



 POLITECNICO DI MILANO



# Neutron Dosimetry and Spectrometry in Complex Radiation Fields using CR-39 detectors

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**Date:** 23/06/2015

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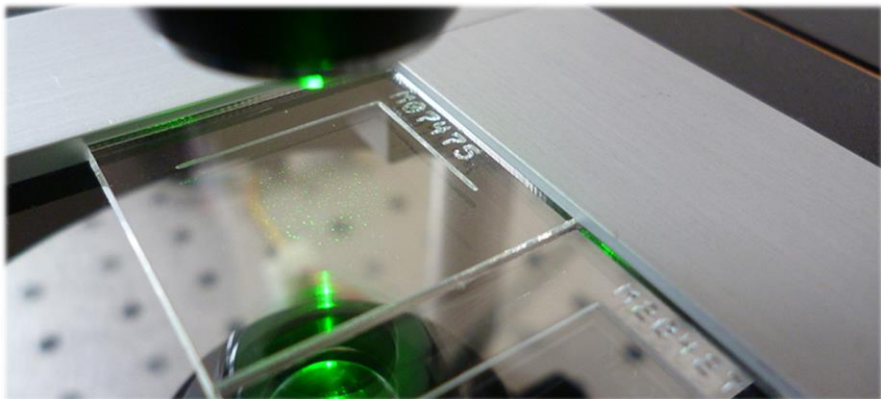


- Introduction to the Politrack<sup>®</sup> automatic reader
- Measurements and Results for LET Spectrometry in Hadron beams
- Measurements for Neutron Dosimetry in mono-energetics beams
- Fast Neutron Dosimeter Prototype development
- Summary of activities during ARDENT
- Perspectives

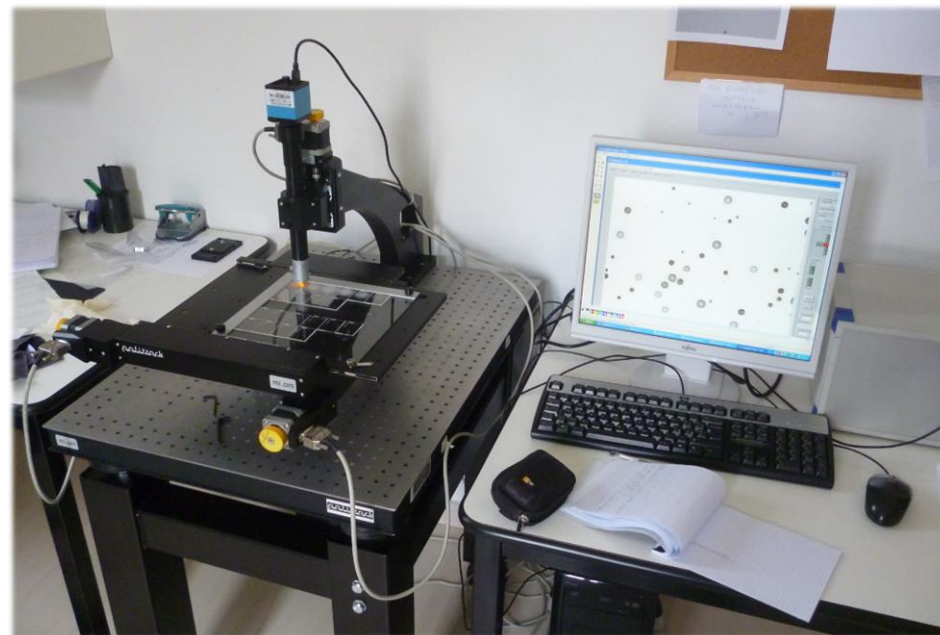
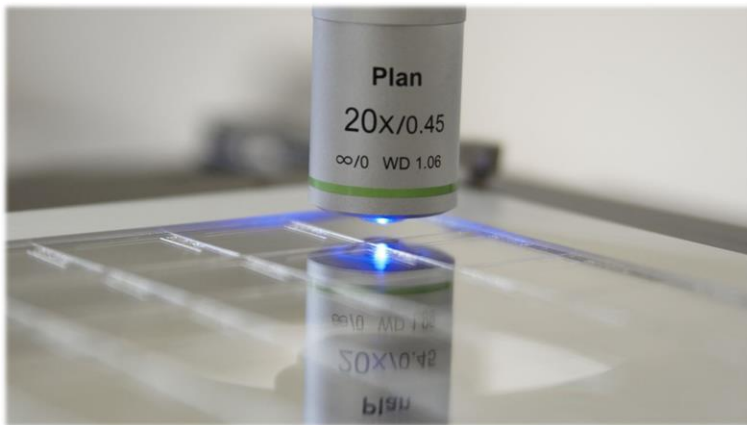


# Neutron dosimetry with CR-39 detectors

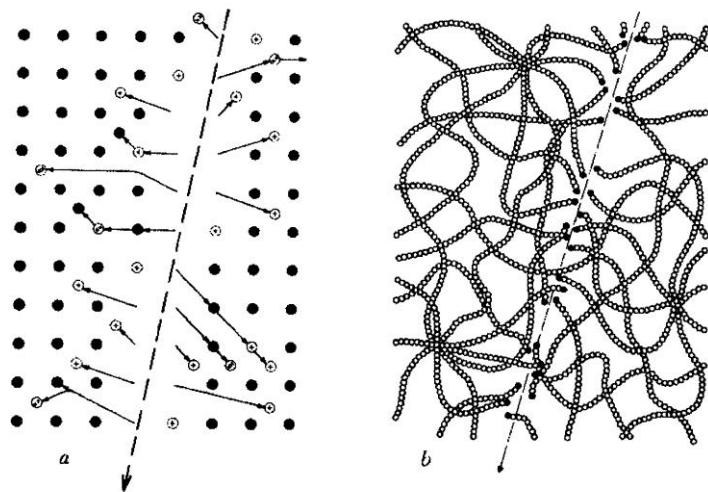
3



CR-39<sup>®</sup> detector from RTP



Politrack<sup>®</sup> instrument

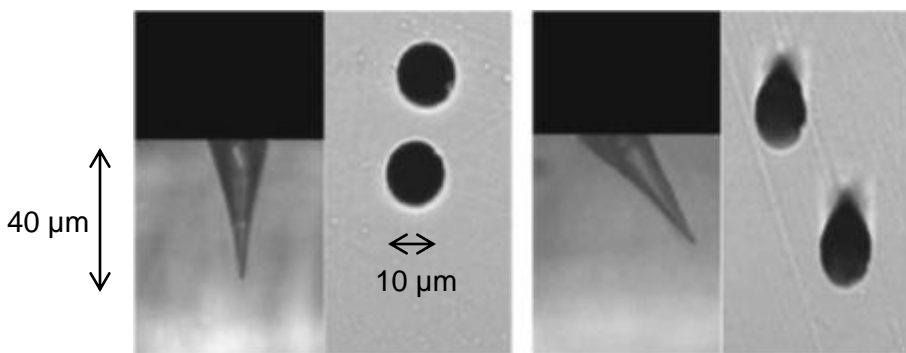


## Physics of track detectors

When an ionizing charged particle passes through a dielectric material the transfer of energy to electrons results in a trail of damaged molecules along the particle's track.

