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Transition Strengths in $^{22,23}\text{Mg}$ as Tests of *ab Initio* Theory

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Recent theoretical developments in *ab initio* nuclear theory techniques make calculations of the properties of *sd*-shell nuclei possible without a reliance on phenomenology. In particular, in-medium similarity renormalization group (IM-SRG) and coupled-cluster theory have demonstrated promising results in describing the collective properties of nuclei, for example in self-conjugate ^{20}Ne and ^{24}Mg [1, 2, 3]. In principle, such techniques might allow for the elimination of phenomenological effective charges, accounting for physics lost in model truncations by correctly evolving the necessary operators.

Two Coulomb-excitation measurements were performed with the TIGRESS setup at the TRIUMF ISAC-II facility with the goal of providing precise E2 transition strengths in $^{22,23}\text{Mg}$ to allow for more detailed scrutiny of results from modern, *ab initio* methodologies. Furthermore, in a previous measurement an apparent deviation in the ratio of isoscalar and isovector contributions to the E2 transition strength was observed in ^{21}Na [4]. The results of the present measurement will be used to determine whether this deviation extends to neighbouring nuclides.

The results of the two measurements will be presented and compared with modern nuclear theory, both *ab initio* and phenomenological, including a first measurement of the sign of the diagonal matrix element of the first-excited 2^+ state in ^{22}Mg through the reorientation effect. Results will be presented in the context of other $T_z = -1, -1/2$ isotopes, providing for a systematic evaluation of transition strengths within the *sd*-shell.

References:

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