

***Fission yield measurements  
and  
associated covariance data.***

G.Kessedjian  
LPSC

For the Lohengrin fission collaboration

# Outlook

- 1- Fission yields : why do we need new measurements ?
- 2- Impact of the covariance in the decay heat for nuclear applications
- 3- Thermal neutron induced fission yields available
- 4- Self-normalization, systematic group, and ND Bases :  
basic elements of correlations  
  
example on measurements @ lohengrin
- 5- Proposal to increase the constraints on the decay heat

# 1- Fission yields : why do we need new measurements ?

## ➤ Impact of fission yields in the actual and innovative fuel cycles

- Inventory of used fuel : isotopic composition
- Residual power : minor actinides and fission products
- Radiotoxicity of used fuel
- Experimental fuel studies : reaction cross sections and isotope yields are needed for comparison Calculation/ Experiment (C/E)
- Calculation/prediction of prompt  $\gamma$  rays emitted in a core

## ➤ For fission process study

- Test the fission model predictions is necessary for the evaluations at different neutron energies
- Lack on dynamical aspect for fission process modelisation  $\rightarrow Y(A, Z, E^*, J, \pi)$ 
  - Spin distribution
  - Search of signatures of the fission modes in the kinetic energy distributions
- Inconsistency between Models or evaluations and Experiments for heavy fragments and symmetric region
  - $\rightarrow$  Nuclear charge Polarization

# 1- Fission yields : why do we need new measurements ?

## ► Needs of new measurements

- Structure in mass and nuclear charge distributions (e.g. Fifrelin, neutron emission,  $\gamma$  prompt)
- Isotopic distributions near symmetric region ► Nuclear charge polarization
- Spin distributions of the fission fragments as a function of the excitation energy
  - e.g. modeling prompt  $\gamma$  emission

$$Y(A, Z, E_k, J, \pi) = Y(A) \cdot P(Z|A) \cdot P(E_k|A, Z) \cdot P(J, \pi|A, Z, E_k)$$

Mass Charge

Kinetic energy

spin

► distributions

## ► Needs of details on the measurements

- Evaluation : No covariance available
- Mass =  $\sum$  Isotope
- Variance(Mass) =  $\sum$  Var(Isotope)  
> Var( major Isotope)

Not possible  
Mass measurements are usually more available and precise than isotopic measurements

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- Variance(Mass) =  $\sum$  Var(Isotope) + ... +  $\sum$  Cov (Isotopes)  
> Var( major Isotope)

Not possible  
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# 2- Impact of the covariance in the decay heat for nuclear applications

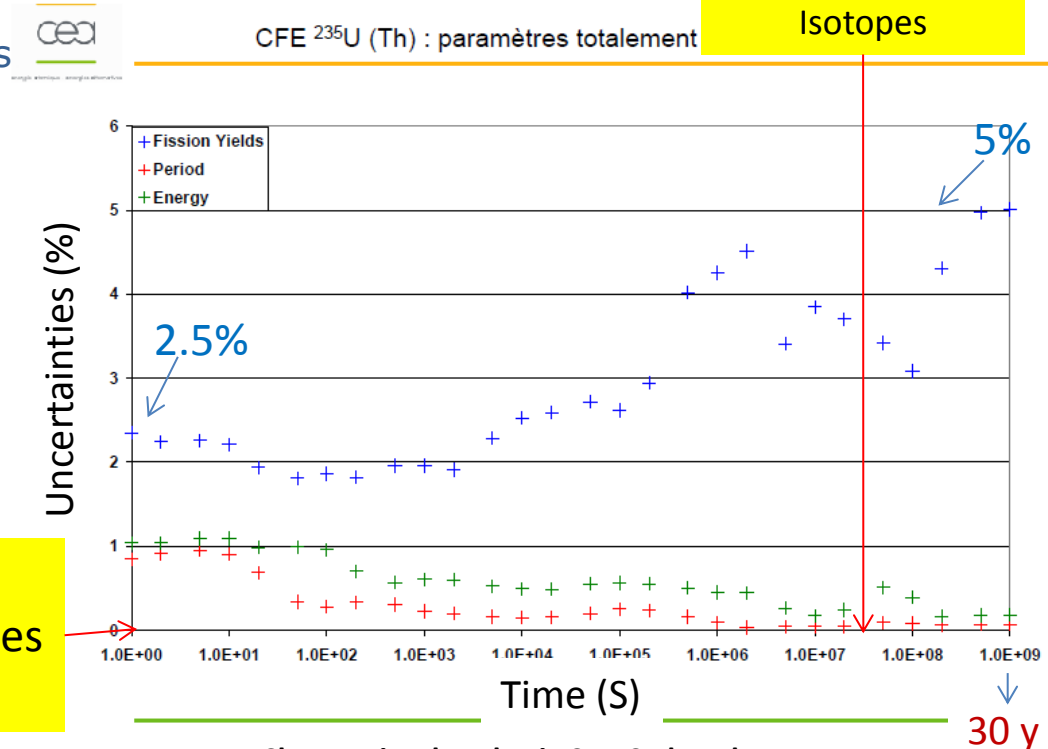
## ➤ Sensitivities to residual power

→ Study realized by CEA/DEN in the framework of the reactor decay heat measurements **after shutdown**: only isotopes with a lifetime greater than few seconds are considered ; usual data bases are used (ENSDF, JEFF, ENDF...)

→ Assuming Independent measurements

:

- fission yield uncertainties from 2.5% to 5%
- Energy (beta gamma) uncertainties from 1% to 0.2 %
- Period uncertainties from 1% to >0.1 %



J.Ch. Benoit, PhD Thesis CEA Cadarache  
J.Ch. Benoit, O.Serot et al., Physor 2012.

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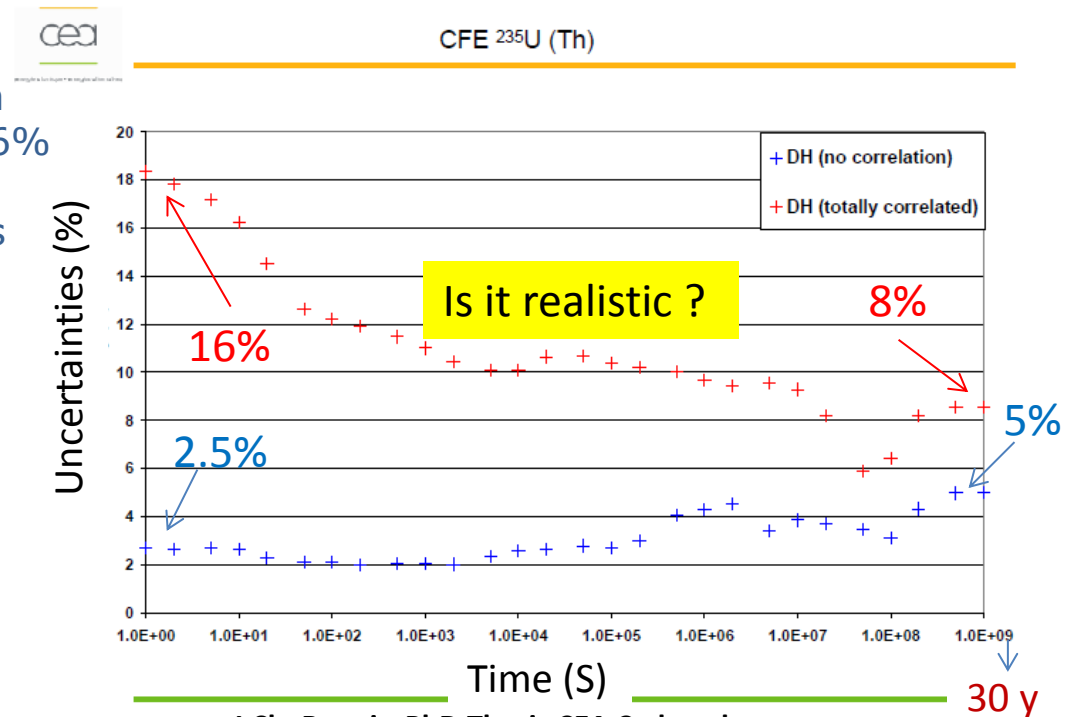
## ➤ Sensitivities to residual power

→ Study realized by CEA/DEN in the framework of the reactor decay heat measurements **after shutdown**: only isotope with a lifetime greater than few seconds are considered ; usual data bases are used (ENSDF, JEFF, ENDF...)

