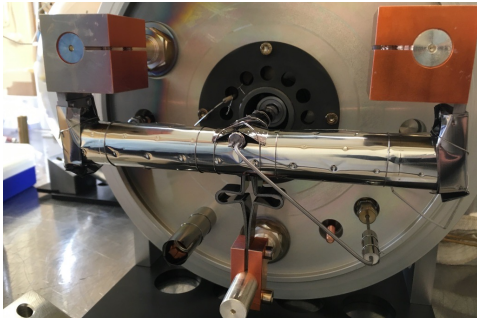


Au et al. (2023) *NIM B.* **541** (375-379)

# Formation: how do we make the molecules?

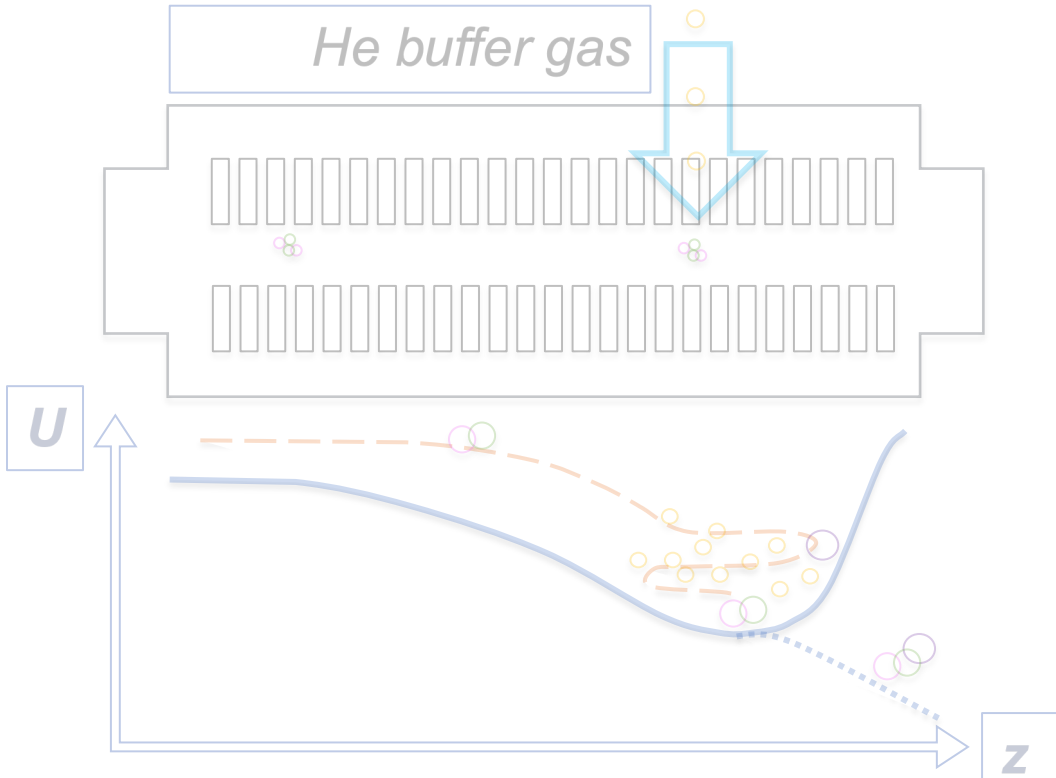
## In-source

- Reactive gas



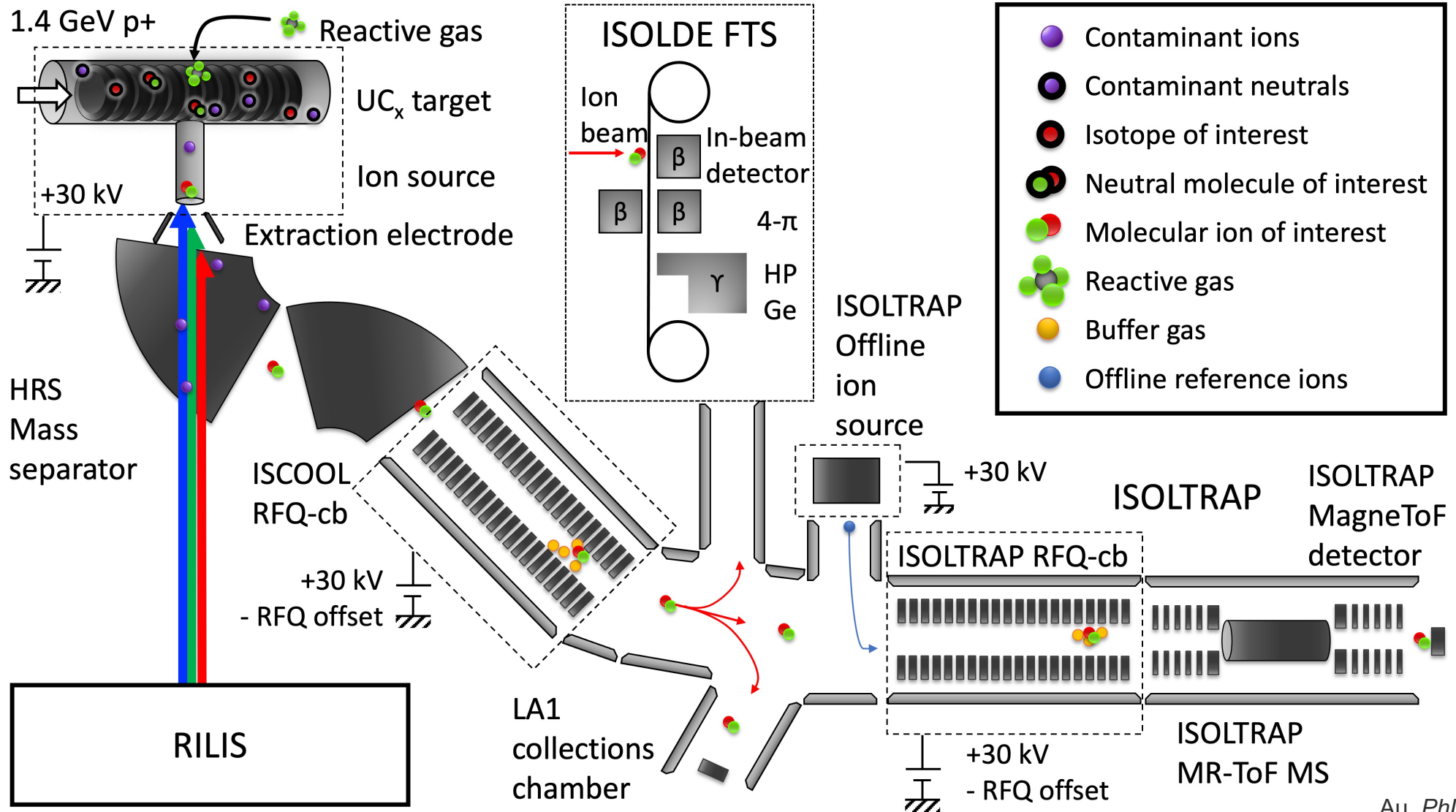
## In-trap

- Radio-frequency quadrupole cooler-buncher (RFQ-cb)



Au et al. (2023) *NIM B.* **541** (375-379)

# Detection and identification



Au, PhD thesis (2023)

