

# High-spin shape isomers and the nuclear Jahn-Teller effect

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**Abstract.** High-spin isomers were systematically studied in  $N = 83$  isotones. These isomers are of stretch coupled configurations and have oblate shapes. High-spin isomers can be categorized to be high-spin shape isomer, as they are caused by the sudden shape change from near spherical to an oblate shape. These isomers are considered to be a good example of the nuclear Jahn-Teller effect. By the systematic study of high-spin isomers, several results were obtained, such as (1) change of  $Z = 64$  sub-shell gap energy and (2) experimental pairing gap energy at high-spin states. The  $Z = 64$  sub-shell gap energy was found to decrease from 2.4 to 1.9 MeV as the proton number decreases from 64 to 60. Pairing gap energies of high-spin states were experimentally extracted by the three-point expression using binding energies and excitation energies of high-spin isomers. These pairing gap energies at high-spin states are as large as those of the ground states, even though isomers have oblate shapes ( $\beta \sim -0.19$ ).

**PACS.** 21.10.-k Properties of nuclei; nuclear energy levels – 27.60.+j  $90 \leq A \leq 149$

## 1 Introduction

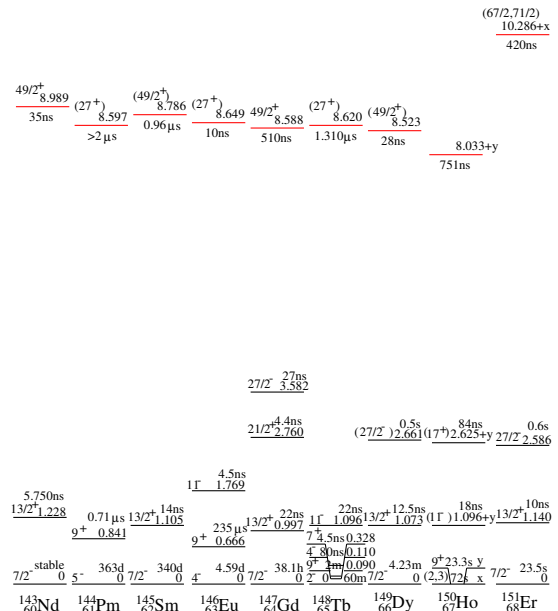
High-spin isomers in  $N = 83$  isotones have been systematically studied [1]. Figure 1 shows the systematics of high-spin isomers. Their spin-parities are  $49/2^+$  and  $27^+$  for odd and odd-odd nuclei, respectively. Life times of these isomers range between  $\sim 10$  ns and  $\sim \mu$ s.

High-spin isomers were theoretically studied using a deformed independent particle model (DIPM) [2].

Configurations of high-spin isomers are deduced experimentally and theoretically to be  $[\nu(f_{7/2} h_{9/2} i_{13/2}) \pi h_{11/2}^2]_{49/2}^+$  for odd nuclei and  $[\nu(f_{7/2} h_{9/2} i_{13/2}) \pi(d_{5/2} h_{11/2}^2)]_{27}^+$  for odd-odd nuclei. These isomers are of stretch coupled configurations and have oblate shapes.

## 2 High-spin shape isomers

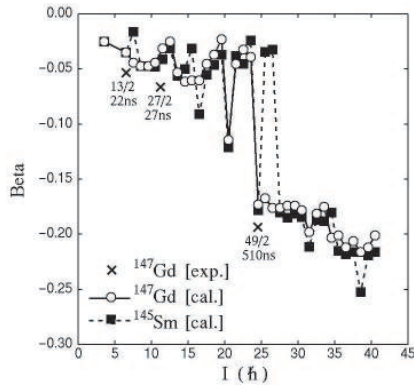
The deformation parameter  $\beta$  values of yrast states obtained by using the DIPM calculation are shown in fig. 2 as a function of spin. Filled squares and open circles indicate the  $\beta$  values for  $^{145}\text{Sm}$  and  $^{147}\text{Gd}$ , respectively. The experimental deformation parameters of the  $13/2^+$ ,  $27/2^-$  and  $29/2^+$  isomers in  $^{147}\text{Gd}$  were deduced from the quadrupole



