



# Single-nucleon transfer reactions probed in inverse kinematics with the ISOLDE Solenoidal Spectrometer – recent highlights

D. K. Sharp The University of Manchester, UK

Nuclear Structure 2022, Berkeley





- Changing structure in light neutron-rich nuclei
  - <sup>28</sup>Mg(d,p)<sup>29</sup>Mg early implementation campaign
  - <sup>30</sup>Mg(d,p)<sup>31</sup>Mg very preliminary
- Trends in single-particle behavior in heavier nuclei
  - <sup>212</sup>Rn(d,p)<sup>213</sup>Rn preliminary

# **Evolution of single-particle structure**

Studies of the evolution of shell structure in light neutron-rich systems has led to discoveries of dramatic changes leading to the **weakening** and **appearance** of shell closures.

Such changes can be interpreted as arising from effects of the **valence nucleon** *interactions*, where increasing occupation of a particular valence proton orbital will have a larger interaction on valence neutrons, for example.







T.Otsuka and D. Abe Prog. In Particle and Nuclear Physics 59 425 (2007)

#### N=20 Island of inversion

First observed in anomalous ground-state binding energies.

Deformed configurations in low-lying and ground states due to ph excitations across N=20 – evidenced by **unnatural-parity configuration** in low-lying and ground states.

Island of inversion has been charaterized using numerous probes (mass measurements, beta-decay, **coulex**, multi-nucleon transfer, pair-transfer, knock-out).

Details on SP properties are perhaps lacking. (knock-out)

Measurements of the **single-particle properties** moving in to the island of inversion provide important data on the behaviour of the relevant orbitals and shell gaps.





# Probing single-particle structure around island of inversion – transfer reactions



Single-nucleon transfer probes single-particle properties of nuclei.

- Ejectile energy > Excitation of residual nucleus.
- Yield -> cross section.
- Angular distributions ->  $\ell$ .

*Spectroscopic factor*: Measure of the overlap between the final and initial state.

 $SF = \left| \left\langle \Phi_{J_B}^{M_B} \left| A \left[ \Phi_{J_A} \phi_j \right]_{J_B}^{M_B} \right\rangle \right|^2 \right|$ 





Single-particle structure **towards IOI** <sup>29</sup>Mg outside <sup>31</sup>Mg inside.

Single-particle structure **along N=16**. <sup>29</sup>AI(d,p)<sup>30</sup>AI (HELIOS), <sup>28</sup>Mg(d,p)<sup>29</sup>Mg (ISS) <sup>27</sup>Na(d,p)<sup>28</sup>Na – ISS later this year

Role of np interactions

Role **of weak-binding** – possible to probe  $p_{3/2}$  and  $p_{1/2}$  strength.

Benchmark new SM calculations.

# Physics at HIE-ISOLDE with a solenoid

-90L92

For direct reactions – ideally **10MeV/u** beams at intensities > **10^5 pps** – 5 day experiment.

HIE super-conducting linac <9.5 MeV/u (2014-18)

Four cryomodules each with five rf cavities

REX normal-conducting linac <3.1 MeV/u (2001-12)

40-60 keV 1+

ions



MINIBALL (array of 24 segmented Ge crystals)

ISOLDE Solenoidal Spectrometer (ISS)

# <sup>28</sup>Mg(d,p)<sup>29</sup>Mg with ISS

**10<sup>6</sup> pps 9.47 MeV/u** (dE/E = 0.3%) beam of  ${}^{28}Mg - highest HIE-ISOLDE RIB beam energy per nucleon.$ 

ISS set at a field of 2.5T - 2 target-array positions used to cover  $10^{\circ} < \theta_{cm} < 40^{\circ}$  for states up to ~ 4MeV.

Quadrant silicon recoil detector at rear of magnet.

Annular silicon detector for luminosity monitor.

Beam diagnostics including ISOLDE FC and a zero-degree dE-E.





0+55

1092

1432

100

# <sup>28</sup>Mg(d,p)<sup>29</sup>Mg - Results



Comprehensive study of states in <sup>29</sup>Mg including fragmentation.

Resolution ~140 keV.

States above  $S_n$  which contain significant fragments of SP strength.

Angular distributions extracted for 9 peaks (inc. 2 doublets) up to 4.35 MeV.

*Majority of SP strength accounted for – two fragments.* 

FSU – R. Lubna priv. comm. SDPF-MU – Y. Utsuno priv. comm. EEdf1 – Taken from A. Matta et. al., PRC 99, 044320 (2019).

#### Trends in N=17 isotones

Strength distribution compares well to calculations – only 0p-0h or 1p-1h needed.

ESPE's are well reproduced by SM calculations. Qualitatively and quantitatively (calculations are only shifted by ~500 keV on to the data).

Extracted neutron occupancies also compare well.



Woods-Saxon calculations also reproduce changes in BE. Smooth reduction in SO separation by ~500 keV from stability. Effect of finite geometry of potential well.



# <sup>30</sup>Mg(d,p)<sup>31</sup>Mg

#### New silicon array

10^4 pps 8.2 MeV/u <sup>30</sup>Mg

Six-sided array consisting of four DSSSDs with ASICs readout on each side.

Each detector consists of **128 x 0.95mm strips** along the length of the detector **11 x 2mm** along the width. **1668** channels of readout. Total length of silicon is 510.4mm (486.4mm active).





