

ILL facility status and future

Giuliana Manzin

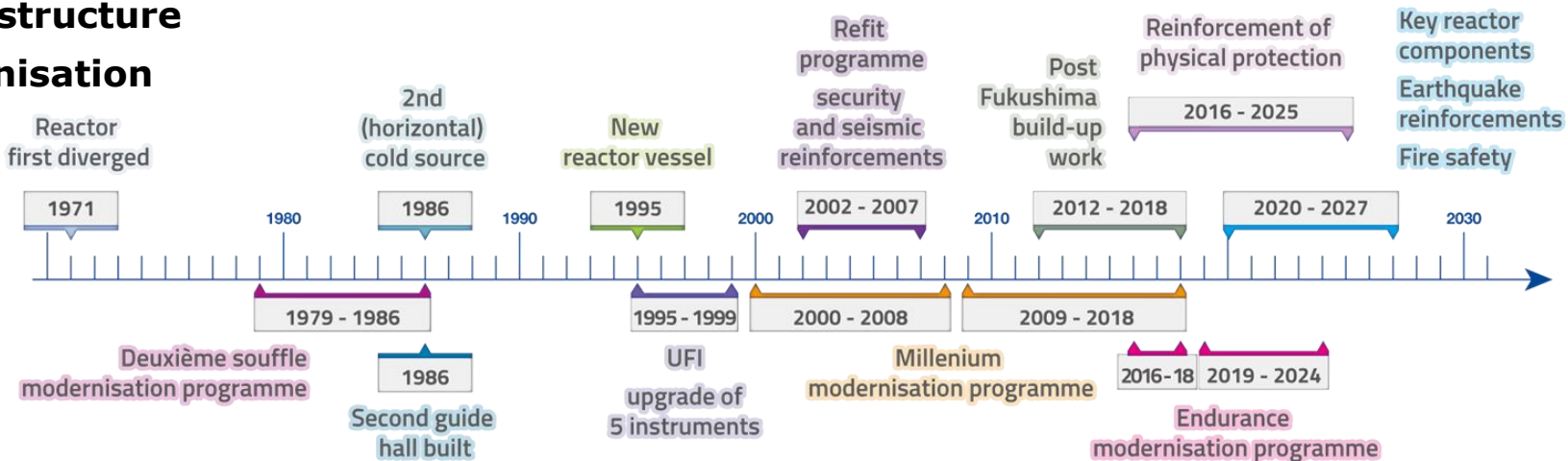
With many thanks to:
K. Andersen
A. Meyer
C. Dewhurst



2027: 60 years of ILL

Constant renovation: the secret to our success

- Reactor
- Instruments
- Neutron distribution
- Safety and security
- Infrastructure
- Organisation



Why do we have to make these changes?

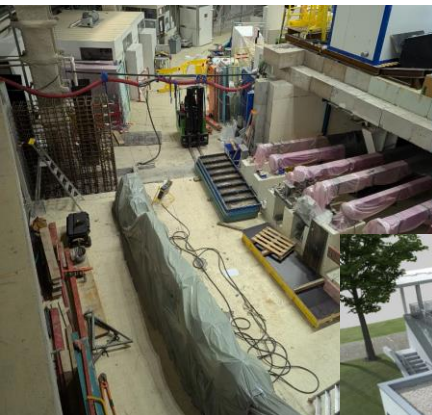
They form the foundation upon which our science is built

- **To maintain the performance level of our reactor**
- **To ensure our capacity to continue to improve the performance of our instrument suite**
- **To reinforce safety levels to ensure they satisfy evolving requirements**
- **To continue to operate throughout the coming decade**

