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## Lifetime Measurement of the $0^+_3$ State in $^{120}$ Sn

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The semi-magic  ${}_{50}^{120}$ Sn<sub>70</sub> lies in the neutron mid-shell among the other stable Sn isotopes, where 2p - 2h intruder configurations built on excited  $0^+$  states have been recently observed. However, the transition rates from the  $0_3^+$  state in  ${}^{120}$ Sn are not well-known because its lifetime only has a lower limit of 6 ps, which prevents a firm assignment or exclusion of the  $0_3^+$  state into the intruder band.

The first thermal neutron capture experiment, <sup>119</sup>Sn( $n,\gamma^{many}$ )<sup>120</sup>Sn, was performed at the Institut Laue-Langevin, where the world's highest-flux thermal neutron beam was delivered at 10<sup>8</sup> n/cm<sup>2</sup>/s at the target position on an isotopically enriched <sup>119</sup>Sn target. Low-spin states in <sup>120</sup>Sn were populated up to  $S_n = 9.1$  MeV, and the decaying gamma-ray cascades were detected with the Fission Product Prompt Gamma-ray Spectrometer (FIPPS) comprised of eight Compton-suppressed HPGe clovers coupled to an array of 15 LaBr<sub>3</sub>(Ce) scintillation detectors. The LaBr<sub>3</sub>(Ce) scintillators, which were used for gamma-ray detection and lifetime measurement using the Mirror Symmetric Centroid Difference (MSCD) method, have fast timing responses and are ideal for extracting lifetimes between 10 and a few hundred ps.

In total, there are  $4 \times 10^9$  counts in the  $\gamma \gamma \gamma$  cube where two LaBr<sub>3</sub>(Ce) events were in coincidence with one HPGe. Preliminary lifetimes in <sup>120</sup>Sn using the MSCD technique will be reported.

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