

# DESPEC experiments in FAIR Phase-0: from commissioning to early physics

Helena M. Albers, GSI Darmstadt



# Outline

DESPEC Overview: physics goals, setup, subsystems

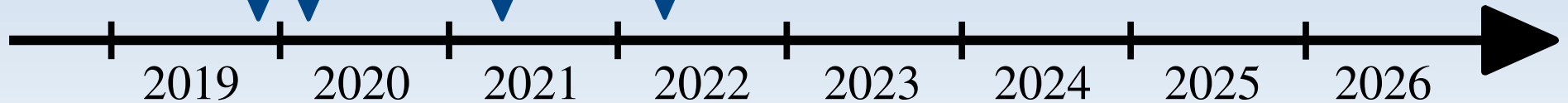
Engineering run **d002** in late 2019

Physics commissioning: experiment **S480**

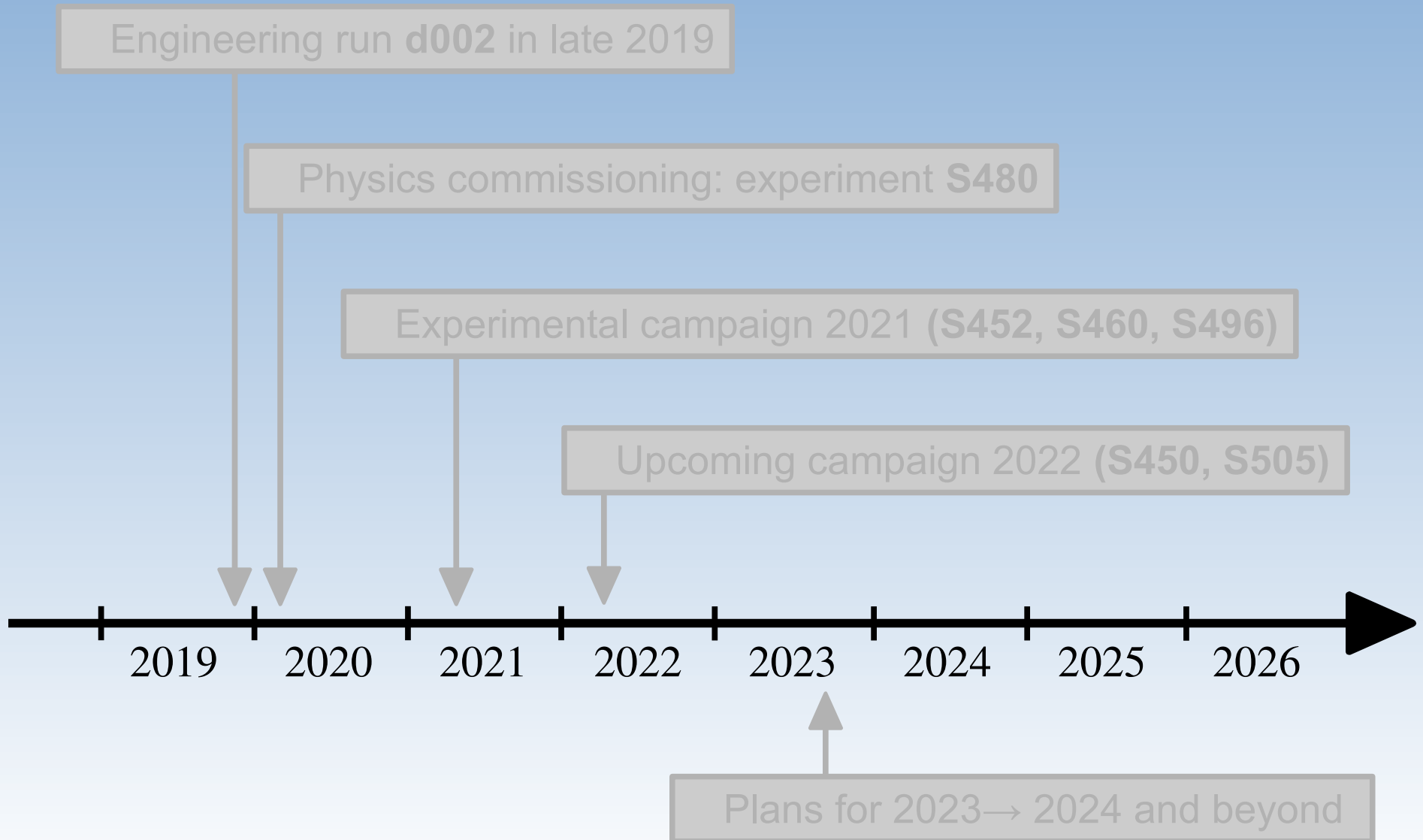
Experimental campaign 2021 (**S452, S460, S496**)

Upcoming campaign 2022 (**S450, S505**)

Plans for 2023→ 2024 and beyond

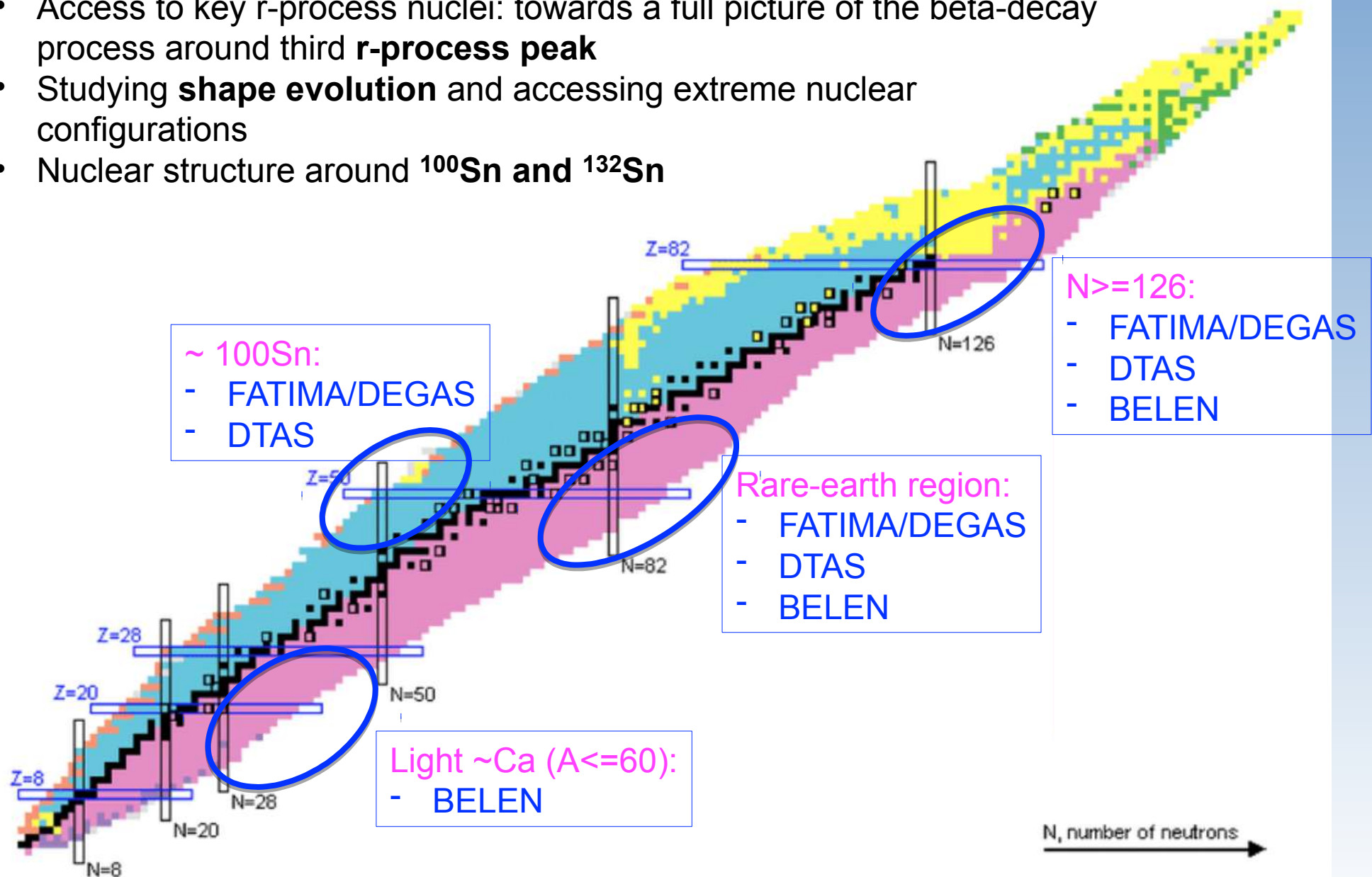


## DESPEC Overview: physics goals, setup, subsystems



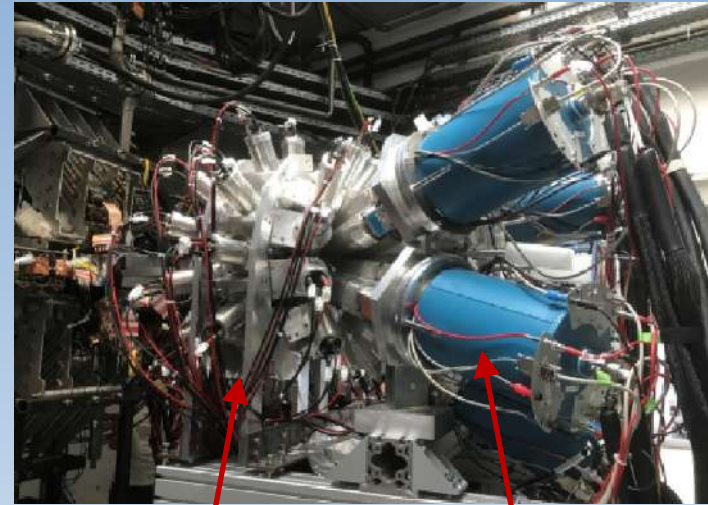
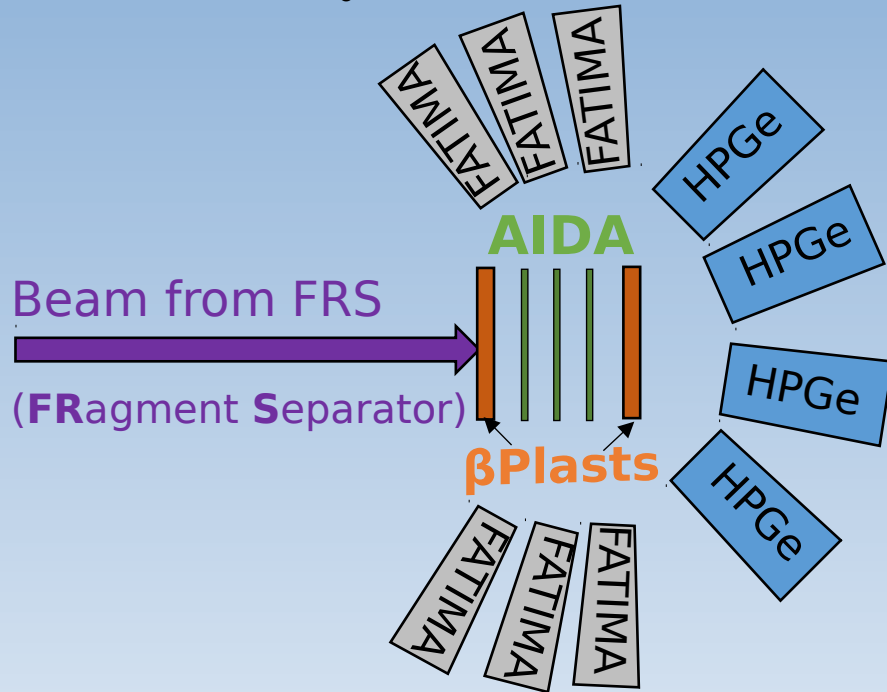
# Physics goals and motivation

- Access to key r-process nuclei: towards a full picture of the beta-decay process around third **r-process peak**
- Studying **shape evolution** and accessing extreme nuclear configurations
- Nuclear structure around  $^{100}\text{Sn}$  and  $^{132}\text{Sn}$



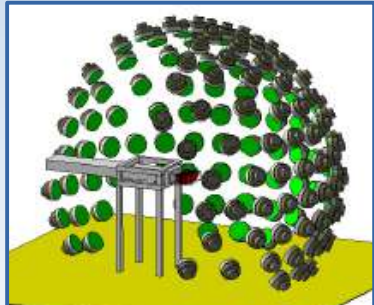
# DESPEC setup

- DEcay SPECTroscopy with (Super-)FRS beams
- Implantation array **AIDA**: 2 or 3 highly-segmented DSSD layers
- **AIDA** sandwiched by two  **$\beta$ Plasts**: fast plastic scintillators
- **FATIMA** LaBr<sub>3</sub>(Ce) and **HPGe** detectors



FATIMA modules

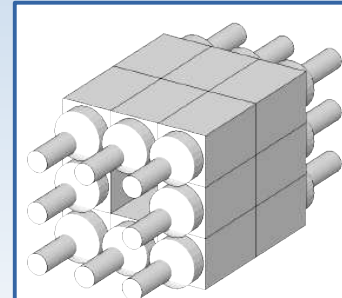
HPGe triple clusters



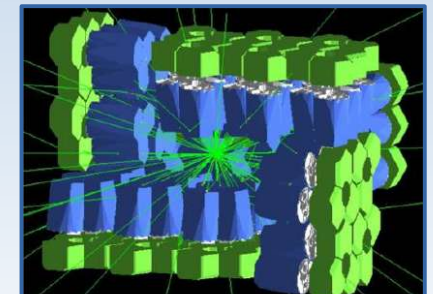
The MOdular Neutron SpectromETER (**MONSTER**)



