# Fusion and one-neutron stripping process for <sup>6</sup>Li + <sup>94</sup>Zr system around the Coulomb Barrier<sup>\*</sup>

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**Abstract:** The complete and incomplete fusion cross section as well as one-neutron stripping process of  ${}^{6}\text{Li} + {}^{94}\text{Zr}$  system were measured at the energies around the Coulomb barrier by online  $\gamma$ -ray method. In addition to a 30% suppression factor when compared with the measured total fusion process, the complete fusion cross section in  ${}^{6}\text{Li} + {}^{94}\text{Zr}$  system was observed to be significantly lower than those in the nearby  ${}^{6}\text{Li} + {}^{90}, {}^{96}\text{Zr}$  system. The new experimental result implies that the coupling with breakup channel in the  ${}^{6}\text{Li}$ -induced fusion processes can be affected by the inner structure of the target, which is still not clear in any available model calculation. For the one-neutron stripping process, the direct production cross sections for each level in  ${}^{95}\text{Zr}$  were extracted and compared with the coupled reaction channel calculation, offering a unique opportunity to examine the single-particle nature of the produced excited states. Given the fact that an overall overestimation of the production cross section for 954-keV and 1618-keV levels was observed in the comparison, further investigation is highly demanded in order to understand the full reaction mechanism for the one-neutron stripping process induced by  ${}^{6}\text{Li}$ .

Keywords: weakly bound nuclei, complete fusion, incomplete fusion, transfer reaction

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## I. INTRODUCTION

In the past several decades, the reactions induced by weakly bound nuclei around the Coulomb barrier have been extensively examined in both theoretical and experimental fields [1–6]. Due to the relatively strong cluster structure and low breakup threshold, the reaction mechanisms become more complicated when weakly bound

nuclei are involved. These weakly bound nuclei include both unstable and stable types. Compared to unstable ones, the beam intensities of stable weakly bound nuclei are orders of magnitude higher. Thus, numerous experiments have been performed to explore the reaction mechanisms induced by stable weakly bound nuclei, especially <sup>6</sup>Li, <sup>7</sup>Li, and <sup>9</sup>Be.

Based on the systematic comparison of experimental

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results for the fusion process induced by <sup>6</sup>Li, it can be shown that the complete fusion (CF), defined by the fully captured of projectile by the target, is suppressed by ~30% at energies above the Coulomb barrier when compared with the coupled channel (CC) calculation, which cannot consider the coupling of breakup reaction. When the cross section of incomplete fusion (ICF) process (only part of projectile is captured by the target) is added to the CF, the total fusion (TF) cross sections are in agreement with the CC calculation, indicating that the missing flux for CF process actually produces ICF residues [7-13]. Thus, the suppression factor can also be fully defined by experimental observables, specifically the ratio between CF and TF cross sections. However, the transfer process, particularly cluster or proton transfer, can produce the same residues as the ICF process, making it difficult to distinguish between these two processes experimentally. This point should be emphasized when dealing with any measured ICF cross section.

Furthermore, it is higly interesting to examine the coupling effect of transfer on the fusion or breakup process induced by the <sup>6</sup>Li. It is well known that <sup>6</sup>Li has a significant  $\alpha + d$  structure in the ground state. Hence, in many experimental studies, attempts have been made to determine the origin of large yielded  $\alpha$  particles from the reaction. A series of publications [14-16] reported that the direct breakup provides only a small contribution, and the dominant contributor is the breakup following transfer, i.e., "resonant breakup". Meanwhile, the influence of resonant breakup on the CF process strongly depends on the lifetime of the resonant state produced in the transfer reaction. This dependence means that no solid conclusion can be drawn solely based on experimental results. Moreover, a recent study [17] proposed that the dominant process that leads to CF suppression is direct cluster transfer of weakly bound nuclei.

On the other hand, the neutron-transfer excitation functions do not drop as fast as the fusion excitation function at sub-barrier energies. This phenomenon has been observed in  ${}^{9}\text{Be} + {}^{169}\text{Tm}$ ,  ${}^{181}\text{Ta}$ ,  ${}^{187}\text{Re}$  [18] systems. On medium mass target nuclei, the one-neutron stripping cross section of  ${}^{6}\text{Li} + {}^{96}\text{Zr}$  [19] and  ${}^{6}\text{Li} + {}^{89}\text{Y}$  [20] were measured to investigate the effect of transfer on fusion. For  ${}^{6}\text{Li} + {}^{96}\text{Zr}$  system, the one-neutron stripping cross sections are much smaller than the CF cross sections above the Coulomb barrier and exhibit the same magnitude as the CF cross section around the Coulomb barrier. For  ${}^{6}\text{Li} + {}^{89}\text{Y}$ , it is concluded that the neutron transfer reaction may contribute significantly to the total reaction cross sections at energies close to and below the Coulomb barrier.

