

# Taking Nuclei for a Spin

Partha Chowdhury

*University of Massachusetts Lowell*

**Nuclear Physics Over The Years: From the high spin era to rare isotopes**

CELEBRATING THE CAREER AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF ROBERT V. F. JANSSENS, UNC, Sep 19-20, 2025



Work supported by the U.S. Department of Energy

# Marking time



earlier

in units of  
Gordon  
Conferences



2001



somewhat  
later



now

Between 1983 and 2025, we have co-authored a modest 122 papers

in the beginning... 1983... >40 years ago

Volume 131B, number 1,2,3    PHYSICS LETTERS    10 November 1983

# ALIGNED $\nu_{i13/2}$ BANDS COUPLED TO DIFFERENT SHAPES IN $^{186}\text{Hg}^{\star}$

**R.V.F. JANSSENS**, **P. CHOWDHURY**, H. EMLING<sup>2</sup>, D. FREKERS, T.L. KHOO,  
W. KUHN<sup>3</sup>

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**Y.H. CHUNG, P.J. DALY, Z.W. GRABOWSKI, M. KORTELAHTI**  
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**S. FRAUENDORF<sup>4</sup> and J.Y. ZHANG<sup>5</sup>**  
*University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37916, USA*

Received 25 March 1983

Volume 131B, number 4,5,6      PHYSICS LETTERS      17 November 1983

# LEVEL STRUCTURE OF $^{153}\text{Dy}$ AND THE COMPETITION BETWEEN COLLECTIVE AND FEW-PARTICLE EXCITATION MODES IN Dy NUCLEI \*

M. KORTELAKI<sup>1</sup>, R. BRODA<sup>2</sup>, Y.H. CHUNG, P.J. DALY, H. HELPPI<sup>3</sup>, J. McNEILL,  
A. PAKKANEN<sup>1</sup>

Chemistry Department, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47907, USA

and

**P. CHOWDHURY**, **R.V.F. JANSSENS**, T.L. KHOO and W. KÜHN <sup>5</sup>  
Physics Division, Argonne National Laboratory, Argonne, IL 60439, USA

Received 31 May 1983

Argonne Tandem-Linac,  $^{34}\text{S}$  beams, NaI Sum Spectrometer, 2-3 Ge(Li),  
2 large NaI crystals, liquid scintillators for neutrons

VOLUME 51, NUMBER 20

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

14 NOVEMBER 1983

## Suppression of Neutron Emission after Heavy-Ion Fusion: Is Shape Relaxation Affected by a Superdeformed Minimum?

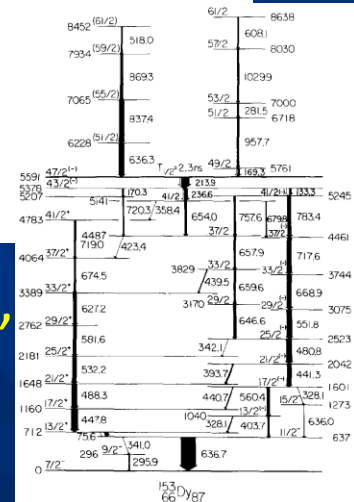
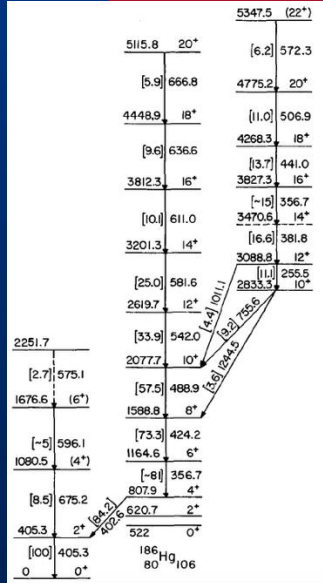
W. Kühn,<sup>(a)</sup> P. Chowdhury<sup>(b)</sup> R. V. F. Janssens and T. L. Khoo  
Argonne National Laboratory, Argonne, Illinois 60439

