

Measurements of ISGMR in Sn, Cd, and Pb isotopes and the asymmetry of nuclear matter incompressibility

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The compression-mode isoscalar giant monopole resonance (ISGMR) has been studied in the Sn, Cd and Pb isotopes using inelastic scattering of 400 MeV α -particles at extreme forward angles, including 0° . We have obtained completely "background-free" inelastic-scattering spectra for the Sn, Cd, and Pb isotopes for a wide angular and excitation-energy range. The various giant resonances excited with different transferred angular momenta were extracted by a multipole-decomposition analysis (MDA). It was found that the centroid energies of the ISGMR in Sn isotopes are significantly lower than the theoretical predictions. The K_τ in the empirical expression for the nuclear incompressibility has been determined to be $K_\tau = -550 \pm 100$ MeV from the moment ratios [1]. The extracted value for the Cd isotopes is $K_\tau = -500 \pm 50$ MeV. These numbers are consistent with values of $K_\tau = -370 \pm 120$ MeV obtained from an analysis of the isotopic transport ratios in medium-energy heavy-ion reactions [2], $K_\tau = -500_{-100}^{+120}$ MeV obtained from constraints placed by neutron-skin data from anti-protonic atoms across the mass table [3], and $K_\tau = -500 \pm 50$ MeV obtained from theoretical calculations using different Skyrme interactions and relativistic mean field (RMF) Lagrangians [4].

Stringent constraints on interactions employed in nuclear structure calculations are obtained on the basis of the experimentally determined values for K_∞ and K_τ . These parameters constrain as well the equation of state (EOS) of nuclear matter. However, a significant discrepancy still remains. The ISGMR positions in Sn and Cd isotopes are systematically lower than the predictions obtained on basis of K_∞ determined from the ISGMR in ^{208}Pb . This raises the question "why are Sn and Cd nuclei so soft?", an important problem that has to be solved [5]. For a clue to solve the problem, the exact positions of the ISGMR in $^{204, 206, 208}\text{Pb}$ have to be measured [6].

In this talk, we will review the current status of the experimental studies on the compression-mode giant resonances, and the possible implications for astrophysics and physics with exotic nuclei.

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