

Symposium on Solving Problems in Research Reactors
5 Dec. 2025, Mito Station South Satellite, Ibaraki University

Neutron Science Research at Ibaraki University: Collaborations & Education Activities in Research and Education Center for Atomic Sciences (RECAS)

Kazuaki Iwasa, Director of RECAS



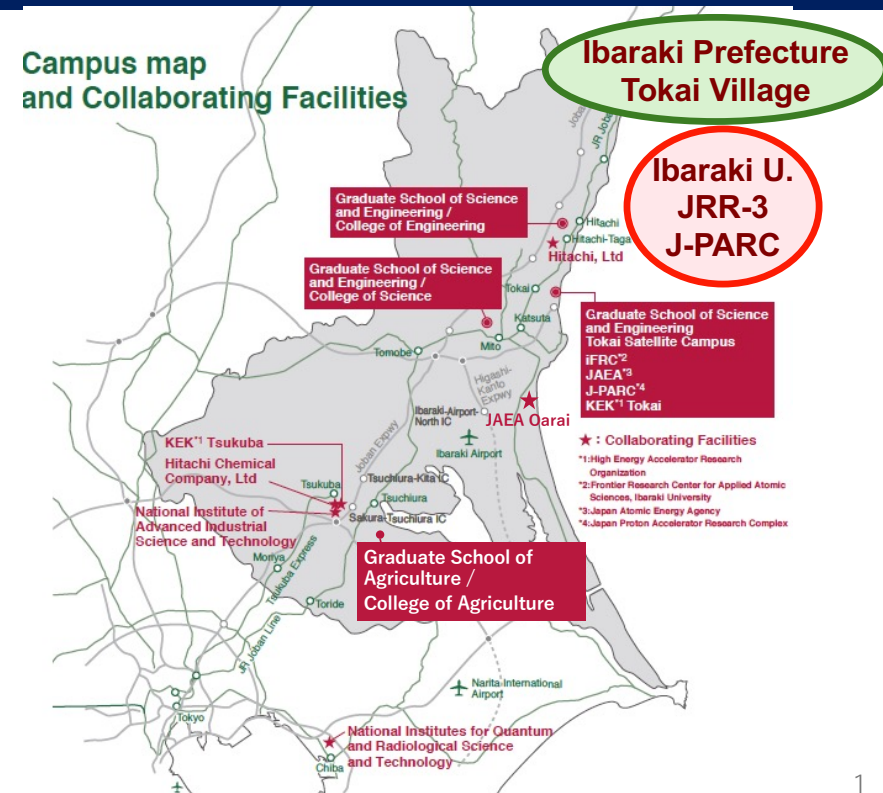
(Mito campus)



(Tokai Satellite Campus)

Atomic Science

Comprehensive Investigation of Energy, Materials
Function, and Radiations from Atoms



“Integrated Climate Change Science” in Ibaraki University



茨城大学
Ibaraki University



2006
Institute for
global Change
Adaptation
Science (ICAS)



2019
Ibaraki Local Climate
Change Adaptation
Center (iLCCAC)



2020
Global and Local
Environment Co-creation
Institute (GLEC)

Research and Education Center for
Atomic Sciences



2024~2028
MEXT Budget “Establishing an
education and research base for
safe and secure innovative atomic
sciences”

2023
Carbon Recycling Energy
Research Center (CRERC)



Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Research Field

Research activities with the same directional vector toward the improvement of well-being

Atomic Science Research Field

Mitigation measure

Collaboration

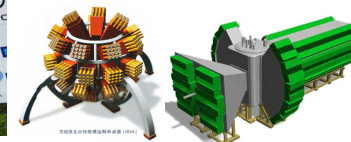
2003
Scientific Frontier 21
Project in Ibaraki Prefecture



2006
Frontier Research
Center for Applied
Atomic Science (iFRC)

Major in Quantum
Beam Science (2016)

2017
Tokai Satellite
Campus
established



Neutron beam use at
J-PARC MLF and JRR-3
iBIX: Bioscience
iMATERIA: Materials
T1-1: Physics
+
Activity in iQBS

"Atomic Science Research Field" in Ibaraki University



Ibaraki Quantum Beam Science Center
Frontier Research Center for Applied Atomic Sciences

RECAS: Research and Education Center for Atomic Sciences

Collaborations at accelerators and research reactors with the institutes located nearby.

Tokai Village



Ibaraki Prefecture



Ibaraki U.



Japan Atomic Energy Agency

JAEA Tokai & Oarai

Proton Accelerator Research Complex

J-PARC

High-Energy Accelerator Research

KEK

Institute of Solid State Phys.

