Description of the Ground and Super Bands in Xenon Nuclei
Using the Rotational Limit of the Interacting Vector Boson Model

A.M. Khalaf(1), Eman Saber (2)

(1) Physics Department, Faculty of Science, Al-AZhar University, Cairo – Egypt.
(2) Physics Department, College of Sciences and Arts in ArRass, Qassim University, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Abstract: The interacting vector boson model (IVBM) has been applied to describe the ground state band with positive parity in even \(^{120-126}\)Xe nuclei. The model is extended to investigate the high spin states in the super band. The analysis of the excitation energies of the two bands reveals the presence of backbending phenomena at the positions between the \(I^\pi = 10^+\) and \(12^+\) levels in \(^{120-126}\)Xe or between \(I^\pi = 8^+\) and \(10^+\) levels in \(^{128,130}\)Xe due to band crossing between the ground band and the super band with a \(v_1h_{12}\) configuration. Chi squared fitting search program has been employed to extract the model parameters in order to obtain a minimum root mean square (rms) deviation between the calculated and the experimental excitation energies. Good agreement is obtained between experimental and IVBM calculations for the two bands in all six \(Xe\) isotopes.

1. Introduction

In recent years the phenomena of shape transition and moment of inertia anomaly [1-3] have created considerable special interest in nuclear structure physics. Nuclei around mass region \(A\sim 130\) are among the nuclei which are rich in these phenomena and are suitable for comprehensive experimental and theoretical studies. The even–even nuclei in this region seem to be soft with regard to the \(\gamma\)-deformation with an almost maximum effective triaxiality of \(\gamma = \pi/6\) [4,5]. Since they are neither vibrational nor rotational. The excitation energies in this mass region were investigated extensively in terms of various models, such as, the interacting boson model (IBM) [6-8], the fermion dynamical symmetry model (FDSM) [9,10], the nucleon pair shell model [11] and the pair truncated shell model (PTSM) [12,13].

In the algebraic models like the IBM [6] and the interacting vector boson model (IVBM) [14] the use of the dynamical symmetries defined by a certain reduction chain of the group of dynamical symmetry yields exact solutions for the eigenvalues and eigenfunctions of the model Hamiltonian, which is constructed from the invariant operators of the subgroups in the chain.

In the region of high spins where large change in nuclear structure can be expected as induced by the presence of large quantities of angular momentum, these models must be modified. In a nucleus, the lowest state is referred as bandhead. Many states of different intrinsic structure can in principle become bandheads, the band built on the ground state of the nucleus is the ground state band (gb). All other excited high spin bands are called the super bands (sb). Near the crossing point between two bands, several physical phenomena occur. As example the backbending phenomena [15,16] is understood as a consequence of crossing between two bands, one being the gb and the other having a pair of aligned high j intruder particles [17-20]. Its magnitude is related to the crossing angle between the two crossing bands [21].

The symplectic extension to \(Sp(12,R)\) of the unitary dynamical symmetry \(U(6)\) of the IVBM was used to describe the well deformed even–even nuclei, the mixed mode dynamics [22], and the energy staggering in rare earth nuclei [23].

In this paper, the algebraic IVBM [14] is used to describe the gb and sb of the even–even Xenon nuclei. The most general spectrum generating algebra of the model is the algebra of the \(Sp(12,R)\) dynamical symmetry. It has a rather rich sub-algebraic structure. In the rotational limit [24] of the model the reduction of \(Sp(12,R)\) to the \(So(3)\) angular momentum group is carried out through the compact unitary \(U(6)\) subgroup, which defines the number of bosons preserving version of the model.
Section 2 provides information on the IVBM and its rotational limit, this section also gives expressions for excitation energies to be described in this paper. The backbending phenomenon is the subject of section 3. The results of calculations and comparison with experimental data for $^{120-136}\text{Xe}$ isotopic chain are presented in section 4. Finally a conclusion is given in section 5.

