

**BRIKEN WORKSHOP:**

**"Opportunities with BELEN at RIKEN"**

# Beta dELayEd Neutron (BELEN) detector

**ROGER CABALLERO-FOLCH**

17 de desembre de 2012

València

## Contents

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- The concepts of  $\beta$ -delayed neutron emission
- Detection system
- Previous versions used at JYFL and GSI
- New designs and conclusions

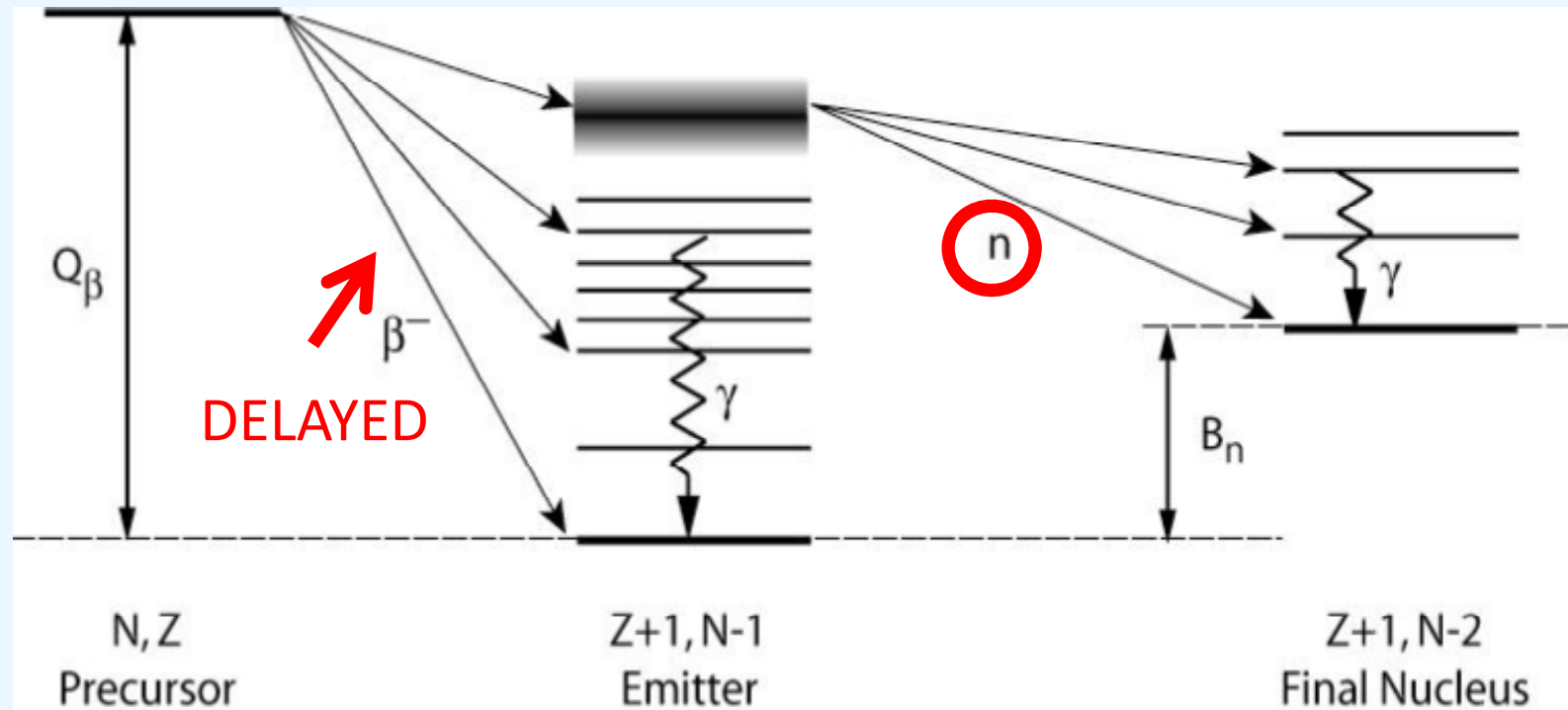
## Contents

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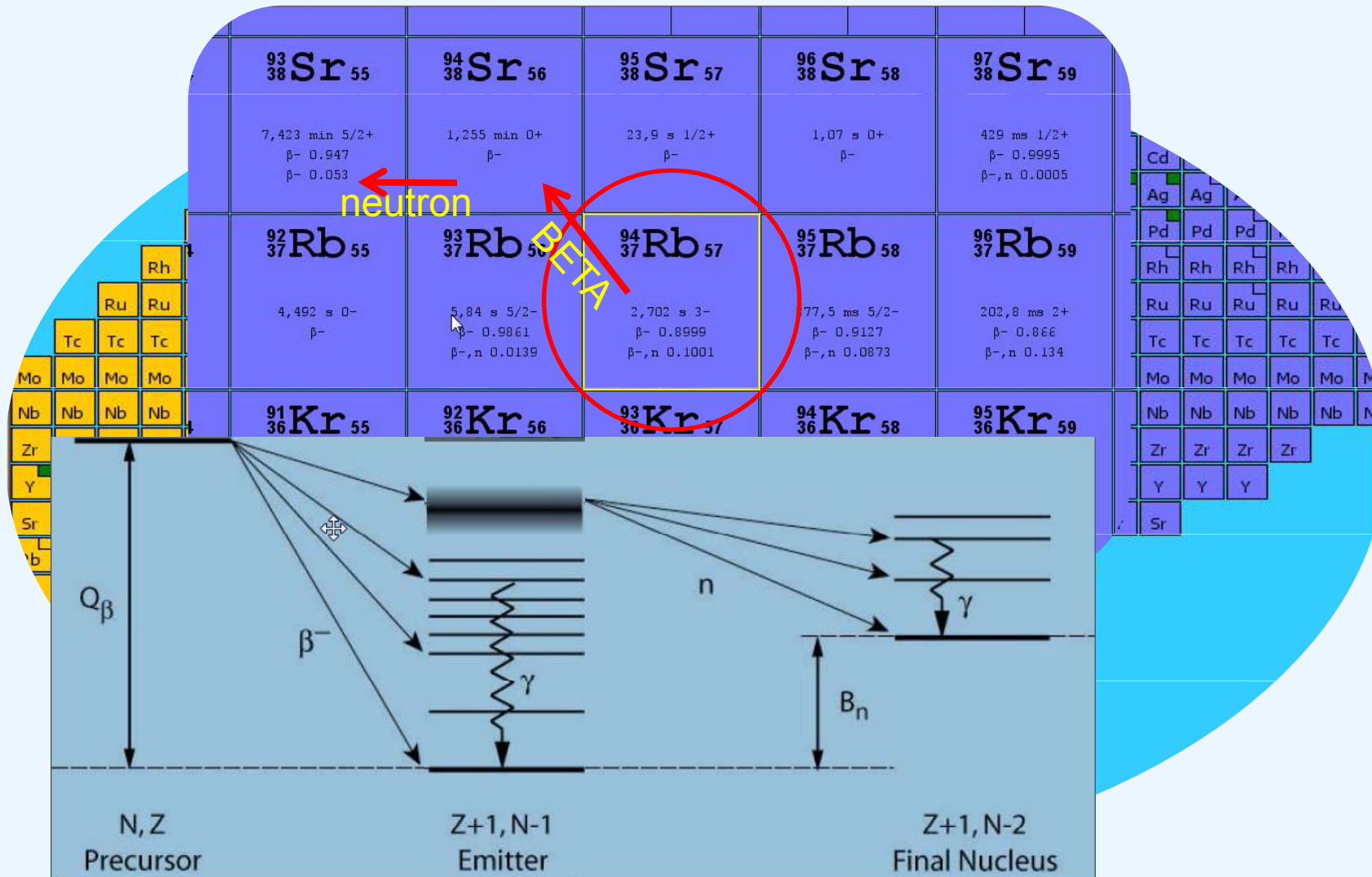
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$\beta$ -delayed neutron emission

Neutron emission after  $\beta^-$  decay scheme

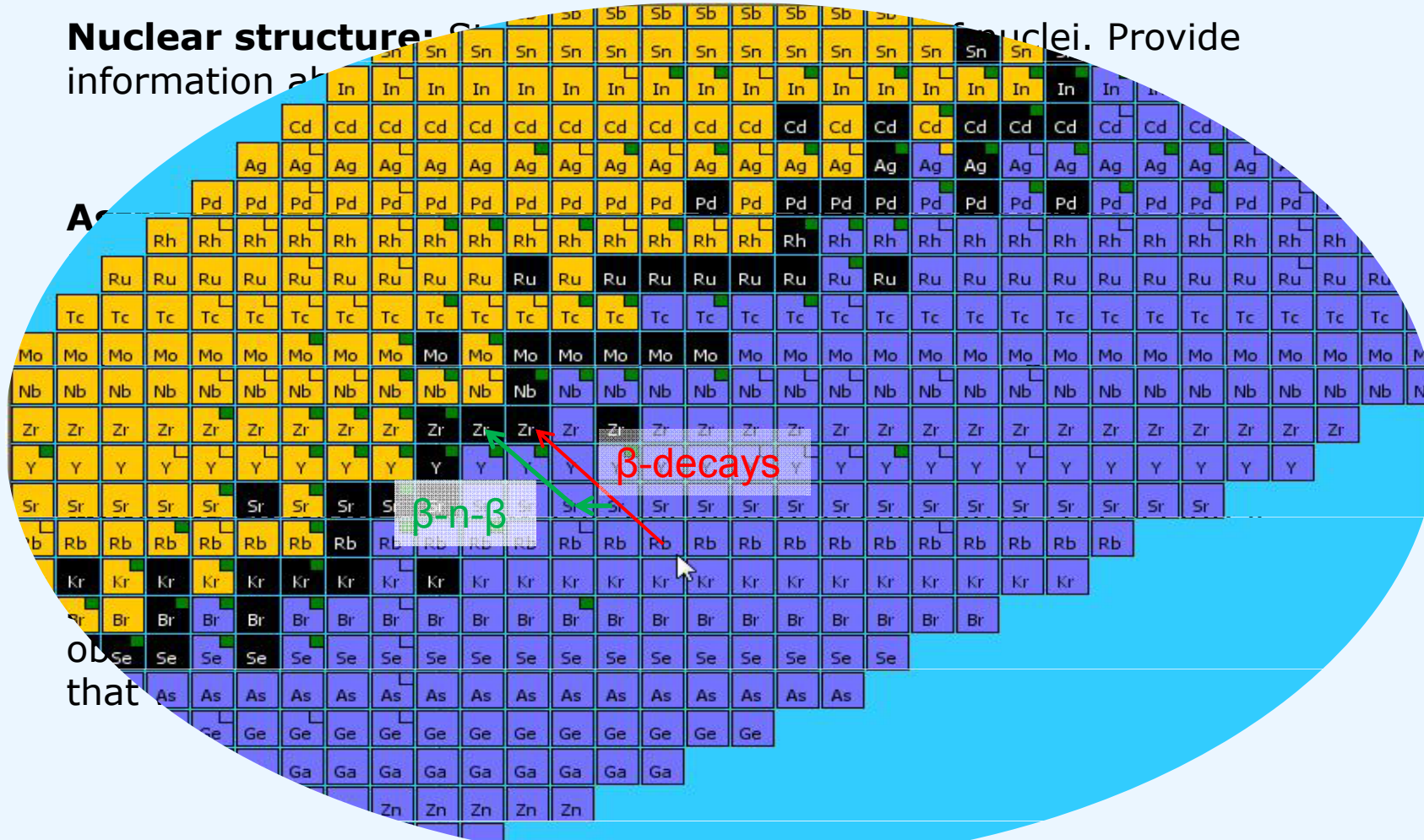


Example of  $\beta^-$  delayed neutron emission



$\beta$ -delayed neutron emission - Applications

**Nuclear structure:**  $\beta$ -decays of nuclei. Provide information about  $\beta$ -decays of nuclei.

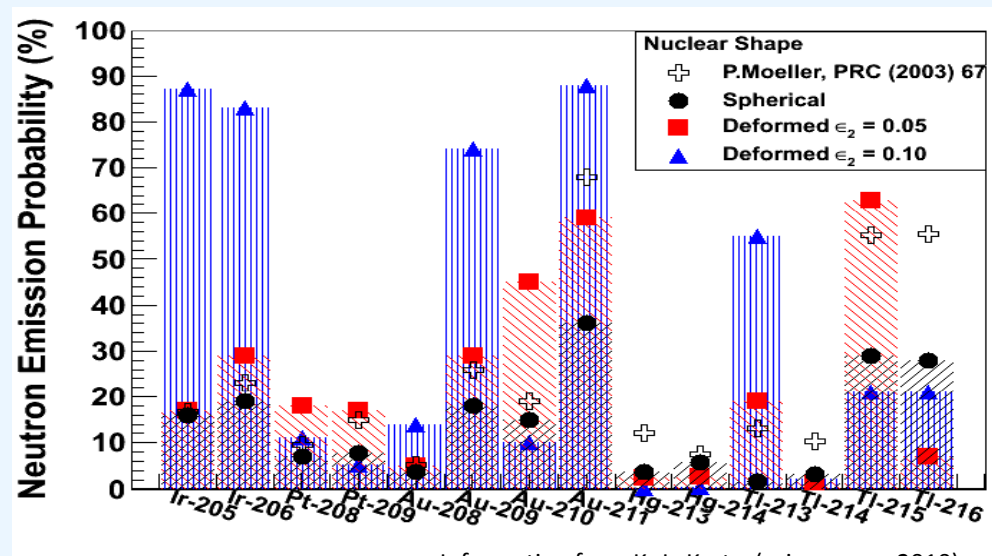




Theoretical predictions with large uncertainty

## Neutron emission probability ( $P_n$ )

- ✓ Predictions for  $P_n$  are also very different depending on the (unknown) nuclear deformation.



