Effects of neck and nuclear orientations on the mass drift in heavy ion collisions

Shot[a](https://orcid.org/0000-0003-4539-5141) Amano \bullet [,](https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6277-8825)^{1,*} Yoshihiro Aritomo \bullet ,¹ and Masahisa Ohta \bullet ²

¹*Department of Science and Engineering, Kindai University Higashi-Osaka, Osaka 577-8502, Japan* ²*Department of Physics, Konan University Kobe, Hyogo 658-8501, Japan*

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Background: We clarified that the fusion hindrance in heavy ion collisions is caused by the expansion of the neck bridge at the early stage of collision [Phys. Rev. C **108**[, 014612 \(2023\)\]](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevC.108.014612); however, our discussion was limited to the trajectory analysis. To get a reliable fusion cross section, it is important to understand the fusion process connecting with multinucleon transfer and also the process depending on the target orientation in detail. Especially, the effects of target orientation on the multinucleon transfer process have not been discussed so far in our model.

Purpose: First, we investigate precisely the start time of the neck expansion relevant to the mass transfer. The main aims of this paper are to discuss the mass drift in the collision with the different target orientations within the dynamical approach based on the fluctuation-dissipation theorem in the reaction ${}^{36}S + {}^{232}Th$.

Method: The orientation effects are incorporated within the framework of the Langevin equation with three nuclear deformation parameters as the degree of freedom and the two-center shell model (TCSM) for the potential energy of the system.

Results: The start time of the neck expansion was presumed to be 10 zs ($zs = 10^{-21}$ s) by analysis in several entrance channels. By taking account of the target nuclear orientation, a strong mass-angle correlation was obtained which is compatible with the experimental data. There was a large difference in the mass transfer or the mass drift mode in the fusion process between the tip and side collisions.

Conclusions: Not only "delayed relaxation" of the neck but also the nuclear orientation effects have an important role in the strong correlation between fragment mass and its emitting angle. The mass evolution toward mass symmetry is slower than the standard mass drift mode assuming an exponential-type function. Particularly, the mass drift of the tip collision follows the slow mass drift mode assuming a Fermi-type function rather than an exponential-type function, which is related to the different features of the maximum neck cross-sectional area in the sticking process.

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I. INTRODUCTION

To date, superheavy elements up to $Z = 118$ have been identified. If the next new element is successfully synthesized, it will reach the eighth period of the periodic table. To determine how many elements exist, it is necessary to investigate the nuclear structure by producing nuclei reaching the "island of stability" [\[1\]](#page-11-0). However, in conventional fusion reactions (hot fusion reactions $[2-4]$ and cold fusion reactions $[5-8]$), the synthesized nucleus is limited to having enough neutrons to reach the island of stability. In order to overcome this problem, multinucleon transfer (MNT) reactions, which were widely used in the 1970s and 1980s, are attracting attention again.

The usefulness of MNT reactions for studies in unexplored areas of the nuclear chart (unknown neutron-rich heavy and superheavy nuclei) has been discussed $[9-17]$ to reach islands of stability. Recently, the advantage of MNT reactions in producing neutron-rich nuclei $(N = 126)$ in contrast to fragmentation reactions [\[18–20\]](#page-11-0) was revealed [\[21\]](#page-11-0).

On the one hand, the fusion hindrance in heavy ion collisions due to the expansion of the neck bridge in the early stage of collision was described and clarified in our previ-ous paper [\[31\]](#page-11-0). Further investigations are needed to clarify the fusion dynamics for heavy and superheavy elements. A correlation between fission fragment mass and scattering angle is also important for understanding the reaction dynamics of fusion. The formation of heavy and superheavy elements

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In MNT reactions, various nuclei with different excitation energies are produced over a wide angular range of separating fragments. The optimal conditions for producing the desired nuclei using MNT reactions have been investigated $[9,12,22-28]$. It is also necessary to investigate the stability (fission barrier) of the produced nuclei in MNT reactions. The height of the fission barrier for nuclei produced by MNT reactions is strongly related to the angular momentum induced by the transferred nucleons. However, the determination of the induced angular momentum cannot be evaluated directly. Therefore, the angular momentum of the produced nuclei is determined from the correlation of the other relevant observables [\[29,30\]](#page-11-0). In this regard, a reliable theoretical method for determining the property of fragments produced by MNT is needed.

^{*2144340401}y@kindai.ac.jp

is accomplished by progressing the mass equilibration during the reaction timescale. Typically, the timescales of the reaction process are 10 to 10^5 zs for fusion-fission (FF), 1 to 10 zs for quasifission (QF), and ≤ 1 zs for quasielastic (QE) and deep-inelastic collisions (DICs). The time unit of zeptosecond (zs) is equal to 10^{-21} s. Both mass evolution and timescale of collision processes have been discussed by analyzing the mass angle distribution (MAD) $[32-38]$. From the features of the MAD, the dominant reaction process is understandable [\[34\]](#page-11-0). The features of MAD are mainly distinguished into the following three types: The first one is FF, and mass-symmetric fission is dominant. However, there is no correlation between mass and angle, because the memory of the entrance channel disappears during a lot of rotations after two nuclei stick together. The second type is predominantly QF in which the mass evolution is suppressed due to the experience of less rotation in comparison with type 1. The most obvious difference from type 1 is that there is a strong correlation between mass and angle. This correlation is very important for analyzing the time (sticking time) from contact to scission in the QF reaction. Clarifying the sticking time of QF gives important insights into the dynamics of the nuclear fusion process. The third type of MAD accompanied with QE and DIC has the feature that the fission fragment mass yield is populated close to the initial mass and the grazing angle.

In the 1980s, by using experimental MAD, a correlation between sticking time and mass transfer (mass drift) was systematically analyzed in ²³⁸U induced reactions on various targets [\[32,33\]](#page-11-0). As a result, the universality of the mass drift curve was reported. Recently, in the first trial for direct experimental measurement of the angular momentum dependence of fission fragments, the sticking time of fast quasifission (FQF) related to the angular momentum was evaluated [\[37\]](#page-11-0). Due to the strong role of fluctuation in the process of the mass evolution of FQF for intermediate angular momentum, the mass evolution toward mass symmetry is slower than the standard mass drift curve [\[32,33\]](#page-11-0). Besides, the results comparing the experimental MAD with the simulated MAD present a slower mass drift curve rather than the standard mass drift one in various mass evolution angles [\[35\]](#page-11-0).

In the following section, the Langevin-type approach taking into account the orientation effects is described. The calculated results of MAD and M_R depending on the start time of the neck expansion are shown in Sec. [III A,](#page-4-0) choosing several entrance channels. In addition, we discuss the importance of the neck expansion in the mass-angle correlation and simultaneously determine the appropriate value of the start time of the neck expansion. The nuclear orientation effects for the mass drift in the ${}^{32}S + {}^{232}Th$ reaction follow in Sec. [III B,](#page-7-0) where the mass drift and the MAD are discussed in detail, and a summary is given in the final section.

II. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

A. Transition to the adiabatic state

We adopt the dynamical model based on the multidimensional Langevin equations, which is similar to the unified model [\[39\]](#page-11-0). Early in the collision, the reaction stage of the

nucleon transfer consists of two parts. First, at the approach stage the system is placed in the ground state of the projectile and target because the reaction proceeds too fast for nucleons to occupy the lowest single-particle levels. Next, the system relaxes to the ground state of the entire composite system which changes the potential energy surface to an adiabatic one. Therefore, we treat the transition of the two reaction stages with a time-dependent weighting function:

$$
V = V_{\text{diab}}(q)f(t) + V_{\text{adiab}}(q)[1 - f(t)], \tag{1}
$$

$$
f(t) = \exp\left(-\frac{t}{\tau_{DA}}\right).
$$
 (2)

Here, *q* denotes a set of collective coordinates representing nuclear shape. The diabatic potential $V_{\text{diab}}(q)$ is calculated within the double-folding method with Migdal nucleon-nucleon forces [\[39–42\]](#page-11-0). The adiabatic potential energy $V_{\text{adiab}}(q)$ of the system is calculated using an extended two-center shell model $[41]$ and is described in detail in Sec. [II C.](#page-2-0) As a characteristic of the diabatic potential, a "potential wall" appears due to the overlap region of the collision system, which corresponds to the hard core representing the incompressibility of nuclear material. *t* is the interaction time and $f(t)$ is the weighting function included in the relaxation time τ_{DA} . We use the relaxation time $\tau_{DA} = 0.1$ zs proposed in [\[43–45\]](#page-11-0). With the two-center parametrizations $[46,47]$, the nuclear shape is represented by three deformation parameter: *z*⁰ (distance between the centers of two potentials), δ (deformation of fragment), and α (mass asymmetry of colliding nuclei); α = $\frac{A_2-A_1}{A_2+A_1}$, where A_1 and A_2 not only stand for the mass numbers of the projectile and target respectively [\[40,48\]](#page-11-0) but also are then used to indicate mass numbers of the two fission (light and heavy) fragments. The parameter δ is defined as $\delta = \frac{3(a-b)}{(2a+b)}$, where *a* and *b* represent the half length of the ellipse axes in the z_0 and ρ directions, respectively [\[46\]](#page-11-0). In addition, we use scaling to save computation time and use the coordinate *z* defined as $z = \frac{z_0}{(R_{CN}B)}$, where R_{CN} denotes the radius of the spherical compound nucleus and the parameter *B* is defined as $B = \frac{(3+\delta)}{(3-2\delta)}$. We solve the dynamical equation numerically. Therefore, we restricted the number of degrees of freedom to three deformation parameters to avoid huge calculation time.

B. Consideration of the nuclear orientation

In order to consider the orientation effects when using the deformed nucleus, we use the axially symmetric potential V_{ax}^{sym} the axially asymmetric one V_{ax}^{asym} in the stage of the diabatic states. When two deformed nuclei collide with each other, mainly there are four colliding patterns: the socalled tip-to-tip ($\varphi_1^0 = \varphi_2^0 = 0$), side-to-side ($\varphi_1^0 = \pi/2$, $\varphi_2^0 =$ $\pi/2$), tip-to-side $(\varphi_1^0 = 0, \varphi_2^0 = \pi/2)$ and side-to-tip $(\varphi_1^0 = 0)$ $\pi/2$, $\varphi_2^0 = 0$). φ_1^0 and φ_2^0 denote the initial orientation angles of the projectile and target nuclei corresponding to φ_1 and φ_2 shown in Fig. [1.](#page-2-0) In this paper, we select the various φ_2^0 of the deformed ²³²Th nucleus fixing $\varphi_1^0 = 0$ of the spherical ³²S nucleus when we investigate the collision system of ${}^{32}S + {}^{232}Th$. In the case of the tip collision ($\varphi_2^0 = 0$), we use the diabatic potential of axially symmetric states, $V_{\text{diab}} = V_{\text{ax}}^{\text{sym}}$. If calculations for the side collision ($\varphi_2^0 = \pi/2$) or colliding patterns of

center of mass axis

FIG. 1. Geometrical diagram when both the deformed incident nucleus and the target nucleus collide with each other at different initial orientation angles.

the others $(0 < \varphi_2^0 < \pi/2)$ are performed, we use the diabatic potential of axially asymmetric states, $V_{\text{diab}} = V_{\text{ax}}^{\text{asym}}$. Here, note that $V_{\text{ax}}^{\text{asym}}$ depends on the nuclear orientation angle. Besides, while *V*_{diab} of the axially asymmetric states transitions to *V*_{adiab} of the axially symmetric states, the ellipsoid deformations are adjusted with restorations of the systems using the time-dependent form, and the final ellipsoid deformations δ_i^{fin} [\[27\]](#page-11-0) finishing the restoration of the axiall symmetry are obtained as

$$
\tilde{\delta} = \delta_i f_{\text{res}}(t) + \delta_i^{\text{fin}} [1 - f_{\text{res}}(t)], \tag{3}
$$

$$
f_{\rm res}(t) = \exp\left(-\frac{t}{\tau_{\rm res}}\right),\tag{4}
$$

$$
\delta_i^{\text{fin}} = (1 + \delta_i) [\delta_i (2 + \delta_i) \sin^2 \varphi_i^0 + 1]^{-\frac{3}{4}} - 1. \tag{5}
$$

*f*res is the weighting function including the relaxation time $\tau_{\rm res}$, which performs the restoration from the axially asymmetric system to the axially symmetric one. We use $\tau_{res} = 1$ zs in this paper. This value involved in the restoration of the system was also used in Ref. [\[27\]](#page-11-0). In the collision system using the deformed ²³²Th nucleus, we use $\delta_i \sim 0.18$ with $\delta_i = 3\beta_2/(\beta_2 + \sqrt{16\pi/5})$ [\[49\]](#page-11-0). The quadrupole deformation β_2 for the deformed nucleus ²³²Th is 0.207 [\[50\]](#page-11-0).

C. Adiabatic potential

The neck parameter ϵ included in the two-center parametrizations is adjusted in Ref. [\[51\]](#page-11-0). We reproduce the available data assuming different values between the entrance and exit channels of the reaction. In the present paper, we use $\epsilon = 1$ for the entrance channel and $\epsilon = 0.35$ for the exit channel. This treatment is used in Refs. [\[41,49\]](#page-11-0). We assume the time dependence of the potential energy with the finite range liquid drop model, which is denoted by the characteristic relaxation time of the neck t_0 and the variance Δ_{ϵ} as follows:

$$
V_{\text{LDM}}(q, t) = V_{\text{LDM}}(q, \epsilon = 1) f_{\epsilon}(t)
$$

+
$$
V_{\text{LDM}}(q, \epsilon = 0.35)[1 - f_{\epsilon}(t)],
$$
 (6)

$$
V_{\text{LDM}}(q,\epsilon) = E_{\text{S}}(q,\epsilon) + E_{\text{C}}(q,\epsilon),\tag{7}
$$

$$
f_{\epsilon} = \frac{1}{1 + \exp\left(\frac{t - t_0}{\Delta_{\epsilon}}\right)},\tag{8}
$$

where the symbols E_S and E_C stand for generalized surface energy and Coulomb energy, respectively [\[52\]](#page-11-0). The temporal form of ϵ has been used commonly [\[27,28,41,53\]](#page-11-0). We fixed Δ_{ϵ} as 0.1 zs, as in Ref. [\[31\]](#page-11-0). If we use $t_0 = 0$ zs, ϵ parameter starts to relax from 1 to 0.35 as soon as two nuclei contact.

