Metrology for Nuclear Physics: Research and Applications

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#### q factor measurements of $\mu$ s isomeric states in neutron-rich nuclei around <sup>68</sup>Ni produced in projectile-fragmentation reactions

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#### Single-particle behavior at N = 126: Isomeric decays in neutron-rich <sup>204</sup>Pt

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RAPID COMMUNICATIONS



#### Magnetic moment of the 11/2<sup>-</sup> isomeric state in <sup>99</sup>Mo and neutron spin g factor quenching in $A \approx 100$ nuclei

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## Impact from nuclear science?



'Keeping the lights on, fighting cancer, keeping us safe and keeping us curious'

All rely on confidence in the measurement of radioactive materials.

## Lots of applications of nuclear science measurement

- Nuclear power & waste management (<sup>134,7</sup>Cs; <sup>90</sup>Sr; <sup>239,240</sup>Pu, <sup>241</sup>Am....)
- Medical thera(g)nostics (<sup>99m</sup>Tc, <sup>18</sup>F, <sup>82</sup>Sr, <sup>177</sup>Lu <sup>149,152,155,161</sup>Tb, <sup>223</sup>Ra...)
- NORMs (<sup>222</sup>Rn; <sup>226,228</sup>Ra, <sup>40</sup>K) & man-made environmental (<sup>90</sup>Sr, <sup>137</sup>Cs)
- Chronology / long-term dating (<sup>14</sup>C ; <sup>238</sup>U/<sup>206</sup>Pb ; <sup>40</sup>K/<sup>40</sup>Ar)
- Nuclear forensics (e.g., CTBTO weapons test), criticality monitoring
  - (Noble) gas radioactivity & isotopic ratios e.g. <sup>133,135</sup>Xe and <sup>87,88</sup>Kr

All rely on accurate Nuclear Metrology via traceable references standards which relate the activity (A) to the number of atoms (N) via

$$A = \lambda N = - (dN / dt)$$

What is a "primary standard"?

A measurement standard established using a **primary reference measurement procedure**"

## A primary measurement procedure is:

"A reference measurement procedure used to obtain a measurement result **without relation to a measurement standard** for a quantity **of the same kind**"



Regan,, Judge,, Keightley & and Pearce (2018). Radionuclide metrology and standards in nuclear physics. Nuclear Physics News, **28(3)**, pp.25-29.

# Absolute primary standardisation of radioactive activity

- A 'primary' technique can measure, in parallel:
  - The <u>Activity</u> =  $\lambda N$  = (N /  $\tau$ ) = (0.693N) / T<sub>1/2</sub>.
  - The Absolute detection efficiency.
- 'No previous knowledge of nuclear data is required'...but:
  - Caveat 1: Some knowledge of the decay scheme is useful.
  - Caveat 2: The half-life  $(T_{1/2}) \sim$  inverse of the decay probability per unit time of the radionuclide  $(\lambda)$  is needed.

# **Primary Standards of <u>Radioactivity</u>**

The first primary standard was a piece of radium ( $T_{1/2}$ =1600 ± 7) years, which was chemically purified and weighed

1 g of pure <sup>226</sup>Ra = activity of 1 Curie
 i.e. This was actually a mass standard.

There are many more radionuclides of interest which have shorter (or longer) half-lives than <sup>226</sup>Ra.

Radionuclide primary standards now are based on techniques rather than artefacts



VOLUME 3

#### THE RADIOACTIVE CONSTANTS AS OF 1930

REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL RADIUM-STANDARDS COMMISSION

By M. Curie, A. Debierne, A. S. Eve, H. Geiger, O. Hahn, S. C. Lu St. Meyer, E. Rutherford, and E. Schweidler

#### I. INTRODUCTION

FOLLOWING the reorganization of the International Union of Chemi and of the International Atomic Weights Commission, the need arisen for the publication of special Tables of the Radioactive Constants.

This responsibility has been assumed by the International Rad Standards Commission chosen in Brussels in 1910, which has expressed willingness to cooperate with the International Union.

Besides the members, M. Curie, A. Debierne, A. S. Eve, H. Geiger Hahn, S. C. Lind, St. Meyer, E. Rutherford, E. Schweidler, the follow have taken part as experts: J. Chadwick, I. Joliot-Curie, K. W. F. Kohlrau A. F. Kovarik, L. W. McKeehan, L. Meitner and H. Schlundt, to whom desired to express especial obligations.

#### Recommended value.

Use of the value 3.7 · 1010 is recommended in accord with reference 9.

1g<sup>226</sup>Ra equivalent to (SI) 3.7x10<sup>10</sup> Bq

1 g of pure <sup>226</sup>Ra contains (N<sub>A</sub> / 226) particles =  $2.7 \times 10^{21} = N$ 

 $T_{1/2}(^{226}Ra) = 1600 \text{ yrs} = 5.0 \times 10^{10} \text{ s}$ 

A(1g of <sup>226</sup>Ra) =  $\lambda$  . N = <u>3.7x10<sup>10</sup> s<sup>-1</sup></u>

The Bq is a derived unit (s<sup>-1</sup>) and the SI unit for radioactivity.