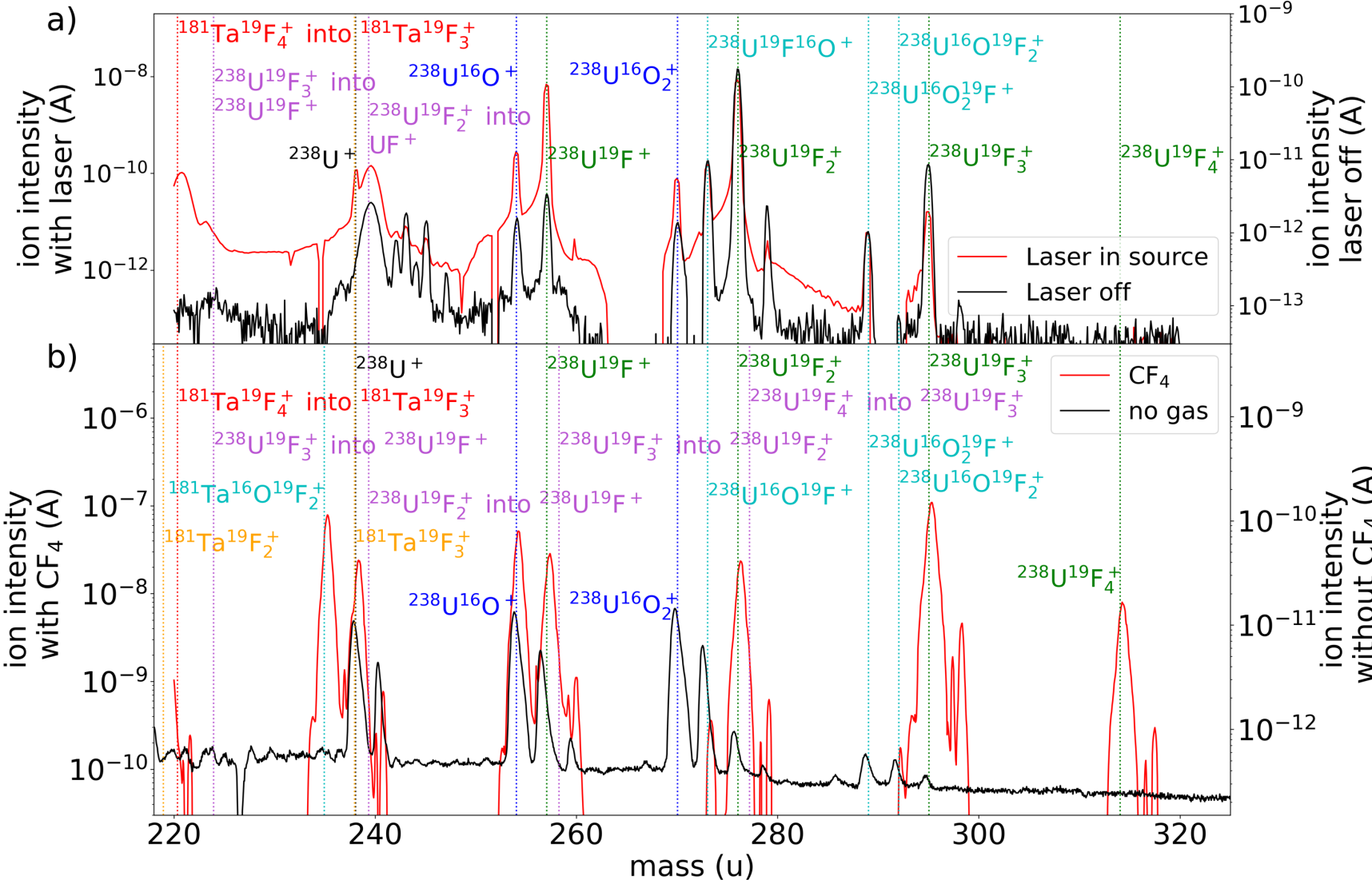
# Ion sources and effects

## Surface:

- Low IPs
- Surface ionization efficiency

## FEBIAD:

- High/unknown IPs
- High efficiency
- Dissociation



Au et al. (2023) *NIM B.* **541** (375-379)

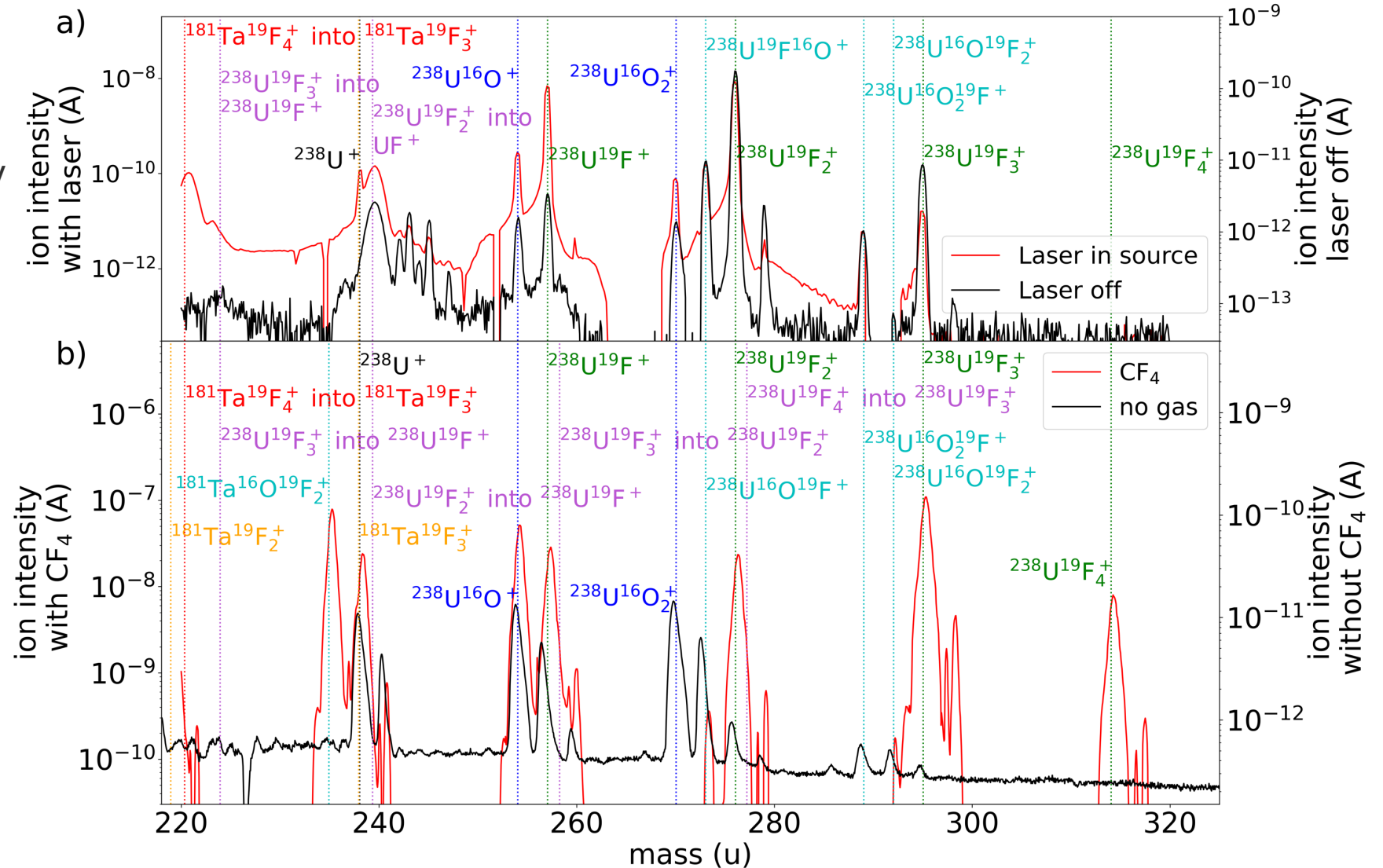
# Ion sources and effects

## Surface:

- Low IPs
- Surface ionization efficiency
- Production of  $\text{RaF}^+$ 
  - IP:  $\sim 4.9$  eV