The adiabatic potential energy given a value of ϵ and a temperature of a system is defined as

$$
V_{\text{adiab}}(q, t, L_{\text{tot}}, T)
$$

= $V_{\text{LDM}}(q, t) + V_{\text{SH}}(q, T) + V_{\text{rot}}(q, L_{\text{tot}}).$ (9)

 V_{SH} is the shell correction energy that takes into account the temperature dependence as

$$
V_{\text{SH}}(q, T) = E_{\text{shell}}^0(q)\Phi(T),\tag{10}
$$

$$
E_{\text{shell}}^0(q) = \Delta E_{\text{shell}}(q) + \Delta E_{\text{pair}}(q),\tag{11}
$$

$$
\Phi(T) = \exp\left(-\frac{E^*}{E_d}\right),\tag{12}
$$

where E_{shell}^0 indicates the microscopic energy at $T = 0$, which is calculated as the sum of the shell correction energy ΔE_{shell} and the pairing correlation correction energy ΔE_{pair} . *T* is the temperature of the compound nucleus calculated from the intrinsic energy of the composite system. ΔE_{shell} is calculated by the Strutinsky method [\[54,55\]](#page-11-0) from the single-particle levels of the two-center shell model potential [\[46,56,57\]](#page-11-0) as the difference between the sum of single-particle energies of occupied states and the averaged quantity. ΔE_{pair} is evaluated in the Bardeen-Cooper-Schrieffer (BCS) approximation as described in Refs. [\[55,58\]](#page-11-0). The averaged part of the pairing correlation energy is calculated assuming that the density of single-particle states is constant over the pairing window. The pairing strength constant is related to the average gap parameter $\tilde{\Delta}$ by solving the gap equation in the same approximation eter Δ by solving the gap equation in the same approximation
and adopting $\tilde{\Delta} = 12/\sqrt{A_{\text{CN}}}$ suggested in [\[58\]](#page-11-0) by considering the empirical results for the odd-even mass difference [\[59\]](#page-11-0). A_{CN} is the compound nucleus mass. The temperature dependence factor $\Phi(T)$ is explained in Ref. [\[48\]](#page-11-0), where E^* indicates the excitation energy of the compound nucleus. *E*[∗] is given as $E^* = a_{\text{lev}} T^2$, where a_{lev} is the level density parameter. The shell damping energy E_d is selected as 20 MeV. This value is given by Ignatyuk *et al.* [\[60\]](#page-11-0). The rotational energy V_{rot} generated from the total angular momentum L_{tot} is represented as

$$
V_{\text{rot}}(q, L_{\text{tot}}) = \frac{\hbar^2 L(L+1)}{2\mathcal{I}(q)} + \frac{\hbar^2 L_1(L_1+1)}{2\mathfrak{B}_1(q)} + \frac{\hbar^2 L_2(L_2+1)}{2\mathfrak{B}_2(q)},
$$
(13)

where L and $L_{1,2}$ are the relative angular momentum (orbital angular momentum) and the angular momentum for the heavy and light fragments, respectively. $\mathcal{I}(q)$ is the rigid body moment of inertia with deformation, which is multiplied by 2.

D. Dynamical equations

The trajectory calculations are performed on the timedependent unified potential energy [\[39,40,48\]](#page-11-0) using the multidimensional Langevin-type equations [\[40,48,61\]](#page-11-0) as follows:

$$
\frac{dq_i}{dt} = (m^{-1})_{ij}p_j,
$$
\n
$$
\frac{dp_i}{dt} = -\frac{\partial V}{\partial q_i} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial q_i} (m^{-1})_{jk} p_j p_k - \gamma_{ij} (m^{-1})_{jk} p_k
$$
\n
$$
+ g_{ij} \Gamma_j(t),
$$
\n(15)

$$
\frac{d\vartheta}{dt} = \frac{\hbar L}{\mathcal{I}},\tag{16}
$$

$$
\frac{d\varphi_1}{dt} = \frac{\hbar L_1}{\mathfrak{F}_1},\tag{17}
$$

$$
\frac{d\varphi_2}{dt} = \frac{\hbar L_2}{\Im z},\tag{18}
$$

$$
\frac{dL}{dt} = -\frac{1}{\hbar} \frac{\partial V}{\partial \theta} - \gamma_{\text{tan}} \left(\frac{L}{\mu_R R^2} - \frac{L_1}{\mathfrak{F}_1} a_1 - \frac{L_2}{\mathfrak{F}_2} a_2 \right) R
$$

$$
+ \frac{R}{\hbar} \sqrt{\gamma_{\text{tan}} T} \Gamma_{\text{tan}}(t), \qquad (19)
$$

$$
\frac{dL_1}{dt} = -\frac{1}{\hbar} \frac{\partial V}{\partial \varphi_1} + \gamma_{\tan} \left(\frac{L}{\mu_R R^2} - \frac{L_1}{\Im_1} a_1 - \frac{L_2}{\Im_2} a_2 \right) a_1 \n- \frac{a_1}{\hbar} \sqrt{\gamma_{\tan} T} \Gamma_{\tan}(t),
$$
\n(20)

$$
\frac{dL_2}{dt} = -\frac{1}{\hbar} \frac{\partial V}{\partial \varphi_2} + \gamma_{\text{tan}} \left(\frac{L}{\mu_R R^2} - \frac{L_1}{\Im_1} a_1 - \frac{L_2}{\Im_2} a_2 \right) a_2 \n- \frac{a_2}{\hbar} \sqrt{\gamma_{\text{tan}} T} \Gamma_{\text{tan}}(t).
$$
\n(21)

The collective coordinates q_i represent *z*, δ , and α , the symbol p_i denotes momentum conjugated to q_i , and V is the multidimensional potential energy. m_{ij} and γ_{ij} stand for the shape-dependent collective inertia and friction tensors, respectively. We adopted the hydrodynamical inertia tensor m_{ij} in the Werner-Wheeler approximation for the velocity field [\[62\]](#page-11-0). The one-body friction tensors γ_{ii} are evaluated within the wall-and-window formula [\[63,64\]](#page-11-0). The normalized random force $\Gamma_i(t)$ is assumed to be white noise: $\langle \Gamma_i(t) \rangle = 0$ and $\langle \Gamma_i(t_1) \Gamma_j(t_2) \rangle = 2\delta_{ij} \delta(t_1 - t_2)$. According to the Einstein relation, the strength of the random force g_{ij} is given as $\gamma_{ij}T = \sum_{k} g_{ik}g_{jk}$. ϑ and μ_R indicate the relative orientation of nuclei and the reduced mass. *R* is the distance between the nuclear centers O_1O_2 as shown in Fig. [1.](#page-2-0) φ_1 and φ_2 stand for the orientation angles of each nucleus (see Fig. [1\)](#page-2-0). $a_{1,2} = \frac{R}{2} \pm \frac{R}{2}$ $\frac{R_1-R_2}{2}$ is the distance from the center of the fragment to the middle point between the nuclear surfaces, and $R_{1,2}$ are the nuclear radii. The total angular momentum $L_{\text{tot}} = L + L_1 + L_2$ is preserved. The phenomenological nuclear friction forces for separated nuclei are expressed in terms of the tangential friction γ_{tan} and the radial friction γ_R using the Woods-Saxon radial form factor suggested in Ref. [\[40\]](#page-11-0). The treatments of γ_{tan} and γ_R are described in our previous papers [\[31,65\]](#page-11-0).

