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Nuclear stucture oddities from ISOLTRAP mass measurements

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The results of two recent ISOLTRAP experiments are discussed in this contribution.

(1) Sudden offset of deformation around N=60 (or, Reformation of Kr isotopes around N=60)

Whereas canonical nuclear structure decrees a sub-shell closure at N=56, neutron-rich Zr and Sr istopes are known to exhibit sudden and intense deformation instead. This deformation, visible from a deep dent in the mass surface, is interpreted as a nuclear quantum phase transition. It is of interest to determine the conditions where this phase transition (or deformation) begins but also where it ends. Microscopic mass predictions in the mean-field framework (HFB-17) tells us that Kr will be strongly deformed as well. However, first mass measurements of 96,97Kr, using the Penning-trap spectrometer ISOLTRAP, show this not to be the case.

(2) All quiet on the western N=40 front (or, Magic-number migration in Mn isotopes)

The many attempts of establishing a shell closure at N=40 have resulted in admitting that the effect depends on whether Z=28 or not. New mass measurements of Mn (Z=25) from ISOLTRAP confirm this observation. In fact, the strong effect at N=35 visible from previous measurements is shown to completely disappear. However, a new effect, though more subtle, does appear in the case of N=34, perhaps indicating the manifestation of a new magic number.

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