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β-delayed Charged Particle Detector for Novae and X-ray bursts: Technical Aspects

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A micro pattern gas amplification detector was built at NSCL to measure low-energy, β-delayed protons and α-particles for constraining thermonuclear reactions rates relevant to explosive astrophysical environments, such as classical novae and type I X-ray bursts. The first experiment using the Proton Detector is scheduled to run in May 2018. Here, I present work from the past year leading up to the commissioning of the detector in preparation for the experiment including the design of a new gas handling system, LISE++ simulations for rare isotope beams, and systematic tests of our detector and experimental setup.

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