

**$^{14}\text{B}$   $\beta^-$  decay** [1974A111,1993ReZX,1996OgZZ](#)

Type	Author	History Citation	Literature Cutoff Date
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Parent:  $^{14}\text{B}$ :  $E=0$ ;  $J^\pi=2^-$ ;  $T_{1/2}=12.6$  ms 6;  $Q(\beta^-)=20644$  21;  $\% \beta^-$  decay=100.0

$^{14}\text{B}$ - $T_{1/2}$ : weighted mean of (16.1 ms 12): [1974A111](#), (12.8 ms 8): [1986Cu01](#) and (12.4 ms 3): see references in [1993ReZX](#); the uncertainty is enlarged.

$^{14}\text{B}$ - $Q(\beta^-)$ : from [2012Wa38](#).

[1974A111](#): A target BeO (94%  $^{10}\text{Be}$ ) was bombarded with 31-MeV  $^6\text{Li}$  ions; a fast beam chopper was used to establish beam activation and decay counting periods. A plastic scintillator detector measured the beta emissions while a NaI(Tl) detector measured coincident decay gamma-rays.

Activities from numerous reaction products were detected in the target, however by applying a beta particle energy threshold cut to the beta-gamma coincidence data it was possible to select  $^{14}\text{C}$  gamma-rays that followed the decay of  $^{14}\text{B}$ .

The  $\beta$ -decay is primarily to  $^{14}\text{C}^*(6.09)$  [ $J^\pi=1^-$ ] and (6.73) [ $J^\pi=3^-$ ] states, though only an upper limit could be placed on a branch to the (7.34) [ $J^\pi=2^-$ ] state. The half-life,  $T_{1/2}=16.1$  ms 12, was deduced by analyzing the decay curve of the  $^{14}\text{C}^*(6.09)$  state for events in coincidence with  $E_\beta > 6.3$  MeV.

The experimental results are gamma-ray intensities. The measured  $\gamma$ -ray intensity ratios are  $I_{6.09}/I_{6.73}/I_{7.34}=100/(10.0\pm 2.0)/< 2.2$ ; using these observed intensities and the level decay branching ratios from [1970Aj01](#), the relative beta feedings to the  $^{14}\text{C}^*(6.09,6.73,7.34)$  states was deduced.

In order to place the relative intensities on an absolute scale the authors estimated the unobserved feeding to the ground state as (5 3)%, and they made a further assumption that the  $\% \beta\text{-n}=0$ . With these assumptions, which account for (5 3)% of the decay, the beta decay branching ratios were deduced by combining the measured  $\gamma$ -ray intensity ratios with the known level gamma-ray decay branching ratios. The absolute beta-branching ratios  $I\beta_{6.09}/I\beta_{6.73}/I\beta_{7.34}=(81\ 9)\%/(8.6\ +17-40)\%/< 11\%$  were deduced by normalizing to 100%. There are no new measurements on these relative values, however subsequent experiments have produced measured values for the beta feeding to the ground state and to neutron unbound states.

[1993ReZX](#): Spallation products from 800 MeV proton bombardment of a  $^{232}\text{Th}$  target were captured by a transport line with a mass-to-charge filter and transferred to the TOFI spectrometer at LAMPF. The beamline was separately tuned to transport a number of different nuclides. The neutrons were detected in a polyethylene moderated  $^3\text{He}$  counter, and standard techniques were implemented. The  $\beta$ -delayed neutron probabilities were deduced from analysis of the number of implanted ions (per beam pulse) and the rate of  $\beta$ -delayed neutrons detected in the zero-threshold counter.

An associated conference report indicates the  $\beta$ -delayed neutron probability  $P_n=(6.1\ 3)\%$  and  $T_{1/2} = 12.4$  ms 3 (the International conference on nuclear data for science and technology: nuclear data for the twenty-first century, Gatlinburg, TN (United States), 9-13 May 1994).

Results presented in ([1993ReZX](#)) analyzed the data measured in the polyethylene moderated  $^3\text{He}$  counter and deduced a general value for the energy of neutrons emitted from the decay;  $E_n=1.38$  MeV +86-65. The value  $E_n=1.3$  MeV 3 is published in the 1994 conference report.

[1996OgZZ](#): Fragmentation of a 110 MeV/A  $^{22}\text{Ne}$  beam on a Be target produced a  $^{14}\text{B}$  beam that was implanted in a 7 mm thick active plastic stopper. Beta-rays were detected in a  $\Delta E$ -E scintillator telescope while gamma-rays were detected in a NaI detector. A high-energy component with  $E_\beta > 14.6$  MeV was observed and found in anti-coincidence with gamma-rays. This branch is attributed to beta feeding directly to the  $^{14}\text{C}$  ground state;  $I\beta_{g.s.} = (1.4\ 8)\%$ .

The conference proceeding ([1996OgZZ](#)) presents additional results indicating clear evidence for feeding of  $^{14}\text{C}^*(7.34)$  though no further details are given. No further analysis on the  $^{14}\text{C}^*(6.09,6.73)$  data are presented, and no subsequent publication of the work is found.

Comments: Absolute beta branching ratios have been measured for feeding to the  $^{14}\text{C}$  ground state and for feeding to neutron unbound states. Therefore, the relative gamma-ray intensity values of ([1974A111](#)) are reevaluated with the current level gamma decay branching ratios, and the deduced intensities are normalized with the decay feeding the  $^{14}\text{C}$  ground state and the  $\% \beta\text{-n}$ .

In the analysis of the uncertainties of the  $I\beta$  branching ratios the  $I\beta_{7.34}$  is treated as  $I\beta_{\text{max}}/2 \pm I\beta_{\text{max}}/2$ , and the uncertainty mainly impacts the  $I\beta_{6.09}$  branch.

$^{14}\text{B}$   $\beta^-$  decay 1974A111,1993ReZX,1996OgZZ (continued) $^{14}\text{C}$  Levels

<u>E(level)<sup>†</sup></u>	<u>J<sup>π</sup><sup>†</sup></u>	<u>T<sub>1/2</sub><sup>†</sup></u>
0.0	0 <sup>+</sup>	5700 y 30
6093.8 2	1 <sup>-</sup>	<7 fs
6728.2 13	3 <sup>-</sup>	66 ps 8
7341 3	2 <sup>-</sup>	111 fs 42

<sup>†</sup> From Adopted dataset for  $^{14}\text{C}$  in ENSDF database.

 $\beta^-$  radiations

<u>E(decay)</u>	<u>E(level)</u>	<u>I<math>\beta^-</math><sup>†</sup></u>	<u>Log ft</u>	<u>Comments</u>
(13303 21)	7341	<10	>4.8	av E $\beta$ =6405 11 I $\beta^-$ : upper limit is shown.
(13916 21)	6728.2	8.2 17	5.02 10	av E $\beta$ =6709 11 I $\beta^-$ : 8.2 +17-40.
(14550 21)	6093.8	79 6	4.13 4	av E $\beta$ =7024 11
(20644 21)	0.0	1.4 8	6.62 25	av E $\beta$ =10048 11

<sup>†</sup> Absolute intensity per 100 decays.