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r-process nucleosynthesis and nuclear shell closures

Abstract

One of the astrophysical processes which is responsible for the production of heavy elements is the r-process. It occurs in celestial objects with high neutron flux such as supernovae. The path of the process can be influenced by the neutron and proton magic numbers in the neutron-rich nuclei since the isotopes having magic numbers are more stable than their neighboring nuclei so they act as waiting points. 78Ni is one of the most important nuclei because it is expected to be doubly-magic with proton number (Z) of 28 and neutron number (N) of 50. Approaching this nucleus, we have investigated 76Ni and its low-energy excited states in order to study the Z=28 shell gap. The results will be presented in the talk.

April 24, 2018 - 2:30 pm LNGS - "B. Pontecorvo" room