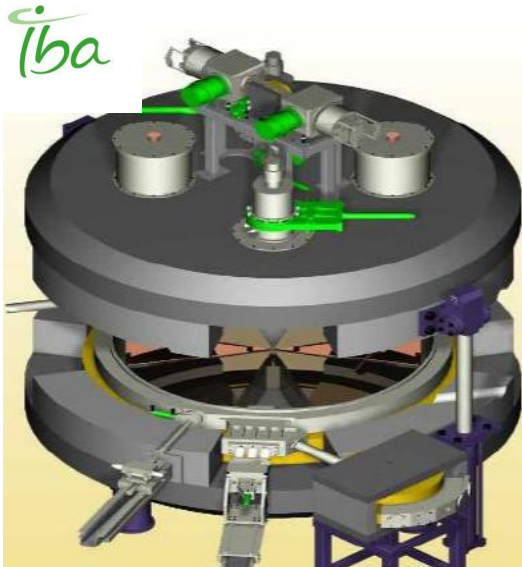


# The C70 ARRONAX Hands-on phase and operation

Freddy Poirier (IN2P3/Subatech)

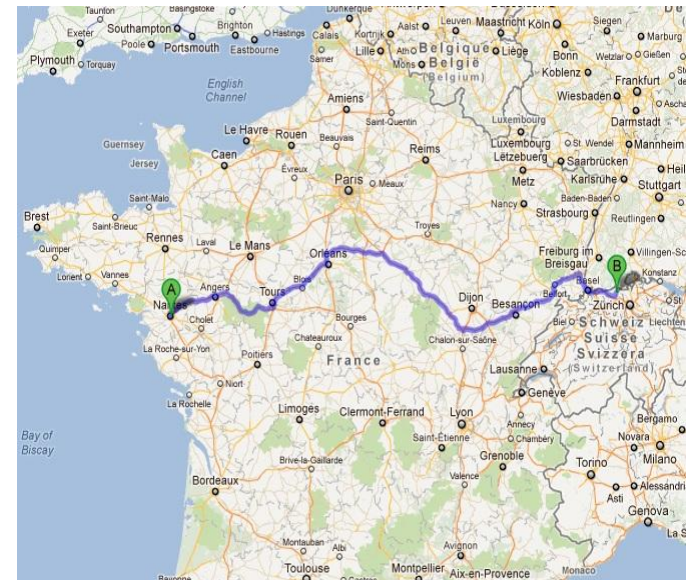
WAO 2012

IPAC 2011: "C70 and beamlines status", WEPS69  
IPAC 2012: "C70 Hands-on phase", MOPPD024



ARRONAX: Accelerator for Research in  
Radiochemistry and Oncology at Nantes  
Atlantique.

Operation and Maintenance team:  
S.Girault, F.Gomez-Serito,  
C.Huet, L.Lamouric, E.Mace,  
F.Poirier

