Recent advances in the modeling of reactions with weakly-bound nuclei

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- Many physical processes occurring spontaneously in nature (e.g. stars) or artificially (e.g. nuclear reactor) involve nuclear reactions. We need theoretical tools to evaluate their rates and cross sections.
- Reaction theory provides the necessary framework to extract meaningful structure information from measured cross sections and also permits the understanding of the dynamics of nuclear collisions.
- The many-body scattering problem is not solvable in general, so specific models tailored to specific types of reactions are used (elastic, breakup, transfer, knockout...) each of them emphasizing some particular degrees of freedom.
- In particular, reactions with weakly-bound nuclei exhibit distinctive features which require a special treatment (usually accounting for the coupling the breakup channels).

Light exotic nuclei: halo nuclei and Borromean systems



In the light region of the nuclear chart, weakly-bound nuclei display exotic features such as haloes.
 Recall however that not all weakly-bound nuclei are unstable (e.g. deuterons) and many unstable nuclei are not weakly bound!

- Radioactive nuclei: they typically decay by β emission. **E.g.:** ⁶He $\xrightarrow{\beta^-}$ ⁶Li ($\tau_{1/2} \simeq 807 \text{ ms}$)
- Weakly bound: typical separation energies are around 1 MeV or less.
- Spatially extended
- Halo structure: one or two weakly bound nucleons (typically neutrons) with a large probability of presence beyond the range of the potential.
- Borromean nuclei: Three-body systems with no bound binary sub-systems.





Signatures of weakly-bound nuclei in reaction observables

For ^{4,6}He+²⁰⁸Pb, the Coulomb barrier is $V_b \approx 21$ MeV



- ⁴He follows Rutherford formula at 19 MeV and follows the "usual" Fresnel-type pattern at 22 MeV.
- ⁶He drastically departs from Rutherford formula below the barrier and departs from Fresnel above barrier.



 \Rightarrow At large angles, there are more α 's than ⁶He (elastic) ! \Rightarrow What are the mechanisms behind the α producion and how can we compute it?

High-energy interaction cross sections with light targets

Interaction cross sections of nuclei on light targets and high energies are proportional to the size of the colliding nuclei.

$$\sigma_I \simeq \pi (R_p + R_t)^2$$



From I. Tanihata



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Interaction cross sections of nuclei on light targets and high energies (hundreds MeV/nucleon) are proportional to the size of the colliding nuclei.

 $\sigma_I \simeq \pi (R_p + R_t)^2$





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Tanihata et al, PRL55, 2676 (1985)

Momentum distributions in high-energy fragmentation reactions

What do momentum distributions tell us about the size of the nucleus?



E. Sauvan et al., PLB 491, 1 (2000) *A narrow momentum distribution is a signature of an extended spatial distribution* CF of weakly bound nuclei suppressed at energies above the Coulomb barrier-



- Observed for weakly-bound projectiles (^{6,7,8}Li,⁹Be)
- CF reduced by ~30% with respect to BPM or CC calculations.

M. Dasgupta et al., PRC 70, 024606 (2004)

Common interpretation:

- ⇒ CF is mostly reduced by breakup and incomplete fusion (ICF)
- ⇒ ICF is modeled as two-step process: breakup followed by capture of one charged fragment (breakup-fusion, BF).

Modelling nuclear reactions

Nuclear reaction theory:

- G.R. Satchler, Introduction to nuclear reactions, Macmillan (1990)
- G.R. Satchler, *Direct Nuclear Reactions*, Oxford University Press (1983)
- N. Glendenning, Direct Nuclear Reactions, World Scientific (2004)
- I.J. Thompson and F.M. Nunes, *Nuclear Reactions for Astrophysics*, Cambridge University Press (2009)

Reactions with weakly-bound nuclei

- A.M.M., *Models for nuclear reactions with weakly bound systems*, Proceedings of the International School of Physics Enrico Fermi Course 201 "Nuclear Physics with Stable and Radioactive Ion Beams" (arxiv:1807.04349).
- A.M.M., J. Casal, M. Gomez-Ramos, *The art of modeling nuclear reactions with weakly bound nuclei: status and perspectives*, Submitted to EPJA. (arXiv:2408.00175)

DIRECT: elastic, inelastic, transfer,...

- "fast" collisions (10^{-21} s) .
- only a few modes (degrees of freedom) involved
- small momentum transfer
- angular distribution asymmetric about $\pi/2$ (forward peaked)

COMPOUND: complete, incomplete fusion.

- "slow" collisions $(10^{-18} 10^{-16} \text{ s})$.
- many degrees of freedom involved
- large amount of momentum transfer
- "loss of memory" ⇒ dominated by statistical decay of different of emitted particles; almost symmetric distributions forward/backward (in CM)

Example: the $d+^{10}Be$ reaction



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- ΔI : detected particles per unit time in $\Delta \Omega$ (s^{-1})
- I_0 : incident particles per unit time and unit area $(s^{-1}L^{-2})$
- *n_t*: number of target nuclei within the beam
- $\Delta\Omega$: solid angle of detector $(=\Delta A/r^2)$
- $d\sigma/d\Omega$: differential cross section (L^2)

 $\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{\text{flux of scattered particles through } dA = r^2 d\Omega}{\text{incident flux}}$

Full Hamiltonian

$$H = \underbrace{H_p(\xi_p) + H_t(\xi_t)}_{\bullet} + \underbrace{\hat{T}_{\mathbf{R}} + V(\mathbf{R}, \xi_p, \xi_t)}_{\bullet}$$

internal dyn.

relative motion

- $\hat{T}_{\mathbf{R}}$: proj.-target kinetic energy
- $H_p(\xi_p)$: projectile internal Hamiltonian
- $H_t(\xi_t)$: target internal Hamiltonian
- $V(\mathbf{R}, \xi_p, \xi_t)$: projectile-target interaction

Time-independent Schrödinger equation:

$$[H-E]\Psi(\mathbf{R},\xi_p,\xi_t)=0$$



Among the many mathematical solutions of $[H - E]\Psi = 0$ we are interested in those behaving asymptotically as:

$$\Psi_{\mathbf{K}_{\alpha}}^{(+)} \to \Phi_{\alpha}(\xi_{\alpha})e^{i\mathbf{K}_{\alpha}\cdot\mathbf{R}_{\alpha}} + (\text{outgoing spherical waves in } \alpha, \beta, \ldots)$$

 α =incident (elastic) channel, β , γ ,...=nonelastic channels

$$\Psi_{\mathbf{K}_{\alpha}}^{(+)} \xrightarrow{R_{\alpha} \gg} \Phi_{\alpha}(\xi_{\alpha}) e^{i\mathbf{K}_{\alpha} \cdot \mathbf{R}_{\alpha}} + \Phi_{\alpha}(\xi_{\alpha}) f_{\alpha,\alpha}(\theta) \frac{e^{iK_{\alpha}R_{\alpha}}}{R_{\alpha}} \qquad (\text{elastic})$$

$$+ \sum_{\alpha' \neq \alpha} \Phi_{\alpha'}(\xi_{\alpha}) f_{\alpha',\alpha}(\theta) \frac{e^{iK_{\alpha'}R_{\alpha}}}{R_{\alpha}} \qquad (\text{inelastic})$$

$$\Psi_{\mathbf{K}_{\alpha}}^{(+)} \xrightarrow{R_{\beta} \gg} \sum_{\beta} \Phi_{\beta}(\xi_{\beta}) f_{\beta,\alpha}(\theta) \frac{e^{iK_{\beta}R_{\beta}}}{R_{\beta}} \qquad (\text{transfer})$$

Cross sections:

$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)_{\alpha\to\beta} = \frac{\mu_{\alpha}}{\mu_{\beta}} \frac{K_{\beta}}{K_{\alpha}} \left| f_{\beta,\alpha}(\theta) \right|^{2} \qquad E = \frac{\hbar^{2} K_{\alpha}^{2}}{2\mu_{\alpha}} + \varepsilon_{\alpha} = \frac{\hbar^{2} K_{\beta}^{2}}{2\mu_{\beta}} + \varepsilon_{\beta}$$

 $f_{\beta,\alpha}$ is called scattering amplitude

Ideally, the strategy would be:

- Choose structure model for $H_{\alpha}(\xi)$
- Occupate $\Psi^{(+)}$ by solving $[H E]\Psi^{(+)} = 0$
- Solution Consider the limit $R \gg \text{of } \Psi^{(+)}$
- Project it onto the desired final state to extract the scattering amplitude:

$$(\Phi_{\alpha'}|\Psi^{(+)}\rangle \equiv \int d\xi_{\alpha} \Phi_{\alpha'}^{*}(\xi_{\alpha})\Psi^{(+)} = \frac{f_{\alpha',\alpha}(\theta)}{R_{\alpha}} \frac{e^{iK_{\alpha'}R_{\alpha}}}{R_{\alpha}}$$

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But...

