

Recent results from intermediate energy knockout reactions

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1 Introduction and motivation

- 2 Experimental and theoretical methods
- 3 Selected results and open questions
- 4 New developments and future directions
- 5 Summary



Direct reactions

- an excellent tool to study nuclear structure
- single-step and very fast, 10⁻²² s (time needed for the projectile to traverse the target)
- few nucleons participate, small momentum transfer
 - ightarrow selectivity, use as a spectroscopic tool



- peripheral collisions, surface dominated
- for large impact parameters the core fragment remains largely unaffected

 $v_c \sim v_p$

- experimentally: detect incident projectile and resulting fragment(s)
 - ightarrow probe of peripheral character of the reaction



Factorization of the cross section

- removing a nucleon with quantum numbers $\alpha = (n, l, s, j, m, t_z)$: nucleon removal operator O_{α} acting on initial state $|\Psi_i^A\rangle$
- reaction amplitude:

$$A^{if}_{lpha} = \langle \Psi^{\mathcal{A}-1}_{f} | O_{lpha} | \Psi^{\mathcal{A}}_{i}
angle$$

and cross section $\sigma^{\it if}_{lpha} = |{\it A}^{\it if}_{lpha}|^2$

sudden approximation: reaction is fast compared to motion of nucleons: $O_{\alpha} \rightarrow (-1)^{j+m} a_{k,-m}$ proportional to annihilation operator *a*:

$$A_{\alpha}^{if} = C_{\alpha}^{if} \langle \Psi_{f}^{A-1} | a_{\alpha} | \Psi_{i}^{A} \rangle$$

summing over final *m*, averaging over initial *m* projections:

$$\sigma_k^{if} = \frac{1}{2J_i + 1} \sum_{M_i, M_f} |C_k^{if}|^2 \left| \langle \Psi_f^{A-1} | a_{k,m} | \Psi_i^A \rangle \right|^2$$

• average over M_i , M_f , assuming spherical projectile, or $J_i = 0$:

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The spectroscopic factor

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• single-particle cross section $|C_k^{if}|^2 = \sigma_k^{sp}$:

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described reaction dynamics only

- spectroscopic factor S_k^{if} only depends on the structure of initial and final states
- in proton-neutron formalism: $C^2 S_k^{if}(T) = C^2 S$ with isospin Clebsch-Gordan coefficient
- typically calculated in a harmonic oscillator basis \rightarrow center of mass correction:

$$C^2 S \to \left(\frac{A}{A-1}\right)^N C^2 S$$

spectroscopic factors are not observables, only the cross section is measured



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Reactions with stable beams

(p,2p) reactions on stable targets

- proton beam with several hundred MeV
- short wavelength, deep hole states
- NN cross section small
 - ightarrow impulse approximation



• $p_{A-1} = p_i - p_1 - p_2$ \rightarrow excitation energy spectrum



¹⁶O(p,2p)¹⁵N at 500 MeV (TRIUMF)

C. A. Miller et al., Phys. Rev. C 57 (1998) 1756

- proton-pair angular correlations
 - ightarrow momentum distribution of protons in the nucleus
- determine orbital angular momentum /
- **polarized protons** \rightarrow total angular momentum *j*

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Quasi-free scattering on light nuclei



challenge: limited resolution, heavier nuclei / higher level density not feasible



- advantage: higher resolution
- \blacksquare nucleus is transparent to electrons \rightarrow study of inner shells
- less distortion of the associated momentum distributions
- disadvantage: small electro-magnetic cross section



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observation:

- summed spectroscopic strength $\sum S_{\alpha}$ compared to independent particle shell model (2*j* + 1)
- reduction of the spectroscopic strength by 65 % → correlations the are not included in the mean-field approximation
- depletion of states below the Fermi surface and population of states above it
- no in the (limited) model space of the theory



L. Lapikás, Nucl. Phys. A 553 (1993) 297



Short-range correlations

- repulsive core of the NN interaction at r < 0.5 fm</p>
- uncertainty principle $\Delta p \Delta r < \hbar$
 - ightarrow components in the wave function with ppprox 400 MeV/c
- extremely difficult to measure
- beyond the mean field theory (MFT) but for light nuclei: microscopic variational Monte-Carlo (VMC) calculations based on realistic NN interactions



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measurement

calculated momentum distributions



spectroscopic factor:



Correlated pairs

- $\blacksquare\,$ only \sim 65 % of the nucleons participate in the independent particle motion
- short-range correlations lead to pairs with large relative momentum and small center of mass momentum
- \blacksquare local density for pairs \sim 5 times larger than nuclear density
 - ightarrow probing dense nuclear matter (neutron stars)

¹²C(e,e'pN) at JLab

- if one partner of such a pair is struck: high relative momentum leads to recoil of the correlated nucleon as well
- measure (e,e'p) and (e,e'pN):
 ~ 80 % of the nucleons act independently
 ~ 20 % of the nucleons form correlated pairs
- measure (e,e'pp) and (e,e'pn):
 n-p pairs are 18 times more common
 → direct effect of the tensor force

