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The Coulomb-nuclear interference in the halo breakup

By following a few previous studies considering the reaction dynamics processes that occur between weaklybound halo nuclei projectiles on heavy targets [1], we report here a more recent study, in which the Coulombnuclear interference is investigated as a function of the projectile ground-state binding energy [2]. For that, we take into account a detailed analysis done for the 8Li+12C and 8Li+208Pb breakup reactions, by assuming an arbitrary range for the n–7Li ground-state binding energies, varying from the experimental one 2.03 MeV down to 0.01 MeV. Independently of the target masses, it was shown that the Coulomb breakup cross section depends on the binding energy more strongly than the nuclear breakup cross section, mainly due to the long-range nature of the Coulomb forces and to the electromagnetic transition matrix elements. We provide a clear indication that small nuclear contribution in a Coulomb- dominated reaction does not imply insignificant Coulomb-nuclear interference. This conclusion on the Coulomb-nuclear interference can be mainly attributed to a peripheral interference phenomenon, governed by the small value of the projectile binding energy, which is determining the peripheral range of the nuclear forces, where the Coulomb and nuclear forces can strongly interfere destructively.

References

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Topic

Theory

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