ISSP, U. of Tokyo

National Institutes for Quantum Science and Technology

QST

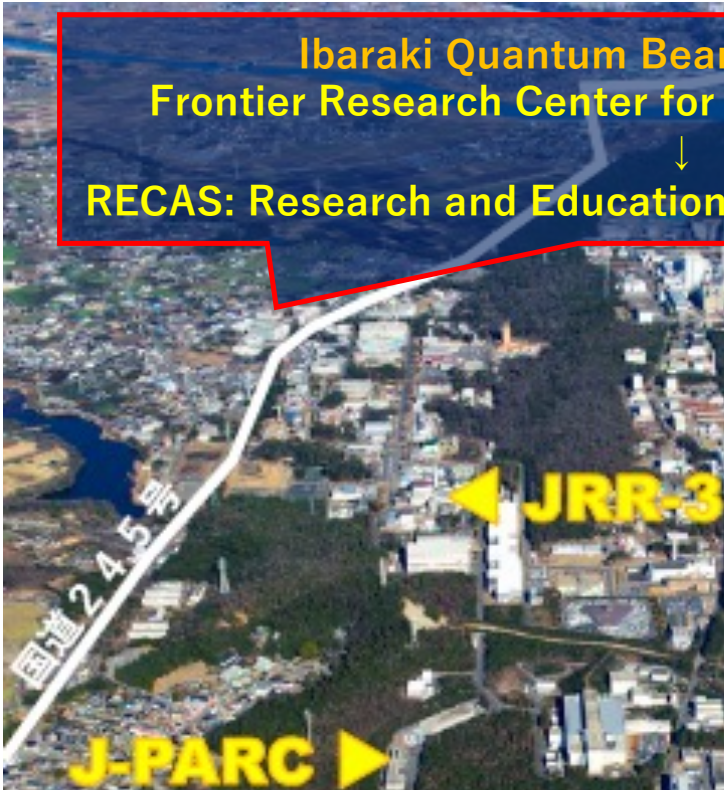
JAEA Oarai
HTTR

AQBRC

KEK Tokai Campus
The Japan Atomic Power Company
JAEA
J-PARC

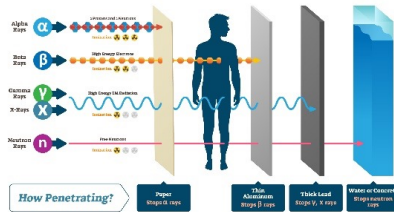


- ISSP Univ. of Tokyo: Cooperation for the JRR-3 spectrometer
- ANSTO (Sydney, Australia)
- KAERI (Neutron Science Division): Cooperation for the exchange professorship and the neutron science. [Director: Dr. Young-Soo Han]



Organization of RECAS

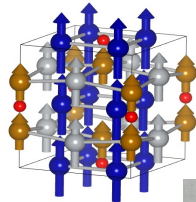
TYPES OF RADIATION



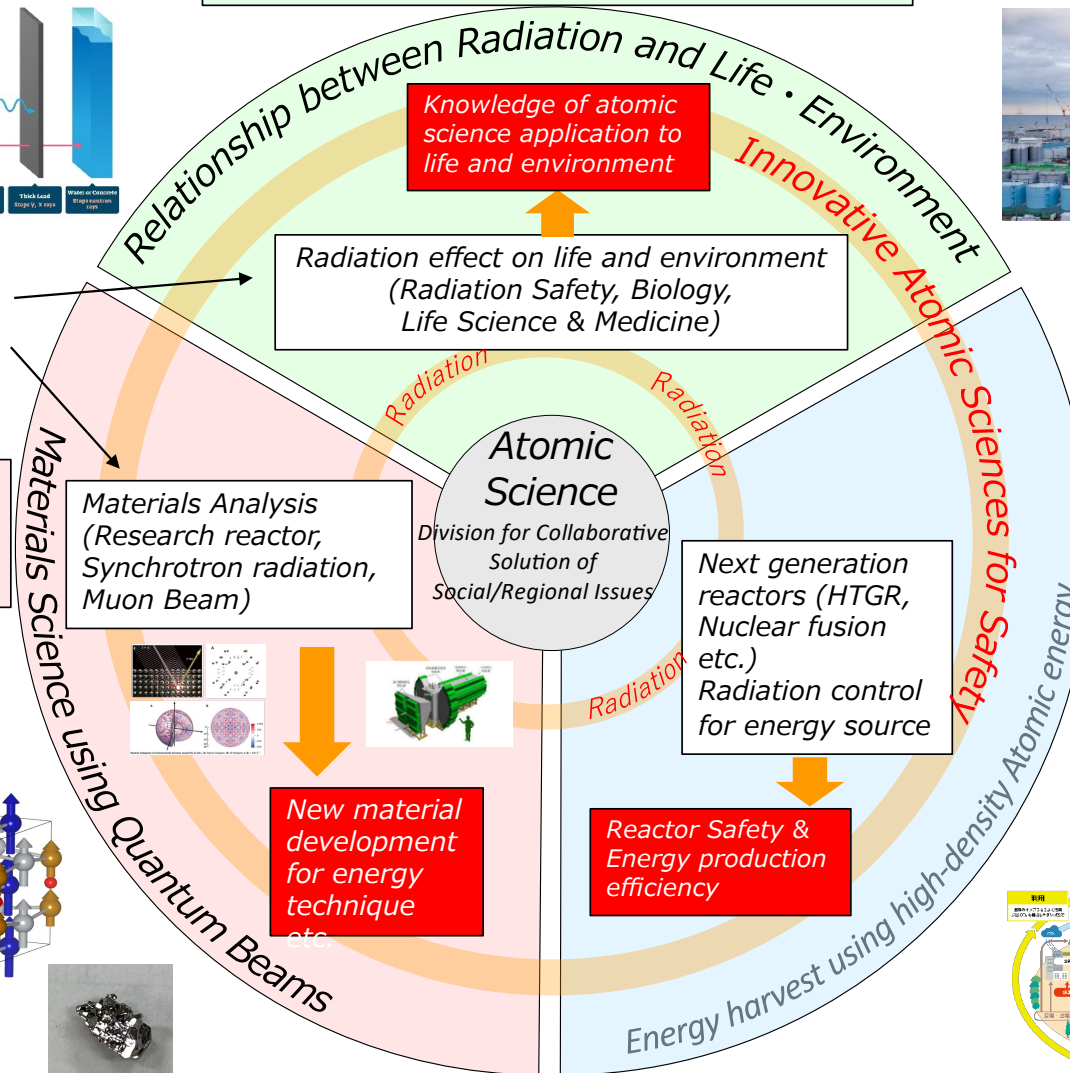
Educational activities to train students who have sufficient knowledge of radiation and its effect (to let them get national License for radiation protection supervisor).

