



IAEA

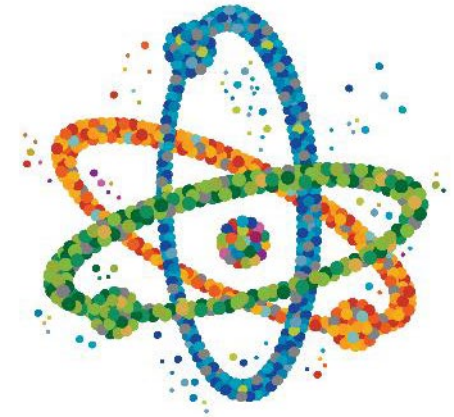
Joint ICTP-IAEA-MAMBA School on Materials Irradiation: from Basics to Applications

19 February 2025

Aliz Simon

Physics Section
Department of Nuclear Sciences and Applications
International Atomic Energy Agency

Aliz.Simon@iaea.org



ATOMS FOR HERITAGE

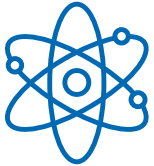
Three Pillars - Main Areas of Activity



Safeguards & Verification



Safety & Security



Science & Technology



Sustainable Development Goals

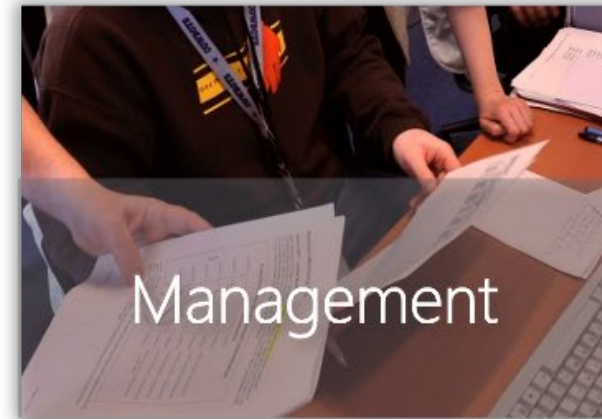


Atoms for Peace and Development



Organization

Departments (6)



Science and Technology



Food & Agriculture

Promoting food security and sustainable agricultural development



Human Health

Improving the diagnosis and treatment of diseases and nutrition



Science & Industry

Providing knowledge & expertise for science & industry



Water Resources

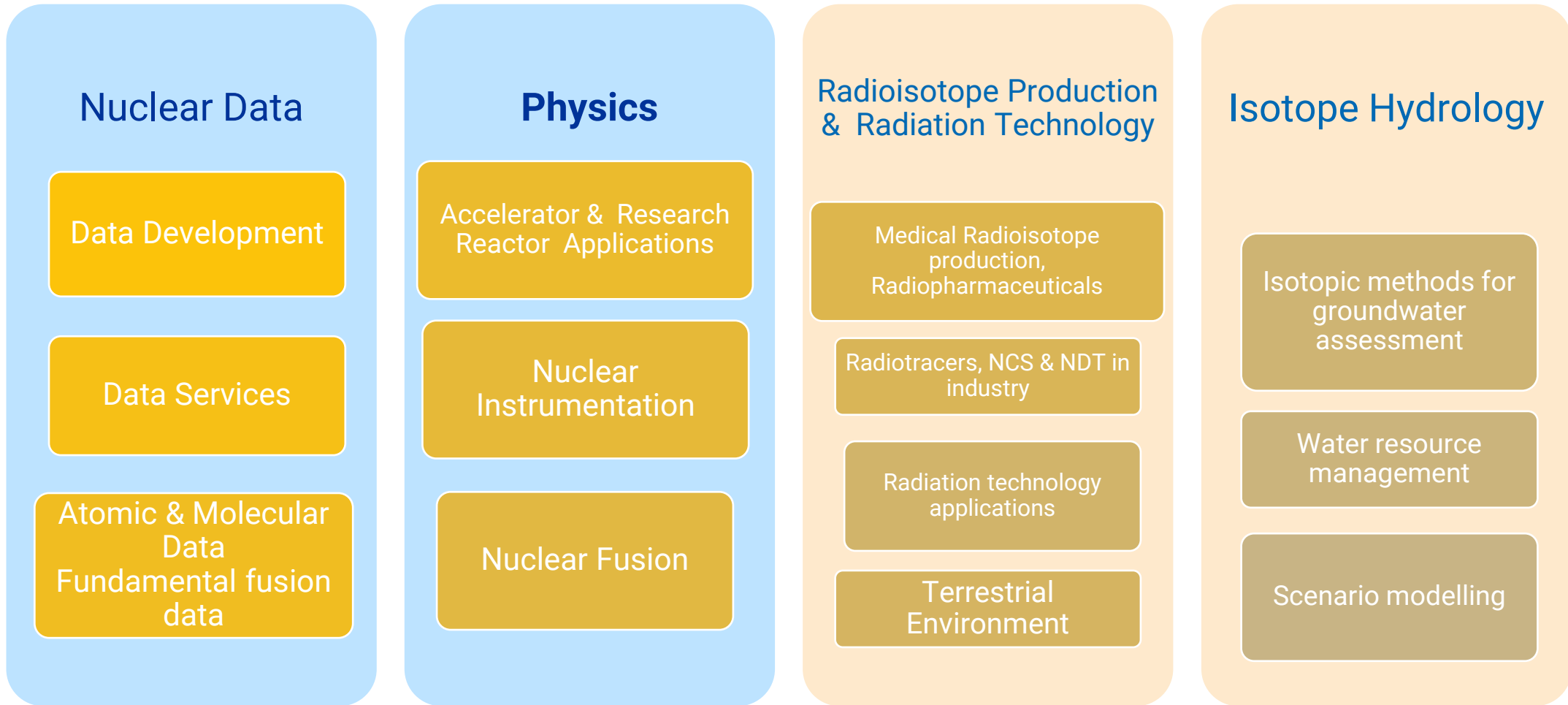
Making more, and cleaner water available to more people



Environment

Understanding and protecting the environment

Division of Physical & Chemical Sciences (NAPC)



Radiation damage of materials

RPRT Section

Electron, X-ray and Gamma irradiation of heritage objects

Nanoscale radiation engineering of advanced materials for potential biomedical applications

Physics Section-Materials Science

Neutron-induced damages to materials
High dose radiation effect on core structural materials
in advanced nuclear systems

Physics Section-Accelerators

Radiation effects on Heritage objects and materials

Physics Section-Accelerators

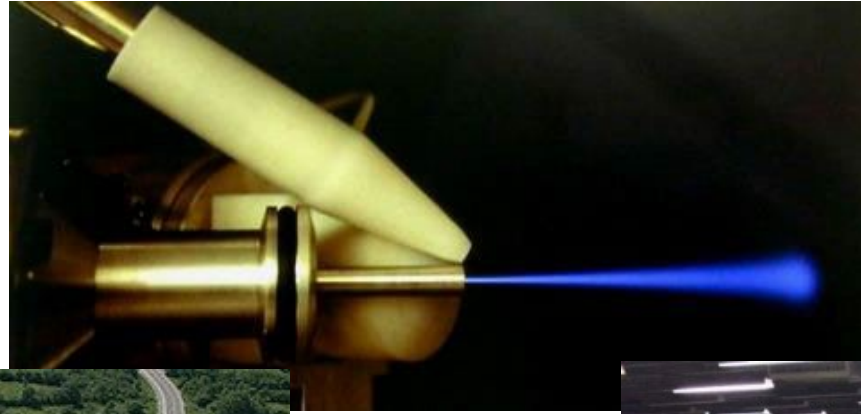
Ion beam-induced damages of semiconductors and insulators
Radiation hardness of microelectronic devices