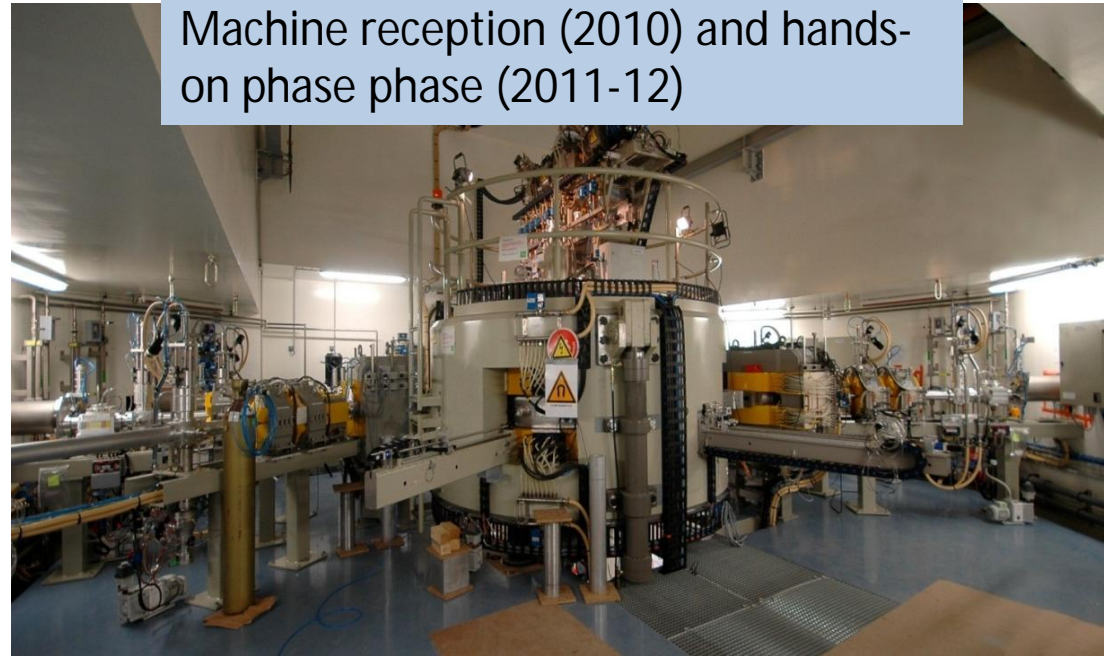


**Cyclotron ARRONAX**

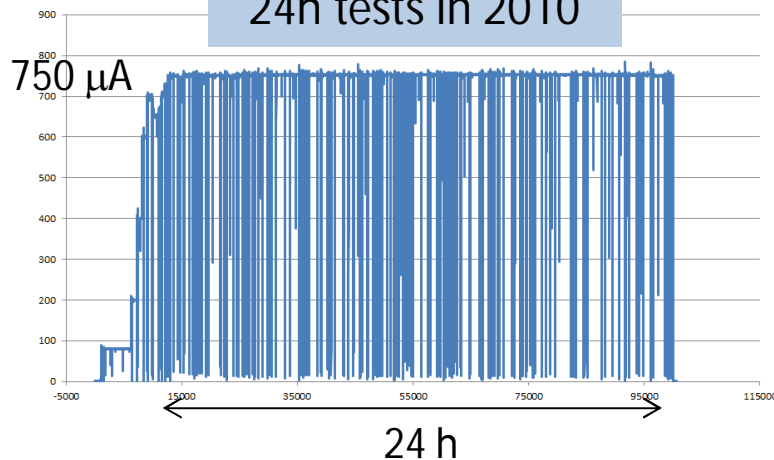
## Inauguration in 2008



## Machine reception (2010) and hands-on phase phase (2011-12)



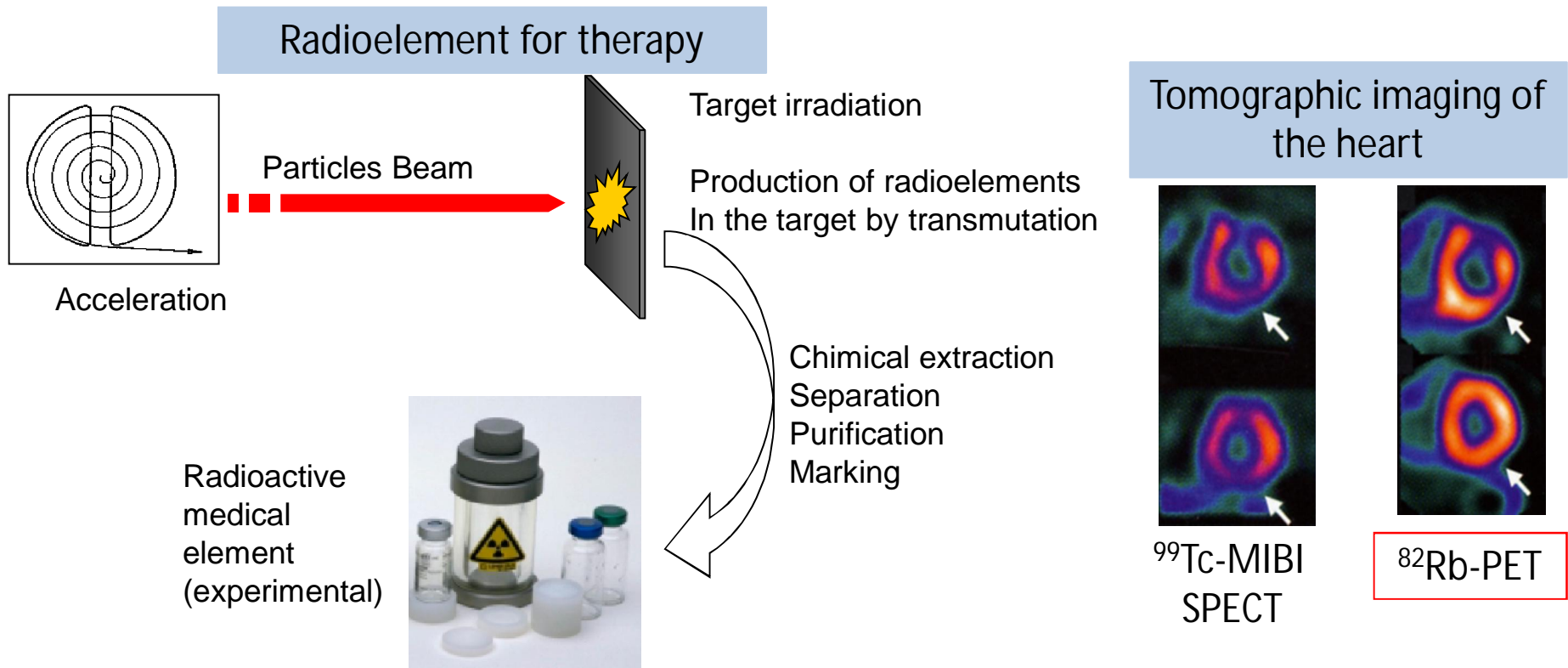
## 24h tests in 2010



- October 2008 : Inauguration
- March 2010: Low intensity Irradiation
- October 2010: 24h at 750  $\mu\text{A}$  on beam dumps
- Dec. 2010: Final machine reception
- 2011-12: Hands-on phase with an extended program on tuning and exploration of beam parameters for users.

# ARRONAX goal

- A tool to produce radionuclides for research in nuclear medicine
  - Imaging:  $\beta^+$  radioelements for PET (ex:  $^{82}\text{Sr}/^{82}\text{Rb}$ ,  $^{44\text{m}}/^{44}\text{Sc}$ ,  $^{52}\text{Fe}$ ,  $^{64}\text{Cu}$  ...)
  - Therapy:  $\alpha$  immunotherapy ( $^{211}\text{At}$ ),  $\beta^-$  radioelements :  $^{67}\text{Cu}$ ,  $^{47}\text{Sc}$



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  - notably alpha radiolysis of water (eg nuclear waste storage)

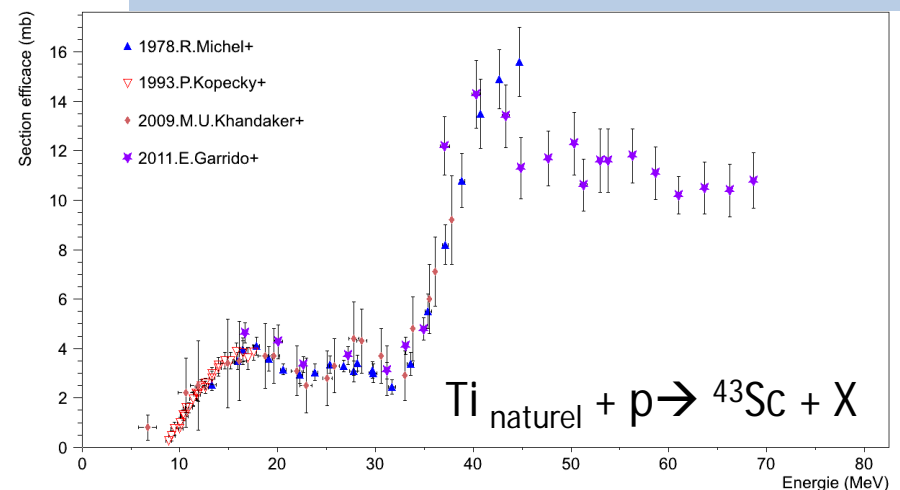
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- A tool for physics research
  - Particularly studies of material under irradiation
  - Development of detection system
  - Measurements of nuclear data