7 independent base units. All other 'derived units' are made from combinations of these 7. Examples:

- Bq =  $s^{-1}$
- Pa =  $N.m^2 = kg.m^{-1}s^{-2}$



## **Primary standardisation techniques**



4π(LS)-γ coincidence counting



### $4\pi\alpha/\beta-\gamma$ coincidence counting

Defined by capability to measure simultaneously: (1) The disintegration rate

(2) The detection efficiency



**Defined Solid Angle** 

 $\alpha$ -counting

Liquid Scint. (LS) Triple-to-Double Coincidence Ratio counting

PHR et al., (2018). *Radionuclide metrology and standards in nuclear physics*. Nuclear Physics News, **28(3)**, pp.25-29.



## $\gamma$ - $\gamma$ coincidence counting

# Idealised example of the $4\pi\beta-\gamma$ coincidence method

 $\beta-\gamma$  decay (100% fed single cascade)



# Coincidence counting in nuclear physics is an 'established' idea.

# NPL

MAY, 1940

R. S. I.

VOLUME 11

171

## The Application of the Method of Coincidence Counting to Experiments in Nuclear Physics

J. V. DUNWORTH Denman Baynes Research Student, Clare College, Cambridge, England (Received September 27, 1939)

The paper describes the principles involved in the application of coincidence counting to problems in nuclear physics, and gives details of the various methods of approach to the solution of nuclear level schemes, with some of the difficulties encountered. It is shown that the maximum source strength which can be used is inversely proportional to the coincidence resolving time and that the method of experiment has the great advantage over most other methods in that it can be used with very weak sources (sources having an activity of about  $10^{-5}$  millicurie). An accurate knowledge of the absolute net efficiency of a Geiger counter for all types of radiation is required in the interpretation of the coincidence rates, and the method of achieving this at the same time as information is obtained about nuclear level schemes is explained. Further, it is pointed out that the method makes possible a simple and rapid determination of the total energy of disintegration of  $\beta$ -radioactive nuclei and therefore of the mass differences between parent and daughter nuclei.

#### COINCIDENCE COUNTING AND NUCLEAR PHYSICS

times used\* and demonstrating its constancy for all arrangements of Geiger counters used.

The errors shown are the theoretical statistical r.m.s. errors. The experimental weighted r.m.s. error of the resolving times in column 6 is  $0.05 \times 10^{-7}$  min. agreeing very closely with the statistical r.m.s. error of  $0.03 \times 10^{-7}$  min. Any lack of constancy of  $\tau$  would have caused the former to be much greater than the latter. No genuine coincidence rates were operative due to the sources used in the above measurements (i.e., G=0).

Some idea of the order of magnitude of the various quantities involved in a nuclear coincidence experiment together with an indication of the method of experiment may be obtained





John Vernon Dunworth, Director, NPL 1964-1977 CIPM Vice-President 1968-1975 CIPM President 1975-1985

# Standardisation of 60Co: NANA (NAtional Nuclear Array))

- The multi-γ ray detector NANA used as a primary standard.
- Absolute activity of <sup>60</sup>Co determined using the γ-γ coincidence technique.
- Effect of angular correlations on the activity clearly observed







Investigation of  $\gamma\text{-}\gamma$  coincidence counting using the National Nuclear Array (NANA) as a primary standard

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Standardisation technique	Ao /kBqg <sup>-1</sup>	<i>u</i> (A <sub>0</sub> ) /kBq g <sup>-1</sup>
NANA $\gamma$ - $\gamma$ coincidence counting $4\pi(LS)$ - $\gamma$ DCC	330.8 330.92	± 1.0 ± 0.86

## High resolution gamma spectrometry

HPGe has excellent energy resolution allows for very clean peak identification.

HPGe measurements are not (usually) primary standards, but can be secondary..

- 1) <u>Each geometry must have a precise</u> <u>calibration.</u>
- 2) The nuclear data of the nuclides (i.e.  $T_{1/2}$  and  $P\gamma(\%)$  **must** be precise & accurate.







Need for highest precision nuclear decay data (e.g.  $T_{1/2}$  values,  $P_{\gamma}(\%)$ ) for standardisation....



- <u>Chemical selectivity is really important</u> for novel radionuclide standardisation - <u>See talk by Peter Ivanov</u>
- e.g. Separating A=155 into 'pure' <sup>155</sup>Tb from <sup>139</sup>Ce<sup>16</sup>O



lsotope	<b>T</b> 1/2	Decay mode	Q-value	Main Gamma emissions (keV)	Application
<sup>149</sup> Tb	4.118(25) h	α (16.7(14) %) ε+β⁺ (83.3(17) %)	4.0775(22) MeV 3.637(4) MeV	352 (29%) 165 (26%	α-therapy; PET
<sup>152</sup> Tb	17.5(1) h	ε+β+ (100%)	3.990(40) MeV	344 (64%)	PET
<sup>155</sup> Tb	5.32(6) d	ε (100 %)	820(10) keV	87 (32%) 105 (25%)	SPECT
<sup>161</sup> Tb	6.89(2) d	β <sup>-</sup> (100 %)	593.0(13) keV	49 (17%) 75 (10%)	β/auger-therapy; SPECT

Tb	149	Tb	152	Tb 155
4.2 m	4.1 h	4.2 m	17.5 h	5.32 d
β+	α 3.97	160	β+ 2.8	е
	β+ 1.8	8: B+	γ 344	v 87: 105
γ 796;	γ 352;	γ 344;	586;	180, 262
165	165	411	271	

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Ben Webster<sup>1,2</sup>, Peter Ivanov<sup>1</sup>, Ben Russell<sup>1</sup>, Sean Collins<sup>1</sup>, Thierry Stora <sup>3</sup>, Joao Pedro Ramos <sup>3,4</sup>, Ulli Köster<sup>5</sup>, Andrew Paul Robinson<sup>1,6,7</sup> & David Read<sup>1,2</sup>

## High resolution gamma spectrometry - in practice

The peak area *N*, gamma emission probability  $P_{\gamma}$  and full-energy peak detection efficiency  $\varepsilon_{\gamma}$  must all be precisely known.

$$A = \frac{N}{\frac{P_{\gamma} \varepsilon_{\gamma} t}{E_{\gamma} t}}$$

Considerations must also be given to;

- sum corrections (in close geometry)
- dead times must be corrected
- in measurement decay of the nuclide.

