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Exploring the limits of existence of heavy neutron-deficient nuclei in the Z=70-82 region

Alpha-, beta-, and proton-decay energies have been combined with TITAN mass values for ^{150–157}Yb to expand and refine the mass surface in the proton-rich Z=70-82 region. The calculations were performed using the Atomic Mass Evaluation (AME) algorithm. As a result, a total of 11 new ground state masses were accordingly determined while the uncertainties were reduced by more than a factor of two for 9 previously determined ground-state masses. The new information allows the determination of the two-proton drip line for elements between Ir and Pb and provides predictions of new candidates for two-proton emission. In addition, we examine binding energies in this region for Thomas-Ehrman shifts, so far only visible for light nuclides.

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