*Radiation Detection and Measurements, G. Knoll*

The tracks can be enlarged to be made visible, by etching in NaOH at 98°C for 90 minutes. The opening of the track is then of about 5-20  $\mu\text{m}$  depending on the type and energy of the hadrons.

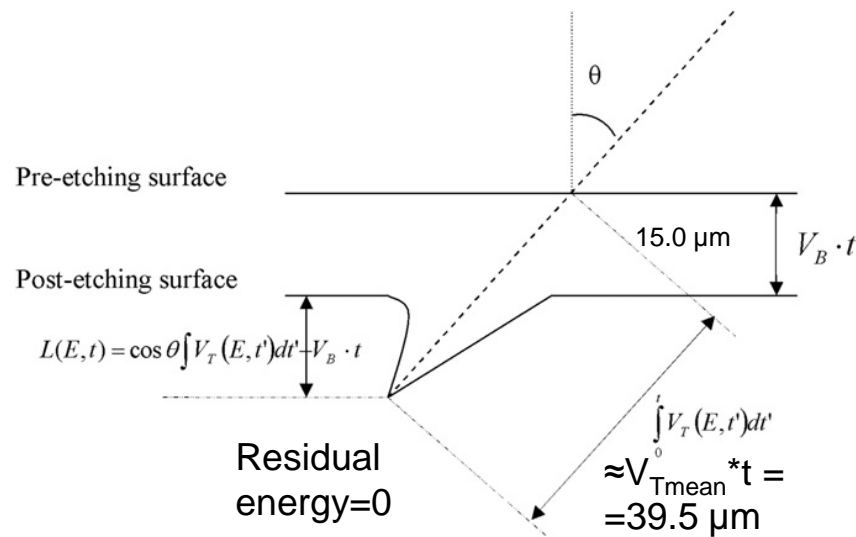
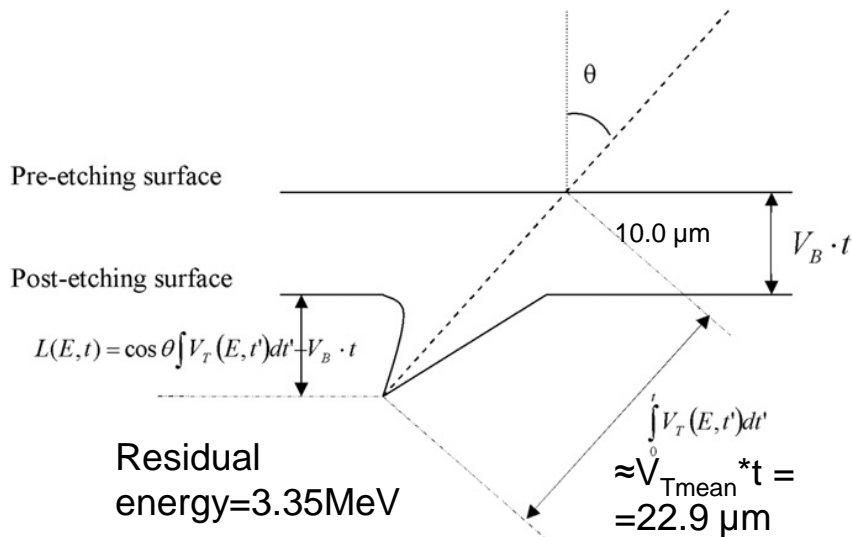


B. Dorschel et al. / *Radiation Measurements* 37 (2003) 563 – 571

# What is $LET_{nc}$ measured in CR-39?

Etching time 60 min  
Alpha energy 6.1 MeV (Cf-252)

Etching time 90 min  
Alpha energy 6.1 MeV (Cf-252)



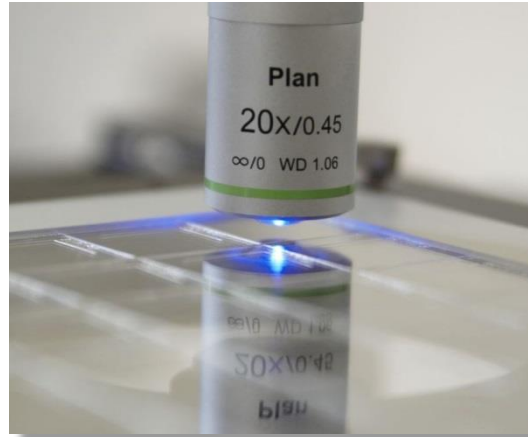
$$LET_{nc} = \frac{E_i - E_r}{x} = \frac{6100 - 3350}{22.9} = 120 \left[ \frac{keV}{\mu m} \right]$$

$$LET_{nc} = \frac{E_i - E_r}{x} = \frac{6100 - 0}{39.5} = 154 \left[ \frac{keV}{\mu m} \right]$$

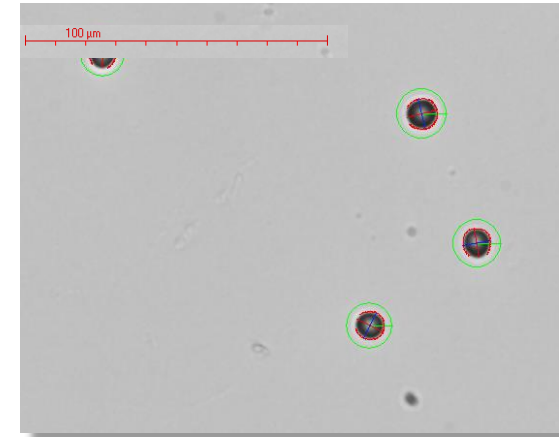
$LET_{nc}$  is the calculated from the V ratio ( $V_t/V_b$ )



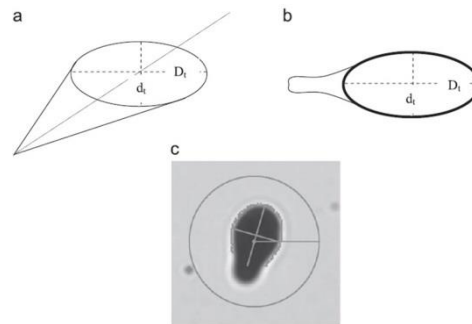
- Automatic counting and geometrical analysis of the tracks by POLITRACK (a)
- Track filtering (account for dust particles or surface defects) (b)
- $V_t$  and  $LET_{nc}$  and impinging angle determination (c)
- $LET_{nc}$  distribution (d)



