

# I DID SOMETHING COOL AT CERN - ISOLDE

by

Trond Wiggo Johansen

THESIS

for the degree of

MASTER OF SCIENCE



Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences  
University of Oslo

May 2019



# Abstract



To my family, for all their support and encouragement!



# Acknowledgements

Supervisors Andreas Grger and Katarzyna Hadyńska-Klk

Nuclear Physics Group

Computational Physics Group, Morten Hjorth-Jensen

CERN-ISOLDE, Liam Gaffney

Lillefy, FFU, Fysikkforeningen

My family

Morten, Alex and Astrid.

Ina, I love you.

## Collaboration details

The sorting and analysis code used in this thesis has been developed at CERN-ISOLDE and can be found at <https://github.com/Miniball/MiniballCoulexSort>

The code for theoretical predictions of energy used in the calibration was developed by Liam Gaffney who is working at ISOLDE and has to do with analysis of data from Miniball and ISS. kinsim can be found here <https://github.com/lpgaff/kinsim>

Some calibration code is based on the codes of Ville Virtanen and Liam Gaffney.

Other code/scripts have been written by the author. C++ / Python.

*Trond Wiggo Johansen*

September, 2019





# Contents

|          |  |           |
|----------|--|-----------|
| <b>1</b> | <b>Introduction</b>                      | <b>11</b> |
| <b>2</b> | <b>Theory?</b>                           | <b>13</b> |
| <b>3</b> | <b>Coulomb excitation experiment</b>     | <b>15</b> |
| 3.1      | ISOLDE at CERN . . . . .                 | 17        |
| 3.1.1    | Beam production . . . . .                | 17        |
| 3.1.2    | Target . . . . .                         | 20        |
| 3.2      | Miniball . . . . .                       | 20        |
| 3.2.1    | Particle detector, DSSSD (CD) . . . . .  | 20        |
| 3.2.2    | $\gamma$ detectors, HPGe . . . . .       | 20        |
| 3.3      | Experimental setup . . . . .             | 20        |
| <b>4</b> | <b>Data analysis</b>                     | <b>23</b> |
| 4.1      | Simulation . . . . .                     | 23        |
| 4.2      | Calibration . . . . .                    | 24        |
| 4.2.1    | Particle detector . . . . .              | 24        |
| 4.2.2    | Gamma detectors . . . . .                | 24        |
| 4.3      | Doppler correction . . . . .             | 24        |
| <b>5</b> | <b>Experimental results</b>              | <b>25</b> |
| <b>6</b> | <b>Discussion</b>                        | <b>27</b> |
| <b>7</b> | <b>Summary and outlook</b>               | <b>29</b> |
|          | <b>Appendices</b>                        | <b>31</b> |
|          | <b>Appendix A Some Appendix</b>          | <b>33</b> |
|          | <b>Appendix B Some other appendix...</b> | <b>35</b> |
|          | <b>Bibliography</b>                      | <b>37</b> |



# Chapter 1

## Introduction

Test [1]

Test 2 [? ]

kinsim [2]

The experiment has been done before, with lower energy (and another target), Malin Klintefjord. <http://urn.nb.no/URN:NBN:no-56121>

Experiment conducted 8th - 14th of August 2017.



# Chapter 2

## Theory?

Quadrupole deformation of nuclei.

Shape coexistence possible for certain regions of  $N$  and  $Z$ .

- triaxial shape / shape coexistence
- benchmark for theoretical models
- transition probabilities and quadrupole moments between several excited states are not known
- fundamental research



# Chapter 3

## Coulomb excitation experiment

Table of abbreviations and symbols?

**Table 3.1:** Acronyms and abbreviations.

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| CERN       | European Council for Nuclear Research<br>(in French Conseil Européen pour la Recherche Nucléaire) |
| ISOL       | Isotope Separator On Line   |
| ISOLDE     | Isotope Separator On Line DEvice  |
| PSB        | Proton Synchrotron Booster  |
| GPS        | General Purpose Separator   |
| HRS        | High Resolution Separator   |
| EBIS       | Electron Beam Ion Source  |
| REXEBS     | Radioactive beam EXperiment EBIS  |
| RILIS      | Resonance Ionization Laser Ion Source   |
| HIE-ISOLDE | High Intensity and Energy upgrade   |
| RIB        | Radioactive Ion Beam  |
| ENSAR2     | European Nuclear Science and Applications Research - 2  |
| Linac      | Linear accelerator  |
| ADC        | Analog-to-Digital Converter   |
| TDC        | Time-to-Digital Converter (or time digitizer)   |
| Coulex     | Coulomb excitation  |