- Ψ is a solution of a complicated many-body problem, not solvable in most cases.
- The number of accessible channels and states can be enormous.

 \Rightarrow So, in practice, we will be content with an approximation of Ψ (or $f(\theta)$) in a restricted modelspace

Defining our model space: Feshbach formalism

- Divide the full space into two groups: P and Q
 - ⇒ P: channels of interest
 - ⇒ Q: remaining channels
- Write $\Psi = \Psi_P + \Psi_Q$

$$(E - H_{PP})\Psi_P = H_{PQ}\Psi_Q$$
$$(E - H_{QQ})\Psi_Q = H_{QP}\Psi_P$$

$$(H_{PP} = PHP, H_{PQ} = PHQ, \text{etc})$$

• Eliminate (formally) Ψ_Q :

$$\underbrace{\left[H_{PP} + H_{PQ} \frac{1}{E - H_{QQ} + i\epsilon} H_{QP} \right]}_{H_{\text{eff}}} \Psi_P = E \Psi_P$$

• *H*_{eff} too complicated (complex, energy dependent, non-local) ⇒ needs to be replaced by a simpler Hamiltonian:

 $H_{\text{eff}} \longrightarrow H_{\text{model}}$ (complex, energy dependent)

We need to make a choice for:

• Modelspace: what channels are to be included?

Structure model: for projectile and target

(Microscopic, collective, cluster...)

Reaction formalism

(will depend on the process to be studied)

Choice of the modespace: the $d+^{10}Be$ example



Modeling elastic scattering: the optical model

Single-channel scattering: optical model potential

- Problem: How do we describe certain channels P, while leaving others apart Q
- P space represents just the ground state of projectile and target
- Wavefunction:



• Schrodinger equation in modelspace:



- Solution: Write the interaction as a bare potential plus a polarization potential.
- \mathcal{V} too complicated \Rightarrow usually replaced by some phenomenological (complex) potential $U(\mathbf{R})$

Microscopic folding model for V_{PP}

Start from some (effective) nucleon-nucleon potential v_{NN} (JLM, M3Y, etc):

• Single-folding potential:

$$V(\mathbf{R}) = \int \rho_t(\mathbf{s}_t) v_{NN}(|\mathbf{R} - \mathbf{s}_t|) d\mathbf{s}_t$$

is $\rho_t(\mathbf{s}_t)$ =target g.s. density.

Double-folding potential:

$$V(\mathbf{R}) = \int \rho_p(\mathbf{s}_p) \rho_t(\mathbf{s}_t) v_{NN}(|\mathbf{R} + \mathbf{s}_p - \mathbf{s}_t|) d\mathbf{s}_p d\mathbf{s}_t$$



- ⇒ If ρ_p and ρ_t are g.s. densities, $V(\mathbf{R})$ accounts only for the bare potential (V_{PP}) (P-space part) and ignores the effect of non-elastic channels.
- \Rightarrow A model for V_{pol} must be supplied.
- \Rightarrow If v_{NN} is real, $V(\mathbf{R})$ is also real.

Effective potential: $\mathcal{V} \approx U(R) = U_{\text{nuc}}(R) + U_{\text{coul}}(R)$

• Coulomb potential: charge sphere distribution

$$U_{\text{coul}}(R) = \begin{cases} \frac{Z_1 Z_2 e^2}{2R_c} \left(3 - \frac{R^2}{R_c^2}\right) & \text{if } R \le R_c \\ \frac{Z_1 Z_2 e^2}{R} & \text{if } R \ge R_c \end{cases}$$

• Nuclear potential (complex): Eg. Woods-Saxon parametrization

$$U_{\rm nuc}(R) = V(r) + iW(r) = -\frac{V_0}{1 + \exp\left(\frac{R-R_r}{a_r}\right)} - i \frac{W_0}{1 + \exp\left(\frac{R-R_i}{a_i}\right)}$$

- 6 parameters, fitted to data. Real and imaginary widths, radii and difuseness. $R_{c,r,i} = r_{c,r,i}(A_p^{1/3} + A_t^{1/3})$ ($r_{c,r,i}$ =reduced radii) $r_c, r_r, r_i \sim 1.1 - 1.4$ fm. $a_r, a_i \sim 0.5 - 0.7$ fm.
- Real nuclear potential describes nuclear attraction. Imaginary nuclear potential describes the loss of particles in the elastic channel due to other reaction channels.

• Effective Hamiltonian:

$$H = T_{\mathbf{R}} + +U(\mathbf{R}) \qquad (U(\mathbf{R}) \text{ complex}!)$$

• Schrödinger equation:

$$[T_{\mathbf{R}} + U(\mathbf{R}) - E_{\alpha}]\chi_0^{(+)}(\mathbf{K}, \mathbf{R}) = 0$$

 $(E_{\alpha} = \text{incident energy in CM})$

Boundary condition: plane wave plus spherical wave, multiplied by the scattering amplitude f(θ, φ).

$$\chi_0^{(+)}(\mathbf{K}, \mathbf{R}) \to e^{i\mathbf{K}_i \cdot \mathbf{R}} + f(\theta) \frac{e^{iK_f R}}{R} \qquad K_i = K_f = \frac{\sqrt{2\mu E_\alpha}}{\hbar}$$

• For a central potential $[U(\mathbf{R}) = U(R)]$ the scattering wavefunction can be expanded in spherical harmonics (eigenfunctions of \hat{L}^2 and \hat{L}_z):

$$\chi_0^{(+)}(\mathbf{K}, \mathbf{R}) = \frac{4\pi}{KR} \sum_{\ell} i^{\ell} \chi_{\ell}(K, R) \sum_m Y_{\ell m}^*(\hat{K}) Y_{\ell m}(\hat{R}) = \frac{1}{KR} \sum_{\ell} i^{\ell} \chi_{\ell}(K, R) (2\ell + 1) P_{\ell}(\cos \theta)$$

• The radial wavefunctions $\chi_{\ell}(K, R)$ satisfy the equation:

$$\left[-\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu}\frac{d^2}{dR^2} + \frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu}\frac{\ell(\ell+1)}{R^2} + U(R) - E_0\right]\chi_\ell(K,R) = 0.$$

• For $U(R) = 0, \chi_0^{(+)}(\mathbf{K}, \mathbf{R})$ must reduce to the plane wave:

$$e^{i\mathbf{K}\cdot\mathbf{R}} = \frac{1}{KR} \sum_{\ell} i^{\ell} (2\ell+1) F_{\ell}(KR) P_{\ell}(\cos\theta)$$

 $\Rightarrow \text{ So, for } U = 0 \Rightarrow \chi_{\ell}(K, R) = F_{\ell}(KR) = (KR)j_{\ell}(KR) \rightarrow \sin(KR - \ell\pi/2)$

• For $R \gg \Rightarrow U(R) = 0 \Rightarrow \chi_{\ell}(K, R)$ will be a combination of F_{ℓ} and G_{ℓ}

$$F_{\ell}(KR) \rightarrow \sin(KR - \ell\pi/2) \qquad G_{\ell}(KR) \rightarrow \cos(KR - \ell\pi/2)$$

or their *outgoing/ingoing* combinations:

$$H^{(\pm)}(KR) \equiv G_\ell(KR) \pm i F_\ell(KR) \rightarrow e^{\pm i (KR - \ell \pi/2)}$$

• The physical solution is determined by the known boundary conditions:

$$\chi_{0}^{(+)}(\mathbf{KR}) \longrightarrow e^{i\mathbf{K}\cdot\mathbf{R}} + f(\theta)\frac{e^{iKR}}{R}$$

$$\downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow$$

$$U = 0 \quad \chi_{\ell}(KR) \longrightarrow F_{\ell}(KR) + 0$$

$$U \neq 0 \quad \chi_{\ell}(KR) \longrightarrow F_{\ell}(KR) + T_{\ell}H^{(+)}(KR)$$

The coefficients T_{ℓ} are to be determined by numerical integration.