Nuclear Data Section

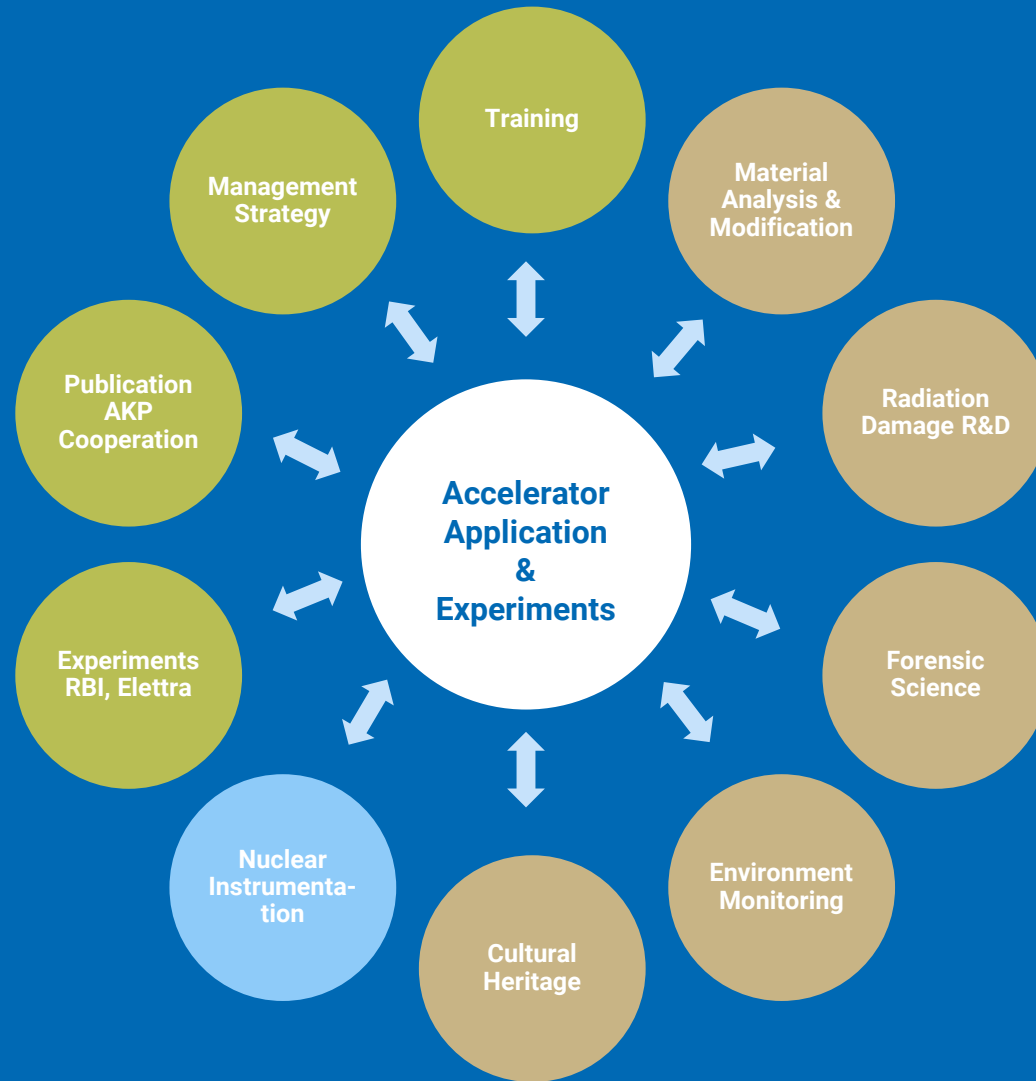
Development, maintenance and dissemination of the relevant databases and models

<http://www-nds.iaea.org/>

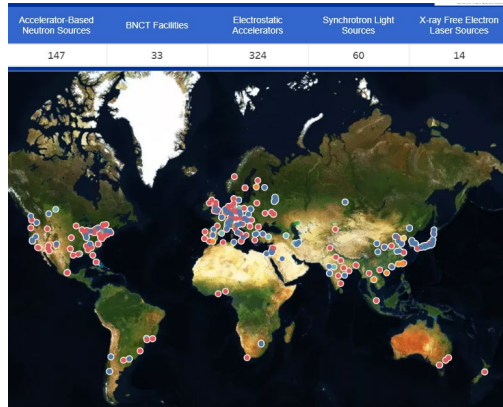
Small, Medium and Large-scale Research Facilities: Accelerators



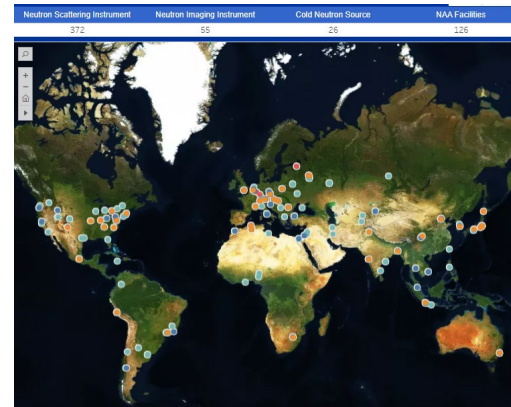
Physics Section Accelerator Sub-programme



IAEA Physics Section: Database of world-wide research infrastructure



Accelerator Facilities
Total: 578 in 59 countries



Neutron Beam Instruments
Total: 579 in 58 countries

<https://nucleus.iaea.org/sites/accelerators/>

Neutrons: <https://nucleus.iaea.org/sites/neutrons/>

Fusion: <https://nucleus.iaea.org/sites/fusionportal/>

Instrumentation: <https://nucleus.iaea.org/sites/nuclear-instrumentation/>



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Accelerator Knowledge Portal

AN INFORMATION EXCHANGE PLATFORM FOR SCIENTISTS,
INDUSTRIAL PARTNERS AND POLICY MAKERS

Knowledge Repository

Worldwide Database of Accelerators

Workspaces for Members

Events, News & Announcements

A networking Platform

nucleus.iaea.org/sites/accelerators

A KNOWLEDGE RESOURCE FOR AND BY THE ACCELERATOR COMMUNITY

Improves collaboration opportunities
Increases the visibility of your work and laboratory
Promotes knowledge transfer within the Accelerator Community

IAEA
International Atomic Energy Agency
Atoms for Peace and Development

For further information on the Portal, facility updates and enquiries please contact: Accelerators.Contact-Point@iaea.org

<https://nucleus.iaea.org/sites/accelerators>



IAEA

International Atomic Energy Agency

[Scientific, technical publications in the nuclear field | IAEA](#)



IAEA BULLETIN

INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY
The IAEA's flagship publication | December 2022 | www.iaea.org/bulletin

RESEARCH REACTORS

Neutrons save lives: Research reactors for production of medical isotopes and radiopharmaceuticals, pg 8
Research reactor networks optimize operations to meet increasing demand, pg 14
Keeping the world's ageing research reactors running, pg 16



IAEA BULLETIN

INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY
The IAEA's flagship publication | May 2022 | www.iaea.org/bulletin

APPLICATIONS OF ACCELERATORS AND OTHER SOURCES OF IONIZING RADIATION

What are particle accelerators? pg 4
Ancient Roman archaeology resurfaces with nuclear science, pg 8
Establishing ionizing radiation facilities in the Philippines and beyond, pg 22



IAEA BULLETIN

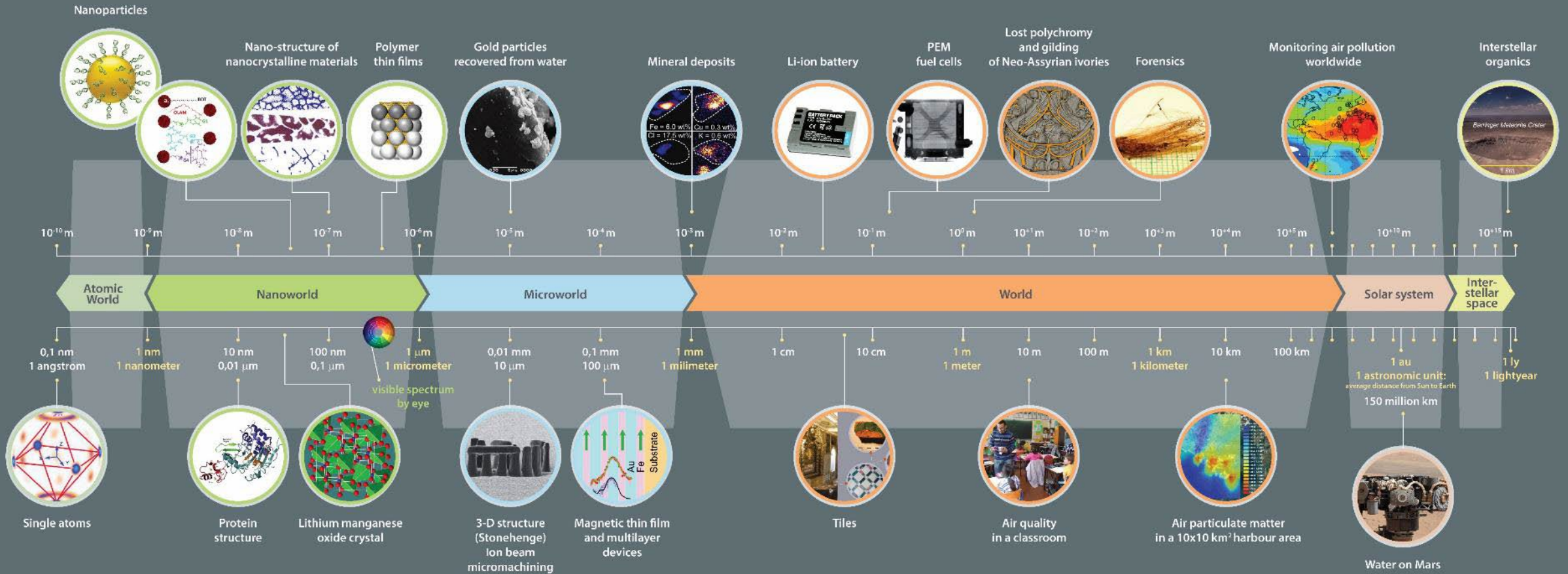
INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY
The IAEA's flagship publication | May 2021 | www.iaea.org/bulletin

