# Scattering of <sup>15</sup>C on <sup>208</sup>Pb at energies near the Coulomb barrier

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#### Light nuclei: a quantum mechanics laboratory

Quantum mechanics plays a role in creating peculiar structures in ground states of light nuclei: nuclear skins and/or nuclear halos, nuclear clusters, nuclear molecules, gas condensate ....

Theoretical understanding of the structure of light drip-line nuclei is challenging →
 Ab-Initio calculations are reaching good description of structure of light nuclei.
 In order to handle new observables and exotic structures → New theoretical models

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In order to handle new observables and exotic structures -> New theoretical models needs to be able to describe reaction dynamics

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# Halo Nuclei

The nuclear halo is a threshold effect arising from the very weak binding energy (0.1-1 MeV) of the outer nucleon(s)

- Extended mass distribution
- Large rms radius
- Large reaction cross section
- Narrow momentum distribution following fast fragmentation
- Concentration of B(E1) close to BU threshold



G. Sawhney et al, J. Phys G Nuc part Phys 41 (2014) 055101

18Na 19Na 20Na 21Na 22Na 23Na 24Na 25Na 26Na 27Na 28Na 29N





#### **Neutron Haloes**

Provide an ideal test bench to study few-body correlations by measuring elastic, nucleon transfer and breakup

Tanihata, PRL 55 (1985)2676





- Coupling between relative motion and internal degrees of freedom
  - Elastic inelastic transfer breakup fusión + effects of the continuum
- Strong absorption in elastic channel
- Large cross section for fragmentation



Easy polarizable: distorsion of structure in vecinity of heavy target  $\rightarrow$  Coulomb dipole polarizability





### What makes ${}^{15}C(T_{1/2} = 2.45s)$ Interesting ?

- Realively weakly bound
  - $S_n = 1.2 \text{ MeV}; S_{2n} = 9.4 \text{ MeV}$
- Relatively narrow longitudinal momentum distribution
- First excited state (E = 740 keV)
- Ground state  $2s_{1/2} \rightarrow$

a s-wave 1n-halo coupled to <sup>14</sup>C could explains these features,



#### Spectroscopic Factor



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Aumann et al., EPJA 26 (2005)

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# <sup>15</sup>C: Controversial 1n-halo

- Reaction cross section larger than <sup>14,16</sup>C at intermediate energies, but not at higher energies
  - It seems that coupling increases when energy decreases
- B(E1) deduced from coulomb breakup of <sup>15</sup>C on Pb longer tail than <sup>11</sup>Be and smaller value of mean square radius.
- Nuclear matter radii and density recently revisited

$$R_m = 2.59(5) \text{ fm}$$
;  $R_p = 2,37(3) \text{ fm}$   $R_n = 2,73(8) \text{ fm} \rightarrow \delta_{np} = 0.36(9) \text{ fm}$ 

 $R_c = 2,41(5) \text{ fm}$ ;  $R_v = 4.36 (38) \text{ fm} \rightarrow \kappa = R_v / R_c = 1.81 \text{ (halo } \kappa > 2)$ 





Nakamura et al., PRC 79 (2009) 035805





#### Elastic Scattering of halo/skin Nuclei @ Coulomb Barrier

- We have studied the halo effects on the elastic scattering on heavy targets at energies close to the Coulomb barrier
- The scattering of loosely bound n-rich system in the strong electromagnetic field of the reaction target induces a dipole polarization in the projectile.
- A strong absorption in the elastic channel and the suppression of the rainbow arising from the Fresnel interference in the Optical Model is found.
- The structure effects manifest on the angular distribution of the elastic cross section.





- Reaction studies done at high energies all agree with a moderate halo structure for  ${}^{15}C \rightarrow$  Which is the differential elastic cross near Coulomb Barrier
- Theoretical studies of  ${}^{15}C+{}^{208}Pb$  at Coulomb Barrier exist for E = 65 MeV
- 1n-stripping:



N. Keenley et al., PRC 75 (2007) 056610; EPJA 50 (2014) 145

#### •1n-breakup:

Continuum discretized couple channel (CDCC) Inelastic (1st excited @ 740 keV)



#### Scattering dominated by the competition of 1n-stripping and breakup

CRC/ 1n stripping		CDCC/ direct breakup	
Total reaction (mb)	927	Total reaction (mb)	1379
1-n stripping (mb)	265	Breakup (mb)	462
		Excitation(5/2+,740keV) (mb)	45



