Nuclear structure studies through in-flight measurements

- Introduction
- Methods
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- Perspectives

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Nuclear structure studies through in-flight measurements

today

- Introduction
- Method: Coulomb excitation at relativistic energies part I
- 1. Physics case: ,Island of Inversion'
- Method: Coulomb excitation at safe energies with instable ion beams



The role of *γ*-ray spectroscopy

Several approaches for in-beam γ -ray spectroscopy of bound states with fast exotic ion beams:

•Relativistic Projectile Coulomb excitation

•Inelastic proton scattering in inverse kinematics

Nucleon removal reactions

- direct one-nucleon removal
- direct two-nucleon removal

•Single-step and two-step fragmentation reactions

In-beam γ -ray spectroscopy with reaccelerated exotic ion beams:

•Projectile Coulomb excitation below the barrier



T. Motobayashi, et al., Phys. Lett. B 346 (1995) 9

$$\succ \sigma_{Coul} = 87 \text{ mb}$$

 $> |\beta_2| = 0.49(4)$

Large transition matrix element indicates breakdown of N=20 shell gap



Inelastic proton scattering in inverse kinematics



p(⁵⁶Ni,p') at GSI energy resolution needed *G. Kraus et al., PRL* **73** (1994) 1773

MUST Si-strip detector array at GANIL Becheva et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 96, 012501 (2006)



proton detection requires thin targets which limits ΔE to several hundred keV

low beam intensity is combined with thick target and γ -ray signal as tack for excited state & integrated cross section

Nucleon removal reactions



One-nucleon knockout schematics: - neutron or proton is removed from projectile in single-step, direct reaction: ⁹Be (^{A}Z , $^{A-1}Z + \gamma$)X or ⁹Be (^{A}Z , $^{A-1}Z-1 + \gamma$)X.

longitudinal momentum distribution of the heavy residue carries information on the orbital angular momentum (1-value) of the knocked-out nucleon
analogy to angular distributions in low-energy transfer reactions.

 $-\gamma$ -ray spectroscopy in coincidence with projectilelike knockout residue for identification of final state.

- cross sections: 10 -140 mb

⁹Be(¹¹Be, ¹⁰Be + γ)*X Aumann, et al., Phys. Rev. Lett.* 84, 35 (2000)





Direct two-nucleon knockout

New Direct Reaction: Two-Proton Knockout from Neutron-Rich Nuclei



- partial cross sections for cross section to individual bound final states of residue provided by γ -ray spectroscopy
- many two-particle components contribute coherently for a given total angular momentum => associated interference effects
- strong interplay between nuclear structure and reaction dynamics
- ground state does not allow γ -ray identification, reconstructed by subtracting excited-state contributions.

Single-step and two-step fragmentation reactions

Two nucleon reactions

two-proton removal from neutron-rich nucleus \rightarrow projectile-like residue even more neutron-rich two-neutron removal from proton-rich nucleus \rightarrow isotope even more neutron-deficient.

Secondary fragmentation increased sensitivity in secondary fragmentation when neutron-rich or neutron-deficient projectiles induce fragmentation.

signal-to-noise ratio is enhanced in detection systems

weaker reaction channels leading to more exotic reaction products are accessible

Aim is first spectroscopy of most exotic nuclei

Example: secondary fragmentation of ³⁶Si at RIKEN



K. Yoneda et al. / Physics Letters B 499 (2001) 233–237

Excitation Cross Section

- projectile follows a Rutherford trajectory
- Coulomb excitation(CE) cross section is given by:

$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)_{\rm CE} = \left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)_{\rm Ruth} P_{i\to f} \,,$$



probability of excitation from the initial state i to the final state f

electromagnetic interaction potential V(r(t)) treated as time-dependent perturbation:

$$P_{i \to f} = |a_{i \to f}|^2$$
 with $a_{i \to f} = \frac{1}{i\hbar} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{i\omega_{fi}t} \langle f|V(\boldsymbol{r}(t))|i\rangle dt$.

The amplitudes a_{i-f} can be expressed as a product of two factors

$$a_{i \to f} = i \sum_{\lambda} \chi_{i \to f}^{(\lambda)} f_{\lambda}(\xi) ,$$

excitation strength χ is a measure of the strength of the interaction f(ξ) measures the degree of adiabaticity -> ξ adiabaticity parameter



- $Z_{p(t)}$ proton number of the projectile(target)
- V_t incident projectile velocity
- γ relativistic factor

- b impact parameter
- v_t target recoil velocity after collision.
- m_t mass of the target nucleus

example:

heavy target, light exotic nucleus

flight path of target nucleus: 0.1 fm compare to nuclear radius ~7 fm.

