## Analogs of the giant dipole and spin-dipole resonances in <sup>4</sup>He and in α clusters of <sup>6,7</sup>Li studied by the <sup>4</sup>He,<sup>6,7</sup>Li(<sup>7</sup>Li,<sup>7</sup>Beγ) reactions

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We studied analogs of the giant dipole resonance (GDR) and spin-dipole resonance (SDR) in <sup>4</sup>He and in the  $\alpha$  clusters of <sup>6,7</sup>Li via the (<sup>7</sup>Li,<sup>7</sup>Be $\gamma$ ) reactions on <sup>4</sup>He, <sup>6</sup>Li, and <sup>7</sup>Li at an incident energy of 455 MeV and at a scattering angle of 0° by measuring spin-nonflip and spin-flip spectra. The reaction *Q*-values for the analogs of the GDR and SDR in the  $\alpha$  clusters of <sup>6,7</sup>Li were found to be more negative than those in <sup>4</sup>He by 2.0 ± 0.5 MeV. The ratios of the cross section for the analog of the GDR to that for the analog of the SDR in <sup>4</sup>He and in the  $\alpha$  clusters of <sup>6</sup>Li and <sup>7</sup>Li were found to be the same within errors, 0.5 ± 0.1. The cross sections for the analogs of the GDR as well as those for the analogs of the SDR in the  $\alpha$  clusters of <sup>6,7</sup>Li were 0.6~0.8 times smaller than those in <sup>4</sup>He. These results suggest that excitations of  $\alpha$  clusters embedded in nuclei are suppressed as compared with excitations of free  $\alpha$  particles.

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An  $\alpha$  cluster is a spatially localized subsystem consisting of strongly correlated nucleons in a nuclear system [1]. In the previous work we proposed an idea of "cluster excitation" in which a cluster itself is excited while the remaining nucleons stay as spectators [2]. Existence of  $\alpha$ -cluster excitation was suggested from the similarity of observed spectral shapes between isovector dipole resonances (DRs) in <sup>4</sup>He and highlying DRs in <sup>6,7</sup>Li. The ground states in <sup>6</sup>Li and <sup>7</sup>Li are well recognized to have cluster structures such as  $d + \alpha$  and  $t + \alpha$ , respectively [3]. The DRs observed at a reaction Q-value of  $Q \approx -30$  MeV in the (<sup>7</sup>Li,<sup>7</sup>Be) reactions on <sup>6</sup>Li and <sup>7</sup>Li were interpreted to be due to isovector dipole excitations of a common constituent, an  $\alpha$  cluster, in <sup>6</sup>Li and <sup>7</sup>Li. This interpretation is based upon the fact that the most significant excitation modes in <sup>4</sup>He are the DRs, consisting of the giant dipole resonance (GDR) and the spin-dipole resonance (SDR) at  $E_x \approx 24$  MeV [4].

To obtain supporting evidence for the  $\alpha$ -cluster excitation in <sup>6,7</sup>Li, Yamagata *et al.* [5,6] carried out the following measurements. Excitations of the DRs in the  $\alpha$  clusters of <sup>6,7</sup>Li and their analogs were investigated by using the reactions of <sup>6,7</sup>Li(*p*, *p'*)<sup>6,7</sup>Li at 300 MeV, <sup>6,7</sup>Li(<sup>7</sup>Li,<sup>7</sup>Be)<sup>6,7</sup>He at 455 MeV, and <sup>6,7</sup>Li(<sup>3</sup>He,*t*)<sup>6,7</sup>Be at 450 MeV [5]. In addition to the intrinsic GDRs in <sup>6,7</sup>Li and their analogs [7], the DRs in <sup>6,7</sup>Li, <sup>6,7</sup>He, and <sup>6,7</sup>Be were observed at similar *Q* values ( $Q \approx -30$  MeV);  $E_x \approx 27.0$  MeV in <sup>6</sup>Li, 29.0 MeV in <sup>7</sup>Li, 24.0 MeV in <sup>6</sup>He, 18.0 MeV in <sup>7</sup>He, 23.5 MeV in <sup>6</sup>Be, and 28.0 MeV in <sup>7</sup>Be. The resonance shapes of the DRs were reproduced well with the shape of the GDR observed in the <sup>4</sup>He( $\gamma$ , *n*) reactions [7]. It was concluded that the DRs in <sup>6,7</sup>Li are the GDRs in the  $\alpha$  cluster and that the DRs in <sup>6,7</sup>He and <sup>6,7</sup>Be are the analogs of the GDRs in the  $\alpha$  cluster. Furthermore charged particles decaying from the DRs at  $E_x = 24.0$  MeV in <sup>6</sup>He and at 18.0 MeV in <sup>7</sup>He excited via the <sup>6,7</sup>Li(<sup>7</sup>Li,<sup>7</sup>Be) reaction at 455 MeV were observed [6]. Dominant decay channels from the DRs were found to be d + t + n for <sup>6</sup>He and t + t + n for <sup>7</sup>He. This fact suggested that the  $\alpha$  cluster excited via the (<sup>7</sup>Li,<sup>7</sup>Be) reaction is transformed to a <sup>4</sup>H cluster that is a resonant system of t + n. Thus the measurements described above provided evidence for the existence of  $\alpha$ -cluster excitation in <sup>6,7</sup>Li.

