# Slowing down RIBs to coulomb barrier energies

Mario Cappellazzo

**IKP** Cologne

#### Agenda

- Concept idea
- Feasibility studies
- Ancillary detector developments
- Conclusion

### Concept idea

- Exotic –short lived- nuclei produced with in-flight method at FAIR/SFRS have energies far above the Coulomb barrier
- Deceleration of these unique beams in thick degrader to 5-10 MeV/u
- High-spin physics:
  - Multi-step coulomb excitation
  - Transfer, Resonance, Fusion-evaporation
- Compared to other existing experiments with slow down beams, e.g. MSU or RIKEN, or isotope online method we have access to other energies and nuclei ->complementary





#### Concept idea -challenges & solutions



reducing background by tracking

#### Concept idea -challenges & solutions

- Angular broadening
- Energy straggling
- Reaction products from degrader



- Track particles before and after slowing down
- Measure X;Y; $\beta$  (ToF) and  $\Delta$ E;E
- reducing background by tracking

Feasibility studies -2008: 64Ni



- FRS detectors used for particle identification before degrader
- Beam Profile Monitors (Thin Foil Detectors) were used for X;Y;ToF measurement
- Active Target was used for  $\Delta E$  measurement



Feasibility studies -2008: 64Ni

#### Angular spread becomes not neglible

 Distance between degrader and target relevant

#### SIMULATIONS

- Energy spread 9 Mev/u
- Creation of secondary fragments in the degrader
- Integrated background contribution in relevant energy gate is <1%</li>



Feasibility studies -2008: 64Ni

- 80 % of the beam particles survived slowing down
- Energy spread after slowing down to 10 MeV/u is 8 MeV/u. The predicted energy spread is 9 MeV/u
- Contaminants due to the reactions in the degrader are of the order of 2%



POLONICA B; Vol.42 (2011), p.725-728

- April 2014: 2 shifts of 58 Ni @ 250 MeV/u
- Slowed down to 7 MeV/u in Al degrader
- Important detectors:
  - FRS scintillator 41
  - BPMs
  - Active silicon target (for energy calibration of the target)
  - AGATA
- Thick Au target





- High background counts and unwanted lines from (fast) neutrons  $(n, n'\gamma)$
- Lines from elements of the setup can easily be seen: Al,Ge,Pb,Cu,Fe,...
- Lines from Au Target are not easily found because of a large Compton background (only Au X-rays)
- 58 Ni Lines are also not easily found (maybe due to Doppler broadening)



## • A nickel 2+ 1454 keV peak becomes visible after setting a time gate and subtraction of two background time cuts

AGATAea\_array\_value[] {{ {Trigger\_value=-7}&&(AGATAta\_array\_value[]>870)&&(AGATAta\_array\_value]]<950)}}



Changes after first test shift:

- Earlier degradation for background reduction
   S<sub>4</sub> + Al stack after MUSIC<sub>1</sub>
- Enhanced shielding
  Plastic wall





Ancillary detector developments

- Beam Profile Monitors , e.g.thin foil detectors play for this type of experiment an important role
  - Providing good ToF resolution (down to 150 ps) and position information ->Doppler correction
  - Particle tracking and identification
- Ongoing development to bigger active area and better resolutions
  - 2008: 40x50mm<sup>2</sup>
  - 2010& 2012: 100x80mm<sup>2</sup>
  - 2014: 150mm diameter (in construction)







Ancillary detector developments

- Ongoing development in ∆E Detektor: Double Sided Silicon Strip Detectors (DSSSD) for fast timing
- cooled to -17°C
- 50×50 mm<sup>2</sup>
- $40\mu m$  thin
- Timing resolution of ~0.4 ns reached





From *P. Boutachkov, E. Gregor* et al. Fast Timing with DSSSD Detectors; GSI SCIENTIFIC REPORT 2012

#### Conclusion

- The experiment in 2008 showed that:
  - Slowing Down of a fast beam is possible without destroying the beam
  - >Beam parameters can be predicted and selected
- Until now we learned from the experiment in 2014:
  > High background component can be reduced by slowing down earlier
  - Additional shielding is necessary because of the fragmentations in the degrader
  - consistency checks for BPMs needed
  - ➤ Thin or active target for particle discrimination by E or ΔE essential for studies
  - Gamma detectors can stand the (particle) background from the slowing down

#### The Collaboration: HISPEC/SDB

<u>GSI group/TU Darmstadt</u>: P. Boutachkov, M.Górska, J.Gerl, H.Geissel, E. Gregor, I.Kojouharov, W.Koenig, C.Nociforo, W.Prokopowicz, H.Schaffner, H.Weick <u>JINR Dubna</u>: <u>N.Kondratiev</u>

<u>Saclay</u>: A.Drouart, A.Polacco

<u>Köln</u>: J.Jolie, F.Naqvi,<sup>\*</sup> G.Pascovici, M.Pfeiffer,<sup>\*</sup> M.Cappellazzo

#### <u>Sevilla group</u>: J.Gomez Camacho, M.Alvarez, J.M.Espino, I.Mukha, J.M.Quesada

LNL group: J.J.Valiente, A.Gadea

#### THANK YOU

# •for your attention!

for financial support





 for the support from the HISPEC Slow Down Beam Collaboration and the IKP Cologne



150BPM

## 



ia'd 🗜 🎽

2





Doppler Shift?

- Half life of 1454 state in 58Ni 0.5ps
- Coulomb Barrier at 289.6MeV
- Is a Doppler correction possible? No position on target, no  $\beta$  for particle in target during deceleration

