

#### **MYRRHA**

#### AN ACCELERATOR DRIVEN SYSTEM BASED ON LFR TECHNOLOGY Hamid AÏT ABDERRAHIM SCK•CEN, Belgium March 21, 2018



#### Meet the presenter



**Prof. Dr. Hamid Aït Abderrahim** is the Deputy Director General of SCK•CEN, the Belgian nuclear research center. He is also professor of reactor physics and nuclear engineering at the "Université Catholique de Louvain" (UCL) at the Mechanical Engineering Department of the "Ecole Polytechnique de Louvain (EPL)".

Since 1998 he is the director of the MYRRHA project. He is partner and/or coordinator of various projects of the European Commission framework programme related to advanced nuclear systems or to partitioning and transmutation of high level nuclear waste management.

He chaired the Strategic Research Agenda (SRA) working group of the European Sustainable Nuclear Energy Technology Platform (SNETP, http://<u>www.snetp.eu</u>) from September 2007 to December 2011.Since 2015 he is the chairman of the Governing Board of SNETP.

He is the representative of Belgium in the Governing Board of the project JHR (Jules Horowitz Reactor). He has authored more than 100 scientific publications in peer review journals and international conferences.

In April 2014, he has been honoured by the King of Belgium who nominated him as "Grand Officer in the Crown Order" for his contributions in progressing science and knowledge in the field of nuclear engineering of innovative systems for High Level Waste management. On February 15, 2016 he received the title of Doctor Honoris Causa to the Kaunas University of Technology for his personal achievements and long term collaboration with Kaunas University, especially with the Baršauskas Ultrasound Research Institute.



#### Innovation in Belgium for Europe for sustainable & innovative nuclear energy and applications



### Outline

- Worldwide energy facts
- SCK•CEN and MYRRHA backgrounds
- What is ADS & Why ADS for P&T
- MYRRHA Project at a Glance
  - MYRRHA Reactor
  - MYRRHA Accelerator
- MYRRHA Licensing
- MYRRHA implementation towards realization
- Conclusions



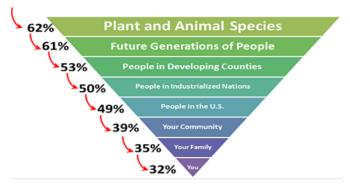
#### Worldwide energy facts



**Energy demand increases** 



Energy and security



**Energy and the environment** 

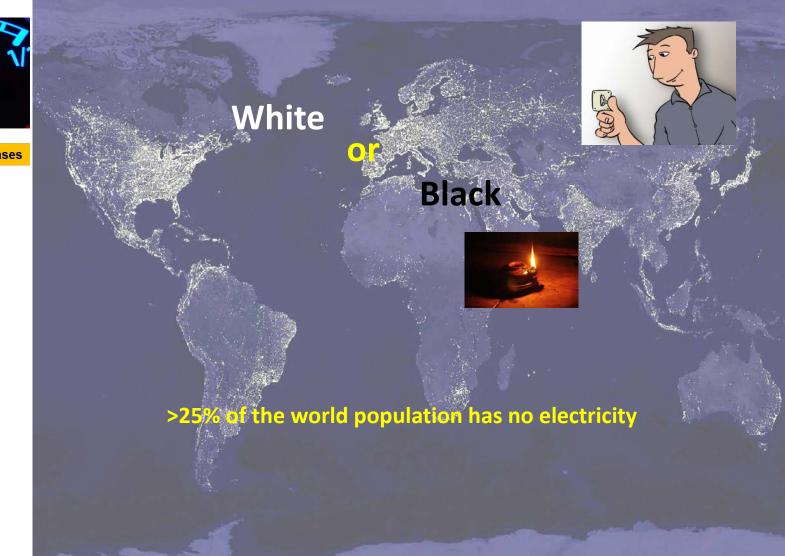


### Color of electricity? Green? Red? Blue?...

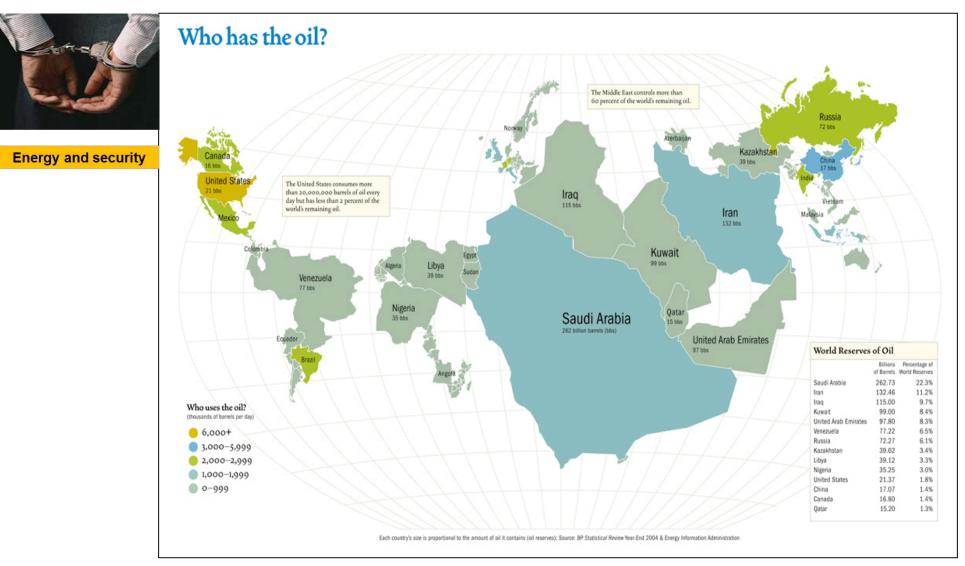




Energy demand increases



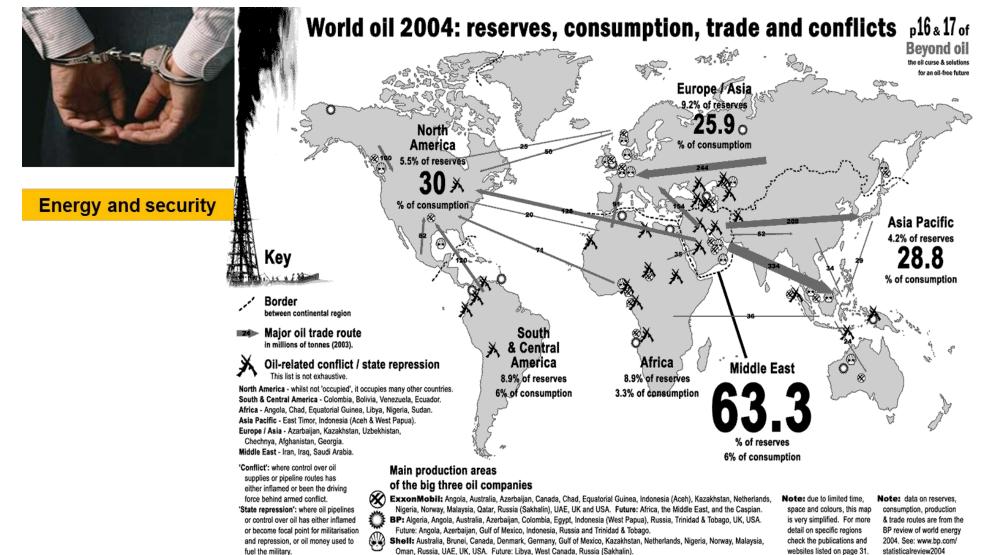
### Even with shale gas, geopolitics on oil & gas reserves



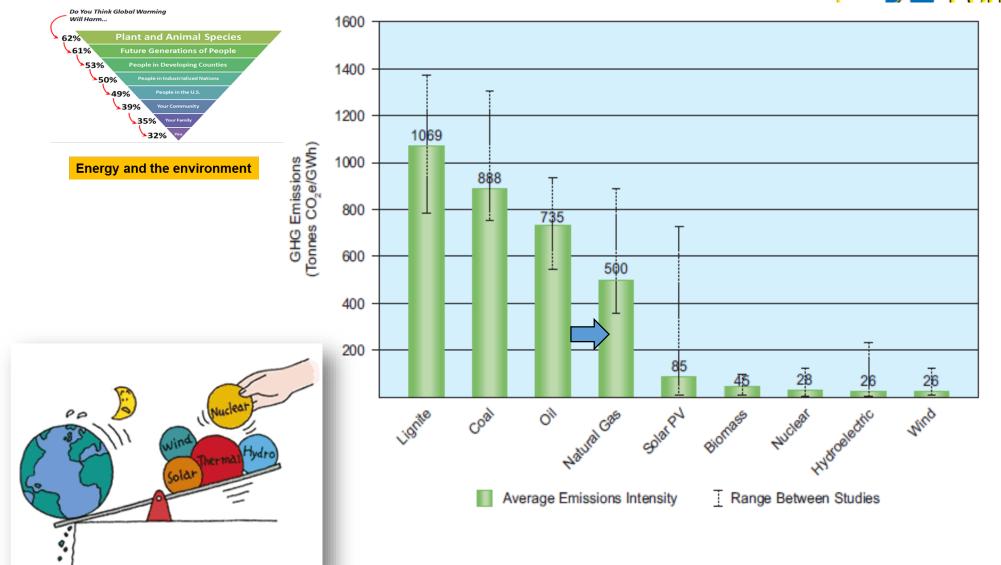
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#### Correlation between oil & wars