- Fix a *matching radius*, R_m , such that $U(R_m) \approx 0$
- Integrate $\chi_{\ell}(R)$ from R = 0 up to R_m , starting with the condition:

 $\lim_{R\to 0}\chi_\ell(K,R)=0$

• At $R = R_m$ impose the boundary condition:

$$\chi_{\ell}(K,R) \to F_{\ell}(KR) + T_{\ell}H_{\ell}^{(+)}(KR)$$
$$= \frac{i}{2}[H_{\ell}^{(-)}(KR) - S_{\ell}H_{\ell}^{(+)}(KR)]$$

 $\mathbb{S}_{\ell} = 1 + 2iT_{\ell} = \mathbf{S}$ -matrix

Phase-shifts:

$$S_{\ell} \equiv e^{i2\delta_{\ell}} \qquad T_{\ell} = e^{i\delta_{\ell}} \sin(\delta_{\ell})$$

$$\chi_{\ell}(K,R) \to e^{i\delta_{\ell}}\sin(KR + \delta_{\ell} - \ell\pi/2)$$


Interpretation of the S-matrix (single-channel case)

- Sℓ =coefficient of the outgoing wave for partial wave ℓ.
- |S_l|² is the *survival* probability for the partial wave l:
 - $U \operatorname{real} \Rightarrow |S_{\ell}| = 1 \Rightarrow \delta_{\ell} \operatorname{real}$
 - $U \operatorname{complex} \Rightarrow |S_{\ell}| < 1 \Rightarrow \delta_{\ell} \operatorname{complex}$
- For $\ell \gg \Rightarrow S_\ell \to 1$
- Sign of *Re*[δ]:
 - $Re[\delta] > 0 \Rightarrow$ attractive potential
 - $Re[\delta] < 0 \Rightarrow$ repulsive potential
 - $Re[\delta] = 0$ ($S_{\ell} = 1$) \Rightarrow no potential (U(R) = 0)



• Replace the asymptotic $\chi_{\ell}(K, R)$ in the general expansion:

$$\chi_0^{(+)}(\mathbf{K}, \mathbf{R}) \to \frac{1}{KR} \sum_{\ell} i^{\ell} (2\ell + 1) \Big\{ F_{\ell}(KR) + T_{\ell} H_{\ell}^{(+)}(KR) \Big\} P_{\ell}(\cos \theta)$$
$$= e^{i\mathbf{K}\cdot\mathbf{R}} + \frac{1}{K} \sum_{\ell} (2\ell + 1) e^{i\delta_{\ell}} \sin \delta_{\ell} P_{\ell}(\cos \theta) \frac{e^{iKR}}{R}$$

(θ is the angle between **R** and **K**, which asymptotically corresponds to the scattering angle)

• The scattering amplitude is the coefficient of e^{iKR}/R .

$$f(\theta) = \frac{1}{K} \sum_{\ell} (2\ell + 1)e^{i\delta_{\ell}} \sin \delta_{\ell} P_{\ell}(\cos \theta)$$
$$= \frac{1}{2iK} \sum_{\ell} (2\ell + 1)(S_{\ell} - 1)P_{\ell}(\cos \theta).$$

• Elastic cross section:

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = |f(\theta)|^2.$$

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Radial equation:

$$\left[\frac{d^2}{dR^2} + K^2 - \frac{2\eta K}{R} + \frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2}U(R) + \frac{\ell(\ell+1)}{R^2}\right]\chi_\ell(K,R) = 0$$

$$\eta = \frac{Z_p Z_t e^2}{\hbar v} = \frac{Z_p Z_t e^2 \mu}{\hbar^2 K}$$

(Sommerfeld parameter)

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Asymptotic condition:

$$\chi^{(+)}(\mathbf{K}, \mathbf{R}) \to e^{i[\mathbf{K} \cdot \mathbf{R} + \eta \log(kR - \mathbf{K} \cdot \mathbf{R})]} + f(\theta) \frac{e^{i(KR - \eta \log 2KR)}}{R}$$

$$\begin{split} \chi_{\ell}(K,R) &\to \frac{e^{i\sigma_{\ell}}}{2} \left[F_{\ell}(\eta,KR) + T_{\ell}H_{\ell}^{(+)}(\eta,KR) \right] \\ &= \frac{i}{2} e^{i\sigma_{\ell}} \left[H_{\ell}^{(-)}(\eta,KR) - S_{\ell}H_{\ell}^{(+)}(\eta,KR) \right] \end{split}$$

 $\overset{\text{\tiny ISS}}{=} \sigma_{\ell}(\eta) = \text{Coulomb phase shift} \\ \overset{\text{\tiny ISS}}{=} F_{\ell}(\eta, KR) = \text{regular Coulomb wave} \\ \overset{\text{\tiny ISS}}{=} H_{\ell}^{(\pm)}(\eta, KR) = \text{outgoing/ingoing} \\ \text{Coulomb wave}$

Total scattering amplitude:

$$f(\theta) = f_C(\theta) + \frac{1}{2iK} \sum_{\ell} (2\ell + 1)e^{2i\sigma_{\ell}} (S_{\ell} - 1)P_{\ell}(\cos\theta)$$

where $f_C(\theta)$ is the amplitude for pure Coulomb:

$$\frac{d\sigma_R}{d\Omega} = |f_C(\theta)|^2 = \frac{\eta^2}{4K^2 \sin^4(\frac{1}{2}\theta)} = \left(\frac{Z_p Z_t e^2}{4E}\right)^2 \frac{1}{\sin^4(\frac{1}{2}\theta)}$$

• Total elastic cross section (only uncharged particles!). Is a measurement of the particles that abandon the incident beam, to be scattered elastically to different angles.

$$\sigma_{el} = \int d\Omega \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{\pi}{K^2} \sum_{\ell} (2\ell+1)|1-S_\ell|^2 = \frac{4\pi}{K^2} \sum_{\ell} (2\ell+1)|T_\ell|^2$$

N.b.: when no potentials (real or imaginary) are present, $S_{\ell} = 1$, and the total elastic cross section is zero (no scattering).

• Total reaction cross section. Is a measurement of the particles that abandon the incident beam, to give rise to different non-elastic reaction processes.

$$\sigma_{reac} = \frac{\pi}{K^2} \sum_{\ell} (2\ell + 1)(1 - |S_{\ell}|^2)$$

N.b.: when there are no imaginary potentials, there is no loss of flux from the elastic channel, $|S_{\ell}| = 1$, and hence $\sigma_{reac} = 0$.

- The semi-classical vs quantum character of the scattering can be given in terms of the Sommerfeld parameter: $\eta = \frac{Z_p Z_r e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 \hbar y}$
- The Coulomb vs nuclear relevance, in terms of the energy of the Coulomb barrier: $V_b \simeq \frac{Z_p Z_t}{A_p^{1/3} + A_t^{1/3}}$ [MeV]
- Three distinct patterns appear for the elastic cross sections
 - Coulomb-dominated $E < V_b \Rightarrow$ Rutherford scattering
 - Nuclear relevant $E > V_b$, semiclassical $\eta \gg 1 \Rightarrow$ Fresnel scattering
 - Nuclear relevant $E > V_b$, quantum $\eta \leq 1 \Rightarrow$ Fraunhofer scattering

A physical example: the ⁴He+⁵⁸Ni reaction

Effective potential: $U(R) = U_{nuc}(R) + U_{coul}(R)$



The maximum of $V_{\text{nuc}}(R) + V_C(R)$ defines the Coulomb barrier: V_b . From the plot:

$$R_b \approx 8.5 \text{ fm}; \qquad V_b \approx 10 \text{ MeV}$$

Approximately:

$$R_b \simeq 1.44(A_p^{1/3} + A_t^{1/3}) \text{ fm} \qquad E_b \simeq \frac{Z_p Z_t e^2}{R_b} \approx \frac{Z_p Z_t}{(A_p^{1/3} + A_t^{1/3})} \text{ MeV}$$

Patterns of elastic scattering: ⁴He+⁵⁸Ni example



How does the halo structure affect the elastic scattering?



- ⁴He+²⁰⁸Pb shows typical Fresnel pattern and "standard" optical model parameters
- ⁶He+²⁰⁸Pb shows a prominent reduction in the elastic cross section, suggesting that part of the incident flux goes to non-elastic channels (eg. breakup)

Understanding and disentangling these non-elastic channels requires going beyond the optical model (eg. coupled-channels method \Rightarrow next lectures)



• The strong Coulomb field will produce a polarization ("stretching") of the projectile, giving rise to a dipole contribution on the real potential:

$$V(R) \approx \frac{Z_1 Z_2 e^2}{R} - \alpha \frac{Z_1 Z_2 e^2}{2R^4}$$

● The weakly bound nucleus can eventually break up, leading to a loss of flux of the elastic channel ⇒ imaginary polarization potential.





Rodning et al, PRL49, 909 (1982) $\Rightarrow \alpha = 0.70 \pm 0.05 \text{ fm}^3$

Inelastic scattering

- Nuclei are not inert or *frozen* objects; they do have an internal structure of protons and neutrons that can be modified (excited) during the collision.
- Quantum systems exhibit, in general, an energy spectrum with bound and unbound levels.