BEta-deLayEd Neutron detector (**BELEN**)  
48 <sup>3</sup>He cylindrical counters

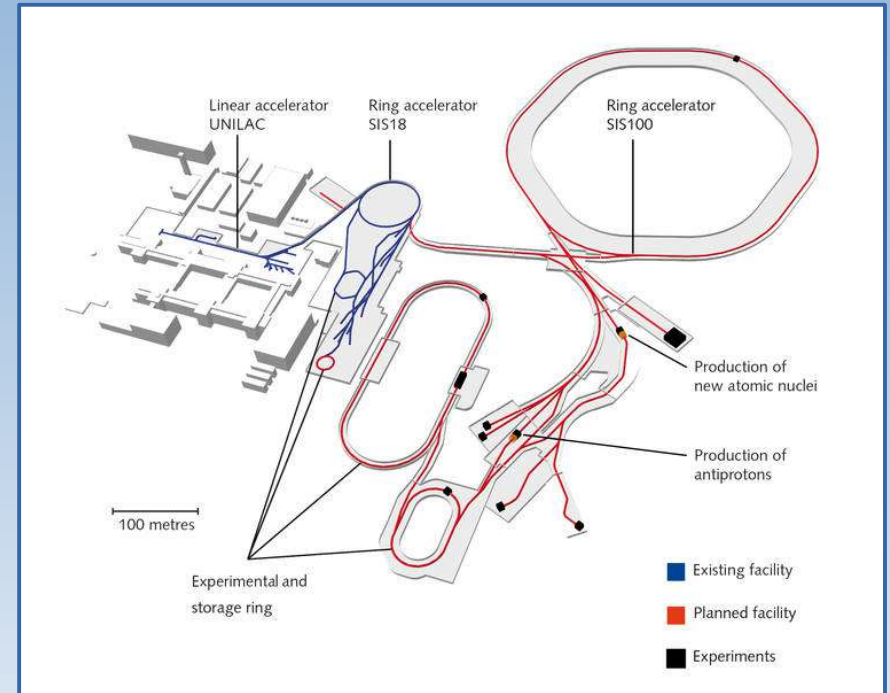


Decay Total Absorption  $\gamma$ -ray Spectrometer (**DTAS**)  
NaI(Tl) modules

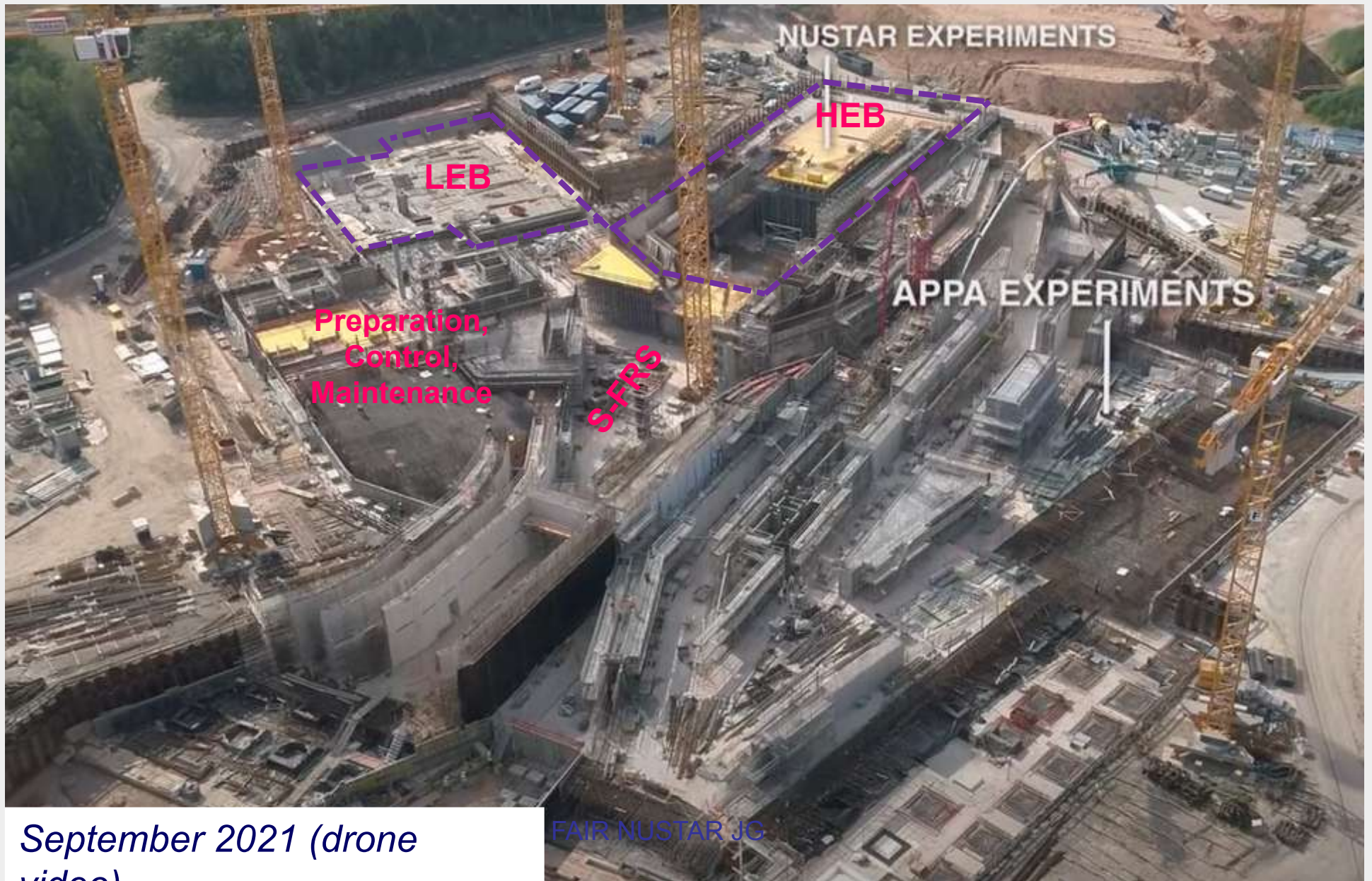


DESPEC Ge Array Spectrometer (**DEGAS**)  
triple clusters

# FAIR Construction



# FAIR Construction

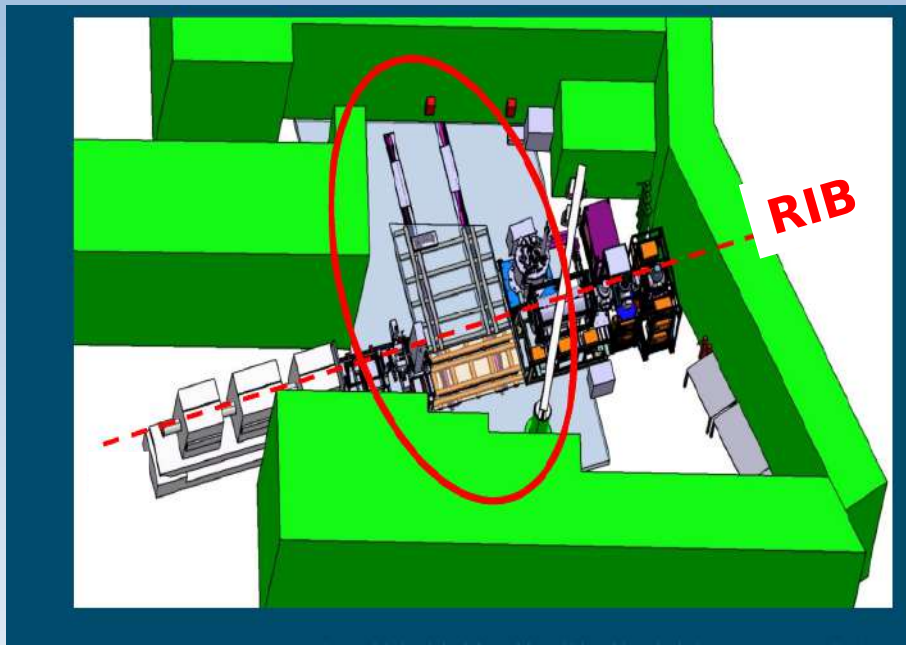


September 2021 (drone video)

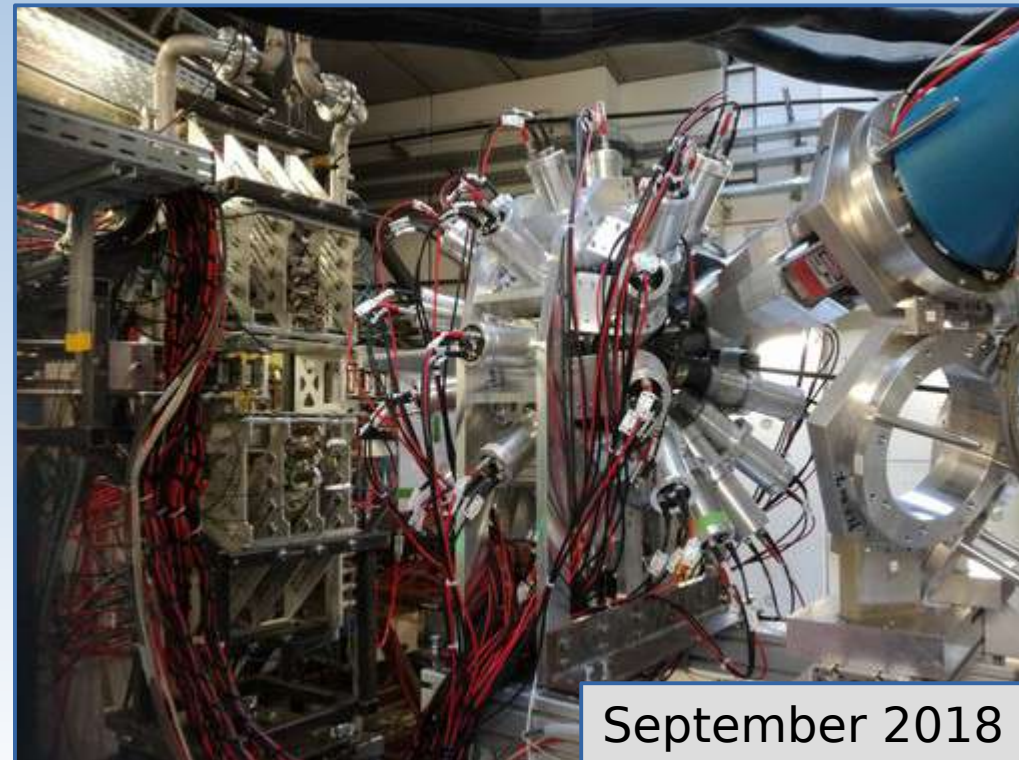
Courtesy of J. Gerl

# DESPEC @ GSI, S4 area

- Beamline at S4, shared by FRS Ion Catcher
- Moving platform on rails
- Platforms: IFJ Krakow, TIRF Mumbai



June 2018

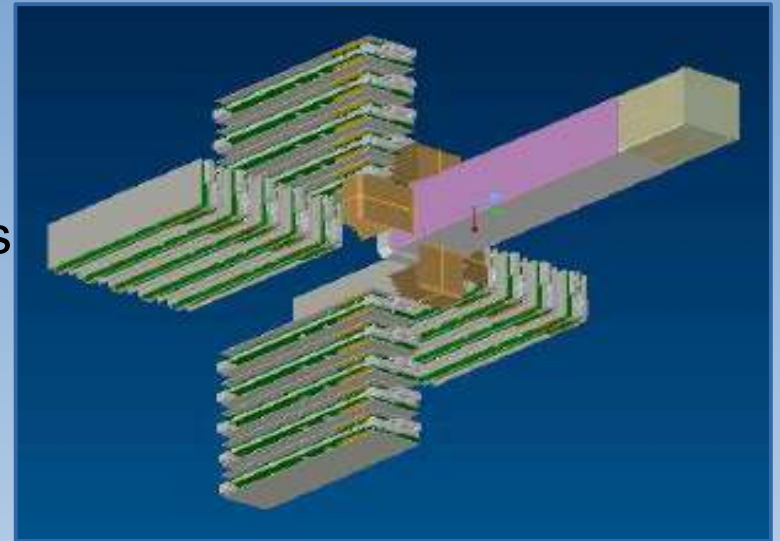
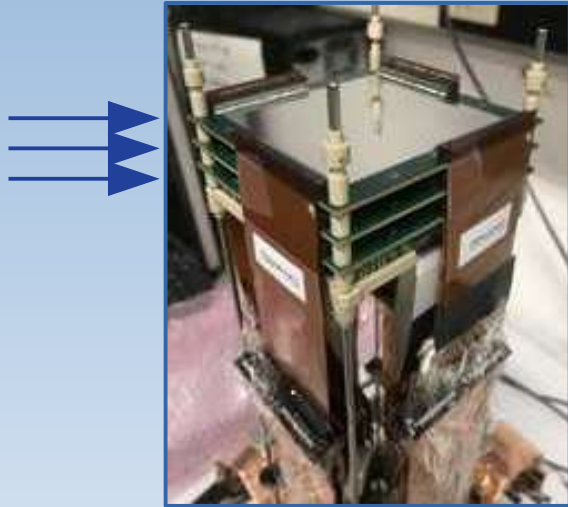