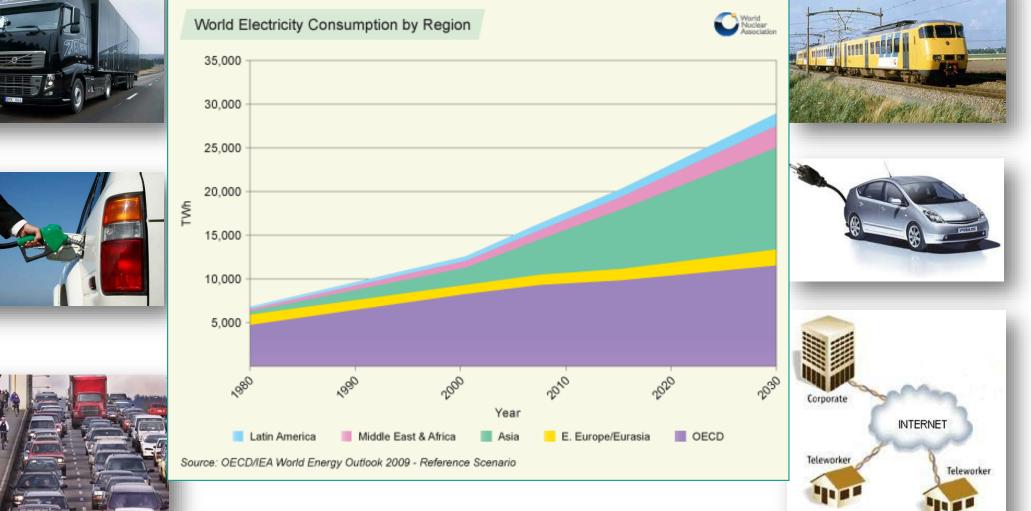




### Invest in all CO2-free energy sources GEN International



# Emit less CO2 = need more electricity



#### Clear thinking on nuclear energy





"Science has spoken. There is no ambiguity in the message," said the UN secretary general, Ban Ki-moon, attending what he described as the "historic" IPCC report launch.

"Stop all fossil energy production in favor of **renewables and nuclear energy**"

Copenhagen, November 2, 2014

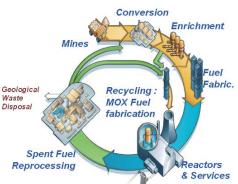
### Global issues for nuclear fission

enhance safety and 1. security maximise the use of 2. proven technologies 2011-2030 capacity increase reduce the legacy 3. of the past 4. better use the Mine resources Geological 2030-2050 Waste Disposal increase via sustainability

International Forum<sup>\*\*</sup>



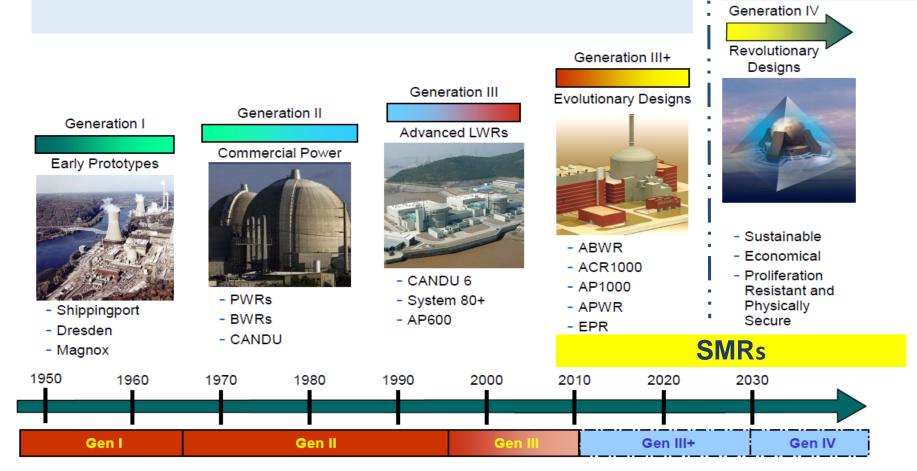




## The technologies of today and tomorrow

GEN II, III, III+ can fulfill the demand, safety and CO<sub>2</sub> job

- nuclear x X?: PLIM + reflect to 1980's ~20 plants/year
- but politics and industry must be able to act efficiently





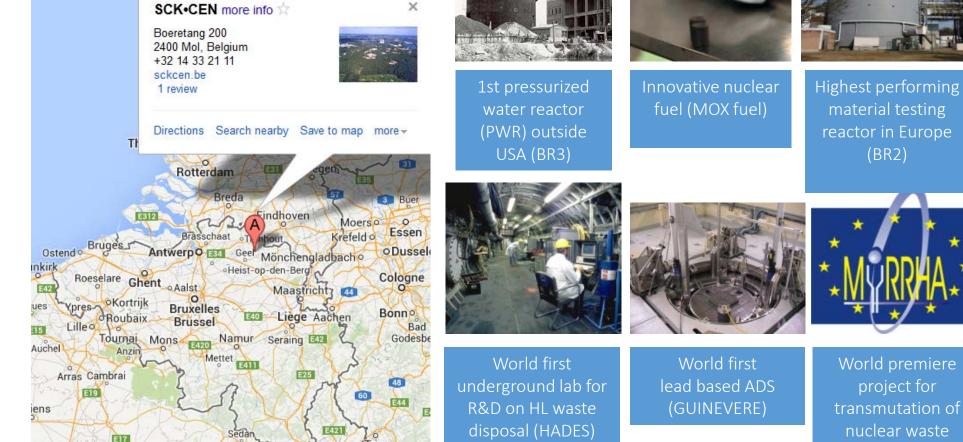
**GEN IV** 

legacy

sustainability

#### **SCK**•CEN a pioneering International Forum<sup>\*\*</sup> research organisation in nuclear

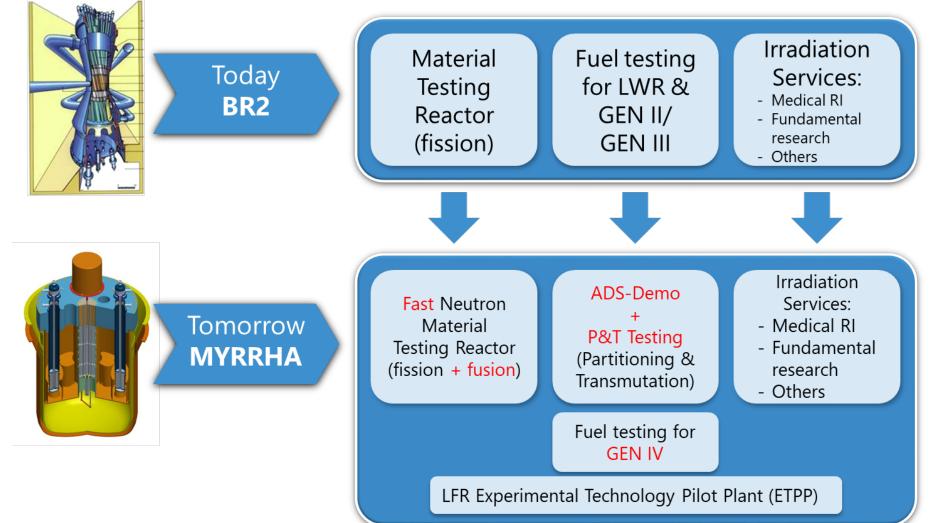
Studiecentrum voor Kernenergie -Centre d'Étude de l'énergie Nucléaire



material testing reactor in Europe

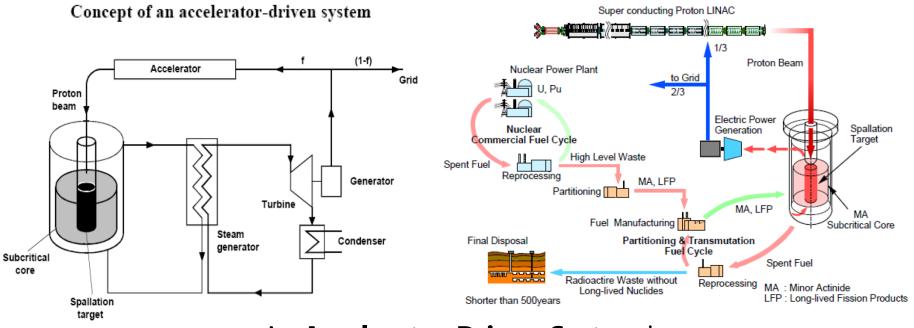
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#### Why MYRRHA at SCK•CEN? Continuity for SCK•CEN as an international GEV International nuclear CoE



### What is an ADS?





#### An Accelerator-Driven-System is:

- a subcritical neutron multiplication assembly (nuclear reactor, keff<1),</li>
- driven by an external neutron source,
- obtained through the spallation mechanism with high energy (~ 1GeV) protons,
- impinging on massive (high Z) target nuclei (Pb, Pb-Bi, W, Ta, U).