• COLLECTIVE: Involve a collective motion of several nucleons which can be interpreted macroscopically as rotations or surface vibrations of the nucleus.



FEW-BODY/SINGLE-PARTICLE: Involve the excitation of a nucleon or cluster.



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• By doing inelastic scattering experiments we *measure* the *response* of the nucleus to an external field (Coulomb, nuclear). This response is related to some structure property of the nucleus.

Example: for a Coulomb field:

$$B(E\lambda; i \to f) = \frac{1}{2I_i + 1} |\langle \Psi_f || \mathcal{M}(E\lambda) || \Psi_i \rangle|_{BM}^2$$

where $\mathcal{M}(E\lambda,\mu)$ is the electric multipole operator:

$$\mathcal{M}(E\lambda,\mu) \equiv e \sum_{i}^{Z_{p}} r_{i}^{\lambda} Y_{\lambda\mu}^{*}(\hat{r}_{i})$$

• The structure $\Psi_{i,f}$ can be described in a collective, few-body or microscopic model.

We need to incorporate explicitly in the Hamiltonian the internal structure of the nucleus being excited (e.g. target).

$$H = T_R + h(\xi) + V(\mathbf{R}, \xi)$$

- T_R : Kinetic energy for projectile-target relative motion.
- $\{\xi\}$: Internal degrees of freedom of the target (depend on the model).
- $h(\xi)$: Internal Hamiltonian of the target.

$$h(\xi)\phi_n(\xi)=\varepsilon_n\phi_n(\xi)$$

• $V(\mathbf{R}, \xi)$: Projectile-target interaction.



P space composed by ground states (elastic channel) and some excited states (inelastic scattering)

Boundary conditions:



We expand the total wave function in a subset of internal states (the P space):

$$\Psi_{\text{model}}(\mathbf{R},\xi) = \phi_0(\xi)\chi_0(\mathbf{K}_0,\mathbf{R}) + \sum_{n>0} \phi_n(\xi)\chi_n(\mathbf{K}_n,\mathbf{R})$$

and impose the boundary conditions for the (unknown) $\chi_n(\mathbf{R})$:

$$\chi_0^{(+)}(\mathbf{K}_0, \mathbf{R}) \to e^{i\mathbf{K}_0 \cdot \mathbf{R}} + f_{0,0}(\theta) \frac{e^{iK_0 R}}{R} \quad \text{for n=0 (elastic)}$$
$$\chi_n^{(+)}(\mathbf{K}_n, \mathbf{R}) \to f_{n,0}(\theta) \frac{e^{iK_n R}}{R} \quad \text{for n>0 (non-elastic)}$$

• The model wavefunction must satisfy the Schrödinger equation:

$$[H-E]\Psi_{\text{model}}^{(+)}(\mathbf{R},\xi) = 0$$

• Multiply on the left by each $\phi_n^*(\xi)$, and integrate over $\xi \Rightarrow$ coupled channels equations for $\{\chi_n(\mathbf{R})\}$:

$$\left[E - \varepsilon_n - T_R - V_{n,n}(\mathbf{R})\right] \chi_n(\mathbf{R}) = \sum_{n' \neq n} V_{n,n'}(\mathbf{R}) \chi_{n'}(\mathbf{R})$$

• The structure information is embedded in the coupling potentials:

$$V_{n,n'}(\mathbf{R}) = \int d\xi \phi_{n'}^*(\xi) V(\mathbf{R},\xi) \phi_n(\xi)$$

 $\square \phi_n(\xi)$ will depend on the assumed structure model (collective, few-body, etc).

Optical Model

- The Hamiltonian: $H = T_R + V(\mathbf{R})$
- Internal states: Just $\phi_0(\xi)$
- Model wavefunction: $\Psi_{\text{mod}}(\mathbf{R},\xi) \equiv \chi_0(\mathbf{K},\mathbf{R})\phi_0(\xi)$
- Schrödinger equation: $[H - E]\chi_0(\mathbf{K}, \mathbf{R}) = 0$

Optical Model

- The Hamiltonian: $H = T_R + V(\mathbf{R})$
- Internal states: Just $\phi_0(\xi)$
- Model wavefunction: $\Psi_{\text{mod}}(\mathbf{R},\xi) \equiv \chi_0(\mathbf{K},\mathbf{R})\phi_0(\xi)$
- Schrödinger equation: $[H - E]\chi_0(\mathbf{K}, \mathbf{R}) = 0$

Coupled-channels method

- The Hamiltonian: $H = T_R + h(\xi) + V(\mathbf{R}, \xi)$
- Internal states: $h(\xi)\phi_n(\xi) = \varepsilon_n\phi_n(\xi)$
- Model wavefunction: $\Psi_{\text{model}}(\mathbf{R},\xi) = \phi_0(\xi)\chi_0(\mathbf{K},\mathbf{R}) + \sum_{n>0} \phi_n(\xi)\chi_n(\mathbf{K},\mathbf{R})$
- Schrödinger equation:

$$[H - E]\Psi_{\text{model}}(\mathbf{R}, \xi) = 0$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$[E - \varepsilon_n - T_R - V_{n,n}(\mathbf{R})]\chi_n(\mathbf{K}, \mathbf{R}) = \sum_{n' \neq n} V_{n,n'}(\mathbf{R})\chi_{n'}(\mathbf{K}, \mathbf{R})$$



A first-order formula for $f(\theta)$: the DWBA approximation

- Assume that we can write the p-t interaction as: $V(\mathbf{R},\xi) = V_0(R) + \Delta V(\mathbf{R},\xi)$
- Use central $V_0(R)$ part to calculate the (distorted) waves for p-t relative motion:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \hat{T}_{\mathbf{R}} + V_0(R) - E_i \end{bmatrix} \chi_i^{(+)}(\mathbf{K}_i, \mathbf{R}) = 0 \qquad (E_i = \text{CM energy}) \\ \begin{bmatrix} \hat{T}_{\mathbf{R}} + V_0(R) - E_f \end{bmatrix} \chi_f^{(+)}(\mathbf{K}_f, \mathbf{R}) = 0 \qquad (E_f = E_i - E_x) \end{bmatrix}$$

• In first order of $\Delta V(\mathbf{R}, \xi)$ (DWBA) :

$$f_{i \to f}^{\text{DWBA}}(\theta) = -\frac{\mu}{2\pi\hbar^2} \int \chi_f^{(-)*}(\mathbf{K}_f, \mathbf{R}) \,\Delta V_{if}(\mathbf{R}) \,\chi_i^{(+)}(\mathbf{K}_i, \mathbf{R}) \,d\mathbf{R}$$

with the coupling (or transition) potential:

$$\Delta V_{if}(\mathbf{R}) \equiv \int \phi_f^*(\xi) \, \Delta V(\mathbf{R},\xi) \, \phi_i(\xi) \, d\xi$$

Physical interpretation of the DWBA method

• DWBA can be interpreted as a first-order approximation of a full coupled-channels calculation:



• The auxiliary potential U_{β} generating the entrance and exit distorted waves is usually chosen so as to reproduce the elastic scattering at the corresponding c.m. energy.

• In actual calculations, the internal states will have definite spin/parity:

$$\phi_i(\xi) = |I_i M_i\rangle$$
 and $\phi_f(\xi) = |I_f M_f\rangle$

• In many practical (and important) situations:

$$\Delta V(\mathbf{R},\xi) = \sum_{\lambda>0} \underbrace{\mathcal{F}_{\lambda}(R)}_{\text{formfactor}} \sum_{\mu} \mathcal{T}_{\lambda,\mu}(\xi) Y_{\lambda\mu}(\hat{R})$$

$$\langle I_f M_f | \Delta V(\mathbf{R}, \xi) | I_i M_i \rangle = \sum_{\lambda > 0} \mathcal{F}_{\lambda}(R) \langle I_f M_f | \mathcal{T}_{\lambda \mu}(\xi) | I_i M_i \rangle Y_{\lambda \mu}(\hat{R})$$

• Wigner-Eckart theorem \rightarrow reduced matrix elements (r.m.e.)*:

$$\langle I_f M_f | \mathcal{T}_{\lambda\mu}(\xi) | I_i M_i \rangle = (2I_f + 1)^{-1/2} \langle I_f M_f | I_i M_i \lambda \mu \rangle \underbrace{\langle I_f || \mathcal{T}_{\lambda}(\xi) || I_i \rangle_{\text{BM}}}_{\text{r.m.e}}$$

(*)Bohr-Mottelson (BM) convention of r.m.e. assumed here.

