

# Spectroscopy of Few-Particle Nuclei around Magic $^{132}\text{Sn}$ from Fission Product $\gamma$ -Ray Studies

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We are studying the yrast structure of very neutron-rich nuclei around doubly magic  $^{132}\text{Sn}$  by analyzing fission product  $\gamma$ -ray data from a  $^{248}\text{Cm}$  source at Eurogam II. Yrast cascades in several few-valence-particle nuclei have been identified through  $\gamma\gamma$  cross coincidences with their complementary fission partners. Results for two-valence-particle nuclei  $^{132}\text{Sb}$ ,  $^{134}\text{Te}$ ,  $^{134}\text{Sb}$  and  $^{134}\text{Sn}$  provide empirical nucleon-nucleon interactions which, combined with single-particle energies already known in the one-particle nuclei, are essential for shell-model analysis in this region. Findings for the  $N = 82$  nuclei  $^{134}\text{Te}$  and  $^{135}\text{I}$  have now been extended to the four-proton nucleus  $^{136}\text{Xe}$ . Results for the two-neutron nucleus  $^{134}\text{Sn}$  and the  $N = 83$  isotones  $^{134}\text{Sb}$ ,  $^{135}\text{Te}$  and  $^{136}\text{I}$  open up the spectroscopy of nuclei in the northeast quadrant above  $^{132}\text{Sn}$ .

## 1 Introduction

The doubly magic nucleus  $^{132}\text{Sn}$  and the few valence particle nuclei around it are neutron-rich species inaccessible for study by the common tools of nuclear reaction spectroscopy. The limited information available concerning the structure of these nuclei comes mostly from  $\beta^-$  decay studies of fission product radionuclides, supplemented in a few cases by  $\gamma$ -ray decay data for yrast isomers with  $\mu\text{s}$  half-lives. Blomqvist<sup>1</sup> has pointed out that there should be many points of resemblance between the spectroscopy of the  $^{132}\text{Sn}$  region and the well studied nuclei around doubly-magic  $^{208}\text{Pb}$ . The orbitals above and below the energy gaps in the two cases are similarly ordered, and every single particle state in the  $^{132}\text{Sn}$  region has its counterpart around  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  with the same radial quantum number  $n$ , and one unit larger in angular momenta  $l$  and  $j$ . One consequence with particular impact on the present work is that specific nucleon-nucleon interactions

required for shell model calculations in the  $^{132}\text{Sn}$  region may be estimated from the corresponding empirical interactions in  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  region nuclei, which are known in some detail<sup>2</sup>.

Recent investigations using multidetector Ge arrays to study fission product  $\gamma$ -rays from  $^{252}\text{Cf}$  or  $^{248}\text{Cm}$  sources have identified prompt and delayed  $\gamma$ -ray cascades from individual product nuclei in the  $^{132}\text{Sn}$  neighborhood<sup>3,4</sup>. In the present measurements, the Eurogam II array consisting of 124 Ge detector elements and four LEPS spectrometers recorded  $2 \times 10^9$  three-fold or higher-fold  $\gamma$ -ray coincidence events from a  $^{248}\text{Cm}$  source delivering  $\sim 6 \times 10^4$  fissions/sec. Additional experimental details have been given in previous publications, which have presented results for the two- and three-proton  $N = 82$  nuclei  $^{134}\text{Te}$  and  $^{135}\text{I}$ <sup>4</sup>. Here, we present first results for the four-valence-proton  $N = 82$  nucleus  $^{136}\text{Xe}$ . We then turn attention to  $N = 83$  and  $N = 84$  nuclei near  $^{132}\text{Sn}$ , which should provide key information about em-

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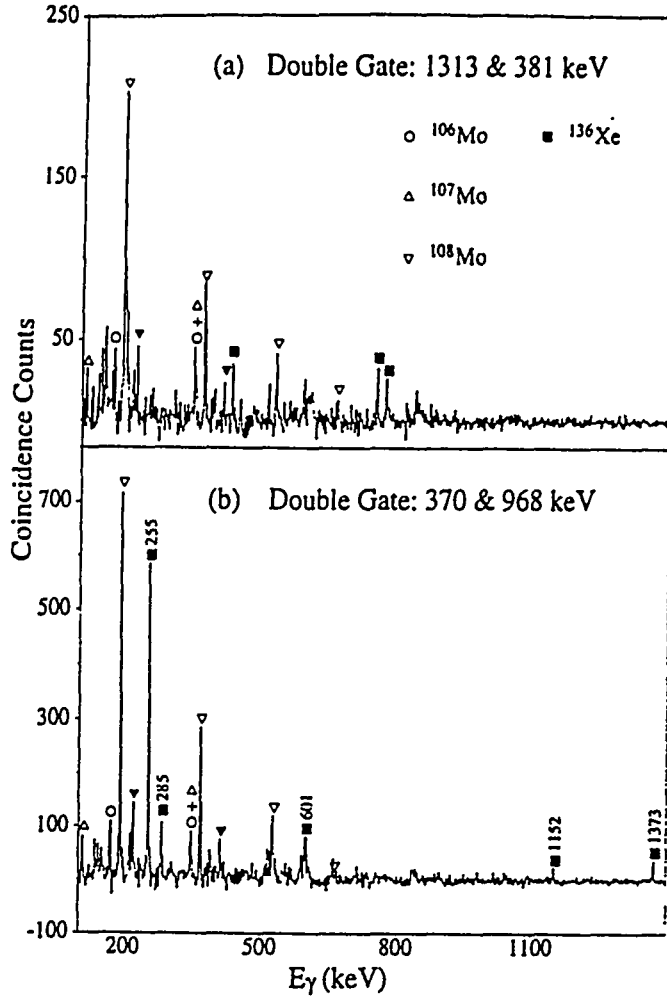


