

Cyclotron-based production of innovative radionuclides for medicine

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DI PADOVA

The banner features a blue background with white and yellow text. On the left, the logo for 'FONDAZIONE BRUNO KESSLER' is shown. To its right is the logo for 'ECT* EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR THEORETICAL STUDIES IN NUCLEAR PHYSICS AND RELATED AREAS'. On the far right, the text 'HYBRID WORKSHOP' is displayed. The main title 'From Hadrons to Therapy: Fundamental Physics driving new medical advances' is centered in a large, bold, white font. Below the title, the dates 'Trento, 5 - 9 September 2022' are written in a smaller white font. The background of the banner shows a faint image of a classical building facade.

FONDAZIONE BRUNO KESSLER

ECT*
EUROPEAN CENTRE
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IN NUCLEAR PHYSICS AND RELATED AREAS

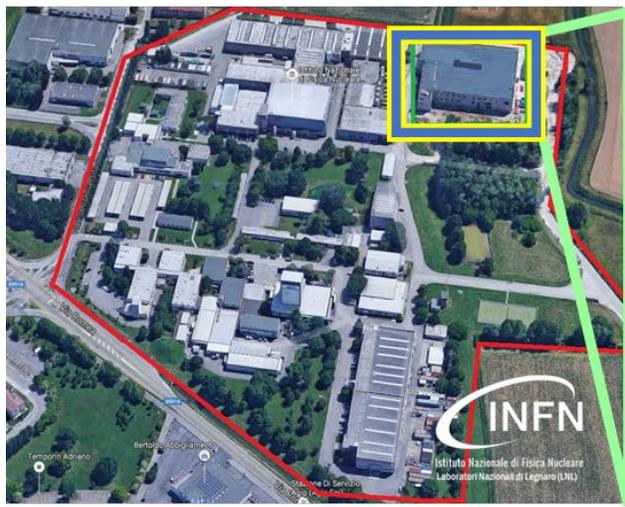
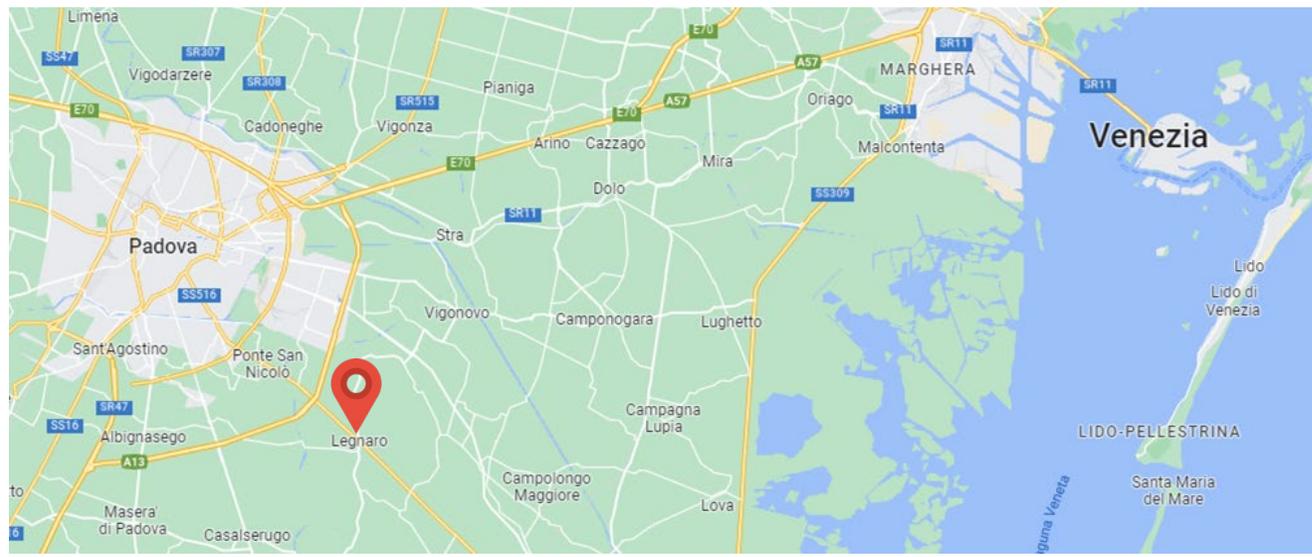
HYBRID WORKSHOP

**From Hadrons to Therapy: Fundamental
Physics driving new medical advances**

Trento, 5 - 9 September 2022

WHERE ARE WE?

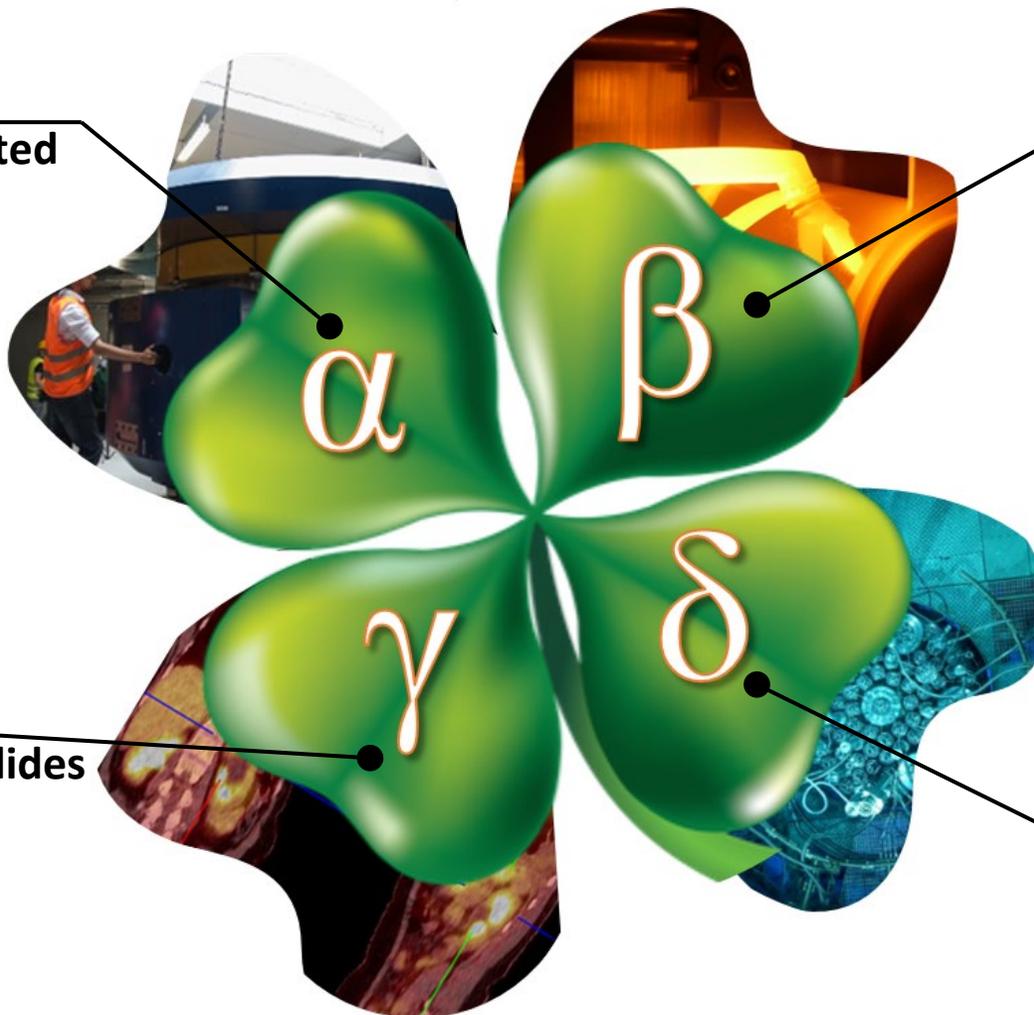
INFN-LNL are close to Padova and Venice



The SPES project

SPES- α

The cyclotron and related infrastructure.



SPES- β

The ISOL facility and the acceleration of neutron-rich unstable nuclei.

SPES- γ

The production of radionuclides for applications.

SPES- δ

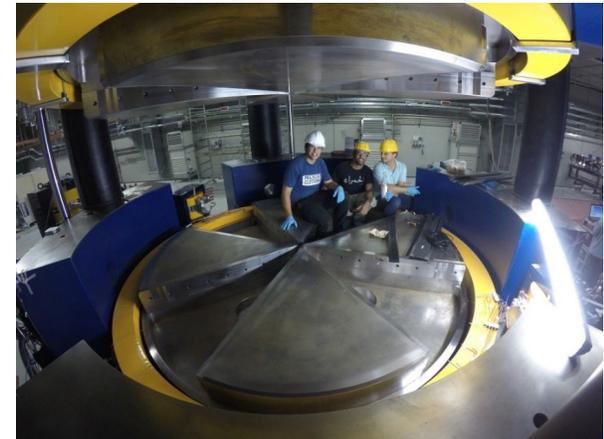
The multidisciplinary neutron sources.



Main Parameters	
Accelerator type	Cyclotron AVF with 4 sectors, Resistive Magnet
Particle	Protons (H^+ accelerated)
Energy range	35-70 MeV
Max Current Intensity	700 μA (variable within the range $1\mu A$ -700 μA)
Extraction	Dual stripping extraction
Max Magnetic Field	1.6 T ($B_0 = 1$ T)
RF System	nr. 2 delta cavities; harmonic mode=4; $f_{RF} = 56$ MHz; 70 kV peak voltage; 50 kW RF power (2 RF amplifiers)
Ion Source	Multi-cusp volume H^+ source; $I_{ext} = 8$ mA; $V_{ext} = 40$ kV; axial injection
Dimensions	$\Phi = 4.5$ m, $h = 2$ m, $W = 190$ tons

Tunable energy: 70 – 35 MeV
 High output current: 500 μA

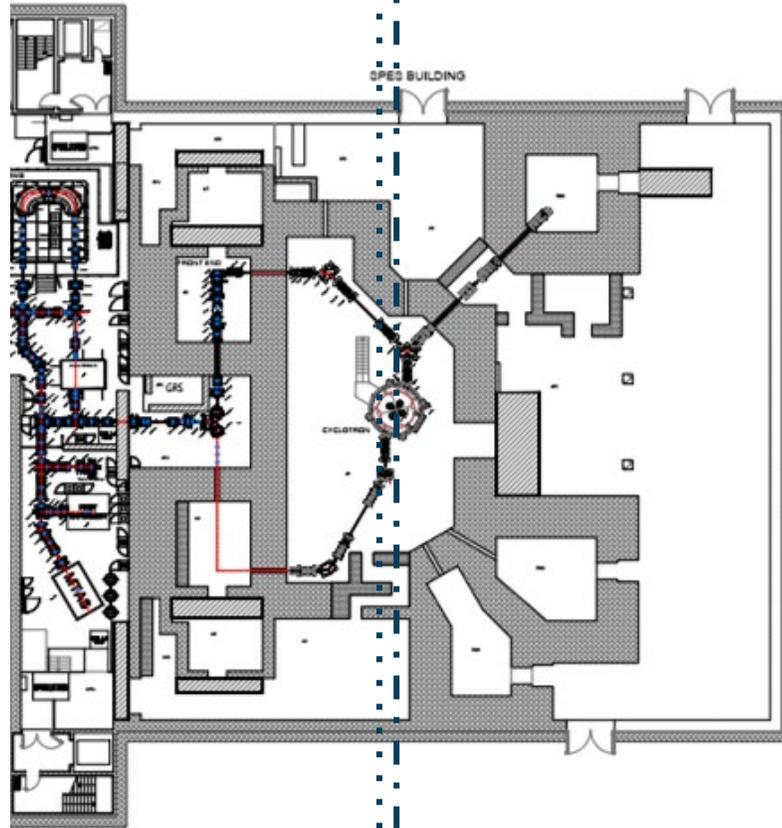
Dual extraction Fundamental & Applied research



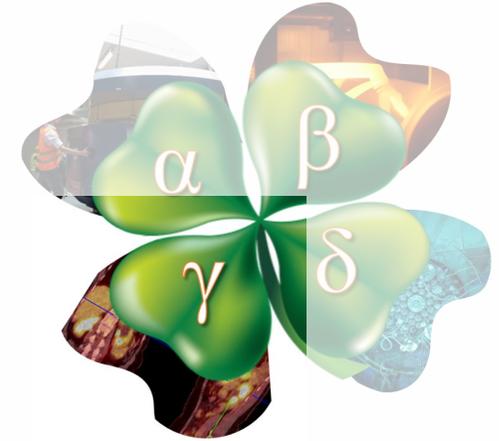
Medical radionuclides production

ISOLPHARM
SPES exotic beams for medicine

ISOL technique
A. Andrichetto
Resp. ISOLPHARM



Direct activation
J. Esposito
Resp. LARAMED



SPES- γ

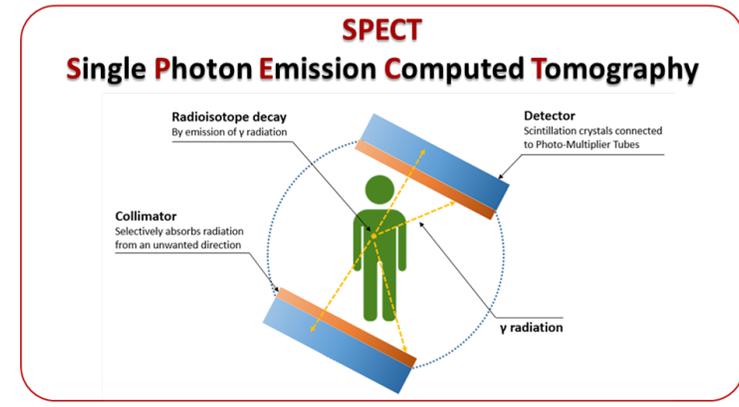
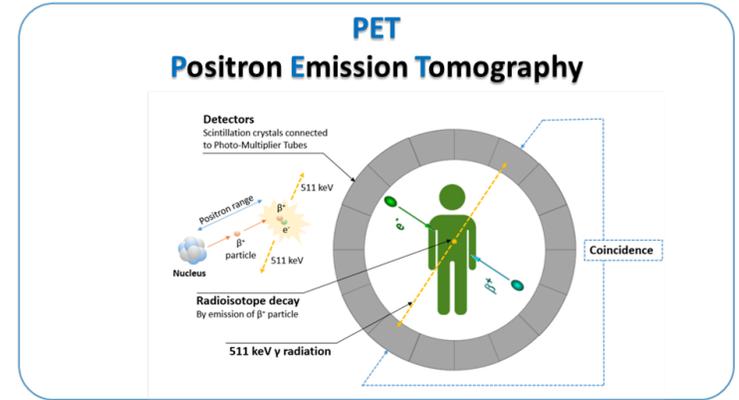
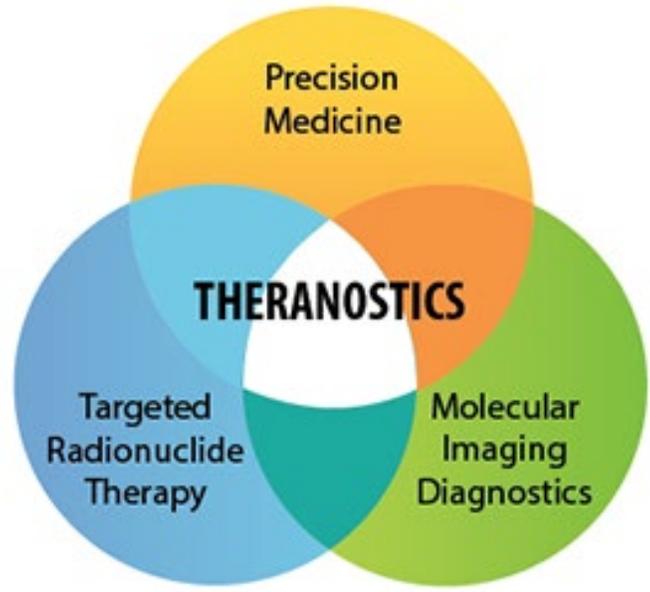
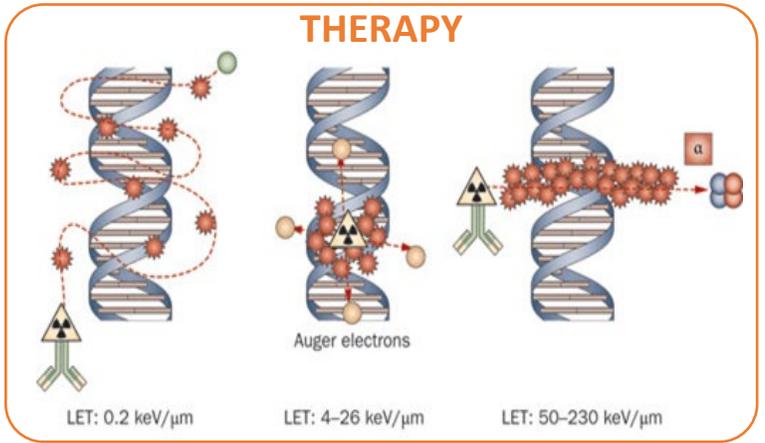
The production of radionuclides for applications.