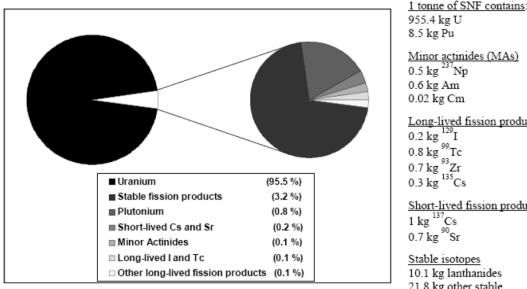
## Brief recent history of ADS activity in Europe



- 1993 C. Rubbia, energy amplifier (CERN)
- 1994 H. Aït Abderrahim & Y. Jongen, ADONIS (BE)
- 1995 M. Salvatores, MUSE experiments (FR)
- 1995 C. Rubbia et al., FEAT/TARC experiments (CERN)
- 1996 C. Rubbia et al., EA-80 ADS Demo joint programme ENEA, Ansaldo Nucleare, INFN (IT)
- 1998 H. Aït Abderrahim et al., MYRRHA (BE)
- 1999 B. Carluec & M. Salvatores et al., EFIT-Gas AREVA,-CEA (FR)
- 2001 C. Rubbia et al., TRADE ENEA-Casaccia (IT)
- 2001 A. Kievitskaya et al., YALINA experiments (Belarus)
- 2002 V. Shvetsov et al., SAD facility in DUBNA (JINR/Russia)
- 2007 H. Aït Abderrahim et al., GUINEVERE (BE/FR)
- 2010 H. Aït Abderrahim et al., MYRRHA in ESFRI & BE-Gov. Declaration support for contruction (BE)
- 2011 A. Zelinsky et al., Neutron Source based ADS at KIPT (Ukraine)
- 2015 iThEC, iThEC ADS Project at INR in Troitsk (CH/RU)

### Partitioning & Transmutation

Composition of spent nuclear fuel (standard PWR 33 GW/t, 10-year cooling)



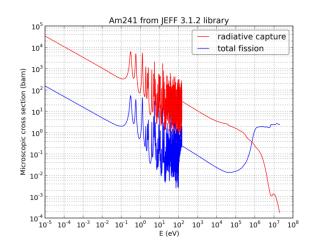
8.5 kg Pu Minor actinides (MAs) 0.5 kg <sup>237</sup>Np 0.6 kg Am 0.02 kg Cm Long-lived fission products (LLFPs) 0.2 kg 0.8 kg<sup>99</sup>Tc 0.7 kg<sup>93</sup>Zr 0.3 kg<sup>135</sup>Cs Short-lived fission products (SLFPs) 1 kg <sup>137</sup>Cs 0.7 kg <sup>90</sup>Sr

Stable isotopes 10.1 kg lanthanides 21.8 kg other stable

- Storage ("to wait") vs. treatment ("to use nature against nature"):
- To reduce radiotoxicity of MAs, we can to fission them
- The ratio Fission/Capture is more favorable with fast neutrons
- To reduce radiotoxicity of LLFPs, they should undergo several neutron captures

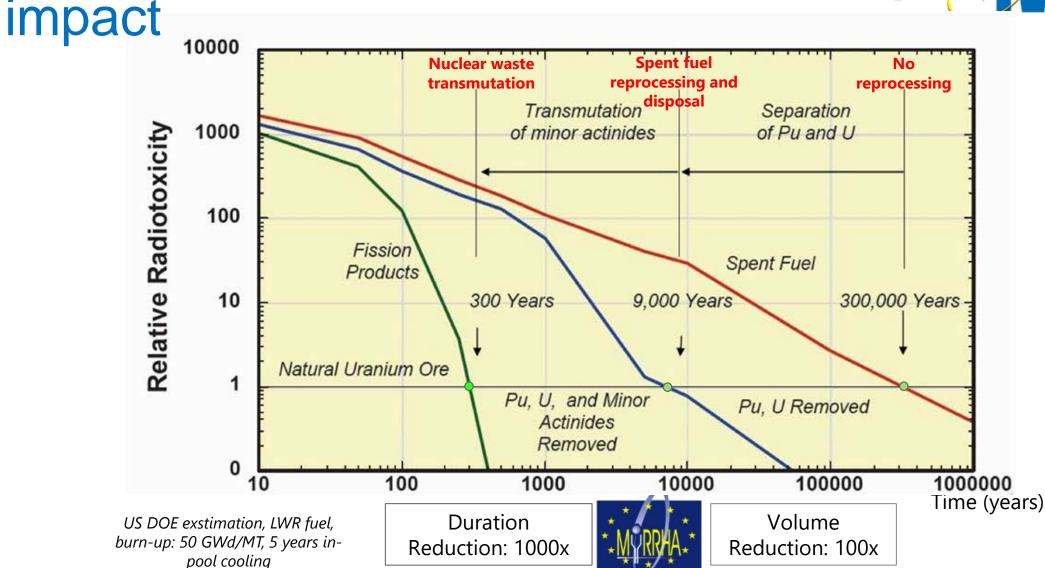


- Spent nuclear fuel current EU strategy is:
- Onsite in-pool cooling (up to 10yrs)
- Reprocessing in (few) centralized and dedicated plants (1yr): here U&Pu is removed from the spent fuel
- Disposal:
- Superficial for LLW and ILW (half lives  $\sim 10^3$  yrs)
- Geological for HLW (half lives ~ 10<sup>6</sup> yrs)



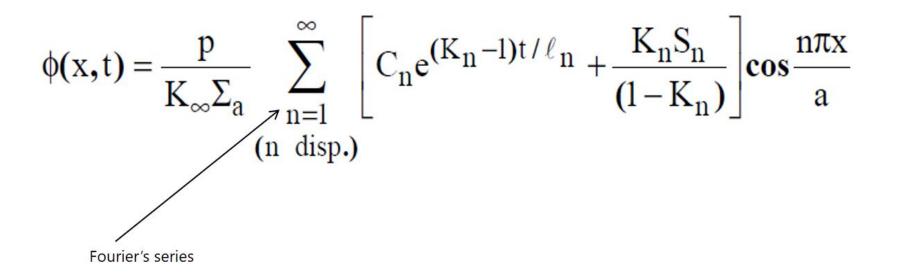
### Nuclear waste: transmutation





### Critical and subcritical configuration GEN International

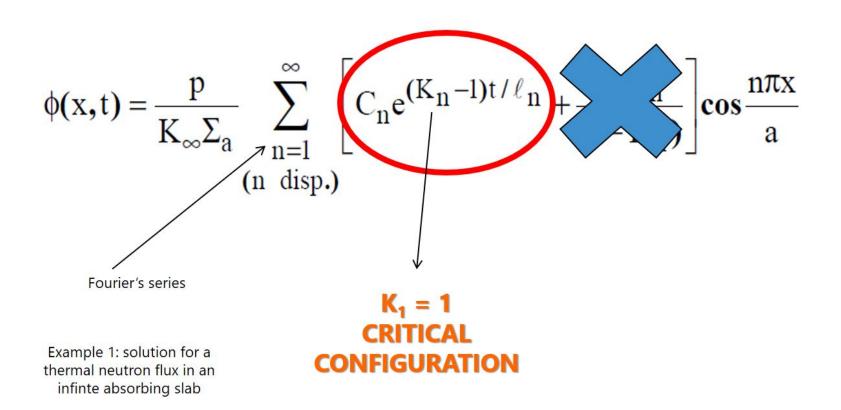
The fission reaction chain can be obtained either in critical or subcritical configuration:



Example 1: solution for a thermal neutron flux in an infinte absorbing slab

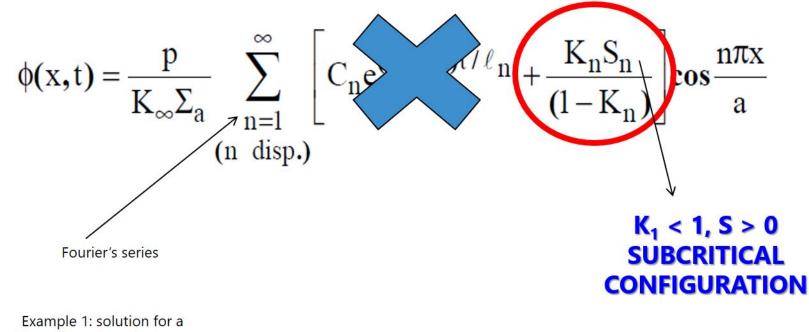
### Critical and subcritical configuration GENT International