Applied Atomic Science Division

- Functional materials for devices
- Infrastructure materials
- Neutron and X-ray scattering • Muon science

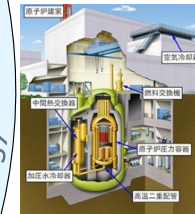


Radiation Safety Division



Effect of tritium on cells

Advanced Reactor Research Division



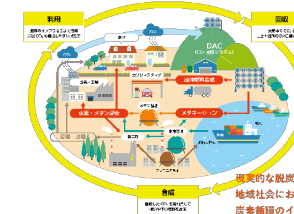
From AEA

JAEA: High-Temperature Gas-cooled Reactor & Decommissioning of reactor



Collaboration

CRERC: Carbon recycling/neutrality

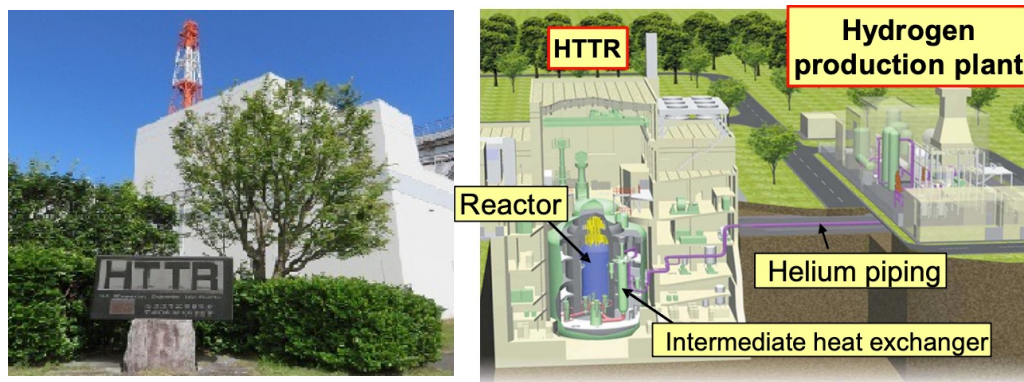


Design for Regional Energy Resources

“Establishing an education and research base for safe and secure innovative atomic sciences” Advanced Reactor Research: Advancement and succession of nuclear-related technologies

Contribution to next-generation nuclear reactor

Collaboration with JAEA for High Temperature Gas
Reactor with Hydrogen Mass Production



Research Fields

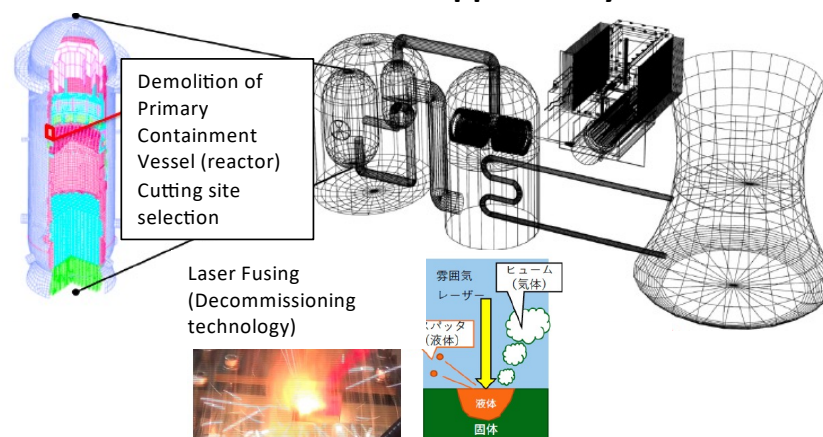
- Development of systems with improved efficiency and safety for next-generation innovative reactors, safety technologies for them, and new materials that can be used in high-temperature environments
- Energy source technology that uses hydrogen, as planned for next-generation innovative reactors
- Application of efficient thermal energy recovery technology through thermoelectric conversion
- Application of lightweight and composite materials that achieve energy savings and low environmental impact
- Research and development and commercialization start-up of decommissioning technology for conventional light water reactors using digital technology

Human Resource Development

Developing highly skilled practitioners who have knowledge of conventional nuclear reactors and can contribute to research and development of next-generation nuclear reactors

Digital twin technology to achieve safe, fast and efficient
decommissioning of reactors

Supported by GTIE GAP Fund (JST)



“Establishing an education and research base for safe and secure innovative atomic sciences”

Radiation Safety: Contribution to radiation safety technology

Development of a simple and rapid method for investigating tritium levels in marine products

