

Production of Medical Isotopes From a Thorium Target Irradiated by Light Charged Particles up to 70 MeV

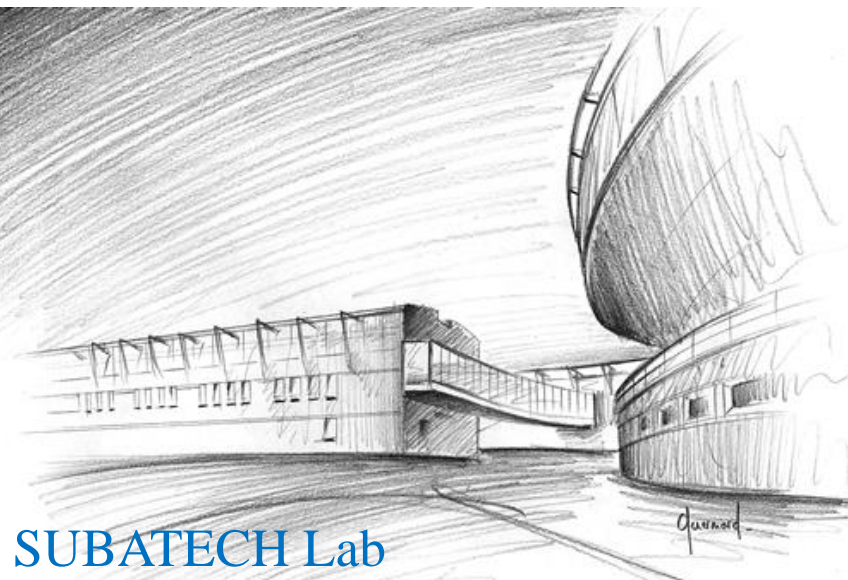
Duchemin C., Guertin, A., Haddad, F., Michel, N. and Métivier, V. *Phys. Med. Biol.* **60** (2015) 931–946

Charlotte DUCHEMIN

3rd year PhD Student
SUBATECH Laboratory
Nantes, France

Workshop on Compact Accelerators for Isotope Production
The Cockcroft Institute, Warrington (UK)
26th March 2015

Context



SUBATECH Lab

Artistic view

Accelerator for the
Research in
Radiochemistry and
Oncology at
Nantes
Atlantique
X

SUBATECH Lab

PRISMA group

- Sensors development for robotics
- Non destructive analysis of materials
- **Radio-isotopes production for medical applications**

In close collaboration with the
ARRONAX cyclotron



ARRONAX cyclotron
(Saint-Herblain, 44)

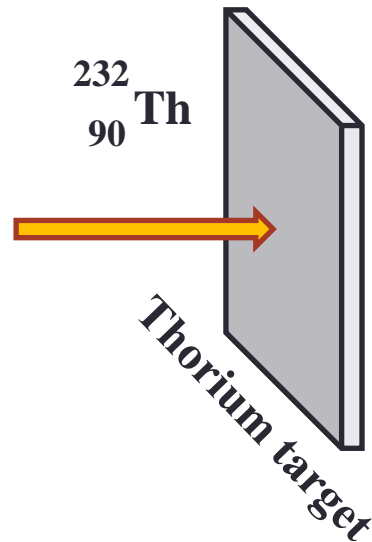
ARRONAX

Particles	Energy (MeV)	Max. current (μA)	Dual beam	
Protons	30-70	2 x 350	Yes	Multi-particles
Deuterons	15-34	2 x 50	Yes	High energy
Alphas	68	70	No	High intensity

- 4 vaults (P2, P3, A1, A2) devoted to **isotope production** and connected to hot cells through a pneumatic system
- 1 vault (P1) devoted to a **neutron activator** system
- 1 vault (AX) devoted to physics, radiolysis and radiobiology **experiments**



Motivations



- Irradiation using light charged particles: deuterons and protons
- Production of radioisotopes of medical interest

ACTIVATION PRODUCTS

- Pa-230 → U-230 → **Th-226**
- Ac-225 → Fr-221 → At-217 → **Bi-213**
- Th-227 → **Ra-223**

Alpha emitters for α targeted therapy

FISSION PRODUCTS

- Mo-99 → **Tc-99**, **I-131**
- Cd-115g → **In-115m**

Isotopes for **diagnosis** and **therapy**

➡ Measure production cross sections for both projectiles and compare production yields

Cross section measurements @ ARRONAX

First, measurements using deuterons as projectiles. Motivations:

- In some cases, they give higher production yields (i.e. Cu-64)
- Available with ARRONAX up to 35 MeV
- Improvements of data base and referenced cross sections
- Obtain large set of data to constrain theoretical codes like TALYS

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- Nuclear reaction program → light particles on nuclei heavier than carbon.
- Many theoretical models to predict observables as a function of the incident particle energy (from 1 keV to 1 GeV).
- Default models in the code, defined by the authors
- Code can work with few informations: target type, incident particle and energy.
- Other models included in the code can be better to describe the exp. σ .

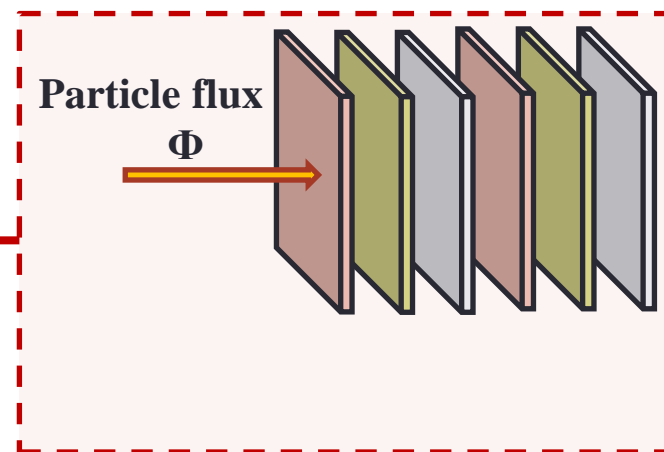
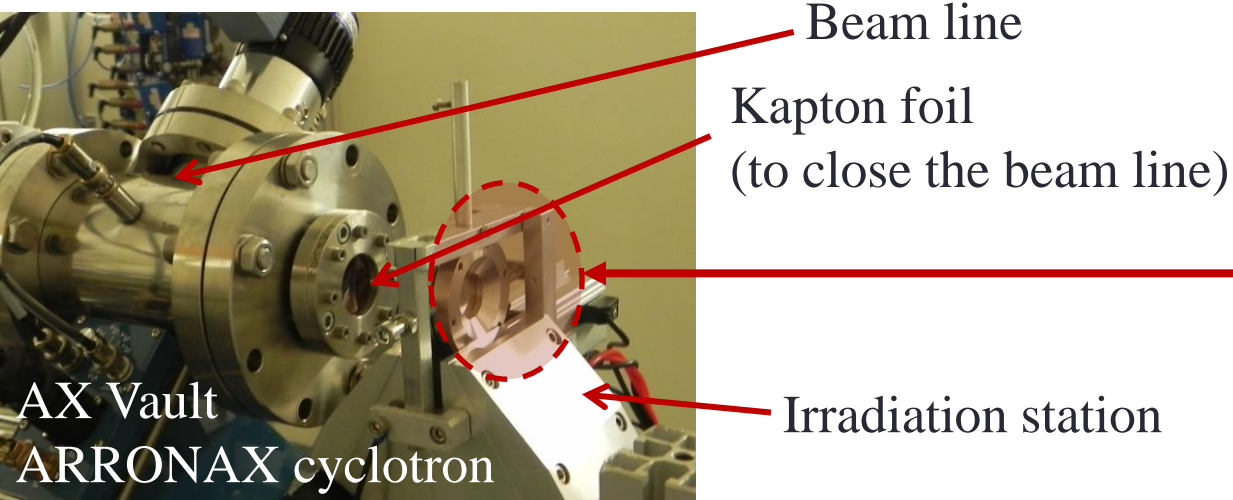
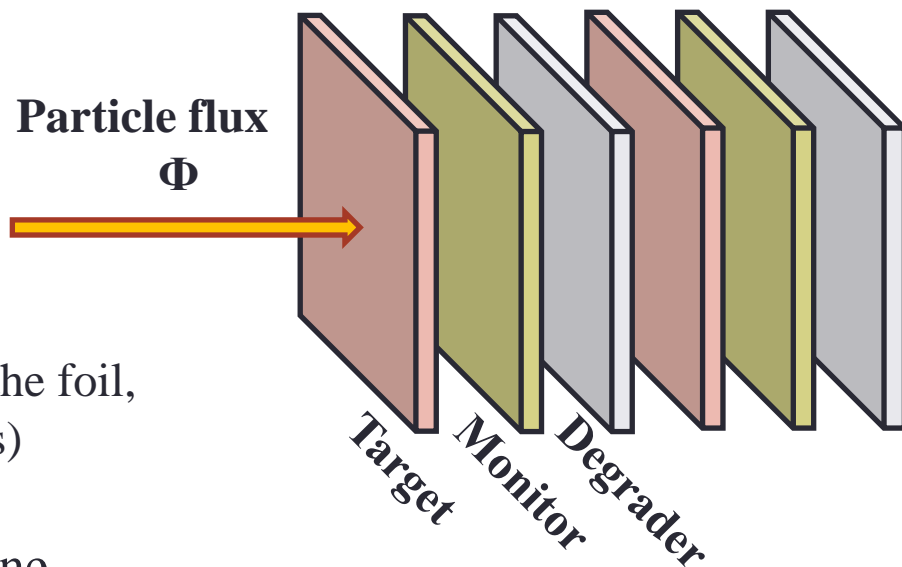
* Koning A J and Rochman D 2012 Modern nuclear data evaluation with the TALYS code system *Nucl.Data Sheets* 113 2841

Cross section measurements

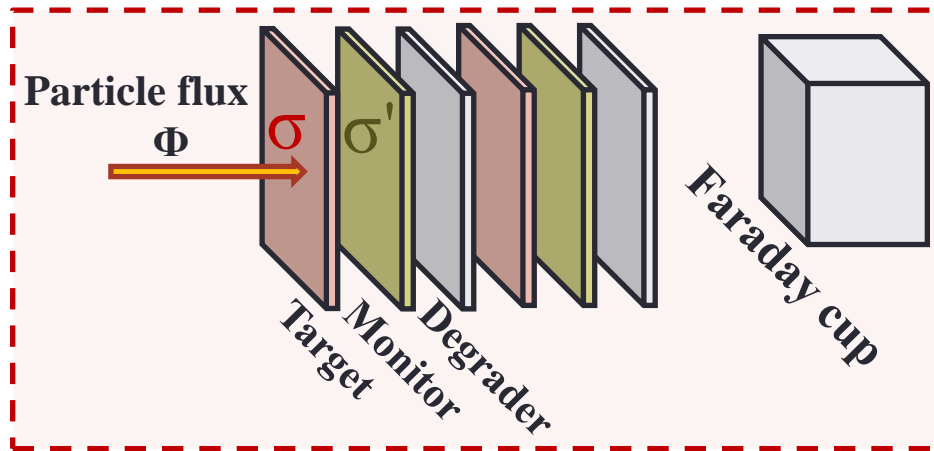
1 → **AX Vault**
Cross section measurements

STACKED-FOILS TECHNIQUE

- Thin foils (few μm)
- Energy loss constant and small
- One thin foil
 - one energy (taken in the middle of the foil, after SRIM simulations)
 - one cross section value



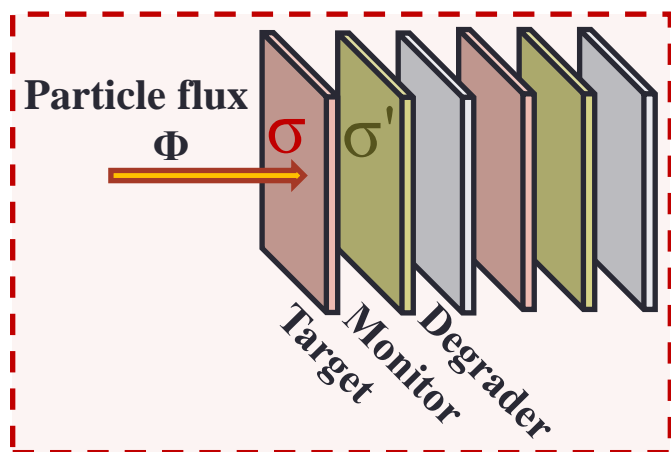
Data Measurements



$$\sigma = \frac{Act \cdot A}{\Phi \cdot \chi \cdot \rho \cdot e_f (1 - e^{-\lambda t})}$$

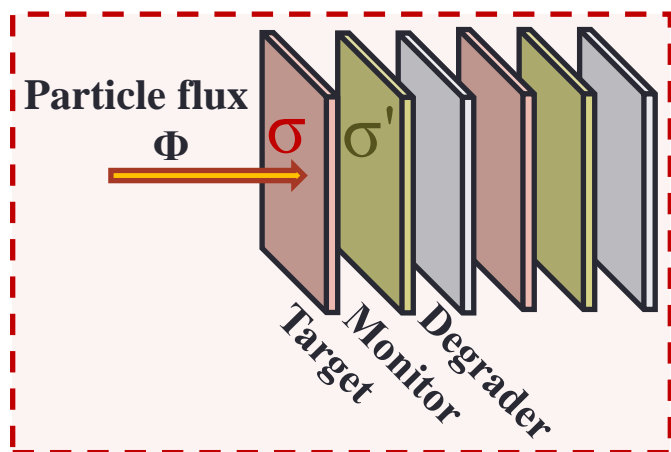
- A Faraday cup is placed at the end of the stack to measure the intensity during the irradiation
- Flux attenuation all along the stack?

