

$^1\text{H}(^{17}\text{Ne},\text{P})$  2012As04

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The level structure of  $^{18}\text{Na}$  was studied by  $^{17}\text{Ne}+p$  elastic scattering, in inverse kinematics, with the aim of adding understanding to the dynamics of  $2p$  decay of  $^{19}\text{Mg}$ .

A beam of  $E(^{17}\text{Ne})=4$  MeV/nucleon ions from the SPIRAL facility at GANIL impinged on a polypropylene ( $\text{C}_3\text{H}_6$ ) target assembly. The target assembly consisted of a fixed  $50 \mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$   $\text{C}_3\text{H}_6$  foil followed by a rotating (1000 rpm)  $\text{C}_3\text{H}_6$  foil which stopped the beam and carried away the beams undesired decay radiation; scattered protons are unaffected by the target functionality.

The scattered protons, whose energies are convoluted with the target thicknesses and the scattering excitation function, were detected at  $5^\circ \leq \theta_{\text{lab}} \leq 20^\circ$  with an annular position sensitive  $\Delta E$ - $E$  telescope. The scattering excitation function, which is assumed to result from elastic scattering, is deduced with an energy resolution of 13 keV. Small backgrounds from reactions on  $^{12}\text{C}$  and  $\beta$ -delayed protons from  $^{17}\text{Ne}$  are evaluated and subtracted from the proton energy spectrum. Finally the spectrum is evaluated via R-matrix analysis. Two peaks are prominent; the later apparently corresponding to a narrow  $J^\pi=3^-$  resonance with interference from two broad s-wave resonances.

The deduced level structures are compared with shell-model predictions. Interpretation suggests two narrow states that are predicted in the shell model, the  $1^-$  ground state and a  $2^-$  excited state, are too weakly populated to be observed.

An earlier experiment utilizing a  $150 \mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$   $\text{C}_3\text{H}_6$  foil (2011As07,2011AsZX) produced similar results.

 $^{18}\text{Na}$  Levels

E(level)	$J^\pi$	$\Gamma$	Comments
$0.30 \times 10^3$ 11	$2^-$	5 keV 3	%p $\approx$ 100. E(level): from $E_{\text{res}}=1552$ keV 5 and $^{18}\text{Na}_{\text{g.s.}}$ with $S_p=1.25$ MeV 11. $\Gamma$ : for $\Gamma_0$ to $^{17}\text{Ne}_{\text{g.s.}}$ ; there is a limit of $\Gamma < 1$ keV for decay to $^{17}\text{Ne}$ excited states.
$0.59 \times 10^3$ 12	$0^-$	300 keV 100	%p $\approx$ 100. E(level): from $E_{\text{res}}=1842$ keV 40 and $^{18}\text{Na}_{\text{g.s.}}$ with $S_p=1.25$ MeV 11. $\Gamma$ : for $\Gamma_0$ to $^{17}\text{Ne}_{\text{g.s.}}$ ; there is a limit of $\Gamma < 10$ keV for decay to $^{17}\text{Ne}$ excited states.
$0.78 \times 10^3$ 11	$1^-$	900 keV 100	%p $\approx$ 100. E(level): from $E_{\text{res}}=2030$ keV 20 and $^{18}\text{Na}_{\text{g.s.}}$ with $S_p=1.25$ MeV 11. $\Gamma$ : for $\Gamma_0$ to $^{17}\text{Ne}_{\text{g.s.}}$ ; there is a limit of $\Gamma < 100$ keV for decay to $^{17}\text{Ne}$ excited states.
$0.83 \times 10^3$ 11	$3^-$	42 keV 10	%p $\approx$ 100. E(level): from $E_{\text{res}}=2084$ keV 5 and $^{18}\text{Na}_{\text{g.s.}}$ with $S_p=1.25$ MeV 11. $\Gamma$ : for $\Gamma_0$ to $^{17}\text{Ne}_{\text{g.s.}}$ ; there is a limit of $\Gamma < 1$ keV for decay to $^{17}\text{Ne}$ excited states.