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2013-06-02

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International Nuclear Physics Conference, XXV, 2013, Firenze.

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## Alpha Cluster Structure in $^{16}\text{O}$

M.R.D. Rodrigues<sup>1</sup>, T. Borello-Lewin<sup>1</sup>, H. Miyake<sup>1</sup>, F. Cappuzzello<sup>2,3</sup>, M. Cavallaro<sup>3</sup>, J.L.M. Duarte<sup>1</sup>, C.L. Rodrigues<sup>1</sup>, M.A. Souza<sup>1</sup>, L.B. Horodyski-Matsushigue<sup>1</sup>, C. Agodi<sup>3</sup>, M. Bondi<sup>2,3</sup>, D. Carbone<sup>2,3</sup>, A. Cunsolo<sup>3</sup>, A. Foti<sup>2,4</sup>, D. Nicolosi<sup>2,3</sup>, S. Tropea<sup>2,3</sup>, G.M. Ukita<sup>5</sup>, P.N. de Faria<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Institute of Physics, Universidade de São Paulo, São Paulo – SP, Brazil

<sup>2</sup> Università di Catania, Catania, Italy

<sup>3</sup> I.N.F.N., Laboratori Nazionali del Sud, Catania, Italy

<sup>4</sup> I.N.F.N., Sezione di Catania, Catania, Italy

<sup>5</sup> Faculdade de Psicologia, Universidade de Santo Amaro, São Paulo – SP, Brazil

Contact email: marciadr@if.usp.br.

The alpha cluster phenomenon in the light nuclei structure has been the subject of a longtime investigation since the proposal of the Ikeda diagrams [1], however the mechanism of the cluster formation is still not completely understood. In fact, if the clusters have a fairly rigid crystal-like or a gas-like structure remains an open question[2-3]. The interpretation of the Hoyle state as an  $\alpha$  condensate brought a renewed interest to this subject, in particular to resonances analogous to the Hoyle state. In this context the study of the experimental evolution of the  $\alpha$ -cluster phenomenon through  $(^6\text{Li},d)$  transfer reactions has been performed in São Paulo [4]. Particularly important are the regions around the  $n\alpha$  thresholds where the  $\alpha$ -cluster structure states are predicted. The resonant states around the  $4\alpha$  threshold in the nucleus  $^{16}\text{O}$  are the focus of the present contribution. The  $^{12}\text{C}(^6\text{Li},d)^{16}\text{O}$  reaction was measured at a bombarding energy of 25.5 MeV employing the São Paulo Pelletron-Enge-Spectrograph facility and the nuclear emulsion detection technique. Resonant states above the  $\alpha$  threshold were measured and an energy resolution of 15-30 keV allows to define states previously unresolved. The angular distributions of the absolute cross sections were determined in a range of 4-40 degree in the center of mass system and up to 17 MeV excitation energy. The upper limit for the resonance widths in the crucial region of the  $4\alpha$  threshold was obtained. These values revealed to be at least a factor three smaller than the ones previously reported in the literature [5], indicating that the  $\alpha$  cluster structure information on this region should be revised. Figure 1 shows an deuteron energy spectrum in order to illustrate the good resolution achieved and the narrow resonances observed in the present work.

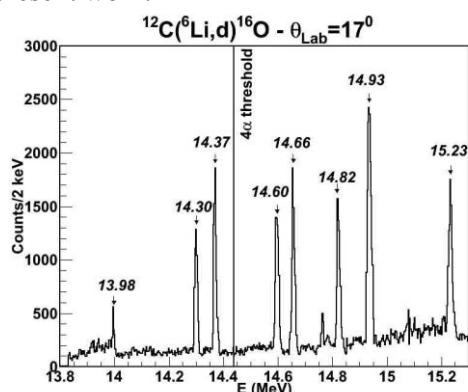


Figure 1: Energy deuteron spectrum for  $\theta_{lab} = 17^\circ$  near the  $4\alpha$  threshold.

[1] K. Ikeda, N. Takigawa, and H. Horiuchi, Prog. Theor. Phys. Suppl. E68, 464 (1968); H. Horiuchi, K. Ikeda, and Y. Suzuki, ibid. 44, 225 (1978).

[2] M. Itoh et al., Phys. Rev. C 84, 054308 (2011).

[3] T. Yamada et al. Phys. Rev. C 85, 034315 (2012)

[4] T. Borello-Lewin et al., Proceedings of 13th Conference on Nuclear Reaction Mechanisms, Varenna, Italy, CERN Proceedings 2012-02, p. 167-170.

[5] C. Wheldon et al., Phys. Rev. C 83, 064324 (2011).