Measure <u>an ampoule of primary</u> <u>standardized solution</u> (i.e. in Bq/ml).

Radionuclide Metrology and Standards in Nuclear Physics. Nuclear Physics News, 28(3), (2018) 25–29







## Peak fitting in gamma spectrometry





Determining the peak area N precisely can also be an issue – there are many complicating factors:

Convolution – two peaks close together;

Interference – two or more peaks at the same energy;

Background structures – such as backscatter peaks and Compton edges

## Absolute $\gamma$ -ray emission probabilities

$$I_{\gamma}(E) = \frac{N(E)}{A_0 \cdot \varepsilon(E) \cdot t \cdot m} \cdot k_1 \cdot k_2 \cdot k_3 \cdot k_4 \cdot k_5$$

Ε Energy of the  $\gamma$ -ray emission Emission probability of  $\gamma$ -ray Net peak area of full-energy peak Ν Activity at the reference time  $A_0$ Full-energy peak efficiency Е Live time of measurement t Mass of solution m Correction for radioactive decay  $k_1$  $k_2$ Correction for pulse pile-up (aka Random summing)  $k_3$ Correction for true coincidence summing (TCS)  $k_4$ Correction for self-absorption in source

 $\vec{k_5}$  Correction for transient equilibrium (<sup>211</sup>Pb onwards)

Measure an ampoule of primary standardized solution (i.e. in Bq/ml). Measure gammas using a VERY well calibrated HPGe detector at different distances, and very well-defined geometries.

![](_page_17_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Picture_0.jpeg)

## **Importance of nuclear data in Nuclear Medicine**

![](_page_18_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_19_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_19_Figure_1.jpeg)

A 'high impact' example:

The standardisation of <sup>223</sup>Ra.

## Primary Standards of $\alpha$ -Emitting Radiopharmaceuticals.

Alpha-emitting radionuclides have potential for treating tumours. <sup>223</sup>RaCl<sub>2</sub> (Xofigo) was the first a-emitting drug approved by the US FDA.

Used in >3,000 clinics worldwide.

![](_page_20_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_20_Figure_4.jpeg)

## <u>A problem</u>...absolute <sup>223</sup>Ra standardisation at NPL

![](_page_21_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Figure_2.jpeg)

# Large discrepancies in measurements with NPL $\bigcirc$ published $\gamma$ -ray emission probabilities of <sup>223</sup>Ra.

![](_page_22_Figure_1.jpeg)

- Main  $\gamma$ -ray emissions from <sup>223</sup>Ra using nucl data taken from DDEP.
  - 18% range in deduced activity using different transitions.
    This is not good enough.
- However, the weighted mean gives the 'right' result.
- Previous results 'suspicious' due to the large spread.

![](_page_23_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_25_Figure_0.jpeg)

# Most up to date, accurate data on <sup>223</sup>Ra decay.

![](_page_26_Picture_1.jpeg)

21

## Applied Radiation and Isotopes 102 (2015) 15-28

Precise measurements of the absolute  $\gamma$ -ray emission probabilities of <sup>223</sup>Ra and decay progeny in equilibrium

![](_page_26_Picture_4.jpeg)

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#### Table 4

Absolute  $\gamma$ -ray emission probabilities per 100 decays of <sup>223</sup>Ra and decay progeny in equilibrium.

