



# Recent Developments and Proposed Applications with the Accelerators at iThemba LABS

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# Cape Town – “Mother City”



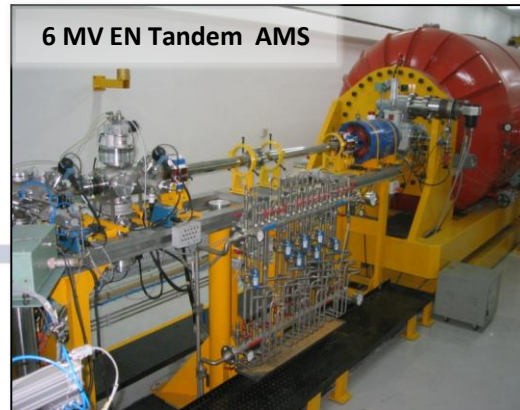
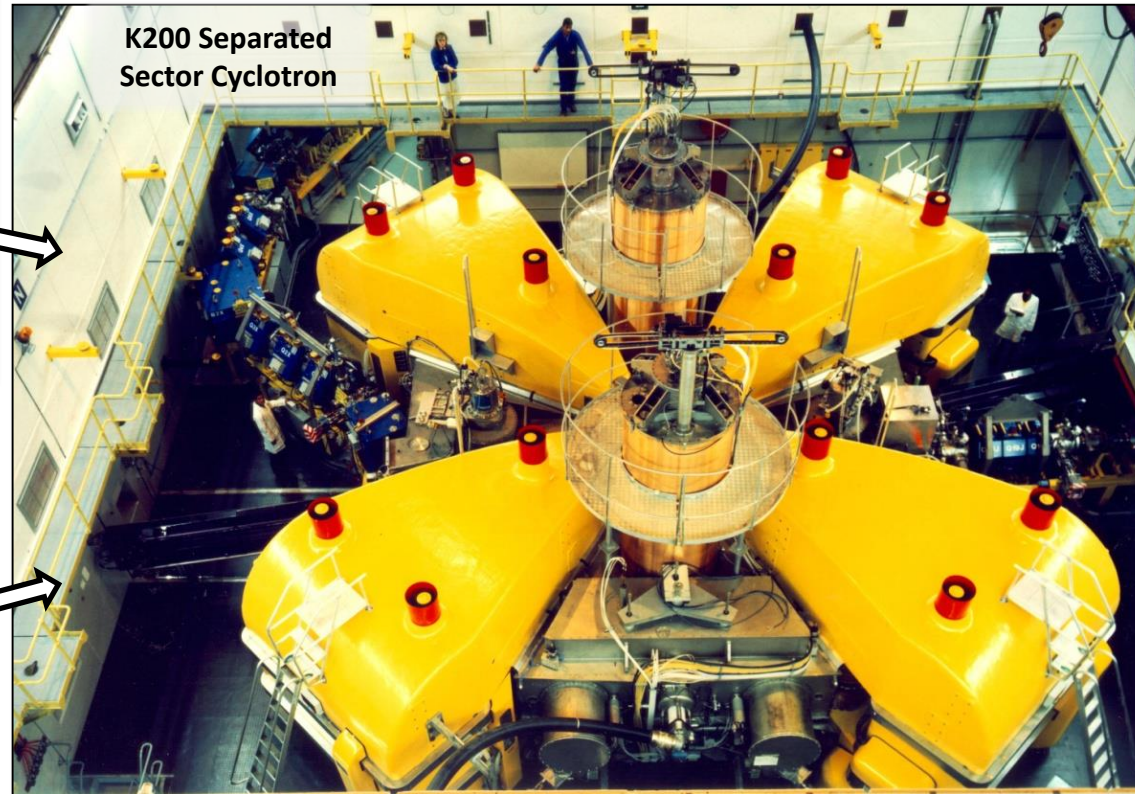
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Officially founded on 6 April 1652



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# Accelerators at iThemba LABS



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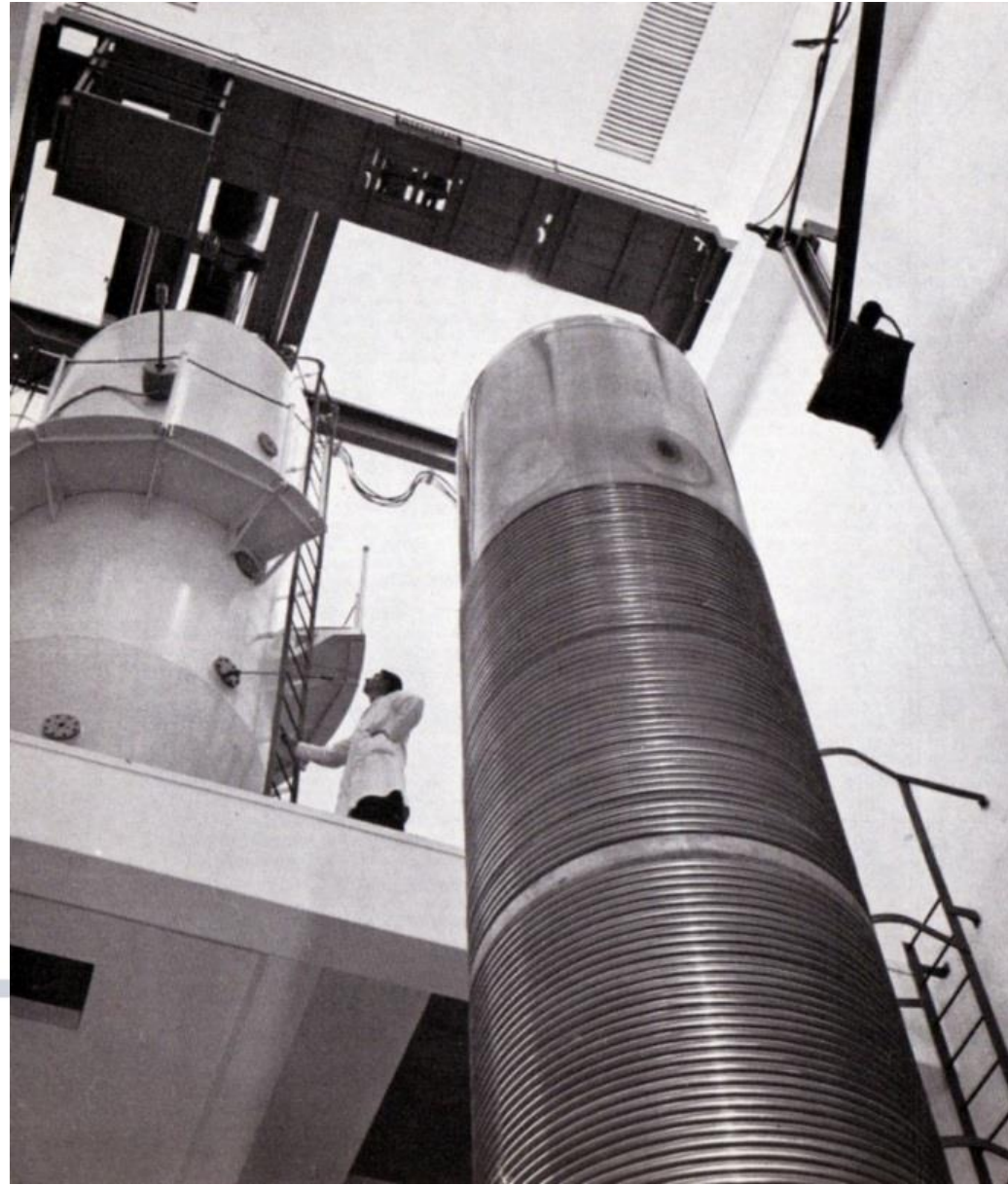


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# Outline of the Talk

- New tandetron accelerator and applications
- AMS applications with 6 MV tandem accelerator
- Proposed new isotope production facilities
- New radioactive ion beam facility

# Replacement of the 52 years old Van de Graaff



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# New tandetron accelerator installed



- Commissioned in May 2017 .
- With 6 MeV proton delivered from multicusp ion source with 200  $\mu$ A current
- With Multicusp source for He-ions production
- With Cesium sputtering source for heavy ions, tested with Si-ions



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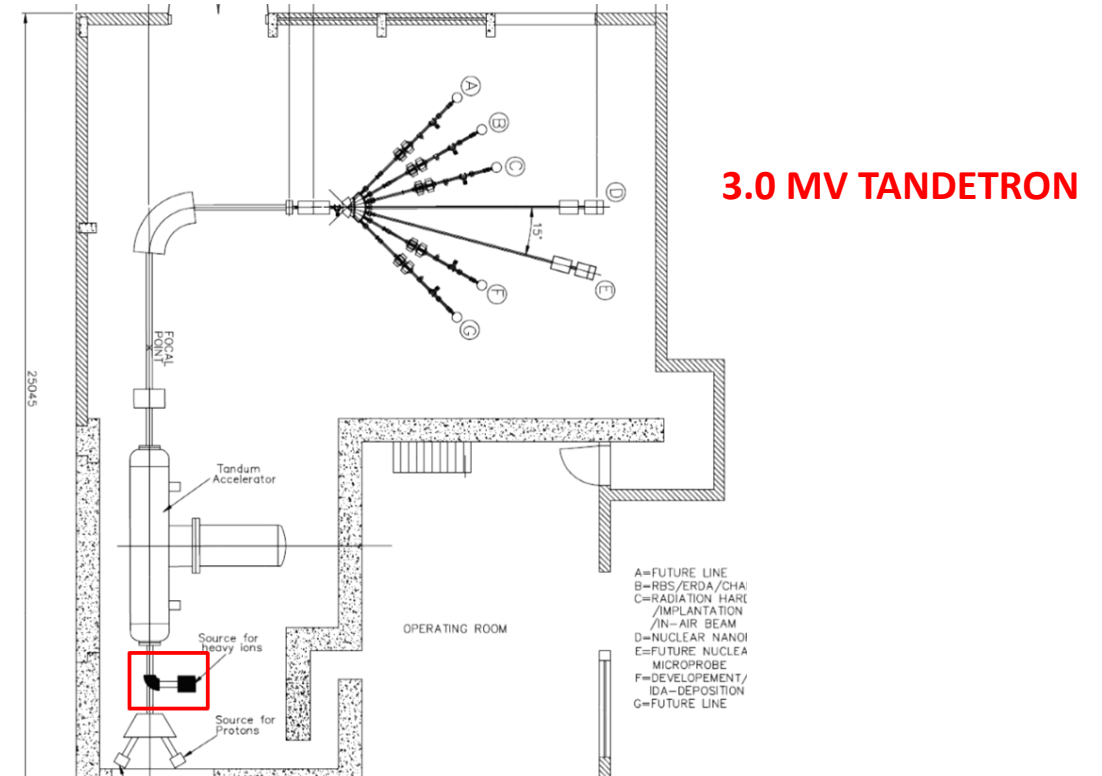
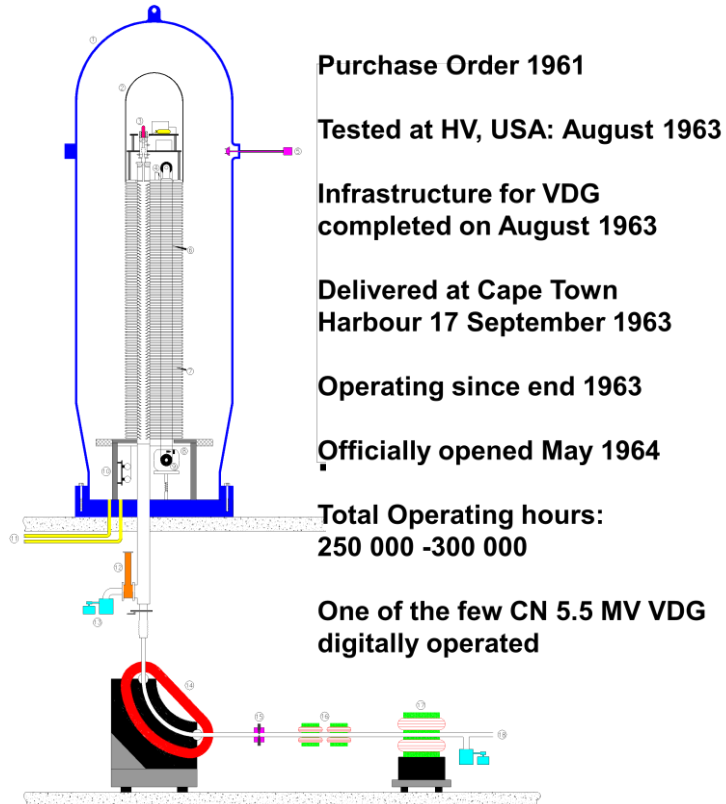