In this study, we report on an experimental study on <sup>6</sup>Li + <sup>94</sup>Zr, showing all the measured CF, ICF, and oneneutron transfer cross sections around the Coulomb barrier. Hence, the complicated reaction mechanisms induced by <sup>6</sup>Li on medium mass target are investigated further. This paper is organized as follows: Sec. II describes the experimental results. The discussions and comparisons with the results of the theoretical calculations are presented in Sec. III. The summary is given in Sec. IV.

## **II. EXPERIMENTAL SETUP AND RESULTS**

The  ${}^{6}\text{Li} + {}^{94}\text{Zr}$  experiment was performed at HI-13 Tandem Accelerator of China Institute of Atomic Energy (CIAE) [21]. The  ${}^{6}\text{Li}{}^{3+}$  beams were produced at six energies corresponding to 29.9, 23.9, 21.9, 17.9, 15.8, and 13.8 MeV. This beam energy ranged from below to above the 16.4-MeV Coulomb barrier at the laboratory frame. The beam intensities were recorded by a Faraday cup placed after the target using a precision current-integrator device. The beam intensities varied from 17.1 to 36.7 enA during the entire experiment.

A 91.2% enriched <sup>94</sup>ZrO<sub>2</sub> foil with a thickness of 481  $\mu g/cm^2$  was used as the target. A 2.07-mg/cm<sup>2</sup> gold backing exists behind the target to stop all the residues. The <sup>94</sup>Zr target was placed at the center of the HPGe detector array. The HPGe detector array was used to detect  $\gamma$  rays emitted by reaction products and comprised 6 HPGe detectors surrounded by BGO crystal for Compton suppression (BGO-HPGe), 2 planar-HPGe, and 2 Clover. All the detectors are fixed at five angles: 2 BGO-HPGE and 2 Clover at 90°, 2 BGO-HPGe and 1 planar at 42°, 1 planar at 120°, 1 BGO-HPGe at 150°, and 1 BGO-HPGe at 153°. The efficiency and energy calibrations were realized by <sup>152</sup>Eu and <sup>133</sup>Ba sources with known radioactivity placed at the target position. The absolute efficiency of the entire detector array was 0.6% and the energy resolution was 3 keV at 1000 keV. The digital data acquisition system XIA was used to record the data. Detailed descriptions of this digital data acquisition system have been presented in Ref. [22].

Figure 1 shows a typical online single  $\gamma$  ray spectrum at  $E_{\text{lab}} = 29.9$  MeV. The identified characteristic  $\gamma$  rays in <sup>97, 96</sup>Tc, <sup>98, 97, 96</sup>Mo, and <sup>95, 94</sup>Nb, obtained from fusion process, can be observed clearly. The cross section for the online  $\gamma$  method is calculated using this relation:

$$\sigma = \frac{1}{N_B N_T} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{N_{\gamma i} (1 + F_{\gamma i})}{\varepsilon_{\gamma i}} \right].$$
(1)

Specifically, *n* denotes the number of  $\gamma$  transitions feeding the ground state or long lived isomer for one residue.  $N_{\gamma i}$  denotes the yield of  $\gamma$  transitions. Furthermore,  $\varepsilon_{\gamma i}$  denotes the absolute efficiency of all detectors for  $\gamma$  ray.  $F_{\gamma i}$ denotes the inner conversion electron rate. Additionally,  $N_B$  and  $N_T$  denote the total numbers of incident beam particles and target nuclei per unit area, respectively. The total uncertainty for cross section included statistical er-



**Fig. 1.** (color online) Typical single  $\gamma$  ray spectrum at  $E_{1ab} = 29.9$  MeV.

rors of the yields of  $\gamma$  rays, number of incident particles, and 5% systematic error of target thickness.

