Role of multipolarity–Six deformation parameter on exotic decay half-lives of Berkelium nucleus

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Abstract: Using Cubic plus Yukawa plus Exponential Model (CYEM), we have calculated the half lives of various clusters from neutron rich ²¹⁸-²⁵⁶Bk parent nuclei. In our model, the zero point vibration energy is explicitly included without violating the conservation of energy and the nuclear inertia mass coefficient dependent on the centre of mass distance 'r' has been used. We have made our calculations by considering Coulomb, Yukawa plus exponential potential as interacting barrier for separated fragments and cubic potential for the overlapping region. The calculated half-lives are compared with other models and are found to be good agreement with each other. In this work, we have examined the changes in half-life value of exotic decay by incorporating hexacontatetrapole (β₆) parameter in the parent nucleus along with the quadruple (β₂) and hexadecapole (β₈) parameters for Berkelium isotopes. These deformations lower the half life value because; it reduces the height and width of the potential barrier. It is also found that the neutron excess in the parent nuclei slows down the cluster decay process. Most of the emitted clusters are alpha like nuclei. The branching ratio relative to alpha has also been calculated.

Keywords: Exotic decay, Q-value, spontaneous fission and Deformation.

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I. Introduction:

The spontaneous emission of fragments heavier than alpha particles but lighter than lightest fission fragment is known as cluster decay. Theoretically such emissions were first predicted by Sandulescu, Poenaru and Greiner[1]. The first experimental observation was made by Rose and Jones[2]. There exits two kinds of model in explaining the exotic decay process (i) the Pre-formed cluster model and (ii) the fission model. In Pre-formed cluster model [3-5] the cluster is assumed to be pre-born in a parent nucleus before it penetrate the barrier. In fission model [6-8] the nucleus deforms continuously as it penetrates the nuclear interacting barrier and reaches the scission configuration after running down the coulomb barrier. The role of deformation effect on half lives in cluster decay has been calculated by many authors using different theoretical models [9-12]. Carmel et al [13] have calculated half life for exotic decay in the Trans-Tin region by incorporating deformation effects in parent and daughter or cluster, using cubic plus Yukawa plus exponential (CYE) model. Umai et al [14] have studied the impact of higher multi- polarity parameter (β₆) on half-life time of super heavy elements using CYE model. We have already studied the effects of quadrupole, and hexadecapole deformations of the decaying parent nucleus along with that of emitted cluster and daughter nucleus on half-life of cluster decay for some neutron rich elements in trans-actinide region using CYE model[15-17]. In this paper, we have calculated the half of all the possible cluster emission from the neutron rich element of Bk isotopes by incorporating (β₆) parameter in the parent nucleus along with the ground state (β₂ and β₄) deformation parameters. We have done our calculations by considering Coulomb and Yukawa plus exponential potential as interacting barrier for separated fragments and cubic potential for the overlap region, described in section 2. The results and discussion are given in section 3. Finally the conclusions are given in section 4.

II. Cubic plus Yukawa plus Exponential model:

In this work, the parent and the daughter are considered to be spheroid, keeping emitted cluster as spherical. If the daughter has a deformation ,say quadrupole deformation only while emitted cluster is spherical and if the Q-value of the reaction is taken as the origin, the potential for the post - scission region as the function of the centre of mass distance ‘r’ of the fragment is given by

\[ V(r) = V_C(r) + V_n(r) - V_{df}(r) - Q, \quad r \geq r_t \]

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Here, $V_C$ is the coulomb potential between a spheroid emitted cluster and spherical daughter, $V_p$ is the nuclear interaction energy due to finite range effects of Krappe et al; and $V_{sl}$ is the change in nuclear interaction energy due to quadrupole deformation in the emitted cluster.

For a prolate spheroid emitted cluster with longer axis along the fission direction, Pik - Pichak [18] obtained

$$V_C(r) = \frac{3}{2} \frac{Z_a Z_e e^2}{r} \left[ 1 - \frac{1}{2} \frac{y^2}{y+1} + y \right] ;$$

and for an oblate emitted cluster with shorter axis along the fission direction,

$$V_C(r) = \frac{3}{2} \frac{Z_a Z_e e^2}{r} \left[ y (1 + y^2) \arctan \gamma^{-1} - y^2 \right].$$

Here,

$$\gamma = \frac{r}{(a_e^2 - b_e^2)^{1/2}}$$

Where $z_d$, $z_e$ are the atomic numbers of the daughter and emitted cluster respectively, $a_e$ and $b_e$ are the semi major and minor axes of the spheroidal cluster nucleus respectively.