Although the excitation of the  $\alpha$  clusters embedded in nuclei may differ from that of the free  $\alpha$  particle, there is no theoretical prediction to show how the excitation energy, width, and cross section for the DR in the  $\alpha$  cluster might differ from those of the free  $\alpha$  particle. To compare the DRs in the  $\alpha$  clusters of <sup>6,7</sup>Li with those in <sup>4</sup>He, Yamagata *et al.* [8] investigated the spectral shapes of the DRs by using the (p, p') scatterings from <sup>4</sup>He, <sup>6</sup>Li, and <sup>7</sup>Li at 300 MeV. The cross sections and excitation energies for the DRs in the  $\alpha$  clusters of <sup>6,7</sup>Li were found to be different from those in <sup>4</sup>He. The differences were suggested to be caused by the fact that the 2<sup>-</sup> SDR at  $E_x = 22.1$  MeV in <sup>4</sup>He [9] is suppressed in the  $\alpha$ -cluster excitations of <sup>6,7</sup>Li [8]. It was speculated that suppression of the 2<sup>-</sup> excitation strength for the  $^{6,7}$ Li(p, p') reaction may be due to a difference in the degrees of coherence between the GDR and the SDR [8]. However in the previous work [8], spin-nonflip ( $\Delta S = 0$ ) and spinflip ( $\Delta S = 1$ ) transitions could not be separately measured. Because the (p, p') scattering at 300 MeV dominantly excites isovector states via  $\Delta S = 0$  or  $\Delta S = 1$  transitions [10], it is not yet clear whether or not the differences observed in

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the (p, p') reaction arise from isovector  $\Delta S = 0$  or  $\Delta S = 1$  excitations.

On the basis of the above conclusion, a difference between  $\Delta S = 1$  spectra for <sup>4</sup>He and for the  $\alpha$  clusters of <sup>6,7</sup>Li is expected to be more remarkable than the corresponding difference in  $\Delta S = 0$  spectra because the GDR and the SDR are observed in  $\Delta S = 0$  and  $\Delta S = 1$  spectra, respectively. In this work, to detect a possible medium effect on excitation of the DRs in the  $\alpha$  clusters of <sup>6,7</sup>Li, we investigated differences between the spectral shapes for the analogs of the DRs in the free  $\alpha$  particle and in the  $\alpha$  clusters embedded in <sup>6,7</sup>Li by separately measuring  $\Delta S = 0$  and  $\Delta S = 1$  spectra. The  $\Delta S = 0$  and  $\Delta S = 1$  spectra were measured by using the  $(^{7}\text{Li}, ^{7}\text{Be}\gamma)$  reactions on  $^{4}\text{He}$ ,  $^{6}\text{Li}$ , and  $^{7}\text{Li}$  at an incident energy of 455 MeV and at a scattering angle of  $0^{\circ}$  in our previous work [2,11,12]. The Q values and cross sections for the analogs of the GDR and the SDR in the  $\alpha$  clusters of <sup>6,7</sup>Li were compared with those in <sup>4</sup>He. We discuss the differences between the analogs of the DRs in <sup>4</sup>He and the corresponding resonances in the  $\alpha$  clusters of <sup>6,7</sup>Li observed in the  $\Delta S = 0$ and  $\Delta S = 1$  spectra.

