

Australian Government



## The Centre for Accelerator Science (CAS)

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## **Centre for Accelerator Science (CAS)**

- CAS facilities
- What is a positive ion tandem accelerator?
- Ion Beam Analysis (IBA)
- Accelerator Mass Spectrometry (AMS)
- Some typical applications of ion beams

## Long History at ANSTO



ANSTO has a 50 year history of accelerator use.

Seen as complementary to reactor based neutrons.

1<sup>st</sup> Microprobe done on this machine at ANSTO in 1964.

ANSTO was there when accelerator applications 'took off' in 1970's and 1980's.

## **VEGA** Accelerator

## **STAR** Accelerator



## **SIRIUS** Accelerator

## **ANTARES** Accelerator

6 MV NEC Tandem AMS and IBA 10 MV HVE Tandem AMS and IBA

## **VEGA Accelerator (1MV)**



- IMV NEC Tandem
- 134 sample sputter ion source for heavy ions H to U, actinides.
- Single 'torturous' magnetic and electrostatic path for ions.
- Provides high precision isotope selectivity.



## STAR Accelerator (2MV)

- 2MV HVE Tandem
- 2 Duoplasmatron ion sources for H, He
- 1 Sputter ion source for heavy ions C, ....
- 3 High energy beamlines; radiocarbon, materials characterisation, ion beam techniques.





## SIRIUS Accelerator (6MV)

- ✤ 6 MV NEC Tandem.
- ✤ 3 ion sources for ions H-U.
- 4 IBA beamlines, heavy ion microprobe, heavy ion materials irradiation, surface analysis.
- 3 AMS beamlines, small sample, actinides, <sup>10</sup>Be, <sup>26</sup>Al, <sup>14</sup>C.





## ANTARES Accelerator (10MV)

- ✤ 10 MV HVE Tandem.
- ✤ 3 ion sources for ions H-U.
- 2 IBA beamlines, heavy ion microprobe, heavy ion materials irradiation, surface analysis.
- 3 AMS beamlines, small samples, actinides, <sup>10</sup>Be, <sup>26</sup>AI, <sup>14</sup>C, <sup>129</sup>I, <sup>36</sup>CI,..





### **The New Libby Building – AMS Sample Preparation**

The new Libby building contains the following AMS laboratories for preparation of isotopes from <sup>7</sup>Be to <sup>243</sup>Pu:-

- Actinides and lodine lab.
- Quarantine and ice lab.
- Cosmogenic lab.
- Sample etching and cleaning lab.
- Sample crushing lab.
- Quartz separation lab (atomic absorption and heavy liquid separations).
- Cathode loading lab.
- Thermal ionisation mass spectrometer (TIMS) lab.
- Inductively coupled plasma mass. spect. (ICPMS) – lase ablation lab.





## **Accelerators Globally**

### IAEA database has 197 accelerators listed 159 non-synchrotron sources

http://nucleus.iaea.org/sites/accelerators/Pages/default.aspx

The full range of accelerator facilities and capabilities at ANSTO puts us in the top five megavolt ion facilities globally.

### What is a positive ion tandem accelerator?

#### It has three major components



High energy positive ions 100 keV to 120 MeV p, He, C, .... U, Pu



Accelerator tank, stripper volts +1MV to +10MV q=+1 to +12 electrons



Low energy negative ions volts -10kV to -100kV q=-1, p, He, C, .... U, Pu

lons 'falling' through megavolt (MV) potentials have mega-electron volt (MeV) energies.

A 1MeV proton travels at 4.6% the speed of light, i.e. 14m in a microsecond (10<sup>-6</sup>s).

A 120 MeV uranium ion travels at 3.3% the speed of light.

**Positive ion currents:** 

 $1 \text{ pA} (10^{-12}\text{A}) = 6 \times 10^6 \text{ ions/ sec } (q=+1)$ 

100  $\mu$ A (10<sup>-6</sup>A) = 6x10<sup>14</sup> ions/ sec (q=+1)

Small currents produce many ions/ sec hence ultra-sensitive probes.