Reactor critical work

Shut down n. 196: 300 days

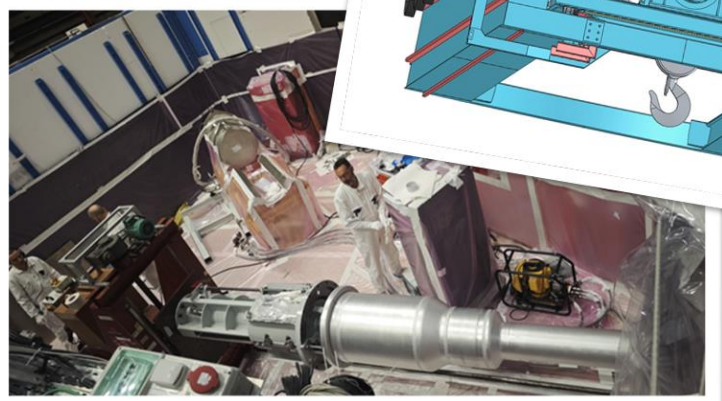
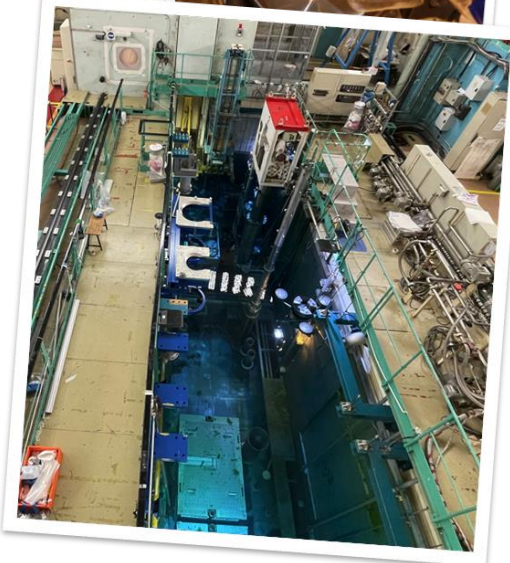
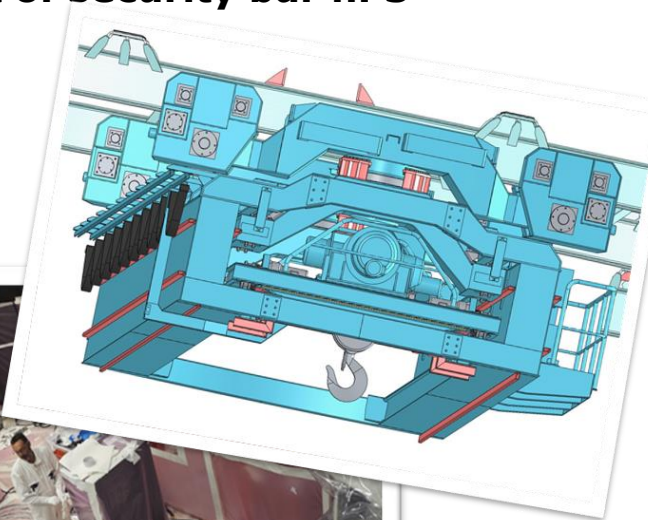
- Polar Crane Level D
- Fire detection system and sprinklers
- RC3B H1-H2
- Seismic reinforcement of the Storage Pool
- Fire protection water storage