The experimental procedures for these measurements on <sup>4</sup>He and <sup>6,7</sup>Li targets are briefly summarized here, with detailed descriptions given in Refs. [12] and [2], respectively. A 455-MeV <sup>7</sup>Li<sup>3+</sup> beam was provided from the ring cyclotron at the Research Center for Nuclear Physics (RCNP), Osaka University. Targets used were a <sup>4</sup>He gas target with a thickness of 7 mg/cm<sup>2</sup> and self-supporting foils of enriched <sup>6</sup>Li (95.4%) and <sup>7</sup>Li (99.9%) isotopes with thicknesses of 2.5 mg/cm<sup>2</sup>. Scattered <sup>7</sup>Be particles were analyzed by using the magnetic spectrometer "Grand RAIDEN" [13] set at 0°. The <sup>7</sup>Be particles were detected with the focal plane detector system consisting of two multiwire drift chambers backed by a  $\Delta E$ -E plastic scintillator telescope. Excitation energies for the residual nuclei were calibrated by observing the discrete transitions in the  $({}^{7}\text{Li}, {}^{7}\text{Be}\gamma)$  reactions on  ${}^{6}\text{Li}, {}^{7}\text{Li}$ , and  ${}^{12}\text{C}$ . The excitation energies in the target nuclei were calculated by using the isospin multiplet relation: The  $(I^{\pi}, T) = (2^{-}, 1)$  states at  $E_x = 23.33$  MeV in <sup>4</sup>He, the (0<sup>+</sup>, 1) state at  $E_x = 3.563$  MeV in <sup>6</sup>Li, and the  $(3/2^-, 3/2)$  state at  $E_x = 11.24$  MeV in <sup>7</sup>Li correspond to the ground states of  $(2^-, 1)$  in <sup>4</sup>H [4],  $(0^+, 1)$  in <sup>6</sup>He [3], and  $(3/2^{-}, 3/2)$  in <sup>7</sup>He [3], respectively. We estimated uncertainty in the excitation energy and the Q value of the  $(^{7}\text{Li}, ^{7}\text{Be}\gamma)$  reaction to be about 500 keV, which was due to the energy spread of the incident beam, the target thickness, and the reaction kinematics.

The  $({}^{7}\text{Li}, {}^{7}\text{Be}\gamma)$  reaction can provide separately  $\Delta S = 0$ and  $\Delta S = 1$  isovector excitations by measuring scattered  ${}^{7}\text{Be}$  particles in coincidence with the 0.43-MeV  $\gamma$  ray of  ${}^{7}\text{Be}$ . The 0.43-MeV  $\gamma$  ray from  ${}^{7}\text{Be}$  was measured by using the Gd<sub>2</sub>SiO<sub>5</sub>(Ce)  $\gamma$ -detector system "NYMPHS" [14]. The detection efficiencies for the photopeak of the  ${}^{7}\text{Be}\gamma$  ray were determined to be 12.5% for the  ${}^{4}\text{He}$  measurement [12] and 20% for the  ${}^{6.7}\text{Li}$  one [2,11] by measuring the  $\Delta S = 1$  transition of  $0^{+} \rightarrow 1^{+}$  in the  ${}^{12}\text{C}({}^{7}\text{Li}, {}^{7}\text{Be}\gamma){}^{12}\text{B}$  reaction.

