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Collectivity in neutron-rich Cr isotopes¹ S. SUCHYTA, S. LIDDICK, H. CRAWFORD, G. GRINYER, N. LARSON, J. PEREIRA, C. PROKOP, A. SCHNEIDER, S. VINNIKOVA, NSCL/MSU, C. CHIARA, U. of M./ANL, W. WAL-TERS, U. of M., M. CARPENTER, G. GURDAL, E. MCCUTCHAN, S. ZHU, ANL — Collectivity rapidly develops in neutron-rich nuclei near N = 40 with Z < 28 as protons are removed from the $f_{7/2}$ single-particle state. This collectivity has been inferred from large drops in the energy of the first excited 2^+ state in even-even Cr and Fe isotopes, as well as an increase in B(E2) along the Fe isotopic chain. Shell-model calculations that include the neutron $g_{9/2}$ and $d_{5/2}$ single-particle states indicate that the enhanced collectivity can be attributed to multi-particle neutron excitations across the N=40 gap. In the odd-odd nuclei, coexistence between spherical and deformed states has been proposed in the low-energy level structures of the Co and Mn isotopes. While recent studies of odd-A nuclei in this region have focused on the Co and Fe isotopes, less is known about the odd-A Cr isotopes. The structure of the odd-A Cr nuclei was investigated through the beta decay of neutron-rich V isotopes produced at the NSCL. The low-energy level schemes of the odd-A Cr isotopes will be presented and discussed.

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