COULOMB FORCE EFFECTS IN DEUTERON–PROTON BREAKUP REACTION*

I. Ciepał\textsuperscript{a,c}, B. Kłos\textsuperscript{b}, A. Kozela\textsuperscript{a}, E. Stephan\textsuperscript{b}, St. Kistryn\textsuperscript{c}
A. Biegun\textsuperscript{e}, K. Bodek\textsuperscript{c}, A. Deltuva\textsuperscript{n}, M. Eslami-Kalantari\textsuperscript{o}
V. Jha\textsuperscript{m}, N. Kalantar-Nayestanaki\textsuperscript{e}, G. Khatri\textsuperscript{c}, Da. Kirillov\textsuperscript{d}
Di. Kirillov\textsuperscript{h}, St. Kliczewski\textsuperscript{a}, M. Kravcikova\textsuperscript{i}, P. Kulessa\textsuperscript{a}
H. Machner\textsuperscript{d}, A. Magiera\textsuperscript{c}, G. Martinska\textsuperscript{i}, J. Messchendorp\textsuperscript{e}
W. Parol\textsuperscript{c}, A. Ramazani-Moghaddam-Arani\textsuperscript{e}, B. J. Roy\textsuperscript{m}
H. Sakai\textsuperscript{k}, K. Sekiguchi\textsuperscript{l}, I. Sitnik\textsuperscript{h}, R. Siudak\textsuperscript{a}
I. Skwira-Chalot\textsuperscript{f}, R. Sworst\textsuperscript{c}, J. Urban\textsuperscript{j}, J. Zejma\textsuperscript{c}

\textsuperscript{a}The H. Niewodniczański Inst. of Nuclear Physics PAN, 31-342 Kraków, Poland
\textsuperscript{b}University of Silesia, 40-007 Katowice, Poland
\textsuperscript{c}Jagiellonian University, 30-348 Kraków, Poland
\textsuperscript{d}Forschungszentrum Jülich, Institut für Kernphysik, 52425 Jülich, Germany
\textsuperscript{e}Kernfysisch Versneller Instituut, 9747 AA Groningen, The Netherlands
\textsuperscript{f}Inst. of Experimental Physics, University of Warsaw, 00-681 Warszawa, Poland
\textsuperscript{g}Dept. of Physics, Kyushu Inst. of Technology, Kitakyushu 804-8550, Japan
\textsuperscript{h}Joint Institute for Nuclear Research, 141980 Dubna, Russia
\textsuperscript{i}Technical University, 04101 Kosice, Slovakia
\textsuperscript{j}P.J. Safarik University, 04154 Kosice, Slovakia
\textsuperscript{k}University of Tokyo, Bunkyo, 1130033, Tokyo, Japan
\textsuperscript{l}Tohoku University, Sendai, 9808578, Japan
\textsuperscript{m}BARC, Bombay 400 085, India
\textsuperscript{n}Centro de Física Nuclear da Universidade de Lisboa, 1649-003 Lisboa, Portugal
\textsuperscript{o}Faculty of Physics, Yazd University, Yazd, Iran

(Received January 29, 2015)

A large set of cross-section data for the $^1\text{H}(d,pp)n$ breakup reaction was measured at 130 MeV deuteron beam energy with the Germanium Wall setup covering the range of very forward polar angles. In the investigated part of the phase-space, the dynamics is dominated by the Coulomb force influence. The data are compared with results of theoretical calculations based on the realistic Argonne V18 potential supplemented with the long-range electromagnetic component. The predictions also include the Urbana IX three nucleon force model. The cross-section data reveal sizable Coulomb force effects.

DOI:10.5506/APhysoPolB.46.459
PACS numbers: 21.45.–v

* Presented at the Zakopane Conference on Nuclear Physics “Extremes of the Nuclear Landscape”, Zakopane, Poland, August 31–September 7, 2014.
1. Introduction

New-generation experiments dedicated to investigations of the $p(d,pp)n$ breakup reaction in a large phase-space region were performed with the use of the SALAD and BINA detectors at KVI [1–4]. They revealed for the first time large Coulomb force effects in the breakup cross-section data [2]. The first calculations with the electromagnetic long-range force included were performed within the coupled-channel formalism [5]. Then, the Coulomb force was also implemented into calculations with the realistic Argonne V18 (AV18) nucleon–nucleon ($NN$) potential combined with the Urbana IX (UIX) three nucleon force ($3NF$) model [6]. To test the predictions, a dedicated experiment [7] was performed at the Research Center in Jülich (FZJ) aiming at investigation of the Coulomb force effects at the very forward angular region. The results confirmed the importance of the Coulomb interaction in the selected region of the breakup phase-space. In the present paper, the results of the following experiment at FZJ dedicated to cross-section measurement are presented.

