Abstract Submitted for the DAMOP09 Meeting of The American Physical Society

Hyperfine quenching of $(3d^94s)^3\mathbf{D}_3$ states in Ni-like ions WAL-TER JOHNSON, University of Notre Dame, ULYANA SAFRONOVA¹, University of Nevada, Reno — We study quenching of decays from metastable $(3d^9 4s)^3\mathbf{D}_3$ states of Ni-like ions with odd-A nuclei caused by hyperfine mixing with nearby $^{1,3}\mathbf{D}_2$ states. A detailed discussion is given for the Ni-like ions 132 Xe, 131 Xe, and 129 Xe. For 132 Xe (I=0) the $^3\mathbf{D}_3$ state decays by M3 emission. For the odd-A nuclei 131 Xe (I=3/2) and 129 Xe (I=1/2), each hyperfine level decays at a separate rate owing to hyperfine mixing. Comparisons are made with other calculations [1] and with experiment [2] for the the three isotopes of Ni-like Xe. Decay rates of the hyperfine levels of $^3\mathbf{D}_3$ states are evaluated for isotopes of those Ni-like ions in the range 77 Se⁸⁺ – 207 Pb⁵⁴⁺ that have nuclear spin I=1/2 using relativistic many-body perturbation theory. [1] K. Yao, M. Andersson, T. Brage, R. Hutton, P. Jönsson, and Y. Zou, Phys. Rev. Lett. **98**, 269903 (2007). [2] E. Träbert, P. Beiersdorfer, and G. V. Brown, Phys. Rev. Lett. **98**, 263001 (2007).

¹On leave from ISAN, Troitsk, Russia

Walter Johnson University of Notre Dame

Date submitted: 16 Jan 2009

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