

Merry  
Christmas



## UK Nuclear Activity



December 2014 Issue 18

In this issue,

1. [Nuclear Physics Publications for December](#)
2. [News to Report](#)
  - a. [Gamma-ray microscope peers into stellar explosions](#)
  - b. [IoP Nuclear Physics Group annual conference 2015](#)
3. [Outreach Activity](#)
4. [Media Interactions](#)

Newsletter archive: <http://npg.dl.ac.uk/OutreachNewsletter/index.html>

Nuclear Physics Public Engagement Website: [www.stfc.ac.uk/NuclearPhysicsForYou](http://www.stfc.ac.uk/NuclearPhysicsForYou)

---

### 1. Nuclear Physics Publications for December\*

If you are publishing a paper that you think would be of media value please let Wendy Ellison [wendy.ellison@stfc.ac.uk](mailto:wendy.ellison@stfc.ac.uk), STFC Press Officer, know. She can help with press releases and publicity. If you get in touch with her before publication she can also get material ready in advance for the day of publication.

JINST 9, P11003 (2014) <http://iopscience.iop.org/1748-0221/9/11/P11003/>

Measurement of visible cross sections in proton-lead collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02$  TeV in van der Meer scans with the ALICE detector

The ALICE Collaboration, UK Authors: D. Alexandre, L.S. Barnby, D. Evans, M. A. S. Figueredo, L.D. Hanratty, P.G. Jones, A. Jusko, M. Krivda, G.R. Lee, R.C. Lemmon, R. Lietava, R. Romita, O. Villalobos Baillie

\*Published 4 November 2014

Nature Physics 10, 909 (2014) <http://www.nature.com/nphys/journal/v10/n12/full/nphys3165.html>

Recent advances in nuclear physics through on-line isotope separation

[David Gareth Jenkins](#)

\*Published 28 November 2014

J. Environ. Radioactiv. 138, 315 (2014) <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0265931X14000824>

The production of Neptunium-236g

[S.M. Jerome](#)<sup>a,\*</sup>, [P. Ivanov](#)<sup>a</sup>, [C. Larijani](#)<sup>a</sup>, [D.J. Parker](#)<sup>b</sup>, [P.H. Regan](#)<sup>a,c</sup>

Published December 2014

Phys. Rev. C 90, 067301 (2014) <http://journals.aps.org/prc/abstract/10.1103/PhysRevC.90.067301>

$B(E2; 2^+_1 \rightarrow 0^+_1)$  value in  $^{90}\text{Kr}$

[J.-M. Régis](#)<sup>1,\*</sup>, [J. Jolie](#)<sup>1</sup>, [N. Saed-Samii](#)<sup>1</sup>, [N. Warr](#)<sup>1</sup>, [M. Pfeiffer](#)<sup>1</sup>, [A. Blanc](#)<sup>2</sup>, [M. Jentschel](#)<sup>2</sup>, [U. Köster](#)<sup>2</sup>, [P. Mutti](#)<sup>2</sup>, [T. Soldner](#)<sup>2</sup>, [G. S. Simpson](#)<sup>3,†</sup>, [F. Drouet](#)<sup>3</sup>, [A. Vancraeynest](#)<sup>3</sup>, [G. de France](#)<sup>4</sup>, [E. Clément](#)<sup>4</sup>, [O. Stezowski](#)<sup>5</sup>, [C. A. Ur](#)<sup>6</sup>, [W. Urban](#)<sup>7</sup>, [P. H. Regan](#)<sup>8,‡</sup>, [Zs. Podolyák](#)<sup>8</sup>, [C. Larijani](#)<sup>8,‡</sup>, [C. Townsley](#)<sup>8</sup>, [R. Carroll](#)<sup>8</sup>, [E. Wilson](#)<sup>8</sup>, [L. M. Fraile](#)<sup>9</sup>, [H. Mach](#)<sup>9,§</sup>,

\*Also including missed publications from previous months.

[V. Pazyř<sup>9</sup>](#), [B. Olaizola<sup>9</sup>](#), [V. Vedia<sup>9</sup>](#), [A. M. Bruce<sup>10</sup>](#), [O. J. Roberts<sup>10</sup>](#), [J. F. Smith<sup>11</sup>](#), [T. Kröll<sup>12</sup>](#), [A.-L. Hartig<sup>12</sup>](#), [A. Ignatov<sup>12</sup>](#), [S. Ilieva<sup>12</sup>](#), [M. Thürauf<sup>12</sup>](#), [S. Lalkovski<sup>13,¶</sup>](#), [D. Ivanova<sup>13</sup>](#), [S. Kisyov<sup>13</sup>](#), [W. Korten<sup>14</sup>](#), [M.-D. Salsac<sup>14</sup>](#), [M. Zielińska<sup>14</sup>](#), [N. Mărginean<sup>15</sup>](#), [D. G. Ghita<sup>15</sup>](#), [R. Lică<sup>15</sup>](#), [C. M. Petrache<sup>16</sup>](#), [A. Astier<sup>16</sup>](#), and [R. Leguillon<sup>16,¶</sup>](#)

