



# Radioisotopes: Nuclear Applications Beyond Energy

Thursday, October 19

This event is presented by ANS in partnership with  
the Department of Energy, Office of Nuclear Energy.

# Isotopes-what are they good for?

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Department of Energy Isotope Program

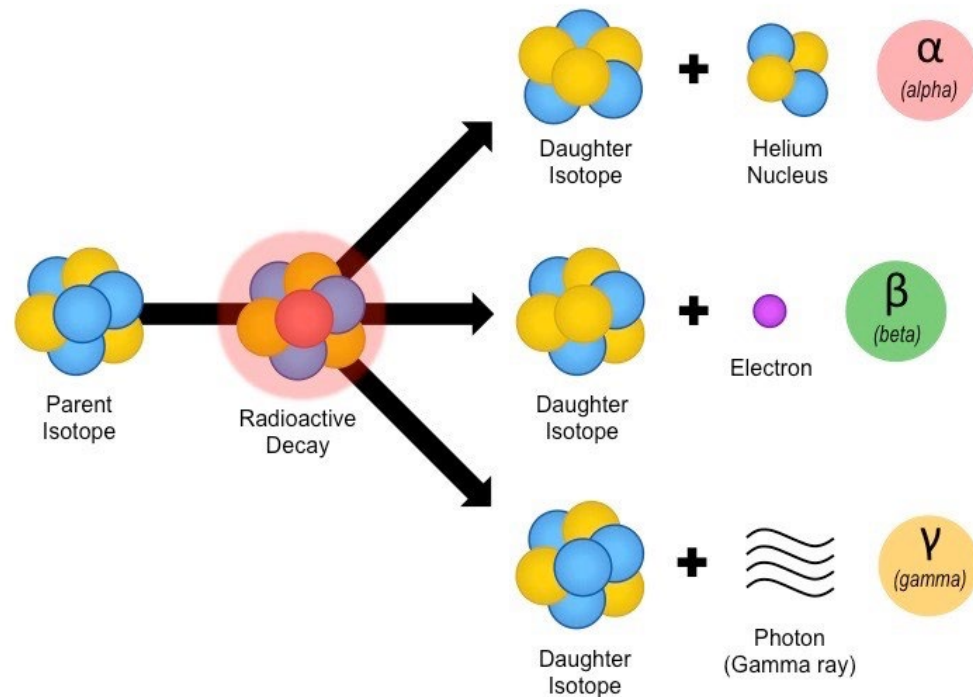


Nuclear Science Week™

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# Radioisotopes



- Radioisotopes are alternate forms of an element with the same number of protons, but different number of neutrons.
- They are unstable and decay into a more stable daughter by alpha, beta or gamma ray emission.
- Radioisotopes can be found in nature as well as made in reactors, particle accelerators, and generators (where a radioisotope decays into another radioisotope daughter of interest).

# Endless Possibilities

Nuclear  
batteries

QIS

Bio-tech

Industrial  
Apps

Discovery  
Research

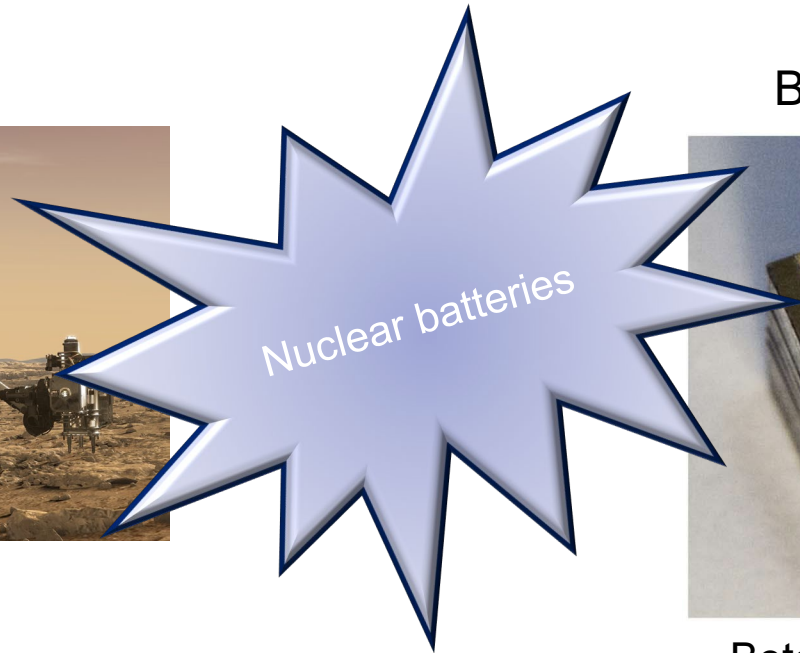
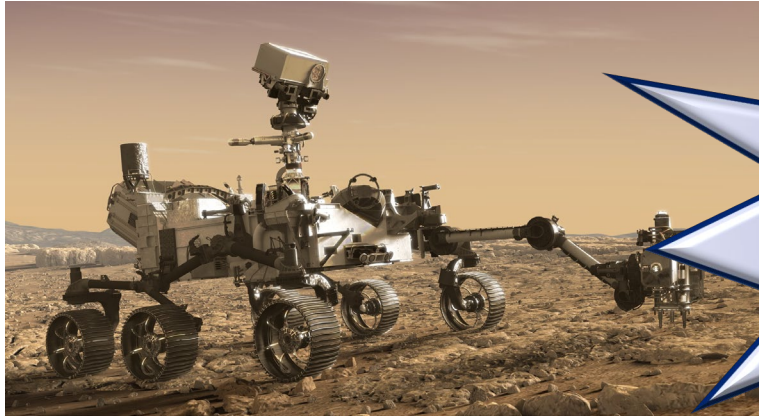
Cancer

Semi-conductor  
manufacturing,  
microelectronics

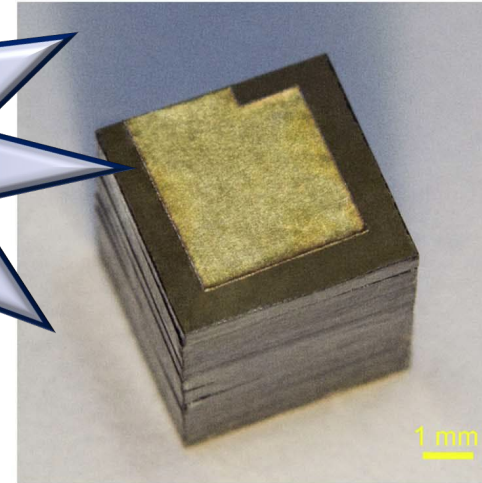
Power  
Sources  
For  
Space,  
underwater

