# Making radioactive ion beams Detecting reaction products

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**Rewriting Nuclear Physics textbooks 30 years with Radioactive Ion Beam Physics** Pisa (Italy), July 20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015



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## **Overview**

### Introduction

Exotic nuclei: what and why

## **Production and handling of radioactive isotopes**

- Methods: ISOL and in-flight
- Overview of facilities

### **Measurements with RIBs**

- Detection of radiation
- Detection setups for reactions with RIBs
- New developments

## Aims of the lecture

- Give a flavour of present-day research with RIBs: Still active? Clear direction?
- Learn (through examples) about the main techniques for production, manipulation and detection of unstable isotopes
- Pay attention to orders of magnitude!
- Very good reference: Nobel Symposium 152: Physics with Radioactive Beams in Physica Scripta T152 (2013)

For example

Y Blumenfeld, T Nilsson and P Van Duppen, Facilities and methods for radioactive ion beam production, Phys. Scr. T152 (2013) 014023

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#### 30 Years of RIB Physics – Pisa, 20-24/07/2015

## The chart of nuclei



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## The chart of nuclei



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## Exotic nuclei: halo nuclei



## **Exotic nuclei: cluster structures, molecular-type bonds**



Figures: M. Freer

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## **Exotic nuclei: shape coexistence**



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## **Exotic nuclei: role in reaction processes**

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- 30 years ago: unstable nuclei become available for reactions
- Large interaction cross section, narrow momentum distribution of fragments
- Role in elastic scattering and fusion processes, role of the continuum





## **Exotic nuclei: the nucleon-nucleon interaction revealed**

- Shell model describes well the properties of stable nuclei
- Far from stability:

new structures, new magic numbers



$$V_{\ell s}(r) = \frac{1}{r} \frac{d\rho}{dr} \overrightarrow{\ell} \cdot \overrightarrow{s}$$

O. Sorlin, M.-G. Porquet, PPNP 61 (2008) 602



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## Studying "exotic" states

## Production

Reactions, Decay

## Manipulation

Ionisation, selection, transport

## **Measurement: radiation**

- Identification of channel
- Transition probability  $\Gamma_{i \to f} = \frac{2\pi}{\hbar} |\langle f | \mathbf{T} | i \rangle|^2 \rho_f$



AΖ

Details depend upon

- The characteristics of the state(s) to be studied
- The chosen process(es)
- The kind of radiation

## **Production of radioactive species**

- Decay of primordial nuclides (very long half lives)
- Neutron capture followed by decay
  - Nuclei in the vicinity of stability
  - Fission sources



## The Isotope Separation-On-Line (ISOL) method

- Idea: create a source that can be "switched" on and off
- Process:
  - Irradiate a material with a beam to induce reactions
  - Extract the (reaction or decay) products
  - Manipulate them (ionise, separate, guide to detection station)





## The "in-flight" method

- Heavy-ion accelerator,  $E \approx$  some hundreds MeV/A
- Thin production target (light element, rotating wheel)
- Fragment separator
- Transport to the experiment



**Projectile Fragmentation** 



## **Isotope Separators**

## ISOL

- Low-energy beam (30 to 60 keV), charge 1<sup>+</sup>
- Goal: selection of one mass, possibly separation of isobars  $M/\Delta M \approx 5000$  to 10000
- Essentially a mass separator based on magnetic rigidity
- Sometimes: Wien filter (cross E and B fields), MR-TOF, traps for bunching







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## **Isotope Separators**

## **In-flight**

- High-energy beam (50 MeV/A to 1 GeV/A), fully stripped
- Goal: time and spatial separation particle-by-particle identification by  $\Delta E$  and TOF
- Magnetic elements and degraders



## **Comparison ISOL – in flight**

### Challenges

- Low production cross sections
- Overwhelming presence of unwanted species
- (Very) short half lives for the species of interest

### ISOL

- **High-quality beams** (purity, emittance)
- Depends on chemistry
- Slow (diffusion from the target)



### In-flight

- Fast and universal
- Ions readily available at high energy
- Low-quality beams



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## **RIB facilities: world map**



## In-flight: BEVALAC at Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory

- Combination of a low-energy heavy ion linear accelerator and a proton synchrotron
- Transfer line from the Linac to the Bevatron
- Heavy ion <sup>11</sup>B and <sup>20</sup>Ne beam at 800 MeV/A fragmented on a Be target





