

Relation between shrinkage effect and compression of the rotational spectrum in the ${}^7_{\Lambda}\text{Li}$ hypernucleus

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It has been shown experimentally that the ${}^6\text{Li}$ nucleus shrinks by adding a Λ particle while its spectrum is also compressed. We discuss the compatibility of these two effects, contrasting also with a relation between the shrinkage effect and the stability of the spectrum in the ${}^9_{\Lambda}\text{Be}$ hypernucleus. To this end, we employ two-body d - ${}^5_{\Lambda}\text{He}$ and α - ${}^5_{\Lambda}\text{He}$ cluster models for the ${}^7_{\Lambda}\text{Li}$ and ${}^9_{\Lambda}\text{Be}$ hypernuclei, respectively. We first argue that a Gaussian-like interaction between two clusters leads to a stabilization of the spectrum against an addition of a Λ particle, even though the intercluster distance is reduced. In the case of ${}^7_{\Lambda}\text{Li}$, the spin-orbit interaction between the intercluster motion and the deuteron spin has to be considered also. We show that the shrinkage effect makes the expectation value of the spin-orbit potential larger, lowering the excitation energy for the ${}^6\text{Li}(3^+) \otimes \Lambda(1/2^+)$ level.

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I. INTRODUCTION

One of the main interests in the physics of hypernuclei is to investigate the impurity effect of the Λ particle on the structure of atomic nuclei. This includes the change of, e.g., nuclear size [1], the density distribution [2], deformation properties [3–10], the neutron drip line [11,12], and the fission barrier [13]. A characteristic feature of the Λ particle is that it is free from the Pauli principle from nucleons, and thus it can deeply penetrate into the nuclear interior. It has been predicted that the Λ particle in the center of a nucleus attracts surrounding nucleons, leading to a shrinkage of nuclear size [1].

High precision γ -ray spectroscopy measurements have by now been systematically carried out for the p -shell Λ hypernuclei [14]. Such experiments have revealed that the electronic quadrupole transition probability, $B(E2)$, from the first excited state (3^+) to the ground state (1^+) of ${}^6\text{Li}$ is considerably reduced when a Λ particle is added [15]. By adopting a simple α - d and ${}^5_{\Lambda}\text{He}$ - d cluster models for ${}^6\text{Li}$ and ${}^7_{\Lambda}\text{Li}$, respectively, the reduction in $B(E2)$ has been interpreted as a reduction of the intercluster distance by 19% [15], in accordance with theoretical calculations [1,16].

Although this interpretation has been well accepted, the spectrum of ${}^7_{\Lambda}\text{Li}$ shows a somewhat puzzling feature. That is, one would naively think that the reduction of the intercluster size leads to a smaller moment of inertia, and thus the rotational excitation energy would increase. This has indeed been observed in the ${}^{13}_{\Lambda}\text{C}$ hypernucleus [17]. Notice that only the energy of the $3/2^+$ state has been measured in Ref. [17]. However, the theoretical calculation suggests that the partner state of the doublet ($5/2^+$) lies below the $3/2^+$ state only by at most 0.36 MeV [18]. This corresponds to the spin-averaged energy of the doublet of 4.66 MeV, which is compared to the energy of the 2^+ state in ${}^{12}\text{C}$, 4.44 MeV. In contrast, the observed difference in the spin-averaged energy between the first ($1/2^+$, $3/2^+$) and the second ($5/2^+$, $7/2^+$) doublet levels in ${}^7_{\Lambda}\text{Li}$ is 1.858 MeV [19], which is smaller than the excitation energy (2.186 MeV) of the first excited state of ${}^6\text{Li}$ (see Fig. 1). For the ${}^9_{\Lambda}\text{Be}$ hypernucleus, the experimental data show that the spin-averaged energy of the ${}^8\text{Be}(2^+) \otimes \Lambda(1/2^+)$ doublet states

($3/2^+$, $5/2^+$) is almost the same as the energy of the first 2^+ state of the ${}^8\text{Be}$ nucleus [20,21], despite a similar shrinkage effect, expected as in the ${}^7_{\Lambda}\text{Li}$ nucleus [1]. The stability of the rotational energy of ${}^9_{\Lambda}\text{Be}$ was shown to remain the same even when the Λ particle is replaced by a charmed baryon Λ_c [22]. Apparently, these behaviors of the spectrum of the ${}^7_{\Lambda}\text{Li}$ and ${}^9_{\Lambda}\text{Be}$ cannot be understood by analogy to, e.g., a classical rotor of diatomic molecules. We summarize the experimental spectra in Fig. 1.

In this paper, we clarify the relation between the two contradictory effects of the Λ particle on the structure of light atomic nuclei, that is, the shrinkage of the size and the compression and stabilization of the spectrum. An important point to remember is that the α cluster structure is well developed in the ground state of ${}^6\text{Li}$ and ${}^8\text{Be}$, while the ground state takes the mean-field-like structure in ${}^{12}\text{C}$ and in heavier nuclei. Our aim in this paper is thus to discuss how the spectra of ${}^7_{\Lambda}\text{Li}$ and ${}^9_{\Lambda}\text{Be}$ are compatible with the shrinkage of their size from a viewpoint of a two-body cluster model.