Why CoulEx? [https://iks32.fys.kuleuven.be/wiki/brix/images/5/58/10\\_20151123\\_Illana\\_BriX15\\_web.pdf](https://iks32.fys.kuleuven.be/wiki/brix/images/5/58/10_20151123_Illana_BriX15_web.pdf)

- nucleus excited by electromagnetic interaction.
- de-excitation  $\rightarrow$  gamma

**Oppgavens mål:**

The ISOLDE facility at CERN has been upgraded to provide higher energies

and intensities for radioactive ion beams. A new experiment to study  $^{140}\text{Sm}$  was performed in the summer of 2017. The goal of the experiment was to measure electromagnetic transition probabilities and electric quadrupole moments for several excited states in  $^{140}\text{Sm}$  by measuring Coulomb excitation probabilities. A large data set was obtained using silicon detectors to determine the energies and angles of scattered particles, and germanium detectors to measure gamma rays from excited states in  $^{140}\text{Sm}$ .

The goal of the master thesis is to analyze the data from this experiment. The required tasks include development and improvement of data analysis software to determine Coulomb excitation yields. These yields will then, in a second step, be compared to theoretical calculations and transition probabilities and quadrupole moments will be extracted using chi-square minimization procedures.

#### Prosjektbeskrivelse (omfang 60 studiepoeng):

The shape of an atomic nucleus is determined by a delicate interplay between macroscopic (liquid drop) properties and microscopic shell effects. Nuclei with filled proton or neutron shells (i.e. magic nuclei) are generally spherical in shape, whereas nuclei with open shells gain energy by assuming a deformed shape. Depending on the occupation of specific orbitals, the nuclear shape can change drastically by adding or removing protons or neutrons. Certain nuclei exhibit shape coexistence, i.e. the coexistence of quantum states that correspond to different shapes. Because the shape of a nucleus is so sensitive to the underlying nuclear structure and to changes of the proton and neutron numbers, the excitation energy, or the angular momentum, observables related to the nuclear shape are used as benchmarks for theoretical models.

Nuclei in the rare earth region, and in particular the chain of samarium isotopes, exhibit a variety of shape effects. The Sm isotope with closed neutron shell at  $N=82$ ,  $^{144}\text{Sm}$ , is spherical in shape. Adding neutrons to  $^{144}\text{Sm}$  changes the deformation to an elongated (prolate) quadrupole shape. The transition from spherical to prolate shape, which occurs for  $^{152}\text{Sm}$  at  $N=90$ , can be interpreted as a shape-phase transition. Flattened (oblate) quadrupole shapes are predicted by theory to occur below the  $N=82$  shell closure. An earlier experiment studying  $^{140}\text{Sm}$  at CERN-ISOLDE found triaxial shape for this isotope, i.e. a shape where all three principal axes of the ellipsoid have different lengths.  $^{140}\text{Sm}$  can therefore be considered to lie at the critical point of a phase transition from spherical to deformed, and from prolate to oblate shape.

#### Foreløpig tittel:

Coulomb excitation of  $^{140}\text{Sm}$

#### Metoder som tenkes benyttet:



Multi-step Coulomb excitation with radioactive beam, isotope separation on-line technique, nuclear spectroscopy, particle-gamma and particle gamma-gamma coincidence analysis, advanced chi-square minimization procedures.

## 3.1 ISOLDE at CERN

ISOLDE is a radioactive ion beam facility at CERN in Meyrin, Switzerland. The facility can produce over 1000 different radionuclides to be used in a wide variety of experiments in nuclear physics, atomic physics, solid state physics, life sciences and fundamental interactions. Experiments have been performed at ISOLDE since 1967 and since 2001 experiments with post-accelerated radioactive ion beams (RIBs) have been conducted. **New / moved facility in 1992, to the place as we know it today.** The high intensity and energy upgrade (HIE-ISOLDE) have made it possible to deliver energies up to 10 MeV/u in 2018 [? ]. **Cite:** <http://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1361-6471/aa990f> and [http://www.scholarpedia.org/article/The\\_ISOLDE\\_facility](http://www.scholarpedia.org/article/The_ISOLDE_facility)

ISOLDE <http://isolde.web.cern.ch> and [http://isolde.web.cern.ch/sites/isolde.web.cern.ch/files/NuclPhysNew-ISOLDE\\_0.pdf](http://isolde.web.cern.ch/sites/isolde.web.cern.ch/files/NuclPhysNew-ISOLDE_0.pdf) and [http://www.scholarpedia.org/article/The\\_ISOLDE\\_facility](http://www.scholarpedia.org/article/The_ISOLDE_facility) and <http://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1361-6471/aa5f03/pdf>

