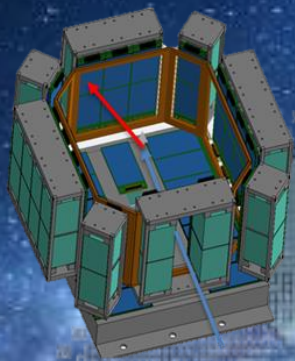


Nuclear Astrophysics Experiments using Active Target Detectors at CENS



Sunghoon(Tony) Ahn
CENS, IBS

October 25th, 2021

*On behalf of TexAT & AToM-X
collaborations*

Nuclear Astrophysics Experiments using Active Target Detectors at CENS

- 1. Center for Exotic Nuclear Studies (CENS)**
- 2. Nucleosynthesis and Nuclear Physics Inputs**
- 3. $^{14}\text{O}(\alpha, p)^{17}\text{F}$ cross sections using TexAT**
- 4. AToM-X Development at CENS**
- 5. Future Experimental Studies**
- 6. Summary**

CENS Organization

SINCE 2019



Kevin Insik Hahn

**CENS
Director**

**Advisory
Committee**

<https://www.ibs.re.kr/cens/>



**Nuclear
Astrophysics**

Group Leader

- Nucleosynthesis
- r-process, rp-process nuclei
- Collaboration and utilization of KoBRA
- Nuclear Spectroscopy

**Nuclear
Structure**

Group Leader

- Shell model
- Stripped shell model
- Cluster model
- Neutron star

4 group leaders
3 senior researchers
9 postdocs
6 students
2 secretaries

**Nuclear
Reaction**

Group Leader

**Nuclear
Theory**

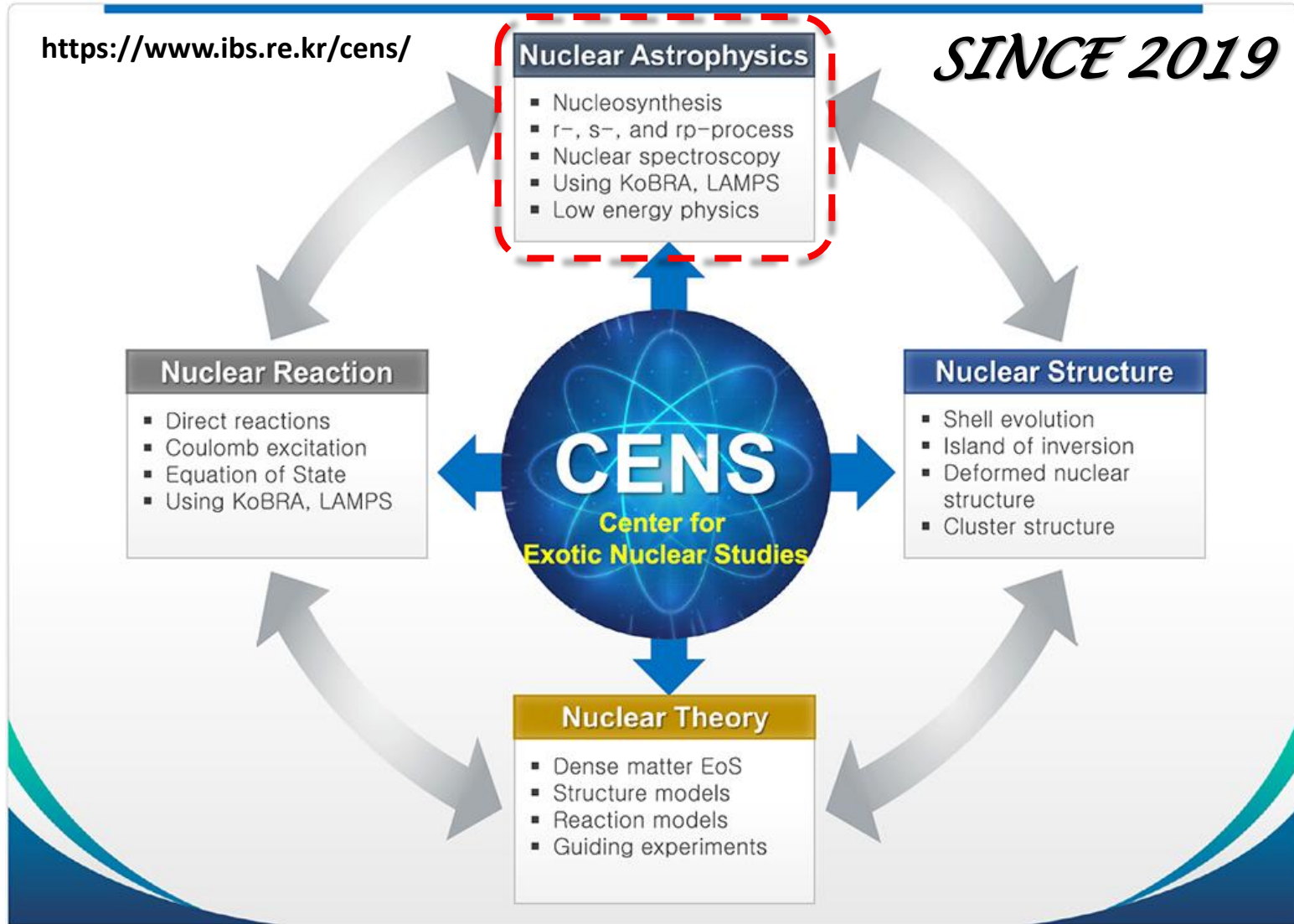
Group Leader

- Reaction Calculations
- Low Energy Nuclear Physics
- Nuclear Structure Models
- QRPA & DQRPA Models

CENS Objectives

<https://www.ibs.re.kr/cens/>

SINCE 2019



CENS Nationalities and Playgrounds

Nationalities

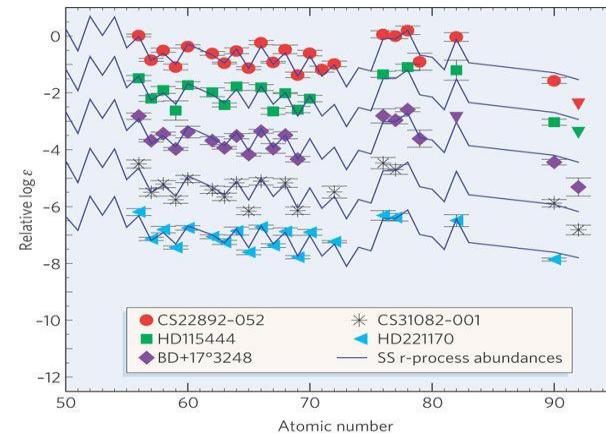
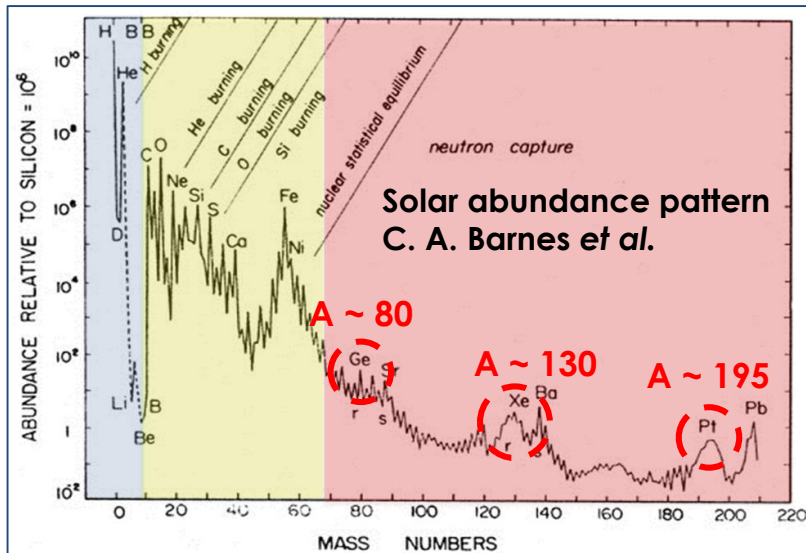
- *Canada*
- *Hungary*
- *South Korea*
- *Turkey*
- *USA*
- *China*
- *Spain*

RIB Facilities

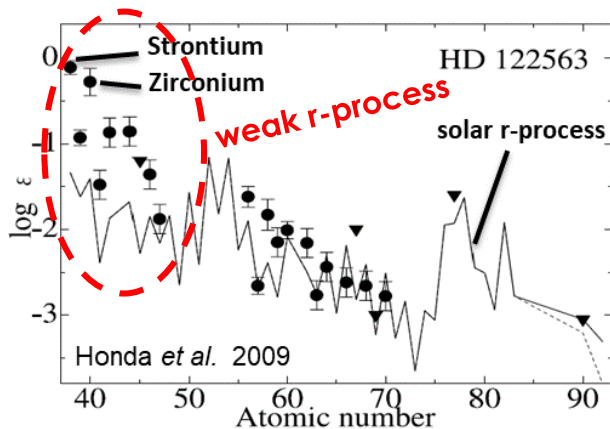
- *RIBF (Japan)*
- *CRIB/CNS (Japan)*
- *ATOMKI (Hungary)*
- *HI-ISOLDE (Switzerland)*
- *GANIL (France)*
- *TRIUMF (Canada)*
- *TAMU (USA)*
- *FRIB (USA)*
- *ANL (USA)*

- *RAON (South Korea)*

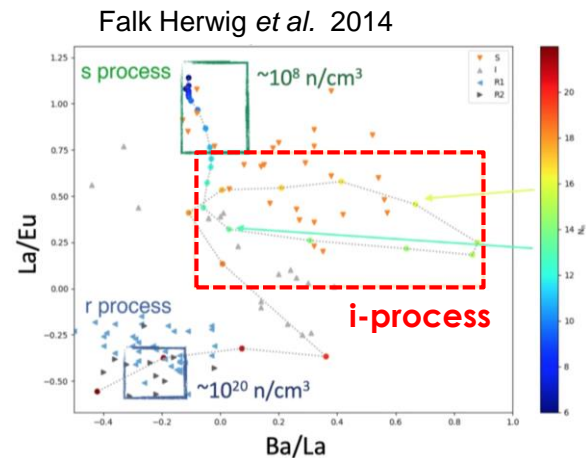
Abundance Pattern of Elements



Abundances in metal poor r-stars
J.J. Cowan and C. Sneden, *Nature* 440, 1151 (2006)