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# ION-BEAM INTERACTION AND SURFACE CHARACTERIZATION OF MATERIALS BY ION BEAMS

## Materials Research Department (MRD)

### CN 6 MV Van de Graaff accelerator



### The FUTURE:

- Low energy nuclear reactions for Astrophysics
- Characterization of nano-structures materials with nanometer ion beams sizes
- Ion Beam Analysis: *in-situ* RBS, Cryo-NMP, HI\_ToF\_ERDA, HE-PIXE
- IBA in tandem with e-beam deposition
- External beam for Archeometry and materials sciences
- Ion implantation, radiation hardness
- Environmental sciences

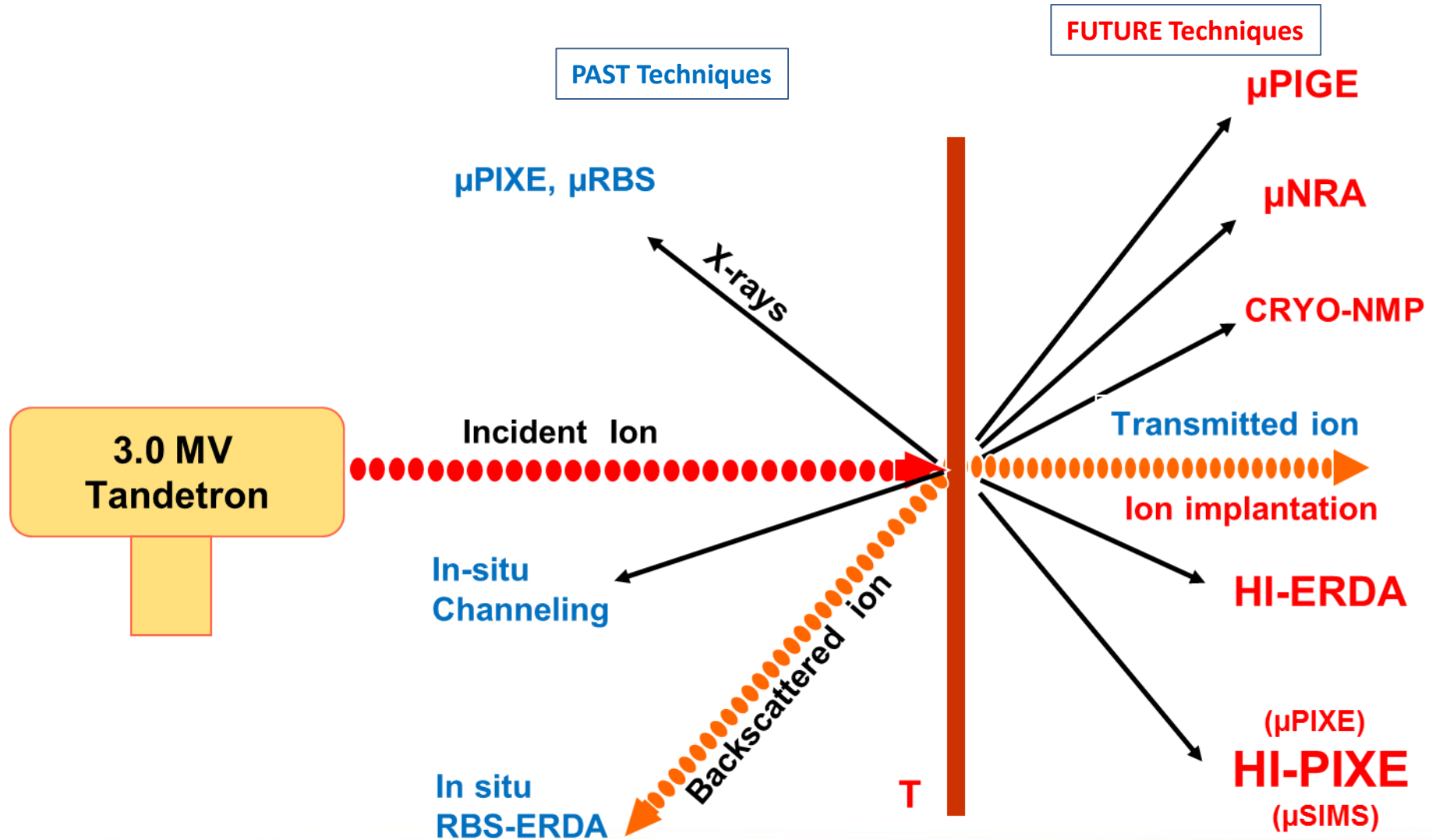
### The past 50-years:



- Low energy nuclear physics
- Nuclear analytical chemistry
- Ion Beam Analysis (RBS, NMP)

# SURFACE CHARACTERIZATION OF MATERIALS BY ION BEAM ANALYSIS

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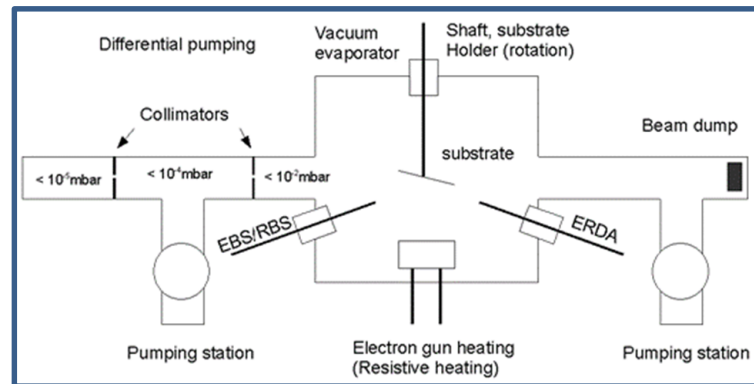
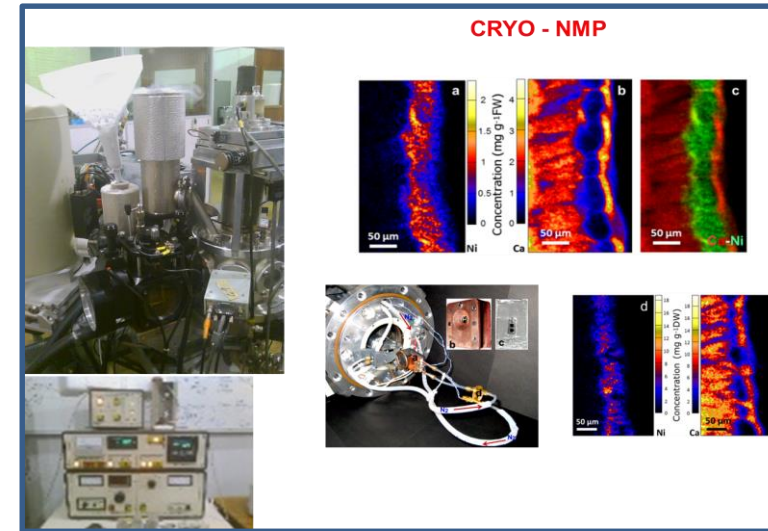
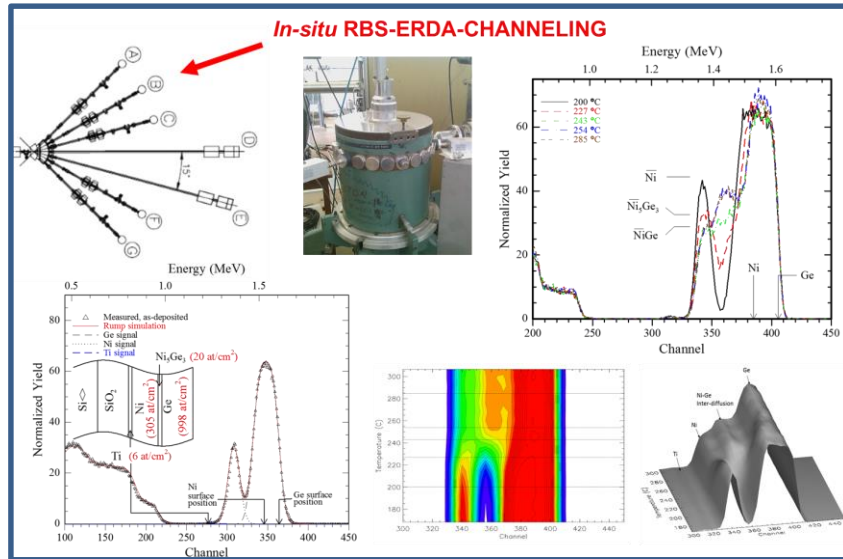


[www.tlabs.ac.za](http://www.tlabs.ac.za)

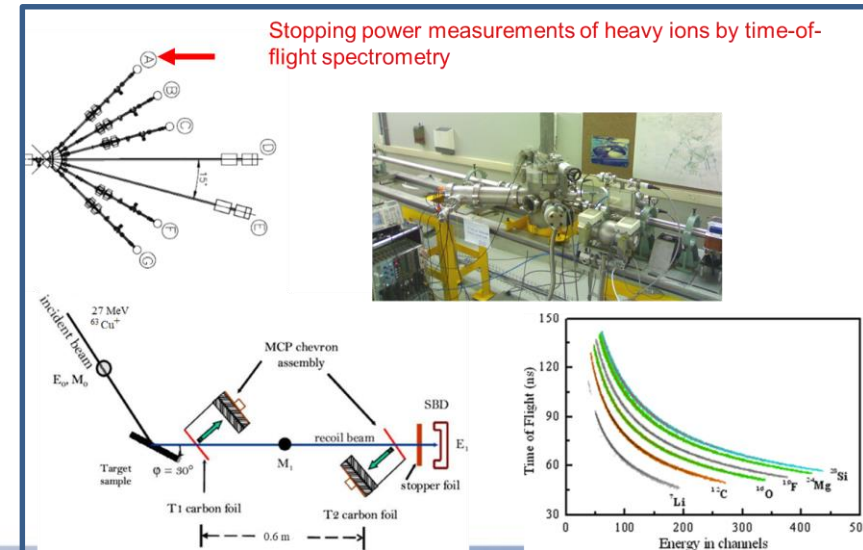
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# SURFACE CHARACTERIZATION OF MATERIALS BY ION BEAM ANALYSIS

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Thin layer deposition and real time characterisation using EBS, RBS and ERDA techniques.