Coupling potentials for collective excitations

In general, we have both Coulomb and nuclear couplings

$$V_{if}(\mathbf{R}) = V_{if}^{C}(\mathbf{R}) + V_{if}^{N}(\mathbf{R})$$

• Coulomb excitation \rightarrow electric reduced matrix elements

$$V_{if}^{C}(\mathbf{R}) = \sum_{\lambda > 0} \frac{4\pi\kappa}{2\lambda + 1} \frac{Z_{t}e}{R^{\lambda + 1}} \langle f; I_{f}M_{f} | \mathcal{M}(E\lambda, \mu) | i; I_{i}M_{i} \rangle Y_{\lambda\mu}(\hat{R})$$

$$\langle f; I_f || M(E\lambda) || i; I_i \rangle = \sqrt{(2I_i + 1)B(E\lambda; I_i \to I_f)}$$

2 Nuclear excitation (small deformations) \rightarrow reduced deformation lengths

$$V_{if}^{N}(\mathbf{R}) \simeq -\frac{dV_{0}}{dR} \sum_{\lambda} \langle f; I_{f} M_{f} | \hat{\delta}_{\lambda\mu} | i; I_{i} M_{i} \rangle Y_{\lambda\mu}(\hat{R})$$

DWBA scattering amplitude for a transition of multipolarity λ :

$$f_{iM_i \to fM_f}(\theta) = f^C_{iM_i \to fM_f}(\theta) + f^N_{iM_i \to fM_f}(\theta)$$

• COULOMB:

$$f_{iM_i \to fM_f}^C(\theta) = -\frac{\mu}{2\pi\hbar^2} \frac{4\pi Z_t e}{2\lambda + 1} \langle f; I_f M_f | \mathcal{M}(E\lambda, \mu) | i; I_i M_i \rangle \int d\mathbf{R} \chi_f^{(-)*}(\mathbf{K}_f, \mathbf{R}) \frac{Y_{\lambda\mu}(\hat{R})}{R^{\lambda + 1}} \chi_i^{(+)}(\mathbf{K}_i, \mathbf{R})$$

• NUCLEAR:

$$f^{N}_{iM_{i}\rightarrow fM_{f}}(\theta) = -\frac{\mu}{2\pi\hbar^{2}} \langle f; I_{f}M_{f} | \hat{\delta}_{\lambda\mu} | i; I_{i}M_{i} \rangle \int d\mathbf{R} \chi_{f}^{(-)*}(\mathbf{K}', \mathbf{R}) \frac{dV}{dR} Y_{\lambda\mu}(\hat{\mathbf{R}}) \chi_{i}^{(+)}(\mathbf{K}, \mathbf{R})$$

UNPOLARIZED CROSS SECTION:,

$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)_{I_i \to I_f} = \frac{1}{(2I_i + 1)} \frac{K_f}{K_i} \sum_{M_i, M_f} \left|f_{iM_i \to fM_f}(\theta)\right|^2$$

Single-particle and cluster excitations



• Effective three-body Hamiltonian:

$$H = T_{\mathbf{R}} + h_r(\mathbf{r}) + U_{ct}(\mathbf{r}_{ct}) + U_{nt}(\mathbf{r}_{nt})$$

• $U_{ct}(\mathbf{r}_{ct})$, $U_{nt}(\mathbf{r}_{nt})$ are optical potentials describing fragment-target elastic scattering (eg. target excitation is treated effectively, through absorption)

- Some nuclei allow a description in terms of two or more clusters: d=p+n, ${}^{6}Li=\alpha+d$, ${}^{7}Li=\alpha+{}^{3}H$.
- Projectile-target interaction:

$$V(\mathbf{R},\xi) \equiv V(\mathbf{R},\mathbf{r}) = U_1(\mathbf{r}_1) + U_2(\mathbf{r}_2)$$

• Transition potentials:

$$V_{n,n'}(\mathbf{R}) = \int d\mathbf{r} \phi_n^*(\mathbf{r}) \left[U_1(\mathbf{r}_1) + U_2(\mathbf{r}_2) \right] \phi_{n'}(\mathbf{r})$$

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• Transition potentials:

$$V_{n,n'}(\mathbf{R}) = \int d\mathbf{r} \phi_n^*(\mathbf{r}) \left[U_1(\mathbf{r}_1) + U_2(\mathbf{r}_2) \right] \phi_{n'}(\mathbf{r})$$



Example: ⁷Li(α +t) +²⁰⁸Pb at 68 MeV

 \Rightarrow CC calculation with 2 channels (3/2⁻, 1/2⁻):



Data from Davinson et al, Phys. Lett. 139B (1984) 150)

Example: Three-body calculation $(p+n+{}^{58}Ni)$ with Watanabe potential:

$$V_{dt}(\mathbf{R}) = \int d\mathbf{r} \phi_{gs}^*(\mathbf{r}) \left\{ V_{pt}(\mathbf{r}_{pt}) + V_{nt}(\mathbf{r}_{nt}) \right\} \phi_{gs}(\mathbf{r})$$



SThree-body calculations omitting breakup channels fail to describe the experimental data.

Inclusion of breakup channels: the CDCC method



We want to include explicitly in the modelspace the breakup channels of the projectile or target.
Bound versus scattering states



Unbound states are not suitable for CC calculations:

- They have a continuous (infinite) distribution in energy.
- Non-normalizable: $\langle u_{k,\ell sj}(r)|u_{k',\ell sj}(r)\rangle \propto \delta(k-k')$

SOLUTION \Rightarrow continuum discretization

• Continuum discretization method proposed by G.H. Rawitscher [PRC9, 2210 (1974)] and Farrell, Vincent and Austern [Ann.Phys.(New York) 96, 333 (1976)] to describe deuteron scattering as an effective three-body problem p + n + A.



• Full numerical implementation by Kyushu group (Sakuragi, Yahiro, Kamimura, and co.): Prog. Theor. Phys.(Kyoto) 68, 322 (1982)

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Continuum discretization using the binning method



- Select a number of angular momenta ($\ell = 0, ..., \ell_{max}$).
- \Rightarrow For each ℓ , set a maximum excitation energy ε_{max} .
- \Rightarrow Divide the interval $\varepsilon = 0 \varepsilon_{max}$ in a set of sub-intervals (*bins*).
- ⇒ For each bin, calculate a representative wavefunction.

Bin wavefunction:

$$\phi_{\ell j m}^{[k_1, k_2]}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{u_{\ell j}^{[k_1, k_2]}(r)}{r} [Y_{\ell}(\hat{r}) \otimes \chi_s]_{jm} \qquad [k_1, k_2] = \text{bin interval}$$

$$u_{\ell sjm}^{[k_1,k_2]}(r) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi N}} \int_{k_1}^{k_2} w(k) u_{k,\ell sj}(r) dk$$

- *k*: linear momentum
- $u_{k,\ell sj}(r)$: scattering states (radial part)
- w(k): weight function



• Choose a complete basis for the degree of freedom under consideration

Eg: HO basis: $\{\phi_{\ell,n}^{HO}(r)\}$; $n = 0, \dots, \infty$

2 Truncate the basis: n = 0, ..., N

Oiagonalize the Hamiltonian in the truncated basis

$$\{\phi_{\ell,n}^{HO}(r)\}_{n=0}^{N} \xrightarrow{\text{Diagonalize H}} \{\varphi_{\ell,n}(r)\}_{n=0}^{N} \begin{cases} \epsilon_{0} \simeq \epsilon_{gs} < 0 \implies \text{\Rightarrow g.s.} \\ \epsilon_{n} < 0 \quad (n \neq 0) \Rightarrow \text{Bound excited states} \\ \epsilon_{n} > 0 \qquad \Rightarrow \text{Continuum states} \end{cases}$$

- Hamiltonian: $H = T_{\mathbf{R}} + h_r(\mathbf{r}) + V_{pt}(\mathbf{r}_{pt}) + V_{nt}(\mathbf{r}_{nt})$
- Model wavefunction:

$$\Psi^{(+)}(\mathbf{R},\mathbf{r}) = \underbrace{\phi_{gs}(\mathbf{r})\chi_0(\mathbf{R})}_{\text{Ground state}} + \underbrace{\sum_{n>0}^N \phi_n(\mathbf{r})\chi_n(\mathbf{R})}_{n>0}$$



• Coupled equations: $[H - E]\Psi(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{r}) = 0$

р

$$[E - \varepsilon_n - T_R - V_{n,n}(\mathbf{R})]\chi_n(\mathbf{R}) = \sum_{n' \neq n} V_{n,n'}(\mathbf{R})\chi_{n'}(\mathbf{R})$$