→ Assuming total correlations in fission yields data uncertainties from 8% to 16%

→ Uncertainties due to the fission yields are greater than the mean  $\beta/\gamma$  energy released or the periods with a factor 2.5 to 80 according to :

- the full covariance of fission yields
- data bases available
- gamma ray energy deposition



J.Ch. Benoit, PhD Thesis CEA Cadarache  
J.Ch. Benoit, O.Serot et al., Physor 2012.

# 3- Thermal neutron induced fission yields available

## ➤ Principal method used for fission yields measurements available :

### • **Double Ionization chamber (IC) and Tof : 2E - 2V :**

- mass resolution ( $\sigma > 1\%$ ) Then mass measurements are naturally correlated
- Complete mass range
- For isotopic yields using IC in light mass region  
→ charge de-convolution → Cov < 0

### • **Lohengrin spectrometer at ILL**

- 1u resolution at  $3\sigma$  up to  $A \sim 150 - 160$  according to the target
- measurement over a complete mass range is impossible with a same target for mass → no complete data set → cross normalization
- For isotopic yields by gamma spectroscopy, complete range
- For isotopic yields using IC in light mass region  
→ charge de-convolution → Cov < 0

### • **Radio-isotopic measurement :**

Cumulated measurement over a long time > accumulation on the long life isotope

- provide cumulated mass yields
- no complete mass range



## 4- Self-normalization - systematic group - and ND Bases : basic elements of correlations

For all methods, the binary fission yields normalization are defined equal to 2

$$\sum_A Y(A) = 2 \Rightarrow Y(A) = \frac{N(A)}{\sum_A N(A)} \quad \text{with } N(A) \text{ fission rate measurement for mass } A$$

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$$S_{Y_i; N_i} = 1 - Y_i > 0$$

$$S_{Y_i; N_{k \neq i}} = -Y_k < 0$$



Sensitivity of a fission yields to the fissions rates depend of fission yields

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$$\frac{\text{Cov}(Y_i; Y_j)}{Y_i \cdot Y_j} = \sum_k \underbrace{S_{Y_i; N_k} \cdot S_{Y_j; N_k}}_{>0 \text{ if } k \neq i \text{ or } k \neq j} \cdot \frac{\text{Var}(N_k)}{(N_k)^2} + 2 \cdot \sum_{k > l} \underbrace{S_{Y_i; N_k} \cdot S_{Y_j; N_l}}_{>0 \text{ if } k \neq i \text{ or } l \neq j} \cdot \frac{\text{Cov}(N_k; N_l)}{N_k \cdot N_l}$$

$k=i$  &  $k \neq j$  or  $k \neq i$  &  $k=j$  ;  $<0$

$k=i=j$  ;  $>0$

$k \neq i$  &  $k \neq j$  ;  $>0$

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Sensitivity of a fission yields to the fissions rates depend of fission yields

$$\frac{\text{Cov}(Y_i; Y_j)}{Y_i \cdot Y_j} = \underbrace{\sum_k S_{Y_i; N_k} \cdot S_{Y_j; N_k} \cdot \frac{\text{Var}(N_k)}{(N_k)^2}}_{\text{Normalization}} + 2 \cdot \underbrace{\sum_{k > l} S_{Y_i; N_k} \cdot S_{Y_j; N_l} \cdot \frac{\text{Cov}(N_k; N_l)}{N_k \cdot N_l}}_{\text{Systematic uncertainties}}$$

Normalization

Systematic uncertainties

# example : Lohengrin measurements

- Lohengrin mass separator

**Lohengrin** : selection with the mass on ionic charge ratios  $A/q$  and Kinetic energy on Ionic charge  $E/q$

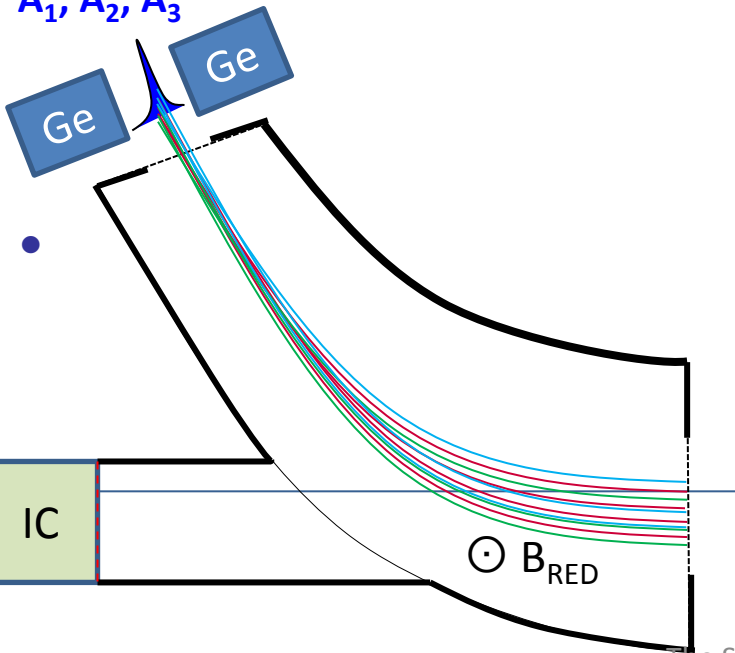
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**Setup:**

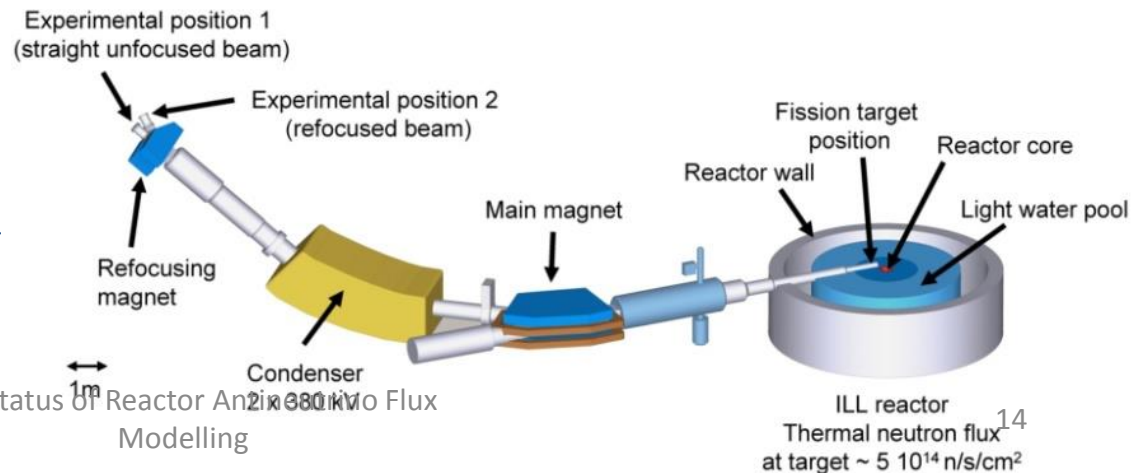
- IC &  $A/\Delta A|_{\text{Lohengrin}} = 400$
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- mass yields up to  $A = 155$  (at  $3\sigma$ )
- Isotopic yields with  $\gamma$  spectrometry
- for low yields or low  $\gamma$  intensities, signal/background ratio is too poor to obtain sufficient accuracy

$A_1; A_2; A_3$



G.Kessedjian - LPSC



# example : Lohengrin Mass measurements

- **Method : relative measurements** (Same method for Isotopic yields )

$$\left. \begin{aligned} N(A) &= \frac{Bu(t) \cdot \sum_q \int E N(A, q, E) dE}{N(A, \bar{q}, \bar{E})} \\ \sum_{\text{Heavy } A} Y(A) &= 1 \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow Y(A) = \frac{N(A)}{\sum_{\text{Heavy } A} N(A)}$$