Information from K.-L. Kratz, (priv. comm. 2010)

- ✓ Detector with large efficiency is needed due to the low production of nuclei of interest in actual facilities.
- ✓ RIKEN can be a unique opportunity to measure the most exotic nuclei.

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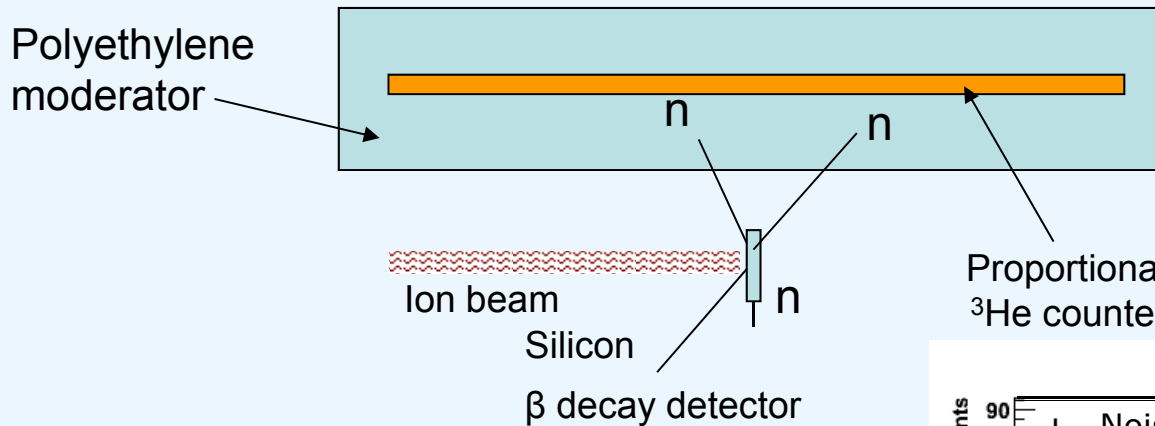
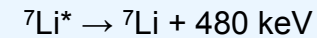
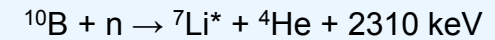


<sup>3</sup>He counters as detector

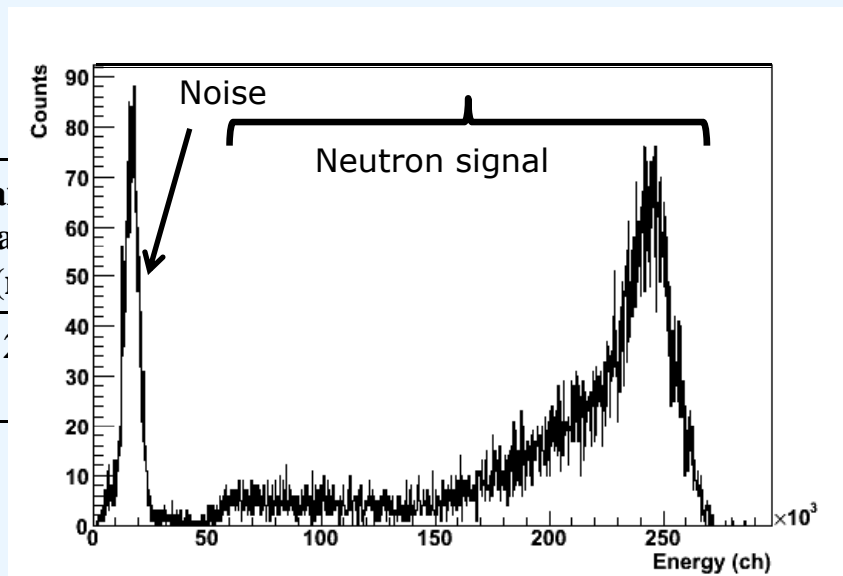
- ✓ The detection of the neutron is based on an indirect method: the detection of the products of the reaction of the neutron with <sup>3</sup>He counters:



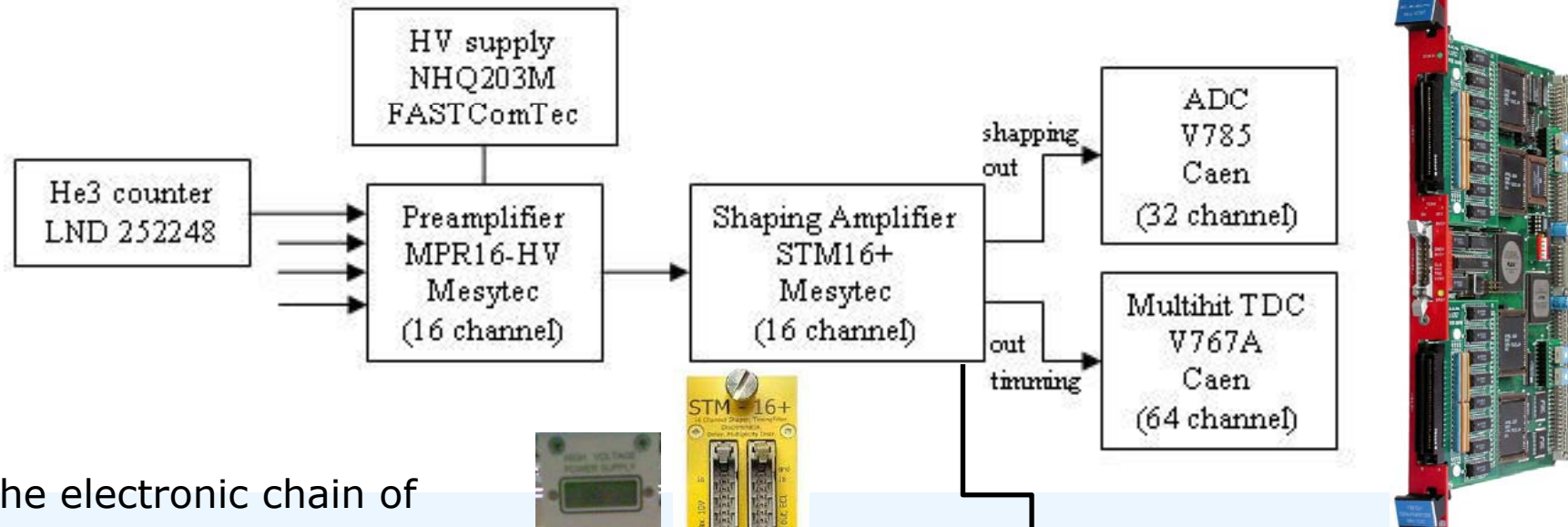
Other reactions:



Counter	Gas	Maximum length (mm)	Effective length (mm)	Max dia (mm)
2527 LND inc	<sup>3</sup> He	686.84	604.8	



Electronic chain for data acquisition and signal processing



The electronic chain of the acquisition system operates independently of the other systems of the experiment and detectors along the beamline. It only needs to synchronize the timestamp.



Analog system: Trigger



Digital system: Triggerless

Digital Data Acquisition System (DDAS)

