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PHENOMENOLOGICAL FORMULA FOR  
 $(n, 2n)$ ,  $(p, 2n)$  AND  $(p, 3n)$   
REACTION CROSS-SECTIONS

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BUDAPEST

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REACTION CROSS-SECTIONS

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A strong N-Z dependence of the cross-sections for  $/n,2n/$  reactions has been shown by several authors [1-4]. The observation of systematic trends in this reaction can be of great importance in the calculation of unknown reaction cross-sections which are of interest in various reactor and engineering applications [64].

In an earlier paper on the existence of shell effects in the  $/n,2n/$  reaction cross-sections, it was shown that the latter could be described at constant excess energy by the following formula [4]:

$$\sigma_{\text{emp}} = \left[ 1 - c_1 \cdot f(A) \cdot \exp \left( -c_2 \cdot \frac{N-Z}{A} \right) \right] \cdot c_3 \quad /1a/$$

where

$$f(A) = \left( A^{\frac{1}{3}} + 1 \right)^2 \quad /1b/$$

The agreement between measured and predicted values was very good for nuclei with  $4 \leq N-Z \leq 21$ .

In this paper the validity of this formula is extended to a broader range of nuclei and to other reaction types. According to the "independence hypothesis" of the decay of the compound nucleus [5], the formula is expected to be valid for  $/x,yn/$  reactions in general, provided these reactions occur through a compound nucleus. Therefore an attempt has been made to describe the  $/n,2n/$ ,  $/p,2n/$  and  $/p,3n/$  cross-sections. In the case of  $/x,2n/$  reactions an excess energy of 3 MeV was chosen, i.e.  $E_n = Q+3$  MeV. The  $/p,3n/$  reaction cross-sections were calculated at the energies corresponding to the maximum cross-section values in the excitation curves, because very few data were available near the threshold energy.

Formula 1b had to be modified for  $/p,3n/$  reactions. This is because in formula /1a/,  $f(A)$  is connected with the absorption cross-section

$$f(A) \sim \left( A^{\frac{1}{3}} + \frac{\lambda}{r_0} \right)^2$$

where  $\lambda$  is the de Broglie wavelength and  $r_0 = 1.2$  fm. Now  $\frac{\lambda}{r_0} \approx 1$  for 14 MeV neutrons and protons, but it is 0.64 for 35 MeV protons ( $^{35}\text{O}$  MeV is the average of the energies corresponding to the maximum cross-section values). Thus the calculations of  $/p,3n/$  cross-sections were carried out using the modified form:

$$f(A) = \left( A^{\frac{1}{3}} + 0.64 \right)^2$$

The interpretation of formulas /1a, 1b/ will be discussed elsewhere [8].

Most of the reported /n,2n/ and /p,2n/ data were measured at  $E_n = Q + 3$  MeV; if not, the cross-section was obtained by extrapolation from the values measured at 14 MeV, using the Weisskopf formula [5]:

$$\sigma(n,2n) = \sigma_c \left[ 1 - \left( 1 + \frac{E_{exc}}{T} \right) \cdot \exp \left( -\frac{E_{exc}}{T} \right) \right]$$

where

$$T = \left( \frac{E_n}{0.115 \cdot A} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad /2/$$

$\sigma_c$  was evaluated from the fit of /2/ to the excitation functions. The values of  $Q$  were taken from tables [6,7,63].

The /n,2n/ data were divided into four groups according to the neutron number of the target nuclei. For the other reaction types very few data were available, and so the fit was made for all the nuclei.

The best-fit parameters are listed in Table 1. The results of the calculations are listed along with the reported data in Tables 2-7. The results show the usefulness of the empirical formula /1/ for the calculation of the three cross-sections. Using the parameters listed in Table 1, the empirical formula gives the cross-section values at the given excess energy  $/E_n = Q + 3$  MeV/ for /n,2n/ and /p,2n/ reactions and at the maximum cross-section values for /p,3n/ reactions. It is possible to evaluate the cross-sections at different excitation energies from Eq.2. Further calculations for other reaction types are in progress.

Table 1.

The best-fit parameters of the empirical formula /1/ for different types of reactions

		$c_1$	$c_2$	$c_3$ mbarn	Ref. table
$/n, 2n/$	$N \leq 28$	0.085	20.0	550	2
	$28 < N \leq 50$	0.06	8.45	1900	3
	$50 < N \leq 82$	0.06	9.5	2600	4
	$82 < N$	0.15	14.0	3500	5
$/p, 2n/$	$24 \leq N \leq 124$	0.076	7.8	1800	6
$/p, 3n/$	$28 \leq N \leq 126$	0.30	19.0	1500	7

Table 2.