Figure 1: Key  $\gamma$ -ray coincidence spectrum of double gates on transitions above and below the yrast  $6^+$  isomer in  $^{136}\text{Xe}$ . Isotopic assignments are indicated for all prominent  $\gamma$ -rays.

empirical proton-neutron and neutron-neutron interactions in the region. Although the fission yields for several of the interesting  $N = 83$  products were predicted to be fairly large<sup>5</sup>, one could anticipate that their unusually small neutron separation energies might result in drastically reduced  $\gamma$ -ray cascade intensities. (Indeed, no trace of the known<sup>6</sup> 1561 keV  $\nu h_{9/2} \rightarrow \nu f_{7/2}$   $\gamma$ -ray in  $^{133}\text{Sn}$  could be detected in cross-coincidence with  $^{110,111,112}\text{Pd}$   $\gamma$ -rays even though the yrast  $\gamma$ -rays of neighboring  $^{132}\text{Sn}$  and  $^{134}\text{Sn}$  were clearly seen). We report results for the three  $N = 83$  isotones  $^{134}\text{Sb}$ ,  $^{135}\text{Te}$  and  $^{136}\text{I}$ , and for the two-neutron nucleus  $^{134}\text{Sn}$ .

## 2 The $N = 82$ Isotones $^{134}\text{Te}$ , $^{135}\text{I}$ , and $^{136}\text{Xe}$

In our previous paper<sup>4</sup> on the two- and three-proton nuclei  $^{134}\text{Te}$  and  $^{135}\text{I}$ , empirical two-body interactions

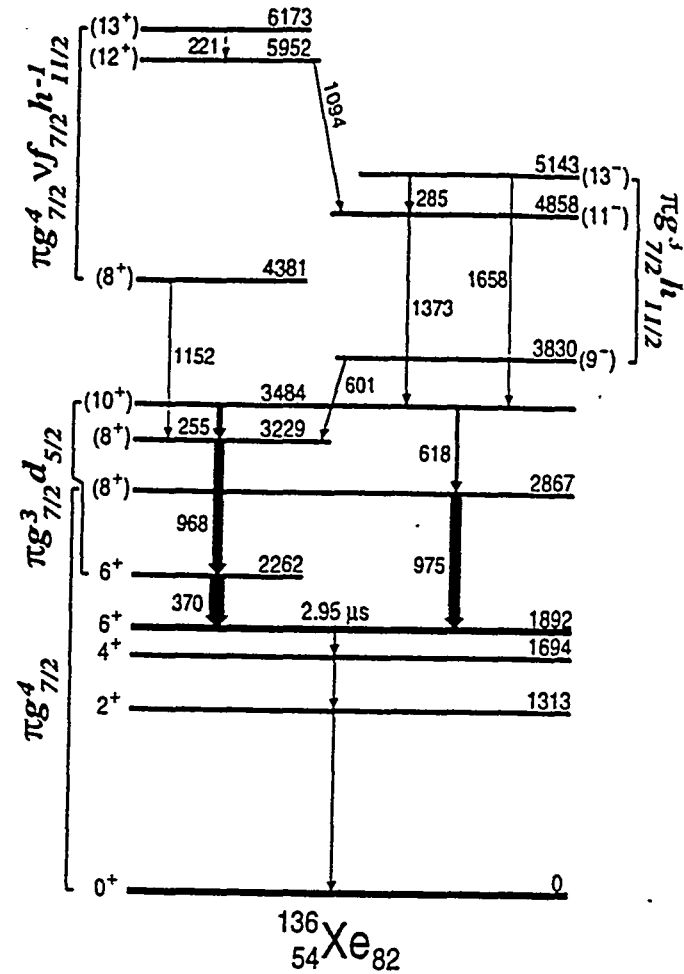


Figure 2: The  $^{136}\text{Xe}$  level scheme showing proposed spin-parities, configuration assignments, and the isomeric half-life.

from the experiments  $\pi g^2_{7/2}$ ,  $\pi g_{7/2} d_{5/2}$ , and  $\pi g_{7/2} h_{11/2}$  multiplets in  $^{134}\text{Te}$  were used in shell model calculations to characterize clearly the corresponding three-proton states in  $^{135}\text{I}$ . In addition, the highest levels located in  $^{134}\text{Te}$  and  $^{135}\text{I}$  were shown to be core-excited states involving  $\nu f_{7/2} h_{11/2}^{-1}$  particle-hole excitations. We also examined a shell model decomposition of the  $^{135}\text{I}$  ( $\pi g^3_{7/2}$ )  $15/2^+$  state involving the ground state masses of the  $N = 82$  isotones  $^{132}\text{Sn}$ ,  $^{133}\text{Sb}$ ,  $^{134}\text{Te}$ , and  $^{135}\text{I}$ , and we concluded that one or more of the accepted  $N = 82$  masses<sup>7,8</sup> is inaccurate by much more than their estimated errors.

Very recently, Andreozzi et al.<sup>9</sup> presented results for shell model calculations for  $^{134}\text{Te}$  and  $^{135}\text{I}$  employing an effective interaction derived from the Bonn A free nucleon-nucleon interaction. The calculated level energies for both nuclei are in excellent agreement with experiment. These workers<sup>9</sup> also calculated ground state bind-

ing energies for  $^{134}\text{Te}$  and  $^{135}\text{I}$  that agree well with the accepted mass values<sup>7</sup>. In this respect their conclusions contradict ours, and they suggested<sup>9</sup> deficiencies in our analysis. In response, we have submitted a comment<sup>10</sup> clarifying the shell model decomposition method, and defending our contention that the accepted masses of  $^{134}\text{Te}$  and/or  $^{133}\text{Sb}$  must be inaccurate. Aside from this mass mini-controversy, it will be interesting to see whether the realistic interaction calculations also give good agreement with experimental level energies for  $N = 82$  nuclei above  $^{135}\text{I}$ .

