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On the breakup of ^{12}C resonances into three alpha particles

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Data from a recent experiment, in which the momenta of alpha particles from the three-alpha breakup of ^{12}C resonances were measured, will be presented and compared to the predictions of different theoretical models. The following questions will be addressed: What can the momentum distribution of the alpha particles teach us about the symmetries and dynamics of the three-alpha system that forms in the breakup process? And what (if anything) can the momentum distribution of the alpha particles teach us about the structure of the initial nuclear resonance which does not necessarily resemble that of three interacting alpha particles?

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