• Coupling potentials:

$$V_{n;n'}(\mathbf{R}) = \int d\mathbf{r} \phi_n^*(\mathbf{r}) \left[V_{pt}(\mathbf{R} + \frac{\mathbf{r}}{2}) + V_{nt}(\mathbf{R} - \frac{\mathbf{r}}{2}) \right] \phi_{n'}(\mathbf{r})$$

Partial-wave decomposition of CDCC wavefunction

• In practical calculations, the CDCC wf is expanded in the so-called channel basis $\langle \hat{R}, \mathbf{r}, |\beta; J_T \rangle = \left[Y_L(\hat{R}) \otimes \phi_{n,J_p}(\mathbf{r}) \right]_{J_T}$:

$$\Psi_{\beta_0,J_T,M_T}(\vec{R},\vec{r},\xi) = \sum_{\beta} \frac{\chi_{\beta,\beta_0}^{J_T}(R)}{R} |\beta;J_T\rangle \quad \beta \equiv \{L,J_p,n\}$$

• The radial coefficients verify

$$\left(-\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu}\frac{d^2}{dR^2} + \frac{\hbar^2 L(L+1)}{2\mu R^2} + \varepsilon_n - E\right)\chi^{J_T}_{\beta,\beta_0}(R) + \sum_{\beta} V^{J_T}_{\beta,\beta'}(R)\chi^{J_T}_{\beta'}(R) = 0$$

with the coupling potentials:

$$V^{J_T}_{\beta,\beta'}(R) = \langle \beta; J_T | V_1(\vec{R},\vec{r}) + V_2(\vec{R},\vec{r}) | \beta'; J_T \rangle$$

• Boundary conditions:

$$\chi^{J_T}_{\beta,\beta_0}(R) \to e^{i\sigma_L} \frac{i}{2} \left[H_L^{(-)}(K_\beta R) \delta_{\beta_0,\beta} - S^{J_T}_{\beta,\beta_0} H_L^{(+)}(K_\beta R) \right]$$

Coupling to continuum states produce:

- Polarization of the projectile (modification of real part)
- Flux removal (absorption) from the elastic channel (imaginary part)



• From the elastic channel equation, a TELP can be defined as follows:

$$\left[E - \varepsilon_0 - \hat{T}_{\mathbf{R}} - V_{0,0}(\mathbf{R})\right] \chi_0(\mathbf{R}) = \sum_{i \neq 0} V_{i,0}(\mathbf{R}) \chi_i(\mathbf{R}) \equiv U_{\text{TELP}}(\mathbf{R}) \chi_0(\mathbf{R}).$$

- In actual calculations, $U_{\text{TELP}}(R)$ will depend on the total angular momentum, but a weighted average can be performed to obtain an approximate angular-momentum independent polarization potential
- A single channel calculation with the potential $U(\mathbf{R}) = V_{0,0}(\mathbf{R}) + U_{\text{TELP}}(\mathbf{R})$ should reproduce approximately the elastic scattering cross section.



For this reaction, the TELP is complex:

- The real part is repulsive (reduces projectile-target attraction)
- The imaginary part is absorptive (flux removal)

What observables can be studied with CDCC?

⇒ Elastic scattering





⇒ Elastic breakup with respect with respect to $\theta_{c.m.}$ or E_{rel}



(requires coincidence measurements of n and ${}^{10}\text{Be}$)

Howell et al, JPGG31, S1881 (2005)

⇒ From the two-body scattering amplitudes, more complicated breakup observables can be obtained, such as angular/energy distribution of one of the fragments





Tostevin et al, PRC 63, 024617

E.g.: CDCC calculations for \mathbf{d} + ¹²**C** at 56 MeV:



A. Deltuva et al, PRC 76, 064602 (2007)

The CDCC has been also applied to nuclei with a cluster structure:

- ⁶Li= α + d ($S_{\alpha,d}$ =1.47 MeV)
- ${}^{11}\text{Be} = {}^{10}\text{Be} + n (S_n = 0.504 \text{ MeV})$





Extensions of standard CDCC

Recent (and no so recent) extensions of CDCC

- **()** Inclusion of target excitations, eg. $d + A \rightarrow p + n + A^*$
 - Kyushu: Yahiro et al, Prog. Theor. Phys. Suppl. 89, 32 (1986)
 - Seville: M. Gómez-Ramos and AMM, PRC95, 034609 (2017)

2 Inclusion of core excitations in the projectile (eg. ${}^{11}Be={}^{10}Be^* + n$).

- Michigan/Surrey (bins) : Summers et al, PRC74, 014606 (2006)
- Seville (pseudo-states): R. de Diego et al, PRC 89, 064609 (2014)

Sextension to 4-body reactions (3+1) (⁶He, ¹¹Li, ⁹Be), eg. ¹¹Li= ⁹Li+n+n

- Kyushu: Matsumoto i*et al*, NPA738, 471 (2004), PRC70, 061601(R) (2004).
- Seville: Rodriguez-Gallardo *et al*, PRC72 (2005) 024007, PRC77, 064609 (2008).
- Brussels: Descouvemont *et al*, PRC91, 024606 (2015)
- Use of microscopic projectile WFs (microscopic CDCC):
 - 🕼 Kyushu: Sakuragi et al, Prog. Theor. Phys. Suppl. 89, 136 (1986).
 - Brussels: Descouvemont and Hussein, PRL 111, 082701 (2013)



To extend the CDCC formalism, one needs to evaluate the new coupling potentials:

$$V_{n;n'}(\mathbf{R}) = \int d\mathbf{r} \,\phi_n^*(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \left\{ V_{nt}(\mathbf{r}_1) + V_{nt}(\mathbf{r}_2) + V_{\alpha t}(\mathbf{r}_3) \right\} \phi_{n'}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$$

- $\phi_n(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ three-body WFs for bound and continuum states: hyperspherical coordinates, Faddeev, etc (difficult to calculate!)
- ¹³⁷ 4b-CDCC calculations not included in FRESCO; require separate codes to compute the $\phi_n(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ wfs (e.g. FACE) and $V_{n;n'}(\mathbf{R})$ potentials



Data (LLN): NPA803, 30 (2008);PRC 84, 044604 (2011) Calculations: PRC 80, 051601 (2009), PRC77, 064609 (2008)

N.b.: 1-channel potential considers only g.s. \rightarrow g.s. coupling potential:

$$V_{00}(\mathbf{R}) = \int d\mathbf{r} \,\phi_{g.s.}^*(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \left\{ V_{nt}(\mathbf{r}_1) + V_{nt}(\mathbf{r}_2) + V_{ct}(\mathbf{r}_3) \right\} \phi_{g.s.}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$$

Four-body CDCC calculations for ⁶He (cont.)



M. Rodriguez-Gallardo et al, PRC 77, 064609 (2008)

■ El couplings play a key role at explaining the elastic scattering behaviour of ⁶He and other halo nuclei

Four-body CDCC calculations for ¹¹Li (cont.)



M Cubero et al, PRL109, 262701 (2012)

Eg.: Microscopic descrition of ⁷Li:

R P R

 $\phi_i(\xi_p) = \mathcal{A}[[\phi_\alpha \otimes \phi_t]^{1/2} \otimes Y_\ell(\Omega_\rho)]^{jm} g_i^{\ell j}(\rho)$

- $\phi_{\alpha}, \phi_{\alpha}$ shell model wave functions for α and t
- $g_i^{\ell j}(\rho)$ relative inter-cluster wf.



P. Descouvemont, M.S. Hussein, PRL111, 082701 (2013) Core excitations

Deviations from the inert-cluster model are expected to show up when cluster d.o.f. are strongly excited during the reaction.

Microscopic models

¹⁰Be*

- Fragments described microscopically
- ✓ Realistic NN interactions (Pauli properly accounted for)
- Numerically demanding / not simple interpretation.



Deviations from the inert-cluster model are expected to show up when cluster d.o.f. are strongly excited during the reaction.



Core excitations will affect:

• the structure of the projectile \Rightarrow core-excited admixtures

$$\Psi_{JM}(\vec{r},\xi) = \sum_{\ell,j,I} \left[\varphi_{\ell,j,I}^J(\vec{r}) \otimes \Phi_I(\xi) \right]_{JM}$$



the dynamics
⊂ collective excitations of the ¹⁰Be during the collision compete with halo (single-particle) excitations.