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6 MV Tandem Van de Graaff  
Witwatersrand  
Spectrometer

University of the  
Witwatersrand  
Accelerator Mass Spectrometry

## Accelerator Mass Spectrometry (AMS) Facility Unveiled in 2014



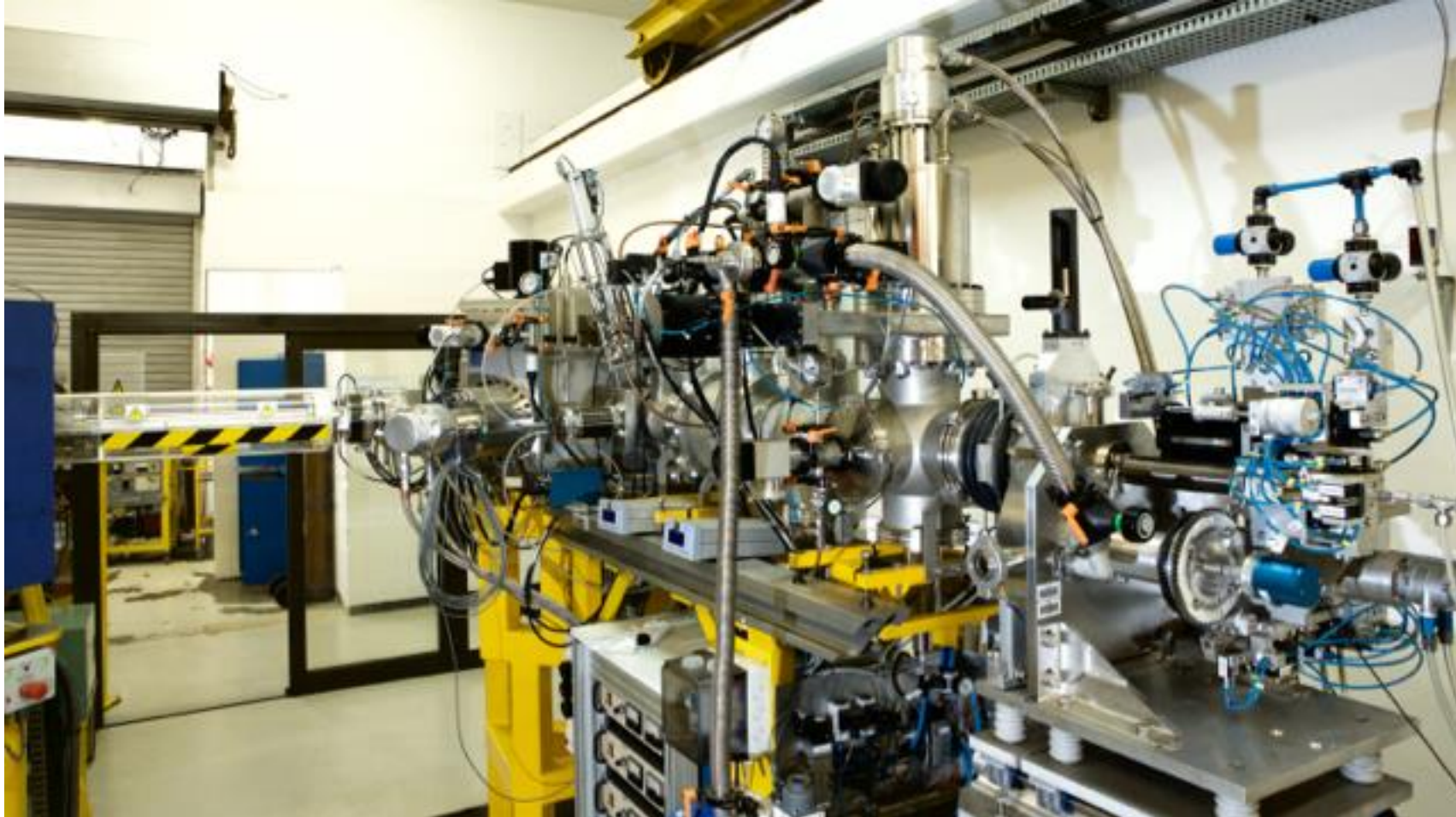
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$^{14}\text{C}$  dating: 60 000 years  
Other isotopes ( $^{10}\text{Be}$ ,  $^{36}\text{Cl}$ ,  $^{26}\text{Al}$ ): 1 – 10 My



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# SNICS Ion Source



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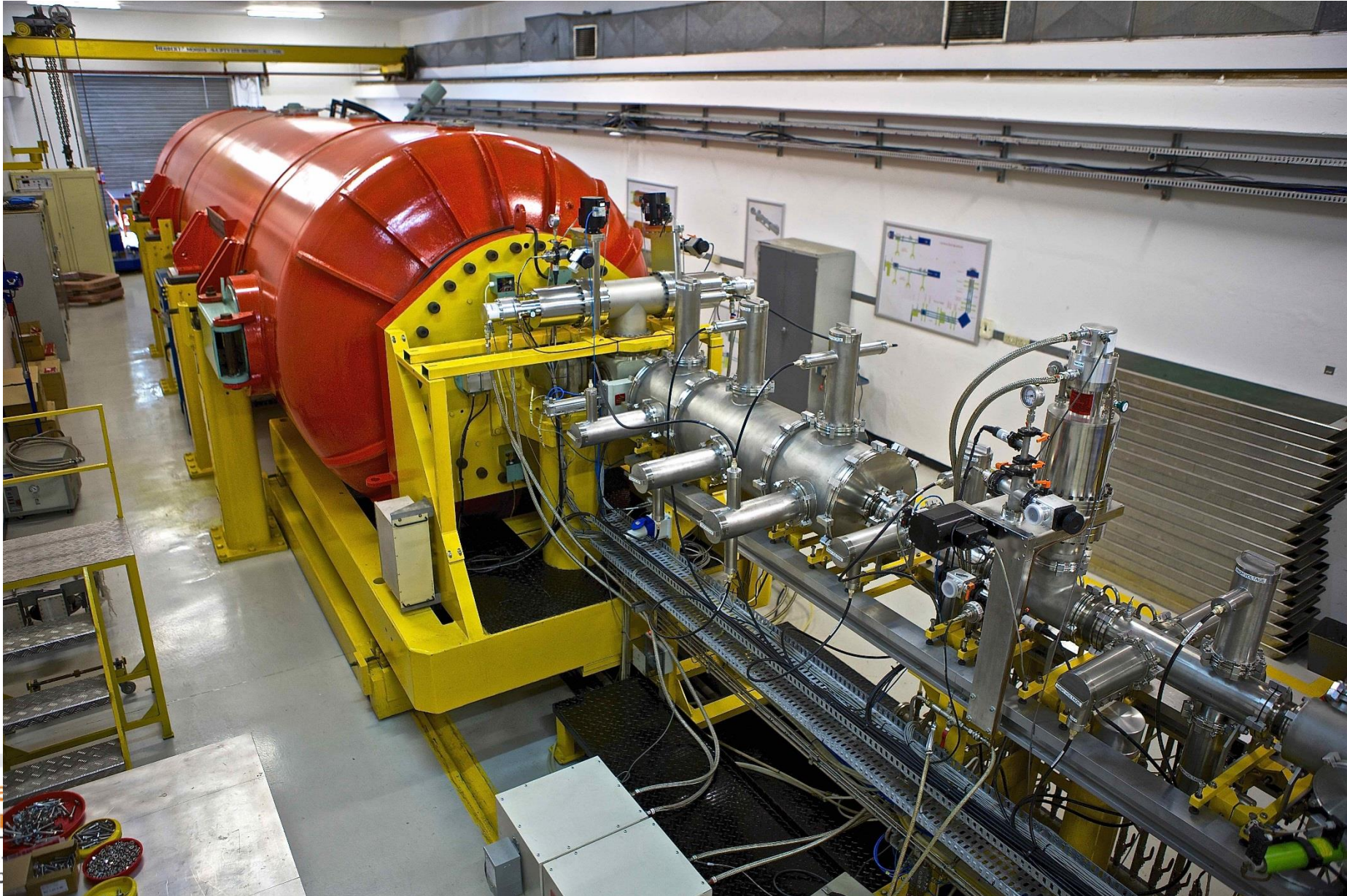
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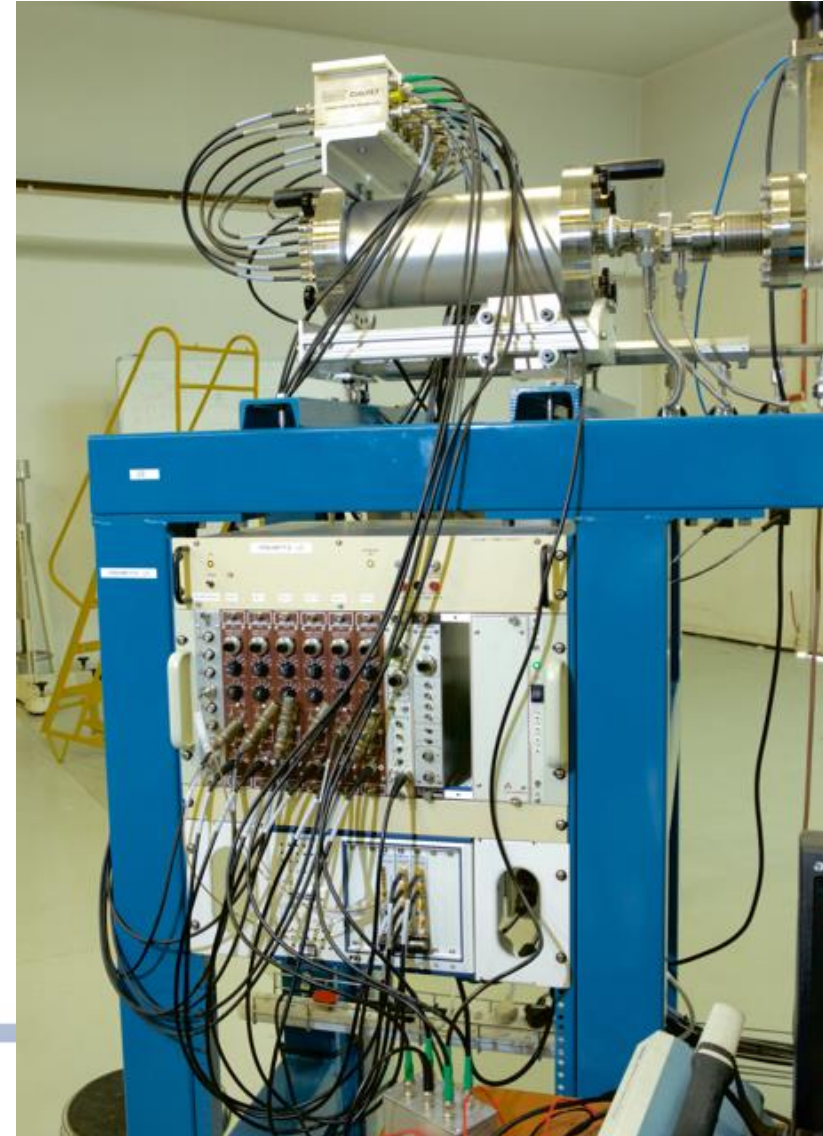
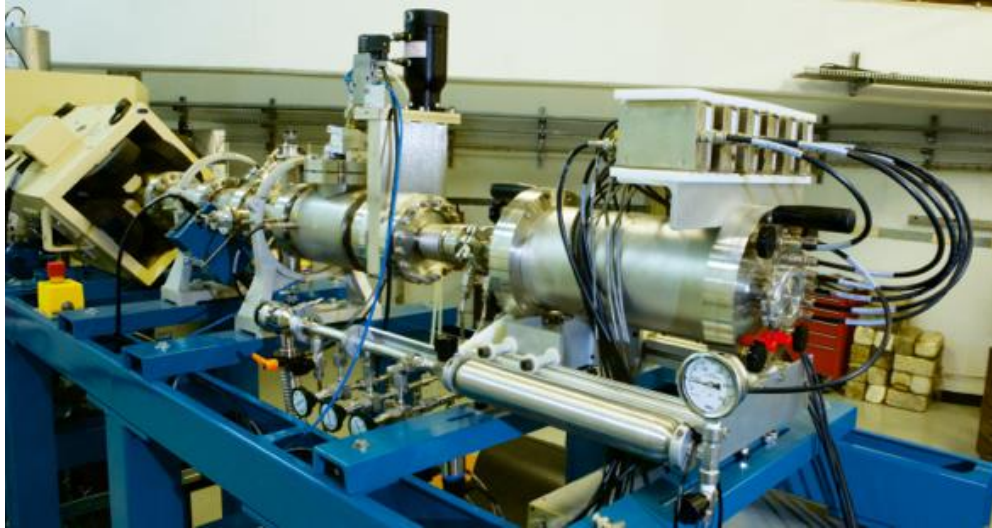
# High-energy extraction