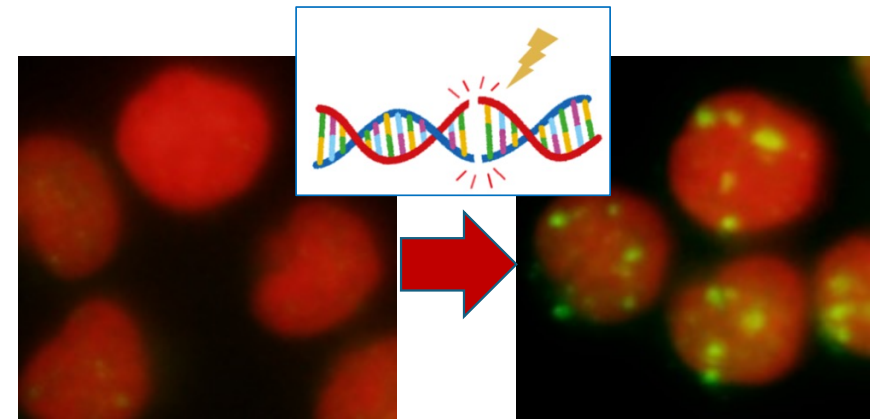
Nuclear regulation human resource development based on mastering knowledge of radiation and tritium (2023~2027)



- Supplying human resources who engage nuclear reactors and rebuild Fukushima region
- Supporting retail industry groups by voluntary tritium testing

Contribution to society through disease risk assessment from radiation damage to DNA

University-based venture “Dinow”



Research Fields

- Effects of radiation on the human body and living organisms, such as DNA damage
- Understanding the contamination mechanism by radionuclides and developing decontamination technology
- Developing a rapid measurement method for environmental tritium
- Understanding the mechanism of cell and DNA damage, by applying the method with unsealed radionuclides including tritium



Human Resource Development

- Atomic science researchers and engineers with the potential to develop new technologies based on advanced knowledge and understanding of biological effects of radiation

“Establishing an education and research base for safe and secure innovative atomic sciences”

Applied Atomic Science: Quantum Beam Science (Neutron, Synchrotron Ray, and Muon)

Contribution to advanced quantum beam measurements, functional material developments, and basic science

Research Fields

【Development of imaging and analysis methods】

Elucidation of hierarchy in material structures

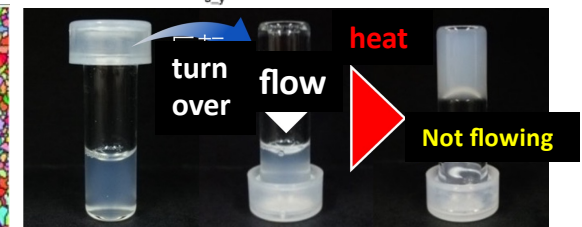
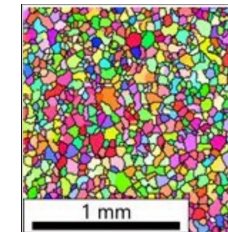
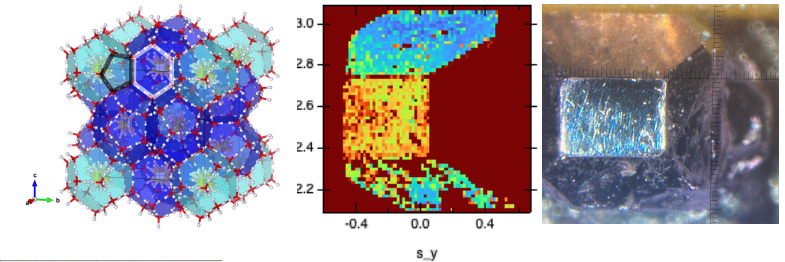
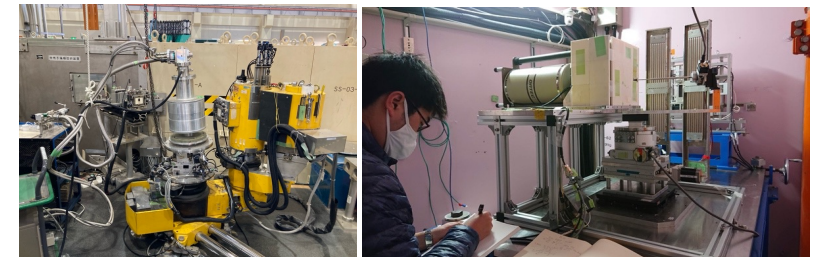
- Crystal structure analysis : Material science and Biology
- Atomic resolution holography
- Visualization of material domains and surface cracks
- Muon: Basic physics and Transparent technique

【Heat and hydrogen use in next-generation nuclear reactors】

- Elemental techniques based on new materials applicable for the next-generation nuclear reactors
- Domestic energy systems by combining developed functional materials

【Industrial use of quantum beams : infrastructures】

Texture analysis of steels, Energy storage materials, High-strength composites, Nano-polymers solidifying by heating



