Report to NSAC on HRIBF



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HRIBF







HRIBF Post-accelerated Beams



Unique neutron-rich unstable beams for transfer



ORNL has capability - **unique in world** - to produce neutron-rich nuclei in or near the r-process path and measure transfer reactions with them

FY2007 Beam hour statistics

| HE ISOL RIBS | 1821 |
|---|----------------|
| LE ISOL RIBS (ORIC - LeRIBSS / HPTL) | 131 |
| TOTAL "RIBS" = ORIC DRIVEN ISOL | 1952 |
| **Most productive FY for RIBs in fac | cility history |
| LE ISOL RIBS (Tandem driven - OLTF) | 241 |
| In-flight RIBS (stable to RMS for decay) | 278 |
| RIB support | 837 |
| SIB | 255 |
| De∨elopment | 85 |
| Total SIB + Tandem RIB | 1696 |
| Total Research | 3648 |
| Reliability | 91% |
| Total Ops (Research + Beam Studies + Setup) | 4986 |
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Recent Highlights

- Novae and the rp-process: ¹⁷F(p,γ)
- Alpha decay studies near ¹⁰⁰Sn
- Beta decay and beta-delayed neutron emission near ⁷⁸Ni
- Pioneering neutron transfer measurements on r-process path
- Solar physics: ⁷Be(p,p) and ⁷Be(p,γ)
- Investigations of surrogate reactions
 - Rutgers, ORAU Center of Excellence
- Central collisions in very n-rich systems
 - Shapira et al., Eur. Phys. J. A 25, s01, 241 (2005)
 - Liang et al., PRL 91, 15271 (2003); PRC 75, 054607 (2007)
- In beam spectroscopy and shell structure: Coulex, static moment measurements, transfer, etc. near N=82, Z=50 and N=50, Z=28.
 - Padilla-Rodal et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. 94, 122501 (2005)
 - Yu et al., Eur. Phys. J. A 25, s01, 395 (2005)
 - Radford et al., Nucl. Phys. A752, 264c (2005)
 - Varner et al., Eur. Phys. J. A 25, s01, 391 (2005)
 - Baktash et al., to be published





 Proton capture on radioactive ¹⁷F - never before directly measured - is an important link in the thermonuclear burning that powers nova explosions

- Rate of this capture reaction needed to determine amount of radioactive ¹⁸F produced and the ¹⁷O / ¹⁸O ratio
- Decay of radioactive ¹⁸F is searched for by satellite observatories, can constrain constrain nova explosion models
- Previous attempts to indirectly determine this rate using beams of stable nuclei uncertain by orders of magnitude
- Low energy beam of radioactive ¹⁷F nuclei produced at ORNL's Holifield Radioactive Ion Beam Facility [HRIBF]
- Intensity of over 15 million particles per second was sufficient to directly measure this weak reaction (a few counts/day)
- Daresbury Recoil Separator used to directly detect the recoiling ¹⁸Ne from the capture reaction
- Measurement completed February 2008; data currently under analysis, will be Ph.D. thesis for Kelly Chipps
- First proton capture measurement on a radioactive beam in the U.S.; first U.S. facility [3rd worldwide] with this capability
- New reaction rate will be used in explosion simulations to determine astrophysical impact

Approaching doubly-magic nuclei ⁷⁸Ni and ¹⁰⁰Sn

Radiation emitted during spontaneous decay of several exotic nuclei near doubly magic ⁷⁸Ni and ¹⁰⁰Sn has been observed for the first time at the HRIBF. These measurements advance the understanding of the evolution of nuclear structure and provide information on the path of rapid stellar processes responsible for the formation of elements in the Universe. The rates of beta and neutron emission from ²³⁸U fission products contribute to the understanding of processes relevant for the Advanced Fuel Cycle program.



Superallowed α -decay ¹⁰⁹Xe \rightarrow ¹⁰⁵Te \rightarrow ¹⁰¹Sn

Halflife ratio- 20000:1



The evolution of shell structure in very neutron-rich nuclei beyond the N=50 shell closure

 β -decay studies around ⁷⁸Ni with postaccelerated (3 MeV/u) pure neutron-rich RIBs

| beam | <u> T_{1/2} (s)</u> | main results | | • too & Bn rates for many r | | |
|------------------|----------------------------------|---|---|--|--|--|
| ⁷⁶ Cu | 0.65 | βn-branching ratio | l _{βn} | process nuclei are accessible | | |
| ⁷⁷ Cu | 0.46 | $I_{\beta n}$, v- levels in N=4 | 7 ⁷⁷ Zn | Energy levels test evolving | | |
| ⁷⁸ Cu | 0.35 | I _{βn} , I ^π of ⁷⁸ Cu ₄₉ revised βnγ decay observed first time | | Nuclear structure Range out unwanted high-Z contamination with high | | |
| ⁷⁹ Cu | 0.19 | | | | | |
| ⁸³ Ga | 0.30 | β n γ,βγ, νs _{1/2} in N=5 | 1 ⁸³ Ge | pressure & tape transport | | |
| ⁸⁴ Ga | 0.08 | 2 ⁺ in N=52 ⁸⁴ Ge | | | | |
| ⁸⁵ Ga | ~0.07 | rate of 0.1pps… | An example: ⁸⁴ Ga (T _{1/2} = 85 ms) $\xrightarrow{\beta}$ ⁸⁴ Ge* $\xrightarrow{\gamma}$ ⁸⁴ Ge (23 hours at 2 ions/sec) $\xrightarrow{\beta}$ ⁸⁴ Ge* $\xrightarrow{\gamma}$ ⁸³ Ge | | | |

- Absolute beta-delayed neutron branching ratios for ⁷⁶⁻⁷⁹Cu and ⁸³⁻⁸⁴Ga
- Identification of new excited states in ⁷⁷Zn, ⁷⁸Zn, ⁸²Ge, ⁸³Ge, and ⁸⁴Ge
- Systematics of single particle levels (e.g. neutron s_{1/2}) near doubly magic ⁷⁸Ni

Winger et al.



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Laser Ion Source Development

(will deploy on IRIS-2)

- Ion beams of 12 elements have been produced using the LIS at HRIBF
- 9 of these elements were ionized for the first time with Ti:Sapphire lasers



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Effect of 6-month Continuing Resolution

- Case 1: 6-month CR then full FY09 PB
- Case 2: 6-month CR then half the FY09-FY08 difference
- Case 1
 - Believe we can maintain overall operating hours
 - Research 3600 hr, total operations 4800 hr, 'HE" RIB 1900 hr
 - Accept increased risk in recovering from major breakdown in first half of FY
 - Planned hires under PB are 2 operators to transition from 5-day to 7day operation, postdoc for ISOL development, and 0.5 FTE RF engineer
 - Under Case 1 these must delay at least 6 months
 - Would likely mean only one operator and postdoc hired FY09
 - Thus transition to 7-day would start in FY10
- Case 2
 - Requires some scale-back in hours
 - Research 3400 hr, total operations 4500 hr, "HE" RIB 1600 hr
 - Hire one operator, might hire postdoc, transition to 7-day delays further into FY10
 - Increased downside risk from major breakdown





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Recent Operating Numbers

- Total operating hours:
 - FY2005: 4869
 - FY2006: 5215
 - FY2007: 4986
 - FY2008: 3800 planned (3973 so far)

• "HE" RIB hours

- FY2005: 1201
- FY2006: 830
- FY2007: 1952
- FY2008: 1100 planned

