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β decay of ¹²⁷Cd and excited states in ¹²⁷In

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A dedicated spectroscopic study of the β decay of ¹²⁷Cd was conducted at the IGISOL facility at the University of Jyväskylä. Following high-resolution mass separation in a Penning trap, β - γ - γ coincidences were used to considerably extend the decay scheme of ¹²⁷In. The β -decaying $3/2^+$ and $11/2^-$ states in ¹²⁷Cd have been identified with the ¹²⁷Cd ground state and the 283-keV isomer. Their respective half-lives have been measured to $0.45(^{12}_8)$ s and 0.36(4) s. The experimentally observed β feeding to excited states of ¹²⁷In and the decay scheme of ¹²⁷In are discussed in conjunction with large-scale shell-model calculations.

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I. INTRODUCTION

The heaviest doubly-magic nucleus far away from the line of stability accessible for experimental studies with today's techniques is ¹³²Sn. The region around it is not only a unique testing ground for nuclear structure models but also of significant relevance for the astrophysical rapid neutron capture process, the r process [1]. The r process is responsible for the production of about half of the elements heavier than iron. One of the main r-process abundance peaks is located at around A = 130. Sensitivity studies show that the nuclear properties of nuclei around the closed shells at N = 50, 82, and 126 have the largest impact on the r-process abundances [2–4]. In particular, β -decay half-lives, and therefore the contribution of first-forbidden β decays, have a direct impact on predicted abundance of rare-earth elements [2,5]. Since most of the nuclei involved in the r process are experimentally inaccessible, it is necessary to constrain theoretical models with reliable information on nearby nuclei to as accurately as possible predict relevant nuclear properties and thereby improve *r*-process simulations.

In this work, the high resolving power of JYFLTRAP [6] has been utilized to mass select ^{125}Cd and ^{127}Cd ions whose decays were then studied with the TASISpec decay station [7]. JYFLTRAP settings on ^{125}Cd as well as separately ^{125g}Cd and ^{125m}Cd served primarily methodological purposes. Here the focus is on ^{127}Cd and its β -decay daughter ^{127}In .

The first dedicated study on the β decay of ¹²⁷Cd was performed by Hoff *et al.* [8]. The reported decay scheme of ¹²⁷In suggested only one β -decaying state in ¹²⁷Cd with a half-life of $T_{1/2} = 0.43(3)$ s. Later studies identified two longlived states with spin-parity assignments $I^{\pi} = 11/2^{-}$ and $I^{\pi} = 3/2^{+}$, respectively [9]. Recently, the excitation energy of the isomer in ¹²⁷Cd was measured to be 283.3(56) keV [10].

Although the existence of the long-lived $11/2^-$ and $3/2^+$ states has been confirmed for all odd-even cadmium nuclei from ¹²¹Cd to ¹²⁹Cd [9], there is no experimental information on the ordering of these states in any of these nuclei. Based on systematics in the lighter isotopes, the $3/2^+$ state is assigned to the ground state for $121 \le A \le 125$ [11], whereas a crossing of the two states is expected between ¹²⁷Cd and ¹²⁹Cd [12]. Such a scenario is supported by recent shell-model calculations [13].

The work of Hoff et al. [8] and Arndt et al. [14] are the only studies providing γ -ray spectroscopic data on ¹²⁷In. Interestingly, more than half of the hitherto 43 γ -ray transitions associated with the decay could not be placed in the 127 In level scheme. The excitation energy of the $1/2^$ isomer in ¹²⁷In, however, was fixed to $E_r = 408.9(3)$ keV [14,15]. The result agrees well with the value of 420(65) keV reported by Gausemel et al. [16]. A recent mass measurement yielded a consistent excitation energy of 390(18) keV [17]. In addition to the $1/2^-$ isomer, another β -decaying isomer at 1697(49) keV with a tentative spin-parity assignment of $I^{\pi} = 21/2^{-}$ and $T_{1/2} = 1.04(10)$ s has been identified [16,17]. Evidence for a short-lived, $T_{1/2} = 9(2) \mu s$, high-spin isomer feeding this 21/2 isomer has been found as well, with a tentative 29/2⁺ spin-parity assignment [18,19]. However, due to their high spin, these states are not populated by the 127 Cd β decay, and hence they are not relevant for the present work.

This work adds new insight into the level ordering of the $11/2^-$ and $3/2^+$ states in 127 Cd, their half-lives, and the excitation scheme of 127 In. Following a description of the experimental procedure, the obtained results are presented in detail, beginning with the derived level scheme of 127 In. Thereafter, the β decay of 127 Cd is discussed. The findings are then compared to extensive shell-model calculations.

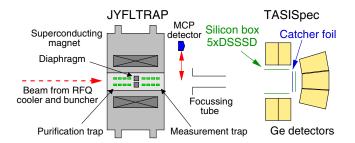


FIG. 1. Sketch of the experimental setup starting with the cooled and bunched beam from the RFQ cooler and buncher [22]. Using the purification trap [6] ¹²⁷Cd ions were separated from neighboring isobars, transferred to the TASISpec decay station [7], and deposited on an aluminum catcher foil. The measurement trap was employed for separating ground and isomeric state of ^{125,127}Cd. Dimensions are not to scale.

II. EXPERIMENT

The experiment was performed at the IGISOL facility at the University of Jyväskylä [6,20]. A 25-MeV proton beam provided by the K130 cyclotron impinging on a ^{nat}U target was used to produce Cd isotopes via proton-induced fission. After being stopped in the helium gas cell, the fission products were extracted using the sextupole ion guide SPIG [21] and accelerated to 30 kV. Using a 55° dipole magnet, singly-charged ions with mass number A = 127 were selected and guided toward the gas-filled radio-frequency quadrupole (RFQ) cooler and buncher [22]. Finally, the cooled and bunched ions were injected into the JYFLTRAP double-Penning-trap mass spectrometer [6]. In the purification trap, ¹²⁷Cd ions were selected via a mass-selective buffer gas cooling technique [23] using a 10-ms magnetron excitation pulse followed by a 90-ms quadrupolar excitation pulse at the ¹²⁷Cd cyclotron resonance frequency (846 636 Hz). A mass resolving power of $m/\Delta m = 53\,000$ was achieved, corresponding to $\Delta m/c^2 \approx 2.2$ MeV. This is sufficient to filter out neighboring isobars. The known μ s isomer in ¹²⁷Cd [24] is too short lived and decays before reaching the Penning trap. The full trap cycle took ≈140 ms, which is roughly half of the previously reported half-life of ¹²⁷Cd [15]. This value was found to be the best compromise to allow for half-life measurements and collect sufficient statistics for β - γ (- γ) spectroscopy at the

The isomeric ratio $\frac{127m\text{Cd}}{127g\text{s}\text{Cd}}$ in the beam delivered to TASIS-pec was estimated using the Phase-Imaging Ion-Cyclotron-Resonance (PI-ICR) [25] and time-of-flight ion-cyclotron-resonance [26,27] techniques, obtaining ratios of 5.3(7) and 2.6(8), respectively. A weighted average of 4.0(13) was used for the analysis.

Following their mass selection in JYFLTRAP, the ^{127}Cd ions were extracted, re-accelerated to 30 keV, and guided into the TASISpec decay station [7], see Fig. 1. The ^{127}Cd ions were deposited on a 9- μ m-thick aluminum catcher foil placed 6 mm in front of a 0.52-mm-thick double-sided silicon strip detector (DSSSD) comprising $32 \times 32 = 1024$ pixels [7] on an active area of 58×58 mm². In addition, four pixelized 16×16 , 0.97-mm-thick DSSSDs of the same size were placed upstream, effectively forming a compact cube

of pixelized silicon charged-particle detectors. This silicon cube was placed inside a vacuum chamber with thin, 0.5-mm, aluminum windows toward four composite, high-purity germanium (HPGe) detectors: one former EUROBALL cluster detector [28] in the beam direction, two former EUROBALL clover detectors [29] to the left and right, as well as one clover detector with bismuth germanate anti-Compton shield from the GREAT spectrometer [30] facing the silicon box from below.

The signals from the silicon detectors as well as the anti-Compton shield were processed by custom-made 32channel charge sensitive preamplifiers (CSP) [31] employing a 0.1-V/MeV range. Their read-out was handled by 14-bit 50-MHz sampling analog-to-digital converters (ADCs). These front-end boards with optical link extension (FEBEX) [32], were developed at the experiment electronics division of the Gesellschaft für Schwerionenforschung mbH (GSI), Darmstadt, Germany. Four commercial 16-bit 100-MHz SIS3302 sampling ADCs were used to process the HPGe-detector signals. A data acquisition system based on the GSI multi-branch system (MBS) [33] generated list-mode events comprising the recorded pulse shapes from the FEBEX system, energy and time of the HPGe-detector signals, as well as a time stamp for each trap release. The MBS was triggered by (i) a signal from a DSSSD strip above an energy threshold of \approx 100 keV, (ii) a signal from at least two HPGe detectors within \approx 5 μ s and above an energy threshold of \approx 20 keV, or (iii) a logic release signal from JYFLTRAP. A trigger on a single HPGe-detector signal was implemented as well. It was used for energy calibration and γ -ray detection efficiency measurements with standard, sealed γ -ray sources, e.g., 152 Eu, or combined conversion electron- γ sources such as 133 Ba or 207 Bi. The 1764.5- and 2614.5-keV γ -ray transitions in 214 Po and 208 Pb from natural background radiation were utilized as additional energy-calibration points beyond the range of the calibration sources. For higher γ -ray energies the energy calibration was extrapolated linearly. The γ -ray detection efficiency has been obtained using the Radware-EFFIT tool [34].

For the offline analysis of β - γ and β - γ - γ events a prompt-coincidence time window between the triggering silicon channel and the coincident HPGe-detector channel was implemented, reaching from \approx 750 ns at 50 keV to \approx 250 ns for energies above 1500 keV. To improve on γ -ray efficiency at high energies, so-called nearest-neighbor add-back of coincident events in adjacent Ge-detector crystals was performed. Events detected by the DSSSDs were only considered if the energy deposition was the same within $\pm 1\%$ in the n-side and p-side strips, also following an add-back procedure of coincident events in neighboring strips.

The spectroscopic results on the β decay of ¹²⁷Cd presented in the next section are primarily based on a 44-h-long measurement as described above, with about 7 to 10 mass-separated ¹²⁷Cd ions per second delivered from JYFLTRAP into TASISpec. In addition, the provision of clean beams out of JYFLTRAP of either the ground state of ¹²⁵, ¹²⁷Cd or their long-lived isomeric counterparts was attempted. Though in principle successful at the trap stage, the rate losses employing the Ramsey method [35,36] were too significant to allow for meaningful decay spectroscopy. On another attempt for ¹²⁷Cd,

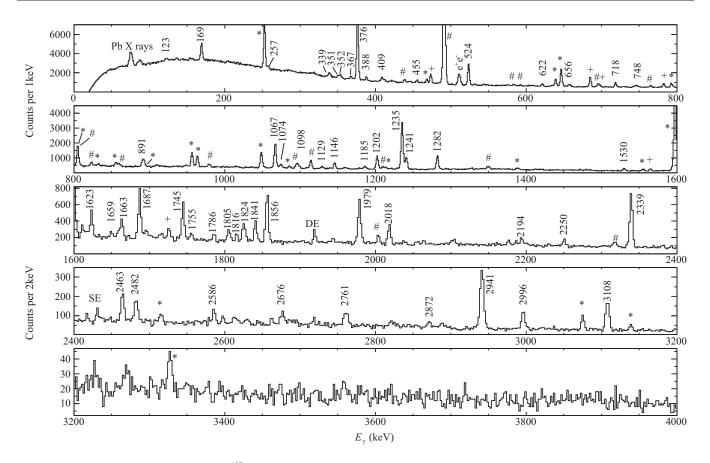


FIG. 2. Observed γ -ray spectrum of the ¹²⁷Cd β decay in prompt coincidence with a β particle. Known transitions emitted following the β decay of daughter nuclei are labeled with the following symbols: * for transitions in ¹²⁷Sn, # for transitions in ¹²⁷Sb, and + for transitions in ¹²⁷Te. Single- and double-escape peaks are denoted by SE and DE, and the corresponding annihilation peak at 511 keV is marked with (e^+e^-) . The bin width is 1 keV for $E_{\gamma} \leq 1600$ keV and 2 keV for $E_{\gamma} > 1600$ keV. Energy labels are in keV.

using the phase-dependent cleaning method [37] based on the PI-ICR technique [25], some spectroscopic information could be obtained, but even in this case lack of statistics prevented a direct conclusion concerning the order of the β -decaying $3/2^+$ and $11/2^-$ states in ¹²⁷Cd [38].

