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Publication Date

1982-04-01

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APS/Division of Nuclear Physics Fall Meeting, Asilomar Conference Grounds, Pacific Grove, CA, October 27-30, 1981

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIRST CONFERENCE ON NUCLEAR STRUCTURE DATA EVALUATION

April 1982

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Prepared for the U.S. Department of Energy under Contract DE-AC03-76SF00098

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Proceedings of the 1st Conference on Nuclear Structure Data Evaluation

held in conjunction with the APS/Division of Nuclear Physics Fall Meeting Asilomar Conference Grounds Pacific Grove, CA October 27-30, 1981

> Isotopes Project Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory University of California Berkeley, CA 94720

> > Proceedings Editors:

R. B. Firestone v. s. Shirley J. M. Dairiki

This work was supported by the Director, Office of Energy Research, Division of Nuclear Sciences of the Basic Energy Sciences Program of the U.S. Department of Energy under Contract DE-AC03-76SF00098. I

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FOREWORD

The 1st Conference on Nuclear Structure Data Evaluation was organized by the Isotopes Project of the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory in order to encourage the open discussion of the scientific aspects of ENSDF production and usage. Summaries of the roundtable discussion sessions, abstracts of the presented papers, and additional contributed papers are contained in these Proceedings.

Representatives and interested scientists from ten international centers involved in data evaluation and data usage convened in the hospitable environment of Asilomar; California. Amidst the inspiring atmosphere of the APS/DNP Fall meeting, a series of stimulating roundtable discussions of ENSDF evaluation took place. Additional lively debate accompanied the evaluation papers that were presented during the regular DNP, sessions. Evaluators unable to attend the conference participated through their suggestions and contributed papers.

The organizing committee extends its appreciation to Charles W. Reich (Idaho Falls), Stanley L. Whetstone (DOE), and Richard B. Firestone (LBL) for chairing the roundtable discussions. We also extend our thanks to Lee Schroeder (APS/DNP Asilomar meeting organizing committee), Peggy Little (Technical Information Department), and Wanda Smith-Burnett and Jeanne Hassenzahl (Nuclear Science Division) for their assistance in obtaining meeting rooms, scheduling sessions, and producing this report. We feel that this conference was a very successful beginning to a dialogue in scientific nuclear structure data evaluation. We further feel that this dialogue should be continued and look forward to a second conference in the near future.

> Richard B. Firestone Janis M. Dairiki Organizing Committee Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory University of California Berkeley, CA 94720

TABLE OF CONTENTS

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SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION SESSIONS

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ON NUCLEAR STRUCTURE DATA EVALUATION

1st Conference on Nuclear Structure Data Evaluation

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Asilomar, CA

October'27-30, 1981

PROGRAM

Welcoming Session - Tuesday, October 27, 4:00 p.m.

Informal discussion, cheese·and wine provided.

Session I - Tuesday, October 27, 7:30 p.m.

Discussion leader: Charles Reich, Idaho Falls Topic: Evaluation as a Science - scientific policies for the production of Nuclear Data Sheets; mechanisms for policy adoption and enforcement; the role of theory in evaluation.

Session II - Wednesday, October 28, 7:30 p.m.

Discussion leader: Stanley Whetstone, DOE

Topic: Evaluation and the Scientific Community - effectiveness.of ENSDF in serving the needs of the scientific community; responsibility for critical evaluation of the literature; prospects for horizontal evaluations from ENSDF.

Session III - Thursday, October 29, 10:00 a.m.

Discussion leader: Richard B. Firestone, LBL Topic: Continued Discussions.

Submitted APS papers:

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Summary of the Discussion Sessions at the 1st Conference on Nuclear Structure Data Evaluation

Tnt roduc tion

This summary of the discussion sessions was prepared from tape recordings of the sessions supplemented by our handwritten notes. The many long. and interesting discussions have been reduced here to a bare minimum, highlighting only the general discussion topics. Where possible, the contributions of the various participants have been identified by initials. We have tried to present a complete and accurate recounting of the proceedings and respectfully apologize for any inadvertent omissions or inaccuracies.

Discussion Participants

Abbreviations

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Session I: 7:30 P.M., Tuesday, October 27, 1981

Discussion Leader: Charles Reich, Idaho Falls

Topic: Evaluation as a Science

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The following questions.concerning the production of ENSDF/NDS were addressed:

- 1) What are the adopted evaluation policies and how were they derived?
- 2) What are the roles of systematics and theory with respect to the data files?

3) How are the ENSDF/NDS policies enforced?

. CWR opened the discussion with a typical evaluation problem relevant to the first question. In the decay of 233 Pa, experimental intensity measurements for the highest energy β^- decay branch (to the 233 U ground state) range from 5 to 12%. Analysis of the absolute Y-ray transition intensities, however, suggests that there is no ground-state feeding by β^- -decay. CWR suggested that this discrepancy is resolved if the theoretical ICC values vary by a few percent from those determined by experiment. A discussion ensued in which it was pointed out that large anomalies in the ICC values do exist and that there is strong evidence for systematic ICC variances of a similar magnitude in heavy elements. MJM suggested that evaluators should be aware of such problems and not proceed blindly. No solutions to this problem vis-a-vis ENSDF/NDS were reached.

VSS presented an evaluation problem from $A = 193$ pertaining to the second question. The EC decay data of 193 Pb suggested that this parent was a high-spin state, and the alpha decay of 197 Po to 193 Pb was observed but could not be directly utilized to obtain further information. The evaluator of A = 197 used systematics to determine that the observed EC decaying state was a 13/2+ isomer lying about 200 keV above an unobserved 3/2- ground state. Thus, two different data sets on 197 Po α -decay existed. Possible secondorder difficulties, such as the effect of the conclusions on the mass adjustment, were pointed out.

MJM supported the use of trends, similar transitions, etc. to arrive at better numbers and conclusions while preparing mass chains for ENSDF. Other participants questioned the extent to which theoretical or systematic information should be included in the mass-chain file. A consensus was reached that nonexperimental numbers should at least be clearly flagged, indicating their origins for users of ENSDF. CWR emphasized that evaluators have a responsibility to ensure that numbers with qualifiers (SY, AP, etc.) do not lose the qualifiers in later computer searches.

NJW presented a summary of the activities and policies of the Liverpool evaluation group. The computer program DELTA, written by L.P. Ekström to analyze $\gamma - \gamma$ angular correlation data, was offered to the evaluators. It was reported to be more versatile than the present ANGCOR program and to be

capable of handling unobserved transitions and calculating uncertainties. MJM expressed concern that the use of different programs might lead to differing mixing ratios and confuse ENSDF users. RBF inquired about the possibility of distributing programs such as DELTA through Brookhaven.

NJW went on to describe the evaluation procedures in effect at Liverpool, which the group there would like the international network to adopt. In particular, discussion ensued over the handling of numbers whose uncertanties overlapped zero. For example, if an intensity balance yields a ground-state feeding of $-2(5)$ % one normally quotes 0% with an asymmetric error. Alternate choices of <3%, or 0% (with a comment instead of an uncertainty) were proposed. As a result of comments by AHW and others who pointed out problems with all these possible forms, no satisfactory solution was found.

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Other Liverpool policies included quoting only the lowest multipolarity when $\delta = 0$, reporting A₂ and A₄ values for decay only, writing the target J^{π} on all reaction data sets, and including both L and J^{π} for all observed levels. MJM preferred that only J^T be recorded since L is redundant. NJW further recommended that, outside the HSICC limit $(Z < 30)$, ICC values should only be given, in adopted data sets, where the multipolarity and δ are known. Additionally, the Liverpool group includes transition probabilities (in Weisskopf units) whenever lifetimes, intensities, and δ are known. Finally, it was proposed that adopted gamma and level properties not be fed back into the original data sets unless necessary for completeness. Due to the late hour at this point, relatively little discussion of the Liverpool procedures ensued, and CWR adjourned the session.

Session II: 7:30 P.M., Wednesday, October 28, 1981

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Discussion Leader: Stanley Whetstone, DOE

Topic: Evaluation and the Scientific Community

The following questions concerning the importance of ENSDF/NDS were addressed:

- 1) How effectively does ENSDF/NDS serve the needs of the scientific community?
- 2) What responsibility do evaluators have for critical evaluation of the literature?
- 3) What are the prospects for horizontal evaluations from ENSDF?

SLW began the discussion by reaffirming the support and commitment of DOE to the evaluation of nuclear data. The policy of providing for data evaluation by highly trained personnel at several centers while centralizing the production at Brookhaven is satisfactory. The current production rate, however, falls far short of the planned four-year cycle and is of considerable concern to DOE.

