


# Dipole excitation of ${}^6\text{Li}$ and ${}^9\text{Be}$ studied with an extended quantum molecular dynamics model

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The  $\alpha$  ( ${}^4\text{He}$ )-clustering structure is a common phenomenon in light nuclei due to the decreasing contribution of the mean field in few-body systems. In this work, we presented calculations of giant dipole resonance (GDR) excitations for two non- $\alpha$ -conjugate light nuclei, namely  ${}^6\text{Li}$  and  ${}^9\text{Be}$ , within a framework of an extended quantum molecular dynamics model. For  ${}^6\text{Li}$ , we investigated the GDR spectra from the two-body clustering structure with  $\alpha$  + deuteron as well as the three-body structure with  $\alpha + n + p$ , and found that the major  $\alpha$ -clustering contribution on the GDR peak is located at around 31 MeV, while the resonance contributions between clusters, namely  $\alpha$  and deuteron or  $(n + p)$ , are located on the lower energy side, which can be regarded as the pygmy dipole resonance (PDR). For  ${}^9\text{Be}$ , a mixture configuration contribution for the chain-like structure and Borromean-like structure of the  $\alpha + n + \alpha$  configuration can explain its GDR results.

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## I. INTRODUCTION

The phenomena of  $\alpha$ -clustering structures in light nuclei have been investigated by lots of experiments and theories for a few decades; it is of importance not only to understanding effective nucleon-nucleon interaction inside nuclei but also to help learn their important roles during the nucleosynthesis processes [1–16].

For light nuclei whose binding energy is weak, the mean field effect is not strong enough to break cluster structure, and therefore the clustering behavior could be observed in the excited states or even in the ground state. Some probes were presented to explore sensitivity to the clustering structure. For instance, the collective observables show significant difference among various  $\alpha$ -clustering structures in heavy-ion collisions [17–21], and nucleon-nucleon correlation displays different behavior in three-body photodisintegration of  $\alpha$ -clustering nuclei [22–25]. In addition, another important probe, the so-called giant dipole resonance (GDR) spectrum, shows its sensitivity to different configurations of  ${}^{12}\text{C}$  and  ${}^{16}\text{O}$  in a framework of an extended quantum molecular dynamics (EQMD) model [26,27]. However, the above GDR results were only investigated from the  $\alpha$ -conjugate light nuclei and are not yet checked for non- $\alpha$ -conjugate light nuclei within the same model. Based upon this motivation, we performed such investigation for  ${}^6\text{Li}$  and  ${}^9\text{Be}$  nuclei in this work. On the other hand, it is noted that some studies for dipole excitation of the non- $\alpha$ -conjugate light nuclei, such as  ${}^9\text{Be}$  [28–31] and

${}^6\text{Li}$  [32] as well as its mirror nucleus  ${}^6\text{He}$  [33], have been performed with some microscopic cluster models by using three-cluster model or the extended three-cluster model. In addition, the isovector giant dipole states in the continuum for  ${}^{16}\text{O}$  and even-even Be isotopes were studied by the continuum random-phase approximation [34].

Giant dipole resonance, as one of the most noticeable nuclear collective motions, has been extensively discussed in low-energy nuclear reactions. It was recognized as the classical picture of the oscillation between protons and neutrons induced by the  $E1$  external field. Many studies have been performed experimentally and theoretically for this kind of collective excitation, and some nice review papers can be found in the literature, e.g., Refs. [35–37].

In recent experiments, the study of GDR for  ${}^6\text{Li}$  was performed by measuring the total absorption cross section of  ${}^6\text{Li}(\gamma, xn)$  reactions, and it shows the two-component contribution with low- and high-energy peaks at around 12 and 33 MeV, respectively [38]. Theoretically, the  $E1$  transition of  ${}^6\text{Li}$  was studied with a fully microscopic six-body calculation, in which the final state was described by three types of configuration, i.e., single-particle excitation,  $\alpha + p + n$ , as well as  ${}^3\text{He} + t$ . The conclusion is that the  $E1$  excitation is dominated by the  ${}^3\text{He} + t$  configuration at low energy around 20 MeV, while it has a mixed contribution and competition between the  $\alpha + p + n$  and  ${}^3\text{He} + t$  configurations above 30 MeV [39].