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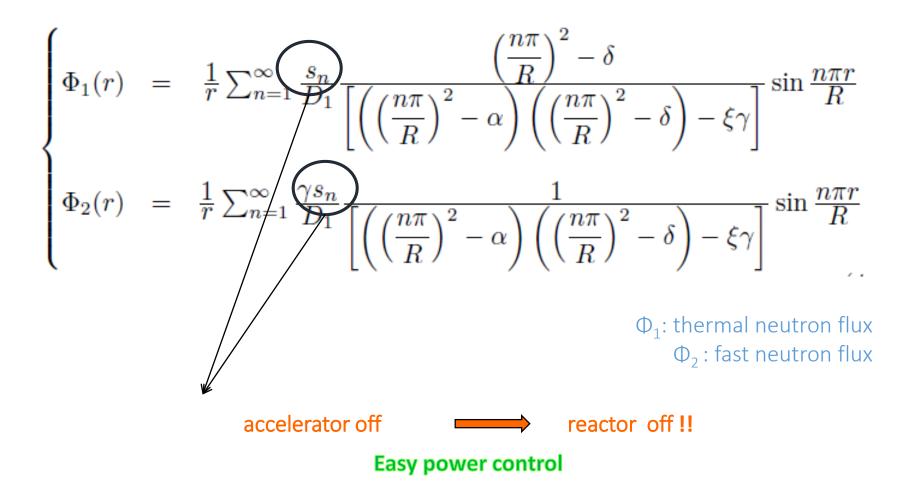


Example 1: solution for a thermal neutron flux in an infinte absorbing slab

#### Intrinsic safety of the ADS



Example 2: Spherical reactor, two energetic groups of neutrons, static solution of diffusion equation



## ADS reactor: rather a necessity than a virtue



- Both fast critical reactors and ADS can be used as transmutation systems
- Nevertheless a big load of MAs can jeopardize the control of a critical reactor because of:
- 1) Reduced delayed neutron fractions,  $\beta$  (due also to the reduction of <sup>238</sup>U) and reduced margin to prompt criticality ( $\rho = \beta$ )

$$\psi(\mathbf{r}, t) = \psi_{0}(\mathbf{r}) \sum_{m=0}^{M} A_{m} e^{\omega_{m} t}$$

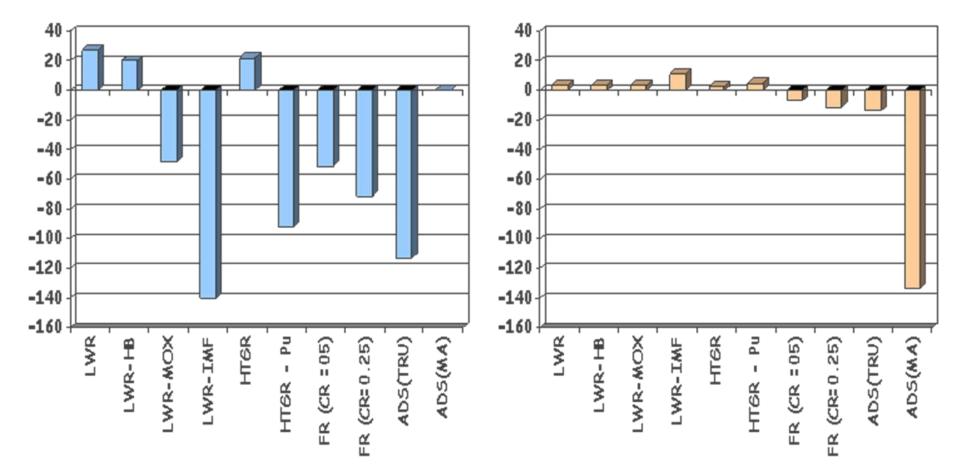
$$T = \frac{1}{\rho} \left[ \frac{\ell}{K_{eff}} + \sum_{i=1}^{M} \frac{\beta_{i}}{\lambda_{i}} \right]$$
Characteristic period of the reactor

2) Doppler feedback reduced with increasing amount of MAs

The ADS can transmute big loads of MAs without losing safety and this solution is needed for heavily MA loaded core (>10%)

## The ADS is the most efficient system in burning MAs



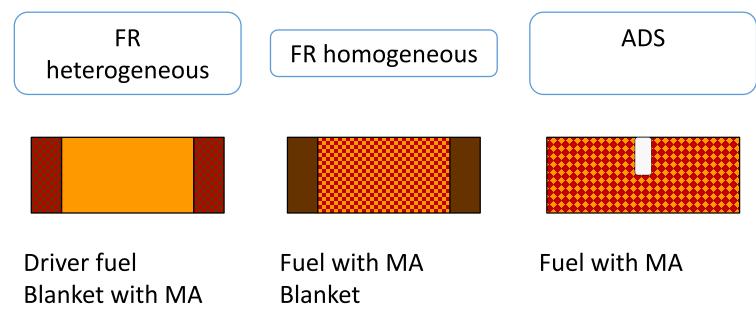


\* Mike Cappiello, (LANL), "The Potential Role of Accelerator Driven Systems in the US", ICRS-10/RPS'2004, Madeira (PT), 2004

## Three options for Minor Actinide transmutation



EU is presently considering two approaches for transmutation: via FR or ADS



Core safety parameters limit the amount of MA that can be loaded in the critical core for transmutation, leading to transmutation rates of:

- FR = 2 to 4 kg/TWh
- ADS = 35 kg/TWh (based on a 400 MW<sub>th</sub> EFIT design)

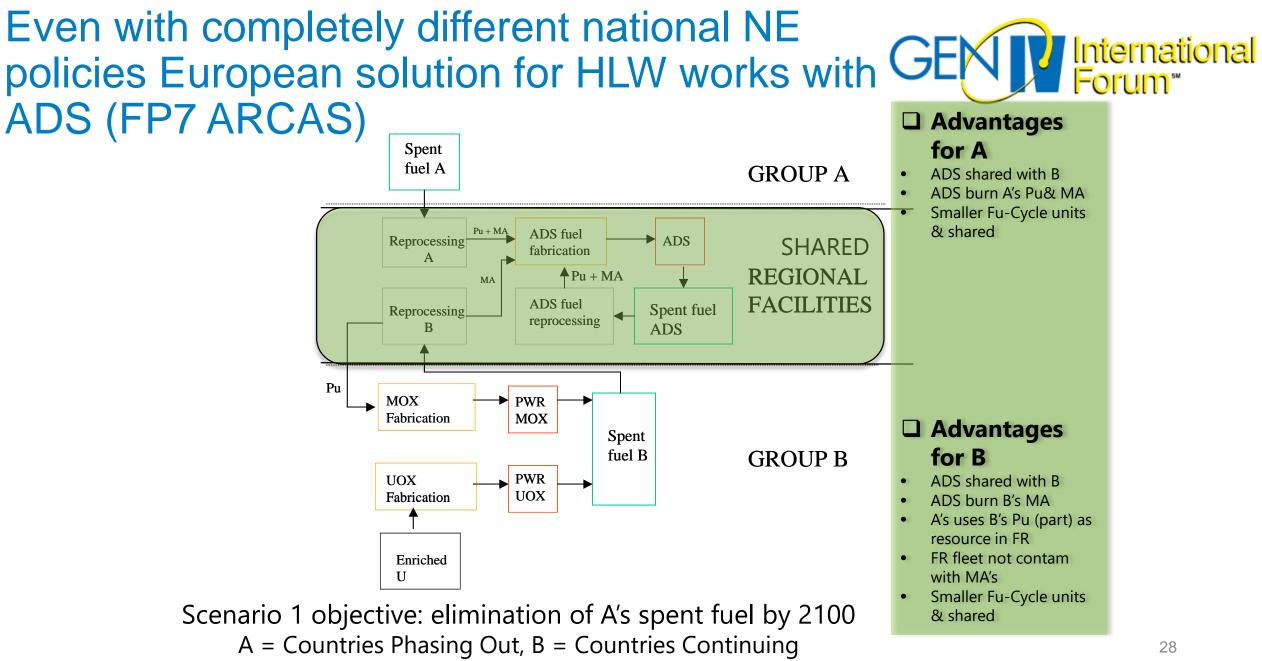
#### European Strategy for P&T (2005) with objective of possible industrialisation from 2030-35

