Search for shape coexistence in even-even stable molybdenum isotopes using Coulomb excitation method

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Motivation

- Shape coexistence in medium mass nuclei was extensively studied during recent years.
- One of the interesting phenomena associated with shape coexistence is the occurrence of low-lying 0⁺ states in even-even nuclei. In extreme cases the second 0⁺ state appears to be the first excited state.
- Among stable nuclei with Z > 20 only four of them have the 0⁺ first excited state, namely ⁷²Ge, ⁹⁰Zr, ⁹⁶Zr and ⁹⁸Mo.
- Coulomb excitation method allows to determine deformation parameters of an excited nucleus independently for each level.
- Shape parameters of the two lowest 0⁺ states in ⁹⁶Mo, ⁹⁸Mo, ¹⁰⁰Mo nuclei were inferred from Coulomb excitation data.

Coulomb excitation - basic facts

 Colliding nuclei do not interact via nuclear forces - if the distance between nuclear surfaces is at least 5 fm, the strong interaction can be neglected (Cline's empirical criterion).



- Trajectories of scattered nuclei are described classically.
- Energy transfer is small compared to the energy of the projectile.
- The excitation strength strongly depends on charges and masses of the collision partners, on beam energy and scattering angle.
- γ -radiation emitted by the Coulomb-excited nuclei carries the information on their internal structure.

Coulomb excitation set-ups

The data were collected using two detection set-ups:

• CUDAC (Coulex Universal Detector Array Chamber) at HIL (Poland).



- 30 particle detectors placed at backward angles.
- 3 γ -ray detectors.
- The deexcitation γ rays measured in coincidence with backscattered particles.

• GEMINI + LUNA detector array at JAERI (Tokai, Japan).

Experiments



 40 Ar + 96 Mo (HIL, Warsaw, Poland) 20 Ne + 96 Mo (HIL, Warsaw, Poland) 96 Mo + nat Pb (JAERI, Tokai, Japan)

Published:

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²⁰Ne + ⁹⁸Mo (HIL, Warsaw, Poland)
 ⁸⁴Kr + ⁹⁸Mo (JAERI, Tokai, Japan)
 ¹³⁶Xe + ⁹⁸Mo (JAERI, Tokai, Japan)

Experiments



 40 Ar + 100 Mo (HIL, Warsaw, Poland) 20 Ne + 100 Mo (HIL, Warsaw, Poland)

Published:

K.Wrzosek et al., Int. J. Mod. Phys. E14 359 (2005)

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Matrix elements determination



Quadrupole Sum Rules method

... is based on a fact, that zero-coupled products of E2 operators are **rotational invariants**. Operator products may be expressed using the intermediate state expansion formula:



6⁺₁

2⁺ 2⁺ 2⁺

 0^{+}_{2}

 0_{1}^{+}

Quadrupole Sum Rules method

To get information on triaxiality the higher order invariant is needed:

$$\sqrt{\frac{2}{35}}Q^{3}\langle\cos 3\delta\rangle = \langle i | [E2 \times E2]_{2} \times E2]_{0} | i\rangle =$$
$$= \frac{1}{(2I_{i}+1)} \sum_{t,u} \langle i | | E2 | | u \rangle \langle u | | E2 | | t \rangle \langle t | | E2 | | i \rangle \left\{ \begin{array}{cc} 2 & 2 & 2 \\ I_{i} & I_{t} & I_{u} \end{array} \right\}$$





Shape coexistence

- ⁹⁶Mo: ground state 0⁺₁ is deformed while the excited state 0⁺₂ is almost spherical. This behaviour is similar to the one observed in Ge isotopes and ⁹⁶Zr.
- ⁹⁸Mo: the expectation value of Q² is almost the same for the ground state and for the first excited state.
- ¹⁰⁰Mo: the preliminary results show similar trend as observed in case of the ⁹⁸Mo isotope: the expectation value of Q² is almost the same for both 0⁺ states.
 Deformation of ¹⁰⁰Mo seems to be larger compared to other Mo isotopes.



Shape coexistence

The triaxiality seems to be the same for each of Ge isotopes. On the contrary, the ground state (0⁺₁) of ⁹⁸Mo is triaxial while the first excited state (0⁺₂) has a prolate shape.



Conclusions and future plans

- In case of ⁹⁶Mo and ⁹⁸Mo the resulting sets of matrix elements were rich and precise enough to determine shape parameters of the two 0⁺ states.
- Data collected during two experiments performed at HIL were not sufficient for the difficult case of ¹⁰⁰Mo, therefore the presented deformation parameters for 0⁺₁ and 0⁺₂ states are preliminary.
- One more experiment with ¹⁰⁰Mo target using the new gamma and particle detection set-up (12 γ -ray detectors and about 50 particle detectors) is planned at HIL in the near future.
- The simulations performed point out that all doubts should be dispelled. We expect to determine the diagonal matrix elements with a higher accuracy.