Fusion Energy

A new version is in preparation

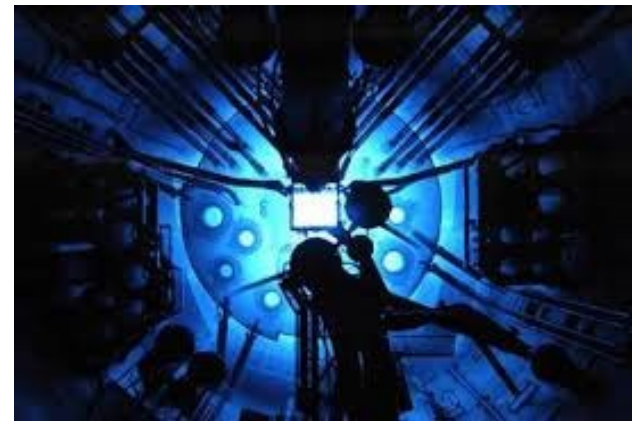
What is fusion, and why is it so difficult to achieve? page 4
ITER: The world's largest fusion experiment, page 10
Uniting countries through fusion research and cooperation, page 22



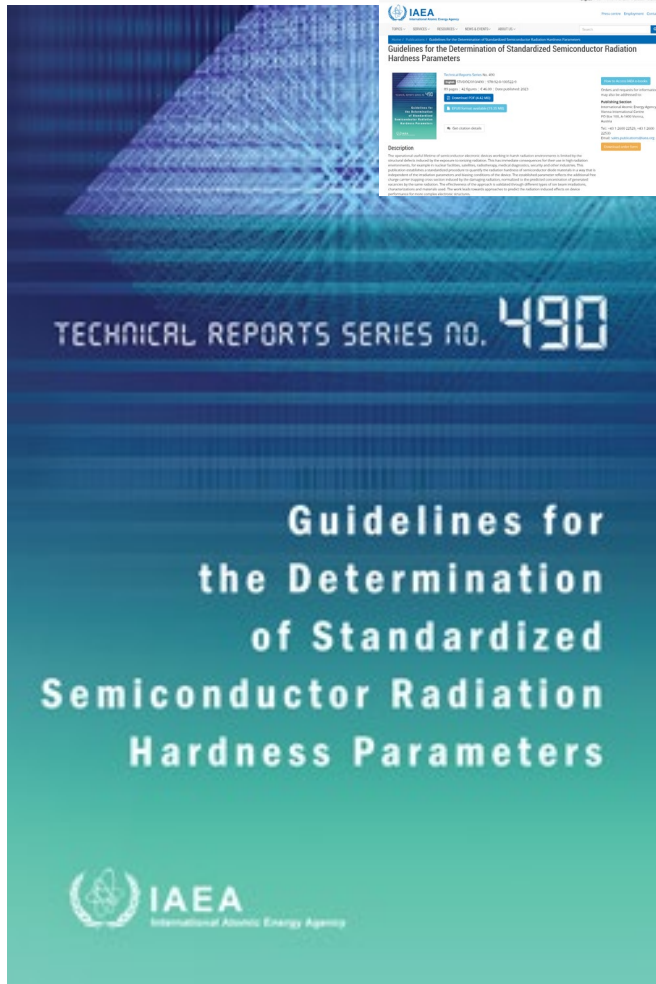


Visit the IAEA Accelerator Knowledge Portal “Case Studies” page

Radiation hardness – lifetime of semiconductor devices



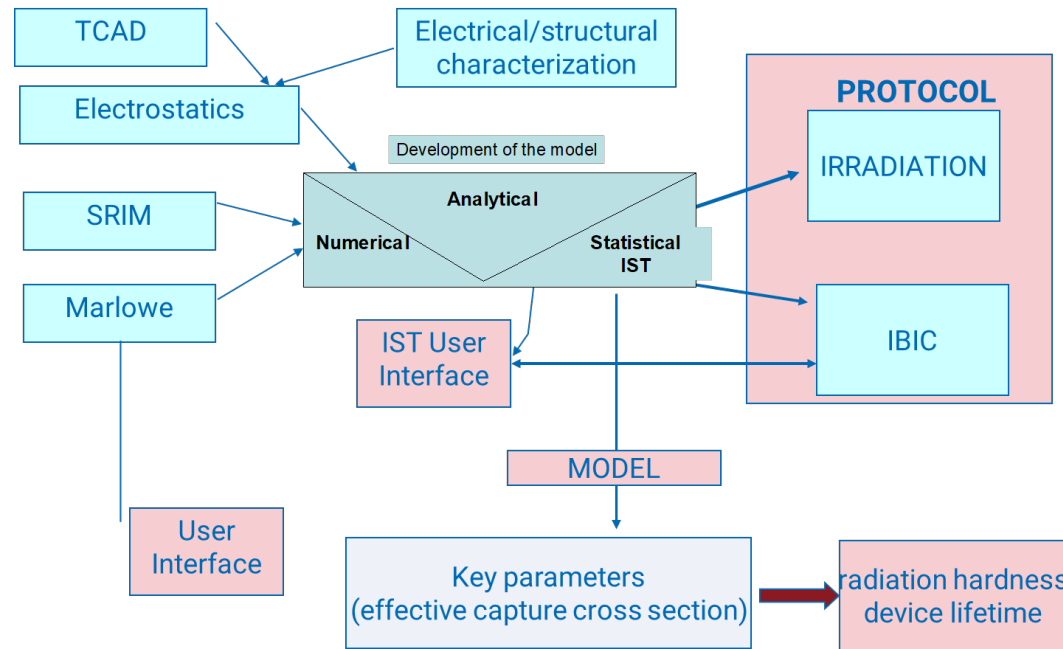
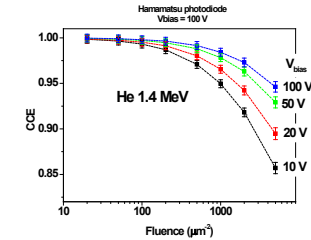
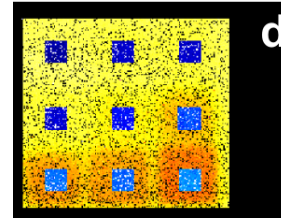
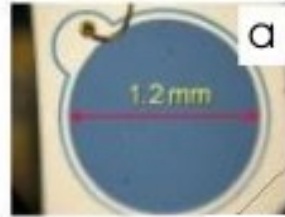
Guidelines for the Determination of Standardized Semiconductor Radiation Hardness Parameters



Can be downloaded for free of charge from the IAEA website.



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University of Turin, Italy



The Abdus Salam
International Centre
for Theoretical Physics



IAEA
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unesco



INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF
Quantum Science
and Technology

ICTP Celebrating International Year of Quantum Science and Technology

SEE OUR CALENDAR OF QUANTUM EVENTS! →



IAEA E-learning on Quantum Science

 IAEA | Learning Management System
powered by CLP4NET

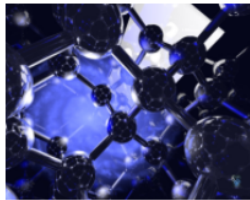
OPEN-LMS

English (en) ▾



Prof. Paolo Olivero, University of Turin, Italy

Ion-beam Engineering of Materials for Quantum Technologies



New quantum technologies could open the door to transformational advances in secure communications, information technology and high precision sensors and provide new solutions to pressing challenges in finance and security, shaping global development in the 21st century.

Accelerator-based techniques involve high-energy ions that allow us to create atomic-scale modifications, or defects, in materials such as silicon and diamond, or two-dimensional materials, such as graphene. It is the study of quantum states of these individual atomic-scale defects in the materials, which in turn gives us the capability to control single atoms, including the spin of electrons or nuclei. The result is new materials with the capability of advancing quantum technology.

The purpose of this e-learning course is to provide an overview and knowledge on fundamentals of materials engineering.

This tool is an output of the IAEA Coordinated Research Project F11020 "Ion beam induced spatio-temporal structural evolution of materials: Accelerator-based techniques for the engineering of quantum materials".

For additional information please contact: Aliz.Simon@iaea.org

Click to enter this course



Joint ICTP-IAEA Advanced School on
Ion Beam Driven Materials Engineering: Accelerators for a New Technology Era
1 - 5 October 2018, Miramare - Trieste, Italy

Ion-beam Engineering of Materials for Quantum Technologies

1. Fundamentals in Ion-Matter Interaction
2. Ion-beam fabrication and lithography
3. Basic concepts in quantum technologies
4. Single-photon emitters for quantum communication
5. Ion-induced defect engineering for quantum technologies