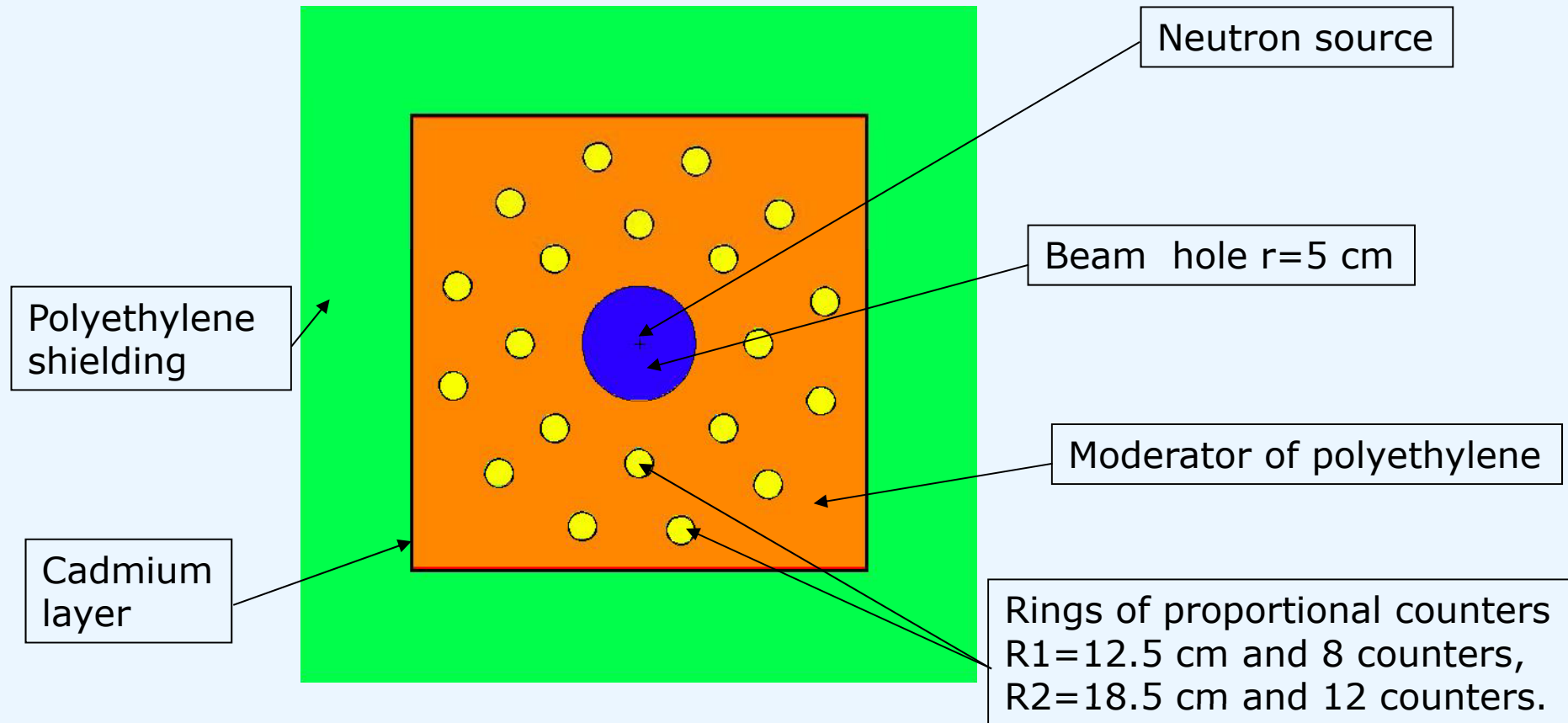
**Talk of this part by J. Agramunt**

## Contents

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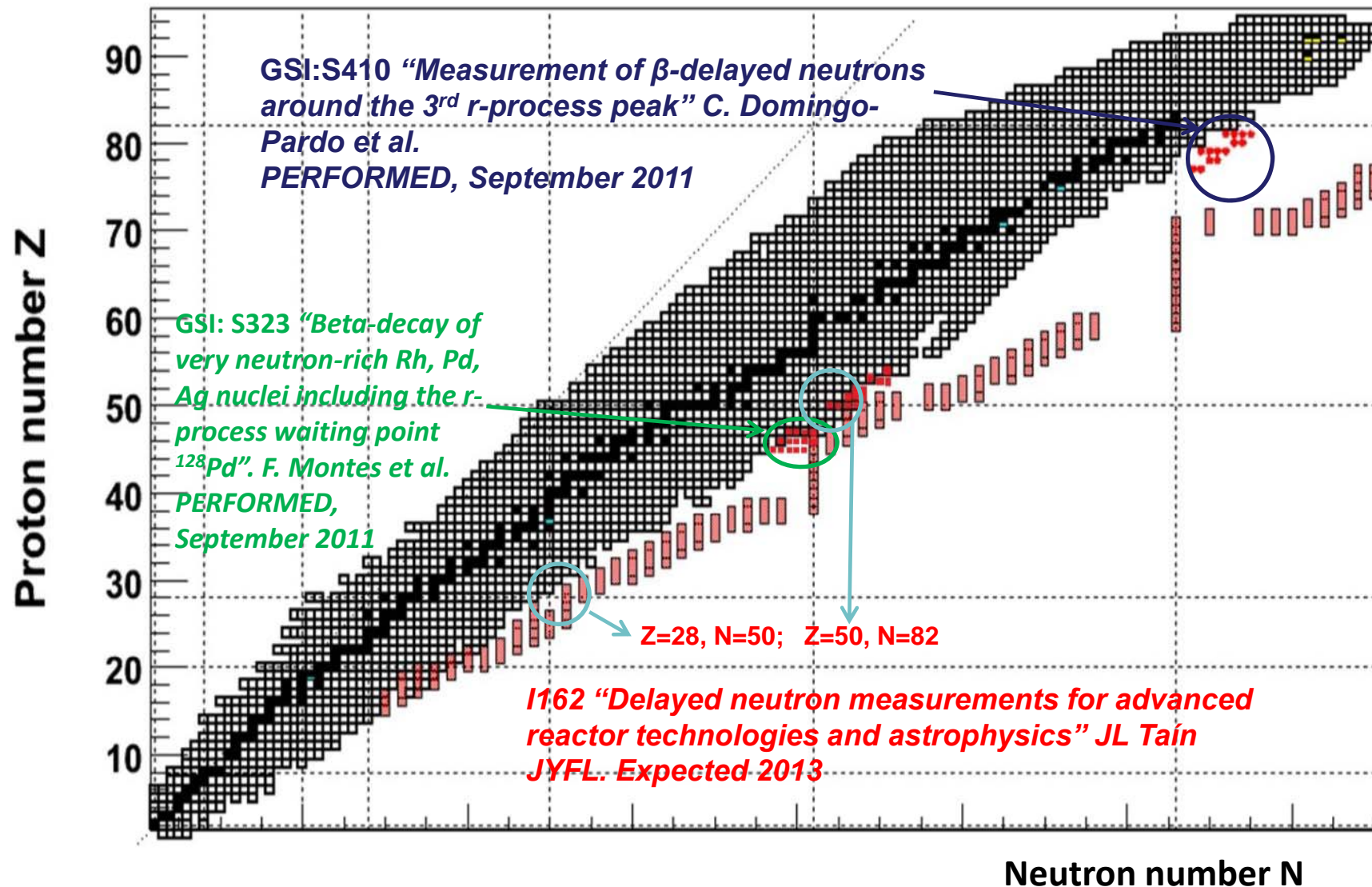
- The concepts of  $\beta$ -delayed neutron emission
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## BELEN first designs and geometry



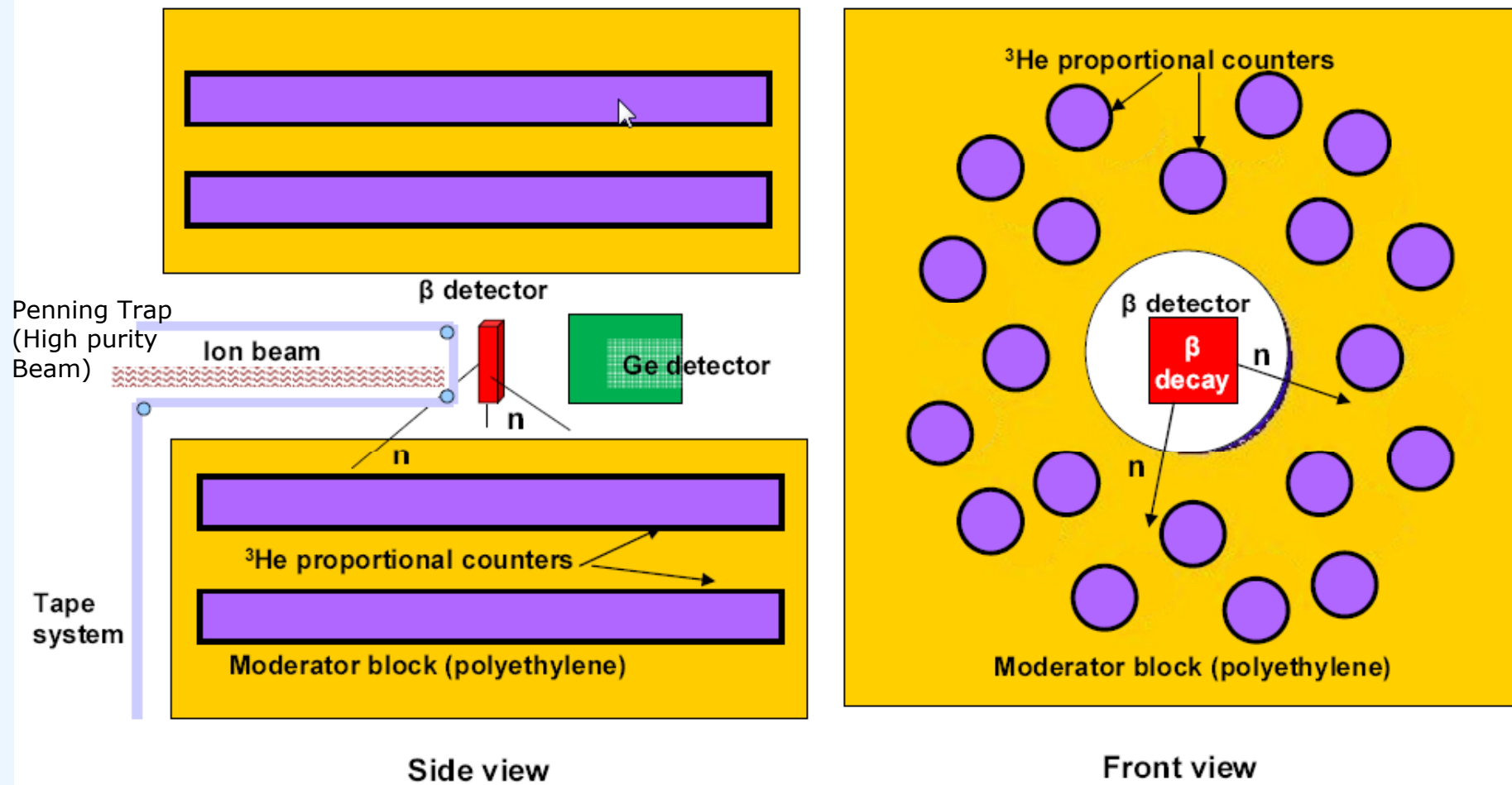
The geometry design is based in two crowns. The aim is to have a flat difference in efficiency in the energy range of interest (100 keV – 5 MeV).

✓ **Developed by V.Gorlychev and B.Gomez at UPC-Barcelona**

Tests and experiments with **BELEN** detector

BELEN design for **JYFL** experiments

Prototype designed for JYFL 2009 with 20 counters





BELEN design for **JYFL** experiments**Support structure requirements:**

Hold and transport 650 Kg

Allow access to the beam hole

Movable in Z for fine placement

Table + tray movable on "z" on rails

Polyethylene block hold together and can be lifted as a single unit.

Polyethylene: 10 cm thick vertical slices assembled => 90 x 90 x 80 cm<sup>3</sup> ~650 Kg detector



## JYFL experiment 2009 & 2010 - BELEN-20

20  $^3\text{He}$  counters at 20 atm

**1<sup>ST</sup> ring:** 8 counters at 11 & 9.5 cm

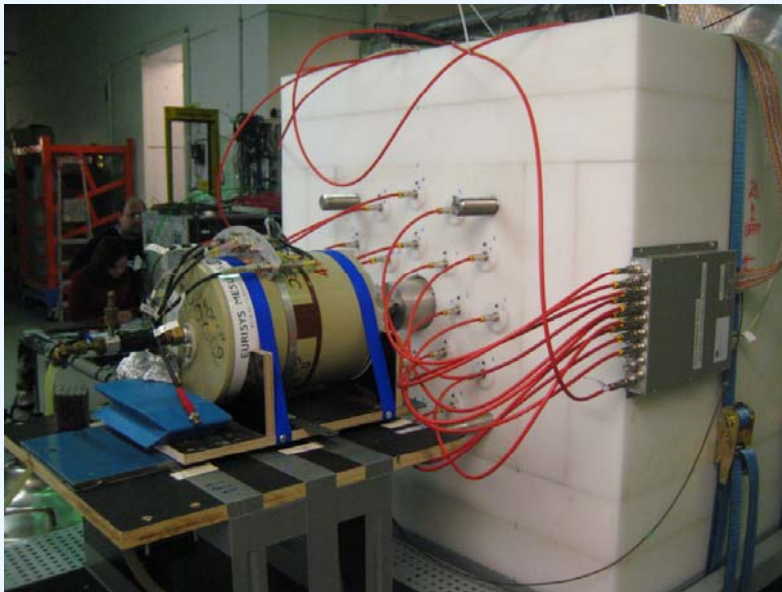
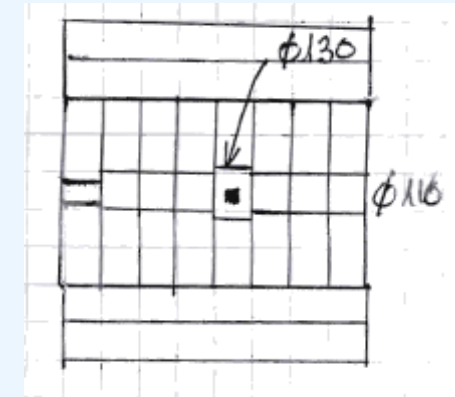
**2<sup>nd</sup> ring:** 12 counters at 20 & 14.5 cm