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# Detector for AMS



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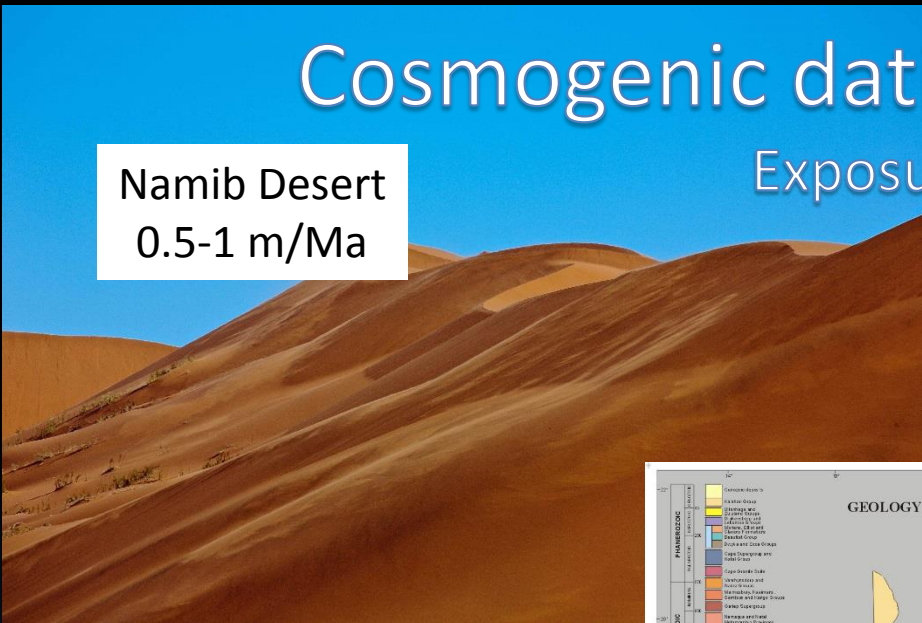
“Support the country's universities to produce a critical mass of palaeoscience researchers with a range of research, technical, curatorial, public engagement and managerial skills and drive knowledge production and exploitation to make South Africa a world centre of scientific excellence in the palaeosciences”



# Cosmogenic dating in South Africa

## Exposure Dating

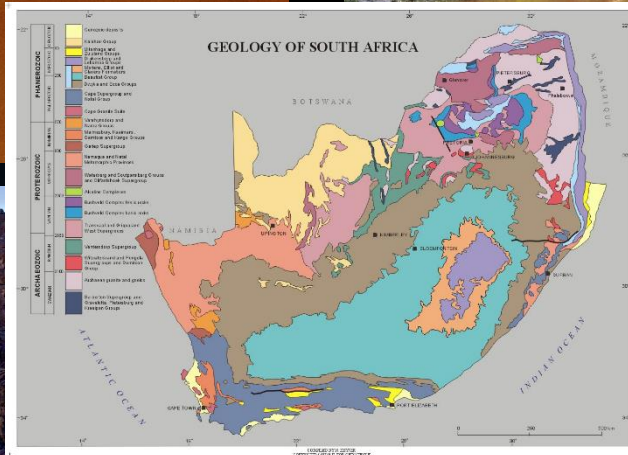
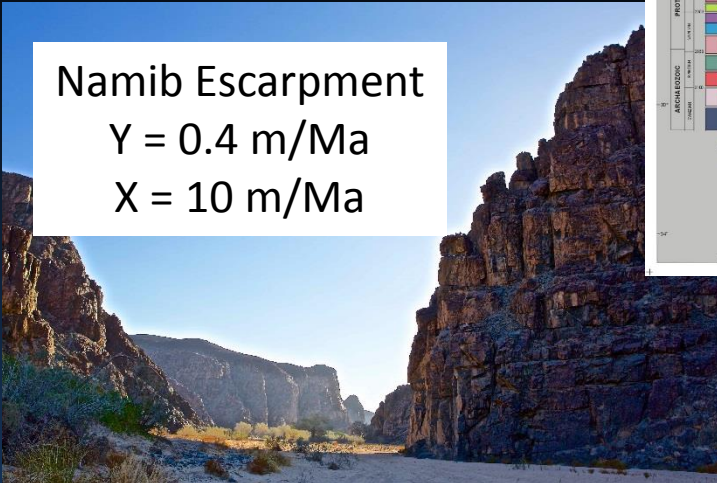
Namib Desert  
0.5-1 m/Ma



Kruger National Park  
3-6 m/Ma



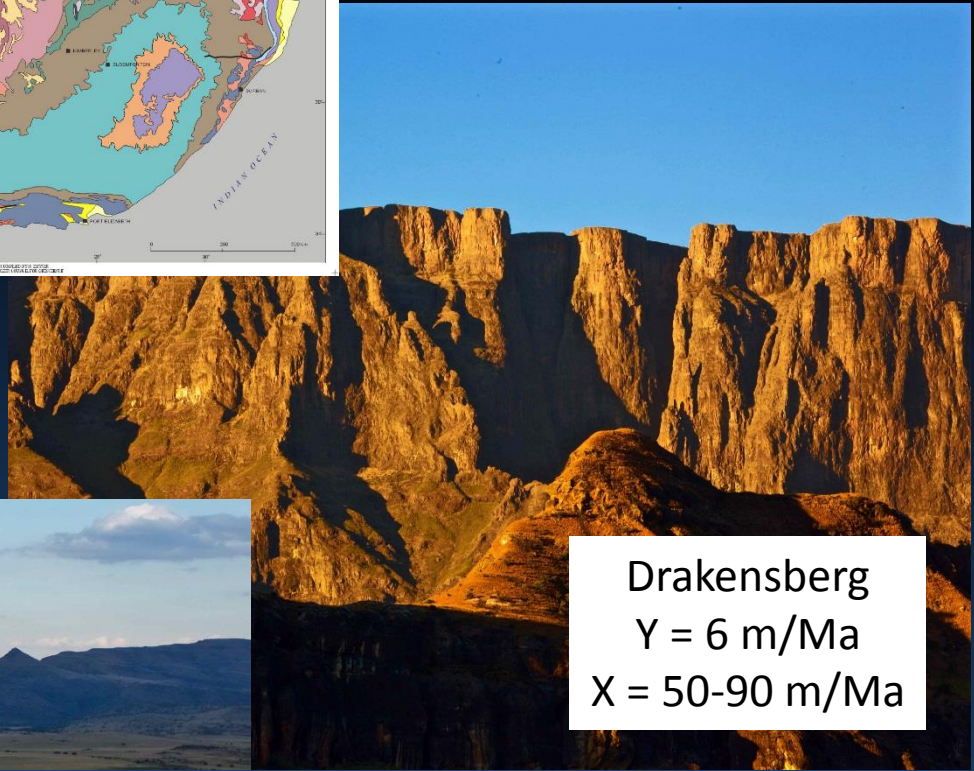
Namib Escarpment  
 $Y = 0.4 \text{ m/Ma}$   
 $X = 10 \text{ m/Ma}$



SA Interior  
1.5-3 m/Ma  
<4 m/Ma



Drakensberg  
 $Y = 6 \text{ m/Ma}$   
 $X = 50-90 \text{ m/Ma}$



# Cosmogenic dating in South Africa

## Burial Dating



Stw 573 – “Littlefoot”  
Sterkfontein  
4.02 Ma  
(Partridge et al. 2003)

*Australopethicus sediba*

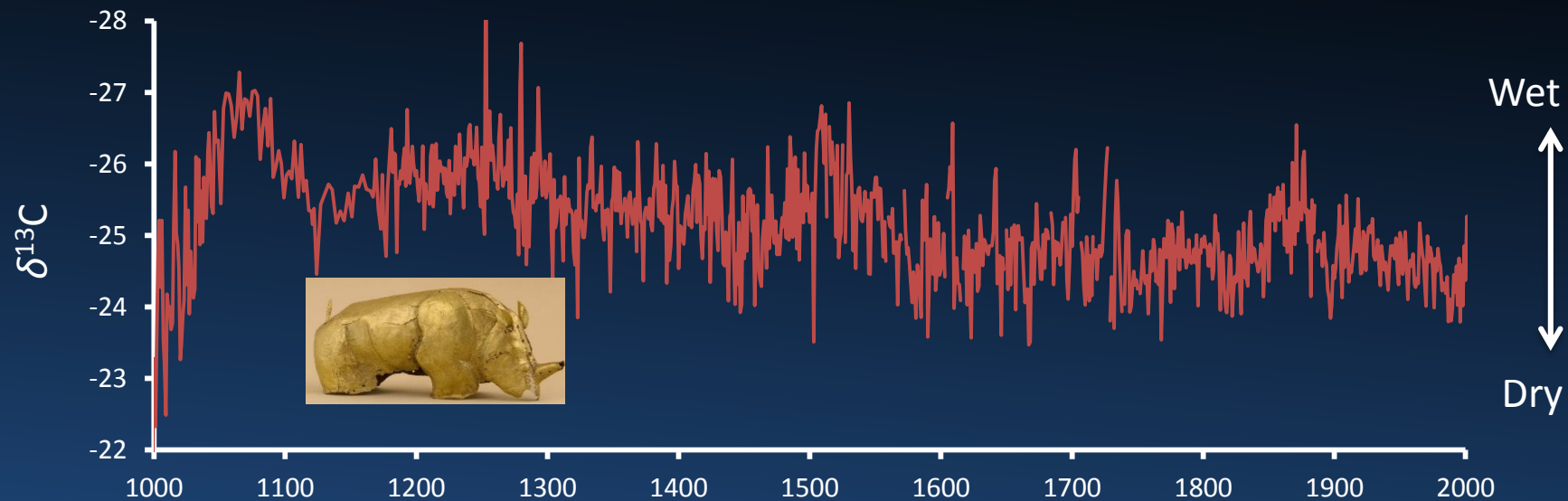
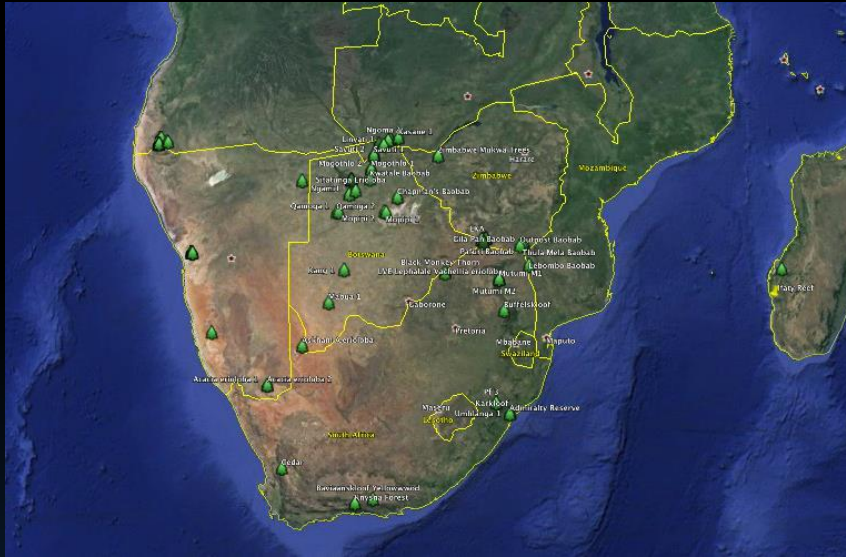
Malapa

1.95 - 1.78 Ma

(Dirks et al. 2003)