For the overlapping region, we approximate the potential barrier by a third order polynomial in $r$ having the form

$$V_C(r) = -E_v [V(r_1) + V_{d}] \left\{ s_d \left( \frac{r - r_1}{r_1 - r} \right)^2 - s_e \left( \frac{r_1 - r}{r_1 - r_1} \right)^3 \right\} ; \ r_1 \leq r \leq r_t$$

Where,

$$r_t = a_o + R_d$$

Here, $a_o$ is the semi-major (or) minor axis of the spheroid cluster depending on the prolate (or) oblate shape of the emitted cluster; and $r_t$ is the distance between the centers of mass of the daughters and the emitted particle portions in the spheroid parent nucleus. The constants $s_d$ and $s_e$ appearing in Eq.(4) are determined by requiring that the value of the potential $V(r)$ and its first derivative be continuous at the contact point $r = r_t$. Thus we get

$$s_d = 3 - S \ and \ s_e = 2 - S$$

Where

$$S = \frac{-r_1-r_1}{V(r_1) + V_{d}} \left[ V(r_1) + V_{d} - V_{d}(r_1) \right]$$

If the nuclei have spheroid shape, the radius vector $R(\theta)$ making an angle $\theta$ with the axis of symmetry locating sharp surface of a deformed nuclei is given by ref [19]

$$R(\theta) = R_o [1 + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-n}^{n} \beta_{nm} Y_{nm}(\theta)]$$

Here $R_o$ is the radius of equivalent spherical nucleus. If we consider spheroid deformation $\beta_\gamma$, then

$$R(\theta) = R_o \left[ 1 + \beta_\gamma \left( \frac{5/4\pi}{2} \right)^{1/2} \left( \frac{3}{2} \cos^2 \theta - 1/2 \right) \right]$$

and if the Nilsson’s hexadecapole deformation $\beta_6$ is also included in the deformation, then Eq. (7) becomes

$$R(\theta) = R_o \left[ 1 + \beta_\gamma \left( \frac{5/4\pi}{2} \right)^{1/2} \left( \frac{3}{2} \cos^2 \theta - 1/2 \right) + \beta_6 \left( \frac{9/4\pi}{2} \right)^{1/2} \frac{1}{8} \left( 35 \cos^4 \theta - 30 \cos^2 \theta + 3 \right) \right]$$

If hexaconattetrapole deformation ($\beta_o$) is included in the parent deformation, equation (8) becomes

$$R(\theta) = R_o \left[ 1 + \beta_\gamma \left( \frac{5/4\pi}{2} \right)^{1/2} \left( \frac{3}{2} \cos^2 \theta - 1/2 \right) + \beta_6 \left( \frac{9/4\pi}{2} \right)^{1/2} \frac{1}{8} \left( 35 \cos^4 \theta - 30 \cos^2 \theta + 3 \right) + \beta_o \left( \frac{13}{4\pi} \right)^{1/2} \left( \frac{1}{16} \left( 231 \cos^6 \theta - 315 \cos^4 \theta + 105 \cos^2 \theta - 5 \right) \right) \right]$$

Expressing the energies in MeV, lengths in fm and time in seconds for calculating the half-life time of the decay system we use the formula,

$$T = \frac{1.433 \times 10^{-21}}{E_v} \left( 1 + \exp(K) \right)$$

The zero-point vibration energy $E_v = \frac{\pi b_{2Q/\mu}}{2 \left( C_1 + C_2 \right)}$ (11)

Where, $\mu$ the reduced mass of the system and $C_1$ and $C_2$ are the “central” radii of the fragments given by [20]

$$C_i = 1.18A_i^{1/3} - 0.48 \quad (i = 1, 2)$$

The action integral $K$ is given by $K = K_i + K_o$
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Where \[ K_L = \frac{2}{\hbar} \int_{r_1}^{r_2} (2B_1(r)V(r))^{1/2} dr \] \[ K_R = \frac{2}{\hbar} \int_{r_1}^{r_2} (2B_2(r)V(r))^{1/2} dr \]

The limits of integration \( r_1 \) and \( r_2 \) are the two appropriate zeros of the integrand which are found numerically. Q-values for different decay modes are calculated using the experimental binding energies of Audi et al.[21]