**Average efficiency:** 27% & 35%

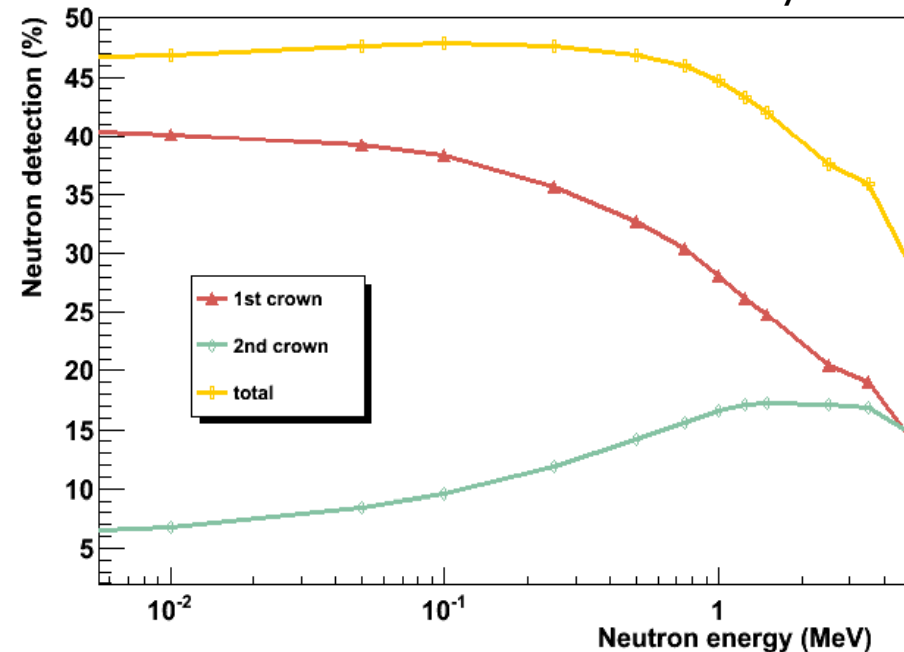
Dimensions: 50x50x80 cm<sup>3</sup> + shielding (90x90x80 cm<sup>3</sup>)

Diameter holes: 2.75 cm

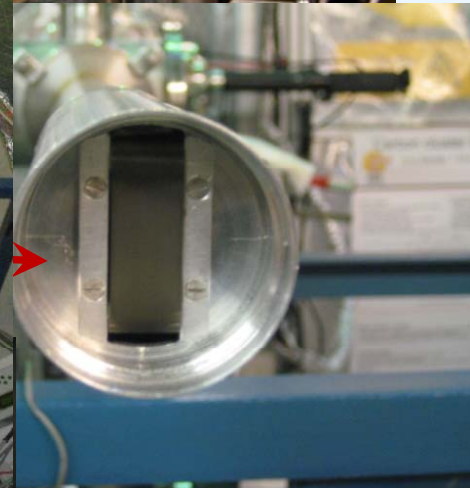
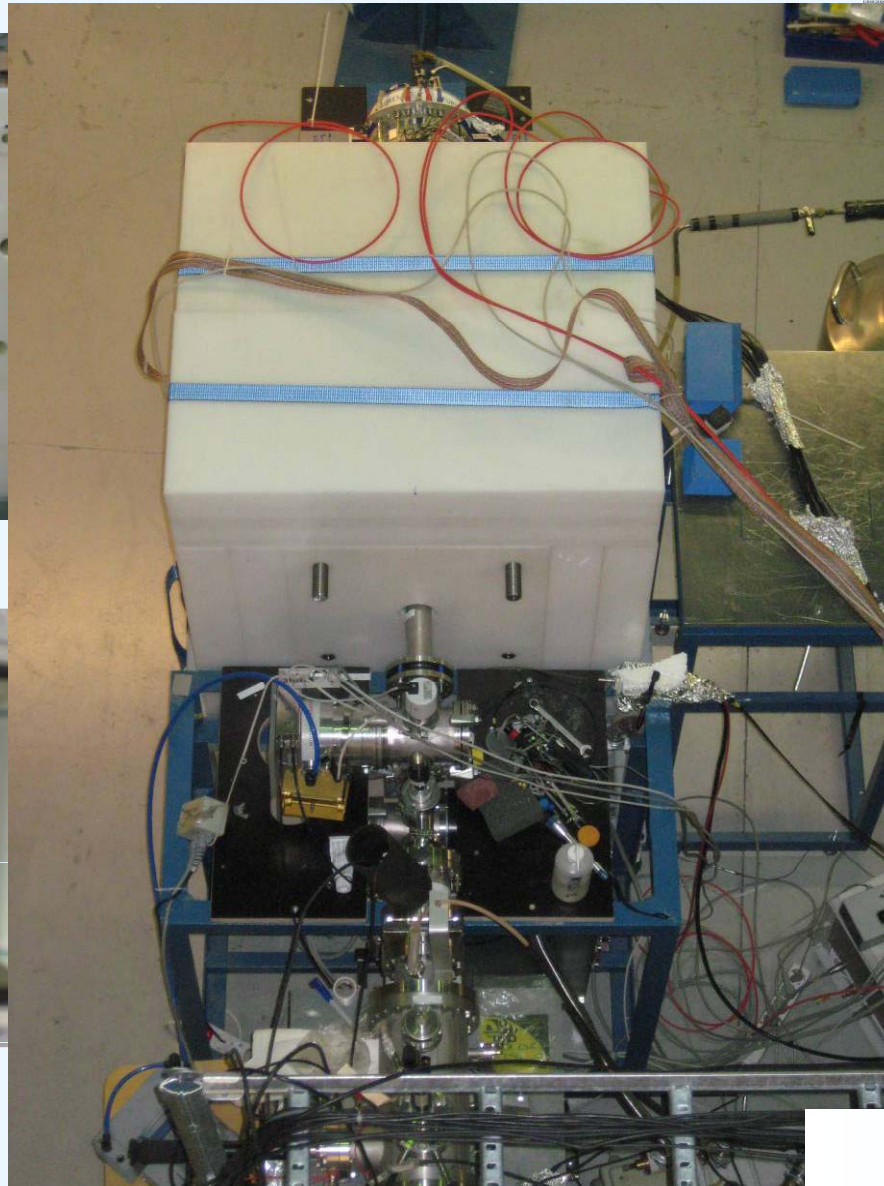
Central hole: 5.5 cm



MCNPX simulation efficiency



**JYFL** ion implantation system



**S410/S323** experiments at **GSI** (2011). Design & efficiency.

BELEN-30

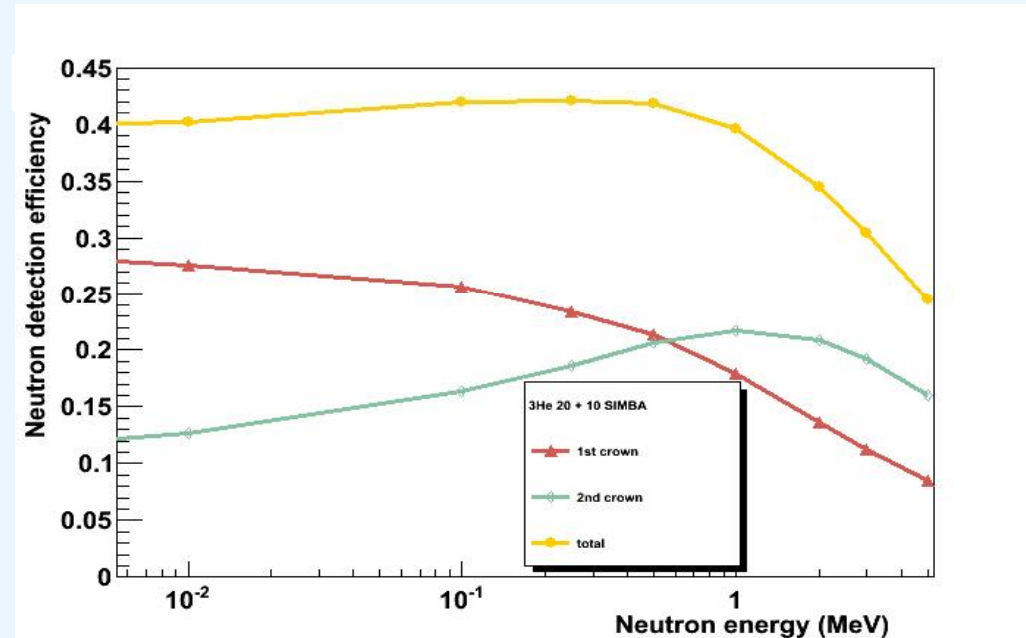
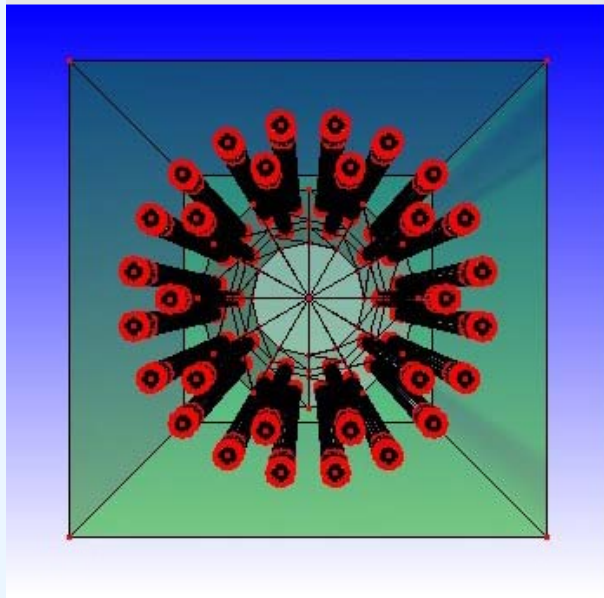
20  $^3\text{He}$  (20 atm) + 10  $^3\text{He}$  (10 atm)

Inner ring (10 counters): 29 cm

Outer ring (20 counters): 37 cm

Efficiency (1keV-1MeV)  $\sim 40\%$

Average up to 5MeV  $\sim 35\%$



$^{252}\text{Cf}$  neutron source detection efficiency (M.Marta):

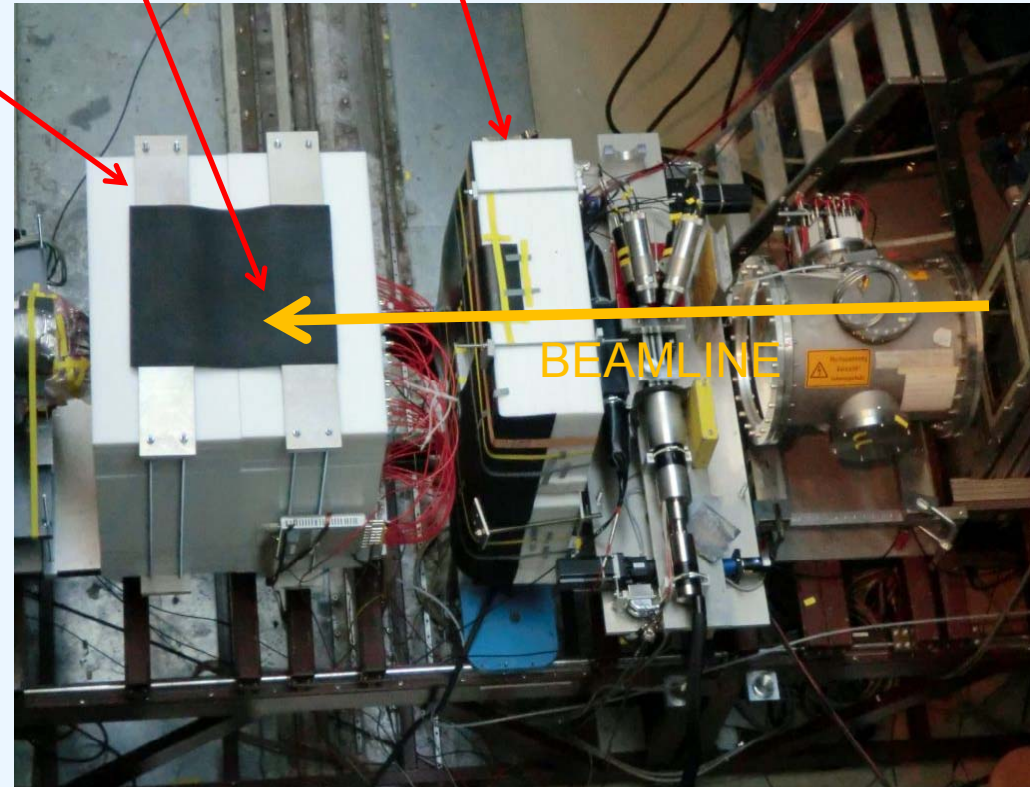
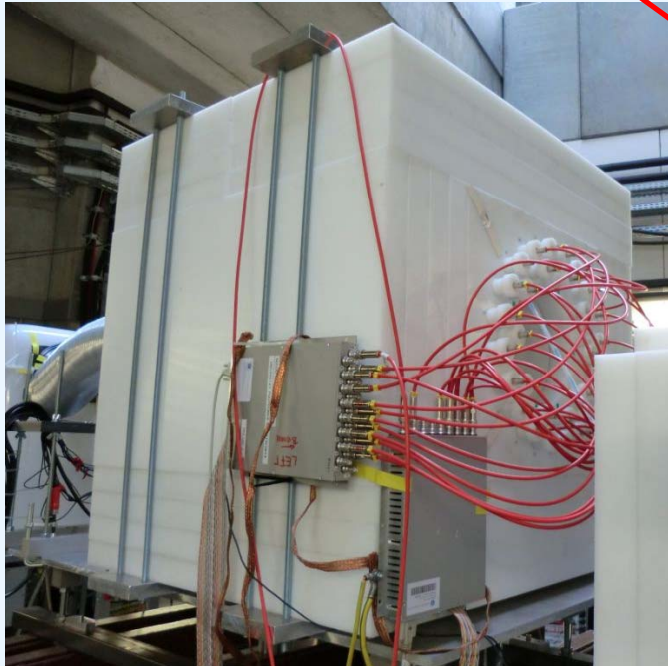
- MCNPX simulation:  $(34.5 \pm 0.2)\%$
- Triggerless DACQ (IFIC) in MBS :  $(35.4 \pm 0.8)\%$
- Analog branch:  $(25.5 \pm 0.9)\%$  (electronics)