I. Tanihata et al Phys. Lett. 160B (1985) 380

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## **In-flight: Europe**

## **GANIL** (Caen, France)

- Two coupled cyclotrons E < 100 MeV/A
- Fragment separator LISE

D4

<sup>36</sup>S 10<sup>13</sup> pps, <sup>48</sup>Ca 2×10<sup>12</sup> pps



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CAVIAR

## **In-flight: Europe**



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#### Facilities – 5/21

## In-flight: National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory

### NSCL at MSU, USA

- Two cyclotrons for the acceleration, E≈150 MeV/A
  <sup>40</sup>Ar 5×10<sup>11</sup> pps
- Liquid-cool
  Be production target
- A1900 fragment separator
- Example: Production of <sup>78</sup>Ni from 140 MeV/A <sup>86</sup>Kr





Morrissey et al., NIM B 204, 90 (2003) P. Hosmer et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 94, 112501 (2005)

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## **New generation in-flight: RIKEN**



## New generation in-flight: FAIR



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## **New generation in-flight: FRIB**



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## **Combining ISOL and in-flight**



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## **ISOL: brief history**

- 1951, Niels Bohr Institute Copenhagen Deuteron beam, neutron converter, n-induced fission on a uranium target. <sup>89,90,91</sup>Kr isotopes extracted
- 1965: Orsay

Protons on a stack of C foils. <sup>6,7,8,9</sup>Li extracted

 1964 start of the ISOLDE project 600 MeV protons (now 1.4 GeV) on fissile targets 1967 first measurements



## **ISOLDE at CERN**

#### **CERN's Accelerator Complex**



LHC Large Hadron Collider SPS Super Proton Synchrotron PS Proton Synchrotron

AD Antiproton Decelerator CTF3 Clic Test Facility AWAKE Advanced WAKefield Experiment ISOLDE Isotope Separator OnLine DEvice

LEIR Low Energy Ion Ring LINAC LINear ACcelerator n-ToF Neutrons Time Of Flight HiRadMat High-Radiation to Materials

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CERN

## **ISOLDE at CERN**



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## **ISOL method once again**



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### **Ion sources**

## Hot surface ion source

- The ioniser is a hot tube
- Material with a higher work function than the element of interest
- Heated up to 2400 degrees



### Plasma ion source

- Plasma: gas mixture (Ar and Xe) ionised by accelerated electrons
- Hot or cool transfer line



### **Ion sources**



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## **Isotopes produced at ISOLDE**



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## **ISOL:** Post-acceleration



## **Other ISOL + post-acceleration: HIE-ISOLDE**



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## **Other ISOL facilities**

## **TRIUMF at Vancouver, Canada**

- Primary beam: protons 500 MeV
  New: electrons, γ-induced fission
- Post-acceleration: LINAC, 10 MeV/A

## **SPIRAL at GANIL**

- GANIL beams on carbon target
  → light beams
- Post –acceleration: cyclotron, 10 to 30 MeV/A

#### **Future**

- SPES at Legnaro:
  p 60 MeV, fission target, +LINAC
- SPIRAL2: LINAC injector, fission, +cyclotron

## **Ultimate goal: EURISOL**



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## **Progress in isotope production**



## **Detection of radiation**

Principle of detection: "transfer of all or a part of the radiation energy to the detector mass"

- General characteristics
- Ionization chambers
- Scintillators
- Semiconductors
- Magnetic analysers
- G.F. Knoll
  Radiation Detection and Measurement
  John Wiley & Sons, 2000
- W.R. Leo

Techniques for Nuclear and Particle Physics Experiments Springer-Verlag, 1987

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## **Mechanisms to detect radiation**

Main mechanism:

atomic excitations and ionizations

Charged particles:

- inelastic collisions with atomic electrons
 (+ bremsstrahlung for electrons and positrons)
 statistical, formulas for dE/dx

- Photons: small cross sections
  - photoelectric effect (absorption)
  - Compton scattering
  - pair production
- Neutrons: capture (slow neutrons) elastic scattering (fast neutrons) reactions

## **Characteristics of detectors**

## Sensitivity

Which radiation and which energy range

## **Response Function**

Recorded energy vs. incident energy

## Resolution

 Depend on the number of elementary charges created by the radiation

## Efficiency

Intrinsic and geometrical

## **Timing properties**

Response time and dead time



## **Type of detectors – 1**

## **Ionisation detectors (gases)**

Electric field between a cathode (plate) and an anode (wire)

- Very versatile (different geometries)
- Used for charged particles; position information
   E<sub>loss</sub> for particle identification
- Efficient but slow (count rate < 10<sup>4</sup> pps)





## **Type of detectors – 2**

### **Scintillation detectors**

Materials that emit light when struck by radiation Light is collected and amplified

- Cheap, very fast, versatile different geometries different materials
- Used for

charged particles (low Z material) γ-rays (high Z) neutrons (proton recoil or capture)

- Allow discrimination between radiation
- Poor energy resolution







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## Type of detectors – 3

## **Semiconductor detectors**

Incident radiation creates electron-hole pairs

- Large stopping power
- Very good resolution
  Used to measure energy spectra
- Good timing resolution (ns)
- Si for charged particles (res 30 keV)
  Ge for γ-rays (res 2 keV)
- Expensive, subjected to damage Germanium needs to be cooled





