

FRAGMENTATION OF OXYGEN NUCLEI
INTO α -PARTICLES AND ^{12}C NUCLEI
IN ^{16}O p-COLLISIONS AT 3.25A GeV/c

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S u m m a r y

New experimental data on decay of relativistic nuclei of oxygen into α -particles and ^{12}C nuclei during their interactions with protons are presented for the first time in the 4π -geometry. It is shown that the main mechanism of this decay is due to the quasi-elastic knock-out of one of the α -clusters of the original ^{16}O nucleus by a proton-target.