Energy (keV)	Source	<b>Ι</b> γ (%)	Energy (keV)	Source	Ιγ (%)	Energy (keV)	Source	Ιγ (%)	Energy (keV)	Source	<b>Ι</b> γ (%)
103.9(5) 106.7(4)	<sup>223</sup> Ra <sup>223</sup> Ra	0.0119(6) 0.0213(11)	323.9(6) 328.4(6)	<sup>223</sup> Ra <sup>223</sup> Ra, <sup>211</sup> Po, <sup>207</sup> Tl	3.655(18) 0.2021(16)	438.8(6) 445.0(6)	<sup>215</sup> Po <sup>223</sup> Ra	0.0533(7) 1.218(6)	675.4(6) 676.9(6)	<sup>211</sup> Pb <sup>219</sup> Rn	0.0058(6) 0.0184(5)
110.8(5) 122.3(5) 130.6(5) 144.3(5) 154.2(5) 158.7(5) 175.6(5) 177.74(5) 179.7(5) 221.4(5) 221.4(5) 224.0(5) 249.4(5) 255.1(5) 255.1(5) 269.5(6) 271.3(6)	<ul> <li>223 Ra</li> <li>223 Ra</li> <li>219 Rn</li> <li>223 Ra</li> <li>219 Rn</li> <li>223 Ra</li> </ul>	$\begin{array}{c} 0.0512(10)\\ 1.312(6)\\ 0.1478(10)\\ 3.481(16)\\ 6.02(3)\\ 0.749(4)\\ 0.01578(10)\\ 0.0426(8)\\ 0.1613(10)\\ 0.0304(10)\\ 0.0304(10)\\ 0.0056(14)\\ 0.0375(9)\\ 0.0640(11)\\ 0.0499(13)\\ 13.37(7)\\ 10.75(6) \end{array}$	333.9(6) 338.3(6) 342.9(6) 351.1(6) 355.5(6) 361.7(6) 363.0(6) 368.4(6) 371.7(6) 372.9(6) 376.2(6) 383.3(5) 386.3(5) 386.3(5) 390.1(5) 401.8(6) 404.8(6)	223Ra 223Ra, 211Pb 211Bi 223Ra 211Pb 223Ra 211Pb 223Ra	$\begin{array}{c} 0.0756(6)\\ 2.605(13)\\ 0.1958(21)\\ 13.17(7)\\ 0.0124(15)\\ 0.0341(7)\\ 0.0192(9)\\ 0.0134(4)\\ 0.435(3)\\ 0.1133(13)\\ 0.0056(4)\\ 0.0023(6)\\ 0.0052(7)\\ 0.0053(7)\\ 6.57(3)\\ 4.011(19) \end{array}$	462.8(6) 487.3(5) 500.2(6) 504.1(6) 517.6(6) 522.6(6) 527.6(6) 531.4(6) 537.5(6) 542.1(6) 542.1(6) 545.9(6) 555.9(5) 564.4(5) 569.6(7) 573.7(7) 598.6(7)	219Rn 223Ra 223Ra 211pb 219Rn 223Ra 223Ra 223Ra 223Ra 223Ra 223Ra 223Ra 219Rn 219Rn 219Rn 211po, 207Tl 223Ra 223Ra	$\begin{array}{c} 0.0011(5)\\ 0.0083(3)\\ 0.0013(5)\\ 0.0022(4)\\ 0.0453(5)\\ 0.0021(6)\\ 0.0659(8)\\ 0.0028(9)\\ 0.0033(6)\\ 0.0028(6)\\ 0.0028(6)\\ 0.0028(6)\\ 0.0026(7)\\ 0.0035(4)\\ 0.0043(5)\\ 0.0029(13)\\ 0.0867(12)\\ \end{array}$	704.6(7) 707.8(7) 711.4(7) 727.4(7) 831.9(7) 835.6(7) 865.8(6) 891.3(7) 897.8(7) 1014.7(7) 1074.5(7) 1080.1(7) 1103.3(8) 1109.5(8)	211 Pb 219 Rn 223 Ra 223 Ra 211 Pb 211 Pb 219 Rn 211 Pb 219 Rn 211 Pb 219 Rn 211 Pb 219 Rn 211 Pb 219 Rn 211 Pb 211 Pb	0.498(3) 0.0034(4) 0.0037(3) 0.0024(7) 0.685(4) 3.448(16) 0.00364(19) 0.00540(21) 0.00107(20) 0.2725(15) 0.0171(4) 0.00044(12) 0.01228(21) 0.00380(12) 0.1113(7) 0.01052(17)
288.2(6)	<sup>223</sup> Ra	0.1498(16)	404.8(6) 427.1(6)	<sup>211</sup> Pb	1.890(9)	609.3(7)	<sup>223</sup> Ra, <sup>219</sup> Rn, <sup>211</sup> Pb	0.0867(12)	1234.3(8)	<sup>211</sup> Pb	0.01052(17)
293.6(5) 313.7(6)	<sup>219</sup> Rn <sup>211</sup> Pb	0.0688(7) 0.0276(5)	430.4(6) 432.4(6)	<sup>223</sup> Ra, <sup>211</sup> Pb <sup>223</sup> Ra	0.0206(19) 0.0297(14)	619.8(6) 623.4(5)	<sup>219</sup> Rn <sup>223</sup> Ra	0.0056(12) 0.0082(8)	1270.7(8)	<sup>211</sup> Pb	0.00624(19)

# **Comparison of NPL & (new) NIST and PTB Data.**

![](_page_27_Picture_1.jpeg)

Radionuclide	Energy	I <sub>r</sub> (NPL)	I <sub>r</sub> (NIST)	I <sub>7</sub> (PTB)	χ²/(n-1)
	/keV	%	%	%	
<sup>223</sup> Ra	122.3	1.312 (6)	1.30(1)	1.304 (12)	0.3
<sup>223</sup> Ra	144.3	3.481 (16)	3.51 (3)	3.469 (20)	0.3
<sup>223</sup> Ra	154.2	6.02 (3)	6.08 (6)	6.03 (5)	0.2
<sup>223</sup> Ra	269.5	13.37 (7)	13.24 (12)	13.16 (15)	0.5
<sup>223</sup> Ra	323.9	3.655 (18)	3.63 (2)	3.661 (21)	0.3
<sup>223</sup> Ra	338.3	2.605 (13)	2.59 (2)	2.614 (13)	0.3
<sup>223</sup> Ra	445.0	1.218 (6)	1.217 (8)	1.222 (6)	0.1
<sup>219</sup> Rn	271.2	10.75 (6)	10.69 (10)	10.87 (12)	0.3
<sup>219</sup> Rn	401.8	6.57 (3)	6.56 (4)	6.62 (4)	0.3
<sup>211</sup> Pb	404.8	4.011 (19)	4.01 (3)	4.05 (5)	0.1
<sup>211</sup> Pb	427.2	1.890 (9)	1.89 (1)	1.912 (10)	0.8
<sup>211</sup> Pb	832.0	3.448 (16)	3.48 (3)	3.430 (17)	0.5
<sup>211</sup> Bi	351.0	13.17 (7)	13.11 (9)	13.24 (6)	0.4
No. of γ-rays 1	reported	83	15	43	

Now, good agreement between the three main NMIs ©.