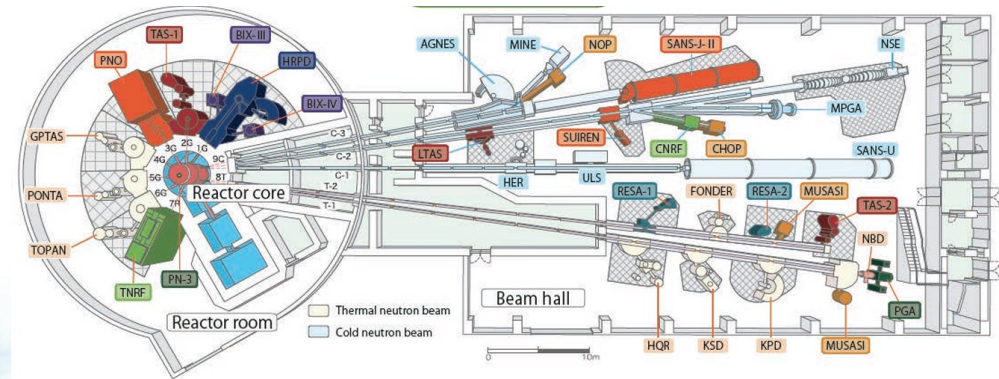
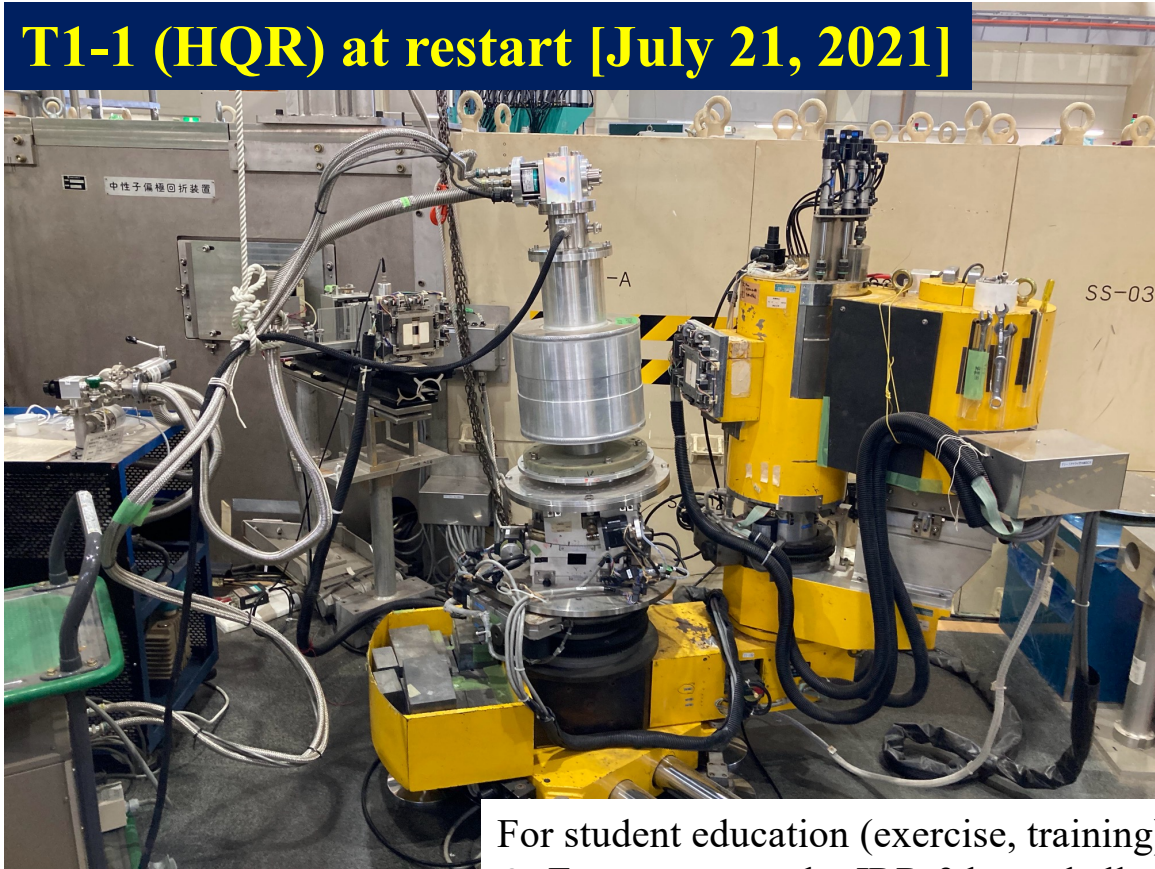
Human Resource Development

Engineers and researchers with knowledge of advanced material measurement methods using high-performance quantum beams (in cooperation with the Institute of Quantum Beam Science)

“Establishing an education and research base for safe and secure innovative atomic sciences”

Applied Atomic Science: neutron Beam Science at JRR-3

T1-1 (HQR) at restart [July 21, 2021]

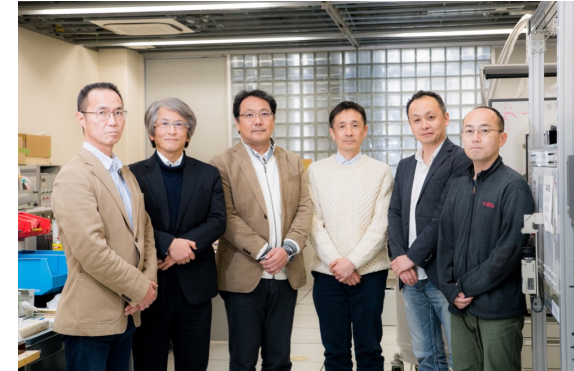
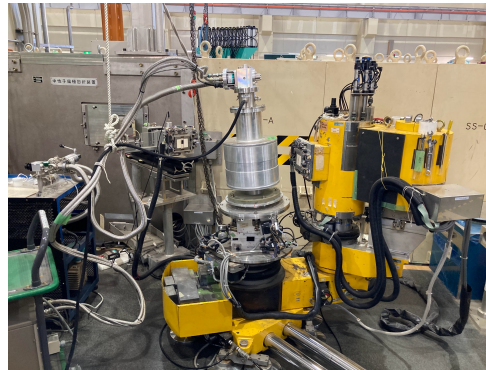