We have now extended our fission product studies to the four-valence-proton  $N = 82$  nucleus  $^{136}\text{Xe}$ . Known high-spin excitations in this nucleus populated in the  $\beta$ -decay of 47 s  $^{136}\text{I}$  included a  $(\pi g_{7/2}^4)_{v=2} 6^+$  yrast isomer and a probable  $(\pi g_{7/2}^3 d_{5/2}) 6^+$  state that decays to it by a 370 keV  $6^+ \rightarrow 6^+$  transition. Our study of  $^{136}\text{Xe}$  faced initial difficulties since its predicted  $^{248}\text{Cm}$  fission yield is only 0.4%. Moreover, the Eurogam II coincidence data were acquired with rather narrow TAC time ranges, not suited for investigating delayed coincidence relationships across  $\mu\text{s}$  isomers. Thus, the  $3\mu\text{s}$  half-life of the yrast  $6^+$  isomer in  $^{136}\text{Xe}$  ruled out possibilities of selecting higher-lying  $\gamma$ -rays through coincidences with known delayed  $\gamma$ -rays. The known 370 keV transition feeding the  $6^+$  isomer helped in the isotopic identification, and careful inspection of the cross-coincidences observed (Fig. 1) with known  $^{106,107,108}\text{Mo}$   $\gamma$ -rays led to firm identification of two strong  $\gamma$ -ray cascades. The subsequently constructed  $^{136}\text{Xe}$  level scheme is shown in Fig. 2, where the tentative spin-parities and configuration assignments are mostly based on the four-valence-particle shell model calculations which will be discussed below. The highest levels located at 5952 and 6173 keV may be core-excited  $\pi g_{7/2}^4 \nu f_{7/2} h_{11/2}^{-1}$  states similar to the yrast  $12^+$ ,  $13^+$  states at 6 MeV in  $^{134}\text{Te}$ .

One of the main aims in studying the spectroscopy of few-valence-particle nuclei around  $^{132}\text{Sn}$  is to characterize the nucleon-nucleon interactions in this region. To perform shell model calculations for the  $N = 82$  isotones, the simplest method is to adopt two-body interactions from the experimental level spectrum of the two-proton nucleus  $^{134}\text{Te}$ . This approach, which takes account of diagonal matrix elements only, and thereby neglects configuration mixing, provided valuable guidance in the interpretation of the observed  $^{136}\text{Xe}$  levels. (In Table 1, experimental and calculated energies are compared.) A few years ago, Wildenthal<sup>12</sup> performed comprehensive shell model calculations for all  $N = 82$  nuclei then known, and used an iterative procedure to obtain a best fit set of 160 two-body matrix elements, both diagonal and off-diagonal. The  $^{136}\text{Xe}$  level energies calculated using these parameters are shown also in Table 1. Since the results

Table 1: The experimental and theoretical level energies in  $^{136}\text{Xe}$ . The theoretical energies are calculated with diagonal matrix elements from  $^{134}\text{Te}$ (DIAG), and with Wildenthal's and Blomqvist's best fit parameter sets(c.f. the text).

I <sup>*</sup>	EXP	DIAG	WILD	BLOM
	(keV)	(keV)	(keV)	(keV)
0 <sup>+</sup>	0	0	0	0
2 <sup>+</sup>	1313	1279	1314	1372
4 <sup>+</sup>	1694	1577	1714	1717
6 <sup>+</sup>	1891	1691	1846	1858
6 <sup>+</sup>	2261	2097	2260	2236
8 <sup>+</sup>	2866	2666	2931	2862
8 <sup>+</sup>	3229	3200	3230	3242
10 <sup>+</sup>	3484	3499	3582	3484
(9 <sup>-</sup> )	3830	3666	3738	3836
(11 <sup>-</sup> )	4857	4783	4844	4923
(13 <sup>-</sup> )	5142	5057	5157	5138

for  $^{135}\text{I}$  and  $^{136}\text{Xe}$  obtained in our work are significant additions to the data base, Blomqvist<sup>13</sup> has now updated the  $N = 82$  interaction parameterization, and has changed 54 of Wildenthal's matrix elements, mostly diagonal. As shown in Table 1, these changes improve the agreement between theory and experiment to a small extent. However, forthcoming results for the five-proton  $N = 82$  nucleus  $^{137}\text{Cs}$ <sup>14</sup> will provide a much more satisfying test of the rival interaction sets.

### 3 Yrast States of $N = 83$ $^{134}\text{Sb}$ , $^{135}\text{Te}$ , and $^{136}\text{I}$

The occurrence of a 0.51  $\mu\text{s}$  yrast isomer in the three valence particle nucleus  $^{135}\text{Te}$  has long been known from fission fragment mass separator studies by Kawade et al.<sup>15</sup>. These workers showed that the isomer decays by a 50 keV E2 transition followed by 325 and 1180 keV  $\gamma$ -rays, and they proposed a  $^{135}\text{Te}$  scheme consisting of  $7/2^-$ ,  $11/2^-$ ,  $15/2^-$ , and  $19/2^-$  (isomeric) levels of mainly  $\pi g_{7/2}^2 \nu f_{7/2}$  character. This isomeric decay scheme provided a point of departure for the present study. With the Eurogam II data, the best sorting conditions that could be achieved for the  $^{135}\text{Te}$  case preferentially selected prompt  $\gamma$ -rays in an 80-240 ns time interval preceding the 1180 and/or 325 keV  $\gamma$ -rays. The resulting spectrum of  $\gamma$ -rays preceding the 1180 keV transition (Fig. 3(a)) shows several low-energy Ru lines from cross coincidences, and four  $\gamma$ -

rays above 1 MeV that could be firmly assigned to  $^{135}\text{Te}$ . The weak 1357 and 2407 keV  $\gamma$ -rays, barely visible in Fig. 3(a), are seen much more convincingly in prompt coincidence with the 1679 keV  $\gamma$ -ray, as shown in the Fig. 3(a) inset. No other transition appeared in prompt coincidence with the 1085 keV  $\gamma$ -ray, which must feed the 0.51  $\mu\text{s}$  isomer in parallel with the stronger 1679 keV transition. The extended  $^{135}\text{Te}$  level scheme is displayed in Fig. 4, and will be discussed below.