# <u>PR</u>oduction of high purity <u>I</u>sotopes by mass <u>Separation for Medical Applications</u>

![](_page_28_Picture_1.jpeg)

- Suite of medically relevant nuclides produced and being studied (often with sparse Nuclear Data)
- 23 Partners from 13 countries
  - 2 National measurement Institutes

![](_page_28_Figure_5.jpeg)

Our objectives are:

- Provide access to new radionuclides and new purity grades for the medical research
- Create a common entry port and web interface to the starting research community
- **Q** Enhance clarity and regulatory procedures to enhance research with radiopharmaceuticals
- Improve the delivered radionuclide data and regulation, along with biomedical research capacity
- Ensure sustainability of PRISMAP on the long term

![](_page_28_Figure_12.jpeg)

![](_page_29_Picture_0.jpeg)

## Medical radionuclides primary standardisations at NPL since 2015

![](_page_29_Figure_2.jpeg)

# **The Terbium Toolbox**

![](_page_30_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_30_Figure_2.jpeg)

Isotope	<b>T</b> 1/2	Decay mode	Q-value	Main Gamma emissions (keV)	Application
<sup>149</sup> Tb	4.118(25) h	α (16.7(14) %)	4.0775(22) MeV	352 (29%)	α-therapy;
		ε+β <sup>+</sup> (83.3(17) %)	3.637(4) MeV	165 (26%	PET
<sup>152</sup> Tb	17.5(1) h	ε+β <sup>+</sup> (100%)	3.990(40) MeV	344 (64%)	PET
<sup>155</sup> Tb	5.32(6) d	ε <mark>(</mark> 100 %)	820(10) keV	87 (32%)	SPECT
				105 (25%)	
<sup>161</sup> Tb	6.89(2) d	β <sup>-</sup> (100 %)	593.0(13) keV	49 (17%)	β/auger-therapy;
				75 (10%)	SPECT

## The half-lives of the Tb quartet before our work...

![](_page_31_Picture_1.jpeg)

Sean Collins, Rob Shearman et al., (NPL)

![](_page_31_Picture_3.jpeg)

# Chemical selectivity is really important for novel radionuclides e.g. Separating 'pure' <sup>155</sup>Tb from <sup>139</sup>Ce<sup>16</sup>O **NPL**

![](_page_32_Figure_1.jpeg)

Half-life of <sup>152</sup>Tb

- $T_{1/2} = 17.867(11) h$
- 2.1 % relative difference to evaluated half-life of 17.5(1) d
- x10 improvement in the precision
- IC & LS affected by contaminants results in poor precision vs HPGe

![](_page_33_Figure_5.jpeg)

![](_page_33_Figure_6.jpeg)

Residuals (%)

#### Applied Radiation and Isotopes 202 (2023) 111044

![](_page_33_Picture_8.jpeg)

Determination of the Terbium-152 half-life from mass-separated samples from CERN-ISOLDE and assessment of the radionuclide purity

S.M. Collins a, b, \*, U. Köster c, A.P. Robinson a, d, e, P. Ivanov a, T.E. Cocolios f, B. Russell a A.J. Fenwick<sup>a</sup>, C. Bernerd<sup>f,g</sup>, S. Stegemann<sup>f</sup>, K. Johnston<sup>g</sup>, A.M. Gerami<sup>g</sup>, K. Chrysalidis<sup>g</sup>, H. Mohamud<sup>a</sup>, N. Ramirez<sup>a</sup>, A. Bhaisare<sup>a</sup>, J. Mewburn-Crook<sup>a</sup>, D.M. Cullen<sup>e</sup>, B. Pietras<sup>e</sup>, S. Pells<sup>e</sup>, K. Dockx<sup>f</sup>, N. Stucki<sup>h</sup>, P.H. Regan

anal Physical Laboratory, Hampton Road, Teddington, TW11 OLW, UK School of Mathematics and Physics, University of Surrey, O Institut Lawe-Langevin, 35042, Grenoble, France

Insuna Landerskieve, Sorder, Johnson, Frank, Christe Melleid Nysies and Engineering (CMR2), The Christe NH3 Poundation Trust, Marchester, N The University of Manchester, Manchester, MH3 PPL, UK KU Leuven, Iresinete for Nuclear and Radiation Physics, Colestipineshean 2000, 3001, Leuven, Belgum S CERN – European Organisation for Nuclear Records, Explanade des Particules 1, 1217, Mayrie, Onio

HRS-SO, University of Analied Sciences and Arts Western Distortland, Rue de la Prairie 4, 1202, Geneva, Switterland

## $^{152}$ Tb $\rightarrow$ $^{152}$ Gd Decay spectroscopy: talk by Ed O'Sullivan.

- Poorly understood, beta feeding of high excitation energy states close to Q-value window ~3.9 MeV not known (Pandemonium)
- Sources made at CERN-ISOLDE (proton on Tantalum target)
- Measured decay gammas at ILL using the FIPS HPGe array
  - New transitions, new levels
  - Angular correlations.