In regard to the first question, SLW referred to the importance of the NDN connection with IAEA. Education of the public to the availability of ENSDF as a searchable database has been limited. MJM pointed out that attempts to do so through an APS invited talk have so far been turned down. He added that brochures and questonnaires sent out by the Nuclear Data Project have led to minimal use of the files, indicating that the public is generally unaware of the NDP services. A suggestion of commercial handling of the searches from ENSDF was not favored by most of the participants.

RBF responded to the second question, stating that highly qualified evaluators would be valuable referees of journal articles. Also, evaluators can often assess experimental results better than individual authors and would make positive contributions to the literature by publishing their conclusions. CML suggested that the role of the Nuclear Data Sheets is to publish correct results and interpretations, but RBF argued that more is required. RBF would prefer that evaluators.publish journal articles, piecing together various sources of data, to provide new, errorless conclusions. This is especially important since many authors fail to publish errata when major errors are discovered.

Only limited discussion of the third question followed. MJM stated that, despite many requests for information from ENSDF, few horizontal compilations directly resulted. CWR inquired if any attempt is made to coordinate ENSDF requests on the same subject. MJM said this is difficult in light of author competition, etc. and is thus not done. MJM reaffirmed his opinion that ENSDF is the best starting point available for many horizontal compilation efforts. RLB asked if horizontal evaluations are an

approved function of·network members• MJM replied that the approval of the' data center director and the relevance of the evaluation to other evaluators must be considered to answer this question.

The subject of whether or not ENSDF is an acceptable basis for theoretical calculations and horizontal evaluations was discussed. CWR emphasized that ENSDF is a source of evaluated, not experimental, data and is hence tainted by evaluator judgement. Also, ENSDF is incomplete, especially in an historical sense, with many missing references. RBF added that complete coverage of the older references is available at LBL and could be incorporated into NSR and ENSDF were funding available.

CML discussed major retrieval problems with ENSDF due to numerous reasons, including multiple field designations (i.e., the S field on L-cards) and lost data on comment cards. CML added that the expertise needed to evaluate specialized horizontal compilations is not always available when ENSDF is prepared. Thus, retrieved data may not be consistently suitable to scientists in specialized fields.

SLW asked MJM to comment on his role as editor. MJM stressed the need for uniformity in evaluating mass chains for ENSDF and Nuclear Data Sheets. For example, B(E2) values·appear the same on the printed data sheets whether entered on 2 L cards or as comments, but they are not retrievable from comment cards. The need for a new, expanded evaluators' manual was discussed. It was emphasized that the uniformity problem would be reduced if evaluators knew exacty how to handle data entries. RBF requested that a write-up of the networks' editorial and review policies also be prepared.

SLW requested that TWB comment on the production phase of the data sheets. TWB reported that the July 1 changeover from Oak Ridge to Brookhaven went smoothly, that some mass chains are in process, that the current publication rate suggests a seven-year cycle, and that many production improvements are underway to reduce required handwork. TWB added that checking programs are being improved and expanded and will be provided to'the data centers as soon as possible.

Prior to adjourning the session, SLW reaffirmed the concern he senses about the frequent quoting of unpublished data in the data sheets. The session was then adjourned.

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-1. t Session III: 10:00 A.M., Thursday, October 29, 1981

Discussion Leader: Richard Firestone, LBL The discussion was open to all topics of interest.

CWR opened the discussion with the example of a dilemma encountered while evaluating $A = 158$. It became apparent that some of the authors' proposed octupole rotational bands and their associated spin assignments were incorrect. The evaluator's role in such situations was questioned. CWR chose to include the authors' proposals in the data sheets and state his disagreements in further comments. MJM suggested that, in such cases, the evaluator ignore the authors' text and reach his own conclusions. CML stressed the importance of extreme care in such instances. A consensus was reached that evaluators should not necessarily propagate authors' opinions, yet they should be aware of and deal with them.

MJM suggested that the evaluator use his judgement in the theoretical analysis or interpretation of data, but only minimal discussion should be included in the data sheets. RBF disagreed, stressing the importance of theory and suggesting that complete evaluations be stored in ENSDF.. The published data sheets could be somewhat abbreviated. MJM added that existing mass chain evaluations vary widely in completeness. Also, theory is. more useful for regional mass-chain comparisons. JMD emphasized the need for standard policies as to what and how much should be included in ENSDF. MJM agreed that minimum standards should exist, with evaluators free to do more if they wish. CWR added that it is useful for evaluators to do more, but "then A-chains don't get done."

A discussion followed on the need to document obvious author errors, including typographical· ones. It was agreed that this documentation is useful to prevent NDS readers from erroneously assuming that changed numbers might be evaluator errors.

RBF suggested that evaluators publish papers in the literature highlighting interesting points in their mass chains. MJM felt this was research and not a network effort, although it would reflect favorably on the network. CWR added that journals might not be receptive to evaluation papers, but that an extended comments section could be added to the data sheets. MJM suggested that the data sheet abstracts could be expanded, although this could create layout problems. RLB offered the proposal that comments pertinent to a given isotope be included with the adopted levels set.

RBF asked how deficiencies and errors in ENSDF are corrected. MJM answered that errata data sets are entered in ENSDF and published in the data sheets. He added that revised values are added to ENSDF. MJM cited an example in which a decay energy was revised, and the resulting changes in logft values, etc. were published as errata and corrected in ENSDF. JMD stressed that these problems required careful followthrough and would not arise if calculated numbers (logft, ICC, etc.) were not in ENSDF. MJM disagreed, arguing that evaluators modify these calculated numbers in important ways. CML reaffirmed the argument of JMD.

JMD asked about the status of physics checking programs. TWB responded that the programs compare the levels of all data sets and parents, check y-ray fits, compare transition intensities exciting and deexciting each level, and analyze the logic of spin assignments and logft magnitudes. JMD and RBF questioned the effectiveness of the latter two checks in light of many unreasonable values published recently in the data sheets. JMD asked
if the data centers could have access to the checking programs. TWB resif the data centers could have access to the checking programs. ponded that they are not yet suitable for distribution but may be so later. He added that coincidence checks are being added to the program. RBF described his SPIN program, which the Berkeley Isotopes Project finds effective for physics checking. The group concluded that Brookhaven should facilitate the distribution of programs to the data centers and provide revised versions as necessary.

MJM brought up the subject of inertial parameters and how they should be quoted. He mentioned that evaluators do not uniformly handle these parameters. Numerous unresolved problems were brought out, including choosing the number of levels to fit and number of parameters to use, putting uncertainties on the parameters, the importance of these parameters (and their uncertainties), and the necessity for evaluator judgement. RBF suggested that guidelines should be provided to aid evaluators in hand ling the parameters in a consistent manner.

Additional discussion points were tabled for future meetings as time ran out. RBF thanked all those in attendance for their contributions to a successful conference and put out the call for another data center to convene a second conference at some later date. RBF then adjourned the session and the conference.

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ABSTRACTS OF EVALUATION PAPERS

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PRESENTED AT THE ASILOMAR APS/DNP MEETING

AD 15 Systematics of spin-parity of odd-odd actinide nuclides.* L. K. PEKER and J. K. TULI, Brookhaven National Lab. Decay schemes of odd-odd actinide nuclides were analyzed. The spins and parities of beta decaying ground and isomeric states were deduced mostly from beta decay data (log ft) to the levels of g.s. bands or the 2-particle levels of e-e nuclei. We propose to take into account the data for beta transitions (log ft) to the measured particle-hole component of the octupole vibrational states 1=1-, K=O, etc. In many cases this leads to substantial changes in the earlier accepted configurations, and therefore, the spins and parities of odd-odd actinide nuclides.

*Research carried out under the auspices of the United States Department of Energy under Contract No. EY-76-C-02-0016.

BD 1 Radioactivity Handbook. J. M. DAIRIKI, Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory.* On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Data Network (NDN), the Isotopes Project at LBL will produce a handbook for applied users of nuclear data. The purpose of the Radioactivity Handbook is to provide a compilation of recommended decay data that is detailed enough for use in sophisticated applications but that is organized clearly for straightforward use in routine applications. The Handbook, as currently defined, will be produced at 4-year intervals beginning in 1983. Data will be taken primarily from the international Evaluated Nuclear Structure Data File (ENSDF). The proposed format and contents will be discussed.

*This work was supported by the Director, Office of Energy Research, Division of Nuclear Sciences of the Basic Energy Sciences Program of the U.S. Department of Energy under Contract W-7405-ENG-48.

CD 1 Nuclear Structure Data Base and Related Services.* J. K. TULI, Brookhaven National Lab. Data·base for evaluated nuclear structure information will be discussed. Various kinds of retrievals and other nuclear structure related data services provided by.National Nuclear Data Center will be described.