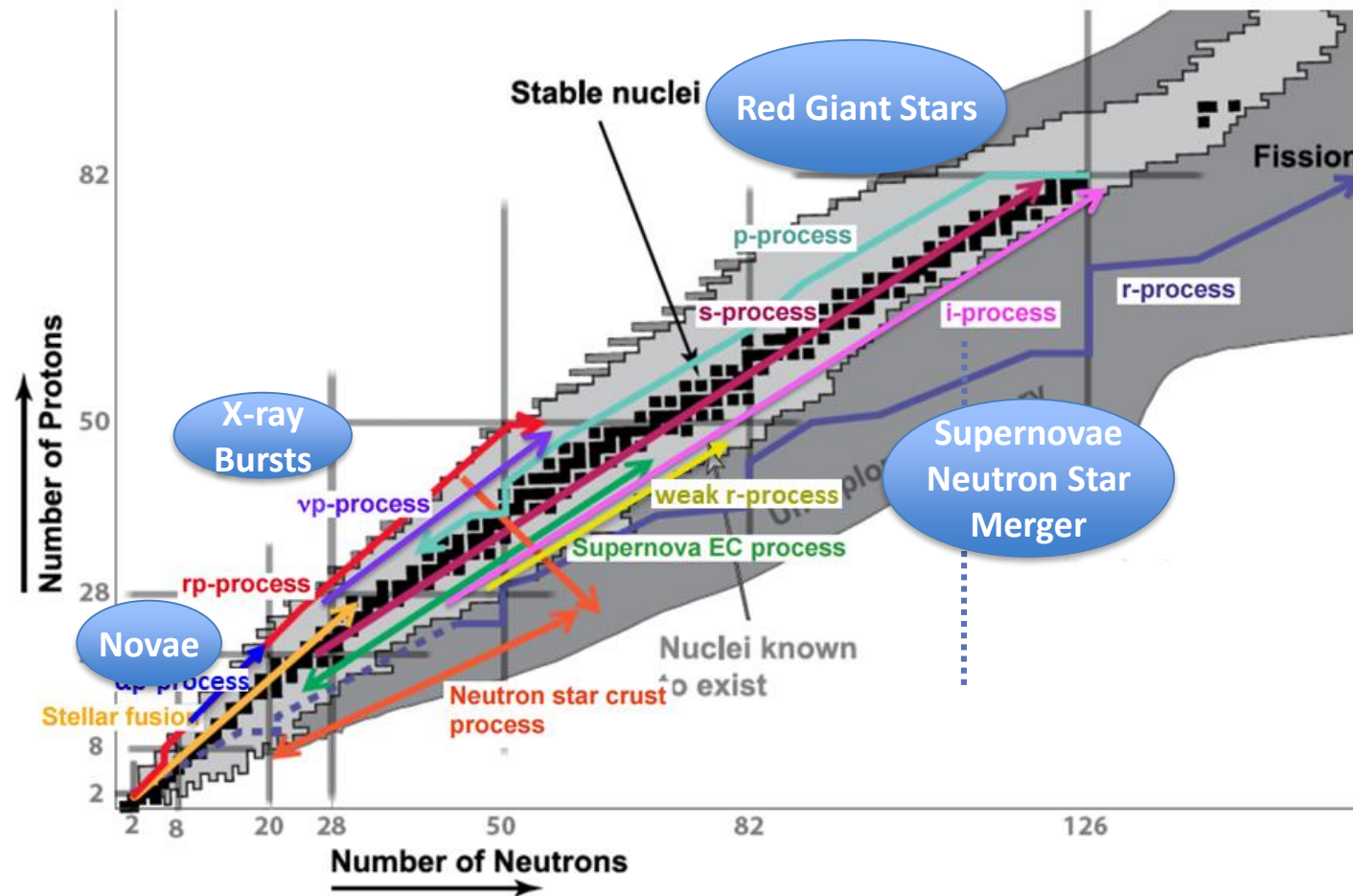


Abundance pattern of a Metal Poor Halo Star



Abundance ratio of La/Eu and Ba/La

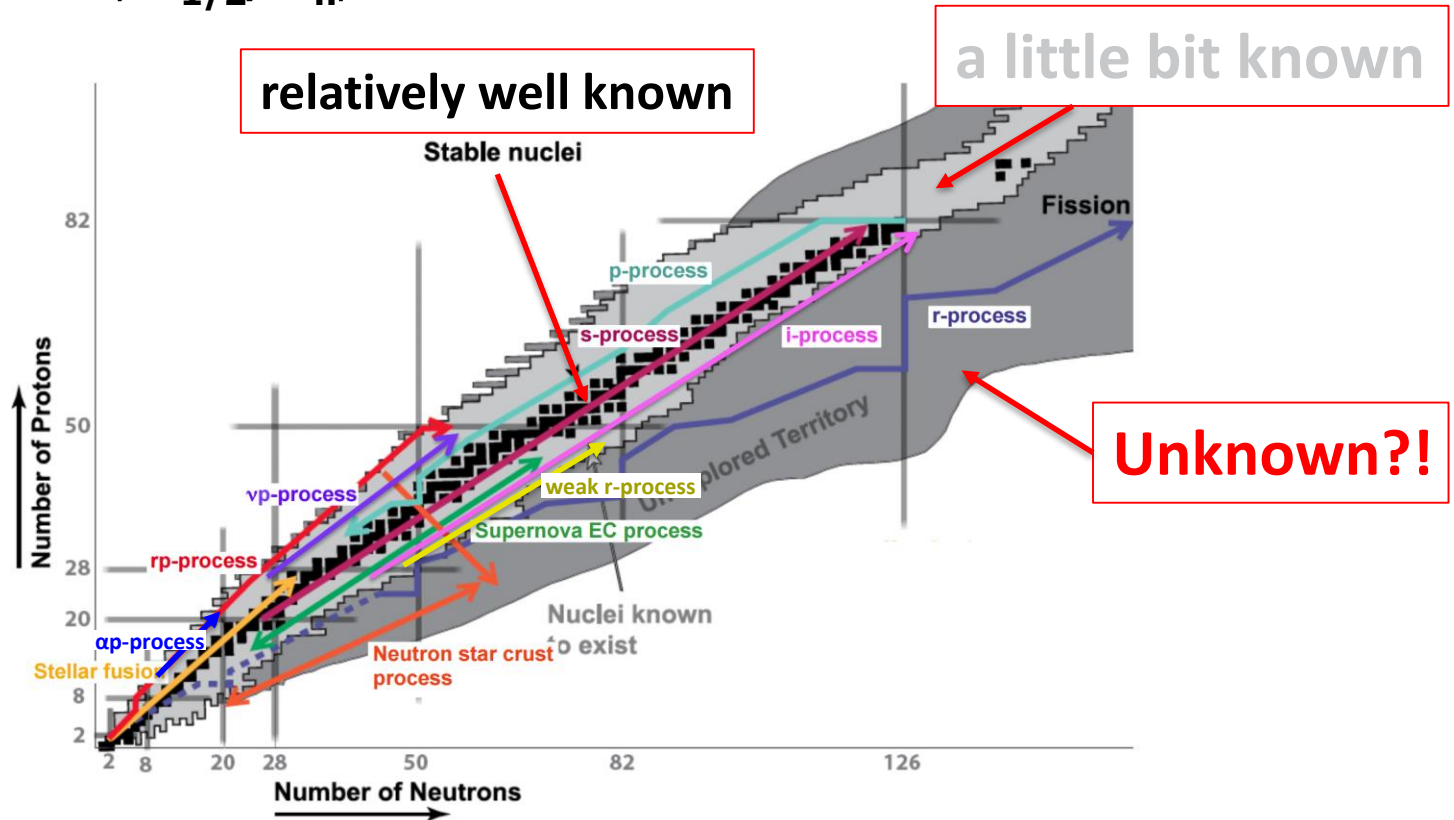
Nucleosynthesis Processes



Schematic overview of the nuclear processes on nuclear chart
H. Schatz, 2016

Nuclear Properties for Nucleosynthesis

- Nucleosynthesis process can explain the observation.
 → **Nuclear Physics plays an important role!**
 → **mass, Q-value, $T_{1/2}$, P_n , level densities and reaction rates**



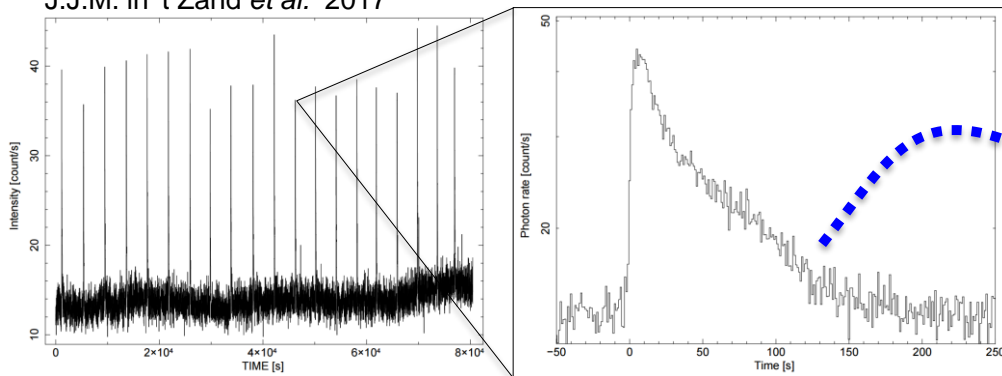
Schematic overview of the nuclear processes on nuclear chart

H. Schatz, 2016

Nuclear Reaction Rates during the α p-process

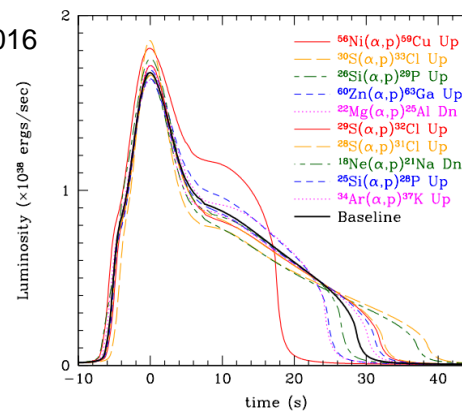
- Light curves of x-ray burst can be explained by α p-process and rp-process.
- (α, p) reaction rates play an important role in determining the light curve.

J.J.M. in 't Zand *et al.* 2017

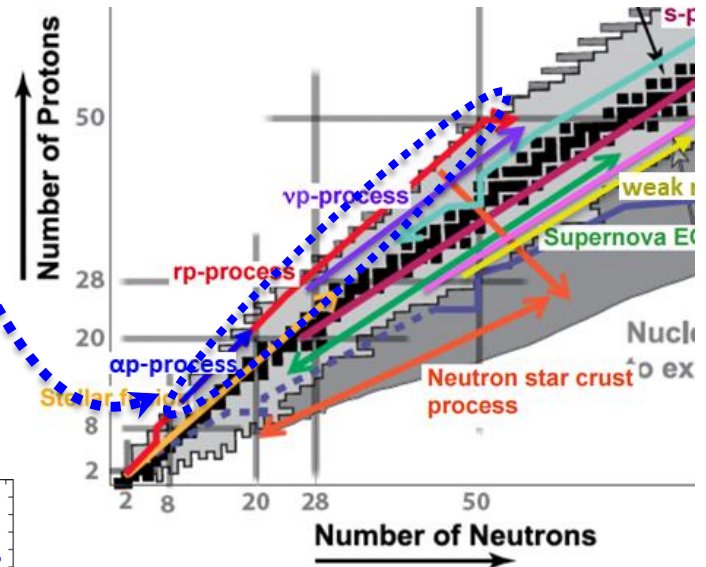


Observed light curves of X-ray burst

R. H. Cyburt *et al.* 2016



Calculated light curves of X-ray burst

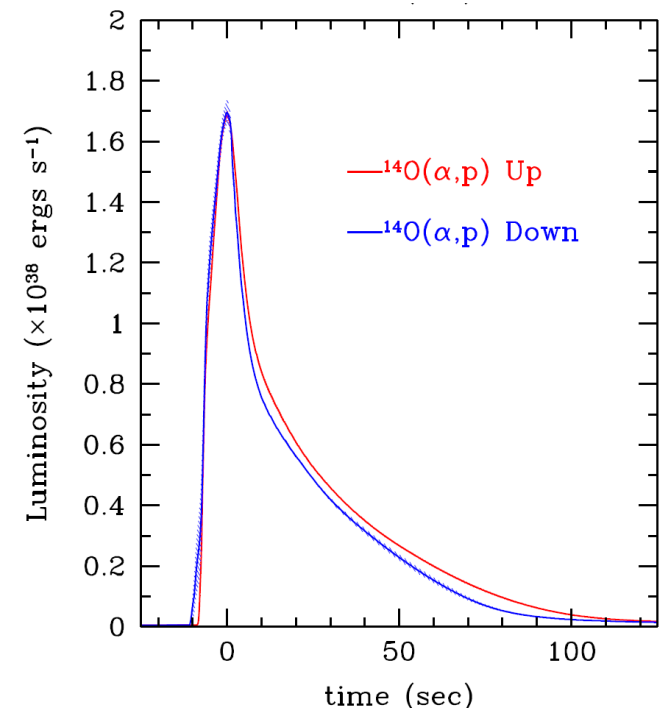


The most important (α, p) cross sections in X-ray burst

- The recent sensitivity study shows there are important astrophysical (α, p) reaction rates affecting a large variation of energy generation and final ash in X-ray burst model.
- Possible Reactions with CRIB beams: $^{30}\text{S}(\alpha, p)^{33}\text{Cl}$, $^{26}\text{Si}(\alpha, p)^{29}\text{P}$, $^{22}\text{Mg}(\alpha, p)^{25}\text{Al}$, $^{18}\text{Ne}(\alpha, p)^{21}\text{Na}$, $^{14}\text{O}(\alpha, p)^{17}\text{F}$ and $^{17}\text{F}(\alpha, p)^{20}\text{Ne}$