and

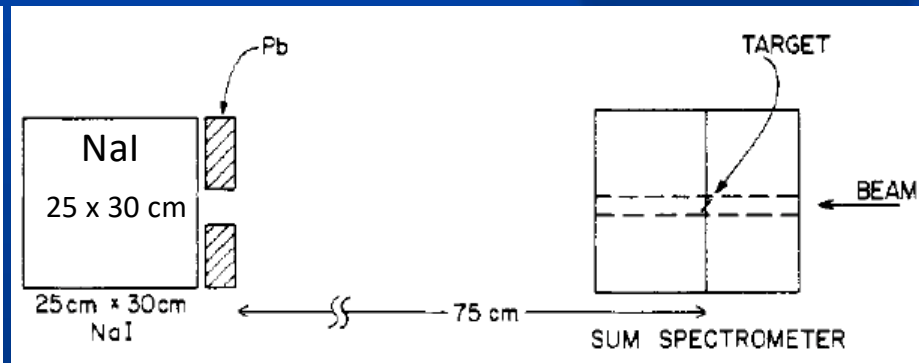
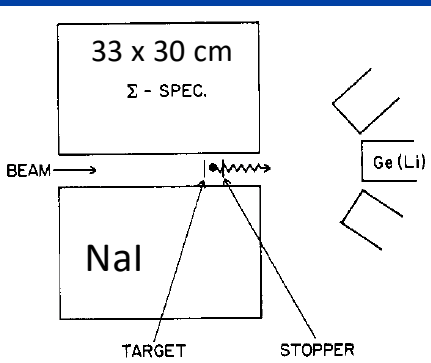
F. Haas,<sup>(c)</sup> J. Kasagi,<sup>(d)</sup> and R. M. Ronningen

National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48824

(Received 26 April 1983)



# Sum spectrometers & continuum spectroscopy



Physica Scripta, Vol. 24, 283–289, 1981.

## Very High Spin Yrast States and the Link to the Continuum

T. L. Khoo, J. Borggreen,\* P. Chowdhury, I. Ahmad and R. K. Smither

Argonne National Laboratory, Argonne, IL 60439, U.S.A.

and

S. R. Faber, P. J. Daly, C. L. Dors and J. Wilson

Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47907, U.S.A.

my focus at Argonne, just pre-Robert, learning a lot of new things

VOLUME 47, NUMBER 11

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

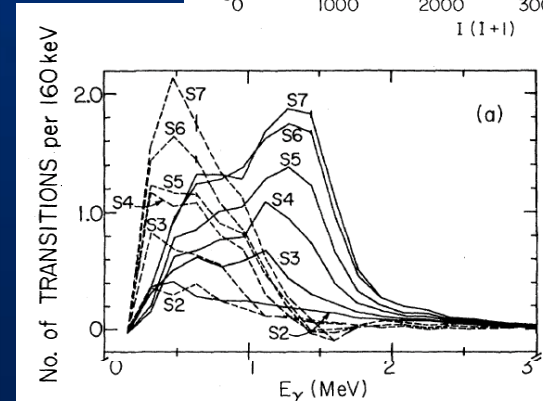
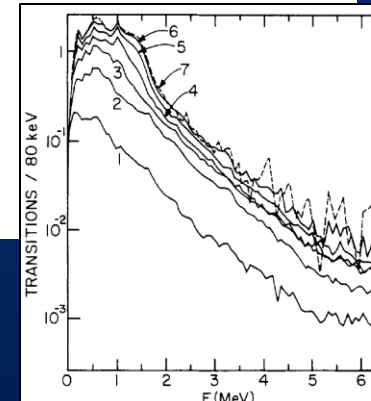
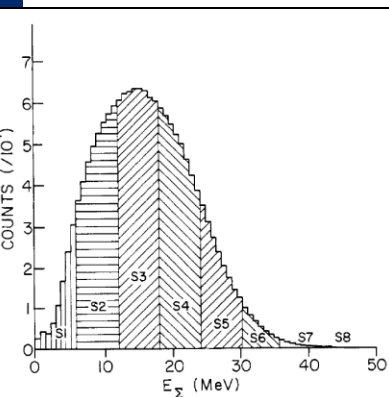
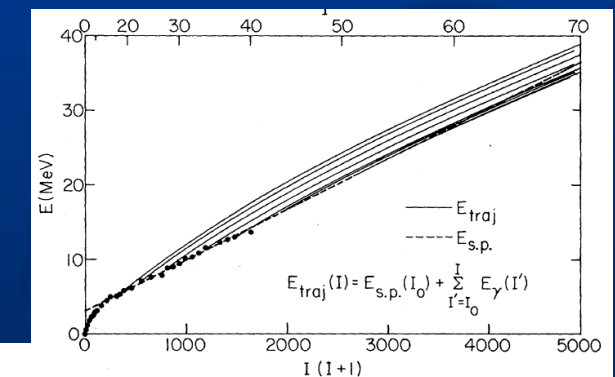
14 SEPTEMBER 1981