<https://isolpharm.pd.infn.it/web/>

<https://www.inl.infn.it/en/spes-laramed-range>

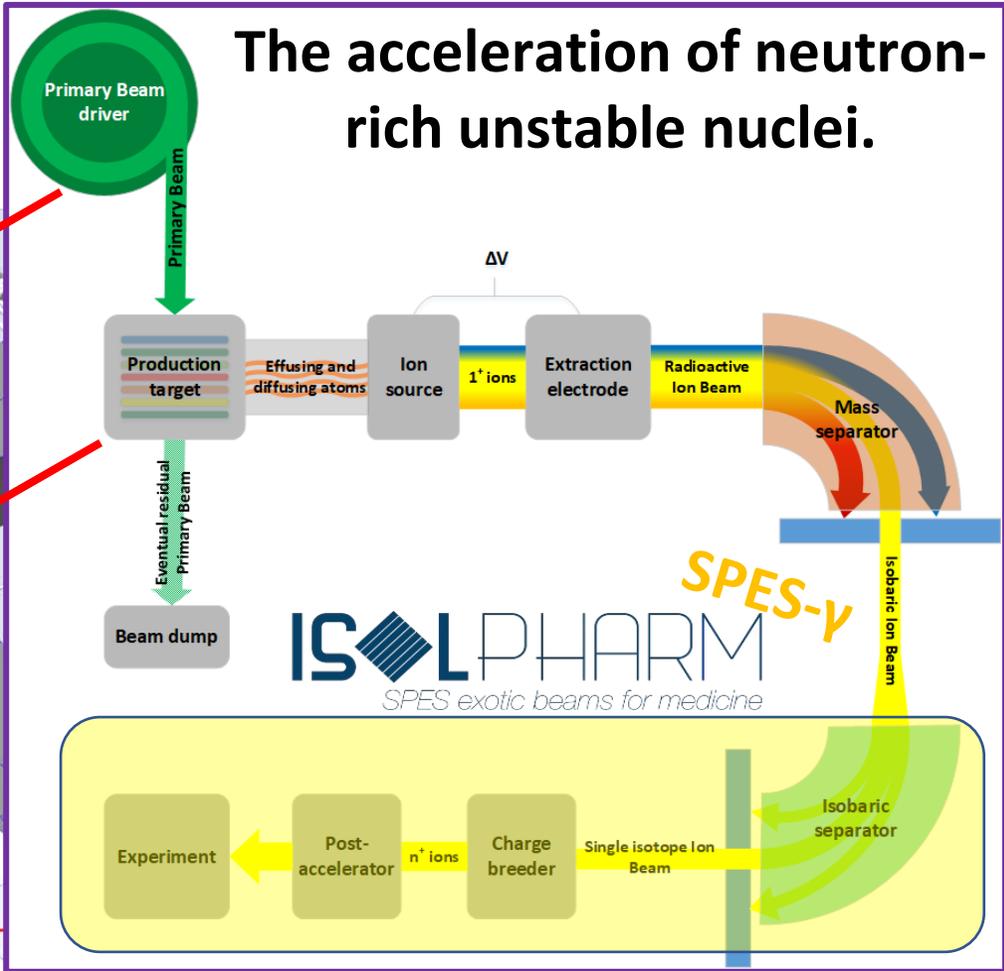
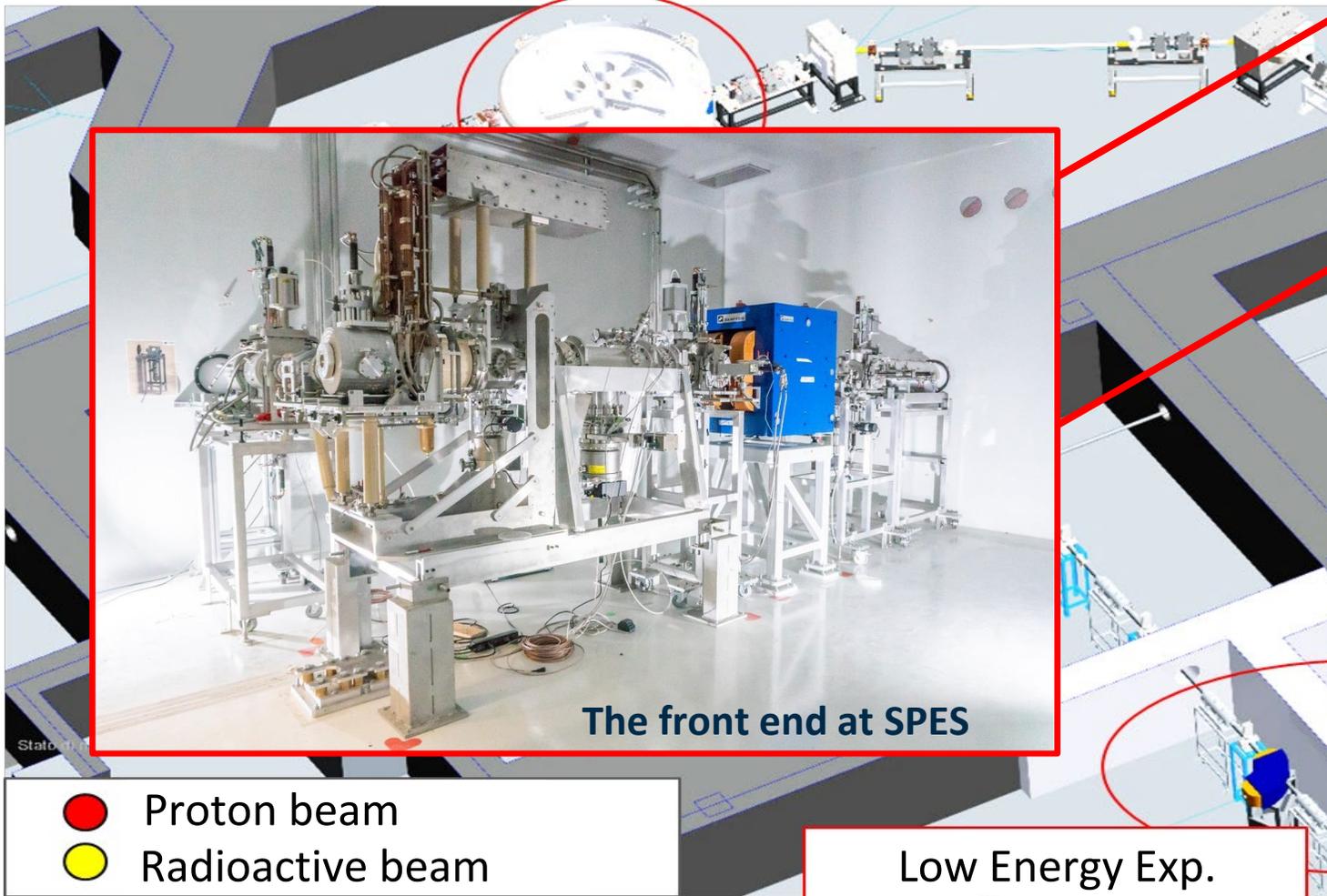
WHY?



The ISOL facility

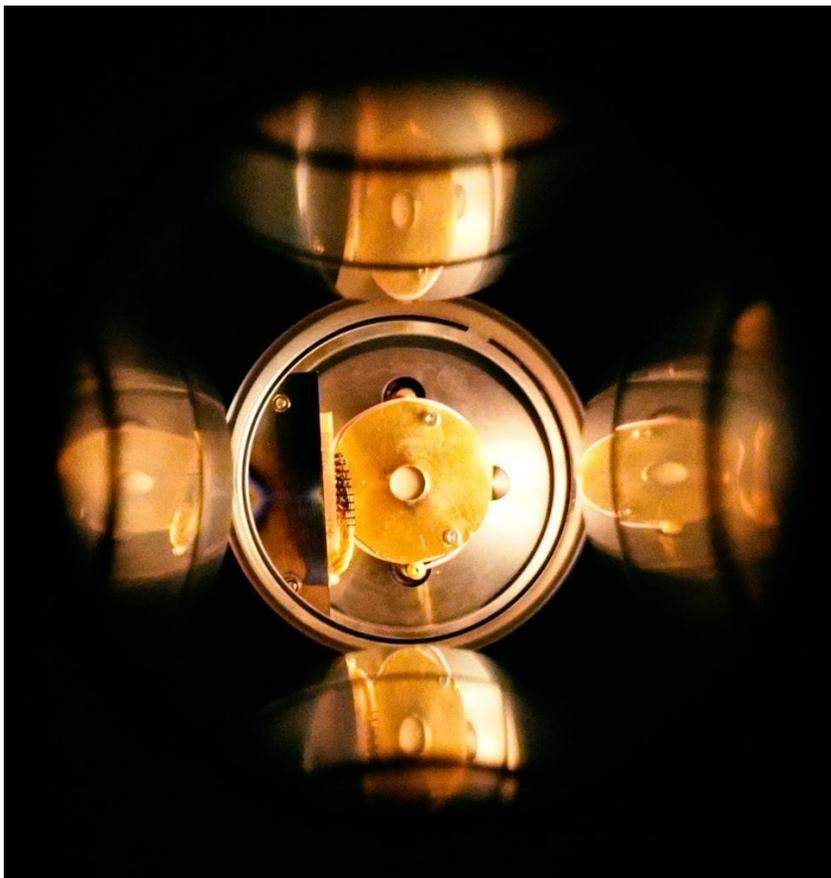
SPES- β

ISOL: Isotope Separation On Line
from Cyclotron through Target to Experiment



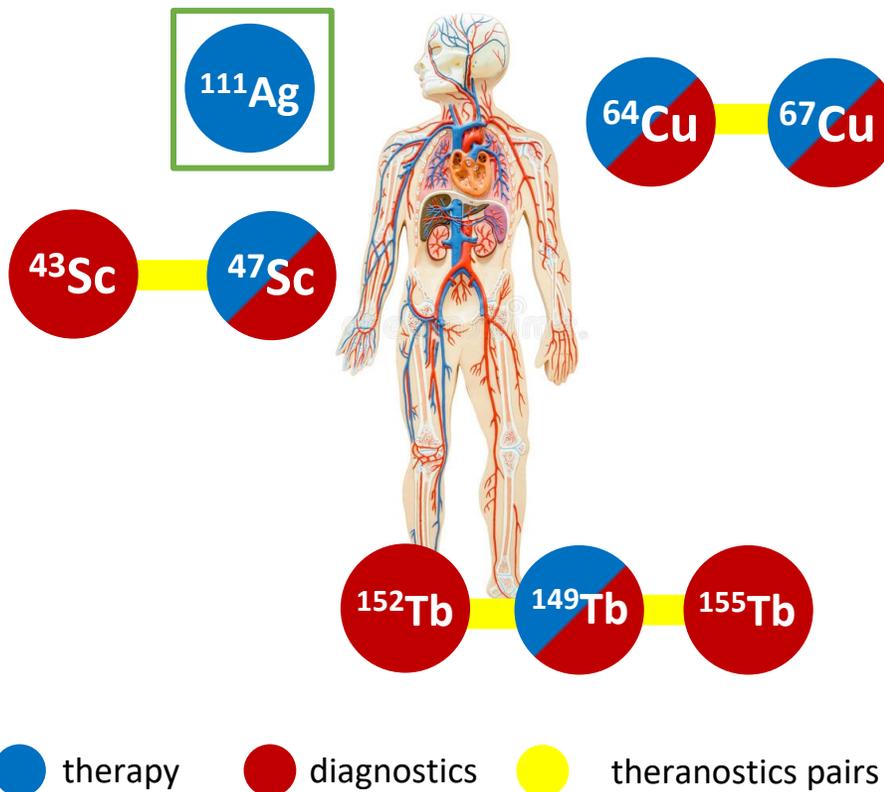
- Proton beam
- Radioactive beam

Low Energy Exp.



The ISOLPHARM ion collection target

ISOLPHARM allows to produce unconventional medical radionuclides with high specific activity & RNP



¹¹¹Ag production is investigated with two INFN-csn5 projects



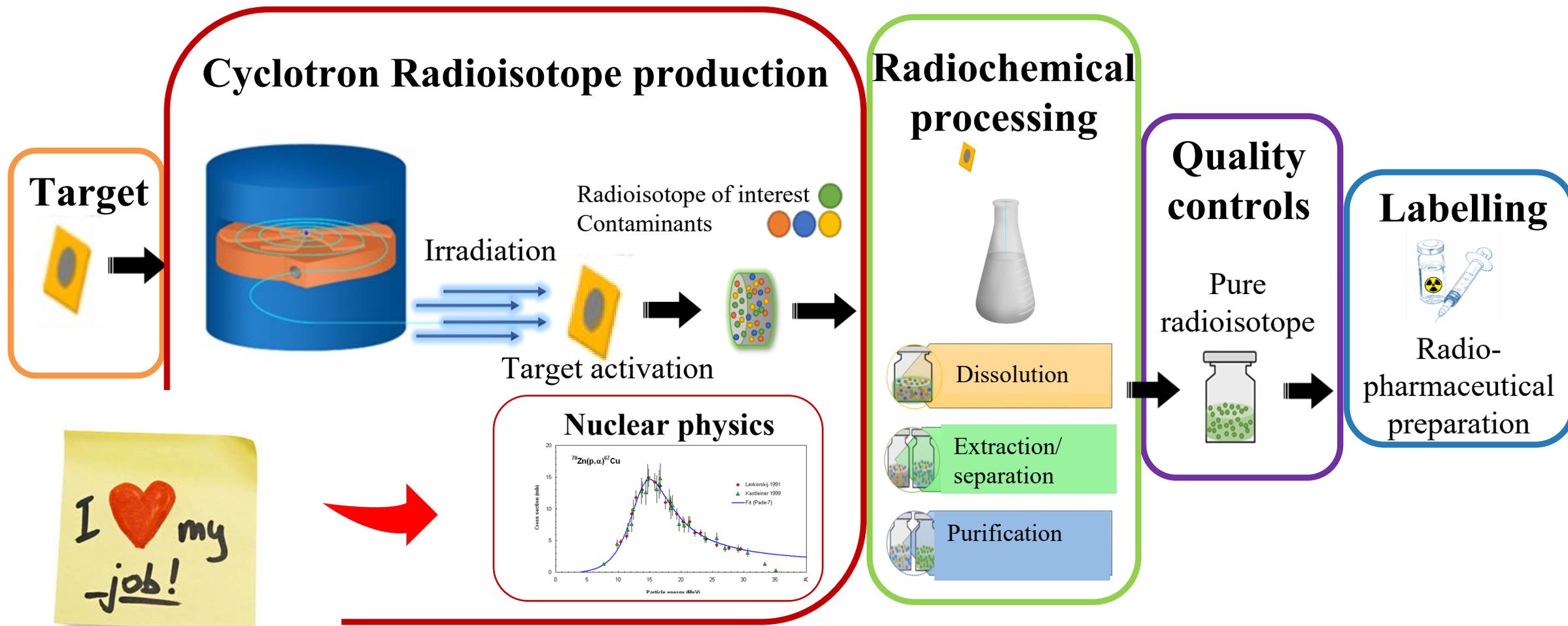
(2018-2019)



(2020-2022)