Data Measurements



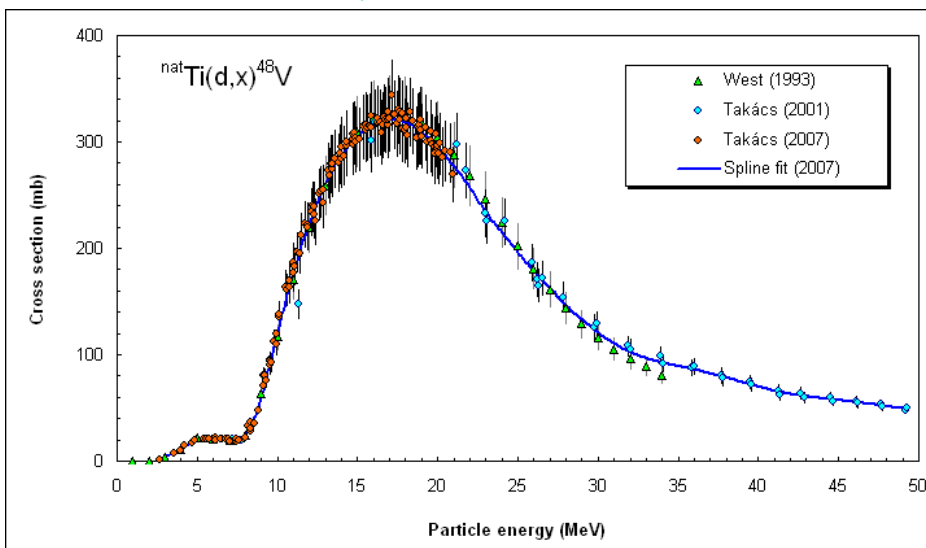
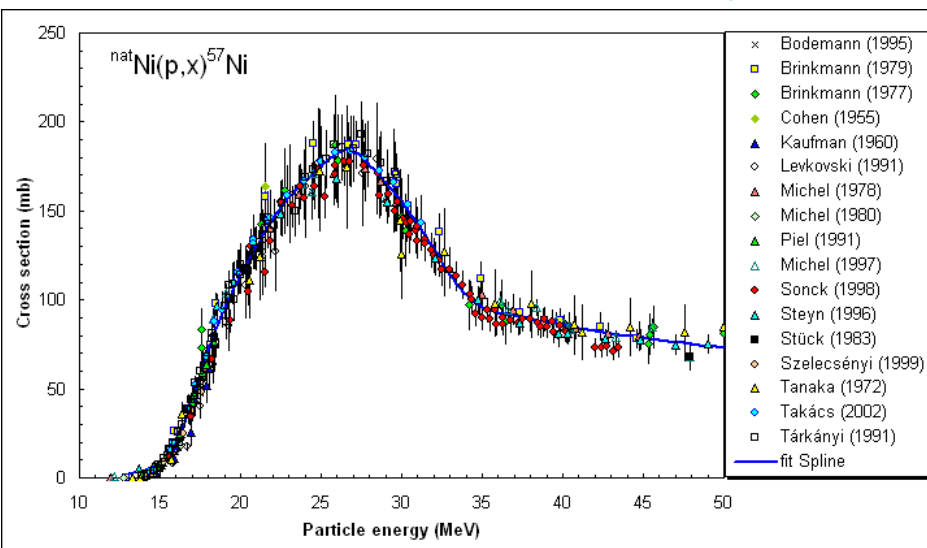
$$\sigma = \sigma' \cdot \frac{\chi' \cdot A_{ct} \cdot A \cdot \rho' \cdot e_f' (1 - e^{-\lambda' t})}{\chi \cdot A_{ct}' \cdot A' \cdot \rho \cdot e_f (1 - e^{-\lambda t})}$$

Data Measurements



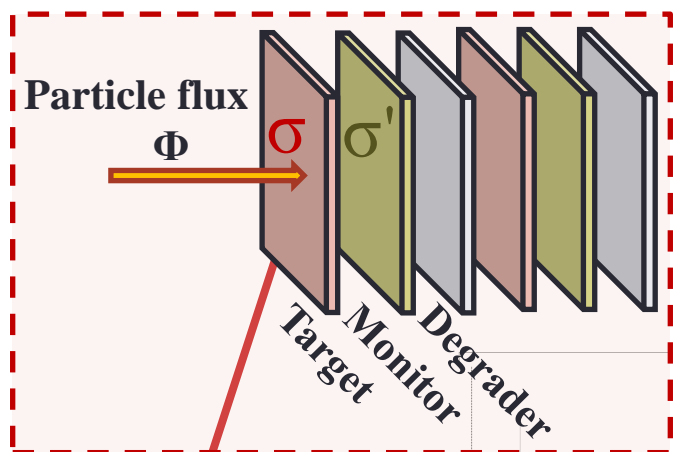
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Monitor reactions used :

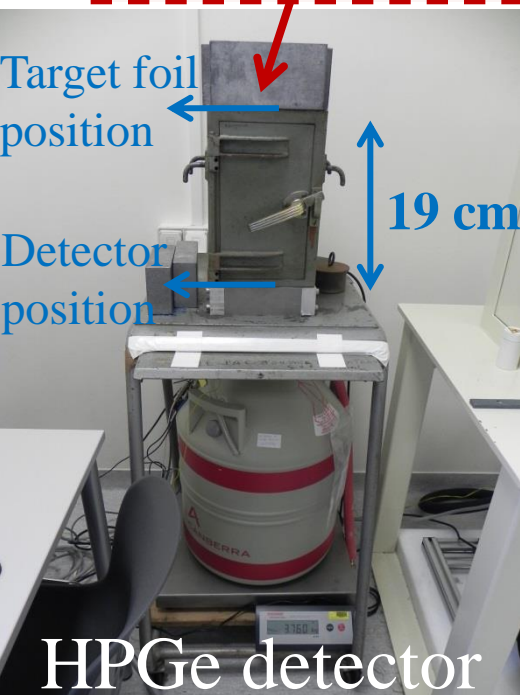


International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) - Medical Applications @ Nuclear Data Section

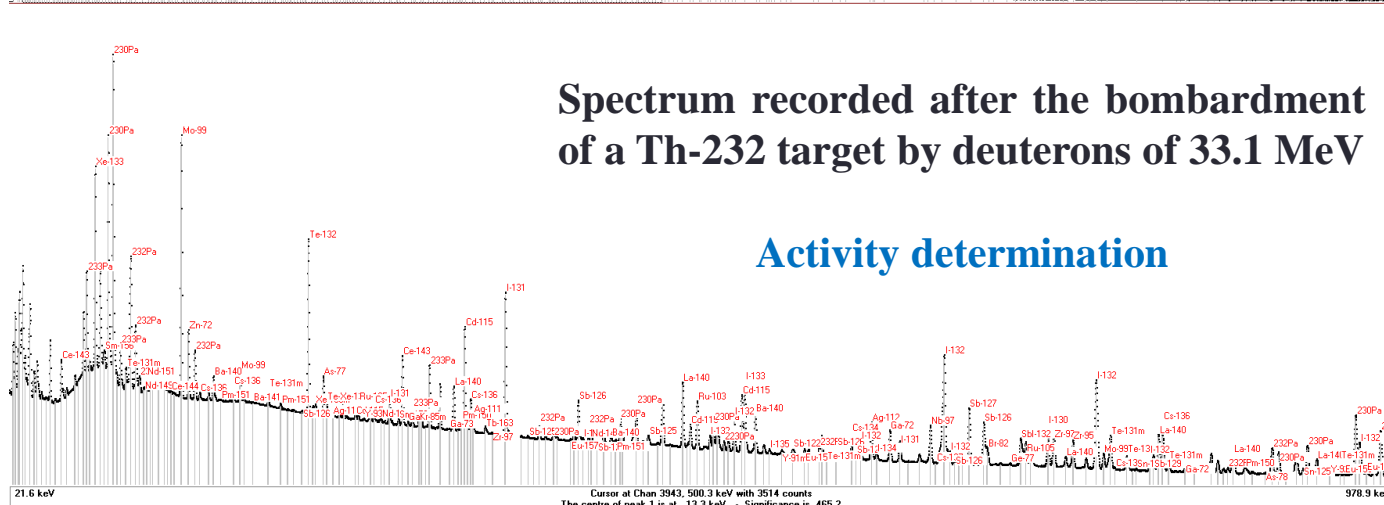
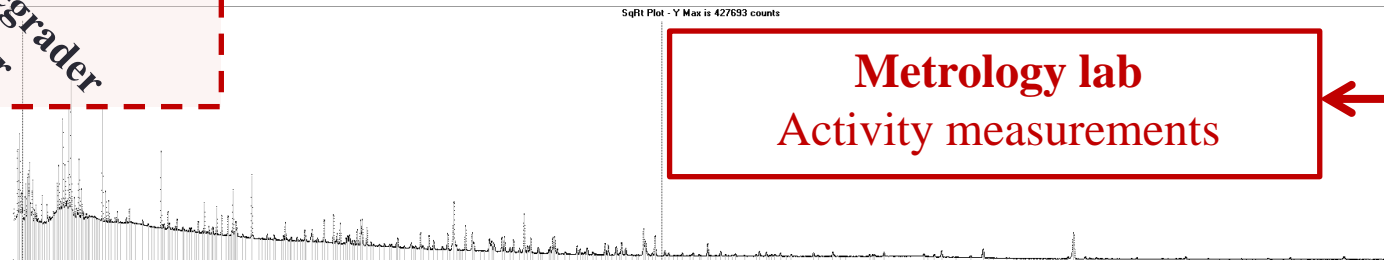
Data Measurements



$$\sigma = \sigma' \cdot \frac{\lambda' \cdot A \cdot \rho' \cdot e_f' (1 - e^{-\lambda' t})}{\lambda \cdot A' \cdot \rho \cdot e_f (1 - e^{-\lambda t})}$$



Metrology lab
Activity measurements



Sample - taken on 30-Sep-2013 at 14:20
From Detector 2. Live Time is 165626. True Time is 170102 seconds. Collected on 30-Sep-2013 at 14:20
Using NORMAN Defaults file 1. Calibration from Spectrum data file

Experimental conditions

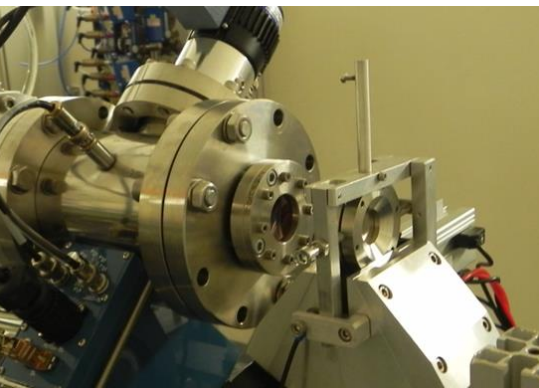
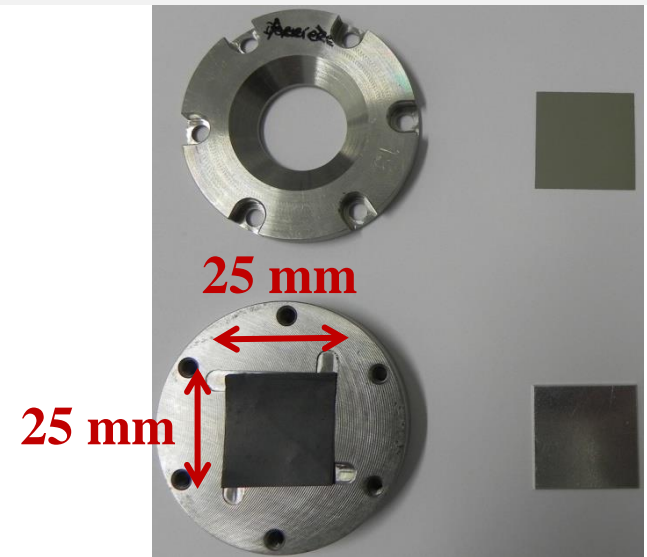
Typical irradiations :

- Time of irradiation : 30 minutes
- Beam intensity : 100 nA
- Cooling time : around 14 hours

To limit errors :

- **Several activity measurements**, depending on the half-lives
- Each **thickness** of the foils have been **precisely measured**:

Weighted to obtain its mass and **scanned** to determined its area

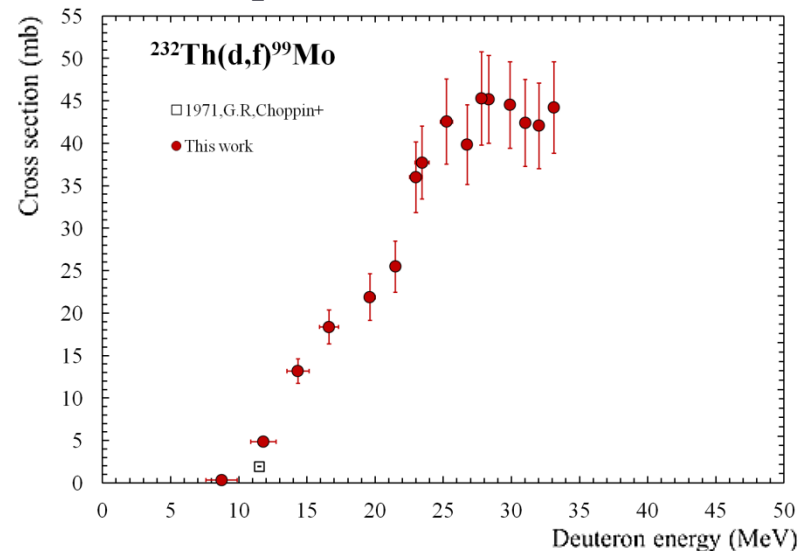
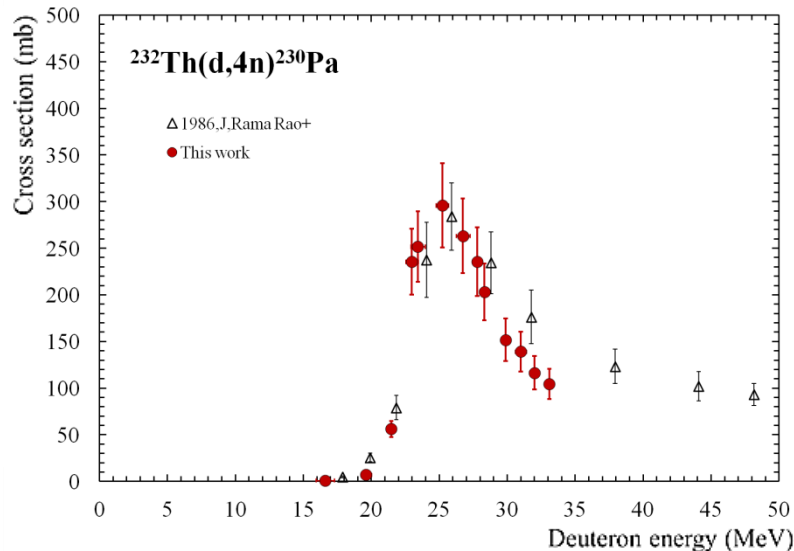


Production Cross Section

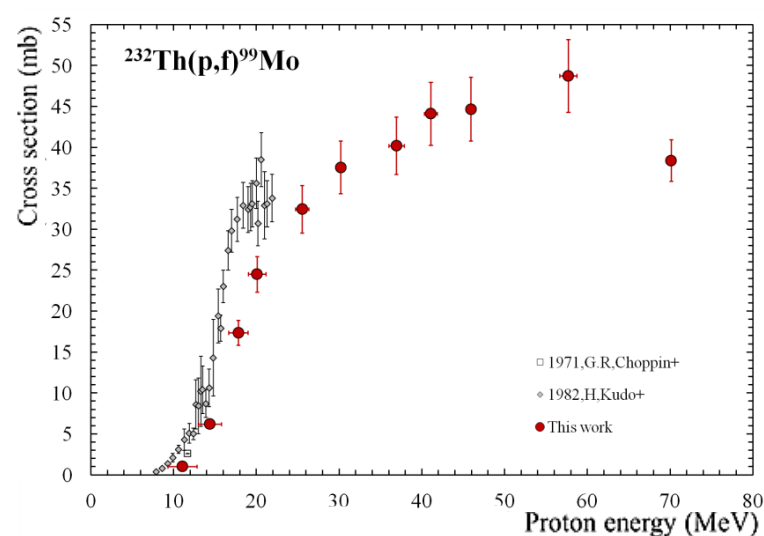
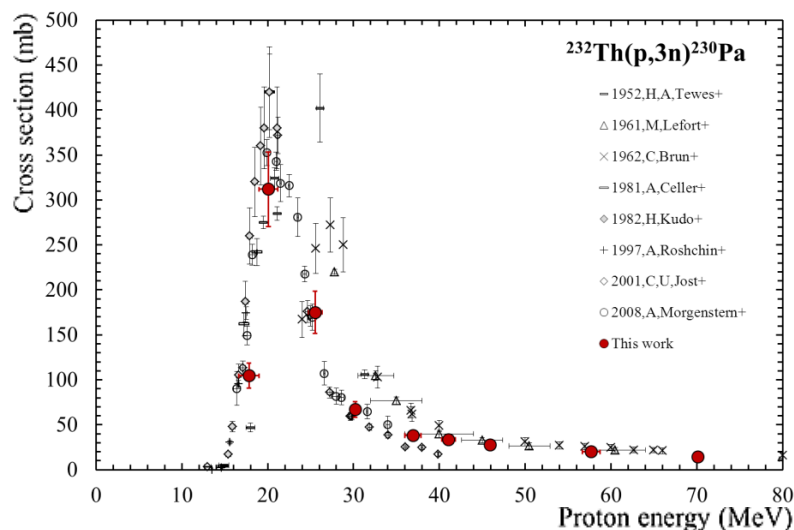
Activation product: **Pa-230** → U-230 → Th-226 (α)

Fission product: **Mo-99** → Tc-99m

DEUTERONS



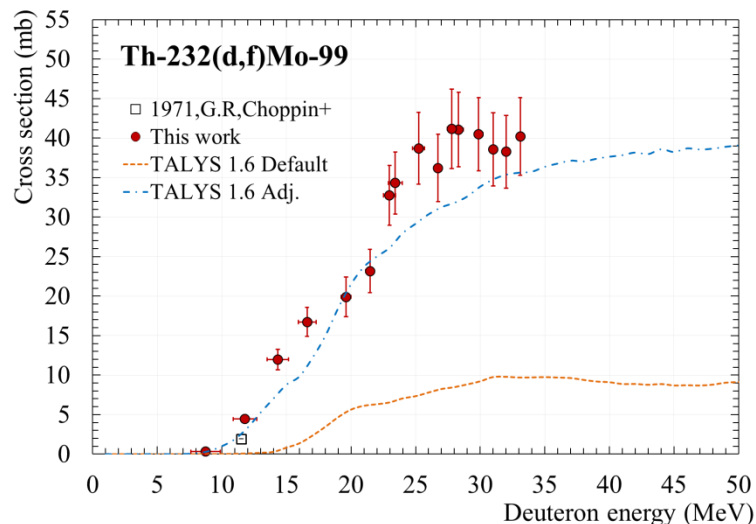
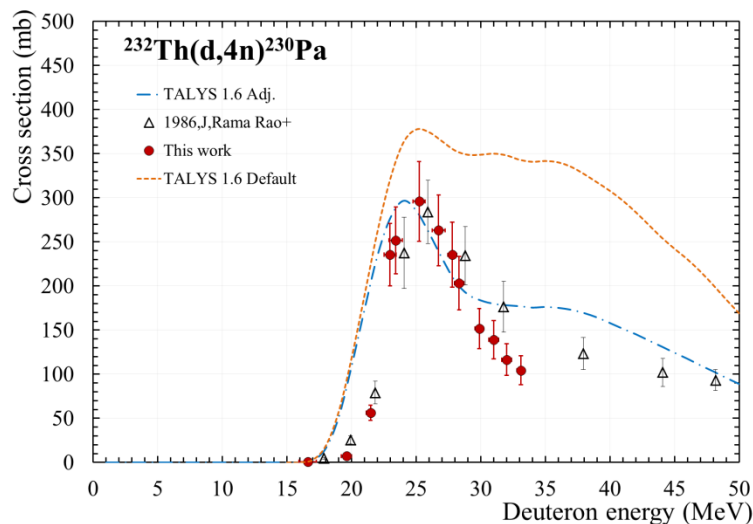
PROTONS



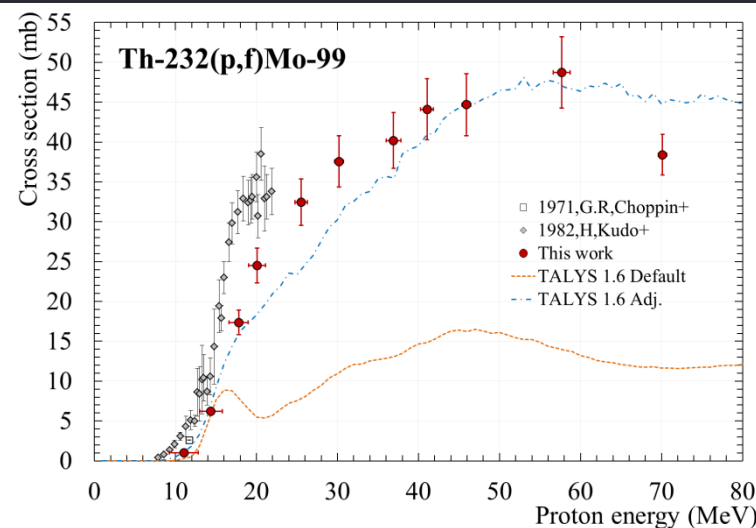
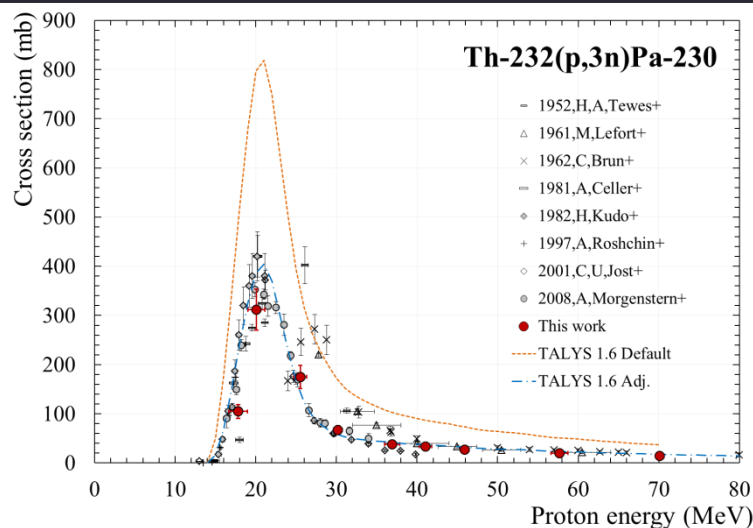
Comparisons with TALYS

Talys 1.6: Comparison between **default** and « **adjusted** »

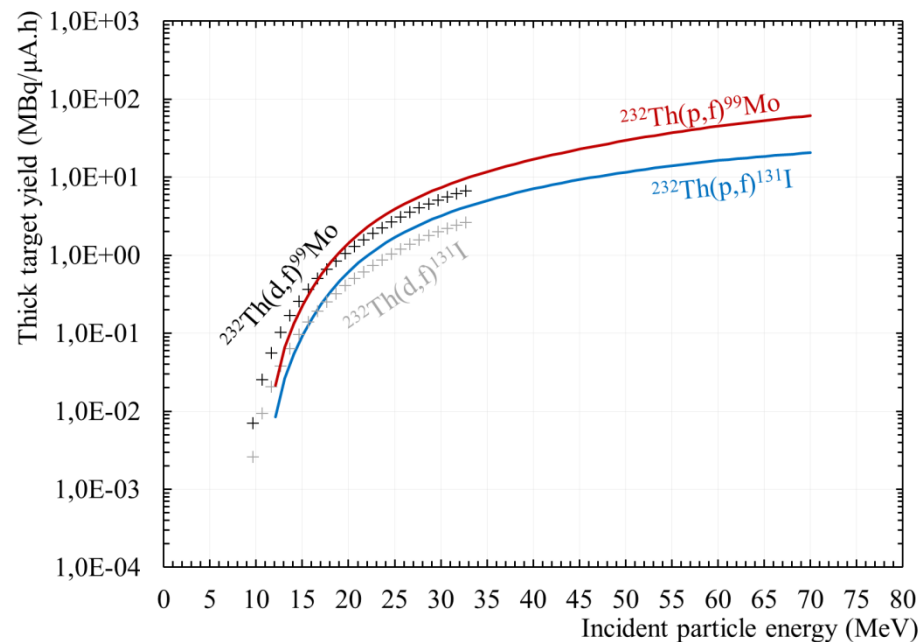
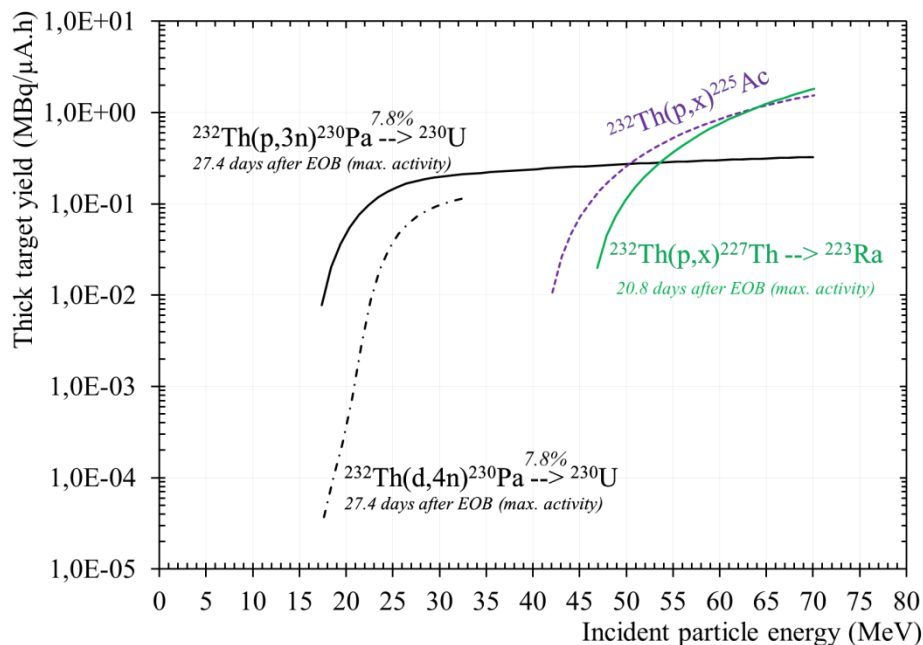
DEUTERONS



