# **Transactinide research at GSI**



# Challenges

Strategy

Perspectives

# Nuclear structure, astrophysics, reactions, superheavy elements



TAN 11, Sochi (Russia), 2011 September 5-11

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# Elements and their isotopes: cosmic matter in the GSI laboratory



# International Facility for Antiproton and Ion Research FAIR



# **Requirements for GSI linear accelerators**

# SHE experiments

- \* high intensities: >1E11/ppp
- \* high repetition rate (50 Hz)
- \* high duty cycle (~100%, cw-operation, ~20 ms pulse)

Injector for synchrotrons (SIS-18, -100)

- \* extremly high intensities: >1E12/ppp
- \* low repetition rate (max. 3 Hz)
- \* low duty cycle (0,1%, 100 µs for SIS-18)

#### → dedicated linear accelerators needed!



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# The planned superconducting cw-linac



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cw-linac project			
Time table:	2010-2011	Tendering & Ordering	
	2011-2013	Delivery of	5 kW amplifier 3000 ltr LHe-tank 25m <sup>3</sup> He-recovery balloon
	2012-2013	1st tests (warm	& cold) @ IAP (Frankfurt)
	2013-2014	full performance tests @ GSI-HLI	
	2018-	s.c. cw-LINAC i	n operation for SHE research
Project group:	U. Ratzinger, et al. (Frankfurt) S. Mikhat, L. Dahl, et al. (GSI) W. Barth, A. Jankowiac, et al. (HIM)		
Costs:	Investment: 27.	5 MEuro	
	Operation: 0.85 MEuro p.a.		
Roadmap:	Project recognized by Helmholtz-Association		
	Evaluated in 2010: "hervorragend" (excellent)		
	R&D funded by HIM → on roadmap of HGF-Ausbauinvestitionen 2014-2016 → construction 2015+ (?)		

# Key areas of SHE research at GSI



# Key instruments for SHE studies at GSI



# **Exemplary results**



#### Small cross sections $\rightarrow$ long beam times, high intensities:

#### Ion source development

28 GHz ECR (intensity x10), new beams, enriched material

#### Advanced target techniques

Actinide targets – availability of isotopes, handling, safety High-power targets – cooling techniques, new materials/compounds Approaches – optimization, new techniques (e.g. gas jets, liquid targets?) Analysis – in-situ, off-line-characterization, quality control



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# Challenge #2: new reactions

# Kinematics of heavy transfer products

$$^{238}\text{U} + ^{248}\text{Cm}, \text{ E}_{cm} = 780 \text{ MeV}$$



# Challenge #2: new reactions

New beams!

E.g.: <sup>50</sup>Ti

#### Kinematical studies:

E.g.: measurement of velocity distributions for certain reactions

 $\rightarrow$  identification of  $\alpha xn$  and transfer channels at SHIP



 $^{25}Mg + ^{197}Au \rightarrow ^{222}Pa^{*} (E^{*}=64 \text{ MeV})$ 

#### example for a transfer channel:

 $^{25}Mg + ^{206}Pb \rightarrow ^{13}C + ^{218}Ra$ 



# Challenge #3: unambigous identification (Z,A)



direct mass determination

- \* bolometer
- \* Pennig trap (SHIPTRAP)
- \* time-of-flight mass spectrometer (MR-ToF-MS)



#### **1. Mid-term project: separator for transfer reaction products**



**Inelastic Reaction Isotope Separator** HEAVY ELEMENTS

#### J. Dvorak et al.

# 2. Mid-term project: SHIP upgrade

- Q'poles with larger apertures and field strength
  Shorter distance from target to quadrupoles
  → increase of angular acceptance: factor of 2
  → increase of the transmission: up to factor of 4
  → relevant for very asymmetric projectile/target
- - $\rightarrow$  relevant for very asymmetric projectile/target combinations and for transfer reactions