Fission  
Reactor

Fusion  
Reactor



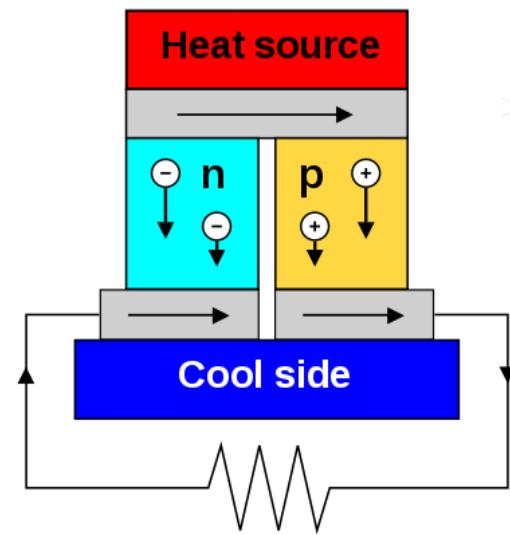
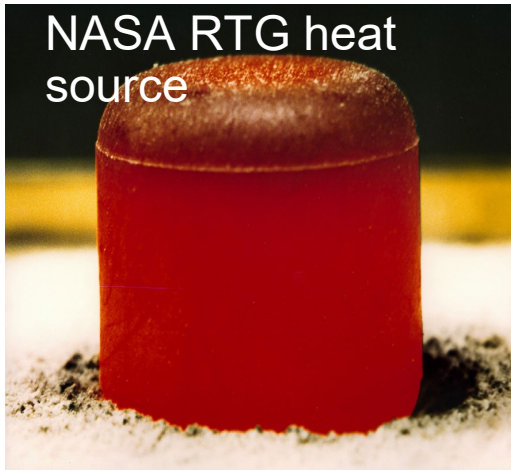
Betavoltaics



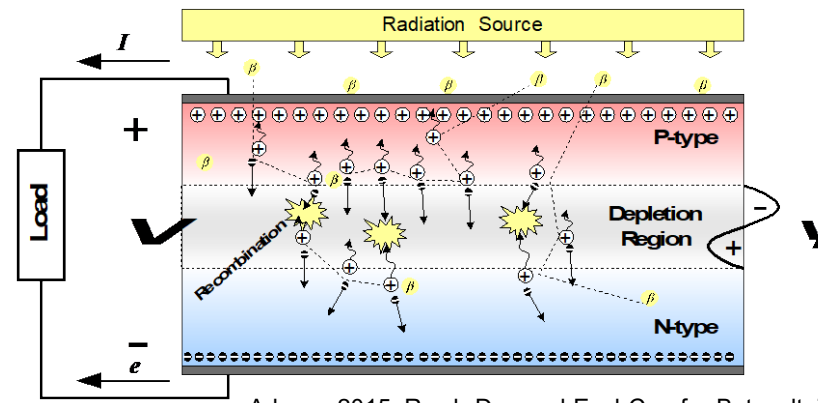
Beta-Photovoltaics  
BPVs

Beta particle source

Radio-isotope



Thermoelectric Transducer



Adams\_2015\_Rsrch-Dev-and-Eval-Cap-for-Betavoltaic-Pwr-Sources\_ASEE#13983

Semiconductor Transducer





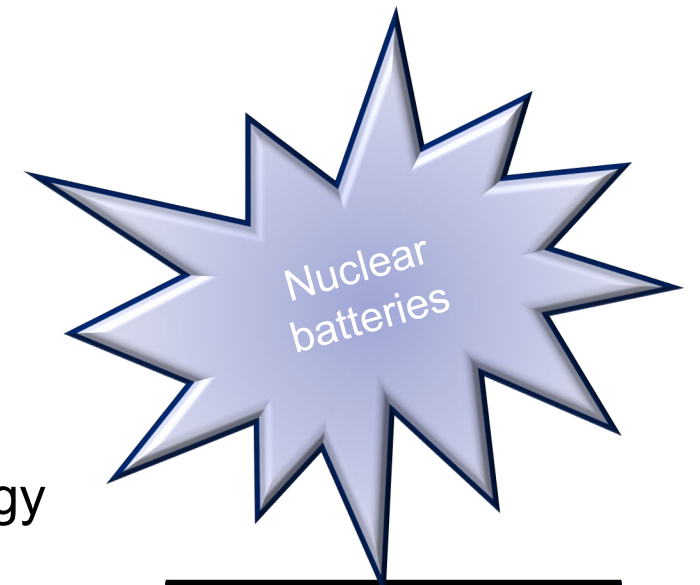
Isotope	Decay	Type	Example size battery
Pu-238	$\alpha$	RTG	10 W
Am-241	$\alpha$	RTG	10 W
Sr-90	$\beta$	RTG	10 W
Ac-227	$\alpha$	RTG	10 W
Pm-147	$\beta$	BV/BPV	10 mW
Eu-155		BV	3 mW
Ni-63	$\beta$	BV	1 mW
H-3	B	BV	100 $\mu$ W

### Sr-90 Example:

$1.13 \text{ E } 6 \text{ eV/decay}$   
 $1 \text{ Ci} = 3.7 \text{ E } 10 \text{ decays/sec}$   
 $1 \text{ J} = 6.24 \text{ E } 18 \text{ eV}$   
 $1 \text{ W} = 1 \text{ J/s}$

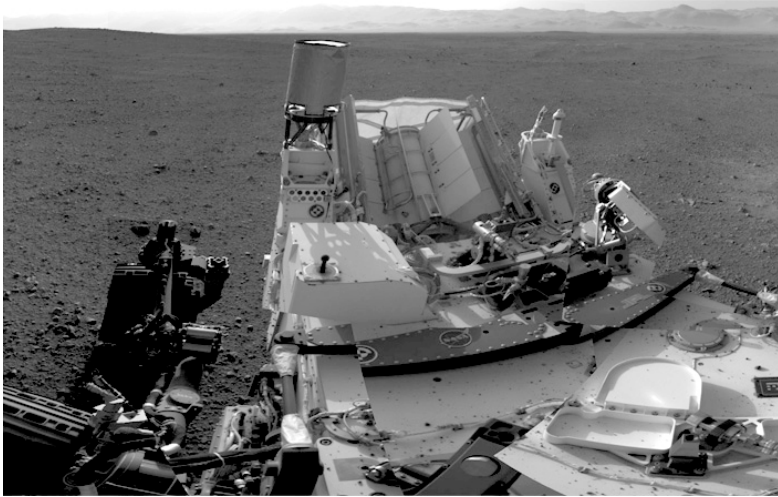
$\therefore 149 \text{ Ci Sr-90 for } 1 \text{ W}_{\text{th}} \text{ energy}$

**For 5% efficient RTG:**  
 $2,987 \text{ Ci Sr90/W}_e$



Abbreviation	Definition
RTG	Radioisotope Thermoelectric Generator
BV	Beta Voltaic
BPV	Beta Photo Voltaic
eV	Electron Volt
Ci	Curie
J	Joule
W	Watt

NB Type	Energy Source	Transducer	Power Level	Application	Usage
RTG	$\alpha, \beta \rightarrow$ Thermal $\Delta T$	TE semiconductors	1-100's W	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mini-satellites</li> <li>Maritime Sensing</li> <li>UAV</li> <li>Deep earth</li> </ul>	High
BV	$\beta \rightarrow$ e-h pairs	Voltaic semiconductors	1-1000 $\mu$ W	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remote wireless sensors</li> <li>Medical</li> </ul>	Low
BPV	$\beta \rightarrow$ photons	Luminescent + PV	0.1-10mW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hybrid NB-CB systems</li> <li>Remote wireless sensors</li> </ul>	Low

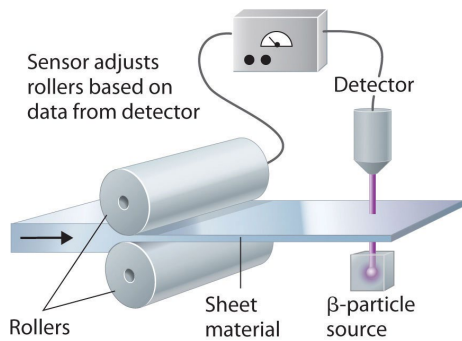


The Mars Science Laboratory rover, Curiosity, took this self portrait, which shows its Radioisotope Thermoelectric Generator (RTG) at center.

