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## Characterization of ternary and quaternary particle emission in spontaneous fission of <sup>252</sup>Cf

In this study, the energy spectra and yields of various ternary and quaternary particles produced during the spontaneous fission of  $^{252}$ Cf were measured and analyzed. Particles with atomic numbers Z = 1 to 6 were clearly identified, including hydrogen and helium isotopes such as  $^{1}$ H,  $^{2}$ H,  $^{3}$ H,  $^{4}$ He,  $^{6}$ He, and  $^{8}$ He. Distinct energy distributions were observed for each particle type, and Gaussian fitting was applied to estimate their yields and energies. The analysis successfully quantified the yields of ternary particles, including  $^{1}$ H,  $^{2}$ H,  $^{3}$ He,  $^{6}$ He,  $^{8}$ He, as well as heavier fragments like lithium (Li), beryllium (Be), boron (B), and carbon (C). In addition to ternary particle emissions, this study investigated quaternary fission (QF) processes in  $^{252}$ Cf. Two main pathways were identified: pseudo-quaternary fission, resulting from the decay of unstable light charged particles (LCPs) such as  $^{7}$ Li,  $^{8}$ Be, and  $^{9}$ Be\*, and true quaternary fission, characterized by the independent emission of two LCPs. Angular distributions of  $\alpha$ -particle coincidences from  $^{8}$ Be decays were analyzed, and the results aligned with the predicted decay kinematics of  $^{8}$ Be from both its ground and first excited states. Although the statistics were limited, the energy spectrum of ( $\alpha$ , t) pairs from the second excited state of  $^{7}$ Li was successfully analyzed and compared to the ternary Li particle data. The study reported yields and energy spectra of particles from these processes.

## **Notes**

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