Reactor critical work

Shut down n. 196: 147 days

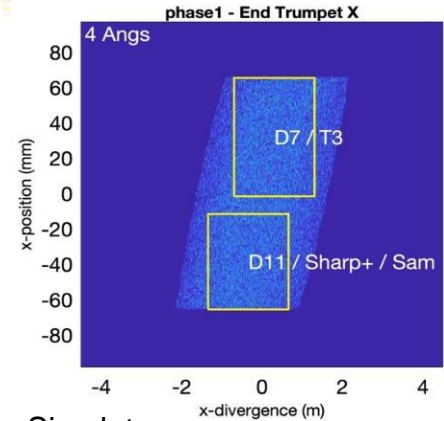
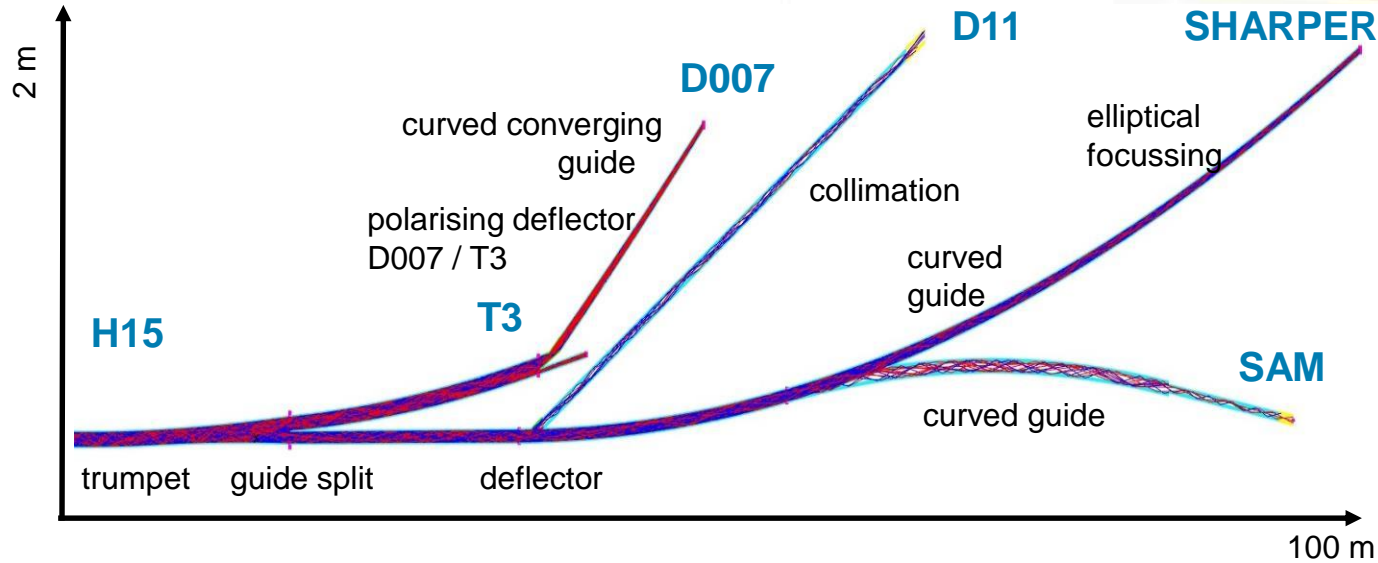
- Seismic reinforcement canal 3
- DDG H13 and H6
- Level C crane
- Replacement of security bar n. 3
- RC3B H5



Future Reactor Operations

- **3 cycles of different length/power to guarantee 170 neutron days per year**
- **Conclusion of the casemate reinforcement program**
- **LEU conversion program on track: FOAK irradiated in 2029**
- **Full conversion by the end of 2032**

20 Years of Continuous Instrument-Upgrade Programs



Simulate:

- neutron flux
- spatial filling
- divergence profile

- Combined with modern optical coatings neutron guides provide more neutrons to a greater number of instruments
- Computer simulations of neutron transport and guide optics reveal subtleties and routes to optimization otherwise hidden by complexity



ILL instrument suite

40 state of the art instruments

Typical instrument classes:

Some exist in thermal-, cold- and hot-neutron form

- 2-axis diffraction
- Small-angle scattering (SANS)
- Reflectometry
- Time-of-Flight (TOF) spectrometer
- 3-axis spectrometer
- Spin-echo spectrometer
- Back-scattering spectrometer
- Neutron imaging
- Irradiation
- Fundamental physics