## FEBIAD:

- High/unknown IPs
- High efficiency
- Dissociation



Au et al. (2023) *NIM B.* **541** (375-379)

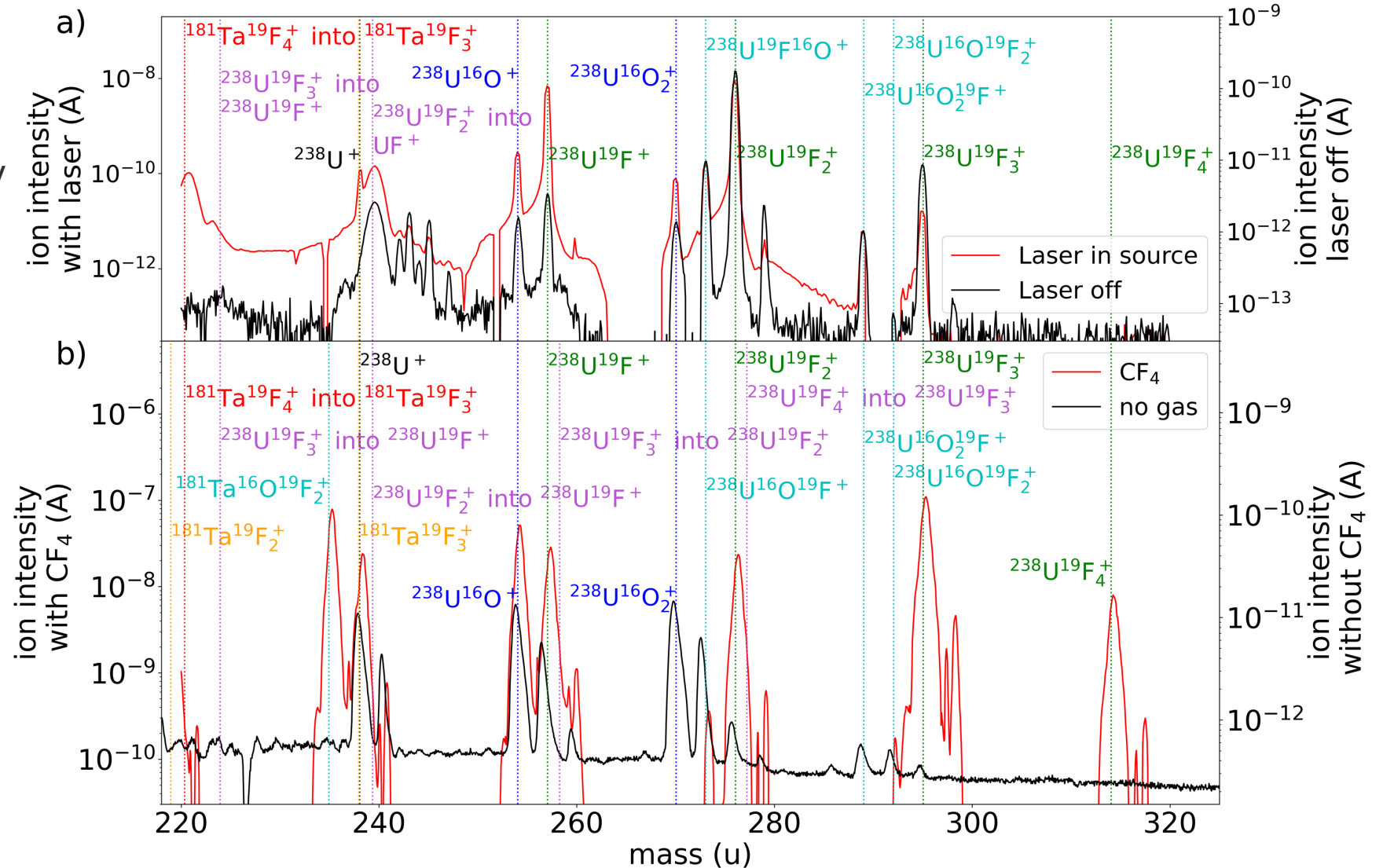
# Ion sources and effects

## Surface:

- Low IPs
- Surface ionization efficiency
- Production of  $\text{RaF}^+$ 
  - IP:  $\sim 4.9$  eV

## FEBIAD:

- High/unknown IPs
- High efficiency
- Dissociation
- Production of  $\text{AcF}^+$ 
  - IP: ?  $D_e$ : ?



Au et al. (2023) *NIM B.* **541** (375-379)



# RaF production and CRIS

## Collinear Resonance Ionization Spectroscopy (CRIS) technique

- Fast (10s keV) beams reduce velocity spread
- Collinear geometry: linewidth dominated by laser linewidth