*Research carried out under the auspices of the United States Department of Energy under Contract No. EY-76-C-02-0016.

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DD 14 Are Logft Values Reliable Guides for Spin and Parity Assignments? R. B. FIRESTONE, Lawrence Berkeley Lab.* Spin and parity assignments in Nuclear Data Sheets are often adopted partially on the basis of associated logft values. From the study of 145 Gd decay¹ and elsewhere it is apparent that in some decay schemes missing weak y rays can cumulately negate the usefulness of existing logft spin/parity assignment rules. Such uncertainties generally require that experimental logft values be considered as lower limits. An upper limit for the logft must be reliably determined before spin/parity assignments can be inferred. Preliminary results of a new review of the logft systematics and proposed new spin/parity assignment rules for using logft values will be discussed.

*This work was supported by the Director, Office of Energy Research, Division of Nuclear Sciences of the Basic Energy Sciences Program of the U.S. Department of Energy under Contract W-7405-ENG-48.

lR, B. Firestone, R. C. Pardo, R. A. Warner, W. C. McHarris, and W. H. Kelly, LBL-12424 and submitted to Physical Review C.

DD 15 Systematic Survey of γ -ray Transition Multipolarities. R. B. FIRESTONE and E. BROWNE, Lawrence Berkeley Lab.* The multipolarities of Y rays·evaluated in Nuclear Data Sheets are inferred partially on the basis of ·their transition probabilities calculated in Weisskopf units. We are reevaluating the systematics of these transition probabilities using the y rays of known half-life and multipolarity that were compiled in the Table of Isotopes.¹ Only transitions with directly measured multipolarities are being utilized. A progress· report on the systematics of the higher multipolarity y-ray transitiohs will be presented.

*This work was supported by the Director, Office of Energy Research, Division of Nuclear Sciences of the Basic Energy Sciences Program of the U.S. Department of Energy under Contract W-7405-ENG-48.

¹Table of Isotopes, 7th Edition: C. M. Lederer and V. S. Shirley, editors, John Wiley and Sons, Inc., New York (1978).

EE 31 · Data Evaluation in the U.K. and Use of the ENSDF Database. N. J. WARD, University of Liverpool. Since the inauguration of the international network for NSDE, the evaluation of nuclear structure data has become progressively more rigorous with the procedures and physics policies followed by evaluators becoming much more extensive and uniform. However, there is still some dissimilarity of presentation in mass-chain compilations and it is not always clear whether inconsistencies are merely those of style or the result of considered opinion. It is desirable from the point of view of present and future users of ENSDF that unnecessary variations be eliminated. In order to achieve further agreement and improvement, we would like to draw attention to some of these differences. A summary of current procedures followed by the U.K. group at Liverpool, in the light of experience gained in evaluating the mass region $A = 65 - 76$, will be presented.

CONTRIBUTED PAPERS ON

NUCLEAR STRUCTURE DATA EVALUATION

Systematic Survey of y-Ray Multipolarities

E. Browne and R. B. Firestone Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory University of California Berkeley, California 94720

1. Introduction

Among the several methods known for determining γ -ray multipolarities, the comparison of experimental transition rates with those predicted by nuclear models¹ (e.g., the shell model) has been one of limited use for two reasons. First, although the electromagnetic operators for γ -ray transitions are well known, the nuclear wave functions are not. This precludes the determination of y-ray multipolarities by the direct comparison of theoretical and experimental transition rates. Second, only very general rules for assigning multipolarities on the basis of systematic trends in transition rates exist. These rules have been expressed by Endt^{2,3} in terms of "Recommended Upper Limits" $(RUL)^4$ in Weisskopf units for the deviation between experimental and theoretical values for transitions with a given multipolarity. In this preliminary report we shall describe a new systematic survey of γ -ray transition rates and suggest additional criteria for assigning multipolarities.

2. Experimental Data Survey

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Data from the seventh edition of the Table of Isotopes⁵, stored as a computer database⁶, were utilized. All γ rays with measured half-lives and multipolarities, which have been observed in radioactive decay, have been considered. Additional data from Endt^{2,3} et al. for A = 6 to 90 have been utilized since the multipolarity information contained in our file is not complete for the γ rays observed in nuclear reactions. We have limited this survey to the Weisskopf hindrance factors (Fw) for M2, M3, M4, E3, E4, and E5 isomeric transitions.

3. Interpretation of Data and Recommended Criteria for Assigning Multipolarities

The Weisskopf hindrance factors for M4 transitions are displayed as a function of N and Z in Figure 1. Because of the spherical symmetry of the shell-model potential used in the hindrance factor calculations, one expects the theory to reproduce the experimental rates for single-particle transitions best in spherical nuclei, i.e., at or near closed shells. Singleparticle transitions in nuclei far from closed shells (deformed nuclei) should have larger Weisskopf hindrance factors. The smooth systematics of Fw values for different regions of N and Z can then determine the lower permissible limits of the hindrance factors used when assigning γ -ray multipolarities. This is seen in Figure 1, where the lowest values of Fw correspond to nuclei with $Z = 50$ and $N = 50$ or 82. These criteria provide a more fruitful method for using experimental transition rates to determine y-ray multipolarities.

A specific example of the utility of systematic Fw values is shown in Figure 2, for the Weisskopf hindrance factors of $p_1/2$ + g9/2 transitions in odd-proton nuclei. The lowest values are again observed for transitions

Fig. 1. M4 WEISSKOPF HINDRANCES. CLOSED SHELLS ARE INDICATED BY ***.

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 $\mu_{\rm eq}=0.5$

Figure 1.

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at or near the closed shell $N = 50$. The systematic trend is so smooth that transitions with values deviating from these systematics should be considered suspect. An example of this is the 315-keV M4 transition in 117 In (Figure 3), where a hindrance factor of 0.079 ± 0.005 was determined using an adopted isomeric branching of 43% from Baedecker et al.⁷, which was apparently based on their relative γ -ray intensities. Other measurements of the isomeric branching were $47.1 \pm 1.5\%$ by Tang et al.⁸ and 28 \pm 3% by Wolfe and Hummel⁹, but calculations leading to these values could not be verified because the relevant y-ray intensities were not reported.

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To determine the IT branching ratio from $117m_{In}$, it is necessary to measure the relative intensities of the 158.6-, 315.3-, and 552.9-keV γ rays. The intensity of the 158.6- keV γ ray should be corrected for the contribution from 117 In decay (Figure 3). If the measurement is performed with a source containing $117_{\text{In and}}117_{\text{mIn in transient equilibrium, that correction}$ should include a 64% reduction in the 158.6- keV γ -ray intensity due to the difference in the $^{117\rm{m}}$ In and $^{117}\rm{In}$ half-lives. Also, at transient equilibrium the intensity ratio Y_{553}/Y_{315} should be 3.9. This ratio was reported to be 1.2 in reference 7, indicating that the measurement was not performed at equilibrium.

The earlier value of the IT branching ratio given by Wolfe and Hummel⁹, although in disagreement with the most recent values of Baedecker et al.⁷ and Tang et al.⁸, yields a value of 0.12 ± 0.01 for the hindrance factor, which is consistent with the systematics (Figure 2).

A set of γ -ray intensities measured by Heath¹⁰ provided us with the necessary tools to solve the dilemma. There the intensity ratio $\gamma_{553}/\gamma_{315}$ is 4.1 ± 0.2 , indicating that the measurement was performed at transient equilibrium. Our analysis of Heath's y-ray data resulted in an isomeric branching ratio of 26.5 \pm 1.5% which yields a hindrance factor of 0.129 \pm 0.008. These new values for the IT branching ratio and the corresponding hindrance factor confirm the results of Wolfe and Hummel⁹ and the utility of systematics for the critical evaluation of nuclear data.

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XBL 8110-7375

Figure 3. Decay schemes for 117 In and 117m In.

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Radioactivity Handbook

Janis Dairiki Isotopes Project Lawrence-Berkeley-Laboratory-Berkeley, California

A *Radioactivity Handbook* for applied users is one of the planned publications of the U.S. Nuclear Data Network. On behalf of the NDN, the Isotopes' Project at LBL will produce the *Handbook* with specifications agreeable to members of the international network of nuclear structure and decay data centers. We are requesting comments and suggestions from our colleagues on the contents and format proposed below.

The purpose of the *Handbook* is to provide a compilation of recommended decay data, based on the ENSDF file, that is detailed enough for use in sophisticated applications, but that is organized clearly so as to be usable in routine applications. The *Handbook* is not intended as a nuclear structure reference, but it should be useful to someone studying decay schemes. Its contents are based largely on responses to recent surveys of applied users. $¹$ </sup>

The *Handbook* will be produced at four year intervals, beginning in 1983. Data will be taken from the current version of ENSDF, with no further updating. Additional calculations and evaluation will be done to provide recommended data on atomic radiations and conversion electrons, and to provide "best" values for γ -ray properties, independent of the decay parent, in cases where ENSDF does not. Each mass chain will be referenced to the most recent evaluation in the *Nuclear Data Sheets,* as the source for further details and references to the original papers.

