An update on the hypothetical X17 particle

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The plot thickens for a hypothetical "X17" particle

Additional evidence of an unknown particle from a Hungarian lab gives a new impetus to NA64 searches

27 NOVEMBER, 2019 | By Ana Lopes





SEARCHES FOR NEW PHYSICS NEWS
Rekindled Atomki anomaly merits closer
scrutiny
20 December 2019



Observation of Anomalous Internal Pair Creation in ⁸Be: A Possible Indication of a Light, Neutral Boson

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Electron-positron angular correlations were measured for the isovector magnetic dipole 17.6 MeV $(J^{\pi} = 1^+, T = 1)$ state \rightarrow ground state $(J^{\pi} = 0^+, T = 0)$ and the isoscalar magnetic dipole 18.15 MeV $(J^{\pi} = 1^+, T = 0)$ state \rightarrow ground state transitions in ⁸Be. Significant enhancement relative to the internal pair creation was observed at large angles in the angular correlation for the isoscalar transition with a confidence level of > 5 σ . This observation could possibly be due to nuclear reaction interference effects or might indicate that, in an intermediate step, a neutral isoscalar particle with a mass of $16.70 \pm 0.35(\text{stat}) \pm 0.5(\text{syst}) \text{ MeV}/c^2$ and $J^{\pi} = 1^+$ was created.

The ATOMKI anomaly \rightarrow signals for a new 17 MeV boson \rightarrow gauge boson of a new fundamental force of nature



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References

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A New Particle is Being Born in ATOMKI that Could Make a Connection to Dark Matter



Study of the 8Be M1 transitions

Excitation with the 7 Li(p, γ)⁸Be reaction



e⁺-e⁻ energy-sum spectra and angular correlations



Previous experimental results



On the acceptance of the spectrometers

The following facts give us confidence about the reliability of the experimental results:

- Good agreement between the experimental and simulated acceptances,
- Good agreement between experimental and simulated IPCC values for ¹⁶O, ²⁸Si, ⁸Be 17.6 MeV and 15.1 MeV transitions for large angular ranges,
- Consistent experimental results with 6, 5, and 2 telescopes,
- Good agreement between experimental and simulated IPCC values for asymmetric energy distributions of the e⁺e⁻ pairs,

Observation of the X17 anomaly in the decay of the Giant Dipole Resonance







A new e⁺e⁻ spectrometer, their acceptance, γ-ray and energy-sum specta





e⁺e⁻ angular correlations for the lowenegy region, and for the GDR one



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Fitting the e⁺e⁻ angular correlation for the GDR region



 $m_0c^2=17 \text{ MeV}$

Thank you very much for your kind attention To ⁸Be continued...

Simulation for the X17 decay created in the 7 Li(p, γ)⁸Be reaction at different proton bombarding energies (γ_{1} transition)



γ -ray and e⁺e⁻ energy-sum spectra recorded at $E_p = 4 \text{ MeV}$