The singles spectra were decomposed into  $\Delta S = 0$  and  $\Delta S = 1$  spectra. The procedure to obtain the  $\Delta S = 0$  and  $\Delta S = 1$  spectra from the singles and coincidence events in the (<sup>7</sup>Li,<sup>7</sup>Be $\gamma$ ) reaction were described in detail in our



FIG. 1. Singles,  $\Delta S = 0$ , and  $\Delta S = 1$  spectra deduced from the singles and coincidence measurements for the  $({}^{7}\text{Li}, {}^{7}\text{Be}\gamma)$  reactions on (a)  ${}^{4}\text{He}$ , (b)  ${}^{6}\text{Li}$ , and (c)  ${}^{7}\text{Li}$  at 455 MeV and at 0°. The lower scales of abscissas denote the Q value of the  $({}^{7}\text{Li}, {}^{7}\text{Be})$  reaction, and the upper ones denote the excitation energy in each target nucleus. The dashed and dotted-dashed curves are the assumed continuum contributions for the  $\Delta S = 0$  and  $\Delta S = 1$  spectra, respectively.

previous work [2,11,12]. We note here that the  $\Delta S = 1$ spectrum was obtained from the coincidence events whose reaction proceeds dominantly via  $\Delta S = 1$  transitions, while the  $\Delta S = 0$  spectrum was derived by subtracting the  $\Delta S = 1$ spectrum from the <sup>7</sup>Be singles spectrum. Figure 1 shows the singles,  $\Delta S = 0$ , and  $\Delta S = 1$  spectra for the (<sup>7</sup>Li,<sup>7</sup>Be) reactions on <sup>4</sup>He, <sup>6</sup>Li, and <sup>7</sup>Li. As shown in Fig. 1(a), a resonance structure in <sup>4</sup>H with  $\Delta L = 1$  is clearly observed at  $Q \approx -25$  MeV and corresponds to the analogs of the DRs in <sup>4</sup>He [8,12]. Figures 1(b) and 1(c) show that the resonance structures in <sup>6,7</sup>He with  $\Delta L = 1$ , which have been discussed as the analogs of the DRs in the  $\alpha$  clusters of <sup>6,7</sup>Li [2,5,8], are observed in the region of  $Q \approx -30$  MeV on top of continua in the  $\Delta S = 0$  and  $\Delta S = 1$  spectra. The  $\Delta S = 0$  and  $\Delta S = 1$ spectra show strength distributions for the analogs of the GDR and SDR, respectively, in <sup>4</sup>He and in the  $\alpha$  clusters of <sup>6,7</sup>Li.



FIG. 2. Comparison of the Q values and cross sections for <sup>4</sup>He with those for the  $\alpha$  clusters of <sup>6,7</sup>Li in (a) singles, (b)  $\Delta S = 0$ , and (c)  $\Delta S = 1$  spectra with the continuum contributions subtracted. The solid curves in the spectra for <sup>6</sup>Li and <sup>7</sup>Li are the corresponding spectra for <sup>4</sup>He,  $Q(^{4}\text{He})$ , shifted downward by 3.5 MeV for <sup>6</sup>Li and 4.5 MeV for <sup>7</sup>Li. The hatched areas are selected to compare the resonances for the  $\alpha$  clusters of <sup>6,7</sup>Li with the corresponding resonances for <sup>4</sup>He.

For comparison of cross sections for the analogs of the DRs in <sup>4</sup>He with ones for the corresponding resonances in the  $\alpha$ clusters of <sup>6,7</sup>Li, it is necessary to subtract possible underlying continua from the  $\Delta S = 0$  and  $\Delta S = 1$  spectra. We estimated the underlying continuum in the DR region by assuming that there are contributions from quasifree (QF) scatterings [15] in the <sup>4</sup>He(<sup>7</sup>Li, <sup>7</sup>Be) reaction and from QF scatterings and intrinsic DRs (GDR and SDR) in the <sup>6,7</sup>Li(<sup>7</sup>Li,<sup>7</sup>Be) reactions, e.g.,  $E_x = 12$  MeV and 17 MeV in <sup>6</sup>Li and <sup>7</sup>Li, respectively. A spectral shape for the QF scattering was simulated by using a method similar to one employed in our previous work [2]. Spectral shapes for the intrinsic DRs in <sup>6</sup>Li and <sup>7</sup>Li were assumed to be obtained from the photonuclear reactions on <sup>6</sup>Li and <sup>7</sup>Li [7], respectively. Because the excitation energies and widths for the GDR and SDR in light nuclei were observed to be similar, as shown in our previous work [11,12], we assumed that shapes for the continua in the  $\Delta S = 0$  and  $\Delta S = 1$  spectra were similar to each other except for the low excitation energy region where the soft dipole resonance was observed in the  $\Delta S = 1$  spectrum for <sup>6</sup>Li [16]. The magnitudes for the  $\Delta S = 0$ and  $\Delta S = 1$  continua were determined by fitting the spectra around at  $Q \approx -40$  MeV in <sup>4</sup>He and at  $Q \approx -25$  MeV in <sup>6</sup>Li and <sup>7</sup>Li with smooth continuum shapes for both  $\Delta S =$ 0 and  $\Delta S = 1$  spectra. The results are shown in Fig. 1 by the dashed and dotted-dashed curves, respectively. The ratios