2. FRAMEWORK OF THE INTERACTING VECTOR BOSON MODEL (IVBM)

In this section the IVBM [14] is used to describe the excitation energies of collective states having fixed values of angular momentum $L$. The fundamental dynamical symmetry of this model is the group $\text{Sp}(12,\mathbb{R})$ [25,26], which is the group of linear canonical transformation in a 12 dimensional phase. In the rotational limit [24], the group $\text{Sp}(12,\mathbb{R})$ is reduced to the $\text{So}(3)$ angular momentum group through the compact unitary $U(6)$ subgroup which defines the boson number $N$.

The rotational limit [24] of the IVBM is defined by the chain as follows

$$\text{Sp}(12,\mathbb{R}) \Rightarrow U(6) \Rightarrow SU(3) \otimes U(2) \Rightarrow \text{So}(3) \otimes U(1)$$

where the labels below the subgroup are the quantum numbers corresponding to their irreducible representation (irreps). Their values are obtained by means of standard reduction rules [24]. Since the reduction from $U(6)$ to $\text{So}(3)$ is carried out by the mutually complementary group $\text{Su}(3)$ and $U(2)$, their quantum numbers are related in the following way

$$T = \frac{\lambda}{2}, \quad N = 2 \mu + \lambda$$

So that, we can write the basis as

$$|N, T, K, L, T_0\rangle$$

The Hamiltonian operator is expressed in terms of the first and second order invariant operators of the different subgroups in the chain (1)

$$\hat{H} = aN + bN^2 + \alpha_3T^2 + \beta_3L^2 + \alpha_1T_0^2$$

The Hamiltonian operator is obviously diagonal in the basis (2). The eigenvalues for states of a given $L$ value are therefore read

$$E(N,T,L,T_0) = aN + bN^2 + \alpha_3T(T+1) + \beta_3L(L+1) + \alpha_1T_0^2$$

For even value of the number of bosons $N(N = 0, 2, 4, \ldots)$, the possible values for the pseudospin are

$$T = \frac{N}{2}, \frac{N}{2} - 1, \ldots, 1, 0$$

When $N$ and $T$ are fixed, $(2T+1)$ equivalent representation of the group $SU(3)$ arise ($T_0 = -T$, $-T+1$, $\ldots$, $T$).

For ground and super states, $N = 2L$ with the sequence of states with different number of bosons $N = 0, 4, 8, \ldots$ and pseudospin $T = 0 (T_0 = 0)$.

3. THE BACKBENDING PLOTS

The band diagram is a diagram in which the excitation energies $E(L)$ are plotted for the ground state band (gb) and superband (sb) as function of spin $L$.

In this diagram, the slope of the excitation energy is the angular velocity, which can be defined for each band

$$\omega(L) = \frac{dE(L)}{dL}$$

The kinematic moment of inertia $J(1)$ is then defined by

$$J^{(1)} = \frac{L}{\omega}$$

The backbending plot is a conventional diagram in which twice the kinematic moment of inertia $(2J(1))$ is plotted against the square of rotational frequency $\hbar^2\omega^2$. In the vibrational limit the angular velocity $\omega$ becomes spin independent and upbending can be seen. On the other hand in the rotational
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limit the kinematic moment of inertia \( J(1) \) becomes spin independent and a plateau can be seen in the backbending plot. In such a case the dynamic moment of inertia \( J(2) \) becomes equal to the inverse of the curvature of the excitation energy

\[
J(2) = \left( \frac{d^2E}{dL^2} \right)^{-1} = \left( \frac{dE}{dL} \right)^{-1}
\]

(7)

Conventionally the kinematic moment of inertia \( J(1) \) and the square of the rotational frequency \( \hbar^2 \omega^2 \) are extracted from the definitions

\[
J(1) = \frac{2L-1}{E_r(L)}
\]

(8)

\[
\hbar^2 \omega^2 = \frac{L^2-L+1}{(2L-1)^2} E_r^2(L) \left( \equiv \frac{1}{4} E_r^2(L), \text{for } L > 6 \right)
\]

(9)

with

\[
E_r(L) = E(L) - E(L - 2)
\]

(10)

In the definition, a derivative in energy is involved, and therefore it reflects changes in band energies as spin varies.

4. NUMERICAL CALCULATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS

Xenon isotopes are in a typical transitional region, in which the nuclear structure varies from that of the spherical shape to deformed one. The even-even 120-130Xe isotopic chain has been considered.

