



Australian
National
University

Research School of Physics & Engineering

ANU College of Physical and Mathematical Sciences

School overview

- Largest university physics research activity
- 9 Research Departments + Physics Education Centre
- 145 full time academic staff
- 80 technical staff (computational to mechanical)
- Most internationally collaborative in Australia
- > 300 visitors from 40+ countries each year
- > 200 HDR students from 30+ countries (1/3 female)
- 3 resident companies, 3 spin-offs, >20 active partners

Fundamental Research

- Nanoscience
- Quantum & atom optics
- Non-linear physics
- Mathematical physics
- Atomic & molecular physics
- Antimatter-matter studies
- Nuclear science
- Materials & surface science
- Space science
- Plasmas/fluids
- Gravitational waves



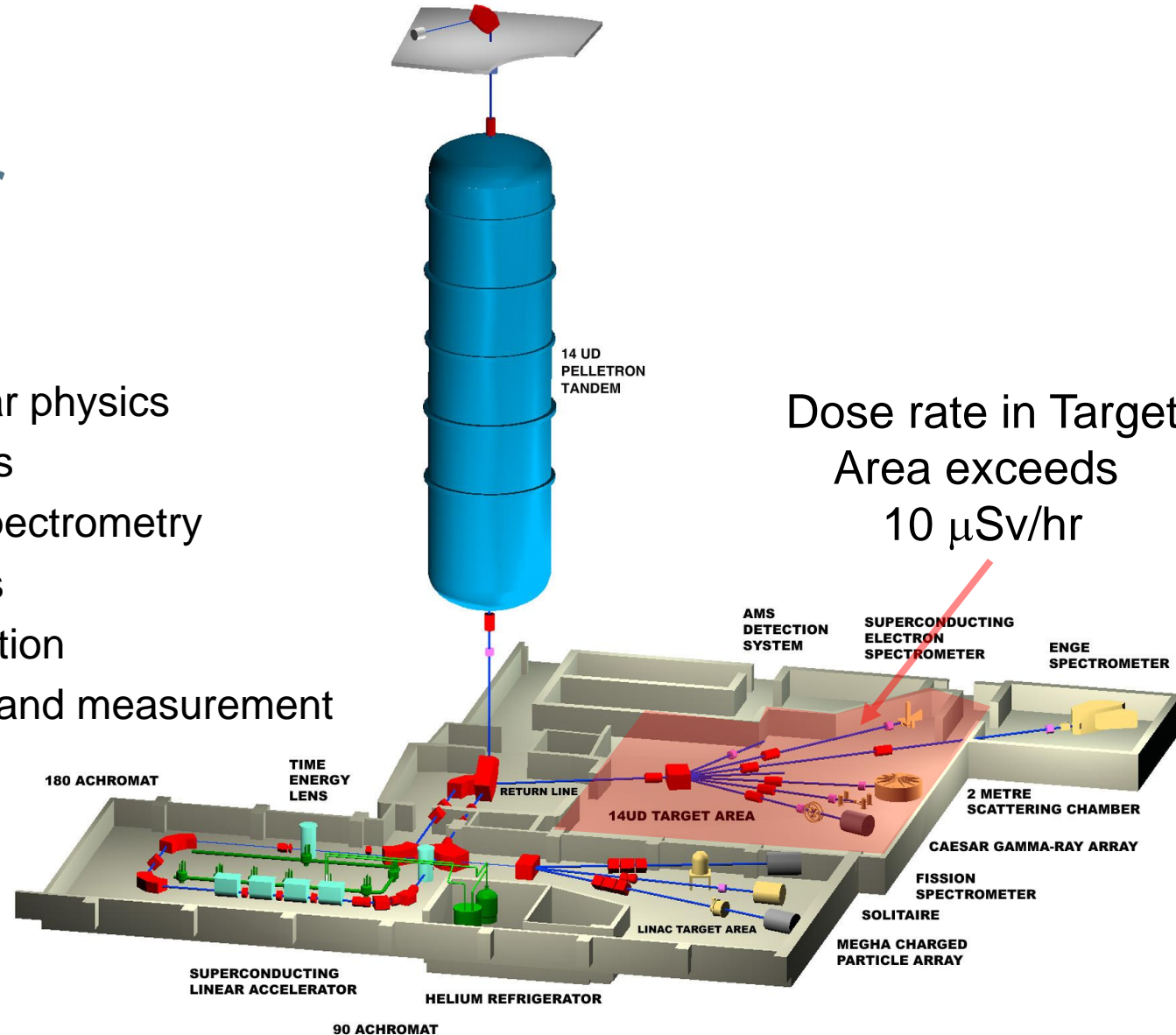
National Facilities

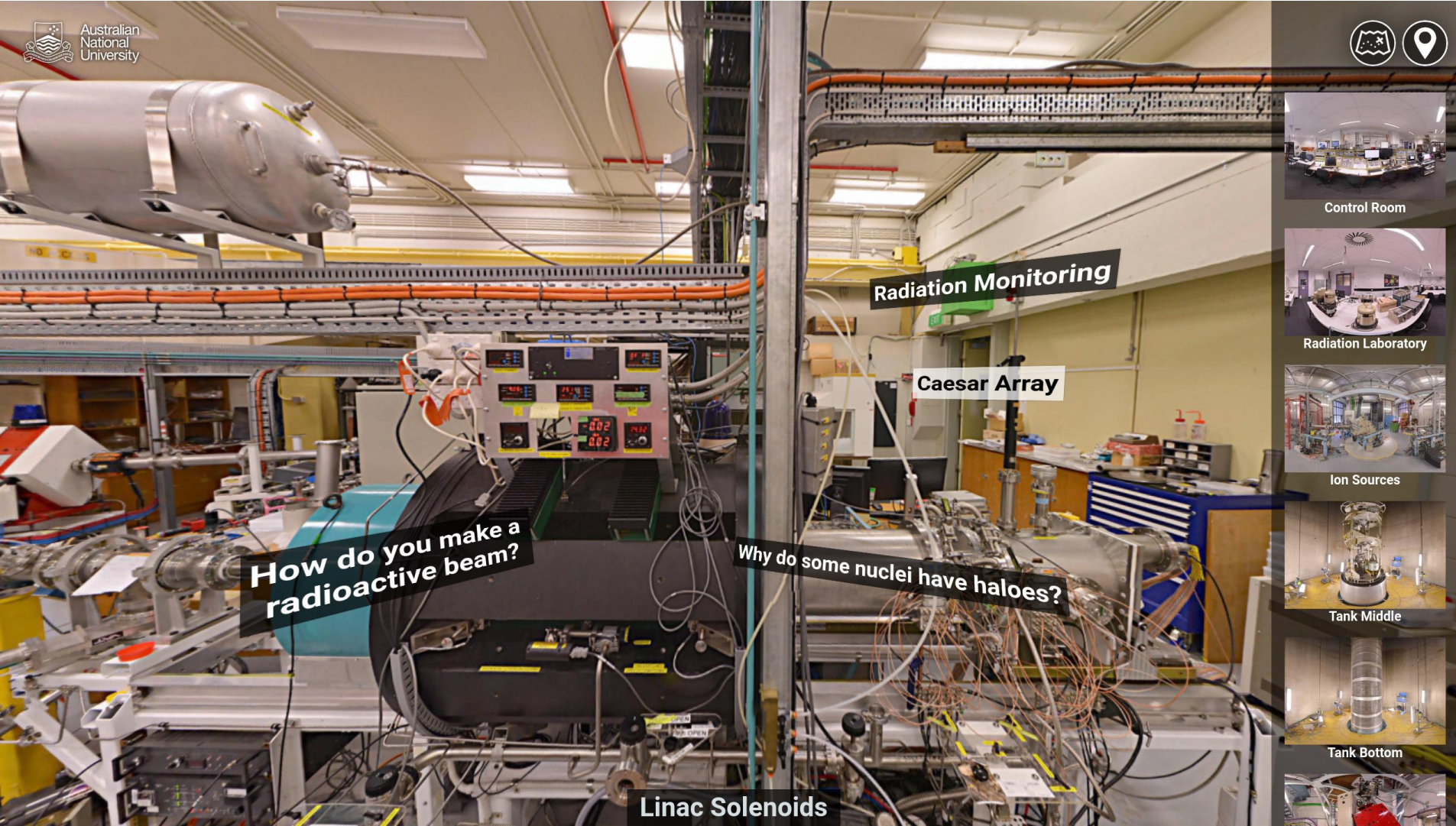
- 14 UD accelerator – largest in southern hemisphere
- The Australian Plasma Fusion Research Facility
- Australian National Fabrication Facility ACT node
- National Antimatter (positron) Facility
- CTLab – national X-ray CT Facility