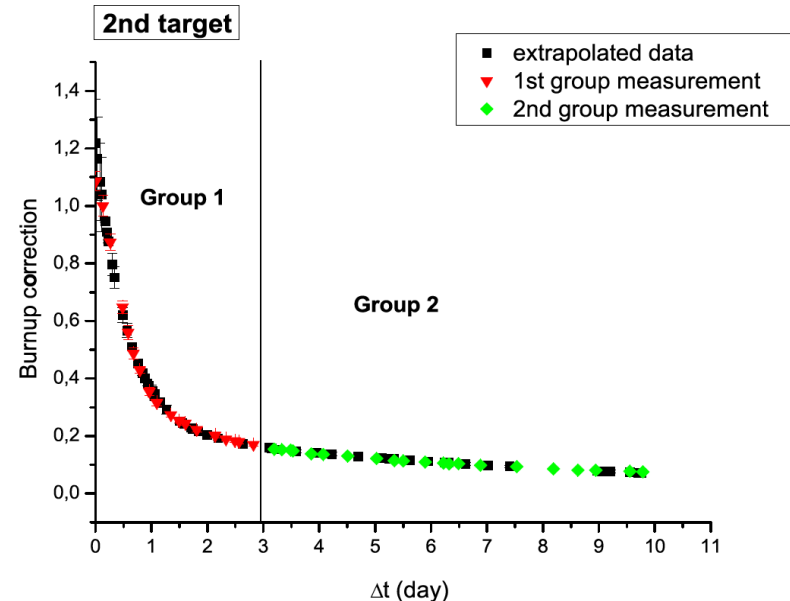
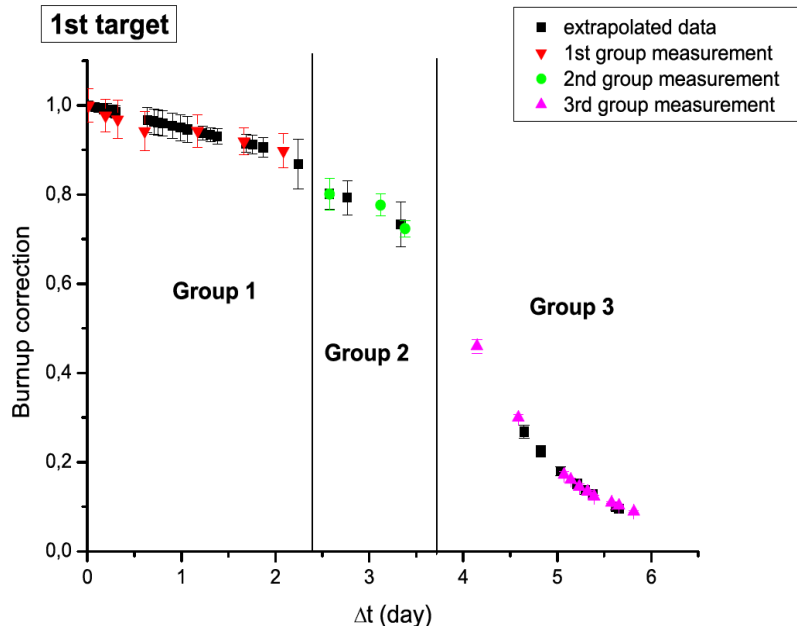
- **cross normalization** between measurements of each targets → systematic correction

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$$N(A) = \frac{Bu(t) \cdot \sum \int N(A, q, E) dE}{q \bar{E} N(A, \bar{q}, \bar{E})} \left. \begin{array}{l} \\ \sum_{\text{Heavy } A} Y(A) = 1 \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow Y(A) = \frac{N(A)}{\sum_{\text{Heavy } A} N(A)}$$

- **cross normalization** between measurements of each targets → systematic correction
- **burn up evolution Bu(t)**: target sputtering → systematic correction



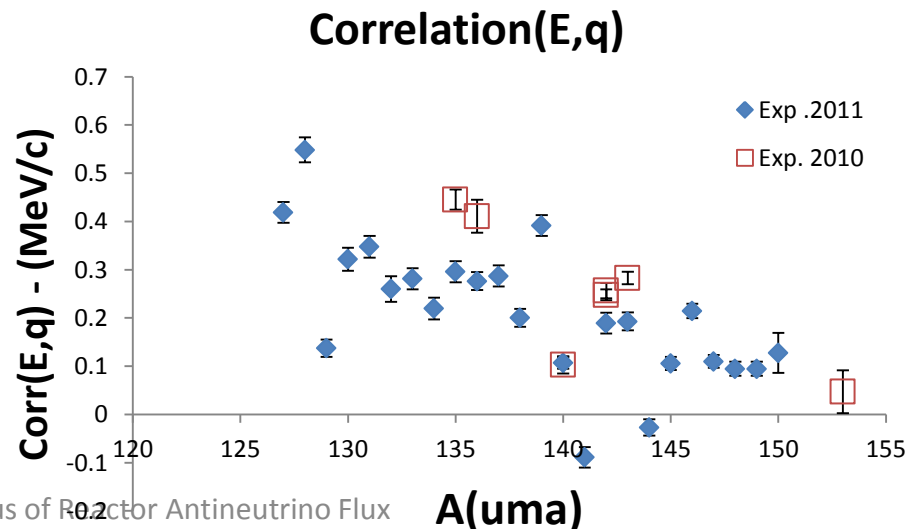
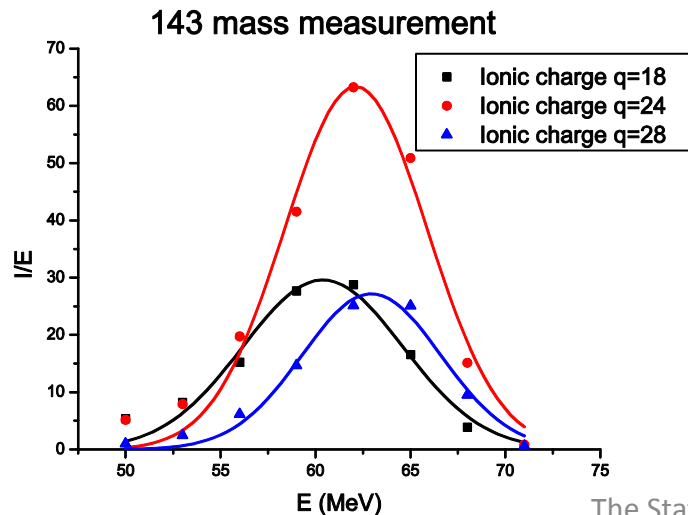


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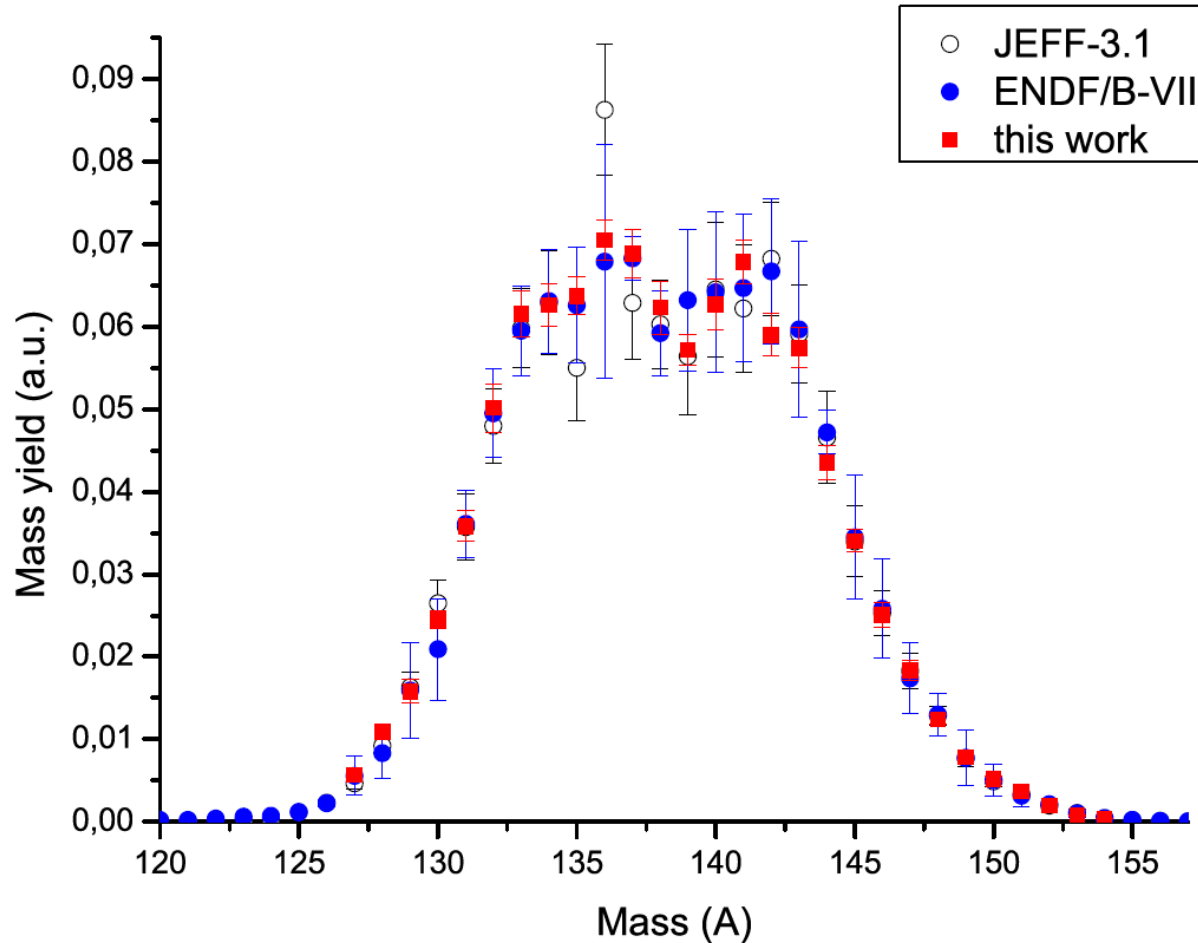
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- **cross normalization** between measurements of each targets → systematic correction
- **burn up evolution Bu(t)**: target sputtering → systematic correction
- **kinetic energy distribution E<sub>k</sub>**
- **Ionic charge distribution q**
- **(E<sub>k</sub>, q) correlation**