The paper is organized as follows. In Sec. II, we first discuss the impurity effect of Λ in the ${}^9_{\Lambda}\text{Be}$ nucleus. Using the α - ${}^5_{\Lambda}\text{He}$ cluster model together with the semiclassical Bohr-Sommerfeld quantization rule, we investigate how a Λ particle influences the rotational spectrum. In Sec. III, we discuss the rotational spectrum of the ${}^7_{\Lambda}\text{Li}$ nucleus. We show that the spin-orbit interaction due to the deuteron spin plays an important role in lowering the excitation energy of the ${}^6\text{Li} \otimes \Lambda(1/2^+)$ level. We then summarize the paper in Sec. IV.

II. STABILIZATION OF LEVEL SCHEME FOR ${}^9_{\Lambda}\text{BE}$

We first discuss the level scheme of the ${}^9_{\Lambda}\text{Be}$ hypernucleus and clarify the reasoning for why the influence of the Λ particle in the level spacing is negligibly small. For this purpose, we use a simple two-body cluster model with α - ${}^5_{\Lambda}\text{He}$ configuration. By assuming a local potential, an intercluster potential at an intercluster distance R reads

$$V_{\alpha\Lambda}^s(R) = V_{\alpha\alpha}^{(N)}(R) + V_{\alpha\alpha}^{(C)}(R) + V_{\alpha\Lambda}(R), \quad (1)$$

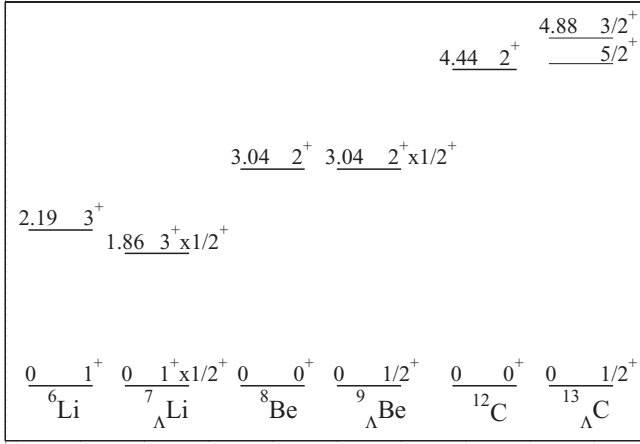


FIG. 1. The experimental low-lying spectra for ${}^6\text{Li}$, ${}^7\text{Li}$, ${}^8\text{Be}$, ${}^9\text{Be}$, ${}^{12}\text{C}$, and ${}^{13}\text{C}$ nuclei. The energies are denoted in units of MeV. The energies for the $1^+ \otimes 1/2^+$ and $2^+ \otimes 1/2^+$ levels of the ${}^7\text{Li}$ nucleus are obtained by spin-averaging the observed level energies for the $1/2^+$ (0 MeV) and the $3/2^+$ (0.069 MeV) states and for the $5/2^+$ (2.05 MeV) and the $7/2^+$ (2.52 MeV) states [19], respectively. The energy for the $2^+ \otimes 1/2^+$ level of ${}^9\text{Be}$ is the spin-averaged energy between the $5/2^+$ (3.024 MeV) and $3/2^+$ (3.067 MeV) states [21]. In the ${}^{13}\text{C}$ nucleus, only the energy for the $3/2^+$ state has been measured [17], while the energy for the $5/2^+$ state is expected to be lower than the energy of the $3/2^+$ state by at most 0.36 MeV [18].

where $V_{\alpha\alpha}^{(N)}$ and $V_{\alpha\alpha}^{(C)}$ are the nuclear and the Coulomb parts of the potential between the α particle and the core nucleus (${}^4\text{He}$) of the ${}^5\text{He}$, and $V_{\alpha\Lambda}$ is the potential between the Λ particle in ${}^5\text{He}$ and the α particle. Assuming that the center of mass of ${}^5\text{He}$ is identical to the center of mass of the core nucleus ${}^4\text{He}$, we use the same potential as that given in Ref. [23] for $V_{\alpha\alpha}^{(N)}$ and $V_{\alpha\alpha}^{(C)}$. That is,

$$V_{\alpha\alpha}^{(N)}(R) = -V_0 e^{-\alpha R^2}, \quad (2)$$

with $V_0 = 122.6225$ MeV and $\alpha = 0.22$ fm $^{-2}$, and

$$V_{\alpha\alpha}^{(C)}(R) = \frac{4e^2}{R} \text{erf}(\beta R), \quad (3)$$

with $\beta = 0.75$ fm $^{-1}$, where $\text{erf}(x)$ is the error function. For $V_{\alpha\Lambda}$, we assume that it is given by the direct part of the double-folding potential, that is,

$$V_{\alpha\Lambda}(R) = \int d\mathbf{r}_N d\mathbf{r}_\Lambda \rho_\alpha(\mathbf{r}_N) \rho_\Lambda(\mathbf{r}_\Lambda) v_{N\Lambda}(\mathbf{R} + \mathbf{r}_N - \mathbf{r}_\Lambda), \quad (4)$$

where $v_{N\Lambda}$ is a nucleon- Λ particle interaction, while ρ_α and ρ_Λ are the density distributions for the α particle and the Λ particle in ${}^5\text{He}$, respectively. We assume Gaussian density distributions for ρ_α and ρ_Λ ,