For student education (exercise, training),

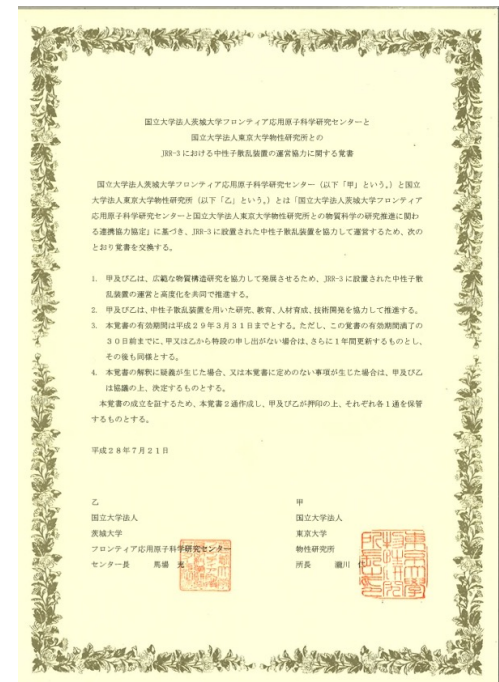
- Easy to access the JRR-3 beam hall.
- Operate the spectrometer by themselves, and see what happens.
- No need to hurry up, enough time to understand.
- Combined with research experiments for master's/doctor's degrees.

“Establishing an education and research base for safe and secure innovative atomic sciences”

Applied Atomic Science: neutron Beam Science at JRR-3

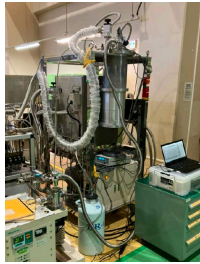


- 2016: The Department of Quantum Beam Science was established at the Graduate School of Science and Engineering, Ibaraki University.
- 2016: The "Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the Operation of Neutron Spectrometers at JRR-3" was signed between the Institute for Solid State Physics, The University of Tokyo, and the Frontier Research Center for Applied Atomic Sciences, Ibaraki University.
- From July 2021 (restart of JRR-3), Ibaraki University has operated the HQR (High-Resolution Triple-Axis Spectrometer) installed at T1-1, owned by the Institute for Solid State Physics, The University of Tokyo.
- Furthermore, research and education by complementary use of quantum beam facilities have been conducted based on collaboration agreements with J-PARC, JAEA, KEK, and SPring-8.



Activities at HQR (T1-1) of JRR-3: Collaboration between Ibaraki Univ. and ISSP

- Research and education activities under collaboration between Ibaraki Univ. and ISSP
- Every year, approximately 25 students of Ibaraki Univ. experienced neutron scattering experiments.

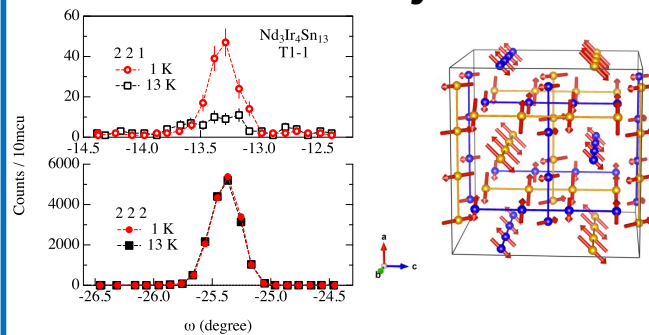


Installing a ^3He (1 K) cryostat



Students at T1-1, JRR=3

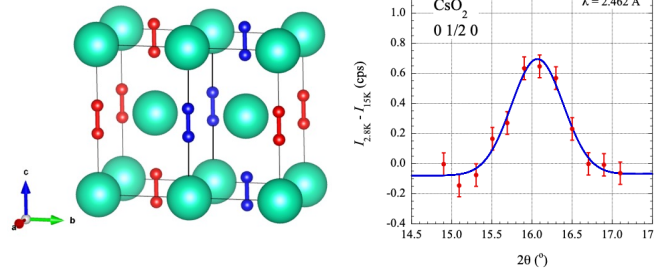
● Magnetic orderings in chiral structure systems



The AFM ordered phases and chiral symmetry

A. Shimoda et al., *Phys. Rev. B* 109, 134425 (2024).

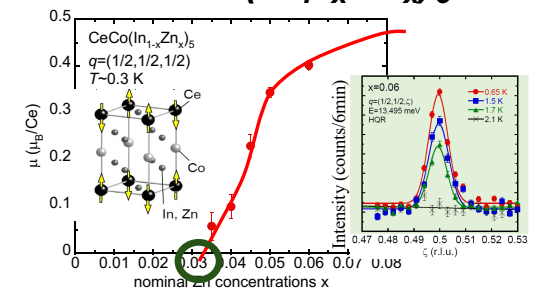
● Antiferromagnetic structure of p electrons in CsO_2



The oxygen small magnetic moments are detected.

T. Nakano et al., *J. Phys.: Condens. Matter* 35, 435801 (2023).

● Superconductivity and antiferromagnetization of $\text{CeCo}(\text{In}_{1-x}\text{Zn}_x)_5$



The AFM order emerges in the heavy-fermion superconducting phase.

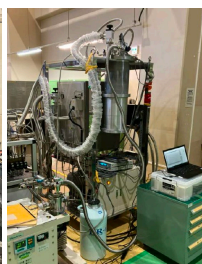
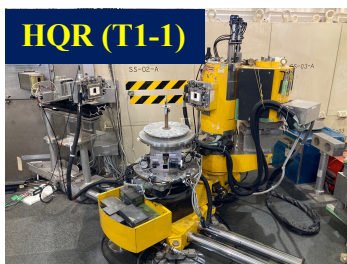
K. Inoh et al., *Phys. Rev. B* 111, 104510 (2025).