The model parameters \( a, b \) and \( \beta_3 \) for the ground state band (gb) and superband (sb) for each nucleus are evaluated by using a computer simulated search program in order to fit the calculated IVBM energy levels up to \( I\pi = 24^+ \) with the experimental ones using the standard \( \chi^2 \) minimization procedure.

The quality of the energy fit is

\[
\chi^2 = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i} \left( \frac{E_{\text{exp}}(L_i) - E_{\text{cal}}(L_i)}{(\text{exp. errors})^2} \right)^2
\]

which is the standard energy root mean square (rms) deviation with \( N \) being equal to the number of energy levels enter the fitting. All experimental data on energy levels are taken from Ref.[27]. The adopted best model parameters are given in Table (1) for (gb) and (sb).

Table 1. Adopted parameters in (KeV) of the Hamiltonian obtained in the fitting procedure.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Isotope</th>
<th>a</th>
<th>b</th>
<th>( \beta_3 )</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(^{120}\text{Xe})</td>
<td>gb</td>
<td>28.51718</td>
<td>-14.25859</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sb</td>
<td>57.63437</td>
<td>-28.81718</td>
<td>121.13125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(^{122}\text{Xe})</td>
<td>gb</td>
<td>28.44000</td>
<td>-14.22000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sb</td>
<td>50.22187</td>
<td>-25.11093</td>
<td>108.78325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(^{124}\text{Xe})</td>
<td>gb</td>
<td>29.96937</td>
<td>-14.98468</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sb</td>
<td>64.05625</td>
<td>-32.02812</td>
<td>133.65550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(^{126}\text{Xe})</td>
<td>gb</td>
<td>35.72500</td>
<td>-17.86250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sb</td>
<td>64.21250</td>
<td>-32.10625</td>
<td>133.56800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(^{128}\text{Xe})</td>
<td>gb</td>
<td>44.4997</td>
<td>-22.3495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sb</td>
<td>82.9845</td>
<td>-41.4923</td>
<td>164.8500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(^{130}\text{Xe})</td>
<td>gb</td>
<td>56.9335</td>
<td>-28.4667</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sb</td>
<td>96.8485</td>
<td>-48.4242</td>
<td>186.3606</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The comparison between the experimental excitation energies [27] and our IVBM calculations using the values of the model parameter given in Table (1) for the ground state band (gb) and super band (sb) of isotopic chain 120-126Xe is illustrated in Figure (1). The agreement between the theoretical values obtained with only three IVBM parameters and experimental data for all the nuclei under consideration is very good.
Figure 1. A band diagram for 120-130Xe isotopes showing comparison of IVBM energies with experiment for the ground state band (gb) and super band (sb). The Figure also show the position of the crossing spin point. The experimental data are denoted by solid circles for ground band (gb) and superband (sb). The IVBM calculation are denoted by solid lines for gb and dotted lines for sb.

In all considered Xe isotopes one finds that there is a band crossing of the (gb) and (sb).

The position of crossing point is between $L\pi = 10^+$ and $12^+$ levels for 120-126Xe and $L\pi = 8^+$ and $10^+$ for the two isotopes 128,130Xe.