Heavy Ion Accelerator Facility

- Fundamental nuclear physics
- Nuclear astrophysics
- Accelerator mass spectrometry
- Particle accelerators
- Environmental radiation
- Radiation detection and measurement





VR tour of facilities – for inductions and training



Radiation Monitoring



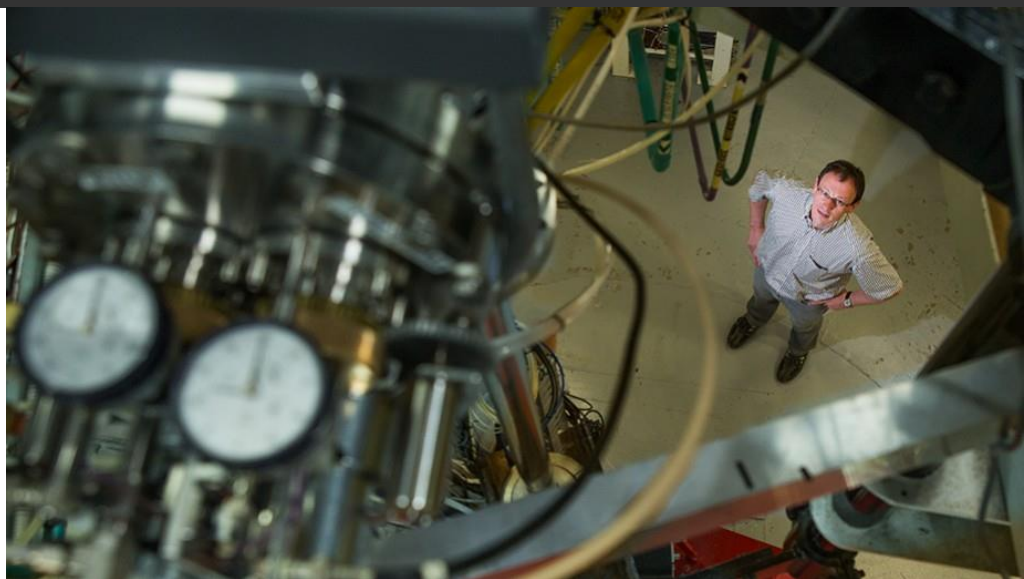
Neutrons, produced by the accelerated beam striking targets, beam defining apertures and beam dumps, are potentially the most significant contributor to radiological doses in the 14UD laboratories. Neutron detectors, placed at optimised locations around the experimental halls, continuously monitor neutron levels. Radiation levels above 10 micro-Sieverts per hour requires all entry doors to the area be continuously secured and warning lights to flash. Opening a door to an area where the dose rate exceeds 10 micro-Sieverts per hour automatically triggers a beam stop to be inserted upstream of the accelerator, removing the ion beam and hence the radiation source.

Highest elemental sensitivity for ^{60}Fe detection

Stellar fall-out from supernova
creates a time-stamp for
sediment

3.2 to 1.7 Mya and 8 Mya

Detection at the zeptomolar level
($10^{-21} \text{ mol.L}^{-1}$)



In collaboration with:

Uni of Vienna, Austria

Hebrew University, Israel

Shimizu Corporation & Uni of Tokyo

Nihon University

University of Tsukuba

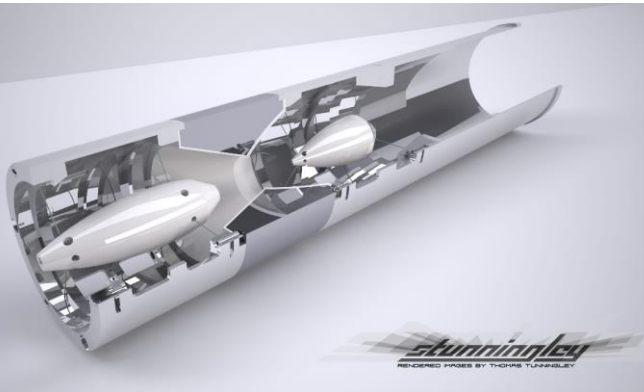
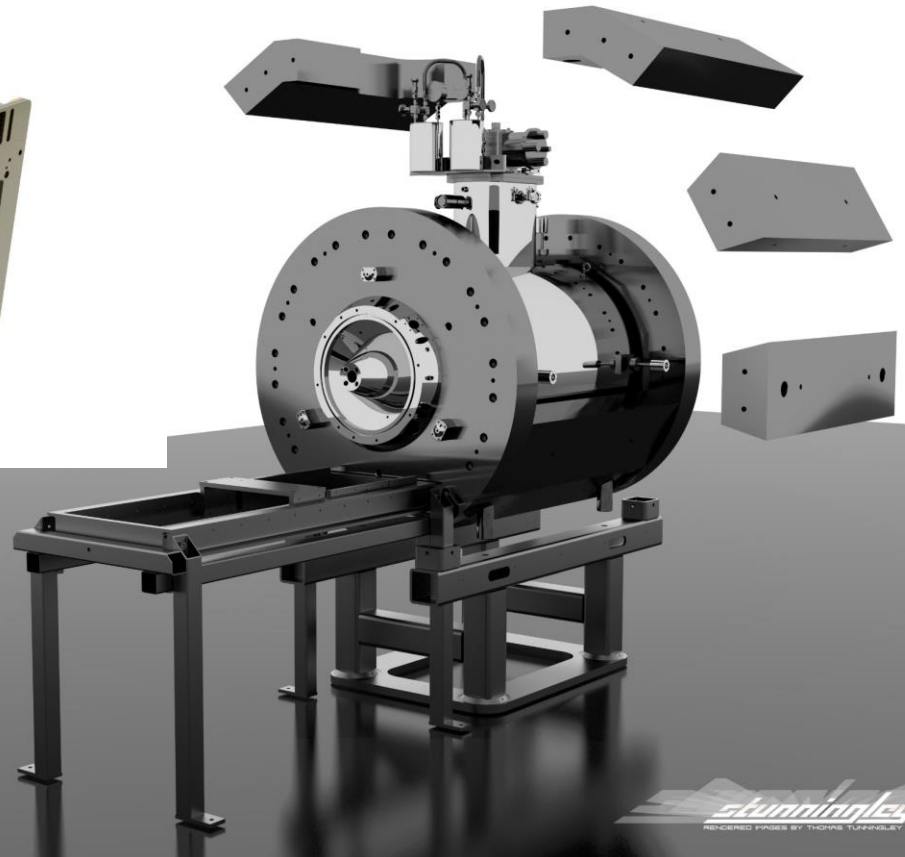
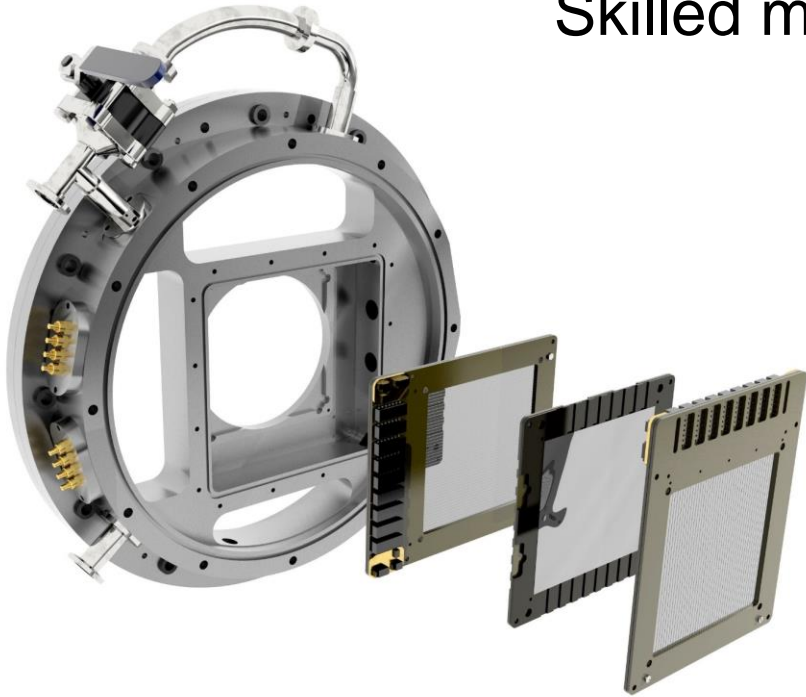
Senckenberg Collections of Natural
History Dresden