### RaF production

- Surface ion source
- $\text{CF}_4$  injection

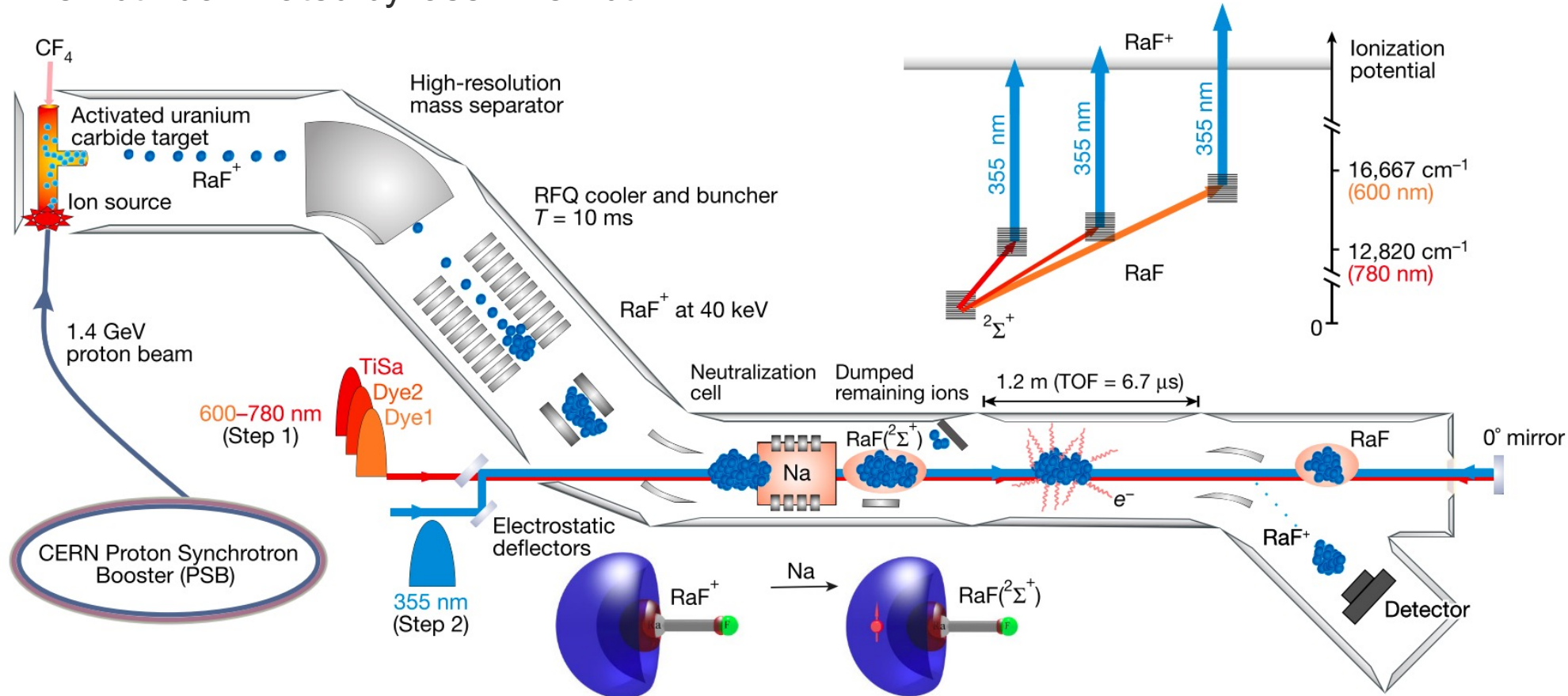
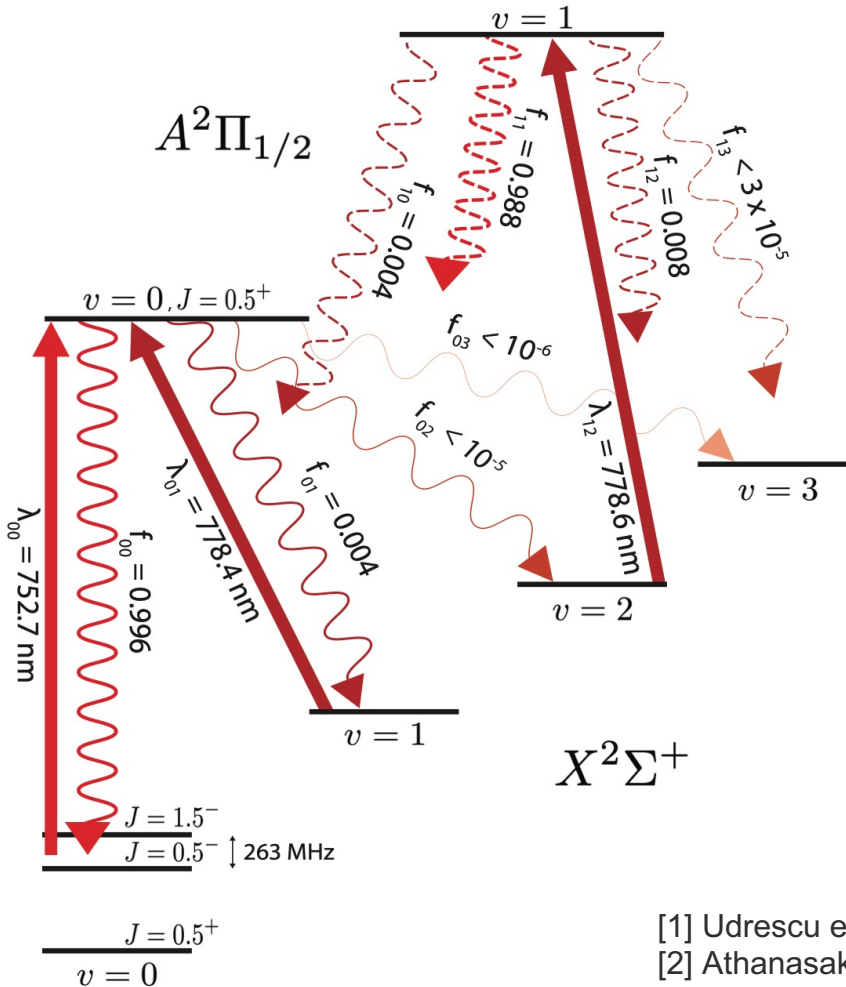


Image published in Garcia Ruiz et al, (2020) *Nature* 581

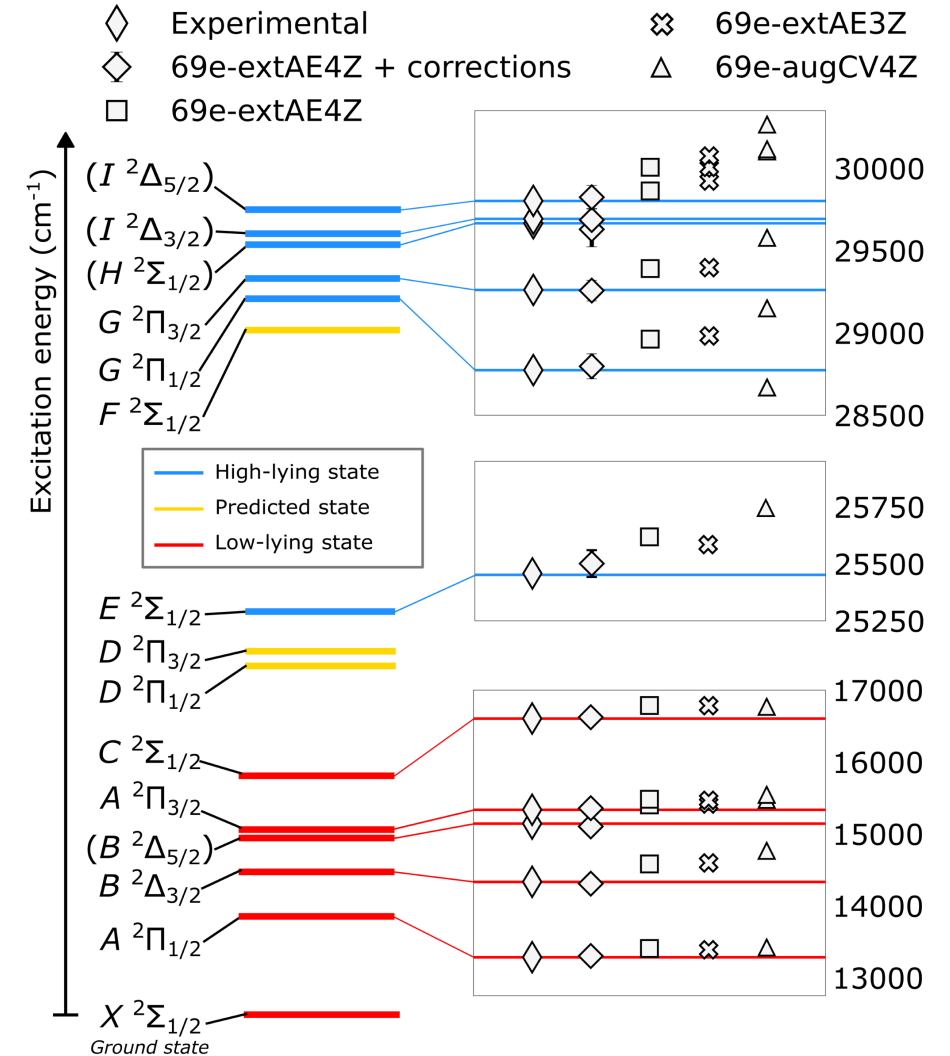
# RaF characterization

## Laser cooling [1]



## Excited states [2]

- High-order electron correlation and QED corrections
- FS-RCC
- calculations: agreement  $\geq 99.71\%$  ( $\sim 8 \text{ meV}$ )
- Ground state sensitive to eEDM and nuclear parity violations [4]