As for  ${}^9\text{Be}$ , experimentally, significant strength of the cluster dipole resonance at about 10 MeV has been measured in comparison with the GDR through quasimonochromatic  $\gamma$  rays by photodisintegration [40]. However, one cannot distinguish whether the structure of  ${}^9\text{Be}$  is  ${}^8\text{Be} + n$  or  $\alpha + n + \alpha$ . Theoretically, the low-lying states of  ${}^9\text{Be}$  are understood by

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the  $2\alpha + n$  cluster structure as discussed in cluster models [41–44]. The antisymmetrized molecular dynamics (AMD) model was used to calculate the low-energy isovector dipole excitations. The ground state is used by the so-called sAMD +  $\alpha$ GCM, where sAMD is the “shifted basis AMD” given by shifting the position of the Gaussian centroid of the  $i$ th single-particle wave function and GCM represents the generator coordinate method. The angular-momentum and parity projections are taken into account for excited states for  ${}^9\text{Be}$ , the structure of two- $\alpha$  clusters core plus a valence neutron is obtained, and the conclusions that the first lower energy peak is mainly contributed by the longitudinal mode and that the higher energy peak comes from the transverse mode were drawn in Ref. [45].

Although  ${}^6\text{Li}$  has been generally explained as the predominant  $\alpha + \text{deuteron}$  clustering structure [39], it is not clear that how its possible configuration of nuclear clustering structure contributes on the excitation of GDR. For  ${}^9\text{Be}$ , whether it is a configuration of two  $\alpha$ s and a neutron is also not clear. In order to understand the above exotic light nuclei, namely  ${}^6\text{Li}$  and  ${}^9\text{Be}$ , we calculate their GDR spectra by assuming different initial structures in this work in a framework of EQMD and compare the calculated GDR spectra with the experimental data.

The rest of paper is organized as follow: Section II provides a brief introduction of the EQMD model and describes the methods of calculation of GDR spectra. In Sec. III, we discuss the calculation results together with the experimental data for the GDR spectra. Finally, a summary is given in Sec. IV.

## II. MODEL AND METHODOLOGY

### A. EQMD model introduction

Quantum molecular dynamics (QMD) type models [46,47] have been extensively applied for describing reaction dynamics and fragment formation in heavy ion collisions at intermediate energy [48–52]. The EQMD model [53] is one of the extension versions of the QMD model, in which the description of the ground state of the nuclear system has been significantly improved by obtaining the lowest point of energy of the nuclei through the cooling process, which cancels the zero-point energy caused by the wave-packet broadening in the standard QMD. On the other hand, repulsion between identical nucleons is phenomenologically taken into account by a repulsive Pauli potential [54]. As a result, saturation property and cluster structure can be obtained after energy cooling in the EQMD model [26,27]. Unlike the traditional QMD model [46,47], the width of each wave packet in the EQMD model is taken as a dynamical variable [55] and the wave packet of the nucleon with the form of Gaussian-like as

$$\phi_i(r_i) = \left( \frac{v_i + v_i^*}{2\pi} \right)^{3/4} \exp \left[ -\frac{v_i}{2} (\vec{r}_i - \vec{R}_i)^2 + \frac{i}{\hbar} \vec{P}_i \cdot \vec{r}_i \right], \quad (1)$$

where  $\vec{R}_i$  and  $\vec{P}_i$  are the centers of position and momentum of the  $i$ th wave packet and the  $v_i$  is the width of wave packets, which can be presented as  $v_i = 1/\lambda_i + i\delta_i$ , where  $\lambda_i$  and  $\delta_i$  are dynamical variables. The  $v_i$  of Gaussian wave packet for each nucleon is dynamical and independent.

The Hamiltonian of the whole system is written as

$$H = \left\langle \Psi \left| \sum_i -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla_i^2 - \hat{T}_{\text{c.m.}} + \hat{H}_{\text{int}} \right| \Psi \right\rangle \\ = \sum_i \left[ \frac{\vec{P}_i^2}{2m} + \frac{3\hbar^2(1 + \lambda_i^2 \delta_i^2)}{4m\lambda_i} \right] - T_{\text{c.m.}} + H_{\text{int}}, \quad (2)$$

where  $T_{\text{c.m.}}$  is the zero-point center-of-mass kinetic energy due to the zero-point oscillation of center-of-mass motion, which appears because the center-of-mass wave function is fixed to be a Gaussian wave packet in the model [53].  $\Psi$  is the direct product of Gaussian wave packets of nucleons and  $H_{\text{int}}$  is the interaction potential with the form of

$$H_{\text{int}} = H_{\text{Skyrme}} + H_{\text{Coulomb}} + H_{\text{Symmetry}} + H_{\text{Pauli}}, \quad (3)$$

where the Pauli potential  $H_{\text{Pauli}} = \frac{c_p}{2} \sum_j (f_i - f_0)^\mu \theta(f_i - f_0)$  with  $f_i$  is defined as an overlap of the  $i$ th nucleon with other nucleons which have the same spin and isospin.