### **Ion Sources**

### Solid Sample Ion Source: Cs sputter, Penning, ECR



**Characteristic Parameters:** output current (nA to mA), brilliance, current stability



### High Energy Beamlines ANTARES Heavy Ion Microprobe



Applications: µPIXE (3 MeV H), HIXE (36 MeV C), RBS (1-3 MeV H, He), STIM (MeV He), IBIC (0.5 – 6 MeV H, He), ERDA (55 MeV I)

## **ANSTO Centre for Accelerator Science (CAS)**



VEGA - the 1MV low energy multi-isotope accelerator



STAR - 2MV Tandetron Accelerator for IBA



SIRIUS - the 6MV medium energy tandem accelerator for IBA and AMS being tested in



ANTARES – the 10MV Tandem Accelerator

### **Machines available**

#### 1 MV VEGA small Tandem

<sup>14</sup>C & actinide mass spectrometry

#### 2 MV Star Accelerator

- > Multi elemental surface analysis beamline
- High resolution depth profiling beamline
- ▶ <sup>14</sup>C AMS beamline

#### 6 MV SIRIUS NEC Tandem

- Confocal heavy ion microprobe beamline
- Surface engineering beamline
- Nuclear reaction analysis beamline
- Heavy ion implantation beamline
- Time of flight AMS beamline
- ▶ <sup>10</sup>Be AMS beamline
- <sup>36</sup> CI AMS beamline

#### **10 MV ANTARES**

- Heavy ion microprobe beamline
- Elastic recoil detection beamline
- Actinide beamline
- <sup>14</sup>C AMS beamline
- > <sup>10</sup>Be / <sup>26</sup>AI / <sup>36</sup> CI AMS beamline
- Heavy ion gas filled magnet beamline

### **ANSTO Centre for Accelerator Science (CAS**

#### **Accelerator Capabilities at ANSTO**

- High sensitivity trace element analysis
- Trace element profiling & 2D mapping with micron resolution over square millimetre areas
- Ultra high sensitivity isotope counting of <sup>14</sup>C, <sup>10</sup>Be, <sup>26</sup>Al, <sup>129</sup>I, actinides (isotopes of U and P)
- Heavy ion irradiations for materials modification
- High energy, heavy ion implantation
- Nuclear reaction analysis

Radiocarbon dating of aborigina

core sampling in Ant

ToF structural analysis of

Charged particle detector

iconductor device

Surface studies with monolayer resolution

## Key Accelerator Research Themes & Applications

- > environmental monitoring, air pollution studies
- microspectroscopy, 2D elemental mapping
- microdosimetry, radiation damage studies
- thin films coatings
- ion beam modification of materials
- heavy metals in the environment
- heavy ion, surface, nuclear physics
- global climate change
- glacial geochronology
- > geomorphology
- dendrochronology (tree rings)
- > archaeology,
- atmospheric and oceanographic isotopic tracing
- nuclear safeguards



Air trapped in Antarctic Ice

# Why use accelerators?

Very sensitive

Very small samples Very short processing time





1ng (10<sup>-9</sup>g)

Minutes to hours not days to weeks

## Accelerator Mass Spectrometry (AMS) Isotopic Dating



# **Isotopic Separation on 2MV STAR**

High energy analysis <sup>14C</sup> <sup>14C</sup> <sup>13C</sup> Accelerator Accelerator The remaining particles, consisting of carbon isotopes only, pass through an analysing magnet and the quantities of <sup>12</sup>C, <sup>13</sup>C and <sup>14</sup>C are measured.



