

## Influence of magicity $Z = 82$ in the decay of compound nuclei $A \sim 200$

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### Introduction

A number of macroscopic properties of nuclei could be understood in terms of the of Gamow's liquid-drop model [1]. However, limitations of this model to explain microscopic features, e.g., existence of magic nuclei (specific proton or neutron numbers that give additional stability to the nucleus), led to the development of the nuclear shell model by M. G. Mayor and J. H. Jensen, in 1949 [2]. Since then, effects of magic numbers on nuclear reaction dynamics has been a topic of great interest. Most significantly, synthesis of superheavy nuclei have been hypothesized by the prediction of the existence of closed shells beyond the heaviest doubly magic nucleus found in nature [3]. Moreover, effects of neutron shell closures  $N = 126$ , has also been explored to investigate the decay of compound nuclei (CN) [4], within the quantum mechanical fragmentation theory based Dynamical Cluster Decay Model (DCM) [4, 5]. The study revealed that the most prominent fusion-fission fragments for the decay of CN under study are having neutron-proton counts closer to the magic numbers.

Here, we have extended our previous work [6] of investigations of the effects of magicity  $Z = 82$  in the decay of CN  $^{194}\text{Hg}^*$ ,  $^{200}\text{Pb}^*$ ,  $^{203}\text{Bi}^*$  and  $^{207}\text{At}^*$  formed in  $^{19}\text{F} + ^{175}\text{Lu}$ ,  $^{19}\text{F} + ^{181}\text{Ta}$ ,  $^{19}\text{F} + ^{184}\text{W}$  and  $^{19}\text{F} + ^{188}\text{Os}$  reactions, respectively, at different  $E_{lab}$  values. We have calculated the light particles cross sections ( $\sigma_{LPs}$ ) for all the four reactions at different energies, leading to CN with  $A \sim 200$ , in reference to the available experimen-

tal data [7]. In DCM, the collective fragmentation potential is calculated within Strutinsky macro-microscopic method and empirical shell corrections are taken from Myres and Swiatecki, to subsequently estimate the cross sections for the penetrating collectively clustered/preformed fragments across the scattering potential. In the following sections, methodology followed for the work is given, briefly, along with results and discussions of the presented calculations.

### Methodology

The dynamical cluster decay model (DCM) [4, 5] of Gupta and collaborators is based on the collective coordinates of mass (and charge) asymmetries  $\eta_A = \frac{A_1 - A_2}{A_1 + A_2}$  (and  $\eta_Z = \frac{Z_1 - Z_2}{Z_1 + Z_2}$ ) and relative separation coordinate  $R$  with multipole deformations  $\beta_{\lambda i}$  ( $\lambda=2,3,4\dots$  and  $i=1,2$ ) and orientations  $\theta_i$  of two fragments ( $i = 1, 2$ ). In terms of these coordinates, we define the compound nucleus decay cross-section for  $\ell$  partial waves as

$$\sigma = \frac{\pi}{k^2} \sum_{\ell=0}^{\ell_{max}} (2\ell + 1) P_0 P; \quad k = \sqrt{\frac{2\mu E_{c.m.}}{\hbar^2}} \quad (1)$$

where,  $\mu$  is the reduced mass with  $m$  as nucleon mass and  $\ell_{max}$ -value is the maximum angular momentum, fixed for the vanishing of the light particles cross-section, i.e.  $\sigma_{LPs} \rightarrow 0$ .  $P_0$ , the preformation probability, refers to  $\eta$ -motion and  $P$ , the penetrability, to  $R$ -motion, both dependent on angular momentum  $\ell$  and temperature  $T$ .

$P_0$  is obtained by solving a stationary Schrödinger equation in mass fragmentation coordinate and contains the structure information of the system and its decaying fragments. Once the clusters/fragments are preformed, their penetration probability  $P$  across

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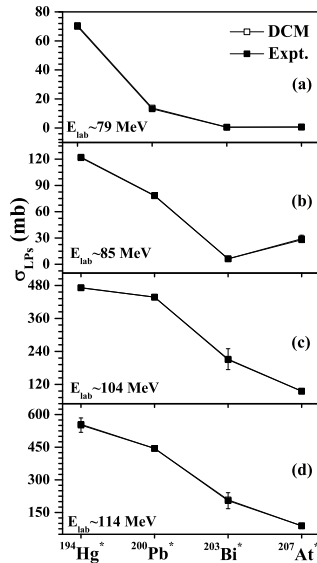


FIG. 1: The DCM calculated  $\sigma_{LPs}$  as a function of increasing  $Z$  of CN and their comparison with the experimental data, at the different  $E_{lab}$  values.

the interaction barrier is calculated by using the WKB approximation.

### Calculations and Discussions

Fig. 1 (a-d) shows the DCM calculated  $\sigma_{LPs}$  along with experimental data for the four reactions under study at four different energies. The DCM calculated  $\sigma_{LPs}$  show good agreement with experimental data. We have reported in our previous work [6], the preformation profiles of the favoured fragments in the decay of CN  $^{194}\text{Hg}^*$ ,  $^{200}\text{Pb}^*$ ,  $^{203}\text{Bi}^*$  and  $^{207}\text{At}^*$  at  $E_{lab} \sim 85\text{MeV}$ . We observed that for CN  $^{194}\text{Hg}^*$ ,  $^{200}\text{Pb}^*$  and  $^{203}\text{Bi}^*$  LPs are strongly preformed, comparatively. However, the compound nucleus  $^{207}\text{At}^*$  shown to have weakly preformed LPs in comparison to asymmetric fragments, perhaps due to its  $Z = 85$  being away from the proton shell closure  $Z = 82$ . The  $\sigma_{LPs}$  is more for  $Z = 82$  and around 82 CN i.e. in these systems there are less chances of fission, comparatively.

These results are also quite evident from Fig. 1 (a-d) which also includes the variation in the values of  $\sigma_{LPs}$  with increasing  $E_{lab}$  values. We see that  $\sigma_{LPs}$  decreases with increasing  $Z$  values of CN except at  $E_{lab} \sim 85\text{MeV}$  (Fig. 1 (b)). Here, we find that there is rise in the value of  $\sigma_{LPs}$  for  $^{207}\text{At}^*$  in comparison to  $^{203}\text{Bi}^*$  (Fig. 1 (b)). However, for rest of

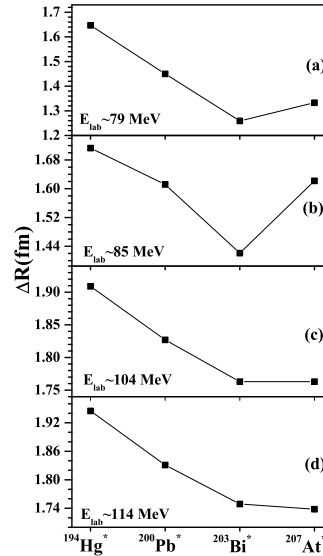


FIG. 2: Same as Fig. 1 but for  $\Delta R$ .

the  $E_{lab}$  values  $\sigma_{LPs}$  decreases with increasing  $Z$  values of the CN. The DCM fitted  $\Delta R$  values also reflect these results in Fig. 2 (a-d) for the corresponding CN systems as well as the energies. Here also we find the rise in the value of  $\Delta R$  for compound nucleus  $^{207}\text{At}^*$ , not only at  $E_{lab} \sim 85\text{MeV}$  (Fig. 2 (b)) but also at  $79\text{MeV}$  (Fig. 2 (a)). The further investigation of these results is called for. Work is in progress.

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