The zero-point center-of-mass kinetic energy shown in right side of Eq. (2) does not cause trouble for some nuclear information, but may cause serious trouble in treating fragment formation and should be subtracted. In this case, the zero-point center-of-mass kinetic energy of the system  $T_{\text{c.m.}}$  is subtracted following the basic idea of Ref. [56]. In the EQMD case, all the wave packets have different contributions to zero-point kinetic energy.  $T_{\text{c.m.}} = \sum_i \frac{t_i^{\text{c.m.}}}{M_i}$ , where  $t_i^{\text{c.m.}}$  is the zero-point kinetic energy of the wave packet  $i$  written as

$$t_i^{\text{c.m.}} = -\frac{\langle \phi_i | \hbar^2 \nabla^2 | \phi_i \rangle}{2m} + \frac{\langle \phi_i | \hbar \nabla | \phi_i \rangle^2}{2m}, \quad (4)$$

and  $M_i$  is the “mass number” of the fragment to which the wave packet  $i$  belongs. The “mass number” is calculated as the sum of the “friendships” of the nucleons:

$$M_i = \sum_j F_{ij}, \quad (5)$$

where

$$F_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & (|\mathbf{R}_i - \mathbf{R}_j| < a) \\ e^{-(|\mathbf{R}_i - \mathbf{R}_j| - a)^2/b} & (|\mathbf{R}_i - \mathbf{R}_j| \geq a), \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

where  $a$  and  $b$  are parameters for describing cluster formation. Usually,  $a = 1.7$  fm and  $b = 4.0$  fm<sup>2</sup> are taken in treating  $\alpha$ -conjugate clustering nuclei [53], but they need to be adjusted in the present work for non- $\alpha$ -conjugated nuclei, which will be discussed in Sec. III A.

Using the above model, we can easily obtain  $\alpha$ -clustering structures for  $\alpha$ -conjugate nuclei, such as  ${}^8\text{Be}$ ,  ${}^{12}\text{C}$ , and  ${}^{16}\text{O}$  in our previous work [26,27]. However, in this work, we focus on the studies of non- $\alpha$ -conjugated clustering light nuclei which are used for further analysis of their GDR spectra.

### B. GDR algorithm

The giant dipole resonance can be considered as the classical picture of the oscillation between the bulk of protons and neutrons along the opposite direction inside the excited nucleus based on the Goldhaber-Teller assumption [57] and therefore the oscillation energy spectra can be calculated.

Other methods, such as the random-phase approximation (RPA), is solved through linear response by density-functional theory as shown in Ref. [34,58,59]. The isovector giant dipole moment in coordinate space  $D_G(t)$  and in momentum space  $K_G(t)$  can be written as follows, respectively [60–67]:

$$D_G(t) = \frac{NZ}{A} [R_Z(t) - R_N(t)] \quad (7)$$

and

$$K_G(t) = \frac{NZ}{A\hbar} \left[ \frac{P_Z(t)}{Z} - \frac{P_N(t)}{N} \right], \quad (8)$$

where  $R_Z(t)$  and  $R_N(t)$  are the center of mass of the protons and neutrons in coordinate space, respectively, and  $P_Z(t)$  and  $P_N(t)$  are the center of mass of the protons and neutrons in momentum space, respectively.

Through the dipole moment  $D_G(t)$ , the strength of dipole resonance or the  $\gamma$  emission probability of the system at energy  $E_\gamma = \hbar\omega$  can be derived from the following formula:

$$\frac{dP}{dE_\gamma} = \frac{2e^2}{3\pi\hbar c^3 E_\gamma} |D''(\omega)|^2, \quad (9)$$

where  $\frac{dP}{dE_\gamma}$  can be interpreted as the  $\gamma$  emission probability and  $D''(\omega)$  means the Fourier transformation of the second derivative of  $D_G(t)$  with respect to time:

$$D''(\omega)^2 = \int_{t_0}^{t_{\max}} D_G''(t) e^{i\omega t} dt. \quad (10)$$

For oscillation between clusters such as  $\alpha + \text{deuteron}$  for  ${}^6\text{Li}$ , the calculation for its strength is just similar to above equations, therein  $D_G(t)$  is proportional to the distance between the two centroids of clusters, and then the spectral function with  $E_\gamma = \hbar\omega$  can be obtained by using Eq. (9).

### III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### A. Initial configuration of ${}^6\text{Li}$ and ${}^9\text{Be}$