Helmholtz-Zentrum Dresden-

Rossendorf (HZDR) in Germany



Skilled mechanical design and fabrication



Fusion research



ANU's Stellarator, *H1*,
will move to University of
South China this year
(400kW rf, 4 to 20MHz)

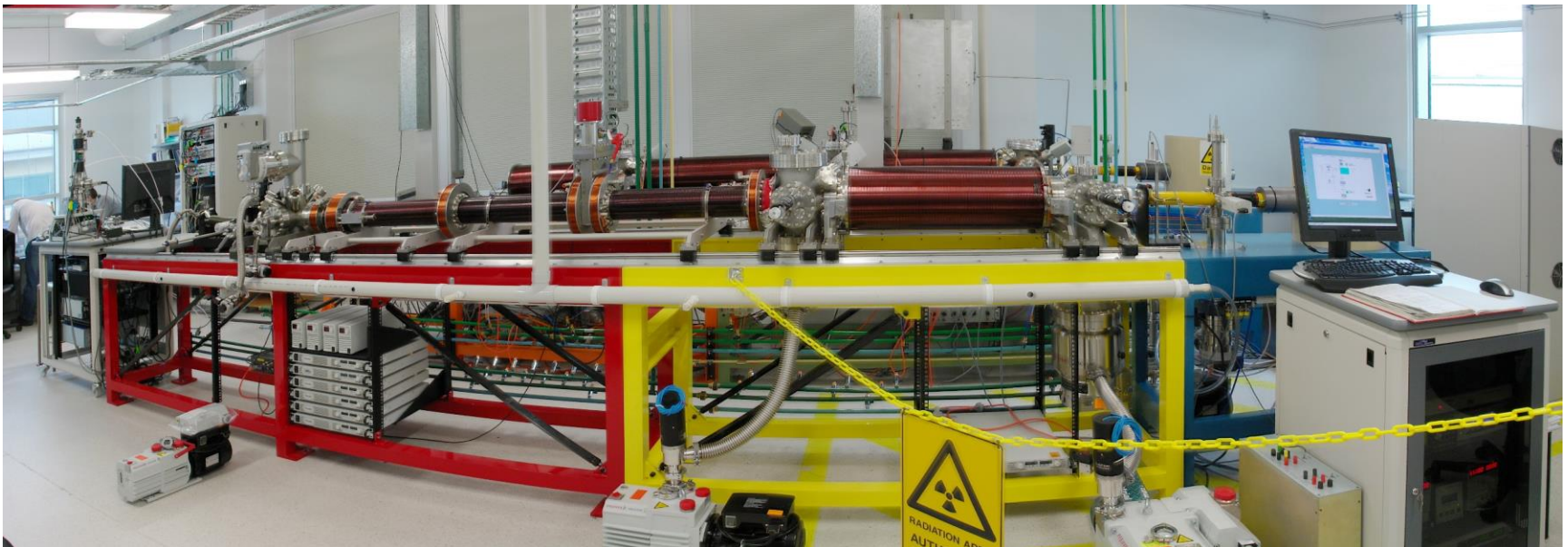
Magnetically confines plasmas at 150 million degrees

Will focus our research on
plasma diagnostics with
ANSTO for ITER, and
developing test facilities for
materials used in fusion
reactors