⇒ Both effects have been recently implemented in an extended version of the CDCC formalism (CDCC): Summers *et al*, PRC74 (2006) 014606, R. de Diego *et al*, PRC 89, 064609 (2014)

Extending CDCC to include core excitations

• Standard CDCC \Rightarrow use coupling potentials:

$$V_{\alpha;\alpha'}(\mathbf{R}) = \langle \Psi_{J'M'}^{\alpha'}(\vec{r}) | V_{vt}(r_{vt}) + V_{ct}(r_{ct}) | \Psi_{JM}^{\alpha}(\vec{r}) \rangle$$

• Extended CDCC (XCDCC) \Rightarrow use generalized coupling potentials

$$V_{\alpha;\alpha'}(\mathbf{R}) = \langle \Psi_{J'M'}^{\alpha'}(\vec{r},\boldsymbol{\xi}) | V_{vt}(r_{vt}) + V_{ct}(r_{ct},\boldsymbol{\xi}) | \Psi_{JM}^{\alpha}(\vec{r},\boldsymbol{\xi}) \rangle$$

• $\Psi^{\alpha}_{JM}(\vec{r},\xi)$: projectile WFs involving core-excited admixtures (structure).

(actual applications have employed particle-rotor models, or folded potentials with microscopic transition densities)

- $V_{ct}(r_{ct},\xi)$: non-central potential allowing for core excitations/de-excitations (dynamic core excitation).
- Summers *et al*, PRC74 (2006) 014606 (bins)
- R. de Diego et al, PRC 89, 064609 (2014) (THO pseudo-states)



- De Diego et al, PRC85, 054613 (2014).
- Data from Shrivastava et al, PLB596 (2004) 54.

IN JA Lay et al, PRC94,021602(R)(2016).

θ_{c.m.} (deg)

⇒ Core excitations may enhance dramatically the breakup cross sections in reactions of deformed halo nuclei with light targets

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A.M.M. and J.A. Lay, PRL 109, 232502 (2012)



Pesudo et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. 118, 152502 (2017)

The problem of inclusive breakup

- Weakly-bound nuclei are known to break up easily in collisions with other nuclei due to the nuclear and Coulomb fields.
- When all fragments following dissociation are observed (exclusive breakup) different models have been developed and successfully applied: DWBA, CDCC, Faddeev, etc
- Full-kinematical measurements require dedicated experimental setups which are particularly involved when neutron detection is required:



Fukuda et al, PRC 70, 054606 (2004)

95/155



Data: Matsuoka et al, NPA391, 357 (1982) **Calc.:** Deltuva et al,PRC76, 064602 (2007)



Data: Pampus et al, NPA311, 141 (1978)



Data (LLN): Sánchez-Benítez et al, NPA 803, 30 (2008) L. Acosta et al, PRC 84, 044604 (2011), D. Escrig et al., NPA 792 (2007) 2

Calculations: Rodríguez-Gallardo et al, PRC 80, 051601 (2009)

Score reproduces elastic scattering, but not inclusive α 's.



 \Rightarrow For a reaction of the form $a(= b + x) + A \rightarrow b$ + anything

$$\sigma_b = \sigma_{EBU} + \sigma_{NEB} + \sigma_{CN}$$


 \Rightarrow For a reaction of the form $a(= b + x) + A \rightarrow b$ + anything

$$\sigma_b = \sigma_{EBU} + \sigma_{NEB} + \sigma_{CN}$$



- Highest energy protons from neutron transfer to bound states: A(d, p)B
- Lowest energy protons from compound nucleus (CN) and preequilibrium (PE)
- Intermediate energy protons from population of *x* + *A* unbound states (including elastic breakup)

Explicit evaluation of inclusive cross sections

- ⇒ Inclusive breakup could in principle be evaluated computing all contributing processes using standard reaction methods, such as DWBA or CRC.
- ⇒ …however, this procedure has serious shortcomings:
 - Final *x*+*A* states span a wide range of excitation energies and spins, so the number of populated states will in general be huge.
 - A significant part of the inclusive spectrum corresponds to *x*-*A* continuum.
 - An explicit calculation would require a detailed knowledge of the populated states: spin/parity, spectroscopic factors ..., which are poorly known above a few MeV of excitation energy
 - Final states will include, in addition to direct processes, partial fusion ("incomplete fusion"), which are not easily accounted for by standard direct reaction theories.

Inclusive breakup models based on closed-form formulas provide an efficient (and elegant) alternative which exploit the fact that nonelastic x - A processes are encoded in the imaginary part of the U_{xA} optical potential.



- Baur & co: DWBA sum rule with surface approximation.
 - Baur et al, PRC21, 2668 (1980).
- Hussein & McVoy: extraction of singles cross section combining the spectator model with sum-rule over final states.
 - Nucl. Phys. A445, 124 (1985).
- Ichimura, Austern, Vincent (IAV): Post-form DWBA.
 - Ichimura, Austern, Vincent, PRC32, 431 (1985).
 - Austern al, Phys. Rep. 154, 125 (1987).
- Udagawa, Tamura (UT): prior-form DWBA.
 - Udagawa and Tamura, PRC24, 1348 (1981).
 - Udagawa, Lee, Tamura, PLB135, 333 (1984).

⇒Most of these theories have fallen into disuse and are now being revisited by several groups

Ichimura, Austern, Vincent model for NEB [IAV, PRC32, 431 (1985)]

(alternative derivation in Lei, AMM, PRC92, 044616 (2015)

• Inclusive reaction
$$\underbrace{(b+x)}_{a} + A \rightarrow b + (x+A)^{*}$$

• *b* singles cross section: $\sigma_b^{inc} = \sigma_b^{EBU} + \sigma_b^{NBU}$



- EBU: $a + A \rightarrow b + x + A_{g.s.}$ can be computed with CDCC, DWBA, etc
- σ_b^{NEB} can be interpreted as the absorption occurring in the x + A channel:

$$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{NEB}}}{d\Omega_b dE_b} = -\frac{2}{\hbar v_a} \rho_b(E_b) \langle \varphi_x(\vec{k}_b) | W_{xA} | \varphi_x(\vec{k}_b) \rangle \qquad W_{xA} = \text{Im}[U_{xA}]$$

where $\varphi_x(\vec{k}_b, \mathbf{r}_x)$ describes *x*-*A* relative motion when *b* emerges with momentum $\vec{k}_b \equiv \{\Omega_b, E_b\}.$

$$(E_x^+ - K_x - U_{xA})\varphi_x^{\text{IAV}}(\mathbf{r}_x) = \langle \mathbf{r}_x \chi_b^{(-)}(\vec{k}_b) | V_{\text{post}} | \chi_a^{(+)} \phi_a \rangle \qquad V_{\text{post}} \equiv V_{bx} + U_{bA} - U_{bB}$$

- For $E_x > 0$, U_{xA} is the usual optical model potential describing x+A elastics ^{INF} Im $[U_{xA}]$ accounts for x - A **absorption**.
- For $E_x < 0$, U_{xA} represents the distribution of single-particle (s.p.) states ^{INF} Im $[U_{xA}]$ accounts for **s.p. fragmentation** (spreading widths).

- For $E_x > 0$, U_{xA} is the usual optical model potential describing x+A elastics $\operatorname{Im}[U_{xA}]$ accounts for x - A absorption.
- For $E_x < 0$, U_{xA} represents the distribution of single-particle (s.p.) states ^{INF} Im $[U_{xA}]$ accounts for **s.p. fragmentation** (spreading widths).
- These properties are naturally accommodated in dispersive optical model (DOM) potentials

Mahaux, Bortignon, Broglia, Dasso, Phys. Rep. 120, (1985) 1-274

Both "transfer" to unbound states and bound states described on an equal footing



- EBU calculated with CDCC.
- NBU calculated with DWBA IAV model.
- Low-energy protons from preequilibrium (PE) and compound nucleus (CN) evaporation not accounted for by IAV model, but can be evaluated with HF theory.

Data: Ridikas et al, PRC63, 014610 (2000) **Calc.:** J. Lei, A.M.M., PRC 92, 044616 (2015); Jin Lei, Ph.D. thesis, https://idus.us.es/handle/11441/44344

Application to ²⁰⁹Bi (⁶Li,*a*)X

- Large α yield ($\sigma_{\alpha} \gg \sigma_d$) \Rightarrow evidence of NEB channels
- EBU alone cannot explain the data.









 Salina et al. FICCo., 014012 (2012)

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Application to ²⁰⁹Bi (⁶Li,*a*)X

Assume: $\sigma_{\alpha} \simeq \sigma^{\text{EBU}} + \sigma^{\text{NEB}}$:

- EBU ⇒ CDCC
- NEB \Rightarrow IAV



- Inclusive data are well accounted for by EBU+NEB
- Inclusive α 's dominated by NEB
- EBU (⁶Li → α + d) only relevant for small scattering angles.

J. Lei and AMM, PRC92, 044616 (2015)

⁵⁸Ni(⁷Be, *a*)X @ LNL/INFN





Data: M. Mazzocco et al, C 92, 024615 (2015) **Calculations:** J. Lei, Ph.D. thesis, U. Sevilla.

