# **Carbon burning in massive stars**

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## different burning phases characterize the evolution of a "massive" star

each burning phase is controlled by different nuclear reactions, which govern the:

- energy production
- $\succ$  time scale
- nucleosynthesis

## Burning phases in massive stars



# Carbon burning: a crucial phase in the stellar nucleosynthesis



• key reactions at each stage of stellar burning



- In a star of 8-11 Solar masses, a carbon flash lasts just milliseconds.
- In a star of 25 Solar masses carbon burning lasts about 600 years.

VR.





## THE INSTITUTE OF PHYSICS Sir Fred Hoyle FRS (1915-2001)

was educated here (1926-1933)

Astrophysicist, cosmologist and author Plumian Professor of Astronomy and Experimental Philosophy at the University of Cambridge (1958-1972)

He discovered the origin of carbon (which, with water, is essential for life) and other heavy elements



## Ikeda Diagram





## Cross-sections for some light systems at subcoulomb energies



R. Stokstad et al., Phys.Rev.Lett. 37 (1976)



E [MeV]

Jiang et al. Gasques et al. Caughlan and Fowler ·PA KNS . . . Q = 2.24 MeVQ = 4.62 MeVQ = -2.62 MeV6 8

### Experimental and theoretical efforts

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# <sup>12</sup>C+<sup>12</sup>C cross-sections, sources of uncertainties nb to pb range

1) Backgrounds: Detection of charged particles, p and  $\alpha$ :  $^{12}C + H \rightarrow p$  and  $^{12}C + D \rightarrow p$  or d Detection of  $\gamma$ -rays:

<sup>12</sup>C+H  $\rightarrow \gamma$  and <sup>12</sup>C + D  $\rightarrow \gamma$ ; cosmic rays and room backgrounds

2) Thick targets measurements: Taking the difference of two measurements at different energies.





## New technique

Particle-y coincidences



╋ 1) Reduction of the backgrounds DSSD3: 17° < θ < 32 ° 2) Using thin target Faraday  $I_{MOX-12C} = 600 pnA$ Cup Monitor Target Wheel



## New technique





### Gammasphere runs $E_{Lab} = 5.5 - 10 \text{ MeV}$ , $I_{Max-12C} = 600 \text{ pnA}$



CL Jiang et al., Phys. Rev. C 98, 2018

## Results

Increase beam intensity

Adapt target system

better gamma efficiency

## New challenges



# Use of the $\gamma$ -particle coincidence technique with



- Andromede facility, University of Paris-Sud Orsay
- 4 MV Pelletron
- ECR Source
- <sup>12</sup>C υp to 10 μA







#### Collaboration : IPHC and GANIL

## Targets

- Cryogenic pumping
- Fixed target system
  - Rotating target (> 1000 rpm)







M. Heine et al., NIMA



## Targets



- Cryogenic pumping
- Fixed target system
- Rotating target (> 1000 rpm)
- I > 1 pμA





M. Heine et al., NIMA



## Particle detection

- Annular DSSD, MICRON chip Collab. York
- New PCB design / ceramics
- New pin connectors
- $\Delta\Omega \sim 24 \%$  of  $4\pi$ .



## Particle detection



- New PCB design / ceramics
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Light Yield [ph·MeV<sup>-1</sup>]



Design IPHC : G. Heitz / M. Heine

## Gamma detection

- Up to 36 LaBr<sub>3</sub> detectors
  from the FATIMA collaboration
  (P. Regan et al.)
- Cylindrical geometry IPHC designed mechanical support, Strabourg + York construction
- Self activity
- ε = 8% @ 440 keV
- ε = 5% @ 1634 keV



Self activity &  $\gamma$  of interest from <sup>12</sup>C+<sup>12</sup>C fusion



Coincidence with 1 particle :  $\gamma$  from fusion



Without coincident gamma ray



With coincident gamma ray



## *E<sub>rel</sub>* = 2.16 *MeV*

*E<sub>rel</sub>* = 3.77 *MeV* 







# Indirect i.e. nuclear structure insights are necessary to get further ....

## An increase in the ${}^{12}C + {}^{12}C$ fusion rate from resonances at astrophysical energies

A. Tumino<sup>1,2</sup>\*, C. Spitaleri<sup>2,3</sup>, M. La Cognata<sup>2</sup>, S. Cherubini<sup>2,3</sup>, G. L. Guardo<sup>2,4</sup>, M. Gulino<sup>1,2</sup>, S. Hayakawa<sup>2,5</sup>, I. Indelicato<sup>2</sup>, L. Lamia<sup>2,3</sup>, H. Petrascu<sup>4</sup>, R. G. Pizzone<sup>2</sup>, S. M. R. Puglia<sup>2</sup>, G. G. Rapisarda<sup>2</sup>, S. Romano<sup>2,3</sup>, M. L. Sergi<sup>2</sup>, R. Spartá<sup>2</sup> & L. Trache<sup>4</sup>



Tumino, A. et al., An increase in the <sup>12</sup>C+<sup>12</sup>C fusion rate from resonances at astrophysical energies. Nature 557, 687 (2018).







P. Adsley, D.G. Jenkins et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 129, 102701 (2022)





P. Adsley, D.G. Jenkins et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 129, 102701 (2022)







## Implications for <sup>12</sup>C + <sup>12</sup>C burning





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#### Further details in P. Adsley, M. Heine, D.G. Jenkins et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 129, 102701 (2022)

## Thanks !

University of Strasbourg and IPHC (France): S.C, G. Fruet, F.Haas, M.Heine et al.

**University of York (UK):** D.Jenkins , L.Morris

**IPN Orsay**: S. Della Negra, F. Hammache, N. de Séreville, P. Adsley, A. Meyer et al.

Argonne National Laboratory (USA): C.L.Jiang, D.Santiago-Gonzalez, K.E.Rehm, B.B.Back et al.

University of Surrey (UK):

P.H. Regan, M. Rudigier

GANIL (Caen, France): C. Stodel et al.

University of Aarhus (Denmark): O. Kirsebom







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