$$\rho_\alpha(r) = 4(\pi b_\alpha^2)^{-3/2} e^{-r^2/b_\alpha^2}, \quad (5)$$

$$\rho_\Lambda(r) = (\pi b_\Lambda^2)^{-3/2} e^{-r^2/b_\Lambda^2}. \quad (6)$$

Following Ref. [1], we take $b_\alpha = 1.358$ fm and $b_\Lambda = \sqrt{(4M_N + M_\Lambda)/4M_\Lambda} b_\alpha$, where M_N and M_Λ are the mass

of the nucleon and Λ particle, respectively. For $v_{N\Lambda}$, we take the central part of the potential given in Ref. [1],

$$v_{N\Lambda}(r) = v_0 e^{-r^2/b_v^2}, \quad (7)$$

with $b_v = 1.034$ fm, but we adjust the strength v_0 so as to reproduce the energy of the ground state of ${}^9\text{Be}$ from the threshold of the $\alpha + {}^5\text{He}$ configuration (that is, -3.50 MeV). Since ρ_α , ρ_Λ , and $v_{N\Lambda}$ are all given in Gaussian form, the double-folding integral in Eq. (4) can be evaluated analytically as

$$V_{\alpha\Lambda}(R) = 4v_0 \left(\frac{b_v^2}{b_\Lambda^2 + b_\alpha^2 + b_v^2} \right)^{3/2} \exp\left(-\frac{r^2}{b_\Lambda^2 + b_\alpha^2 + b_v^2}\right). \quad (8)$$

With the intercluster potential so constructed, we solve the Schrödinger equation for the relative motion for each angular momentum L ,

$$\left(-\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu_{\alpha^5\text{He}}} \nabla^2 + V_{\alpha^5\text{He}}(R) - E \right) \psi_L(\mathbf{R}) = 0, \quad (9)$$

where $\mu_{\alpha^5\text{He}} = 4M_N(4M_N + m_\Lambda)/(8M_N + M_\Lambda)$ is the reduced mass for the relative motion between α and ${}^5\text{He}$. The Pauli principle is taken into account by excluding those states which satisfy $2n + L < 4$ [23], where n is the radial node of the wave function.

The $E2$ transition probability can be computed with the intercluster wave functions $\psi_L(\mathbf{R})$. In the two-body cluster model of $(A_1, Z_1) + (A_2, Z_2)$, the $E2$ transition operator reads

$$\hat{T}_{E2} = e_{E2} R^2 Y_{2\mu}(\hat{\mathbf{R}}), \quad (10)$$

where

$$e_{E2} = e \left[\left(\frac{M_1}{M_1 + M_2} \right)^2 Z_2 + \left(\frac{M_2}{M_1 + M_2} \right)^2 Z_1 \right] \quad (11)$$

is the $E2$ effective charge, M_1 and M_2 being the mass of fragments 1 and 2, respectively.

The calculated spectra for ${}^8\text{Be}$ and ${}^9\text{Be}$ are shown in Fig. 2. Since we do not include the spin-dependent part of the nucleon- Λ interaction, the doublet states ($3/2^+, 5/2^+$) of ${}^8\text{Be}(2^+) \otimes \Lambda(1/2^+)$ are degenerate in energy. In order to obtain the energy and the wave function for resonance states, we use a bound-state approximation. That is, we have replaced the intercluster potential for R larger than the barrier radius with a constant so that the wave functions are confined inside the potential barrier [24–26]. We have confirmed that the energies obtained with this procedure are close to those energies that give the maximum of the energy derivative of the scattering phase shift. For instance, for the 2^+ state of ${}^8\text{Be}$, the energy derivative of the phase shift is maximum at $E = 2.80$ MeV, while the energy obtained in the bound-state approximation is 2.85 MeV.

From Fig. 2, one sees that the excitation energy slightly increases due to the addition of the Λ particle. We have confirmed numerically that the potential which we use well reproduces the experimental phase shift for $\alpha + \alpha$ scattering [23]. If the resonance states were properly analyzed, this potential would therefore yield the excitation energy of the 2^+

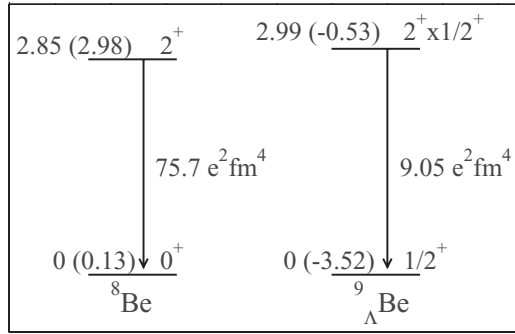


FIG. 2. Low-lying spectra for ${}^8\text{Be}$ and ${}^9_{\Lambda}\text{Be}$ obtained with the two-body cluster model of $\alpha + \alpha$ and $\alpha + {}^5_{\Lambda}\text{He}$, respectively. The energies are denoted in units of MeV. The energies measured from the two-body thresholds are also shown in parentheses. The arrows indicate the reduced $E2$ transition probabilities, $B(E2)$, from the first excited state to the ground state.

