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Proton inelastic scattering reveals deformation in ⁸He

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Current:



European Spallation Source/Chalmers University of Technology



Outline

- Introduction: Properties of ⁸He and previous measurements
- The IRIS setup at ISAC-II at TRIUMF
- Experimental results
- Comparison to theory
- Summary

Introduction: ⁸He

- Most neutron-rich bound nucleus
 - N/Z=3
- Structure ⁴He + 4n
- Larger S_{2n}/smaller charge radius than ⁶He
 - Indication of closed sub-shell?
- Precise knowledge of low-lying states required!



Previous Measurements



	Lab	Reaction Type	E [AMeV]
а	RIKEN	(p,p')	72
b	GSI	Coul. Ex.	227
С	GSI	Fragmentation	227
d	JINR	¹⁰ Be(¹⁵ N, ¹⁷ F) ⁸ He	16
е	JINR	⁶ He(t,p) ⁸ He	25
f	RIKEN	Breakup	82
June 13, 2022			





a: Korsheninnikov et al., Phys- Lett. B 316 (1993) 38 b: Markenroth et al. Nucl. Phys. A679 (2001) 462 c: Meister et al. Nucl. Phys. A 700 (2002) 3 d: Bohlen et al., Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 42 (1999) 17 e: Fornichev et al., Eur. Phys. J. A 42 465 (2009) Golovkov et al., Phys. Lett. B 672 (2009) 22 f: Xiao et al., Chin. Phys. Lett. 29 8 (2012) 082501 4



- ⁸He produced from SiC target
- Accelerated to 8.25A MeV
- Delivered to IRIS@ISAC-II
- $\sim 10^4$ particles per second
- ~90 % purity

The IRIS Setup @ ISAC-II



- Allows studies of direct reactions with low intensity beams
- Particle identification using 2 Δ E-E telescopes
 - Light particles: 100 μ m Si detector + 1.2 cm CsI(TI) array
 - covering 21°-46°
 - "Heavy" particles: 60 μ m + 1 mm Si detectors

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Low Pressure Ionization Chamber



- Used to identify beam contaminants with minimal energy loss
- 19.5 Torr isobutane



Solid Hydrogen Target



- 100 µm solid H₂ target
- Formation: H_2 gas sprayed onto a 4.5 μ m silver foil at T<4 K
- Energy difference of nuclei scattered elastically off the silver foil with and without H₂ used to continuously measure thickness



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Particle ID



• Light and heavy reaction products identified using ΔE -E telescopes



Excitation Energy Spectrum



- Background from silver foil subtracted
- Elastic scattering analyzed by gating on ground state
- Inelastic scattering:
 - Excitation spectrum above neutron threshold dominated by non-resonant reactions
 - Data fit by simulated detector response of resonance(s) + non-resonant background

Low-lying resonance in ⁸He



- Possible decays of resonance:
 - Direct: ${}^{8}\text{He}(2^{+}) \rightarrow {}^{6}\text{He}(0^{+})+2n$
 - $S_{2n} = 2.1 \text{ MeV}, L_2^{rel} = 0.2$
 - Sequential: ${}^{8}\text{He}(2^{+}) \rightarrow {}^{7}\text{He}+n \rightarrow {}^{6}\text{He}+n+n$:

•
$$S_n = 2.5 \text{ MeV}, L_1^{rel} = 1$$

- Impossible to distinguish between pure direct and mixed decay
- Including additional resonances does not improve the description of the data
 - No sign of dipole excitation
- Resonance: $E^* = 3.54(6)$ MeV, $\Gamma = 0.89(11)$ MeV
 - In agreement with previous measurements from (p,p') and transfer

Differential Cross Sections



- p+⁸He optical potential determined using SFRESCO
- Elastic and inelastic scattering analyzed simultaneously
- Using DWBA (Set 1) and coupledchannel (Set 2)
- State at $E^* = 3.5 \text{ MeV}$ explained by L = 2
- All sets require large deformation lengths $\delta_2^{ex} = 1.24 1.40$ fm
- $\rightarrow \beta_2 = 0.40(3)$, ⁸He has a deformed sub-shell gap

Comparison to *ab initio* calculations

- Two many-body approaches:
 - coupled-cluster theory (CC)
 - no-core shell model + continuum (NCSMC)
 - Several chiral interactions
- Resonance energy well reproduced by both approaches
- NCSMC:
 - good agreement for width ($\Gamma = 0.75 \text{ MeV}$)
 - Quadrupole moment suggests sizable neutron deformation
 - No evidence of 1⁻-state below 6 MeV



CRC Calculations

- Coupled-channel (CC) and coupled-reaction-channels (CRC) calculations
 - Using NCSM inputs
- Good agreement with data for elastic and inelastic scattering, as well as ⁸He(p,d)
 - Elastic scattering requires inclusion of resonance in compound ⁸Li
- $\delta_2 = 1.39 \text{ fm}$



Summary

- Measurement of proton inelastic scattering of ⁸He at 8.25A MeV
- Confirmed first excited state of ⁸He as unbound 2⁺ state
 - $E^* = 3.54(6)$ MeV, $\Gamma = 0.89(11)$ MeV
- Excitation energies from *ab initio* calculations in a coupled cluster framework and NCSMC in good agreement with the data
 - \varGamma From NCSMC also consistent with data
- DWBA/CC analysis of angular distribution yields a quadrupole deformation parameter $\beta_2 = 0.40(3)$ ($\delta_2^{ex} = 1.32(8)$ fm)
 - Consistent with quadrupole moment from NCSMC calculations
 - Microscopic CRC calculations with NCSM densities explain the inelastic scattering and yield $\delta_2{=}\,1.39~{\rm fm}$



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Thank you for your attention!





Fit with two resonances



Kinematics



 Excitation energy spectra reconstructed from light particle energies and angles