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Study of Beta-delayed Neutrons near ⁷⁸Ni using VANDLE¹ S. PAULAUSKAS, M. MADURGA, University of Tennessee at Knoxville, R. GRZYWACZ, University of Tennessee at Knoxville / Oak Ridge National Laboratory, W. PETERS, Oak Ridge Associated Universities, VANDLE COLLABO-RATION — As nuclei become more neutron rich, the nuclear structure changes their properties. For example, beta decays will access increasingly more neutron unbound states. The measurement of neutrons emitted from these states is critical, as beta-delayed neutron emission becomes a dominating decay mode. To this end, the Versatile Array of Neutron Detectors at Low Energy (VANDLE)[1,2] measures the energy of neutrons emitted from excited states above the neutron separation energy populated through beta decay or transfer reactions. The time-of-flight technique determines the energy, which requires a time resolution on the order of 1 ns. In addition, the detector requires a low detection threshold to measure neutron energies of 100 keV or lower. A successful experimental campaign at the Holifield Radioactive Ion Beam Facility, using ions produced via proton induced fission on ²³⁸U, has yielded results on beta-delayed neutrons emitted from isotopes near ⁷⁸Ni. Of particular interest, is the observation of low-energy neutrons emitted from states well above the neutron separation energy. Results from this experiment will be presented. [1] C. Matei et al., Proceedings of Science, NIC X, 138 (2008); [2] S. V. Paulauskas et al., NIMA 797, 22 (2014)

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