state in ${}^8\text{Be}$ of 3.04 MeV (see Fig. 1). Then, the energy shift due to the addition of the Λ particle is estimated to be small indeed, that is, as small as 0.05 MeV. In contrast to the excitation energies, the $B(E2)$ value from the first excited state to the ground state is altered drastically. The large change of $B(E2)$ value occurs because the attraction of the Λ particle makes the resonance levels of ${}^8\text{Be}$ turn to the bound states in ${}^9_{\Lambda}\text{Be}$. As a consequence, the wave functions become spatially much more compact, as shown in Fig. 3. The root-mean-square distance between the fragments is 4.90 and 3.24 fm for the $L = 0$ states of ${}^8\text{Be}$ and ${}^9_{\Lambda}\text{Be}$, respectively. The energy change due to the Λ particle shown in Fig. 2, that is, 0.14 MeV, is much smaller than what would have been expected from a classical rotor, $E_L = L(L+1)\hbar^2/2\mu R^2$, which corresponds to the energy shift of 2.64 MeV. Notice that the $B(E2)$ value for the transition from the 2^+ to the 0^+ states in ${}^8\text{Be}$ is consistent with the value obtained in Ref. [27] using a damping factor method to evaluate the integral with the resonance wave functions, although this value is rather large compared with that obtained in Ref. [1] using the harmonic oscillator expansion of the wave functions.

We now ask why the spectrum of ${}^9_{\Lambda}\text{Be}$ is not influenced much, despite the fact that the wave functions are considerably altered. In order to address this question, the semiclassical approximation may be useful. In Ref. [28], Rowley used the Bohr-Sommerfeld quantization rule to show that the spectrum is approximately given by

$$E_L - E_{L=0} \sim \frac{\beta\hbar^2}{8\mu} L(L+1), \quad (12)$$

for a Gaussian intercluster potential, $V(R) = V_0 e^{-\beta R^2}$. We numerically confirm this relation in Appendix A. This formula indicates that the spectrum depends on neither the depth parameter V_0 nor the intercluster distance, but only on the range parameter β of the potential as well as the reduced mass μ .

We show the intercluster potentials for the present problem in Fig. 4 by the solid lines. The potential for $\alpha + {}^5_{\Lambda}\text{He}$

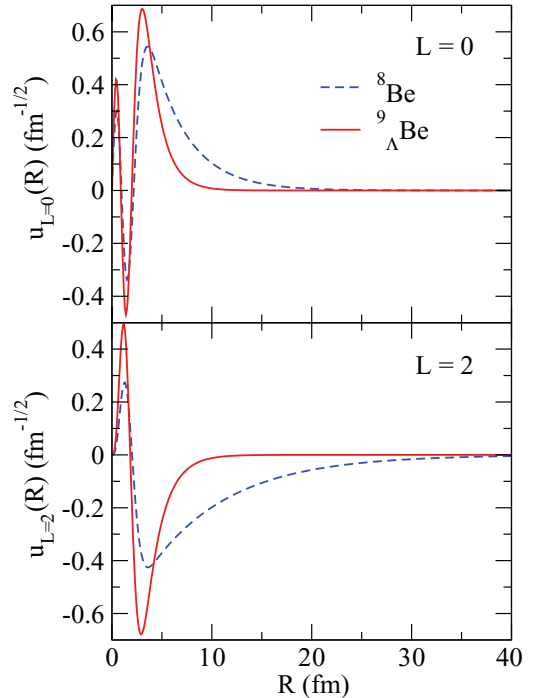


FIG. 3. (Color online) The radial wave functions $u_L(R)$ defined as $\psi_L(\mathbf{R}) = u_L(R)/R \cdot Y_{LM}(\hat{\mathbf{R}})$ obtained with the two-body cluster model. The dashed and the solid lines are for the ${}^8\text{Be}$ and ${}^9_{\Lambda}\text{Be}$ nuclei, respectively. The upper panel shows the wave functions for the ground state with $L = 0$, while the lower panel shows the wave functions for the first excited state with $L = 2$.

is deeper than that for $\alpha + \alpha$ by 15.6 MeV, due to an additional attraction caused by the Λ particle. These potentials are actually well fitted with the Gaussian form with $V_0 = -117.8$ MeV and $\beta = 0.222$ fm $^{-2}$ for ${}^8\text{Be}$ and with $V_0 = -131.2$ MeV and $\beta = 0.250$ fm $^{-2}$ for ${}^9_{\Lambda}\text{Be}$. The quality of the fit can be seen in Fig. 4. The reduced masses, on the other hand, are 1877.8 and 2120.6 MeV for the $\alpha + \alpha$ and the $\alpha + {}^5_{\Lambda}\text{He}$ systems, respectively. Here, we have used the average value of the proton and neutron masses as the nucleon mass. The factor $\beta\hbar^2/8\mu$ in Eq. (12) is thus 0.574 MeV for the $\alpha + \alpha$ system and 0.572 MeV for the $\alpha + {}^5_{\Lambda}\text{He}$ system. It is remarkable that these values are so close to each other. Evidently, a Gaussian-like intercluster potential has a responsibility to make the spectra between ${}^8\text{Be}$ and ${}^9_{\Lambda}\text{Be}$ resemble each other, despite the absolute value of the energies and thus the radial dependence of the wave functions being considerably changed due to an addition of a Λ particle.