Little was known up to now about high-spin states in  $A > 135$  iodine nuclei. In the present work, detailed systematic examinations of  $\gamma\gamma$  cross coincidence intensity patterns between complementary I and Tc fission fragments led to identification of yrast cascades in both  $^{136}\text{I}$  and  $^{137}\text{I}$ , as well as the  $A = 108-111$  Tc isotopes (Fig. 3). For example, a double gate on  $\gamma$ -rays assigned to  $^{109}\text{Tc}$  (Fig. 3(b)) shows in coincidence the yrast  $\gamma$ -ray cascades of  $^{135}\text{I}$ ,  $^{136}\text{I}$ , and  $^{137}\text{I}$ , the 4n, 3n, and 2n fission product partners of  $^{109}\text{Tc}$ . The bottommost transitions placed in  $^{135}\text{I}$  are 1134 and 288 keV, in  $^{136}\text{I}$  are 1111 and 261 keV, and in  $^{137}\text{I}$  are 554 and 400 keV. The literature provides substantial support for these isotopic assignments, since 1134 and 554 keV  $\gamma$ -rays are known strong  $^{135}\text{I}$  and  $^{137}\text{I}$  transitions observed in  $\beta$ -decay studies of  $^{135}\text{Te}$  and  $^{137}\text{Te}$ <sup>16</sup>, while a 261 keV  $\gamma$ -ray de-exciting a  $\sim 4$  ns  $^{136}\text{I}$  isomer populated in  $^{252}\text{Cf}$  fission was reported by two groups many years ago<sup>17,18</sup>.

Low-lying yrast transitions were previously known in  $^{131}\text{Sb}$  and  $^{133}\text{Sb}$  but not in the  $N = 83$  nucleus  $^{134}\text{Sb}$ . Here again, detailed study of  $\gamma\gamma$  cross coincidence intensities, in this case between complementary Sb and Rh products, led to identification of yrast cascades in  $A = 110-113$  Rh isotopes, and of 1053, 1073 and 2126 keV  $\gamma$ -rays in  $^{134}\text{Sb}$ .

The two-particle nucleus  $^{134}\text{Sb}$  has two  $\beta$ -decaying isomers with  $I^\pi = 0^-$  and  $7^-$ , both assigned the configuration  $\pi g_{7/2} \nu f_{7/2}$ <sup>19,20</sup>. It is natural to identify the  $^{134}\text{Sb}$  level populated by the 2126 keV  $\gamma$ -ray (Fig. 4) as the  $(\pi g_{7/2} \nu f_{7/2}) 7^-$  state. In  $^{133}\text{Sb}$  the  $\pi d_{5/2}$  and  $\pi h_{11/2}$  single particle states are located 962 and 2793 keV above the  $\pi g_{7/2}$  ground state<sup>1</sup>, and in  $^{133}\text{Sn}$  the  $\nu h_{9/2}$  and  $\nu i_{13/2}$  states lie 1561 keV and  $\sim 3$  MeV, respectively, above the  $\nu f_{7/2}$  ground state<sup>6</sup>. There are not many possibilities for yrast two-particle states in  $^{134}\text{Sb}$  with  $I > 7$ , and the most likely assignments appear to be  $(\pi g_{7/2} \nu h_{9/2}) 8^-$  and  $(\pi h_{11/2} \nu f_{7/2}) 9^+$  for the 1073 and 2126 keV levels. Approximate excitation energies for these states could be calculated using the single particle energies together with estimates of  $(\pi g_{7/2} \nu f_{7/2}) 7^-$ ,  $(\pi g_{7/2} \nu h_{9/2}) 8^-$ , and  $(\pi h_{11/2} \nu f_{7/2}) 9^+$  proton-neutron interaction energies obtained from the  $\pi\nu$  interactions known in  $^{210}\text{Bi}$  for the analogous  $(\pi h_{9/2} \nu g_{9/2}) 9^-$ ,  $(\pi h_{9/2} \nu i_{11/2}) 10^-$ , and  $(\pi i_{13/2} \nu g_{9/2}) 11^+$  states<sup>2</sup>, with scaling as  $A^{-1/3}$  to take