[1] Udrescu et al., Research Square 10.21203/rs.3.rs-2648482/v1 accepted in Nat. Phys. (2023)

[2] Athanasakis-Kaklamanakis et al., arXiv 2308.14862 submitted to PRL (2023)

# Actinium Fluoride

## Ac: Nuclear and atomic properties

- Octupole deformation
- Low-lying opposite parity states
- Schiff moment enhancement

## AcF: molecular enhancement

- Enhanced sensitivity to effective T,P-violating interaction [1]
  - Electronic structure: ?

## Production

- IP: ?  $D_e$ : ?

TABLE IV. Schiff moments ( $S$ ) and EDMs ( $d_A$ ) of some atoms in terms of the QCD  $\theta$ -term constant  $\bar{\theta}$ . We remind the reader that the current experimental limit is  $|\bar{\theta}| < 10^{-10}$ .

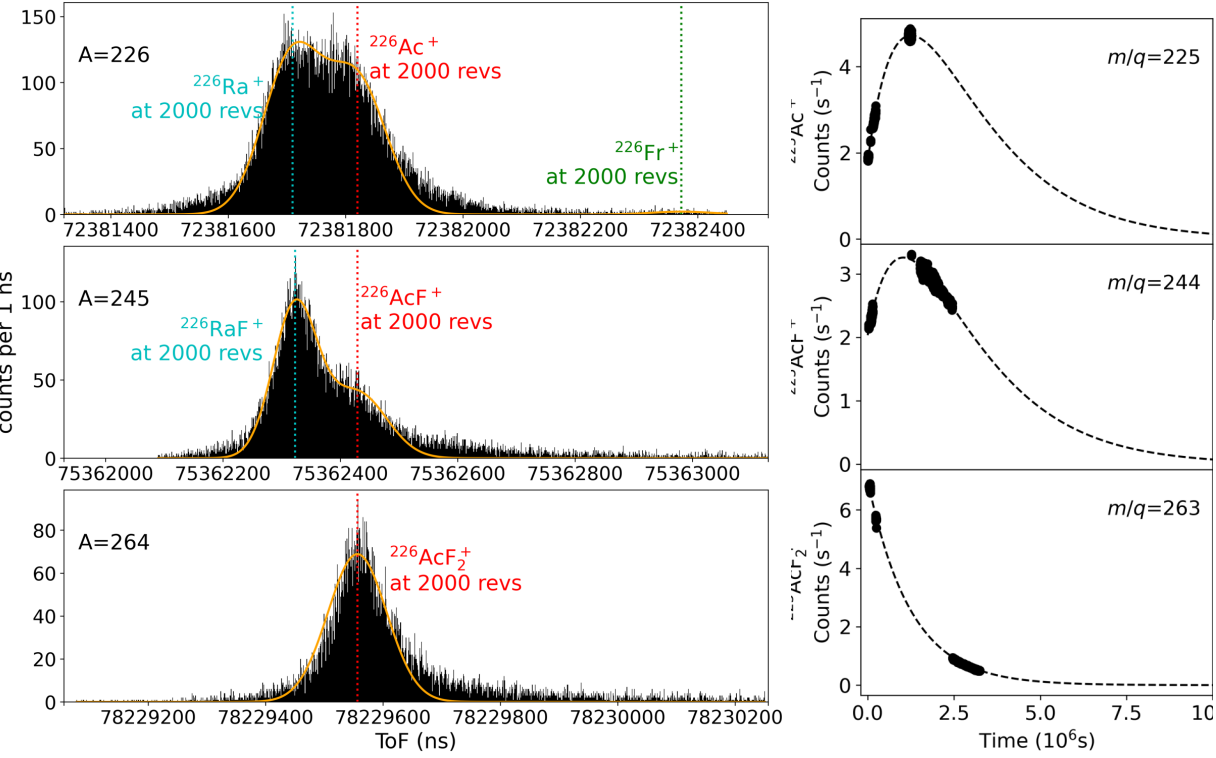
$Z$	Atom	$S$ [ $e \text{ fm}^3 \bar{\theta}$ ]	$d_A$ [ $e \text{ cm}$ ] $10^{-17} S$ [ $e \text{ fm}^3$ ]	$10^{-17} \bar{\theta}$
63	$^{153}\text{Eu}$	-3.7	-1.63	6
63	$^{153}\text{Eu}^{3+}$	-3.7	0.33	-1.2
66	$^{161}\text{Dy}$	$\lesssim 4$	-2.23	$\lesssim 9$
80	$^{199}\text{Hg}$	0.005	-2.50	-0.013
81	$^{205,203}\text{Tl}^+$	0.02	-2.79	-0.06
82	$^{207}\text{Pb}^{2+}$	0.005	-2.99	-0.015
86	$^{223}\text{Rn}$	-3	3.3	-10
87	$^{223}\text{Fr}^+$	-1.6	2.87	-4.6
88	$^{225}\text{Ra}$	-1	-8.25	8
89	$^{227}\text{Ac}$	-6	-10.1	60
89	$^{227}\text{Ac}^+$	-6	-9.8	60
90	$^{229}\text{Th}^{2+}$	$\lesssim 2$	-6.93	$\lesssim 14$
91	$^{229}\text{Pa}^a$	-40	-11.4	460
92	$^{233}\text{U}$	$\lesssim 2$	-12.1	$\lesssim 20$
93	$^{237}\text{Np}$	-4	-7.5	30
94	$^{239}\text{Pu}$	$\lesssim 0.1$	-9.2	$\lesssim 1$

<sup>a</sup>Estimates for  $^{229}\text{Pa}$  are presented assuming that the existence of a very close nuclear doublet level will be confirmed.