# Challenge #4: next-generation instruments

#### 1. Mid-term project: separator for transfer reactions



Inelastic Reaction Isotope Separator



#### J. Dvorak et al.

3. Long-term project: separator for intensities >5E13 pps



# Strategic partners for SHE research at GSI

# Helmholtz-Institute Mainz

Partners: University of Mainz, GSI SHE: chemistry and physics Accelerators: development cw-linac

Young-Investigator Group (J.Dvorak): IRiS Separator

# **International Graduate School**

Promotes and supports structured PhD education for research associated with GSI and FAIR

# Helmholtz-International Center for FAIR Univ. Darmstadt, Frankfurt, Gießen, FIAS

A unique think tank for forefront interdisciplinary research for GSI/FAIR

### International partnerships DOE, ORNL, LLNL, Berkeley





Helmholtz International Center

# SHE collaborators worldwide



# **Conclusion**

# Lessons

- chemical elements exist due to microscopic effects
- field of highest scientific level and interest

# Challenges

- next shell closures in nuclei and electron shells
- spherical SHE, nuclear structure
- unambigous identification
- synthesis of new elements beyond 120
- fast separation for ions with very short half-lives
- ID of ions with very long half-lives
- reactions: exploratory work needed! (transfer, reactions with radioactive nuclei)

# Instruments

- accelerator and targets: highest intensities
- separators: hightest suppression
- detectors: highest selectivity and sensitivity

# Thank you for your attention!

# Demonstrator: test bench at GSI



# Scientific strategy for SHE research at GSI

#### 1. Synthesis of new elements, confirmation experiments, new n-rich isotopes

- SHE synthesis: search for new elements 119 and 120, and beyond 120
- Reaction studies, e.g. multi-nucleon transfer, cold and hot fusion,
- Extension of SHE-Island (north-east, south-west)
- Direct Z determination through observation of X-rays
- Direct A determination with bolometer, mass spectrometer or new A/q separator

### 2. Physical and chemical studies of SHE

- Detailed study of deformed and spherical "islands"
- Chemical properties of element 114
- New compound classes of lighter transactinides, organo-metallic compounds
- Nuclear spectroscopy, decay studies, direct mass measurements, atomic and nuclear theory
- 3. Next-generation linac, separators and instruments
  - s.c. cw-linac
  - next-generation separator
  - novel detectors, electronics,...

# Challenge #3: Z-identification via characteristic X-rays



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# Challenge #3: A-determination by bolometers



 $\Delta T = E/C \sim E/T^3$ 

⇒ low operating temperatures

- $\Rightarrow$  potential advantage in
  - energy resolution
  - energy linearity

#### Detector design:

sapphire absorber +AI TES thermistor array (12 x 6 mm<sup>2</sup>) operated at 1.4 K



#### **Detector performance:**

- excellent energy resolution (~10x better as conv. Si detector)
- no pulse height defect

#### Mass identification:

E/TOF measurement  $\implies$  mass identification

example: <sup>238</sup>U, E=80...300keV/u



for <sup>238</sup>U, E = 360 MeV/u  $\Rightarrow \Delta E/E = 1.1 \times 10^{-3}$ for <sup>238</sup>U, E = 0.09 MeV/u  $\Rightarrow \Delta E/E = 4.4 \times 10^{-3}$ 



#### P. Egelhof et al.

# Challenge #3: A-determination by mass spectrometer



#### W.R. Plaß et al., NIMB 266 (2008) 4560

# Challenge #4: next-generation instruments

#### Long-term project: separator for intensities >5E13 pps



#### Collaboration: GSI, Gießen, Manipal

# HIC for FAIR – research pillars





+ Theory

Nuclear and Quark Matter:

SIS, CERN, RHIC,



СВМ









FAIR high-tech foundations: Accelerator Development High Performance Computing













# HIM – The New Helmholtz Institute Mainz



# Ion charge states at zero degree



# Bρ – values in vacuum



# Ion velocities