# example : Lohengrin Mass measurements

e.g.  $^{233}\text{U}(n_{\text{th}},f)$  mass yields in heavy mass region :  
→ partial results using 2 targets



PhD thesis  
F. Martin

# example : Lohengrin Mass measurements

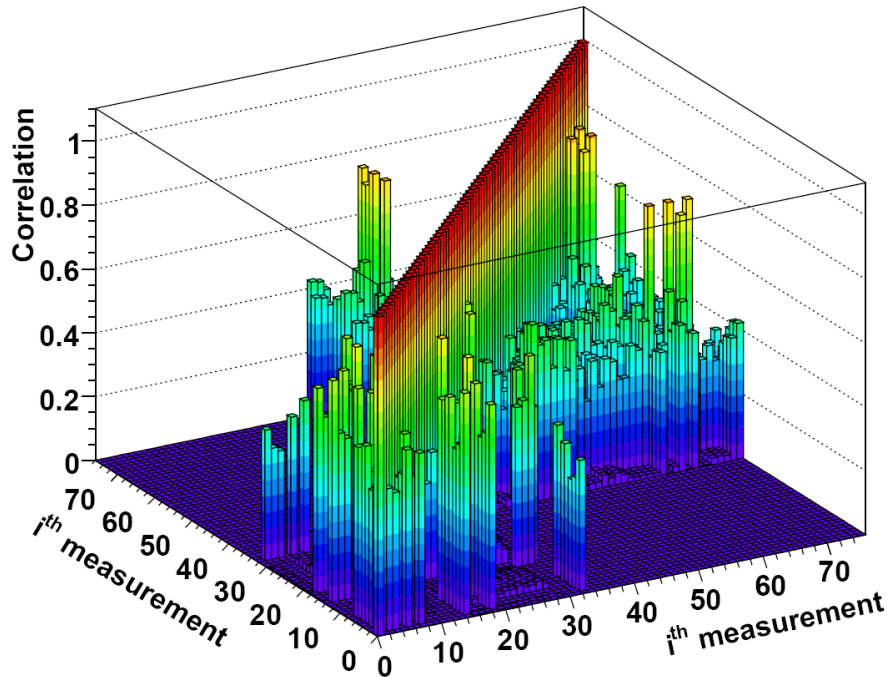
e.g.  $^{233}\text{U}(n_{\text{th}}, f)$  mass yields in heavy mass region :  
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$$\text{Corr}(Y_i; Y_j) = \frac{\text{Cov}(Y_i; Y_j)}{\sigma(Y_i) \cdot \sigma(Y_j)}$$

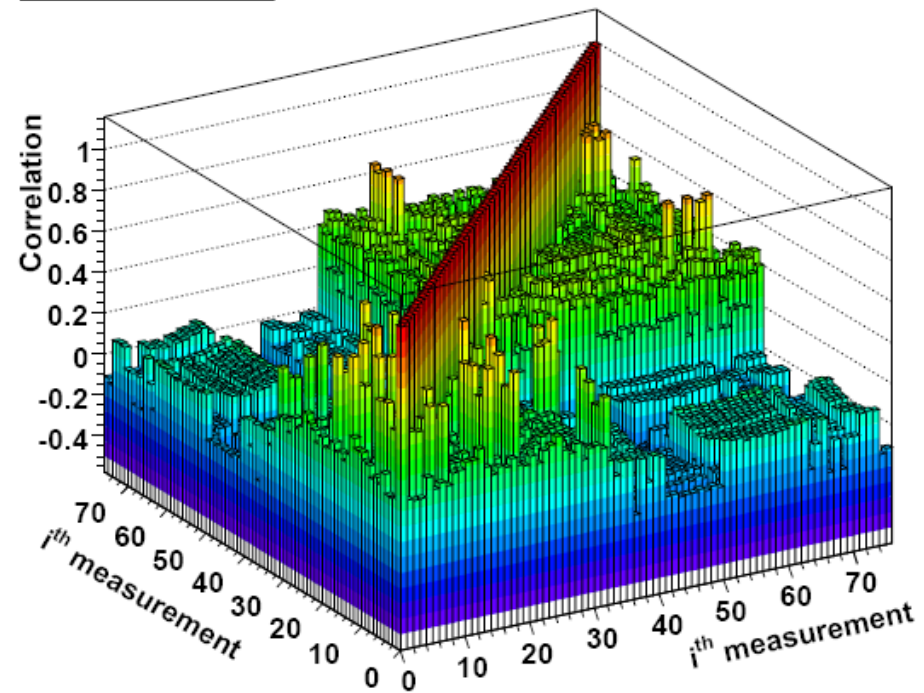
➤ Correlation matrix between the  $N_{A_i}$   
(number of events)

➤ Correlation matrix between the  $Y_{A_i}$   
(mass yields)

$N(A_i | ^{233}\text{U}(n, f))$



$Y(A_i | ^{233}\text{U}(n, f))$



# example : Lohengrin Mass measurements

Questioning on the data sets :

