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## Introduction

The New Effective Interactions USDA and USDB Comparison with Exp and the older USD Application to the structure of Mg-26 Application to the structure of Si-26 Calculation of Al-25 (p,gamma) Si-26 reaction rates Conclusions The production mechanism and site for the long-lived radioactive isotope <sup>26</sup>Al has been of interest since the first indications of <sup>26</sup>Al enrichment in meteoritic inclusions was observed. Understanding its origin would serve as a unique signature for nucleosynthesis in novae and supernovae.

The main reaction sequence leading to  ${}^{26}Al$  is  ${}^{24}Mg(p,\gamma) {}^{25}Al(\beta+\nu) {}^{25}Mg(p,\gamma) {}^{26}Al$ . At the high-temperature conditions expected for shell carbon burning and explosive neon burning the  ${}^{25}Al(p, \gamma) {}^{26}Si$  reaction becomes faster than the  ${}^{25}Al \beta$  decay. Since  ${}^{26}Si \beta$  decays to the short lived 0+ state of  ${}^{26}Al$ , the long-lived (5+) state becomes depleted. Many levels in <sup>26</sup>Si (mirror of <sup>26</sup>Mg) are not well known, thus requiring theoretical input. The calculated gamma-decay lifetimes and <sup>25</sup>Al to <sup>26</sup>Si spectroscopic factors together with experimental information on the levels of excited states are used to determine the <sup>26</sup>Al( $p,\gamma$ )<sup>26</sup>Si reaction rates. A theoretical error on this rate is based on the use of different interactions.

The total rp-process reaction rate depends on the partial gamma decay widths of <sup>26</sup>Si levels above the protonemission threshold as well as the proton decay widths to states in <sup>25</sup>Al. We have calculated this for the USDA and USDB interactions, as well as with certain approximations for the gamma decay widths.



## **EXPERIMENTAL DATA**

With neutron-rich nuclei and previously omitted nuclei we used 608 levels in 77 nuclei

## **FITTING PROCEDURE**

 Minimize deviations (chi-squared)between theor. and exp. energies in several iterations

For USDA, 30 well-determined LC's (170 keV rms)

For USDB, 56 well-determined LC's (130 keV rms)

RE

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E<u>S</u>

Generally good agreement with experiment for all sd-shell observables calculated with the effective

interactions USDA and USDB [Richter,Mkhize, Brown, Phys. Rev. C 78, 064302 (2008) ]

For <u>level energies</u> USDB provided a superior agreement (130 keV rms fit deviations). Both USDB and USDA gave improved <u>binding energies</u> for neutron-rich nuclei compared to USD.













Figure 6. Relative contributions to the reaction rates for  $x = -E_{res}/(kT)$  with T9 = 10. Resonant reaction rate  $\alpha \sum_{f} \omega \gamma_{if} e^{-Eres/(kT)}$ .



## **CONCLUSIONS**

• Our new method for determining energies of states in <sup>26</sup>Si, based on the IMME, with experimental energies for the T = 1 analogue states and the theoretical c-coefficients, should be extended to other cases in the sd shell.

• For the gamma decay lifetime calculations it is an adequate approximation to use the theoretical lifetimes of the mirror nucleus <sup>26</sup>Mg.

• The use of different interactions and approximations gives an indication of the theoretical error in the rates.