**S410/S323** experiments at **GSI**. Setup.

BELEN-30 neutron detector

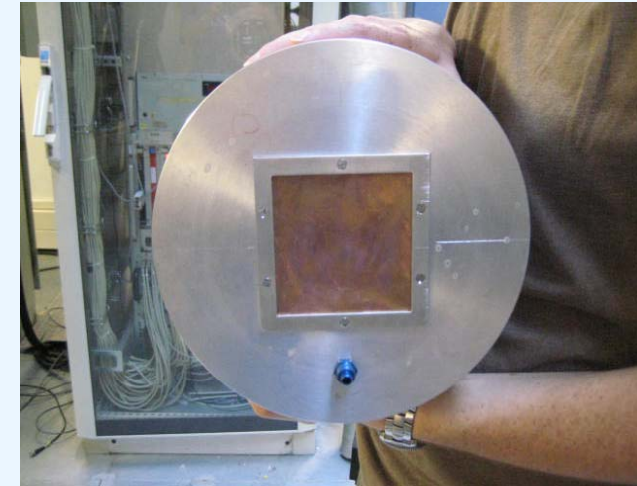
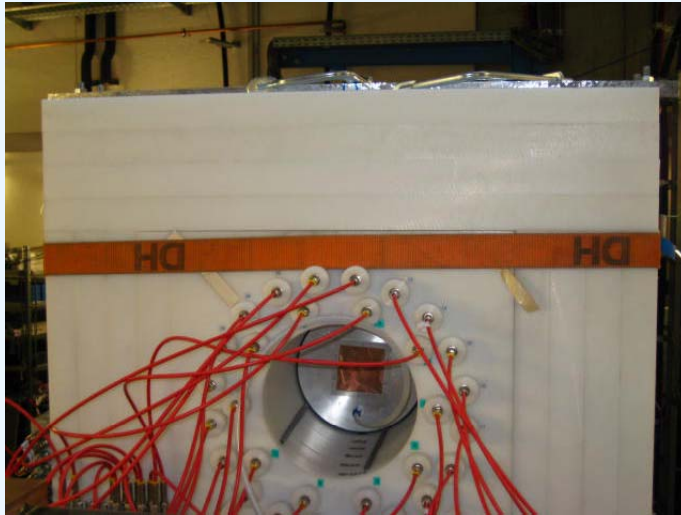
Neutron shielding

SIMBA inside  
the matrix

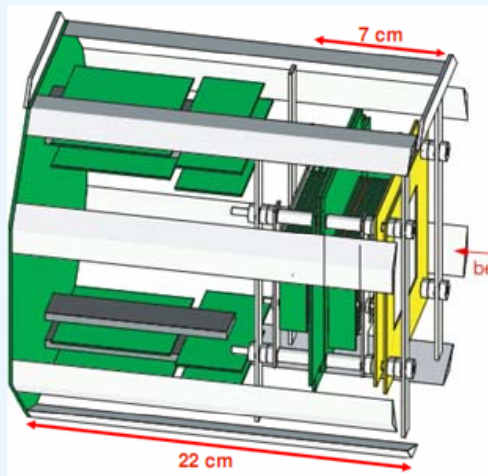
- ✓ Approx 700 kg weight
- ✓ Dimensions: 90 x 90 x 80 cm<sup>3</sup>

**S410/S323** experiments at **GSI**. Ion implantation system.

Silicon Implantation Beta Absorber (SIMBA)



Front view



Constructed and  
developed at **TUM**

Technische Universität München

PhD thesis C. Hinke, TUM (2010)  
Diploma thesis K. Steiger, TUM (2009)

SIMBA detector: (SSSD & DSSD) 60x40x1 mm<sup>3</sup>

## Summary of tests and experiments

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**BELEN-20** (20atm) for JYFL. Experiments at JYFLTRAP (Finland). Measurements of  $\beta$  delayed neutron emission of fission fragments (UPC, IFIC, CIEMAT):



A~80-95 with Nuclear structure and Astrophysics interest.

**Background measurements** at GSI (July 2010) and Canfranc underground laboratory (July 2011).



**BELEN-30** (20 (20atm), 10 (10 atm)) for FRS-GSI. Two experiments at GSI with & SIMBA September 2011, nuclei of astrophysical interest:

S323 & S410 experiments, isotopes around regions of  $^{128}\text{Pd}$ ,  $^{215}\text{Tl}$ ,  $^{211}\text{Hg}$  in collaboration with MSU and ND.

**BELEN-48 (2013)** Efficiency calibration measurements at PTB (Germany) and experiment at JYFL with ongoing design.



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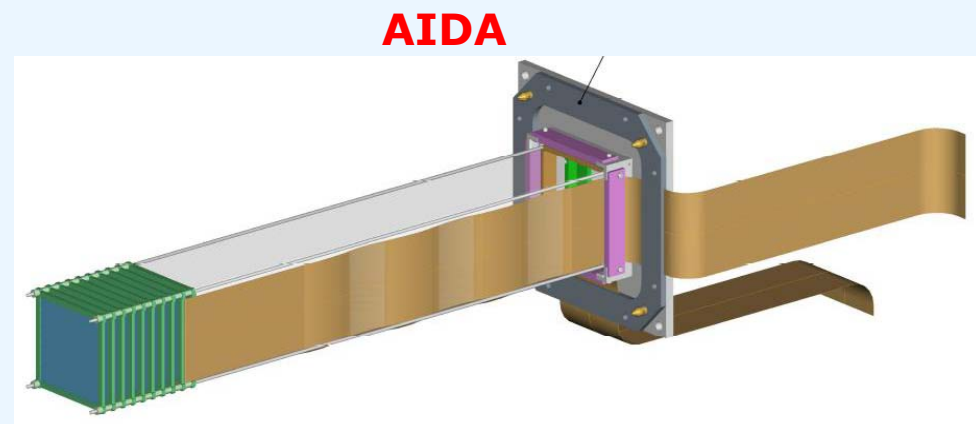


## BELEN versions designed

Name	$^3\text{He}$ counters	Pressure (atm)	Experiment	Average Efficiency	Central hole radius (cm)
BELEN-20	20	20	JYFL-2009	27%	5.5
BELEN-20	20	20	JYFL-2010	35%	5.5
BELEN-30	20+10	20 & 10	GSI-2011	35 %	11.5 (SIMBA)
BELEN-48	40+8	8 & 10	JYFL-2013	37%-52%	6
BELEN-48	40+8	8 & 10	RIKEN	34%-50%	8 (AIDA)
BELEN 48	40+8	8 & 10	RIKEN	???	Local imp. detector

See differences:

- Central hole
- Number of counters
- Distance of rings



## BELEN design parameters

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- ✓ Define the range of energy of the neutrons to be optimized
  - Efficiency Vs energy (flat efficiency in the energy range of interest: 100keV – 5MeV)
  
- ✓ Knowledge of the estimation neutron background to decide the shielding
  
- ✓ Radius of central hole → Implantation detector and beamsize (see table at *Previous versions* section)
  
- ✓ Number of counters available → Polyethylene matrix

R1

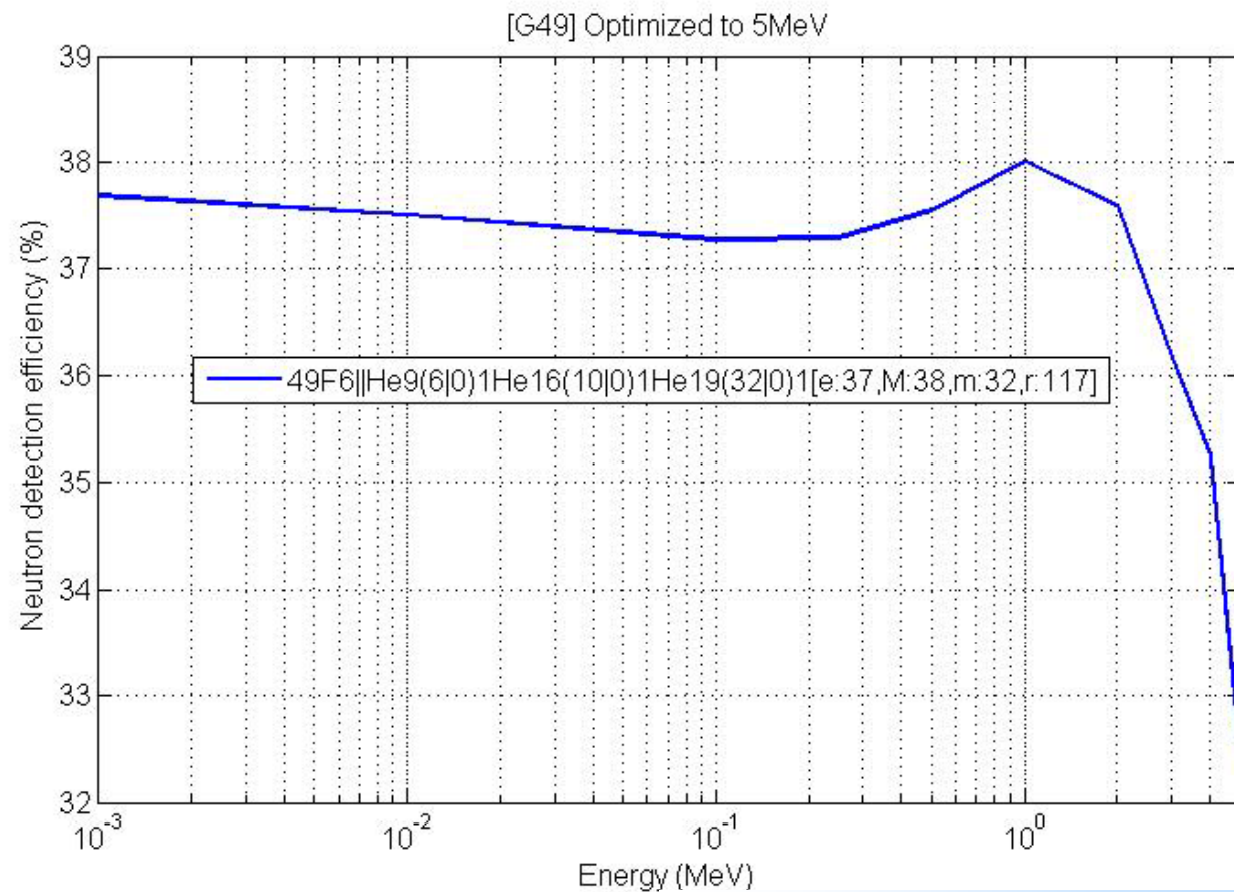
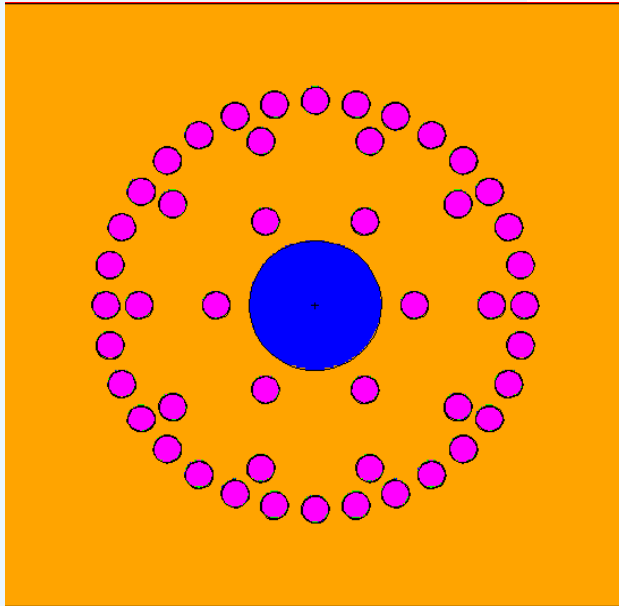
Distribution of the energy of the neutrons. Levels between Qb and Bn