[1] Flambaum, Feldmeier, Phys. Rev. C. 101, 015502 (2020)  
 [2] Flambaum, Dzuba, Phys. Rev. A. 101, 042504 (2020)

# Production of $\text{AcF}_x^+$

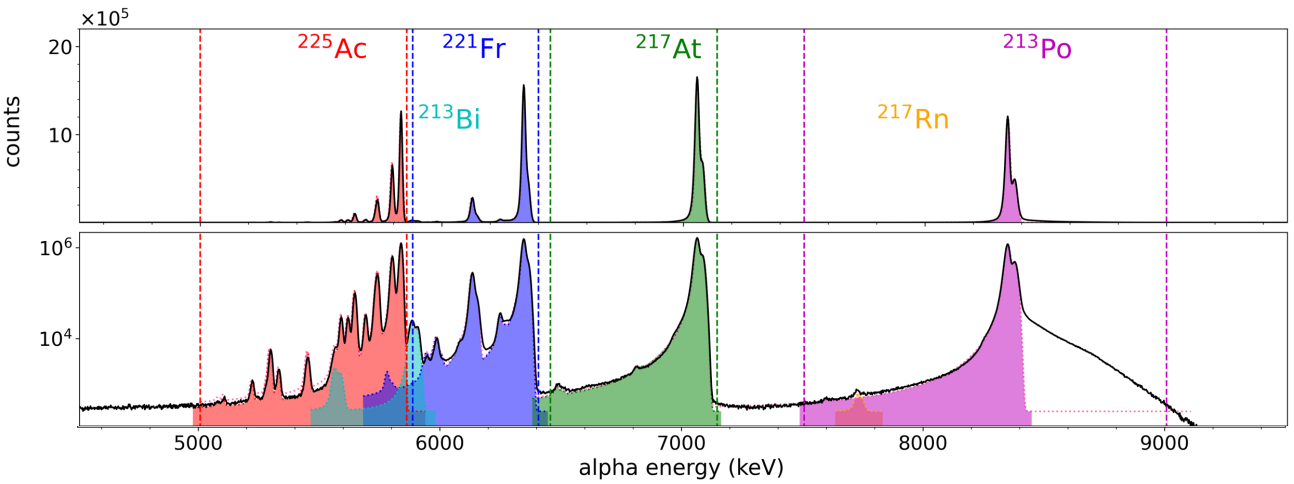
- AcF spectroscopy - characterization
- Ac: enhanced extraction
- $^{225}\text{Ac}$ : Targeted-alpha therapy



## Extraction and separation of actinium molecular ion beams for production of medical radionuclide $^{225}\text{Ac}$

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 T.E. Cocolios,<sup>4</sup> P. Fischer,<sup>3</sup> P.F. Giesel,<sup>3</sup> J. Johnson,<sup>4</sup> U. Köster,<sup>1,5</sup>  
 D. Lange,<sup>6</sup> M. Mougeot,<sup>1,6,†</sup> J. Reilly,<sup>7</sup> M. Schlaich,<sup>8</sup> Ch. Schweiger,<sup>1,6</sup>  
 F. Wienholtz,<sup>8</sup> W. Wojtaczka,<sup>4</sup> Ch. E. Düllmann,<sup>2,9,10</sup> and S. Rothe<sup>1</sup>

*In preparation (2023)*



Au, PhD thesis (2023)

# AcF spectroscopy

## Experimental

- CRIS

## Molecular theory

- IH-FS-RCCSD
- IP = 48,866 cm<sup>-1</sup>
  - (6.06 eV)
- D<sub>e</sub> = 57,214 cm<sup>-1</sup>
  - (7.09 eV)

EUROPEAN ORGANIZATION FOR NUCLEAR RESEARCH  
Proposal to the ISOLDE and Neutron Time-of-Flight Committee

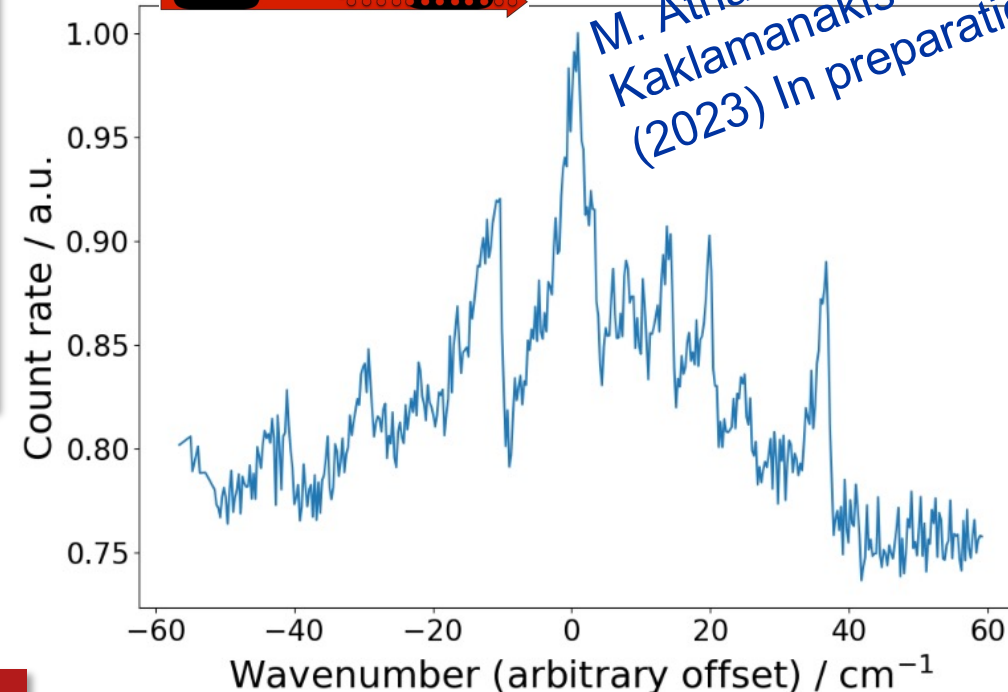
### Laser ionization spectroscopy of AcF

September 28, 2021

M. Athanasakis-Kaklamanakis<sup>1,2</sup>, S.G. Wilkins<sup>3</sup>, M. Au<sup>4,5</sup>, R. Berger<sup>6</sup>, A. Borschevsky<sup>7</sup>,  
K. Chrysalidis<sup>8</sup>, T.E. Cocolios<sup>2</sup>, R.P. de Groot<sup>2</sup>, Ch.E. Düllmann<sup>5,9,10</sup>,  
K.T. Flanagan<sup>11,12</sup>, R.F. Garcia Ruiz<sup>3</sup>, S. Geldhof<sup>2</sup>, R. Heinke<sup>8</sup>, T.A. Isaev<sup>13</sup>,  
J. Johnson<sup>2</sup>, A. Kiuberis<sup>7</sup>, Á. Koszorus<sup>1</sup>, L. Lalanne<sup>2</sup>, M. Mougeot<sup>1</sup>, G. Neyens<sup>2</sup>,  
L. Nies<sup>1,14</sup>, J. Reilly<sup>11</sup>, S. Rothe<sup>4</sup>, L. Schweikhard<sup>14</sup>, A.R. Vernon<sup>3</sup>, X.F. Yang<sup>15</sup>

Athanasakis-Kaklamanakis et al, INTC-LOI-615 (2021)

CRIS



arXiv > physics > arXiv:2305.06932

Physics > Atomic Physics

[Submitted on 11 May 2023]

### Ab initio study of electronic states and radiative properties of the AcF molecule

Leonid V. Skripnikov, Alexander V. Oleynichenko, Andréi Zaitsevskii, Nikolai S. Mosyagin, Michail Athanasakis-Kaklamanakis, Mia Au, Gerda Neyens