Before we calculate the strength of the GDR spectra, we need to assume the initial configurations of those light nuclei. To this end, two different  $\alpha$ -clustering configurations of  ${}^6\text{Li}$  and  ${}^9\text{Be}$  are obtained through the cooling process within the EQMD model. As discussed in Sec. II A, there are two parameters of  $a$  and  $b$  in the present model related to the zero-point kinetic energy. A configuration which we required for  ${}^6\text{Li}$  was achieved by hand with an  $\alpha$  and a pair of neutron and proton. In order to keep stability of the configuration for these nuclei, we take  $a = 1.0$  fm and  $b = 1.0$  fm<sup>2</sup> for a neutron-proton pair,  $a = 1.5$  fm and  $b = 1.41$  fm<sup>2</sup> for  $\alpha$  cluster, and  $a = 1.5$  fm and  $b = 1.0$  fm<sup>2</sup> for the nucleon between the neutron-proton pair and  $\alpha$ . In contrast,  $a = 1.7$  fm and  $b = 4.0$  fm<sup>2</sup> were usually used in previous EQMD calculations. Here, the zero-point kinetic energy plays the role of repulsion, and its subtraction reduces the repulsive interaction between the two clusters. After the cooling process with the above  $a$  and  $b$  parameters, two types of clustering configurations emerge. The upper panels of Fig. 1 show that  ${}^6\text{Li}$  is either presented as the two-body clustering structure of  $\alpha + \text{deuteron}$  [Fig. 1(a)] or as a three-body clustering structure of  $\alpha + p + n$  [Fig. 1(b)]. Table I

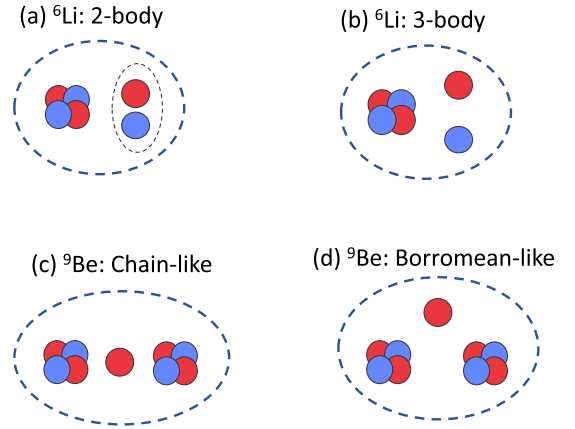


FIG. 1. The initial configurations of  ${}^6\text{Li}$  and  ${}^9\text{Be}$  from the EQMD calculations. The upper panels depict two types of clustering structures of  ${}^6\text{Li}$ , i.e., the two-body structure of  $\alpha + \text{deuteron}$  (a) as well as the three-body structure of  $\alpha + n + p$  (b). The lower panels show three-body clustering structures of  ${}^9\text{Be}$ ; i.e., one is the chain-like configuration with a neutron in between two  $\alpha$ s (c) and another is the Borromean-like configuration with two  $\alpha$ s + a neutron (d).

shows the binding energies per nucleon of  ${}^6\text{Li}$  ( $E_b$ ),  $\alpha$ -cluster ( $E_\alpha$ ),  $d$ , or  $n + p$  ( $E_{d(np)}$ ) calculated from the EQMD model along with a comparison to experimental data.  $E_\alpha$ ,  $E_{d(np)}$ , and  $E_{np}$  were obtained by the sum of nucleon binding energy inside the  $\alpha$  cluster, deuteron, or  $n + p$ , respectively. For the  $\alpha + d$  configuration, its experimental excitation energy is 1.47 MeV [38], while for  $\alpha + n + p$  it is 3.7 MeV [38], and thus the binding energies of the two configurations are  $-5.087$  and  $-4.715$  MeV, respectively, considering the ground-state binding energy of  ${}^6\text{Li}$ . By comparison with the data, our model calculation results seem slightly smaller, which can be attributed to the fact that the EQMD model cannot describe energy level structure accurately. Nevertheless, the trend is generally consistent with the data. For  ${}^9\text{Be}$ , the three-body clustering structures of  $\alpha + n + \alpha$  appear: The one is the chain-like structure as shown in Fig. 1(c) and another is the Borromean-like configuration as shown in Fig. 1(d).

#### B. GDR spectra of ${}^6\text{Li}$

Before we show the GDR spectra, it is useful to see the time evolution of spatial separation between two centroids of

TABLE I. Binding energies per nucleon of  ${}^6\text{Li}$  ( $E_b$ ),  $\alpha$ -cluster ( $E_\alpha$ ),  $d$  or  $n + p$  ( $E_{d(np)}$ ) calculated for two configurations from the  ${}^6\text{Li}$  cooling process of EQMD model. The data  $E_{\text{exp}}$  were calculated by the total ground-state binding energy minus excitation energy which was taken from the experimental data [38], and then divided by the nucleon number of  ${}^6\text{Li}$ .

