

Abstract Submitted  
for the APR20 Meeting of  
The American Physical Society

**Spin and parities of  $^{19}\text{Ne}$  states of astrophysical interest**<sup>1</sup> FED-ERICO PORTILLO CHAVES, North Carolina State University, KIANA SETOOD-EHNIA, European X-ray Free Electron Laser GmbH, Schenefeld, Germany, CALEB MARSHALL, RICHARD LONGLAND, North Carolina State University — Observations of classical nova ejecta show discrepancies with theoretical predictions, particularly for the quantity of material ejected by the explosion. This discrepancy could be resolved with the detection of  $\gamma$  rays originating from  $^{18}\text{F}$ . However, theoretical predictions of the flux of these  $\gamma$  rays are limited by large uncertainties in the  $^{18}\text{F}$  destruction rates. These uncertainties are caused mainly by the incomplete knowledge of the influence of low energy resonances on the cross section for the main  $^{18}\text{F}$  destruction reaction  $^{18}\text{F}(p,\alpha)^{15}\text{O}$ . In this work we searched for states in the compound nucleus ( $^{19}\text{Ne}$ ) relevant at nova temperatures and determined their spin and parities ( $J^\pi$ ) when possible. In particular, we found that the state at 6.130 MeV (a proton sub-threshold resonance at  $E_{CM}=-280$  keV) has a  $J^\pi=3/2^+$ , which opens the possibility for interference in the cross section with the well known broad resonances at  $E_{CM} = 332$  keV and 665 keV. We will present our experimental results and will highlight their effect on the  $^{18}\text{F}(p,\alpha)^{15}\text{O}$  reaction rate.

<sup>1</sup>U.S. Department of Energy, Grant No. DE-SC0017799 and Contract No. DE-FG02-97ER41041

Federico Portillo Chaves  
North Carolina State University

Date submitted: 15 Jan 2020

Electronic form version 1.4