

Large Orbital Contribution for $M1$ Transitions in Deformed Nucleus ^{23}Na

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The deformation δ makes the contribution of orbital term large in $M1$ transition strength [1]. In order to study the effect of the deformation in the $M1$ transitions in ^{23}Na , experimental data on $M1$ transition strengths obtained from γ -decay in ^{23}Na and analogous GT transition strengths obtained from good-resolution $^{23}\text{Na}(^3\text{He}, t)^{23}\text{Mg}$ reactions at 150 MeV/nucleon and at 0° have been compared.

A pair of isospin $T = 1/2$ mirror nuclei is characterized by $T_z = \pm 1/2$. As a result of the analogous nature of corresponding states in the mirror nuclei, corresponding $M1$ and GT transitions are analogous.

$M1$ operator contains not only the usually dominant isovector (IV) spin ($\sigma\tau$) term, but also IV orbital ($\ell\tau$), isoscalar (IS) spin (σ) and orbital (ℓ) terms. On the other hand, Gamow-Teller (GT) transitions are caused only by the $\sigma\tau$ term [2]. The IV spin-type matrix element is common in both transitions. The difference of strengths of corresponding $M1$ and GT transitions are caused by IS spin term and orbital terms in the $M1$ transition.

In order to see how the IS and orbital terms contribute to an $M1$ transition, we define the ratio [2],

$$R_{\text{ISO}} = \frac{8\pi}{3\mu_N^2 (g_s^{\text{IV}})^2} \frac{C_{\text{GT}}^2}{C_{M1}^2} \frac{1}{R_{\text{MEC}}} \frac{B(M1)}{B(\text{GT})}, \quad (1)$$

where C_{M1} and C_{GT} are the isospin Clebsch-Gordan (CG) coefficients $C_{M1} = (T_i T_{zi} 10 | T_f T_{zf})$ and $(T_i T_{zi} 1 \pm 1 | T_f T_{zf})$, respectively. The difference of MEC contributions to the $M1$ and GT operators are expressed by the ratio, $R_{\text{MEC}} = [M_{M1}(\sigma\tau)]^2 / [M_{\text{GT}}(\sigma\tau)]^2$, where the $M_{M1}(\sigma\tau)$ and $M_{\text{GT}}(\sigma\tau)$ are matrix elements defined by $\langle J_f T_f || \sum_{j=1}^A \sigma_j \tau_j || J_i T_i \rangle$. R_{MEC} has the value of about 1.25 in sd -shell nuclei [3]. $R_{\text{ISO}} > 1$ and < 1 show the constructive and destructive contributions of IS and orbital terms.

At intermediate energies (≥ 100 MeV/nucleon) and at small momentum transfer q , the $\sigma\tau$ term of the effective nuclear interaction becomes dominant [4]. It is known that in (p, n) reactions at 0° , the cross section for a GT transition is approximately proportional to $B(\text{GT})$. Recently the proportionality has been also established for the $(^3\text{He}, t)$ reactions at 150 MeV/nucleon and at 0° [2].

In order to map $B(\text{GT})$ to higher excitation energies, $^{23}\text{Na}(^3\text{He}, t)$ experiment was performed. A 150 MeV/nucleon ^3He beam from the Ring Cyclotron at RCNP was used to bombard thin ^{23}Na target foils. The Grand Raiden spectrometer [5] set at 0° was used for momentum analysis. Fine structure was observed up to $E_x \approx 10$ MeV in ^{23}Mg .

For each excited state in ^{23}Na , the $M1$ γ -transition strength $B(M1)$ (in units of μ_N^2) to the ground state is calculated using the data compiled by Endt [6]. In order to compare values of $B(M1)$ and $B(\text{GT})$ directly for the analogous transitions, $B(M1)$ need following modifications: 1) the $B(M1)$ values are divided by the numerical factor $2.643\mu_N^2$ for the conversion of different coupling constants (different units) in $M1$ and GT transitions, and 2) these values

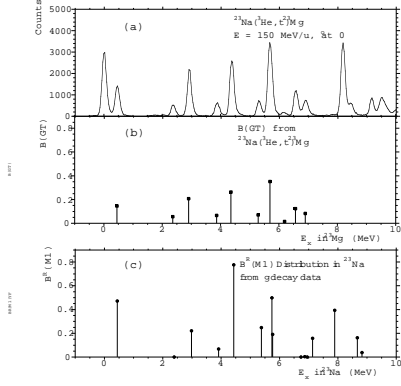


Figure 1: The $^{23}\text{Na}(^3\text{He}, t)$ spectrum at 0° , and comparison of the $B(\text{GT})$ strength distribution derived from the $^{23}\text{Na}(^3\text{He}, t)$ reaction and the $B^R(M1)$ distribution deduced from the measurements of γ transitions in ^{23}Na .

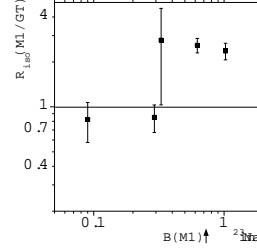


Figure 2: The ratio R_{ISO} showing IS and IV orbital contributions for transitions with various $B(M1)$ values in ^{23}Na .

are multiplied by a factor of 2 compensating for the different isospin CG coefficients. We call the modified $B(M1)$ values to be compared to the $B(\text{GT})$ values $B^R(M1)$.

The $B(\text{GT})$ values from $^{23}\text{Na}(^3\text{He}, t)^{23}\text{Mg}$ and $B^R(M1)$ values from γ decay in ^{23}Na are compared in Fig. 1. The R_{ISO} values were calculated using Eq. (1). They are shown in Fig. 2 as a function of $B(M1) \uparrow$.

While Fig. 1 shows good correspondence of the excitation energies up to 6 MeV for the GT and M1 states in ^{23}Mg and ^{23}Na , strength distributions of $B(\text{GT})$ and $B^R(M1)$ are rather different. The R_{ISO} values shown in Fig. 2 are large even for rather strong transitions, indicating that the contributions of IS and/or orbital terms are large. Since the contributions of IS and $\ell\tau$ terms are usually small for the $M1$ transitions in spherical nuclei, the $\sigma\tau$ term is dominant if the transition is strong, which leads to $R_{\text{ISO}} \sim 1$. However, it is calculated that the orbital contributions increase in proportion to the deformation δ of a nucleus [1]. We expect that the large deformation $\delta \approx 0.4$ of ^{23}Na enhances the $M1$ transitions through the orbital term.

References

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