III. RESULTS

The recorded γ -ray spectrum requiring a β particle in prompt coincidence is shown in Fig. 2. All observed γ -ray transitions could be identified to originate from either the β decay of the parent isotope ¹²⁷Cd or its daughter β emitters, ¹²⁷In, ¹²⁷Sn, or ¹²⁷Sb. For some high-energy transitions, single-escape and double-escape peaks are denoted as well. No γ -ray peaks could be attributed to known transitions in ¹²⁶In or ¹²⁶Sn, which could have been populated by β -delayed neutron emission. The measured relative transition intensities in the daughter nuclei ¹²⁷Sn, ¹²⁷Sb, and ¹²⁷Te are in agreement with previously reported yields [15] and it can be concluded that exclusively ¹²⁷Cd left JYFLTRAP and entered TASISpec.

Based on the known absolute transition intensities in ¹²⁷Sn after the β decay of either the ¹²⁷In 9/2⁺ ground state or the ¹²⁷In 1/2⁻ isomer, it was possible to determine their relative population, $\frac{N(^{127m}\ln)}{N(^{1278}\ln)} = 0.32(4)$, and an absolute transition

yield of 24(3)% for the dominating 1235-keV ground-state transition in $^{127}\mathrm{In}$.

To unambiguously identify γ -ray transitions stemming from the β decay of ¹²⁷Cd, events detected in the first half of a trap cycle (i.e., within $\Delta t = [0, 70]$ ms after a traprelease trigger signal) were sorted in a "signal" spectrum, and those events detected in the second half of a trap cycle (i.e., $\Delta t = [70, 140]$ ms after a trap-release trigger signal and prior to the next trap release) were sorted in a "background" spectrum. Because of the relatively short half-life of ¹²⁷Cd and since the observed activity of the 127 Cd β decay is directly correlated to the trap-release signal, γ -ray peaks originating from the 127 Cd β decay will be less intense in the "background" spectrum than in the "signal" spectrum. This is different for the subsequent daughter decays: Their half-lives, ranging from a few seconds for ¹²⁷In to several days for ¹²⁷Sb, are significantly longer than the trap-release cycle of 140 ms. Hence their activity within a trap cycle will appear to be constant, and corresponding γ -ray peak-intensities in the "signal" and "background" spectrum will be the same. Subtracting the "background" spectrum from the "signal" spectrum will therefore remove all γ -ray peaks which are not correlated to the primary 127 Cd β decay. The resulting spectrum is shown in Fig. 3.

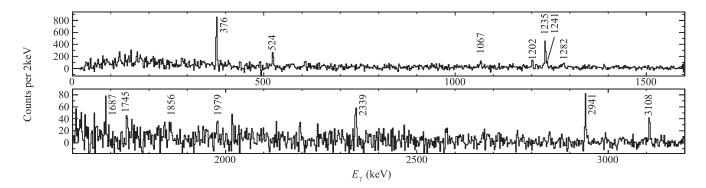


FIG. 3. Observed γ -ray spectrum for the first 70 ms after a trap-release signal where all γ rays detected later than 70 ms after the last trap-release signal were subtracted, i.e., highlighting γ -ray transitions following the first β -decay step of ¹²⁷Cd. Energy labels are in keV. See text for details.

A. The level scheme of ¹²⁷In

The proposed experimental level scheme of 127 In is shown in Fig. 4(b). Table I lists the measured energies and relative intensities as well as initial and final states of the 84 observed γ -ray transitions. The majority of these transitions were placed using β - γ - γ and β - γ - γ - γ information. The γ -ray peaks observed in Fig. 3 were used as a starting point since they can be firmly assigned to 127 In (see above). Of these 84 γ -ray transitions, 31 had been already identified in

previous studies, of which only 17 had previously been placed in a level scheme of 127 In [8,14,15]. The placement of those γ -ray transitions agrees with the previously proposed decay scheme [8], with the exception of a 1979-keV line, which we position as a ground-state transition based on (non-)observed coincidence relations (see below). Some 13 unplaced γ -ray transitions reported by Hoff *et al.* [8] were not observed in the present study, which may find its explanation in the different production ratio between 127m Cd and 127gs Cd for the two

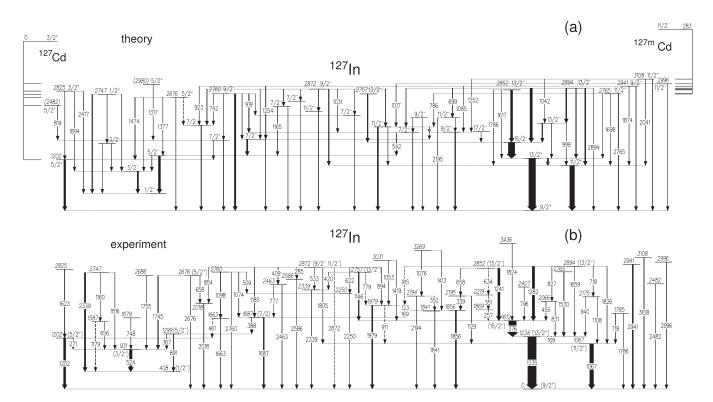


FIG. 4. Decay scheme of 127 In following the β decay of 127 Cd. Panel (a) shows the model based on shell-model calculations and panel (b) shows results observed experimentally. Energy labels are in keV, and tentative levels and transitions are dashed. In panel (a), the predicted main branches of Gamow-Teller (GT) β -decay feeding from 127 Cd are indicated for the $3/2^+$ ground state on the left-hand side and for the $11/2^-$ isomer on the right-hand side. This includes the excitation energies of the experimental levels associated with the main GT feeding. The γ -ray decay pattern in panel (a) is derived from experimental excitation energies but calculated transition strengths. Unobserved γ -ray transitions with predicted yields above the observational limit are labeled with their energy in keV. More details and the relevant discussion are provided in Sec. IV C. Detailed numerical results are given in Table IV.

TABLE I. Evaluated γ -ray energies E_{γ} ; their relative γ -ray intensities from this work, I_{γ} , and previous studies, I_{γ}^{lit} [8]; initial and final states, E_i and E_f ; and their proposed spin and parity assignments, I_i^{π} and I_f^{π} . Transitions marked with an asterisk cannot be placed unambiguously in the decay scheme and proposed initial and final states are in brackets. The absolute intensity per ¹²⁷Cd decay of the 1235.3-keV transition is 24(3)%.

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		$(9/2^+)$
$533.1(5)$ $1.3(4)$ $2871.9(2)$ $2338.5(4)$ $(9/2^{-})$ $1744.7(4)^{(e)}$ $10.3(9)$ $20.3(20)$ $2676.1(4)$ 931.4	(7/2)	$(9/2^+)$
	3) $(5/2^+)$	$(3/2^{-})$
$621.7(4) \qquad 2.5(15) \qquad \qquad 2871.9(2) \qquad 2250.3(3) \qquad (9/2^{-}) \qquad \qquad 1755.0(4) \qquad 2.4(6) \qquad 6.0(10) 2686.4(5) \qquad 931.4(6) \qquad 6.0(10) 2686.4(5) \qquad 931.4(6) \qquad 6.0(10) 2686.4(5) \qquad 931.4(6) \qquad 6.0(10) 931.4(6) \qquad 931.4$	3)	$(3/2^{-})$
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827.4(6) 1.7(3) 2893.6(3) 2066.4(2) (13/2 ⁻) 2250.2(6) 1.8(5) 3.3(15) 2250.3(3) 0		$(9/2^+)$
830.8(5) 1.6(6) 2066.4(2) 1235.5(1) $(13/2^+)$ 2338.8(7) ^{eh} \sim 7.2 2338.5(4) 0		$(9/2^+)$
$853.9(6) \qquad 0.9(5) \qquad \qquad 2871.9(2) \qquad 2018.1(4) (9/2^{-}) \qquad \qquad 2339.3(7)^{eh} \qquad \sim 16 \qquad 39(3) \qquad 2747.3(4) \qquad 408.0$	3)	$(1/2^{-})$
890.6(3) 7.8(15) 1298.6(3) 408.0(3) (5/2 ⁻) (1/2 ⁻) 2463.3(7) 4.5(7) 2463.3(3) 0		$(9/2^+)$
893.8(5) 1.8(6) 2871.9(2) 1978.6(2) (9/2 ⁻) 2482.4(5)* 4.0(10) 4.8(15) [2482.4(5)] [0]		$(9/2^+)$
911.3(8) 1.1(6) 1978.6(2) 1066.5(1) (11/2+) 2585.7(7) 2.6(6) 2586.3(4) 0		$(9/2^+)$
915.2(9) 1.3(6) 2893.6(3) 1978.6(2) (13/2 ⁻) 2676.1(6) 2.5(5) 12(2) 2676.1(4) 0	$(5/2^+)$	$(9/2^+)$
940.3(5) 1.9(7) 2175.3(3) 1235.5(1) (13/2+) 2760.5(6) 3.3(6) 2760.4(3) 0		$(9/2^+)$
1052.5(6) 2.4(13) 3031.0(5) 1978.6(2) 2871.8(9) 1.2(4) 2871.9(2) 0	$(9/2^{-})$	$(9/2^+)$
$1066.6(3)^{e} 46(2) 61(8) 1066.5(1) 0 (11/2^{+}) (9/2^{+}) 2941.3(5)^{e*} 14.7(10) 17.5(20) [2941.3(5)] [0]$		$(9/2^+)$
$1073.5(5) 5.0(12) 2760.4(3) 1686.6(2) (7/2) 2996.0(6)^* 4.2(6) [2996.0(6)] [0]$		$(9/2^+)$
$1075.5(6) \qquad 2.3(2) \qquad \qquad 3269.2(5) \qquad 2193.6(4) \qquad \qquad 3107.9(6)^{e*} \qquad 7.9(12) 8.9(15) [3107.9(6)] \qquad [0]$		$(9/2^+)$

^aNormalized with respect to I_{γ} (1235 keV).

^bEnergy and intensity based on the coincidence spectrum of the 1686.7-keV transition.

^cEnergy and intensity based on the coincidence spectrum of the 1066.6-keV and 376.0-keV transitions.

^dOrder of decay sequence uncertain. See text for details.

^eAssignment to ¹²⁷Cd supported by time correlated spectra as described at the beginning of Sec. III.

^fEnergy and intensity based on the coincidence spectrum of the 1855.9-keV and 338.7-keV transitions.

^gEnergy and intensity based on the coincidence spectrum of the 2018.0-keV transition.

^hDoublet structure. See text for details.

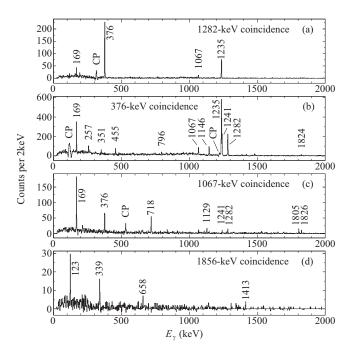


FIG. 5. Observed γ -ray spectra in prompt coincidence with (a) the 1282-keV transition, (b) the 376-keV transition, (c) the 1067-keV transition, and (d) the 1856-keV transition. Peaks marked with (CP) arise from Compton scattered γ rays of the intense 491-keV transition in ¹²⁷Sb, the 1235-keV transition in ¹²⁷In, or the 1597-keV transition in ¹²⁷Sn. In case of the spectrum shown in panel (a), for instance, the peak at ~315 keV stems from 1597-keV γ rays which first deposited 1282 keV (315 keV) in one HPGe detector via Compton scattering and the remaining energy of 315 keV (1282 keV) in another HPGe detector. Energy labels are in keV.

experiments, which is discussed in Sec. III A 4 in more detail. The energies and the energy uncertainties of the excited states in ¹²⁷In were obtained using the Radware-xmgls tool [34].

1. Decay scheme on top of the 1235- and 1067-keV transitions

The structure consisting of the intense 169.0-, 376.0-, 1066.6-, 1145.7-, 1235.3-, 1240.7-, and 1282.1-keV transitions established by Hoff *et al.* [8] is confirmed by prompt β - γ - γ (- γ) coincidences. It relates to the right-hand side of the decay scheme shown in Fig. 4(b). The corresponding γ -ray coincidence relations are illustrated in Figs. 5(a)–5(c). All these transitions, with the exception of the 169.0-keV and 1145.7-keV transitions, are also visible in Fig. 3, clearly confirming their assignment to 127 In.

The spectrum in coincidence with the 1282.1-keV transition in Fig. 5(a) contains peaks at 169.0-, 376.0-, 1066.6-, and 1235.3-keV, establishing the state at 2893.6 keV. It is found that this state deexcites via a number of additional decay branches. For instance, the 454.9- and 827.4-keV transitions are in a cascade parallel to the 1282.1-keV line. There are direct 1659.1- and 1826.1-keV connections [cf. Fig. 5(c)] into the yrast $(13/2^+)$ and $(11/2^+)$ states, respectively. Parallel to these two transitions are weak 827.4-830.8-, 718.4-940.3-, and 718.4-1108.3-keV cascades.