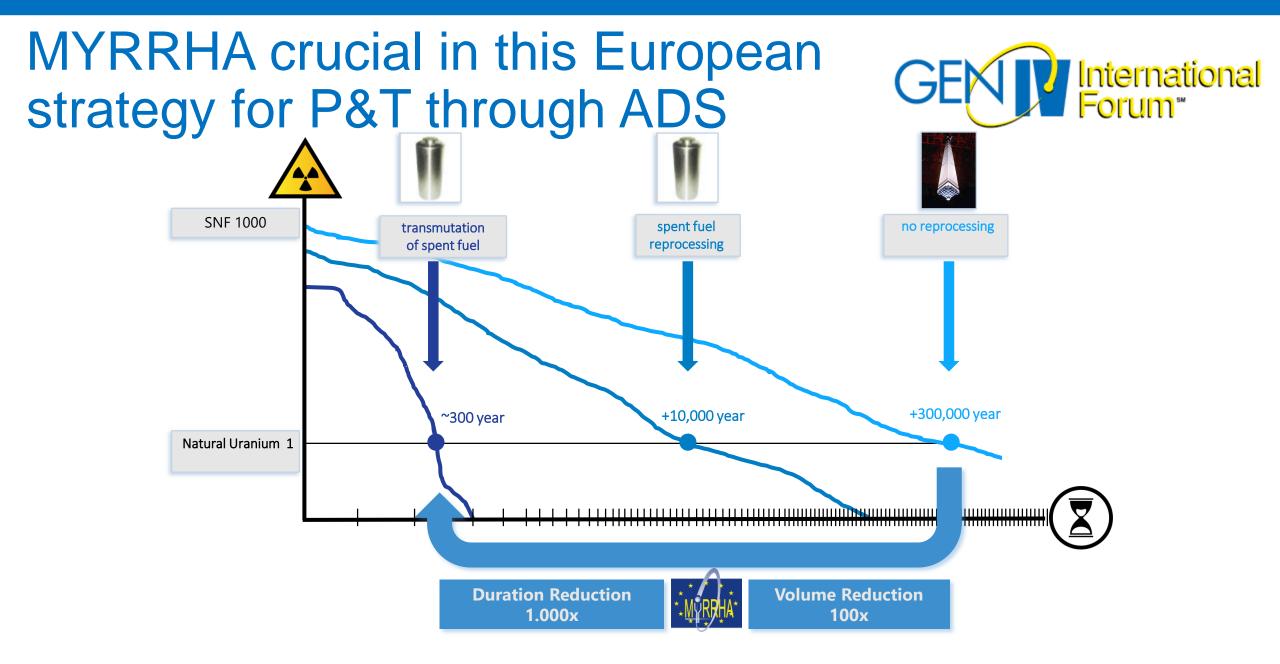


**<u>EU P&T Strategy 2005:</u>** "The **implementation of P&T** of a large part of the high-level nuclear wastes **in Europe needs the demonstration of its feasibility at an "engineering" level**. The respective **R&D** activities could be **arranged in four "building blocks**":

P&T building blocks	Description	Name & Location
Advanced Partitioning	<ul> <li>Demonstrate capability to process a sizable amount of spent fuel from commercial Light Water Reactors to separate plutonium, uranium and minor actinides</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Atalante (FR)</li> </ul>
2 MA Fuel production	<ul> <li>Demonstrate the capability to fabricate at a semi-industrial level the dedicated fuel with MA needed to load in a dedicated transmuter</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>JRC-ITU (EU)</li> </ul>
<b>3</b> Transmutation	Design and construct one or more dedicated transmuters MYRRHA (BE)	
4 MA Fuel Reprocessing	<ul> <li>Specific installation to process fuel unloaded from transmuter</li> <li>based on pyroreprocessing/electrorefining</li> </ul>	

The European Commission contributes to the 4 building blocks and fosters the national programmes towards this strategy for **demonstration at engineering level**.





#### Key technical objective of the MYRRHAproject: an Accelerator Driven System

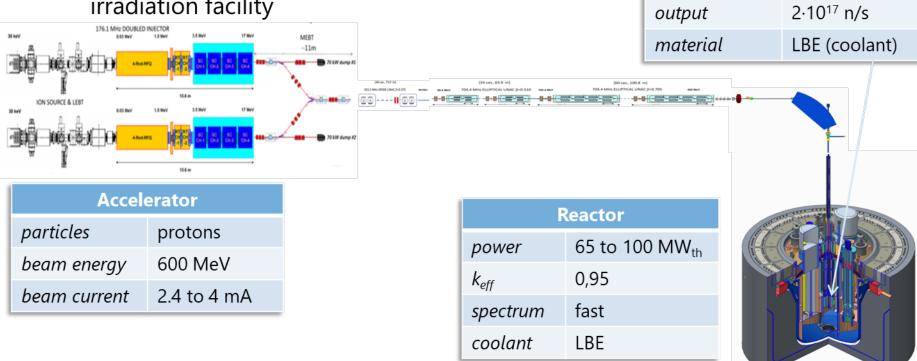


Target

spallation

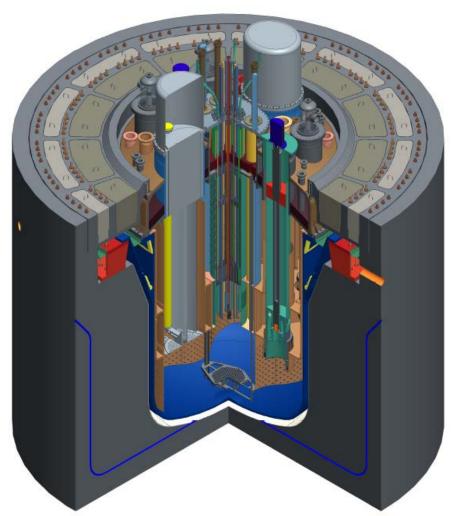
main reaction

- MYRRHA An Accelerator Driven System
  - Demonstrate the ADS concept at pre-industrial scale
    - Can operate in critical and sub-critical modes
  - Demonstrate transmutation
  - Fast neutron source → multipurpose and flexible irradiation facility





### Reactor Pool-type: MYRRHA rev. 1.6 at the End of 2014





- Size reduction
- Po issue
- O<sub>2</sub> concentration control



## <u>Reactor</u>: Comparative study for MYRRHA rev. 1.7 in 2015



#### Primary system design options

- Option 0: Updated rev. 1.6
  - Innovative double walled heat exchangers
  - One innovative IVFHM
- Option 1: Innovative Pool-type focused on size limitation
- Option 2: Loop-type bottom-loading with conservative technical choices
  - External double walled heat exchangers
  - One existing IVFHM
- Option 3: Loop-type top-loading
  - Top-loading system

# $\frac{Reactor}{design} \begin{array}{l} \text{Option 0-D: evolution of existing} \\ \text{design with innovative HX and one} \\ \text{IVFHM} \end{array} \\ \end{array}$

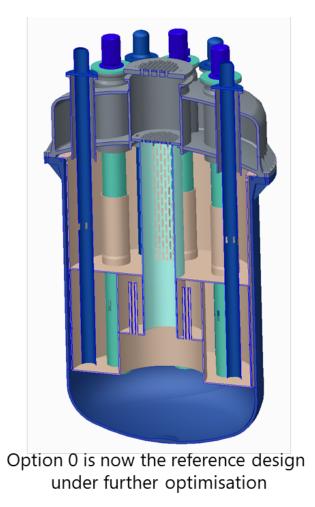




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### MYRRHA reactor design update



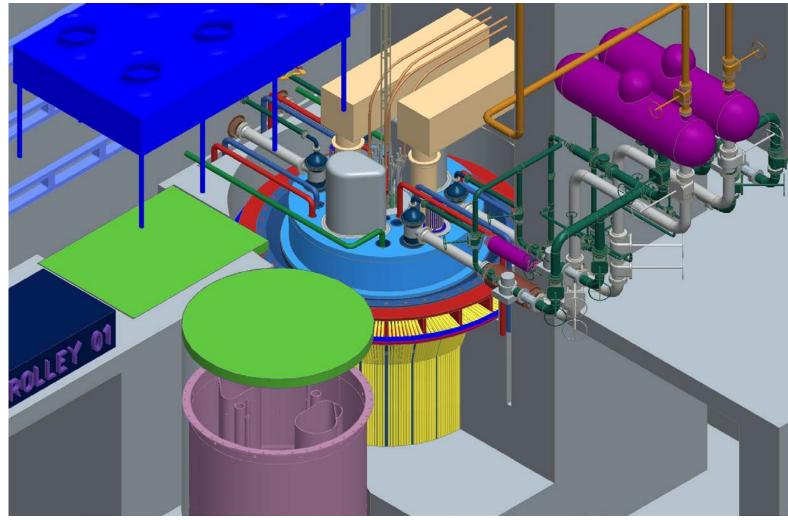


Four MYRRHA primary system design options investigated to reduce the dimension of the reactor vessel (& associated cost)

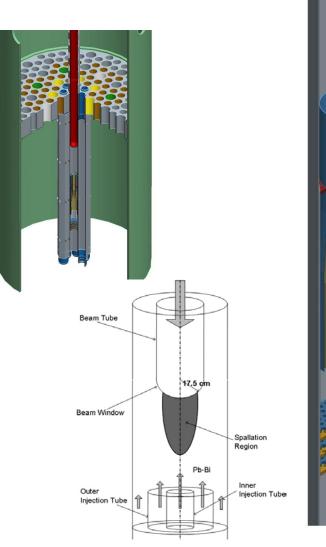
Option	Reactor type	Description
0	Pool	Updated rev. 1.6 Innovative IVFHM & double-walled PHX
1	Pool	Reduced size Innovative IVFHM & double-walled PHX
2	Loop	Bottom loading Existing IVFHM concept & external double- walled PHX
3	Loop	Top loading

