

# Suppressed Electric Quadrupole Collectivity in $^{49}\text{Ti}$ Relative to Semi-Magic $^{50}\text{Ti}$

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Single-step Coulomb excitation of  $^{46,48,49,50}\text{Ti}$  is presented. A complete set of  $E2$  matrix elements for the quintuplet of states in  $^{49}\text{Ti}$ , centered on the  $2^+$  core excitation, was measured for the first time, using the CLARION2-TRINITY arrays [1]. A total of nine  $E2$  matrix elements are reported, four of which were previously unknown.  $^{49}\text{Ti}$  shows a 20% quenching in electric quadrupole transition strength as compared to its semi-magic  $^{50}\text{Ti}$  neighbour. This 20% quenching is empirically unprecedented, and contrary to the enhancement recently observed in  $^{129}\text{Sb}$  relative to a  $^{128}\text{Sn}$  core [2]. Both cases are near double-magic nuclei and have small core  $B(E2)$  values. The quenching in  $^{49}\text{Ti}$  can be explained with a remarkably simple two-state mixing model, which is also consistent with other ground-state properties such as the magnetic dipole moment and electric quadrupole moment. The simplicity of the  $^{49}\text{Ti}$ - $^{50}\text{Ti}$  pair (i.e., approximate single- $j$  valence space and isolation of yrast states from non-yrast states) provides a unique opportunity to disentangle otherwise competing effects in the ground-state properties of atomic nuclei, the emergence of collectivity, and the role of proton-neutron interactions.

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[1] T.J. Gray, J.M. Allmond et al., Nucl. Instrum. Methods A 1041, 167392 (2022)

[2] T.J. Gray, J.M. Allmond et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 124, 032502 (2020)

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