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Constraining the nuclear equation of state using Coulomb excitation of neutron-rich tin isotopes

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An experiment measuring the Coulomb-excitation cross section, σ_C [1] in neutron-rich tin nuclei (^{124}Sn – ^{134}Sn) at relativistic energies was performed at GSI, Darmstadt with the aim to constrain the slope of the symmetry energy, L . This particular cross section correlates with dipole polarizability, α_D , a well-established observable for constraining L [2], which enables achieving the same goal but in a simpler and more accurate manner with the used experimental setup [3].

Large acceptance spectrometer R3B-GLAD was used to conduct the experiment as a part of the FAIR Phase-0 campaign [4]. Neutron-rich tin isotopes were produced in fragmentation and fission reactions at energies close to 1 GeV/u, while a lead target was used to provide a strong field to induce Coulomb excitations. At these energies, de-excitation occurs through the emission of gammas and neutrons which were detected using the CALIFA gamma calorimeter [5] and NeuLAND neutron detector [6].

In the scope of this contribution, ongoing analysis with some preliminary results will be presented.

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[3] A.Horvat, Doctoral thesis, Technische Universität Darmstadt (2019)

[4] R3B Collaboration, <https://www.r3b-nustar.de/>.

[5] H. Alvarez Pol et al., Nucl. Instrum. Meths. Phys. Res. A 767, 453 (2014)

[6] K.Boretzky et al., Nucl. Instrum. Methods Phys. Res. A 1014 (2021) 165701

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