The *Handbook* will be ordered by mass number (A) and subordered by atomic number (Z). Each mass chain will consist of:

a) A "skeleton" mass-chain diagram showing the ground states and long-lived isomers with their half-lives, energies (for isomers), spin-parity assignments, decay modes, Q-values, and the decay relationships between the isotopes. Alpha parents and particledecay daughters pertinent to the A-chain will also be shown.

b) Tabulated data for each isotope or isomer:

natural isotopic abundance

mass excess

thermal neutron cross sections $(\sigma_{\epsilon}, \sigma_{\epsilon})$; $\sigma(n,\alpha)$, $\sigma(n,p)$, and $\sigma_{\rm abs}$ will be given in a few cases.

half-life

decay mode, genetic branching (the fraction of the decay populating each of several isomers in daughter nuclei) means of production

energies and intensities of all radiations

a particles ·

 β and β particles y rays conversion electrons x-rays Auger electrons γ^{\pm}

protons

"delayed" p, n, α , fission average $e^-(\beta^-+ce+Auger)$, $e^+(\beta^++pair)$, photon ($\gamma+x-ray$)

c) A decay scheme for each parent isotope, giving the adopted daughter level energies and spin-parity assignments, β and α feeding intensities (and log ft, $HF(\alpha)$ factors), and γ -ray energies and intensities.

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A proposed format is shown in figure 1. Figure 2 shows .a fragment of another mass chain to illustrate the format for reporting genetic branching.

The main table will be supplemented by an energy-ordered γ -ray table, with the format illustrated in figure 3, and by appendices containing physical constants, spectroscopy standards, atomic binding energies, K x-ray energies and relative intensities, and radiation absorption curves.

Further characteristics, details, and conventions are described in the following comments:

1. Size: The size of the book, as defined here, will be about 1500 pages of size 21.6 by 27.9 em. Several. major components account for most of the bulk. Rough estimates for their contribution to the size of the book, based on 1977 data, are:

The addition of adopted levels (E, $J\pi$, t_k in the form of a ladder diagram) would require an extra 400 pages.

- 2. Uncertainties: Uncertainties will be given in the tables whenever they are available in ENSDF or another source used (see below). Q-values on the skeleton scheme will be given with uncertainty. Other data on the skeleton and detailed schemes will be given without uncertainty, rounded so that the uncertainty in the last place is ≤ 5 units.
- 3. Isotopes: All ground states, as well as isomers with a half-life ≥ 1 s, plus a few "historic" isomers of shorter half-life (e.g., 24^{m} Na) will be included. Unstable nuclides identified in nuclear reactions, for which no decay properties have been measured, will be omitted.
- 4. y-ray intensities: Absolute photon intensities will be quoted, both in the tabular listings and on the decay schemes. When the uncertainty in the normalization is significant compared to the uncertainties in the relative intensities (the usual case), the stated uncertainties will include only the relative error; the uncertainty in the normalization will be noted separately (see figure 1). When the normalization is unknown, relative intensities will be listed with a comment.

This number is very approximate; it depends on what kind of intensity cutoff (if any) is applied.

5. Atomic radiations and conversion electrons: Figure 1 illustrates how these will be presented. Conversion-electron intensities will be calculated from the γ -ray intensities and the assigned multipolarities (or multipolarities deducible from the spin assignments), with the use of theoretical internal conversion coefficients. X-ray and Auger intensities will be calculated from the atomic shell vacancies produced by internal conversion and electron capture. Annihilation radiation will be calculated from the β^+ and internal pair conversion intensities.

Some guidelines to limit the inclusion of weak transitions are being formulated, using those developed by M.J. Martin² as a starting point.

6. Other data sources: The following data will be derived from sources other than ENSDF:

mass excesses, Q-values

abundances, neutron cross sections

means of production

A.H. Wapstra and K. Bos, Atomic Data and Nucl. Data Tables 19 175 (1977), or a more recent update.

Compilations by N.E. Holden

7th ed. of the *Table of Isotopes,* or more recent source, if available. (It would be desirable to list E_{max} and $\sigma(E_{max})$ for charged particle reactions if a suitable compilation were available.)

References

- 1) BNL-NCS-20573. (1975), BNL-NCS-50717 (1977); minutes of the 2nd annual meeting of the Panel on Reference Nuclear Data, October, 1977, and minutes of the 3rd annual meeting of the Panel on Reference Nuclear Data, October, 1978; C .M. Lederer and J .M. Hollander, in *Nuclear Data in Science and Technology,* Vol. II (Proc. Symposium on the Applications of Nuclear Data in Science and Technology, Paris, March 12-16, 1973), p. 449, IAEA (1973); C.M. Lederer, private communication to Sol Pearlstein, September, 1975; H. Münzel and W. Michaelis, *Survey of the Nuclear Data Needs in Activation Analysis,* KFK 1812, INDC $(GER) -12/u+w(1973)$.
- 2) *Nuclear Decay Data for Selected Radionuclides,* M.J. Martin, ed., ORNL-5114 (1976); *Nuclear Decay Data for Radionuclides Occurring in Routine Releases from Nuclear Fuel Cycle Facilities,* D.C. Kocher, ORNL/NUREG/TM-102(1977).

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Figure I (continued)

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Figure 3

Sample format for the energy-ordered gamma-ray table. (The gamma rays illustrated in the sample were chosen only to illustrate features of the layout.) Several listings under the same energy refer to the same transition (i.e., in the same daughter nucleus) excited by different radioactive parents. An isotope in parentheses following another is a longer-lived parent or ancestor with which the listed gamma ray is more commonly observed; the half-life given is that of the parent. A footnote "L" on the isotope indicates that a longerlived ancestor exists, but is not the more common source of the gamma ray. An "n" following the half-life column denotes a nucleus produced by neutron capture on natural substances; an "f" denotes a fission product.

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Results of the Radioactivity Handbook Survey

Janis Dairiki Isotopes Project Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory Berkeley, California

A Radioactivity Handbook for applied users is one of the planned publications of the U.S. Nuclear Data Network. On behalf of the NDN, the Isotopes Project at LBL will produce the Handbook with specifications agreeable to members of the international network of nuclear structure and decay data centers. The purpose of the Handbook is to provide a compilation of recommended decay data, based on the Evaluated Nuclear Structure Data File (ENSDF), that is detailed enough for use in sophisticated applications, but that is organized clearly so as to be readily usable in routine applications.

Samples illustrating the proposed contents and format of the Radioactivity Handbook have been distributed, along with a survey requesting specific comments and feedback, to members of several professional societies. Approximately 5000 surveys were distributed; 806 completed surveys have been returned from:

There is some cross-linking of manbership that is not included in the above numbers. Many scientists belong to more than one professional society; in particular, most of the recipients of the NNDC newsletter are also members of at least one other society.

Figure 1 shows the actual survey, as well as the responses (in% of total replies) to each question. Question I provides sorre general data on the respondent's type of work and his/her need for nuclear data. Question II defines the specific data that he/she uses. Question III is an attempt to detennine if there is a consensus about the optimum size of such a handbook. The responses of each society to these survey questions are given in Table I.

A very broad range of occupations and applications of data was evidenced in the replies. A strong cross-linkage between different applications and professions was also evident. As another way of viewing the responses, we have attempted a rough quantitative breakdown of the results into the following fields of application:

Table II summarizes the responses of each group to most of the questions on the survey.

Final conclusions have not yet been drawn from these results. However, there are some interesting observations. There is a clear

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mandate to include decay schanes in the Handbook. There were a few comments expressing great satisfaction that absolute photon intensities will be given. Clearly (question II. d) only basic researchers consider spins and parities to be important. However, the inclusion of these quantities on the level schanes will require no additional space and will be useful to a large body of researchers. On the other hand, let us consider isotope production methods which were considered important by slightly more than half of those surveyed. The rredical professions, in particular, were very enthusiastic in their response. What they want, however, is a complete entry with reactions, production cross sections, yields, and original references. There is a need for collecting all this data in one place in a usable fashion since no such compilation currently exists. Certainly none of this data is contained
in ENSDF. It would, therefore, require major compilation effort and is It would, therefore, require major compilation effort and is probably outside the scope of the Handbook production schedule. Perhaps isotope production muld be an appropriate subject for an independent horizontal compilation.