- If all sets correspond to a complete measurement

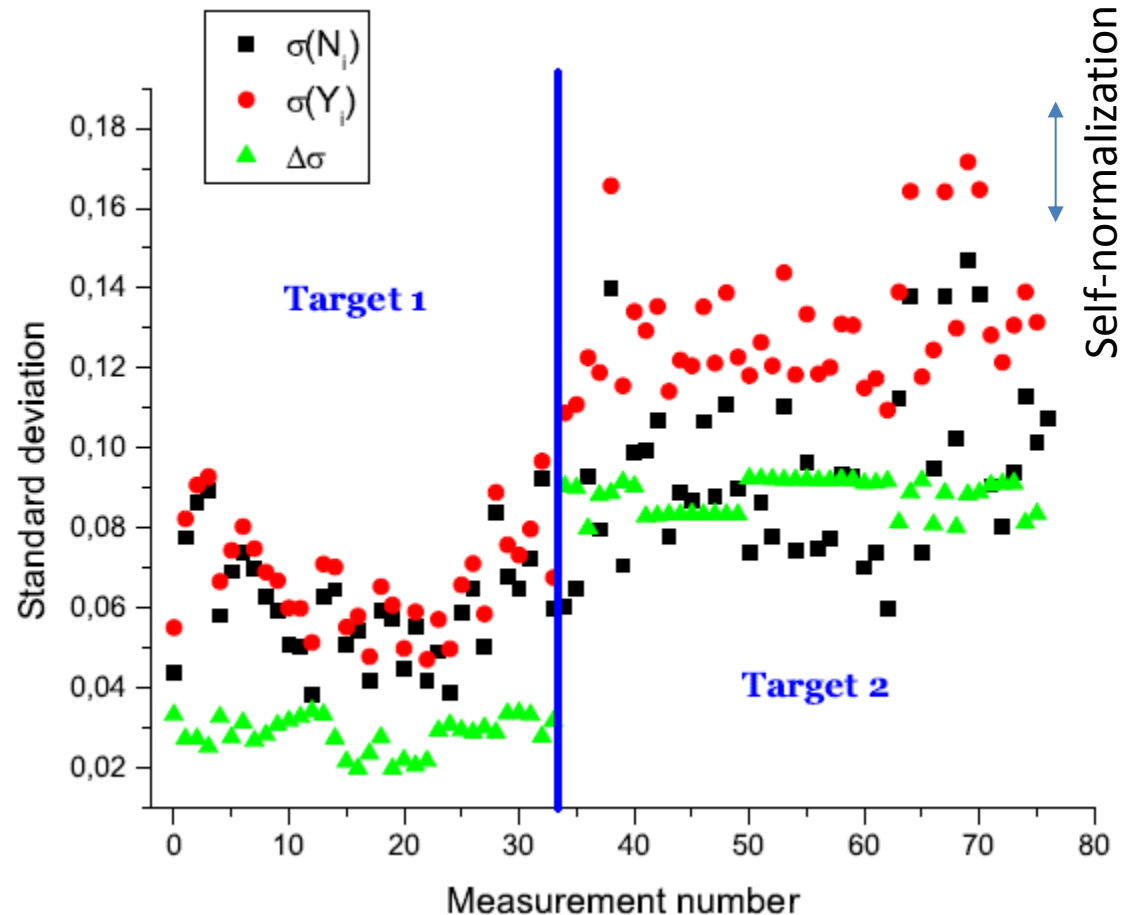
→ Yields and covariance are defined set by set

- If the data sets are not complete

→ need a cross normalization

→ covariance terms between elements of different sets exist

→ induce a positive contribution on the fission yields variances



## 5- Proposal to increase the constraints on the decay heat

Complete the  $\beta/\gamma$  measurements per fissioning nucleus with differential  $\beta/\gamma$  decay heat measurements per mass A in order to :

- Increase the number of measurements to test calculations
- Change the systematic uncertainties of the experiment
- measure directly

$$P(t; \beta; \gamma | A) = f(t; Y(A, Z); E_{\beta, \gamma}; \lambda)$$

Yields – Energy released – Periods

- Intermediate measurements between TAGS and elementary fission curve (integral measurement per actinide)
- Measurement in a time range starting from 1-2  $\mu\text{s}$

# 5- Proposal to increase the constraints on the decay heat

## Coupled Lohengrin ⊗ Gas Filled Magnet spectrometers

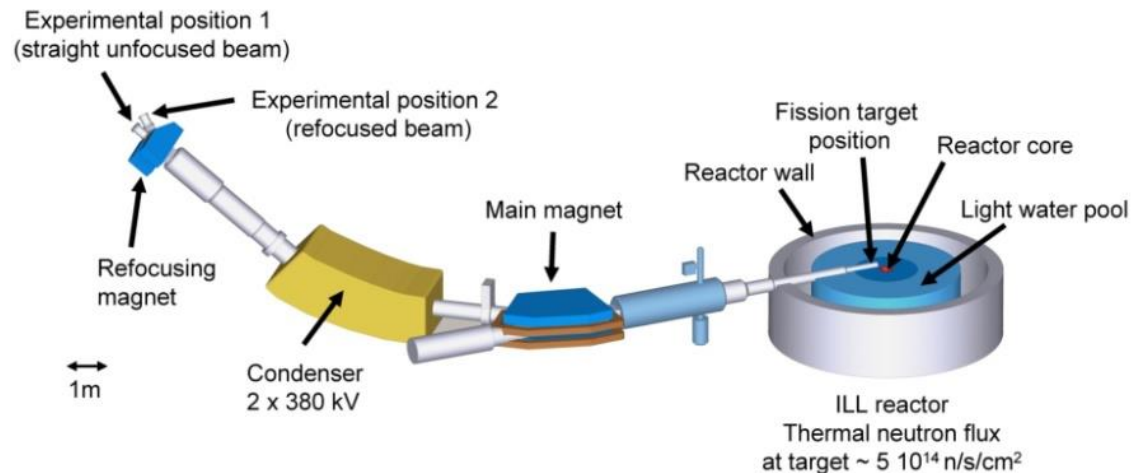
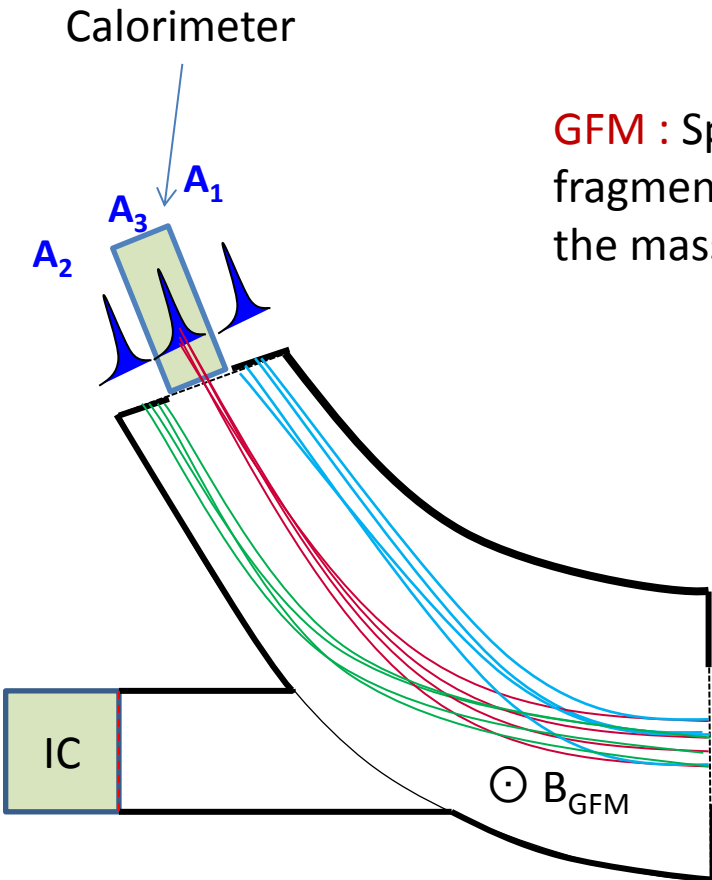
→ Goal : quasi Isobaric beam

**Lohengrin** : selection with the mass on ionic charge ratios  $A/q$  and Kinetic energy on Ionic charge  $E/q$

$$(A_1, E_1, q_1) \equiv (A_2, E_2, q_2) \equiv (A_3, E_3, q_3)$$

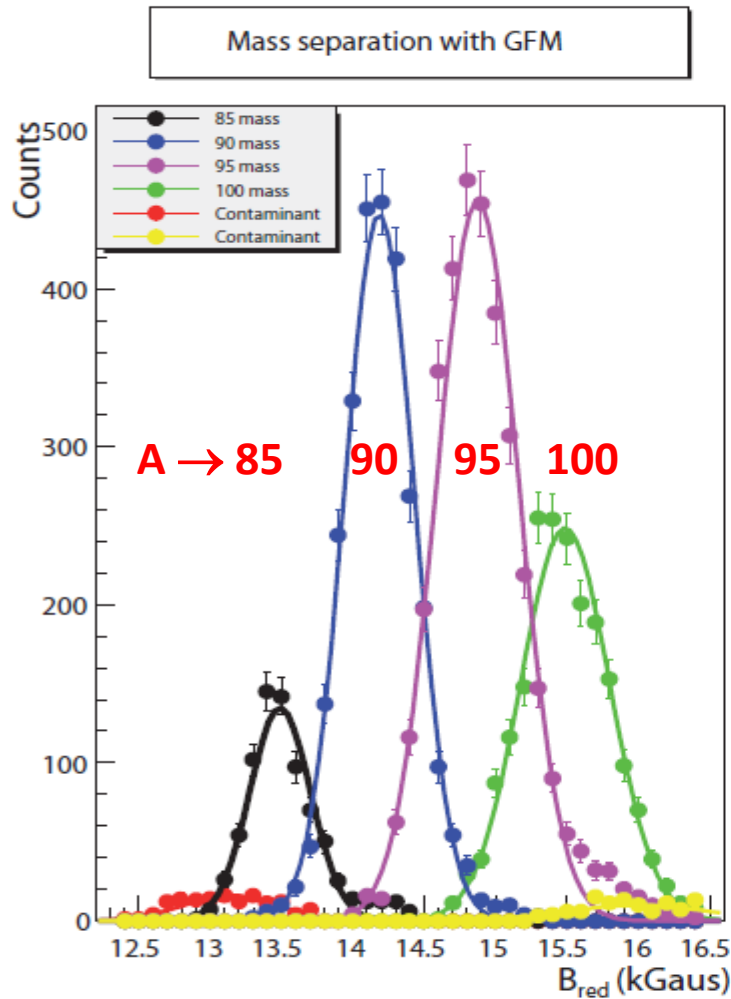
**GFM** : Spatial dispersion of fission fragments according to the mass  $A$  and Nuclear charge  $Z$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{l} B \cdot \rho \propto A \cdot \left\langle \frac{v(Z)}{q(Z)} \right\rangle_{\text{Gaz,P}} \\ B \cdot \rho \propto \frac{A}{Z^{1/3}} \quad [1] \end{array} \right.$$