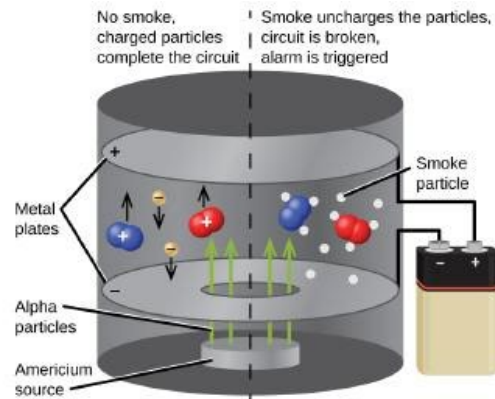
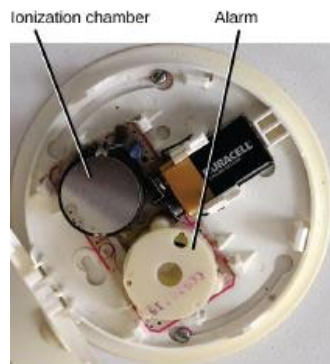
## Radioactive Power Sources

- Radioisotope Thermoelectric Generator
- Multi-Mission Radioisotope Thermoelectric Generator





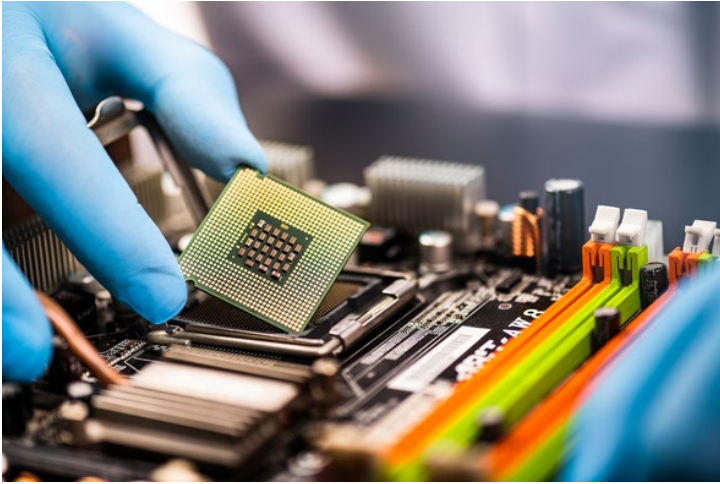
Gamma radiography  
(Se-75 and Ir-192)