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Other types of data requested include charged particle cross sections (9 responses), fission yields (15), shielding factors (6), nuclear moments (13), neutron energies (14), spontaneous fission properties (9), dosimetry data (7), level half-lives (6), adopted levels and their properties (6), and conversion coefficients (6). Three to five requests were obtained for each of the following: detailed x-ray data including fluorescence yields, photon absorption coefficients, particle binding energies, resonance integrals, the total energy associated with each decay mode, Y-ray multipolarities and mixing ratios, and range-energy curves and tables.

There are two ways to view the results of question III concerning the Handbook size. On the one hand, there is a three-way split between 1) including all the data in one volume, 2) dividing it into 2 volumes on the basis of tabular data and decay schanes, and 3) producing two volumes with a convenient A-chain division. On the other hand, the results can be interpreted as a greater than 2 to 1 preference for a two-volume publication. Some of those scientists who favored publication in one volume also suggested the publication of an additional compact handbook for field use. Another suggestion (6 responses) was to reduce the size by anitting the energy-ordered Y-ray table. Since Atomic Data and Nuclear Data Tables plan to publish the energy-ordered Y-ray catalog of U. Reus and co-workers in 1981, omission of such a table in the Handbook seems justified and would reduce the final size by at least 100 pages. There were a few comments to the effect that 1500 pages were not considered too cumbersorre but future editions of the Handbook should not be allowed to grow in size. Half of those who wanted a very compact book (option 3) would achieve it by eliminating decay schemes. The other half would include complete radiation data on the decay scherres and eliminate the gamm and electron listings.

As a final comment, the answers to question IV would indicate that we have a ready audience.

Figure 1

RADIOACTIVITY HANDBOOK SURVEY

Please take a few minutes to let us know your reaction to the contents and format proposed for the Radioactivity Handbook.

I. a) NAME: Total responses 806 (Optional)

OCCUPATION: Foreign responses 95 (12%)

Professional society from which you received this Handbook survey:

b) Do you use or encounter radioisotopes, nuclear reactors, or charged-particle accelerators, or deal with nuclear properties in your work?

> 81% radioisotopes 54% accelerators

 $50%$ reactors 73% nuclear properties

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c) For what purpose? (Type of application, e.g.: tracers in chemical studies, medical diagnostics, reactor design, etc.)

- II. The following data .categories are proposed for inclusion in the Handbook. Please indicate the types of data important to you.
	- 95% a) half-lives of radioactive substances
	- -84% b) natural isotopic abundances
	- 66% c) nuclear masses
	- 40% d) nuclear spins and parities
	-

 $\frac{69\%}{2}$ e) neutron and fission cross sections ...
93% f) nuclear decay modes and genetic (parent-daughter) relationships

- 55% g) isotope production methods
- 98% h) energies and intensities of radiations:

85% i) decay scheme for each parent isotope

j) other types of data (specify)

III. The Handbook, as defined in the attached material, will be \sim 1500 pages and will include all the above data categories under one cover. There is some concern about the resulting size of such a complete volume. The question then arises as to possible tradeoffs between the size of the Handbook and the scope of the data included - portability vs completeness. It can be seen in the Handbook descriptive material that two types of data account for $\overline{2/3}$ of the bulk - photon and electron listings (500 pages) and decay schemes (500 pages). Any compromise aimed at significantly reducing the size of the Handbook must involve some manipulation and/or sacrifice of at least one of these data categories. Please indicate your feelings about any compromise by checking one of the following three statements.

> $\boxed{26\%1}$ Completeness of the data in a single volume is the most important consideration.

- -69% 2) Completeness of the data is more important but there should be some compromise with portability. The Handbook should contain all the above data catagories but it should be published as two (or more) smaller volumes. Possible ways to do this are suggested below. Please indicate your preference.
	- $31%$ a) All tabular data could be contained in one volume $(\sim]1000$ pages) and decay schemes in a second volume.
	- $34%b)$ Mass-chain data could be divided into two or more volumes. For example, all data for masses A•l-130 could be published in one volume and all data for A>l30 in a second volume.

 $0.6%$ c) other (specify)

- 2.7% 3) Portability is a more important factor than completeness of the data. What data are you willing to give up in order to obtain a more compact book?
	- 1.1% 4) Either 1) or 2)
	- 1% 5) No preference

IV. What is the likelihood that you will use the Handbook defined in the attached material?

Return to: J.M. ·Dairiki Isotopes Project Bldg. 70A-2255B Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory Berkeley, CA. 94720

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TABLE I

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 $\epsilon_{\rm eff} = 46$ (a)

TABLE I, Continued

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SURVEY QUESTION

HPS $ANS-$ ANS- $+$ **APS NNDC RPSD** IRD **ASTM** ACS AAPM TOTAL **OTHERS** i) decay schemes 87 85 87 76 85 78 75 91 85 III. 1) one volume 24 32 28 $28[°]$ 25 25 23 26 $-$ 2) two volumes 72 65 68 64 68 100 75 69 69 a) division by data 29 $-40.$ 21 $30[°]$ 39 33 25 20° 31 category b) division by A chain 38 23 42 34 28 $27₂$ 56 49 —— IV. Usage definitely 79 78 80 61 100 75 67 83 75 probably $\cdot 16$ 17 $17²$ 32 14 24 25 19 possibly $\overline{3}$ $\overline{3}$ $\overline{2}$ $6\overline{6}$ $\overline{\mathbf{z}}$ $\overline{4}$

TABLE II

SURVEY QUESTION FIELD OF APPLICATION

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Program Delta

L. P. Ekström Oliver Lodge Laboratory, University of Liverpool P.O. Box 147, Liverpool, L69 3BX, U.K.

The program determines permissible values of spins and multipole mixing ratios from gamma-gamma angular correlation data. Other data, e.g., conversion coefficient data, can easily be included to resolve inherent ambiguities. The sign convention for multipole mixing ratios is that of Krane and. Steffen.

The gamma-gamma cascade studied is

unobserved gamma(1) transitions gamma(2)
 $J(1)$ -------> $J(2)$ --> ... $J(N-1)$ -------> $J(N)$ $J(2)$ --> ... $J(N-1)$

where gamma(i) is of mixed multipoles $L(i)$ and $L(i)+1$ with mixing ratio delta(i).

Treatment of data

The program recognises three different types of experimental data:

1) A(2) and A(4) coefficients for angular correlations.

2) delta(l) and delta(2) values (from other experiments).

3) Conversion coefficients for gamma(l) and gamma(2). When using conversion coefficients one should remember that the theoretical values are known only to maybe 5% accuracy, so errors smaller than this value should not be used.

The program calculates the sum of the squared residuals S, and searches the parameter space for acceptable values of S.

Other features of the program

1) For input description, limitations and input/output examples (TESTl for ANGCOR is used), see appendices.

2) Since correlation coefficients are calculated by the program there are no other restrictions on spins and multipolarities than those imposed by storing factorials of large numbers.

3) A plot of S/(degrees of freedom) as a function of delta is produced.

4) The programming language is IBM 370 FORTRAN IV (Gl).

Advantages compared with ANGCOR presently used by the network

i) Since other data than correlation data are used this usually results in fewer allowed spin/delta combinations.

ii) Errors in mixing ratios are calculated. A word of caution however: If the $A(2)$ and $A(4)$ coefficients are correlated the error in delta may be unrealistic. The correct procedure would be to use the individual angular correlation data points in the fitting procedure. These data points are, however, rarely available.

iii) The program can handle cases with unobserved transitions.

iv) The output is easy to interpret: one directly obtains a value of one delta irrespective of the other delta.

Comments to ANGCOR output (appendix 3)

i) There are too many solutions of (deltal, delta2) in the results table; some of the solutions are really the same.

ii) One gets the impression from the deltal-delta2 map that there are at least three solutions for delta2 if deltal $= 0$. This is incorrect, since A(2) in this case is a quadratic function of delta2 (A(4) is zero for all delta2), and there can thus be at the most two solutions - namely delta2 = 0.23 and 11.4.

iii) In order to get an adopted value of delta from the ANGCOR output one has to project the map onto the appropriate axis taking into account all other restrictions on deltas. This is a rather difficult process, which is taken care of in one step by the program DELTA.

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Appendix 2 (cont.)

Appendix 3. AbuCO? putput (somewhat shortened).

PROGRAM ANSTOR VERSION 2(3) AS OF 25-JUN-81.

