

## The future of experimental nuclear and particle physics in Zagreb/RBI



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### **RBI** overview

*RBI is the largest Croatian multidisciplinary research centre* 

20 000 m<sup>2</sup> area

TOTAL = 867 EMPLOYEES

542 RESEARCH STAFF (344 WITH PhD) + 325 SUPPORT AND TECHNICAL STAFF

**Theoretical Physics** 

**Experimental Physics** 

**Material Physics** 

Electronics

**Physical Chemistry** 

Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry

**Material Chemistry** 

**Molecular Biology** 

**Molecular Medicine** 

**Marine Research** 

Marine & Environmental

Laser and Atomic Research





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## **Scientific activities of DEP**



## **Scientific activities of DEP**



## Scientific activities II

#### Particle and astroparticle physics

- Heavy boson production (CMS)
- Strangeness production/QGP in pp, pA, and AA collisions (NA61, ALICE)
- Matter/antimatter symmetry (Crystall Ball)
- Axions (CAST)
- Neutrinos (OPERA)
- Structure and evolution of universe, galaxies, black holes, stars, dark matter (MAGIC, Pierre Auger)

#### Nuclear physics



- The reaction mechanisms of deformed light and medium mass nuclei
- The properties of extremely hot and dense nuclear matter studied via relativistic collisions
- The influence of nuclear medium on properties of elementary particles and nucleons
- The study of nuclear reactions relevant for nucleosynthesis

#### On-site low energy nuclear and applied physics

- Basic and targetted research on interaction of ion beams with matter, related interdisciplinary research and applications, in close relation with the use of the local Tandem accelerator facility
- Carbon dating
- Mine and bomb detection through nuclear methods
- Charged and photon detector testing and development





Experimental Chart of Nuclides 2000



## strengths and opportunities

- world class research/ established network of international collaborators and high reputation in international scientific community
- wide spectrum of research topics with overlapping equipment, knowledge and experience
- excellent personal and scientific contacts among many members
- researchers very skilled at applying for and running competitive international projects the **DeSt** fundamental scientific unit in Croatia for this
- DEP VERY international by Croatian and RBI standards (5 foreign postdocs, majority of DEP staff and students has very extensive international experience)
- several top experimental researchers have desire for applicative work and close cooperation with industry

DEP is now at a cusp, through its current FP7 and other international projects, to VERY significantly increase its local experimental capabilities and international experimental contribution



#### About 25% of RBI publications, with increasing trend



### Local accelerator complex



#### Very successfull getting external projects and finances

•FP7, IAEA, industry and many other external sources of funding...



FP/IAEA/industry ...



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## **Current FP7 projects**



Acronym	Full project name	Туре	No.	Euro
UNCOSS	Underwater coastal sea surveyor	Cooperation / Security	9	404 000
HadronPhysics2	Study of strongly interacting matter	Capacities / Infrastructures	46	11 000
SPIRIT	Support for public and industrial research using ion beam technology	Capacities / Infrastructures	11	214 000
SOWAEUMED	Network in soli waste nad water treatment between Europe and Mediterranean countries	Capacities / Research potential	6	75 000
CLUNA	Clustering phenomena in nuclear physics: strenghening the Zagreb-Catania-Birmingham partnership	Capacities / Research potential	4*	291 000
Particle Detectors	Upgraded facility for developemnt of silicon and diamond particle detetctor systems	Capacities / Research potential	1*	1 320 000
ENSAR	European nuclear science and applications research	Capacities / Infrastructures	28	50 000

7 out of 10 running RBI FP7 projects

Many more planned (+ IPA, IAEA,...)