Published 1 December 2014

Phys. Rev. Lett. 113, 232301 (2014) <https://journals.aps.org/prl/abstract/10.1103/PhysRevLett.113.232301>

Measurement of Prompt D-Meson Production in p-Pb collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02$  TeV

B. Abelev *et al.* (ALICE Collaboration), UK Authors: D. Alexandre, L.S. Barnby, D. Evans, M. A. S. Figueredo, L.D. Hanratty, P.G. Jones, A. Jusko, M. Krivda, G.R. Lee, R.C. Lemmon, R. Lietava, J. Norman, R. Romita, O. Villalobos Baillie

Published 4 December 2014

Phys. Rev. Lett. 113, 232504 (2104) <http://journals.aps.org/prl/abstract/10.1103/PhysRevLett.113.232504>

Exclusive  $J/\psi$  Photoproduction off Protons in Ultraperipheral p-Pb collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02$  TeV

B. Abelev *et al.* (ALICE Collaboration), UK Authors: D. Alexandre, L.S. Barnby, D. Evans, M. A. S. Figueredo, L.D. Hanratty, P.G. Jones, A. Jusko, M. Krivda, G.R. Lee, R.C. Lemmon, R. Lietava, J. Norman, R. Romita, O. Villalobos Baillie

Published 5 December 2014

JHEP 12, 073 (2014) <http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/JHEP12%282014%29073>

Suppression of  $\psi(2S)$  production in p-Pb collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02$  TeV

The ALICE Collaboration, UK Authors: D. Alexandre, L.S. Barnby, D. Evans, M. A. S. Figueredo, L.D. Hanratty, P.G. Jones, A. Jusko, M. Krivda, G.R. Lee, R.C. Lemmon, R. Lietava, J. Norman, R. Romita, O. Villalobos Baillie

Published 10 December 2014

NIM A 767, 359 (2014) <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0168900214009826>

Evaluation of the implementation of the R-matrix formalism with reference to the astrophysically important  $^{18}\text{F}(p,\alpha)^{15}\text{O}$  reaction

[D.J. Mountford<sup>a,\\*,</sup>](#), [R.J. deBoer<sup>b</sup>](#), [P. Descouvemont<sup>c</sup>](#), [A. St. J. Murphy<sup>a</sup>](#), [E. Uberseder<sup>b</sup>](#), [M. Wiescher<sup>b</sup>](#)

Published 11 December 2014

NIM A 767, 453 (2014) <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0168900214010195>

Performance analysis for the CALIFA Barrel calorimeter of the  $R^3B$  experiment

[H. Alvarez-Pol<sup>a,\\*,</sup>](#), [N. Ashwood<sup>b</sup>](#), [T. Aumann<sup>c,d</sup>](#), [D. Bertini<sup>d</sup>](#), [P. Cabanelas<sup>a</sup>](#), [E. Casarejos<sup>e</sup>](#), [J. Cederkalf<sup>f</sup>](#), [D. Cortina-Gil<sup>g</sup>](#), [P. Díaz Fernández<sup>a</sup>](#), [I. Duran<sup>a</sup>](#), [E. Fiori<sup>g,h</sup>](#), [D. Galaviz<sup>i</sup>](#), [M. Labiche<sup>j</sup>](#), [E. Nacher<sup>k</sup>](#), [B. Pietras<sup>a</sup>](#), [D. Savran<sup>g,h</sup>](#), [O. Tengblad<sup>k</sup>](#), [P. Teubig<sup>l</sup>](#)

Published 11 December 2014

Phys. Lett. B 739, 139 (2014) <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0370269314007576>

Freeze-out radii extracted from three-pion cumulants in pp, p-Pb and Pb-Pb collisions at the LHC

B. Abelev *et al.* (ALICE Collaboration), UK Authors: D. Alexandre, L.S. Barnby, D. Evans, M. A. S. Figueredo, L.D. Hanratty, P.G. Jones, A. Jusko, M. Krivda, G.R. Lee, R.C. Lemmon, R. Lietava, R. Romita, O. Villalobos Baillie

Published 12 December 2014

NIM B 317, 565 (2014) <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0168583X13007088>

The Collinear Resonance Ionization Spectroscopy (CRIS) experimental setup at CERN-ISOLDE