PROTONS



Thick Target Production Yield (TTY)



The use of protons as projectiles allows to:

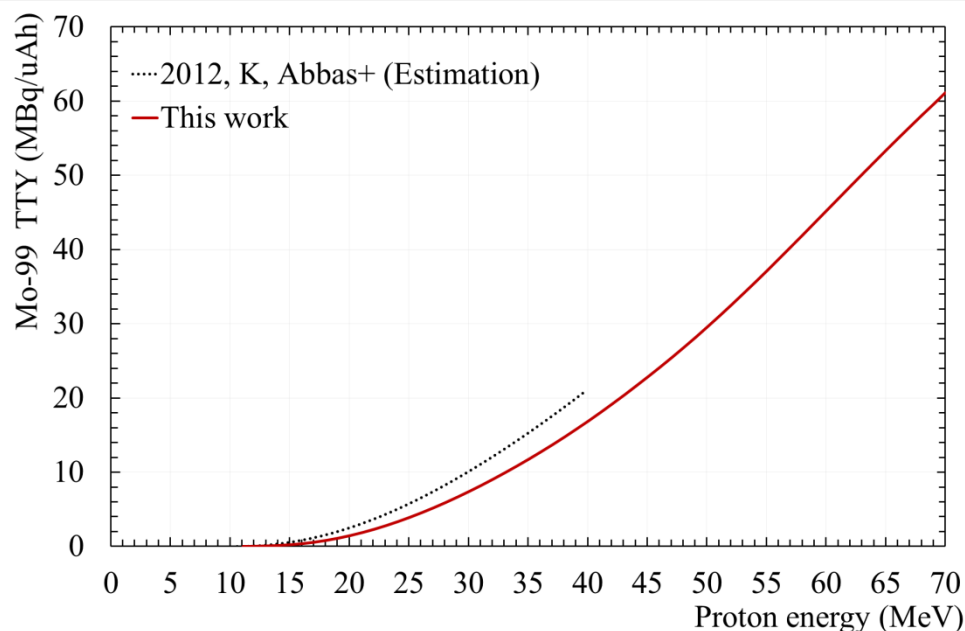
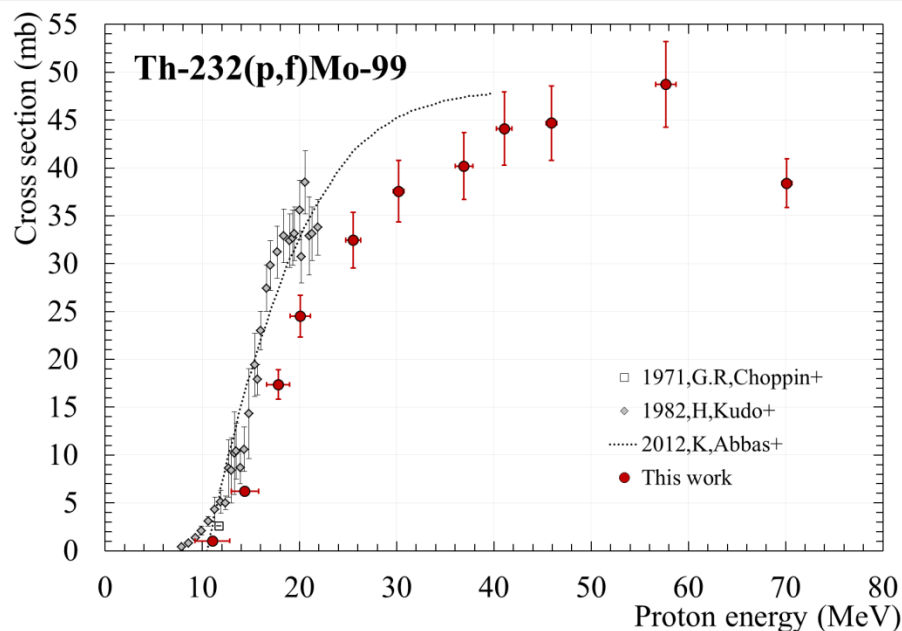
- Produce ^{225}Ac and ^{223}Ra
- Obtain higher ^{230}U production rate than with deuterons
- Obtain higher ^{99}Mo and ^{131}I production rate

Medical isotopes production in a Th target

- Review of the medical radioisotopes products in a **thorium** target irradiated by **protons** of **70 MeV**
- Production rate using **70 MeV proton beam @ 350 μ A** during 3 days (based on Mo-99 half-life) \rightarrow 90 runs / year

	Radio-isotope	Half-life $T_{1/2}$	TTY at 70 MeV (MBq/ μ A.h)	Prod. 350 μ A during 3 days (Ci)	Prod. on a dedicated machine at 70 MeV 90 runs/year (Ci)
Activation products	U-230	20.8 d	0.3	0.2	18
	Ac-225	10.0 d	1.6	1.1	99
	Ra-223	11.435 d	1.8	1.2	108
Fission products	I-131	8.0207 d	20.6	14.0	1 260
	Cd-115g	53.46 h	83.1	56.6	5 094
	Mo-99	65.94 h	61.1	41.6	3 744

Focus on Mo-99 and K. Abbas estimation



- In 2012, estimation of the Mo-99 cross section up to 40 MeV (K. Abbas et al.) from the experimental values of H. Kudo et al., 1982.

- This work is not in agreement with H. Kudo et al., 1982

→ disagreement with the K. Abbas et al., 2012, estimation (\neq up to 50%)

- Mo-99 TTY obtain in this work is up to 25% lower (at 40 MeV) than the one estimate by K. Abbas et al., 2012.

→ **And with other production routes ?**

Focus on Mo-99 TTY









- **Comparison between different production routes with data available in the literature**
- Production rate using the parameters available at **ARRONAX** with an irradiation duration of **3 days** (based on Mo-99 half-life)

- Production rate using **protons as projectiles**
- **350 μA**

- Production rate using **deuterons as projectiles**
- **50 μA**

- Production rate using **alphas as projectiles**
- **70 μA**

Focus on Mo-99 TTY

	Reaction	Author	Energy (MeV)	TTY (MBq/ μ A.h)	Production Protons: 350 μA Deuterons: 50 μA Alphas: 70 μA during 3 days (Ci)	Production on a dedicated machine with 90 runs/year (Ci)	Specific activity
Protons	$^{100}\text{Mo}(p,p+n)^{99}\text{Mo}$	F.Tarkanyi (2012)	38	98.8	67.3	6 057	
	$^{\text{nat}}\text{U}(p,f)^{99}\text{Mo}$	M.A.M. Uosif (2005)	70	80.4	54.8	4 932	
	$^{232}\text{Th}(p,f)^{99}\text{Mo}$	This work (2014)	70	61.1	41.6	3 744	
	$^{\text{nat}}\text{Pb}(p,f)^{99}\text{Mo}$	J.Kuhnhehn (2001)	70	1.3	0.9	81	
Deuterons	$^{100}\text{Mo}(d,p+2n)^{99}\text{Mo}$	F.Tarkanyi (2011)	35	76.0	7.4	666	
	$^{232}\text{Th}(d,f)^{99}\text{Mo}$	This work (2014)	33	6.7	0.7	63	
Alphas	$^{100}\text{Mo}(\alpha,\alpha+n)^{99}\text{Mo}$	V.N.Levkovskij (1991)	46	2.0	0.3	25	
	$^{96}\text{Zr}(\alpha,n)^{99}\text{Mo}$	G.Pupillo (2014)	30	1.6	0.2	18	

Conclusion

- New cross section measurements have been made for $^{232}\text{Th}(p,x)$ and $^{232}\text{Th}(d,x)$ reactions, using the stacked-foils technique at ARRONAX (St Herblain, France).
- **Activation:** new data have been obtained for Pa-230, Ac-225, Ra-223
- **Fission:** new data up to 70 MeV using protons
first data on the energy range 8-33 MeV using deuterons as projectiles

26 fission products have been detected including Mo-99, Cd-115g and I-131 in both case.

Mo-99 TTY obtained in this work is up to 25% lower than the one estimate by K.Abbas et al., 2012 up to 40 MeV.

3.7 kCi could be annually obtained on a dedicated 70 MeV 350 μA machine using the reaction $\text{Th-232}(p,f)\text{Mo-99}$ and considering 90 runs/year.

but other production routes lead to less contaminants

Some comparisons with the TALYS 1.6 code: default models don't well reproduce the experimental data

other models include in the code are better

checked with protons and deuterons on different targets

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

Production of Medical Isotopes From a Thorium Target Irradiated by Light Charged Particles up to 70 MeV

Duchemin C., Guertin, A., Haddad, F., Michel, N. and Métivier, V. *Phys. Med. Biol.* **60** (2015) 931–946

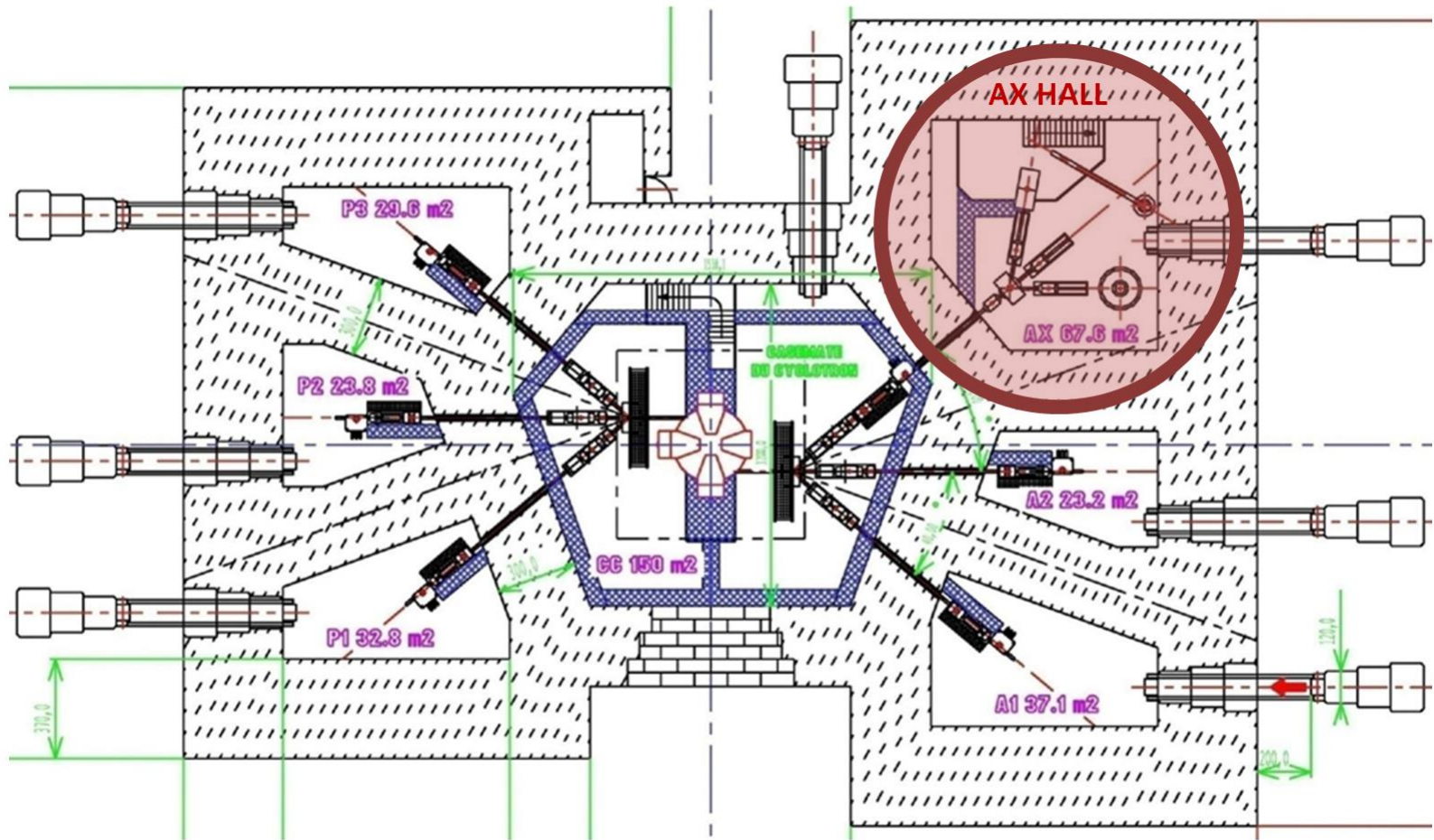
The ARRONAX cyclotron is a project promoted by the Regional Council of Pays de la Loire financed by local authorities, the French government and the European Union. This work has been, in part, supported by a grant from the French National Agency for Research called "Investissements d'Avenir", Equipex Arronax-Plus n°ANR-11-EQPX-0004 and Labex n°ANR-11-LABX-0018-01.