# iThemba AMS-based Research





# SANAP

## Antarctic Program



# 11 MeV Cyclotron for PET isotope production



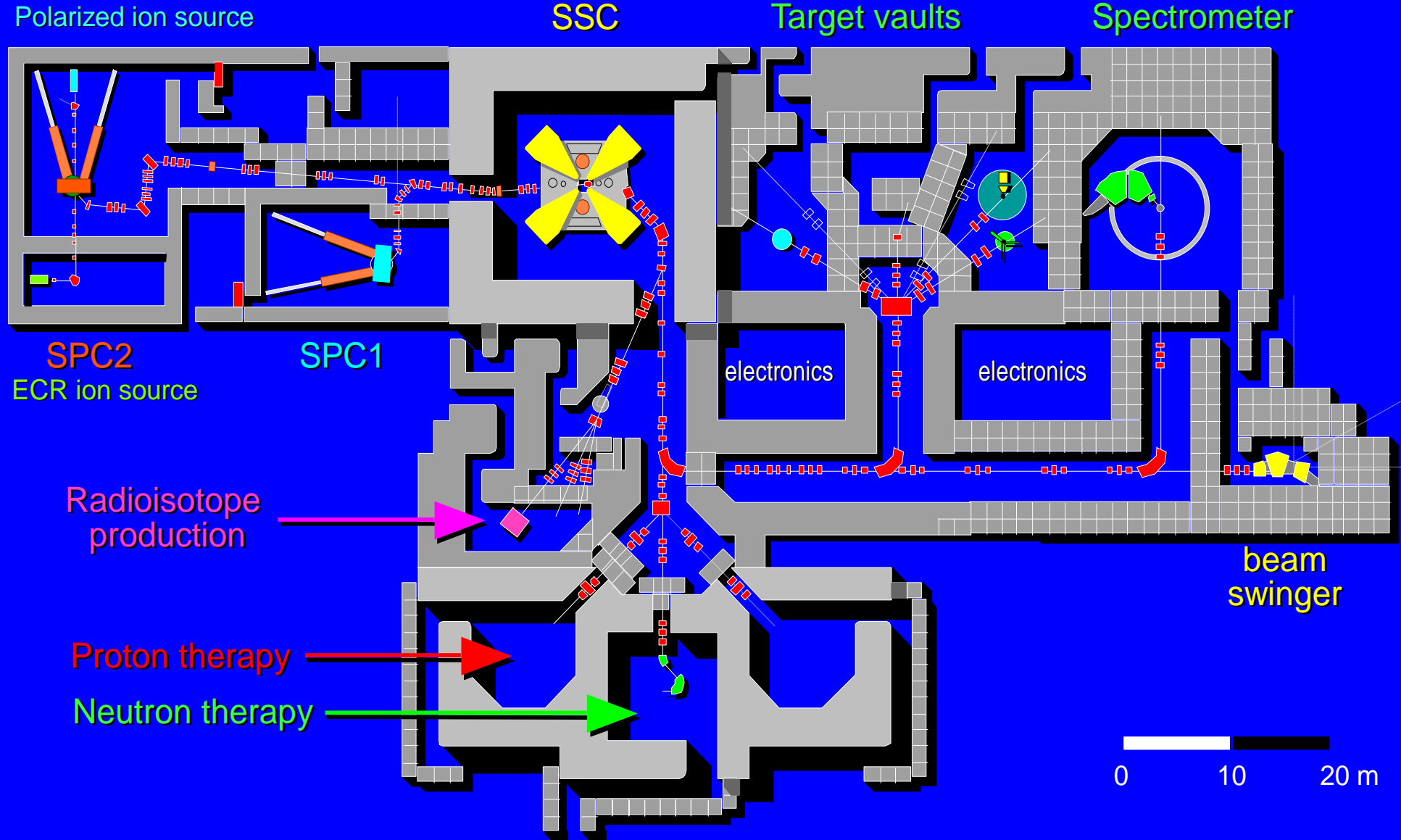
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# Separated-Sector Cyclotron Facility



## 4.4 MVA Uninterruptible Power Supply New Battery Bank for the UPS



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# New Digital Low Level RF Control System



- Modular Design
- Digitally programmable
- 16 bit Amplitude resolution
- Operates between 5 and 100 MHz
- Programmable in steps of 1  $\mu$ Hz
- Phase resolution in steps of 0.0001°
- EPICS based



# Complete Solution

## iThemba LABS



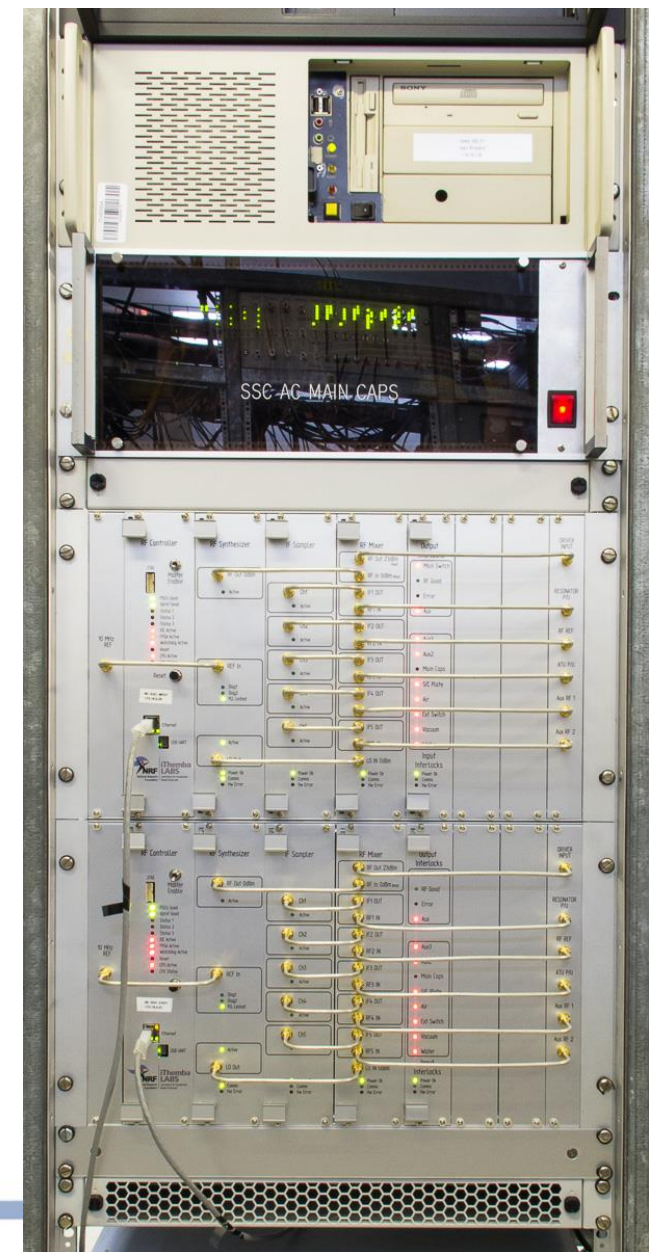
RF Control

## Beckhoff

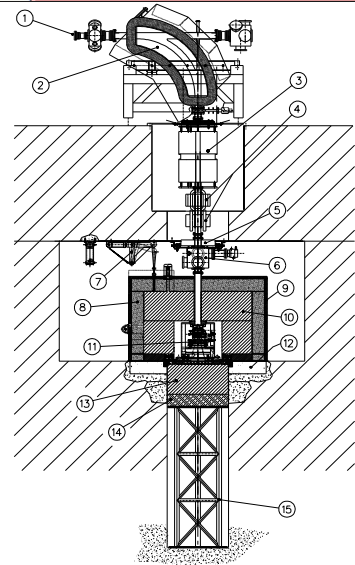
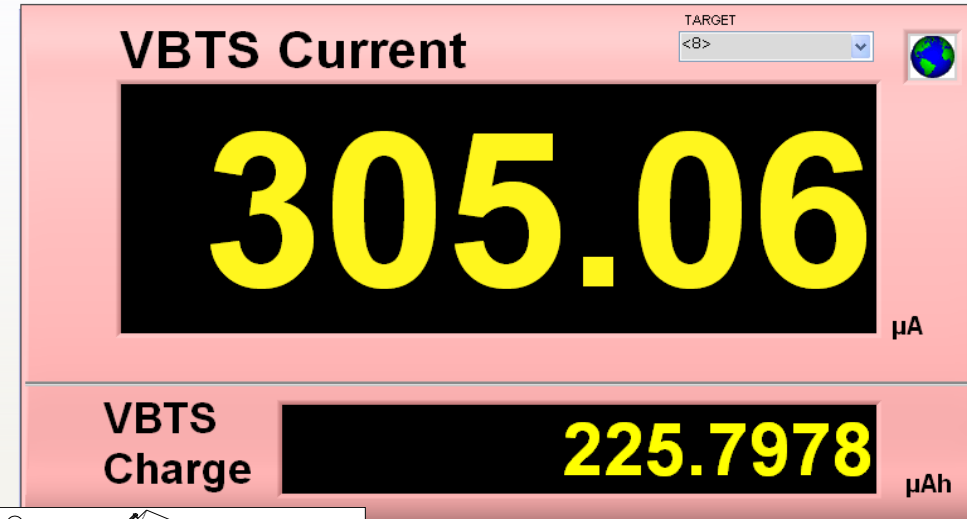
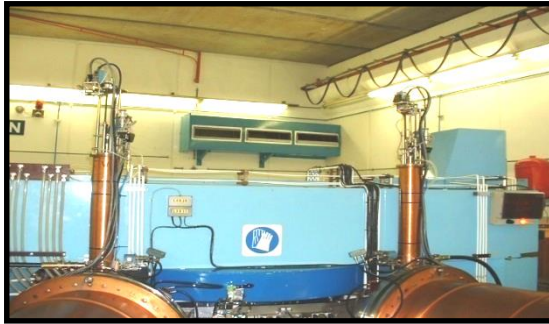


Power amplifier, anode, grid, trimmer, coupling capacitor and short circuit plate control





# Increase beam intensity (66 MeV protons) for isotope production



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# Current Radionuclides in routine production list continue

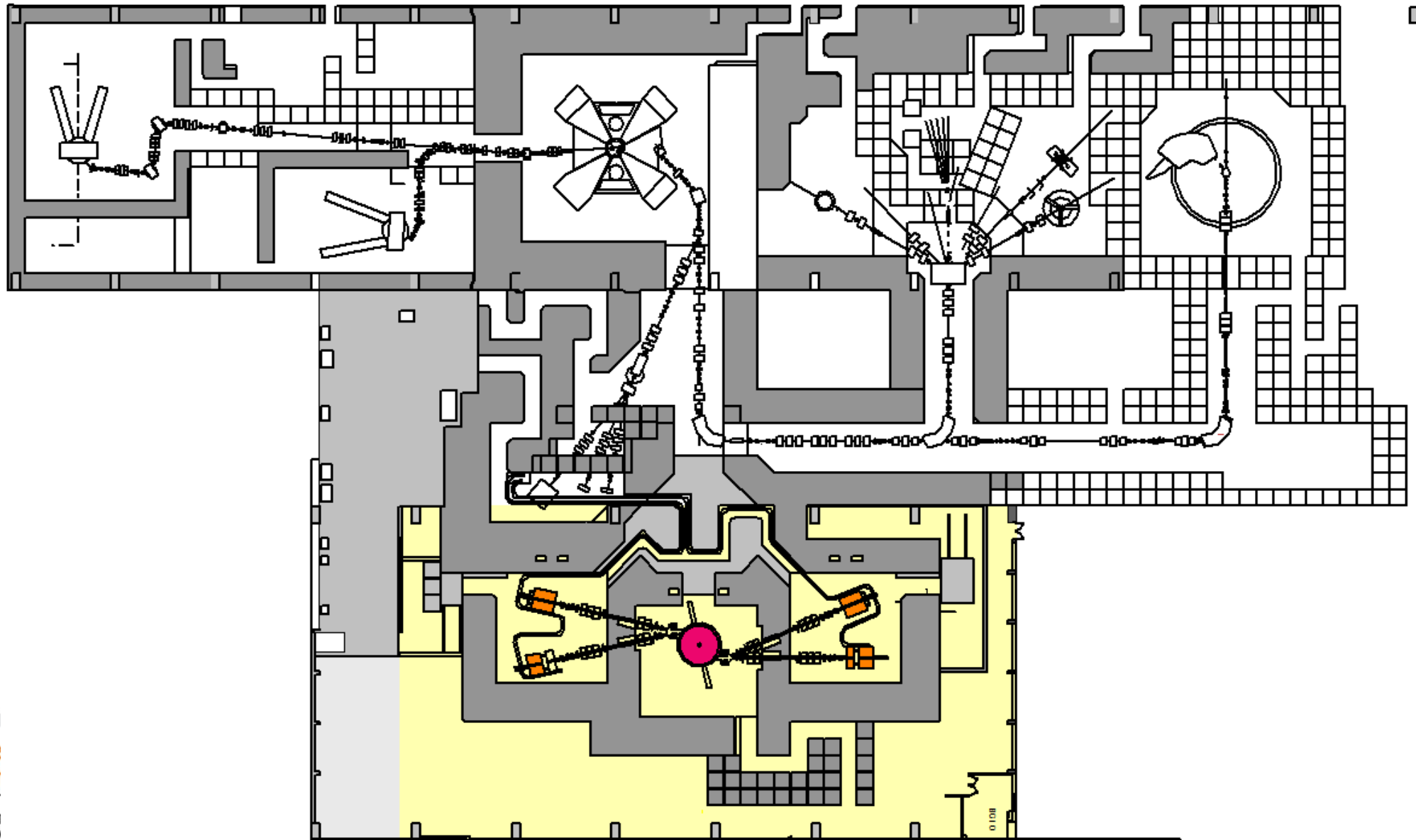
| Radionuclide      | Half-Life (days/years) | Nuclear Reaction                 | Product                    | Main Use  |
|-------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| $^{82}\text{Sr}$  | 25 days                | $\text{Rb}(p,xn)^{82}\text{Sr}$  | Produced as a radionuclide | Used to manufacture $^{82}\text{Sr}/^{82}\text{Rb}$ generators  |
| $^{68}\text{Ge}$  | 271 days               | $\text{Ga}(p,xn)^{68}\text{Ge}$  | Produced as a radionuclide | Used to manufacture $^{68}\text{Ge}/^{68}\text{Ga}$ generators or used for calibration of gamma camera's or PET CT scanners |
| $^{88}\text{Y}$   | 106.6 days             | $\text{Sr}(p,xn)^{88}\text{Y}$   | Produced as a radionuclide | Non –medical application  |
| $^{109}\text{Cd}$ | 453 days               | $\text{Ag}(p,xn)^{109}\text{Cd}$ | Produced as a radionuclide | Non-medical application   |
| $^{22}\text{Na}$  | 2.602 years            | $\text{Mg}(p,n)^{22}\text{Na}$   | Produced as a radionuclide | Positron Annihilation Studies   |