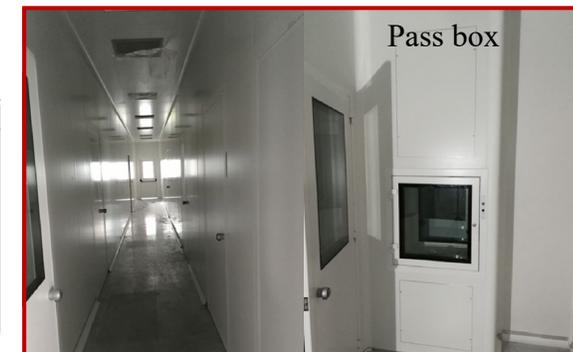
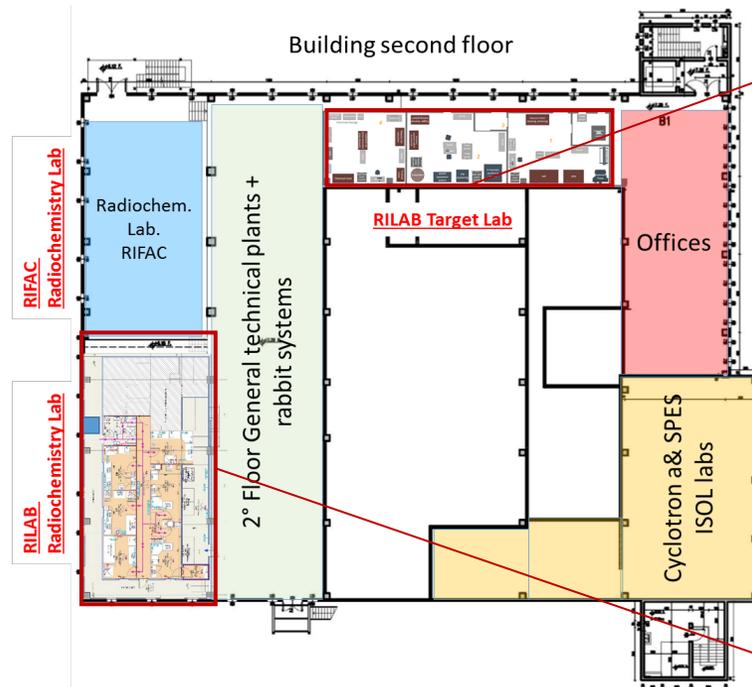
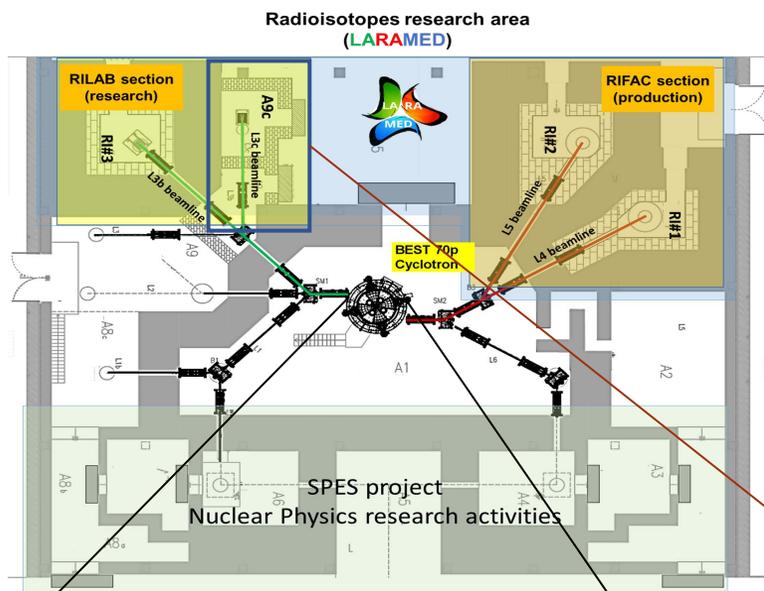


Cyclotron radiopharmaceutical production





LARAMED facility @ LNL



RILAB Radiochemistry labs



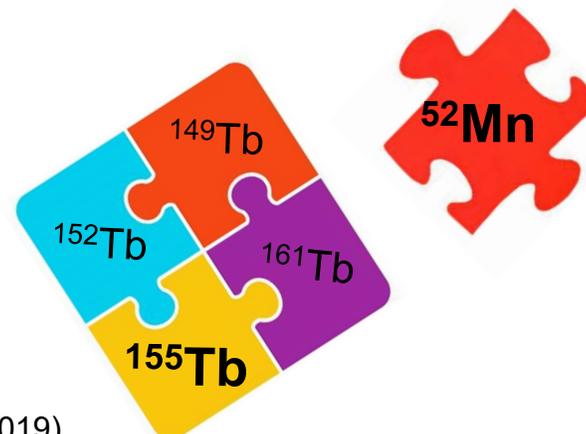
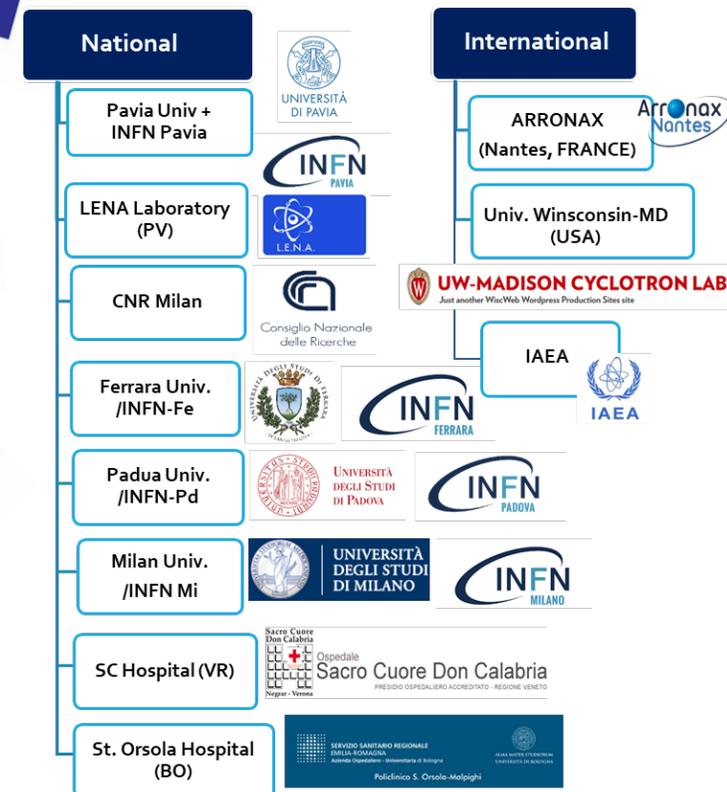
J. Esposito et al., LARAMED: a Laboratory for Radioisotopes of Medical interest, (2019) Molecules 24(1) 20



LARAMED research activities & network



Research lines and international projects	Years
Accelerator ^{99m}Tc direct production route through hospital cyclotrons	APOTEMA (2012-2014) TECHNOSP (2015-2017)
“Alternative, non HEU-based, $^{99m}\text{Tc}/^{99}\text{Mo}$ supply”	IAEA CRP (2011-2015)
COpper MEasurement: $^{70}\text{Zn}(p,x)^{67}\text{Cu}$	COME (2016)
Production with Accelerator of ^{47}Sc for Theranostic Applications	PASTA (2017-2018)
“Radiopharmaceuticals Labelled with New Emerging Radionuclides (^{67}Cu , ^{186}Re , ^{47}Sc)”	IAEA CRP (2016-2019)
High Power Target concepts R&D	TERABIO (2016-2019)
High intensity vibrational powder plating (HIVIPP)	E_PLATE (2018-2019)
Multimodal pET/mRi Imaging with Cyclotron-produced $^{52/51}\text{Mn}$ and stable paramagnetic Mn iSotopes	METRICS (2018-2021)
Research on Emerging Medical radionuclides from the X-sections: ^{47}Sc e ^{149}Tb , ^{152}Tb e ^{155}Tb (and therapeutic ^{161}Tb)	REMIX (2021-2023)
TOTEM (magneTron sputtering cyclotrOn TargEt Manufacturing)	TOTEM (2021-2022)



J. Esposito et al, Molecules 24(1), 20 DOI:10.3390/molecules24010020 (2019)



^{99m}Tc direct production cycle

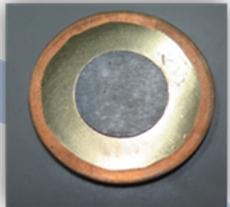
Closed-loop technology developed at LNL: recovery of costly target material



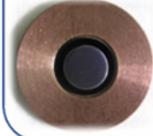
APOTEMA
TECHN-OSP
projects
INFN-CSNS
2012-2017

^{99m}Tc is il «gold standard» for SPECT procedures worldwide. Currently obtained by $^{99}\text{Mo}/^{99m}\text{Tc}$ generator systems

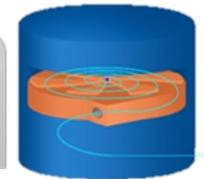
Target production



INFN International Patent no. PCT/IB2018/056826
Sputtering on chemically inert baseplate



Cyclotron Irradiation



J. Esposito, SciTech of Nuc Inst 2013 ID:972381
S. Manenti, Appl. Rad. Isotop. 2014 94C

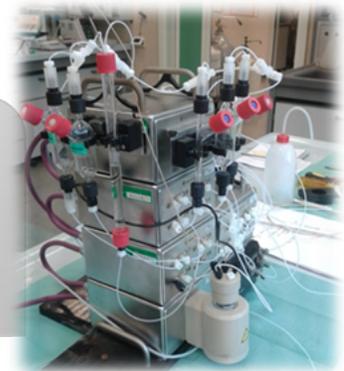
^{100}Mo recovery technique



H. Skliarova et al., Instruments, 2019, 3, 17



Radiochemistry Process. (extraction/separation/purification)



P. Martini et al. Appl. Rad. Isotop. 2016, 118

Radiopharmaceuticals, QC, imaging



P. Martini et al. Appl. Rad. Isotop. 2018, 135



IAEA
CRP on $^{99}\text{Mo}/^{99m}\text{Tc}$ supply (2011/2015)



^{52}Mn and the METRICS project

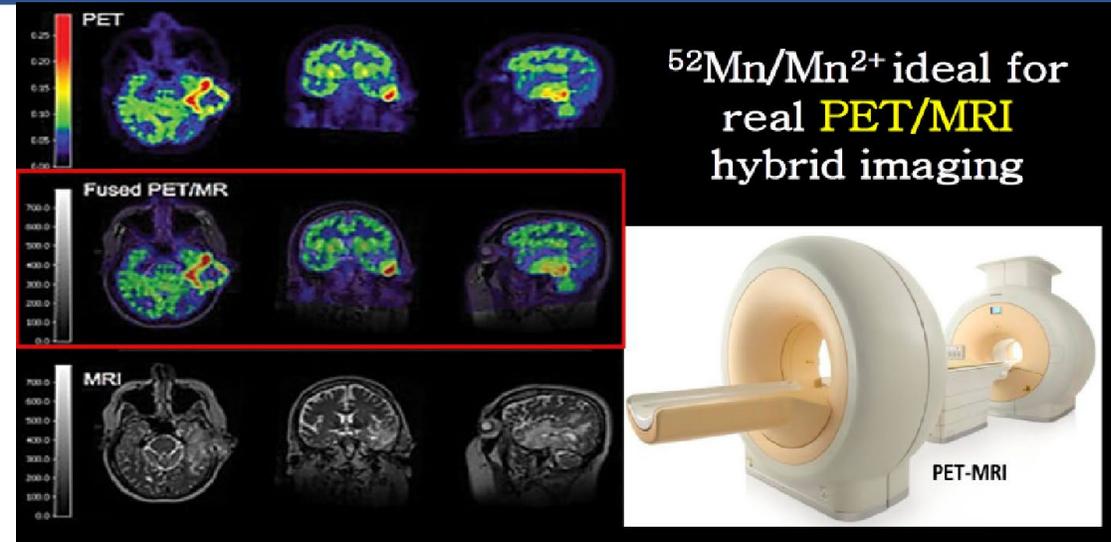


In Multi Modal Imaging (MMI) a mismatch occurs because the contrast and radioactive agents used are chemically different.....

GOAL : to achieve a **genuine fusion between PET and MRI**, the contrast and radioactive agents should be chemically identical

Multi Modality Imaging MMI

PET/SPECT	CT/MR	
functional imaging	anatomical imaging	
radiolabeled tracer	contrast agent	
e.g. ^{18}F -FDG for PET	e.g. Ba and I for CT	
or $^{99\text{m}}\text{Tc}$ -HMPAO for SPECT	or Gd-OMNISCAN for MRI	
^{52}Mn	$E_{\beta^+ \text{ (avg)}}$ 250 keV	PET
^{51}Mn	$E_{\beta^+ \text{ (avg)}}$ 960 keV	
Mn^{2+}	Paramagnetic properties	MRI contrast agent



GOAL of METRICS project

- To Develop/optimize the ^{52}Mn cyclotron production and separation/purification method
- To establish stable $\text{Mn(II)}/^{52}\text{Mn}$ -complexes





^{52}Mn and the METRICS project



Cr-52 Isoflex
(98.859%)

1000 mg

Smallest powder selected

Original powder used as it is

430.5 mg

SPS with TT_Sinter prototype (LARAMED)

n. 2 targets

16 MeV, 20 μA

Cr pellet: $\varnothing 10$ mm x 550 μm ;
 $\rho_{\text{Cr}} \sim 50\%$ bulk

Au layer: $\varnothing 20$ mm x 25 μm

Nb disc: $\varnothing 23.5$ x 1.6 mm

After irradiation

Original powder Before milling

1000 mg

After milling

550 mg

SPS with TT_Sinter prototype (LARAMED)

n. 2 targets

16 MeV, 20 μA

Cr pellet: $\varnothing 10$ mm x 460 μm ;
 $\rho_{\text{Cr}} \sim 60\%$ bulk

Au layer: $\varnothing 20$ mm x 25 μm

Nb disc: $\varnothing 23.5$ x 1.6 mm

After irradiation

Irradiation at 16 MeV energy for pure ^{52}Mn production

Development of Efficient Separation Procedures of Cyclotron Produced $^{52/51}\text{Mn}$

^{52}Cr target manufacturing technology developed by SPS technique

Cyclotron Radioisotope direct production

Irradiation of Target (Radiotope of interest, Main contaminant) → Radiochemical processing (Dissolution, Extraction/separation, Purification) → Quality control (Pure radioisotope) → Radiopharmaceutical production (Cell)

AUTOMATION

Known method: double anion exchange resin with Cr elution with a hydroalcoholic solution and Mn with HCl 0.1M

Original approach used: a first anion and a second cation exchange resins arranged in series

Dissolution/separation procedure developed

Cr dissolution in HCl 12M → Addition of 2 μl of Mn standard to the dissolved target → Separation procedure with ionic chromatography → Evaporation of the solvent and dissolution with HCl 2M → ICP-OES analysis

Ag1X-8 + Ag1X-8 coupling

Sample	Cr (mg)	Mn (μg)
WASTE 1	200.2	< LDR
WASH 1	1.9	< LDR
WASTE 2	0.9	< LDR
WASH 2	0.03	< LDR
PRODUCT 2A	< LDR	2.1
PRODUCT 2B	< LDR	0.6

Ag1X-8 + AG50W-X4 coupling

Sample	Cr (μg)	Mn (μg)
WASTE 1	188.8	< LDR
WASTE 2	2.1	< LDR
WASH 2A (10 ml 6 M HCl 1 M)	0.4	< LDR
WASH 2B (2 ml 6 M HCl 0.3 M)	0.3	< LDR
WASH 2C (2 ml 6 M HCl 0.5 M)	0.02	0.2
PRODUCT 2A (1 ml HCl 1.5 M)	0.06	0.6
PRODUCT 2B (1 ml HCl 1.5 M)	0.06	1.8
PRODUCT 2C (1 ml HCl 2 M)	0.02	0.8
PRODUCT 2D (1 ml HCl 2 M)	0.004	0.3
PRODUCT 2E (1 ml HCl 2 M)	< LDR	0.07

LDR: Cr= 11.9 ppb; Mn=5.30 ppb

ECT* EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR THEORETICAL STUDIES IN NUCLEAR PHYSICS AND RELATED AREAS

From Hadrons to Therapy: Fundamental Physics driving new medical advances

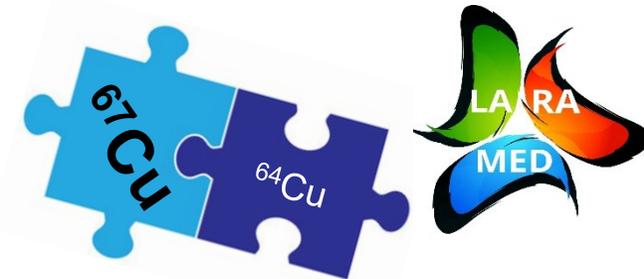
Trento, 5 – 9 September 2022

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13/34



^{67}Cu as theranostic agent



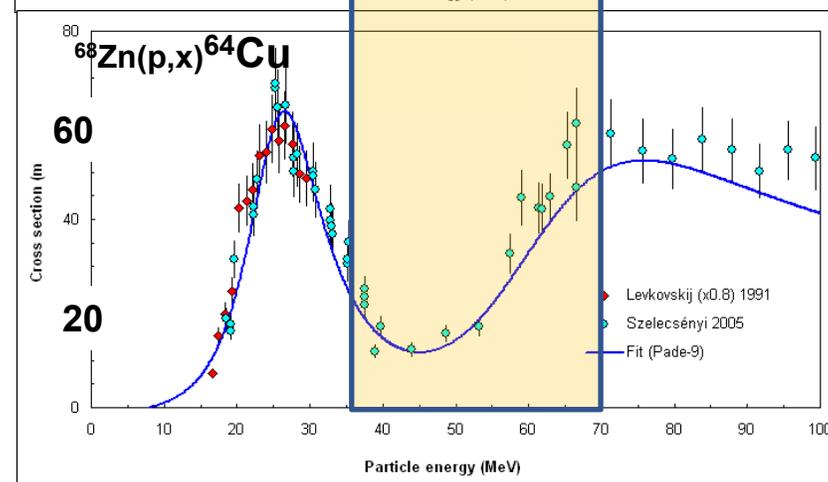
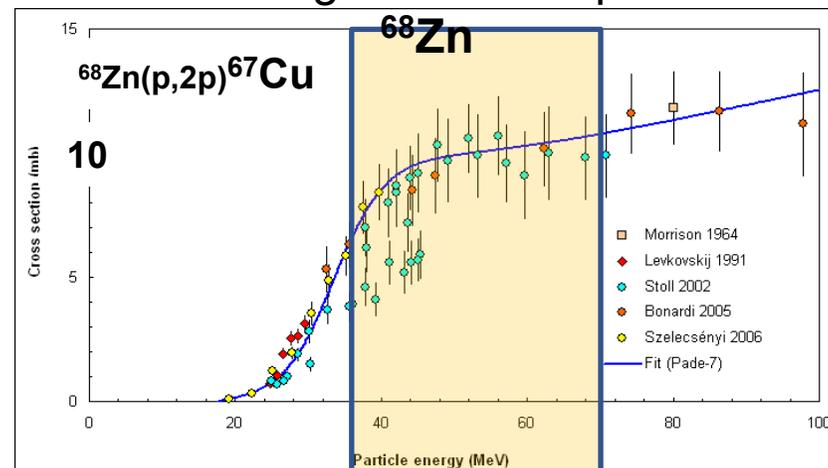
SPECT