Pest Control

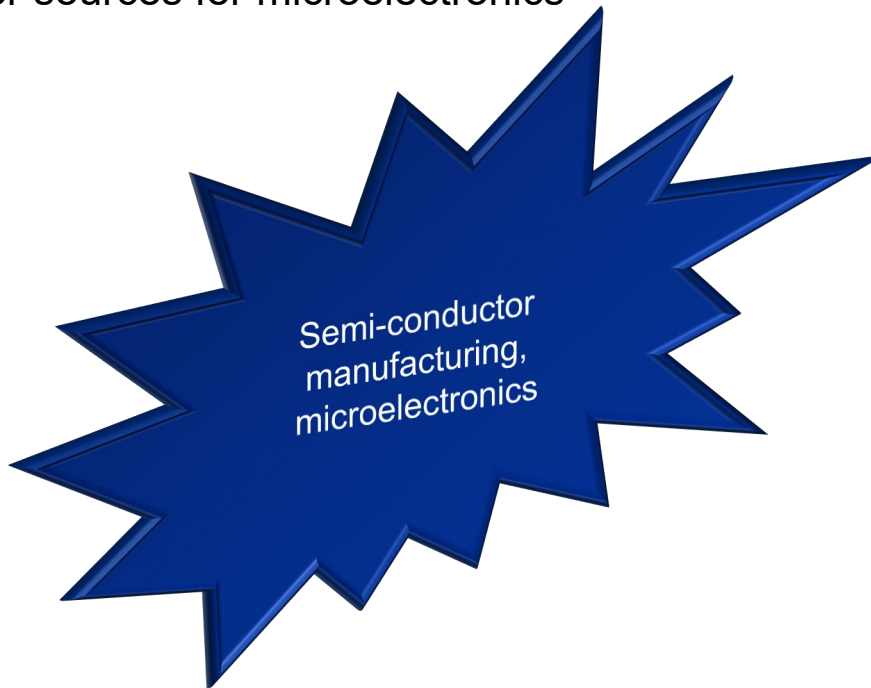




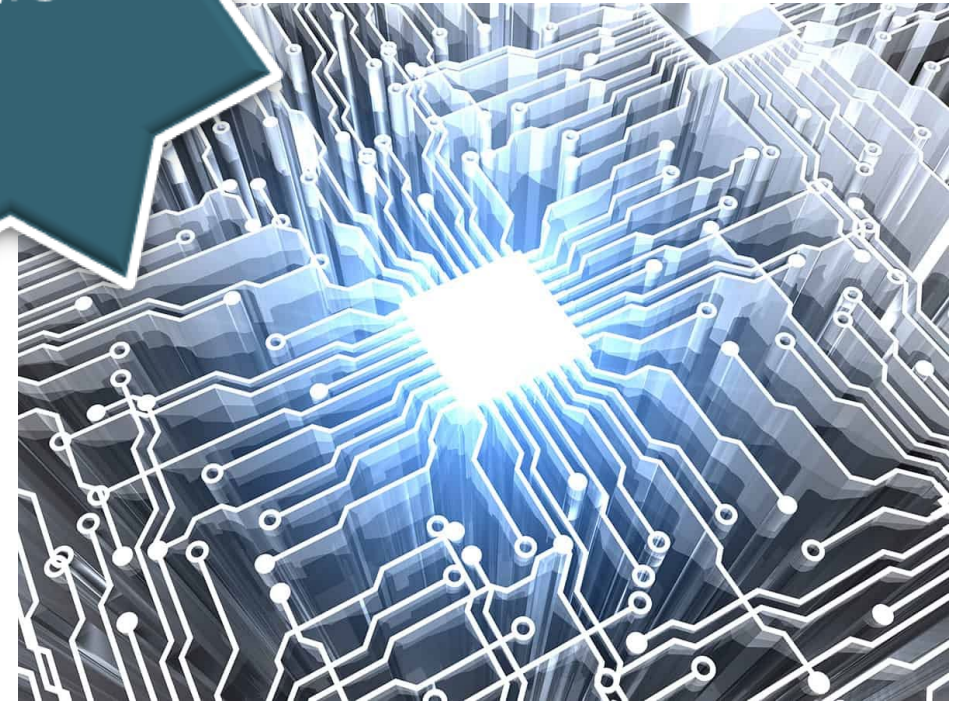


Si-28 for improved heat conduction on computer chips

Betavoltaic power sources for microelectronics

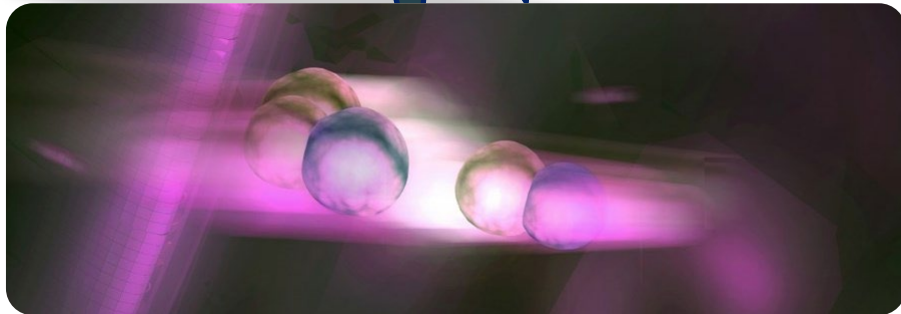


*Quantum Information System*



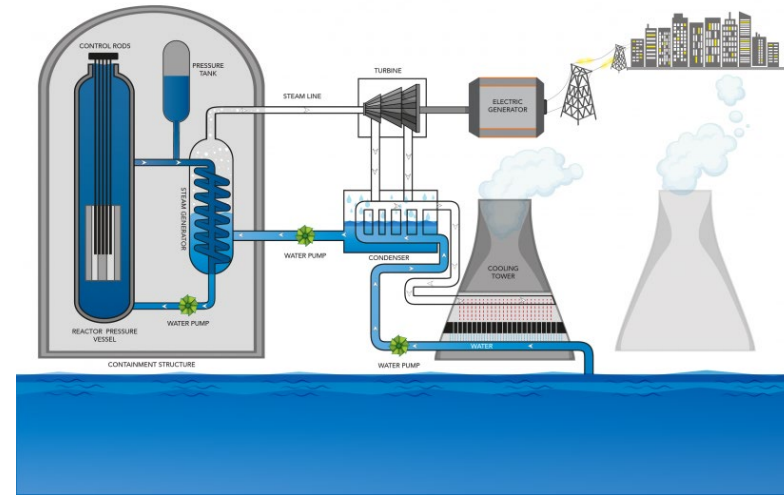
Isotopically pure isotopes of Si and Ge for quantum dot devices

# Fusion Reactor



Fuels: deuterium, tritium, He-3, B-11  
Blankets: Li-6

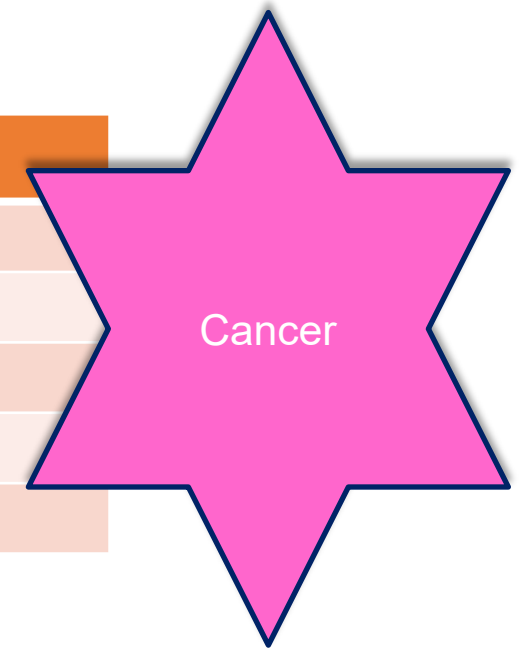
## PRESSURIZED WATER REACTOR (PWR)



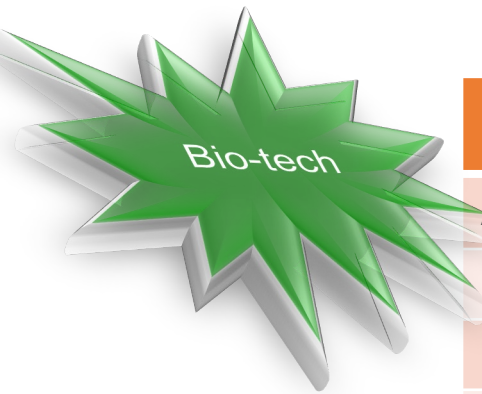
Th-232, U-235 for fuel  
U-234 for monitoring flux levels  
B-10 neutron absorption

# Fission Reactor

Available Medical Isotopes					
Ac-225 /Bi-213	Co-55	Mn-52g	Rb-83	Sr-90/Y-90	Y-86
Ac-227	Co-60 HSA	Pb-212 /Bi-212	Se-72	Th-227	Y-88
<b>As-73</b>	Fe-52	Pm-147	Sn-177m	Th-228/ Ra-224	Zn-65
At-211	He-3	Ra-223	Sr-85	V-48	
Au-199	Lu-177 c.a.	Ra-226	Sr-89	W-188/Re-188	



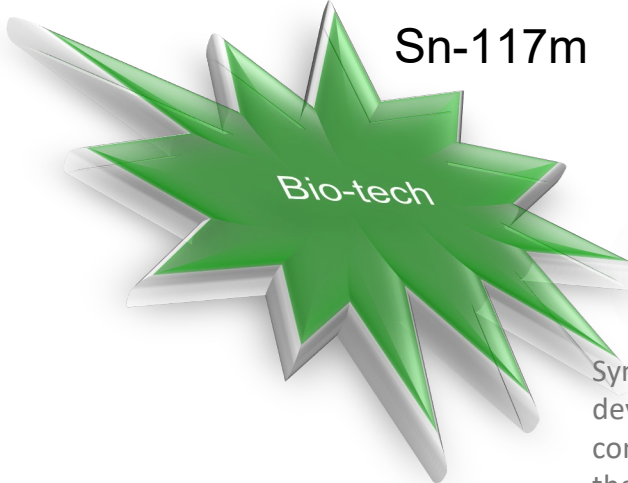
Radio-isotopes in **blue** available soon.



Under development					
As-72 /Se-72	<b>Ce-134</b>	Mn-54	Pt-191,193m/195m	Sc-43, Sc-44	<b>Ti-44/Sc-44</b>
Br-76, Br-77	Co-57	Nb-90	<b>Ra-226</b>	Sc-47	Tm-170
C-14	<b>Cu-67</b>	Pb-203	Re-186 /189	Tb-161	U-230/Th226
Cd-109	Fe-59	Pb-205 /Pb-202	Ru-106	Te-119m	
Ce-139	Lu-177 (nca)	Pd-103	<b>Sb-119</b>	Th-229	

Theranostics = diagnostics + treatment

- Isotopes that aid in diagnostic imaging include Ga-68, Y-86, Sr-82, Cd-109, Fe-52, Se-72, Te-123m, and Xe-129



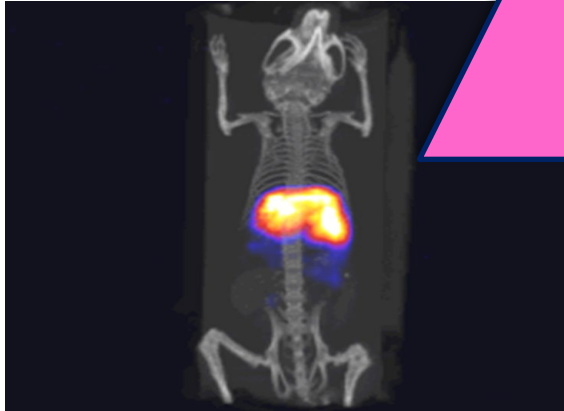
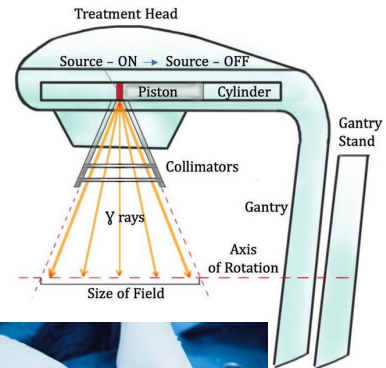
Sn-117m



Synovetin OA<sup>®</sup> is a veterinary device that uses novel, conversion electron therapy to target macrophages and synoviocytes in the injected joint.