State	$T_e$ , cm <sup>-1</sup>	$r_e$ , Å	$\omega_e$ , cm <sup>-1</sup>	$ d ^2$ , a.u.	$\langle L_z \rangle$ , a.u.	Composition	Leading configurations
(1)0 <sup>+</sup>	0	2.110	541	–	0.0	100% X(1) <sup>1</sup> Σ <sup>+</sup>	92% 7s <sub>1/2</sub> <sup>σ</sup> 7s <sub>1/2</sub> <sup>σ</sup>
(8)1	26166	2.127	549	3.751	1.1	42% (2) <sup>3</sup> Π + 30% (3) <sup>σ</sup> Π	21% 7s <sub>1/2</sub> <sup>σ</sup> 7p <sub>3/2</sub> <sup>π</sup> 19% 7s <sub>1/2</sub> <sup>σ</sup> 7p <sub>1/2</sub> <sup>π</sup>

First spectrum of an electronic transition in AcF obtained with broadband laser spectroscopy at the CRIS experiment,

Figure published in Athanasakis-Kaklamanakis and Au, (2023) *CERN EP newsletter*

<https://ep-news.web.cern.ch/content/isolde-lays-ground-cp-violation-tests-radioactive-molecules>

# Conclusions

1

The ISOL method for molecular beams:  
In-source and in-trap formation

2