## **Reactions: detection setup when using RIBs**

Keys:

- Efficiency
- Energy and position resolution
- Sensitivity (background suppression)





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### **Light particles**

- Kinematics depends mainly on the masses
- Kinematic compression: very small differences in energy of the light particle for different E\*





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### Problems

Low beam intensity
 → increase target thickness

BUT

- Energy resolution is affected
- Kinematic compression: very small differences in energy of the light particle for different E\*





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### **Resolution in E\***

J.S. Winfield et al. | Nucl. Instr. and Meth. in Phys. Res. A 396 (1997) 147-164

#### Table 2

152

 Light beam: better detect beam-like particle (limit on angular resolution)

 Heavier beam: better detect light recoil (limit on E resolution from straggling in the target)

 In general: much worse than direct kinematics Major contributions in keV to the resolution of the excitation energy spectra of single neutron stripping and pickup reactions in inverse kinematics, where the heavy ion is detected in a spectrometer. The detection angle corresponds to  $10^{\circ}_{cm}$ . The last column is an approximate estimate as a sum in quadrature of the net effect of five non-Gaussian contributions. Other symbols are explained in the text

Reaction	E <sub>i</sub> /A (MeV)	$\theta_{\rm lab}$	Origin of contribution					
			$\Delta \theta$	$\Delta p$	$E_{\rm stragg}$	$\Theta_{1/2}$	dE/dx	
p( <sup>12</sup> Be, <sup>11</sup> Be)d	30	1.07°	172	147	101	74	23	259
p(12Be, 11Be)d	15	1.06°	84	71	99	74	37	169
p( <sup>77</sup> Kr, <sup>76</sup> Kr)d	30	0.16°	1404	811	808	723	56	1952
p( <sup>77</sup> Kr, <sup>76</sup> Kr)d	10	0.10°	334	143	502	570	268	883
d( <sup>76</sup> Kr, <sup>77</sup> Kr)p	10	0.21°	1140	614	2177	1859	1321	3408

Table 3

Major contributions in keV to the resolution of the excitation energy spectra of single neutron pickup and stripping reactions in inverse kinematics, where the light particle is detected in a silicon detector. Symbols as described in text and Table 2

Reaction	E <sub>i</sub> /A (MeV)	$\theta_{\rm lab}$	Origin of contribution					$\Sigma_{\rm quad}$
			$\Delta \theta$	$\Delta E_f$	$\Delta E_i$	$\Theta_{1/2}$	dE/dx	
p( <sup>12</sup> Be, d) <sup>11</sup> Be	30	19.0°	136	74	114	96	649	685
p(12Be, d)11Be	15	17.8°	66	72	55	89	984	995
p(77Kr, d)76Kr	30	15.0°	124	55	64	63	186	249
p(77Kr, d)76Kr	10	6.0°	26	24	23	19	775	777
d( <sup>76</sup> Kr, p) <sup>77</sup> Kr	10	155.3°	52	93	37	60	1309	1316
							+ +	

## **Examples of setups for reactions in inverse kinematics**

## **GANIL: MUST2+SPEG**









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## **Examples of setups for reactions in inverse kinematics**



## **Examples of setups for reactions in inverse kinematics**



## The present and future: $\gamma$ -ray detection





## AGATA and GRETA

- Segmented Ge detectors
- Digital readout
- Tracking







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## **Dealing with kinematic compression: HELIOS**



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## **Dealing with kinematic compression: HELIOS**



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## **Dealing with kinematic compression: HELIOS**



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## **Charged particle detection in an active target**

## Time-Projection Chamber (TPC) + gas is the target

- Electrons produced by ionization drift to an amplification zone
- Signals collected on a segmented
  "pad" plane ⇒ 2d-image of the track
- 3<sup>rd</sup> dimension from the drift time of the electrons
- Information:
  - angles
  - energy (from range or charge)
  - particle identification



## **Charged particle detection in an active target**

## **ACTAR TPC Demonstrator**











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## A Storage Ring for nuclear reactions

# **TSR0190192**

#### **Physics programme**

- Astrophysics
  Capture, transfer reactions
  <sup>7</sup>Be half life
- Atomic physics
  Effects on half lives
  Di-electronic recombination
- Nuclear physics Reaction studies Isomeric states Decay of halo states Laser spectroscopy
- Neutrino physics

#### K. Blaum and many others



## Aims of the lecture

- Give a flavour of present-day research with RIBs: Still active? Clear direction?
- Learn (through examples) about the main techniques for production, manipulation and detection of unstable isotopes

- Succeeded?
- Comments?