Measured  $\sigma_m$  and predicted  $\sigma_{emp}$  values of  $/n, 2n/$  reaction cross-sections for nuclei with  $N \leq 28$

target nucleus	$\frac{N-Z}{A}$	$\sigma_m$	$\sigma_{emp}$	Ref.
$^{39}K$	0.026	$15 \pm 1$	20	66 M*
$^{48}Ca$	0.167	$860 \pm 129$ $707 \pm 108$ $722 \pm 184$	515	9 M 10 E 10 E
$^{45}Sc$	0.067	$320 \pm 48$ $328 \pm 35$ $347 \pm 19$ $316 \pm 8$	299	9 M 11 M 11 M 11 M
$^{46}Ti$	0.043	$145 \pm 7$ $135 \pm 8$ $111 \pm 3$	147	65 M 11 E 11 E
$^{51}V$	0.098	$675 \pm 100$	407	52 M
$^{50}Cr$	0.040	$64 \pm 3$	98	11 E
$^{52}Cr$	0.077	$317 \pm 50$ $476 \pm 33$	330	11 E 12 M
$^{54}Fe$	0.037	$50 \pm 5$ $134 \pm 3$	51	53 M 9 M

\* M measured at  $E_n = Q + 3$  MeV

E extrapolated to  $E_n = Q + 3$  MeV

Table 3.

Measured  $\sigma_m$  and predicted  $\sigma_{emp}$  values of  $n, 2n$  reaction cross-section for nuclei with  $28 < N \leq 50$

target nucleus	$\frac{N-Z}{A}$	$\sigma_m$	$\sigma_{emp}$	Ref.
$^{55}\text{Mn}$	0.091	$613 \pm 72$ $750 \pm 112$	706	13 M 9 M
$^{56}\text{Fe}$	0.071	$440 \pm 88$ $500 \pm 40$	479	11 M 11 M
$^{59}\text{Co}$	0.085	$570 \pm 105$	595	56 M
$^{63}\text{Cu}$	0.079	$495 \pm 74$	486	9 M
$^{65}\text{Cu}$	0.108	$810 \pm 121$	769	1 M
$^{64}\text{Zn}$	0.062	$254 \pm 50$ $288 \pm 43$	256	11 M 9 M
$^{66}\text{Zn}$	0.091	$550 \pm 83$	586	9 M
$^{70}\text{Zn}$	0.143	$1065 \pm 130$	1026	9 E
$^{69}\text{Ga}$	0.101	$690 \pm 65$	669	56 M
$^{71}\text{Ga}$	0.127	$780 \pm 100$	891	1 M
$^{70}\text{Ge}$	0.086	$447 \pm 45$	483	57 M
$^{76}\text{Ge}$	0.158	$1095 \pm 120$	1096	57 E
$^{75}\text{As}$	0.120	$910 \pm 40$ $825 \pm 35$	800	56 M 12 M
$^{74}\text{Se}$	0.081	$415 \pm 44$ $516 \pm 38$ $565 \pm 9$	383	58 E 14 E 15 M
$^{76}\text{Se}$	0.105	$745 \pm 81$	646	58 E
$^{82}\text{Se}$	0.171	$1170 \pm 50$ $1490 \pm 225$	1149	14 E 9 M
$^{79}\text{Br}$	0.114	$740 \pm 45$	710	14 E
$^{81}\text{Br}$	0.136	$835 \pm 65$ $963 \pm 115$	897	14 E 16 E
$^{78}\text{Kr}$	0.077	$288 \pm 20$	284	17 E
$^{80}\text{Kr}$	0.100	$810 \pm 60$	552	17 M
$^{85}\text{Rb}$	0.129	$887 \pm 71$ $830 \pm 125$ $1099 \pm 55$	814	12 M 9 M 65 M

Table 3. cont.

