A Study of $^{20,22}Ne(p,\gamma)^{21,23}Na$

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STELLAR BURNING



THERMONUCLEAR REACTIONS generate energy through various processes and synthesize the elements we see in the universe today.



STELLAR HYDROGEN BURNING



P-P chain



Our Sun



 $\frac{\text{CNO cycle}}{(M \ge 1.5 \text{ M}_{sun})}$



Sirius A

NENA CYCLE

- Breakout from Hot-CNO
- Advances H-burning
- Creates isotopes of Ne, Na, and Mg



REACTION RATES AND HALF-LIVES OF THE NeNa CYCLE

Reaction	Recommended Reaction Rates $N_{A}\langle \sigma v \rangle_{rr} (cm^{3}mol^{-1}s^{-1})$	β⁺ Decay	Half-life
20 N L () 21 N L		21	
²⁰ Ne(p,y) ²¹ Na	5.91E-06	Ya	23 S
$^{21}Na(p,\gamma)^{22}Mg$	1.99E-02	²² Mg	3.9 s
²¹ Νe(p, γ) ²² Na	1.08E-01	²² Na	2.6 y
$^{22}Na(p,\gamma)^{23}Mg$	2.76E-02	²³ Mg	11 s
²² Νe(p, γ) ²³ Na	3.68E-05		
$^{23}Na(p, \alpha)^{20}Ne$	1.47E-02		

SOURCE: Reaction rates taken from Illiadis (2001) [11] and Beta decay half-lives taken from the Chart of the Nuclides, Temp = 2 x 10⁸ K.

PREVIOUS MEASUREMENTS

HYDROGEN BURNING OF ²⁰Ne AND ²²Ne IN STARS[†]

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Received 11 December 1974

Absolute resonance strengths in the 20,21,22 Ne $(p, \gamma)^{21,22,23}$ Na and 21 Ne $(p, p_1\gamma)^{21}$ Ne reactions

J. Keinonen, M. Riihonen, and A. Anttila Department of Physics, University of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland (Received 1 June 1976)

The ²¹Ne $(p, \gamma)^{22}$ Na and ²¹Ne $(p, p_1\gamma)^{21}$ Ne reactions have been studied in the energy range $E_p = 0.5-2.0$ MeV. The absolute resonance strengths $S = 13 \pm 2$ eV and 0.20 ± 0.03 keV have been obtained for the first time in the ²¹Ne $(p, \gamma)^{22}$ Na and ²¹Ne $(p, p_1\gamma)^{21}$ Ne reactions at $E_p = 1205$ and 1090 keV, respectively. The absolute resonance strengths of 25 (p, γ) and 27 $(p, p_1\gamma)$ resonances in ²²Na have been determined relative to these values. The strengths $S = 1.6 \pm 0.3$ and 21 ± 2 eV for the (p, γ) resonances at $E_p = 1169$ and 1278 keV in ²¹Na and ²³Na, respectively, have been remeasured. The total widths have been determined for 24 resonances in ²²Na using a thin ²¹Ne target. The γ -ray decay properties of resonances in ²²Na and the astrophysical importance of the (p, γ) resonance strengths in ^{21,22,23}Na are discussed.

NUCLEAR REACTIONS ²¹Ne(p, γ), ($p, p_1\gamma$), E = 0.5-2.0 MeV, ²⁰Ne(p, γ), E = 1.2MeV, ²²Ne(p, γ), E = 1.3 MeV; measured $\sigma(E)$; deduced resonance strengths. Enriched targets.

Source	Strength Value [eV]
Rolfs (1975)	1.125 ± 0.075
Keinonen (1977)	0.80 ± 0.15
Stech, thesis (2004)	1.17 ± 0.06

EXPERIMENTAL MOTIVATION

Understand direct-capture cross-section at low energies.

→Measure cross-section relative to the 1169 keV resonance

$$\int_{0}^{\infty} \sigma_{BW}(E) dE = 2\pi^{2} \lambda_{R}^{2} \omega \gamma$$

Resonance strength value unknown!