R. Subedi et al., Science 320 (2008) 1476





- production of radioactive ion beams by projectile fragmentation
- ideal beam energy range 50 1000 MeV/u



- cocktail beam requires fragment separator
- "bad" beam quality, momentum spread, contamination, emittance
- facilities:
 - NSCL A1900/S800: \sim 100 MeV/u, $\Delta p = 0.1 5$ %, dispersion matching possible
 - **GSI FRS:** 500 1000 MeV/u, $\Delta p \leq 3 \%$
 - GANIL SISSI/SPEG: \sim 100 MeV/u, $\Delta p = 0.1$ %, energy loss mode
 - RIKEN BigRIPS/ZeroDegree: \sim 200 MeV/u, $\Delta p \leq$ 6 %
- intensities of a few particles per second required
- \rightarrow ideal conditions for nucleon removal reactions with radioactive beams

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nucleon knockout: light nuclear target ⁹Be or ¹²C



- pioneering experiments using ¹¹Li breakup
 N. A. Orr et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 69 (1992) 2050
- now extensively used at: NSCL, GANIL, GSI
- strong absorption: reaction happens at surface
- → probe the outer part of the wave-function

quasi-free scattering: (p,2p) or (p,pn) using a hydrogen target



- in the past: (e,e'p) or (p,2p) on stable targets
- only way to determine absolute spectroscopic factors
 G. J. Kramer et al., Nucl. Phys. A 679 (2001) 267
- wide range from weakly bound (valence) to deeply bound (core) states
- \blacksquare \rightarrow sample entire wave function



Knockout reactions: experimental and theoretical methods



for this talk

- "knockout" refers to nucleon removal reactions with a light nuclear target such as ⁹Be or ¹²C
- "quasi-free scattering" to (p,2p) or (p,pn) reactions
- why do some people prefer knockout over quasi-free scattering for spectroscopy?



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experimental advantages

- easy to make a thick, pure target (compared to CH₂ or liquid H)
- access to both proton and neutron states ((p,pn) required detection of neutron)



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- strong interaction dominated neglect Coulomb breakup
- absorptive disk, but core survives → peripheral collisions
- surface dominance like transfer reactions (there: light ion mean free path)



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well-developed experimental and theoretical techniques allow to determine

- spectroscopic factors, occupation numbers
- spin and parity assignments through momentum distributions



Early experiments

- fast projectile mass A collides with nuclear target
- mass (A-1) residues are detected
- light fragments are unobserved, final state tagging by γ -ray if needed
- sudden approximation:

$$\vec{k}_3 = \frac{A-1}{A}\vec{k}_A - \vec{k}_{A-1}$$

momentum of the struck nucleon \vec{k}_3 is related to the residues \vec{k}_{A-1}

■ first fragmentation experiment with radioactive beam at Bevalac/LBNL:



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- first fragmentation experiment with radioactive beam at Bevalac/LBNL:
- two components in the transverse momentum distribution of ⁹Li residues
- broad like for stable nuclei (¹²C)
- very narrow

 \rightarrow removal of weakly bound neutrons uncertainty relation \rightarrow large spatial extent

ightarrow signature of halo states

¹¹Li at 0.8 GeV/u on C target



T. Kobayashi et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 60 (1988) 2599



Limitations

- Coulomb deflection and diffractive scattering affect the transverse distribution
- → measure parallel (longitudinal) momentum distributions
 however, much higher resolution is required:
 ex: A = 50 nucleus with energy of 100 MeV/u p = 22 GeV/c momentum width of nucleon 50 (halos) 300 MeV/c
 - required resolution: $\Delta p/p \approx 0.5$ %
- \blacksquare momentum spread of incident beam: \sim few %



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solution: dispersion matching

- target at dispersive image
- second magnet compensates, direct measure of k_{3z}
- ¹¹Li at 66 MeV/u on different targets





The knockout reaction mechanism

two processes contribute to the knockout reaction with nuclear targets

diffractive or elastic breakup



- dissociation through two-body interaction with target (elastic)
- forward direction with beam velocity
- target remains in the ground state

stripping or inelastic breakup



- removed nucleon reacts with target
- excites the target
- loses energy or picks up nucleons from the target
- for light targets Coulomb breakup negligible
- stripping typically dominant
- \blacksquare calculate both processes \rightarrow incoherent sum compared to experiment



- scattering of a point projectile of a potential V(r)
- semi-classical approach: geometrical description in terms of the impact parameter b
- incident particle wave number k large wavelength small compared to changes in V(r)



scattered wave: $\psi^+(\vec{r}) = \exp(i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r})\omega(\vec{r})$ plane wave and modulating function ω (contains information on potential)