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Application to 58Ni (8Li, 7Li)X

 ${}^{8}\text{Li} \rightarrow {}^{7}\text{Li}$:

58Ni(8Li,7Li)X @ RIBRAS



[O.C.B. Santos, PRC 103, 064601 (2021) and Ph.D. thesis]

• Inclusive breakup dominated by NEB.

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Application to halo nuclei

¹¹Be \rightarrow ¹⁰Be :

⁶⁴Zn(¹¹Be,¹⁰Be)X @ ISOLDE-CERN



Di Pietro et al., PLB 798 (2019) 134954

208Pb(11Be,10Be)X @ 140 MeV

²⁰⁸Pb(¹¹Be,¹⁰Be)X @ HIRF-Lanzhou



Duan et al., PLB 811 (2020) 135942

- Inclusive breakup dominated by EBU. ۲
- NEB only important around the grazing angle.

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Application to halo nuclei

 ${}^{8}\mathbf{B} \rightarrow {}^{7}\mathbf{Be}$:

⁶⁴Zn(⁸B,⁷Be)X @ ISOLDE-CERN



Sparta et al, PLB820, 136477 (2021)

- Inclusive breakup dominated by EBU.
- NEB important around the grazing angle.

²⁰⁸Pb(⁸B,⁷Be)X @ HIRF-Lanzhou



Wang et al, PRC 103, 024606 (2021)

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- For weakly-bound, non-halo nuclei (deuteron, ^{6,7,8}Li,..) the inclusive breakup is dominated by the NEB component.
- For very weakly-bound nuclei, such as halo nuclei (⁸B,¹¹Be), the inclusive breakup is dominated by the EBU component.
- A significant part of the inclusive cross section corresponds to the population of continuum states of the residual (x+A) system.

Exploring the continuum with breakup reactions

Coulomb dissociation experiments

- · Semiclassical description: Alder and Winther
- Quantum-mechanical description
- Inferring radiative capture reaction rates from Coulomb dissociation
- **2** Exploring continuum structures: resonances and virtual states

Electric response of weakly-bound nuclei



• The $E\lambda$ response can be quantified through the $B(E\lambda)$ probability:

$$B(E\lambda; i \to f) = \frac{1}{2I_i + 1} |\langle \Psi_f || \mathcal{M}(E\lambda) || \Psi_i \rangle|^2$$

• Neutron-halo nuclei have large B(E1) strengths near threshold

Example: ${}^{11}\text{Be} + {}^{208}\text{Pb} \rightarrow {}^{10}\text{Be} + n + {}^{208}\text{Pb}$ measured at RIKEN (69 MeV/u). Fukuda et al, PRC70, 054606 (2004))



¹¹Be excitation energy can be reconstructed from core-neutron coincidences (*invariant mass method*) • Experimentally, one measures angular and relative energy distribution of the ¹¹Be* system:



• Integrating over the angle or energy, single differential cross sections are obtained:



• In the Coulomb dominated region (i.e. small angles), the breakup cross section is expected to be dominated by the $dB(E\lambda)/dE$ distribution, but we need a theory that relates both observables.

• For $E\lambda$ excitation to bound states $(0 \rightarrow n)$:

$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)_{0\to n} = \left(\frac{Z_t e^2}{\hbar v}\right)^2 \frac{B(E\lambda, 0 \to n)}{e^2 a_0^{2\lambda-2}} f_\lambda(\theta, \xi) \qquad \xi_{0\to n} = \frac{(E_n - E_0)}{\hbar} \frac{a_0}{v}$$

• For continuum states (breakup):

$$\frac{d\sigma(E\lambda)}{d\Omega dE} = \left(\frac{Z_t e^2}{\hbar v}\right)^2 \frac{1}{e^2 a_0^{2\lambda-2}} \frac{dB(E\lambda)}{dE} \frac{df_{\lambda}(\theta,\xi)}{d\Omega}$$

 \mathbb{I} $dB(E\lambda)/dE$ can be extracted from small-angle Coulomb dissociation data.

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dE}(\theta < \theta_{\max}) = \int_0^{\theta_{\max}} \frac{d\sigma(E\lambda)}{d\Omega dE} d\Omega \propto \frac{dB(E\lambda)}{dE}$$

Extracting B(E1) of ¹¹Be from ¹¹Be+²⁰⁸Pb Coulomb dissociation

Assumptions:

- Breakup dominated by Coulomb excitation
- Nuclear excitation, if present, can be estimated and added incoherently
- If the assumptions above are fulfilled, the extracted $dB(E\lambda)dE$ should be independent of the incident energy and target employed, since it reflects a structure property of the weakly-bound projectile



In extracted $dB(E\lambda)/dE$ distributions are reasonably compatible, but with apparent differences at the peak

Alternative analyses of Coulomb dissociation data

- Nuclear excitation not negligible, even for small θ
- Nuclear contribution interferes with Coulomb
- Higher-order couplings can affect the cross sections
- Alternatively, one may use fully QM approaches that incorporate Coulomb and nuclear couplings to all others (eg. CDCC).
- **E.g.:** CDCC analysis based on two-body ¹⁰Be+n model:





CDCC: AMM et al,PLB 811 (2020) 135959 Ab-initio: Calci et al, PRL117 (2016)

- Extracted $dB(E\lambda)dE$ from different cross section data compatible within errors.
- Differences with ab-initio NCSM calls for further work.

The continuum spectrum is not "homogeneous"; it contains in general energy regions with special structures, such as resonances and virtual states



- It is a pole of the S-matrix in the complex energy plane.
- It is a structure on the continuum which may, or may not, produce a maximum in the cross section, depending on the reaction mechanism and the phase space available.
- The resonance occurs in the range of energies for which the phase shift is close to $\pi/2$.
- In this range of energies, continuum wavefunctions have a large probability of being in the radial range of the potential.
- The continuum wavefunctions are not square normalizable. For practical reasons, a normalized wave-packet (or "bin") can be constructed to represent the resonance.

In the energy range of the resonance, the continuum wavefunctions have a large probability of being within the range of the potential.



(Courtesy of C. Dasso)

Resonances and phase-shifts



Resonances and phase-shifts









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Howell et al., JPG31 (2005) S1881

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Application to radiative capture reactions

Radiative capture: $b + c \rightarrow a + \gamma$



⇒ Related by detailed balance:

Photodissociation: $a + \gamma \rightarrow b + c$



$$\sigma_{E\lambda}^{(rc)} = \frac{2(2J_a + 1)}{(2J_b + 1)(2J_c + 1)} \frac{k_{\gamma}^2}{k^2} \sigma_{E\lambda}^{(phot)} \qquad (\hbar k_{\gamma} = E_{\gamma}/c)$$

⇒ Astrophysical S-factor:

$$S(E_{\text{c.m.}}) = E_{\text{c.m.}}\sigma_{E\lambda}^{(rc)} \exp[2\pi\eta(E_{\text{c.m.}})]$$

⇒ Capture cross sections are difficult to measure because they are very small at relevant astrophysical energies.

Morlock, PRL79, 3837 (1997)







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 \Rightarrow The photodissociation ($\gamma + a \rightarrow b + c$) cross section is related to the $B(E\lambda)$

$$\sigma_{E\lambda}^{\text{photo}} = \frac{(2\pi)^3 (\lambda+1)}{\lambda [(2\lambda+1)!!]^2} \left(\frac{E_{\gamma}}{\hbar c}\right)^{2\lambda-1} \frac{dB(E\lambda)}{dE}$$

⇒ Then, in 1st order semiclassical limit, the Coulomb breakup x-section is proportional to photodissociation x-section:

$$\frac{d\sigma(E\lambda)}{d\Omega dE_{\gamma}} = \frac{1}{E_{\gamma}} \frac{dn_{E\lambda}}{d\Omega} \sigma_{E\lambda}^{\text{photo}}$$

(Equivalent Photon Method)

with the virtual photon number

$$\frac{dn_{E\lambda}}{d\Omega} = Z_t^2 \alpha \frac{\lambda [(2\lambda+1)!!]^2}{(2\pi)^3 (\lambda+1)} \xi^{2(1-\lambda)} \left(\frac{c}{\nu}\right)^{2\lambda} \frac{df_{E\lambda}}{d\Omega}$$

- Capture reactions have typically small cross sections
- Use breakup (Coulomb dissociation) reactions:

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega dE_{c.m.}} \to \sigma_{E\lambda}^{(\text{phot})} \to \sigma_{E\lambda}^{(rc)} \to S(E_{\text{c.m.}})$$



Summers and Nunes, PRC 78, 011601(R), 2008

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