# Current Radiopharmaceuticals in routine production

| Radionuclide                            | Half-Life (hours) | Nuclear Reaction  | Radiopharmaceutical Product                               | Main Use   |
|---|-------------------|---|---|--|
| $^{18}\text{F}$                         | 1.83              | $^{15}\text{O}(\text{p},\text{n})^{18}\text{F}$   | $^{18}\text{F}$ -FDG                                      | Glucose metabolic studies  |
| $^{67}\text{Ga}$                        | 78.3              | $\text{Zn}(\text{p},\text{xn})^{67}\text{Ga}$<br>$\text{Ge}(\text{p},\text{x})^{67}\text{Ga}$ | $^{67}\text{Ga}$ -citrate                                 | Localization of certain tumours and inflammatory regions                                   |
| $^{81}\text{Rb}/^{81\text{m}}\text{Kr}$ | 4.58              | $\text{Kr}(\text{p},\text{xn})^{81}\text{Rb}$   | $^{81}\text{Rb}/^{81\text{m}}\text{Kr}$ generator         | Lung ventilation studies   |
| $^{123}\text{I}$                        | 13.2              | $^{127}\text{I}(\text{p},5\text{n})^{123}\text{Xe} \rightarrow ^{123}\text{I}$                | $^{123}\text{I}$ -sodium iodide<br>$^{123}\text{I}$ -mIBG | Thyroid studies<br>Localization of certain tumours such as neuroblastoma, pheochromocytoma |

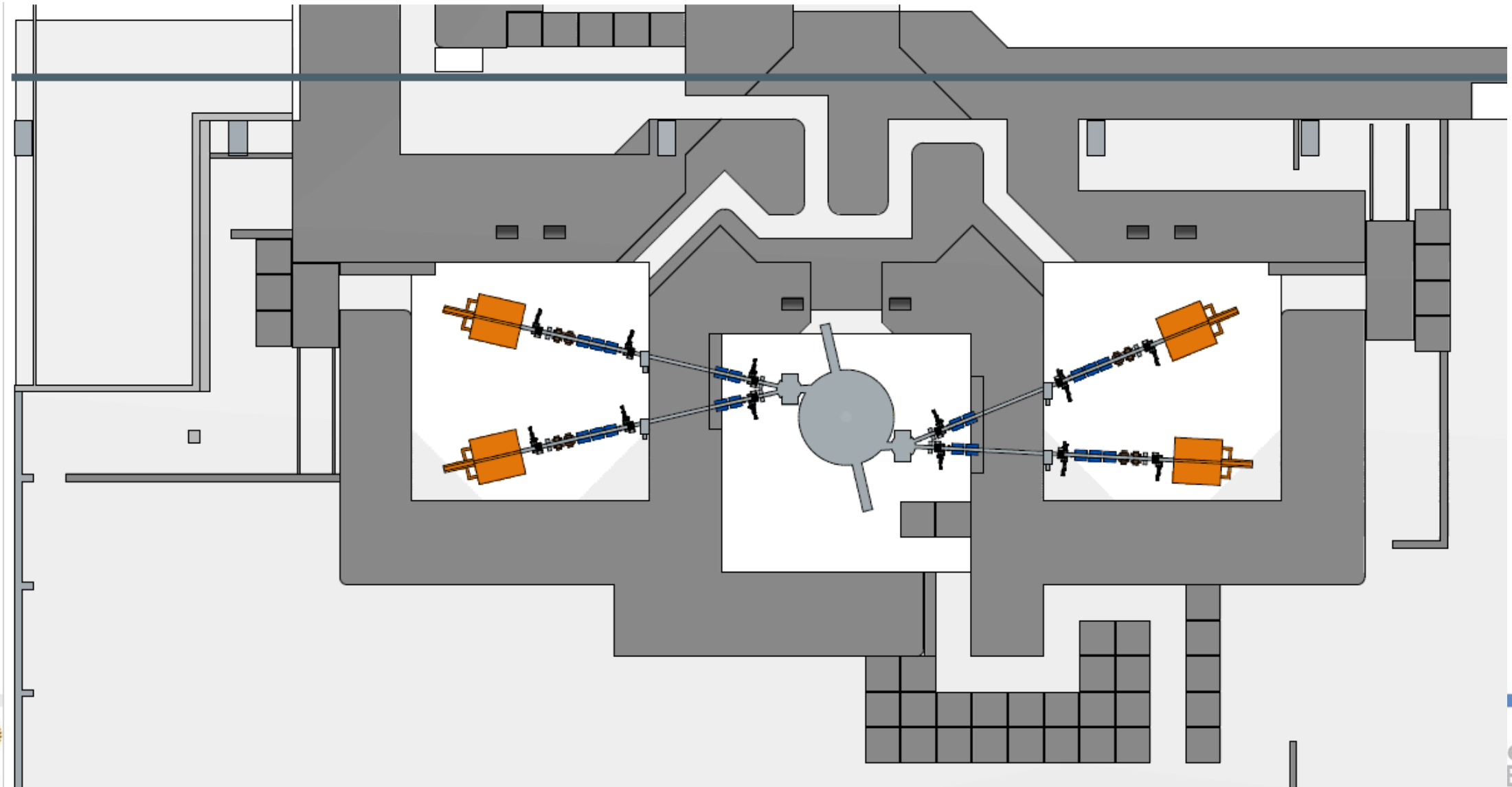
# New Isotope Production Facilities for iThemba LABS



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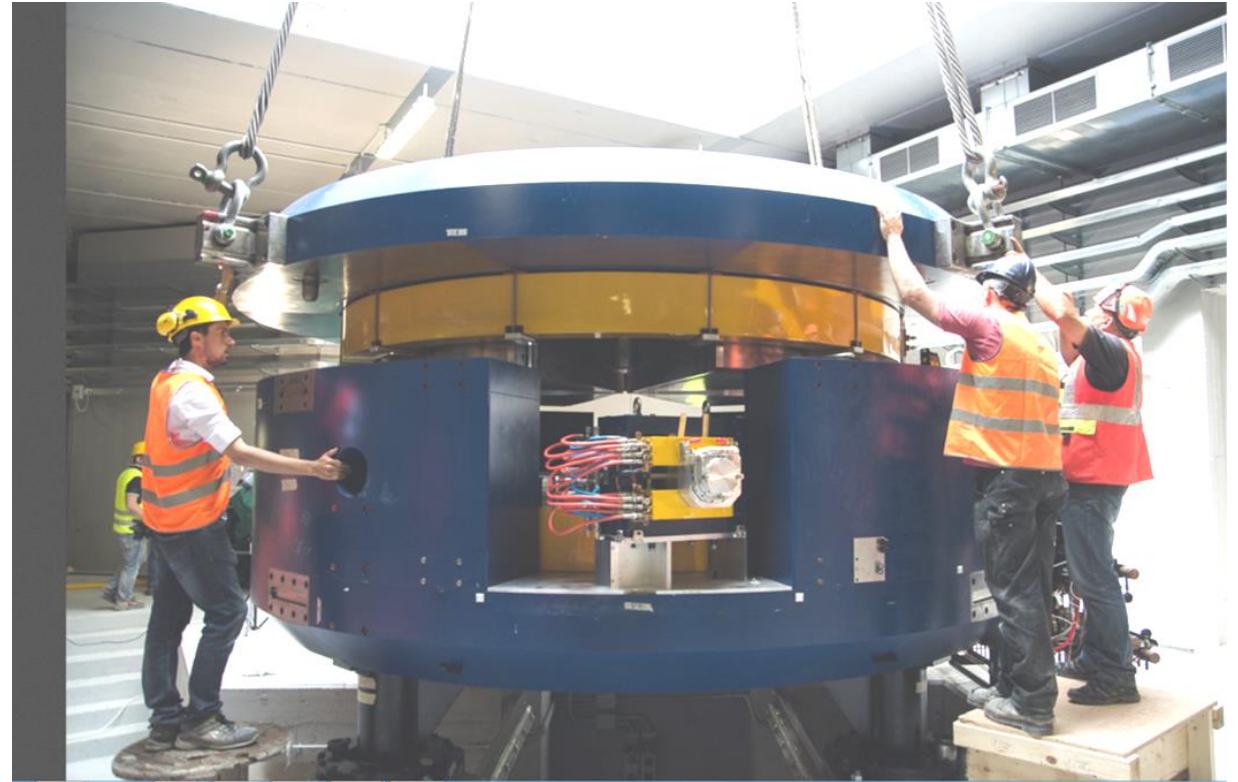
# ACE ISOTOPES



