Experimental results on the Pygmy Dipole Resonance using the NRF method

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COMEX 5
- 2015 -
E1 strength in (spherical) atomic nuclei

- Giant Dipole Resonance (GDR)
- Pygmy Dipole Resonance (PDR)

D. S., T. Aumann, and A. Zilges, Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 70 (2013) 210
Setting constrains on iso-vector properties of the equation of state by investigating the E1 response of atomic nuclei.
Pygmy Dipole Resonance – Some open questions

- General phenomenon (minimum number of nucleons)?
- Substructures within the E1 strength distribution (transition densities)?
- Correlation of PDR to basic properties of nuclei?
- Connection of E1/PDR to symmetry energy of EOS?

>> use of different (complementary) experimental methods

D. S., T. Aumann, and A. Zilges, Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 70 (2013) 210
Experimental methods

**Real photon induced reactions**
- Nuclear Resonance Fluorescence (NRF)
- Photodissociation

**Coulomb excitation**
- Inelastic proton scattering
- Reaction in inverse kinematics

**Hadron scattering (direct reaction)**
- \((\alpha,\alpha'\gamma)\)
- \((^{17}\text{O},^{17}\text{O}\gamma)\)

**Nuclear (compound/transfer) reactions**
- \((p,p'\gamma)\)
- \((d,p\gamma)\)
- \((^{4}\text{He},^{3}\text{He})\) …
Experiments with real photons

- High selectivity to dipole excitations
- Well-known excitation mechanism

Photon scattering ($\gamma,\gamma'$)  Photodissociation ($\gamma,n), (\gamma,p), \ldots$
Photon scattering ...

... using Bremsstrahlung

- Investigation of large energy region
- Excellent energy resolution: State-to-state analysis, investigation of fine structure

e.g. Darmstadt High Intensity Photon Setup (DHIPS):
K. Sonnabend et al., Nucl. Instr. and Meth. A640 (2011) 6
Photon scattering ...

... using Laser Compton Backscattering

- Determination of parities

E.g. High Intensity $\gamma$-ray Source (HI$\gamma$S):

Systematic investigations
NRF state-to-state analysis

- Investigation of fine structure and fragmentation
- Introduces sensitivity limit
  >> incomplete total strength

Analysis of continuum in NRF experiments with bremsstrahlung
(R. Schwengner et al.)

>> total strength, but no longer model independent

(simulation of background and cascades using the statistical model)
“Missing” strength in NRF?

- What is the reason for the large discrepancy between \((p,p')\) and \((\gamma,\gamma')\) (especially for \(E < 6\) MeV)?

- Is \(^{120}\)Sn an exception or do we encounter the same problem for other nuclei?
Contribution: “unresolved” strength

- Excitation into narrow energy region
- Intensity at beam energy exclusively from decays to the ground state
Contribution: “unresolved” strength
Contribution: “unresolved” strength

$E_{\gamma}$ [MeV]

$\gamma$ counts / 3 keV

$E_{\gamma}$ [MeV]

Counts / 10 keV

Energy (MeV)

$\sigma$ [mb]

- elastic, peaks only
- elastic, full spec
- elastic, DR corrected
Contribution: Inelastic decay channels

- Investigation of inelastic decay contributions

see: A.P. Tonchev et al., PRL 104 (2010) 072501
Results for $^{130}\text{Te}$


![Graph showing results for $^{130}\text{Te}$](image)
Results for $^{140}$Ce

B. Löher et al., to be published
Remaining issues

**elastic channel**

Background contributions from non-resonant scattering?

Small, since most of the elastic strength concentrated in peaks

**inelastic channel**

Decays bypassing the first excited states?

Only about 10-20% of inelastic part according to statistical model
Decay properties

- Different decay channels sensitive to different aspects of the wave function (coupling to low-energy phonons)
- Directly connected to photon strength functions (used in the statistical model)

Experimentally challenging
**γ-γ spectroscopy at HIγS**

New $\gamma^3$ setup at HIγS

Provides sufficient efficiency to perform $\gamma-\gamma$ coincidence experiments using the mono-energetic intense photon beam at HIγS

B. Löher et al., NIM A 723 (2013) 136
First results for $^{140}$Ce

- Investigation of coupling to first excited states
- Good description within the QPM
- Direct access to E1 strength function

$E_x$ [MeV]

0 7.5 8.0 8.5

B. Löher et al., NIM A 723 (2013) 136
B. Löher, PhD Thesis, to be published
Conclusions

- NRF as model independent method to investigate E1 strength in atomic nuclei

- Using monochromatic photon beams yields:
  - Inelastic contribution
  - Unresolved contributions

- Results for $^{140}$Ce and $^{130}$Te:
  - About 40%-50% of the total strength within isolated (resolved) states decaying to the ground state

- Direct determination of branching ratios using $\gamma-\gamma$ coincidence within NRF (more by J. Isaak)
Collaboration

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