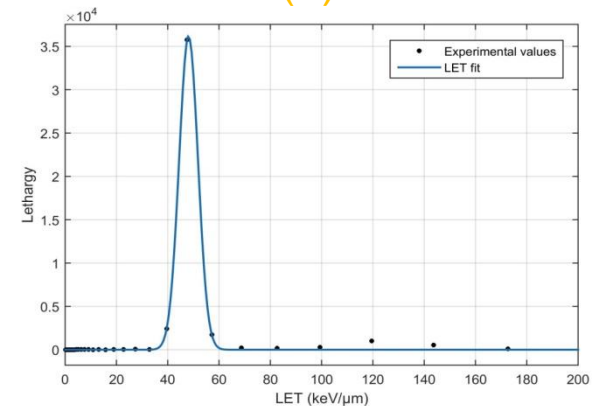
(a)



(b)



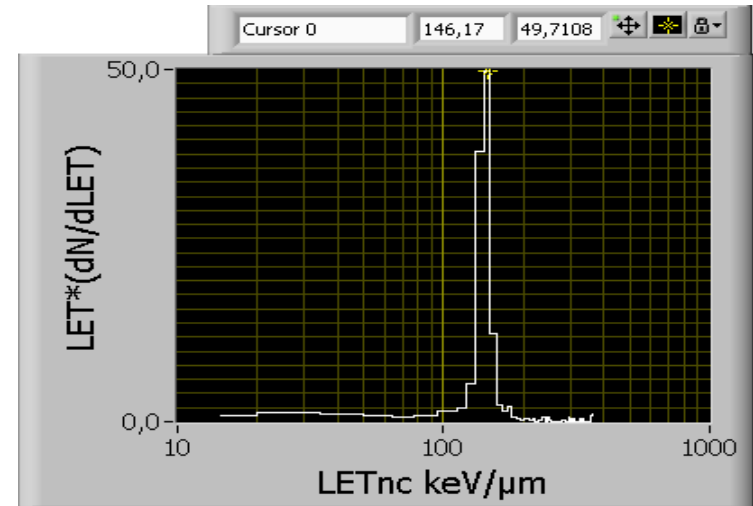
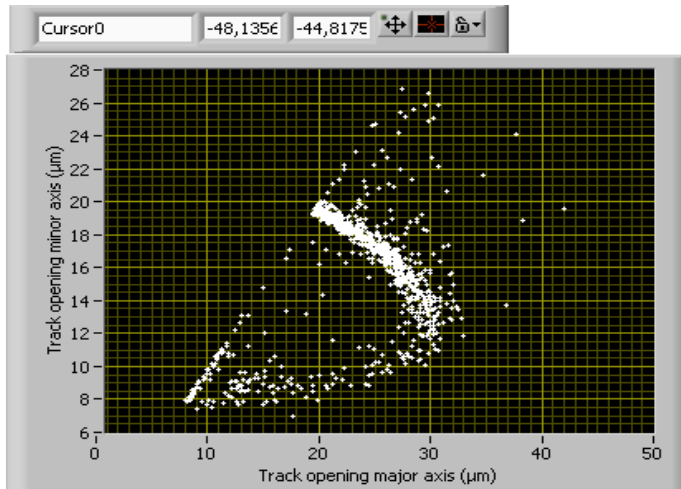
(c)



(d)

• Dose Calculation => 
$$H = \frac{1}{\rho \cdot A} \cdot 1.602 \cdot 10^{-6} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\overline{LET}_i}{\cos \vartheta_i} \cdot Q\left(\overline{LET}_i\right)$$

Determination of V ratio through the fission fragment technique.

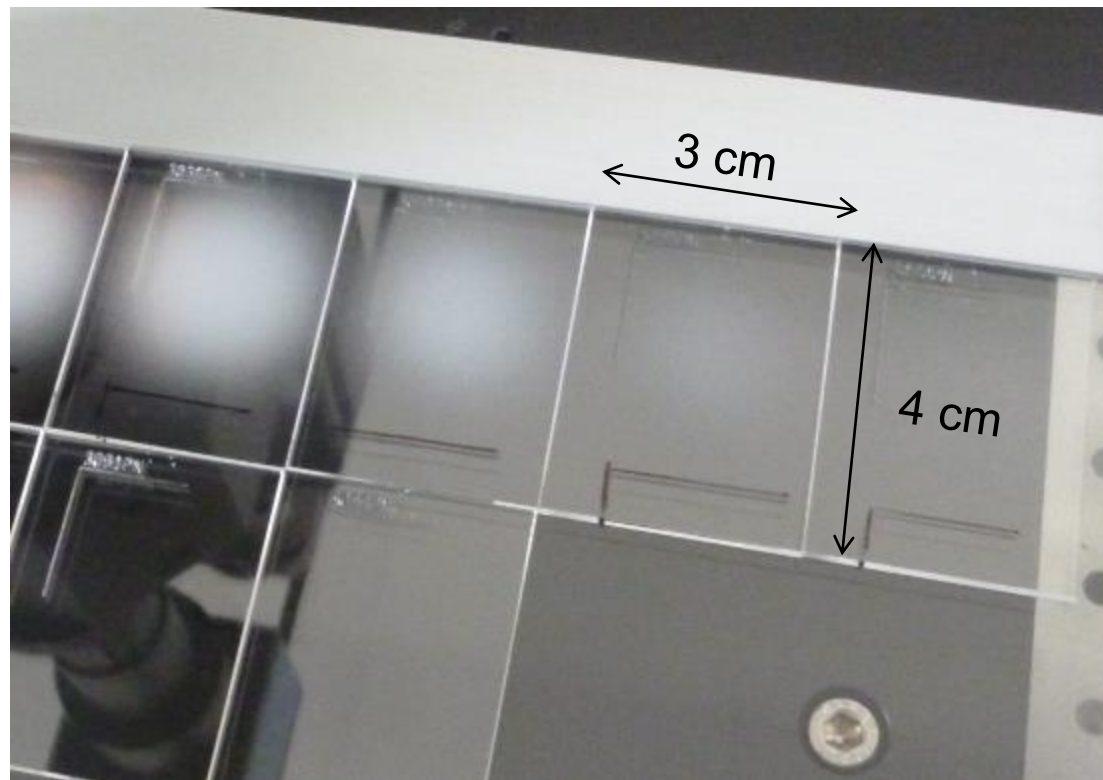
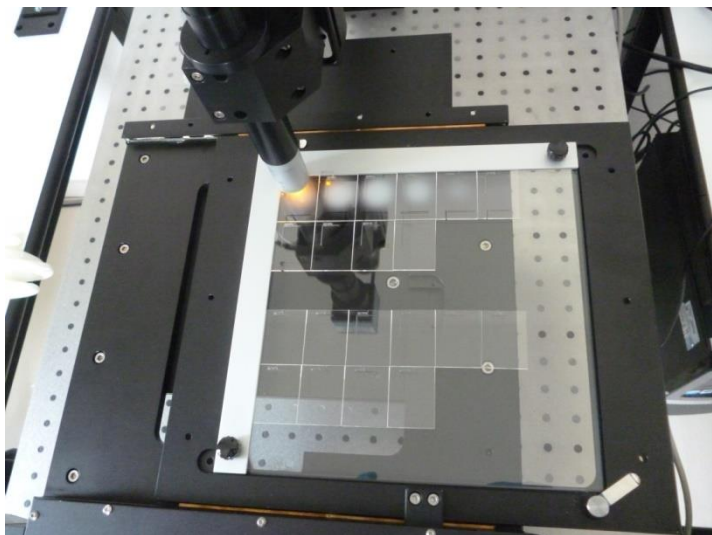
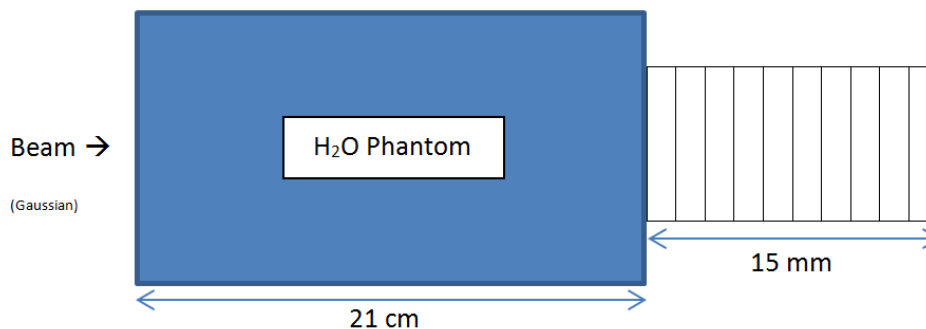


