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PARTICLE-VIBRATION DOORWAY RESONANCE IN Pb²⁰⁹

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With no free parameters the particle-vibration model is used to describe the $\frac{1}{2}^+$ doorway resonance observed in Pb²⁰⁹ at 500 keV with a width of 58 keV. We find that the ($2g_{9/2}, 4^+$) state which occurs at nearly the experimental energy has a width of about 1 to 2 times the measured value.

While the idea of a particle-vibration weak-coupling model has been widely used with good results, continuum levels have not been studied to any great extent. Mottelson¹ has, in fact, emphasized a need for the evaluation of radial matrix elements when the one-particle state is at a known energy in the continuum. The purpose of this paper is to show that the particle-vibration model provides a good explanation for an *s*-wave resonance observed in Pb²⁰⁹ by Farell *et al.*² The weak-coupling model has been quite successful in describing inelastic scattering exciting vibrational states in the Pb region.^{1,3} Since this $\frac{1}{2}^+$ resonance is not very high in the continuum, it is reasonable to expect an extension of the successful predictions of the particle-vibration model for bound states. An additional impetus for this work is the interpretation in Ref. 2 of the *s*-wave resonance as a possible doorway state leading to complex structure in adjacent nuclei. The doorway concept has become rather important in recent years.⁴

Specifically, Ref. 2 observed the high-resolution elastic scattering of neutrons from Pb^{206,207,208} yielding resonances in Pb^{207,208,209}. In Pb²⁰⁹ only one $\frac{1}{2}^+$ resonance is observed in the energy range from 0 to 1.7 MeV above the neutron threshold. This occurs at about 500 keV (4.38 MeV above the Pb²⁰⁹ ground state) with a width of 58 keV. The experimental cross sections for the Pb²⁰⁷ and Pb²⁰⁸ compound nuclei show much fine struc-

ture in the general region of 500-keV incident neutron energy. In particular, there are 11 *s*-wave resonances in Pb²⁰⁷ up to the inelastic threshold (800 keV), the sum of whose reduced widths compares remarkably well with that of the single *s*-wave resonance in Pb²⁰⁹.

The usual doorway mechanism is that of the two-particle-one-hole (2p-1h) state. However, while it is possible to form a large number of $\frac{1}{2}^+$ 2p-1h states in Pb²⁰⁹, prior to mixing there are none as low as 500 keV. In fact there are none below 1 MeV and only a few between 1 and 2 MeV. Shakin⁵ has suggested that a possible explanation of the Pb²⁰⁹ resonance is the coupling of the 4^+ collective core vibrational state at 4.31 MeV⁶ in Pb²⁰⁸ with the $2g_{9/2}$ zero-energy single-neutron level. Since the 4^+ state probably has 2p-2h components, the decay to the Pb²⁰⁸ ground state would just go through the ground-state correlations, and Stein⁷ indicates that these are non-negligible. The proposed particle-vibration state nearly coincides in energy with the observed resonance, and according to Auerbach and Stein⁸ loses only a few percent of its strength in mixing with the bound $4s_{1/2}$ single-neutron level. It is conceivable that other excited core-plus-neutron levels mix with the ($2g_{9/2}, 4^+$) $\frac{1}{2}^+$ state; however, these are fairly far away. [The closest configuration is ($1i_{11/2}, 6^+$) at 5.2 MeV relative to the Pb²⁰⁹ ground state, and other available particle-vibration states are even high-

er.] We point out that the $(2g_{9/2}, 4^+)_{\frac{1}{2}^+}$ state in its microscopic form probably contains 2p-1h components. This is qualitatively consistent with the interpretation in Ref. 2. A quantitative study in Pb via the 2p-1h scheme is very difficult; however, we would expect it to yield results similar to those presented here. The first stage in the evolution of the fine structure observed in Pb²⁰⁷ and Pb²⁰⁸ presumably results from the coupling of the available neutron holes to the doorway.

Hamamoto⁹ calculated the distorted-wave Born approximation cross sections for the Pb²⁰⁹ states excited in Pb²⁰⁸(*d, p*)Pb²⁰⁹ by Ellegaard, Kentele, and Vedelsby.¹⁰ Some of these states are unbound but are treated as just bound in Ref. 9 by deepening the Woods-Saxon potentials. In the present paper we do not use this mechanism, and the $\frac{1}{2}^+$ state is treated explicitly as a resonance.