FIG. 2. Schematic determined the scattering angle $\theta_{c.m.}$ (in the center-of-mass system). The Coulomb scattering angles θ_i and θ_f determined by the Coulomb trajectories in entrance and exit channels. The angle θ_{rot} is the rotation angle of the system between contact and scission.

E. Mass ratio M_R and scattering angle $\theta_{c.m.}$

The MAD is presented by the mass-angle matrix using M_R and the scattering angle $\theta_{\rm c.m.}$. The projectile-like mass ratio M_R is determined as $M_R = A_1/A_{CN}$. Consequently, the targetlike mass ratio is expressed as $M_R = 1 - M_R$. The scattering angle $\theta_{\rm c.m.}$ is determined from

$$
\theta_{\rm c.m.} = \pi - \theta_i - \theta_{\rm rot} - \theta_f, \qquad (22)
$$

as shown schematically in Fig. 2. θ_i and θ_f are the Coulomb scattering angles of initial and final trajectories. $\theta_{\rm rot}$ is the rotation angle of the system between contact and scission, which is obtained from Eq. (16). The Coulomb scattering angle of the incoming nuclei is obtained with the incident center-ofmass energy *Ei* and each initial relative angular momentum (orbital angular momentum) L_i as follows:

$$
\theta_i = \arctan(\sqrt{\eta_i^c}), \quad \eta_i^c = \frac{2E_i\hbar^2 L_i^2}{\mu_0 \alpha_c^2}, \tag{23}
$$

where μ_0 is the initial reduced mass and $\alpha_c = Z_p Z_t e^2 / 4\pi \epsilon_0$. Z_p and Z_t are the charges of the projectile and target nuclei. The Coulomb scattering angle θ_f of the outgoing nuclei is slightly complicated. θ_f is determined as follows:

$$
\theta_f = \arctan\left(\sqrt{\eta_f^c}\right) - \arctan\left(\kappa \sqrt{\eta_f^n}\right),\tag{24}
$$

$$
\eta_f^c = \frac{2E_f\hbar^2 L_f^2}{\mu_0 \alpha_c^2}, \quad \eta_f^n = \frac{2E_f\hbar^2 L_f^2}{\mathscr{J}R^2 \alpha_c^2},\tag{25}
$$

where E_f and L_f are the final energy after dissipating and the final relative angular momentum. κ is given by $\kappa =$ $\frac{R}{\hbar^2 L_f^2/(\mathcal{I}R^2\alpha_c)+R}$. At large angular momentum the second term in Eq. (24) is almost negligible. Thus, θ_f is determined by the value of η_f^c . Besides, θ_f is given by $\theta_f \simeq \theta_i$ because the final energy and the final relative angular momentum are almost unchanged from the incident energy and the initial angular momentum at large angular momentum. Consequently, at large angular momentum we obtain the scattering angle

FIG. 3. Characteristic start time of the neck expansion t_0 dependence of the mass angle distributions (a)–(c), (g)–(i), (m)–(o) and M_R distributions (d) –(f), (j)–(l), (p)–(r) for the different entrance channels. Panels (a)–(f), (g)–(l), and (o)–(r) are the collision systems of ${}^{30}Si$, ${}^{48}Ti$, and ⁸⁶Kr with ²⁰⁸Pb at $E_{\text{c.m.}}/V_{\text{bass}} = 1.05, 1.173$, and 1.084, respectively. The Bass barrier energies V_{bass} for ³⁰Si, ⁴⁸Ti, and ⁸⁶Kr are 128.54, 195.18, and 302.63 MeV, respectively [\[78\]](#page-12-0). The calculations (black thick lines) used $t_0 = 0$, 5, and 10 zs in the left side, the middle side, and the right side panels, respectively. The theoretical value is multiplied by the scale factor on the right side of the M_R distribution. The black vertical thin lines indicate the initial mass ratio M_R^0 . The symbols are the experimental data [\[34,66,](#page-11-0)[67\]](#page-12-0). The black rectangles in panels (c), (i), and (o) are M_R and angular ranges, which are used for Fig. [6](#page-6-0) (see text).

function

$$
\theta_{\text{c.m.}} = \pi - (\theta_i + \theta_f) = \pi - 2\theta_i
$$

$$
= \pi - 2\arctan\left(\sqrt{\frac{2E_i\hbar^2 L_i^2}{\mu_0\alpha_c^2}}\right).
$$
(26)

The scattering angle of the target-like nucleus is determined by $\pi - \theta_{\text{c.m.}}$.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A. Determination of the start time of the neck expansion

In this section, we determine the appropriate value of the start time t_0 of the neck expansion by reproducing the experimental MAD and M_R distribution using several entrance channels. We prepare the reaction system having the different initial mass ratio $M_e^0 = m_P/(m_P + m_T)$ or $M_e^0 = m_T/(m_P + m_T)$ m_T), where m_P , m_T are the projectile and the target masses. As the target we set ^{208}Pb and as the projectile we choose 30 Si, 48 Ti, and 86 Kr. This analysis is also an extension of the study presented in the previous work [\[31\]](#page-11-0).

Figure 3 shows MADs and M_R distributions depending on t_0 . The calculations with $t_0 = 0$ zs shown in the left column correspond to the "contact relaxation" of the neck degree of freedom and the calculations with $t_0 = 5$ and 10 zs in the middle and right columns corresponds to the "delayed relaxation" as explained in Ref. [\[31\]](#page-11-0).

The M_R distribution of ${}^{30}Si + {}^{208}Pb$ is dominated by the mass-symmetric fission for any value of t_0 , as shown in Figs. $3(d)$ –3(f). Among them, the calculation result using $t_0 =$ 10 zs shows the sharper mass-symmetric fission [Fig. $3(f)$] and is in good agreement with the experimental data. Furthermore, in the calculated MAD using $t_0 = 10$ zs [Fig. 3(c)], there is no correlation between mass and angle as shown in the experimental MAD [\[66\]](#page-11-0). In this reaction system, as shown in Fig. $4(a)$, the one-dimensional entrance barrier has a large gap (about 30 MeV) against the fused system around $z = 0$. Though the rapid expansion of the neck radius causes the effect of the inner barrier for fusion hindrance $[31]$, the mass transfer does not change dramatically in this system. This is because the large gap mentioned above weakens the effect of the inner barrier and does not significantly suppress the mass equilibration related to fusion. It is noted that even if the

