

Cool Title

Project in FYS-3180 at Oslo Cyclotron Laboratory

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Abstract



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1 Motivation and purpose

The purpose of this article is to give an (brief) introduction to detectors, systems and methods used in experimental nuclear physics. Important because blablabla learning about how to prepare and conduct an experiment and most importantly analyze and interpret the possible error sources.

Will give an short introduction to the OCL In this project we will focus on the basics of how the cyclotron works and

We will study the raw data from an previous experiment and analyze it as it was the first time to do so.

We will choose a particular reaction and prepare as for a real experiment by calculating (....energy lost in the ...kin...). We will then use data from an earlier experiment, analyse it and discuss possible error sources(?). Will also verify/compare data with exsisting databases(?)

We will learn the terms: prompt time, particlebananas, thicknessspectra ++ (?)

Goal: particle-gamma coincidence matrix

2 Experimental setup and method

The basic concepts of a cyclotron

A cyclotron is a particle accelerator for charged particles. The particles are accelerated with an external electric field and together with a magnetic field the particles are contained in an orbit inside the cyclotron. In nuclear physics a cyclotron is used to accelerate charged particles so that they leave the cyclotron with the desired energy. The goal is then to study nuclear reactions that occur when the particle beam is directed to a target. Different detectors are used to measure particles and γ -rays that are produced in the reaction.

A simple cyclotron consists of two half -cylinders placed side by side as in figure 1. Every

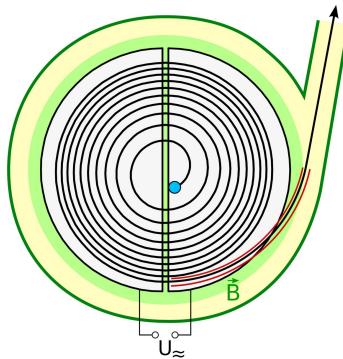


Figure 1: A simple illustration of a cyclotron. The illustration is taken from <http://www.mn.uio.no/fysikk/english/research/about/infrastructure/OCL/ocl-photos/>

time the particles pass between the two cylinders they are accelerated by an oscillating electric field. Therefore the particles increase speed and radius for every half round. Inside the cylinders the electric field is zero, but there is a magnetic field perpendicular to the plane showed in figure 1 that contain the particles in a circular orbit. When the radius of the particle beam is bigger than the radius of the cylinders the particles leave the cyclotron.

2.1 The Oslo Cyclotron laboratory (OCL)

The Oslo Cyclotron Laboratory (OCL) houses the only accelerator in Norway for ionized atoms in basic research¹. The accelerator is used in various fields of research for instance nuclear physics and nuclear chemistry. Other applications for the Cyclotrone are the production of isotopes for nuclear medicine. The reasearch in nuclear physics at Oslo Cyclotron Laboratory mainly focus on studying the level densities and radiative strength functions where the overall goal is to better understand the atomic nuclei.

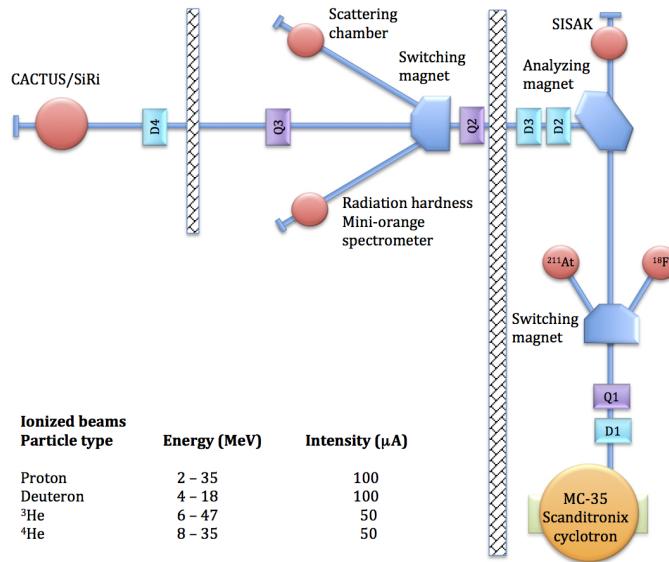


Figure 2: An overview of the Oslo Cyclotron Laboratory with the experimental hall to the right with the cyclotron at the bottom right. The beam line are indicated with a blue line and the target chamber is at the top left (CACTUS/SiRi). The possible beam types, energy and intensity ranges are indicated in the table to bottom left.

