

The missing link in the Sn chain: Coulomb excitation of ^{102}Sn

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Abstract: Recent experiments using both low- and intermediate-energy Coulomb excitation of the unstable isotopes $^{106,108,110}\text{Sn}$ [1-4] indicate a larger than expected collectivity of the first 2^+ state in these isotopes. A new experiment for stable ^{114}Sn in inverse kinematics has also further corroborated this picture by confirming the result of an earlier measurement but with a five-fold improvement in precision [5]. A series of experiments on ^{104}Sn have shown a decreasing $B(E2)$ trend towards ^{100}Sn [6-8]. In particular the experiment at RIBF was of unprecedented accuracy [7]. These experimental results are currently not well reproduced by state-of-the-art large-scale shell-model (LSSM) calculations. With this proposal we aim to expand the measurements of the reduced transition probabilities for the first 2^+ state in the Sn isotopic chain to ^{102}Sn as well as to measure corresponding quantities in neutron deficient Cd isotopes. The purpose is to investigate correlations across the shell gap and thus to test the robustness of the ^{100}Sn shell closure with respect to quadrupole response. The measurement of the $B(E2)$ value in ^{102}Sn which should exhibit a local minimum will finally answer the question of the similarity of the shell closure in ^{100}Sn to the one in ^{56}Ni . Such a minimum is not observed the $N=3$, fp shell for the Ni isotopes and for the $N = 50$ isotones above $Z = 28$ [9]. The combination of high-efficiency of the DALI2 setup, and increased intensity of ^{124}Xe primary beam puts RIBF in a world-unique position as the only facility where a precision measurement of this kind can be carried out in the near future.

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