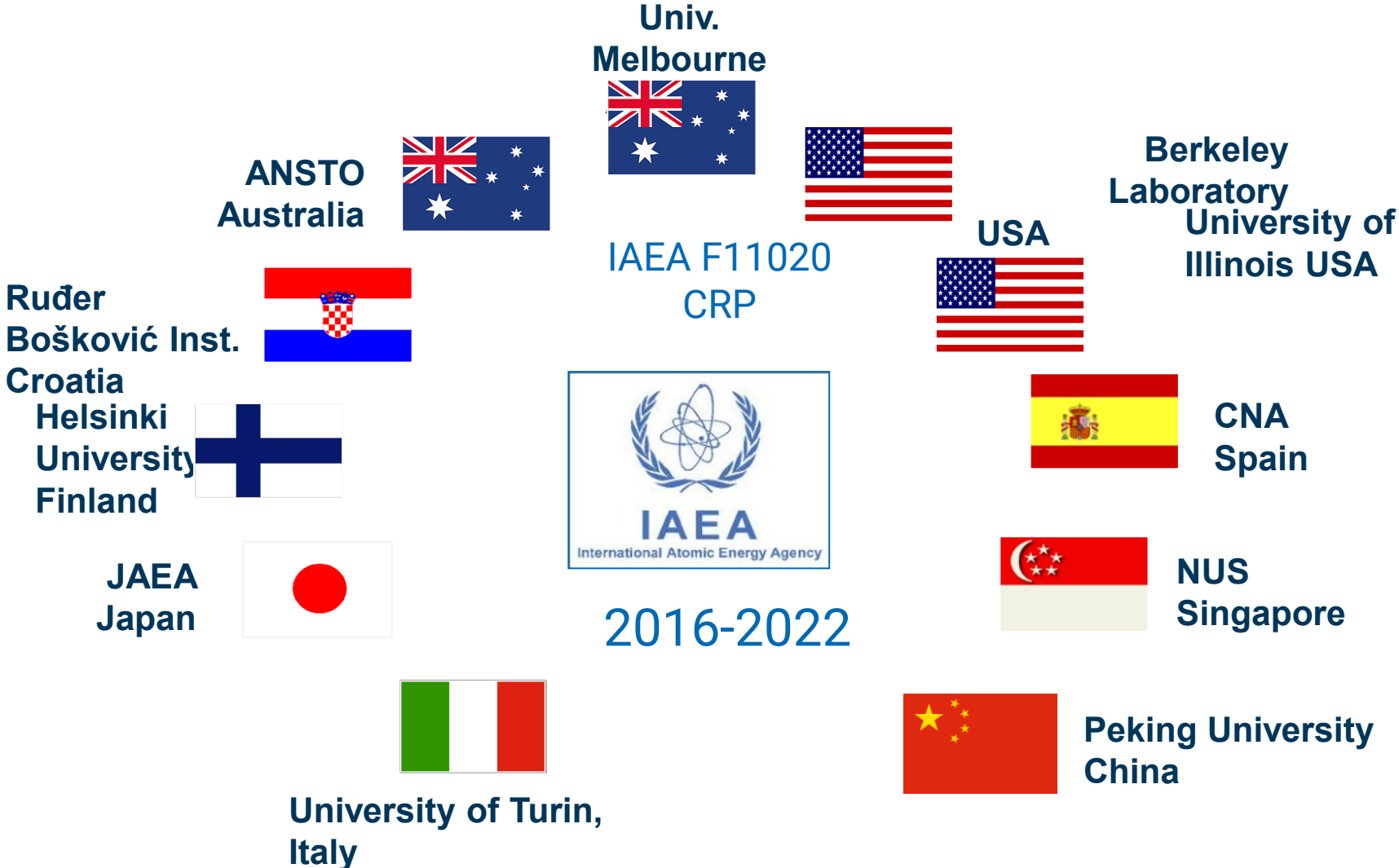
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<https://elearning.iaea.org/m2/course/index.php?categoryid=175>

IAEA Research project:

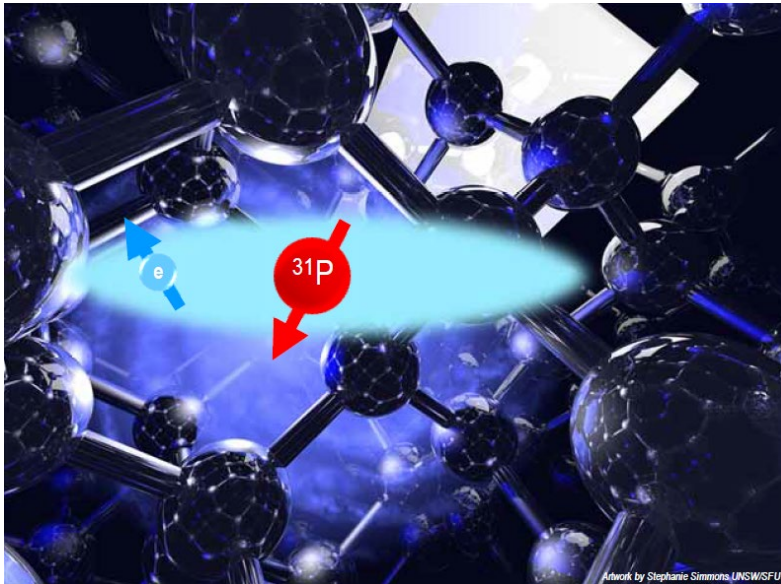
Ion beam induced spatio-temporal structural evolution of materials: Accelerators

for a new technology era CRP F11020



Project objectives

To develop novel accelerator-based ion beam tools to induce and characterise effects in the spatial and time domains for tailoring materials properties and thus creating new materials towards quantum technologies.

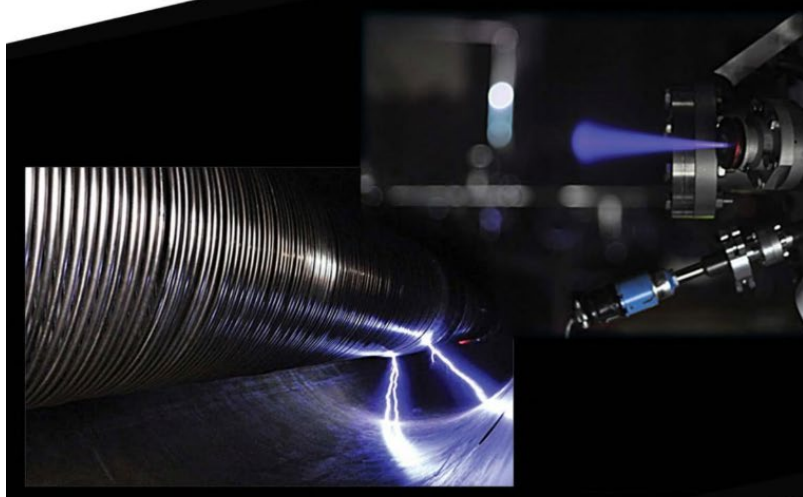


- Ion beam driven materials design with predictive capabilities
- Ion energies from keV to GeV
- Spatial resolution: atomic scale
- Time resolution: from femtosecond
- In-situ modification and analysis

Accelerator types:

- single-ion implanters
- ion beam accelerators
- laser-plasma accelerators

Key unifying theme: Accelerator techniques in the context of technological applications, near and far term



Applications of Accelerators in the Quantum Technology Era

Edited by
David Jamieson
Andrew Bettiol
and **André Schleife**

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Example I.

IAEA F11020 CRP Results

100+ scientific papers

100+ scientific talks

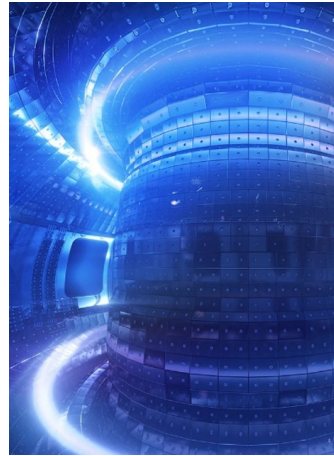
25 Master or PhD thesis

20 national workshops

15+ new projects

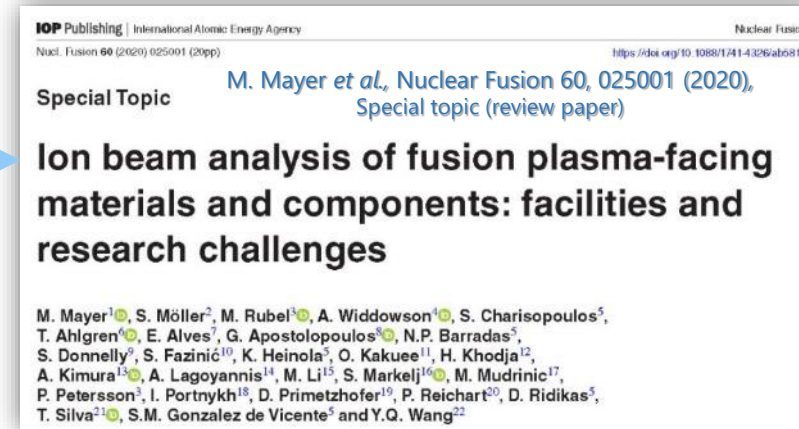
by the project partners

Development and Application of Ion Beam Techniques for Materials Irradiation and Characterization relevant to Fusion Technology (F11023 CRP)



Major Topics

- IBA in fusion plasma-facing components and materials, including combinations of different Ion Beam methods;
- Fundamental aspects for simulating radiation damage phenomena in materials for fusion energy production;
- Modelling tools and software development
- A cross-section database for IBA in fusion applications;
- A roadmap for future studies of fusion relevant materials using ion-beam accelerators



Ion beam analysis of fusion plasma-facing materials and components: facilities and research challenges