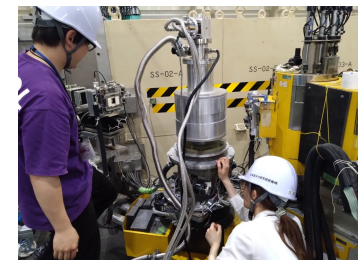
Activities at HQR (T1-1) of JRR-3: Education in Ibaraki Univ.



- **Research and Education** activities under collaboration between **Ibaraki Univ. and ISSP**
- Every year, approximately **25 students** of Ibaraki Univ. experienced neutron scattering experiments.
 - Regular practical lectures of Graduate School of Ibaraki Univ. on T1-1



Installing a ^3He (1 K) cryostat



Students at T1-1, JRR-3

● Relating activities at neutron facilities for students



■ HANARO Symposium 2025 at Daejeon.

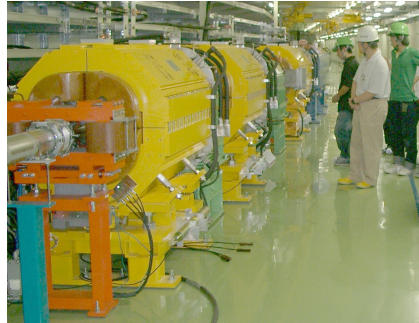


■ Visiting the Tokai nuclear plant and attending workshops for regional safety against nuclear accident.

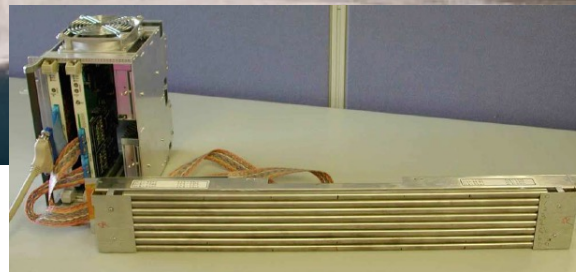


■ Sweden-Japan Ph.D Day for neutron science

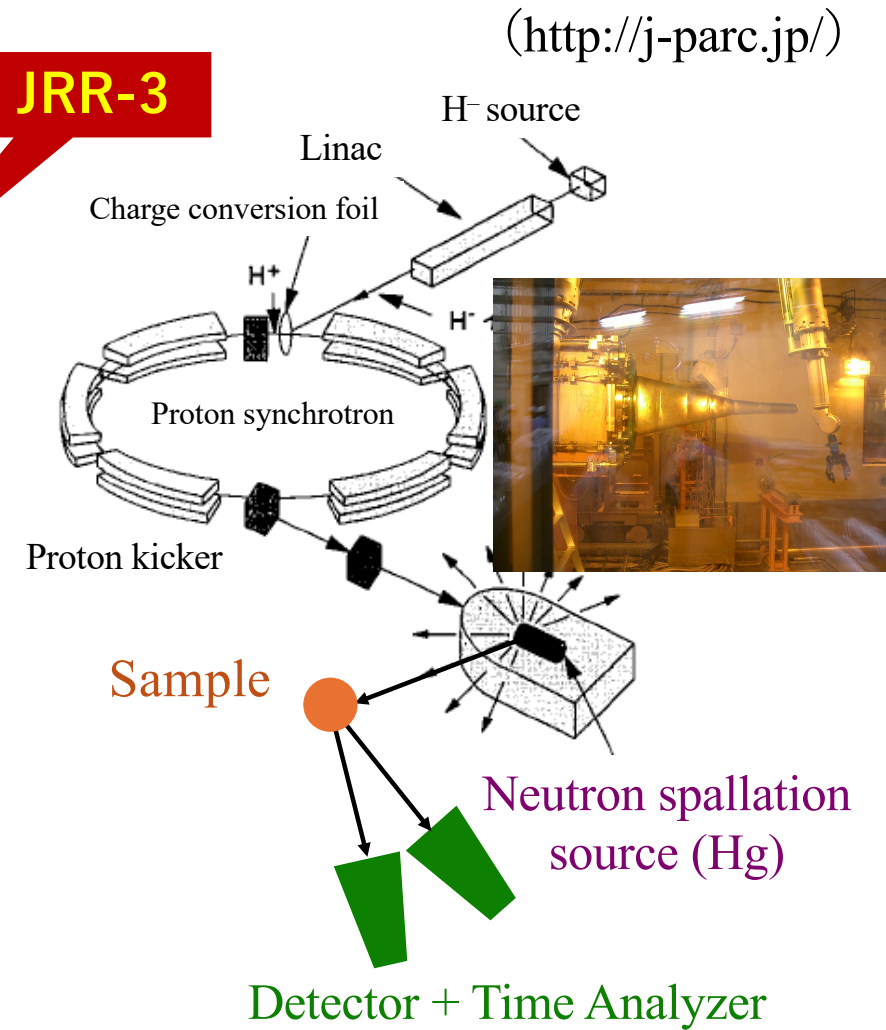
J-PARC : Japan Proton Accelerator Research Complex