LET spectrum of alpha particles measured in the Detector 3060 irradiated with an electroplated Cf source. The LET peak for a  $V_b$  of 10  $\mu\text{m}/\text{h}$  is at 146 keV/ $\mu\text{m}$ .

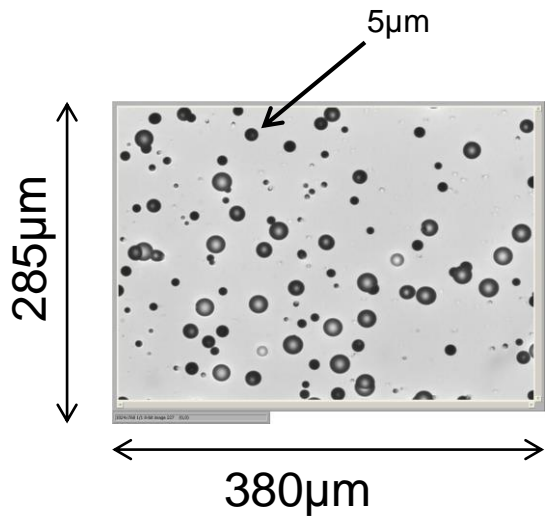


Proton beam

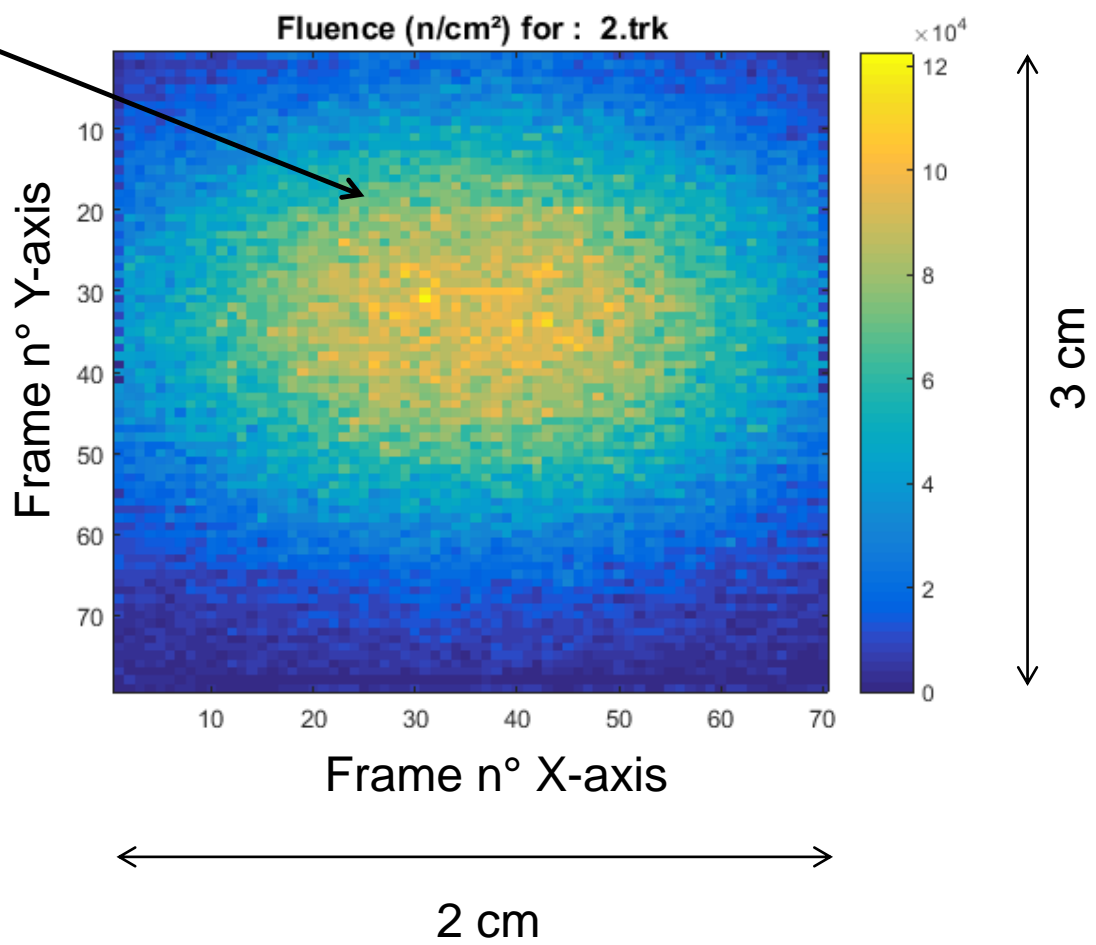
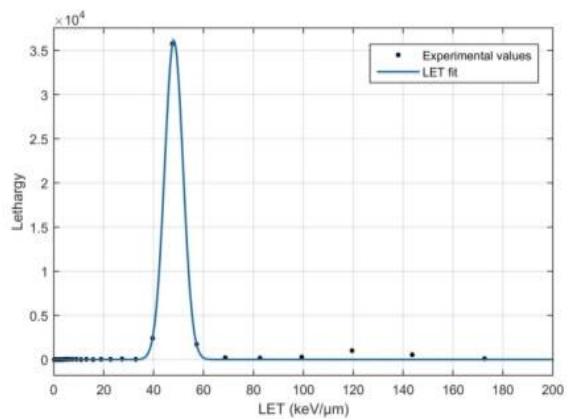
- Gaussian
- 10 mm FWHM
- $E = 183.7$  MeV