September 2018



# Subsystems - AIDA

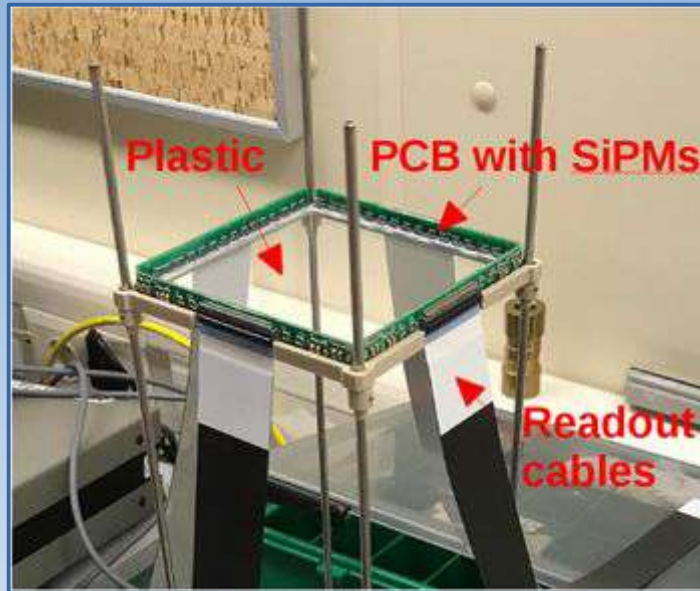
- The **A**dvanced **I**mplantation **D**etector **A**rray (Edinburgh, Daresbury, Liverpool)
- Stack of 1-mm thick DSSDs
- 'Narrow' (8x8 cm<sup>2</sup>) or 'wide' (24x8 cm<sup>2</sup>) geometries



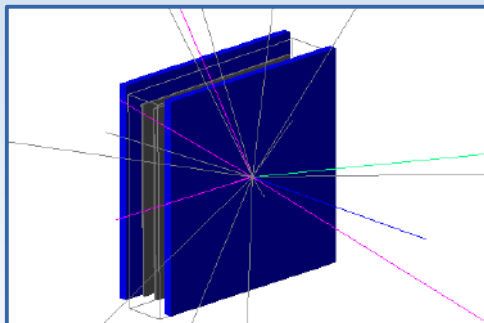
- Dedicated ASIC chips allow **large dynamic range**
- **Implants**: multi-GeV; **Decays**: tens-of-keV → MeV
- Triggerless DAQ, high data throughput
- Fast recovery time <math><40\mu\text{s}</math>

# Subsystems - $\beta$ Plast

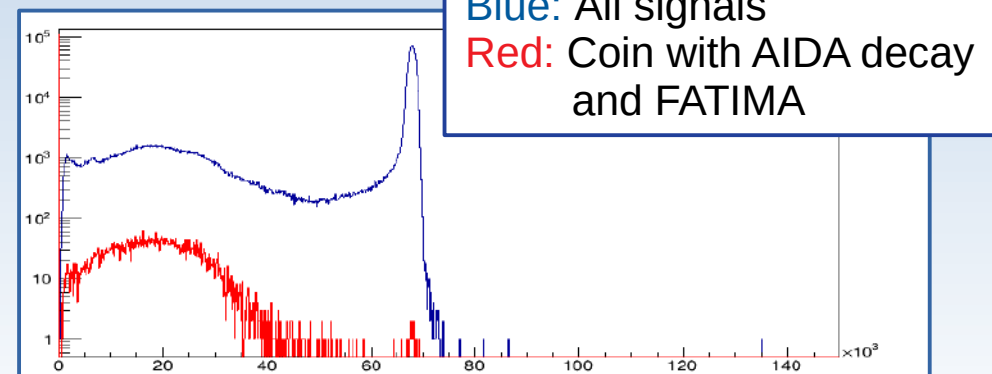
- The  $\beta$ Plast detectors: 3-mm thick plastic scintillators - UWS, GSI
- SiPMs at the edges coupled to readout channels
- Processed using in-house TAMEX electronics



- Two 8x8-cm<sup>2</sup> (or 24x8-cm<sup>2</sup>) detectors sandwiching AIDA
- Excellent timing resolution ( $\sim 100$ s ps)



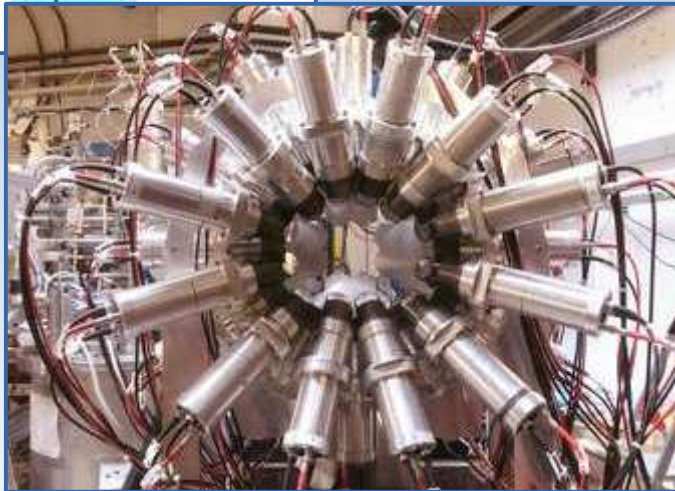
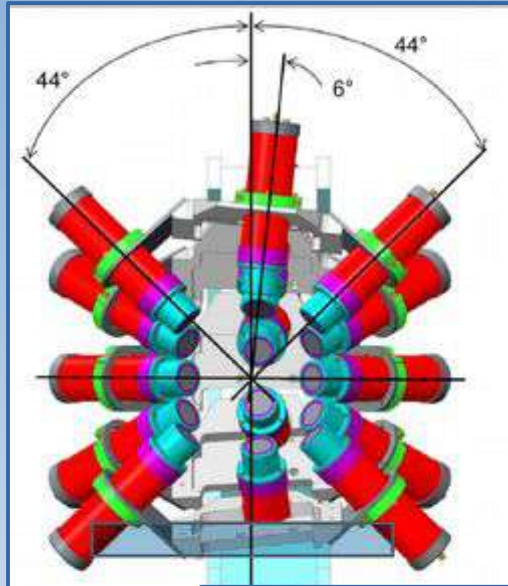
GEANT4 simulation using NPTTool (M.Chishti *et al.*)



$\beta$ Plast Time-over-Threshold (ToT) distributions

# Subsystems - FATIMA

- **FA**st **TIM**ing **A**rray of LaBr<sub>3</sub>(Ce) detector modules
- Brighton, Surrey, IFIN-HH, Cologne, Daresbury, Madrid, Manchester...

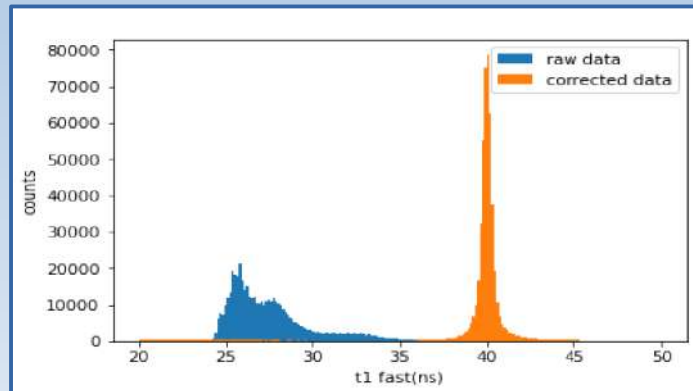


- New In-house new TAMEX4 frontend
- M. Wiebusch, H. Heggen, N. Kurz *et al.* GSI EE

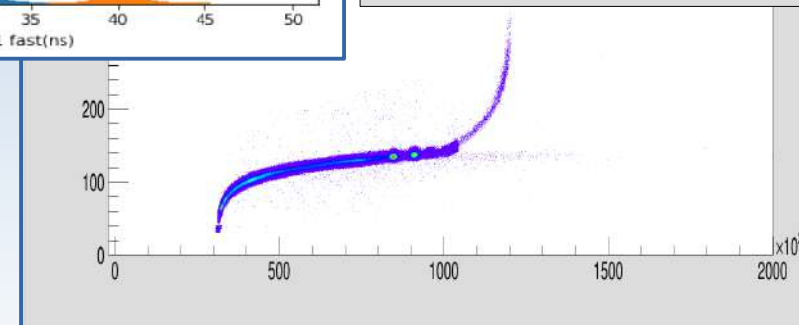
Two amplifiers:

- 'slow' branch for **linear energy** ( $TOT_{slow} \propto E$ )
- 'fast' branch for **logarithmic energy** ( $TOT_{fast} \propto \log(E)$ )

**Leading-edge timing** from fast branch



Correlation between linear and logarithmic front-end branches

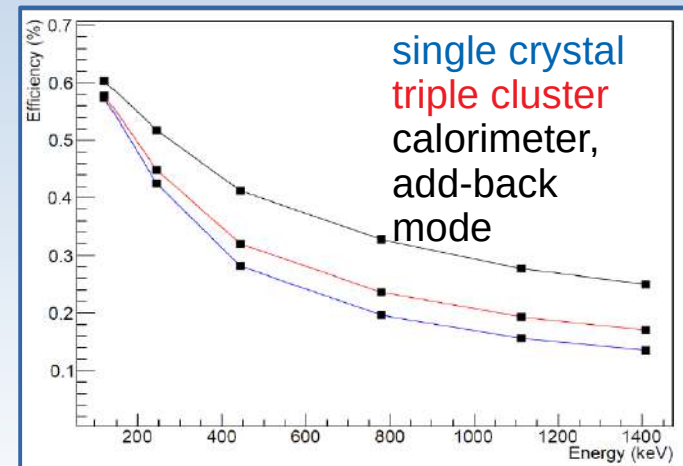
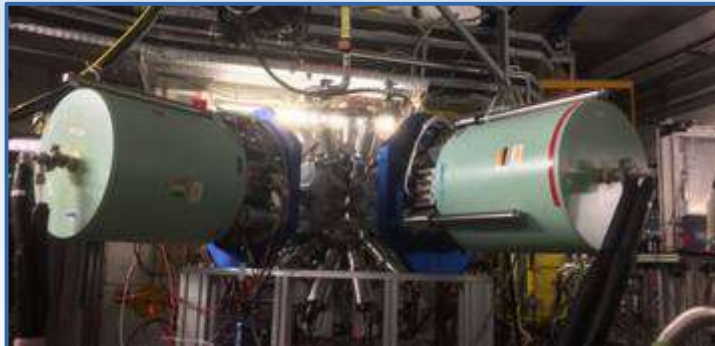
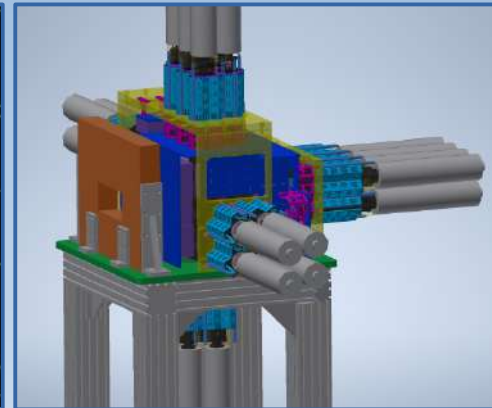
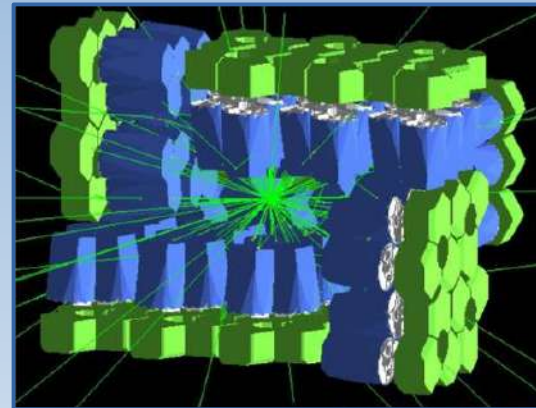
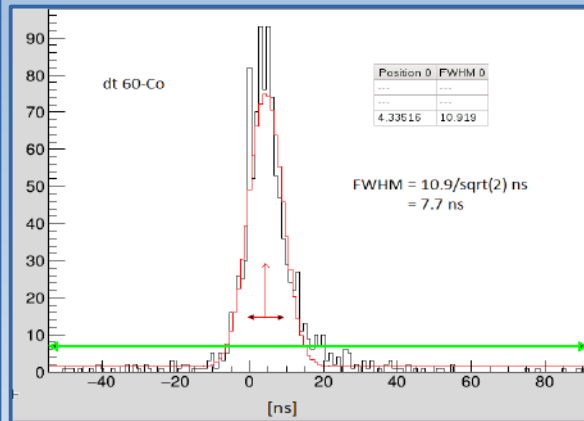
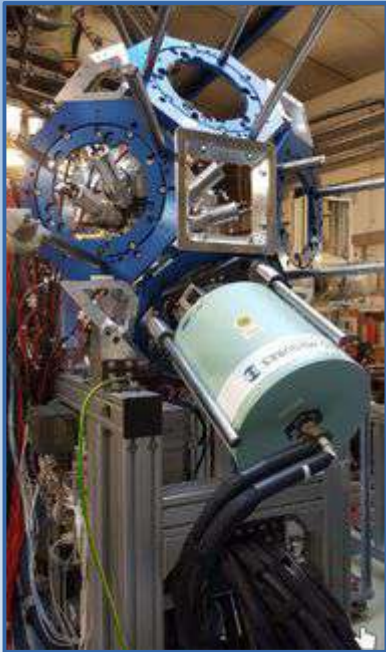