target nucleus	$\frac{N-Z}{A}$	$\sigma_m$	$\sigma_{emp}$	Ref.
$^{87}\text{Rb}$	0.149	1056 $\pm$ 53 1290 $\pm$ 195 1001 $\pm$ 50	972	56 M 9 M 18 E
$^{84}\text{Sr}$	0.095	380 $\pm$ 50 395 $\pm$ 75 380 $\pm$ 10	460	59 M 18 M 18 M
$^{86}\text{Sr}$	0.116	683 $\pm$ 42 570 $\pm$ 85, 701 $\pm$ 110	679	18 M 9 M 11 M
$^{89}\text{Y}$	0.124	751 $\pm$ 80	731	4 M
$^{90}\text{Zr}$	0.111	608 $\pm$ 30 885 $\pm$ 4 800 $\pm$ 120	593	11 M 15 M 9 M
$^{92}\text{Mo}$	0.087	280 $\pm$ 42 383 $\pm$ 6	278	9 M 15 M

Table 4

Measured  $|\sigma_m|$  and predicted  $|\sigma_{emp}|$  values of  $/n, 2n/$  reaction  
cross-sections for nuclei with  $50 < N \leq 82$

target nucleus	$\frac{N-Z}{A}$	$\sigma_m$	$\sigma_{emp}$	Ref.
$^{96}\text{Zr}$	0.167	$1197 \pm 80$	1628	51 E
$^{100}\text{Mo}$	0.160	$1460 \pm 200$ $1295 \pm 180$ $1149 \pm 85$	1541	9 E 60 E 51 E
$^{96}\text{Ru}$	0.083	$516 \pm 70$ $494 \pm 30$ $411 \pm 90$ $545 \pm 55$	454	19 E 51 E 11 E 11 E
$^{98}\text{Ru}$	0.102	$863 \pm 110$ $1012 \pm 96$	784	19 E 51 E
$^{103}\text{Rh}$	0.126	$642 \pm 80$ $804 \pm 80$	1117	11 E 51 E
$^{102}\text{Pd}$	0.098	$541 \pm 70$ $559 \pm 45$	672	19 E 51 E
$^{110}\text{Pd}$	0.164	$1348 \pm 80$ $1638 \pm 185$	1523	20 E 51 E
$^{107}\text{Ag}$	0.121	$782 \pm 120$ $630 \pm 141$	1016	36 M 61 E
$^{108}\text{Cd}$	0.111	$772 \pm 100$ $490 \pm 75$	843	51 E 62 E
$^{110}\text{Cd}$	0.127	$1054 \pm 150$	1078	51 E
$^{116}\text{Cd}$	0.172	$1442 \pm 102$ $1013 \pm 100$	1580	65 M 51 E
$^{113}\text{In}$	0.133	$1300 \pm 137$ $1492 \pm 110$ $1523 \pm 180$	1134	21 E 20 E 22 E
$^{115}\text{In}$	0.148	$1320 \pm 166$ $1654 \pm 119$ $1581 \pm 110$	1317	21 E 24 E 23 E
$^{112}\text{Sn}$	0.107	$900 \pm 100$ $1110 \pm 127$ $1530 \pm 229$	739	19 M 12 M 9 M
$^{114}\text{Sn}$	0.123	$947 \pm 130$ $1082 \pm 130$ $1572 \pm 100$	981	19 E 51 E 25 E
$^{120}\text{Sn}$	0.167	$1240 \pm 210$	1502	25 E

Table 4 cont.

target nucleus	$\frac{N-Z}{A}$	$\sigma_m$	$\sigma_{emp}$	Ref.
$^{121}\text{Sb}$	0.157	1584 $\pm$ 115 1369 $\pm$ 93 1393 $\pm$ 80	1392	26 E 12 M 51 E
$^{123}\text{Sb}$	0.171	1329 $\pm$ 80 1099 $\pm$ 137 1962 $\pm$ 200	1530	51 E 12 E 23 E
$^{122}\text{Te}$	0.148	1422 $\pm$ 140	1272	51 E
$^{128}\text{Te}$	0.188	1441 $\pm$ 210	1667	51 E
$^{130}\text{Te}$	0.200	1270 $\pm$ 75	1764	51 E
$^{127}\text{I}$	0.165	1432 $\pm$ 80 1143 $\pm$ 132	1454	51 E 11 E
$^{124}\text{Xe}$	0.129	1021 $\pm$ 110	1002	17 E
$^{126}\text{Xe}$	0.143	1208 $\pm$ 165	1187	17 E
$^{128}\text{Xe}$	0.156	1333 $\pm$ 170	1345	17 E
$^{134}\text{Xe}$	0.194	1980 $\pm$ 240	1701	17 E
$^{136}\text{Xe}$	0.206	1501 $\pm$ 100	1790	17 E
$^{133}\text{Cs}$	0.173	1347 $\pm$ 75 1352 $\pm$ 250	1506	51 E 11 E
$^{136}\text{Ce}$	0.147	1174 $\pm$ 90	1184	51 E
$^{140}\text{Ce}$	0.171	1531 $\pm$ 100 1407 $\pm$ 140 1540 $\pm$ 111 1400 $\pm$ 130	1458	27 E 9 E 12 E 51 E
$^{141}\text{Pr}$	0.163	1450 $\pm$ 144 1231 $\pm$ 111	1360	12 E 41 M
$^{142}\text{Nd}$	0.155	1458 $\pm$ 120 1831 $\pm$ 200 1467 $\pm$ 125	1254	27 E 11 E 40 E
$^{144}\text{Sm}$	0.139	1081 $\pm$ 106 1600 $\pm$ 240 1343 $\pm$ 166 1110 $\pm$ 300	1020	12 M 9 M 29 E 29 E