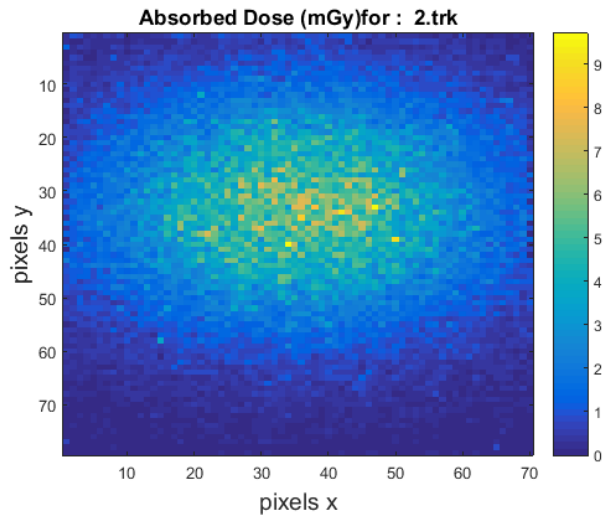
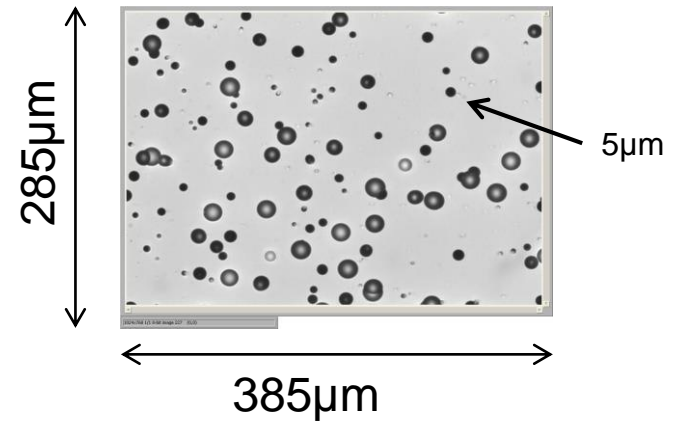


Exposed CR-39 surface reconstruction from captured frames

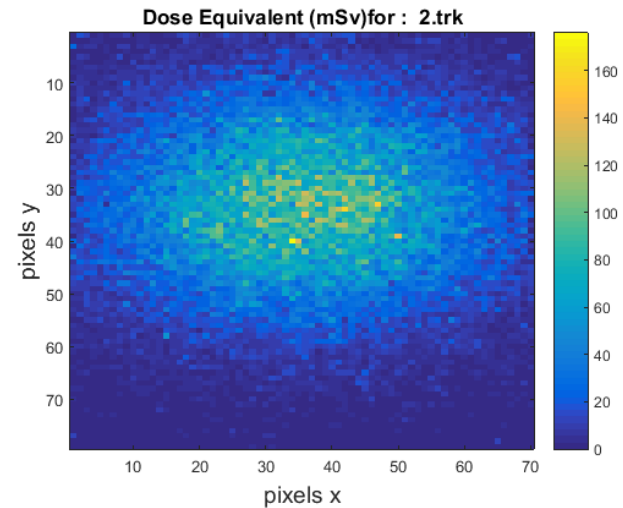




- Spatial resolution:  $0.37 \mu\text{m}$
- Pixel/Frame size :  $285 \mu\text{m} * 385 \mu\text{m}$
- Sensitive area :  $70 * 79$  pixels/frames ( $2 * 3 \text{ cm}$ )



2D distribution of the Absorbed dose (mGy)