Here,  $\gamma$  transitions, which are solely used to obtain the cross section for each residue, are marked with different labels and listed in the Table 1. The measured cross sec-

**Table 1.** Characteristic  $\gamma$  rays used to extract cross sections.

Residue	Transition	$E_{\gamma/}$ keV
<sup>97</sup> Tc	$5/2^- \rightarrow 1/2^-$	561
	$5/2^+ \rightarrow 9/2^+$	325
	$7/2^+ \rightarrow 9/2^+$	216
	$(9/2^+) \rightarrow 9/2^+$	862
	$11/2^{(+)} \rightarrow 9/2^+$	833
	$13/2^+ \rightarrow 9/2^+$	773
	$(13/2^+) \rightarrow 9/2^+$	1393
<sup>96</sup> Tc	$7^+ \rightarrow 6^+$	526
	$9^+ \rightarrow 7^+$	927
<sup>98</sup> Mo	$2^+ \rightarrow 0^+$	787
<sup>97</sup> Mo	$3/2^+ \rightarrow 5/2^+$	481
	$7/2^+ \rightarrow 5/2^+$	658
	$9/2^+ \rightarrow 5/2^+$	1117
<sup>96</sup> Mo	$2^+ \rightarrow 0^+$	778
<sup>95</sup> Nb	$7/2^+ \rightarrow 9/2^+$	757
	$7/2^+ \rightarrow 9/2^+$	724
	$(13/2^+) \rightarrow 9/2^+$	825
<sup>94</sup> Nb	$(3)^+ \rightarrow 3^+$	293
	$(5)^+ \rightarrow 6^+$	113
<sup>95</sup> Zr	$1/2^+ \rightarrow 5/2^+$	954
	$(3/2)^+ \rightarrow 5/2^+$	1618
	$(5/2^+) \rightarrow 5/2^+$	1625

tions of each residue are summarized in Table 2.

It should be noted that the level scheme for odd-odd nucleus is more complicated. Some low-lying states states of <sup>96</sup>Tc and <sup>94</sup>Nb, were not be counts in the data analysis. According to theoretical assessment(based on the method introduced in Ref. [23]), approximately 15% and 6% cross sections of <sup>96</sup>Tc and <sup>94</sup>Nb were disregarded, respectively.

In addition to the fusion reaction channels, the oneneutron stripping reaction channel was also observed in this experiment. For <sup>6</sup>Li + <sup>94</sup>Zr system, the residue of oneneutron stripping process is  $^{95}$ Zr. The observed  $\gamma$  transitions of <sup>95</sup>Zr are denoted in Fig. 1 and the details are listed in Table 1. In the experiment, the cascading  $\gamma$  transitions of the 954, 1618 and 1625 keV  $\gamma$  transitions were not observed. It means the 954, 1618 and 1625 keV pure single nucleon states in <sup>95</sup>Zr were populated which are consistent with the states observed in the single nucleon transfer reaction. If the  $\beta$  decay of <sup>95</sup>Y and fusion evaporation process populate the  $^{95}$ Zr, the de-excited  $\gamma$  transition from the excited state with higher spin should be observed. Therefore, the influence of other reaction channels on <sup>95</sup>Zr can be excluded. Correspondingly, the direct production cross sections of each excited state of <sup>95</sup>Zr were derived by the yield of the corresponding decay  $\gamma$ transitions.

## III. THEORETICAL CALCULATION AND DISCUSSION

Based on the cross sections measured for each residue as listed before, the cross sections for different processes, such as CF and ICF, should be identified first. Then, a detailed discussion can be provided according to the systematic comparison or theoretical calculation. The following two subsections will show a detailed investigation on the fusion and one-neutron transfer process in the

