

R-Process Experiments at ISOL Facilities





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As the Director of JINA reminded us beforehand,

- "the purpose of this workshop should mainly be to discuss open questions rather than results,
- to stimulate discussion and to trigger new ideas, exchange and collaborations on r – process related topics."

With respect to

r-process experiments using ISOL techniques

one has to recognize that most of the experiments feasible with standard isotope production, separation and detection methods have already been done. What has become essential during the past few years, are the continuous technical improvements of the above techniques, in order to obtain background-free, isotopically pure beams of the rare isotopes of astrophysical interest. Clearly, the catchword request in this context is

"SELECTIVITY"

History and progress in analyzing r-process nuclei

In 1986 – 19 years ago – a new era in experimental nuclear astrophysics started:

- at the ISOL facilities OSIRIS and TRISTAN the N=50 r-process "waiting-point" nucleus $$^{80}_{30}Zn_{50}$$ was measured, with a $T_{1\!/_2}\cong550$ ms.

- at the ISOL facility ISOLDE the N=82 r-process "waiting-point" isotope

was measured, with a $T_{\gamma_2}\cong 200$ ms.

Today – in early 2005 – altogether 35 isotopes have been measured (at least) via its $T_{\frac{1}{2}}$, which lie in the r-process boulevard for moderate neutron densities of $10^{20} < n_n < 10^{25} \text{ cm}^{-3}$.

These r-process isotopes range from double-magic ⁷⁸Ni₅₀ to ¹⁴⁷Xe₉₃. Out of the 35 r-process nuclei, only ⁷⁸Ni and ¹³⁹Te have been measured at fragmentation facilities (MSU, GSI); the large majority was identified at ISOL facilities, in particular at ISOLDE / CERN.

What we knew already in 1986 ...



K.-L. Kratz et al (Z. Physik A325; 1986)

Exp. at old SC-ISOLDE with plasma ion-source and βdn counting

Problems:

high background from

-surface ionized ¹³⁰In, ¹³⁰Cs -molecular ions [⁴⁰Ca⁹⁰Br]⁺



K.-L. Kratz ND'05

Shell-model (QRPA; Nilsson/BCS) prediction



	Isotope	Mass units away from	
		β -stability	r-process path
	⁷⁰ Fe ₄₄	12	-6
	⁷⁸ Ni ₅₀	14	in
As shown in this table, the regions at N=50 and beyond (up to Kr), and at N=82 and beyond (up to Sn) are resonably well studied by now. The majority of these r-process isotopes were identified by, or in close collaboration with the Kernchemie Mainz group.	⁷⁹ Cu ₅₀	14	in
	$^{81}Zn_{51}$	11	in (+1)
	⁸⁴ Ga ₅₃	13	in (+1)
	⁸⁵ Ge ₅₃	9	-3
	$^{94}Br_{59}$	13	-3
	⁹⁹ Kr ₆₃	13	in (+3)
	$^{102}\text{Rb}_{65}$	15	-1
	$^{105}\mathrm{Zr}_{65}$	9	-7
Experimental information is still missing in the A \cong 120 region and for A \ge 140 (and here in particular for the 3rd N _r , peak and beyond).	$^{120}\text{Pd}_{74}$	10	-8
	$^{130}Ag_{83}$	21	in (+1)
	$^{133}\text{Cd}_{85}$	17	in (+3)
	$^{135}In_{87}$	21	in (+4)
	$^{138}Sn_{88}$	14	in (+2)
	¹³⁹ Te ₈₇	9	in (+1)
	147 Xe ₉₃	11	in (+1)
	¹⁶² Eu ₉₉	9	-27
	$^{177}\text{Tm}_{107}$	8	-18
	²¹⁵ Pb ₁₃₃	7	-45

Usually, study of individual (short-lived) isotopes requires separation from bulk radioactivity

- chemical separation acc. to Z à isotopic chain
- mass separation acc. to A à isobaric chain

In particular, for "rare" isotopes often not sufficient; additional <u>selectivity</u> required isotopically clean beam

S E L	 production 	specific reaction A(x,y)B, thermal fission, fast fission/spallation
	 target temp. 	$\tau_{\text{release}} = f(T_{\text{target}})$ $T_{\text{target}} \approx T_{\text{desorpt.}} = f(\Delta H_{\text{adsorpt.}}) = f(Z)$
E	 duty-cycle 	optimize acc. to beam structure, $t_{release}$, $T_{\frac{1}{2}}$, $T_{\frac{1}{2}}$ (isobars)
т	 ionisation 	positive/negative surface ionization; laser ionization
I V I T	 separation 	TOF-DE/E isobaric mass separation (HRS) chemistry before or after mass separation; isomers (HF-splitting)
KL. Kratz	detection ND'05	shielding against background; specific decay modes, e.g. β –n- γ –t multi-fold coincidences

CERN-ISOLDE Th-foil target; hot plasma source



Physik Journal

Kernphysik

Von Schalen, Clustern und Halos – moderne Aspekte der Kernstruktur Hans Feldmeier und Thomas Neff

Epilog:

Auf dem Weg der Erkenntnis "was unsere Welt im Innersten zusammenhält", wie es Goethe formulierte, sind die Atomkerne eine reichhaltige Informationsquelle, denn in ihnen sind drei der vier fundamentalen Kräfte (starke, schwache und elektro-magnetische) aktiv, wobei die starke Wechselwirkung der Quantenchromodynamik die größte Rolle spielt. Trotzdem verbrachte die Kernstrukturphysik die letzten Jahrzehnte in einem "Dornröschenschlaf". Durch neue theoretische ab-initio-Methoden und neue experimentelle Möglichkeiten, insbesondere aber auch durch die großen Fortschritte in der astrophysikalischen Erkundung unseres Universums, konnten die Wissenschaftler die Geldgeber überzeugen, sie wieder aufzuwecken. Davon zeugen z. B. die zur Zeit neu ausgeschriebenen Lehrstühle für nukleare Astrophysik oder auch der SFB "Kernstruktur, nukleare Astrophysik und fundamentale Experimente bei kleinen Impulsüberträgen am supraleitenden S-DALINAC" an der TU Darmstadt, der in engem Zusammenhang mit den jetzigen und zukünftigen Forschungen der GSI zu sehen ist. Die Erforschung der Kernstruktur wird heute zu einem großen Teil von der Astrophysik angetrieben. Will man verstehen, was in der Weite des Weltalls die Evolution antreibt, muss man auf der Erde das experimentelle und theoretische Studium der exotischen Kerne erweitern. Noch ist man zum Beispiel nicht zu den Isotopen vorgedrungen, die an der Synthese schwerer Elemente durch schnellen Neutroneneinfang (r-Prozess) in explodierenden Sternen beteiligt sind. **Die Autoren**

... as an example for long "diffusion time" from Mainz à GSI (Darmstadt) from experimentalist à theoretician



er sich - nach

einem Aufent-



halt am Oak Ridge National Laboratory 1981 auch habilitierte. Nach weiteren Stationen als Heisenberg-Stipendiat ist er seit 1986 wissenschaftlicher Mitarbeiter bei der Gesellschaft für Schwerionenforschung GSI. **Thomas Neff** (links) studierte ebenfalls in Darmstadt, wo er an der GSI auch Diplom- und Doktorarbeit (2002) anfertigte. Seither ist er Postdoc an der GSI, mit Auslandsaufenthalten an der Kyoto University, der University of Tokio sowie dem Argonne National Laboratory.

Selectivity at ISOLDE



today, at **PSB-ISOLDE**

- Fast UC_x target
- Neutron converter
- Laser ion-source (RILIS)
- Hyperfine splitting $(\pi g_{9/2})$
- Isobar separation (HRS)
- Multi-coincidence setup





Accessibility of Elements by RILIS

Status 01/2005



$$_{58}Ce = _{95}Pr = _{60}Nd = _{61}Pm = _{62}Sm = _{63}Eu = _{64}Gd = _{65}Tb = _{66}Dy = _{67}Ho = _{68}Er = _{69}Tm = _{70}Yb = _{71}Lu = _{90}Th = _{91}Pa = _{92}U = _{93}Np = _{94}Pu = _{95}Am = _{66}Cm = _{97}Bk = _{98}Fc = _{99}Es = _{100}Fm = _{101}Md = _{102}No = _{103}Lr = _{100}Fm = _{101}Md = _{102}No = _{100}Fm = _{100}$$

from K. Wendt



in reality, "on a good day…" ∆M/M ≈ 1/4000



Mass scan at HRS (ISOLDE) in 2002; efficiency corrected



Comparison of spatial beam profiles

28 VOLT repeller:

Selection between

- laser ions (laser & repeller on) and

- surface ions (laser & repeller off)

from K. Wendt



Differences in β dn energy spectra of ¹²⁹Cd



The r-process "waiting-point" nucleus ¹³⁰Cd

...obtain a physically consistent picture!



low E(1⁺) with high Q_{β} high E(1⁺) with high Q_{β}

Example:

$$^{130}_{48}\text{Cd}_{82}$$

...just one proton-pair below double magic ¹³²Sn.



Most recent shell modell calculations are inconsistent:



(iii) Vretenar & Ring (RMF+QRPA) - no information about E(1⁺), log(ft), Q_{β} , but correct T_{γ_2} however, ¹³²Sn predicted to be stable !

¹³⁰Cd decay spectroscopy spectroscopy

ISOLDE experiment – Q_{β} from measurement of β -spectrum endpoint energy:



The N=82 shell gap



NONE of the mass models predicts the trend correctly!

Request mass measurements south of ¹³²Sn

Astrophysical consequences

...mainly resulting from new nuclear-structure information:

• better understanding of formation and shape of as well as r-process matter flow through

the A~130 $N_{r, \ensuremath{\mathtt{x}}}$ peak

- no justification to question waiting-point concept (Martinez-Pinedo et al., PRL 83, 1999)
- no need to request sizeable effects from v-induced reactions (Qian et al., PRC 55, 1997)
- ð r-process abundances in the Solar System and in UMP Halo stars...







 As shown by selected examples, the study of r-process isotopes requires the combination of several optimizations in isotope production, separation and detection.

However, we nearly have reached the top of the flagpole of present ISOL facilities.

What can still be done?

- Detailed decay-spectroscopy of N=50 ⁷⁹Cu and N=82 ¹²⁹Ag (similar to ⁸⁰Zn and ¹³⁰Cd)
- 2. ¹³¹Cd $\beta\gamma$, ¹³²Cd $\beta\eta\gamma$ à π -hole states in ¹³¹₄₉In₈₂
- 3. 130 Ag $\beta\gamma$ à E(2+), E(4+)/E(2+) in N=82 130 Cd
- 4. ¹³⁰Cd (d,p) à "simulate" n-capture on classical "waiting point"
- 5. Clever target-ionsource chemistry

 \sim doubly semi-magic $\frac{110}{40}$ Zr₇₀ as new "waiting point" ?