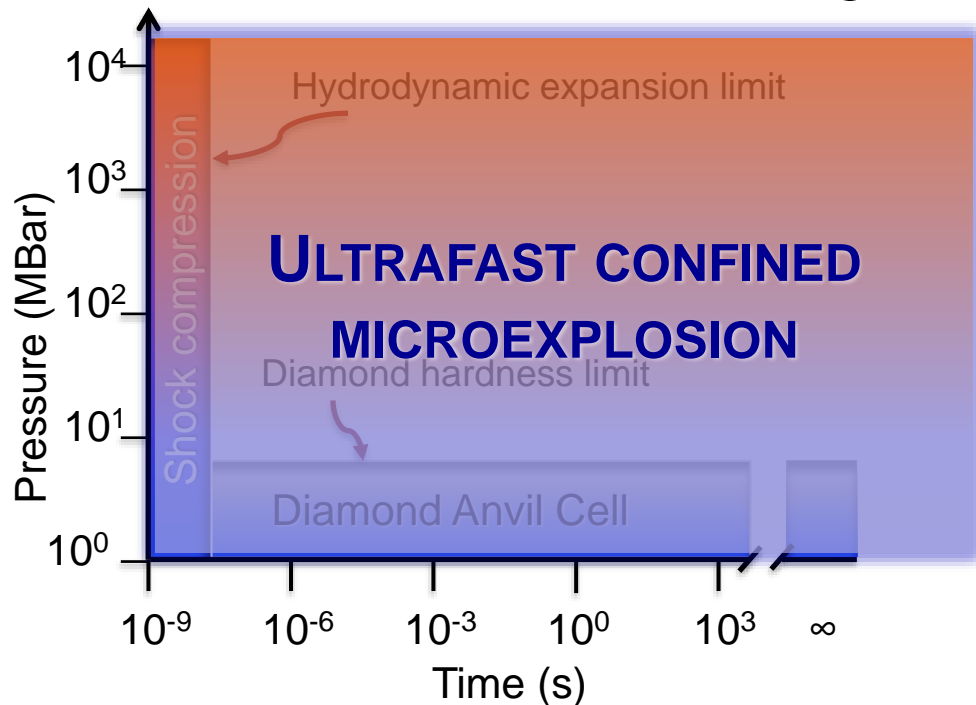
National Antimatter Facility

- Two beams lines for fundamental materials analysis
- Na-22 sources (initial activity 2 GBq)
- Positrons from beta decay (+ 1.27 MeV gamma)
- Tungsten and lead shielding



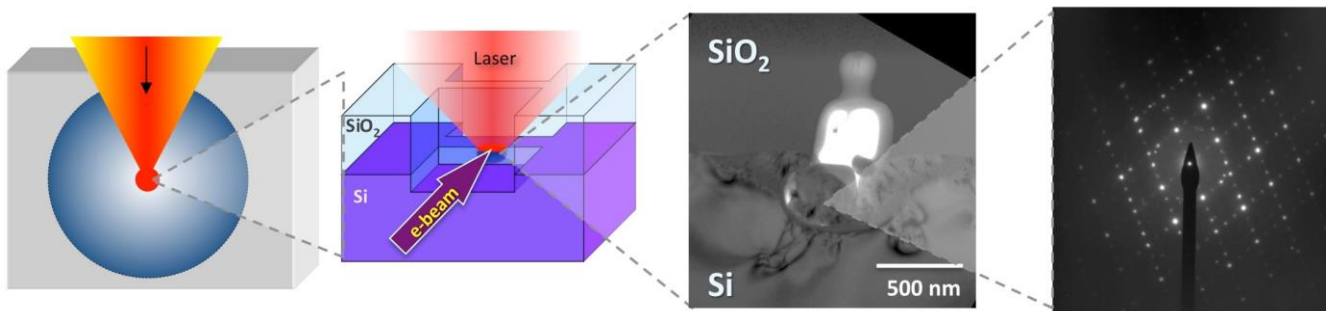
Ultrafast laser-induced confined microexplosion: a new tool to create high-pressure materials

Pressure – lifetime diagram



New discoveries:

- Spatial separation of elements in Warm Dense Matter (WDM) state
- New super-dense bcc-Al phase in Al_2O_3
- New tetragonal silicon phases bt8-Si & st12-Si
- Valence change of Fe-ions in olivine
- Ge – O spatial separation demonstrated by O_2 formation in voids in GeO_2
- Bright photo-luminescence from SiO_2 and N-vacancy in c-BN



CTLab – a micro-CT facility

- visualisation room & 2 **colour 3D printers**
- Five 180kV CT (1 **nano-**, 3 **micro**, 1 **meso-CT**)
- **300kV CT universal scanner** (late-2017)
- **SEM-based** mineral mapping, petrophysical mapping
- Sample prep equipment
- Dedicated fibre to NCI