![](_page_34_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_34_Figure_7.jpeg)

# Half-life of <sup>161</sup>Tb

![](_page_35_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_35_Figure_2.jpeg)

# $T_{1/2} = 6.9637(29) d$

![](_page_35_Picture_4.jpeg)

- 6 measurements from 2 laboratories
- 1 % diff. to evaluated  $T_{1/2}$  of 6.89(2) d
- x7 improvement in the precision.

![](_page_35_Figure_8.jpeg)

### Applied Radiation and Isotopes 182 (2022) 110140

E.C.L.	лрриса нашаной ана воюрся	geotiese (	
ELSEVIER	journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/apradiso		

#### Determination of the <sup>161</sup>Tb half-life

S.M. Collins <sup>a, b, \*</sup>, C. Gilligan <sup>c</sup>, B. Pierson <sup>d</sup>, N. Ramirez <sup>a</sup>, M. Goodwin <sup>b, c</sup>, A.K. Pearce <sup>a</sup>, B. C. Archambault <sup>d</sup>, M.M. Haney <sup>d</sup>, P.H. Regan <sup>a, b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> National Physical Laboratory, Hampton Road, Teddineton, Middlesex, TW11 0LW, United Kinedom

<sup>b</sup> Department of Physics, University of Surrey, Stag Hill, Guildford, GU2 7XH, United Kingdom

<sup>c</sup> Atomic Weapons Establishment, Aldermaston, Reading, Berkshire, RG7 4PR, United Kingdom

<sup>d</sup> Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, 902 Battelle Blvd, Richland, WA, 99354, United States

# <sup>161</sup>Tb decay spectroscopy

![](_page_36_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_36_Figure_2.jpeg)

*ENSDF:*  $h_{\gamma}(74.6 \text{ keV}) = 10.20(54) \%$ 

This work:

h/(74.6 keV) = 10.183(57) %

![](_page_36_Figure_6.jpeg)

Beta Energy	Level	Intensity (%)			
(keV)	(keV)	ENSDF	This work		
42.8	550.236	$0.064 \pm 0.004$	$0.07123 \pm 0.00054$		
141.5	451.455	$0.0100 \pm 0.0011$	$0.008924 \pm 0.00074$		
174.8	418.238	$0.0331 \pm 0.0021$	$0.03556 \pm 0.00026$		
226	366.968	$0.065 \pm 0.005$	$0.0761 \pm 0.0024$		
380.1	212.923	$0.0117 \pm 0.0016$	$0.00953 \pm 0.00068$		
460	131.759	$25.7 \pm 1.6$	$26.24 \pm 0.41$		
	103.067				
	100.46				
522	74.5667	$65 \pm 4$	$63.9 \pm 1.1$		
	43.818				
567.3	25.6514	5 ± 5	$5.7\pm1.6$		
589	0	$5\pm5$	$3.9 \pm 1.2$		

Sean Collins, Rob Shearman et al., (NPL)

## <sup>161</sup>Tb beta decay branching ratios from

![](_page_37_Picture_1.jpeg)

## absolute emission intensities

![](_page_37_Figure_3.jpeg)

Beta Energy	Level	Intensity (%)		
(keV)	(keV)	ENSDF	This work	
42.8	550.236	$0.064 \pm 0.004$	$0.07123 \pm 0.00054$	
141.5	451.455	$0.0100 \pm 0.0011$	$0.008924 \pm 0.00074$	
174.8	418.238	$0.0331 \pm 0.0021$	$0.03556 \pm 0.00026$	
226	366.968	$0.065 \pm 0.005$	$0.0761 \pm 0.0024$	
380.1	212.923	$0.0117 \pm 0.0016$	$0.00953 \pm 0.00068$	
460	131.759	$25.7 \pm 1.6$	$26.24 \pm 0.41$	
	103.067			
	100.46			
522	74.5667	65 ± 4	$63.9 \pm 1.1$	
	43.818			
567.3	25.6514	5±5	$5.7 \pm 1.6$	
589	0	5±5	$3.9 \pm 1.2$	

![](_page_37_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_37_Figure_6.jpeg)

![](_page_37_Figure_7.jpeg)

## S.M.Collins, R. Shearman et al.,

lifetime of 3.14(4) ns.

## NANA for External Experiments

 National Nuclear Array (NANA) developed for Nuclear data and Primary standardisation work,

 Also allows collaboration with international experiments in nuclear physics 'curiosity driven' research.

![](_page_38_Picture_3.jpeg)

Full Length Article

Response of the FAst TIMing Array (FATIMA) for DESPEC at FAIR Phase-

Associated Equipment Volume 1056, November 2023, 168597

M.M.R. Chishti ° b 📯 🖾 , S. Jazrawi ° c, R. Shearman c, P.H. Regan ° c, Zs. Podolyák °, S.M. Collins ° °, M. Górska <sup>9</sup>, B. Cederwall <sup>1</sup>, A. Yaneva <sup>9</sup> ° G.X. Zhang <sup>d e</sup>, J. Cederkall <sup>b</sup>, A. Goasduff <sup>f</sup>, H.M. Albers <sup>g</sup>, S. Alhomaidhi <sup>g</sup> A. Banerjee <sup>g</sup>, A.M. Bruce <sup>k</sup>, G. Benzoni <sup>h t</sup>, B. Das <sup>i</sup>, T. Davinson <sup>l</sup>, L.M. Fraile <sup>m</sup> V. Werner '

Volume 134, April 2018, Pages 290-296

![](_page_38_Picture_8.jpeg)

Investigation of y-y coincidence counting using the National Nuclear Array (NANA) as a primary standard

S.M. Collins ° b 😤 🖾 , R. Shearman ° b, J.D. Keightley °, P.H. Regan ° b

## NANA collaborating in nuclear structure & astrophysics

Becker et al. Jiang et al.