UNIVERSITÉ DE NANTES



ARRONAX cyclotron

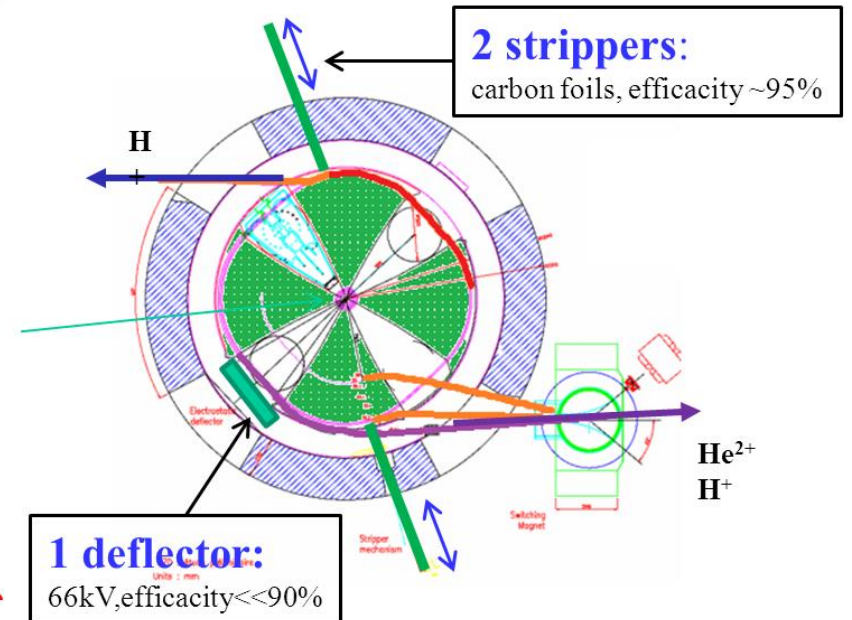
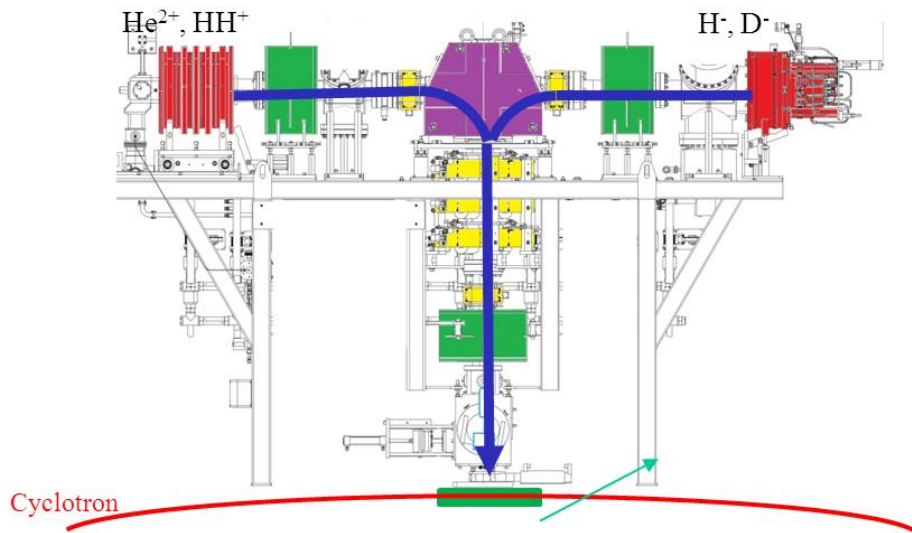


ARRONAX cyclotron

C70 Cyclotron build by IBA:

- **4 sectors isochron cyclotron** (~ 4m of diameter)
 - RF: 30.45 MHz
 - Acceleration Voltage: 65 kV
 - Max magn. field : 1.6 T
 - Max kin. energy/n: 30-70 MeV
- **2 multi-particle sources:**
 - H, D: multicusp, 5 mA max.
 - He²⁺, HH⁺: supermanogan ECR
- Extraction: stripper (-) or electrostatic deflector (+)

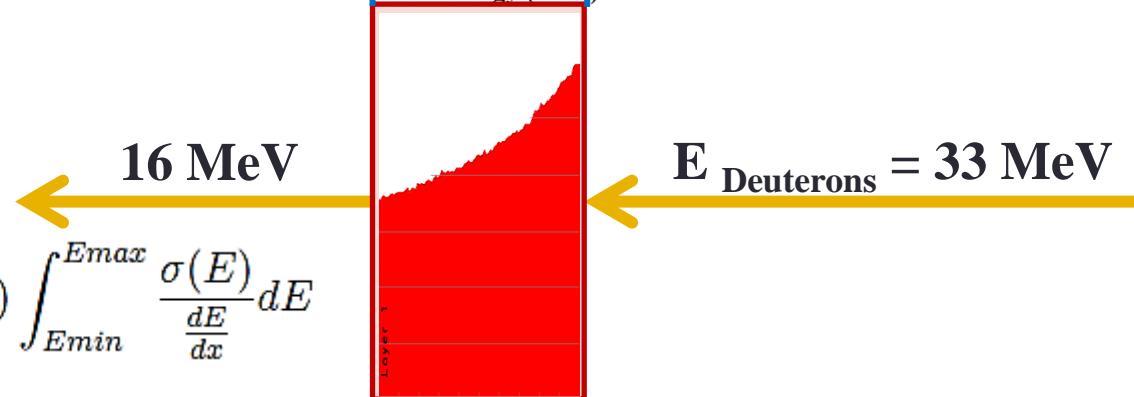
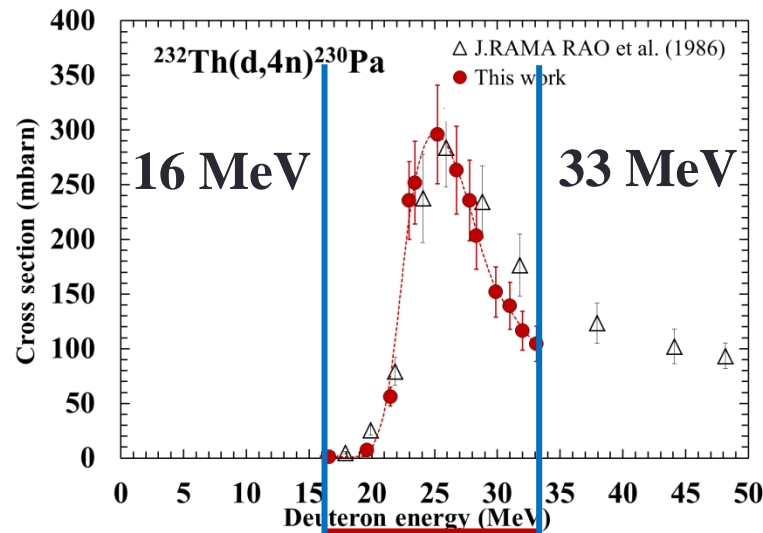
Extracted	Energy (MeV)	Max. current (μA)
H ⁺	30 – 68.7	2 x 350
D ⁺	15 – 35	2 x 50
He ²⁺	67.4	70
HH ⁺	17	50



Thick Target Yield (MBq/μAh)

- Determination of the production rate of a radionuclide from its cross section

Pa-230
 ↓
 U-230
 ↓
 Th-226

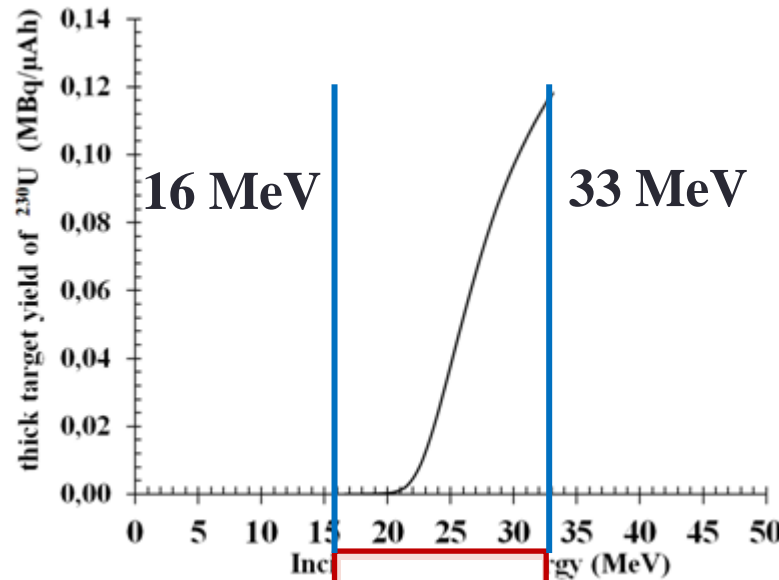


$$TTY = \Phi \cdot \chi \cdot \frac{N_a \cdot \rho}{A} (1 - e^{-\lambda \cdot t}) \int_{E_{min}}^{E_{max}} \frac{\sigma(E)}{\frac{dE}{dx}} dE$$

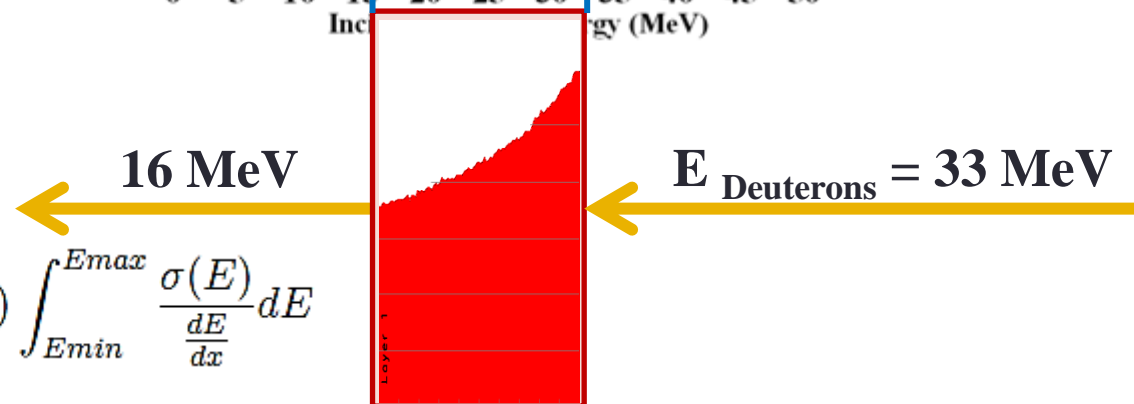
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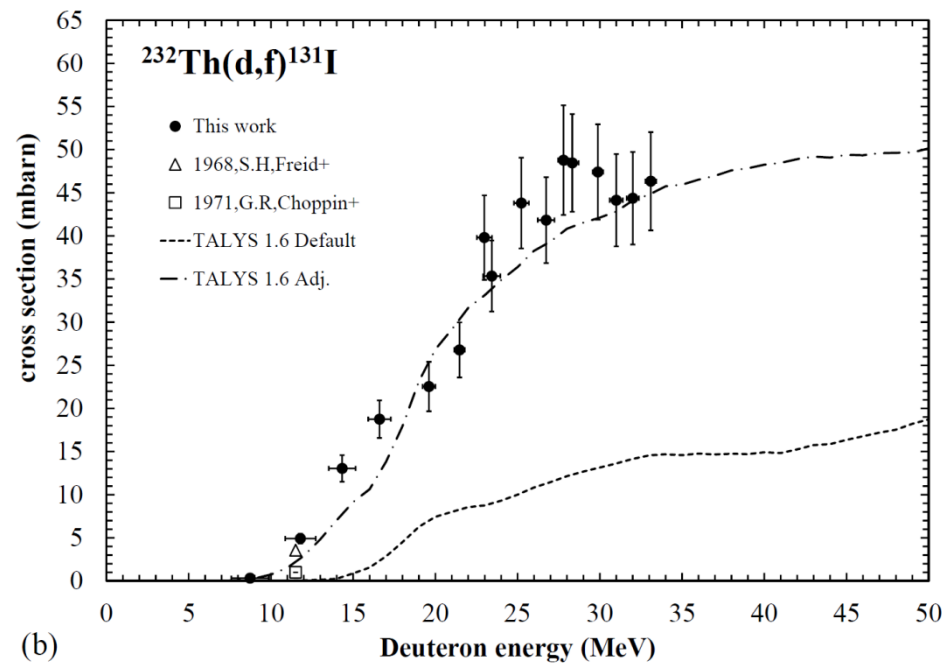
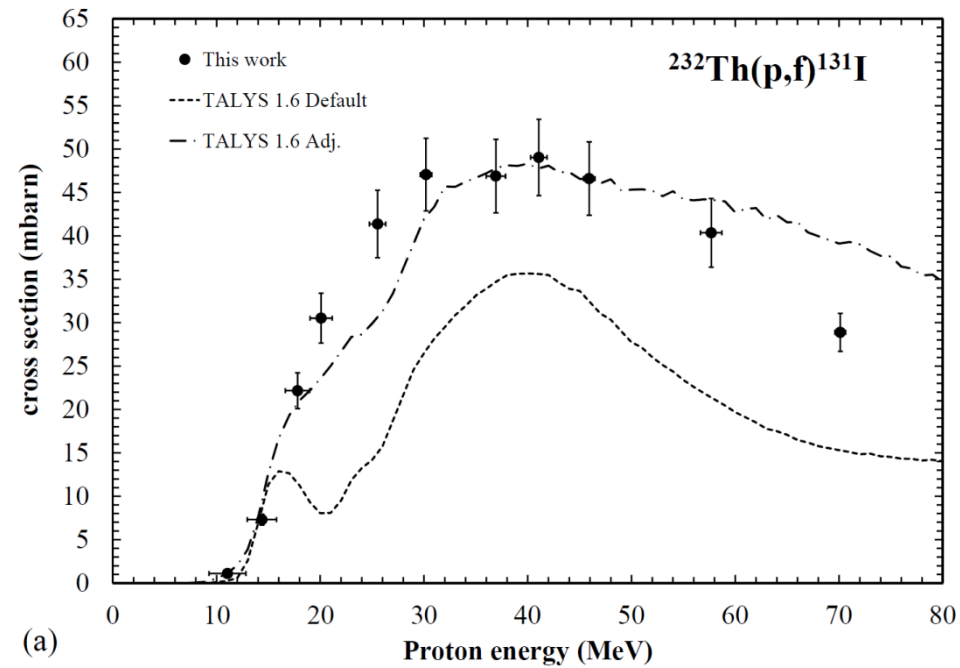