#### MYRRHA reactor cooling systems





# Spallation target window in the reactor core





- Produces about 10<sup>17</sup> neutrons/s at the reactor mid-plane to feed subcritical core @ keff=0.95
- Fits into a central hole in core
  - Compact target
  - Remove produced heat
- Accepts megawatt proton beam
  - 600 MeV, 3.5 mA  $\rightarrow$  ~2.1 MW heat
  - Cooling of window is feasible
- Material challenges
  - Preferential working temperature: 450 500° C
  - Service life of at least 3 full power months (1 cycle) is achievable

# MYRRHACCORE and fuel 151 positions 37 multifunctional plugs 69 FAs 7 (central) IPS 6 CR (buoyancy) 3 SR (gravity) 24 "inner" Dummy (LBE)

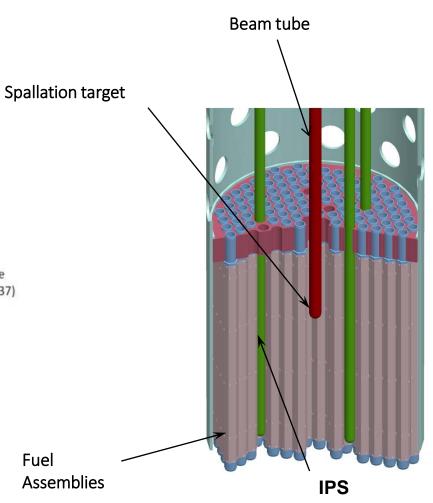
42 "outer" Dummy (YZrO) 151 S/As

Additional positions available for inserts from the top (21/37)

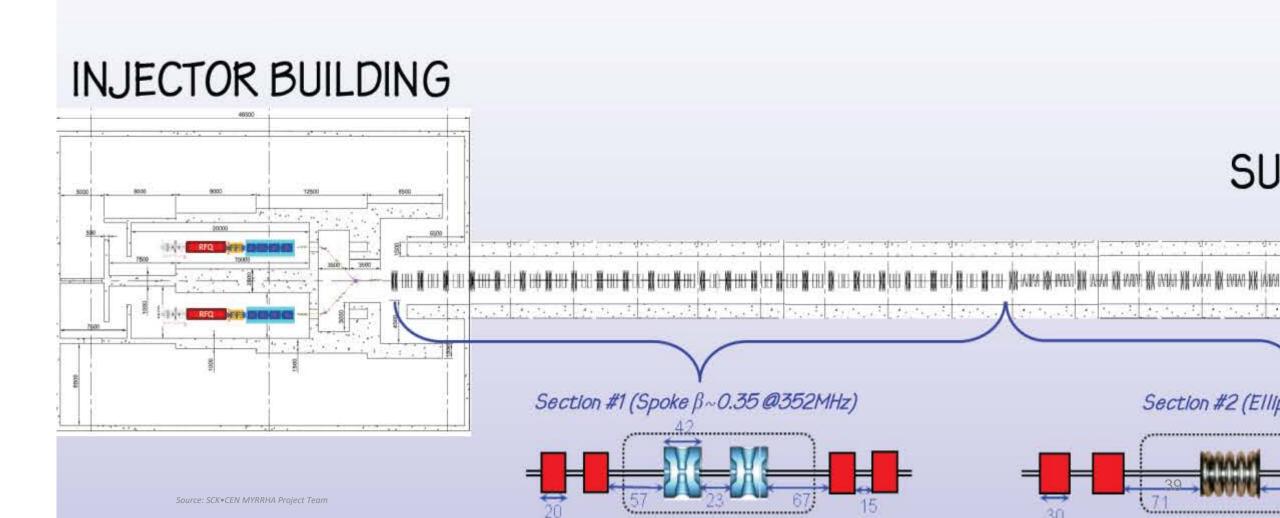
Both critical and subcritical configuration:

- Critical: 100 MWth
- Subcritical 65-75 MWth
- MOX driver fuel (~30%)



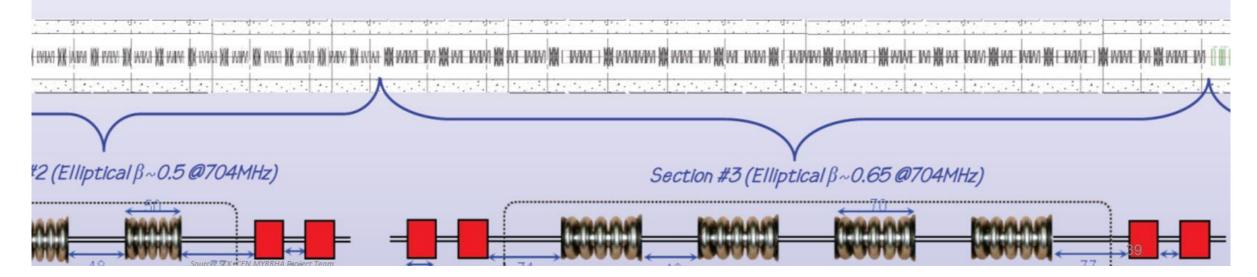


# MYRRHA linac: Design frozen since GE International 2014 under prototyping

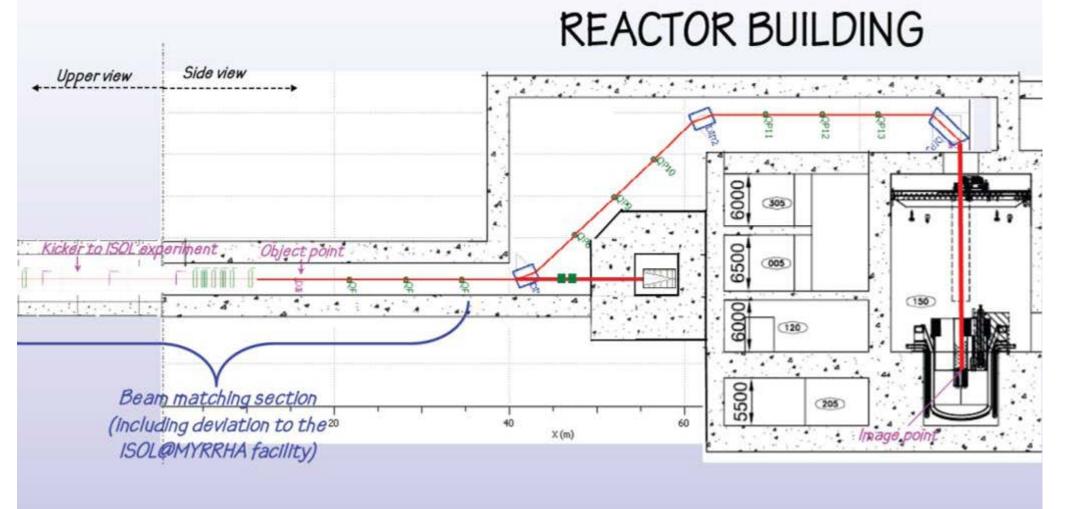


# MYRRHA linac: Design frozen since GE International 2014 under prototyping

### SUPERCONDUCTING LINAC TUNNEL



# MYRRHA linac: Design frozen since GEV International 2014 under prototyping



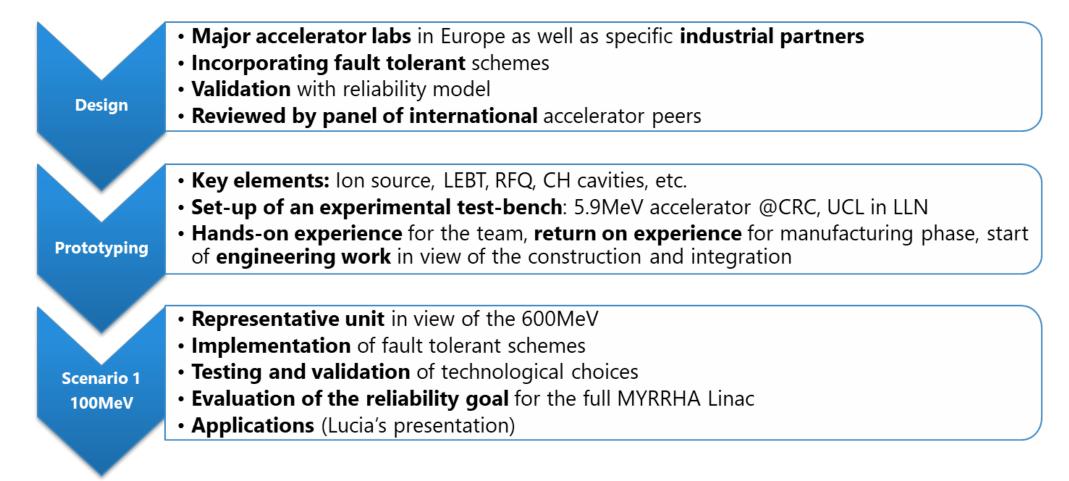
#### **Accelerator: Specific requirements of MYRRHA**