Schrödinger equation:

$$\left[-\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu}\nabla^2 + V(r)\right]\psi^+(\vec{r}\,) = E\psi^+(\vec{r}\,)$$
$$\rightarrow \left[2i\nabla\omega(\vec{r}\,)\cdot\vec{k}\,-\frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2}V(r)\omega(\vec{r}\,) + \nabla^2\omega(\vec{r}\,)\right]\exp\left(i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r}\,\right) = 0$$

approximation: neglect $abla^2 \omega(ec{r}\,) o$ first order equation for ω



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Eikonal theory

• align Z-axis along \vec{k} ($b = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$)

$$rac{\partial \omega}{\partial z} = -rac{i}{\hbar v} V(r) \omega(\vec{r}) \quad
ightarrow \quad \omega(\vec{r}\,) = \exp\left(-rac{i}{\hbar v} \int_{-\infty}^{z} V(\sqrt{b^2 + z'^2}) \mathrm{d}z'
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- neglecting $\nabla^2 \omega(\vec{r})$ means: assuming a straight line trajectory
- $v = \hbar k / \mu$ classical incident velocity in the cm frame





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• the scattering wave function $(z \rightarrow \infty)$ in eikonal approximation:

$$\psi^{\mathsf{eik}}(\vec{r}\,) o \exp\left(-rac{i}{\hbar
u} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} V(\sqrt{b^2 + z'^2}) \mathrm{d}z'
ight) \exp\left(iec{k}\,\cdotec{r}\,
ight) = S(b) e^{iec{k}\,\cdotec{r}}$$

- S(b): amplitude of the scattered wave, eikonal elastic S-matrix
- for a real potential $|S(b)|^2 = 1$
- rather simple: one dimensional integration through potential V(r)
- generalizes for few-body projectiles





- two-body projectile (bound): core c and valence particle v
- constituents interact with target through effective interactions V_{jt} (j = v,c)
- V_{jt} can be obtained from: phenomenological optical models, or folding models

 at high energies (> 50 MeV/u): double-folding of densities and effective NN interaction

$$V_{jt}(r_j) = \int d\vec{r}_1 \int d\vec{r}_2 \rho_j(r_1) \rho_t(r_2) t_{NN}(\vec{r}_j + \vec{r}_2 - \vec{r}_1)$$

Schrödinger equation for incident projectile with \vec{K} in cm frame $\begin{bmatrix} T_R + U(\vec{r}, \vec{R}) + H_p - E \end{bmatrix} \psi^+(\vec{r}, \vec{R}) = 0$

*H*_p projectile internal Hamiltonian, *U*(\vec{r} , \vec{R}) total projectile-target interaction ■ adiabatic (sudden) approximation *H*_p → −ε₀ ground state energy $[T_R + U(\vec{r}, \vec{R}) - (E + ε_0)] \psi^{adj}(\vec{r}, \vec{R}) = 0$





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 $\begin{array}{l} H_{p} \text{ projectile internal Hamiltonian, } U(\vec{r},\vec{R}) \text{ total projectile-target interaction} \\ \blacksquare \text{ adiabatic (sudden) approximation } H_{p} \rightarrow -\varepsilon_{0} \text{ ground state energy} \\ \left[T_{R} + U(\vec{r},\vec{R}) - (E + \varepsilon_{0}) \right] \psi^{\text{adj}}(\vec{r},\vec{R}) = 0 \end{array}$





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scattering wave product of incident wave and modulating function $\omega(\vec{r}, \vec{R}) = e^{i\vec{K}\cdot\vec{R}} \phi_0(\vec{r})\omega(\vec{r}, \vec{R})$

 ϕ_0 projectile ground state wave function, $\hbar K = \sqrt{2\mu(E + \varepsilon_0)}$

into Schrödinger equation and neglecting $\nabla^2 \omega(\vec{r}, \vec{R})$ gives

$$\rightarrow \omega(\vec{r}, \vec{R}) = \exp\left(-\frac{i}{\hbar v}\int_{-\infty}^{2} U(\vec{r}, \vec{R}) \mathrm{d}Z'\right)$$



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eikonal few-body wave function

$$\psi^{\mathsf{eik}}(ec{r}\,,ec{R}\,) o \mathcal{S}_{\mathsf{c}}(b_{\mathsf{c}})\mathcal{S}_{\mathsf{v}}(b_{\mathsf{v}})e^{iec{K}\,\cdotec{R}}\,\phi_0(ec{r}\,)$$

 $S_j(b_j)$ are the eikonal elastic *S*-matrices for independent scattering of v or c off the target

adiabatic: \vec{r} only parameter, *S*-matrices are calculated at fixed b_c and b_v



■ probability for projectile surviving (in ground state), i.e. the elastic *S*-matrix for the projectile is $S_{n}(b) = \langle \phi_{0} | S_{n}(b_{1}) | \phi_{0} \rangle$



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 $S_j(b_j)$ are the eikonal elastic *S*-matrices for independent scattering of v or c off the target

adiabatic: \vec{r} only parameter, *S*-matrices are calculated at fixed b_c and b_v



• probability for projectile surviving (in ground state), i.e. the elastic *S*-matrix for the projectile is $S_{n}(b) = \langle \phi_{n} | S_{n}(b_{n}) S_{n}(b_{n}) | \phi_{n} \rangle$



separation of dynamics (S_j) from structure (wave function to be probed)

 $\mathcal{S}_{\mathsf{p}}(b) = \langle \phi_0 | \mathcal{S}_{\mathsf{c}}(b_{\mathsf{c}}) \mathcal{S}_{\mathsf{v}}(b_{\mathsf{v}}) | \phi_0
angle$