An overview of the Oslo Cyclotron Laboratory is given in figure 2. The possible beam types, energy and intensity ranges are indicated in the table to bottom left. In figure 2 we can see the cyclotron vault to the far right with the cyclotron (MC-35 Scanditronix Cyclotron) at the bottom right. The beam of the accelerated particles travels first from the cyclotron along the beam line through a switching magnet and then to a analyzing magnet. The analyzing magnet directs the beam out of the cyclotron vault and into the experimental hall by turning the beam 90 degrees. Then the beam goes through another swiching magnet before hitting the target chamber (CACTUS/SiRi) to the far left in figure 2. Around the target chamber there are two detectors, CACTUS and SiRi. The swiching magnets can also direct the beam to different target stations, but we will only have a closer look at the target chamber associated to the CACTUS and SiRi arrays.

2.1.1 The CACTUS and SiRi detectors

The CACTUS/SiRi detector can be used to study particle-gamma coincidences. In figure 3 we see an illustration of a particle from the beam hitting a target nucleus. After the reaction

¹<http://www.mn.uio.no/fysikk/english/research/about/infrastructure/OCL/index.html>

a gamma-ray and a particle is emitted in addition to the resulting nucleus being changed. We see that the gamma is measured by the CACTUS detector and the emitted particle by the SiRi detector. The figure indicates that the angle between the incident trajectory and the trajectory of the emitted particle is given as θ .

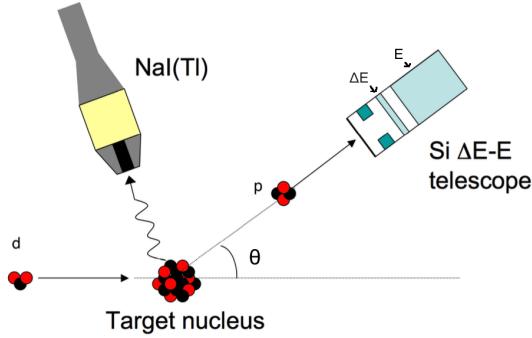


Figure 3: A incident particle hitting a target nucleus. The resulting emmited *gamma-ray* is detected by the CACTUS detectors and the emmited particle is detected by the SiRi detector. The angle between the incident trajectory and the trajectory of the emmited particle is given as θ . The two parts of the SiRi detector, 'dE' and 'E' is indicated in the figure.

When looking at the front picture, figure ??, it is not hard to imagine where the CACTUS detector have gotten its name from. The CACTUS detector measures the energies of the γ -rays and counts the number of γ -rays. The detector consists of 28 NaI scintillation detectors spherically distributed around the target chamber, pointing out like a Cactus. Each of the NaI scintillation detectors measure the energy of the γ -radiation by using the excitation effect of the incident radiation on a scintillator material (NaI). When the scintillator is excited by radiation it produces a signal that is then converted into an electrical signal that the electronics of the detector process².

The SiRi-array measures the energy of the resulting emitted particle and consists of 8 Silicon detectors on a ring. Each detector is divided into 8 strips which also makes it possible to also measure the angle of the particle. The Si detectors uses the properties of a semiconductor, doped Silicon, to measure the path and energy of the charged particles by detecting the small ionization currents that occur when the charged particles move through the material³. In figure 4 we see the Silicon Ring (SiRi) to the left and a illustration of one of the detectors on the right with the individual strips marked.

The SiRi detector stops the emmited particle, so it looses all its energy as it moves trough the material. The detector is divided into two parts, one called 'dE' and the other simply 'E'. The first part 'dE' is 130 micrometers thick and this is where the particle looses some of its energy. In the other part 'E' the particle looses the remaining energy and stops. In addition, an Aluminium foil of $2.8\text{mg}/\text{cm}^2$ thickness is placed before the dE detector. The 'dE' and 'E' positions are indicated in figure 3.