> High power proton bea	m (up to 2.4 MW)
Proton energy	600 MeV
Beam current	0.1 to <mark>4.0 mA</mark>
Repetition rate	<mark>CW</mark> , 250 Hz
Beam duty cycle	10 <sup>-4</sup> to 1
Beam power stability	< $\pm$ 2% on a time scale of 100ms
Beam footprint on reactor window	Circular Ø85mm
Beam footprint stability	$<\pm$ 10% on a time scale of 1s
of allowed beam trips on reactor longer than 3 sec	10 maximum per 3-month operation period
of allowed beam trips on reactor longer than 0.1 sec	100 maximum per day
f allowed beam trips on reactor shorter than 0.1 sec	unlimited

#### Extreme reliability level: MTBF > 250 hrs

# Accelerator: Roadmap to Reliability





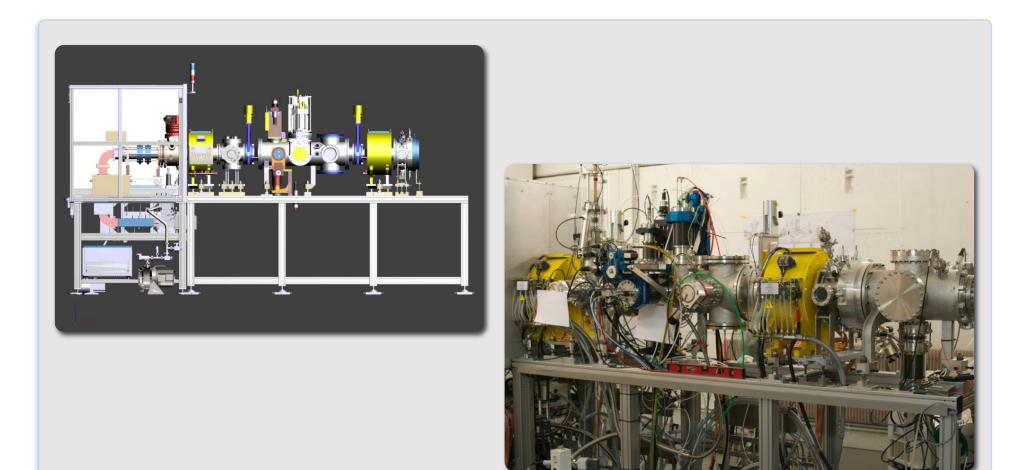
### Accelerator components



- Ion source
- LEBT
- Chopper
- RFQ
- CH NC cavities
- Single spoke cryomodules
- Elliptical cryomodules

# Ion source – LEBT – Chopper GEN International





# RFQ – Radiofrequency quadrupole GEN International

- First accelerating structure
  - 4—rod
  - 30keV → 1.5MeV
  - 176.1MHz
  - 4m long aluminum structure
  - Stems:
    - OFHC Copper & Thick copper plating
    - Complex water cooling system







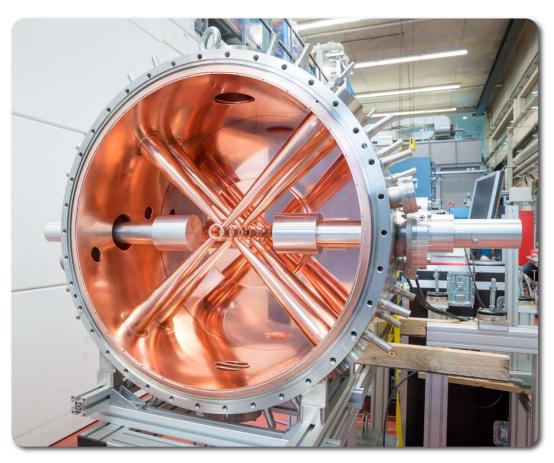




### CH room temperature cavities

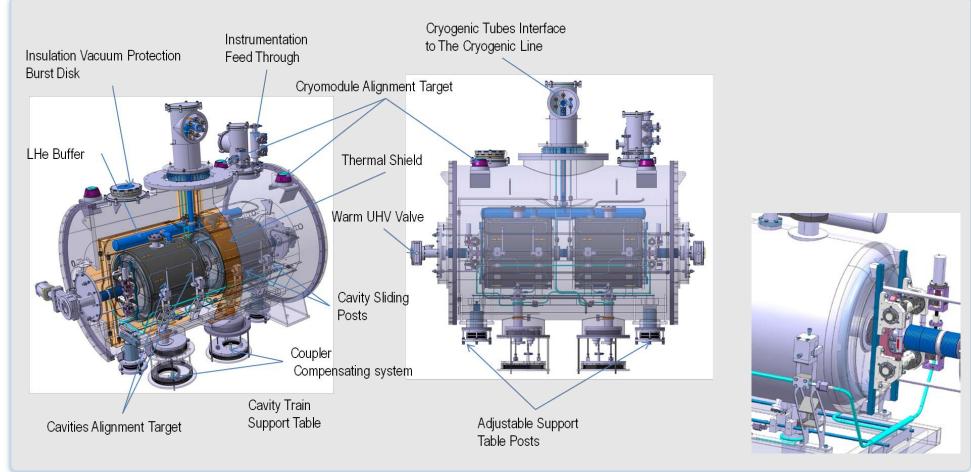


- Second accelerating section
  - 1.5MeV → 17MeV
  - 176.1MHz
- Stainless steel structures
  - Thin copper plating



### Single spoke cavity cryomodules





### Single spoke cavity





## AMELIA (ZA01)





### Elliptical cavity cryomodules

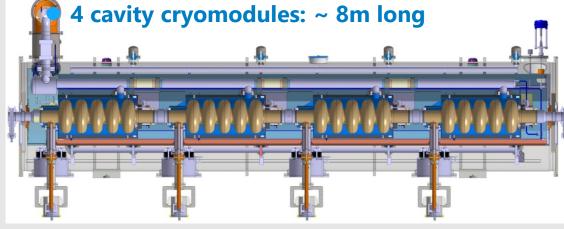


- Fourth and fifth accelerating section
  - 100MeV 600MeV
  - Superconducting RF structures
    - 100 200MeV: double spoke or elliptical cavities (352.2 or

704.4MHz)

200 – 600MeV: elliptical cavities (704.4MHz)

2 cavity cryomodules: ~ 3m long





### Licensing: Approach



### Pre-licensing phase

- For a complex nuclear installation relying on new technologies like MYRRHA
- To timely communicate on design development and its expectations in terms of nuclear safety and security requirements, and safeguards provision
- By implementing instruments providing guidance to the owner/designer

### Approach

- Identification and evaluation of "Focus Points" (FPs), new or not mature enough issues specific to MYRRHA that may have an impact on the safety of the facility by jeopardizing any of the safety functions
- Elaboration of a Design Options and Provisions File (DOPF) = pre-PSAR

# Licensing: Design Options and Provisions File



- Volume 1: Purpose and description of the MYRRHA installation
  - Facility system components, modes of operation, codes & standards, and other operational aspects. Interaction with site & environment
- Volume 2: Approach to the nuclear safety
  - Rules for safety demonstration and for determining the radiological consequences of accidents (check compliance with safety demo criteria)
- Volume 3: Design options, selected provisions and their justification
  - Initiating events and their categorization into plant states, main design options and their justification, preliminary safety analyses
- Volume 4: Management system for safety of the installation
  - For the time being, only restricted to the design phase. To be extended later on for the construction and operation phases
- Volume 5: Security and Safeguards Integrated Approach

### Status | FPs (mid 2017)

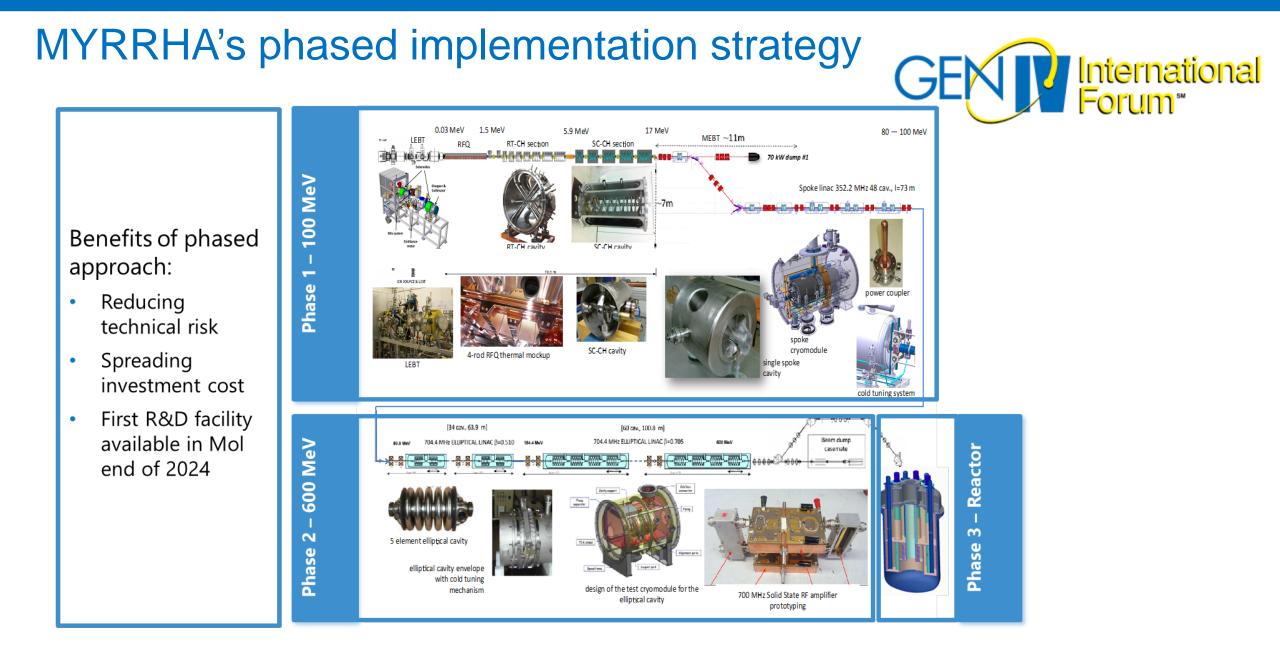


- 46 deliverables have been accepted
- 50 deliverables are still in evaluation or in Q&A iterations
- 5 deliverables should still be delivered this year
- 69 deliverables are scheduled to be issued after 2017

