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Lifetime measurement of the 6.792 MeV state in ^{15}O with the AGATA Demonstrator

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The results from the lifetime measurement of the first $3/2^+$ state in ^{15}O are discussed. This state corresponds to a sub-threshold resonance in the $^{14}\text{N}(p,\gamma)^{15}\text{O}$ reaction, the slowest one of the CNO cycle. The accurate determination of the width of this resonance is of paramount importance in the evaluation of the astrophysical factor and the derived cross section [1]. For this purpose, an experiment was performed to measure the lifetime of the first $3/2^+$ state in ^{15}O , decaying by a 6.792 MeV E1 transition to the ground state, by means of the Doppler Shift Attenuation method. Gamma rays were detected by the AGATA Demonstrator, placed close to the beam line, providing a continuous angular distribution of the emitted gamma rays.

The first excited states in ^{15}O (and ^{15}N) were populated via nucleon transfer and fusion-evaporation reactions of ^{14}N on ^2H (implanted at the surface of a ~ 4 mg/cm 2 Au layer) at 32 MeV beam energy, provided by the XTU Tandem at LNL. The procedure and steps followed in the data analysis are described together with some results of the high-energy gammas calibration. Spectra of several high-energy gamma rays de-exciting 1-10 fs lifetime levels in the populated nuclei will be shown and compared with the result of detailed simulations.

[1] C. Peña-Garay and A. M. Sereneli, in preparation (2008) and arXiv: 0811.2424v1 [astro-ph]

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