• total cross section to populate state j ($d\vec{b} = 2\pi b db$):

$$\sigma_j = \int |\langle \phi_j | S_{\mathsf{c}}(b_{\mathsf{c}}) S_{\mathsf{v}}(b_{\mathsf{v}}) | \phi_0
angle - \delta_{j0} |^2 \ 2\pi b \, \mathrm{d}b$$

elastic cross section:

$$\sigma_0 = \int |\langle \phi_0 | S_{\rm c}(b_{\rm c}) S_{\rm v}(b_{\rm v}) | \phi_0 \rangle - 1|^2 \ 2\pi b \, \mathrm{d}b$$

total reaction cross section:

$$\sigma_{
m reac} = \int \left(1 - |\langle \phi_0 | S_{
m c}(b_{
m c}) S_{
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Elastic breakup cross section

- diffraction due to absorptive (imaginary) part and refraction in the real part of the potential together are called elastic breakup (diffraction)
- excite projectile to continuum with wave function $\phi_{\vec{k}}$
- integrate over continuum for projectile, target remains in ground state

$$\sigma_{\rm diff} = \int \int \left| \langle \phi_{\vec{k}} | S_{\rm c}(b_{\rm c}) S_{\rm v}(b_{\rm v}) | \phi_0 \rangle \right|^2 \, 2\pi b \, {\rm d}b \, {\rm d}\vec{k}$$

using completeness relation:

$$\sum_{\text{bound}} |\phi_b\rangle \langle \phi_b| + \int_0^\infty \mathrm{d}\vec{k} \; |\phi_{\vec{k}}\rangle \langle \phi_{\vec{k}} \; | = 1$$





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gives the total elastic (diffractive) cross section

$$\sigma_{\rm diff} = \int \left(\left\langle \phi_0 \left| |S_{\rm c}(b_{\rm c})S_{\rm v}(b_{\rm v})|^2 \right| \phi_0 \right\rangle - \left| \left\langle \phi_0 |S_{\rm c}(b_{\rm c})S_{\rm v}(b_{\rm v})| \phi_0 \right\rangle \right|^2 \right) \, 2\pi b \, {\rm d} b$$

under the assumption that there is only one bound state of the projectile





total absorption cross section (target excitation):

$$\sigma_{abs} = \sigma_{reac} - \sigma_{diff} = \int \left(1 - \left\langle \phi_0 \left| \left| S_c(b_c) S_v(b_v) \right|^2 \right| \phi_0 \right\rangle \right) \, 2\pi b \, \mathrm{d}b$$

- $|S_j(b_j)|^2$ is the probability that j = v,c survives the collision at impact parameter b_j and the target remains in the ground state
- $1 |S_j(b_j)|^2$: probability that the target gets excited and *j* is absorbed from the elastic channel

rewriting:

$$1 - |S_{c}S_{v}|^{2} = |S_{v}|^{2}(1 - |S_{c}|^{2}) + |S_{c}|^{2}(1 - |S_{v}|^{2}) + (1 - |S_{c}|^{2})(1 - |S_{v}|^{2})$$

cross section for stripping v from the projectile, exciting the target and c is only elastically scattered:

$$\sigma_{
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Cross section for elastic break up

- two processes contribute, diffractive breakup and stripping
- they differ in their effect on the target, in stripping the target gets excited → measure the target excitation energy
- directly: experimentally not feasible (thick target, small energy)
- need to measure the removed particle as well
- proton knockout from loosely bound ⁸B and ⁹C and well-bound ²⁸Na
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K. Wimmer et al., Phys. Rev. C 90 (2014) 064615



Separation energy dependence

- earlier work suggested that the diffractive breakup cross section scales with separation energy as $1/\sqrt{S_p}$
- for the case of ²⁸Mg the relative cross section changes by a factor of two between assumed S_ρ = 0.1 and 20 MeV
- $1/\sqrt{S_{\rho}}$ would suggest a factor of 6



If or the range of separation energies studied here S_p = 0.14 (⁸B) and 16.79 MeV (²⁸Mg)

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Momentum distributions



core momentum at fixed b_v:

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}P(\vec{k}_{\rm c},b_{\rm v})}{\mathrm{d}\vec{k}_{\rm c}} = \frac{1}{2\pi^3} \frac{1}{2l+1} \sum_m |\int e^{-i\vec{k}_{\rm c}\cdot\vec{r}} S_{\rm c}(b_{\rm c})\psi_{lm}(\vec{r}\,)\mathrm{d}\vec{r}\,|^2$$

H. Esbensen et al., Phys. Rev. C 53 (1996) 2007

integrating over the transversal components yields:

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}\sigma}{\mathrm{d}k_z} = \frac{1}{2\pi^2} \frac{1}{2l+1} \sum_m \int_0^\infty (1-|S_v(b_v)|^2) \int_0^\infty |S_c(b_c)|^2 \left| \int_{-\infty}^\infty e^{-ik_z z} \psi_{lm}(\vec{r}\,) dz \right|^2 \mathrm{d}^2(b_v - b_c) 2\pi b_v \, \mathrm{d}b_v$$



Momentum distributions

- it is generally assumed that the momentum distribution for elastic breakup (diffraction) is the same as for stripping
- NSCL measurement suffers from acceptance issues
- clear difference in the transversal momentum distribution
 K. Wimmer et al., in prep.