## Feeding of High-Spin Particle Yrast States by Collective Structures in the Continuum

P. Chowdhury, J. Borggreen,<sup>(a)</sup> T. L. Khoo, I. Ahmad, and R. K. Smither  
Argonne National Laboratory, Argonne, Illinois 60439

and

S. R. Faber, P. J. Daly, C. L. Dors, and J. Wilson  
Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana 47907  
(Received 10 April 1981)





# Mid-1980's

PHYSICS LETTERS

2 February 1984

NUCLEON ALIGNMENT TO VERY HIGH SPINS IN  $^{147}\text{Gd}$ :  
RAPID "ROTATION" OF A FERMION SYSTEM

G. SLETTEN, S. BJØRNHOLM, J. BORGGREEN, J. PEDERSEN  
*Niels Bohr Institutet, Risø, 4000 Roskilde, Denmark*

P. CHOWDHURY, H. EMLING<sup>2</sup>, D. FREKERS, R.V.F. JANSSENS, T.L. KHOO  
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Received 13 September 1983

Nuclear Physics A443 (1985) 120–134  
©North-Holland Publishing Company

NUCLEAR STRUCTURE EFFECTS IN THE FEEDING OF YRAST  
STATES OF Gd, Dy AND Er NUCLEI

J. BORGGREEN, G. SLETTEN, S. BJØRNHOLM and J. PEDERSEN  
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R.V.F. JANSSENS, I. AHMAD, P. CHOWDHURY and T.L. KHOO  
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Received 14 March 1985

Nuclear Physics A439 (1985) 573–588  
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FEEDING TIMES OF HIGH-SPIN STATES IN  $^{152,154}\text{Dy}$ :  
Probes of nuclear structure above the yrast line

F. AZGUI, H. EMLING, E. GROSSE, C. MICHEL\*, R.S. SIMON, W. SPRENG  
and H.J. WOLLERSHEIM

*Gesellschaft für Schwerionenforschung, D-6100 Darmstadt, Germany*

T.L. KHOO, P. CHOWDHURY\*, D. FREKERS\*\*\* and R.V.F. JANSSENS  
*Argonne National Laboratory, Argonne, IL 60439, USA*

A. PAKKANEN†, P.J. DALY and M. KORTELAHTI‡  
*Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47907, USA*

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*Physikalisches Institut, Universität Heidelberg, D-6900 Heidelberg, Germany*

Received 2 January 1985



Nuclear Physics A466 (1987) 371–384  
North-Holland, Amsterdam

SINGLE PARTICLE RADIATION BETWEEN HIGH SPIN STATES IN  $^{147}\text{Gd}$

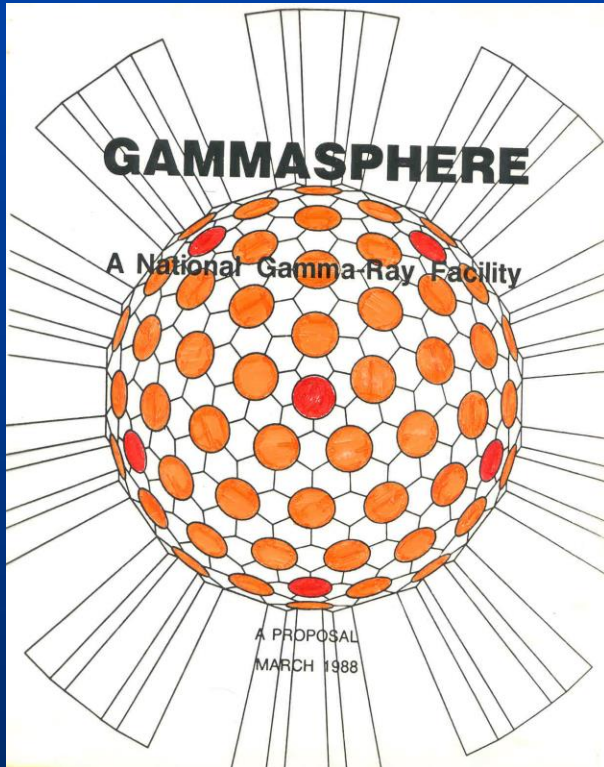
J. BORGGREEN, G. SLETTEN, S. BJØRNHOLM, J. PEDERSEN and A. DEL ZOPPO<sup>1</sup>  
*Niels Bohr Institute, Risø, 4000 Roskilde, Denmark*