## PIXE - Particle Induced X-ray Emission

- Non destructive Characterisation Method of multielements material, quantitative
- Dvt of mesuring bench
- (~nA)

Experience « Stacked Foils »  
Cross section measurements:  
exemple from 17 to 69 MeV- (100 nA)



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- A tool for physics research
  - Particularly studies of material under irradiation
  - Development of detection system
  - Measurements of nuclear data
- A tool for training and education
  - University of Nantes
  - École des mines of Nantes
  - CHU (academic hospital) of Nantes
  - Permanent and dedicated trainings
- An industrial production site for medical needs

# Characteristics

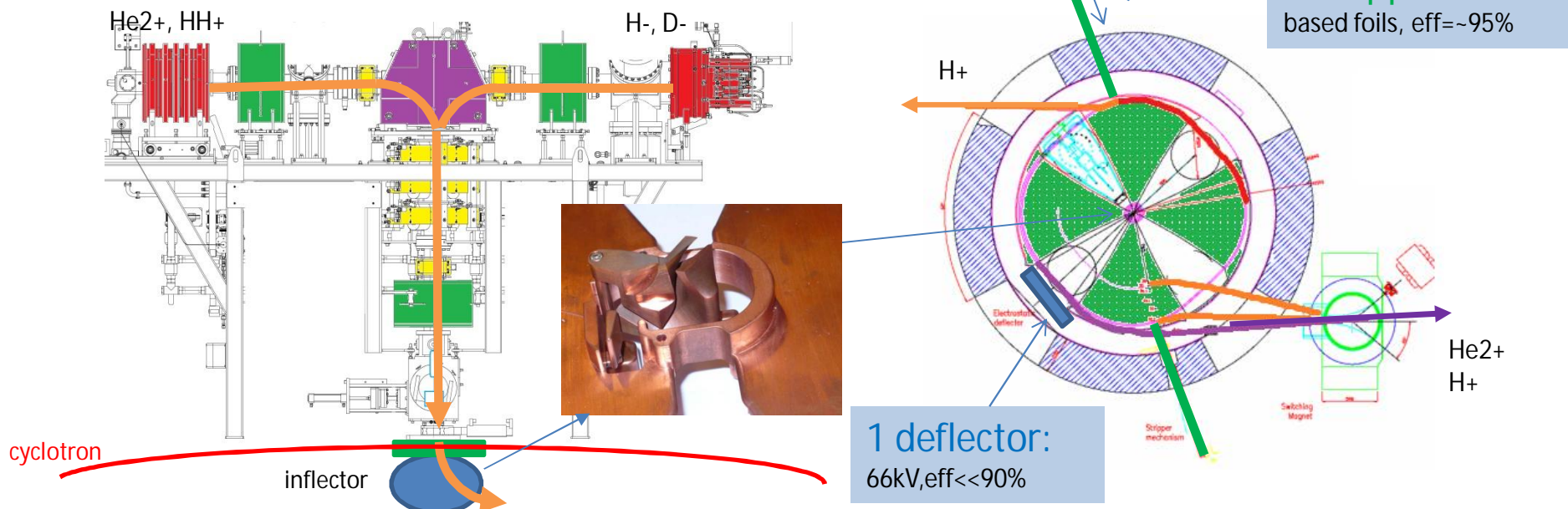
- C70 Cyclotron build by IBA:

- Isochron cyclotron with 4 sectors
  - RF: 30.45 MHz
  - Acceleration Voltage: 65 kV
  - Max magn. field : 1.6T
- ~4m of diameter
- Max kinetic energy/n: 30-70 MeV
- Normalised emittance before extraction:  $\gamma\varepsilon_x \sim 4\pi$  mm mrad (simulation)

Extracted Particles	Energy range (MeV)	Highest possible current ( $\mu\text{Ae}$ )	most common current range ( $\mu\text{Ae}$ )	Nb of particles / bunch at 1 $\mu\text{Ae}$
H+	30 - 70	375 x 2	0.05 – 80 x 2	205 $10^3$
He2+	70	70	0.07 – 0.1	102 $10^3$
HH+	35	50	0.1 – 1	410 $10^3$
D+	15 - 35	50	0.05 – 1.2	205 $10^3$

- Main additional elements:

- 2 Multiparticle sources.
  - Multicusp (H-,D-) with multiple magnets, 5mA max.
  - Supernanogan ECR ion source (He2+,HH+)
- Injection: Series of magnetic elements (glaser, steerer, quad.) on the top of the cyclotron to adapt the beam to the entrance of the cyclotron, and finally the spiral inflector
- Extraction: stripper (-) or electrostatic deflector (+)



# Beamlines Today

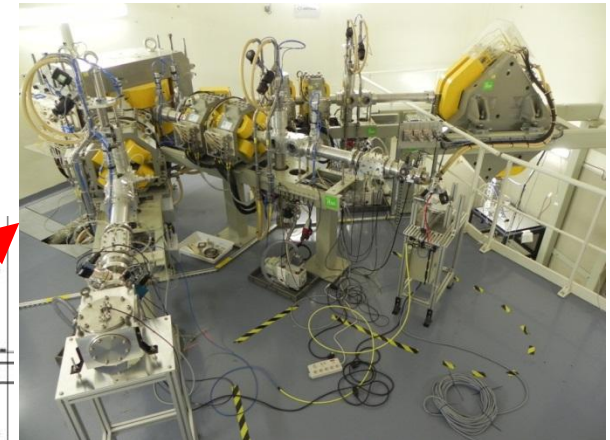
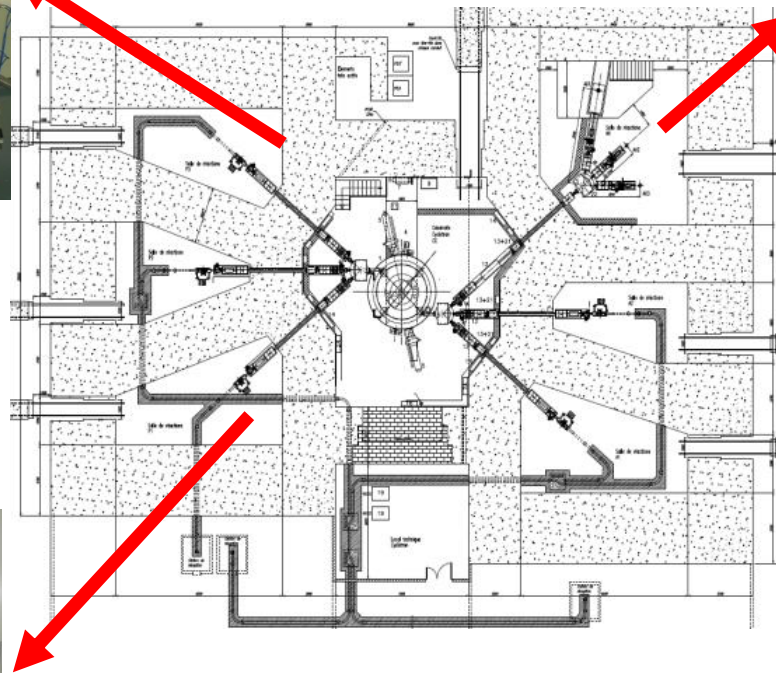