- Longer collection windows (>100us) and shorter deadtimes c.f. VME

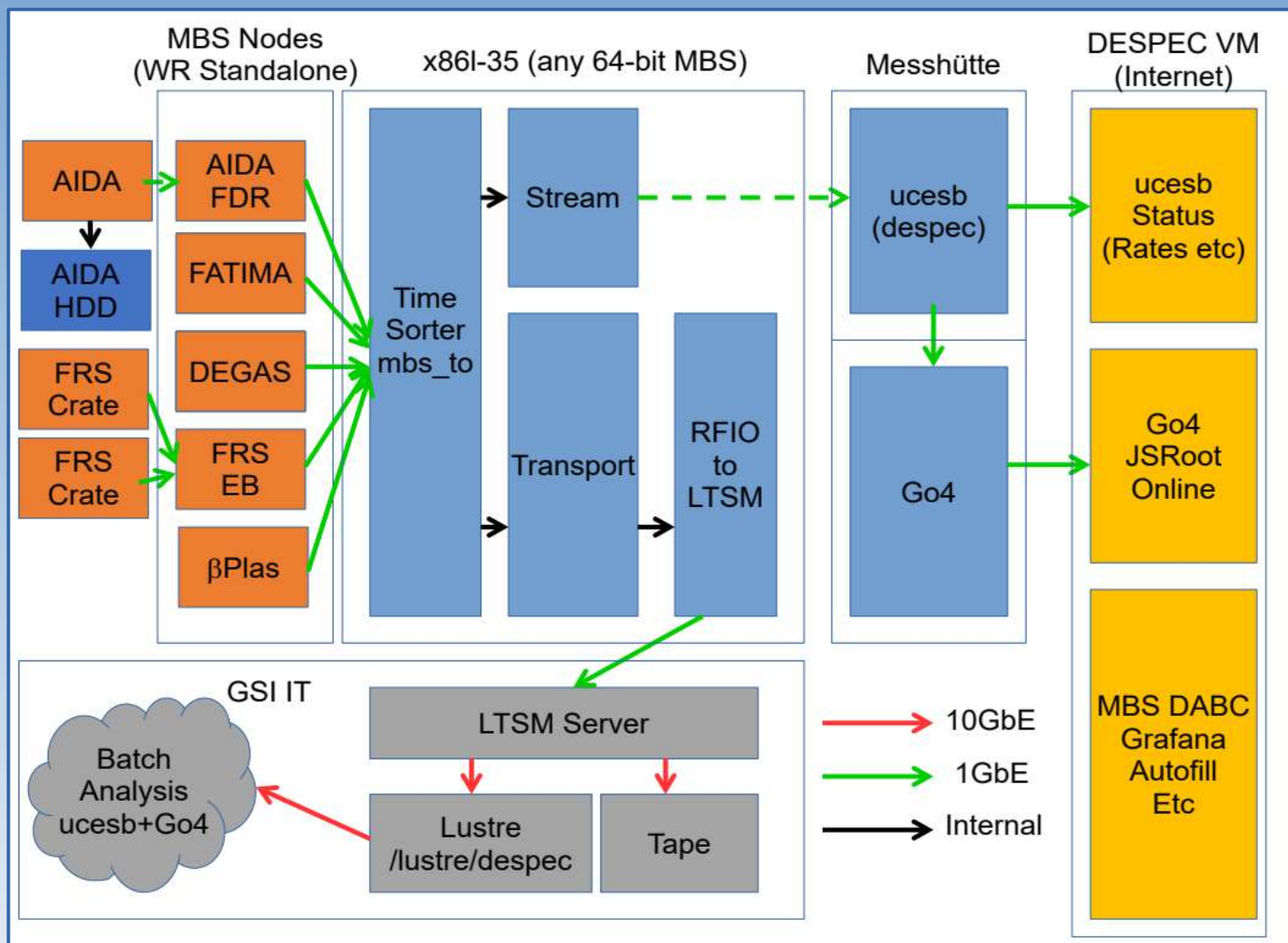
# Subsystems: HPGes

- **Past campaigns: “C2”/“C4” configurations**
- 7-fold Euroball Cluster detectors
- FEBEX4 Digital Readout
- New CFD for <10ns timing (H. Schaffner)

- **Future campaigns 2022+:**
- **28 DEGAS triple clusters**
- Experiment S450 (2022) → ‘wide’ AIDA +  $\beta$ Plast + DEGAS
- 18% efficient @ 1.3 MeV



# DAQ architecture



- *White Rabbit (WR) timestamping (correlations)*
- *2 Hz pulser (data throughput and synchronisation)*
- *“Time Machine” for synchronisation*

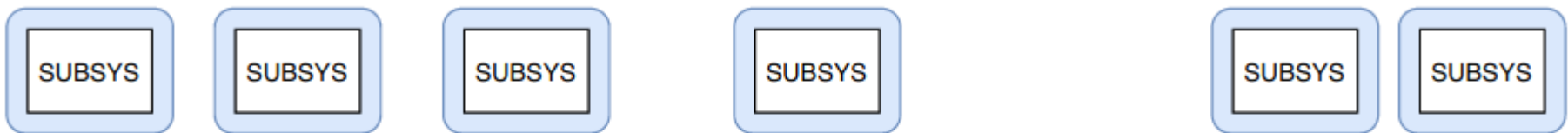
Key DAQ features:

- *SC41 (FRS) signal into subsystem DAQs*
- *Optional prompt flash trigger suppression*
- *Beam structure monitoring*

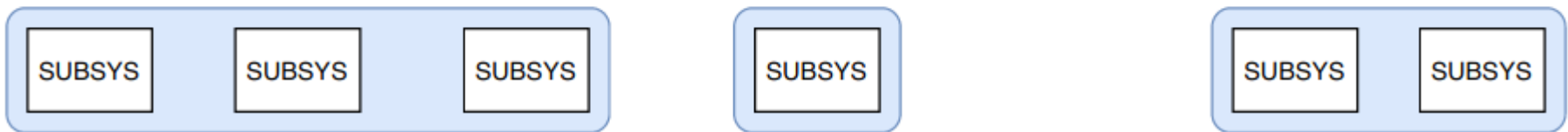
# Data Acquisition - Timestitching with ucesb

- **'ucesb'** - **u**npack and **c**heck **e**very **s**ingle **b**it
- General purpose data unpacker
- Carries out event building after timesorting
- Number of different methods investigated for optimisation
- Special treatment of "multihit" events

Time Sorter Output



Time Stitcher Output



DESPEC Overview: physics goals, setup, subsystems

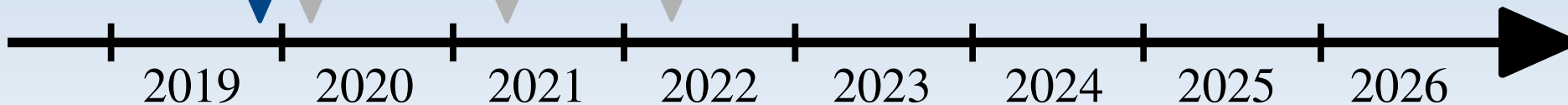
Engineering run **d002** in late 2019

Physics commissioning: experiment **S480**

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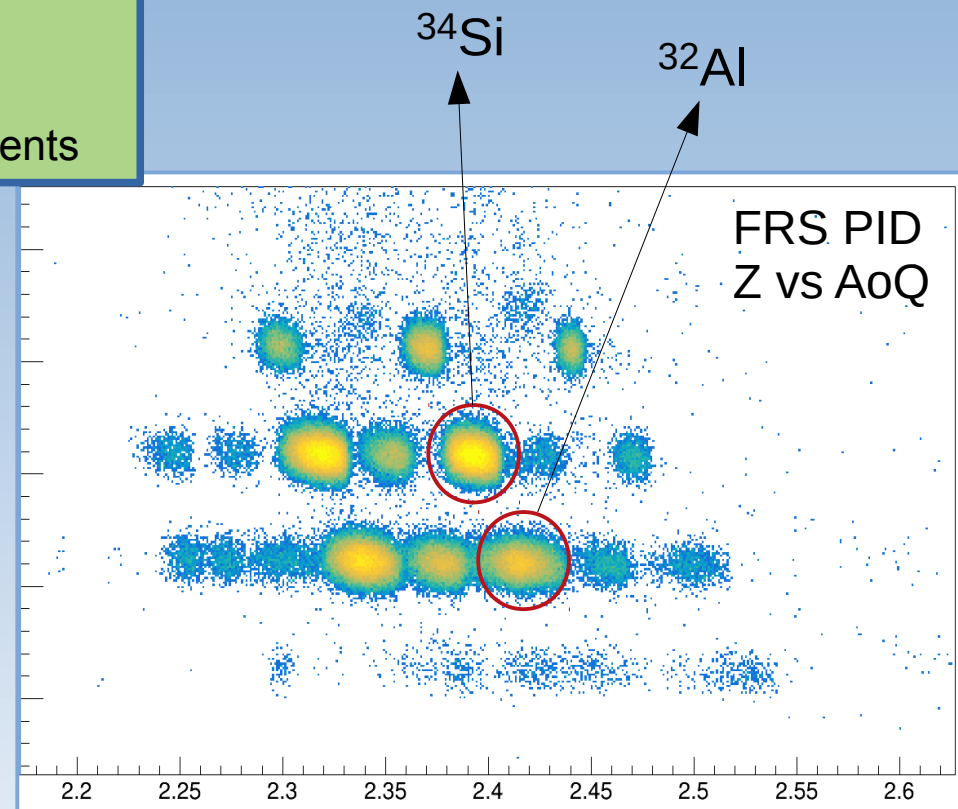
Plans for 2023→ 2024 and beyond



# Engineering run d002

- Aims:

- Check hardware performance
- Individual DAQs under beam conditions
- WR timestamp synchronisation
- Debugging online Go4 analysis
- Provide data for development of offline sorting
- Regaining experimental experience, training of students



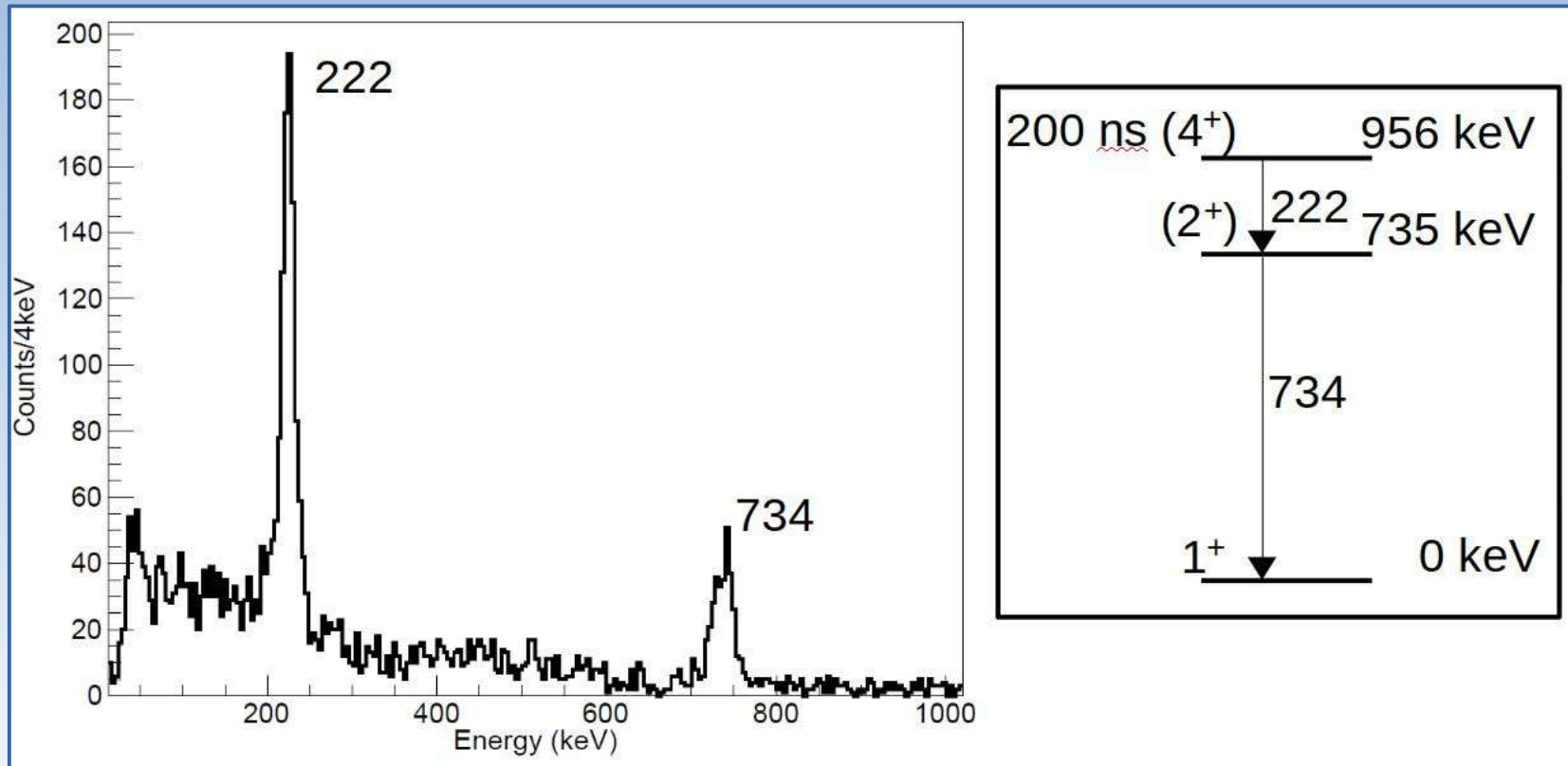
- **Ar** primary beam
- Fragments centred on **Si**
- U beam with **Re** fragments