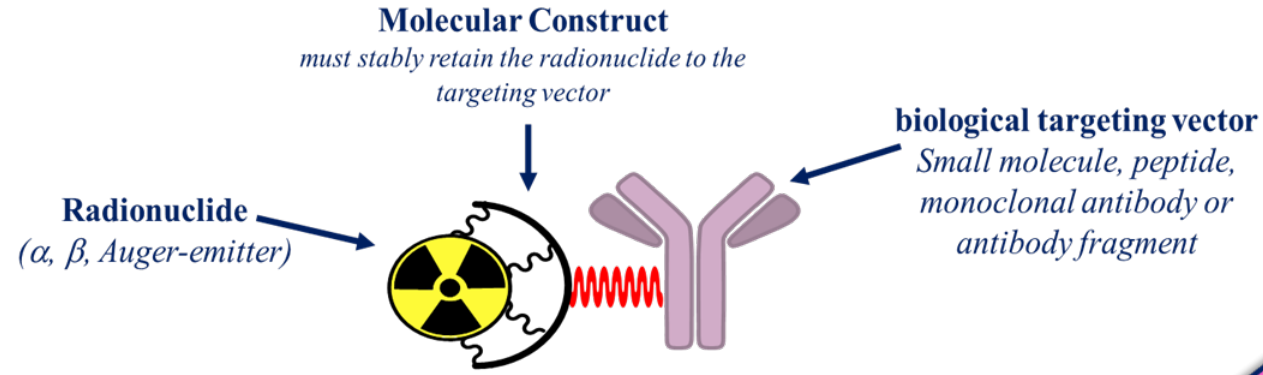
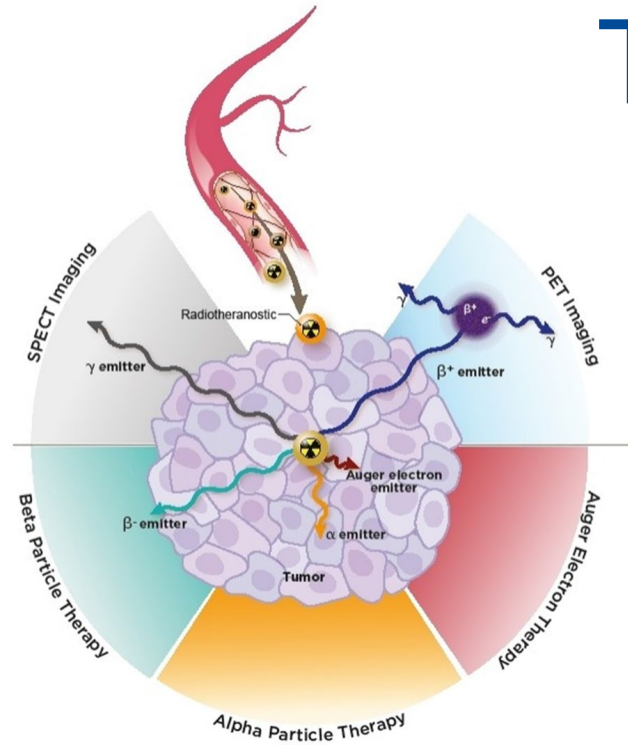
Co-60:

- Sterilization of single-use medical devices
- Food irradiation
- External beam therapy



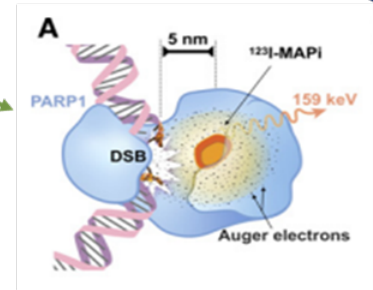
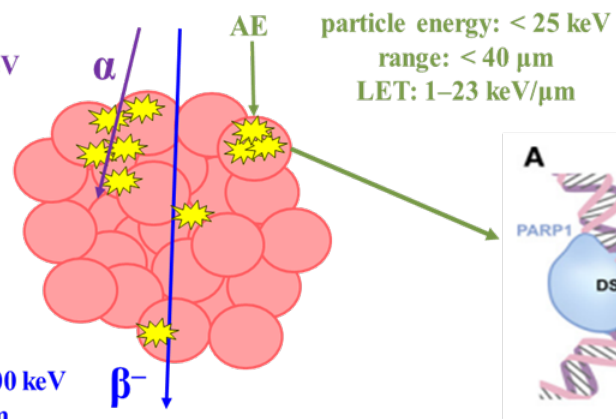
Diagnostic demonstration of Cu-67 in living mice, in collaboration with University of Alabama-Birmingham

# Targeted Radiotherapy

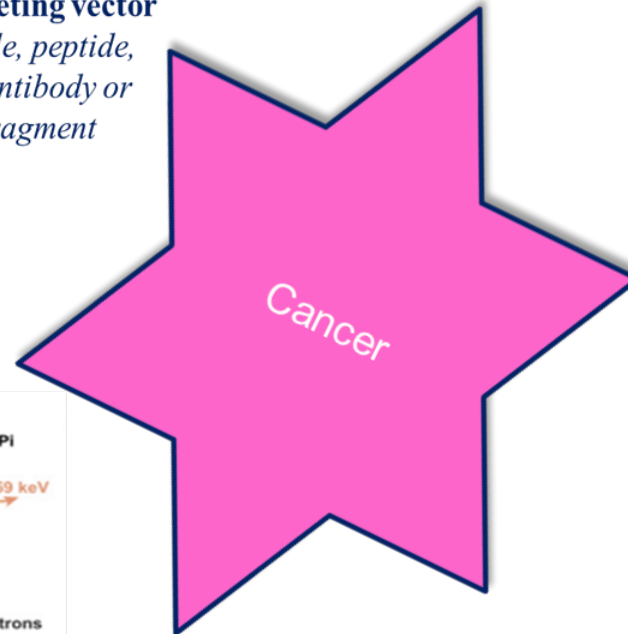


particle energy: 5–9 MeV  
range: 40–100 μm  
LET: 80 keV/μm

particle energy: 50–2300 keV  
range: 0.05–12 mm  
LET: 0.2 keV/μm



Auger emitters act inside the cell



CLINICAL CANCER RESEARCH | PRECISION MEDICINE AND IMAGING Targeted Brain Tumor Radiotherapy Using an Auger Emitter A C Giacomo Pirovano, Stephen A. Jannetti, Lukas M. Carter, Ahmad Sadique, Susanne Kossatz, Navjot Guru, Paula Demetrio De Souza Fran ca, Masatomo Maeda, Brian M. Zeglis, Jason S. Lewis, John L. Humm, and Thomas Reiner

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7299758/>



# Alpha and beta emitters approved by the world regulatory bodies (FDA, EMA, etc.)

## All ( $\beta$ -emitters)

**Established Radioisotopes for therapy (all beta emitters)**

I-131 thyroid cancer

Y-90 SIR-Spheres<sup>®</sup>, Liver cancer

Y-90, non-Hodgkins lymphoma (ZEVALIN<sup>®</sup>, ibritumomab tiuxetan)

Sr-89, bone palliation (METASTRON<sup>™</sup>, Strontium-89 Chloride injection)

Ho-166, Liver cancer (QuiremSpheres<sup>®</sup> - Microspheres)