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 K. Wimmer et al., in prep.
- new measurements of ⁸B with proton ⁷Be coincidences



S. L. Jin et al., Phys. Rev. C 91 (2015) 054617

limited resolution: ightarrow new experiments required



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Beyond the eikonal approximation

the eikonal approximation

- does not conserve the energy
- does not include energy transfer between cm and relative motion degrees of freedom of residue and valence nucleon
- assumes a straight line path
- ightarrow in the eikonal approximation the momentum distributions are symmetric



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 asymmetry observed in the knockout from halo nuclei can be described by continuum discretized coupled channels (CDCC) calculations

J. A. Tostevin et al., Phys. Rev. C 66 (2002) 024607



potentials for core-target and valence nucleon-target interactions

$$V_{jt}(r_j) = \int d\vec{r_1} \int d\vec{r_2} \rho_j(r_1) \rho_t(r_2) t_{NN}(\vec{r_j} + \vec{r_2} - \vec{r_1})$$

ightarrow densities from Hartree-Fock calculations



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- wave function \u03c6₀: many-body overlap function in practice not available
 - \rightarrow calculate single-particle wave function in a Woods-Saxon potential

$$V(r) - V_0 f(r) + (\vec{l} \cdot \vec{s}) V_{SO} \frac{d}{dr} f(r)$$
 with $f(r) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{(r-r_0)}/a_0}$

radius r_0 to reproduce the HF rms radius for the orbit, set V to reproduce the experimental binding energy

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Hartree-Fock calculations

Hartree-Fock calculations are performed to obtain the

- density distribution of the core
- rms radii of the valence nucleon orbits

using the Skyrme X interaction

B. A. Brown et al., Phys. Rev. C 58 (1998) 220



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B. A. Brown et al., Phys. Rev. C 58 (1998) 220

Example: neutron knockout from ²⁴O



orbital	E (MeV)	r _{rms} (fm)
1s _{1/2}	-27.046	2.257
1p _{3/2}	-17.056	2.857
1p _{1/2}	-12.528	2.952
1d _{5/2}	-6.301	3.430
2s _{1/2}	-3.708	4.072
1d _{3/2}	-0.209	4.539



S-matrix

S-matrices for core and valence particle on target need:

- potentials for core-target and valence nucleon-target interactions
- double-folding integral of densities and effective NN-interaction
- for the core: use Hartree-Fock result
- for ⁹Be: assume Gaussian density distribution with rms radius 2.36 fm (2.32 fm for ¹²C)



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Wave functions

- initial bound state wave function or radial overlap function
- calculated in a Woods-Saxon potential with V_0 adjusted to reproduce the experimental binding energy $(S_n + E(j^{\pi}))$
- fixed diffuseness *a*₀ = 0.7 fm
- spin-orbit strength $V_{SO} = 6$ MeV, same r_0, a_0
- radius is constrained by the Hartree-Fock calculations: choose r₀ such that the wave function has a rms radius of

$$r_{\rm sp} = \sqrt{\frac{A}{A-1}} r_{\rm HF}$$



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example: neutron single-particle wave functions with a core of ²³O:





Cross sections

- in the experiment only the residue is detected, not removed nucleon or the target
- calculate the single-particle cross section (neglecting Coulomb breakup)

 $\sigma_{
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example: neutron knockout from ²⁴O on ⁹Be at 100 MeV/u from the S-matrices and the overlap functions calculated previously:

orbit	$\sigma_{ m str}$ (mb)	$\sigma_{\! m diff}$ (mb)	$\sigma_{ m sp}$ (mb)
1 <i>d</i> _{5/2}	18.5	6.0	24.5
2 <i>s</i> _{1/2}	17.1	5.4	22.6
1 <i>d</i> _{3/2}	25.8	10.3	36.1
2p _{3/2}	31.4	13.1	44.5



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- $\sigma_{\rm sp}$ depends strongly on the chosen r_0
 - ightarrow constrain $r_{
 m sp}$ by Hartree-Fock rms
- dependence on a_0 rather weak \rightarrow constant $a_0 = 0.7$ fm for consistency
- V_{SO} has little influence



Cross sections



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- calculation of parallel $\frac{d\sigma}{d\rho_{\parallel}}$ and transversal $\frac{d\sigma}{d\rho_{\perp}}$ momentum distributions
- using same input
 S-matrices and wave functions
- eikonal approximation
 - ightarrow symmetric distributions







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- calculations for different *m* states:
 m = *l* dominant
- m = l nucleon orbit will be perpendicular to the z-axis (beam direction):
 - \rightarrow high probability to hit the target, with the core further away surviving the collision
- *m* = 0 nucleon orbit aligned with beam direction:

 \rightarrow if nucleon hits target, core will be absorbed as well







- Coulomb deflection and diffractive scattering affect the transverse distribution → measure parallel (longitudinal) momentum distributions
- width (and shape) of the parallel momentum distribution allows to make spin and parity assignments
- common use of knockout reactions in combination with γ-ray spectroscopy for nuclear structure studies



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- for comparison with experiment:
 - ightarrow transformation into laboratory system and convolution with resolution



Sensitivity to single-particle structure

one-nucleon knockout probability

$$P(\vec{b}) = |S_{\rm c}(\vec{b})|^2 \int |\phi_{nlj}(\vec{r})|^2 \left(1 - |S_{\rm v}(\vec{b}_{\rm v})|^2\right) \, \mathrm{d}\vec{r}$$

- core survival probability $|S_c|^2$
- valence particle absorbed $1 |S_v|^2$
- folded with the wave function $\phi_{nlj}(\vec{r}), \vec{r}$ the core-valence distance



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example: $1d_{3/2}$ neutron knockout from ²⁴O on ⁹Be at 100 MeV/u

- sensitivity to the surface
- probing the valence space

asymptotic normalization coefficients:

$$R(r_a) = C_l \frac{W_{-\eta,l+1/2}(2kr_a)}{r_a}$$

 $R(r_a)$ radial wave function at asymptotic distance r_a , W Whittaker function



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example: $1d_{3/2}$ neutron knockout from ²⁴O on ⁹Be at 100 MeV/u

- sensitivity to the surface
- probing the valence space
- asymptotic normalization coefficients:

$$R(r_a) = C_l \frac{W_{-\eta,l+1/2}(2kr_a)}{r_a}$$

 $R(r_a)$ radial wave function at asymptotic distance r_a , W Whittaker function

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Some results and open questions



The spectroscopic factor

Theoretical partial cross section for the removal of a nucleon from a single-particle state j^{π}

populating state *f* in the residue nucleus (excitation energy E^{*}_f, effective separation energy S^{*}_f = S + E^{*}_f)

$$\sigma_{\rm th}(f) = \left(\frac{A}{A-1}\right)^N C^2 S(f,j^{\pi}) \sigma_{\rm sp}(j,S_f^*)$$

- N harmonic oscillator shell number for center of mass correction
- $C^2 S(f, j^{\pi})$ shell model spectroscopic factor
- inclusive cross section: sum over all bound states:

$$\sigma_{ ext{th}} = \sum_{ ext{bound}} \sigma_{ ext{th}}(f)$$

- many input parameters into σ for the reaction geometry
- comparison to theory by cross section ratio

$$R_{S} = rac{\sigma_{\mathsf{exp}}}{\sigma_{\mathsf{th}}}$$

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- in (e,e'p) experiments on stable target a reduction of the spectroscopic strength of $R_S \approx 0.65$ was found.
- stable nuclei have a limited range of proton to neutron asymmetry $\Delta S = S_p S_n$

radioactive nuclei at the drip-lines like ³²Ar or ²⁰C have $|\Delta S| \approx 20$



■ with few exceptions the data is from NSCL (80 - 100 MeV/u)



Asymmetry in binding energy

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- radioactive nuclei at the drip-lines like 32 Ar or 20 C have $|\Delta S| \approx 20$



■ with few exceptions the data is from NSCL (80 - 100 MeV/u)



- claim: 100 MeV/u is too low for the eikonal approximation
- measurements of proton knockout from ⁸B from 76 to 1440 MeV/u



- consistent results over a large range of energies
 - lacksquare ightarrow need to cover a larger range of ΔS as well



Quenching in transfer reactions



- reanalysis of transfer reactions with stable nuclei
- (d,p), (p,d), ³He and α induced reactions
- all consistent with (e,e'p)
 - B. P. Kay et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 111 (2013) 042502

 (p,d) transfer reactions with Ar isotopes at 33 MeV/u

■ no dependence on △S observed, but strong dependence on choice of optical model J. Lee et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **104** (2010) 11270⁻

similar observations for d(¹⁴O,t,³He) at 18 MeV/u

F. Flavigny et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **110** (2013) 122503



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Light nuclei: test of ab-initio methods



- scanning the momentum distribution
- precise measurements of absolute cross sections of light *p*-shell nuclei
- deviations from the eikonal theory
- *p*-shell nuclei can be calculated in ab-initio methods
- overlap function derived from variational Monte-Carlo (VMC) and no-core shell model (NCSM)
- systematic difference at large radii
- \rightarrow spectroscopic factors, densities (*S*-matrices)

G. F. Grinyer et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 106 (2011) 162502



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Systematic studies of light nuclei

• A = 10 results for neutron knockout:

projectile	$\sigma_{ m exp}$ (mb)	SM (mb)	NCSM (mb)	VMC (mb)
¹⁰ Be	73(4)	96.6	86.9(16)	72.8(13)
¹⁰ C	23.2(10)	48.0	43.4(9)	30.8(6)

- conventional shell model (Cohen-Kurath interaction): over-predicts the cross section
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- systematic study for several nuclei
- VMC agrees for removal of deeply bound nucleons
- less good description for weakly bound