In Figure(2) is shown the backbending plot, the variation of twice kinematic moment of inertia $2J(1)$ with square rotational frequency $h^2\omega^2$ for the ground band (gb) and superband (sb) for our six isotopic chain 120-130Xe. The overall agreement between the calculated and experimental results is very good. As shown from the figure, all isotopes exhibit backbending.
Table 2. Calculated excitation energies (KeV) and twice moment of inertia $2J$ ($h^2$MeV$^{-1}$) and the square of rotational frequency $\hbar^2\omega^2$ (MeV$^{-1}$) for the yrast bands of 120-130Xe.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$^{120}$Xe</th>
<th>$E^{exp}(L)$ (KeV)</th>
<th>$I^n$ (h)</th>
<th>$E(L)$ (KeV)</th>
<th>$E_p(L \rightarrow L - 2)$ (keV)</th>
<th>$\hbar^2\omega^2$ (MeV$^{-1}$)</th>
<th>$2J$ ($h^2$MeV$^{-1}$)</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$^{120}$Xe</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0346</td>
<td>18.5981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>322.61</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>322.612</td>
<td>322.612</td>
<td>448.578</td>
<td>0.0533</td>
<td>31.2097</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>796.16</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>771.190</td>
<td>574.544</td>
<td>700.510</td>
<td>0.0845</td>
<td>38.2912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1397.3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1345.734</td>
<td>826.476</td>
<td>1.126</td>
<td>42.8259</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2099.2</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2046.244</td>
<td>808.280</td>
<td>1.1707</td>
<td>45.9783</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2872.7</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2872.720</td>
<td>1.1633</td>
<td>56.9109</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3676.5</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>3681.000</td>
<td>871.450</td>
<td>1.1898</td>
<td>80.3258</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4458.9</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>4458.650</td>
<td>918.350</td>
<td>1.2108</td>
<td>84.9349</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5232.3</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>5283.200</td>
<td>965.250</td>
<td>1.2329</td>
<td>89.0960</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6051.0</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>6154.650</td>
<td>1012.150</td>
<td>0.2561</td>
<td>92.8715</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6955.4</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>7073.000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7955.1</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>8038.250</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9051.1</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>9050.400</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 2. The backbending plot: twice kinematic moment of inertia $2J(1)$ versus square of rotational frequency $\hbar^2\omega^2$ for the yrast band of 120-126Xe isotopes. The experimental data are denoted by solid circles for ground band (gb) and open circles for super band (sb). The IVBM calculation are denoted by solid lines. The experimental energy levels are taken from Ref [27].
Table (3) shows the angular velocity $\omega_g(\omega_s)$ of ground (super) band and the ratio $\omega_g/\omega_s$ at the crossing point $L_c$ for the four Xe isotopes by using the formula

\[
\omega(L) = \frac{dE(L)}{dL} = \frac{1}{2}[E(L + 2) - E(L - 2)]
\]

The angular velocity $\omega$ and the position of the crossing spins $L_c$ of ground band (gb) and super band (sb) for 120-130Xe isotopes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Isotope</th>
<th>$L_c$</th>
<th>$\omega_g$</th>
<th>$\omega_s$</th>
<th>$\omega_g/\omega_s$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$^{125}$Xe</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0.444</td>
<td>0.353</td>
<td>1.257</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$^{127}$Xe</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0.476</td>
<td>0.376</td>
<td>1.265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$^{129}$Xe</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0.520</td>
<td>0.372</td>
<td>1.397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$^{131}$Xe</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0.502</td>
<td>0.364</td>
<td>1.379</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$^{133}$Xe</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0.440</td>
<td>0.312</td>
<td>1.410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$^{135}$Xe</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0.409</td>
<td>0.291</td>
<td>1.405</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3. Angular velocity $\omega$ and the position of the crossing spins $L_c$ of ground band (gb) and super band (sb) for 120-130Xe isotopes.
We use the dimensionless quantity $\omega_g/\omega_s$ as a measure of mismatch of the two slopes. We observe that the ratio increases with increasing mass number except for the isotope $^{126}$Xe. The crossing point between the ground band and superband is at $L_c=10\hbar$ for all isotopes. Figure (2) show that backbending becomes indeed more and sharper with increasing mass number. A sharp backbending occurs if the ground and super bands have very different angular velocities, i.e. the spin alignment is large.

5. CONCLUSION

In this paper, we have studied the exactly solvable rotational limit of IVBM. The theory is based on the reduction of the irreducible representation $S_p(12,R)$ into angular momentum group $S_o(3)$ through the compact unitary $U(6)$ subgroup which defines a boson number preserving version of the model. As a consequence, we use the model Hamiltonian of the limit and its eigenstates to obtain the excitation energies of ground state band and superband in even-even $^{120-130}$Xe nuclei. Simulated search program has been written to determine the optimized model parameters using best fit method in order to obtain a minimum root-mean square deviation between the calculated IVBM and the experimental excitation energies. The backbending plots are investigated, analyzed and discussed in the considered six Xe isotopes.

REFERENCES