Table 5.

Measured  $\sigma_m$  and predicted  $\sigma_{emp}$  values of  $n, 2n$  reaction cross-sections for nuclei with  $82 < N$

target nucleus	$\frac{N-Z}{A}$	$\sigma_m$	$\sigma_{emp}$	Ref.
$^{142}\text{Ce}$	0.183	1434 $\pm$ 300 1614 $\pm$ 160 1756 $\pm$ 170 1677 $\pm$ 170 1525 $\pm$ 170	1979	9 E 12 E 9 E 27 E 51 E
$^{148}\text{Nd}$	0.189	1938 $\pm$ 200	2071	11 E
$^{150}\text{Nd}$	0.200	1986 $\pm$ 300 1560 $\pm$ 276	2263	29 E 29 E
$^{154}\text{Sm}$	0.195	2025 $\pm$ 900 1349 $\pm$ 300	2150	11 E 11 E
$^{154}\text{Gd}$	0.169	1660 $\pm$ 140	1558	27 E
$^{160}\text{Gd}$	0.200	1345 $\pm$ 820 1327 $\pm$ 300 1578 $\pm$ 170	2218	11 E 11 E 11 E
$^{160}\text{Dy}$	0.175	1813 $\pm$ 120	1680	27 E
$^{165}\text{Ho}$	0.188	1904 $\pm$ 210 2503 $\pm$ 55 1914 $\pm$ 300	1954	11 E 11 E 2 E
$^{166}\text{Er}$	0.181	1778 $\pm$ 155	1786	27 E
$^{170}\text{Er}$	0.200	1740 $\pm$ 265 1103 $\pm$ 500	2174	11 E 11 E
$^{169}\text{Tm}$	0.183	1821 $\pm$ 115	1833	27 E
$^{170}\text{Yb}$	0.176	1889 $\pm$ 110	1656	27 E
$^{176}\text{Yb}$	0.205	1681 $\pm$ 253 730 $\pm$ 80 400 $\pm$ 100	2231	11 E 11 E 11 E
$^{175}\text{Lu}$	0.189	1780 $\pm$ 170 1600 $\pm$ 300	1918	27 E 11 E
$^{176}\text{Hf}$	0.182	2033 $\pm$ 115 1860 $\pm$ 100	1756	27 E 42 E
$^{181}\text{Ta}$	0.193	2438 $\pm$ 200 1662 $\pm$ 300	1993	11 E 11 E
$^{182}\text{W}$	0.187	1990 $\pm$ 120	1843	27 E
$^{186}\text{W}$	0.204	2130 $\pm$ 230	2187	43 E

Table 5. cont.

target nucleus	$\frac{Z-N}{A}$	$\sigma_m$	$\sigma_{emp}$	Ref.
$^{185}_{\text{Re}}$	0.189	1666 $\pm$ 600	1882	11 E
$^{187}_{\text{Re}}$	0.198	1560 $\pm$ 168 1341 $\pm$ 410	2059	11 E 11 E
$^{191}_{\text{Ir}}$	0.194	1943 $\pm$ 190	1954	27 E
$^{198}_{\text{Pt}}$	0.212	2580 $\pm$ 1500	2281	11 E
$^{197}_{\text{Au}}$	0.198	2158 $\pm$ 180 1601 $\pm$ 460 2418 $\pm$ 200 2235 $\pm$ 120	2018	27 E 11 E 11 E 11 E
$^{198}_{\text{Hg}}$	0.192	2169 $\pm$ 220	1882	27 E
$^{204}_{\text{Hg}}$	0.216	2160 $\pm$ 160 2188 $\pm$ 300	2321	27 E 30 E
$^{203}_{\text{Tl}}$	0.202	2043 $\pm$ 120 1235 $\pm$ 66 1570 $\pm$ 210	2075	27 E 11 E 30 E
$^{205}_{\text{Tl}}$	0.210	1861 $\pm$ 279	2215	11 E
$^{204}_{\text{Pb}}$	0.196	1966 $\pm$ 110 1467 $\pm$ 160	1948	27 E 9 E
$^{209}_{\text{Bi}}$	0.206	2155 $\pm$ 300 2380 $\pm$ 200	2126	11 E 11 E
$^{232}_{\text{Th}}$	0.214	1940 $\pm$ 90	2166	44 M