M. Mayer¹, S. Möller², M. Rubel¹, A. Widdowson⁴, S. Charisopoulos⁵,
T. Ahlgren⁶, E. Alves⁷, G. Apostolopoulos⁸, N.P. Barradas⁵,
S. Donnelly⁹, S. Fazinic¹⁰, K. Heinola⁵, O. Kakuee¹¹, H. Khodja¹²,
A. Kimura¹³, A. Lagoyannis¹⁴, M. Li¹⁵, S. Markej¹⁶, M. Mudrinic¹⁷,
P. Petersson³, I. Portnykh¹⁸, D. Primetzhofe¹⁹, P. Reichart²⁰, D. Ridikas⁵,
T. Silva²¹, S.M. Gonzalez de Vicente⁵ and Y.Q. Wang²²

A new CRP was launched in 2020 (F11023)

- Identify data needs and measure fundamental cross-sections for nuclear reactions with fusion relevant materials
- Identify data needs & measure stopping powers in fusion relevant materials with Helium ions
- Define international standards for the analysis of fusion-relevant materials
- Define and produce reference samples and apply these samples for a Round-Robin Test in the IBA fusion community

Contact: S.Charisopoulos@iaea.org

Radiation Effects on Cultural Heritage Objects and Materials



Revealing secrets of our heritage with nuclear science



ACCELERATORS
FOR HERITAGE

Artefacts treatment

[Read more »](#)



- 🌐 Egyptian mummy
- 🌐 Ionizing radiation (gamma radiation), penetrating the entire volume of the object
- 🌐 Insects and fungi can be efficiently killed



- 🌐 Mesopotamian figurine, dated to the 2nd millennium B.C.
- 🌐 Particle Induced X ray Emission (PIXE) analyses
- 🌐 Suspicious traces of lime cement, applied recently to the surface



- 🌐 Rock crystal skull, allegedly pre-Columbian
- 🌐 Accelerator-based Elastic Recoil Detection Analysis (ERDA)
- 🌐 Demonstrated that the skull was carved after the 19th century



- 🌐 *Contraste de formes*, allegedly by Fernand Léger
- 🌐 Accelerator-based Mass Spectrometry
- 🌐 Demonstrated to be a fake by radiocarbon dating

Advanced characterisation and imaging

[Read more »](#)



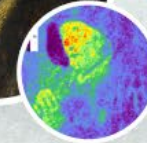
- 🌐 A fossil fly pupa (yellow) with a parasite wasp (blue) inside
- 🌐 3D imaging with X ray micro-computed tomography
- 🌐 The state of conservation of fossils is assessed and ancient species can be studied



- 🌐 Leviticus parchment scroll from En-Gedi (ca. AD 300)
- 🌐 3D imaging with X ray micro-computed tomography
- 🌐 The text on this ancient manuscript can again be read, without damage to the original



- 🌐 *Old Woman Praying*, Rembrandt, 1629/30
- 🌐 Macro-X ray fluorescence scanning (XRF)
- 🌐 Gain detailed insight into the technique and the pigments used



Safe examination of heritage objects

[Read more »](#)



- 🌐 *The Meagre Company*, Frans Hals and Pieter Codde, 1637
- 🌐 Radiation-based techniques
- 🌐 Gain safe insights of heritage objects



Contributors (list here) | for further information please contact: Aliz.Simon@iaea.org

Disinfection and microbial decontamination

Brazilian weather conditions have been affected directly tangible materials

Insects



Natural disasters

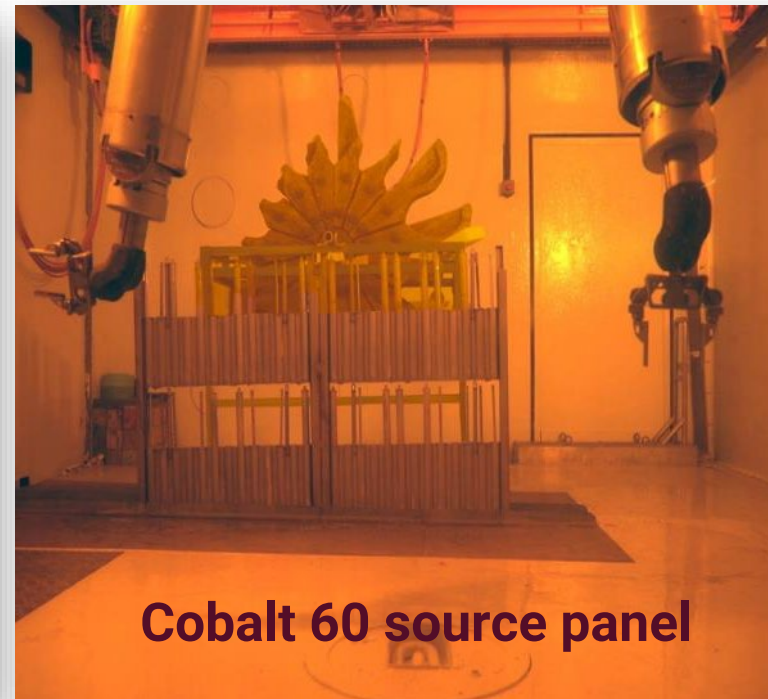
Fungi attack



Consolidation of porous artefacts

Wood Consolidation by densification in two steps

- 1) Liquid Resin Impregnation
- 2) Gamma Radiation-curing of the resin

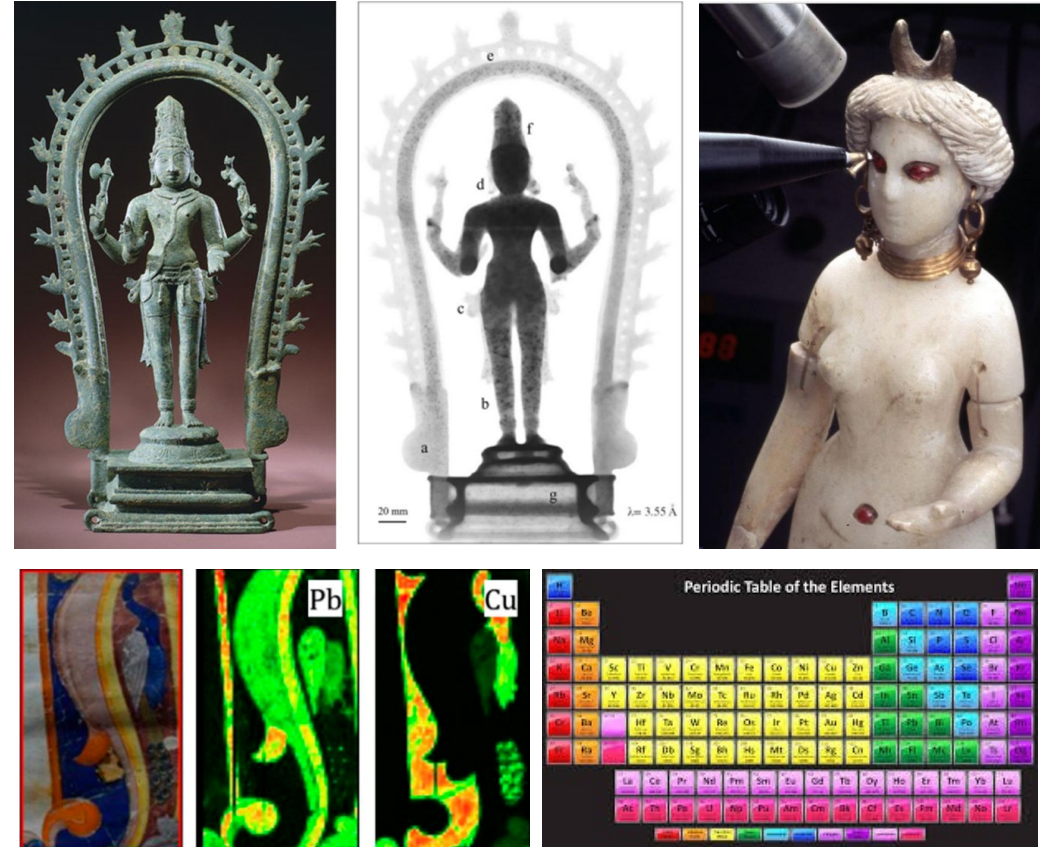


Cobalt 60 source panel

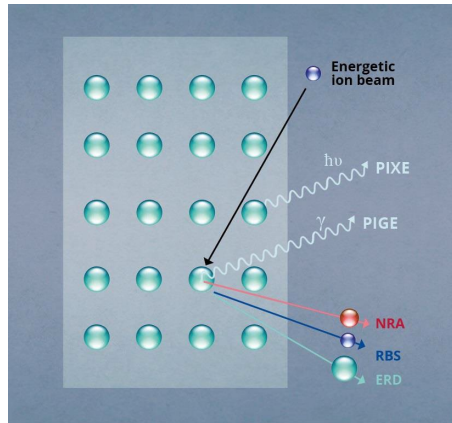
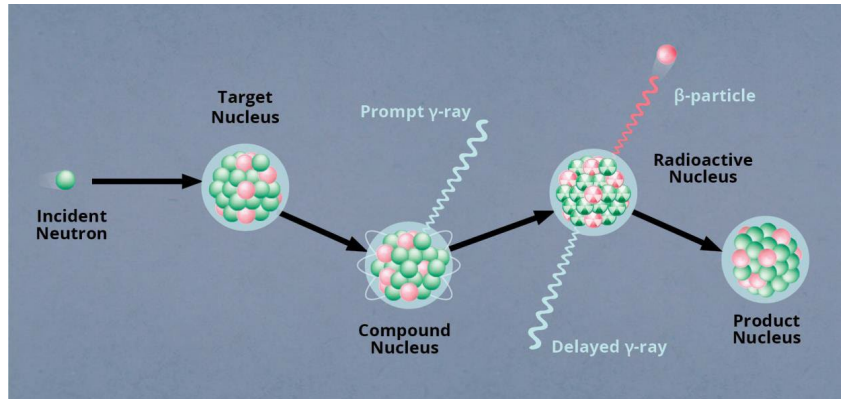
ARC-nucleART
Atelier de Recherche et de Conservation