Roger; 14/12/2012

BELEN design in progress for **JYFL 2013**

Optimized for range 100 keV – 5 MeV

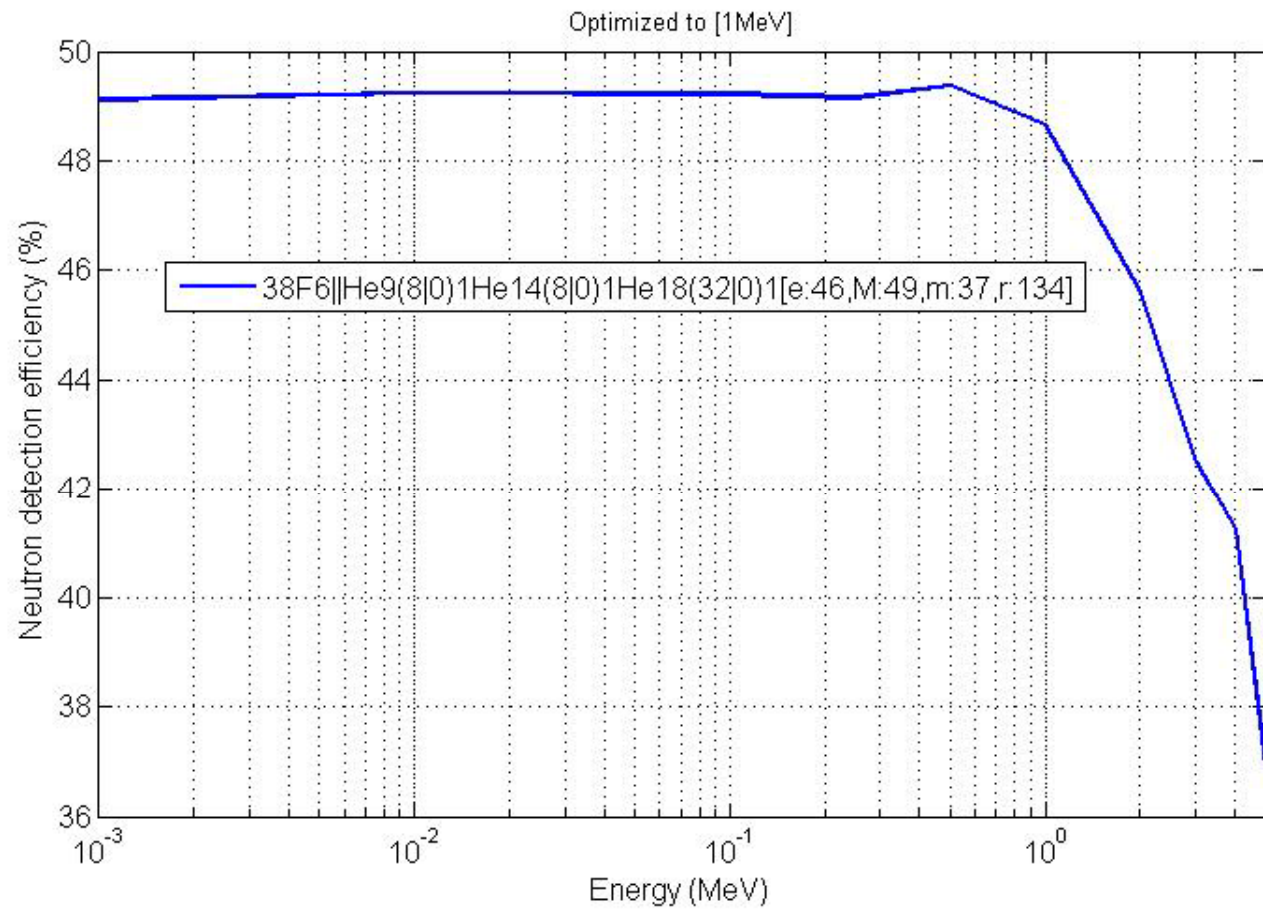
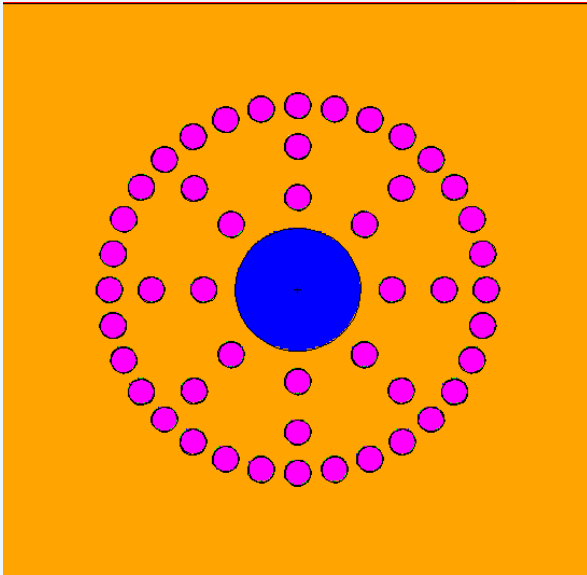
Radius 6 cm



BELEN design in progress for **JYFL 2013**

Optimized for range 100 keV – 1 MeV

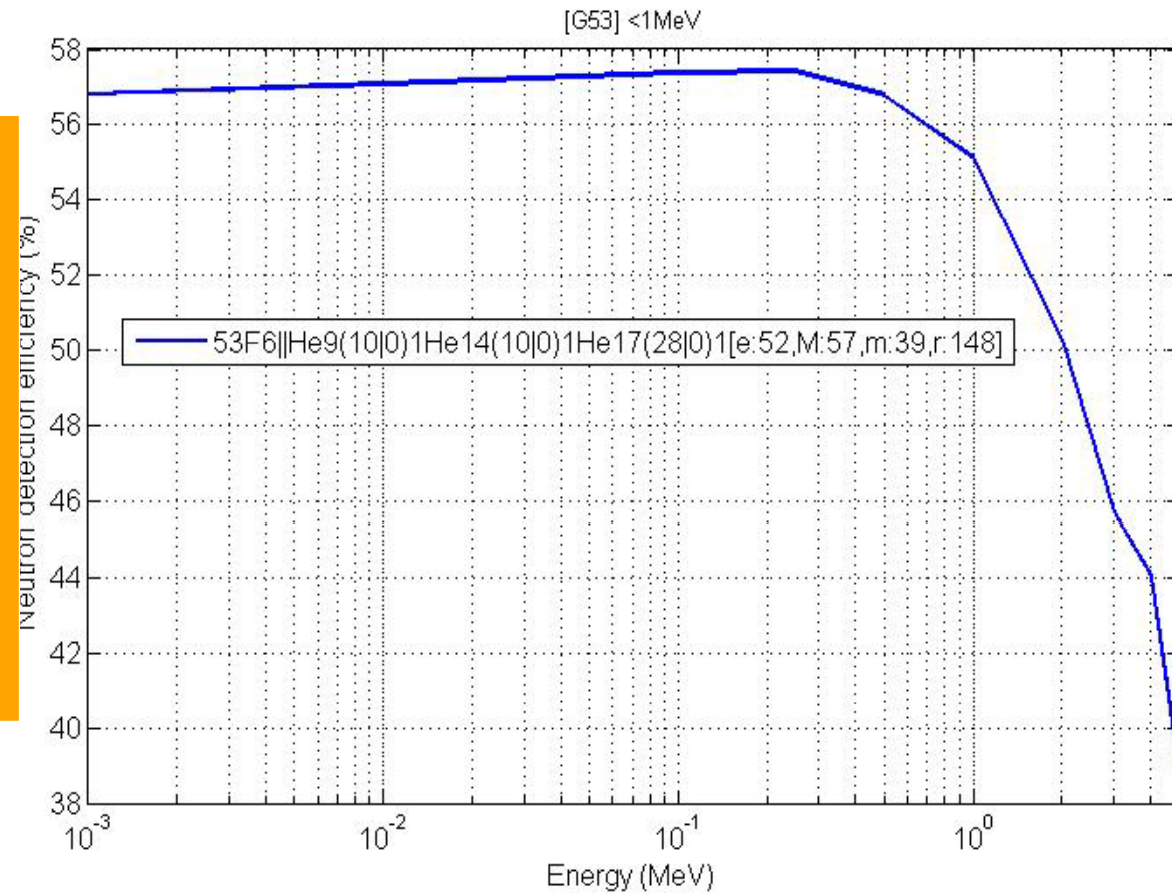
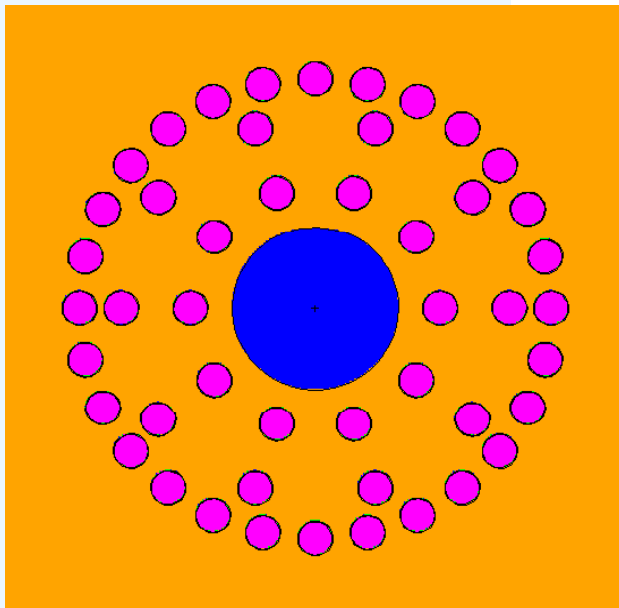
Radius 6 cm