FIG. 4. One-dimensional barriers for the degree of entrance channel mass asymmetry α_e and deformation δ_e in the collision systems of (a) ³⁰Si, (b) ⁴⁸Ti, and (c) ⁸⁶Kr with ²⁰⁸Pb. Black arrows indicate the contact points (a) $z = 1.51$, (b) $z = 1.54$, (c) $z = 1.57$. *z*- δ potential energy surface for the degree of the compound nucleus mass asymmetry $\alpha = 0.0$ in the collision systems of (d) ³⁰Si, (e) ⁴⁸Ti, and (f) ⁸⁶Kr with ²⁰⁸Pb. Panels (g) to (i) are trajectory distributions in the collision systems of ³⁰Si, ⁴⁸Ti, and ⁸⁶Kr with ²⁰⁸Pb at $E_{cm}/V_{bass} = 1.05$, $E_{cm}/V_{bass} = 1.173$, and $E_{\rm c.m.}/V_{\rm bass} = 1.084$. Right triangles in panel (d) to (i) shows the fusion box on the *z*- δ plane. Cross symbols show the contact point. All panels are for the case of central collisions.

effect of the inner barrier is weakened, the strong mass-angle correlation in Fig. $3(a)$ appearing the predominant OF process implies sufficient working of the fusion hindrance.

In ⁴⁸Ti + ²⁰⁸Pb, a heavier collision system [Figs. $3(g)$ –3(1)], the dominant fission mode changes dramatically from massasymmetric fission to mass-symmetric fission as t_0 increases. The results in Figs. $3(i)$ and $3(l)$ for $t_0 = 10$ zs show good agreement with the experimental results [\[34\]](#page-11-0). The calculation result of Fig. [3\(l\)](#page-4-0) shows sufficient progress of mass equilibration in contrast to the calculation result shown in Fig. $3(i)$. This can be seen also from the strong correlation between mass and angle in Fig. $3(i)$. Experimentally, the strong massangle correlation has been reported as evidence that QF events are dominant [\[34\]](#page-11-0). The cause of the mass-asymmetric fission in Fig. $3(i)$ is the expansion of the neck at the initial stage of contact as described above. As shown in Fig. 4(b), the energy gap between the entrance barrier and the system around $z = 0$ is about 20 MeV, and the fusion hindrance due to the neck expansion is effectively working in comparison with the $30\text{Si} + 208\text{Pb}$ case. The fusion hindrance due to the neck expansion is considered there to be entrance channel dependent.

In ${}^{86}Kr + {}^{208}Pb$, an even heavier collision system, the mass-asymmetric fission is dominant no matter when the significant expansion of the neck radius starts after contact. In particular, the calculation results using $t_0 = 5.0$ zs and $t_0 = 10$ zs are almost the same, and the calculated M_R reproduced the experimental features [\[67\]](#page-12-0) of M_R . The M_R in Figs. [3\(q\)](#page-4-0) and $3(r)$ is close to the initial mass ratio M_R^0 . This implies

that the dominant process is DIC events. In the reactions dominated by DIC, the effects of the energy damping mode due to the strong Coulomb repulsion rather than the effects of the rapid expansion for the neck radius are significant. In the ${}^{86}Kr + {}^{208}Pb$ collision system, the projectile-like nucleus shows backward scattering due to the kinetic energy being strongly damped [see Figs. $3(n)$ and $3(o)$]. In Figs. $3(m)$ and $3(p)$, comparing with the case for $t_0 = 5.0$ and 10 zs, massive nucleon transfer occurs through the neck immediately after contact because the neck radius rapidly expands before the two nuclei separate due to the strong Coulomb repulsion.

From the comparison of the experimental results and the calculated results, we inferred that the "delayed relaxation" [\[31\]](#page-11-0) of the neck is preferable and we use $t_0 = 10$ zs as the appropriate value in this paper.

In order to investigate further the MADs and M_R distribution of the three types of reactions, we compare the features of one-dimensional entrance barrier for each entrance channel in Figs. $4(a)$ –4(c). As the degree of the entrance channel mass asymmetry α_e is smaller, the contact point shifts from the inside (small *z*) to the outside (large *z*) of the ridge at the contact barrier. This simple shift for the contact point hinders the fusion of the system. This fusion hindrance has been reported in Refs. [\[68,69\]](#page-12-0). Figures $4(d)$ –4(f) show the potential energy surfaces on the *z*- δ plane at $\alpha = 0.0$ corresponding to the compound nucleus mass in the different collision systems. The inner barrier significantly grows in the process of the degree of mass asymmetry relaxing from α_e to $\alpha = 0.0$, as α_e of the collision system is smaller.

FIG. 5. Potential energy of the entrance channel as a function of mass asymmetry in the combination of fixing 208Pb as the target nucleus and selecting various projectile nuclei. The three blue arrows indicate the corresponding α_e for each system. The blue region indicates the fusion box for α defined in the text.

The features of the potential energy surface closely relate to the behavior of the trajectory. Figures $4(g)-4(i)$ show the trace of each trajectory on the *z*-δ plane in the case of central collisions. The fusion event is selected by whether or not a trajectory invades the fusion box $\{|\alpha| < 0.3, \delta < -0.5z + 0.5\}$, as given in Refs. [\[48,49\]](#page-11-0). The fusion box is indicated by the shaded triangles in left side corner of each panel. In the collision system of ${}^{30}Si + {}^{208}Pb$, many trajectories invade the fusion box. The trajectories trapped in the pocket around $\{z, \delta\} = \{0.0, 0.15\}$ [see Fig. [4\(d\)\]](#page-5-0) move in the direction of fission due to the fluctuation. We distinguish the FF and QF processes by analyzing whether or not the trajectory enters the fusion box. Consequently, FF is the main contribution in the collision system of $30Si + 208Pb$. Fewer trajectories in the case of $48Ti + 208Pb$ invade the fusion box in comparison with the collision system of ${}^{30}Si + {}^{208}Pb$. In contrast, the upward flow of trajectories (indicated by the white arrow) can be seen from the contact point in the direction of the large δ as if the trajectories are hindered from invading the fusion box. In the heavier collision system of ${}^{86}Kr + {}^{208}Pb$, some trajectories overcome the contact barrier by the effects of fluctuations, even if the contact point is at the outside against the ridge of the barrier. However, all trajectories are hindered from invading the fusion box after contact by the developing inner barrier as the degree of mass asymmetry is relaxed toward $\alpha = 0.0$.

The values of the initial mass asymmetry are quite different for these three reactions, as shown in Fig. [4.](#page-5-0) Therefore, we also mention the potential energy of the entrance channel from the perspective of the mass asymmetry. Figure 5 represents the potential energy of the entrance channel as a function of mass asymmetry α . From the potential energy of the entrance channel in the case of $30Si$, the trajectory is sucked into the fusion region (blue region) from $\alpha_e = 0.748$ by the fluctuation effects after it overcomes the hump near $\alpha = 0.5$. Note that the potential energy changes depending on the distance *z* and the deformation δ .