Albeit being unresolved in the total γ -ray spectrum in Fig. 2, the transitions with the energies of 1824.3 and 1826.1 keV can be clearly distinguished by investigating the spectra in prompt coincidence with the 376.0-, 1235.3-, and 1066.6-keV transitions. The 1824.3-keV transition is observed in prompt coincidence with the 376.0- and 1235.3-keV transitions, placing it firmly on top of the state at 1611.5 keV. On the other hand, a 1826.1-keV transition is observed in prompt coincidence with the 1066.6-keV transition, directly populating the 1066.5-keV state as well as connecting to the well-established state at 2893.6 keV mentioned earlier.

The peak at 718.4 keV appears to be a doublet structure, too. The placements of the 940.3- and 1108.3-keV transitions depopulating a state at 2175.8 keV, which is fed by a 718.4-keV transition, is supported by coincidence information and the connectivity to the firm 2893.6-keV state. It can, however, not explain the relatively high coincidence yield of the 1066.6- and 718.4-keV transitions compared to the yield of the 1108.3- and 940.3-keV transitions in coincidence with the 1066.6-keV transition as shown in Fig. 5(c). This indicates feeding by another 718-keV transition to the 1066.5-keV state. A weak 1785.6-keV transition is observed in Fig. 2, which is not known in any of the daughter β decays. Hence we suggest a state at 1785.1 keV, depopulated by the 718.4and 1785.6-keV transitions. Hoff et al. reported a 1785.6-keV transition as well, although with a considerably higher yield (cf. Table I), while they did not place it into their decay scheme. The intensity of the 718.4-keV transition feeding the 2175.8-keV state has been estimated by comparing the intensity of the 718.4- and 1235.3-keV peak in coincidence with the 940.3-keV transition, as well as the intensity of the 718.4and 1066.6-keV peak in coincidence with the 1108.3-keV transition. The remaining intensity has been attributed to the 718.4-keV transition connecting the 1785.1- and 1066.5-keV states, such that the sum intensity corresponds to 7.3(7)% as measured in the β - γ spectrum. The energies of the two transitions have been determined using the coincidence spectra of the 940.3- and 1066.6-keV transitions for the transition depopulating the 2893.6- and 1785.1-keV states, respectively. In both cases the resulting transition energy is 718.4-keV, which in turn is equal the energy obtained from the β - γ spectrum.

The three transitions with the energies of 257.4, 351.0, and 633.6 keV (tentative) are observed in mutual coincidence as well as with the 376.0- and 1235.3-keV transitions. Therefore, they are placed as a cascade on top of the 1611.5-keV state, depopulating the state at 2852.3 keV, which is in turn established by the intense 1240.7-keV transition. The (tentative) order of the three weak low-energy transitions is based on their relative yields. The level at 2852.3 keV deexcites by several other paths. For example, the sequence 1855.9 [cf. Fig. 5(d)], 338.7, and 657.7 keV links to it, with the intermediate state at 2195.0 keV connected to the 1066.5-keV yrast level via the 1128.9-keV line. The 122.9-keV line seen in Fig. 5(d) connects the 1855.9-keV state with the one at 1978.6 keV. Several weak but parallel decay branches establish excited states at 1840.9, 2193.6, 3031.0, and 3269.2 keV.

The 1529.9-keV transition is seen in coincidence only with the 1235.3-keV ground-state transition, hence establishing a new level at 2765.4 keV. Similarly, the 795.7-keV transition is placed straight on top of the 1611.5-keV level, since it is observed in coincidence with only the 376.0-keV and 1235.3-keV transitions.

The state at 3031.0 keV is established by a 1052.5-keV transition seen in prompt coincidence with the 1978.6-keV transition and supported by a 1419.4-keV transition in prompt coincidence with the 376.0-keV transition. Similarly, the state at 3269.2 keV is established by prompt coincidences between the 2193.8-keV and 1075.5-keV transitions and the 1855.9keV and 1413.4-keV transitions [cf. Fig. 5(d)]. Because of their similar energy one could suggest that the 2195.0-keV state depopulated by the 338.7-1855.9 and 1128.9-1066.6 cascades is the same as the state that is depopulated by the observed 2193.8-keV transition and 352.4-1840.7 cascade. However, the 1075.5-keV transition could not be observed in prompt coincidence with either the 338.7-keV or the 1128.9keV transition, and similarly there is no peak at 657.7 keV in prompt coincidence with the 2193.8-keV or the 352.4-keV transition. Furthermore, when assuming one state instead of the two states at 2193.6 keV and 2195.0 keV, then the energy differences between the obtained states were systematically too large (small) by ≈ 0.7 keV in case of the 352.4-, 1840.7-, and 2193.8-keV (1075.5- and 1128.9-keV) transitions. Hence we propose two states as shown in the level scheme in Fig. 4(b).

2. The states at 2757, 2760, and 2872 keV

The states at 2757.3, 2760.4, and 2871.9 keV represent the topmost states placed in the center of the decay scheme of ¹²⁷In in Fig. 4(b). The 2757.3-keV state deexcites predominately via the 1145.7-keV transition to the state at 1611.5 keV. Its position is furthermore supported by a weak 419.5-keV transition, which is seen in prompt coincidence with the 2338.8-keV transition.

The states at 2760.4 and 2871.9 keV are firmly established by many parallel, mostly two-step, cascades. Both these states decay into the state at 1686.6 keV. Besides the intense transition into the $(9/2^+)$ ground state, this state also deexcites via the 388.1-keV transition into the states connected to the lowspin, negative-parity $(1/2^-)$ isomer located at 408.0 keV (cf. Sec. III A 3). Several of the involved ground-state transitions were reported by Hoff *et al.* [8] but were not placed into the level scheme (see Table I).

Solely in prompt coincidence with the 1066.6-keV transition, the 1805.2-keV transition connects to the prominent 2871.9-keV state as well. In fact, a total of eight transitions are found to deexcite this state in the present work, but no γ -ray transition is observed feeding it. Thus, this state, like several others at about 3 MeV excitation energy, is a prime candidate for direct (Gamow-Teller) β feeding.

3. Structures connected to the 408-keV $(1/2^{-})$ isomer

The majority of the observed transitions feeding the $(1/2^-)$ isomer have already been reported by Hoff *et al.* [8]. However, only the 367.2-, 523.5-, 655.7-, 1744.7-, and 1755.0-keV transitions were placed into the level scheme. Based on the coincidence information and relative intensities obtained in

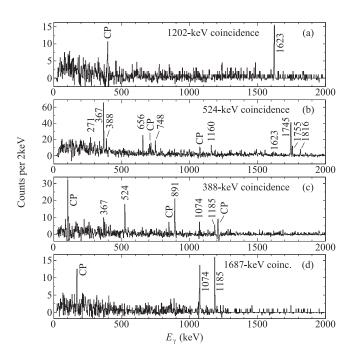


FIG. 6. Observed γ -ray spectra in prompt coincidence with (a) the 1202.3-keV transition, (b) the 523.5-keV transition, (c) the 388.1-keV transition, and (d) the 1686.7-keV transition. Peaks marked with CP are due to Compton scattered γ rays as explained in Fig. 5. Energy labels are in keV.

this experiment, we confirm these placements, as can be seen from Fig. 6(b).

Hoff *et al.* [8] also assigned the 388.1-keV transition to 127 In. We clearly see several γ -ray peaks in coincidence with this transition, which are identified with the 367.2-, 523.5-, 890.6-, 1073.5-, and 1185.4-keV transitions in Fig. 6(c). The latter two transitions are firmly placed on top of the 1686.6-keV state, as described above, since they are observed in prompt coincidence with the 1686.7-keV transition, the coincidence spectrum of which is displayed in Fig. 6(d).

The 890.6-keV line is naturally placed as the "E2 crossover" parallel to the 367.2- and 523.5-keV transitions, since it is not observed in coincidence with either of these and corresponds to the sum of their energies. After the position of the isomer has been fixed with the help of the 388.1-keV transition, we can confirm the suggestions by Arndt *et al.* [14]. First, they observed a weak peak at 270.2 keV and tentatively assigned it to ¹²⁷In deexciting a state at 1202 keV. In this work we also observe a very weak peak at 270.7 keV in prompt coincidence with the 523.5-keV transition, as shown in Fig. 6(b), connecting the 1202.2-keV state with the level at 931.4-keV. Second, Arndt et al. [14] suggested that the γ -ray transitions with the energies of 1744.7 and 2677.4 keV (as well as 1755.4 and 2688.6 keV) observed by Hoff et al. [8] stem from the same state, the former feeding the 931.4keV state and the latter the ground state. In our work, two γ -ray transitions at 1744.7 and 1755.0 keV are observed in prompt coincidence with the 523.5-keV transition. Together with the 2676.1-keV γ -ray transition and another, parallel, 657.9-2018.0-keV branch, a state at 2676.1 keV is established. Note that a 853.9-keV line connects the intermediate state at 2018.1 keV with the 2871.9-keV level discussed in the previous section. A ground-state transition deexciting the 2686.4-keV state, which is established by the 1755.0-keV transition, is most likely below our sensitivity, considering that Hoff *et al.* [8] observed that the 2688.6-keV transition is much weaker than the 2677.4-keV transition.

A 1815.9-keV transition in coincidence with the 523.5keV transition establishes the state at 2747.3 keV, supported by a 655.7-1160.1-keV coincidence in parallel. The energy difference between the 2747.3-keV state and the isomer, 2339.3 keV, is very similar to the 2338.8-keV transition mentioned earlier in Sec. III A 2. The observed intensity of the 2339-keV peak in Fig. 2 is 23.1(18)%, less than the previously reported intensity of 39(3)% [8]. Considering the γ -ray yields observed in this work and by Hoff et al. [8] (see Sec. III A 4), it seems that this peak indeed is a doublet, partly fed by the decay of the 127 Cd $11/2^-$ state and partly by the decay of the $^{127}\text{Cd }3/2^+$ state. Based on the different γ -ray yields discussed in Sec. III A 4 we can estimate the intensity of the transition populating the isomer and ground state to $\sim 16\%$ and 7.2%, respectively. The individual transition energies were estimated by fitting the 2339-keV peak in Fig. 2 with the intensity ratio of the two contributions being fixed.

The 1622.9-keV transition is only seen in coincidence with the 1202.3-keV ground-state transition, confirming its placement by Hoff *et al.* [8]. Being only observed in coincidence with the 523.5-keV transition, the 747.8-keV establishes a new state at 1679.2 keV.

As can be seen in the 127 In decay scheme in Fig. 4(b), the position of the $(1/2^-)$ isomer is fixed by several transitions connecting it to established states, such as the 1202.2-, 2676.1-, and the 1686.6-keV states. The resulting excitation energy of the $(1/2^-)$ isomer is 408.0(3) keV. This is in very good agreement with the value of 408.9(3) keV suggested by Arndt *et al.* [14,15] and recent mass measurements, which reported an excitation energy of 390(18) keV [17].

4. y-Ray yield considerations

The observed intensities for transitions around the 1236-keV and 1612-keV states agree very well with those reported by Hoff *et al.* [8]. In both cases the intensity of the 1235-keV transition serves as normalization.

A minor disagreement is seen for the 169- and 1067-keV transitions, for which we observe a somewhat lower relative yield. More interestingly, however, in our work the measured yields of the 367-, 388-, 524-, 656-, 1160-, 1202-, and 1623-keV transitions are only roughly half of those reported by Hoff *et al.* A possible explanation is that these two regions of the decay scheme are populated predominantly by the decay of the ¹²⁷Cd 3/2⁺ state in the levels in connection with the 408-keV, (1/2⁻) isomer in ¹²⁷In and the ¹²⁷Cd 11/2⁻ state in the states around the 376-keV transition. The differences in the observed intensities can be readily explained by a significantly larger fraction of ions in the 11/2⁻ state in the ¹²⁷Cd beam of the present experiment due to the different reaction mechanism used. Our experiment was based on proton-induced fission, while in the experiment conducted by Hoff *et al.*

the ¹²⁷Cd nuclei were produced by thermal-neutron-induced fission of ^{nat}U. In fact, in studies investigating fission yields of ²³⁸U and ²³²Th [39,40], it was observed that the population of high-spin isomers is favored in proton-induced fission and that the trend increases with increasing incident proton energies. Thus, it seems very plausible that during the experiment conducted by Hoff *et al.* the ¹²⁷Cd 3/2⁺ state was populated about twice as much as in our work.

Consequently, it is straightforward to conclude that transitions for which the measured yield is roughly the same as reported by Hoff *et al.* are populated by the decay of the ¹²⁷Cd 11/2⁻ state, i.e., those shown on the right-hand side of the proposed level scheme in Fig. 4(b), and that those with about half the relative yield reported by Hoff *et al.* are predominantly populated by the decay of the ¹²⁷Cd3/2⁺ state, i.e., those shown on the left-hand side in Fig. 4(b).

The placement of the four transitions with the energies of 2482.4, 2941.3, 2996.0, and 3107.9 keV is difficult because there are no transitions observed in coincidence. Since the observed intensities of these transitions are similar to the previously reported intensities, we propose to place these transitions as ground-state transitions, most likely populated by the decay of the 127 Cd $11/2^-$ state. Their shell-model interpretation is discussed in Sec. IV.