D.C. RADFORD, R.V.F. JANSSENS, P. CHOWDHURY,  
H. EMLING<sup>2</sup>, D. FREKERS<sup>3</sup> and T.L. KHOO

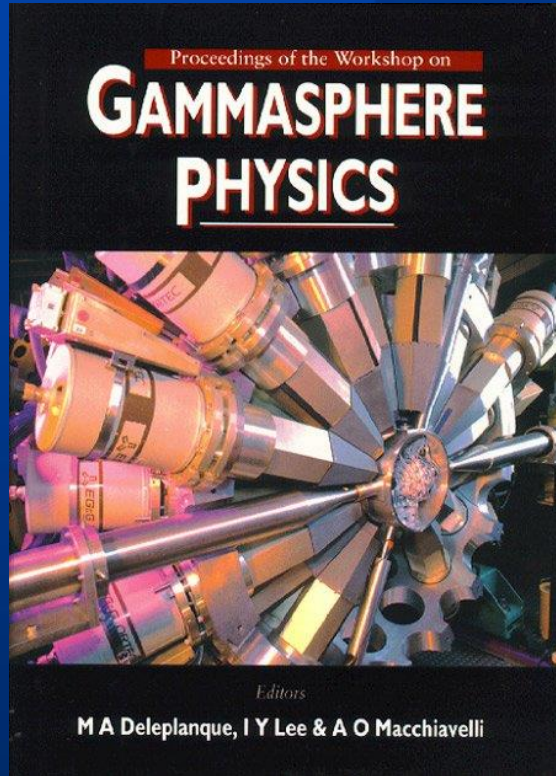
*Argonne National Laboratory, Argonne, Illinois 60439, USA*

Received 1 December 1986  
(Revised 19 December 1986)

# Late 1980's to the 1990's



GS proposal 1988



GS dedication 1995

VOLUME 72, NUMBER 8

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

21 FEBRUARY 1994

## Novel Decay Modes of High- $K$ Isomers: Tunneling in a Triaxial Landscape

B. Crowell,\* P. Chowdhury,<sup>†</sup> S. J. Freeman,<sup>‡</sup> and C. J. Lister  
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M. P. Carpenter, R. G. Henry, R. V. F. Janssens, T. L. Khoo, T. Lauritsen, Y. Liang,<sup>§</sup> and F. Soramel<sup>||</sup>  
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(Received 28 June 1993)

Meanwhile back at the ranch...