THERAPY

Cu-67 61.83 h	γ -ray [keV]	γ -ray [%]	β energy [keV]	β int [%]	Auger [keV]	Auger [%]
β^- : 100 %	184.6	48.7	51.0	1.11	0.99	19.14
(Zn-67)	209.0	0.115	121	57	7.53	6.87
	300.2	0.797	154	22.0	83.652	12.09
	393.5	0.220	189	20.0		

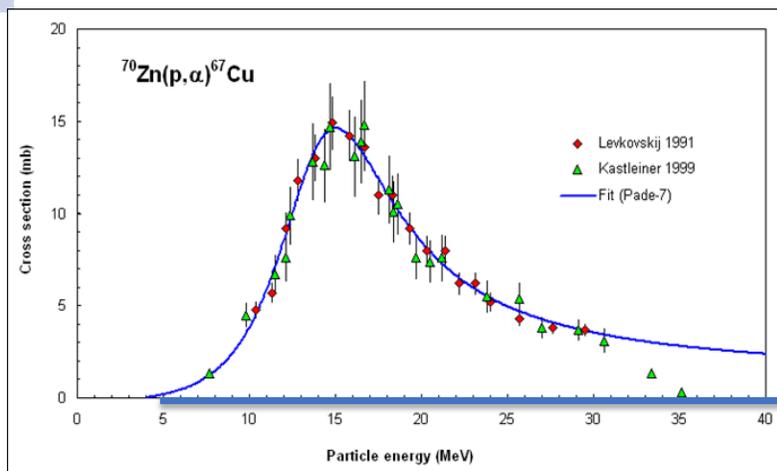
Mean β^- : 141 keV

Most used targets for ^{67}Cu production:



IAEA

CRP on ^{67}Cu , ^{47}Sc , ^{186}Re
(2016/2020)



COME project
INFN-CSN3 2016

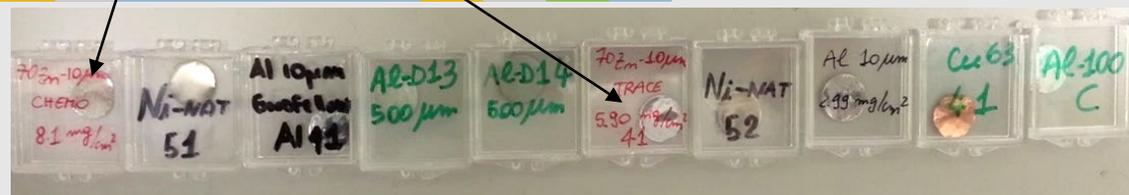


^{67}Cu as theranostic agent



Scheme of a typical stacked-foils target

Enriched ^{70}Zn targets produced at LNL by lamination



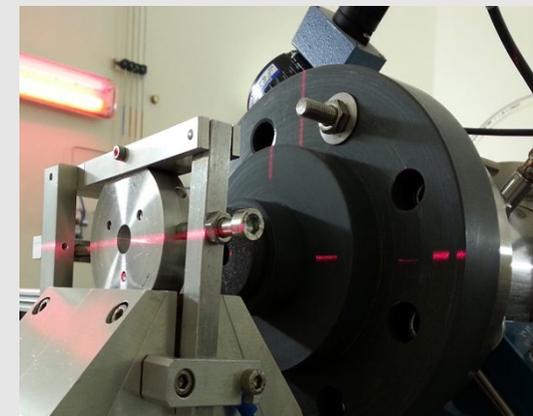
Stacked-foils target assembly



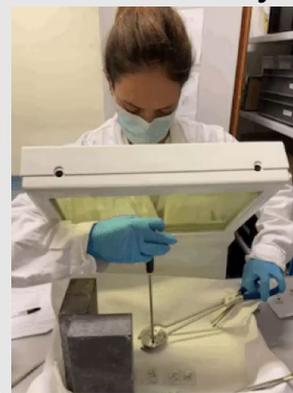
Beam setting with alumina



Irradiation runs on the AX3 beam-line



Target disassembly



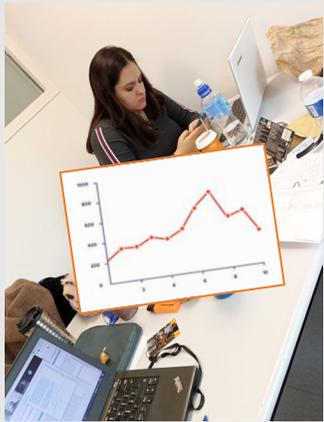
Radiochemistry



γ -spectrometry



Data analysis

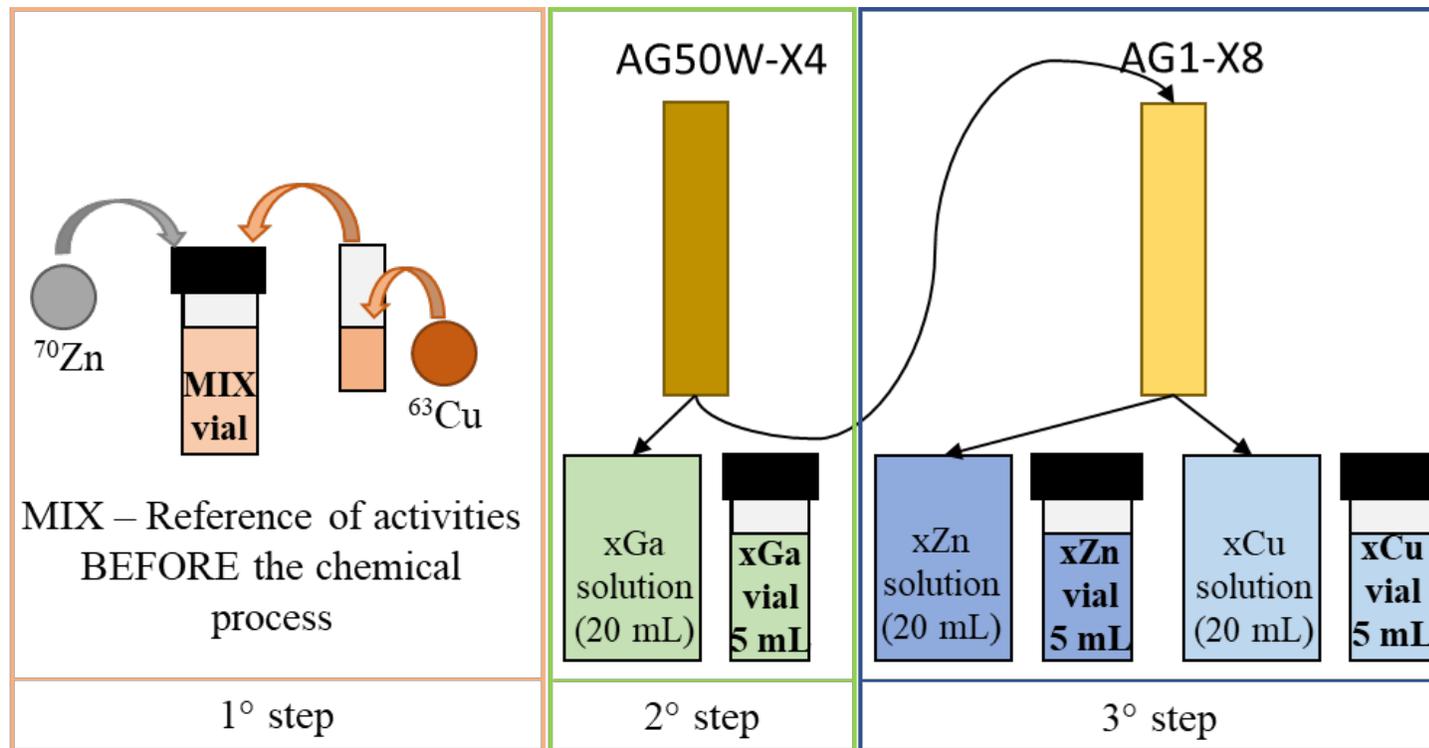




Cu/Ga separation process from Zn



Energy [keV]	Cu-67 Int. [%] $t_{1/2} = 61.83$ h	Ga-67 Int. [%] $t_{1/2} = 78.24$ h
184.6	48.7 3	21.41 1
209.0	0.115 5	2.46 1
300.2	0.797 11	16.64 12
393.5	0.220 8	4.56 24



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 LABOR FRUCTUS

%	Gallium Sol	Copper sol	Zinc sol
Ga-66	79 ± 11	2 ± 1	ND
Cu-61	ND	95 ± 2	ND
Zn-69	ND	ND	84 ± 2

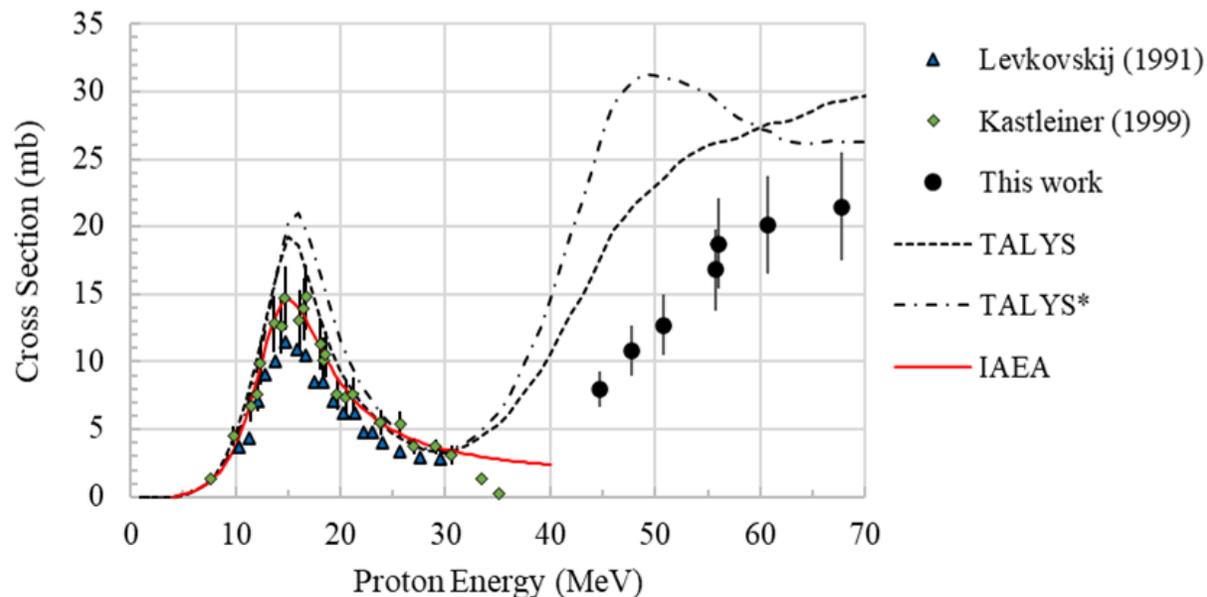
G. Pupillo, L. Mou, P. Martini, et al. *Radiochimica Acta*, 2020, 108(8), pp. 593–602



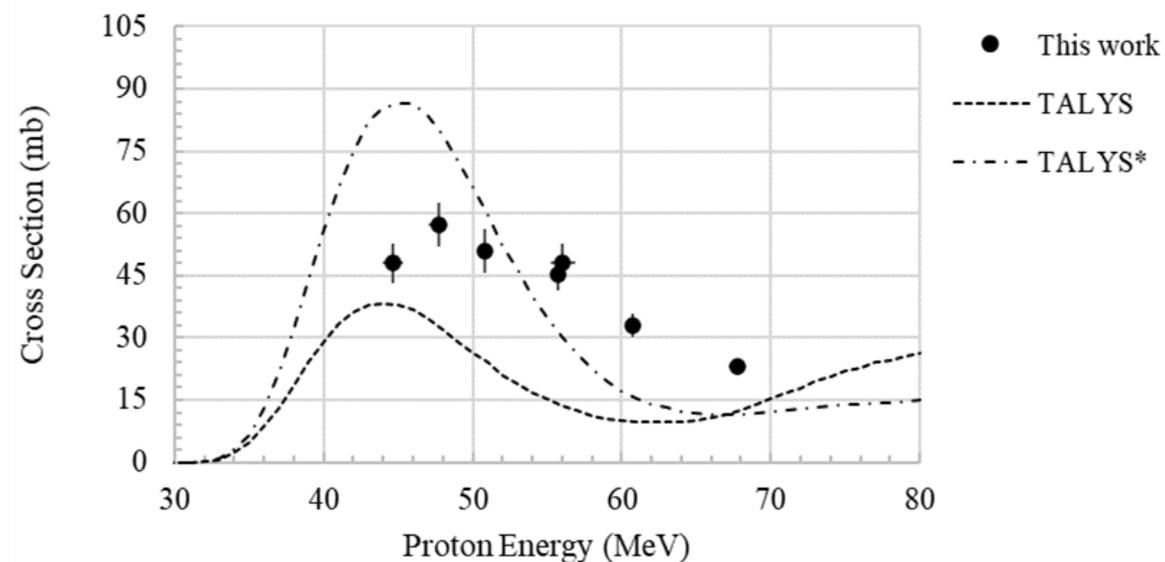
The $^{70}\text{Zn}(p,x)^{67}\text{Cu}$, ^{64}Cu cross sections