2. Experiments and results

The experiments at FZJ was conducted with the Germanium Wall (GeWall) setup [7] at the deuteron beam energy of 130 MeV. GeWall consisted of three high-purity germanium position sensitive detectors. Two different types of the detectors were used: a thin transmission detector Quirl with an excellent spatial resolution for determining the position and energy loss ($\Delta E$ detector) of the passing charged particles, and two thick detectors E1 and E2 for measurement of particle energies with an excellent resolution. The angular acceptance of the apparatus was $5^\circ–14^\circ$ for the polar and $2\pi$ for the azimuthal angles.

The data collected with GeWall were analyzed for about 145 kinematical configurations, defined by the polar angles of the two outgoing protons, $\theta_1$, $\theta_2$, and their relative azimuthal angle $\varphi_{12}$. Then, the results were quantitatively compared with the available predictions for the $3N$ systems demonstrating a crucial role of the electromagnetic component in the data description. An example of effects of the Coulomb force action between the two breakup protons is presented in Fig. 1. The data were integrated over energy and studied in a function of the $\varphi_{12}$ variable. The results are well reproduced by the model predictions with the Coulomb force taken into account (AV18+UIX+C, AV18+C). For very small relative azimuthal angles, the calculations without the Coulomb interaction included (AV18+UIX) overestimate the data, whereas for higher ones the data are underestimated. Such behavior is consistent with a naive picture — the Coulomb repulsion decreases the number of protons in configurations characterized by small
relative energies. That is why with increasing $\varphi_{12}$ discrepancies change sign. At a certain point, the theoretical curves cross. This refers to a situation when number of “incoming” and “outgoing” protons is balanced and the net effect of the Colomb force is equal to zero. Comparing the predictions for AV18+UIX+C and AV18+C, one can conclude on the 3NF influence. The UIX 3NF effects are rather small in the investigated part of the phase-space, in contrast to the sizable Coulomb force contribution.

Fig. 1. Differential, integrated over energy, cross-section values presented as a function of the relative azimuthal angle $\varphi_{12}$, for a given $\theta_1, \theta_2$ combination. The data are compared with the calculations indicated in the legend.

3. Further studies

A new possibility of continuation of few-nucleon dynamics studies at medium energies has appeared together with a new facility at the Institute of Nuclear Physics PAN in Kraków — Cyclotron Center Bronowice (CCB). The BINA detector was brought to CCB and currently is operating with the new cyclotron PROTEUS. The apparatus [3, 4] is composed of the two main parts called Wall and Ball. Wall, covering the angular range from 15° to 37°, is built of the MWPC for momenta reconstruction, $\Delta E$ (24 strips) and $E$ (10 slabs) scintillator detectors. The $\Delta E$ and $E$ create virtual matrix of 120 hodoscopes. The backward part is ball-shaped and consists of 149 phoswich detectors which cover polar angles between 40° and 160°. The Ball plays two roles: of the particle detector and scattering chamber. The BINA detection system was already tested with respect to the detector symmetry, energy and angle reconstruction. The first data obtained look very promising. Proton beam with the energy of 108 MeV was impinging on the solid CH$_2$ and C$_2$D$_4$ targets. Figure 2 presents sample kinematical spectrum for protons. The energy was reconstructed from the thick $E$ detector, whereas the polar $\theta$ angles with the use of the MWPC. The particle identification was done on the
basis of the $\Delta E-E$ spectra by applying of graphical cuts defined separately for proton and deuteron branches. The energy calibration was performed based on events identified as protons elastically scattered from deuterons present in $\text{C}_2\text{D}_4$ target. The particles seen in Fig. 2 originate from the elastic scattering on $^{12}\text{C}$, $^4\text{He}$, $d$ and the deuteron breakup processes.

![Fig.2. Kinematical relation for protons scattered from a $\text{C}_2\text{D}_4$ target. Presented data were registered in one $E$-slab. The lines represent the kinematics calculated for the following elastic scattering processes: $p+^{12}\text{C}$ (solid), $p+^4\text{He}$ (dotted), $p+d$ (dashed).](image)

This work was partially supplemented by the Polish 2013–2016 science founds as research Projects 2012/05/E/ST2/02313 and 2012/05/B/ST2/02556.

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