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Neutron Interaction With ${}^7\text{Be}$ at the SARAF: Evidence for Cluster Shell Model p-h States in ${}^8\text{Be}$ and Implication for Big Bang Nucleosynthesis.

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The interaction of neutrons with ${}^7\text{Be}$ that was measured at the SARAF in Israel with a quasi-Maxwellian neutron beam at 49.5 keV reveals a strong $B(E1: 2^- \rightarrow 2^+) \sim 0.04$ W.u., decay of the 2^- state at 18.91 MeV in ${}^8\text{Be}$ to the alpha-cluster 2^+ state at 3.03 MeV [1]. This strong E1 decay leads to large cross section of the ${}^7\text{Be}(n, g_1){}^8\text{Be}(3.03)$ reaction at the “BBN window”. It implies s-waves dominance of the cross section at the “BBN window”, in contrast to previous extrapolations into the “BBN window” from lower energies (the n -TOF measurement [2]) and extrapolation from higher energies (the Kyoto measurement [3]). In addition, the phenomenological structure of all states below 19.5 MeV in ${}^8\text{Be}$ (including the 2^- state at 18.91 MeV) provides good evidence for particle-hole (p-h) states in the newly proposed Cluster Shell Model (CSM) of Della Roca and Iachello [4]. The states near the neutron and proton thresholds in ${}^8\text{Be}$ show the characteristic of the p-h states predicted by the CSM. The measured $B(E1)$ of the 2^- state at 18.91 MeV is in accordance with other measured decays of the p-h CSM states to the well-known cluster ground-states and 2^+ state at 3.03 MeV in ${}^8\text{Be}$. The new CSM model of Della Roca and Iachello [4] will be introduced with emphasize on the similarity between p-h states in ${}^8\text{Be}$ and single particle states in ${}^9\text{Be}$.

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