The Hamiltonian in the weak-coupling model is

$$H = H_{\text{core}} + H_{\text{part}} + V_c. \quad (1)$$

Here H_{core} and H_{part} are the vibrational and sin-

gle-particle Hamiltonians and V_c is the coupling interaction. The width of the neutron elastic-scattering resonance is given by

$$\Gamma = 2\pi \sum_{m_s} \int d\Omega_K |\langle X_{1/2}^+ \times | V_c | 0^+, \chi^{(+)}(\vec{K}, m_s) \rangle|^2 K m / (2\pi)^3 \hbar^2, \quad (2)$$

where K is the wave number related to the energy E by $E = \hbar^2 K^2 / 2m$, m is the neutron reduced mass, and m_s is the z projection of intrinsic spin. The wave function $X_{1/2}^+$ represents the unperturbed particle-vibration state $\langle (2g_{9/2}, 4^+)_{\frac{1}{2}^+} |$, and $\chi^{(+)}(\vec{K}, m_s)$ is the outgoing neutron wave function. Since V_c is a scalar and the resonance is s wave, only the $l=0$, $j=\frac{1}{2}$ partial-wave component of $\chi^{(+)}$ contributes and Eq. (2) becomes

$$\Gamma = 4m/K\hbar^2 |\langle (2g_{9/2}, 4^+)_{\frac{1}{2}^+} | V_c | 0^+, u(s_{1/2}, Kr) / r \Phi(s_{1/2}) \rangle|^2, \quad (3)$$

where $u(s_{1/2}, Kr)/r$ is the continuum radial wave function for the state whose angular wave function is $\Phi(s_{1/2})$. The matrix element of V_c is taken to be that described by Mottelson,¹ so that,

$$\langle (2g_{9/2}, 4^+)_{\frac{1}{2}^+} | V_c | 0^+, u(s_{1/2}, Kr) / r \Phi(s_{1/2}) \rangle = \langle 2g_{9/2} | k(r) | u(s_{1/2}, Kr) / r \rangle \langle g_{9/2} || Y_4 || \Phi(s_{1/2}) \rangle 2^{-1/2} (\hbar\omega_4 / 2c_4)^{1/2}. \quad (4)$$

The vibrational amplitude is represented by the last factor in Eq. (4), and it may be extracted from the measured 4^+ excitation cross section. The reported collectively enhanced $B(E4)$ experimental values range from 15 to 25 single-particle units.¹¹⁻¹² Following the reasonable calculations of Refs. 8 and 9, we use the value of 15. This leads to a value of 2.4×10^{-2} for $(\hbar\omega_4 / 2c_4)^{1/2}$. The radial form factor of the deformation is given in terms of the real radial one-body potential $V(r)$ as

$$k(r) = -rdV(r)/dr. \quad (5)$$

Using the computer code ABACUS¹³ the radial wave functions for the bound $2g_{9/2}$ and continuum $s_{1/2}$ states were generated from Woods-Saxon potentials with the addition of a spin-orbit interaction of the Thomas form. In order to study the dependence of the radial integral in Eq. (4) on the Woods-Saxon depth V_0 , diffuseness a , radius $R = R_0 A^{1/3}$, and spin-orbit strength V_{so} , three different sets of values were tried for $2g_{9/2}$, all having proved relatively successful in diverse calculations, viz., those of Blomquist and Wahlborn,¹⁴ Hamamoto,⁹ and Dover and Dietrich.¹⁵

We emphasize that our calculation contains no free parameters. Therefore, the real-well

depth, diffuseness, and radius used in generating the continuum $s_{1/2}$ wave function must be obtained by satisfying certain physical criteria. (Although a complex optical potential might be more appropriate, the imaginary part is expected to be rather small and should introduce only a small correction.¹⁶) Two different physically reasonable criteria are applied in order to determine these parameters. Firstly, they should yield the $4s_{1/2}$ bound state at its appropriate energy in Pb²⁰⁹, and secondly, they should reproduce the neutron-scattering data over a wide range of energy and nuclei. The first criterion is satisfied by wells given in Refs. 14, 9, and 15. However, Buck and Perey¹⁷ through extensive work have satisfied the latter criterion by using a somewhat different local well derived from a nonlocal potential. Consequently, we calculate the width using the parameters that satisfy each criterion separately. A summary of the parameters and results is given in Table I.

Table I shows that the $s_{1/2}$ parameters of Ref. 17 yield a width of the order of the observed value of 58 keV. The other $s_{1/2}$ parameters result in higher values, however, and set a reasonable upper limit to the width in our simple model.

Table I. Results.

Ref. No. for $2g_{9/2}$	Ref. No. for $s_{1/2}$	State	V_0 (MeV)	Well parameters			Γ (keV)
				a (fm)	R_0 (fm)	V_{so} (MeV) ^a	
14		$2g_{9/2}$	44	0.67	1.27	7.75	
	14	$s_{1/2}$	44	0.67	1.27	...	122
9	17	$s_{1/2}$	48	0.65	1.27	...	51
		$2g_{9/2}$	45.6	0.65	1.25	7.75	
	9	$s_{1/2}$	47.0	0.65	1.25	...	92
	17	$s_{1/2}$	48	0.65	1.27	...	55
15		$2g_{9/2}$	46.37	0.6334	1.238	5.87	
	15	$s_{1/2}$	47.38	0.6334	1.238	...	94
	17	$s_{1/2}$	48	0.65	1.27	...	56

^a Units of $(\hbar/m_{\pi}c)^2$.