<b>Table 2.</b> Cross sections for each residue. The unit for a cross section is mb.						
Residue	29.9 MeV	23.9 MeV	21.9 MeV	17.9 MeV	15.8 MeV	13.8 MeV
<sup>97</sup> Tc	$375.7\pm20.4$	$326.0 \pm 15.0$	$220.4\pm9.5$	$24.1 \pm 1.3$	$3.7 \pm 0.2$	
<sup>96</sup> Tc	$93.3\pm6.2$	$2.7 \pm 0.3$				
<sup>98</sup> Mo	$8.1 \pm 0.8$	$18.1 \pm 1.7$	$16.3 \pm 1.5$			
<sup>97</sup> Mo	$127.3\pm8.1$	$84.1\pm5.1$	$59.4 \pm 3.6$	$12.0\pm0.7$	$3.9 \pm 0.4$	
<sup>96</sup> Mo	$94.2\pm8.7$	$26.6\pm2.5$	$14.8 \pm 1.4$	$5.0 \pm 0.5$	$2.7 \pm 0.3$	$1.9 \pm 0.2$
<sup>95</sup> Nb	$62.2 \pm 3.5$	$70.7 \pm 3.9$	$66.6 \pm 3.6$	$49.5\pm2.7$	$23.0 \pm 1.3$	$5.1 \pm 0.3$
<sup>94</sup> Nb	$45.6 \pm 3.4$	$26.2 \pm 1.9$	$23.0 \pm 1.7$	$0.8 \pm 0.1$		
TF	$806.3 \pm 24.9$	$554.4 \pm 16.6$	$400.4 \pm 11.2$	$91.6 \pm 3.1$	$33.3 \pm 1.3$	$7.0 \pm 0.3$
R	$85.7\pm5.5\%$	$90.3 \pm 6.3\%$	$91.8\pm4.0\%$	$94.2 \pm 3.5\%$	$95\pm2.8\%$	
CF	$547.4 \pm 43.0$	$364.0\pm30.3$	$240.1 \pm 14.8$	$25.6 \pm 1.7$	$3.9 \pm 0.2$	
ICF	$258.9 \pm 49.7$	$190.4\pm34.6$	$160.3 \pm 18.5$	$65.9 \pm 3.5$	$29.4 \pm 1.4$	$7.0 \pm 0.3$
<sup>95</sup> Zr (954 keV)	$15.3 \pm 2.7$	$20.1\pm3.3$	$18.4 \pm 2.8$	$12.2 \pm 2.0$	$6.5 \pm 1.1$	
<sup>95</sup> Zr (1618 keV)	$10.7 \pm 2.0$	$13.5 \pm 2.3$	$12.8 \pm 2.0$	$10.3 \pm 1.7$	$4.6 \pm 0.8$	
<sup>95</sup> Zr (1625 keV)	$13.8 \pm 2.5$	$20.0 \pm 3.3$	$19.0 \pm 3.0$	$16.3 \pm 2.7$	$7.8 \pm 1.3$	
<sup>95</sup> Zr (total)	$39.8 \pm 4.2$	$53.6 \pm 5.2$	$50.2 \pm 4.6$	$38.8 \pm 3.8$	$18.9 \pm 1.9$	

<sup>6</sup>Li + <sup>94</sup>Zr reaction.

#### The fusion process A.

Before delving into details on the separation between CF and ICF process, the TF cross section can be easily derived by adding the cross sections of all fusion residues. The compound nucleus formed by the CF reaction between <sup>6</sup>Li and <sup>94</sup>Zr is <sup>100</sup>Tc. Specificially, <sup>100</sup>Tc decays predominantly by 3n, 4n evaporation channels, generating <sup>97</sup>Tc and <sup>96</sup>Tc, respectively. It is well known that in this medium mass region, the CF compound nucleus can also evaporate charged particles, such as proton and  $\alpha$ , producing same residues with ICF process. Therefore, the CF and ICF cannot be separated exactly when only relying on the experimental result.

Meanwhile, in fusion reaction, the ratio between different residues can be reasonably predicted via a statistical model [11, 12] such as PACE4 [3].  $R = \sum \sigma_{Tc}^{PACE} / \sigma_{fus}^{PACE}$ was obtained by the result from PACE4 calculation, showing the contribution of neutron evaporation channels from the compound nuclide (<sup>100</sup>Tc) in the <sup>6</sup>Li + <sup>94</sup>Zr complete fusion reaction. Here,  $\sum \sigma_{Tc}^{PACE}$  is the sum of PACE4 predicted cross sections for Tc isotopes, and the  $\sigma_{\rm fus}^{\rm PACE}$  represents the fusion cross section estimated by the same code. Accordingly, the experimental CF cross sections can be deduced by dividing the cumulative measured cross sections of Tc isotopes  $\sigma_{Tc}^{expt}$  by ratio R. With the measured TF (as mentioned at the beginning the current subsection) as well as the deduced CF cross section, the cross section for ICF can be derived ICF = TF - CF. The ratio R calculated by PACE4 at different beam energy are shown in Table 2. The level density parameter

was set as a = A/10 in the PACE4 calculation according to the systematic study performed in Ref. [24]. The error of R was introduced when a varied from a = A/9 to a =A/12 referring to the value in Refs. [25–27].

Hence, the deduced cross sections for TF, CF, and ICF for the current <sup>6</sup>Li + <sup>94</sup>Zr reaction are summarized in Table 2 and Fig. 2. As mentioned in the introduction, the suppression factor of CF was obtained by the comparison with CC calculation without the coupling of breakup channel. In this case, the cross section of CC calculation is total fusion cross section. Hence, the suppression of CF can be obtained by the relative ratio of CF to TF. In Fig. 2, it can be observed that there is 30% suppression of CF cross section above the Coulomb barrier when com-



Fig. 2. (color online) Summary of CF, ICF cross sections obtained in the current <sup>6</sup>Li + <sup>94</sup>Zr reaction.

pared with the TF, which is consistent with the systematic behaviour for the fusion process induced by <sup>6</sup>Li. Additionally, it should be emphasized that the ICF cross-section may include contribution of some transfer processes due to the limit of the current experiment method, such as one proton stripping process.