D10+



NeXT



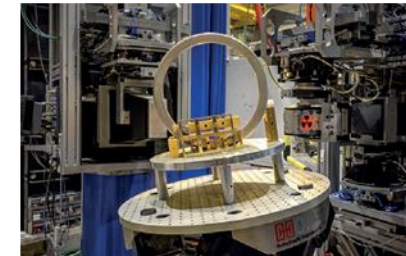
FIPPS



SHARPER



PANTHER



SALSA



SAM



D16

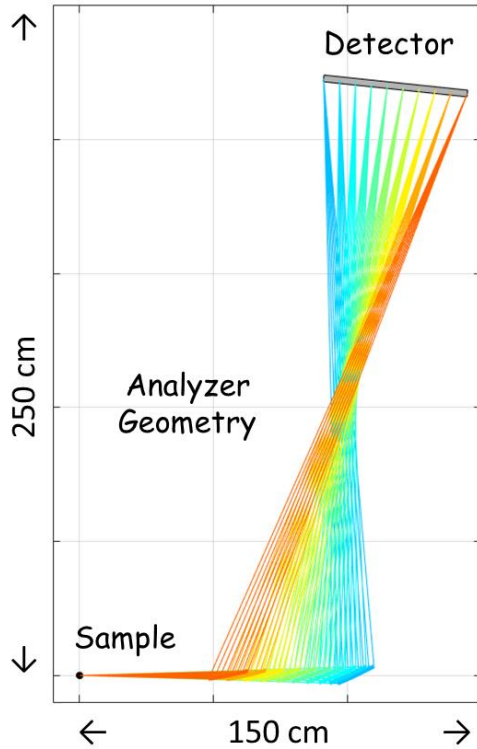


IN13

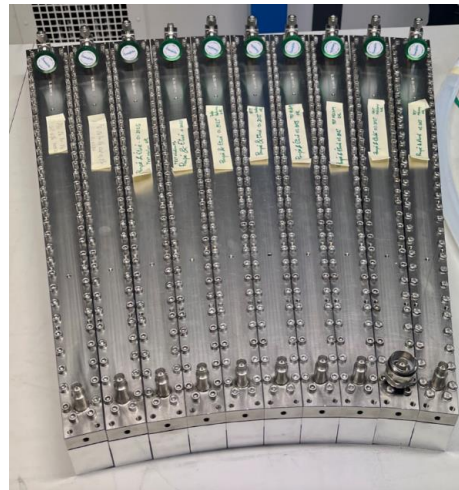
Increased capacity and capability

- Overall increase in count rate
- Reduction in background
- Enhanced automation
- Increase in Complexity
- Smaller samples, faster data collection, weak scattering level
- Kinetic measurements
- Operando/in-situ/time-resolved experiments
(batteries / fuel cells, advanced manufacturing, phase transitions, ...)
- Combination of radiations (X-Rays, RAMAN, pump and probe)
- New sample environments (high pressure/temperature/magnetic field, low temperature, levitation, ...)

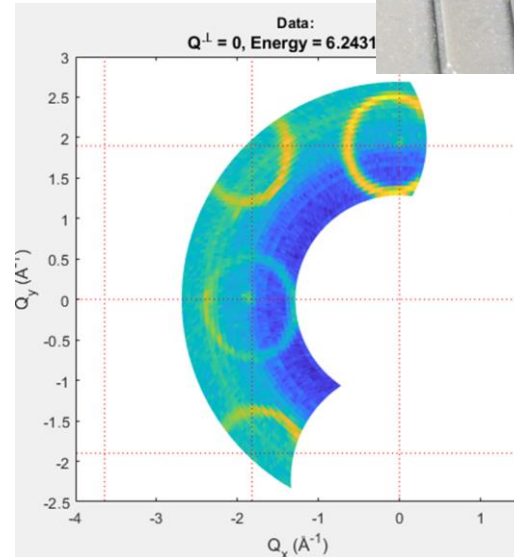
Marmot: multiplexing @THALES



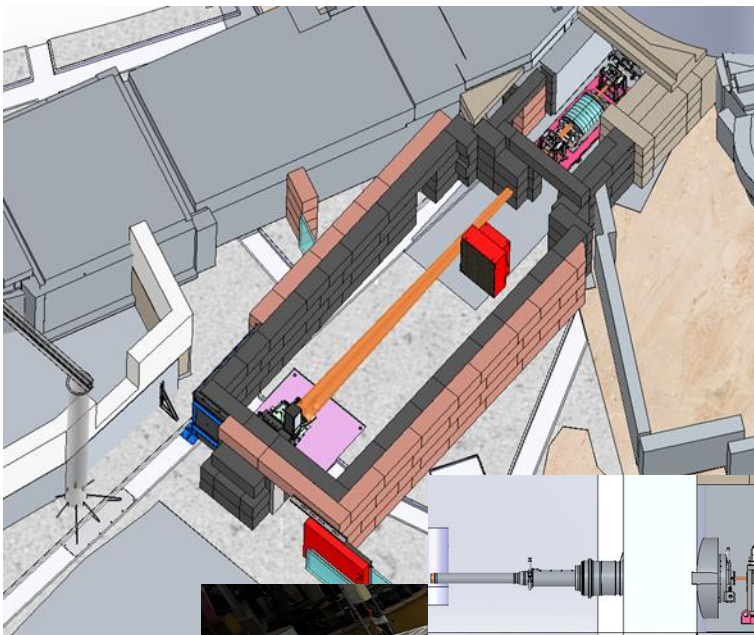
- Combination of bent Si crystals and NiV/Ti super-mirrors
- Impressive early results, both in terms of data collection rate and signal quality
- Calibrations / addition of shielding to increase performance
- Continuous installation of the remaining channels
- Instrument in commissioning since end of September 2025



