

# Systematics of Alpha Decay Hindrance Factors and Configurations?

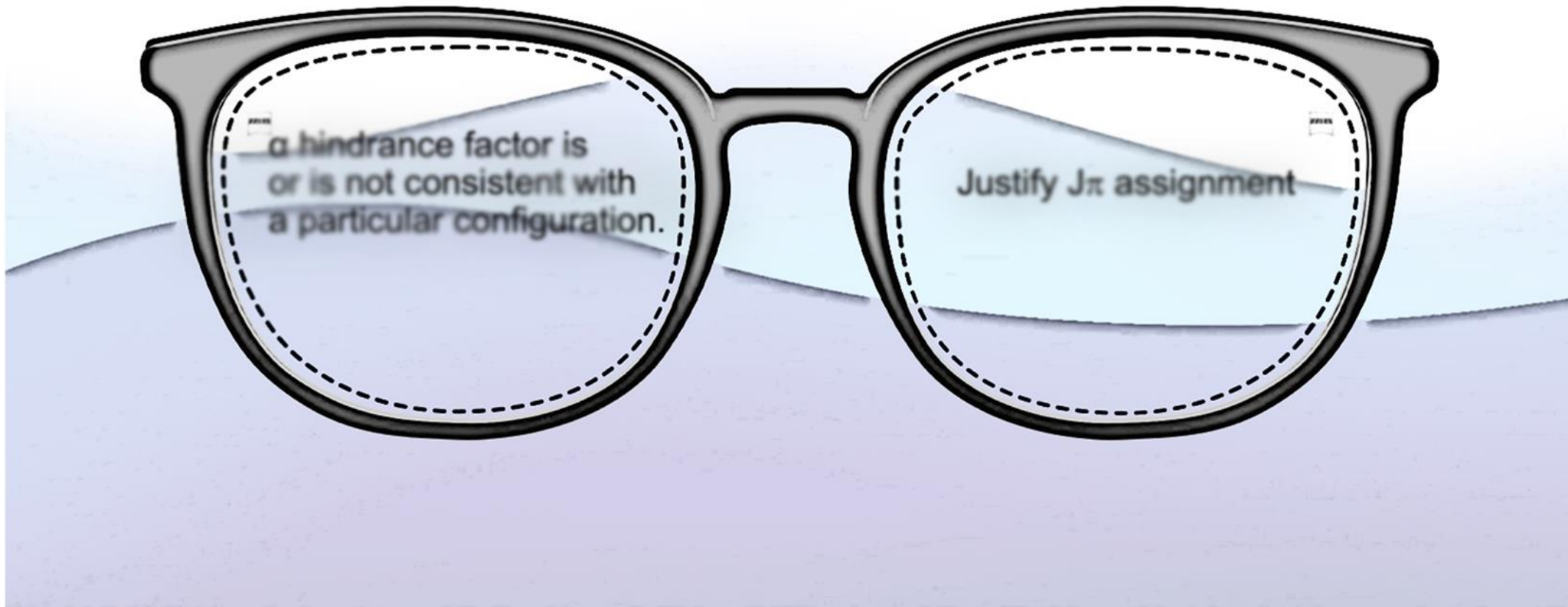
USNDP 2024

Caroline Nesaraja

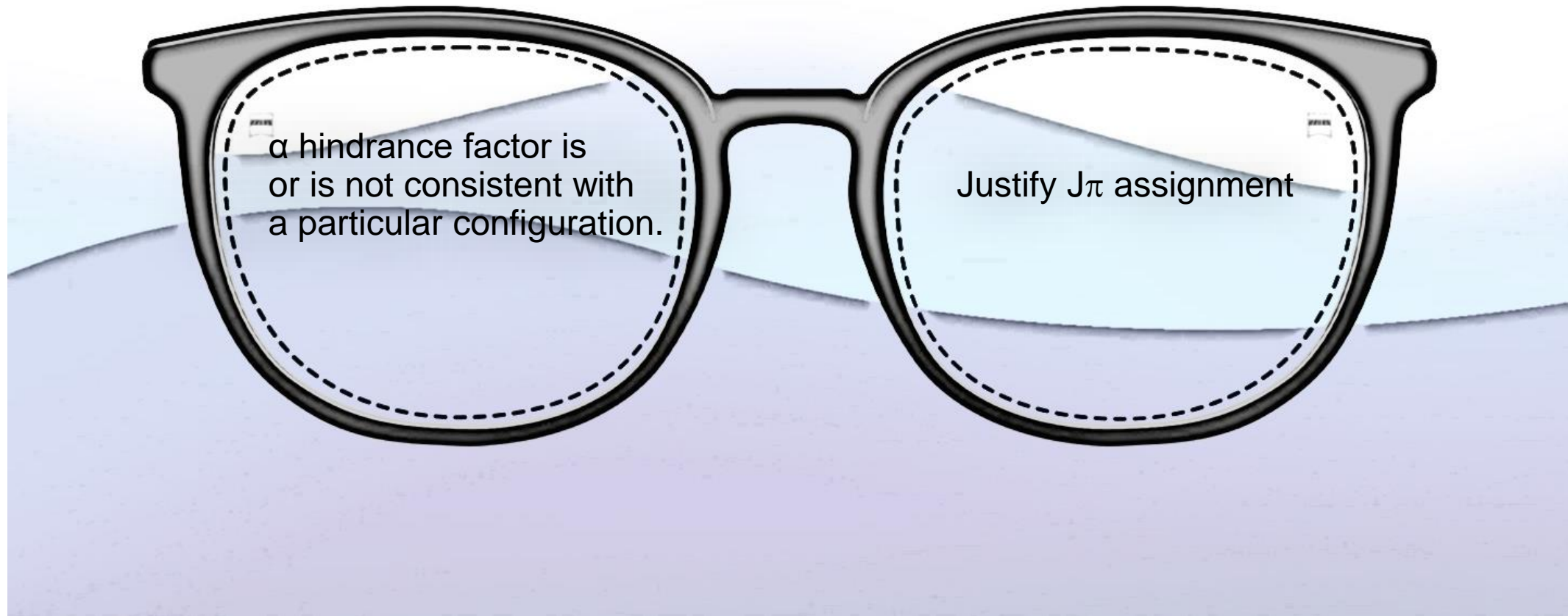
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# Systematics of alpha HF to deduce configurations and $J\pi$ :

No clear guidance



# Systematics of alpha HF to deduce configurations and $J\pi$ : Need guidance from experts in alpha decay and configuration



# $^{248}\text{Bk}$ : Adopted Levels (2014Ma86)

$^{248}_{97}\text{Bk}_{151-1}$

From ENSDF - Evaluated September 2014

### Adopted Levels, Gammas

Type	Author	History Citation	Literature Cutoff Date
Full Evaluation	M. J. Martin	NDS 122, 377 (2014)	1-Sep-2014

$Q(\beta^-)=841$  SY;  $S(n)=5481$  SY;  $S(p)=4743$  SY;  $Q(\alpha)=5775$  SY 2012Wa38  
The systematics uncertainty is 71 keV for all four entries.

### $^{248}\text{Bk}$ Levels

#### Cross Reference (XREF) Flags

A  $^{252}\text{Es}$   $\alpha$  decay

Several  $J^\pi$  arguments supported by statements such as

“The  $\alpha$  hindrance factor is consistent with the configuration”