HIE-ISOLDE <http://hie-isolde-project.web.cern.ch>, technical design <http://cds.cern.ch/record/2635892?ln=en>, direct to doc: [http://cds.cern.ch/record/2635892/files/HIE-ISOLDE\\_TDR.pdf](http://cds.cern.ch/record/2635892/files/HIE-ISOLDE_TDR.pdf)

### 3.1.1 Beam production

ISOLDE experimental hall (**make flow chart or show overview over the hall**):

$p^+$  (from PSB)  $\rightarrow$  Production target  $\rightarrow$  GPS  $\rightarrow$  RILIS  $\rightarrow$  **REXTRAP?**  $\rightarrow$   
REXEBS  $\rightarrow$  HIE-ISOLDE  $\rightarrow$  MINIBALL

A proton beam of 1.4 GeV ( $\sim 10^{18}$  protons) from the PSB comes into the ISOLDE facility and collide with a production target **of tantalum, producing the elements in the chart of nuclides up to tantalum.** The proton beam can collide in one of the two target stations, the general purpose separator (GPS) or the high resolution separator (HRS). The GPS has one bending magnet and can deliver beams of different mass simultaneously into three beam lines, while the HRS has two bending magnets with high mass resolving power and deliver the beam into the main **(or common)** beam line. In this experiment, the GPS was used. The

fragments travels in the beam line onward to the GPS where the mass of  $A = 140$  (isobar) is selected (separated from the rest).

GPS or RILIS first??

RILIS or REXEBIS for ionization of the atom?

The resonance ionization laser ion source (RILIS) uses the method of step-wise excitation and ionization of the atom. It is a three step excitation, where the last step leads to the ionization. RILIS selects samarium with laser (element selective process, samarium  $Z = 62$ ). RILIS is used to produce ion beams of the correct element.

REXTRAP. Penning trap

REXEBIS excites the nucleus in three steps ionizing the atom, which leaves the nucleus in a high charge state.

The HIE-linac accelerates the beam through the beam line and magnets bend the beam into MINIBALL.

Cite: [https://ac.els-cdn.com/0168583X92959079/1-s2.0-0168583X92959079-main.pdf?\\_tid=0ccb0647-5870-48f9-ac38-df8c0077981c&acdnt=1545216224\\_d359ddcc40ea1f94369c85](https://ac.els-cdn.com/0168583X92959079/1-s2.0-0168583X92959079-main.pdf?_tid=0ccb0647-5870-48f9-ac38-df8c0077981c&acdnt=1545216224_d359ddcc40ea1f94369c85) and [https://cds.cern.ch/record/2025701/files/epjconf\\_inpc2013\\_11005.pdf](https://cds.cern.ch/record/2025701/files/epjconf_inpc2013_11005.pdf) and <http://isolde.web.cern.ch/targets-and-separators>

"The General Purpose Separator (GPS) has one bending magnet and an electrostatic switchyard allowing the simultaneous extraction of three mass separated beams." <http://isolde.web.cern.ch/targets-and-separators>

ISOLDE GPS++ [https://cds.cern.ch/record/2025701/files/epjconf\\_inpc2013\\_11005.pdf](https://cds.cern.ch/record/2025701/files/epjconf_inpc2013_11005.pdf)

"The RILIS is a chemically selective ion source which relies on resonant excitation of atomic transitions using tunable laser radiation." <http://rilis.web.cern.ch>

"The principal application of RILIS is the production of ion beams of elements required for ISOLDE experiments. ... laser ionization is required to be only an element-selective process" <http://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1361-6471/aa78e0>

Figure 3.1 shows the CERN accelerator complex [3]. ISOLDE is located beside the PSB.

Magnets....

Ebis: charge breeder: release beam with certain energy.

high-performance charge breeder (CB). CB based on the Electron Beam Ion Source (EBIS) technology – an EBIS Charge Breeder (ECB)

HIE-ISOLDE (Superconducting Linac Upgrade): Linear accelerator, HIE-linac



Beam production [http://tuprints.ulb.tu-darmstadt.de/4599/1/TUDthesis\\_Christoph%20Seiffert.pdf](http://tuprints.ulb.tu-darmstadt.de/4599/1/TUDthesis_Christoph%20Seiffert.pdf)

Test [3], copyright: <https://copyright.web.cern.ch>

CERN Document Server <https://cds.cern.ch>

### 3.1.2 Target

$^{208}\text{Pb}$  was chosen as a target. Want high  $Z$  so that the probability of excitation is high. Not enough beam energy to excite  $^{208}\text{Pb}$ .

Highest  $Z$  for maximum excitation probability.