Configuration (MeV/A)	$E_b$	$E_\alpha$	$E_{d(np)}$	$E_{\text{exp}}$
$\alpha + d$	-3.49	-4.065	-2.34	-5.087
$\alpha + n + p$	-3.26	-4.425	-0.93	-4.715

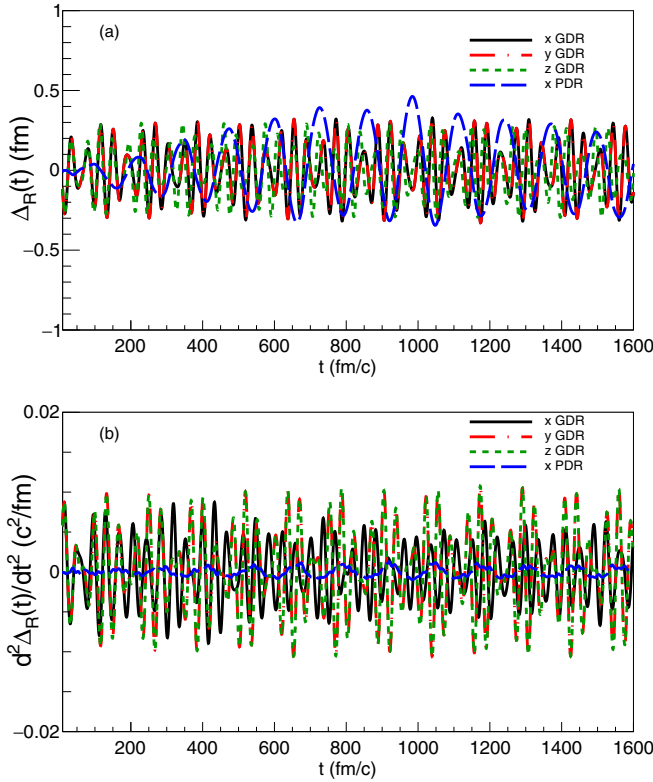


FIG. 2. The time evolution of the moments  $\Delta_R(t) = R_Z(t) - R_N(t)$  or  $R_\alpha(t) - R_d(t)$  in coordinate space (a) and their second derivatives with respect to time (b) for the  $\alpha + d$  configuration of  ${}^6\text{Li}$ . In the inset,  $x$ -,  $y$ -, and  $z$ -GDR represent three components of excited dipole moments along  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$  directions of the oscillation of proton's core against neutron's core, while the blue long-dashed line (marked as "x PDR" in the inset) represents the oscillation between the core of  $\alpha$  against the core of deuteron.

neutrons and protons or of two clusters. For an example, Fig. 2 displays the time evolution of the  $\Delta_R(t) = R_Z(t) - R_N(t)$  or  $R_\alpha(t) - R_d(t)$  in coordinate space [Fig. 2(a)] and their second derivatives of  $\Delta_R(t)$  with respect to time [Fig. 2(b)] for the  $\alpha + d$  configuration of  ${}^6\text{Li}$ . In Fig. 2(a), we define the long axis as the  $x$  axis, and then  $x$ -,  $y$ -, and  $z$ -GDR represent three components of excited dipole moments along  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$  directions of the oscillation of proton's core and neutron's core, while the blue long-dashed line (marked as "x PDR" in inset) represents the oscillation between the core of  $\alpha$  and the core of deuteron. It is clearly seen that the frequencies of the oscillation between cores of protons and neutrons are much higher than the one between the cores of  $\alpha$  and deuteron, which leads to a much higher energy spectrum of regular GDR than cluster resonance oscillation spectra, as shown later. For its second derivatives of  $\Delta_R(t)$ , the strength of cluster resonance between  $\alpha$  and deuteron is also much weaker than all three components of regular GDR oscillations between neutron and proton cores.

Figure 3 shows the calculation results of GDR spectra for  ${}^6\text{Li}$ , in which the red line shows the result of the EQMD model with an assumption of  $\alpha +$  deuteron structure for  ${}^6\text{Li}$ , together with experimental data from several groups.

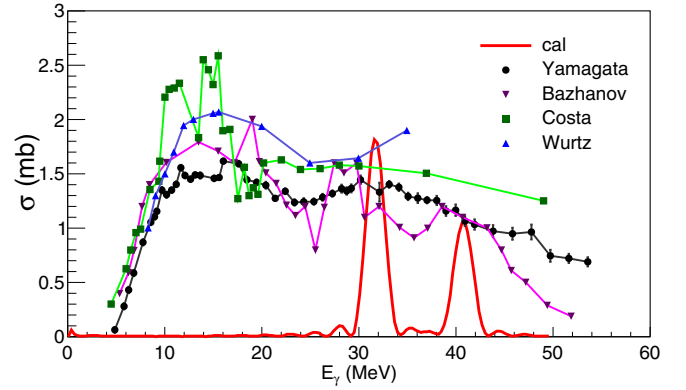


FIG. 3. Comparison of GDR spectra of our EQMD calculations assuming  $\alpha +$  deuteron (red line) structure for  ${}^6\text{Li}$  with the experimental data. The peak around 31 MeV indicates contribution from an  $\alpha$  cluster inside  ${}^6\text{Li}$  and while the one around 41 MeV could stem from the deuteron-like contribution inside  ${}^6\text{Li}$ . The block dots with error bar, violet inverted triangles, green squares, and blue triangles are various experimental data from Yamagata *et al.* [38], Bazhanov *et al.* [68], Costa *et al.* [69], and Wurtz *et al.* [70], respectively.