ANL-ND BGO array  
12 Compton-suppressed Ge  
38-element BGO hexagons

PHYSICAL REVIEW C

VOLUME 53, NUMBER 3

MARCH 1996

## High- $K$ isomers in $^{176}\text{W}$ and mechanisms of $K$ violation

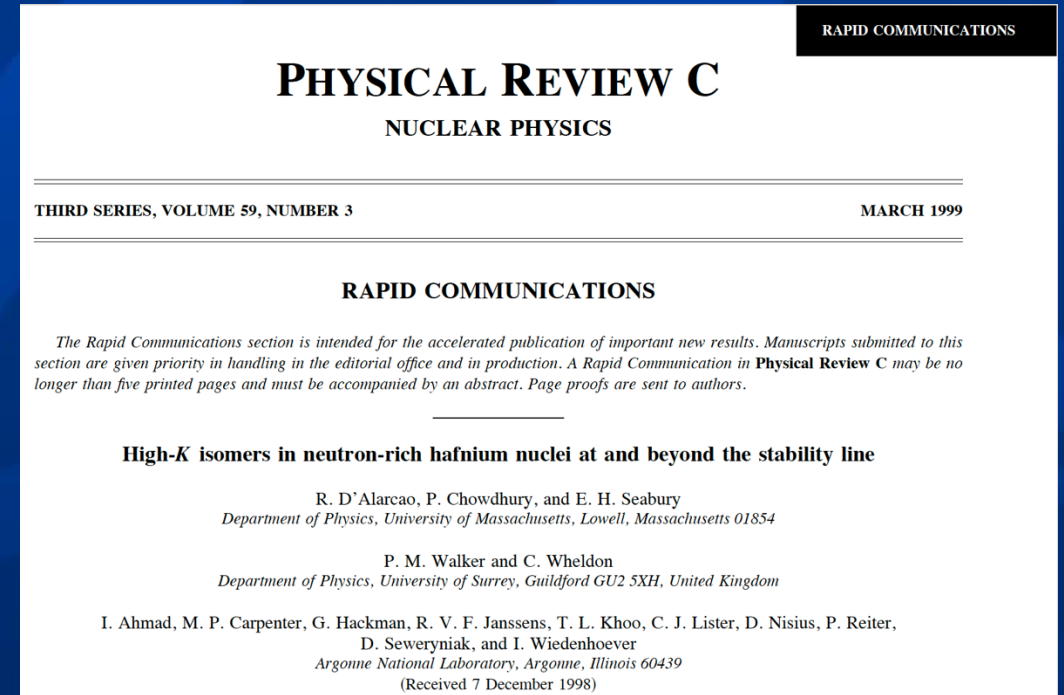
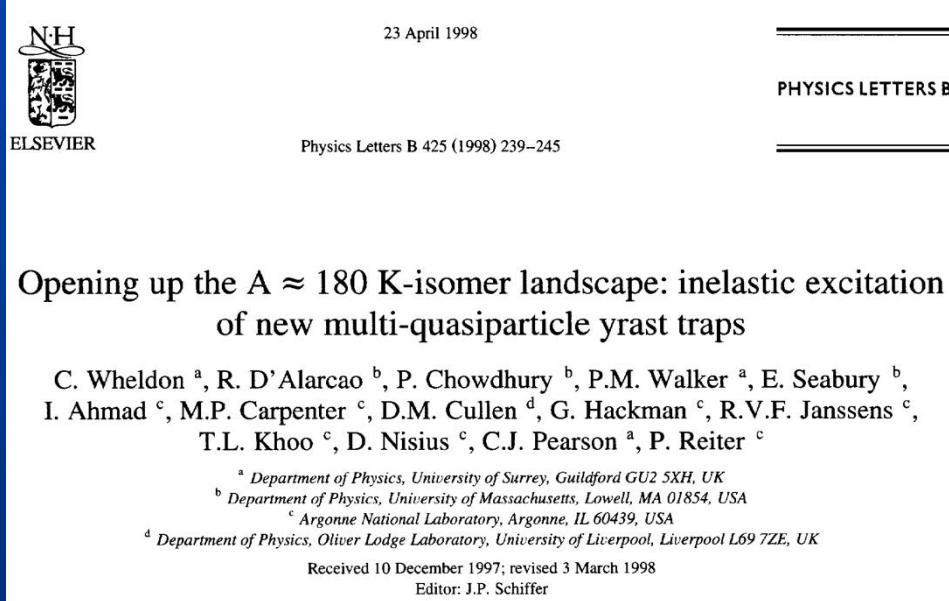
B. Crowell,\* P. Chowdhury,<sup>†</sup> D. J. Blumenthal,\* S. J. Freeman,<sup>‡</sup> and C. J. Lister\*  
*Wright Nuclear Structure Laboratory, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut 06511*

M. P. Carpenter, R. G. Henry,<sup>§</sup> R. V. F. Janssens, T. L. Khoo, T. Lauritsen, Y. Liang,<sup>||</sup> and F. Soramel<sup>¶</sup>  
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I. G. Bearden\*\*  
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(Received 6 February 1995)



# at the turn of the millenium



PHYSICAL REVIEW C, VOLUME 64, 054307

## Yrast three-quasiparticle $K$ isomers in neutron-rich $^{181}\text{Hf}$

I. Shestakova, G. Mukherjee, P. Chowdhury, and R. D'Alarcao  
*Department of Physics, University of Massachusetts Lowell, Lowell, Massachusetts 01854*