#### TOT:2 650 000 €

#### International facilities used



## International facilities used



## International facilities used II



#### **Cooperation with international institutions**



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#### some weaknesses and threats



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#### Completely out of IEP control/ but trying to pressure MZOS and RBI to change this

- Insufficient total number of scientific staff
- Extremely insufficient number of young researchers, technicians, and PhD students (senior to student ratio is 2:1, good institutes have this more in the ballpark of 1:2 ...)
- Too small national R&D projects and amounts with scattered funds and focus

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#### At least partially under DEP control

- **lack** of on-site the state-of-the-art detector system research equipment
- insufficient coordination of technical staff activities, preventing synergetic effort in solving technical problems
- research groups too small for a more prominent contribution in large collaborations



Denegri Pocanic Prokopec Senjanovic



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## **Mission of DEP**

# To address the weaknesses

•Focus effort on the existing strongest scientific and experimental projects, and gradually defocus from the weaker ones

• Pool scientific and experimental resources across laboratories and projects to improve the onsite experimental contributions to international experiments

•Encourage the top young scientists to pursue independent research

•Focus on external funding and cooperation with industry

•Prepare doctoral students for successful careers in both academia and industry

Make DEF the central experimental hub for all Croatian nuclear and particle physics groups in Zagreb, Split, Rijeka, ...

> •Equipment accesible • Staff cooperating

Many concrete steps taken to follow this, with very tangible results

# Merging the many small particle and astroparticle labs and projects



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Purchasing of new silicon strip and pixel testing setup – CMS, NA61, (ALICE ?), CAST, CBM, local nuclear experiments...











# Focusing effort across DEF and Croatia around experimental techniques



#### Plans: NA61 experimental upgrade – will be biggest experimental effort of Croatia at CERN



## **Structural funds – 2013**



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#### Structura

R2

KTL

SA

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Restoran

From structural funds want to build here a large experimental area

VDG

#### •AMS

OK-1

Uprava

T

Glavni

Probe Station in clean room
Accelerator upgrade
Laser testing setup
Controlled temperature/humidity environment
Machine shop
Commercial component
...



### Structura

R2

KTL

**From structural** funds want to build here a large experimental area

•AMS

CX-1

 Probe Station in clean room Accelerator upgrade Laser testing setup Controlled temperature/humidity environment Machine shop Commercial component

Great opportunity for Croatian experimental nuclear and particle physics that MUST NOT be missed. DEP has the necessary basis (existing equipment, projects, know-how) to be able to get and run a 10-20 million Euro investment. Should be jointly done and used by DEP, **PMF**, Split, IFS

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Restorar

### Structura

AL

The Croatian nuclear and particle physics groups are one of the very few Croatian scientific groups that would know what to do with tens of millions of Euros -> MUST use that

From structural funds want to build here a large experimental area

CX-1

•AMS •Probe Station in clean room •Accelerator upgrade •Laser testing setup •Controlled temperature/humidity environment •Machine shop •Commercial component

Great opportunity for Croatian experimental nuclear and particle physics that **MUST NOT** be missed. DEP has the necessary basis (existing equipment, projects, know-how) to be able to get and run a 10-20 million Euro investment. Should be jointly done and used by **DEP**, **PMF**, **Split**, **IFS** 

Restorer

## Conclusion

There is an excellent basis for an even brighter future for experimental nuclear and particle physics in Croatia (in many ways the best performing science group in Croatia)

Should make every effort to use the present opportunities and capitalize on current

strengths





But this opportunity will be at least partially wasted if Ministry of Science/RBI does not modify its priorities...

Pressuring them at every

opportunity 😳

# Application example: Detection of explosives at the bottom of sea



#### Internal neutron source

•Detect gamma ray response (different for explosives, chamicals, background), and find underground old bombs and dangerous chemicals

•A lot of activities planned – remote controlled, more versatile and precise detection of different materials...

HUGE commercial potential

#### **Current situation within IEP**



#### Oak Ridge, USA Canberra, Australija

- Large Scale Facility Jyvaskyla, Finska
  - LLN, Belgija
     CERN-Isolde, Svicarska
  - GŚI, Njemacka
  - Legnaro Padova, Italija
  - GANIL, Francuska

KVI, Nizozemska LNS, Catania, Italija HMI, Berlin, Njemacka MP, Munchen, Njemacka (Vivitron, Strasbourg, Francuska)





EURONS (RII3-CT-2004-506065) Networking, Transnational Access and Joint Research Project Activities

#### **Plans: Accelerator mass spectrometry**

purchase a modern state-of-the-art compact radiocarbon AMS system and install in the IEP Van de Graaff accelerator facility operated by the Laboratory for ion Beam interactions.



# **Neutron generator**