The first peak at about 31 MeV represents the GDR contribution from the short axis, coming from the contribution of  $\alpha$  cluster. This peak has been well discussed in previous work on  $\alpha$ -conjugated light nuclei, which has been taken as a fingerprint of  $\alpha$ -clustering structure inside a certain nucleus [26,27]. The second peak at 41 MeV can be attributed to the dominant deuteron-like contribution due to the neutron-proton pair. By comparison with the different experimental data obtained by Yamagata *et al.* (block dot) [38], Bazhanov *et al.* (violet) [68], Costa *et al.* (green) [69], and Wurtz *et al.* (blue) [70], it seems that to some extent the above two peaks from our calculations could explain some of those data, especially those of Yamagata *et al.* and Bazhanov *et al.*, even though the data show a much broader area. The data of Yamagata *et al.* show a very broad peak around 30 MeV and the data of Bazhanov *et al.* show a peak around 27 MeV; they could stem from a dipole oscillation of an  $\alpha$  cluster inside  ${}^6\text{Li}$  because of the peak values are close to 31 MeV as predicted by He and Ma *et al.* [26]. On the other hand, the data of Bazhanov *et al.* show another peak around 40 MeV, which could be attributed to the deuteron-like contribution inside  ${}^6\text{Li}$ .

For the first peak of data from Yamagata *et al.* [38], we assume that it is due to the collective cluster dipole resonance between the two clusters, namely  $\alpha$  and deuteron. In order to check this assumption, we calculate the vibration spectrum between  $\alpha$  and deuteron, i.e., through giant dipole moment between the centroids of the  $\alpha$  and deuteron or the pair of neutron and proton. The corresponding spectrum is shown in Fig. 4. Note that we scale the calculated strength of dipole resonance to a height similar to the experimental value in order to compare it with the experimental results intuitively. The peak at about 10 MeV with the red solid line in Fig. 4(a) is our result for cluster dipole resonance with the structure of  $\alpha + d$ , while the peak at around 14 MeV with red line in Fig. 4(b) represents our result for the dipole resonance spectra with the