# Engineering run d002

- Successful data collection over two time periods
- Synchronisation with WR confirmed
- Isomeric state in  $^{32}\text{Al}$  observed

Uses SC41(FRS)-FATIMA timing



FATIMA spectrum measured after  $^{32}\text{Al}$  implantation



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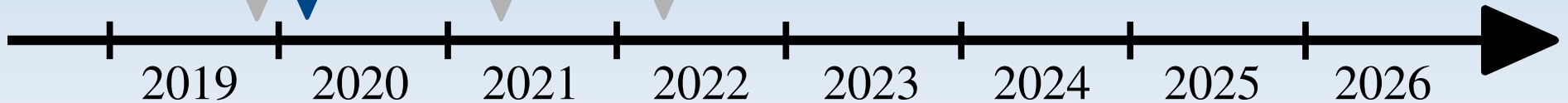
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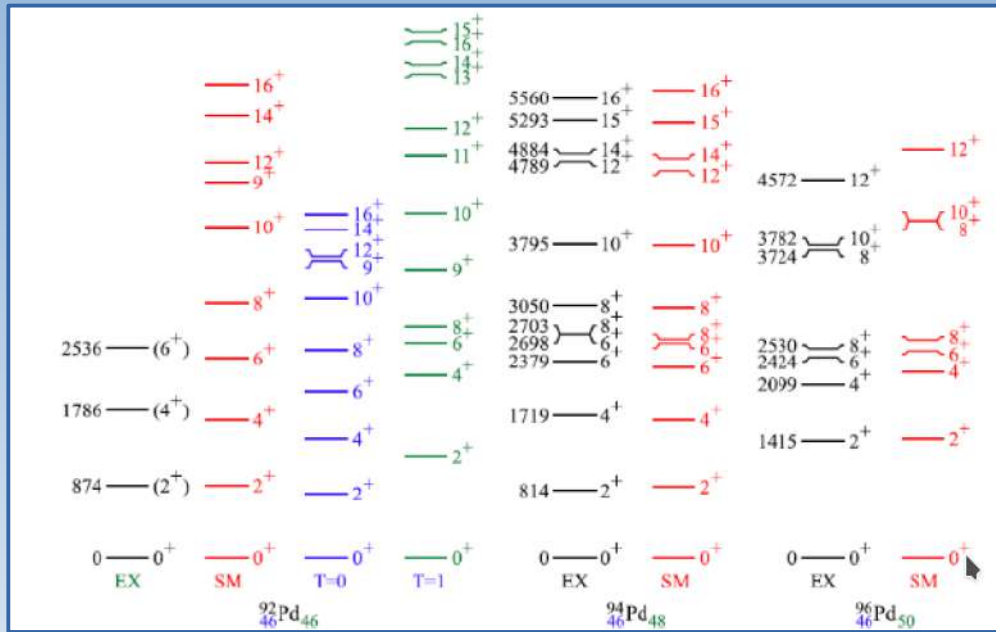
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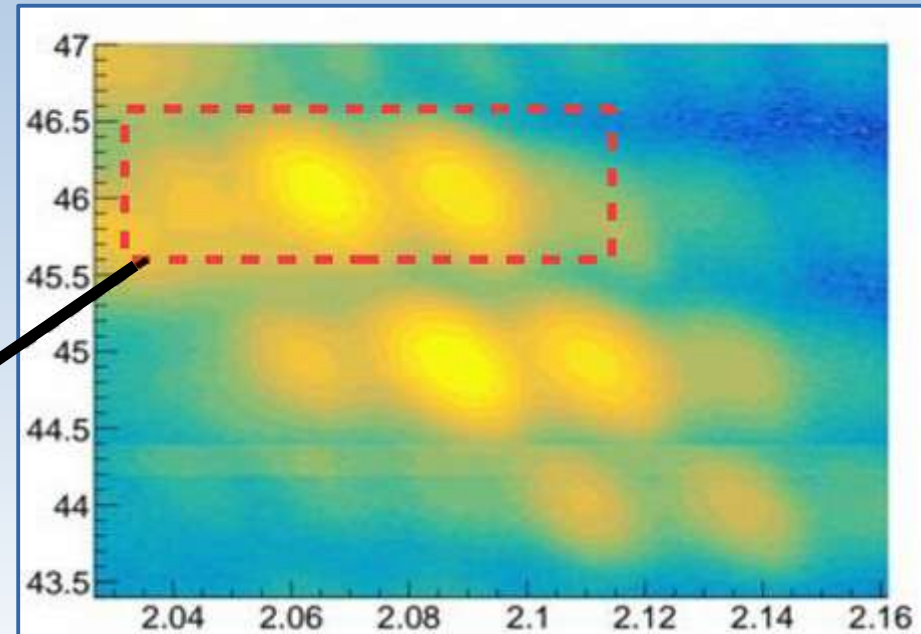
# Physics commissioning experiment S480

- Proposal submitted for  $^{124}\text{Xe}$  primary beam
- Spokespersons: Gorska (GSI), Regan (Surrey), Cederwall (KTH), Jolie (Cologne)

## Structure of the heaviest N=Z nuclei: Seniority Transitions and EM Transition Rates in $^{94}\text{Pd}$



Lifetime analysis of  $^{94,96}\text{Pd}$   
 $6^+/8^+$  states underneath  $14^+$  isomer  
 Many other nuclei of interest  
 ( $^{95}\text{Pd}$ ,  $^{96}\text{Ag}$ , ...)

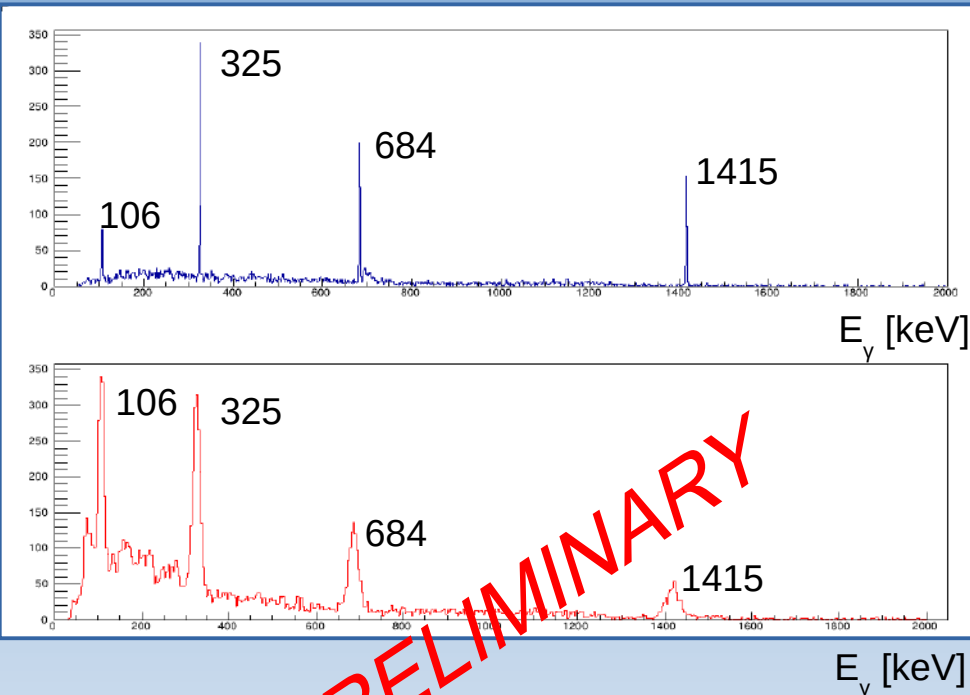


$^{94}\text{Pd}$ 9.6 S $\epsilon \approx 100.00\%$	$^{95}\text{Pd}$ 5 S $\epsilon \approx 100.00\%$	$^{96}\text{Pd}$ 1.2 S $\epsilon \approx 100.00\%$
$^{93}\text{Rh}$ 12.2 S $\epsilon \approx 100.00\%$	$^{94}\text{Rh}$ 66 S $\epsilon \approx 100.00\%$ $\epsilon_p: 1.80\%$	$^{95}\text{Rh}$ 5.02 M $\epsilon \approx 100.00\%$
$^{92}\text{Ru}$ 3.65 M $\epsilon \approx 100.00\%$	$^{93}\text{Ru}$ 59.7 S $\epsilon \approx 100.00\%$	$^{94}\text{Ru}$ 51.8 M $\epsilon \approx 100.00\%$

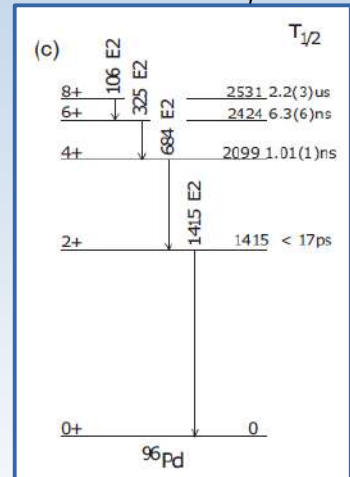
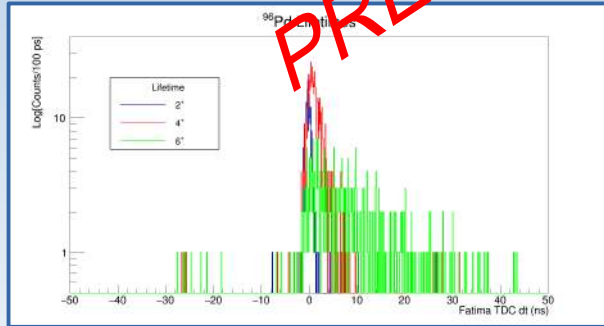
B. Das, S. Jazrawi,  
 M. Mikołajczuk, A.  
 Mistry, A. Yaneva

# Physics commissioning experiment S480

## • $^{96}\text{Pd}$ GALILEO HPGeS and FATIMA

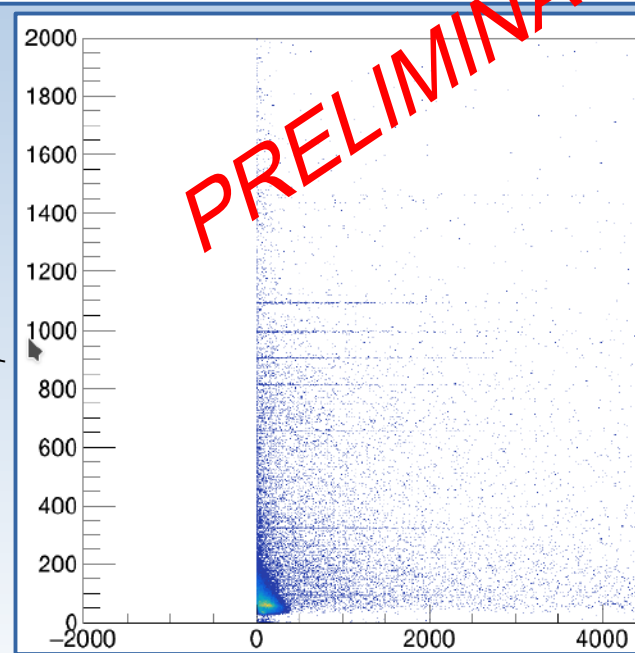
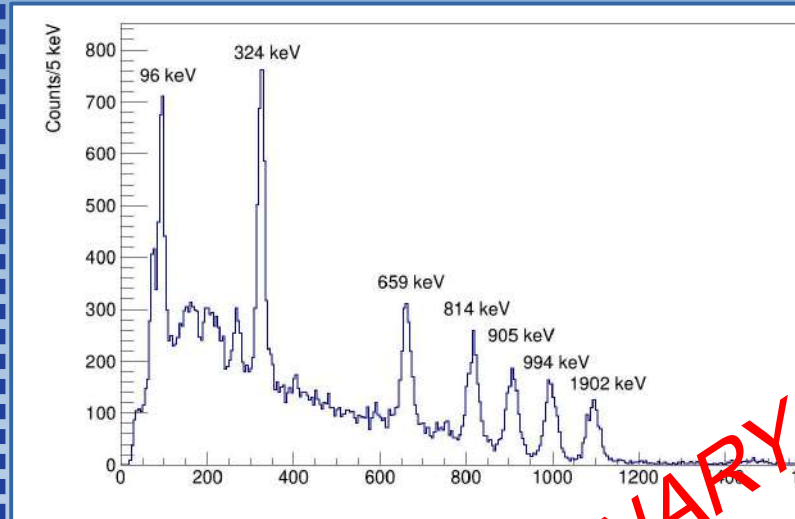