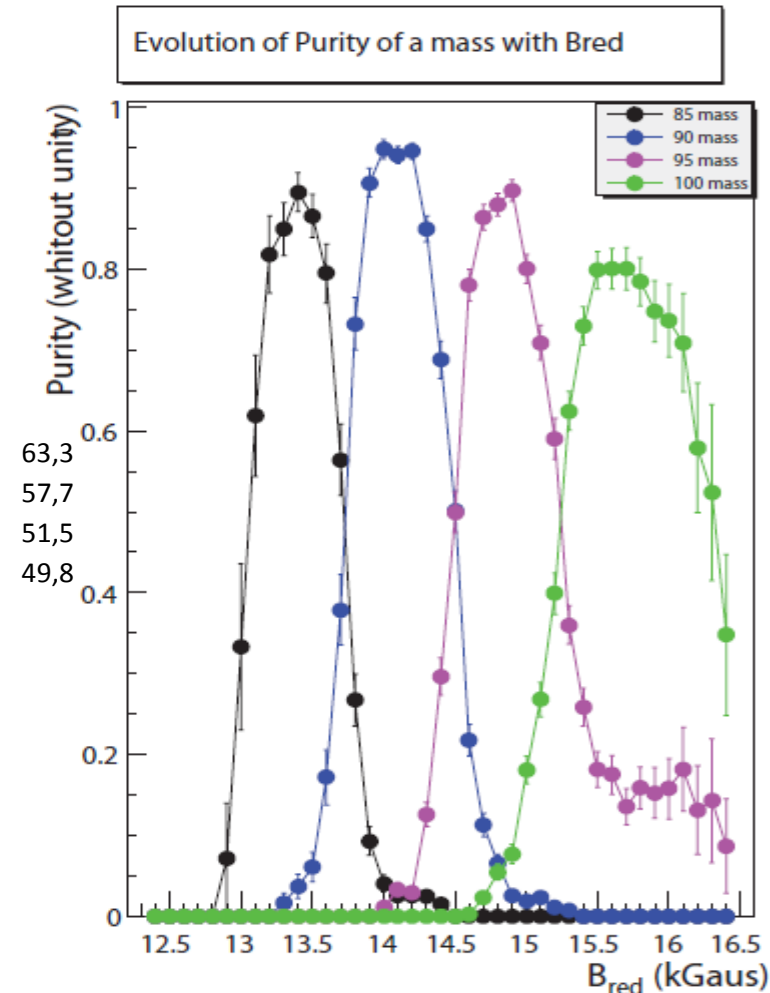


# 5- Proposal to increase the constraints on the decay heat

## Available $^4\text{He}$ Gas Filled Magnet spectrometer@ Lohengrin



$A/\Delta A \rightarrow$     63 ; 58 ; 52 ; 50



exit collimator 1cm  $\equiv$  100 Gauss

# Conclusion

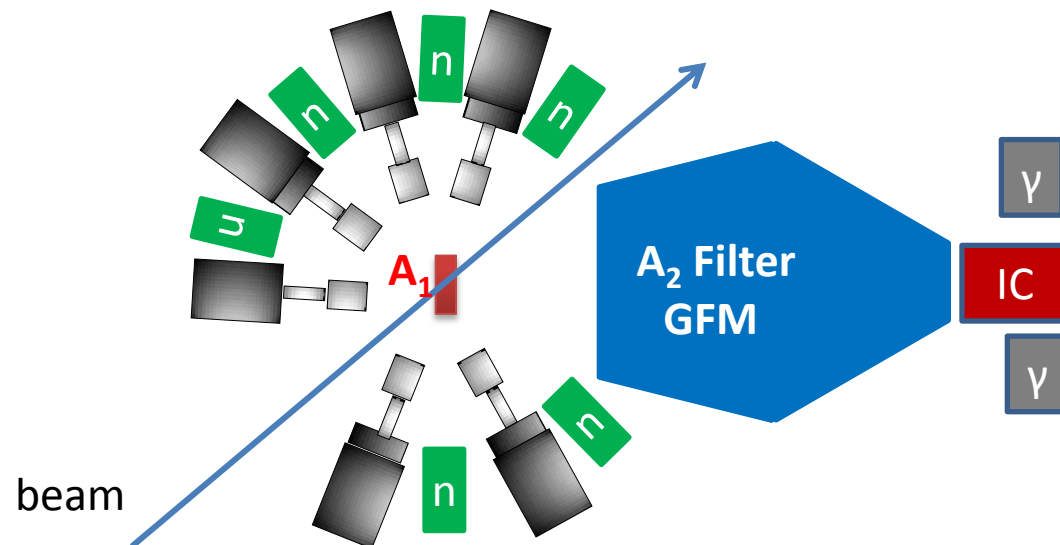
- Due to the competition between normalization and systematic uncertainties, correlation matrix doesn't get extreme values (1 or -1) but could have huge structures around zero
- Nevertheless, the structures induce coherence between mass and isotopic uncertainties and then error compensations in calculations.
- To increase the precision on the decay heat, it could be interesting to complete the differential and integral measurements with semi-differential measurements.  
→ Coupled Lohengrin ⊗ Gas Filled Magnet spectrometers and  $\beta/\gamma$  calorimeter

Thus, we will increase the number of comparisons and identify the isobaric chains where TAGS are required



FIPPS Project dedicated to fission induced prompt particle study.

- Project of new instrument, complementary to the Lohengrin facility  
→ Nuclear structure and nuclear fission studies
- n/gamma detectors coupled to a fission fragment filter
- Goal of the filter :
  - Characterize the complementary mass ( $\langle A_2 \rangle, E_k$ )
  - Clean the gamma spectrum to identify the discrete gamma rays of  $(A_1, Z_1)$



## **Collaboration for the measurement campaign @Lohengrin :**

*C. Sage, G. Kessedjian, A. Chebboubi, A. Bidaud, A. Billebaud, N. Capellan,  
S. Chabod, O. Méplan*  
**LPSC, UJF, INP, Grenoble**

*H. Faust, U. Köster, A. Blanc, P. Mutti,*  
**ILL, Grenoble**

*O. Litaize, O. Serot, D. Bernard*  
**CEA/Cadarache**

*A. Letourneau, S. Panebianco, T. Materna, C. Amouroux*  
**CEA/Saclay**

*X. Doligez, IPN, Orsay*

*PhD thesis : F.Martin, C. Amouroux*



## Backup

## 1- Fission yields : why do we need new measurements ?

Pourquoi des rendements > puissance Beta gamma (t)

intérêt puissance résiduelle

intérêt spectre beta > neutrino

total beta /gamma emission per fissioning nucleus

1. Thermal neutron induced fission : Lohengrin ???

2- Mesure de rendement > auto-normalisation ou non ! Indépendant de JEFF

Mass

Isotopic dépendant de eval ou de mesures  $Y(A)$

dépendant de la manip, des choix d'analyses

eg SOFIA mass resolution  $\sigma = 0.4$

Z resolution  $\sigma = 0.6$

Mass and charge matrix is statistical deconvolution

covariance  $\neq$  systematic uncertainty

3- Impact des cov dans l'écal de la puissance résiduelle

4- Option pour contraindre les incert : mesure de puissance résiduelle par ligne isobarique produit par la fission

