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## PROPOSAL ROUND



The ILL will not be able to operate the second cycle in 2017, originally planned to start on October 23. The reason for this is the delay in completing the installation of a new, back-up cooling circuit, including the necessary authorisation from the nuclear safety authorities (ASN). This circuit is the last of a number of safety modifications to the ILL reactor following Fukushima. Due to the resulting backlog of experiments, the first two cycles in 2018 will be used to perform experiments already accepted in April 2017. We have therefore decided to cancel the autumn 2017 proposal round. Proposals for experiments in the second half of 2018 should be submitted in the spring proposal round. Dates for cycles in 2018 will be communicated as soon as we have validated the final installation of the cooling circuit with the ASN.

### QUICK ACCESS NEEDED ?

For urgent beam time requirements - for example 'hot science' or experiments to complete work relating to research or thesis contracts - we strongly encourage you to apply for Director's Discretionary Time (DDT). We will do our best to schedule accepted DDT requests as early as possible in 2018.

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## SPOTLIGHTS ON SCIENCE

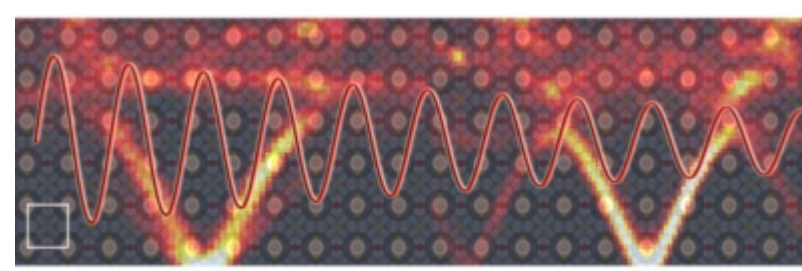


Illustration of the long phonon lifetime measured in a clathrate

A recent study conducted by ILL and CNRS researchers provides a direct quantitative measurement of phonon lifetimes in a clathrate, bringing new understanding of thermal conductivity in complex materials. This study has highlighted the importance of neutron techniques in overcoming the challenging task of accessing and therefore successfully measuring phonon lifetimes.

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Many models try to explain the source of Dark Energy, the minimum requirements for such models being that they should not contradict any single experiment, they should answer more questions than they pose, and they should be testable by experiment. One particularly attractive idea is to model Dark Energy based on so-called chameleon fields. The existence of such fields can actually be tested in high-precision laboratory experiments. Experiments recently performed at the ILL, and published in Nature Physics, using both ultracold neutrons and neutron interferometry, played a major role here.

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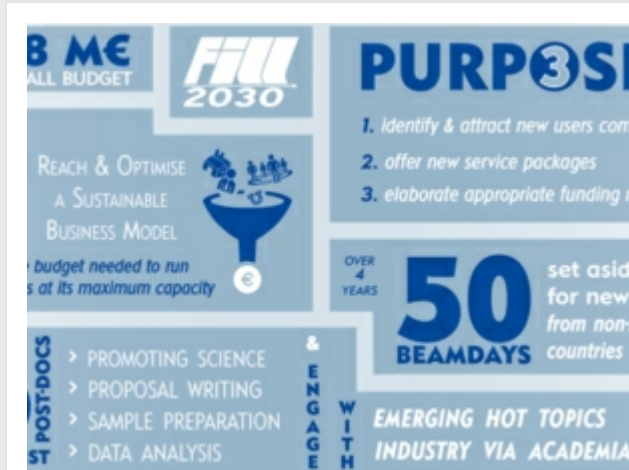
## GENERAL NEWS



### New French deputy director appointed

As of 1st October, 2017, Mr Jérôme ESTRADÉ will be appointed as the new French Associate Director of the Institute Laue-Langevin, where he will take up the position of Head of the Projects and Techniques Division (DPT).

[Learn more about him](#).



### FILL2030 - For the Future of ILL, until at least 2030

FILL2030 is an EU-funded 'Horizon 2020' project aiming to develop a sustainable business model for the ILL. Neutron scattering in Europe combines highly advanced experimental techniques with a high-throughput, high-impact approach, and yet neutron facilities in Europe are being reduced. The arrival of the ESS in the mid-2020s will not compensate for this. It is the ILL's role to support the neutron user community by harnessing funding and developing the user base through to 2030 and beyond. The FILL2030 business model will provide the basis for this, combining service to users with financial resilience.

[More here](#)