PRELIMINARY

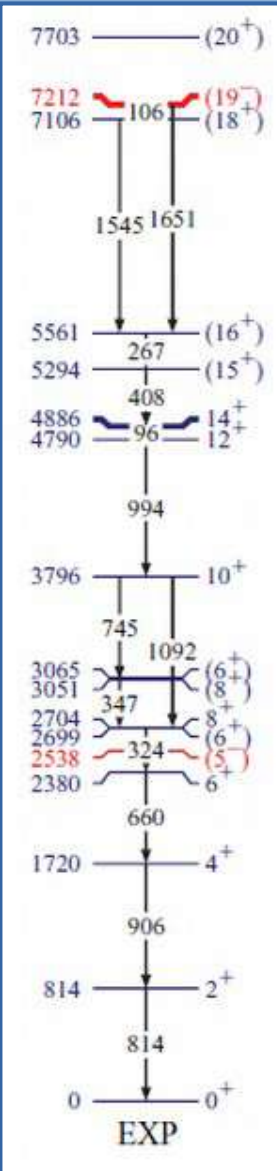


H. Mach *et al.*, PRC **95**, 014313 (2017)

## • $^{94}\text{Pd}$ PID-gated FATIMA



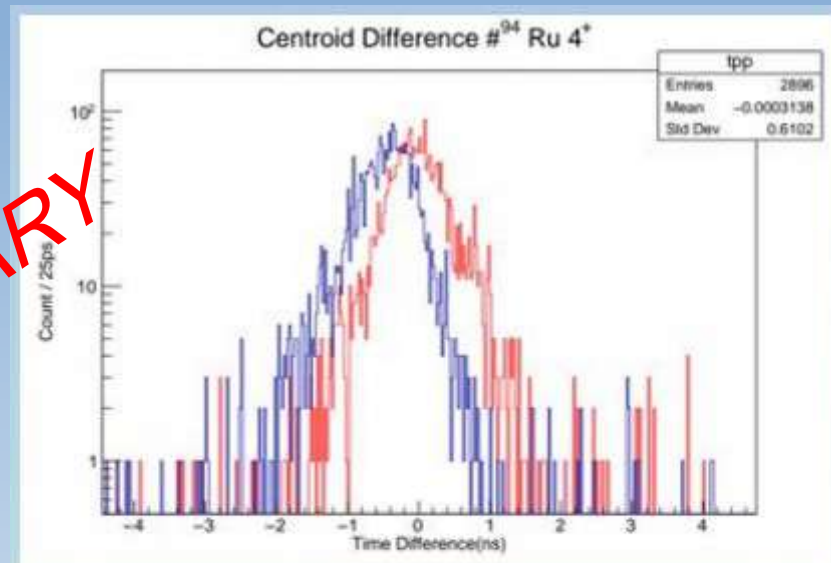
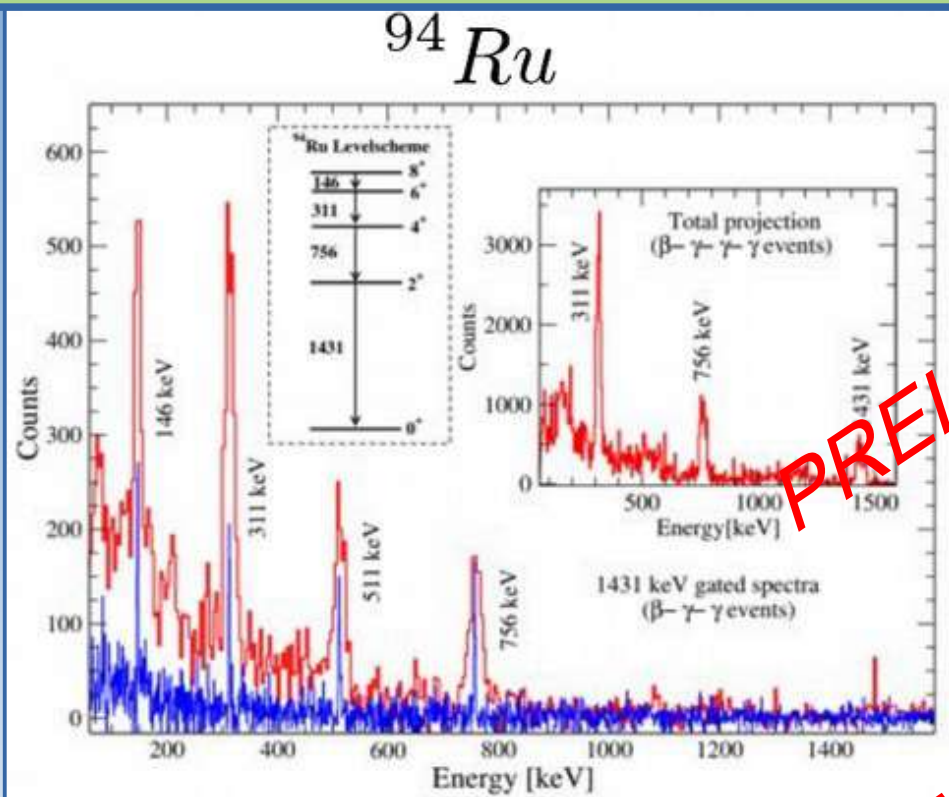
HPGe - Sc41 dT [ns]



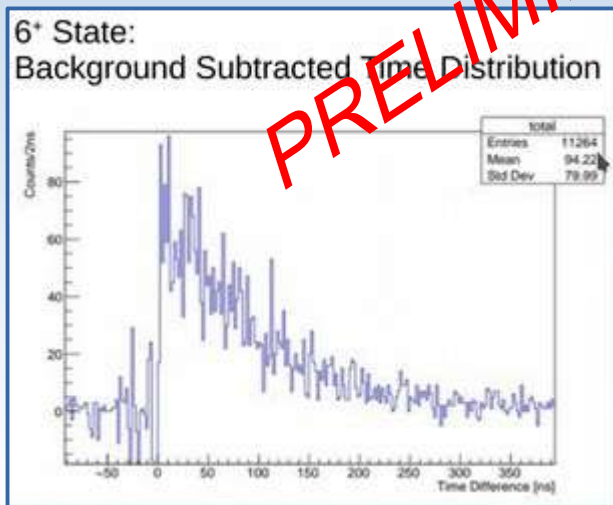
T.S. Brock *et al.*, PRC **82**, 061309(R) (2010)

# Physics commissioning experiment S480

- $^{95}\text{Pd}$ :  $\beta$ -delayed  $\gamma$ s ( $^{95}\text{Rh}$ ) and  $\beta$ -p- $\gamma$ s ( $^{94}\text{Ru}$ )



$$\tau(4^+) = 32(11)ps$$



$$T_{1/2}(6^+) = 63(3)ns$$

Reported Value

H. Mach *et al.*,  
Phys. Rev. C,  
95, 014-313 (2017)

$$T_{1/2}(6^+) = 65(2)ns$$

PRELIMINARY

# Remote and Virtual Access

- Development of Remote Access capabilities for DESPEC experiments



Detector Health

Environmental variables

Live Scalers

LN2 filling

DAQ monitoring

DAQ control

Data processing

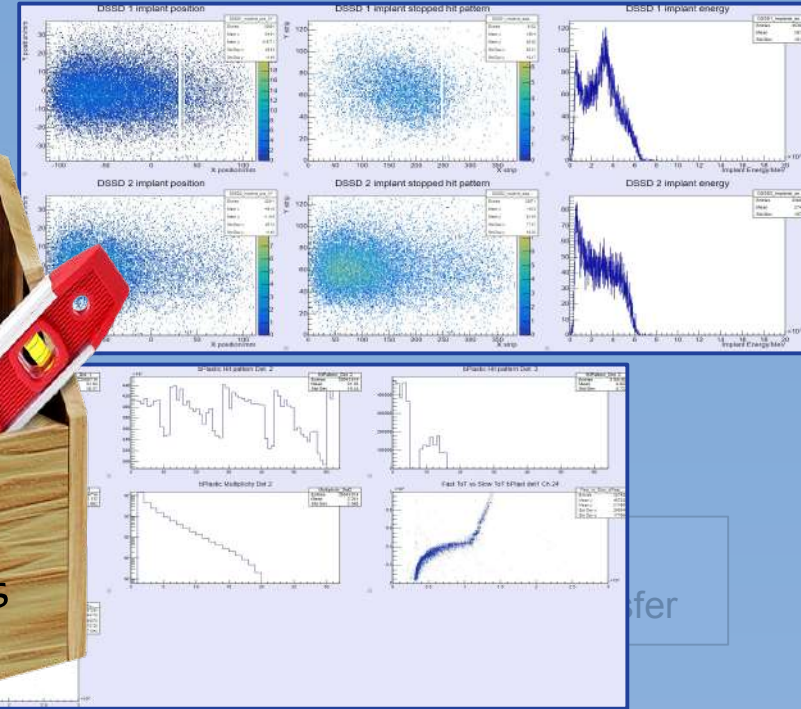
Data visualisation

Training and knowledge transfer

Procedural and Organisational aspects

Cameras and microphones

# Remote and Virtual Access



## ucesb Monitor

Websocket Status: Connected | ucesb Status: Connected to sb61-35 | Clients connected: 1

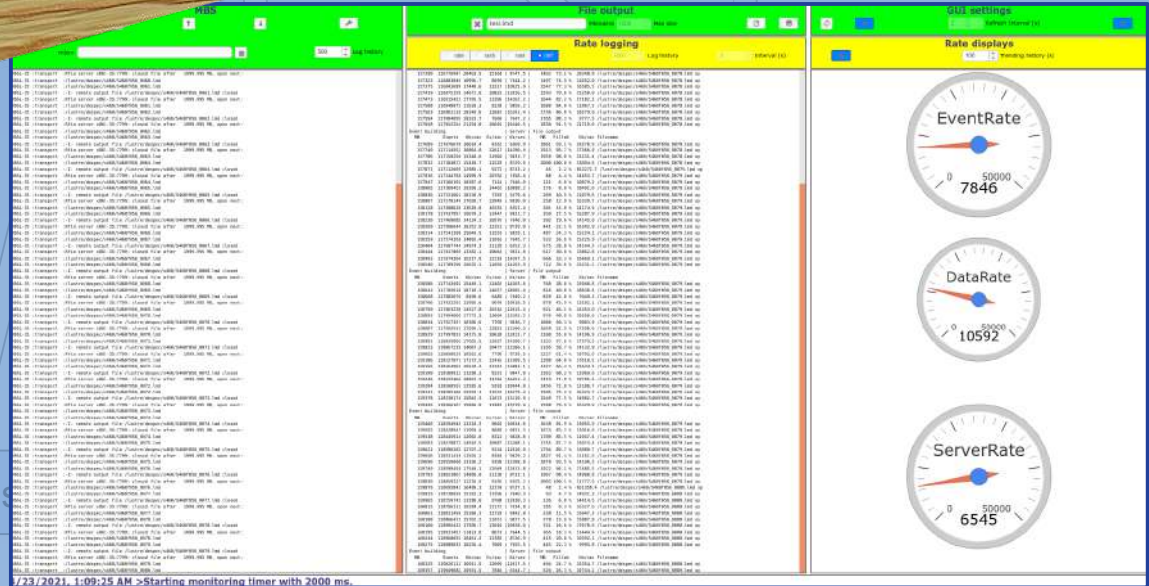
Event Number: 2979796953 | Physics: 115081  
Time: 3/23/21, 8:25:15 PM GMT+2 | Pubes: 22  
WR Time: 0x160128258be8923e  
Beam Split: On split

## DAQ Status

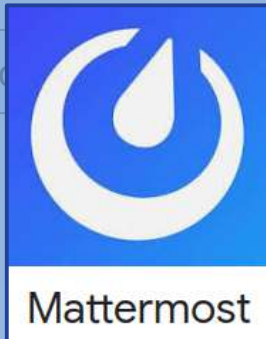
Subsystem	ID	Events	Event Rate	Pulsar Rate	Correl
FRS	0x100	495402379	456/s	2/s	GOOD
HPGe	0x400	361807482	3041/s	2/s	GOOD
bPlus	0x500	314529830	2743/s	2/s	GOOD
AIDA	0x700	5847241904	46709/s	2/s	GOOD
FATIMA VME	0x1500	327843295	2805/s	1/s	GOOD
FATIMA TAMEX	0x1600	272868025	2309/s	1/s	GOOD

## FATIMA Scalers

Scaler	Rate	Scaler	Rate
bPlus Free	7286 Hz	bPlus Accepted	3337 Hz
bPlus Up	5194 Hz	bPlus Down	7818 Hz
bPlus Up&Down	4424 Hz	Pulsar	2 Hz
FATIMA TAMEX Free	5289 Hz	FATIMA TAMEX Accepted	2985 Hz
FATIMA VME Free	4979 Hz	FATIMA VME Accepted	3593 Hz
HPGe Free	8387 Hz	HPGe Accepted	3895 Hz
SC41 L	2484 Hz	SC41 R	1792 Hz
SC42 L	2863 Hz	SC42 R	1231 Hz



DAQ



process

fer

ts

3/23/2021, 1:09:25 AM > Starting monitoring timer with 2000 ms.