Table 6.

Measured  $\sigma_m$  and predicted  $\sigma_{emp}$  values of  $p, 2n$  reaction cross-sections for nuclei with  $24 \leq N \leq 124$

target nucleus	$N-Z$ A	$\sigma_m$	$\sigma_{emp}$	Ref.
$^{45}\text{Sc}$	0.067	$12 \pm 4$	144	31 M
$^{48}\text{Ti}$	0.083	$73 \pm 18$	297	32 E
$^{51}\text{V}$	0.098	$231 \pm 35$	417	33 M
$^{52}\text{Cr}$	0.077	$91 \pm 24$	153	32 E
$^{56}\text{Fe}$	0.071	$42 \pm 15$	13	32 E
$^{59}\text{Co}$	0.085	$133 \pm 21$	145	33 M
$^{62}\text{Ni}$	0.097	$240 \pm 57$	254	32 E
$^{63}\text{Cu}$	0.079	$50 \pm 21$ $43 \pm 15$	14	34 E 32 E
$^{68}\text{Zn}$	0.118	$410 \pm 200$ $508 \pm 117$	420	31 M 32 E
$^{69}\text{Ga}$	0.101	$237 \pm 44$	222	32 E
$^{88}\text{Sr}$	0.136	$400 \pm 70$	432	45 E
$^{89}\text{Y}$	0.124	$264 \pm 46$	280	35 E
$^{93}\text{Nb}$	0.118	$167 \pm 25$	177	33 M
$^{100}\text{Mo}$	0.160	$103 \pm 14$	581	46 M
$^{110}\text{Cd}$	0.127	$425 \pm 30$	143	37 E
$^{112}\text{Cd}$	0.143	$470 \pm 20$	318	37 E
$^{140}\text{Ce}$	0.171	$447 \pm 67$	460	38 M
$^{150}\text{Nd}$	0.200	$200 \pm 30$	686	39 M
$^{168}\text{Er}$	0.190	$430 \pm 200$	522	50 E
$^{181}\text{Ta}$	0.193	$417 \pm 70$	497	33 M
$^{197}\text{Au}$	0.198	$232 \pm 35$	482	33 M
$^{206}\text{Pb}$	0.204	$530 \pm 70$	510	47 M

Table 7.

Measured  $\sigma_m$  and predicted  $\sigma_{emp}$  values of  $p,3n$  reaction cross-section for nuclei with  $28 \leq N \leq 126$

target nucleus	$\frac{N-Z}{A}$	$\sigma_m$	$\sigma_{emp}$	Ref.
$^{51}V$	0.098	$97 \pm 15$	208	55
$^{65}Cu$	0.108	$165 \pm 25$ $145 \pm 23$	267	34 48
$^{68}Zn$	0.118	$120 \pm 14$	453	31
$^{69}Ga$	0.101	$65 \pm 10$	63	49
$^{71}Ga$	0.127	$600 \pm 120$	597	49
$^{88}Sr$	0.136	$470 \pm 120$	649	45
$^{89}Y$	0.124	$385 \pm 46$	409	35
$^{112}Cd$	0.143	$700 \pm 70$	635	37
$^{170}Er$	0.200	$620 \pm 100$	1127	50
$^{181}Ta$	0.193	$1200 \pm 266$	1061	28
$^{193}Ir$	0.202	$1000 \pm 200$	1114	54
$^{206}Pb$	0.204	$890 \pm 135$	1112	47
$^{208}Pb$	0.212	$980 \pm 150$	1163	47
$^{209}Bi$	0.206	$820 \pm 145$	1122	47