Characterization, dating and imaging (2D and 3D)

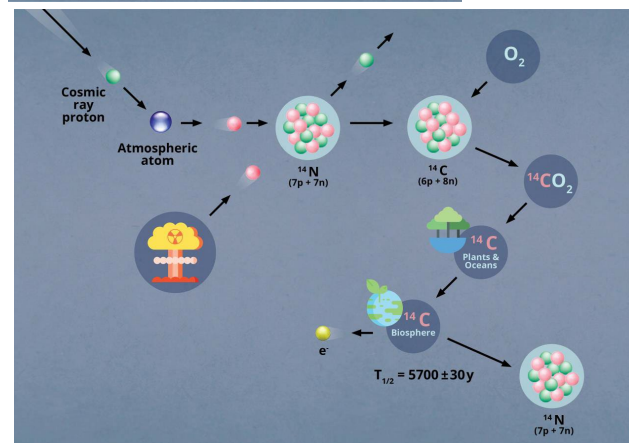
- Identify the material(s) used to make an object
- Identify the age / chronology
- Identify 2D/3D structure
- Identify the technologies, e.g.
 - soldering methods
 - pigments
 - surface coating
 - ink and paint recipes
- Identify the source of materials
 - provenance studies
 - trading routes
- Understand the history of individual objects
 - Corrosion
 - modification and previous conservation



Sottili et al., 2022. <https://doi.org/10.3390/app12136585>



NAA
IBA
AMS



Addressing forensic science challenges with nuclear analytical techniques – A review

A. Simon ^{a,*}, N. Pessoa Barradas ^a, C. Jaynes ^b, F.S. Romolo ^c

Table 2. Summary of characteristics of selected analytical techniques.

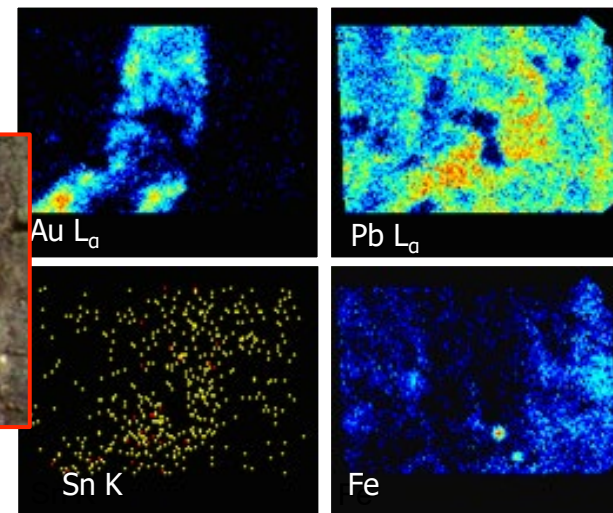
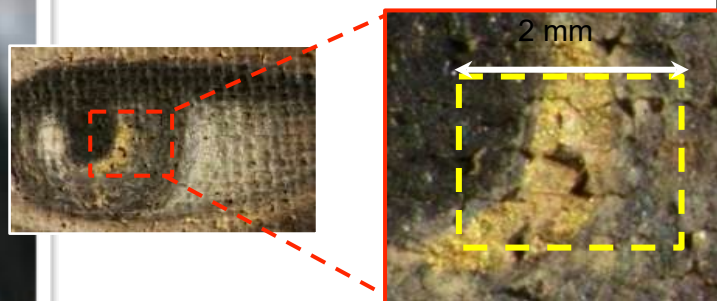
The values are indicative only of typical performance that may be achieved.

Technique ¹	Measures	Sensitivity ²	Test portion may be returned ³	Depth profiling	Quantitative	Information depth ²	Imaging	Depth resolution ²
NAA	up to 70 elements	10 ⁻⁶	Yes ¹⁰	No	Reference ⁵	bulk	No ⁸	-
NDP	light isotopes	10 ⁻³	Yes	Yes	Standards ⁶	10 mm	No	20 nm
N-imaging	structure	10 ⁻²	Yes	Radiography	No ⁷	bulk	Yes	10 μm
NR	structure	10 ⁻³	Yes	Interference	Reference	10 mm	No	5 nm
N-scattering	structure	10 ⁻²	Yes	Interference	Reference	bulk	No	5 nm
EBS	all elements	10 ⁻³	Yes	Yes	Total-IBA ⁶	10 mm	Yes	5 nm
ERD	all elements	10 ⁻³	Yes	Yes	Total-IBA ⁶	500 nm	Yes	5 nm
HI-ERD	all elements	10 ⁻³	No ⁴	Yes	Standards	100 nm	No	2 nm
HR-PIXE	all elements	10 ⁻⁶	Yes	Model	Total-IBA ⁶	20 mm	Yes	50 nm
NRA-PIXE	light isotopes	10 ⁻⁴	Yes	Yes	Total-IBA ⁶	500 nm	Yes	5 nm
PIXE	all elements	10 ⁻⁶	Yes	Model	Total-IBA ⁶	20 mm	Yes	50 nm
RBS	all elements	10 ⁻³	Yes	Yes	Reference	10 mm	Yes	2 nm
HE-SIMS	molecules	10 ⁻⁵	No	No	No	100 nm	Yes	1 μm
Total-IBA	all elements	10 ⁻⁶	Yes	Yes	Total-IBA ⁶	10 mm	Yes	2 nm
AMS	¹⁴ C and other isotopes		No	No	Relative isotope ratios	N/A	Rare	N/A
GI-XRF	structure	10 ⁻³	Yes	Interference	Reference	50 mm	Yes	2 nm
XRR	structure	10 ⁻¹	Yes	Interference	Reference	1 mm	No	2 nm
AES	all elements	10 ⁻³	Yes	Sputter	Standards	50 nm	No	2 nm
EPMA	all elements	10 ⁻⁴	Yes	Model	Standards	2 mm	Yes	20 nm
GD-OES	all elements	10 ⁻⁷	No	Yes	Reference	50 mm	No	50 nm
I.A. ICP-MS	all elements	10 ⁻⁷	No	Yes	Reference	10 mm	Yes	50 nm
SAM	all elements	10 ⁻³	Yes	Sputter	Standards	50 nm	Yes	2 nm
SE	structure	10 ⁻³	Yes	Model	Reference	10 mm	No	1 nm
SEM	topography	10 ⁻³	Yes	Model	Standards	2 mm	Yes	100 nm
SIMS	elements, molecules	10 ⁻⁷	No	Sputter	Standards	100 nm	Yes	2 nm
XPS	all elements	10 ⁻³	Yes	Sputter	Standards	50 nm	No	0.5 nm
XTEM	all elements	10 ⁻²	No	Xsection	Standards	500 nm	Yes	0.1 nm