C. J. Pearson, Zs. Podolyak, P. M. Walker, and C. Wheldon\*  
*Department of Physics, University of Surrey, Guildford GU2 7XH, United Kingdom*

D. M. Cullen†  
*Department of Physics, Oliver Lodge Laboratory, University of Liverpool, Liverpool L69 7ZE, United Kingdom*

I. Ahmad, M. P. Carpenter, R. V. F. Janssens, T. L. Khoo, F. G. Kondev, C. J. Lister, D. Seweryniak, and I. Wiedenhoever  
*Physics Division, Argonne National Laboratory, Argonne, Illinois 60439*  
(Received 30 May 2001; published 10 October 2001)

Accessing K-isomers in the  
neutron-rich  $A \sim 180$  region via  
inelastic excitation and transfer  
and Gammasphere

# Late 2000's



$^{180}\text{Hf}$   
beam on  
 $^{232}\text{Th}$

GS + CHICO



$^{209}\text{Bi}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}$   
beams on  
 $^{248}\text{Cm}$ ,  $^{249}\text{Cf}$

GS standalone

PRL **101**, 182503 (2008)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending  
31 OCTOBER 2008

## Collective Oblate Rotation at High Spins in Neutron-Rich $^{180}\text{Hf}$

U. S. Tandel,<sup>1</sup> S. K. Tandel,<sup>1</sup> P. Chowdhury,<sup>1</sup> D. Cline,<sup>2</sup> C. Y. Wu,<sup>2,\*</sup> M. P. Carpenter,<sup>3</sup> R. V. F. Janssens,<sup>3</sup> T. L. Khoo,<sup>3</sup>  
T. Lauritsen,<sup>3</sup> C. J. Lister,<sup>3</sup> D. Seweryniak,<sup>3</sup> and S. Zhu<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>2</sup>Nuclear Structure Research Laboratory, University of Rochester, Rochester, New York 14627, USA

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(Received 13 May 2008; revised manuscript received 13 August 2008; published 30 October 2008)

RAPID COMMUNICATIONS

PHYSICAL REVIEW C **82**, 041301(R) (2010)

## Rotational bands in odd-A Cm and Cf isotopes: Exploring the highest neutron orbitals

S. K. Tandel,<sup>1,\*</sup> P. Chowdhury,<sup>1</sup> S. Lakshmi,<sup>1</sup> U. S. Tandel,<sup>1</sup> I. Ahmad,<sup>2</sup> M. P. Carpenter,<sup>2</sup> S. Gros,<sup>2,†</sup> R. V. F. Janssens,<sup>2</sup>  
T. L. Khoo,<sup>2</sup> F. G. Kondev,<sup>2</sup> J. P. Greene,<sup>2</sup> D. J. Hartley,<sup>3</sup> T. Lauritsen,<sup>2</sup> C. J. Lister,<sup>2</sup> D. Peterson,<sup>2</sup> A. Robinson,<sup>2,‡</sup>  
D. Seweryniak,<sup>2</sup> and S. Zhu<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Physics, University of Massachusetts Lowell, Lowell, Massachusetts 01854, USA

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(Received 20 August 2010; published 4 October 2010)