The potential energy in the case of the heavier ⁴⁸Ti has two features. First, the gradual uphill slope of potential energy

FIG. 6. Angular distributions of (a) FF component and (b) QF component selected for the different projectile nuclei using 208Pb as the target nucleus. The M_R and angular ranges used correspond to black rectangles in Figs. $3(c)$, $3(i)$, and $3(0)$.

is confirmed from the point $\alpha_e = 0.625$ toward the fusion region. This uphill slope gently prevents the trajectory from entering the fusion region. Second, in contrast to the case of 30Si , the uphill slope (hump) toward the mass symmetry region is relatively flat. From this feature, the trajectory that cannot cross the top started around $\alpha = 0.25$ due to the above mentioned gentle fusion hindrance. As a result, the trajectory tends to settle down around $\alpha = 0.4$ ($M_R = 0.7$), and QF becomes dominant.

In even heavier ⁸⁶Kr, there is a wall from $\alpha_e = 0.415$ toward the fusion region, but it can be easily overcome by fluctuations. Consequently, trajectories invade the fusion box for α . However, if we observe the δ space as shown in Fig. [4\(i\),](#page-5-0) it is found that trajectories do not enter the fusion box. Hence, the mass symmetry events mean QF and DIC components are dominant outside the mass symmetric region. It was already reported in Refs. [\[48,49\]](#page-11-0) that the formation of the compound nucleus (fusion event) is not related necessarily to the mass symmetric fission. This tendency is particularly evident in the synthesis of heavier superheavy nuclei from both understandings of Figs. $3(f)$, $3(1)$, and $3(r)$ and Figs. $4(g)$, $4(h)$, and $4(i)$.

Next, we investigate the angular distribution of FF and QF components in the different channels. The calculation results are shown in Fig. 6 excluding the quasielastic scattering events. Calculations were performed in both M_R and $\theta_{\text{c.m.}}$ ranges $\{0.19 \leqslant M_R \leqslant 0.81, 45° < \theta_{\text{c.m.}} < 135°\}$, ${0.29 \leqslant M_R \leqslant 0.71, 45^{\circ} < \theta_{\rm c.m.} < 135^{\circ}}$, and ${0.34 \leqslant M_R \leqslant \theta_{\rm c.m.}}$ $0.66, 45° < \theta_{\rm c.m.} < 135°$, which correspond to the black rectangles in Figs. $3(c)$ and $3(i)$, and $3(0)$, respectively. FF events cannot be seen in the collision system of ${}^{86}Kr + {}^{208}Pb$. There is no anisotropy to the scattering angles of FF [see Fig. $6(a)$]

FIG. 7. Seven panels (a) to (g) show calculated MADs for seven nuclear orientations ($0°$, $15°$, $30°$, $45°$, $60°$, $75°$, $90°$) of the deformed nucleus ²³²Th. The calculation data are for the ³²S + ²³²Th system at $E_{cm}/V_{\text{bass}} = 1.108$. The MADs show a transition from mass asymmetric associated with the orientation angle 0◦ (tip collision) to mass symmetric associated with the orientation angle 90◦ (side collision).

because the sticking time is long (several rotations before fission) and the entrance memory disappears. In contrast with FF, the scattering angles of QF have a different anisotropy by each entrance channel [see Fig. [6\(b\)\]](#page-6-0). The anisotropy to the scattering angle of QF is weak in the collision system of $30\text{Si} + 208\text{Pb}$. This characteristic is considered to be the contribution of slow QF (SQF) included in QF events. In the case of SQF, while the projectile- and target-like nuclei rotate several times sticking together, the entrance memory gradually forgets by progressing the equilibration. There is fast QF (FQF) which is another component in QF. In FQF, the projectile- and target-like nuclei often split within half a rotation.

From Fig. $6(b)$, the forward scattering is dominant in the collision system of 48 Ti + 208 Pb. This is because the projectile-like nucleus splits from target-like ones around half a rotation, which is evidence that a lot of FQF events are included. Looking toward the QF component of ${}^{86}\text{Kr} + {}^{208}\text{Pb}$ system, the backward scattering is dominant, which means that the mass evolution toward $M_R = 0.5$ allows only for low angular momentum, where the effect of V_{rot} is weak. A similar characteristic at low angular momentum (small impact parameter) has been reported within TDHF calculations [\[70–72\]](#page-12-0).

B. Mass drift and the nuclear orientation

The mass drift between the reaction partner in FF and QF processes was studied in detail by Shen *et al.* [\[33\]](#page-11-0), and the systematics for the drift speed toward the direction of mass symmetry was discussed also. Here, we investigate the effect on the mass drift when the orientation of the reaction partner is taken into account. We study the deviation from the above mentioned systematics [\[33\]](#page-11-0) and discuss the mass drift mode in the QF process. In the following, we present the effect on our calculation, taking account of the orientation of the deformed target in the collision of $^{32}S + ^{232}Th$ at $E_{c.m.}/V_{bass} = 1.108$. Here, the Bass barrier energy V_{bass} in $^{32}S + ^{232}Th$ is 158.55 MeV [\[78\]](#page-12-0). The calculations are performed in the range $0.15 <$ M_R < 0.85 (to simply eliminate quasielastic events).

Figure 7 shows the MADs of $^{32}S + ^{232}Th$ at $E_{c.m.}/V_{bass} =$ 1.108 in seven orientation angles of the deformed 232 Th nucleus. In Fig. $7(a)$, we can see that the mass-asymmetric fission is dominant and the mass evolution is restricted to producing fragments with $M_R = 0.3, 0.7$. This restriction in the mass evolution is due to the narrow neck cross-sectional area rather than the effect of the shell structure, because the interaction energy is high enough above the barrier. The shell effect generally works for the subbarrier reactions. The projectile and the target nucleus stick together for more than a half rotation, andm as the orientation angle of 232 Th becomes large, the mass equilibration progresses in the meantime. In contrast with the tip collision case, although the MAD for the side collision [see Fig. $7(g)$] is dominated by the masssymmetric fission, a significant correlation between mass and angle can still be seen. This result implies that QF events are dominant even for the side collision case. Namely, even if the mass-symmetric fission events are dominant, many of their trajectories do not have a path through the compound nucleus area.

The integrated MAD and M_R distribution over the nuclear orientations of the deformed nucleus 232Th are shown in Fig. [8.](#page-8-0) A strong correlation between mass and angle can be seen in Fig. $8(a)$ and the experimental trend $[34]$ is well reproduced. Figure [8\(b\)](#page-8-0) shows MAD projected onto the *M*^R axis as the solid curve, which gives a good agreement with the experimental trend [\[73\]](#page-12-0). The experimental results are inferred to be a mix of fission products in all nuclear orientation angles because the incident energy is sufficiently high. The calculation result in Fig. $8(b)$ is obtained by weighting the data for all orientation angles equally. In this treatment, particularly the calculation data around $M_R = 0.5$ seems to be a little different from the experimental data. In Refs. [\[70,77\]](#page-12-0), the relative weighting was performed on the orientation angles at the collision. Therefore, we consider that a weighting that increases the contribution of fission products is needed as the orientation angle changes from 0◦ to 90◦, against the present calculation data assuming a mix of all orientations equally. More quantitative analysis of M_R is a future task.