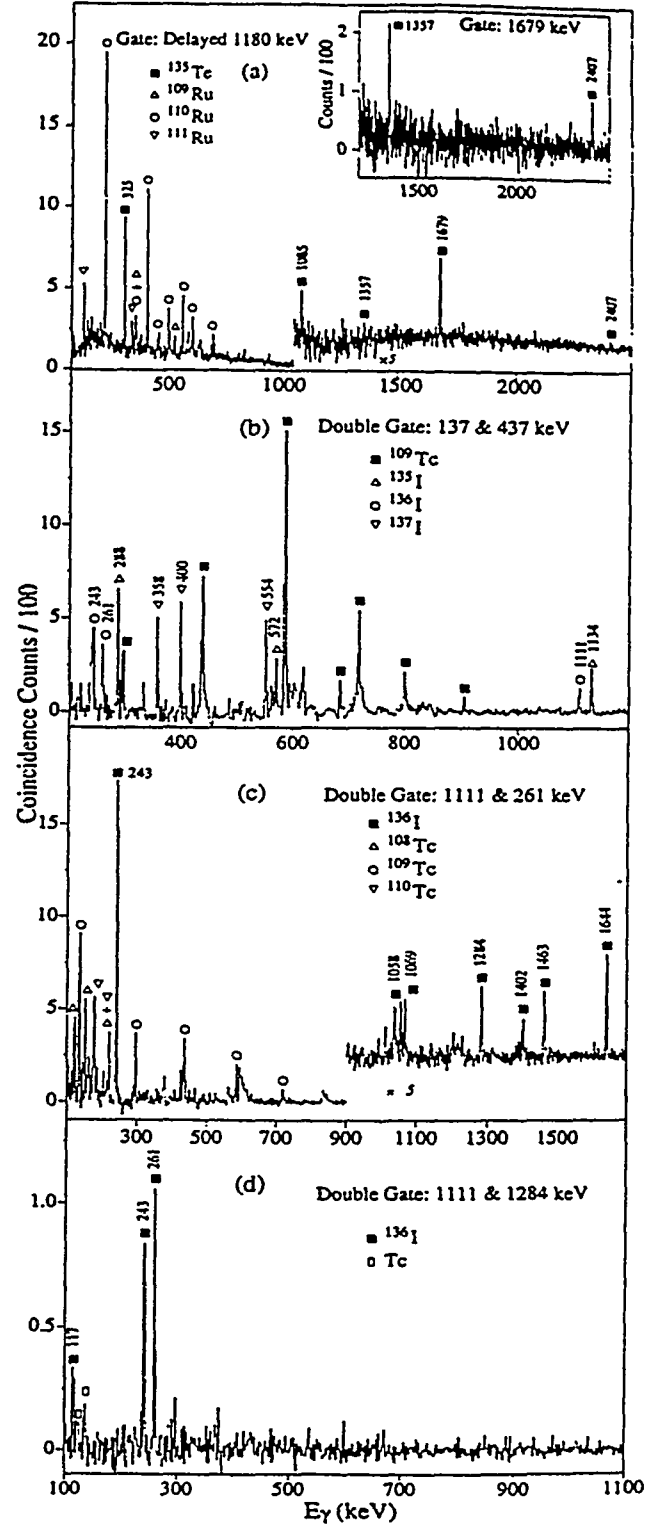


Figure 3: Key  $\gamma$ -ray coincidence spectra. Fig. 3(a) displays  $\gamma$ -rays preceding the 1180 keV  $^{135}\text{Te}$  transition, while the inset shows  $\gamma$ -rays in prompt coincidence with the 1679 keV transition. Fig. 3(b) displays  $\gamma$ -rays coincident with 137 and 437 keV  $^{109}\text{Tc}$  transitions. Fig. 3(c) and (d) show  $\gamma$ -rays coincident with double gates on the  $^{136}\text{I}$   $\gamma$ -rays specified.

account of the nuclear size variation<sup>1,4</sup>. The results,  $1561-441 = 1120$  keV for the  $(\pi g\nu h)8^-$  excitation energy and  $2793-653 = 2140$  keV for the  $(\pi h\nu f)9^+$  state, agree rather well with experiment, and lend forceful support to this interpretation of the sparse  $^{134}\text{Sb}$  data. Moreover, they encouraged us to proceed with truncated shell model calculations for all three  $N = 83$  nuclei using a single set of input parameters.

The shell model calculations for  $^{134}\text{Sb}$ ,  $^{135}\text{Te}$ , and  $^{136}\text{I}$  included the  $\pi g_{7/2}$ ,  $\pi d_{5/2}$ ,  $\pi h_{11/2}$ ,  $\nu f_{7/2}$ , and  $\nu h_{9/2}$  orbitals, and considered only yrast and near-yrast states having pure configurations. The input consisted of the single particle energies cited earlier, proton-proton interactions taken directly from the  $^{134}\text{Te}$  level spectrum as in ref. [4], and the proton-neutron interactions specified in Table 2. These  $\pi\nu$  matrix elements were estimated from known  $^{210}\text{Bi}$  interactions in the manner described above, except for the three values marked with asterisks, which have been slightly modified (by 40 keV or less) to achieve near-perfect agreement with the  $^{134}\text{Sb}$  data. Table 2 compares the experimental and calculated excitation energies for the three  $N = 83$  nuclei. For the  $^{135}\text{Te}$  levels up to and including the  $0.51 \mu\text{s}$  isomeric state, the agreement between theory and experiment is fair. There is not much doubt that they are dominantly  $\pi g_{7/2}^2 \nu f_{7/2}$  states, but with appreciable admixed contributions from other configurations, especially  $\pi g_{7/2} d_{5/2} \nu f_{7/2}$ . The calculations support the interpretation of the 2641 and 3235 keV levels as  $(\pi g_{7/2}^2 \nu h_{9/2})21/2^-$  and  $(\pi g_{7/2} h_{11/2} \nu f_{7/2})25/2^+$  states. This  $25/2^+$  state is closely related to the  $(\pi h_{11/2} \nu f_{7/2})9^+$  state in  $^{134}\text{Sb}$  and the  $(\pi g_{7/2} h_{11/2})9^-$  state in  $^{134}\text{Te}$ <sup>20</sup>, but the second much weaker E3 branch expected from the  $^{135}\text{Te}$  3235 keV level to a  $(\pi g_{7/2} d_{5/2} \nu f_{7/2})19/2^-$  level at about 2100 keV could not be detected. The weakly fed level at 4592 keV may be either  $(\pi g_{7/2} h_{11/2} \nu h_{9/2})27/2^+$  or  $(\pi g_{7/2}^2 \nu i_{13/2})25/2^+$ , both of which are predicted around 4.6 MeV. The topmost level at 5642 keV is probably a state of  $(\pi g_{7/2}^2 \nu f_{7/2} h_{11/2}^-)$  type directly related to the core-excited states identified in  $^{134}\text{Te}$  at similar excitation energy<sup>4</sup>.