New trapezoid ^3He detectors



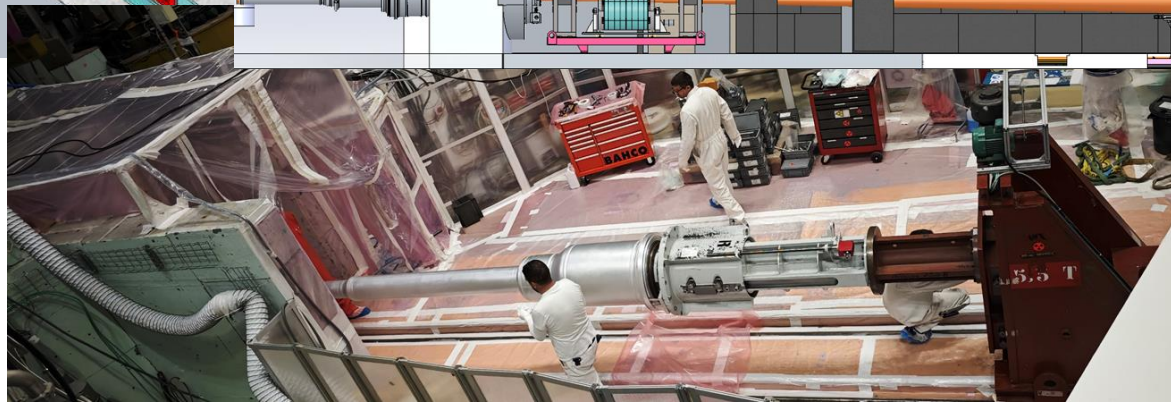
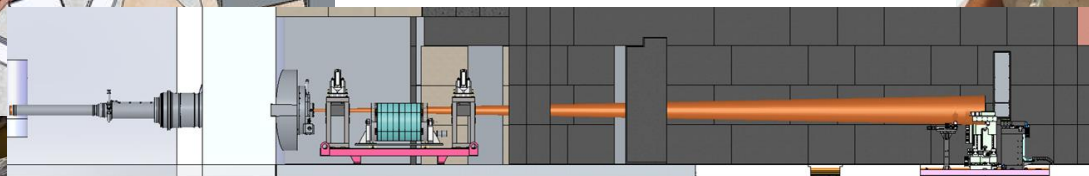
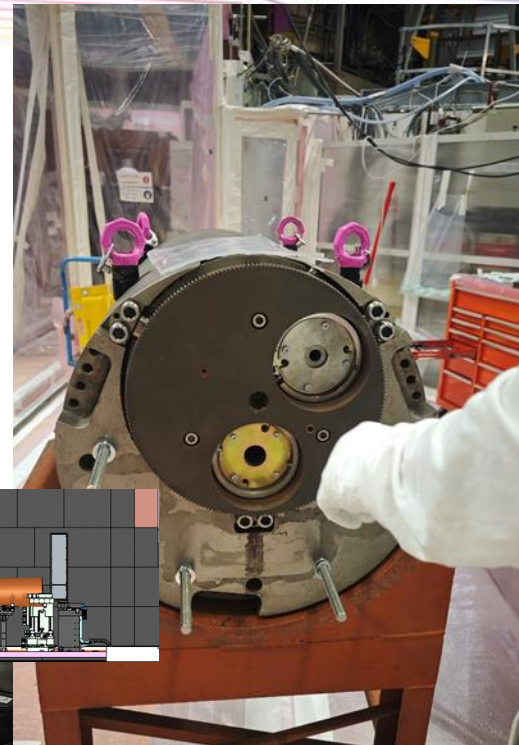
ThrILL – Thermal Imaging Instrument



Already installed:

- Beam tube
- Main shutter
- Primary casemate

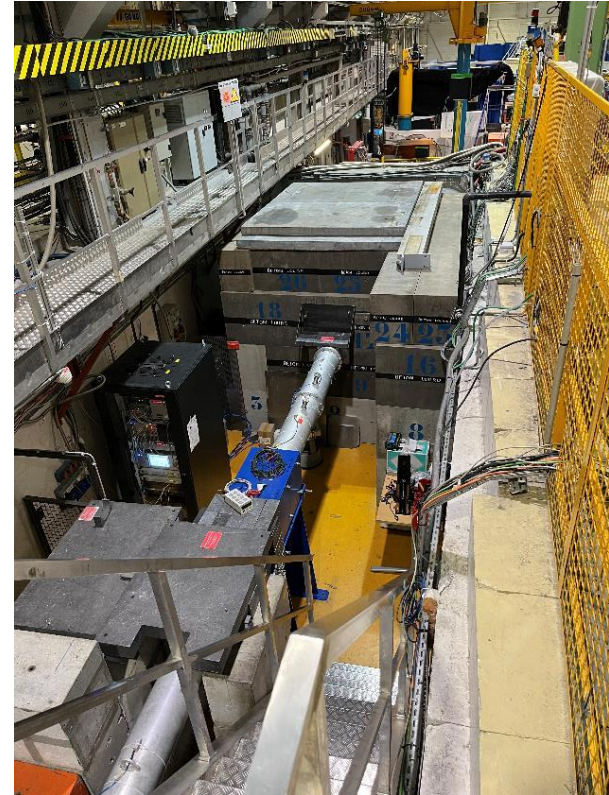
Commissioning: October 2026



H6 – main shutter with 2 integrated pin-holes for highest flux (28 mm) and high resolution (14 mm)

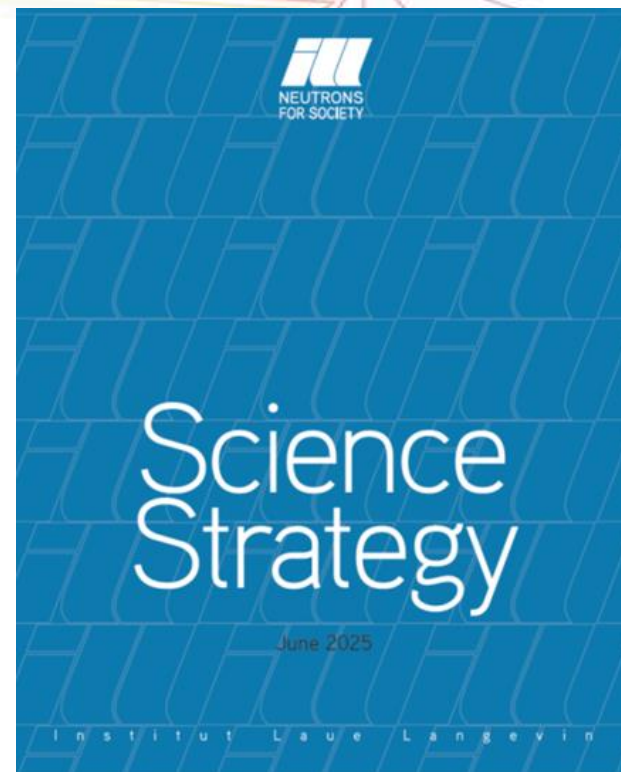
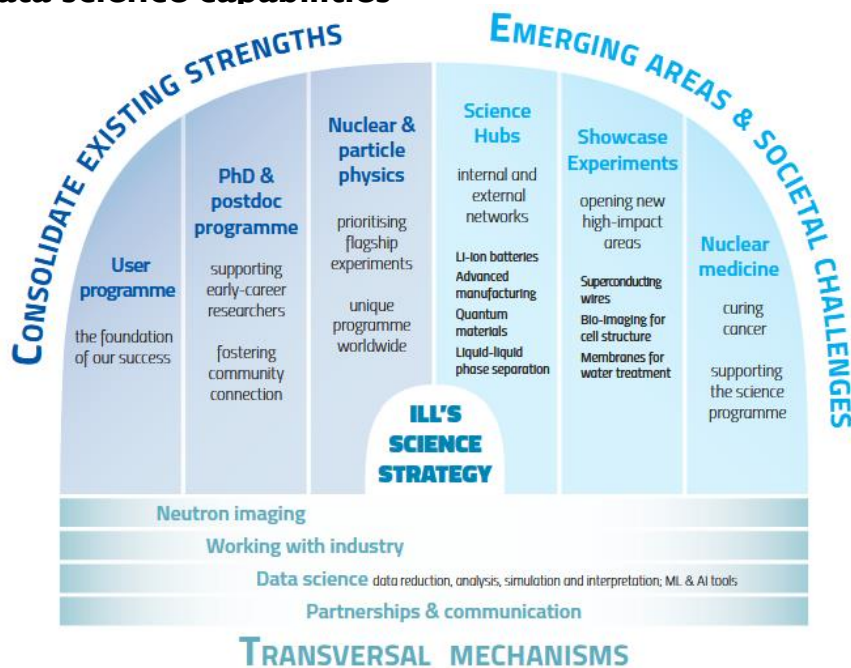
New Imaging Instrument on a Cold Beam – PORTO