J-PARC MLF



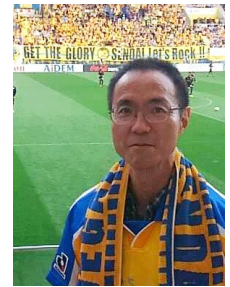
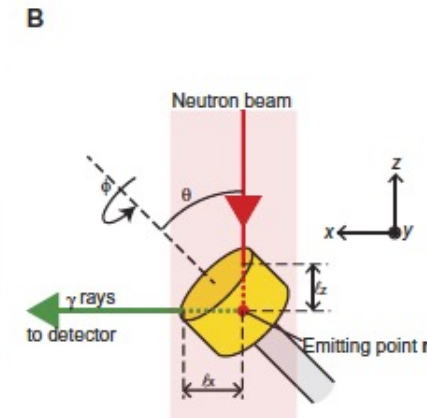
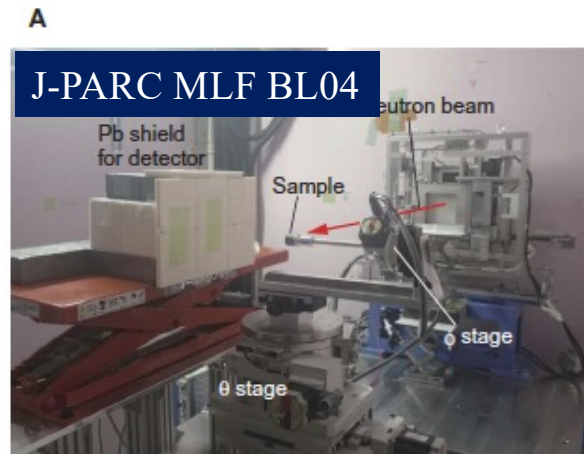
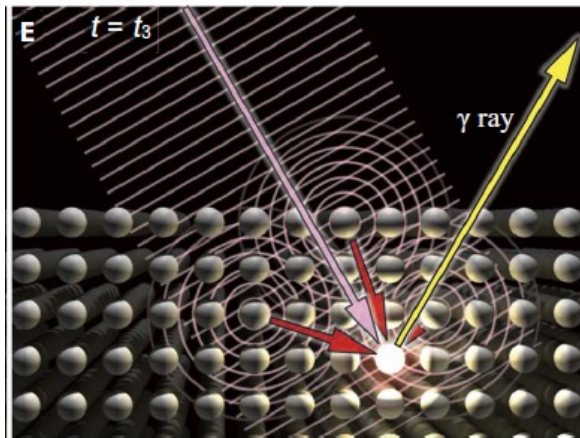
JRR-3



Neutron holography using accelerator-based pulsed neutron

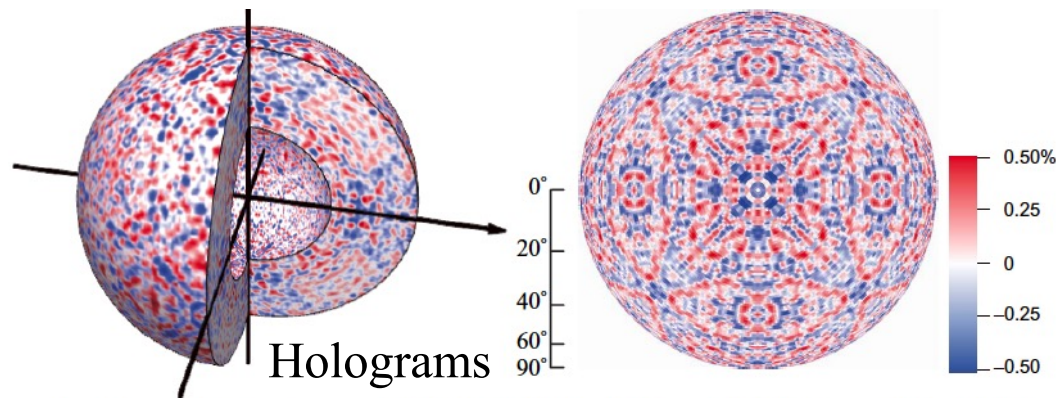
(K. Hayashi, K. Ohoyama et al., Science Advances, 3 (2017) e1700294-1-7.)

γ -ray emission intensity depending on interference of neutron scattered by surrounding nuclei.

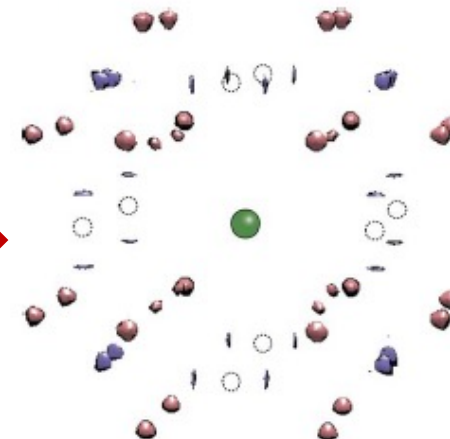


Prof. K. Ohoyama
Materials Science
and Engineering
Institute of Quantum
Beam Science

Structural changes induced by Eu doping to CaF_2 .

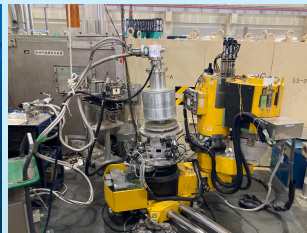


Holograms of environmental structure around Eu in CaF_2 . (A) Volume hologram. (B) 2D hologram at $|\mathbf{k}| = 4.05 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$.



Extracted local
structure around
doped Eu (green)

Summary: RECAS with Atomic Sciences and Reactors



Japan Atomic Energy Agency

J A E A Tokai & Oarai

Proton Accelerator Research Complex

J-PARC

High-Energy Accelerator Research

KEK

Institute of Solid State Phys.

ISSP, U. of Tokyo

National Institutes for Quantum Science and Technology

QST