## STELLA @ IPN-ORSAY <sup>12</sup>C+<sup>12</sup>C nucleosynthesis

![](_page_39_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_39_Figure_3.jpeg)

M.Heine et al., NIM **A903** (2018) p1-77 G.Fruet et al., PRL **124** (2020) 192701

## FATIMA @DESPEC, FAIR Phase-0 <sup>94</sup>Pd, <sup>190</sup>W, <sup>170</sup>Er beam, .....

![](_page_39_Figure_6.jpeg)

![](_page_39_Picture_7.jpeg)

<sup>94</sup>Pd: A.Yanena et al., PL B 138805 (2024)
<sup>190</sup>W: E.Sahin et al., PL B 138976 (2024)

NuBALL at IJC Lab <sup>166</sup>Dy, <sup>178</sup>W, <sup>238</sup>U(n,f)

![](_page_39_Figure_10.jpeg)

![](_page_39_Figure_11.jpeg)

<sup>166</sup>Dy: R.L.Canavan et al., PR C101 (2020) 024313
<sup>178</sup>W M.Rudigier et al., PL B301 (2021) 135140
<sup>134-8</sup>Te: G.Hjaeffner et al., PR C103 (2021) 034317

## IDATEN at RIBF-RIKEN <sup>94</sup>Pd (test), <sup>82</sup>Nb, ~<sup>78</sup>Ni, ~<sup>100</sup>Zr, <sup>128</sup>Pd..

![](_page_39_Figure_14.jpeg)

NP2112-RIBF212: Fast-timing  $\gamma$ -ray spectroscopy of exotic nuclei at RIBFH. Watanabe, P. H. Regan, and B. Moon

![](_page_39_Figure_16.jpeg)

## Application of $\gamma\gamma$ -singles for $\varepsilon_{\gamma}$ of FATIMA

8\*

![](_page_40_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_40_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_40_Figure_3.jpeg)

06

Nuclear Inst. and Methods in Physics Research, A 1056 (2023) 168597

![](_page_40_Figure_5.jpeg)

#### Full Length Article

Response of the FAst TIMing Array (FATIMA) for DESPEC at FAIR Phase-0

#### M.M.R. Chishti, S. Jazrawi, R. Shearman et al.

![](_page_40_Figure_9.jpeg)

Nuclear Inst. and Methods in Physics Research, A 1056 (2023) 168597

![](_page_40_Figure_11.jpeg)

Fig. 5. Full-energy peak (FEP) efficiency response for the FATIMA array determined from the GEANT4 simulations and compared with the experimental, in-situ values calculated for the  $I^x = 8^+$  isomeric decay cascade in <sup>%</sup>Pd.

# **CTBTO: Gaseous Radionuclides.**

![](_page_41_Picture_1.jpeg)

- Co-located with UN and IAEA in Vienna
- Organisation created to support implementation and verification of international Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty
- Aim to detect any nuclear explosion conducted on Earth in the underground, underwater or in the atmosphere
- International Monitoring System (IMS) has been established to coordinate monitoring and sharing of data
- IMS comprised of 321 stations and 16 laboratories across the globe, with sensors for:
  - Seismic (underground), hydroacoustic (undersea), infrasound (atmosphere) and radionuclide (particulates and radioxenon in the atmosphere)

![](_page_42_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_42_Figure_1.jpeg)

FIGURE 2.12: Simulated activity of five radioxenon isotopes relative to <sup>133</sup>Xe maximum activity, using <sup>235</sup>U thermal neutron-induced fission yields for 10 days. <sup>133</sup>Xe: black dashed; <sup>135</sup>Xe: black solid; <sup>133m</sup>Xe: orange; <sup>131m</sup>Xe: green; <sup>135m</sup>Xe: blue dotted. The activities here are calculated based on no fractionation from the parent nuclei. <sup>135m</sup>Xe

![](_page_42_Figure_3.jpeg)

FIGURE 2.14: Radioxenon isotopic ratios plot showing the ratios that are consistent with civil nuclear facilities (left) and ratios that are consistent with a nuclear explosion (right). Figure from Goodwin *et al.* [40]

β-β-γ-γ

![](_page_43_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_43_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_43_Picture_3.jpeg)

Goodwin et al, 2019. A high-resolution β-γ coincidence spectrometry system for radioxenon measurements. NIMA, 978, 164452. <u>https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nima.2020.164452</u>

## Irradiate <sup>235</sup>U targets to produce noble gaseous radioactive (Kr, Xe) sources

## Journal of Environmental Radioactivity 238-239 (2021) 106733

![](_page_44_Picture_2.jpeg)

Journal of Environmental Radioactivity

![](_page_44_Picture_4.jpeg)

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/jenvrad

### Production and measurement of fission product noble gases

Matthew A. Goodwin<sup>a,b,\*</sup>, Steven J. Bell<sup>c</sup>, Richard Britton<sup>d</sup>, Ashley V. Davies<sup>a</sup>, Marc Abilama<sup>c</sup>, Sean M. Collins<sup>b,c</sup>, Robert Shearman<sup>c</sup>, Patrick H. Regan<sup>b,c</sup>