(Rolfs, 1975)

EXPERIMENTAL SETUP



²⁰Ne AND ²²Ne REACTION SPECTRA



Channel \rightarrow

IMPLANTED TARGET CHARACTERIZATION

22Ne Implanted in Be Target Analysis



Target	n _{atoms} (at/cm^2)
22Ne/Be	$3.28 \pm 0.16 \times 10^{17}$
20Ne/Ta I	5.42 ± 0.29 x 10 ¹⁷
22Ne/Ta I	$1.91 \pm 0.04 \times 10^{17}$
Natural Ne	5.93 ± 0.24 x 10 ¹⁶

Y dE $\omega \gamma =$ $\lambda_R^2 n_{ator}$ $C \times N_{counts}$ $\overline{N_{Beam} \eta(E_{\gamma}) W(\theta) B(E_{\gamma})}$

GE DETECTOR CHARACTERIZATION

Efficiency sources: ¹³⁷Cs,^{56,60}Co, ²⁷Al(p,γ)²⁸Si





$^{22}Ne(p,\gamma)^{23}Na$ Strength Values

Target	ωγ (eV)
²² Ne/Be backing	11.64 ± 0.16
²² Ne/Ta backing	11.99 ± 0.22
Natural Abundance	12.14 ± 0.58
Keinonen (1977)	<i>12.50 ± 0.95</i>
Smit (1979)	10.98 ± 1.05

²²Ne/Ta Target



Natural Abundance Target



$^{20}Ne(p,\gamma)^{21}Na$ Strength Values

Target	ωγ (eV)
²⁰ Ne/Ta backing	1.13 ± 0.02
Natural Abundance	1.26 ± 0.17
Rolfs (1975)	1.125 ± 0.075
Keinonen (1977)	0.80 ± 0.15
Stech, thesis (2004)	1.17 ± 0.06

²⁰Ne/Ta Target



Natural Abundance Target



Measuring the Cross-section

This is the second phase of our experimental goal to measure the direct-capture cross-section of ${}^{20}Ne(p,\gamma){}^{21}Na$.



5U-4 St. Ana Accelerator

Rhinoceros Gas Target



(Rolfs, 1975)

NEW 5U-4 ACCELERATOR AT ND



RHINOCEROS GAS TARGET

Use Rhino's window-less gas target set-up with an "Octopus" chamber.

Advantages:

- Target is indestructible
- No background from a target backing
- Easily vary the thickness by adjusting the gas pressure
- Can make relative measurements easily by mixing gases in the target region
- Reduce straggling and background effects by stopping the beam far away from target region



CURRENT STATUS

- ✓ Beamline from 5U to target room complete
- ✓ Rhino Gas Target beamline complete
- Rhino is currently under refurbishment
 Testing vacuum pumps
 - → Reprogramming controls for efficiency
- Beam development



IN THE NEXT YEAR

- Rhino beamline optimization
- Characterization of target region
- Repeat target tests with 5U and Georgina (Ge detector array)
- Perform in beam testing of gas target
- Perform and analyze cross-section measurement







ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

All those that helped with experiment Nuclear Science Laboratory Support Staff

Krell Institute









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Implanted Target RBS Measurement



RESONANCE STRENGTH

Uncertainties in the resonance strength contribute to the errors in our knowledge of the cross-section

$$\sigma_{BW} = \frac{\lambda_R^2 \omega \gamma}{\pi \Gamma}$$
$$\omega \gamma = \frac{2}{\lambda_P^2} \frac{1}{n_{atoms}} \int \gamma dE$$
$$Y = \frac{C \times N_{counts}}{N_{Beam} \eta(E_{\gamma}) W(\theta) B(E_{\gamma})}$$

Calibration Of The 5U-4 St. Ana Accelerator







Resonance scans were repeatable to within the precision of the hall probe.