BELEN design in progress for **JYFL 2013**

Optimized for range 100 keV – 1 MeV

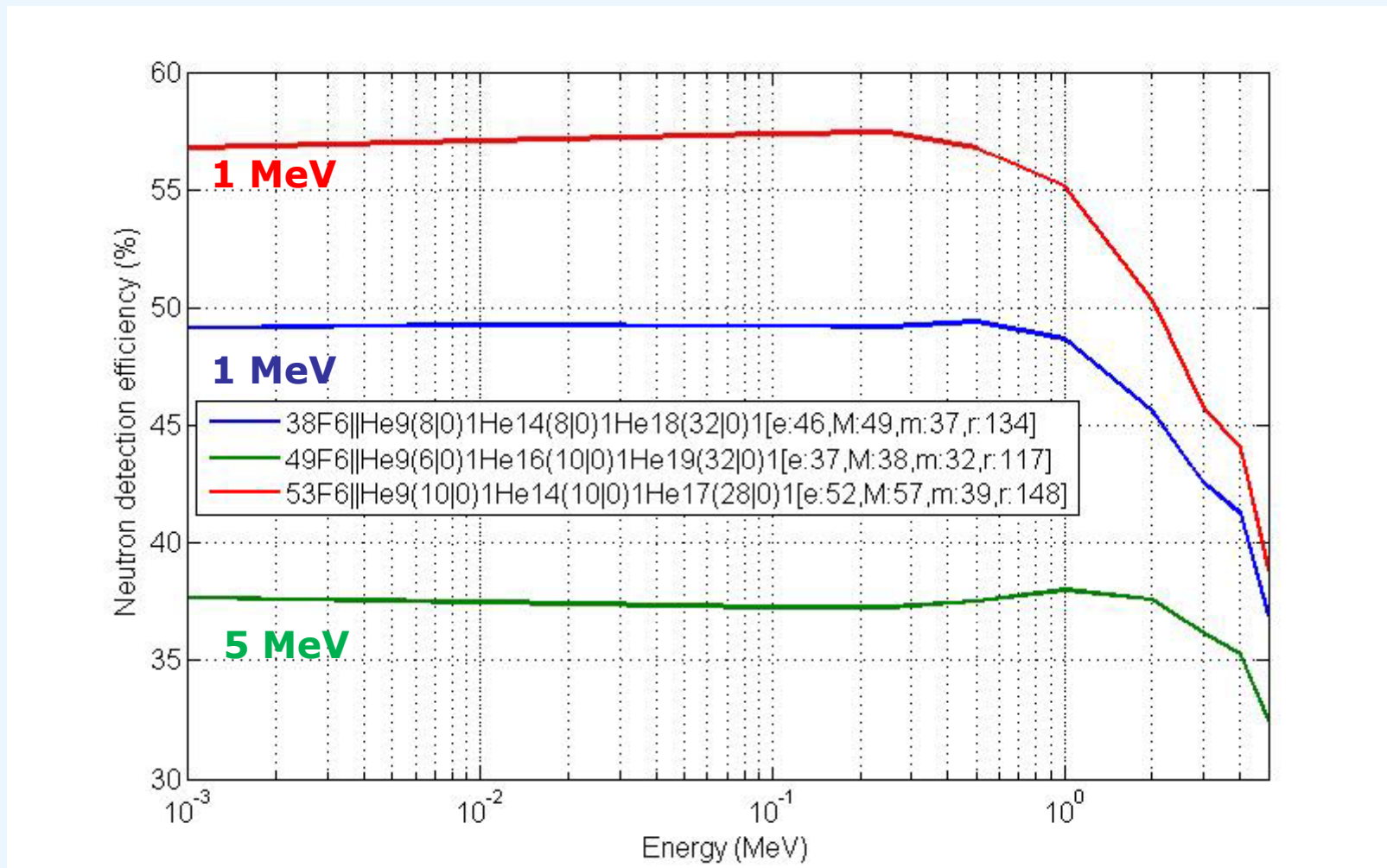
Radius 6 cm





BELEN design in progress for **JYFL 2013**

Efficiency comparison of three examples

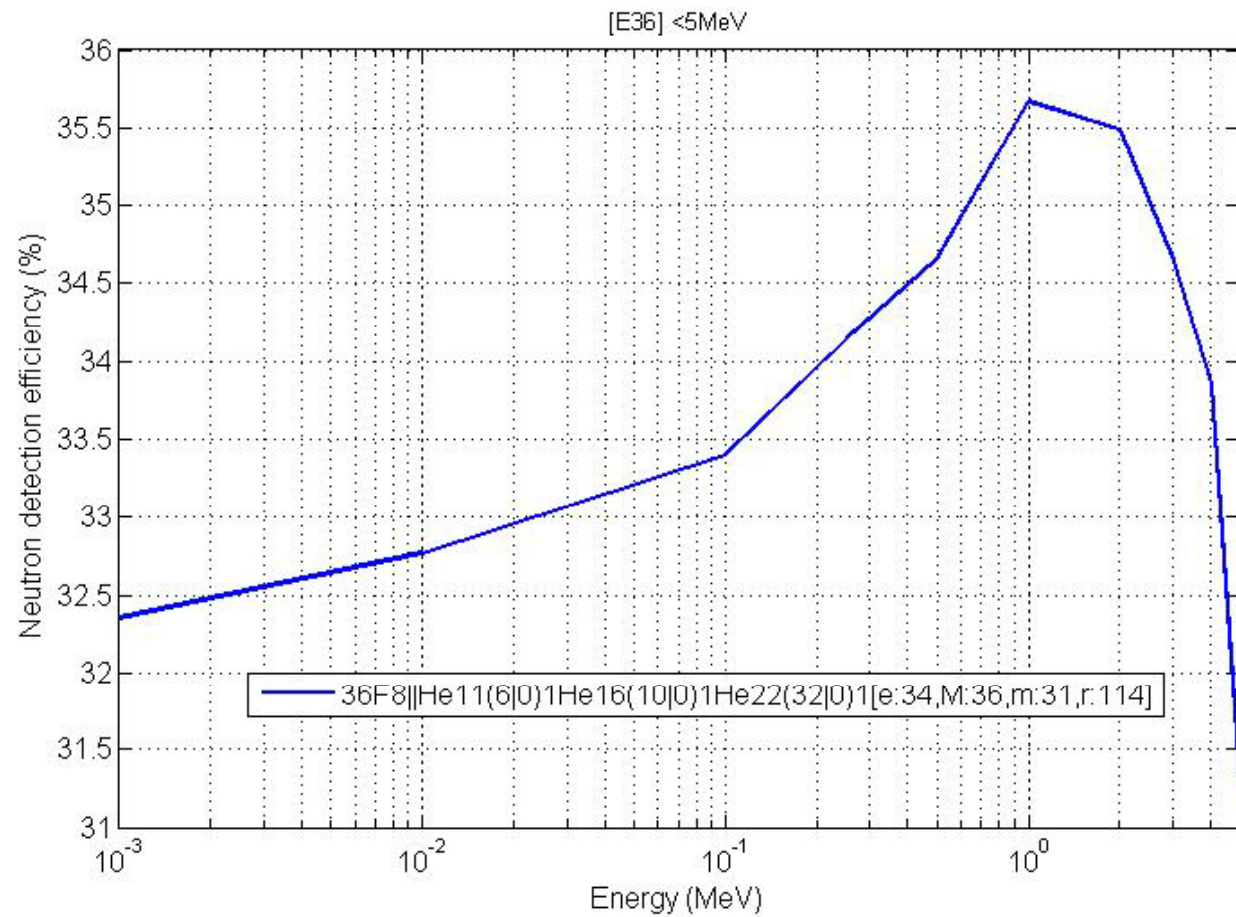
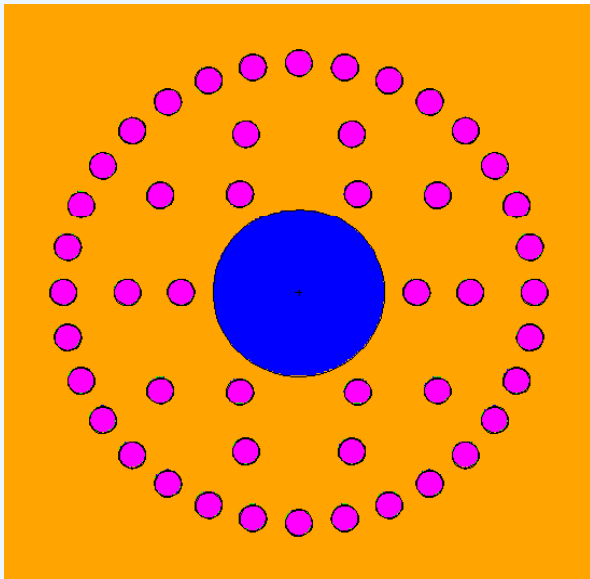




BELEN design in progress for **RIKEN** with **AIDA**

Optimized for range 100 keV – 5 MeV

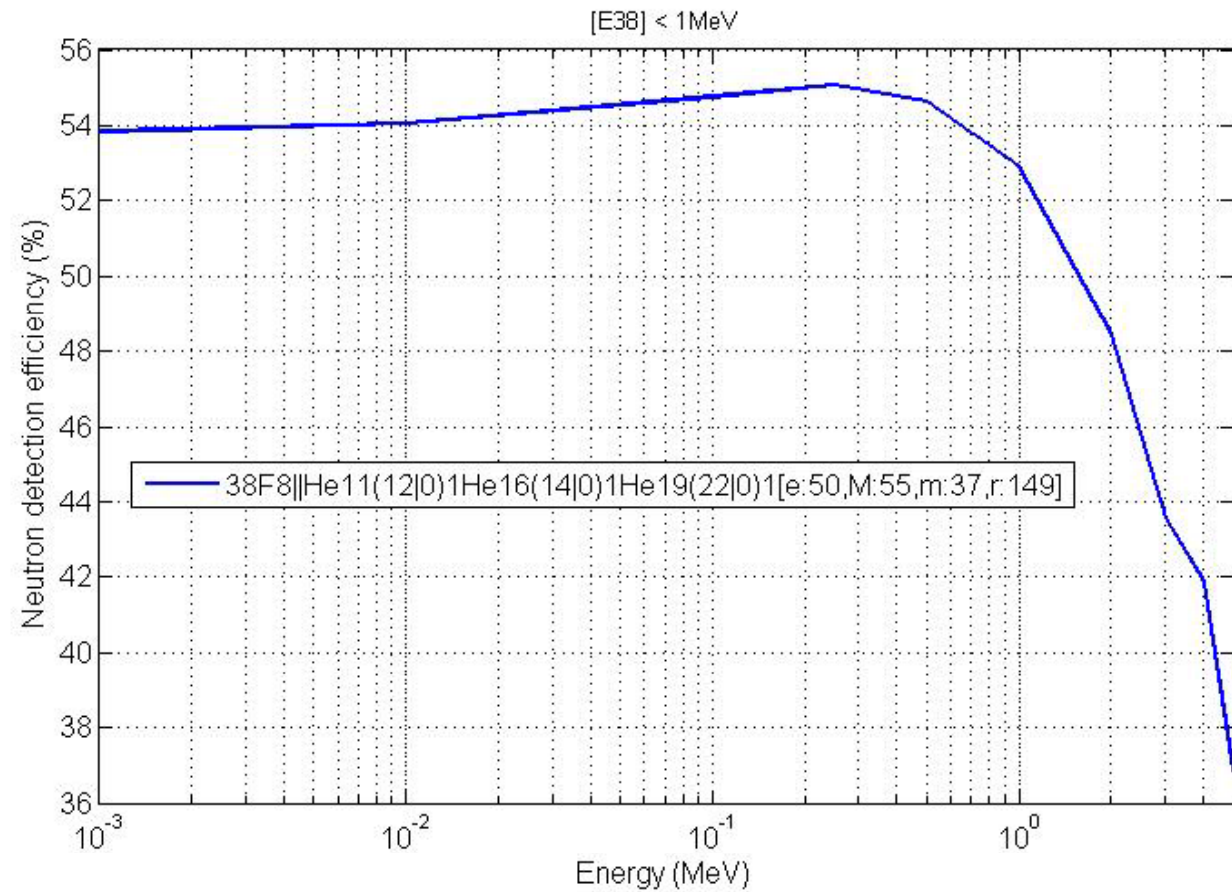
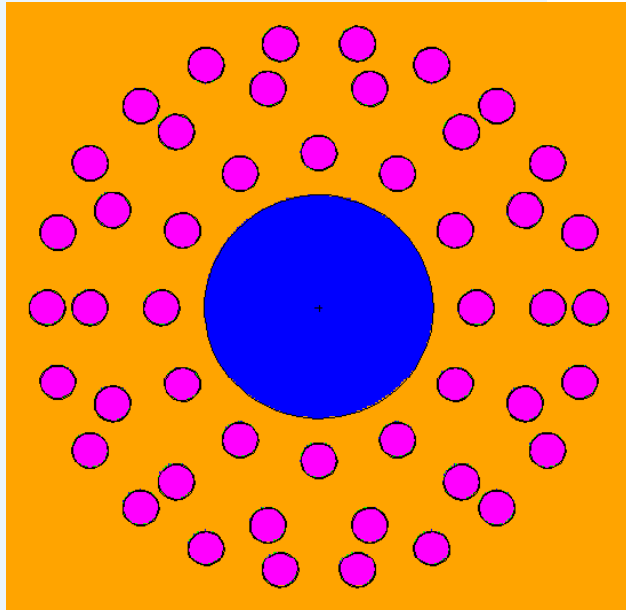
Radius 8 cm