$^{70}\text{Zn}(p,x)^{67}\text{Cu}$



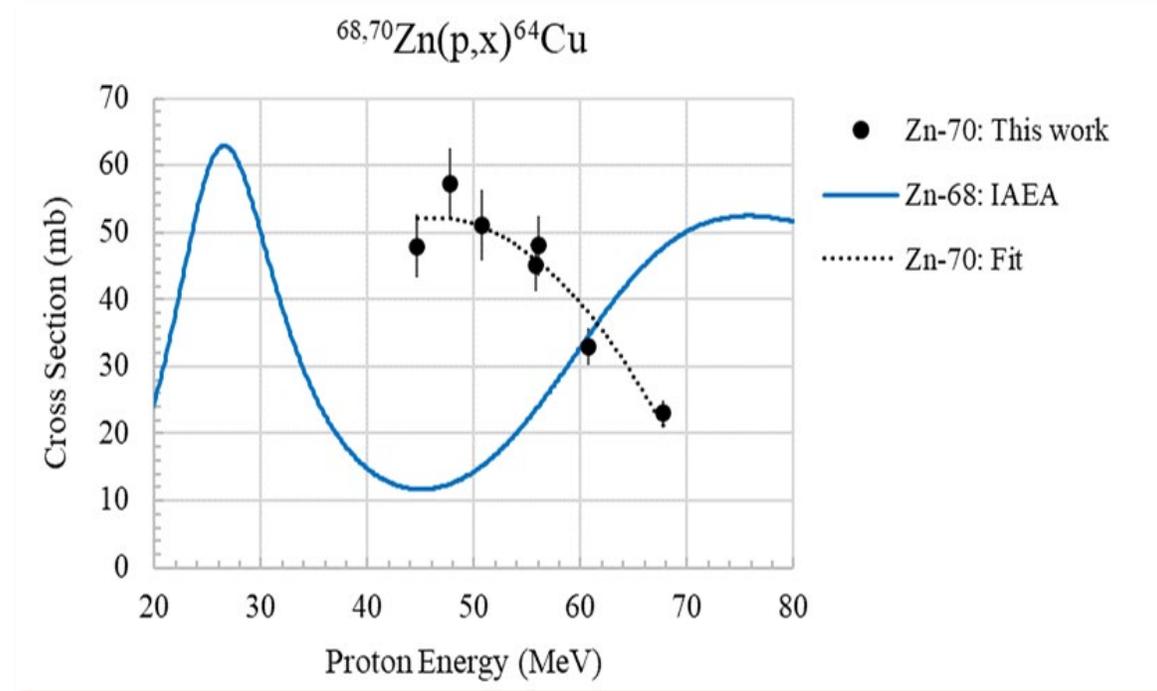
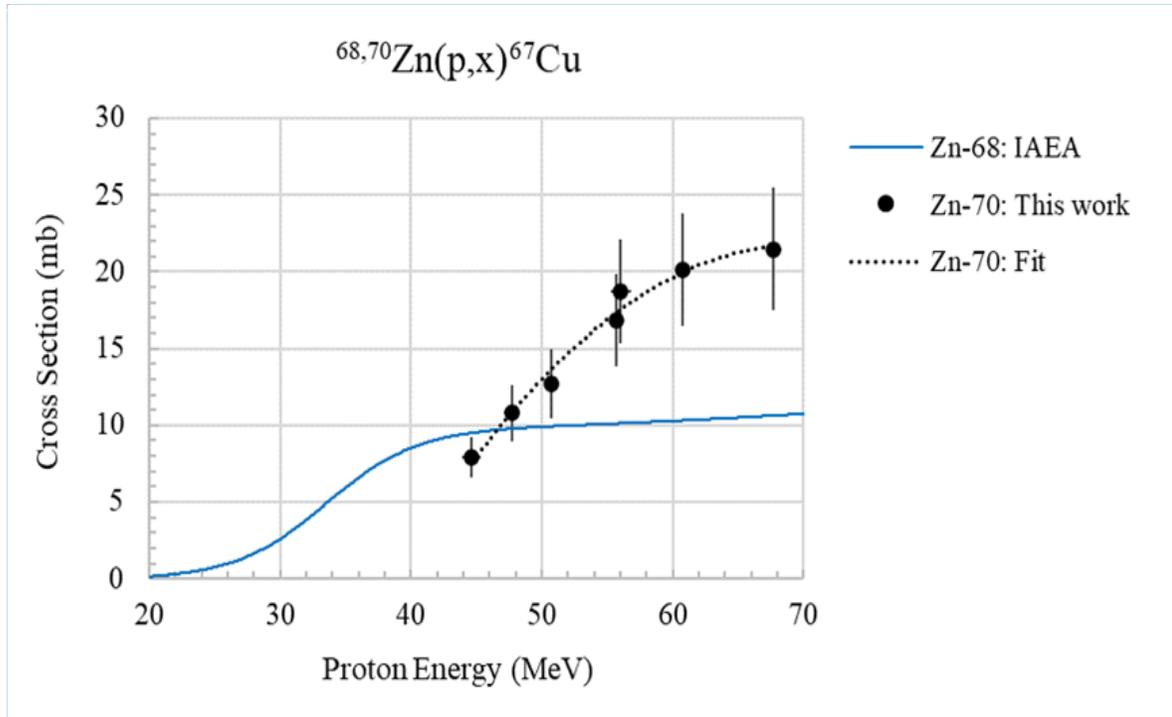
$^{70}\text{Zn}(p,x)^{64}\text{Cu}$



G. Pupillo, L. Mou *et al.*, *Production of ^{67}Cu by enriched ^{70}Zn targets...*, *Radiochim. Acta* 108 (8) 2020



Comparison of the ^{70}Zn and ^{68}Zn targets



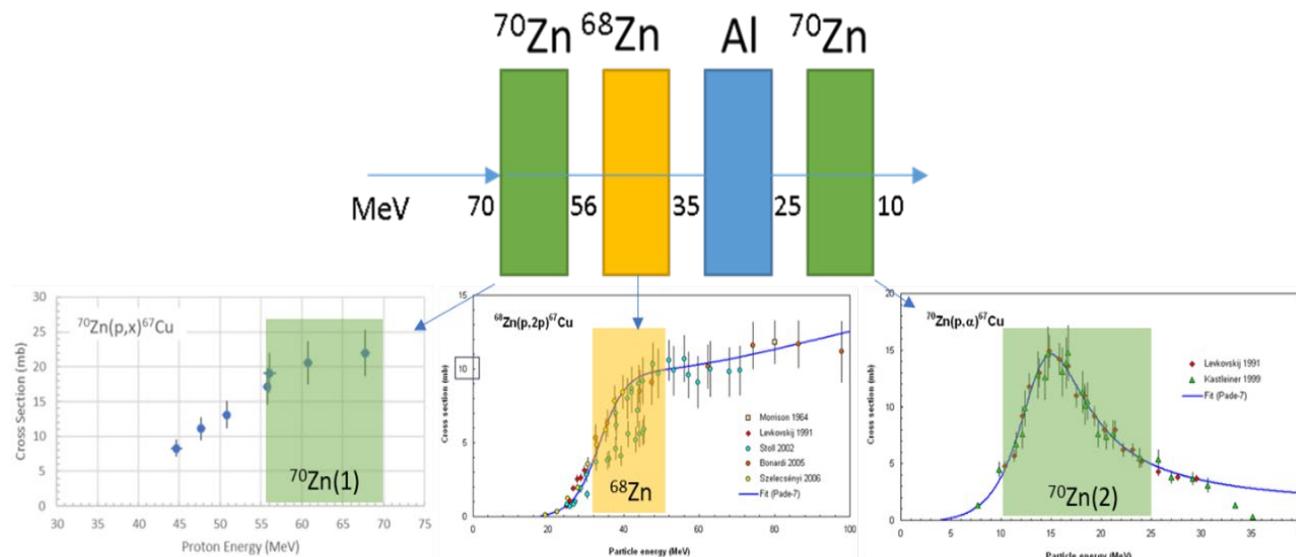
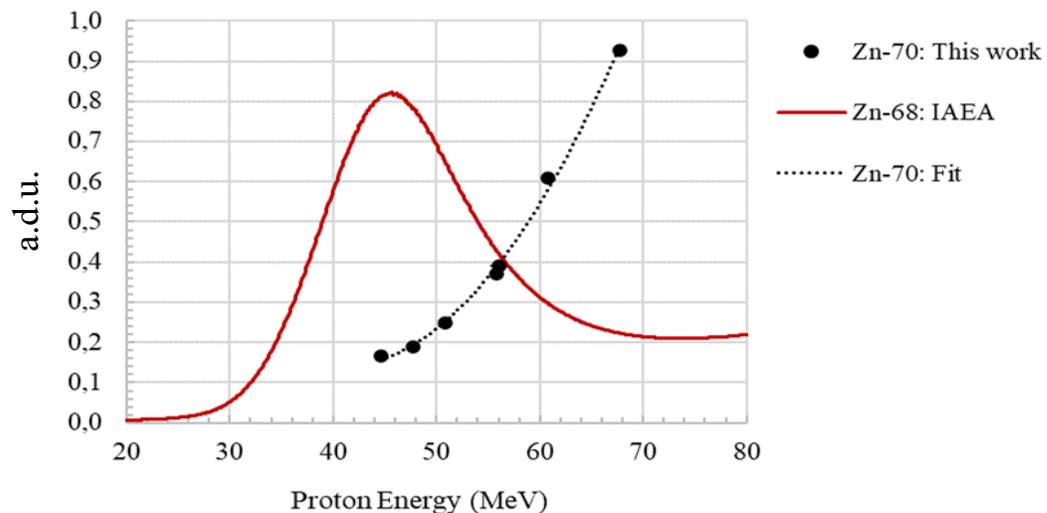
G. Pupillo, L. Mou *et al.*, *Production of ^{67}Cu by enriched ^{70}Zn targets...*, *Radiochim. Acta* 108 (8) 2020



A multi-layer target to optimize ^{67}Cu production: an INFN patent



Cross section ratio $^{67}\text{Cu}/^{64}\text{Cu}$



$^{67}\text{Cu}/^{64}\text{Cu}$ ratio favourable from ^{70}Zn target above 56 MeV



“A method and a target for the production of ^{67}Cu ”

Mou, Pupillo, Martini, Pasquali



November 2019





CUPRUM_TTD proposal



INFN-CSN5 2023-2025



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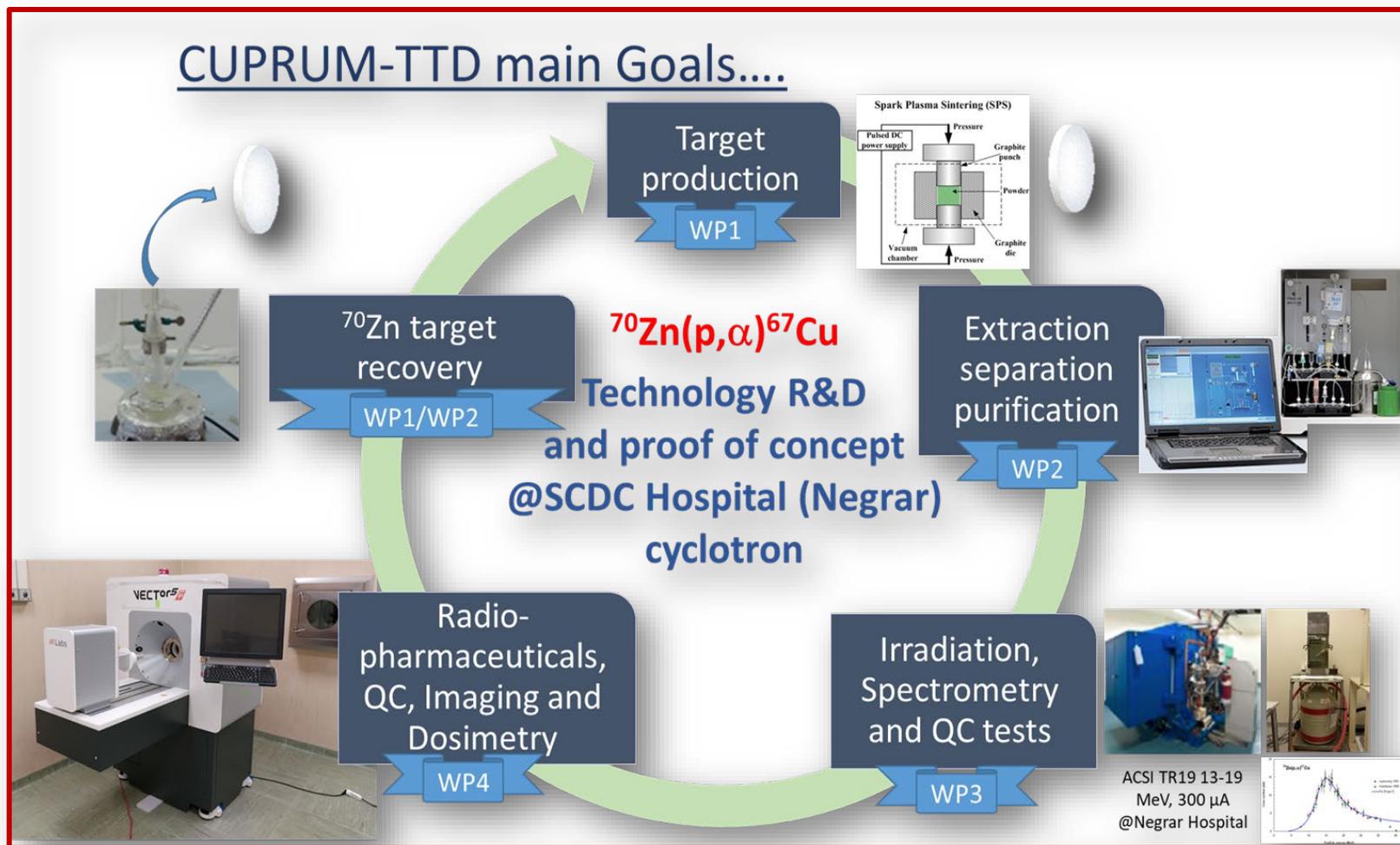


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CUPRUM-TTD main Goals....





^{47}Sc as theranostic agent



SPECT

THERAPY

^{47}Sc 3.35 d	γ -ray [keV] SPECT	γ -ray [%]	β^- energy [keV]	β^- int [%]	Auger β^- [keV]	Auger β^- [%]
β^- : 100 %	159.381	68.3	142.6	68.4	0.42	0.461
			203.9	31.6	4.0	0.215
			Mean β^- : 162.0 keV		154.415	0.277

Nuclear Data Sheets 108, 923 (2007) - NNDC



IAEA

CRP on ^{67}Cu , ^{47}Sc , ^{186}Re (2016/2020)



The limiting factor for clinical and preclinical studies is the lack of ^{47}Sc availability



PASTA project
INFN-CSN5
2017-2018

REMIX

REMIX project
INFN-CSN5
2021-2023





REMIX




WP1. Production and target characterization
Sara Cisternino (INFN-LNL & UniPD)



WP7. Devices for INFN-LNL beam-line
Gabriele Sciacca (INFN-LNL & UniPD)



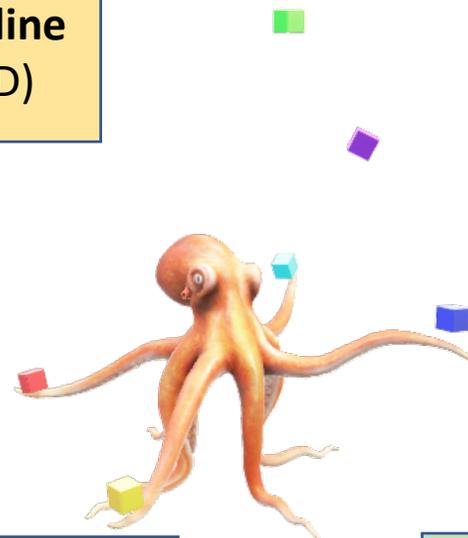
WP2. XS measurements with ^{49}Ti e ^{50}Ti
Liliana Mou (INFN-LNL)



WP6. ^{155}Tb TTY production @ The SCDC hospital
Petra Martini (UniFE & INFN-FE)



WP3. XS measurements with $^{\text{nat}}\text{Dy}$, ^{159}Tb , $^{\text{nat}}\text{Eu}$
Simone Manenti (UniMI & INFN-MI)





WP5. Dosimetric calculations
Laura De Nardo (UniPD & INFN-PD)
Laura Melendez-Alafort (IOV)




WP4. Nuclear codes (TALYS, EMPIRE, FLUKA)
Luciano Canton (INFN-PD)
Andrea Fontana (INFN-PV)



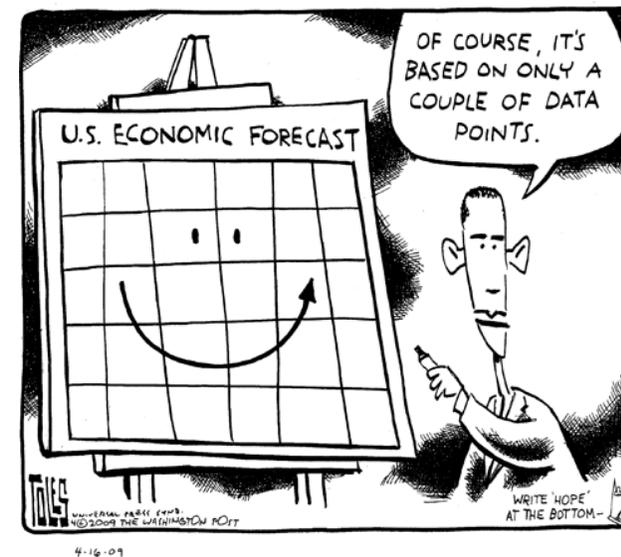
^{47}Sc production routes



Interesting targets for **proton**-induced reactions

47V 32.6 m $\epsilon = 100.00\%$	48V 15.9735 d $\epsilon = 100.00\%$	49V 330 d $\epsilon = 100.00\%$	50V > 2.1E+17 y 0.250% $\epsilon \approx 92.90\%$ $\beta^- < 7.10\%$	51V STABLE 99.75% ✓	52V 3.743 m $\beta^- = 100.00\%$
46Ti STABLE 8.25%	47Ti STABLE 7.44%	48Ti STABLE 73.72%	49Ti STABLE 5.41%	50Ti STABLE 5.18%	51Ti 5.76 m $\beta^- = 100.00\%$
45Sc STABLE 100%	46Sc 83.79 d $\beta^- = 100.00\%$	47Sc 3.3492 d $\beta^- = 100.00\%$	48Sc 43.67 h $\beta^- = 100.00\%$	49Sc 57.18 m $\beta^- = 100.00\%$	50Sc 102.5 s $\beta^- = 100.00\%$
44Ca STABLE 2.09%	45Ca 162.61 d $\beta^- = 100.00\%$	46Ca > 2.8E+16 y 0.04% $\beta^- < 2\%$	47Ca 4.536 d $\beta^- = 100.00\%$	48Ca 5.8E22 y 0.187% $2\beta^- = 7.00\%$	49Ca 8.718 m $\beta^- = 100.00\%$

Only few literature data on enriched ^{xx}Ti ..