of the magnitude for the  $\Delta S = 1$  continuum to that for the  $\Delta S = 0$  one were 1.7 for <sup>4</sup>He, 1.6 for <sup>6</sup>Li, and 1.8 for <sup>7</sup>Li. The continuum contributions thus assumed were subtracted from the singles,  $\Delta S = 0$ , and  $\Delta S = 1$  spectra for <sup>4</sup>He, <sup>6</sup>Li, and <sup>7</sup>Li. The continuum subtracted spectra for <sup>4</sup>He, <sup>6</sup>Li, and <sup>7</sup>Li are shown in Fig. 2.

First, we discuss excitation energies for the analogs of the DRs in the  $\alpha$  clusters of <sup>6,7</sup>Li as compared with ones in <sup>4</sup>He, i.e., a free  $\alpha$  particle. We compared the Q values for the analogs of the DRs in <sup>4</sup>He,  $Q(^{4}\text{He})$ , with those for the corresponding resonances observed in  ${}^{6,7}$ Li,  $Q({}^{6}$ Li), and  $Q(^{7}\text{Li})$ . The differences between the Q values for the resonances in <sup>6</sup>Li and in <sup>4</sup>He,  $\Delta Q(^{6}Li) = Q(^{6}Li) - Q(^{4}He)$ , were  $-3.5 \pm 0.5$ ,  $-3.0 \pm 1.0$ , and  $-3.5 \pm 0.5$  MeV for the singles,  $\Delta S = 0$ , and  $\Delta S = 1$  spectra, respectively, and those in <sup>7</sup>Li and <sup>4</sup>He,  $\Delta Q(^{7}Li) = Q(^{7}Li) - Q(^{4}He)$ , were  $-4.4 \pm 0.5, -4.5 \pm 1.0, \text{ and } -4.5 \pm 0.5 \text{ MeV}, \text{ respectively.}$ The differences in the Q values were found to be independent of spin transfer. As a result the mean differences in Q values for the resonances in Li isotopes were  $\Delta Q(^{6}\text{Li}) = -3.5 \pm$ 0.5 MeV and  $\Delta Q(^{7}\text{Li}) = -4.5 \pm 0.5$  MeV. The solid curves in Fig. 2 are drawn by taking the  $\Delta Qs$  into account, in order to compare the resonances in <sup>6,7</sup>Li with those in <sup>4</sup>He.

The separation energies for  $\alpha$  particles in <sup>6</sup>Li and <sup>7</sup>Li are 1.47 and 2.46 MeV, respectively [3]. If we measure the



FIG. 3. Cross-section ratios of  $\sigma$  (GDR)/ $\sigma$  (SDR) for <sup>4</sup>He and for the  $\alpha$  clusters of <sup>6</sup>Li and <sup>7</sup>Li. The hatched region shows the mean ratios for the analogs of the intrinsic GDR and SDR observed in the (<sup>7</sup>Li, <sup>7</sup>Be $\gamma$ ) reactions on <sup>6</sup>Li, <sup>7</sup>Li, and <sup>12</sup>C [2].