### Evolution of single-particle structure outside closed shells

Trends observed in light nuclei have even been observed in stable heavier nuclei - Changes in high-j states as high-j orbitals are filling.

Studies of chains of isotopes/isotones have pointed to fairly robust mechanisms for these changes such as the requirement to include a tensor interaction (N=51, Z=51, N=83).

Access to RIBs at HIE-ISOLDE will allow access to measurements across large chains of isotopes/isotones probing the interactions further from stability and in new regions such as N=127.



Otsuka et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. 95, 232502 (2005)





D.K. Sharp et al, Phys.Rev.C 87 014312 (2013)

#### Probing single-particle structure along N=127 north of <sup>208</sup>Pb

~5x10<sup>6</sup> pps of <sup>212</sup>Rn, 7.63 MeV/u.

Best case resolution ~100 keV.

Background from alpha decay of beam and fusion-evaporation.

24 states identified up to 5 MeV – predominantly I=2 and 4 strength.



Energy vs. z distance gated on EBIS and off beam subtracted



Excitation energy gated by EBIS and off beam subtracted



#### Probing single-particle structure along N=127 north of <sup>208</sup>Pb

Preliminary analysis have identified majority of 3/2+, 5/2+, 7/2+, 9/2+ strength – though work on improving fitting is underway..

Can compare to monopole shift calculation (HKT interaction) – requirement for tensor interaction. Some deviations in agreement but preliminary



213

Α

215

211

209

217



# Conclusions – Part II

Resolving power of ISS, and excellent beam provided by HIE-ISOLDE, provided a comprehensive study of single-particle states in <sup>29</sup>Mg (just outside island of inversion).

New effective interactions describe the data well with no evidence of higher-order p-h excitations, as expected for a system outside the island of inversion.

Comparison of data to simple models highlights the potential role of weak-binding in influencing the evolution of structure in this region.

New data of SP states in island of inversion would provide more stringent tests on SM interactions, and further data on odd-Z nuclei will provide a systematic picture of SP structure along N=17.

Single-particle states probed for the first time in exotic N=127 nuclei, north of 208Pb.

Data north of 208Pb, combined with existing data, starts to provide a systematic picture of single-neutron states outside N=126.

Benchmark SM calculations – large model space.

Monopole shifts – np interaction, protons are filling  $h_{9/2}$ .



# Current/future upgrades to ISS

#### SpecMat – R. Raabe

Time-projection chamber with gamma-ray detection.

Helium or hydrogen species as gas.

CeBr<sub>3</sub> detectors have been characterized.

Commissioning at ISS 2020.



# **KU LEUVEN**



# <sup>212</sup>Rn(d,p)<sup>213</sup>Rn – SP structure outside N=126



Experimental info:

• ~5x10<sup>6</sup> pps of <sup>212</sup>Rn.

- Produced using cold transfer line from the target – contaminants condense out of beam
- A 7.63 MeV/u highest total HIE-ISOLDE beam >1.6 GeV
- Measured in singles mode
- Beam purity >99%.
- Using >20 deuterated polyethylene targets of ~125µg/cm2
- ISS set to B-field of 2.5 T

### Direct reactions with a solenoid



MEASURED QUANTITIES: position z, cyclotron period  $T_{cyc}$ and lab particle energy  $E_{p}$ .

Suffers no kinematic compression of the Q-value spectrum.

Linear relationship between  $E_{cm}$  and  $E_{lab.}$ 

$$E_{\rm cm} = E_{\rm lab} + \frac{mV_{\rm cm}^2}{2} - \frac{mzV_{\rm cm}}{T_{\rm cyc}}$$



#### **Identifying states**



iterative deconvolution

unfolded spectrum

re-convolution with response matches measured spectrum (verifies solution is correct, assuming the response matrix is correct)

#### New shell-model interactions

Shell-model calculations can have difficulties reproducing behaviour of negative-parity states inside the Island of Inversion (or even approaching it) – without ad hoc changes.

Has instigated the development of new interactions.

- FSU Configuration interaction, derived using fitting method including more SPE's and TBMEs for pf shell. [Phys. Rev. C. 100, 034308 (2019).]
- EEfd1 New interaction derived using EKK method and Chiral EFT no fitting of TBMEs. This interaction describes a smother transition of p-h excitations than previously thought.



# Single-particle evolution along N=126

Data on SP strength distribution and centroids from  ${}^{212}Rn(d,p){}^{213}Rn$  reaction allows evolution of these (related to ESPE's) to be mapped out along N=127.

Protons are filling  $h_{g/2}$  (from Pb to U). Changes in SP centroids related to NN interaction between protons and single neutron – monopole shifts.

Reveal details on strength of interactions and importance of different components.









#### Slide courtesy of B Kay

#### Probing single-particle states in <sup>207</sup>Hg with ISS

A study of the hitherto unknown single-neutron structure of  $^{207}$ Hg was carried out using a **7.4 MeV/u**  $^{206}$ Hg beam and the **ISOLDE Solenoidal Spectrometer** to momentum analyze the protons following the neutron-adding (*d*,*p*) reaction



*First exploration* of single-particle states outside *N* = 126, south of Pb, *made possible by ISS and HIE-ISOLDE*.

T. L. Tang *et al*. Phys. Rev. Lett. **124**. 062502 (2020).

New data *provides additional handle/constraint on the location of zero binding at* N = 127 and raises questions about how neutron-capture advances beyond N = 126.