We therefore predict a width of between about 51 and 122 keV. Actually, the width will be somewhat smaller than this because (i) the $2g_{9/2}$ spectroscopic factor in Pb^{209} is about 0.95,⁷ and (ii) the $(2g_{9/2}, 4^+)_{\frac{1}{2}^+}$ configuration loses 4% of its strength via coupling to the bound $4s_{12}$ state.⁸

The effects of antisymmetrization of the microscopic core ingredients and the odd particle in the core-plus-particle wave function have not been considered here. Mottelson¹ and Hafele¹⁸ have discussed this vibration dissociation effect, and the resultant energy shifts of bound states in Bi^{209} are found to be significant in certain special cases. A continuum calculation including this effect is planned for the future.

An additional test of the applicability of the weak-coupling model is to look for resonances based on the other members of the $(2g_{9/2}, 4^+)J^{\pi}$ multiplet. Parity conservation allows only even- l values for the outgoing neutron. Penetrability considerations at about the centroid energy eliminate the possibility of observing compound resonances with spins greater than $\frac{5}{2}^+$ ($l > 2$). But there is a good chance of observing the $\frac{3}{2}^+$ and $\frac{5}{2}^+$ resonances below a neutron energy of 1 MeV if the reduced widths are not too small. In fact two $\frac{3}{2}^+$ and three $\frac{5}{2}^+$ resonances have been observed¹⁹ in the 0.5- to 1.0-MeV neutron energy range in Pb^{209} . A theoretical study of these levels is in progress.

In summary our results indicate that the $(2g_{9/2}, 4^+)$ particle-vibration state is a reasonable candidate for the observed $\frac{1}{2}^+$ doorway resonance in Pb^{209} .

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STUDY OF NUCLEAR STATES OF SEVERAL ODD-*A* NUCLEI $68 \leq Z \leq 79$
THROUGH ELECTROMAGNETIC EXCITATION FROM 2.3 TO 3.6 MeV†

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34 excited states have been studied between 2.3 and 3.5 MeV in ¹⁶⁷Er, ¹⁷⁹Hf, ¹⁹¹Ir, and ¹⁹⁷Au by observing the decay of the isomeric levels in these nuclei following electron and photon activation. 28 of these states are observed for the first time. Of the 34 observed transitions, *M1*+*E2* multipolarity assignment is made to 20, two are identified as *E0* transitions, and one is assigned *E1* multipolarity. Accurate values for the isomeric half-lives are also presented.

Measurements reported here provide the first systematic investigation of states by inelastic electron scattering and photoexcitation from 2.3 to 3.6 MeV in the region $Z = 68$ to 79. Further, the method employing the electromagnetic interaction yields the multipolarity and radiative strength of the transition which will provide important confirmation of quantum numbers, determined by nuclear reactions such as (*d, p*) and (*d, t*). Coulomb excitation measurements in this nuclear structure region have only explored states up to ~1.5 MeV. Finally, the use both of electron and of photon excitation allows a search for electric monopole (*E0*) transitions which are, of course, forbidden for photons. *E0* transitions had not been observed in the region explored prior to the present work.

The systematic study of radiative-transition probabilities has helped delineate the regions of applicability of various nuclear models. The Nilsson model, with additions such as pair correlation and quasiparticle-phonon interactions, has had some success in describing low-lying states, below 1.5 MeV, in deformed nuclei.¹ Pertinent to this investigation the strength of *M1* γ rays ($4 \text{ MeV} < E_\gamma < 9 \text{ MeV}$), following neutron capture by deformed nuclei, has been quantitatively explained by a calculation employing pairing and spin-spin effects, together with the standard Nilsson Hamiltonian.² In the transition region $76 < Z < 82$ the model of de-Shalit³ for odd-*A* nu-

clei, where the odd nucleon is weakly coupled to excitations of the even-even core, has met with good success in predicting electromagnetic moments and transition probabilities for low-lying states, <0.8 MeV in several nuclei.^{4,5}

The experimental method dictated investigation of only stable nuclei with low-lying isomeric states. Accordingly, the odd-*A* nuclei ¹⁶⁷Er₉₉, ¹⁷⁹Hf₁₀₇, ¹⁸³W₁₀₉, ¹⁹¹Ir₁₁₄, and ¹⁹⁷Au₁₁₈ were investigated with electrons and bremsstrahlung from the National Bureau of Standards' 4-MeV electron Van de Graaff. All but ¹⁸³W had sufficient cross sections for study. Targets of natural isotopic abundance, in the thickness ranges of ~5g/cm² for photoexcitation and ~18 mg/cm² for electroexcitation, were placed in a fast shuttle to transport them from the irradiation position to the counting position without a significant decay of the 2- to 20-sec isomeric states. The excitation functions were measured by incrementing the bombarding energy and measuring the subsequent isomeric decays with NaI(Tl) scintillators. A state was identified by comparing the two curves produced where a break corresponded to a new higher-lying state populating the isomer.⁶ This method is shown in detail for a 200-keV portion of ¹⁷⁹Hf excitation in Fig. 1. The photoexcitation yield curve corresponded to a series of straight lines produced by the intermediate-thickness bremsstrahlung target (0.001 in. platinum, backed by 1 in. water). The elec-