#### 2 MV STAR Accelerator



# **AMS Isotope Measurements**

#### Ultra-high sensitivity required where isotopic ratios are extremely small:

- eg <sup>14</sup>C : <sup>12</sup>C for radiocarbon dating
- ratios typically in range 10<sup>-12</sup> to 10<sup>-15</sup>

	Halflife	Isotopic ratio	Applications
<sup>14</sup> C	5700a	<sup>14</sup> C/ <sup>12</sup> C	dating etc.
<sup>10</sup> Be	1.51Ma	<sup>10</sup> Be/ <sup>9</sup> Be	exposure age dating, erosion, solar variability, geomorphology
<sup>26</sup> AI	717ka	<sup>26</sup> AI/ <sup>27</sup> AI	exposure age dating, erosion
<sup>36</sup> Cl	301ka	<sup>36</sup> CI/CI	hydrology
129	15.7Ma	129 /127	nuclear monitoring
236	23.4Ma	<sup>236</sup> U/ <sup>238</sup> U	nuclear monitoring, U exploration
<sup>239,240</sup> Pu	24110a, 6561a	<sup>240</sup> Pu: <sup>239</sup> Pu / <sup>242</sup> Pu	nuclear monitoring, sediment dating

### Medical Applications – Radiocarbon



### **Anthropogenic Radiocarbon**

- **Eye lens lipids:** certain lipids do not turn over but remain with you for life
- ANSTO in collaboration with University of Wollongong: Hughes et al. eLife 2015;4:e06003.

#### DOI: 10.7554/eLife.06003

Other applications include kidney stones and human organs and body parts containing carbon.



## Exposure age dating

Study site: Semi-arid, monsoonal with summer tropical storms and cyclones. Sparse vegetation with minor eucalypt cover and grassland.

Cosmic ray interactions (neutrons) on N and O in the atmosphere produces <sup>10</sup>Be and <sup>26</sup>Al

#### **Durack River Bed**

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Within paleo-river channel, abundance of disconnected stacks of metre-sized slabs dislodged from adjacent and upstream bedrock sections. Boulders excavated by hydraulic plucking of well-jointed sandstone bedrock. Flood flipped boulders: in situ cosmogenic  $^{10}$ Be (T<sub>1/2</sub> = 1.5Myr) evidence for extreme past flood events.





## Actinides U, Pu by AMS

U and Pu isotopics and <sup>129</sup>I in variety of sample types Applications include:

- Nuclear safeguards and nuclear forensics, as required for law enforcement, treaty monitoring and intelligence (for example International Atomic Energy Agency inspections)
- Dating sediments using the Pu 'bomb' pulse
- Environmental studies eg U, Pu migration / uptake at waste repositories and nuclear test sites

By AMS, we can measure:

- <sup>233,234,235,236,238</sup>U isotopes down to 1ng total U
- <sup>239,240,242</sup>Pu isotopes down to 1fg
- <sup>129</sup>I to 1nBq in soils, etc



Swipe sampling: *D. Donohue,* Journal of Alloys and Compounds 271–273 (1998) 11–18.



- weapons grade materials: U enrichment (235/238 ratio >20%) or low <sup>240/239</sup>Pu ratio
- <sup>236</sup>U signature of irradiation
- <sup>129</sup>I signature of reprocessing

### **Accelerator Based Ion Beam Analysis** PIXE, PIGE, RBS, ERDA beamline

#### **V** STAR Accelerator



Beams of high energy ions (p, He, C....I) interact with sample surfaces. Spot sizes  $1\mu$ m to 10mm.

Interactions with  $e^{-} \Rightarrow X$ -rays PIXE (AI-U)

nucleus  $\Rightarrow \gamma$ -rays PIGE (Li, F, Na..)

 $\Rightarrow$  scattered and recoiled particles RBS, ERDA (H, C, N, O,...)

IBA techniques cover Periodic Table (H to U).

Very sensitive  $(\mu g/g)$  on small samples (pg).

Fast (<5mins), essentially non destructive as counting individual atoms/ photons.









Four techniques cover most of the periodic table from H to U

#### **Mass of Particle vs Size**



Particle diameter (µm)

### **Why Study Fine Particles?**

Health implications

**PM2.5 travel deep into the lungs, have direct access to the blood stream.** 

#### Absorb and scatter visible light

Fine particles are many times more efficient at scattering visible light than coarse particles. Public can see pollution!

#### Travel large distances

Fine particles stay in the atmosphere for days and weeks travel around the globe. Transported across countries.