Beamline with irradiation station accomodating rabbits with samples

Beamline for neutronic activator



6 vaults, around the cyclotron, accomodate the beamlines



3 beamlines are dedicated to low current ( $<1.2\mu\text{A}$ ) in the same vault

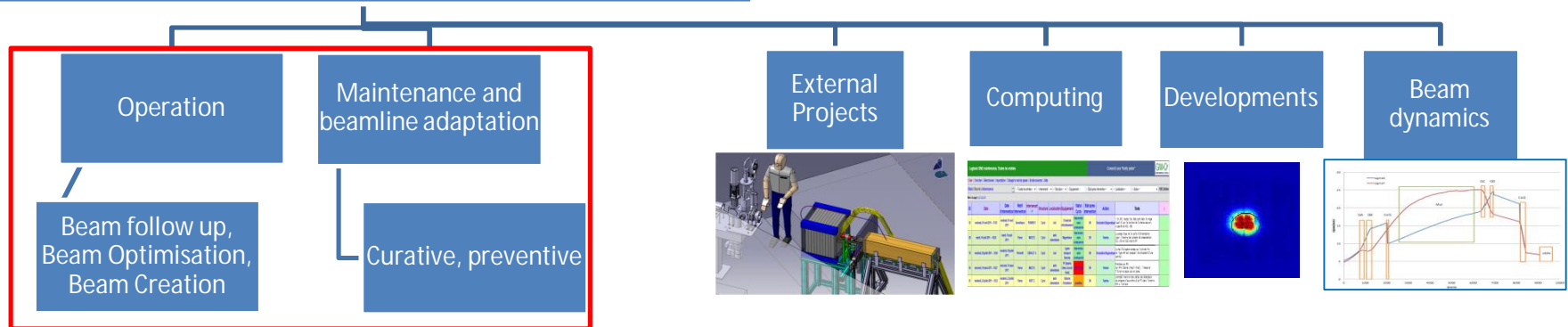
1 of these is a top-bottom line with a vertical dipole

## Beamlines:

- 8 in total
  - 5 dedicated to average and high current
  - 3 dedicated to low (or very low) current



GMO: Maintenance and Operation Group Tasks



GMO: 6 persons

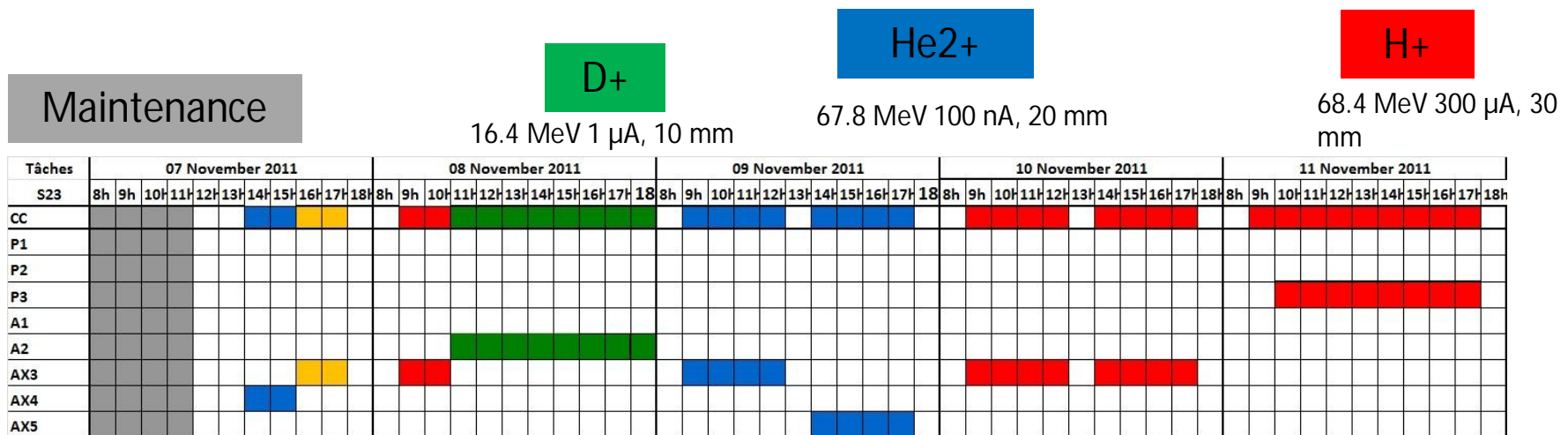
3 have more than 3 years of experience and are "senior operators"

- Operators deal with basically every aspects of the accelerator: Operation, maintenance, users, developments (beamline, diagnostics), computers, mechanics, beam dynamics.
- To comply with french law on industrial accelerators (yes this cyclotron falls into this class by its use), they have to pass a national certificate: camari
- Each operator is 3 times a week in charge of the operation with/without a senior (that is when every one is on site) for none "heavy weeks".

# Operations

Very diverse weeks in terms of beam parameters and beamlines: particles types, energies, beam size, inter-bunch time,...