5. Spin-parity considerations

For the two states at 1067 and 1236 keV above the $(9/2^+)$ ground-state spin-parity assignments of $(11/2^+)$ and $(13/2^+)$ were already proposed by Scherillo *et al.* [19] based on systematics from neighboring isotopes. The 1612-keV state deexcites exclusively via the 376-keV transition to the $(13/2^+)$ state at 1236 keV. For spins below 15/2 or a spin-parity assignment of 15/2⁺ one expects additional transitions to, for instance, the $(11/2^+)$ 1067-keV state or the ground state. Since the 1612-keV state shows no sign of isomerism either, the possible spin-parity options are limited to $15/2^-$ and $17/2^+$.

The 2894-keV state has γ -ray transitions connecting to the 1612-keV state as well as the $(13/2^+)$ 1236-keV and $(11/2^+)$ 1067-keV states. It has no γ -ray feeding from higherlying states. Therefore, the 2894-keV state has to be populated by the 127 Cd $11/2^- \beta$ decay, assuming a Gamow-Teller (GT) character (cf. Sec. III B). That in turn restricts the possible spin-parity assignment to $9/2^-$, $11/2^-$, and $13/2^-$. A $9/2^$ assignment can be excluded because of the observed 1659keV transition to the $(13/2^+)$ state at 1236 keV. At the same time it excludes the $17/2^+$ option for the 1612-keV state. Therefore, we tentatively assign a spin-parity of $(15/2^{-})$ to the 1612-keV state. Considering that we do not observe an intense direct (E1) γ -ray transition from the state at 2894 keV to the ground state, we propose a tentative spin-parity of (13/2⁻) for the 2894-keV state. With a similar line of arguments we can narrow down possible spin-parties for the 2757 and 2852-keV states: Both states have a strong transition to the (15/2⁻) 1612-keV state and no feeding from higherlying states. Hence, these states have to be populated by the ^{127}Cd 11/2⁻ β decay, again assuming a GT character (cf. Sec. III B). As in the case of the 2894-keV state, the possible

spin-parity assignments are thereby limited to $9/2^-$, $11/2^-$, and $13/2^-$. Due to the absence of intense direct (E1) γ -ray transitions to the ground state, we suggest a spin and parity of $(13/2^-)$ for both the 2757- and 2852-keV states.

Similarly to the 1067- and 1236-keV states, the two states at 931 and 1299 keV indicate a yrast sequence on top of the 408-keV $(1/2^{-})$ isomer. Referring to the systematics in lighter odd-mass cadmium isotopes [15], we therefore propose spinparities of $(3/2^-)$ and $(5/2^-)$ to the 931- and 1299-keV states, respectively. Consequently, the 1202-keV state has to be of $5/2^+$ or $7/2^-$ nature, since it has prompt γ -ray transitions connecting to the ground state and to the $(3/2^{-})$ state at 931 keV. We furthermore observe significant β feeding into the 1202-keV state, as can be seen in Table II. Considering a GT β decay of the $3/2^+$ or $11/2^-$ state in 127 Cd, a spinparity of 7/2 can be ruled out. Therefore, the 1202-keV state corresponds most likely to the $5/2^+$ yrast state, partially fed by the β decay of the $3/2^+$ state in ¹²⁷Cd. Similarly to the 1202- and 271-keV transitions in case of the 1202keV state, the 2676- and 1745-keV transitions connect the 2676-keV state to the ground state and the 931-keV state. Together with the large observed β feeding to the 2676-keV state, we can follow the same line of arguments as for the 1202-keV state and propose a spin and parity of $(5/2^+)$ for the 2676-keV state, too. Note that the feeding of the 1202- and 2676-keV state by the β decay of the $3/2^+$ state in ¹²⁷Cd is also consistent with the γ -ray yield considerations discussed earlier.

The prompt 1805-keV γ -ray transition links the 2872-keV state with the $(11/2^+)$ state at 1067 keV, constraining the possible spins for the 2872-keV state between 7/2 and 15/2. As in the case of the 2894-keV state, the 2872-keV state must be populated by the 127 Cd $11/2^ \beta$ decay, which—assuming GT character—limits possible spin-parity assignments to $9/2^-$, $11/2^-$, and $13/2^-$. The 1687-keV state has prompt γ -ray transitions to the $(9/2^+)$ ground state as well as to the $(5/2^-)$ state at 1299 keV. On the other hand, the 1185-keV transition connects this state with the 2872-keV state, which has possible spin-parities of $9/2^-$, $11/2^-$, or $13/2^-$. Therefore, we tentatively assign a spin of (7/2) to the 1687-keV state and $(9/2^-)$ or $(11/2^-)$ to the 2872-keV state. However, a spin-parity of $9/2^-$ for the 1687-keV state as well as a $13/2^-$ for the 2872-keV state cannot be ruled out.

B. The β decay of ¹²⁷Cd

As a consequence of the tentative spin-parity assignments made in the previous section, the states connected to the 931-keV state as well as the state at 2825 keV are considered to be populated by the β decay of the $3/2^+$ state in 127 Cd. The majority of all the other states are either part of a two-step cascade connecting the $(9/2^-)$ state at 2872 keV and the $(9/2^+)$ ground state or they have a direct γ -ray transition connecting to a state with a spin larger than 9/2. Therefore, we consider them to be populated primarily in the course of the β decay of the $11/2^-$ state in 127 Cd. The β feeding of these states amounts to considerably more than 50% as can be seen in Table II. Since the fraction of 127 Cd ground state in the beam is only about 20% (cf. Sec. II) one can firmly conclude

TABLE II. The energies, E_x , of excited states in 127 In populated in the β decay of 127 Cd; proposed spin-parity assignments; the observed β -feeding intensities, I_{β^-} ; the individual β -feeding intensities from the $11/2^-$ state, $I_{\beta^-}(11/2^-)$, and the $3/2^+$ state, $I_{\beta^-}(3/2^+)$; as well as the resulting log ft values. Tentative states are in brackets.

E_x	I^{π}	I_{eta^-}	$I_{\beta^-}(11/2^-)$	$I_{\beta^-}(3/2^+)$	$\log ft$
(keV)		(%)	(%)	(%)	
0.0	$(9/2^+)$	<18	<22		>5.5
408.0(3)	$(1/2^{-})$	<15		<75	>5.0
931.4(3)	$(3/2^{-})$	2.1(7)		10(4)	5.7(2)
1066.5(2)	$(11/2^+)$	4.4(9)	5.5(11)		5.9(1)
1202.2(3)	$(5/2^+)$	4.8(8)	,	24(4)	5.2(1)
1235.5(2)	$(13/2^+)$	<4	<5	()	>5.8
1298.6(3)	$(5/2^{-})$	1.7(5)		8(3)	5.6(2)
1587.2(5)	(-1)	0.4(2)		2.1(11)	6.2(3)
1611.5(2)	$(15/2^{-})$	2.5(13)	3.1(16)		6.0(2)
1663.1(3)	(- / /	< 0.4	< 0.5		>6.7
1679.2(6)		0.38(13)		1.9(7)	6.2(2)
1686.6(2)	(7/2)	1.2(5)	1.4(6)	(.,	6.3(2)
1785.0(3)	(., -)	1.4(2)	1.7(3)		6.2(1)
1840.9(3)		1.1(3)	1.4(3)		6.2(1)
1855.9(2)		<1.7	<2.1		>6.1
[1868.8(3)]		(<0.5)	(<0.6)		(>6.6)
1978.6(2)		3.7(8)	4.7(10)		5.7(1)
2018.1(4)		0.9(3)	1.1(4)		6.3(2)
2066.4(2)		0.8(2)	1.0(3)		6.3(2)
2175.3(3)		< 0.4	< 0.5		>6.6
2193.6(4)		< 0.4	10.0	<2	>6.0
2195.0(1)		1.6(4)	2.0(5)	~2	6.0(1)
[2219.3(5)]		(<0.3)	(<0.4)		(>6.7)
2250.3(3)		<0.2	< 0.3		>6.8
2338.5(3)		1.1(2)	1.4(3)		6.1(1)
2407.2(4)		0.36(9)	0.45(11)		6.6(1)
2463.3(3)		<0.7	<0.9		>6.2
[2482.4(5)]		[1.0(3)]	[1.3(4)]		[6.1(2)]
2586.3(4)		0.3(2)	0.4(2)		6.6(3)
2676.1(4)	$(5/2^+)$	3.4(6)	0.1(2)	17(3)	4.9(1)
2686.4(5)	(3/2)	0.58(16)		2.9(8)	5.7(2)
2747.3(4)		4.7(6)		23(3)	4.7(1)
2757.3(2)	$(13/2^{-})$	3.2(5)	3.9(6)	23(3)	5.5(1)
2760.4(3)	(13/2)	3.7(8)	4.6(10)		5.4(1)
2765.4(3)		1.7(3)	2.1(4)		5.8(1)
2825.1(6)		1.6(3)	2.1(1)	7.7(15)	5.2(1)
2852.3(2)	$(13/2^{-})$	7.4(11)	9.3(14)	7.7(13)	5.1(1)
2871.9(2)	$(9/2^{-})$	5.4(9)	6.8(11)		5.2(1)
2893.6(3)	$(3/2^{-})$ $(13/2^{-})$	9.6(13)	12.0(17)		5.0(1)
[2941.3(5)]	(13/4)	[3.5(5)]	[4.4(6)]		[5.4(1)]
[2996.0(6)]		[3.3(3)] $[1.0(2)]$	[1.3(3)]		[5.4(1)]
3031.0(5)		1.1(4)	1.4(5)		5.8(2)
[3107.9(6)]		[1.9(4)]	[2.4(5)]		[5.6(1)]
3269.2(5)		1.1(4)	[2.7(3)]	5(2)	5.2(2)
3435.8(5)		0.58(14)	0.72(18)	3(4)	6.0(1)
======================================		0.50(17)	0.72(10)		0.0(1)

that the $11/2^-$ state in 127 Cd corresponds to the isomer and the 127 Cd ground state to the $3/2^+$ state.

The half-lives of both the $3/2^+$ and $11/2^-$ states of ^{127}Cd were determined by first selecting events involving γ rays associated with these decays and then studying their time distribution with respect to the latest trap-release signal. In-

tense γ -ray peaks that can be firmly associated with the β decay of the $11/2^-$ state stem from the 169-, 376-, 1067-, 1146-, 1235-, 1241-, and 1282-keV transitions (cf. Fig. 4), with the 376-keV transition contributing most of the statistics. If only β decays in prompt coincidence with the 376-keV transition are considered, one obtains a half-life of $T_{1/2}=0.32(\frac{5}{4})\,\mathrm{s}$. Investigating the time distribution of detected β decays which are in prompt coincidence with at least one of the aforementioned γ -rays results in a consistent half-life result of $T_{1/2}=0.36(4)\,\mathrm{s}$.

Likewise, the half-life of the $3/2^+$ state can be determined to $T_{1/2}=0.45\binom{12}{8}$ s, which is slightly longer than the half-life measured for the $11/2^-$ state. Here β decays in prompt coincidence with the 524-, 1202-, 1623-, or 1745-keV transitions are taken into account. In this case the statistics contributed from the 524-keV peak dominates the result. Consistently, a half-life of $T_{1/2}=0.49\binom{26}{13}$ s is obtained when analyzing only β decays in prompt coincidence with the 524-keV transition.

The two half-lives for the 11/2⁻ state and 3/2⁺ state are in agreement with previously reported values of 0.30(3) s [41], 0.37(7) s [15], and 0.43(3) s by Hoff *et al.* [8] and 0.33(2) s reported by Lorusso *et al.* [2]. However, all of the hitherto reported measurements did not distinguish between the 3/2⁺ and 11/2⁻ states of ¹²⁷Cd. In fact, the difference in the values reported by Hoff *et al.* and Lorusso *et al.* can be explained by the different reaction mechanisms used to produce ¹²⁷Cd. In the latter experiment ¹²⁷Cd was produced via in-flight fission of a 345 MeV/u ²³⁸U beam impinging on a beryllium target. This favors the population of the 11/2⁻ state, resulting in a half-life value that agrees more with the half-life we obtain for the 11/2⁻ state than with the half-life we determine for the 3/2⁺ state.

Based on the estimated relative population of the ¹²⁷In isomer and its ground state as well as the absolute γ -ray transition intensities (see Sec. III), it is possible to estimate the β feeding to each state in ¹²⁷In as the intensity difference of populating and depopulating γ -ray transitions of a given excited state. Table II lists the energies, tentative spin-parity assignments, and the estimated β feeding for the observed states in ¹²⁷In. As discussed in Sec. III A 5, one can correlate each state with the β decay of either the $3/2^+$ or the $11/2^$ state in ¹²⁷Cd. In conjunction with the measured ratio of ¹²⁷Cd isomer and ground state in the beam (see Sec. II), the individual β -decay branching ratios for these two states are calculated in Table II. In the last column of Table II the corresponding log ft values are listed, calculated using the LOGFT code [42] with the half-lives discussed earlier, a Qvalue of $Q_{\beta} = 8149(24)$ keV [43], and an excitation energy of 283.3(56) keV [10] for the $11/2^-$ isomer.