²https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scintillation_counter

³https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Semiconductor_detector

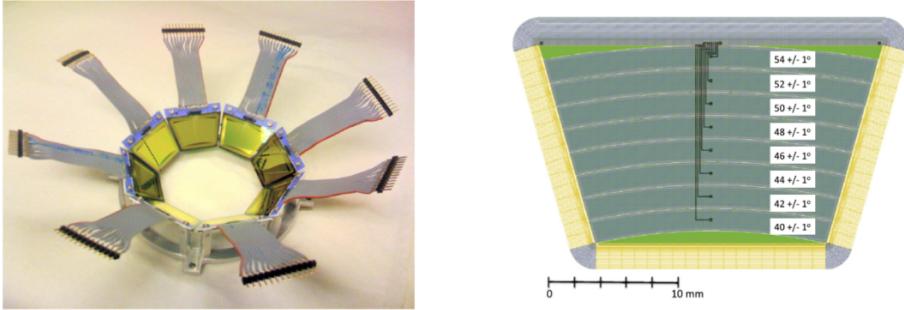


Figure 4: The SiRi detector used to measure the energy of a particle from a particle-gamma coincidence. Left: A picture of the Silicon Ring (SiRi). Right: A drawing of one of the 8 detectors on ring with the individual strips marked.

2.2 Choice of reaction

In this project we have chosen the reaction $^{28}\text{Si}(p, p')^{28}\text{Si}$ drawn in figure 5. The incident proton will have an energy of 16MeV and the target of ^{28}Si will have a thickness of $4\text{mg}/\text{cm}^2$.

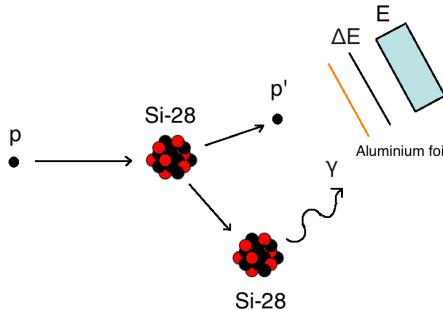


Figure 5: An illustration of the chosen $^{28}\text{Si}(p, p')^{28}\text{Si}$ reaction.

3 Data analysis of experimental data

The data stored from the experiment are the 'dE' and 'E' signals of the charged particles measured by SiRi and the energy of the γ -rays in coincidence with the charged particles, measured by the CACTUS detector. The data collected with the CACTUS and SiRi detectors are stored in event files; large files with the measured parameter from each event. To extract information from the experiment one have to analyze millions of event files. Luckily the OLC laboratory have written a sorting code which does the sorting of the event files. In the process the user can choose to include different features to obtain the final result, a 'clean' coincidence matrix.

In the analysis process the following programs have been used:

- **Makefile:** executable file that calls for example `User_sort.cpp` and creates an executable called `sorting`.

- `User_sort.cpp`: the main sorting code in C++. It is possible to modify the code to include time gates, gates on excited nuclear states and so on. It defines what the executable `sorting` will do when it is run.
- `Sorting::` executable file created by the `Makefile`. It uses the batch file when run.
- `Name.batch`: holds information on where to find the data files to be sorted. 'Name' is usually the experiment reaction. The file also includes several parameters and calls the following two programmes:
 - `gainshifts525.dat`: contains information about the calibration of the particle and gamma detectors, together with the time signal calibration.
 - `zrangep.dat`: the range file for the ejected protons. It has information about how the ejected protons lose energy as they penetrate the E dE Si detectors.

The sorting codes can first be run without calibration parameters ('plain') and later with calibration when the parameters are found.

3.1 Particle calibration and bananas

First we have to calibrate the particle detectors, or the SiRi-array. This is done by plotting 'dE' versus 'E', obtaining curves commonly known as 'bananas'. To the left in figure 6 we see the uncalibrated plot of the bananas obtained when the sorting routine is run 'plain'. The bananas are characteristic for each type of ejected particle, there is one banana for each particle. On each banana we can see peaks corresponding to the excited states of the particle.

