Rajesh Kumar^{1*}, M. Singh¹ and S. Sharma^{2**}

¹Department of Physics, Noida Institute of Engineering & Technology, Greater Noida-201306, INDIA ²Department of Physics, Yobe State University, Damaturu, NIGERIA

*Email: rajeshkr573@gmail.com **Email: satendrasharma@ysu.edu.ng

Introduction

The ¹⁵⁴Gd nucleus (Z=64, N=90) is lying at the transitional position between the deformed and spherical nuclei. The nuclear shape for N≤88 nuclei is close to spherical and for N \geq 90 nuclei it is close to deformed [1, 2]. For 154 Gd nucleus, the observed energy ratio R_4 is equal to 3.01 which is close to X(5)symmetry limiting value of R_4 equal to 2.9 [3]. The existence of X(5) symmetry in the N=90 isotones (Sm-Gd-Dy) established in recent work [4] also supported by the formation of isotonic multiplets [5]. The value of R_4 in the present IBM-1 calculation is 3.2 which is slightly more than the experimental value. The theoretical studies of level energies of γ -band $(K^{\pi}=2^{+})$ of shape transitional nuclei are limited. The idea of odd-even spin staggering (OES) in γ -band was given by McCutchan et al. [6]. The structure of γ - vibrational and quasi γ - bands of even- even nuclei was investigated by Gupta et al. [7] on a global scale. The yrast and γ -bands of ¹²⁰⁻¹³⁰Xe nuclei was studied by Singh et al. [8] using asymmetric rotor model by employing the Lipas parameter and pointed out that the reason of odd even staggering (OES) was due to the splitting of γ -band in odd and even spin sequence. Recently, Gupta et al. [9] illustrated that the values of odd-even energy staggering index S(4) is small for well deformed nuclei and the odd-even spin members form a single K=2 band.

In the present work, we test the odd-even spin staggering (OES) in γ -band in ¹⁵⁴Gd nucleus in the framework of rigid triaxial rotor model (RTRM) [10] and interacting boson model (IBM-1) [1]. In the present empirical work, we also studied that whether this nucleus is γ -soft or γ -rigid?

Odd-even staggering (OES)

The OES effect represents the relative displacement of the odd angular momentum levels of the γ - band with respect to their neighboring levels with even angular momentum. The band mixing interaction pushes the even spin members in γ -band relative to the odd spin members, due to the interaction with even spin members of the ground band [1]. The staggering in band energies and the transition between different structural symmetries in nuclei is calculated by using the expression [4]:

$$S(J) = \frac{\left[E(J) - E(J-1)\right] - \left[E(J-1) - E(J-2)\right]}{E2_{1}^{+}}$$
(1)

Therefore, using equation (1) we have calculated the value of staggering index S(J) for ¹⁵⁴Gd. The index of odd-even spin staggering is a quantitative measurement of OES with spin.

Result and discussion

The experimental energies of γ -band for ¹⁵⁴Gd have been taken from the Ref. [11]. The values of energies of γ -band are calculated from IBM-I and RTRM. The IBM-1 Hamiltonian (with OCT=HEX=0) is used to reproduce the best energy spectrum (see Ref. [12] for details). The fitting parameters (in MeV) are EPS= 0.3425, PAIR= 0.0116, ELL= 0.0128 and QQ=-0.0221. The energies calculated in RTRM [10] are normalized using Lipas like relation:

$$E(fit) = \frac{E_{RTRM}}{1 + \alpha \cdot E_{RTRM}}.$$

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Where, the Lipas parameter (α) used for normalization of energies is 4.5×10^{-5} for γ band. The S(J) for γ -band is calculated using equation (1) and listed in Table 1. The IBM index of odd-even spin staggering S(J) with spin (J) are much larger with corresponding experimental and RTRM values.

The plot of experimental index of odd-even spin staggering S(J) with spin (J) tallies with that of our calculated RTRM values (see Fig.1). The all S(J) values of RTRM are positive and a small in magnitude except S(7)and show slightly zig-zag behavior, but increase slowly with increase in spin. This indicates that ¹⁵⁴Gd nucleus is axial symmetric rotor. The staggering index S(4) is 0.33 for axially symmetric rotor and 1.67 for rigid triaxial rotor. For γ -soft rotor or O(6), S(4) = -2.0 and for spherical vibrator it is = -1.0 [8]. In our RTRM calculations the value of S(4) is 0.34 (see Table 1) which tally with axially symmetric rotor value of 0.33. This further supports the axial symmetric deformed rotor nature of ¹⁵⁴Gd nucleus.

Table 1. The values of odd- even spin staggering in γ -band for ¹⁵⁴Gd as estimated in the RTRM and IBM-1 along with experimental results.

| S(J)→ | S(4) | S(5) | S(6) | S(7) | S(8) |
|-------|------|-------|-------------|-------|-------------|
| EXP. | 0.03 | 0.26 | 0.04 | 0.25 | - |
| RTRM | 0.34 | 0.17 | 0.50 | -0.17 | 0.95 |
| IBM-1 | 1.96 | -1.78 | 2.75 | -2.65 | 3.62 |

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Fig.1 The variation of S(J) versus spin (J).

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