

# Oblate Deformation and Metastable States in Pt and Hg isotopes



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### Shape competition at high spin in A≈190 region

• Prolate to oblate shape transition with increasing Z, N and spin

• Valence  $i_{13/2}$  neutrons and  $h_{11/2}$  protons: Prolate shapes: high- $\Omega$  orbitals near the Fermi surface Oblate deformation: low- $\Omega$  orbitals near the Fermi surface

• Rotation alignment of low- $\Omega$  orbitals at smaller frequencies  $\Rightarrow$  oblate rotation-aligned structures (with higher moments of inertia) can be favored in energy over prolate structures with no alignments (for similar  $\epsilon_2$ )







## Spectroscopy of stable Pt and Hg isotopes



Proton-rich isotopes well studied through fusion-evaporation reactions; limited information on stable and neutron-rich isotopes through inelastic excitation/multi-nucleon transfer and projectile fragmentation reactions





### **Experiment and data analysis**

- Heavy-ion induced multi-nucleon transfer reactions <sup>197</sup>Au (<sup>209</sup>Bi, ±1pxn) <sup>192-198</sup>Pt , <sup>198-202</sup>Hg
- Thick <sup>197</sup>Au target (≈50 mg/cm<sup>2</sup>),
  1450 MeV <sup>209</sup>Bi beam
  from ATLAS accelerator at Argonne National Laboratory
- **GAMMASPHERE**: 100 Compton-suppressed high-purity Ge detectors
- γ-ray coincidence measurements
- i. 2-, 3-, 4-dimensional symmetric γ-energy histograms (RADWARE)
- ii. Energy-energy-time difference histograms (isomers:  $T_{1/2} < 10$  ns)
- iii. Time-gated, triple- $\gamma$  coincidence histograms (isomers:  $T_{1/2} \ge 10$  ns)
- iv. Prompt-delayed 2- and 3-dimensional  $\gamma$ -energy histograms
- v. Angle-sorted  $\gamma$ -energy histograms for determination of transition multipolarity





#### Metastable states and rotation-aligned structures in even Pt isotopes from present work



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### Structure of <sup>192,194</sup>Pt (*N*=114,116)





## Metastable state in <sup>198</sup>Pt (*N*=120)

 Information on excited states in <sup>198</sup>Pt primarily from the de-excitation of  $I^{\pi}=12^+$  isomer

- $T_{1/2}$  = 36(4) ns firmly established for the 12<sup>+</sup> state
- Spin-parity assignments revised from earlier ones







### Lifetimes of metastable states in Pt isotopes

- $T_{1/2}$  ~ 1-10 ns (comparable to prompt response time for HPGe detectors)
- Histogram of time difference between transitions feeding and de-exciting isomeric states
- Centroid of time distribution for transitions from isomeric states shifted in comparison to that from prompt levels (for  $\gamma$  rays of similar energy)
- Magnitude of centroid shift is equal to the mean life of the isomeric state





-20

-40

20

0

Time (ns)

40



10

40

20

-20

-40

0

Time (ns)



## **Evolution of collectivity in Pt isotopes**

### Near ground states

- Gradual increase in E(2+) approaching *N* = 126 spherical shell gap
- Steady decrease in kinematic moment of inertia of ground state band

Indicative of progressive reduction in deformation of prolate ground state band

### 12<sup>+</sup> metastable states

• Substantial collectivity indicated by  $B(E2; 2^+ \rightarrow 0^+)$  being ~30-50 times the single-particle value from <sup>198</sup>Pt to <sup>192</sup>Pt

• Lifetimes of 12<sup>+</sup> isomers increase with neutron number

Sharp decrease of B(E2;  $12^+ \rightarrow 10^+$ ) in <sup>196,198</sup>Pt: approaching the single-particle value, indicating abrupt quenching of collectivity





## **Prescription for cranking calculations**

### Approaches

- i. Woods-Saxon potential with universal parameterization
- ii. Ultimate Cranker, with Modified Oscillator potential (standard Nilsson parameters)
- Extended grid in deformation space employed to include all possible shapes ranging between prolate non-collective to oblate non-collective (including collective prolate/oblate and triaxial)
- Empirical pair-gap energies from 5-point odd-even mass differences
- Calculated shape evolution, excitation energies, crossing frequencies, aligned angular momentum...
- Systematic calculations for range of even Os (*Z*=76), Pt (*Z*=78) and Hg (*Z*=80) isotopes





### Shapes: metastable states in Pt isotopes

- Ultimate Cranker: Collective oblate minimum ( $\gamma \approx -60^{\circ}$ ) near  $I^{\pi} = 12^{+}$  (metastable states)
- Energy minimum moves towards more negative  $\gamma$  values with increase in N
- Oblate minimum persists beyond  $I = 20 \hbar$





## Rotation-aligned angular momentum (experimental)

• First rotation alignment at  $\hbar\omega \approx 0.2$  MeV in Pt isotopes due to  $i_{13/2}$  (AB) neutrons (~12  $\hbar$ ); compare with predicted alignment frequency for prolate (0.38 MeV), and that for oblate (0.2 MeV)

• Second alignment due to either  $i_{13/2}$  (*CD*) neutrons or  $h_{11/2}$  protons; delay in <sup>192</sup>Pt possibly due to involvement of higher- $\Omega$  neutron orbitals

• Isotones of <sup>196</sup>Pt:  $i_{13/2}$  AB neutron alignment identified in <sup>198</sup>Hg; only prolate ground state band known in <sup>194</sup>Os







### Structure of odd-A Pt isotopes: <sup>193,195</sup>Pt





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• TAC-CDFT calculations satisfactorily reproduce experimental energies

• Calculated B(E2) values can be used to distinguish between possible configurations





Q.B. Chen, J. Meng et al., priv. comm. J. Meng et al., Front. Phys. 8, 55 (2013)

Excitation energies in even-A and odd-A Pt isotopes



### Structure of even Hg isotopes

- Four-quasiparticle band structure established in <sup>198</sup>Hg
- Lifetime measurement of I<sup>*π*</sup>=12<sup>+</sup> state in <sup>200</sup>Hg
- New metastable state (I<sup>*π*</sup>=7<sup>-</sup>) identified in <sup>202</sup>Hg







## Summary

• Pt and Hg isotopes along the line of stability populated through multi-nucleon transfer reactions; sensitive spectroscopic measurements (including lifetimes) using Gammasphere

• Rotation-induced excitations of valence high-*j* nucleons play a central role in the competition between prolate and oblate potential wells and in generating high spin

• Oblate collectivity at high spin explored through transition probabilities deduced from decay of metastable states and the nature of rotational sequences

- Different rotation alignments identified by studying even-even and even-odd isotopes
- Abrupt quenching of oblate collectivity at high spin around N=120 evident from deduced E2 transition probabilities; in stark contrast to the gradual decrease in collectivity near the ground states



### Collaboration

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