Rank	Reaction	Type	Sensitivity
1	$^{15}\text{O}(\alpha, \gamma)^{19}\text{Ne}$	D	16
2	$^{56}\text{Ni}(\alpha, p)^{59}\text{Cu}$	U	6.4
3	$^{59}\text{Cu}(p, \gamma)^{60}\text{Zn}$	D	5.1
4	$^{61}\text{Ga}(p, \gamma)^{62}\text{Ge}$	D	3.7
5	$^{22}\text{Mg}(\alpha, p)^{25}\text{Al}$	D	2.3
6	$^{14}\text{O}(\alpha, p)^{17}\text{F}$	D	5.8
7	$^{23}\text{Al}(p, \gamma)^{24}\text{Si}$	D	4.6
8	$^{18}\text{Ne}(\alpha, p)^{21}\text{Na}$	U	1.8
9	$^{63}\text{Ga}(p, \gamma)^{64}\text{Ge}$	D	1.4
10	$^{19}\text{F}(p, \alpha)^{16}\text{O}$	U	1.3

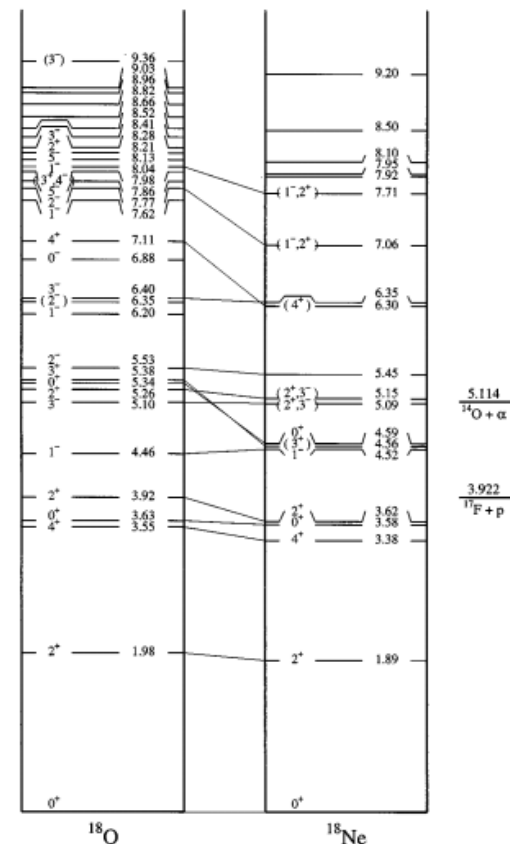
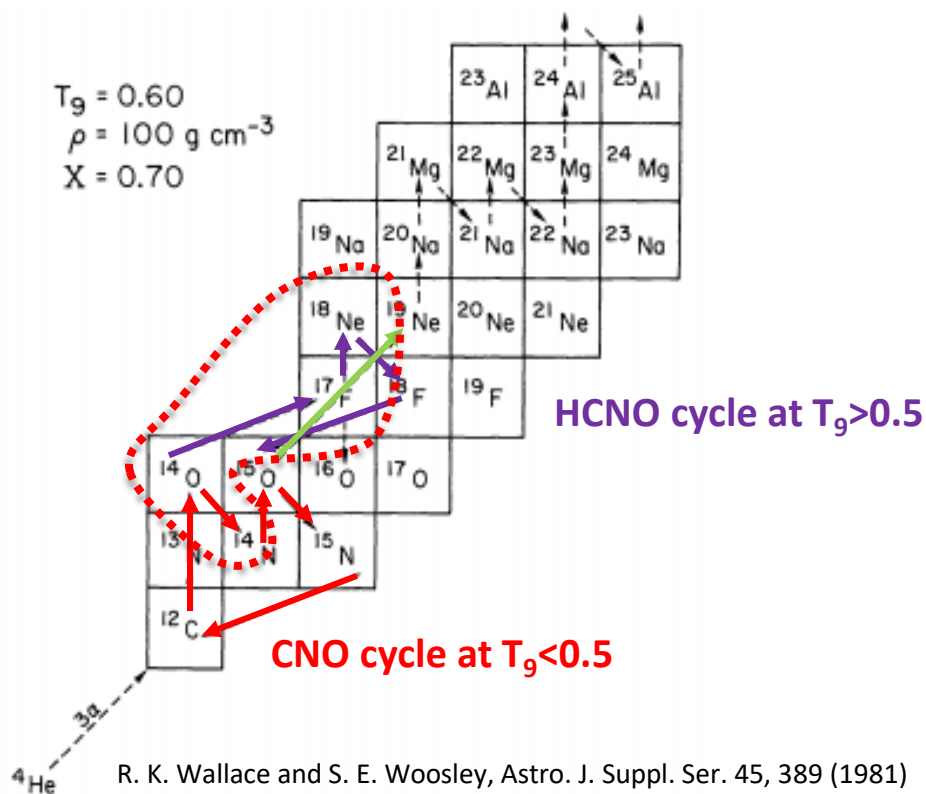
Reactions that Impact the Burst Light Curve
in the Multi-zone X-ray Burst Mode



The X-ray burst light curve in the multi-zone
varied by $^{14}\text{O}(\alpha, p)$ reaction rate

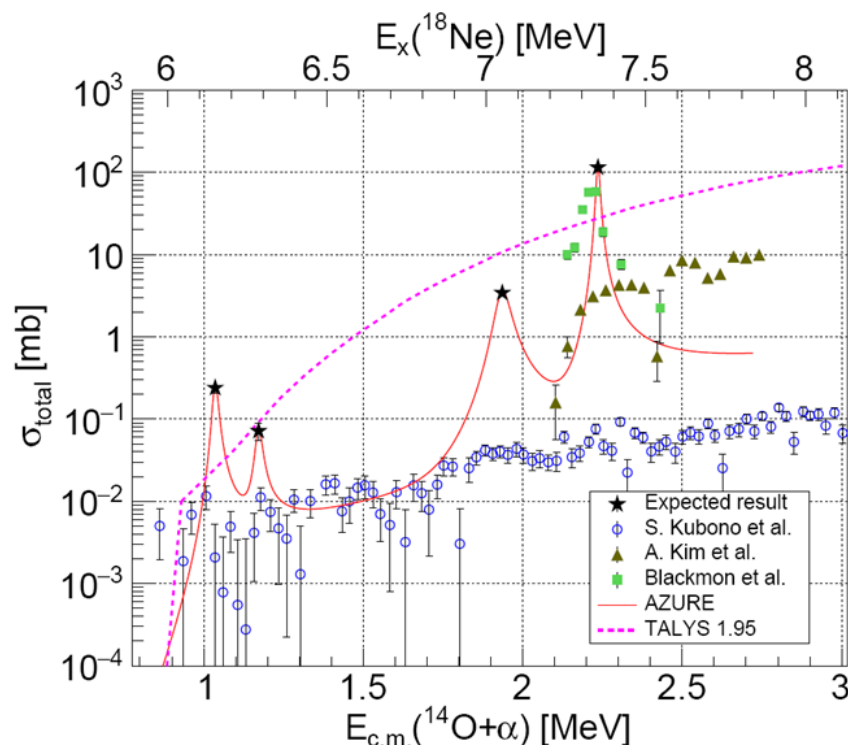
Alternate break-out path from HCNO cycle

- Alternate path from the hot CNO cycle to the rapid proton burning (rp-process)
- Wallace and Woosley have shown that at sufficiently high temperatures and densities α capture on ^{14}O and ^{15}O competes favorably with β decay



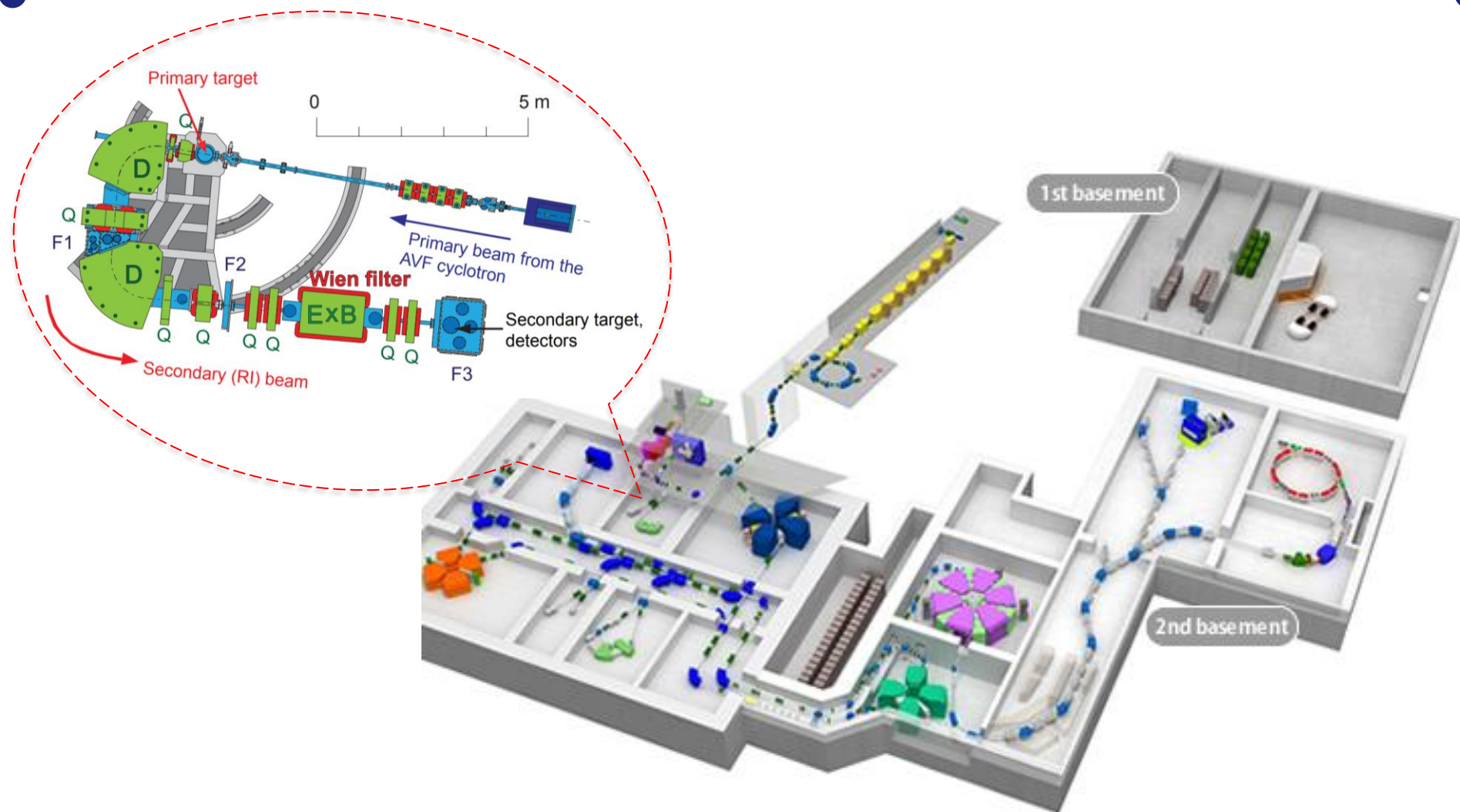
Experimental studies of $^{14}\text{O}(\alpha, p)^{17}\text{F}$ cross sections

- AZURE and TALYS-1.95 calculated cross sections: two orders of magnitude different.
- Previous cross section measurements studied at high energy range ($2 \text{ MeV} \leq E_{\text{cm}} \leq 2.8 \text{ MeV}$) show large disagreements with the measurement containing data at low energy range ($1 \text{ MeV} \leq E_{\text{cm}} \leq 1.5 \text{ MeV}$) encouraging another study to confirm the reliability of measurements.