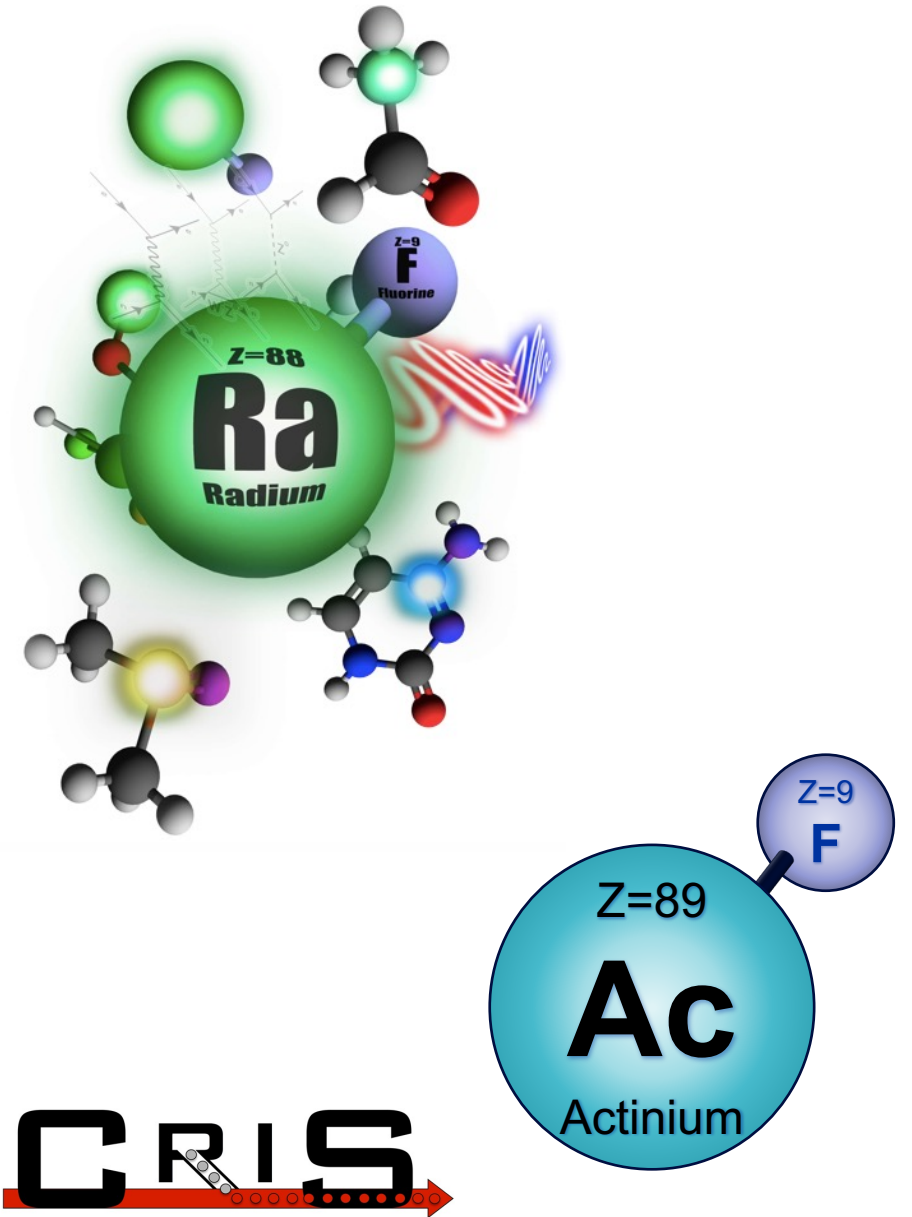
Radioactive molecules for BSM physics

3

RaF production, spectroscopy, characterization

4

AcF<sub>x</sub> production, ID, AcF spectroscopy



# Acknowledgements



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# Metastable molecular ions

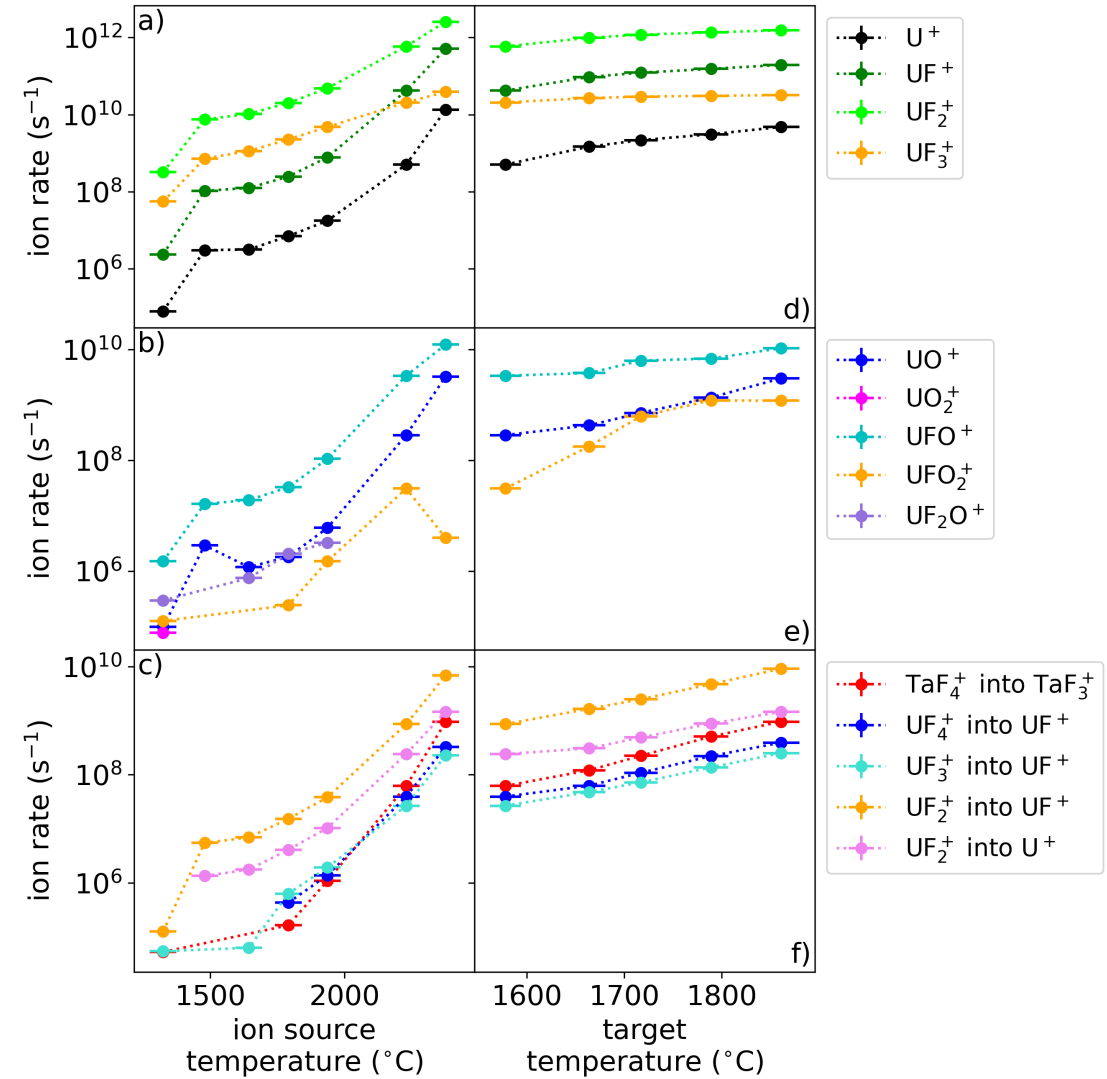
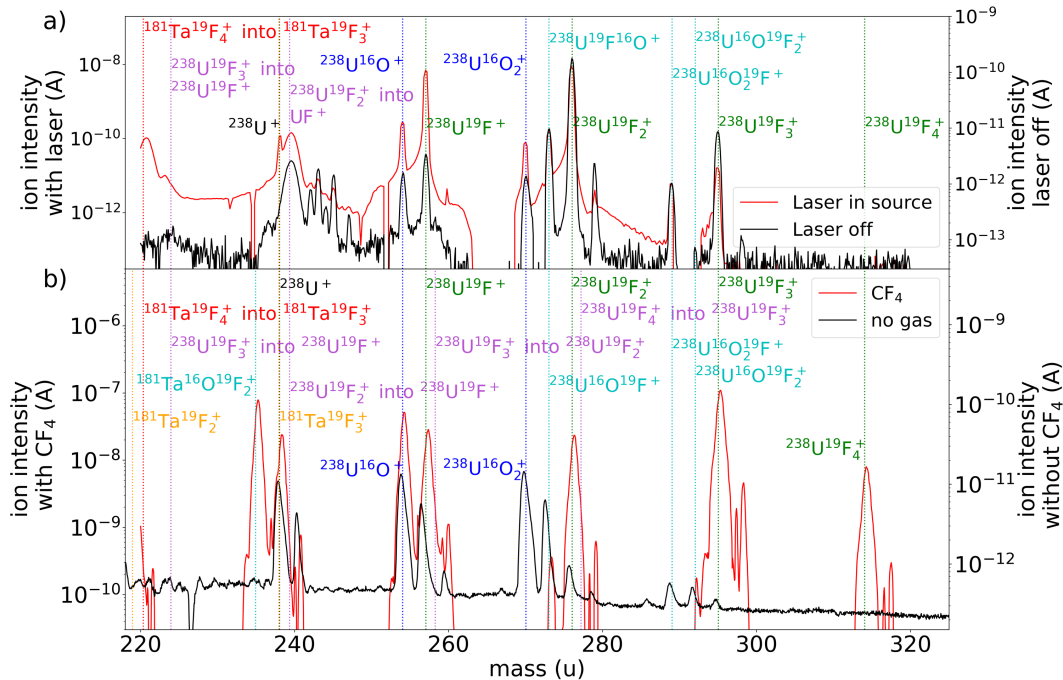
Dissociation **after** acceleration,  
**before** mass separation.

apparent mass:  $m^* = \frac{m_f^2}{m_p}$

Ex:  $\text{UF}_2^+ \text{ into } \text{UF}^+ + \text{F}$

- $m_f$ : mass of fragment ion
- $m_p$ : mass of precursor ion

- $m^* = \frac{(238+19)^2}{238+2(19)} = 239.31$



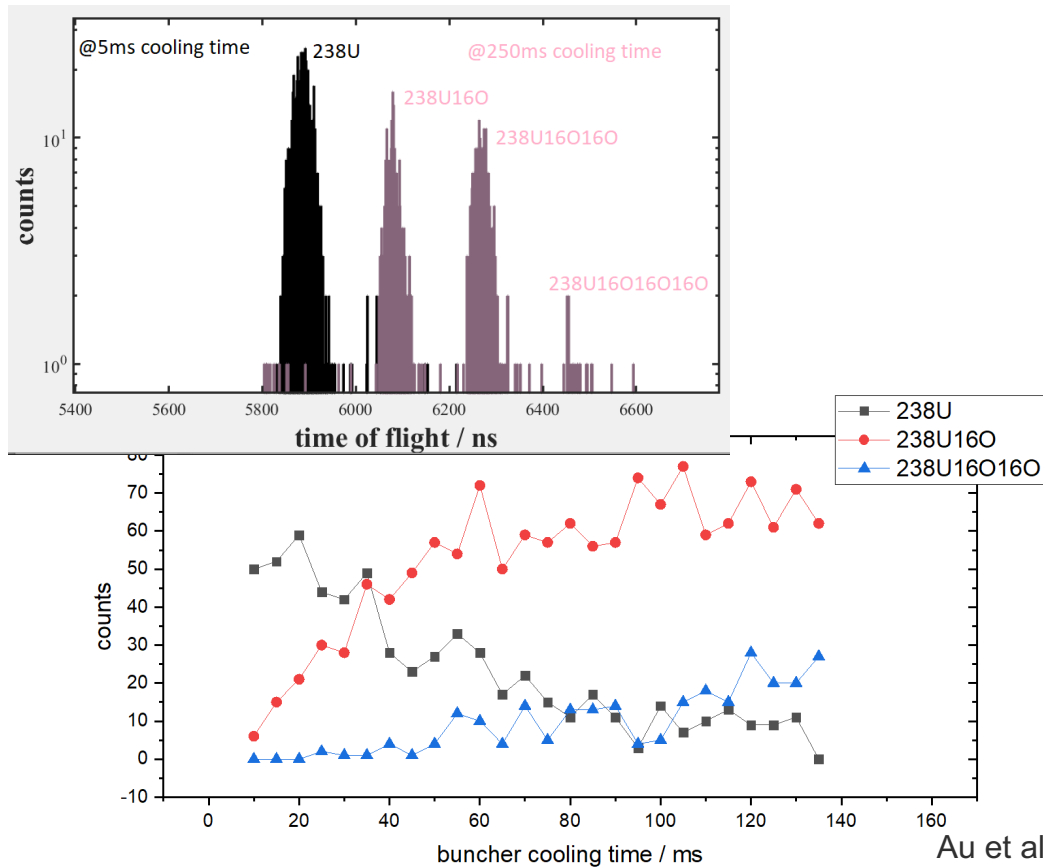
Au et al. (2023) *NIM B.* **541** (375-379)



# In-trap: identification

## UO<sub>x</sub>, TaO<sub>x</sub>

- Residual gas and primary mass-separated beam
- ID by ToF and revs vs ToF



Au et al. (2023) *NIM B.* **541** (375-379)