The $\log ft$ values 4.9 and 4.7 for the 2676- and 2747-keV states, respectively, indicate decays of GT character. Similar values are reported for lighter odd-mass In isotopes [44,45] and for ¹²⁹In, where $\log ft$ values of 4.5 and 4.7 were measured [13]. The states with the strongest β feedings after the decay of the ¹²⁷Cd 11/2⁻ state have $\log ft$ values of 5.0 to 5.2. These are comparable to those obtained for the ^{123,125}In isotopes [44,45] but significantly higher than the $\log ft$ value of 4.2 reported in Ref. [13] for the heavier odd-mass ¹²⁹In isotope. A number of states have $\log ft$ values around 6,

which indicates that first-forbidden (ff) transitions compete with GT decays. The β feeding into the $(1/2^-)$ isomer, the $(3/2^-)$ and $(5/2^-)$ yrast states, for example, have $\log ft$ values of >5.0, 5.7, and 5.6, which is very similar to those obtained in the neighboring ¹²⁹In [13]. These decays could be driven by ff transitions of the type $vd_{3/2} \rightarrow \pi(p, f_{5/2})$, as already suggested in Ref. [13]. Likewise, the $(9/2^+)$ ground state with a lower limit of $\log ft > 5.5$ is most likely populated by the decay of the $11/2^-$ state in ¹²⁷Cd via the ff transition $vh_{11/2} \rightarrow \pi g_{9/2}$. For the same decay in ¹²⁵Cd and ¹²⁹Cd lower limits of $\log ft > 5.9$ [45] and $\log ft > 5.3$ [13] were reported.

Note, however, that the observed β -decay feedings, and hence the $\log ft$ values, are subject to weak and therefore not observed γ -ray transitions, the "pandemonium effect" [46]. In particular, the β -decay feedings to states at higher excitation energies above \sim 2.5 MeV are likely to be underestimated because of unobserved, weak, γ -ray transitions deexciting these states. This would lead to reduced $\log ft$ values in turn. On the other hand, the β -decay feedings to lower-lying states could be overestimated because of unobserved weak γ -ray transitions feeding these states. This applies especially to the ground and isomeric states.

IV. SHELL-MODEL CALCULATIONS AND DISCUSSION

Shell-model calculations have been performed using the code NuShellX [47,48]. For the region of interest, ¹³²Sn is used as the doubly-magic closed core. The Z=28 to 50 region, comprising the $f_{5/2}$, $p_{3/2}$, $p_{1/2}$, and $g_{9/2}$ proton shells, is considered for proton holes. Similarly, the N=50to 82 space, comprising the $g_{7/2}$, $d_{5/2}$, $d_{3/2}$, $s_{1/2}$, and $h_{11/2}$ neutron shells, is accessible for neutron holes. Two sets of interactions have been investigated: The "jj45" interaction, made available via the NuShellX package, comprises twobody matrix-elements based on a G-matrix formalism and has single-particle energies adjusted for the ¹³²Sn region (see, e.g., Ref. [49]). The second interaction, denoted "NA-14," is based on the CD-Bonn nucleon-nucleon potential renormalized by means of the V_{low-k} approach [50]. The neutron single-particle energies are taken from Ref. [51]. The proton single-particle energies are taken from recent mass measurements [52] and spectroscopic information on A = 129 Cd and In isotopes [53,54]. Furthermore, a few two-body matrix-elements have been adjusted as outlined in, for instance, Refs. [13,54,55].

With the above, an assessment of the interactions based on prominent states in ^{125,127,129}Cd and ^{125,127,129}In is conducted in Sec. IV A. Thereafter, the GT strengths and the associated GT feeding pattern from the 3/2⁺ ground state and the 11/2⁻ isomer in ¹²⁷Cd into ¹²⁷In is discussed in Sec. IV B. A generic quenching factor of 0.75 was applied to the GT matrix elements according to, for example, Refs. [56,57], in line with a similar discussion in Ref. [13].

Finally, in Sec. IV C a predicted ¹²⁷In decay scheme is derived [cf. Fig. 4(a)], which is based on the experimental ¹²⁷Cd beam composition in conjunction with predicted major GT β feeding into ¹²⁷In levels as well as observed excitation energies in combination with predicted B(M1), B(E2), and B(M2) relative transition strengths. Standard effective charges

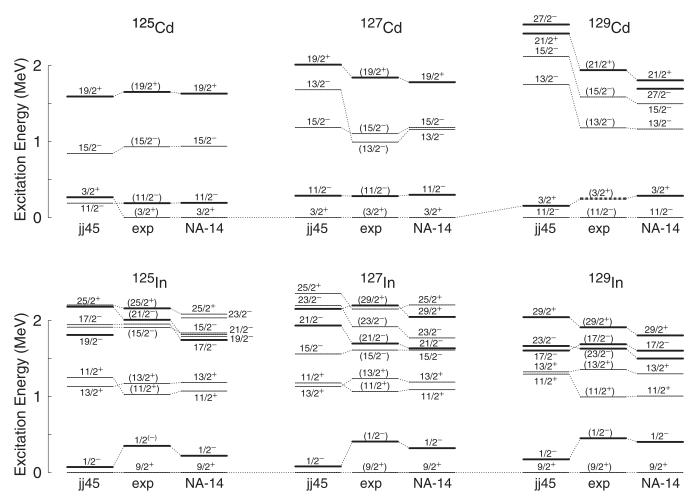


FIG. 7. Comparison of experimental (exp) and calculated (jj45 and NA-14) level energies for the A=125, 127, and 129 isotopes of Cd (top row) and In (bottom row). Isomeric states are marked by thick horizontal lines. The energy of the excited $(3/2^+)$ state in 129 Cd (dashed) is experimentally not yet determined. Thin dashed lines connect observed and predicted energy levels. With the exception of the jj45 prediction of 125 Cd, the $3/2^+$ (125,127 Cd), the $11/2^-$ (129 Cd), and $9/2^+$ (all three In isotopes) ground states served for normalization. See text for more details.

of $e_{\text{eff},p} = 1.5$ and $e_{\text{eff},n} = 0.5$ are used to calculate B(E2) strengths [56], as well as 70% of the free g-factor values for B(M1) strengths. While B(M2) strengths are rarely competitive in prompt γ -ray spectroscopy, one has to account for B(E1) strengths. Since they are formally forbidden in the employed shell-model space, they need to be inferred "by hand," here with a generic transition strength of $B(E1) = 5 \times 10^{-5} \ e^2 \ \text{fm}^2$.

A. Level energy systematics

Figure 7 shows a comparison of experimental (exp) and calculated (jj45 and NA-14) level energies for a number of odd-A isotopes (A = 125, 127, and 129) of Cd in the top row and In in the bottom row, respectively. In each case, a selection of states is shown, primarily experimentally known isomeric states, indicated by thick horizontal lines in the figure, as well as some high-spin states through which some of these isomers decay, i.e., states which are experimentally rather well established. The experimental sequences are based on information available in evaluated nuclear structure data

files (ENSDF) [15,45,58] and relevant publications on 125 Cd [10,59–62], 127 Cd [2,9,10,24,61], 129 Cd [9,12,13,54], 125 In [17,19], 127 In [17,19], and 129 In [13,16,19].

Concerning the spins and parities of the $9/2^+$ ground states and $1/2^-$ first-excited states in the In chain, both models agree with the order of the experimental results or propositions, with the somewhat more optimized NA-14 interaction providing a better description of the energetics. Sums of seniority v=1 partitions in the corresponding wave functions are provided in Table III. They expectedly increase toward the shell closure at N=82, with the NA-14 interaction calling generally for purer wave functions. Similar trends are seen for the $11/2^-$ and $3/2^+$ states in the Cd chain. However, while the experimentally evidenced switch between $3/2^+$ ground state and $11/2^-$ isomer between 127 Cd and 129 Cd is correctly reproduced by both interactions, jj45 predicts another switch toward 125 Cd, which is in disagreement with the observations.

Both interactions reproduce nicely the observed $11/2^--15/2^--19/2^+$ sequences in ¹²⁵Cd and ¹²⁷Cd, with the $19/2^+$ state being predicted isomeric due to the demand of a slow electromagnetic M2 transition. In all predictions the

TABLE III. Sums of partitions (%) of selected wave functions; "any" indicates that any nucleon pair may be in any possible j shell within the available model space.

Seniority	I^{π}	Configuration	Isotope	NA-14	jj45
$\overline{v} = 1$	9/2+	$\pi(g_{9/2})^{-1}$	¹²⁵ In	59	43
	, 1	307/-7	^{127}In	60	47
			¹²⁹ In	87	56
	$1/2_1^-$	$\pi(p_{1/2})^{-1}$	¹²⁵ In	73	49
		- , .	¹²⁷ In	74	53
			¹²⁹ In	76	58
	$11/2_1^-$	$v(h_{11/2})^{-1}$	¹²⁵ Cd	56	42
		,	¹²⁷ Cd	61	51
			¹²⁹ Cd	64	63
	$3/2_1^+$	$v(d_{3/2})^{-1}$	¹²⁵ Cd	54	41
	•	,	¹²⁷ Cd	54	45
			¹²⁹ Cd	86	78
v = 3	$13/2_1^-$	$v(\text{any})_{1,2}^{-2}v(h_{11/2})^{-1}$	¹²⁷ Cd	26	31
		$\pi (\text{any})_{2}^{-2} \nu (h_{11/2})^{-1}$	¹²⁷ Cd	40	19
	$21/2_1^+$	$\pi(g_{9/2})^{-1}\pi(p_{1/2})^{-1}$	¹²⁹ Cd	98	95
	•	$\nu(h_{11/2})^{-1}$			
	$11/2_1^+$	$\pi (g_{9/2})^{-1} \nu (\text{any})_2^{-2}$	¹²⁵ In	66	53
			¹²⁷ In	68	51
			¹²⁹ In	67	53
		$\pi (g_{9/2})^{-1} \nu (\text{any})_4^{-2}$	¹²⁵ In	26	29
		,	¹²⁷ In	24	28
			¹²⁹ In	25	27
	$21/2_1^-$	$\pi(g_{9/2})^{-1}$	¹²⁷ In	54	40
		$[\nu(h_{11/2})^{-1}\nu(d_{3/2})^{-1}]_6$			
		$\pi(g_{9/2})^{-1}$	¹²⁷ In	21	19
		$[\nu(h_{11/2})^{-1}\nu(d_{3/2})^{-1}]_7$			

yrast $17/2^-$ or $19/2^-$ levels are calculated to lie above the $19/2^+$ state. Interestingly, however, NA-14 and jj45 differ significantly on the location of the yrast $13/2^-$ state in 127 Cd: NA-14 places it correctly close to and below the $15/2^-$ state, while jj45 puts it several hundreds of keV too high. In terms of wave-function composition, jj45 predicts far fewer (19%) $\pi (\text{any})_2^{-2} \nu (h_{11/2})^{-1}$ partitions than NA-14 (40%), i.e., fewer than what one typically associates with "J=2 collectivity" in the shell-model picture.

A similar effect is seen in the predictions for 129 Cd, where the energy gap between the $11/2^-$ ground state and, e.g., the $13/2^-$ and $15/2^-$ excited states, is predicted to be much larger for the jj45 interaction compared with NA-14. The latter interaction describes the energetics of 129 Cd very well. A β -decaying $27/2^-$ state located at $E_x \approx 1700$ keV is predicted, as already pointed out in Ref. [55]. The only possible partition of that $27/2^-$ state is a fully aligned, seniority $v = 3\pi (g_{9/2})_8^{-2} v(h_{11/2})^{-1}$ configuration. Similarly, the fully aligned $\pi (g_{9/2})^{-1}\pi (p_{1/2})^{-1}v(h_{11/2})^{-1}$ partition accounts for almost 100% of the wave function of the $21/2^+$ state in 129 Cd, which is predicted to be isomeric irrespective of whether the $27/2^-$ state were located just below or just above it. Its preferred electromagnetic decay proceeds toward the yrast $15/2^-$ state in any case, as discussed in detail in Ref. [54].

Assessing the predictions for the odd-A In isotopes in the bottom row of Fig. 7, one can note a problem with the jj45

interaction in consistently overestimating the position of the yrast $11/2^+$ level. The underlying problem is similar to the one noted above for the $13/2^-$ levels in the Cd chain but now related to too-little J=2 neutron pair content.