.. I am going to show you some cross section results obtained with **proton**-beams at **Arronax Nantes**

G. Pupillo et al., Journal of Radioanalytical and Nuclear Chemistry 297, 3 (2019) doi: 10.1007/s10967-019-06844-8 F. Barbaro et al., Physical Review C (2021) arXiv:2107.13773, doi: 10.1103/PhysRevC.104.044619

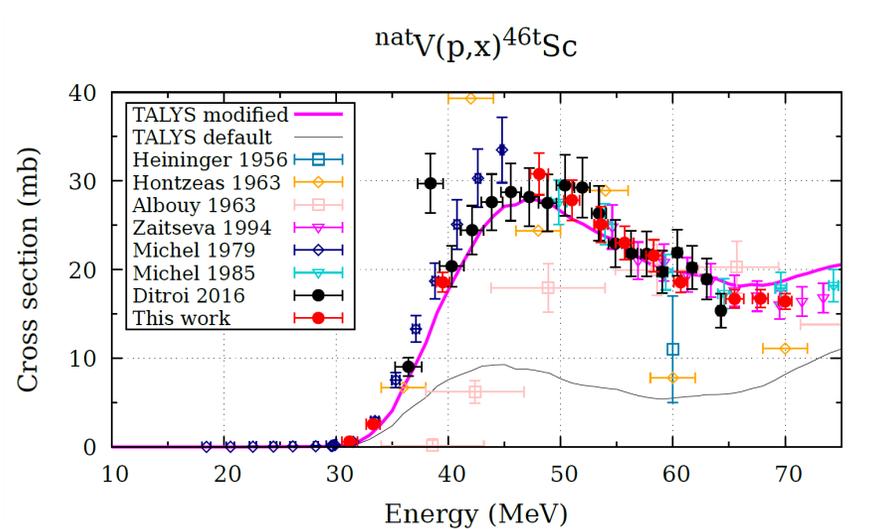
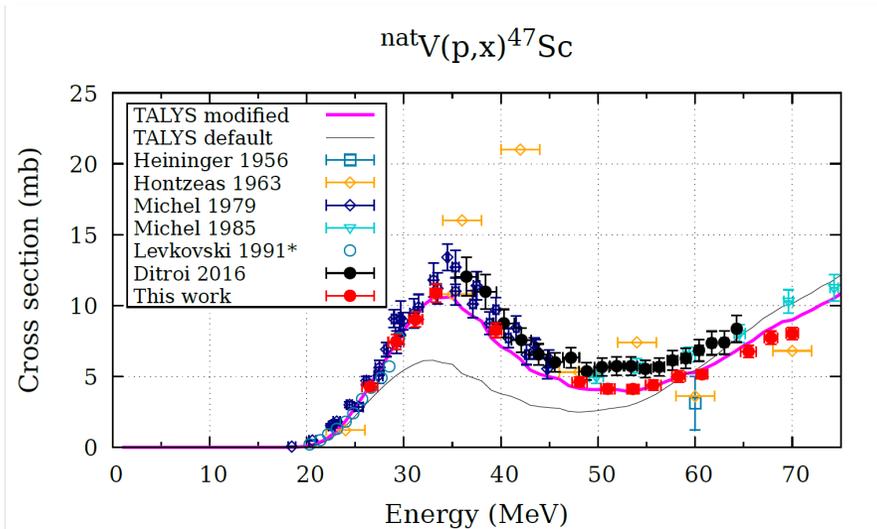


^{47}Sc production with natV targets



G. Pupillo, L. Mou et al., New results on the $\text{natV}(p,x)^{43}\text{Sc}$ cross section: Analysis of the discrepancy with previous data, Nucl. Inst. and Methods B 464 (2020) 32-35

F. Barbaro et al., New results on proton induced reactions on Vanadium for ^{47}Sc production and the impact of level densities on theoretical cross sections, <http://arxiv.org/abs/2107.13773>, Physical Review C 2021



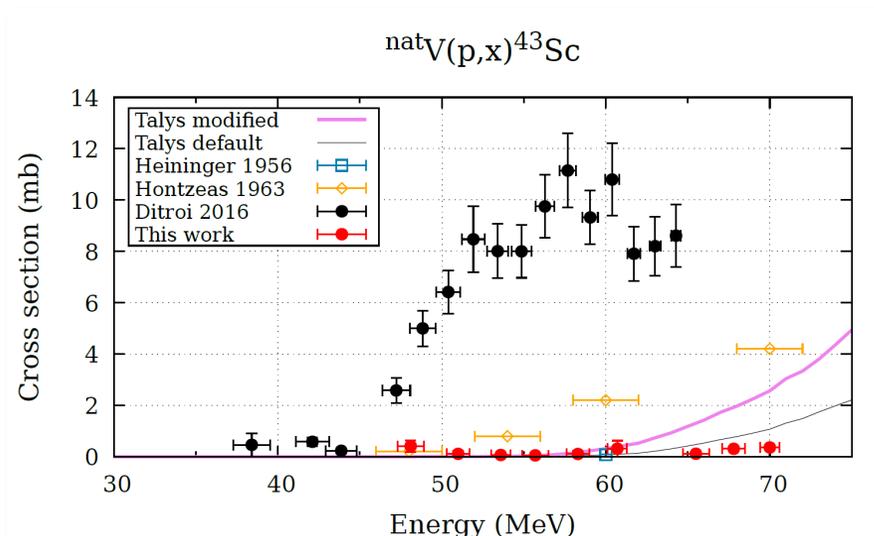
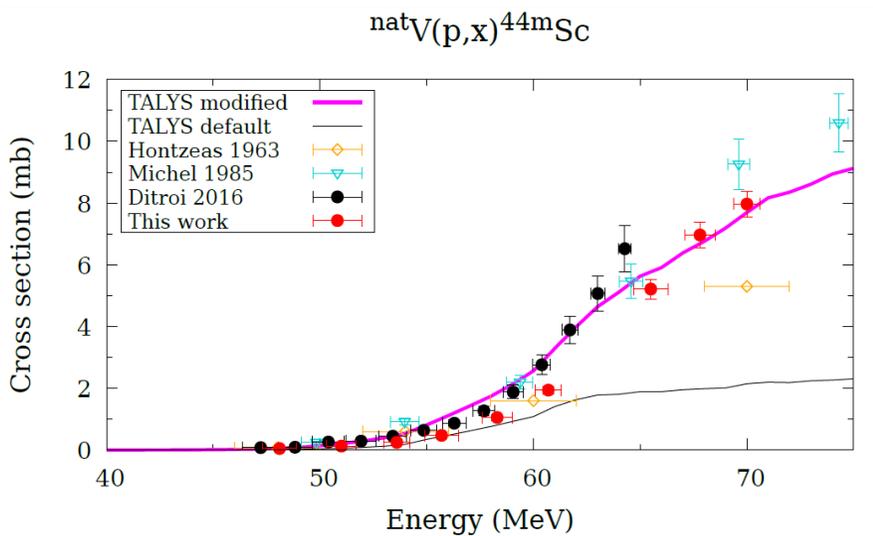
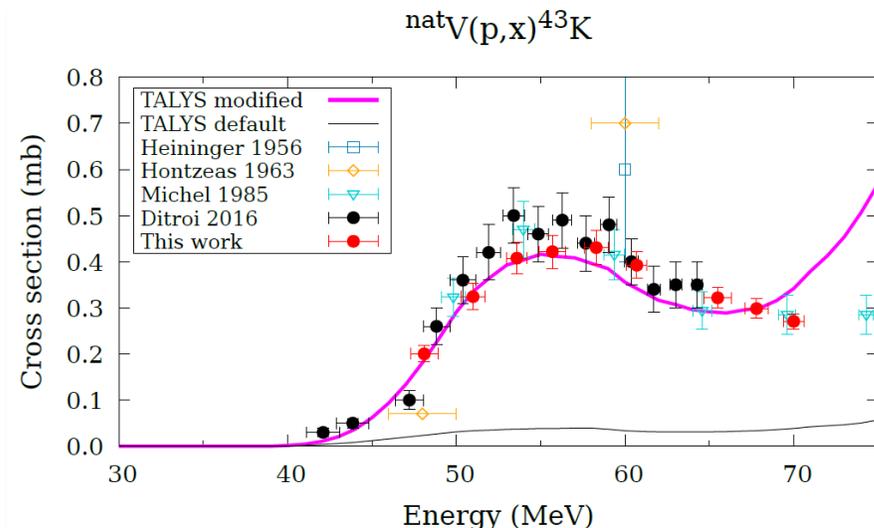
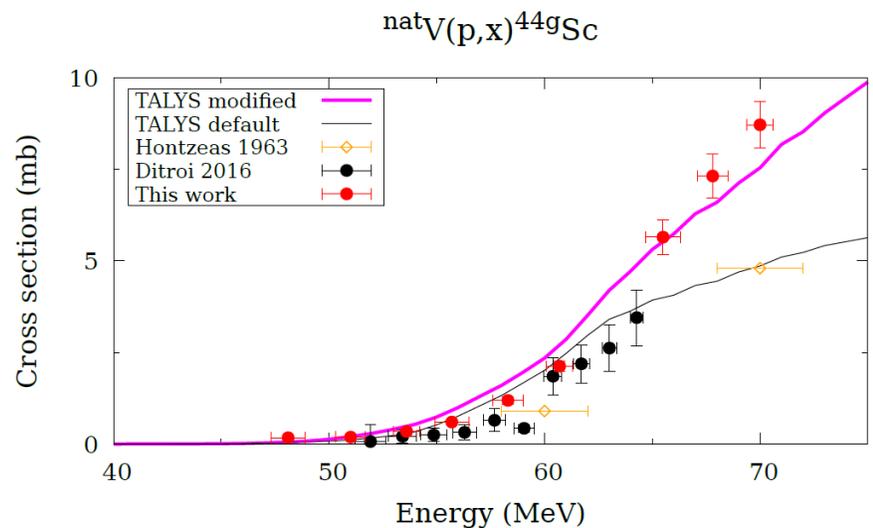
... but we measured the co-production of all the contaminant radionuclides!



^{47}Sc production with natV targets



F. Barbaro et al., New results on proton induced reactions on Vanadium for ^{47}Sc production and the impact of level densities on theoretical cross sections, <http://arxiv.org/abs/2107.13773>, Physical Review C 2021

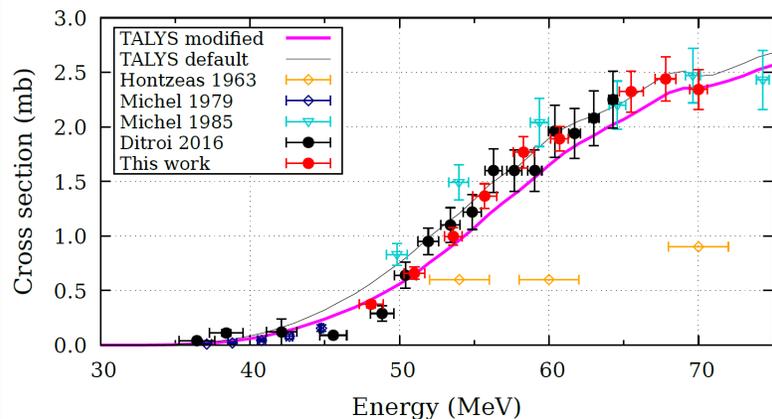




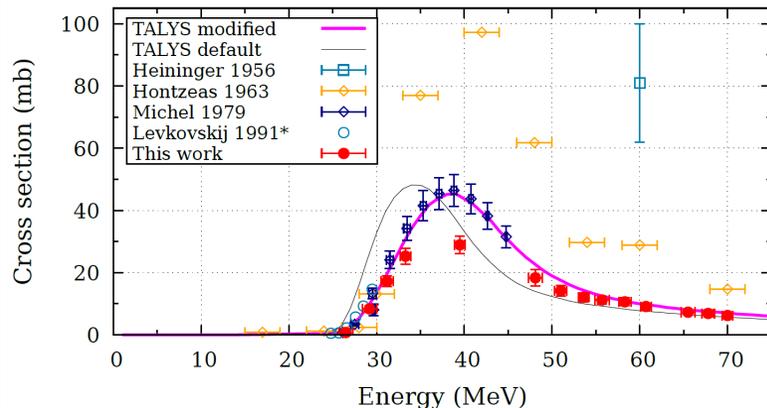
^{47}Sc production with natV targets



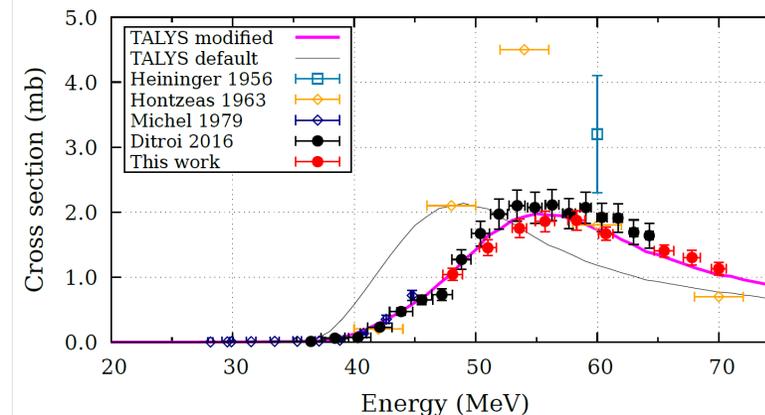
$\text{natV}(p,x)^{48}\text{Sc}$



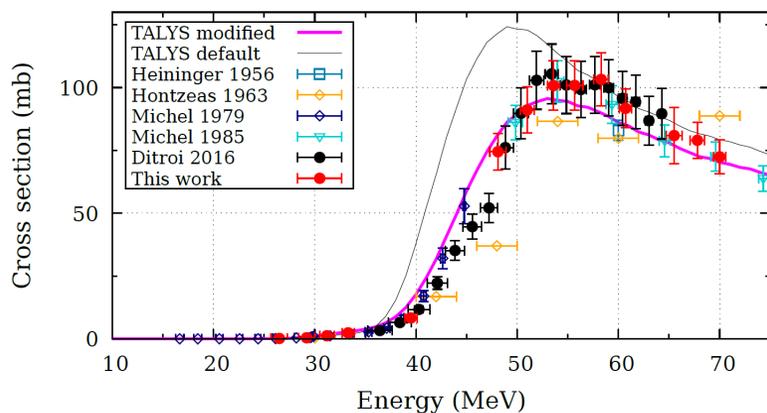
$\text{natV}(p,x)^{49}\text{Cr}$



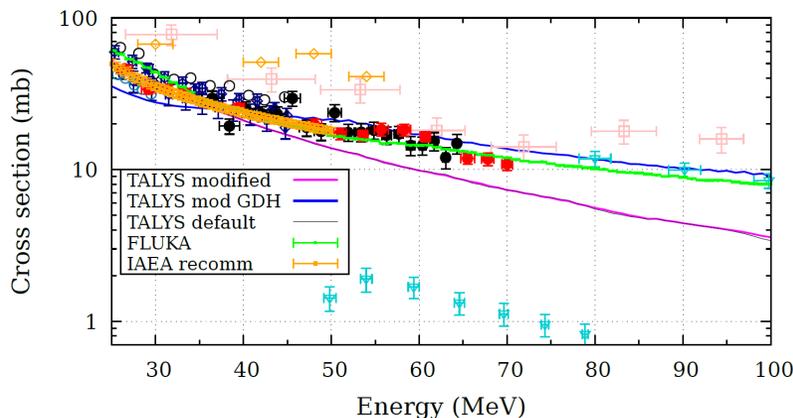
$\text{natV}(p,x)^{48}\text{Cr}$



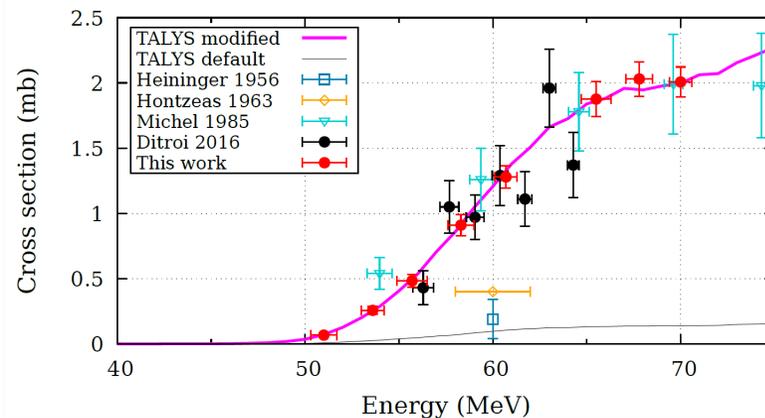
$\text{natV}(p,x)^{48}\text{V}$



$\text{natV}(p,x)^{51}\text{Cr}$



$\text{natV}(p,x)^{42}\text{K}$



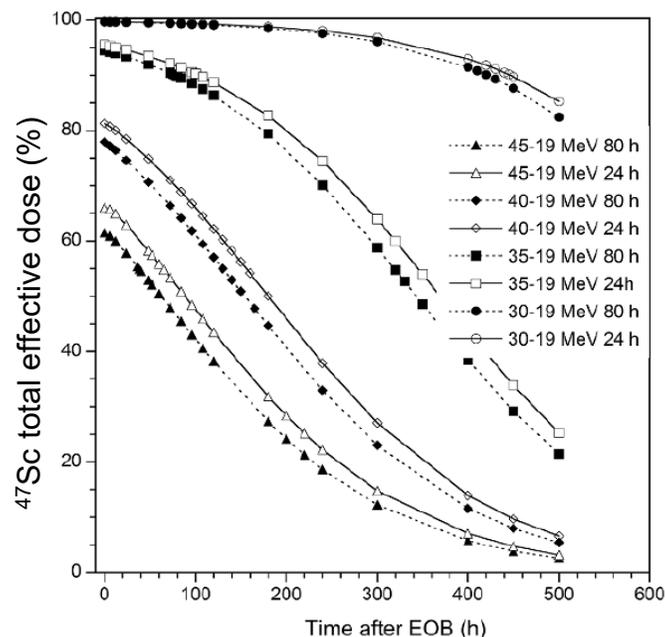
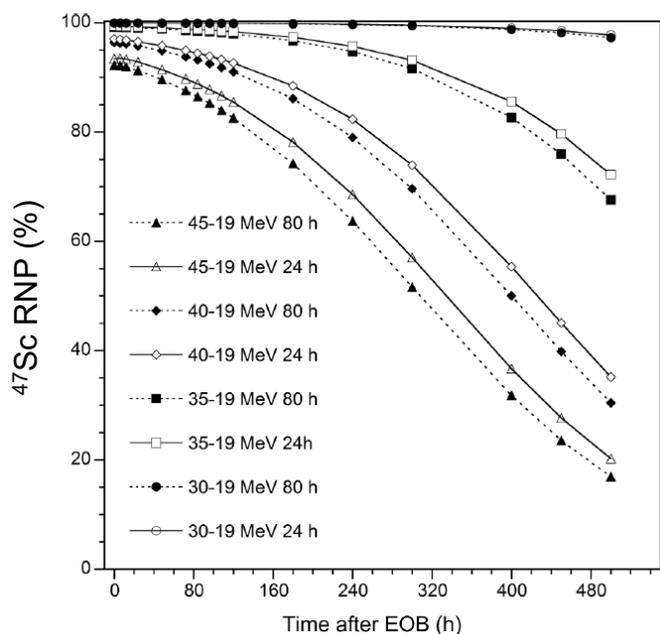


The $^{nat}\text{V}(p,x)^{47}\text{Sc}$ route



Low ^{46}Sc co-production for $E_p > 30$ MeV
but at $E_p > 35$ MeV also ^{48}Sc is co-produced!

