



September 2021 Issue 99

In this issue,

1. [Nuclear Physics Publications for September](#)
2. [News to Report](#)
  - a. [IOP Nuclear Physics Group Early Career Prize nominations](#)
  - b. [Prof Marialuisa Aliotta awarded Giuseppe Occhialini Medal and Prize](#)
3. [Outreach Activity](#)
  - a. [Nature blog post by Robin Smith](#)
4. [Media Interactions](#)

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

Nuclear Physics Public Engagement Website: [NuclearPhysicsForYou](#)

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**1. Nuclear Physics Publications for September (also includes missed publications from previous months)**

If you are publishing a paper that you think would be of media value please contact [Wendy Ellison](#), STFC Press Officer. 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.

Nature Communications **volume 12**, Article number: 5920 (Editor's pick)  
<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-021-26179-x>  
**Precision measurements on oxygen formation in stellar helium burning with gamma-ray beams and a Time Projection Chamber**  
**R. Smith, M. Gai, S. R. Stern, D. K. Schweitzer & M. W. Ahmed**  
Published 11 October 2021

Phys. Rev. C **104**, L032803  
<https://journals.aps.org/prc/abstract/10.1103/PhysRevC.104.L032803>  
**Destruction of the cosmic  $\gamma$ -ray emitter  $^{26}\text{Al}$  in massive stars: Study of the key  $^{26}\text{Al}(\text{n},\alpha)$  reaction**  
**C. Lederer-Woods *et al.* (n\_TOF Collaboration)**  
Published 22 September 2021

Phys. Rev. C **104**, 034307

<https://journals.aps.org/prc/abstract/10.1103/PhysRevC.104.034307>

**<sup>145</sup>Ba and <sup>145,146</sup>La structure from lifetime measurements**

B. Olaizola, A. Babu, R. Umashankar, A. B. Garnsworthy, G. C. Ball, V. Bildstein, M. Bowry, C. Burbadge, R. Cabellero-Folch, I. Dillmann, A. Diaz-Varela, R. Dunlop, A. Estradé, P. E. Garrett, G. Hackman, A. D. MacLean, J. Measures, C. J. Pearson, B. Shaw, D. Southall, C. E. Svensson, J. Turko, K. Whitmore, and T. Zidar

Published 9 September 2021

Phys. Rev. C **104**, 034313

<https://journals.aps.org/prc/abstract/10.1103/PhysRevC.104.034313>

**Neutron-unbound states in <sup>31</sup>Ne**

D. Chrisman, A. N. Kuchera, T. Baumann, A. Blake, B. A. Brown, J. Brown, C. Cochran, P. A. DeYoung, J. E. Finck, N. Frank, P. Guèye, H. Karrick, H. Liu, J. McDonaugh, T. Mix, B. Monteagudo, T. H. Redpath, W. F. Rogers, R. Seaton-Todd, A. Spyrou, K. Stiefel, M. Thoennessen, J. A. Tostevin, and D. Votaw