$^{252}\text{Es}$   $\alpha$  decay 1973Fi06

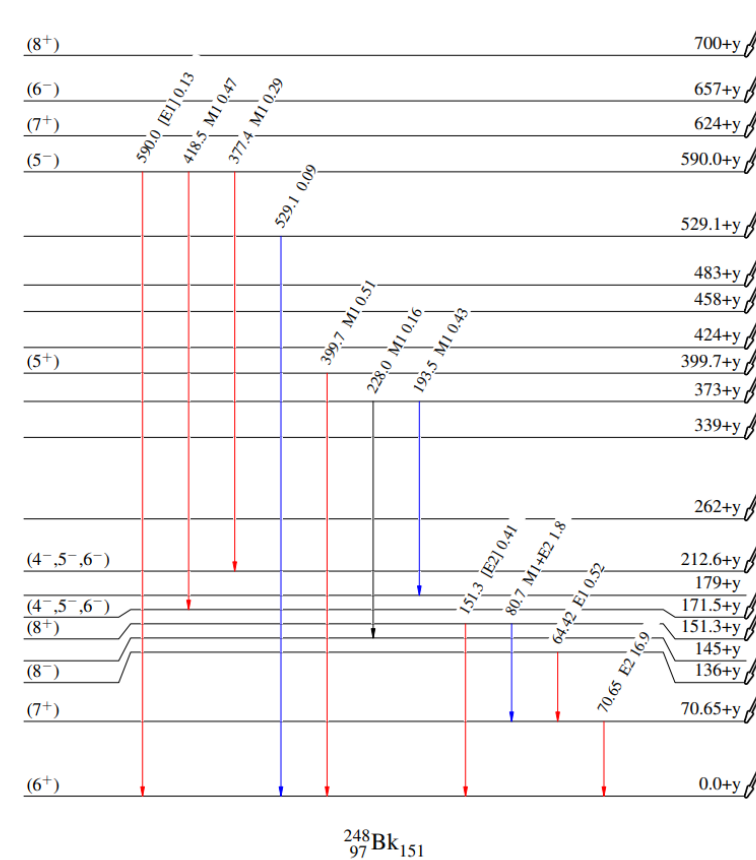
### Decay Scheme

Intensities:  $I_{(\gamma+ce)}$  per 100 decays through this branch

Legend

- $I_\gamma < 2\% \times I_\gamma^{\text{max}}$
- $I_\gamma < 10\% \times I_\gamma^{\text{max}}$
- $I_\gamma > 10\% \times I_\gamma^{\text{max}}$

$(5^-)$  0.0 471.7 d 19  
 $Q_\alpha=6739.3$  % $\alpha=79$   
 $^{252}_{99}\text{Es}_{153}$



$E_\alpha$	$I_\alpha$	HF
5943	0.031	34
5985	0.039	46
6017	0.094	28
6051	0.80	5.0
6109	0.094	86
6156	$\approx 0.031$	$\approx 449$
6181	0.062	300
6215	0.078	360
6239	0.44	83
6265	0.59	85
6298	$\approx 0.031$	$\approx 2306$
6374	0.055	3100
6424	0.35	840
6461	0.20	2250
6482	1.71	323
6498	0.24	2710
6562	10.6	123
6632	62.6	43.5

$^{248}_{97}\text{Bk}_{151}$

$^{252}\text{Es}$   $\alpha$  decay

# $^{248}\text{Bk}$ : from ENSDF Adopted Levels (2014Ma86)

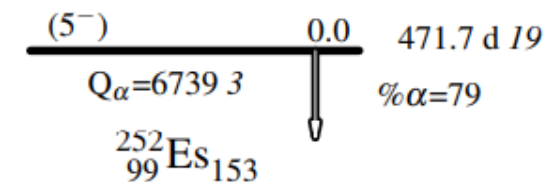
Odd Z, Odd N

Hindrance factor

from  $^{252}\text{Es}$   $\alpha$  decay

Parent:  $^{252}\text{Es}$

Possible configuration  
 $\pi 3/2 [521] \otimes \nu 7/2 + [613]$



$K\pi = 6+, \pi 3/2 [521] \otimes \nu 9/2 [734]$

E(level)	Jp	Configuration	HF	Comment
0.0+y	(6+)	$\pi 3/2 [521] \otimes \nu 9/2 [734]$	43.5	HF consistent with config.
70.65+y	(7+)		123	HF consistent with asgmt.
151.3+y	(8+)		323	HF consistent with asgmt.

# $^{248}\text{Bk}$ : from ENSDF Adopted Levels (2014Ma86)

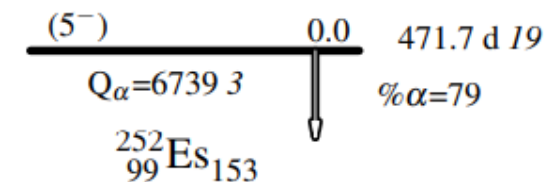
Odd Z, Odd N

Hindrance factor

from  $^{252}\text{Es}$   $\alpha$  decay

Parent:  $^{252}\text{Es}$

Possible configuration  
 $\pi 3/2 [521] \otimes \nu 7/2 + [613]$



$K\pi=5-, \pi 3/2 [521] \otimes \nu 7/2 [613]$

E(level)	Jp	Configuration	HF	Comment
590.0+y	(5-)	$\pi 3/2 [521] \otimes \nu 7/2 [613]$	5	HF consistent with config.
657+y	(6-)		46	HF consistent with asgmt.

# $^{248}\text{Bk}$ : from ENSDF Adopted Levels (2014Ma86)

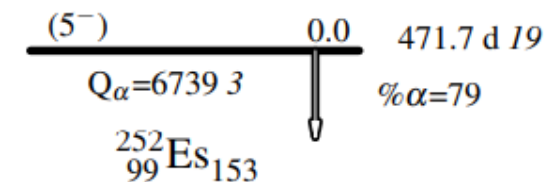
Odd Z, Odd N

Hindrance factor

from  $^{252}\text{Es}$   $\alpha$  decay

Parent:  $^{252}\text{Es}$

Possible configuration  
 $\pi 3/2 [521] \otimes \nu 7/2 + [613]$



$K\pi=7+, \pi 7/2 [633] \otimes \nu 7/2 [613]$

E(level)	Jp	Configuration	HF	Comment
624+y	(7+)	$\pi 7/2 [633] \otimes \nu 7/2 [613]$	28	HF consistent with asgmt.
700+y	(8+)		34	HF consistent with asgmt.

# $^{248}\text{Bk}$ : from ENSDF Adopted Levels (2014Ma86)

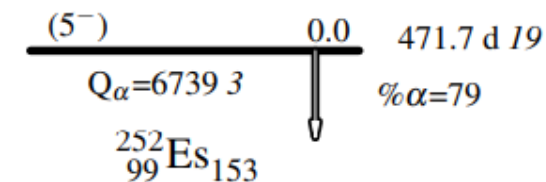
Odd Z, Odd N

Hindrance factor

from  $^{252}\text{Es}$   $\alpha$  decay

Parent:  $^{252}\text{Es}$

Possible configuration  
 $\pi 3/2 [521] \otimes \nu 7/2 + [613]$



Alpha HF is NOT consistent with configuration

E(level)	Jp	Configuration	HF	Comment
136+y	(7+)	$\pi 7/2 [633] \otimes \nu 9/2 [613]$	2710	HF not consistent with config. HF should be larger
171.5+y	(4-)?	$\pi 3/2 [521] \otimes \nu 5/2 [622]?$	2250	HF not consistent with config. HF should be a factor 100 smaller



# Nuclear Data Sheets General Policy

...A survey of the dependence of  $\alpha$ -hindrance factors on asymptotic quantum numbers and the variation of  $\alpha$ -hindrance factors within rotational bands is given for  $A \geq 229$  in 1972EI21

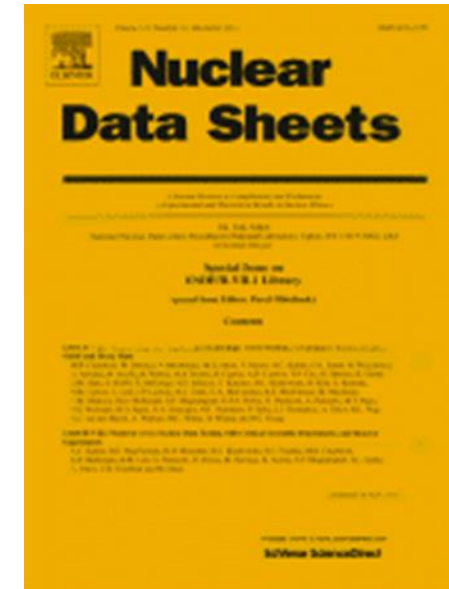
## Survey of Nuclear Structure Systematics for $A \geq 229^*$

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**Abstract:** Log  $ft$  values for  $\beta^-$ - and  $\epsilon$ -transitions and experimental hindrance factors for  $\alpha$ -decays are presented for the  $A \geq 229$  mass region in a systematic way. For some favored and hindered  $\alpha$ -transitions, comparisons of experimental hindrance factors with theoretical calculations are made. Band-head energies and rotational band parameters are given. Measured magnetic moments of odd- $A$  nuclei are compared with those calculated using Nilsson wavefunctions. Experimental  $B(E2)_{\uparrow}$  values to first  $2^+$  states in even-even nuclei are plotted as a function of mass number.

**Acknowledgments:** The compilers would like to thank D. J. Horen for his encouragement; and M. E. Bunker, S. G. Nilsson, C. W. Reich, and A. Wapstra for useful suggestions.

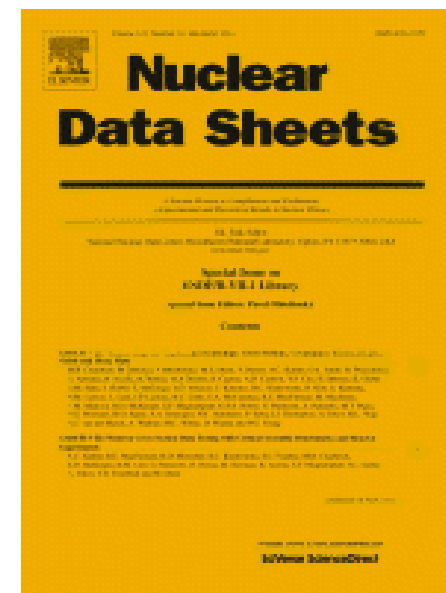


# Summary of Bases for Spin and Parity Assignments

## #35 Alpha Decay

Observation of a "favored"  $\alpha$  transition ( $HF < 4$ ) indicates that the two states involved have the same nucleonic configuration.

If a sequence of levels having "rotational-like" energy spacings is associated with the level fed by this favored transition and these levels have HF's that vary according to the established trend within rotational bands (1972El21), then this sequence can be considered to form a rotational band whose nucleonic configuration is the same as that of the alpha-decaying state.

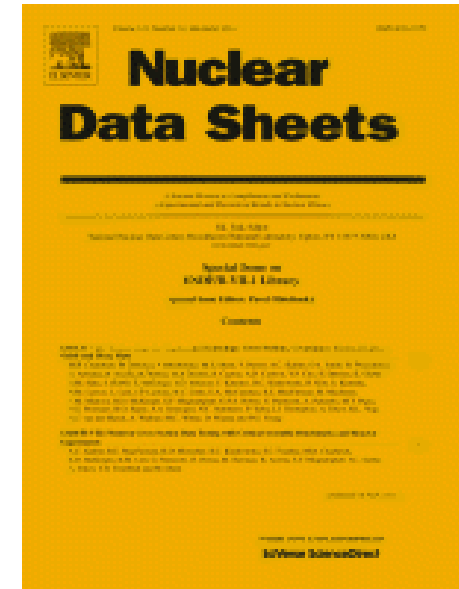


# Summary of Bases for Spin and Parity Assignments

## #38 Alpha Decay

The hindrance factor for an  $\alpha$  transition from the ground state of an even-even nucleus to the ground state of the daughter nucleus is 1.0 by definition.

For odd-A and odd-odd nuclei, **hindrance factors <4 identify favored  $\alpha$  transitions, and these connect states having the same spin, parity and configuration.**



# $J\pi$ assignment using $\alpha$ HF and configuration systematics

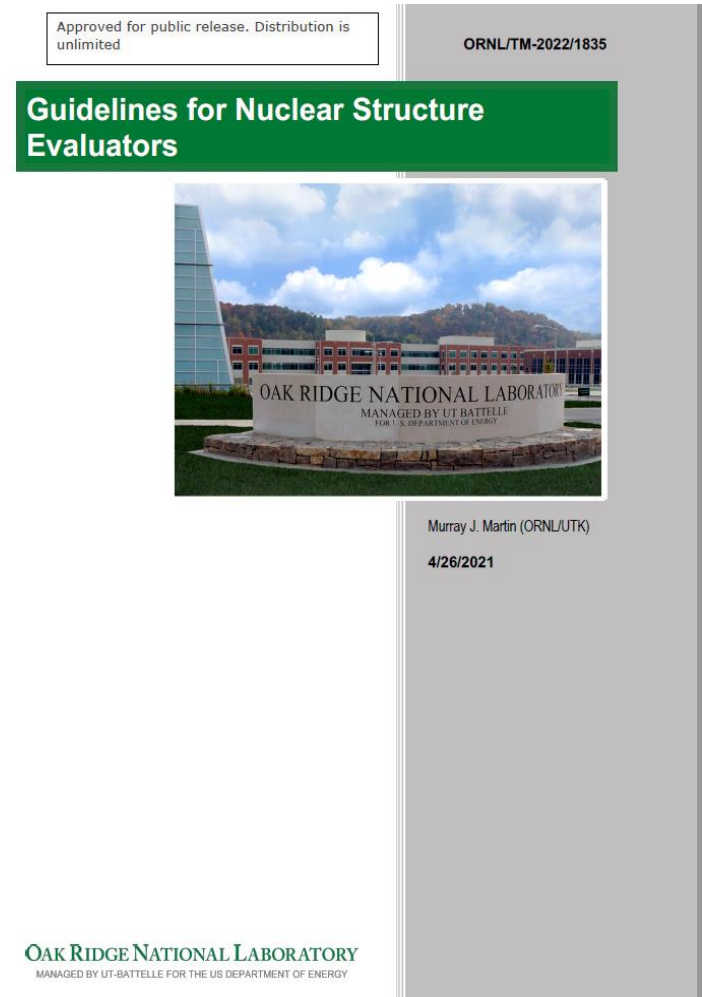
## Guidelines for Nuclear Structure Evaluators by M. Martin

**Systematics of alpha-decay hindrance factors** can be used to deduce a variety of quantities, depending on what is known about a particular decay branch.

These quantities include  **$J\pi$  and configurations**, total alpha branching and branchings of individual groups, and the excitation energy of the level fed in the daughter nucleus.

See **1980Sc26\*** for a further discussion of these and other types of Systematics

It is clear from **1972E121** that in the deformed actinide region, all rotational bands have very characteristic alpha hindrance factor



# A few examples of nuclides that use alpha HF arguments currently in the ENSDF database

Nuclide	$J\pi$		HF	Comment
$^{226}\text{Th}$	4+	$^{230}\text{U}$ $\alpha$ decay $J\pi$ (parent) = 0+	12	HF consistent with $J\pi$ .
$^{226}\text{Ra}$	(7+)	$^{230}\text{Th}$ $\alpha$ decay $J\pi$ (parent) = 0+	~6.2	HF consistent with asgmt.
$^{221}\text{Ra}$	(7/2+)	$^{225}\text{Th}$ $\alpha$ decay $J\pi$ (parent) = 3/2+	~213	HF consistent with being member of g.s. band
$^{250}\text{Bk}$	(4+)	$^{254}\text{Es}$ $\alpha$ decay $J\pi$ (parent) = (7+)	2190	HF consistent with asgmt. and config.
$^{250}\text{Bk}$	(5-)	$^{254}\text{Es}$ $\alpha$ decay $J\pi$ (parent) = (7+)	144	HF consistent with asgmt. and config.
$^{250}\text{Bk}$	(6-)	$^{254}\text{Es}$ $\alpha$ decay $J\pi$ (parent) = (7+)	160	HF consistent with asgmt. and config.
$^{250}\text{Bk}$	(3-)	$^{254}\text{Es}$ $\alpha$ decay $J\pi$ (parent) = (7+)	2350	HF consistent with asgmt. and config.

# Other information

Presentation Material available online by Ch. Theisen

Empirical HF values

- HF = 1-4 : same initial and final single-particle state
- HF = 4-10 : similar initial and final states
- HF = 10-100 : different single particle states, same parity, same spin projection
- HF = 100-1000 : different single particle states, parity change, same spin projection
- HF > 1000 : different single particle states, parity change, spin flip  
One needs a lot of statistics to observe a transition with a change of parity or spin flip

dapnia  
SPHN  
cea  
saclay

## Alpha decay and Hindrance Factor

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*Is this something that anyone is familiar with?  
Can these be used to guide us in assigning  $J\pi$ ?*