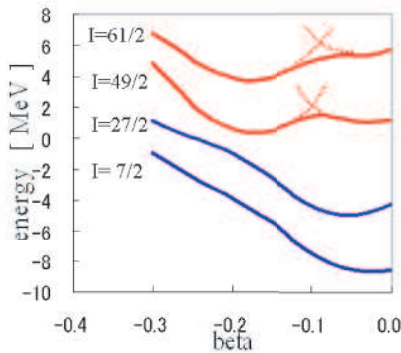
**Fig. 1.** Systematics of high-spin isomers in  $N = 83$  isotones [1].

moments [3]. Experimental values are shown by cross points. They were well reproduced by the DIPM calculation. The  $\beta$  values of the DIPM calculation are nearly

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**Fig. 2.** Deformation parameters  $\beta$  of yrast states as a function of spin.



**Fig. 3.** Deformation dependence of total energy for  $^{147}\text{Gd}$  calculated by DIPM.

$-0.05$  below the spin of  $49/2$ . However, these values above this spin are larger than  $-0.16$ . This indicates that high-spin isomer may be caused by the sudden shape change from near spherical to oblate shape. Therefore, these isomers could be categorized to be high-spin shape isomers.

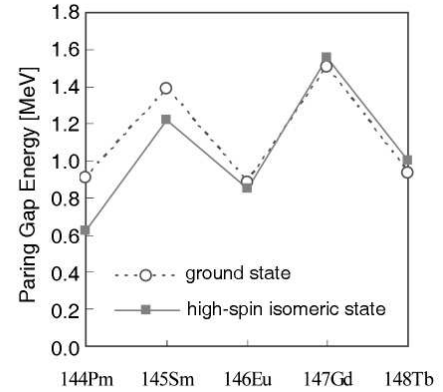
It is considered that high-spin isomers maybe a good example of nuclear Jahn-Teller effect. Figure 3 shows the deformation dependence of total energy for  $^{147}\text{Gd}$  calculated by DIPM. The mixing amplitude of two wave functions with different shapes was experimentally deduced to be  $\sim 10^{-2}$  from the reduced transition probability of the transition directly deexciting the high-spin isomer. As this value is so small, their coupling is weak. The DIPM calculation reproduces well this weak coupling.

### 3 Systematic study of high-spin isomers

Systematic study of high-spin isomers in  $N = 83$  isotones gave several results, such as a change of  $Z = 64$  sub-shell gap energy and experimental pairing gap energies for high-spin states.

#### 3.1 $Z = 64$ sub-shell gap

The experimental excitation energies of high-spin isomers are almost constant between  $8.5$  and  $9.0$  MeV for  $N = 83$



**Fig. 4.** Pairing gap energies at high-spin isomeric and ground states.

isotones with  $60 \leq Z \leq 66$ , as shown in fig. 1. However, theoretical ones calculated by DIPM increase as the proton number decreases. In order to reproduce the experimental values, calculations were made by changing the  $Z = 64$  proton sub-shell gap energies between  $2d_{5/2}$  and  $1h_{11/2}$  orbits. As a result, these gap energies decreases from  $2.4$  to  $1.9$  MeV as the proton number decreases from  $64$  to  $60$ . This shows the softness of the  $Z = 64$  sub-shell closure.

#### 3.2 Pairing gap energy for high-spin isomeric states

Pairing gap energies at high-spin isomeric states were experimentally deduced from the binding energies as well as excitation energies of high-spin isomers based on the three-point expression [4]. Figure 4 shows the extracted pairing gap energies at high-spin states (filled squares) and ground states (open circles). It was found that the pairing energies at high-spin states are as large as those of the ground states, although the high-spin isomers have oblate shapes of  $\beta \sim -0.19$ .

### 4 Summary

Systematic studies for high-spin isomers were carried out experimentally and theoretically. Pairing gap energy at high-spin states deduced experimentally are as large as those of ground states.

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