Q values for the  $\alpha$ -cluster excitations from the Q values corresponding to the separation energies for  $d + \alpha$  in <sup>6</sup>Li and  $t + \alpha$  in <sup>7</sup>Li, the differences in the Q values,  $\Delta Q(^{6}Li)$  and  $\Delta Q(^{7}Li)$ , are independent of spin transfer and are both  $-2.0 \pm 0.5$  MeV. This means that the analogs of the GDR as well as of the SDR in the  $\alpha$  clusters of <sup>6,7</sup>Li are observed at excitation energies higher than those in <sup>4</sup>He by about 2.0 MeV. In the present work, a mass dependence in the Q values for the analogs of the DRs in the  $\alpha$  clusters of the Li isotopes could not be detected due to a large uncertainty in the Q value, though Yamagata *et al.* [5] reported that the excitation energy for the DR in <sup>7</sup>Li becomes higher than that in <sup>6</sup>Li by 0.6 MeV.

Second, to establish whether or not cross sections for the analogs of the DRs in the  $\alpha$  cluster embedded in nuclei are comparable to the ones in the free  $\alpha$  particle, we investigate cross sections for the analogs of the DRs in <sup>4</sup>He and in the  $\alpha$ clusters of <sup>6,7</sup>Li. Their cross sections were evaluated by integrating double differential cross sections in the regions of Q = $-22.0 \sim -33.0$  MeV in <sup>4</sup>He,  $Q = -25.5 \sim -36.5$  MeV in <sup>6</sup>Li, and  $Q = -26.5 \sim -37.5$  MeV in <sup>7</sup>Li, as shown in Fig. 2 by the hatched regions. The cross sections for the analogs of the GDRs,  $\sigma$ (GDR), were compared with those for the analogs of the SDRs,  $\sigma$ (SDR), in <sup>4</sup>He and in the  $\alpha$ clusters of <sup>6,7</sup>Li. The cross-section ratios of  $\sigma$  (GDR)/ $\sigma$ (SDR) for <sup>4</sup>He, <sup>6</sup>Li, and <sup>7</sup>Li are shown in Fig. 3. All the cross-section ratios were found to be the same within errors,  $0.5 \pm 0.1$ , and consistent with those for the analogs of the intrinsic GDR and SDR previously reported in the  $(^{7}Li, ^{7}Be\gamma)$  reactions on  $^{6}Li$ , <sup>7</sup>Li, and <sup>12</sup>C [2]. This shows that a difference in the  $\Delta S = 0$ spectra for the free  $\alpha$  particle and for the  $\alpha$  clusters embedded in nuclei is similar to the corresponding difference in the  $\Delta S = 1$ spectra.

Finally, we discuss cross sections for the DRs in the  $\alpha$  clusters embedded in nuclei as compared with ones in the free  $\alpha$  particle. We compared the cross sections for the analogs of the DRs in the  $\alpha$  clusters of <sup>6</sup>Li and <sup>7</sup>Li,  $\sigma$ (<sup>6</sup>Li) and  $\sigma$ (<sup>7</sup>Li), with those for the corresponding resonances in <sup>4</sup>He,  $\sigma$ (<sup>4</sup>He). The cross-section ratios of  $\sigma$ (<sup>6</sup>Li)/ $\sigma$ (<sup>4</sup>He) obtained from the singles,  $\Delta S = 0$ , and  $\Delta S = 1$  spectra were  $0.6 \pm 0.1$ ,  $0.6 \pm 0.2$ , and  $0.7 \pm 0.2$ , respectively, and the ratios of  $\sigma$ (<sup>7</sup>Li)/ $\sigma$ (<sup>4</sup>He) were  $0.5 \pm 0.1$ ,  $0.5 \pm 0.2$ , and  $0.6 \pm 0.2$ , respectively. It is known that the  $\alpha$ -particle spectroscopic factors that represent the probabilities of finding  $\alpha$  particles in nuclei are  $0.7 \pm 0.1$  for <sup>6</sup>Li and  $0.9 \pm 0.1$  for <sup>7</sup>Li [3,8]. The



FIG. 4. Cross-section ratios of  $\sigma({}^{6}\text{Li})/\sigma({}^{4}\text{He})$  (•) and  $\sigma({}^{7}\text{Li})/\sigma({}^{4}\text{He})$  (•) per unit  $\alpha$ -particle spectroscopic factor in the singles,  $\Delta S = 0$ , and  $\Delta S = 1$  spectra. The solid and dashed lines are the mean ratios for  ${}^{6}\text{Li}$  and  ${}^{7}\text{Li}$ , respectively.