Published 15 September 2021

Phys. Rev. C **104**, 034318

<https://journals.aps.org/prc/abstract/10.1103/PhysRevC.104.034318>

**Coulomb and nuclear excitations of <sup>70</sup>Zn and <sup>68</sup>Ni at intermediate energy**

S. Calinescu<sup>1</sup>, O. Sorlin<sup>2</sup>, I. Matea<sup>3</sup>, F. Carstoiu<sup>1</sup>, D. D. Dao<sup>4</sup>, F. Nowacki<sup>4</sup>, G. de Angelis<sup>5</sup>, R. Astabatyan<sup>6</sup>, S. Bagchi<sup>7</sup>, C. Borcea<sup>1</sup>, R. Borcea<sup>1</sup>, L. Cáceres<sup>2</sup>, M. Ciemála<sup>8</sup>, E. Clément<sup>2</sup>, Z. Dombrádi<sup>9</sup>, S. Franchoo<sup>3</sup>, A. Gottardo<sup>5</sup>, S. Grévy<sup>10</sup>, H. Guerin<sup>10</sup>, M. N. Harakeh<sup>7</sup>, I. M. Harca<sup>1</sup>, O. Kamalou<sup>2</sup>, M. Kmiecik<sup>8</sup>, A. Krasznahorkay<sup>9</sup>, M. Krzysiek<sup>8</sup>, I. Kuti<sup>9</sup>, A. Lepailleur<sup>2</sup>, S. Lukyanov<sup>6</sup>, A. Maj<sup>8</sup>, V. Maslov<sup>6</sup>, K. Mazurek<sup>8</sup>, P. Morfouace<sup>3</sup>, J. Mrazek<sup>11</sup>, F. Negoita<sup>1</sup>, M. Niikura<sup>3</sup>, L. Olivier<sup>3</sup>, Y. Penionzhkevich<sup>6</sup>, L. Perrot<sup>3</sup>, C. Petrone<sup>1,12</sup>, Z. Podolyák<sup>13</sup>, C. Rigollet<sup>7</sup>, T. Roger<sup>2</sup>, F. Rotaru<sup>1</sup>, D. Sohler<sup>9</sup>, M. Stanoiu<sup>1</sup>, I. Stefan<sup>3</sup>, L. Stuhl<sup>9</sup>, J. C. Thomas<sup>2</sup>, Z. Vajta<sup>9</sup>, M. Vandebrouck<sup>14</sup>, and O. Wieland<sup>15</sup>

Published 23 September 2021

Phys. Rev. C **104**, 034614

<https://journals.aps.org/prc/abstract/10.1103/PhysRevC.104.034614>

**Three-body optical potentials in (d,p) reactions and their influence on indirect study of stellar nucleosynthesis**

M. J. Dinmore, N. K. Timofeyuk, and J. S. Al-Khalili

Published 10 September 2021

Phys. Rev. Lett. **127**, 112501

<https://journals.aps.org/prl/references/10.1103/PhysRevLett.127.112501>

**Mass Measurements of Neutron-Deficient Yb Isotopes and Nuclear Structure at the Extreme Proton-Rich Side of the N=82 Shell**

Sönke Beck<sup>1,2,\*</sup>, Brian Kootte<sup>3,4</sup>, Irene Dedes<sup>5,6</sup>, Timo Dickel<sup>1,2</sup>, A. A. Kwiatkowski<sup>3,7</sup>, Eleni Marina Lykiardopoulou<sup>8,3</sup>, Wolfgang R. Plaß<sup>1,2</sup>, Moritz P. Reiter<sup>1,3,9</sup>, Corina Andreoiu<sup>10</sup>, Julian Bergmann<sup>1</sup>, Thomas Brunner<sup>11</sup>, Dominique Curien<sup>12</sup>, Jens Dilling<sup>3,8</sup>, Jerzy Dudek<sup>12,6</sup>, Eleanor Dunling<sup>3,13</sup>, Jake Flowerdew<sup>14</sup>, Abdelghafar Gaamouci<sup>15</sup>, Leigh

Graham<sup>3</sup>, Gerald Gwinner<sup>4</sup>, Andrew Jacobs<sup>8,3</sup>, Renee Klawitter<sup>3</sup>, Yang Lan<sup>8</sup>, Erich Leistenschneider<sup>8,3</sup>, Nikolay Minkov<sup>16</sup>, Victor Monier<sup>3</sup>, Ish Mukul<sup>3</sup>, Stefan F. Paul<sup>3</sup>, Christoph Scheidenberger<sup>1,2,17</sup>, Robert I. Thompson<sup>14</sup>, James L. Tracy, Jr.<sup>3</sup>, Michael Vansteenkiste<sup>3</sup>, Hua-Lei Wang<sup>18</sup>, Michael E. Wieser<sup>14</sup>, Christian Will<sup>1</sup>, and Jie Yang<sup>6,18</sup>