III. LEVEL SCHEME FOR ${}^7_{\Lambda}\text{Li}$: ROLE OF SPIN-ORBIT INTERACTION

Let us discuss next the spectrum of the ${}^7_{\Lambda}\text{Li}$ nucleus. If we assume that the nucleus ${}^6\text{Li}$ takes the $\alpha + \text{deuteron}$ (d) structure, a big difference of this nucleus from ${}^8\text{Be} = \alpha + \alpha$ is that one of the fragments (i.e., the deuteron) has a finite spin

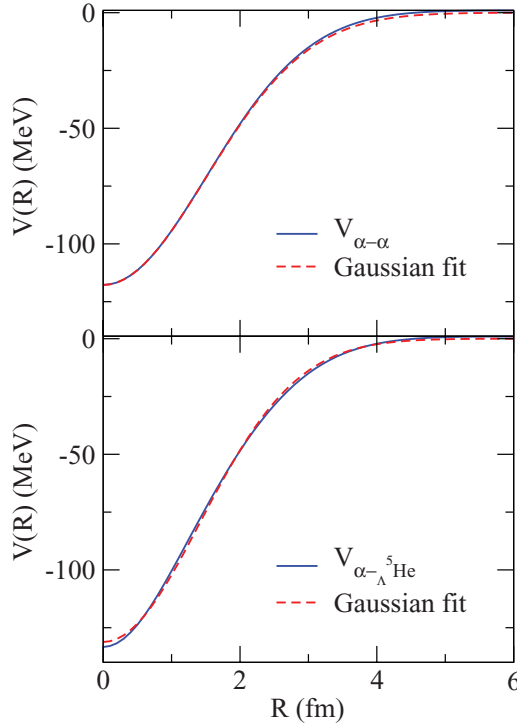


FIG. 4. (Color online) The intercluster potential for the $\alpha + \alpha$ system (upper panel) and for the $\alpha + {}^5_\Lambda\text{He}$ system (lower panel). The dashed lines show the result of the fitting with a single Gaussian function.

($S = 1$). The potential between α and d then reads [29–31]

$$V_{\alpha d}(R) = V_0(R) + V_1(R)\mathbf{L} \cdot \mathbf{S} + V_2(R) \left[\frac{(\mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{R})^2}{R^2} - \frac{1}{3}S^2 \right]. \quad (13)$$

The spectrum of the ground rotational band of ${}^6\text{Li}$ can be understood as follows [31]. This band arises from the states with $2n + L = 2$, that is, $L = 0$ ($1s$) and $L = 2$ ($0d$). By combining with the deuteron spin $S = 1$, the $1s$ state yields the total spin and parity of $I^\pi = 1^+$, while the $0d$ state yields $I^\pi = 1^+, 2^+$, and 3^+ triplet states. These triplet states are degenerate in energy in the central potential $V_0(R)$, but they split by the spin-orbit interaction $V_1(R)\mathbf{L} \cdot \mathbf{S}$ as well as by the tensor interaction $V_2(R)[(\mathbf{S} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{R}})^2 - S^2/3]$.

In order to investigate how the spin-orbit intercluster potential affects the spectrum of the ${}^7_\Lambda\text{Li}$ nucleus, we closely follow Ref. [31] and use the semimicroscopic cluster model of Buck *et al.* [32]. To do so, we assume that the ${}^7_\Lambda\text{Li}$ nucleus takes the $d + {}^5_\Lambda\text{He}$ structure. In this model, the intercluster potentials $V_0(R)$, $V_1(R)$, and $V_2(R)$ are constructed based on a core $+p + n$ three-body model. We regard the α particle and ${}^5_\Lambda\text{He}$ as the core nucleus for ${}^6\text{Li}$ and ${}^7_\Lambda\text{Li}$, respectively. In the following, for simplicity, we assume that the deuteron is in a pure s state, and thus the tensor part of the intercluster potential vanishes. This term plays an essential role in reproducing the quadrupole moment of ${}^6\text{Li}$ [29–31], but its influence is expected to be small for the spectrum. With this approximation,

the central and the spin-orbit potentials read [31]

$$V_0(R) = -2 \int dr U_0(r, R) \chi(r)^2, \quad (14)$$

$$V_1(R) = -\frac{2M_N + M_c}{2(M_N + M_c)} \int dr \left[W_0(r, R) + \frac{r}{2R} W_1(r, R) \right] \times \chi(r)^2, \quad (15)$$

where M_c is the mass of the core nucleus (i.e., ${}^4\text{He}$ or ${}^5_\Lambda\text{He}$) and $\chi(r)$ is an s -state wave function for relative motion between p and n in the deuteron. U_0 , W_0 , and W_1 are multipole components of the nucleon-core interaction,

$$V_{cN} = -U(\mathbf{R} \pm \mathbf{r}/2) - W(\mathbf{R} \pm \mathbf{r}/2)\mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}, \quad (16)$$

where \mathbf{r} is the relative distance between p and n in the deuteron, \mathbf{l} is the relative angular momentum between the core and the nucleon, and \mathbf{s} is the nucleon spin. That is, U_0 , W_0 , and W_1 are defined as

$$U(\mathbf{R} \pm \mathbf{r}/2) = 4\pi \sum_\lambda U_\lambda(R, r) Y_\lambda(\pm \hat{\mathbf{r}}) \cdot Y_\lambda(\hat{\mathbf{R}}), \quad (17)$$

$$W(\mathbf{R} \pm \mathbf{r}/2) = 4\pi \sum_\lambda W_\lambda(R, r) Y_\lambda(\pm \hat{\mathbf{r}}) \cdot Y_\lambda(\hat{\mathbf{R}}). \quad (18)$$

