

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

BACKBENDING, SENIORITY AND PAULI BLOCKING OF PAIRING CORRELATIONS AT  
HIGH ROTATIONAL FREQUENCIES IN RAPIDLY ROTATING NUCLEI: A SYSTEMATIC  
ANALYSIS OF Er, Yb, Hf AND W ISOTOPES AND NUCLEAR STRUCTURE STUDIES OF  
 $^{179,180}\text{W}$ ,  $^{160,161}\text{Gd}$  AND  $^{155}\text{Sm}$ .

By

KALISA A. VILLAFANA

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The members of the supervisory committee were:

Mark A. Riley  
Professor Directing Dissertation

Tomasz A. Plewa  
University Representative

Nicholas E. Bonesteel  
Committee Member

Jorge Piekarewicz  
Committee Member

Vandana Tripathi  
Committee Member

The Graduate School has verified and approved the above-named committee members, and certifies that the dissertation has been approved in accordance with university requirements.