

Beta decay of ^{103}Sn

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Doubly closed-shell nuclei and neighbouring isotopes/isotones provide a sensitive test ground for the nuclear shell model. ^{100}Sn is the heaviest doubly-magic $N=Z$ nucleus, located at the proton drip line, where protons and neutrons occupy identical shell-model orbitals. The overlap of their wave functions is large, which further causes a strong proton-neutron interaction to be expected. Beta decay in this region is dominated by an allowed Gamow-Teller (GT) transformation $\pi g_{9/2} \rightarrow \nu g_{7/2}$, which in the decay of an even-even nucleus populates the $I^\pi = 1^+$ GT resonance. For an odd-neutron parent nucleus the coupling of this resonance to the unpaired nucleon can be studied. This provides a test of the residual interaction via the β -delayed γ -ray spectroscopy.

Measurements of β -delayed γ -rays and protons were performed at the GSI-ISOL facility for $^{101,103,105}\text{Sn}$. It was essential for this experiment to efficiently suppress the isobaric indium, cadmium, silver and palladium contaminants by using the novel sulphurisation technique [1]. The β -delayed γ -ray spectra were measured with an array of high-resolution germanium detectors (17 crystals) in grow-in mode as well as with the Total Absorption Spectrometer (TAS) in decay mode. Moreover, ΔE -E telescope was used to record β -delayed protons [2, 3]. Further experimental details are given in refs. [1-3].

We report on the new data for the β decay of ^{103}Sn . In Fig. 1 the β -gated γ -ray spectrum for ^{103}Sn , taken at mass $A=103+32$ with the germanium array, is shown. The 720, 726 and 740 keV lines are known to belong to the decay of the ^{103}In daughter activity [4]. The 1077 keV line has been identified by in-beam spectroscopy [5] to represent the $11/2^+ \rightarrow 9/2^+$ transition in ^{103}In . The data shown in Fig. 1 yield the first evidence for β -delayed γ -rays of 643, 821, 1077, 1356, 1397 and 1428 keV, which are preliminarily assigned to the decay of ^{103}Sn . The TAS spectrum gated by protons is shown in Fig. 2. The 776 and 776+1022 keV lines correspond to the 2^+ state in ^{102}Cd fed by β -delayed protons after a EC and β^+ -decay of ^{103}Sn , respectively. Based on these data, a β^+/EC ratio of 0.06 for the proton emission to the 2^+ state in ^{102}Cd was estimated. A corresponding ratio of 0.6 for the proton emission to the ground state in ^{102}Cd was obtained using a proton- γ anti-coincidence condition. The Q_{EC} value of ^{103}Sn was preliminarily determined from these β^+/EC ratios and the average energy of β -delayed protons [6] to be 7.5 ± 0.5 MeV.

The half-life of ^{103}Sn , obtained from the β -delayed proton time distribution, is shown in the inset of Fig. 2. The result of the fit being $T_{1/2} = 7.0 \pm 0.6$ s is in agreement

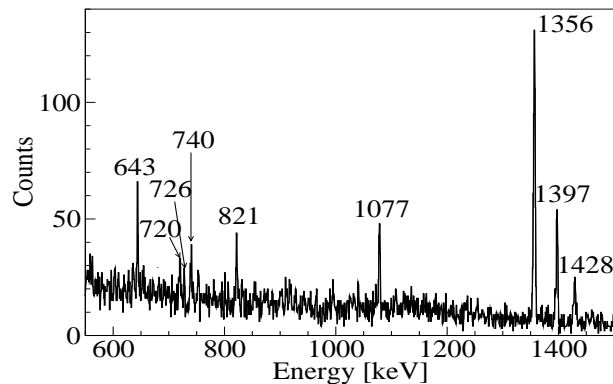


Figure 1: Gamma-ray spectrum obtained for mass $A=103+32$ in coincidence with positrons. The strongest lines are marked by their energies in keV.

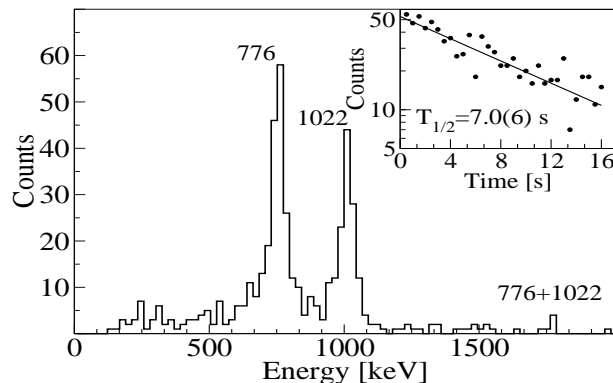


Figure 2: TAS spectrum taken in coincidence with β -delayed protons from the ^{103}Sn decay. The inset shows the time characteristic of β -delayed protons.

with the previously measured values of 7 ± 3 s [6], 7.5 ± 1.5 s [7] and in disagreement with 8.7 ± 0.6 s [8] by two standard deviations.

References

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