✓ Dosimetric calculations (OLINDA code)



^{47}Sc can be produced with ^{nat}V (100 μA , 80 h):

$E_p = 35\text{-}19$ MeV ; $t_{\text{MAX}} = 30$ h ; ca. 28 GBq

$E_p = 30\text{-}19$ MeV ; $t_{\text{MAX}} = 375$ h ; ca. 11 GBq

RNP > 99%



As expected, higher the ^{47}Sc purity lower the yield!

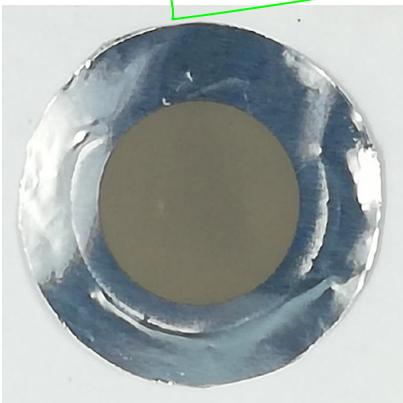
L. De Nardo et al., Physics in Medicine and Biology DOI:10.1088/1361-6560/abc811 (2021)



^{47}Sc production with ^{xx}Ti enriched targets

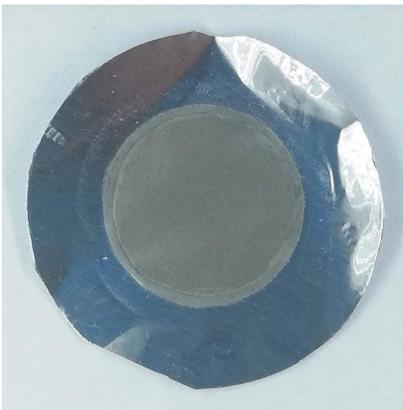


HIVIPP depositions



No. 20 ^{49}Ti targets

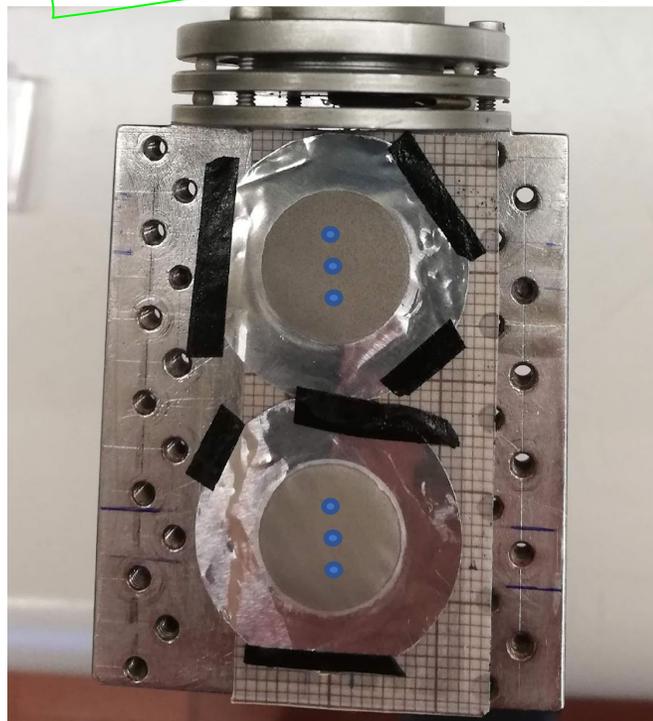
Mass thickness measured by weigh
 $486 \pm 110 \mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$
(n=20)



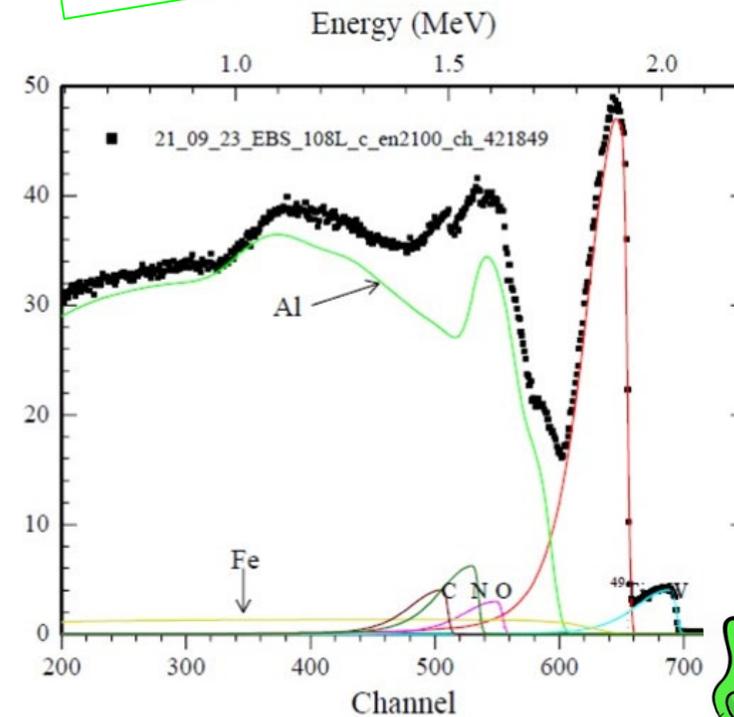
No. 20 ^{50}Ti targets

Mass thickness measured by weigh
 $637 \pm 200 \mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$
(n=20)

Uniform thickness



Low contamination traces (about 10s ppm)



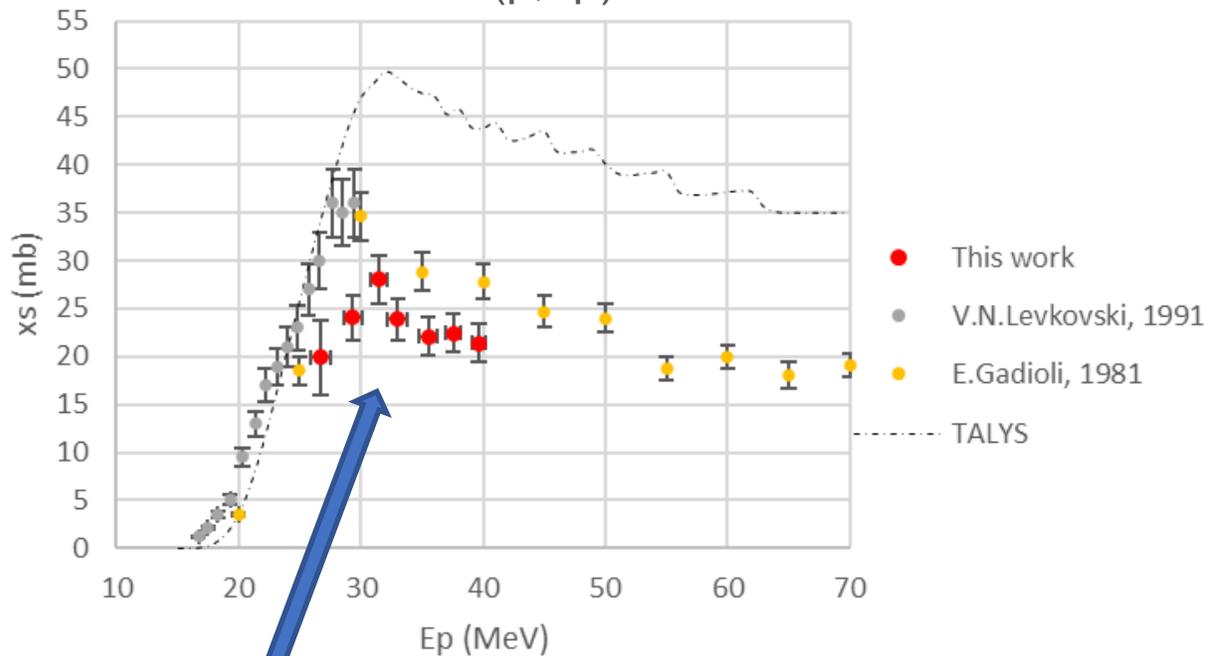
S. Cisternino et al., Upgrade of the HIVIPP deposition apparatus for nuclear physics thin targets manufacturing, Instruments (2022)



Proton-induced cross sections on ^{48}Ti targets



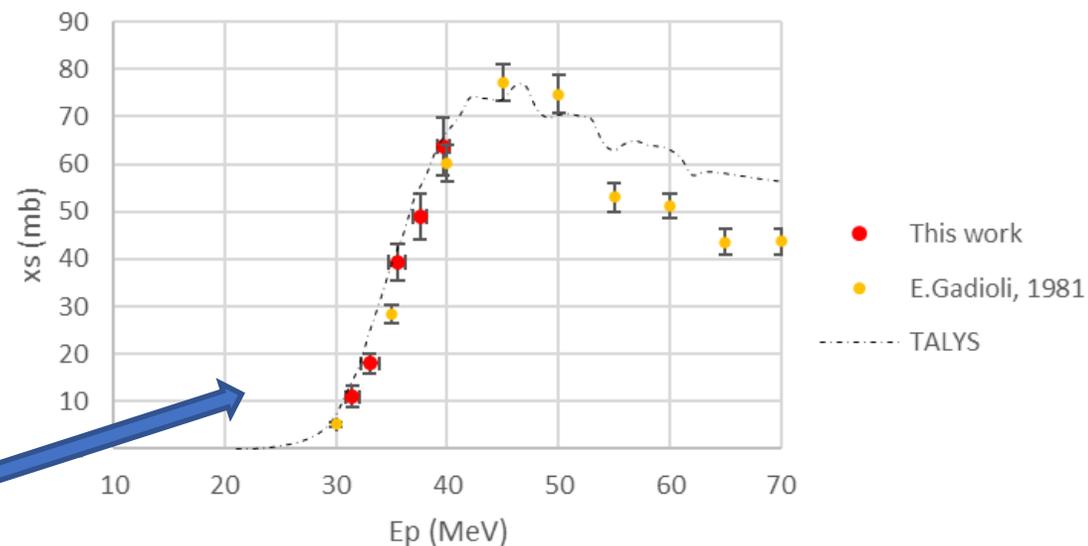
$^{48}\text{Ti}(p,2p)^{47}\text{Sc}$



^{47}Sc half-life **3.3492 d**

^{46}Sc half-life **83.79 d**

$^{48}\text{Ti}(p,x)^{46}\text{Sc}$



Up to 20% discrepancy with literature data

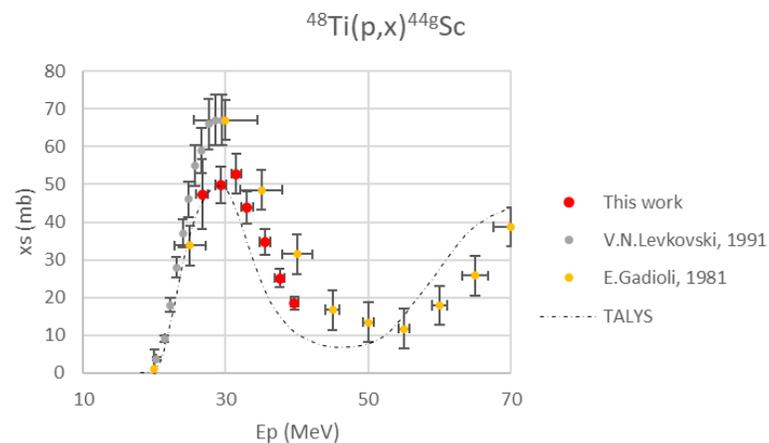
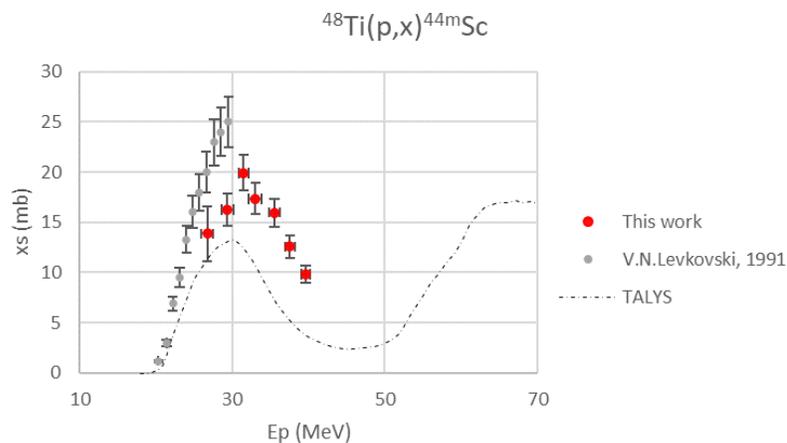


Good agreement

L. Mou et al., Nuclear cross sections of proton-induced reactions on enriched ^{48}Ti targets for the production of the theranostic ^{47}Sc radionuclide (..)(2022) Submitted



Proton-induced cross sections on ^{48}Ti targets

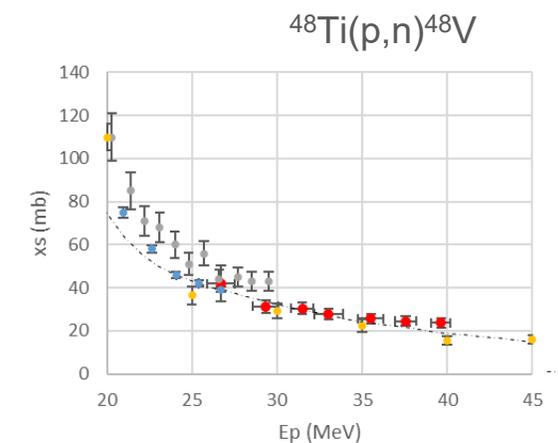
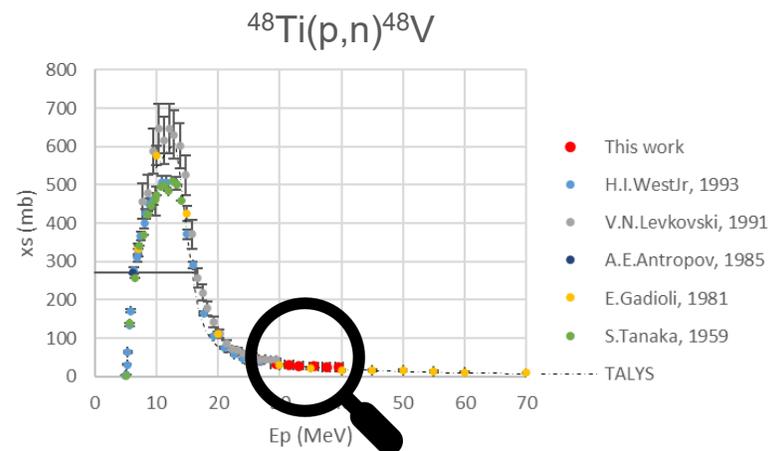
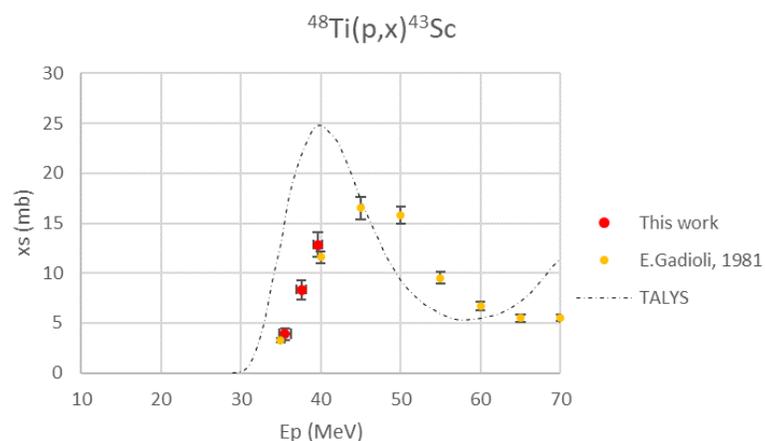