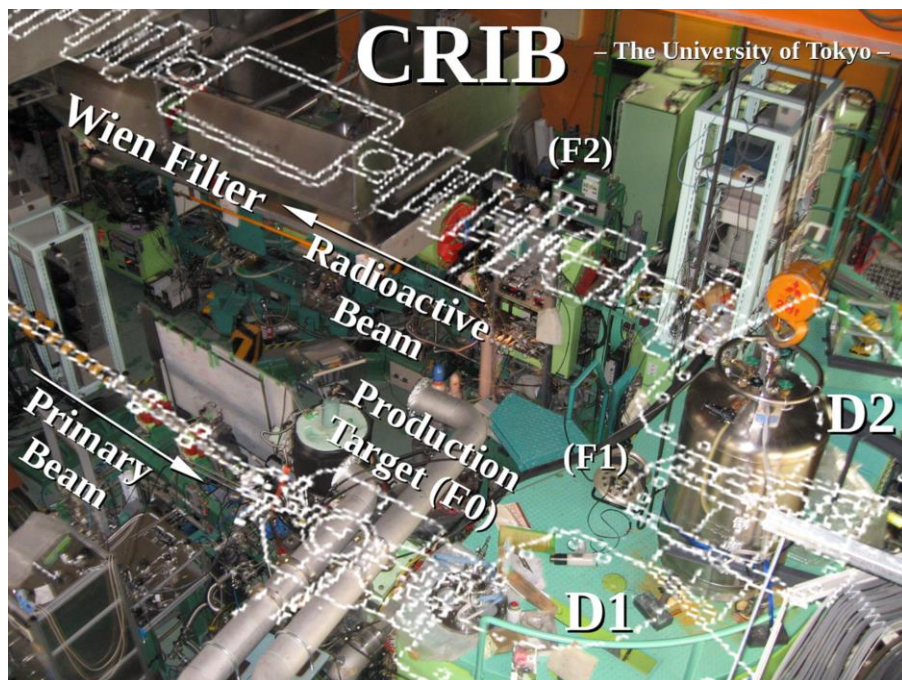
Previous measured data and
calculated total cross sections of $^{14}\text{O}(\alpha, p)$ reaction

RIB Beam Production – CRIB/CNS at RIKEN







Radioactive beam by CNS RI beam separator (CRIB) at RIKEN Nishina Center


RIB Beam Production – CRIB/CNS at RIKEN

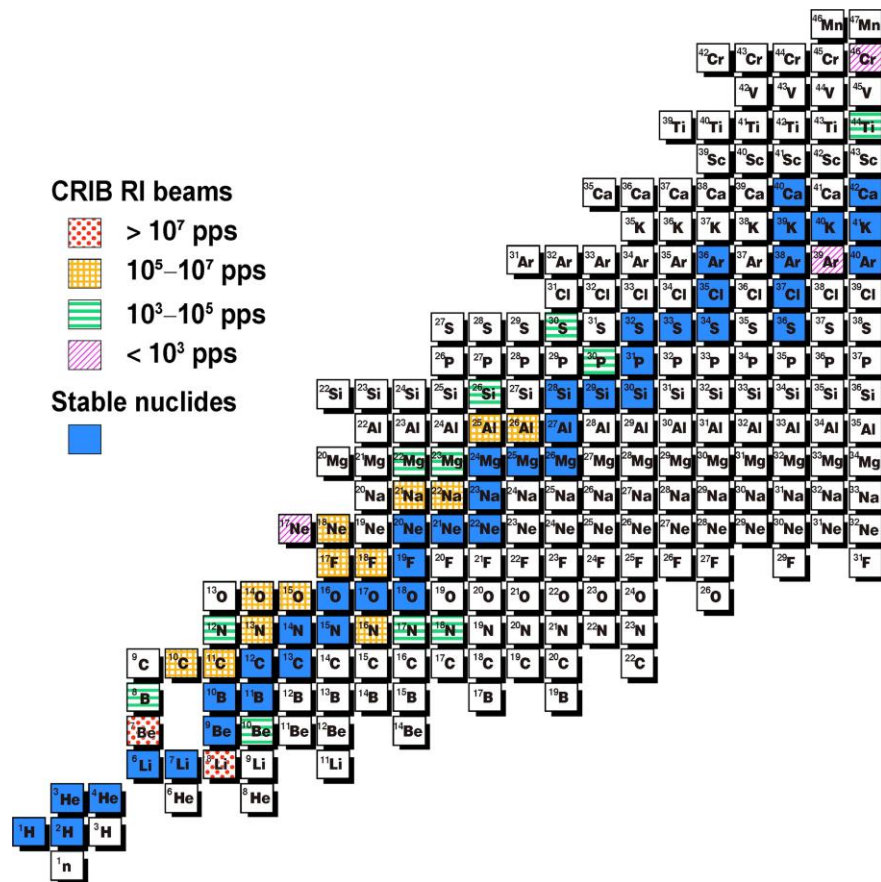


CRIB RI beams

-  $> 10^7$ pps
-  $10^5 - 10^7$ pps
-  $10^3 - 10^5$ pps
-  $< 10^3$ pps

Stable nuclides

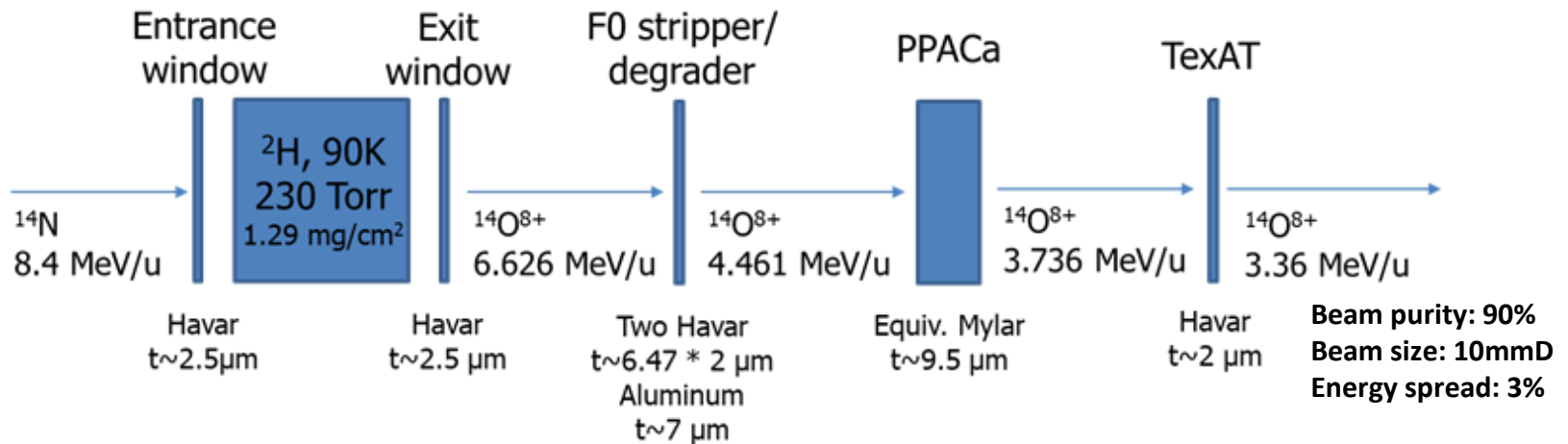
- 



Radioactive beam by CNS RI beam separator (CRIB) at RIKEN Nishina Center

^{14}O beam production at CRIB

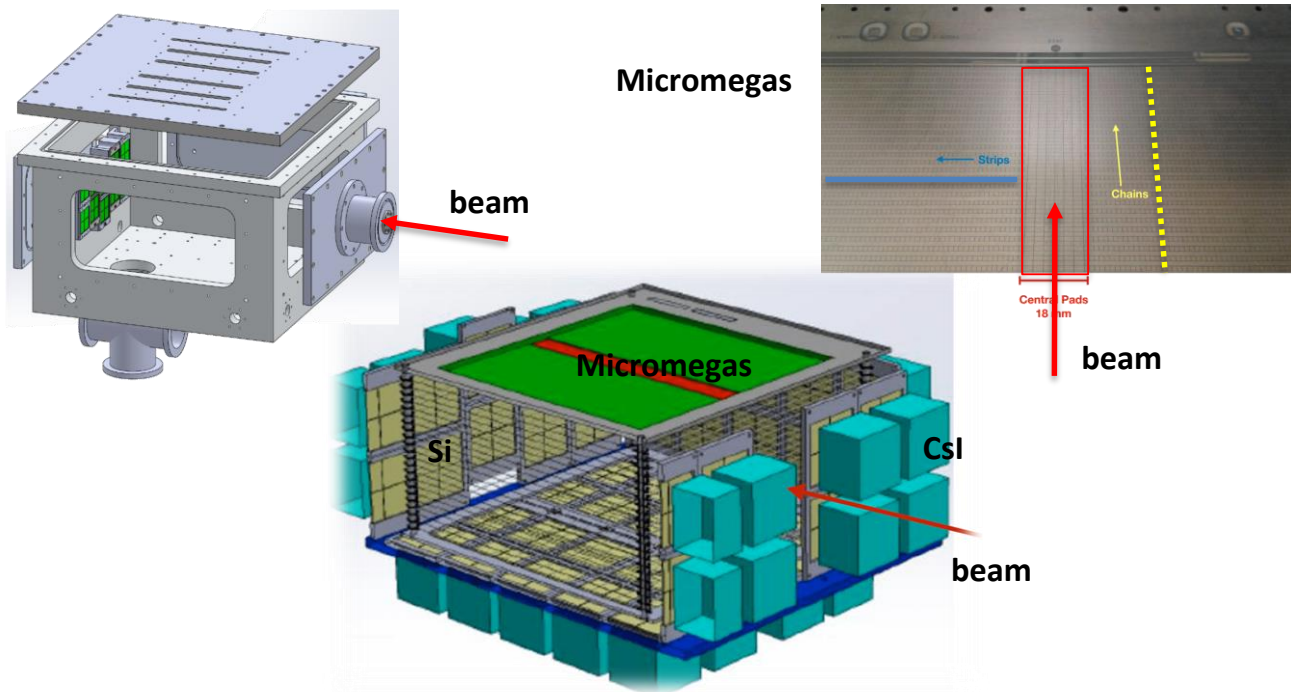
Primary beam	Energy	Intensity (pps)	Production target
^{14}N	8.4 MeV/u	1.00E+06	^2H , 90K, 230 Torr 1.29 mg/cm ²
Secondary beam	Energy	Intensity (pps)	Scattering target
^{14}O	3.36 MeV/u	3.00E+05	He+CO ₂ (90%+10%) 460 Torr