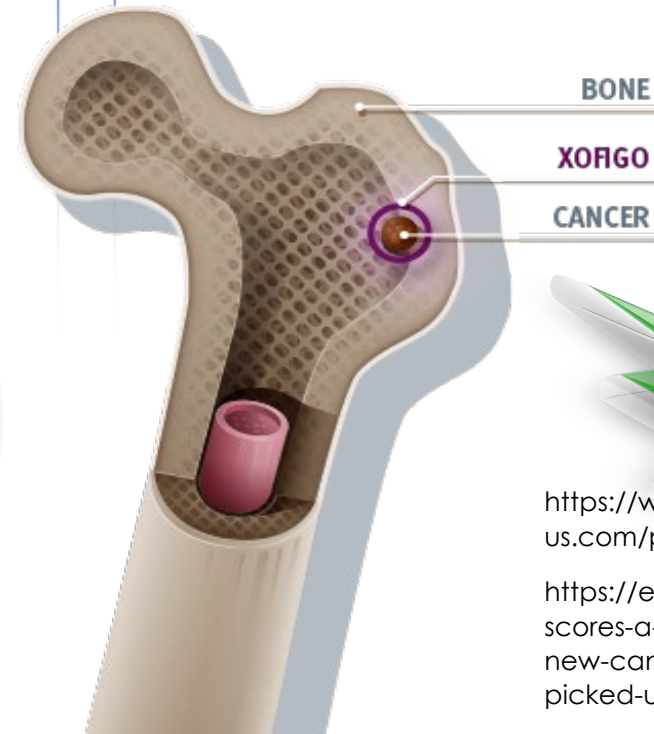
## Lu-177 ( $\beta$ -emitter)

**January 26, 2018**  
**Lutathera<sup>®</sup> (Lutetium Lu-177, dotatate) approved by the FDA**



## Ra-223 ( $\alpha$ -emitter)

**May 15, 2013** Xofigo<sup>®</sup>  
(Ra-223 dichloride) **approved by the FDA**



# New Elements



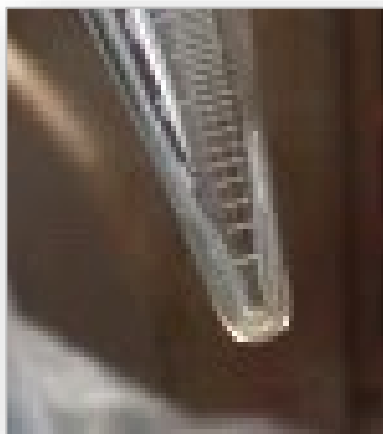
# Archeology



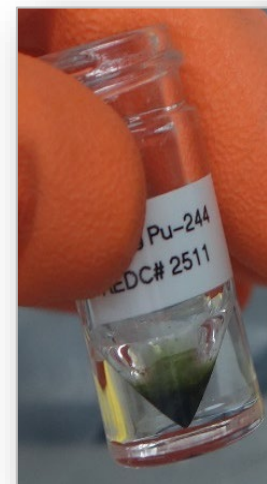
# Nuclear Physics



9 mg of  $^{248}\text{Cm}$ , (>95%)



$^{254}\text{Es}$ , 0.5  $\mu\text{g}$   
experiments on fission  
mechanisms

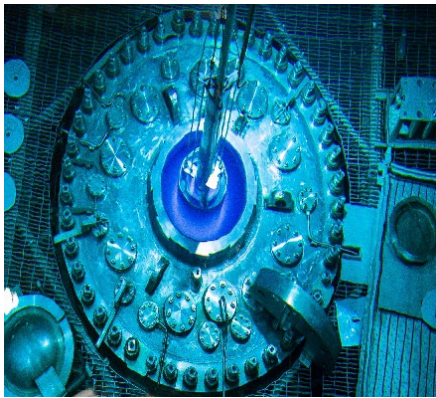


$^{244}\text{Pu}$ , 15 mg >99% reaction  
mechanism studies

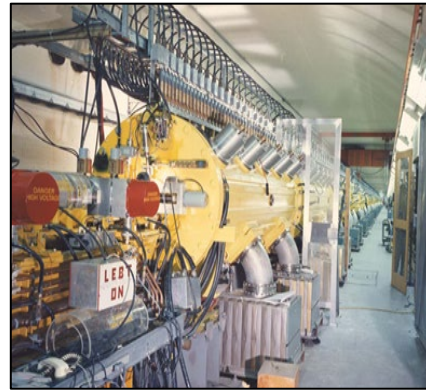


# If not found in nature, then what?

- Production pathways
  - Transmutation (accelerator or nuclear reactor)
  - Radiochemistry (separation, generators)
  - Harvesting (FRIB, recovery)



Reactors



Cyclotrons/  
Accelerators



Generators

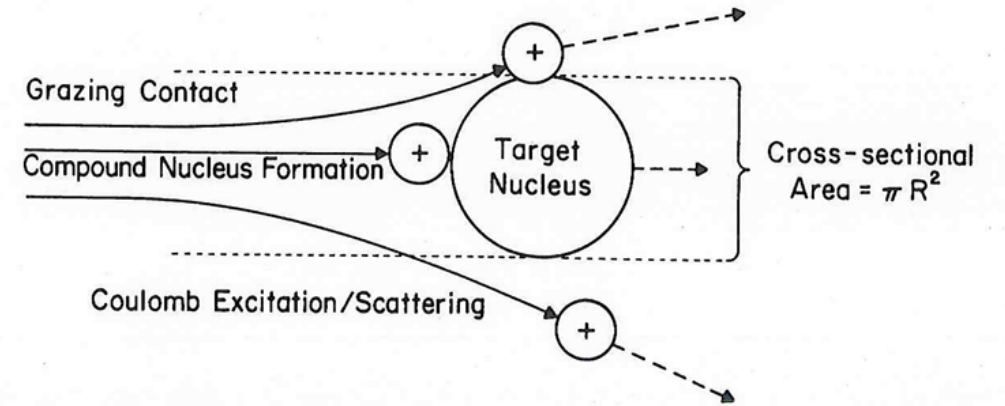
Powerful and state-of-the-art accelerators and reactors within the national laboratory complex can play unique and significant roles in the provision of isotopes.



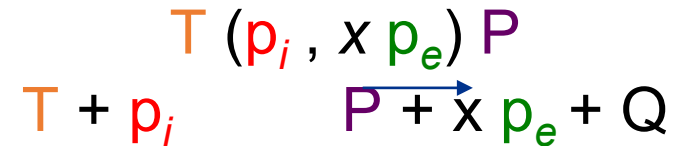
# Transmutation – Particle Accelerator

		$\alpha, 3n$	$\alpha, 2n$ ${}^3\text{He}, n$	$\alpha, n$	
$p, 2n$	$p, n$	$d, n$ ${}^3\text{He}, np$	$t, n$ $\alpha, np$ ${}^3\text{He}, p$		
	$p, pn$ $n, 2n$	Original Nucleus $Z, N$	$d, p$ $n, \gamma$ $t, np$	$t, p$	
$p, \alpha$	$n, t$ $d, \alpha$ $n, nd$	$n, np$ $p, 2p$ $n, d$	$n, p$ $t, {}^3\text{He}$		
	$n, \alpha$ $n, n, {}^3\text{He}$	$n, {}^3\text{He}$ $n, pd$			