$^{44\text{m}}\text{Sc}$ half-life **58.61 h**

^{44}Sc half-life **3.97 h**

^{43}Sc half-life **3.891 h**

^{48}V half-life **15.974 d**



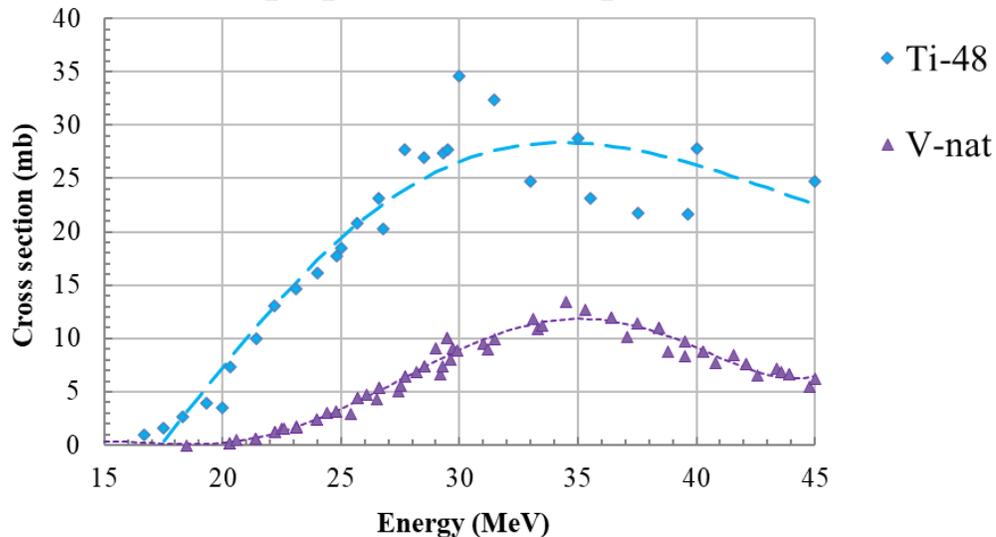
L. Mou et al., Nuclear cross sections of proton-induced reactions on enriched ^{48}Ti targets for the production of the theranostic ^{47}Sc radionuclide (..)(2022) Submitted



Comparison of ^{nat}V and ^{48}Ti targets



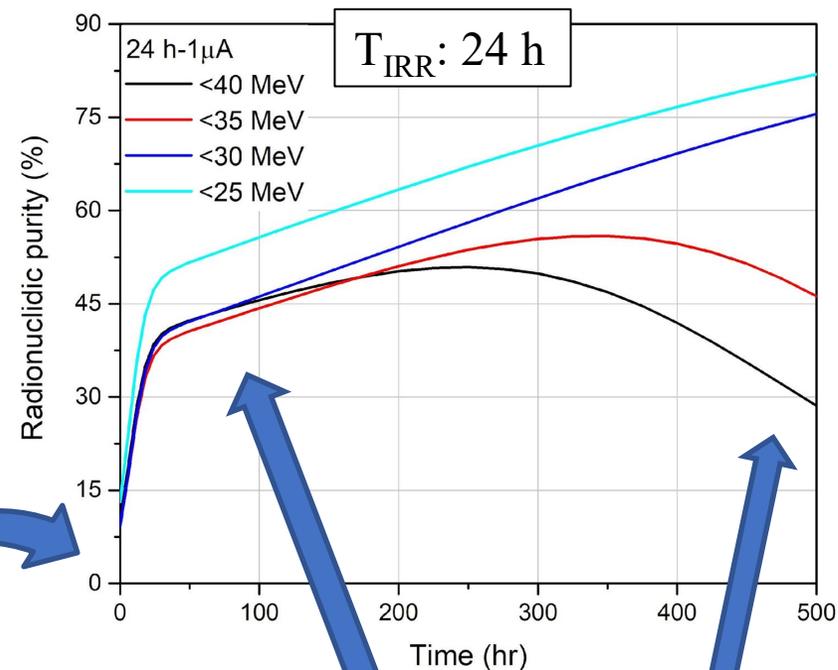
$^{48}\text{Ti}(p,2p)^{47}\text{Sc}$ and $^{nat}\text{V}(p,x)^{47}\text{Sc}$



^{48}Ti targets are **not suitable** for a p-induced ^{47}Sc production!



The use of ^{48}Ti targets gives a larger ^{47}Sc yield in comparison to ^{nat}V , however..



Decay of the short half-time impurities ^{43}Sc and ^{44g}Sc

Decay of ^{44m}Sc

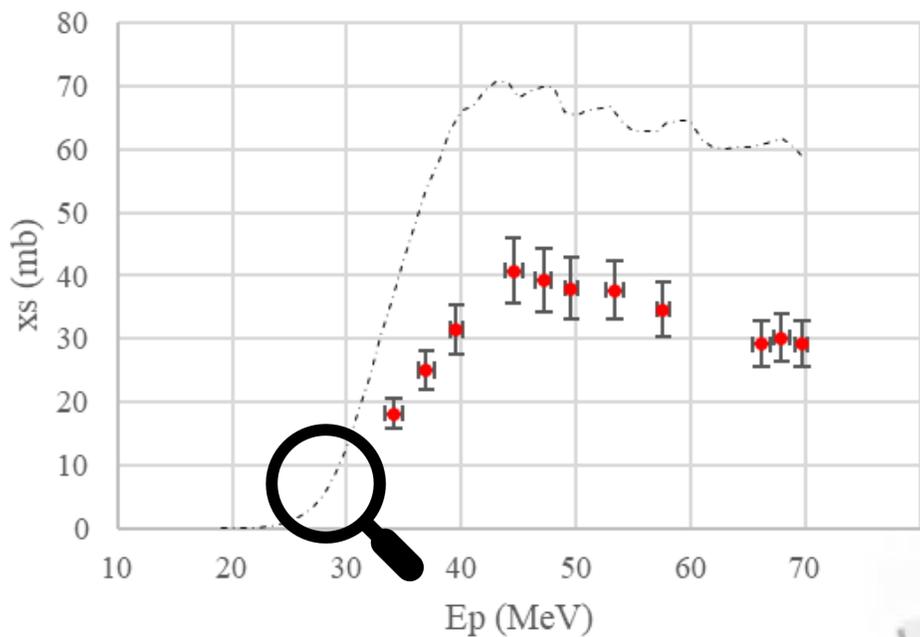
^{46}Sc activity



Proton-induced cross sections on ^{49}Ti targets



$^{49}\text{Ti}(p,x)^{47}\text{Sc}$

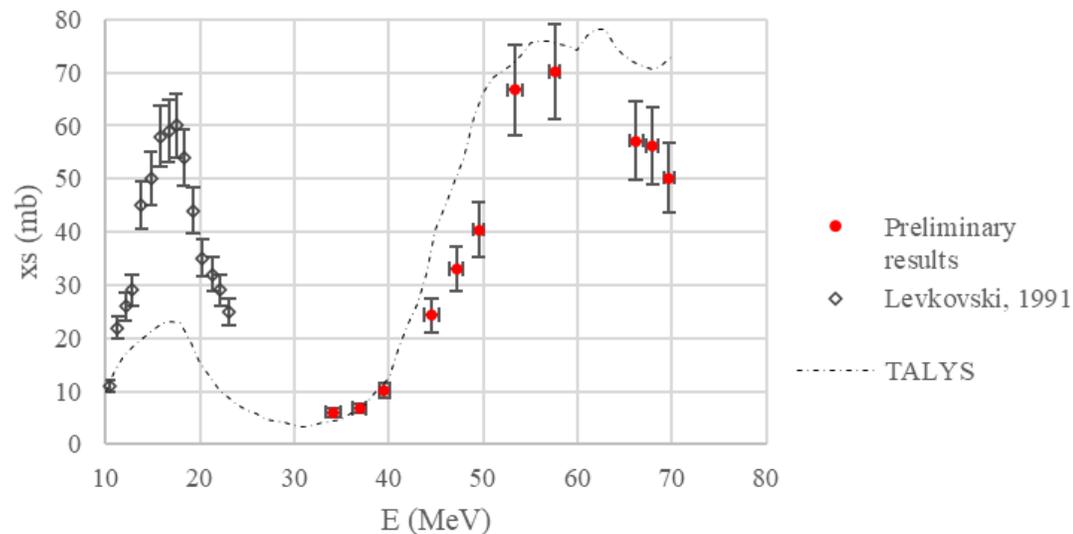


Preliminary data since we used the weighting values, but soon the ^{49}Ti EBS values will be available!



● Preliminary results
- - - - - TALYS

$^{49}\text{Ti}(p,x)^{46}\text{Sc}$



● Preliminary results
◇ Levkovski, 1991
- - - - - TALYS

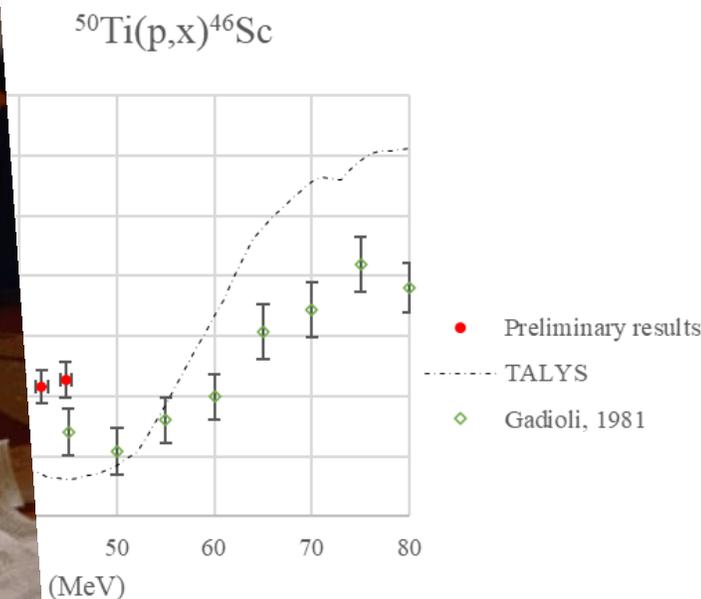
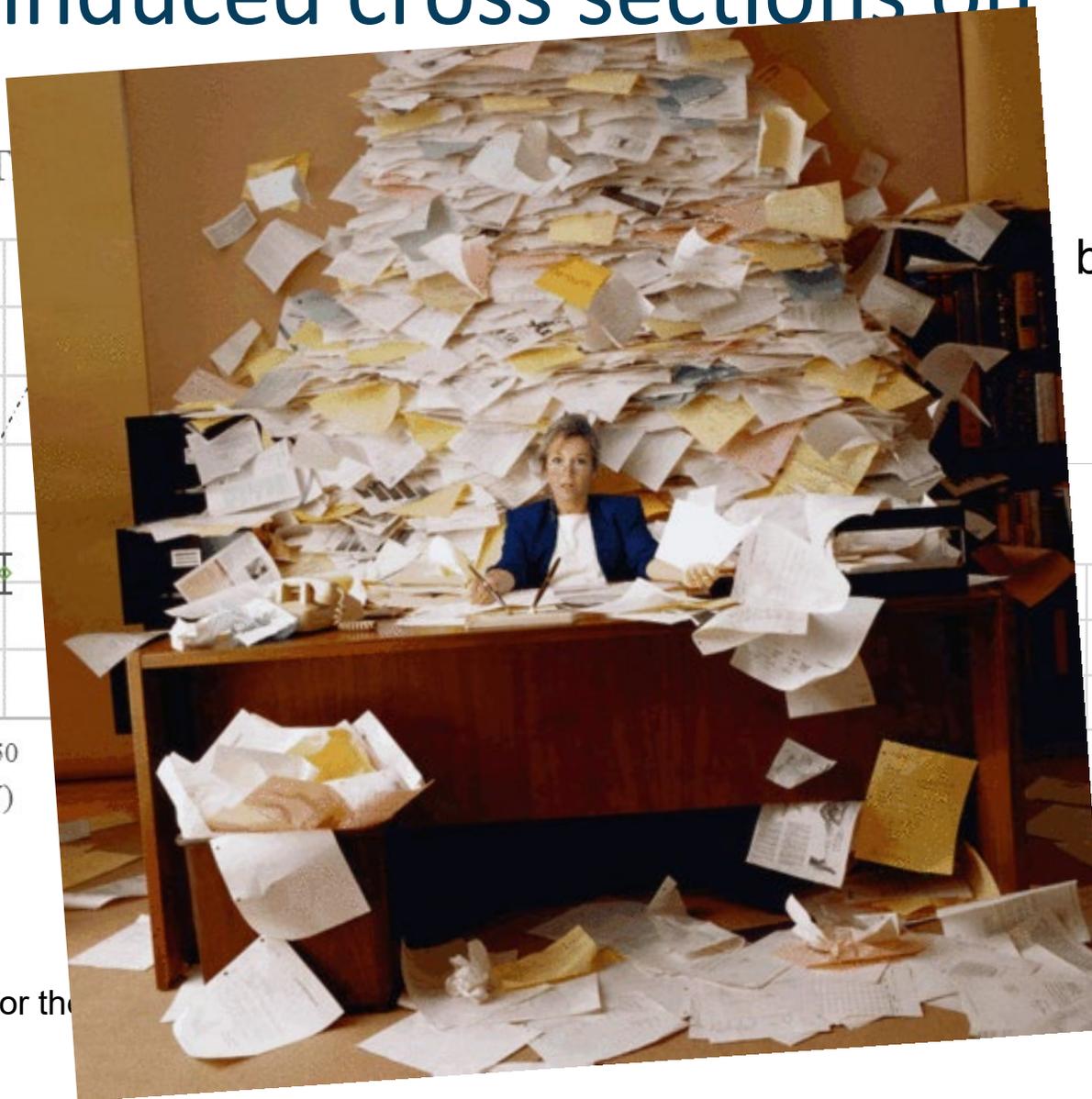
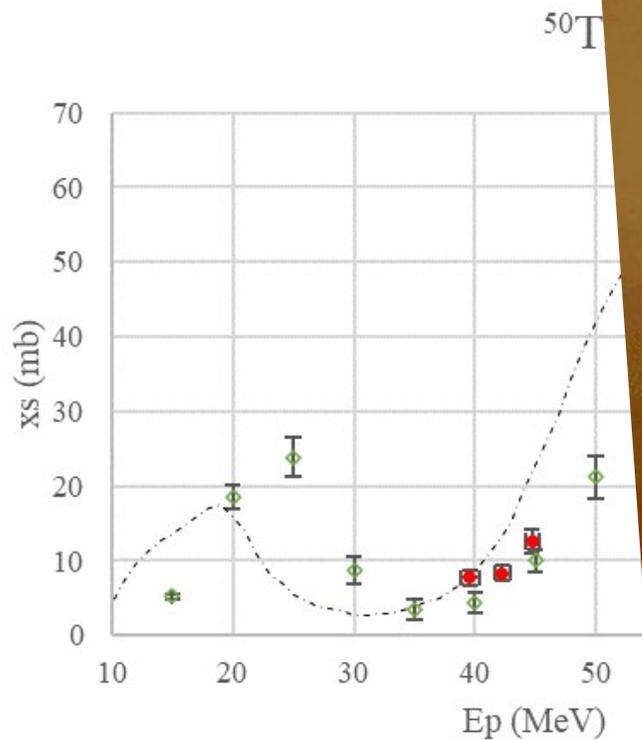




Proton-induced cross sections on ^{50}Ti targets



Extra preliminary data because the **irradiation runs are ongoing!**



Weighting values for the

Conclusion

- Many medical radionuclides of interest!
- Young team of researchers with different expertise (targetry, nuclear physics, engineering, radiochemistry, etc.)
- Wide national & international network of collaborations & 
- High potential impact with the possibility to exploit both ISOL and DIRECT production @ SPES

