

Current Status and Experiments of the Back-n White Neutron Facility

Ruirui Fan on behalf of Back-n team



白光中子实验装置 Back-n

CSNS Beam Expansions Application



Associated Proton beam Experiment Platform 80 Linac lon source MeV proton The 1.6 GeV proton beam hits the White neutron source Synchrotron tungsten target with ~300 MeV neutron a 15° deflection. DEFEN P. D 00 Sel proton muon source **Beam parameters** flux Beamline Particle Energy Back-n thermal-300 MeV 1E7 n/cm⁻²/s Neutron The Back-n is a white neutron beam 1E9 p/s APEP Proton 80 MeV line that is opposite to the target **HPES** Proton 1.6 GeV 1E3 - 1E8 p/sstation direction. It started running in Muon 1E5 muon/pulse MELODY 4 MeV 2018 for nuclear data measurements.

Back-n





Shutter	Coll#1	Coll#2	ES#1 spot	ES#1 flux	ES#2 spot	ES#2 flux
(mm)	(mm)	(mm)	(mm)	$(n/cm^2/s)$	(mm)	$(n/cm^2/s)$
Ф3	Φ15	Φ40	Ф15	1.27E5	Ф20	4.58E4
Ф12	Φ15	Φ40	Ф20	2.20E6	Ф30	7.81E5
Φ50	Φ50	Φ58	Ф50	4.33E7	Ф60	1.36E7
78×62	76×76	90×90	75×50	5.98E7	90×90	2.18E7

The back-streaming neutrons are leading to the Back-n tunnel, which has a long flight distance for the neutron time-of-flight method. Two end stations ES#1 and ES#2 are constructed for different nuclear data measurements. The ES#1 has a distance of about 55 m, and ES#2 is about 70 m from the target. Different sets of beam spots, collimator apertures and neutron fluxes at Back-n at 100 kW in proton beam power can be found in table.

1. 2017 JINST 12 P07022

May 30, 2024

2. Eur. Phys. J. A (2019) 55: 115

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Back-n neutron energy spectrum measurement



Energy range	flux (neutrons/cm ² /s)
0.1-1 eV	4.08×10^{3}
1-10 eV	1.79×10^{4}
10-100 eV	3.01×10^{4}
0.1-1 keV	5.01×10^{4}
1-10 keV	1.23×10^{5}
10-100 keV	4.30×10^{5}
0.1-1 MeV	2.98×10^{6}
1-10 MeV	2.77×10^{6}
10-200 MeV	6.21×10^{5}
Total	7.03×10^{6}

We used different reference cross-sections to measure the energy spectrum, including: (n, p), 6 Li(n, t), 235 U(n, f), 238 U(n, f)

The white neutron energy range



The Back-n has a wide neutron energy range from **cold neutron (0.4 meV) to 300 MeV (Fig 1)**. To avoid the frame overlap, a Cadmium filter is employed at the upstream end of the beamline (window).

Thermal neutrons or epithermal neutrons are the reference for lots of experiments, and some important parameters such as neutron polarization need to be calibrated using thermal neutrons.

Changing the beam filter 1 mm Cadmium \rightarrow 1.7 mm boron nitride (BN), can get a lower cutoff energy(**300->20 meV**).





核数据测量实验 Nuclear data measurement

Classification of Neutron and Nucleus Reactions



Neutron and nucleus reactions can be divided into three main categories based on the nuclear reaction process: scattering reactions, absorption reactions, and transfer reactions.





C₆D₆(Benzene-d6) scintillator detector







Fig. 10 The capture cross sections of 232 Th multiplied by the square root of the neutron energy. The uncertainty of some data sets is omitted to maintain the readability of the figure

Fig. 15. (color online) The capture cross sections of ¹⁶⁹Tm obtained by the relative measurement of ¹⁹⁷Au (n, γ) .

The C_6D_6 liquid scintillator is EJ315, which is produced by ELJEN Technology Corporation. The shell of the scintillator is made of aluminum and the size is 130mm in diameter and 76.2mm in length. The C_6D_6 detectors are placed upstream of the sample relative to the neutron beam, and the detector axis is at an angle of 125 degrees from the neutron beam.

Photo of the C6D6 detector system

May 30, 2024

Radiation Detection Technology and Methods, 3(3): 52 Chinese Physics C, 46(4): 044002 Chinese Physics B, 31(6): 060101

Gamma Total Absorption Facility (GTAF)



- ✓ Precise measurements of (n, y) cross-section
- \checkmark Suitable for micro-samples and low cross-section samples
- ✓ Spin&parity identification



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The fission chamber





The fission ionization chamber detector measures the fission fragments generated through the reaction between the fission material (²³⁵U, ²³⁸U) and neutrons, and records the energy of the neutrons by measuring their flight time.

Nuclear Inst. and Methods in Physics Research, A 940 (2019) 486–491 Physics Letters B, 839: 137832 EPJ Web of Conferences, 284: 01013 Annals of Nuclear Energy, 140: 107301

²³²Th(n, f) cross section

En (MeV)

- 1. NIMA 1039 (2022) 167157
- 2. Z. Chen et al 2022 JINST 17 P05032
- 3. NIMA1058(2024)168912
- 4. NIMA 1060 (2024) 169045

Gas pressure control system High voltage

Pre-amp

Anode board

Back-n multipurpose TPC

Gas mixture system

IVIAY 30, 2024

ower supplier

Hardware Update





2019

2021

2023

May 30, 2024

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BLUET framework

- UI interface, Simulation, Waveform analysis, Event reconstruction...
- BLUET code has been upgraded to version v5, developed based on Gitlab open to everyone.





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		C LICENSE	Update LICENSE	5 months ago		
		He README.md	fix range number comparison in Factory	2 days ago		



Software update





The improved particle resolution achieved through the trajectory fitting algorithm

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²³⁵U(n, f) cross section measurement







自光中子应用和基础物理 Application and Fundamental Physics

Pub In

Energy (eV)

Neutron Resonance Transmission Imaging(NRTI)

sample:

Au、Ag、W、Ta、In



Transmission image



For the inspected sample containing nuclides that exhibit sharp cross-section resonances, the nuclides' distributions can be identified by analyzing the time-resolved transmission images of the neutrons through the sample. *



*NIMA 1048, 2023, 167892



Indium

NRTI based on ¹⁰B-doped MCP



Detection system





Sample rate : 80 MSPS Sampling resolution:12 bit

Analog-to-Digital Module





Data Concentrator Module

May 30, 2024 Crossed Anonde Strip 128x128

ISINN31 @ DongguPre-Amplifier Module

X2

NRTI based on ¹⁰B-doped MCP



Sample objects and the neutron transmission image over the full-energy region









Sample objects and the neutron transmission image over the fullenergy region May 30, 2024



Cross sections of ^{nat}Cu, ^{nat}Fe, and ²⁷Al in the energy region of **100 eV–500 keV**



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Identification imaging with neutron energy selected

NRTI based on ¹⁰B-doped MCP

NOPTREX at Back-n





May 30, 2024

Optimization of NOPTREX





The testing is scheduled to take place during the NOPTREX beam time in July of this year.



会议和朋友 ISINN and friends







31st International Seminar on Interaction of Neutrons with Nuclei









splendid moment

Written by Professor Amir: 'I owe the Chinese people a debt of gratitude.' May 30, 2024 ISINN31 @ Dongguan





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1viay 50, 2024

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Resident

再见, 朋友 See you, my friends