In the calculations shown below, following Ref. [31], we employ the Hulthen form of the deuteron wave function, that is, $\chi(r) = \sqrt{2\alpha} e^{-\alpha r}$ with $\alpha = 0.2316 \text{ fm}^{-1}$, and the same potential as in Ref. [31] (with a slight readjustment for the depth parameters) for the nucleon- α potential. The contribution of the Λ particle to the ${}^5_\Lambda\text{He}$ -nucleon potential is estimated with a single-folding potential,

$$U_{N\Lambda}(r) = \int d\mathbf{r}_\Lambda \rho_\Lambda(\mathbf{r}_\Lambda) v_{N\Lambda}(\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{r}_N - \mathbf{r}_\Lambda), \quad (19)$$

where the Λ particle density ρ_Λ and the nucleon- Λ interaction $v_{N\Lambda}$ are given in the previous section. As in Eq. (4), this potential can be computed analytically as

$$U_{N\Lambda}(r) = v_0 \left(\frac{b_v^2}{b_\Lambda^2 + b_v^2} \right)^{3/2} \exp\left(-\frac{r^2}{b_\Lambda^2 + b_v^2}\right). \quad (20)$$

We adjust the value of v_0 in order to reproduce the ground-state energy of the ${}^7_\Lambda\text{Li}$ nucleus (that is, -3.48 MeV from the threshold of ${}^5_\Lambda\text{He} + d$). The total central potential for the ${}^5_\Lambda\text{He}$ -nucleon system is given by $U(r) = U_{N\alpha}(r) + U_{N\Lambda}(r)$, where $U_{N\alpha}(r)$ is the central part of the nucleon- α potential. Since we neglect the spin-orbit interaction in the nucleon- Λ interaction, the Λ particle does not contribute to the spin-orbit part of the intercluster potential, $V_1(R)$, except for the trivial mass factor in Eq. (15).

The central part $V_0(R)$ and the spin-orbit part $V_1(R)$ of the intercluster potentials are shown in Fig. 5. For the central part, we also include the Coulomb potential evaluated in the same way as in Ref. [31]. The solid and the dashed lines are the potentials for the ${}^5_\Lambda\text{He}$ - d system and the α - d system, respectively. The depth of the central part increases by 5.98 MeV due to an addition of a Λ particle, while the change of the spin-orbit potential is much smaller. The

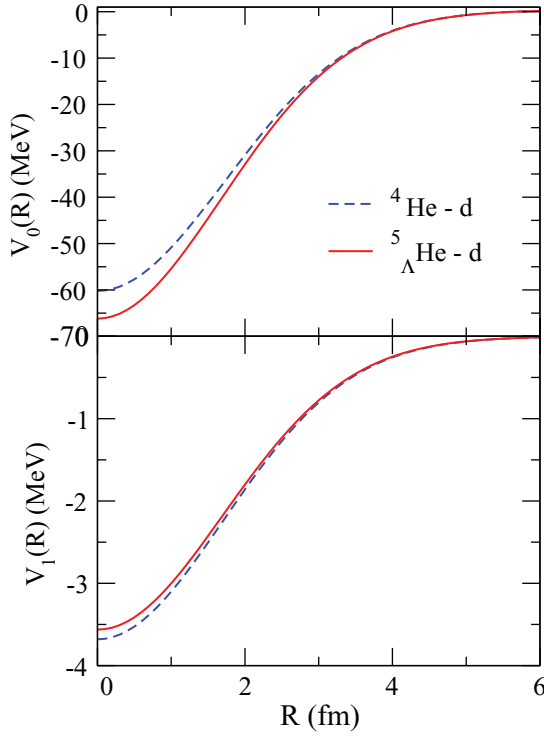


FIG. 5. (Color online) The central part (upper panel) and the spin-orbit part (lower panel) of the intercluster potential. The dashed lines show the potentials for the ${}^6\text{Li}$ nucleus, while the solid lines show those for the ${}^7_\Lambda\text{Li}$ hypernucleus.

spectra obtained with these potentials are shown in Fig. 6. In the absence of the spin-orbit potential, $V_1(R)$, an addition of the Λ particle slightly increases the energy of the first excited state, from 3.72 MeV in ${}^6\text{Li}$ to 3.80 MeV in ${}^7_\Lambda\text{Li}$. This behavior is similar to the change of the spectrum of ${}^8\text{Be}$ shown in Fig. 2. The radial wave functions for the ground state and the first excited state obtained without the spin-orbit

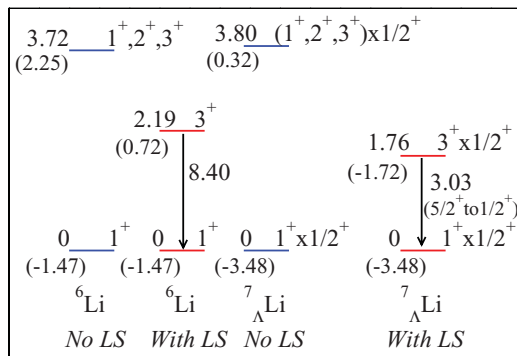


FIG. 6. (Color online) Low-lying spectra for ${}^6\text{Li}$ and ${}^7_\Lambda\text{Li}$ obtained with the two-body cluster model of $\alpha + d$ and ${}^5_\Lambda\text{He} + d$, respectively. The results obtained with and without the spin-orbit intercluster potential are compared. The energies are denoted in units of MeV. The energies measured from the two-body thresholds are also shown in parentheses. The arrows indicate the reduced $E2$ transition probabilities, $B(E2)$, from the first excited state to the ground state, where the calculated values are denoted in units of $e^2\text{fm}^4$.