The known 47 s  $\beta$ -decaying isomer of the odd-odd nucleus  $^{136}\text{I}$  has been assigned  $I^\pi = (6^-)^{21}$ , but the  $(\pi g_{7/2}^2 \nu f_{7/2})7^-$  state must be low-lying; here we make the assumption that the yrast  $\gamma$ -ray cascade in  $^{136}\text{I}$  feeds this  $7^-$  state, which subsequently de-excites by a low-energy transition. (The  $6^-$  state is calculated 57 keV below the  $7^-$ .) Accordingly, the  $^{136}\text{I}$  excitation energies in Fig. 4 and Table 2 are expressed relative to zero for the  $7^-$  state. The calculations support the interpretation of the  $^{136}\text{I}$  levels up to 1615 keV as members of the  $\pi g_{7/2}^3 \nu f_{7/2}$  and  $\pi g_{7/2}^2 d_{5/2} \nu f_{7/2}$  multiplets. Associating the  $\sim 4$  ns half-life with the 1372 keV level leads to a  $B(E2; 11^- \rightarrow 9^-)$  of about 4 W.u., which is in good accord with the  $B(E2)$  val-

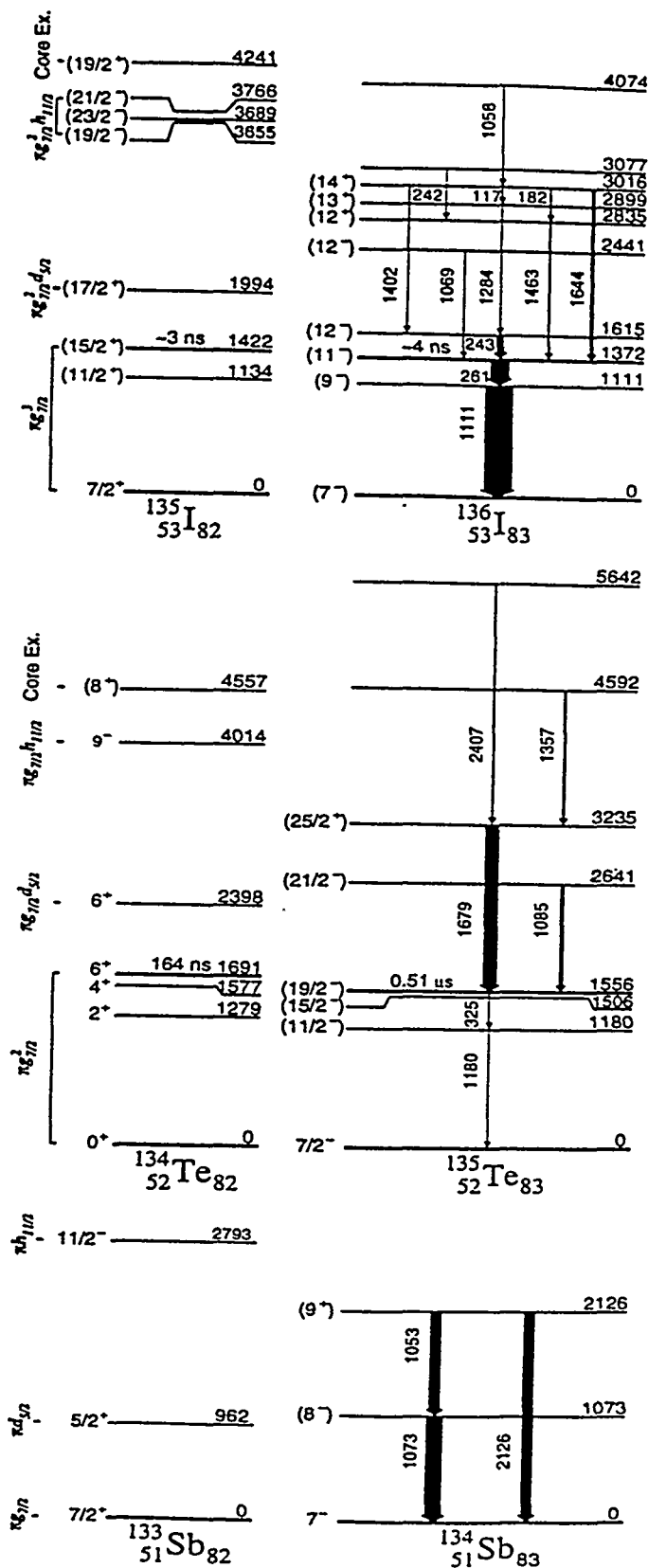


Figure 4: The proposed level schemes for  $N = 83$  nuclei  $^{134}\text{Sb}$ ,  $^{135}\text{Te}$  and  $^{136}\text{I}$ . Main yrast excitations of the  $N = 82$  neighbors  $^{133}\text{Sb}$ ,  $^{134}\text{Te}$ , and  $^{135}\text{I}$  are shown to the left.

Table 2: The shell model calculations for  $N=83$  isotones. Empirical proton-proton interactions were adopted from the  $^{134}\text{Te}$  spectrum, and the proton-neutron interactions used are given below. Level energies calculated for the specified states are compared with the experiment energies.

