Recent astronomical observations from ground and space-based telescope covering all wavelengths have led to renewed interest in nuclear reactions that power stars and produce the elements in the universe. In our attempt to understand the astronomical observations considerable progress has been made in reaction studies at very low energies, which are typical of the conditions in quiescent nuclear burning. In addition explosive astrophysical scenarios, which occur in novae, supernovae and X-ray bursts are one of the driving forces behind the reaction studies with radioactive beams. Some recent results from experiments with stable and unstable beams will be discussed.

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