Abstract Submitted for the DNP20 Meeting of The American Physical Society

Triple Shape Coexistence in Stable ⁶⁴Ni¹ A. D. AYANGEAKAA, Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill / Triangle Universities Nuclear Laboratory, Duke University, Durham,, D. LITTLE, R. V. F. JANSSENS, Department of Physics Astronomy, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill and Triangle University Nuclear Laboratory (TUNL), ANL COL-LABORATION, MSU/NSCL COLLABORATION, LLNL COLLABORATION, U. TOKYO COLLABORATION, KRAKOW COLLABORATION — In a tour de force involving 4 experiments at 4 different laboratories, an unexpectedly-complex landscape of triple shape coexistence was established in the stable, semi-magic ⁶⁴Ni nucleus. For the first time, an excited 2⁺ state was also found in the prolate minimum. Shell model calculations, performed with significantly extended basis vector space, provided a microscopic understanding of the results and of the evolution in excitation energy of the prolate minimum across the N = 40 sub-shell gap, and highlighted the impact of the monopole interaction and its variation in strength with increasing N.

¹This work is supported, in part, by the U.S. Department of Energy, the National Science Foundation (NSF), the Naval Academy Research Council (NARC), the European project for Nuclear Physics, the Italian istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare, the Polish National Science Center, the Romanian Nucleu Project, and MEXT

Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill / Triangle Universities Nucle

Date submitted: 26 Jun 2020

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