$\pi\nu$ interaction energies (keV)	$\pi g_{7/2}\nu f_{7/2}$		$\pi g_{7/2}\nu h_{9/2}$		$\pi d_{5/2}\nu f_{7/2}$		$\pi h_{11/2}\nu f_{7/2}$	
	7 <sup>-</sup>	-420*	8 <sup>-</sup>	-910*	6 <sup>-</sup>	-760	9 <sup>+</sup>	-1090*
	6 <sup>-</sup>	-100	7 <sup>-</sup>	+ 40			8 <sup>+</sup>	0
	5 <sup>-</sup>	-300	6 <sup>-</sup>	-300			7 <sup>+</sup>	-150
	4 <sup>-</sup>	-140					6 <sup>+</sup>	- 20
	3 <sup>-</sup>	-300						
	2 <sup>-</sup>	-400						
	1 <sup>-</sup>	-680						
	0 <sup>-</sup>	-720						
<b>Results</b>								
$^{135}\text{Te}_{83}$	I <sup>*</sup>	config.	exp. (keV)	theor. (keV)				
	7/2 <sup>-</sup>	$\pi g_{7/2}\nu f_{7/2}$	0	0				
	11/2 <sup>-</sup>	$\pi g_{7/2}\nu f_{7/2}$	1180	1341				
	15/2 <sup>-</sup>	$\pi g_{7/2}\nu f_{7/2}$	1505	1626				
	19/2 <sup>-</sup>	$\pi g_{7/2}\nu f_{7/2}$	1555	1684				
	21/2 <sup>-</sup>	$\pi g_{7/2}\nu h_{9/2}$	2641	2640				
	25/2 <sup>+</sup>	$\pi g_{7/2}\nu h_{9/2}$	3234	3176				
$^{136}\text{I}_{83}$	I <sup>*</sup>	config.	exp. (keV)	theor. (keV)				
	7 <sup>-</sup>	$\pi g_{7/2}^3\nu f_{7/2}$	0	0				
	9 <sup>-</sup>	$\pi g_{7/2}^3\nu f_{7/2}$	1111	1162				
	11 <sup>-</sup>	$\pi g_{7/2}^3\nu f_{7/2}$	1372	1472				
	12 <sup>-</sup>	$\pi g_{7/2}^3\nu d_{5/2}$	1615	1607				
	12 <sup>-</sup>	$\pi g_{7/2}^3\nu h_{9/2}$	2441	2413				
	15 <sup>+</sup>	$\pi g_{7/2}^3\nu h_{9/2}$	-	2875				
	12 <sup>+</sup>	$\pi g_{7/2}^3\nu h_{9/2}$	2835	2889				
	13 <sup>+</sup>	$\pi g_{7/2}^3\nu h_{9/2}$	2899	2941				
	14 <sup>+</sup>	$\pi g_{7/2}^3\nu h_{9/2}$	3016	2981				

ues determined for the  $\pi g_{7/2}^3$  15/2<sup>-</sup> → 11/2<sup>-</sup> transition in  $^{135}\text{I}$ , and for the analogous 15<sup>-</sup> → 13<sup>-</sup> E2 transition in the counterpart nucleus  $^{212}\text{At}$ <sup>22,23</sup>. The cluster of  $^{136}\text{I}$  levels around 2.9 MeV lies in an energy region where  $\pi g_{7/2}^3 h_{11/2} \nu f_{7/2}$  yrast states are expected, and the low-energy transitions between them suggest that they are structurally related. The observed decay properties of the 2835, 2899, and 3016 keV levels are consistent with I<sup>\*</sup> assignments of 12<sup>+</sup>, 13<sup>+</sup> and 14<sup>+</sup>, respectively, and the calculated energies fully support these assignments. There remains a question about the aligned 15<sup>+</sup> multiplet member, which is calculated to be lowest. The 2899 keV level might be considered an I<sup>\*</sup> = 15<sup>+</sup> candidate, with the 1284 keV an E3 transition to the yrast 12<sup>-</sup> level. However, even though the  $\pi h_{11/2} - \pi d_{5/2}$  E3 involved is fast, the half-life of the parent level would be around 25 ns. The data on the other hand indicate that none of the excited states in Fig. 4 can have  $t_{1/2} > 10$  ns. We conclude that the 15<sup>+</sup> state must be weakly populated in  $^{248}\text{Cm}$  fission, and that it is not placed in the present

work.

#### 4 The Two-Valence-Neutron Nucleus $^{134}\text{Sn}$

As expected, known  $^{128}\text{Sn}$ ,  $^{130}\text{Sn}$ , and  $^{132}\text{Sn}$   $\gamma$ -rays appeared in coincidence with  $\gamma$ -rays from several Pd isotopes, but in addition gates on  $^{112}\text{Pd}$  transitions showed also new 347.3 and 725.4 keV  $\gamma$ -rays which seemed to be prime candidates for placement in the  $N = 84$  nucleus  $^{134}\text{Sn}$ . Double gating on these two  $\gamma$ -rays revealed a 173.7 keV transition in the same cascade (Fig. 5), with all other peaks in the spectrum identified as known  $^{110,111,112}\text{Pd}$   $\gamma$ -rays. Pursuing a strong suspicion that the 174, 347, and 725 keV  $\gamma$ -rays belonged to  $^{134}\text{Sn}$ , we applied a well tested method developed in earlier fission product  $\gamma$ -ray studies<sup>24,25</sup>. For each Sn fission product of mass  $A_1(\text{Sn})$ , the mean mass  $\bar{A}_2(\text{Pd})$  of the complementary Pd fragments was determined from the Pd  $\gamma$ -ray intensities measured in coincidence with the  $\gamma$ -rays of that particular Sn isotope. The results are illustrated



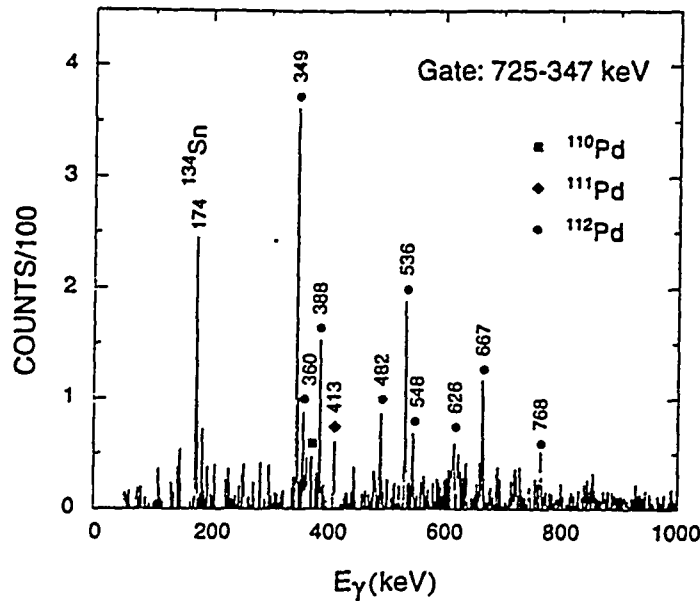


Figure 5: Key  $\gamma$ -ray coincidence spectrum recorded with a double gate on 347 and 725 keV transitions. Isotopic assignments are indicated for all prominent  $\gamma$ -rays.