Furthermore, the new cross sections are compared with that from  ${}^{6}\text{Li} + {}^{96}\text{Zr}$  reaction (data obtained from Ref. [11]) with an emphasis on the above-barrier region. In Fig. 3(c), it can be observed that the two systems exhibit quite similar TF cross sections even though the cross section for  ${}^{6}\text{Li} + {}^{96}\text{Zr}$  system shows an anomalous increment at 26 MeV. However, the ICF cross section is significantly larger in  ${}^{6}\text{Li} + {}^{94}\text{Zr}$  system as shown in Fig. 3(b) among the whole measured energy region. This is con-



Fig. 3. (color online) Comparison of different fusion processes between  ${}^{6}Li+{}^{94}$ ,  ${}^{96}Zr$  systems.

sistent with the phenomenon that the CF cross section is slightly lower for  ${}^{6}Li + {}^{94}Zr$  system at the above-barrier region as shown in Fig. 3(a).

Considering the fact that the ICF cross section can be ill-defined in experiment since the other reaction channels may contribute to the same residues, such as singleproton transfer reaction (producing the same residues with the deuteron-captured ICF process by evaporating one neutron), which would affect the TF cross section as well. Thus, the best candidates for the systematic comparison would be the CF cross section which is solely deduced from Tc isotopes. Fig. 4 compares the CF cross sections between  ${}^{6}\text{Li} + {}^{90, 94, 96}\text{Zr}$  systems. Due to the dynamic effect from the coupling of breakup or transfer and the static effect originated from the deformation or cluster structure, the systematic study of fusion cross sections becomes quite difficult. As mentioned in Ref. [28], to obtain a better understanding of the contribution from the breakup process on the fusion reactions, induced by weakly bound nuclei, the reduced CF cross sections F(x)can be obtained by:

$$F(x) = \frac{2E_{\text{c.m.}}}{R_B^2 \hbar \omega} \sigma_{\text{fus}},$$
 (2)

$$x = \frac{E_{\text{c.m.}} - V_B}{\hbar\omega},\tag{3}$$

where  $V_B$ ,  $R_B$ , and  $\hbar\omega$  denote the barrier height, radius, and the curvature of the Coulomb barrier, respectively. Specifically, the data on <sup>6</sup>Li + <sup>90, 96</sup>Zr systems are considered from Refs. [11, 29]. All the optical barrier parameters for each system are calculated from São Paulo potential (SPP) [30]. The reduced CF cross sections of <sup>6</sup>Li + <sup>90, 94, 96</sup>Zr are shown in Fig. 4 with their respective parameters. It can be shown that on <sup>90, 96</sup>Zr target the beha-



**Fig. 4.** (color online) Systematic comparison of reduced CF cross sections between <sup>6</sup>Li + <sup>90, 94, 96</sup>Zr systems.

viours are quite similar, but a significant lowering down effect has been clearly observed for 94Zr case. However, it is quite difficult to directly obtain the conclusion that it is easier for <sup>6</sup>Li to breakup before fusing with <sup>94</sup>Zr even if the ICF cross section is larger. This is due to the fact that there could be some other possible reasons. For instance, if the proton transfer reaction of <sup>6</sup>Li beam on <sup>94</sup>Zr target is enhanced due to some unknown reasons, the measured ICF cross section can also become larger in this case. It is not surprising that the reduced CF cross section for <sup>94</sup>Zr case can match with the other two if the used optical parameters are slightly changed, such as increasing the  $V_{R}$  and decreasing the  $R_{R}$  and  $\hbar\omega$ . This can be related with the enhancement of the breakup effect. This may imply that the different breakup effects of <sup>94</sup>Zr cause changes in the barrier distribution. However, to achieve a self-consistent explanation for the entire systematic check, a more detailed or even microscopic theoretical model is highly needed, one that can account for the minor differences between Zr isotopes and their contributions to the fusion process. This is certainly beyond the scope of the current paper.