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ABSTRACT

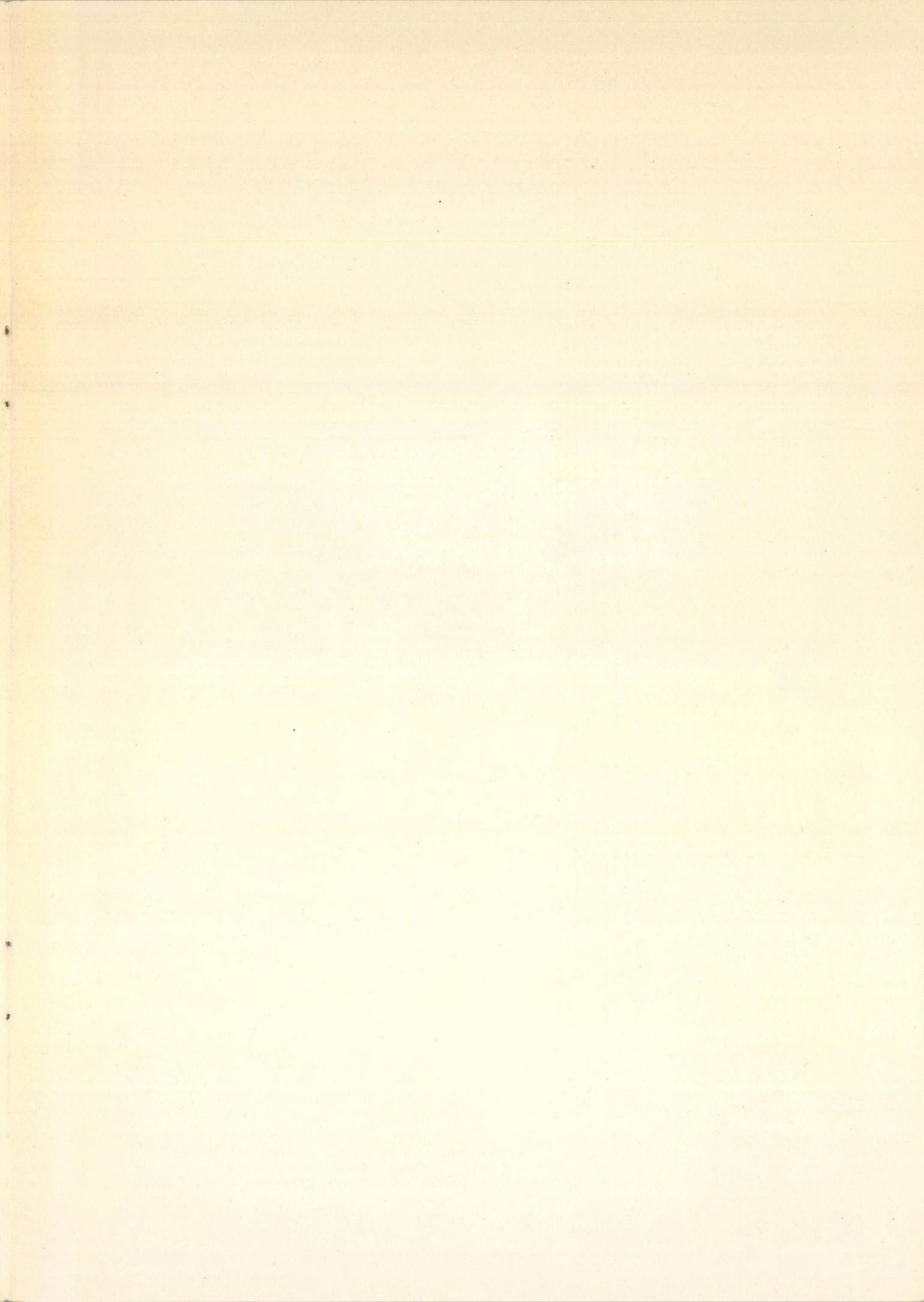
A phenomenological formula is suggested to calculate  $/n,2n/$ ,  $/p,2n/$  and  $/p,3n/$  reaction cross-sections which gives good agreement between the calculated and measured values.

РЕЗЮМЕ

Предлагается феноменологическая формула для вычисления сечений реакций  $/n,2n/$ ,  $/p,2n/$  и  $/p,3n/$ , которая приводит к хорошему совпадению расчетных данных с измеренными.

KIVONAT

$/n,2n/$ ,  $/p,2n/$  és  $/p,3n/$  reakció-hatáskeresztmetszetek kiszámítására összefüggést adunk meg, amelynek segítségével jó egyezést kapunk a számított és a mért értékek között.





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