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Gamma Ray Spectroscopy of ^{19}Ne near the $^{18}\text{F}+\text{p}$ Threshold

MATTHEW HALL, DANIEL BARDAYAN, University of Notre Dame, GODDESS COLLABORATION — A direct way to test nova explosion models would be to observe gamma rays created in the decay of radioactive isotopes produced in the nova. One such isotope, ^{18}F , is believed to be the main source of observable 511-keV gamma rays. The main destruction mechanism of ^{18}F is thought to be the $^{18}\text{F}(\text{p},\alpha)^{15}\text{O}$ reaction, and uncertainty in the reaction rate is attributed to uncertainties in the energies, spins, and parities of the nuclear levels in ^{19}Ne above the proton threshold. In an effort to understand these levels the $^{19}\text{F}({}^3\text{He},\text{t})^{19}\text{Ne}$ reaction was measured at Argonne National Laboratory using a ${}^3\text{He}$ beam. Gammasphere ORRUBA Dual Detectors for Experimental Structure Studies (GODDESS) was used to measure gamma rays from the de-excitation of ^{19}Ne in coincidence with the reaction tritons. Preliminary data from the experiment will be presented. This work was supported in part by National Science Foundation and U.S. Department of Energy.

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