Sub- and near-barrier fusion reactions
experimental results

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The various features of near- and sub-barrier heavy-ion fusion: enhancements, barrier distributions and hindrance

Fusion hindrance as a general phenomenon

Coupling to transfer channels

The case of the $^{28,30}\text{Si} + ^{28,30}\text{Si}$ systems: sub-barrier trends and fusion oscillations

Some perspectives
Early studies of sub-barrier fusion taught us that cross sections may strongly depend on the structure of colliding nuclei and on couplings to transfer channels.
The concept of a “fusion barrier distribution” was exploited: its sensitivity to the static nuclear deformation was evidenced ...

... and the study of $^{58}$Ni$^{+}$$^{60}$Ni revealed for the first time the existence of a barrier distribution with several well-defined peaks explained by multi-phonon couplings.

The effect of coupling to transfer channels in several Ca+Zr systems

The modified energy scale $E''$ takes into account the different Coulomb barriers and the high energy octupole vibrations of $^{40}\text{Ca}$ and $^{48}\text{Ca}$

Transfer channels with $Q>0$

A.M. Stefanini et al., PRC76, 014610(2007)
Hindrance vs. enhancement
Enhancement and hindrance of fusion near and below the barrier - Argonne

Logarithmic derivative
\[ = \frac{d[\ln(E\sigma)]}{dE} \]

S-factor

C.L. Jiang et al., PRL 93, 012701 (2004)
PRC 73, 014613 (2006)

S has a maximum when (if) \( L(E) = \pi\eta/E = L_{CS} \)
M.Dasgupta et al., PRL 99, 192701 (2007)
Fusion of stiff nuclei: the case of $^{58}\text{Ni} + ^{54}\text{Fe}$

A.M. Stefanini et al., PR C81, 037601 (2010)
The “magnificent systems”
Light systems with $Q>0$: the case of $^{24}\text{Mg} + ^{30}\text{Si}$

An S-factor maximum has been observed for $^{24}\text{Mg} + ^{30}\text{Si}$ ($Q_{\text{fus}} = +17.89$ MeV)

Coupling to transfer channels
Couplings to transfer channels in $^{40}$Ca + $^{96}$Zr

Ch-1 is no-coupling
Ch-6 one-phonon $2^+$, $3^-$ couplings
Ch-28 two-phonon couplings
Ch-84 two-phonon, one- and two-nucleon transfer couplings

H. Esbensen and A.M. Stefanini, PRC 89,044616 (2014)
CC analysis: the hindrance phenomenon does not occur in $^{40}\text{Ca}+^{96}\text{Zr}$!

One has to use the WS or ignore the repulsive part of the M3Y potential, to get closer to the data.

"Indeed, the Q-values for neutron transfer are large and positive. The valence nucleons can flow more freely from one nucleus to the other without being hindered by Pauli blocking."

H. Esbensen and A.M. Stefanini, PRC 89,044616 (2014)
Fusion of $^{40}\text{Ca} + ^{40}\text{Ca}$, $^{40}\text{Ca} + ^{48}\text{Ca}$ and $^{48}\text{Ca} + ^{48}\text{Ca}$: octupole vibrations and $Q>0$ transfer couplings

In spite of the large enhancement in the fusion of $^{40}\text{Ca} + ^{48}\text{Ca}$, hindrance does eventually occur but the onset is pushed down to very low energies, where it sets in rather abruptly below 47 MeV, where $L(E)$ increases rapidly.
The case of the $^{28,30}\text{Si} + ^{28,30}\text{Si}$ systems
Structures in the fusion excitation function of light systems

- Oscillatory structures were observed long time ago.
- A shallow ion-ion potential was employed to fit such data confirming the early suggestion that they are due to the penetration of successive centrifugal barriers.
- The sub-barrier excitation function was reproduced as well.

N. Poffe’, N. Rowley and R. Lindsay, NPA 410, 498 (1983)
H. Esbensen, PRC85, 064611 (2012)
C. Simenel et al. PRC88, 024617 (2013)
Using the first derivative of the excitation function \( \frac{d(E\sigma)}{dE} \) makes easier to observe oscillations.

\[
V_B(L) = V_{CB} + \frac{\hbar^2 L(L + 1)}{2\mu R_{CB}^2}
\]

The case of \(^{16}\text{O} + ^{16}\text{O}\)

- In heavier systems sub-barrier enhancements/hindrance are stronger.
- Do we observe oscillations in \(^{28}\text{Si} + ^{28}\text{Si}\)? This would provide very useful information on the potential and on coupling effects in a wide energy range.
The CC calculations include the low-lying $2^+$ and $3^-$ states, and their mutual excitations. A weak and short-ranged imaginary potential ($W_0=5$ MeV, $a=0.2$ fm) is required at low energies.

G.M. et al, PRC 90, 044608 (2014)
S. Gary and C. Volant, PRC 25, 1877 (1982)
The first derivative $\frac{d(E\sigma)}{dE}$ shows distinct oscillations above the barrier.

$^{28}$Si + $^{28}$Si

$\frac{d(E\sigma)}{dE}$ (mb)

$E_{\text{c.m.}}$ (MeV)

Ch10 R=3.17 fm
Ch10 R=3.125 fm
WS Ch10

G.M. et al., PLB746, 300 (2015)
Coupled channels $2^+, 3^-$

Run I
Run II
Ch10
$L_m=14
L=16
L=18
L=20$

$d(E\sigma)/dE$ [mb] vs. $E_{c.m.}$ (MeV)

In some detail ...

No couplings

see also N. Rowley and K. Hagino
PRC 91, 044617 (2015)
The study of $^{30}\text{Si} + ^{30}\text{Si}$ is in progress

The CC calculation includes the low lying $2^+$ and $3^-$ states, and their mutual excitations, but no imaginary potential. Oscillations are predicted also in this case ...

The logarithmic derivatives of $^{28}\text{Si}+^{28}\text{Si}$ and $^{30}\text{Si}+^{30}\text{Si}$
What do we learn from the Si+Si systems

- the appearance of oscillations and the trend of sub-barrier cross sections in $^{28}\text{Si} + ^{28}\text{Si}$ have been reproduced within the same theoretical frame, i.e., the CC model using the shallow M3Y+rep. potential

- within that model the existence of oscillations is tightly bound to channel couplings in this relatively heavy system, while in lighter cases the oscillations are related to the overcoming of successive centrifugal barriers well spaced in energy

- as a consequence, the one-to-one relation between each peak and the height of a centrifugal barrier is lost

- checking the importance of the oblate deformation of $^{28}\text{Si}$ in all this, calls for an analogous experiment on the near-by system $^{30}\text{Si} + ^{30}\text{Si}$ because $^{30}\text{Si}$ is a spherical nucleus
Some perspectives

- Measurement of the average angular momentum and possibly of the spin distribution below the barrier
- Stable beams with high intensity and quality
- Experiments with heavy exotic beams
- New high efficiency set-ups
- The fusion hindrance phenomenon in systems of astrophysical interest
Our collaboration in recent experiments

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