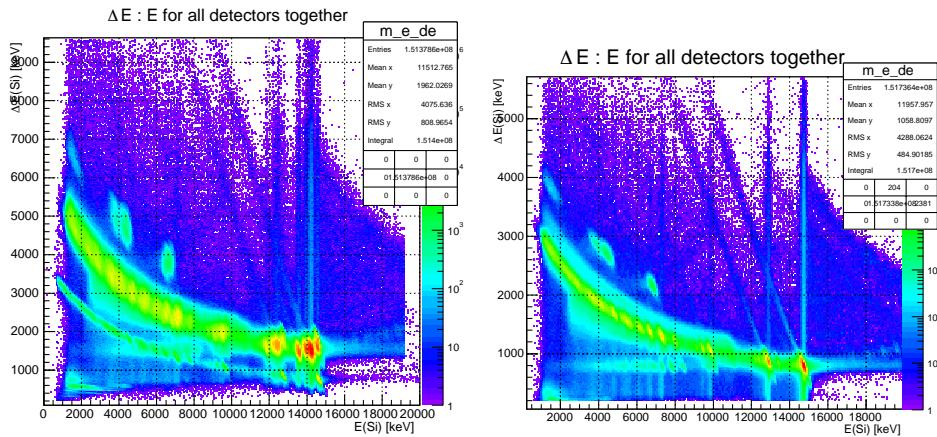


Figure 6: The 'particle bananas', or 'dE' versus 'E' plotted. Left: uncalibrated. Right: calibrated. Each banana corresponds to one emitted particle. We can also see the peaks corresponding to the excited states of the particle.

The SiRi-array has 8 Silicon detectors, each divided into 8 strips. Theoretically all the bananas should be the same for a given angle. This is not the case experimentally. We correct this experimental effect by aligning all the detectors, or finding the corresponding gain or shift in reference to one detector. We also choose a reference point, for example the energies of

the peaks in the bananas corresponding to the ground and first excited states. This reference point can be calculated with the `kin` software explained earlier (?).

The response of the detectors should be approximately linear with energy in both ΔE and E measurements and can be expressed as:

$$E(x) = a_E + b_Ex$$

$$\Delta E(x) = a_{\Delta} + b_{\Delta}x$$

where x is the channel number, a the shift in the energies and b the gain in the energies. The coefficients a and b are then calculated in such a way that the value $E(x)$ and $\Delta E(x)$ for the reference peaks matches the values calculated with `kin`. This calibration is performed for all the 8 strips and the 8 detectors and then included in the `gain_shift.dat` file. So when the calibration is done the gain-shift file includes the a and b coefficients for both the ΔE and E for each detector.

To the right in figure 6 we see the calibrated bananas obtained when the sorting routine is run with the gain-shift file included. We see that the calibrated plot is much clearer and have sharper excited state peaks than the uncalibrated plot.

3.2 Selecting the data for the $^{28}\text{Si}(\text{p},\text{p}')^{28}\text{Si}$ reaction

When the particle calibration is done we select a reaction or gate on the banana corresponding to the emitted protons. This is done by using or 'commenting in' the range file `zrangep.dat` in the `.batch`-file. The range file includes the known thickness of the ΔE part of the SiRi detector. When we use this file in the `.batch`-file the sorting routine distributes the experimental data around the actual thickness of the ΔE detector. This means that we have gated on the banana that corresponds to the emitted proton or the desired reaction $^{28}\text{Si}(\text{p},\text{p}')^{28}\text{Si}$. The selected data can therefore now give us information about the reaction we want to study.

In figure 7 we see 'banana' plot obtained when running the sorting routine again with the range file. By comparing with the right plot in figure 6 we see that we have selected the banana corresponding to the emitted proton.

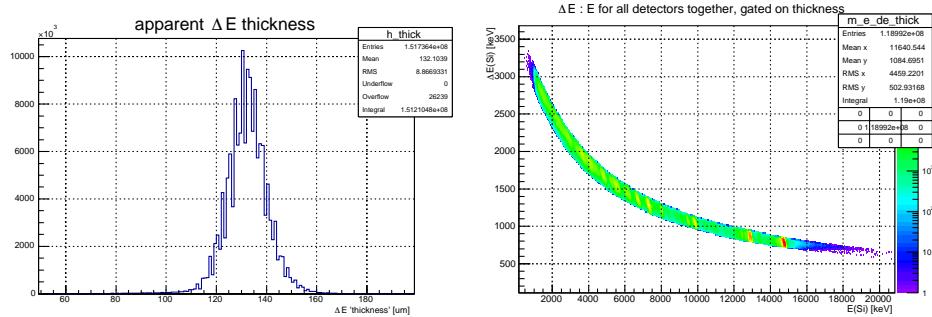


Figure 7: Selecting the data for the $^{28}\text{Si}(\text{p},\text{p}')^{28}\text{Si}$ reaction. **Left:** The calculated thickness of the ΔE detector. The peak is centered at $\approx 130\mu\text{m}$ which is the actual thickness of the ΔE detector. Other peaks would have corresponded to other ejected particles. **Right:** The 'banana' plot after particle calibration and gating on one particle banana.

