XXV International Baldin Seminar on High Energy Physics Problems "Relativistic Nuclear Physics and Quantum Chromodynamics"



Contribution ID: 47

Type: not specified

Fast proton interaction with a short-range NN correlation in ^{12}C

Thursday, 21 September 2023 17:10 (30 minutes)

Recently the BM@N Collaboration [1] measured the missing momentum and residual nucleus momentum distributions in proton knock-out reactions ${}^{12}C(p, 2pn_s){}^{10}B$ and ${}^{12}C(p, 2pp_s){}^{10}B$ in the inverse kinematics with incident ${}^{12}C$ beam at 48 GeV/c on proton target. Here, "s" stands for an unobserved spectator (or recoil) nucleon. The missing momentum is defined as the momentum of a struck proton in the ${}^{12}C$ rest frame before knock-out. The observed back-to-back correlation of the missing momentum and the spectator neutron momentum for $p_{miss} \geq 350$ MeV/c indicates that the proton interacted with a short-range pn-correlation. We perform the theoretical analysis of this experiment by applying the approach based on the translationally-invariant shell model (TISM) [2] which allows to calculate the spectroscopic amplitude of the state of "NN-pair + residual nucleus" in the wave function of the initial nucleus. Our calculations include absorptive initial-and final state interactions and charge exchange processes. In contrast to other approaches, we do not use a phenomenological c.m. momentum distribution of the NN-correlation, but calculate it from the TISM. A good overall agreement with the BM@N data is reached.

[1] M. Patsyuk et al., Nature Phys. {\bf 17}, 693 (2021).

[2] Yu. Uzikov and A. Uvarov, Phys. Part. Nucl. {\bf 53}, 426 (2022).

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Session Classification: Parallel: Project NICA/MPD/SPD at JINR