RESTRICTIONS ON DELT

CASCADES THAT ARE CONSISTENT CASCADE
JTOP JMID JBOT **CLOSEST** VALUES e 1 DELTA₁ **RANGE** .
THAT FALL CASES **WITHIN** THICE THE ERROPS CLOSEST VALUES DELTA 1 SASCADE
TREL CARL SOTL \overline{A} DELTA₂ CASES THAT FALL OUTSIDE TWICE THE ERRORS CASCADE
TOP JMID JUOT CLOSEST VALUES $\overline{2}$ **DELTA 1** DELTA₂ $\frac{372}{372}$ $\frac{572}{572}$ $\frac{772}{772}$ $\frac{0.1060}{0.1053}$ -0.760
 -0.335
 -0.958 -10.289 0-8023
0-8023 MAP OF POSSIBLE MIXING RATIOS

 $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

SPINS 3/2 5/2 7/2

 $\begin{array}{cc}\n\hat{\sigma}^2 & 0 & 16 \\
\hat{\sigma}^2 & 0 & 16 \\
\text{otherwise}\n\end{array}$ $2310 - 121909$ 0.0000 -0.00010 0.3245 0.0829

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AAAAAAAE AAAAABBBCE
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-100 -30 0.01 $0.03 - 0.1$ 0.3 $30 - 100$ 10

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 -0.03 -11 AAA -1 -3 $-10A$

 -30 -100 £ Radius Parameters for a~Decaying Even-Even Nuclei

Y. A. Ellis-Akovali

Oak Ridge National Laboratory,* Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830

As part of our data evaluation activities, experimental α -decay rates are systematically examined and compared with theoretical rates for nuclei which undergo that particular mode of decay. The spin-independent formalism developed by Preston¹ is utilized for calculations of theoretical α -transition rates. In Preston's equations the nuclear potential, V, is taken to be simply a rectangular well; i.e., Vis constant for distances (r) less than R and equal to $2Ze^2/r$ for $r > R$. The radius, R, and atomic number, Z, used in the calculations are those of the daughter nuclei; R and V are considered as parameters to be determined from α transitions that proceed between the ground states of even-even nuclei. These transitions are assumed to be unhindered, and their theoretical partial half-lives are taken to be identical to experimental values.

For odd-mass and odd-odd nuclei, R values are chosen from neighboring even-even nuclei and used together with experimental α -decay energies to calculate theoretical rates. Alpha-hindrance factors, defined as the ratids of experimental and theoretical partial half-lives, can be useful in helping one to make spin and parity assignments.

As in the case of other decay modes, α systematics can be used to estimate the undetermined decay properties of nuclei. One convenient way to study the systematics of α -decay rates is to examine the trends with both neutron and atomic numbers of the r_0 parameter, defined by $r_0 = R A^{-1/3} 10^{13}$. When deduced r_0 parameters for even-even isotopes are plotted as a function of neutron number, the curves for each element vary rather smoothly in the regions between the closed neutron shells. It is therefore possible to obtain reasonably accurate r_0 parameters by extrapolation or interpolation. These extrapolated (or interpolated) values can be used to estimate α -decay branching ratios.

The r₀ parameters for even-even nuclei with $A \geq 178$ calculated from available data are listed in Table I. The parent nucleus, its half-life and α -decay branching, and the intensity and energy of the α transition to the daughter ground state are given in columns 1-5. These experimental values are taken from the Nuclear Data Sheets, 2 unless otherwise noted. The Table of Isotopes, 3 which is an excellent source for getting an overall picture on the behavior of nuclei throughout the periodic table, as well as for obtaining information concerning recent data, was also consulted. Nuclei either with estimated α branching ratios or with poorly determined decay energies and half-lives are not included in Table I. Transitions with intensities of \geq 99.99 are given as I_a = 100. Intensities in parentheses are assumed.

The information presented here has been updated through October 1981.

 $\begin{array}{c} \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \end{array}$

TABLE I. Continued

Parent	$T_{\frac{1}{2}}$	α branching $\mathscr{L}(\mathscr{G})$	I (α_0) per 100α	$E(\alpha_0)$	r_0 (daughter)
210_{Pb}	22.3 y 2	\therefore 2.0 x 10 ⁻⁶ 6	100	3720 20	1.454
210_{p_Q}	138.378 d 7	100	100	5304.38^{b} 7	1.4089 1
$^{210}\mathrm{_{Rn}}$	2.5 h.1	96 1	100	6040^{b} 3	1.456 4
212_{Po}	0.298 µs 3	100	(100)	8784.15^{b} 7	1.5217 6
$212_{\rm Rn}$	24 m 2	100	99.950 5	6264 3	$1.435\,5$
214_{PQ}	$164.3 \text{ }\mu\text{s} 20$	100	99.99	7686.90^{b} 6	1.5394 7
214_{Rn_g}	$0.27 \text{ }\mu\text{s}$ 2	$100 -$	(100)	9037 10	1.532 7
214 Ra	2.46 s 3	99.941 4	100	7136 5	$1.456 \text{ } 3$
$216p_0$	0.15 s1	100	100	6778.3^{b} 5	1.539 4
$216_{\rm Rn}$	$45 \text{ }\mu\text{s} - 5$	100	(100)	8050 10	1.565 9
$^{216}\!$ ga	182 ns 10	100° .	$100 -$	9349 8	1.541 5
$\rm 216_{Th}$	0.028 s 2	100	$(100)^{^{\circ}}$	7921 8	1.467 6
$218_{\sf Po}$	3.05 m	99.98	$100 -$	6002.40^{b} 9	1.534
$218_{\rm Rn}$	35 ms 5	100	99.81	7133 2	1.558 8
1218_{Ra}	14 μ s 2	100	100	8390 8	1.593 10
218_{Th} .	109 ns 13	100	100	9665 10	1.5559
$^{220}\!$ $\!$	55.6 s1	100	.99.932	6288.13^{b} 10	1.5556 2
220_{Ra}	23 ms 5	100	99	2455 10	1.54
220 Th	$9.7 \text{ }\mu\text{s}$ 6	>90	$(100)^{-1}$	8790 20	1.562 14
$222_{\rm Rn}$	3.8235 d 3	100	99.92 1	8489.52^{b} 30	1.5487 2

TABLE I. Continued

Parent	$T_{\frac{1}{2}}$	α branching (%)	$\mathbf{I} \cdot (\alpha_0)$ per 100 α	$E(\alpha_0)$	\mathbf{r}_0 (daughter)
$^{222}\!$ Ra	38.0 s 5	100	96.91	6555° 5	1.5453
222 _{Th}	2.8 ms 3	$100 -$	100	7982 8	$.1.541$ 8
$^{224}\mathrm{Ra}$	3.66 d4	100	95.14	5685.42^b 15	1.5420 8
224 _{Th}	1.04 s 5	100<	$81^{1}3$	7170 10	1.539 7
226_{Ra}	1600 y 7	100 .	94.45 5	4784.38^{b} 25	1.5397 4
226 Th,	30.9 m	≈ 100 .	75.53	6337.5 50	1.538
226_{U}	0.5 s.2	100	100	7430 30	1.567 34
228 Th	1.91313 y 88	100	72.74	5423.20^{b} 22	1.5335 4
228_{U}	9.1 m 2 and 2	295	$70\quad5$.	6684 10	1.523 11
230 _{Th}	$75381^{\rm m}$ y 295	100	76.33	4687.7^{b} 15	1.5326 14
230_{U}	$-20.8 d$	$100\,\,\mathrm{s}^{-1}$	67.44	5888.3^{b} 7	1.531
$^{232}\!{\rm Th}$	14.05 x 10^9 y 6	100	77.3	4013^{b} 3	1.5355
232_{U}	68.9^{n} y 4	100.	68.6 4	5320.17^{b} 14	1.5292 6
234 _U	2.445 x 10^5 y 10	100	72.520	4774.8^{b} 9	1.5229 19
$^{234}\rm{Pu}$	8.8 h 1	6	68°	6202 5	$1.52 -$
236_H	2.342 x 10 ⁷ y 4 100		74 4	4494 3	1.5275
236 _{Pu}	$2.851 \text{ y} \cdot 8$ 100			68.1 8 5767.7 ^b 10 1.5097 12	
	238 ^U 4.468 x 10 ⁹ y 3 100		77.4	4197^{b} 5 \leq 1.536 6	
	238_{Pu} 87.74 y 4	100	71.6 6 5499.07 ^b 20 1.5080 7		
	240 Pu 6569 ^P y 6	100		73.5 ^r 4 5168.17 ^b 15 1.5167 4	

TABLE I. Continued $\frac{1}{2}$

References

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22. C. E. Bemis and J. Halperin, Nucl. Phys. Al21, 433 (1968).

Are Logft Values Reliable Guides for Spin and Parity Assignments?

R. B. Firestone Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory University of California Berkeley, California 94720

The ENSDF rules for assigning nuclear spins, on the basis of logft values, fail to address some important problems pertinent to this usage. For the decay of a nucleus far from stability it is generally not possible to completely determine the decay scheme. Numerous weak y rays are not observed, yet their total intensity can be substantial.¹⁾ Thus, many derived logft values must be considered only as limits, unless the missing y-ray feeding intensity is determined. An example of this problem has been demonstrated in the decay of 145 Gd.