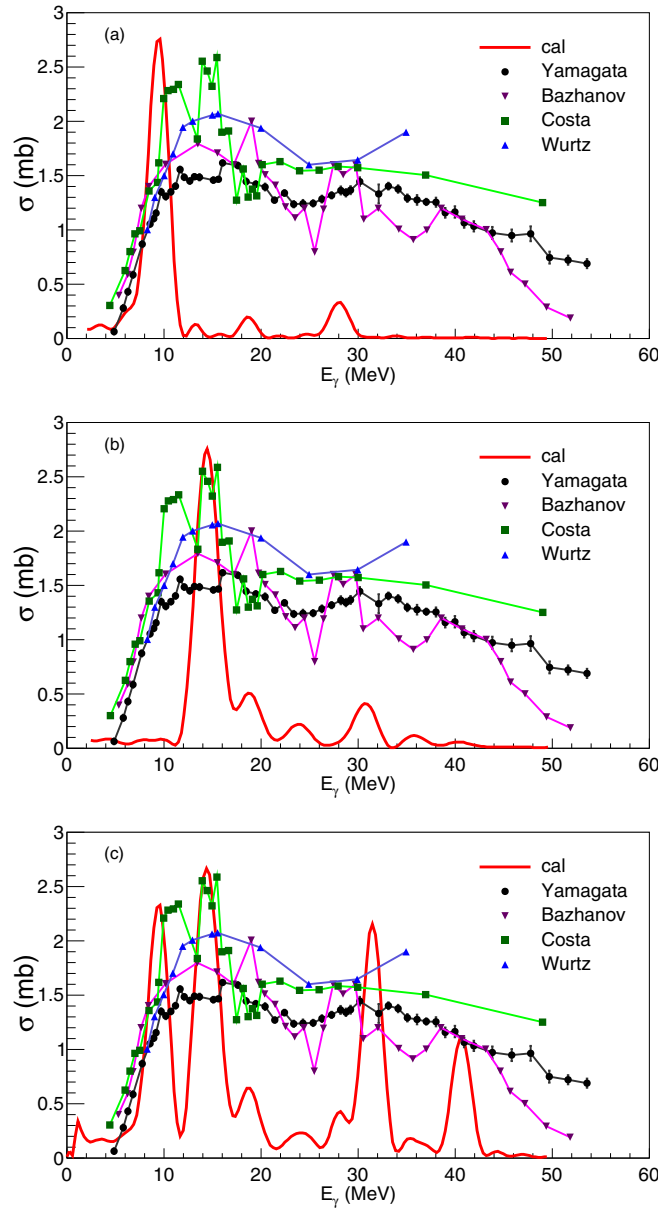


FIG. 4. Same as Fig. 3 but for the resonance oscillation calculations between  $\alpha$  and  $d$  (a) as well as between  $\alpha$  and  $(n + p)$  (b) for  ${}^6\text{Li}$ . Symbols are the data sets as Fig. 3, and red lines are our EQMD calculations. In panel (c), we perform a mixture for four components, namely  $\alpha + d$  [i.e., panel (a)],  $\alpha + n + p$  [i.e., panel (b)],  $\alpha$ -cluster peak around 31 MeV, as well as deuteron-like peak around 41 MeV (i.e., two separate peaks in Fig. 3) according to a specific proportion of 1 : 1.17 : 0.9 : 1.

configuration of  $\alpha + p + n$ . We can say that the above double peaks around 10 and 14 MeV give an average main peak at about 12 MeV, which is close the first peak of data from Yamagata *et al.*, or we can say that the first broad peak of the data could be attributed to mixture of resonance oscillations among clusters, i.e.,  $\alpha + d$  and  $\alpha + p + n$ . On the other hand, for the data of Costa *et al.* (green squares), there are double peaks at lower photon energy; i.e., one is around 10 MeV and another is around 14 MeV. It seems that our cluster resonances

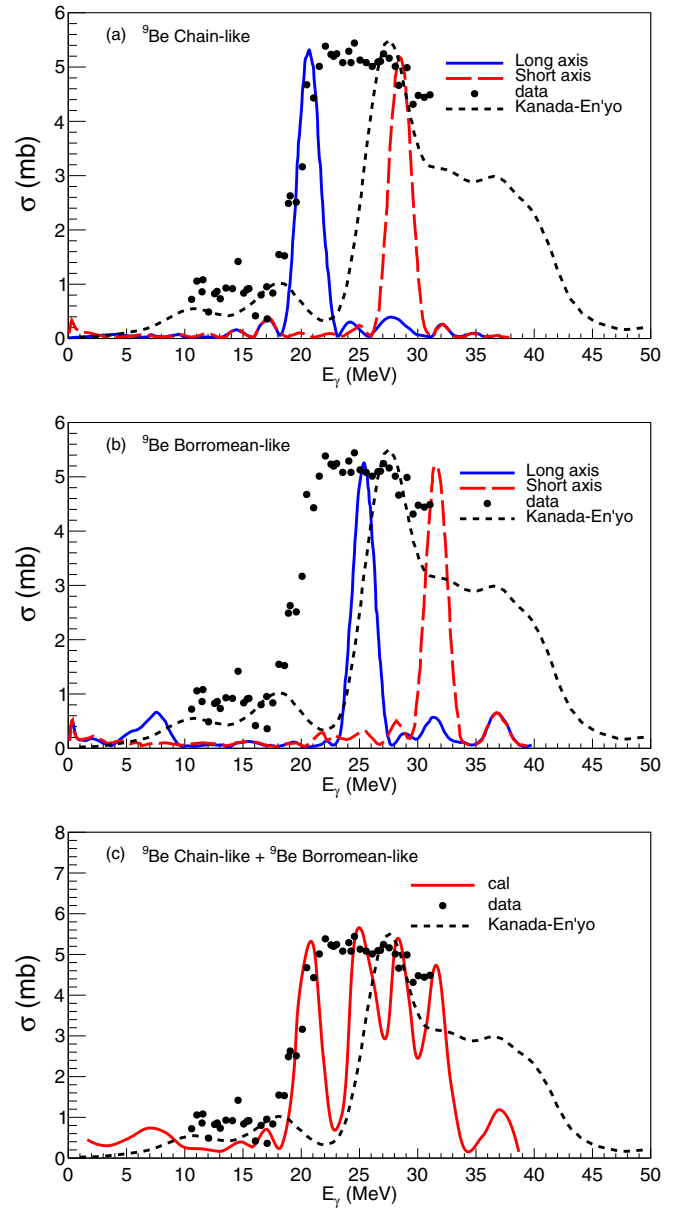


FIG. 5. Comparison of GDR spectra of our EQMD calculation assuming the chain-like configuration (a) as well as the Borromean-like configurations (b) of three-body clustering structure of  $\alpha + n + \alpha$  for  ${}^9\text{Be}$  with the experimental data [71] as well as the sAMD calculation [45]. The black dots represent the experimental data via photonuclear reaction [71], blue and red lines represent the present calculations, and the dark short dashed line is the sAMD calculation result from Ref. [45]. In panel (c), we perform a mixture of the first and second peaks of the chain-like structure as well as those of Borromean-like structure according to a specific proportion of 1 : 0.9 : 1.1 : 0.75.

of  $\alpha + d$  and  $\alpha + p + n$  are consistent with the above double peaks, and the  $\alpha + p + n$  configuration might be a little more dominant. Nevertheless, no significant difference in photon energies for this kind of dipole resonances is found between  $\alpha$  and  $d$  or  $(n + p)$ , which could be seen as a kind of pygmy dipole resonance (PDR).