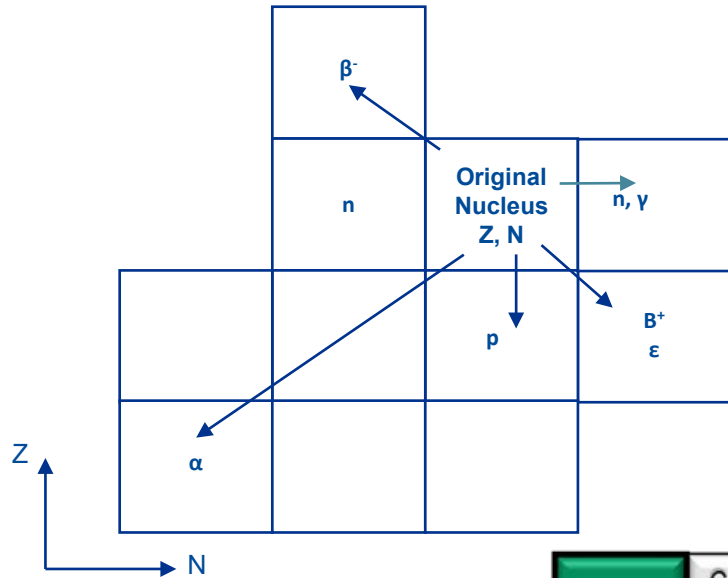
n = neutron  
 p = proton (H)  
 d = deuteron ( ${}^2\text{H}$ ; [pn])  
 t = triton ( ${}^3\text{H}$ ); [p2n]  
 ${}^3\text{He} = [2pn]$   
 $\alpha$  = alpha particle ( ${}^4\text{He}$ ); [2p2n]



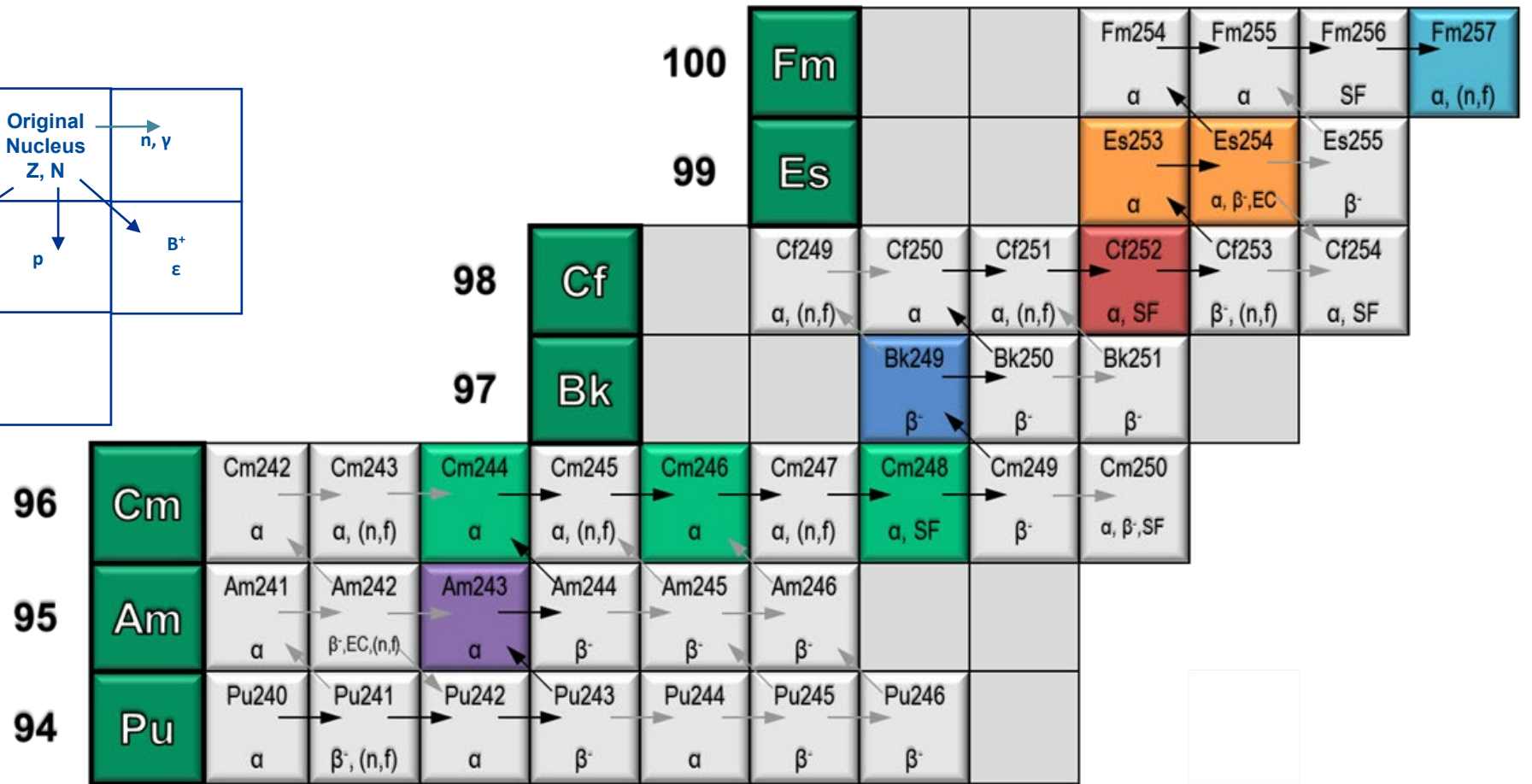
target nucleus (incident particle, exit particle(s) ) product nucleus



# Transmutation – Nuclear Reactor



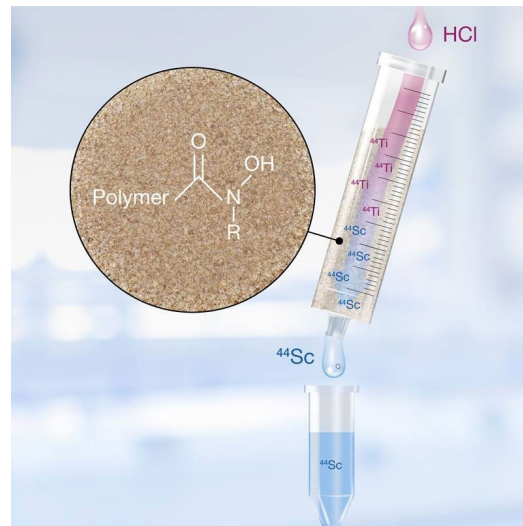
n = neutron  
 p = proton (H)  
 $\beta^-$  = beta particle  
 $\beta^+$  = positron  
 $\epsilon$  = electron capture



# Radiochemistry

## Generators:

- Using chemical differences of parent and decay products to continue generation of desired isotope