G. F. Grinyer et al., Phys. Rev. C 86 (2012) 024315



The role of the continuum

- experimentally: more bound \rightarrow more reduction factor
- explore the role of the continuum and the effect on the removal strength for weakly bound nucleons
- ab-initio coupled cluster theory for oxygen isotopes ¹⁴⁻²⁸O



 spectroscopic factors calculated with continuum states included (HF-WS) show a quenching towards the drip-line

- plotted as function of △S shows same trend as experimental data, but different magnitude
- data required for the neutron-rich oxygen isotopes

Ø. Jensen et al., Phys. Rev. Lett 107 (2011) 032501



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Two-proton knockout reactions from neutron-rich nuclei

- give access to even more exotic nuclei
- are direct reactions



can be used to determine angular momenta

E. C. Simpson et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **102** (2009) 132502

 however, more complicated reaction mechanism separation of structure (C²S) and reaction (σ_{sp}) does not hold anymore



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D. Bazin et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 91 (2003) 012501

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Two-nucleon knockout cross section

two-nucleon overlap functions:

remove two nucleons from orbitals $(\textit{nlj})_{1,2}$ coupled to \textit{I},μ

$$\Psi_{J_iM_i}^{(f)} = \langle \Phi_{J_fM_f}(A) | \Psi_{J_iM_i}(A,1,2) \rangle = \sum_{I\mu\alpha} C_{\alpha}^{J_iJ_fI} \langle I\mu J_fM_f | J_iM_i \rangle \left[\overline{\phi_{j_1}(1) \otimes \phi_{j_2}(2)} \right]_{I\mu}$$

with $\alpha = n_1 l_1 j_1 n_2 l_2 j_2$, ϕ_j single-particle wave functions $\rightarrow C^{J_i J_f I}$ signed two-nucleon amplitudes (equivalent of spectroscopic factors)

stripping cross section to final state f:

$$\sigma_{\text{str-str}}^{(f)} = \int |S_{\text{c}}|^2 \frac{1}{2J_i + 1} \sum_{M_i} \left\langle \Psi_{J_i M_i}^{(f)} \left| (1 - |S_1|^2) (1 - |S_2|^2) \right| \Psi_{J_i M_i}^{(f)} \right\rangle 2\pi b \, \mathrm{d}b$$

under the assumption that the S-matrix is diagonal with respect to the different states $S_{\rm f}
ightarrow S_{\rm c}$

J. A. Tostevin and B. A. Brown, Phys. Rev. C 74 (2006) 064604

reminder for one-nucleon knockout:

$$\sigma_{\rm str} = \int \left\langle \phi_0 \left| |S_{\rm c}(b_{\rm c})|^2 (1 - |S_{\rm v}(b_{\rm v})|^2) \right| \phi_0 \right\rangle \, 2\pi b \, \mathrm{d}b$$



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Elastic breakup in two-nucleon knockout

• one nucleon is removed in an elastic collision $(|S_1|^2)$, the other one absorbed $(1 - |S_2|^2)$ and vice versa:

$$\sigma_{\text{diff-str}}^{(f)} = \sigma_{\text{diff-str}}^{(f),1} + \sigma_{\text{diff-str}}^{(f),2}$$

■ with the stripping-diffraction cross section to final state *f*:

$$\sigma_{\text{diff-str}}^{(f),1} = \int |S_{c}|^{2} \frac{1}{2J_{i}+1} \sum_{M_{i}} \left\langle \Psi_{J_{i}M_{i}}^{(f)} \left| |S_{1}|^{2} (1-|S_{2}|^{2}) \right| \Psi_{J_{i}M_{i}}^{(f)} \right\rangle 2\pi b \, \mathrm{d}b$$

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$$\sigma_{\rm diff} = \int \left(\left\langle \phi_0 \left| |S_{\rm c}(b_{\rm c})S_{\rm v}(b_{\rm v})|^2 \right| \phi_0 \right\rangle - |\langle \phi_0 |S_{\rm c}(b_{\rm c})S_{\rm v}(b_{\rm v})|\phi_0 \rangle |^2 \right) \, 2\pi b \, {\rm d}b$$

■ for the case of two-nucleon diffraction, estimate:

$$\sigma_{\mathsf{diff}\text{-}\mathsf{diff}} = \left(\frac{\sigma_{\mathsf{diff}\text{-}\mathsf{str},i}}{\sigma_{\mathsf{str}\text{-}\mathsf{str}}}\right)^2 \cdot \sigma_{\mathsf{str}\text{-}\mathsf{str}}$$

three contributions to the cross section

$$\sigma = \sigma_{\text{str-str}} + \sigma_{\text{str-diff}} + \sigma_{\text{diff-diff}}$$

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J. A. Tostevin and B. A. Brown, Phys. Rev. C 74 (2006) 064604



