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Study of anomalous quadrupole collectivity in light Sn isotopes

CHRISTOPHER CAMPBELL, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, NSCL EXPERIMENT E11035 COLLABORATION¹ — The chain of semi-magic Sn nuclei, with many stable isotopes, has been a fertile ground for experimental and theoretical studies. Encompassing a major neutron shell from $N=50$ to 82 , the properties and structure of these nuclei provided important data for the development of the pairing-plus-quadrupole model. Recent experimental information on $B(E2)$ for $106,108,110,112\text{Sn}$ came as a surprise as it indicated a larger collectivity than the predicted parabolic trend of quadrupole collectivity. These data, instead, show an unexpectedly flat trend even as the number of valence particles is reduced from 12 to 6 . To fully understand how collectivity is evolving in these isotopes, $108,110,112\text{Sn}$ have been studied using thick-target, inelastic proton scattering with GRETINA tagging inelastic scattering events by detecting gamma-rays from the prompt decay of states excited in the reaction. We will present the trend of $2+$ excitation cross-sections, the deduced quadrupole deformation parameters, and observations of other low-lying collective states. Comparison of these (p,p') quadrupole deformation parameters with $B(E2)$ data will provide new insights into the relative importance of proton and neutron contributions to collectivity in these nuclei.

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