#### Affect climate

Fine particles may have a negative climate forcing effect comparable to the positive forcing of greenhouse gases. Better understanding needed for climate modelling.

### Relative Mortality Rate Ratios 6 US Cities







## **Australian Deserts**



Deserts cover 17% of the land mass

## Long Range Soil Transport



Look at extreme daily events with Soil>1.5  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup> between 2001-10

### **Transport of Desert Soil into Sydney Basin**



Plot of 7 day back trajectories every hour with intersections for each desert region plotted for 300m and 500m starting heights for the Liverpool site.

The Riverina area (15) produced 33%-35% of extreme events! This is a significant agricultural region – not a desert!!

# Dust Storms in Australia 10 Mar 09



### Hay, NSW

### Deniliquin, NSW

# Sources of Fine Secondary Sulfate

Typical secondary sulfate sources include:-

- Motor vehicles, diesels
- Sea spray [S/Na ratios ~8%]
- Industry, metals manufacturing
- Coal fired power stations,
  - 25MT/yr of coal (>0.5%S) in NSW
  - 250kT/yr of SO<sub>2</sub> in NSW  $\rightarrow$  500kT/yr of 2ndryS
  - 80MT/yr of  $CO_2$  in NSW  $\rightarrow$  ??

## Ammonium Sulfate in Sydney Basin 2001-11



Use sulfate as an indicator of coal burning and industrial activities.

Look at all extreme daily events with  $SO_4 > 4\mu g/m^3$ 

### Do Coal Fired Power Stations Impact the Sydney Basin?

#### Sampling site at Richmond



stations!

### Study of Sensitive Volume in µ-Dosimeters

- Study charge collection variations with
  - > Location of ion strike on the device
  - > Stopping power of the ion
  - > Bias applied to micro-dosimeter
- IBIC using 3 MeV H<sup>+</sup>, 9 MeV He<sup>2+</sup>, 25 MeV C<sup>4+</sup>
- ➡ Improved dosimetry
- ⇒ Improved cancer treatment

# **Applications**

 Cancer treatment modalities which utilise high energy loss ions for radiation therapies (proton & heavy ions)

#### Accelerators calibrate novel micro-dosimeters for radiation studies

- A key requirement of radiation therapy is to limit the damage to healthy cells This requires new micro-devices to plan and monitor the therapy and the radiation fields on a micron scale.
- New silicon based micro-dosimeters need to be calibrated and functionality assessed.
- This is done using ion beam induced charge (IBIC) from accelerator based ion microprobes.





### **IBT Accelerator Science Technology Platform**

**Environmental tracing**, Hyper-accumulating plants systems, salinity, erosion environmental sensors

**Microspectroscopy 2D, 3D** mapping, characterisation, **Bio-imaging** 

**Fine particle** air pollution

Geology **Exploration Fluid** inclusions in minerals

**Radiation dosimetry Radiation damage** micro-dosimetry micro-detectors **IBIC** mechanisms

Hardware & software control. High speed data acquisition, High voltage systems, Vacuum systems.

Isotopic ultra-tracing, nuclear forensics, bomb pulse, actinides, bio uptake, diet, toxicology Ion source enhancement. ECR ion source development

Earth sciences, Geomorphology, landscape change, **Climate change** 

#### **Platform**

- Facilities 1-10 MeV accelerators
  - Ion sources, 20-100keV implanters,
  - Most ions in the periodic table.
- **Capabilities** Ion Beam Analysis (IBA)
  - Accelerator Mass Spectrometry (AMS)
  - Photon, particle, radiation detection
  - Ion-atom interactions with matter
  - High voltage, vacuum, electronic,

Users, universities, IAEA, collaborators, commercial, training

External revenue, grants, contracts

Materials modification. Interface engineering, Thin films coatings, **Multi-layers Fission-fusion surfaces** 

> Archaeology **Archaeometry**

Fundamental physics, K,L,M, X-ray cross sections, **Coster Kronig transitions**, Subshell fluorescence yields, Heavy ion stopping **Nuclear reactions** 

**Nuclear security and** defence, safeguards

# Thank you

# **Questions?**