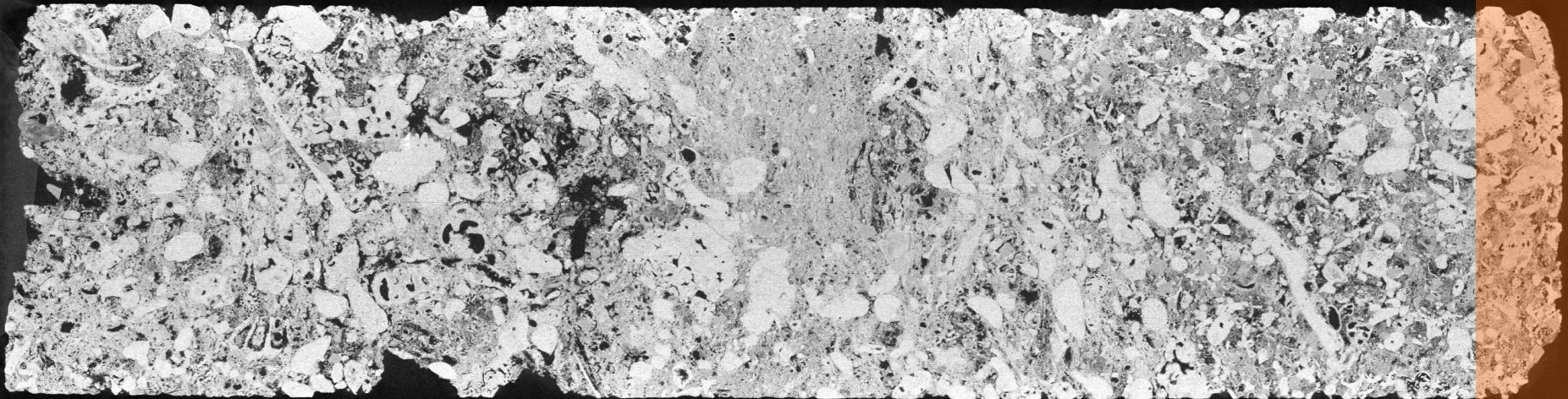


- Higher geometric and signal fidelity
- > 3 to 10 times faster than conventional CT
- Larger length scales at highest resolution

Under the same conditions a conventional micro-CT might only scan this much.

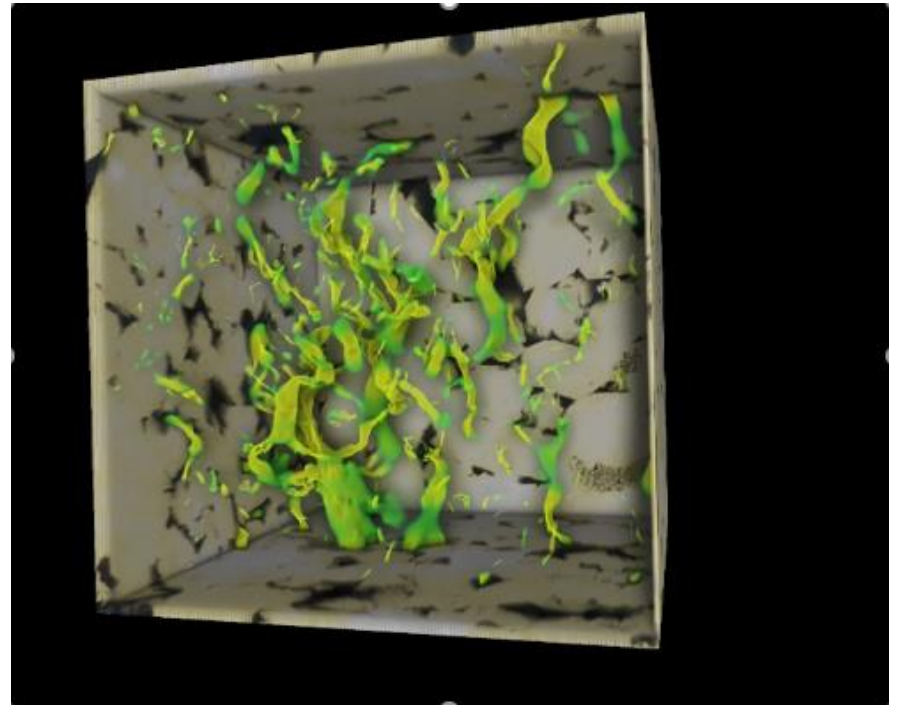
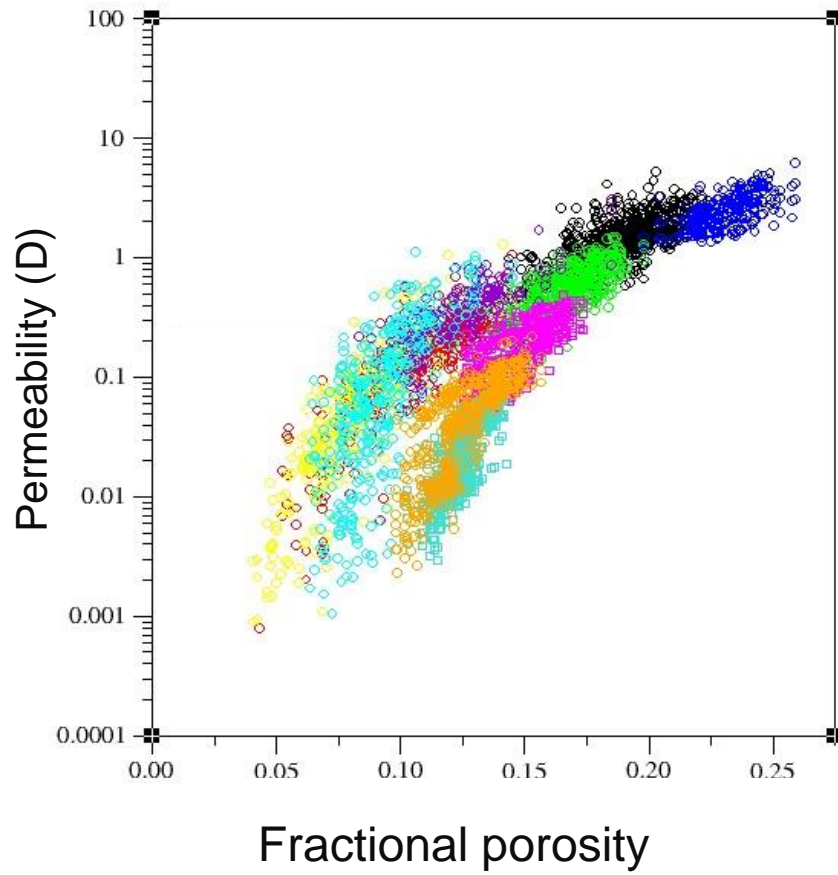
Hardware team: Andrew Kingston, Trond Varslot, Adrian Sheppard, Shane Latham, Glenn Myers, Paul Veldcamp, Tim Sawkins, Ron Cruikshank