# Company: IBA CYCLOTRON 70



# Company: Best Cyclotron Systems BEST 70p Cyclotron

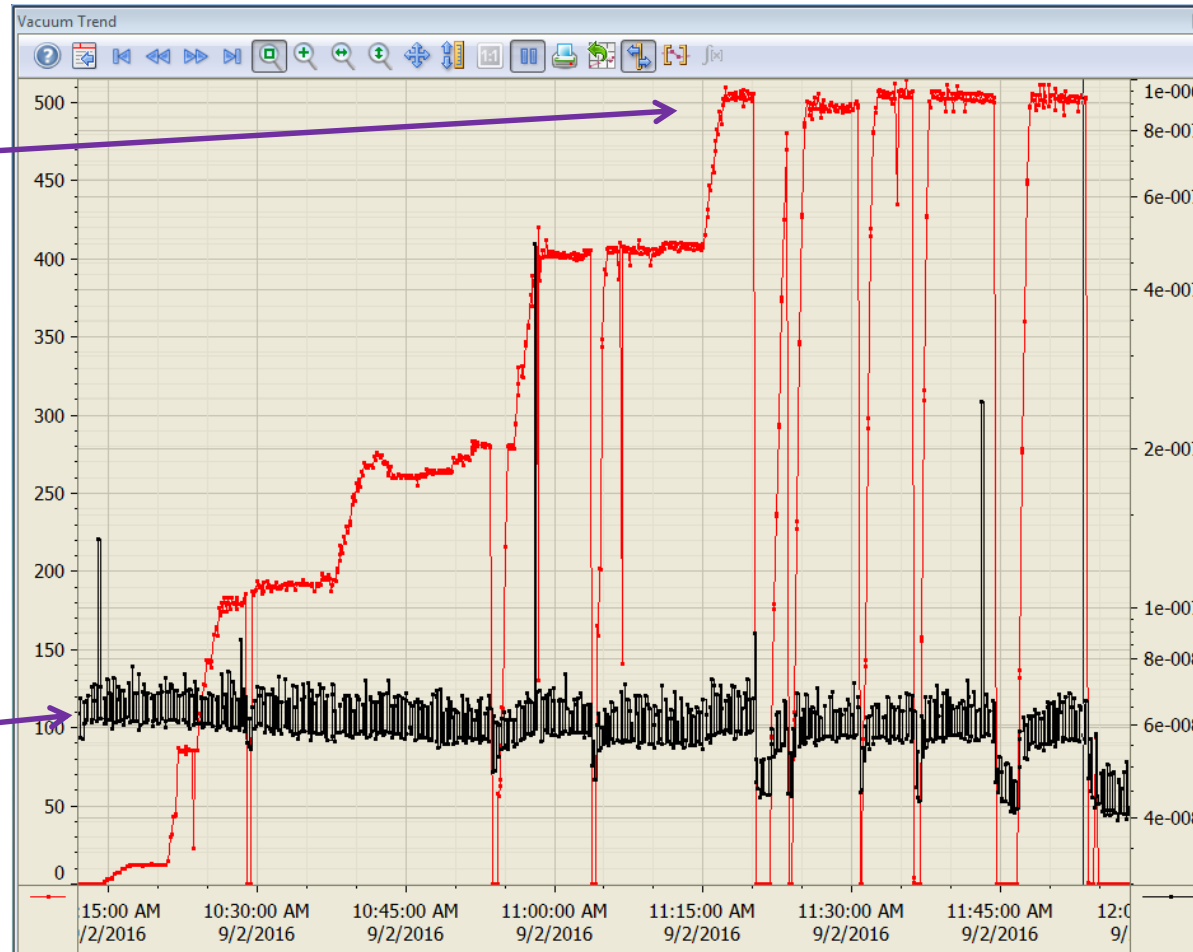


# Beam test on 50kW INFN target

Vacuum:

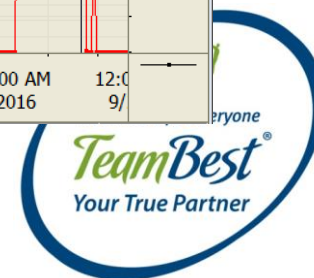
$500\mu\text{A}$

$6 \times 10^{-8}$  Torr



*Best* Cyclotron Systems, Inc.

21st ICCA, Zurich, September 13, 2016



# Beam line losses

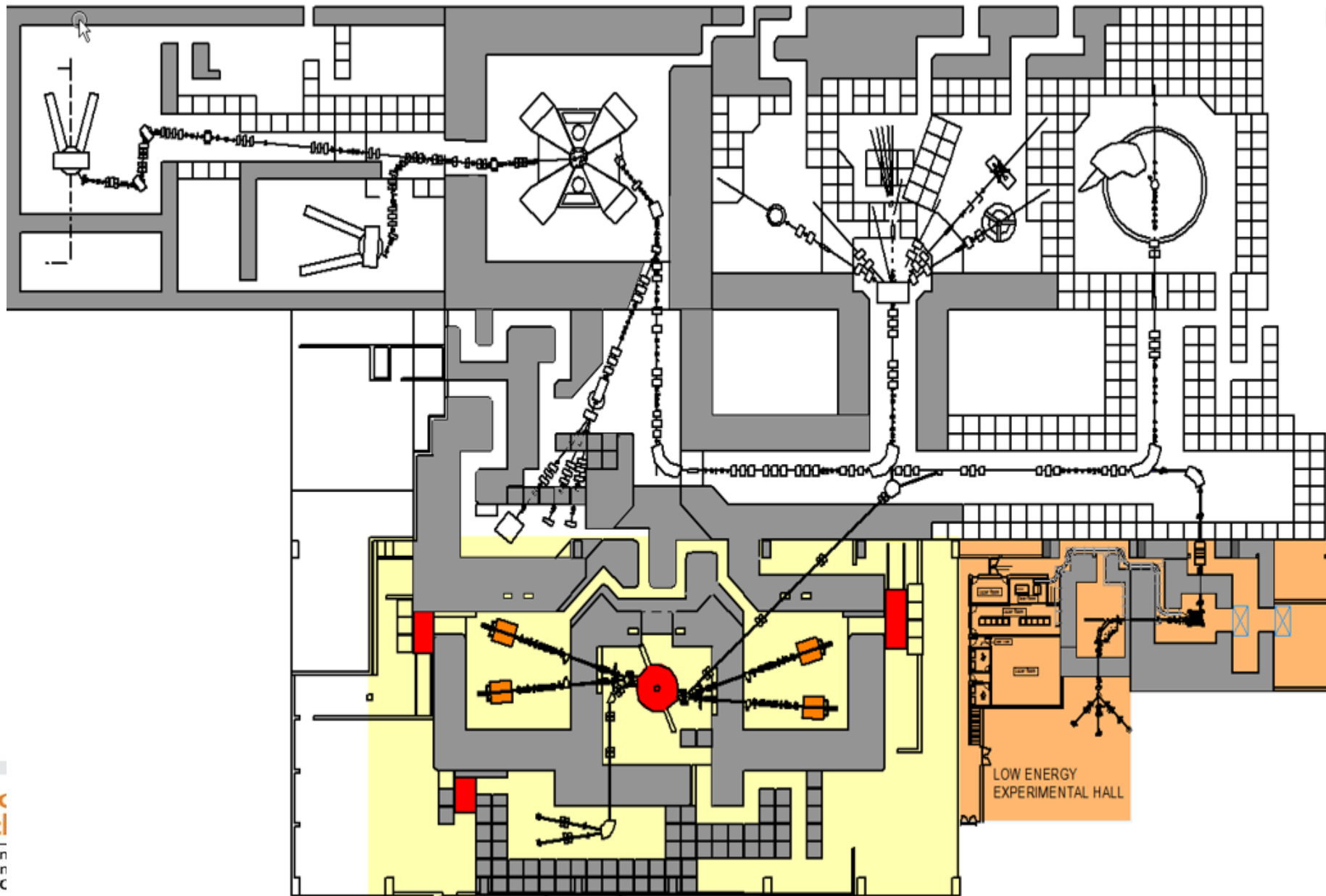
Beam losses measured at various current.

$$\text{Beam losses} = \frac{\text{Unaccounted Beam currents}}{\text{Extracted Beam currents}} \quad [\%]$$

Unaccounted currents have been measured as the difference between extractor probe current and sum of all beam line currents (slits, baffles and target currents)

| Beam current on target | Value |
|------------------------|-------|
| 300 $\mu\text{A}$      | 0.2%  |
| 400 $\mu\text{A}$      | 0.5%  |
| 500 $\mu\text{A}$      | 0.5%  |

# Low Energy Rare Isotope Beam Facilities at iThemba LABS



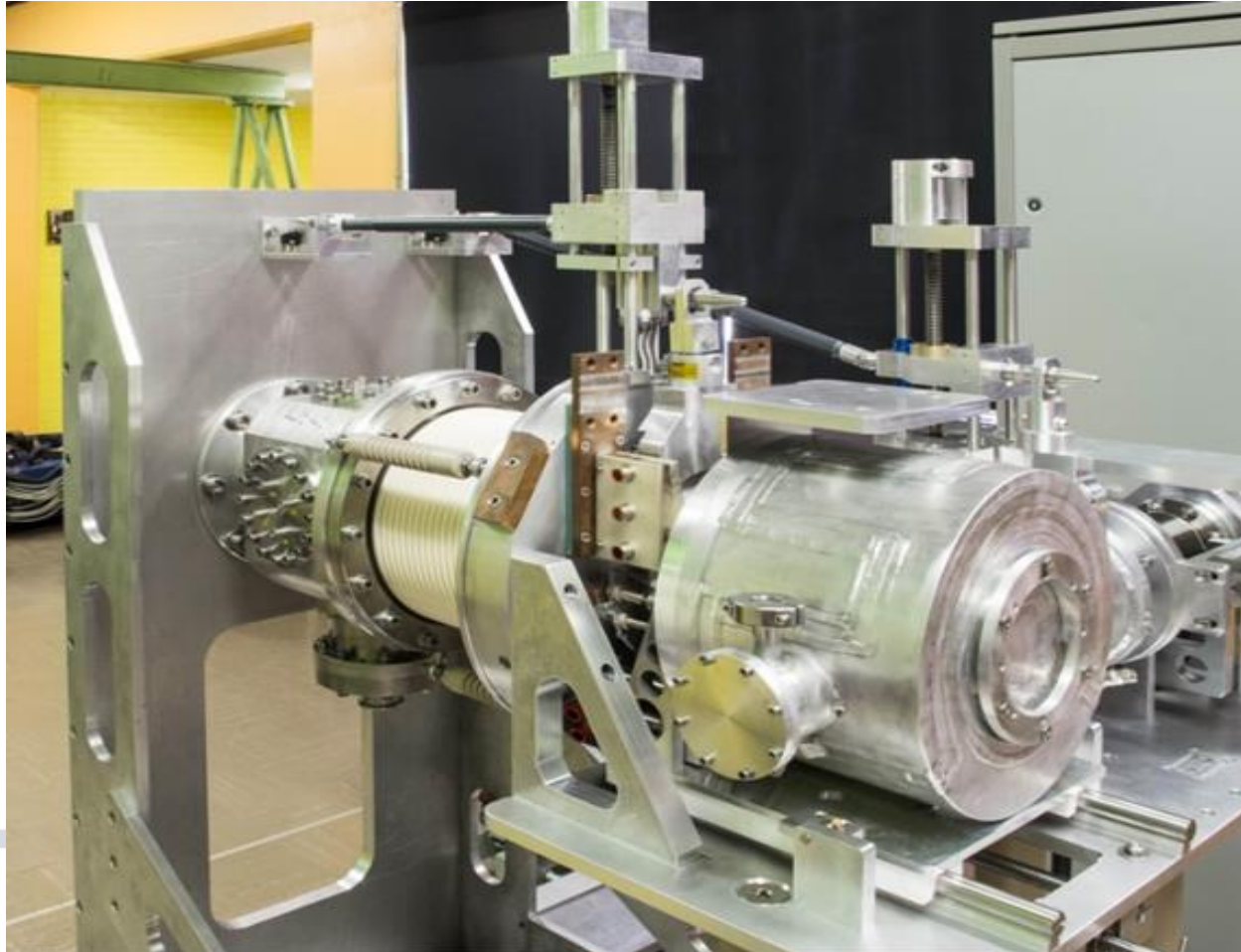
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# Front End assembly as installed in the RIB off-line test facility at iThemba LABS