“None-heavy” operational weeks:



Tuning of the machine and beamline is performed before sending the beam to the users and can take up to a few hours

+ heavy weeks: so called production week: Approximately, once a month over a week the group is on 24h operation with 38.5 hours/week/ope

Require a minimum of 4 persons for this

# How we do business (2)

For these production weeks: e.g. 24 hours/days over 5 days

Mornings	6h30→14h12	x5/week	op1
Evenings	14h00→21h42	x5/week	op2
Nights*	21h15→6h45	x4/week	op3
Days	9h00→17h42	x5/week	op4 (5-6)

With this scheme (tested 3 times so far) each operator keeps the same time slot:

Results:

Worked well but

Tiredness

Operation Information is being lost (to some degree), counterbalanced by the use of elog

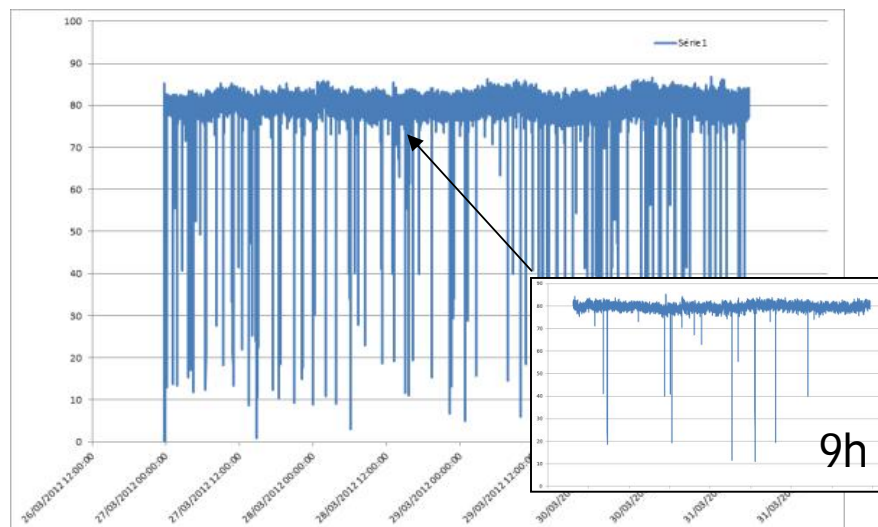
15 to 30 min of overlay between shifts

+ op during days to help deal with operation + maintenance

\*Backed up by the presence of a lab personnel

# Operations

Single 80  $\mu\text{A}$  runs on target at irradiation station



← 4 days →

Single run:

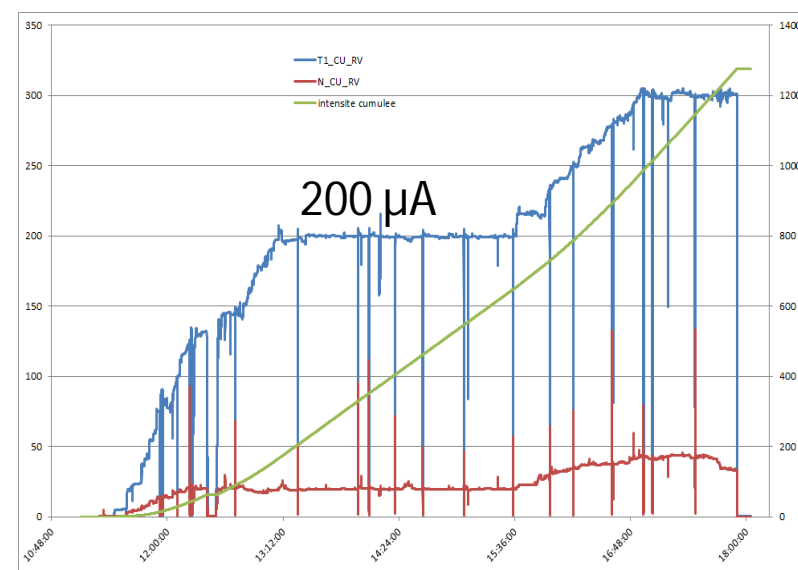
- 80.23  $\mu\text{A}$ ,  $\sigma_{\langle i \rangle} = 1.35 \mu\text{A}$
- 1.6% intensity losses (of overall time)

Dual run:

- $\sigma_{\langle i \rangle} = 2.2 \mu\text{A}$  (average over both beams)

Stability studies: in view of safety of machine, beamlines, and targets before intensity ramp-ups

On neutronic activator 300  $\mu\text{A}$

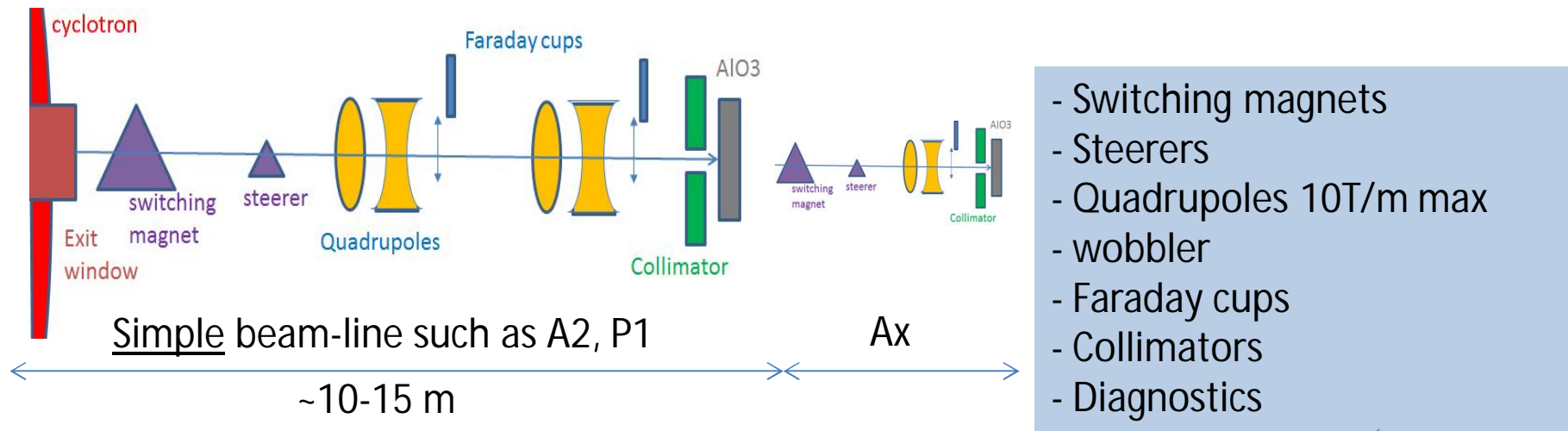


← 8 hours →

Test of strategy for current ramp-ups up to 200  $\mu\text{A}$  and to 300  $\mu\text{A}$  (Constrain from the user are in addition)

Operators are constantly tuning the machine even on steady runs

# Beam Transport and lines



## Need for Beam Transport Strategy

- It is primarily dependent on what is behind the collimators i.e. if the experimental target is far downstream and which intensity is used.