ratios of  $\sigma(^{6}\text{Li})/\sigma(^{4}\text{He})$  and  $\sigma(^{7}\text{Li})/\sigma(^{4}\text{He})$  per unit  $\alpha$  particle spectroscopic factor are shown in Fig. 4. The cross-section ratios were found to be the same within errors in all the singles,  $\Delta S = 0$ , and  $\Delta S = 1$  spectra. The mean value of  $\sigma(^{6}\text{Li})/\sigma(^{4}\text{He})$  was  $0.8 \pm 0.2$  and that of  $\sigma(^{7}\text{Li})/\sigma(^{4}\text{He})$  was  $0.6 \pm 0.2$ . This shows that the cross sections for the analogs of the GDR as well as those of the SDR in the  $\alpha$  clusters of <sup>6,7</sup>Li are  $0.6 \sim 0.8$  times smaller than those for the corresponding resonances in <sup>4</sup>He. This fact means that the GDR and SDR strengths of an embedded  $\alpha$  cluster in nuclei are less than those of the free  $\alpha$  particle by a common factor. Though Yamagata et al. [8] suggested that the SDR strength would be suppressed more than the GDR one due to a possible difference between the coherences of the GDR and SDR, the present result shows that the coherence effects on excitations of the GDR and SDR in the  $\alpha$  cluster are not large enough to be detectable.

There may be other possible origins for suppressing excitations of the GDR as well as of the SDR in the  $\alpha$  clusters of <sup>6,7</sup>Li, for example, a Pauli blocking effect of occupied states for both  $\Delta S = 0$  and  $\Delta S = 1$  excitations. A simple cluster model suggests that isovector excitations of the GDR and SDR in the  $\alpha$  cluster would be suppressed by the presence of an existing cluster, d or t [17]. Dipole excitations in the  $\alpha$  clusters of <sup>6,7</sup>Li would be prohibited in the degrees of freedom associated with the direction of a neighboring cluster. This may explain in part both an increase in excitation energies and a reduction of cross sections for  $\alpha$  clusters of <sup>6,7</sup>Li as compared with those for <sup>4</sup>He: The apparent increase in the excitation energies observed for the GDR and SDR in the  $\alpha$  clusters of <sup>6,7</sup>Li, both of which were higher by about 2 MeV than those in <sup>4</sup>He, may be due to suppression of the GDR as well as the SDR strengths for the  $\alpha$ -cluster excitations in <sup>6,7</sup>Li. The suppressed strengths in the  $\alpha$  clusters of <sup>6,7</sup>Li are speculated to be fragmented toward higher excitation energies.

In summary, we investigated  $\alpha$ -cluster excitation by comparing analogs of the GDR and the SDR in <sup>4</sup>He with the corresponding resonances in the  $\alpha$  clusters of <sup>6,7</sup>Li. The analogs of the GDR and the SDR in <sup>4</sup>He and in the  $\alpha$  clusters of <sup>6,7</sup>Li were separately measured by using the (<sup>7</sup>Li,<sup>7</sup>Be $\gamma$ ) reactions on <sup>4</sup>He, <sup>6</sup>Li, and <sup>7</sup>Li. The *Q* values for the analogs of the GDR and SDR in the  $\alpha$  clusters of <sup>6,7</sup>Li were more negative than those in <sup>4</sup>He by 2.0 ± 0.5 MeV. The ratios of the cross section for the analog of the GDR to that for the analog of the SDR in <sup>4</sup>He and in the  $\alpha$  clusters of <sup>6,7</sup>Li were found to be the same within errors,  $0.5 \pm 0.1$ , and similar to those observed in light nuclei. The cross sections for the analogs of the GDR as well as those of the SDR in the  $\alpha$  clusters of <sup>6.7</sup>Li were  $0.6 \sim 0.8$  times those for the corresponding resonances in <sup>4</sup>He. These results suggest that the cross sections for the analogs of the GDR and the SDR in the  $\alpha$  clusters embedded in nuclei are suppressed as compared with those for the corresponding resonances in the free  $\alpha$  particle.

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