Probing Multiphonon Excitations in Nearly Spherical Nuclei with Fast Neutrons

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Intruder State Model Proton Levels







M. Kadi et al., Phys. Rev. C 68, 031306R (2003)











Hexadecapole Excitations



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Summary of Vibrations in Nearly Spherical Nuclei

Quadrupole

complete 3-phonon quintets known
intruder interactions understood?
4-phonon candidates

Octupole

cascades of two E3 transitions
possible 2-phonon quartet

Hexadecapole
 promising, but no 2-phonon

Quad-Oct

complete 2-phonon quintets known

MS-Quad

2-phonon multiplets emerging

Doppler-Shift Attenuation Method Following Inelastic Neutron Scattering



$E(\theta) = E_{\gamma} (1 + v/c \cos \theta)$ The nucleus is recoiling into a viscous medium. $v \rightarrow v(t) = F(t)v_{max}$ $E(\theta) = E_{\gamma} (1 + F(\tau) v/c \cos \theta)$







T. Belgya, G. Molnár, and S.W. Yates, Nucl. Phys. A607, 43 (1996).



Inelastic Neutron Scattering*

- No Coulomb barrier/variable neutron energies
- Good energy resolution (γ rays detected)
- Nonselective, but limited by angular momentum
- Lifetimes by Doppler-shift attenuation method (feeding-time problem minimized)
- Gamma-gamma coincidence measurements McGrath et al., Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A421, 458 (1999).
- Limited to stable nuclei
- Large amounts of enriched isotopes required *Garrett, Warr, & Yates, J. Res. Natl. Inst. Stand. Technol. 105, 141 (2000).

Conclusions

- Inelastic neutron scattering is an excellent tool for probing the properties of the low-lying levels of vibrational nuclei and for determining transition rates.
- Three-phonon quadrupole quintets have been identified in a number of nuclei and 4-phonon octets are emerging.
- The coexistence and mixing picture of vibrational and intruder states generally works well in the Cd nuclei, although some details are not yet explained, *e.g.*, 0⁺ states.
- Other types of multiphonon excitations, e.g., octupole and heterogeneous, are being characterized.

"Art is I; science is we." – Claude Bernard



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