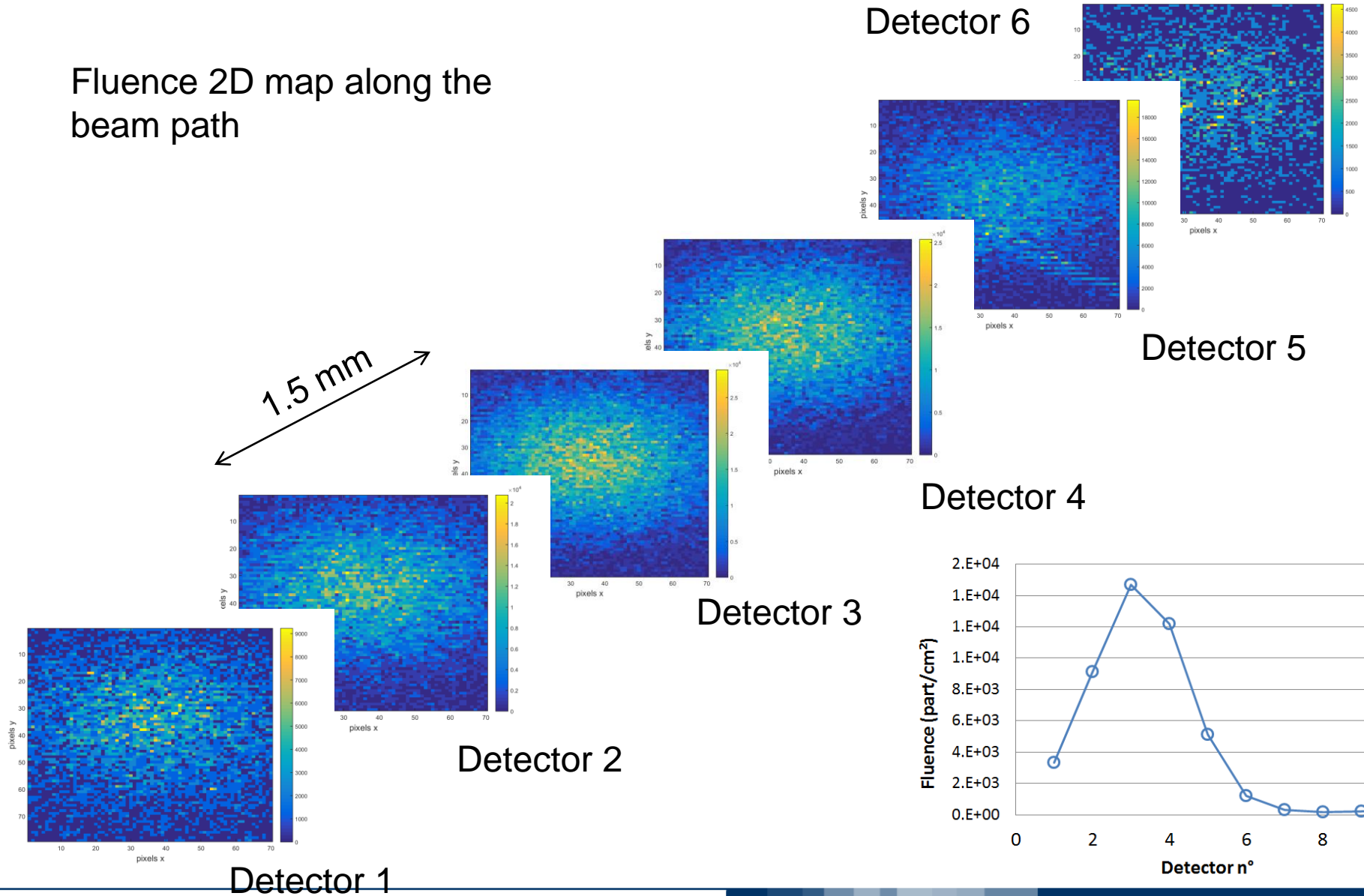


2D distribution of the Dose Equivalent (mSv)



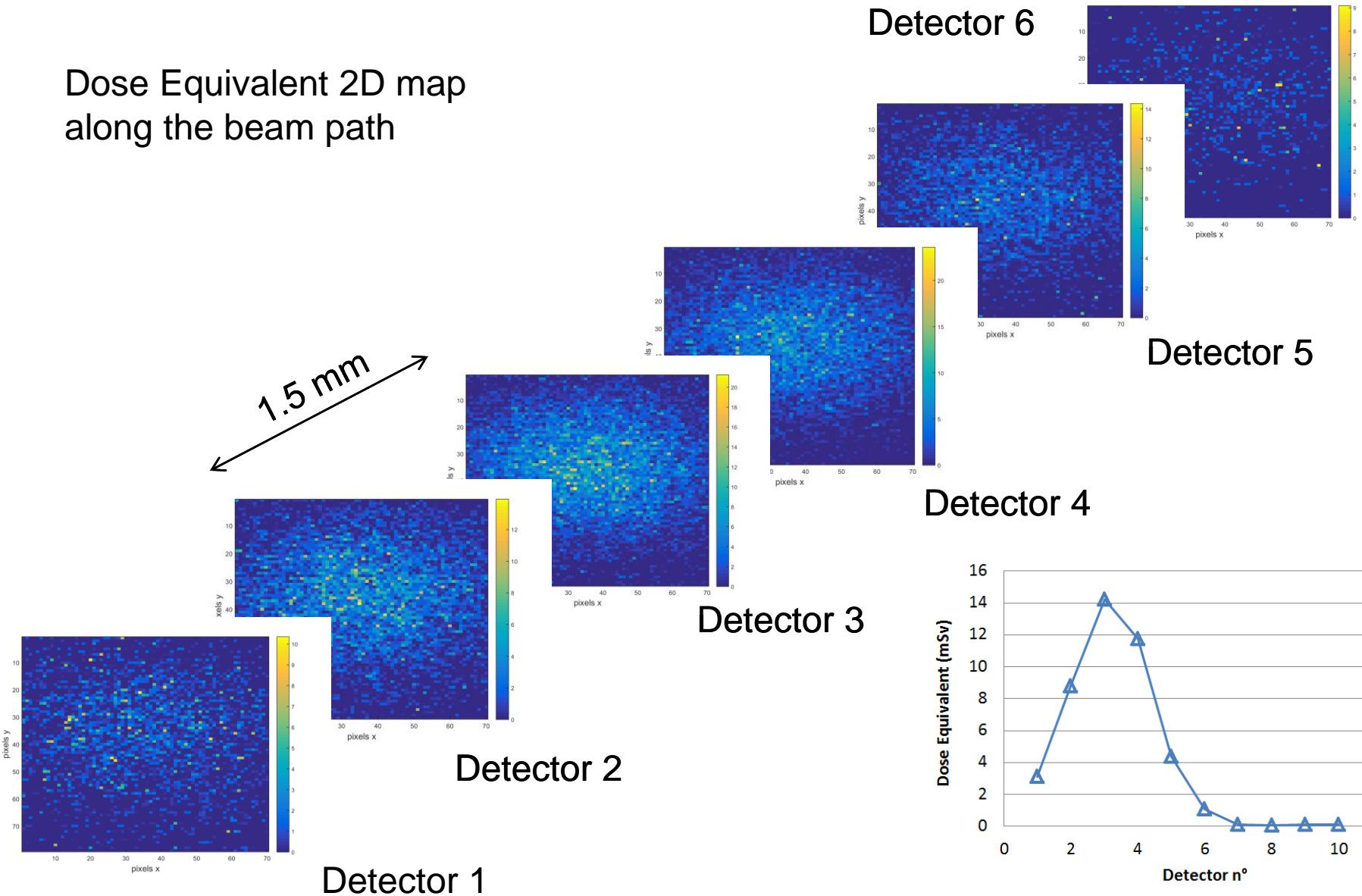
Fluence 2D map along the beam path

1.5 mm



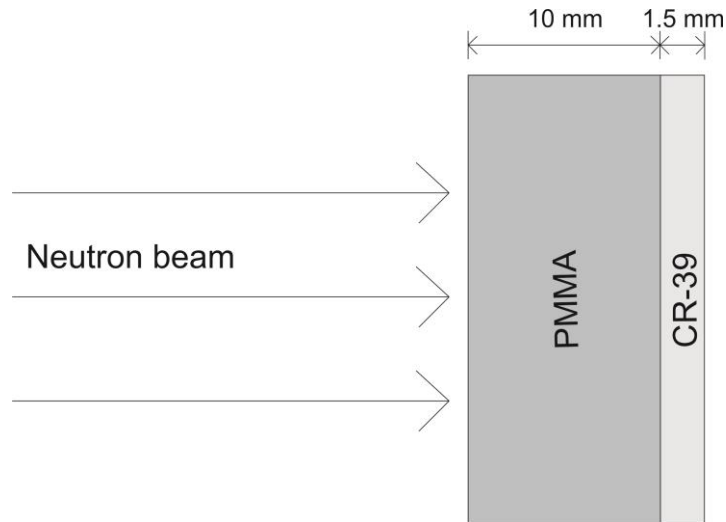


Dose Equivalent 2D map along the beam path





# Neutron dosimetry with CR-39 detectors <sup>13</sup>



In the PMMA radiator, the type of secondary particles produced is strongly dependent on the neutron beam energy ( $E_n$ ):

$E_n < 10$  MeV : (n,p) reactions

$E_n > 10$  MeV : (n,p) reactions  
+ (n, $\alpha$ ) reactions  
+ (n,d) reactions  
+ (n,t) reactions



<http://www.oecd-nea.org/janis/>

Fragmentation of O and C atoms occur due to inelastic scattering and spallation reactions when  $E_n > 10$  MeV

