

Abstract Submitted  
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**Study of  $^{68}\text{Co}$  low-energy structure via  $\beta$  decay<sup>1</sup>** B.P. CRIDER, C.J. PROKOP, S.N. LIDDICK, J. CHEN, A.C. DOMBOS, N.R. LARSON, R. LEWIS, S.J. QUINN, A. SPYROU, NSCL/MSU, A.D. AYANGEAKAA, M.P. CARPENTER, H.M. DAVID, R.V.F. JANSSENS, T. LAURITSEN, D. SEWERYNIAK, S. ZHU, ANL, M. AL-SHUDIFAT, S. GO, R. GRZYWACZ, UTK, J. HARKER, UMD/ANL, W.B. WALTERS, UMD, J.J. CARROLL, ARL, C.J. CHIARA, ARL/ORAU, F. RECCHIA, UNIPD, S. SUCHYTA, LBL — The fragility of the  $N = 40$  subshell closure in neutron-rich nuclei is highlighted by the sudden onset of collectivity as protons are removed from the  $\pi f_{7/2}$  single-particle state and has been attributed to shape coexistence between spherical and prolate-deformed configurations. A recent study of  $^{68}\text{Co}$  at NSCL concluded that the lowest-energy populated state was attributed to a deformed configuration, further extending the presence of shape coexistence to this nucleus. This work reports on  $^{68}\text{Co}$  from a  $\beta$ -decay experiment at NSCL utilizing the  $\beta$  decay from  $^{68}\text{Fe}$  to populate low-spin states of  $^{68}\text{Co}$ . Coupling large statistics and half-life measurement capabilities, an expanded description of  $^{68}\text{Co}$  will be presented.

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