

Coexisting single-particle and octupole states in ^{133}Sn

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The experimental study of single valence particle (hole) nuclei provides crucial experimental data for nuclear structure studies. In particular the energies of low-lying levels in these nuclei can provide the effective single-particle (hole) energies used in shell-model calculations.¹⁾ In experiment RIBF-85,^{1,2)} which was part of the EURICA campaign, the single valence neutron nucleus ^{133}Sn was studied following the β - and β -n decay of $^{133,134}\text{In}$ parent nuclei. This has allowed the energies of several single-particle states to be verified and the γ decays of new levels observed. To date all single-particle states in the $N = 82$ –126 valence shell have been directly experimentally identified in ^{133}Sn , except the $\nu i_{13/2}$ one.^{3–5)} Furthermore the recent report of enhanced quadrupole and octupole strength in ^{132}Sn ⁶⁾ allows searches for more complex states to be performed. The co-existence of spherical single-particle and collective states appears to be a ubiquitous feature of the nuclear landscape.

The high Q_β and $Q_{\beta-n}$ values of 14135(60) keV and 11110(270) keV for the β and β -n decays of $^{133,134}\text{In}$, respectively, make them ideal for studying a wide range of states in ^{133}Sn . The differing spins of the ground states of these nuclei [(9/2⁺) and (4⁻ – 7⁻)] mean that levels with different spin ranges should be populated.

The experimental γ -ray spectrum obtained following the decay of selected and implanted ^{133}In ions is presented in Fig. 1. Many transitions previously assigned to ^{132}Sn are observed.⁷⁾ A new γ decay of energy 1779 keV is assigned to ^{133}Sn as this transition was observed following both the β decay of ^{133}In and the β -n decay of ^{134}In . The 1561-keV transition, previously reported in several experiments is confirmed.^{3–5)} However, no evidence was found for the 513- and 854-keV γ decays of the $\nu p_{3/2}$ and $\nu p_{1/2}$ states from parent ^{133}In nuclei.⁴⁾ This shows that ^{133}In was much more strongly populated in its $\pi g_{9/2}^{-1}$ ground state, than the $\pi p_{1/2}^{-1}$ long-lived isomer. The γ decay of the 854-keV $\nu p_{3/2}$ state was however observed following the β -n decay of ^{134}In .

The 1561-keV transition receives more than one third of the total feeding intensity following the β -n decay of ^{134}In . The weak population of the 1779-keV state in ^{133}Sn following β -n decay means that it may have a positive parity.

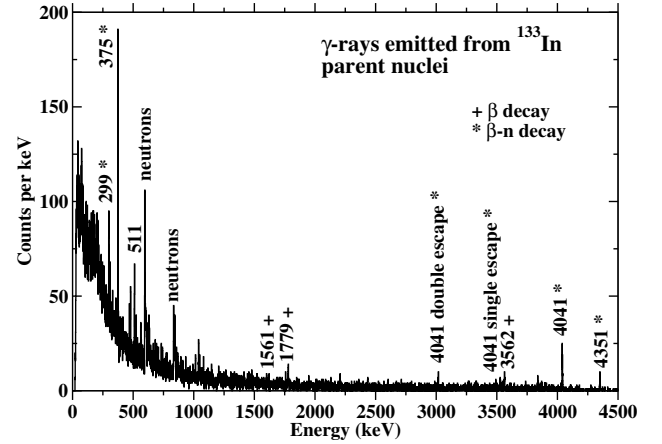


Fig. 1. γ -ray spectrum obtained from the β -decay of ^{133}In in the current work.

Octupole excitations are amongst the first few excited states in ^{132}Sn ⁷⁾ and have recently been shown to possess enhanced collectivity.⁶⁾ As the 1779-keV state has not been populated in transfer reaction experiments then its isospin quantum number is probably different to that of the neighboring states^{4,5,8)} The 1779-keV state probably has a $\nu f_{7/2}^1 \otimes 3^-$ configuration and is lowered in energy due to an attractive proton-neutron interaction.

Following the β decay of ^{133}In the $\log ft$ value for the 1779-keV state was measured to be 6.9(1). This is compatible with either a first-forbidden transition or a hindered allowed Fermi one. Here the hindrance occurs due to $\Delta T \neq 0$ between the initial and final states, which impedes Fermi transitions. This underlines the complex nature of the octupole state, which contains multiple particle-hole excitations.

Evidence of coexisting single-particle and octupole states at an energy of ~ 1.6 MeV in ^{133}Sn is presented. It is a theoretical challenge to reproduce these states.

References

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