

THE INTERPLAY OF CLUSTER STRUCTURE IN LIGHT NUCLEI

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The structure of light nuclei is considered as a superposition of different cluster structures<sup>1)</sup>. The wave function of a nucleus contains the components which describe two-cluster structures constructed out of lp shell and/or ls shell clusters. The model is used to study the low-lying energy levels of the nucleus <sup>7</sup>Li, whose structure is treated as a superposition of the cluster structures (<sup>4</sup>He+<sup>3</sup>H) and (<sup>6</sup>Li+n).

The space of the wave functions is spanned by antisymmetrized products of shell-model wave functions describing separated clusters, the separation S of the two shell-model potentials is taken as the generator coordinate:

$$\Psi^{JM\pi}(x) = \sum_{\alpha,K} \int dS_1 f_{\alpha,K}^{He,n}(S_1) P^{JM\pi} [A\{\Phi_{He}(x_1, \dots, x_4, S_{He}), \Phi_n(x_5, \dots, x_7, S_n)\}] + \sum_{\alpha,K} \int dS_2 f_{\alpha,K}^{Li,n}(S_2) P^{JM\pi} [A\{\Phi_{Li}(x_1, \dots, x_6, S_{Li}), \Phi_n(x_7, S_n)\}]$$

$S_1 = S_{He} = S_n$ ,  $S_2 = S_{Li} = S_n$ ,  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_7)$ ,  $P^{JM\pi}$  is the projection operator of angular momentum and parity, runs over different configurations.

The application of the model to the nucleons <sup>7</sup>Li has shown the sensibility of the calculation with lp shell clusters. The Volkov potentials are used in the calculations. The minimal energy of <sup>7</sup>Li in the state described by the modal function with fixed separation  $S = 3,5 \text{ fm}$  of the clusters <sup>4</sup>He and <sup>3</sup>H is lowered by 1.64 MeV by solving the Hill-Wheeler equation for the cluster structure (<sup>4</sup>He+<sup>3</sup>H). The coupling influences the shape of the nucleus as follows: In the single cluster structure (<sup>4</sup>He+<sup>3</sup>H) the optimal separation of the clusters in the ground state (3.5 fm) is 0.1 fm larger than that in the first excited state 5/2<sup>-</sup>. However, when both cluster structures are considered simultaneously, the optimal separation between the cluster <sup>4</sup>He and <sup>3</sup>H and the separation between the clusters <sup>6</sup>Li and n in the ground state are equal to the corresponding separation in the excited state.

<sup>1)</sup> M. V. Mihailović and X. Poljšak, Nucl. Phys. 111 (1966) 177