Before ending the discussion of the current fusion reaction, we want to emphasize that a similar systematic study is also performed for fusion of <sup>32</sup>S on <sup>90, 94, 96</sup>Zr targets in Ref. [31]. The largest deviation, between the fusion cross sections from the experiment and coupled channel calculation considering the effect of different phonon excitations, occurred again for <sup>94</sup>Zr case. Thus the sub-barrier fusion enhancement is also most obvious for <sup>32</sup>S + <sup>94</sup>Zr system. In Ref. [31], a potential reason is attributed to the coupling effect from the positive *Q* neutron transfer (PQNT). Furthermore, similar studies might be required for the studies of fusion induced by weakly bound nuclei among the above-barrier region.

### **B.** One-neutron stripping process

In Ref. [19], the one-neutron stripping cross sections induced by <sup>6</sup>Li on the nearby target nuclei <sup>96</sup>Zr were measured by the on-line  $\gamma$  method, in which only the statistic of two characteristic  $\gamma$  rays were identified and collected. The theoretical description is much more complicated when compared with the typical (*d*, *p*) reaction given that the inner structure of <sup>6</sup>Li and coupling effect should be carefully considered. Furthermore, the spectroscopic amplitude is also quite an important factor. To date, there is still no experiment, which can confirm the angular distribution of the emitted <sup>5</sup>Li (need the coincident measurement of proton and  $\alpha$ ), the spectroscopic amplitude for each channel can only be derived from the shell model calculation with constrained model space and effective interaction.

In the current study, to obtain the one-neutron spectroscopic information of the target overlaps, the shell model calculation has been performed within a valence space including  $\pi(1f_{5/2}, 2p_{3/2}, 2p_{1/2}, 1g_{9/2})$  and  $\nu(1f_{5/2}, 2p_{3/2}, 2p_{1/2}, 1g_{9/2}, 1g_{7/2}, 2d_{5/2}, 2d_{3/2}, 3s_{15/2}, 1h_{11/2})$  orbitals. Given the limitation of computation power, no neutron is allowed to be excited across the *N*=50 major shell. The nucleon-nucleon interaction in the  $f_{5/2}p_{1/2}p_{3/2}g_{9/2}$  shell applies directly in the JUN45 interaction [32], while the neutron-neutron interaction in the  $g_{7/2}d_{3/2}d_{5/2}s_{1/2}h_{11/2}$  shell and the proton-neutron interaction across the shells are derived from the monopole based universal interaction +M3Y LS [33, 34].

Figure 5 compares the experimental observed level scheme in <sup>95</sup>Zr with the shell model calculation, showing reasonable agreement with each other. It should be noted that the experimentally observed 1625-keV level in <sup>95</sup>Zr is produced quite strongly in the current one-neutron stripping process. On the other hand, the same level is also observed very clearly in the  ${}^{94}$ Zr (*d*, *p*)  ${}^{95}$ Zr reaction [35]. Even if its spin-parity is still not clear in the adopted value on NNDC [36], this 1625-keV level most likely has a single-particle nature. As shown in Fig. 5, only considering the energy of level, the spin-parity is tentatively assigned to  $(5/2^+)$  because in the shell model calculation the  $5/2^+_2$  state at 1517 keV is the only remaining level, which cannot be associated to any known experimental levels in this excitation energy region. Furthermore, it should be noted that two  $3/2^+$  levels have been predicted in the current shell model calculation, one at 1426 keV while the other located at 1944 keV. If we only rely on the energy level, the one at 1426 keV should correspond to the experimentally measured  $(3/2^+)$  level at 1618 keV. However, through the following discussion on the oneneutron stripping cross section, it becomes apparent that the predicted cross section is highly sensitive to the nature of the produced states in 95Zr. This sensitivity raises questions about the current shell model calculations as well.

The theoretical calculation for the one-neutron stripping process in  ${}^{6}\text{Li} + {}^{94}\text{Zr}$  system was obtained by performing the coupled reaction channel (CRC) method using the Fresco code [37]. The São Paulo double folding potential (SPP) is used in both real and imaginary parts



Fig. 5. Comparison of experimental and shell model results.