*Image courtesy of Brookhaven National Laboratory*

## Separations:

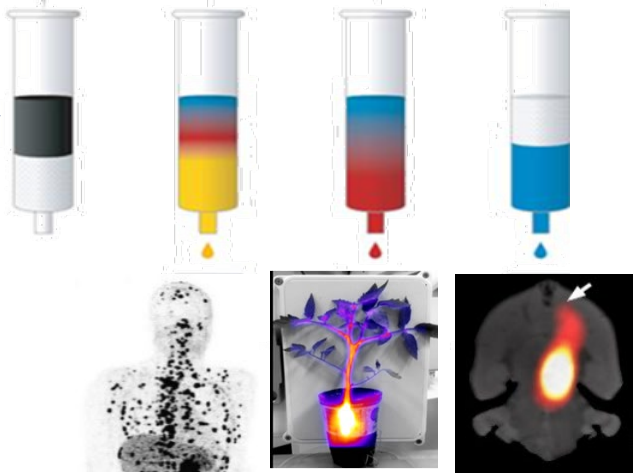
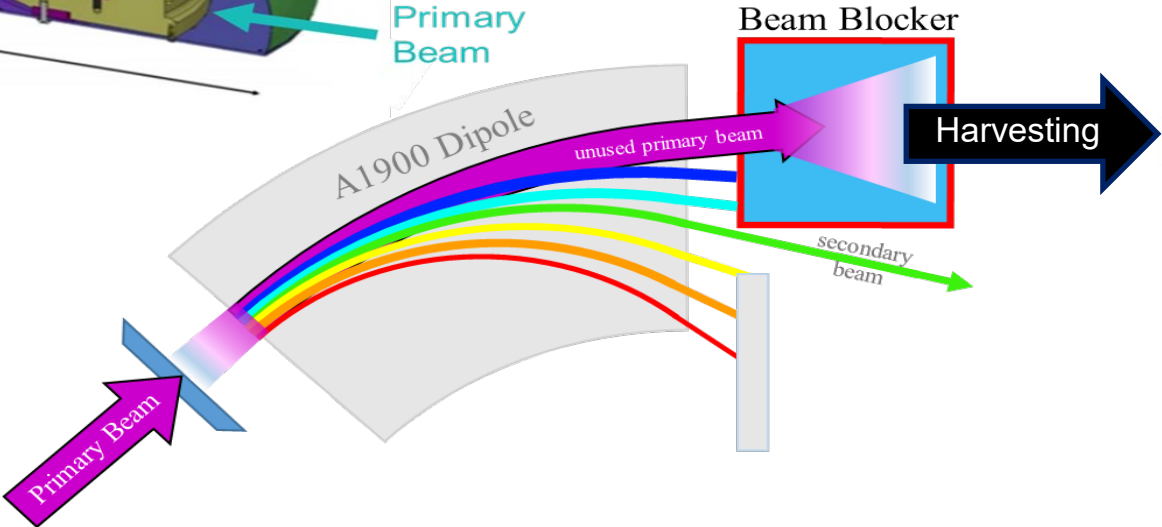
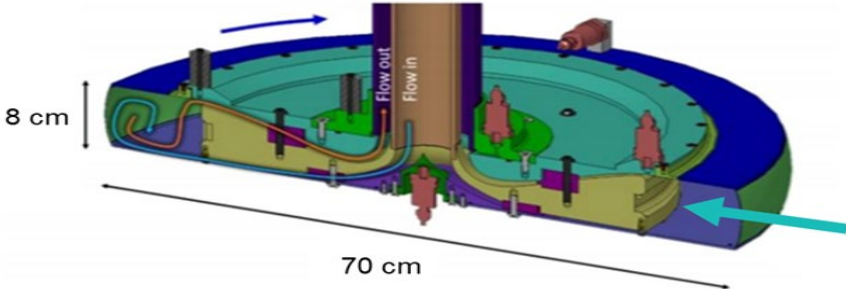
- Mass separation for isotopes
- Chemical differences of elements

Ion Exchange resins  
Solvent Extraction

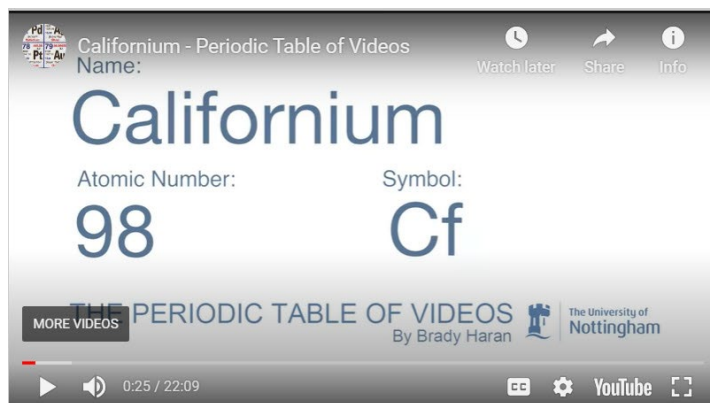


*Image courtesy of Gauthier Deblonde, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory*

# Harvesting



# Cool Isotope Resources



Californium - Periodic Table of Videos  
Name: Californium  
Atomic Number: 98  
Symbol: Cf  
THE PERIODIC TABLE OF VIDEOS  
By Brady Haran  
The University of Nottingham

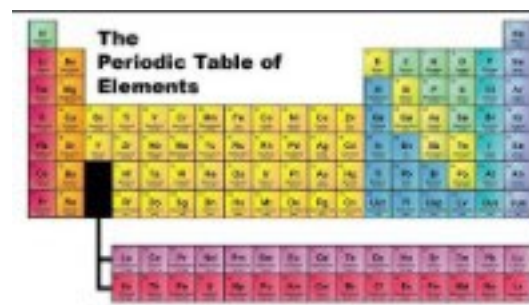
0:25 / 22:09

YouTube

<http://www.periodicvideos.com/>



[Periodic Table Song](#)

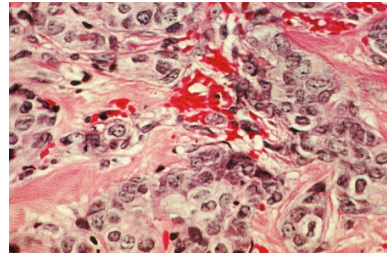


[Animated Periodic Table Song](#)

# Navigating Nuclear Isotope-related Resources



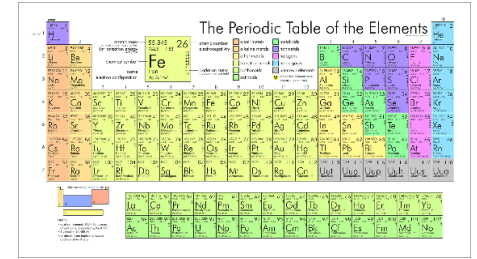
Measuring Radiation



Planting the Seeds for a Better Future for Cancer Patients



Realities of Radiation



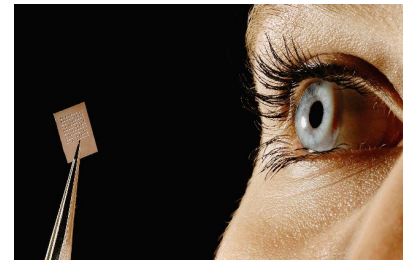
Decoding Decay



Radiopharmaceuticals



Decay Detectives: Art Forgery or Masterpiece?



Exploring the Present and Future of Radioactive Decay



Making Mosquitoes SIT!

# Additional ANS K-12 Programs

- Educator Training
  - In-person and virtual professional development opportunities, such as webinars and workshops to gain confidence and teaching strategies
- Nuclear Ambassadors
  - ANS members specially trained in classroom interaction
- Pathways to Nuclear
  - virtual and in-person events inspiring students to careers in nuclear science and technology

# More sites to visit

[DOE Isotope R&D and Production](#)

[Applied Nuclear Chemistry](#)

[Quantum Information Science](#)

[Electron-hole Pair in Semiconductors](#)

[Microelectronics](#)

[Review – Betavoltaic Cell: The Past, Present, and Future](#)

[Photovoltaic effect](#)

[Nuclear Fusion](#)

[Introduction to Transducers](#)

[ITER](#)

[Radioisotope Power System](#)

[Radioisotope Power video NASA DOE](#)

[MMRTG Pull-apart Animation](#)