[T.E. Cocolios<sup>a,b,\\*,</sup>](#), [H.H. Al Suradi<sup>c</sup>](#), [J. Billowes<sup>a</sup>](#), [I. Budinčević<sup>d</sup>](#), [R.P. de Groote<sup>d</sup>](#), [S. De Schepper<sup>d</sup>](#), [V.N. Fedosseev<sup>e</sup>](#), [K.T. Flanagan<sup>a</sup>](#), [S. Franchoo<sup>f</sup>](#), [R.F. Garcia Ruiz<sup>d</sup>](#), [H. Heylen<sup>d</sup>](#), [F. Le Blanc<sup>f,1</sup>](#), [K.M. Lynch<sup>a,b</sup>](#), [B.A. Marsh<sup>e</sup>](#), [P.J.R. Mason<sup>g,2</sup>](#), [G. Neyens<sup>d</sup>](#), [J. Papuga<sup>d</sup>](#), [T.J. Procter<sup>a</sup>](#), [M.M. Rajabali<sup>d,3</sup>](#), [R.E. Rossel<sup>e,h</sup>](#), [S. Rothe<sup>e,h</sup>](#), [G.S. Simpson<sup>i</sup>](#), [A.J. Smith<sup>a</sup>](#), [I. Strashnov<sup>a</sup>](#), [H.H. Stroke<sup>j</sup>](#), [D. Verney<sup>f</sup>](#), [P.M. Walker<sup>g</sup>](#), [K.D.A. Wendt<sup>h</sup>](#), [R.T. Wood<sup>g</sup>](#)

Published 12 December 2014

---

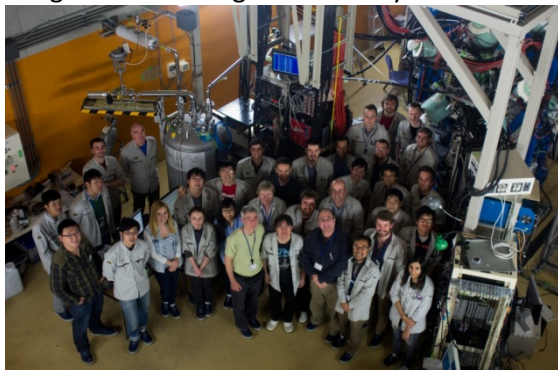
## 2. News to Report

**a. Gamma-ray microscope peers into stellar explosions.** Research at the world-leading [RIKEN Nishina Centre](#) in Tokyo has revealed nuclear structure details that themselves

control elemental abundances from exploding stars. These ground-breaking results have been accepted for publication in [Physical Review Letters](#).

Led by physicists from the [Centre for Nuclear and Radiation Physics](#) at the University of

Surrey, from RIKEN, and from Beihang University in Beijing, the research involved accelerating uranium (the heaviest naturally occurring element) to 70 percent of the speed of light and colliding it into a beryllium foil.



Members of the collaboration at RIKEN.

The uranium nuclei fissioned into many different fragments which were separated and identified by a system of magnets and detectors. Fragments with a large excess of neutrons were selected and stopped inside the EURICA “gamma-ray microscope” – a sophisticated array of germanium and lanthanum-bromide gamma-ray detectors. Surrey STFC-funded PhD student, Zena Patel, took the lead in analysing the data for two specific reaction products, samarium-164 and gadolinium-166, expected to be two of the most deformed (rugby-ball shaped) nuclei in nature. The success hinged on the existence of “long lived” nuclear excited states (isomers) predicted to exist in these nuclei. Although the isomers turned out to have lifetimes in the region of only one microsecond, this was sufficient time for them to survive the 100-metre flight path from the beryllium foil to the gamma-ray detector array. They emitted gamma rays after they had stopped in the EURICA array, and the gamma-ray energies demonstrated that indeed they are highly deformed. A key finding is that there are subtle but unexpected deformation differences compared to the better-known

isotopes (with fewer neutrons) and it turns out that high-order deformation ( $\beta_6$ ) needs to be taken into account. The results provide the first confirmation of a deformed “shell gap” in the nuclear structure predicted by theoretical calculations. This in turn feeds back into calculations that simulate the nuclear reactions inside exploding stars, and predict what elements (and how much of them) should exist in our solar system.

*Contribution by Phil Walker*  
[P.Walker@surrey.ac.uk](mailto:P.Walker@surrey.ac.uk) (Surrey)

**b. IoP Nuclear Physics Group annual conference 2015.** This year the annual conference of the IoP Nuclear Physics Group will be held jointly with the Particle and Astroparticle Physics Groups, and will take place at the University of Manchester from Monday 30th March to Thursday 2nd April. The programme will include talks designed to appeal to all attendees, on topics including

- Nuclear Astrophysics
- Double Beta Decay
- Heavy Ion Physics
- Neutrino interactions
- Dark Matter Searches
- BSM searches at high and low energies
- Higgs at LHC
- Future of Accelerators

as well as invited plenary talks for the individual groups, parallel sessions for which submissions will be invited, and a poster session. There will also be an STFC town meeting.

The first circular will be sent out and registration will go live shortly on the [website](#).

**The submission deadline for abstracts is the 15th February.**

*Contribution by Judith McGovern*  
[judith.mcgovern@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:judith.mcgovern@manchester.ac.uk)  
(Manchester)

---

### 3. Outreach Activity

-

### 4. Media Interactions

#### Radio Show.

11 December 2014, Panel Guest on BBC Radio 4 Quiz Show, 'The Third Degree', Hosted at University of Surrey.

*Contribution by Paddy Regan*  
[p.regan@surrey.ac.uk](mailto:p.regan@surrey.ac.uk) (NPL/Surrey)