In general, there is a coupling between different configurations; i.e., different configurations could be mixed for an overall contribution to GDR spectra. To address this question, we perform a mixture of the  $\alpha + d$  [i.e., Fig. 4(a)],  $\alpha + n + p$  [i.e., Fig. 4(b)],  $\alpha$ -cluster peak around 31 MeV, and deuteron-like peak around 41 MeV (Fig. 3) according to a specific proportion, e.g., 1 : 1.17 : 0.9 : 1., respectively. The combined result is plotted in Fig. 4(c). Even though the subtle structures, especially for widths are not fully described, our overall picture captures the characteristics of whole spectra of the experimental data. It needs to be pointed that the widths of each peak in our simulations are not well given due to the limit of our model in which decay mechanisms of excited fragments are absent, and also the specific proportion is model dependent.

### C. GDR spectra of ${}^9\text{Be}$

Figure 5 shows the dipole resonance spectra calculation for the two types of three-body clustering structures of  ${}^9\text{Be}$ : One is the chain-like structure [Fig. 5(a)] and another is the Borromean-like configuration of  $\alpha + n + \alpha$  [Fig. 5(b)] together with the earlier data [71] as well as the sAMD calculation [45]. The chain-like configuration shows double peaks, i.e., the one locates at about 30 MeV (red dashed line), which is due to the GDR of  $\alpha$  cluster [26,27], and another lower energy peak at around 20 MeV (blue solid line) is the contribution from component of the long axis. Similarly, for the Borromean-like configuration as presented in Fig. 5(b), the double-peak structure also emerges, where the high (red dashed line) and low (blue solid line) energy peaks indicate of the component of the  $\alpha$  cluster and a component of the long axis, respectively, as the chain-like case. For theoretical comparison, we also plot the calculation of Ref. [45], which was renormalized to the height of the data for the main peak as shown in a dark short dashed line, in which the first stronger peak comes from the main contribution by the longitudinal mode, and the second higher energy broad peak can be attributed to the transverse mode for the configuration of  $\alpha + n + \alpha$ . It seems that for the lower energy peak of Ref. [45], it is in agreement with the Borromean-like structure to some extent, but for its higher energy peak it is higher than our calculations for all the two configurations. By comparing our calculations with the experimental data, it

seems that the mixture of the chain-like and the Borromean-like three-body configurations of  $\alpha + n + \alpha$  in our model calculation could describe the data of  ${}^9\text{Be}$ . To this end, a mixture of different peaks is performed. We put the strengths of the first and second peaks of chain-like structure as well as those of Borromean-like structure in terms of 1 : 0.9 : 1.1 : 0.75 to combine into a new figure, i.e., Fig. 5(c). Clearly, the general structure of mixture peaks could more or less describe the experimental data even though the widths are not well described as we mentioned before.

### IV. SUMMARY

Using different initial configurations through the cooling process in a framework of EQMD, we calculated the dipole resonance spectra for two non- $\alpha$ -conjugated light nuclei, namely  ${}^6\text{Li}$  and  ${}^9\text{Be}$ , by using the Goldhaber-Teller assumption. For  ${}^6\text{Li}$ , both initial configurations, i.e., two-body  $\alpha + d$  configuration as well as three-body  $\alpha + n + p$  configuration, display a GDR component with a peak at around 31 MeV because of the fingerprint signal of  $\alpha$ -clustering structure inside the nucleus. On the other hand, by comparison with experimental data, a dipole resonance component with a lower energy peak at about 12 MeV might be assigned to the pygmy resonance between  $\alpha$ -cluster and deuteron or  $(n + p)$  according to our calculation. For  ${}^9\text{Be}$ , our calculated GDR spectra indicate that there is a configuration mixture for the chain-like and the Borromean-like structure of three-body structure of  $\alpha + n + \alpha$ . Furthermore, different GDR and PDR components are tentatively mixed for trying to describe the whole spectra of  ${}^6\text{Li}$  and  ${}^9\text{Be}$ , and even though quantitative fits are not achieved due to the limit of the present model, the overall characteristics of whole spectra of the experimental data are captured by this work. It sheds light on the updated structure information of  ${}^6\text{Li}$  and  ${}^9\text{Be}$  from the GDR spectra in terms of the  $\alpha$ -clustering aspect.

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