A schematic diagram of the ^{14}O beam production from the CRIB/CNS

Texas Active Target Time Projection Chamber

- Active area: 245 (X) x 150 (Y) x 224 (Z) mm³
- Scattering chamber: 500 (X) x 340 (Y) x 500 (Z) mm³ (made of 3cm-thick aluminum) - **portable!**
- Ionization Counter after the window for beam intensity and purity
- Silicon and CsI detectors wall for total energy of particles
- Different front windows for physics needs (Havar, Mylar, Kapton and Ti)
- Target gas: CH₄, C₄H₁₀, CD₄, He/CO₂(98/2%) and CO₂

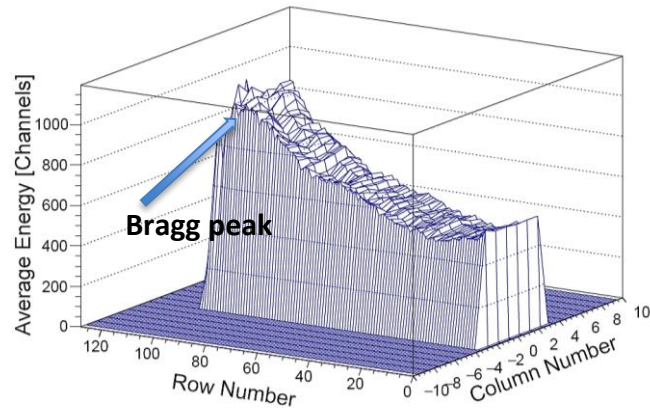


A picture for TexAT and GET setup

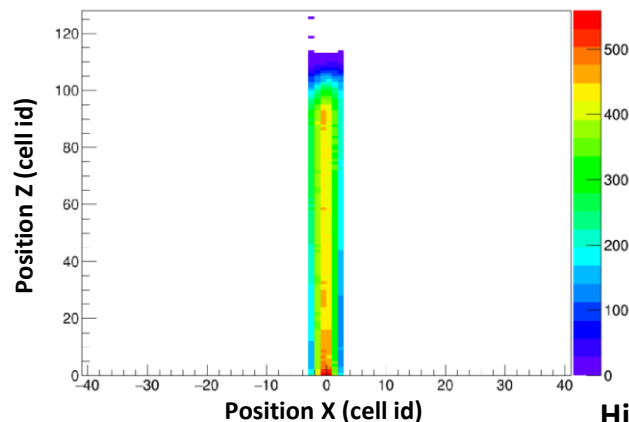
Texas Active Target (TexAT) design

Previous TexAT Experiment with RI Beam

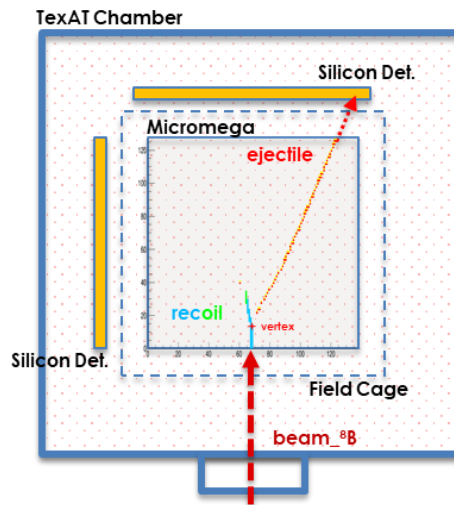
- Reaction: $^8\text{B} + p$ with 7.6 MeV/u ^8B beam and 10^3 pps from MARS, Texas A&M University
- Target: Methane gas (CH_4), Pressure = 435 Torr
- The new $5/2^+$ state found at 4.3 MeV in ^9C



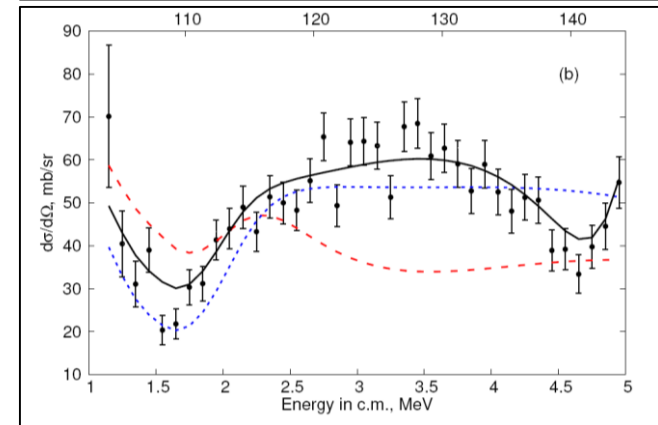
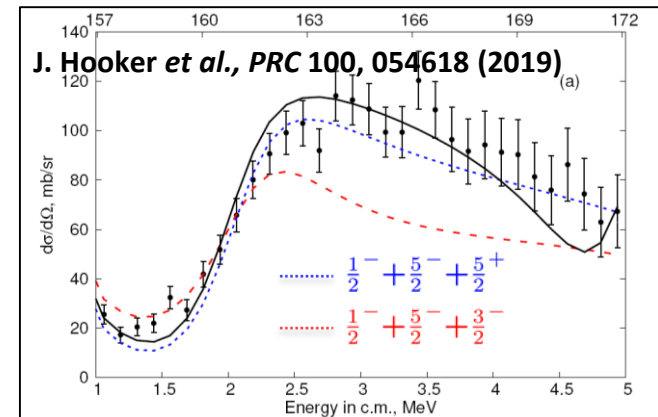
The energy deposition of ^8B in each pads.



Hit pattern in the Micromegas Plate



A sample particle track from $^8\text{B}+p$ experiment



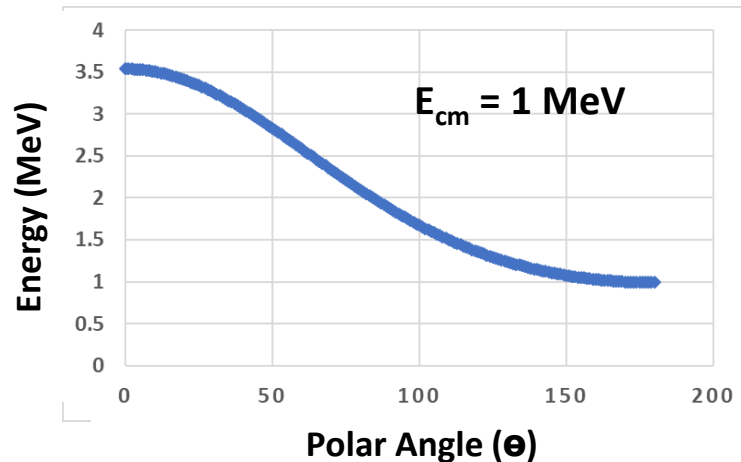
Excitation function for $^8\text{B} + p$

(a) 157 - 172 deg.

(b) 100 - 145 deg. in CoM.

Direct Measurement of $^{14}\text{O}(\alpha, p)^{17}\text{F}$ cross sections with TexAT at CRIB

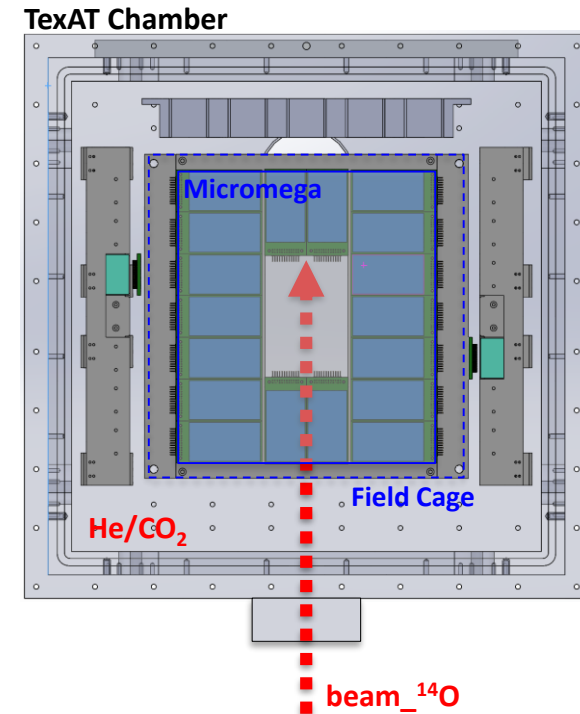
- Reaction: $^{14}\text{O} + \alpha$ with 3.36 MeV/u ^{14}O beam and 3×10^5 pps from CRIB
- Target: He/CO₂ (90/10 %) mixture gas, Pressure = 460 Torr (Beam will stop at Z=196 mm)
- Si + CsI detectors will be installed on the side and bottom of the field cage.
- Detector Efficiency from GEANT4 simulation: 50% (Si. Det Hit trigger, uniform cross section assumed)



