After NucPhys: research opportunities in France

- Fundamental and applied research is performed in research labs that are associated to national research agencies (CNRS-In2p3 and CEA for NucPhys)
- They might be also associated to a local university but they are in-primis research centers
- 3-years research contracts (gross salary ~ 2135€/month) in a research lab allowing preparing a thesis for a PhD degree are financed by different public institutions/agencies (MESR,CNRS,CEA,Regions,ANR,EU...)
- An additional non-compulsory teaching mission (64h/y) can be added (43,5€/h) => better know french if you want it!
- The research topic is etablished by the research team
- You typically need a CV and a focussed motivation letter (research statement) to apply
- The candidate selection has the form of a job interview
- The selection committee is formed by
 - the research team for projects that have obtained tagged funding (always the case in Caen)
 - The local doctoral school for untagged positions

- Offers are published on the labs websites and some national platforms https://doctorat.campusfrance.org/phd/offers
- In the same websites you can find Master thesis offers
- Master theses in France are always associated to an internship in a research lab (4 to 6 months) and are
 - ruled by an internship agreement
 - remunerated 4,35€/h => ~670€/month (budget allocated by the research team)
 - Not all offers are published in your NucPhys Master catalogue, but they are all accessible to you as Master thesis from UniCaen
- Research teams offer Master thesis proposals often as a doorway towards a PhD contract => candidate selection procedure is similar to the PhD one

TYPICAL CALENDAR:

- Master +PhD offers appear in October-December of year 0
- Candidates are selected in December-January
- PhD contracts might be secured only in the following May-June
- PhD contracts start on October 1st of year+1

=> You can have a PhD contract in France even if you make your master thesis elsewhere, but you should not wait for your graduation to look for it

After PhD: research and teaching opportunities in France

- A permanent (CDI: civil servant) research and/or teaching job (chargé de recherche, maitre des conférences, chercheur-ingénieur) requires a PhD and some postdoctoral research experience
- The postdoctoral offer is rich, but quite international =>you must be open to travel
- In fundamental research in our field, the average* CDI employment age is 32y, experience is PhD+4y (CNRS data)
- Fluctuating offer: ~1-3 positions/y in a given field (ex: experimental nuclear physics) with around 5-10 applicants for each competition
- More opportunities in experimental than in theoretical
- Out of academia: younger employment age, more local opportunities but strongly dependent on your PhD content => see next presentations
- Many opportunities in highschool teaching (CDD: enseignant contractuel)
 even after the Master, but you need to know well French and the french
 education system; permanent (CDI) positions require an extra diploma
 (CAPES, Agrégation)

Fundamental research in the NucPhys field: « two infinities physics»

- nuclear physics and astrophysics which study the structure and dynamics of atomic nuclei, thus providing essential elements for astrophysical modelling and for a wide range of applications;
- astroparticle physics and cosmology which study the physics of Universe using different cosmic messengers (photons, cosmic rays, neutrinos, gravitational waves) to better understand its dynamics and evolution from its origins right up to the present day.
- particle and hadronic physics which focuses on the most elementary components of matter (quarks, leptons and bosons) and their interactions;

red: closely corresponding to your competence black: a little aside but accessible to you grey: need extra formation before/after NucPhys

- accelerators instruments which generate and accelerate beams of particles or atomic nuclei and make them collide or propel them into targets;
- detectors which, according to their nature, are used to identify and characterise the mass, speed, energy and origins of the products generated by collisions or emitted by cosmic phenomena;
- computing and data science for processing, storing and probing the huge data flows generated by scientific experiments



CNRS-In2p3 research labs

- GANIL, Caen
- LPCC, Caen
- IJCLab, Orsay
- Subatech, Nantes
- CENBG, Bordeaux
- IP2I, Lyon
- IPHC, Strasbourg
- L2IT, Toulouse

- APC, Paris
- CPPM, Marseille
- LAPP/LapTH, Annecy
- LPC, Clermont
- LPNHE, Paris
- LPSC, Grenoble
- LLR, Paris
- LUPM, Montpellier

Less accessible to you: more particle physics and/or cosmology oriented



NucPhys-compatible research labs in Caen



Laboratoire de Physique Corpusculaire















Centre de recherche sur les Ions les Matériaux et la Photonique









