## Experimental Level Densities and γ-Strength Functions in rare earth nuclei

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## Today's Menu

 Aperitif: Motivation and Oslo Method
 Entrée: Level Densities and microcanonical temperature
 Plat principal: Radiative strength function and the M1(pygmy) resonance
 Dessert: Summary and outlook







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### CACTUS- experimental setup

- •Reactions:  $({}^{3}\text{He}, \alpha)$  and  $({}^{3}\text{He}, {}^{3}\text{He'})$
- •Beam: 30-45 MeV
- •Targets: Yb, Dy, Er, Sm, Nd, Si, Mo, Fe, Sn, V, Pb,Ti,Ni
- •8 Si particle telescopes at  $\Theta$ = 45 °





•CACTUS detector array (28 NaI + 2Ge) has 15% efficiency



Typical banana plot used for particle identification







#### The Brink Axel hypothesis



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#### Does it work?









### Microcanonical ensemble

$$S(E) = \ln \rho(E) + S_0$$
$$T(E) = \left(\frac{\partial S(E)}{\partial E}\right)_V^{-1}$$
$$C_V(E) = \left(\frac{\partial T(E)}{\partial E}\right)_V^{-1}$$



#### Microcanonical Temperature





### Heat capacity

derived within the in canonical ensamble



The dash-dotted line describes a constant temperature estimate:  $Cv(T)=\kappa_B (1-T/t)^{-2}$ 

*CNR*\*2007

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#### <sup>148</sup>Sm strength function

- Circles our data
- Squares from photoabsorpsjon cross sections
   P.Carlos et al.
   NPA 225 (1974)
- Filled triangle is based on neutron capture in <sup>147</sup>Sm







## Total $\gamma$ -spectrum from $E_x = B_n$



Data points from  $(n,\chi)$ -experiments B.Duamet, M. Igashira et al. Nucl.Sci.Tec.36 (1999). Solid line is calculated from our level densities and strength functions.

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#### Scissors mode



Established M1 multipolarity of a pygmy resonance in <sup>172</sup>Yb at  $E_{\gamma}$  = 3.3 MeV

$$B(M1\uparrow) = \frac{9\hbar c}{32\pi^2} \left(\frac{\sigma\Gamma}{E}\right)_{py} = 6.5(15)\mu_N^2$$



# **Preliminary!**



### Summary

- Unique technique to extract level densities and γ-strength function experimentally
- From the level density we can extract thermodynamical properties like T and Cv.
- New Sm and Pb data show that the level density has more structure and decrease as one approaches closed shells
- The M1 (scissors) resonance observed in deformed nuclei vanishes in the spherical Sm nuclei.
- Preliminary: a second resonance in 163,164Dy?



#### Future outlook

- As soon as possible 163Dy(p,p') to investigate the spin dependence of the width of the pygmy.
- New experiments on Zr and Sn isotopes
- New particle detector system, which will increase the efficiency 5-10 times
- Polarization measurments of the upbend in the strength function at low Eγ?
- Investigate/test possibility of using inverse reactions



In Oslo we now have:
2 PhD positions and
1 Postdoc position
To be filled as soon as possible.





#### Collaborators

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