After including the range file and sorting again we can find the excitation levels (of the final nucleus?) by projecting the coincidence matrix on the y axis and compare this with other

Table 1: The energy levels of ^{28}Si from the Chart of Nuclides found on the NNDC website [//www.nndc.bnl.gov/chart/getdataset.jsp?nucleus=28SI&unc=nds](http://www.nndc.bnl.gov/chart/getdataset.jsp?nucleus=28SI&unc=nds)

E_x [keV]
0
1779.030 11
4617.86 4
4979.92 8
6276.2 7
6690.74 15

experimental data. In table 1 we see the excited states of ^{28}Si collected from the database of NNDC ⁴.

In figure 8 we see the coincidence matrix projected on the y axis. Each peak in the plot correspond to an excited state of ^{28}Si . The six first excited stated are marked with a red circle. We see that the values of the excited states marked corresponds well to the values of the energy levels found in table 1.

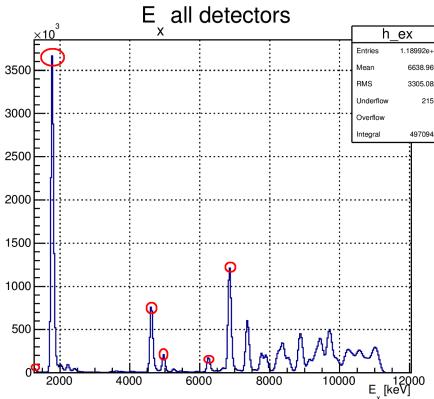


Figure 8: The the coincidence matrix projected on the y axis. Each peak corresponds to a excited state of ^{28}Si . The six first excited stated are marked with a red circle.

3.3 γ -calibration

3.4 Treatment of the time signals

3.5 The coincidence matrix

4 The Oslo method

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⁴ [//www.nndc.bnl.gov/chart/getdataset.jsp?nucleus=28SI&unc=nds](http://www.nndc.bnl.gov/chart/getdataset.jsp?nucleus=28SI&unc=nds)

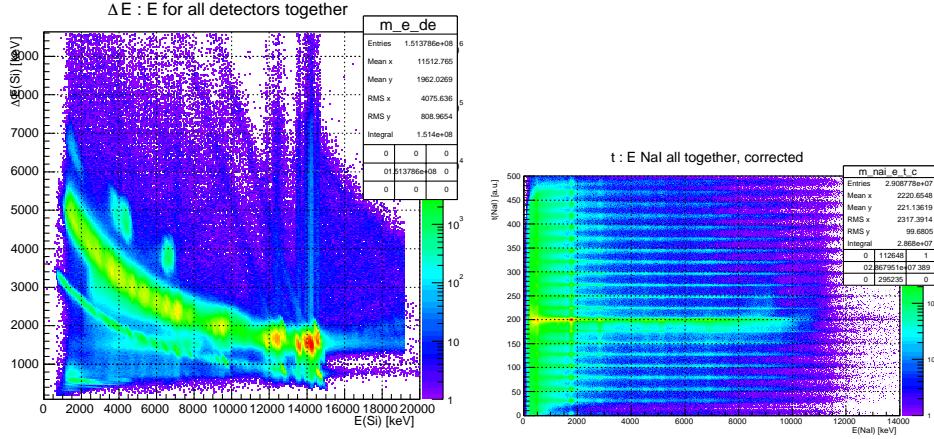


Figure 9: The, Left: uncalibrated. Right: calibrated.

4.1 Unfolding of the coincidence matrix

4.2 Multiplicity

not gotten eny results really, need more analyzing to get any

5 Discussion and Experiences