$^{14}\text{O}(\alpha, p)^{17}\text{F}$ reaction in inverse kinematics

E_p (MeV)	E_{remain} (MeV)
2.5	2.2
2	1.6
1.5	1
1	0.14

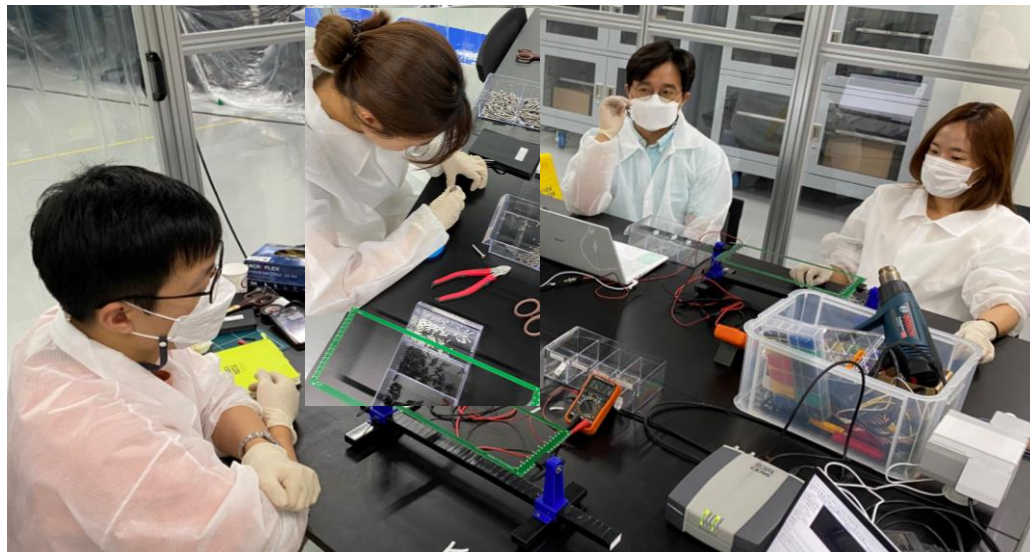
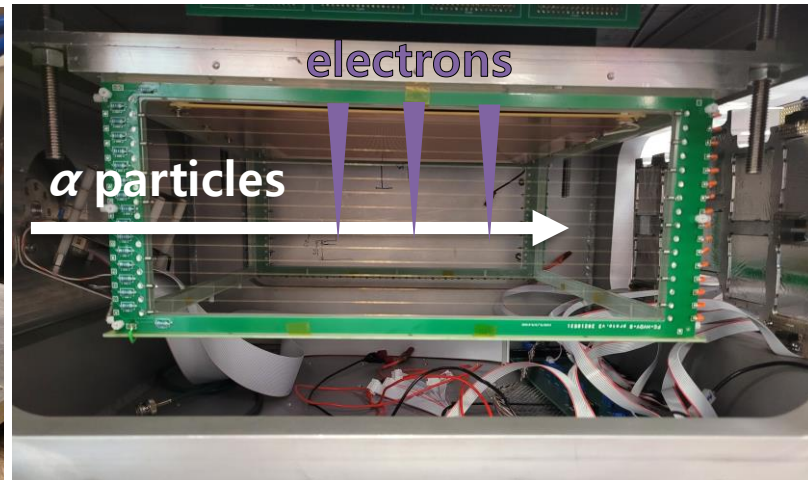
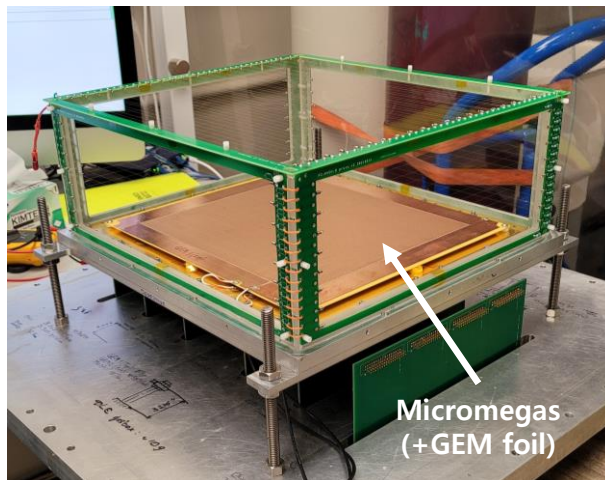
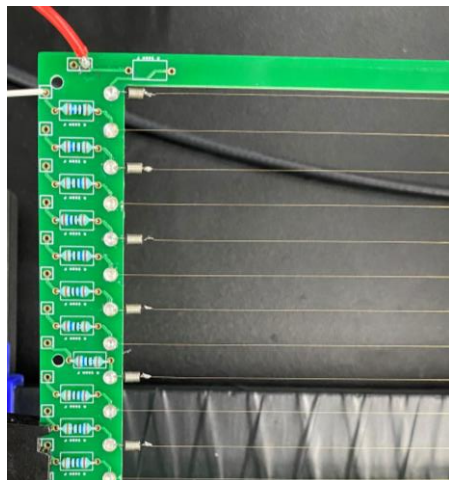
Proton Energy at Si detector
for event at Z=168mm ($E_{\text{cm}} = 1 \text{ MeV}$)



TexAT detector setup

TexAT Upgrade for $^{14}\text{O}(\alpha, p)^{17}\text{F}$ experiment

- FC Upgrade and Test



- using α -emitting ^{241}Am fission source
- α particle track could be obtained by the Micromegas
- checked edge effect
- compared with original TexAT field cage

Requested Experiment Beamtime

- Beam Time Request: 14 days total with beam intensity of 3×10^5 pps
 - ✓ TexAT optimization time with the stable ^{14}N primary beam: 0.5 day
 - ✓ beam tuning: 0.5 day
 - ✓ background runs with the CO_2 gas: 2 days
 - ✓ production runs with ^{14}O beam and the He/CO_2 mixture target: 11 days
- The data will provide 5 to 13% statistical uncertainty
 - The uncertainty of $^{14}\text{O}(\alpha, p)^{17}\text{F}$ reaction rate: the two orders of magnitude down.

E_x (MeV)	$J^{\pi a}$	Γ_α (keV) ^a	Γ_p (keV) ^a	σ (mb) ^b	Expected counts per bin ^c
6.150	1 ⁻	2.2×10^{-3}	20	0.2397	60
6.286	3 ⁻	3.4×10^{-4}	25	0.07174	18
7.05	4 ⁺	4.8×10^{-2}	53	3.427	920
7.35	1 ⁻	1.7	12	114.6	31,700

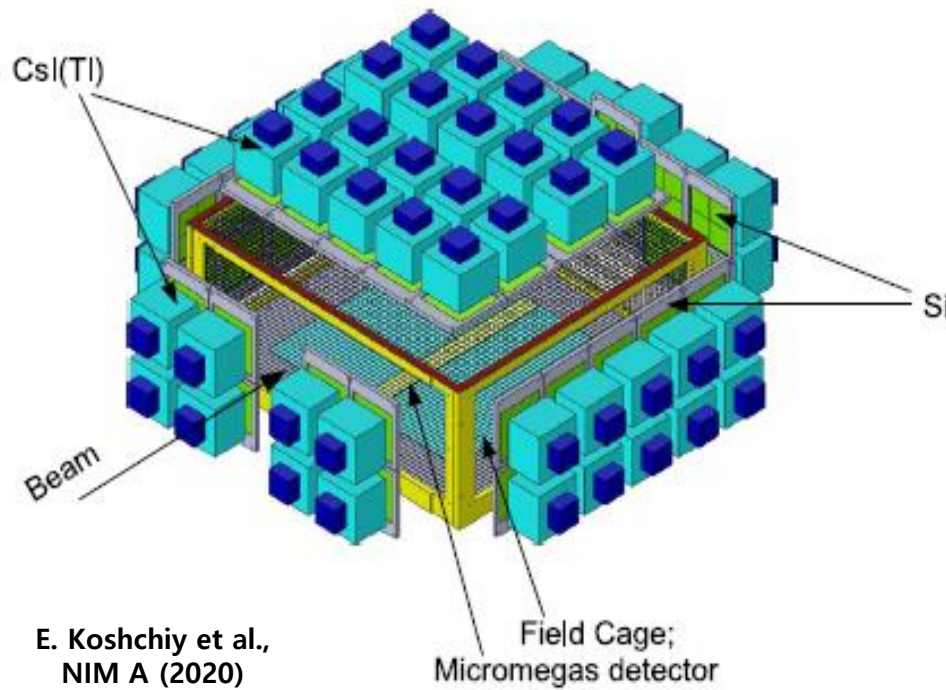
Expected total count rate of astrophysically important resonances.

[Readiness]

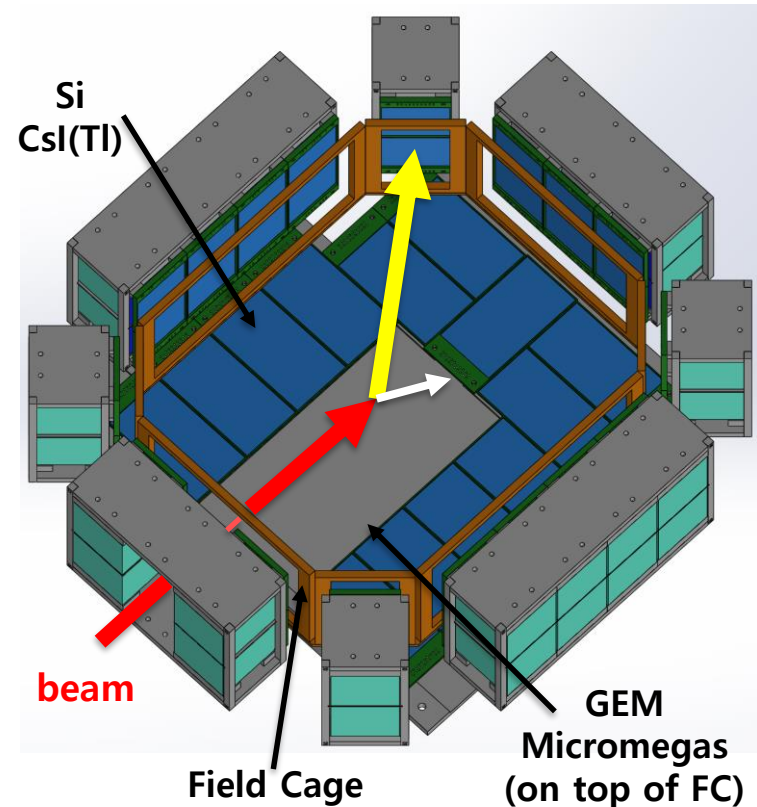
- ~~TexAT transportation from US to Japan: TexAT was shipped to Canada in 2019. No issue.~~
- ~~A test with the He/CO_2 mixture gas: 96/4% ratio was tested. No issue expected with 90/10% ratio.~~
- ~~Maximum beam rate of the TexAT: The rate 3×10^5 pps in the CD_4 gas was successfully tested when we stopped the beam in the active area: 5×10^5 pps tested last August.~~
- Installation of additional Si detectors on the side and bottom of the active area: **Si det. will arrive next week! New frames designs are almost completed.**
- We are waiting for the beam time after March, 2022!

AToM-X: CENS Active Target TPC

- AToM-X : Active target TPC for Multiple nuclear eXperiment



TexAT : Rectangular shape

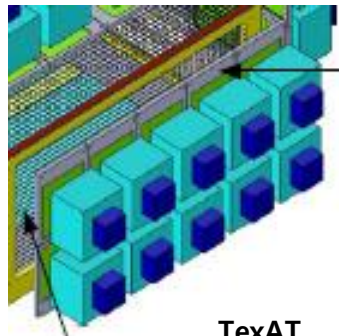


AToM-X : Octagonal shape

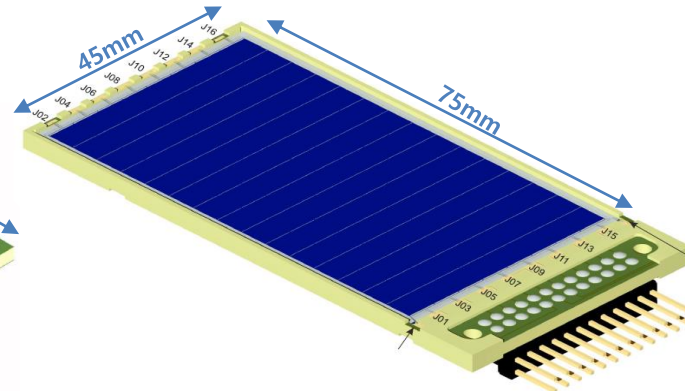
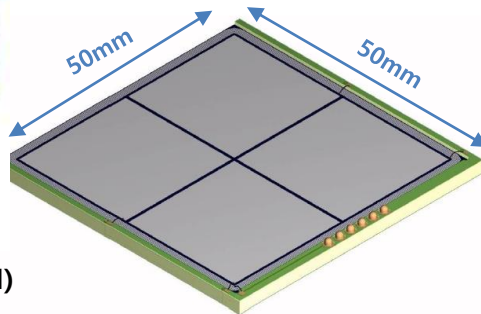
→ No Si dead layer effect!