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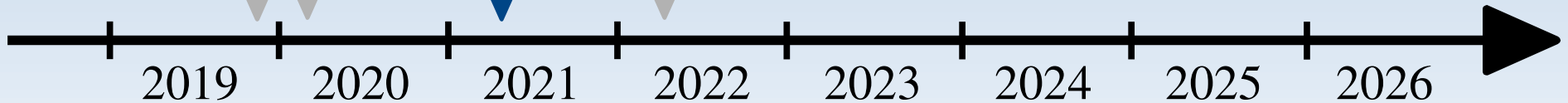
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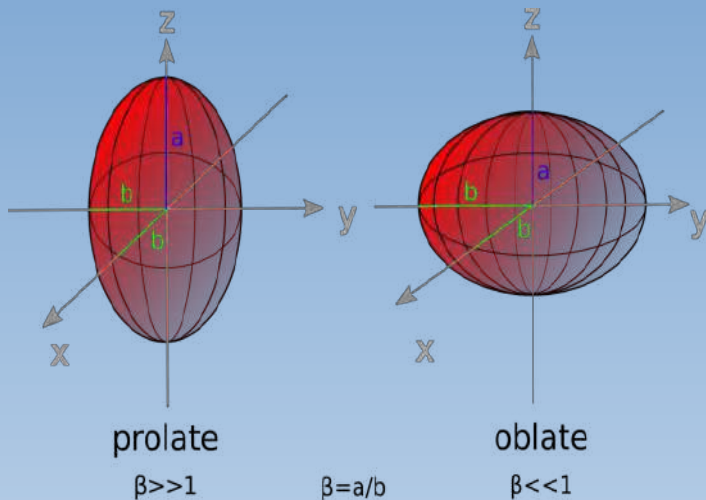
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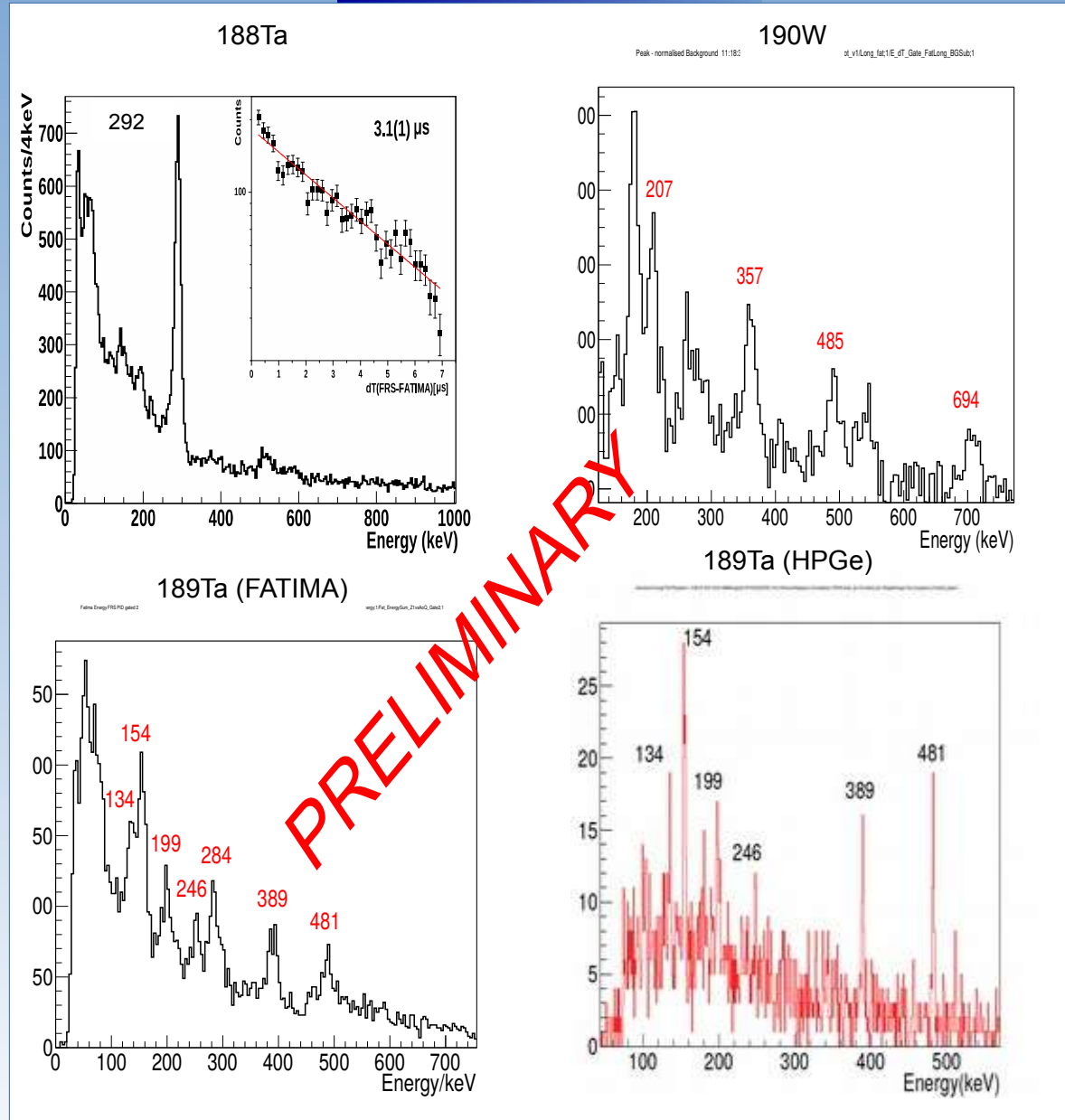


# S452: prolate-oblate transition at A~190



- **Fast-timing measurements, isomer decays,  $\gamma$  spectroscopy**
- Produce n-rich Ta, Re, Hf, W isotopes:  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  on  $^9\text{Be}$
- Ions implanted into AIDA, event-by-event PID  $\rightarrow$  FRS
- $\beta$ -decay times with fast plastic scintillators
- $\beta$ -delayed  $\gamma$  deexcitation with FATIMA
- Ge-detectors for high-resolution “monitoring” & isomer spectroscopy

$B(E2; 2^+_{1} \rightarrow 0^+_{1})$  of  $^{196}\text{Os}$ ,  $^{188-192}\text{W}$ ,  
level energies in  $^{188}\text{Hf}$

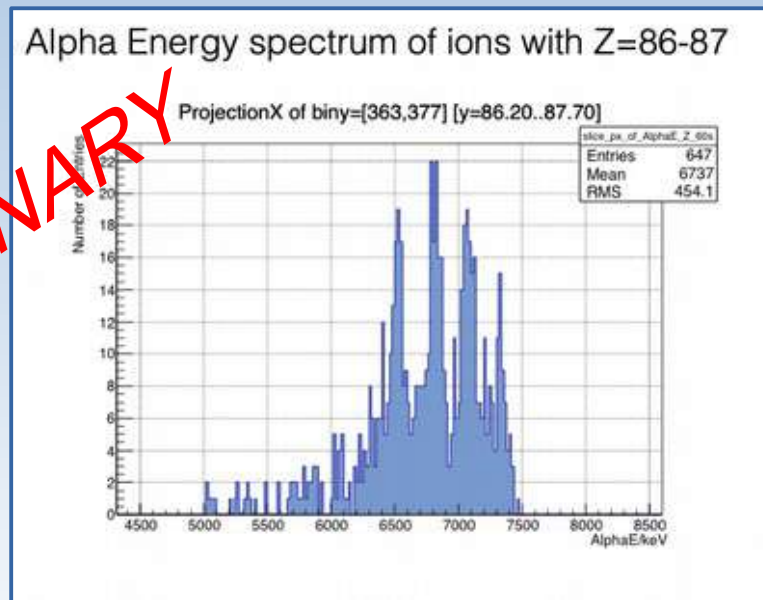
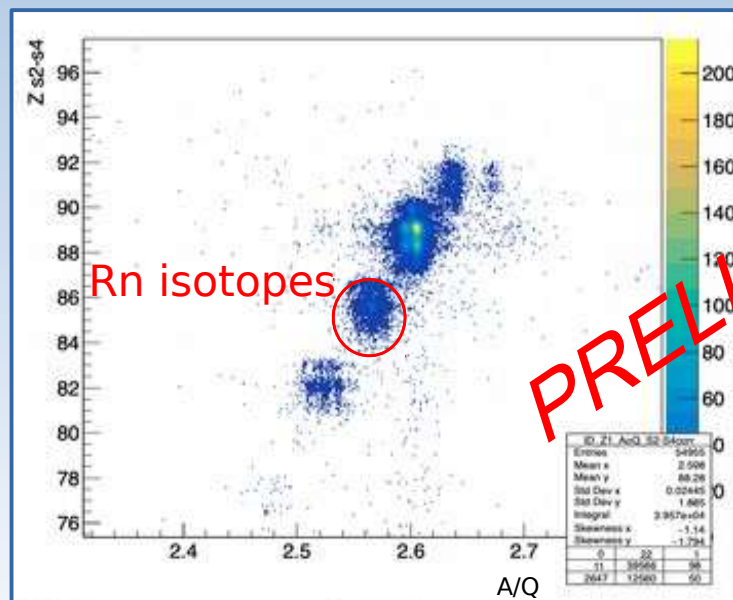


# S460: Po-Fr nuclei south-east of the A~225 island of octupole deformation

- Rn-Th (Z=88-90) actinide nuclei around mass number A~225: strong octupole correlations
- Lack of experimental information
- Fragmentation of  $^{238}\text{U}$  on  $^9\text{Be}$
- Intermediate setting to confirm PID:



$^{218,219}\text{Rn}$ : first time the DESPEC setup was used to measure **alpha decay!**

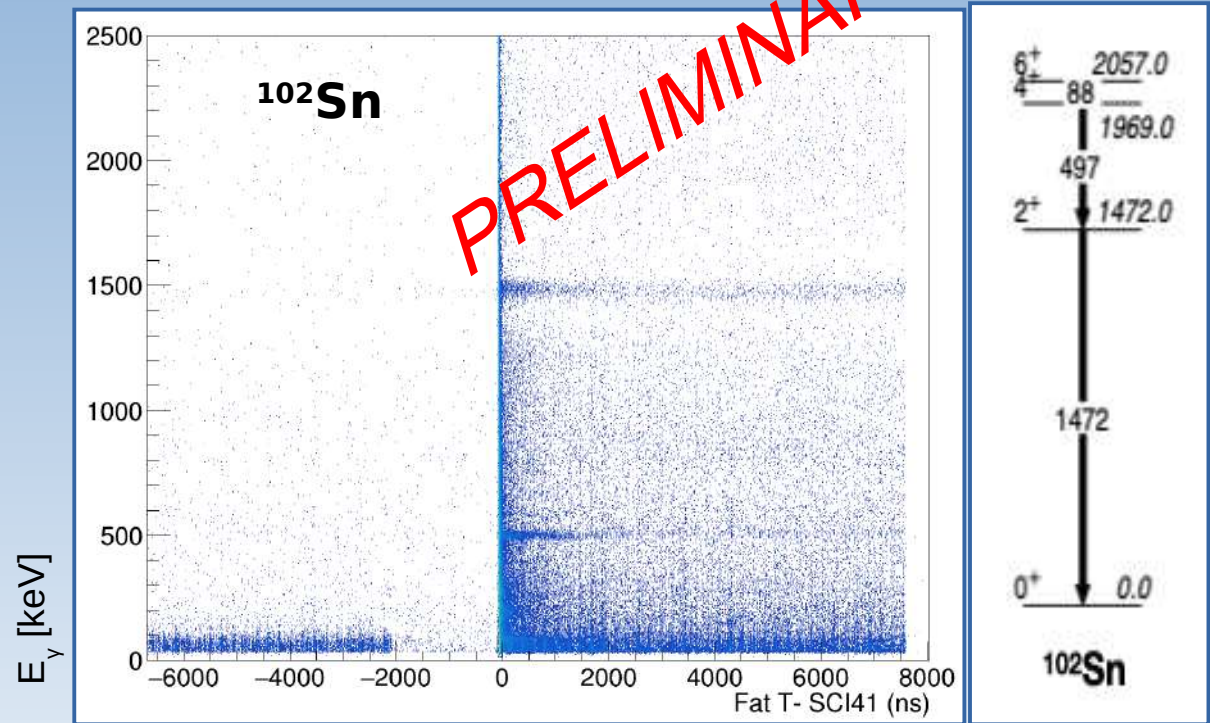


N. Hubbard (TU Darmstadt), H.M. Albers (GSI)

M. Poletini (Uni. Milano)

# S496: Core breaking in neutron-deficient Sn isotopes

- Assessing core-breaking contribution in the neutron-deficient Sn isotopes by measuring lifetimes of: (a) first  $4^+$  state in  $^{102}\text{Sn}$ , (b)  $(7/2^+)$  state in  $^{103}\text{Sn}$
- First experiment with the 'wide' AIDA +  $\beta$ Plast geometry



(a)  $\gamma$ - $\gamma$  time difference measurement following the isomeric decay from  $6^+$  state with  $T_{1/2}=367(11)$  ns

(b)  $\alpha$ - $\gamma$  time difference measurement following the alpha decay from g.s of  $^{107}\text{Te}$  with  $T_{1/2}=3.1(1)$  ms