Heavy beams on radioactive targets





Physics Letters B 739 (2014) 13–18

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Physics Letters B

www.elsevier.com/locate/physletb

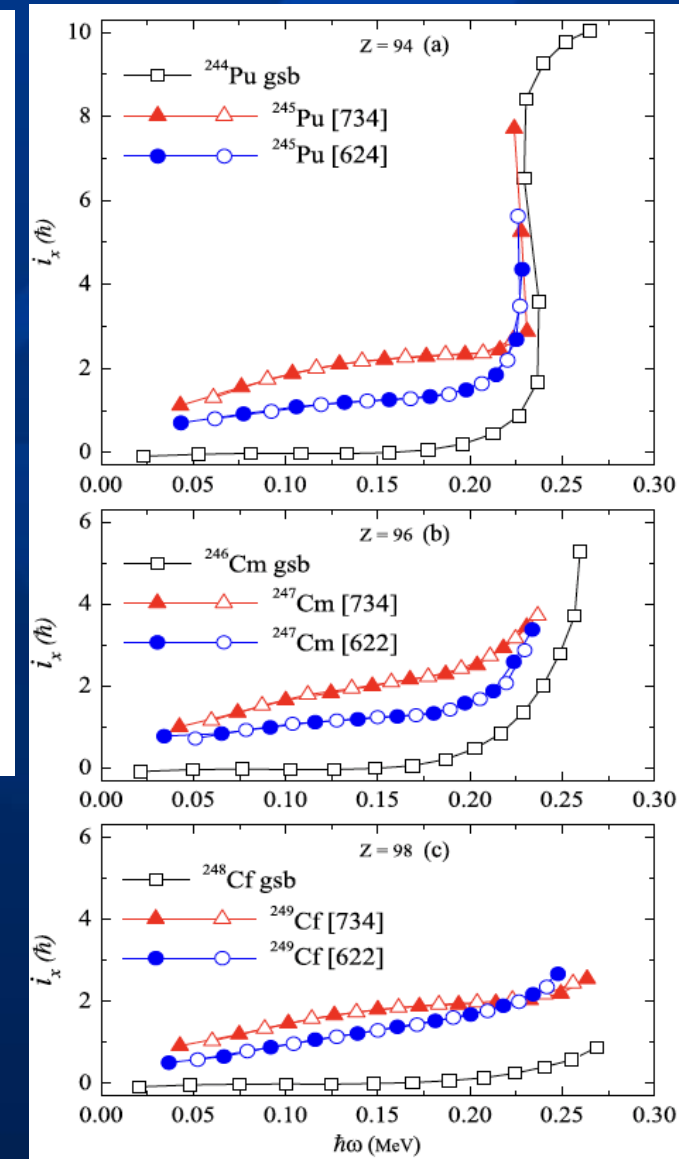
 

**$N = 151$  Pu, Cm and Cf nuclei under rotational stress:  
Role of higher-order deformations**

S.S. Hota<sup>a,1</sup>, P. Chowdhury<sup>a,\*</sup>, T.L. Khoo<sup>b</sup>, M.P. Carpenter<sup>b</sup>, R.V.F. Janssens<sup>b</sup>, Y. Qiu<sup>a</sup>,  
I. Ahmad<sup>b</sup>, J.P. Greene<sup>b</sup>, S.K. Tandel<sup>a,2</sup>, D. Seweryniak<sup>b</sup>, S. Zhu<sup>b</sup>, P.F. Bertone<sup>b,3</sup>,  
C.J. Chiara<sup>b,c</sup>, A.Y. Deo<sup>a,4</sup>, N. D'Olympia<sup>a</sup>, S. Gros<sup>b,5</sup>, C.J. Guess<sup>a,6</sup>, T. Harrington<sup>a</sup>,  
D.J. Hartley<sup>d</sup>, G. Henning<sup>b,7</sup>, C.R. Hoffman<sup>b</sup>, E.G. Jackson<sup>a</sup>, F.G. Kondev<sup>b</sup>, S. Lakshmi<sup>a,8</sup>,  
T. Lauritsen<sup>b</sup>, C.J. Lister<sup>a</sup>, E.A. McCutchan<sup>b,9</sup>, K. Moran<sup>a</sup>, C. Nair<sup>b</sup>, D. Peterson<sup>b</sup>,  
U. Shirwadkar<sup>a,8</sup>, I. Stefanescu<sup>b,c,10</sup>

 CrossMark

+ more manuscripts on related  
measurements in this period with heavy  
beams and radioactive targets in the pipeline



$^{208}\text{Pb}$  on  
 $^{244}\text{Pu}$

$^{209}\text{Bi}$  on  
 $^{248}\text{Cm}$

$^{208}\text{Pb}$  on  
 $^{249}\text{Cf}$

a moving experience



## Robert Janssens

Robert and I did not always  
see eye to eye on things....



But when we pulled in the same  
direction we were MIGHTY strong

Best wishes for the future and fond  
memories from the past.

KIM



# To Robert



We have meandered through a lot of physics, instrumentation and life together. We have spun high, evolved in shape, and measured half-lives over more than half our lives. Cheers to a life of friendship!