1) current optimisation, using inserted faraday cups, and/or beam dumps at end of line if there is one

2) Beam transverse size optimisation

At high current and on an irradiation station with a rabbit, the beam is centred on the collimators upstream the station. The electrical deposit is the measurements

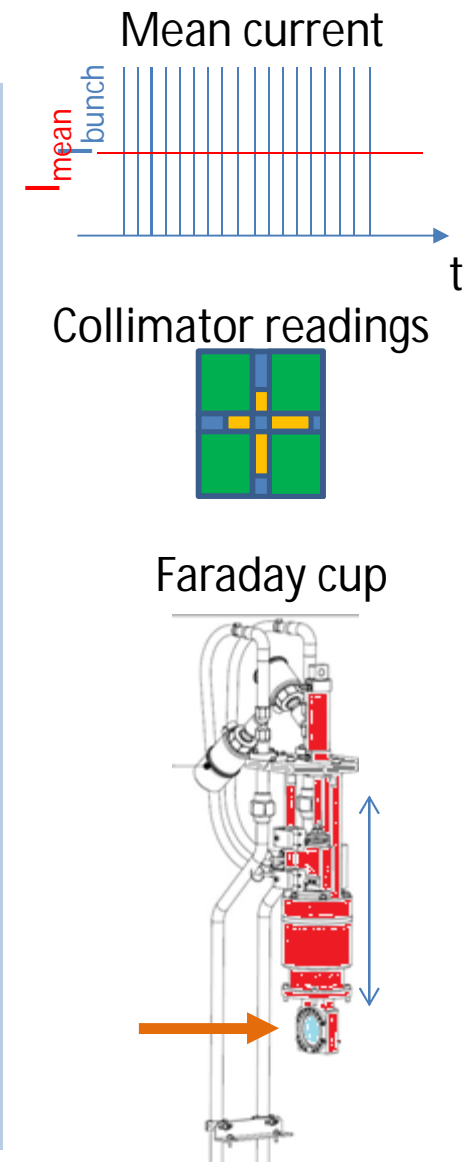
At low current, and for specific needs, optimisation is slightly more complex and relies on dipoles and quadrupoles modifications to get the right beam.

→ diagnostics

# Diagnostics I

The main diagnostics are:

- Current measurements ( $I_{\text{mean}}$ ):
  - On the 4 individual fingers of the collimators  
→ aperture from 10 to 30 mm limiting the transverse size right at exit of collimators,
  - Faraday cups:  
Water cooled layers of titanium /aluminium  
15kW max (i.e ~210 $\mu$ A at 70MeV)
  - Beam dumps combined or not with a current integrator (at very low current)
- Profilers: measures the beam density
- Alumina foils: or thin film foils for location and size measurements at end of line

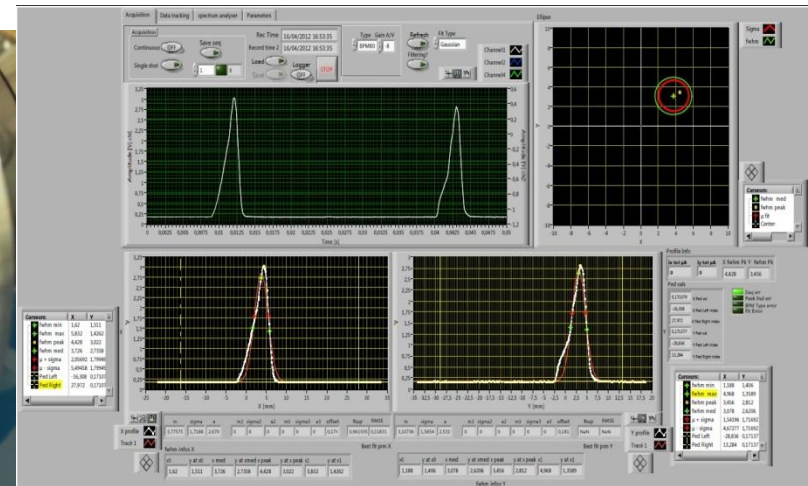


# Diagnostics II

On-line analysis of beam x-y density

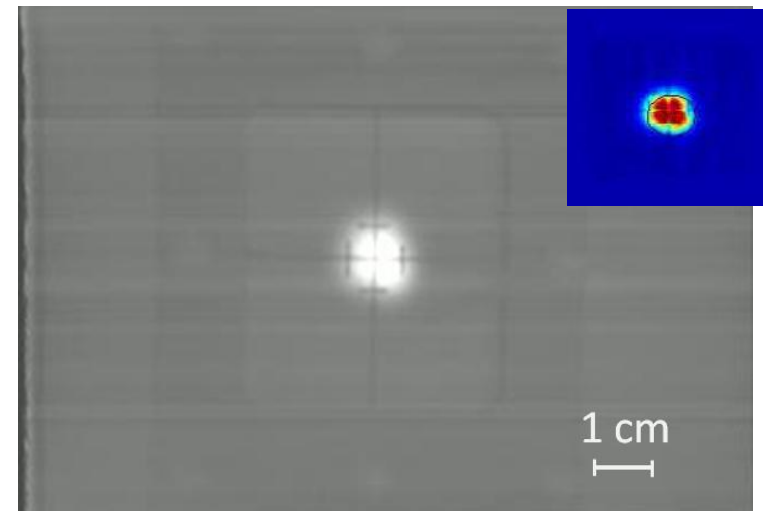
## Profiler NEC 80 (83):

- Installed downstream a collimator
- A single wire, frequency 18 Hz (19Hz)
- Helicoidal Radius = 2.7 cm (5.31)
- Limit (theo.) = 150  $\mu\text{A}$  for a 10 mm beam



## Alumina foil (AlO3) - thickness 1 mm:

- Installed outside the line, downstream the exit thin kapton (75  $\mu\text{m}$ ) window
- Check of the center and beam size
- $\sim 1\text{nA} < I_{\text{moy}} < \sim 150\text{ nA}$  for protons and alpha
- Vidikon Camera (radiation hard)
- $\rightarrow$  Off-line analysis code is developed in GMO, based a Matlab tool from LAL.