The experimentally established $17/2^-$, $23/2^-$, and $29/2^+$ isomers in 129 In [16] are well reproduced by both calculations. Here the flip between the $17/2^-$ and $23/2^-$ states is not particularly worrysome, because the levels lie close in energy, on the order of mean-level deviations for appropriate shell-model calculations. The three isomers find their explanation in energetically favored, (anti)aligned v=3 configurations such as $[\pi(g_{9/2})^{-1}\nu(h_{11/2})^{-1}]_{10} \times \nu(d_{3/2})_{\pm 3/2}^{-1}$ (17/2⁻ and 23/2⁻ isomers, respectively), as well as $[\pi(g_{9/2})^{-1}\nu(h_{11/2})_{10}^{-2}]_{29/2}$ (29/2⁺ isomer).

For ¹²⁷In, the very same aligned v = 3, $29/2^+$ configuration gives rise to a predicted 29/2+ isomer, in full agreement with experimental knowledge [19]. Both calculations, however, fail to predict the suggested decay path through the yrast $25/2^+$ state, in line with Fig. 5 in Ref. [19]. Furthermore, jj45 also places the yrast 23/2- above the $29/2^+$, which in that case would be β decaying, at variance with the observations. Finally, both calculations predict an isomeric 21/2 state, now settled at an excitation energy of 1697(49) keV [17]. In comparison with ¹²⁹In, this single isomer is seemingly replacing the $17/2^--23/2^-$ "isomeric doublet." In case of ¹²⁵In, the experimental results concerning a high-spin isomer at 2161 keV are debated (see, for instance, Sec. IV in Ref. [19], at variance with the evaluation in Ref. [45]). In Fig. 7 we propose $25/2^+$ for that state based on our calculations, which by no means predicts an isomeric 23/2 state, because it would have too many options to decay via fast M1 or E2 transitions to lower-lying negative-parity states. Second, only minor changes in NA-14 parameters can alternate the order of the closely lying multiplet of 15/2, $17/2^-$, $19/2^-$, and $21/2^-$ states, such that a decay sequence as illustrated in Fig. 4 of Ref. [19] appears most reasonable.

Concluding this section, the NA-14 parametrization provides an overall excellent prediction and explanation for observed (isomeric) states in odd-A Cd and In isotopes in the region of interest. Therefore, for the more comprehensive assessment of the low-lying β -decaying states of 127 Cd and the observed 127 In γ -ray decay scheme below, we continue to work only with the NA-14 interaction.

B. Gamow-Teller strengths

Figure 8(a) shows the calculated GT strength distribution for the β decay of the $11/2^-$ state in ^{127}Cd to excited states in ^{127}In . The GT resonance is predicted between 2.8 and 3.5 MeV. The states which are most strongly populated in this GT decay are those which comprise the largest partitions of $\pi (g_{9/2})^{-1} \nu (g_{7/2})^{-1} (\text{any})^{-3}$ configurations. This is expected since the only possible GT transition within the considered model space is the $\nu g_{7/2} \rightarrow \pi g_{9/2}$ single-particle transition. For the $11/2^-$ state in ^{129}Cd , for instance, it is observed that around 50% of the β -feeding intensity feeds a single $(13/2^-)$ state whose calculated wave function comprises a 92% partition of the $\pi (g_{9/2})^{-1} \nu (g_{7/2})^{-1} (h_{11/2})^{-1}$ configuration [13]. In the case of the ^{127}Cd β decay the calculated

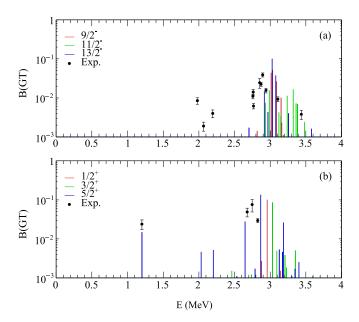


FIG. 8. Results of shell-model calculations for the Gamow-Teller strength distribution, B(GT), for the decay of the $11/2^-$ (a) and the $3/2^+$ (b) states in 127 Cd to excited states in 127 In. The experimental GT strengths are shown as black dots.

3027-keV $13/2_9^-$ state receives the strongest GT feeding and comprises around 50% $\pi (g_{9/2})^{-1} \nu (g_{7/2})^{-1} (any)^{-3}$ configurations. This state can be associated with the experimentally observed $(13/2^-)$ state at 2894 keV. In fact, by comparing calculated and experimentally observed decay patterns as well as β -feeding intensities, it is possible to identify a number of observed states with predicted $9/2^-$, $11/2^-$, and $13/2^-$ states, as discussed in Sec. IV C. The experimentally deduced GT strength distribution B(GT) for these states reveals a very similar distribution [see Fig. 8(a)], shifted by around 150–200 keV to lower excitation energies.

Similarly well reproduced are the prominent features of the GT distribution of the $3/2^+$ ¹²⁷Cd β decay. Here the experimentally observed states at 2676, 2747, and 2825 keV can be identified with the $5/2_8^+$ 2841-, $1/2_3^+$ 2928-, and $3/2_4^+$ 3005-keV states, also some 150–200 keV above the experimental observation. These states comprise a 50%, 78%, and 67% partition of the $\pi(g_{9/2})^{-1}\nu(g_{7/2})^{-1}(d_{3/2})^{-1}(h_{11/2})^{-2}$ configuration, respectively. The measured β feeding into the yrast $(5/2^+)$ state at 1202 keV is remarkably well described by the calculated GT transition strength.

C. Level scheme of ¹²⁷In

In the previous sections, very good to excellent agreement between experimental observations and shell-model calculations with the NA-14 parametrization is found. This initiated an attempt to model the observed decay scheme of ¹²⁷In shown in Fig. 4(b), which resulted in the predicted decay scheme displayed in Fig. 4(a). More details can be assessed in Table IV

The predictions are based on the following procedure: (i) Experimentally, the sum of relative yields of all γ -ray transitions reaching either the $(9/2^+)$ ground state of ¹²⁷In

(\approx 270 intensity units according to Table I) or its (1/2⁻) isomeric state (≈60 intensity units) is determined, i.e., a $\sum I_{\gamma} = 330$ is set. (ii) A 4:1 ratio of 11/2⁻ isomeric vs. $3/2^+$ ground-state portion is set for the ¹²⁷Cd beam delivered from JYFLTRAP (see Sec. II), i.e., the 3/2+ ground state is supposed to feed 20% of 330 intensity units into ¹²⁷In, and the $11/2^-$ isomer 80% of 330 intensity units. (iii) Predicted states in 127 In are identified which carry the major GT strengths from the two states in ¹²⁷Cd. In Fig. 4(a), these entry points are indicated on the very left- and very right-hand side for the GT decay of the $3/2^+$ and $11/2^-$ mother states in ¹²⁷Cd, respectively. In case of the 3/2⁺ GT decay, these are the $5/2_1^+$ (11%), $5/2_5^+$ (7.2%), $5/2_8^+$ (29%), $1/2_3^+$ (20%), $3/2_4^+$ (16%), and $5/2_{12}^+$ (4.3%) states, in total 88% of the respective GT strength [see Fig. 8(b)]. In case of the 11/2 GT decay, the relevant states are the $13/2_7^-$ (4.2%), $11/2_9^ (4.2\%), 9/2_{10}^- (12\%), 13/2_9^- (26\%), 9/2_{11}^- (14\%), 13/2_{10}^- (9.5\%), 9/2_{12}^- (6.6\%), 11/2_{14}^- (2.5\%), and 11/2_{15}^- (3.4\%) ones,$ accounting for 82% of that GT strength [see Fig. 8(a)]. (iv) The GT feeding is renormalized to the ¹²⁷Cd beam content and the observed total of 330 γ -ray intensity units, i.e., both the remaining small GT branches as well as any other β decay mode are neglected. The corresponding numbers of GT feeding intensities used for the modeling are given in the rightmost column of Table IV. (v) Experimental values for the excitation and γ -ray energies are used for the electromagnetic phase-space factor to determine γ -ray branching ratios. (vi) Level by level, the most suitable match between observed and predicted state is evaluated, based as usual on excitation energies, but here primarily on β and γ feeding and γ -decay pattern. (vii) Gamma-ray transitions with intensities above 0.5 intensity units ($E_{\gamma} = [100, 500] \text{ keV}$) or 1.0 intensity units $(E_{\gamma} > 500 \text{ keV})$ are displayed in Fig. 4(a).

There is a striking visual correspondence between the two decay schemes shown in Fig. 4—despite the simplifications listed above and the use of one generic B(E1) strength for all parity changing, $\Delta I \leq 1$, transitions. In particular, all major decay branches (thick γ -ray lines) are perfectly well reproduced, and almost all observed levels find a proper theoretical counterpart. Interestingly, the modeled sum of γ -ray yields into the $9/2^+$ ground state and the $1/2^-$ isomer is practically identical to the measured values, though the γ -ray flux is far from simple, i.e., parts of the flux originating from the $11/2^-$ GT β decay reaches the $1/2^-$ isomer and vice versa; for instance, the 1202-keV $5/2^+_1 \rightarrow 9/2^+$ ground-state transition.

A binding energy shift (BES) of -64 keV, a mean-level deviation (MLD) of 97 keV, and a mean branching deviation (MBD) of 0.12 [63] derived from 38 levels are indicators of an excellent agreement between experiment and shell-model theory. In terms of BES and MLD values, the main, and in a sense one and only, discrepancy between experiment and theory lies in the fact that the excitation energies of the many states around 3 MeV fed directly by GT transitions are calculated some 150–200 keV higher in energy with respect to experiment. As mentioned earlier, one common characteristic of these states are significant contributions of partitions comprising one neutron hole in $\nu(g_{7/2})$. Hence, a modification of the $\nu(g_{7/2})$ SPE might improve the predicted excitation energies of the states which are directly fed by

GT transitions. The MBD value could be further improved by adjusting B(E1) strengths for individual transitions, which is mentioned for a few specific cases below. For the overall picture, however, this is neither required nor wanted.

Starting on the left-hand side of Fig. 4, the levels at 931, 1202, 1299, 1663, and 1687 keV are interpreted as yrast $3/2_1^-$, $5/2_1^+$, $5/2_1^-$, $7/2_1^+$, and $7/2_1^-$ states. The $5/2^+$ state defines itself via distinct predicted and observed direct GT feeding. The predicted 271-keV $5/2_1^+ \rightarrow 3/2^-E1$ transition is too weak to be included in the modeled decay scheme, while a doubled B(E1) strength would account for it. Looking at the 1687-keV $7/2_1^-$ state, the predicted ratio between the 388- and 1687-keV transitions is seemingly at variance with experiment, but also in this case a slight increase of B(E1) strength would easily change the ratio in favor of the 1687-keV ground-state E1 transition.

Besides the 1202-keV state, those observed at 2676 keV $(5/2_8^+)$, 2747 keV $(1/2_3^+)$, and 2825 keV $(3/2_4^+)$ can be associated with direct GT feeding. The latter provides an explanation for the 1623-keV connection to the 1202-keV state. The 2747-keV state is defined by the 2339-, 1816-, and 1160-keV decay pattern. In turn, the 1160-keV transition suggests that the 1587-keV level should correspond to the $3/2_2^-$ state, supported by its own 656- and 1179-keV decays. The observed state at 1679 keV is only very weakly connected to the GT decay pattern. An interpretation as $3/2_3^-$ appears favorable (cf. Table IV).

The remaining two states predicted to be directly fed by GT strengths from the $3/2^+$ ground state of ^{127}Cd are not observed experimentally. At first glance, the excitation energy of the 2482-keV level as well as the nonobservation of any feeding γ rays point toward it representing the abovementioned $5/2_5^+$ state. However, the predictions for this state and the $5/2_{12}^+$ state, at an estimated excitation energy of 2980 keV, indicate dominating γ -ray decays into the 1663-keV, $7/2_1^+$ yrast level but not into the $9/2^+$ ground state.

The GT strength of the 11/2⁻ isomer in ¹²⁷Cd proceeds mainly to three $9/2^-$, three $11/2^-$, and three $13/2^-$ states, all located in a rather small excitation energy region between 2.75 and 3.10 MeV. Each of these three spin groups, or "triplets," shows a rather similar and characteristic γ -ray decay pattern. The three 13/2 levels are predicted to reveal intense, dominant, and rather pure M1 decays to the yrast $15/2^-$ level observed at 1612 keV. The respective γ rays are the ones at 1146, 1241, and 1282 keV, which in turn define the association between the three predicted 13/2⁻ levels and those observed at 2757, 2852, and 2894 keV. The distinction between the latter two is based on the presence of the 827, 1659, and 1826-keV transitions depopulating the level at 2894 keV. In addition, the decay sequence via the 827-keV line suggests to match the observed level at 2066 keV with the predicted yrast $13/2_{1}^{-}$ state.

Different from the $13/2^-$ multiplet, the decay of the three states belonging to the $9/2^-$ multiplet is predicted to be highly fragmented with up to 10 transitions passing the observational limit. In turn, this considerably eases the matching for at least two of three, because the experimental levels at 2760 keV and especially at 2872 keV are found to decay by many γ -ray transitions, in line with such predictions. The seemingly

too-intense 2760-keV ground-state decay could once again be adjusted with a modified, in this case reduced, B(E1) strength. The third $9/2^-$ state is associated with the experimental state at 2941 keV. Since its GT feeding is predicted a factor of two less than for the other two $9/2^-$ states, one cannot expect to see many of the thus weak γ -ray decays in our experiment.

