Direct measurement of fission barrier heights of unstable heavy nuclei at ISOL facilities

& ACTAR TPC

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Motivation

 Fission is expected to play a key role in the description of r-process in nucleosynthesis n-rich nuclei in two neutron star merger







- Fission barrier height is the parameter determining fission rate
- Description of fission rate/fission barrier in induce fission is demanded in NuPECC Long Range Plan 2017
- A very little progress was done up to present due to the methodology



NuPECC Long Range Plan 2017 Perspectives in Nuclear Physics

The Present Status

- Most of the known, directly measured, fission barriers heights (Bf) were obtained by more than 30 years ago.
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Part of the chart of the nuclides. Nuclei for which the fission barrier was determined experimentally are indicated by an asterisk Dahlinger et. al., 1982

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- The most of them from the nearest vicinity of the $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ stability line

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"The Age of RIB" opens possibilities to measured Bf of exotic n-deficient nuclei in low energy fissions:

- -> <u>βDF</u> (even-even nuclei) <u>significant uncertainty</u> in Bf!
- -> (d,pf) (inverse kinematics) <u>New method</u> for RIB!

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Physical background of fission barriers @ low E*

Probability of low energy fission



Fission decay width

$$\Gamma_{\rm f}(E^*) = \frac{1}{2\pi\rho_{\rm c}(E^*-\Delta)} \int_{0}^{E^*-B_{\rm f}-\Delta_{\rm sp}} \rho_{\rm sp}(E^*-B_{\rm f}-\Delta_{\rm sp}-E')dE'.$$

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Because of pairing energy Δ_{sp} at the saddle point configuration of nucleus Bf could not be determined with good precision by present theory -> uncertainty for deduced Bf for others than odd-odd nuclei.

A small difference in Bf can caused a huge difference in P_{I Ff} !!

even-even, odd A:	Δ_{sp} = unnegligible and significant uncertainty - βDF , (d,pf)
odd-odd:	Δ_{sp} = zero contribution - (d , pf)

(d,pf) & HIE-ISOLDE & ACTAR TPC

- ACTAR TPC enables to measure (d,pf) with post-accelerated n-deficient RIB in inverse kinematics
- ACTAR TPC offers higher fission rate and enables to obtain fission cross section for range of the energies → excitation function

Technique

- -> the two fission fragments are detected in the forward-placed silicon array
- -> the proton from the transfer is either stopped in the volume or in Si-CsI telescope arrays surrounding the active volume
- -> E_{RE}^* from two body kinematics of *proton vs.* RE* -> ACTAR angle resolution < 1°/proton -> uncertainty for E_{RE}^* < 0.5 MeV
- -> different position of (d,p) transfer in the ACTAR TPC corresponds to different $E_{(beam)}$ of RIB (5 to 4.1 AMeV)
- -> fission excitation function for more than 60 points is possible -> multiple measured fission probabilities!!





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We proposed such experiment to INTC commission (HIE-ISOLDE)



D2 gas

FF2³

IS581 experiment

104 101

98

95

92

89

86 83

80

77

74

68

90

102

111

114 117 120

Fr-210

At-202 Bi-200

TI-194

- The experiment for measurement of fission barrier heights of n-deficient odd-odd nuclei in (d,pf) was proposed to INTC in 2012
- IS581 experiment was approved by INTC commission in 2013

126 129

132 135 138 141

 IS581 was put in to the program of planned HIE-ISOLDE experiments



6

IS581: n-deficient nuclei with zero pairing energy @ saddle point ¹⁹⁴Tl, ²⁰⁰Bi, ²⁰²At, ²¹⁰Fr

Stable EC+6+

144 147

150

Experimental conditions of IS581 experiment

- the deuterium gas inside the active target (effective target thickness of 1.6 mg/cm², target chamber length parallel to beam of ~ 12.8 cm)
- the beam slows down from the initial energy of 5 AMeV to about 4.1 AMeV
- the reaction vertex can be reconstructed with a resolution better than 3 mm —> more than 60 points of the excitation function within the given energy range
- the beam intensity of 10⁶ pps
 - -> has to be optimized due to electrostatic mask along the beam of heavy nuclei!
 - -> a rate ranging from about 2 events/minute (at the highest energy) to 1 event/hour (at

the lowest energy)

Requested shifts: 28 shifts (split into 2 runs over 2 years) **Beamline**: 2nd REX beamline Experiment approved as IS581 with all 28 shifts !



ACTAR TPC demonstrator

The period 2013 - 2017

- No progress until now all experiments with ACTAR TPC demonstrator were focused on light ion beams
- There is a need to make the 1-sth measurement of IS581 with ACTAR TPC in 2018 -> longer shutdown of HIE-ISOLDE facilities
- However, guarantee to get measurement time with ACTAR TPC is necessary!

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Thank you for your attention!