

# Do light nuclei display a universal $\gamma$ -ray strength function?

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Particle- $\gamma$  coincidences from the bombardment of 15 MeV and 32 MeV protons on a  $^{46}\text{Ti}$  target are utilized to obtain  $\gamma$ -ray spectra as a function of excitation energy for  $^{44,45,46}\text{Ti}$  [1-3]. The Oslo method has been used to extract simultaneously level density and  $\gamma$ -ray strength functions ( $\gamma$ -SFs). The rich  $^{46}\text{Ti}$  data set of 110 million events allows analysis of the coincidence data for many independent data sets. As expected, the results are consistent with one common level density.

A method to study the evolution of the deduced  $\gamma$ -SFs as a function of excitation energy will be described. The  $\gamma$ -SFs are found to display strong variations for different initial and final excitation energies if transitions to the lowest states are involved. The differences in the  $\gamma$ -SFs can be explained as a consequence of Porter-Thomas fluctuations of individual intensities, and shows that this energy region cannot be used for determination of the universal  $\gamma$ -RSF. Even though, the deduced  $\gamma$ -SFs based on transitions within the quasi-continuum still indicate that the decay is governed by a universal  $\gamma$ -SF.

## References:

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3. A.C. Larsen et *al.*, University of Oslo, in preparation