## Abstract Submitted for the DNP11 Meeting of The American Physical Society

Seniority, collectivity, and B(E2) enhancement in  $^{72}Ni^1$  C.J. CHIARA, I. STEFANESCU, U. of Maryland/ANL, W.B. WALTERS, N. SHARP, U. of Maryland, M. ALCORTA, M.P. CARPENTER, G. GURDAL, C.R. HOFF-MAN, R.V.F. JANSSENS, B.P. KAY, F.G. KONDEV, T. LAURITSEN, C.J. LIS-TER, E.A. MCCUTCHAN, A.M. ROGERS, D. SEWERYNIAK, S. ZHU, ANL, B. FORNAL, W. KRÓLAS, T. PAWŁAT, J. WRZESIŃSKI, Krakow — Gamma rays assigned to  $^{72}_{28}$ Ni<sub>44</sub> have been identified with Gammasphere in deep-inelastic reactions involving a 450-MeV <sup>76</sup>Ge beam and a <sup>198</sup>Pt target. Using a combination of spectra produced by double gates on the known 454-, 843-, and 1095-keV members of the ground-state cascade, a coincident line at 199 keV has been identified and is tentatively assigned as the  $8^+ \rightarrow 6^+$  transition. These  $\gamma$ -ray coincidences were observed only in prompt events, indicating an 8<sup>+</sup> half-life below 20 ns and requiring a large B(E2) enhancement compared to that expected from a seniority scheme. This value is consistent with models showing decay to a seniority  $\nu = 4, 6^+$  level that is depressed by the same two-body interaction responsible for the rather low 1095-keV  $2_1^+$  energy, as compared to the valence-symmetry counterpart  $_{44}^{94}\mathrm{Ru}_{50}$ .

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