In conjunction with selected transitions from the $13/2^-$ states defined earlier, the myriad of connections cascading down to the $9/2^+$ ground state allows us to identify matches for essentially all intermediate states: the 1841-, 1856-, 1979-, 2194-, and 2195-keV levels can be interpreted as the $7/2_2^-$, $9/2_1^-$, $11/2_1^-$, $9/2_2^-$, and $11/2_2^-$ states. The feeding and decay pattern of the somewhat higher-lying levels at 2250, 2339, 2463, and 2586 keV match best the predicted $7/2_4^-$, $11/2_4^-$, $7/2_6^-$, and $7/2_8^-$ states. There is only one state which deserves special attention, namely the one at 2018 keV. It is shown in Fig. 4 and listed in Table IV as $7/2_3^-$, while it almost equally well could be associated with the predicted $7/2_3^+$ state. The latter would be fed by the (therefore dashed) 658-keV transition, while the 854-keV decay into it, for example, should be absent.

With both the $9/2^-$ and $13/2^-$ "GT triplet" assigned, there are three levels left for the respective $11/2^-$ "GT triplet": those at 2765, 2996, and 3108 keV. Experimentally, all of them reveal one exclusive γ -ray decay—the latter two a direct, stretched E1 to the $9/2^+$ ground state, while the 2765-keV level decays via the 1530-keV transition to the 1236-keV 13/2⁺ yrast level. The predictions are such that all three 11/2 states should have a significant branch to the ground state, and in addition a few other transitions to one or another intermediate state, though primarily to the yrast 11/2⁺ level at 1067 keV. Since the GT feeding to the 11/2 triplet (32 intensity units) is small in comparison to the respective $9/2^-$ (101 units) and $13/2^-$ (137 units) states, the majority of the transitions other than the ground-state E1 transitions are predicted close to the observational limit. The presence of the 1530-keV $11/2_9^- \rightarrow 13/2_1^+$ transition rather than the 2765-keV E1 (cf. Fig. 2) ground-state transition may be explained by a specifically favorable E1 matrix element between the 2765- and 1236-keV states.

The levels observed at 1785, 1869, and 2175 keV are found to be only weakly connected to the GT-based decay pattern, though they can be associated rather well with predicted $13/2_2^+$, $17/2_1^-$, and $13/2_4^+$ states (see Table IV). The levels observed at 2407, 3031, 3269, and 3436 keV could not be assigned. They probably belong to weak GT branches or relate to first forbidden β decays from the $11/2^-$ isomer in 127 Cd.

V. CONCLUSIONS

Utilizing the mass resolution power of JYFLTRAP and the nuclear decay station TASISpec, the β decay of ^{127}Cd has been studied in detail. The individual half-lives of the $3/2^+$ and $11/2^ \beta$ decaying states in ^{127}Cd are reported for the first time. The order of the two states could be established by comparing γ -ray yields from Ref. [8] and data presented in this article. Furthermore, the level scheme of ^{127}In has been substantially extended, comprising 43 excited states connected by 84 γ -ray transitions.

The results have been confronted with extensive shell-model calculations, employing an empirically optimized interaction. The calculated GT strength distribution of the 127 Cd β decay in combination with the calculated level energies and γ -ray branching ratios in 127 In reproduce the observed 127 In decay scheme remarkably well. It therefore confirms that the β decay of 127 Cd is primarily driven by the $\nu g_{7/2} \rightarrow \pi g_{9/2}$ GT transition. Despite the good agreement assuming only GT transitions, ff transitions directly populating the 127 In $^{9/2}$ + ground state and $^{1/2}$ - isomeric state might play a role.

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APPENDIX

For completeness and in order to support the findings presented in the main article, the detailed results of the shell-model calculations discussed in Sec. IV and their comparison to the experimentally observed states are provided in Table IV.

TABLE IV. Comparison between calculated and associated experimentally observed states in 127 In populated in the β decay of the ground state (predicted $I^{\pi}=3/2^{+}$) and isomeric state (predicted $I^{\pi}=11/2^{-}$ at $E_{x}=300$ keV, experimentally at $E_{x}=283(6)$ keV [17]) of 127 Cd. The association of observed and predicted states is based on energy and, primarily, β -feeding and γ -ray decay branches, as well as tentatively assigned experimental spins and parities and yrast arguments. For the parameters of the shell-model calculation, see Sec. IV of the main article. E1 transitions, forbidden in the model space, are accounted for with a generic reduced transition strength of $B(E1)=5\times 10^{-5}~e^2~{\rm fm}^2$. A total of 38 calculated levels are associated with experimental counterparts, which gives rise to a binding energy shift of BES = -64 keV, a mean-level deviation of MLD = 97 keV, and an overall mean branching deviation of MBD = 0.12 [63]. The normalization of the predicted relative γ -ray intensities, $I_{\gamma,\text{theo}}$, is based on the sum of the intensities of all observed γ -ray transitions, $I_{\gamma,\text{exp}}$, feeding either the $9/2^+$ ground state or the $1/2^-$ isomeric state in 127 In (326 units according to Table I of the main article).

$E_{x,\text{exp}}$ (keV)	$E_{x,\text{theo}}$ (keV)	$ au_{ ext{theo}}$ (ps)	$J_i^\pi \ (\hbar)$	$J_f^\pi \ (\hbar)$	E_{γ} (keV)	$I_{\gamma, m exp} \ (\%)$	$I_{\gamma, m theo} \ (\%)$	$b_{ m exp} \ (\%)$	$b_{ m theo} \ (\%)$	MBD_i	$I_{GT, ext{theo}} \ (\%)$
408	321	n/aª	1/2_	β^-							
931	936	0.39	$3/2_1^-$	$1/2_1^-$	524	31(2)	17	100	100	n/a	
1067	1090	0.09	$11/2_1^+$	$9/2_1^+$	1067	46(2)	56	100	100	n/a	
1202	1174	4.3	$5/2_1^+$	$9/2_1^+$	1202	26(2)	22	97(1)	99	0.018(5)	8.0
			•	$3/2\frac{1}{1}$	271	0.7(2)	0.2	3(1)	1		
1236	1190	3.6	$13/2_1^+$	$9/2_1^+$	1235	100(4)	79	91(1)	83	0.082(21)	
			, 1	$11/2_1^+$	169	9.3(8)	16	9(1)	17		
1299	1281	9.3	$5/2_1^-$	$9/2_1^+$	1299	n.o.b	0.6		2	0.090(30)	
			, 1	$1/2_{1}^{\frac{1}{2}}$	891	7.8(15)	25	70(6)	81	,	
				$3/2_{1}^{-}$	367	3.3(4)	5.2	30(6)	17		
1587	1653	0.59	$3/2_{2}^{-}$	$1/2_1^-$	1179	1.0(4)	1.7	30(13)	51	0.096(60)	
			1 2	$3/2_{1}^{-}$	656	2.3(6)	1.5	70(13)	47	,	
				$5/2_1^+$	385	n.o.	0.0		0		
				$5/2\frac{1}{1}$	288	n.o.	0.1		2		
1612	1611	240	$15/2_1^-$	$11/2_1^+$	544	n.o.	0.0		0	0.000(20)	
			, 1	$13/2_1^+$	376	90(4)	77	100	100	, ,	
1663	1645	0.07	$7/2_1^+$	$9/2_1^+$	1663	5.2(6)	5.8	91(4)	89	0.017(7)	
			, 1	$11/2_1^+$	596	n.o.	0.0		0	. ,	
				$5/2_1^+$	461	0.5(2)	0.7	9(4)	11		
				$5/2_1^{-}$	364	n.o.	0.0		0		
1679	1799	0.30	$3/2_3^-$	$1/2_1^-$	1271	n.o.	0.5		26	0.106(65)	
			, 3	$3/2\frac{1}{1}$	748	1.6(5)	1.5	100	73	,	
				$5/2_{1}^{+}$	477	n.o.	0.0		0		
				$5/2\frac{1}{1}$	380	n.o.	0.0		0		

TARI	EIV	J (Continu	ed)

$E_{x,\text{exp}}$ (keV)	$E_{x,\text{theo}}$ (keV)	$ au_{ ext{theo}}$ (ps)	$J_i^\pi \ (\hbar)$	$J_f^\pi \ (\hbar)$	E_{γ} (keV)	$I_{\gamma, \mathrm{exp}} \ (\%)$	$I_{\gamma, m theo} \ (\%)$	$b_{ m exp} \ (\%)$	$b_{ m theo} \ (\%)$	MBD_i	$I_{GT, { m theo}} \ (\%)$
1687	1722	0.61	7/2_1	9/2 ₁ ⁺ 3/2 ₁ ⁻ 5/2 ₁ ⁺ 5/2 ₁ ⁻	1687 756 485 388	13.2(10) n.o. n.o. 4.2(5)	4.9 0.2 0.2 16	76(3) 24(3)	23 1 1 76	0.244(148)	
1785	1708	0.28	13/2+	$9/2_{1}^{+}$ $11/2_{1}^{+}$ $13/2_{1}^{+}$	1786 718 550	1.5(4) ≈4.3 n.o.	0.1 5.7 0.2	26(10) 74(10)	1 96 3	0.191(61)	
1841	1879	0.78	7/2-	9/2 ₁ + 3/2 ₁ - 5/2 ₁ + 5/2 ₁ - 7/2 ₁ - 5/2 ₁ - 5/2 ₁ -	1841 910 639 542 154 152	5.5(7) n.o. n.o. n.o. n.o.	5.4 0.8 0.3 6.3 0.4 0.7	100	39 6 2 46 3 5	0.204(108)	
1856	1889	1.3	9/2-	9/2 ₁ ⁺ 11/2 ₁ ⁺ 5/2 ₁ ⁻ 7/2 ₁ ⁻	1856 789 557 169	15.2(10) n.o. n.o. 1.1(5)	11 0.8 0.0 4.3	93(3) 7(3)	67 5 0 27	0.095(49)	(0.7)
1869	1767	13	$17/2_1^-$	$13/2_1^+$ $15/2_1^-$	634 257	n.o. 2.7(6)	0.0 0.5	100	0 100	0.000(79)	
1979	2006	1.3	11/21	9/2 ₁ ⁺ 11/2 ₁ ⁺ 13/2 ₁ ⁺ 7/2 ₁ ⁻ 9/2 ₁ ⁻	1979 911 744 292 123	15.5(10) 1.1(6) n.o. n.o. 3.6(5)	15 1.6 0.8 0.0 2.4	71(7) 5(3) 24(7)	77 8 4 0	0.034(16)	(1.0)
2018	2079	0.87	7/23	9/2 ₁ + 3/2 ₁ - 5/2 ₁ + 5/2 ₁ + 5/2 ₁ - 3/2 ₂ - 7/2 ₁ - (5/2 ₃) ^c	2018 1087 816 719 431 331 215	6.0(7) n.o. n.o. n.o. n.o. n.o. n.o.	7.3 0.3 0.5 0.6 0.0 0.9 3.3	100	57 2 4 5 0 7 25	0.143(67)	
2066	2092	2.9	13/2_1	$ \begin{array}{c} 11/2_1^+ \\ 13/2_1^+ \\ 15/2_1^- \\ 11/2_1^- \end{array} $	999 831 455 87	n.o. 1.6(6) 3.5(4) n.o.	4.0 2.3 9.8 1.4	31(10) 69(10)	23 13 56 8	0.116(43)	(1.5)
2175	2170	0.89	13/2 ₄ ⁺	9/2 ₁ ⁺ 11/2 ₁ ⁺ 13/2 ₁ ⁺ 15/2 ₁ ⁻	2175 1108 940 564	n.o. 1.6(4) 1.9(7) n.o.	0.0 0.6 0.2 0.0	46(14) 54(14)	3 70 26 1	0.089(57)	
2194	2163	0.47	9/2-	9/2 ₁ ⁺ 11/2 ₁ ⁺ 5/2 ₁ ⁻ 7/2 ₁ ⁻ 7/2 ₂ ⁻ 9/2 ₁ ⁻	2194 1127 895 507 352 338	1.9(7) n.o. n.o. n.o. <2 n.o.	1.5 0.2 0.0 0.1 1.6 0.2	≈67 ≈33	40 5 1 3 43 9	0.054(27)	(0.0)
2195	2215	0.77	$11/2_{2}^{-}$	9/2 ₁ ⁺ 11/2 ₁ ⁺ 13/2 ₁ ⁺ 15/2 ₁ ⁻ 7/2 ₁ ⁻ 13/2 ₂ ⁺ 7/2 ₂ ⁻ 9/2 ₁ ⁻	2195 1129 960 584 508 410 354 339	n.o. 3.9(5) n.o. n.o. n.o. n.o. 5.1(8)	4.5 0.6 0.4 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 1.5	43(7) 57(7)	64 9 5 0 0 0 0	0.156(88)	(0.1)

TABLE IV. (Continued.)