## Neutron Cross section on C and H

Chemical  
composition:

PMMA:  $(C_5O_2H_8)_n$

CR-39:  $(C_6O_8H)_n$

C compensates for  
reduction in neutron  
cross section on H at  
 $E_n > 10\text{MeV}$

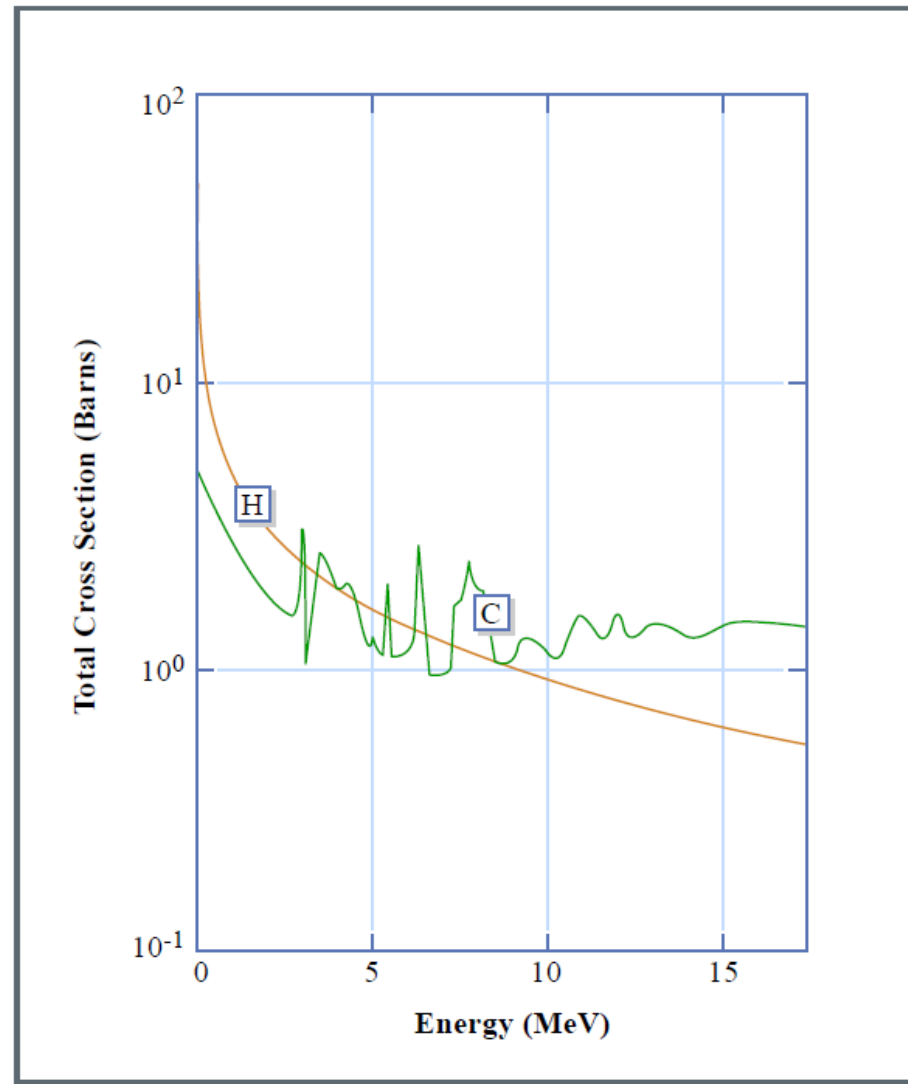


Figure by MIT OCW.





Mono-energetic Neutron beams @ VdG, CTU, Prague:

- $T(p,n)^3\text{He}$   $\rightarrow$  0.7 MeV
- $D(d,n)^3\text{He}$   $\rightarrow$  4.1, 4.7 MeV
- $T(d,n)^4\text{He}$   $\rightarrow$  15.0, 15.8, 16.7 MeV,
- AmBe neutron source – spectrum  $<$  11 MeV
- Ambient dosimeters exposed next to liquid scintillators

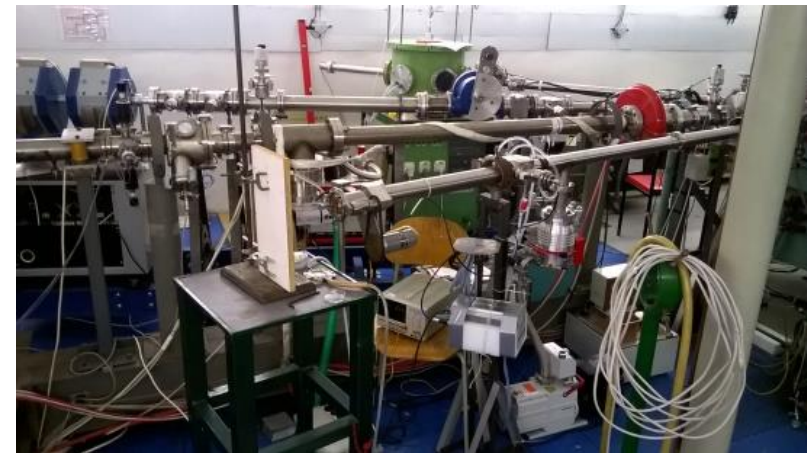




Table 1. Evolution of tasks scheduled for the PhD research work in the frame of the ARDENT WP3.

Month n° →	4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36
Tasks	1 <sup>st</sup> trim. 2013	2 <sup>nd</sup> trim. 2013	3 <sup>rd</sup> trim. 2013	1 <sup>st</sup> trim. 2014	2 <sup>nd</sup> trim. 2014	3 <sup>rd</sup> trim. 2014	1 <sup>st</sup> trim. 2015	2 <sup>nd</sup> trim. 2015	3 <sup>rd</sup> trim. 2015
Training activities	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Dose measurement		X	X	X	X			X	
LET spectrometry			X	X	X	X		X	
Monte Carlo simulations			X	X	X	X	X	X	
Intercomparison					X	X	X	X	
Convertor Optimisation					X	X	X		
Final Prototypes							X	X	X
Business plan							X	X	X
Thesis writing							X	X	X



1. Caresana, M., et al., 2013. Personal and Environmental Dosimetry with a Dosimeter Based on CR-39 SSNTD in Quasi-monoenergetic Neutron Field <http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/rpd/nct320>. Published online December 8, 2013.
2. Trompier, F., et al., 2013. Comparison of the response of padc neutron dosimeters in high energy neutron fields. Radiat. Prot. Dosim. First published online: December, 1 2013
3. Caresana, M., et al, 2014. Dose measurements with CR-39 detectors at the CERF reference facility at CERN, Radiation Measurements, ISSN 1350-4487, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.radmeas.2014.04.010>.
4. Caresana, M., Ferrarini, M., Parravicini, A., Sashala Naik, A., "Calibration of a passive rem counter with monoenergetic neutrons", Radiation Measurements(2014), doi: 10.1016/j.radmeas.2014.07.019.



