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In-flight Radioactive Isotope Beam Facilities and Nuclear Physics at RIKEN

Since 1990's, the advent of in-flight radioactive isotope beams has created great opportunities for studies of the nuclear structure in short-lived exotic nuclei and of reactions with exotic nuclei, and many interesting natures of exotic nuclei have been discovered and our modern picture of the structure has been seriously questioned. In addition, the studies are essentially important for understanding the element synthesis processes in the universe, especially for those heavier than iron. To study the structure and reactions further, next generation heavy-ion accelerator facilities are being newly constructed or intensively discussed all over the world. As one of the in-flight facilities, I would introduce the RI Beam Factor (RIBF) facility in Japan, and its scientific programs. Special emphasis would be given to selected highlights for nuclear physics as well as applied ones. Coming upgrades of the accelerator complex and scientific plans are introduced and discussed.

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