Elastic and inelastic breakup contributions

- test the reaction theory by measuring exclusive cross sections
- detection of the knocked out particles
 - ightarrow missing mass indicated the state of the target nucleus



disentangle different contributions

	diff-diff	diff-str	str-str	tot.
$\sigma_{ m exp}$ (mb)	0.11(3)	0.44(23)	0.87(23)	1.43(5)
fraction (%)	8(2)	31(16)	61(16)	
$\sigma_{ m theo} \cdot R_{ m S}(2{ m N})$ (mb)	0.09	0.55	0.83	1.475
fraction _{theo} (%)	6.3	37.4	56.3	

good agreement for relative contributions of the reaction processes

K. Wimmer et al., Phys. Rev. C 85 (2012) 051603(R)



Two-nucleon knockout as a tool

- these reactions are an excellent tool to populate the most exotic nuclei
- often employed at RIBF for 2⁺ spectroscopy
- but they also give more information



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- branching ratio to the ground state B_0
- ³⁰S: assuming [1d_{5/2}]⁶ ground state: there are 15 uncorrelated pairs
- removal of a pair \rightarrow states with J_f^{π} corresponding to the coefficients of fractional parentage
- $\blacksquare B_0([1d_{5/2}]^6) = 1/6$
- B₀($[1d_{5/2}]^4$) = 4/9 for ²⁶Si
- full shell model calculation: two-nucleon amplitudes



K. Yoneda et al., Phys. Rev. C 74 (2006) 021303(R)


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K. Yoneda et al., Phys. Rev. C 74 (2006) 021303(R)

- good agreement with USD shell model calculations for all cases
- these reactions can be used to constrain theoretical (structure) calculations

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Two-nucleon knockout as a tool

- for several cases the inclusive cross section has been measured
- in comparison with shell model calculations a reduction is observed:

$$R_s(2N) = rac{\sigma_{ ext{exp}}}{\sigma_{ ext{th}}}$$

- $R_s(2N) = 0.5$ for all cases measured
- same origin as R_S for one-nucleon knockout?
 - short-range correlations?
 - consequence of the reduced model space



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J. A. Tostevin and B. A. Brown, Phys. Rev. C 74 (2006) 064604



 $\blacksquare \rightarrow$ test predictions for TNA throughout the nuclear chart

D. Bazin et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 91 (2003) 012501





New developments and future directions



Deformed projectiles

- in the eikonal model the overlap is determined by the size of target and core
- orientation of projectile symmetry axis with respect to target matters



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- orientation of projectile symmetry axis with respect to target matters



- Iarge, prolate deformation: knockout from prolate-like Nilsson states reduced
- oblate-like Nilsson states: cross sections increased
- momentum distributions remain characteristic of the orbital angular momentum of the initial state

E. C. Simpson and J. A. Tostevin, Phys. Rev. C 86 (2012) 054603



Alignment

knockout reaction produce significant alignment of states

$$P^{J}(m) = \sigma_{m}^{J} / \sum_{m} \sigma_{m}^{J} = \sigma_{m}^{J} / \sigma^{J}$$

- example: 1d_{5/2} neutron knockout from ²⁴O on ⁹Be at 100 MeV/u
- determine multipolarity by γ-ray angular distribution but: limited coverage and resolution
- gating on central part of momentum distribution ($|\Delta p_{\parallel}| < 50$ MeV/c) enhances P(m = 2) from 54 to 82 %





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Correlations in two-nucleon knockout

there are several way how the two nucleons can be knocked out:

three-body mode:



correlated pair removal:



two-step process (excluded by separation energy):





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 Dalitz plots of pairs of invariant masses





Correlations in two-nucleon knockout

there are several way how the two nucleons can be knocked out:





correlated pair removal:



two-step process (excluded by separation energy):





- significant correlation of the two protons
- small relative momentum
- lacksquare \to surface localization and spacial proximity



Correlations

- two-nucleon joint position probabilities in the impact parameter plane:
 - $P(\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2)$ integrated over $z_{1,2}$ (z = beam axis), proton 1 \mathbf{s}_1 at the surface
- S = 0 enhances spacial correlation



E. C. Simpson and J. A. Tostevin, priv. comm.



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- 56(12) % correlated proton pair fraction measured
- ightarrow a new probe of the spin correlations of valence nucleons



Nuclear targets versus (p,pN)

quasi-free scattering experiments with radioactive beams

- probe valence and deeply bound states
- do not limit the sampling of the wave function to the surface
- no significant difference for heavy projectiles



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T. Aumann et al., Phys. Rev. C 88 (2013) 064610



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- nucleon removal reactions are an excellent tool to study the single-particle structure of nuclei
- with radioactive beams on light targets the give access to the most exotic nuclei, neutron and proton-rich
- at intermediate energies the eikonal and sudden approximations give an excellent description of many experiments
- open questions remain:
 - reduction of spectroscopic strength and short-range correlations
 - deformation of the projectile
 - two-nucleon knockout
- new approaches and techniques are developed at many places for both theory and experiment



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Direct reaction with exotic nuclei, P. G. Hansen and J. A. Tostevin, Ann. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci. **53** (2003) 219 Reaction theory for exotic nuclei, J. A. Tostevin, Lecture notes 3rd Balkan school on nuclear physics (2003) Direct reactions at relativistic energies, D. Cortina-Gil, Lecture notes Euroschool on exotic beams (2014)

Thank you for your attention