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Exploring nuclear structure near 100Sn with neutron knockout reactions

Content

The region of the nuclear chart near the doubly-magic 100 Sn is of crucial importance for understanding the atomic nucleus and an excellent testing ground for state-of-the-art nuclear models. 100 Sn is the heaviest doubly-magic N = Z nucleus, and additionally represents the end of the astrophysical rp-process. Experimental constraints of the single-particle orbits outside 100Sn are crucial to understand the region.

In recent years there has been much discussion regarding the lowest-lying excited state of 100Sn, which lies at 172 keV. The spin and parity ordering of the two lowest-lying states (J = 5/2+, 7/2+) is still unknown, and this ordering directly relates to the vd_{5/2}, g_{7/2} single particle orbitals which inform the structure of the whole region [1, 2]. Thus, an experimental determination of the spin and parity of these low-lying states is imperative. The lightest Sn isotope for which the ordering has been experimentally measured is ¹⁰⁷Sn [3].

Results from single neutron knockout reactions on beams of ¹⁰⁴,¹⁰⁰²Cd and ¹⁰⁴Sn will be presented. Neutron knockout is an excellent probe of single-particle structure, effectively utilizing weak beams, and providing a measure of the angular momentum transfer and wavefunction purity. The experiment was conducted at the Facility for Rare Isotope Beams, using the GRETINA array and the S800 spectrograph. The high-statistics ¹⁰⁴,¹⁰⁰²Cd data provides insight into the neutron knockout reaction mechanism, with direct population of high-spin states showing down-shifted momentum distributions.

- [1] D. Seweryniak et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 99, 022504 (2007)
- [2] I. Darby et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 105 162502 (2010)
- [3] G. Cerizza et al. Phys. Rev. C 93, 0221601 (R) (2016)

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