Mesures de TAGS > isotope/isotope

GFM > Mass per mass /fissioning isotope

FIPPS

# 1- Fission yields : why do we need new measurements ?

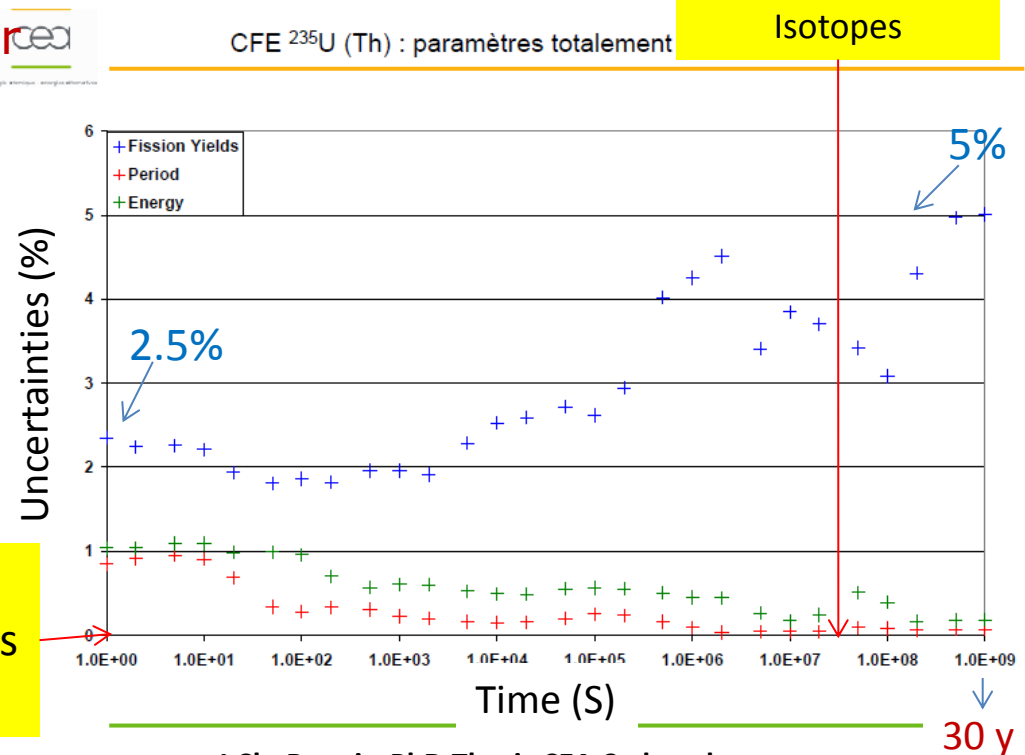
## ➤ Impact of fission yields in the actual and innovative fuel cycles

- Inventory of used fuel : isotopic composition
- Residual power : minor actinides and fission products
- Radiotoxicity of used fuel
- Experimental fuel studies : reaction cross sections and isotope yields are needed to comparison Calculation/ Experiment (C/E)
- Calculation/prediction of prompt  $\gamma$  rays emitted in a core

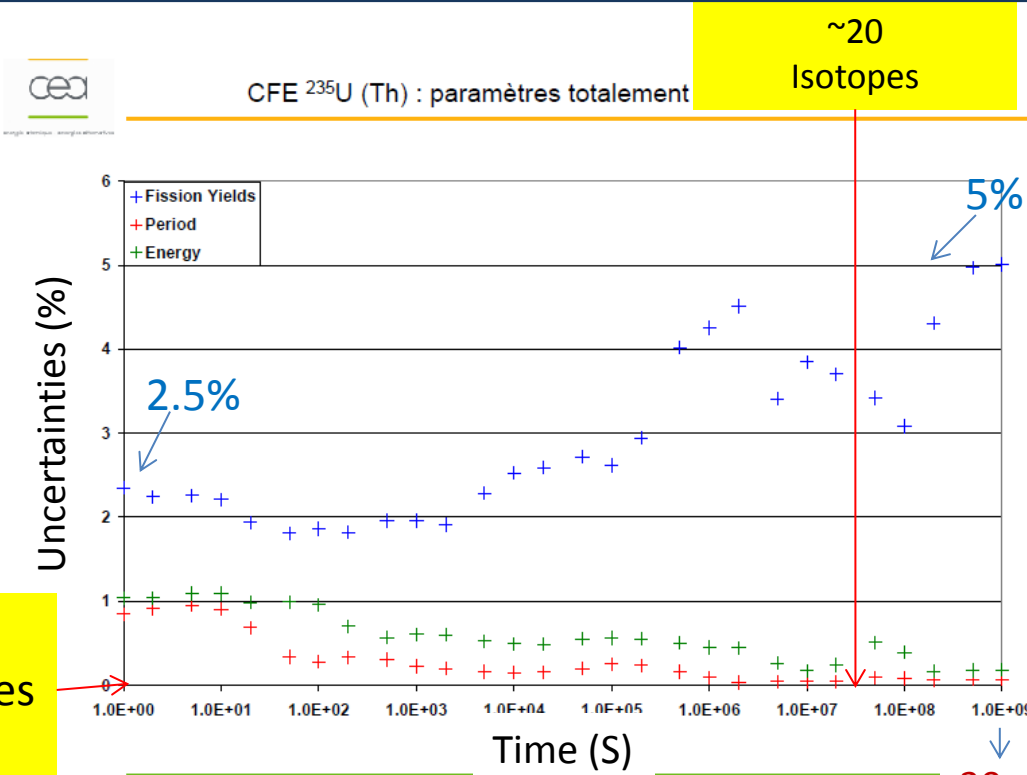
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- Independent measurements : uncertainties from 2.5% to 5%
- Total correlations in data uncertainties from 8% to 16%
- Uncertainties due to the fission yields are greater than the mean  $\beta/\gamma$  energy released or the periods with a factor 2.5 to 800.

**$\geq 100$   
Important Isotopes  
after shutdown**



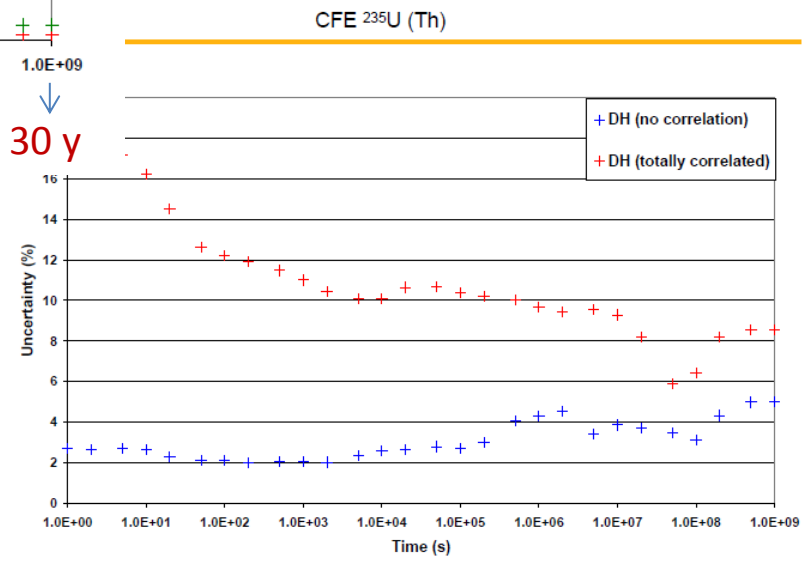
# 2- Impact of the covariance in the decay heat for nuclear applications



J.Ch. Benoit, PhD Thesis CEA Cadarache  
 J.Ch. Benoit, O.Serot et al., Physor 2012.

Evaluation : No covariance available  
 Mass =  $\sum$  Isotope  
 Variance(Mass) =  $\sum$  Var(Isotope) +  $\sum$  Cov (Isotope)

- Sensitivities to residual power
- Independent measurements uncertainties from 2.5% to 5%
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- Uncertainties due to the fission yields are greater than the mean  $\beta/\gamma$  released or the periods with a 2.5 to 800.