# Maintenance

- The maintenance knowledge is mainly based on existing Cyclotron at lower energies (30 MeV) for Preventive
- Curative: The strategy used here is get-to-know the machine
  - 4 weeks/year: Main maintenance (done with GMO/IBA)
  - Weekly (Mondays) beamline-cyclotron round watch:
    - List of check-ups done by ARRONAX maintenance group.
  - Building up a “memory” of the machine problems via an electronic logbook (see later)
  - Keeping the information flow between cyclotron designer and ARRONAX (both ways):
    - Tasks/Information exchange charts in use at each IBA/Arronax technical meeting since beg. 2011. (very helpful to recall problems and keep tracks, and make sure there is a resolution in view)
  - Training of the GMO team with radio protection group



# Electronic log book (elog)

- Multi-parameters table filled in by the GMO (Operation & Maintenance Group) → from PSI

Logbook GMO maintenance, Toutes les entrées										Connecté sous "freddy poirier"		GMO GÉNÉRIQUE AMBULANCE & OPÉRATIF
ID	Date	Date d'intervention	Motif Intervention	Intervenant	Structure	Localisation	Equipement	Statut Cyclo	Etat apres intervention	Action	Texte	
63	vendredi, 01 avril 2011 -- 17:03	vendredi, 01 avril 2011	Surveillance	POIRIER F.	Cyclo	Ax3	Circuits de refroidissement	Intervention sans consequence	OK	Declaration/Diagnostique	- En AX3, toutes les leds sont dans le rouge (sauf A) sur le boîtier de la herse eau-air, a gauche de AX3. JBO	
88	mardi, 16 août 2011 -- 16:28	mardi, 16 août 2011	Panne	MACE E.	Cyclo	salle alimentation	Magnetisme	Intervention sans consequence	OK	Termine	La pompe d'eau de la salle d'alimentation (pour l'armoire des aimants de compensation CCI, CCM et CCE) était OFF	
78	vendredi, 08 juillet 2011 -- 13:56	vendredi, 08 juillet 2011	Preventif	GIRAULT S.	Cyclo	Ax4	Lignes transport faisceau	Intervention sans consequence	OK	Declaration/Diagnostique	La feuille kapton montée sur la bride fin de ligne AX4 est marquée (Brunissement d'une partie).	
54	mercredi, 16 mars 2011 -- 10:27	mercredi, 16 mars 2011	Panne	MACE E.	Cyclo	salle alimentation	RF [amplis; Dees; Accord; Gene]	Arret TOTAL	OK	Termine	Probleme sur RF: Sur FPA (Chaîne d'Ampli Final), l'Anode et l'Ecran ne passe pas en jaune.	
81	vendredi, 22 juillet 2011 -- 13:53	vendredi, 22 juillet 2011	Panne	HUET C.	Cyclo	salle alimentation	Stations d'irradiation	possibles	OK	Termine	constaté inversion des cables des detecteurs de présence d'eau entre p2 et P3 dans l'armoire PS4 a l'arriere	

- Maintenance (12 global parameters):
  - ID number
  - Message Date
  - Intervention date
  - Intervention reason (failure, surveillance, preparation)
  - Person in charge
  - Structure (cyclo, environment)
  - Location (beamlines, cyclo, technical rooms,...)
  - Equipment (beam dump, irradiation stations, strippers, sources, water cooling, cryo pump,...)
  - Status of the cyclotron
  - Action (finished, ongoing,...)
  - Comments + attached files
- Beam on (25 parameters):
  - Pilots, particles, beamlines, targets, energy, current, comments, attached files,...

This is not a tracking tool but it will help to define later the data base required

# Present and Future

- The C70 ARRONAX cyclotron prototype is in the hands-on phase:
  - Operations et Maintenances have lead to a high beam uptime (>85%)
    - Injection solenoid has been changed
  - The maintenance and operation group in charge of the cyclotron and its beamlines are gathering the know-how, important for the future of the machine:
    - Time constrain from future users will tighten
    - Towards 3x8 hours and more “industrial standards”
- For the long term use:
  - Some key points to consolidate:
    - Beam strategy optimisation and tuning
    - Studies on beam repeatability
    - Beam characterisation: off-line & on-line codes to check beams
  - Some necessary work: Extension of diagnostics
    - Energy measurements after degradation
    - Studies for Beam Loss monitor , Beam position monitor, ....
    - Development of Data acquisition system for beamlines, cyclotron
  - Continuous development of lines and cyclotron:
    - Installation of energy degrader
    - Neutronic activator (several beam tests done → ok)
    - Increase of current sent to the sample carriers (rabbits).