0.12 MBq/μA.h

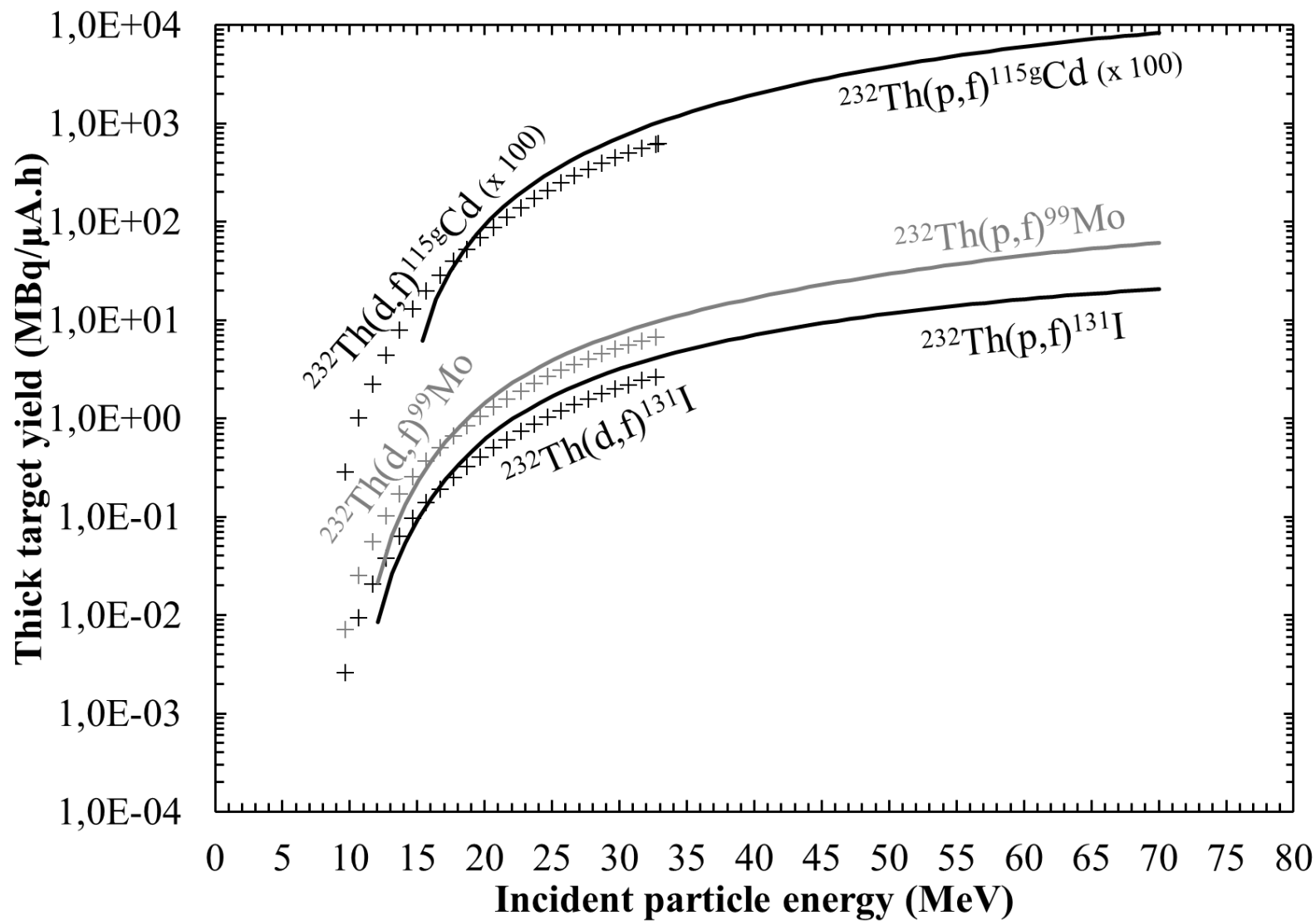


$$TTY = \Phi \cdot \chi \cdot \frac{N_a \cdot \rho}{A} (1 - e^{-\lambda \cdot t}) \int_{E_{min}}^{E_{max}} \frac{\sigma(E)}{\frac{dE}{dx}} dE$$

Iodine-131 production cross section

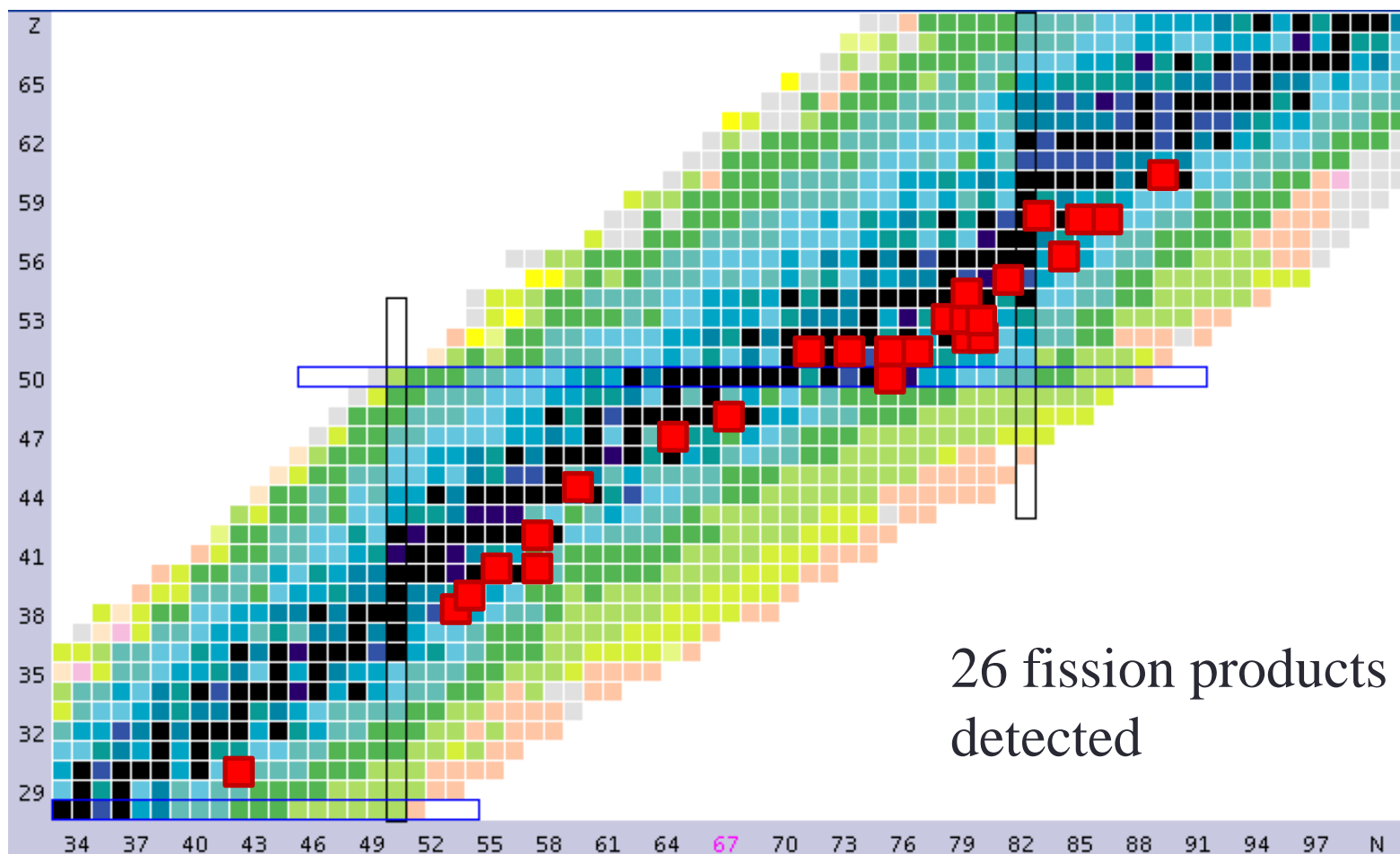


TTY Cd-115g



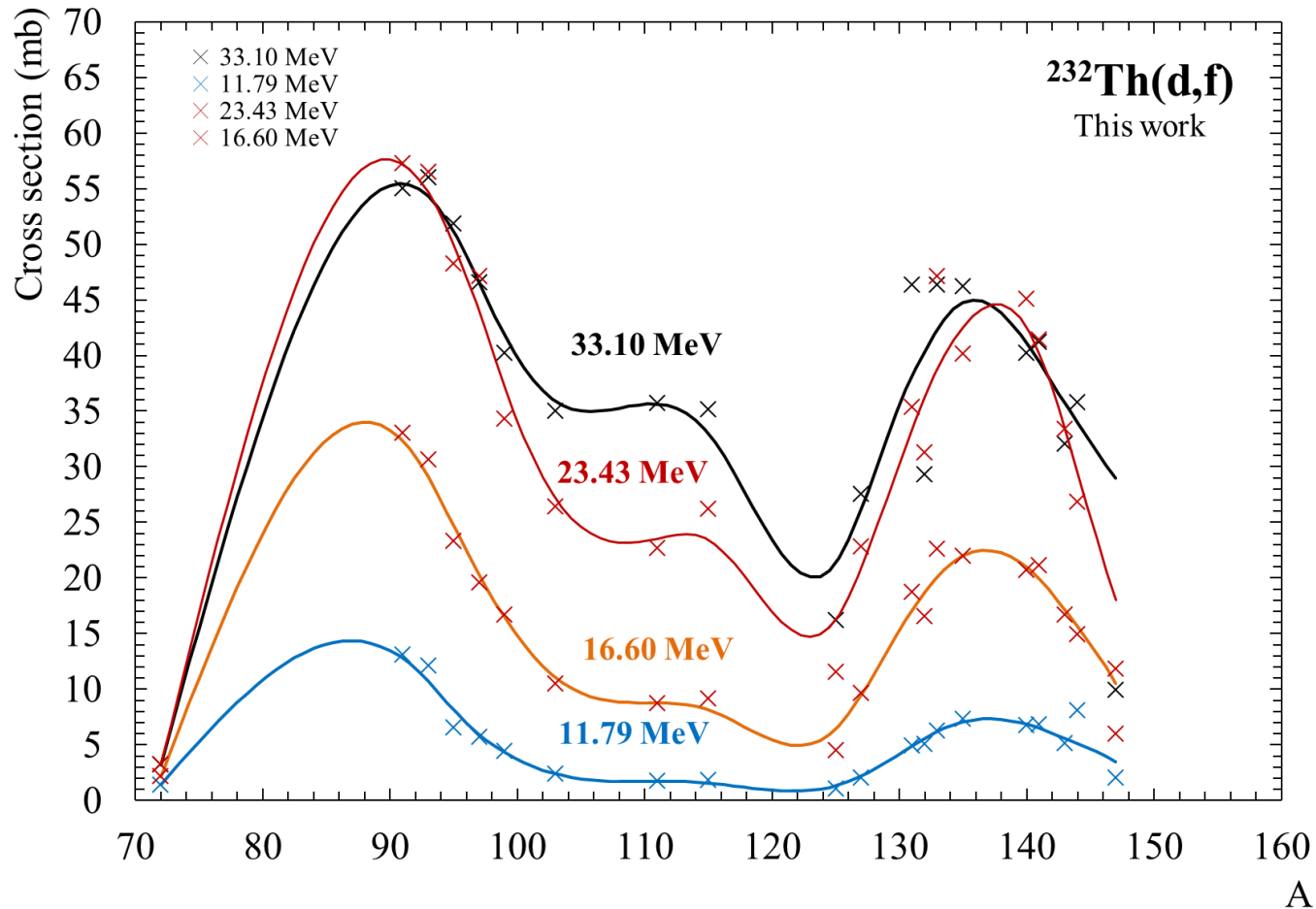
Fission products

- The irradiation of a thorium target by light charged particles induced **fission products**