 $(U = (1.0 + iN_i)V_{SP})$  of the optical potential. Furthermore,  $N_i$  denotes the strength coefficient of the imaginary part. The value of  $N_i = 0.60$  was used to account for the loss of flux due to the breakup channel or the coupling to continuum states, as mentioned in Refs. [38, 39]. For the outgoing partition, strength coefficient was also set equal to 0.78. This coefficient was proved to be appropriate for describing the elastic scattering cross section for many systems in a wide energy interval [40]. The singleparticle wave functions were derived using Woods-Saxon potentials for the nuclear interactions in the intrinsic Hamiltonian. The depths of the Woods-Saxon potentials were varied to fit the experimental one-neutron binding energies. Furthermore, the reduced radius and diffuseness were set to 1.25 and 0.65 fm, respectively, for both the <sup>6</sup>Li projectile and <sup>94</sup>Zr target. The collective states  $(2_1^+)$ and  $4_1^+$ ) of the target could be considered in the CRC calculation. Fig. 6 shows the overlap of target and projectile. The spectroscopic amplitudes used in the CRC calculation concerning between <sup>94</sup>Zr and <sup>95</sup>Zr obtained from the aforementioned shell model calculation are shown in Table 3. For the projectile overlap, the spectroscopic amplitudes for  $1^+$  and  $3^+$  states of <sup>6</sup>Li were both set to 1.0.

In Fig. 7, the CRC calculation is compared with experimental results in the 16–30 MeV beam-energy region. First, it can be observed that, with the change in beam energy, both the calculated and experimental results do not change as rapidly as in the fusion process shown in Fig. 2, showing a similar behaviour with the one-neutron stripping process induced by <sup>6</sup>Li on nearby targets such as  $^{96}$ Zr [19] and  $^{89}$ Y [20].

Based on the details in Fig. 7, it can be determined that this is the first time the direct production of each

E(keV)

Jπ

E(keV)  $J^{\pi}$ 



Fig. 6. Coupling scheme for the target and projectile overlaps.

**Table 3.** Spectroscopic amplitudes for target  $<^{94}$ Zr $|^{95}$ Zr> overlap.

o veriup:			-
Initial states	v orbital	Final states	Spec. amp.
<sup>94</sup> Zr 0 <sup>+</sup>	$2s_{1/2}$	$^{95}$ Zr 1/2 <sup>+</sup>	0.9668
	$1d_{3/2}$	$^{95}$ Zr 3/2 <sup>+</sup>	0.1393
	$1d_{3/2}$	$^{95}$ Zr 3/2 <sup>+</sup>	-0.8800
	$1d_{5/2}$	$^{95}$ Zr 5/2 <sup>+</sup>	-0.0910
<sup>94</sup> Zr 2 <sub>1</sub> <sup>+</sup>	$1d_{5/2}$	$^{95}$ Zr 1/2 <sup>+</sup>	0.1816
	$1d_{3/2}$	<sup>95</sup> Zr 1/2 <sup>+</sup>	0.0191
	$0g_{7/2}$	<sup>95</sup> Zr 3/2 <sup>+</sup>	0.0177
	$1d_{5/2}$	<sup>95</sup> Zr 3/2 <sup>+</sup>	-0.0127
	$1d_{3/2}$	$^{95}$ Zr 3/2 <sup>+</sup>	-0.1058
	$2s_{1/2}$	$^{95}$ Zr 3/2 <sup>+</sup>	-0.9433
	$0g_{7/2}$	$^{95}$ Zr 3/2 <sup>+</sup>	0.0605
	$1d_{5/2}$	$^{95}$ Zr 3/2 <sup>+</sup>	-0.0980
	$1d_{3/2}$	$^{95}$ Zr 3/2 <sup>+</sup>	0.3673
	$2s_{1/2}$	$^{95}$ Zr 3/2 <sup>+</sup>	-0.1870
	$0g_{7/2}$	$^{95}$ Zr 5/2 <sup>+</sup>	0.0225
	$1d_{5/2}$	$^{95}$ Zr 5/2 <sup>+</sup>	0.1355
	$1d_{3/2}$	$^{95}$ Zr 5/2 <sup>+</sup>	0.0053
	$2s_{1/2}$	$^{95}$ Zr 5/2 <sup>+</sup>	-0.9520
$^{94}$ Zr 4 <sup>+</sup> <sub>1</sub>	$0g_{7/2}$	$^{95}$ Zr 1/2 <sup>+</sup>	-0.0167
-	$0g_{7/2}$	$^{95}$ Zr 3/2 <sup>+</sup>	-0.0145
	$1d_{5/2}$	$^{95}$ Zr 3/2 <sup>+</sup>	-0.0074
	$2s_{1/2}$	$^{95}$ Zr 3/2 <sup>+</sup>	-0.0145
	$0g_{7/2}$	$^{95}$ Zr 3/2 <sup>+</sup>	0.0130
	$1d_{5/2}$	$^{95}$ Zr 3/2 <sup>+</sup>	0.0378
	$0g_{7/2}$	$^{95}$ Zr 5/2 <sup>+</sup>	-0.0276
	$1d_{5/2}$	$^{95}$ Zr 5/2 <sup>+</sup>	-0.1768
	$1d_{3/2}$	<sup>95</sup> Zr 5/2 <sup>+</sup> <sub>2</sub>	-0.0166