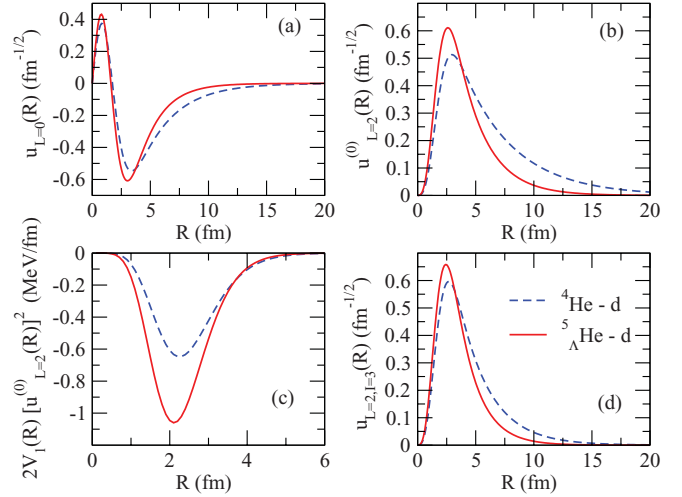


FIG. 7. (Color online) (a) The radial wave functions for the ground state with $L = 0$ for ${}^6\text{Li}$ (dashed line) and ${}^7_\Lambda\text{Li}$ (solid line). (b) Those for the first excited state with $L = 2$ obtained without including the spin-orbit intercluster potential. (c) The overlap between the spin-orbit potential and the unperturbed wave functions for $L = 2$. (d) The same as Fig. 7(b), but obtained by including the spin-orbit potential.

potential are shown in Figs. 7(a) and 7(b), respectively. As in the case of ${}^9_\Lambda\text{Be}$, the shrinkage effect of the Λ particle is substantial [1,16].

Let us now consider the effect of the spin-orbit potential. We first treat it by first-order perturbation theory, that is, the energy shift for $L = 2$ and $I = 3$ is approximately given by

$$\Delta E_{L=2,I=3} \sim 2 \int dR V_1(R) [u_{L=2}^{(0)}(R)]^2. \quad (21)$$

Here, the factor 2 is the eigenvalue of the operator $\mathbf{L} \cdot \mathbf{S}$ for $L = 2$ and $I = 3$, and $u_{L=2}^{(0)}$ is the unperturbed wave function for $L = 2$ obtained without the spin-orbit potential. Using the wave functions shown in Fig. 7(b), we obtain $\Delta E_{L=2,I=3} = -1.22$ MeV for ${}^6\text{Li}$ and -1.84 MeV for ${}^7_\Lambda\text{Li}$. Figure 7(c) shows the integrand of Eq. (21). One can clearly see that the overlap of the wave function with the spin-orbit potential shown in the lower panel of Fig. 5 increases significantly for the ${}^7_\Lambda\text{Li}$ hypernucleus due to the shrinkage effect, leading to the larger value of the energy shift $\Delta E_{L=2,I=3}$. The spectra which are obtained by treating the spin-orbit potential exactly, and the corresponding wave functions, are shown in Figs. 6 and 7(d), respectively. The effect of the spin-orbit potential is indeed much larger in ${}^7_\Lambda\text{Li}$ due to the shrinkage effect, and the energy of the ${}^6\text{Li}(3^+) \otimes \Lambda(1/2^+)$ state appears lower than that of the ${}^6\text{Li}(3^+)$ state. We thus conclude that the spin-orbit potential due to the finite deuteron spin plays an important role in compressing the spectrum of the ${}^7_\Lambda\text{Li}$ hypernucleus. We mention that the calculated $B(E2)$ value from the $5/2^+$ member of the ${}^6\text{Li}(3^+) \otimes \Lambda(1/2^+)$ state to the $1/2^+$ state in the ground state ${}^6\text{Li}(1^+) \otimes \Lambda(1/2^+)$ doublet is $3.03 e^2\text{fm}^4$, which is in good agreement with the experimental value, $3.6 \pm 0.5^{+0.5}_{-0.4} e^2\text{fm}^4$ [15]. The calculation also reproduces

well the experimental value for the energy of the ${}^6\text{Li}(3^+) \otimes \Lambda(1/2^+)$ state, 1.86 MeV (see Fig. 1).

IV. SUMMARY

We have investigated the structure of ${}^9_\Lambda\text{Be}$ and ${}^7_\Lambda\text{Li}$ hypernuclei using two-body cluster models of $\alpha + d$ and ${}^5_\Lambda\text{He} + d$, respectively. We particularly discussed the relation between the shrinkage effect and the spectra of these hypernuclei. We first showed that the two-body cluster model yields only a small change in the spectra between ${}^8\text{Be}$ and ${}^9_\Lambda\text{Be}$ even though the intercluster distance is significantly reduced due to an addition of a Λ particle. We argued based on the Bohr-Sommerfeld quantization rule that this is caused by the fact that intercluster potentials can be well fitted with a single Gaussian function, for which the spectra are approximately independent of the depth of the potential. A similar effect would be expected also for ${}^7_\Lambda\text{Li}$ if the deuteron were a spinless particle. In reality, a deuteron has a finite spin ($S = 1$), and the spin-orbit potential is present in the intercluster potential. We have shown that the shrinkage effect leads to a large overlap between the wave function for the excited state and the spin-orbit potential for the ${}^7_\Lambda\text{Li}$ hypernucleus compared with ${}^6\text{Li}$. As a consequence, the spin-orbit potential acts effectively larger in ${}^7_\Lambda\text{Li}$, eventually leading to the compression of the spectrum.