### Coulomb barrier scattering of <sup>15</sup>C + <sup>208</sup>Pb

#### Experiment IS699 @ HIE-ISOLDE (CERN)

- 1 x 10<sup>3</sup> pps average <sup>15</sup>C at reaction point
- E = 4.37 MeV/u incoming <sup>15</sup>C (FWHM = 225 keV)
  - 65,43 MeV, after 75 μg/cm<sup>2</sup> stripping C-foil;
    64,56(23) MeV in the middle of the <sup>208</sup>Pb-foil Vc ~ 66,34 MeV
- Cocktail beam of <sup>15</sup>N + <sup>15</sup>C: <sup>15</sup>C/<sup>15</sup>N ≈ 1-3%
  - ✓ <sup>15</sup>N tightly bound @ this energy → use for monitoring and normalization







# **Experimental setup**

- Gobal Reaction Array <u>GLORIA</u>
  (*NIM A 755 69-77 [2014]*).
  - 6 Si telescopes tangent to a 6 cm radius sphere.
  - 40 μm (ΔE) + 1 mm (E) DSSDs in 256
    pixels of 3x3 mm<sup>2</sup>
    - 2-3<sup>o</sup> angular ressolution
  - •25% geometric eff.
  - Full angular coverage  $\theta_{LAB} = 15^{\circ} 165^{\circ}$
  - <sup>208</sup>Pb **targets** 2.1 and 1.2 mg/cm<sup>2</sup>.









### **Data Analysis**

- Telescope configuration allows for particle identification from 2D ( $\Delta E-E_{TOT}$ ) plots.
- High granularity of DSSDs allows for grouping together pixels within a  $\Delta \theta$  range.
- In the Δθ sectors the same physics are expected (non-polarized beam) and minor effects of different energy losses happen, maximizing the statistics and reducing the errorbars.



### Angle and solid Angle Optimization



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## **Solid Angle Optimization**

- Angle/solid angle determination is, determine geometrically for every pixel. Then the data from <sup>15</sup>N is used as at the present energy the behaviour is Rutherford and it is optimized with a  $\chi^2$  test.
- Optimal  $\theta$ ,  $\varphi$  and  $\Delta\Omega$  are chosen from the set of free parameters  $(\overrightarrow{r_{RP}}, I_N) = (x_{RP}, y_{RP}, z_{RP}, I_N)$ minimizing the  $\chi^2$ /ndf when compared to the theoretical Rutherford cross section distribution.
- The loop happens to converge for several sets  $(z_{RP}, I_N)$ , so the most feasible one is chosen according to the geometry and the intensity estimation by the ISOLDE beam team.





### **Channeling Effects**

- Channeling through Si lattice in ΔE detectors leads to a smaller energy deposition.
- It happens in specific regions where the trajectory of the incident particle coincides with a channel of the detector wafer.





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### Calibration with $\boldsymbol{\alpha}$ and heavy ions





# <sup>15</sup>N / <sup>15</sup>C Distributions

<sup>15</sup>N and <sup>15</sup>C distributions - thin target - mul 2





## <sup>15</sup>C + <sup>208</sup>Pb Cross Section





The experimental angular distribution cross section of <sup>15</sup>C + <sup>208</sup>Pb @ 65 MeV are compared with the calculations done by Keenley et al., for the extreme case of no coupling and 1n-stripping within the coupled reaction channel and CDCC for no coupling and 1n breakup.





N. Keenley et al., PRC 75 (2007) 056610; EPJA 50 (2014) 145





# Summary & Outlook

- We have performed the first study of the angular distribution of the elastic cross section of <sup>15</sup>C + <sup>208</sup>Pb @ 65 MeV at HIE-ISOLDE (CERN).
- <sup>15</sup>C nucleus is a border line halo case with relatively low binding energy, a moderate halo case,
- It constitutes a unique case where the last neutron sits mainly in a  $1S_{1/2}$ -wave state.
- Predictions on the scattering of <sup>15</sup>C + <sup>208</sup>Pb @ 65 MeV were done by Keenley, Alamanos and Rusek in the framework of CRC including 1nstripping and CDCC including breakup. 1n-stripping contribution wasexpected to be prominent as well as 1n-breakup
- The experimental angular distribution of the elastic scattering near the Coulomb Barrier (~ 60 MeV) shows strong couplings. The distribution favours the presence of 1n-stripping channel. Both the nuclear and Coulomb couplings as important as it the case of <sup>11</sup>Be and at difference of <sup>6</sup>He and <sup>11</sup>Li where the Coulomb coupling dominates.



Hopefully the total cross section will support these conclusions





# The IS699 collaboration

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### Geometry Optimization / Hit pattern

hit pattern det. A

hit pattern det. F





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