AToM-X: Silicon and CsI detectors

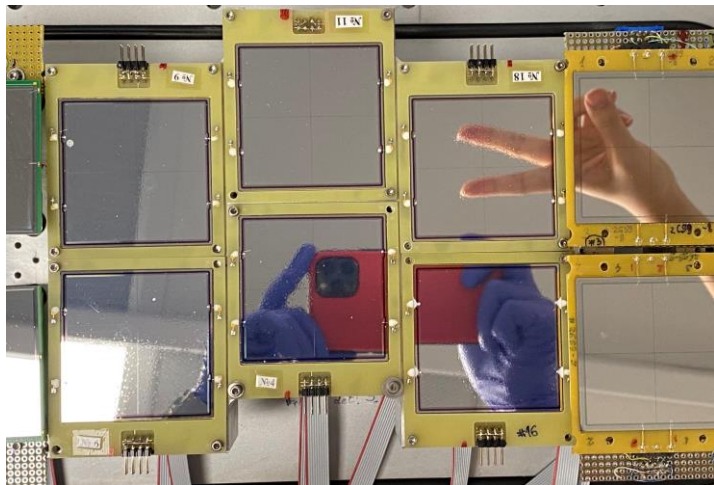
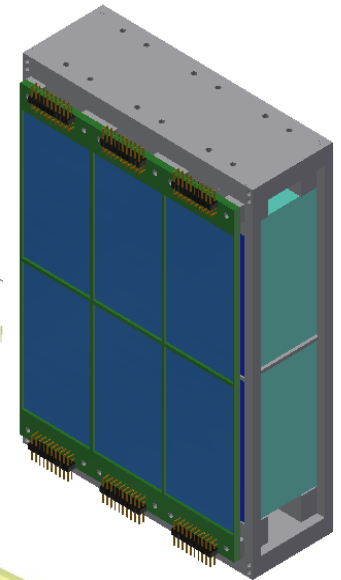
- Newly designed silicon detector : X6



TexAT
(Texas A&M)



AToM-X
(CENS)



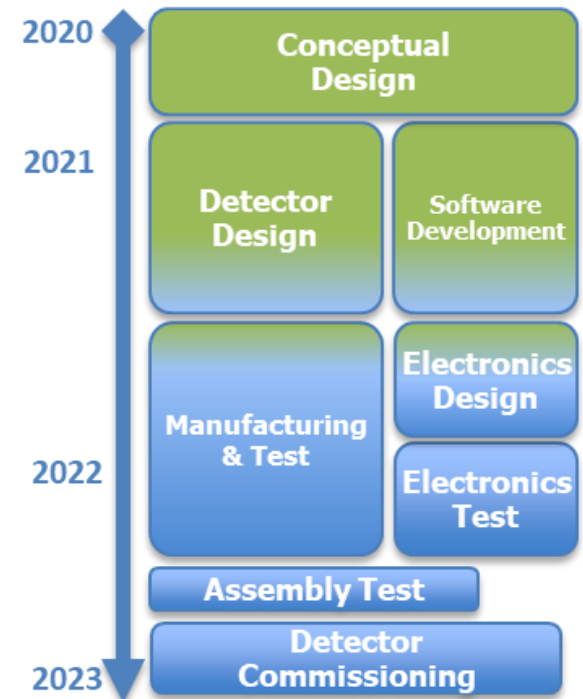
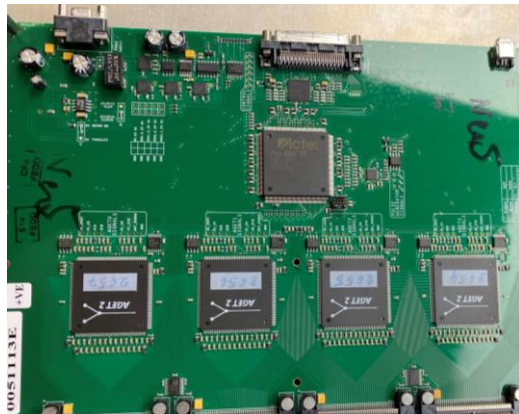
- 8 resistive strips + 4 non-resistive strips

→ Position resolution improved !

- Now waiting for the delivery

AToM-X: DAQ & Analysis software

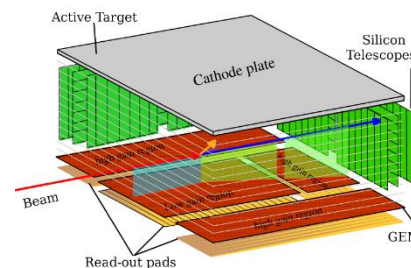
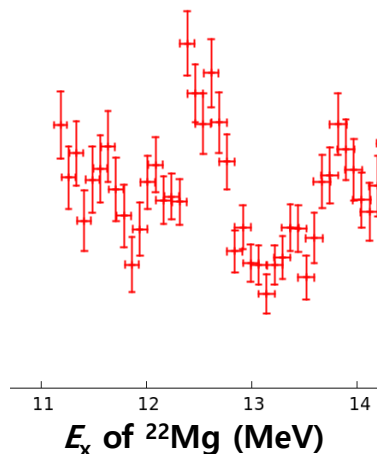
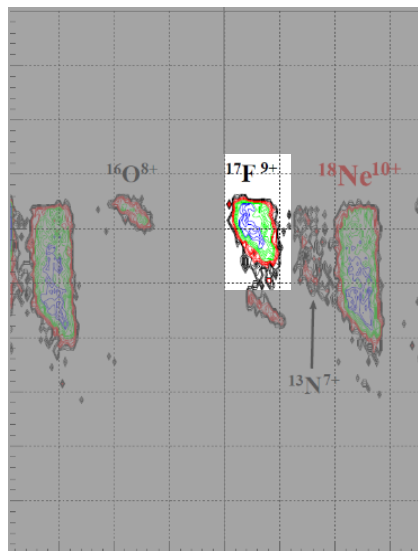
- Large number of channels ($\sim 5000\text{ch}$)
 - ASIC Electronics : low cost, small space, and simple setup
 - GET (Generic Electronics for TPC) : 64ch/chip, 256ch/AsAd board
- DAQ libraries were installed !
- GEANT4-based simulation software
- Track reconstruction/analysis software using machine learning



AToM-X: Plan for the future experiment

Direct measurements

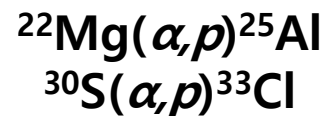
of the astrophysically-important (α, p) reactions



Reactions that Impact the Burst Light Curve in the Single-zone X-Ray Burst Model

Rank	Reaction	Type ^a	Sensitivity ^b	Category
1	$^{56}\text{Ni}(\alpha, p)^{59}\text{Cu}$	U	12.5	1
2	$^{59}\text{Cu}(p, \gamma)^{60}\text{Zn}$	D	12.1	1
3	$^{15}\text{O}(\alpha, \gamma)^{19}\text{Ne}$	D	7.9	1
4	$^{30}\text{S}(\alpha, p)^{33}\text{Cl}$	U	7.8	1
5	$^{26}\text{Si}(\alpha, p)^{29}\text{P}$	U	5.3	1
6	$^{61}\text{Ga}(p, \gamma)^{62}\text{Ge}$	D	5.0	1
7	$^{23}\text{Al}(p, \gamma)^{24}\text{Si}$	U	4.8	1
8	$^{27}\text{P}(p, \gamma)^{28}\text{S}$	D	4.4	1
9	$^{63}\text{Ga}(p, \gamma)^{64}\text{Ge}$	D	3.8	1
10	$^{69}\text{Zn}(\alpha, p)^{68}\text{Ga}$	U	3.6	1
11	$^{22}\text{Mg}(\alpha, p)^{25}\text{Al}$	D	3.5	1
12	$^{56}\text{Ni}(p, \gamma)^{57}\text{Cu}$	D	3.4	1
13	$^{29}\text{S}(\alpha, p)^{32}\text{Cl}$	U	2.8	1
14	$^{28}\text{S}(\alpha, p)^{31}\text{Cl}$	U	2.7	1
15	$^{31}\text{Cl}(p, \gamma)^{32}\text{Ar}$	U	2.7	1
16	$^{36}\text{K}(p, \gamma)^{36}\text{Ca}$	U	2.5	2
17	$^{18}\text{Ne}(\alpha, p)^{21}\text{Na}$	D	2.3	2
18	$^{25}\text{Si}(\alpha, p)^{28}\text{P}$	U	1.9	2
19	$^{57}\text{Cu}(p, \gamma)^{58}\text{Zn}$	D	1.7	2
20	$^{34}\text{Ar}(\alpha, p)^{37}\text{K}$	U	1.6	3
21	$^{24}\text{Si}(\alpha, p)^{27}\text{P}$	U	1.4	3
22	$^{22}\text{Mg}(p, \gamma)^{23}\text{Al}$	D	1.1	3
23	$^{65}\text{As}(p, \gamma)^{66}\text{Se}$	U	1.0	3
24	$^{16}\text{O}(\alpha, p)^{17}\text{F}$	U	1.0	3
25	$^{40}\text{Sc}(p, \gamma)^{41}\text{Ti}$	D	0.9	3
26	$^{34}\text{Ar}(p, \gamma)^{35}\text{K}$	D	0.8	3
27	$^{47}\text{Mn}(p, \gamma)^{48}\text{Fe}$	D	0.8	3
28	$^{39}\text{Ca}(p, \gamma)^{40}\text{Sc}$	D	0.8	3

R.H. Cyburt *et al.*, PRC (2016)



and so on...

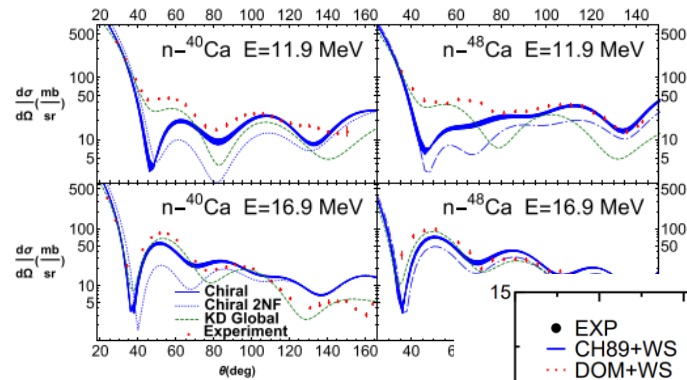
Optical Model Potentials for Exotic Nuclei

- Can we trust the Global Optical Model Potentials?

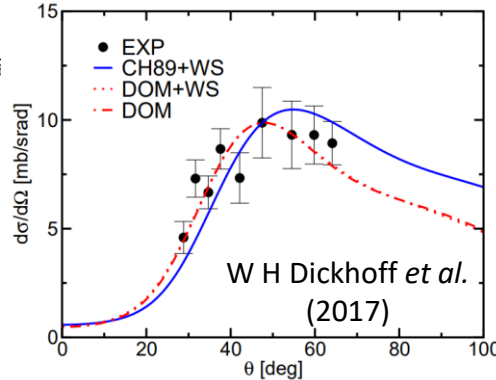
- Phenomenological GOMP
- Microscopic GOMP

- ✓ Broad range of lab energy using AToM-X.
- ✓ Using $^{16,18}\text{O}$, $^{20,22}\text{Ne}$ beams, (p,p), (d,d),(α , α) elastic scatterings will be measured.