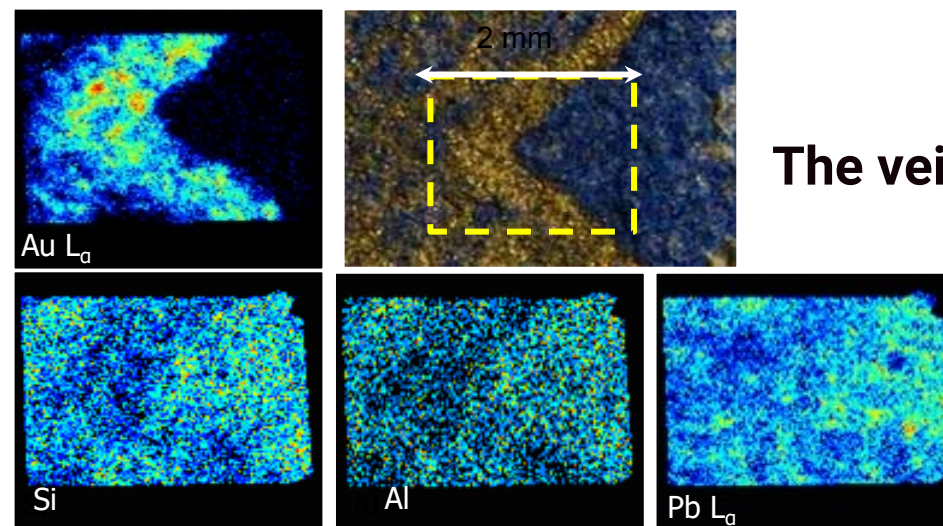
Elemental mapping with micro-PIXE



The eye of the Virgin



The veil

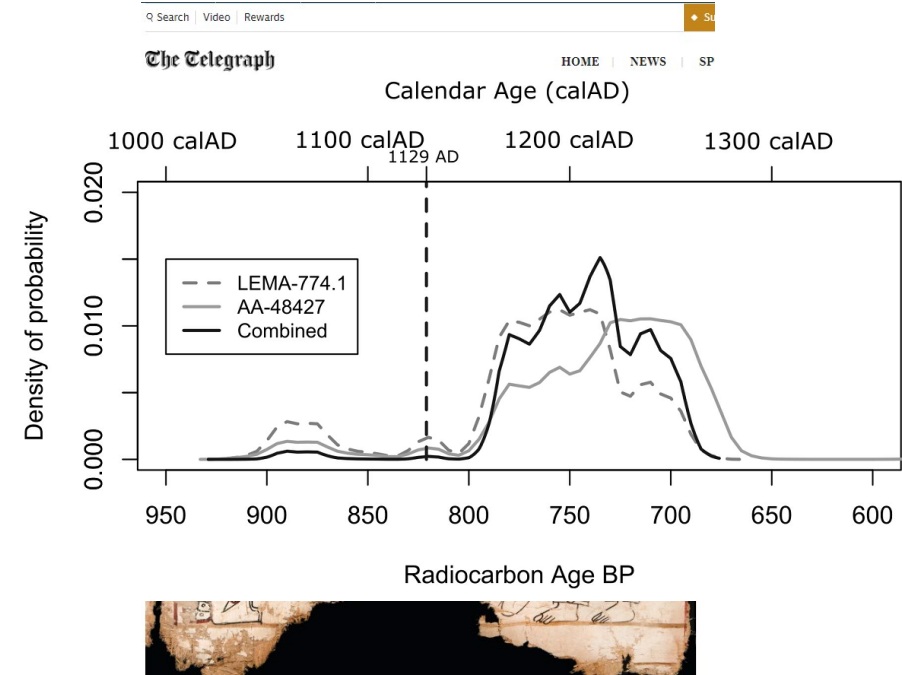
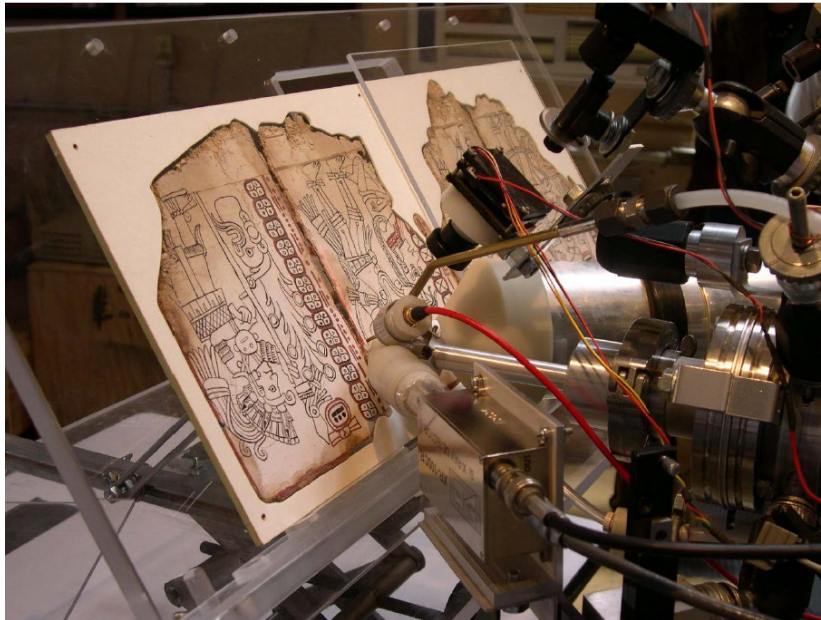


Andrea Mantegna, "Madonna col Bambino", oil on canvas, 1490-1500, Accademia Carrara, Bergamo, Italy

Authentication of the Maya Codex of Mexico (ex Grolier Codex)



11th-12th century



elemental analysis and age determination



Aliz.Simon@iaea.org [Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México](http://www.unam.mx), Mexico City, Distrito Federal, Mexico

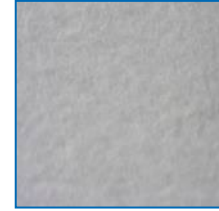


Australian synchrotron high-definition X-ray fluorescence microscopy based image of a 16th-century Bronzino painting of Duke Cosimo de' Medici (left) has revealed an underlying portrait as well as allowed detecting and mapping metals in paint pigments non-invasively (right).

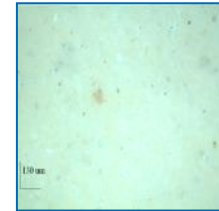
Source: Art Gallery of New South Wales (left), Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (centre and right)

Courtesy of Daryl Howard
The Australian Synchrotron (ANSTO) Melbourne
Australia

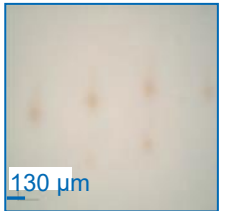
$\text{CaCO}_3 / \text{TiO}_2$



CaSO_4



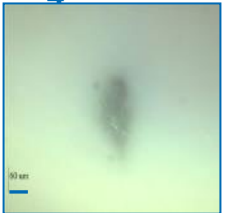
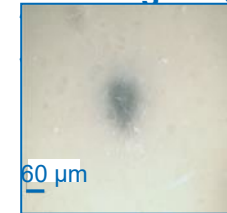
ZnO



PbCO_3



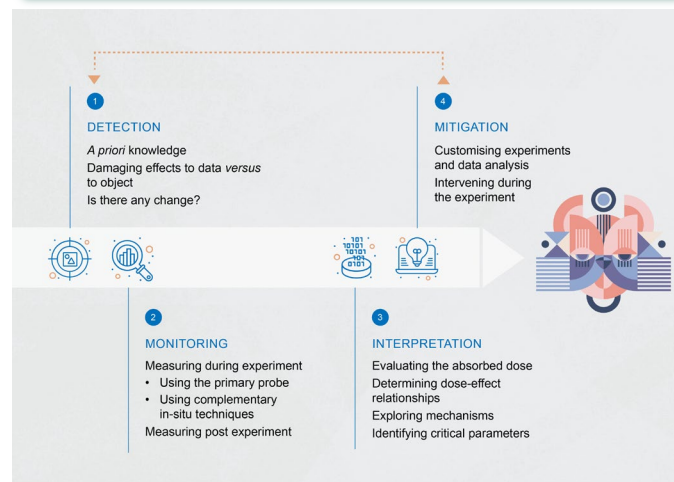
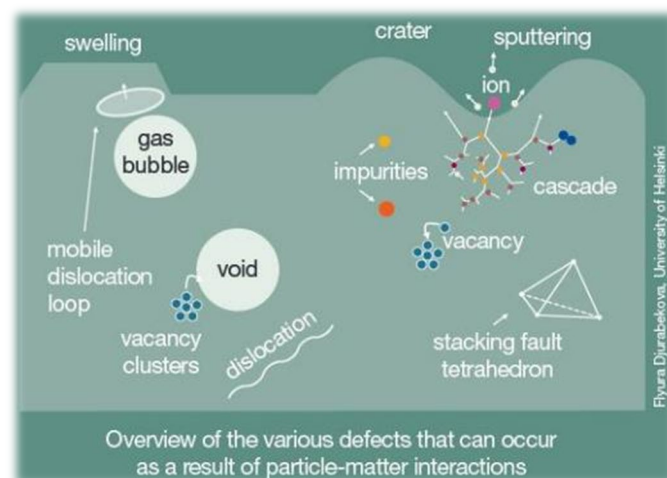
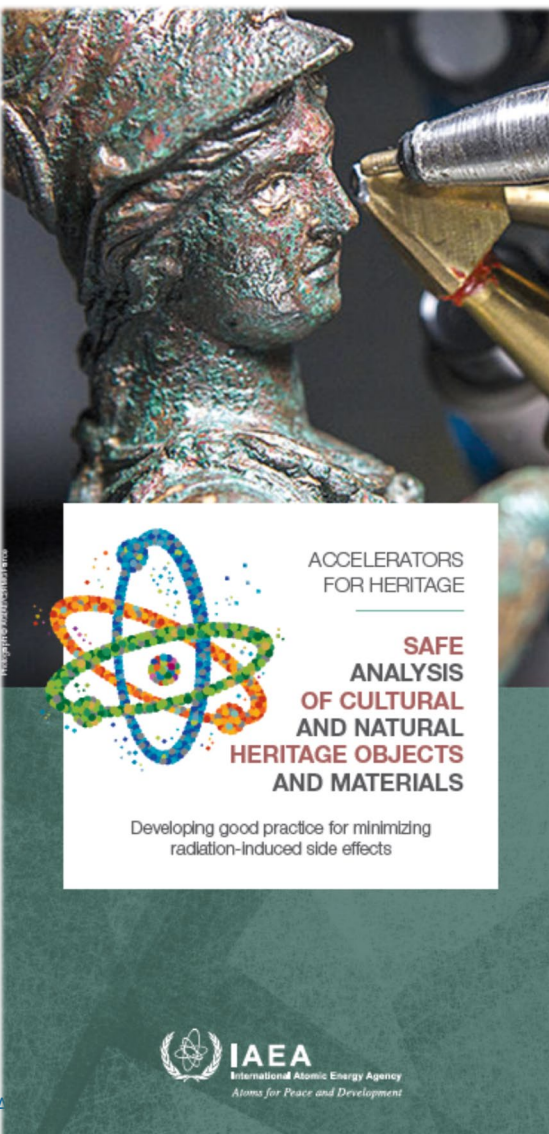
$\text{PbCO}_3\text{Pb(OH)} \text{ PbSO}_4 \cdot 3\text{PbO} \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$