Heliscan™



40 Gbyte scan of carbonate core (5mm diameter, 20mm long, 3.5 micron resolution)

Tomography provides the framework



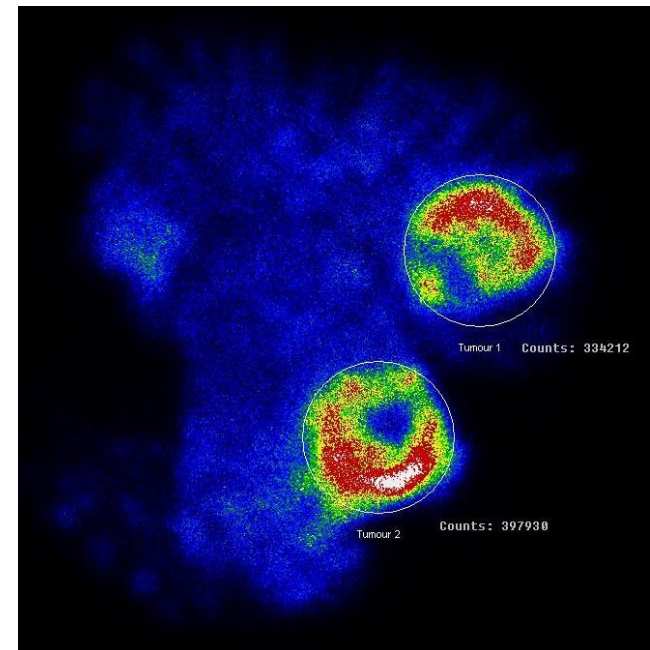
~ 1 mm³ sandstone showing flow simulation

Developments in Radiotherapy



Professor Ross Stephens
Sirtex Chair

Excised rabbit liver
showing labelled tumours



GE Hawkeye SPECT-CT

in vivo animal studies:

Tc-99m, Ga-67, Lu-177, In-111, Y-90

A partnership with Sirtex Medical