<sup>a</sup> AWE Aldermaston, Reading, Berkshire, RG7 4PR, UK

<sup>b</sup> Department of Physics, University of Surrey, Guildford, GU2 7XH, UK <sup>c</sup> National Physical Laboratory, Teddington, Middlesex, TW11 0LW, UK

<sup>d</sup> Provisional Technical Secretariat, CTBTO, Vienna, Austria

![](_page_44_Figure_11.jpeg)

![](_page_44_Figure_12.jpeg)

#### Table 3

Nuclide identification from a peak search of the  $\gamma$ -ray spectrum from Extraction 1 using the full acquisition (t = 170,731 s).† X-rays from Xe/Cs minus Ge fluoresence (escape peak). The relative  $\gamma$ -ray intensity is the full energy peak integral divided by the simulated  $\gamma$ -ray detection efficiency, decay-corrected to the start of the acquisition relative to the 250 keV <sup>135</sup>Xe peak (see Eq. (1)).

Fitted Energy (keV)	Parent Nucleus	Signature Type	γ-ray emission probability (%)	Rel. γ-ray Intensity (RGI) ( × 1000)	Comment
20.4	Xe/Cs <sup>†</sup>	e <sup>-</sup> -X	-	-	Multiplet
30.7	Xe/Cs X	e <sup>-</sup> -X	-	-	Multiplet
	Ka				
35.3	Xe/Cs X	e <sup></sup> X	-	-	Multiplet
	$K_{\beta}$				
80.9	<sup>133</sup> Xe	$\beta - \gamma$	37.3(4)	47.4(7.1)	81.0 + 79.6
	88	_			keV
122.8	85m	$\beta - \gamma$	0.20(1)	0.807(12)	
129.1	85max	$\beta - \gamma$	0.30(8)	4.73(71)	
151.4	135-c	$\beta - \gamma$	75.2(8)	38.1(5.7)	
158.6	<sup>100</sup> Xe	$\beta - \gamma$	0.29(1)	2.40(36)	
196.6	<sup>133</sup> m	$\beta - \gamma$	26(1)	4.42(67)	
233.4	<sup>100m</sup> Xe	γ	10.1(2)	0.65(98)	
240.6	°°Kr	$\beta - \gamma$	0.25(1)	0.78(12)	
250.2	<sup>135</sup> Xe	$\beta - \gamma$	90.0(3)	1000(7)	05
305.1	<sup>85m</sup> Kr	$\beta - \gamma$	14.0(4)	5.32(80)	<sup>osm</sup> Kr >
	105				<sup>85</sup> Kr
358.5	<sup>135</sup> Xe	$\beta - \gamma$	0.22(1)	1.94(29)	
390.0	<sup>88</sup> Kr	$\beta - \gamma$	0.64(5)	0.87(14)	
407.7	<sup>135</sup> Xe	$\beta - \gamma$	0.36(2)	5.83(88)	
438.9	<sup>88</sup> Rb	$\beta - \gamma$	0.015(4)	1.35(21)	
451.1	<sup>85m</sup> Kr	$\beta - \gamma$	0.011(4)	0.88(14)	
454.4	<sup>135</sup> Xe	$\beta - \gamma$	0.004(1)	0.55(9)	
514.3	<sup>85</sup> Kr	γ	0.43(1)	4.76(72)	<sup>85</sup> Kr > <sup>85</sup> Rb
526.4	<sup>135m</sup> Xe	γ	80.6(6)	35.5(5.4)	
530.3	<sup>133</sup> I	$\beta - \gamma$	87(2)	2.81(42)	
608.3	<sup>135</sup> Xe	$\beta - \gamma$	2.9(1)	81.4(1.2)	<sup>214</sup> Bi
	105				Interference
731.9	<sup>135</sup> Xe	$\beta - \gamma$	0.055(4)	0.39(6)	
834.9	<sup>88</sup> Kr	$\beta - \gamma$	13(2)	6.75(10)	
898.2	<sup>88</sup> Rb	$\beta - \gamma$	14.4(2)	1.73(27)	
1836.5	<sup>88</sup> Rb	$\beta - \gamma$	22.8(1)	5.07(78)	

## Precision metrology important in nuclear structure: Direct measurement of B(E3:3<sup>-</sup> $\rightarrow$ 0<sup>+</sup>) in <sup>150</sup>Gd

![](_page_45_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_45_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_45_Figure_3.jpeg)

<sup>150</sup>Gd studied @IFIN-HH with ROSPHERE by i) RDM <sup>140</sup>Ce(<sup>13</sup>C,3n)<sup>150</sup>Gd Ii) <sup>147</sup>Sm(<sup>6</sup>Li,3n)<sup>150</sup>Tb EC  $\rightarrow$  <sup>150</sup>Gd decay

Maximal octupole collectivity across the Z = 64 isotopic chain: B(E3) values in <sup>150</sup>Gd, S.Pascu et al., submitted to PRL July 2024

# <u>Summary</u>

• 'Realising the becquerel' is scientifically challenging..

• Primary & secondar) standard methods vary for each species...

• High precision data is needed for medical radioisotopes.

• Public confidence requires real-time radioactive gas metrology.

• There are strong and direct links between 'curiosity driven' nuclear physics and nuclear metrology for societal benefit.