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Nuclear structure studies with proton-induced QFS reactions

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QFS as a proton-induced knockout reaction

What we observe



- Relativistic proton-nucleus collision
- Initial state of A is "destroyed"
- New particle X is generated in the final state
- Complex many-body problem

X = proton, neutron, deuteron, alpha, ...

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What we think is happening



- Simple 2-body interaction: elastic scattering off a virtual constituent X*
- Proton and X freely escape the nucleus
- (A-X^{*}) spectator with a "hole" \rightarrow linked to the initial SP state in A

$$\frac{d^4\sigma}{dE_p dE_X d\Omega_p d\Omega_X} = K \frac{d\sigma_{pX}}{d\Omega} S_{\epsilon}(\mathbf{Q}_X)$$



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free c.s.

NN cross sections and QFS energy regime



QFS reactions for nuclear structure studies

(p,2p) and (p,pn)

- Spectroscopy of valence and deeply-bound SP states
- Evolution of shell structure in asymmetric nuclei
- Study of spatial n-n correlations in nuclear halo
- Study of fission barriers in heavy nuclei
- Probing short-range correlations: e.g. (p,2p+n)
- (p, p ⁴He):
 - Cluster structure of light nuclei
 - Alpha-clustering near surface of heavy nuclei
 - Study of correlated multi-neutron systems
- (p, p ²H)
 - Study of p-n pairing and correlations (see talk of Marina Petri)

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Study of p-n pairing and correlations (see talk of Marina Petri)



M. Duer et al. Nature 606, 678 (2022)





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G. Jacob, T.A. Maris, Rev. Mod. Phys. 38, 121 (1966)





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- 1p_{1/2}
- **1s**1/2

Inverse kinematics QFS experiments





Inverse kinematics QFS experiments





R³B setup at GSI E_{beam} up to ~1200 MeV/u





Inverse kinematics QFS experiments





Suitable for stable and exotic nuclei: ➡ (p,2p), (p,pn) etc.

• Momentum transfer:
$$t = -2m_pT_{kin}$$

Direct observation of the residual fragment: redundant information on the missing momentum

Measuring excitation of the residual fragment (gammas, neutrons, etc.)

- redundant information on the missing energy
- ➡ structure of the residual hole-state
- better control of FSI
- Possibility to use thick LH₂ targets
 - maximizing reaction yields for low-intensity beams



SEASTAR / MINOS experiment SAMURAI: ⁵³K (p,2p) ⁵²Ar @ 210 MeV/u



Doppler-corrected gamma spectrum from ⁵³K (p,2p) ⁵²Ar



- Persistence of N=34 sub-shell closure below Z=20

GSI experiment: ${}^{17}Ne (p,2p){}^{16}F^* \rightarrow {}^{15}O+p @ 500 MeV/u$

is ¹⁷Ne a real 2p-halo system at the proton dripline?



Shell model view of ¹⁷Ne







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Transverse momentum of ¹⁶F

GSI experiment: ¹²C (p,2p)¹¹B @ 400 MeV/u in inverse kinematics







¹¹B momentum in ¹²C restframe



GSI experiment: ¹²C (p,2p)¹¹B @ 400 MeV/u in inverse kinematics

Narrow peak in polar-azimuthal space —> distinct QFS signature





$$(\varphi_2 - \varphi_1) + \cos \vartheta_1 \cos \vartheta_2$$

Quenching of the single-particle strength

Prog. in Part. and Nucl. Phys. 52 (2004) 377–496



 $\sigma^{ ext{th}}$

Prog. in Part. and Nucl. Phys118 (2021) 103847



Quenching of the single-particle strength





No dependence on isospin asymmetry in QFS reactions

• (p,pn) values are systematically larger:

$$Rs = 0.85(10) vs Rs = 0.65(4)$$



Summary

- QFS provides unique access to the single-particle structure of nuclei
- Elementary scattering process as a knockout mechanism
- Inverse-kinematics approach: asymmetric nuclei and additional kinematic observables
- Need for accurate reaction models and experimental data
- Reaction and structure part have to be treated within the same many-body theory

Thank you!

¹²C(p,pn)¹¹C reaction

Angular correlations via CB measurements





M. Holl et al. Phys. Lett. B 795 (2019) 682