- 2nd imaging instrument for white-beam tomography
- Similar flux than NEXT
- In user operation on PF1b beamport 1 cycle/year
- From idea to realization in less than one year



Execution of the Science Strategy

- Start the four Science Hubs
- Create Applied Science Instrument Group
- Initiate the process for Showcase Experiments,
- Expansion of imaging capacity and capability
- Enhance data science capabilities



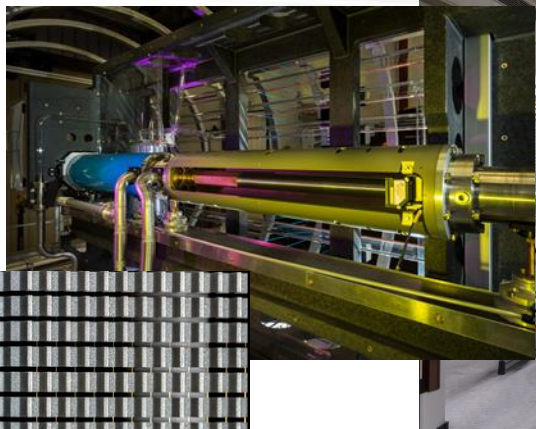
Capitalising on in-house technologies

- **Neutron Delivery:**
Guides & Infrastructure
- **Neutron Optics**
Monochromators, Supermirrors, Polarised ^3He
- **Neutron Detectors**
Position sensitive, size, resolution, count rate
- **Sample Environment**
Extreme conditions: precise, reliable, autonomous e.g. pressure, humidity, high temperatures, low temperatures, magnetic fields
- **Engineering services**
- **Instrument control, Electronics & Computing**





Qualification of CSPEC ^3He tubes detector



Detail of a trench detector



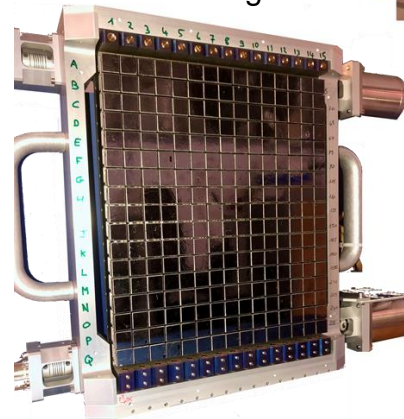
TYREX2 ^3He filling station



Bent Silicon Crystals for Marmot



H15 Guide separation



Double focusing monochromator
255 crystals
Crystal size: $14 \times 14 \text{ mm}^2$
Total area: 550 cm^2

Future of instrumentation and Projects

- Installation of velocity selector (Mirrotron) for LADI in July – approx. 2.5 increase in neutron flux
- Fabrication of PASTIS-3 set-up for polarization analysis on IN20 underway – installation end of 2026
- Fabrication of CSPEC @ ESS detectors according to plan – delivery of first 4 modules in March 2027
- Realization of ^3He MEOB station for ESS progressing
- Development of a polarization analysis for IN16b – ErumPro by BMFTR
- Measures to reduce background in ILL7 ongoing
- Preparation of RC3B – ILL22 works for execution in winter shutdown 2026/2027 underway

Thank you for your attention!