- target nucleus remains at rest during the collision process,
- coordinate system with target nucleus located (fixed) at the origin.
- detection angle of the projectile in the laboratory of a few degrees
- assumption of a straight-line trajectory justified

Excitation Cross Section

Integration of excitation probability from a minimum impact parameter b_{min} (determined by experiment) to infinity. approx. result: use adiabatic cutoff and integration of absolute square of the excitation strength from b_{min} to b_{miax}

$$\sigma = 2\pi \int_{b_{\min}}^{\infty} P_{if} b db \approx 2\pi \int_{b_{\min}}^{b_{\max}} |\chi|^2 b db$$

b_{max} can be estimated:

$$b_{\max} = \frac{\gamma v}{\omega_{fi}} = \frac{\gamma \hbar v}{\Delta E} \approx \frac{\gamma 197}{\Delta E} \left[MeV \ fm \right] \qquad \Delta E \text{ energy of the transition}$$

Approximate expression for excitation cross section of parity π and multipolarity λ , assume bmax>>bmin

$$\sigma_{\pi\lambda} \approx \left(\frac{Z_t e^2}{\hbar c}\right)^2 \frac{\mathrm{B}(\pi\lambda, 0 \to \lambda)}{e^2} \pi b_{min}^{2(1-\lambda)} \cdot \begin{cases} (\lambda-1)^{-1} & \text{for } \lambda \ge 2\\ 2\ln\left(\frac{b_{max}}{b_{min}}\right) & \text{for } \lambda = 1 \end{cases},$$

 $B(\pi\lambda; 0 \rightarrow \lambda)$ is the reduced transition probability,

$$B(\pi\lambda, I_i \to I_f) = \sum_{\mu M_f} |\langle J_f M_f | \mathcal{M}(\pi\lambda\mu) | J_i M_i \rangle|^2$$
$$= \frac{1}{2J_i + 1} |\langle J_f || \mathcal{M}(\pi\lambda) || J_i \rangle|^2 ,$$

 $M(\pi\lambda\mu)$ multipole operator for electromagnetic transitions.

• Excitation cross section is directly proportional to the reduced transition probability

$$\sigma_{i \to f} \propto B_t(\pi \lambda, I_i \to I_f)$$

 $B(\pi\lambda; 0 \rightarrow \lambda)$ value can be extracted from cross section measurement

• Electric and magnetic fields of a moving charge related through:

$$\left| \vec{B} \right| = \frac{v}{c} \left| \vec{E} \right|$$

for high-energy relativistic Coulomb excitation, of interest here, (v/c > 0.3) magnetic excitations are possible and must be considered

• Exact expression for the excitation cross section, summed over parities and multipolarities:

$$\sigma_{i \to f} = \left(\frac{Z_p e^2}{\hbar c}\right)^2 \sum_{\pi \lambda \mu} k^{2(\lambda - 1)} \frac{B_t \left(\pi \lambda, I_i \to I_f\right)}{e^2} \left| G_{\pi \lambda \mu} \left(\frac{c}{v}\right) \right|^2 g_\mu \left(\xi \left(b_{\min}\right)\right)$$

Three Basic Parameters

Impact Parameter and Distance of Closest Approach

$$\theta_{\rm lab} = \frac{2Z_t Z_p e^2}{\gamma m_p v_p^2} b^{-1}$$

- relates impact parameter b and detection angle in the laboratory
- straight-line trajectories are a good approximation
- distance of closest approach is nearly equal to the impact parameter
- has to be larger than the sum of two nuclear radii to ensure dominance of Coulomb excitation:

Minimum distance is ensured experimentally by limiting the scattering angle of the projectile below a certain maximum scattering angle

$$\theta \le \theta_{\max} \Longrightarrow b \ge b_{\min}(\theta_{\max})$$

Basic Parameters

Sommerfeld Parameter

$$\eta = \frac{b}{\lambda} = \frac{b \gamma m_p v_p}{\hbar}$$
 with $\gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \beta^2}}$ and $\beta = \frac{v_p}{c}$

compares the physical dimensions of the classical orbit the impact parameter b, with the de Broglie wavelength of the relative motion of the two particles

typical values are ~1000, implying that a wave packet containing several waves is still small compared to the dimensions of the trajectory.

wave packet will move along the classical trajectory, justifying the use of the semi-classical approach in the calculation of the Coulomb excitation cross section.