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In 1971, a ¹⁴⁵Gd level scheme with 23 levels and 32 γ rays was published.²⁾ The important low-lying level feedings, with their associated decay intensities and logft values, are indicated at the left in figure 1. The spin assignments shown are inferred from 144 Sm(3 He,d) 145 Eu reaction data. Taken separately, the low logft values to all of these levels would have restricted the final spins to $1/2$ or $3/2$ by the ENSDF rules, yet spin $(5/2+)$ and 7/2+ levels are populated. Had no reaction data existed, incorrect spin assignments would have been made. New data on 145_{Gd} decay were published in 1982.³⁾ There, 136 levels deexcited by 326 γ rays were placed, and the apparent logft anomalies disappeared. Levels originally fed by as much as $5%$ of the total decay, at the right in figure 1, were shown not to be directly populated.

It is apparent that the ENSDF logft rules must be applied with great care. Logft values for all weak beta transitions and for decays of nuclei with partially known decay schemes must be presumed to be only limits. Specifically, the apparent decay intensity to *a* low-lying level usually yields a lower limit for the logft value. This makes the application of logft rules in such cases precarious unless the higher energy part of the level scheme is well known. Conversely, the decay intensity to a high-lying level generally provides an upper limit for the logft value because any indirect feeding from above is unlikeiy. In those cases, missing transitions deexciting the levels may become important, and. increased uncertainty in the decay Q-value may be significant. The ENSDF·logft spin assignment rules can still be considered as useful with the caveat that the decay scheme must be demonstrably well determined before they are applied.

References

- 1. J. C. Hardy, L. C. Carraz, B. Jonson, and P. G. Hansen, Phys. Lett. 71B, 307 (1977).
- 2. R. E. Eppley, Wm. C. McHarris, and W. H. Kelly, Phys. Rev. C 3, 282 (1971).
- 3. R. B. Firestone, R. C. Pardo, R. A. Warner, Wm. C. McHarris, and W. H. Kelly, Phys. Rev. C 25, 527 (1982).

Figure 1. Comparison of 145 Gd ß-decay intensities to low-lying levels in ¹⁴⁵Eu, measured in reference 2 (left) with poorer statistics, and in reference 3 (right) with much better statistics. - Dr

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Reevaluation of the Logft Systematics for the Assignment of Spins and Parities

R. B. Firestone Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory University of California Berkeley, California 94720

The ENSDF rules for the assignment of spins and parities on the basis of logft values were derived primarily from the paper of Raman and Gove.¹⁾ This work provides the range of values of some well-known transition probabilities for various beta-decay multipoles.

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Several important points were not discussed by Raman and Gove. First, the probability distribution for the logft values was not adequately investigated. In order to effectively utilize logft values for determining spins and parities, a knowledge of the likelihood of the lower-limits on the logft value for various transition types must be known. Also, the systematics of logft values as a function of A, Z, decay energy, and other quantities can. be useful for applying the logft rules to specific cases. Thus, when information about nuclear structure exists, better logft restrictions can be adopted. Finally, a study of logft values is not complete without a thorough theoretical investigation of the permissible values. The £-values for nonunique-forbidden transitions differ from the ordinary allowed £-values commonly used, and simple models may be employed to predict the nuclear matrix elements for simple decays.

A preliminary study of logft systematics has been initiated at LBL using the nuclear structure database established from the Table of Isotopes.^{2,3)} This computer searchable file contains many thousands of beta decay intensities updated through 1977. A preliminary search of this file was performed to select beta groups associated with nuclei having low decay energies and simple, well-characterized decay schemes. These data have been sorted in several ways with the object of reevaluating the logft systematics. In figure 1, the distribution of allowed logft values separates those for decays between nuclei whose neutron and proton numbers occupy the same shell from those for decays in which these shells differ. A pronounced enhancement of the shell model strength at low logft is observed in the same-shell case, but is not observed in the different-shell case. Figure 2 same-shell case, but is not observed in the different-shell case. shows the distribution of first-forbidden logft values as a function of proton number. Both average and minimal logft values are seen to decrease considerably as Z increases. This trend is consistent with an expected $(\alpha Z)^2$ dependence in the first forbidden f-corrections, but the degree to which the trend exceeds the simple expectations is indicative of systematic nuclear structure contributions. Finally, in figure 3, the various higher order multipoles are presented. Too few cases of each are generally available for conclusions to be drawn.

It must be emphasized that these logft distributions are preliminary and are not yet definitive guidelines. Further analysis of the entire logft dataset is currently in progress. Particularly, values close to the lower experimental limits will be reinvestigated to better obtain minimal permissible logft values. Complete systematic logft results will be published at a later date.

References

- 1. S. Raman and N. B. Gove, Phys. Rev. C *z,* 1995 (1973).
- 2. R. B. Firestone and E. Browne, "Nuclear Structure Database", LBL-11089 (1980).
- 3. Table of Isotopes, 7th edition: C. M. Lederer and V. S. Shirley, editors; E. Browne, J. M. Dairiki, and R. E. Doebler, principal authors; A. A. Shihab-Eldin, L. J. Jardine, J. K. Tuli, and A. B. Buyrn, authors, John Wiley and Sons, Inc., New York (1978).

Figure 1. Comparison of logft values with decaying proton and neutron in the same shell versus different shells.

Comparison of first-forbidden logft values Figure 2. plotted as a function of Z.

56

Figure 3. Comparison of logft values for higher-order multipoles.

[Outline for]* Compilation, Evaluation and Extrapolation of Nuclear Mass Data

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1. Structure of body of available data

- a) A multiply connected system of many highly accurate mass spectroscopic and nuclear reaction and decay data, in a narrow band along the line of β -stability ("backbone"). Determination of best values of atomic masses for pure nuclides from the "primary data" requires complicated least squares methods.
- b) Secondary data, connecting secundary nuclei with the body of primary data in essentially unique ways, and therefore not requiring least squares methods.

2. Compilation

Most important new data since last published evaluation (Atomic Data and Nuclear Data Tables 19 (1977) 177, 20 (1977) 1):

New absolute mass spectroscopic data on Er, Hf, W, Os and Hg isotopes, essentially replacing all earlier (pre-1970) results in the backbone for $A =$ $130 - 240$.

Many new precise reaction energies in the backbone, outstanding among them very precise (n, γ) reaction energies. Masses of some very light isotopes changed rather considerably.

Probably most important: mass spectroscopic measurements on long series of partly very unstable alkali isotopes: $23-27$ Na, $74-99Rb$, $117-147Cs$, $204-228$ $Fr.$ In interaction with them: determination of beta decay energies of very neutron-rich Rb and Cs isotopes and their daughters.

Many new accurate a-decay energies for very neutron deficient isotopes in the regions $A = 106 - 114$ and $A > 150$. Near the first region: determinations of decay energies in capture-delayed alpha and proton emission decay. In the beginning of the second region, some decay- and reaction energies connecting long α -decay chains (starting with 172 Pt and 178 Hg) with the backbone.

*Added by the editors

3. Evaluation

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A new least squares adjustment has been-made-but-its-evaluation is not yet complete. Some major problems:

The alkali mass spectroscopy measures, at some A, average masses for isomer mixtures. The present computer program has to be extended to allow smooth treatment of such mixtures, or of isomers in general. This will probably allow inclusion of lowest isobaric analogue levels, felt to be useful for other reasons.

The absolute Hg mass doublet measurements disagree with the backbone (recently considerably fortified in this region), the other absolute mass spectroscopic results and earlier $232\text{Th} + 235,8\text{U}$ ones.

For several more local discrepancies between input data, solutions can be suggested, often by evaluating the consequences of different choices in. systematics of derived quantities. For them, I use α -decay, two-beta decay, two-proton and two-neutron separation energies adding recently four-beta decay energies.

Even if no direct discrepancies exist between measured data, such analyses can lead to doubt the correctness of some experimental data. This happens, e.g., to most of the capture-delayed particle decay energies. Often, in such cases, discussions are started with the authors.

Extrapolation

In several cases as just mentioned, where I feel that an experimental (secondary) value is definitely less dependable than one derived from systematics, I have replaced them by the latter ones.

Many experimental data are not connected to the backbone, a.o. many far neutron deficient α -chains. I connect them by adding data derived from the systematics studies mentioned in all nuclei involved, an often rather laborious procedure but yielding, in my experience, quite dependable results. In the past I did not publish estimated errors in values derived from systematics; it is planned to do this in the future. I have not tried to extend this procedure beyond N vs Z-lines smoothly connecting places for which experimental data exist; in this respect, it is more interpolation than extrapolation.

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Nuclear Structure Data Base and Related Services*

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By July 1, 1981, the transfer of responsibility for the maintenance of the Evaluated Nuclear Structure Data File (ENSDF) and the Nuclear Structure References (NSR) and for the publication of Nuclear Data Sheets from the Nuclear Data Project (NDP), Oak Ridge National Laboratory, to the National Nuclear Data Center (NNDC), Brookhaven National Laboratory, was completed. This transfer went smoothly with excellent cooperation between the staffs of the Project and the Center. In this paper, we will briefly describe the current contents of ENSDF, retrieval and other nuclear-structure related services currently available from the NNDC, and some future plans.

ENSDF is maintained by the NNDC on behalf of the International Atomic Energy Agencysponsored Nuclear Structure and Decay Data Network. The centers contributing to the file are given in Table 1. ENSDF contains nuclear structrure and decay data for all nuclei between $A=1$ and $A=263$. The file is used to publish Nuclear Data Sheets for $A\geq 45$. For A<45, data are obtained from the evaluations published in Nuclear Physics by F. Ajzenberg-Selove and by C. van der Leun and P. Endt. In general, ENSDF contains only adopted level and gamma and decay data for these lighter nuclei. The current contents of ENSDF are summarized in Table *z.*

These data may be retrieved on several general criteria. The most general types of criteria are by identification of the data sets, by atomic mass or atomic number, by nuclide, or by ranges of atomic masses, atomic numbers, or nuclides. Additional criteria may be used for decay and reaction data.- For decay data these include the type of decay $(\beta -, \varepsilon, \alpha -)$ IT-, and spontaneous fission decay); for reaction data, the target, incident particle, and outgoing particles may be specified. More 5pecific criteria niay also be used. Most of the data contained within the tabular portion of Nuclear Data Sheets may be used as retrieval criteria. Some examples of such retrievals would be all levels with $T_{1/2}$ sec. and all gammas with E_{γ} 2100 keV.

The most general form of output for the retrievals is a computer file in the ENSDF format.1 Tables and level schemes similar to those appearing in Nuclear Data Sheets are also available. By processing decay data sets through the program $\widehat{\text{MEDLIST}}^2$ we may obtain atomic and nuclear radiations in tabular form and in a computer file in the ENDF format.³ Other specialized outputs are occasionally provided on a time-available basis. There are also other files maintained at the NNDC in support of ENSDF. Retrievals from these files, including internal-conversion coefficients and the Wapstra mass tables, may also be made.

- * Research sponsored by the Office of Basic Energy Sciences, US Department of Energy, under con tract No. DE-ACOZ-76CH00016.
- 1 W. Bruce Ewbank and Marcel R. Schmorak, Evaluated Nuclear Structure Data File. A Manual for Preparation of Data Sets, Oak Ridge National Laboratory Report ORNL-5054/R1, 1978.
- ² M.J. Martin, computer code MEDLIST (Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN).
- ³ R. Kinsey, ENDF-102. Data Formats and Procedures for the Evaluated Nuclear Data File ENDF, Brookhaven National Laboratory Report BNL-NCS-50496, 1979.

Several samples of the retrievals discussed above are given in Figs. $1-5$. Fig. 5, part of a tabular listing of fission-product half-lives, is of special note. The Evaluated Nuclear Data File $(ENDF)$ ⁴ which also resides at the Center, was used to obtain a list of all possible fission products.

In the future. we plan to continue development of specialized retrievals and outputs from ENSDF. We are also investigating the possibilities of providing on-line access to portions of our various data bases. The current emphasis is on-line retrievals from the Nuclear Structure References (NSR) file. The possibility of providing on-line access or microfiche of a limited subset of data from ENSDF, ENDF, and BNL-325⁵ is also being pursued.⁶ This subset of data would correspond roughly to the data contained on the GE Chart of the Nuclides.7

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In closing, it should also be noted that, in addition to the nuclear-structure files discussed above, the Center maintains bibliographic, experimental, and evaluated data files which cover a significant portion of low-energy nuclear physics. For further information, or to request data, please contact

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Mrs. F.M. Scheffel National Nuclear Data Center Building 1970 Brookhaven National Laboratory Upton, NY 11973.

Non-US users should con tact the appropriate center in their region for nuclear-structure data. Service centers for reaction data are listed in the introductions to CINDA⁸ and the Bibliography of Integral Charged-Particle Nuclear Data. ⁹

• R. Kinsey, compiler, *ENDF-201. ENDF* / *B Summary Documentation,* Brookhaven National Laboratory Report BNL-NCS-17541, 3rd Edition (ENDF/B-V), 1979; P.F. Rose and T.W. Burrows, *ENDF/B Fission Product Decay Data, Brookhaven National Laboratory Report BNL-NCS-50545, 1976.*

!I S.F. Mughaghab, M. Divadeenam, and N.E. Holden, *Neutron Cross Sections, Vol. 1 Neutron Resonance Parameters and Thermal Cross Sections, Part* A. *Z=f-60* (New York: Academic Press, 1981); *ibid., Part* B. *Z=61-100* (in preparation).

- 8 S. Pearlstein, *Computope Chart,* 1982 (to be published).
- 7 F. William Walker, George J. Kirouac, and Franci:s M. Rourke, *Chart of the Nuclides. Twelfth* Edition, distributed by Educational Relations, General Electric Company, Schenectady, NY, 1977.
- ⁸ An Index to the Literature on Microscopic Neutron Data, CINDA-A (1935-1976), CINDA 81 (1977-1981), CINDA 81 Supplement (Vienna: International Atomic Energy Agency, 1976-1981)
- 9 T.W. Burrows and P. Dempsey, *The Bibliography of Integral Charged Particle Nuclear* Data. Archival Edition, Brookhaven National Laboratory Report BNL-NCS-50640, Fourth Edition, 1980; T.W. Burrows and G. Wyant, ibid., Supplement 1, 1981; N.E. Holden and T.W. Burrows, *ibid.*, Supplement 2, in press.

Table 1

DATA EVALUATION CENTERS

- a. National Nuclear Data Centert Brookhaven National Laboratory Upton, NY 11973, U.S.A.
- b. Nuclear Data Project Oak Ridge National Laboratory Oak Ridge, TN 37830, U.S.A.
- c. Isotopes Project Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory Berkeley, CA 94720, U.S.A.
- d. Idaho National Engineering Laboratory E.G. and G. Idaho, Inc. P.O. Box 1625 Idaho Falls, ID 83401, U.S.A.
- e. Physics Department University of Pennsylvania Philadelphia, PA 19174, U.S.A.
- f. Institut Atomnoi Energii[†] I.V. Kurchatova 46 Ulitsa Kurchatova Moscow, D-182, U.S.S.R.
- g. Data Centre Leningrad Nuclear Physics Inst. Gatchina, Leningrad Region 188350, U.S.S.R.
- h. Fysisch Laboratorium Princetonplein 5, P.P. Box 80 000 3508 TA Utrecht, The Netherlands
- i. Oliver Lodge Laboratory? University of Liverpool Liverpool L69 3BX, U.K.
- j. Fachinformationszentrum Energie, Mathematik GmbH[†] Kernforschungszentrum D-7514 Eggenstein-Leopoldshafen 2, $F.R.G.$
- k. Centre d'Etudes Nucleaires de Grenoble Cedex No. 85 F-38041 Grenoble Cedex, France
- 1. Division of Physicst Japan Atomic Energy Research Institute Tokai-Mura, Naka-Gun Ibaraki-Ken 319-11, Japan
- m. Institute of Physics University of Lund Solvegatan 14 S-223 62 Lund, Sweden
- n. Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research P.O. Box 5969 Kuwait, Kuwait
- o. Laboratorium voor Kernfysica Proeftuinstraat 86 B-9000 Ghent, Belgium
- p. Tandem Accelerator Laboratory McMaster University Hamilton, Ontario L8S 4K1 Canada
- Service center. Data may also be requested from: Banque de Données de l'AEN NEA Data Bank **B.P.** 9 F-91190 Gif-sur-Yvette France and IAEA Nuclear Data Section P.O. Box 100 A-1400 Vienna Austria

62

Table 2

CURRENT CONTENTS OF BNSDF

 $\approx 8.2 \times 10^6$

Data Sets

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t Includes decay and reaction data sets for nuclei which have no adopted level data sets.

FIRST 2+ LEVEL ENERGY VS Z, N

Figure 2.

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Figure 3.

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HALF-LIFE **FISSION ODUCTS** P

Figure 5.

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Reference to a company or product name does not imply approval or recommendation of the product by the University of California or the U.S. Department of Energy to the exclusion of others that may be suitable.
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