FIG. 8. (a) Mass angle distribution and (b) M_R distribution calculated for ³²S + ²³²Th at $E_{cm.}/V_{bass} = 1.108$. Calculations take into account the nuclear orientations of the deformed nucleus ²³²Th. Open circles are the experimental data shown in [\[73\]](#page-12-0).

It is reported that the orbital angular momentum affects not only rotation angle but also mass equilibration in TDHF calculations [\[70,72,79,80\]](#page-12-0). Sufficient mass equilibration is considered to lead to the fusion of the collision system. Here, we estimate the fusion probability P_{CN} dependent on the orientation angle of 232 Th nucleus. The fusion probability P_{CN} is shown in Fig. 9 as a function of the orbital angular momentum *Li*. The calculation is performed with seven orientation angles of 232Th target. For larger nuclear orientation angle at the collision, P_{CN} becomes higher. P_{CN} is the highest for

FIG. 9. Fusion probabilities for seven nuclear orientations $(0[°],$ 15◦, 30◦, 45◦, 60◦, 75◦, 90◦) of the deformed nucleus 232Th plotted as a function of the orbital angular momentum *Li*.

TABLE I. Orientation angle of the deformed ²³²Th nucleus and the mean initial neck radius $\langle R_{\text{n}}^{\text{in}} \rangle$ when the first mass drift begins after contact.

		Orientation angle (deg)								
	$\mathbf{\Omega}$	15	30	45	60	75	90			
$\langle R_{\rm n}^{\rm in} \rangle$ (fm)	2.2	2.4	2.6	2.8	2.9	2.9	3.0			

the side orientation (90 $^{\circ}$) through the range of L_i . The fusion events gently decrease toward high *Li*, because the trajectories cannot invade the fusion pocket due to the increase of the fusion barrier resulting from increasing the rotational energy V_{rot} [\[31\]](#page-11-0). The realization of the equilibrium system (fusion) is correlated with the evolution of mass and rotation angle in the MAD. However, in the superheavy mass region, it has been confirmed from both theoretical and experimental analyses that the fusion hindrance occurs even in the range of $A_{CN}/2 \pm 20$ u [\[48,49](#page-11-0)[,81\]](#page-12-0). Therefore, the mass equilibration does not necessarily lead directly to fusion. The trajectories in this region do not necessarily cross the fusion area.

Next, we investigate the correlation between mass evolution and sticking time to see the feature of the mass drift toward the mass equilibration in detail. The degree of mass drift toward symmetry $\Delta A / \Delta A_{\text{max}}$ which is the function of time is given by

$$
\frac{\Delta A}{\Delta A_{\text{max}}} = \frac{A_t - \langle A \rangle}{A_t - A_s},\tag{27}
$$

where $\langle A \rangle$ represents the mean mass of the target-like nucleus at each angular momentum. A_s represents the symmetric mass expressed as

$$
A_s = \frac{1}{2}(A_p + A_t),
$$
 (28)

where A_p and A_t are the projectile and target mass. For the evaluation of the mean sticking time $\langle t_s \rangle$, it is necessary to consider the time when the neck forms sufficiently after contact and the time of neck shrinking prior to scission [\[33\]](#page-11-0). We estimate $\langle t_s \rangle$ as follows: First, we calculate the initial neck radius R_{n}^{in} (= R_{n}) when even one nucleon has transferred between two nuclei after the projectile and target nucleus come into contact. By two-center parametrization the neck radius R_n is obtained using Eq. [\(7\)](#page-2-0) in Ref. [\[82\]](#page-12-0), and by performing many trajectory calculations various R_{n}^{in} values are estimated for each trajectory. By averaging these values, the mean initial neck radius $\langle R_{\text{n}}^{\text{in}} \rangle$ is estimated. Second, we set $t = 0$ zs at the point when the neck radius grows to $\langle R_{\text{n}}^{\text{in}} \rangle$. Finally, t_s is defined as the time from $t = 0$ zs to the time when the neck radius has shrunk again to the previous $\langle R_{\text{n}}^{\text{in}} \rangle$ prior to scission. The value of $\langle R_{\text{n}}^{\text{in}} \rangle$ at which the first nucleon transfer begins is shown for each orientation angle in Table I.

The increase in $\langle R_{\text{n}}^{\text{in}} \rangle$ with the increase of the orientation angle is mainly caused by the difference of the geometrical contact area between two nuclei. The information of both *A* and $\langle t_s \rangle$ obtained from our calculations is shown in Table [II.](#page-9-0)

TABLE II. Information of orientation angles for the deformed ²³²Th nucleus in the ³²S + ²³²Th system, mean angular momentum $\langle L \rangle$, mean target-like mass $\langle A \rangle$, mass drift $\Delta A / \Delta A_{\text{max}}$, mean sticking time $\langle t_s \rangle$.

Orientation angle	$\langle L \rangle$			$\langle t_s\rangle$
(deg)	(h)	$\langle A \rangle$	$\frac{\Delta A}{\Delta A_{\text{max}}}$	(zs)
$\boldsymbol{0}$	\overline{c}	153	0.79	15.6
	15	154	0.78	15.1
	44	169	0.63	12.9
	77	192	0.40	11.6
	96	205	0.27	7.9
	102	206	0.26	3.5
15	12	150	0.82	15.0
	39	159	0.73	12.7
	95	197	0.35	7.9
	100	201	0.31	7.5
30	$\overline{4}$	145	0.87	16.3
	45	158	0.74	12.1
	103	185	0.47	4.6
45	7	142	0.90	17.6
	50	158	0.74	11.2
	96	187	0.45	5.7
60	14	141	0.91	18.8
	57	161	0.71	10.4
	95	190	0.42	5.0
75	16	140	0.92	19.5
	62	165	0.67	9.3
	98	216	0.16	2.9
90	5	138	0.94	20.9
	11	139	0.93	20.3
	36	144	0.88	14.6
	49	153	0.79	$11.1\,$
	73	175	0.57	6.8
	100	197	0.35	1.6

Figure 10 shows $\Delta A / \Delta A_{\text{max}}$ for each orientation angle as a function of the mean sticking time corresponding to the induced mean angular momentum $\langle L \rangle$ indicated in Table II. The dotted curve shown in Fig. 10 presents the drift mode [\[33\]](#page-11-0) toward the mass symmetry for the overdamped motion, following

$$
\frac{\Delta A}{\Delta A_{\text{max}}} = 1 - \exp\left[\frac{-(t - t_d)}{\tau}\right],\tag{29}
$$

where τ was determined as 5.3 zs based on the correlation between $\langle A \rangle$ and $\langle t_s \rangle$, obtained by ²³⁸U induced reactions [\[33\]](#page-11-0). The delay time t_d was determined 1 zs considering both the time reaching a sufficient growth of neck to begin the mass drift after contact and the neck shrinking time to finish the mass drift prior to scission. These values were used as the standard values [\[33,37\]](#page-11-0). Regarding the delay time, the TDHF calculations [\[83\]](#page-12-0) indicate that before a significant mass drift an initial delay of ≤ 2 zs is required for N/Z equilibrium. From our previous research [\[65\]](#page-11-0), we can confirm that the delay time is ∼2 zs in order for massive nucleon transfer to

FIG. 10. Mass drift $\Delta A / \Delta A_{\text{max}}$ for the different nuclear orientations of the deformed nucleus 232 Th as a function of the mean sticking time. The symbols are data given by Table II , together with results of TDHF calculations obtained in Refs. [\[37,](#page-11-0)[74–76\]](#page-12-0). Solid and dotted curves are given by Eq. [\(27\)](#page-8-0) using the parameter for the new scenario $\tau = 8.3$ zs and the standard parameter $\tau = 5.3$ zs [\[33\]](#page-11-0), respectively. The dashed curve is the new mass drift function given by Eq. [\(30\)](#page-10-0), assuming a Fermi-type mass drift.

occur, and during the delay time the square of neck radius increases up to $4-6$ fm². However, following Ref. [\[33\]](#page-11-0) we use $t_d = 1$ zs as the standard value in this paper.

