

Abstract Submitted  
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**$\beta$ -delayed  $\gamma$ -ray spectroscopy of  $^{196}\text{Hg}$**  C. BERNARDS, M. ELVERS, D. RADECK, IKP Cologne, Germany and WNSL, Yale University, USA, J. JOLIE, T. THOMAS, K.O. ZELL, IKP Cologne, Germany, T. AHN, A. HEINZ, G. ILLIE, D. SAVRAN, V. WERNER, WNSL, Yale University, USA, T. AHMED, C. DENG, E. JIANG, R. LEE, N. SHENKOV, University of Richmond — Recent experimental results on the nucleus  $^{196}\text{Hg}$  – especially newly determined level spins and multipole mixing ratios of  $\gamma$  transitions between low-energy states – show a good agreement with supersymmetrical predictions, describing  $^{196}\text{Hg}$  as the two-fermion, five-boson member of the supermultiplet around  $^{194}\text{Pt}$ . To complete the data of a previous  $^{194}\text{Pt}(\alpha,2n)$  experiment, and to search for further low-lying low-spin states that might not be populated by that reaction, we chose to perform a new experiment on  $^{196}\text{Hg}$ . This time we approached  $^{196}\text{Hg}$  via  $\beta$  decay. We used a 35 MeV proton beam at the Wright Nuclear Structure Laboratory to induce the reaction  $^{198}\text{Hg}(p,3n)^{196}\text{Tl}$ . Our target consisted of highly enriched  $^{198}\text{HgS}$ . One  $\beta$  decay branch populates preferably the low-spin states we are interested in. The  $^{196}\text{Hg}$   $\gamma$  transitions were detected with the highly efficient YRAST Ball  $\gamma$  spectrometer. We present first preliminary results and discuss the description of the even-even mercury isotopes in the context of the nuclear structure supersymmetry. Supported by DFG grants Jo391/2-3, Jo391/3-2, and by U.S. DOE grant DE-FG02-91ER40609.

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