Basic Parameters

Adiabaticity Parameter

If the time-dependent perturbation potential changes slowly the nucleus follows the perturbation adiabatically and no excitation is possible \rightarrow adiabatic cutoff

$$\xi = \frac{\tau_{coll}}{\tau_{nucl}}$$

a) collision time is short enough for adiabaticity parameter to be small and excitations are possible Classical picture: force vectors acting on the deformed cause a torque and generate excitations

b) nucleus follows motion of the projectile, no torque is generated and no excitations occur,

the field strengths are similar in both cases.

- $\boldsymbol{\xi}$ is large then no excitation is possible
- projectile velocity is low
- impact parameter is large.



Adiabaticity Parameter

electric field component in the x-direction E_x (perpendicular to the direction of motion) produced by the projectile at the target position:

$$E_{x} = \frac{\gamma E_{0}}{\left(1 + \left(\frac{t}{\tau^{2}}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \quad \text{with} \quad \tau = \frac{b}{\gamma v_{p}} \quad \text{and} \quad E_{0} = \frac{eZ_{p}}{b^{2}}$$

collision time is given by $\boldsymbol{\tau}$

time scale for the nuclear motion is given by $\omega if = \hbar/\Delta E$

$$\xi = \omega_{fi} \frac{b}{\gamma_{p}} = \frac{\Delta E b}{\hbar \gamma_{p}}$$

e.g. with β ~0.3 and b=15 fm ξ ~ $\Delta E/5 MeV$

for higher β values higher excitation energies





Equivalent Photon Method

Coulomb excitation can be viewed as absorption of virtual photons by the target nucleus.

Virtual photons are produced by the moving projectile.

Equivalent photon number (the number of real photons that would have an equivalent net effect for one particular transition) is related to the Fourier transform of the time-dependent electromagnetic field produced by the projectile.

Coulomb excitation cross section

 $\sigma_{i \to f} = \sum_{\pi \lambda} \int N_{\pi \lambda}(\omega) \sigma_{\gamma}^{(\pi \lambda)}(\omega) \frac{d\omega}{\omega} \,,$

spectrum of photons of multipolarity π , λ determined by photoabsorption cross section σ

$$\sigma_{\gamma}^{(\pi\lambda)}(\omega) = \frac{(2\pi)^3(\lambda+1)}{\lambda((2\lambda-1)!!)^2} \rho(\epsilon)k^{2\lambda+1}B(\pi\lambda),$$

 $\rho(\epsilon)$ is the density of final states is δ -function for discrete nuclear states

number of equivalent photons N π , $\lambda(\omega)$ of multipolarity π , λ

$$N_{\pi\lambda}(\omega) = Z_p^2 \frac{e^2}{\hbar c} \frac{l((2l+1)!!)^2}{(2\pi)^3(\lambda+1)} \sum_{\mu} \left| G_{\pi\lambda\mu} \left(\frac{c}{v}\right) \right|^2 g_{\mu}(\xi) \,.$$

- active programs at GANIL, GSI, MSU and RIKEN
- one-step process
- sensitive to E1, E2, E3 excitations
- accurate technique that allows for absolute B(E2) measurements

Comparison with different methods, comparison for different nuclei



J. Cook et al., Phys. Rev. C 73 (2006) 024315

Shell structure in exotic sd-shell nuclei

Deviations from classical shell model



Island of inversion



E.K. Warburton, J. A. Becker and B. A. Brown, PRC 41 (1990) 1147.

Island of Inversion: At the border and beyond





Island of Inversion

Results of intermediate Coulomb excitation experiments Status 2004



A different approach: Safe Coulomb excitation

but instable radioactive ion beams



















➤Miniball

















Island of Inversion: Open questions



Where are the borders?

How does transition into island of inversion occur?

Does picture of shape coexistence hold?

g-factor and spin of the ^{31,33}Mg ground state



Intruder ground state configurations:



laser spectroscopy and β -NMR g-factor and spin for ³¹Mg and ³³Mg from sign of g-factor \rightarrow parity

³¹Mg,
$$I^{\pi} = 1/2^+ v(sd)^{-3} (fp)^2$$

³³Mg, $I^{\pi} = 3/2^- v(sd)^{-2} (fp)^3$

 \rightarrow pure 2p-2h intruder ground states !