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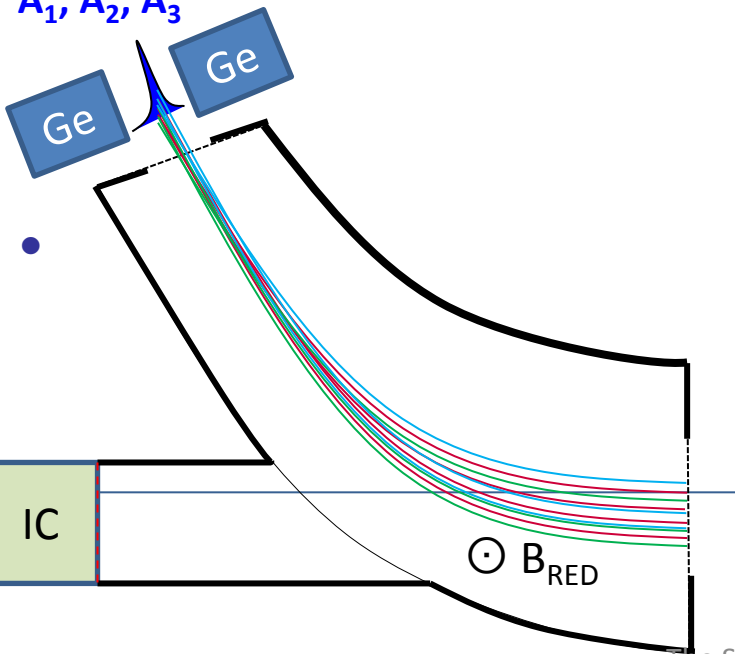
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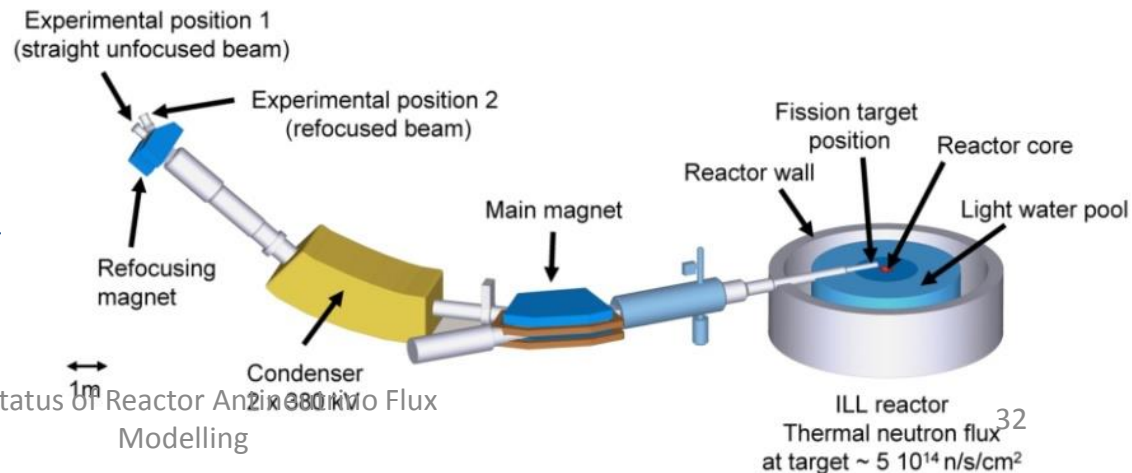
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- mass yields up to  $A = 155$  (at  $3\sigma$ )
- Isotopic yields with  $\gamma$  spectrometry
- for low yields or low  $\gamma$  intensities, signal/background ratio is too poor to obtain sufficient accuracy

$A_1; A_2; A_3$



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The Status of Reactor Analysis to Flux Modelling



# example : Lohengrin measurements

- **Method : relative measurements**

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- **cross normalization** : inerrant problem of the fission yield measurements > sum  $\equiv 2$  !
  - Even if no systematic exist in the determination of the FF rates, the yields are self-correlated
    - > few percents (3 - 5% for 5% precision of rate  $N(A)$ )
  - Partial measurements : normalization to the evaluations
    - > history dependent > time dependent
      - > few percents (5-15%) if experimental data are not de-normalized for the evaluations!
      - > Raw data dependence
      - > information on experimental methods
      - > intrinsic normalization of the method
- **burn up evolution  $Bu(t)$** : target sputtering > the dependence of the target (production) and target thickness used > At least few percent (1-5%) according the target

# 1-Lohengrin facility : method and limits

## - kinetic energy distribution $E_k$ :

> no models due to the dependence of the target made

> At least few percents according to the full description or not (0.-3%)

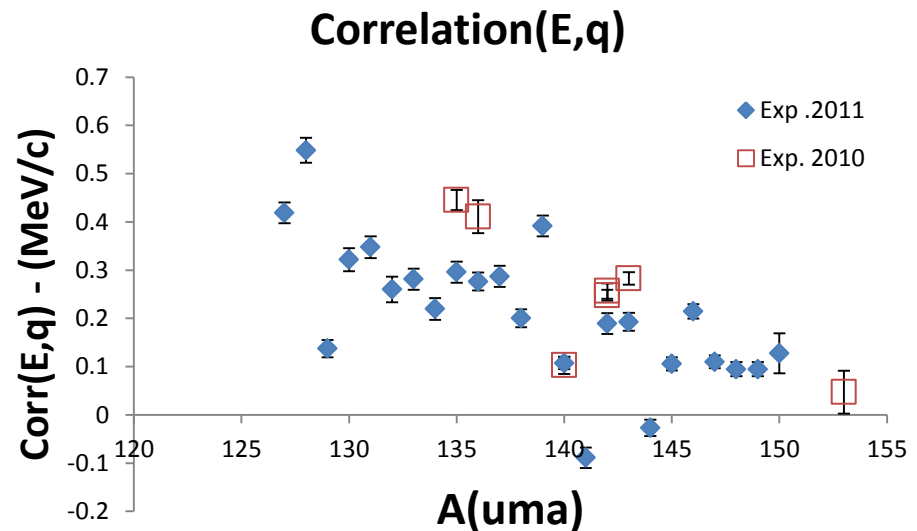
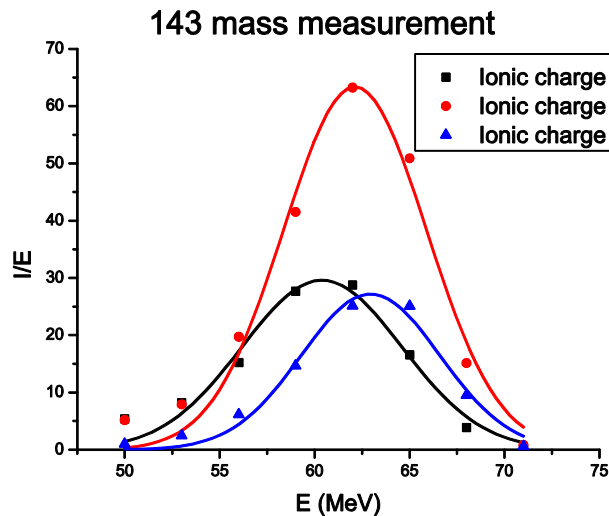
## - Ionic charge distribution $q$ :

> not completely at low charge (10-16) > limit of the Lohengrin electric fields

> electron conversion depend of the nuclear structures of Isotopes

> At least few percent (1-3%)

-( $E_k, q$ ) correlation > At least few percent (3-5%) if no measurement mass per mass



# 1-Lohengrin facility : method and limits

- **Uncertainties are-they independent ?**

- Kinetic energy distribution > **Yes** if complete  $E_k$  distribution is detailed  
> **No** if assumption on the  $E_k$  distribution (tail)
- Ionic charge distribution > **not completely** due to the low ionic charge
- Burnup > **No !**
- cross normalization > **Never !!!**

- **Limit of precision on the final yields  $Y(A)$**  : 5 to 10 % if there are not assumptions on the method of measurement. In the available data set, only few isotopes in the light fragment region have been studied

- **New measurements :**

- complete range mass – complete distributions > independent of existing data  
> consequence : beam time for this kind of measurements !
- Covariance matrix is not a problem, it is the solution  
> Variance-Covariance builds the coherence in data set

**What is a true measurement ? Eigen value of covariance matrix of the measurements !**

# $^{233}\text{U}(n_{\text{th}},f)$ mass yields : analysis

High fission rate :  
Self sputtering => apparent target thickness reduction  
Evolution monitored by repeated 136/21/E scans

