

Production of Np isotopes from 238U beam at BigRIPS in RIKEN/理研 BigRIPS での 238U ビームからの Np 同位体の生成

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A variety of unstable nuclear beams with atomic numbers (Z) up to 92 can be produced by the projectile fragmentation and in-flight fission from high intensity U beams at RIBF. Recently, it was found that $^{234-238}\text{Np}$ can be created by a proton pickup reaction on 1 GeV/nucleon ^{238}U beam. Owing to the recent developments of the high-Z beams at BigRIPS, energy dependence of the proton pickup reaction on ^{238}U can be obtained at RIBF. Thus, we conducted an experiment to determine the energy dependence of the production cross section of ^{237}Np . A test of the production of Np isotopes was performed by using the BigRIPS spectrometer at RIBF in March 2022.

Secondary beams around $Z = 90$ were produced by a ^{238}U beam with energies of 345 and 250 MeV/nucleon impinging on a 1-mm-thick ^9Be production target at F0 in BigRIPS.

The particle identification (PID) of the secondary beam was performed using the TOF-Bp- ΔE method.

To validate the production of the $^{237}\text{Np}^{91+}$, a two dimensional (2D) Gaussian fitting approach was conducted in accordance with the distribution patterns of neighboring ions of $^{234}\text{U}^{90+}$, $^{235}\text{U}^{90+}$, and $^{232}\text{Pa}^{89+}$. It is found that Np isotope can be counted up with contaminated U/Pa isotopes using the 2D Gaussian fitting technique. The production cross sections of ^{234}U , ^{235}U , ^{236}U , ^{232}Pa , and ^{233}Pa as well as Np isotopes were derived.

In this presentation, we will report the analysis status of 345 MeV/nucleon.

Primary author: FUKUSHIMA/福島, Chihaya/知隼 (Tokyo City University/東京都市大学)

Co-authors: MATSUMURA/松村, Riku/理久 (RIKEN/理化学研究所); NISHIMURA/西村, Daiki/太樹 (Tokyo City University/東京都市大学); OTSU/大津, Hideaki/秀暁 (RIKEN/理化学研究所); HE, Wang (RIKEN); BABA/馬場, Hidetada/秀忠 (RIKEN/理化学研究所); FUKUDA/福田, Naoki/直樹 (RIKEN/理化学研究所); ISOBE/磯部, Tadaaki/忠昭 (RIKEN/理化学研究所); KOKUBUN/國分, Kei/英 (Tokyo University/東京大学); NISHIMURA/西村, Mizuki/美月 (RIKEN/理化学研究所); MEIGO/明午, Shin-ichiro/伸一郎 (J-PARC/J-PARC); NISHI/西, Takahiro/隆博 (RIKEN/理化学研究所); SAKURAI/櫻井, Hiroyoshi/博儀 (RIKEN/理化学研究所); SASANO/笹野, Masaki/匡紀 (RIKEN/理化学研究所); SATO/佐藤, Hiromi/広海 (RIKEN/理化学研究所); SHIMIZU/清水, Yohei/陽平 (RIKEN/理化学研究所); SUMIKAMA/炭竈, Toshiyuki/聡之 (RIKEN/理化学研究所); SUZUKI/鈴木, Hiroshi/宏 (RIKEN/理化学研究所); TAKAHASHI/高橋, Hiroyuki/弘幸 (Tokyo City University/東京都市大学); TAKEDA/竹田, Hiroyuki/浩之 (RIKEN/理化学研究所); TANAKA/田中, Junki/純貴 (RIKEN/理化学研究所); TOGANO/桐野, Yasuhiro/泰宏 (RIKEN/理化学研究所); YOSHIDA/吉田, Koichi/光一 (RIKEN/理化学研究所); YOSHIMOTO/吉本, Masahiro/雅浩 (RIKEN/理化学研究所)

Presenter: FUKUSHIMA/福島, Chihaya/知隼 (Tokyo City University/東京都市大学)

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