Fig. 7. (color online) Comparison of experimental one-neutron stripping cross section with calculations for the  ${}^{6}Li + {}^{94}Zr$  reaction.

level is compared with the CRC calculation, instead of showing a summed one-neutron stripping cross section as in Refs. [18-20, 41]. The new comparison probes not only the reaction mechanism, but also the nature of each observed excited state in <sup>95</sup>Zr. In the experimental side, the productions of  $1/2_1^+$ ,  $(3/2)_1^+$ , and  $(5/2_2^+)$  states are similar to each other among the whole energy region. Meanwhile, from the shell model and CRC calculation, the cross sections of  $1/2_1^+$  (SM) and  $3/2_2^+$  (SM) states are orders of magnitude higher than those of  $3/2_1^+$  (SM) and  $5/2_2^+$  (SM). This is also consistent with the fact that the shell model predicts  $1/2_1^+$  (SM) and  $3/2_2^+$  (SM) states, which are single-particle nature in  ${}^{95}$ Zr, *i.e.*,  $v(s_{1/2})$  and  $v(d_{3/2})$  coupled with the <sup>94</sup>Zr ground state, respectively. The argument can be found in Table 3, in which the corresponding spectroscopic amplitudes are almost 1 for both cases. Therefore, referring back to Fig. 5, we suggest that the  $3/2^+_2(SM)$  state, predicted by shell model calculation, should match the experimental measured  $(3/2)^+$  level at 1618 keV. It should be noted that the shell model predicted  $3/2^+_1$  (SM) state is the coupling between  $v(s_{1/2})$  and <sup>94</sup>Zr 2<sup>+</sup> state, which can be observed from the spectroscopic amplitude in Table 3.

It is very interesting to continue the discussion on the measured  $(5/2^+_2)$  state whose cross section is comparable to the other two single-particle states at 954 and 1618 keV. This suggests that this is another single-particle state. However, calculation for all the other remaining states fails to reproduce such high cross section. Based on shell model point of view, the remaining possible singleparticle states would have the nature of <sup>94</sup>Zr 0<sup>+</sup> state coupled with  $v(g_{7/2})$  and  $v(d_{5/2})$  orbitals. The latter one is the configuration of the ground state of <sup>95</sup>Zr, and the former cannot be found in the current shell model calculation with the excitation energy lower than 2 MeV. Thus, the discrepancy between the experiment and theoretical calculation might come from many aspects: (1) In shell model calculation, the interaction as well as the effective single-particle energies should be adjusted or the core-excitation might be required for a better description of the observed level scheme; (2) In the CRC model, the coupling effect is not considered perfectly, especially for the

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coupling between the excited states and ground state in the target nuclei; (3) In experiment, there are many unknown but weak transitions that feed the 1625-keV level. However, they are not visible in the current analysis, leading to a mismatch in the comparison. Considering the event for the single-particle level at 954 and 1618 keV, there is still an overall overestimation for the cross sections as shown in Fig. 7, leading to a conclusion that further investigation on this topic is highly desired.

## **IV. SUMMARY**

In this study, CF, ICF, TF, and one-neutron stripping cross sections for  ${}^{6}Li + {}^{94}Zr$  system were measured at energies close to the Coulomb barrier by the online  $\gamma$ -ray method. For fusion process, 30% suppression was observed for CF cross section above the Coulomb barrier when compared with the TF. The systematic comparison with CF cross sections of  ${}^{6}Li + {}^{90, 94, 96}Zr$  systems was performed, showing that the breakup of <sup>6</sup>Li might differ from <sup>94</sup>Zr. For the one-neutron stripping process, the production cross sections of each produced level are extracted and compared with CRC calculation for the first time. The calculations provided similar cross section with the experimental results of 954- and 1618-keV level, but the calculations still overestimate the cross section for 954and 1618-keV level when compared with experimental results. For the 1625-keV level, the calculations are orders of magnitude higher than the experimental cross section. Thus, the calculations fail to reproduce the cross section of 1625-keV level. According to the comparison, the single-particle nature of the final states can be investigated. Additionally, further study is required to clarify the full reaction mechanism of one-neutron stripping process induced by <sup>6</sup>Li.

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