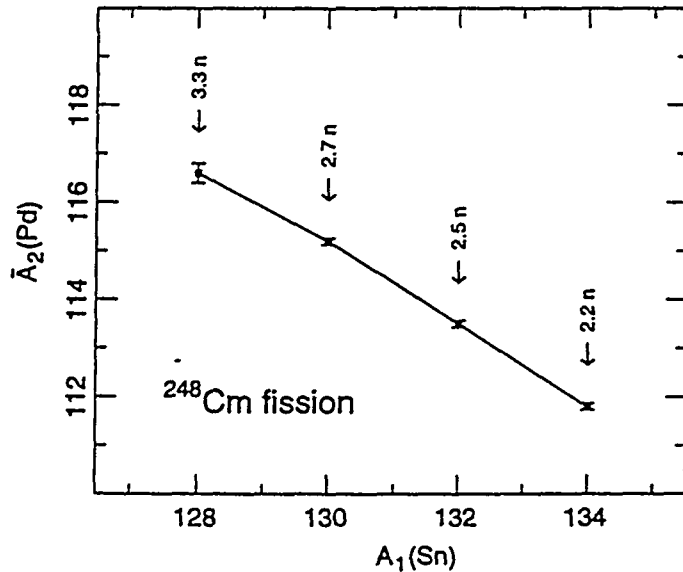


Figure 6: With the new  $\gamma$ -ray cascade tentatively assigned to  $^{134}\text{Sn}$ , the Sn fragment mass  $A_1(\text{Sn})$  is plotted against the average mass  $\bar{A}_2(\text{Pd})$  of complementary Pd fragments deduced from  $\gamma$ -ray coincidence intensities. The average number of neutrons emitted in each case is also indicated.

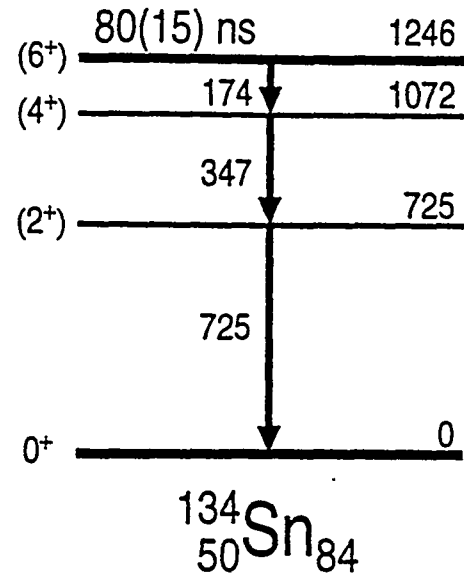


Figure 7: The  $^{134}\text{Sn}$  level scheme showing proposed spin-parity assignments and the isomeric half-life.

in Fig. 6, where the smooth correlation observed between  $A_1(\text{Sn})$  and  $\bar{A}_2(\text{Pd})$  provides persuasive support for assignment of the 174, 347, 725 keV  $\gamma$ -ray cascade to the  $^{134}\text{Sn}$  nucleus. The relative yields of  $^{134}\text{Sn}$  and of its isotope  $^{136}\text{Te}$  were estimated from the observed  $\gamma$ -ray coincidence intensities, and were found to agree well with the  $^{134}\text{Sn}/^{136}\text{Te}$  yield ratio of 1/30 predicted for the fission of  $^{248}\text{Cm}^5$ .

As is evident from the single particle level spectrum of  $N = 83$   $^{133}\text{Sn}^6$ , the neutron  $f_{7/2}$  state lies lowest above the  $N = 82$  energy gap, where it is well separated from other single-neutron states. Accordingly, the  $^{134}\text{Sn}$  levels located in the present work are naturally interpreted as the complete  $(\nu f_{7/2})^2$  level spectrum up to the maximally aligned  $6^+$  state at 1246 keV; these levels furnish empirical two nucleon interactions between  $f_{7/2}$  neutrons for use in shell model calculations. The  $\gamma\gamma$  coincidence data indicated that the 174 keV transition de-excites an isomeric state, and the half-life of the 1246 keV level was determined from the measured  $t_{\gamma\gamma}$  time distributions of delayed 725 keV  $\gamma$ -rays with respect to the prompt  $\gamma$ -ray bursts accompanying the fission events. The value  $t_{1/2} = 80 \pm 15$  ns obtained gives the transition probability

$$B(E2; 6^+ \rightarrow 4^+, ^{134}\text{Sn}) = 36 \pm 7 \text{ e}^2 \text{fm}^4 \\ = 0.88 \pm 0.17 \text{ W.u.}$$

With the radial matrix element  $\langle r^2 \rangle$  taken  $^{26}$  as  $32 \text{ fm}^2$ , the E2 effective charge is then determined to be

$$e_{eff}/e = 1.01 \pm 0.10 \quad (\nu f_{7/2})^2 \text{ in } ^{134}\text{Sn}.$$

This result, which represents the  $\nu f_{7/2}$  polarization charge, is similar to the value  $0.88 \pm 0.05$  reported<sup>27</sup> for  $\nu g_{9/2}$  in  $^{210}\text{Pb}$ , another two-neutron nucleus. Further discussion is postponed to a later paper, where the present result will be compared with the effective charges determined for  $\nu h_{11/2}$  in the two-neutron hole nucleus  $^{130}\text{Sn}$ <sup>28</sup>, for  $\pi g_{7/2}$  in the two-proton nucleus  $^{134}\text{Te}$ <sup>20</sup>, and for the counterpart valence particles in the nuclei around  $^{208}\text{Pb}$ .

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