Courtesy of Lucile Beck
Université Paris-Saclay, France

Understanding and Minimizing radiation damage

10.1016/j.trac.2023.117078



TrAC Trends in Analytical Chemistry

Available online 4 May 2023, 117078
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Practical advances towards safer analysis of heritage samples and objects

Loïc Bertrand^a, Sebastian Schöder^b, Ineke Joosten^c, Samuel M. Webb^d, Mathieu Thoury^e, Thomas Calligaro^f, Étienne Anheim^g, Aliz Simon^h

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IAEA fostering of the development and applications of nuclear analytical techniques for Heritage Science

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ABSTRACT

The IAEA Physics Section is strongly involved in the development and utilization of accelerator-based analytical techniques, which are powerful tools for the characterization of cultural and natural heritage objects and materials. Various activities are carried out with the purpose to build capacity, strengthen capabilities, transfer knowledge and foster networking in the field of heritage science. In addition, access to different X-ray fluorescence spectrometers and other analytical techniques is provided at the Nuclear Science and Instrumentation Laboratory (part of the IAEA Physics Section), and access to ion beam accelerators and synchrotron light is facilitated thanks to collaborations with Ruđer Bošković Institute (RBI) in Croatia and the Elettra Sincrotrone facility in Italy, respectively. Member States are also supported on their Research and Development programmes, as well as through the technical cooperation projects. This paper aims to provide a broad overview about how the IAEA Physics Section is engaged in the field of heritage science, promoting the safe, reliable, and effective use of ion beam, X-ray and neutron-based techniques for the characterization and preservation of cultural and natural heritage through its global networks and partners.

Medical imaging - CT scan

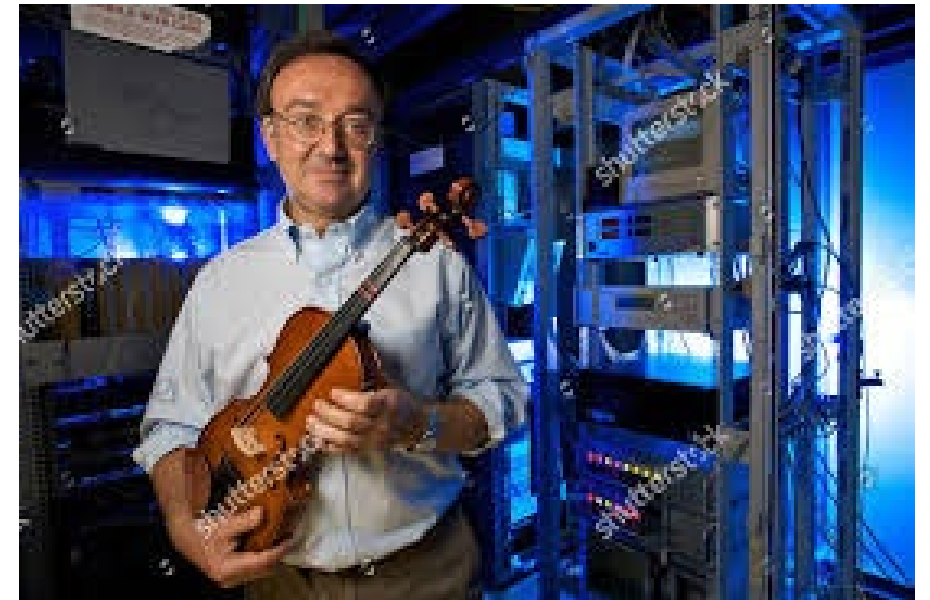


Gibson, AP . Medical imaging applied to heritage .
The British Journal of Radiology 96, No 1152 (2023) . <https://doi.org/10.1259/bjr.20230611>

Speakers of this session



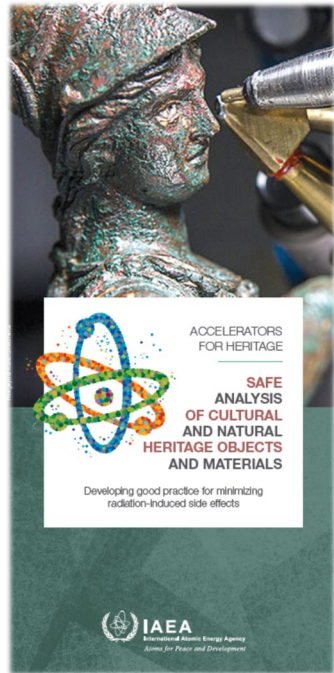
Sebastian Schöder
Synchrotron SOLEIL, France



Franco Zanini
Elettra Sincrotrone, Trieste, Italy

Development of e-learning tools

Available at:
elearning.iaea.org

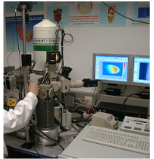


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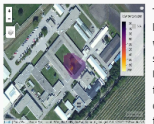
Introduction to X-Ray Emission Spectrometry



X-ray spectrometry techniques are nowadays widely used in many analytical applications. The different interactions of x-rays with matter have served to provide useful information for comprehensive characterization of materials, including: Elemental composition (x-ray characteristic emission); Mineral composition (x-ray diffraction); Chemical speciation (x-ray absorption near edge spectroscopy); Density (x-ray attenuation and phase contrast tomography); Spatial distribution of elements (micro and confocal x-ray fluorescence, x-ray selective absorption tomography); and Characterization of layered structures (x-ray reflectometry, grazing incidence x-ray emission).

This course aims at introducing the reader to fundamentals of several x-ray spectroscopy techniques. Due to the common need for elemental composition analysis, emphasis is made on Energy Dispersive x-ray Fluorescence, which constitutes an affordable option for IAEA Member States laboratories. This course is addressed to specialists and managers of laboratory facilities willing to incorporate x-ray spectroscopy techniques into their research and services. Managers will benefit from general knowledge on the capabilities, advantages and limitations of the techniques. The infrastructure required for the implementation can be identified, as well as the needs for specialized training and capacity building. Specialists working in applied research and analytical services will learn on the capabilities of the techniques for different applications and analytical tasks.

Introduction to in-situ techniques for radiological characterization of sites




The use of in-situ techniques in environmental monitoring has increased during the last years. However, there is an uneven level of experience and access to such techniques in the IAEA Members States. The IAEA has a vision that its Member States will eventually have in place a proper infrastructure and technologies for radiological characterization of the sites in a timely, safe and cost-effective manner. Aligned with this vision the INSITU Working Group was created within the IAEA Network of Environmental Management and Remediation (ENVIRONET), to produce a variety of products and services aimed at facilitating and increasing the exchange of information and experiences in the specific field of in-situ methods for characterization of sites. The ultimate goal of this group is to build capacity in the different IAEA Member States and to facilitate the full implementation of remediation projects.

This course is addressed to different stakeholders involved in environmental impact assessment and remediation: Public or stakeholder groups, educational institutions, junior professionals and graduate level, environmental monitoring laboratory specialists, managers, regulators, environmental remediation companies professionals, and emergency responders.

For additional information please contact: nsll@iaea.org

Neutron Activation Analysis



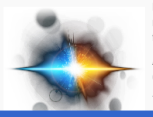
The objective of the course is to increase human capacity building in Neutron Activation Analysis (NAA), as well as to contribute to the overall sustainability of the technique. The e-learning tool is directed at young specialists or beginners without sufficient experience of conducting NAA independently, and it covers all aspects of NAA.

The course can also be used by experienced practitioners who want to implement or use another variety of NAA, professional technicians and analysts, users of NAA and other stakeholders who wish to understand the techniques better, professors teaching nuclear sciences and applications & nuclear analytical techniques, undergraduate and graduate students interested in nuclear sciences and applications & nuclear analytical techniques, and facility managers or supervisors who have to make decisions for an NAA system at their neutron source.

Product of TCAP. The development of this e-learning was supported by the IAEA Technical Cooperation Department through projects RAS0075, RAF1005, RER1016 and RLA1012

To enrol in this course, send an email to RRAppI.Contact-Point@iaea.org - please mention the IAEA NAA elearning.

Nuclear Analytical Techniques for Forensic Science



Neutron and ion beam nuclear analytical techniques have provided unique information in many fields due to their multi-elemental sensitivity, low limits of detection, ability to provide spatially resolved and/or quantitative profiling of trace elements, and, very often, traceability of results.

Although these analytical techniques are readily available and routinely applied in research, there is still a considerable gap when it comes to routine forensics applications.

The purpose of this e-learning tool is to help to bridge the gap between the practitioners of nuclear analytical



Thank you!

Aliz Simon

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