Contamination... finger print [\[picture\]](#)

## 3.2 Miniball

Pictures <https://cds.cern.ch/record/844871?ln=en>

### 3.2.1 Particle detector, DSSSD (CD)

16 rings, 12 strips effectively (24 strips, 12 pairs with two strips making a pair)  
Angle coverage:  $[18.4^\circ, 56.7^\circ]$

### 3.2.2 $\gamma$ detectors, HPGe

24 six-fold segmented. 8 clusters of 3 crystals each. Each crystal segmented in 6 parts (144 segments in total).

Cryo-modules

## 3.3 Experimental setup

$^{140}\text{Sm}$  Coulomb excitation experiment.

Experiment code: IS558

Ta: tantalum ( $Z = 73$ )

Sm: samarium ( $Z = 62$ )

Pb: lead ( $Z = 82$ )

Beam:  $^{140}\text{Sm}$  ( $T_{1/2} \approx 15$  min, 4.65 MeV/ $u$ , total 651 MeV), excellent purity

Target:  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  (Thickness: 1.4 mg/cm<sup>2</sup>)

Small angle: Forward scattering: Larger distance, weaker **EM**-field, less excitation probability.

Large angle: Backward scattering: Closer distance, stronger **EM**-field, higher excitation probability.

Expect to measure transition probabilities  $B(E2)$  and quadrupole moment (nuclear deformation).

Level scheme (from Klintefjord?)



# Chapter 4

## Data analysis

ROOT: analysere data

kinsim3 <https://github.com/lpgaff/kinsim> + SRIM <http://www.srim.org>

+Experiment code: IS553

Ni: nickel ( $Z = 28$ )

Ba: barium ( $Z = 56$ )

particle-gamma and particle-gamma-gamma coincidence

### 4.1 Simulation

Simulation done by kinsim3

Terminal: Simulation: 140Sm on 208Pb:

```
$ cd GitHub/Miniball/kinsim
$ root
root [0] .L kinsim3.cc+
root [1] kinsim3(62, 82, 140, 208, 1.4, 4.65, 0.02, 1.0, 0.6,
    26.98, false, 1e6, "../SRIM")
```

similarly for Ni

```
root [2] kinsim3(56, 28, 144, 58, 1.8, 3.395, 0.02, 1.0, 0.6,
    26.98, false, 1e6, "../SRIM")
```

kinsim3 function:

```
void kinsim3( int Zb, int Zt, double Ab, double At, double
    thick /* mg/cm^2 */, double Eb /* MeV/u */,
    double dEb = 0.1 /* MeV/u */, double Ex = 1.0 /* MeV */,
    double res = 0.6 /* % */,
    double cd_dist = 28.0 /* mm */, bool flat = false /* angular
    distribution? */,
```

```
long Nevts = 1E6, string srin_dir = "../srin" )
```

Say something about SRIM files.

## 4.2 Calibration

### 4.2.1 Particle detector

ADC: Analog to digital converter (Mesytec)

TDC: Time to digital converter

DSSSD: Double-Sided Silicon Strip Detector  $\implies$  CD

must remove the inner ring from data analysis because of damage

$$gain = \frac{E_{Sm} - E_{Pb \text{ or } Ni}}{Ch_{Sm} - Ch_{Pb \text{ or } Ni}}$$

$$offset = E_{Sm} - gain \cdot Ch_{Sm}$$

in keV.

Threshold: The code has a default threshold of 100, but in some cases this is too much and some cases this is not enough. So for each adc channel, the threshold can be set. We don't want to include the "pedestal". Charge sharing. Won't cut too much or too little..

Sjekk hva Liam skrev i mailen.

### 4.2.2 Gamma detectors

DGF: Digital  $\gamma$  finder

addback, singles, ...

## 4.3 Doppler correction



## Chapter 5

### Experimental results



# Chapter 6

## Discussion



## Chapter 7

### Summary and outlook



# Appendices





**Appendix A**

**Some Appendix**



## Appendix B

Some other appendix...



# Bibliography

- [1] E. Clément, M. Zielińska, A. Görgen, et al. Spectroscopic Quadrupole Moments in Sr 96,98: Evidence for Shape Coexistence in Neutron-Rich Strontium Isotopes at N=60. *Physical Review Letters*, 116(2):1–6, 2016. ISSN 10797114. doi: 10.1103/PhysRevLett.116.022701.
- [2] L. Gaffney. Kinematics simulations for Coulomb-excitation experiments at Miniball, May 2018. URL <https://github.com/lpgaff/kinsim>.
- [3] C. Lefèvre. The CERN accelerator complex. Complexe des accélérateurs du CERN. Dec 2008. URL <https://cds.cern.ch/record/1260465>.