These behaviors of the spectra are peculiarities of a two-body cluster structure. In this sense, ${}^7_\Lambda\text{Li}$ and ${}^9_\Lambda\text{Be}$ are exceptional cases, as the ground states exhibit a well-developed α cluster structure. For heavier nuclei, the cluster structure appears in excited states while the ground state takes a mean-field-like configuration. In such situations, the shrinkage of radius would push up the spectrum, as has been seen experimentally in ${}^{13}_\Lambda\text{C}$. The deformation degree of freedom also comes into a play there. An interesting case for a future investigation is the hypernucleus ${}^{19}_\Lambda\text{F}$, in which the mean-field structure may be mixed with the ${}^{17}_\Lambda\text{O} + d$ cluster structure. A γ -ray spectroscopy measurement has been planned on this hypernucleus at the J-PARC facility [33,34]. This will be the first for the sd -shell hypernuclei. The ground and the first excited states of the core ${}^{18}\text{F}$ nucleus have a spin and parity of 1^+ and 3^+ , respectively, which are the same for ${}^6\text{Li}$. Thus the measurement of the ${}^{18}\text{F}(3^+) \otimes \Lambda(1/2^+)$ level will provide a strong stimulus to further studies on the sd -shell hypernuclei and beyond.

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APPENDIX : ROTATIONAL SPECTRUM OF A GAUSSIAN POTENTIAL

In this Appendix, we numerically check the performance of the approximate formula given in Eq. (12) for the rotational

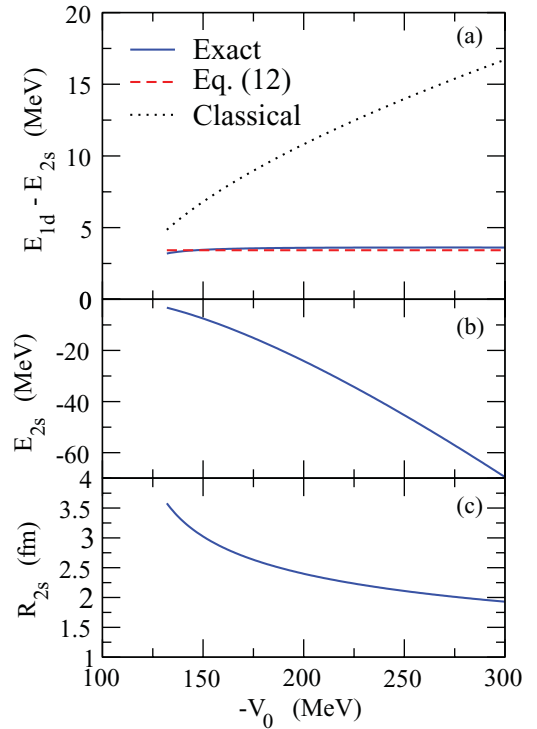


FIG. 8. (Color online) (a) The energy difference between the $L = 2$ ($1d$) and the $L = 0$ ($2s$) states for a Gaussian potential $V(R) = V_0 e^{-\beta R^2}$ for an $\alpha + \alpha$ system as a function of the depth parameter $-V_0$. The solid line is obtained by numerically solving the Schrödinger equation, while the dashed line is the result of the approximate formula given in Eq. (12) based on the Bohr-Sommerfeld quantization rule. The dotted line denotes the energy difference for a classical rotor, evaluated with the root-mean-square (rms) intercluster distance for the $2s$ state shown in Fig. 8(c). (b) The energy of the $L = 0$ ($2s$) state as a function of the depth parameter $-V_0$ for the Gaussian potential. (c) The rms intercluster distance for the $2s$ state.

spectrum for a Gaussian potential, $V(R) = V_0 e^{-\beta R^2}$. We consider here the $\alpha + \alpha$ system and use the same geometry for the potential as that given in Eq. (2), i.e., $\beta = 0.22 \text{ fm}^{-2}$. In this Appendix, we do not include the Coulomb interaction between the two α particles. Figure 8(a) shows the energy difference between the $L = 2$ state and the $L = 0$ state for $2n + L = 4$. Notice that without the Coulomb interaction the $L = 2$ state is bound only for $V_0 < -131.5$ MeV. The solid line shows the numerical result of the Schrödinger equation, while the dashed line is obtained with Eq. (12). One can see that Eq. (12) works well, the deviation from the exact result being about ± 0.2 MeV for this system. The energy difference indeed depends on the depth parameter only weakly, while the energy and the root mean square (rms) distance between the two α particles for the $L = 0$ state varies from -3.269 MeV and 3.58 fm at $V_0 = -132$ MeV to -69.538 MeV and 1.93 fm at $V_0 = -300$ MeV, respectively [see Figs. 8(b) and 8(c)]. As shown by the dotted line in Fig. 8(a), this is in marked contrast with the energy difference for a classical rotor, $\Delta E = 6\hbar^2/2\mu R^2$, where $\mu = M_\alpha/2$ is the reduced mass for the $\alpha + \alpha$ system and R is the rms intercluster distance.

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