$E_{x,\text{exp}}$ (keV)	$E_{x,\text{theo}}$ (keV)	$ au_{ ext{theo}}$ (ps)	$J_i^\pi \ (\hbar)$	$J_f^\pi \ (\hbar)$	E_{γ} (keV)	$I_{\gamma, m exp} \ (\%)$	$I_{\gamma, m theo} \ (\%)$	$b_{ m exp} \ (\%)$	$b_{ m theo} \ (\%)$	MBD_i	$I_{GT, ext{theo}} \ (\%)$
2219	2224	2.3	15/2_	13/2+	984	n.o.	0.2		17	0.245(109)	
				$15/2_1^-$	608	n.o.	0.1		8		
				$17/2_1^-$	351	1.8(4)	0.4	100	39		
2250	0174	0.61	7.70-	$13/2_1^-$	153	n.o.	0.4	100	35	0.222(76)	
2250	2174	0.61	$7/2_4^-$	$9/2_1^+$ $5/2_1^-$	2250 951	1.8(5) n.o.	1.6 0.4	100	55 14	0.223(76)	
				$5/2_1^ 5/2_2^-$	561	n.o.	0.4		20		
				$(5/2\frac{2}{3})$	370	n.o.	0.3		11		
2339	2420	0.73	$11/2_4^-$	$9/2_1^+$	2339	≈7.2	5.8	100	74	0.065(31)	(0.5)
				$11/2_1^+$	1271	n.o.	0.9		12		
				$13/2_1^+$	1103	n.o.	0.6		8		
				$9/2_1^-$	482	n.o.	0.1		1		
				$11/2_1^ 13/2_1^-$	359 272	n.o. n.o.	0.1 0.1		1 1		
				$9/2_{2}^{-}$	144	n.o.	0.1		2		
				$(9/2^{-}_{3})$	133	n.o.	0.2		2		
2463	2404	0.23	$7/2_{6}^{-}$	9/2+	2463	4.5(7)	1.6	75(10)	27	0.451(139)	
			7 6	$5/2\frac{1}{1}$	1164	n.o.	3.7	,	61		
				$7/2_1^-$	777	1.5(6)	0.7	25(10)	11		
(2482) ^d	2618	0.33	$5/2_5^+$	$9/2_1^+$	2482	4.0(10)	0.1	100	1	n/a	5.3
				$3/2_1^-$	1551	n.o.	0.5		10		
				5/21+	1280	n.o.	0.7		14		
				$5/2_1^-$	1183	n.o.	0.2		4		
				7/2+	819	n.o.	3.8		71		
2586	2631	0.25	$7/2_8^-$	$9/2_1^+$	2586	2.6(6)	0.3	100	34	0.263(102)	
				$5/2_1^-$	1287	n.o.	0.1		11		
				$7/2_1^-$	899 730	n.o.	0.2 0.2		21 24		
				$9/2_1^-$ $(5/2_3^-)$	706	n.o. n.o.	0.2		10		
2676	2041	0.24	5 /2+					17(4)		0.120(52)	22
2676	2841	0.24	$5/2_8^+$	$9/2_1^+$	2676 1745	2.5(5) 10.3(9)	2.4 2.2	17(4) 72(7)	11 10	0.139(53)	22
				$3/2_1^-$ $5/2_1^+$	1743	n.o.	7.6	12(1)	35		
				$5/2_1^-$	1377	n.o.	1.1		5		
				$\frac{3}{2_1}$	1013	n.o.	0.0		0		
				$7/2_1^-$	989	n.o.	0.4		2		
				$(7/2^{+}_{2})$	835	n.o.	5.6		26		
				$7/2_3^-$	658	1.5(6)	0.2		1		
				$7/2_3^+$	658	n.o.	2.2		10		
2747	2928	0.60	$1/2_3^+$	$1/2_1^-$	2339	≈16	9.2	83(10)	61	0.087(37)	15
				$3/2_1^-$	1816	1.8(5)	4.4	9(4)	29		
				$5/2_1^+$	1545	n.o.	0.0		0		
				$3/2_2^-$	1160	1.6(5)	1.5	8(4)	8		
				$(3/2_1^+)$	411	n.o.	0.1		1		
				$(1/2_1^+)$	100	n.o.	0.0		0		
2757	2916	0.17	$13/2_7^-$	$9/2_1^+$	2757	n.o.	0.0		0	0.041(12)	13
				$11/2_1^+$	1690	n.o.	0.8		6		
				$13/2_1^+$	1522	n.o.	0.7		5		
				$15/2_1^-$	1146	10.8(10)	11	82(7)	84		
				$11/2_1^-$	779 601	1.1(5)	0.3	8(4)	2		
				$13/2_1^-$	691 582	n.o.	0.0		0 1		
				$15/2_2^-$	582 420	n.o.	0.1	10(4)			
				$11/2_4^-$	420	1.3(4)	0.1	10(4)	1		

TABLE IV. (Continued.)

$E_{x,\text{exp}}$ (keV)	$E_{x,\text{theo}}$ (keV)	$ au_{ m theo}$ (ps)	$J_i^\pi \ (\hbar)$	$J_f^\pi \ (\hbar)$	E_{γ} (keV)	$I_{\gamma, \mathrm{exp}} \ (\%)$	$I_{\gamma, m theo} \ (\%)$	$b_{ m exp} \ (\%)$	$b_{ m theo} \ (\%)$	MBD_i	$I_{GT, ext{theo}} \ (\%)$
2760	3011	0.31	9/2_10	9/2+	2760	3.3(6)	19	21(7)	52	0.096(41)	37
				$7/2_1^+$	1098	6.4(18)	1.1	41(13)	3		
				$7/2_1^-$	1074	5.0(12)	3.4	32(10)	9		
			$7/2_{2}^{-}$	919	n.o.	8.2		22			
			$11/2_1^-$	781	n.o.	1.1		3			
				$7/2_3^-$	742	n.o.	1.5		4		
				$7/2_4^-$	509	0.8(5)	0.7	5(4)	2		
				$11/2_4^-$	422	n.o.	0.7		2		
				$7/2_{6}^{-}$	297	n.o.	0.4		1		
2765	2985	0.31	$11/2_9^-$	$9/2_1^+$	2765	n.o.	6.9		52	0.261(127)	13
				$11/2_1^+$	1698	n.o.	1.6		12		
				$13/2_1^+$	1530	6.9(7)	1.2		9		
				$15/2_1^-$	1154	n.o.	0.1		1		
				$11/2_1^-$	786	n.o.	2.4		18		
				$(9/2_5^-)$	515	n.o.	0.8		6		
2025	2005	0.26	2.42+	$11/2_4^-$	427	n.o.	0.4		3	0.221(00)	10
2825	3005	0.26	$3/2_4^+$	$1/2_1^-$	2417	n.o.	3.6		30	0.231(99)	12
				$3/2_1^-$	1894	n.o.	1.7	100	14		
				$5/2_1^+$	1623	6.5(7)	3.7	100	31		
				$5/2_1^-$	1526	n.o.	0.8		7		
				$3/2_2^-$	1238	n.o.					
		0.4=	40.40	$(5/2_2^+)$	807	n.o.	1.7		14	0.044/40	•
2852	3077	0.17	$13/2_{10}^{-}$	$9/2_1^+$	2852	n.o.	0.0		0	0.041(10)	30
				$11/2_1^+$	1785	n.o.	2.4		8		
				$13/2_1^+$	1617	n.o.	1.8	00(5)	6		
				$15/2_1^-$	1241	27.2(20)	25	88(5)	82		
				$11/2_1^-$	873	n.o.	0.6		2		
				$13/2_1^-$	786	n.o.	0.3		1		
				$13/2_4^+$ $11/2_2^-$	677 658	n.o.	0.0		0		
				$11/2_2$ $15/2_2^-$	634	2.2(7) 1.5(6)	0.0		1		
2072	2024	0.42	0.72-	_				5(2)		0.000(20)	12
2872	3034	0.42	$9/2_{11}^{-}$	$9/2_1^+$ $11/2_1^+$	2872	1.2(4)	0.0 8.7	5(2)	0	0.080(20)	43
				-	1805	4.0(6)	3.9	18(5)	20 9		
				$7/2_1^-$	1185 1031	4.9(5)	3.9	22(6)	9		
				$7/2_2^ 11/2_1^-$	894	n.o. 1.8(6)	6.5	8(4)	15		
				$7/2_{3}^{-}$	854	0.9(5)	6.9	4(3)	16		
				$7/2_3$ $7/2_4^-$	622	2.5(15)	1.3	11(7)	3		
				$11/2_4^-$	533	1.3(4)	6.1	6(2)	14		
				$7/2_{6}^{-}$	409	4.6(6)	5.6	20(6)	13		
				$7/2_{6}^{-}$ $7/2_{8}^{-}$	285	1.4(5)	0.9	6(3)	2		
2004	2027	0.24	12/2-	$9/2_{1}^{+}$				0(3)		0.001(22)	0.4
2894	3027	0.34	$13/2_9^-$	•	2894	n.o.	1.7	0(2)	2	0.091(23)	84
				$11/2_1^+$	1826	3.5(10)	14	9(3)	17		
				$13/2_1^+$	1659	1.0(4)	10	3(1)	12		
				$15/2_1^-$	1282	29.4(16)	29 5.0	74(8)	35		
				$11/2_1^-$	915 827	1.3(6)	5.0 14	3(2) 4(1)	6 17		
				$13/2_1^-$	827 718	1.7(3) ≈3	0.8	4(1) 8(4)			
				$13/2_4^+$	699		6.7	0(4)	1 8		
				$11/2_2^ 15/2_2^-$	699 675	n.o. n.o.	0.8		8 1		

TABLE IV. (Continued.)

$E_{x,\text{exp}}$ (keV)	$E_{x,\text{theo}}$ (keV)	$ au_{ ext{theo}}$ (ps)	$J_i^\pi \ (\hbar)$	$J_f^\pi \ (\hbar)$	E_{γ} (keV)	$I_{\gamma, m exp} \ (\%)$	$I_{\gamma, m theo} \ (\%)$	$b_{ m exp} \ (\%)$	$b_{ m theo} \ (\%)$	MBD_i	$I_{GT, ext{theo}} \ (\%)$
2941	3086	0.13	9/2-	9/21+	2941	14.7(10)	5.6	100	26	0.164(78)	21
		7 12	$11/2^{+}_{1}$	1874	n.o.	1.5		7			
				$7/2_{1}^{+}$	1278	n.o.	0.4		2		
				$7/2_{1}^{-}$	1254	n.o.	6.5		31		
				$9/2_1^{-}$	1085	n.o.	1.7		8		
				$7/2_3^-$	923	n.o.	2.7		13		
				$7/2_4^{-}$	691	n.o.	0.8		4		
				$9/2\frac{4}{2}$	747	n.o.	0.4		2		
				$(9/2_3^-)$	736	n.o.	1.3		6		
2980 ^b	3160	0.13	$5/2^{+}_{12}$	$9/2_1^+$	2980	n.o.	0.0		1	n/a	3.2
			- / 12	$3/2_1^{-1}$	2049	n.o.	0.3		9	,	
				$5/2_1^+$	1778	n.o.	0.5		17		
				$5/2\frac{1}{1}$	1681	n.o.	0.2		5		
				$7/2^{+}_{1}$ 1317 n.o. 1.2		38					
				$7/2\frac{1}{1}$	1293	n.o.	0.1		3		
				$(7/2^{+}_{2})$	1139	n.o.	0.8		25		
2996	3235	0.11	$11/2_{14}^{-}$	$9/2_1^+$	2996	4.2	2.2	100	28	0.160(80)	7.9
				$11/2_1^+$	1929	n.o.	0.6		6		
				$13/2_1^+$	1761	n.o.	0.5		5		
				$11/2_1^-$	1017	n.o.	3.2		40		
				$13/2_1^-$	930	n.o.	0.3		4		
				$9/2_{2}^{-}$	802	n.o.	0.2		3		
				$11/2_2^-$	801	n.o.	0.2		3		
				$9/2_3^-$	791	n.o.	0.3		4		
				$11/2_4^-$	658	n.o.	0.3		4		
3108	3323	0.21	$11/2_{15}^{-}$	$9/2_1^+$	3108	7.9(12)	5.4	100	50	0.200(78)	11
				$11/2_1^+$	2041	n.o.	1.8		14		
				$13/2_1^+$	1873	n.o.	0.0		0		
				$15/2_1^-$	1497	n.o.	0.0		0		
				$9/2_1^-$	1252	n.o.	1.2		11		
				$11/2_1^-$	1129	n.o.	0.6		6		
				$13/2_1^-$	1042	n.o.	2.0		19		

^aNot applicable.

^bNot observed experimentally.

^cParentheses indicate a branching into a state which is missing an experimentally observed counterpart.

^dParentheses indicate that the decay properties of the predicted and observed state do not match.

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