Optical model potential from chiral effective field theory

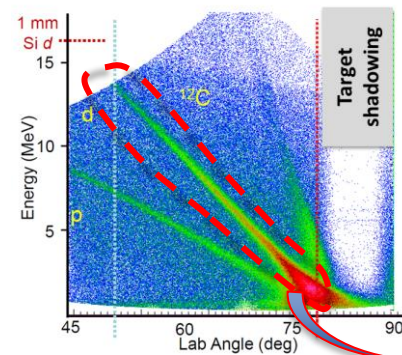
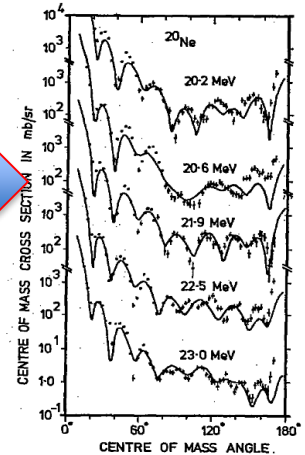
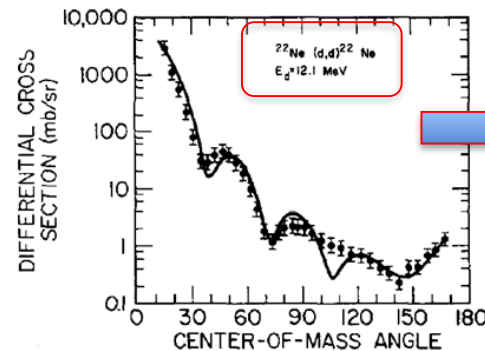
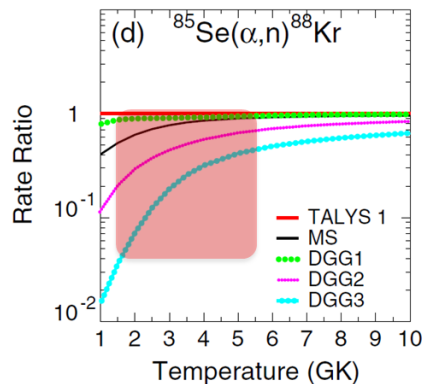


T.R. Whitehead *et al.* PRC (2020)

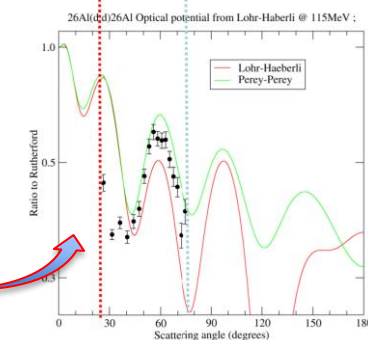


Angular distributions for
 $^{132}\text{Sn}(d,p)^{133}\text{Sn}$ ($E_d = 9.46$ MeV)

Uncertainty of $^{85}\text{Se}(\alpha,n)$ reaction rate

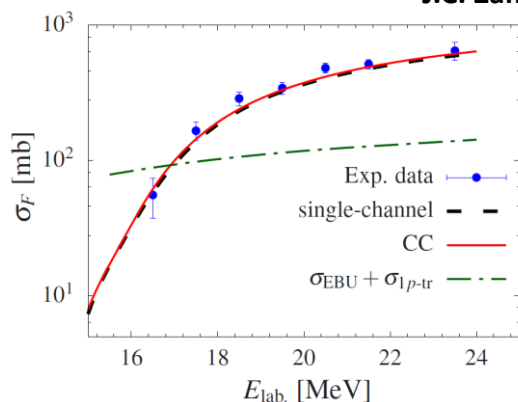


$\theta_{lab} \sim 78$ deg $\theta_{lab} \sim 55$ deg

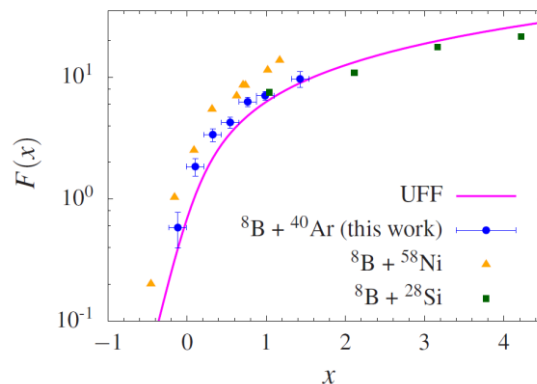


Fusion Reaction Mechanism related to Stellar Evolution

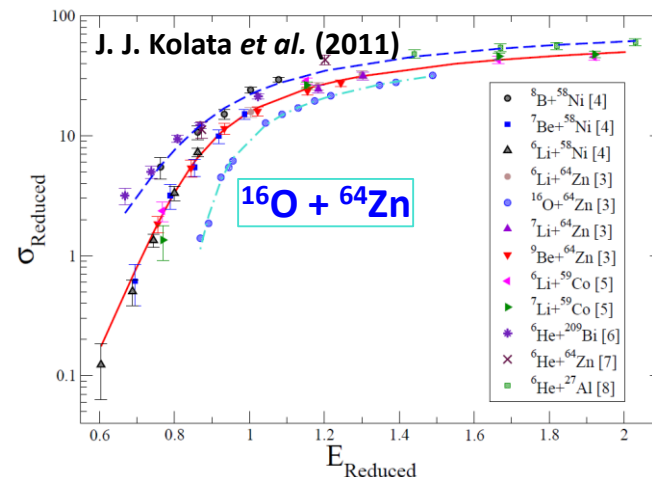
J.C. Zamora *et al.*, PLB (2020)



Total fusion excitation function for $^8\text{B} + ^{40}\text{Ar}$.

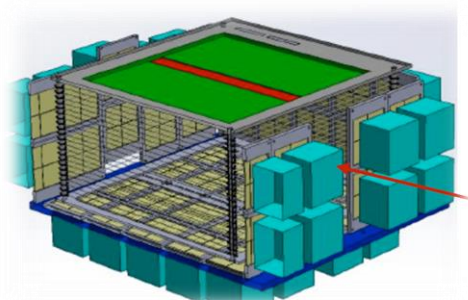


J. J. Kolata *et al.* (2011)

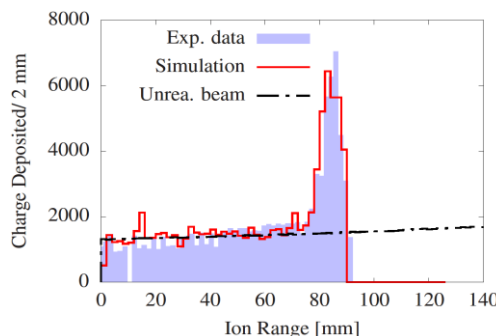


Reduced total reaction cross sections

$^{16}\text{O} + ^{40}\text{Ar}$ fusion cross sections??



Texas Active Target (TexAT) design

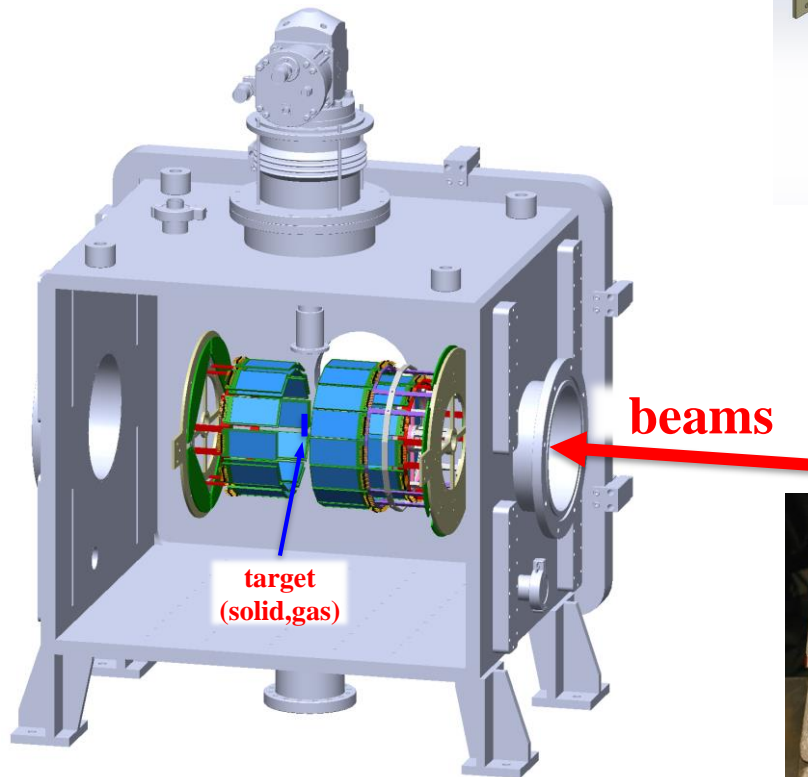


Ionization beam profile
for a typical fusion event

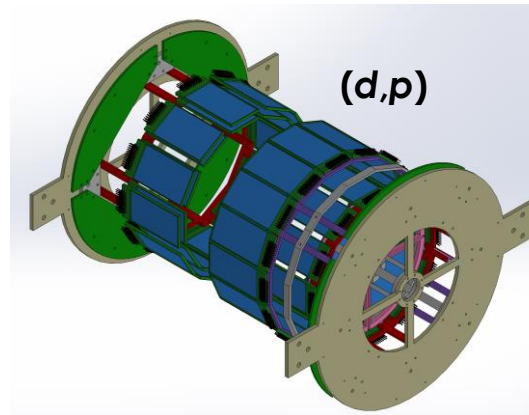
- ✓ $^{20}\text{Ne} + ^{20}\text{Ne}$, $^{20}\text{Ne} + ^{16}\text{O}$ fusion cross sections to revisit the result of D. Shapira PRC (1983)
- ✓ Fusion cross sections with halo nucleus (^6He , ^7Li , ^7Be , ^9Be)

Targets and Detectors for Nuclear Astrophysics Studies at CENS

- ✓ Solid Targets: CH_2 , CD_2
- ✓ Gas Targets: H_2 , D_2 , ^4He , ^3He , N_2

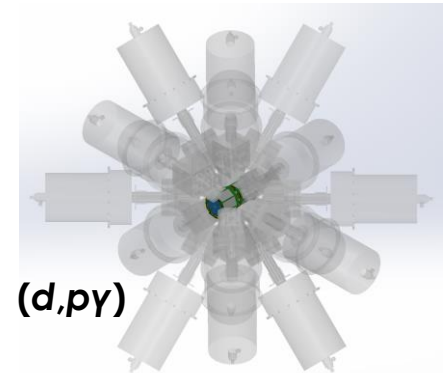


Conceptual Design of STARK chamber

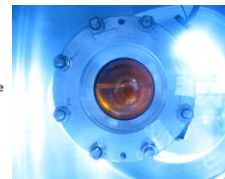
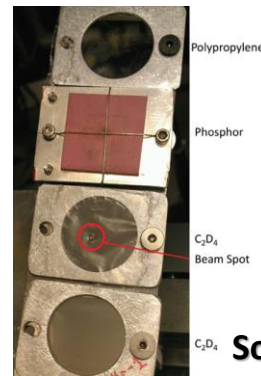


Conceptual Design of STARK

Year 2022!!



Conceptual Design of STARK Jr. and ASGAR



Gas Cell Target



Portable HPGe detectors

Summary

- Many astrophysical observables can be explained by various nucleosynthesis models.
- Nuclear Physics inputs play an important role in nucleosynthesis calculation results.
- Recent sensitivity studies show large uncertainties on the nuclear properties of unstable nuclei.

➔ **Experimental measurements with rare isotopes are very critical to reduce them.**

- The $^{14}\text{O}(\alpha, p)^{17}\text{F}$ reaction is one of the most important reactions in the X-ray burst model and a key reaction determining alternate break-out path from HCNO cycle.
- Previous indirect measurements show large disagreements.

➔ **Direct measurement of $^{14}\text{O}(\alpha, p)^{17}\text{F}$ cross sections using the TexAT will be performed at CRIB/RIKEN, Japan.**

- CENS AT-TPC, ATOM-X, is under development for direct measurements of many astrophysically-important (α, p) reactions, elastic scatterings and fusion cross sections.

➔ **$^{17}\text{F}(\alpha, p)^{20}\text{Ne}$, $^{18}\text{Ne}(\alpha, p)^{21}\text{Na}$, $^{22}\text{Mg}(\alpha, p)^{25}\text{Al}$, $^{30}\text{S}(\alpha, p)^{33}\text{Cl}$ and more...**

New Trends in Nuclear Physics Detectors 2021

Thank you!

CENS, IBS:

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L. Pollacco

and YOU in the future!