### Licensing: Conclusions

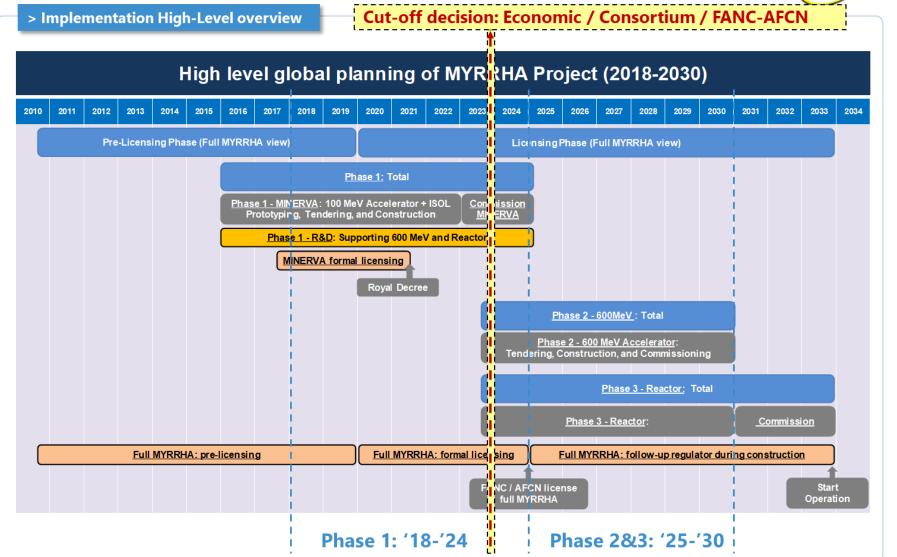


- A fully consistent and coherent design of the MYRRHA primary system was obtained
- Focus is shifting towards realization of prototypes of (sub-) components
- A large MYRRHA R&D supporting programme (with the support and in-kind contribution of international partners) generated between 2010 and 2017 important results
- Significant progress has been achieved in the pre-licensing framework with the Belgian Safety Authorities
- First opinion on licensability (of full MYRRHA) received in 2017
- Licensing of MYRRHA Accelerator 100 MeV started in 2016



#### Source:SCK•CEN MYRRHA Project Team

### Phased implementation plan MYRRHA Project (2018-2030)

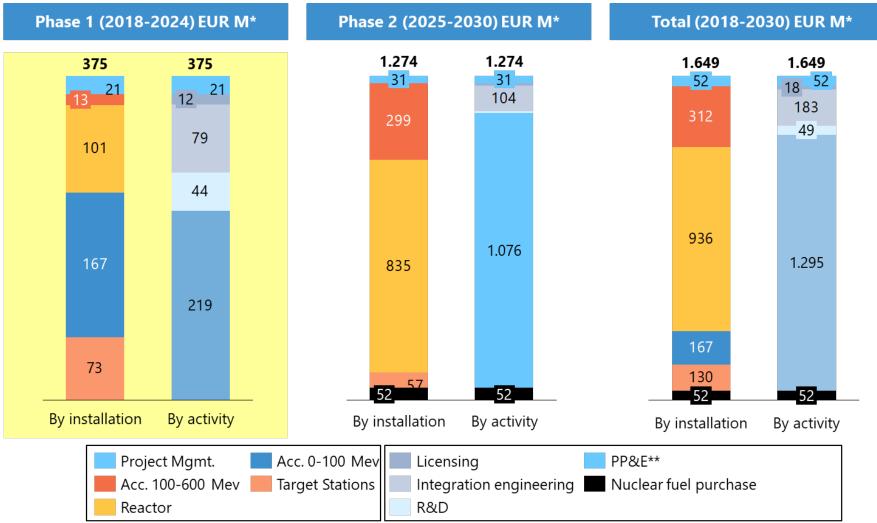


Source: SCK+CEN MYRRHA Project Team

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# CapEx: MYRRHA Total investment budget (Summary)







### MYRRHA is embedded in an international R&D network



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Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia

JOBANN WOLNGANS

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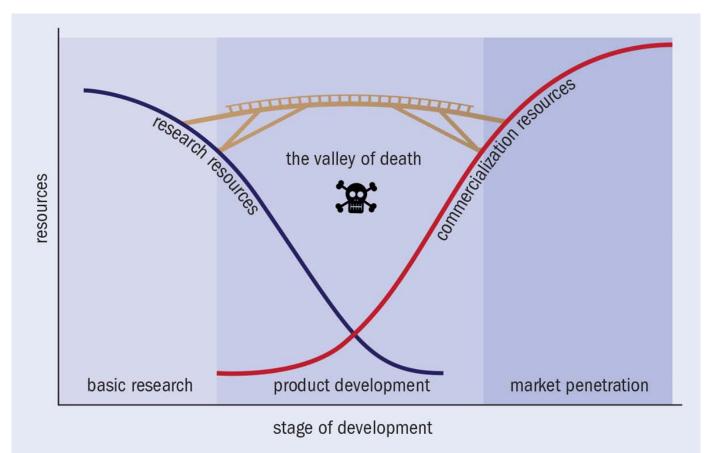
### Conclusions



- ADS is not anymore an "Emerging Nuclear Energy System"
- It has accomplished many impressive progresses in various fields:
  - Accelerator technology
  - Pb and Pb-Bi technology (many loops in BE, JP, IT, DE, ROK, CN, USA, ...)
  - HLM instrumentation (O<sub>2</sub>-meters, Flow meters, US-Visu, Sub-criticality monitoring, etc...)
  - Material behavior in HLM (corrosion, erosion LME, etc...)
  - ZPR experiments (FEAT/TARC, MUSE, YALINA, GUINEVERE, KUCA...)
  - Large Scale HLM reactor mock-ups (ESCAPE, CLEAR-S)
- What is then the danger for this technology ?
- Succeed to cross the death-valley for moving from R&D enthusiasm compensating small money to pre-industrial scale needing large money, rigorous industrial approach and severe safety and licensing judgement

# The valley of death for innovation





Not to succeed to cross the <u>valley of death</u> for moving from R&D enthusiasm compensating small money to pre-industrial scale needing large money, rigorous industrial approach and severe safety and licensing judgement



Belgium decided to support MYRRHA at 40% and opens MYRRHA for international partnership



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### 4<sup>th</sup> GIF Symposium 16-17 October 2018

at the **8<sup>th</sup> edition of Atoms for the Future** UIC Paris, France



#### http://gifsymposium2018.gen-4.org/

#### Call for abstracts Extended Deadline - 31 March 2018

#### Track 1 & 2: Progress on Gen IV systems

- Track 3: Human capital development
- Track 4: Research infrastructures
- Track 5: Safety and security
- Track 6: Fuels and materials
- Track 7: Advanced components and systems for Gen IV reactors Track 8: Integration of nuclear reactors in low carbon energy systems

Track 9: Decommissioning & Waste Management Track 10: Operation, Maintenance, Simulation & Training Track 11: Construction of nuclear reactors The symposium has two major objectives:

•to review the progress achieved for each system against the R&D goals of the 2014 Technology Roadmap Update.

• to identify the remaining challenges and associated R&D goals for the next decade necessary for the demonstration and/or deployment of the Gen IV systems, and the goal of establishing nuclear energy as a necessary element in the world's long-term sustainable carbon-free energy mix.

MSc and PhD students, young professionals, policy makers and nuclear stakeholders are encouraged to participate



# Upcoming webinars

23 May 2018

Proliferation resistance of Gen IV systems

Dr. Robert Bari, Brookhaven National Laboratory, USA

07 June 2018

Molten Salt Actinide Recycle and Transforming System with and without Th-U Dr. Viktor Ignatiev, Kurchatov Institute, Russia support: MOSART