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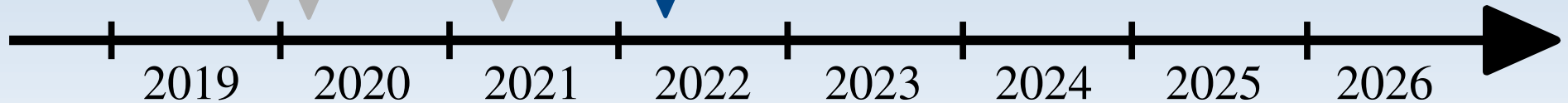
Engineering run **d002** in late 2019

Physics commissioning: experiment **S480**

Experimental campaign 2021 (**S452, S460, S496**)

Upcoming campaign 2022 (**S450, S505**)

Plans for 2023→ 2024 and beyond



# Experimental Campaign Spring 2022

## S450: Study of N=126 nuclei: Isomeric and beta decays in $^{202}\text{Os}$ and $^{203}\text{Ir}$ (Podolyák)

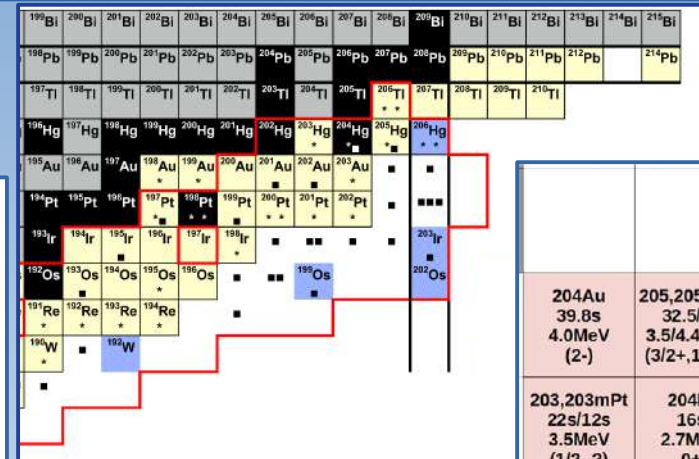
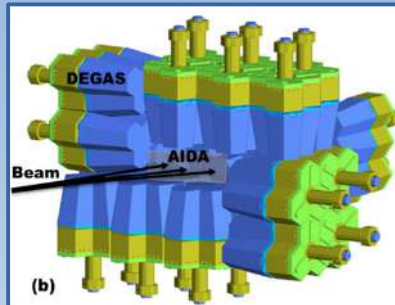
Structure of N=126, 125 nuclei ( $^{203}\text{Ir}$ ,  $^{202}\text{Os}$ ,  $^{203}\text{Pt}$ ,  $^{202}\text{Ir}$ ) gives info about individual orbitals  
 => improved predictions for r-process path

**Method:**  $\beta\gamma$ -Spectroscopy

**Instruments:** 'wide' AIDA, DEGAS

**SIS18 beam:**  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  at 1 GeV/u

**Granted beamtime:** 18 shifts



		$^{207}\text{Hg}$ 2.9m 4.6MeV (9/2+)
$^{204}\text{Au}$ 39.8s 4.0MeV (2-)	$^{205,205\text{m}}\text{Au}$ 32.5/6s 3.5/4.4MeV (3/2+, 11/2-)	$^{206}\text{Au}$ 45s 6.7MeV (?)
$^{203,203\text{m}}\text{Pt}$ 22s/12s 3.5MeV (1/2-, ?)	$^{204}\text{Pt}$ 16s 2.7MeV 0+	

## S505: Investigation of the beta-strength crossing N=126 and the formation of the 3rd r-process abundance peak (Tain, Morales, Nacher)

Large discrepancies, no model consistent with data across N=126

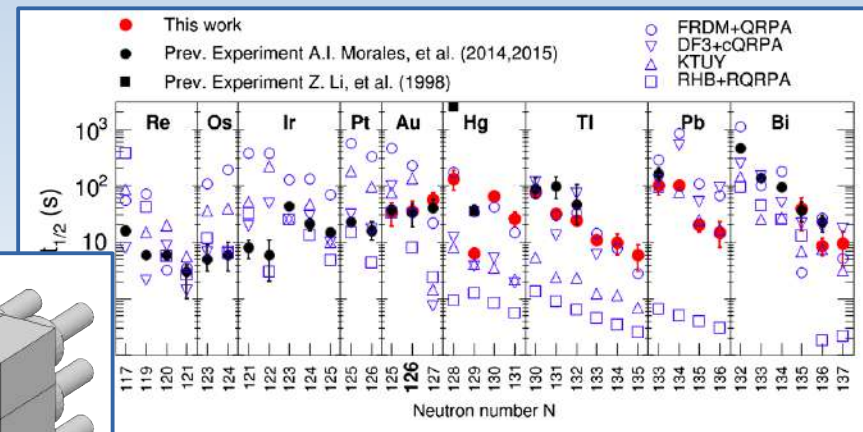
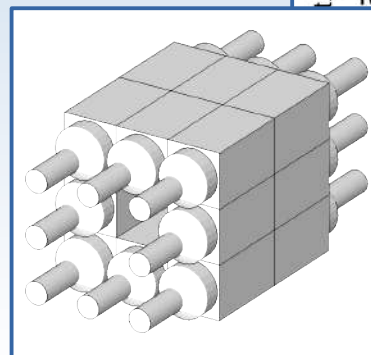
$T_{1/2}$  is not unequivocally related to  $\beta$  strength: need for measurement

**Method:** Total Absorption Spectrometry

**Instruments:** 'narrow' AIDA + DTAS

**SIS18 beam:**  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  at 1 GeV/u

**Granted beamtime:** 20 shifts



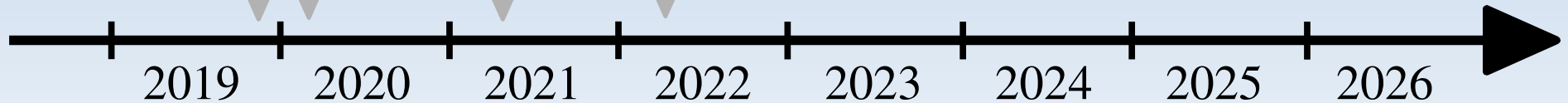
DESPEC Overview: physics goals, setup, subsystems

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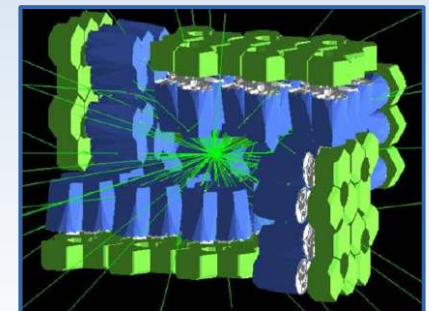
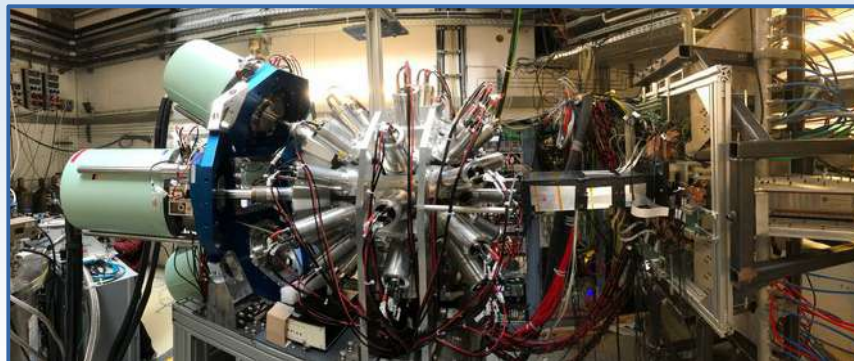
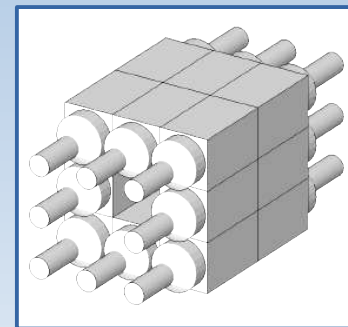
Plans for 2023→ 2024 and beyond

# 2023-2024 and 2025+

- In 2023-2024, DESPEC collaboration will exploit **high-resolution (DEGAS/FATIMA), high-efficiency studies (DTAS) and exclusive measurements (BELEN)**
- Improvements to detectors, DAQ, analysis framework
- One setup per year to minimize changes and reduce commissioning time
- Dedicated campaigns for each setup

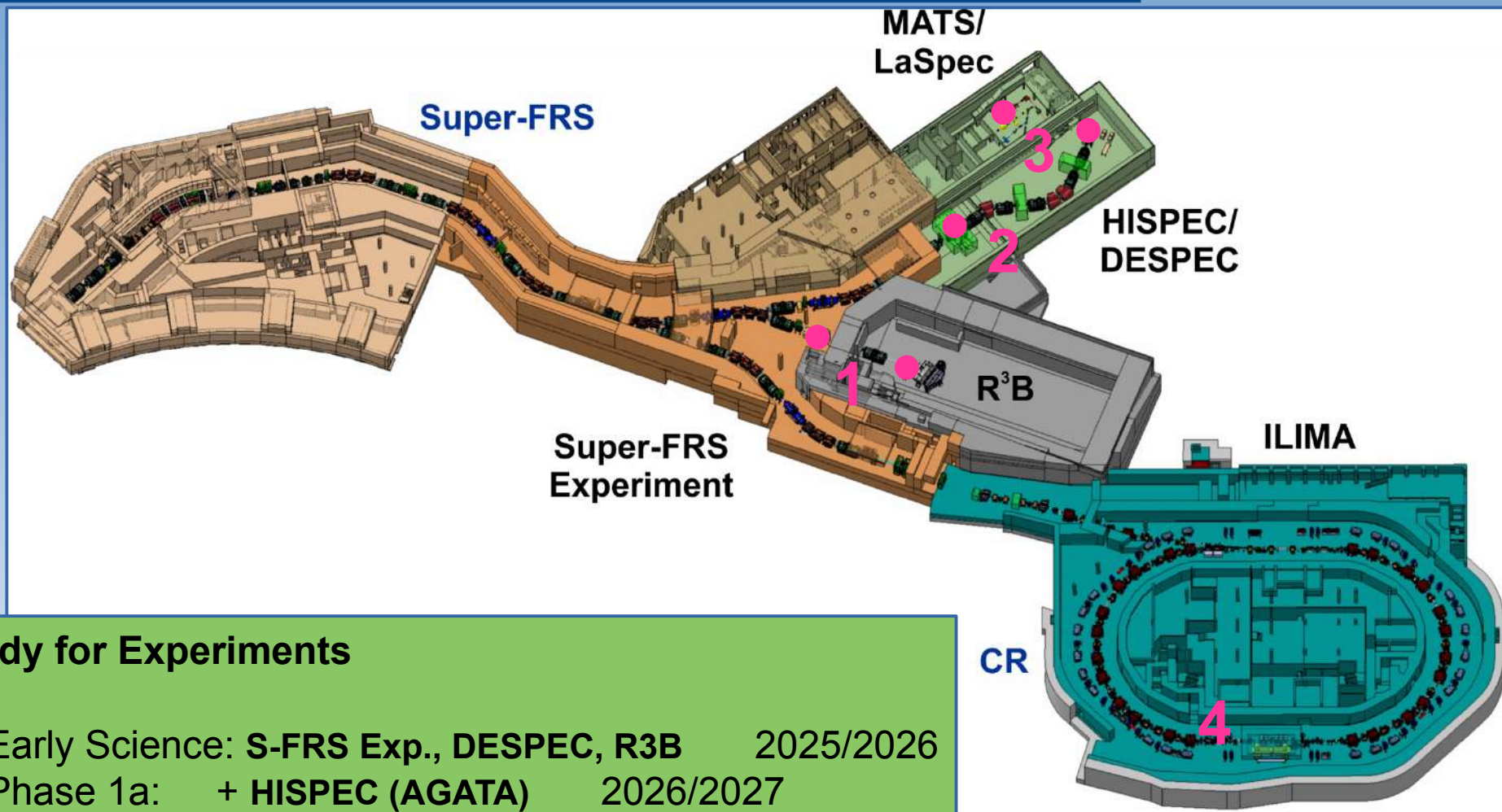
## ***Timeline:***

- Workshop on future experiments ***Jan 2022***
- LOIs discussed by HISPEC/DESPEC management board ***Mar 2022***
- Proposal submission to management board ***Spring 2022***
- Proposal submission to G-PAC ***Summer 2022***





# Physics startup at the FAIR facility



## Ready for Experiments

- 1 Early Science: S-FRS Exp., DESPEC, R3B 2025/2026
- 2 Phase 1a: + HISPEC (AGATA) 2026/2027
- 3 Phase 1b( $\alpha$ ): + MATS/LASPEC 2027
- 4 Phase 1b( $\beta$ ): + ILIMA 2027

1 with SIS18 beams, 2 preferably SIS100 operation,  
3 SIS100 operation needed

## DESPEC

Plan to move DEGAS(+FATIMA) set-up from FRS/S4 to Super-FRS starting in Q1 2025 after the phase-0 runs of 2024

# Summary and Acknowledgements

- **Successful commissioning** of the DESPEC setup at GSI
- Experimental campaigns in **2020 and 2021** (physics results soon!)
- Experiments with **DTAS (S505)** and **DEGAS (S450)** planned for 2022
- Strategy for **2023-2024 beamtime**
- Future plans **early physics with DESPEC at FAIR 2025+**

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...and many more from the **DESPEC Collaboration**  
and the **FRS Group**



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**Thank you for your attention!**