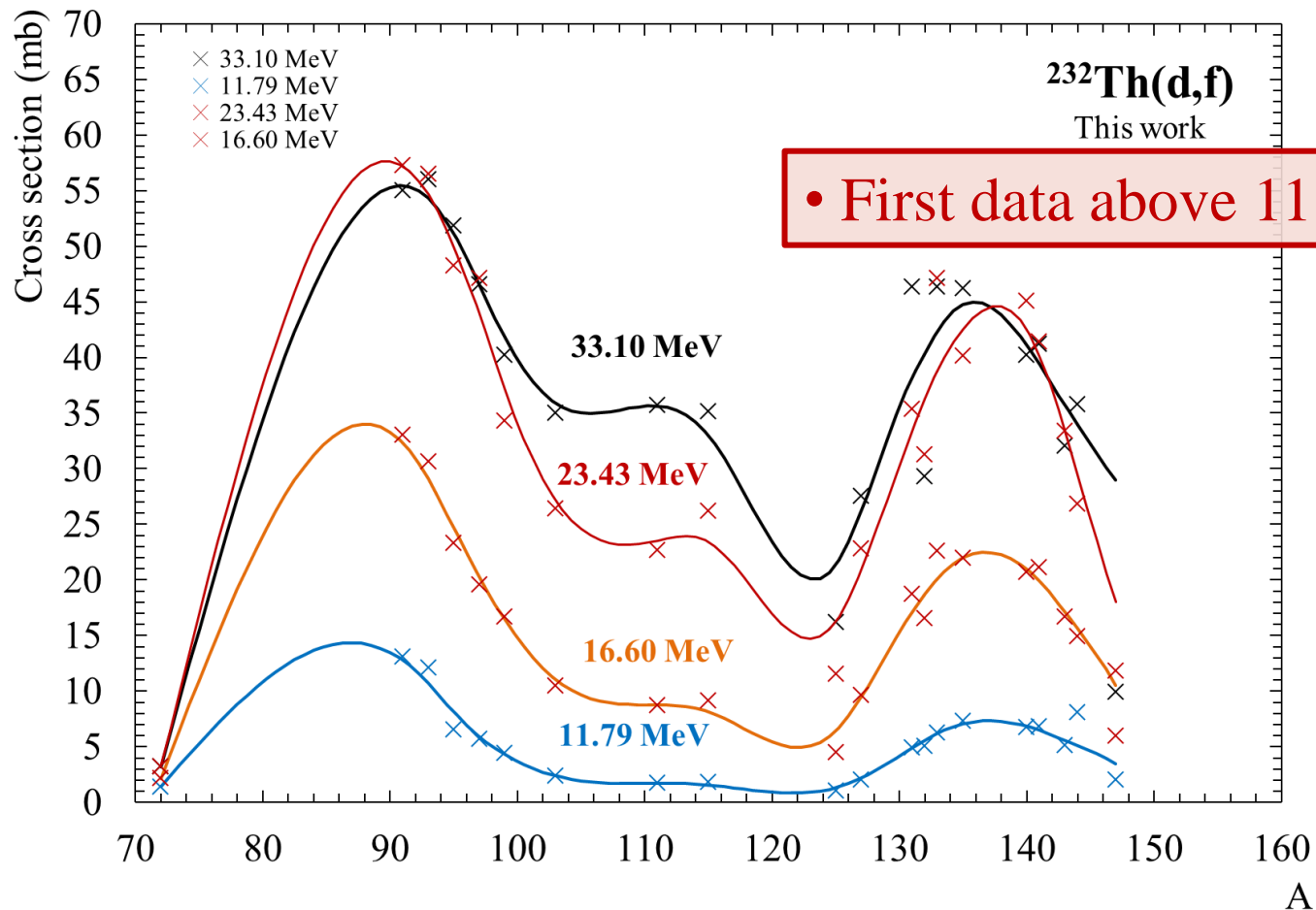
Fission products

- Exp. production cross sections determined as a function of the energy and their mass A



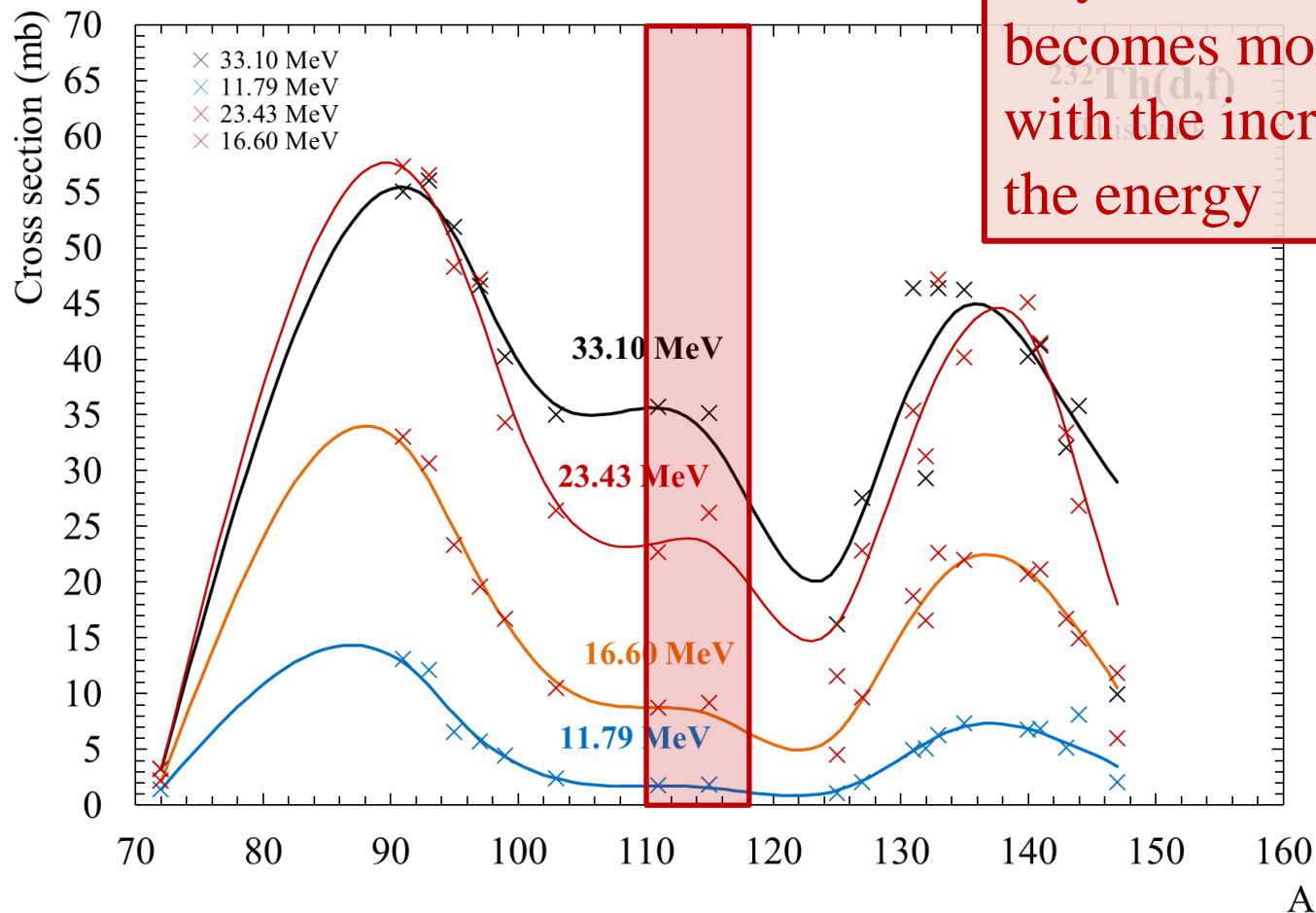
Fission products

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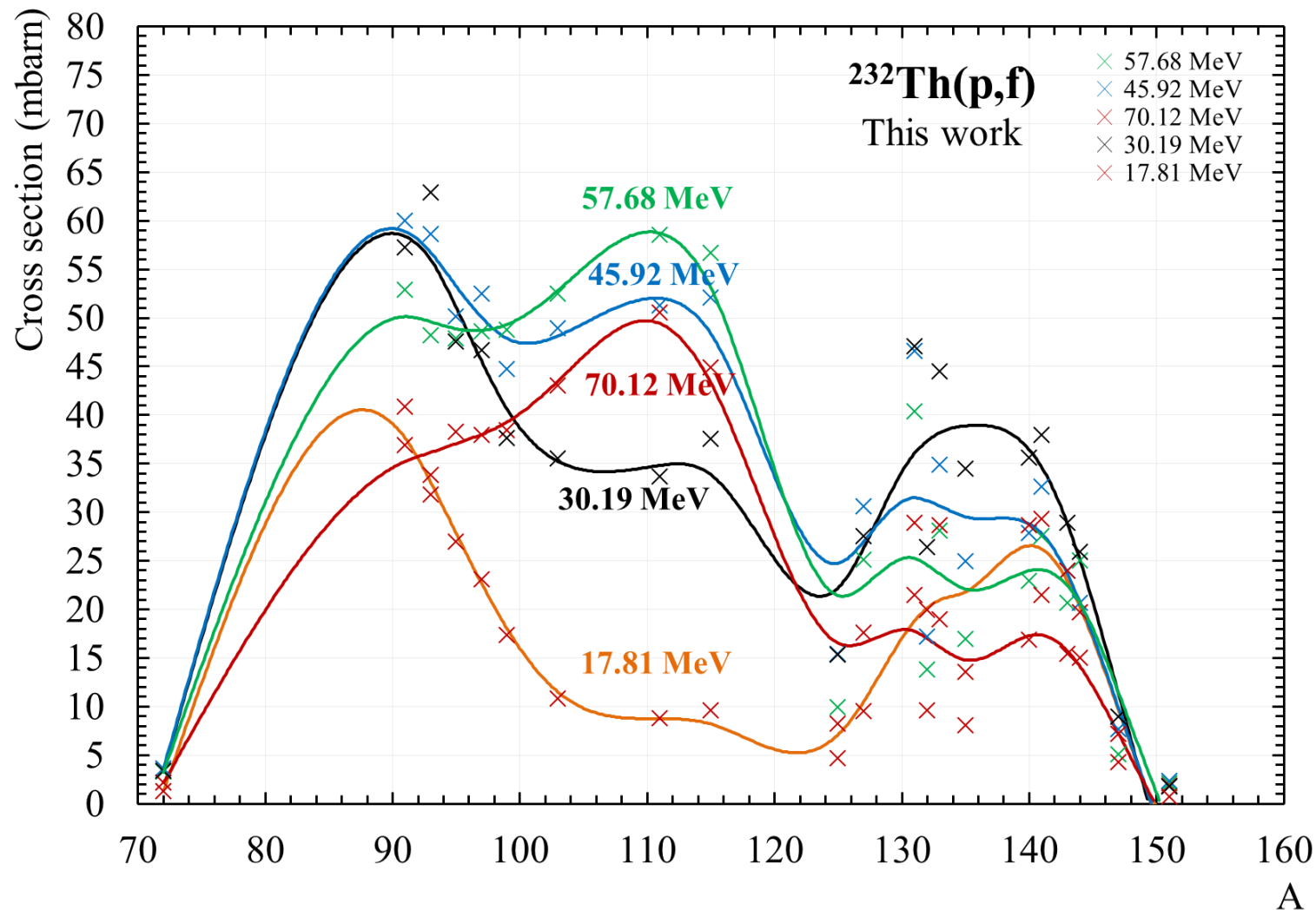
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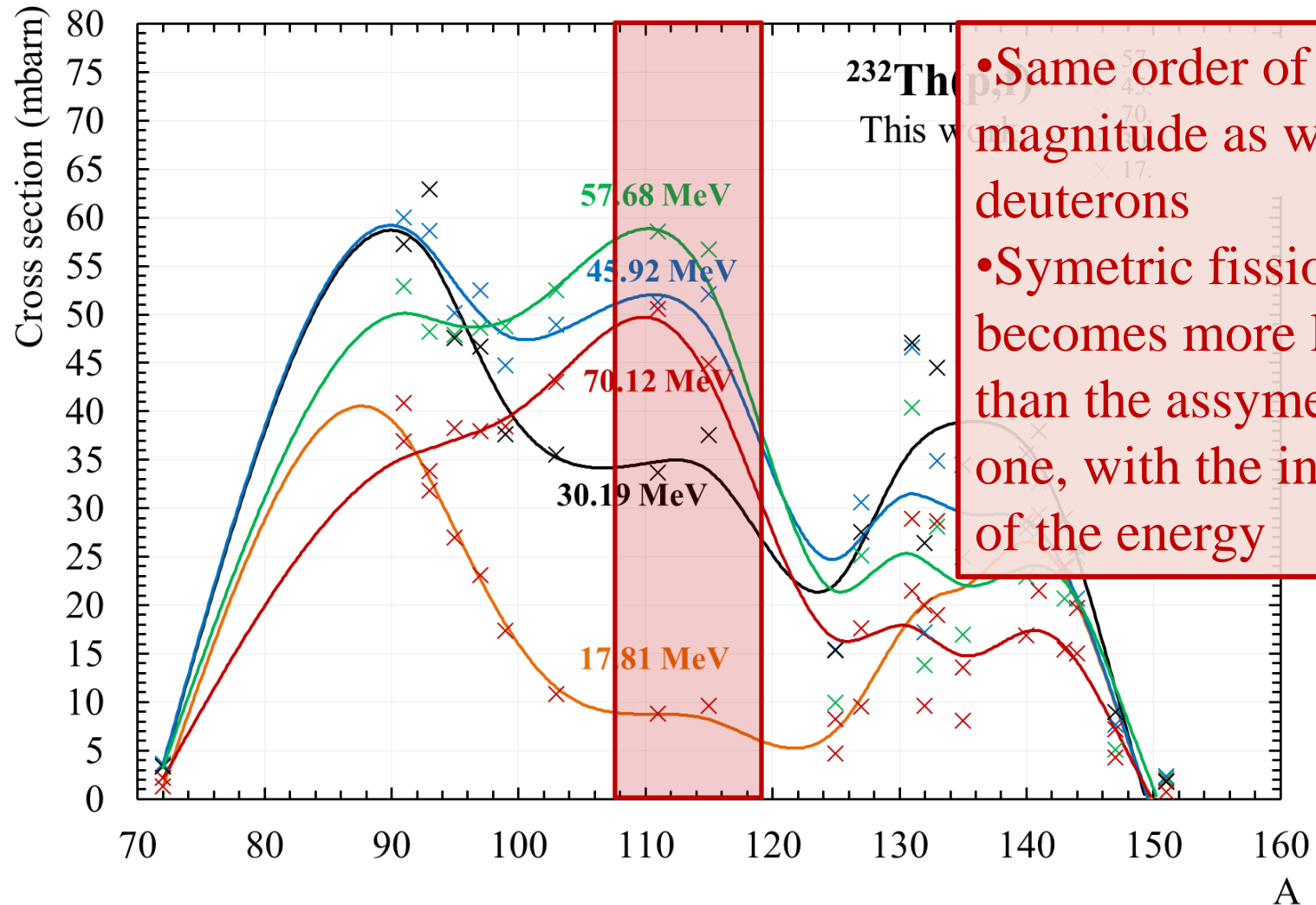
Fission products