Published 10 September 2021

Phys. Rev. Lett. **127**, 112701

<https://journals.aps.org/prl/abstract/10.1103/PhysRevLett.127.112701>

### **First Direct Measurement of an Astrophysical p-Process Reaction Cross Section Using a Radioactive Ion Beam**

G. Lotay<sup>1</sup>, S. A. Gillespie<sup>2,†</sup>, M. Williams<sup>2,3</sup>, T. Rauscher<sup>4,5</sup>, M. Alcorta<sup>2</sup>, A. M. Amthor<sup>6</sup>, C. A. Andreoiu<sup>7</sup>, D. Baal<sup>2</sup>, G. C. Ball<sup>2</sup>, S. S. Bhattacharjee<sup>2,‡</sup>, H. Behnamian<sup>8</sup>, V. Bildstein<sup>8</sup>, C. Burbadge<sup>8,\*</sup>, W. N. Catford<sup>1</sup>, D. T. Doherty<sup>1</sup>, N. E. Esker<sup>2</sup>, F. H. Garcia<sup>7</sup>, A. B. Garnsworthy<sup>2</sup>, G. Hackman<sup>2</sup>, S. Hallam<sup>1</sup>, K. A. Hudson<sup>2,9</sup>, S. Jazrawi<sup>1</sup>, E. Kasanda<sup>8</sup>, A. R. L. Kennington<sup>1</sup>, Y. H. Kim<sup>10</sup>, A. Lennarz<sup>2</sup>, R. S. Lubna<sup>2</sup>, C. R. Natzke<sup>2,11</sup>, N. Nishimura<sup>12</sup>, B. Olaizola<sup>2,§</sup>, C. Paxman<sup>1,2</sup>, A. Psaltis<sup>13,||</sup>, C. E. Svensson<sup>8</sup>, J. Williams<sup>2</sup>, B. Wallis<sup>3</sup>, D. Yates<sup>2,14</sup>, D. Walter<sup>2</sup>, and B. Davids<sup>2,9</sup>

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## **2. News to Report**

### **a. IOP Nuclear Physics Group Early Career Prize nominations**

We would like to announce the call for nominations for the IOP Nuclear Physics Group Early Career Researcher Prize. This prize is awarded to an individual, at an early stage of their career, who has made a significant contribution to either experimental or theoretical nuclear physics research in either fundamental or applied areas.

Researchers, who are within 6 years of the completion of their Ph.D. or, for those without a Ph.D., within 10 years of the start of their first employment contract where research is the primary function of their role are eligible. Nominees should be employed by, studying at, or obtained their Ph.D. at a UK or Irish institution or be an IOP Nuclear Physics Group member.

The winner receives £250 and is invited to present at the annual IOP Nuclear Physics Conference.

The nomination form will be available soon at: [Nuclear Physics Early Career Researcher Prize | Institute of Physics \(iop.org\)](#) or can be obtained by emailing the Group's Secretary at [james.benstead@awe.co.uk](mailto:james.benstead@awe.co.uk).

This completed form should be sent to the Secretary of the Nuclear Physics Group at [james.benstead@awe.co.uk](mailto:james.benstead@awe.co.uk) by 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021, with a supporting statement from a referee external to the nominee's current place of study or work sent no later than 7<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

We also support anyone wishing to self-nominate, though students should have the support of their supervisor in doing so.

*Contribution by David Sharp  
(IOP Nuclear Physics Group Chair)*

### **b. Prof Marialuisa Aliotta awarded Giuseppe Occhialini Medal and Prize**

Prof Marialuisa Aliotta received the Giuseppe Occhialini Medal and Prize in recognition of her work in nuclear astrophysics.

The [Giuseppe Occhialini Medal and Prize](#) is awarded jointly by the Institute of Physics and the Italian Physical Society for distinguished work by a physicist based in Italy or the UK/Ireland.

Prof Aliotta received this award “for her major contributions to nuclear astrophysics experiments, in particular to the study of key hydrogen-burning reactions relevant to quiescent stellar evolution and nucleosynthesis, in the framework of the international LUNA experiments at the Laboratori Nazionali del Gran Sasso, INFN (Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare).”

*Contribution by Marialuisa Aliotta  
(University of Edinburgh)*

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### **3. Outreach Activity**

#### **a. Nature blog post by Robin Smith**

Robin Smith of Sheffield Hallam University has written a blog post following an invitation from Nature. The post on “Shining a spotlight on stellar evolution with gamma-beams” can be read at: <https://go.nature.com/3DprTc5>

*Contribution by Robin Smith  
(Sheffield Hallam University)*

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### **4. Media Interactions**

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