Normal ground state configurations:



Renewed β -decay studies

³¹Mg F. Maréchal et al., PRC 72, 044314 (2005)
³³Mg V. Tripathi et al., PRL 101, 142504 (2008)

G. Neyens et al., PRL 94, 022501 (2005) D. Yordanov et al., PRL 99, 212501 (2007)

Collective properties of ³¹Mg



collective properties of positive K=1/2 rotational band of ${}^{31}Mg$: excitation energy, quadrupole moment Q, B(E2), magnetic moment μ , B(M1)

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J	E_x	$n^{v}_{d_{5/2}}$	$n^{\nu}_{d_{3/2}}$	$n_{s_{1/2}}^{\nu}$	Q_s/Q_0	<i>B</i> (<i>E</i> 2)	μ	<i>B</i> (<i>M</i> 1)
1/2	0	5.62	1.99	1.33			-0.98	
3/2	101	5.63	1.77	1.56	-17/84	106	+0.56	0.06
5/2	988	5.60	2.02	1.31	-17/59	127	-0.30	0.38
7/2	1236	5.63	1.68	1.64	-25/75	151	+0.94	0.04
$K = 1/2^+$		5.75	1.52	1.73				
$K = 1/2^+$		5.75	1.52	1.73				$\overline{}$

F. Maréchal *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C **72**, 044314 (2005) M. Kimura, Phys. Rev. C **75**, 041302(R) (2007)

Coulomb excitation ³¹Mg



GOSIA Coulomb excitation calculation

Results:

- one step E2 excitation

B(E2, 1/2⁺→5/2⁺) = 182 e²fm⁴

- decay of (5/2+,3/2+) level via M1 transition $B(M1, 5/2^+ \rightarrow 3/2^+) = 0.1 0.5 \ \mu_n^2$
- results confirms strong collective excitation - rotational sequence: $1/2^+ \rightarrow 3/2^+ \rightarrow 5/2^+$





M. Seidlitz et al; PLB 700 (2011) 181

Search for second O⁺ state in ³⁰Mg

Shape coexistence ?





electron spectroscopy after β-decay at ISOLDE
 first excited 0⁺ state at 1789 keV in ³⁰Mg





W. Schwerdtfeger, et al; PRL 103, 012501 (2009)

Shape coexistence in ³⁰Mg

electric monopole (E0) transition to ground state: $\rho^2(E0)=(26.2 (7.5)) \times 10^{-3}$

beyond-mean-field calculations with Gogny force:

- two competing configurations, small mixing
- largely different intrinsic quadrupole deformation
- ground state: 1d_{3/2} neutrons
- first excited 0⁺ state: 1f_{7/2} neutrons

predictions for ³²Mg



TABLE I. Results from beyond-mean-field calculations with Gogny force for ${}^{30}Mg$ and ${}^{32}Mg$ (indicated as "T") compared to experimental values ("E").

		$E_x(2_1^+)$ (MeV)	$E_x(0_2^+)$ (MeV)	$B(E2, 0^+_1 \rightarrow 2^+_1) \ (e^2 \ {\rm fm}^4)$	$\rho^2(E0) \times 10^{-3}$	$B(E2, 0^+_2 \rightarrow 2^+_1) \ (e^2 \ \text{fm}^4)$
³⁰ Mg	(T)	2.03	2.11	334.6	46	181.5
	(E)	1.482	1.789	241(31) [9]	26.2 ± 7.5	53(6)
³² Mg	(T)	1.35	2.60	455.7	41	56.48
	(E)	0.885		454(78) [5]		

W. Schwerdtfeger, et al; PRL 103, 012501 (2009)

Transfer Reaction and y-Spectroscopy

t(³⁰Mg, ³²Mg)p – two-neutron transfer

- ³H loaded Ti foil (40 μ g/cm² ³H, 10 GBq)
- ³⁰Mg @ 2 MeV/u
- 4.10⁴ part/s / 150 h beam on target
- Q₀₀ = -295(20) keV
- Two states populated: ground state and new state at 1083(33) keV





K. Wimmer et al; PRL 105, 252501 (2010)

First excited 0⁺ states in ³²Mg



g.s. occupation numbers using effective USD / SDPF-M interactions:B. H. Wildenthal, Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 1, 5 (1984) T. Otsuka et al., Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 47, 319 (2001)



Transfer to ground state in ³²Mg

- pure transfer to $(f_{7/2})^2$ to small
- large contribution from $(p_{3/2})^2$ needed (a > 0.7)

 \ldots SDPF-M underestimates the $\nu p_{3/2}$ content in the wave functions

Transfer to excited 0⁺ state in ³²Mg

- wave function similar to g.s. in ³⁰Mg
- \bullet two-neutron spectroscopic amplitudes for pure sd \rightarrow sd transitions
- cross section underestimated, small $(p_{3/2})^2$ amplitude (a ≈ 0.3)

K. Wimmer et al; PRL 105, 252501 (2010)

Summary: Island of inversion



Summary: Island of inversion