III. Results and discussion:

In this work, the cluster radioactivity from neutron rich Bk isotope in the mass region A=228 to 258 have been investigated by using CYE model. It is very important to perform some theoretical calculations in this region which may guide future experiments. The calculated half-lives are in good agreement with the available data. Table 1 gives the Logarithmic half-lives for various clusters from neutron rich Bk isotopes including deformation effects. Figure 2 represents the comparison of computed logarithmic half lives (with and without deformation) for various clusters with available data. Here we have presented the possible cluster decay which have \( T<10^{26} \) s and the branching ratio relative to alpha decay \( \geq 10^{-18} \). When deformation effects are included, half-life values calculated by inclusion of \( (\beta_2, \beta_4, \beta_6) \) parameters and \( (\beta_{2P}, \beta_{4P}, \beta_{6P}) \) parameters are found to be decreased, because it reduces the height and width of the barrier. But in the mass region \( A=235-258 \), the half-life value with inclusion of \( \beta_{6P} \) is found to be increased than that of the same calculated without inclusion of \( \beta_{6P} \). This may be due to the structure and internal energy of the Berkellium isotopes. The neutron excess in the parent nuclei also slows down the decay rate. The sign of hexadecapole deformation does not affect the half life time value. The deformation parameter values are taken from the tables of Moller et al.[22]. The Geiger-Nuttall plots of various cluster emissions are shown in figure 1. The Geiger-Nuttall plots are found to be linear. Our results show that the most probable emitted clusters are alpha like nuclei and the \( \gamma \) daughter nuclei, in which either proton or neutron are equal to magic numbers or around an existing magic numbers which reveals the role of shell structure in exotic decay. Branching ratio relative to alpha decay, B.R= \( T_\alpha/T_{\text{cluster}} \) is calculated and included in the tabulation.

Table 1. Comparison of calculated logarithmic half life of various clusters emitted from Bk isotopes for the case of without deformation (WOD) and with deformation using CYE model.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parent nuclei</th>
<th>Emitted cluster</th>
<th>( \beta_{2P} )</th>
<th>( \beta_{4P} )</th>
<th>( \beta_{6P} )</th>
<th>( \beta_{2D} )</th>
<th>Q (MeV)</th>
<th>Log T(s) WOD with ( (\beta_{2D}, \beta_{4P}) )</th>
<th>Log T(s) WOD with ( (\beta_{2P}, \beta_{4P}, \beta_{6P}) )</th>
<th>Log T(s) AsAFM [23]</th>
<th>Braching Ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(^{239}\text{Bk})</td>
<td>(^9\text{Be})</td>
<td>0.101</td>
<td>0.044</td>
<td>0.002</td>
<td>0.033</td>
<td>19.81</td>
<td>11.97</td>
<td>11.21</td>
<td>11.20</td>
<td>11.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(^{239}\text{Bk})</td>
<td>(^{12}\text{C})</td>
<td>0.218</td>
<td>0.081</td>
<td>0.016</td>
<td>0.056</td>
<td>18.76</td>
<td>14.66</td>
<td>12.91</td>
<td>12.76</td>
<td>12.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(^{240}\text{Bk})</td>
<td>(^9\text{Be})</td>
<td>0.227</td>
<td>0.081</td>
<td>0.008</td>
<td>0.089</td>
<td>19.07</td>
<td>13.79</td>
<td>12.13</td>
<td>12.05</td>
<td>13.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(^{240}\text{Bk})</td>
<td>(^{12}\text{C})</td>
<td>0.227</td>
<td>0.081</td>
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<td>(^9\text{O})</td>
<td>0.227</td>
<td>0.081</td>
<td>0.008</td>
<td>0.001</td>
<td>52.92</td>
<td>43.57</td>
<td>14.06</td>
<td>13.95</td>
<td>16.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(^{241}\text{Bk})</td>
<td>(^{12}\text{C})</td>
<td>0.216</td>
<td>0.093</td>
<td>0.008</td>
<td>0.033</td>
<td>18.44</td>
<td>15.32</td>
<td>13.63</td>
<td>13.55</td>
<td>13.50</td>
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Figure 1. Geiger-Nuttall plots of Berkelium nucleus for various cluster emissions.
We have investigated all the possible decay modes of cluster radioactivity from neutron rich Berkelium nucleus using CYE model. The computed half-life values are compared with the available data. They are good agreement with each other. When deformation effects ($\beta_2$ & $\beta_4$) are included, half-life values are found to be decreased, because it reduces the height and width of the barrier. By incorporating hexacontatetrapole ($\beta_6$) parameter, the half-life value is found to be increased in the high mass region. This may be due to structure and internal energy of the Berkelium nucleus. Hence the multipolarity six parameter increases the stability of the parent nuclei.

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