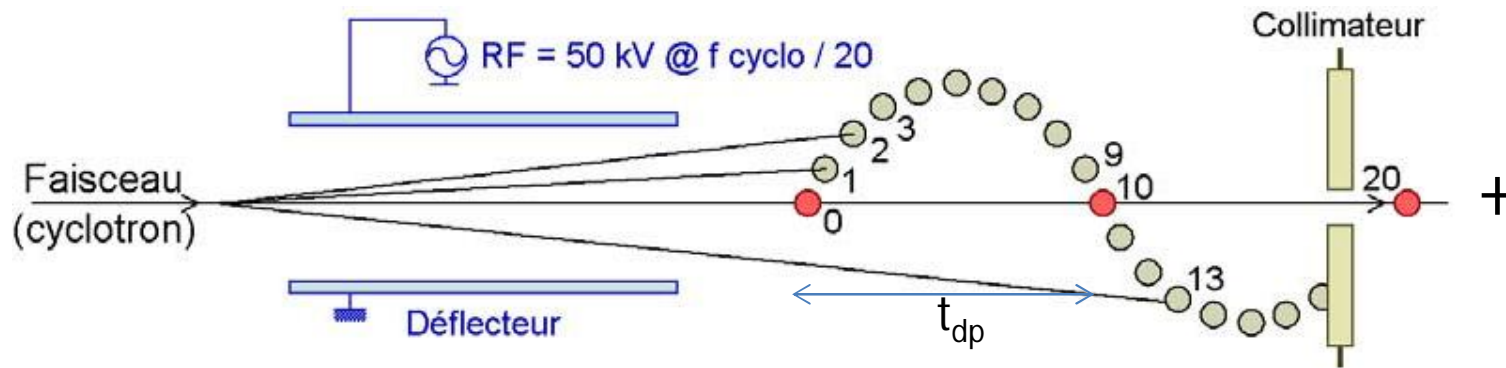
## Further

- The group will grow up in numbers
  - Plan is mostly to keep them with operation/maintenance tasks + a specialisation
  - Still relying a lot on flexibility of the operators as we are far from smooth operation
  - Nearly no automation in beam tuning:
    - New possible scheme is being studied based on new diagnostics to be put in: with a Parallel machine/human interface (manpower...gasp!) connected to existing PLC
  - Operators agenda will probably change in view of the latest runs
  - One of the hot topics that we can foresee is communication and tracking information:
    - We'll look at tools (software) that offer this possibilities: CMMS + APS?

• Thank you!

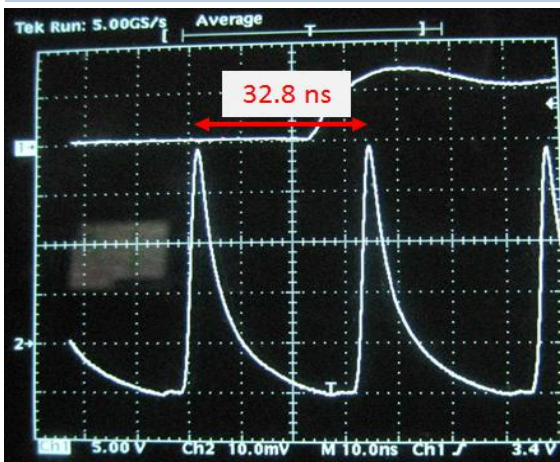
# Cyclotron Adaptations

- Alpha pulsing: Deflectors for inter-bunch time modification (He<sup>2+</sup>/2011-12):
  - Periodic Deflector on the beamline 50 kV @  $f_{\text{cyclo}}/20$
  - Aperiodic Deflector in the injection timed to the period. def.



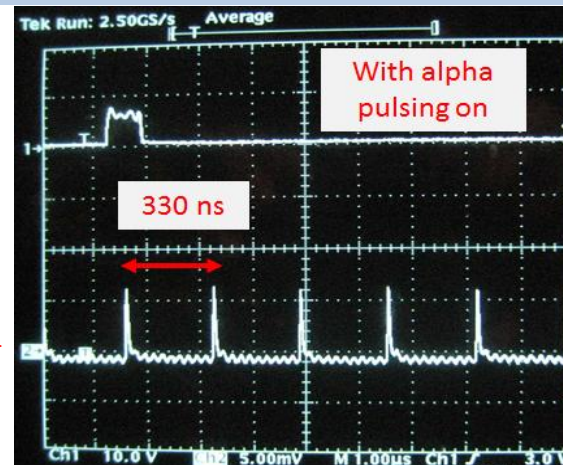
Aperiod. Def.:  
increases the  
inter-bunch  
time by  $n \times t_{dp}$ .

Inter-bunch time from 330 ns to ~5 s



Combination of  
an aperiodic  
deflector in  
injection and a RF  
50 kV, 1.5MHz  
deflector on the  
beamline.

GMO + J.L  
Delvaux (IBA)



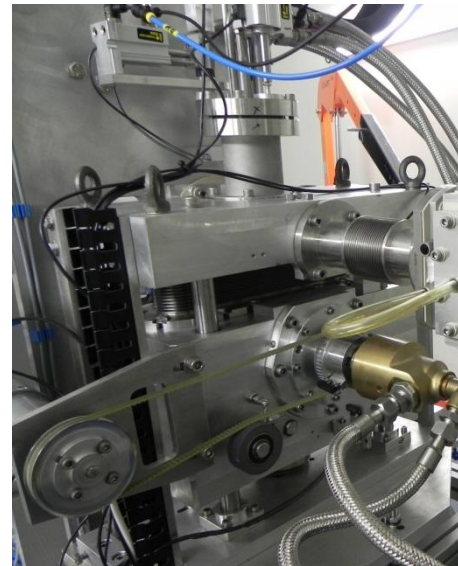
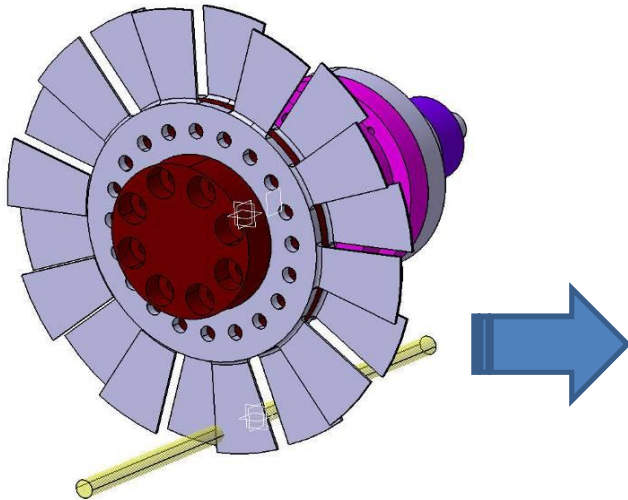
More work on  
transverse  
optimisation  
has to be done

To get towards  
more user  
friendly setup

# Beamline Adaptations

- Energy degrader for proton and alpha (Subatech/ARRONAX)
  - In order to get a larger range of available energies (10 to 30 MeV)
    - Protons: Aluminium window of diameter= 10 mm, water thickness = 0.7 mm
    - Alpha: Rotating wheel with 20 aluminium plates (1.25 mm thick)
  - Degradation Installation has been done and the water cooling system has been tested

Alpha degrader:



Proton degrader:



# Simulation

- Development of simulation with G4beamline, Astra & Transport:
  - General simulation studies
  - Support and confirm Beam transport strategies
  - Benchmark/Confirmation of beam characteristics (beam size, particles losses, emittance,...) + users are in demand of this
  - Extrapolation to high current?

An exemple with G4beamline:

