

Decay Data in ENSDF

Libby McCutchan
National Nuclear Data Center



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Office of
Science

Reference Material

γ -ray Intensity Normalization for Radioactive Decays in

Nuclear Data Sheets

J. K. Tuli

National Nuclear Data Center
Brookhaven National Laboratory
Upton, NY 11973, U.S.A.

(September 1987)

Calculated Uncertainties of Absolute γ -ray Intensities and Decay Branching Ratios Derived from Decay Schemes.

E. Browne

Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, University of California, Berkeley, California, USA

March 1986

ENSDF Evaluators' Workshops

Joint ICTP-IAEA Workshop on Nuclear Structure and Decay Data: Theory and Evaluation ICTP, March 24-28, 2014

Joint ICTP-IAEA Workshop on Nuclear Structure and Decay Data: Theory and Evaluation ICTP, August 6-17, 2012

Joint ICTP-IAEA Workshop on Nuclear Structure and Decay Data: Theory and Evaluation ICTP, October 11-15, 2010

Joint ICTP-IAEA Workshop on Nuclear Structure and Decay Data: Theory and Evaluation ICTP, April 28-May 9, 2008

Workshop on Nuclear Structure and Decay Data: Theory and Evaluation Manual
Addendum - 2006

ICTP, February 20-March 3, 2006 (INDC(NDS)-496)

Workshop on Nuclear Structure and Decay Data: Theory and Evaluation Manual
Addendum - 2005

ICTP, April 4-15, 2005 (INDC(NDS)-473)

Workshop on Nuclear Structure and Decay Data: Theory and Evaluation Manual - Part 1 ICTP, November 17-28, 2003 (INDC(NDS)-452)

Workshop on Nuclear Structure and Decay Data: Theory and Evaluation Manual - Part 2 ICTP, November 17-28, 2003 (INDC(NDS)-452)

Workshop on Nuclear Structure and Decay Data Evaluation

NDS, November 18-22, 2002 (INDC(NDS)-439. Summary Report)

[ENSDF Evaluators' Training Workshop](#)

NNDC, April 16-17, 2001 (Contributions)

Get your calculators ready



**Today will be less talking and more
working through examples**

Will focus on beta decay and IT decay, since alpha decay has hopefully been well covered in A=218 evaluation work

Go with the flow

What goes in must come out

100



Relevant Quantities Needed to Deduce

NR – relative photon intensity to photons / 100 decays

NT – relative transition intensity to transitions / 100 decays

Above are through the particular decay branch

BR – Convert intensity / 100 decay through this decay branch to intensity per 100 decays of the parent

NB – relative beta and ec intensities to intensities per 100 decays through this decay branch

NP – convert per 100 delayed transition intensities to per 100 decays of the precursor

Decay Scheme Normalization Quantities

83BR 83SE B- DECAY (70.1 S) 1973FE08,1976KR20 01NDS 200105

83BR N 0.170 4 1.0 1.0 1.0

NR

NT

BR

NB

NP

Relative Intensity		Normalization Factor	Absolute Intensity
I_γ	x	NR x BR	=% I_γ
I (tot)	x	NT x BR	=%I (tot)
I_β (or ε or α)	x	NB x BR	= % I_β (or ε or α)
$I_{\beta n}$ (or $I_{\varepsilon p}$)	x	NP	= % $I_{\beta n}$ (or $I_{\varepsilon p}$)

Beta and ec are usually given as per 100 parent decays.

Since $NB \times BR$, $NB = 1/BR$

The definitions

NR	Multiplier for converting relative <i>photon</i> intensity (RI in the GAMMA record) to <i>photons</i> per 100 decays of the parent through the decay branch or to <i>photons</i> per 100 neutron captures in an (n, γ) reaction. <i>Required</i> if the absolute photon intensity can be calculated.
BR	Branching ratio multiplier for converting intensity per 100 decays through this decay branch to intensity per 100 decays of the parent nuclide. <i>Required if known.</i>
NB	Multiplier for converting relative β^- and ϵ intensities (IB in the B- record; IB , IE , TI in the EC record) to intensities per 100 decays through this decay branch. <i>Required if known.</i>
NP	Multiplier for converting per hundred delayed-transition intensities to per hundred decays of precursor

My advice

- There is good documentation on how to normalize decay schemes ... but information on how that translates in use of NR, BR, NB, etc is lacking
- Particle decays are very tricky... take care and always check processed output
- Read the policies and go back and read again

Beta and electron-capture intensities are per 100 decays of the parent and are usually deduced from γ intensity imbalance for the levels fed. The separation of $I(\epsilon+\beta^+)$ into $I(\epsilon)$ and $I(\beta^+)$ is based on theoretical ϵ/β^+ ratios. The $\log ft$ values for nonunique transitions are calculated as for allowed transitions.

Particle transition intensities (other than β 's) are per 100 particle decays. The total particle branching is given both in the drawings and in the tables.

Times have changed

From earlier ENSDF talk on decay

1. Relative intensity is what is generally measured

2. Multipolarity and mixing ratio (δ).

3. Internal Conversion Coefficients

- Theoretical Values:
- From BRICC

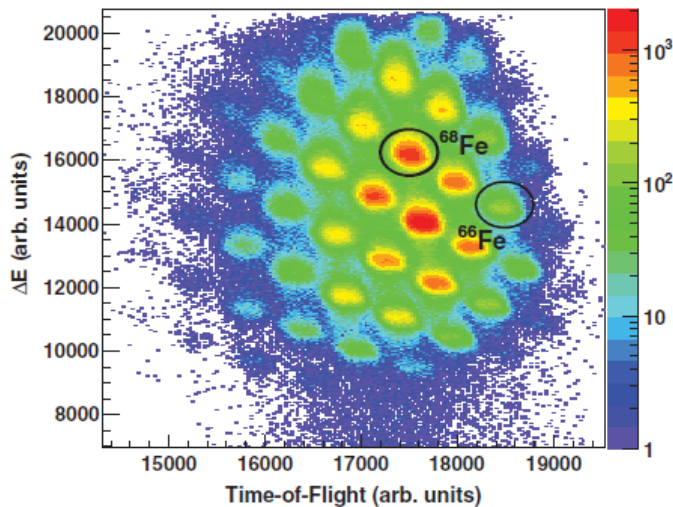
The Future

PHYSICAL REVIEW C 85, 014328 (2012)

Low-energy structure of $^{66}\text{Co}_{39}$ and $^{68}\text{Co}_{41}$ populated through β decay

S. N. Liddick,^{1,2} B. Abromeit,¹ A. Ayres,³ A. Bey,³ C. R. Bingham,³ M. Bolla,¹ L. Cartegni,³ H. L. Crawford,⁴ I. G. Darby,⁵
R. Grzywacz,³ S. Ilyushkin,⁶ N. Larson,^{1,2} M. Madurga,³ D. Miller,³ S. Padgett,³ S. Paulauskas,³ M. M. Rajabali,⁵
K. Rykaczewski,⁷ and S. Suchyta^{1,2}

of ions counted
individually



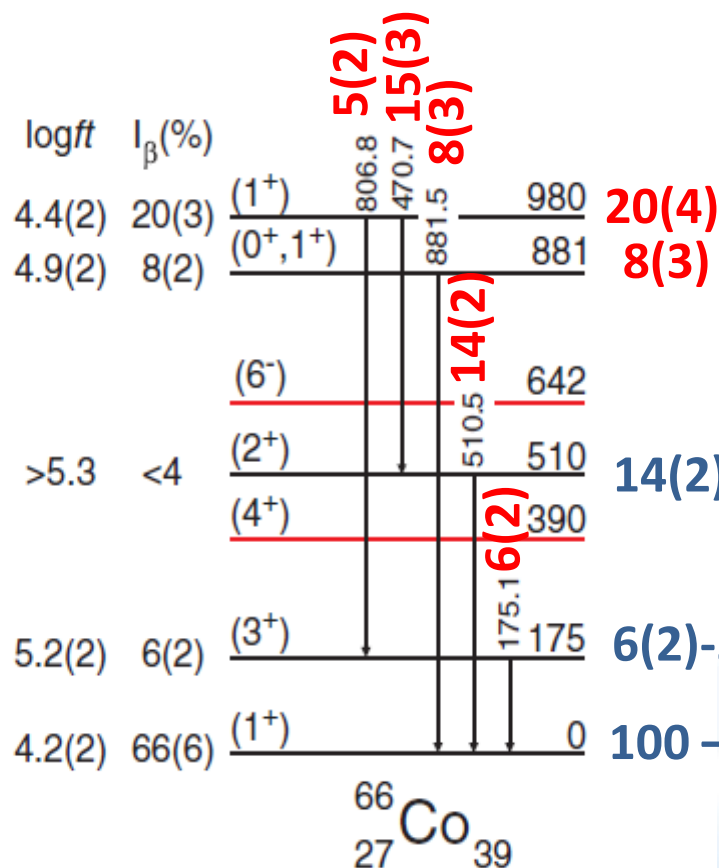
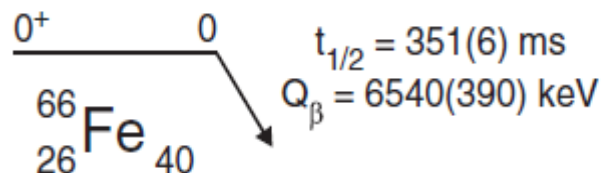
Beta-decay apparatus allows the correlation of exotic ion implants with their subsequent decays on an event-by-event basis



But a Careful Review is Still Required

NR=1

BR= 1



E (keV)	Absolute intensity (%)	E (keV)	Absolute intensity (%)
175.1(3)	6(2)	806.8(4)	5(2)
470.7(3)	15(3)	881.5(3)	8(3)
510.5(5)	14(2) ^a		

For excited levels:

$$I_{\beta} = \sum I(\gamma + \text{ce})(\text{out}) - \sum I(\gamma + \text{ce})(\text{in})$$

For ground state :

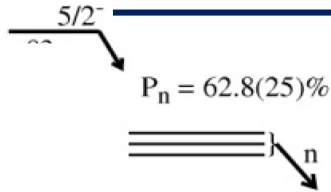
$$I_{\beta} = 100 - \sum I(\gamma + \text{ce})(\text{gs})$$

$$14(2) - 15(3) = -1(4) \rightarrow <3$$

$$6(2) - 5(2) = 1(3) \rightarrow <4$$

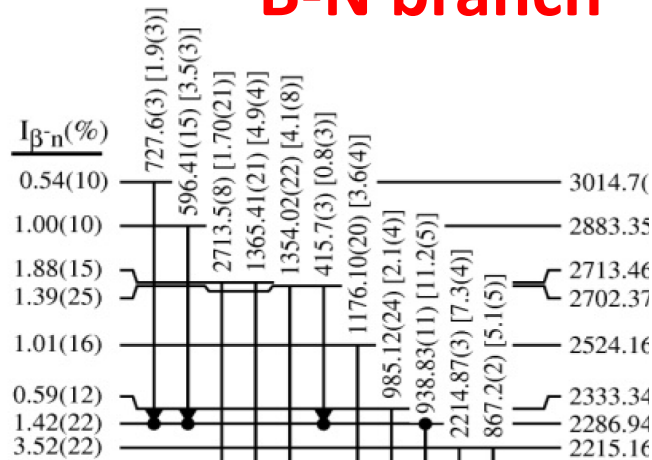
$$100 - 6(2) - 14(2) - 8(3) = 72(5)$$

B- and B-N Example

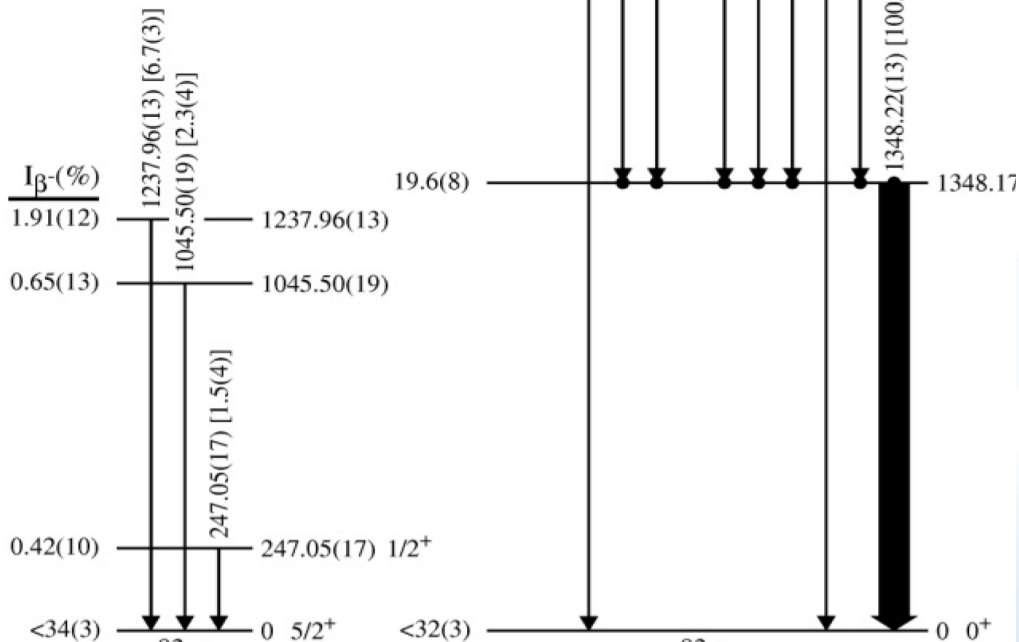


B-N branch

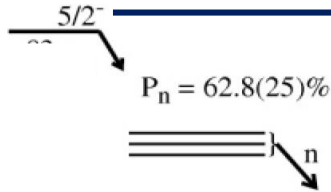
B- branch



Absolute Intensity
 $1348\gamma = 28.4(10) \%$



The easy B- branch



Absolute Intensity
 $1348\gamma = 28.4(10) \%$

$$NR = 0.284 (10)$$

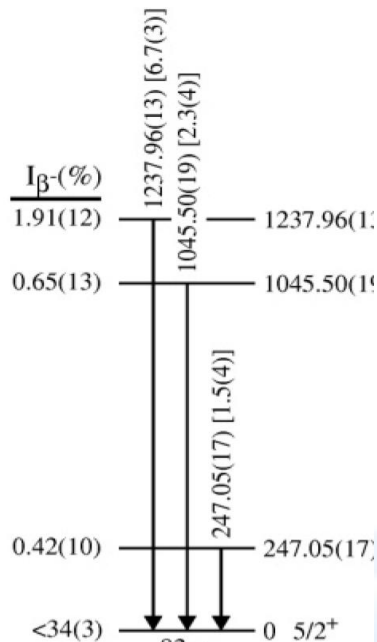
$$BR = 1.0$$

Beta feedings are

$$6.7 * 0.284 = 1.9$$

$$2.3 * 0.284 = 0.65$$

$$1.5 * 0.284 = 0.42$$



GS feeding:

Here you need to consider B-N branch

$$100 - P_n - \sum I(\gamma + ce)(gs):$$

$$100 - 62.8 - 1.9 - 0.65 - 0.42$$

$$< 34$$



The details

BR Branching ratio multiplier for converting intensity per 100 decays through this decay branch to intensity per 100 decays of the parent nuclide.
Required if known.

This is Pn
BR=0.628

NR Multiplier for converting relative *photon* intensity (**RI** in the **GAMMA** record) to *photons* per 100 decays of the parent **through the decay branch** or to *photons* per 100 neutron captures in an (n,γ) reaction.
Required if the absolute photon intensity can be calculated.

28.4 is I_γ per 100 decays

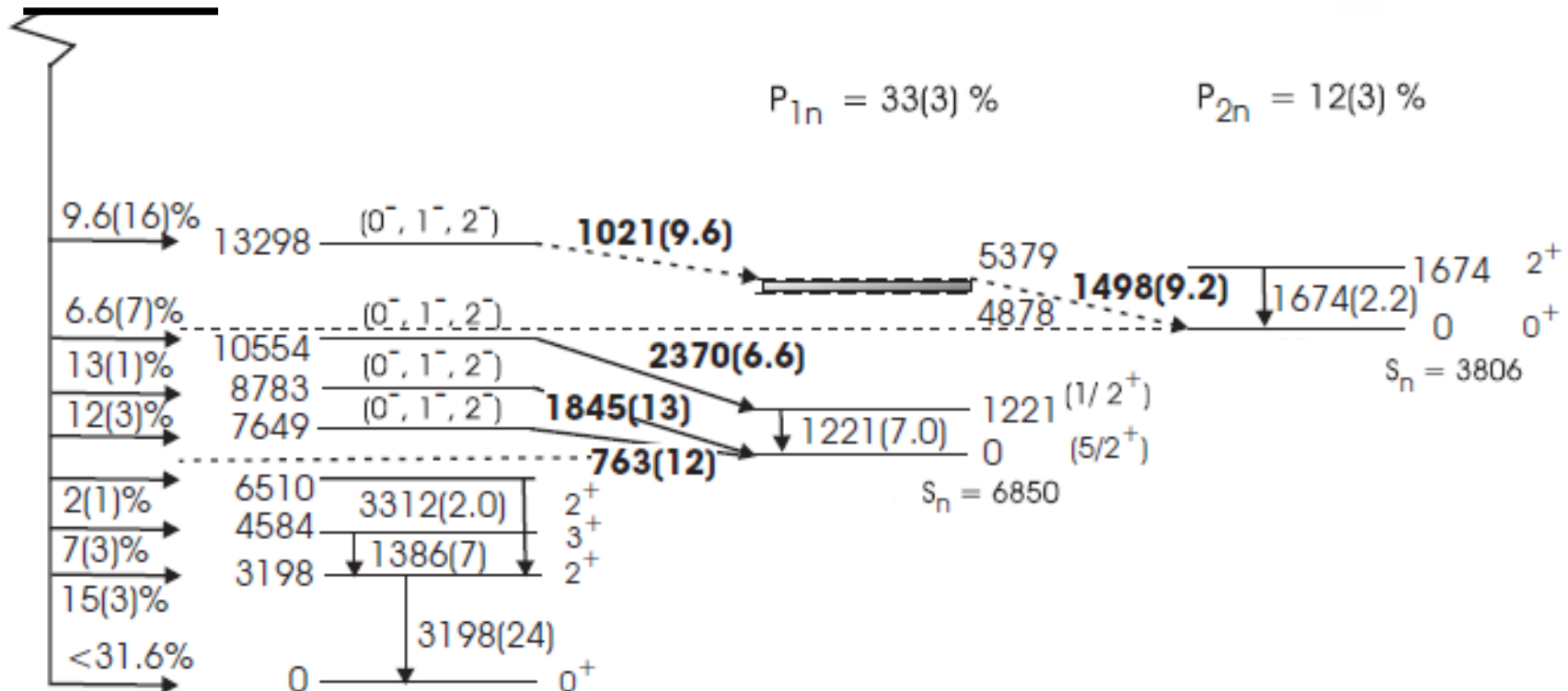
Through the decay branch,
you need :

$$0.284/0.628 = 0.425$$

NR=0.425

How to define NP?

Example of B-N and B-2N Decay



Start with the “easy” beta-decay

Intensities are again given as Absolute I_g / 100 decays

$$NR = 1$$

$$BR = 1$$

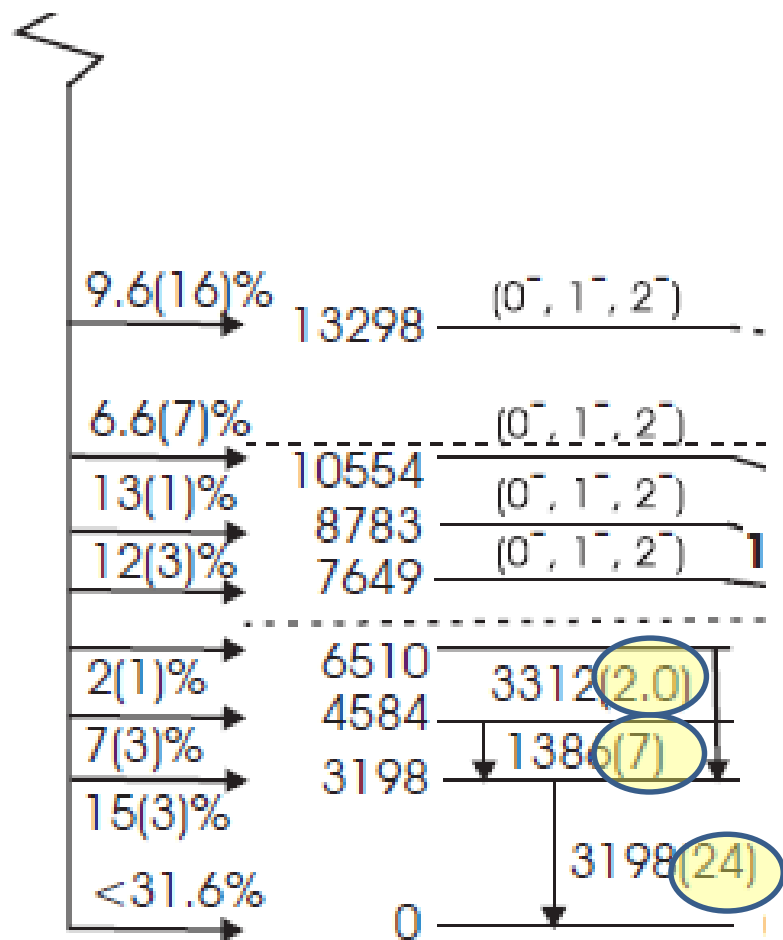
Keeping in mind that
 $P_n = 33\%$ and $P_{2n} = 12\%$

GS Beta Feeding is

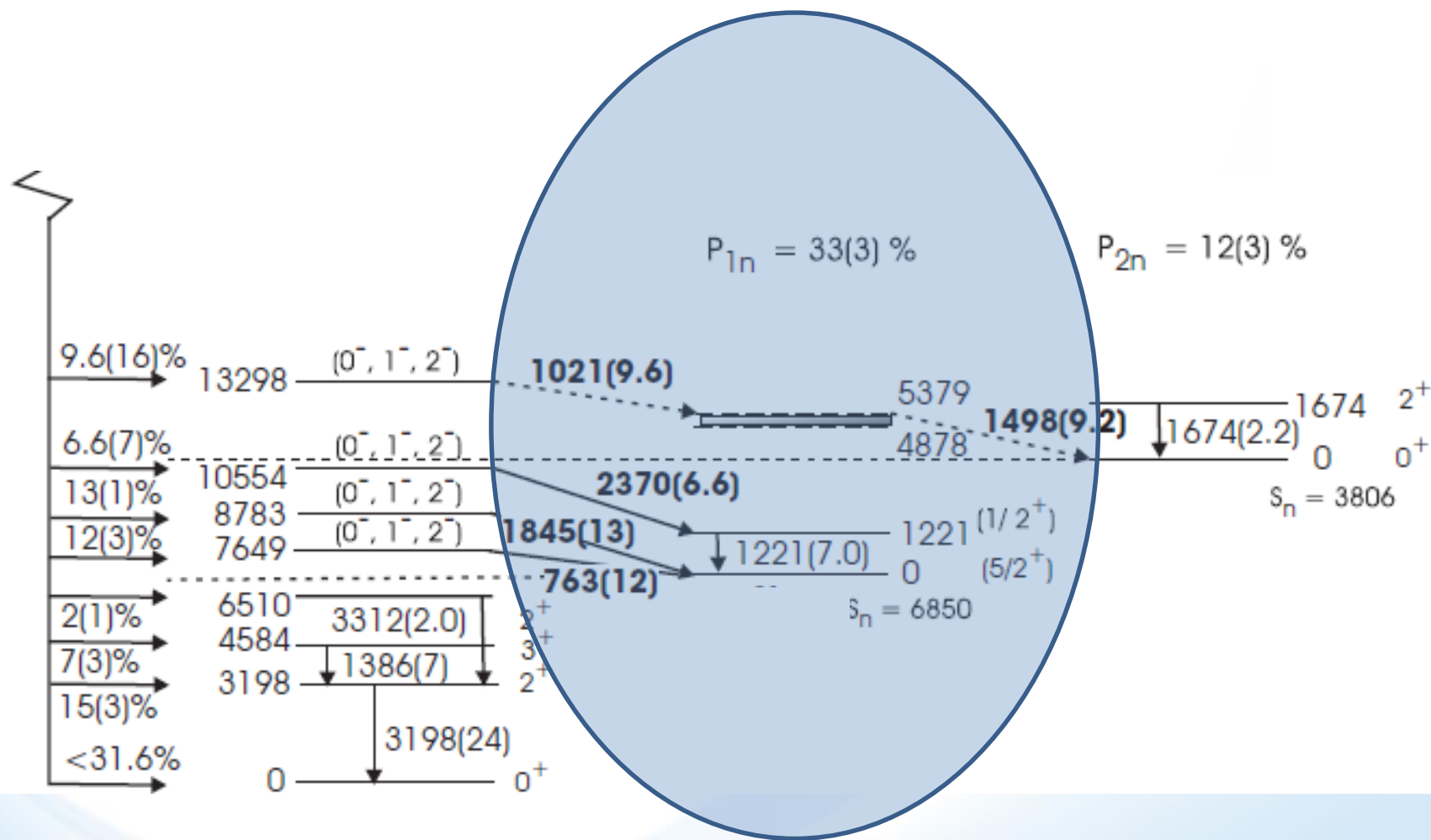
$$100 - P_n - P_{2n} - \sum I_\gamma(\text{to gs})$$

$$100 - 33 - 12 - 24$$

$$< 32$$



The B-N Branch



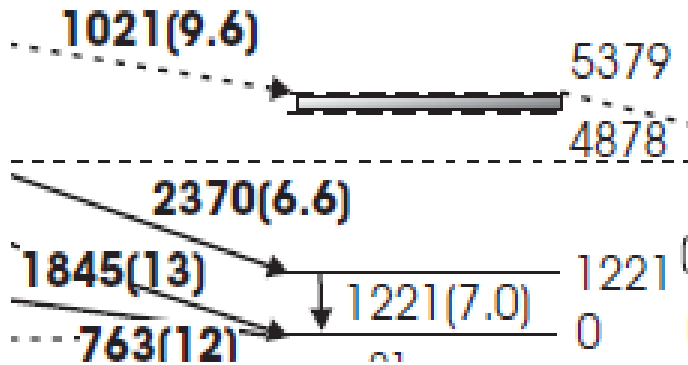
$$P_{1n} = 33(3) \%$$

Branching ratio is given

$$BR=0.33 \pm 3$$

Neutron and Gamma Intensities
given in absolute units

What is NR ?



E_γ	E_{level}	$I_\gamma^\#$
1221 3	1221	7.0 11

#For absolute intensity per 100 decays, multiply by 0.33 \pm 3.

NR=1.0

The details

BR Branching ratio multiplier for converting intensity per 100 decays through this decay branch to intensity per 100 decays of the parent nuclide.
Required if known.

NR Multiplier for converting relative *photon* intensity (**RI** in the **GAMMA** record) to *photons* per 100 decays of the parent **through the decay branch** or to *photons* per 100 neutron captures in an (n,γ) reaction.
Required if the absolute photon intensity can be calculated.

This is Pn
BR=0.33

I_γ is given per 100 decays
Through the decay branch,
you need :

$$\text{NR} = 1.0/0.33$$
$$\text{NR}=3.03$$

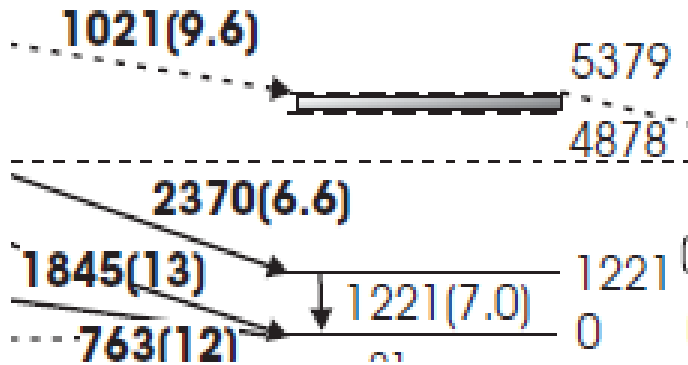
$$P_{1n} = 33(3) \%$$

Branching ratio is given

$$BR=0.33 \pm 0.03$$

Neutron and Gamma Intensities
given in absolute units

What is NP?



Branching Ratio: $\% \beta^- n = 33.3$ (2010Su03).

n Radiations

E_n	E_{level}	$I_n^\#$	E_{daughter}	Comments
763 1	0.0	12 3	7649	
1021 2	5379	9.6 16	13298	E_n : assignment of 1021 and 1498 neutron groups
1845 4	0.0	13 1	8783	
2370 6	1221	6.6 7	10554	

For absolute intensity per 100 decays, multiply by 3.03.
@Placement in the level scheme is uncertain.

NP=3.03

The details

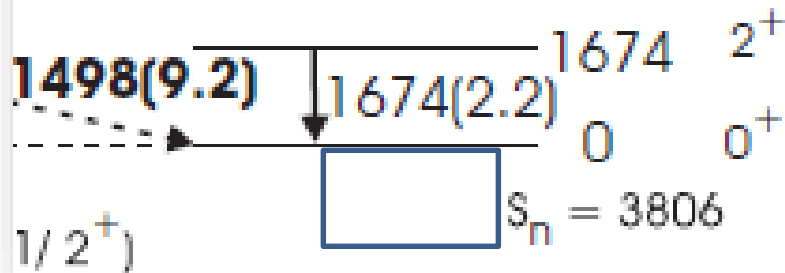
Relative Intensity	Normalization Factor	Absolute Intensity
I_γ x	NR x BR	$= \% I_\gamma$
$I(\text{tot})$ x	NT x BR	$= \% I(\text{tot})$
I_β (or ϵ or α) x	NB x BR	$= \% I_\beta$ (or ϵ or α)
$I_{\beta n}$ (or $I_{\epsilon p}$) x	NP	$= \% I_{\beta n}$ (or $I_{\epsilon p}$)

Particle decays are treated differently

$$NP=1$$

Finally the B-2N Branch

$$P_{2n} = 12(3) \%$$



$$NR = ? \quad 1 \div 0.12$$

$$BR = ? \quad 0.12$$

$$NP = ? \quad 1.0$$

Use of Annihilation Radiation

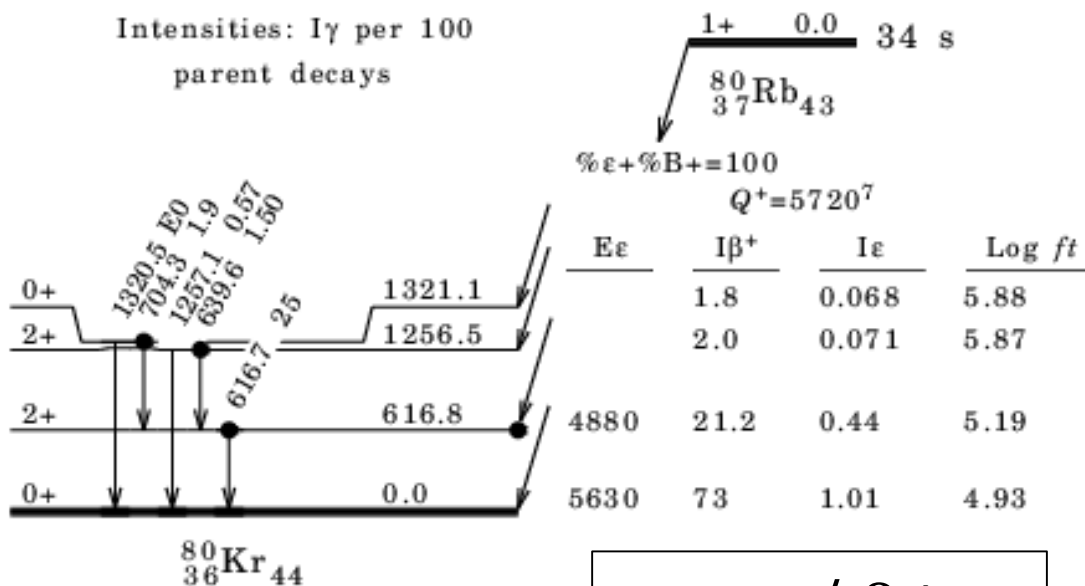
$I(\gamma^\pm)$ = relative annihilation radiation intensity

X_i = intensity imbalance at the i th level

^{80}Rb ϵ Decay (34 s) $^{1973}\text{Br}32$

Decay Scheme

Intensities: I_γ per 100
parent decays



We want to isolate
the β_i^+ feeding

$$X_i = \epsilon_i + \beta_i^+$$

$$X_i = \beta_i^+ (1 + r_i)$$

$$\beta_i^+ = X_i / (1 + r_i)$$

$$r_i = \epsilon_i / \beta_i^+ \\ \text{(theoretical)}$$

Use of Annihilation Radiation

$$r_i = \varepsilon_i / \beta_i^+ \quad (\text{theoretical})$$

How many γ^\pm do we expect?

$$I(\gamma^\pm) = 2^* [\beta_0^+ + \sum \beta_i^+]$$

$$I(\gamma^\pm) = 2^* [X_0 / (1 + r_0) + \sum X_i / (1 + r_i)]$$

$$7.5 / (1 + 0.068 / 1.8) = 7.23$$

$$8.3 / (1 + 0.071 / 2.0) = 8.02$$

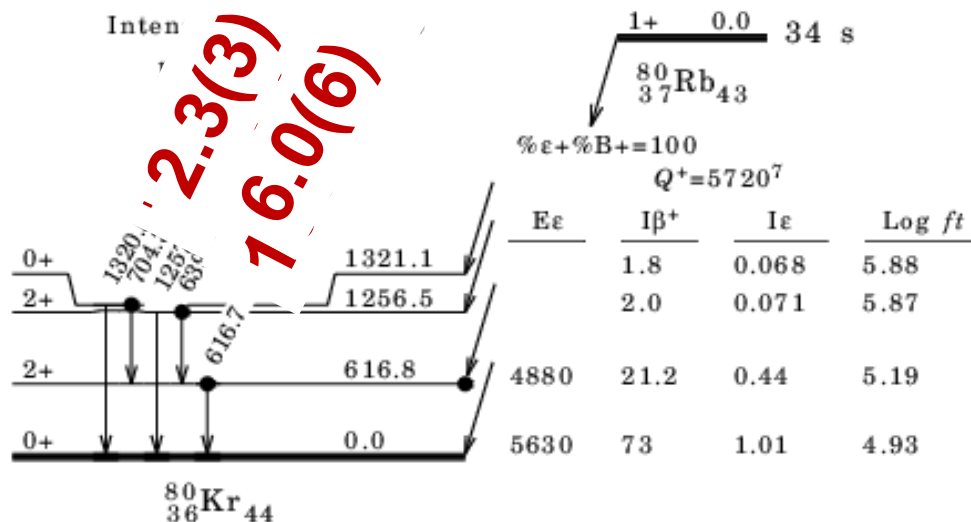
$$(100 - 6.0 - 7.5) / (1 + 0.44 / 21.2) = 84.7$$

$$7.2 + 8.0 + 84.7 = 99.9$$

⁸⁰Rb ε Decay (34 s) ¹⁹⁷Br32

Decay Scheme

$$I(\gamma^\pm) = 795 \text{ (80)}$$



Use of Annihilation Radiation

Solve for X_o

$$I(\gamma_{\pm}) = 2 \left[X_o / (1+r_o) + \sum X_i / (1+r_i) \right] \quad 99.9$$

$$X_o / (1+r_o) = (795/2) - 99.9 = 297.6$$

$$X_o = 297.6 * (1 + [1.01/73]) = 301.8$$

^{80}Rb ϵ Decay (34 s) $^{197}\text{Br}32$

Decay Scheme

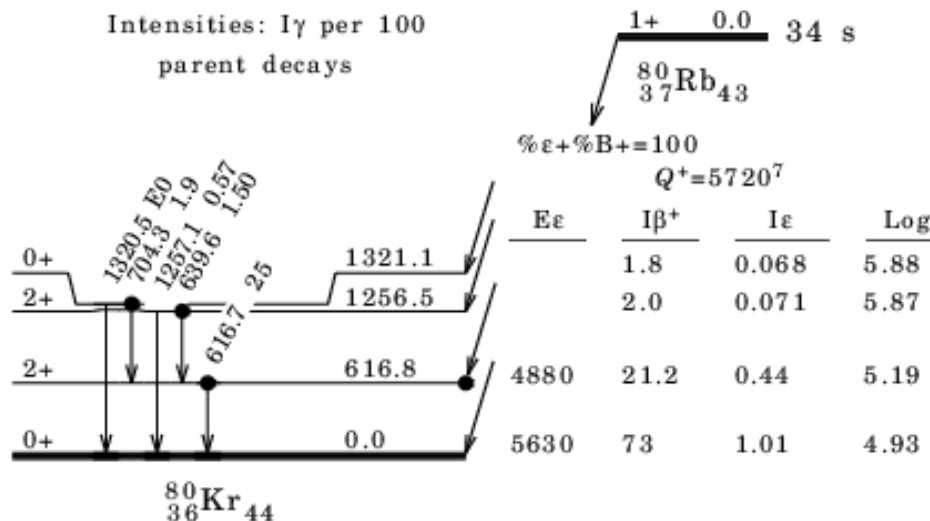
$$I(\gamma_{\pm}) = 795 \text{ (80)}$$

$$(X_o + \sum I(\gamma + \text{ce})(\text{to gs})) * N = 100$$

$$(301.8 + 100) * N = 100$$

$$N = 0.25$$

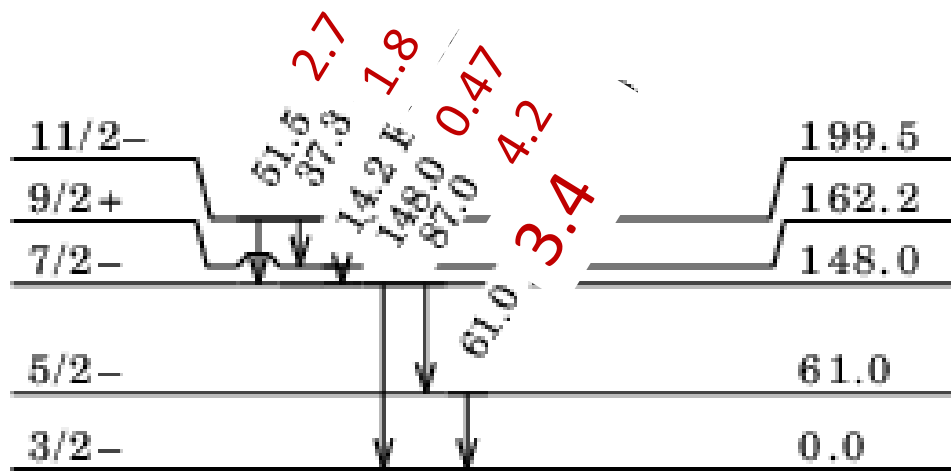
Intensities: $I\gamma$ per 100
parent decays



IT Decay Normalization

Usually easy, since whatever comes out of the isomer has to reach the g.s.

$I(\gamma+ce)$ values



Many options:

$$\Sigma I(\gamma+ce)(\text{to gs}) = 100$$

$$N = 100 / (3.4 + 0.47) = \mathbf{25.8}$$

$$\Sigma I(\gamma+ce)(\text{out 199}) = 100$$

$$N = 100 / (2.7 + 1.8) = \mathbf{22.2}$$

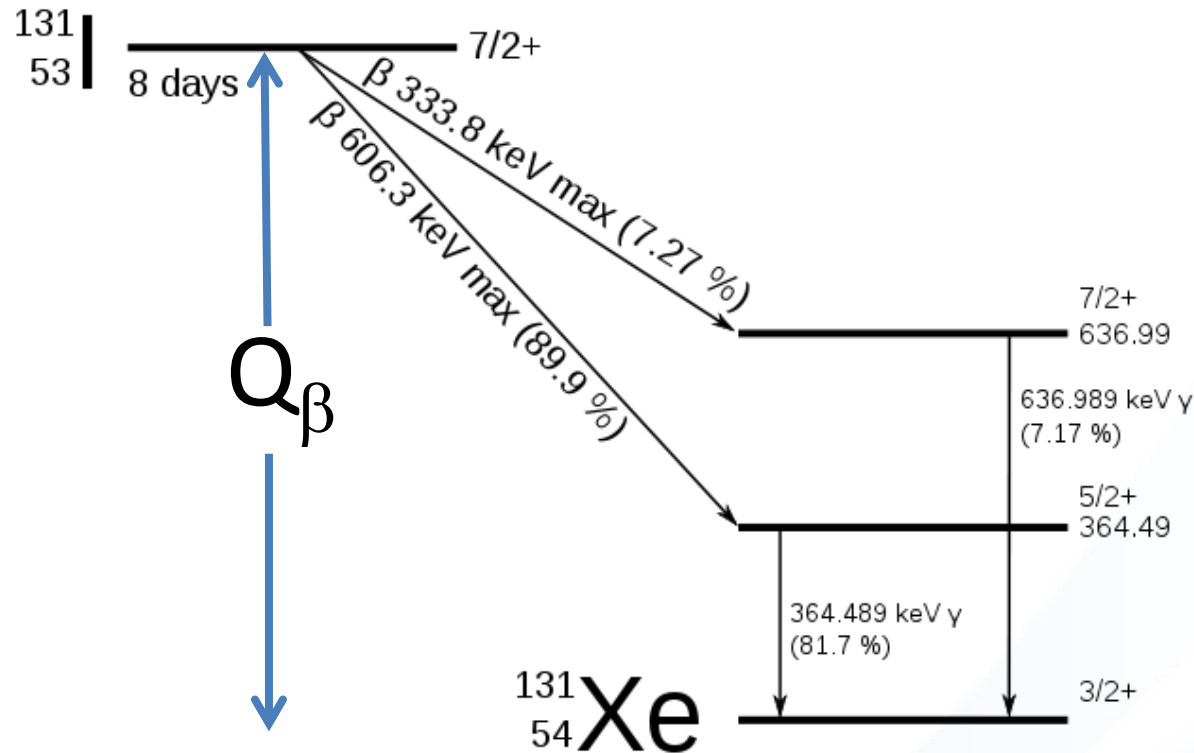
$$\Sigma I(\gamma+ce)(\text{out 148}) = 100$$

$$N = 100 / (4.2 + 0.47) = \mathbf{21.4}$$

What's N?

Does it matter if not balanced?

Energy released in beta decay



$$\text{Electromagnetic (EM)} = \sum I_\gamma E_\gamma + \sum I_{\text{x-ray}} E_{\text{x-ray}}$$

$$\text{Light Particle (LP)} = \sum I_{\beta^-} E_{\beta^-} + \sum I_{\text{ce}} E_{\text{ce}} + \sum I_{\text{Auger}} E_{\text{Auger}}$$

$$\text{Total Energy} = \text{EM} + \text{LP} + E_{\text{neutrino}} = Q(\beta^-)$$

RADLIST

Program to analyze decay radiation (radiation list)

Few options

- Calculate energy release for each radiation type
- Generate ENDF file
- Generate NuDat file
- Generate MIRD output

RADLIST

Output from the program directly

ALPHA	BETA	CE+AUGER	PHOTON	UNPL/GAM	RECOIL	NEUTRINO	NO "2 " CARD ABSORBED	TOTAL	Q*BR
0.000	267.321	0.000	2.398	0.000	0.002	491.694	269.721	761.414	769.000
0.000	6.481	0.000	1.019	0.000	0.000	11.627	6.561	13.350	4.000
INTENSITY SUMS									
0.000	49.568	0.000	1.118	0.000					
0.000	1.193	0.000	0.500	0.000					

RADLIST

Output from the EVP editor

Parent Nucleus	Parent E(level)	Parent $J\pi$	Parent $T_{1/2}$	Decay Mode	GS-GS Q-value (keV)
$^{52}_{25}\text{Mn}$	0.0	6+	5.591 D 3	EC: 100 %	4711.2 19

Energy Balance (keV)	
Gammas	3.46E+3 5
X-Rays	0.92 3
β minus	0
β plus	84 14
Conversion Electrons	0.510 7
Auger electrons	2.62 5
Neutrinos	1.17E+3 3
Recoil	0
Neutrons	0
Protons	0
Alphas	0
Sum	4.72E+3 6
Q-effective	4711.2 19
Missing Energy	0 AP
Ratio	0 % AP

Radiation Type	Energy (keV)	Absolute Intensity
γ XR 1	0.57	0.26 9
γ XR ka2	5.405	5.1 3
γ XR ka1	5.415	10.1 5
γ XR kb1	5.947	1.13 5
γ XR kb3	5.947	0.58 3
γ 1	200.86 10	0.063 7
γ 2	346.02 10	0.865 20
γ 3	398.14 10	0.164 19
γ 4	399.61 10	0.160 10
γ 5	501.44 10	0.161 18
γ Annihil.	511.0	63 5
γ 6	600.13 10	0.360 10
γ 7	647.52 10	0.378 13
γ 8	744.06 10	87.8 20
γ 9	848.08 10	3.43 8
γ 10	901.48 20	0.037 9
γ 11	935.52 10	94.8 21
γ 12	1246.27 10	4.17 10