

# New SHE Z=119 search and related experiments at RIKEN\*

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Aiming to synthesize the superheavy element Z=119, RIKEN Nishina Center(RNC) underwent the SHE Project (2016-2019), which included the construction of the superconducting linac (SRILAC,  $E_{\max} = 6.5$  MeV/u) to enable the hot fusion reaction  $^{51}\text{V}+^{248}\text{Cm}$  possible. The project also allowed us to build a superconducting electron-cyclotron-resonance ion source (SC-ECRIS) to obtain high-intensity  $^{51}\text{V}$  beam and a gas-filled recoil ion separator (GARIS-III) suited for the hot fusion reaction. As an introduction, the SHE Project will be briefly mentioned [1].

The optimal bombarding energy ( $E_{\text{opt}}$ ) of  $^{51}\text{V}$  for synthesizing an element 119 was, first of all, determined. The quasielastic barrier distribution measurement deduced an average Coulomb barrier height ( $B_0$ ) [2] as 225.6(2). The side-collision effect ( $\Delta E_{\text{side}}$ ) due to a deformation of  $^{248}\text{Cm}$  was then estimated by the coupled-channel calculation using the CCFUL code. The final adopted  $E_{\text{opt}}$  value was 234.8 MeV considering  $E_{\text{opt}} = B_0 + \Delta E_{\text{side}} + \Delta E_{\text{opt}}$ .

The  $^{51}\text{V}+^{159}\text{Tb}$  system expected to have a large fusion cross section was also studied to explore the side-collision effect by measuring not only the quasielastic barrier distribution but also excitation functions of evaporation residues for the xn, pxn, and  $\alpha$ xn channels [3]. Note,  $^{159}\text{Tb}$  is similarly deformed as  $^{248}\text{Cm}$ .

The search for the new element Z=119 by  $^{51}\text{V}+^{248}\text{Cm}$  reaction with GARIS-III has been carried out since 2020 under the nSHE collaboration.

In this presentation, the SHE Project,  $E_{\text{opt}}$  determination using the quasielastic fusion barrier distribution measurement, study of the side-collision effect by  $^{51}\text{V}+^{159}\text{Tb}$  reaction, and the present status of the Z=119 search with  $^{51}\text{V}+^{248}\text{Cm}$  reaction will be discussed.

- [1] H. Sakai, H. Haba, K. Morimoto, and N. Sakamoto, EPJ A **58** (2022) 238.
- [2] M. Tanaka et al., JPSJ **91** (2022) 084201.
- [3] P. Brionnet et al., in preparation.

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\*On behalf of the nSHE collaboration.