

# Observation of $\gamma$ -delayed $3\alpha$ -break-up in <sup>12</sup>C

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**EURORIB 2010** 

6-11 June 2010 Village de Vacances de Lamoura



# Outline

### $\circ$ Motivation

- Nuclear structure
  - Current status/models
  - Decay mechanism
- Experiment
  - CMAM/setup
- $\circ$  Analysis
  - Branching ratios
  - Indirect detection of gamma-decay



## Nuclear Structure & Astrophysics



N6. A State in C<sup>12</sup> Predicted from Astrophysical Evidence.\* F. HOYLE, Cambridge University AND D. N. F. DUNBAR, W. A. WENZEL, AND W. WHALING, Kellogg Radiation Laboratory, California Institute of Technology.—It is

Phys. Rev. 92:1095 (1953)







Excited states: Theory





Excited states: Recent experiments





# CONSERVENTIONES CIENTERICAS THE experiment: highly segmented





Beam: <sup>3</sup>He @ 4.9 and 8.5 MeV from 5 MV Tandetron

#### Targets:

18.9  $\mu g/cm^2$   $^{10}B$  enriched (90%) on 4  $\mu g/cm^2$  C-backing

22.0  $\mu g/cm^2$   $^{11}B$  with 4  $\mu g/cm^2$  C-backing

Reactions:  ${}^{10}B({}^{3}He,p)\alpha\alpha\alpha$ 

<sup>11</sup>B(<sup>3</sup>He,d)ααα



 $\Omega$  = 38% of 4 $\pi$ 





## Particle Identification





Identification of States in <sup>12</sup>C

<sup>3</sup>He + <sup>11</sup>B  $\rightarrow$  d + <sup>12</sup>C<sup>\*</sup> @ 8.5 MeV Q-value=10.46 MeV

<sup>3</sup>He + <sup>10</sup>B  $\rightarrow$  p + <sup>12</sup>C<sup>\*</sup> @ 4.9 MeV Q-value=19.69 MeV



•By selecting the proton or deuteron, we can calculate the <sup>12</sup>C excitation spectrum

•We also detect the decay fragments of  $^{12}C$  (3 $\alpha$ ) to learn about the structure of the resonances in  $^{12}C$ .



### Indirect Detection of $\gamma$ -decay





Excitation energy calculated from proton should be greater than that calculated form invariant mass of alphas

Indirect Detection of  $\gamma$ -decay















#### <sup>3</sup>He + <sup>11</sup>B $\rightarrow$ d + <sup>12</sup>C<sup>\*</sup> $\rightarrow$ α+α+α













#### <sup>8</sup>Be 2<sup>+</sup> contribution

#### <sup>8</sup>Be 0<sup>+</sup> contribution



E <sup>x 12</sup> C (MeV)	Jπ	BR (%)	BR (%) (corr.)	$\Gamma_{\rm \alpha 0}$ (keV)
9.64	3⁻	96.3(1)	99.5(6)	32(2)
10.84	1-	94.7(5)	99.4(6)	249(2)
14.08	4+	22.8(2)	24.2(2)	50(11)
16.11	2+	5.6(1)	6.4(1)	0.3(1.0)





Only two energies are needed to describe a 3-body decay
Structures may arise from final state interactions or symmetries



C. Zemach, Phys Rev. **133** (1964) 1201 : Decay to 3π R.H. Dalitz, Philos. Mag. **44**, 1068 (1953).



# <sup>12</sup>C Spectrum: Dalitz







# Which is the $J^{\pi}$ of the 13.35 MeV state?







3.5

1. A.A. Korsheninnikov, Sov. J. Nucl. Phys. 52, 827 (1990)- Democratic

- 2. R.Alvarez-Rodriguez et al., PRL 99 072503 (2007)- 3-body Cluster model
- 3. D.P Balamuth et al., PRC 10 975 (1974)- Sequential w/ interference



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Summary: what have we learned

15.11	1+		15.11	1+	1. Observation of $\gamma$ -decay and $lpha$ -decay
14.08	4+	Е,Г	14.08	4*	of T=1 15.11 MeV state
13.35	(2-)	<b>Ε,</b> Γ	13.35	4-	2. γ-decay of T=0 12.71 MeV state
12.71	1+		12.71	1+	<ul> <li>observed to Hoyle state and to the</li> <li>broad 10 MeV state</li> </ul>
11.83	2-	Е,Г	11.83 11.1/11.2	2 <sup>-</sup>	- 3. Improved measurements of energy
10.84	1-	E, Г, Э	10.84	1-	and widths for known states
≈10	(0,2+)				4. Branching ratios of decay through the
9.64	3-	Г	9.64	3-	<ul> <li><sup>8</sup>Be(gs) were measured for natural</li> <li>parity states</li> </ul>
7.65	0+		7.65	0+	5. Studied the decay mechanism of the
		$\alpha + \alpha + \alpha$ -			12.71 MeV resonance using Dalitz plots
4.44	2+		4.44	2+	- 6. Dalitz plots used to determine $J^{\pi}$ of
g.s.	0+		g.s.	0+	13.35 MeV resonance
<sup>12</sup> C			<sup>12</sup> C		O. Tengblad 20



## Collaborators



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