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Elastic and inelastic scattering of 14.1 MeV neutrons on ¹²C

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As part of the TANGRA project [1], we had measured angular distribution of γ -quanta, arising from the reaction of inelastic scattering of 14.1 MeV neutrons on the $^{12}\mathrm{C}$ nucleus [2]. Due to the properties of $^{12}\mathrm{C}$, the information on its nuclear level structure that can be obtained by the registering γ -rays from the $^{12}\mathrm{C}(\mathrm{n,n'}\gamma)$ reaction is very limited. It was decided to register the probe particles, neutrons, instead of γ -quanta in the hope of additionally studying the second (0½, 7.65 MeV) and third (3½, 9.64 MeV) excited states of $^{12}\mathrm{C}$. The Hoyle state at 7.65 MeV is of particular interest in this respect because of its importance for the description of nucleosynthesis [3].

The angular distributions of neutrons scattered on carbon nuclei were measured with the TANGRA facility using tagged neutrons and time-of-flight methods. The data obtained were compared with results from previous experiments on the scattering of 114 MeV neutrons by 12 C. Optical model calculations (with coupled-channels approach), carried out using TALYS 1.9 nuclear reaction code [4], were used to describe the experimental data.

- 1. Project TANGRA, http://flnph.jinr.ru/en/facilities/tangra-project
- 2. D.N. Grozdanov et al., Yadernaya Fizika, 81, 548 (2018)
- 3. M. Freer, H.O.U. Fynbo, Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys., 78, 1 (2014)
- 4. A.J. Koning and D. Rochman, Nucl. Data Sheets, 113, 2841 (2012)

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