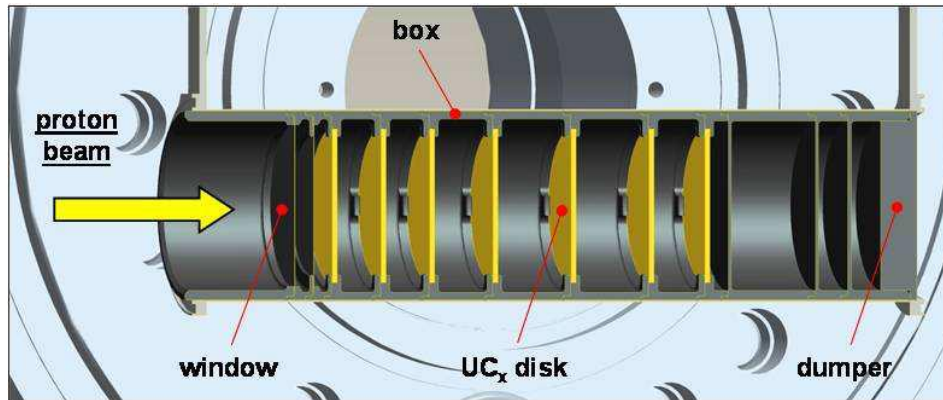
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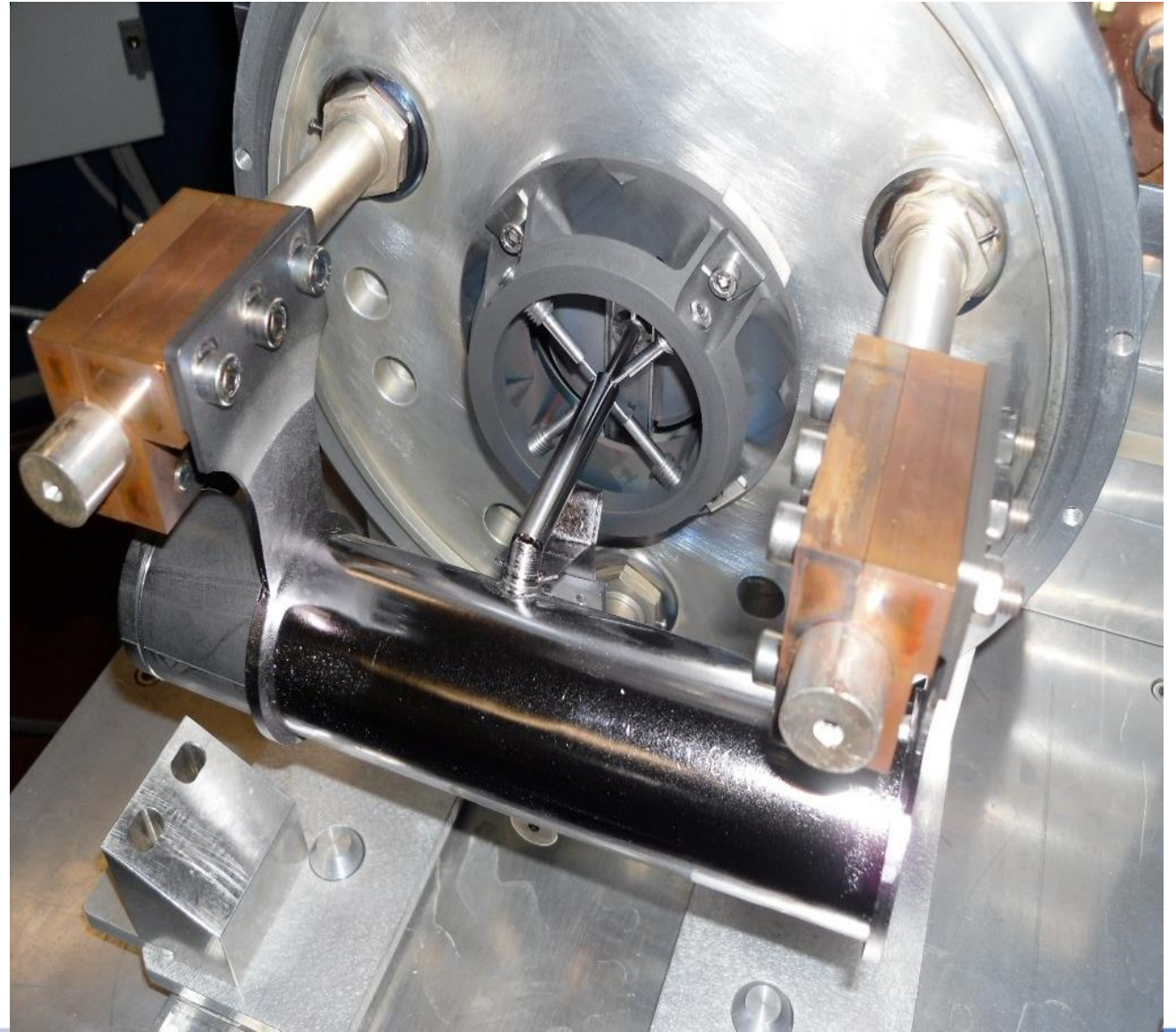


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The SPES target (chamber lid removed), designed for a 40 MeV proton beam entering from the right. The heating current flows through the Ta tube, between the copper clamping bars at each end. The small central tube connects the target chamber to the ion source. [Andrighetto 2011]

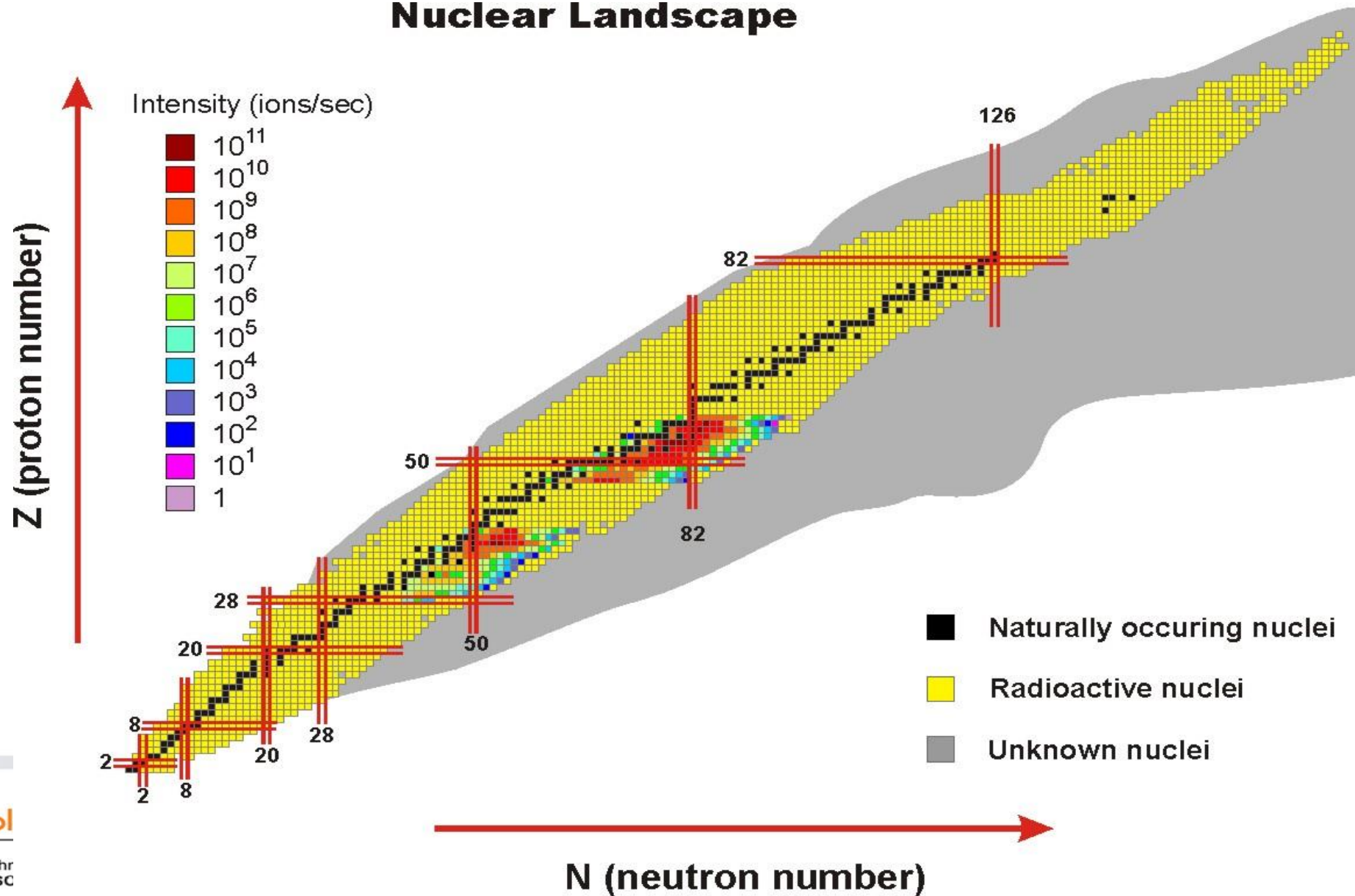


CAD drawing of the SPES target assembly, showing the UC<sub>x</sub> disks (yellow) in a graphite tube and also the beam dump disks (dark grey). [SPES 2010]

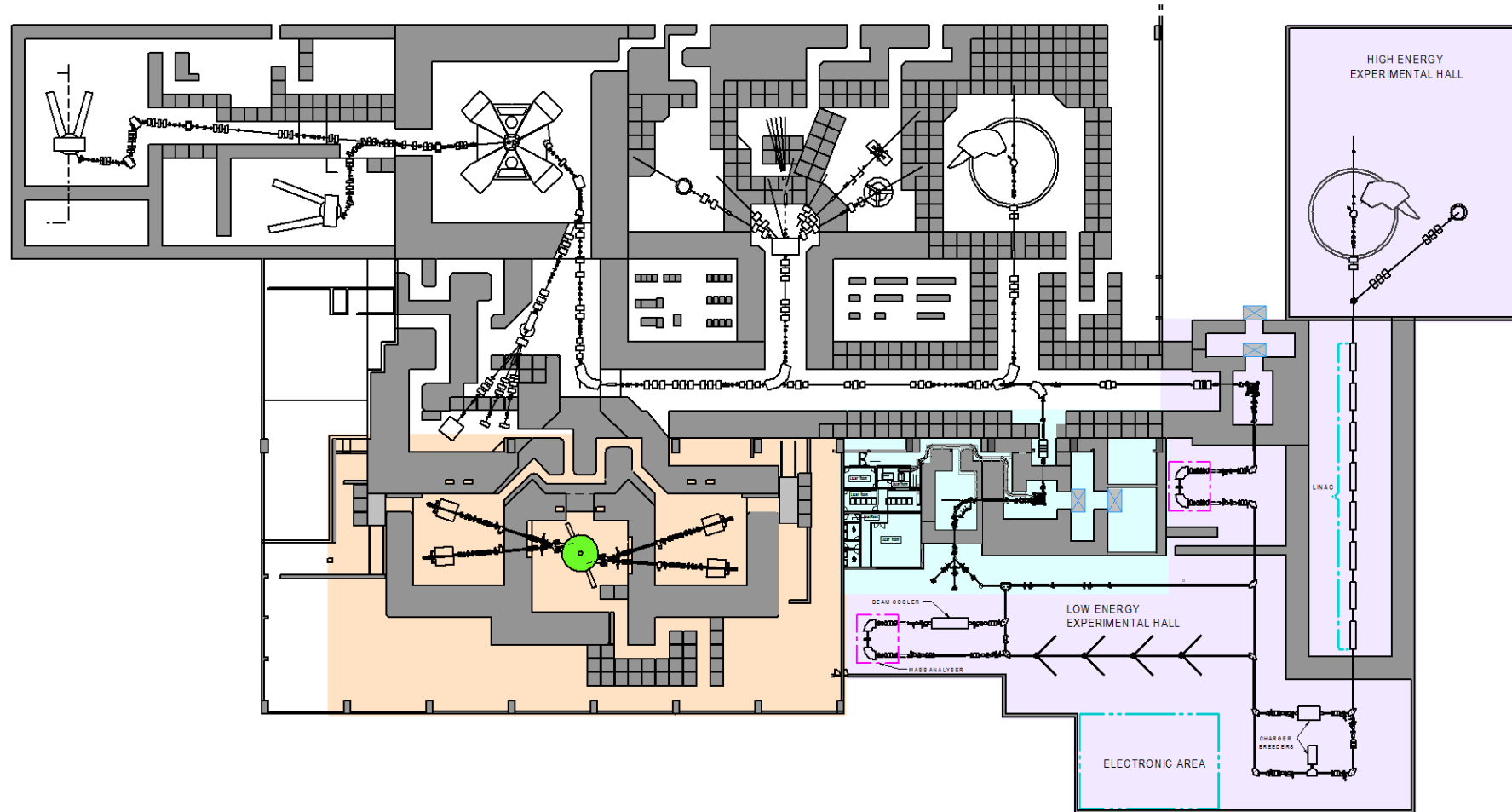


Expected yields of singly-charged radioactive ions from the LERIB target-ion-source, when a  $UC_x$  target is bombarded by 50 $\mu$ A of 70 MeV protons

## Nuclear Landscape



# ACE-Beams - Phase 2



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