As can be seen in Fig. 10, there is a deviation between our calculation data and the standard mass drift curve (dotted curve). The calculation data [\[37](#page-11-0)[,74–76\]](#page-12-0) with the TDHF method also show a similar deviation. This deviation implies that the mass evolution toward mass symmetry is slower than the mass evolution estimated by the standard quasifission analysis [\[33\]](#page-11-0). At the intermediate angular momentum $(40 \le L \le 80)$, all calculated mass drift data deviate more from the standard mass drift curve in comparison with the data at other angular momentum ranges. From the experimental analysis, it has been reported that the deviation at intermediate angular momentum comes from the strong role of fluctuations contributing significantly to the mass evolution from the FQF process at intermediate angular momentum to DIC at high angular momentum [\[37\]](#page-11-0).

The slow mass drift mode using $\tau = 8.3$ zs is shown by the solid curve. The calculation data are more consistent with the slow mass drift mode than the standard mass drift one. However, the mass drift of the tip collision $(0°)$ still significantly deviates from the slow mass drift curve. The origin of this large deviation is discussed later. In Ref. [\[35\]](#page-11-0), simulated M'_R s assuming the slow mass drift were reported to be consistent with the experimental M_R distribution.

Before discussing why the mass drift for the tip collision does not follow a prescription using Eq. (29), we suggest a new mass drift function for the tip collision. For the tip collision, the mass evolution is noticeably slow at intermediate *L* in contrast with the standard quasifission ansatz [\[33\]](#page-11-0). The new mass drift function reflecting this characteristic mass evolution in the tip collision is shown by the dashed curve

FIG. 11. Ratio of the mean maximum neck cross-sectional area $\langle \sigma_{\text{max}} \rangle$ (see text for the definition of $\langle \sigma_{\text{max}} \rangle$) to compound nucleus cross-sectional area σ_{CN} as a function of the mean sticking time. Open rectangles and stars are the calculated data for the tip collision case $(0°)$ and the side collision case $(90°)$, respectively. Horizontal dotted and dashed lines correspond to the neck cross-sectional area where the first mass drift begins in the tip collision and the side collision, respectively.

in Fig. [10,](#page-9-0) which is given by

$$
\left(\frac{\Delta A}{\Delta A_{\text{max}}}\right)_{\text{tip}} = 1 - \frac{1}{1 + \exp[(t - t_h)/\tau_s]}.
$$
 (30)

This function involves two parameters, that is, a parameter *th* when mass transfer reaches half of the maximum, and τ_s the slope of function. We use t_h and τ_s as 11 zs and 4 zs, respectively. The values of the two parameters was determined considering the correlation between mass evolution and sticking time. This function presents the restriction of mass evolution until mass transfer reaches half of the maximum, as can be seen in Fig. [10.](#page-9-0) After mass transfer reaches half of the maximum, the mass equilibration rapidly progresses.

Lastly, we discuss the reason why the characteristic mass drift mode appears in the tip collision. The difference of the drift modes toward $M_R = 0.5$ between the tip collision (0°) and the side collision (90°) comes from the maximum neck cross-sectional area during the process from contact to scission. The neck radius is varying from the contact stage to the end of the fission process. The maximum neck radius R_n^{max} is realized at a certain time in this process, and $\pi R_n^{\text{max}2}$ is defined as the maximum cross-sectional area σ_{max} . Besides, over many trials of trajectory calculation, we estimate the mean maximum neck cross-sectional area $\langle \sigma_{\text{max}} \rangle$. Figure 11 shows the ratio of the mean maximum neck cross-sectional area $\langle \sigma_{\text{max}} \rangle$ to the full cross-sectional area for the compound nucleus $\sigma_{CN} = \pi R_{CN}^2$ as a function of the mean sticking time. $\langle \sigma_{\text{max}} \rangle$ for the side collision increase linearly as time passes. In comparison with the side collision, the increase of $\langle \sigma_{\text{max}} \rangle$ for the tip collision is suppressed up to the middle sticking time (corresponding to intermediate *L*). Because of this, sufficient neck cross-sectional area for the nucleon transfer cannot be maintained even at intermediate *L*. Therefore, in

IV. SUMMARY

the tip collision, the mass evolution toward mass symmetry is

restricted.

The start time t_0 relevant to the neck expansion was discussed in several entrance channels using the dynamical model based on a fluctuation-dissipation theorem. The MADs obtained in our calculation were confirmed to categorize into three types, consistent with experiments. Focusing on both fission fragment mass and scattering angle, we presumed that the "delayed relaxation" of the neck is preferable in the comparison with the experimental results, and we determined $t_0 = 10$ zs as the appropriate value. This implies that the neck connecting the two nuclei does not immediately enlarge after contact. In particular, the role of "delayed relaxation" of the neck is important for the origin of the strong correlation between mass and angle. Snapshots in Ref. [\[84\]](#page-12-0), which present a dumbbell shape ($\epsilon = 1.0$) maintained for a certain period of time after contact, are consistent with our calculation results.

We performed the model calculation for the MAD and *M*^R considering the orientations of the target nucleus. The variation of the mass evolution and the rotation angle of fragments were clarified changing the orientation of the target nucleus from 0◦ (the tip collision) to 90◦ (the side collision). The integrated MAD and *M*^R distribution over the nuclear orientations are in good agreement with the features of the experimental results. However, further investigations are needed for more precise reproduction of the experimental M_R . More importantly, the strong mass-angle correlation was also reproduced. It is found that the fusion probability for the side collision is highest for any orbital angular momentum.

For the mass drift, we presented the deviation of our model calculation from the standard mass drift curve obtained by the quasifission analysis of 238 U-induced reactions [\[33\]](#page-11-0). This deviation implies that the mass evolution toward mass symmetry is slower than the standard mass drift mode. For the side collision, the correlation between mass evolution and sticking time can be understood by the slow mass drift function using an exponential-type function. On the other hand, the mass drift data of the tip collision do not follow the slow mass drift function. In the case of the tip collision, the characteristic mass equilibration is restricted for intermediate *L*, and we suggest a Fermi-type function as a new mass drift mode. The reason for the different mass drift modes in the tip and side collisions comes from the different features of the maximum neck cross-sectional area appearing in the process of mass evolution (from contact to scission). In the tip collision, the restriction of the mass evolution in intermediate *L* is caused by the insufficient neck evolutional area in contrast with the side collision.

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