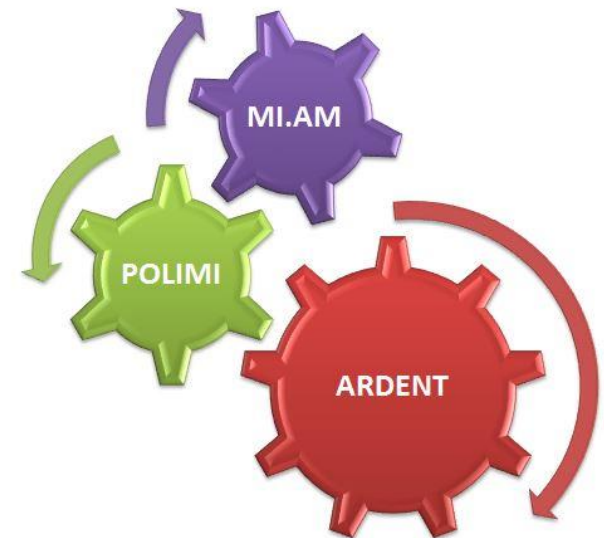
## ***Done:***

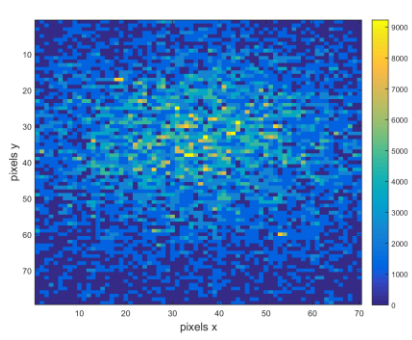
- MMND Conference – Oct 2014, Port Douglas, Australia
- B&A secondment in the CERN's KT group with Dr. Zoe Lawson, Jan-Feb 2015
- Experimental activities at INFN Catania & CTU Prague, Feb-April 2015

## ***Upcoming:***

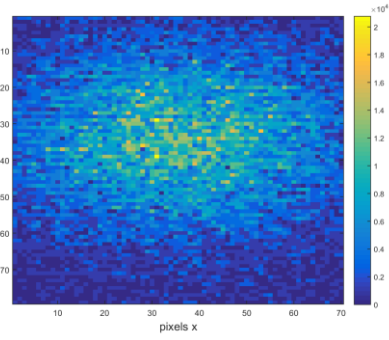
- UC Berkeley & Lawrence Berkeley National Lab, June 2015
- IEEE San Diego, October 2015
  - Abstract submitted on LET spectrometry applications

- Collaborations within ARDENT
  - Politecnico di Milano – Politrack<sup>®</sup> development
  - CERN - Medipix comparison + B&A training
  - Austrian Institute of Technology (AIT) - Monte Carlo
  - Czech Technical University (CTU) – Timepix comparison
- Collaborations outside ARDENT
  - IRSN France
  - CAM3D Srl
  - UC Berkeley
  - Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

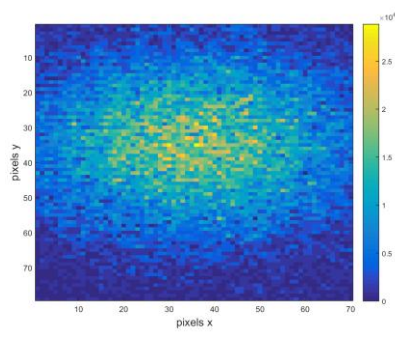




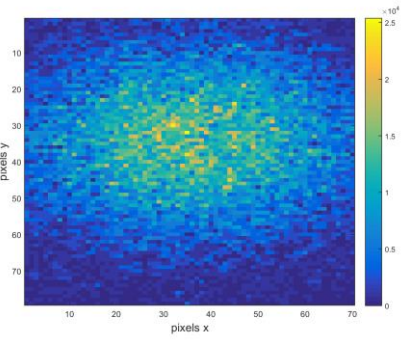
Det 1



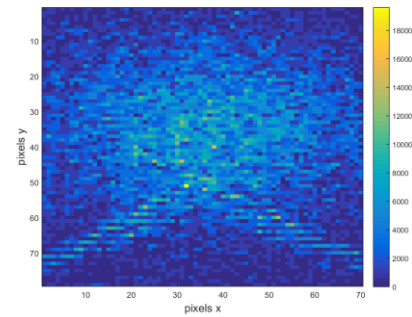
Det 2



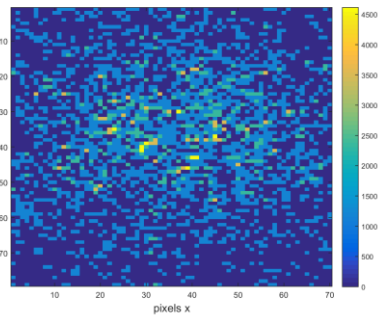
Det 3



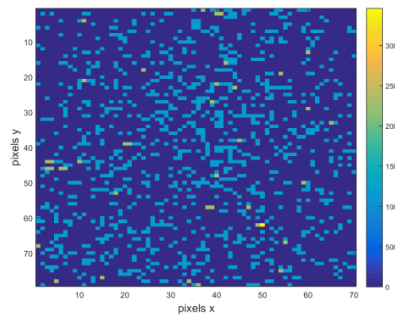
Det 4



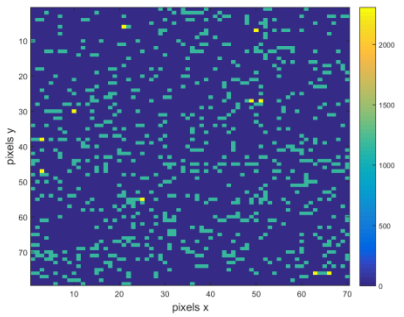
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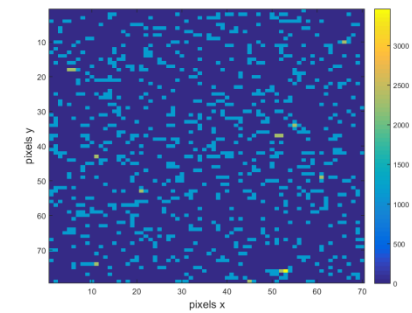
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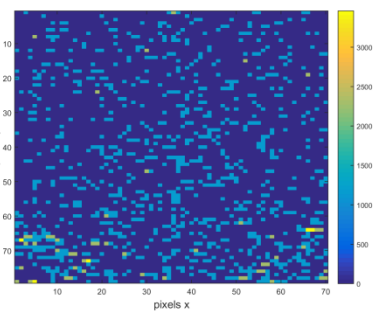
Det 7



Det 8



Det 9



Det 10