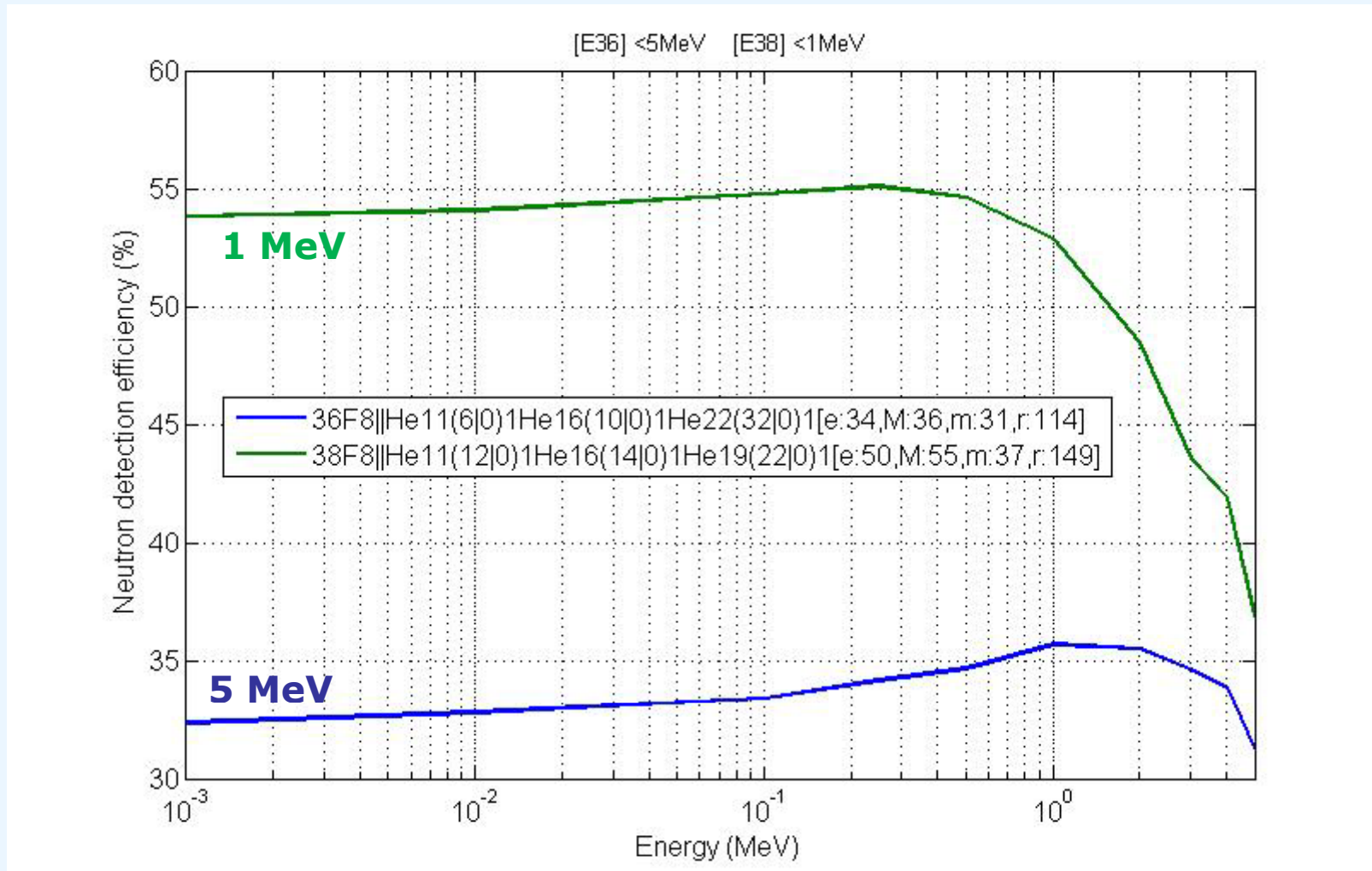
BELEN design in progress for **RIKEN** with **AIDA**

Optimized for range 100 keV – 1 MeV

Radius 8 cm



BELEN design in progress for **RIKEN** with **AIDA** (8cm central hole)



## Summary & RIKEN management

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- ✓ BELEN is a 4pi neutron detector designed to study beta delayed neutron emission.
- ✓ Laboratory tests and several successful experiments performed.
- ✓ The efficiency of the previous configurations has been validated experimentally with  $^{252}\text{Cf}$  sources and some reference isotopes

- Logistics for measurements with BELEN at RIKEN → **TO DISCUSS tomorrow!**
  - ✓ Think about transportation of the detector (Counters & electronics).
  - ✓ Which part can be built in RIKEN? (Polyethylene matrix, support).
  - ✓ Design of the support structure. Adapted to the experimental hall.
  - ✓ Possibility to commission BELEN at RIKEN.
  - ✓ A campaign of measurements for optimizing resources?
  - ✓ Availability of neutron sources to test/calibrate the detector.
  - ✓ Integration of the acquisition system.
  - ✓ Human resources.

Concept

Detection System

Previous versions

New designs

BELEN detector team

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### **UPC (Barcelona)**

R.Caballero-Folch, F.Calviño, G.Cortès, A.Poch, C.Pretel, A.Riego, A.Torner

**Old members:** M.B.Gómez-Hornillos, V.Gorlychev

### **IFIC (València)**

J.Agramunt, A.Algora, C.Domingo-Pardo, D.Jordan, J.L.Taín

### **GSI (Darmstadt – Germany)**

I.Dillmann, A.Evdokimov, M.Marta

### **CIEMAT (Madrid)**

D.Cano-Ott, T.Martínez, E.Mendoza, A.García

*Work supported by the Spanish Ministry of  
Economy and Competitivity under contract*

**FPA 2011-28770-C03-03**





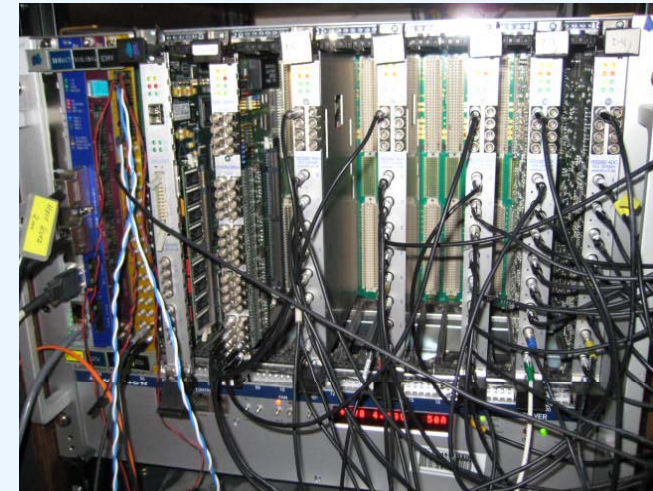
## Digital Data Acquisition System (DDAS)

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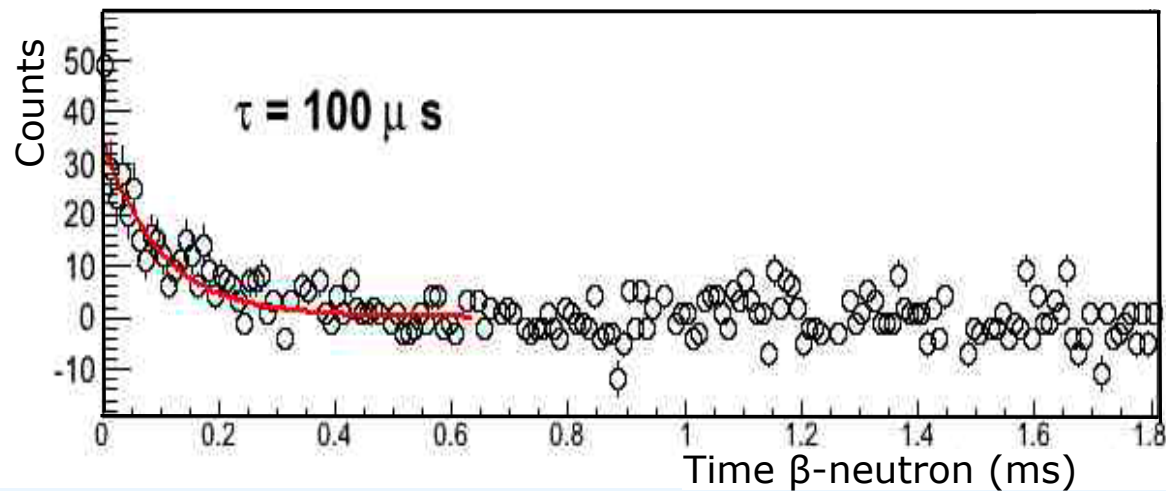
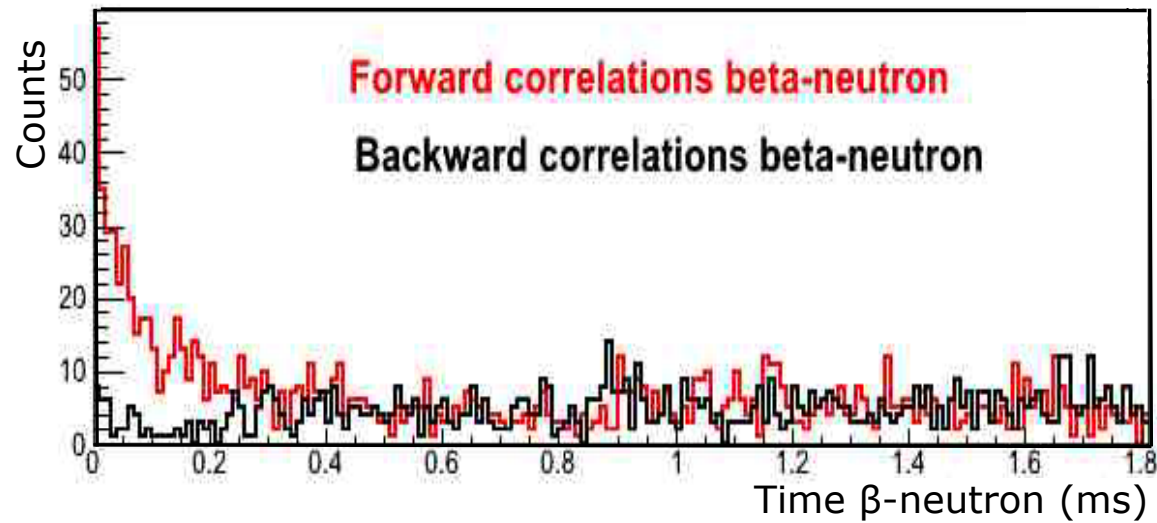
Triggerless digital data acquisition system:

- ✓ Struck digitizer modules (SIS3302): provide time-stamps very versatile for time correlations
- ✓ Negligible dead-time when compared to analog systems
- ✓ Increase the efficiency by about 8% (from 27 to 35%)
- ✓ Flexibility for large time correlation (fundamental to obtain correlations with all neutron and to change the gates offline)
- ✓ Allows to correct some experimental effects, e.g. To reduce neutron background from uncorrelated neutrons
- ✓ Developed at IFIC (València-Spain)

**Talk of this part by Jorge Agramunt**

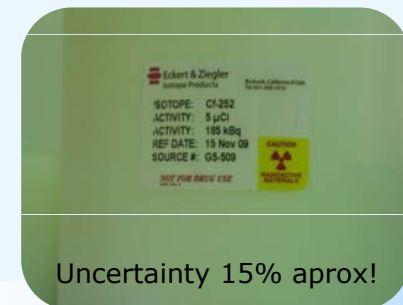


## Performance test time correlation between neutron and $\beta$ -decay for $^{213}\text{Tl}$



$$P_n = \frac{1}{\varepsilon_n} \frac{N_{n\beta}}{N_\beta}$$

Source to test  
the efficiency



Uncertainty 15% aprox!

Experimental hall for background measurements at GSI