- Using **protons** : same fission products



Fission products

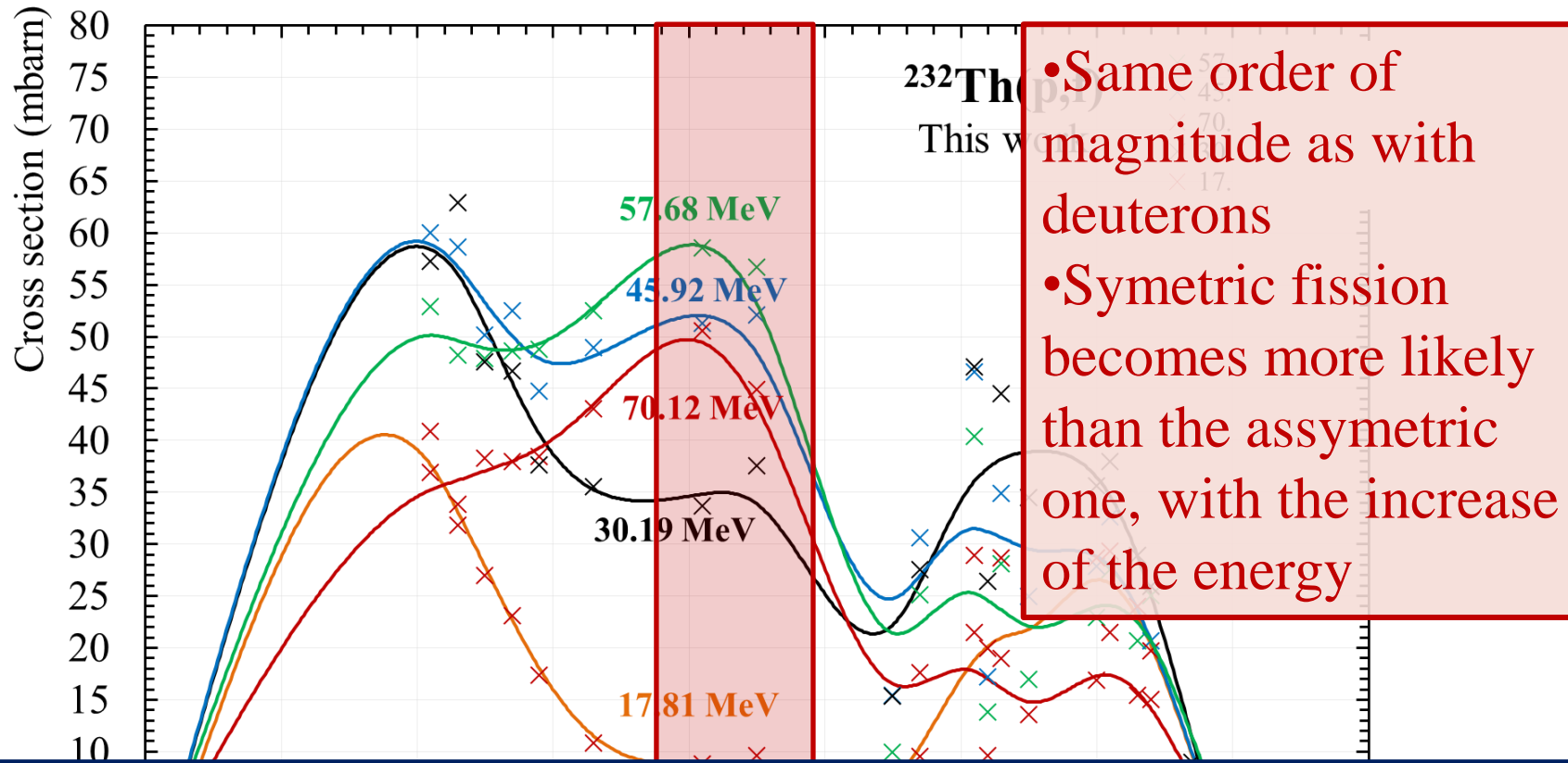
- Using **protons** : same fission products



- Same order of magnitude as with deuterons
- Symetric fission becomes more likely than the assymetric one, with the increase of the energy

Fission products

- Using **protons** : same fission products



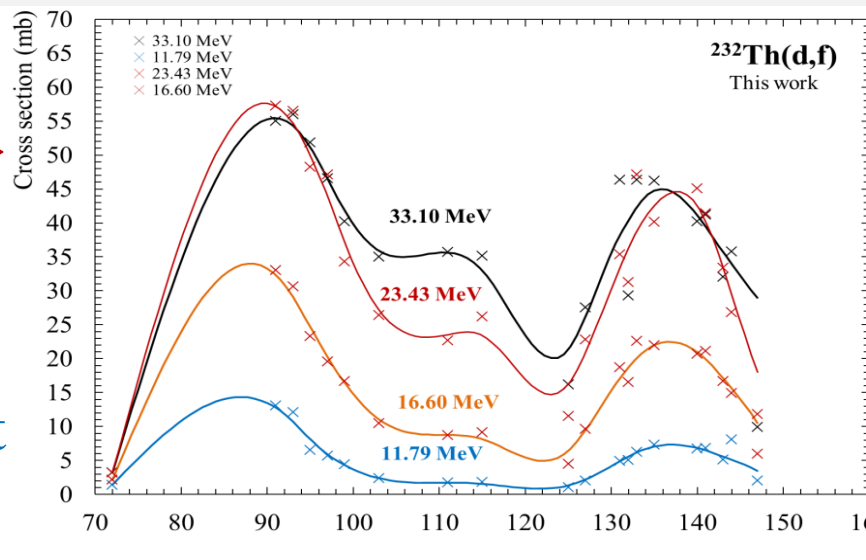
- Same order of magnitude as with deuterons
- Symetric fission becomes more likely than the assymetric one, with the increase of the energy

- Experiments with deuterons and protons
→ large set of data to constrain theoretical codes (like TALYS)

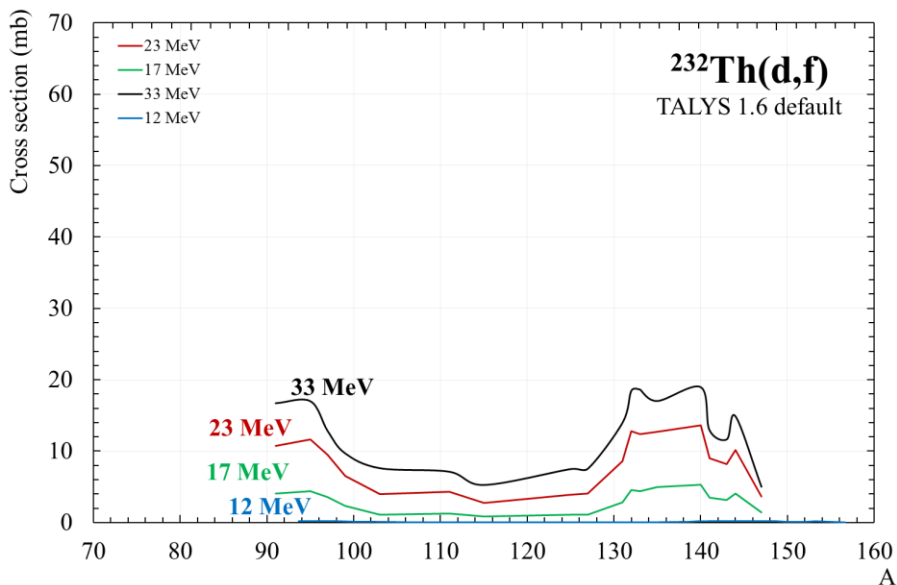
A

Fission products: the TALYS code

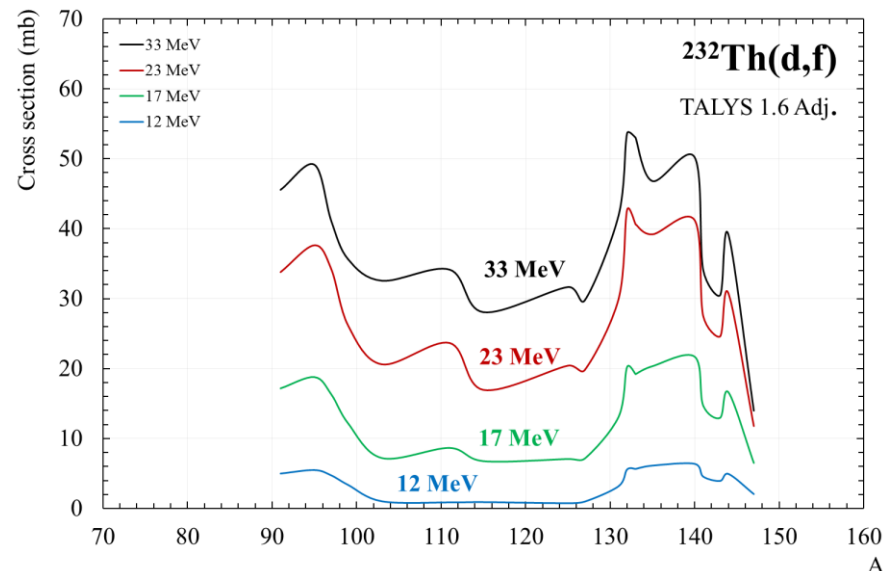
Exp. Values →



TALYS 1.6 Default ↓



TALYS 1.6 Adj. ↓



Fission products: the TALYS code

